CHAPTERHOUSE

JENSEN COLLYER DEL DUCA NOLASCO

SEASON I
ISSUE 1

FALLEN SUNS™

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DIGITAL EDITION
COVER A

FALLEN SUNS™

WRITTEN BY VAN JENSEN

PENCILS AND INKS BY NEIL COLLYER FLASHBACKS LEILA DEL DUCA PRESENT DAY

COLOURS BY CAROLINE NOLASCO

LETTERS BY ANDREW THOMAS

COVER BY MIKO MACIASZEK

EDITED BY AARON FELDMAN

PHAROS

PARMINDER

CHAPTER ONE: **THE SEED**

The great alien Pharos came to Earth leaving death and destruction in his wake. A relentless and near-unstoppable force, his rampage only ended thanks to the intervention of Captain Canuck and his brother Michael.

But Pharos was merely a harbinger for something far worse. The Borealis are a deadly alien species with plans to reshape the entire universe. They destroyed Pharos's world, and they're coming for Earth next.

Pharos now sits in a cell awaiting execution for his crimes against humanity. Before he dies, there is more that he can tell us about the coming threat. But are we prepared to listen to his warnings?

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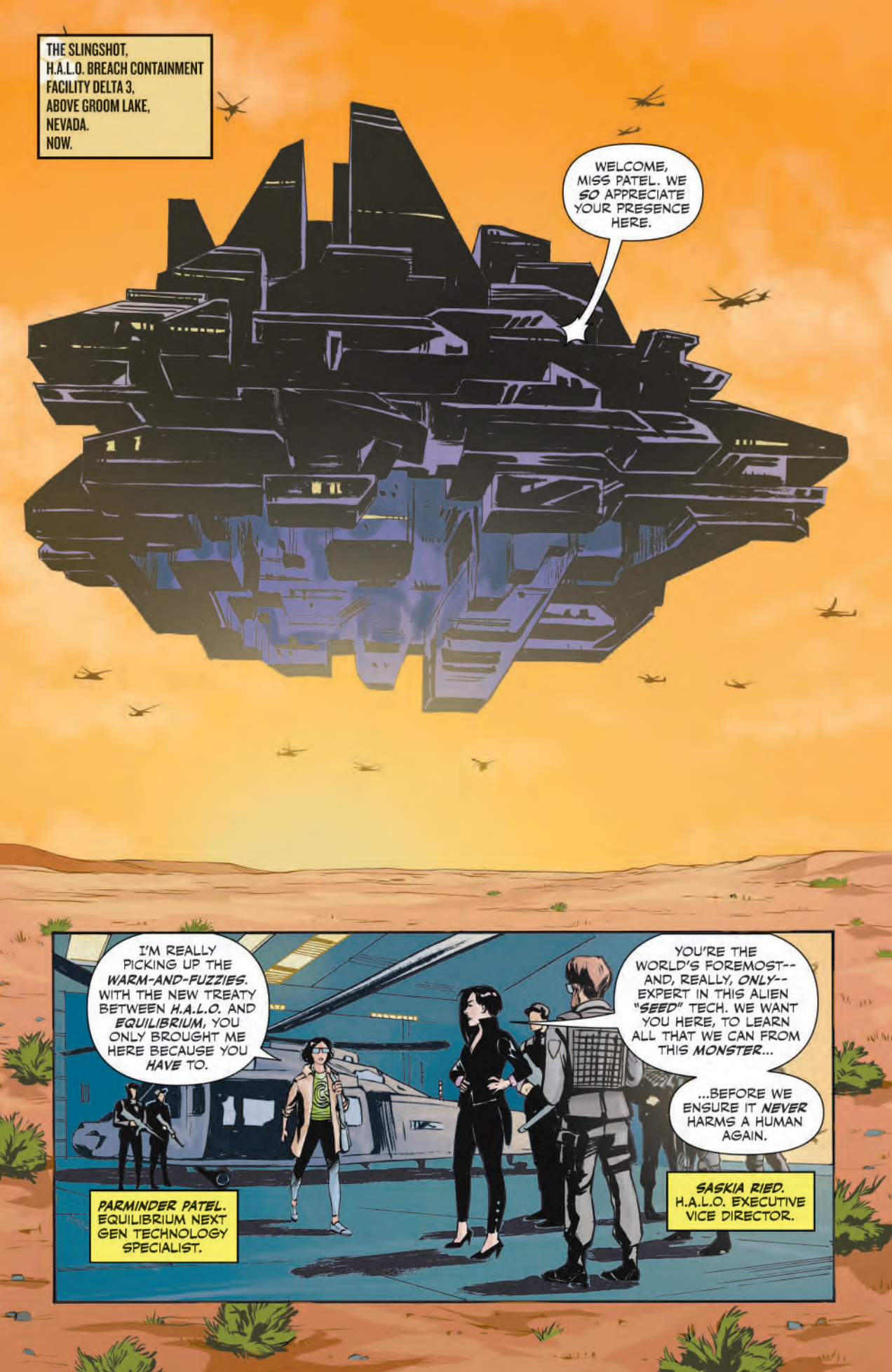
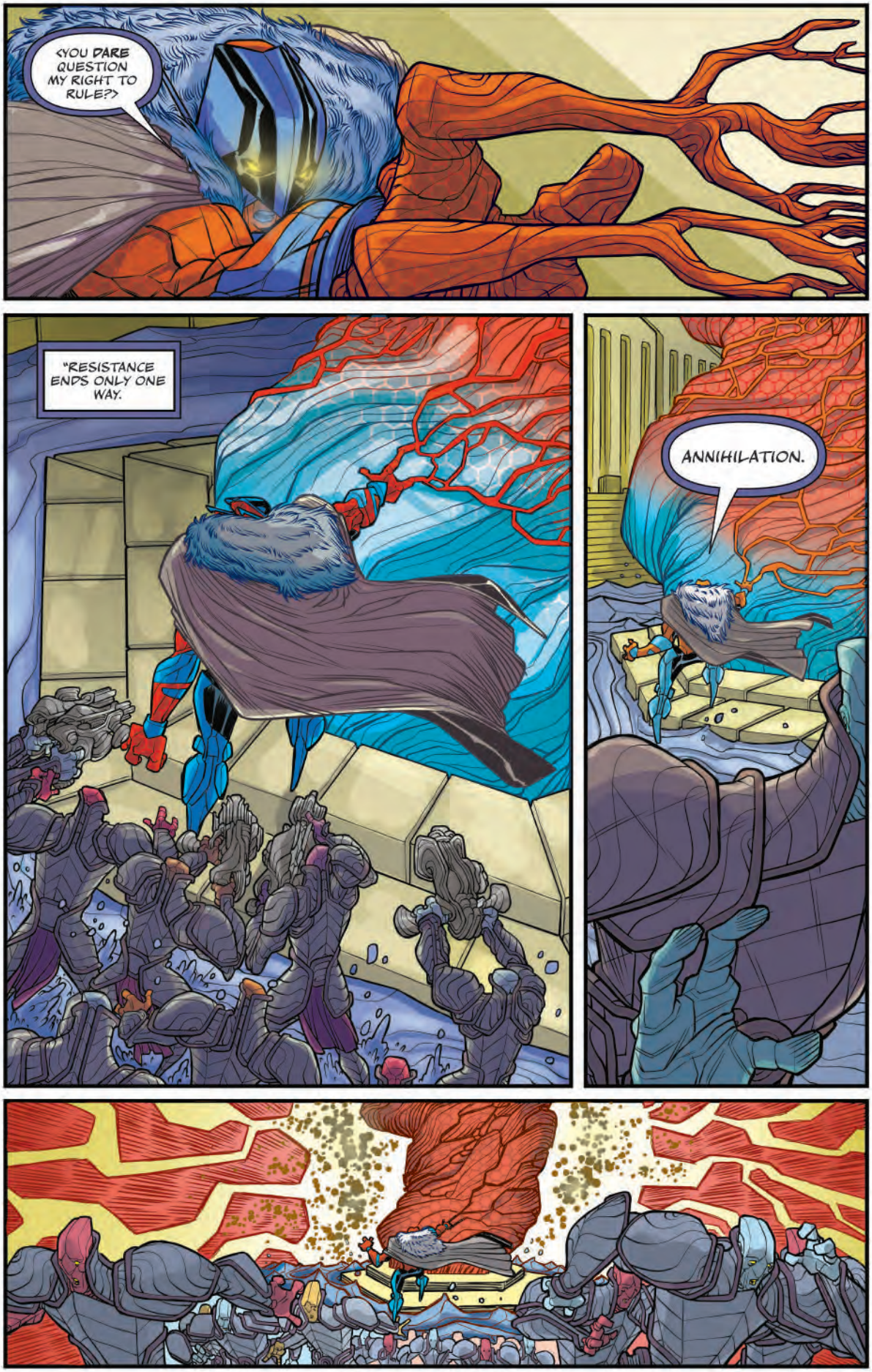

THE SLINGSHOT,
H.A.L.O. BREACH CONTAINMENT FACILITY DELTA 3,
ABOVE GROOM LAKE,
NEVADA.
NOW.
WELCOME, MISS PATEL. WE *SO* APPRECIATE YOUR PRESENCE HERE.
I'M REALLY PICKING UP THE *WARM-AND-FUZZIES*. WITH THE NEW TREATY BETWEEN *H.A.L.O.* AND *EQUILIBRIUM*, YOU ONLY BROUGHT ME HERE BECAUSE YOU *HAVE* TO.
YOU'RE THE WORLD'S FOREMOST-- AND, REALLY, *ONLY*-- EXPERT IN THIS ALIEN "*SEED*" TECH. WE WANT YOU HERE, TO LEARN ALL THAT WE CAN FROM THIS *MONSTER*...
...BEFORE WE ENSURE IT *NEVER* HARMS A HUMAN AGAIN.
PARMINDER PATEL. EQUILIBRIUM NEXT GEN TECHNOLOGY SPECIALIST.
SASKIA RIED. H.A.L.O. EXECUTIVE VICE DIRECTOR.

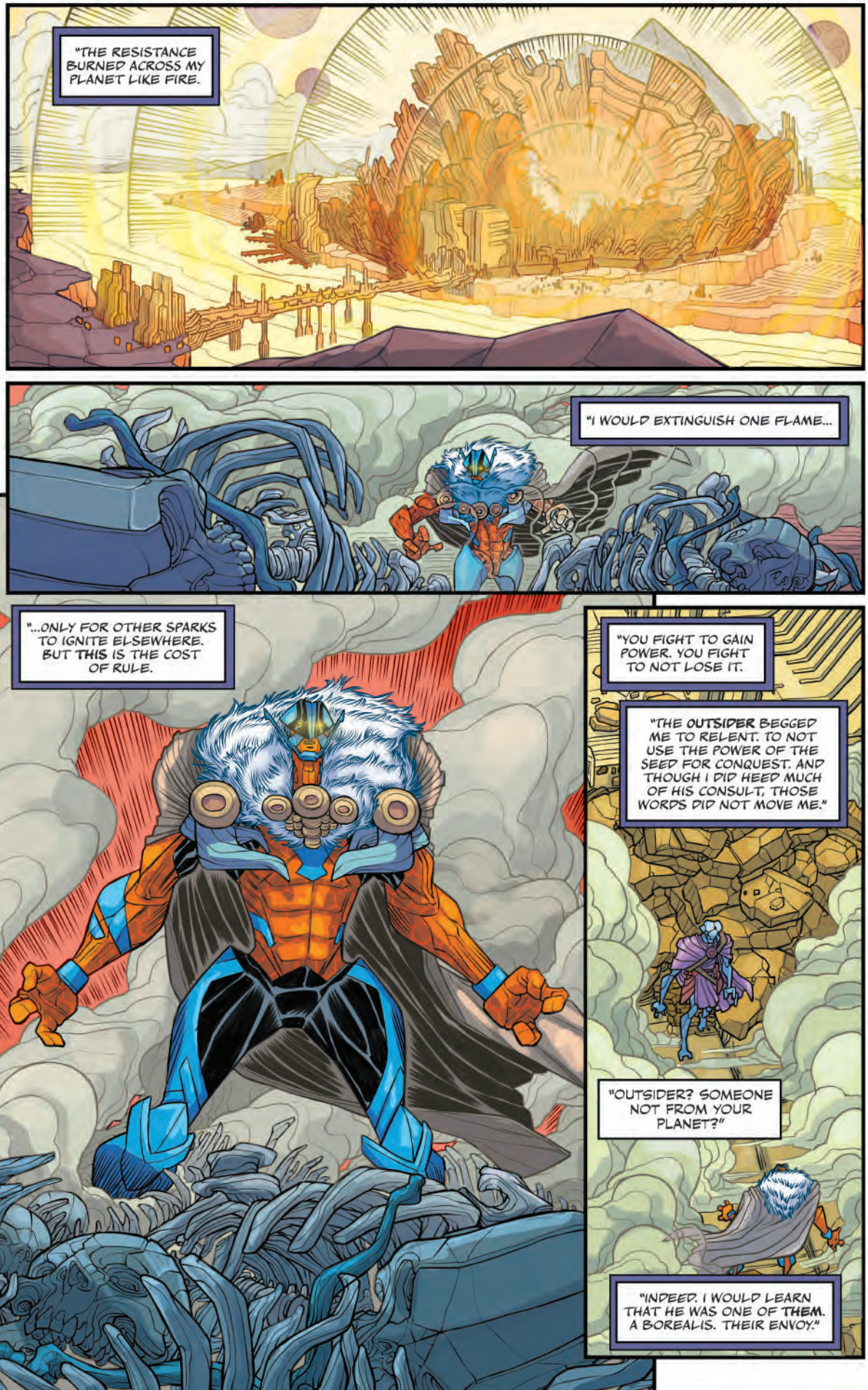
WE DON'T KNOW WHO THIS THING IS... WHERE IT CAME FROM... WHAT IT REALLY *WANTS*.
YOU'RE A *SCIENTIST*, PATEL. YOU'RE NOT HERE TO LISTEN TO IT'S LIFE STORY.
YOU'RE HERE TO COLLECT *DATA*. AS MUCH AS YOU CAN IN ONE WEEK.
AND THEN YOU *INCINERATE* IT.
FRANKLY, I HAVEN'T DECIDED HOW TO KILL IT YET.
WE HOPE TO PRESERVE THE *CARCASS*. FOR FURTHER STUDY.
THIS ALIEN-- *PHAROS*--HE TOLD *CAPTAIN CANUCK* THAT A GREATER THREAT IS COMING. THE "*BOREALIS*." MAYBE HE COULD HELP US--
HELP?
"PHAROS TORE MIAMI IN HALF. FOURTEEN DEAD. MANY MORE INJURED. AMERICANS, ALL OF THEM. THE ALIEN HAS TO PAY."
AS FOR THE BOREALIS, *IF* THEY EXIST, WE'LL DEAL WITH THEM WHEN THE TIME COMES.
THE BOREALIS ARE REAL. THEY ARE COMING.

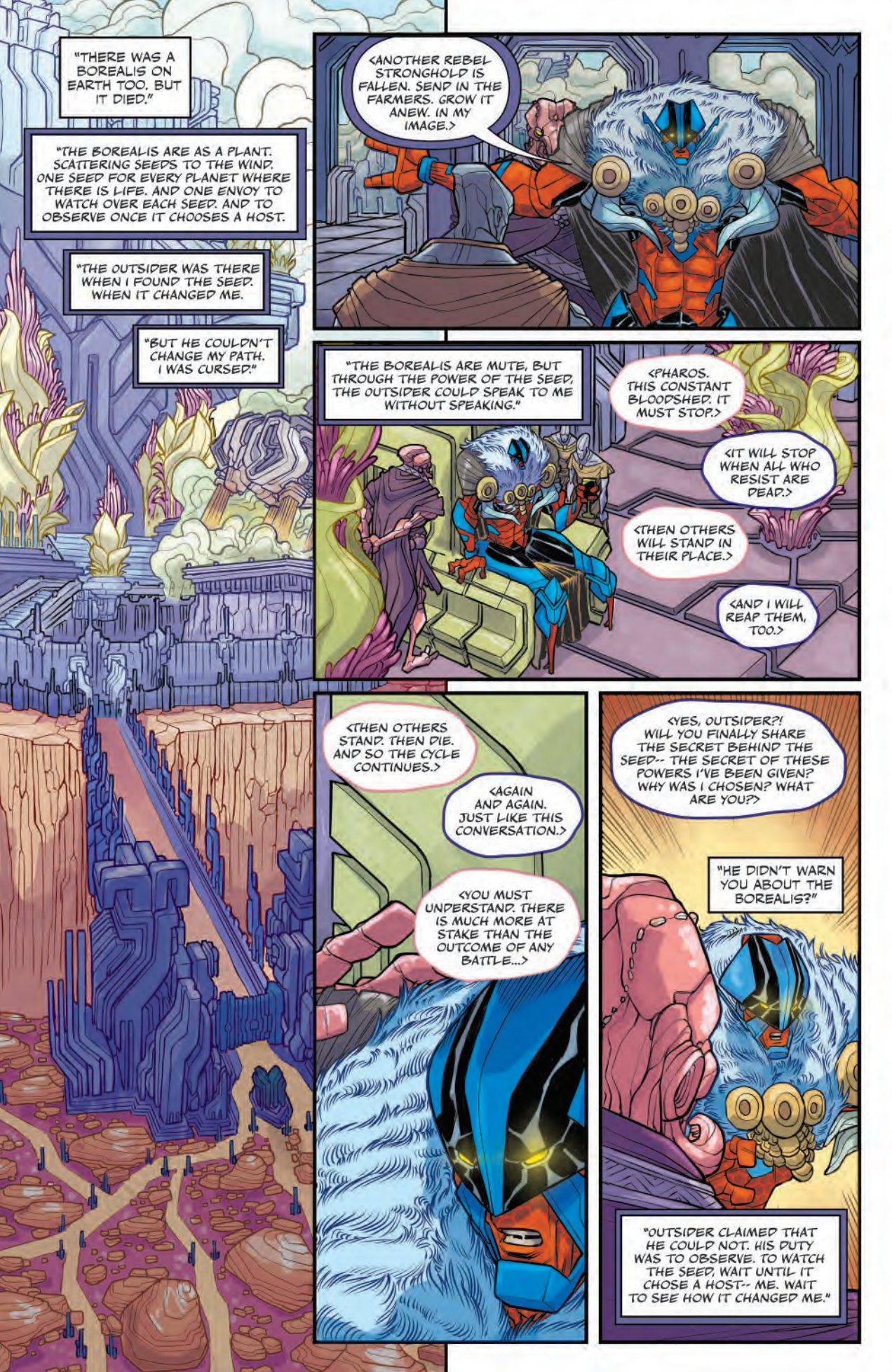
AND THEY BRING THE END OF YOUR WORLD WITH THEM.
OH...
HE ISN'T... RESTRAINED.
THIS ENTIRE BASE IS THE RESTRAINT. THE SECOND OUR *GUEST* ACTS OUT OF LINE, SLINGSHOT'S ROCKETS FIRE, LAUNCHING INTO SPACE ON A COURSE FOR THE SUN.
OH. WELL. THAT'S REASSURING.
I'LL LEAVE YOU TO YOUR WORK.
TO FIGHT IS MEANINGLESS. DEATH IS CERTAIN FOR EVERYTHING ON THIS PLANET.
BECAUSE OF THE BOREALIS? BUT... YOU SURVIVED THEM.
IF YOU KNEW OF MY HOME, YOU MIGHT UNDERSTAND. SURVIVAL...WE HONED THAT SKILL FROM BIRTH.
I...I'D LIKE TO HEAR ABOUT IT. IF YOU'LL TELL ME.
HN. PERHAPS IT WILL GIVE YOU SOME COMFORT, KNOWING OF THE HORRORS THAT LIE AHEAD...

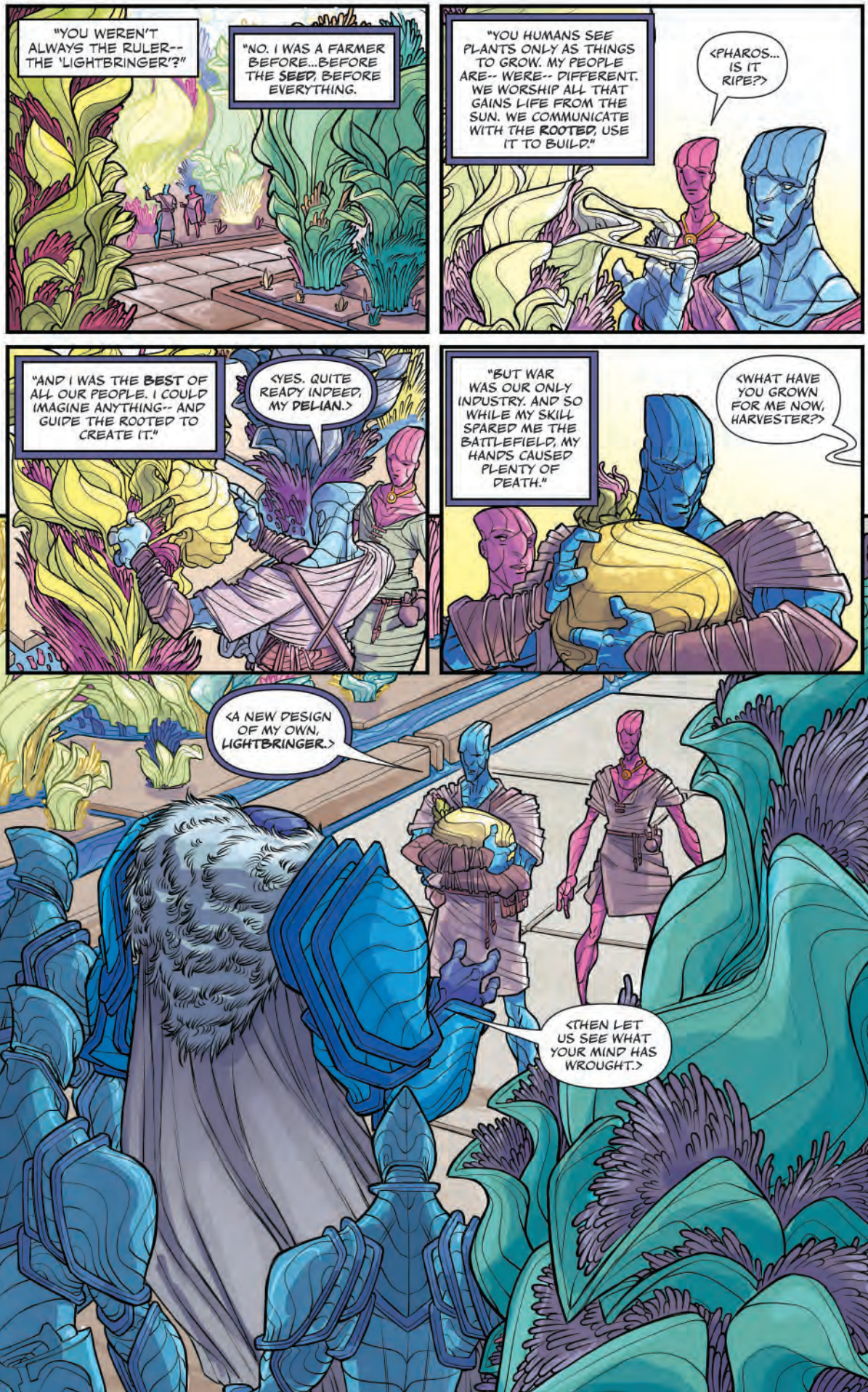
LONG AGO. FAR AWAY.
"I WAS LIGHTBRINGER OF MY PLANET. EVEN AMONG ALL THE FEARFUL, I WAS MOST FEARED. ONCE I GAINED THE POWER OF THE SEED-- IT ALLOWED ME TO CLAIM ANY DESIRE.
"STILL, MY PLANET NEVER WANTED FOR BATTLE. SOME REBELLED NOT OUT OF HOPE FOR VICTORY. BUT BECAUSE THAT IS WHAT MY KIND DOES. WE FIGHT."
<ALL. THEY ALL DIE.>

<IF YOU WILL NOT BOW YOUR HEADS BEFORE PHAROS..>
<...I WILL CLEAVE THEM FROM YOUR NECKS.>
<KEEP THE DARK ONE AWAY FROM THE ALL-TREE! HE MUST NOT TOUCH IT!>


<YOU DARE QUESTION MY RIGHT TO RULE?>
"RESISTANCE ENDS ONLY ONE WAY.
ANNIHILATION.

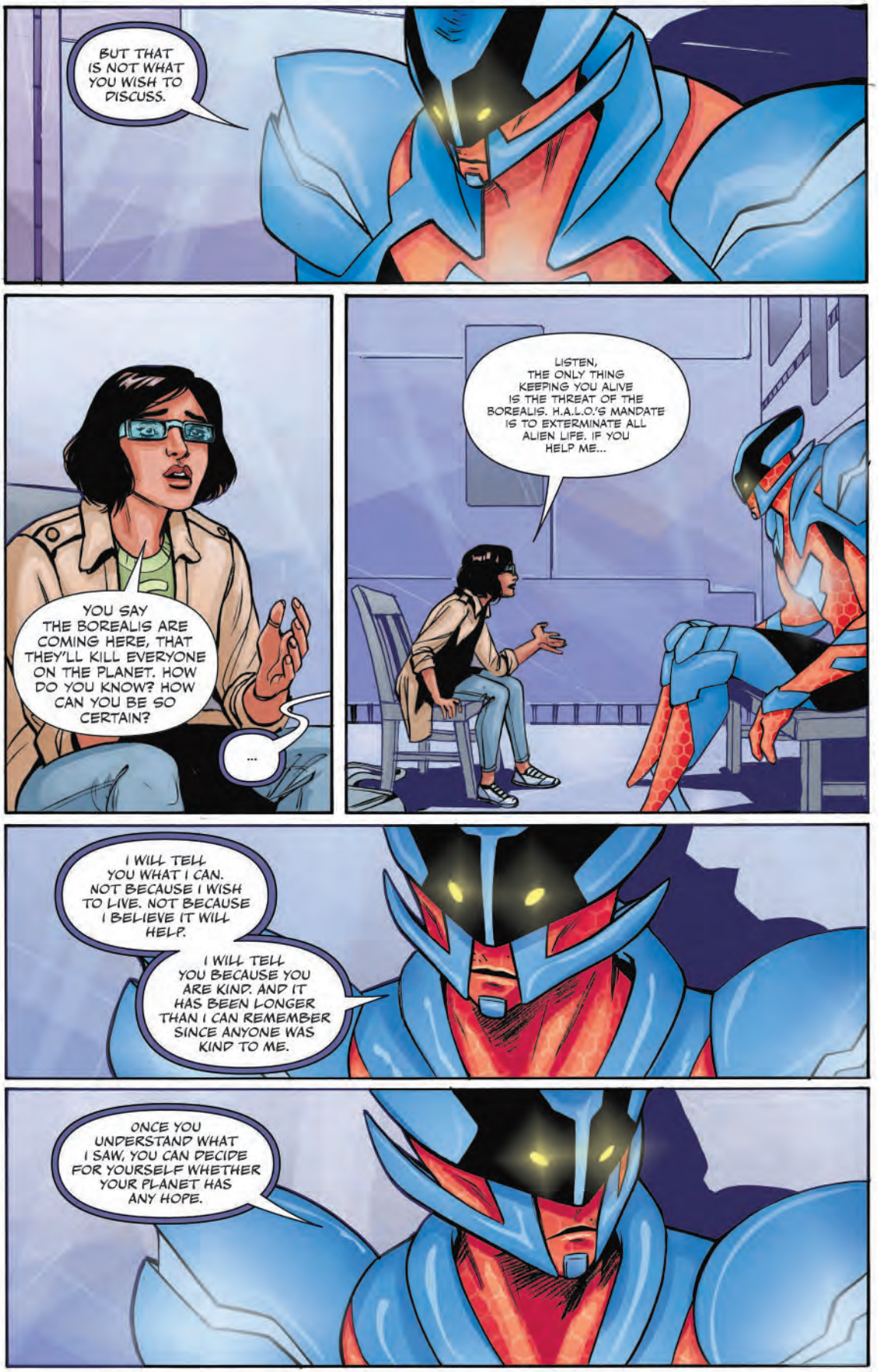

"THE RESISTANCE BURNED ACROSS MY PLANET LIKE FIRE.
"I WOULD EXTINGUISH ONE FLAME...
"...ONLY FOR OTHER SPARKS TO IGNITE ELSEWHERE. BUT **THIS** IS THE COST OF RULE.
"YOU FIGHT TO GAIN POWER. YOU FIGHT TO NOT LOSE IT.
"THE **OUTSIDER** BEGGED ME TO RELENT. TO NOT USE THE POWER OF THE SEED FOR CONQUEST. AND THOUGH I DID HEED MUCH OF HIS CONSULT, THOSE WORDS DID NOT MOVE ME."
"OUTSIDER? SOMEONE NOT FROM YOUR PLANET?"
"INDEED. I WOULD LEARN THAT HE WAS ONE OF **THEM**. A BOREALIS. THEIR ENVOY."


"THERE WAS A BOREALIS ON EARTH TOO. BUT IT DIED."
"THE BOREALIS ARE AS A PLANT. SCATTERING SEEDS TO THE WIND. ONE SEED FOR EVERY PLANET WHERE THERE IS LIFE. AND ONE ENVOY TO WATCH OVER EACH SEED. AND TO OBSERVE ONCE IT CHOOSES A HOST.
"THE OUTSIDER WAS THERE WHEN I FOUND THE SEED. WHEN IT CHANGED ME.
"BUT HE COULDN'T CHANGE MY PATH. I WAS CURSED."
<ANOTHER REBEL STRONGHOLD IS FALLEN. SEND IN THE FARMERS. GROW IT ANEW. IN MY IMAGE.>
"THE BOREALIS ARE MUTE, BUT THROUGH THE POWER OF THE SEED, THE OUTSIDER COULD SPEAK TO ME WITHOUT SPEAKING."
<PHAROS. THIS CONSTANT BLOODSHED. IT MUST STOP.>
<IT WILL STOP WHEN ALL WHO RESIST ARE DEAD.>
<THEN OTHERS WILL STAND IN THEIR PLACE.>
<AND I WILL REAP THEM, TOO.>
<THEN OTHERS STAND. THEN DIE. AND SO THE CYCLE CONTINUES.>
<AGAIN AND AGAIN. JUST LIKE THIS CONVERSATION.>
<YOU MUST UNDERSTAND. THERE IS MUCH MORE AT STAKE THAN THE OUTCOME OF ANY BATTLE...>
<YES, OUTSIDER?! WILL YOU FINALLY SHARE THE SECRET BEHIND THE SEED-- THE SECRET OF THESE POWERS I'VE BEEN GIVEN? WHY WAS I CHOSEN? WHAT ARE YOU?>
"HE DIDN'T WARN YOU ABOUT THE BOREALIS?"
"OUTSIDER CLAIMED THAT HE COULD NOT. HIS DUTY WAS TO OBSERVE. TO WATCH THE SEED, WAIT UNTIL IT CHOSE A HOST-- ME. WAIT TO SEE HOW IT CHANGED ME."


"YOU WEREN'T ALWAYS THE RULER-- THE 'LIGHTBRINGER'?"
"NO. I WAS A FARMER BEFORE...BEFORE THE SEED, BEFORE EVERYTHING.
"YOU HUMANS SEE PLANTS ONLY AS THINGS TO GROW. MY PEOPLE ARE-- WERE-- DIFFERENT. WE WORSHIP ALL THAT GAINS LIFE FROM THE SUN. WE COMMUNICATE WITH THE ROOTED, USE IT TO BUILD."
<PHAROS... IS IT RIPE?>
"AND I WAS THE BEST OF ALL OUR PEOPLE. I COULD IMAGINE ANYTHING-- AND GUIDE THE ROOTED TO CREATE IT."
<YES. QUITE READY INDEED, MY DELIAN.>
"BUT WAR WAS OUR ONLY INDUSTRY. AND SO WHILE MY SKILL SPARED ME THE BATTLEFIELD, MY HANDS CAUSED PLENTY OF DEATH."
<WHAT HAVE YOU GROWN FOR ME NOW, HARVESTER?>
<A NEW DESIGN OF MY OWN, LIGHTBRINGER.>
<THEN LET US SEE WHAT YOUR MIND HAS WROUGHT.>

<MY LAST CREATIONS HAVE BEEN INCREASINGLY COMPLEX, BUT INEFFICIENT.>
<WITH THIS LATEST OFFERING, I HAVE PRODUCED SOMETHING MORE... ELEGANT.>
<CONSIDER THE TEXTURE, THE HEFT. IT-->
<I DO NOT CARE HOW IT LOOKS. NOR HOW IT FEELS IN MY HANDS.
<ONLY HOW IT KILLS.>
<YOU. RETAINER. STEP FORWARD>
<LIGHTBRINGER?>
<THE HONOR IS YOURS.>
<HOW DO I ACTIVATE IT?>
<BUT HE IS YOUR ROYAL RETAINER.>
<WOULD YOU RATHER DEMONSTRATE IT YOURSELF?>
<...JUST THROW IT TO HIM, LORD.>

"MY OTHER AND I DEVISED WEAPONS THAT YOU COULD NOT FATHOM."
NNGH.
SPPLOOOORCHHK
"YOUR OTHER? YOU MEAN LIKE A PARTNER?"
<YES. YES. AS MANY AS YOU CAN GROW.>
"A LOVER, YES. BUT NOT AS YOU HUMANS CONCEIVE IT. MY PEOPLE ARE NOT DIVIDED BY GENDERS. WE ALL ARE ONE, BUT WE BOND IN PAIRS. DELIAN WAS...MANY THINGS TO ME."
<YOU HAVE SO MUCH TO OFFER ME. SO VERY MUCH.>
"I..."


BUT THAT IS NOT WHAT YOU WISH TO DISCUSS.
YOU SAY THE BOREALIS ARE COMING HERE, THAT THEY'LL KILL EVERYONE ON THE PLANET. HOW DO YOU KNOW? HOW CAN YOU BE SO CERTAIN?
...
LISTEN, THE ONLY THING KEEPING YOU ALIVE IS THE THREAT OF THE BOREALIS. H.A.L.O.'S MANDATE IS TO EXTERMINATE ALL ALIEN LIFE. IF YOU HELP ME...
I WILL TELL YOU WHAT I CAN. NOT BECAUSE I WISH TO LIVE. NOT BECAUSE I BELIEVE IT WILL HELP.
I WILL TELL YOU BECAUSE YOU ARE KIND. AND IT HAS BEEN LONGER THAN I CAN REMEMBER SINCE ANYONE WAS KIND TO ME.
ONCE YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT I SAW, YOU CAN DECIDE FOR YOURSELF WHETHER YOUR PLANET HAS ANY HOPE.

"WE WERE PREPARING A NEW WEAPON. ONE I'D GROWN SPECIALLY. A SINGLE BOMB TO WIPE AN ENTIRE CITY FROM THE MAP. THE REBELLION WOULD END. FOREVER."
<IF THEY ARE NOT YET READY, I WILL BE DISPLEASED.>
<THE FARMERS ARE LABOURING AS FAST AS THEY CAN...>
<BAH. I WILL SEE FOR MYSELF.>
<YES. THIS WILL DO.>
<LORD?>
<LORD!>
<WHAT?!>
"I WAS AT THE CUSP OF A FINAL VICTORY, I WAS SO CERTAIN. AND THEN..."
<OH.>

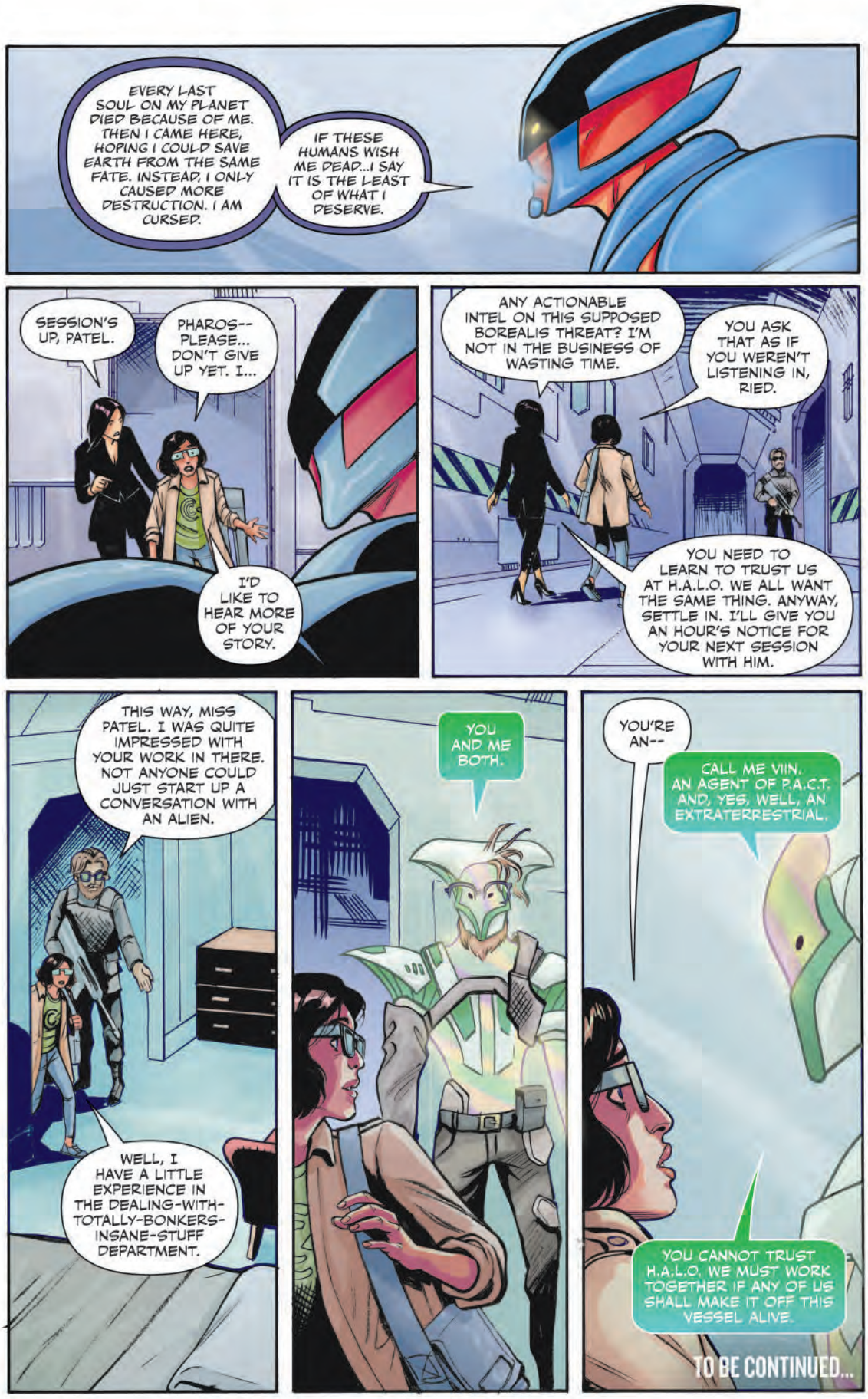
"THEY ARRIVED."

<LORD. IT IS NOT JUST THESE. MORE, ALL AROUND THE GLOBE.>
<WHAT... WHO ARE THEY?>
<THEY ARE JUDGMENT. THEY ARE THE BOREALIS. THEY ARE MY PEOPLE, RETURNED FOR ME.>
<YOUR KIND? WHY? WHY NOW?>
<WE BOREALIS SCATTERED SEEDS ACROSS THE COSMOS. ONE FOR EACH PLANET. MY TASK WAS TO WATCH, TO SEE WHO CLAIMED IT, AND WHAT YOU DID WITH THE SEED'S POWER.>
<HAD YOU USED YOUR POWER FOR GOOD, YOUR SPECIES WOULD HAVE BEEN SPARED. THE BOREALIS WOULD HAVE WELCOMED YOU AS PARTNERS. INSTEAD...>
<I GAVE MY ABILITIES TO WAR.>
<WE ENVOYS ARE RESTRICTED FROM REVEALING THE TRUTH. I TRIED TO WARN YOU AS I COULD, BUT...YOUR SPECIES HAS BEEN JUDGED.>
"THE BOREALIS VIEW THEMSELVES AS THE GARDENERS OF THE UNIVERSE. SHOULD ANY RACE BE DEEMED TO BE A WEED, THEY COME. AND PULL THEM UP BY THE ROOT."
<YOU HAVE PROVEN THAT YOUR KIND ARE TOO DANGEROUS TO LIVE.>

"I SPENT MY LIFE CREATING WEAPONS, AND THEY ARRIVED WITH FIREPOWER BEYOND MY COMPREHENSION."
KOOM
KOOM
<THEY CAME TO DESTROY US.>
<TO EXTERMINATE YOUR KIND, YES. THEN TO STRIP THE PLANET OF ITS RESOURCES. I WISH IT COULD HAVE BEEN ANOTHER WAY. BUT AS YOU LIVED, SO ARE YOU JUDGED.>
<I'LL KILL YOU...>
"I RESPONDED IN THE ONLY WAY I KNEW HOW."
<BROTHER. IT IS TIME TO COME HOME.>
<BROTHER. PLEASE BE SWIFT.>
<I AM NO WEED.>

RRAAAAAAAHHH!
KLACK
THRROOOOOMMMBBLL
"I HAD FOUGHT AND CONQUERED THIS PLANET. SURELY I COULD DEFEAT ANYTHING."

"BUT THE GREAT WARRIORS OF MY PLANET, WE WERE NOTHING MORE THAN WEEDS.
"LEFT TO WITHER UNDER THE SUN.
"AND, FINALLY, MY PEOPLE SAW ME FOR WHAT I WAS. NOT A CONQUEROR AT ALL."
<LORD-- WHAT DID YOU DO?!>
<WHAT HAVE YOU BROUGHT UPON US?!>


EVERY LAST SOUL ON MY PLANET DIED BECAUSE OF ME. THEN I CAME HERE, HOPING I COULD SAVE EARTH FROM THE SAME FATE. INSTEAD, I ONLY CAUSED MORE DESTRUCTION. I AM CURSED.
IF THESE HUMANS WISH ME DEAD...I SAY IT IS THE LEAST OF WHAT I DESERVE.
SESSION'S UP, PATEL.
PHAROS-- PLEASE... DON'T GIVE UP YET. I...
I'D LIKE TO HEAR MORE OF YOUR STORY.
ANY ACTIONABLE INTEL ON THIS SUPPOSED BOREALIS THREAT? I'M NOT IN THE BUSINESS OF WASTING TIME.
YOU ASK THAT AS IF YOU WEREN'T LISTENING IN, RIED.
YOU NEED TO LEARN TO TRUST US AT H.A.L.O. WE ALL WANT THE SAME THING. ANYWAY, SETTLE IN. I'LL GIVE YOU AN HOUR'S NOTICE FOR YOUR NEXT SESSION WITH HIM.
THIS WAY, MISS PATEL. I WAS QUITE IMPRESSED WITH YOUR WORK IN THERE. NOT ANYONE COULD JUST START UP A CONVERSATION WITH AN ALIEN.
WELL, I HAVE A LITTLE EXPERIENCE IN THE DEALING-WITH-TOTALLY-BONKERS-INSANE-STUFF DEPARTMENT.
YOU AND ME BOTH.
YOU'RE AN--
CALL ME VIIN. AN AGENT OF P.A.C.T. AND, YES, WELL, AN EXTRATERRESTRIAL.
YOU CANNOT TRUST H.A.L.O. WE MUST WORK TOGETHER IF ANY OF US SHALL MAKE IT OFF THIS VESSEL ALIVE.
TO BE CONTINUED...

WELCOME TO THE CHAPTERVERSE,

WHERE HEROES LIVE!

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NEXT ISSUE:

SURRENDER

VAN JENSEN SCRIPT

NEIL COLLYER ART

LEILA DEL DUCA ART

CAROLINE NOLASCO COLOURS

the Pitiful HUMAN-LIZARD™

ON SALE NOW:

PALADINS IN PERIL PT.2

JASON LOO SCRIPT AND ART

MEAGHAN CARTER COLOUR ASSISTS

NORTHGUARD

ON SALE NOW:

HUNTER/HUNTED

ANTHONY FALCONE AND AARON FELDMAN SCRIPT

ALLEN WATSON PENCILS

FEDERICO IGLESIAS INKS

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"THERE'S NOTHING PITIFUL ABOUT HIS COMIC BOOK SERIES" — THE GEEKIARY

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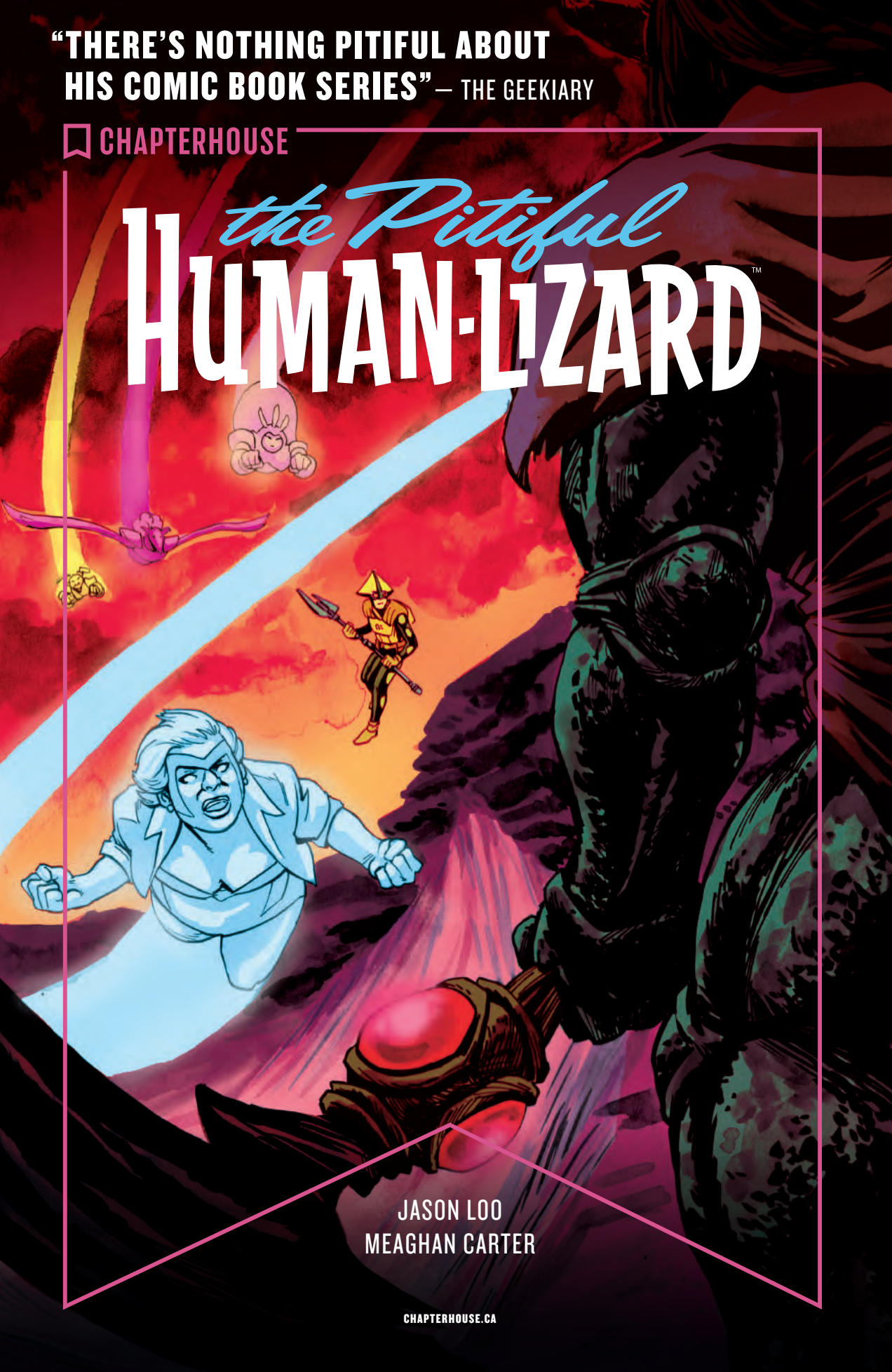
the Pitiful HUMAN-LIZARD™



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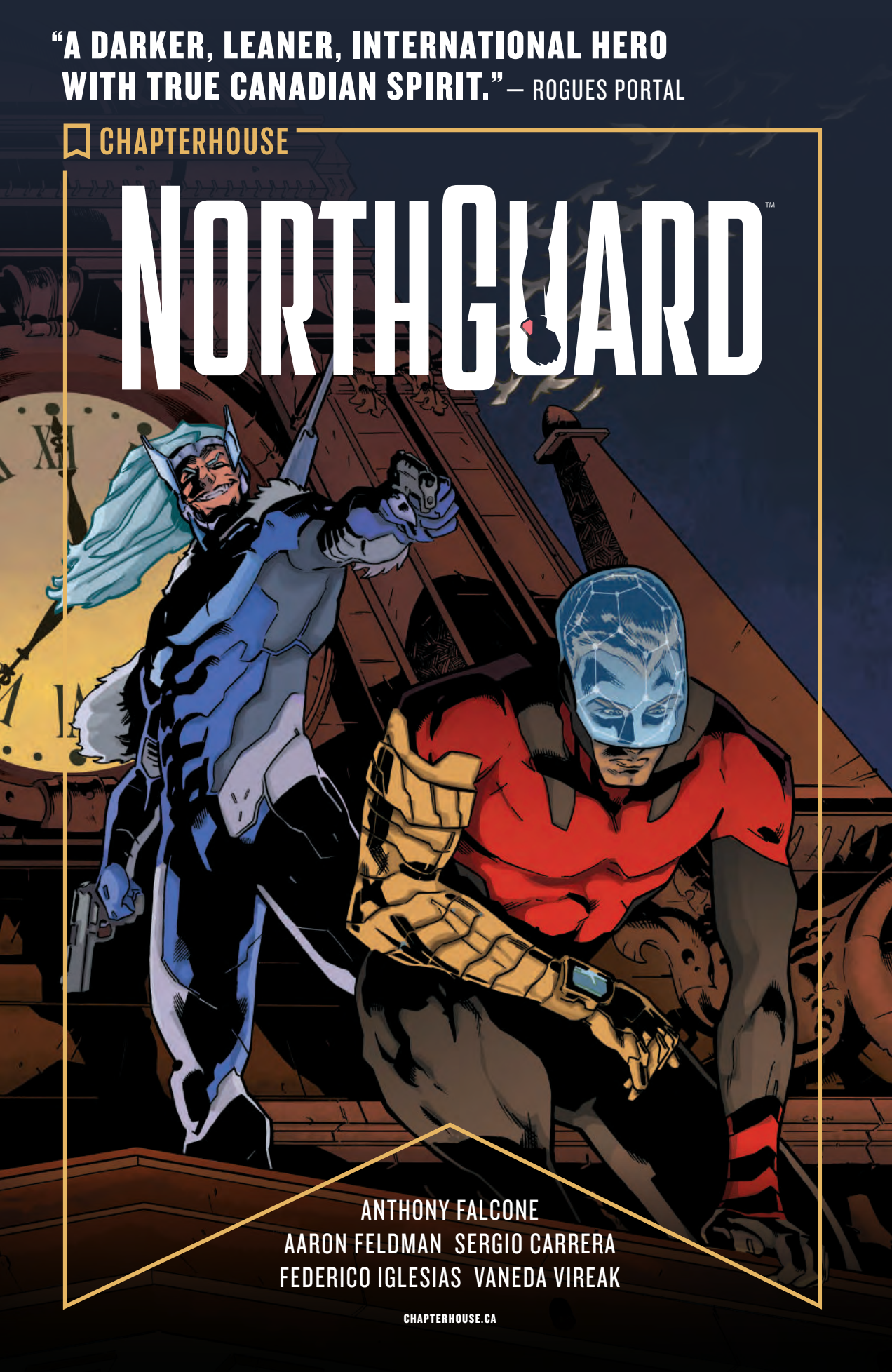

ANTHONY FALCONE
AARON FELDMAN SERGIO CARRERA
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"CAPTAIN CANUCK IS THE HERO AND COMIC WE NEED RIGHT NOW" — LIVING MYTH MAGAZINE

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