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**image** COMICS PRESENTS

# INVINCIBLE

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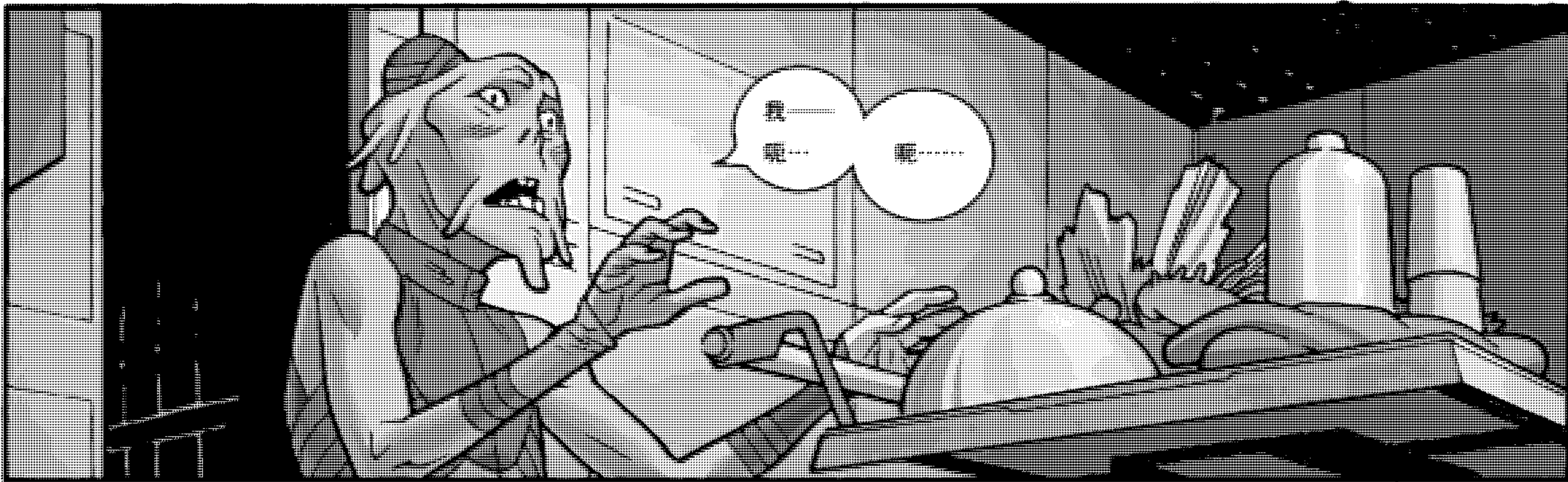
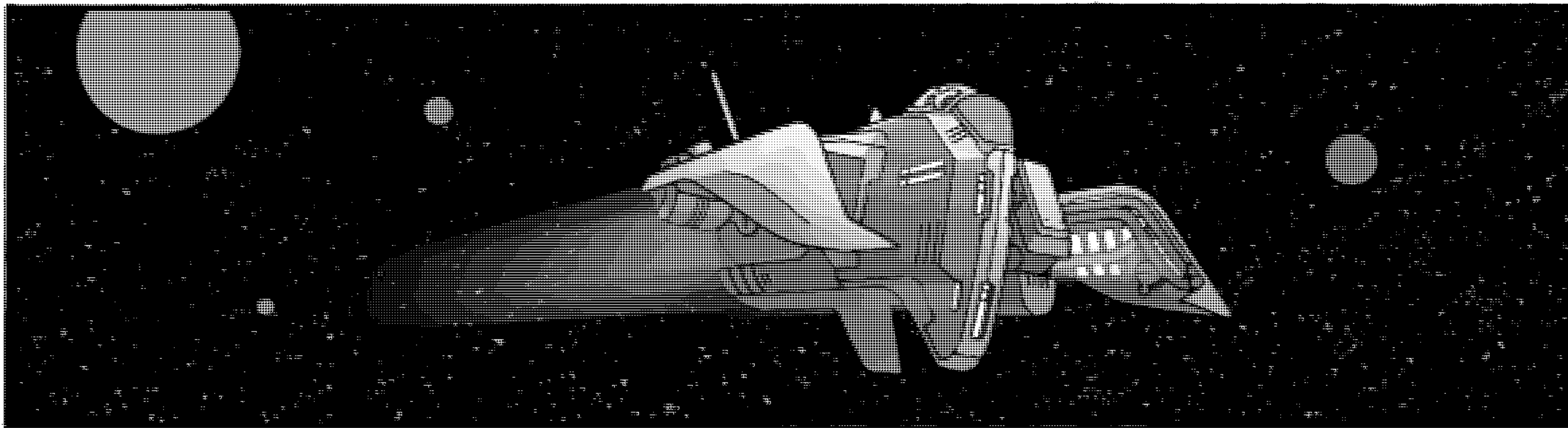
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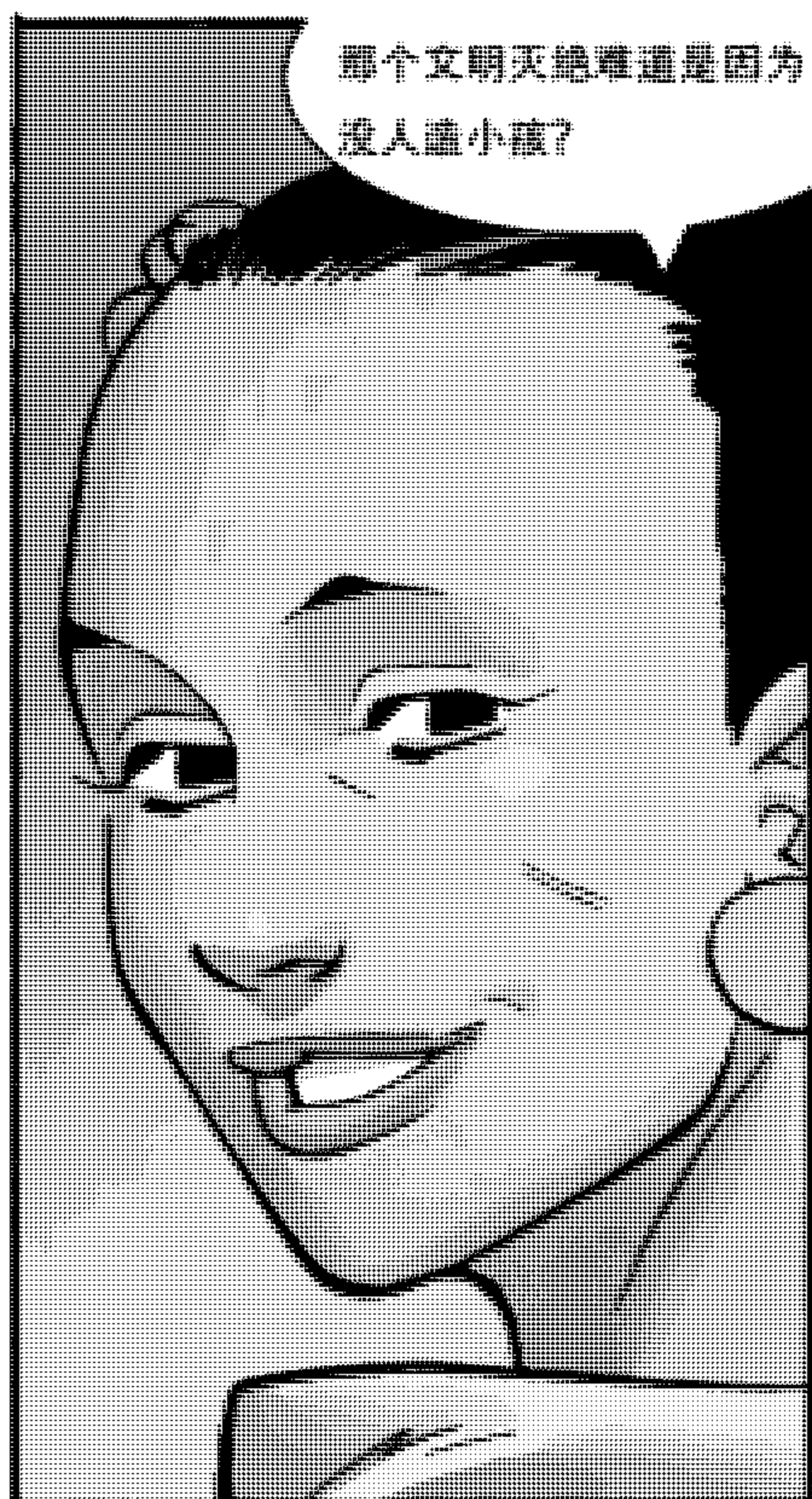




说真的，这是最后一次了，除非你能搞明白怎么给那扇门上锁。

我告诉过你了，它们锁不了，我不知道为啥。

我觉得造这艘船文明没发明锁门这个概念。



那个文明灭绝难道是因为没人造小孩？



也许他们被困在太空船内好几天都没事情干，所以压根不在乎被谁看见？



嘿，我没在开玩笑，你该收敛点了。

你说什么？



哦，老天……这是什么鬼？我们出发时我压根没想过要吃外星食物。

我准备要暴瘦了。

尽管它闻起来不错……

说不定我把这两扇门顶端稍微往一起碰一下……



塔勒斯童亚星。  
行星联盟中央基地。



说真的，他必须走了。自从他撞见我们那事后，你就完全不对劲了。

你现在一直对我有所保留——承认吧，谁在乎他看见什么？他知道人们会干什么！

我不明白他为什么不能先去诺兰那儿住直到他回来！

他还是个孩子，我不能把他独自扔在这个城市。

诺兰会发火的。



还是孩子？！我受不了这些把人生的四分之一都耗在“孩子”阶段的外星种族！

我三岁以后就没见过我父母了。

只因为这男孩需要人牵手照顾，我就得受苦？



听听你自己说的话，萝莉娅。

有时候我真庆幸我俩的种族不能繁衍后代。



.....  
过份了，阿伦，真的过份了。





奥利弗，嘿——  
一切都好吧？



好极了。

你真不知道这地方的  
隔音有多差。

我的胳膊都校准好了，  
下颌也运作完美，我几  
乎感觉不出它们不是我的……原装部件。

我想我们终于让它正常  
工作了，你的神经脉冲  
会无缝传输，和新认识  
的人打招呼不会再捏碎  
对方的手了。



请再替我向大便  
道个歉。

真没必要，他  
可是有七只手。

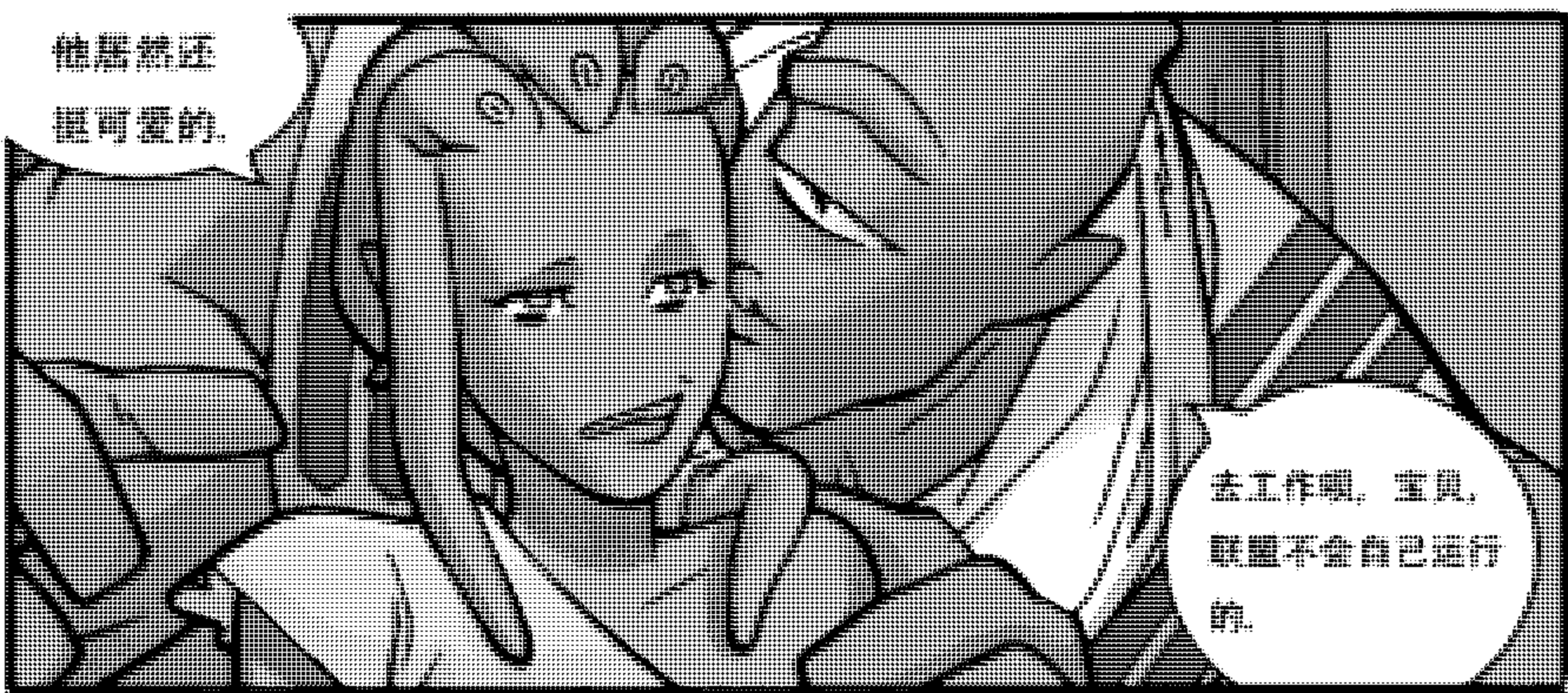


所以你今天打  
算干什么？

你开玩笑吗？  
我正要出去试  
运行呢。

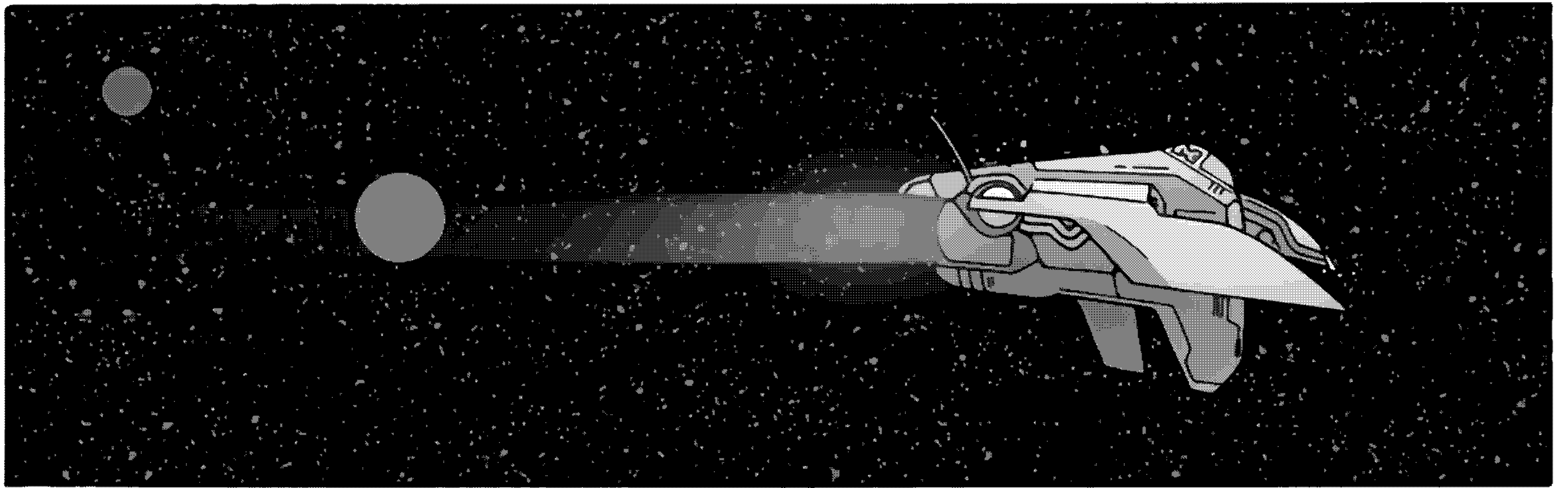


他居然还  
挺可爱的。



去工作哦，宝贝，  
联盟不会自己运行  
的。







我要看到进展！

必须采取行动！



我已竭尽所能，  
大使阁下。

我已派遣舰队穿  
梭银河系寻找维特  
鲁姆人的任何踪迹。

凭直觉，一支部队去了一个叫  
地球的遥远星球，维特鲁姆人  
对那颗星球有特殊兴趣……他  
们可能去了那里，但我还未收  
到该队的回信。

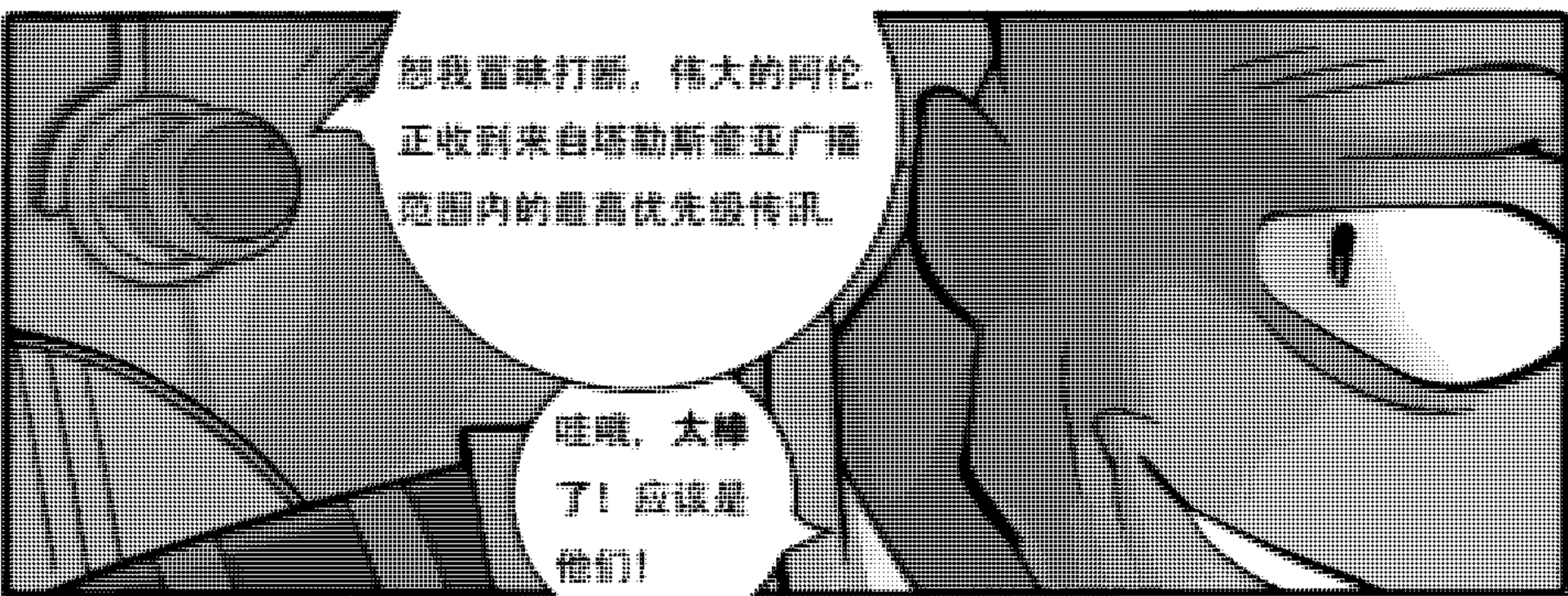


没收到回信？你怎么知  
道他们不是找到了维特  
鲁姆人然后被杀了？他  
们离开多久了？



该星球过于遥远，无法收发传讯。若  
我们的计算无误，且他们抵达后立即  
返航……几天前就该回来了。

若再无消息，  
我将派——



恕我冒昧打断，伟大的阿伦，  
正收到来自塔勒斯奎亚广播  
范围内的最高优先级传讯。

哇哦，太棒  
了！应该是  
他们！

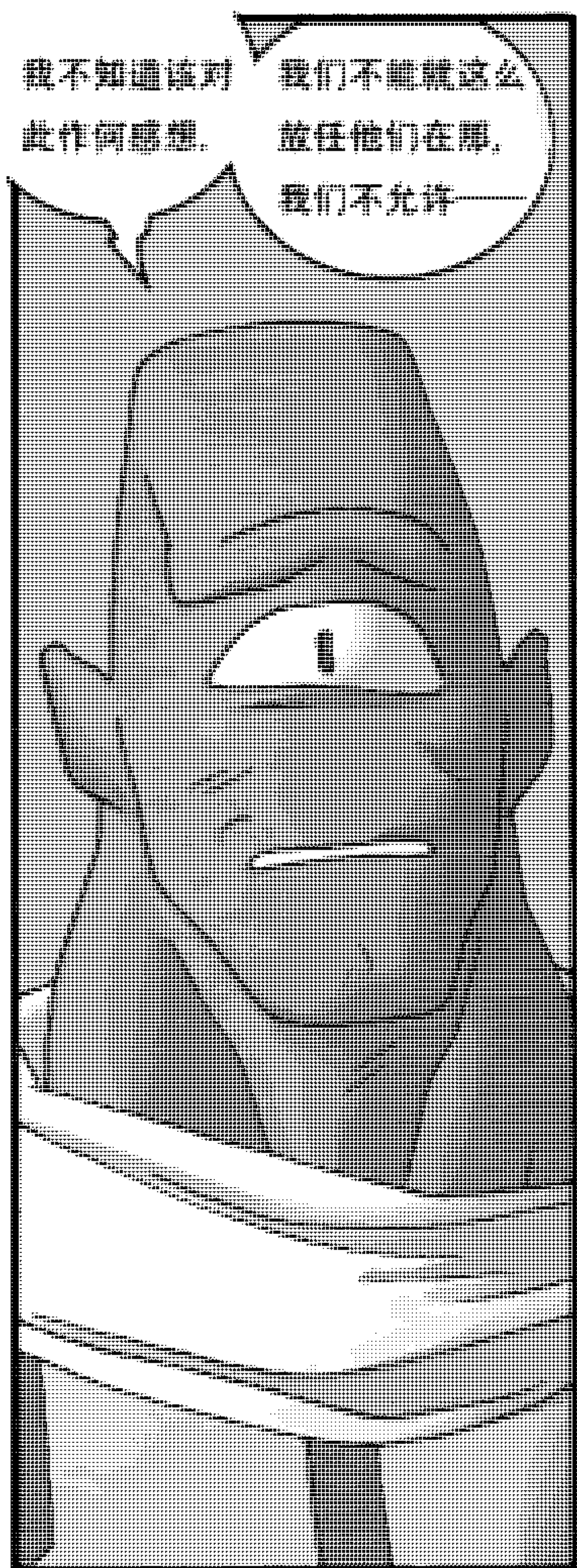




他们在地球上?

而你竟然放任他们留在那……还想让他们一直待下去?

这是个协议, 阿伦. 马克和我当时没有太多选择余地.



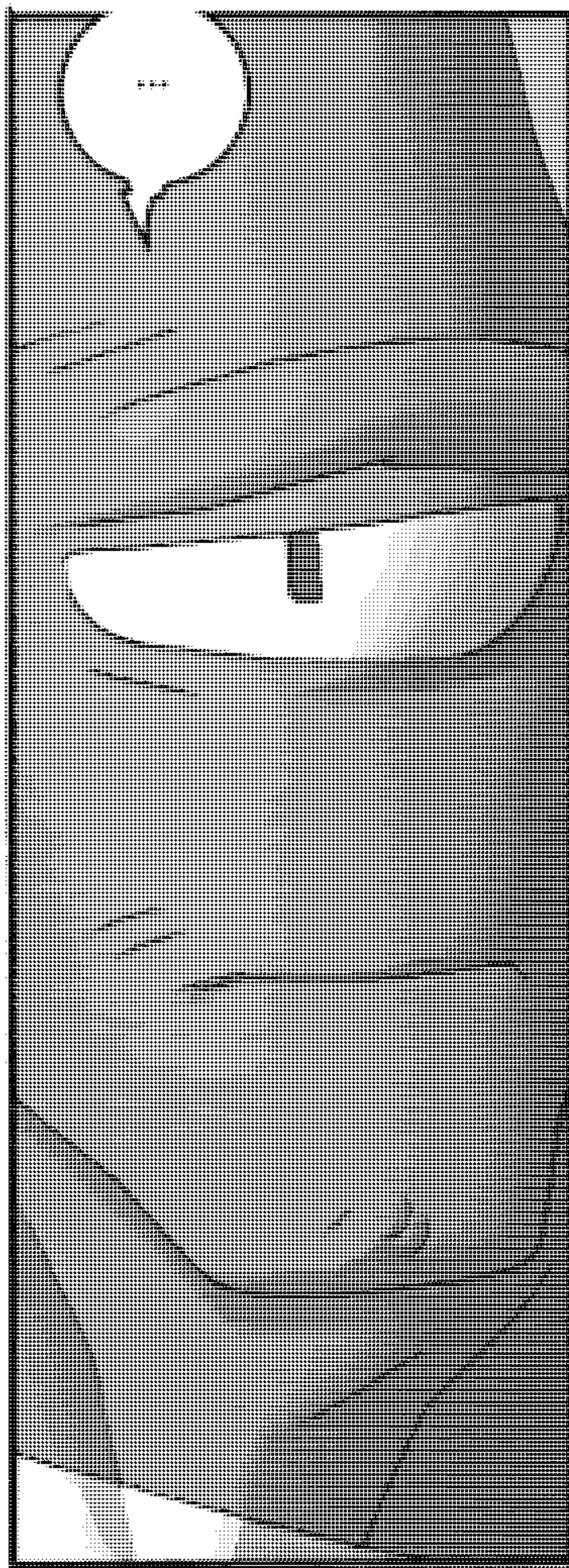
我不知道该对此作何感想.

我们不能就这么放任他们在那, 我们不允许——

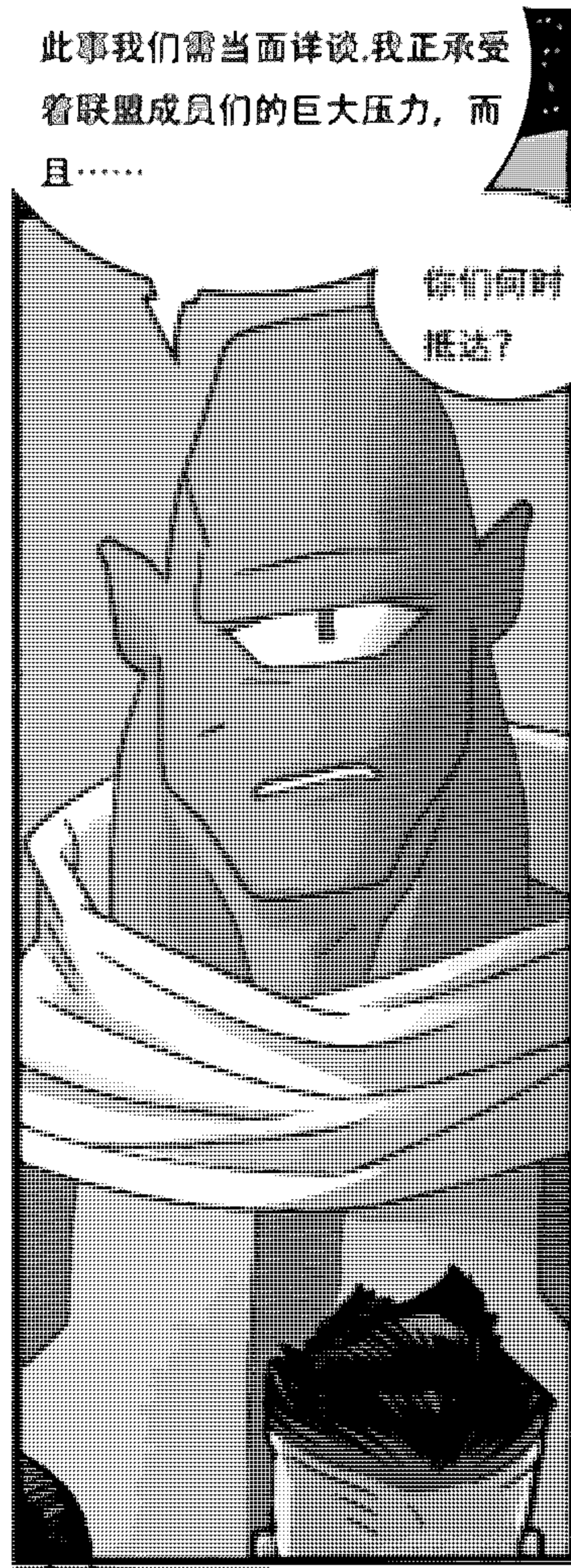


事已至此了, 阿伦. 他们已遍布地球——遍布整个星球. 我们对他们采取任何行动, 都会毁灭那个整个文明.

交易既已成, 就得遵守它.



...



此事我们需当面详谈. 我正承受着联盟成员们的巨大压力, 而且……

你们何时抵达?



我们将在数小时后抵达, 伟大的阿伦.

很好, 届时我将准时接待你们.

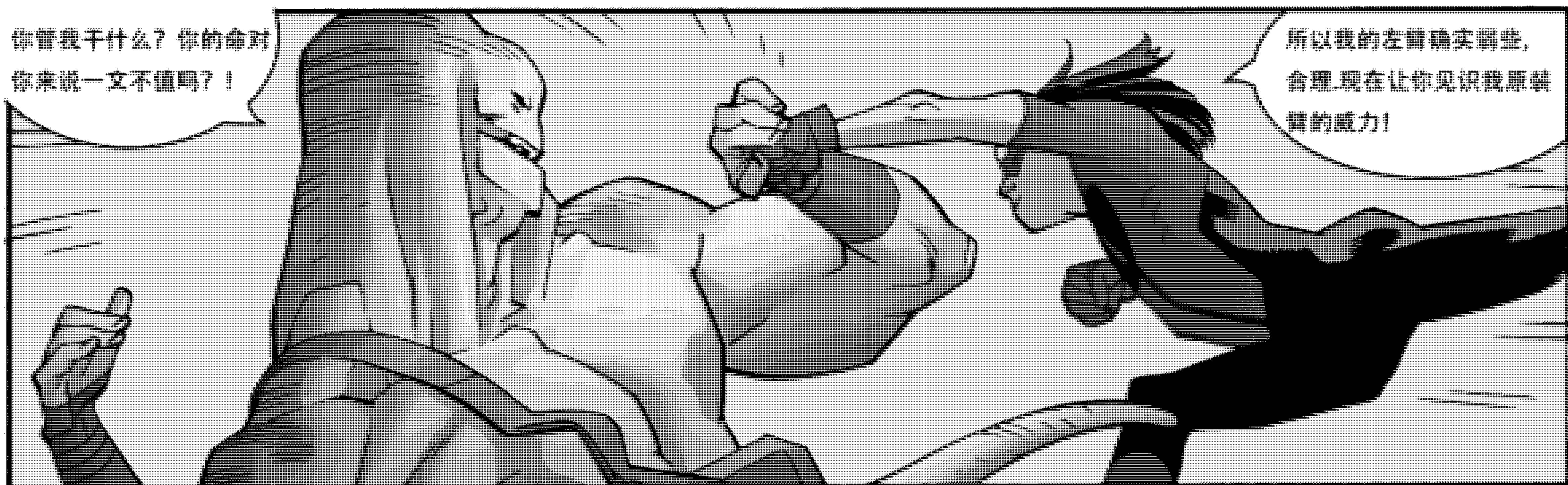


几小时? 需要的话, 就在我们的住处等吧.



我不是本地人，但我打  
赌闯入某个地方然后偷  
东西在哪都是违法的！

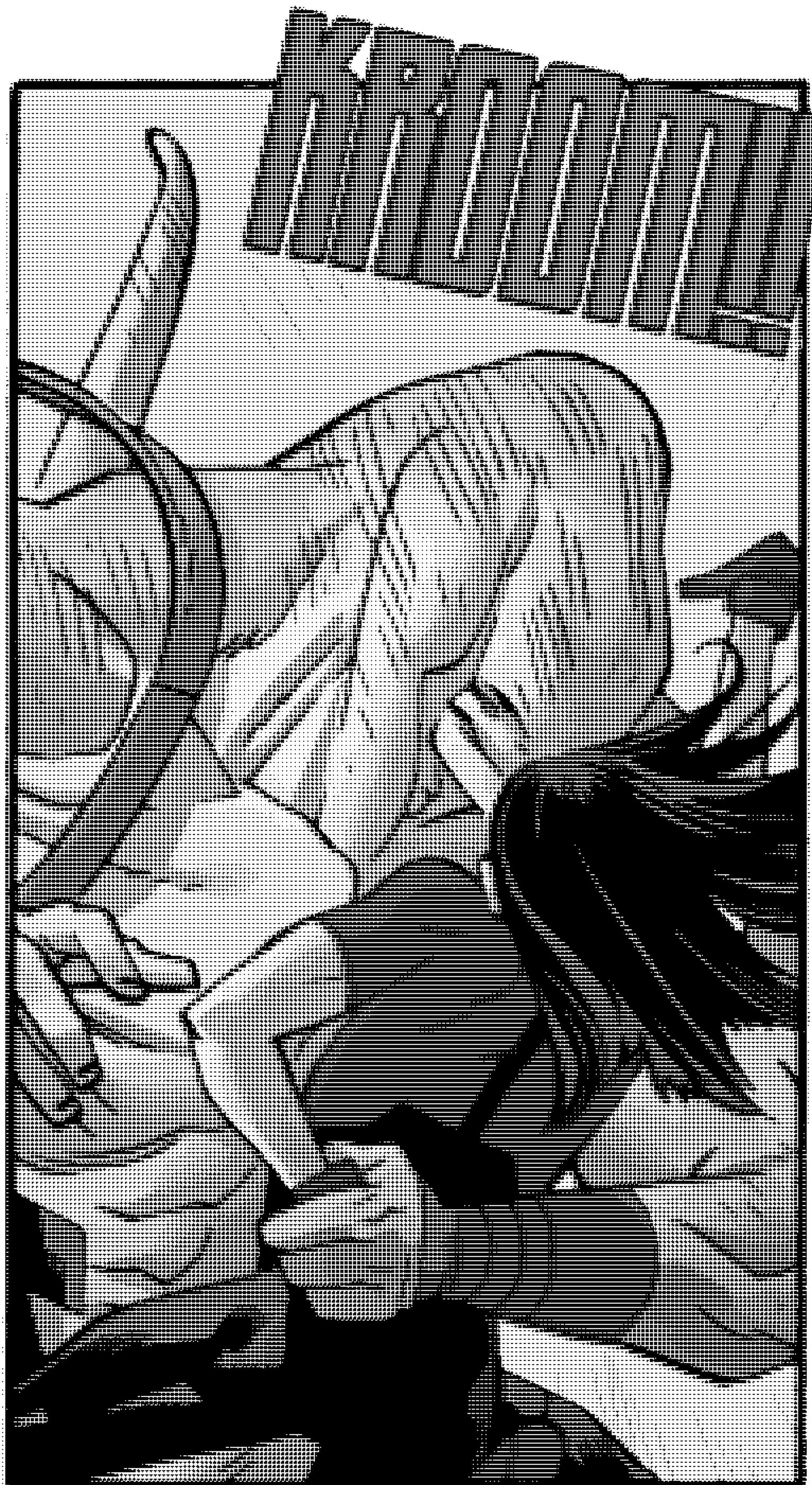
所以谢了，我正想找  
点混蛋来练手——

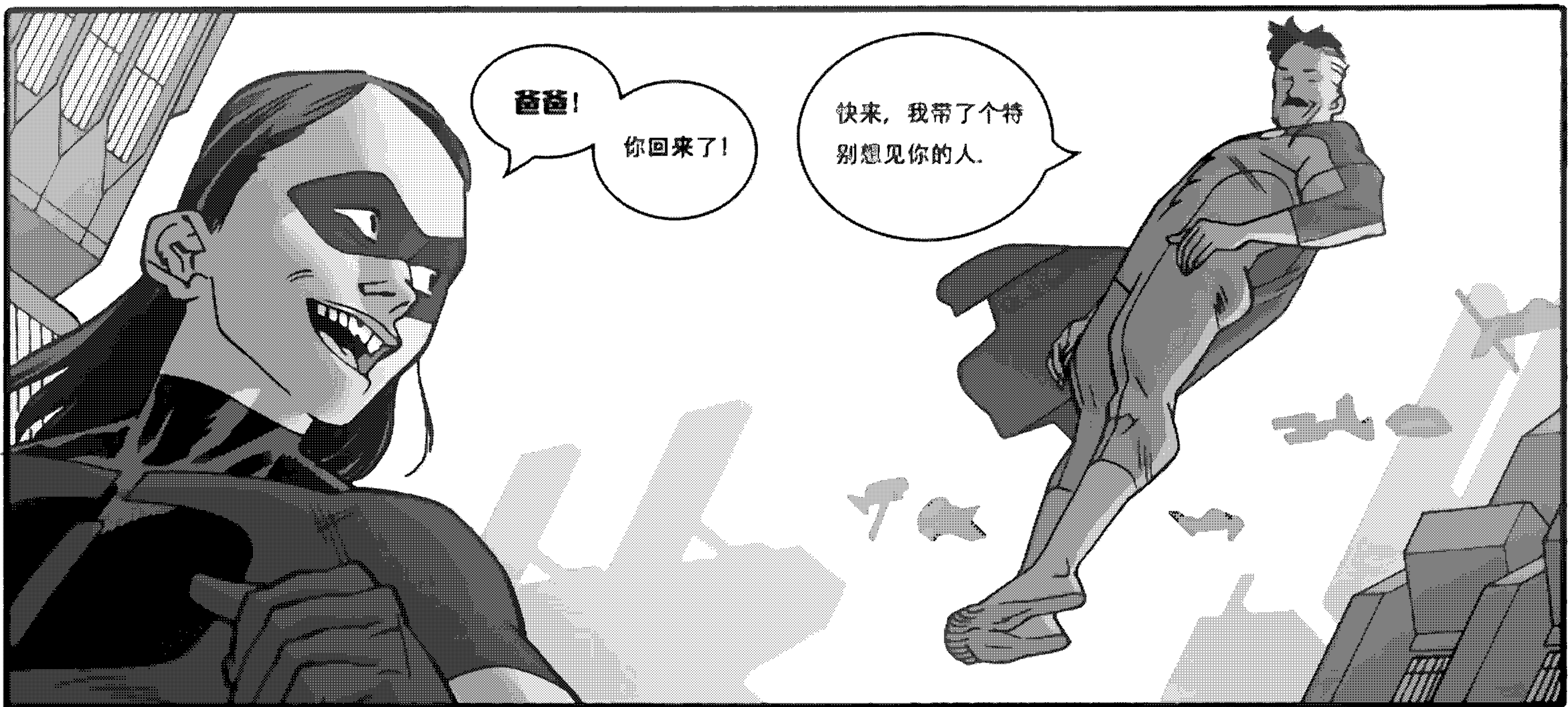


你管我干什么？你的命对  
你来说一文不值吗？！

所以我的左臂确实弱些，  
合理。现在让你见识我原装  
臂的威力！













你知道你有多让我为难吗？

我知道这听起来像是个坏主意，但听我说完——

馊主意？！这是个灾难性的主意！我们刚让维特鲁姆人溃逃——他们的兵力折损殆尽！

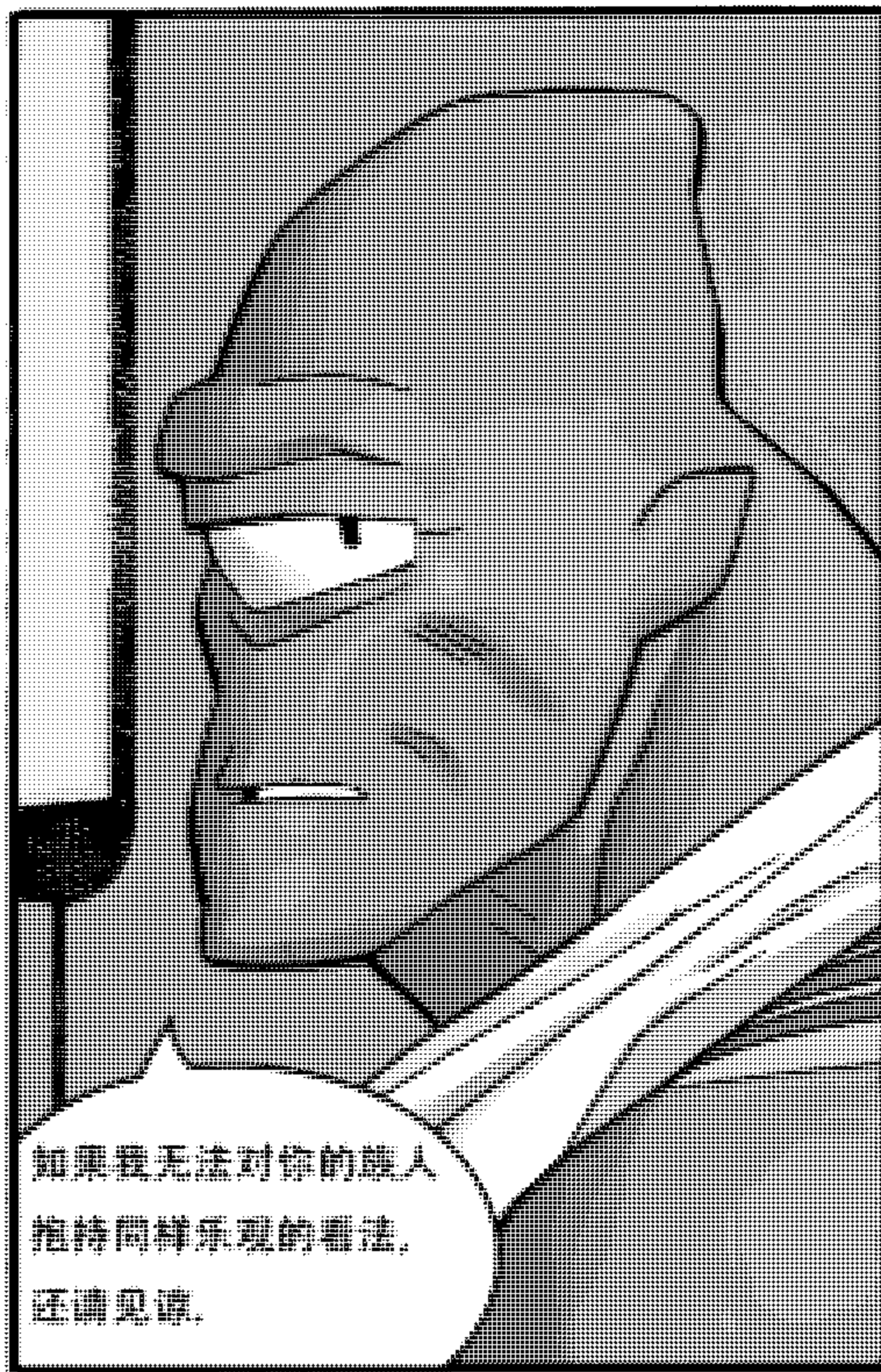
你竟然提议放任他们长期滞留地球——那根本就是个繁殖营！



我明白你的担忧，但这是以年为单位——需要与人类共处数十年才能扩充他们的队伍。



看看这段经历对我的改变，我相信这同样能改变我的族人……能带来我们奋战以来的和平。



如果我无法对你的族人抱持同样乐观的看法，还请见谅。



我还要向无数星系负责，他们都仰仗我的庇护。

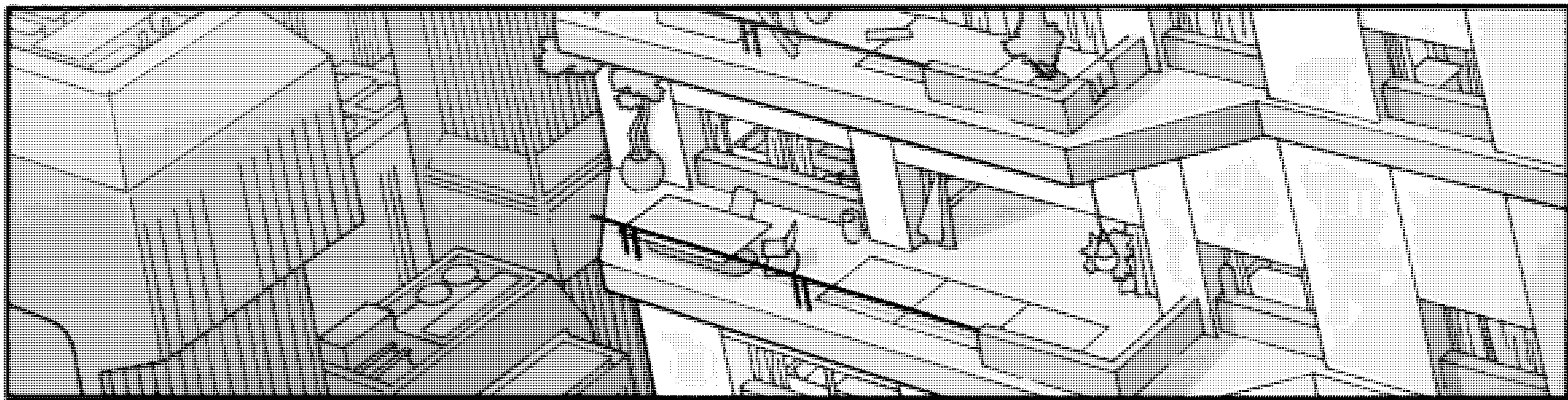
我不能就这么……

需要权衡的事情太多，请你……

……先离开吧。













该睡了，阿伦，已经  
很晚了，你在  
做什么？

只是……  
在想事情……



特莉娅，我……我必须做  
件可怕的事……为了整个  
宇宙。

这会让  
我变成  
坏人吗？



不，那……那是  
你的职责。

你是行星联盟的领  
袖……那本就是你要  
做的……

对吧？

……

对。

哪得呀不?

拜。

阿伦和博莉娅在  
我离开时把你照顾  
得如何?

哦, 跟对重点了。你  
不再是小孩了, 明白  
了。

所以, 你打算  
留在这吗?

你喜欢这  
里吗?

按我妈妈的年龄算——我  
早该是长老了。我是——  
我在这里看走了, 他们“照顾”  
我的方式根本就是对  
待成年人的那种“照顾”。

我有点喜欢它——很多方面  
比地球好。人们似乎更能明  
白宇宙是一个整体。这里  
的人显得更加开明——从  
以来像这样在星球地球。

哦? 看来你待的时间  
不够久, 那里值得喜  
欢的地方还有很多。

这个星球上的最后一次战  
争是什么时候——你原本  
想跟谁去参与的? 如今  
地球人还在内斗——真是  
愚蠢至极。

我敢断言, 你和马克对  
地球的关注远胜于多数  
地球人之间的相互关怀。

你觉得这是坏  
事吗?

——  
我不知道——













WRITE US @

INVINCIBLE@FUNKOTRON.COM

# INVINCIBLE

Welcome back,

Three weeks after the pulse-pounding issue 84, we have issue 85! And we get to see artwork from the inimitable Invincible co-creator Cory Walker! Welcome back, Cory! He'll be with us next issue, and then we welcome back Ryan Ottley (whose pages for 87 are PHENOMENAL).

*They totally are... almost as good as Cory's pages in 85 and 86... ALMOST. HA! I'm joking! And it's Robert in italics... so people don't think Sina's being a jerk.*

Before I dive into letters, I want to clarify something from last month's penvincipals... A fan had asked what sales had to be to earn an image book getting an action figure line. In true snarky fashion, I said it had to be a NYT Bestseller to begin with. While I was teasing, I did not want this to appear either condescending to image creators NOR did I intend to discount invincible's status as a New York Times Bestseller. Sometimes silly retorts end up having more heft than expected, and I apologize.

*And you ruin everything by apologizing for them, Sina. LAME!*

I'm sorry, Robert.

Dear Invincipals,

Me and my brother, are huge fans of Invincible. We love it. Anyway, after the (somewhat anti-clamactic) ending of the Viltrumite War, we began reading the letters pages, to see what people were saying about Invincible and the Viltrumites. We have a few questions that we would like to pose to the strategic planners behind the coalition of planets.

1. Reanivincibles. If a normal reaniman can slap Invincible around (as seen in issues 6 and 20 etc.), and Invincible can slap a Viltrumite around (as seen in the entire Viltrumite War), imagine what a reanivincible could do. We're not quite sure, but he could probably slap somebody around. Why weren't any of the eight reanivincibles put to use?

Mark's strength wasn't up to its current levels back in the day. He's gotten quite a bit stronger since those earlier fights, and it doesn't quite match up.

*True. And not all Viltrumites are of completely equal strength. I should do a ranking of everyone's powers at some point... but that would take away all the fun. Also, there are things like Conquest, being stronger than Mark—but Mark still being able to beat him through sheer will... so rankings don't really matter.*

2. The Geldarians. There are kind of a lot of them. some of them have tech jackets of equal or greater power to that of Zach's. Even if Zach was less helpful to the war effort than you made him out to be, (which we strongly suspect he was) couldn't the bazillions of other tech jackets in use been a little bit helpful?

Tech Jackets' capabilities are based on the wearer's own strength. Geldarians are an incredibly weak species, and they're scared shitless of Viltrumites. I wouldn't say that there are Geldarians stronger than Zack, but maybe there are some that are more in tune with their Tech Jackets...

*There is no Geldarian that is even remotely as strong as Zack, with his Tech Jacket. His human physique makes him exponentially more powerful than them. And Zack kicked some ass in the Viltrumite War... whether you saw a lot of it or not. You think Allen would become buddies with a sissy?*

3. Other dimensions. Viltrumites (Such as the alternate versions of Invincible, who we strongly suspect will one day return) have been known to be trapped in other dimensions with no way out. We doubt that Angstrom Levy was the only one capable of opening portals to other dimensions, and surely the Coalition would have been able to utilize somebody with a similar power.

Keep reading to find out.

*And... that's a bit of a stretch. Angstrom Levy COULD BE the only one able to access other dimensions (except for Omnipotus) and it's unlikely the Coalition would have been able to FIND someone with those powers much less recruit them.*

4. The equilibrium. This is the real reason we write you today. not a single person has mentioned this most beautiful of weaknesses that all Viltrumites share. Cecil utilized this weakness in issue 50 and it was only because of Robot's genius that Invincible escaped. The true beauty of this weakness is that the more powerful the viltrumite, the

weaker his equilibrium is!

Anyway, we're sorry for our rant, we really enjoy the book and look forward to more of the same slapping around and such.

Sincerely, Moses and Abram Goren.

Robert, got two cents on the equilibrium?

*That is a weakness, not more heightened than any other race—it's just a weakness that applies to most organisms (bipedal at least) and it also applies to Viltrumites. I don't believe I ever said their weakness increases with their strength, did I? DID I?*

Dear Robert & Sina,

The characters in INVINCIBLE are amazing. I love how they evolve and change over time, and they always manage to surprise me. Tether Tyrant and Magmaniac were a fun villainous duo, and I was sad to see Magmaniac's demise. And Tether Tyrant's subsequent reaction and transformation was shocking, and changes the status quo for the character. Now, I know how much the INVINCIBLE team loves "Easter eggs", so I encoded the name of my favorite INVINCIBLE villain in the body of this letter – will you be the FIRST to decode it?

Reed Beebe  
Kansas City, MO

I just did this montage- much like the one in Rosemary's Baby- trying to decode your message. After so many anagrams, furrowed brows, and a sick haircut by Vidal Sassoon, this is what I came up with: TETHER TYRANT.

*Holy crap! It's encoded in this letter twice!*

Dear R-Kirkman,

Just thought of something! Invincible has a lower case "i" on his chest--yet a capitol "I" on the cover logo!!! Let the debate--commence!!

This issue was a good, solid read, for sure. But the death of Magmaniac--if that was his name--was kind of, well...was it really cover-worthy? Least you're Calling villains by name this issue; small steps, friends, small steps.

I don't understand the whole Robot/ Rex thing? Wasn't it Rex inside Robot the whole time...

Uhhh, memory fails me. Robert?

*Seriously? Guys. Robot was a little troll guy. Being in open air agitated his sensitive skin so he constructed ROBOT so that he could live through that construct. For a while, most people thought he was a real robot. He became infatuated with Monster Girl who he believed had a thing for Rex Splode, and he enlisted the aid of The Mauler Twins (remember them?) to assist him in cloning Rex's body, and transferring his consciousness into the new Rex Clone body. He then KILLED his little troll self (so Robot has technically died and this isn't even the original robot in the Rex body). He then revealed to everyone that he was not a real robot and started hanging out with the group in his new, younger, Rex clone body. His real name was Rudy, but no one ever called him that and he hated the name. So when Rex Splode died... he decided to take the name Rex to honor him. So now he's Rex.*

*It's not that hard to follow, right? And that was all off the top of my head, for the record. Let me know if I forgot anything.*

It's a long way to issue #100, not to mention Tipperary, but I think you gotta spice up the in-between issues more! Where did Mark Grayson's mom Go with Omni Man, anyway? Where was Oliver Grayson/ Kid Omni Man this issue? Why did whateisname yawn at me in the letter col this issue?? You know how easily offended I am. Btw, I read The Strange Talent of Luther Strode this week....bit Teen Wolf-y, but not bad. And in closing, Invincible probably is "The Best Superhero Comic Book In The Universe!"...if we're talking Image Universe, and how could we not be? Superhero is more like Super-Hero, you know; with a hyphen. Nearly everybody makes that mistake; like Spiderman is really Spider-Man.

Andrew J. Shaw



You're seeing Oliver now. Luther Strode is awesome and gets awesomer.

In my brief research, superhero and super-hero both work. It's not like Spiderman where a hero becomes Jewish without the hyphen (too much?).

*Too much.*

---

Ok Kirkman & Co, here I go...

Well, first off, Invincible #3 was really entertaining. It brought in many different aspects and characters of the Invincible Universe outside of Mark and set them in motion again. I love it.

But now for my question. Rus Wooton is not mentioned much, but when his name is brought up it is always to praise his lettering work. Now, I love Invincible and Walking Dead and I see that he letters both. And then I noticed that basically every other book I read from you, he is the letterer. I have always enjoyed how the text looks in these books. It has a very 'comicy' yet easy to read quality to it.

He's a machine- that guy! We love him!

*Who?*

Well, I guess my question comes now...How does Rus actually do it? I want to really appreciate the art of the lettering also. I would appreciate it more if I knew what he actually does. Is it as easy as using a certain font on the computer or does he actually hand write everything in these books, keeping it uniform in every single issue?

The letters are something taken for granted in comics, I feel and some books look horrible because the lettering is ugly or unreadable. So, again.... how does he do it?

Thanks and Happy New Year!!!! (This is printed in an issue around New Year's, right?)

-- Mike  
New Jersey

I really wish that the Sarah Jessica Parker movie I Don't Know How She Does It was relevant, then I could make a reference to it. Sigh.

Rus uses Adobe Illustrator and letters the books digitally. There are plenty of books out there on how to do it. How to be as good as Rus? I don't know how to advise you on being the best!

*Awwwwwww, Sina... you're sweet. John Workman is the best. Even Rus will tell you that. Rus is second best (Just kidding Eliopoulos). Then there's Todd Klein, Tom Orzechowski, Ken Lopez, Richard Starkings, Pat Brosseau... mainly guys with names that vary in spelling difficulty from hard to impossible, mostly.*

---

Robert,

My love for Invincible is ineffable. Thank you for providing us with such a fun, dynamic, and aesthetically mind-blowing book!

That said, I'm growing a little concerned for Eve's character; she's really been taking a back seat for awhile now. I'm ecstatic that she's put on some weight (she looks much better now, in my opinion) and I'm equally glad to see her regaining some confidence, but I'd like to see her resume her role as a super heroine. Eve is a wonderful character and I'd hate to see her degenerate into an emotionally distraught housewife. I know she can't hold her own with the Viltrumites, but it would be refreshing to see her put down a villain without relying on 'vince for help (or anyone else, for that matter). Maybe it's time to give Kilcannon a costume change and an equipment upgrade?

- Kyle Saunders

Eve will have more to do action-wise in coming issues. Kilcannon's involvement is entirely possible.

But he won't show up.

*Huh? Eve will be kicking butt very soon, I promise.*

---

Hey writing Master,

So with an email addy like mine you're probably think this'll be a doozy (yepper). Really though it's not. I'm sending this in response to another letter I just read (and sorry to say, I don't read many). I just finished reading Invincible #83 and got to the end where a loving father wrote in about Atom Eve's weight gain. I don't really know why that letter pulled me and got me to read it, but I do know it struck a little cord. I wish to echo his sentiments, but also wish to say thank you for the extra variety she represents. I happen to like the typical wasp shape comic female character...but I also like more than just that one shape. Women come in so many different shapes, sizes, skin tones, and facial patterns. Just like with men, that's one of the great things about humans. Adding in different cultures just increases the spice of life. How freakin' boring is it with every one's the same? Which brings me back to your comic and the variety. The attractive

wasp shape has been done, and done, and ...done. All shapes have their own unique attractiveness and I think the modern fan boy (who's probably closer to my age of 41 now lol) should have the maturity to understand that, at least by this point in his life. As to H/C Gerry and his daughter...heroes (the special and regular kind ;) do love women that aren't the stereotypical body shape found in imaginary worlds. We love them so much, we'll gladly marry them. Just like I did, and my brother, and my brothers.

There's so much more to a person, and even imaginary characters, than just the surface impressions.

Writing Master, you keep on poppin' out those great stories. I happen to love those too and I thank you for them.

Sincerely,  
James Poidog

What's truly funny to me about Eve's weight gain is that it happened just months before the crazy hullabaloo over Starfire's representation in the New 52. Perfect timing to prove yet again that creator-owned comics are a place for more variety.

*Boo-ya! Screw corporate comics! Right?*

---

Hi Mr. Kirkman,

Never in my life did I think that one day I'd be writing a letter in about a comic book. In all honesty, I began reading Invincible so I could mock my boyfriend and make fun of him for reading a dorky comic. Now he teases me because I'm completely hooked. I didn't want to read every back issue because I knew if I finished them all waiting every month for the new one would drive me insane. That didn't happen because I couldn't put the series down, it's so good! No one in my family ever read comics and reading them just seemed like the farthest thing from my interests. I always thought comic books were not serious and lacked any substance. After reading Invincible, that has completely changed. Your writing is incredible and the artwork is amazing.

It's probably not surprising but Atom Eve is my favorite (I do NOT like Dupli-Slut, and enjoyed The Immortal's head getting thrown through one of her copies during the Invincible War). You developed Eve's character so well it has me at a loss for words (I am usually complaining about how angry I am at Omni-Man for what he did to Debbie- he still hasn't COMPLETELY redeemed himself, how everyone treats Art badly, how horrid Dupli-Slut (I REALLY don't like her) is and now how Monster Girl is acting towards Rex (Robot)-reading the last page of # 83 resulted in yelling) but no complaints about Eve.

SOMEbody has opinions about Dupli-Kate! It's not easy to love her after that dinner...

Mark is not at all what I thought a comic book superhero would be like. It's interesting to see him trying to balance his values with his superhero work, especially when you have written the back stories of a few of the guys he fights (Levy and Powerplex) and everything that happened with his father.

After reading the first issue of Invincible (I like Super Dinosaur too, The Walking Dead for some reason I can't get into) I ended my lifetime comic book boycott and found a new genre of literature I enjoy. I am in grad school right now studying to be a teacher- when I have my own classroom -comic books will be available in my class library. I have even started using them in lesson plans I do for school (I found a good science comic series).

Keep up the great work!!!!

Sincerely,

Rachel

Glad to convert you, Rachel. Have you tried reading a whole volume or two of The Walking Dead? That book has a different tone and pace, and sometimes it takes readers up to volume three before they're hooked.

Don't teach your students to call her Dupli-Slut...

*Hey, awesome letter Rachel. If only everyone was willing to try comics in order to be able to make fun of someone they cared about. Then we'd have tons more readers. Spread the word, everyone. Get people to try and get ammunition with which to ridicule you--you'll make them readers for life! Thanks for writing in.*

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That's all, folks! We'll see you again in three weeks for the next issue, and three weeks after that for issue 87! The art in both of those books is pure, undiluted AWESOME.

-Sina Grace

*An issue every three weeks for the rest of the year! Making up for the horrible schedule we've had for over a year! We care!*

-Robert Kirkman

# DON'T MISS THE NEXT ISSUE!



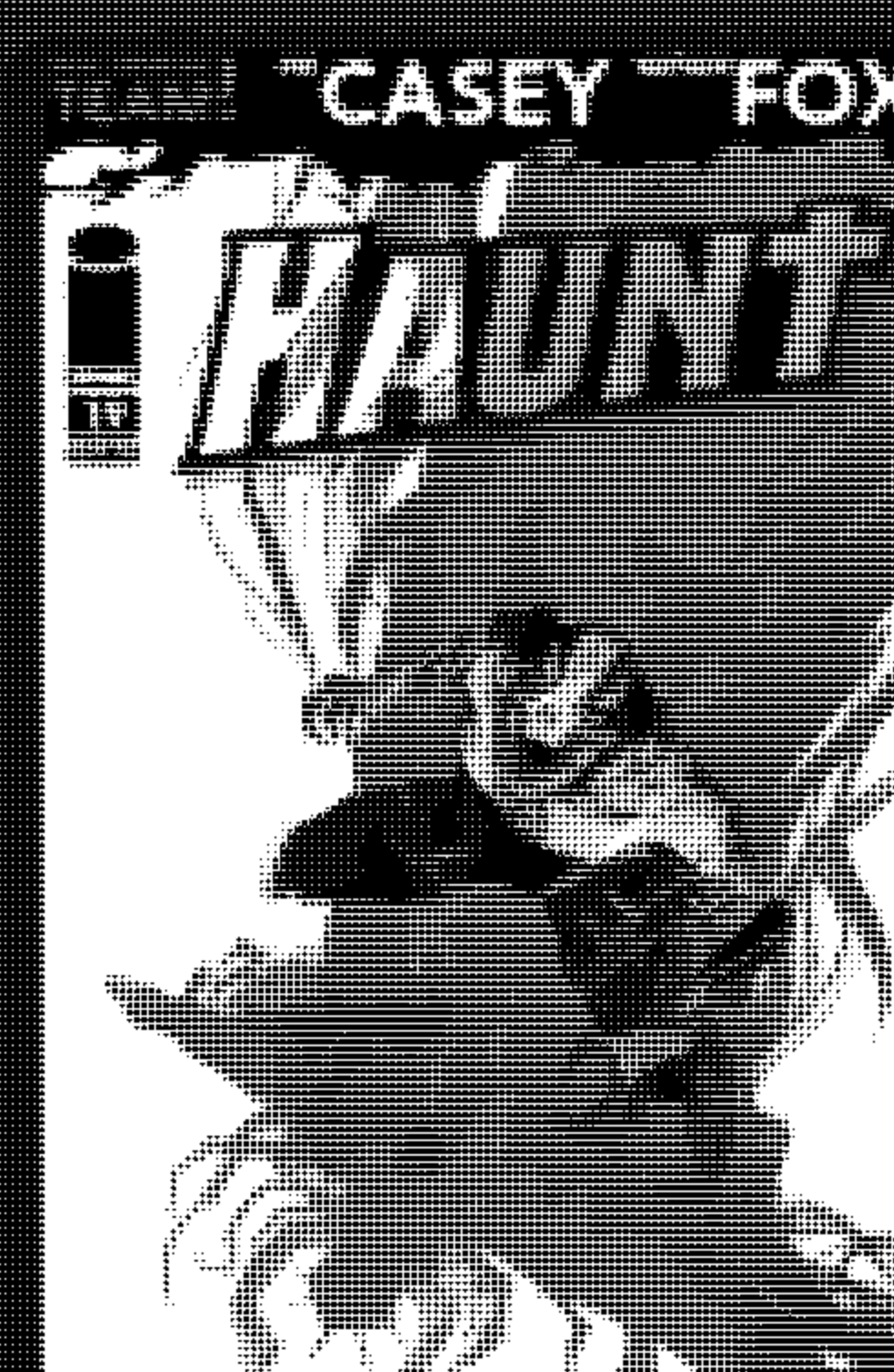
**INVINCIBLE #86**  
ON SALE DECEMBER 2011



**THE INFINITE #4**  
ON SALE NOW



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**HAUNT #19**  
ON SALE NEXT WEEK



# The Third Degree:

## BLAIR BUTLER

IMAGE COMICS'  
MONTHLY O&A  
SESSION

Blair Butler is a writer, producer, and on-air comic book correspondent for G4's *Attack of the Show*. Her first comic book, *Heart*, (with art by the fantastic Kevin Mellon) tells the story of a young cage fighter who is quite good at punching dudes in the face until they go to sleep. The first issue hits store shelves Nov. 2nd. She has also appeared on Comedy Central, E!, MTV, and wrote and directed a ridiculous zombie pilot for VH1, as well as G4's animated "Slasher School" series of animated shorts. You can see her weekly comic book reviews at [www.G4tv.com/Freshink](http://www.G4tv.com/Freshink).

What are you working on right now? Wrapping up *Heart* issue #4 and writing/producing/corresponding for G4's *Attack of the Show*. So it's a good mix of scripting tragic, comic book punching -- and scripting "critical commentary" for videos of guys getting tragically punched in the nuts for a TV show. I'm also about to leave for New York Comic Con. I've been to NYCC every year since it launched, but this is the first year I'll be there with a book of my own. So that's a pretty good/slightly scary feeling. Plus, I'll get to see *Heart* artist Kevin Mellon there. It's like we had a crazy, comic book baby together -- but we've only met in person once.

What's the best part of your job? Getting to talk comics and MMA on a daily basis. Getting to meet great comic book creators -- and great fighters. I'm also blessed to work with some really amazing people behind the scenes at AOTS. Oh, and sometimes we have wild animals on the set. Like a surfing llama. That was a pretty good day.

What's the worst part of your job? *Attack of the Show* is live 5 days a week, 50 weeks a year, so there's zero down time. Have you ever seen a hamster running in one of those little plastic wheels? It's like that, but the hamster never gets off the damn wheel. Although instead of a water bottle, the hamster gets a coffee drip. So that helps. I also get to work with a few other incredibly talented writers on *Attack*, including comic book scribe Gerry Duggan (*Infinite Horizon*, *Last Christmas*).

How did you first discover comics? My dad took me to Clint's Comics in Kansas City and let me buy whatever I wanted from the quarter bin. I grew up on old, discounted, dog-eared issues of *She-Hulk*, *EC Horror Comics*, and *Werewolf by Night*. Then, somehow I persuaded my dad to buy me "Batman: The Cult" at age, I dunno, 8 or 9. I'm sure he thought, "Hey, it's Batman, this is fine for a kid" -- but at the time was one of the most violent mainstream comics ever released. And, of course, I loved it. Bernie Wrightson drawing an axe murder! In a Batman book! It was insane! So then I hunted down (Wrightson's) stuff on *Cycle of the Werewolf*, and all those Marvel Graphic Novels he did -- which eventually lead to the *New Mutants* MGN. Basically, the *New Mutants* were my gateway drug. After the Batman axe murder.

What's the strangest thing a fan has ever said to you? "You're not as fat as you are on TV."

Who is the biggest influence on your work? This one is easy. Most influenced by Jason Aaron, Brian Wood, and Ed Brubaker. Most inspired by Gail Simone, Greg Rucka, and Jonathan Hickman.

What is the single work of which you're most proud? Honestly, *Heart*. It's a story I've been dying to tell -- that just happens to be full of fellas beatin' each other up. And the old "Slasher School" animated shorts we did at G4. Naked Werewolf. Need I say more?

Own up to one of your guilty pleasures. *Project Runway* and *Work of Art* on Bravo. So much drama. So much pretension. Also *Sportacus* on Starz. OH MY GOODNESS THE GRATUITOUS EVERYTHING!

What was the last comic book you bought? Oh jeez I mean, I buy boatloads. It'd be too hard to list them all. I buy about 40 bucks of new comics and trades each week. It's like having a crack habit.

Who would play you in a movie about your life? Shelley Duvall.

Pick three things you couldn't live without. I could live without a lot of stuff. But life wouldn't be much fun without cupcakes, videogames (*Gears*, *Fallout*, *Uncharted*, *C.O.D.*, etc.), and good brunch places. I'm a power-bruncher. Sunday morning is my Friday night.

What's the strangest thing you have in your house? A huge, Sideshow Collectibles, X-3 Beast maquette statue. Dude looks like a naked, blue werewolf. Also, I'll soon have the last page of *Heart* issue #1 framed and hanging on my wall -- if you've seen it, you'd know why it's a...uh... "conversation piece."

What music are you listening to these days? An odd mix. Some really good stuff for *Heart* though -- if you read the book, the fighters' entrance music is big part of it. So songs like *Hometown Hero* by Big K.R.I.T. with Yelawolf, *Beautiful Losers* by Lupe Fiasco, and *Reach for the Sky* by Social Distortion.

What is your favorite film of all time? Toss up between *Blade Runner* (Director's cut) and *Annie Hall*.

When was the last time you were truly frightened? When I went skydiving. My hand was shaking so badly when I signed the release form -- the one where you basically say, "I'm not gonna sue if I pancake to the earth and die," -- that I could barely write my name. But I did it. And it was amazing-\* (\*-ly scary).

What would you like to see happen in comics in the next 12 months? Totally selfish answer: I'd like to put more comics out into the world. I love this.

What the world needs now is... To calm down. Everybody calm down.

# the word

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## Question of the Month

what's your favorite tool of the trade?

"The internet. I live in Ontario, my artist in New York, colorist in Illinois, letterer in Michigan and publisher in California, but it all works thanks to web-tastic goodness."

Jim Zubkavich  
SKULLKICKERS

"The pencil. Ever since my chubby toddler hands were able to grasp one, it's the one tool I've used consistently to this day."

Joshua Luna  
WHISPERS

"My Wacom Cintiq tablet."

Joe Eisma  
MORNING GLORIES

"My favorite tool for creating comics is definitely a program called Scrivener. It lets you write visually, so that I can see the pages as separate units that can be moved around. Perfect for outlining and story arc planning, and simple to use. Couldn't live without it!"

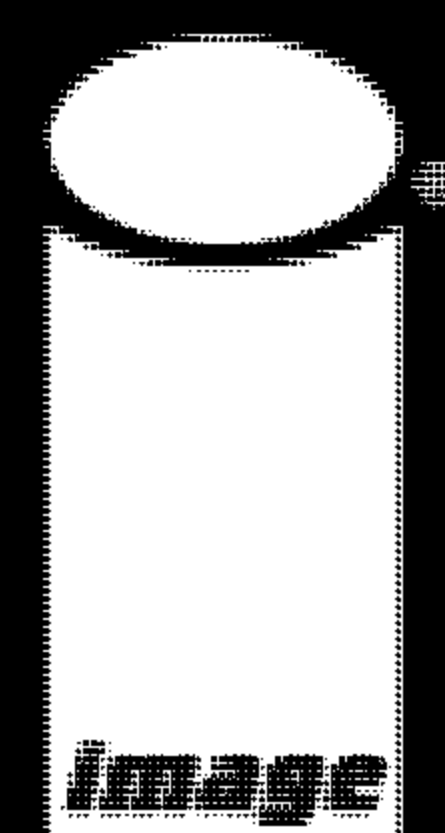
Joshua Hale Fialkov  
LAST OF THE GREATS

"The most useful tool for any comic book creator is nagging, debilitating envy."

Tim Seeley  
HACK SLASH: BLOODSTRIKE

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