

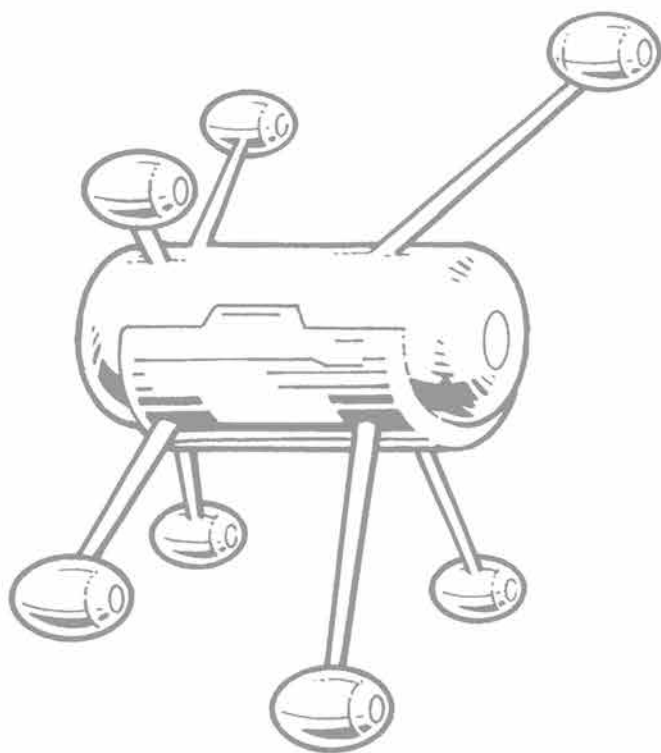
MYRIAD DOOM

a graphic novel by
MATT HOWARTH



MYRIAD BOOM

a graphic novel by
MATT HOWARTH



MYRIAD DOOM

book 3 of the Myriad trilogy

story & art © 2016 MATT HOWARTH

based on the universe found in the MYRIAD SONG Game
(property of Sanguine Productions LLC)

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Cincinnati, Ohio 45208
www.SanguineGames.com

Matt would like to dedicate this graphic novel to
his Muse, who (in her divine way) was primarily
in charge of things this time.

THE PEABODY DATA
STACKS ARE NOTORIOUS
FOR THEIR IMPENETRABLE
SECURITY ICE.

SO RHYS NEEDED
A FRIEND'S HELP
INVADING THEIR
INTERSTELLAR
REGISTRY.

I'M
IN.





SOME NASTY
WATCH-DEVIL CODE
IN THERE.

HOW
NASTY?

IT CAN
GENERATE PULSES
MODULATED TO
ERASE ORDINARY
PROGRAMS.

SINCE WE SENT
YOUR CONSCIOUSNESS
IN THERE, YOUR SYNAPTIC
CODE MIGHT BE
VULNERABLE TO
THOSE PULSES.

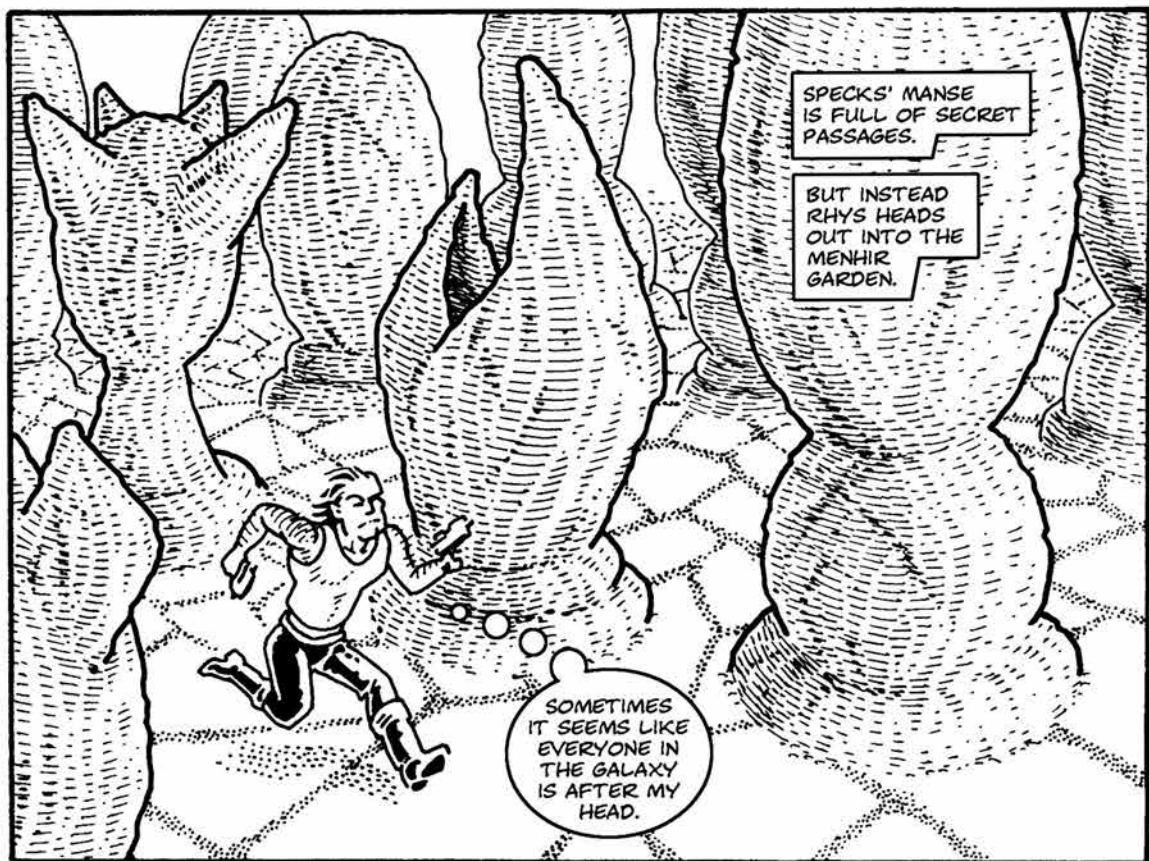
OKAY,
SPECKS--I'M
IN TROUBLE!

SIGH...

I'M
BOOSTING
YOUR CODE TO
WARD OFF THE
MAULWARE.











SOMETHING IS ARRIVING IN ORBIT.



"RHYSER" WAS A PSEUDONYM I USED AS A ZEPPELIN CAPTAIN BACK ON CHASM.





I REMEMBER CHASM...

AND I REMEMBER YOU SHOWING UP AND KILLING MONSIEUR TURGO WITH A POWER-SURGE.

YOU MADE A FATAL MISTAKE NOT KILLING ME TOO.

NO!

UNCOOPERATION EARNS PUNISHMENT.

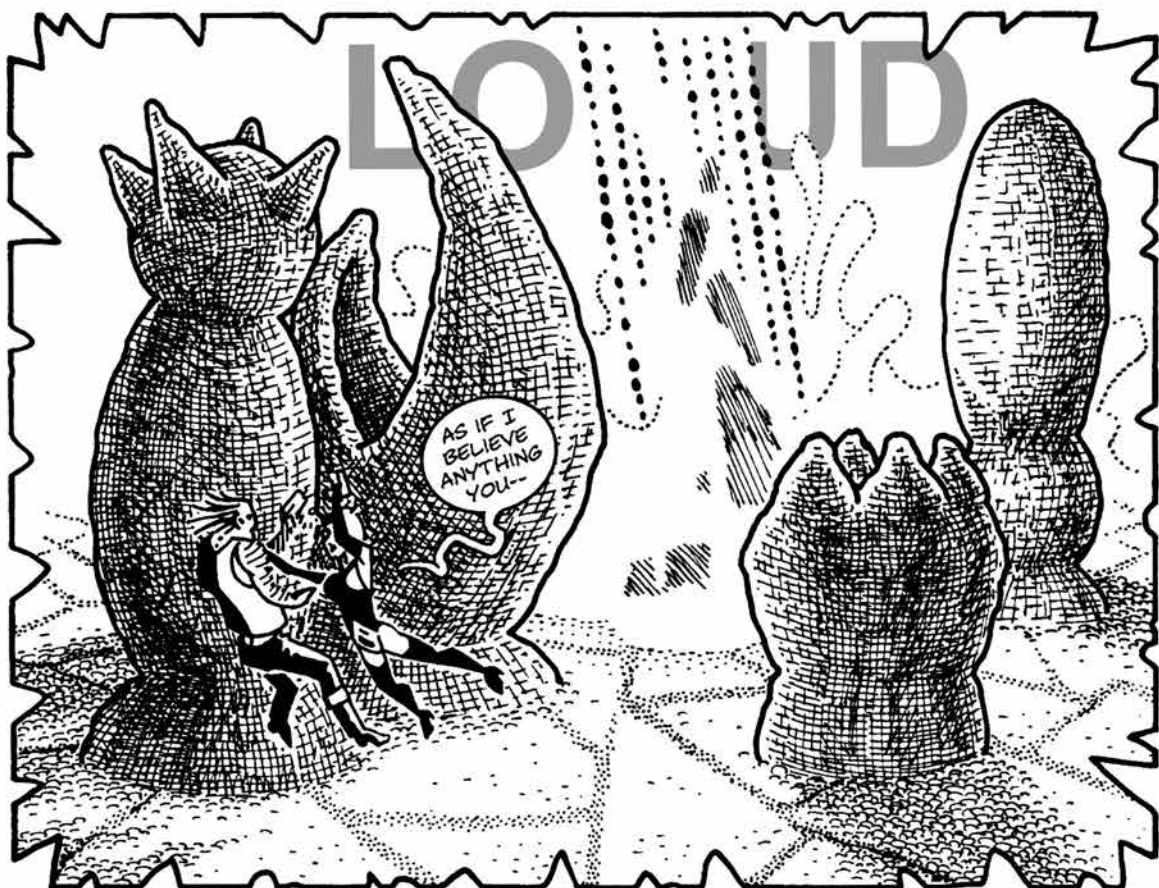
LOOK--THAT WASN'T ME! THAT WAS A CLONE OF ME THAT LAUFERWELT SENT TO KILL ME!

HE WAS LOOKING FOR YOU.

BUT MY TURGO REFUSED TO GIVE YOU UP.

HE TRIED TO STEAL MY MEMORIES WITH A BRAIN SPIKE!

BUT I TOOK HIM OUT. SO I ALREADY GOT YOUR VENGEANCE FOR YOU.





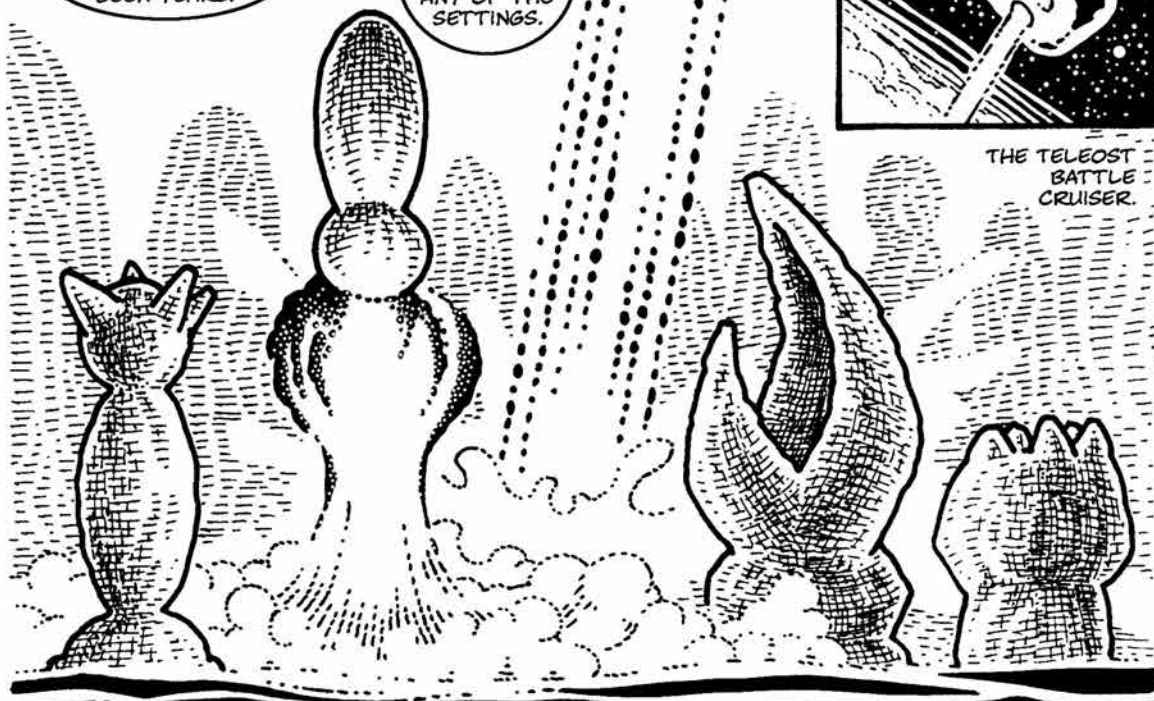
I DESIGNED THIS
ESCAPE SYSTEM FOR
SPECKS--BUT IT'S
BEEN YEARS.

LET'S HOPE I
REMEMBER ALL THE
DETAILS...

AND THAT
HE DIDN'T
CHANGE
ANY OF THE
SETTINGS.



THE TELEOST
BATTLE
CRUISER.



I THINK
WE'LL TAKE
EXIT ROUTE
TWO.

ABOVE,
THE SCULPTURE
IS A ROCKET
WHOSE LAUNCH
IS A RED HERRING
...WHILE WE GET
AWAY IN A POD
THROUGH
SUBTERRANEAN
TUNNELS.

YOU
SAVED
US.



NATASHA, I'M
GOOD AT SAVING
MY OWN BUTT.

YOU'RE
JUST ALONG
FOR THE
RIDE.

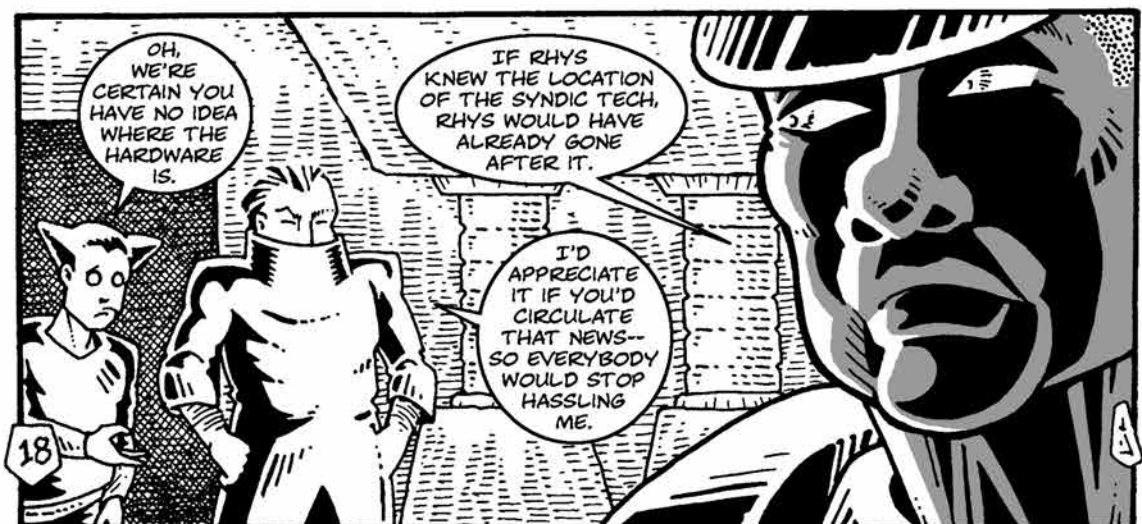
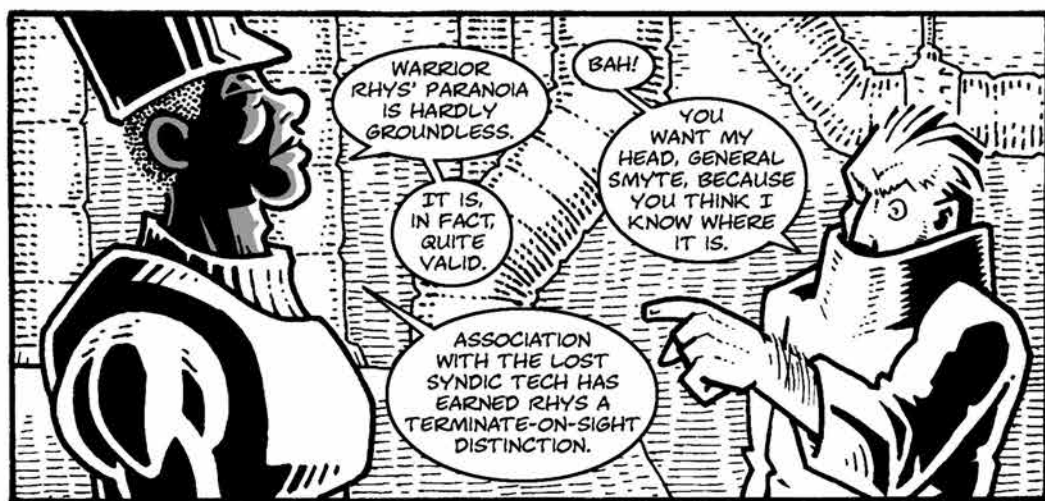






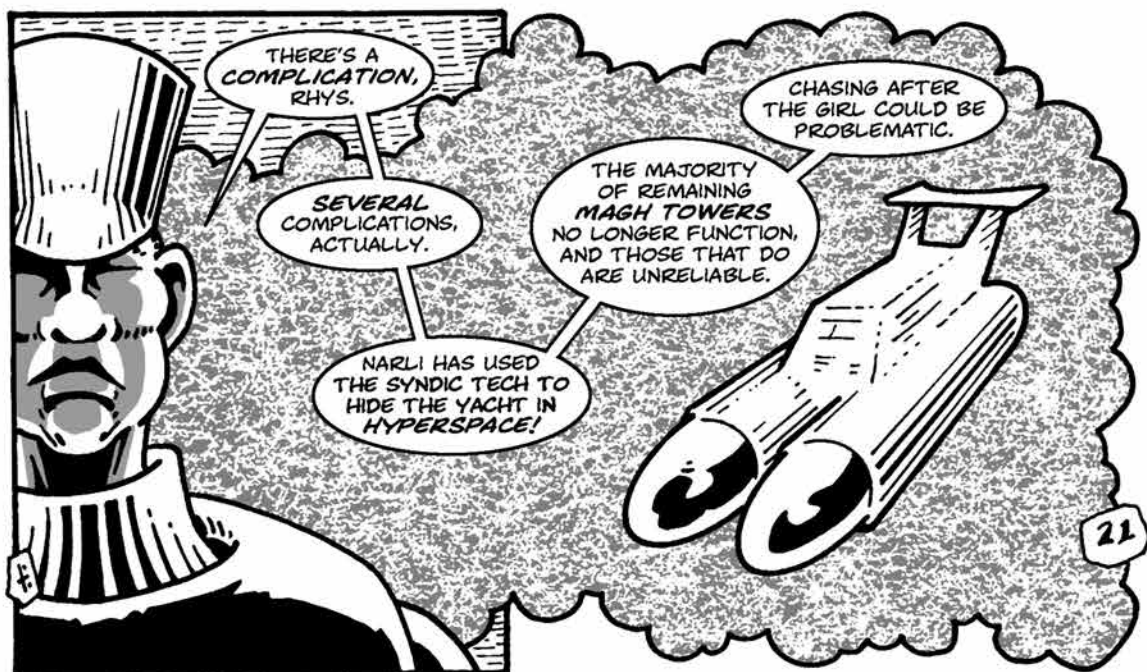














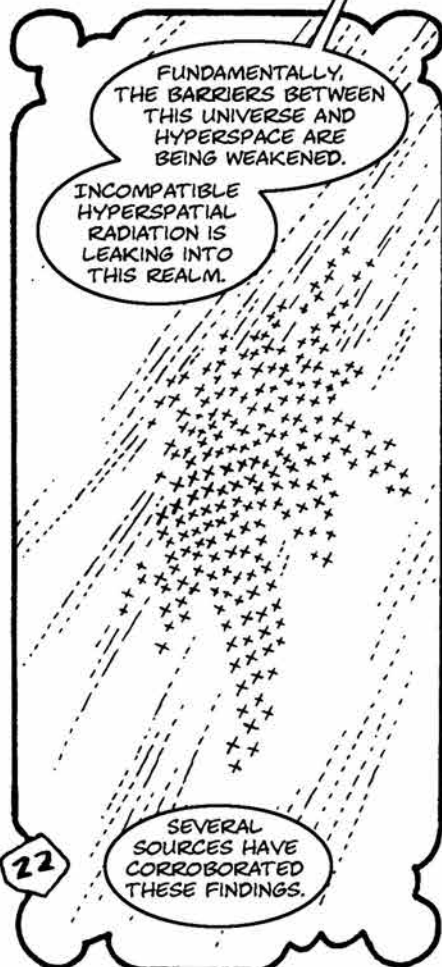
YOU MENTIONED OTHER COMPLICATIONS, GENERAL SMYTE?

INDEED.

LOOK AT THESE SCANS.

WE SUSPECT SHE'S EXPERIMENTING WITH THE HARDWARE. WHATEVER THE GIRL'S DOING, THOUGH--IT'S CAUSING QUANTUM DISRUPTIONS.

I DON'T UNDERSTAND ANY OF THIS!



FUNDAMENTALLY, THE BARRIERS BETWEEN THIS UNIVERSE AND HYPERSPACE ARE BEING WEAKENED.

INCOMPATIBLE HYPERSPATIAL RADIATION IS LEAKING INTO THIS REALM.

SEVERAL SOURCES HAVE CORROBORATED THESE FINDINGS.



ORGANIC CONTAMINATION WILL EVENTUALLY OCCUR, BUT IT IS NOT A PRIMARY CONCERN.

LONG BEFORE THESE HYPER-RADS REACH A SATURATION THAT WILL BE HARMFUL TO ORGANIC LIFE, THE FOREIGN RADIATION WILL CATALYZE OTHER QUANTUM EFFECTS OF AN UNPLEASANT NATURE.

THE HYPER-RADIATION WILL DESTABILIZE STELLAR FURNACES.

AS THE CONTAMINATION SPREADS, EVERY STAR IN THIS UNIVERSE WILL GO NOVA!





SIGH...

I CAN'T BELIEVE THE SITUATION HAS GOTTEN SO APOCALYPTIC.

NARLI'S A FLAKE, BUT NOT CRAZY. SHE WOULDN'T TAMPER WITH THE HARDWARE.



SO... THIS IS THE CREW WHO'S GOING TO HELP ME SAVE THE UNIVERSE...

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A ROGUE LAUFERWELT GENERAL WHO BLAMES ALL THIS ON ALIENS WHO'VE BEEN GONE FOR A CENTURY.

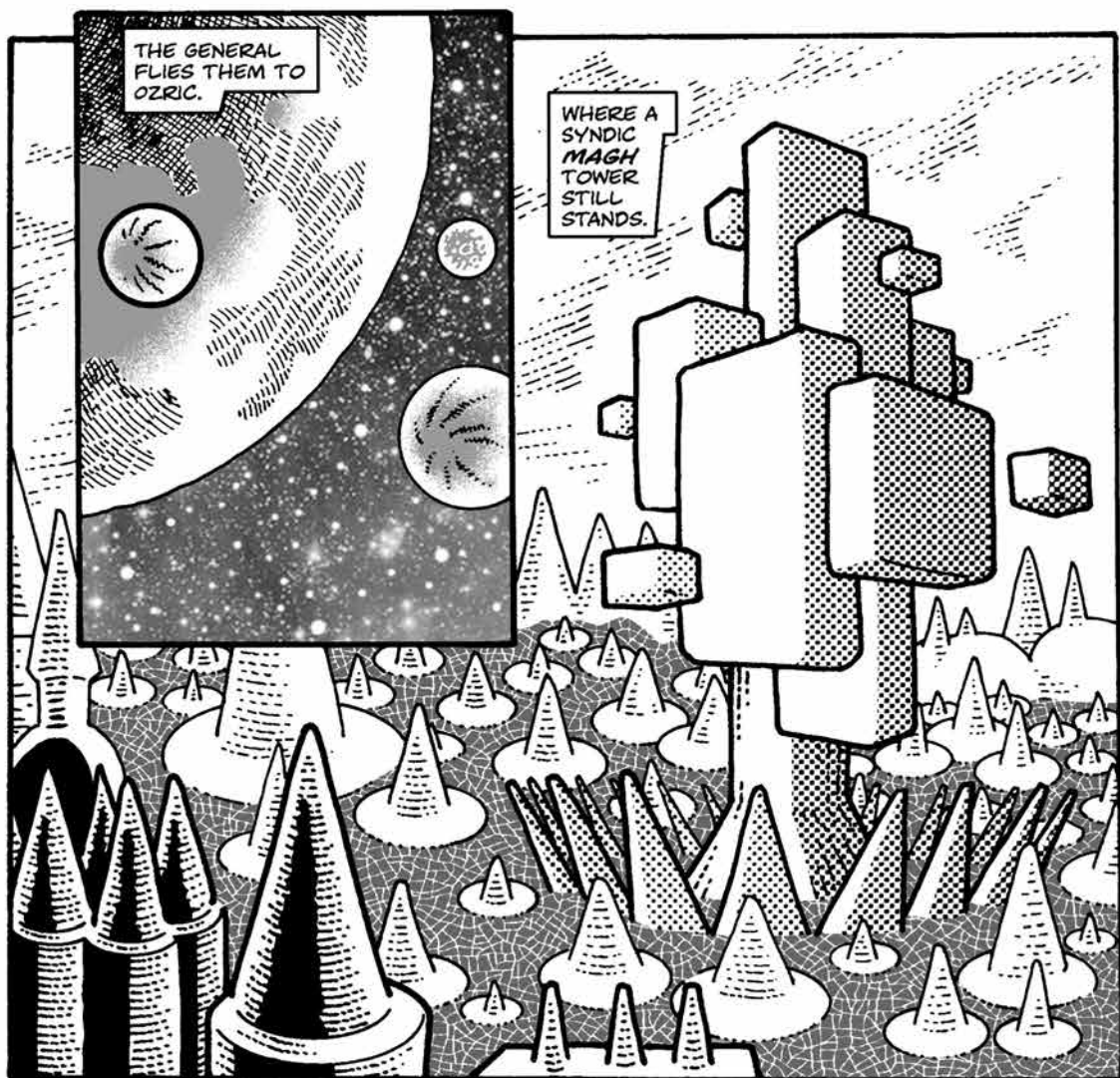


AN INTERSTELLAR HEART-THROB WHO NEEDS PILLS TO PREVENT HIM TURNING INTO A MURDEROUS LUNATIC.

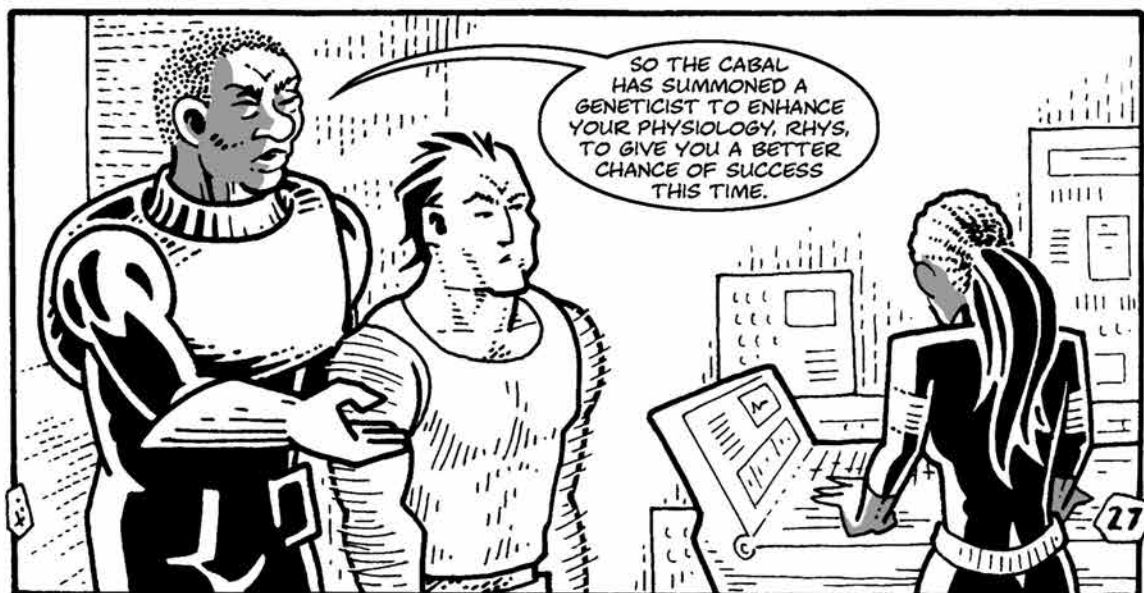
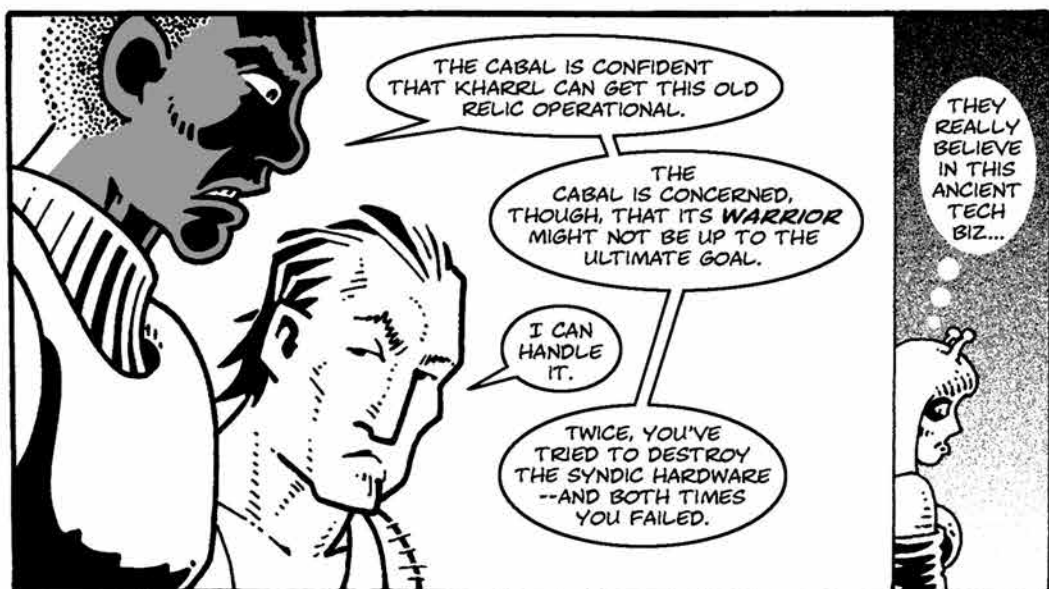
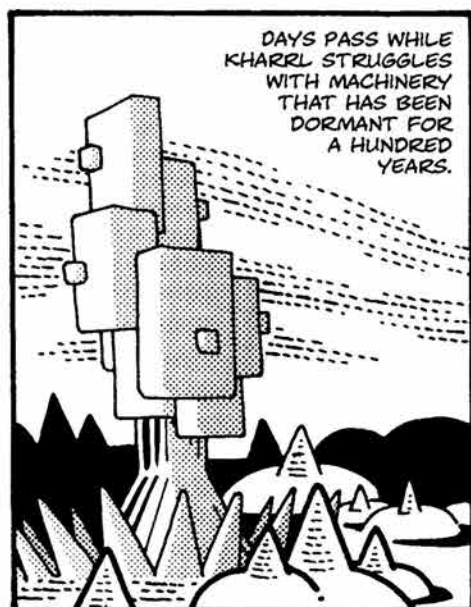


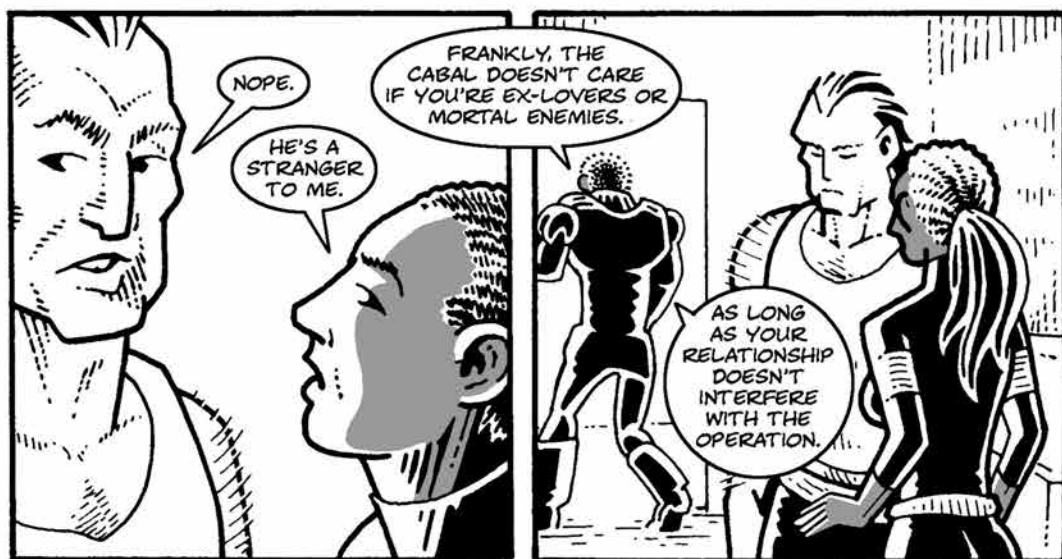
AND A BLOOD-THIRSTY GANGLAND MOLL WHO WANTS ME DEAD FOR PURELY PERSONAL REASONS.

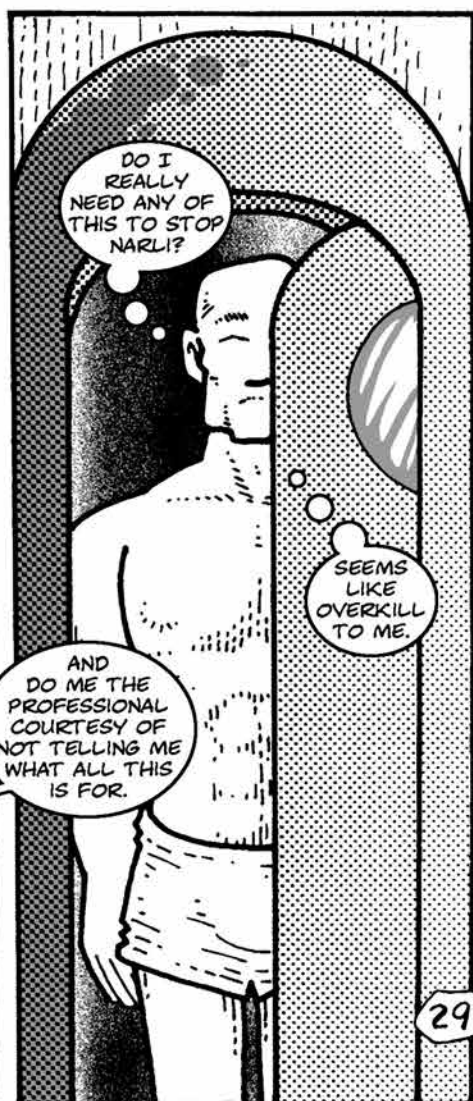
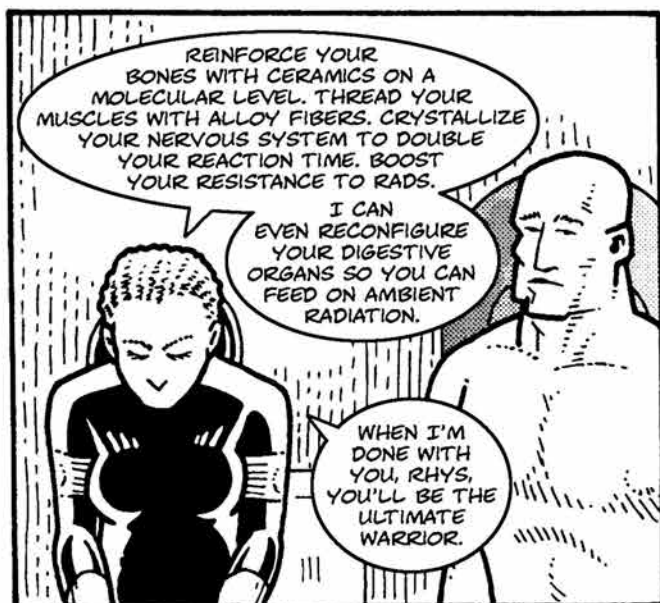
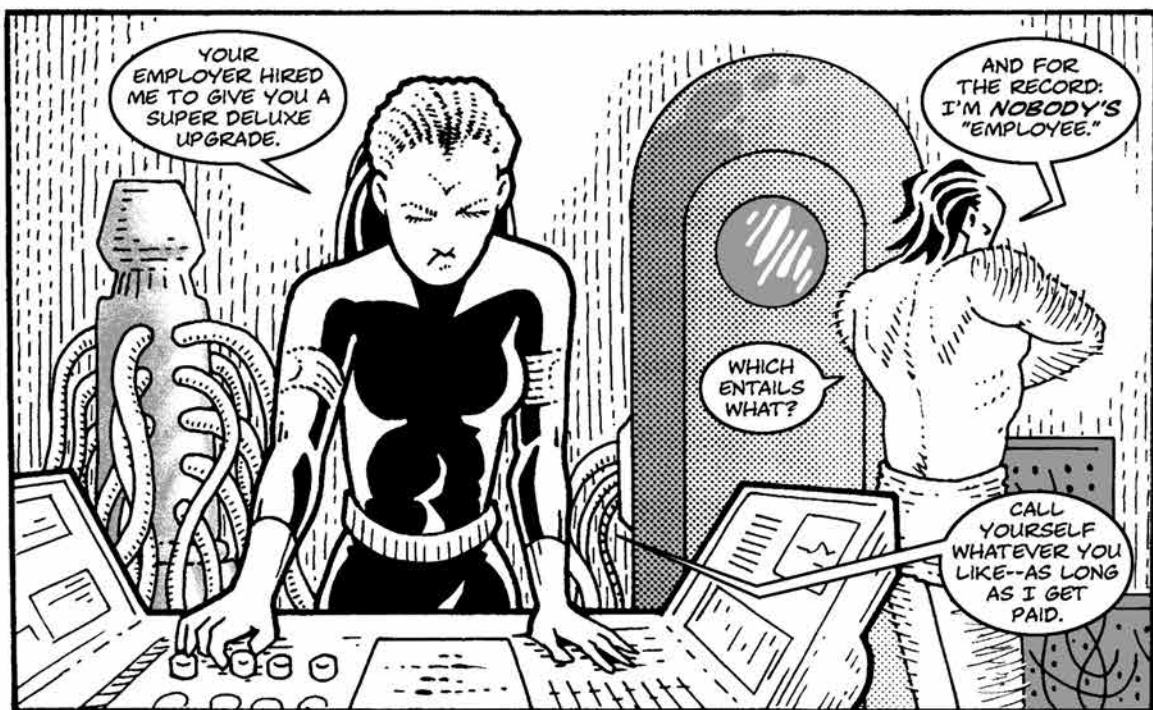
1













EVENTUALLY,
KHARRL
ACHIEVED THE
IMPOSSIBLE.

ACCESS
TO HYPER-
SPACE
HAS BEEN
ACHIEVED.

AND
THIS IS
THE VESSEL
THAT'LL
TAKE YOU
THERE.

THAT
WRECK?

IT'S AN
ANTIQUE.

A
BODE HOTDOG
SHUTTLE?

ORIGINALLY,
YES...

THERE'S A
USER'S MANUAL
YOU CAN
DOWNLOAD.

THIS
UNIT HAS
BEEN MODIFIED
WITH HIDDEN
WEAPONRY.

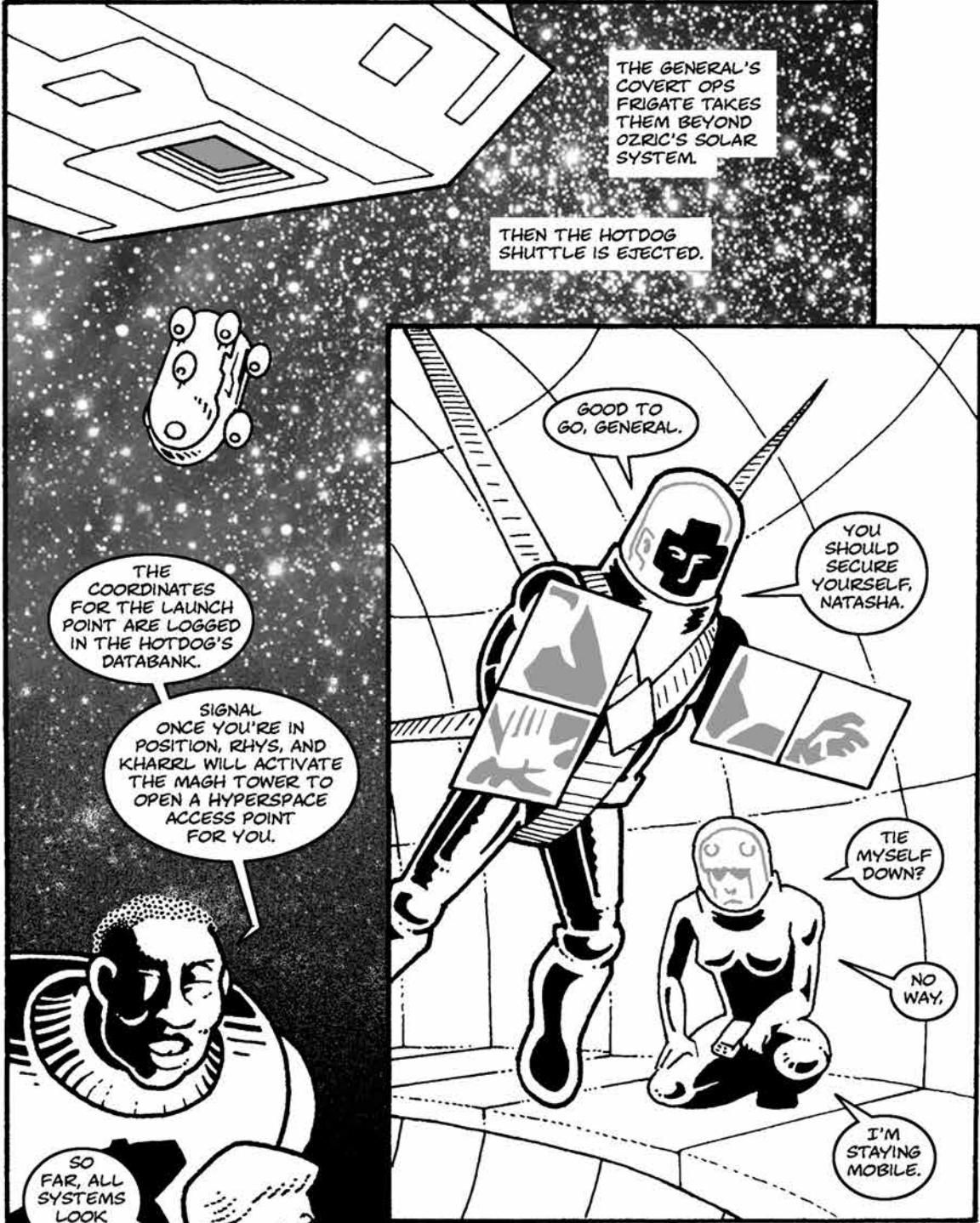
YOU'LL
HAVE ENOUGH
FIREPOWER TO
ATOMIZE THE
ENTIRE SPACE
YACHT.

IF THAT'S
NECESSARY.

HE'S
NOT GOING
ALONE.

THAT'S
UNWISE,
MADAM.





THE GENERAL'S
COVERT OPS
FRIGATE TAKES
THEM BEYOND
OZRIC'S SOLAR
SYSTEM.

THEN THE HOTDOG
SHUTTLE IS EJECTED.

THE
COORDINATES
FOR THE LAUNCH
POINT ARE LOGGED
IN THE HOTDOG'S
DATABANK.

SIGNAL
ONCE YOU'RE IN
POSITION, RHY'S, AND
KHARRL WILL ACTIVATE
THE MAGH TOWER TO
OPEN A HYPERSPACE
ACCESS POINT
FOR YOU.

SO
FAR, ALL
SYSTEMS
LOOK
GOOD.

GOOD TO
GO, GENERAL.

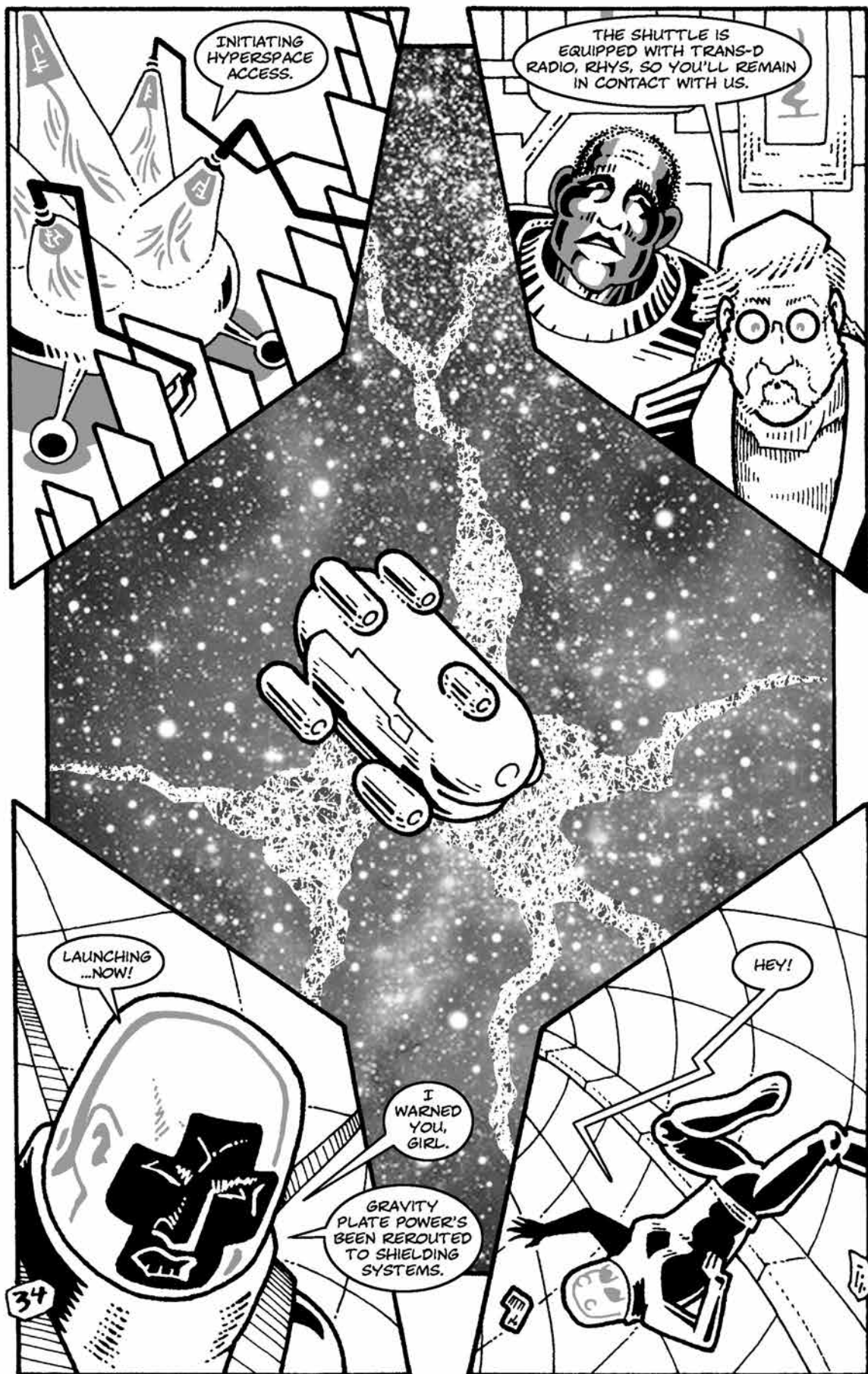
YOU
SHOULD
SECURE
YOURSELF,
NATASHA.

TIE
MYSELF
DOWN?

NO
WAY.

I'M
STAYING
MOBILE.

THE ACCESS POINT
HAS TO BE OPENED
IN DEEP SPACE TO
AVOID DISRUPTIVE
INTERFACING WITH
ANY GRAVITY WELLS
(LIKE PLANETARY OR
STELLAR MASSES).



INITIATING
HYPERSPACE
ACCESS.

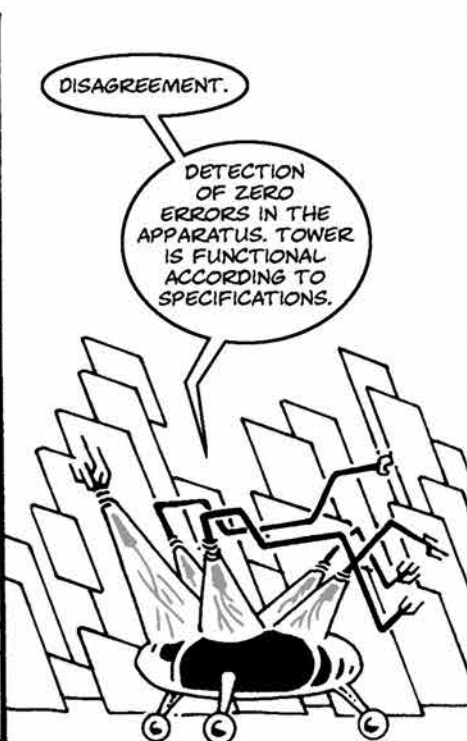
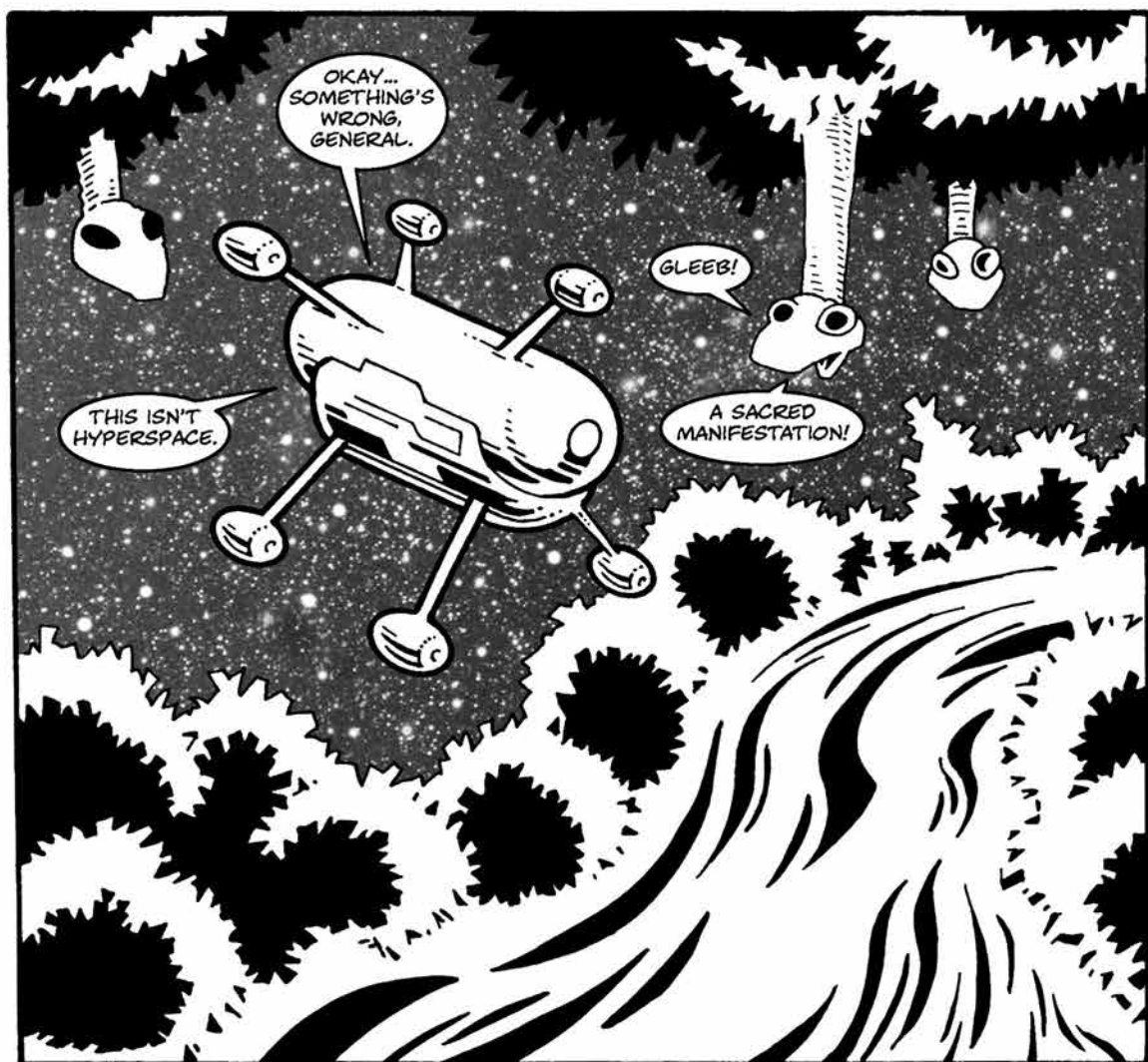
THE SHUTTLE IS
EQUIPPED WITH TRANS-D
RADIO, RHYS, SO YOU'LL REMAIN
IN CONTACT WITH US.

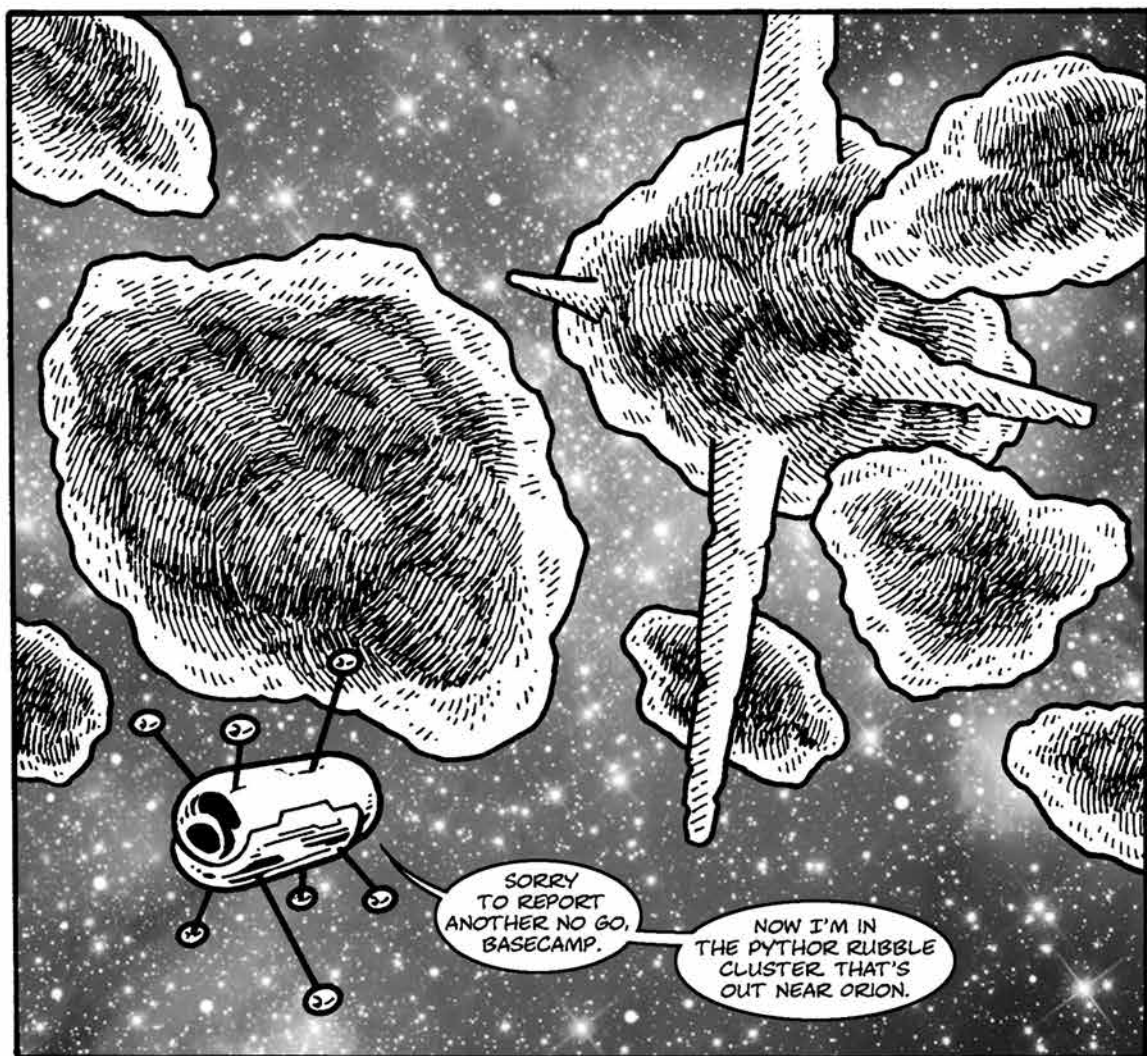
LAUNCHING
...NOW!

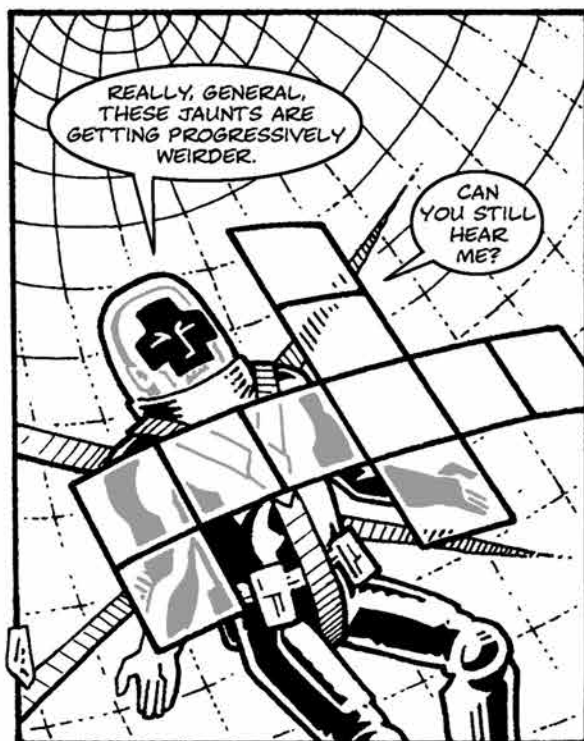
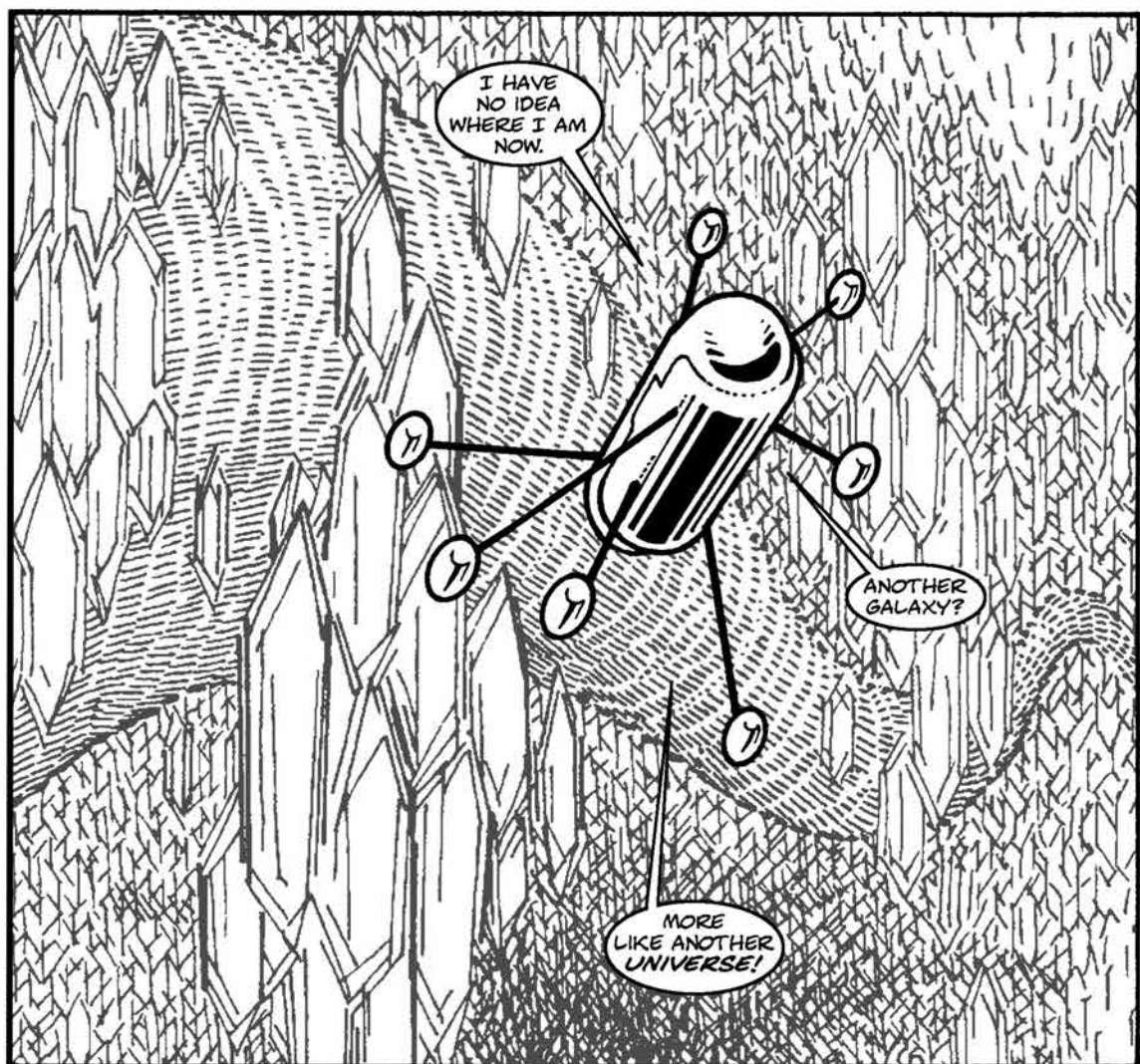
I
WARNED
YOU,
GIRL.

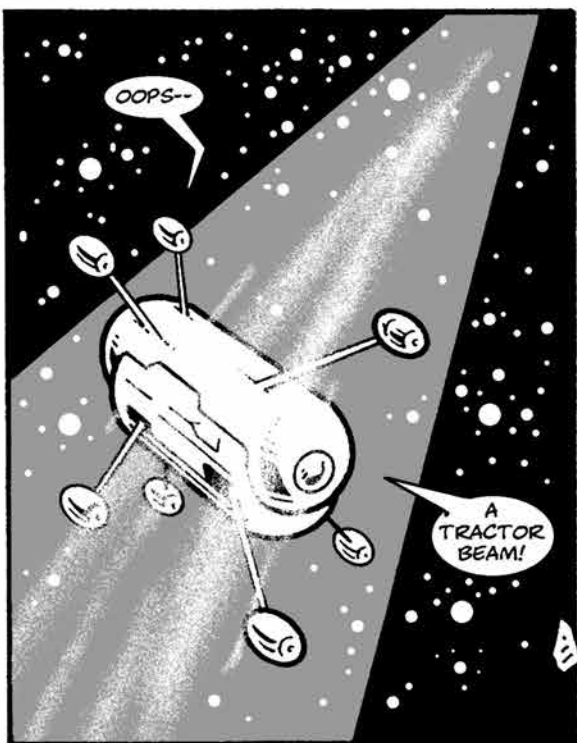
GRAVITY
PLATE POWER'S
BEEN REROUTED
TO SHIELDING
SYSTEMS.

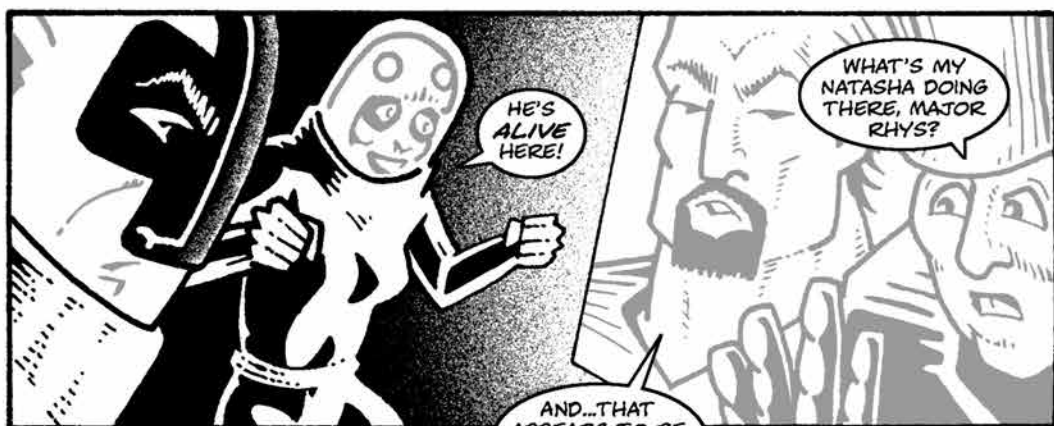
HEY!

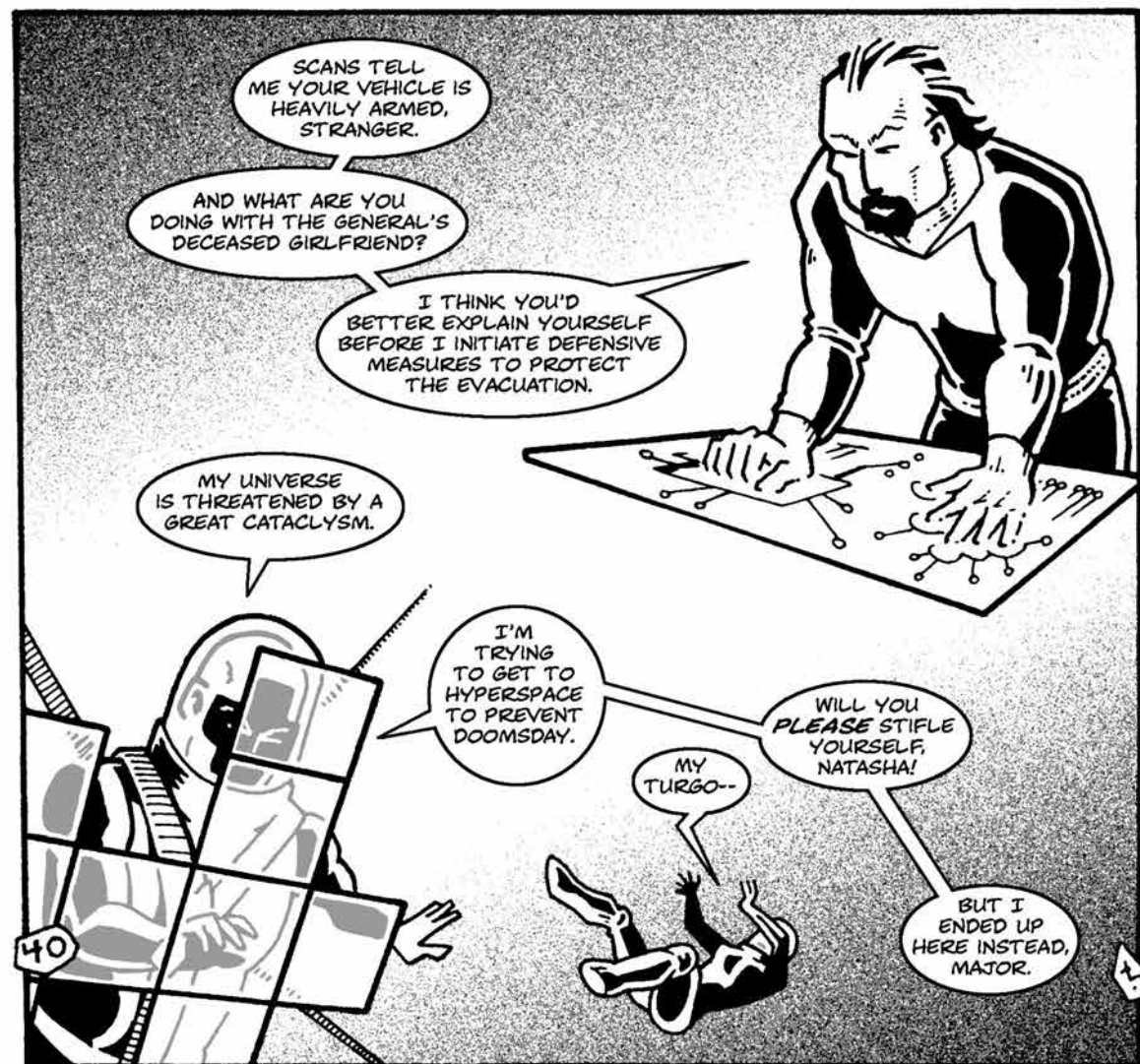
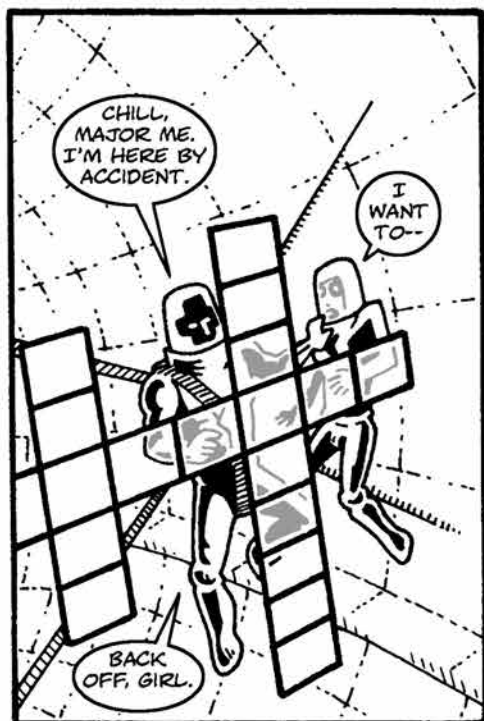




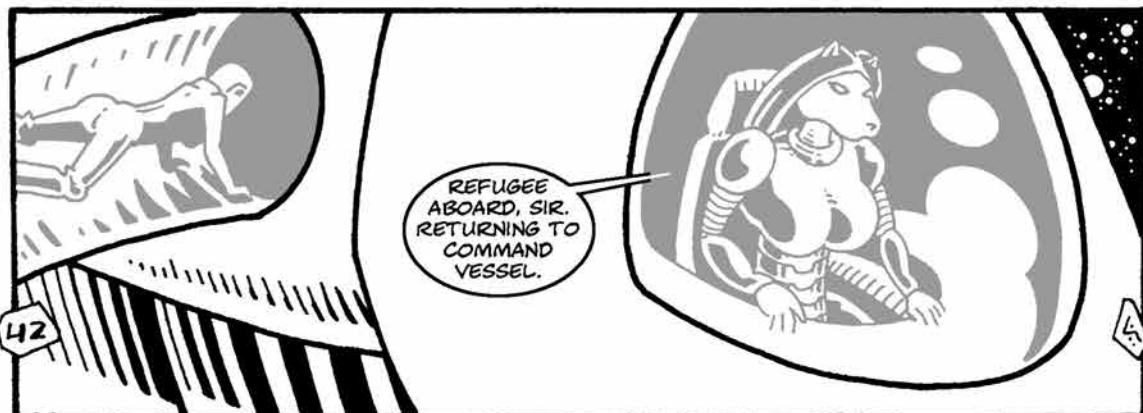
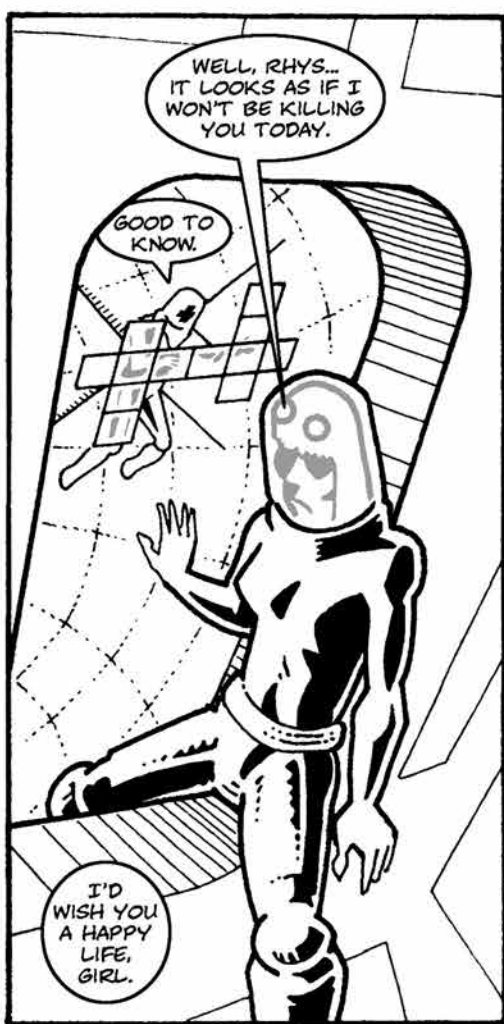


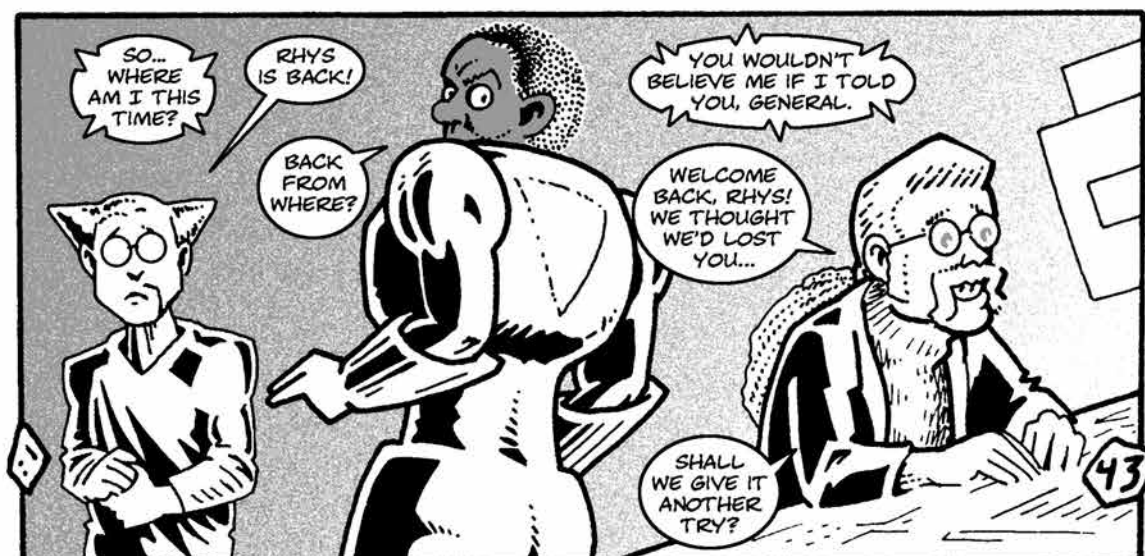
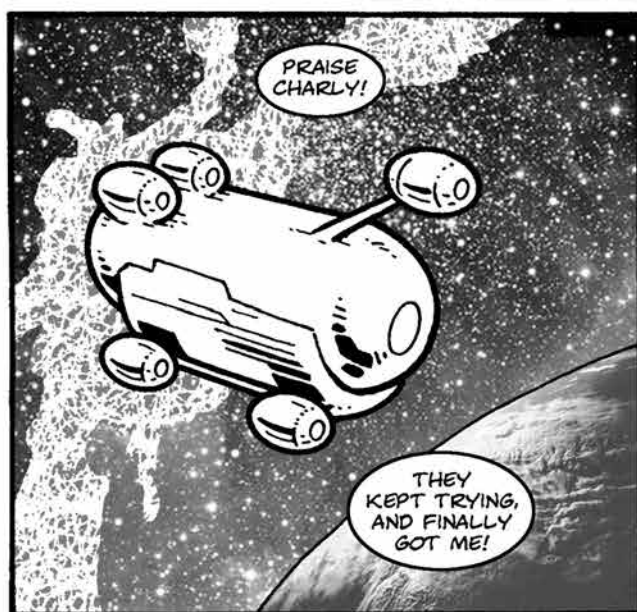
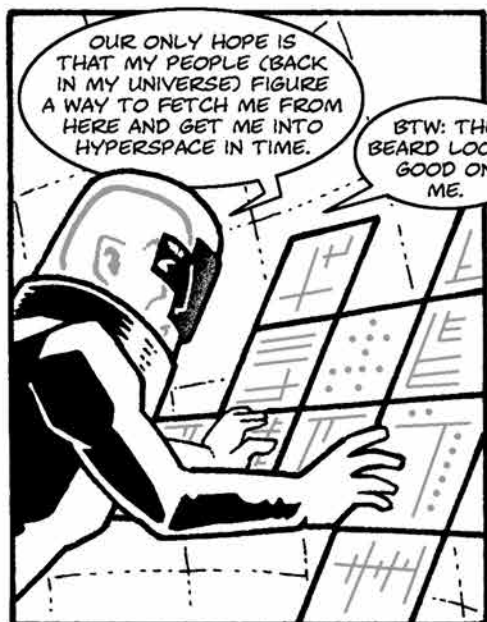


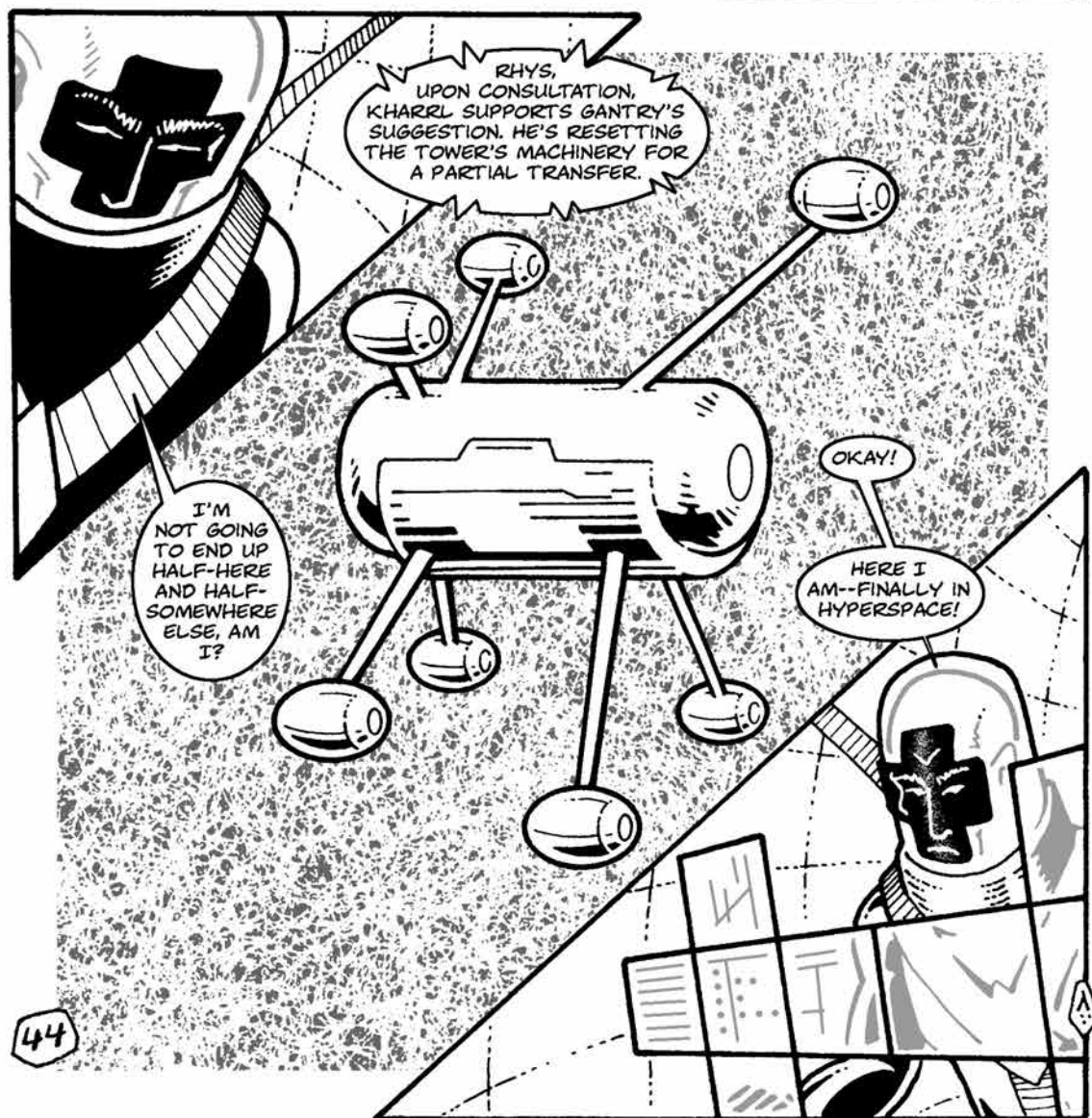


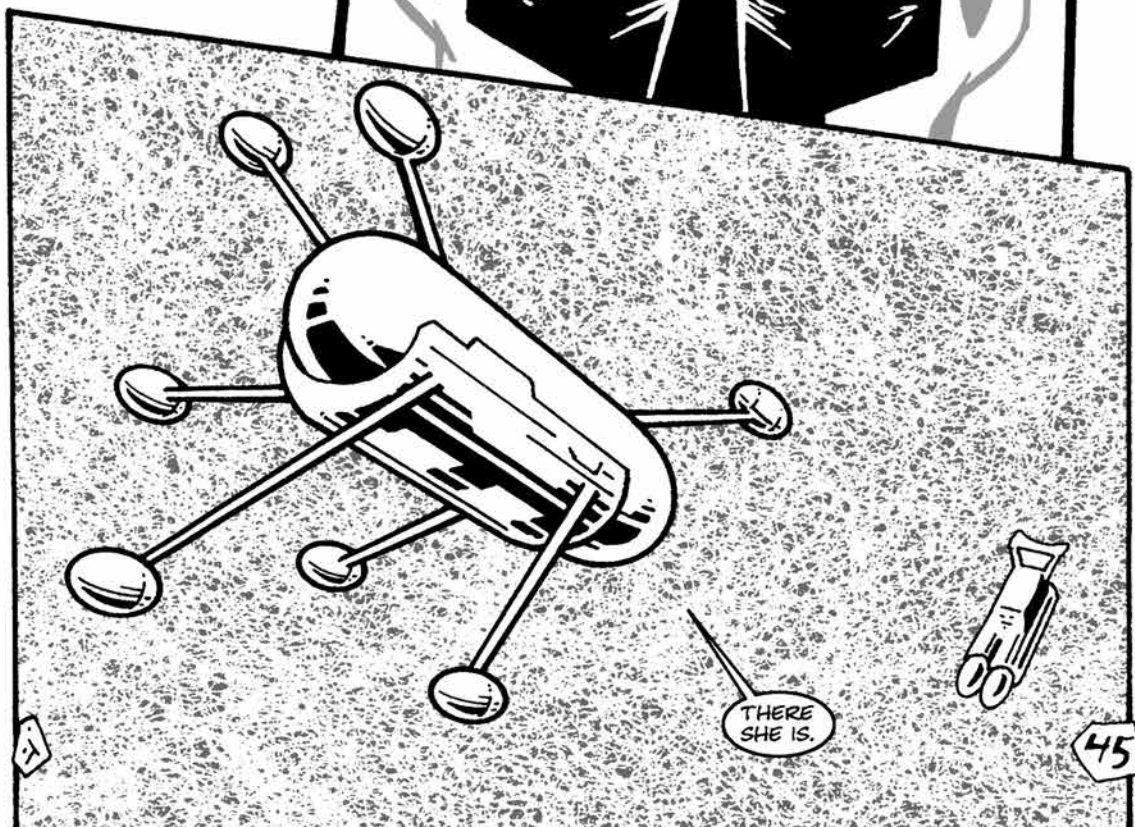
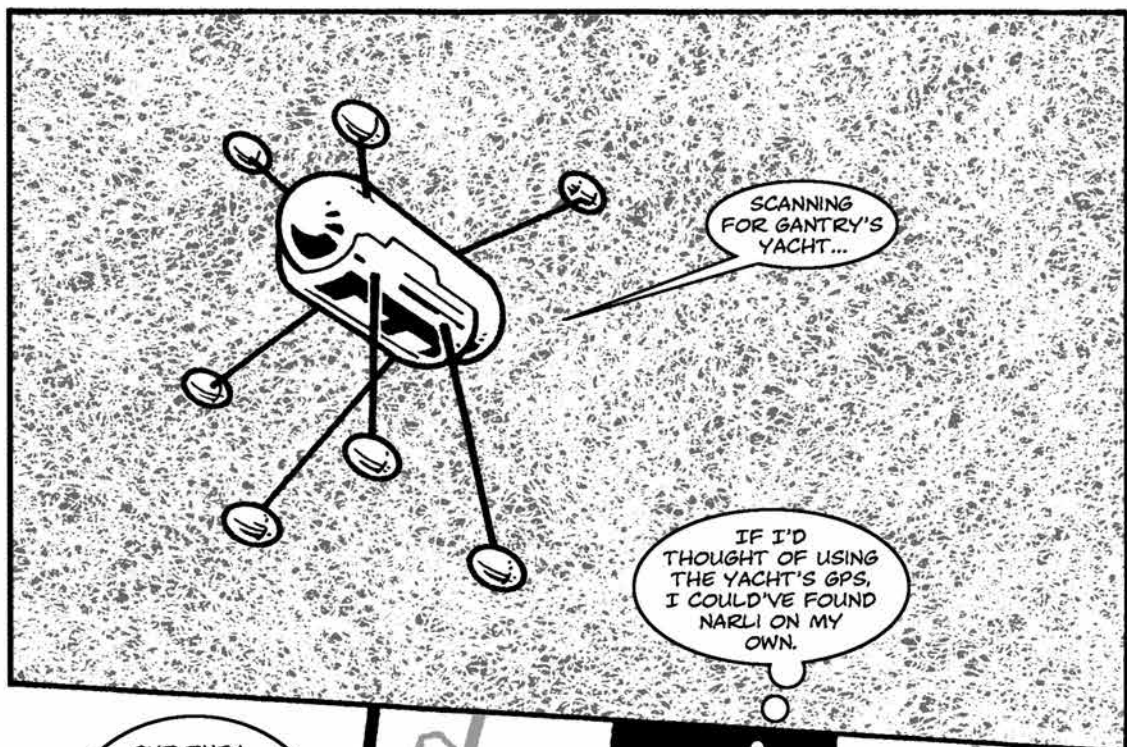


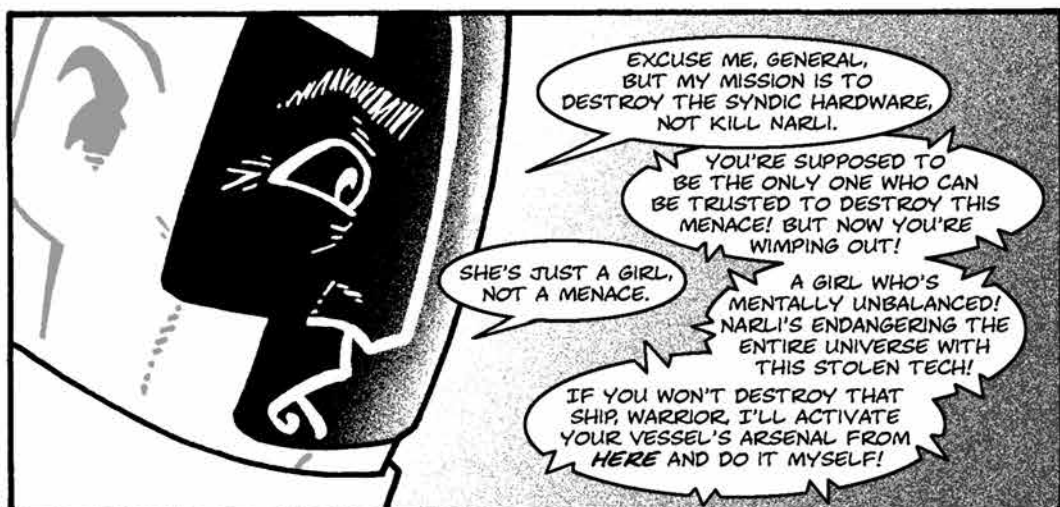
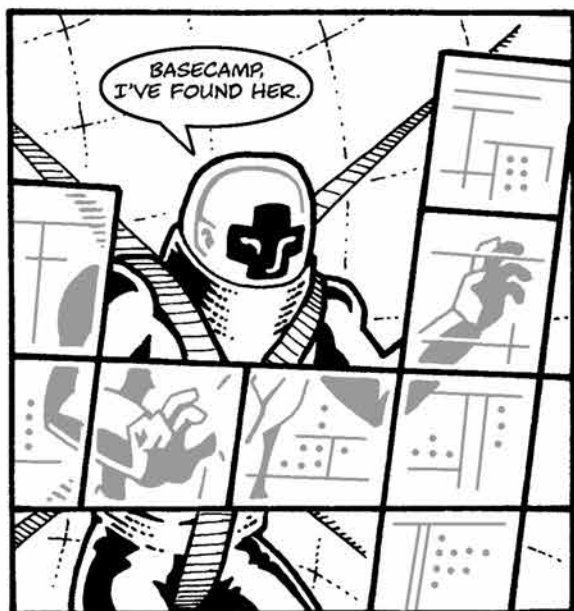














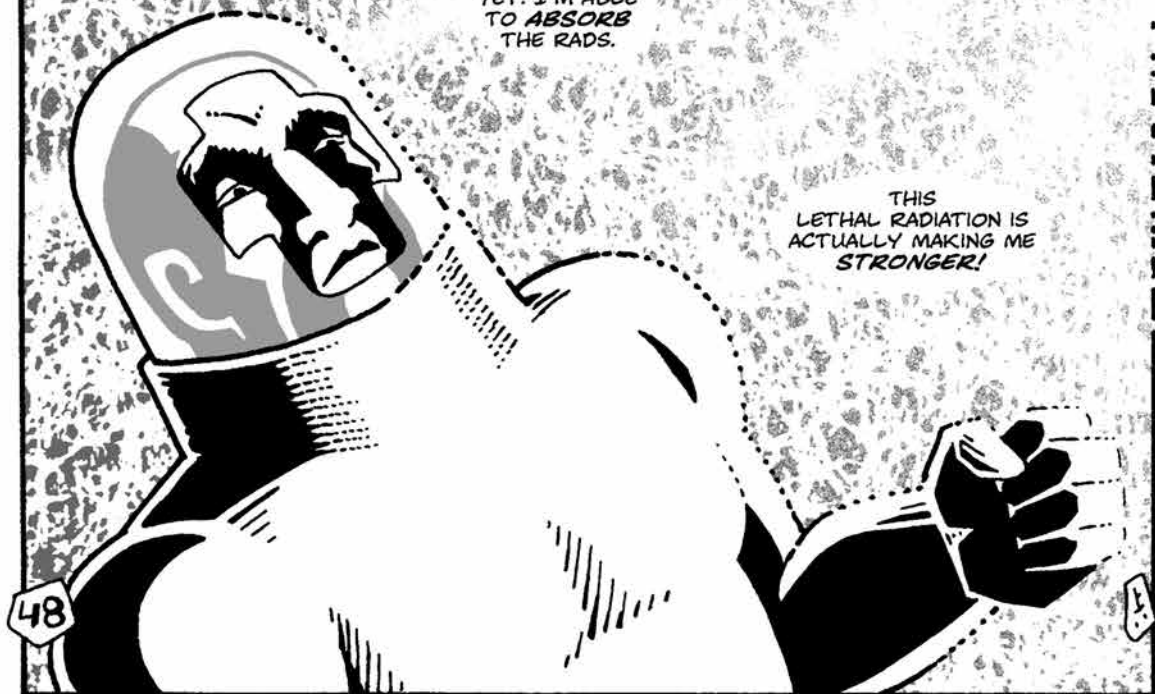
THESE
ENERGY READINGS
ARE OFF THE
SCALE!

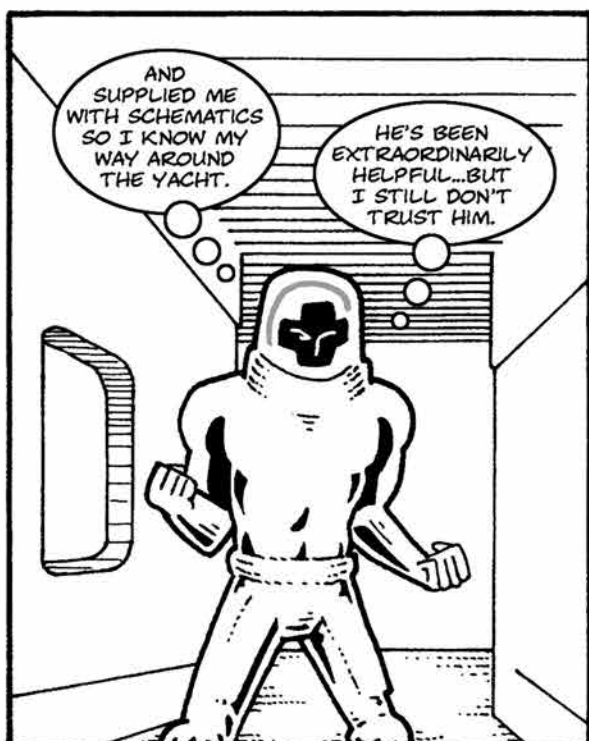


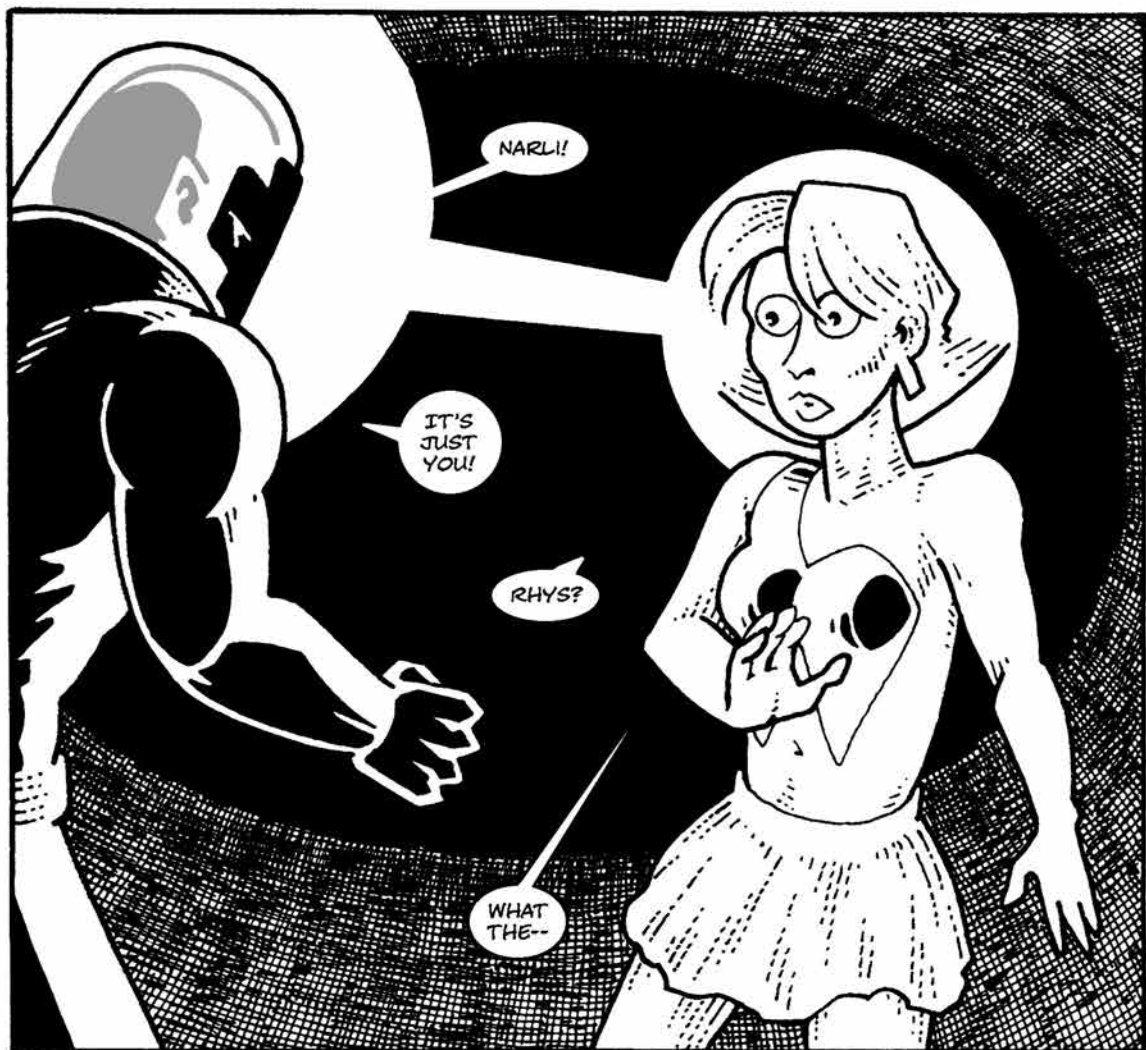
IF KARLOFF
HADN'T TWEAKED
MY GENES TO MAKE
ME RAD-RESISTANT,
THESE EMISSIONS
WOULD FRY ME.

BETTER
YET: I'M ABLE
TO ABSORB
THE RADS.

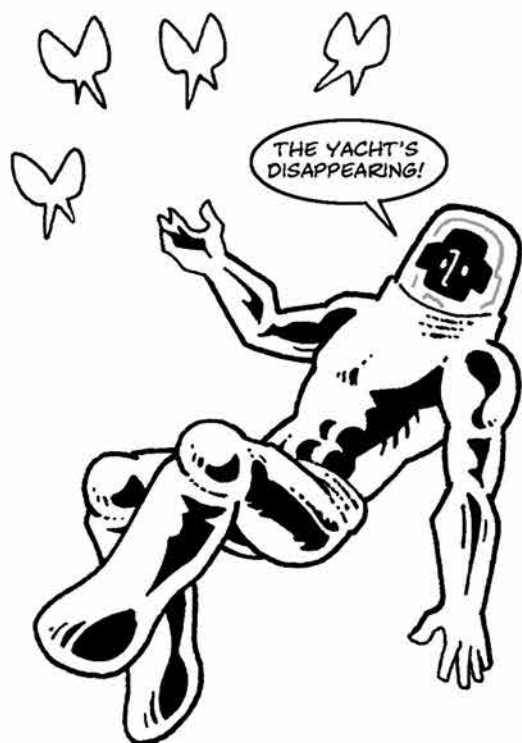
THIS
LETHAL RADIATION IS
ACTUALLY MAKING ME
STRONGER!

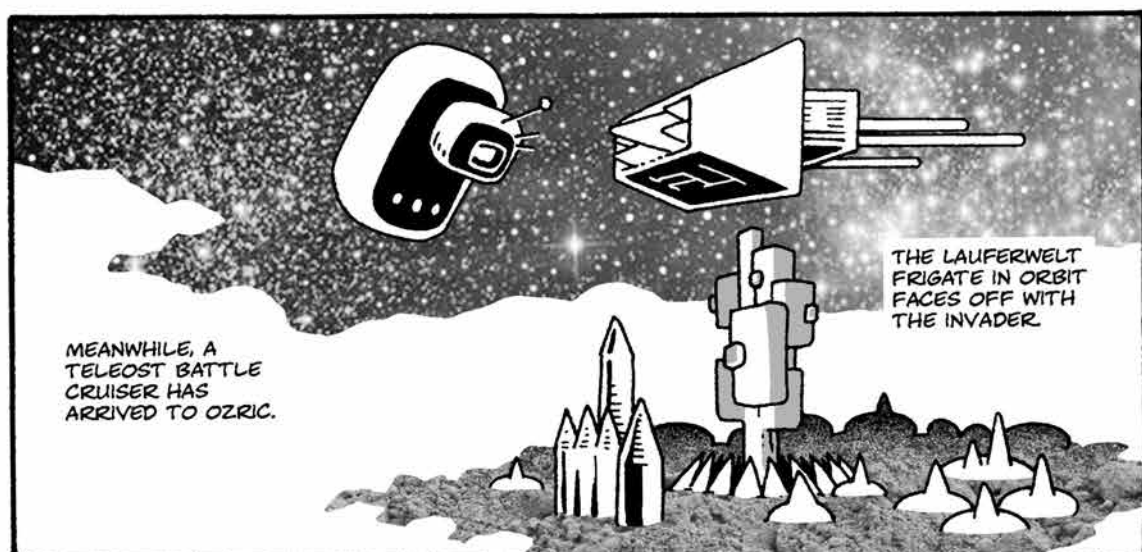












MEANWHILE, A
TELEOST BATTLE
CRUISER HAS
ARRIVED TO OZRIC.

THE LAUFERWELT
FRIGATE IN ORBIT
FACES OFF WITH
THE INVADER.



WE KNOW
RHYS IS HERE. WE
TRACKED HIM TO
THIS WORLD.

HAND
HIM OVER,
GENERAL
SMYTE!



COMMANDER
LOREN, THE COALITION
THAT EXISTS BETWEEN
LAUFERWELT AND THE
TELEOST DOES NOT GIVE
YOU ANY AUTHORITY
OVER LAUFERWELT
AFFAIRS.

DETANT.

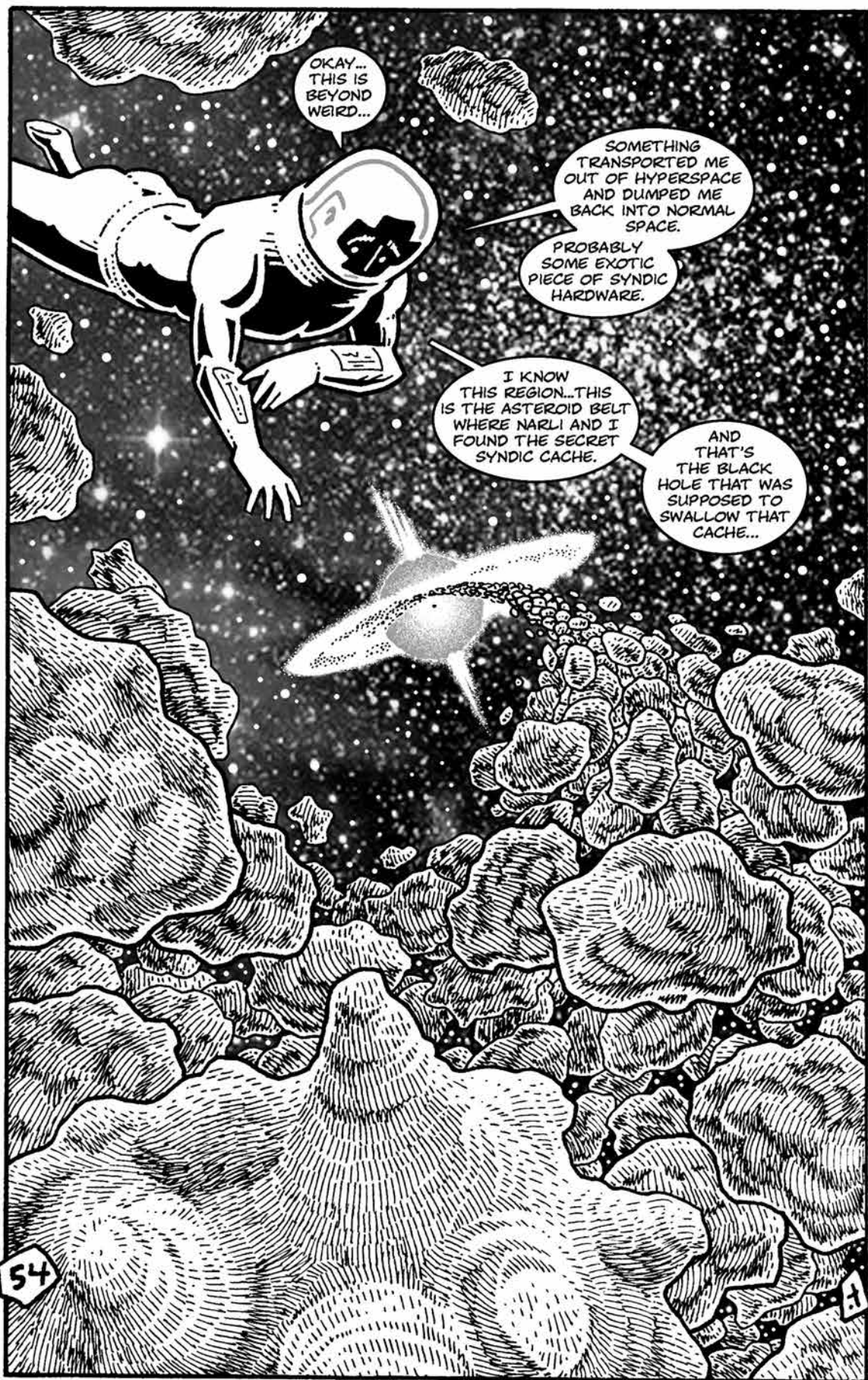


THAT
WON'T HOLD
THEM FOR LONG.

FORTUNATELY,
RHYS ISN'T HERE
...SO THEY CAN'T
TAKE HIM.

IF THEY
DISTURB THE
TOWER, THOUGH,
WE MIGHT LOSE
HIM.

THE
TELEOST
THINK THEY CAN
FORCE RHYS TO
GIVE THEM
THE SYNDIC
TECH.



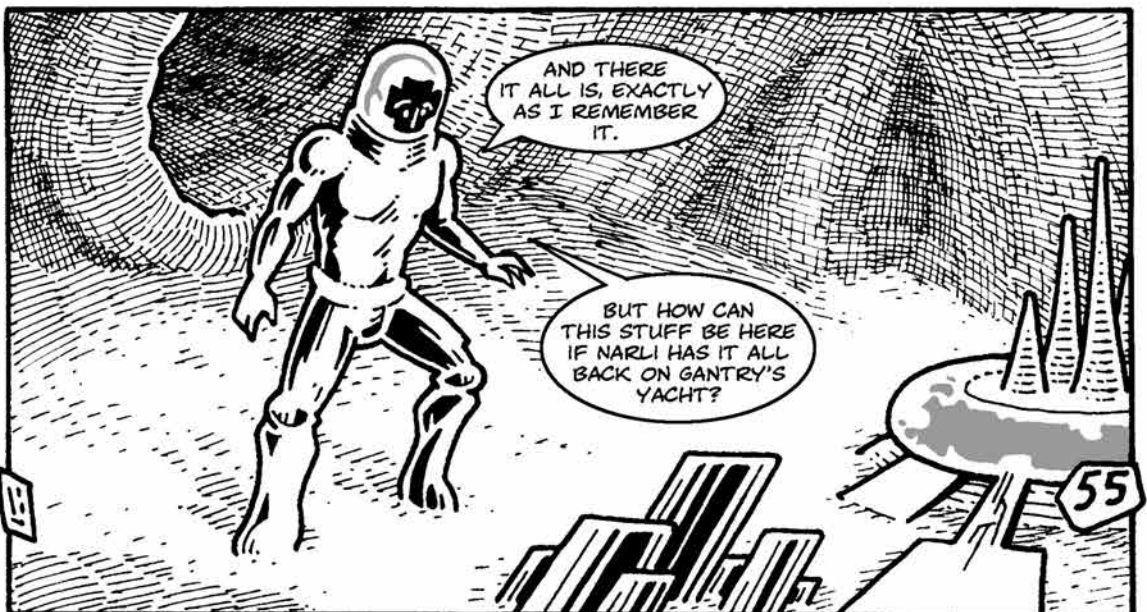
OKAY...
THIS IS
BEYOND
WEIRD...

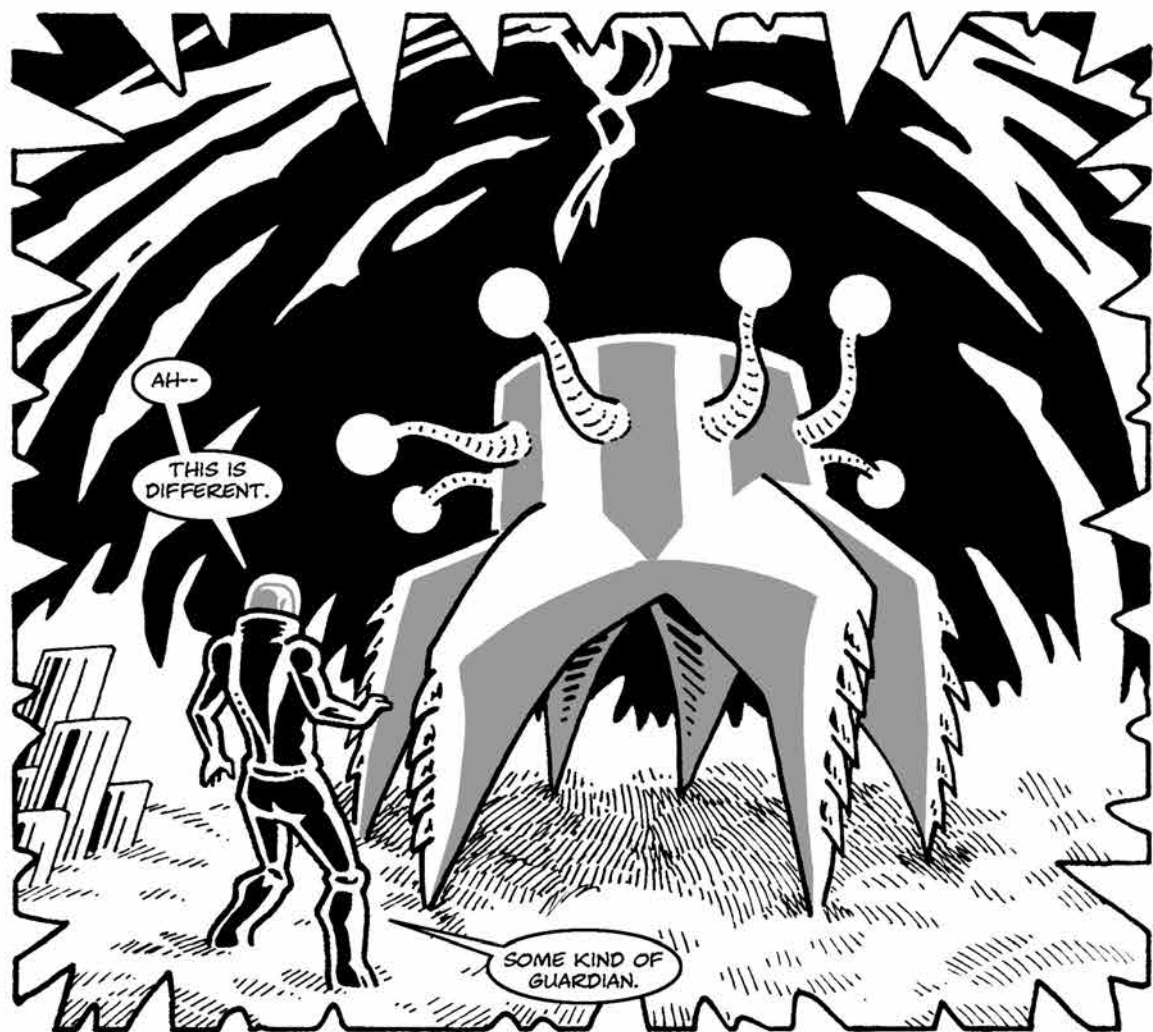
SOMETHING
TRANSPORTED ME
OUT OF HYPERSPACE
AND DUMPED ME
BACK INTO NORMAL
SPACE.

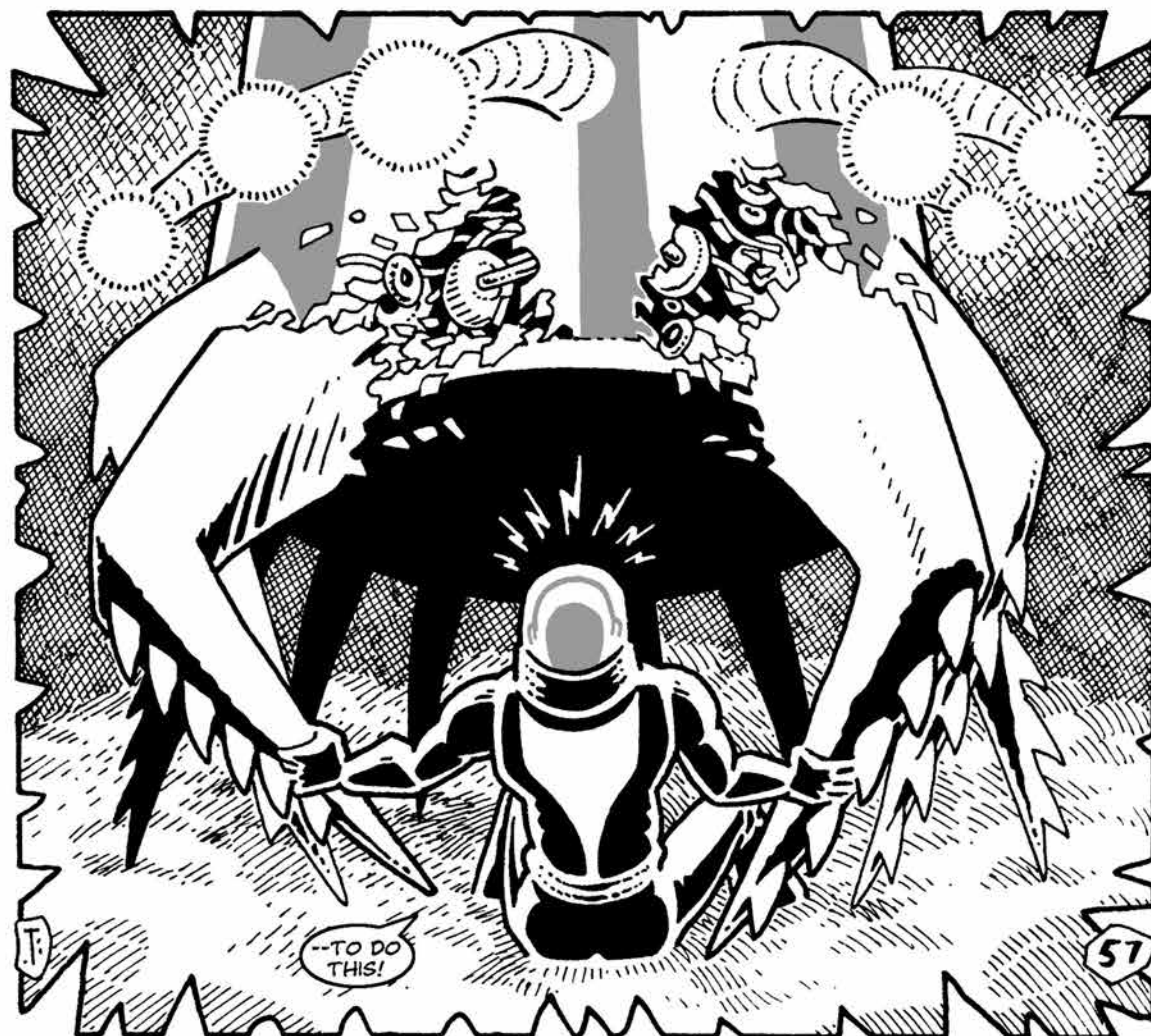
PROBABLY
SOME EXOTIC
PIECE OF SYNDIC
HARDWARE.

I KNOW
THIS REGION...THIS
IS THE ASTEROID BELT
WHERE NARLI AND I
FOUND THE SECRET
SYNDIC CACHE.

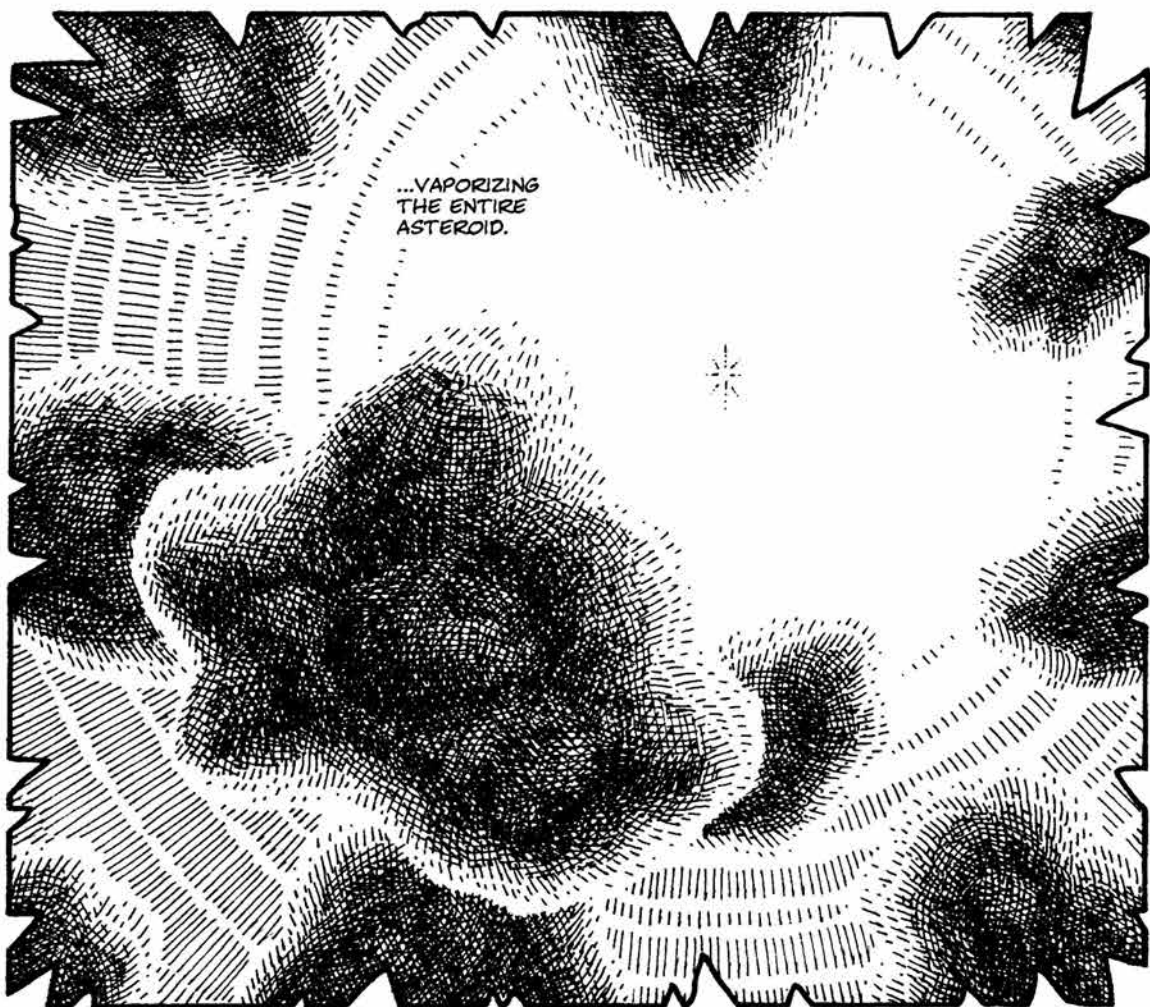
AND
THAT'S
THE BLACK
HOLE THAT WAS
SUPPOSED TO
SWALLOW THAT
CACHE...











...VAPORIZING
THE ENTIRE
ASTEROID.



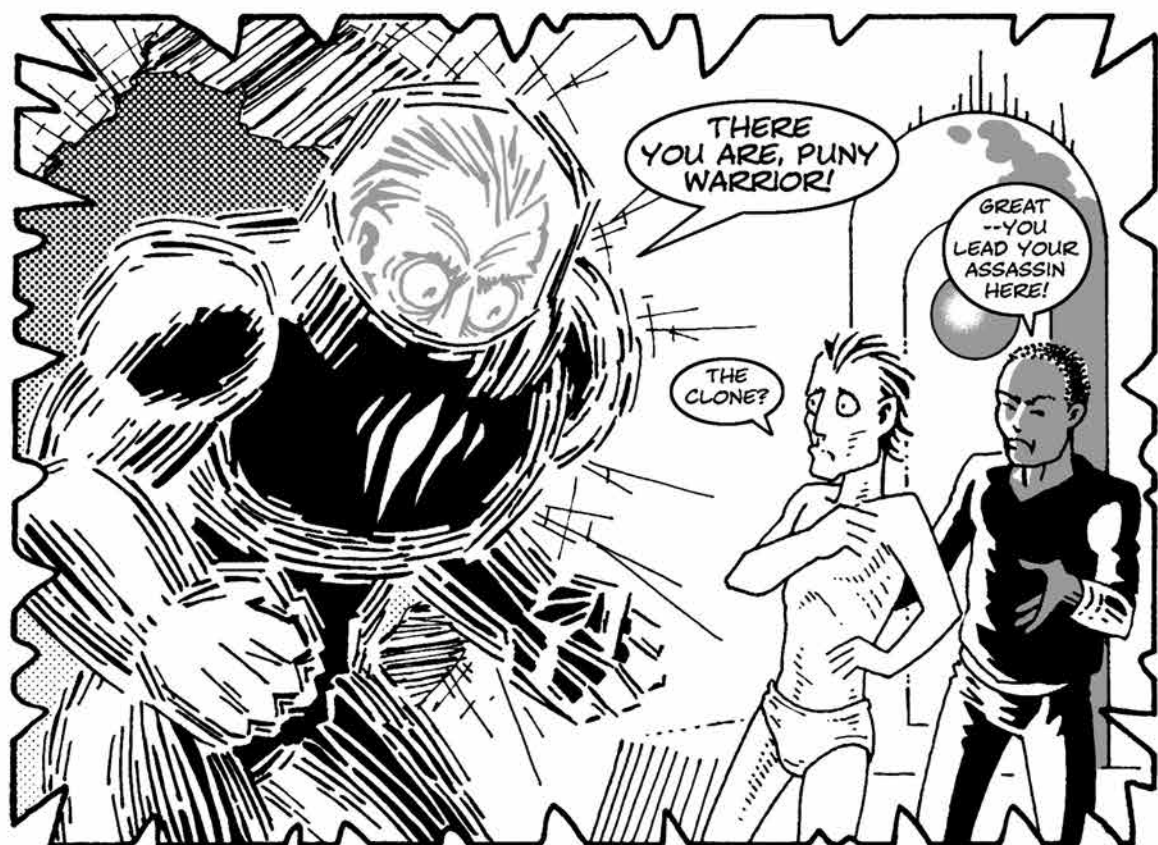
AND
RHYS
TOO.

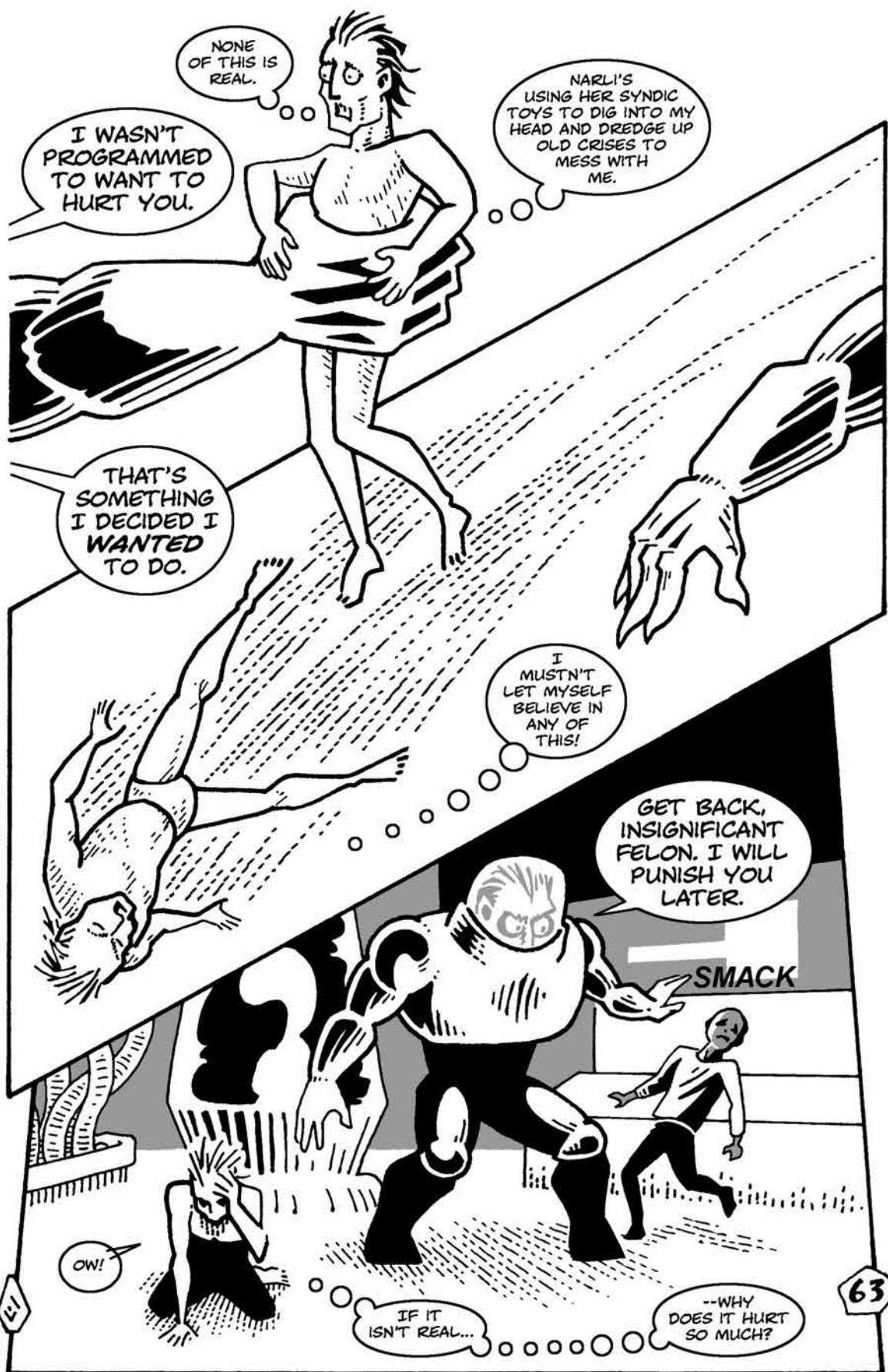


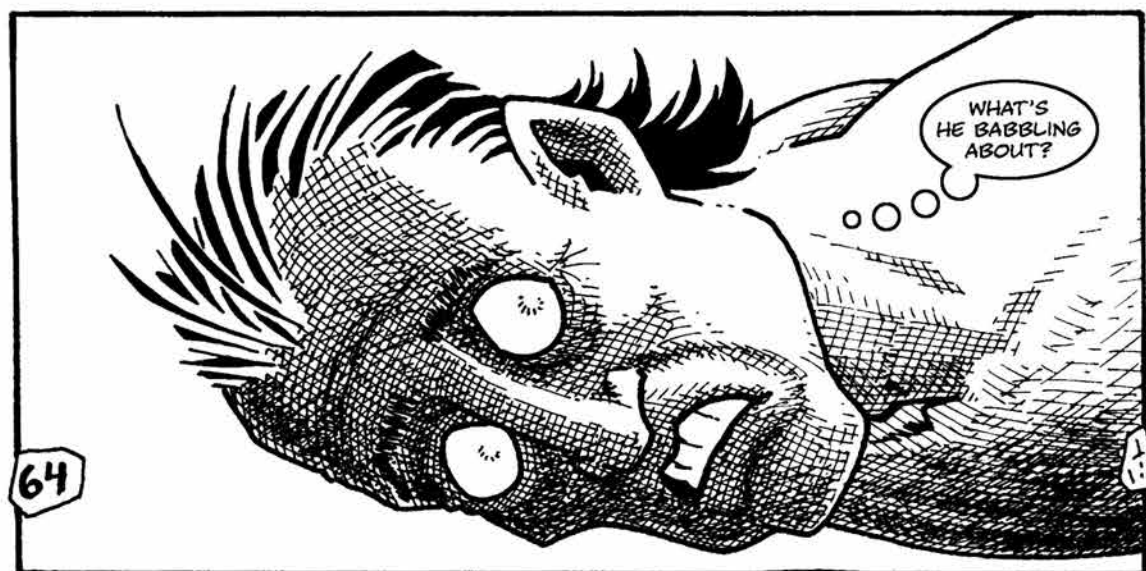
BUT THEN HIS
DISSOLUTION
SEEMS TO
REVERSE
ITSELF.















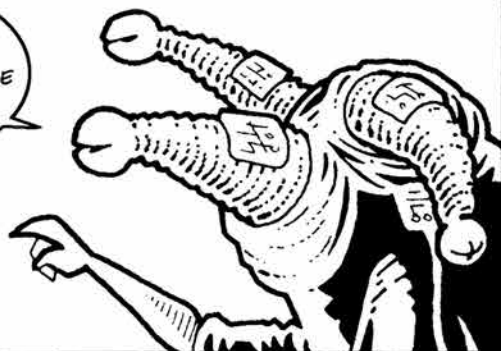


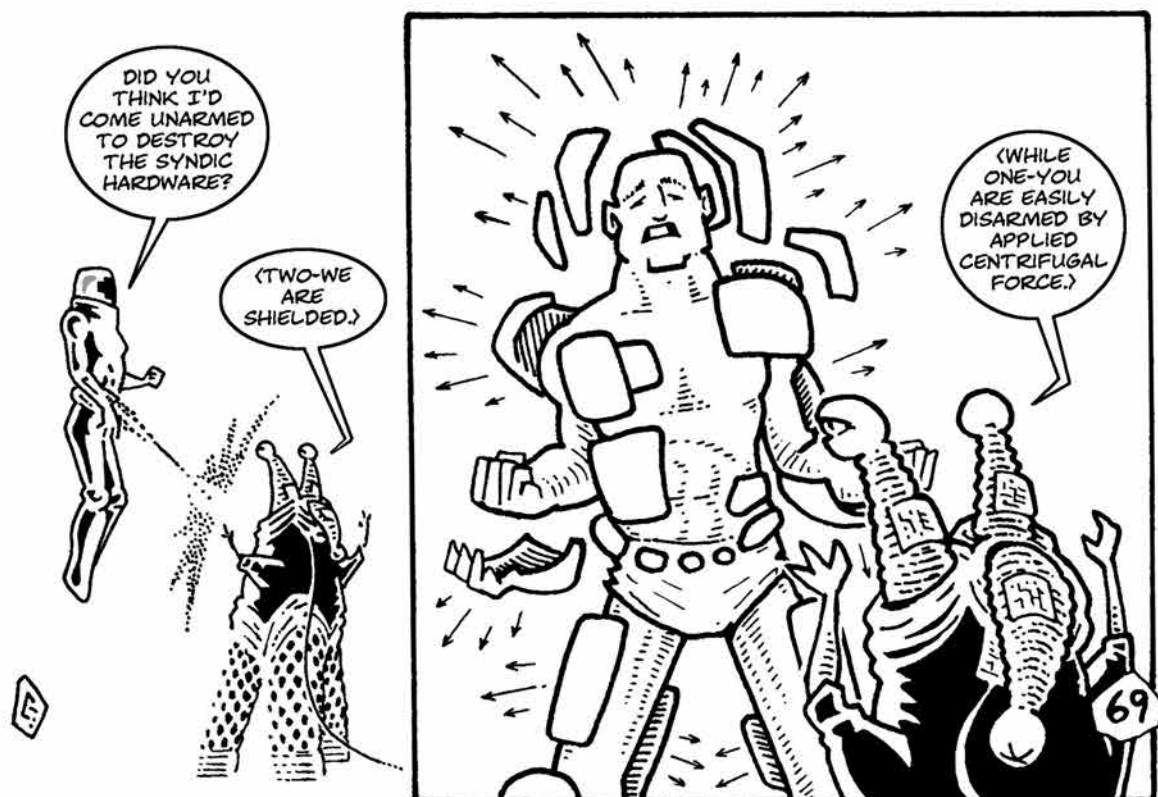
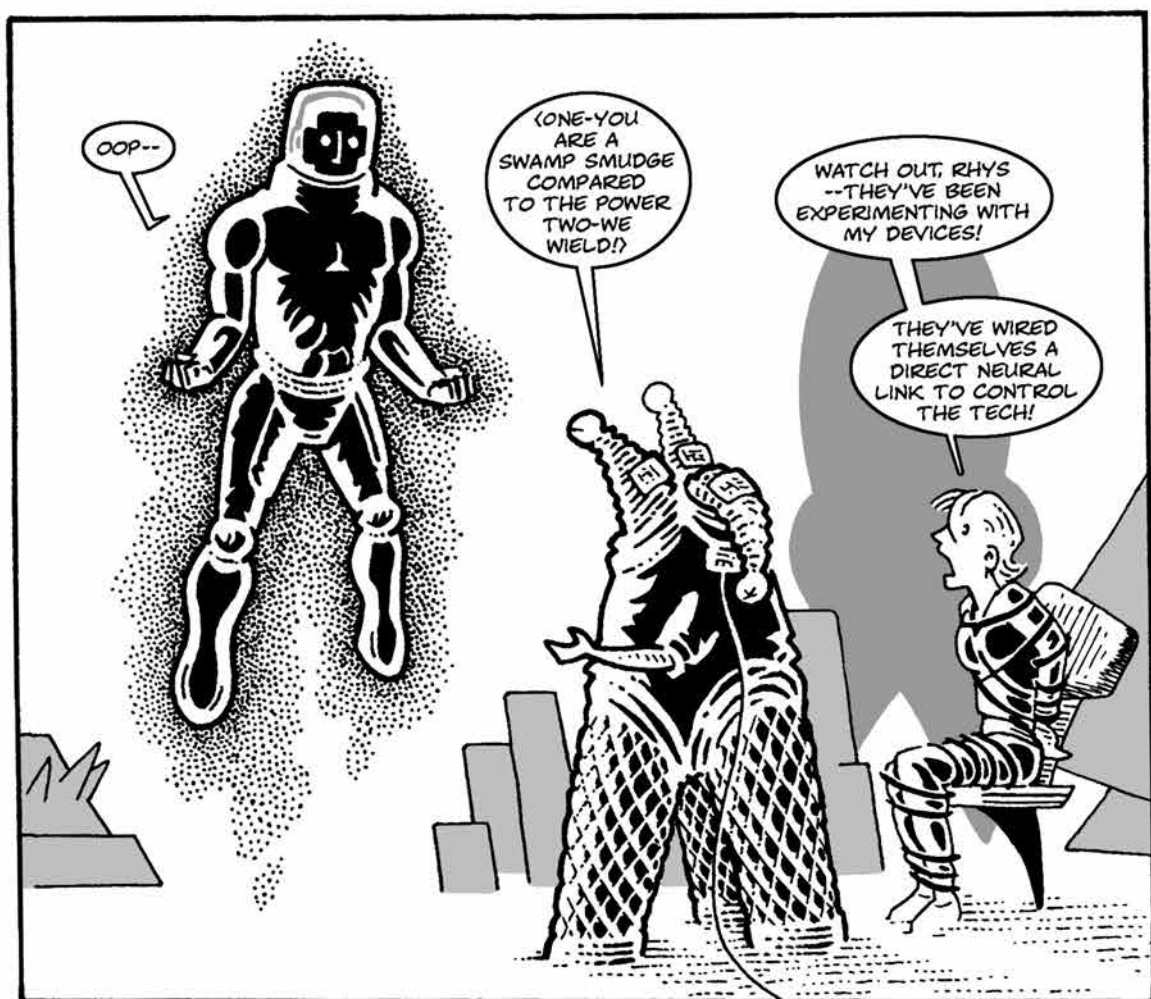


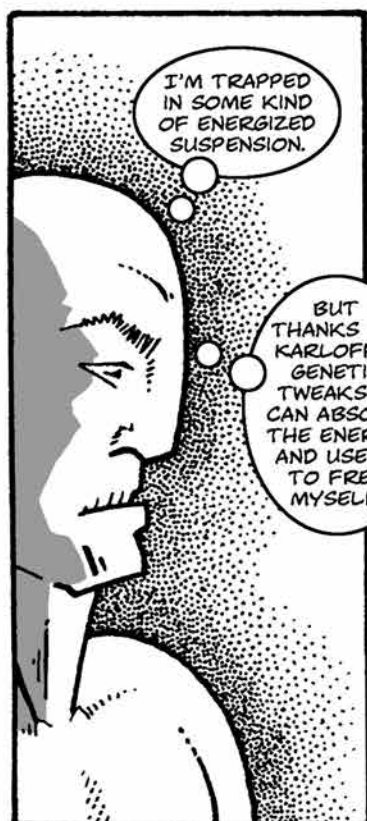
I'M AFRAID IT'S MY DESTINY TO UPSET YOUR SELF-ORDAINED POWER-TRIP.

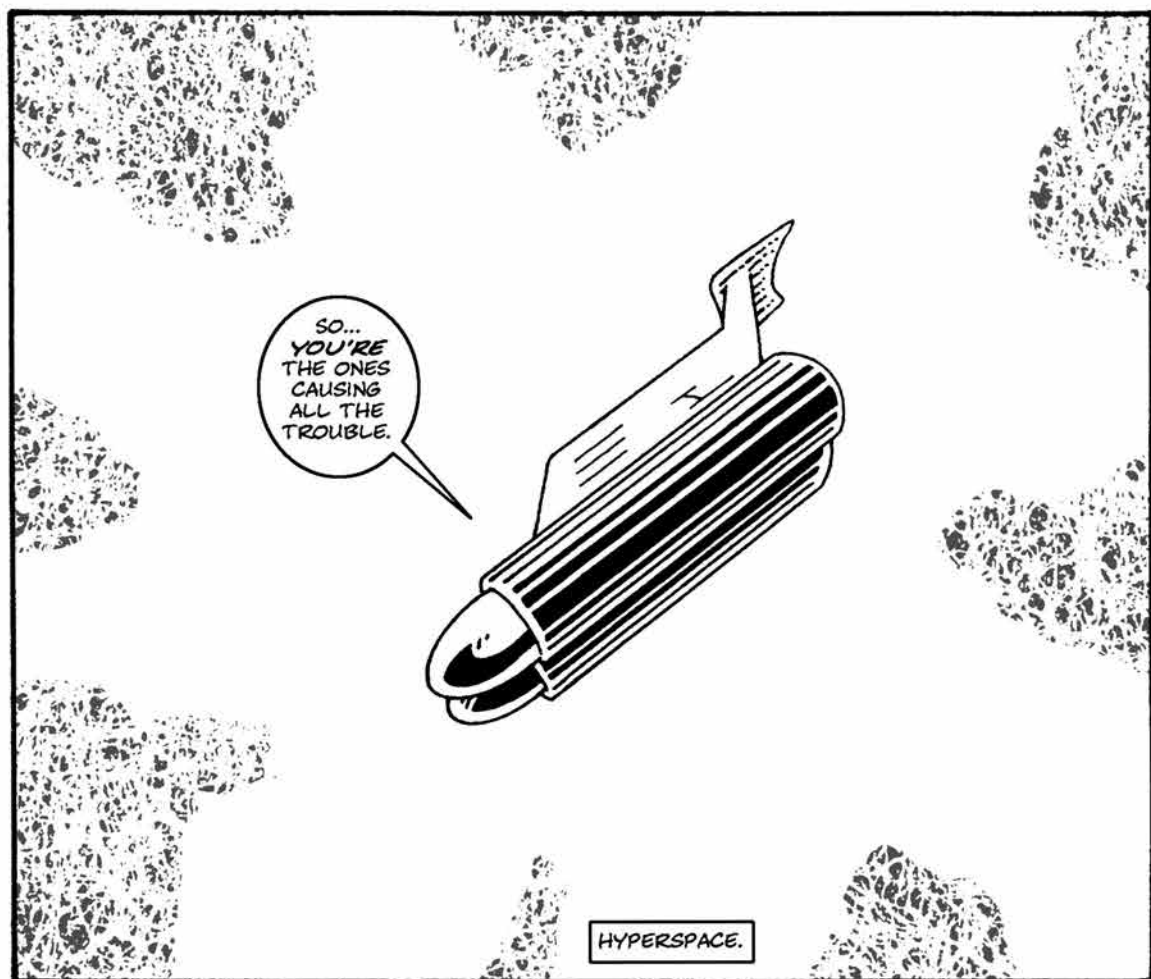
ONE-YOU GAINED NO ADVANTAGE BY KNOCKING OUT ONE OF THREE-OUR BRAIN-SELVES.

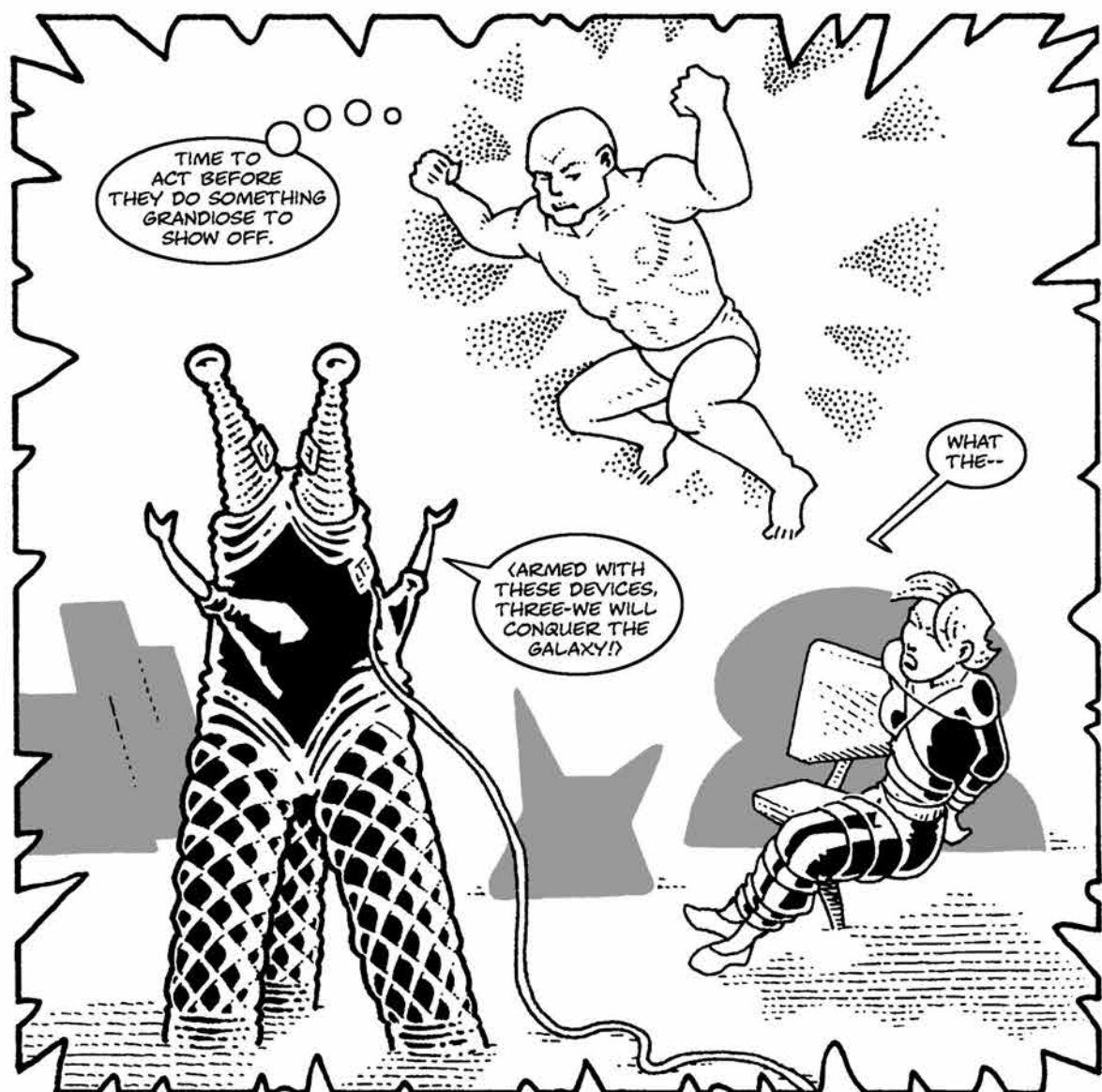
THREE-WE STILL HAVE TWO-SELVES LEFT!!

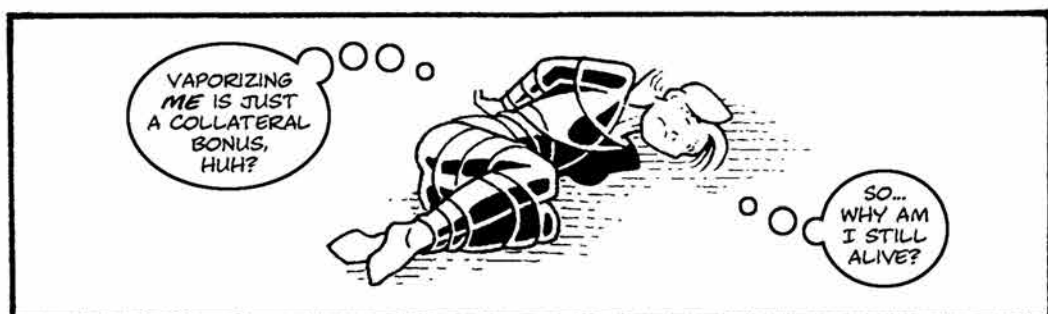












MEANWHILE, THE TRIOP'S FLAMBOYANT USE OF THE SYNDIC HARDWARE HAS INITIATED A CRITICAL BREAKDOWN OF THE BARRIERS SEPARATING NORMAL SPACE FROM HYPERSPACE.

(GRRR!)

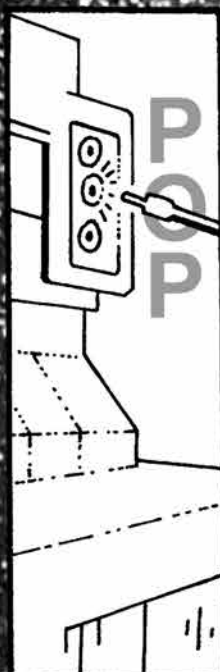


IS THAT THE BEST YOU HAVE?

(DIE, TWO-LEGS!)

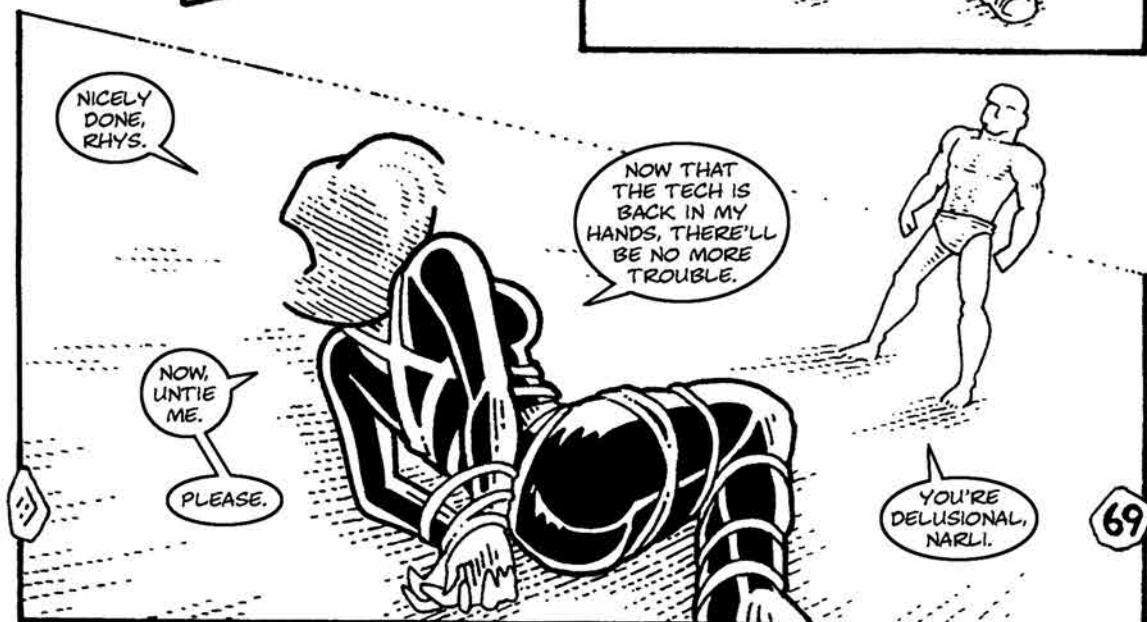
THE HYPER-RADS INTERFERE WITH STELLAR ANATOMIES...

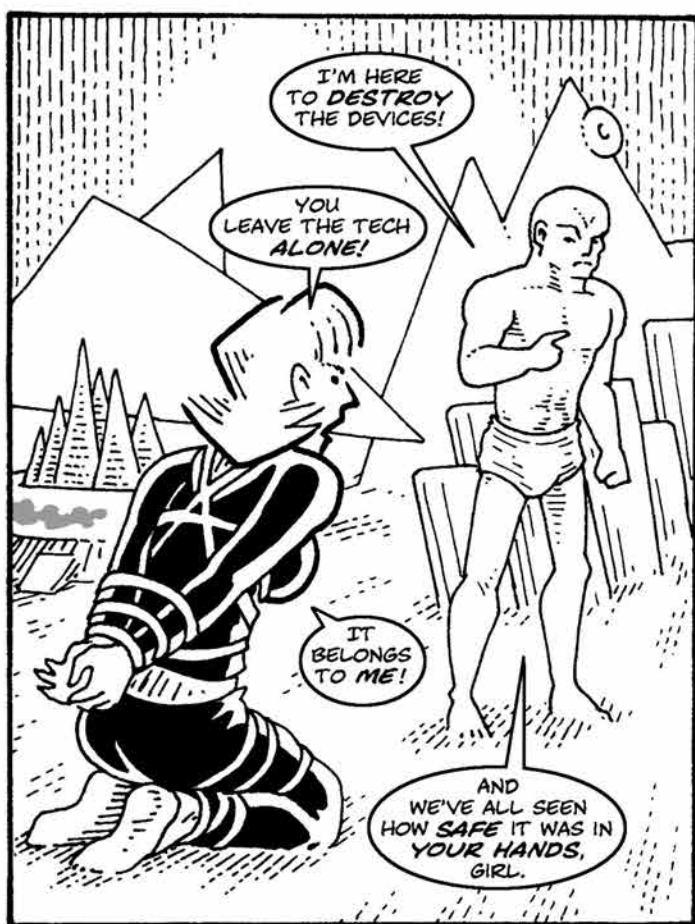
...TRIGGERING A WAVE OF DEADLY NOVAS.

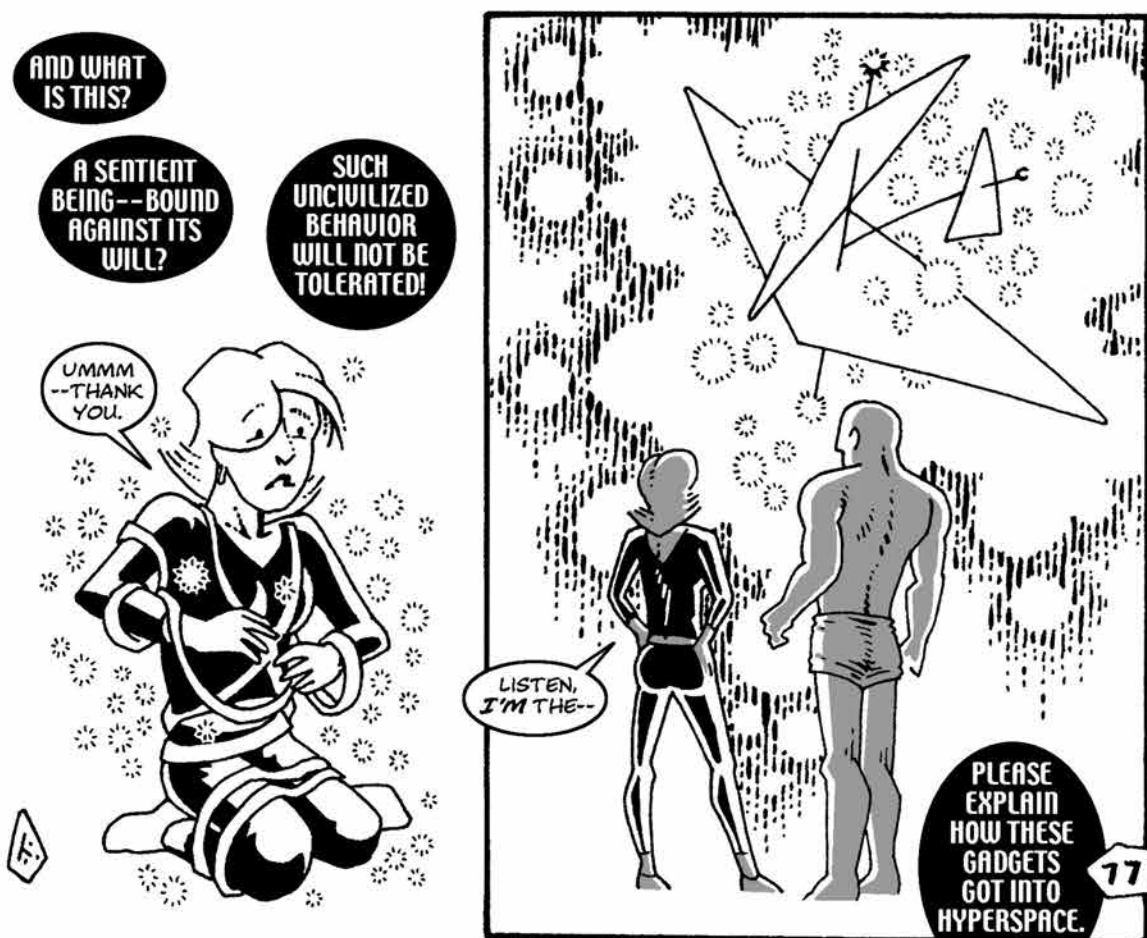
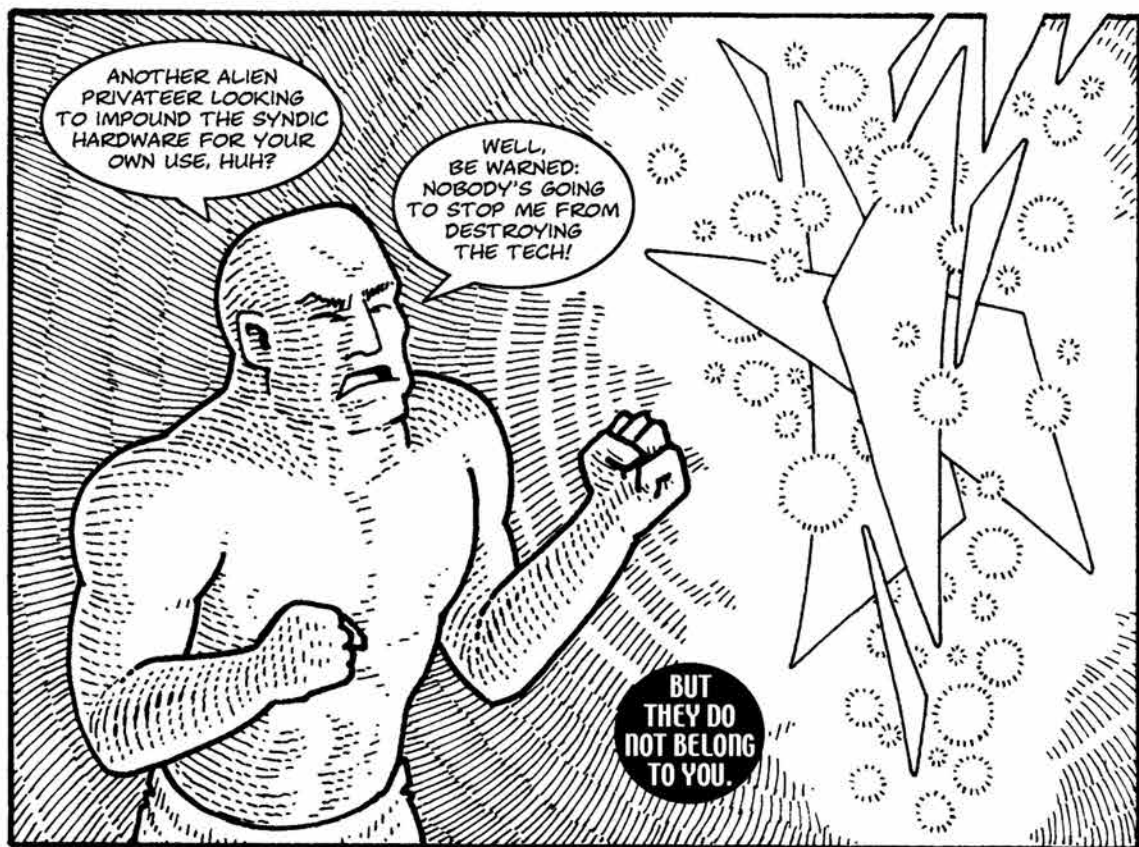


WHILE RHYS DISTRACTS THEM WITH HIS BOGUS BRAVADO, I'LL DO SOMETHING CONSTRUCTIVE.



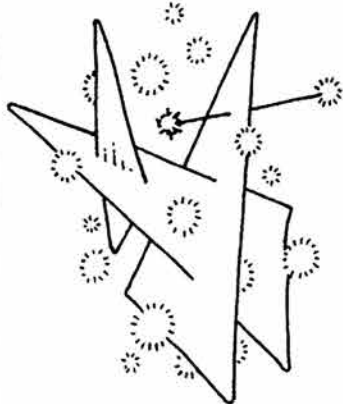






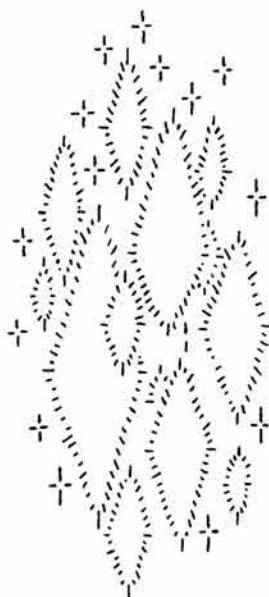


PLEASE NOTE: SINCE THESE NEW ALIENS
MIGHT BE INTERDIMENSIONAL BEINGS
(A CLASSIFICATION THAT IS PRESENTLY
UNCONFIRMED), THEY MANIFEST
DIFFERENTLY TO EACH PERSON.



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RHYS SEES
GEOMETRIC CHAOS.



NARLI SEES
BIG SPARKLES.



AND IF THE TRIOP
WAS CONSCIOUS,
THEY WOULD SEE
TRIANGULAR SHAPES
(BECAUSE THEIR
OUTLOOK CONVERTS
EVERYTHING INTO
THREES).

79



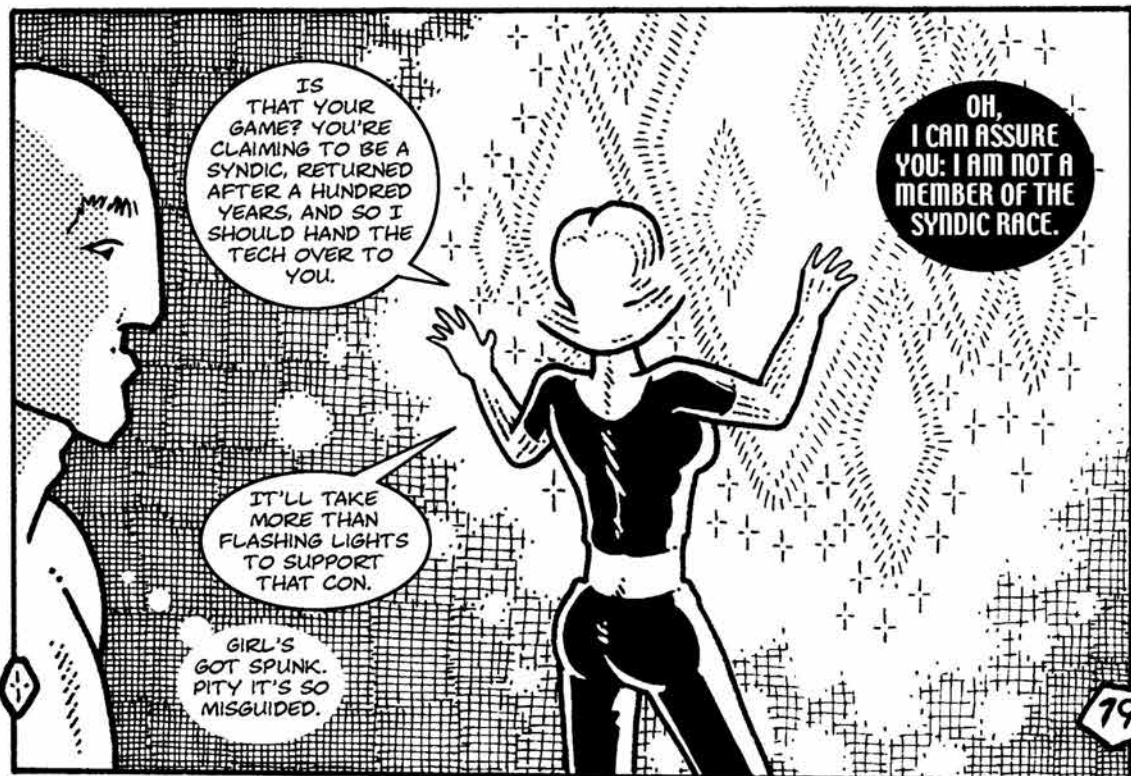
DON'T
CALL ME
A THIEF! I
DIDN'T STEAL
ANYTHING!

I FOUND
THIS CACHE
OF SYNDIC TECH
AND I CLAIM
SALVAGE
RIGHTS
TO IT!

BUT...YOU
ARE NOT
THE GADGETS'
OWNER.



ARE
YOU?



IS
THAT YOUR
GAME? YOU'RE
CLAIMING TO BE A
SYNDIC, RETURNED
AFTER A HUNDRED
YEARS, AND SO I
SHOULD HAND THE
TECH OVER TO
YOU.

IT'LL TAKE
MORE THAN
FLASHING LIGHTS
TO SUPPORT
THAT CON.

GIRL'S
GOT SPUNK.
PITY IT'S SO
MISGUIDED.

OH,
I CAN ASSURE
YOU: I AM NOT A
MEMBER OF THE
SYNDIC RACE.

I AM AN
ABSTRACT
CONSTRUCT
THE SYNDICS
LEFT BEHIND
TO MONITOR
QUANTUM
STABILITY.



AS A
LOWER LIFE-FORM,
PERHAPS YOU ARE
UNWARE THAT
OPERATING THESE
SYNDIC GADGETS
HERE IN HYPERSPACE
DISRUPTS THE
BOUNDARIES
SEPARATING
DIFFERENT
DIMENSIONS...

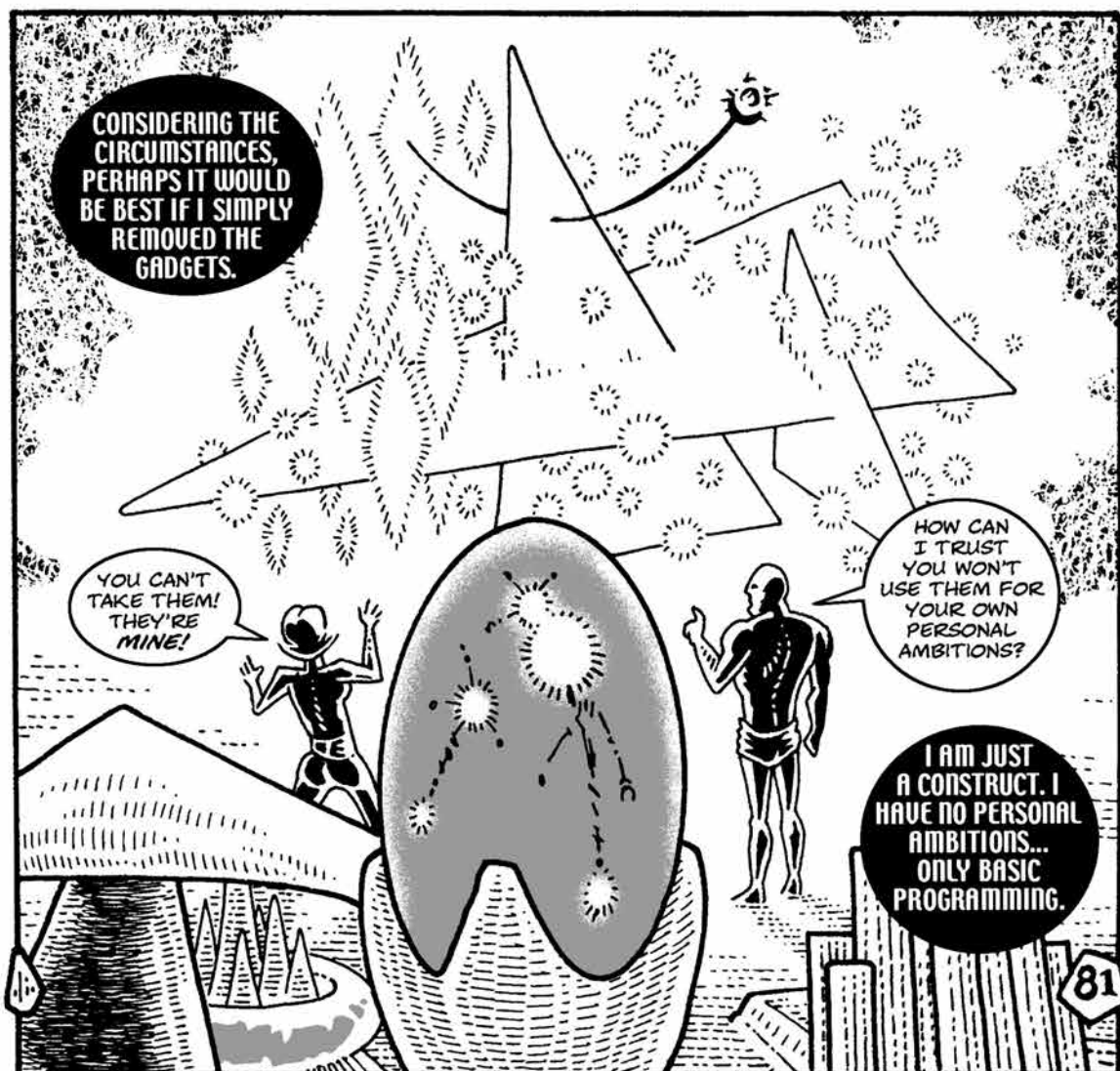
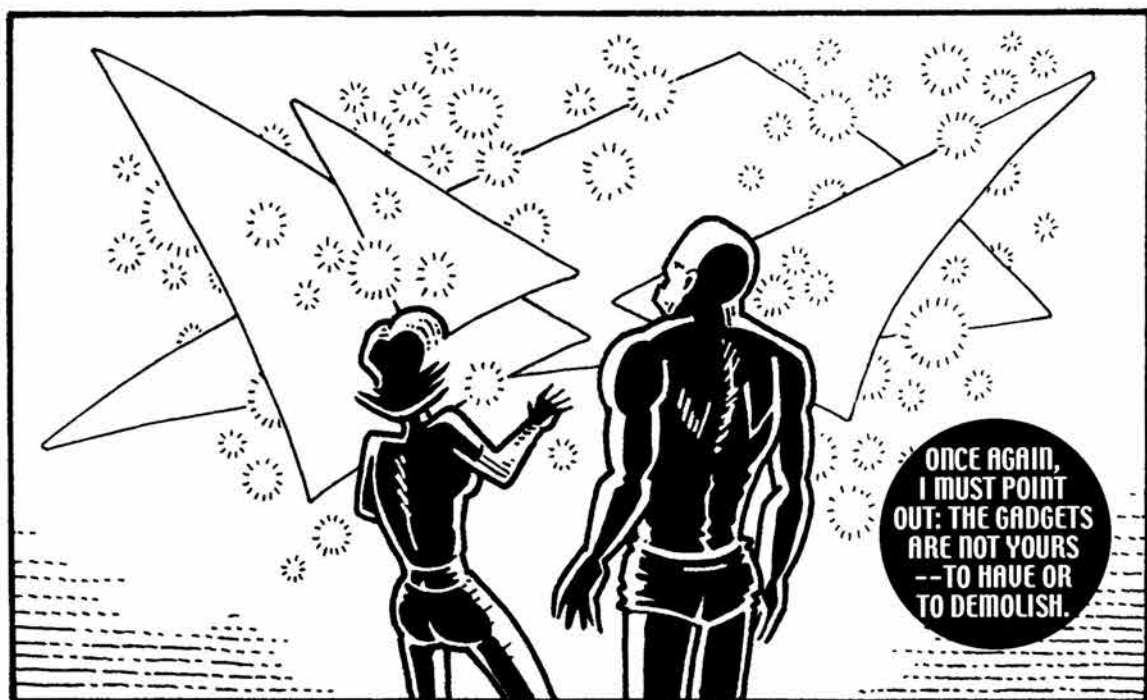
WITH
CATASTROPHIC
CONSEQUENCES.

SEE? I TOLD
YOU THAT WAS
HAPPENING!

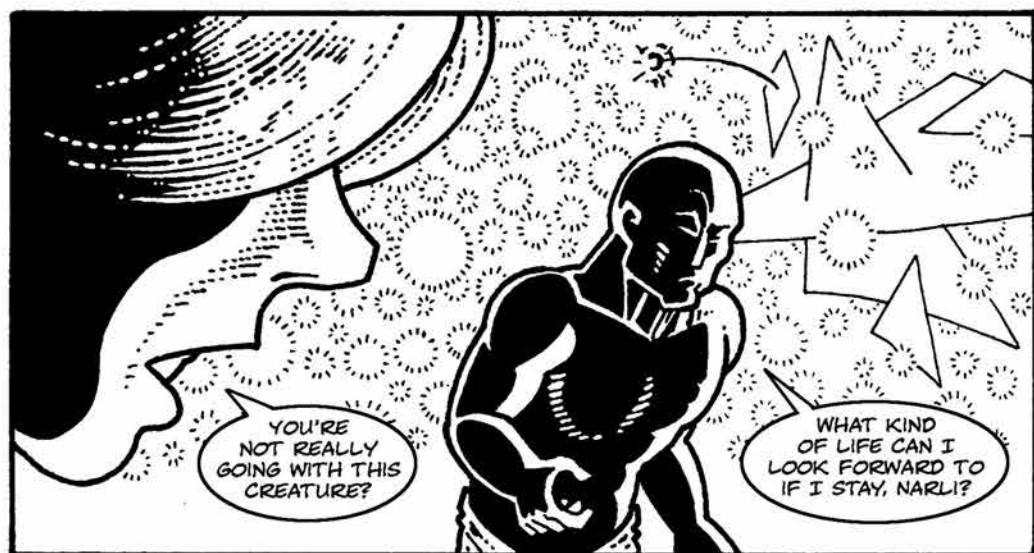
THAT'S
WHY I'VE GOT TO
DESTROY THE
TECH.

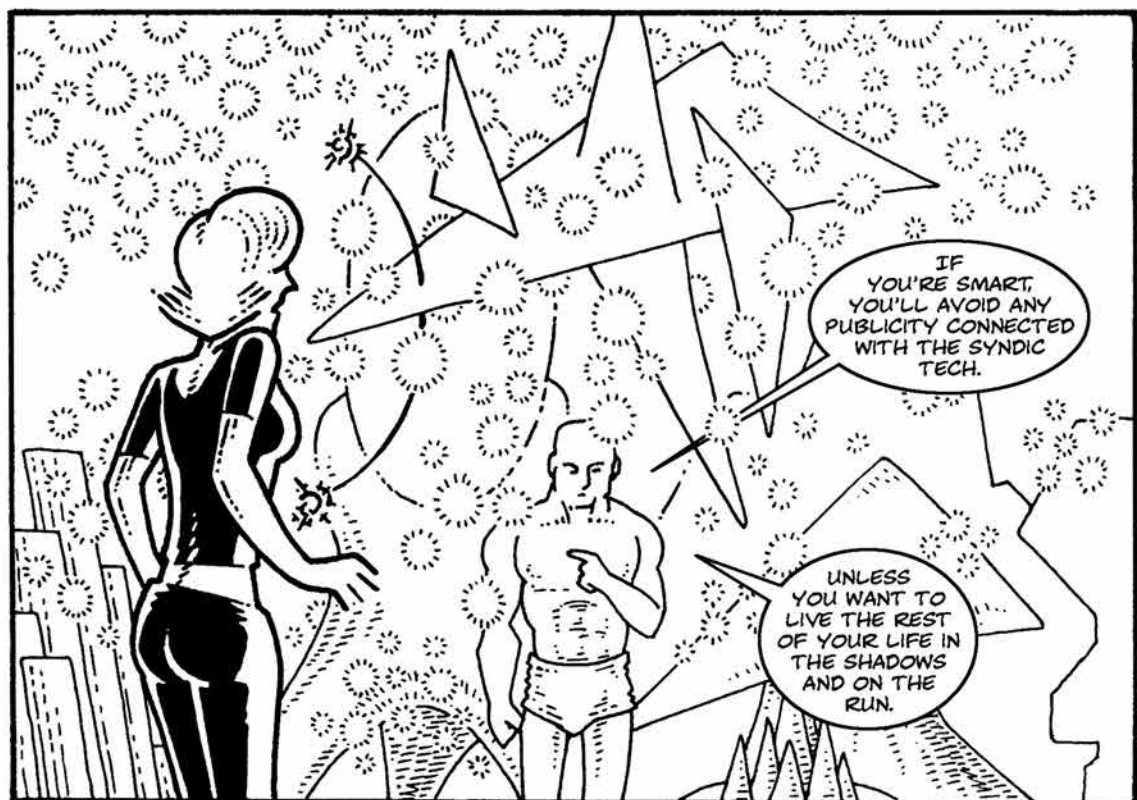
(FUME)

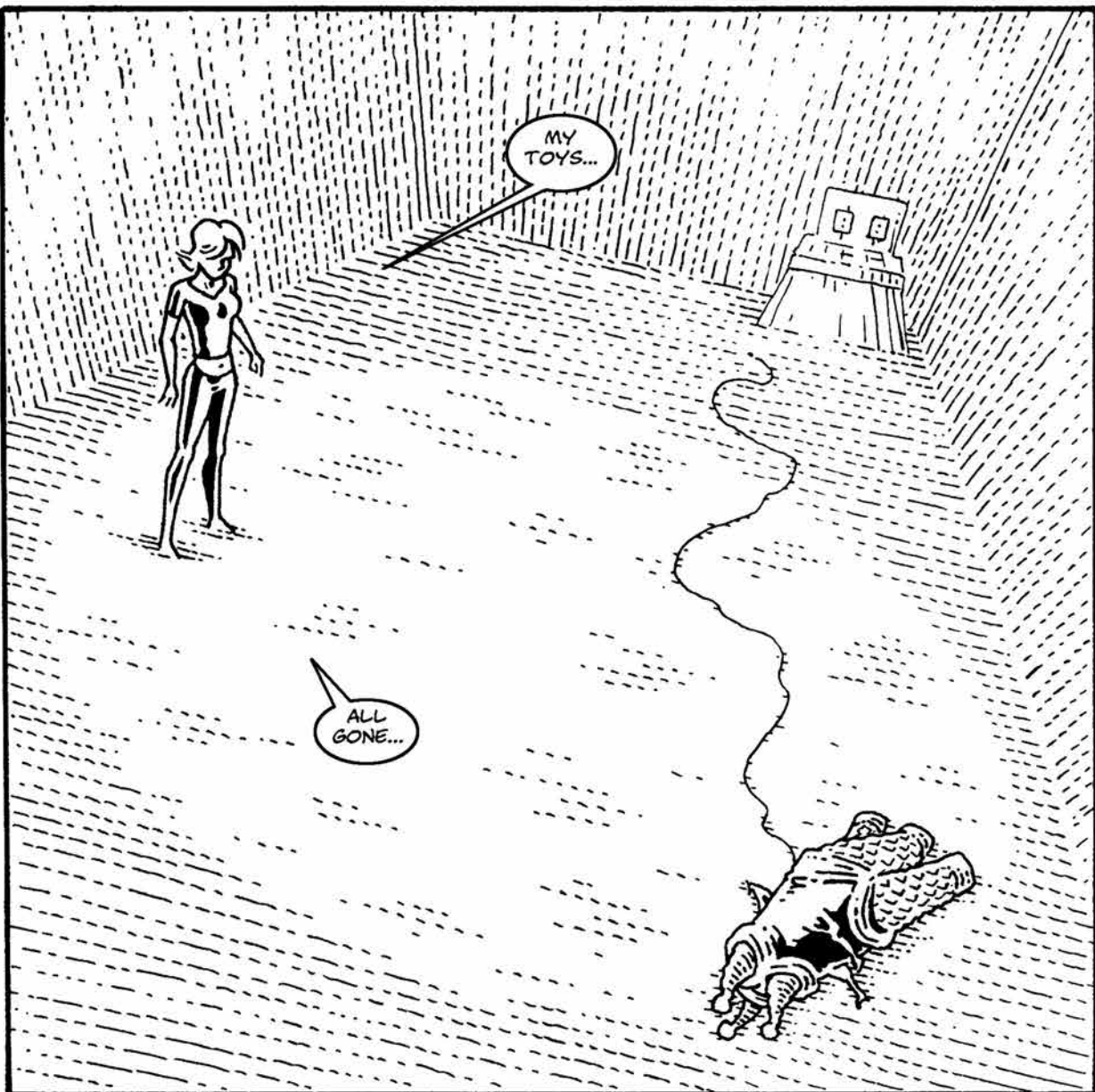


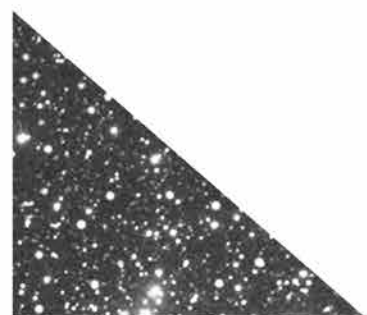




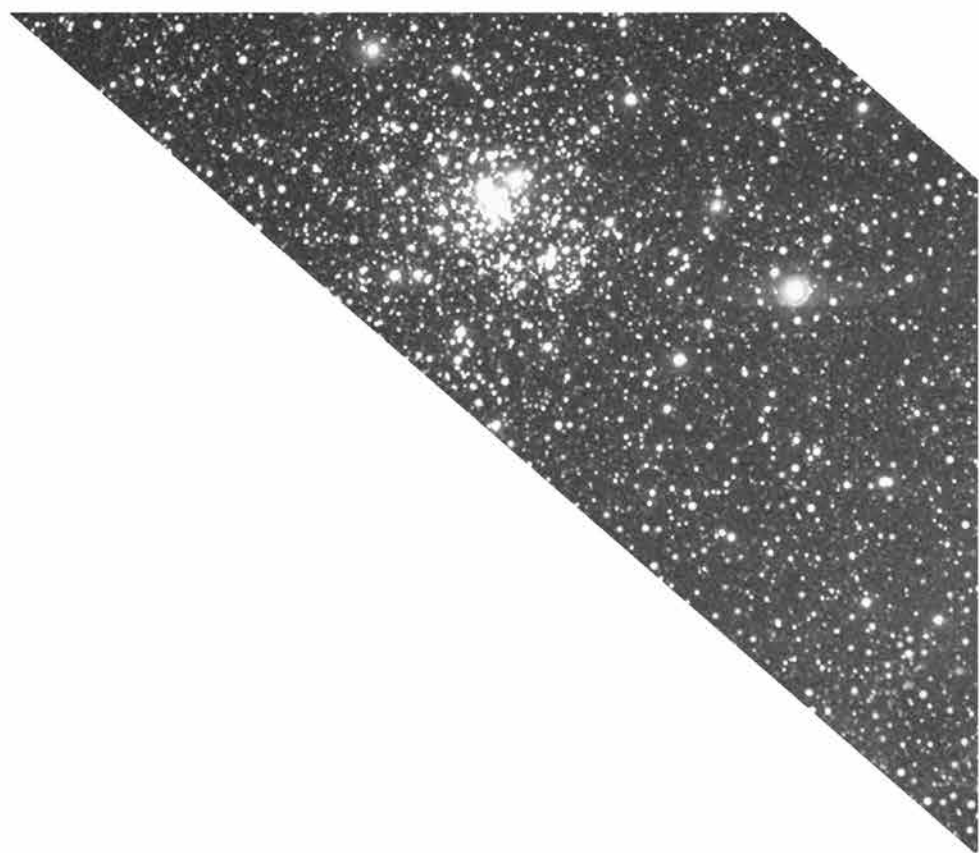








MYRIAD OUTCOMES



GENERAL SMYTE,
A DAY LATER...

THE SPONTANEOUS
NOVAS HAVE STOPPED.
CLEARLY, YOUR AGENTS HAVE
ACCESSED AND NEUTRALIZED
THE SYNDIC HARDWARE,
GENERAL SMYTE.

THE
COALITION
DEMANDS YOU
TURN THE TECH
OVER TO
US!

SINCERE
RELIEF
TO HEAR THAT
WHATEVER WAS
CAUSING THE
NOVAS HAS
CEASED,
COMMANDER
LOREN.

BUT AN INVESTIGATION
HAS DETERMINED THAT THERE
NEVER WAS ANY SYNDIC
TECHNOLOGY. THE ENTIRE
AFFAIR WAS A HOAX.

THIS CAN ONLY
MEAN THAT RHYS
SUCCEEDED IN DESTROYING
THE ROGUE AND THE
GIRL'S ARSENAL OF
SYNDIC TECH.

PRESUMABLY
RHYS WILL
GO INTO HIDING
AGAIN.

AS LONG AS
RHYS MAINTAINS
A LOW PROFILE, THE
EX-WARRIOR'S DEATH IS
UNNECESSARY.

PROFESSOR YONDER AND
KHARL RUNNY-ORANGE,
LATER THAT SAME DAY...

DISABLING
THE MAGH TOWER
IS AN AFFRONT
TO SCIENTIFIC
ADVANCEMENT.

MILITARY
INTELLIGENCE
--BAH!

THEY'RE
DOING EVERYTHING
THEY CAN TO ERASE
ALL TRACES OF THE
ENTIRE AFFAIR.

AS IF
THEIR DENIAL
CAN UNDO WHAT
HAPPENED.

WE
COULD
PRIVATELY
DUPLICATE
MY WORK ON
A DIFFERENT
MAGH
TOWER.

NOT WITHOUT
PROPER FUNDING--
AND GANTRY'S FINANCIAL
SUPPORT ENDED WHEN
THE NOVAS STOPPED.

RHYS
WAS RIGHT
ABOUT
HIM.

GANTRY, ALREADY
EN ROUTE TO HIS
PLEASURE PALACE
ON TICKLE 12....



CUE THE
APPLAUSE,
RHYS, WHEREVER
YOU ARE.

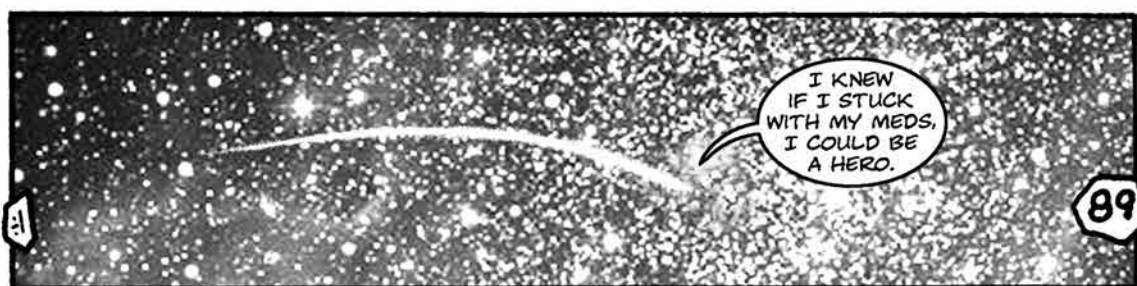
YOU
SAVED THE
UNIVERSE!



BUT YOU
COULDN'T'VE
DONE IT
WITHOUT MY
HELP.



I KNEW
IF I STUCK
WITH MY MEDS,
I COULD BE
A HERO.



GENERAL TURGO AND NATASHA,
AROUND THE SAME TIME, BUT
A UNIVERSE AWAY...

THE
NOVAS HAVE
STOPPED!

DO YOU
THINK IT
WAS RHYS,
NATASHA?
THE OTHER
RHYS, I
MEAN?



WELL...

I GUESS
WE CAN CALL
OFF THE
EXODUS.



KARLOFF, LOCATION
UNDISCLOSED (BY
REQUEST)...

TRUST ME,
YOU'RE NOT JUST
PAYING FOR MY
GENE-JUGGLING
EXPERTISE, YOU'RE
BUYING MY UTMOST
DISCRETION.

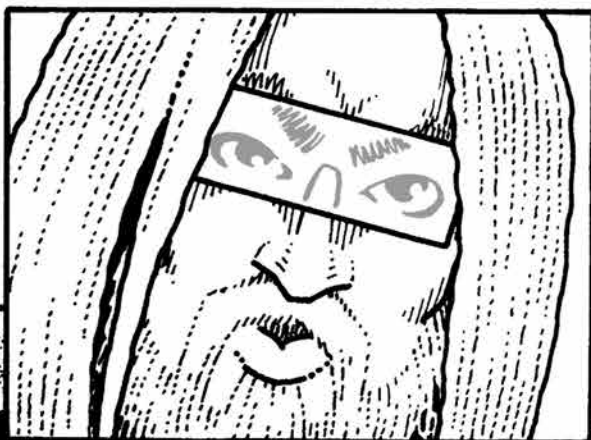
YOUR
SECRETS
REMAIN
YOURS.

THE
THINGS
I COULD
TELL
YOU...

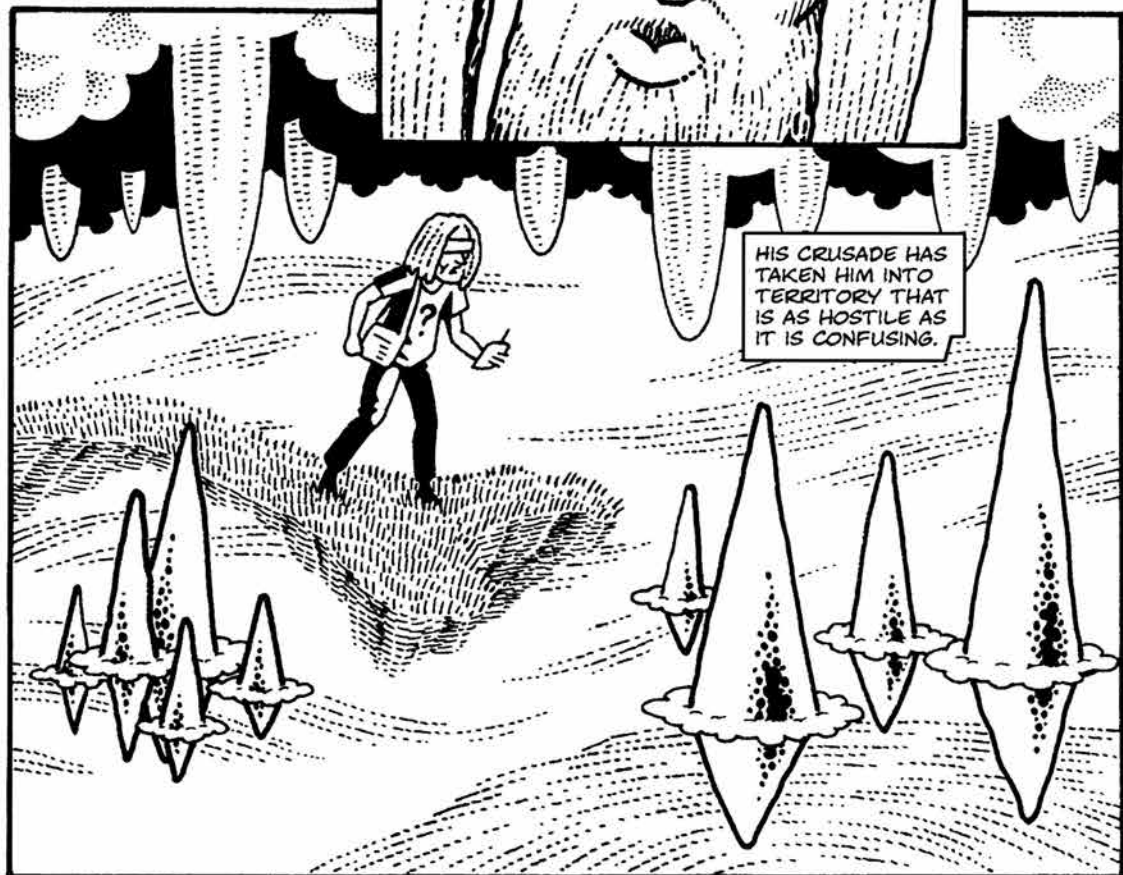
BUT
I NEVER
WILL.

GOOD.
I WOULDN'T WANT
WORD TO GET AROUND
THAT I'VE HAD
WORK DONE.

BACK IN OUR UNIVERSE,
SPECKS PURSUES THE
LATEST BYTE OF
FORBIDDEN DATA
TO CATCH HIS FANCY.
HAVING GONE OFF
THE GRID, HE IS
UNWARE OF RHY'S
PERILOUS ADVENTURE...



HIS CRUSADE HAS
TAKEN HIM INTO
TERRITORY THAT
IS AS HOSTILE AS
IT IS CONFUSING.



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SEVERAL MONTHS LATER,
NARLI BAUHM DID WHAT
RHYS WARNED HER
NOT TO DO.

SHE CUT A DEAL WITH A
HOLO DISTRIBUTOR AND
PRODUCED A TELL-ALL
DOCU-DRAMA...

FOR A WEEK, IT WAS A
HOT SENSATION.
EVERYONE WHO WAS
MENTIONED IN HER
LURID AUTOBIOGRAPHY
DENIED THAT ANY OF IT
HAD EVER HAPPENED.
HER FAME EVENTUALLY
EVAPORATED IN
TANDEM WITH HER
CREDIBILITY.

MY SYNDIC ADVENTURE



CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS OF AN
UNSAVORY NATURE, HOWEVER,
BELIEVED HER TALE...

...AND CAME
AFTER HER.



THIS
IS SO
UNFAIR...

RHYS: STATUS UNKNOWN
(AND IT'S BEST LEFT THAT
WAY)...



NOTES FROM THE ATTIC

.....Here you have it: the final chapter of my Myriad Trilogy.

The first two books (Myriad Quest and Myriad Threat) were done in tandem with crowdfunding campaigns. Among the pledge incentives for those books, people got cameo and integral character appearances in the story. (For the full—and quirky— anecdotes concerning this practice, see the Notes in those books.) No such options were offered in connection to Myriad Doom; there simply wasn't room for extra characters. Consequently, Norm Rafferty at Sanguine and I decided that support and interest in the overall project had been so great that no Kickstarter campaign was necessary for the trilogy's final book.

I commenced work on Myriad Doom within hours of finishing Myriad Threat. The antagonistic relationship between Rhys and Natasha came about late in the Threat work sessions, but I was fascinated by this potential and itchy to explore it. (In fact, one could even say that the Natasha character became my Muse for this project.) As the storyline fell together in my head, I found myself using some of characters from the earlier books. So I decided to go full-throttle and bring back as many characters as possible that had been played by pledgers. Ah, but that wasn't easy, for some of those characters were dead, not to mention Karloff, who started out male, then came back as a female clone. I'm particularly pleased with the diversity of ways I devised for these deceased characters to cheat death.

For the record: Craig Smith played the part of Specks; Shelia Mahan got the role of Natasha; the parts of Gantry and Professor Yonder were played by Sid Sondergard; Yrene Otaiza Diaz played the part of the female version of Karloff; Sean Mahan played the part of Major Turgo; the part of Razor Redd (the shuttle pilot on page 42, and Karloff's client on page 91) was played by Sara Skunkworks (a character created by Bryan Feir); and Isaac McCool played the part of the male version of Karloff.

The alternate universe Rhys visits on page 37 is a snippet from my self-published digital graphic novel "The Volcano in the Cornfield" (available from me via my online catalog).

As far as the music that fed my creativity, there was a lot...and I really can't remember all of it. I can cite that I intentionally used the music of Peter Hammill and Van der Graaf Generator to get started (out of deference to the fact that their music had helped fuel my creative juices back at the beginning of the first Myriad book). A lot of Tangerine Dream, Ozric Tentacles, and King Crimson went into my ears. And Hawkwind and the Cure and the Grateful

Dead and Mike Oldfield and Primus and the Ventures and Steve Hackett. As you can see, my choices were all over the sonic spectrum.

In closing, I'd like to thank everyone who helped, supported, kibitzed and put up with my intense work sessions on this project—not just the Doom volume, but Quest and Threat too. This isn't glib gratitude, either. I really had a lot of fun doing the Myriad Trilogy. The books gave me the chance to immerse myself in deep space science fiction with lots of aliens—always my favorite venue. I am personally pleased with and proud of the work. And it wouldn't have happened without the interaction of hundreds of you out there.

—Matt Howarth

Attic Studio

May 2016

BTW: I agree with Rhys. I think he looks really snappy in a beard.



Matt's Attic www.matthowarth.com

Matt's OnLine Catalog www.bugtownmall.com

Matt's Music Reviews www.soniccuriosity.com

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Perhaps best known as the writer/artist of the "Those Annoying Post Bros." comic book series, Matt Howarth has many outlets for his twisted creativity. And all of them are notoriously "strange"

During his career of four decades, Matt has authored and drawn a variety of unconventional comic books and graphic novels, and contributed graphic fiction to numerous publications in the fields of comics and science fiction...and music. For, among all of Matt's creative outlets, there runs the influence of alternative and electronic music. He has found several ways to achieve this crossover of diverse genres.

From 1987 to 1994, Matt did a comic book series called "Savage Henry" (about the wacky adventures of a guitarist from an alternate reality). Most issues of this series featured authorized guest appearances by real musicians; among them: the Residents, Hawkwind, Moby, Ash Ra Tempel, Klaus Schulze, Nash the Slash, Foetus, Yello, Wire, Steve Roach, Richard Pinhas, Ron Geesin, David Borden, and more. Conrad Schnitzler (an original member of Tangerine Dream and Kluster) was a regular guest in this series and several graphic novels.

In the early 1980s, Matt did a minicomic series entitled "The Comix of Two Cities", based on life-forms created by the Residents in the band's "Mark of the Mole" trilogy of albums. In the late 1990s, these stories were reprinted as a comic book series.

Perhaps one of his strangest creations is Matt's "Konny & Czu" series, chronicling the antics of a pair of interstellar con artists. Besides Matt's innovative storytelling and meticulous art, what makes these strips unique is that they feature absolutely no human beings or any remotely terrestrial lifeforms.

Another of Matt's sci-fi creations is the "Keif Llama: Xenotech" series, featuring the adventures of a plucky troubleshooter coping with problems between mankind and alien civilizations.

Since the early 1980s, Matt has been doing music reviews, first as a weekly comicstrip, and since 1998 as text reviews for his Sonic Curiosity website.

A culmination (in Matt's opinion) of his desire to merge comics with music has been a series of collaborations he's done with a variety of internationally renowned musicians: in which a comic strip by him comes as a PDF file on the CD, while the band's music is a loose soundtrack inspired by his story. So far, he has done this type of collab with: Arthur Brown, Michael Chocholak, German synthesists Fanger & Schonwaller, Galactic Anthems, ex-Soft Machine bassist Hugh Hopper, Legendary Pink Dots, Mental Anguish, Bill Nelson, Ozone Player, Quarkspace, Radio Massacre International, Conrad Schnitzler, Klaus Schulze, and Syndromeda, with more in the works. Matt has also written a collection of short stories (Enriched Visions) inspired by the ambient soundscapes of Robert Rich.

It is plainly evident that Matt Howarth is obsessed with strange music, and he is not about to stop incorporating such things into his creative efforts.

Among Matt's notable non-musically related works are: two issues of "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles" (the adult edition); scripts for DC Comics' "Justice League of America"; doing comedy comics for the International Star Trek Conventions in the early 1970s (before the fans coined the term trekkies); doing illustrations for several novels by SF author Philip K. Dick; work on Harlan Ellison's "Dream Corridor" series; illustrations for Warren Ellis' "Transmetropolitan" series; an original graphic story collaboration in 1977 with SF Grand Master Hal Clement; numerous illustrations for the 1984 Dune Encyclopedia; "Tryxxx", an erotic SF graphic novel; strips for the SubGenius Church; work for Phil Foglio's "Xxenophile" series; Several adaptations of classic literature (by H.P. Lovecraft, Edgar Allen Poe, Arthur Conan Doyle, Jack London, and The Cabinet of Dr Caligari) for Graphic Classics; cover art and numerous interior illustrations for the textbook series "Strange Tales from Liaozhai" by ancient Chinese poet Pu Songling; graphic adaptations of stories by award winning authors Greg Bear and Vernor Vinge for the World Science Fiction Conventions; and--believe it or not--even more.

Since 2000, Matt has self-published over 100 digital publications, all of which are available from his online catalog.

It may stop, but it never ends.

MATT'S ATTIC (main website)
www.matthowarth.com
BUGTOWN MALL (online catalog)
www.bugtowntmall.com
SONIC CURIOSITY (music reviews)
www.soniccuriosity.com
FACEBOOK PAGE
www.facebook.com/matt.howarth.710



Rhys is still trying to track down the missing Syndic hardware, a difficult task with so many agencies after his head. And suddenly it's too late! Capricious tinkering with the alien toys has triggered a DOOM that threatens our universe—and other realms! Enemies are forced into a dubious alliance...

...but can even they save the day?

