



TM
WORLD AGAINST ~~SUPERMAN~~

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

SUPergirl

50th
ISSUE!

FEATURING A
TALE BY
**HELEN
SLATER!**

**GATES
IGLE
SIBAL
McKENNA
BLACK
CHIANG**

28

MICHAEL
TURNER

B. Petof.



MT. KATAHDIN.

PISCATAQUIS COUNTY, MAINE.

THEN...

MONTHS AGO, A SUPERWOMAN DIED ON THIS MOUNTAIN.

LESS THAN AN HOUR AGO,
A MAN NAMED STEVEN MORROW WAS KILLED.

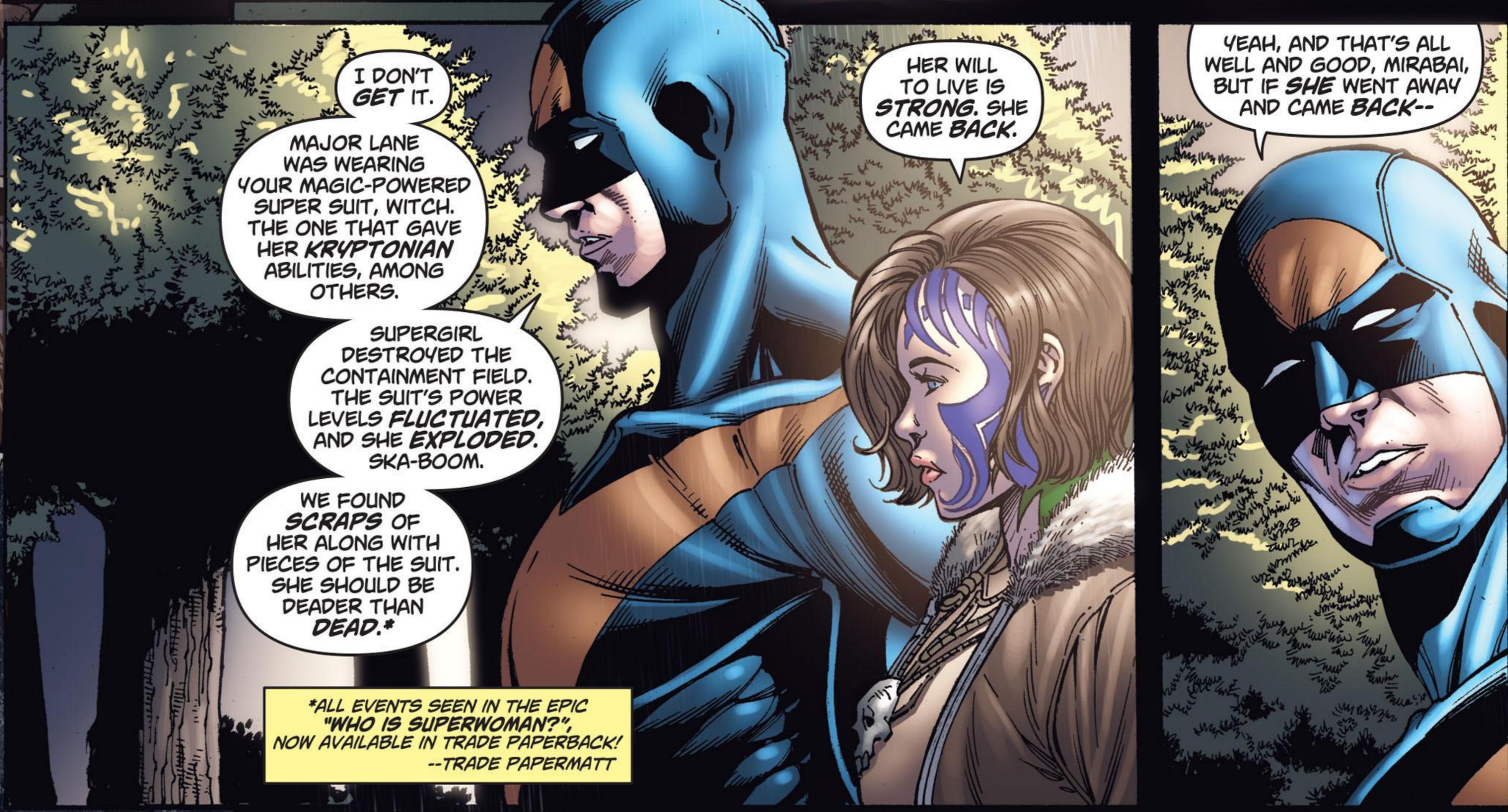
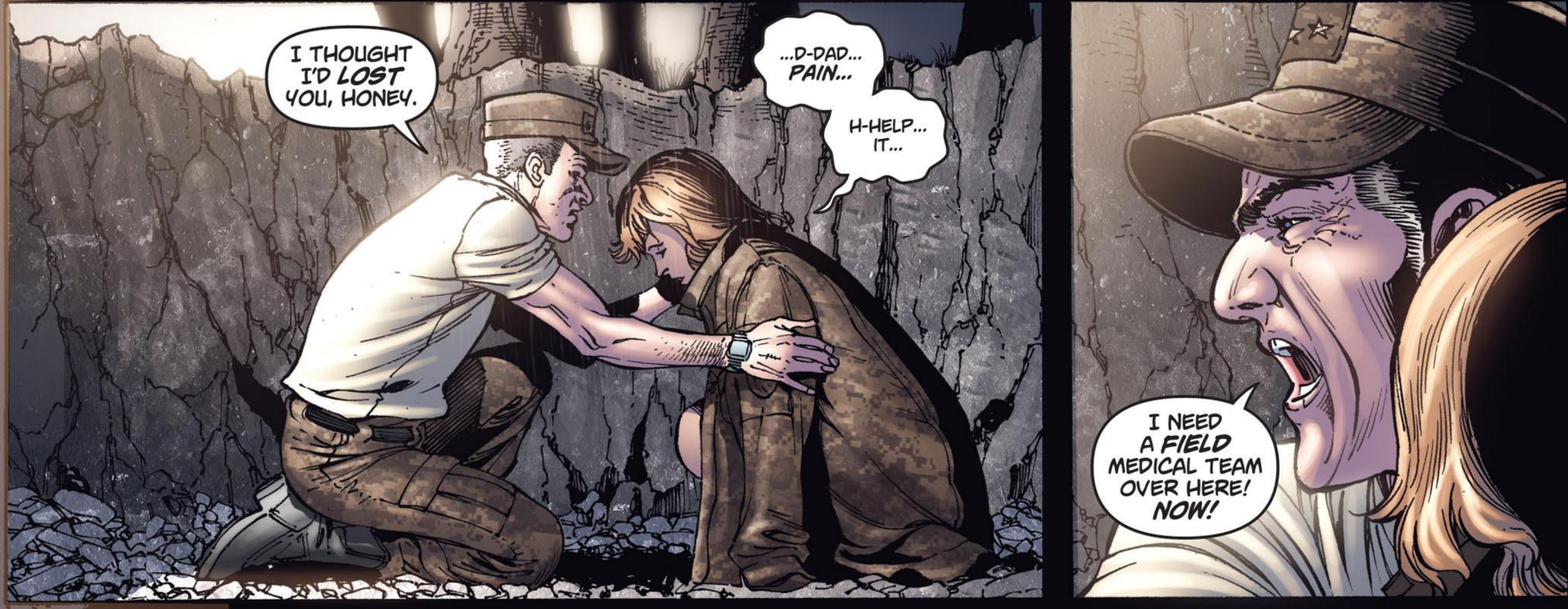
THE MATTER THAT
COMPRISED HIS BODY WAS
STOLEN. REORGANIZED.

RECYCLED.

ALL SO THAT A SUPERWOMAN--

LUCY?

--COULD
LIVE AGAIN.



--WHERE'D ALL OF THAT MAGICAL ENERGY GO?"

PLEASE.
PLEASE GIVE ME SOMETHING!

LET'S HURRY ALONG, CORPORAL.

ALMOST THERE, SIR...

I HURT...SO BAD...PLEASE, GIVE ME SOME-
THING...

HOLD TIGHT,
MAJOR LANE.
WE'LL HAVE
YOU FEELING
BETTER IN
NO TIME--

WHAT'S WRONG,
CORPORAL?

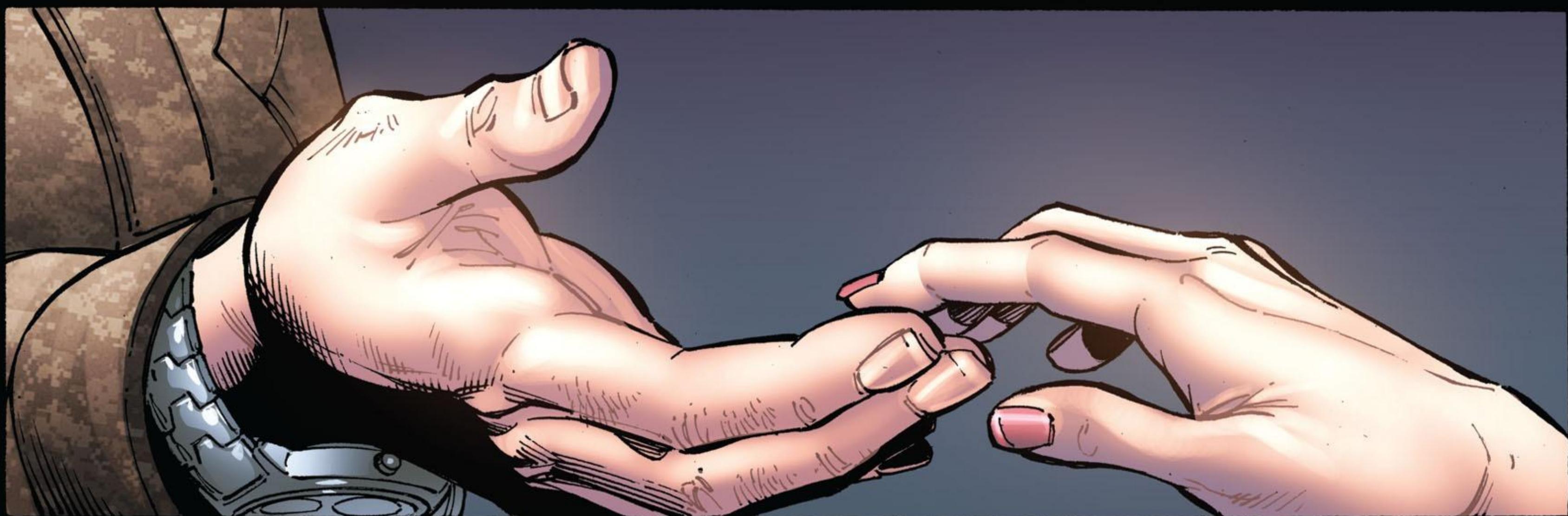
AH, UM, THE
NEEDLE MUST'VE
BEEN DEFECTIVE,
SIR. I'LL GET
ANOTHER--

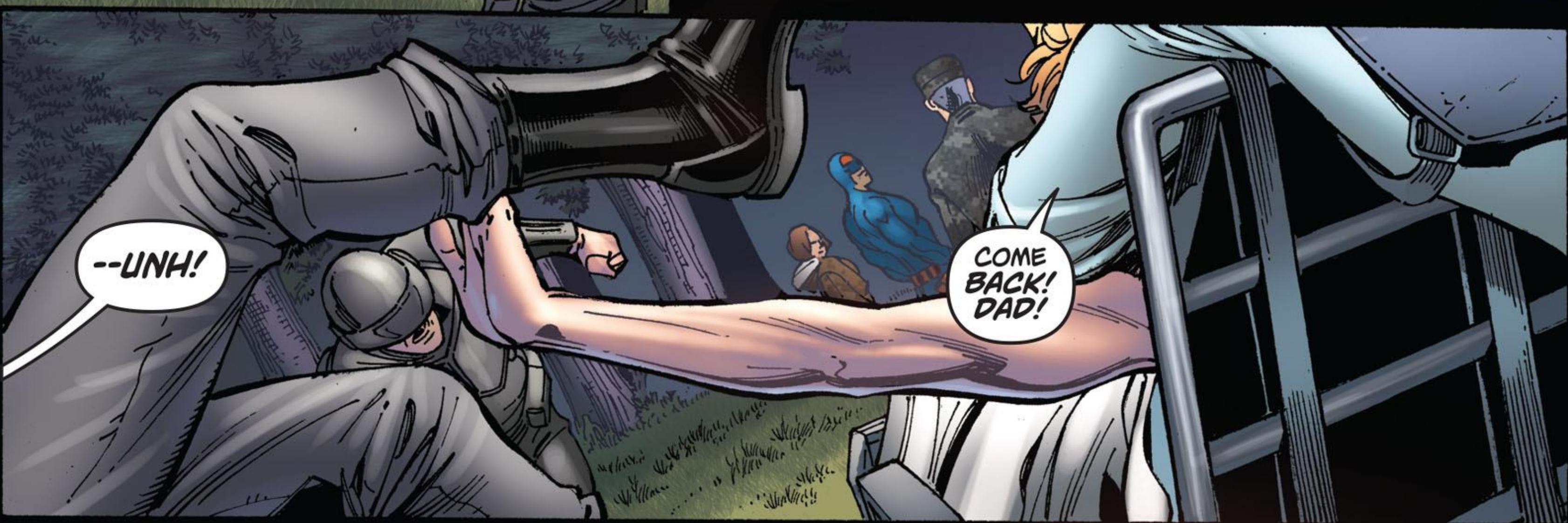
STOP THE
PAIN!

YES, MA'AM,
JUST ONE
SECOND--

GIVE ME
SOMETHING--

VZT





METROPOLIS.

NOW...

DON'T EVEN
KNOW IF THIS THING
IS STILL TRANSMITTING,
BUT I'M ALMOST TO
THE CHAMBER!

THIS IS JOSE
DELGADO.

JOSE SPENT YEARS
FIGHTING THE GANG
SCENE IN METROPOLIS
AS THE SUPERHERO
CALLED GANGBUSTER.

GROWING DISSATISFIED WITH
THE LACK OF PROGRESS HE
WAS MAKING, HE RETIRED
FROM CRIMEFIGHTING AND
MOVED TO LOS ANGELES
TO BE WITH FAMILY.

A YEAR AGO, TO SAVE
THE LIFE OF ONE OF HIS
FRIENDS, JOSE TOOK THE
MANTLE BACK UP AGAIN.

EIGHT WEEKS AGO,
HE DECIDED TO MOVE
BACK TO METROPOLIS.

THIS DOESN'T
WORK, TELL MARIA
I LOVED HER.

HE'S SINCE COME
TO REGRET
THAT DECISION.

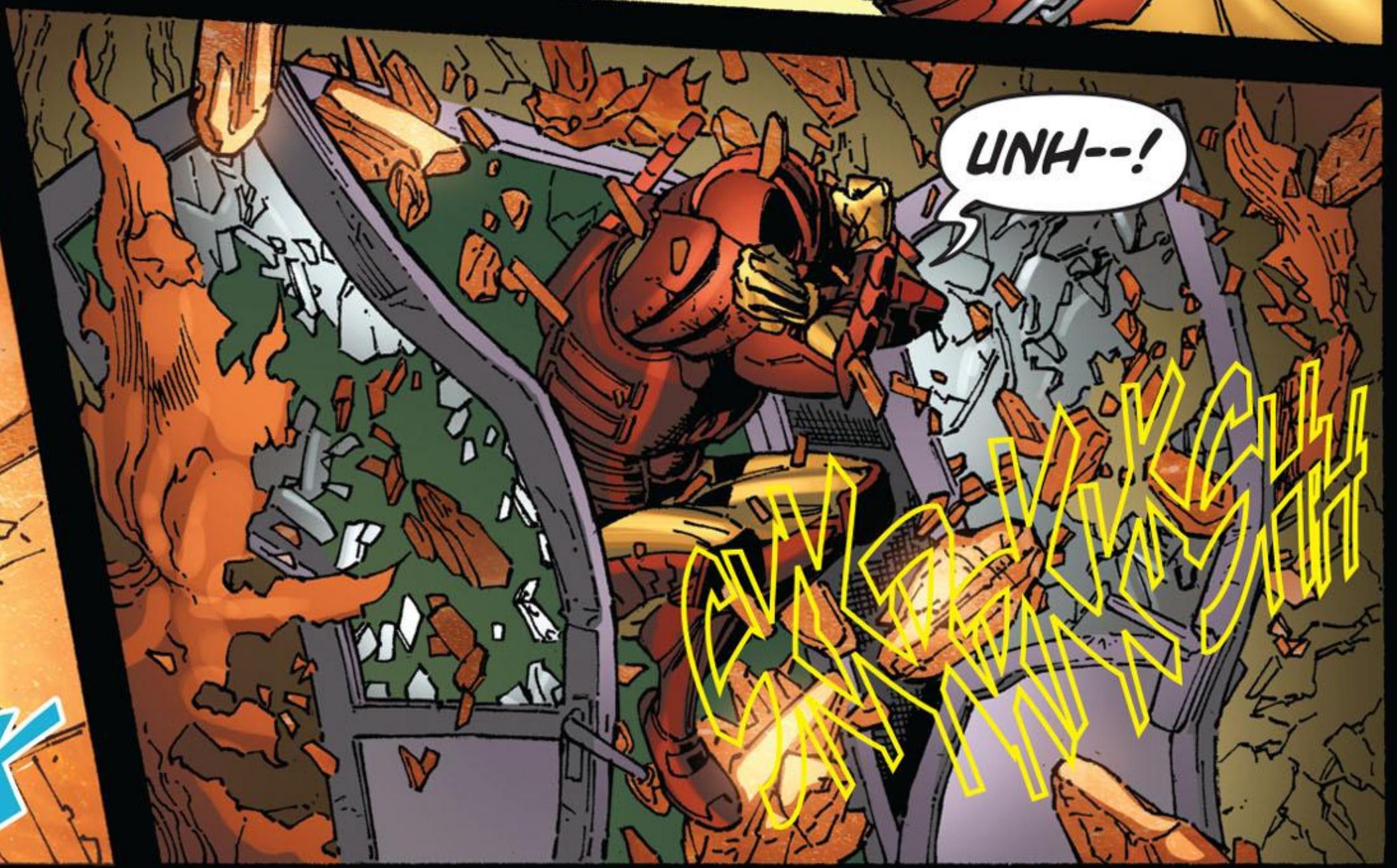
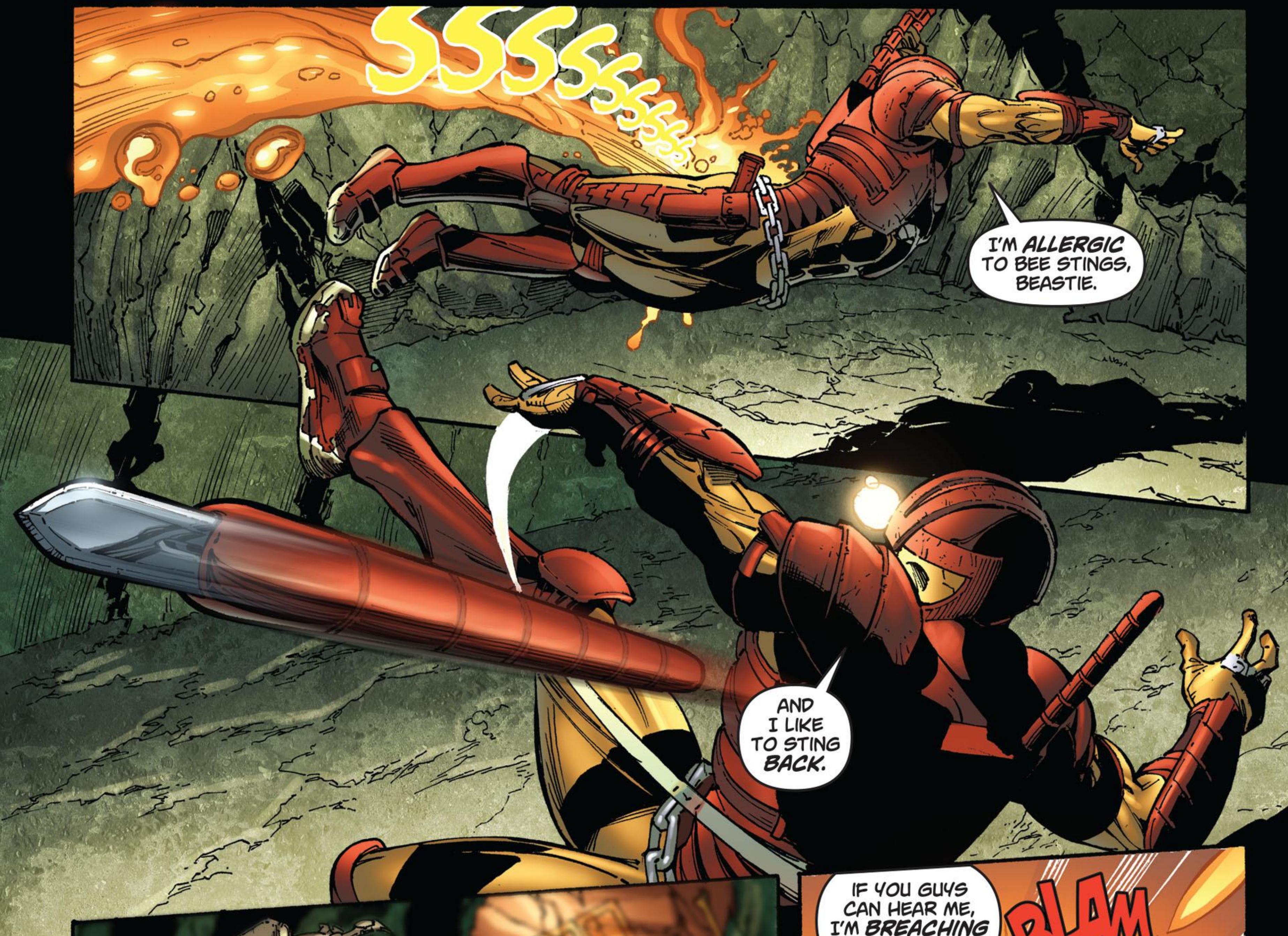
KKLAK
KOO KA KA

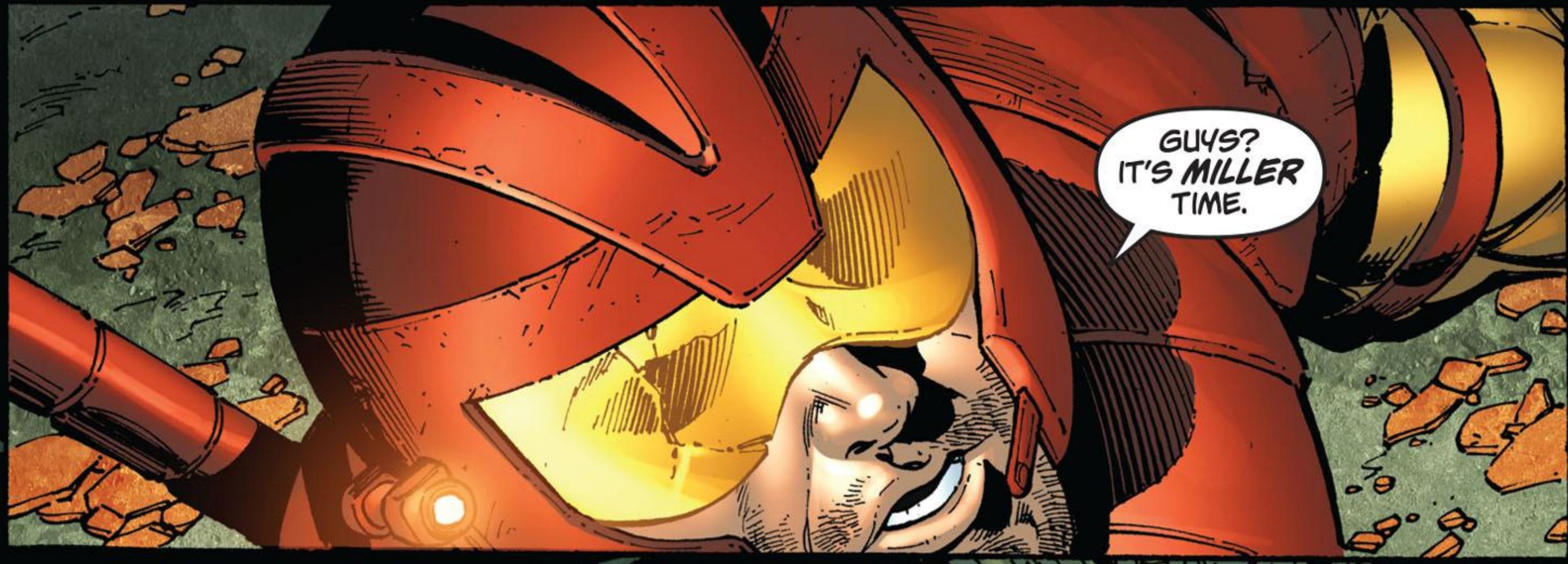
KA KA
KEEK

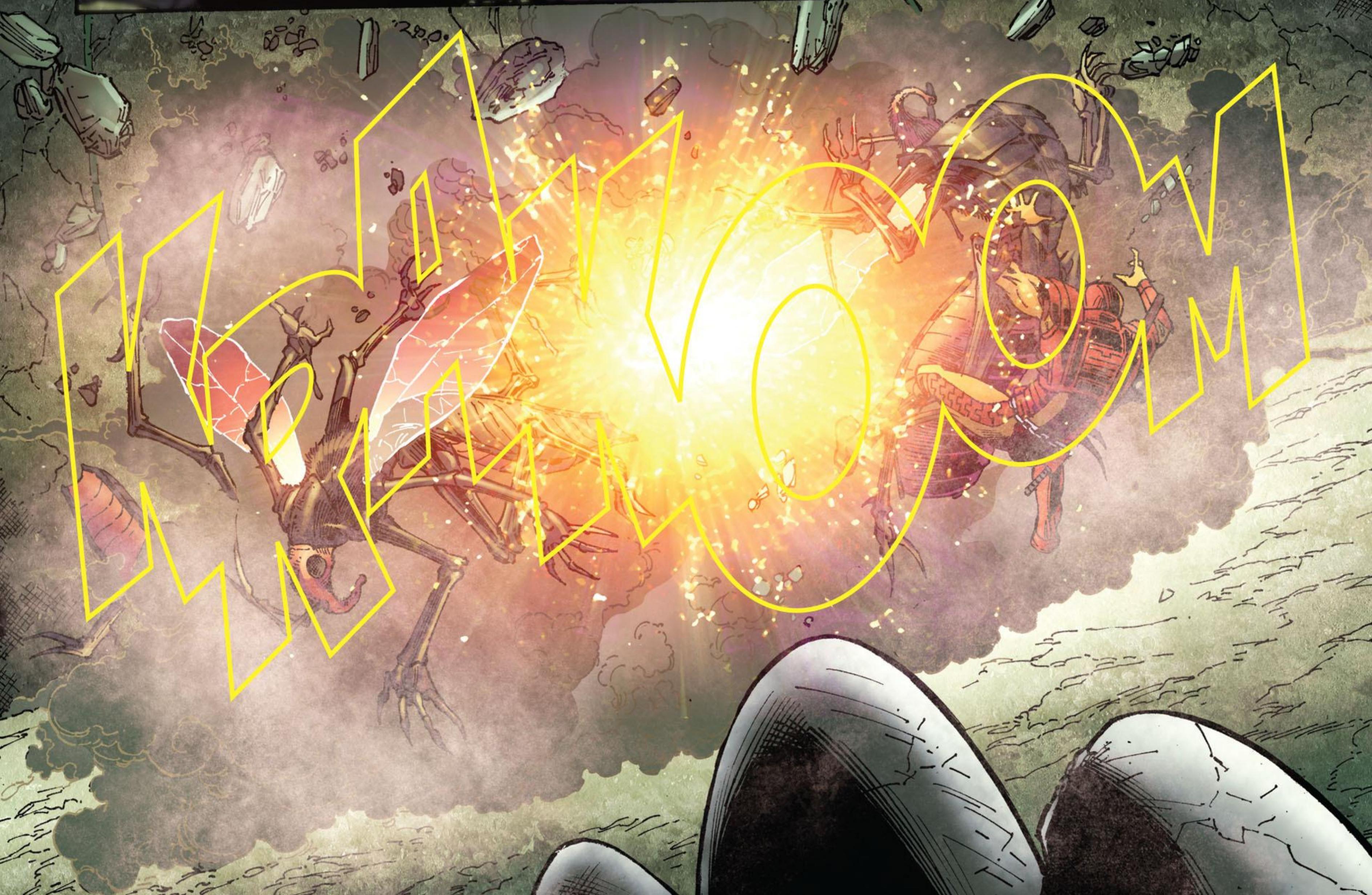
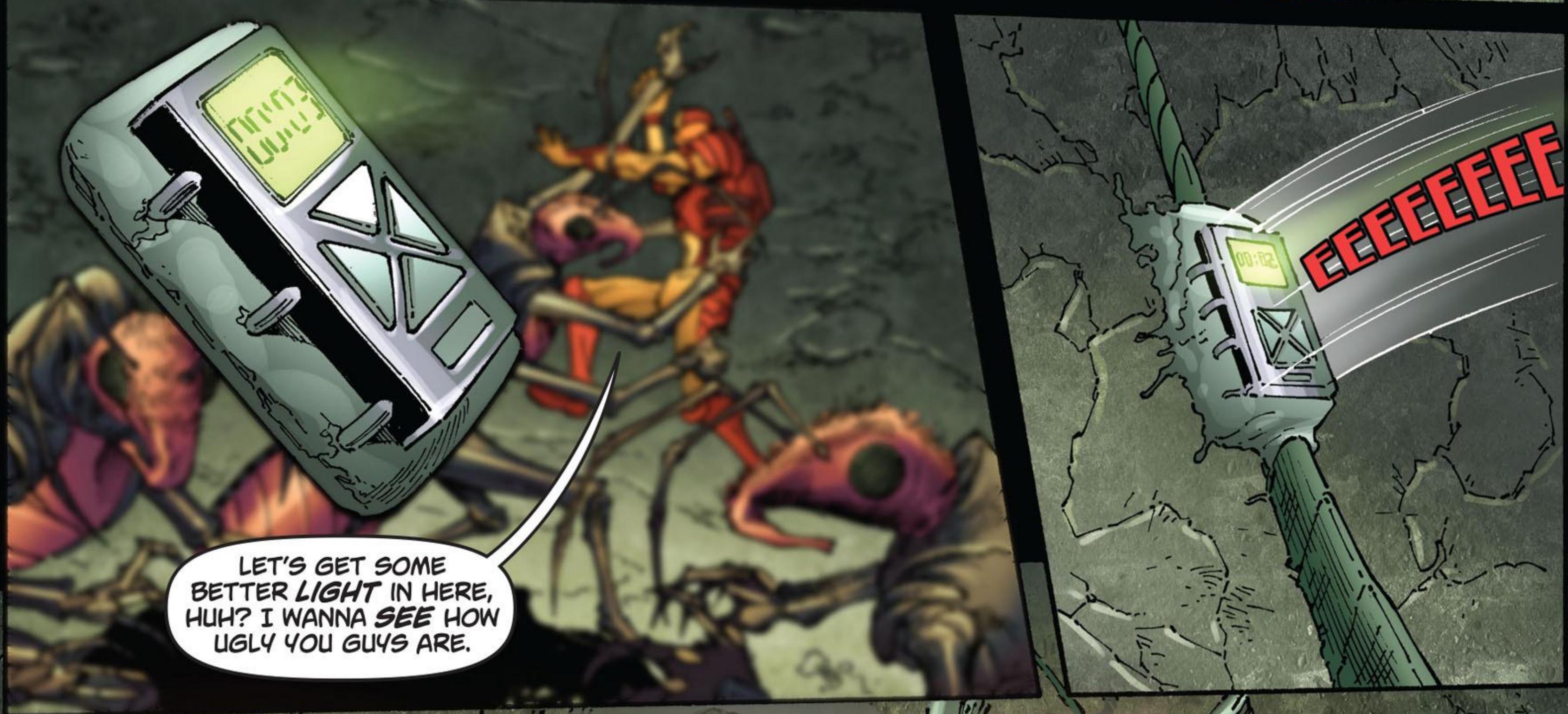
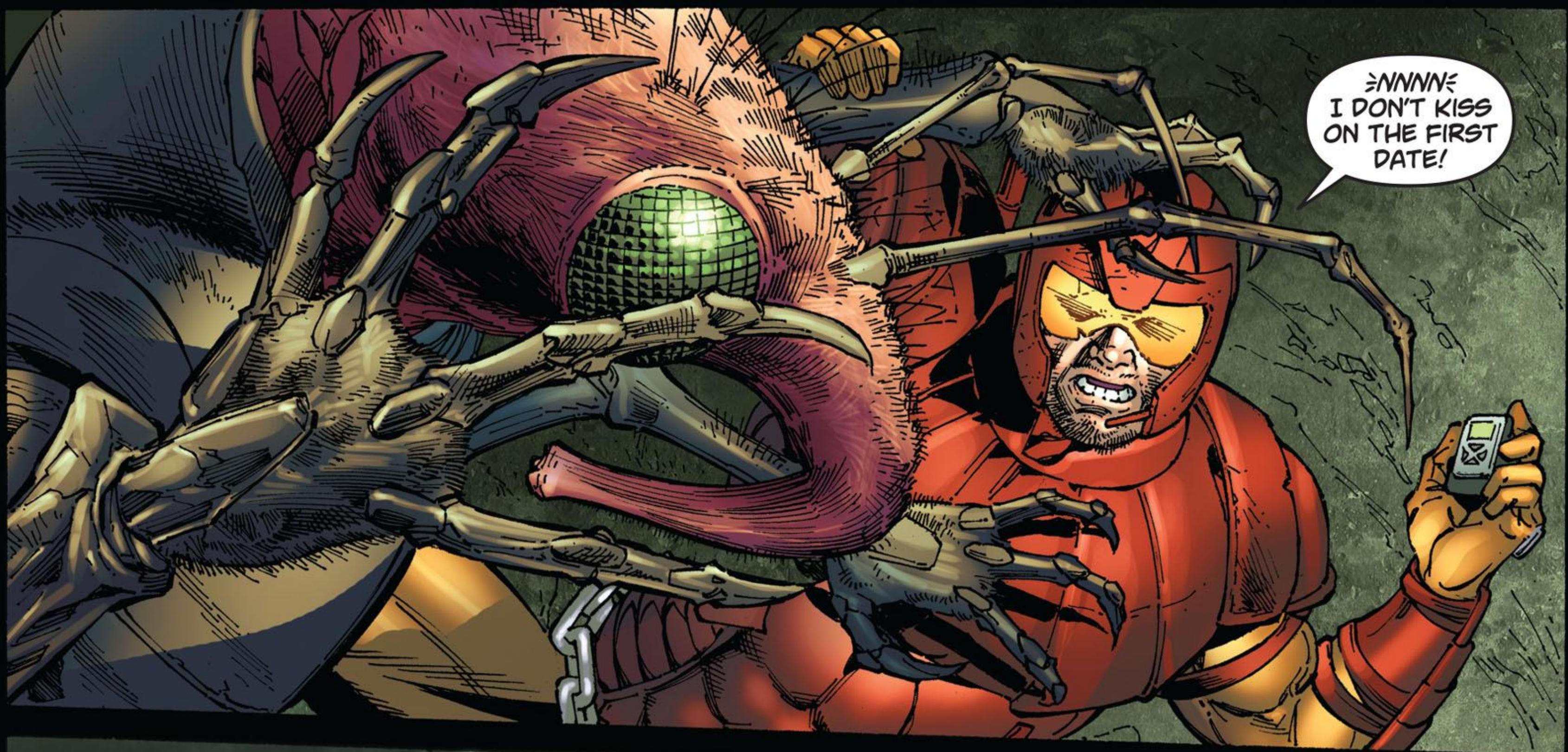
I'VE GOT
A VISUAL!

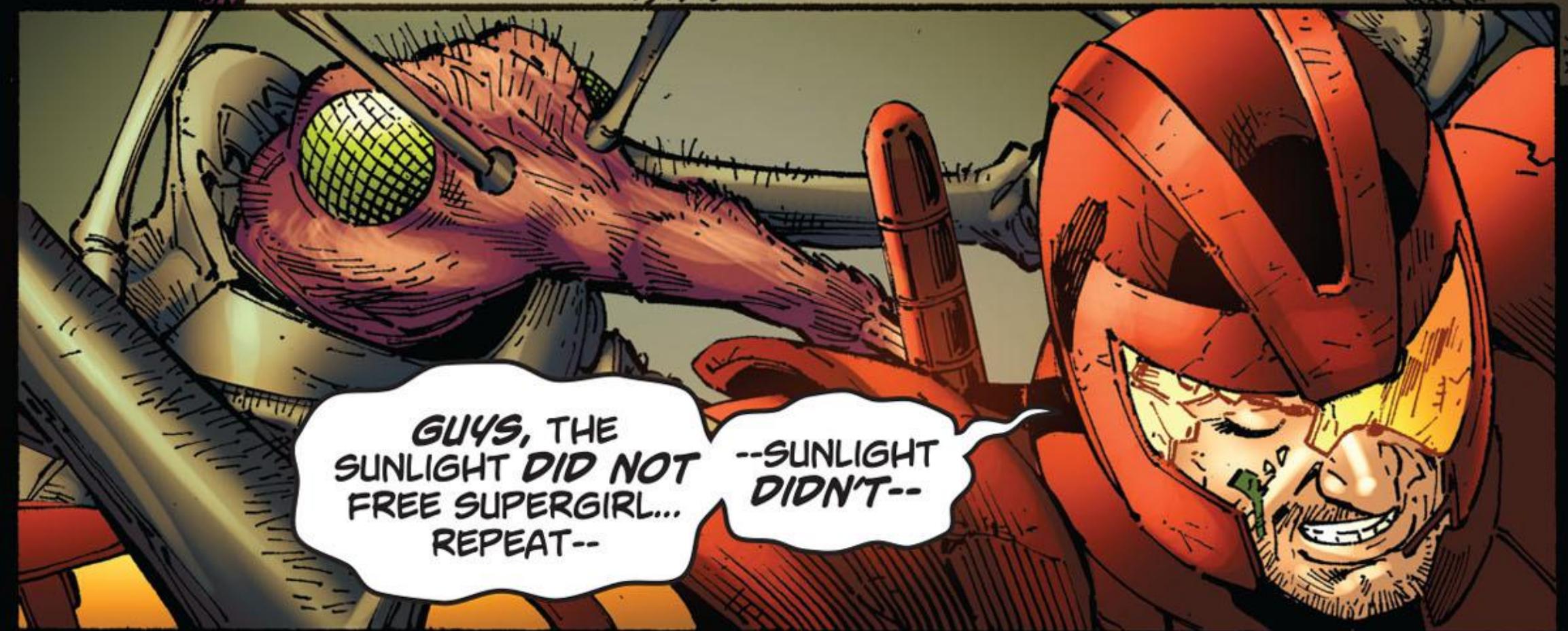
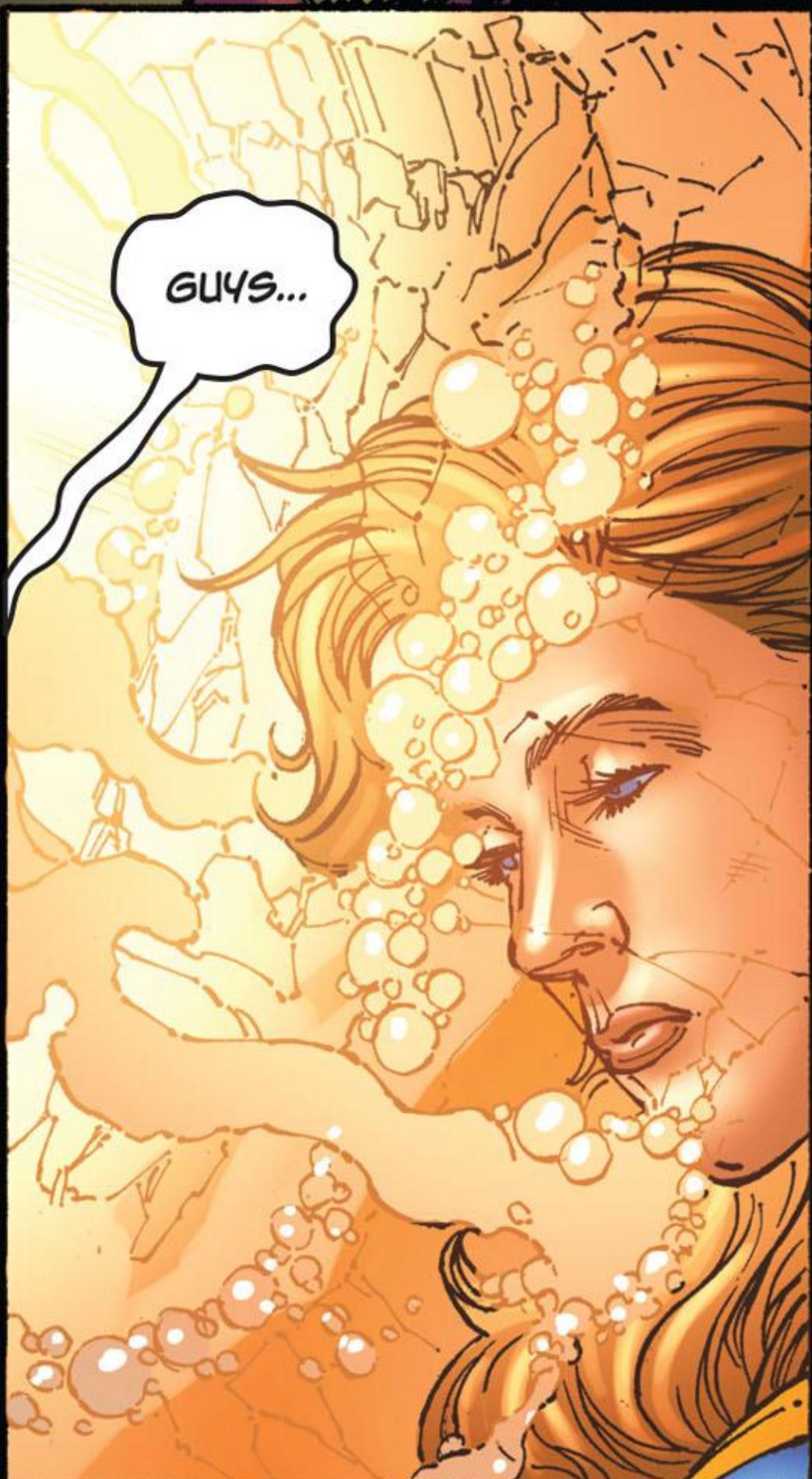
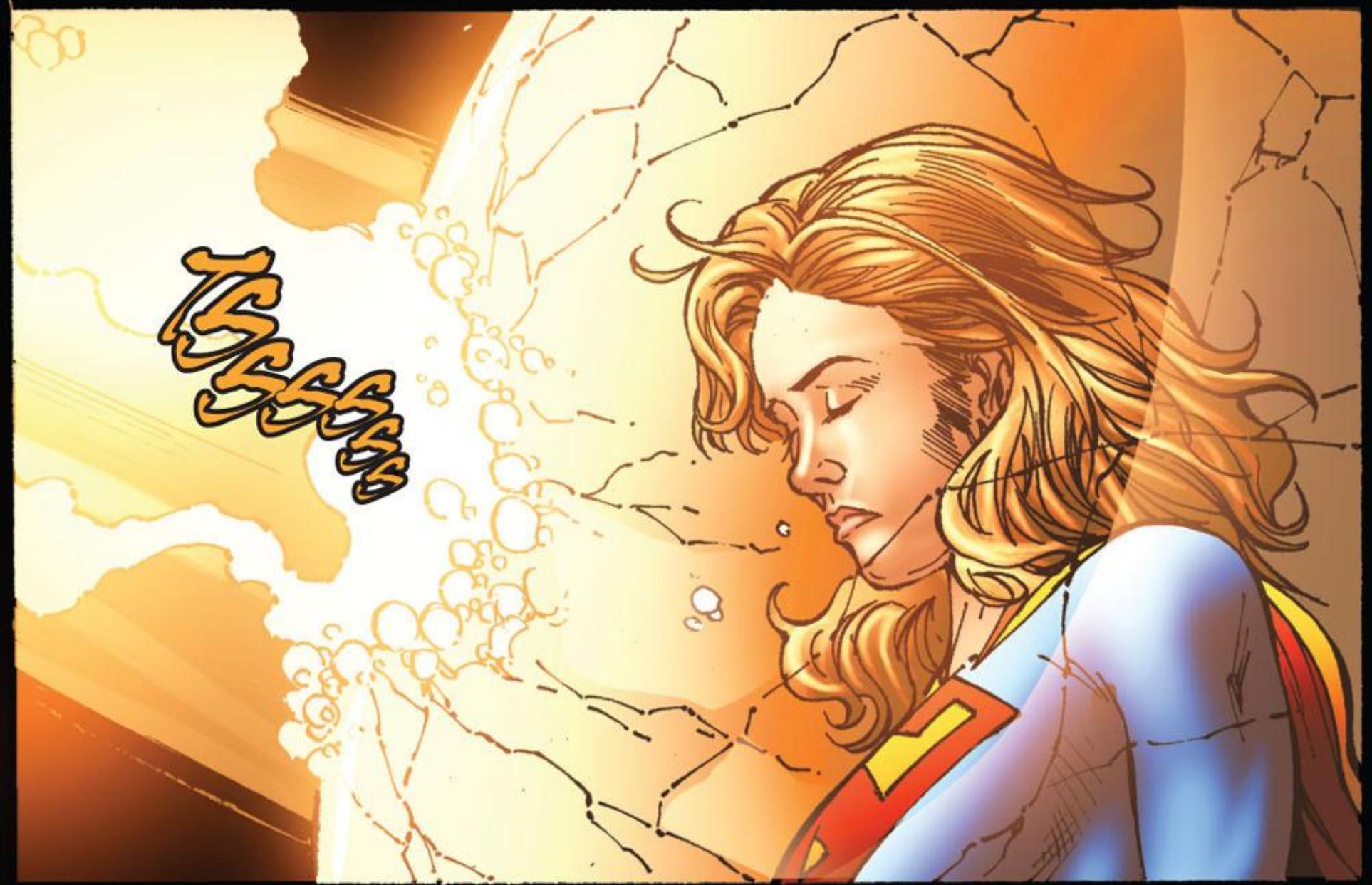
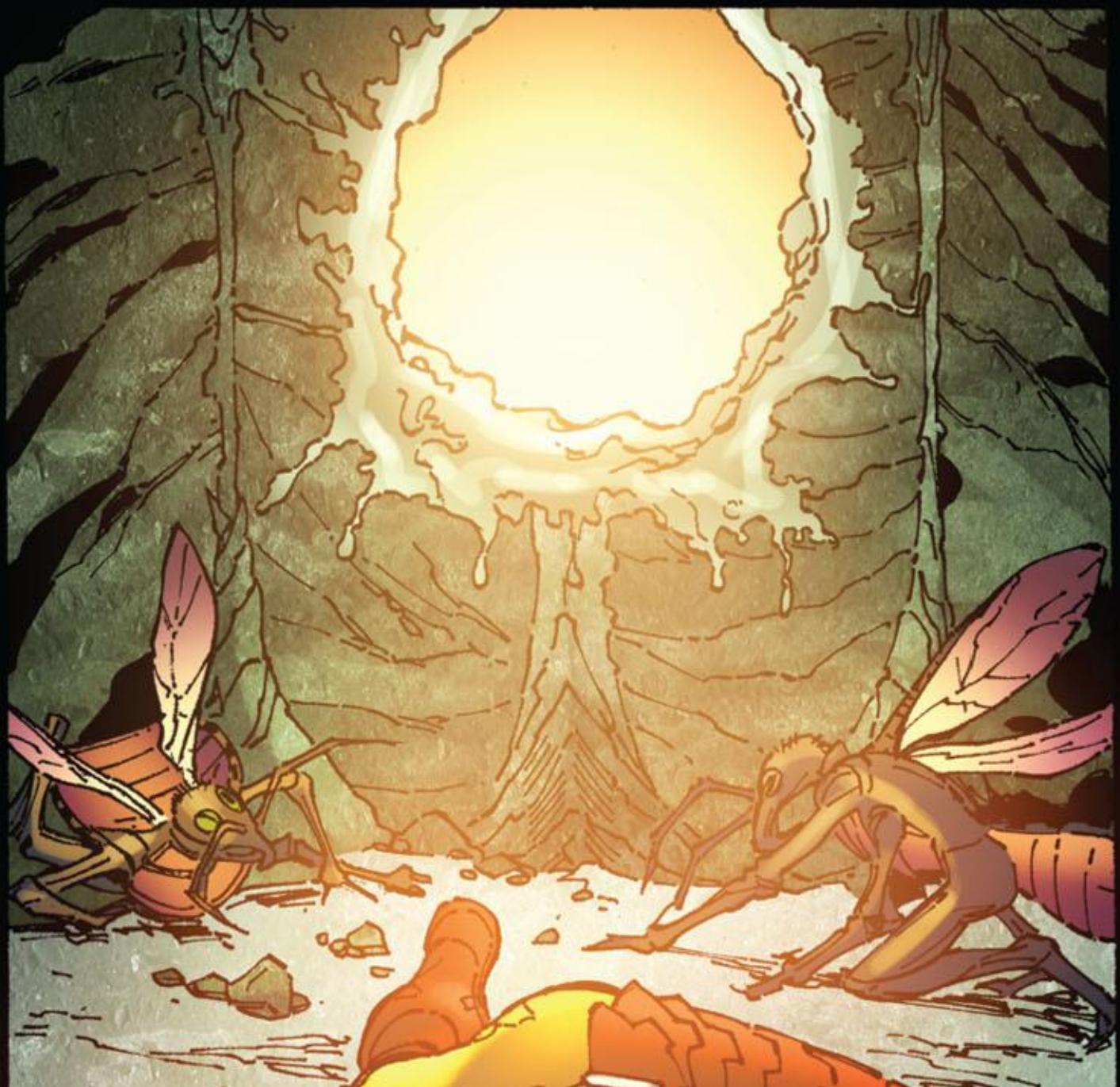
KLEEP
KEEK

SILK











--WHAT THE
--T@# IS
GOING ON?





QUEEN

SENT IN A ROCKET FROM THE
REMAINS OF KRYPTON AS A TEENAGER,
KARA ZOR-EL WAS TRAPPED IN SUSPENDED
ANIMATION BEFORE SHE ARRIVED ON EARTH
YEARS AFTER HER COUSIN, SUPERMAN.
NOW LIVING WITH HER MOTHER ON
THE PLANET NEW KRYPTON, KARA
FIGHTS FOR TRUTH, JUSTICE,
AND THE KRYPTONIAN
WAY AS...

SUPergirl

HOW LONG
WAS I IN
THERE?

LET'S REGROUP
WITH MY TEAM,
SUPergirl.

THERE'S A
LOT TO TALK
ABOUT.

STERLING GATES WRITER
JAMAL IGLE PENCILLER
JON SIBAL & MARK MCKENNA INKERS

NEI RUFFINO WITH
PETE PANTAZIS COLORISTS
JARED K. FLETCHER LETTERER

MICHAEL TURNER AND
PETER STEIGERWALD COVER ARTISTS
JOSHUA MIDDLETON VARIANT COVER ARTIST

WIL MOSS ASST. EDITOR
MATT IDELSON EDITOR



HOURS LATER.

"HOW LONG, LANA?"

"HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN HIDING THIS FROM ME?"

"NO ONE KNOWS WHAT THIS IS, KARA."

"WHAT I HAVE. THEY CAN'T EVEN GUESS."

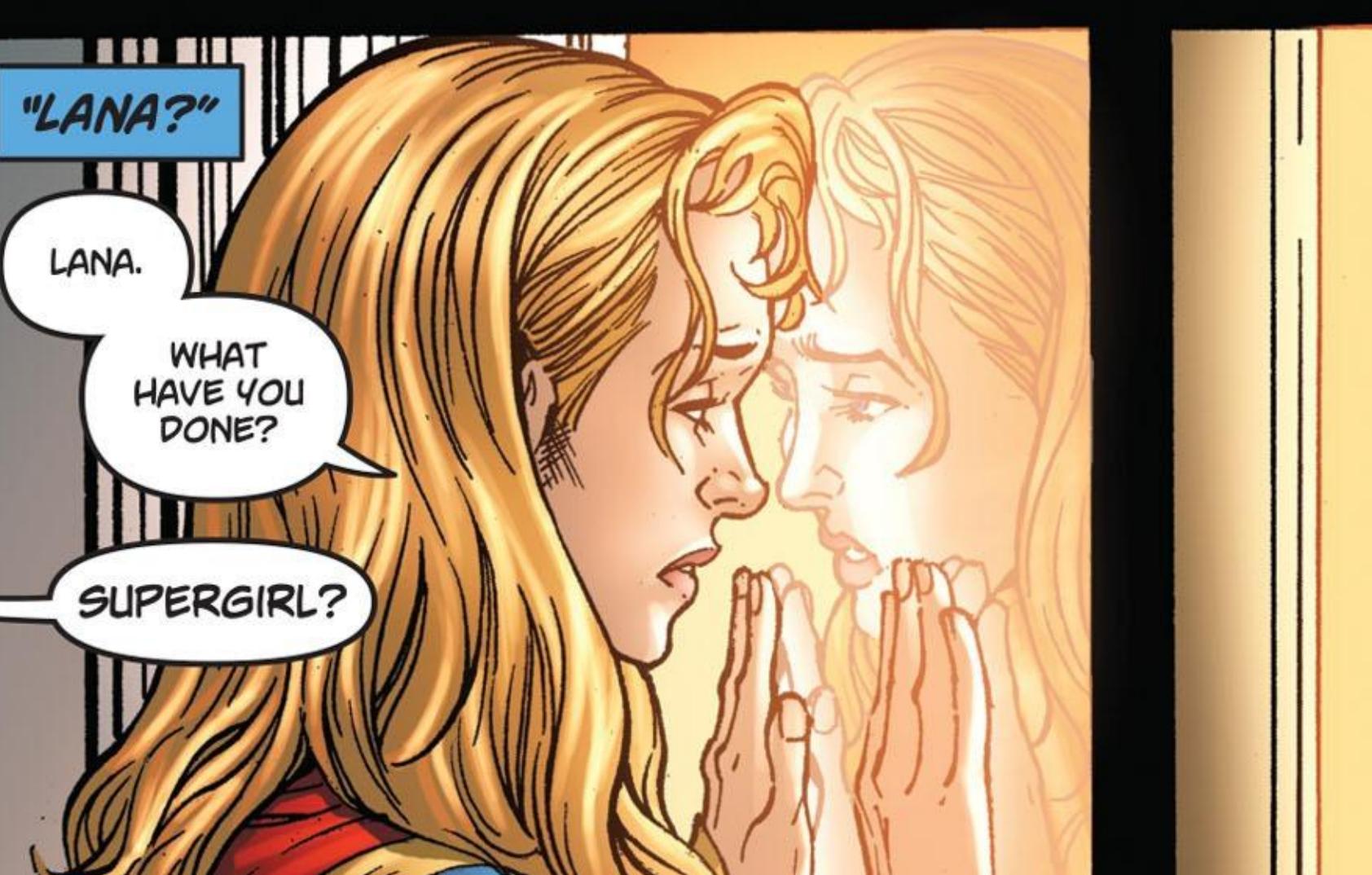
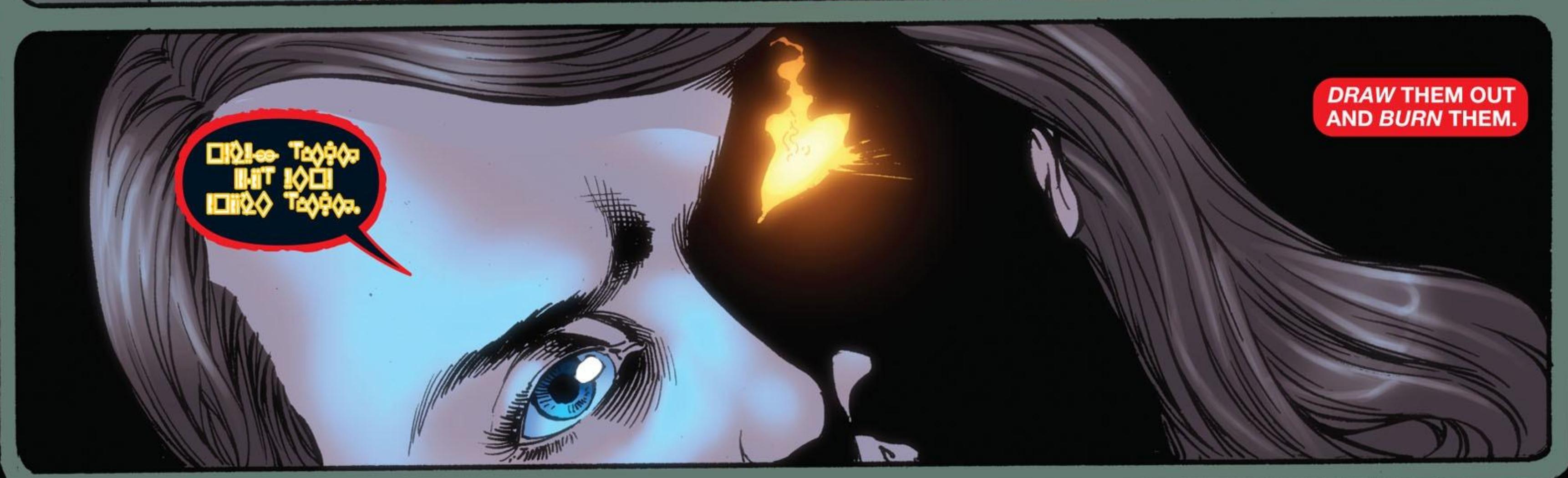
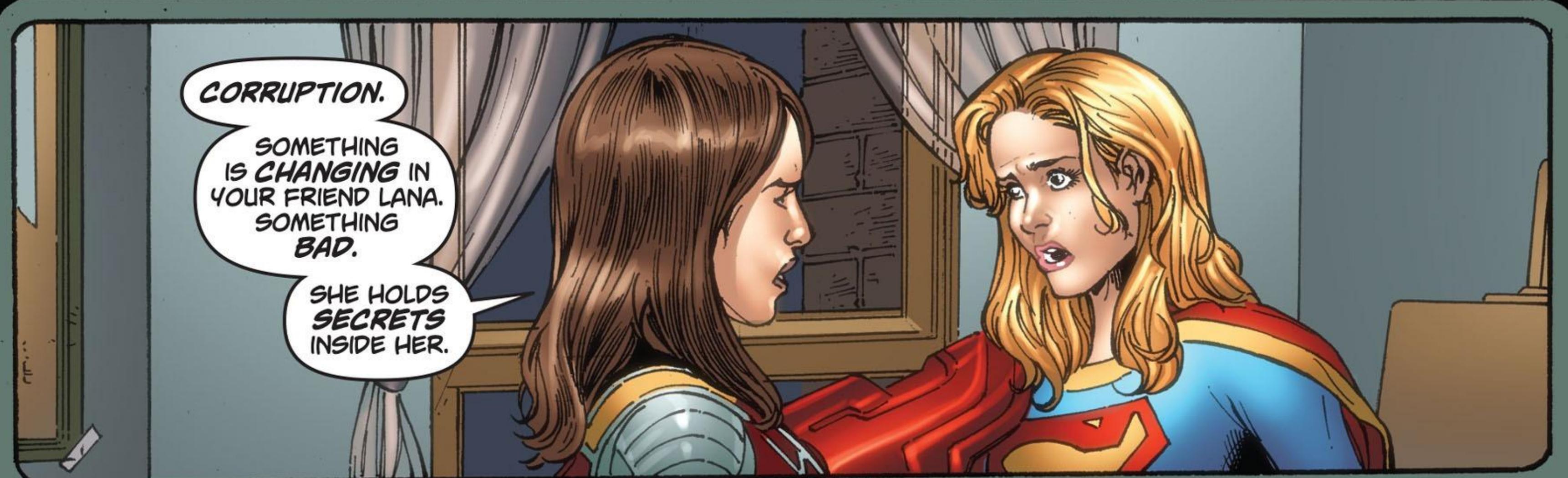
"I'VE BEEN TO DOZENS OF DOCTORS ALL OVER TOWN."

ALL OF THEM SAID THE SAME THING.

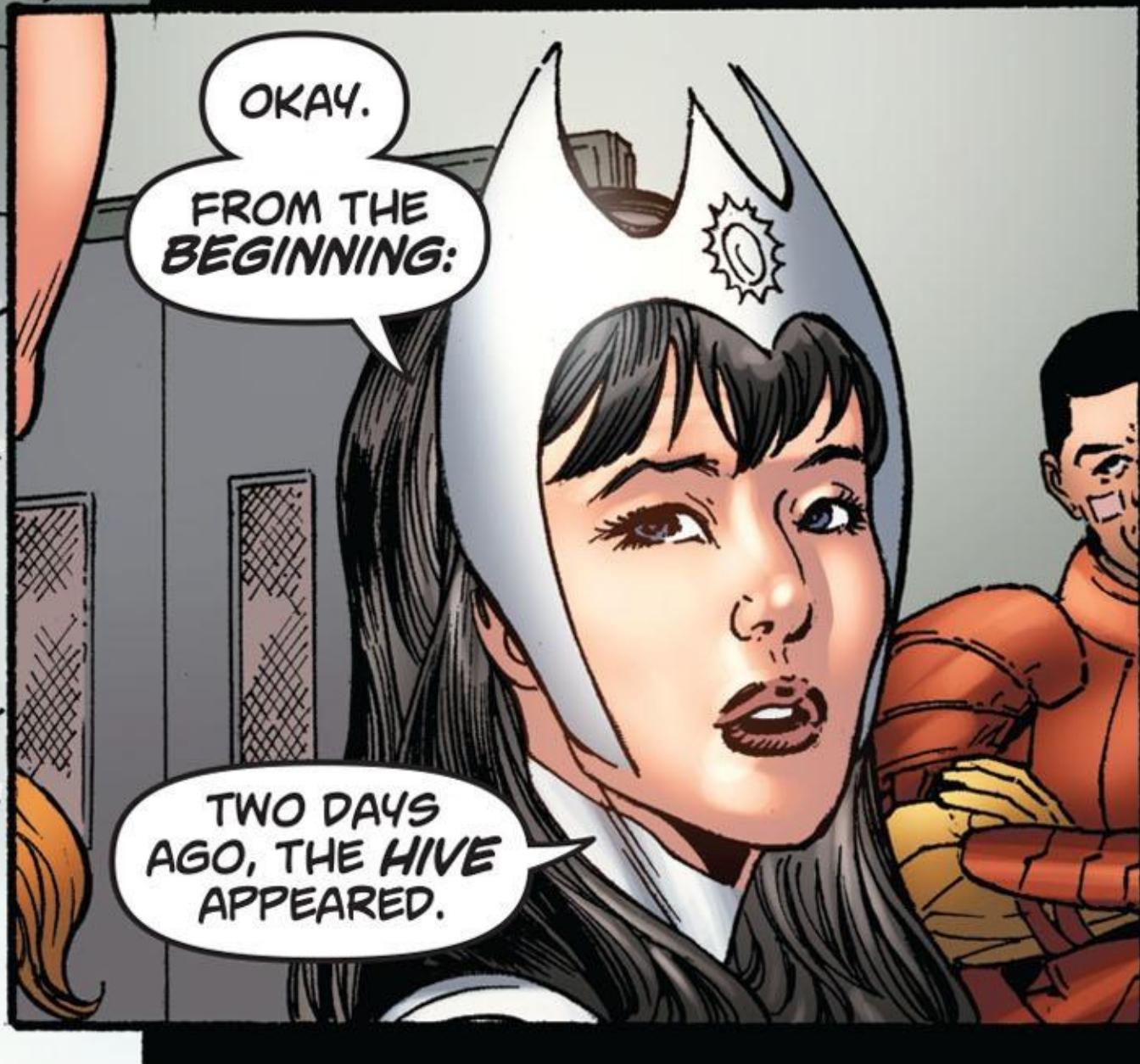
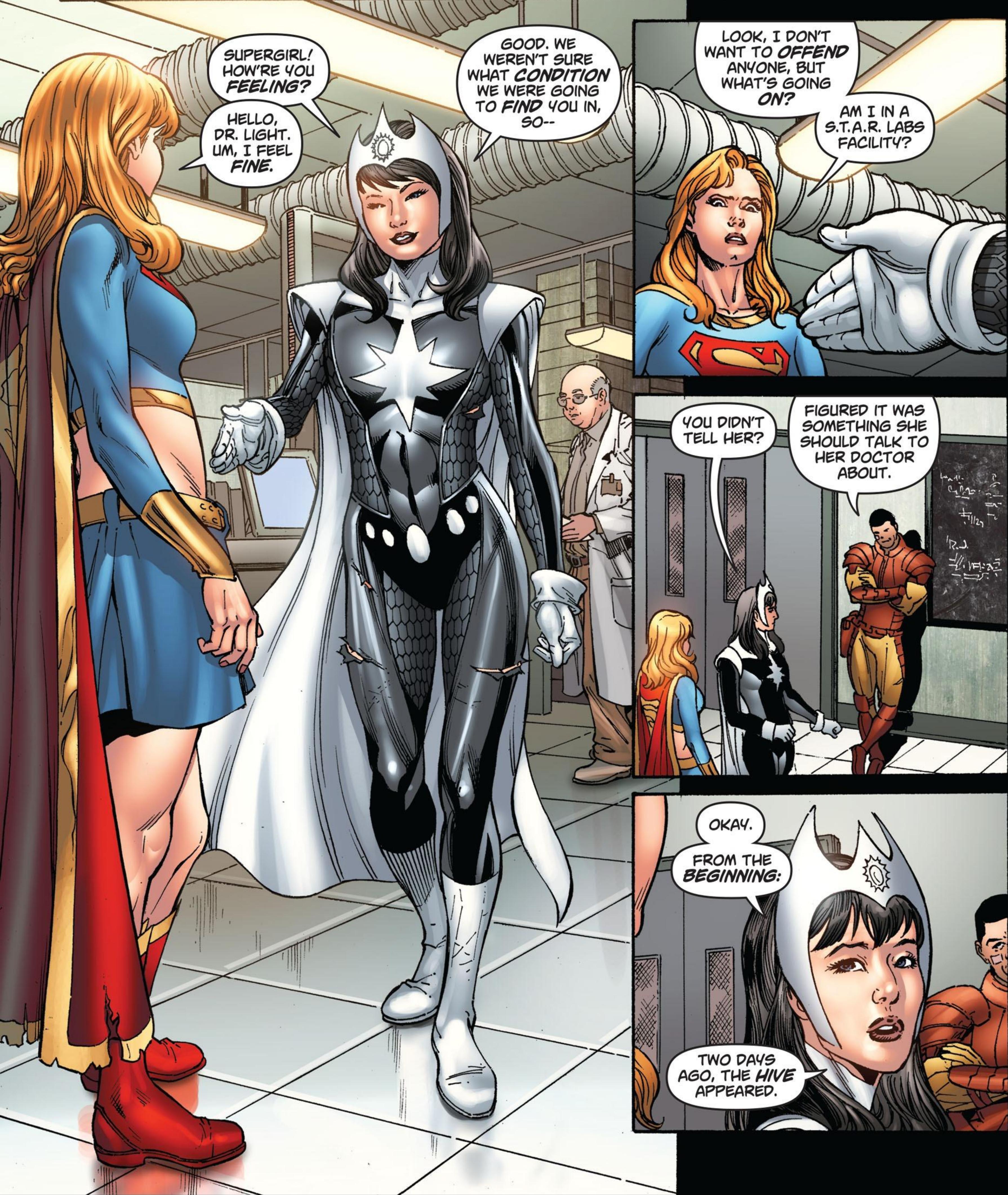
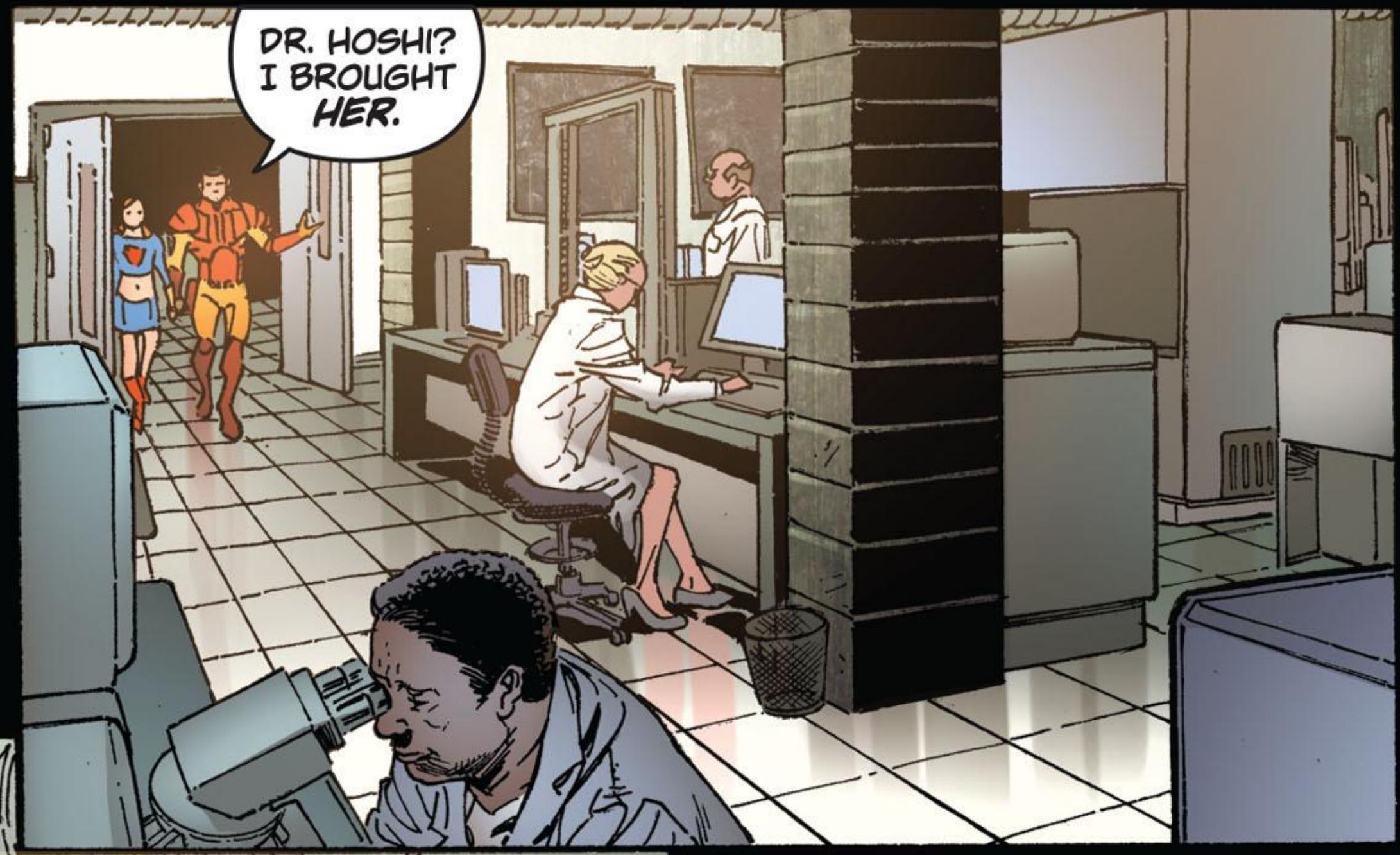
THAT AN "UNKNOWN VARIABLE" IS ATTACKING MY BODY'S IMMUNE SYSTEM, AND--

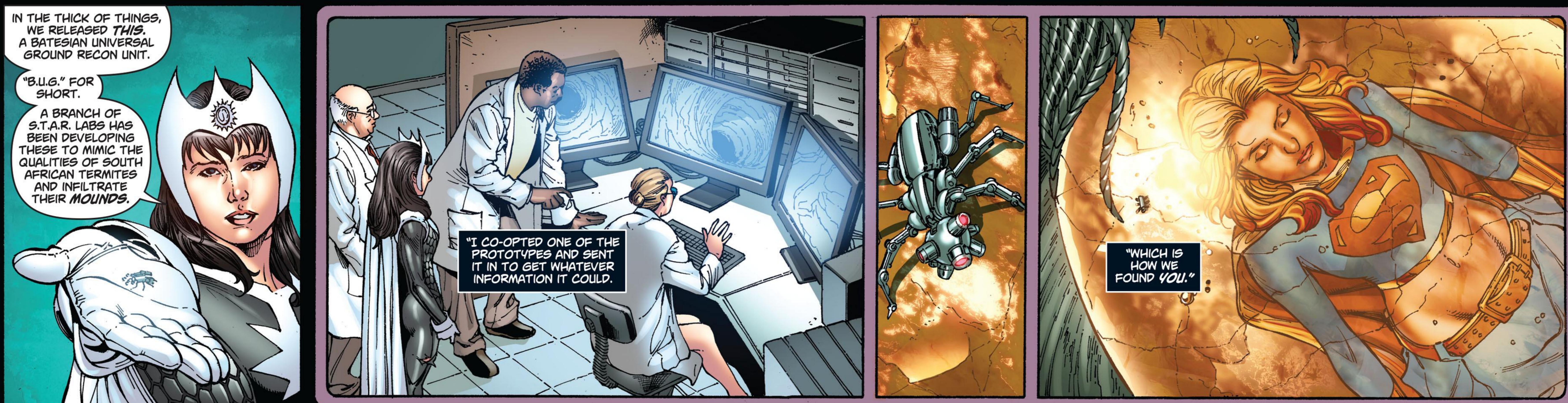
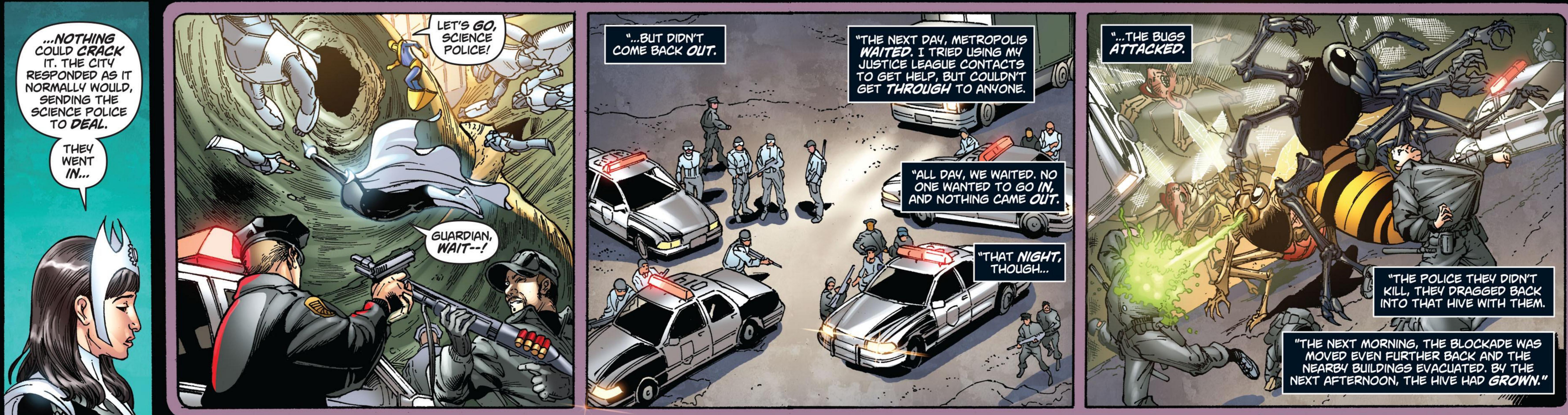
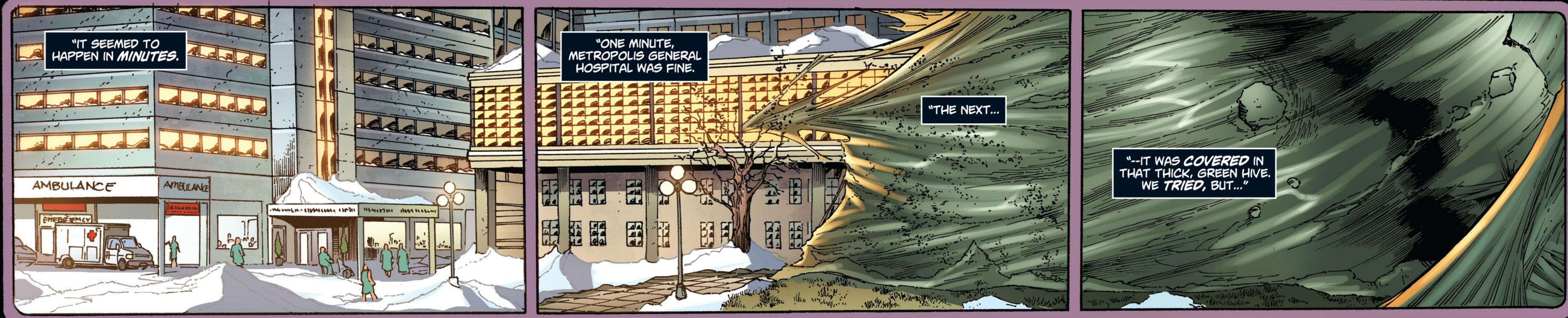
--ARE YOU...ARE YOU LOOKING AT IT?"

"THE FLAMEBIRD SAW IT, KARA."



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B.I.G. TOOK A SAMPLE OF THE SUBSTANCE YOU WERE ENCASED IN, AND AFTER SOME EXPERIMENTING, I DISCOVERED U.V. LIGHT DISSOLVED IT.

ARMED WITH THAT KNOWLEDGE, WE SENT A TEAM IN TO RETRIEVE YOU.

MOST OF WHICH DIDN'T MAKE IT BACK OUT.

FROM THE FEW INSECT CARCASSES WE'VE SECURED, WE'VE DETERMINED THAT THESE INSECTS ARE ALIEN, AND THEY'RE MOSTLY KEEPING TO THEMSELVES.

THE TISSUE SAMPLES WE'VE COLLECTED SO FAR SEEM TO BE INSECT D.N.A. HYBRIDIZED WITH SOMETHING ELSE. AN UNIDENTIFIABLE SOURCE.

WE WERE HOPEFUL THAT, SINCE YOU DEALT WITH THESE THINGS, YOU COULD TELL US SOMETHING MORE ABOUT THEM.

absence of
INSECT
40
2 prior p
UNKN
C°

HYBRIDIZED...

SUPergirl?

DOCTOR, COULD THE TISSUE YOU'VE BEEN UNABLE TO IDENTIFY BE PARTIALLY HUMAN?

HUMAN? THAT SEEMS UNLIKELY--

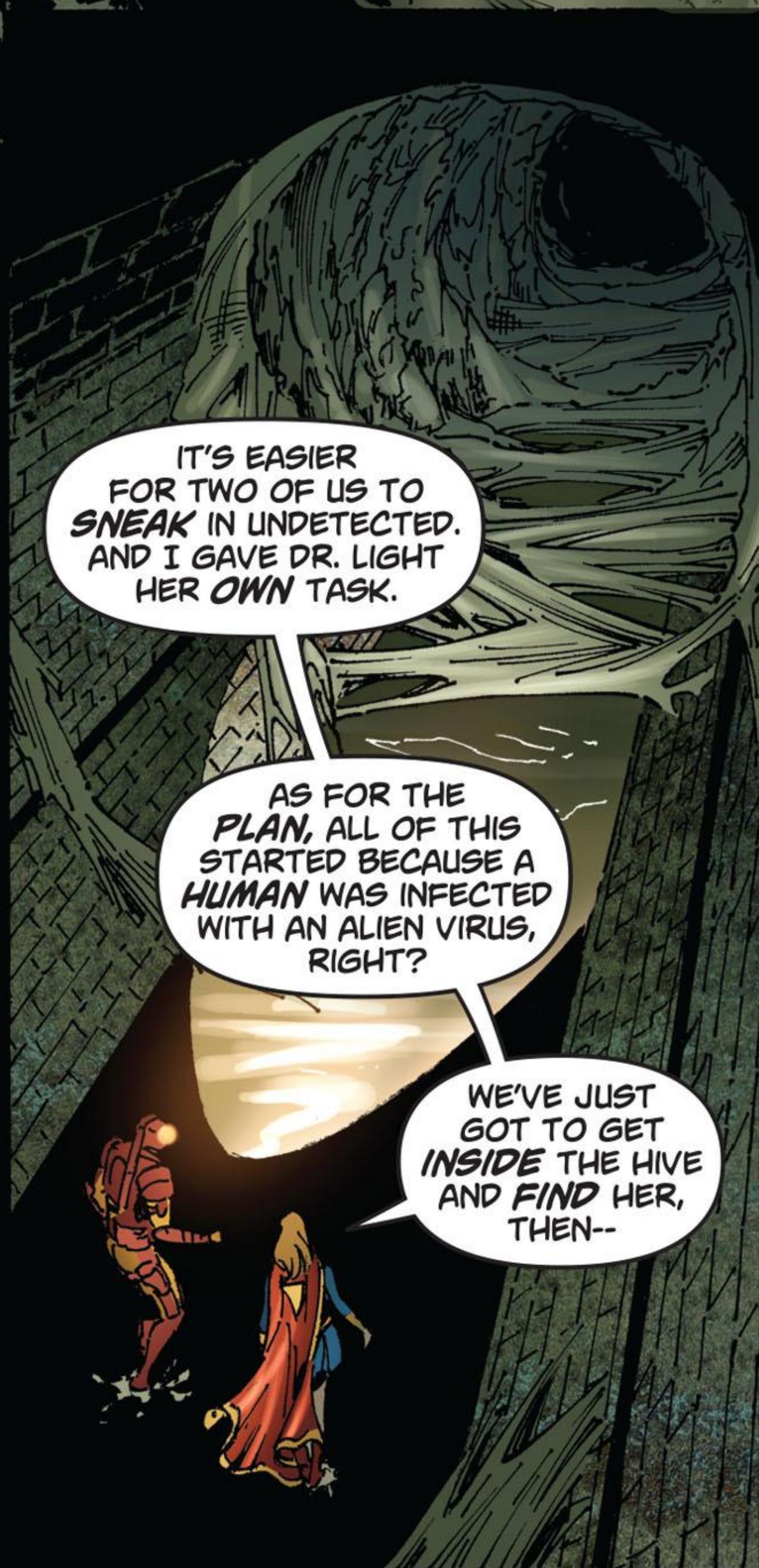
SAYS THE LADY WHO WATCHED ALIEN INSECTS ERECT A HIVE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE CITY IN A MATTER OF DAYS.

...DO YOU HAVE A REASON TO BELIEVE THAT, SUPergirl?

I HAVE TO TELL THEM ABOUT LANA.

DR. LIGHT--

--YOU OBSERVE DOCTOR-PATIENT CONFIDENTIALITY, RIGHT?



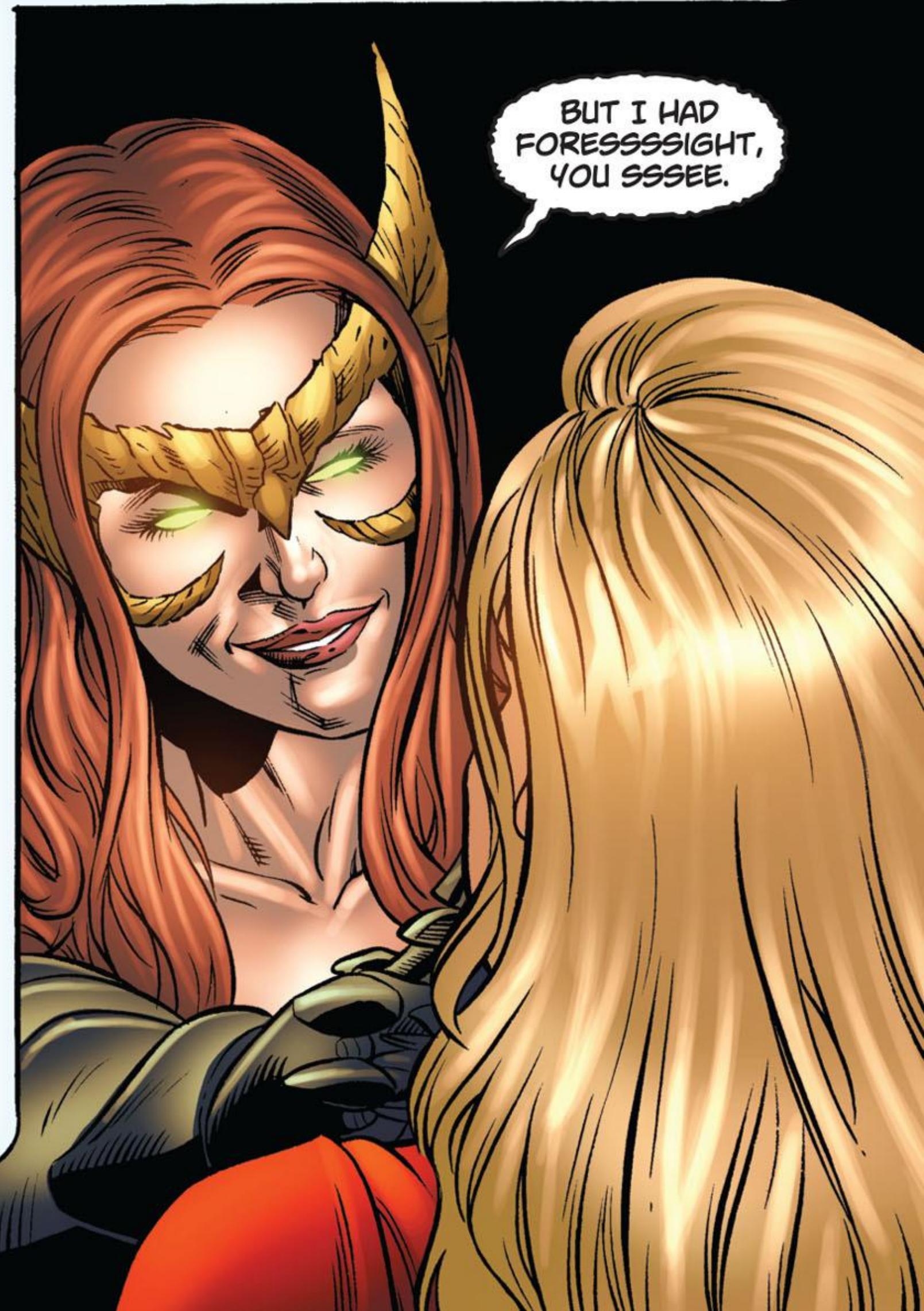
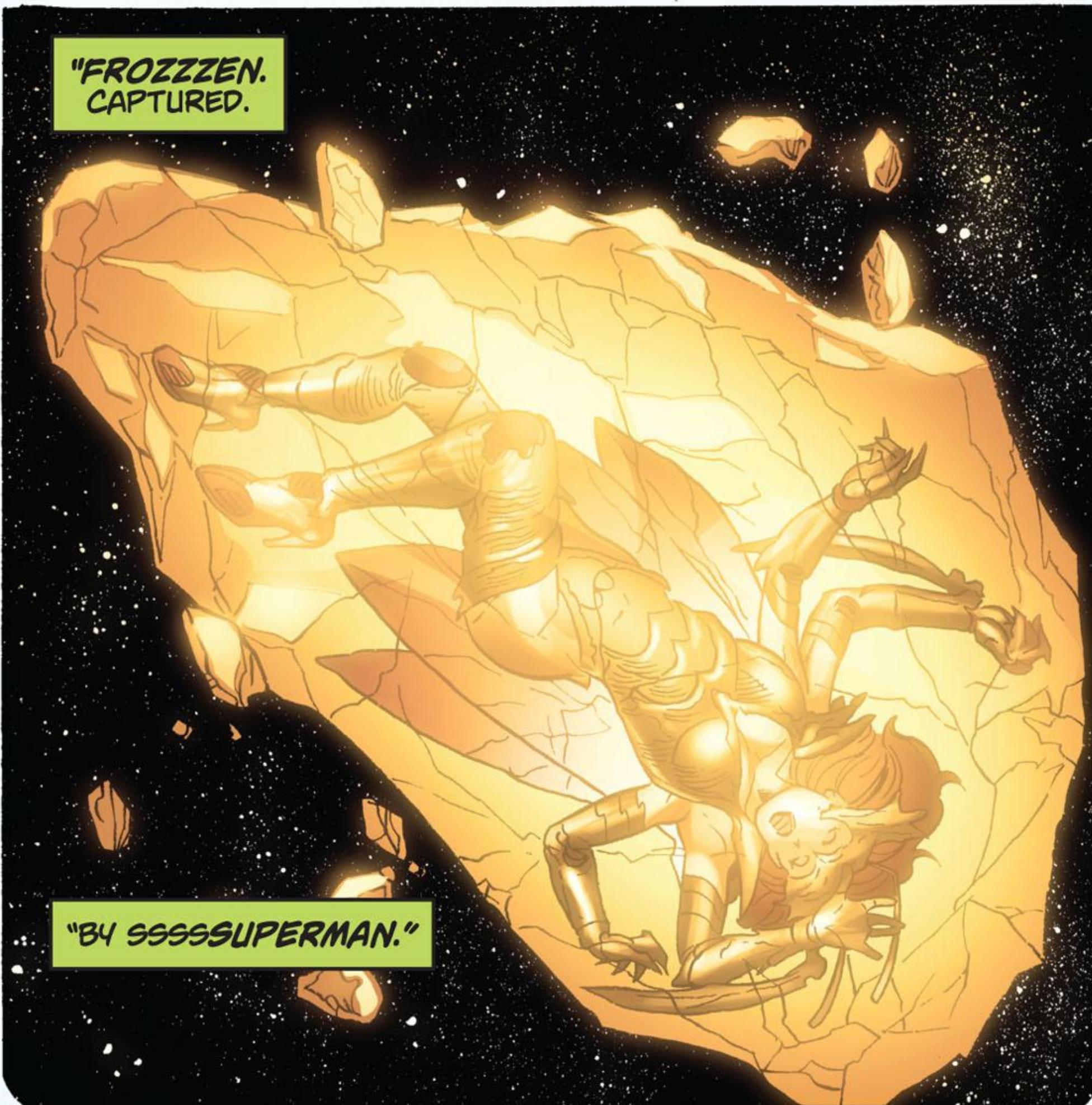
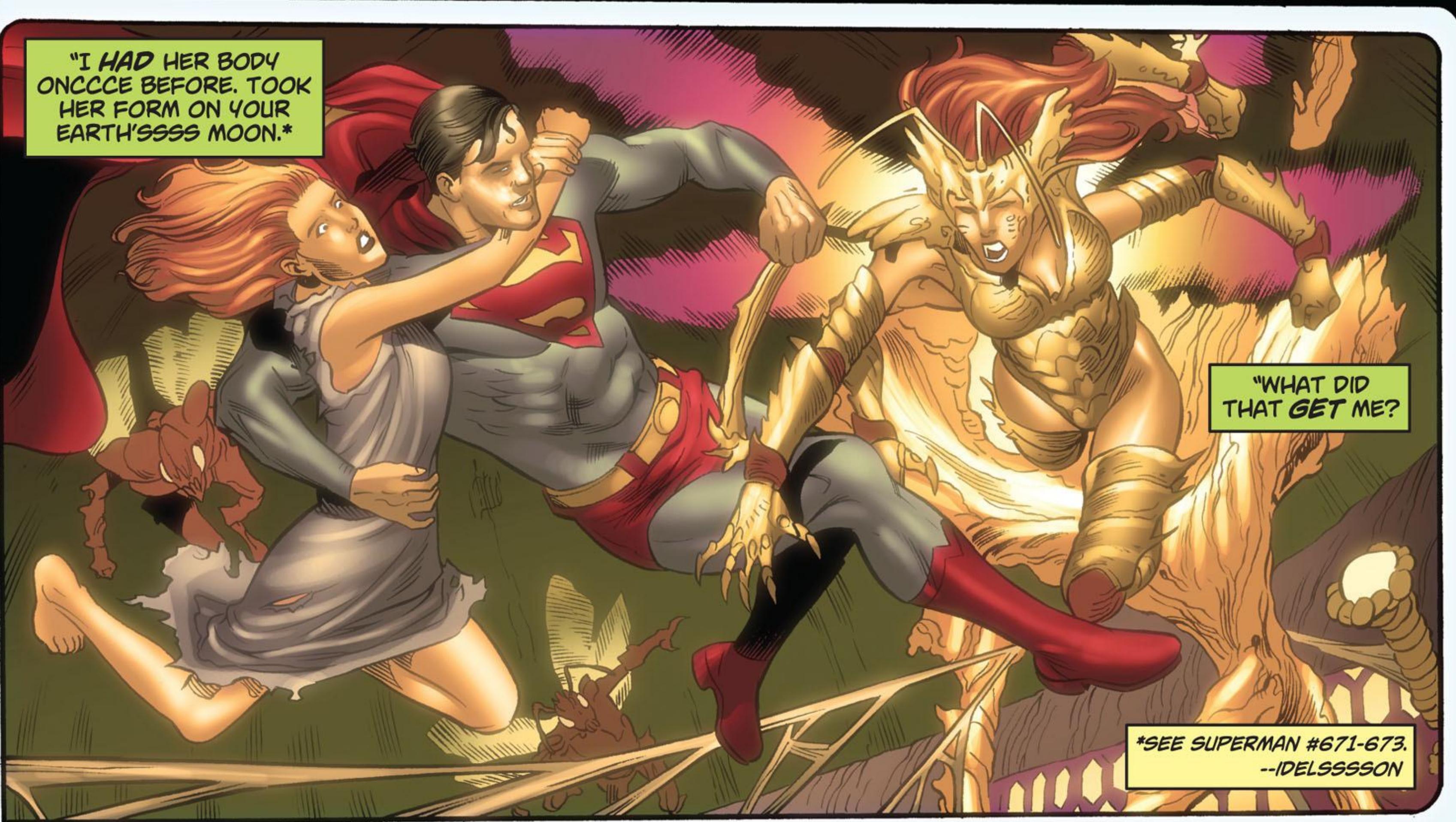
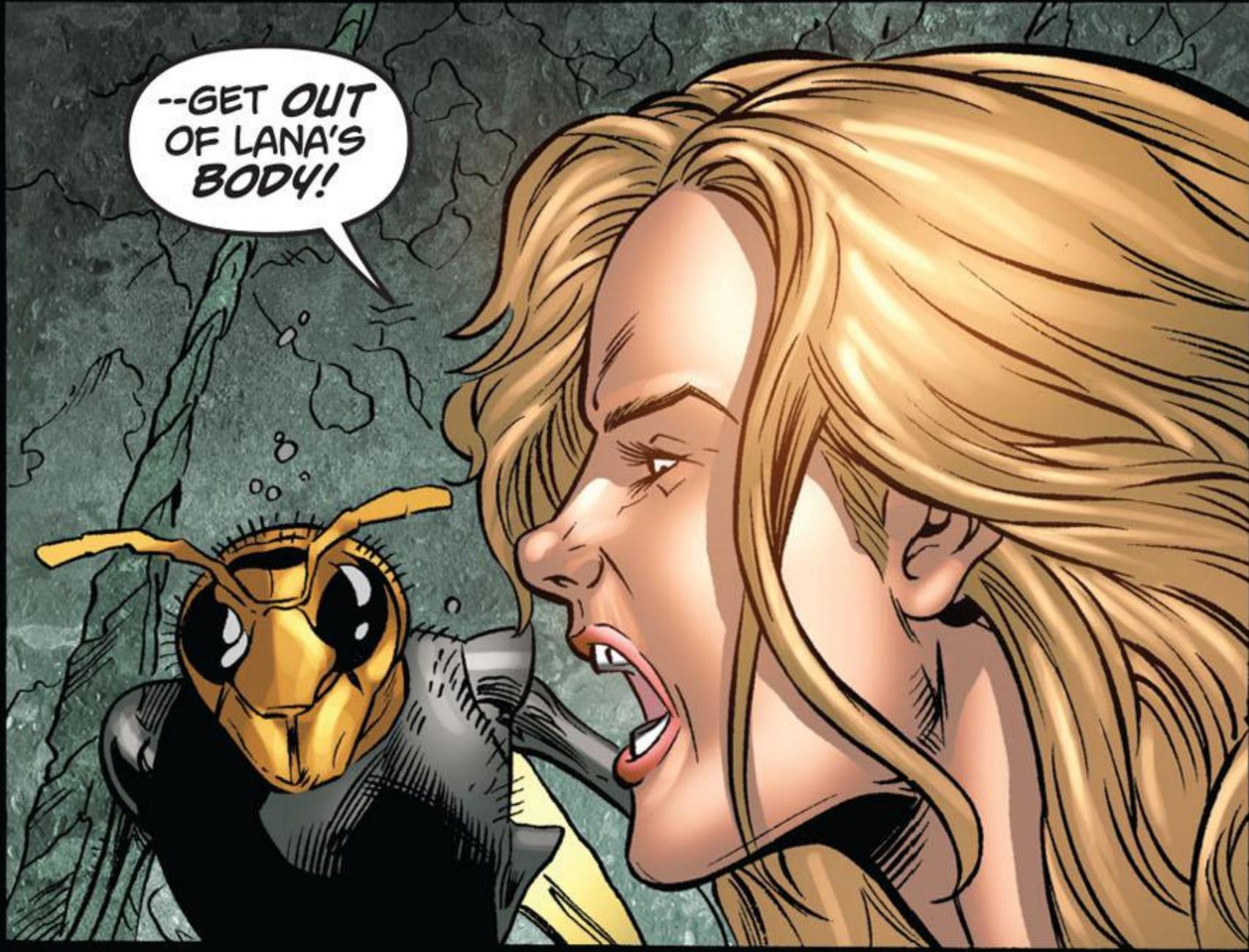


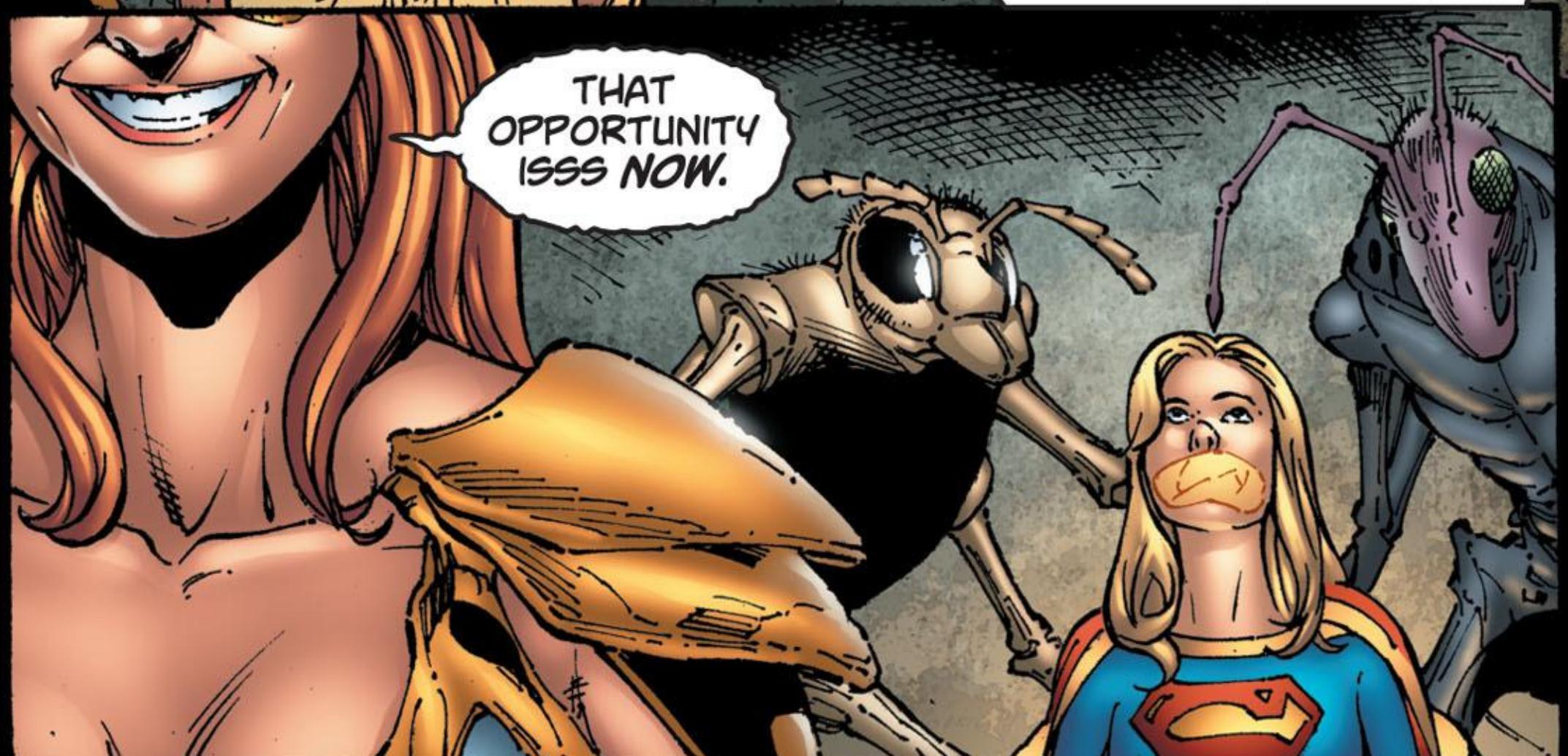
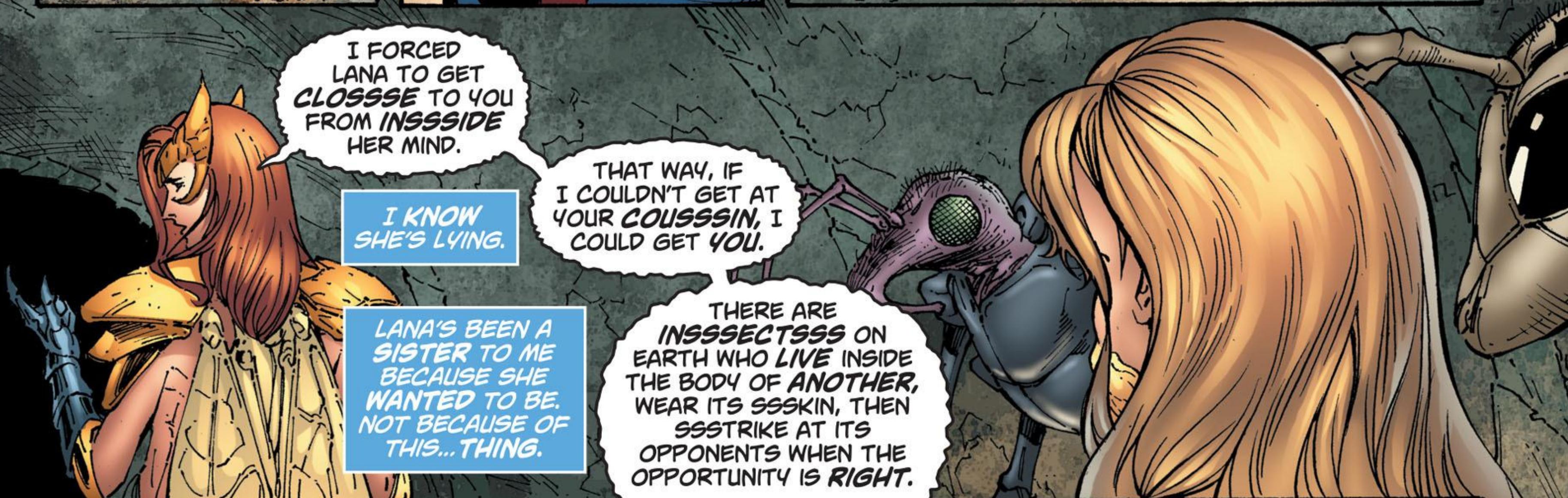
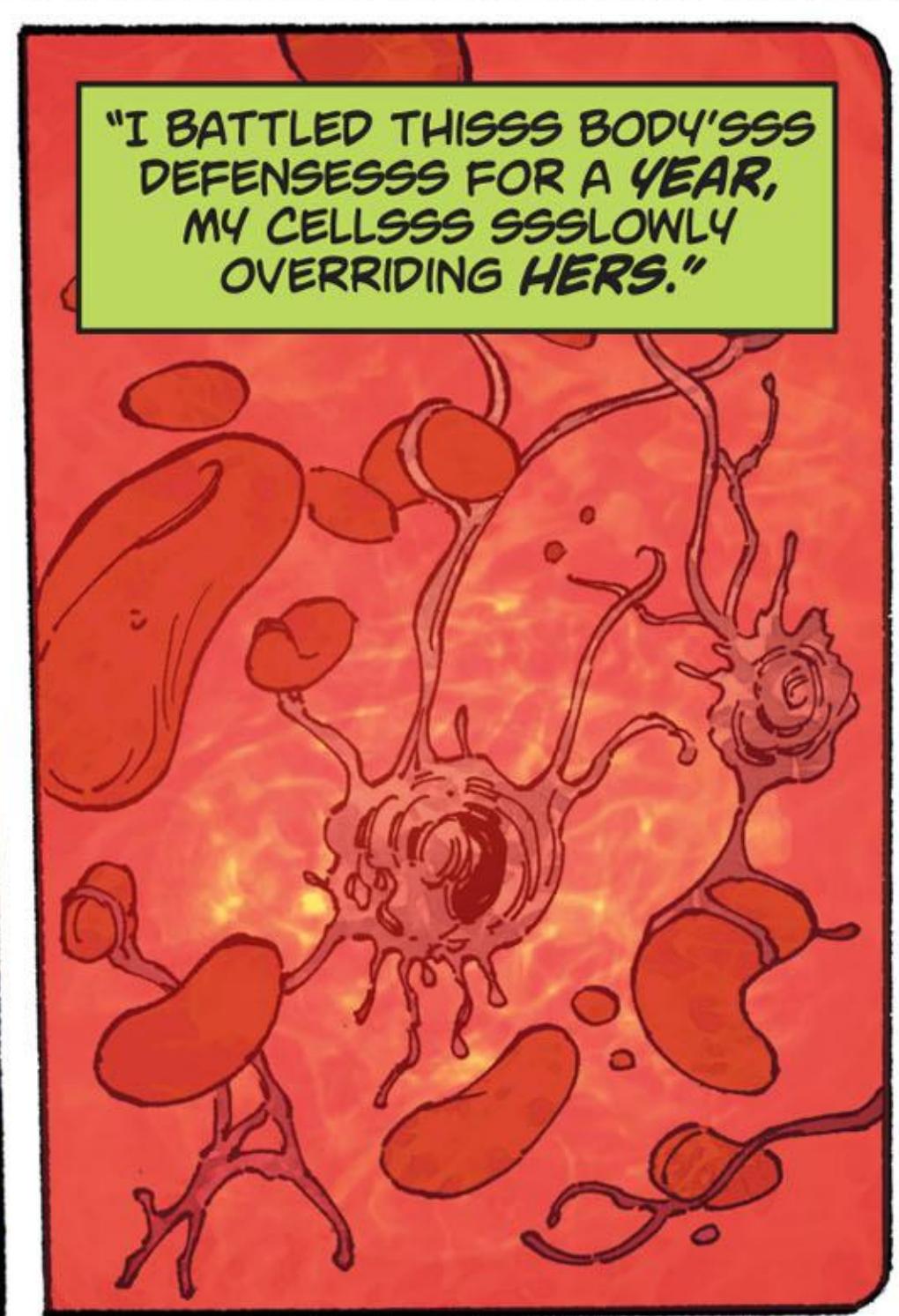
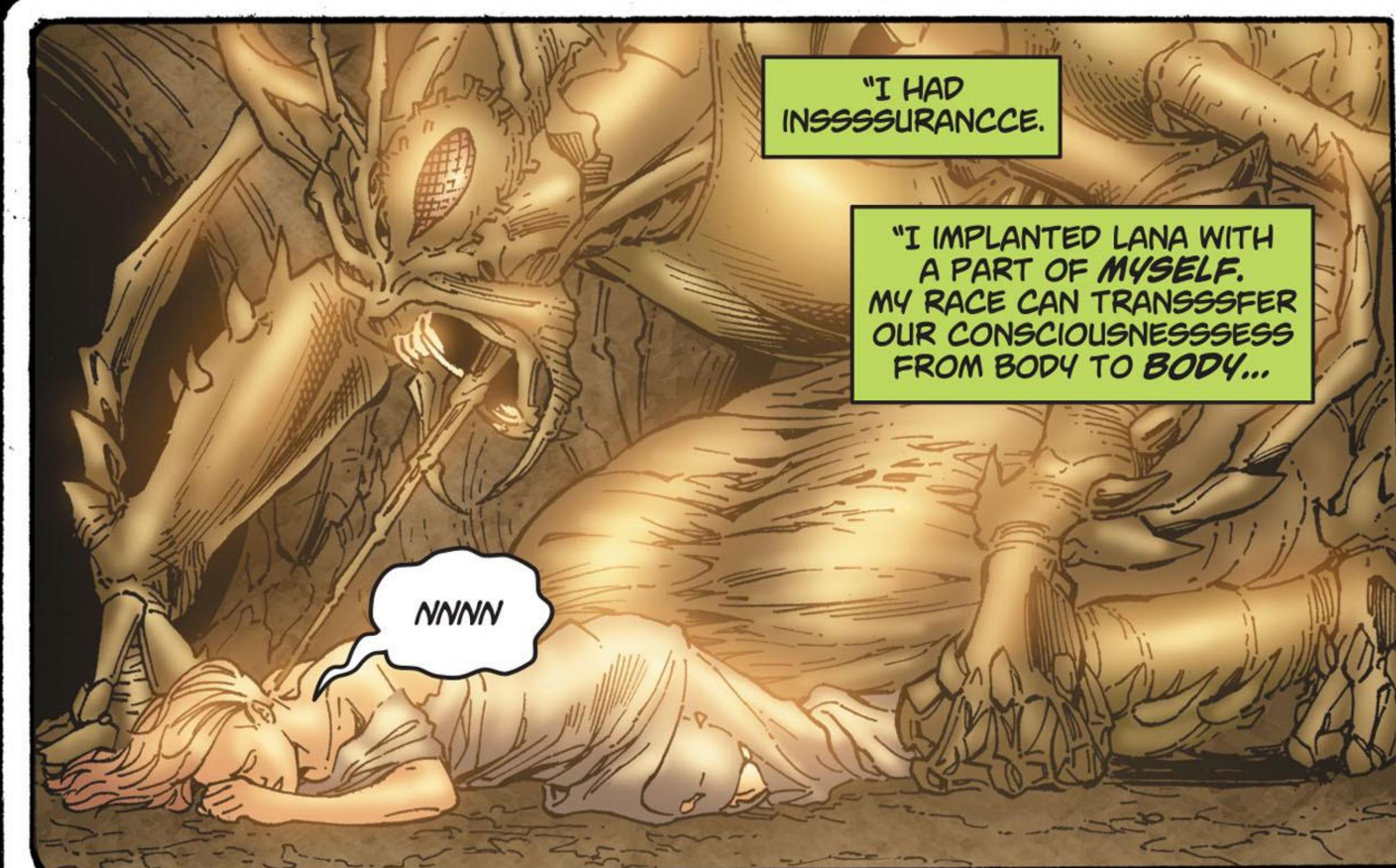
--WE
MISSSED
YOU.

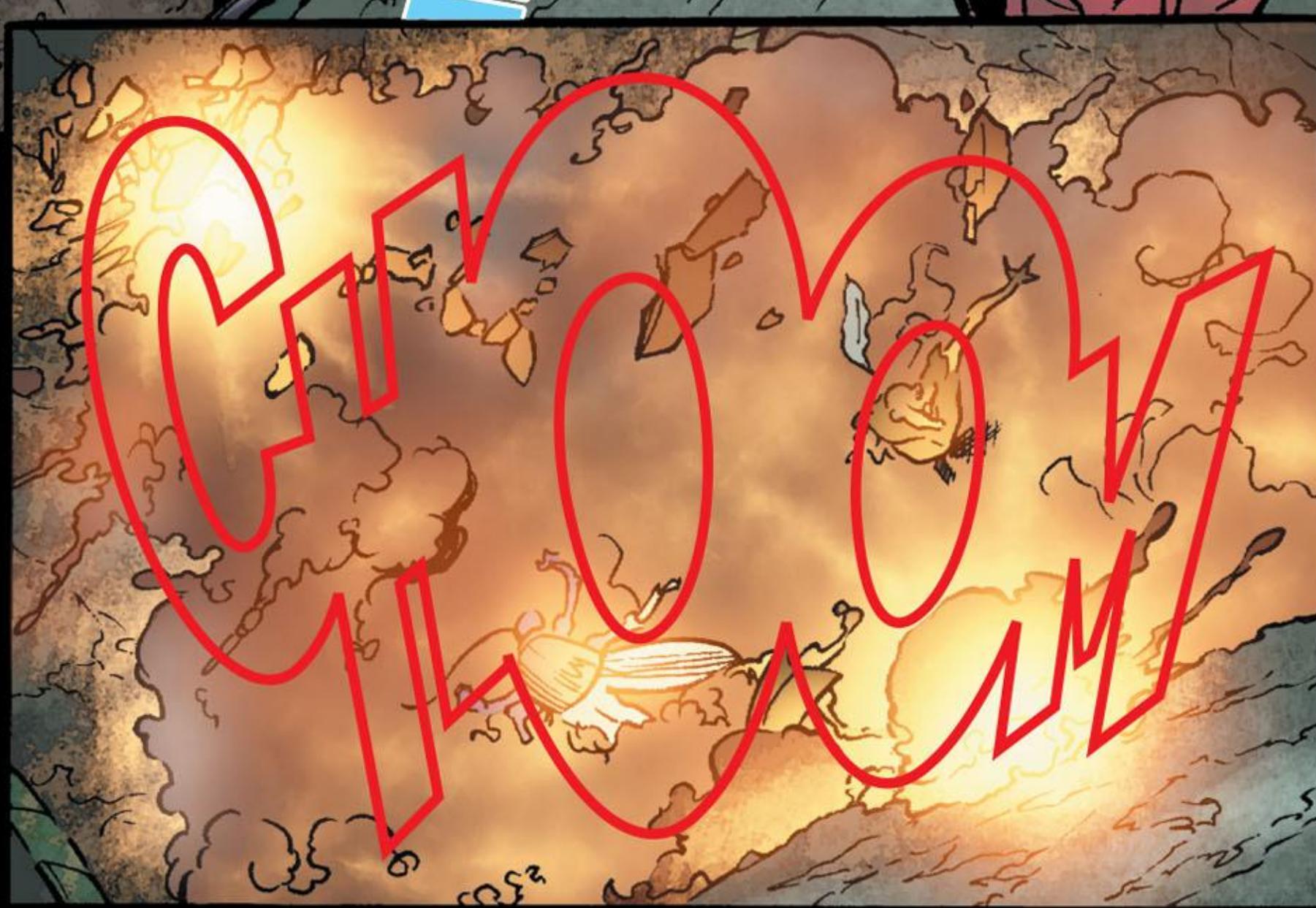
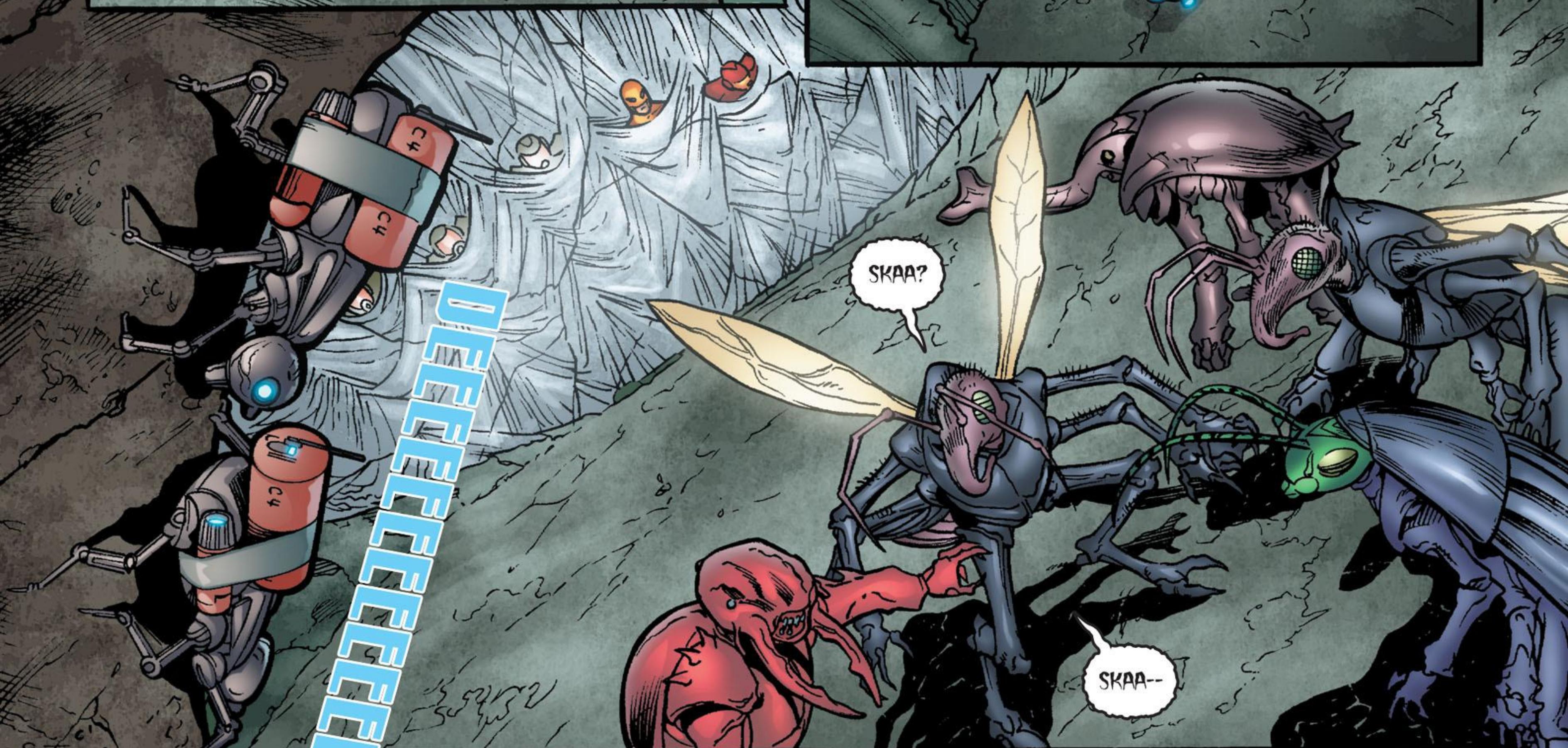
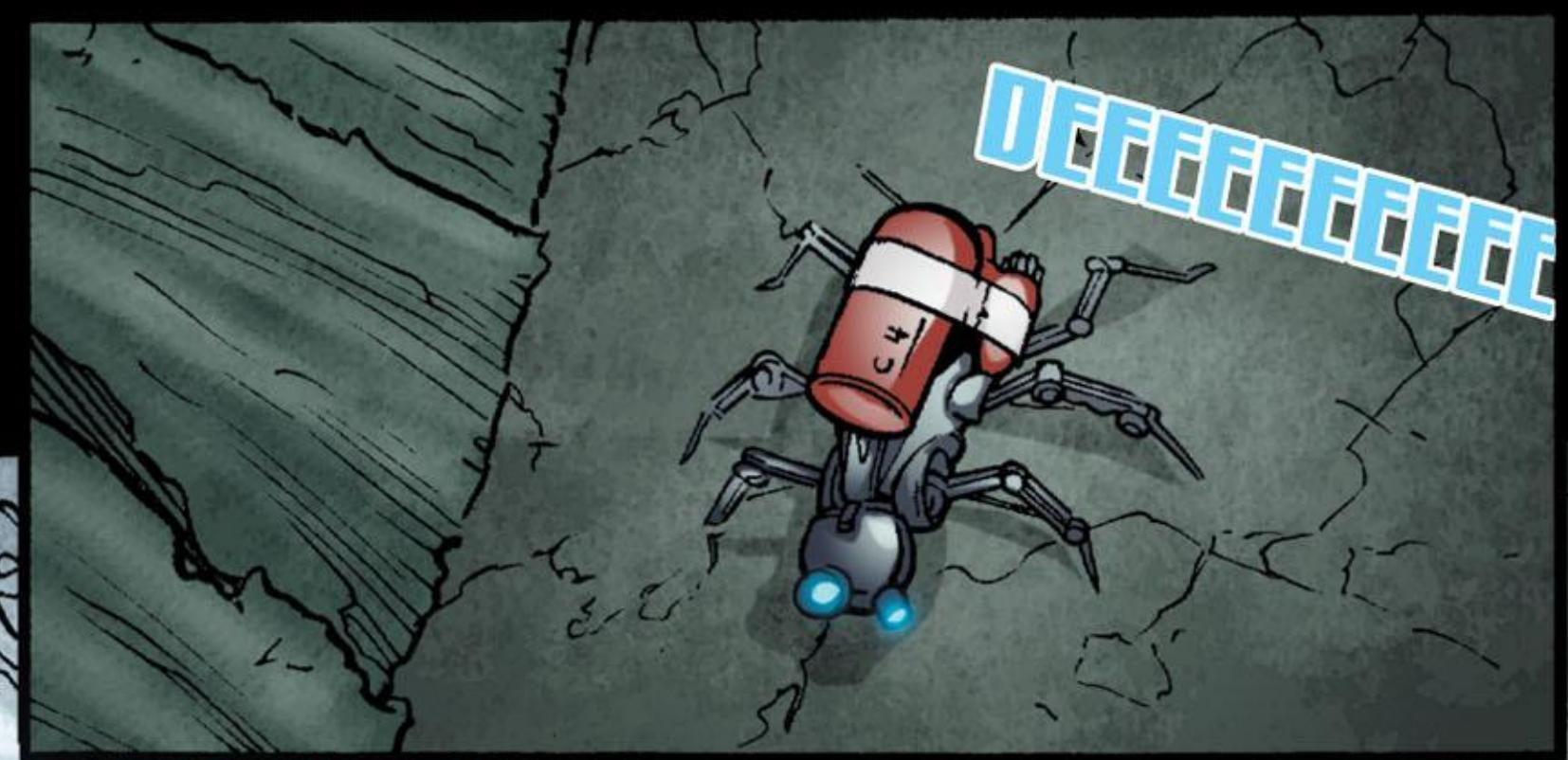
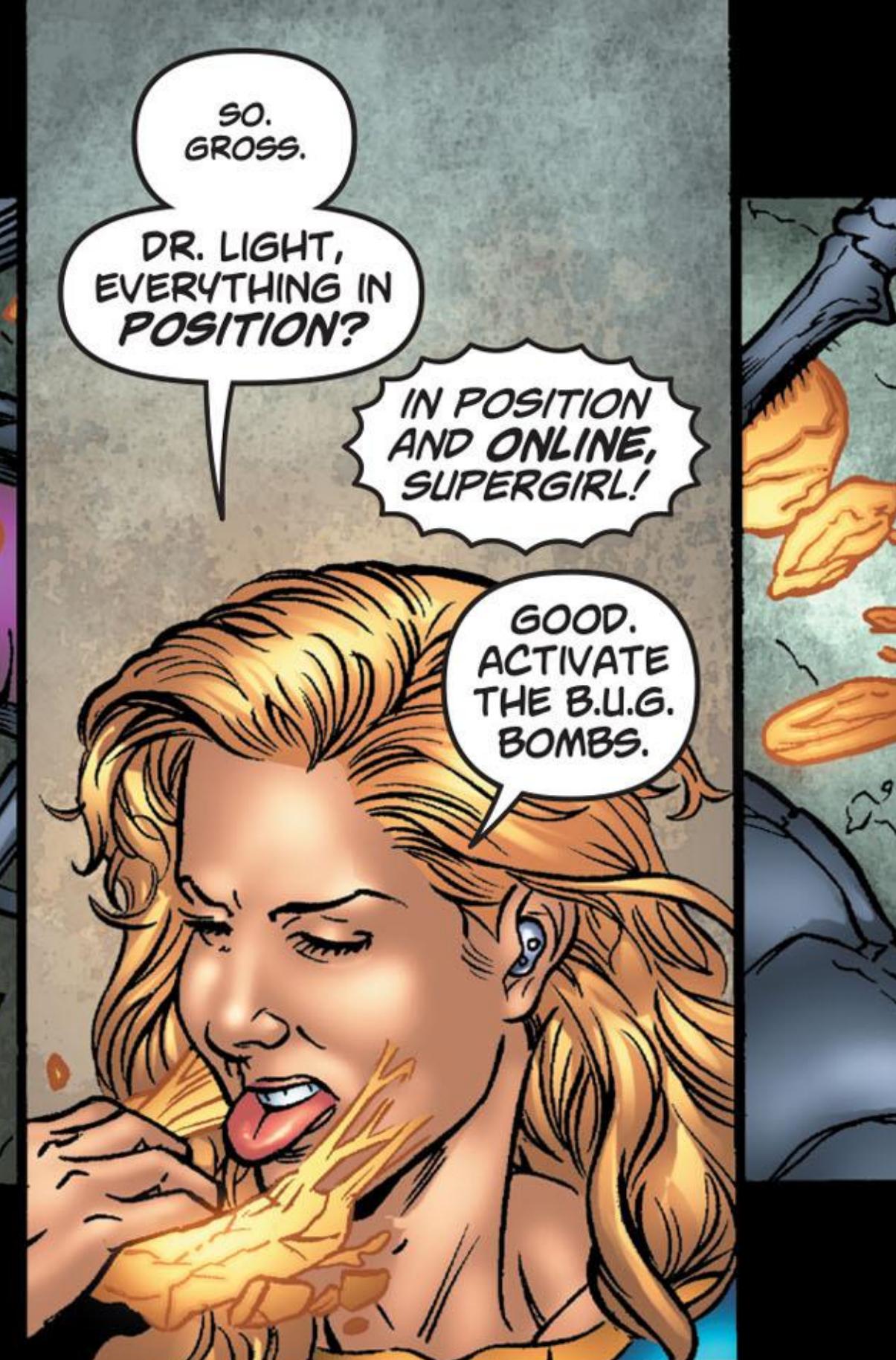
INSECT
QUEEN.

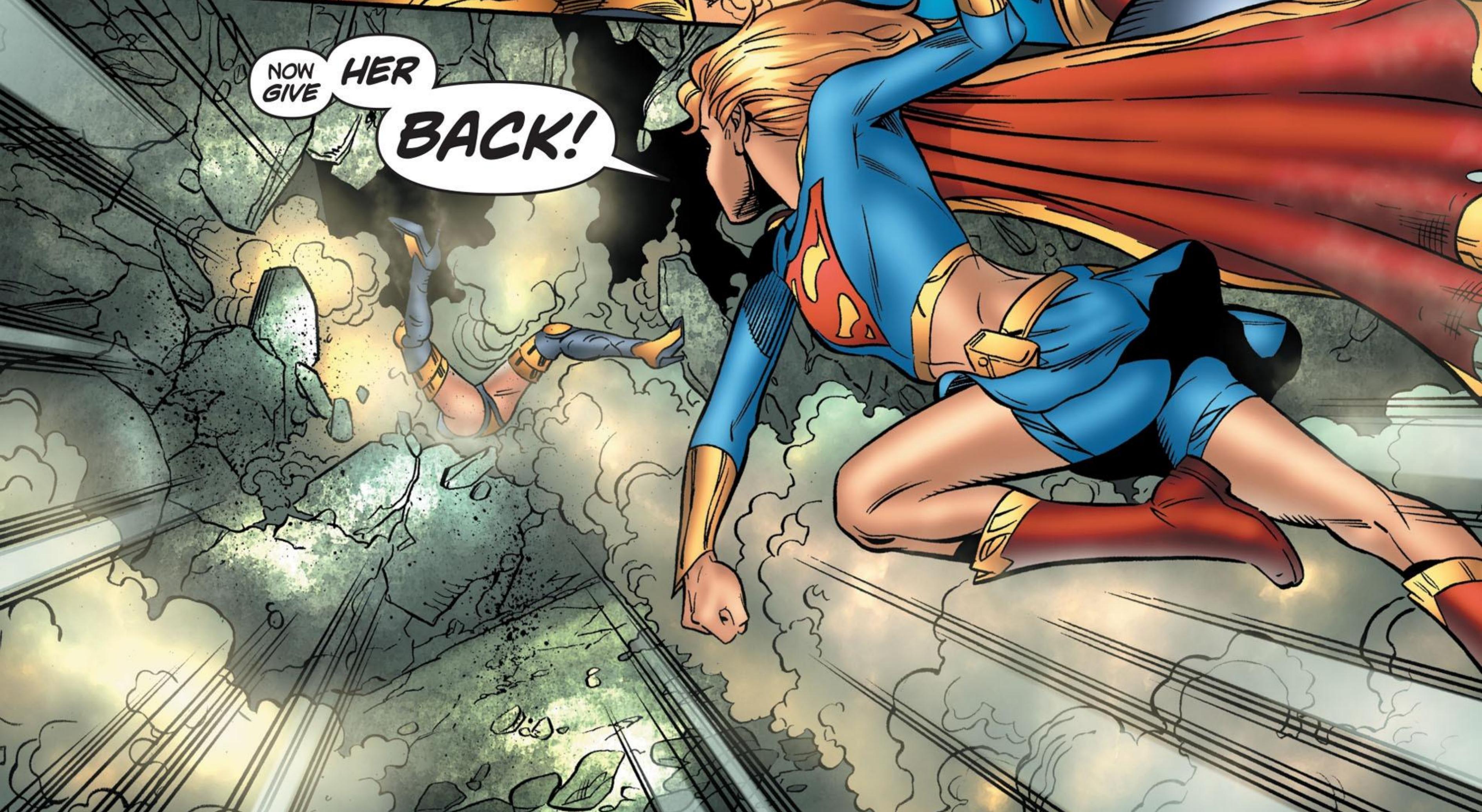
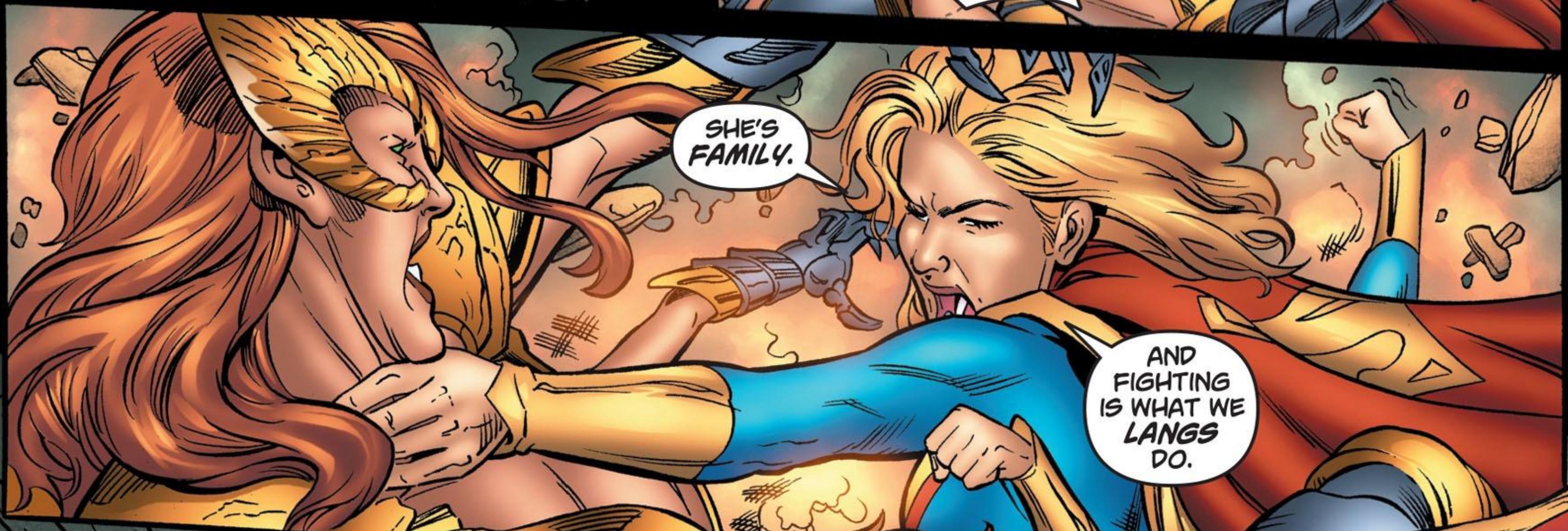
I'LL GIVE
YOU ONE
CHANCE--



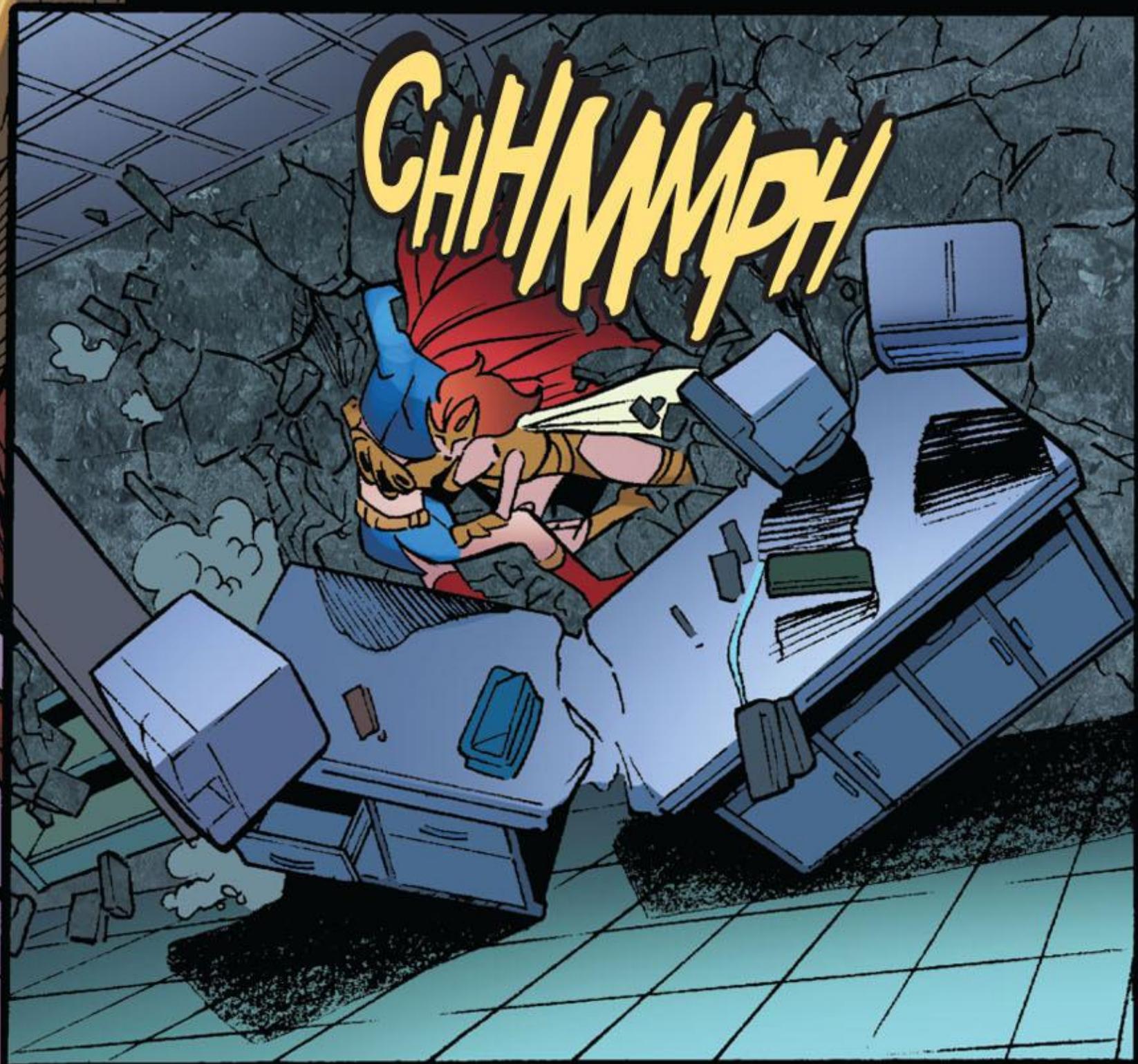
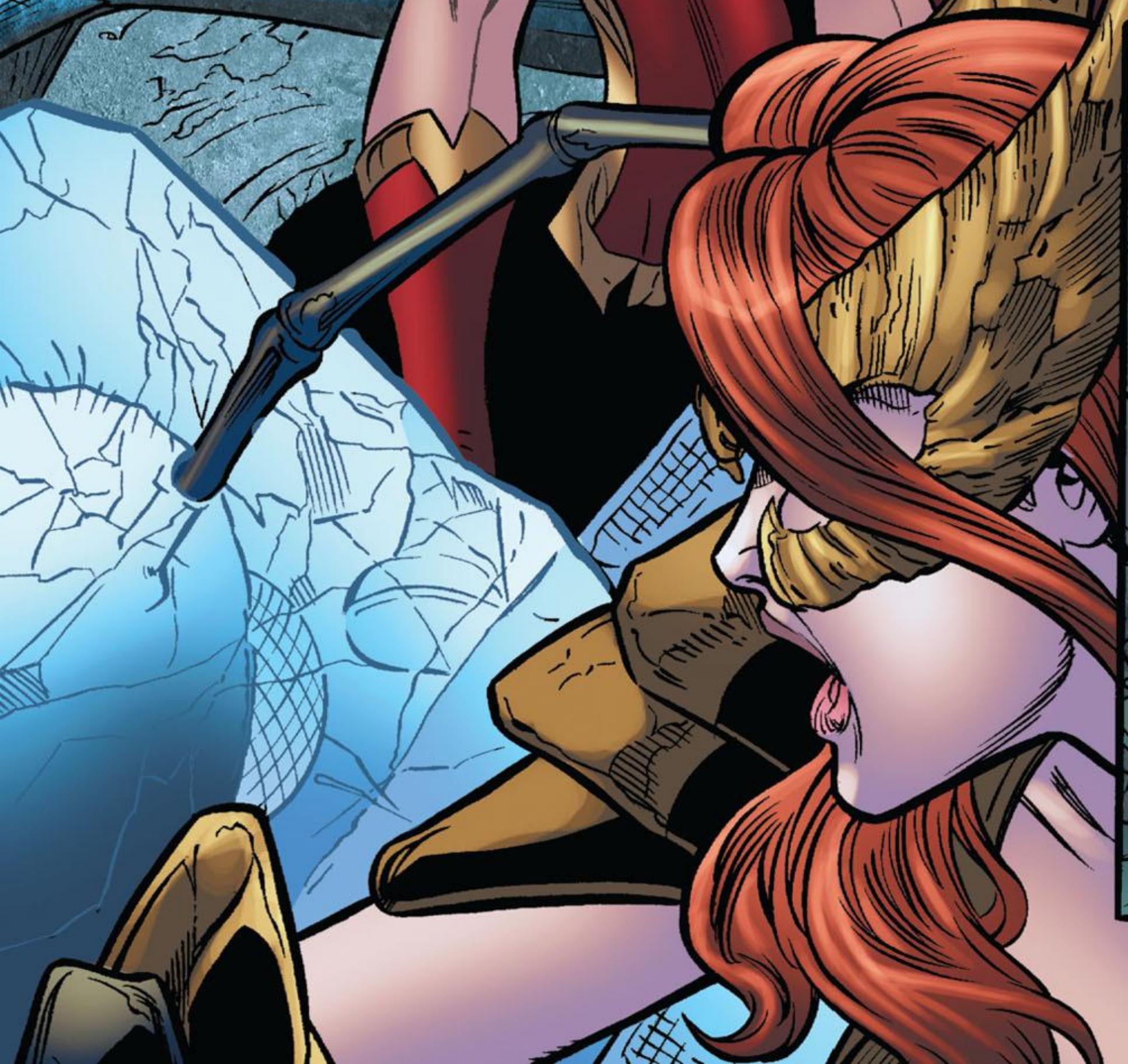
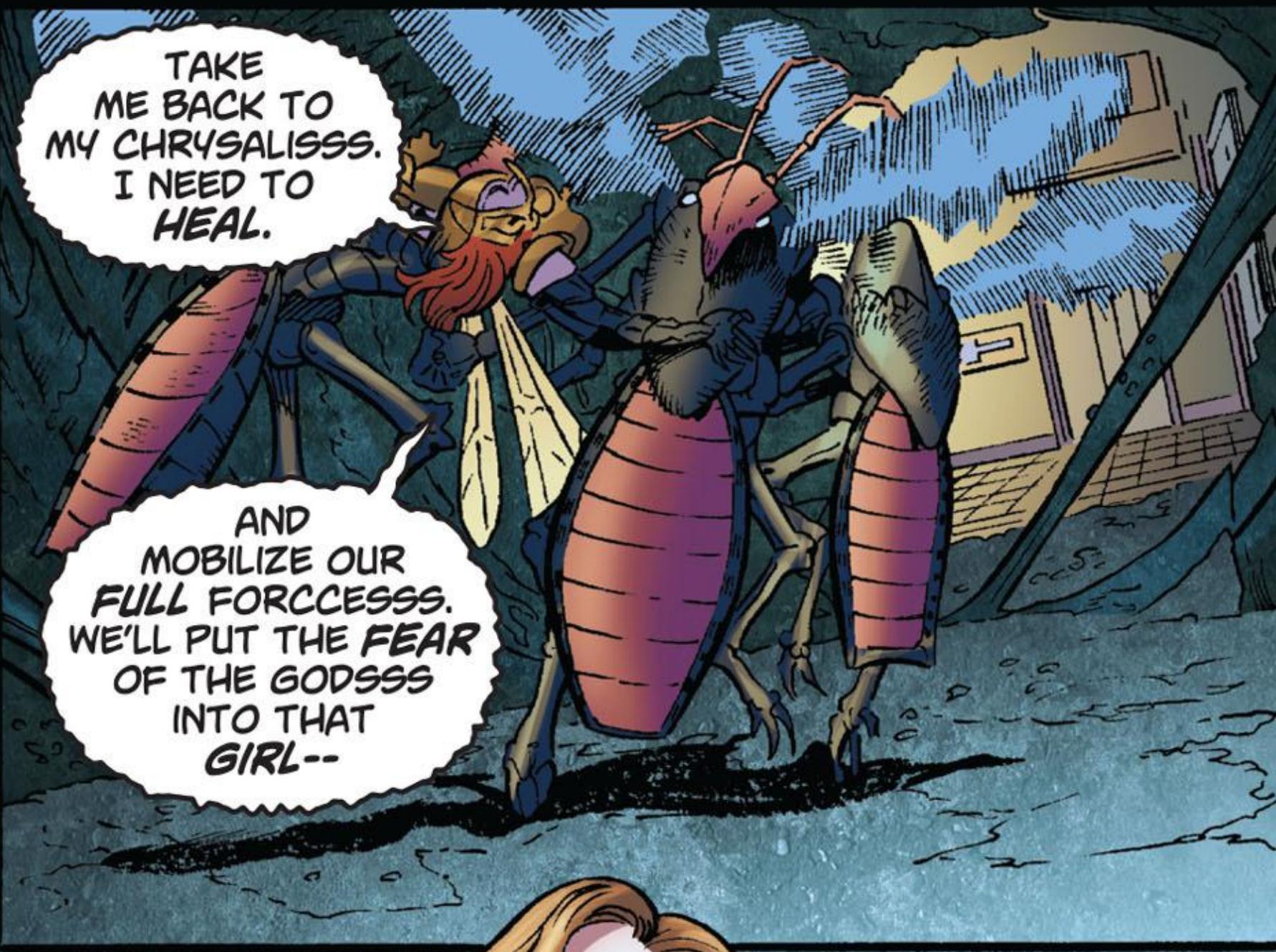


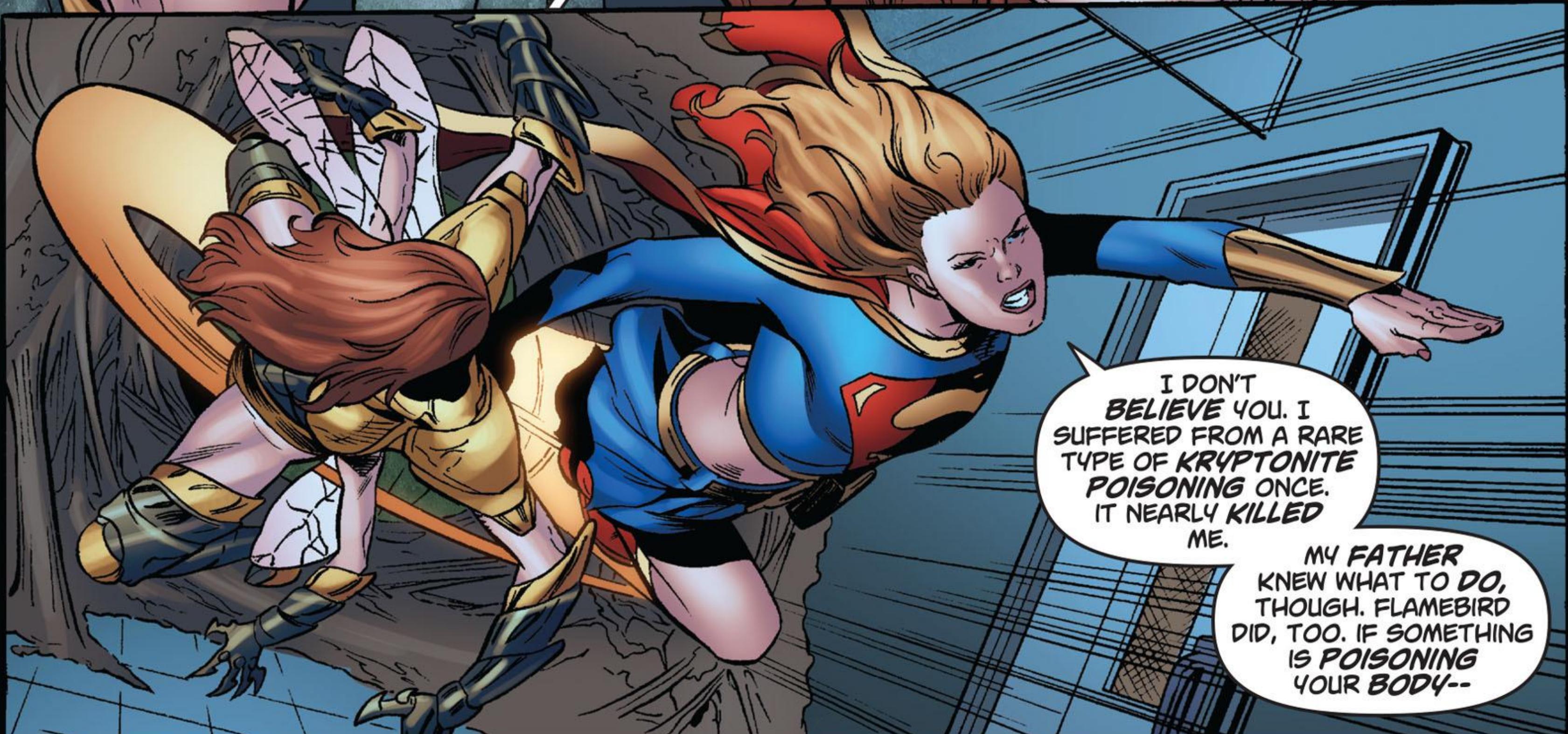
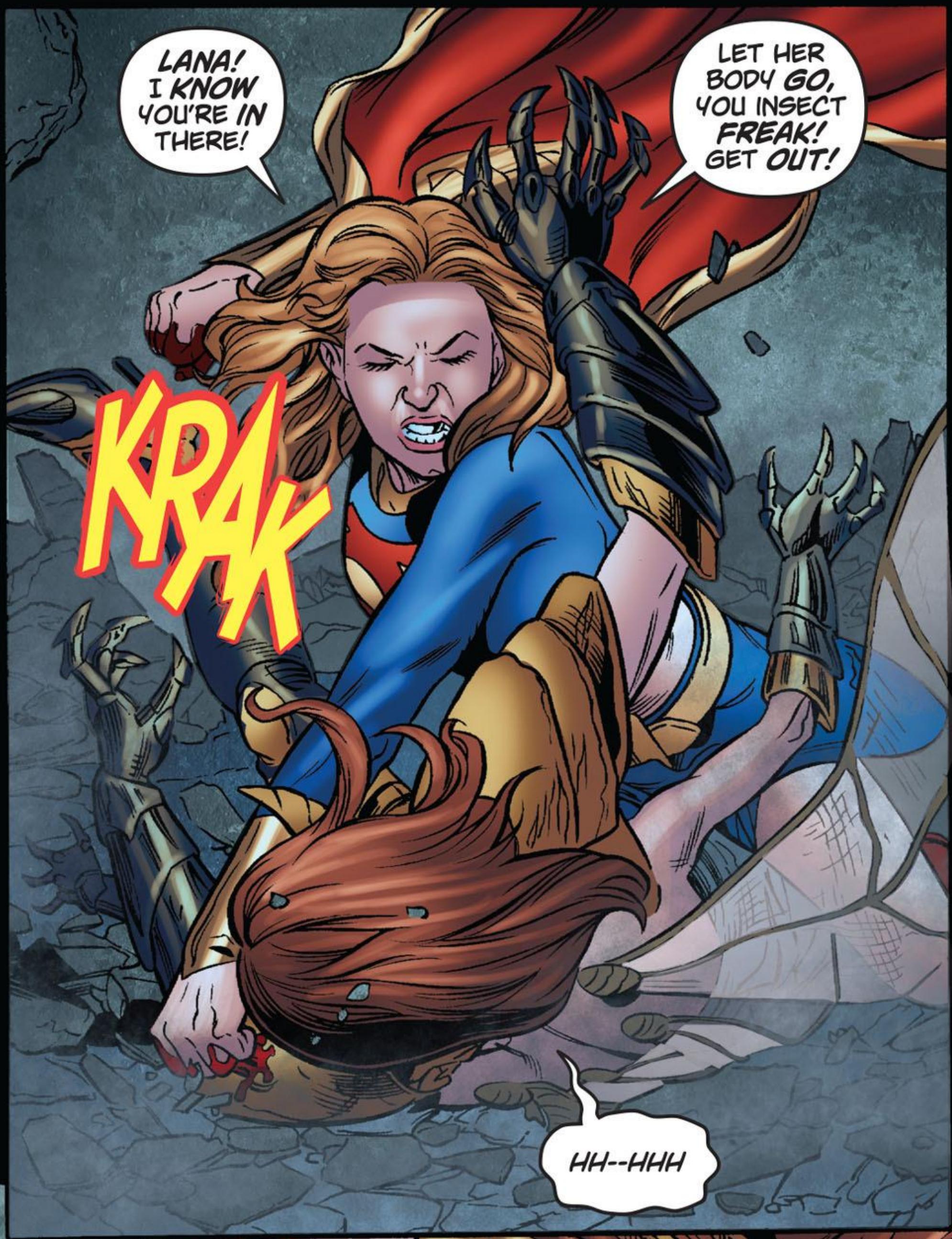
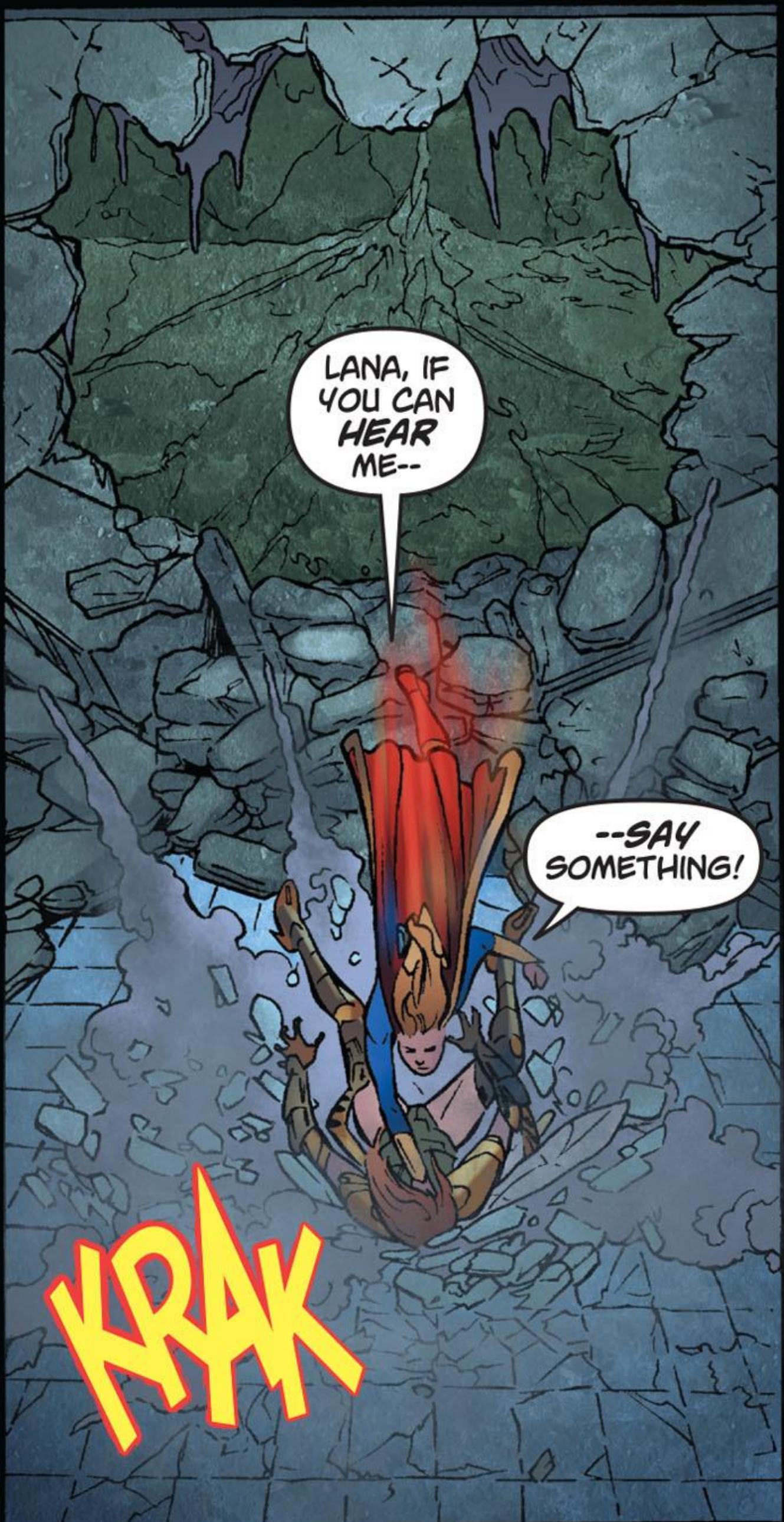


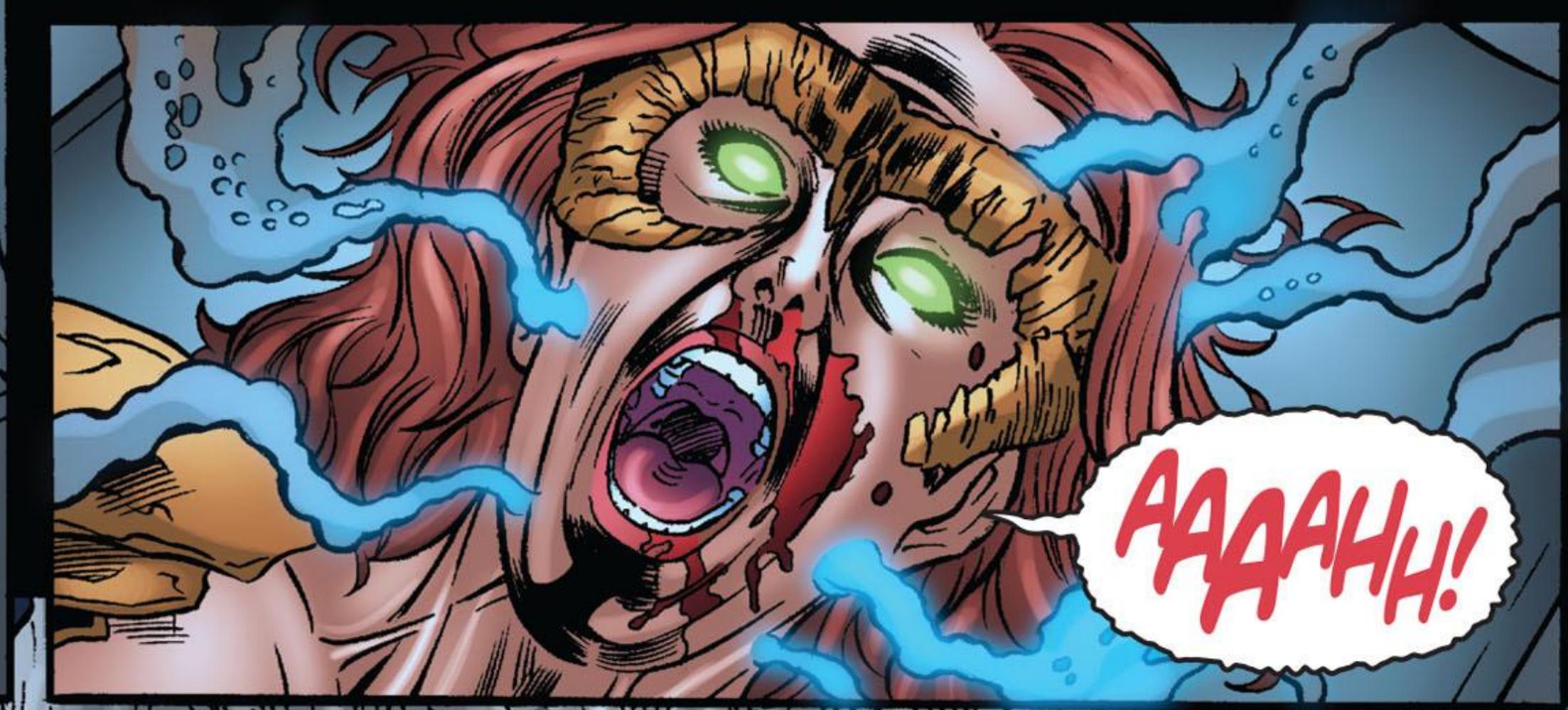
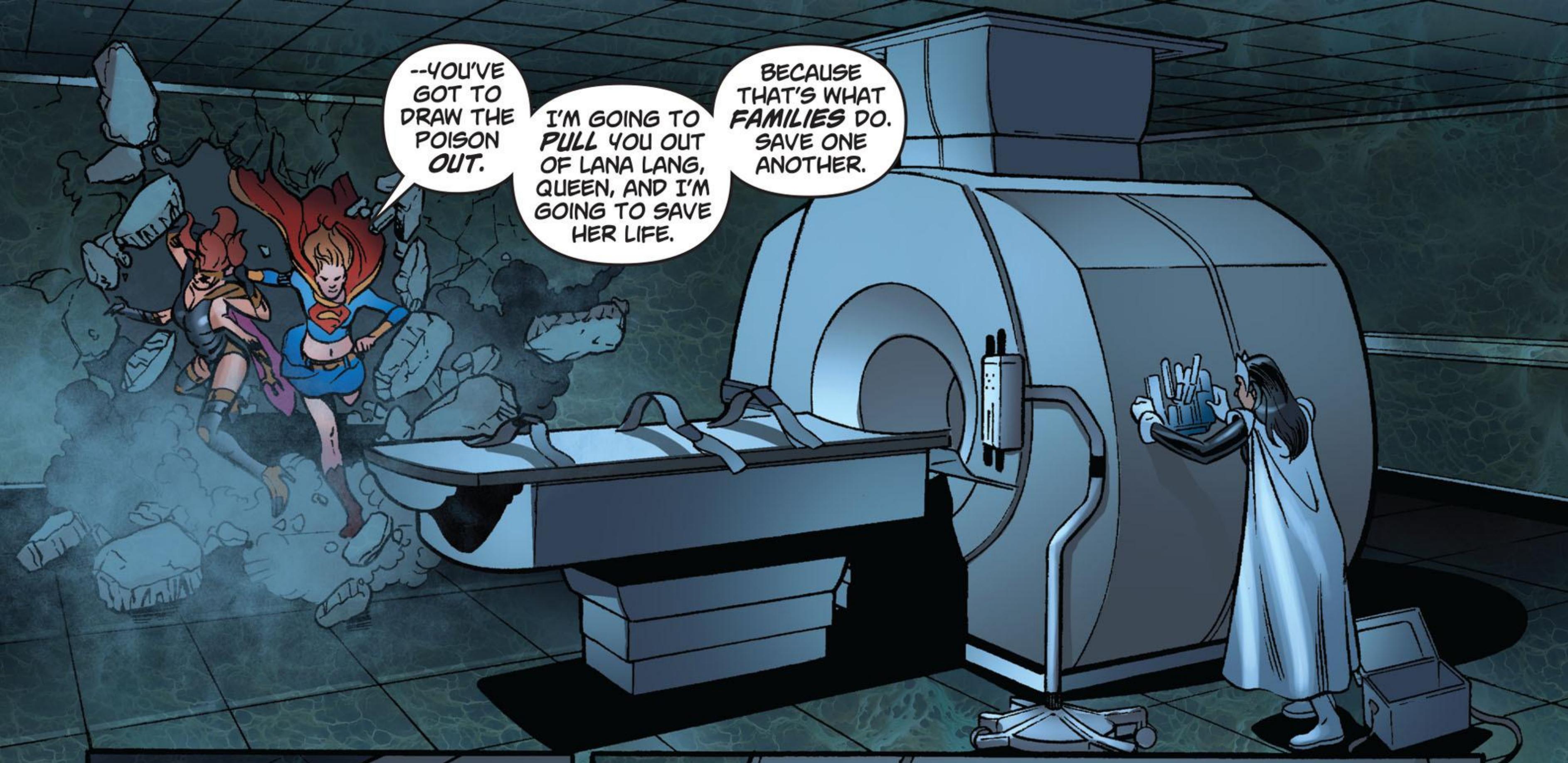


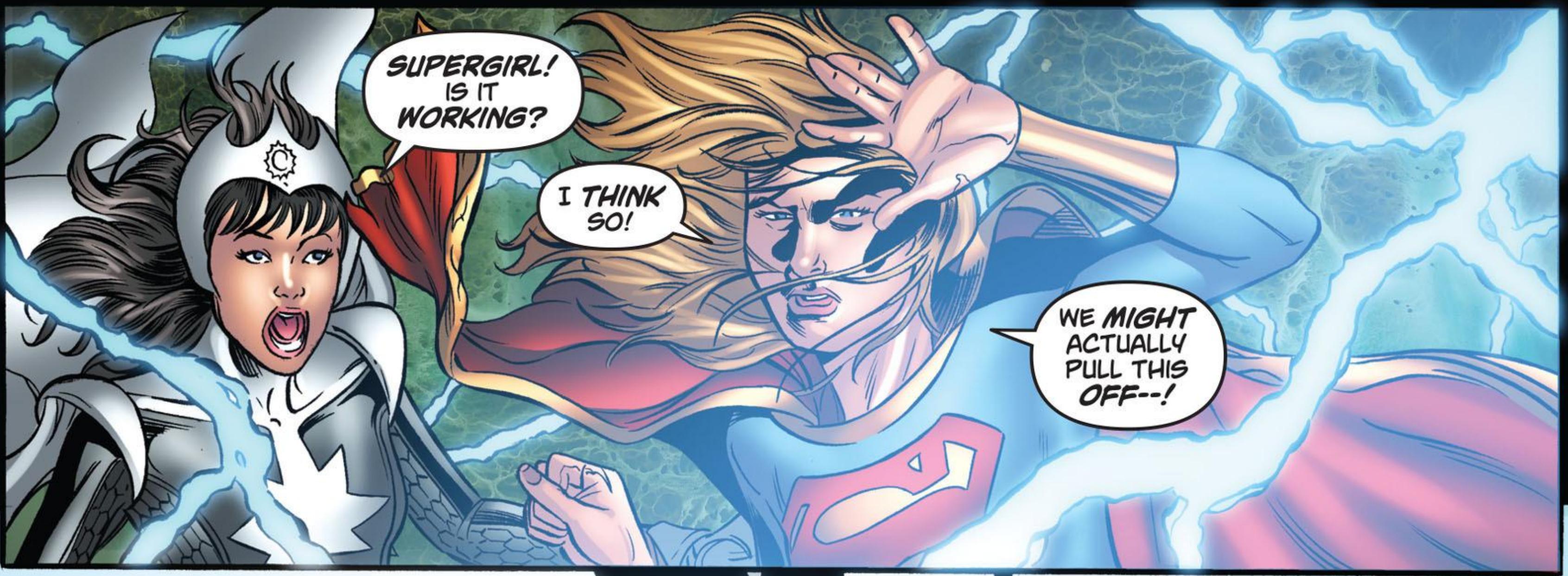




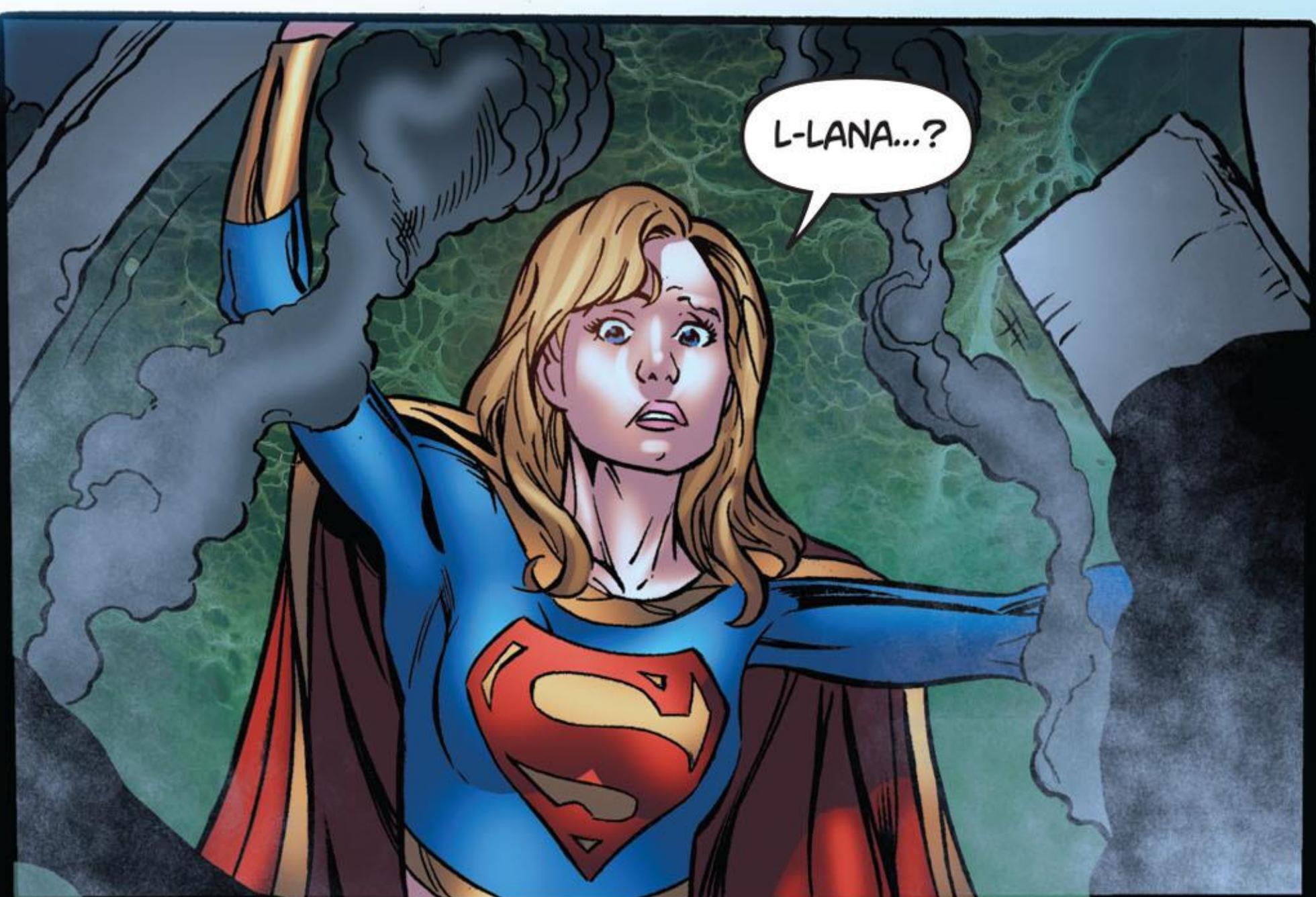


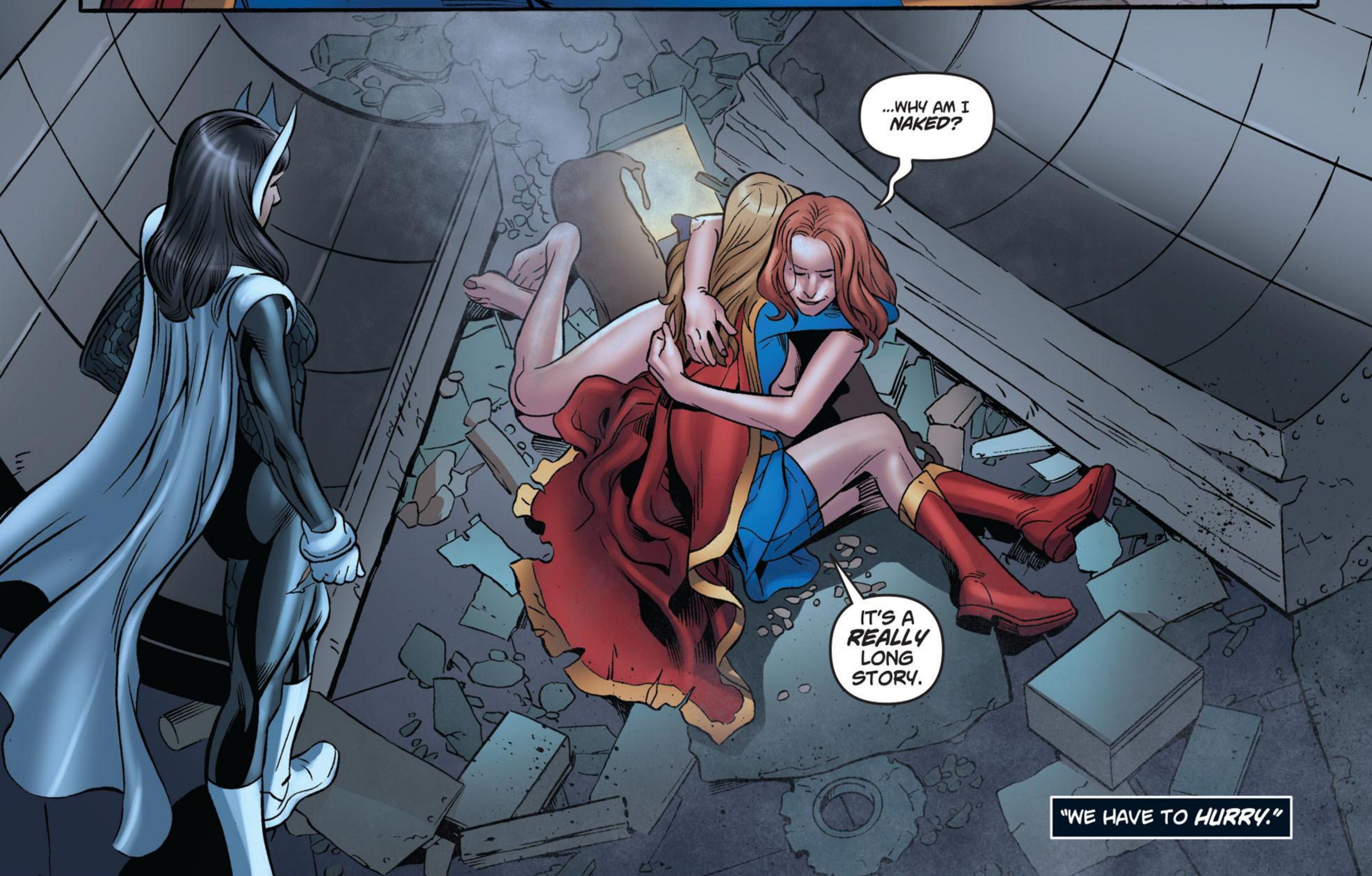
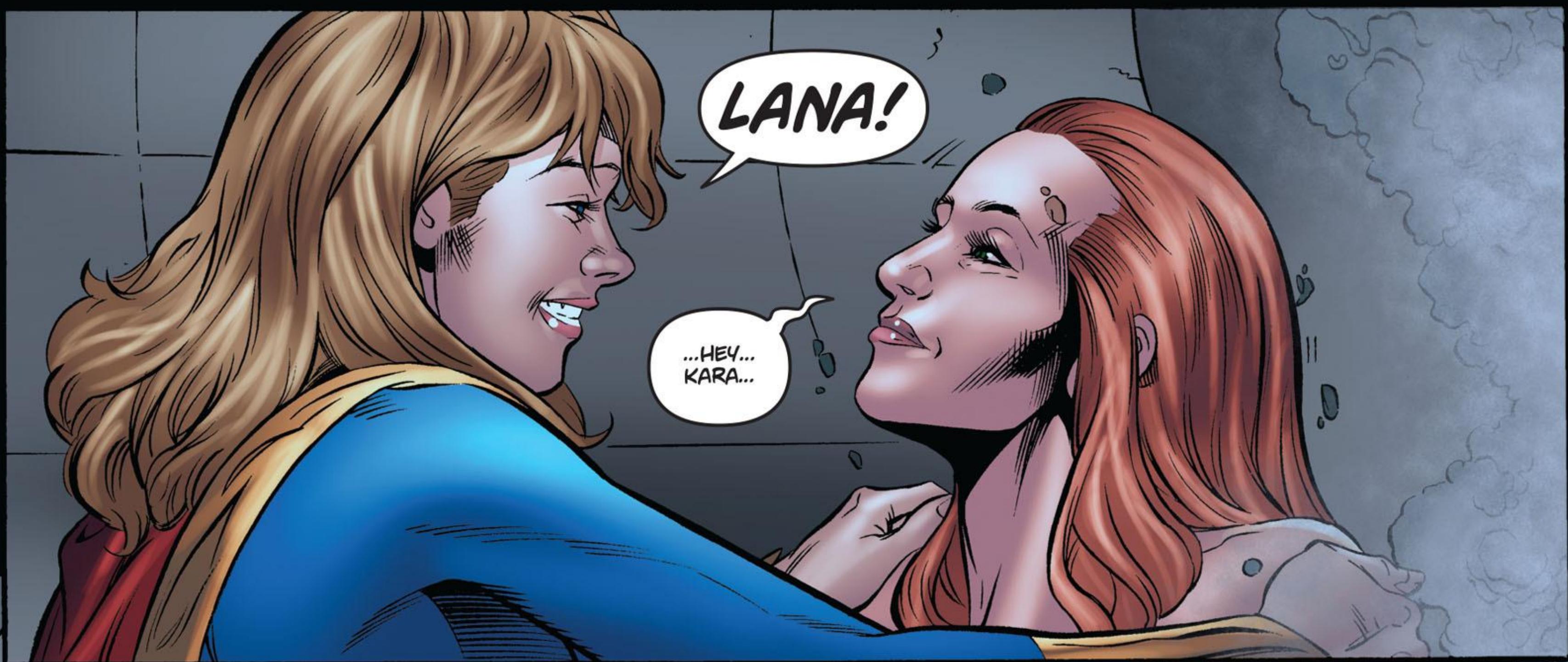






SKETCHBOOK





WE JUST GOT WORD THAT THE U.S. MILITARY IS BEGINNING THEIR INVESTIGATION.

WHERE THEY WERE TWO DAYS AGO WHEN THIS ALL STARTED, I DON'T KNOW.

I'M GOING TO SIC GANG-BUSTER ON THEM AND HOLD THEM OFF AS LONG AS I CAN. HE DOESN'T LIKE GOVERNMENT-TYPES TOO MUCH.

IS GANGBUSTER DOING OKAY?

HE'S A BIT OF A GRUMPY HANDFUL, BUT HE'LL RECOVER FROM HIS INJURIES LIKE THE REST OF THE SCIENCE POLICE.

THE GUARDIAN AGREED TO HELP ME COVER UP YOUR INVOLVEMENT IN ALL OF THIS, SUPERGIRL. THE LESS ANYONE SEES OF YOU, THE BETTER.

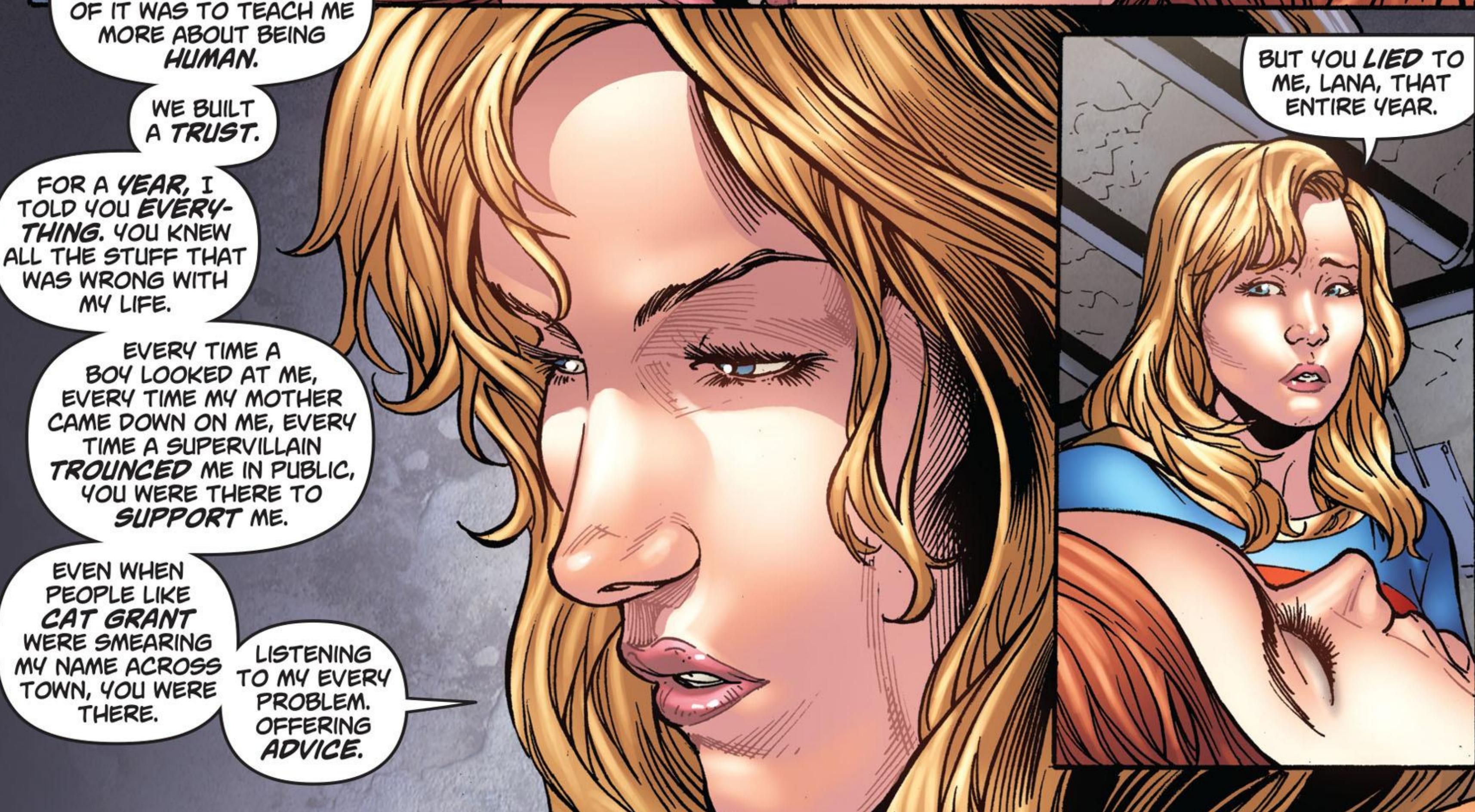
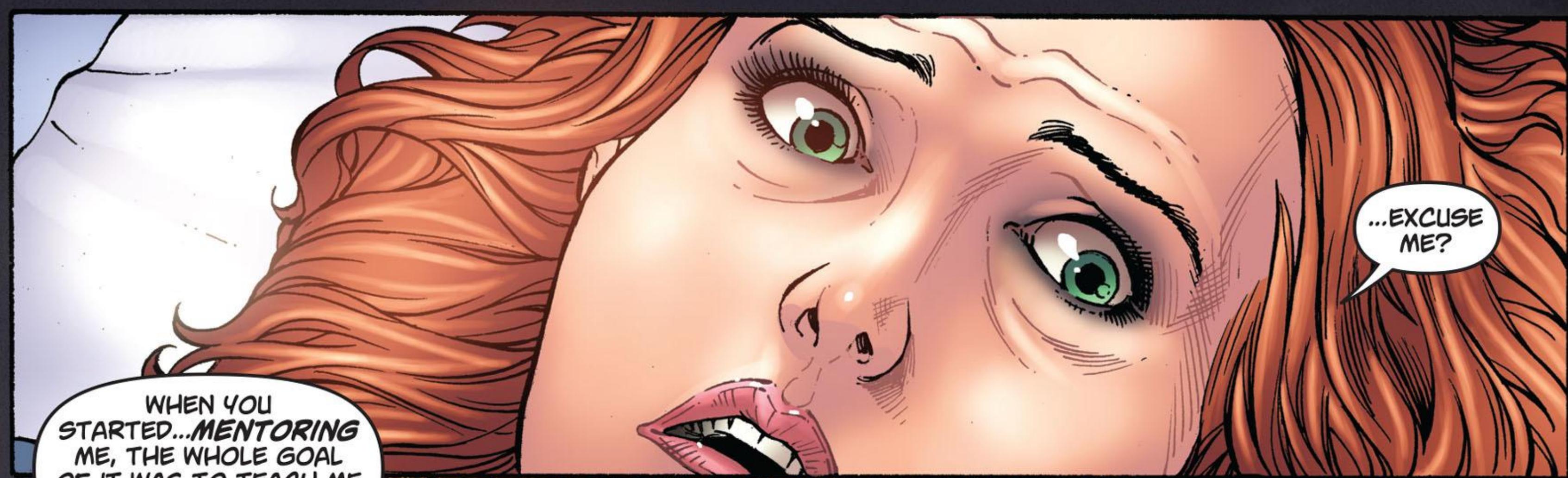
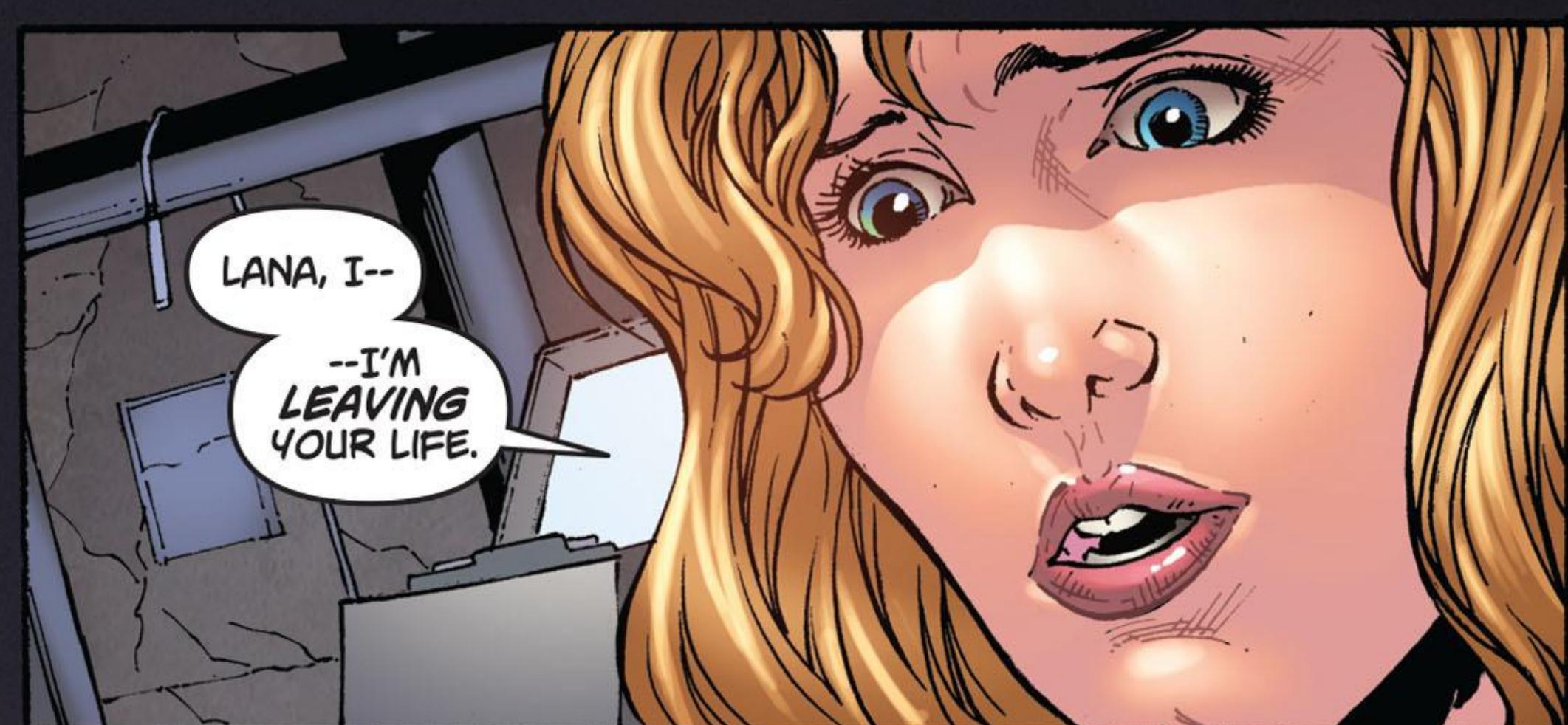
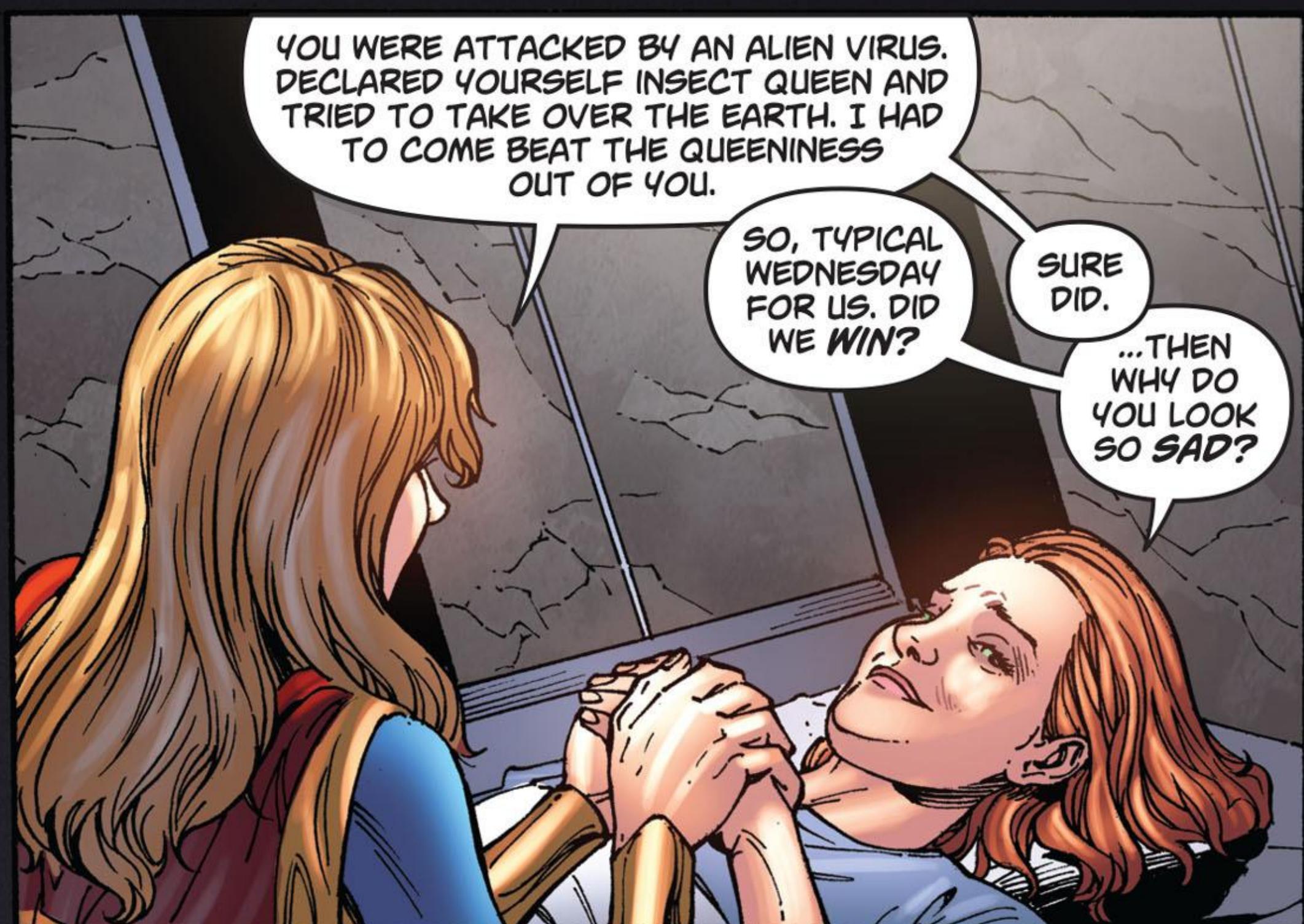
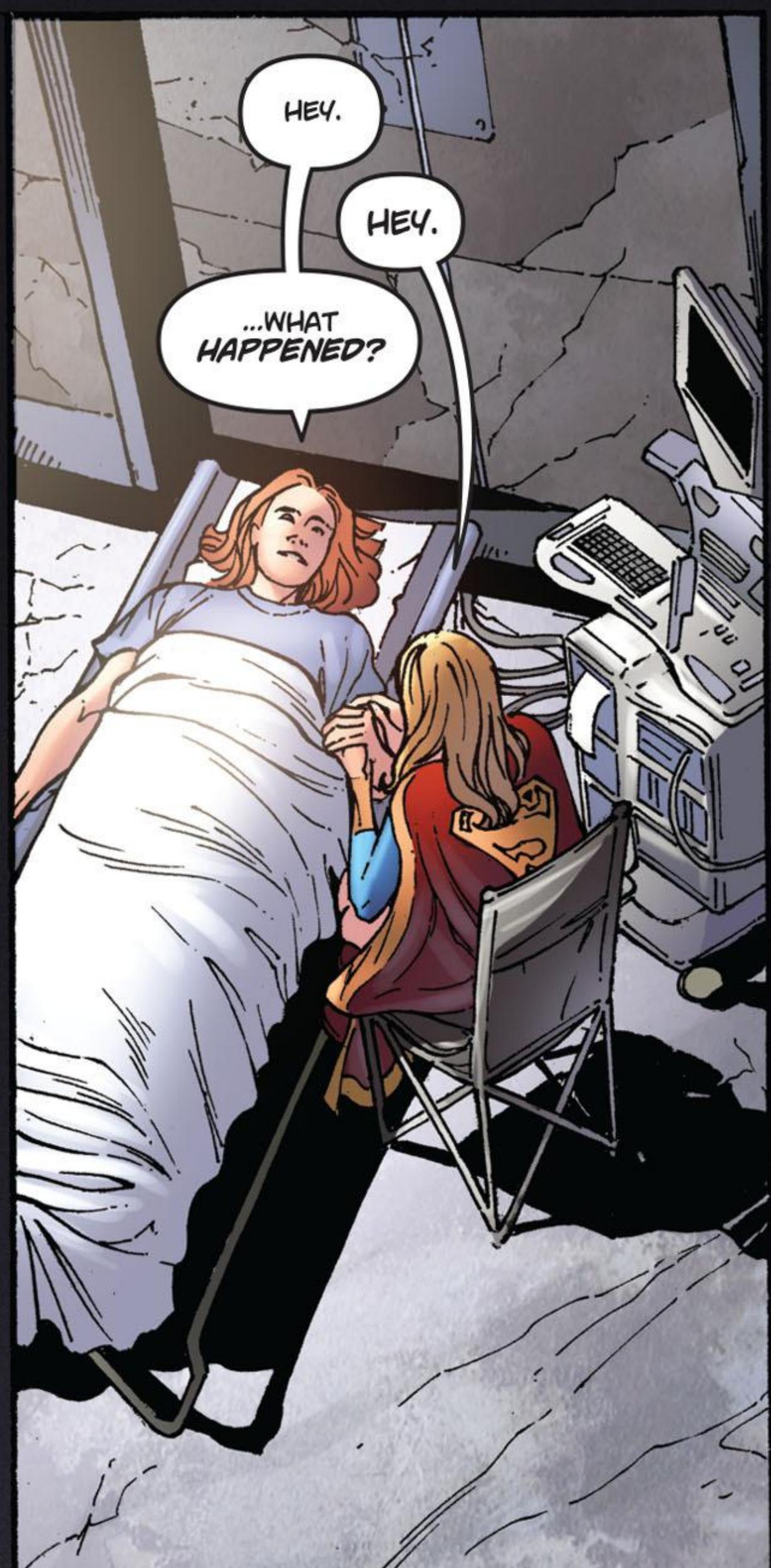
THANK YOU FOR THAT, DOCTOR, BUT WHAT ABOUT LANA? DOES SHE CHECK OUT OKAY?

I'VE RUN HER BLOOD TESTS THREE TIMES. THE ALIEN VIRUS HAS BEEN COMPLETELY PURGED FROM HER SYSTEM.

I'M GOING TO GET HER TRANSFERRED QUICKLY AND QUIETLY TO ANOTHER S.T.A.R. LABS FACILITY, BUT I THINK SHE'S GOING TO BE OKAY.

DOCTOR, COULD WE--

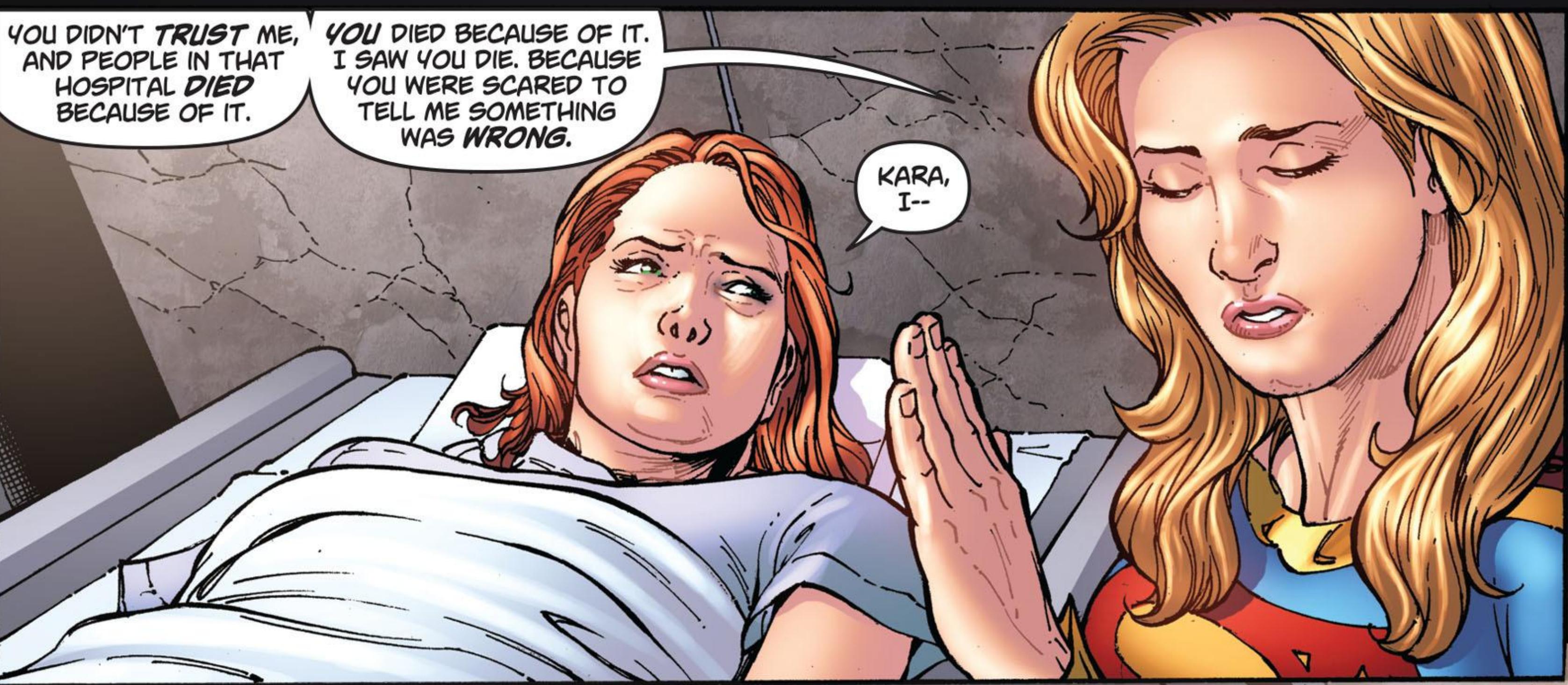
NNN
I'LL MAKE SURE NO ONE DISTURBS YOU.



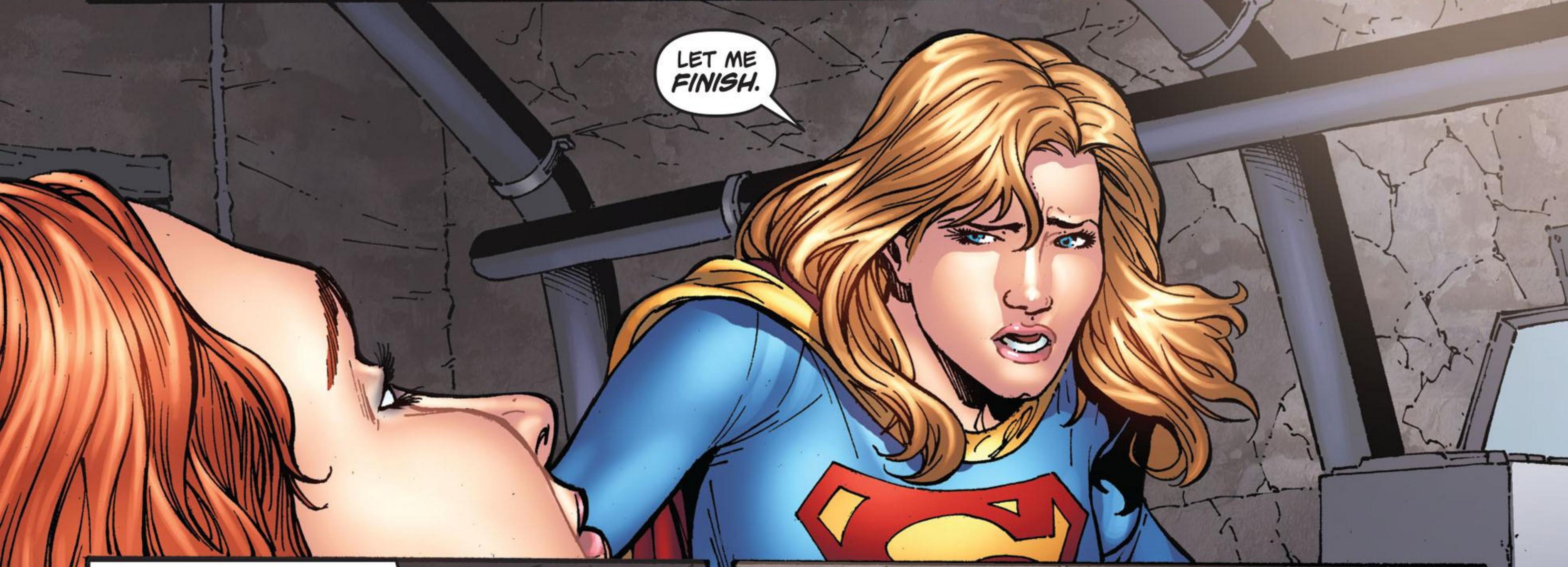
YOU DIDN'T TRUST ME, AND PEOPLE IN THAT HOSPITAL DIED BECAUSE OF IT.

YOU DIED BECAUSE OF IT. I SAW YOU DIE. BECAUSE YOU WERE SCARED TO TELL ME SOMETHING WAS WRONG.

KARA,
I--



LET ME FINISH.



INSECT QUEEN WANTED ME TO THINK SHE WAS THE REASON YOU PUT SO MUCH FAITH IN ME. THAT SHE WAS WHY WE'D BUILT A TRUST.

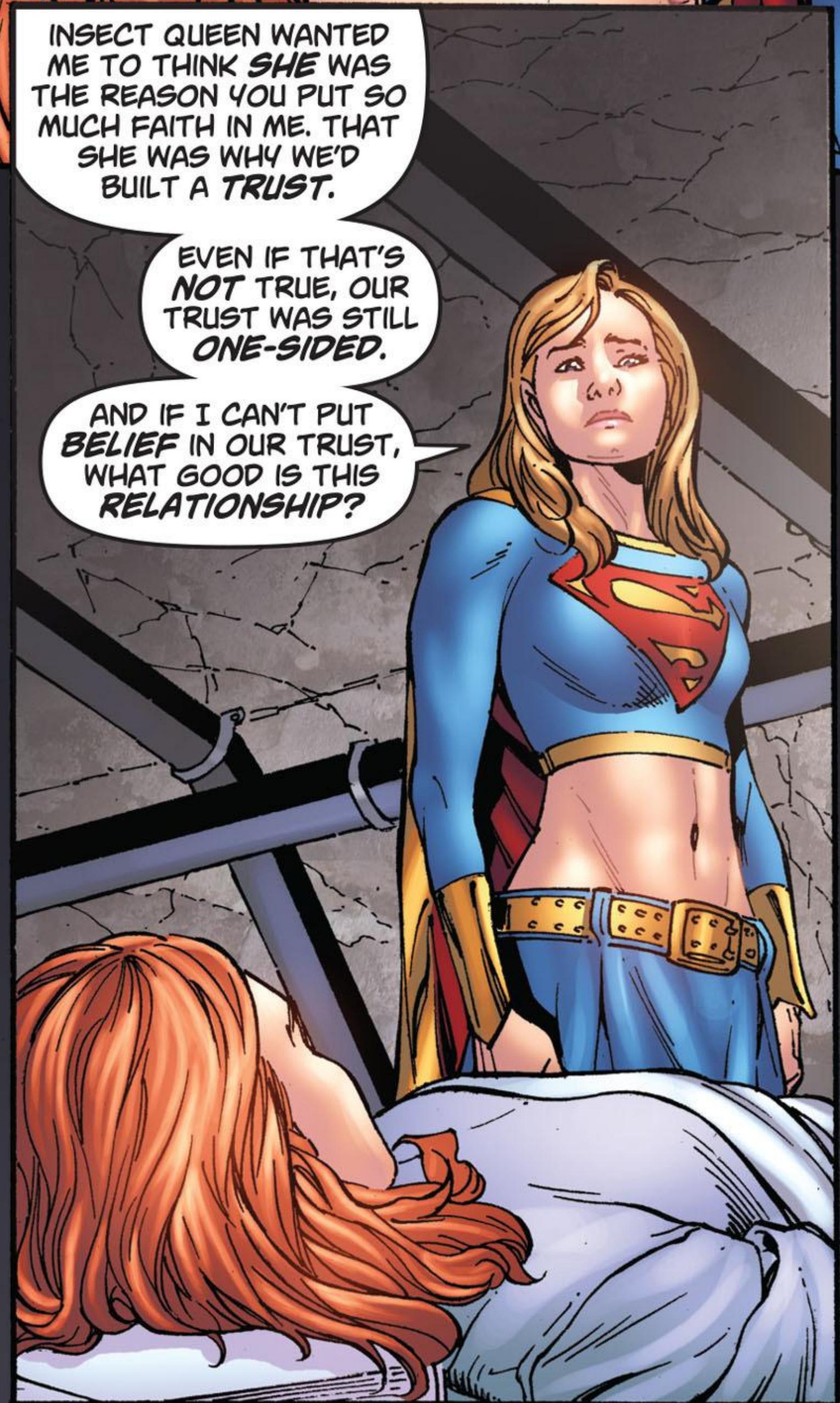
EVEN IF THAT'S NOT TRUE, OUR TRUST WAS STILL ONE-SIDED.

AND IF I CAN'T PUT BELIEF IN OUR TRUST, WHAT GOOD IS THIS RELATIONSHIP?

...ARE YOU FINISHED?

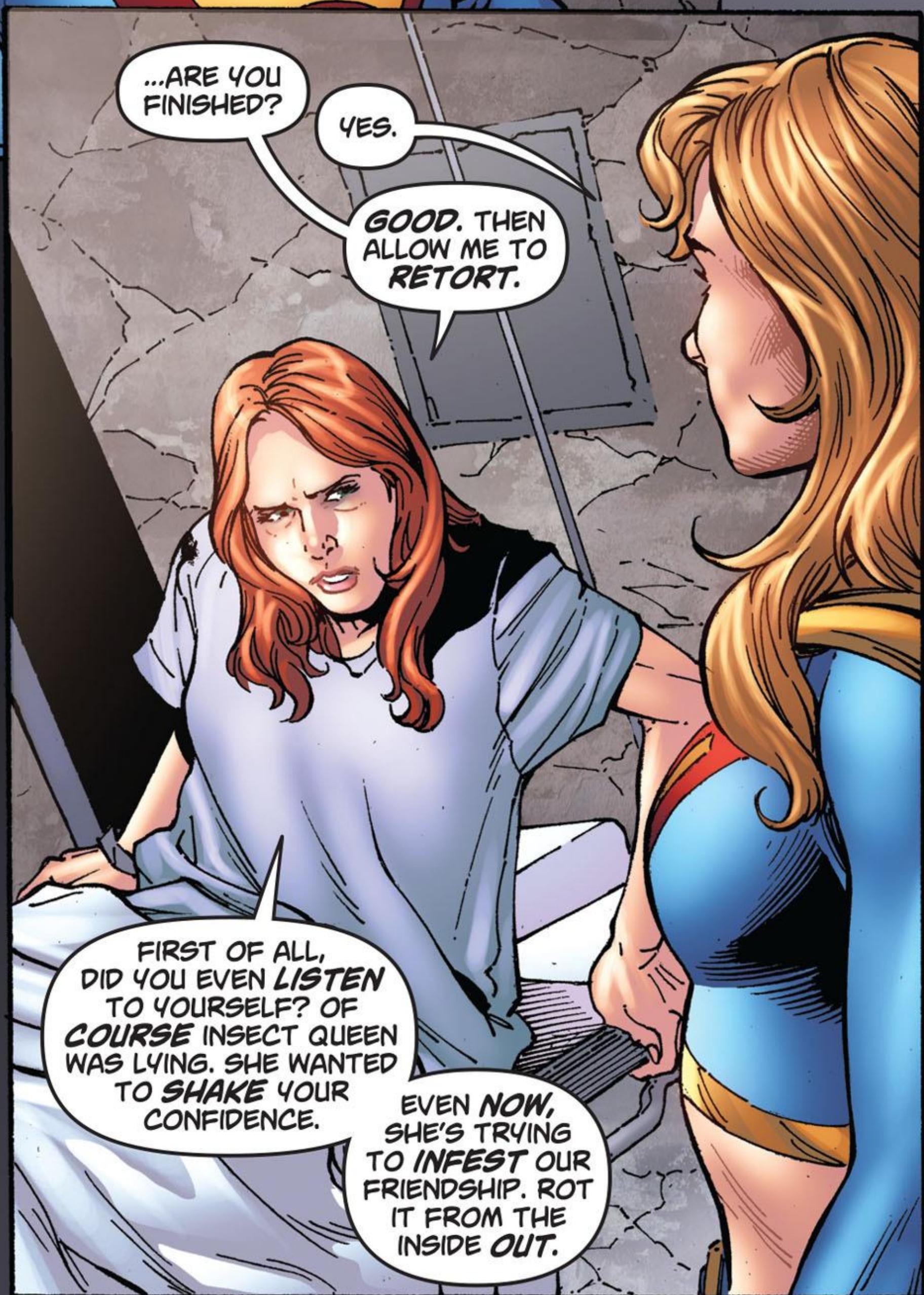
YES.

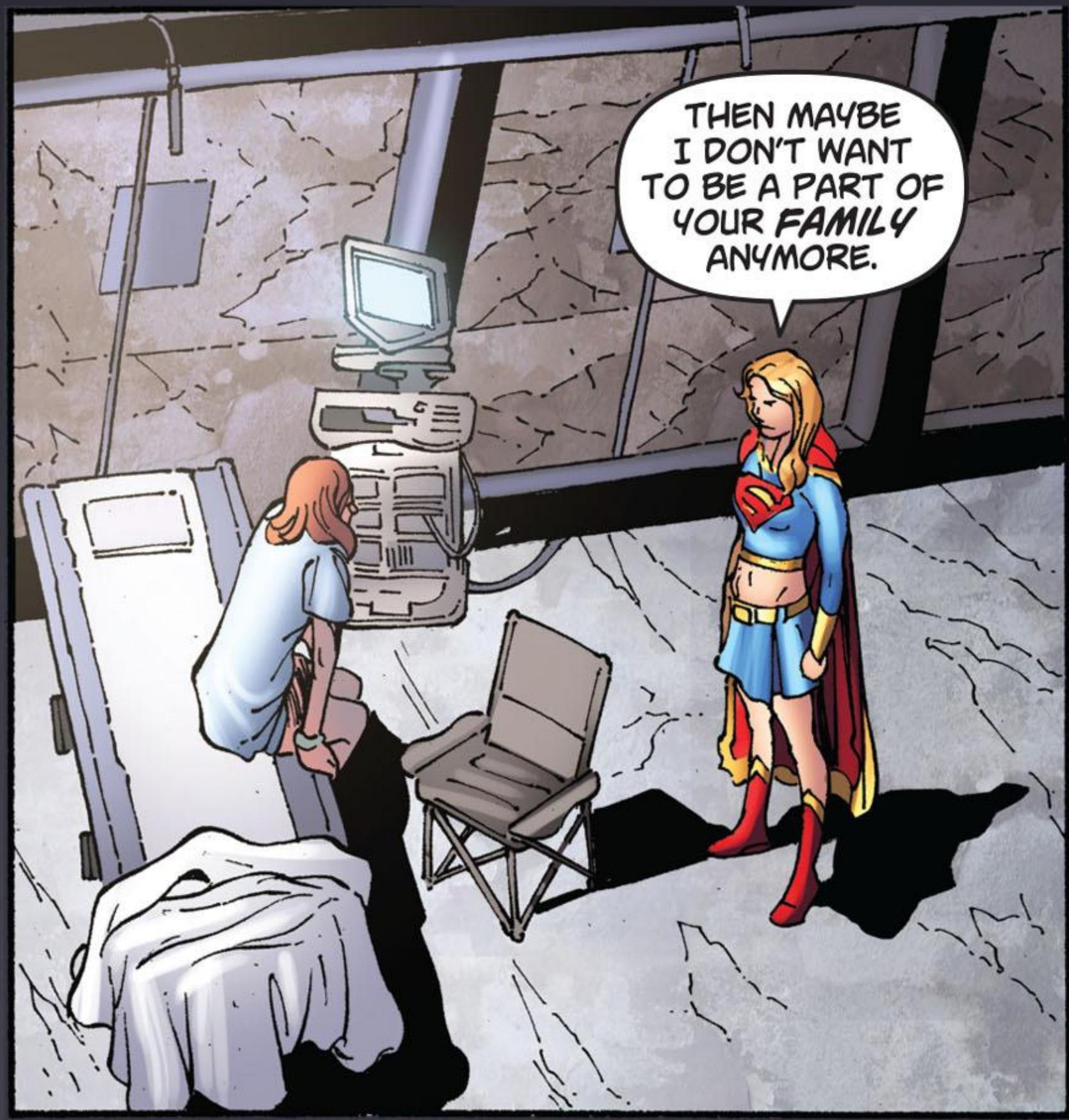
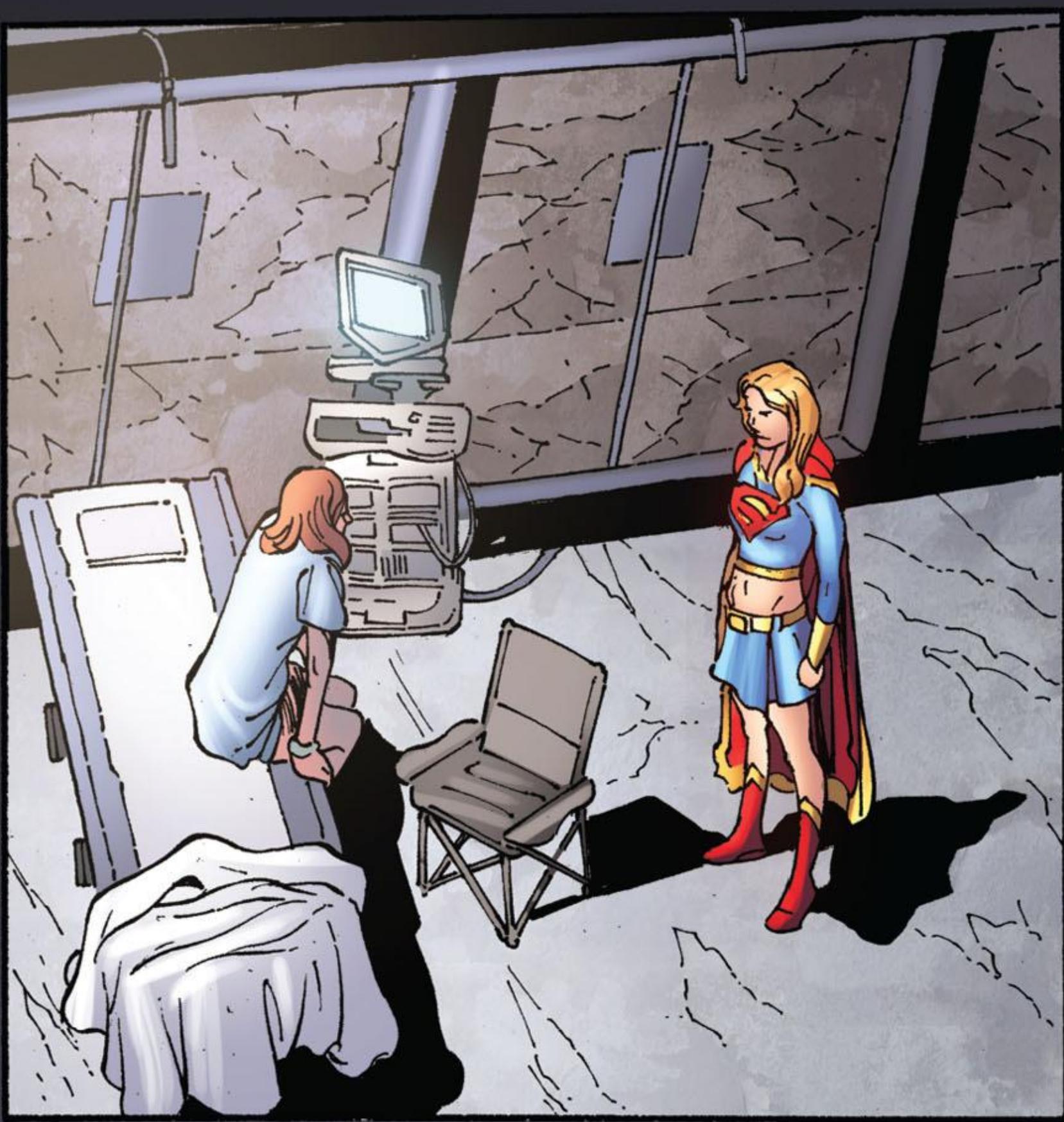
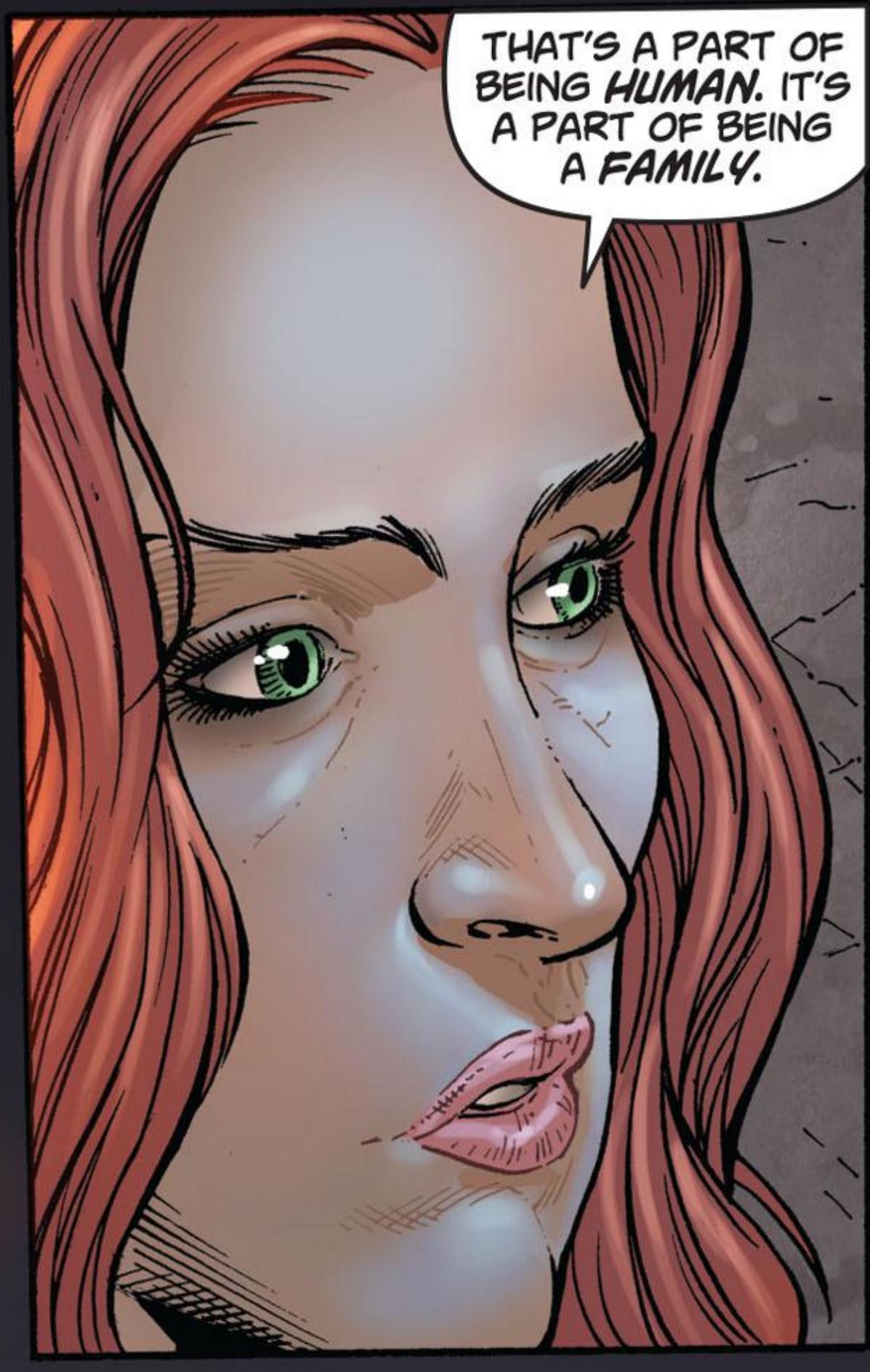
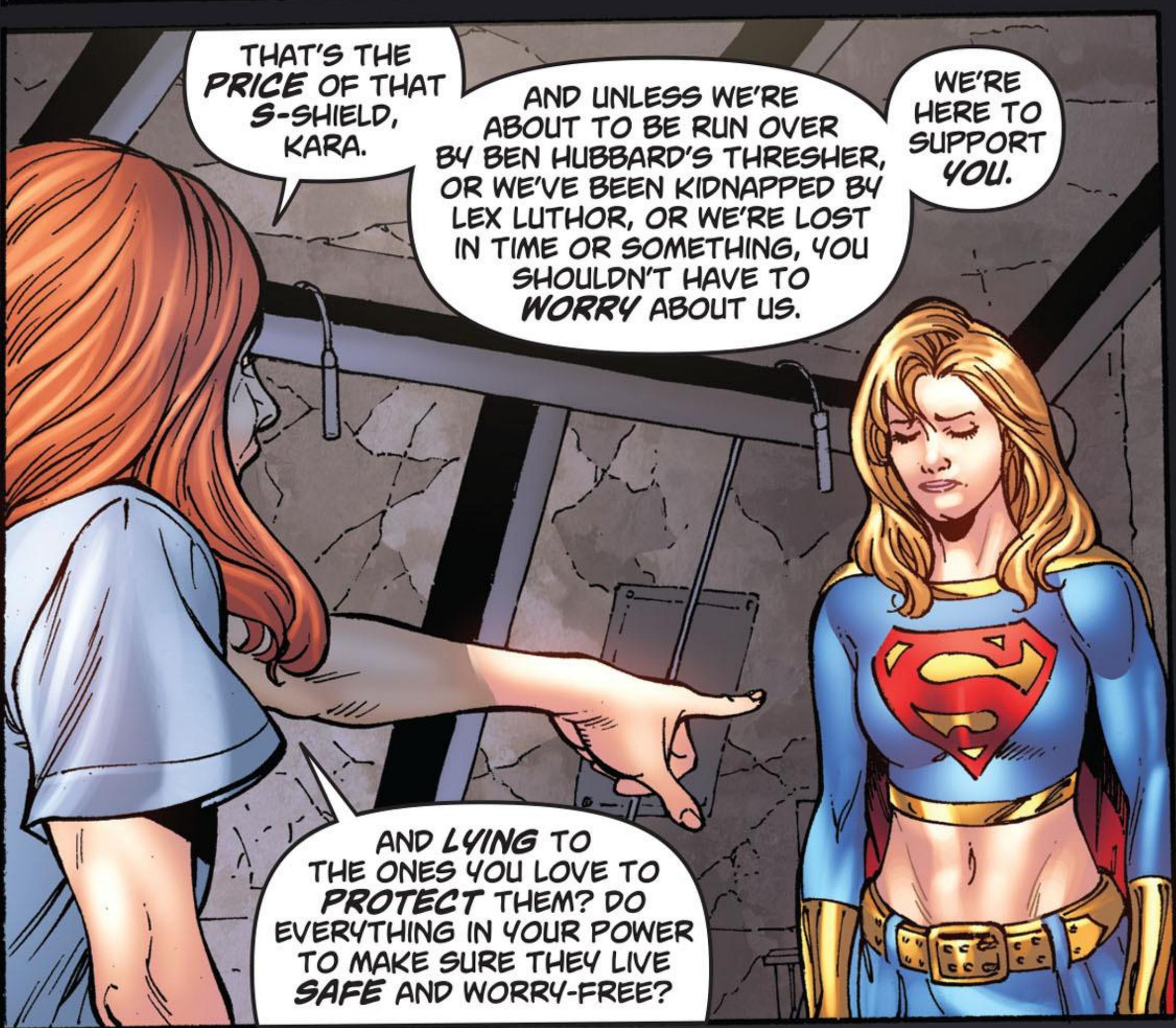
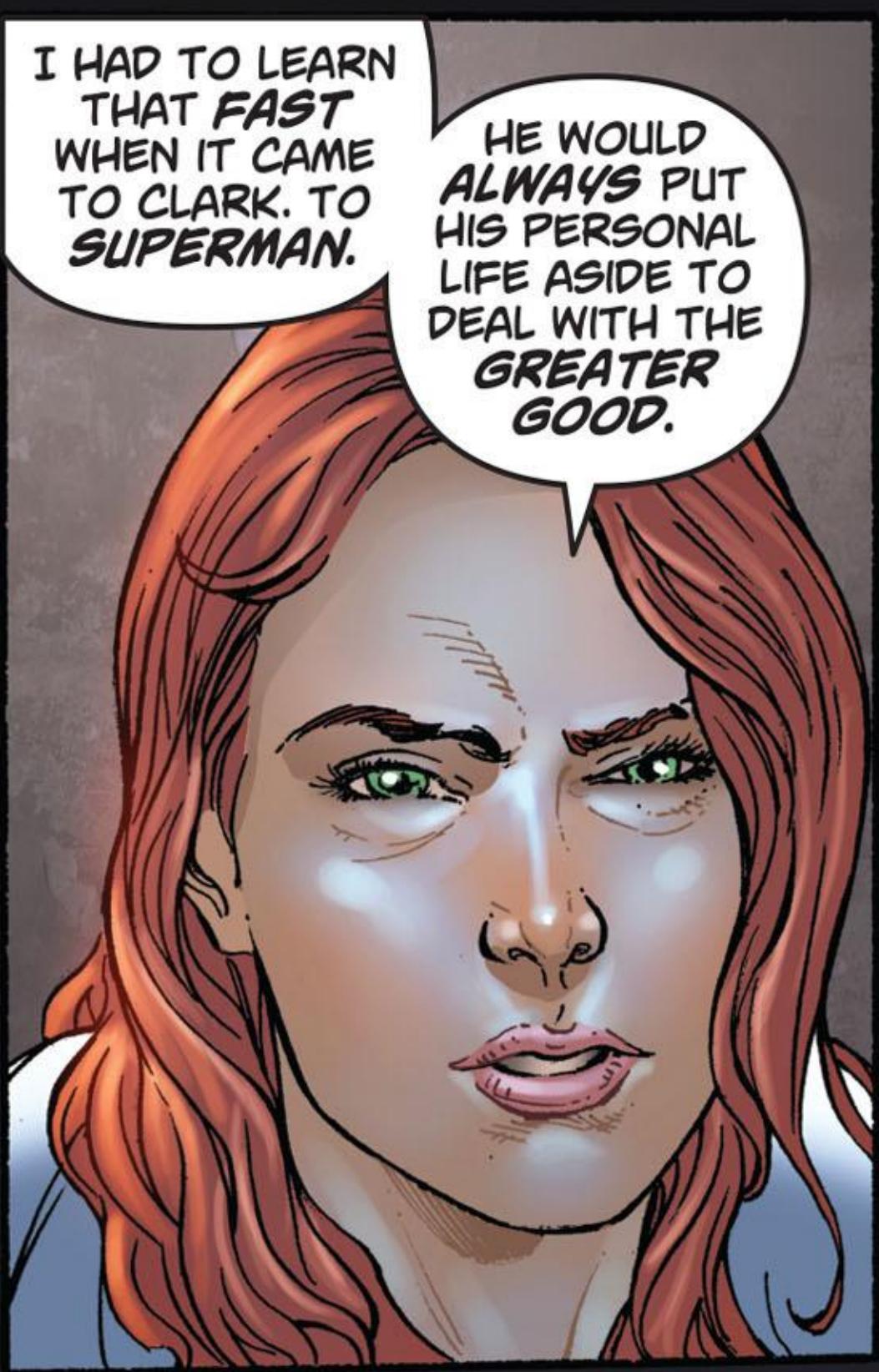
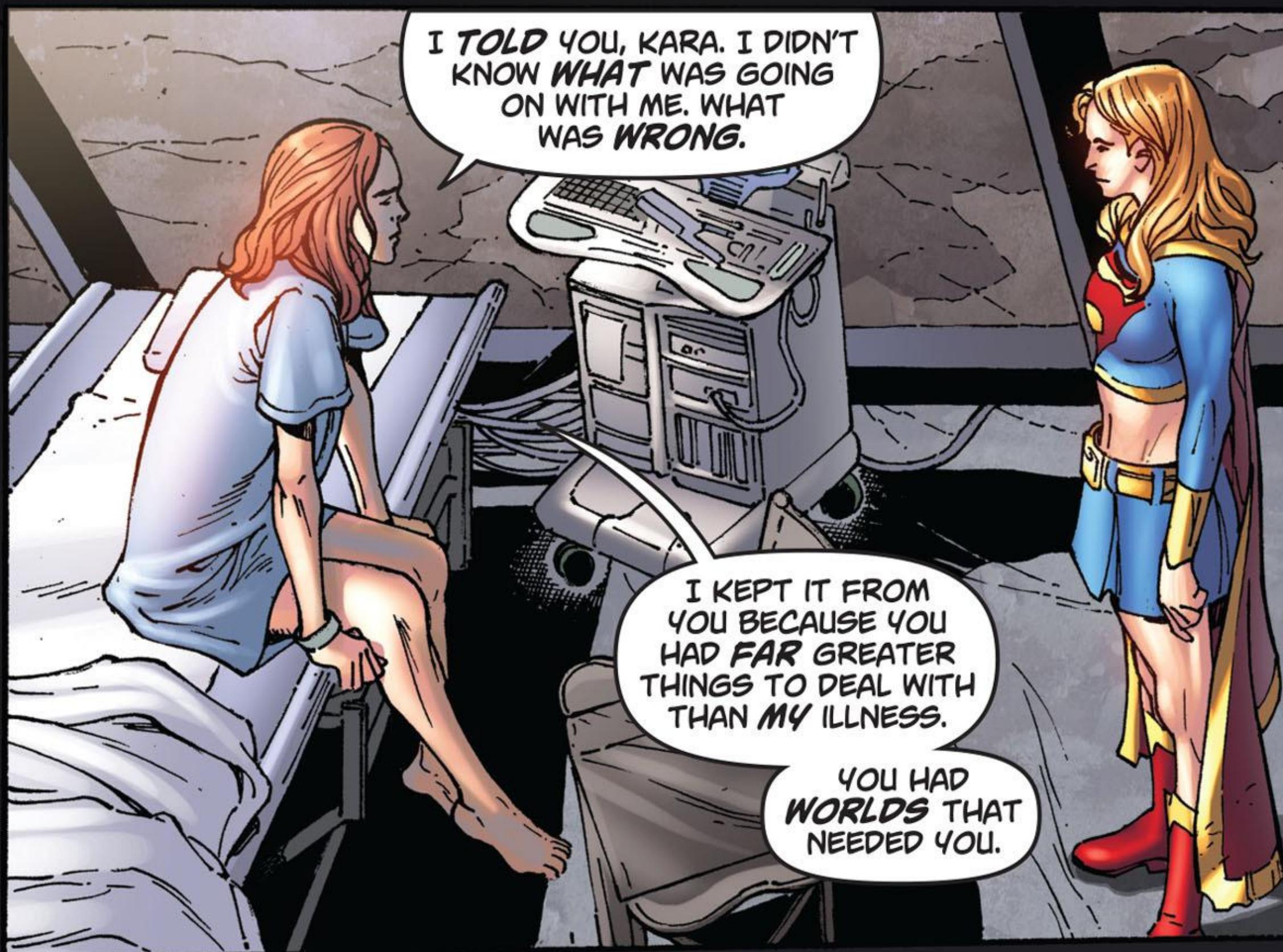
GOOD. THEN ALLOW ME TO RETORT.

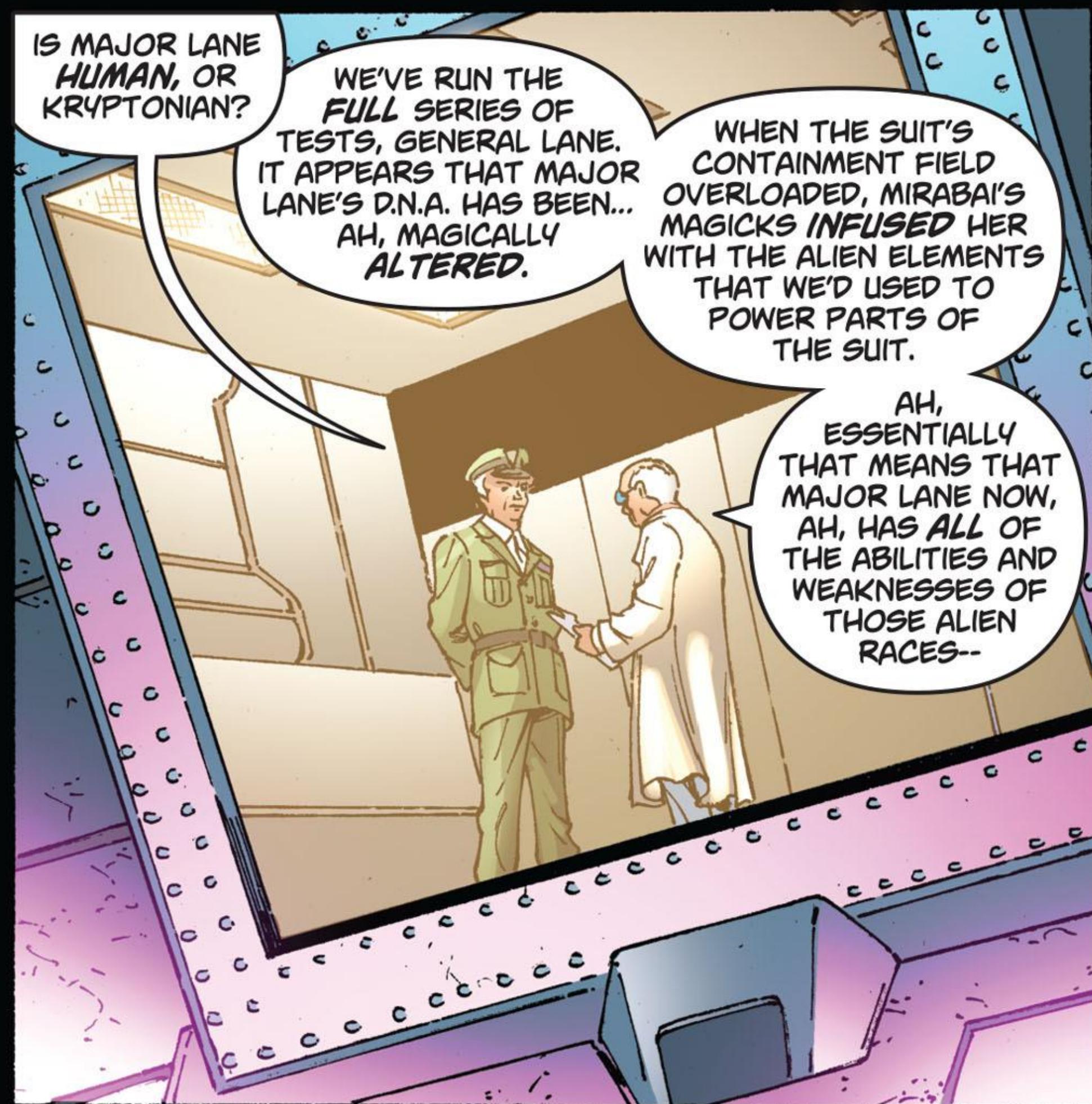
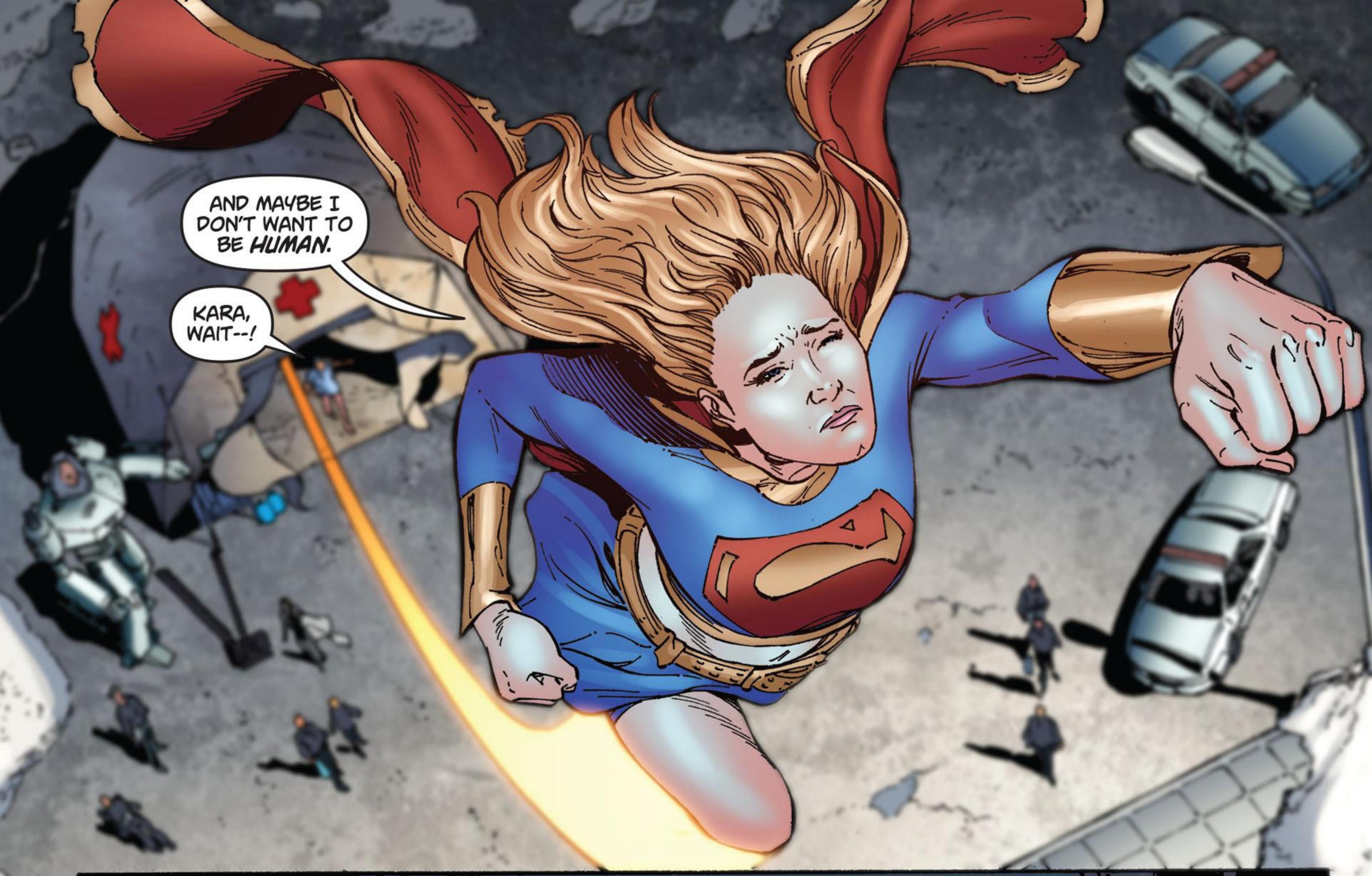


FIRST OF ALL, DID YOU EVEN LISTEN TO YOURSELF? OF COURSE INSECT QUEEN WAS LYING. SHE WANTED TO SHAKE YOUR CONFIDENCE.

EVEN NOW, SHE'S TRYING TO INFEST OUR FRIENDSHIP. ROT IT FROM THE INSIDE OUT.







AND I DON'T
LIKE PEOPLE
TALKING ABOUT
ME BEHIND
MY BACK.

MAJOR LANE.

GOOD
MORNING,
SIR.

NO MORE
TESTING. NO
MORE QUESTIONS.
AS YOU CAN SEE,
I'M FIT FOR
DUTY.

SO.

WHAT'S MY NEXT
ASSIGNMENT?

BE SURE TO READ
SUPERMAN:
LAST STAND OF
NEW KRYPTON
#1,
THEN BE BACK HERE TO SEE
SUPergirl VS SUPERBOY

*If it's Sunday in Metropolis,
it's "Greet the Press."*

*I'm your host, Ron Troupe, political
reporter for The Daily Planet.*

*This week's topic:
Supergirl--Hero or Menace?*

*Controversy has followed Superman's
cousin ever since she first appeared
in Metropolis a few years ago.*



*"...And an invitation
to work alongside
the Teen Titans
was met with
mixed reactions."*



To say nothing of her alleged involvement in the destruction of Metropolis's sewer system only a few weeks ago.



*Whoa! Hold up.
Supergirl is not
the victim here.*



*We're now joined by my colleague from *The Daily Planet*, columnist and outspoken Supergirl critic Cat Grant.*

With the recent rise in anti-Kryptonian sentiments, Supergirl has been publicly ostracized.

I wouldn't say I'm an "outspoken Supergirl critic." I just report the news.

Your op-ed "Why the World Doesn't Need Supergirl" wasn't critical?

Look, Supergirl causes more problems than she fixes. She doesn't ever think about the costs of her actions.

You don't think she takes responsibility for them?

CAT GRANT
DAILY PLANET COLUMNIST



"Never! Has she paid for the damage done to the city in her fights with Reactron or Superwoman?"



And what about little Thomas Price? She promised to cure his cancer. That's a horribly naïve thing to do to a family!

Supergirl is like a teen starlet who's known more for going to rehab than doing what she's supposed to.

She shouldn't even try to be a "hero" until she grows up!

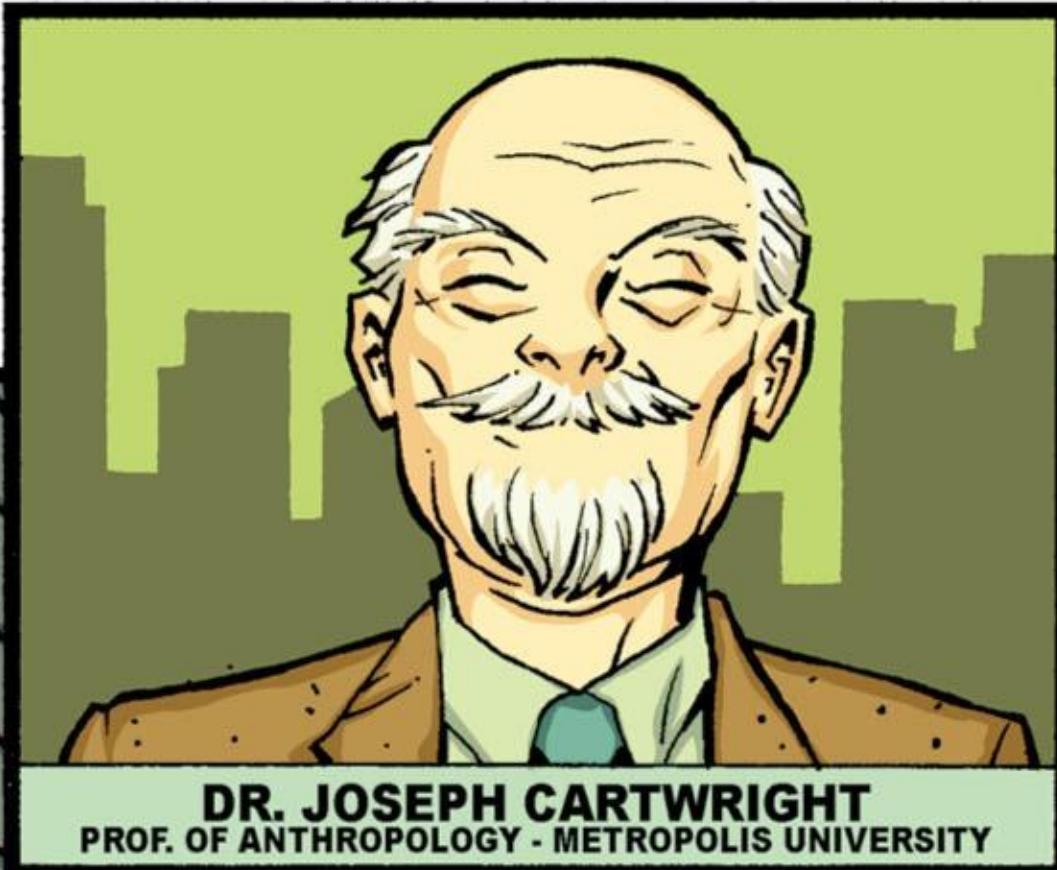
Dr. Cartwright, is Supergirl too young to be a hero?

She is heroic in her wish to do good in the world, and she is struggling to balance her power with her intention.

I would say she is perhaps too young to be so exposed to the scrutiny of society. Clearly she has the "call to adventure."

And from the "Hero's Journey" perspective, now may be the time for a teacher. Someone who could provide discipline, guidance and training.

Shouldn't that person be Superman?



It's possible. However, many times the people who light our path are not the ones we are related to.

Just because she wears his costume, that doesn't automatically make him her guide.

Fascinating stuff.

We sent our "Man on the Street" to find out what you viewers really think of the Girl of Steel.

Here's what he found.



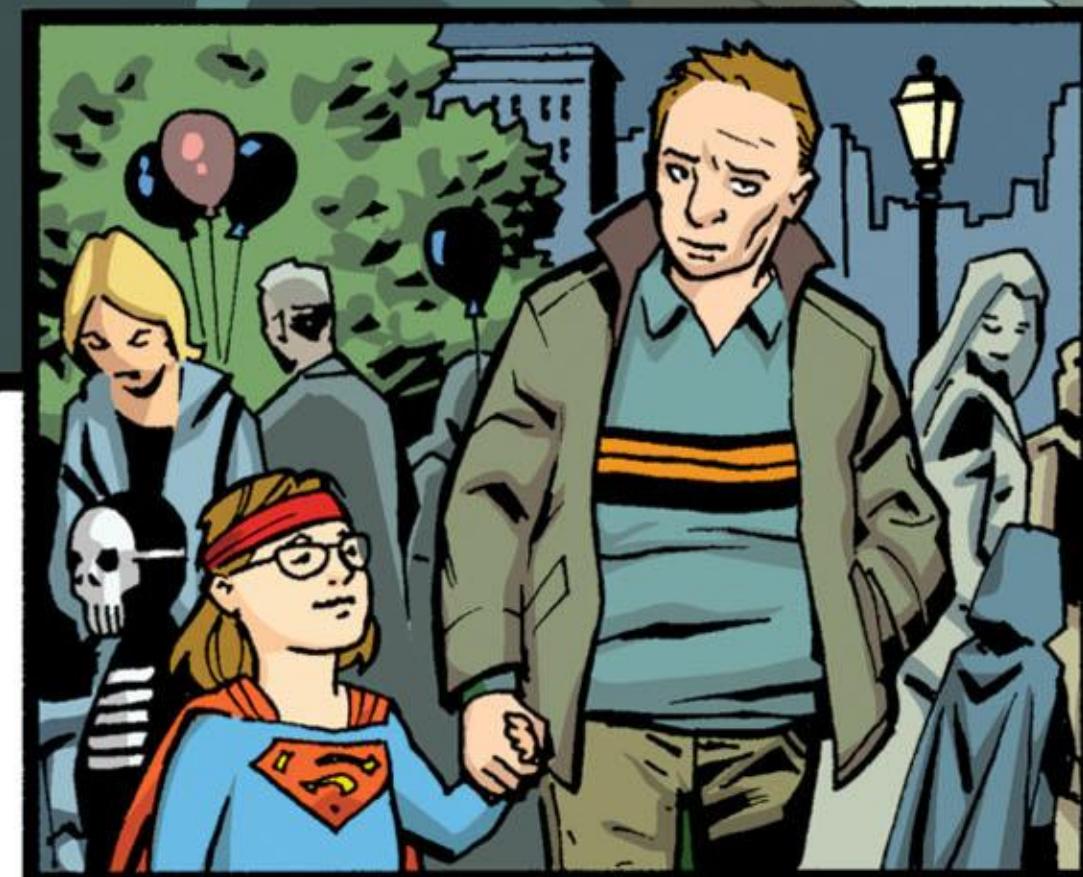
"Yeah, I love Supergirl.
She saved my life!"



I don't like the Kryptonians
any more than the next guy,
but you can't judge a person
only because of her race!



Supergirl brought my
daddy back home to my
family! She's my hero!

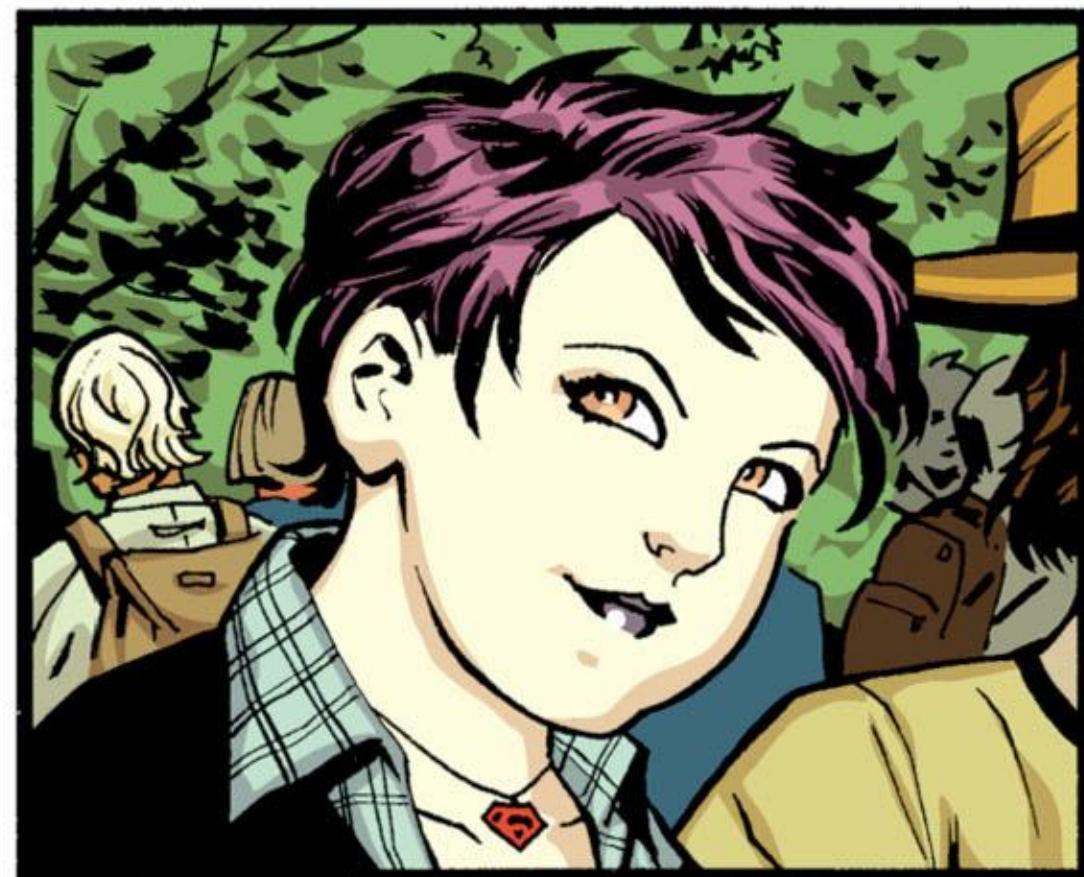


Yeah. She, uh, gave me
a new way of looking
at life when I'd pretty
much hit rock bottom.



I used to think Supergirl
was nothing like me.
I mean, c'mon, we're total
opposites or whatever.

She's all bright and
happy. And I'm not.



But I saw how tough she
was. Seriously independent.
I took that from her.

Supergirl made
me stronger.



The people of Metropolis
are still wary of Supergirl.
And that's understandable.

She is, after all, an inexperienced
and perhaps undisciplined
Kryptonian girl.



"But she has great value to Metropolis and to the world."



Supergirl is a hero and a role model.



Above all, she is a girl trying to find her way in the world. She makes mistakes, but she's growing and developing positively.



A HERO'S JOURNEY

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