

CONV//RGENCE

A LEAGUE OF LEGENDS STORY™

#2



RIOT FORGE

A PERFECT LIFE

O'BRYAN • SMITH • WOLFORD • BRIGHTBILL

18
LOVE
BILLS
22
+

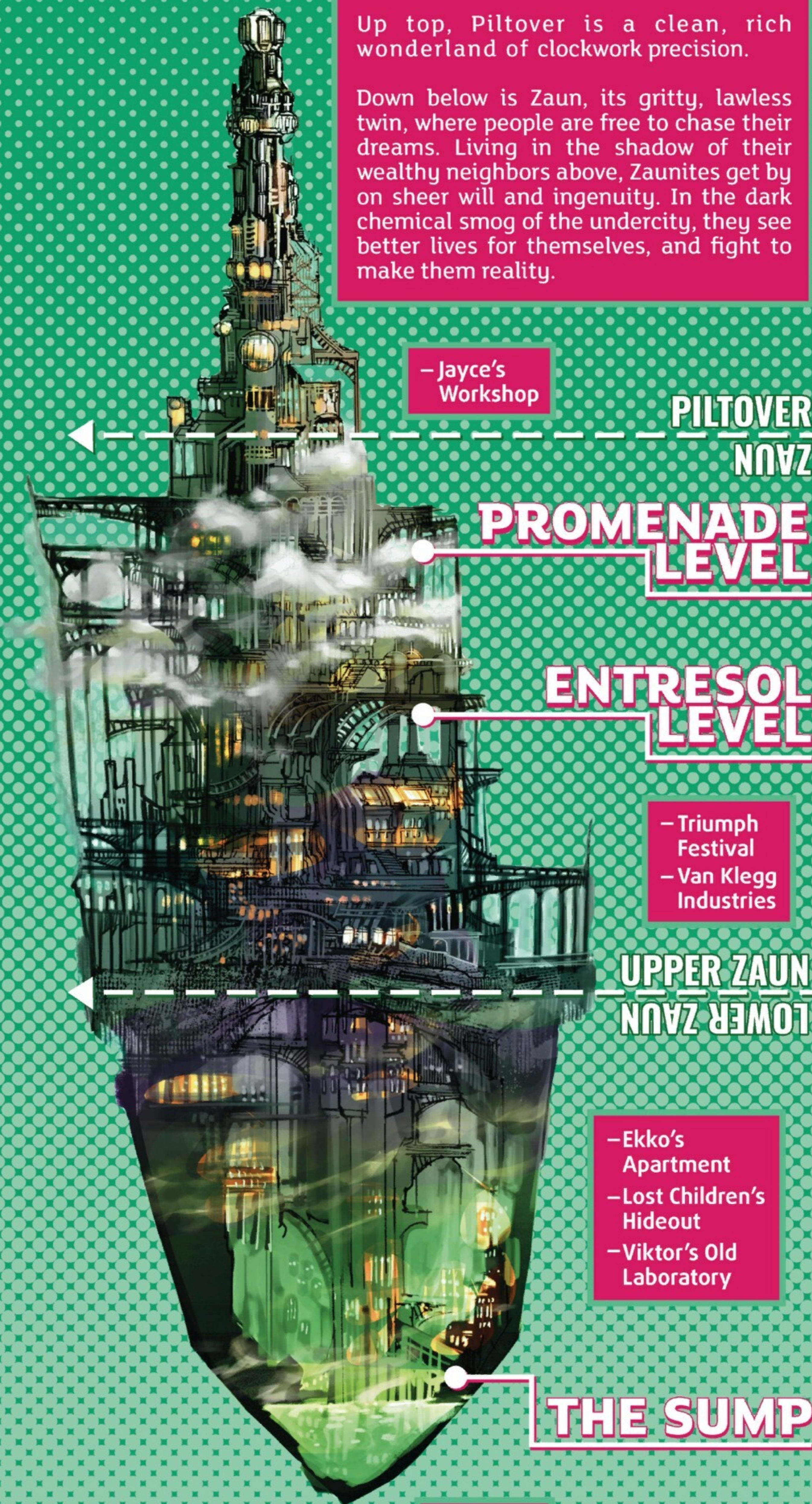
PILTOVER & ZAUN

ELEVATION
DIAGRAM

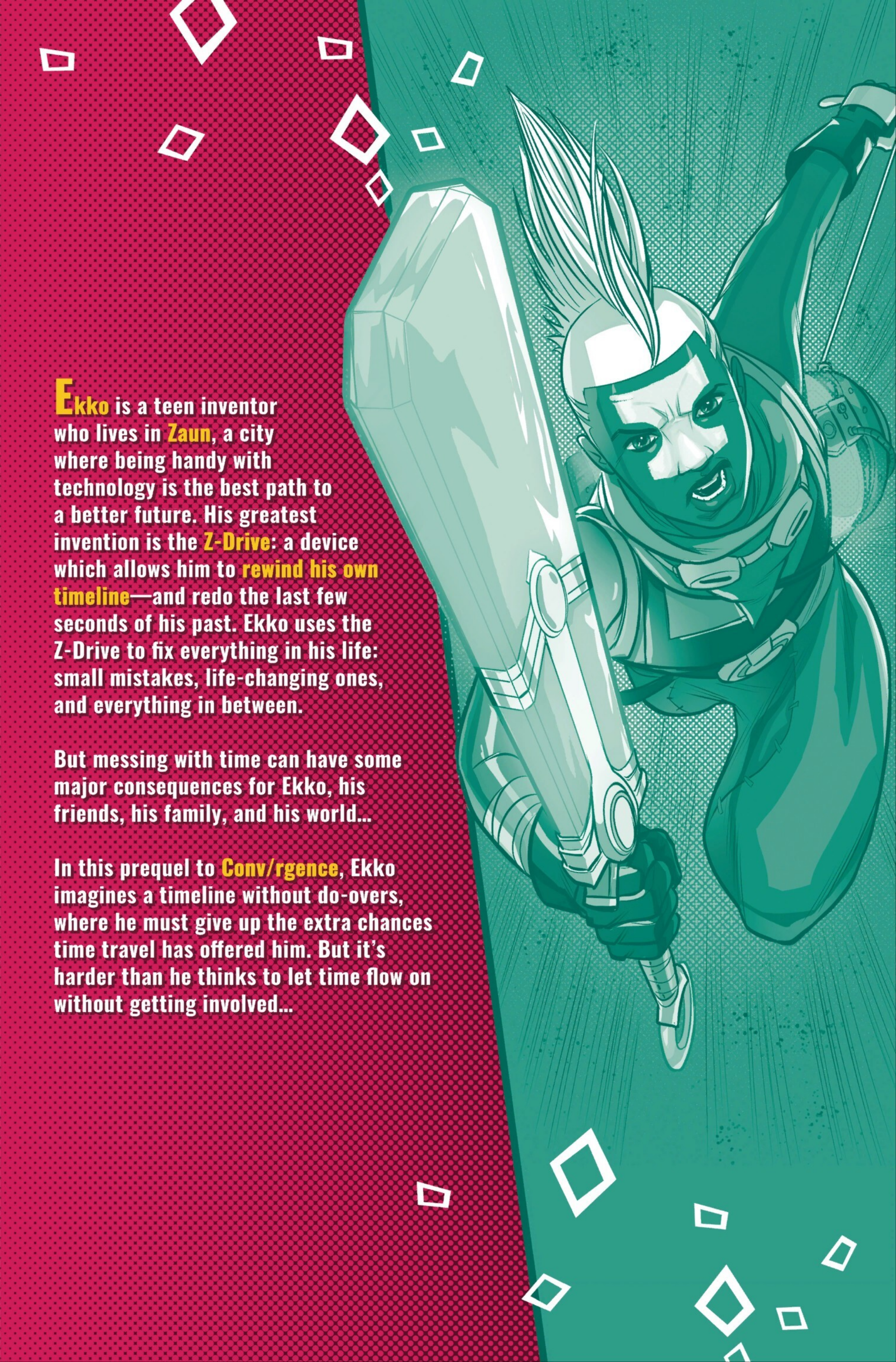
Piltover and Zaun—the two cities at the heart of the world's technological advancement.

Up top, Piltover is a clean, rich wonderland of clockwork precision.

Down below is Zaun, its gritty, lawless twin, where people are free to chase their dreams. Living in the shadow of their wealthy neighbors above, Zaunites get by on sheer will and ingenuity. In the dark chemical smog of the undercity, they see better lives for themselves, and fight to make them reality.



Art by
Eric Canete



Ekkko is a teen inventor who lives in **Zaun**, a city where being handy with technology is the best path to a better future. His greatest invention is the **Z-Drive**: a device which allows him to **rewind his own timeline**—and redo the last few seconds of his past. Ekko uses the Z-Drive to fix everything in his life: small mistakes, life-changing ones, and everything in between.

But messing with time can have some major consequences for Ekko, his friends, his family, and his world...

In this prequel to **Conv/rgence**, Ekko imagines a timeline without do-overs, where he must give up the extra chances time travel has offered him. But it's harder than he thinks to let time flow on without getting involved...



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A PERFECT LIFE

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THE DEPTHS OF ZAUN.

ENJOY THE FISH, WYETH.

AND WATCH OUT FOR THOSE CHEM-POOLS!

AH, DAMMIT.

SPLISH

HEY, OLD MAN. AIN'T YOU GONNA SHOW ME WHAT YOU GOT THERE?

WASN'T PLANNIN' ON IT.

WHAT IF I'M NOT ASKING?

OH! UH... SORRY. DIDN'T SEE WHO YOU FELLAS WERE. I'LL GET OUT OF YOUR--

YOU'RE GONNA HAVE TO DO BETTER THAN THAT.

HEY!



IS THERE A PROBLEM HERE?

JUST HELPIN' AN OLD GEEZER FIND HIS WAY.



I GOT HIM. THANKS.

YOU SHOULD TELL HIM TO BE CAREFUL.



SON--WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

I'VE BEEN LOOKING EVERYWHERE FOR YOU, DAD. YOU KNOW YOU'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO GO TO THE MARKET ALONE.



YOUR MOM HAD TO WORK. I GOT HUNGRY. WHAT WAS I SUPPOSED TO DO?

THAT'S WHAT I NEED TO SHOW YOU. I FOUND THE ANSWER!



EYE AUGMENTS. DAD, WE CAN FIX YOU! YOU'LL BE ABLE TO SEE AGAIN, AND WE WON'T HAVE TO WORRY--

NO.

WAIT--YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND.

IT'S FREE.

THEY'RE GIVING THEM OUT IN ZAUN SO RICH PILTIES CAN SEE THAT THEY'RE SAFE. THEY SHOWED ME AROUND THEIR--

I SAID NO.

I'M NOT DOING IT, SON.

I THOUGHT YOU'D BE HAPPY. YOUR EYES...

THAT'S RIGHT.

THEY'RE MY EYES. I WANNA LIVE AS ME, AND DIE AS ME. NOT AS SOME MACHINE.

UNDERSTAND?

SPLISH

DAD--I JUST SAVED YOU FROM THOSE CHEM-GOONS. ZAUN IS NO PLACE FOR SOMEONE WHO CAN'T SEE. IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE--

BEFORE WHAT? SOMETHING BAD HAPPENS?

GUESS WHAT? THAT'S LIFE.

WHAT IF IT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE? WHAT IF WE COULD CHOOSE? AND MAKE LIFE WHAT WE WANT IT TO BE?

HEH. YOU KIDS... YOU THINK IT'S ALL A SMOOTH-RUNNING MACHINE.

LIFE'S NOT CLOCKWORK, BOY. IT'S BEING SURPRISED. GETTING SUCKER-PUNCHED BY BAD TIMES, AND KNOWIN' TO SAVOR THE GOOD TIMES WHEN THEY HAPPEN.

THAT'S WHAT MAKES US PEOPLE, AND NOT SOME WIND-UP GOLEM.

YEAH... I GUESS SO.

VAN KLEGG INDUSTRIES. UPPER ENTRESOL.

SO, THIS IS WHAT PEOPLE WANT.

IT'S ALL THE RAGE, VIKTOR. YOU SHOULD BE PROUD.

I WAS PROUD, VAN KLEGG. THE FIRST TIME I CREATED THE TECHNOLOGY.

NOW IT'S ALL TOYS FOR SLOBBERING CHILDREN. THEY ARE NOT RENOUNCING FLESH, BUT DECORATING IT.

IS THIS HOW THEY WILL RID THEMSELVES OF SUFFERING?

VIKTOR...

YOU'RE A BRILLIANT GUY. YOU KNOW YOUR MACHINES. BUT YOU'VE GOT A LOT TO LEARN ABOUT PEOPLE.

THEY DON'T WANT TO FEEL LIKE A WALKING SCRAP HEAP.

THEY WANT TO FEEL HUMAN. THEY DON'T WANT TO LOOK LIKE... WELL, YOU.

NO OFFENSE.

COWARDS, ALL. IN THRALL TO EMOTION AND DESIRE, TOO CRAVEN TO FULLY RID THEMSELVES OF IMPERFECTION.



AS I DID.
REPLACING WEAKNESS WITH STRENGTH. FORM WITH FUNCTION.
I TRIED TO SHOW THEM MY GLORIOUS EVOLUTION...



"DO YOU REMEMBER THE **CHEM SPILL** IN THE **FACTORYWOOD**? THOSE WORKERS... **DOOMED** TO A SLOW, PAINFUL DEATH... FAR BEYOND THE REACH OF ANY **MEDICINE**.

"...I GAVE THEM NEW BODIES. **PERFECT VESSELS**, FREE OF THE **DISEASE** THAT PLAGUED THEM.



"AND THEN HE CAME. AND DESTROYED IT ALL."



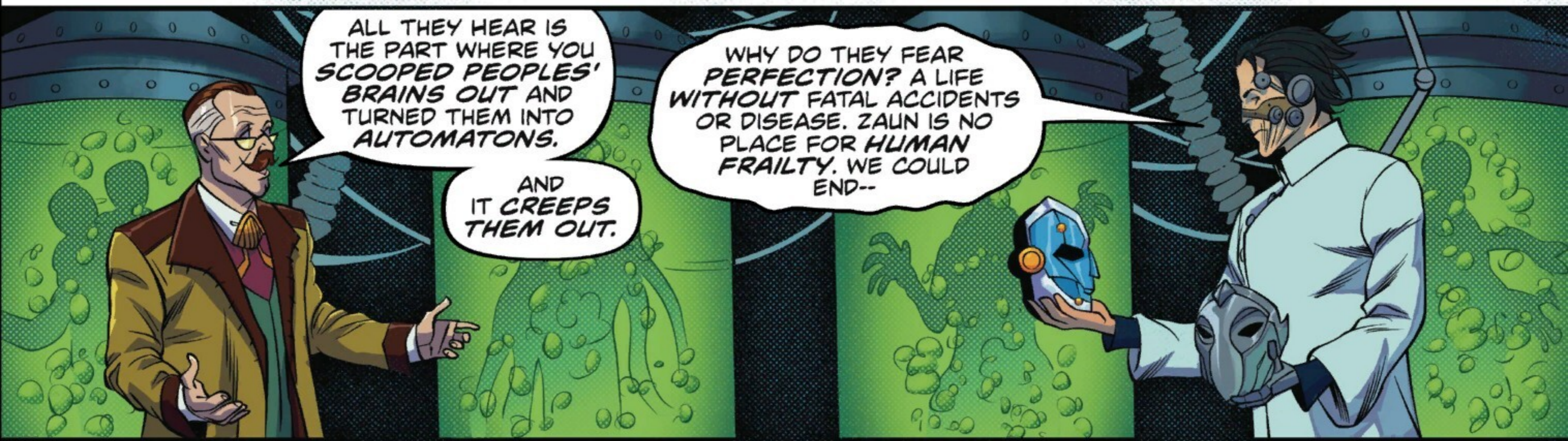
JAYCE?

THE **GOLDEN BOY** OF **PILTOVER**. CELEBRATED AS A **HERO**. THOUGH THAT DAY, HE KILLED **HUNDREDS**, DEEMING THEM LESS THAN HUMAN.
NOT REALIZING THEY WERE **MORE**.



HEY, I GET IT. YOU'RE MISUNDERSTOOD. I KNOW YOU MEANT WELL WITH THOSE WORKERS.

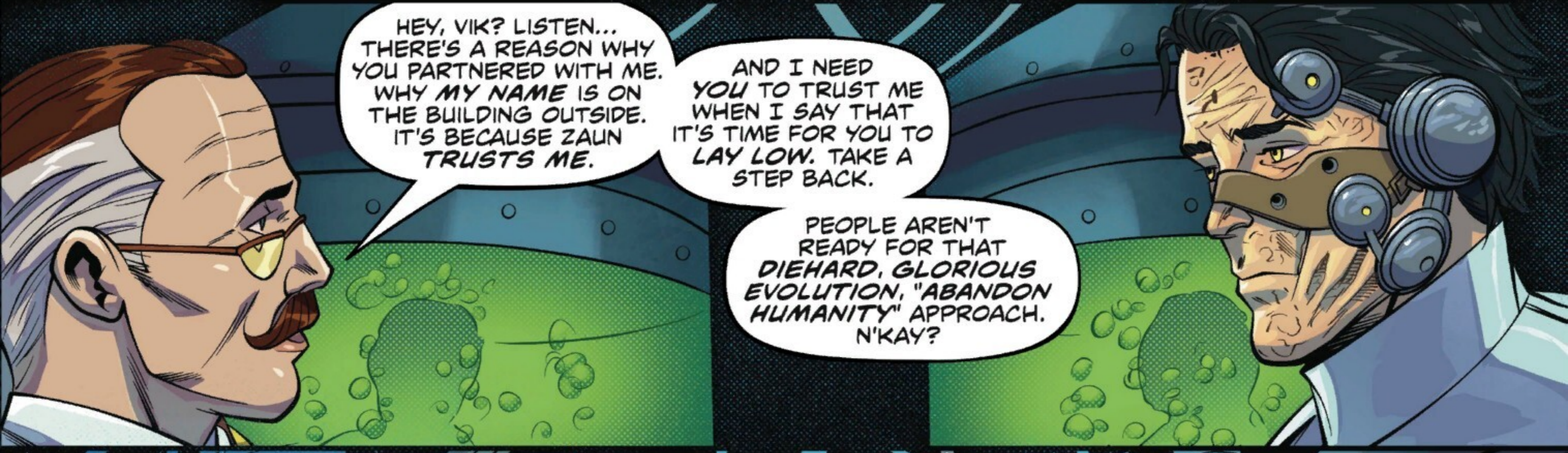
BUT THE REST OF ZAUN...?



ALL THEY HEAR IS THE PART WHERE YOU SCOOPED PEOPLES' BRAINS OUT AND TURNED THEM INTO AUTOMATONS.

AND IT CREEPS THEM OUT.

WHY DO THEY FEAR PERFECTION? A LIFE WITHOUT FATAL ACCIDENTS OR DISEASE. ZAUN IS NO PLACE FOR HUMAN FRAILTY. WE COULD END--



HEY, VIK? LISTEN... THERE'S A REASON WHY YOU PARTNERED WITH ME. WHY MY NAME IS ON THE BUILDING OUTSIDE. IT'S BECAUSE ZAUN TRUSTS ME.

AND I NEED YOU TO TRUST ME WHEN I SAY THAT IT'S TIME FOR YOU TO LAY LOW. TAKE A STEP BACK.

PEOPLE AREN'T READY FOR THAT DIEHARD, GLORIOUS EVOLUTION, "ABANDON HUMANITY" APPROACH. N'KAY?



YOU'VE GOT A LOT OF GREAT IDEAS.

YOU JUST NEED SOMEONE TO TELL YOU WHICH ONES AREN'T GREAT.

EKKO'S APARTMENT BUILDING. DEEP ZAUN.

... I WON'T BE GETTING ANY AUGMENTED FEET EITHER, OR AUGMENTED TOENAILS, OR AUGMENTED ANYTHING. AND THAT'S THAT.

HE'S RIGHT. IT'S HIS LIFE...

...BUT IT'S GOING TO BE A SHORT ONE IF I CAN'T CHANGE HIS MIND.

I HAVE TO DO IT.

DAD...

SIZZLE

NEVER THOUGHT I'D USE THE Z-DRIVE FOR THIS.

VA
DA
DA
DA



NOW DON'T COME IN HERE AND START ON IT AGAIN.
PLEASE, JUST LISTEN TO REASON...



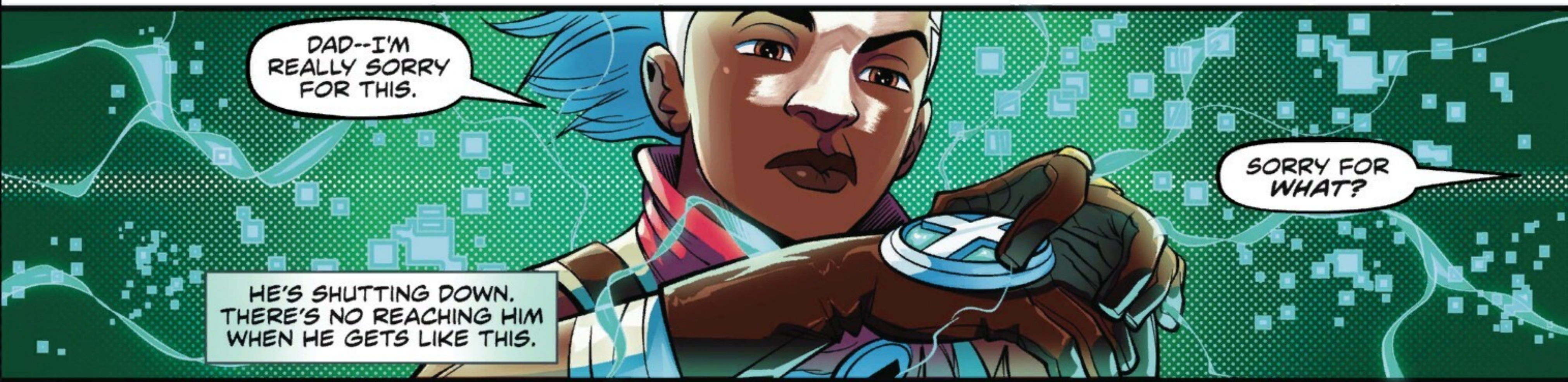
FLICKER



ZAUN IS A DANGEROUS PLACE. THE MOD WOULD KEEP YOU SAFE.

SON--I CAN TAKE CARE OF MYSELF.
END OF DISCUSSION.

SIZZLE



DAD--I'M REALLY SORRY FOR THIS.

SORRY FOR WHAT?

HE'S SHUTTING DOWN. THERE'S NO REACHING HIM WHEN HE GETS LIKE THIS.



GONNA HAVE TO BACK UP...



...AND FIND ANOTHER WAY IN.

**VA
DA
DA
DA**

SECONDS INTO REWIND #1...

...BUT EVENTUALLY YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF. THIS WOULD HELP--

NO. I DON'T NEED SOME HUNK'A METAL IN ME FOR THAT. I'VE GOT MY FAMILY.

NOW CAN WE TALK ABOUT SOMETHING ELSE?

AND REWIND #5...

...AND WHAT ABOUT YOUR FAMILY? ME AND MOM--WE'D HAVE TO DO EVERYTHING FOR YOU.

HEY, I TOOK CARE OF MY DAD WHEN HIS HEALTH WENT DOWNHILL. THAT'S LIFE.

NOW SET THAT TABLE FOR ME, WOULD YOU?

BULLSEYE.

REWIND #6

...IT'S OKAY IF YOU DON'T WANT THE MOD.

I MEAN, YOU CAN'T WORK, BUT I'M SURE ME AND MOM CAN FIND A WAY TO PICK UP THE SLACK. YOU KNOW--LIKE YOU DID FOR YOUR POP.

AHH. NO NEED FOR THAT. IT'S... IT'S JUST MY EYES, BOY. I... I CAN STILL GET AROUND.

WE GOT IT COVERED. MOM'LL TAKE ANOTHER SHIFT, AND I'LL WORK FOR THE CHEM-BARONS.

NO. I... I DON'T WANT THAT.

SIZZLE

DAD, I WANT YOU TO BE HAPPY. IF YOU'RE NOT COMFORTABLE GETTING MODDED--

I'LL BE FINE, SON. I'LL...

I'LL GET THE AUGMENTATION.

WELL. I FOUND MY WAY IN.

OKAY, DAD. IF THAT'S WHAT YOU WANT.

NOW I JUST HAVE TO FIND A WAY TO LIVE WITH MYSELF.

VAN KLEGG INDUSTRIES.
TWO DAYS LATER.



IS THIS WHAT
I MUST BE?

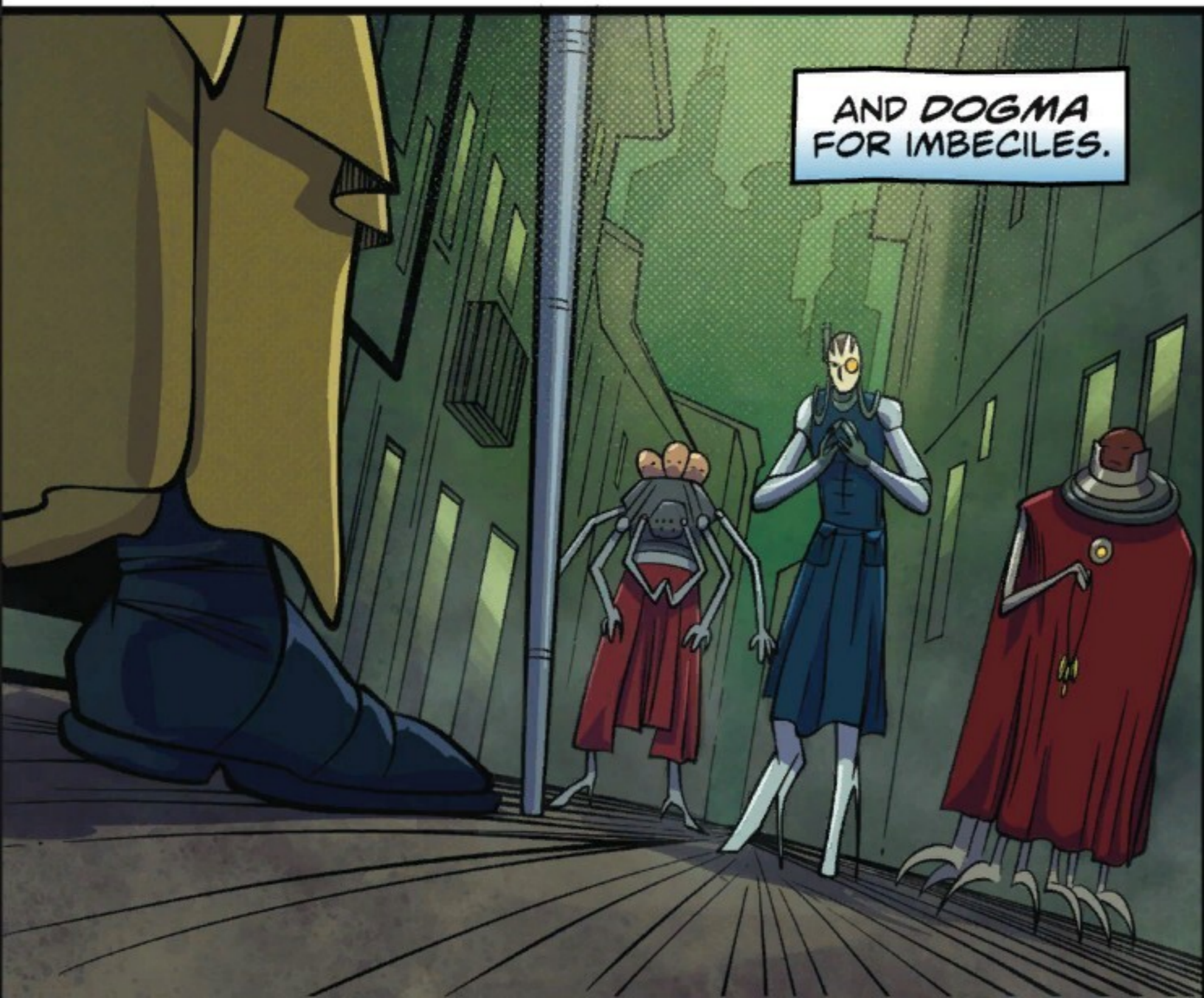


SOMEONE WHO "LAYS
LOW"? AND MERELY
OBSERVES?



ONE WHO WATCHES,
AS HIS LIFE'S WORK
BECOMES BEHOLDEN
TO FORM AND FAD?

TOOLS IN A
CHILD'S SPORT...



AND DOGMA
FOR IMBECILES.



YOU THERE!
BROTHER!

HAVE YOU
HEARD THE *GOOD NEWS*
OF THE *GLORIOUS*
EVOLVED?



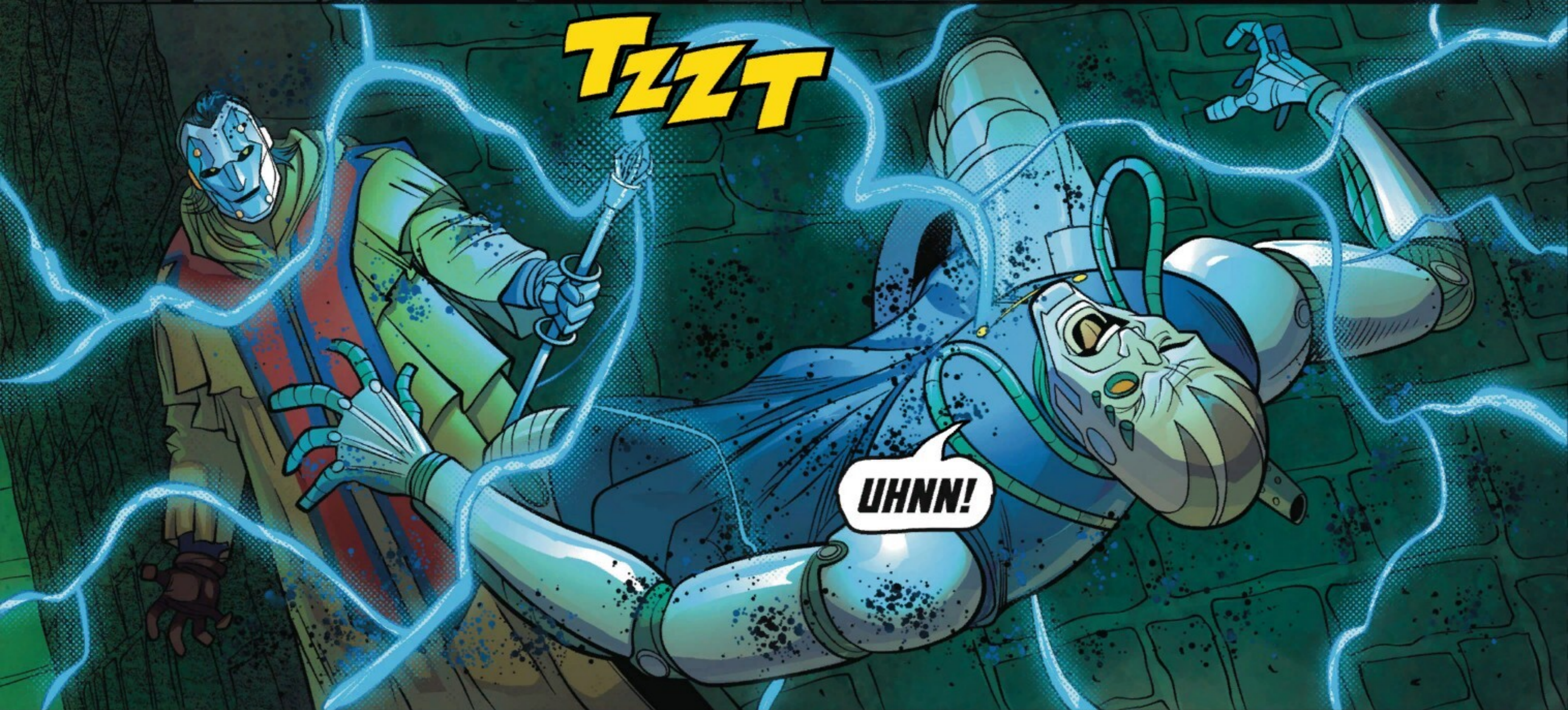
YOU KNOW NOTHING OF THE GLORIOUS EVOLUTION.

MY EVOLVED BROTHER, I *KNOW* THAT THE GREAT VIKTOR WILL RETURN!



HE WILL RISE FROM THE SHADOWS, TO FULFILL HIS PROMISE. TO MAKE ALL HUMANITY FLAWLESS-

NO.



TZZT

UHNN!



HE WILL NOT.

IF YOU'RE ALL THAT REMAINS OF HIS REVOLUTION, THEN VIKTOR HAS TRULY FAILED.

FOR YOU ARE NOT PERFECTION. YOU ARE PATHETIC.



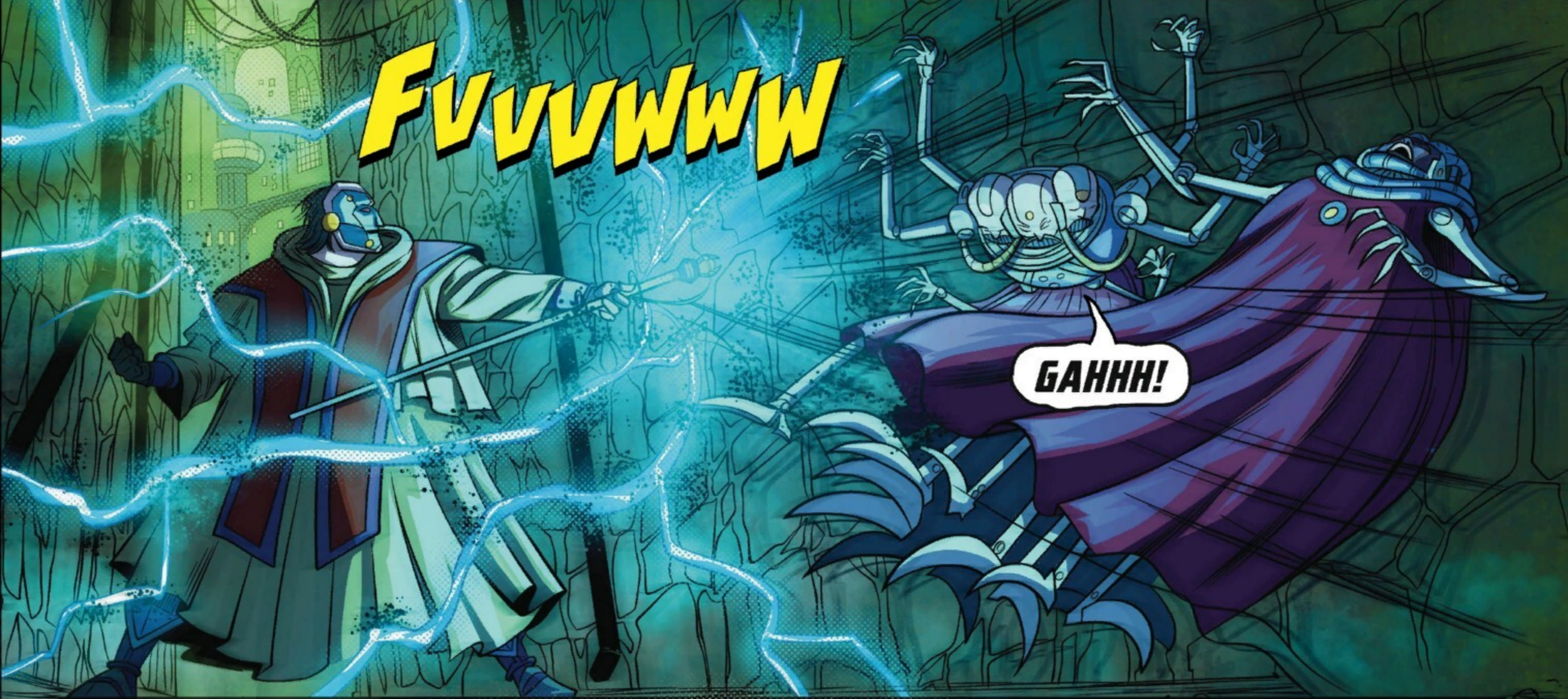
YOU ATTACK OUR LEADER. AND OUR PROPHET?

YOU WILL LEARN. WE ARE PERFECTION!



PERFECTION!

PERFECTION!



FVVVWWW

GAHHH!



PERFECTION...



ALL MUST BECOME THE ONE.



BECOME THE ONE.



GO ON.

LET US SEE HOW PERFECT YOU ARE.

WOOSH



YOU... YOU'RE THE *PROPHET*.
HE... HE HAS RETURNED.



IT IS FULFILLED... IT IS FULFILLED...

GET UP. I AM PROPHET OF NOTHING.

MY VISION HAS BEEN REDUCED TO YOUR EMPTY WORDS.



I BEG YOUR PARDON, BUT YOUR VISION HAS INSPIRED *SO MUCH MORE*.

PLEASE... LET US SHOW YOU WHAT WE HAVE BUILT.

LOST CHILDREN'S HIDEOUT.
THE DEPTHS OF ZAUN.

HEY--LOOK
WHO'S FINALLY
BACK.

WHERE HAVE
YOU BEEN? LEM
AND CHANCEE
NEED YOUR
GENIUS BRAIN
TO HELP
THEM WITH
THEIR
CRAZY INVENTIONS.

SORRY,
FAMILY STUFF.
IT'S BEEN
ROUGH.

DAD TRUSTED ME.

WELL WORRY NOT.
US ARTISTES
HAVE
A VISION THAT'S
SURE
TO MAKE YOUR
LIFE A
LOT EASIER.

YEAH. FROM NOW
ON, YOU WON'T
HAVE TO
SAVE OUR BUTTS
WITH
YOUR Z-DRIVE.

'CAUSE WE'RE
MAKIN'
OURSELVES
PERFECT WITH
THESE NEW
SUPER-
ACCESSORIES!

THEY TRUST ME.

I GIVE YOU... MY NEW
WALL-GRIPPING
PARKOUR BOOTS!

...THOUGH
SO FAR THEY'RE
JUST BOOTS.

AND MY ROCKET
KNEE-PADS!

WELL... OKAY, THEY'RE
ONLY KNEE-PADS. BUT
THAT'S WHERE YOU
COME IN, EKKO. YOU
KNOW HOW TO BUILD
ROCKETS, RIGHT?

THEY WANNA
BE LIKE ME.

BOY, THESE
ARE... REALLY...
INTERESTING
IDEAS.

BUT THEY
DON'T KNOW...

YOU HATE
'EM.



NO, I JUST... WELL, IF YOU REALLY WANT THOSE BOOTS TO GRIP WALLS, YOU'LL NEED SOME CRAZY STRONG ADHESIVE.

AND I'M PRETTY SURE KNEE ROCKETS WOULD MAKE YOU LAND ON YOUR FACE.

TRUST ME-- YOU DON'T WANNA GO STRAPPING MACHINES TO YOUR BODY WITHOUT KNOWING EXACTLY WHAT--

SLAM



GUESS WHO JUST GOT MODDED?!



SKIDS?

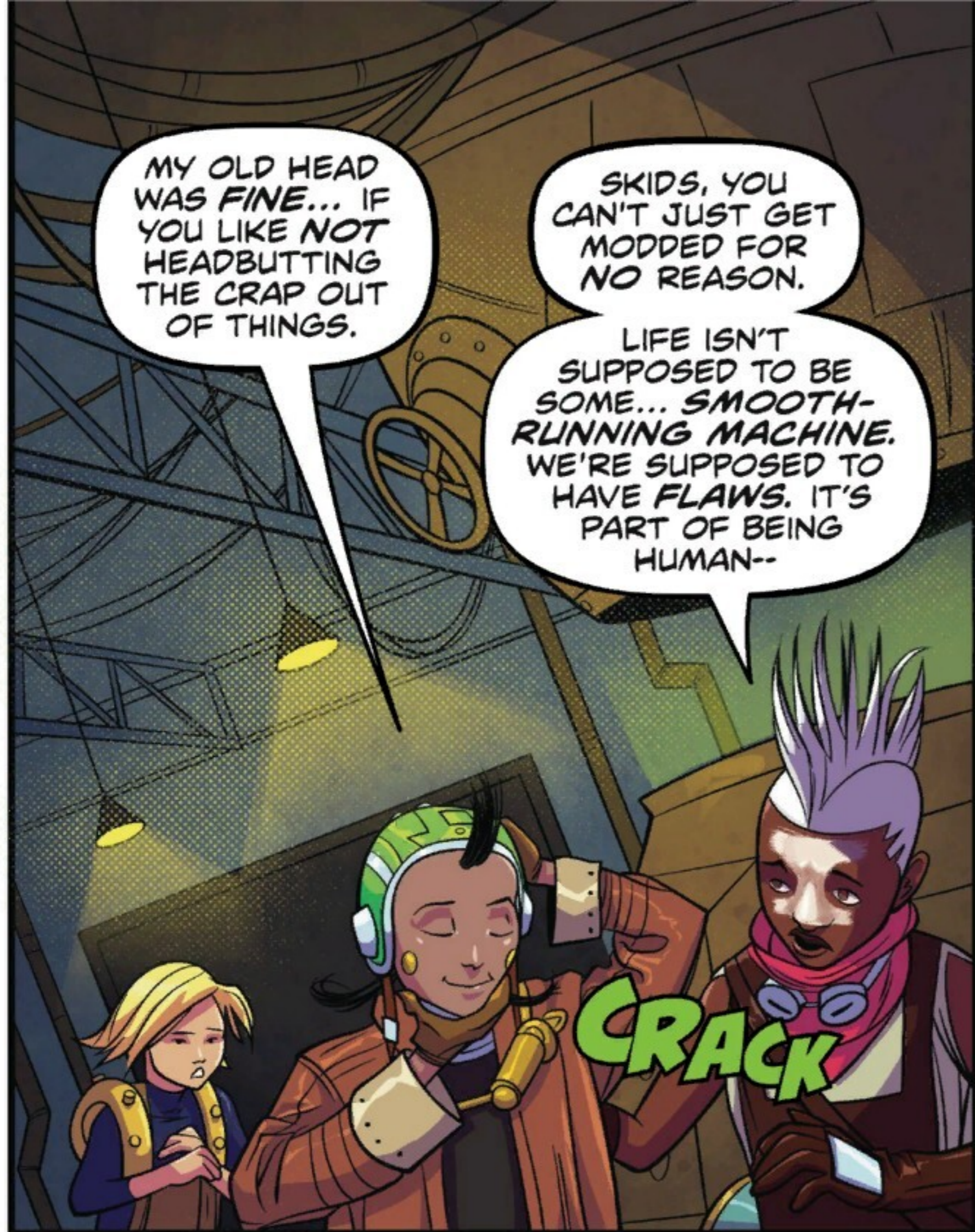
NO WAY.

WHAT THE HECK IS ON YOUR HEAD?



OH--OH, IT'S A LITTLE UPGRADE. THAT VAN KLEGG GUY IS JUST GIVING THEM AWAY!

NO... THIS ISN'T RIGHT. SKIDS, WHAT WAS WRONG WITH YOUR OLD HEAD?



MY OLD HEAD WAS FINE... IF YOU LIKE NOT HEADBUTTING THE CRAP OUT OF THINGS.

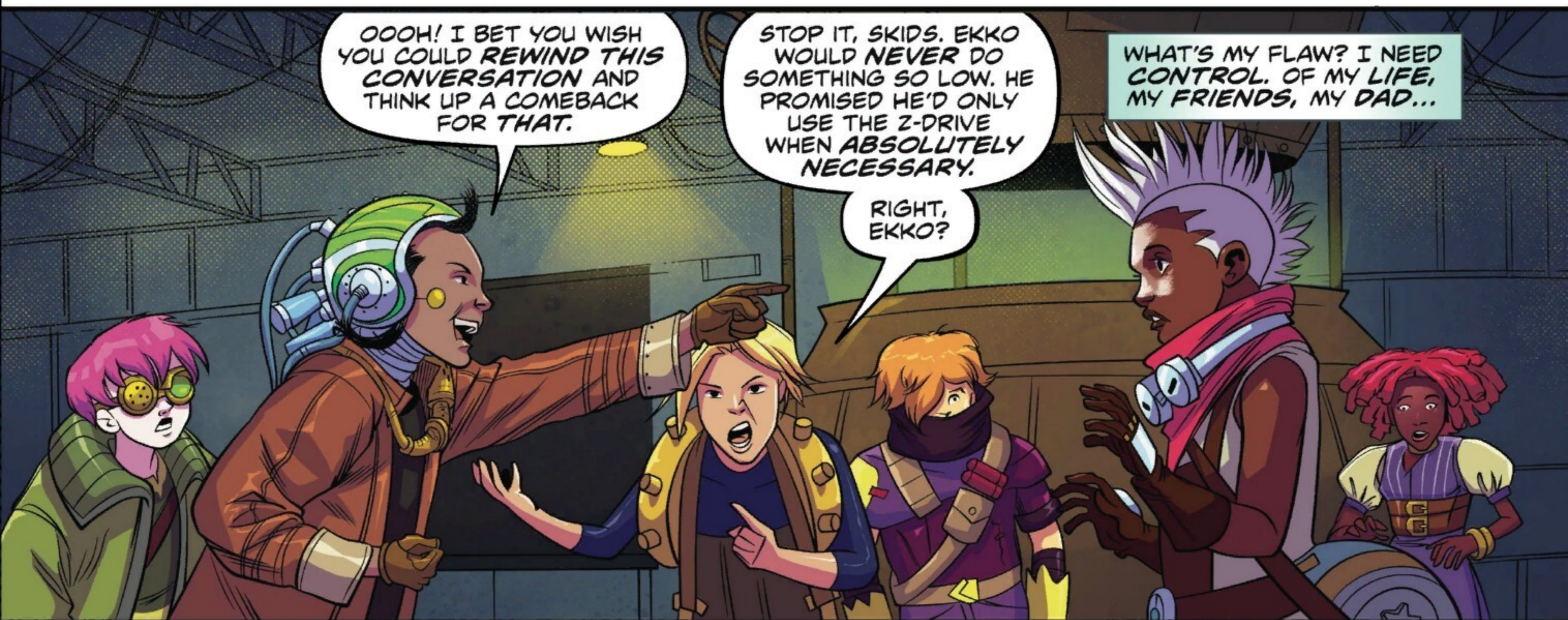
SKIDS, YOU CAN'T JUST GET MODDED FOR NO REASON.

LIFE ISN'T SUPPOSED TO BE SOME... SMOOTH-RUNNING MACHINE. WE'RE SUPPOSED TO HAVE FLAWS. IT'S PART OF BEING HUMAN--

CRACK



WHAT'S YOUR FLAW, EKKO? IF--IF YOU DO SOMETHING WRONG, YOU JUST REWIND AND CHANGE IT WITH YOUR Z-DRIVE.



OOOH! I BET YOU WISH YOU COULD REWIND THIS CONVERSATION AND THINK UP A COMEBACK FOR THAT.

STOP IT, SKIDS. EKKO WOULD NEVER DO SOMETHING SO LOW. HE PROMISED HE'D ONLY USE THE Z-DRIVE WHEN ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY.

WHAT'S MY FLAW? I NEED CONTROL. OF MY LIFE, MY FRIENDS, MY DAD...

RIGHT, EKKO?



AS LONG AS I HAVE THIS, I'LL KEEP LETTING THEM ALL DOWN.



EKKO... WHERE YA GOING?



ANYHOW--WHO WANTS TO SEE ME BREAK THIS TABLE WITH MY HEAD?

ME!

GLORIOUS EVOLVED COMMUNE. LOWER ZAUN.

THIS... WAS THE SITE OF MY LABORATORY.

YES. ON ITS ASHES, WE BUILT OUR UTOPIA. ALL IN ANTICIPATION OF THIS WONDERFUL DAY.

WHAT MADNESS IS THIS?

NO MADNESS. WE HAVE SIMPLE CONTINUED YOUR PROGRESS.

LOOK AROUND YOU, MY PROPHET. OUR MEMBERS HAVE TRANSCENDED THEIR FLESH FORMS, TO BECOME TRUE PERFECTION.

YOU WILL SEE NO DISEASE. NO HUNGER. NO FLAWS.

IT IS AS YOU ENVISIONED. PROOF THAT--

THIS PROVES NOTHING.

MY VISION--WAS THE DREAM OF A FOOL. INEVITABLY, FEAR AND FREE WILL PREVAIL. TRUE PERFECTION WILL NEVER--

KABOOOM

A CHEM-PIPE FIRE--IT WILL TAKE WEEKS TO BURN OUT.

WE MUST EVACUATE.

YOU SHOULD HAVE MORE FAITH IN YOUR VISION, MASTER VIKTOR. BEHOLD...



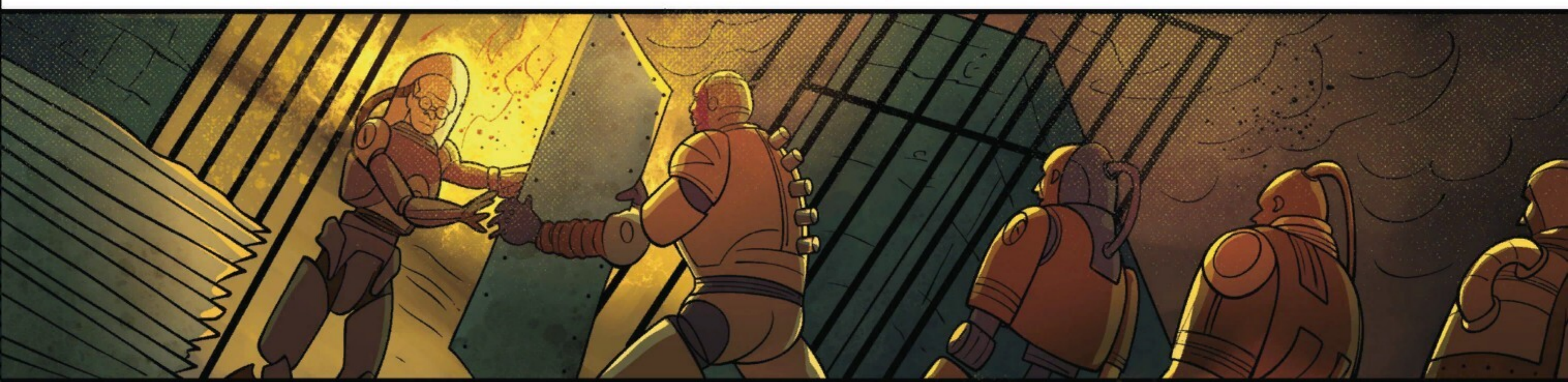
WWUHHWW

WWUHHWWWWUHHWW

"MY OLD TRANSMITTER..."



"YES, O GREAT ONE. ONE OF YOUR MOST BRILLIANT ACHIEVEMENTS, SALVAGED FROM THE RUBBLE."



"SEE HOW IT MOVES THEM AS *ONE*? TOWARD THE *SINGLE* GOAL. SMOTHERING THE FLAMES, WITHOUT CARE FOR THEIR *INDIVIDUAL* BODIES..."



"...EVEN AS SOME OF THEM *PERISH*."

"IT'S BEAUTIFUL. SUCH PRECISION. SUCH FEARLESSNESS..."



SUCH
PERFECTION.
YOU HAVE
DONE IT.

NO, MY PROPHET.
YOU DID THIS, WITH
YOUR GLORIOUS
VISION.



AND NOW,
YOU MUST
FULFILL IT.



PERHAPS
I WAS NO
FOOL...

"...PERFECTION
CAN BE ATTAINED.



"...AND IF IT CAN
BE ATTAINED...



WOOSH



"...THEN THERE WOULD
BE NONE WHO COULD
OPPOSE ME."



TO BE CONTINUED...