

BBC

THE **TWELFTH DOCTOR:** GHOST STORIES

DOCTOR WHO



GEORGE MANN • PASQUALE QUALANO • DIJJO LIMA

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BBC

DOCTOR WHO

THE TWELFTH DOCTOR

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GHOST STORIES PART FOUR OF EIGHT



THE DOCTOR

A rogue Time Lord of Gallifrey. Never cruel or cowardly, he champions the oppressed across time and space. Adventure and travel are what he lives for – and danger always has a way of finding him!



GRANT

Thanks to the alien gemstone he absorbed into his body as a child, Grant can fly, is invulnerable and super-strong, and doesn't feel silly dressed up in a tight leather costume to fight crime in New York City.



LUCY

A top journalist and investigator, Lucy has a keen head for secrets and a sharp line in incisive prose. Mother of Jennifer, and now married to Grant, after their adventure with the Doctor eight years ago.

PREVIOUSLY...

The Doctor is back in the lives of Grant, Lucy, and their daughter, Jennifer! He's on a mission to find the *other* three alien gemstones, siblings of the one that gave Grant his superheroic powers – and only Grant can lead the way! Following the gems' trail through time, the four ended up in a future New York City ruled by the fearsome entity known as THE SMOKE. With the Doctor's help, Grant, Lucy, and Jennifer helped The Smoke rediscover his humanity – and reclaimed one gem. They set off in the TARDIS and arrived at their next destination... a world where the Harmony Shoal has taken over!

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"ARRIVING HERE, SEEING ALL OF THIS -- IT'S LIKE ALL MY WORST NIGHTMARES OF THAT FATEFUL CHRISTMAS HAVE SUDDENLY COME TRUE."

THE HARMONY SHOAL WELCOMES YOU TO UNRAVIL



"EVERYONE I SEE HAS THAT TELLTALE SCAR. THIS IS A PLANET WHERE THE HARMONY SHOAL ARRIVED..."

"AND THE DOCTOR AND GRANT WEREN'T HERE TO STOP THEM."

WHAT IS THIS PLACE?

IS THIS WHAT EARTH WOULD HAVE BEEN LIKE IF THE HARMONY SHOAL HAD WON?

AN ENTIRE POPULATION ENSLAVED?



IT LOOKS TO ME AS IF THE PEOPLE OF THIS WORLD VOTED FOR THIS.

YOU MEAN THEY ACTUALLY WELCOMED THE MONSTERS?



GRANT? ARE YOU OKAY?

YEAH, FINE. IT'S JUST A BIT OF A HEADACHE, THAT'S ALL.



SINCE WHEN DO YOU GET HEADACHES?

IT'S PROBABLY JUST THE AFTER-EFFECT OF USING THE TELEPATHIC CIRCUITS. IT'LL PASS.



WELL, THE SOONER WE GET THIS OVER WITH, THE BETTER. SEEING ALL THESE PEOPLE WITH TRANSPLANT SCARS... IT'S NOT RIGHT.

HANG ON... WHERE ARE YOU OFF TO?



GRANT AND I CAN TAKE CARE OF THE GEMSTONE.

WHY DON'T YOU DEPLOY THOSE MEAN JOURNALISTIC SKILLS AND SEE IF YOU CAN GET TO THE BOTTOM OF EXACTLY WHAT'S HAPPENED HERE?



"FOR ONCE, I DON'T GET THE FEELING THE DOCTOR IS JUST TRYING TO KEEP JENNIFER AND I OUT OF HARM'S WAY."

"HE REALLY DID SEEM CURIOUS ABOUT WHAT'S HAPPENED ON THIS PLANET."

"ONCE...AND ONCE AGAIN, I REMIND YOU ALL OF THE TREATY OF ANGERAMIA."

SYMBIOSIS IS THE MEANS TO A MORE PEACEFUL, ENLIGHTENED EXISTENCE.



"I MEAN, I DO HAVE A LITTLE EXPERIENCE DEALING WITH FATUOUS POLITICIANS AND THEIR RALLIES."

IT IS OUR DUTY TO ENFORCE IT. TOGETHER, WE ARE STRONGER.



BOOOO!



OI, GET YOUR HANDS OFF ME!

LEAVE ME ALONE!



"AND IF THERE'S ONE THING I'VE LEARNED, IT'S NEVER TO TRUST A WORD THEY SAY."

WHAT?!



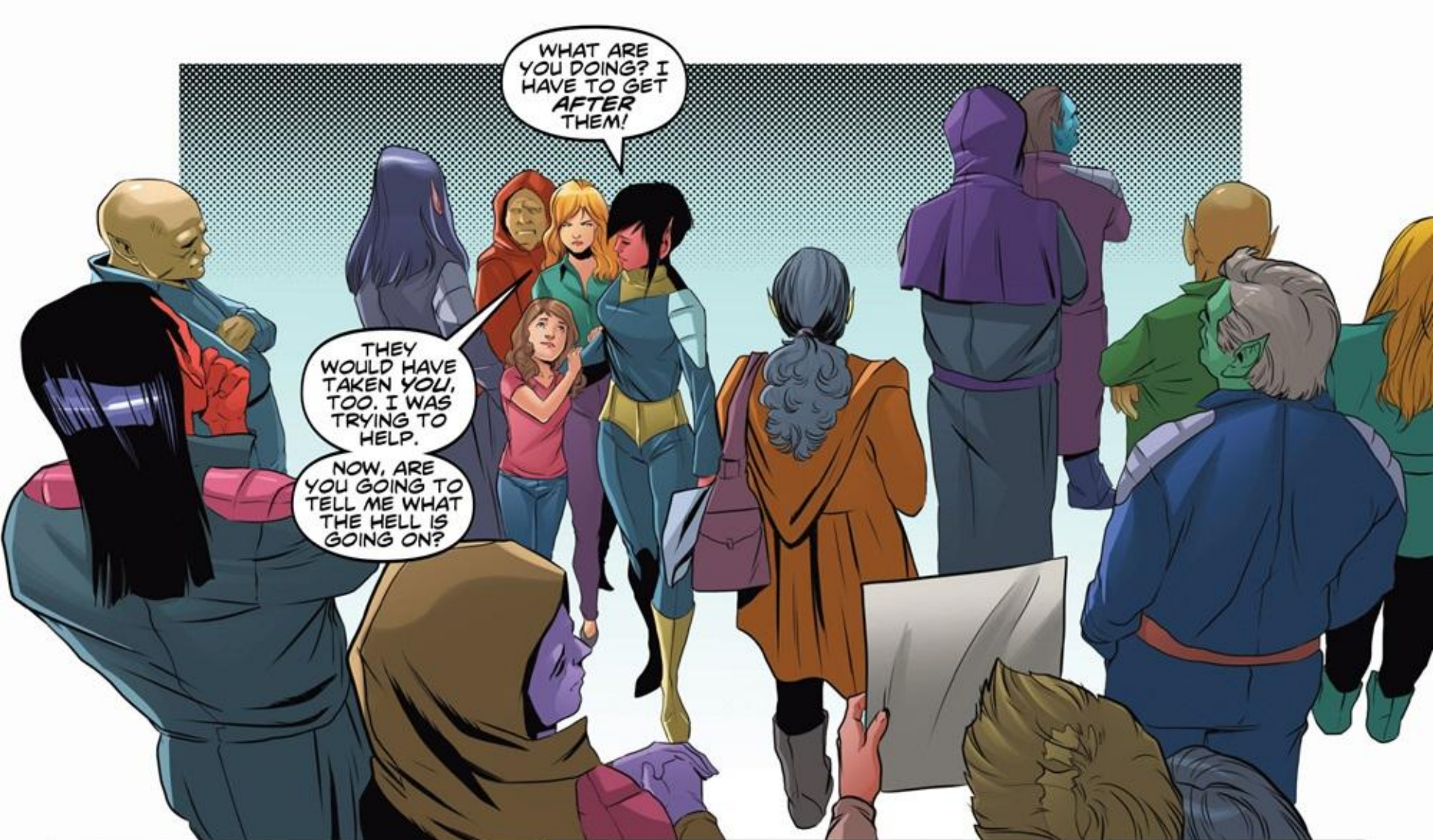
THESE HEADACHES... THEY'RE GETTING WORSE. I'M... NOT FEELING MYSELF, DOCTOR.

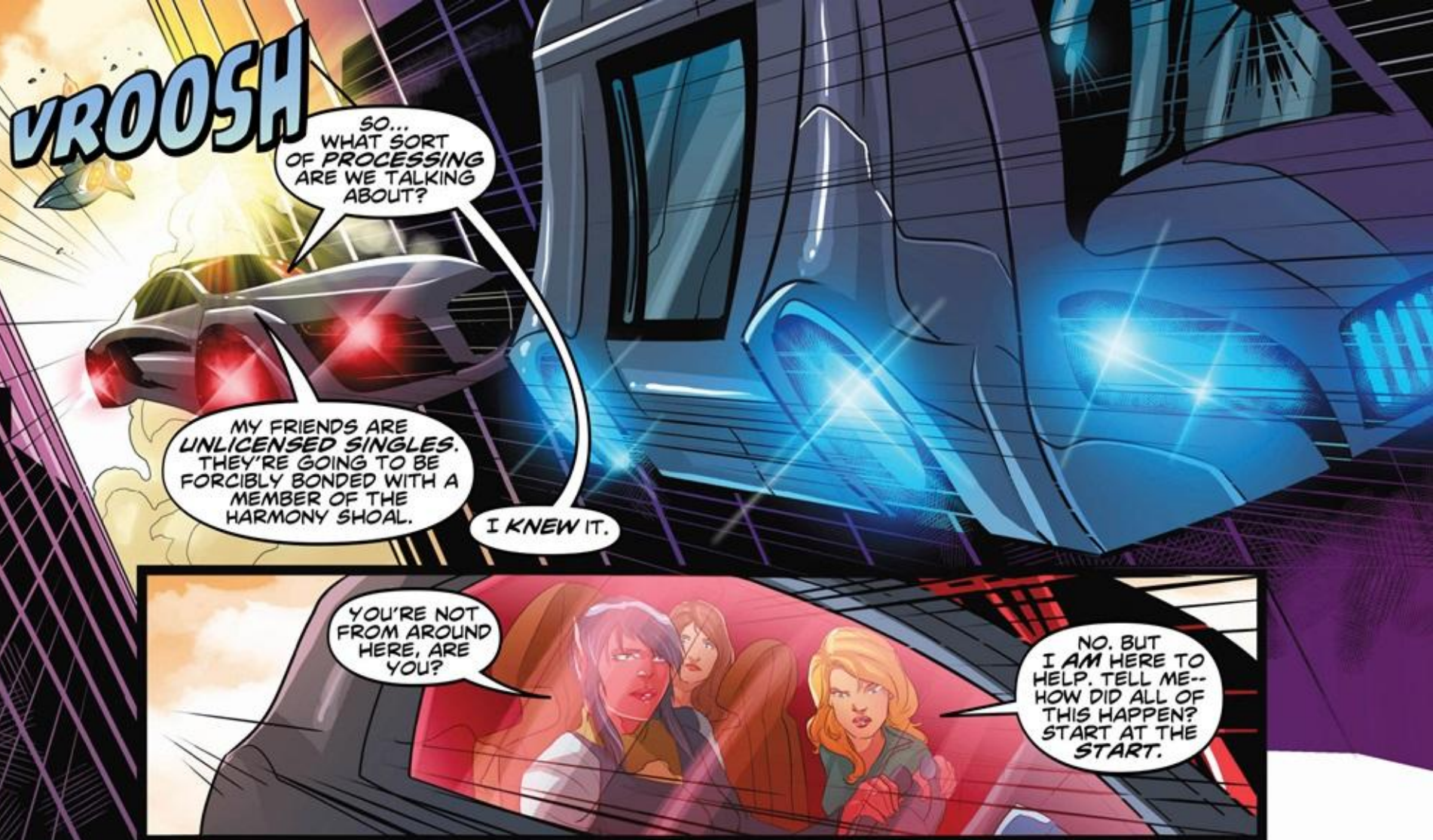
LET'S GET THIS OVER WITH AND GET YOU BACK TO THE TARDIS. I CAN RUN SOME TESTS.

ACCORDING TO THE SIGNAL, THE GEMSTONE IS JUST INSIDE. WE CAN BE IN AND OUT IN A JIFFY.









VROOSH

SO...
WHAT SORT
OF PROCESSING
ARE WE TALKING
ABOUT?

MY FRIENDS ARE
UNLICENSED SINGLES.
THEY'RE GOING TO BE
FORCIBLY BONDED WITH A
MEMBER OF THE
HARMONY SHOAL.

I KNEW IT.



YOU'RE NOT
FROM AROUND
HERE, ARE
YOU?

NO. BUT
I AM HERE TO
HELP. TELL ME--
HOW DID ALL OF
THIS HAPPEN?
START AT THE
START.



"NIXTUS III HAS ALWAYS BEEN
HOME TO TWO DOMINANT
SPECIES -- THE ZANTHIANS
AND THE JANGROFENS.

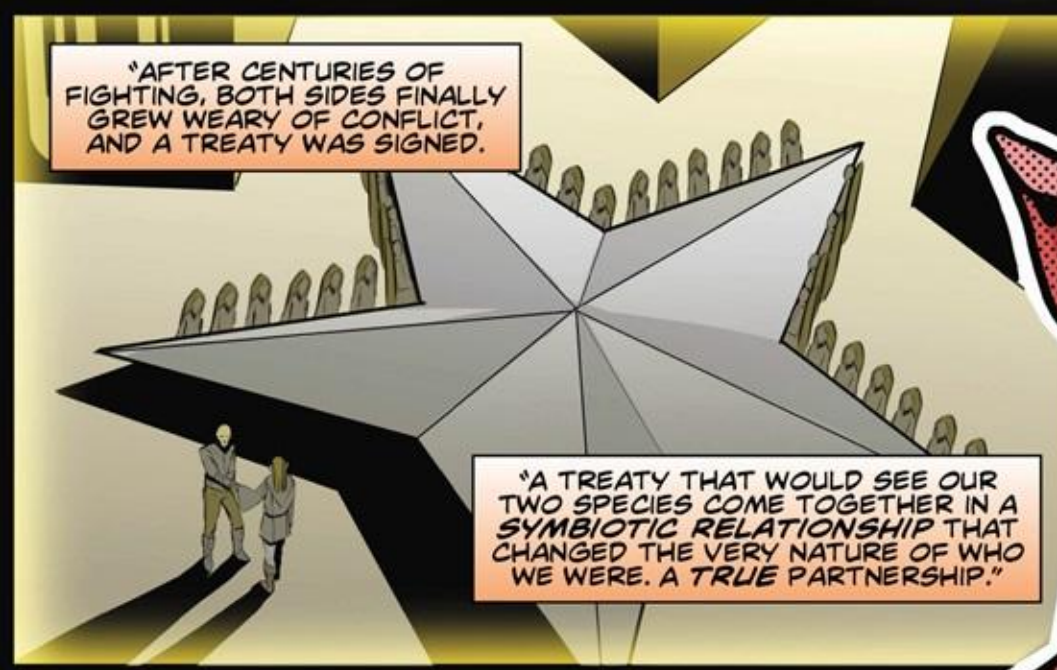
"WE EVOLVED SIDE BY SIDE
OVER MILLIONS OF YEARS,
STEMMING FROM A COMMON
ANCESTOR RACE.

"THINGS BETWEEN US WERE FAR
FROM HARMONIOUS, HOWEVER,
AND MANY BITTER WARS
WERE WAGED, RESULTING IN
DEVASTATING LOSS OF LIFE."



"AFTER CENTURIES OF
FIGHTING, BOTH SIDES FINALLY
GREW WEARY OF CONFLICT,
AND A TREATY WAS SIGNED.

"A TREATY THAT WOULD SEE OUR
TWO SPECIES COME TOGETHER IN A
SYMBIOTIC RELATIONSHIP THAT
CHANGED THE VERY NATURE OF WHO
WE WERE. A TRUE PARTNERSHIP."





"FOR A THOUSAND YEARS, OUR PEOPLES LIVED IN HARMONY AS ONE, COMBINED RACE.

"WE FLOURISHED, AND GREW TO LOVE ONE ANOTHER UNEQUIVOCALLY.



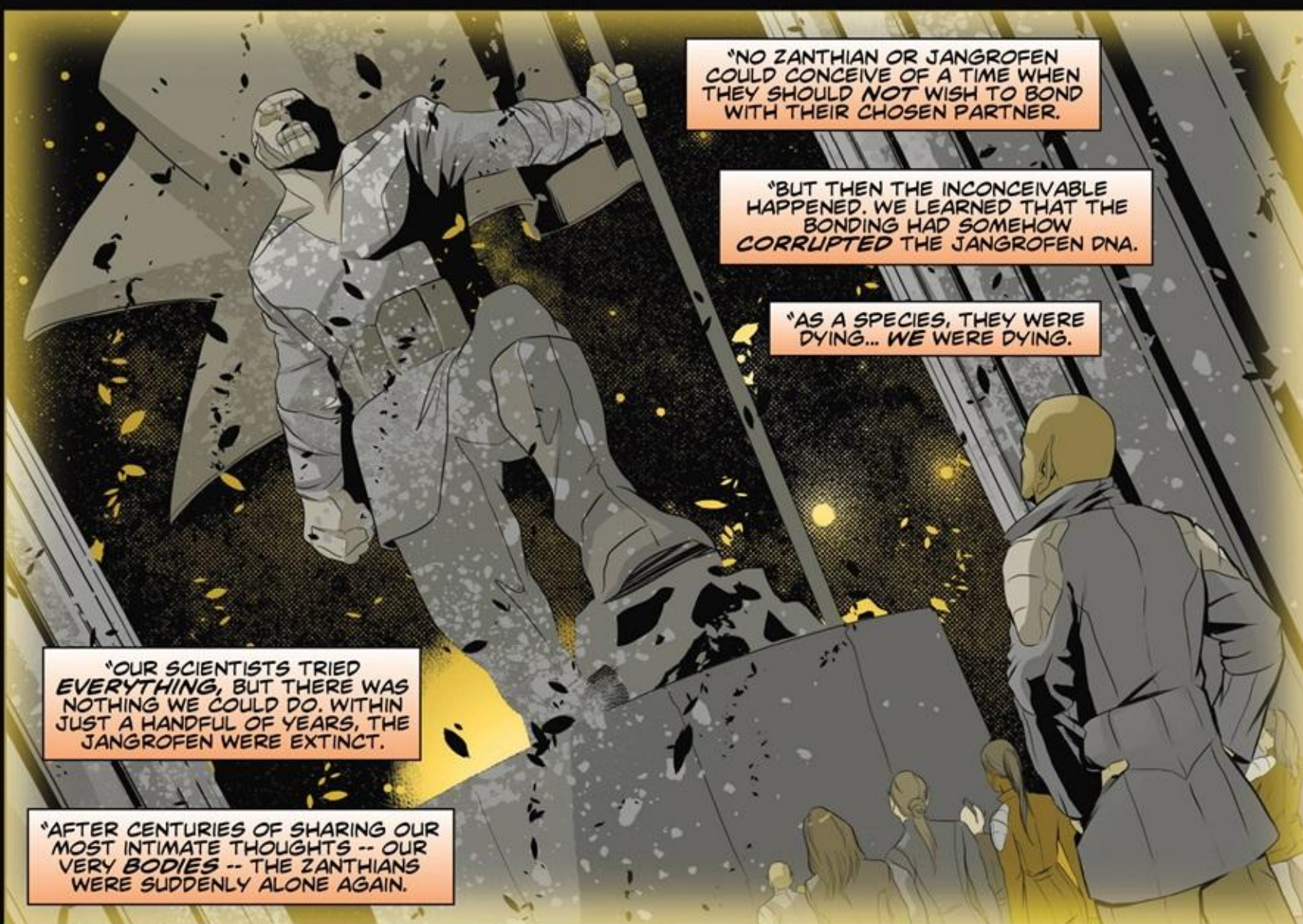
"NO ZANTHIAN OR JANGROFEN COULD CONCEIVE OF A TIME WHEN THEY SHOULD NOT WISH TO BOND WITH THEIR CHOSEN PARTNER.

"BUT THEN THE INCONCEIVABLE HAPPENED. WE LEARNED THAT THE BONDING HAD SOMEHOW CORRUPTED THE JANGROFEN DNA.

"AS A SPECIES, THEY WERE DYING... WE WERE DYING.

"OUR SCIENTISTS TRIED EVERYTHING, BUT THERE WAS NOTHING WE COULD DO. WITHIN JUST A HANDFUL OF YEARS, THE JANGROFEN WERE EXTINCT.

"AFTER CENTURIES OF SHARING OUR MOST INTIMATE THOUGHTS -- OUR VERY BODIES -- THE ZANTHIANS WERE SUDDENLY ALONE AGAIN.



"AND THAT'S WHEN THE HARMONY SHOAL ARRIVED, AND OFFERED TO FILL THE VOID LEFT BEHIND BY THE JANGROFENS, TO BOND WITH THE ZANTHIANS.

"CLOUDED BY MOURNING, THE ZANTHIANS WELCOMED THEM IN WITH OPEN ARMS.



"...AND NOW THERE IS NOTHING LEFT BUT THE HARMONY SHOAL."



AND YOU DON'T THINK THEY'RE REALLY BONDING, DO YOU? THEY'RE STEALING YOUR BODIES, TAKING OVER.

YES... MY SPECIES HAS A DECENTRALIZED NERVOUS SYSTEM. OUR ENTIRE BODIES ARE OUR BRAINS. BUT SOMEHOW, THE HARMONY SHOAL HAS FOUND A WAY TO SUPPRESS THEM.

BUT HOW WOULD YOU KNOW THAT?

I KNOW THE HARMONY SHOAL OF OLD. I SAW WHAT THEY DID TO THE PEOPLE ON MY WORLD. BUT WE STOPPED THEM THERE, AND WE CAN STOP THEM HERE TOO.



THEY'VE BROUGHT THEM STRAIGHT HERE. WE DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME.

SHHHHU



KEEP BACK. DON'T LET THEM SEE YOU.



LET US GO! YOU'VE GOT NO RIGHT!

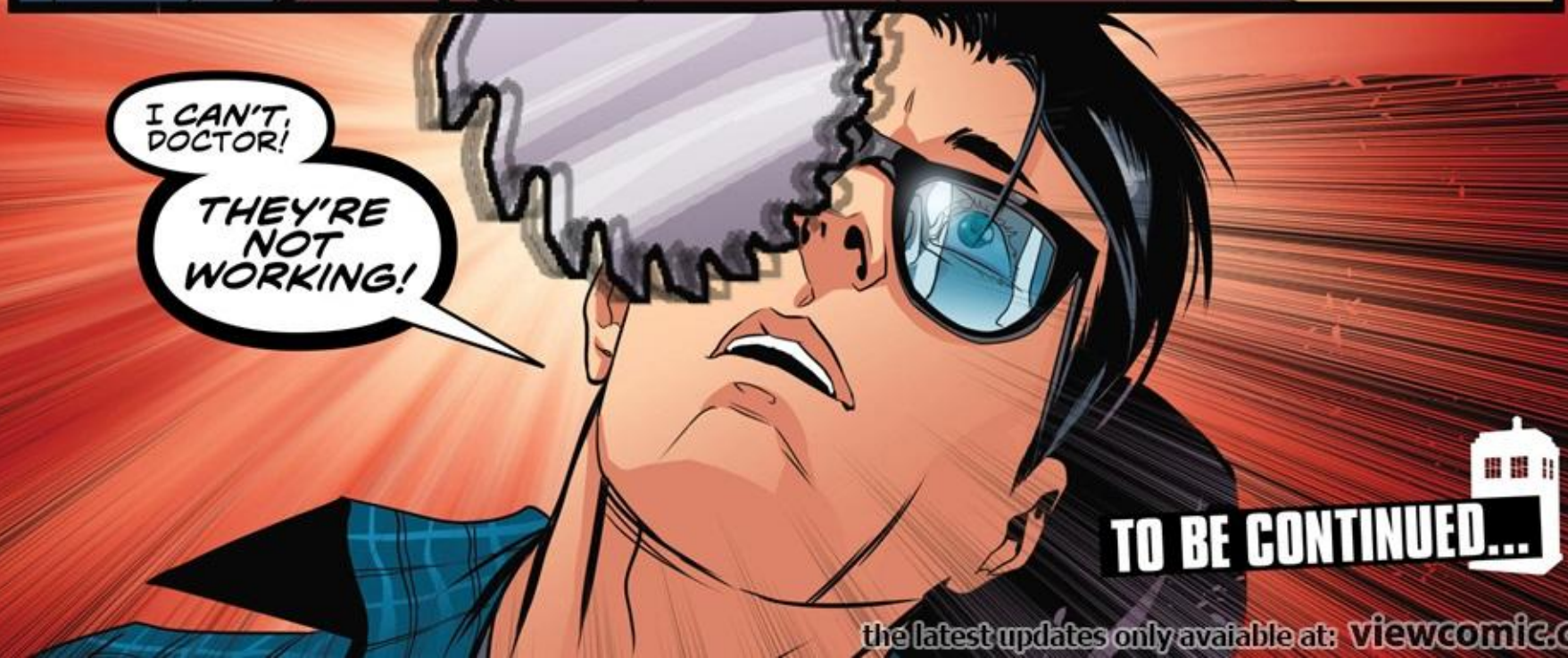
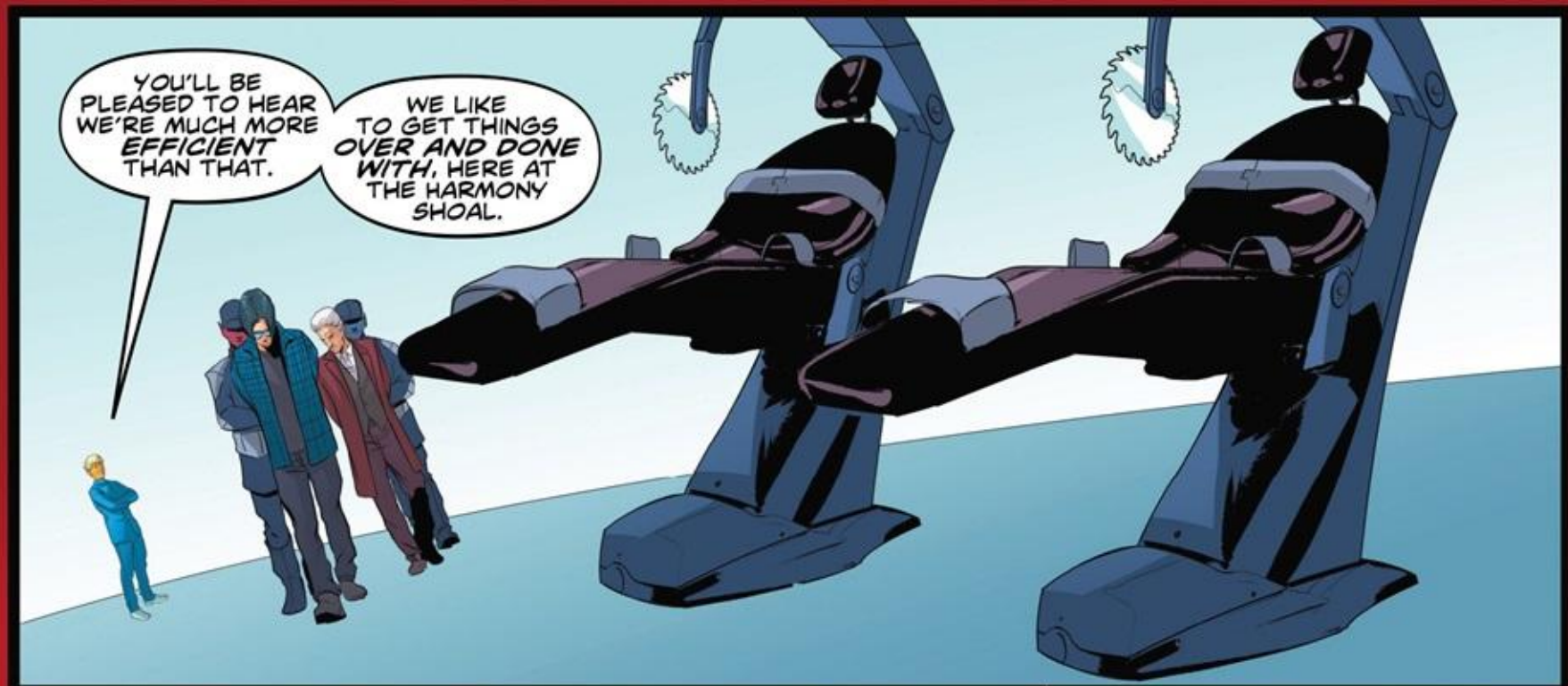
IT'LL BE EASIER FOR YOU IF YOU DON'T FIGHT.



WHERE'S GRANT? WE COULD REALLY USE HIS HELP ABOUT NOW.

WE CAN'T RELY ON YOUR STEPFATHER ALL THE TIME, JENNIFER. SOMETIMES WE HAVE TO STAND UP ON OUR OWN AND DO WHAT'S RIGHT. COME ON!





TO BE CONTINUED...