



SUPERMAN[®] **ALIENS[™]**

DAN JURGENS
STORY & LAYOUT ART

KEVIN NOWLAN
FINISHED ART

BILL DARLEY
LETTERING

GREG WRIGHT
COLOR GUIDES

ANDROID IMAGES
COLOR SEPARATIONS

SPECIAL THANKS TO
JOHN NYBERG

SUPERMAN CREATED BY
JERRY SIEGEL AND JOE SHUSTER

ORIGINAL ALIEN DESIGN BY
H.R. GIGER



SUPERMAN[®] ALIENS[™]



DAN JURGENS KEVIN NOWLAN

JURGENS
& NOWLAN
after
GIBER

SUPERMAN VS. ALIENS #1 OF 3.

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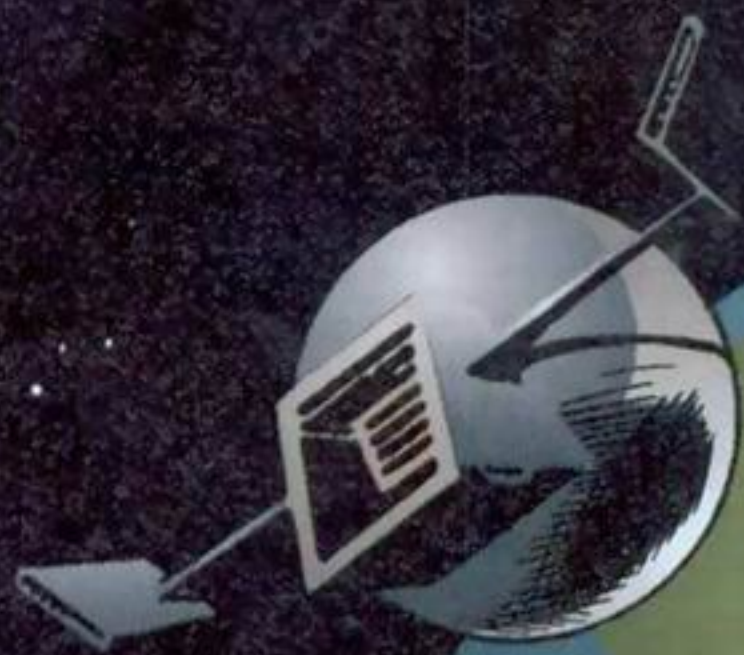
COLOR SEPARATIONS BY

ANDROID IMAGES.

PUBLICATION DESIGN BY EDDIE ORTIZ.

NOT SO LONG AGO IN OUR HISTORY,
EVENTS THAT TRANSPIRED IN THE
SILENT VACUUM OF SPACE WENT
UNNOTICED BY MAN.

TIMES
CHANGE.



SATELLITES
WERE
LAUNCHED
INTO ORBIT
TO ACT AS
SENTRIES--

--EVER ALERT
FOR APPROACHING
INTERLOPERS.



THE MISSION WAS
A SIMPLE ONE.

"SOUND
THE ALARM."

BRREEP

ALERT

WE'VE
GOT A BOGEY
CRASHING THE
ATMOSPHERE!

ALERT
DR. KIMBLE
AT ONCE!



ANY IDEA WHY WE'VE BEEN CALLED HERE, LOIS?

ZIP.

BUT EVEN THOUGH LEX LUTHOR IS NO LONGER AT THE HELM--

--LEXCORP IS STILL THE MOST POWERFUL BUSINESS ENTITY IN METROPOLIS.

IF THEY WANT A SPUR OF THE MOMENT APPOINTMENT WITH THE PRESS-- THEY GET IT.



AH! MS. LANE! MR. KENT! DR. KIMBLE IS WAITING FOR YOU ON THE ROOF!

PROJECT

STORY

EVER MET THIS MYSTERIOUS KIMBLE, LOIS?

NEVER.

IF I REMEMBER MY LEXCORP ORGANIZATIONAL CHARTS CORRECTLY--

AND I'M SURE YOU DO.



--KIMBLE IS THE HEAD OF LEXCORP'S SPACE PROGRAM.

TELL ME ABOUT IT! THIS PRIVATE CORPORATION HAS A SPACE PROGRAM THAT MAY EXCEED NASA'S!

NOT GOOD.



WHAT TROUBLES ME IS THAT IT'S BURIED IN SECRECY. OUTSIDE THESE WALLS--

--I DOUBT THERE'S A PERSON ALIVE WHO HAS THE LOW-DOWN ON THIS PROGRAM!

THANKS, CLARK! YOU'VE JUST GIVEN ME AN IDEA FOR MY NEXT SERIES OF STORIES DESIGNED TO NET A PULITZER!



HEY! WHAT IF I--

NOT NOW! WE'RE HERE!



THE HELIPAD?

LOOKS LIKE SOMEONE IS GOING ON A TRIP!

THE REPORTERS ARE HERE! YOU WANT I SHOULD SEND 'EM OVER?



KENT, LANE... THANK YOU FOR COMING.



I AM DR. CHERYL KIMBLE, AND I AM ABOUT TO GIVE YOU THE STORY OF THE YEAR.

BOARD THE HELICOPTER, PLEASE. IT'S TIME TO LEAVE.



I USUALLY LIKE TO KNOW WHERE THE STAGE COACH IS GOING BEFORE I CLIMB ON.

MY SATELLITE HAS DETECTED AN INCOMING OBJECT.

WE'RE HEADING OUT TO MEET IT!



BUT, DOCTOR! WHAT IF THIS... OBJECT HAS HOSTILE INTENT?



SCIENCE AND RESEARCH SHOULD NEVER BE REGARDED IN TERMS OF BENEVOLENCE OR MALEVOLENCE!

THE ONLY THING THAT MATTERS IS DISCOVERY ITSELF!

THAT SEEMS A RATHER NARROW VIEW, DOCTOR.



LOOK, KENT, I DIDN'T WANT REPORTERS TAGGING ALONG ON THIS TRIP!

BUT THERE ARE THOSE IN THE CORPORATION WHO FEEL IT'S BEST TO TAKE THE LID OFF OUR TRIUMPHS!

AND CONSIDERING THE CONTACT WE'VE ALREADY MADE...

CONTACT? WHAT CONTACT?!



THE INCOMING PROBE HAS BEEN TRANSMITTING RADIO SIGNALS ALL ALONG!

IT'S GARBLED, ALMOST UNINTELLIGIBLE, BUT I THINK YOU MIGHT FIND IT INTERESTING. HAVE A LISTEN, FOLKS.



IMPOSSIBLE!

IT SOUNDS LIKE --KRYPTONIAN!





GLAD YOU SPOTTED THIS STRETCH OF BEACH KENT. THIS BIRD DON'T FLOAT TOO GOOD!

DAMN IT, JOHANSEN! YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO CERTIFY THIS HELICOPTER AS FLIGHT READY BEFORE GOING OUT!



I DID! CHECKED IT OVER GOOD BEFORE WE LEFT!

NOW I WONDER WHAT THE HELL WENT WRONG...



THOUGHT I SAW A ROAD NEARBY--MAYBE I CAN GET HELP!

RELAX, KENT! I'LL HAVE THIS BABY FLYIN' IN NO TIME!

YOU'LL HAVE TO FORGIVE MY COLLEAGUE. WHEN HE GETS IT IN HIS MIND TO DO A JOB--



"--HE DOES IT!"

A full-page comic book illustration of Superman in flight. He is shown from the waist up, flying towards the viewer. He has a determined, slightly angry expression. His blue suit is detailed with yellow and red accents, and the iconic red and yellow 'S' shield is prominent on his chest. His red cape is billowing behind him. He is flying over a sandy beach with waves crashing on the shore. In the background, a grey helicopter with 'LEXCORP' written on its side is on the ground. Several small figures of people are standing near the helicopter. The sky is a clear, bright blue.

I'M ONE HUNDRED FEET
OFF THE GROUND BEFORE
ANYONE CAN REPLY TO LOIS.

I FEEL A SENSE
OF URGENCY AND
EXCITEMENT.

A SPACEFARING
CRAFT FROM
KRYPTON...

WHAT IF THERE'S
SOMEONE ON
BOARD?



IF THERE IS SOMEONE INSIDE, THEY'RE IN TROUBLE.

THE CRAFT HIT THE ATMOSPHERE AT THE WRONG ANGLE. IT'S COMING IN HARD AND FAST--

--AND BURNING UP AS A RESULT.



HAVE TO CATCH AND GUIDE IT--

POOF!

CAN'T-- SLOW IT DOWN!



I--

MARKINGS?

THEY LOOK LIKE KRYPTONIAN MARKINGS!



SPLASH!



IT'S UNMANNED! AT LEAST I DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT SOMEONE DROWNING!

THE METAL... FEELS LIKE THE MATRIX CHAMBER THAT FIRST CARRIED ME TO EARTH!

IT IS KRYPTONIAN!

IT HAS TO BE!



DID YOU SEE THAT? SUPERMAN TOOK MY SATELLITE RIGHT UNDER WATER!



LOOKED TO ME LIKE HE PREVENTED THAT THING FROM EXPLODING ON IMPACT!

THAT OVERRATED PUBLICITY SEEKER IS GOING TO STEAL MY SECRETS! WHO GAVE HIM THE RIGHT TO INTERFERE WITH SOMEONE ELSE'S DISCOVERY?



THAT SAME QUESTION, DR. KIMBLE--

--MIGHT BE ASKED OF YOU.



I THOUGHT YOU WERE A REPORTER, LANE. NOT A DEN MOTHER.

HEY! SOMETHING'S HAPPENING!

GOT IT!



IT'S IN TOUGH SHAPE. HALF THE COMPONENTS MUST HAVE MELTED, AND IT TOOK IN A LOT OF WATER.



SOMEHOW I GET THE FEELING--

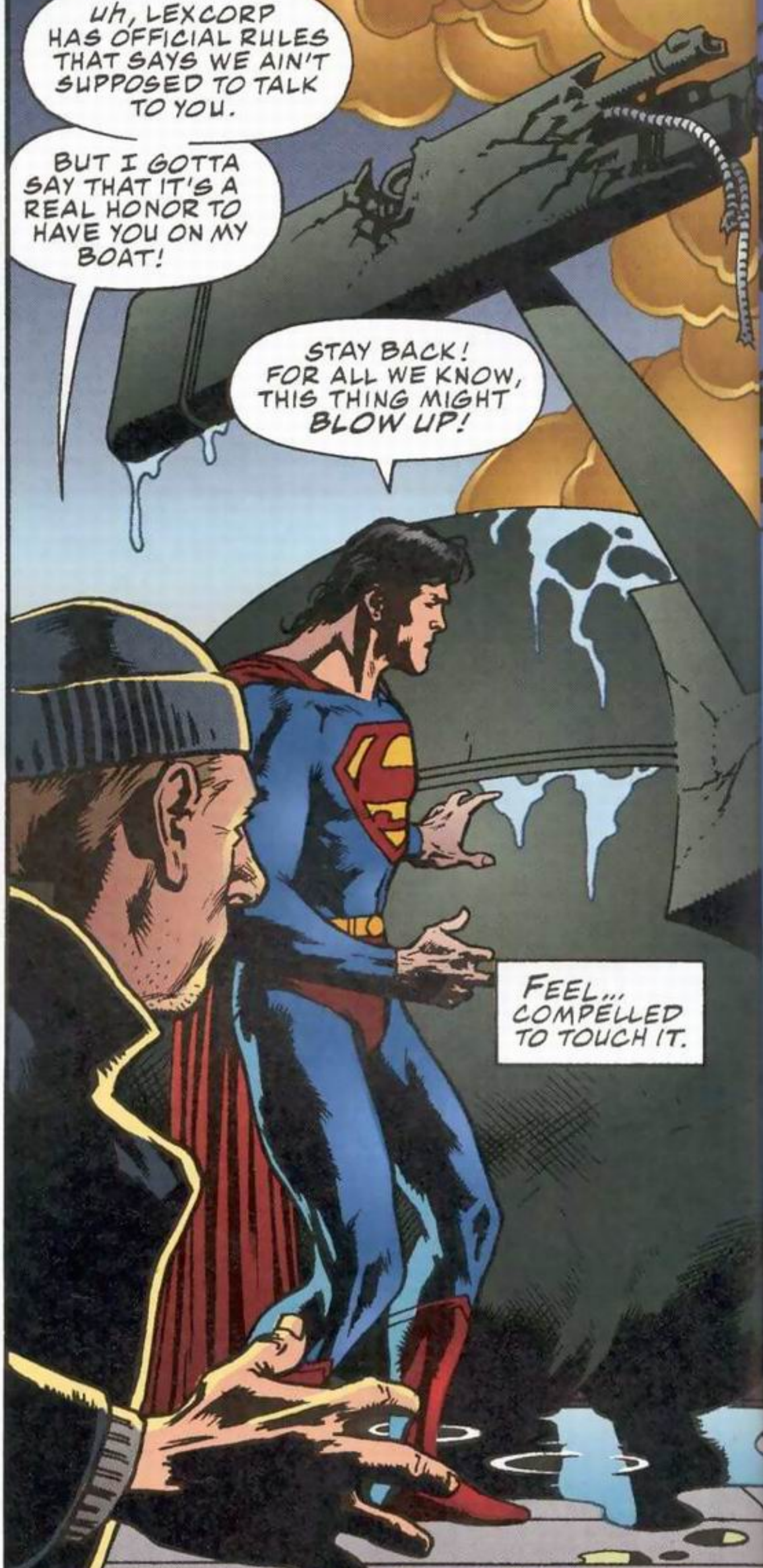
--THAT IT'S DYING.

HOLY CROW!
IT'S SUPERMAN!

UH, LEXCORP HAS OFFICIAL RULES THAT SAYS WE AIN'T SUPPOSED TO TALK TO YOU.

BUT I GOTTA SAY THAT IT'S A REAL HONOR TO HAVE YOU ON MY BOAT!

STAY BACK!
FOR ALL WE KNOW, THIS THING MIGHT BLOW UP!



FEEL... COMPELLED TO TOUCH IT.

CONTACT!



THE PROBE
STRIKES
AN INSTANT
TELEPATHIC
LINK.

GARBLED MESSAGES
AND FRAGMENTED
IMAGES BOMBARD MY
MIND--MELDING IN
A FLASH--

--ALLOWING ME TO
HEAR ITS MESSAGE
BEFORE IT'S TOO
LATE.

I GLIMPSE
A PLANET.

KRYPTON?

PEOPLE... SCIENTISTS
DISCUSSING THE PLANET'S
IMPENDING DOOM! THEY
HAVE AN IDEA--

--A WAY TO
SURVIVE!

THEY BUILD A DOME
OVER
A CITY AND PLANT
EXPLOSIVE CHARGES AT
KEY GEOGRAPHIC POINTS
BENEATH IT!

WHEN THE PLANET
EXPLODES... IT
STAYS INTACT AND IS
PUSHED INTO SPACE!

THE CITY IS
STILL OUT
THERE!



THEIR RESOURCES ARE EXHAUSTED... THEY'RE DYING.

THEN A LOCATION... DIRECTIONS AND--

--CONTACT IS BROKEN!

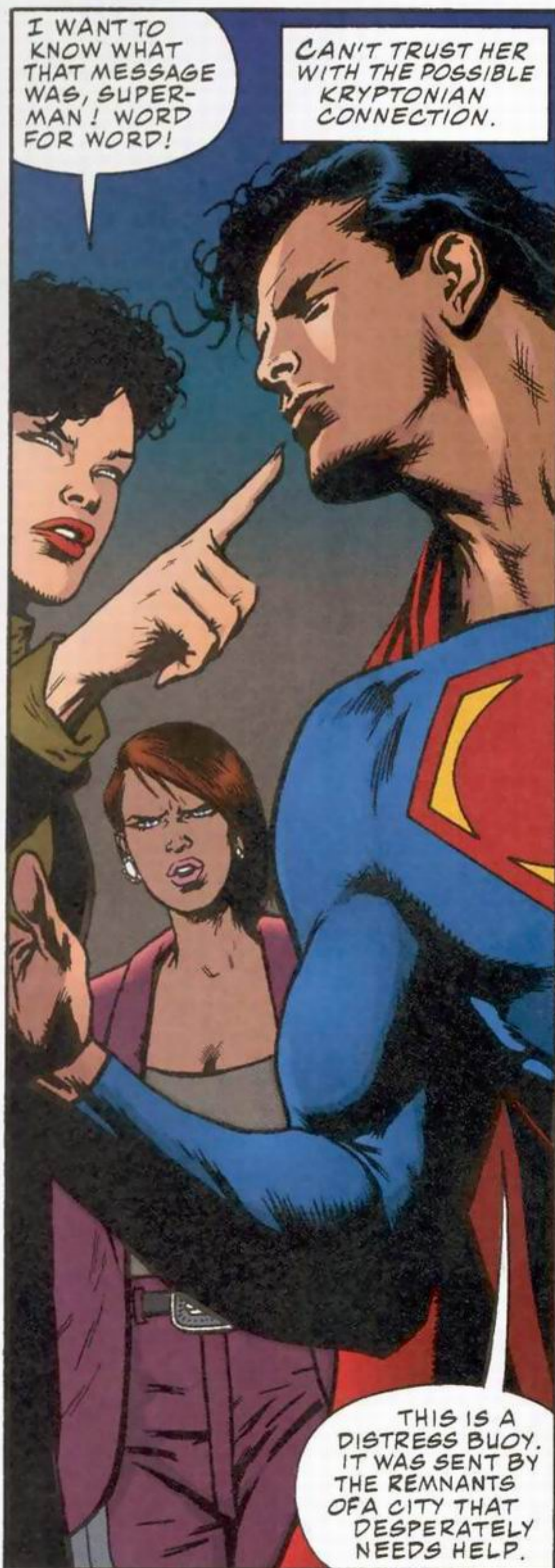
THE POWER IS GONE! IT'S DEAD!



SUPER-MAN, WHAT THE HELL HAVE YOU DONE TO MY DISCOVERY?

YOU'RE LUCKY I WAS HERE TO HELP, DOCTOR.

IF IT HAD SURVIVED REENTRY ITS MESSAGE WOULD HAVE DIED AT THE BOTTOM OF THE OCEAN WHEN THE POWER RAN OUT!



I WANT TO KNOW WHAT THAT MESSAGE WAS, SUPER-MAN! WORD FOR WORD!

CAN'T TRUST HER WITH THE POSSIBLE KRYPTONIAN CONNECTION.

THIS IS A DISTRESS BUOY. IT WAS SENT BY THE REMNANTS OF A CITY THAT DESPERATELY NEEDS HELP.



WE HAVE SHIPS THAT CAN GET US TO THAT CITY! TELL ME HOW TO GET THERE--

--AND I'LL GIVE THEM WHAT THEY NEED IN EXCHANGE FOR THEIR TECHNOLOGY!

NO ONE GOES BUT ME, DOCTOR.

AS SOON AS YOU REALIZE THAT, WE CAN WORK SOMETHING OUT.

IT TAKES TWO DAYS TO WORK OUT THE DETAILS.

IN EXCHANGE FOR TRANSPORTATION TO THE SPACE CITY, SHE EXPECTS FIRST LOOK AT ALL THE TECHNOLOGY I BRING BACK.

I AGREE--

--PRAYING I WON'T BRING BACK ANYTHING LEXCORP CAN TURN INTO WEAPONRY.

WE'VE GIVEN SUPERMAN A CRASH COURSE ON THE OPERATION OF THE SHIP.

HE'S READY TO GO.

YOU'RE LUCKY, SUPERMAN. YOU AND LANE ARE THE FIRST CIVILIANS TO EVER WALK THE HALLS OF THIS SPACE STATION.

AND LANE NEVER WOULD HAVE BEEN INCLUDED IF YOU HADN'T INSISTED.

IT'S IMPORTANT FOR THIS TO BE REPORTED TO THE WORLD, DR. KIMBLE.

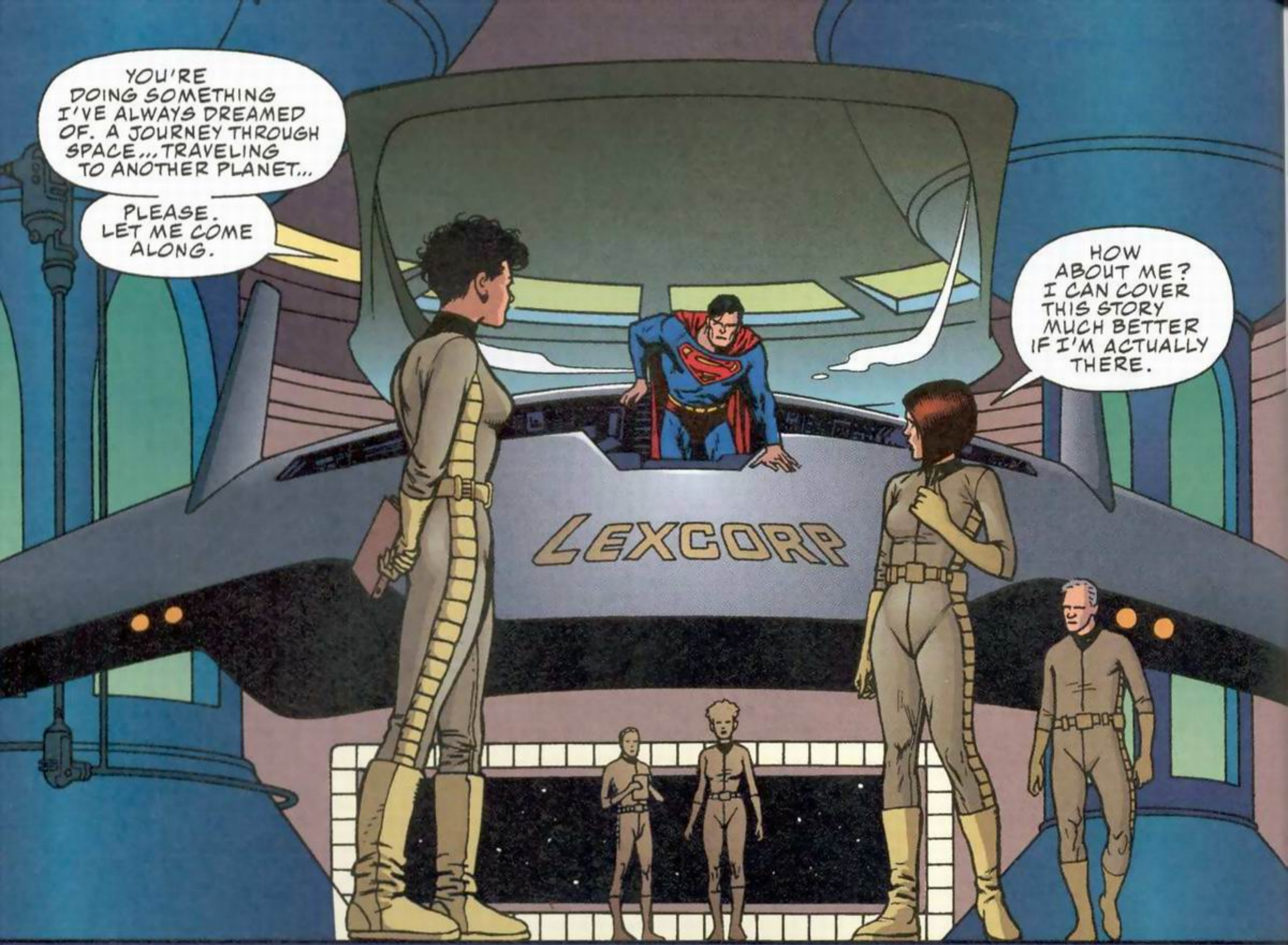
NOT TO MENTION THE FACT THAT I KNEW LOIS'D DO SOMETHING RECKLESS TO GET HERE ON HER OWN.

I ENVY YOU, YOU KNOW.

YOU'RE DOING SOMETHING I'VE ALWAYS DREAMED OF. A JOURNEY THROUGH SPACE... TRAVELING TO ANOTHER PLANET...

PLEASE. LET ME COME ALONG.

HOW ABOUT ME? I CAN COVER THIS STORY MUCH BETTER IF I'M ACTUALLY THERE.



SORRY, MS. KIMBLE... LOIS. I HAVE TO DO THIS ONE ALONE.

WISH ME LUCK.

GOOD LUCK, SUPERMAN. I HOPE YOU FIND WHAT YOU'RE LOOKING FOR.

LEXCORP AND SUPERMAN HAVE NEVER BEEN THE BEST OF FRIENDS, BUT STILL--



--I WISH YOU SUCCESS.





WHAT'S IN THIS FOR YOU, DOCTOR KIMBLE? THE HARD-DRIVING PUSH YOU'VE EXHIBITED--

--SEEMS ALMOST OBSESSIVE.

YOU OF ALL PEOPLE SHOULD UNDERSTAND THE NATURE OF A WOMAN DOING HER JOB, LANE.



LEXCORP HAS BEEN ON THE CUTTING EDGE OF TECHNOLOGY EVER SINCE LEX FOUNDED THE COMPANY.

WE HAVE A CLEAR-CUT MANDATE.

DO WHATEVER IT TAKES TO STAY ON TOP.



SUPERIOR ALIEN TECHNOLOGY WILL HELP ME DO EXACTLY THAT.

IF I COME OFF AS ABRASIVE, SO BE IT. BUT WITH LEX LUTHOR PHYSICALLY UNABLE TO COMMAND--

--SOMEBODY HAS TO PUSH HARD!



I NEED THIS, LANE. I WON'T STOP AT ANYTHING TO GET IT.

--WHILE YOUR PRIMARY INTEREST IS CORPORATE PROFIT!

GREAT. SUPERMAN IS RUNNING ALL OVER THE COSMOS TRYING TO SAVE LIVES--

THE SHIP HANDLES LIKE A DREAM. THANKS TO THE ASSISTANCE OF THE TECHNICIANS IN PROGRAMMING THE GUIDANCE SYSTEMS--



--I HARDLY HAVE TO DO ANYTHING AT ALL.

GIVES MY MIND A CHANCE TO WANDER.



I THINK OF MYSELF AS HUMAN. A NATIVE OF EARTH.

EVEN IF THERE ARE OTHER KRYPTONIANS OUT THERE--



--THAT WON'T CHANGE.

WHEN KRYPTON BLEW UP, I WAS ONLY A FETUS IN THE MATRIX CHAMBER THAT CARRIED ME TO EARTH... WHERE I WAS BORN.



THE KENTS FOUND ME. RAISED ME.



MADE ME THE MAN I AM TODAY.

BUT I DID MEET OTHER KRYPTONIANS ONCE.

THAT OTHER UNIVERSE... A POCKET UNIVERSE, I GUESS... HAD A BENEVOLENT LEX LUTHOR IN IT.

HE FREED THREE KRYPTONIAN NATIVES OF THAT PARALLEL UNIVERSE FROM SOME KIND OF STASIS ZONE THEY WERE IN.

BUT THEY WERE AS EVIL AS EVIL GETS.

THEY LAID WASTE TO THE EARTH OF THAT DIMENSION--TURNING IT INTO A DESOLATE, BARREN SPHERE.

I COULDN'T LET THEM DO THE SAME IN MY UNIVERSE TO MY EARTH.

SO I EXPOSED THEM TO THEIR NATIVE TYPE OF KRYPTONITE.

THEY DIED.

NOW I CAN'T HELP BUT WONDER WHAT I'LL FIND OUT HERE.

IF THERE ARE OTHER KRYPTONIANS THERE--

--I DON'T WANT TO BE FACED WITH THIS SAME SITUATION AGAIN.

KILLING THOSE PEOPLE
WAS THE WORST THING
I EVER DID.

I WAS IN AGONY.
TORTURED TO
THE SOUL.

THOUGH THE PEOPLE I KILLED
ONLY EXISTED AT THE WHIMS
OF A BEING KNOWN AS THE
TIME TRAPPER--

--I HAD
BETRAYED
THE CORE
OF MY
BEING.

I'M NO
KILLER.

IT'S A MEASURE
OF DESPERATION
THAT I WILL NEVER
RESORT TO AGAIN.

NO MATTER
HOW DEADLY
THE THREAT.

HYPERSPACE.

I'LL ARRIVE AT
THE CITY SOON.

DOCTOR
KIMBLE?

OUR
TELEMETRY
SCREEN SHOWS
YOU AS NEARING
YOUR DESTINA-
TION.

YOU
SHOULD
HAVE IT IN
VISUAL ANY
SECOND.

GOT IT.

WE
COPY YOU,
SUPER-
MAN.

IT'S JUST LIKE
THE PROBE COM-
MUNICATED TO
ME.

A DOMED
CITY ON THE
REMNANTS OF A
PLANET.

I DON'T
TELL
KIMBLE
WHAT
AFFECTS
ME
MOST.

THE CITY
LOOKS
KRYPTON-
IAN.



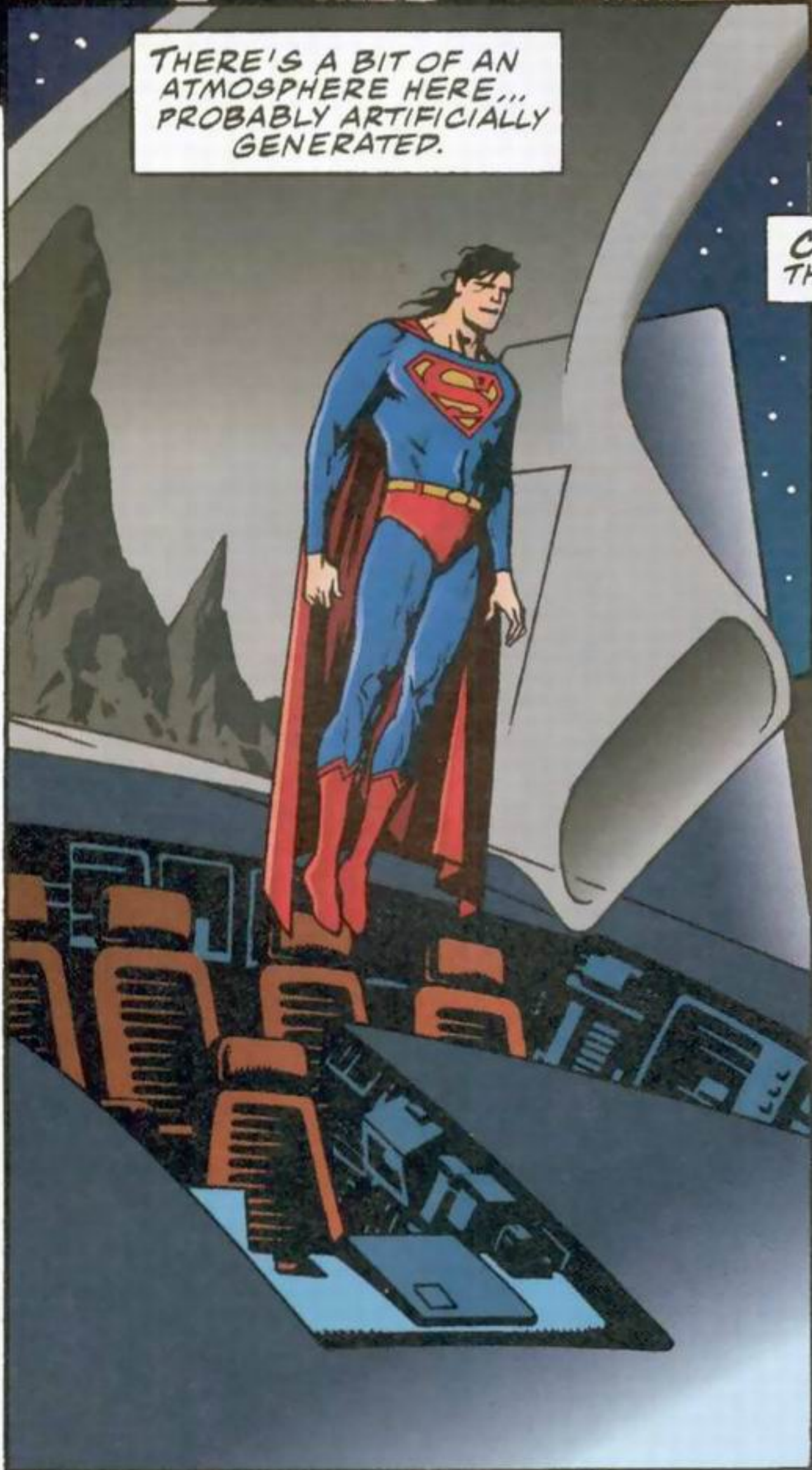
WEIRD.

THERE'S A BIT OF AN
ATMOSPHERE HERE...
PROBABLY ARTIFICIALLY
GENERATED.

WE'RE FAR
FROM ANY
SUN.

MY BODY ACTS
LIKE A SOLAR
BATTERY, STORING
AND PROCESSING
ENERGY IN THE
VICINITY OF A
SUN.

COLD,
THOUGH.



I'M
WEAKER
NOW--

--A SIDE EFFECT
THAT WILL
CONTINUE.



THE CITY
LOOKS
DESERTED.

NO LIGHTS, NO
POWER OF
ANY KIND--

--AS THOUGH
IT WERE DEAD.

WHAT'S THAT?
A SOUND?

NOTHING.

MUST
HAVE
BEEN MY
IMAGINA-
TION.

LOOKS LIKE
A MAIN
ENTRANCE.
THOSE MARKS
ON THE DOOR...

SCRATCHES?

X-RAY
VISION.

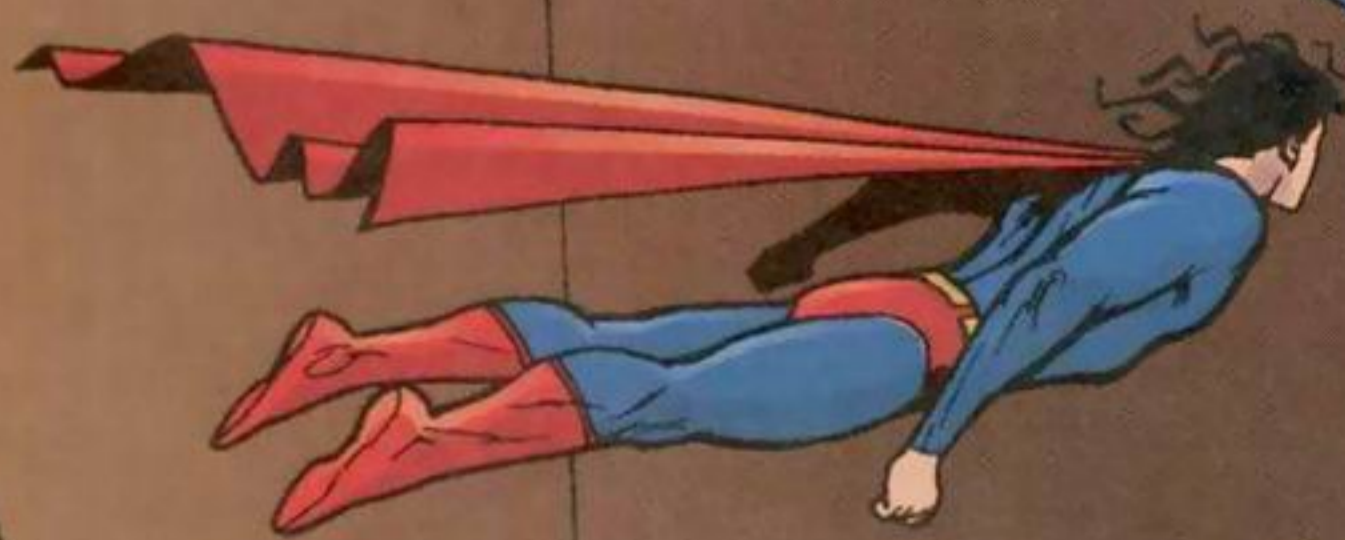
FUZZY IMAGE, BUT IT
LOOKS LIKE A CRUDE
BARRIER HAS BEEN
PUT UP.

AS THOUGH
SOMETHING
WAS TRYING
TO CLAW ITS
WAY IN?

WHY?

CAN'T SEE THROUGH THESE WALLS AT ALL. EVEN THE GLASS DOME IS MAKING IT TOUGH.

MUST BE A COMBINATION OF LEAD IN THEIR BASE COMPOSITION AS WELL AS A RESULT OF MY DWINDLING POWERS.

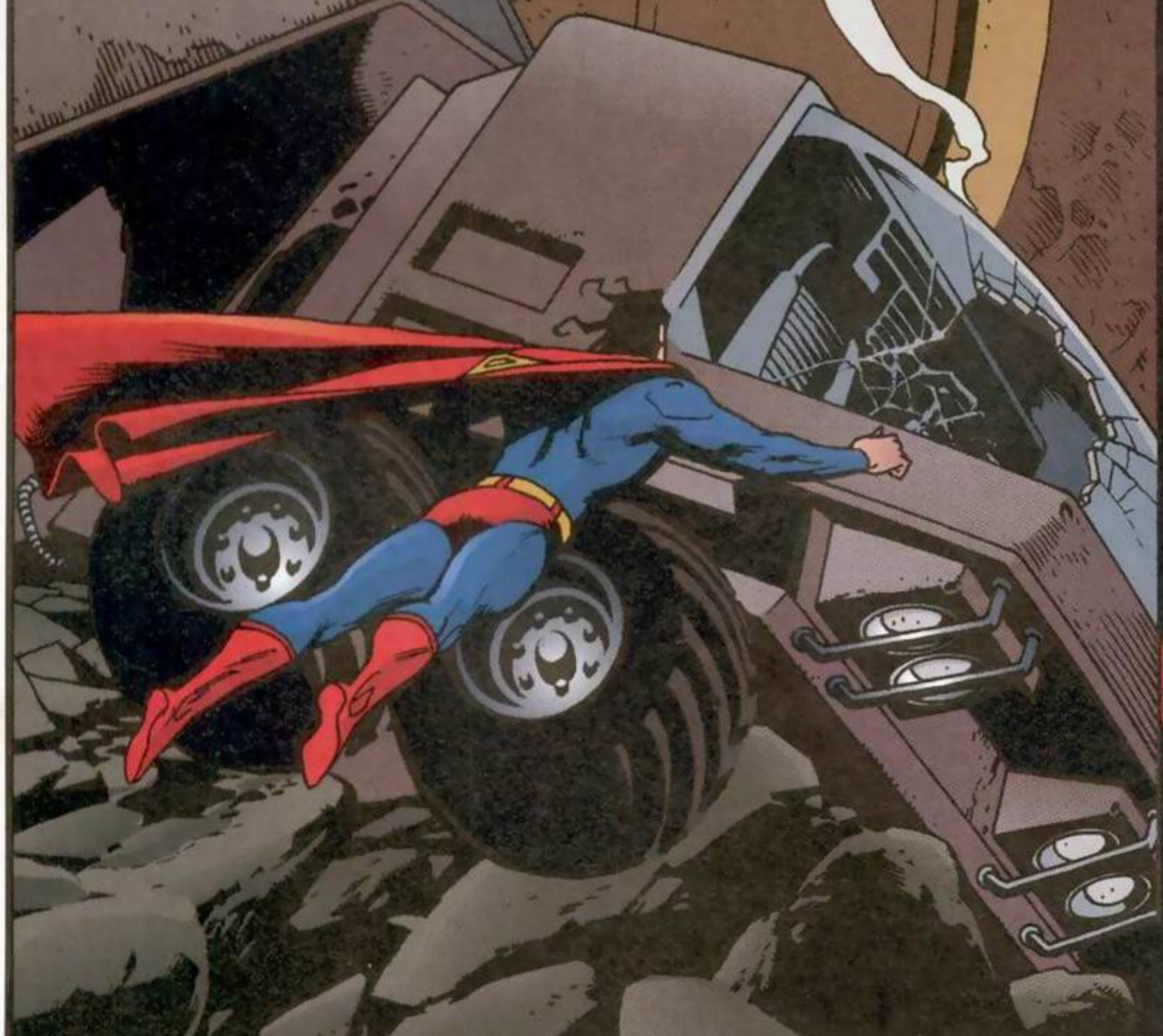


ALL THE DOORS HAVE THOSE SAME SCRATCHES.

WHAT'S THAT?

A BUS? LOOKS LIKE IT TRIED TO CRASH ITS WAY OUT--

--AND ENDED UP DOING A HIGH DIVE OFF DEAD MAN'S CURVE.

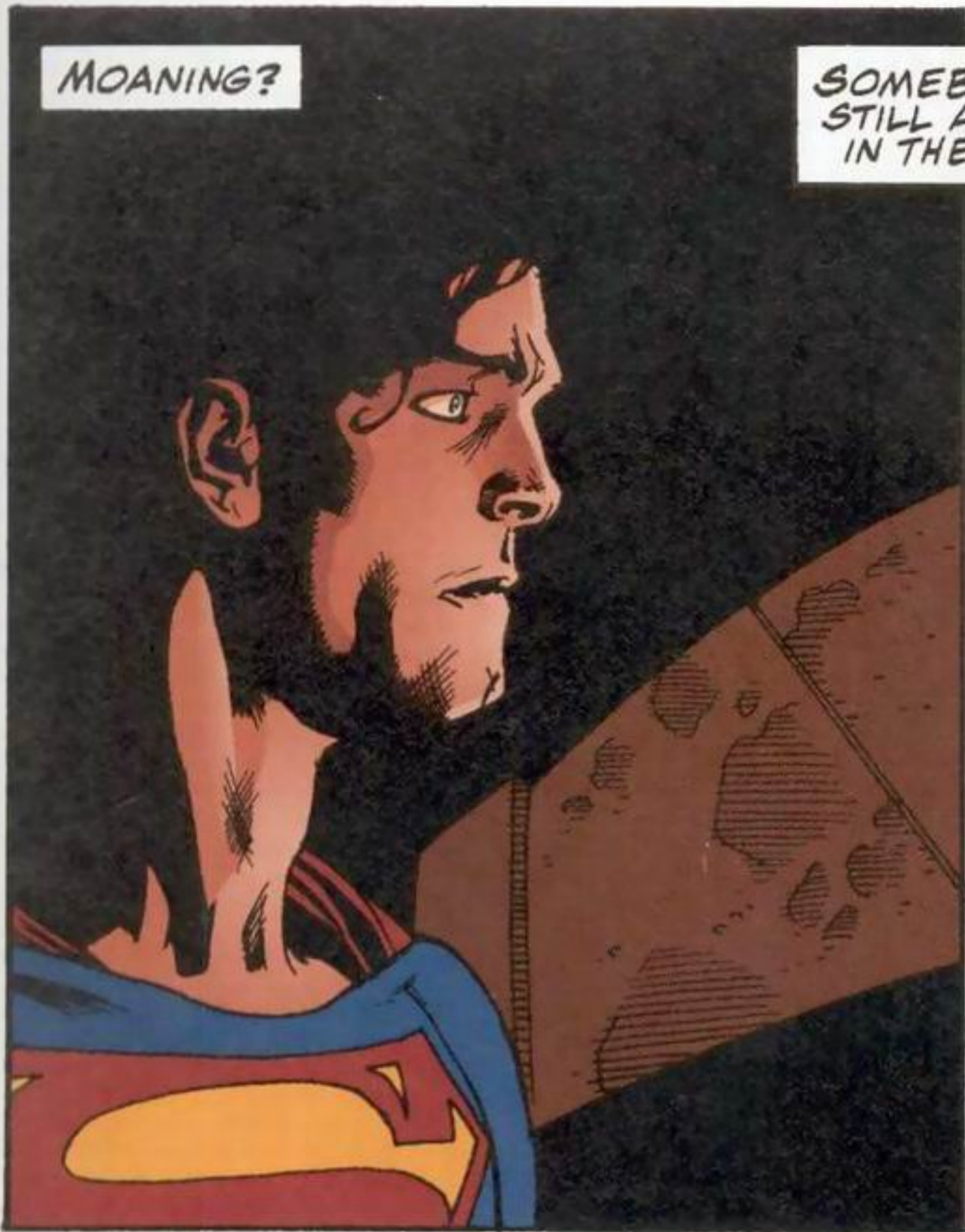


SO WHAT WERE THEY RUNNING FROM?

BLOOD.



I'M NOT THE FIRST ONE WHO'S BEEN HERE.



MOANING?

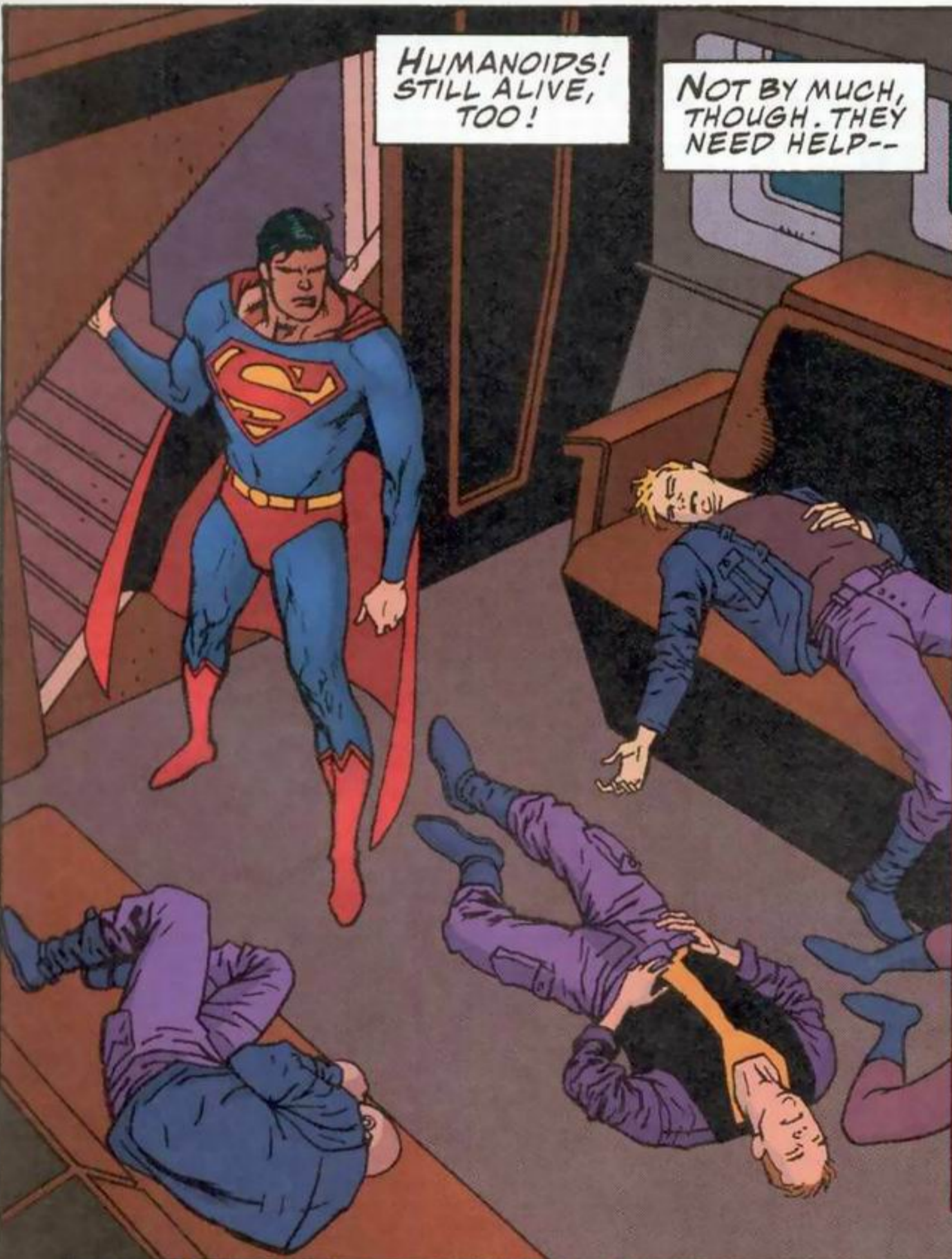
SOMEBODY IS STILL ALIVE IN THERE!



THIS DOOR FEELS LIKE IT WAS WELDED SHUT.

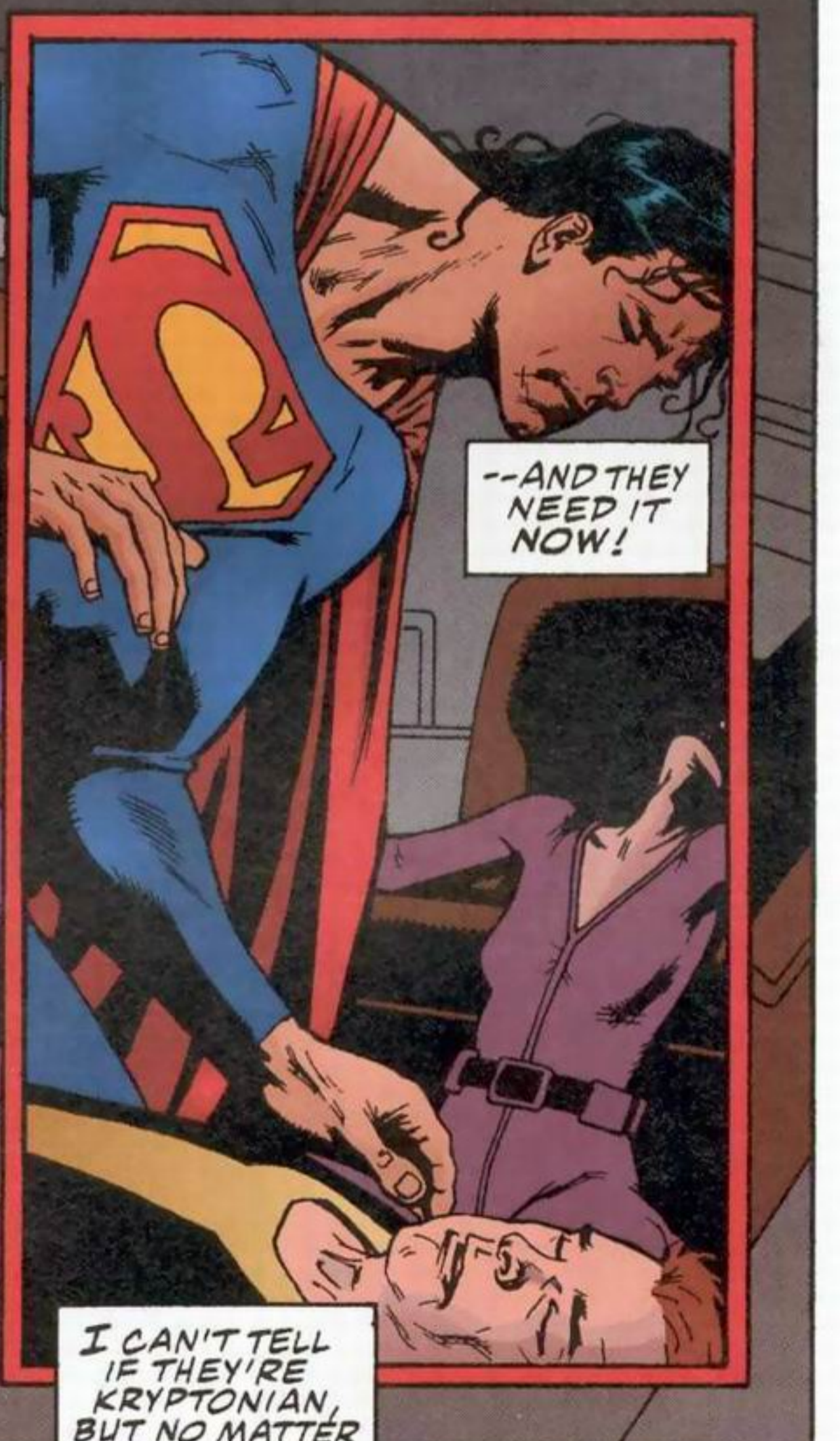
UNH!

KRIKKKTT



HUMANOIDS! STILL ALIVE, TOO!

NOT BY MUCH, THOUGH. THEY NEED HELP--



--AND THEY NEED IT NOW!

I CAN'T TELL IF THEY'RE KRYPTONIAN, BUT NO MATTER WHAT--



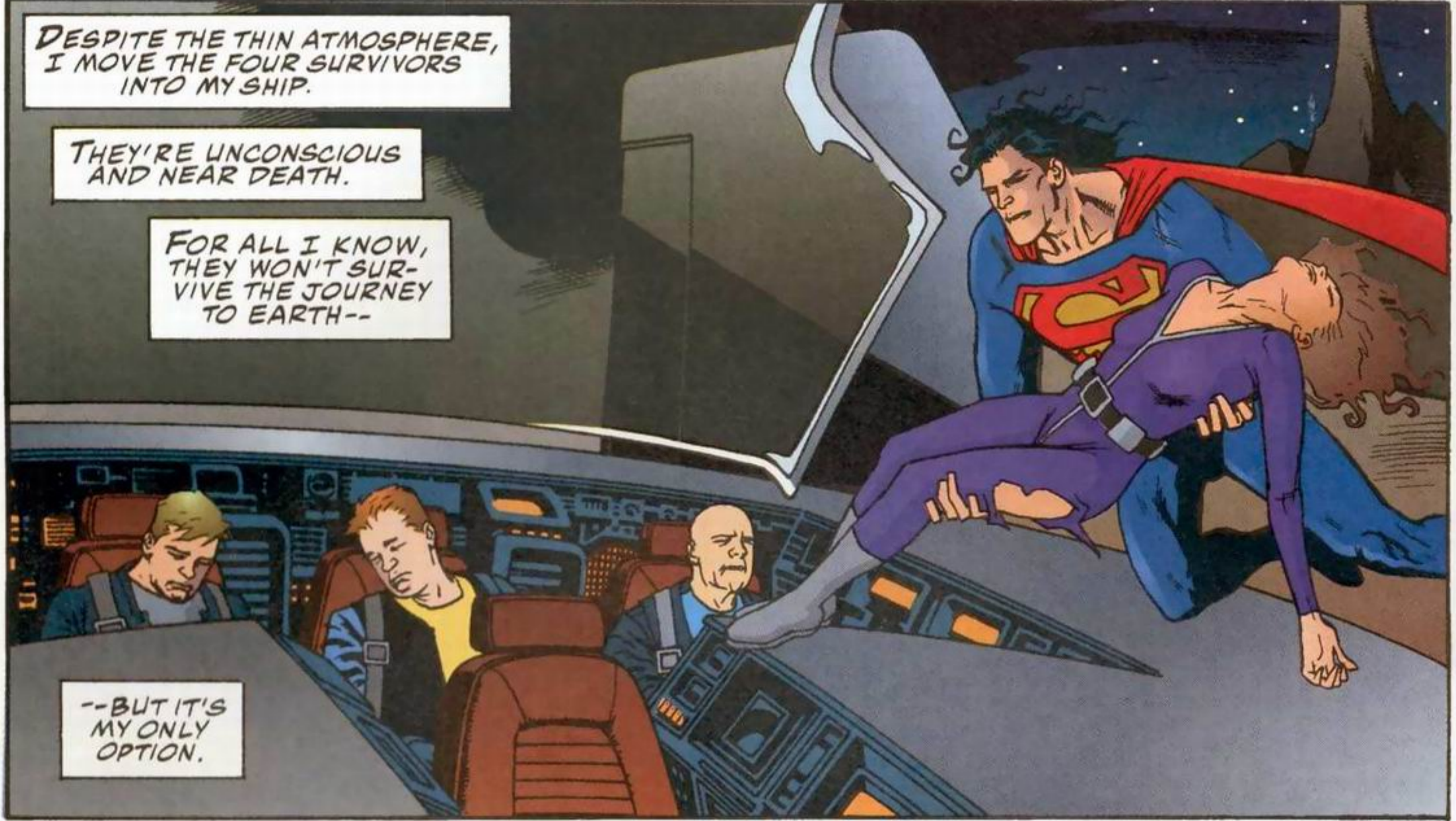
--I'D SAY THEIR BEST CHANCE FOR SURVIVAL IS EARTH!

DESPITE THE THIN ATMOSPHERE,
I MOVE THE FOUR SURVIVORS
INTO MY SHIP.

THEY'RE UNCONSCIOUS
AND NEAR DEATH.

FOR ALL I KNOW,
THEY WON'T SUR-
VIVE THE JOURNEY
TO EARTH--

--BUT IT'S
MY ONLY
OPTION.



DOCTOR
KIMBLE?

WHAT HAVE
YOU FOUND,
SUPERMAN?

THIS IS NOT
A M.A.S.H. UNIT!
I WANT THE TECH-
NOLOGY, SUPERMAN!
NOT PATIENTS!

AS SOON AS YOU'VE
OFF-LOADED THESE
PEOPLE, SEND THE
SHIP BACK, DOCTOR
KIMBLE.

UNTIL
THEN
I'LL
STAY
PUT!

SURVIVORS IN
TOUGH SHAPE. I'VE
PROGRAMMED THE
SHIP TO BRING THEM
BACK TO YOU.

BUT YOU'LL BE
STRANDED!

LOIS'S WORDS
HANG IN THE AIR
FOR AN ETERNITY.

WITH MY POWERS
FADING, SHE'S
RIGHT.

FOR NOW... THIS
DESOLATE ROCK
IS HOME.



MIGHT AS WELL GIVE THIS
TRANSPORT A GOING-OVER
TO SEE IF I CAN DETERMINE
WHAT HAPPENED.



THOSE PEOPLE
WERE TRYING
TO GET AWAY
FROM SOME-
ONE OR--

--SOME-
THING?



INTERESTING.

SOME KIND
OF CRAB.

DEAD
NOW.

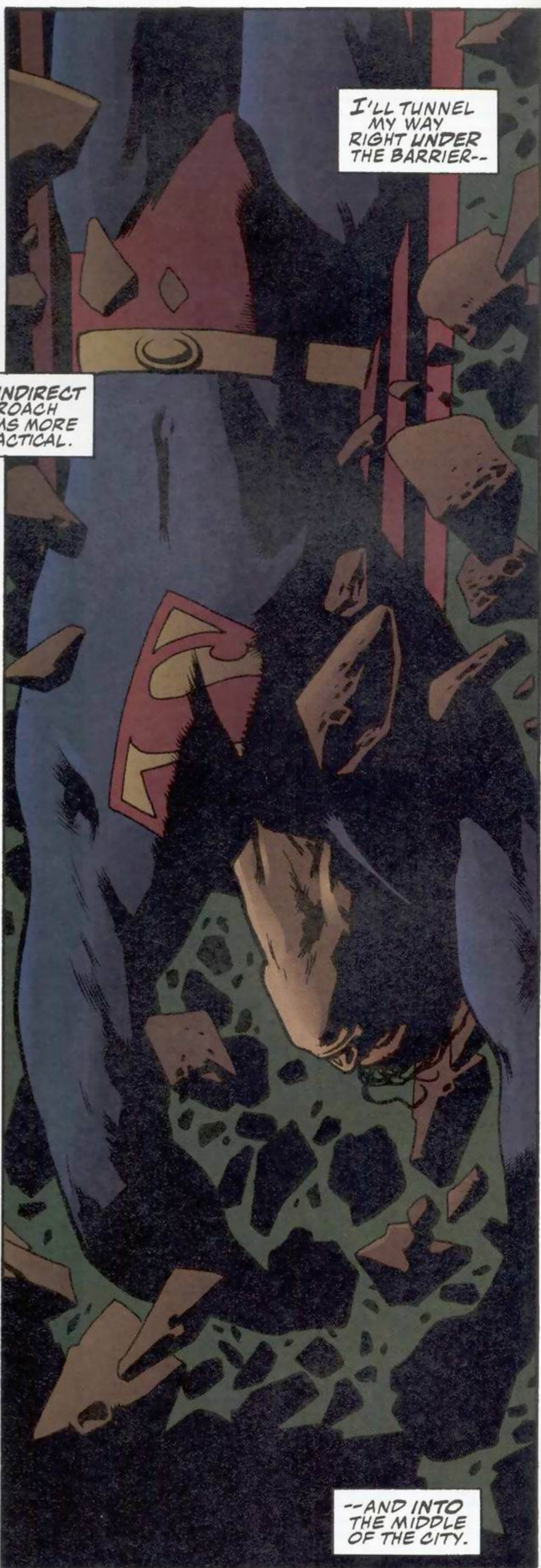


MAYBE THIS
WAS THE
THING THAT
WAS TRYING
TO CLAW ITS
WAY INTO
THE CITY.

UNFORTUNATELY... NO
WAY TO KNOW NOW.



I DON'T WANT TO UPSET IT BY CRASHING MY WAY IN.



I'LL TUNNEL MY WAY RIGHT UNDER THE BARRIER--

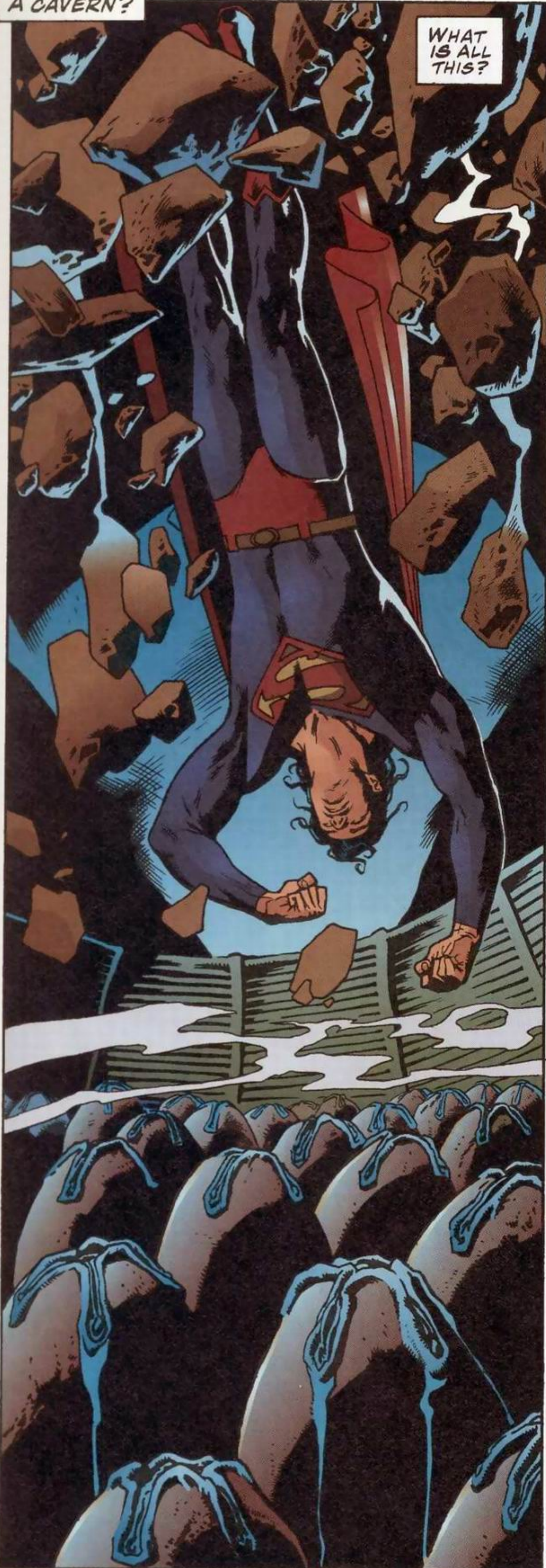
THE INDIRECT APPROACH SEEMS MORE PRACTICAL.

EVEN THOUGH THIS ENTIRE ROCK HAS A DELICATE ATMOSPHERE... THE CITY ITSELF PROBABLY HAS A MORE DELICATE ONE.



--AND INTO THE MIDDLE OF THE CITY.

A CAVERN?



WHAT IS ALL THIS?



SOME KIND OF STRANGE ROCK FORMATIONS?

SYSTEMATIC IN ORGANIZATION--

--YET ORGANIC IN APPEARANCE.



NOTHING LIKE THAT ON THE KRYPTON I'VE LEARNED ABOUT.

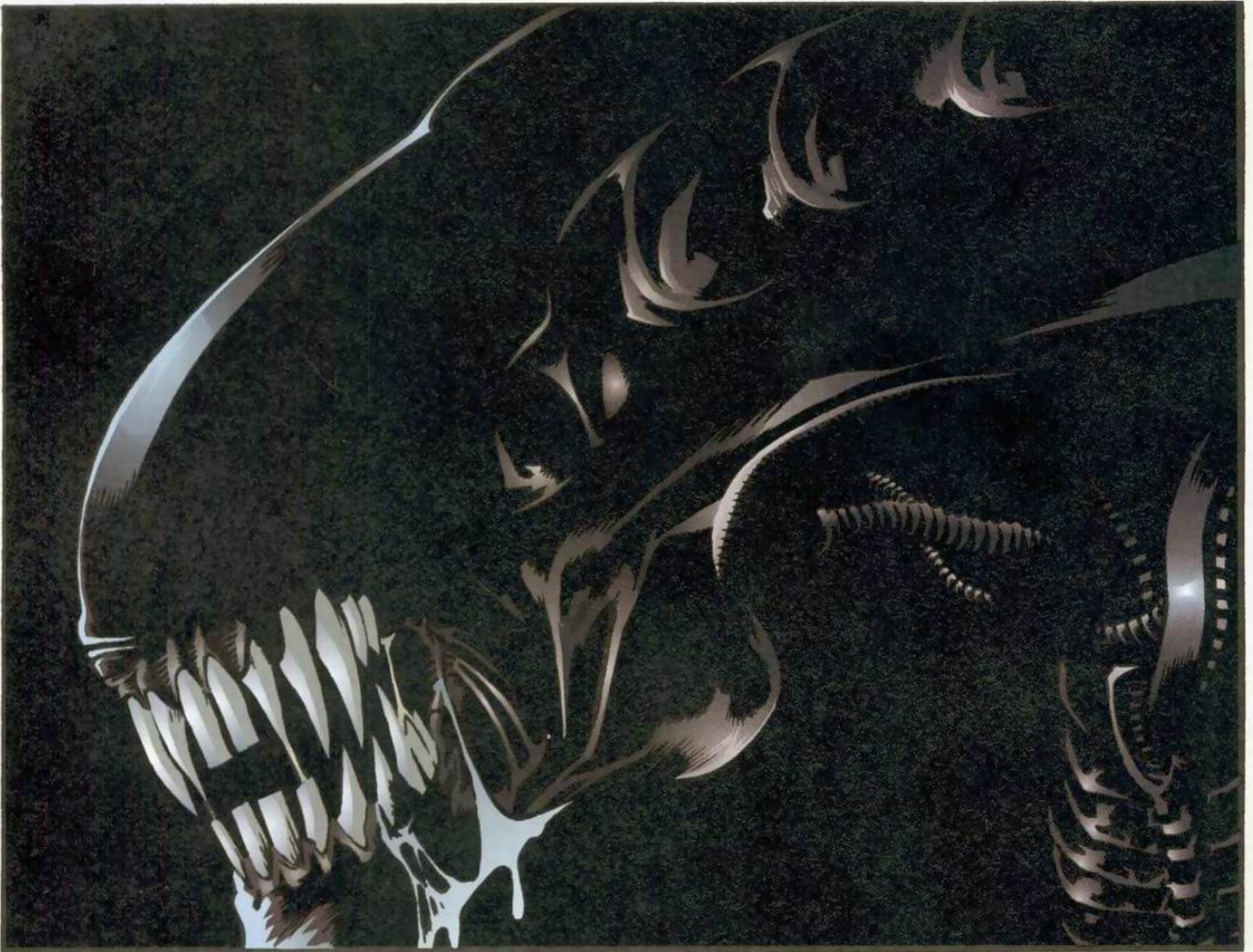
SEEMS WEIRD... UNSETTLING.

CREEPY.

MORE AND MORE
THIS PLACE SEEMS
TO REEK--



--OF DEATH.





HHHSSSSSS

WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU--?!



WHISSSSSS

WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU--?!





NO ANSWER. BUT UGLY MOVES SO INCREDIBLY FAST--

--WE END UP IN THE DIRT.

NO MATTER, THOUGH. LOOKS FAIRLY HARMLESS.

I'LL CLEAR SOME ROOM AND TRY TO REASON WITH HIM-- IT!

WAIT! I KNOW YOU'VE NEVER SEEN ME BEFORE, BUT I'M NO THREAT!

I'M HERE LOOKING FOR OTHER BEINGS WHO LOOK LIKE ME!

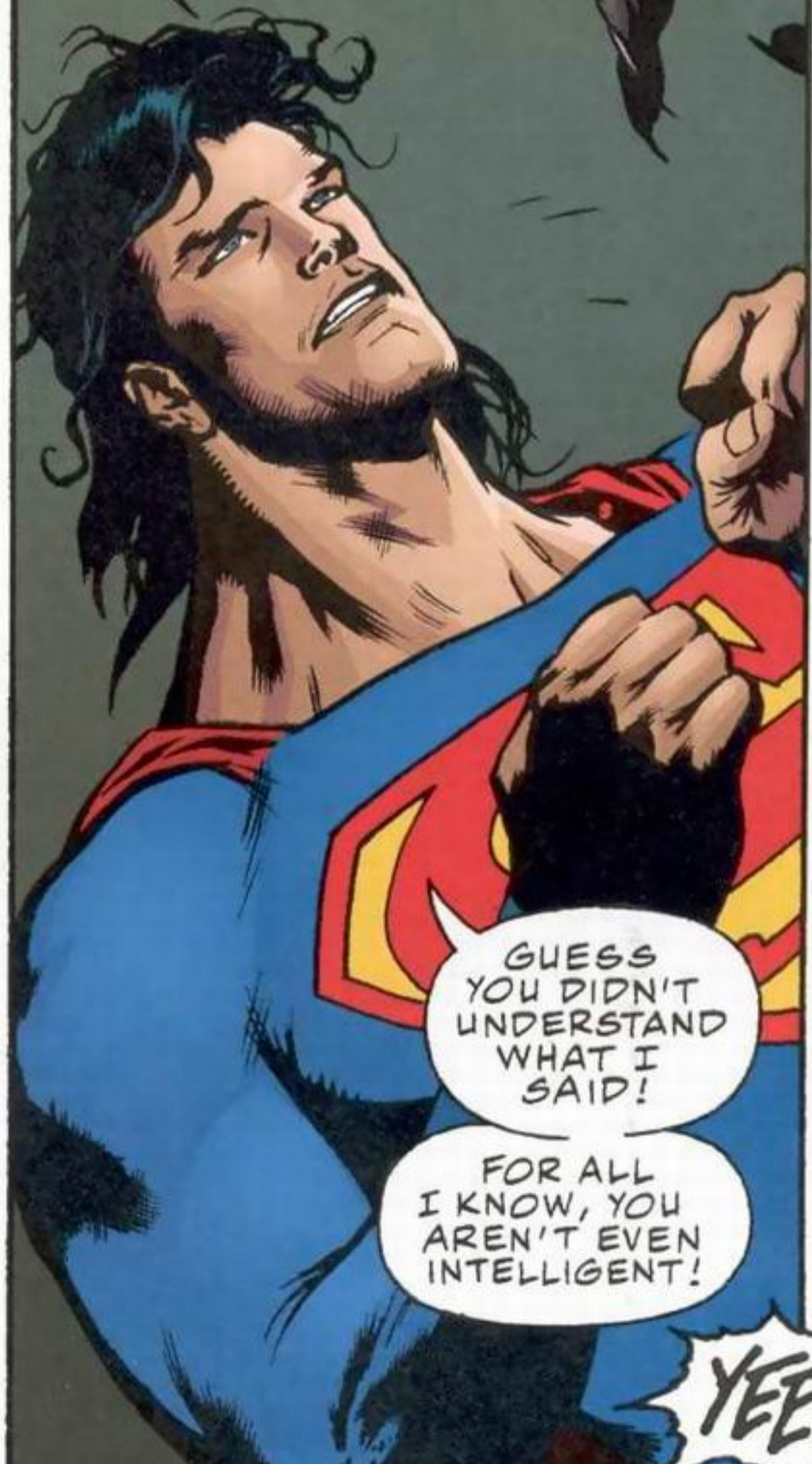


S
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HOLY--!



COMING AFTER ME ANYWAY, HUH?



GUESS YOU DIDN'T UNDERSTAND WHAT I SAID!

FOR ALL I KNOW, YOU AREN'T EVEN INTELLIGENT!



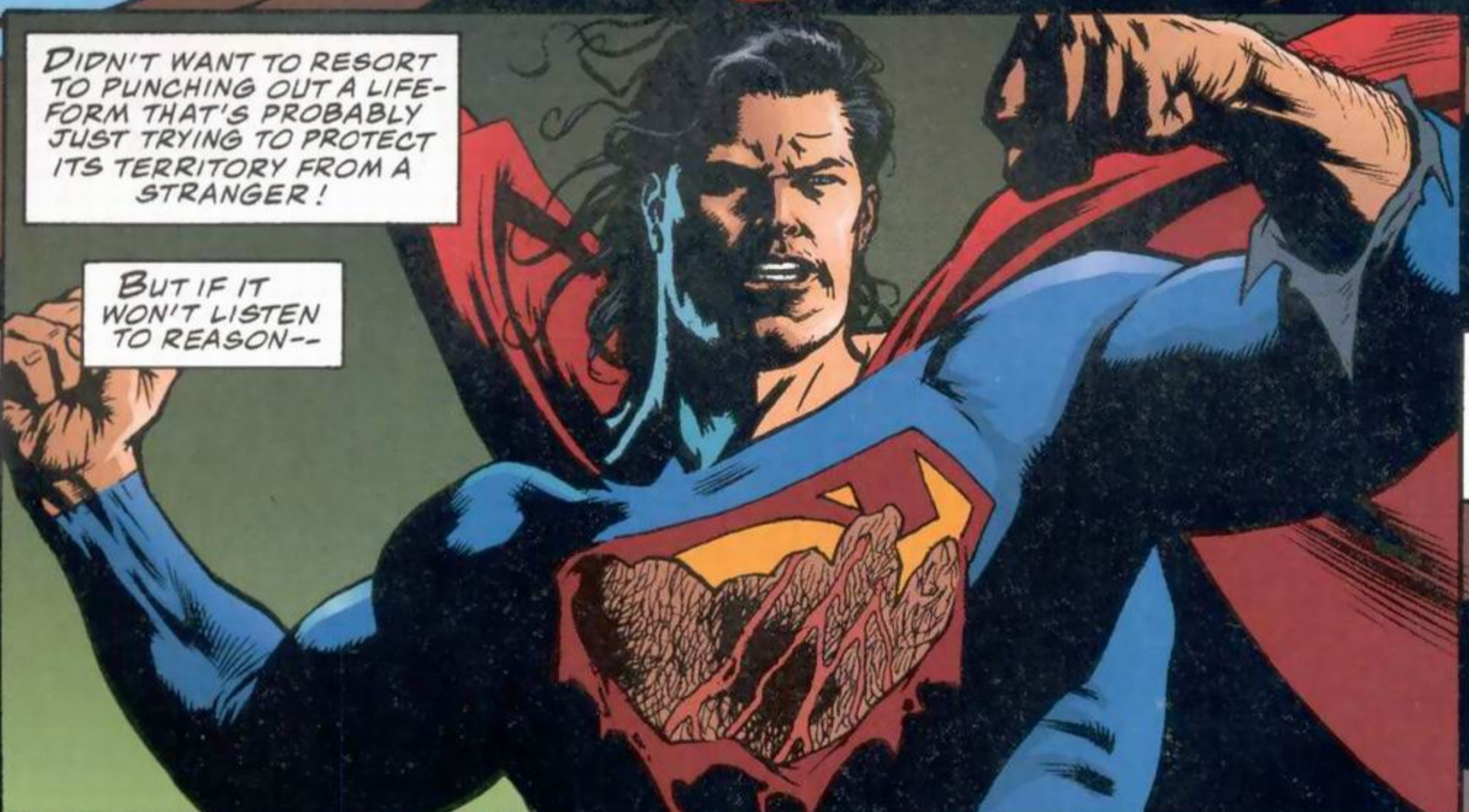
YEEOWW!

YOU-- CUT ME?!



GET--

--OFF!



DIDN'T WANT TO RESORT
TO PUNCHING OUT A LIFE-
FORM THAT'S PROBABLY
JUST TRYING TO PROTECT
ITS TERRITORY FROM A
STRANGER!

BUT IF IT
WON'T LISTEN
TO REASON--

-- IT'S
GOING
DOWN!



SCREEEEEE

THAT TAKES CARE OF THAT!

DIDN'T EXPECT ANYTHING LIKE THAT THING.

IT SURE DIDN'T LOOK KRYPTONIAN.

WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?

WHAT THE--?!

HISSSSSS



YOU SHOULD HAVE QUIT WHILE YOU HAD THE CHANCE!



I CAN KEEP YOUR JAWS PROPPED OPEN UNTIL--



--UNTIL--

HISSSSSS



KRAK

AAAAGHH!!



FACE FEELS
LIKE I WENT
A COUPLE MORE
ROUNDS WITH
DOOMSDAY!

TIME TO
TAKE OFF
THE GLOVES!

TRY TO CUT
HIM-- WOUND
HIM ENOUGH
TO SLOW
HIM DOWN!



SCREEEE

MY EYES!

BLOOD--IS
LIKE SOME
KIND OF ACID!



CAN'T SEE ANY-
THING BUT BLURS
... HEAT VISION
DOESN'T WORK--

--I'M REALLY
MESSED UP!



GOOD THING I
STILL HAVE A
HEALTHY DEGREE
OF INVULNER-
ABILITY OR--

<YOU
IN THE
COLORS!>

<MOVE
BACK!>

UGH!<

YOU
JUST
DON'T
QUIT,
DO
YOU?



MMM!<

SHAKTI!



THAT VOICE!

SPEAKING
KRYPTONIAN!



<SLINKY
HOLY WELL
DONE!>

<GET IT
WHILE IT'S
HOT!>



REEEEEEEEEEOW!



<MY, MY, MY.>

<YOU
LOOK LIKE
YOU COULD
USE SOME
ICE.>

<CAN'T
SEE... BUT
THAT MUST
HAVE BEEN
A FLAME
THROWER!>



<COME ON! LET'S GET
OUT OF HERE BEFORE
MORE OF THE CRITTERS
SHOW UP!>

<YOU MEAN THERE
ARE... MORE OF
THOSE THINGS OUT
THERE?>

<MORE
OF
THEM?>



<ONLY
ABOUT A
COUPLE
OF
MILLION!>

<WHERE
ARE YOU
FROM,
ANYWAY?>

<I'M
FROM-->





<WOW! YOU EVEN GOT THE CREEP'S BLOOD ON YOUR FACE!>

<SO WHY HASN'T IT EATEN ITS WAY THROUGH YOUR SKULL BY NOW?>

<LET'S JUST SAY I'VE GOT SPECIAL ABILITIES.>

<I'M LIKE A SOLAR COLLECTOR. GIVE ME ENOUGH SUN-->



<--AND I CAN TAKE MORE THAN THE AVERAGE GUY.>



<SURE.>

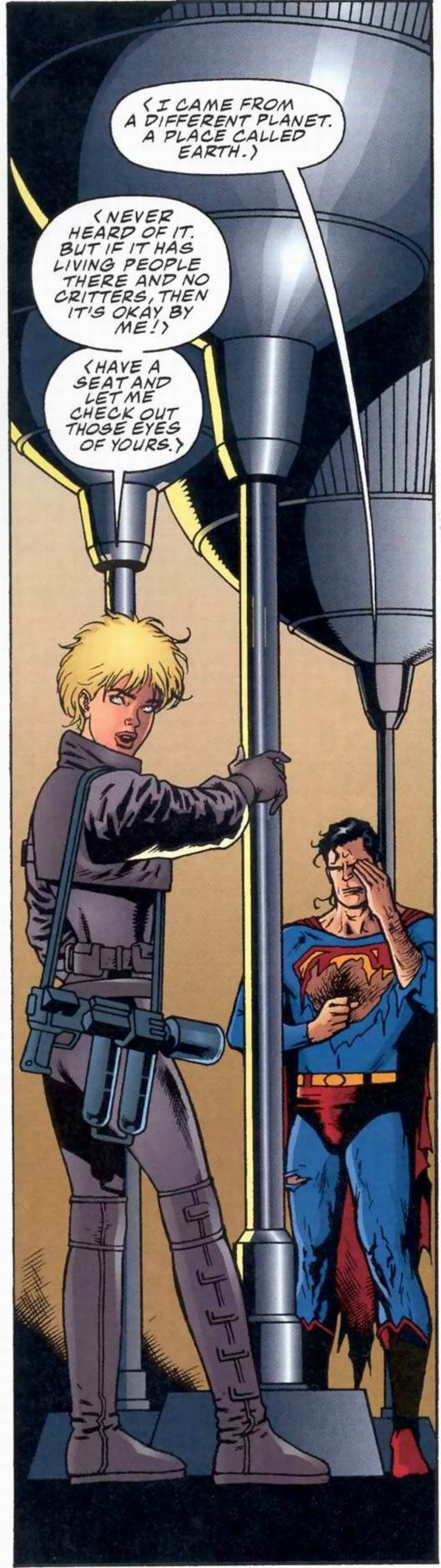
<GOT IT.>

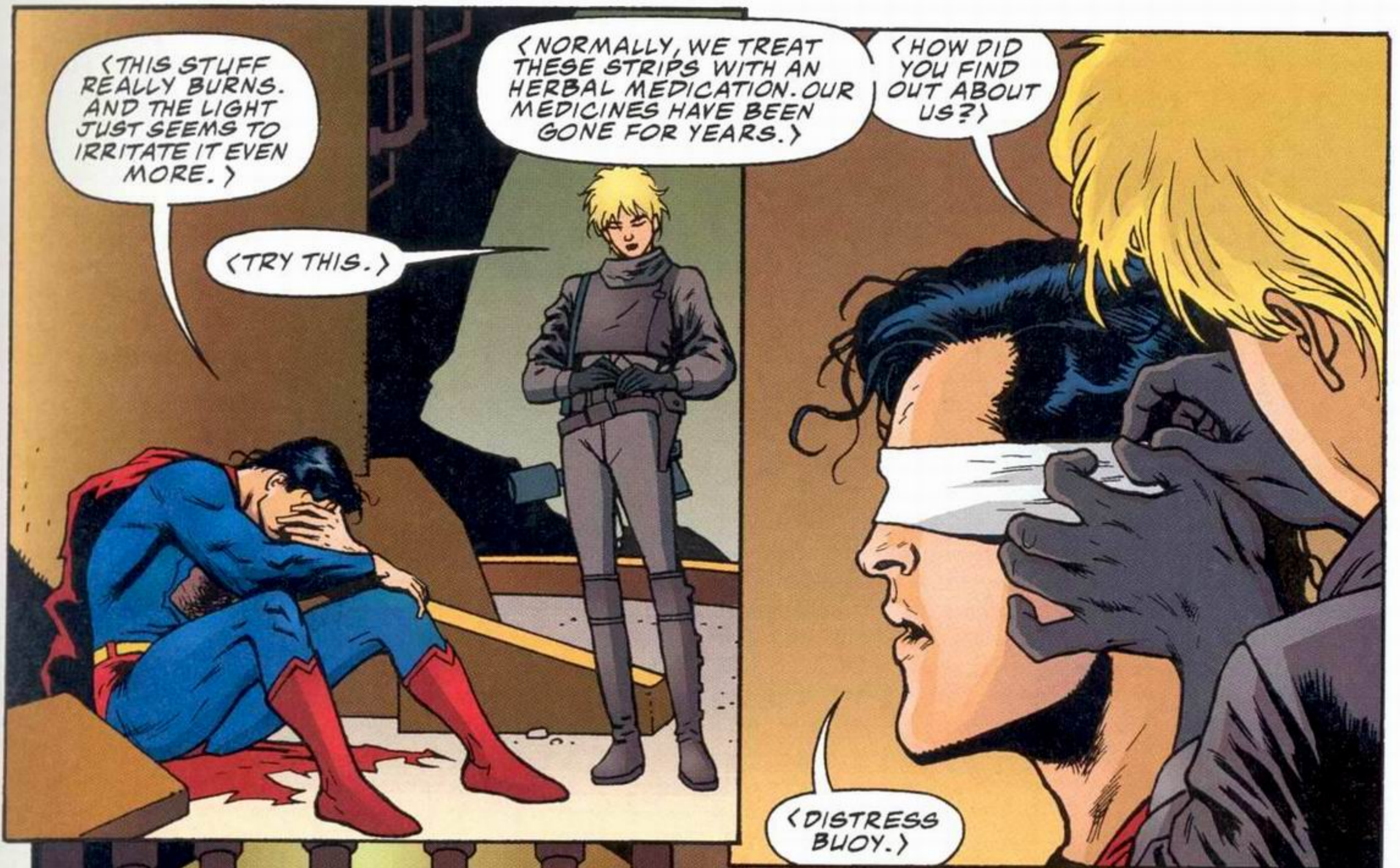


<WHAT WAS THAT... CREATURE, ANYWAY? I'VE NEVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE IT!>

<YOU--YOU REALLY ARE FROM OFF ROCK, AREN'T YOU?>

<OFF ROCK?>





<THIS STUFF REALLY BURNS. AND THE LIGHT JUST SEEMS TO IRRITATE IT EVEN MORE.>

<NORMALLY, WE TREAT THESE STRIPS WITH AN HERBAL MEDICATION. OUR MEDICINES HAVE BEEN GONE FOR YEARS.>

<HOW DID YOU FIND OUT ABOUT US?>

<TRY THIS.>

<DISTRESS BUOY.>



<YOU MEAN ONE OF THOSE THINGS FINALLY WORKED?! THOSE WERE LAUNCHED YEARS AGO!>

<HUNDREDS OF THEM! BEFORE I WAS BORN!>

<SO LONG... BUT HOW DID THIS GET SO OUT OF CONTROL?>

<WHAT HAPPENED HERE--HERE IN...?>

<THIS PLACE WAS CALLED ARGO CITY.>

<ARGO?>

<YUP... NOWHERE ELSE COULD BE THIS BAD!>

<NO SUPPLIES, HARDLY ANY FOOD. THOSE MONSTERS HAVE WIPED OUT MOST EVERYBODY.>

<SO WHAT SHOULD I BE CALLING YOU?>



<SU--KAL. CALL ME KAL.>

<AND YOU...?>

<KINDA LIKE YOURS...>



<NOOOOO!>



CONTINUED NEXT ISSUE!



**MORE
AND
MORE
THIS
PLACE
SEEMS
TO
REEK—OF**

DEATH.

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DAN JURGENS KEVIN NOWLAN

LEXPORT

CONDITION RED!
CONDITION RED!

WILL SOMEBODY PLEASE SHUT THAT THING OFF?

COLLISION IMMINENT!
COLLISION IMMI--

ALARM SYSTEM TERMINATED, DOCTOR KIMBLE.

BUT THAT DOESN'T CHANGE THE SITUATION! THE SURVIVOR SHIP THAT SUPERMAN SENT IS GOING TO RAM US IN LESS THAN TWO MINUTES!

IMPOSSIBLE! THE SHIP'S GUIDANCE SYSTEM IS FULLY AUTOMATED! IT SHOULD LAND ITSELF IN OUR DOCKING BAY!

OH, IT'LL LAND, ALL RIGHT. WE JUST WON'T BE ALIVE TO TALK ABOUT IT!

YOU'RE AN OBSERVER HERE, LANE. IF YOU WANT TO STAY, YOU'LL HAVE TO KEEP YOUR OPINIONS TO YOURSELF!





TRY CONTACTING THE SHIP AGAIN. ALL FREQUENCY SWEEP.

STILL NO RESPONSE! THEIR FLIGHT AND COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS MUST BOTH BE OUT!



LET'S TRY TO ESTABLISH A LINK BETWEEN OUR COMPUTER AND THE SHIP'S!

SUPERMAN WOULDN'T HAVE SENT A DAMAGED SHIP! SOMETHING MUST HAVE HAPPENED ALONG THE WAY!

IF WE CAN GET THE COMPUTERS TALKING--



"--WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO OVERRIDE THEIR CONTROLS AND PILOT THE SHIP!"



NO CHANCE! EVACUATE WHILE THERE'S TIME!

OUT OF MY WAY!



I BUILT THIS STATION! I WON'T GIVE IT UP!



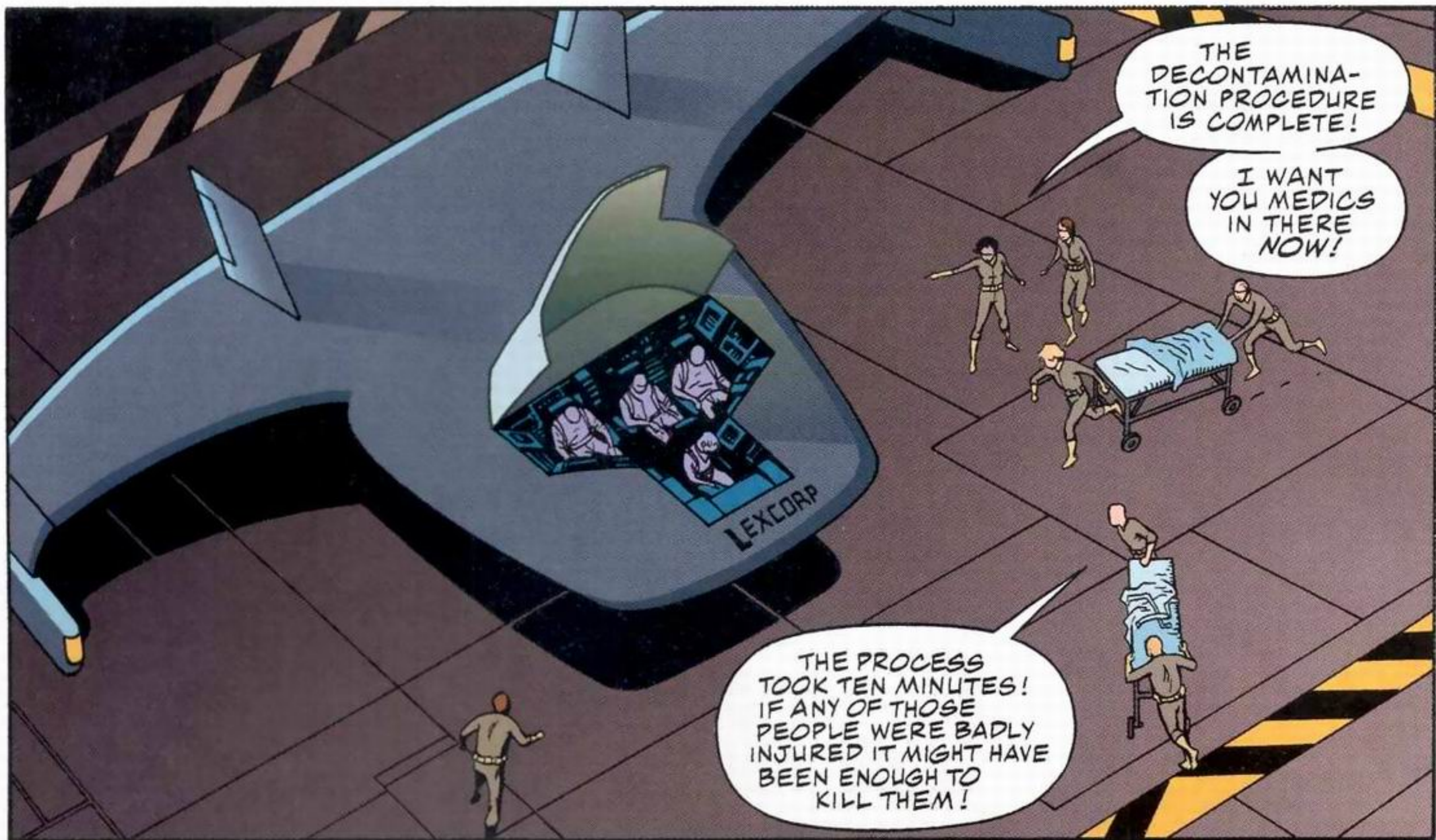
OKAY--I AM NOW IN COMMAND OF THEIR FLIGHT CONTROLS!

I THINK I CAN BRING THEM IN!



I JUST WANT TO KNOW WHAT HAPPENED OUT THERE!

KIMBLE MAY NOT BE MY KIND OF PERSON, BUT SHE KNOWS HER STUFF.



THE DECONTAMINATION PROCEDURE IS COMPLETE!

I WANT YOU MEDICS IN THERE NOW!

THE PROCESS TOOK TEN MINUTES! IF ANY OF THOSE PEOPLE WERE BADLY INJURED IT MIGHT HAVE BEEN ENOUGH TO KILL THEM!



TOO LATE FOR THIS ONE! THE WAY HIS CHEST IS TORN APART THE CONTROLS MUST HAVE EXPLODED AND REALLY RIPPED HIM UP!

OH, MAN...
=>mmmff!<=



THREE OF THEM ARE UNCONSCIOUS BUT ALIVE!

GET THEM TO THE INFIRMARY! DOUBLE QUICK!

IS IT OKAY IF I STAY HERE TO LOOK OVER THE SHIP?

FINE! I'M NOT LETTING THESE PEOPLE OUT OF MY SIGHT!

OF COURSE YOU WON'T. YOU CAN'T WAIT TO PICK THEIR BRAINS FOR SOME KEY SCIENTIFIC DISCOVERY THAT WILL MAKE YOUR CAREER.



I'M MORE INTERESTED IN THIS SHIP.

WITHOUT IT, CLARK IS STRANDED ON THAT BARREN ASTEROID--

--AND I CAN'T SHAKE THE FEELING THAT HE'S IN REAL DANGER.

THESE CONTROLS DON'T LOOK LIKE THEY EXPLODED--



--THEY LOOK LIKE THEY WERE TORN APART BY A GORILLA!

AND THIS SLIMY SUBSTANCE...

WEIRD. UNEARTHLY.



THAT SHIP SAT HERE, ISOLATED, FOR TEN MINUTES BEFORE WE GOT TO IT.

WHAT DID THAT COST US?



AND MOST OF ALL--

"-- WHAT'S HAPPENING TO CLARK?"

THIS WAY, KAL! THERE'S A MAKESHIFT MED ROOM RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER!

LEAD THE WAY, KARA.



WAIT. TIME FOR AN UGLY CHECK!

THAT CREATURE'S ACIDIC BLOOD MAY HAVE BLINDED ME--

--BUT MY HEARING IS BETTER THAN NORMAL. SOUNDS CLEAR.

LET'S GO. TO SURVIVE HERE YOU HAVE TO KEEP ONE STEP AHEAD OF THE UGLIES.

HOW CAN THIS CITY BE SO... EMPTY? IT SEEMS BIG ENOUGH TO HOLD HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE!

ADD AN ARMY OF BLOODTHIRSTY KILLING BEASTS AND PEOPLE DIE EVEN FASTER!

ARE YOU SURE THIS MEDICINE WILL HELP?

ARGO WAS STRANDED A LONG TIME. LACK OF SUPPLIES AND FOOD CAN WIPE FOLKS OUT PRETTY QUICK.

NOT AT ALL! I'VE SEEN THAT ACID-BLOOD EAT THROUGH FLOORS OVER A FOOT THICK--SOMETIMES FOUR LEVELS IN A ROW!

SEEMS TO ME THAT IT SHOULD HAVE EATEN AWAY MOST OF YOUR SKULL!

MUST BE THOSE SPECIAL ABILITIES YOU MENTIONED.

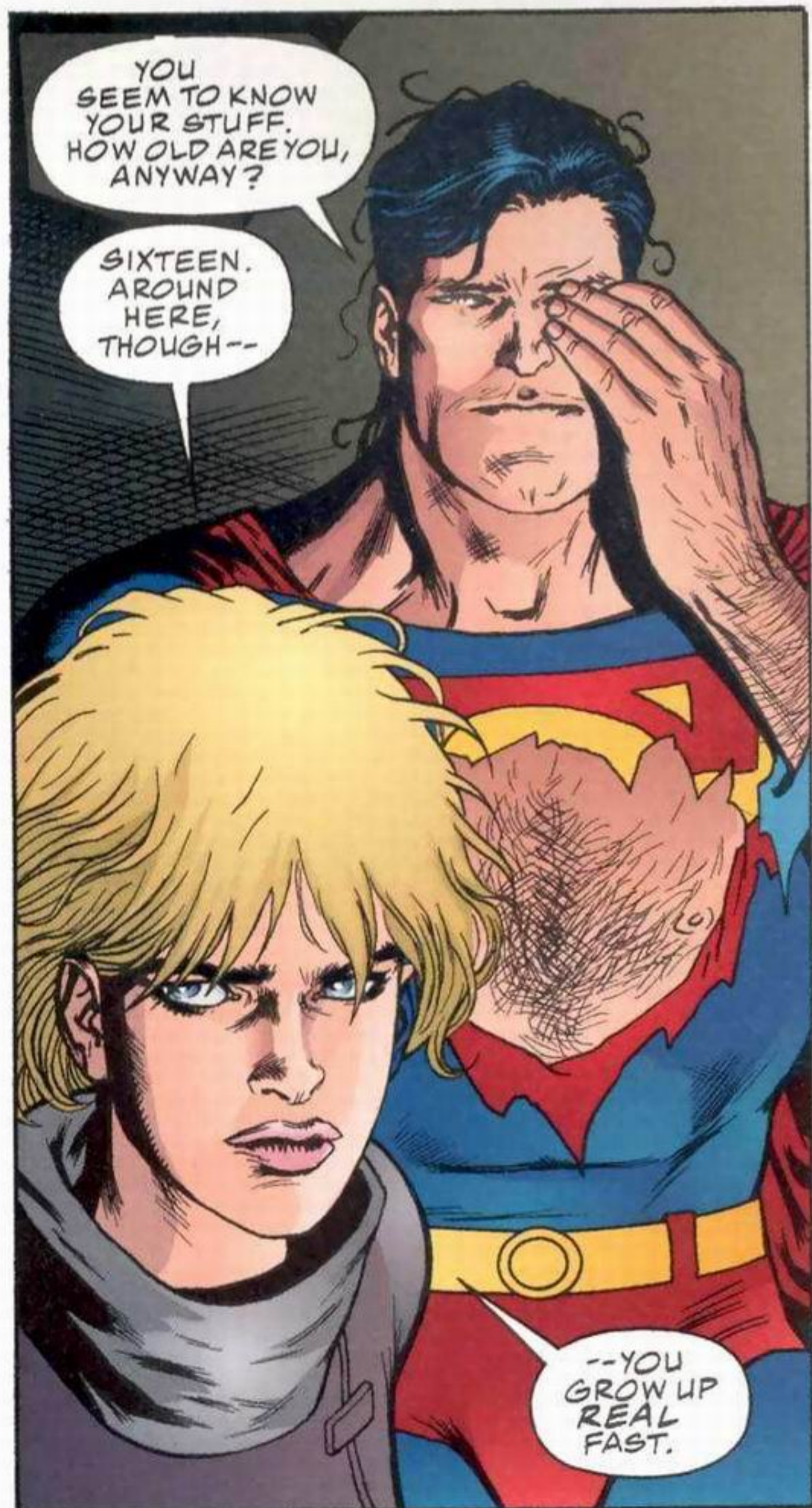
HOLD STILL.



YOU SEEM TO KNOW YOUR STUFF. HOW OLD ARE YOU, ANYWAY?

SIXTEEN. AROUND HERE, THOUGH--

--YOU GROW UP REAL FAST.



THERE'RE STILL SO MANY QUESTIONS I HAVE... SO MUCH I WANT TO KNOW...

IT'S DEPRESSING! TALKING ABOUT IT ISN'T EXACTLY FUN, YOU KNOW?



KARA'S TIRED... WORN DOWN BY THIS EXCRUCIATING LIFE.

BUT IF I'M TO HELP HER AND ANY OTHER SURVIVORS...



SEE, EIGHT YEARS AGO WE THOUGHT WE'D BOTTOMED OUT.

WE WERE TOTALLY ISOLATED ON THIS ROCK AND PRETTY MUCH OUT OF HOPE. OUR DISTRESS BUOYS HADN'T ATTRACTED THE RESCUERS WE PRAYED FOR.

OUR MACHINERY, GENERATORS, COMPUTERS AND FOOD SYNTHESIZERS WERE DYING AT A VERY SPEEDY RATE.

WE DIDN'T HAVE THE RAW MATERIALS NECESSARY TO REPAIR THEM.

WITH PEOPLE STARVING AND OUR INFRASTRUCTURE COLLAPSING, OUR SOCIETY BEGAN TO DO THE SAME.

ARGO'S RULING COUNCIL FACED THE WORST KIND OF REVOLT-- THAT OF A STARVING POPULACE.

OUR HOPES WERE IGNITED WHEN WE FINALLY SPOTTED AN APPROACHING SPACE FREIGHTER.

BUT THE SHIP
CAME IN HARD AND
FAST AND CRASHED
NOT FAR FROM THE
CITY.

WE WERE ALL
DISTRAUGHT-- BUT WE
HOPED THERE MIGHT
BE MATERIALS WE
COULD USE TO
SURVIVE.

WE SENT OUT
A SCOUT TEAM AND
THEY FOUND THAT THE
ENTIRE CREW OF THE
SHIP WAS DEAD BEFORE
IT EVEN CRASHED.

WE HAD
NO IDEA
WHY.

THEY
ALSO FOUND A
CRYOGENIC UNIT
INSIDE THE
SHIP.

INSIDE WAS
AN EGG-LAYING
UGLY. A
QUEEN.

THEY ASSUMED SHE WAS DEAD AND OF NO USE.

IN TIME, THEY STRIPPED THE SHIP OF EVERYTHING WE COULD USE AND LEFT IT.

IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN LEFT FOREVER.

BUT A COUPLE OF YEARS LATER, SOME IDIOT DECIDED TO CHECK UP ON THE ABANDONED FREIGHTER.

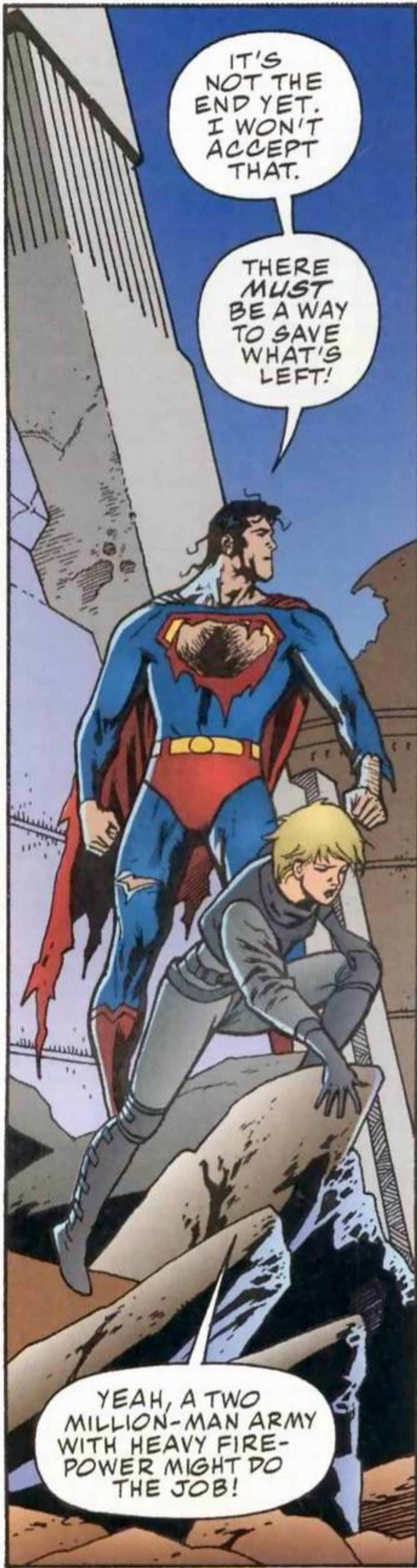
HE'D HEARD THE RUMORS ABOUT THE DEAD BEAST ON BOARD AND THOUGHT IT MIGHT BE SOMETHING THAT COULD BE CARVED UP--

--AND EATEN.

HE SHUT OFF THE CRYOGENIC UNIT AND LET IT HEAT UP.

TURNS OUT THE QUEEN WASN'T DEAD. NEITHER WERE HER EGGS.

FOR US, THAT DAY MARKED THE BEGINNING OF THE END.



IT'S NOT THE END YET. I WON'T ACCEPT THAT.

THERE MUST BE A WAY TO SAVE WHAT'S LEFT!

YEAH, A TWO MILLION-MAN ARMY WITH HEAVY FIRE-POWER MIGHT DO THE JOB!



HOLD ON. I HAVE TO TRY SOMETHING.

YOU-- HOW CAN YOU DO THAT?

YOU DON'T EVEN HAVE A HOVER PACK!



LIKE I SAID, I HAVE SOME SPECIAL... TALENTS.

BUT I INTENDED TO FLY A LOT HIGHER AND FASTER! WE'RE SO FAR FROM A SUN THAT MY BODY HAS LOST A LOT OF ENERGY!

AT BEST, I'M AT 20% EFFICIENCY!



YOU CAN'T BE THE ONLY SURVIVOR HERE, KARA! WHERE ARE THE OTHERS?

THERE ARE ONLY A HANDFUL OF US LEFT!

C'MON. I'LL SHOW YOU WHAT'S LEFT OF THE CITY OF ARGO.



THOSE EGGS OF THE QUEEN'S --HOW WERE THEY ABLE TO BREED INTO SUCH A THREAT?

THE UGLIES CAN ADAPT TO JUST ABOUT ANY ENVIRONMENT IMAGINABLE!

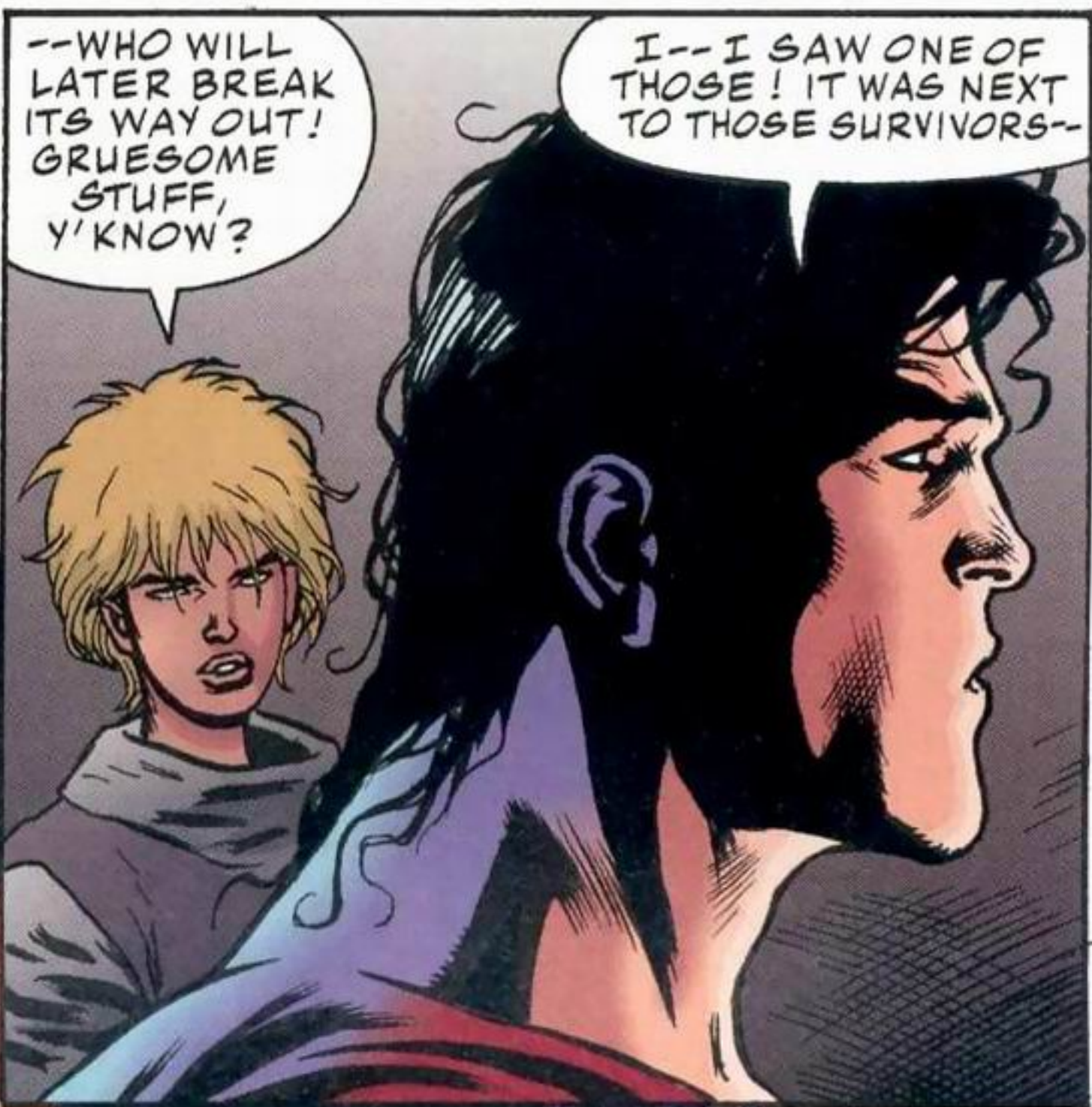
AND THEY CAN BREED AS MUCH AS THEY WANT--

--AS LONG AS THEY HAVE ENOUGH HOSTS!



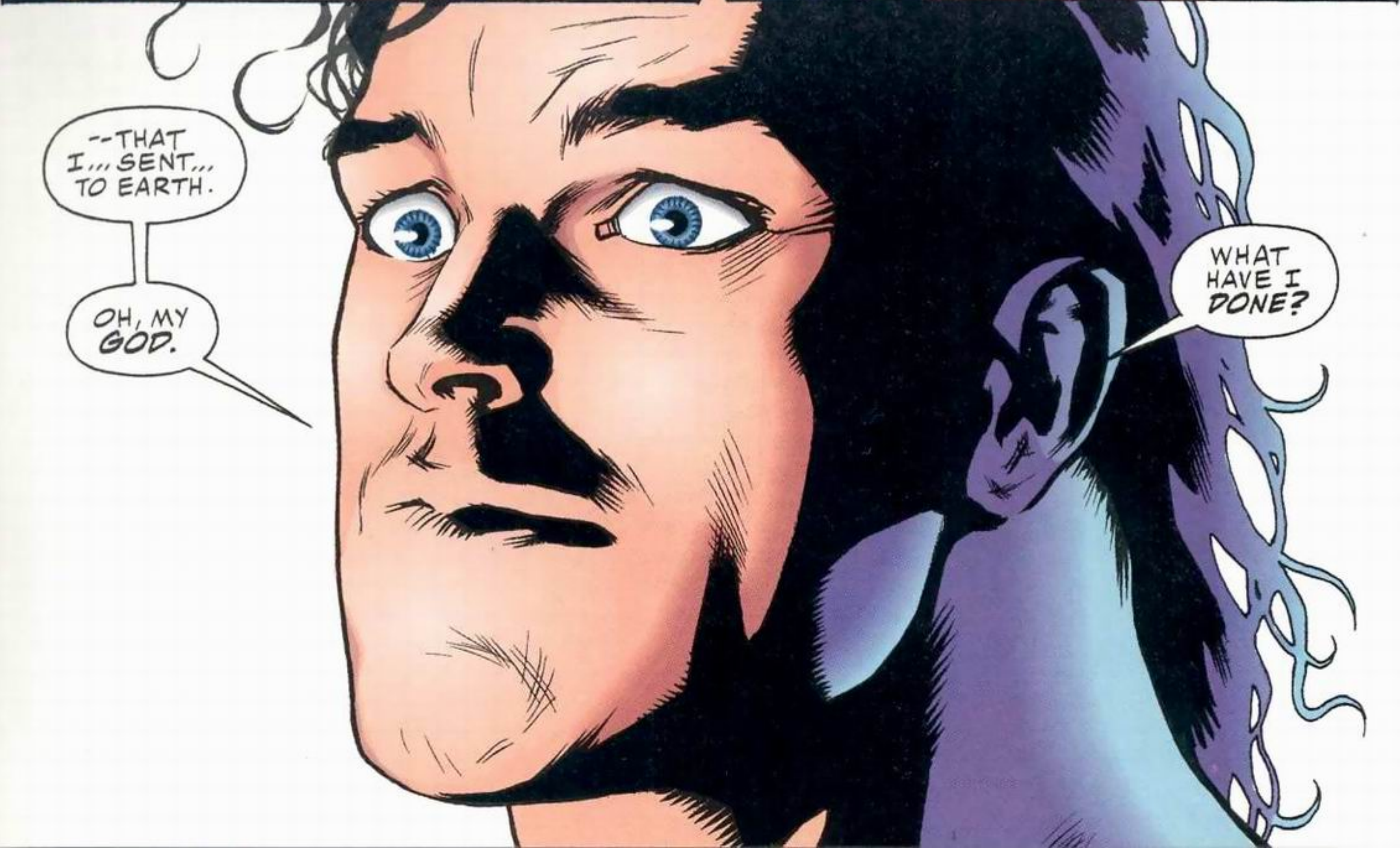
SEE, THE ALIENS START OUT AS HAND-SIZED CREATURES THAT POP OUT OF THE EGGS. THEY FIND A FACE TO LOCK ONTO--

--"IMPREGNATE" A HUMAN BEING WITH AN EMBRYO IN THE GUT--



--WHO WILL LATER BREAK ITS WAY OUT! GRUESOME STUFF, Y'KNOW?

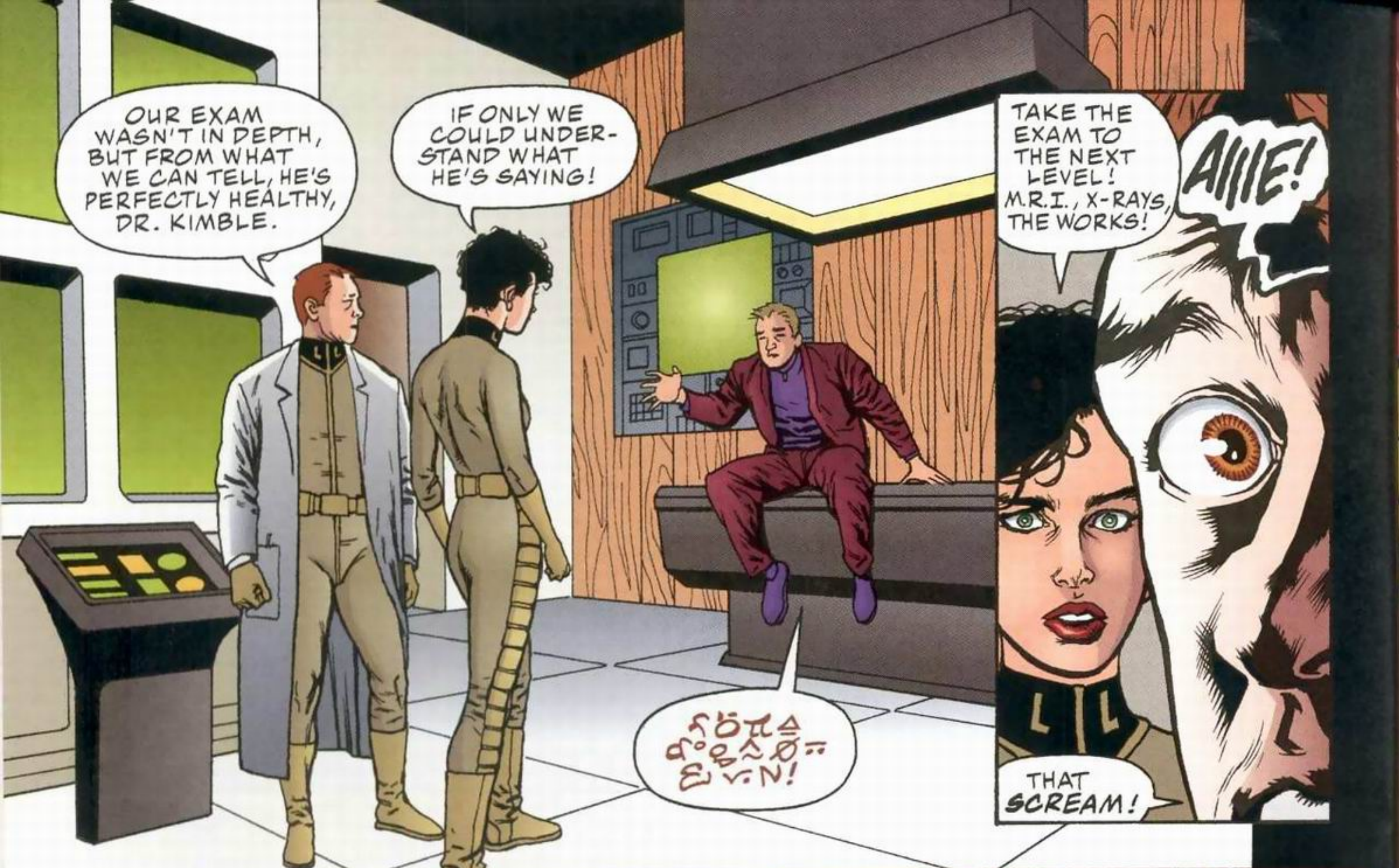
I-- I SAW ONE OF THOSE! IT WAS NEXT TO THOSE SURVIVORS--



--THAT I... SENT... TO EARTH.

OH, MY GOD.

WHAT HAVE I DONE?



OUR EXAM WASN'T IN DEPTH, BUT FROM WHAT WE CAN TELL, HE'S PERFECTLY HEALTHY, DR. KIMBLE.

IF ONLY WE COULD UNDERSTAND WHAT HE'S SAYING!

TAKE THE EXAM TO THE NEXT LEVEL! M.R.I., X-RAYS, THE WORKS!

AIIE!

ΣΩΤΗΡΑ
ΠΟΛΙΤΩΝ
ΕΥΝ!

THAT SCREAM!



HE DOESN'T SOUND HEALTHY TO ME, DOCTOR! DO SOMETHING!

IT APPEARS TO BE HIS STOMACH! COULD BE A REACTION TO THE STATION'S ATMOSPHERE...

AH...AH...

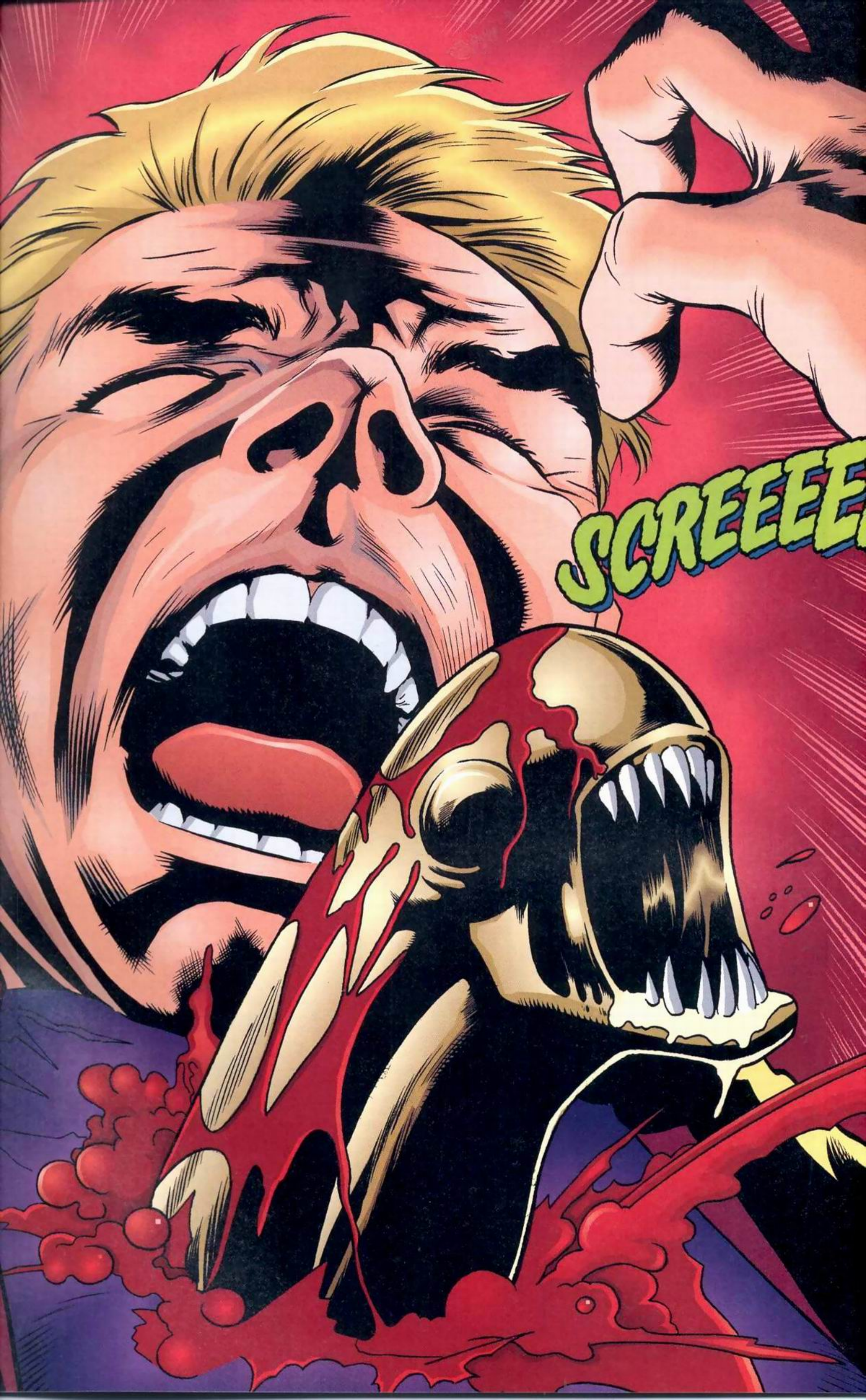


NO! IT'S MORE THAN THAT! LOOK AT HIS CHEST!

ΣΝΝΝΓ...



OH, NNNÓ...



SCREEEE

WHAT-- IS IT?

IT WAS INSIDE HIS BODY!



LOOK OUT!

SCREEE!



CATCH IT! CATCH--!

NOW WE KNOW... WHAT HAPPENED TO THE OTHERS ON THE WAY HERE!

WE HAVE TO ASSUME THERE ARE TWO OF THOSE CREATURES RUNNING LOOSE ON THIS STATION!

WE SHOULD ALSO ASSUME THE OTHER TWO SURVIVORS ... ARE IN THE SAME CONDITION.

ISOLATE THEM. AT LEAST THE TWO THAT ESCAPED ARE SMALL.

TOO LATE! IT'S GONE!



THEY SHOULDN'T BE MUCH OF A THREAT!

WHAT'S THE BIG RUSH? YOU'RE RUNNING AROUND LIKE A MADMAN --

--AND YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW WHERE YOU'RE GOING!

I HAVE TO FIND A SHIP--SOME WAY TO GET BACK TO EARTH!

HAVEN'T YOU BEEN LISTENING TO ME?

THERE'S NO WAY OFF THIS ROCK!

IF THERE WAS, WE WOULD HAVE USED IT YEARS AGO!

WE HAVE TO FIND A WAY AND WE HAVE TO DO IT FAST!

MY PEOPLE ARE SUPPOSED TO SEND THAT SHIP BACK FOR US!

BUT IF I SENT THOSE CREATURES TO EARTH--

--I'VE GOT A FEELING WE'LL NEVER SEE IT!



THAT'S THE LAST SAFE PLACE ON ARGO! THE UGLIES MUST HAVE FINALLY FOUND IT!

WE HAVE TO GET THERE BUT IT'S AN HOUR'S RUN!

GUNFIRE! COMING FROM THE BOX!

THE BOX?



I CAN GET US THERE FASTER!

AT LEAST I THINK I CAN!

HANG ON!



WOW! THIS IS GREAT!

I DON'T TELL HER THAT IT'S TAKING EVERY BIT OF EFFORT I CAN SUMMON TO DO THIS.

AND AS MUCH AS I WANT TO HELP HER--



--I'M EVEN MORE CONCERNED ABOUT LOIS.

YOU'RE SURE THAT WILL TELL US WHAT HAPPENED?

THIS COMPUTER RECORDS EVERYTHING THAT HAPPENED IN THE SHIP'S COCKPIT, MS. LANE.

IF ONE OF THOSE LITTLE CRITTERS KIMBLE TOLD US ABOUT WAS INSIDE--



--WE'LL SOON KNOW ALL ABOUT IT.

IF ONE OF THOSE... MONSTERS REALLY DID BURST OUT OF THAT MAN'S CHEST--

--THEN SUPERMAN IS IN TERRIBLE DANGER!



HOW LONG BEFORE THE SHIP CAN BE REPAIRED AND SENT BACK TO HIM?

I--ERN!!

DAVIS, WHAT'S-- OH!



GYAAHHH!!

SHRIEK!



WHA--
WH--
WHA--

CAN'T TALK!

THE WORDS
WON'T COME!

LEGS... FROZEN!

CAN'T MOVE!
CAN'T RUN!

THUDD!



WHAT ARE YOU?

HSSSS



IT TAKES US
NEARLY FIVE
MINUTES.

--I FEEL SO
EXHAUSTED
I'M ALMOST
A NORMAL
HUMAN.

I WAS
RIGHT! THE
UGLIES FOUND
THE BOX!

**BRAKKA-
BRAKKA-
BRAKKA!**

BY THE TIME
I GET US
THERE--

FIND A
GUN AND
START
BLASTING,
KAL!

BLOW THOSE
BUGGERS TO
HELL!

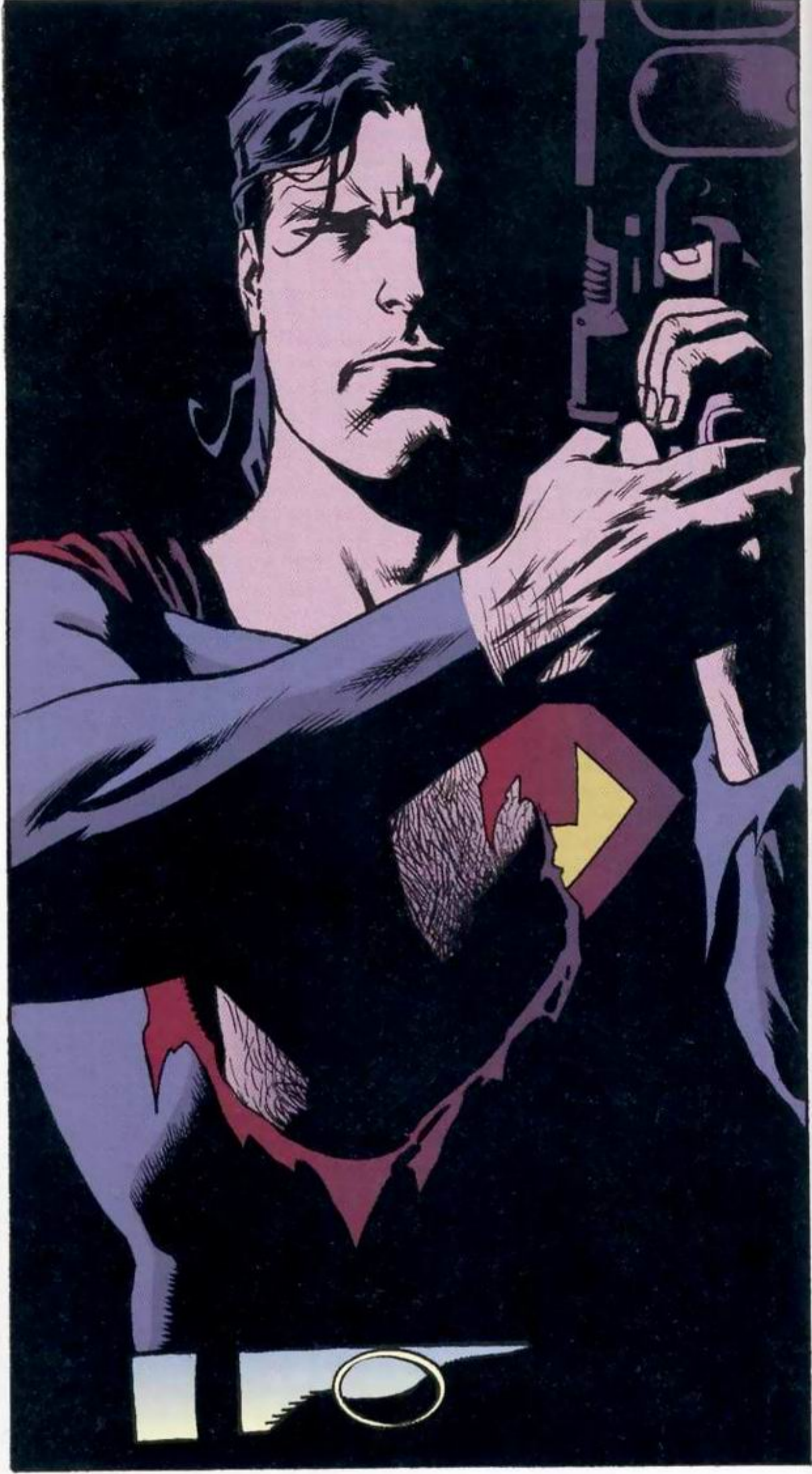
KILL
THEM?

SHE DOESN'T
UNDERSTAND...
THE PRICE I PAID
WHEN I KILLED
ONCE BEFORE.

IT'S NOT
NECESSARY!
NEVER THE
LAST RESORT!



--AND MY
POWERS
ARE NEARLY
GONE!





SMASH!

UHHN!:-

YOU WANT MY HEAD, DON'T YOU?



KARA SAYS YOU GUYS ARE BOTHERED BY HEAT!

TAKES EVERYTHING I HAVE JUST TO FIRE A LOW INTENSITY BLAST!



I COULD USE A LITTLE HELP OVER HERE!



KARA!

SHOOT HIM!



NO!

I CAN HANDLE THESE GUYS!

NOT IF I MOVE FAST ENOUGH AND HIT THEM HARD ENOUGH!

ARE YOU NUTS?! THEY'LL TEAR YOU TO SHREDS!

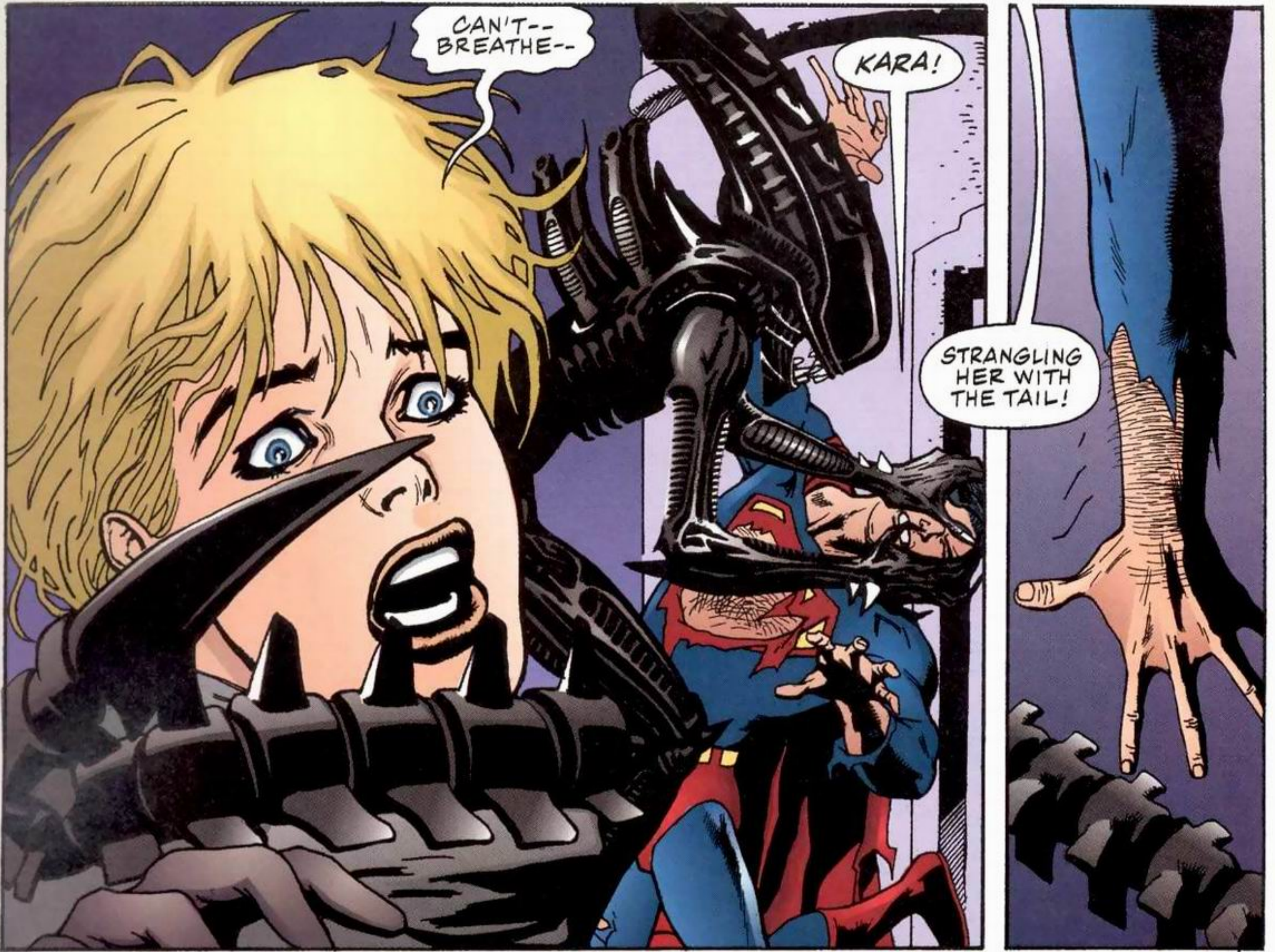


HNN!



HE MOVES QUICKER THAN I EXPECTED.

SHOULD HAVE KEPT THE GUN--!





HE'S BEATEN...
WOUNDED INTO
UNCONSCIOUS-
NESS...

AND I
DIDN'T HAVE
TO KILL HIM TO
DO IT.



HE'S ONLY
ONE OUT OF ONE
HUNDRED!

YOU
MIGHT FEEL
GOOD ABOUT
BEING A SAINT,
KAL--

--BUT
I'M OUT
TO WIN A
WAR!



I FINALLY GET MY LEGS MOVING.

JUST IN THE NICK OF TIME, TOO.

THAT THING--

--THAT ALIEN--



--LOOKS LIKE IT HAS EVERY INTENTION OF TEARING MY HEAD OFF!

HAVE TO-- NO!

I'M LOCKED IN!



LANE TO COMMAND CENTER! IF YOU DON'T OPEN THESE DOORS, I'LL NEVER WRITE ANOTHER COLUMN AGAIN!

THEY'RE PROGRAMMED TO SEAL ALL CONTAMINATED COMPARTMENTS!

WE CAN'T! THE COMPUTERS HAVE DETECTED AN UNKNOWN BIOLOGICAL ENTITY!

BUT WE CAN OVERRIDE THE COMPUTERS-- JUST LIKE WE DID WHEN YOU BROUGHT THE SHIP IN!

I NEVER HEARD YOUR SUGGESTION, MISTER.

AND YOU BETTER SEE TO IT THAT IT NEVER SHOWS UP ON THE RECORD!



DR. KIMBLE?



SKREEEK!

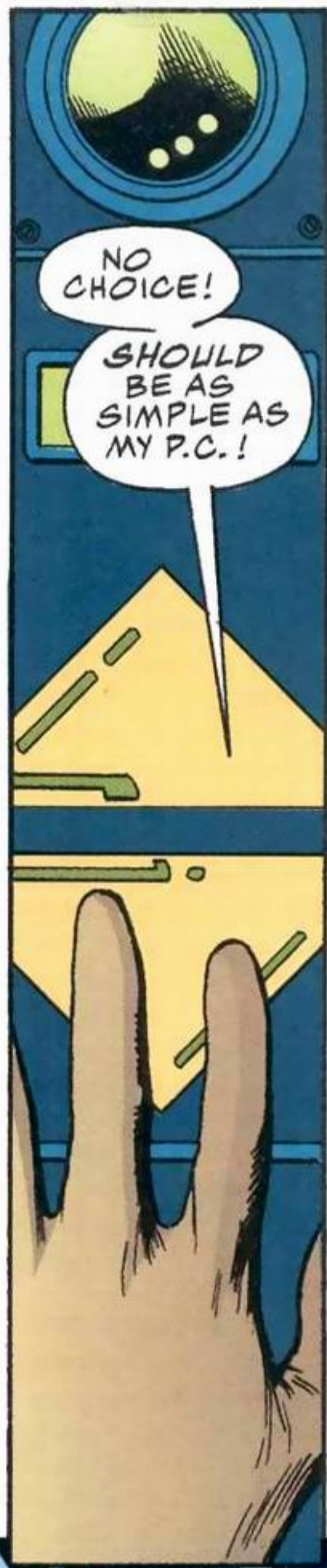
SMAK

TALK ABOUT FAST!

ONLY ONE PLACE TO HIDE!

MOVE YOUR BUTT, LOIS!

MOVE IT!

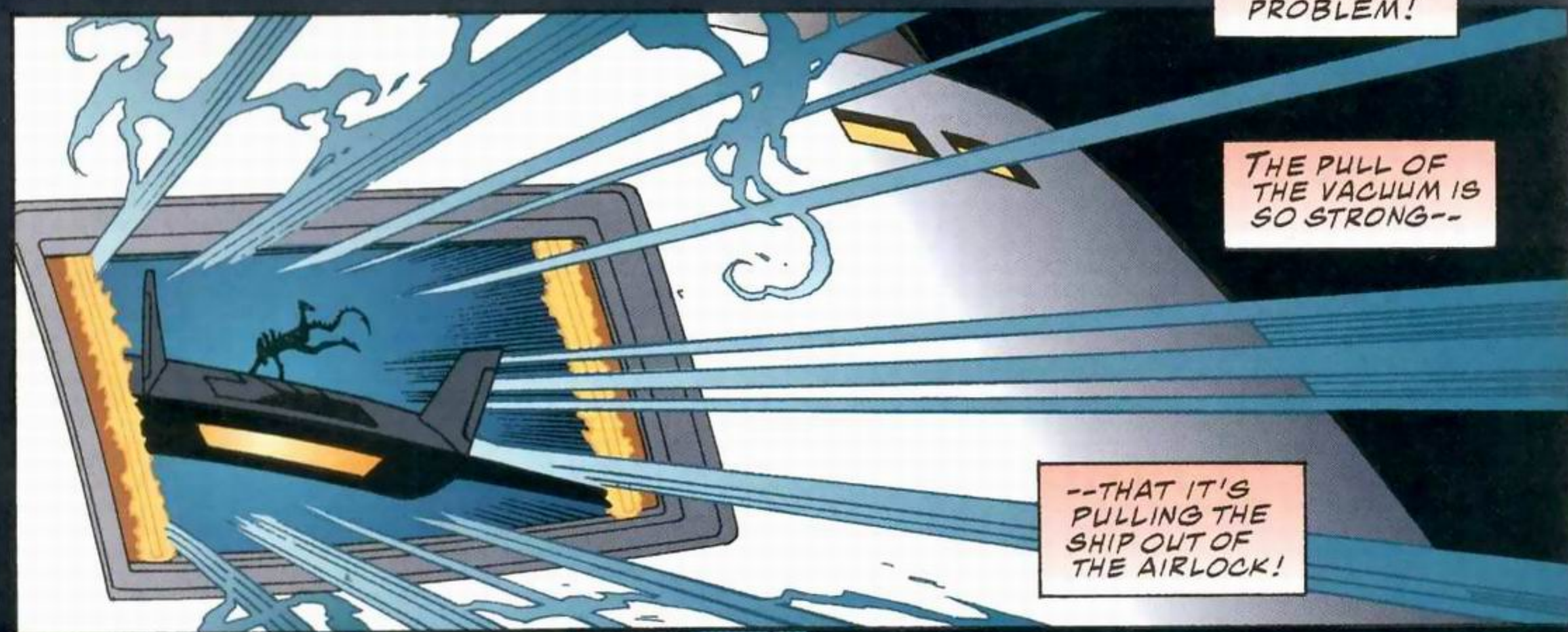




LET GO, YOU UGLY SON OF A--!

LET GO!

NOW I HAVE A NEW PROBLEM!



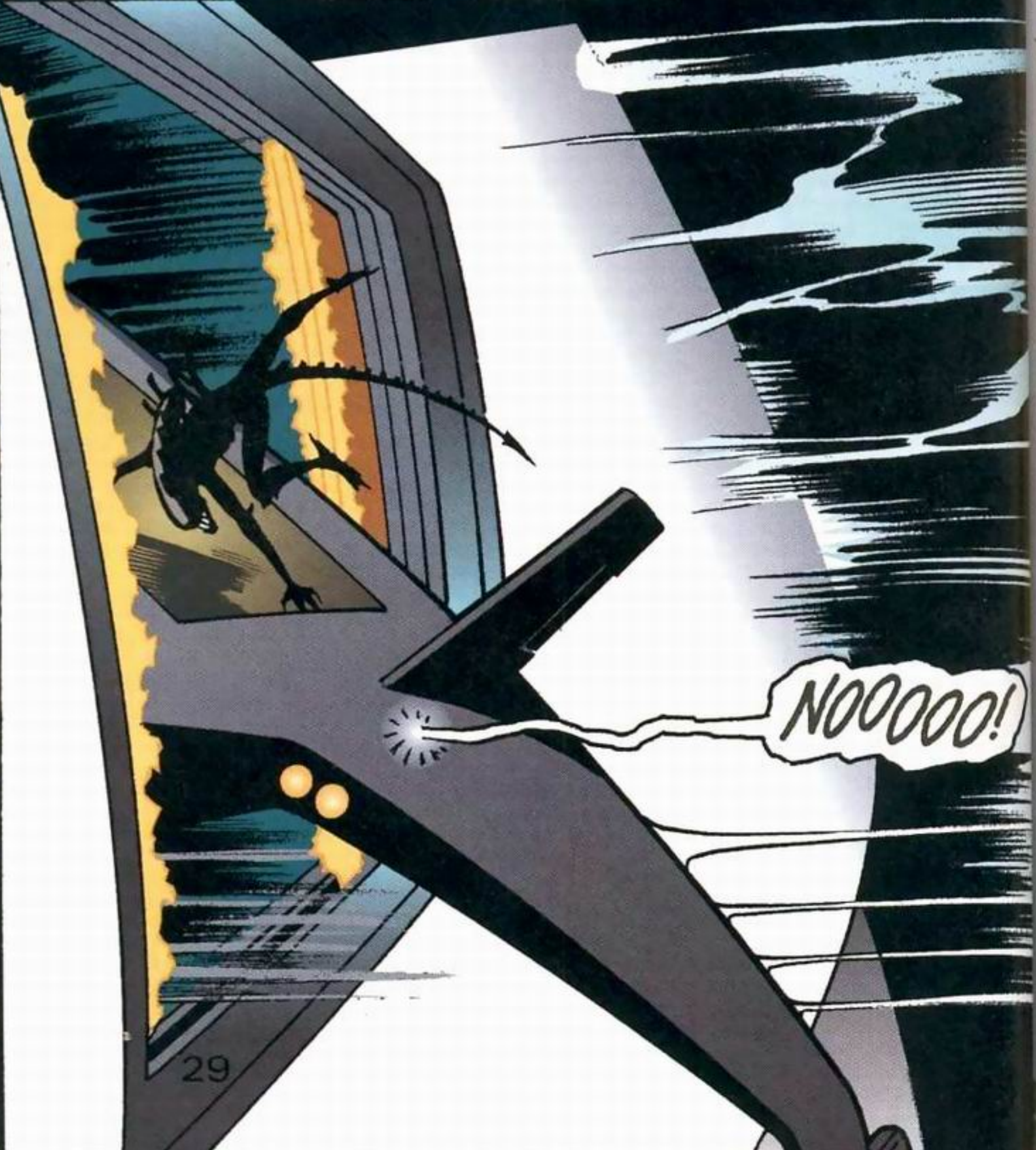
THE PULL OF THE VACUUM IS SO STRONG--

--THAT IT'S PULLING THE SHIP OUT OF THE AIRLOCK!



SMART WOMAN! CLOSE THAT AIRLOCK!

I DO NOT WANT THAT CREATURE SUCKED INTO SPACE WHERE WE'LL NEVER GET IT BACK!



NOOOOOO!



IT'S IN!



SKRAPPPT!




SSKREEEE!




THANK GOD.
I MADE IT.

WHY DID
THEY
CLOSE THE
AIRLOCK,
THOUGH?

DID THEY DO IT
TO SAVE ME?
DID THE COM-
PUTERS DO IT?



AND IF THIS
CREATURE IS
TYPICAL OF
WHAT CLARK'S
EXPERIENCING--



OR DID
KIMBLE DO
IT WITH THE
INTENTION
OF SAVING
THE ALIEN?

SHE CERTAINLY SEEMS
LIKE THE TYPE WHO'D
VALUE DISCOVERY OF NEW
LIFE OVER THE EXISTENCE
OF AN OLD ONE!

--HOW
WILL
HE EVER
SURVIVE?



BEEN FIGHTING FOR ALMOST AN HOUR AND THEY SHOW NO SIGN OF LETTING UP!

THESE CREATURES ARE RELENTLESS!

IF SOMETHING DOESN'T BREAK SOON-- WAIT!



ONE OF THE GRENADES ON THIS BELT IS LEAKING! GOING TO BLOW ANY SECOND!

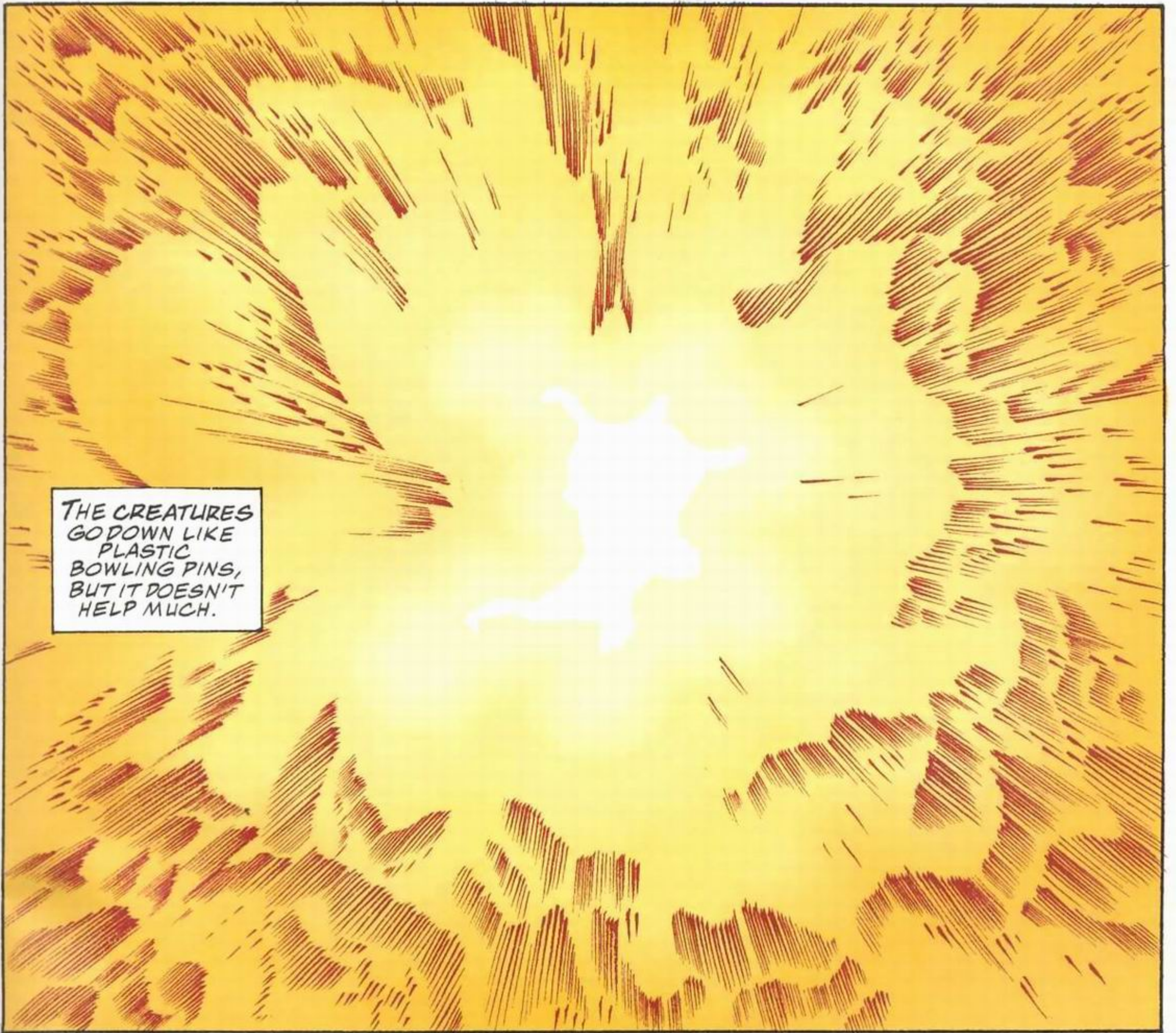


GOOD MOVE, KAL!

YOU'VE JUST GIVEN ME--



--A PERFECT KNOCK-OUT PUNCH!

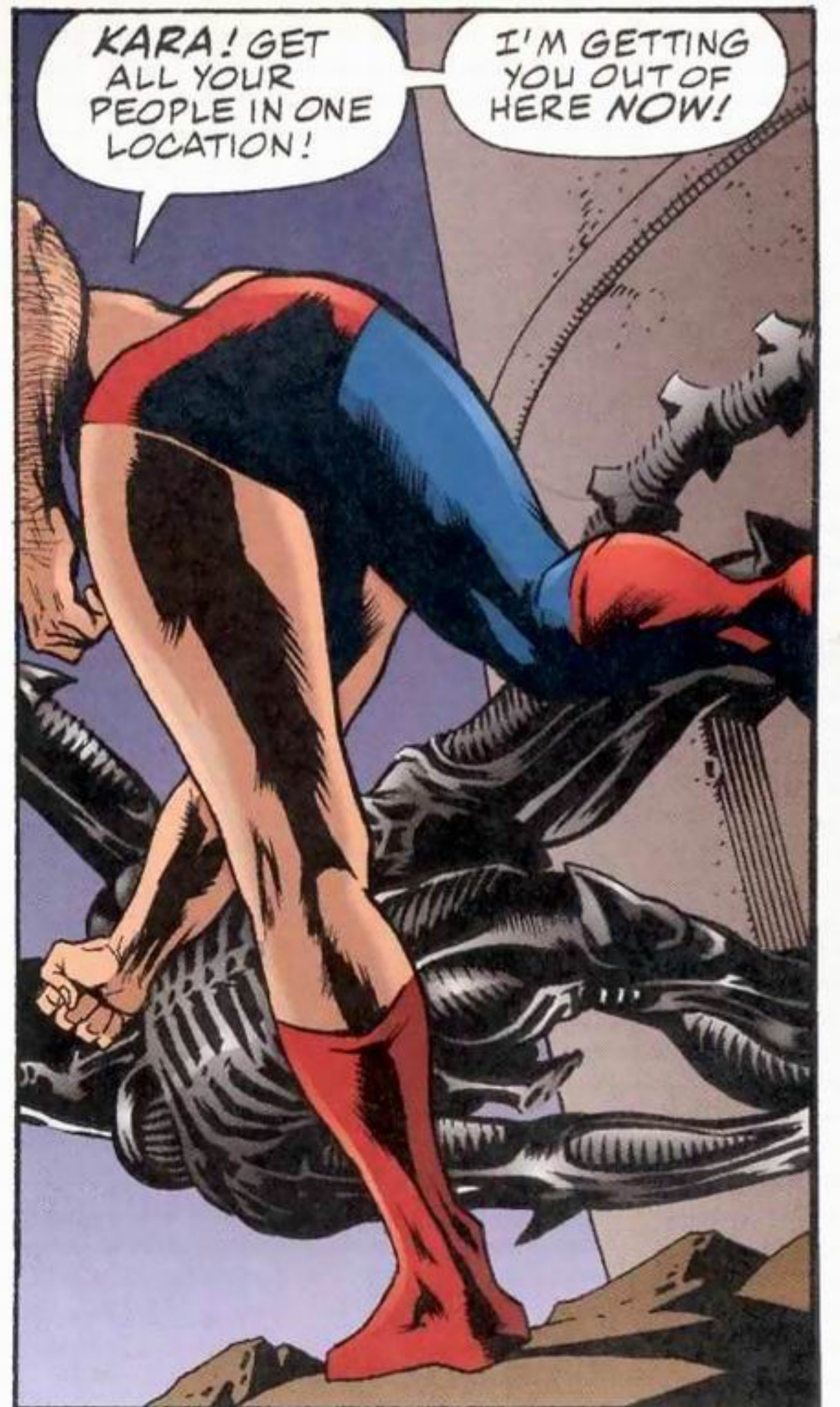


THE CREATURES
GO DOWN LIKE
PLASTIC
BOWLING PINS,
BUT IT DOESN'T
HELP MUCH.



THERE ARE TOO
MANY HERE AND
MORE COMING.

RETREAT
IS OUR
ONLY
OPTION.



KARA! GET
ALL YOUR
PEOPLE IN ONE
LOCATION!

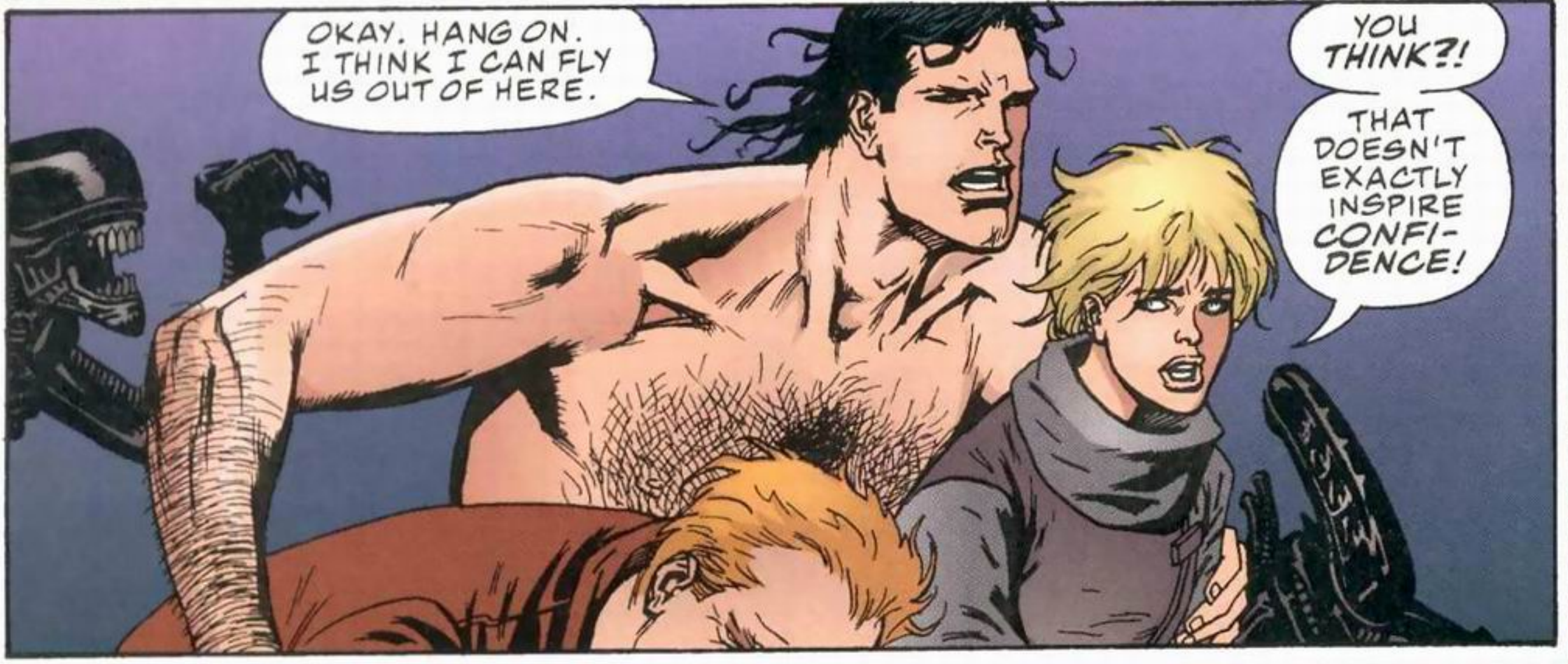
I'M GETTING
YOU OUT OF
HERE NOW!



MADE IT!
WHERE ARE THE
REST?

DEAD!
HE AND I
ARE THE
ONLY ONES
LEFT!

--oh.



OKAY. HANG ON.
I THINK I CAN FLY
US OUT OF HERE.

YOU
THINK?!

THAT
DOESN'T
EXACTLY
INSPIRE
CONFIDENCE!

I DON'T MENTION
THAT FLYING IS NO
LONGER AN OPTION.



ALL I CAN
DO NOW
IS JUMP.

FORTUNATELY--



--I CAN JUMP PRETTY HIGH.

FOR THE FIRST TIME I REALIZE THE MAN IS IN TOUGH SHAPE.

IT'S ONE OF THOSE MOMENTS THAT MAKES ME WISH I HAD SOME REAL MEDICAL SKILLS.



BUT EVEN IF I DID, IT PROBABLY WOULDN'T HELP.

NO!

DON'T YOU DARE LEAVE ME ALONE!

I DON'T WANT TO BE THE LAST ONE!



HE'S GONE.

SHE THINKS SHE'S THE LAST SURVIVOR OF AN ENTIRE PLANET.

I KNOW EXACTLY HOW SHE FEELS.



KARA.

WE HAVE TO MOVE ON.

NO.



I'M TIRED.
TERRIBLY, TERRIBLY TIRED.



I HAVE BEEN FIGHTING AND STRUGGLING AND BATTLING AND GOING TO WAR SINCE I WAS A LITTLE GIRL!

I FEEL LIKE I'M TWO HUNDRED YEARS OLD!

I FEEL LIKE I'M DROWNING IN A GRUESOME NIGHTMARE THAT WILL NEVER END!



LET THEM COME FOR ME.

I DON'T CARE ANY-MORE.

ALL I WANT TO DO IS SLEEP.

GO AHEAD, KARA. YOU DESERVE IT.

I'LL STAND WATCH.

STRANGE. SHE'S
DISTRAUGHT
BECAUSE
SHE FEELS THAT
SHE'S THE LAST
OF HER KIND--



--WHILE I'M
ELATED TO
FIND ANOTHER
KRYPTONIAN.

--I'LL TELL HER
WHERE I'M REALLY
FROM.



FIRST, WE HAVE TO
GET PAST THOSE
KILLING MACHINES.

VISION
POWERS
DON'T
WORK
MUCH
NOW--

WHEN THE TIME
IS RIGHT,
WHEN I KNOW
WE'RE SAFE--

--BUT I CAN STILL SEE
WELL ENOUGH TO KNOW
THERE ARE HUNDREDS IN
THE CITY AND
THOUSANDS OUTSIDE!



THE ODDS
ARE
OVER-
WHELMING.

IF LEXCORP
DOESN'T
SEND THEIR
SHIP BACK
HERE SOON...

SHRAKT!



WHAT THE--?



THEY
PIERCED THE
DOME!

NOW
THOSE
DEVILS
WILL POUR
IN!

FUEL LINES
RUPTURING?



THIS
WHOLE CITY
IS GOING TO
BLOW!

KARA!



THE TOWER!



CAN'T FLY!



KAL!

KAL!

HAVE TO HOPE I'M STILL INVULNERABLE ENOUGH--



--TO SURVIVE!



BRKOWW!



KARA?

ANSWER ME, KARA!

KARA!



SHE HAS TO BE ALIVE!
I MUST FIND HER!

HAVE TO GET TO HER
BEFORE THOSE CREATURES--!

KRAM!

TOO LATE!

HSSSSSS!

NOT NOW!

GET OFF ME!





I SAID
GET
OFF!

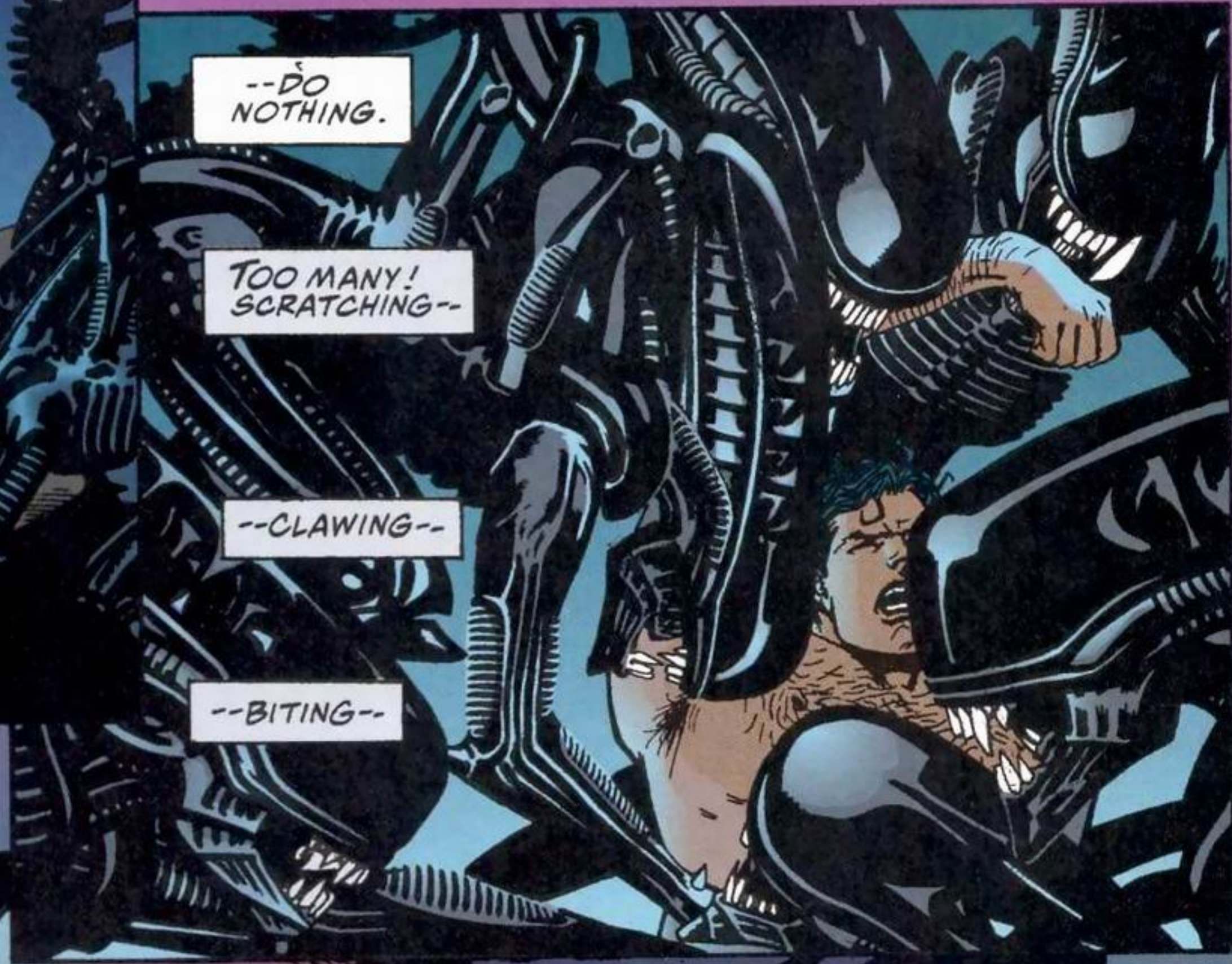
HSSSS!



KARA!

DON'T
WORRY!
I'LL--

--I'LL--



--DO
NOTHING.

TOO MANY!
SCRATCHING--

--CLAWING--

--BITING--



KARA.

SORRREEEE~;

SORRREEEE~;

NO?

HEAD... HURTS.

WHERE...?

NO.

OH,
NO...

THESE MUST
BE THE EGGS
KARA
MENTIONED!

AND THAT--
THING OVER
THERE--

--HAS GOT
TO BE THE
QUEEN!



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**"THE ODDS ARE
OVERWHELMING . . .**

**THERE ARE
HUNDREDS OF
THOSE CREATURES
IN THE CITY
AND THOUSANDS
OUTSIDE.**

**MY POWERS
ARE NEARLY
GONE."**

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DAN JURGENS KEVIN NOWLAN

JURGENS
& NOWLAN

CLARK CALLS ME A SURVIVOR.

THE DAY PERRY HIRED ME HE TOLD ME I HAD SPUNK.

WHATEVER I'VE GOT--

--I'M GOING TO NEED IT ALL TODAY.

WEIRD, DEADLY ALIENS ARE LOOSE ON LEXPORT--

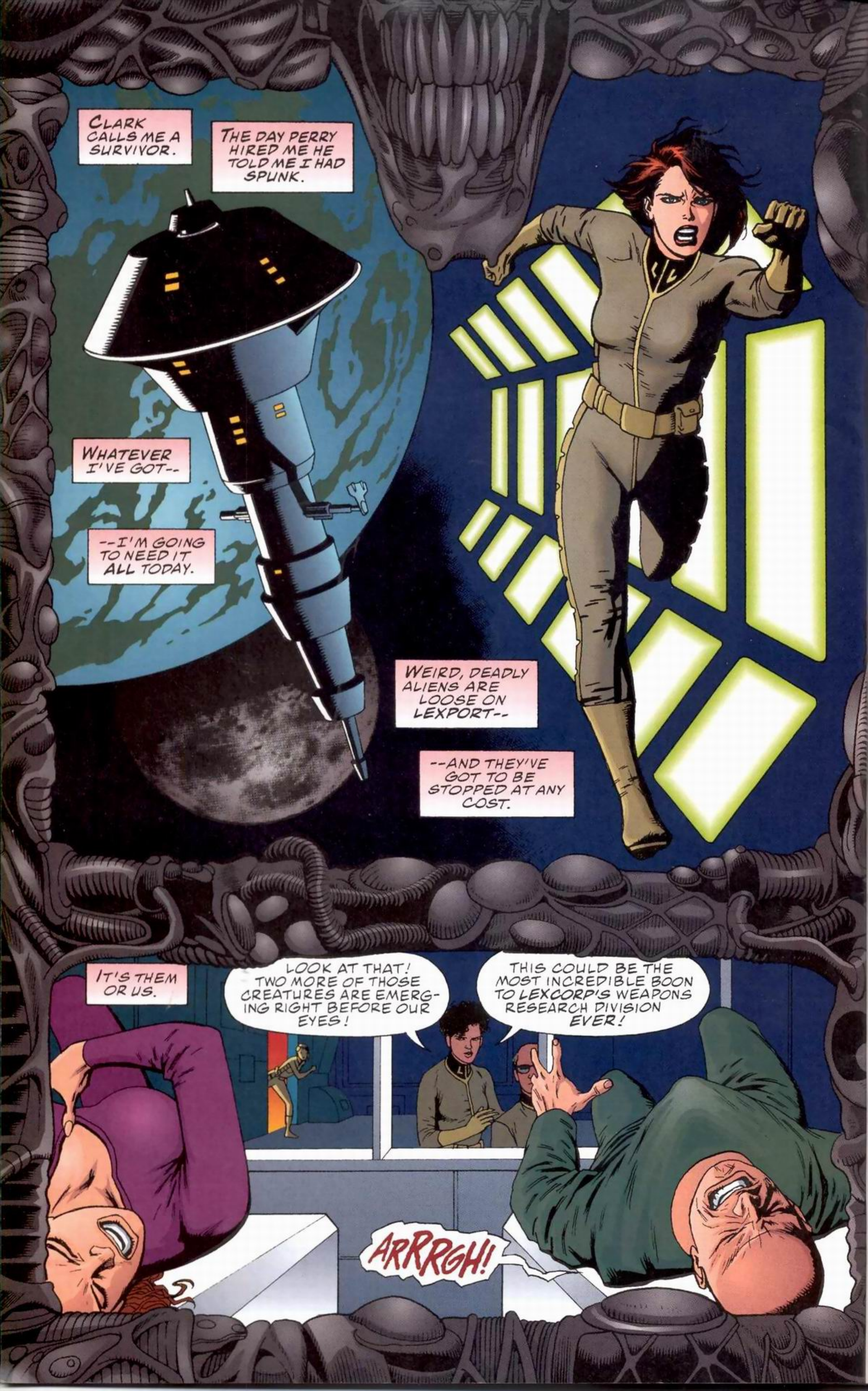
--AND THEY'VE GOT TO BE STOPPED AT ANY COST.

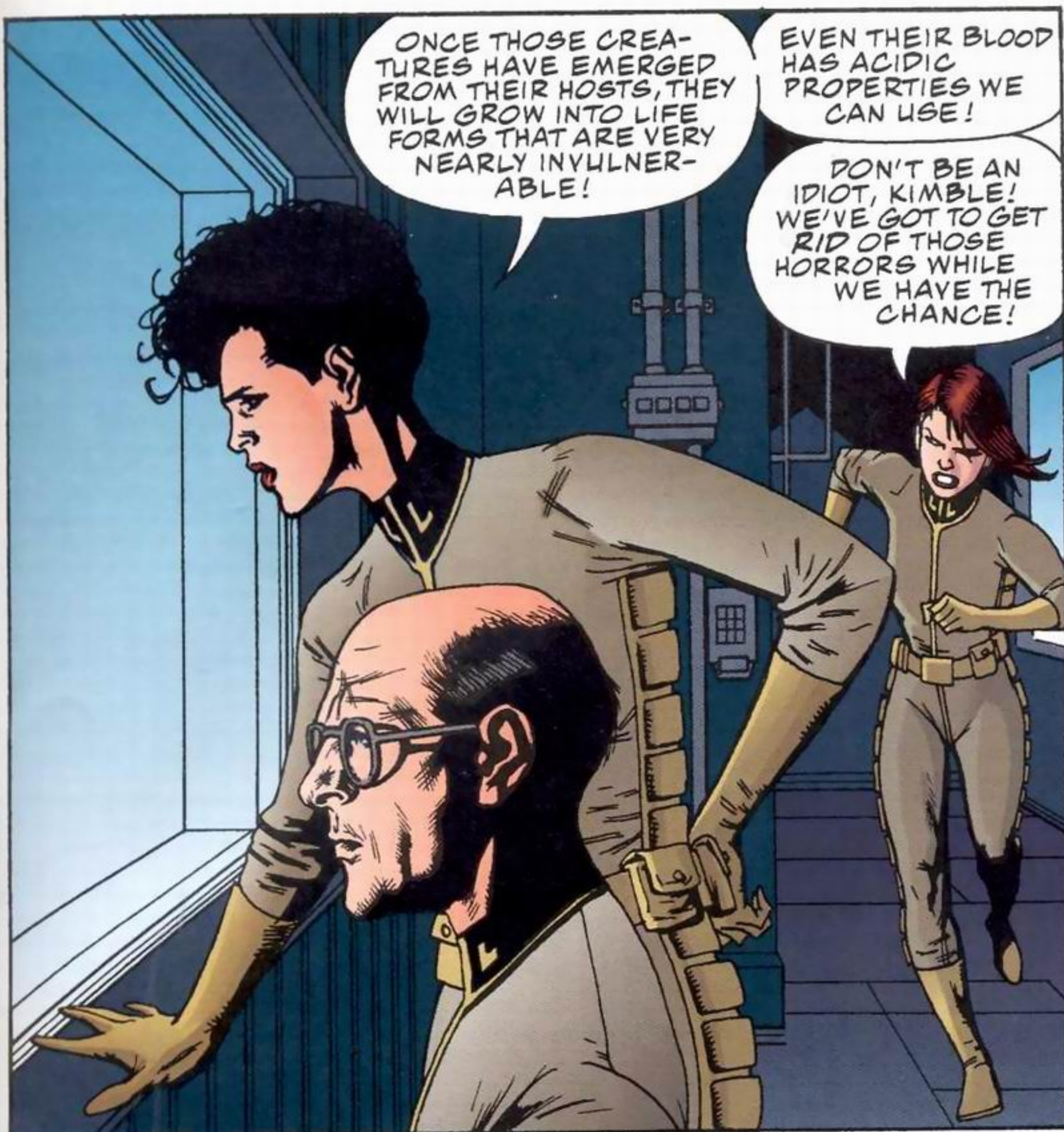
IT'S THEM OR US.

LOOK AT THAT! TWO MORE OF THOSE CREATURES ARE EMERGING RIGHT BEFORE OUR EYES!

THIS COULD BE THE MOST INCREDIBLE BOON TO LEXCORP'S WEAPONS RESEARCH DIVISION EVER!

ARRRGH!





ONCE THOSE CREATURES HAVE EMERGED FROM THEIR HOSTS, THEY WILL GROW INTO LIFE FORMS THAT ARE VERY NEARLY INVULNERABLE!

EVEN THEIR BLOOD HAS ACIDIC PROPERTIES WE CAN USE!

DON'T BE AN IDIOT, KIMBLE! WE'VE GOT TO GET RID OF THOSE HORRORS WHILE WE HAVE THE CHANCE!



I FOUGHT ONE OF THOSE CREATURES AND WAS DAMN LUCKY TO SURVIVE! THEY'RE DANGEROUS... TOO DANGEROUS!

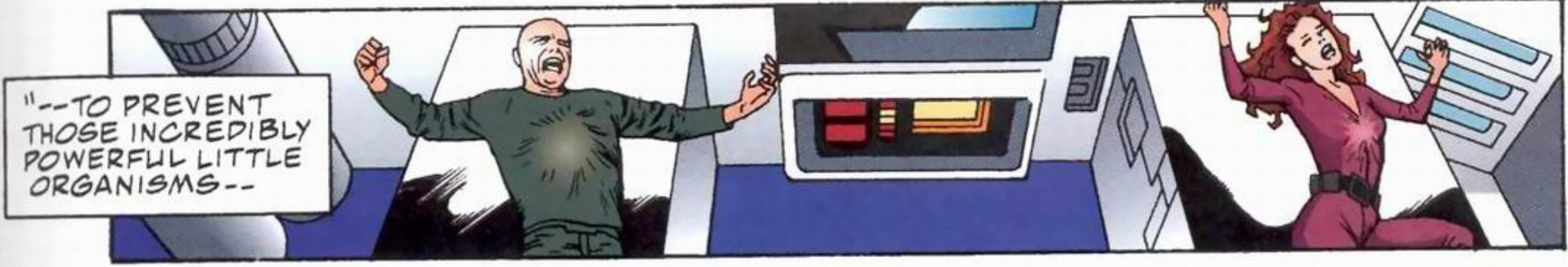
FORGET IT, LANE! THAT ROOM IS SEALED TIGHT. WE'LL CONTROL THE CREATURES... LEARN FROM THEM AS WE WOULD ANY OTHER DISCOVERY!



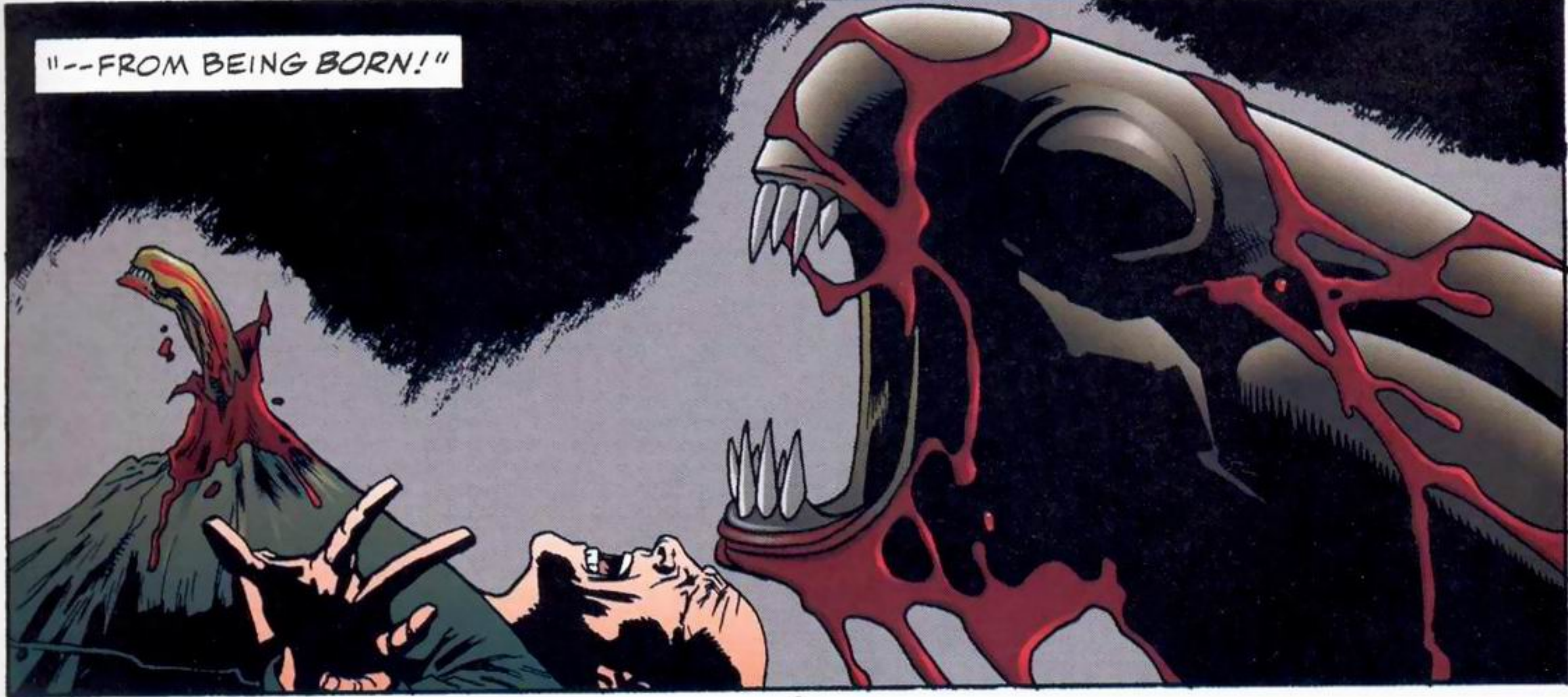
BUT THOSE PEOPLE--!

ARE BEYOND HOPE, LANE.

THERE'S NOTHING WE CAN DO--



"--TO PREVENT THOSE INCREDIBLY POWERFUL LITTLE ORGANISMS--



"--FROM BEING BORN!"



MAYBE NOT.

BUT THERE IS SOMETHING WE CAN DO--

LANE! GET BACK HERE!



--TO STOP THEM FROM GROWING UP!

JUST WHAT THE DOCTOR ORDERED!



LET'S SEE YOU SURVIVE THAT--

--YOU LITTLE MONSTERS!



YOU STUPID, MEDDLING FOOL! THIS IS NOT SOME RIDICULOUS MORALITY PLAY ABOUT WHO DESERVES TO LIVE AND WHO DESERVES TO DIE!

THIS IS SCIENCE!

NO.

THIS IS JUSTICE.



HERE'S YOUR JUSTICE!

YOU'VE HAMPERED OUR EFFORTS BUT YOU HAVEN'T KILLED THEM.



WEAPONS LOCKER

SOMEWHERE ON THIS SPACE STATION A FULLY GROWN ADULT ALIEN, FULL OF INCREDIBLE BIOLOGICAL SECRETS--



--IS WAITING FOR ME.

AND I'LL FIND THOSE SECRETS--

--RIGHT AFTER I'VE REDUCED YOU TO NOTHING MORE THAN A BAD MEMORY!

UH.

FEEL WRONG.
FEEL--



--UPSIDE
DOWN?



UNCONSCIOUS.



HAVE... HAVE
TO COME OUT
OF IT.

WHAT
HAPPENED?

OH, YEAH.



THAT... THING
LATCHED ONTO
MY FACE! TRIED
TO FORCE
SOMETHING
DOWN MY
THROAT!

THEN I BLACKED
OUT. BUT IT LOOKS
DEAD. IT FAILED!



HSSSS

UH-OH...



HOW DO I
GET OUT
OF THIS?

BACK OFF,
UGLIES--

--OR I TURN YOU ALL TO ASH!

KARA! MATERIALIZING OUT OF THIN AIR?

HOW THE--?



TRANSPORT UNIT!

YOU DEVELOPED THAT KIND OF TECHNOLOGY?

ONE SIDE, KAL!

NOT ME. REMEMBER THAT ALIEN SHIP THAT BROUGHT THESE BEASTIES HERE IN THE FIRST PLACE?

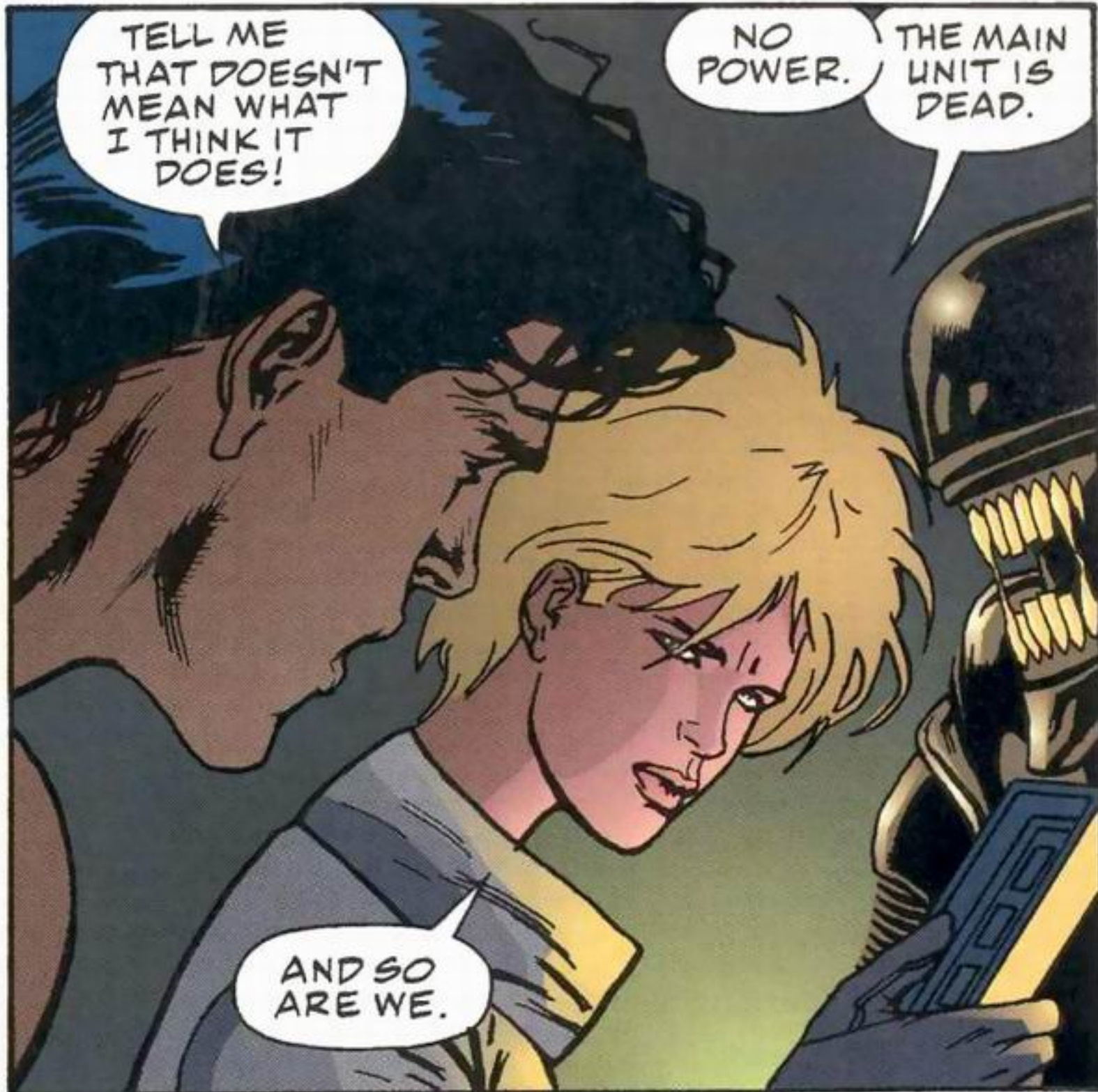
THE TRANSPORT UNIT WAS ONE OF THE THINGS WE DUG OUT OF THE WRECKAGE!

IT HAS LIMITED RANGE AND ITS POWER IS ALMOST DRAINED, BUT IT DELIVERS THE GOODS!

HANG ON! THIS POCKET CONTROLLER WILL ZAP US OUT OF HERE AND PUT US BACK TOGETHER IN THE MAIN UNIT!

HURRY! THEY LOOK HUNGRY!







AND IT'S A QUEEN! I THREATENED YOU AND THEY BACKED OFF--

--BECAUSE YOU'RE CARRYING A QUEEN!

NO WONDER THEY WON'T HARM YOU!

BUT... I FEEL FINE! I CAN'T BE CARRYING ONE OF THOSE... THINGS!



OH, YOU'RE CARRYING ONE! THERE'S NO DOUBT ABOUT THAT!

COME ON! LET'S MOVE IT!

WHAT DO I DO NOW? THERE'S ALWAYS BEEN A WAY... BEFORE!



LOOK, I'VE TOLD YOU BEFORE. THERE'S NO HOPE. NO ONE EVER SURVIVED BEING INFESTED!

I WILL, KARA. I HAVE SPECIAL ABILITIES... POWERS.

IF I CAN GET NEARER TO A SUN TO RECHARGE-- I WILL SURVIVE!

WHAT IS IT WITH YOU? DO YOU GET PAID BY THE WORD FOR BEING SUCH AN OPTIMIST?

DON'T ACT TOUGH AND JADED WITH ME, KARA.

YOU BELIEVE IN THE FUTURE, TOO--

--OR YOU WOULDN'T HAVE BEAMED YOURSELF INTO SUCH A STICKY SITUATION TO SAVE ME.

SO... THANKS... AGAIN.

YOU SEEM TO HAVE A KNACK FOR PULLING MY BUTT OUT OF THE FIRE. MORE THAN I'VE EVER DONE FOR YOU.

IT'S NOT THAT BIG A DEAL.

MAYBE I'M JUST HOPING THAT YOU CAN GET ME OFF THIS ROCK.

SEE... I DON'T MIND DYING.

I JUST DON'T WANT TO DIE HERE.

YOUR FACE!

ONE OF THOSE MONSTERS LOCKED ONTO YOU, TOO!

THAT MEANS--!



THIS ARGO, NAMED AFTER ITS SISTER CITY ON KRYPTON, WAS ORIGINALLY ON THE PLANET ODILINE. THIS WAS THE PLANET OF MY ANCESTORS.

LONG AGO, A TRAVELER CAME TO OUR PLANET IN A GREAT SPACEFARING ARK.

THIS CLERIC WAS THE GREATEST PROPHET MY PLANET HAD EVER KNOWN.

HE WAS A SAD, LOST SOUL, FOR HE HAD RECENTLY LEFT KRYPTON WITH 100,000 KRYPTONIANS BOUND FOR PARADISE.

BUT HE DIDN'T KNOW OF THEIR GENETIC LINK TO THE PLANET.

THOSE KRYPTONIANS ALL PERISHED SHORTLY AFTER DEPARTURE.

HE TOLD US OF THEIR NOBLE IDEAS AND GOALS--

--AND THEN HE HONORED US ALL BY LAYING THEM TO REST IN ODILINE'S SACRED FROZEN BURIAL GROUNDS.

THE CLERIC WAS AN INSPIRATION TO MY ANCESTORS. THEY WANTED TO FOLLOW HIS GUIDANCE--

--BUT HIS DESPAIR FORCED HIM INTO EXILE.

I KNOW THE CLERIC.

I ENCOUNTERED HIM ON A LONELY ASTEROID IN ONE OF THE GREATEST ADVENTURES OF MY LIFE!*

*AS DETAILED IN THE CLASSIC ACTION COMICS ANNUAL#2.

EVEN THOUGH HE WAS GONE, HIS TEACHINGS WERE EMBRACED.

ODILINE REVERED THE KRYPTONIANS AND, AS TRIBUTE, ADOPTED THEIR LANGUAGE AND MANY ASPECTS OF THEIR CULTURE.

WE BELIEVE THEM TO BE SPIRITUAL PROTECTORS!

BUT HOW DID YOU GET OFF-PLANET? I THOUGHT IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE!

MY FATHER... JOR-EL, DEVELOPED A CURE. HE SENT ME TO A PLANET CALLED EARTH BEFORE I WAS EVEN BORN!

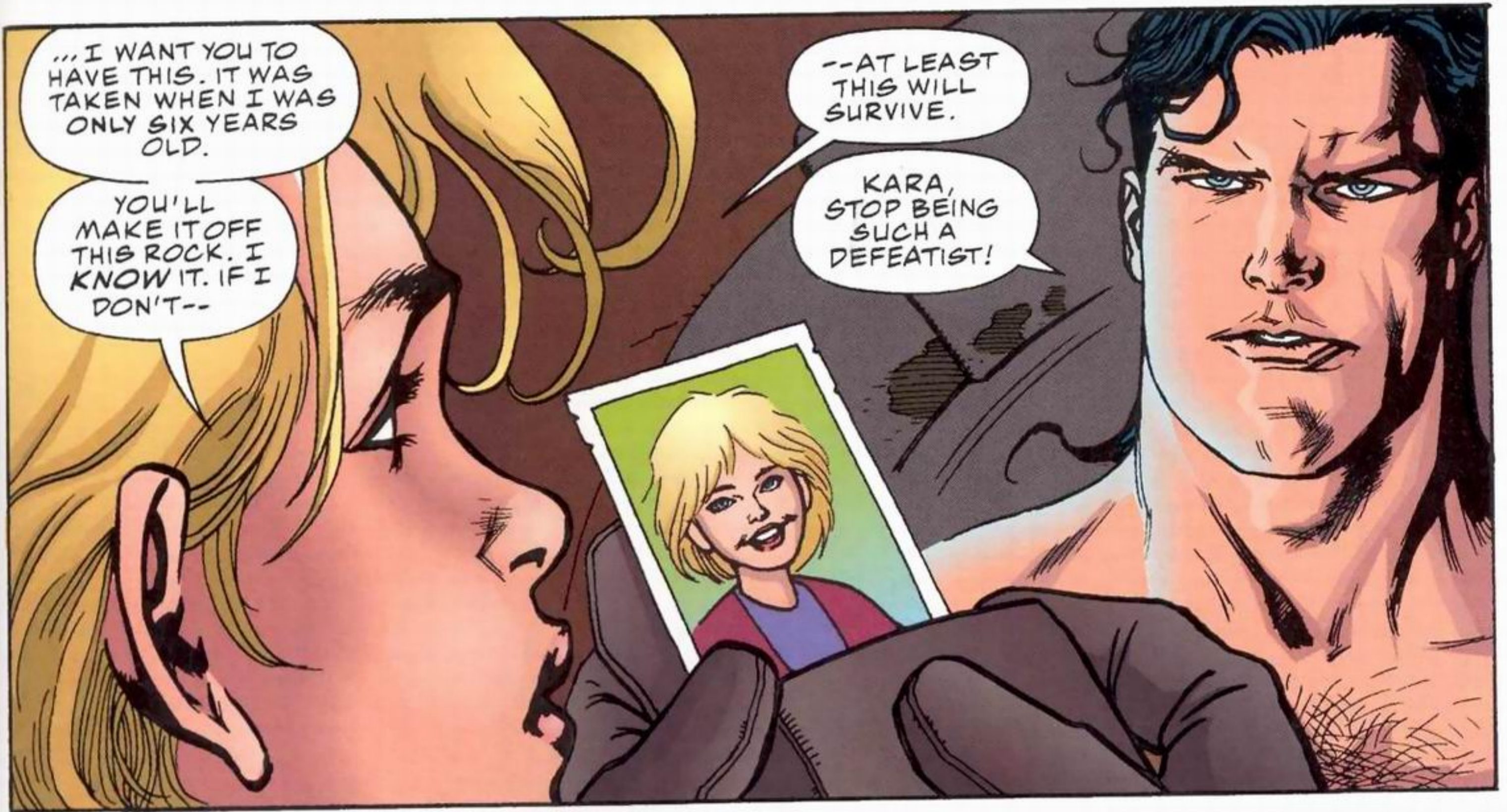
KRYPTON DIED A HORRIBLE DEATH, KARA. JUST LIKE ODILINE.

I'M...THE LAST.

WOW! NO WONDER YOU LOOK SO DIS-APPOINTED!

YOU THOUGHT... ARGO WAS FROM KRYPTON!

KAL...



... I WANT YOU TO HAVE THIS. IT WAS TAKEN WHEN I WAS ONLY SIX YEARS OLD.

YOU'LL MAKE IT OFF THIS ROCK. I KNOW IT. IF I DON'T--

--AT LEAST THIS WILL SURVIVE.

KARA, STOP BEING SUCH A DEFEATIST!



HEY, I KNOW MY ODDS OF SURVIVAL ARE ZERO, OKAY?

AFTER THAT BUILDING COLLAPSED, I WENT LOOKING FOR YOU, AND THE ALIENS GOT... DRAGGED ME IN FRONT OF A SMALL GROUPING OF EGGS.



ONE OF THOSE THINGS GOT ON MY FACE AND, WELL...

... I'M DEAD AND I KNOW IT!



WAIT A MINUTE. THE AIR SEEMS THINNER! THE ATMOSPHERIC PUMPS ARE GIVING OUT!

NOW WE HAVE OUR CHOICE OF DEATHS! BE EATEN FROM THE INSIDE OR SMOTHERED IN A VACUUM!



KARA, I TOLD YOU I'D GET YOU OUT OF HERE AND I WILL!

I'LL TAKE YOU TO EARTH! YOU'LL LOVE IT THERE! THERE'S A VERY SPECIAL WOMAN NAMED LOIS WHO WILL HELP YOU EASE INTO EARTH'S SOCIETY!

IF ONLY I COULD BELIEVE THAT...

I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO LIVE IN A PEACEFUL ENVIRONMENT... HAVE A SEMBLANCE OF FAMILY.

YOU'RE SURE I'LL FIT IN ON EARTH... THAT I WON'T STICK OUT?

POSITIVE.

THIS LOIS YOU MENTIONED. SHE'S YOUR... MATE?

PRETTY MUCH.

BUT I WANT YOU TO KNOW ONE THING, KARA.

YOU SPEAK KRYPTONIAN... YOU KNOW THE CULTURE AND HISTORY...

...TO ME YOU'RE... FAMILY.

NOW LET'S STOP TALKING AND GET TO WORK ON LEAVING HERE! DO YOU SUPPOSE THAT SHIP THAT CRASHED HERE SO LONG AGO COULD BE BENEFICIAL?

THAT OLD WRECK IS SURROUNDED BY A COUPLE OF MILLION BEASTIES! WALKING BACK THERE IS LIKE WALKING INTO A WAR ZONE!

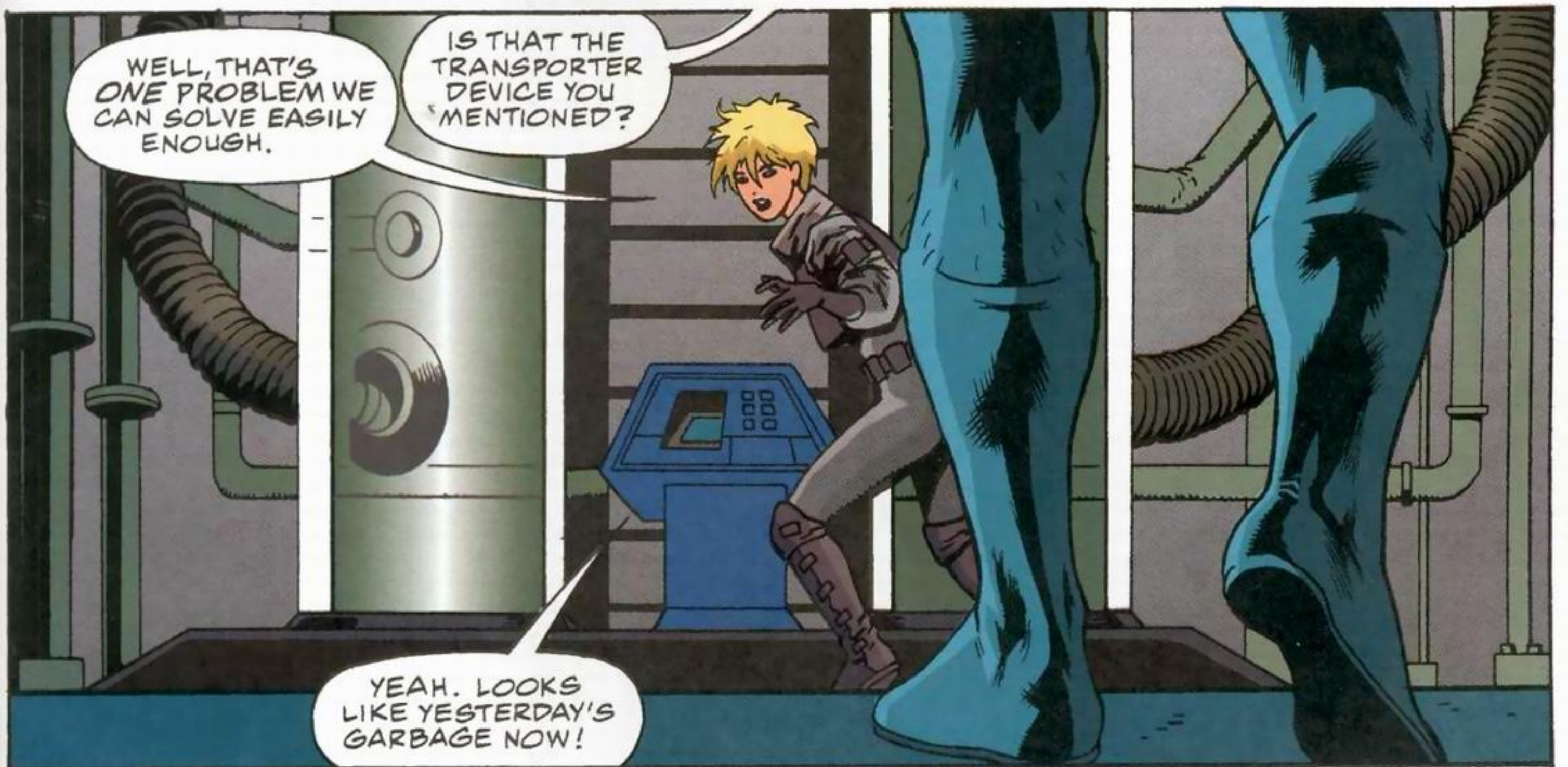


IF YOU KNOW OF A BETTER WAY TO GET OFF THIS ROCK, I'M ALL EARS!

OKAY, OKAY, YOU WIN!

YOU WANT TO GO DOWN THERE ON A SUICIDE RUN, I'LL BE RIGHT THERE WITH YOU!

IF WE DON'T FIND SOMETHING TO BREATHE SOON, IT WON'T MATTER! THE AIR IS REALLY GETTING THIN!



WELL, THAT'S ONE PROBLEM WE CAN SOLVE EASILY ENOUGH.

IS THAT THE TRANSPORTER DEVICE YOU MENTIONED?

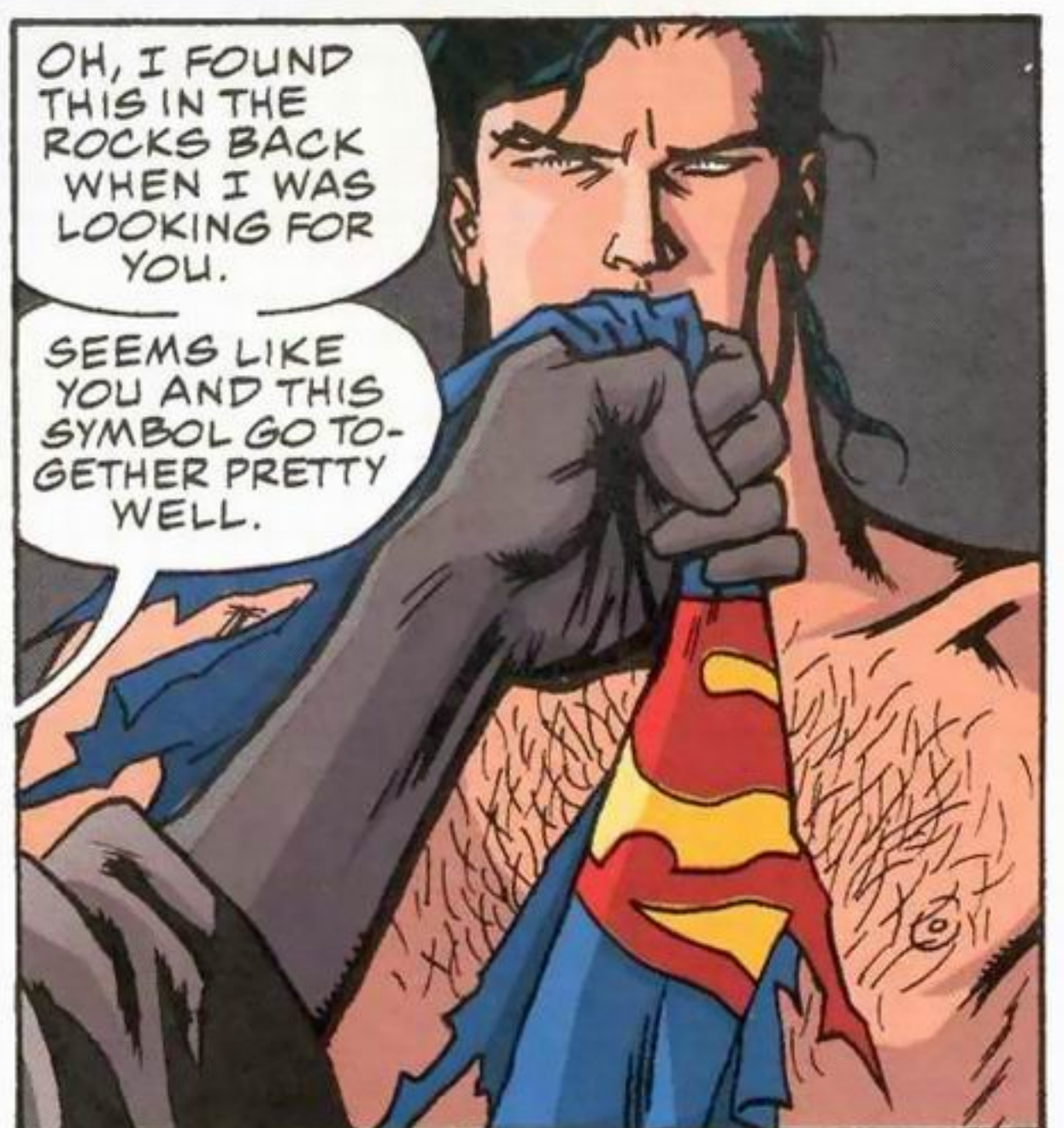
YEAH. LOOKS LIKE YESTERDAY'S GARBAGE NOW!



HERE. THIS LOOKS TO BE YOUR SIZE.

A SPACE SUIT?

YOU WANT TO BREATHE, RIGHT?



OH, I FOUND THIS IN THE ROCKS BACK WHEN I WAS LOOKING FOR YOU.

SEEMS LIKE YOU AND THIS SYMBOL GO TOGETHER PRETTY WELL.



I CAN'T ARGUE WITH THAT.

LET'S GO TO WORK.

LEAD THE WAY, KAL.

WE KNOW THE ALIENS
WON'T HARM ME BE-
CAUSE OF THE QUEEN
I'M CARRYING.

WE ALSO KNOW THEY'LL
RIP INTO KARA WITHOUT
HESITATION, SO WE NEED
TO PROTECT HER.

FOR
THAT--

KRAKT!

--WE NEED A
DIVERSION.

I DON'T KNOW HOW IN-
TELLIGENT THOSE CREA-
TURES ARE, BUT THEY
WENT FOR THE VEHICLE
BIG TIME.

GAVE US THE PERFECT
OPPORTUNITY WE
NEEDED--

OUTTA
THE WAY,
UGLIES!

--TO BREAK FREE.

THIS SKY CYCLE IS ALREADY OVER-HEATING! WHAT'S WRONG?

IT NEEDS THE AIR INTAKE TO COOL THE ENGINE! IN THIS VACUUM THERE'S NO COOLANT!

THEN WE'LL HAVE TO GET DOWN THERE BY FOOT!

ARE YOU CRAZY? WE CAN'T MAKE THAT JUMP!

WATCH ME. HANG ON--

--I'VE STILL GOT ENOUGH OF MY POWER TO SLOW OUR DESCENT!



THERE. BUT I CAN'T SEE A THING!

MY FLAME THROWER WILL TAKE CARE OF THAT!



!gulp!



ON YOUR
PLANET DO
THEY EVER
SAY--

--"I
TOLD YOU
SO"?



YOU WANT TO SHOOT ME?



I DON'T THINK SO!

I'VE BEEN IN THIS SITUATION ONCE OR TWICE BEFORE--

--AND KNOW HOW TO HANDLE MYSELF!



YOU'RE COLD, KIMBLE!

NO WONDER YOU FIT IN WELL AT LEXCORP!



YOU'RE DEAD!

DO YOU HEAR ME? YOU ARE--



--DEAD?



HSSSSSSSS

OH...OH...
OH...

OBOY.

TAKE A
BREATH
STAY
CALM.

HELP
ME! FOR
GOD'S
SAKE--



--HELP
ME!

WHY?



I WAS TEMPTED TO LET
HER GET SHREDDED.

SHE
DESERVED
IT.



BUT FOR ONCE,
I HAD A
WEAPON--



--AND A
CLEAR
SHOT.

BLAM BLAM BLAM!



AAAAA!

MY ARM!

FUP
FUP
FUP



COME ON!
WE ONLY
HAVE A
SECOND OR
TWO!

FEELS
LIKE...
ACID!



BLAM
BLAM
BLAM!

BACK!

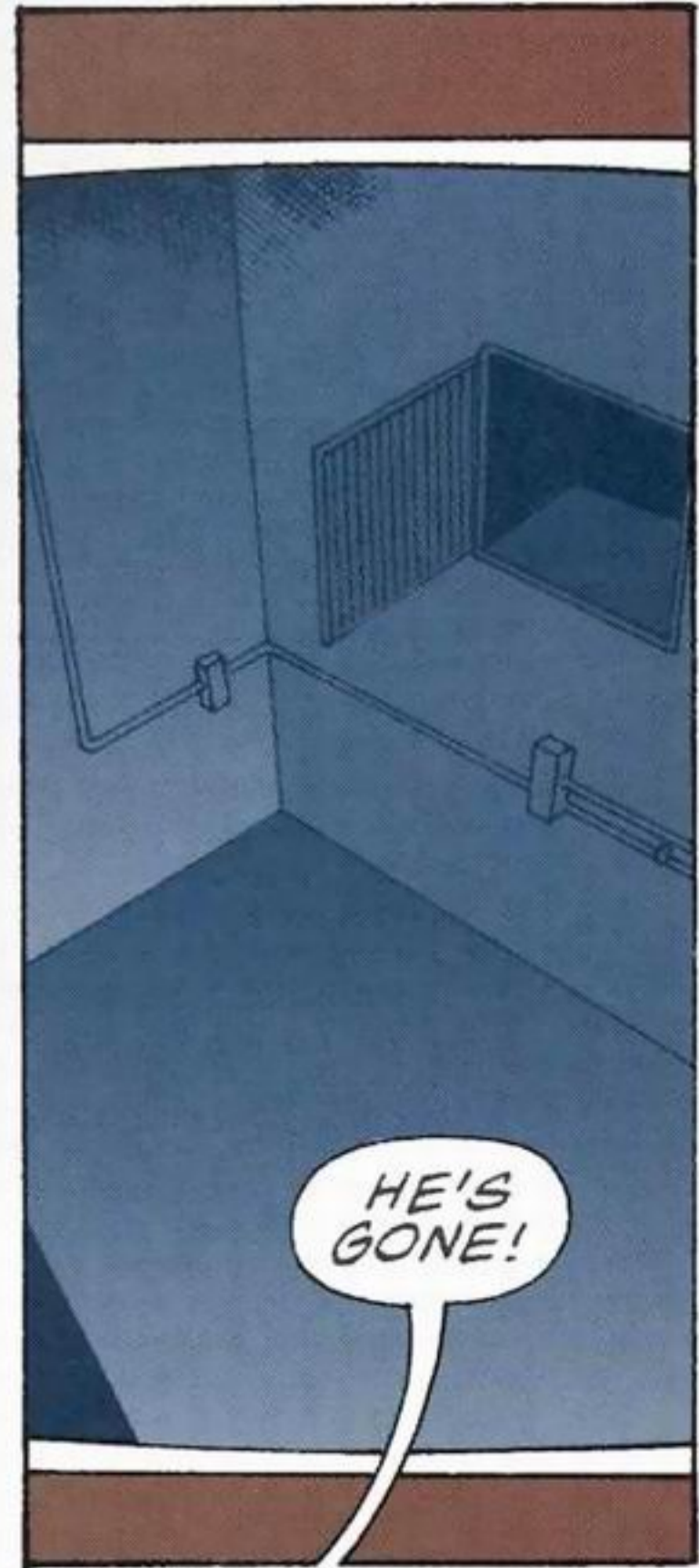


MADE IT!
WE HAVE THAT
SUCKER
TRAPPED!

GET
SECURITY DOWN
HERE AND WE CAN
NAIL HIM FOR
GOOD!



WE CAN EVEN
WATCH HIM FROM
THIS VIEW--
NO!



HE'S
GONE!



ARE WE GETTING CLOSE?

NEAR AS I CAN TELL, THE WRECK SHOULD BE JUST AROUND THE NEXT BEND!



THAT AND A FEW MILLION ALIENS, RIGHT?

LEAVE THE ROLE OF SKEPTIC TO ME, KAL! IF YOU GET AS BAD AS ME--

--WE'RE REALLY COOKED!



THAT'S IT! WOW!

I NEVER REALIZED IT WAS THIS BIG!

LET'S CLIMB DOWN AND FIND OUT WHAT'S INSIDE.

JUST BE SURE TO KEEP THAT FLAME THROWER POINTED AT ME SO THOSE NASTY BUGGERS ARE HELD AT BAY!



THIS LOOKS LIKE A GOOD PLACE TO ENTER.

EXACTLY WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FOR?

ANYTHING THAT CAN HELP US GET OFF THIS ASTEROID!



CHANCES ARE THAT A SHIP THIS SIZE HAD A LIFEBOAT OR SOMETHING FOR THE CREW!

EGGS! THAT CAN ONLY MEAN--



A QUEEN!

EASY...

NO WAY! SHE WON'T DO ANYTHING TO YOU--



--WHICH GIVES ME THE PERFECT CHANCE TO DO THIS!

KARA CUTS LOOSE WITH A THIRTY-SECOND BURST OF FLAME, FRYING EVERY EGG INSIDE THE SHIP.

I DON'T TELL HER THAT I DISAPPROVE.

I GUESS I UNDERSTAND HOW SHE FEELS.



IT'S A STRAIN BUT IT WORKS!

THE IMAGES ARE FUZZY... BUT I CAN SEE WELL ENOUGH TO DISCOVER ONE CRUCIAL FACT.

THIS SHIP IS SO BIG THAT THERE ARE A NUMBER OF LEVELS BELOW THIS DECK THAT WERE BLOCKED BY WRECKAGE.

NO ONE EVER GOT TO THEM--

--WHICH MEANS THAT THE AREA IS MOSTLY INTACT!

TRANSPORTATION BOOTHS! AND JUDGING BY THE LIGHTS ON THE CONTROL PANEL--

--IT MAY BE OPERATIONAL!

THE POWER CORE! ALSO FUNCTIONAL! AND NEARBY--

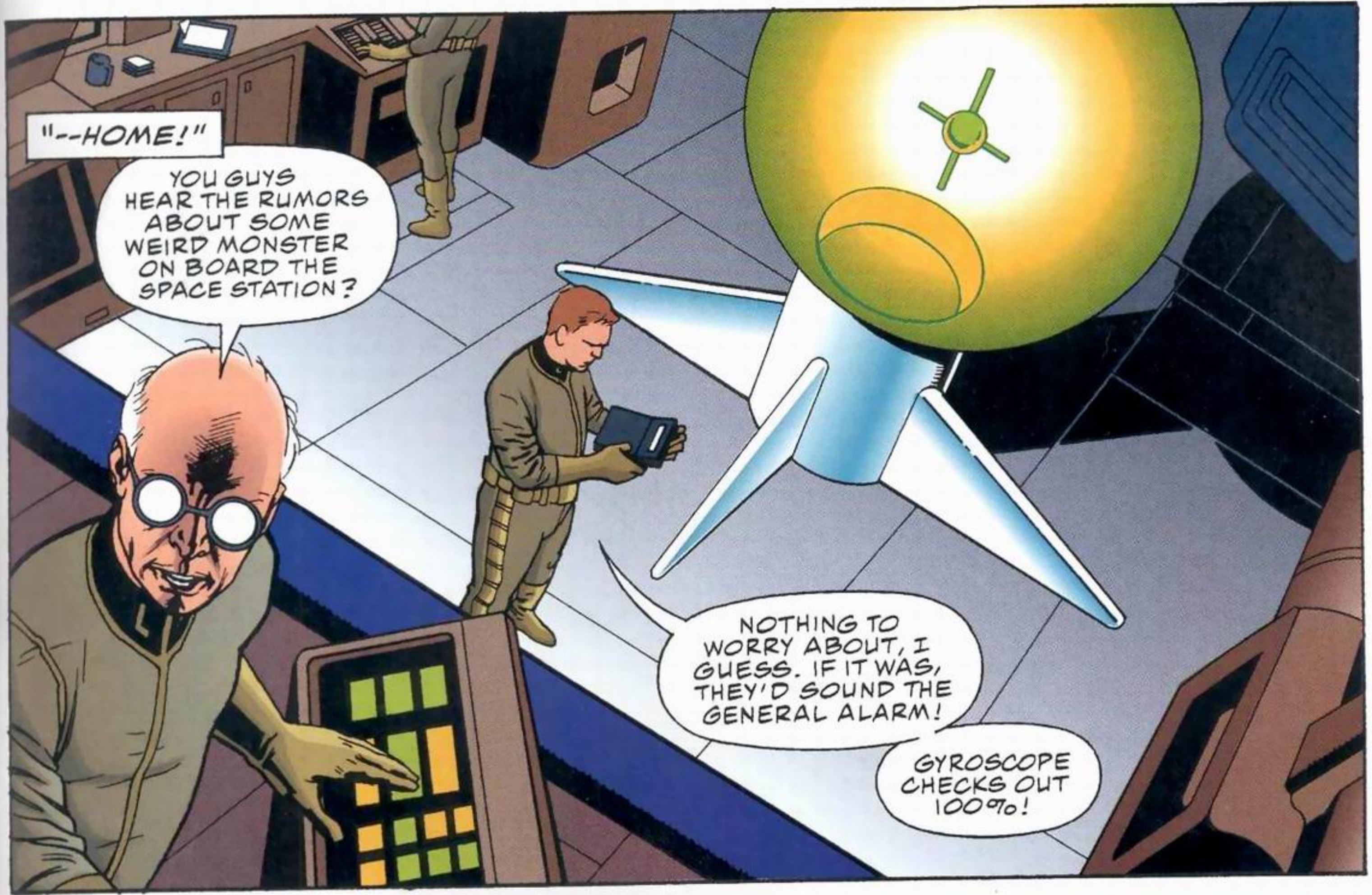
--LIFE PODS!

KARA, WE'RE IN LUCK! FOLLOW ME!

WHAT DID YOU FIND?

A WAY BACK--





"--HOME!"

YOU GUYS HEAR THE RUMORS ABOUT SOME WEIRD MONSTER ON BOARD THE SPACE STATION?

NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT, I GUESS. IF IT WAS, THEY'D SOUND THE GENERAL ALARM!

GYROSCOPE CHECKS OUT 100%!



OKAY, PRIME THE BATTERIES FOR RE-CHARGING.

ALERT CONTROL TO EXPECT THE USUAL POWER--



--SURGE.



OH, MY--



ARGO IS DYING ABOVE US.

CALAMITOUS, FINAL EXPLOSIONS ARE SHREDDING AND RIPPING THE PROUD CITY WITHOUT MERCY.

EVEN THOUGH ARGO ISN'T KRYPTONIAN AS I THOUGHT EARLIER--

--I FEEL OVERWHELMINGLY SADDENED BY HER DEATH.

MAYBE IT'S BECAUSE I THOUGHT OF IT AS KRYPTONIAN.

MAYBE IT'S BECAUSE WE'RE SO CLOSE TO DEATH OURSELVES.

SO LONG, ARGO. YOU WEREN'T MUCH--

--BUT YOU WERE HOME.

I'M SORRY, KARA. I KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE TO LOSE A HOME.

KAL! HELP!

ISN'T IT ENOUGH THAT WE'RE STRANDED ON A DYING
ROCK WITH VERY LITTLE CHANCE TO LEAVE?

DO THESE...
MONSTERS HAVE
TO PURSUE US
INTO THE GRAVE
ITSELF?

I'M
TIRED
OF IT!

TIRED
OF YOUR
GODFORSAKEN
RELENTLESSNESS!

TIRED OF
YOUR RUTHLESS
WAYS!

AND MOST
OF ALL--

--TIRED OF
YOUR UGLY
FACES!

NICE TO SEE YOU
USE DEADLY FORCE,
KAL. I MIGHT JUST
MAKE A FIGHTER
OUT OF YOU YET!

I
TOLD YOU
BEFORE
THAT I WON'T
KILL SENTIENT
BEINGS,
KARA.

I PLAN
TO ADHERE
TO THAT
PRINCIPLE.



YEAH, WELL, STICK CLOSE, OKAY? I CAN FEEL THOSE CRITTERS CRAWLIN' ALL OVER THE PLACE--

--AND THE MINUTE YOU GET TWO FEET AWAY, THEY'LL MAKE BREAKFAST OUT OF ME!



WHAT'S THAT?

ONE OF THE SHIP'S ESCAPE PODS! BUT IT WILL NEVER FIT OUT OF THIS JETTISON CHUTE!



ASSUMING IT WORKS, WE'LL HAVE TO FIND ANOTHER WAY TO GET IT OUT OF THIS OLD HULK!

LET ME SEE WHAT I CAN DO.



I BECAME SOMEWHAT FAMILIAR WITH THE TECHNOLOGY OF THIS SPECIES AFTER WE STRIPPED THE SHIP.

IF THESE CONTROLS ARE SET UP THE SAME AS THE OTHER STUFF I'VE SEEN...



LOOK! I GOT THE HATCH OPEN!

THAT'S A START, KARA.

BUT THE JETTISON TUBE IS STILL JAMMED. THE ONLY WAY TO GET THIS POD OUT OF HERE--



--IS TO BLOW UP THE SHIP SO IT TURNS OVER AND CLEARS THE PATH!

BUT-- WE DON'T HAVE ENOUGH EXPLOSIVES FOR THAT!

STAY HERE. I'M GOING BACK TO THE POWER CORE. THAT SHOULD DO THE JOB!



SOUNDS REASON-
ABLE, BUT YOU HAVE
TO STAY HERE AND
PREP THE SHIP!

YOU'RE THE ONLY
ONE WHO KNOWS
THE WAY TO THIS
EARTH OF YOURS!
YOU NEED TO PRO-
GRAM THE COMPUTERS
AND CLEAR THIS
DEBRIS!

IT'S TOO
DANGEROUS!
FOR YOU! THE
ENGINE AREA
IS FESTERING
WITH ALIENS!



KAL, I'M
CARRYING. I'M
NOT GOING TO
MAKE IT NO
MATTER WHAT
HAPPENS! BUT
YOU-- IF YOU
CAN GET OFF
THIS ROCK--

I'VE
TOLD YOU BE-
FORE THAT I DON'T
WANT TO HEAR
THAT KIND OF TALK!
WE ARE BOTH
GOING TO GET OUT
OF THIS!



THEN LET ME BE THE
ONE TO BLOW THIS
WRECK! YOU NEED ONE
HECK OF AN EXPLOSION!
AND SINCE I'M
FAMILIAR WITH THE
TECHNOLOGY
HERE--!

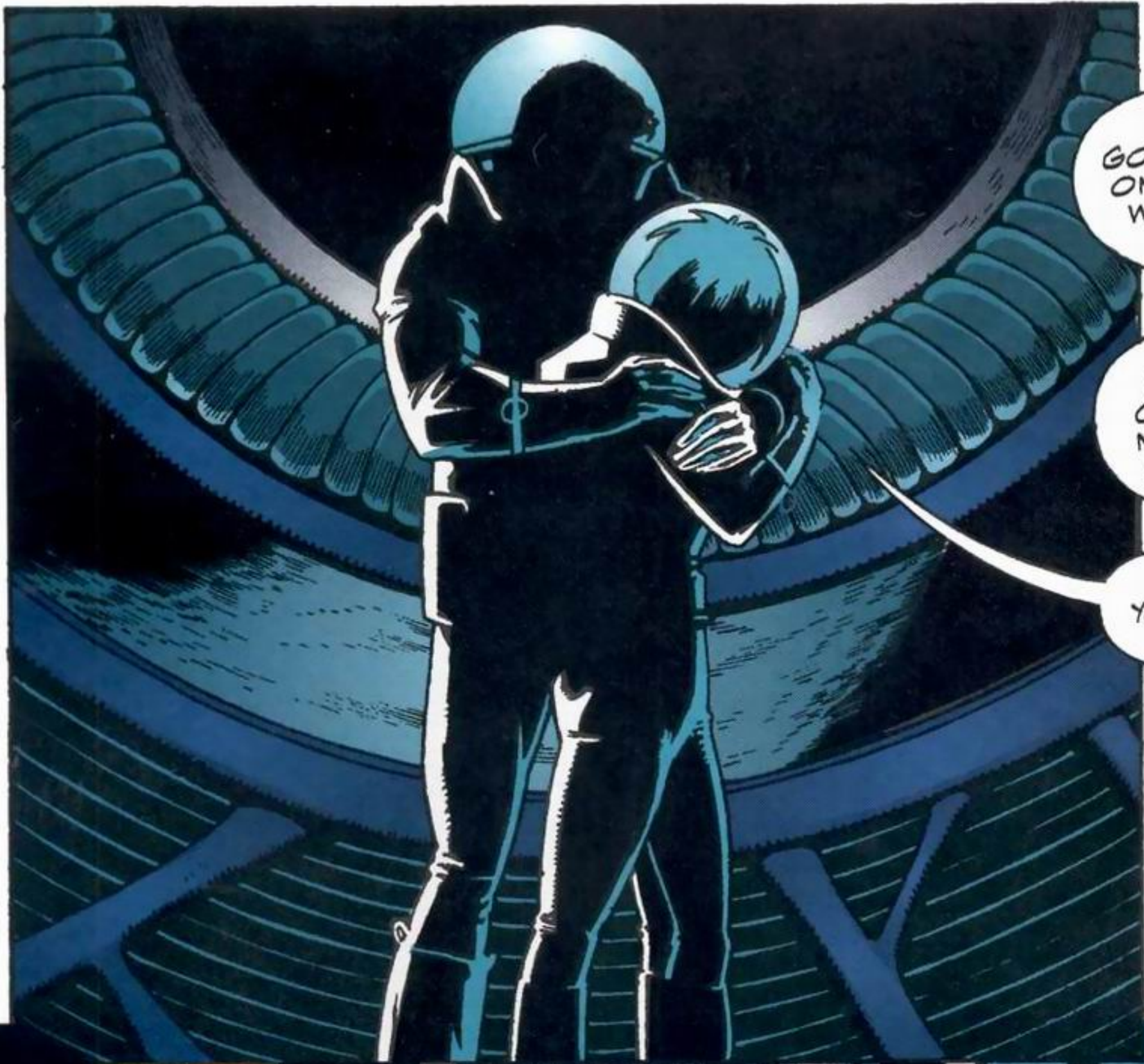
ON ONE CONDITION.
THERE'S A WAY THAT
MIGHT WORK. DO YOU
STILL HAVE THE POCKET
TRANSPORTER
CONTROL?



THERE'S A TRANS-
PORTER BOOTH RIGHT
NEXT TO THE POWER
CORE! SINCE THAT AREA
OF THE SHIP IS STILL
FUNCTIONING, WE CAN
ASSUME IT DOES,
TOO!

AS SOON AS
YOU'VE RIGGED
THE SHIP TO BLOW,
JUMP IN AND I'LL
BRING YOU RIGHT
INTO THE POD!

RIGHT
HERE!



BEFORE I GO, KAL, THERE'S ONE THING I WANT YOU TO KNOW.

YOU'VE... BEEN A SPOT OF LIGHT THAT I NEVER THOUGHT I'D SEE HERE.

I LOVE YOU FOR THAT, KAL.



I... LOVE YOU TOO, KARA.

HURRY BACK, OKAY?

WATCHING HER RUN OFF DOWN THE HALL IS TOUGH.



BUT KARA'S RIGHT. I HAVE TO STAY.

I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN CLEAR THIS AREA AND I HAVE TO DO IT WHILE THERE'S STILL TIME.



BEFORE THE SHIP BLOWS.

BEFORE THE MONSTERS COME.



DON'T... FEEL GOOD.

SOME-THING'S... WRONG!

HAVE TO GET... INTO THE POD!



MY CHEST --ON FIRE!



OH, GOD! IT'S HAPPENING! THAT... THING IN ME... IS TRYING TO GET OUT!

KARA--



RIGHT HERE, KAL! YOU BETTER BE READY TO GO BECAUSE I'M ALMOST DONE!

THE LIGHT SHOW IS GOING TO START IN ABOUT TWO MINUTES!



THAT'S IT! I'M HEADING FOR THE TRANSPORT BOOTH!

BE SURE TO BEAM ME OUT BEFORE SHE BLOWS, OKAY?

THE PAIN--EXCRUCIATING! IF I DIDN'T HAVE SOME SMALL MEASURE OF MY POWERS LEFT--

--I'D BE DEAD BY NOW!

IS THIS--THE FATE THAT AWAITS KARA? I CAN'T LET THAT HAPPEN! THERE MUST BE A WAY TO SAVE HER FROM THIS!

KARA. I'VE GOT THE CONTROL...

I'M READY, KAL! DO IT NOW! BRING ME BACK!

WAIT! ONE THING MIGHT WORK!

STAY THERE, KARA! WHATEVER YOU DO, DON'T LEAVE THE BOOTH!

WHAT? WHY ARE YOU TALKING LIKE--
--HEY!

KAL! IT DIDN'T WORK!

KAL? SOMETHING'S COMING!

DON'T LEAVE! I KNOW WHAT I'M DOING! STAY IN THE BOOTH!

THEY'RE TRYING TO GET IN! GOT TO KEEP THEM OUT!



KARA! GET BACK IN THE BOOTH!
KARA?!

TIME TO BUG OUT!



NO! THE POD'S LAUNCH SEQUENCE HAS STARTED!



IT'S THE QUEEN, KAL! SHE'S HERE!

THE SHIP WILL BLOW ANY MINUTE!



HAVE TO GET OUT AND HELP KARA BEFORE--ARRGH!

PAIN--SO INTENSE!



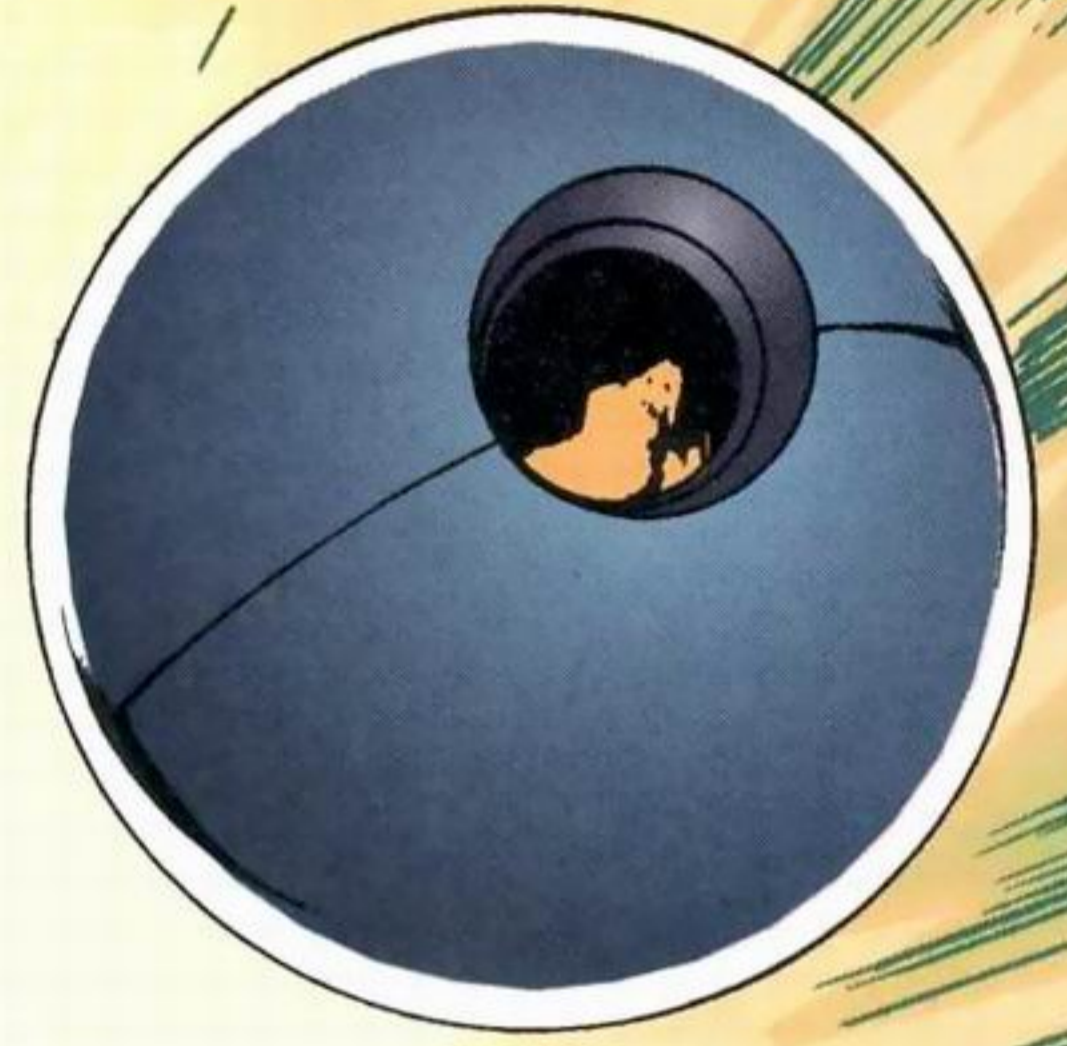
THE POD IS STARTING TO MOVE!

THAT MEANS THE WHOLE WORKS IS GOING TO--

--BLOW!

THE BLAST IS A HUNDRED
TIMES MORE POWERFUL
THAN I EXPECTED..

THE CITY, ASTEROID
AND ALIENS DIE IN
A BLINDING FLASH
OF LIGHT.



KARA. IT
HAD TO
BE KARA.

AS THE POD'S COMPUTER
TAKES CONTROL AND
GUIDES IT ON ITS
SURVIVAL RUN--

--AND ALL REMNANTS
OF A PROUD PEOPLE
ARE VAPORIZED--

--I CAN'T HELP BUT
FEEL LIKE I'VE LIVED
THROUGH THIS BEFORE.



KARA.

I FAILED YOU. IF YOU'D STAYED IN THE TRANSPORTER TUBE, YOU'D BE HERE WITH ME NOW AND YOU'D BE FINE!

I FOUND A WAY TO SAVE YOU FROM THAT ALIEN INSIDE--
UGHH!

THIS IS IT!

IT'S COMING!

THE POD IS MAKING THE JUMP INTO
HYPERSPACE! ONE
CHANCE...

...IF THE POD
DROPS OUT IN
EARTH'S SOLAR
SYSTEM--

--CLOSE ENOUGH
TO THE SUN--

--MY POWERS
WILL RETURN!

ALREADY
FEEL
STRONGER!

I'M...
BACK!

BUT... IT'S
STILL
TRYING TO
GET OUT!



LRRGH!
HURTS!

OKAY, YOU LITTLE
PARASITE--!



I'M BETTING
I CAN OUT-
LAST YOU--

--AND KEEP YOU
FROM CARVING
ME UP!

AND THAT'S...
A BET... I'M
NOT GOING...
TO LOSE!

LNNPH! IT
WORKS!



IT'S GROSS
AND WEIRD--

--BUT I EVENTUALLY
REGURGITATE THE
CREATURE.



I FEEL
WASTED.

TOTALLY.
EMOTIONALLY
...AS WELL AS
PHYSICALLY.

--BUT I WON'T
LET ANYONE
ELSE DIE TODAY!

WE'RE
TURNING
OVER! HOW
IN THE WORLD
IS THAT
POSSIBLE?

SUPERMAN!

ALL I WANT
TO DO IS
REST... BUT
THE LEXCORP
STATION IS
IN TROUBLE!

ALMOST IN
EARTH'S
ATMOSPHERE!
CLOSE TO
BURNING UP!

THIS WILL BE
TOUGH! GRAVITY
HAS A GOOD
GRIP ON IT--

"SUPERMAN
MUST BE
BACK!"



SCREEE!

BUT IT'S BACK TOO!
LET'S MOVE!

WE CAN'T!
HE'S BLOCKING THE EXIT!



HSSSSSS!

OH, GOD...



CHINKT!



I TRIED TO LET YOUR KIND OFF EASY! RESISTED THE IDEA OF KILLING YOU!

SUPERMAN!

THE EXPLOSION THAT DESTROYED THE ASTEROID-- THAT KILLED YOUR COMPANIONS-- WAS TOO POWERFUL!

I ONLY WANTED TO CLEAR AN ESCAPE PATH, BUT KARA MUST HAVE SET OFF A CHAIN REACTION THAT BLEW EVERYTHING!

I LOOK AT YOU AND ALL I CAN THINK OF IS AN ENTIRE CITY OF PEOPLE WHO DIED!

AND, GOD HELP ME, I CAN'T HELP BUT WONDER IF YOU SHOULD JOIN THEM!



NO.

I WENT DOWN THAT PATH ONCE BEFORE.

I WON'T DO IT AGAIN.

MAYBE YOU WON'T--



--BUT I MADE A MISTAKE, TOO.

THE MISTAKE OF LETTING THESE CREATURES LIVE.

THIS WELDER WAS DESIGNED TO SEAL A HULL BREACH IN SECONDS.

CHANCES ARE--

--IT CAN UNSEAL YOU!



FAZZZ!



SUPERMAN, I'VE NEVER SEEN YOU LIKE THIS BEFORE!

WHAT... WHAT HAPPENED OUT THERE?



DEATH.

BLOODY, HEINOUS DEATH.



MORE THAN I WANT TO THINK ABOUT--

--OR EVEN TALK ABOUT.



CLARK?

SOMETIMES IT HELPS TO TALK.

I FOUND A CITY THAT WAS AS CLOSE TO VISITING KRYPTON AS I'LL EVER GET.



I MET THIS GIRL KARA THERE. SHE WAS TRULY SOMETHING SPECIAL.

DESPITE THE HARSH CIRCUMSTANCES SHE WAS RAISED IN, SHE WAS A SPIRITED SURVIVOR. SOMEONE WHO KIND OF MADE ME FEEL LIKE A BIG BROTHER.

FOR A SHORT WHILE THERE--



--I ALMOST FELT LIKE I HAD A LITTLE SISTER.



SHE SAVED MY LIFE, LOIS.

SHE DESERVES TO BE ALIVE, STANDING HERE IN MY PLACE RIGHT NOW.



ARE YOU SURE SHE'S DEAD? ISN'T THERE SOME CHANCE SHE COULD HAVE MADE IT OUT?

I CAME CLOSE TO SAVING HER. I REALLY DID.

SEE, SHE HAD ONE OF THOSE CREATURES EMBEDDED INSIDE HER.

"WHILE SHE WAS IN THE TRANSPORTER TUBE, I REALIZED THERE WAS SOMETHING I COULD DO TO SAVE HER FROM THE ALIEN INSIDE HER.

"I USED THE TRANSPORTER--

"--TO TELEPORT THE ALIEN RIGHT OUT OF HER BODY! BUT IT TOOK PRECIOUS TIME, AND BEFORE I COULD TRANSPORT HER TO SAFETY--

"--EVERYTHING WENT TO HELL.

"THE CHANCES OF HER MAKING IT TO AN ESCAPE POD WERE ZERO.

"AND EVEN IF SHE DID, SHE DOESN'T HAVE ANY IDEA WHERE EARTH IS OR HOW TO GET THERE.

"I SAVED HER FROM THE ALIENS, LOIS. BUT I COULDN'T SAVE HER LIFE.

"SHE DIED WITH THE ASTEROID.

"ALL I CAN DO IS REMEMBER HER--

"--AND HOPE THAT SHE HAS FINALLY FOUND PEACE."

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