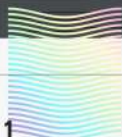




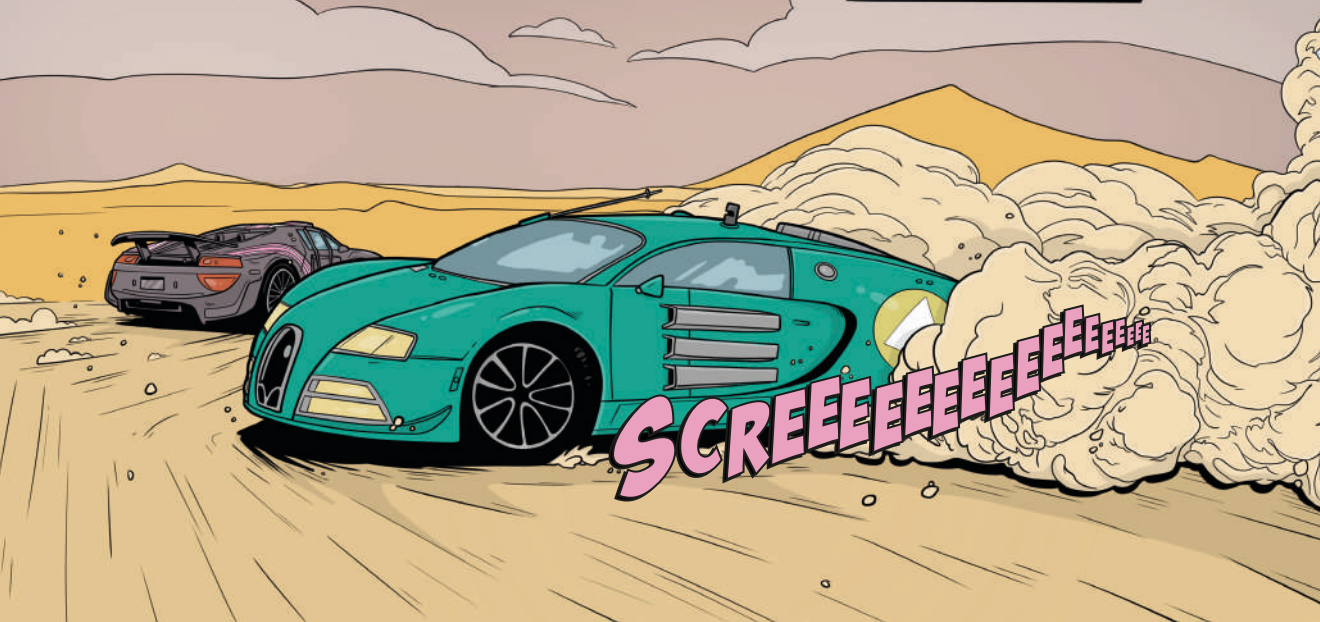
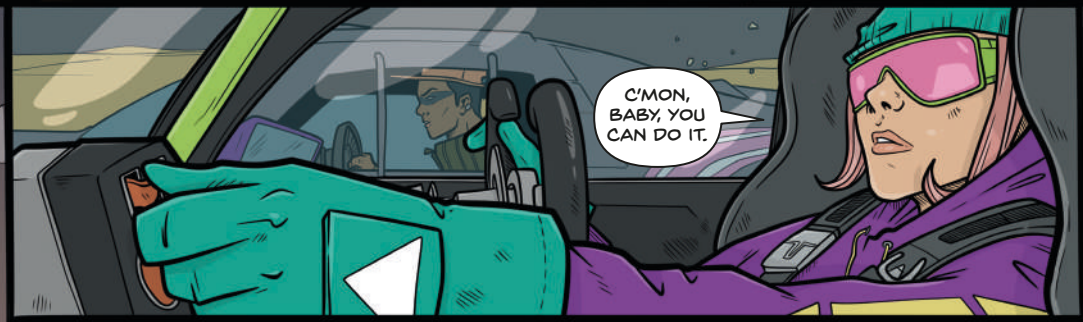
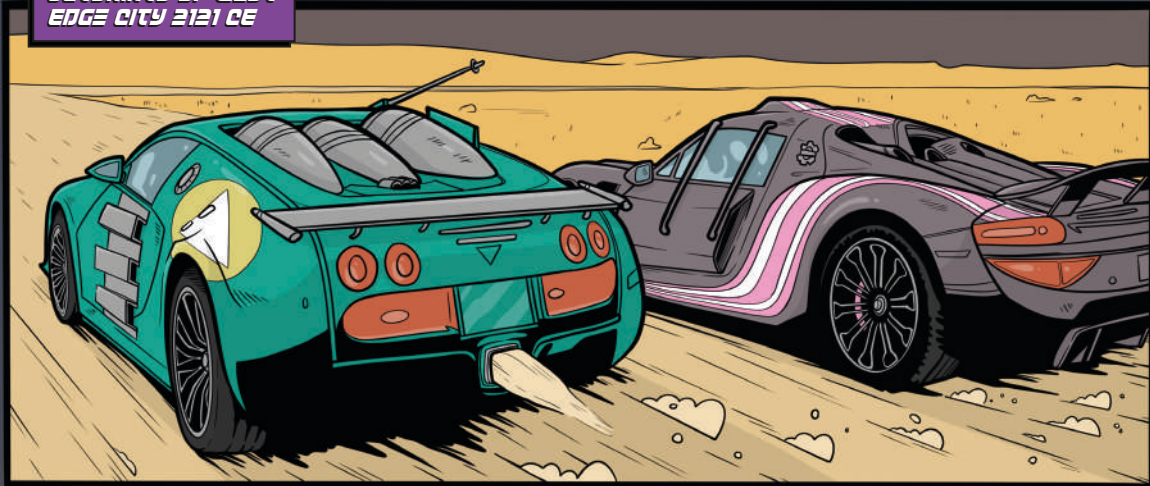
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DR/VRS COMIC:
CHAPTER 1 EPISODE 1

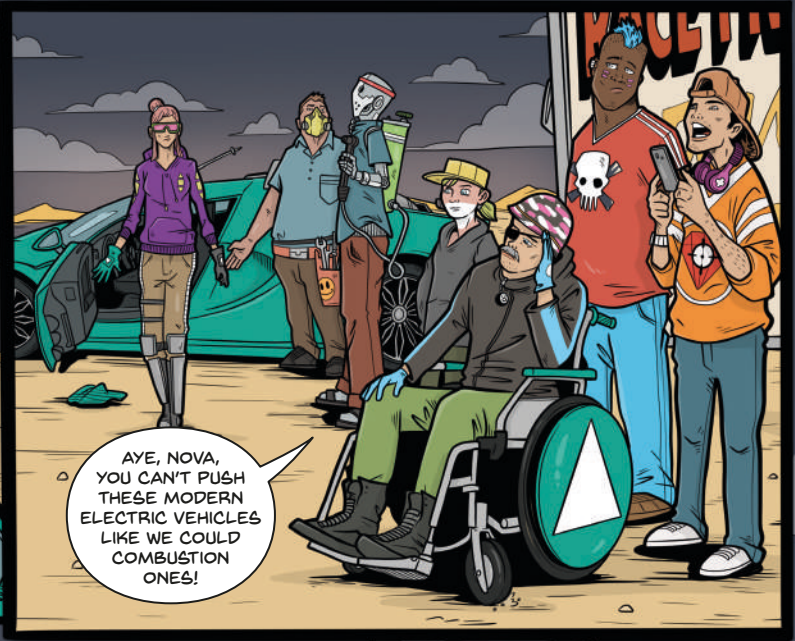


OUTSKIRTS OF WEST
EDGE CITY 2121 CE

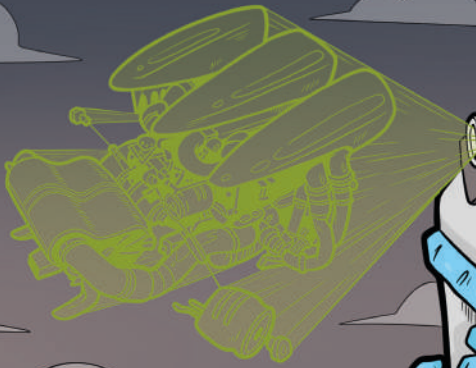




DAMMIT!



AYE, NOVA, YOU CAN'T PUSH THESE MODERN ELECTRIC VEHICLES LIKE WE COULD COMBUSTION ONES!



ECHOLON TECH **ALWAYS** HAS HEATING PROBLEMS.

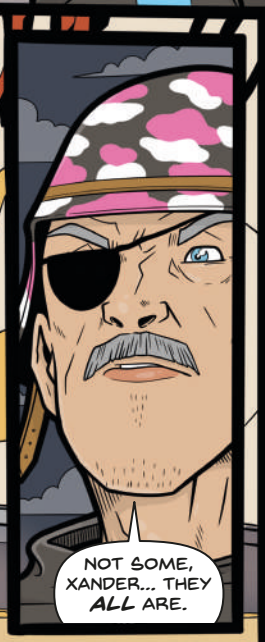


THE TECH'S FINE, ALDO.

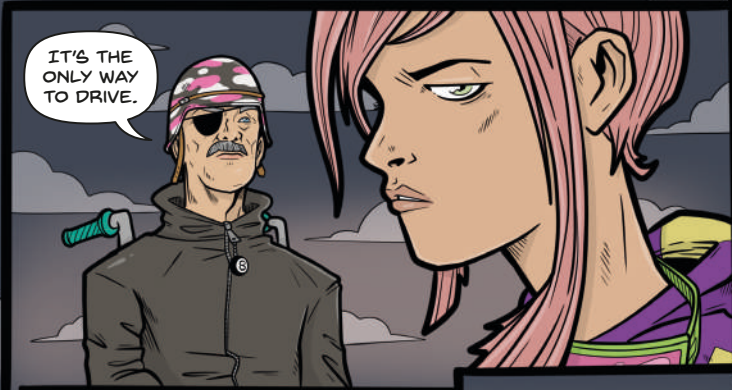
SOME DRIVER'S JUST CAN'T HANDLE IT.



EASY, NOVA. SOME DRIVER'S ARE JUST **ASSHOLES!**



NOT SOME, XANDER... THEY **ALL** ARE.



IT'S THE ONLY WAY TO DRIVE.



EITHER WAY, THE GREAT RACE IS IN A WEEK AND YOU'RE GONNA NEED A NEW FUEL CELL TO RACE.

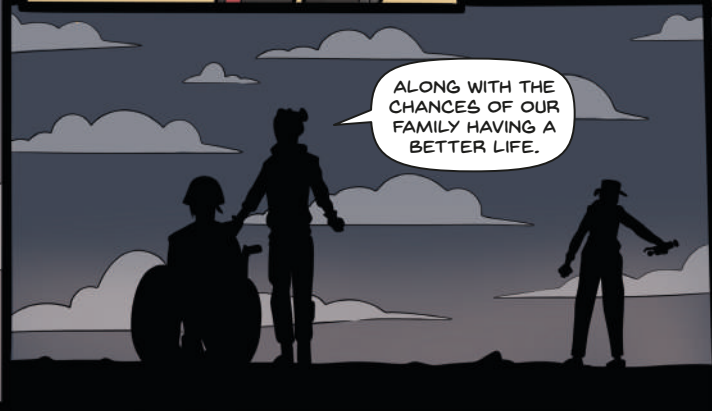


LOOKS LIKE I WON'T BE SEEING YOU IN THE ECHELON AFTER ALL.



IGNORE ALI, NOVA. HE'S JUST PLAYING MIND GAMES.

BUT HE'S RIGHT. WITHOUT A FUEL CELL, MY CHANCE OF WINNING GOES TO ZERO.



ALONG WITH THE CHANCES OF OUR FAMILY HAVING A BETTER LIFE.



HERE, TAKE THE MECHANIC HE'LL BRING YOU LUCK.



AW, THANKS, FIORA, BUT IF YOU GIVE HIM TO ME, WHAT WILL YOU DO FOR LUCK?



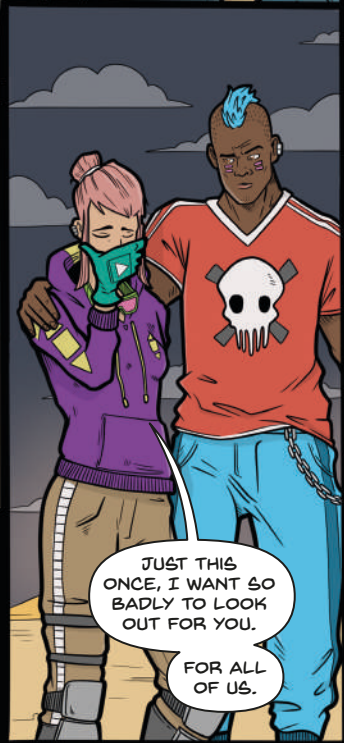
I DON'T NEED LUCK. I'VE GOT MY DAD.



HEY, SUTHERLAND OWES ME A FAVOR...

LET'S GO TOMORROW AND SEE IF WE CAN GET A REPLACEMENT PART.

YOU'VE SPENT YOUR WHOLE LIFE LOOKING OUT FOR ME, MATTEO.



JUST THIS ONCE, I WANT SO BADLY TO LOOK OUT FOR YOU.

FOR ALL OF US.



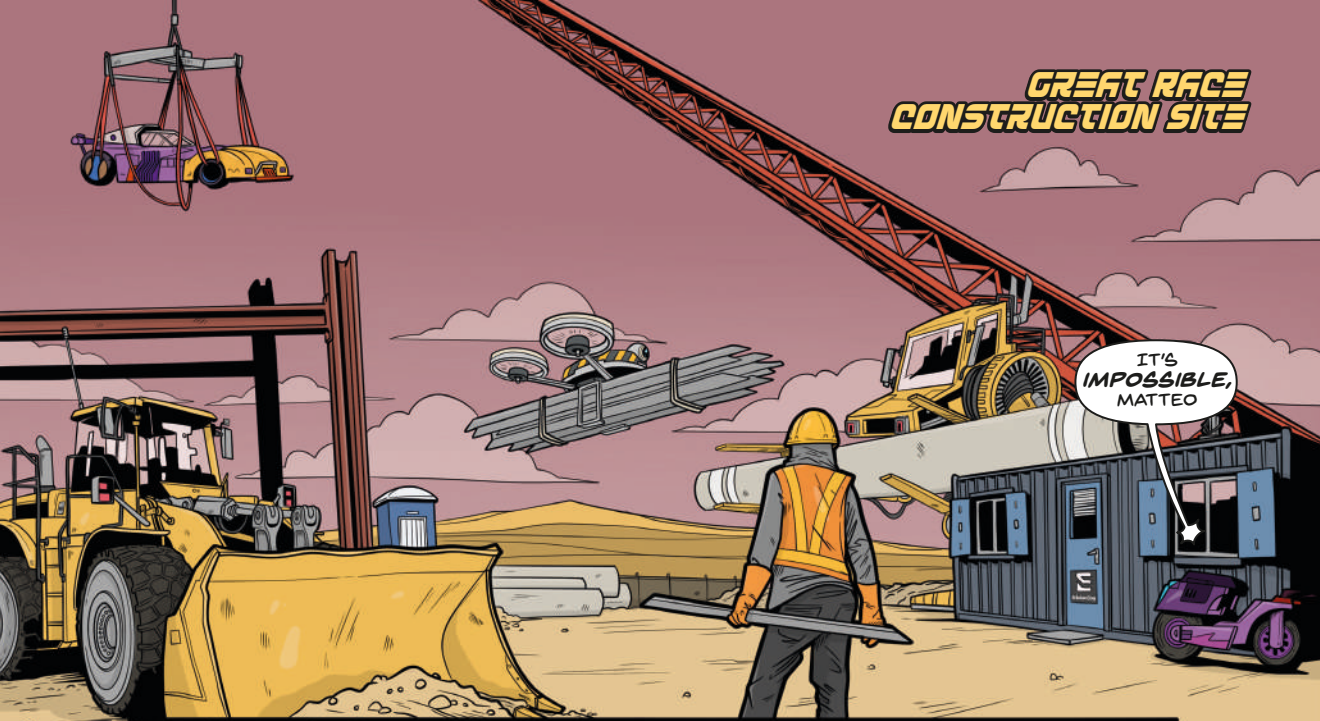
YOU REALLY THINK I GOT WHAT IT TAKES TO WIN?

YOU KIDDING!? YOU'RE A DE LUCA!



IT'S IN YOUR BLOOD.

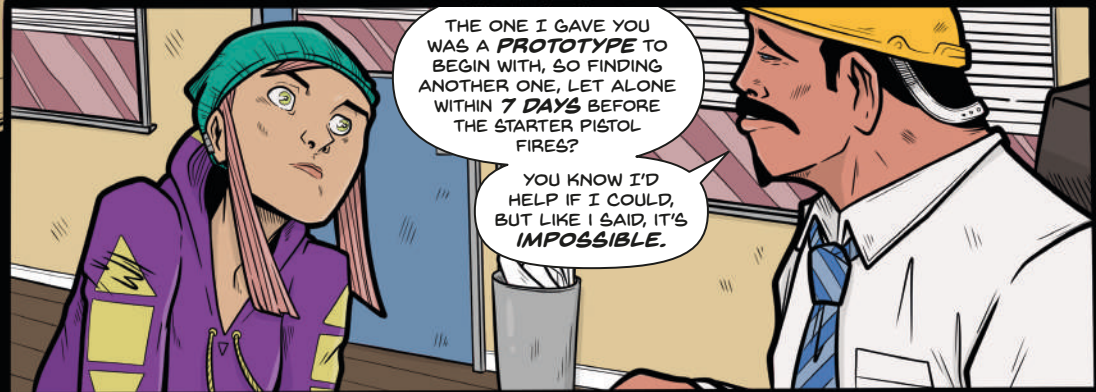
GREAT RACE CONSTRUCTION SITE



IT'S IMPOSSIBLE, MATTEO



C'MON, SUTHY, THERE **HAS** TO BE A WAY TO GET ANOTHER FUEL CELL.



THE ONE I GAVE YOU WAS A **PROTOTYPE** TO BEGIN WITH, SO FINDING ANOTHER ONE, LET ALONE WITHIN **7 DAYS** BEFORE THE STARTER PISTOL FIRES?

YOU KNOW I'D HELP IF I COULD, BUT LIKE I SAID, IT'S **IMPOSSIBLE**.



WHAT IF WE DROP IN A 4 BARREL HOLLY AND RETROFIT IT FOR **ETHANOL**?

SHAI DID YOU EVEN **READ** THE RACE RULES?

ALL **GAS** PRODUCTS ARE **PROHIBITED** IN THE INAUGURAL RACE.

BUT, HEY THE **ECHELON COUNCIL** IS RIGHT THERE IF YOU WANT TO GO OUT AND ASK THEM YOURSELF.

DAMNIT! WE WERE SO CLOSE!

AHHHHHHHHH!

IS EVERYTHING OK, MR. ROSS? MY **NEUROSYNTHETIC SYSTEM** PICKED UP TEMPORAL IRREGULARITY IN YOUR OFFICE.



YES, SIR,
MR ARCHITECT,
SIR. WE'RE JUST
CATCHING UP.

YOU SEEM
DISTRESSED,
IS SOMETHING
WRONG?

JUST
TIRED OF SEEING
OTHER PEOPLE'S
DREAMS COME
TRUE...

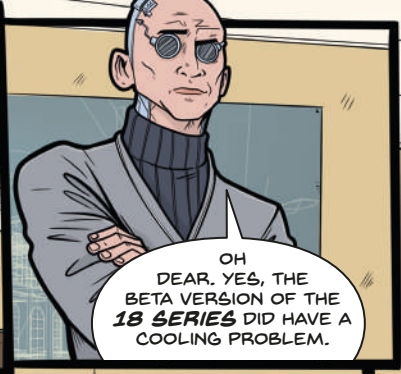
WHILE MINE
GET BURNED IN AN
**OVERHEATED
VX-18 FUEL CELL**
MELTDOWN.

I HAVEN'T
QUITE MASTERED
METAPHORS.

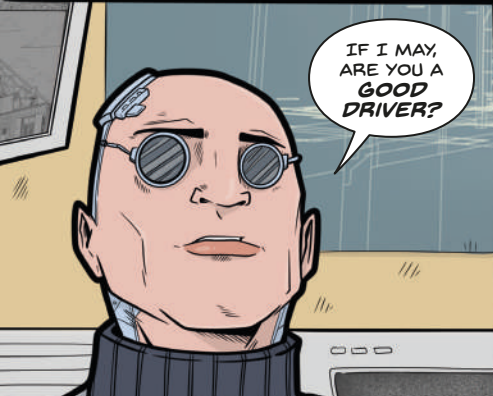
BUT WHILE I
ASSUME YOUR
DREAMS WERE **NOT
LITERALLY** IN THE
FUEL CELL DID YOU
ACTUALLY HAVE A
VX-18 FAILURE?



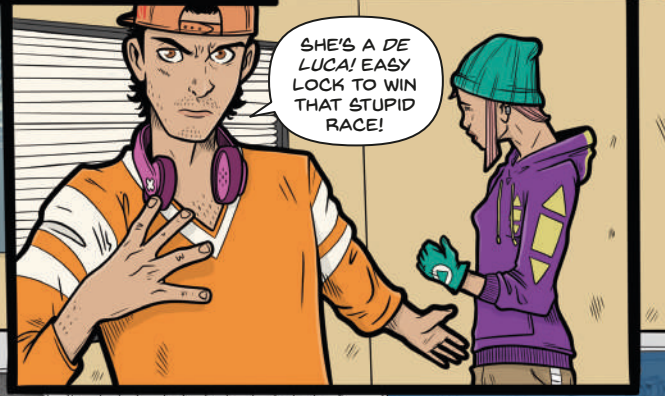
YES.
IT BLEW IN MY
LAST TRAINING RUN
BEFORE THE RACE.



OH
DEAR. YES, THE
BETA VERSION OF THE
18 SERIES DID HAVE A
COOLING PROBLEM.



IF I MAY,
ARE YOU A
**GOOD
DRIVER?**

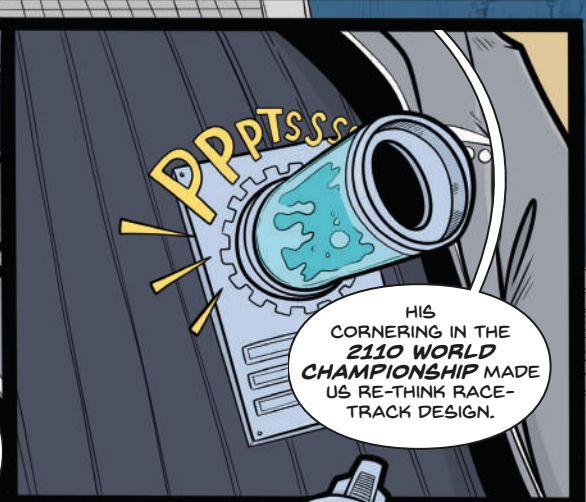


SHE'S A **DE
LUCA!** EASY
LOCK TO WIN
THAT STUPID
RACE!

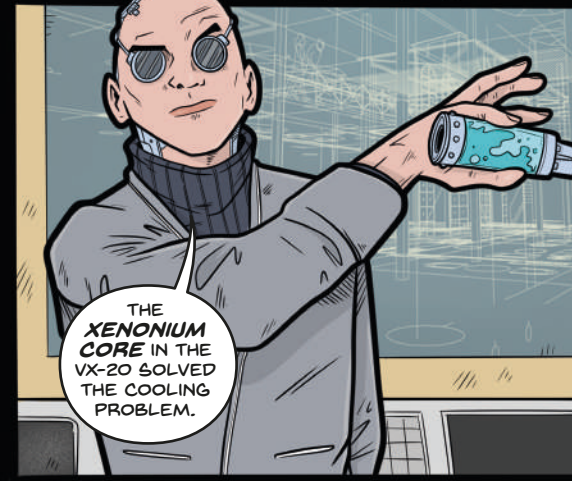


I REMEMBER
MR. DE LUCA...

WHICH ISN'T
SAYING MUCH
SINCE I REMEMBER
EVERYTHING...



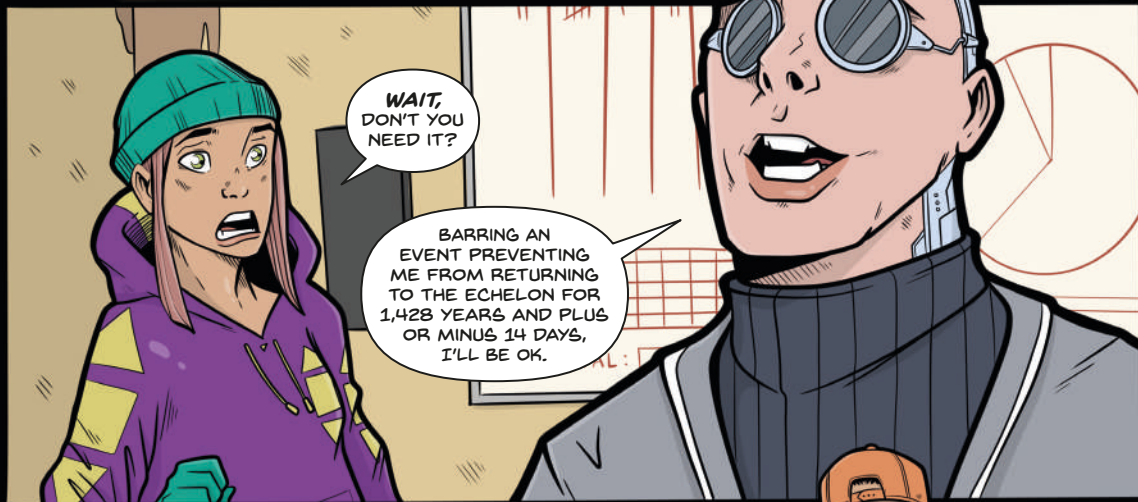
HIS
CORNERING IN THE
**2110 WORLD
CHAMPIONSHIP** MADE
US RE-THINK RACE-
TRACK DESIGN.



THE
**XENONIUM
CORE** IN THE
VX-20 SOLVED
THE COOLING
PROBLEM.

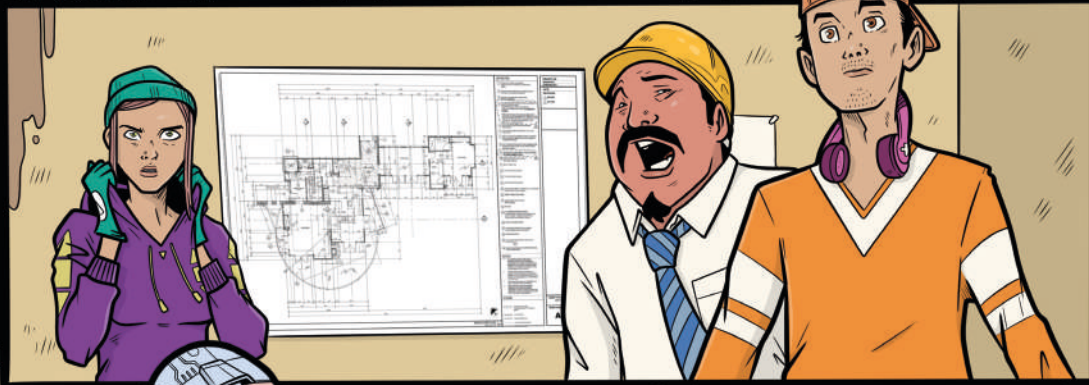


PLEASE
TELL ALDO I
SAID HELLO,
WOULD YOU?



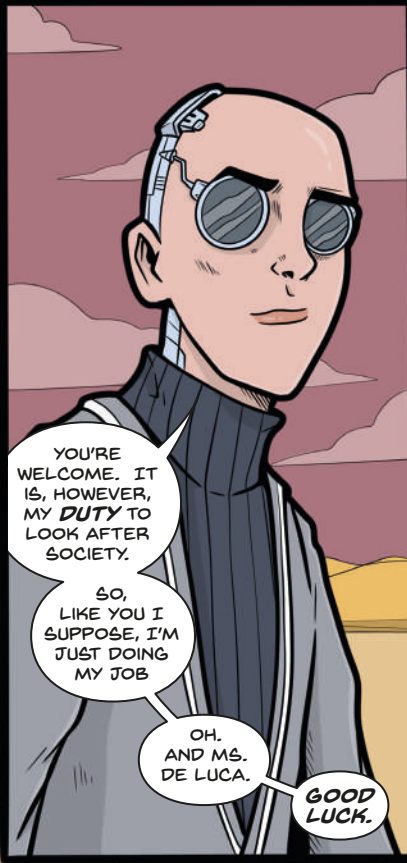
WAIT,
DON'T YOU
NEED IT?

BARRING AN
EVENT PREVENTING
ME FROM RETURNING
TO THE ECHELON FOR
1,428 YEARS AND PLUS
OR MINUS 14 DAYS,
I'LL BE OK.



AND
FROM THE
LOOKS OF IT,
YOU NEED IT
MORE THAN
ME.

I DON'T
KNOW WHAT TO
SAY, **THANK
YOU.**



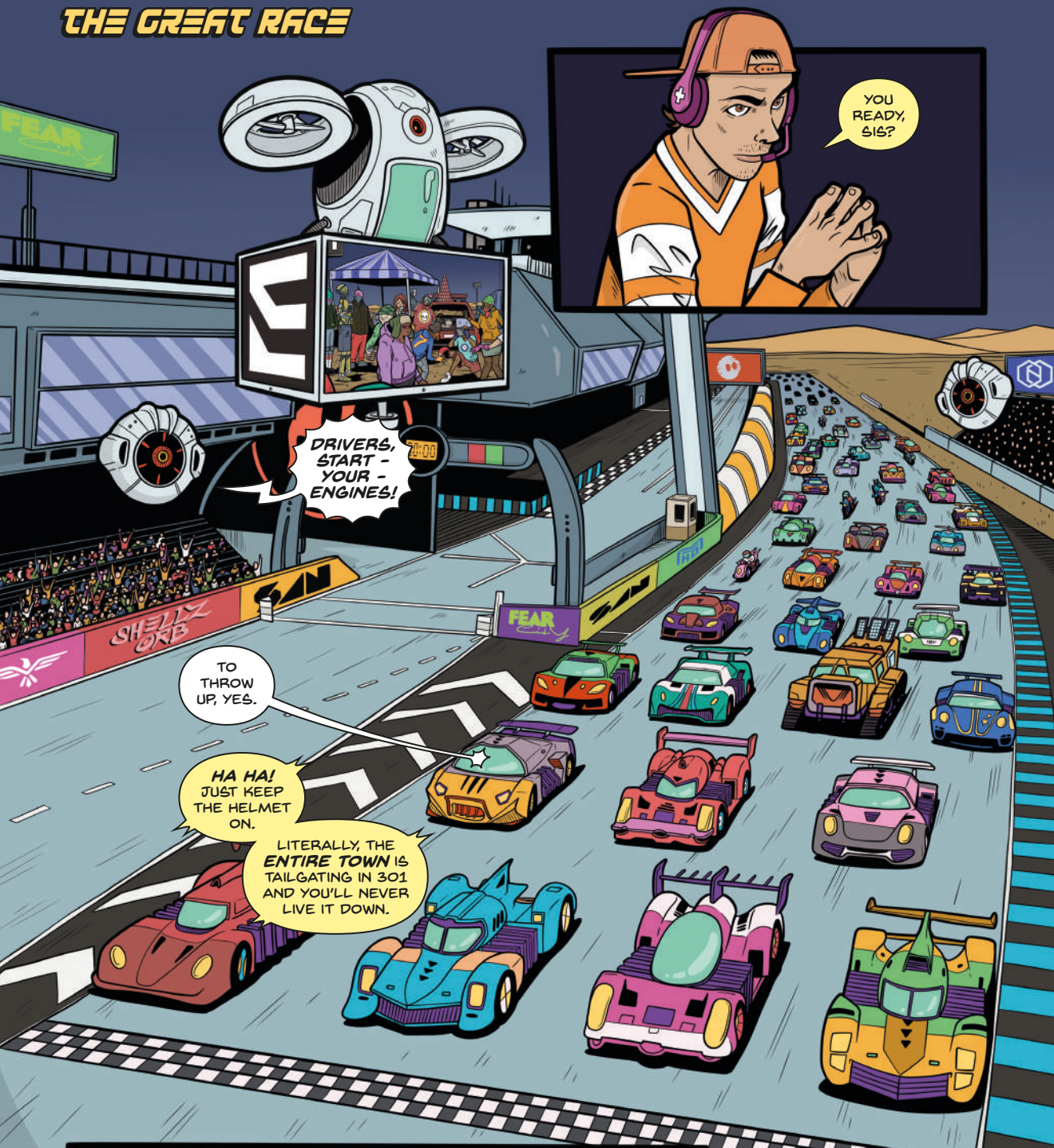
YOU'RE
WELCOME. IT
IS, HOWEVER,
MY **DUTY** TO
LOOK AFTER
SOCIETY.

SO,
LIKE YOU I
SUPPOSE, I'M
JUST DOING
MY JOB

OH.
AND MS.
DE LUCA.

**GOOD
LUCK.**

THE GREAT RACE



YOU READY, SIS?

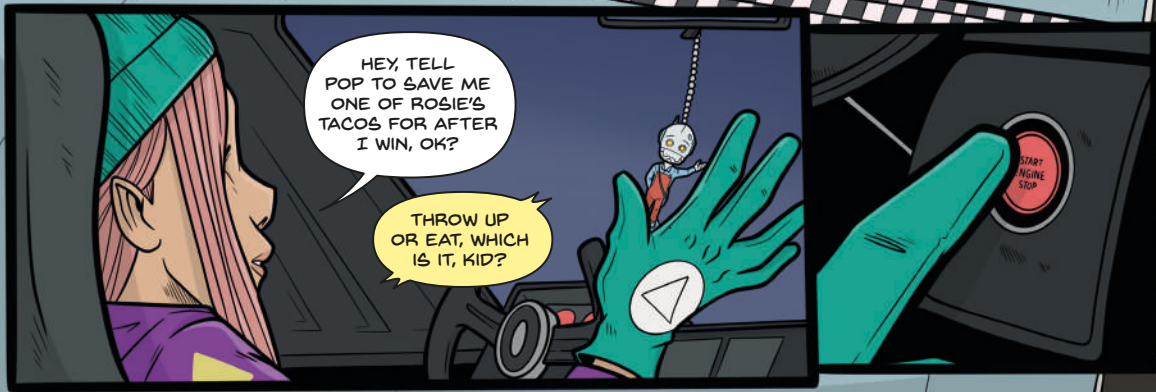


DRIVERS, START - YOUR - ENGINES!

TO THROW UP, YES.

HA HA! JUST KEEP THE HELMET ON.

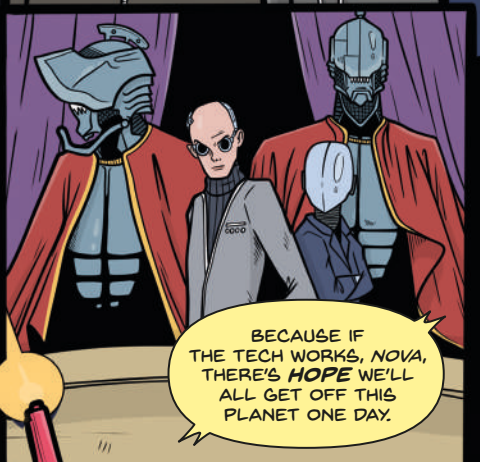
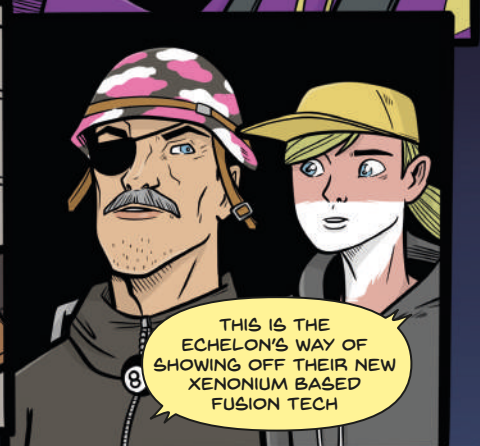
LITERALLY, THE ENTIRE TOWN IS TAILGATING IN 301 AND YOU'LL NEVER LIVE IT DOWN.

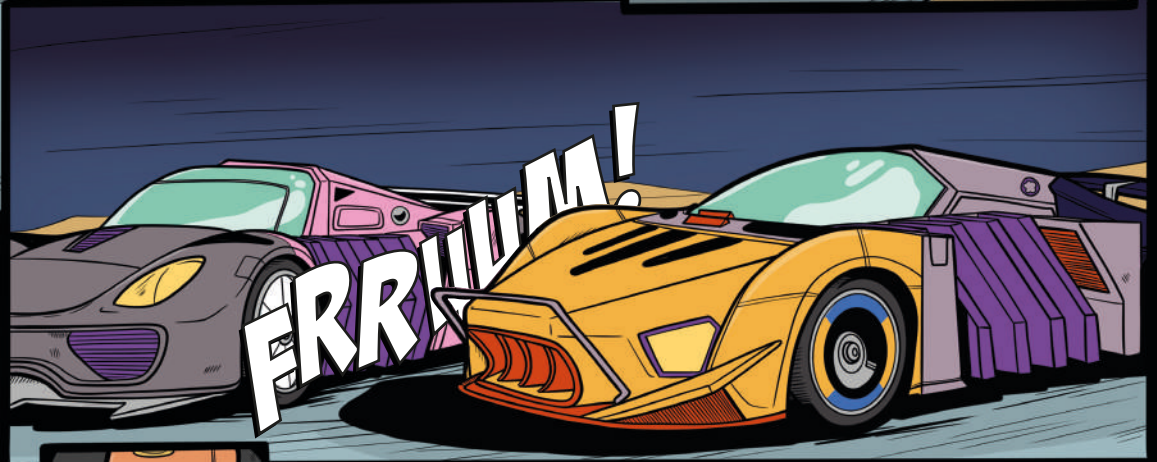


HEY, TELL POP TO SAVE ME ONE OF ROSIE'S TACOS FOR AFTER I WIN, OK?

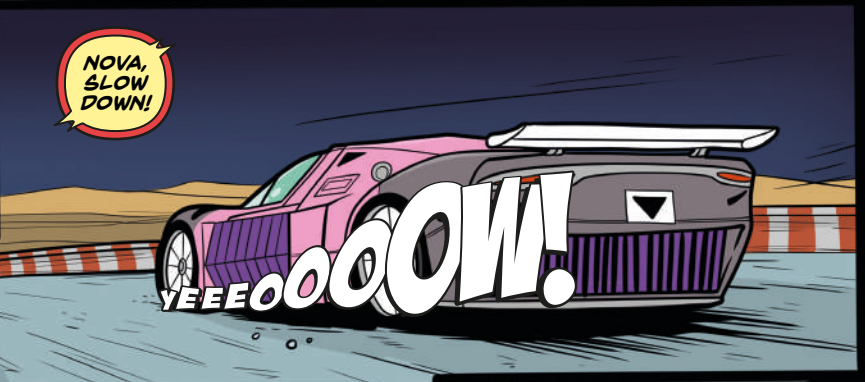
THROW UP OR EAT, WHICH IS IT, KID?

START ENGINE STOP



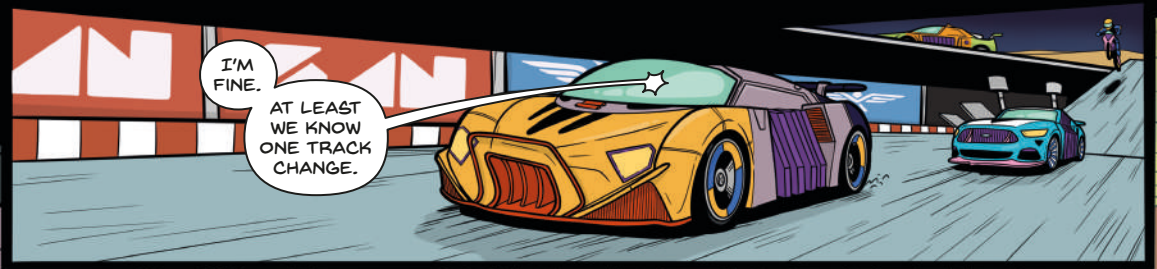
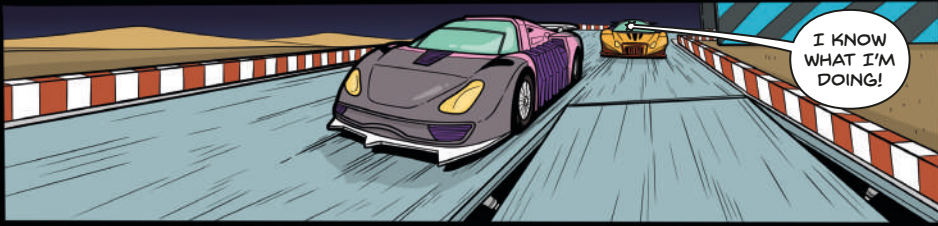


NOVA,
SLOW
DOWN!



YOU'RE
DRIVING TOO
AGGRESSIVELY.







LOOKS LIKE BACKUP BATTERY GIRL IS DOING WELL, SIR.

INDEED SHE IS.

THE **REAL WINNER**, THOUGH, IS YOUR RACETRACK, MR. ROSS.

OH THAT'S VERY KIND OF YOU, SIR, BUT MY TEAM WAS JUST INSTALLING THE PLANS YOUR TEAM DESIGNED.



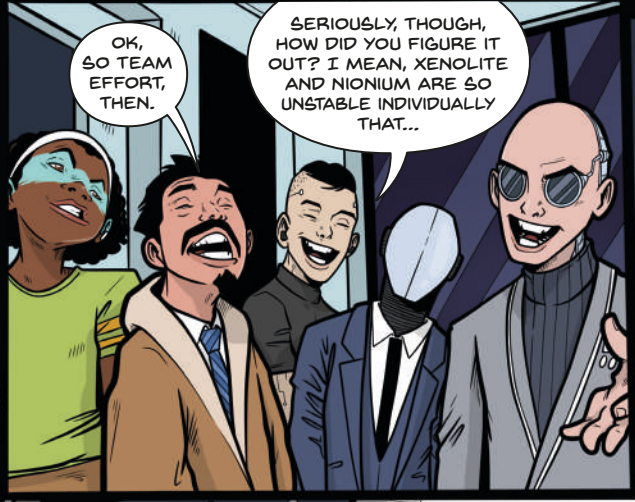
IN THAT CASE, THEN, CONGRATULATIONS, ALISTER.



WELL, THE RACE ISN'T OVER, YET, SIR.



BUT, REALLY, IT'S YOUR **XENONIUM** EMULSIFICATION PROCESS THAT POWERS ALL THIS.



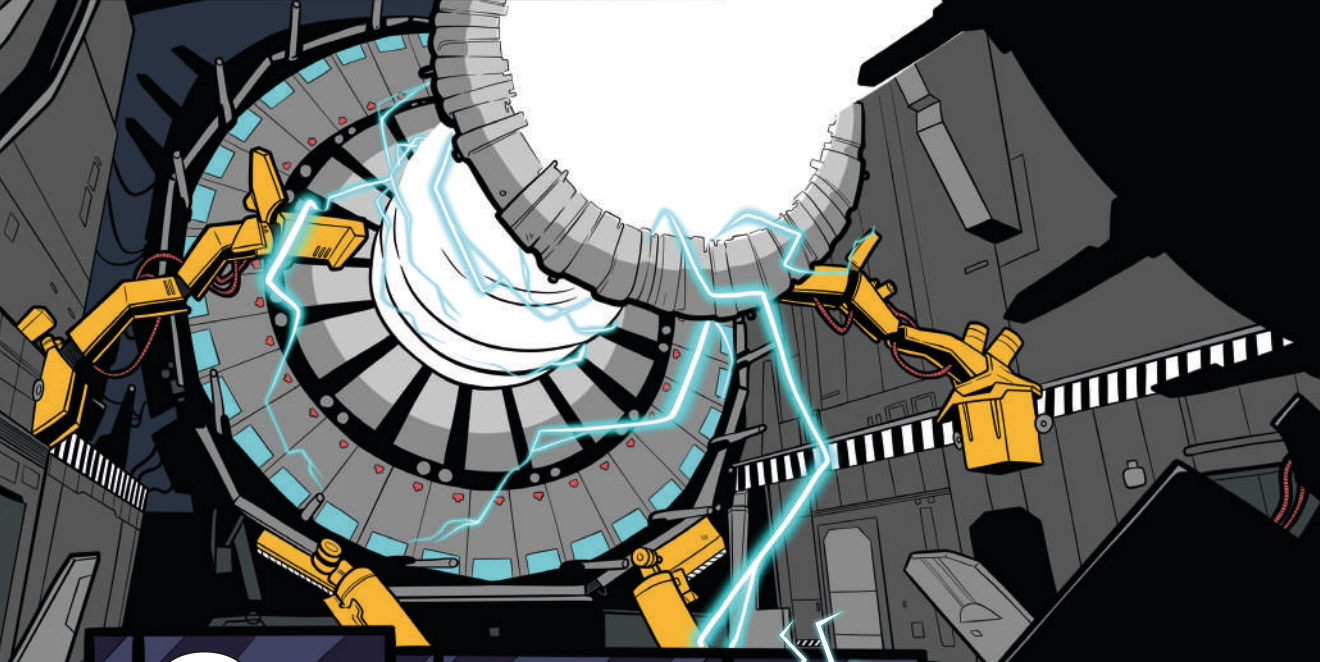
OK, SO TEAM EFFORT, THEN.

SERIOUSLY, THOUGH, HOW DID YOU FIGURE IT OUT? I MEAN, XENOLITE AND NIONIUM ARE SO UNSTABLE INDIVIDUALLY THAT...



ALWAYS BUSINESS WITH YOU, ALISTER!

LET'S ENJOY THE RACE AND DISCUSS WHEN WE GET BACK TO AURORA DYNAMICS



ARE YOU OK, SIR?

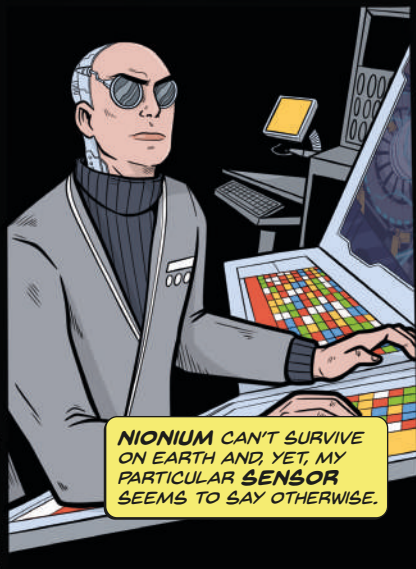
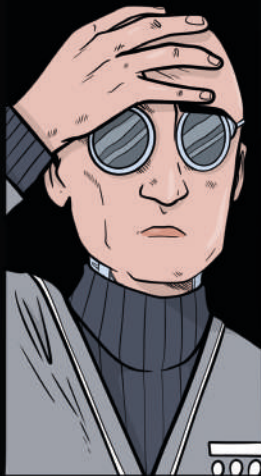


YES, QUITE FINE, BUT, I JUST...



EXCUSE ME, EVERYONE, I THINK I SHOULD CHECK ON SOMETHING.

HOW INTERESTING.

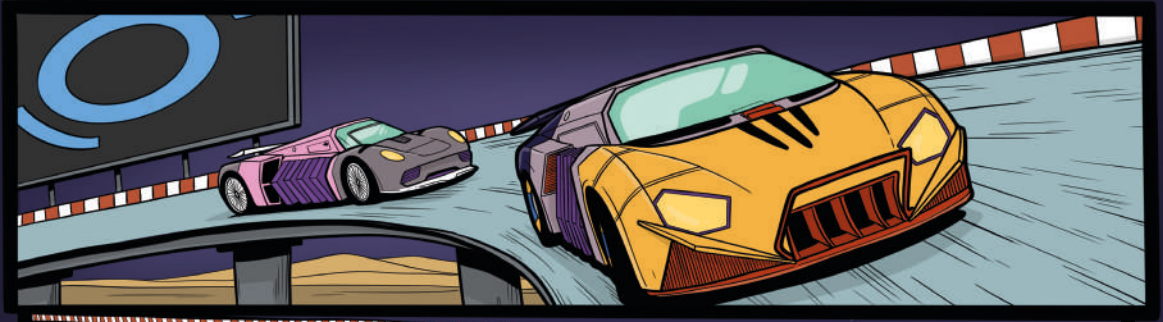


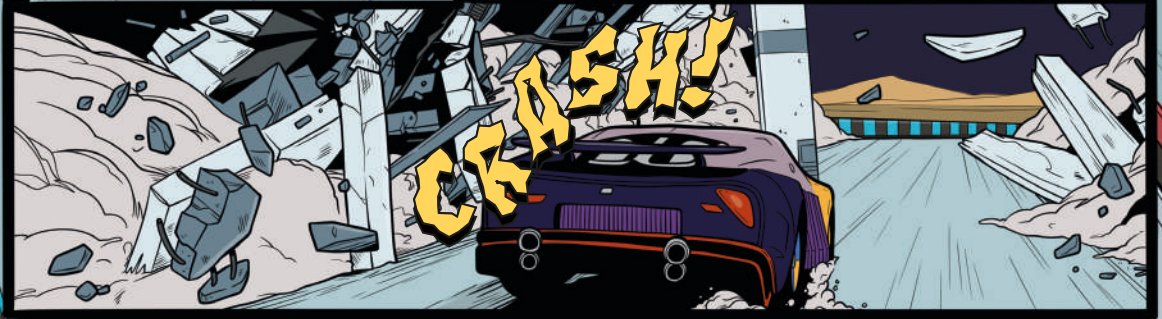
NONIUM CAN'T SURVIVE ON EARTH AND, YET, MY PARTICULAR SENSOR SEEMS TO SAY OTHERWISE.



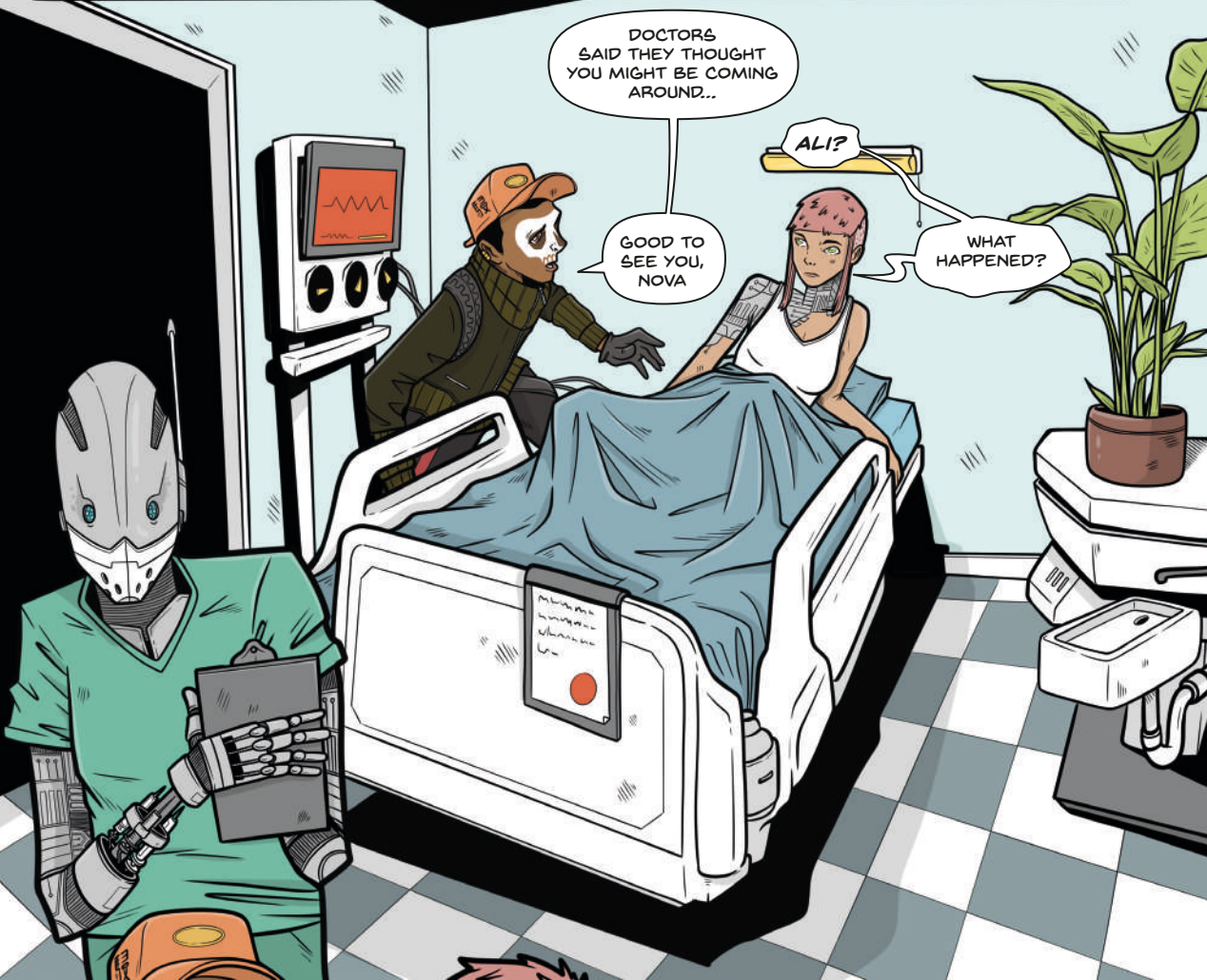
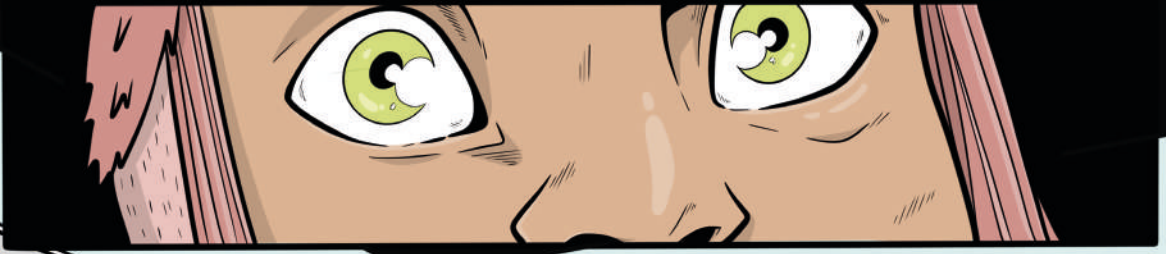
UNLESS...







2 YEARS LATER...



DOCTORS SAID THEY THOUGHT YOU MIGHT BE COMING AROUND...

GOOD TO SEE YOU, NOVA

ALI?

WHAT HAPPENED?

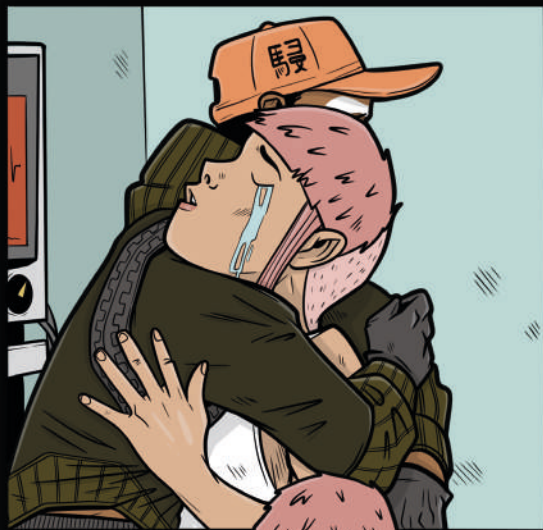


THE EXPLOSION!
MY FAMILY...



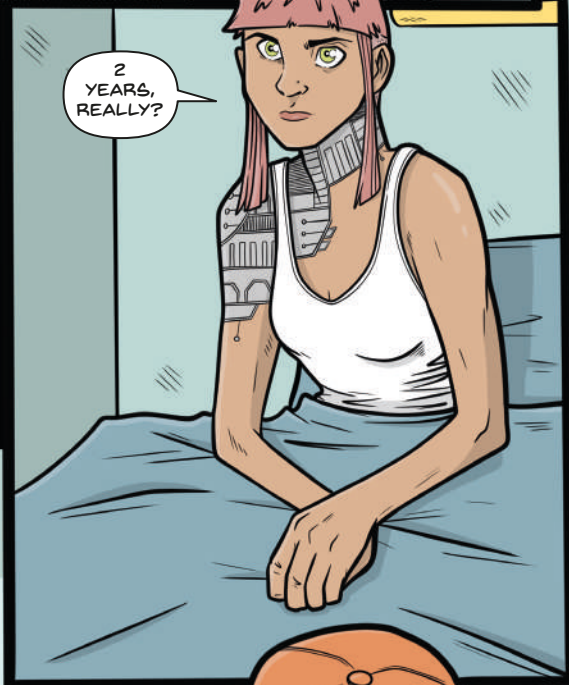
I'M SO SORRY.

NONE OF THEM SURVIVED.



HOW LONG HAS IT BEEN?!

2 YEARS.



2 YEARS, REALLY?



YES. A LOT HAS CHANGED, NOVA.

6000 DIED ON THAT DAY, NOVA.



THE ECHELON **BLAMES US** CITING A FAILED INSTALLATION.

WE **BLAME THEM** FOR FAILED TECH.

EVERYONE MORE OR LESS **BLAMES THE ARCHITECT.**



WAIT WHAT? WHY?



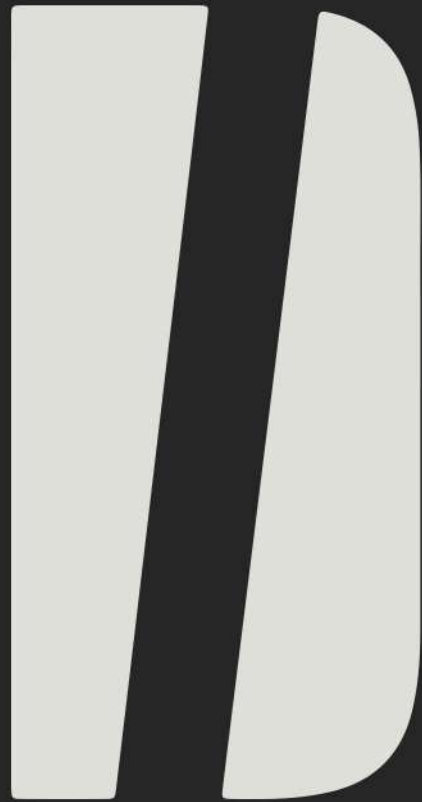
"MORE THAN ANYTHING."





FAMILIA





WEOWNTHENIGHT.IO