



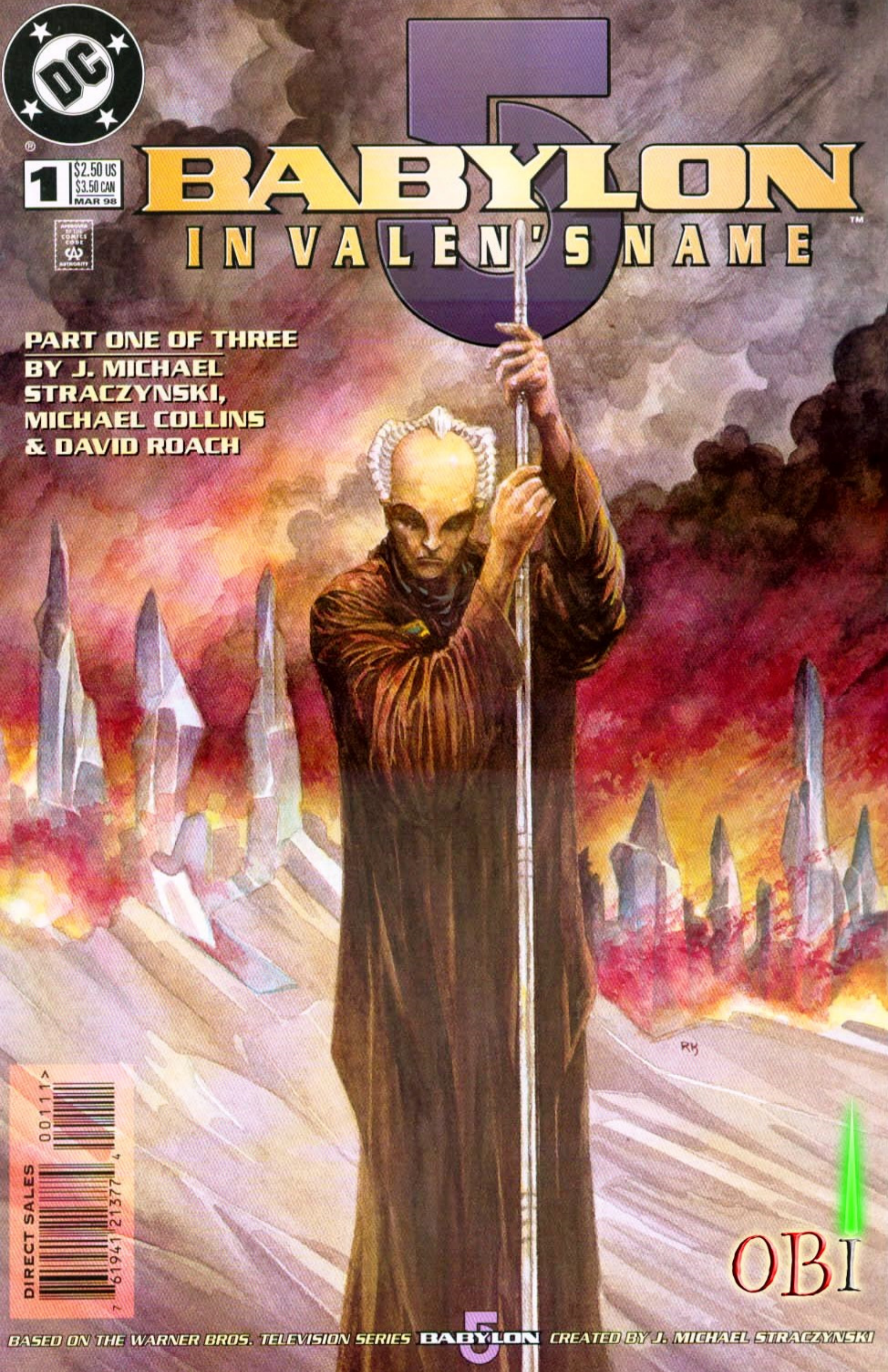
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# BABYLON

## IN VALEN'S NAME

**PART ONE OF THREE**  
**BY J. MICHAEL STRACZYNSKI,**  
**MICHAEL COLLINS**  
**& DAVID ROACH**



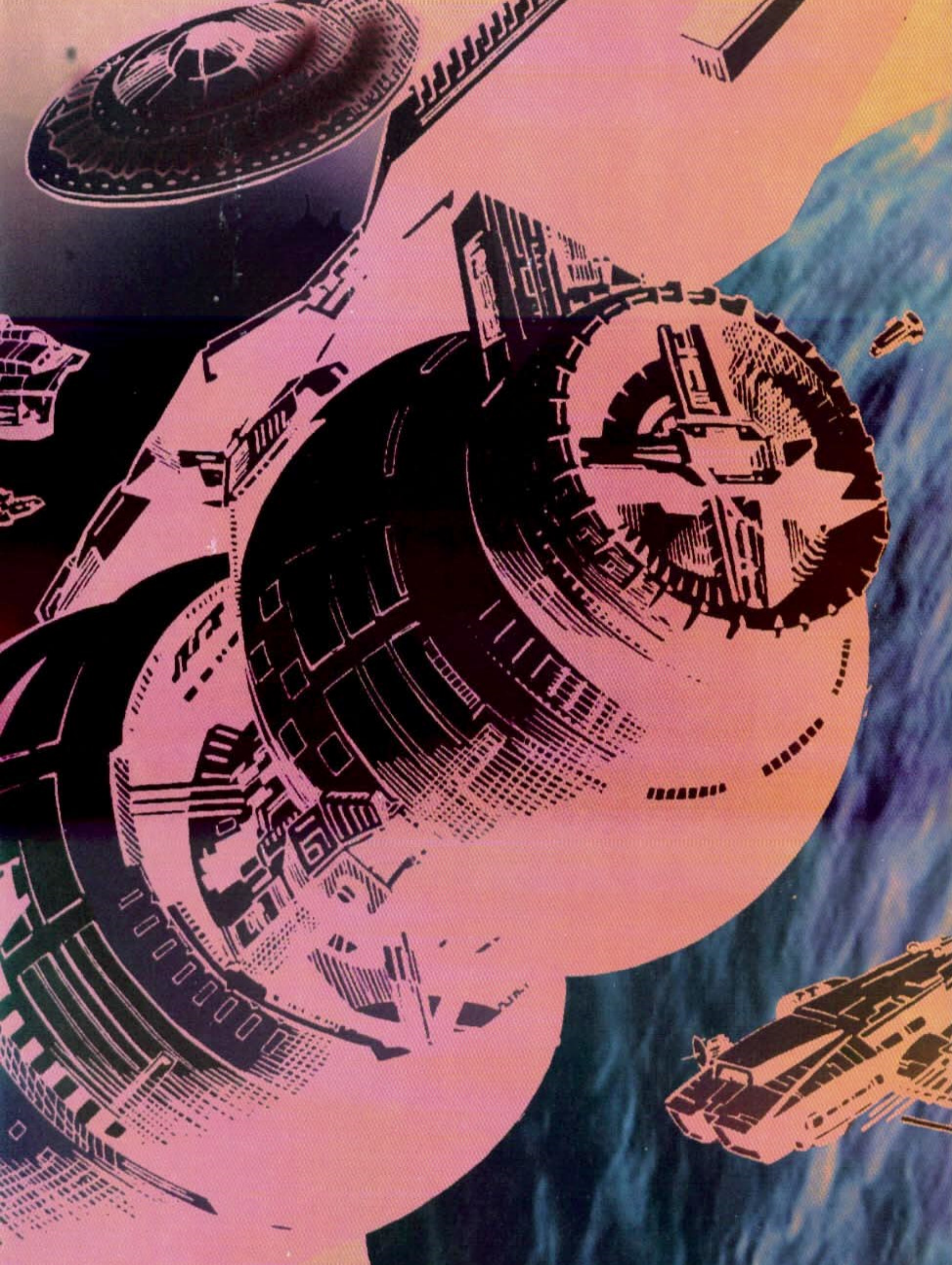
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BASED ON THE WARNER BROS. TELEVISION SERIES **BABYLON** CREATED BY J. MICHAEL STRACZYNSKI



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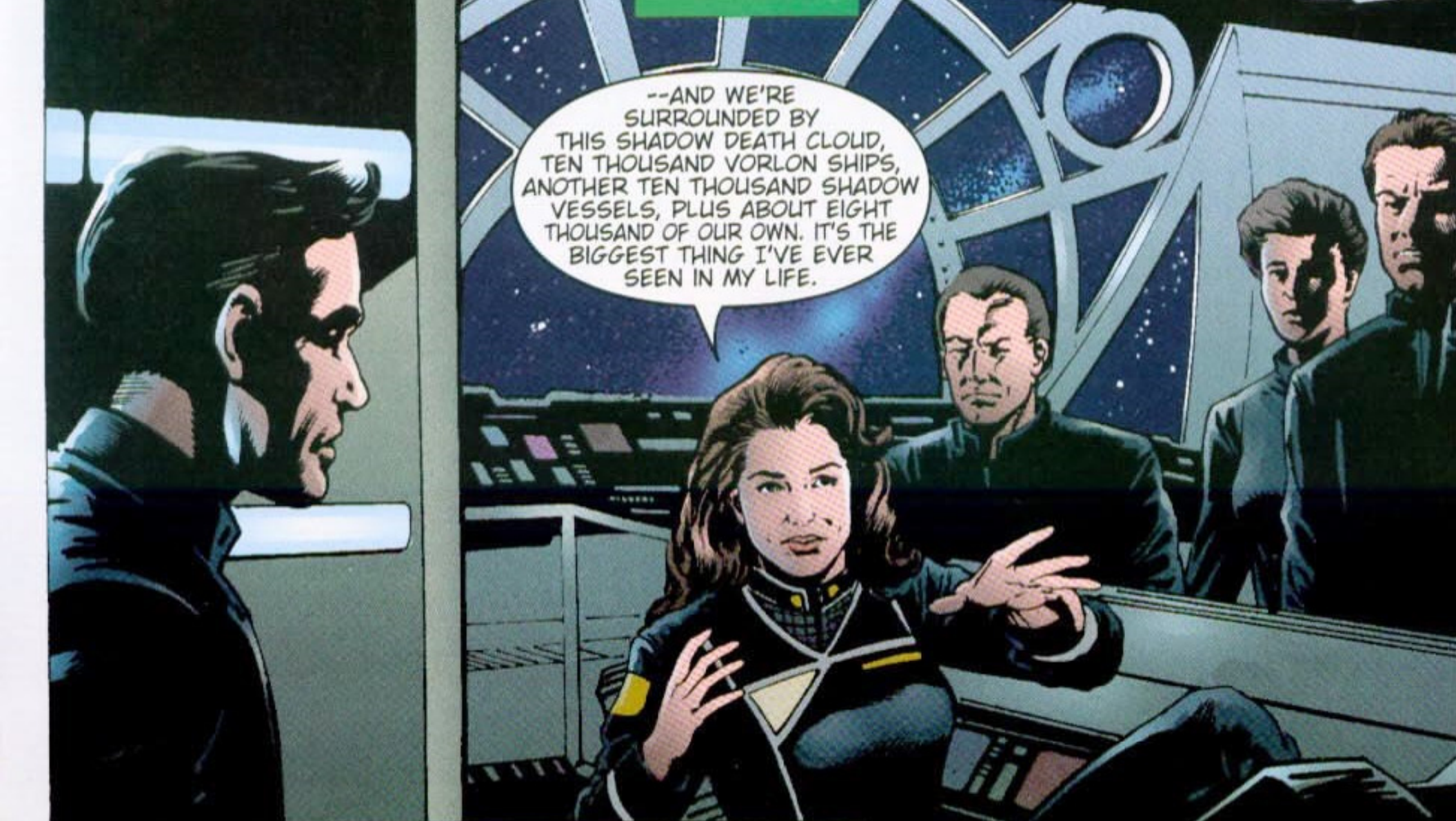
# IN VALEN'S NAME

J. MICHAEL STRACZYNSKI   MICHAEL COLLINS   DAVID ROACH  
WRITER   PENCILLER   INKER  
RS & COMICRAFT'S ALBERT DESCHESNE   PRISMACOLOR   ROBERT GRAFF  
LETTERS   COLORS   EDITOR


**BABCOM** IVANOVA

I SHOULD'VE KNOWN BETTER. IT'S ALWAYS THE QUIET DAYS THAT GET YOU. THEY LULL YOU INTO A FALSE SENSE OF SECURITY, THEN SNEAK UP BEHIND YOU AND WHAM!

IT'S ALL MY FAULT. SOMEDAY I'LL LEARN TO KEEP MY BIG MOUTH SHUT AND REFRAIN FROM TEMPTING THE UNIVERSE.




--AND WE'RE SURROUNDED BY THIS SHADOW DEATH CLOUD, TEN THOUSAND VORLON SHIPS, ANOTHER TEN THOUSAND SHADOW VESSELS, PLUS ABOUT EIGHT THOUSAND OF OUR OWN. IT'S THE BIGGEST THING I'VE EVER SEEN IN MY LIFE.




AND WITH ALL THAT, IT WASN'T WEAPONS THAT ENDED THE WAR, IT WASN'T SHEER NUMBERS. IN THE FINAL ANALYSIS WE UNDERSTOOD OUR WAY OUT OF IT.

IT'S A DAMNED FUNNY UNIVERSE SOME DAYS.

IS THAT THE WILDEST THING YOU'VE EVER SEEN SINCE YOU'VE BEEN HERE?



WILDEST? YEAH. STRANGEST? I THINK THAT WAS THE TIME WE PICKED UP A SIGNAL FROM BABYLON 4.



"THE STATION HAD DISAPPEARED SEVERAL YEARS EARLIER. AFTER WE EVACUATED HER CREW, IT DISAPPEARED AGAIN.

"WE THOUGHT IT WAS BEING PULLED INTO THE FUTURE. BUT IT WAS BEING TAKEN A THOUSAND YEARS INTO THE PAST TO FIGHT IN THE LAST GREAT WAR AGAINST THE SHADOWS."



"COMMANDER -- EXCUSE ME, **AMBASSADOR SINCLAIR** WENT WITH IT. THAT WAS THE LAST TIME WE SAW EITHER HIM OR THE STATION."



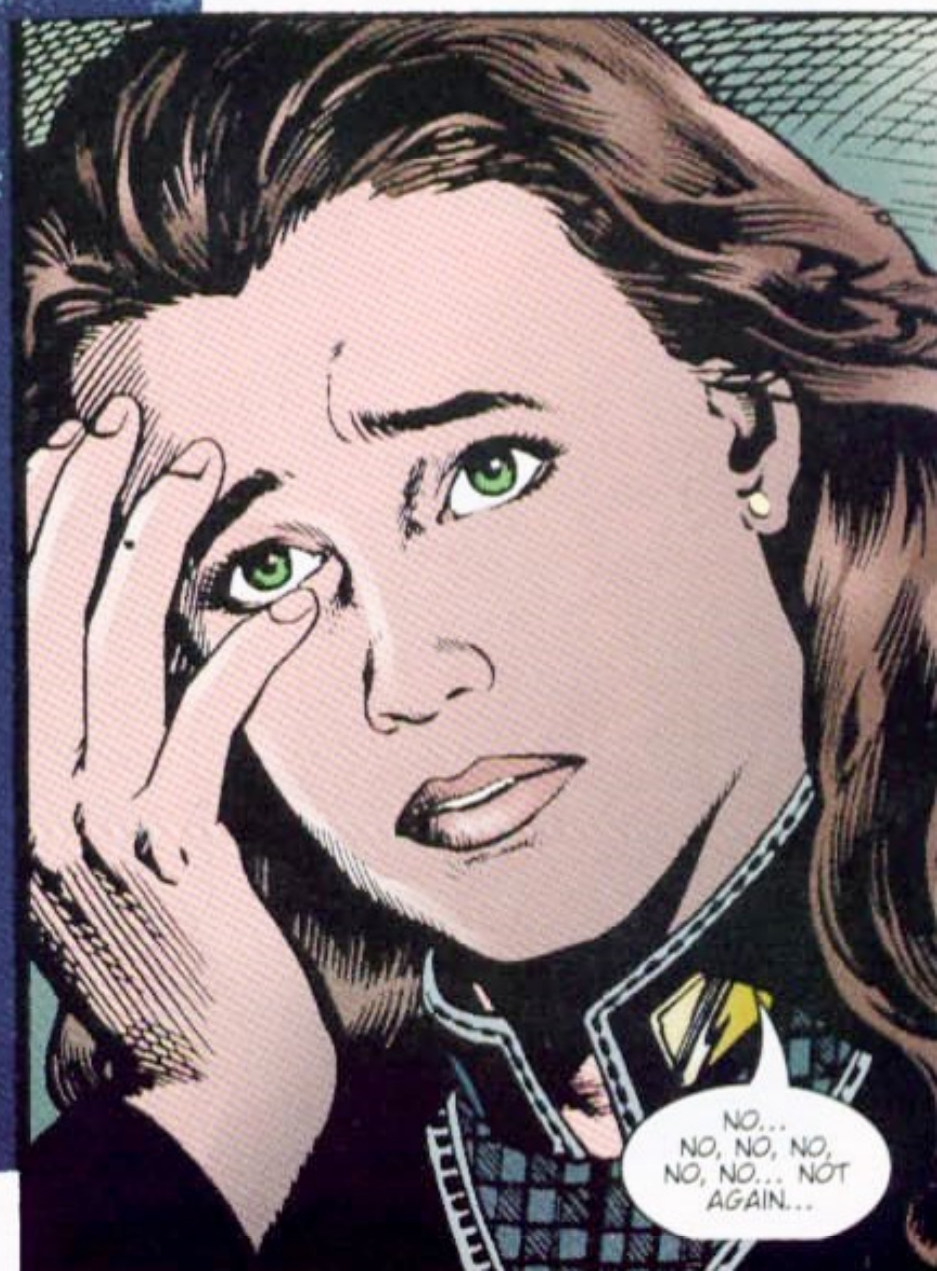
YEAH, THAT WAS THE STRANGEST. I STILL REMEMBER THE DAY IT HAPPENED. IT WAS A ONCE-IN-A-LIFE MESSAGE. "COMMANDER --"

COMMANDER, WE'RE PICKING UP A SIGNAL. IT'S FROM BABYLON 4.



EXACTLY. THAT'S EXACTLY HOW I FIRST HEARD ABOUT IT.

NO, I MEAN REALLY... WE'RE PICKING UP A SIGNAL FROM BABYLON 4.



NO... NO, NO, NO, NO, NO... NOT AGAIN...



ARE YOU *SURE* IT'S BABYLON 4?

POSITIVE. WE RAN THE I.D. THREE TIMES.

LOOKS LIKE AN AUTOMATED DISTRESS SIGNAL.



DO YOU KNOW WHERE IT'S COMING FROM?

SECTOR 730 BY 12 BY 9.

WHAT I DON'T UNDERSTAND IS, HOW DID IT GET THERE?

THAT'S RIGHT... YOU WOULDN'T KNOW.



EARTHDOME SPENT MOST OF ITS MONEY ON BABYLON 4, LEAVING US TO SCRAPE UP WHATEVER WAS LEFT FOR B5. ONE OF THE THINGS THAT MADE B4 DIFFERENT... WAS THAT IT COULD MOVE. IT WAS EQUIPPED WITH THE BIGGEST ION ENGINES EVER MADE.

THEY DIDN'T WANT IT TO BE A SITTING DUCK, LIKE THE PREVIOUS THREE THAT WERE DESTROYED DURING CONSTRUCTION.



THE STATION WAS ABANDONED ALMOST A THOUSAND YEARS AGO, AFTER THE LAST SHADOW WAR. WE KNEW IT WAS TAKEN TO A PLACE OF REST, WHERE IT WAS TO BECOME A MONUMENT... BUT IT WAS ALL DONE IN SECRET. NO ONE KNEW WHERE THEY WERE TAKING IT, AND THE CREW NEVER CAME BACK. ITS FATE HAS BEEN A MYSTERY FOR MORE THAN NINE CENTURIES.

UNTIL NOW.



JOHN, WE MUST INVESTIGATE THIS. IF IT IS TRULY BABYLON 4... IT COULD CONTAIN PRICELESS INFORMATION, RECORDS ABOUT THE LAST WAR. IT'S A CRUCIAL PART OF MINBARI HISTORY.

I DISAGREE. I SAY WE SEND OUT A PROBE OR A TECH CREW FIRST, CHECK IT OUT, THEN GO IN IF IT LOOKS SAFE.



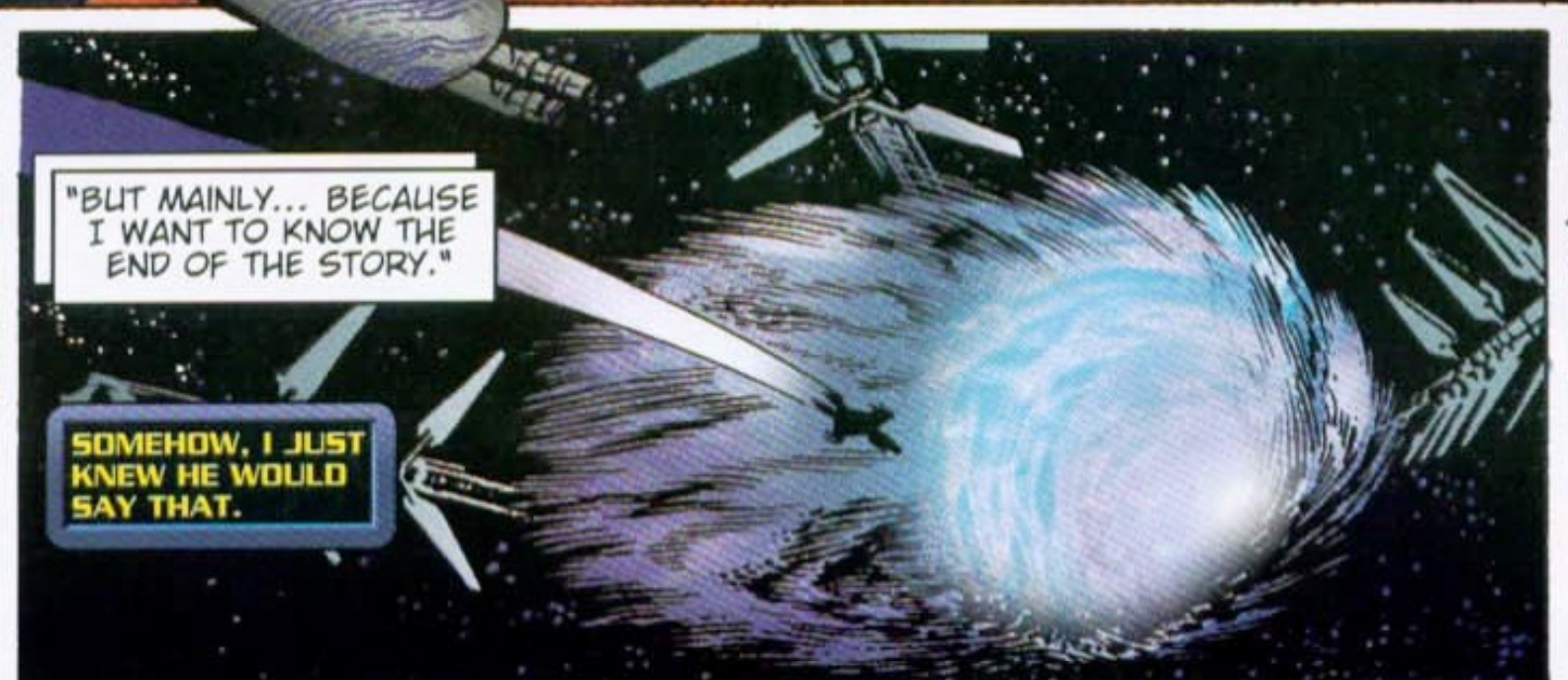
WHY THE CONCERN?

EVERY TIME THAT THING APPEARS, IT MEANS TROUBLE. IT'S LIKE SOME KIND OF FLYING DUTCHMAN. TWICE BEFORE WE ALMOST DIDN'T MAKE IT OUT... THREE IS PUSHING IT.

IT'S A VALID POINT.

BUT WE'RE GOING ANYWAY.

"BECAUSE WE HAVE AN OBLIGATION TO HISTORY. BECAUSE WE HAVE TO HONOR DELENN'S DESIRE TO RECLAIM A MONUMENT TO THE LAST WAR.



"BUT MAINLY... BECAUSE I WANT TO KNOW THE END OF THE STORY."

SOMEHOW, I JUST KNEW HE WOULD SAY THAT.

**WE ARRIVED AT OUR  
DESTINATION 40 HOURS,  
14 MINUTES AND 18  
SECONDS LATER.**

"APPROACHING  
TARGET AREA."

WE'RE  
NOT READING  
ANY INHABITED  
PLANETS IN THE  
AREA.

TRANSMISSIONS?

NONE.


THEN  
LET'S TAKE HER  
IN. MAKE THE  
JUMP TO NORMAL  
SPACE.

**AS SOON AS I SAW  
IT, I GOT THIS  
FEELING IN THE PIT  
OF MY STOMACH.**










VALEN. THAT WAS THE NAME THEY GAVE  
COMMANDER SINCLAIR WHEN HE AND  
ZATHRAS TOOK BABYLON 4 INTO THE  
PAST... WHEN SINCLAIR CAME OUT OF  
THE CHRYSALIS HALF-HUMAN AND HALF-  
MINBARI. "A MINBARI NOT BORN OF  
MINBARI."

HE HELPED THEM WIN THE  
LAST SHADOW WAR, AND  
CREATED THE GREY COUNCIL.

NONE OF US EVER  
IMAGINED WE'D SEE THIS  
PLACE AGAIN.



PROVING AGAIN THAT  
THE UNIVERSE IS NOT  
JUST STRANGER THAN  
WE IMAGINE, IT'S  
STRANGER THAN WE  
CAN EVER IMAGINE.

STAY  
CLOSE... THERE'S  
DEBRIS ALL OVER  
THE PLACE.

WHICH LED TO THE QUESTION NONE OF US HAD ASKED... BUT WHICH WAS IN THE BACK OF ALL OF OUR MINDS.

IF BABYLON 4 WAS EMPTY AND DESERTED, A GHOST STATION, THEN... WHO OR WHAT... HAD TRIGGERED THAT DISTRESS SIGNAL?

THIS WAY... IF I REMEMBER THE DIAGRAMS CORRECTLY, THIS SHOULD GET US AROUND THE WORST OF IT AND INTO THE CENTER OF THE STATION.

I HATE THIS. I HATE THIS. I HATE THIS.

YOU SAID SOMETHING --  
-- LIGH!  
HARDER --

-- MR. GARIBALDI?

NOPE. NOTHING.

I REALLY REALLY REALLY HATE THIS.

SHOULDN'T BE MUCH FURTHER.

I BELIEVE YOU SAID THAT SOME TIME AGO, CAPTAIN.

YEAH, WELL, NO ONE'S --

-- WOW...





SNIPER!  
MOVE IT!

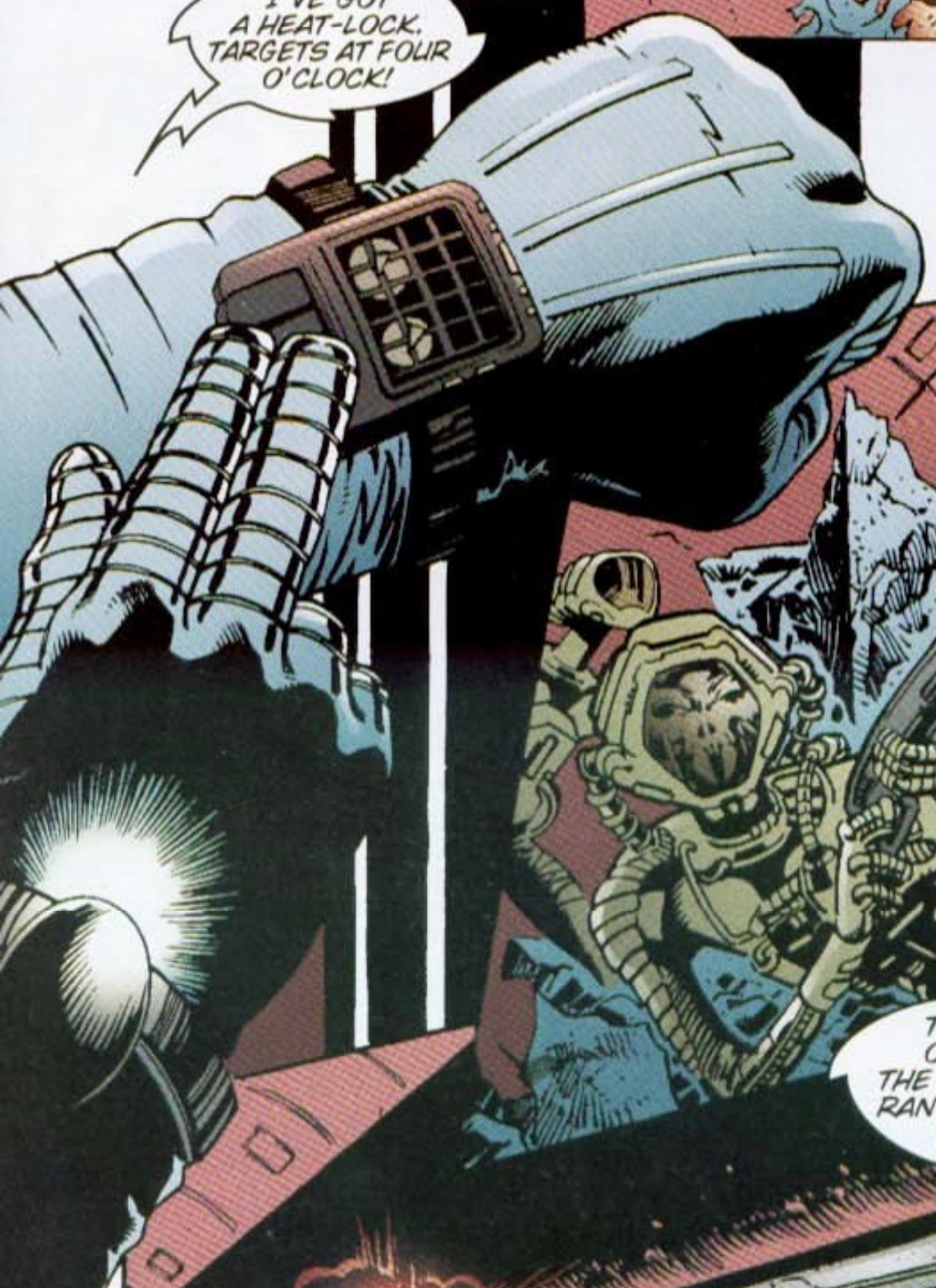
I'VE GOT  
MULTIPLE  
POINTS OF  
ATTACK!

GARIBALDI!

I'M ON  
IT!



I'VE GOT  
A HEAT-LOCK.  
TARGETS AT FOUR  
O'CLOCK!

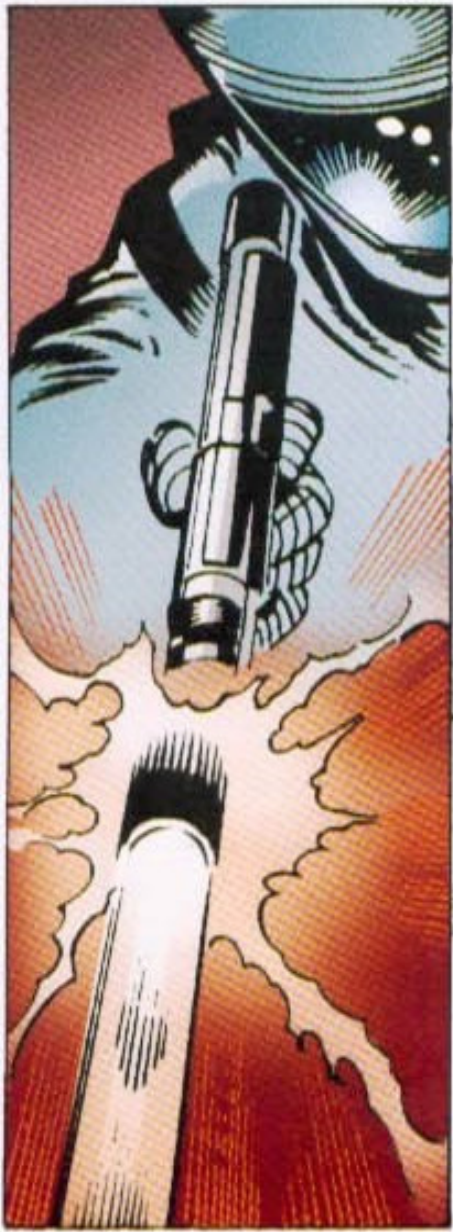


THEY'RE  
OUTSIDE  
THE EFFECTIVE  
RANGE OF OUR  
PPGS.

BUT IT  
LOOKS LIKE  
WE'RE INSIDE  
THEIRS.

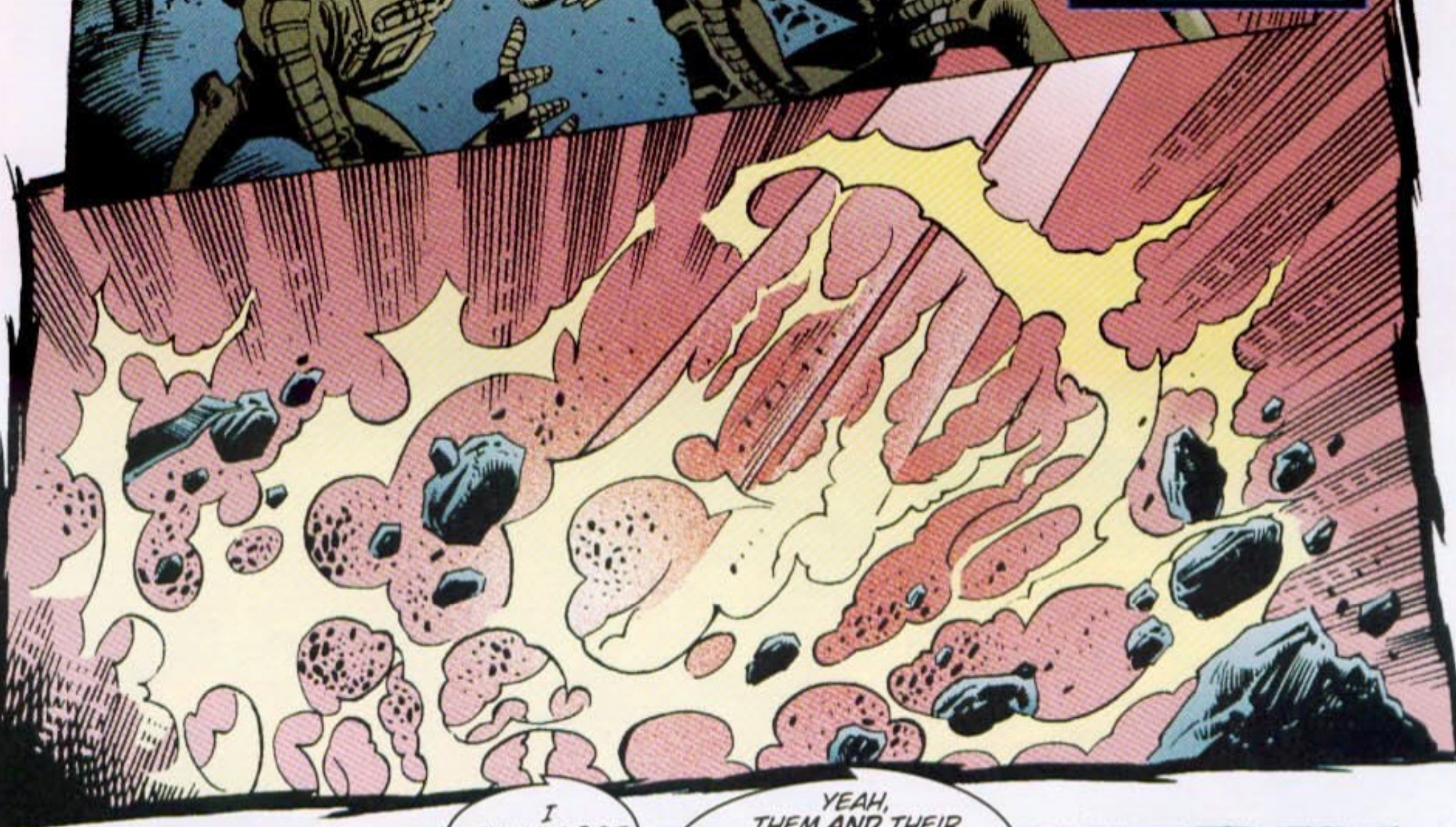
EXACTLY.  
ALL THEY HAVE  
TO DO IS WAIT US  
OUT, OR MOVE INTO  
A BETTER FIRING  
POSITION.







5 TRANSLATION NOT AVAILABLE.

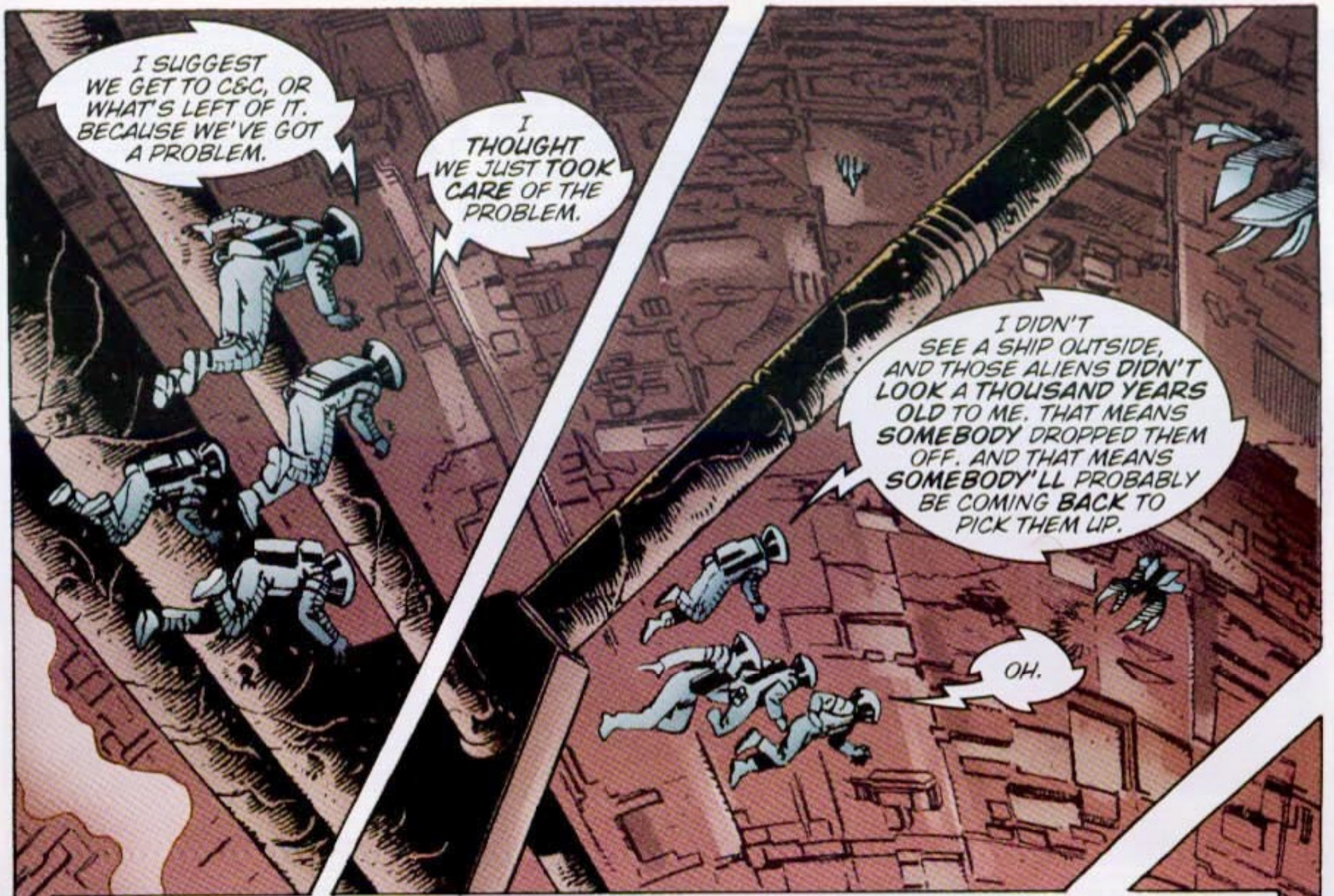


I THINK I GOT THEM.

YEAH, THEM AND THEIR ANCESTORS BACK FIVE GENERATIONS... JEEZ, MICHAEL --

WELL, IT GOT THE JOB DONE; IT'S NOT LIKE ANYBODY WAS USING IT --

-SIGH-



I SUGGEST WE GET TO C&C, OR WHAT'S LEFT OF IT. BECAUSE WE'VE GOT A PROBLEM.

I THOUGHT WE JUST TOOK CARE OF THE PROBLEM.

I DIDN'T SEE A SHIP OUTSIDE, AND THOSE ALIENS DIDN'T LOOK A THOUSAND YEARS OLD TO ME. THAT MEANS SOMEBODY DROPPED THEM OFF. AND THAT MEANS SOMEBODY'LL PROBABLY BE COMING BACK TO PICK THEM UP.

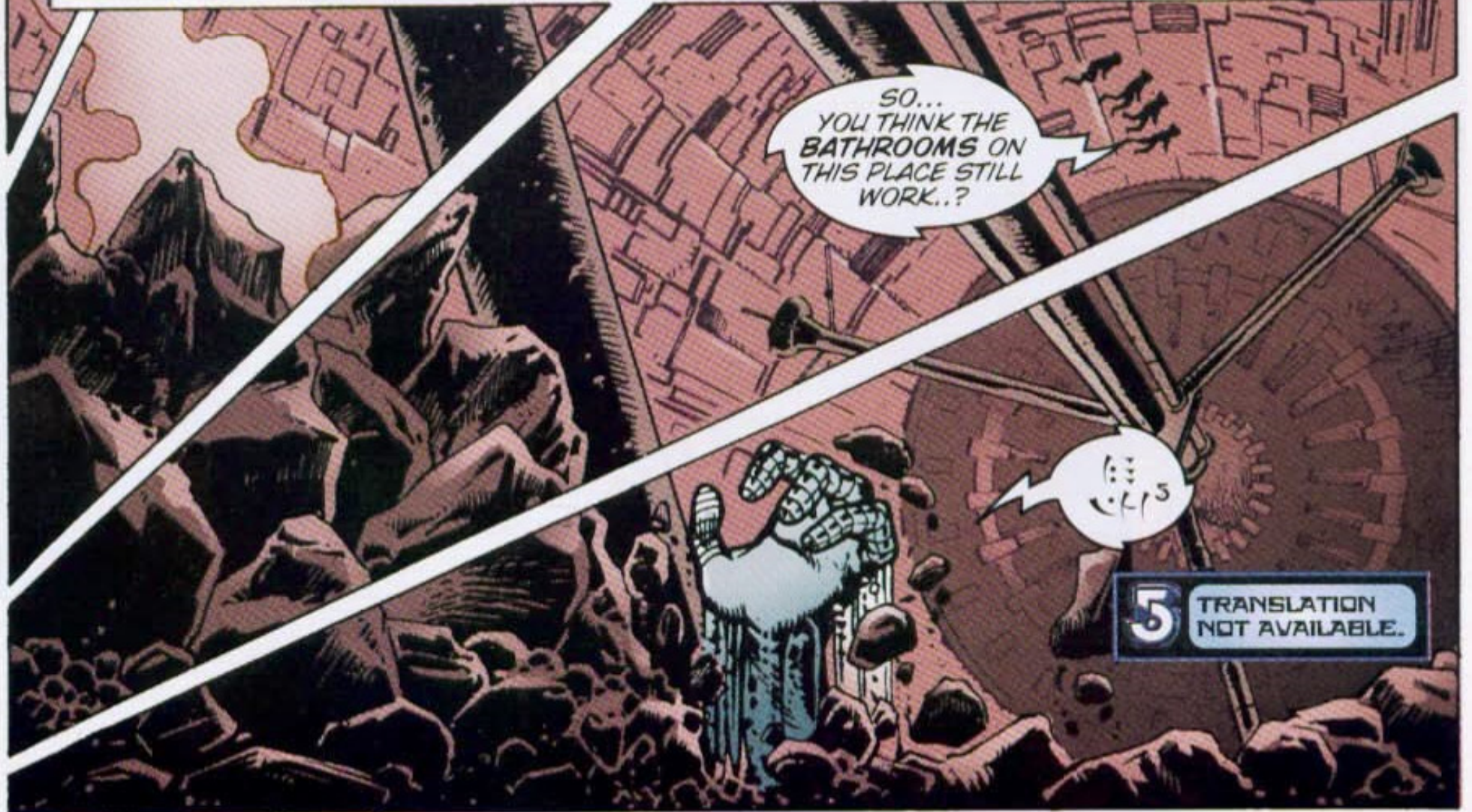
OH.



YOU'RE BEING AWFULLY QUIET.

IT IS SO STRANGE BEING HERE... THERE IS THAT SAYING AMONG HUMANS... LIKE WALKING ON YOUR OWN GRAVE. SO MANY MINBARI DIED IN THIS PLACE...

...IT MEANS SO MUCH TO SO MANY OF US. IT MUST BE APPROACHED WITH QUIET REVERENCE AND RESPECT.

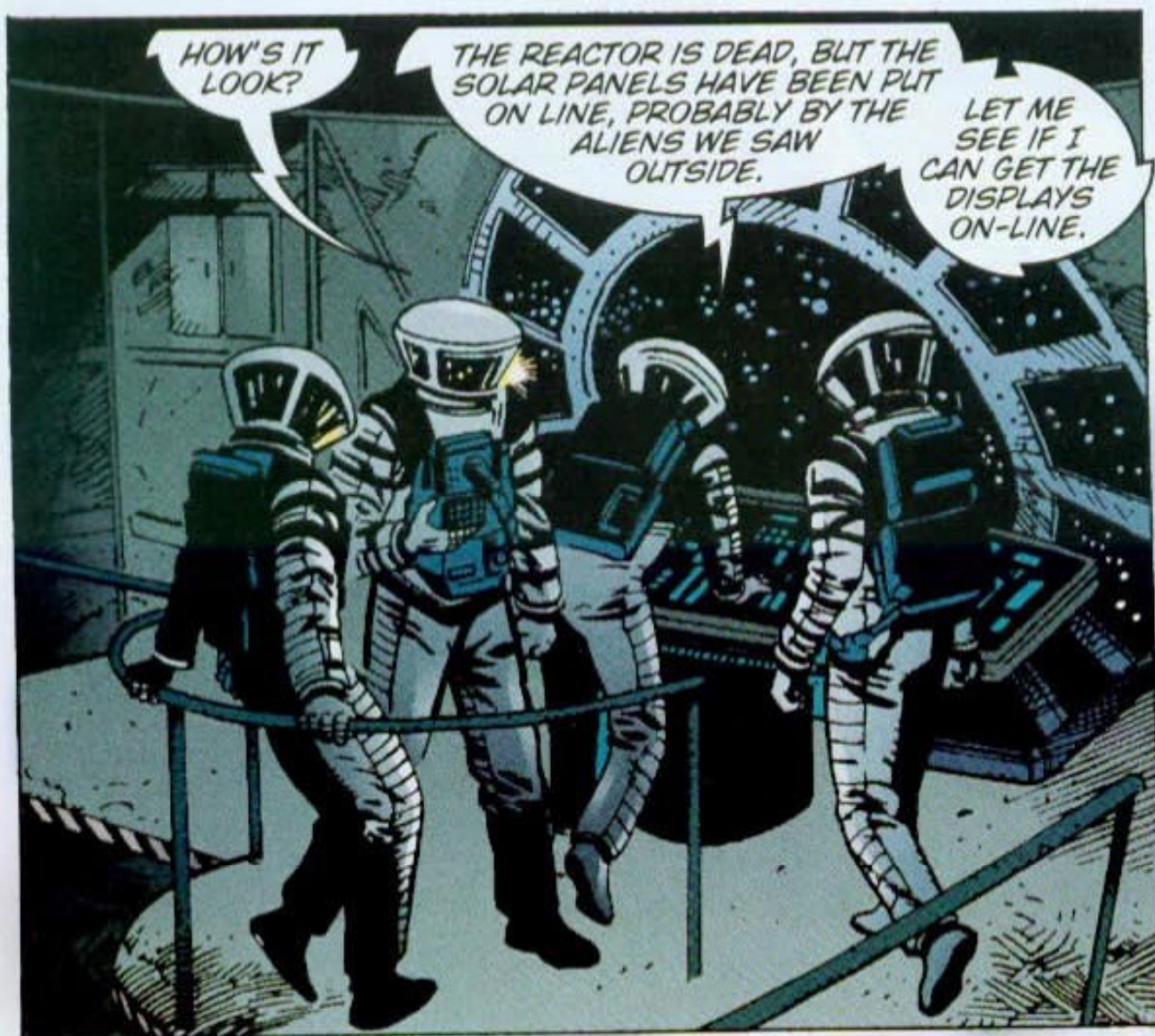


SO... YOU THINK THE BATHROOMS ON THIS PLACE STILL WORK..?

᠊ᠠᠨᠢᠨᠢᠨᠢ

5 TRANSLATION NOT AVAILABLE.





HOW'S IT LOOK?

THE REACTOR IS DEAD, BUT THE SOLAR PANELS HAVE BEEN PUT ON LINE, PROBABLY BY THE ALIENS WE SAW OUTSIDE.

LET ME SEE IF I CAN GET THE DISPLAYS ON-LINE.



I WOULD'VE LIKED TO QUESTION THOSE INTRUDERS, BUT IT WAS THEM OR US. MY GUESS IS THEY WERE SCAVENGERS RAIDING THE PLACE.

SACRILEGE.



"BUT ASIDE FROM CLAIMING THAT B4 IS STILL EARTHFORCE PROPERTY, HOW IS WHAT WE'RE DOING ANY DIFFERENT?"



WHEN WE LEAVE HERE, WE WILL TAKE WITH US ONLY THE EXPERIENCE, AND THE INFORMATION. NOTHING MORE. NO ONE OWNS THIS PLACE ANY LONGER; IT BELONGS TO HISTORY.

NOT FOR LONG, I'M AFRAID.



"WHAT IS IT?"

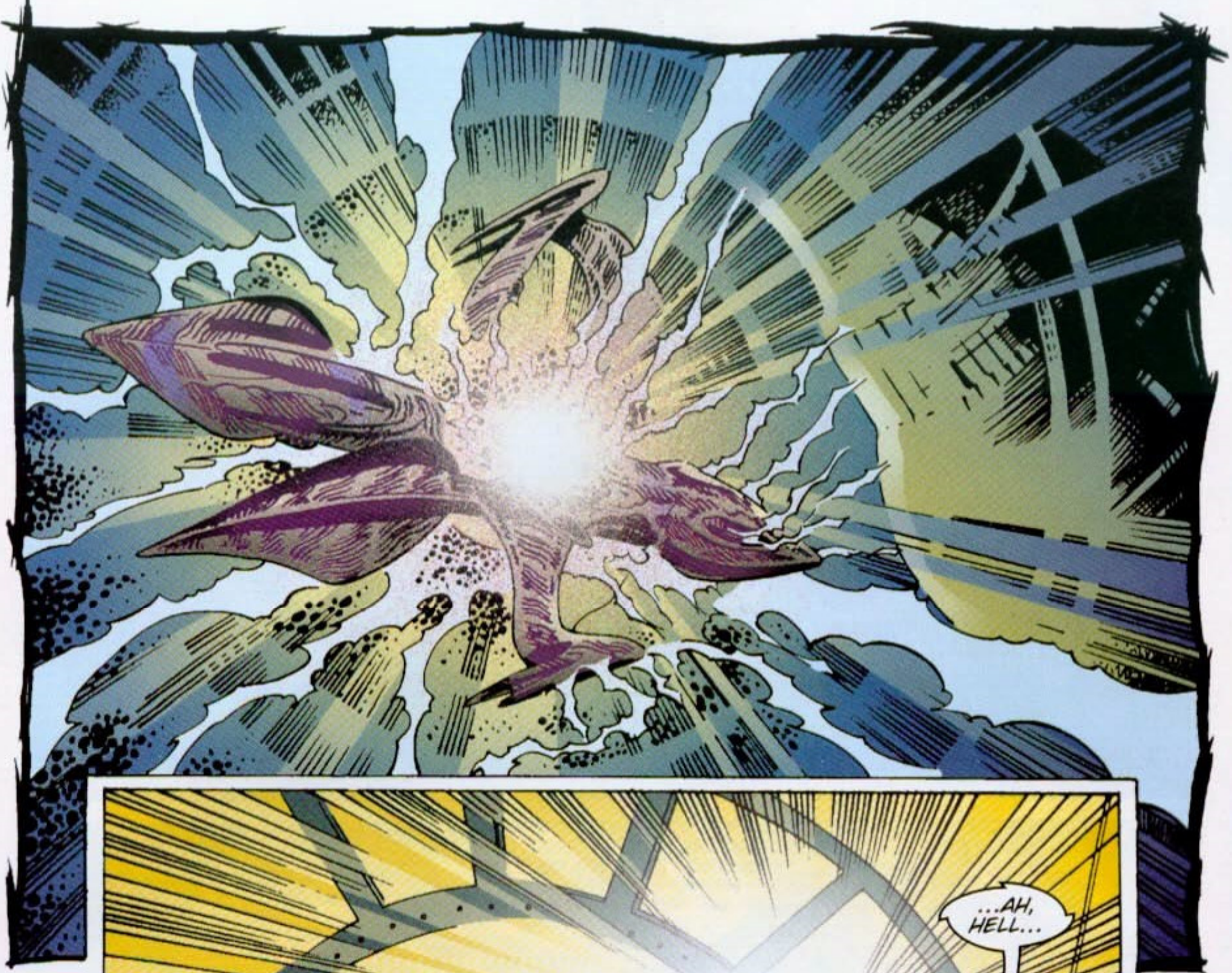


I MANAGED TO GET THE SCANNERS WORKING -- SOME OF THEM, ANYWAY -- AND WHOEVER CAME HERE DISTURBED ITS ORBIT. I ESTIMATE THIS PLACE WILL FALL INTO THE LOCAL ATMOSPHERE IN ABOUT 72 HOURS.



"DAMN... AND THERE'S NOTHING THAT CAN MOVE THIS THING BACK INTO ORBIT WITHOUT TEARING IT APART.

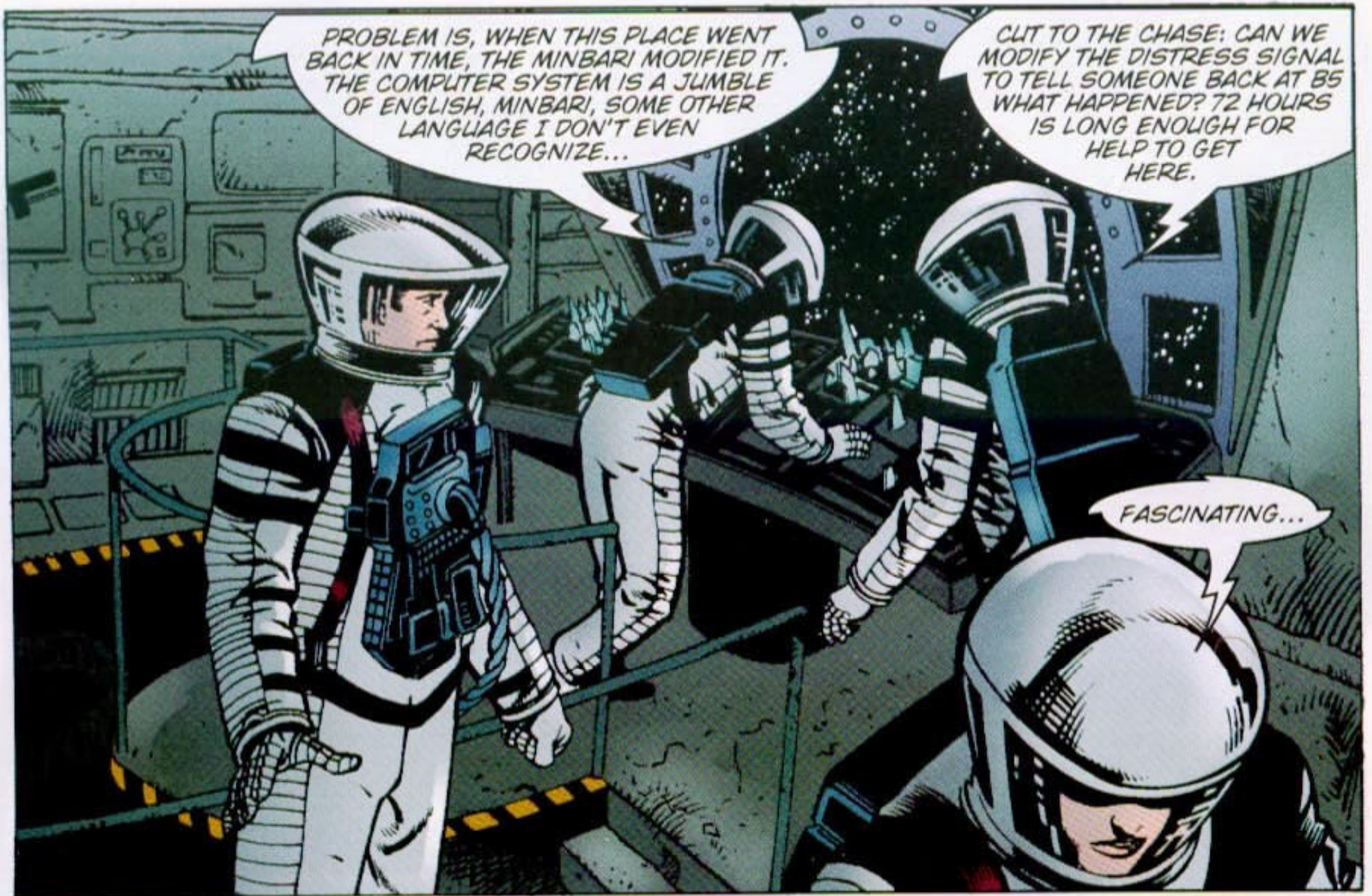
"WELL, AT LEAST WE'VE GOT SOME TIME. TELL WHITE STAR TWO TO --"



**IVANOVA'S RULE #34:  
ALWAYS MAKE SURE  
THAT WHATEVER LOOKS  
DEAD, STAYS DEAD, AND  
WILL NOT HAVE ANY  
IDEAS ABOUT NOT BEING  
DEAD AT ANY TIME IN  
THE FORESEEABLE  
FUTURE. IGNORE THE  
RULES, AND THEY HURT  
YOU.**

**THIS ONE  
HURT US  
BIG TIME.**





PROBLEM IS, WHEN THIS PLACE WENT BACK IN TIME, THE MINBARI MODIFIED IT. THE COMPUTER SYSTEM IS A JUMBLE OF ENGLISH, MINBARI, SOME OTHER LANGUAGE I DON'T EVEN RECOGNIZE...

CUT TO THE CHASE: CAN WE MODIFY THE DISTRESS SIGNAL TO TELL SOMEONE BACK AT B5 WHAT HAPPENED? 72 HOURS IS LONG ENOUGH FOR HELP TO GET HERE.

FASCINATING...



I'LL TRY, BUT THE ONLY COM SYSTEM THAT SEEMS TO BE WORKING IS THE AUTO-DISTRESS SIGNAL. IF I'M READING THIS RIGHT.

MAYBE DELENN CAN HELP. DELENN?



IN A MOMENT...

"HERE BEGINS THE TESTAMENT OF VALEN, AND OF THE WAR, AND THE PERIOD FOLLOWING."



I THINK SHE FOUND SOMETHING.

YOU THINK?


GOOD CHANCE.

I AM  
NUKENN, OF  
THE FAMILY ZIR, AND  
FOR FIVE YEARS I  
SERVED VALEN AS  
NO OTHER HAS  
SERVED.

I SAW  
HIM CALL TOGETHER  
THAT WHICH WAS **BROKEN**.  
SAW HIM HEAL THAT WHICH WAS  
**SICK**. SAW HIM DESTROY THE  
**DARKNESS**. SAW HIM EMERGE  
FROM **NOTHINGNESS**, AS  
A GREAT **WIND** STIRS FROM  
DISTANT AND UNKNOWN  
LANDS.

VALEN WAS  
OF US, AND NOT  
OF US. HE WAS THE  
**SPIRIT**, AND WE ARE HIS  
**VOICE**, HIS **HANDS**, HIS **FIRE**.  
HE WAS THE **GREATEST**  
OF US BECAUSE  
HE WAS **MORE**  
THAN US.

I AM  
NUKENN, OF THE  
**RELIGIOUS CASTE**,  
AND **THIS IS MY**  
STORY.



I AM RASHOK, OF THE FAMILY DOSH, AND FOR THREE YEARS I SERVED UNDER VALEN AS NO OTHER HAS SERVED.

I SAW HIM TEAR DOWN WALLS THAT HAD NEVER BEFORE FALLEN TO OTHERS...

... SAW HIM RALLY OUR FORCES IN TIMES OF GREAT DANGER AND DESPAIR...

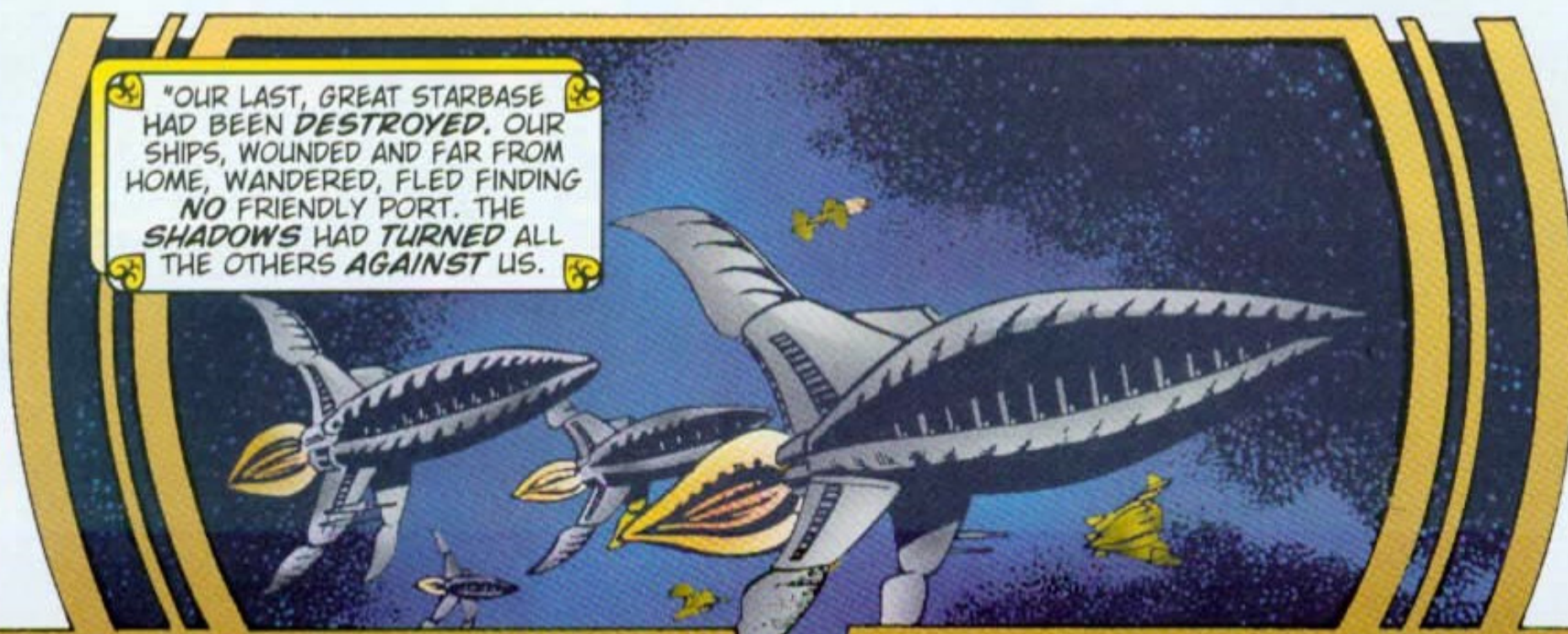
... SAW HIM WIN VICTORIES AGAINST SUPERIOR FORCES THROUGH STRATEGY AND CLEAR-HEADEDNESS...

... SAW HIM STERN, GRAVE, WEEPING, AND THROUGH IT ALL, A TRUE WARRIOR NEVER SURRENDERING UNTIL THE WAR WAS OVER. VALEN WAS

EVERY HAND THAT STRUCK FOR FREEDOM'S PURPOSE. HE WAS THE EYE THAT SAW FOR US, THE STRENGTH THAT FOUGHT FOR US, THE WISDOM THAT CONQUERED THE UNCONQUERABLE.

I AM RASHOK, OF THE WARRIOR CASTE, AND THIS IS MY STORY.

"OUR LAST, GREAT STARBASE HAD BEEN **DESTROYED**. OUR SHIPS, WOUNDED AND FAR FROM HOME, WANDERED, FLED FINDING **NO FRIENDLY PORT**. THE **SHADOWS** HAD **TURNE**D ALL THE OTHERS **AGAINST** US."



"EVERY FACE WAS TURNED FROM US. WE **NEEDED** TO REPAIR OUR FLEET, **NEEDED** PEACE TO REST, AND A PLACE FROM WHICH TO PLAN OUR NEXT MOVE. TO RETURN HOME WOULD MEAN RETREAT. WE **COULD NOT** DO THIS... **COULD NOT** ALLOW THE DARKNESS TO FOLLOW US **BACK**."




"THEN A **NEW STAR** APPEARED BEFORE US, **FLARING** IN AN INSTANT, AND THEN **GONE**. A SIGNAL FROM THE **UNIVERSE** THAT IT HAD NOT FORGOTTEN THE **LEAST** OF HER CHILDREN, LOST AND FRIGHTENED AND FAR FROM **HOME**."


"WE HAD LOST OUR **BASE**. WE HAD LOST OUR **LEADERS**. WE HAD LOST **HOPE**."



"IN THAT MOMENT, THE **UNIVERSE** RETURNED TO US ALL **THREE**."

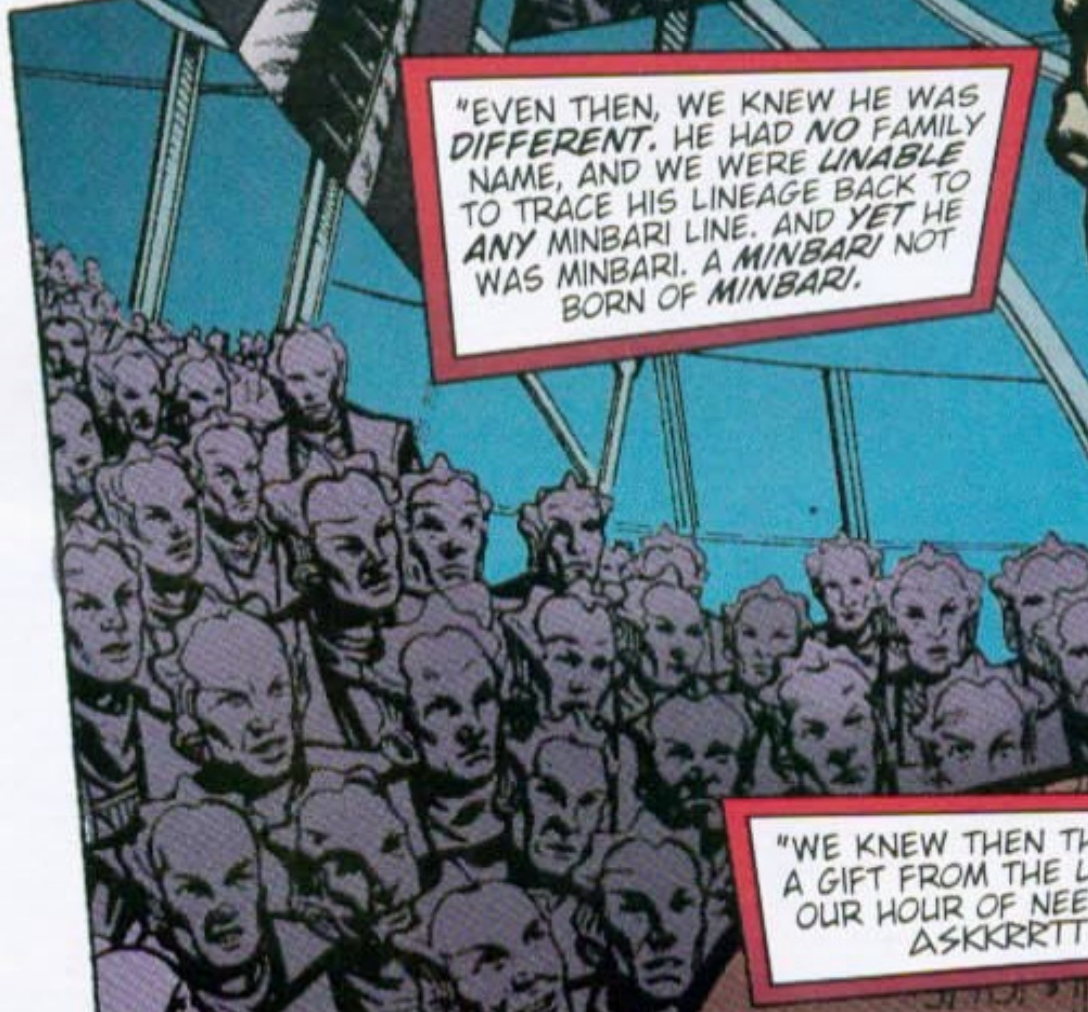


"HE GAVE US A WEAPON,  
A *VESSEL* INTO WHICH  
WE COULD POUR OUR  
RESOURCES, AND FROM  
WHICH WE COULD LAUNCH  
OUR COUNTEROFFENSIVES.




"IT WAS *UNTOUCHED* AND  
*PRISTINE*, AND WE WERE  
ABLE TO *MODIFY* IT TO OUR  
NEEDS. VALEN NEVER TOLD  
US *WHERE* IT HAD COME  
FROM. AND, AFTER THE  
*FIRST* FEW TIMES, WE  
STOPPED ASKING. IT WAS  
ENOUGH THAT IT *WAS*.

"NEITHER DID WE KNOW WHERE *HE* CAME  
FROM, OR HIS *CURIOUS* COMPANION.  
BUT AS *TIRED* AS WE WERE, WE DID  
NOT CARE. HE HAD GIVEN US REFUGE  
FROM THE *COLD* NIGHT OF SPACE, AND  
FOR THAT ALONE WE WERE *THANKFUL*.



"EVEN THEN, WE KNEW HE WAS  
*DIFFERENT*. HE HAD NO FAMILY  
NAME, AND WE WERE *UNABLE*  
TO TRACE HIS LINEAGE BACK TO  
ANY MINBARI LINE. AND YET HE  
WAS MINBARI. A *MINBARI* NOT  
BORN OF *MINBARI*.



"WE KNEW THEN THAT HE WAS  
A GIFT FROM THE UNIVERSE IN  
OUR HOUR OF NEED. HE WAS  
ASKKRRTT --

RECORD DAMAGED.  
SKIPPING TO NEXT  
AVAILABLE RECORD.

"-- CALLED TOGETHER THE THREE  
CASTES: **WARRIOR, RELIGIOUS, AND  
WORKER.** WITH THE FALL OF OUR  
BASE, THE CASTES HAD QUARRELED  
AMONG EACH OTHER OVER THE  
**DIRECTION** WE MUST FOLLOW. THERE  
HAD BEEN FIGHTING WITHIN THE  
CASTES. ARGUMENTS HAD TURNED  
TO **VIOLENCE.**

"WHEN THE CASTES WOULD NOT  
**BEND,** HE TURNED HIS BACK ON  
US, **SHAMED** US, AND CREATED  
THE ANLA-SHOK & A **NEW** ARMY  
OF MINBARI THAT RECOGNIZED  
NO CASTE LINES, THAT **SHUNNED**  
CASTES. IF THE CASTES WOULD  
NOT **COOPERATE,** THEN HE WOULD  
FIND A WAY TO WORK **OUTSIDE**  
THE CASTES.


**5** RANGERS (TRANSLATED  
FROM THE MINBARI,  
MEANING "THE  
APPLICATION OF FORCE").

"THAT WAS HIS  
LESSON: TO GO **BEYOND**  
THE LIMITATIONS OF FLESH,  
OF **RULES, OF LAW,** TO  
THE **CENTER** OF THE  
**SOUL.** WE COULD ONLY  
**ENVY** HIS FREEDOM.  
TO FIGHT A WAR, YOU  
FIGHT A WAR, YOU DO  
NOT ARGUE DOCTRINE  
OF THE SUPREMACY  
OF CASTES.


"WE  
CALLED HIM  
ENTIL'ZHA."

WILL  
YOU FOLLOW  
ME INTO FIRE, INTO  
DARKNESS, INTO  
DEATH?






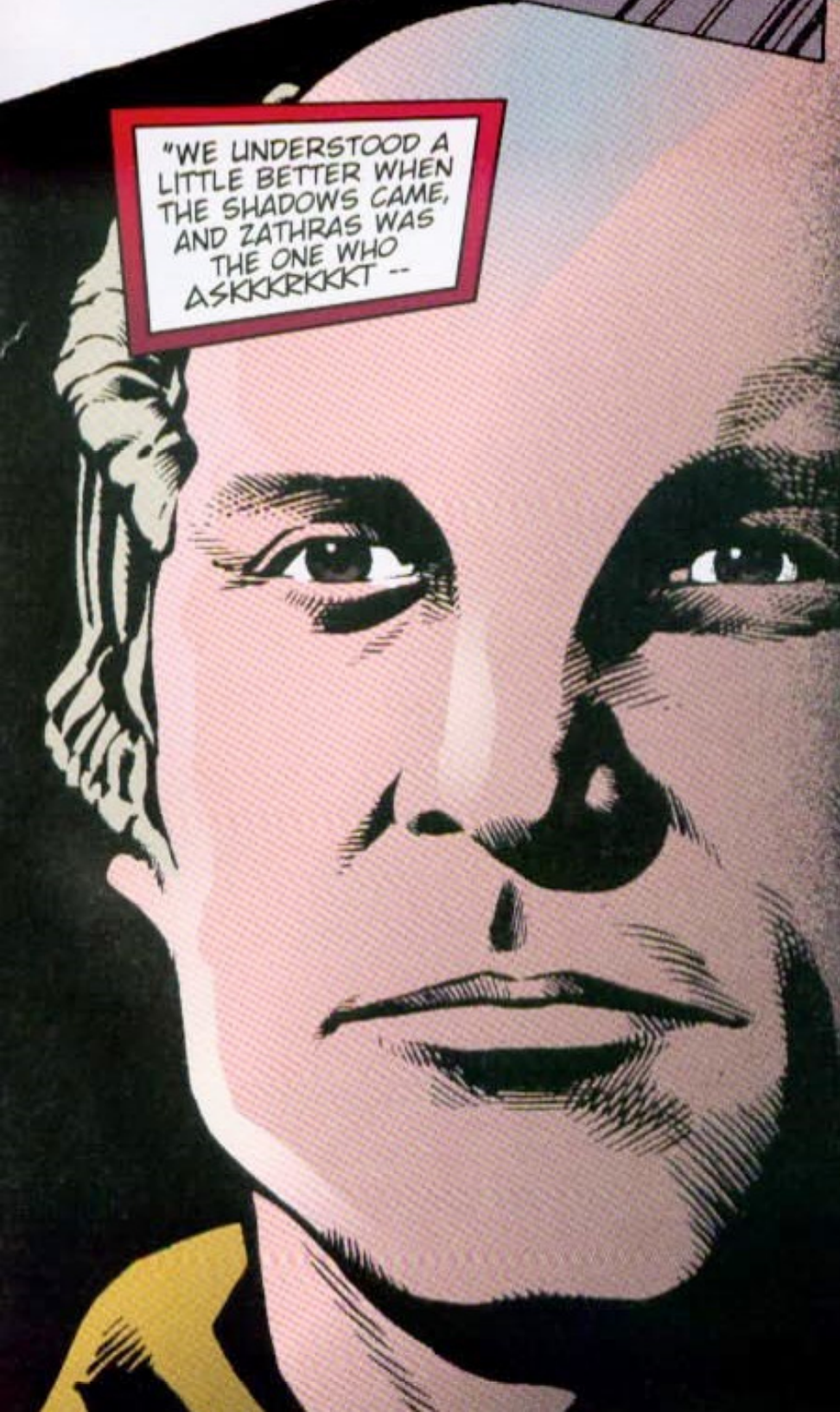
"THE COMPANION OF VALEN, WHO CAME TO US WHEN HE CAME... WE NEVER UNDERSTOOD THAT FRIENDSHIP. HE COULD NOT FIGHT, NEVER FOUGHT. AND YET HE SEEMED TO KNOW WHAT WAS NEEDED BEFORE IT WAS NEEDED, AND AIDED US IN ADJUSTING OUR SHIPS TO BE HELD IN THE LAUNCH BAYS OF THE NEW BASE.



NO, NO... WRONG, THIS IS VERY WRONG. ZATHRAS FIX. THIS NOT BELONG. MINBARI ALWAYS CLUTTER. ZATHRAS DOES NOT UNDERSTAND CLUTTER.



"I THOUGHT HE WOULD DRIVE US MAD. AND YET VALEN CALLED HIM A FRIEND.



"WE UNDERSTOOD A LITTLE BETTER WHEN THE SHADOWS CAME, AND ZATHRAS WAS THE ONE WHO ASKKKRRKKKT --



CAPTAIN... DELENN... WE'VE GOT A PROBLEM.

GOT A PROBLEM? WE'VE HAD A PROBLEM FOR A WHILE NOW.

YEAH, WELL IN THAT CASE IT JUST GOT WORSE.

OUR ORBIT IS DETERIORATING FASTER THAN I'D ANTICIPATED. I THINK THE SHAPE OF THE STATION IS CATCHING THE ATMOSPHERE, CAUSING IT TO GO IN A STEEPER ANGLE.

SO HOW MUCH DO WE HAVE LEFT ON THE 72 HOURS?

AT A GUESS... 24.



SUSAN... ASSUMING OUR DISTRESS SIGNAL WAS RECEIVED BY BABYLON 5, IT WILL TAKE AT LEAST 36 STANDARD HOURS FOR ANOTHER SHIP TO REACH US.

I KNOW.



THAT'S THE PROBLEM ANY TIME I EVER ALLOW MYSELF TO THINK, "WELL, IT COULD BE WORSE." NINE TIMES OUT OF TEN, IT GETS WORSE, FAST.

COMMANDER SINCLAIR ONCE CALLED THIS PLACE A FLYING DUTCHMAN... A SHIP DESTINED NEVER TO REACH HOME. NOW WE HAD TO FIND SOME WAY TO GET OUT, OR THIS TIME IT WAS GOING TO TAKE US WITH IT WHEN IT WENT DOWN IN THE FLAMES.



AND YOU KNOW, THERE'S NEVER A GOOD REVELATION AROUND WHEN YOU NEED ONE.