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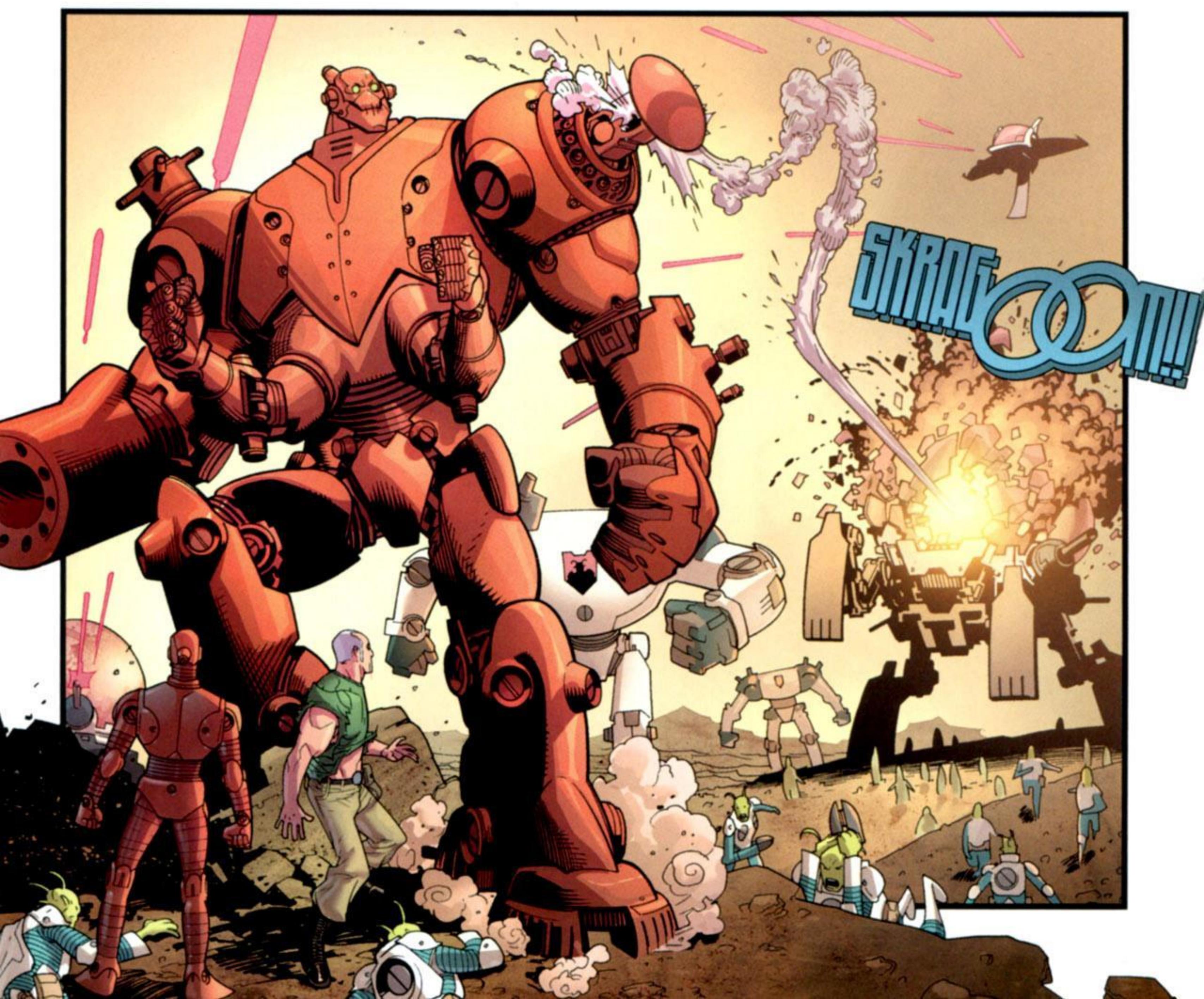
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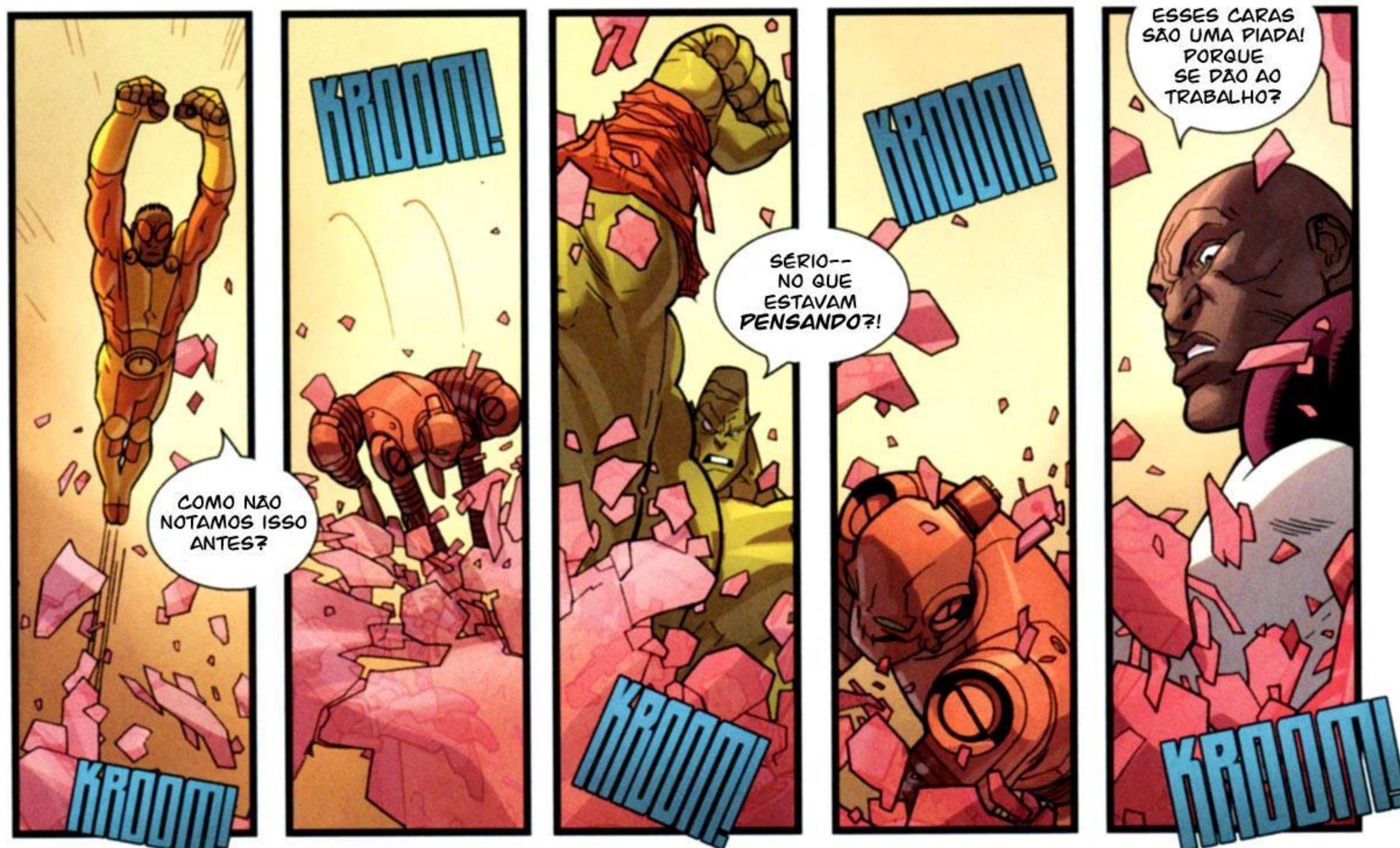


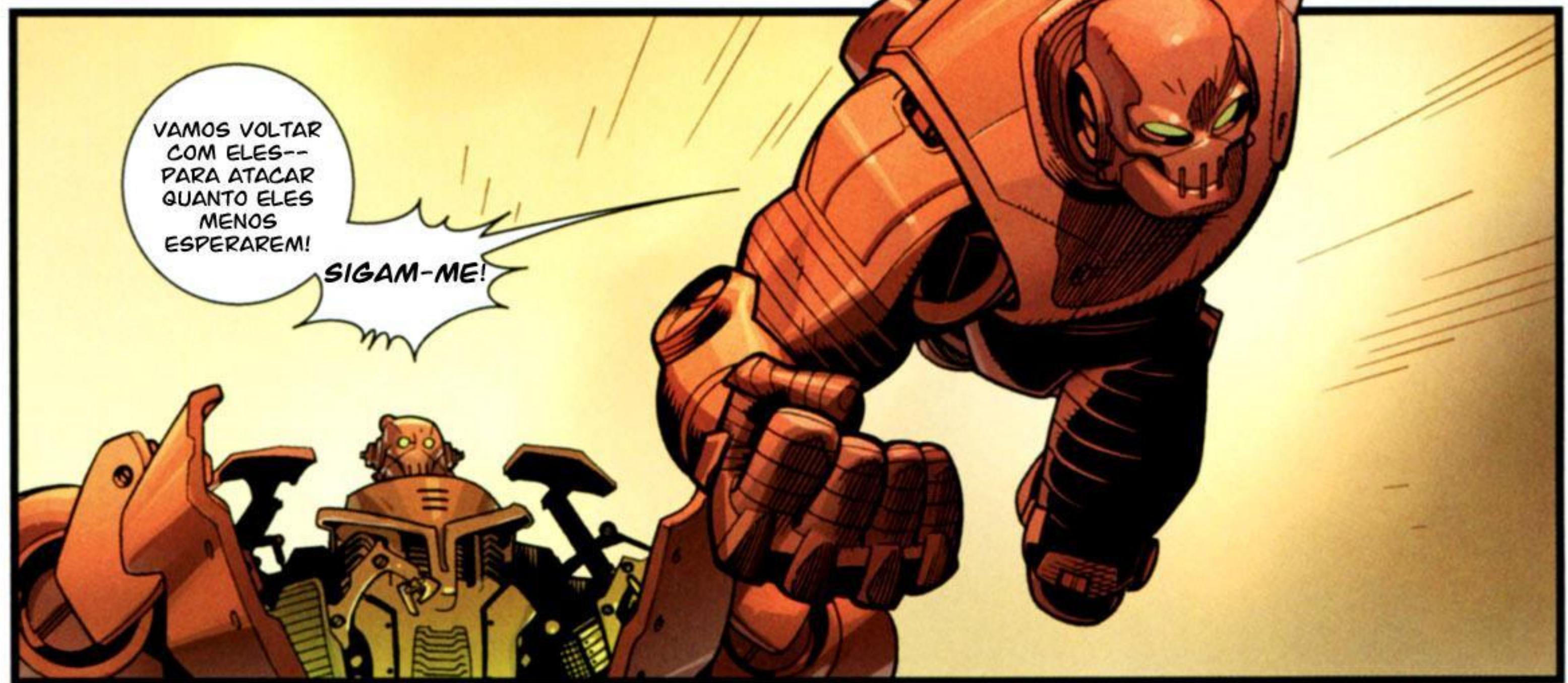
BREEET!
BREEET!

VOCE TA
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DO!













BEM, EU CERTAMENTE NÃO ACHEI QUE DEMORARIA TANTO PARA ENCONTRAR O TECH JACKET TAMBÉM. ELE E SUA FAMÍLIA DESAPARECERAM EM ALGUM PONTO HÁ ALGUM TEMPO.

EU CONSEGUI DESCOBRIR ESTA CASA, QUE ERA DO AVÓ DO GAROTO. TALVEZ ELE SAIBA ONDE ESTÃO.

ESSA É NOSSA ÚLTIMA CHANCE, SE NÃO O ENCONTRARMOS AQUI-- NÃO ME IMPORTA QUÃO PODEROSOS OS GELDARIANOS DISSEMERAM QUE ELE ERA-- VAMOS PARTIR SEM ELE.



ESTÃO PROCURANDO PELO GAROTO THOMPSON? QUE SE CHAMA TECH JACKET? O QUE ESTOU DIZENDO-- É CLARO QUE ESTÃO.

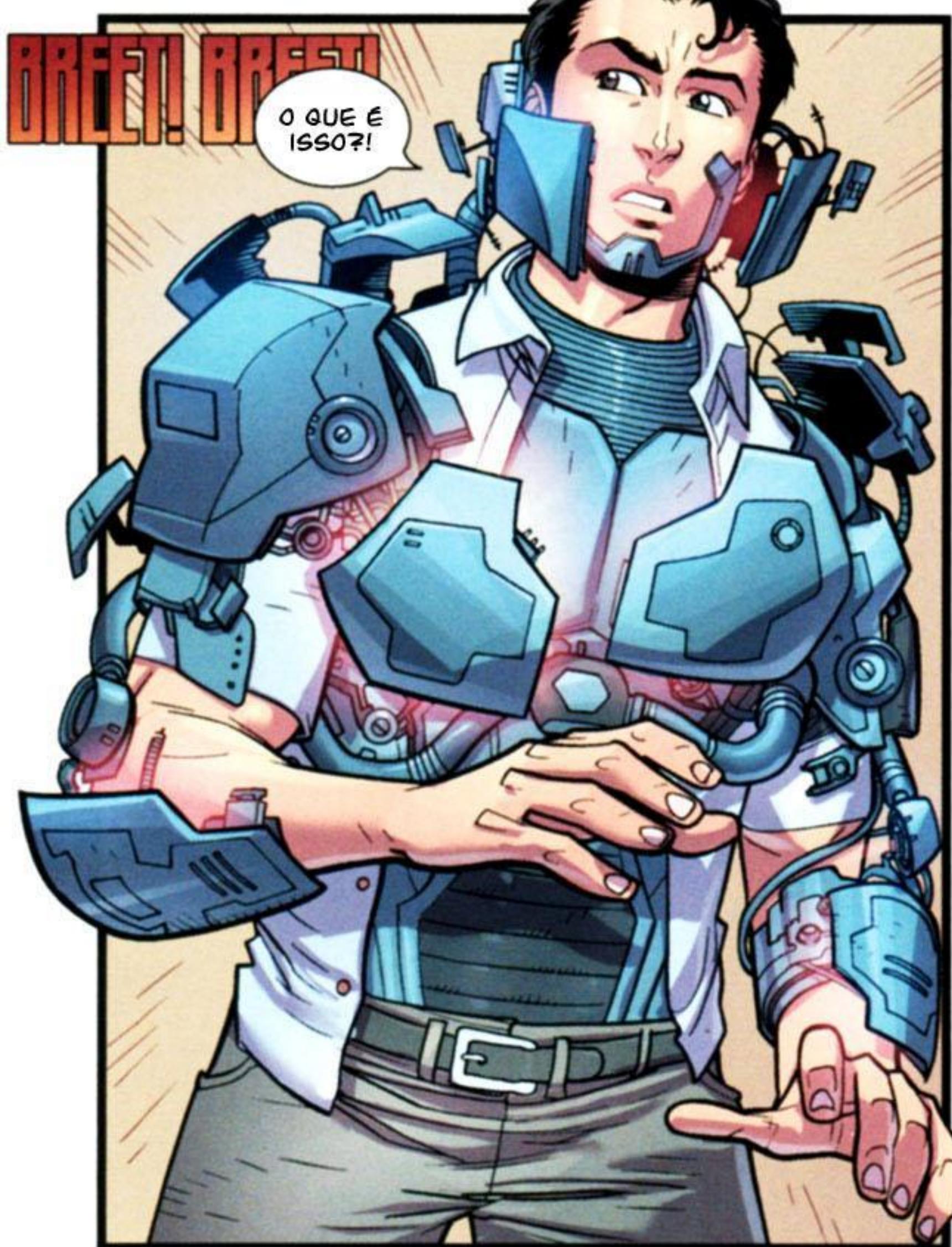
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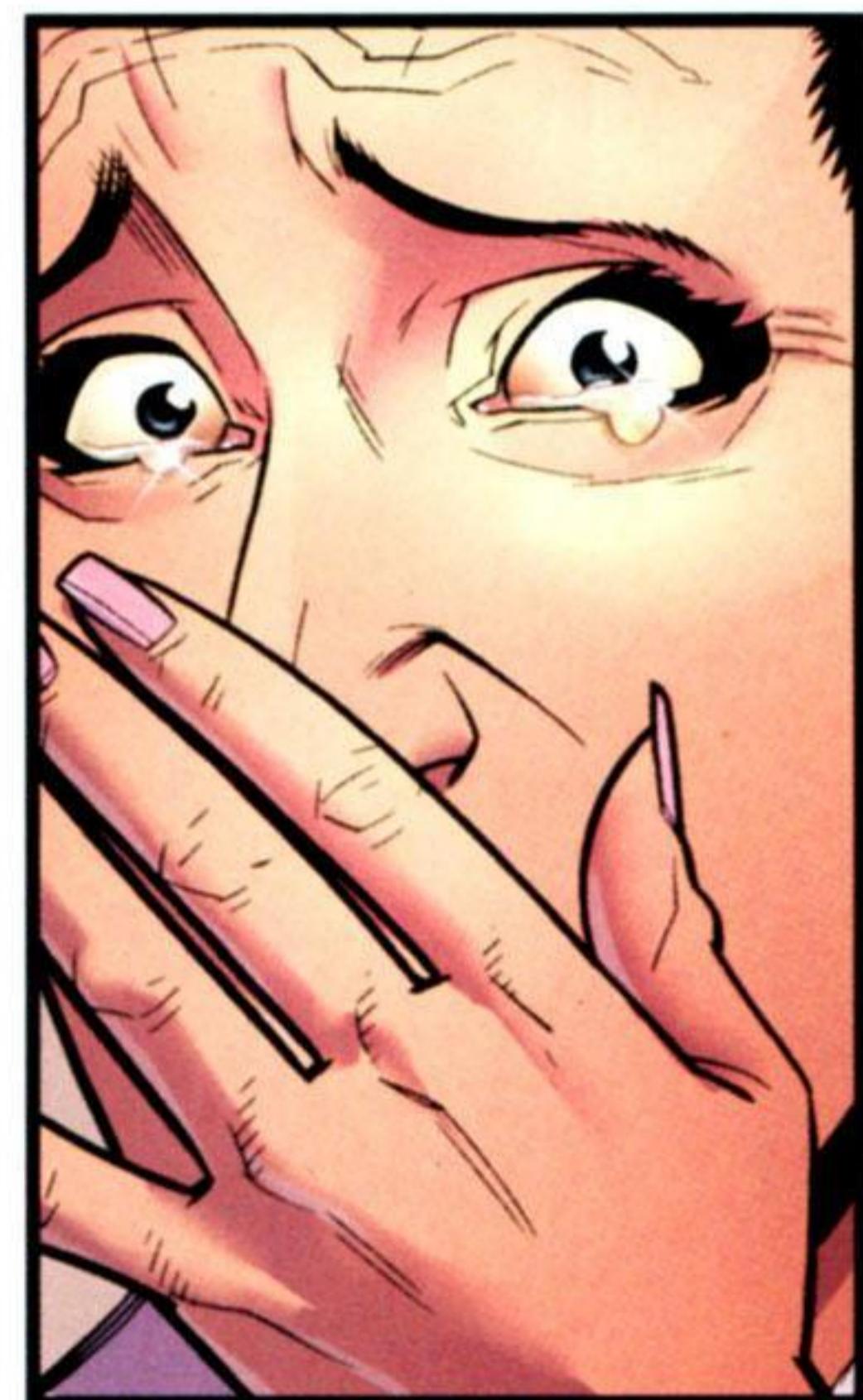
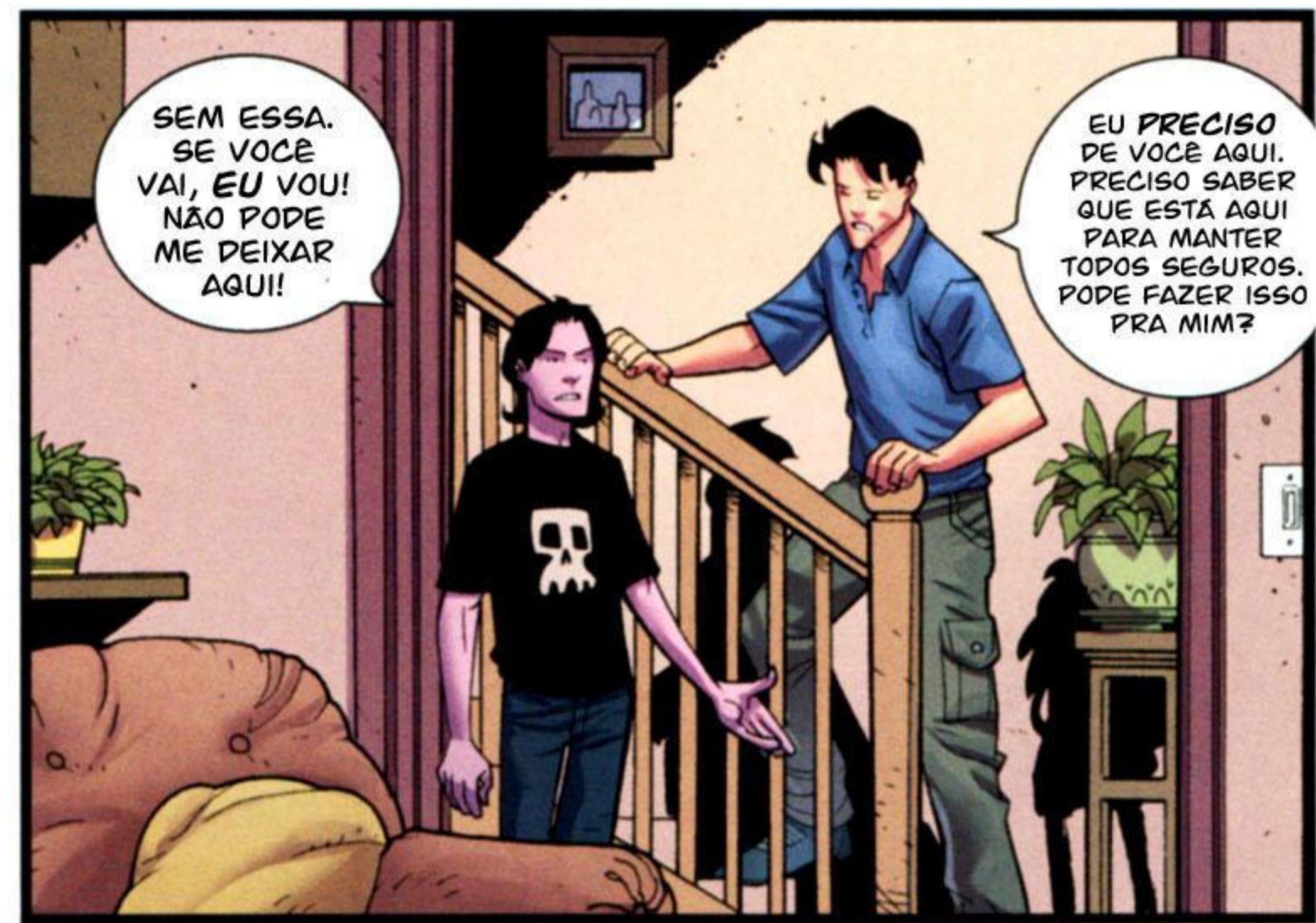
NOSSA A PARECIA NÃO TE CHAMA ATENÇÃO?

PARECE ESTRANHO, COM CERTEZA...

...E OS BANDIDOS NÃO BATEM NA PORTA.



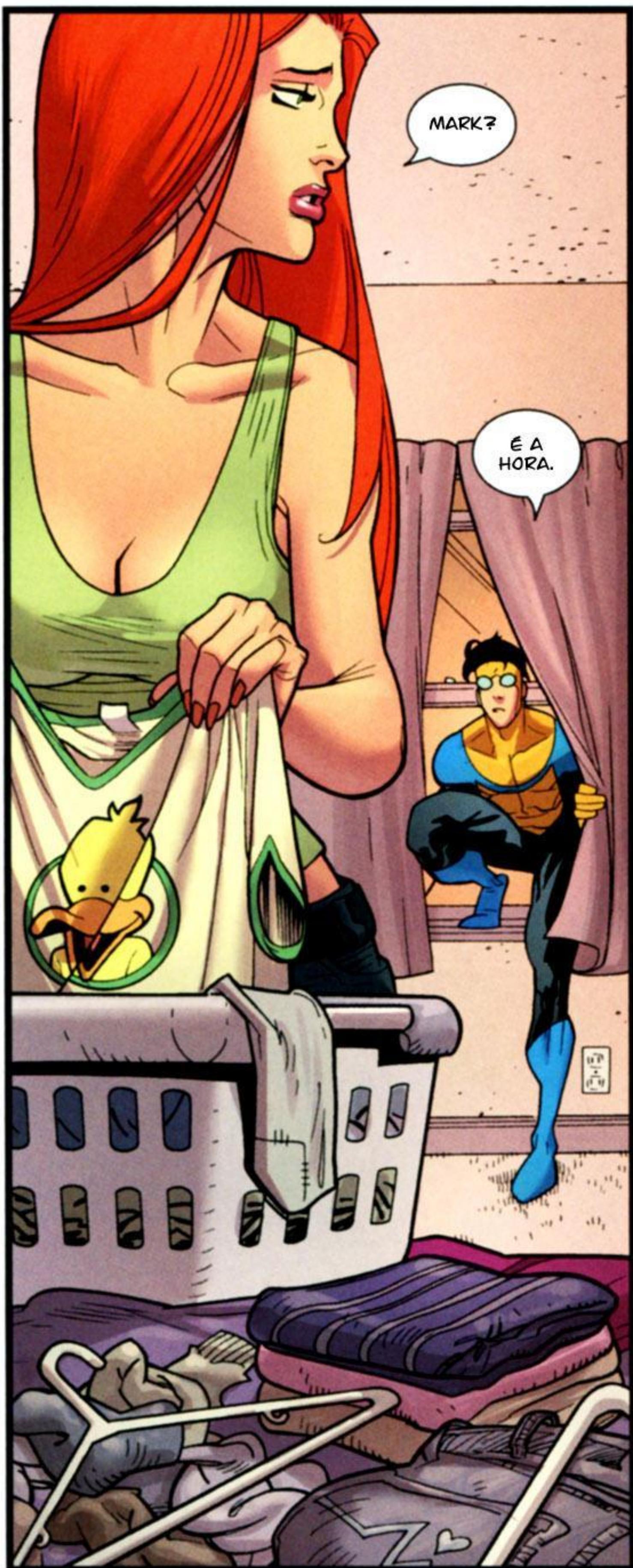
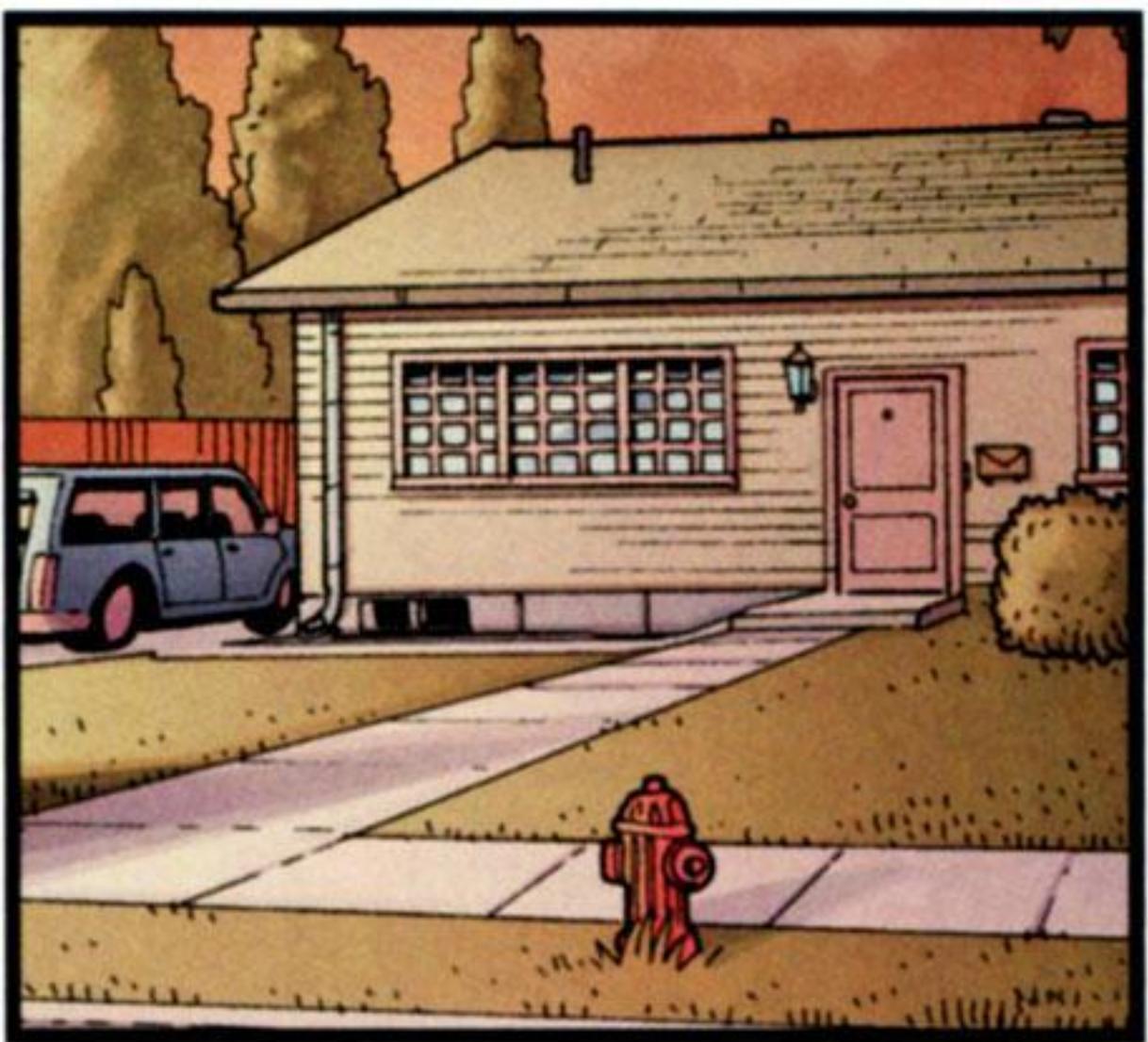


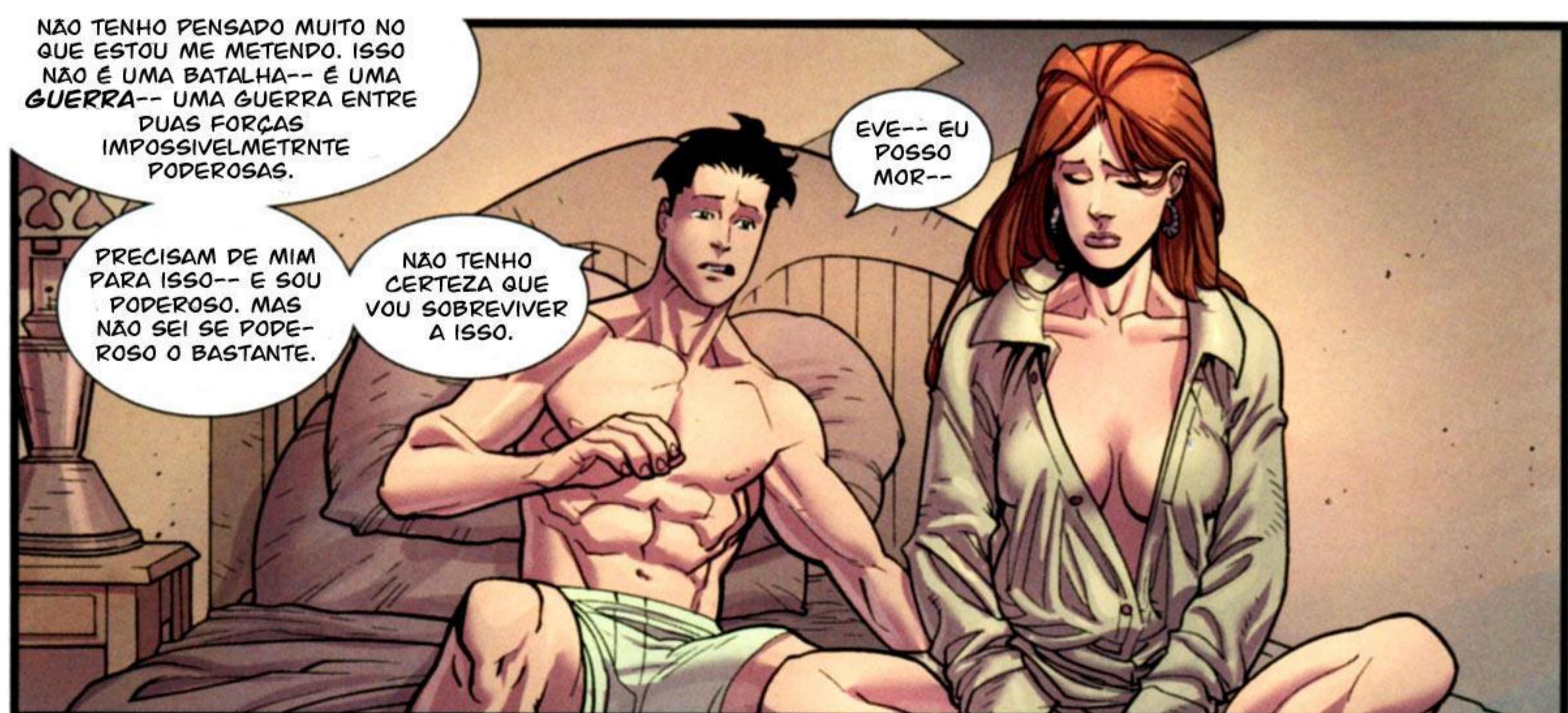
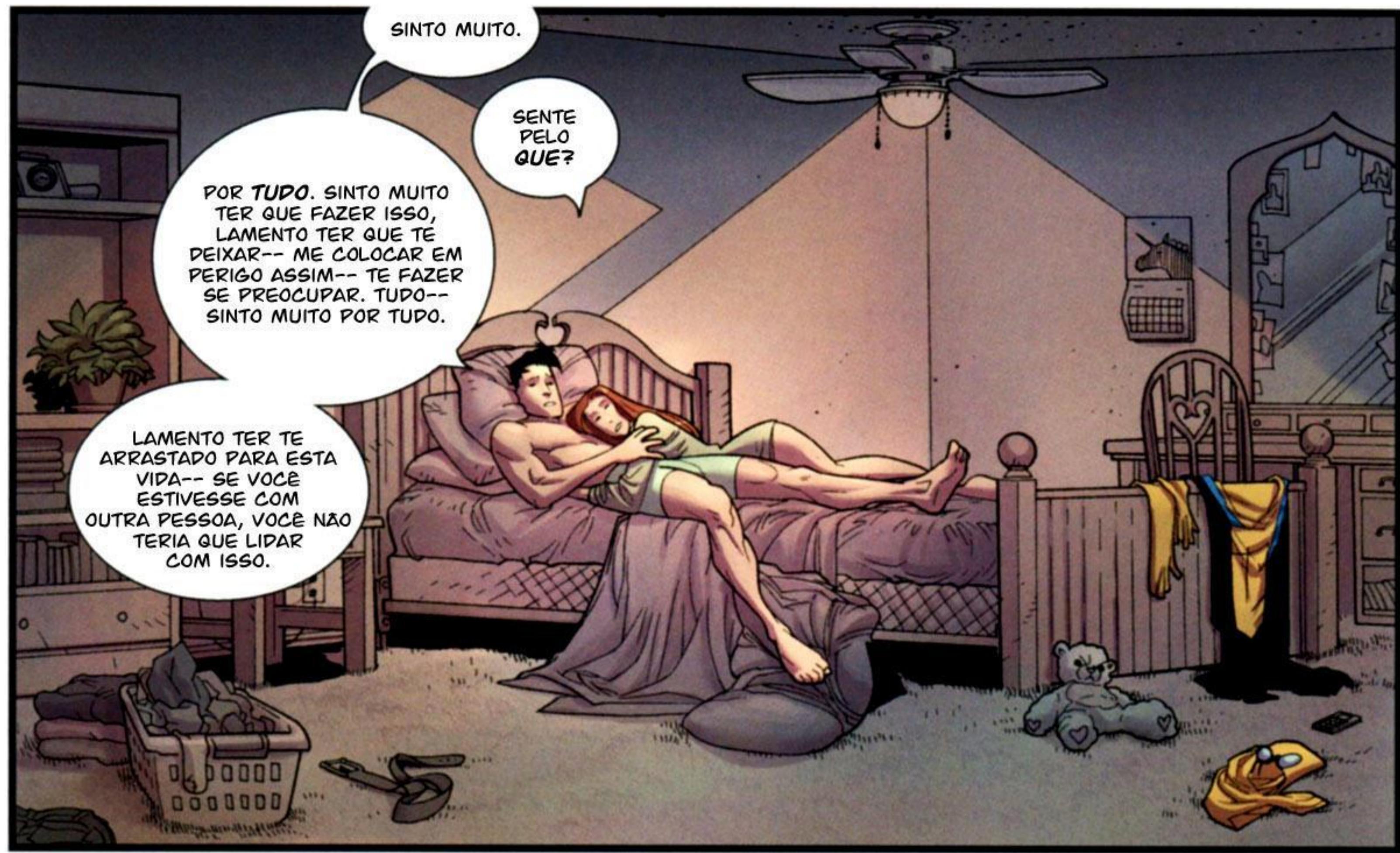


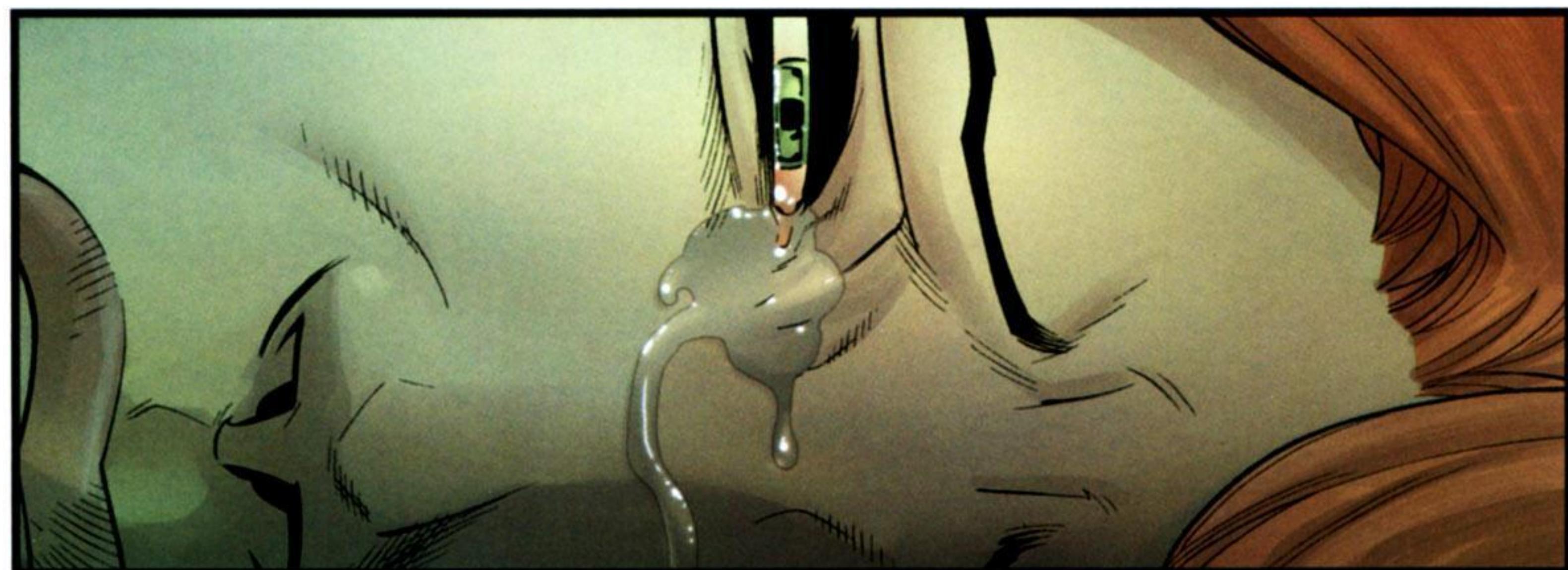


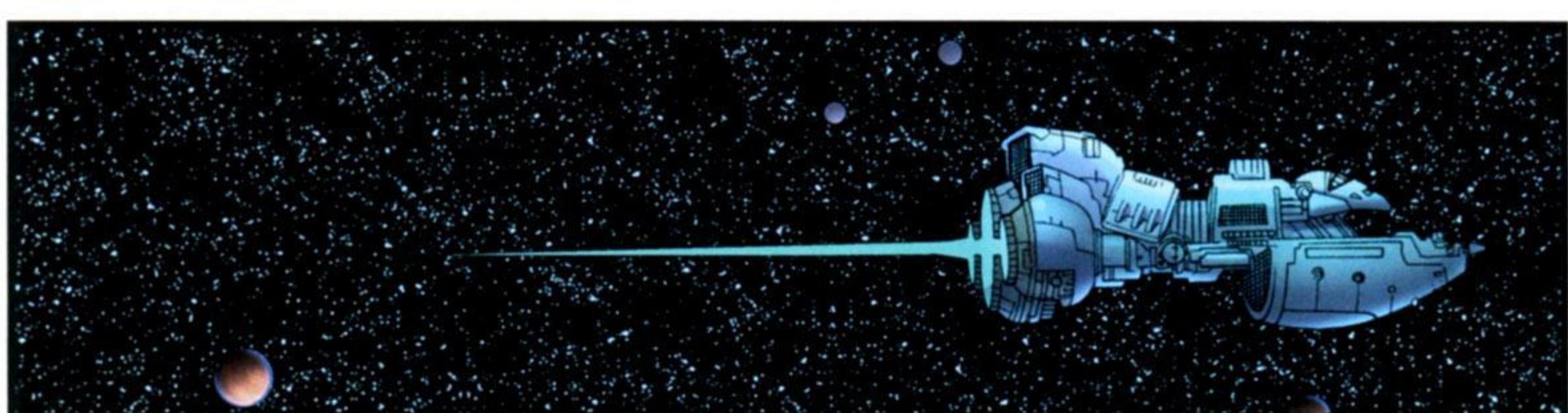
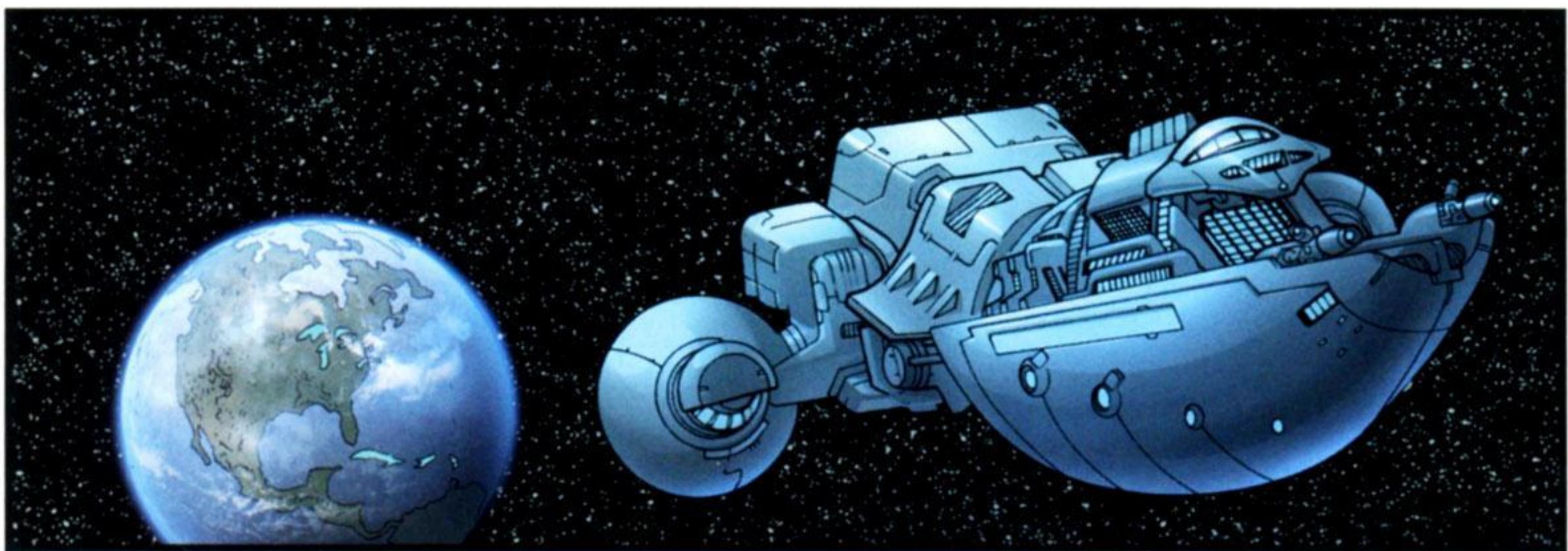




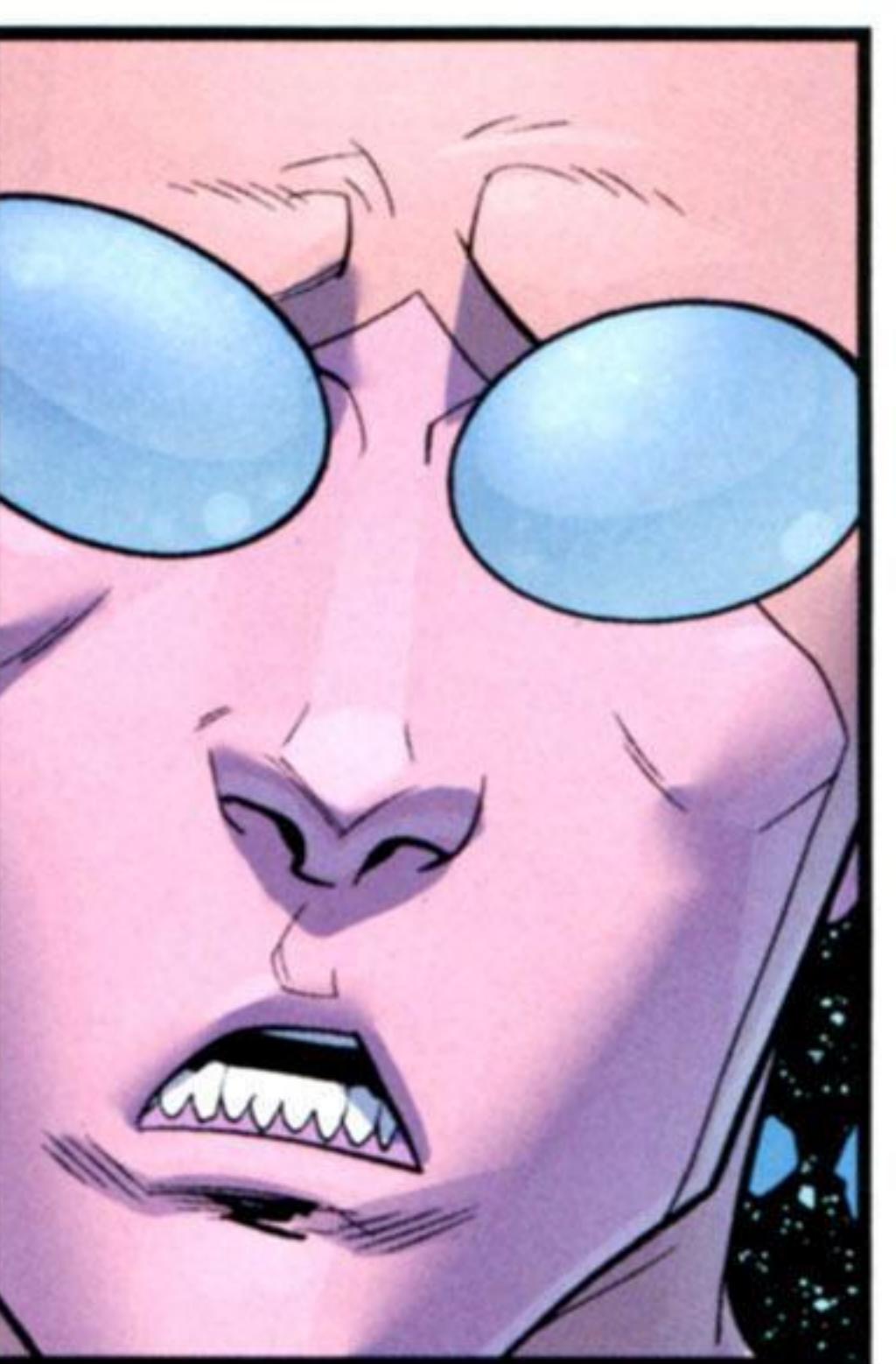














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PRINCIPLES

Okay, hopefully you have all read INVINCIBLE RETURNS #1 before reading this issue. That was a special issue meant to be read between issues 70 and 71. Also, I'm happy to report that our sales have experienced a bit of spike, larger than usual, due to that special issue. I hope that all of you new people enjoy the series and stick around. Welcome aboard!

And what a time to start reading this book--THE VILTRUMITE WAR! This is something that's been building in the series since issue 1. There's a lot of long-running threads that are going to be wrapped up in the coming issues and a lot of long-running threads that will be started in the coming issues... because that's the fun of this series, there's always something else new and exciting going on.

I'm thrilled to have finally gotten to this point on the series. We've been working toward this for a good long time. I hope it doesn't disappoint, this truly is the most ambitious story that we've ever attempted with this series. There's a whole lot going on and this book is going to be cram-packed with action.

Speaking of which, starting next issue... we're not going to see Earth again until this story concludes in issue 78. We're still going to be telling a multi-layered story with all kinds of subplots but they will all deal with the war and what's going on in various parts of the galaxy. So there's a fair bit of stuff on Earth that we'll miss, which I promise, will make the issues after this story that much more interesting as we find out, along with Mark... all the things he's missed in the many months since he left.

There are SOME events that will be shown happening on Earth. There are things like Robot and Monster Girl's disappearance in the Flaxan Dimension that will cause a few ripple effects for The Guardians of the Globe--and so I'm happy to report that they're getting their own series! It's going to run 6 issues, starting in August, and will fill you in on what they're doing while Invincible is out in space kicking butt, or getting killed... you'll just have to see.

So be on the lookout for that series. It's co-written by myself and one Benito Cereno, who I think we'll all agree did a bang-up job on the recent Invincible Presents mini-series (which is also collected into a trade paperback coming in July). On art, we have Ransom Getty, who did a SWEET pin-up back in issue 53 if you want to check that out. He also recently did a story in Marvel's "What If Astonishing X-Men" one-shot, and has done other stuff for Marvel, but let's try not to hold that against him. He's super-talented and is a fine addition to the Invincible creative community.

So August, Guardians of the Globe--BE THERE!

Something else cool that we have going on, that starts in this very issue is TECH JACKET BACK-UP STORIES! Much like when we ran CAPES back-up stories for a year or so a while back, the next 8 issues, all chapters of THE VILTRUMITE WAR will feature a chapter of the Tech Jacket back-up. As you can see from this issue, Tech Jacket himself will play a pretty prominent role in the Viltrumite War. His series ended a while ago, around the same time as issue 4 of this comic. So we haven't really seen much of him aside from a brief appearance in issue 27... but a lot has happened to the character since the end of his series (collected in TECH JACKET Volume 1: The Boy From Earth--available now!) that we haven't seen. And that stuff is going to be told in these back-ups. So this story takes place before the events of this issue. Well before. As you'll see as the back-ups progress.

And, I figure that's enough rambling from me--so let's answer some mail!

Dear Mr. Kirkman,
I love Invincible. I love how it started so local in scope and has now expanded to this epic we see today. Issue-for-issue, this is the best superhero book out there and I challenge anyone to say otherwise. Thank you for some awesome events so far. Now, onto questions:

1) Two words, and I know they're on EVERYONE'S lips: Invincible movie. Any plans?

There are always things in the works behind the scenes, but until something is final, it won't be discussed publicly. I hope that someday there will be a movie or tv show, or something--but not until it's

perfect. I'd rather have no movie than a cruddy movie.

2) Will we ever see the original Guardians of the Globe? Or are they definitely gone for good? Possibly a group with a similar motif?

The original Guardians were analog characters. Fun for a brief appearance but not something I'd like to have running through the book all the time. So no, aside from the odd flashback, we'll never see the original Guardians again. Darkwing came back, Immortal came back (mainly because he's not an analog) there's a new Aquarius, but that's forgivable in my book because he's so awesome-looking. I'd planned early-on to bring back Green Ghost in some way, but I never got around to it. For the most part, they'll just remain in the past.

3) In the third issue, Omnimann mentions a team, "Megaforce" and says he was considering calling them for back-up. Will they ever show up?

That was a reference to MEGAFORCE from NOBLE CAUSES, and they did show up in that book. So you can find them there. Sorry for the confusion. They won't be appearing in this series any time soon.

4) Has Mark passed by his father? I mean, he took on Conquest (one of my favorite villains now, by the way) and I can't see Omnimann taking him down. Am I just underestimating the 'stache?

Mark had help from Eve to take down Conquest. How Mark ranks against his father these days will be revealed during the current VILTRUMITE WAR storyline--so stay tuned.

5) BND/OMD: Thoughts?

I'm mostly indifferent. One More Day was a mess, but the art was good, and the story wasn't bad, it was just a mess. My only problem with Brand New Day is the rotating creative teams. I'd read every issue if they were all written by Dan Slott, but as it is that book is all over the map. It's not that anyone involved is bad, it's just like reading a bunch of different comics. I prefer one singular vision. That said, I dropped off pretty early, so I can't really comment on anything recent.

6) Is Allen as strong as a Viltrumite now?

Yes. Possibly stronger.

7) In the oncoming war with the remaining Viltrumites, will we see any Viltrumites that rely on finesse in battle rather than brute strength? And what of Invincible's baby?

Much thanks from this loyal fan,
Mike

Baby? What? We'll just have to wait and find out, right? Different Viltrumites will fight in different ways. We'll be meeting more of them as the story continues.

Mr. Kirkman,

First, just wanted to say that I've been digging the book (a lot; oh, and The Walking Dead, too) ever since it first came out; I've been reading comics for 25 years or so, and it's a rare treat to be consistently entertained, and for the quality to maintain an even keel. On top of that, the mixture of classic superhero storytelling within a real world context, and often with real world consequences, is really enjoyable. I recently went back and reread the entire series, and... okay, trust me; I'm not "that reader"; I'm not trying to punch holes in any boats, or try to earn some kind of Image version of a No-Prize or a Baldy. I just have two questions about things which don't really make sense to me, and I was wondering if they were intentional and meant to be revealed later (which is part of what I enjoy about the book; the slow burn subplots), or just, um... oversights, I guess. Both pertain to Nolan.

1) So, Nolan's a "semi-famous" author, and when he leaves the planet, the cover story is that Author Nolan died in a car accident; this seems to be fairly common knowledge among all the characters. I'd imagine something like that would be covered by the media, as was the fight between he and Mark. The question: how would no one ever connect those two men? I mean, as laughable a disguise as it is, Kent at least wears glasses; Author Nolan and Omni-Man Nolan don't even make that attempt. What's the deal, Rumeal?

The deal is that there's never really been a clear photograph of Omni-Man. It's not like you'd ever really get a look at his face in any kind of footage of him fighting. So he doesn't bother hiding his face. As far as him being a semi-famous Author... think about how many authors you know by looking at them? For me, it's not many, only the most famous of them. For instance, I know what Stephen King looks like... but John Grisham? J.K. Rowling? I'm a big fan of Chuck Palahniuk, so I'd recognize him and Shel Silverstein... but really, other than that, not many. So it's possible that Nolan wouldn't be recognized by anyone who actually did catch a glimpse of his face.

2) Nolan fought Allen the Alien a whole bunch of times before Mark finally squashed that beef, including at least one time when Nolan was wearing traditional Viltrumite garb. Since Allen is specifically meant to be testing different planets' champions in case of Viltrumite attack... wouldn't he have instantly recognized Nolan for what he was? I would think so, but he seems shocked when he finds out that there's a Viltrumite "living amongst [you]", as he explains to Mark. What's happenin', Cap'n?

Well, when Allen fights Viltrumites in issue 23, he states "You binclops all look alike to me." That's not just a joke, Allen sees differently than you and I. So maybe he doesn't recognize colors and symbols as easily. That's my story and I'm sticking to it.

Okay, that's all. Again, sincerely not trying to be a pain in the ass with that, I was just curious. Keep up the great work, and I'll keep buying the trades (I don't buy the singles because Warren Ellis once wrote that you guys -- the creators -- get more cheddar off the trades; if that's changed, I'll switch up my buying habits). Peace, Chris Brown

Well, I don't care which format you buy. We technically make more off trades--but if everyone only bought singles, we'd make more money... because per issue, we make more profit from the single issues. The trades are cheaper for you and easier, but per issue, we make a little less. That said, keep buying trades. Do whatever is most convenient for you. Or, y'know... buy both. Hah!

Dear Robert,

Can you explain to your readers how two sequids can crawl down somebody's throat and they don't remember it? If they don't remember it, then the sequids are controlling their mind. If the sequids are controlling their mind, then that person is their host body. If that person is their host body, then Mark's killing blow to the innocent man on page seven of Invincible #70 would NOT have put an end to the battle.

For that matter, it's possible that every person the Global Guardians evacuated from the force-field containment area had two sequids down their throats and no memory of it.

It seems to me the sequid connection to the one-mind was never broken, and there was no reason for the fight to stop when that guy got his head knocked off. Is there something about sequids I missed or don't remember that would make the end of the battle and the shower scene compatible? At the moment they seem to contradict each other, and the shower scene comes across as the same kind of "Surprise!" we've seen at the end of every Friday the 13th and Nightmare on Elm Street movie, and too many comics.

Daniel McMasters

Well, the sequids in Robot were a contingency plan as the Sequids thought they might not win at that moment. They could have done this to other people--but they didn't, because they were more confident earlier in the battle. They wouldn't control the person they go inside--because that could be detected, and the idea is that if the one-mind link is broken, they can later take over this new host, Robot, in secret.

As far as HOW two sequids could go down Robot's throat without him knowing it--we don't know the consistency or density of a sequid, they look solid but are actually quite squishy and near weightless. Also, they secrete a substance that has a numbing effect on the host so they can puncture the skin and slowly take over the host without startling them, and causing them to break the connection before they can truly take over. So Robot's mouth and throat were temporarily numbed during the struggle and the two went into his stomach without him realizing it.

I could have explained this in the comic--but we're not writing textbooks here. So instead, I prefer to just do things, that I know make sense, and allow readers to just assume that if I did something,

there must be a way that it makes sense. Otherwise, I'd be stopping to explain how both Nolan and Allen talked to Space Racer in issue 67 and other things like that, which would only slow the book down and make it less interesting.

Mr. Kirkman,

I noticed when reading through my issue #70 of Invincible (awesome, awesome issue by the way) that on page 10 in the fourth panel, after Robot transports both the sewer sequid host and himself to the safe zone, that two of the people in the background amongst the crowd are non-other than THE DUDE and WALTER SOBCHAK of The Big Lebowski fame! Lebowski is my all time favorite movie, and Invincible is my all time favorite comic! So seeing the a reference to the Coen brothers masterpiece inside of your masterpiece made my otherwise dull day become something I will not soon forget.

I was curious as to rather you or Ottley decided to incorporate The Dude and Walter into the artwork? I know you are a Kentucky native, as am I (if you've ever heard of that little old town down I-64 called Waddy, of the Waddy Peytona exit fame) and thought that you might be a regular to Lebowski fest and a general Achiever. Or maybe Ottley (I'm not sure where he is from, Kentucky as well perhaps?) is a fan, or better yet both of you are?

Either way you have made me truly happy, and one day I hope that I could get a replica of this panel to frame somewhere in my dorm room. Thank you for continuing to write something that amazes and inspires me every issue,

Zachary Lyons

That appearance was all Ryan. I had nothing to do with it. Ryan and I are both fans of The Big Lebowski because... well, it's one of the best movies ever made (although, I still consider The Hudsucker Proxy to be the Coens' best, sorry). I've never made it to Lebowskifest myself. Maybe some day. And Ryan is from Utah--I thought you all knew that. What gives?

Dear Kirkman and company,

Alright, the Viltrumite War is coming ... DON'T KILL NOLAN. I will be incredibly disappointed if you kill one of the most awesome characters in the book. While I can see a bunch of reasons why he might be the one to die (I know SOMEONE is bound to, this storyline has to be epic and deadly after all these years of build-up), I love the guy. He reminds me of my dad (except he's never tried to murder me). It would be very interesting to see his role in the book post-war, but knowing you... Sigh. Anyway, I am loving this series. Loving it! I genuinely think this might be my favorite comic on the stands. Please keep it up, keep it monthly, and keep Nolan breathing.

Robert Marrujo

I can make no promises of the safety of any character in this book.

Hello Kirkmeister,

I only have three things to say:

1) Ryan Ottley did a great job with the visuals. There's nothing like seeing waves of sequids attack the heroes in mass droves.

Agreed.

2) Why didn't the sequids just covertly infiltrate the whole world until there was no chance for them to be stopped instead of openly declaring themselves in a world full of superheroes?

Well, that wouldn't be a very fun comic, right?

3) Looking forward to the Viltrumite War, where NOTHING WILL EVER BE THE SAME!

Hasta luego.

Chris Maher

Me too!

That's it for us this month--we'll see you all back here next month.

-Robert Kirkman

TECHJACKET

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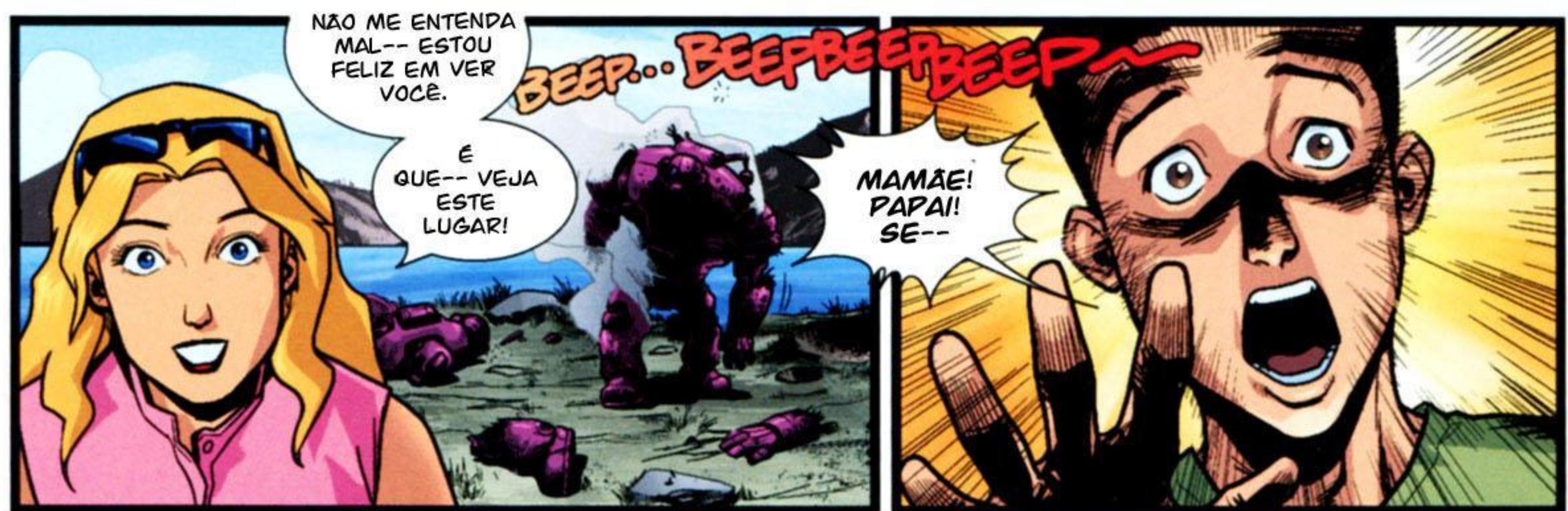
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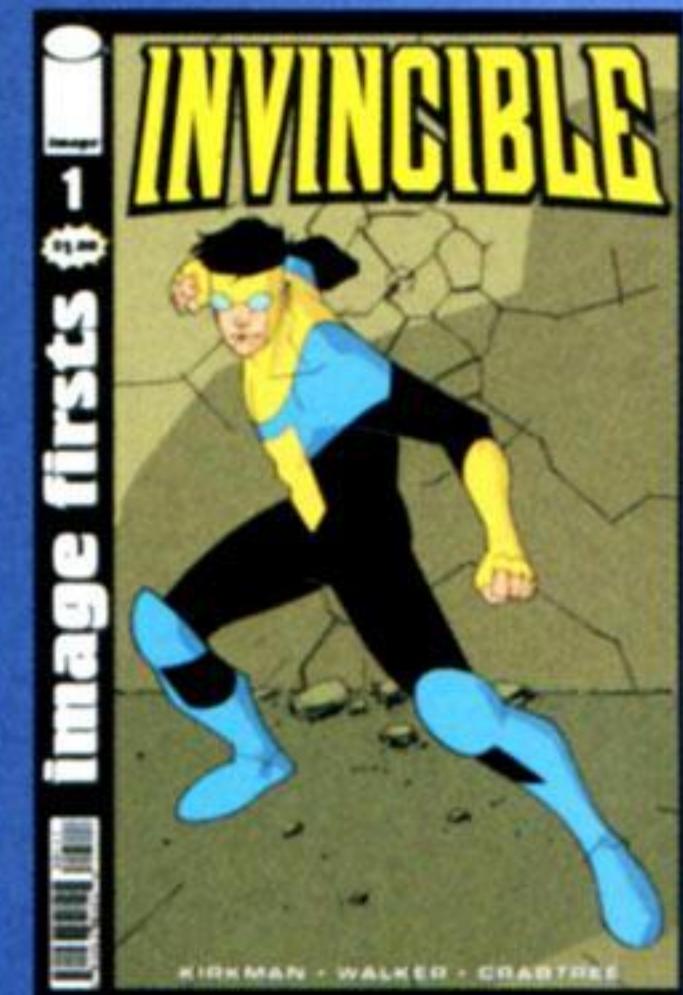




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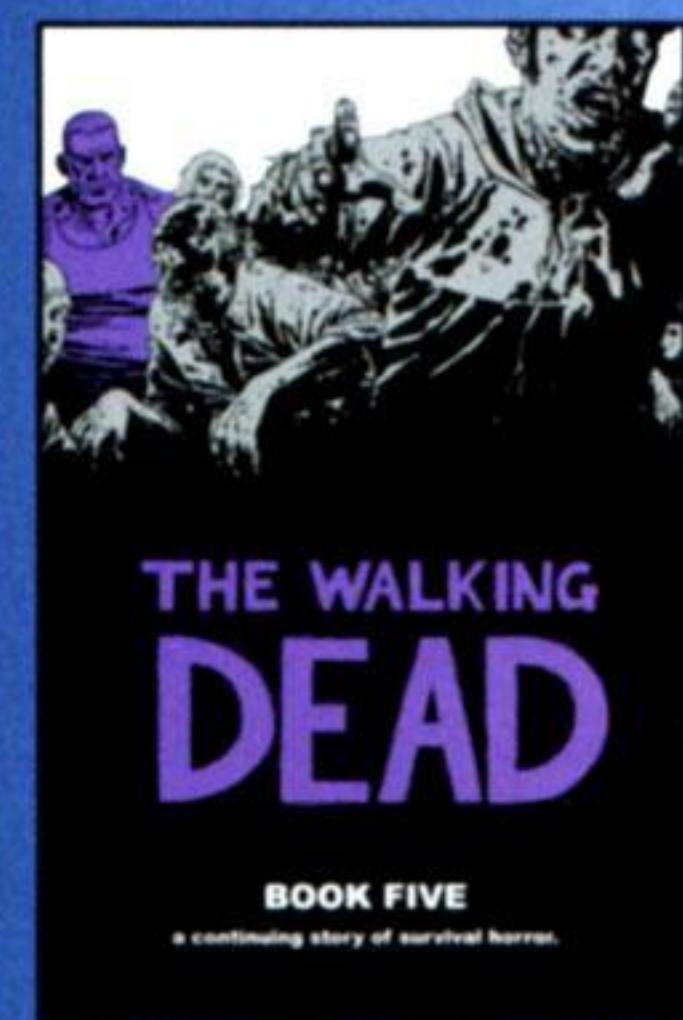
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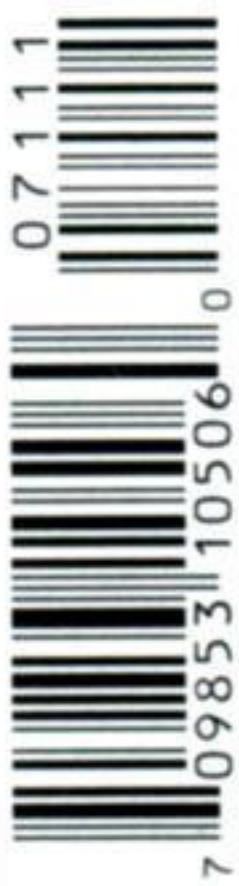
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