



NOV 09 #112
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FRED PERRY

GOLD DIGGER



NOVEMBER 2009



YOU MEAN OUR
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
INVESTIGATION OF
THE ANCIENT
SKY TOWERS?

RIGHT.

THE TOWERED
FORTRESS CITIES
THAT ROAMED THE
SKIES SEVEN
THOUSAND
YEARS AGO...

...DURING THE
FABLED
"AGE OF
WONDERS".

THOSE CITADELS WERE
HELD ALOFT BY QUARRIED
CRYSTAL ORE CALLED
"MOON STONE"!

FORTRESS
KIA CAN USE THAT
ORE AND ITS MYSTERIOUS
ANTI-GRAVITATIONAL
PROPERTIES TO
MAINTAIN HIS
ORBIT.

SAY...

WE GOT AN
HOUR BEFORE
WE DOCK!

H-HOW ABOUT
ANOTHER
SHANTY!

HELP PASS
THE TIME AND
CHASE AWAY
THE BLUES!

NO, THANKS.

C'MON
PENNY!

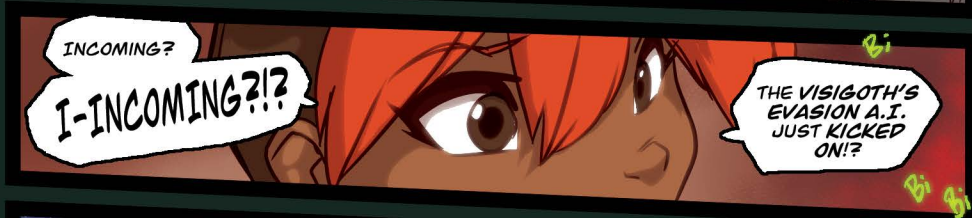
NO.
THANK
YOU.

STSKZ
WELL, YOU'RE
NO GOOD TO ME
THIS WAY,
PARTNER.

HOW ARE YOU GOING
TO KEEP YOUR EDGE
AS A SCIENTIST...

...WHEN ALL YOUR
MIND CAN DO NOW
IS WORRY ABOUT
YOUR BOYFRIEND?

...





BUT... HE
AND I DISABLED
HIS WEAPONS!
KIA VOWED TO BE
A PACIFIST!

WELL, THANKS
TO THAT FIRST
BLAST, I'VE PIN-
POINTED THE
EXACT LOCATION
OF YOUR RABID
PET BATTLE
STATION!

PENNY, OPEN UP THE
HAILING FREQUENCY
I GAVE YOU!

I NEED TO TALK
TO MR. "FULLY
ARMED AND
OPERATIONAL"!

WAIT...

--CRAP!
ANOTHER
BLAST
INCOMING!

THIS ONE'S
ON TARGET!!!

WH! EEEK!

IT--IT
BOUNCED
OFF?!?

PENNY! I DIDN'T
THINK THE VISIGOTH
COULD REPEL FIRE-
POWER OF THAT
MAGNITUDE!

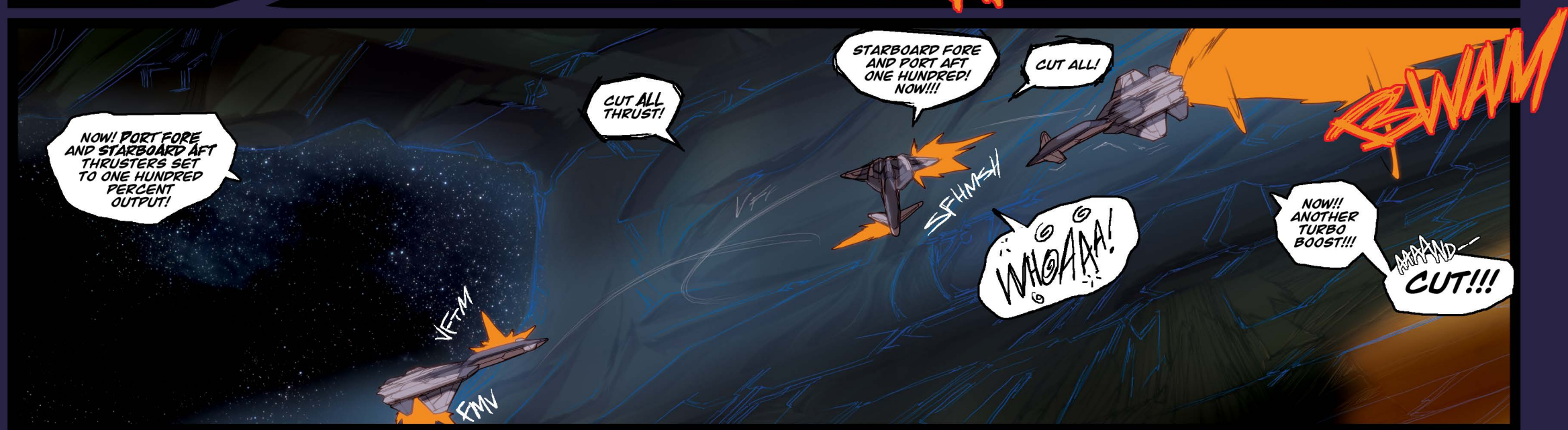
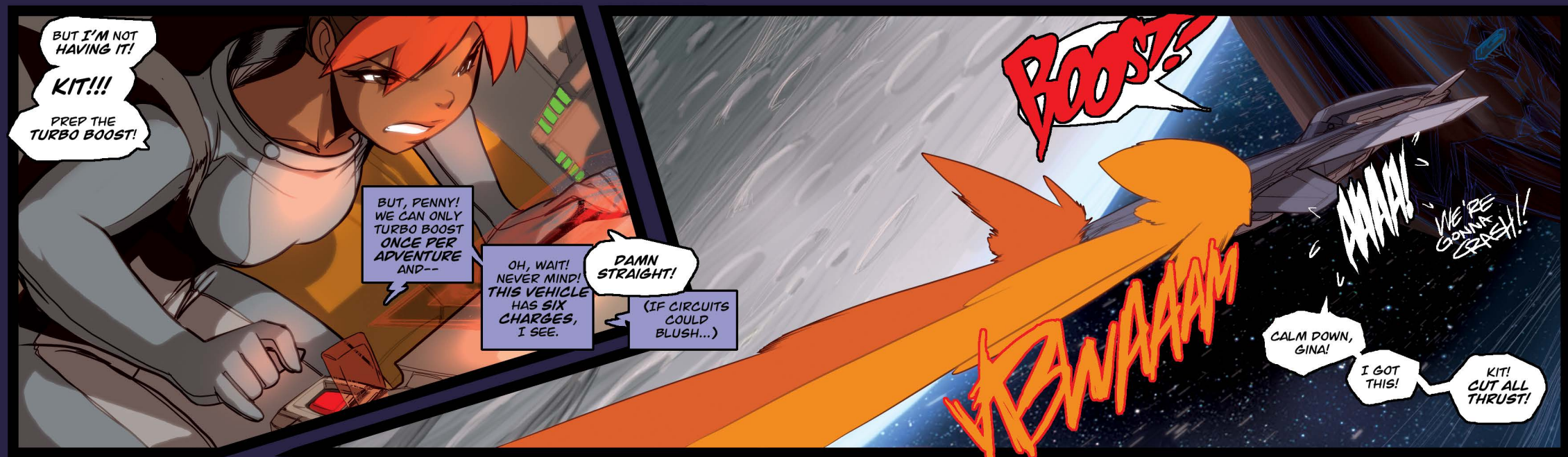
IT CAN'T!

WE SHOULD
HAVE BEEN
VAPORIZED!!!

THERE!

THE SHIELD CAME
FROM THE SAME
PLACE THE ENERGY
BLAST CAME
FROM!!!

PROFESSOR!
PROFESSOR DIGGERS!
ARE YOU THERE!?
A-ARE YOU ALL
RIGHT?



MOMENTUM
DRIFT: .00135
AT ANGLES 23
AND 20!

URFH!
PENNY, I GOTTA
RECALIBRATE THOSE
HURL-A-WHIRL
SETTINGS YOU
INSTALLED ON
YOUR INERTIA
DAMPENER!

AH, WELL...
ALMOST A
PERFECT
PARKING
JOB.

GOOD TO
SEE ONE OF
MY PH.D.S
COME IN
HANDY
EVERY NOW
AND THEN.

START THE
LANDING
CYCLE,
KIT.

YES, MA'AM!

SO TELL ME,
PROFESSOR DIGGERS...
SPEAKING AS ONE WHO
ONLY WENT FOR HER
MASTERS IN APPLIED
BALLISTIC
PHYSICS...

...HOW "PIMP"
WAS THAT?

OOOO!
AHHHH!
I'M NOT
WORTHY!

I CONCUR,
MA'AM,
BUT...

SHUT
UP,
KIT.

Back
cock
Bow
Down!

...BUT WHY DID YOU
CALL OUT THOSE
VERBAL COMMANDS
AFTER YOU SECRETLY
EXECUTED THE
"BOOST PARKING"
PROGRAM?

IT HASN'T NEEDED
YOUR GUIDANCE SINCE
YOU REWROTE THE
CODE LAST YEAR.

SHUT
UP,
KIT.

NOW
THEN...

KIA!
C'MON
OUT!

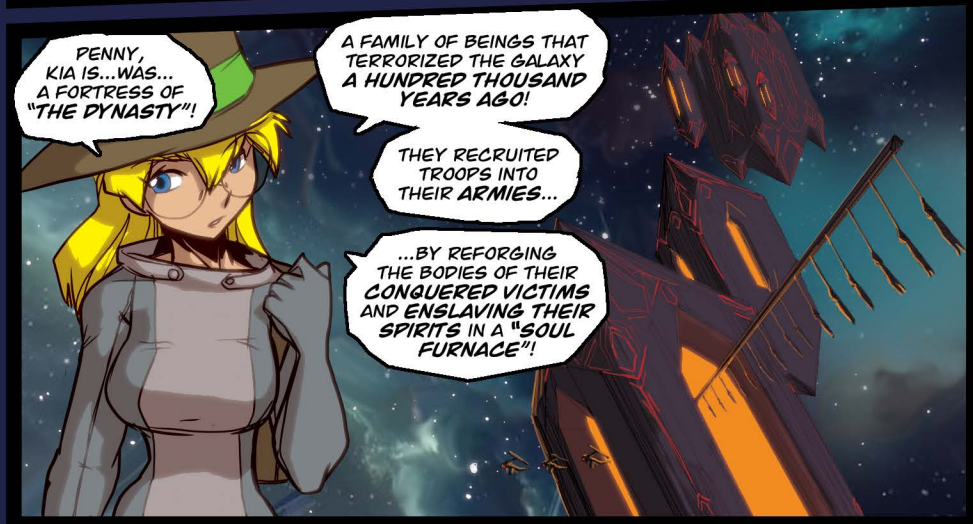
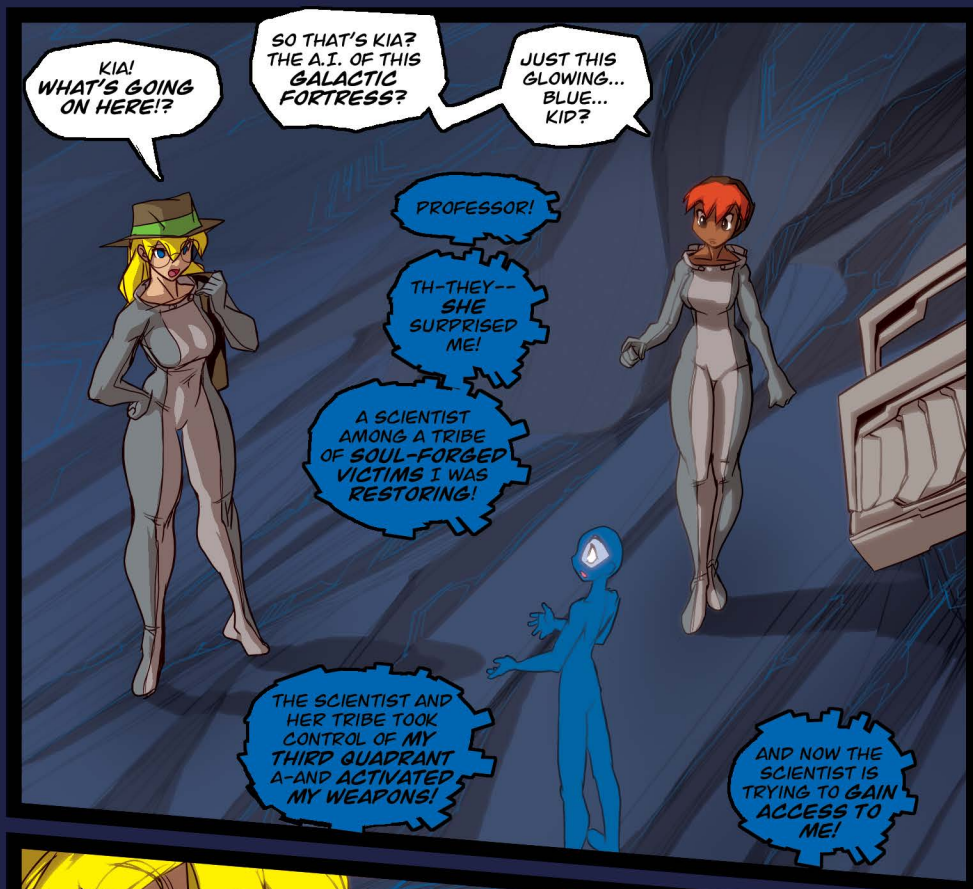
AHAH!!!
THERE YOU
ARE... OR
RATHER...

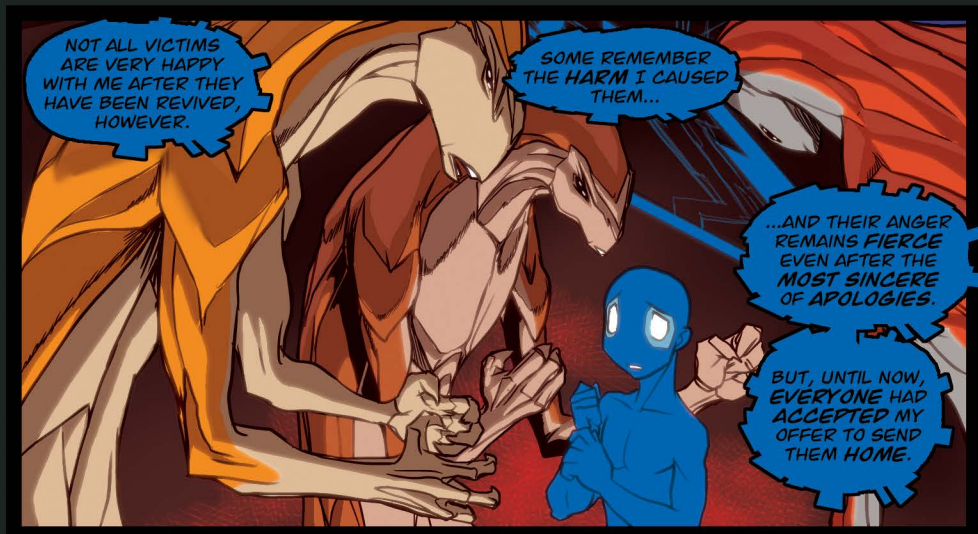
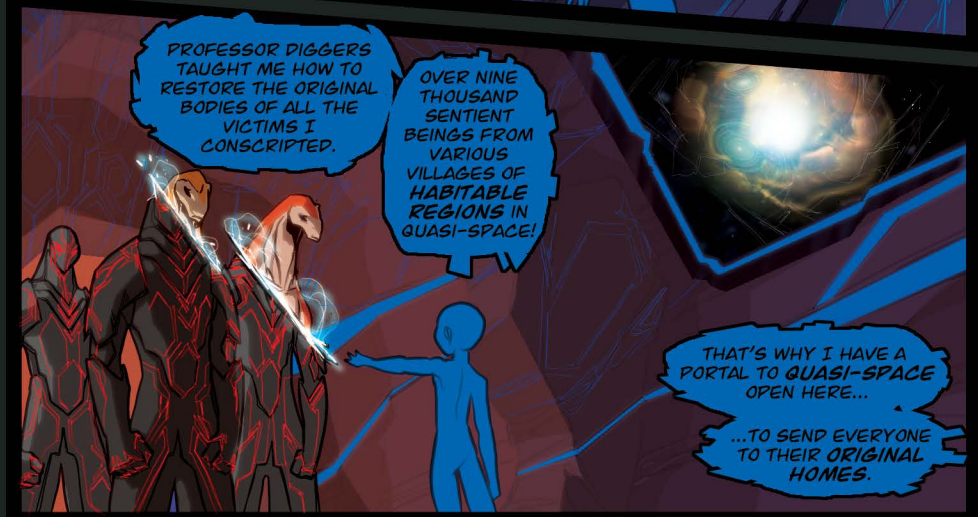
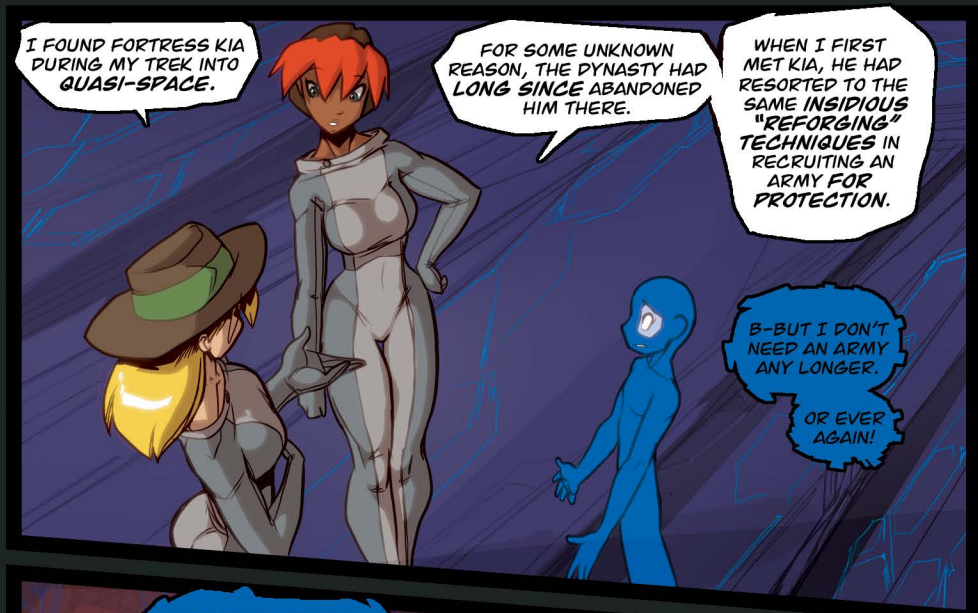
...THERE IS
YOUR "CONTROL
AURA".

START
TALKING, MR.
"YOU MAY FIRE
WHEN READY!"

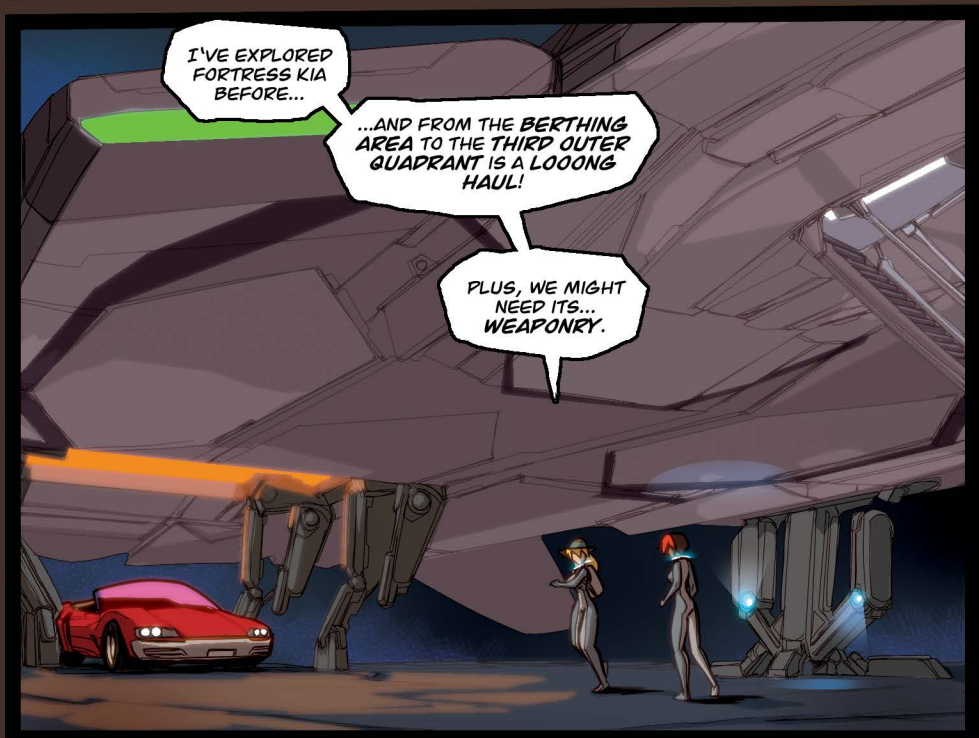
PROFESSOR!
Y-YOU HAVE
TO SHUT ME
DOWN!

IMMEDIATELY!!!











WE WONT NEED ANY VIOLENCE IF WE CAN CALM WHOEVER IS ATTACKING KIA...

...BUT THEIR BEING WILLING AND ABLE TO TAP INTO DYNASTY WAR-CRAFT EVEN AFTER I DISABLED EVERY LAST WEAPON IN THIS FORTRESS WORRIES ME.

GINA...



WHAT GIVES US THE RIGHT?

HMM?

YOUR FRIEND ENSLAVED THEM! KIA REBUILT EVERY CELL IN THEIR BODIES AND USED THEM AS WEAPONS TO FIGHT HIS BATTLES.

KIA'S VICTIMS HAVE VERY LEGITIMATE GRIEVANCES.



WHAT GIVES US THE RIGHT TO INTERFERE WITH THEIR PLANS FOR REVENGE?

...

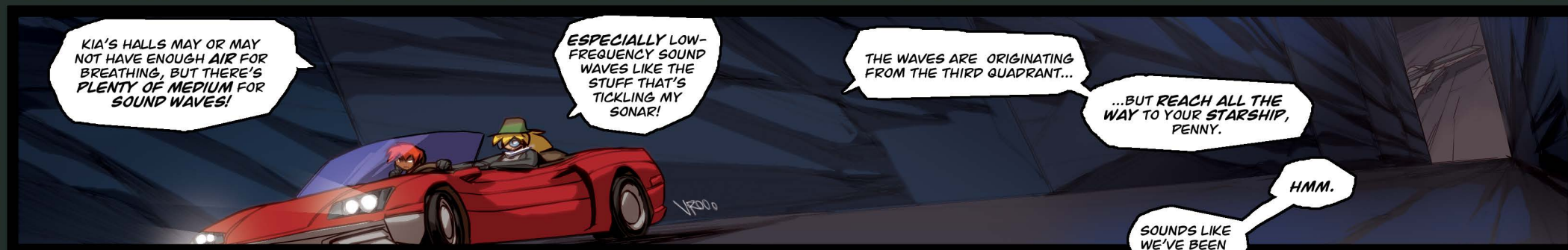
AS IF REVENGE WAS EVER MORE USEFUL THAN HARMFUL?

THEN KIA SHOULD ESCAPE ALL PUNISHMENT?

I NEVER SAID THAT. BUT PUNISHMENT AND VENGEANCE ARE TWO DIFFERE-

WHAT IN THE--

SOMETHING'S MESSING WITH MY CAR'S BISTATIC SONAR RECEIVER?



KIA'S HALLS MAY OR MAY NOT HAVE ENOUGH AIR FOR BREATHING, BUT THERE'S PLENTY OF MEDIUM FOR SOUND WAVES!

ESPECIALLY LOW-FREQUENCY SOUND WAVES LIKE THE STUFF THAT'S TICKLING MY SONAR!

THE WAVES ARE ORIGINATING FROM THE THIRD QUADRANT...

...BUT REACH ALL THE WAY TO YOUR STARSHIP, PENNY.

HMM.

SOUNDS LIKE WE'VE BEEN SCANNED.



WE USE PHOTON SPECTRUMS FOR SCANS...THEY MAY USE--

WAIT...

GINA! UP AHEAD! COMING FAST!

WHOA!!!

IT'S THEM!!!

THEY SOUND LIKE... FLYING ELECTRIC GUITARS!?



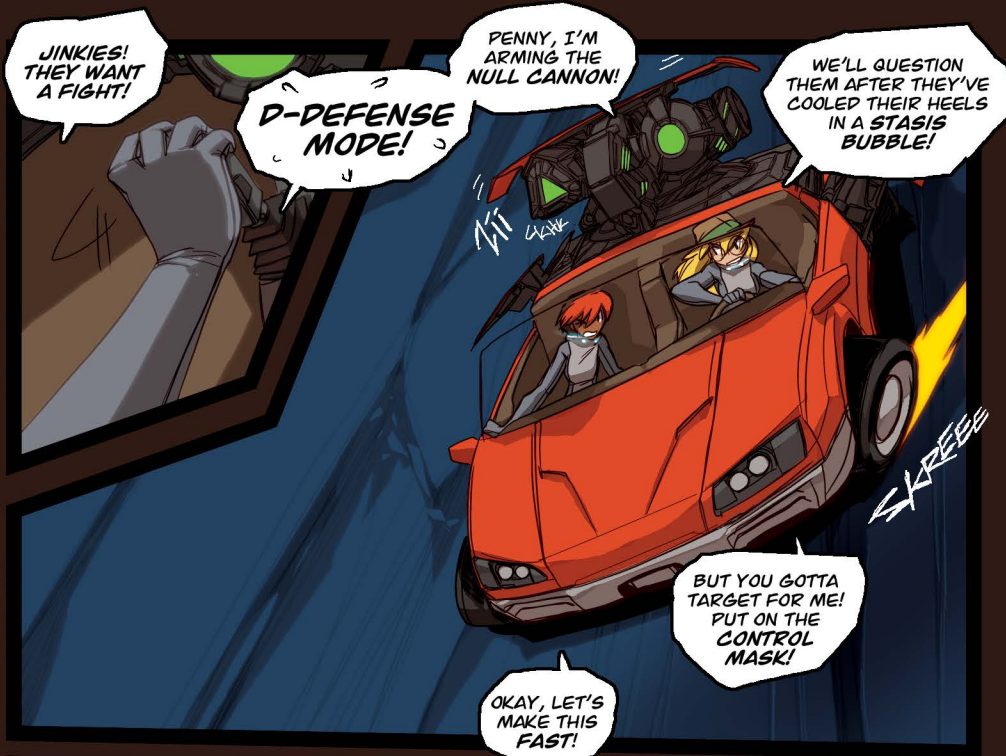
W-WE COME IN PEACE!
STAR TREKKIN' ACROSS THE UNIVERSE!

HEY! WAIT!!!

WHERE ARE THEY GOING?

WHA--

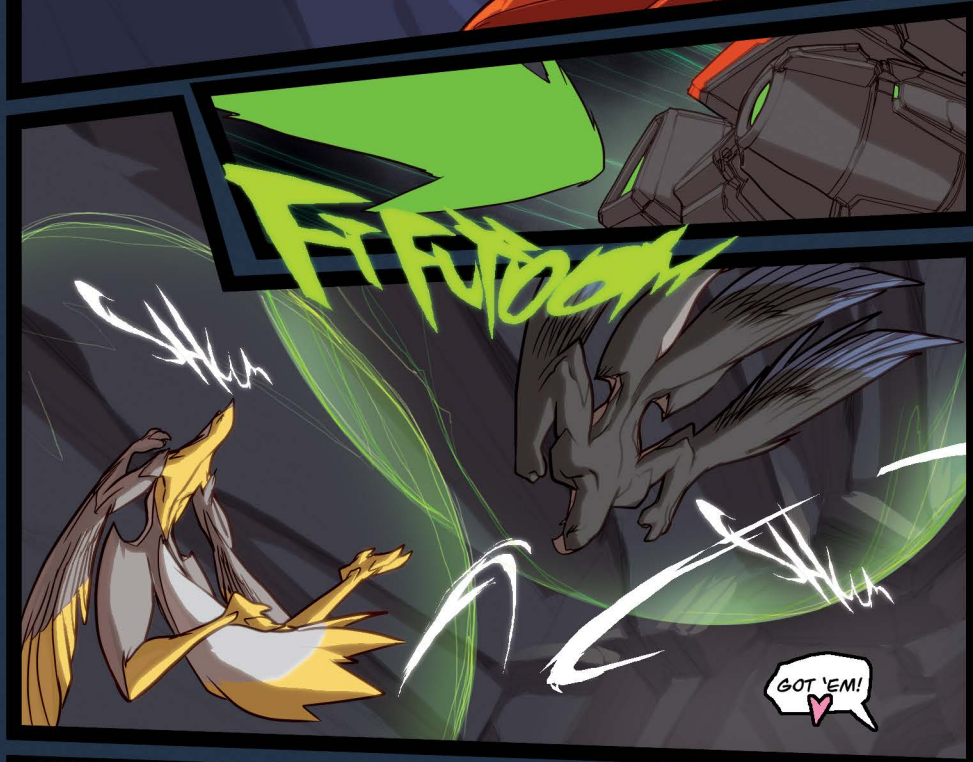
MY SHIP!



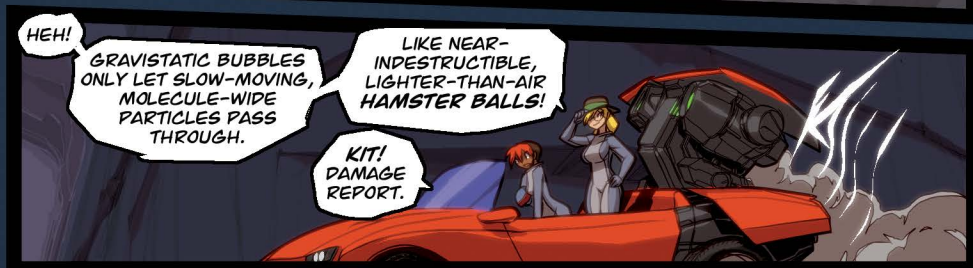


LOOKS LIKE
SOMEBODY'S TRYING
TO STAY OUT OF
RANGE.

WELL,
THEY
AREN'T!



GOT 'EM!
♡

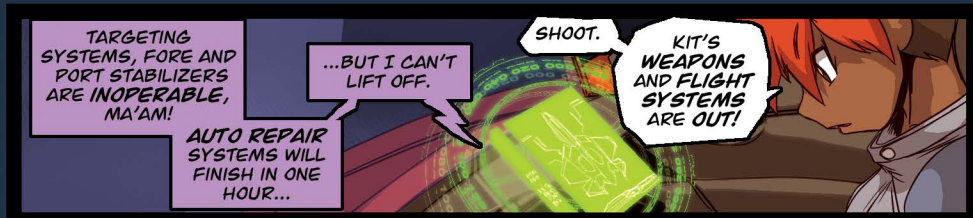


HEH!

GRAVISTATIC BUBBLES
ONLY LET SLOW-MOVING,
MOLECULE-WIDE
PARTICLES PASS
THROUGH.

LIKE NEAR-
INDESTRUCTIBLE,
LIGHTER-THAN-AIR
HAMSTER BALLS!

KIT!
DAMAGE
REPORT.



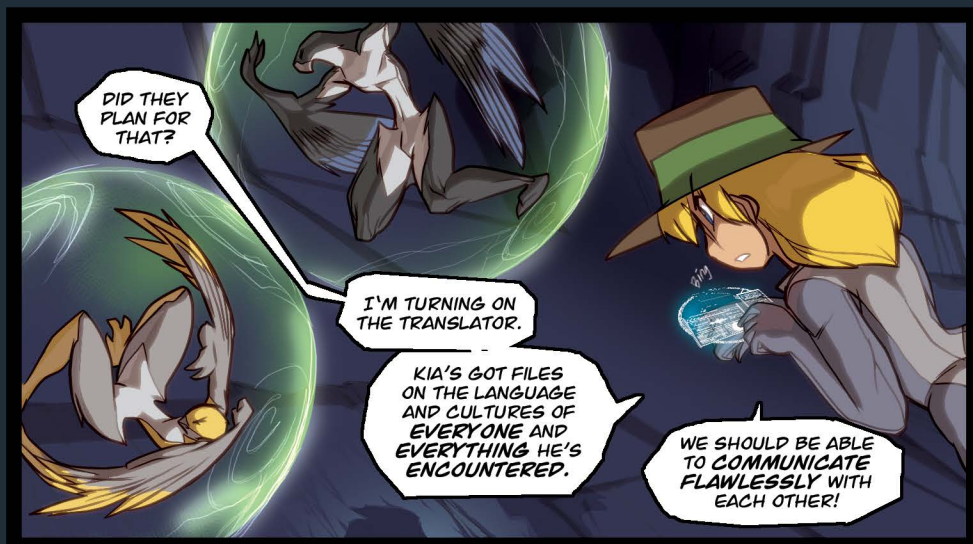
SHOOT.

TARGETING
SYSTEMS, FORE AND
PORT STABILIZERS
ARE INOPERABLE,
MA'AM!

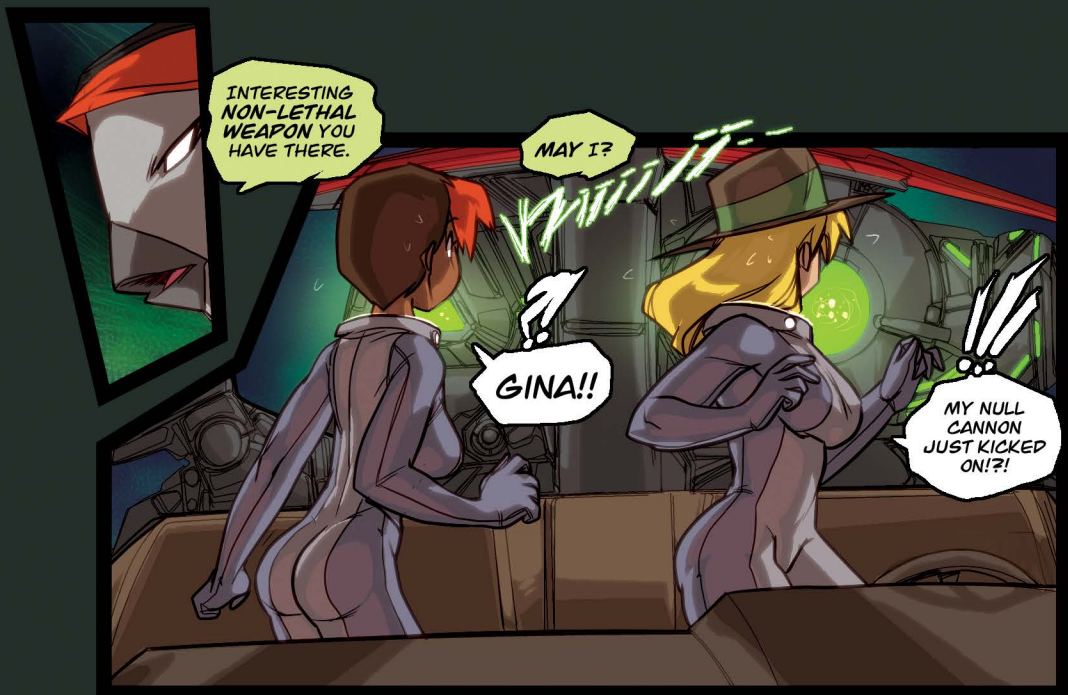
...BUT I CAN'T
LIFT OFF.

AUTO REPAIR
SYSTEMS WILL
FINISH IN ONE
HOUR...

KIT'S
WEAPONS
AND FLIGHT
SYSTEMS
ARE OUT!







INTERESTING
NON-LETHAL
WEAPON YOU
HAVE THERE.

MAY I?

GINA!!

MY NULL
CANNON
JUST KICKED
ON!?!?



YOU "APES"...
ARE TOOL-USERS...
JUST AS WE
"PARAKEETS"
ARE.

BUT YOU USE
YOUR HANDS FOR
EACH AND EVERY
TASK!

FOR YOU TO HAVE
ACCOMPLISHED SO
MUCH WITHOUT
SONICS...
FASCINATING!

YOU... YOU USED FINELY
TUNED HYPERSONIC
VIBRATIONS!

YOU MANIPULATED
MY CAR'S TRIGGERS
AND SWITCHES WITH--
WITH JUST YOUR
VOICE!

JINKIES!!!

YOU GUYS ARE
LIVING "SONIC
SCREWDRIVERS"!!!!



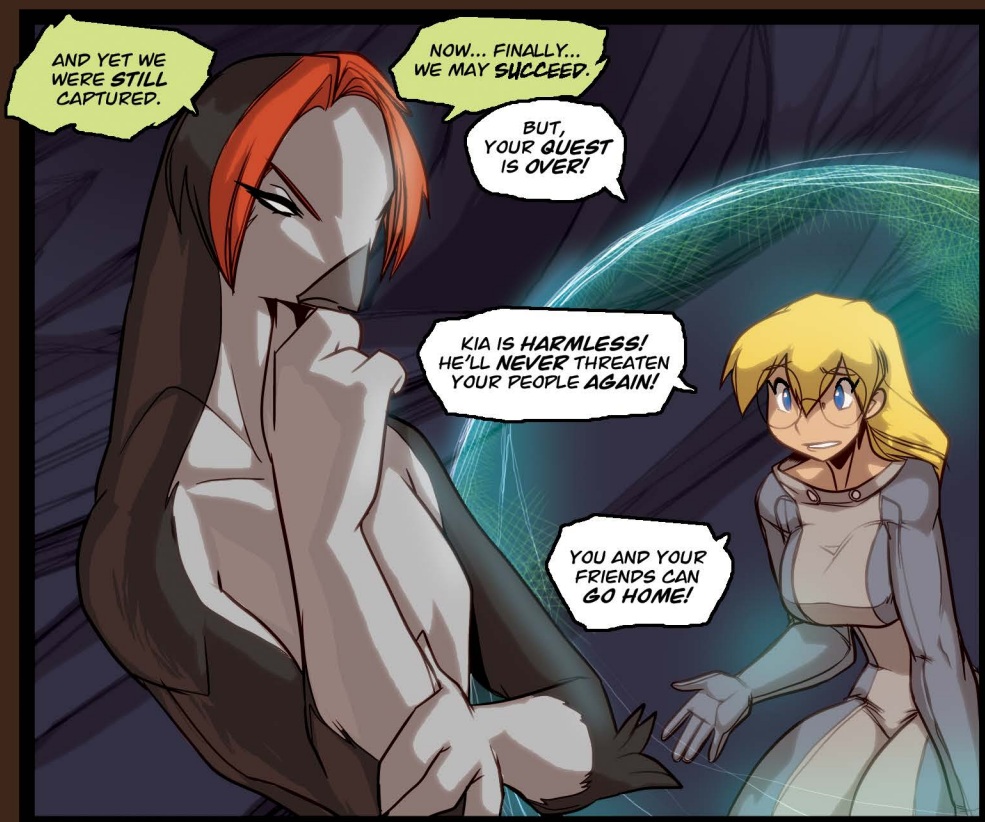
AS I STATED...
THE BLACK
FORTRESS
MUST BE
OBLITERATED.

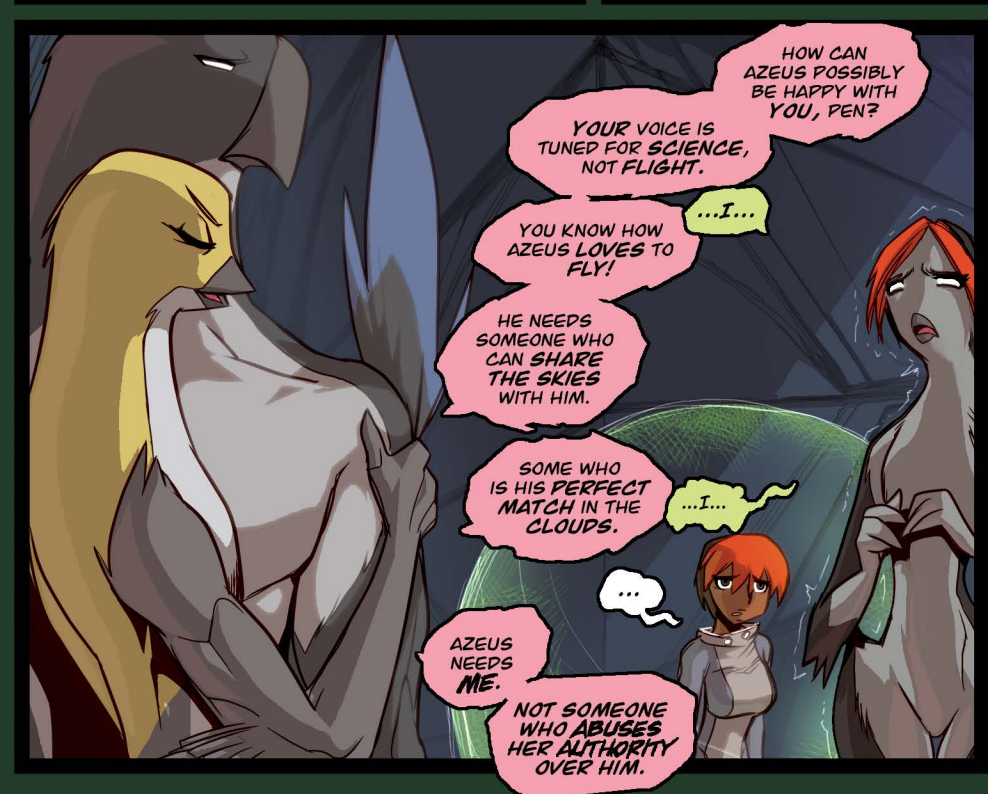
I SWORE AN OATH
TO MAKE CERTAIN
THAT IT WOULD
NEVER THREATEN
OUR WORLD
FLOCK AGAIN.

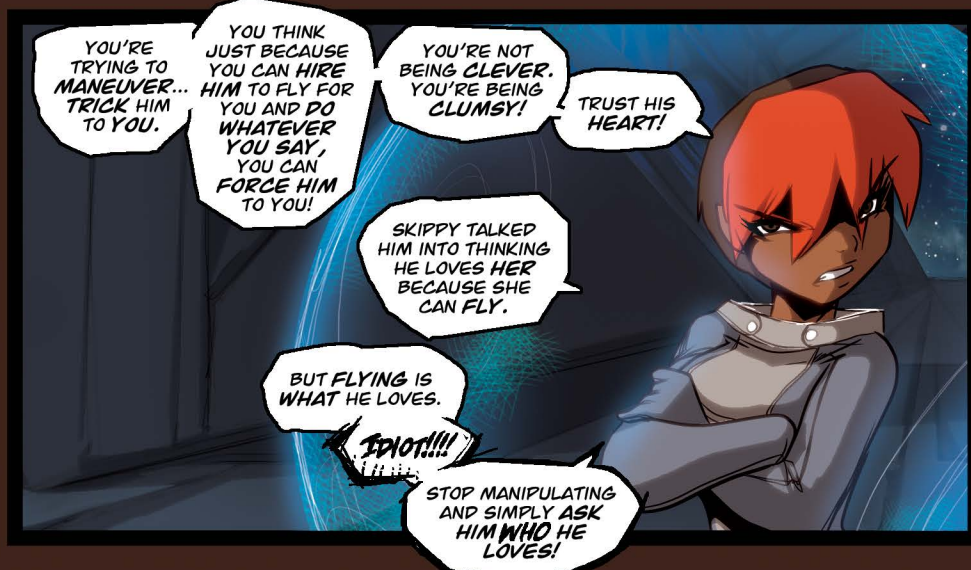
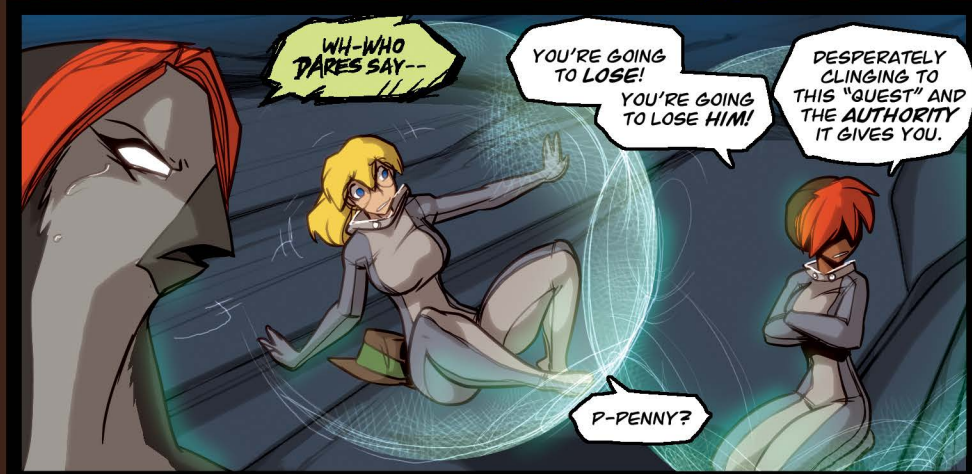
TO INSURE MY
QUEST'S SUCCESS,
OUR FLOCK BOUND
TO ME THE SERVICES
OF TWO OF OUR
FINEST AVIATORS.

POIP
THE SCOUT, AZEUS,
AND HIS SEEKING
VOICE.

POIP
THE WARRIOR, SKYPER,
AND HER BATTLE
CRY.









IS SKYPER
GOING TO BE
ALL RIGHT?

I HOPE SO.

WELL, KIA'S
BOOTING BACK UP...
I'M GOING TO INSTALL
THIS MOON STONE
FOR HIM TO BALANCE
HIS ORBIT ON.



PENELOPE, YOU
WERE RIGHT.

MY
QUEST IS
OVER.

WHEN KIA
REVIVES, WE
WILL ASK TO
BE SENT
HOME.

GOOD
LUCK.

THANK YOU,
PENELOPE.

FOR
EVERYTHING.

WELL, YOU KNOW...
WE FLIGHTLESS,
SCIENTIFIC BIRDS
OF A FEATHER...

...HAVE
TO STICK
TOGETHER.



THE END.