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INVENCIÓN



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Ryan

image® COMICS PRESENTS

INVINCIBLE

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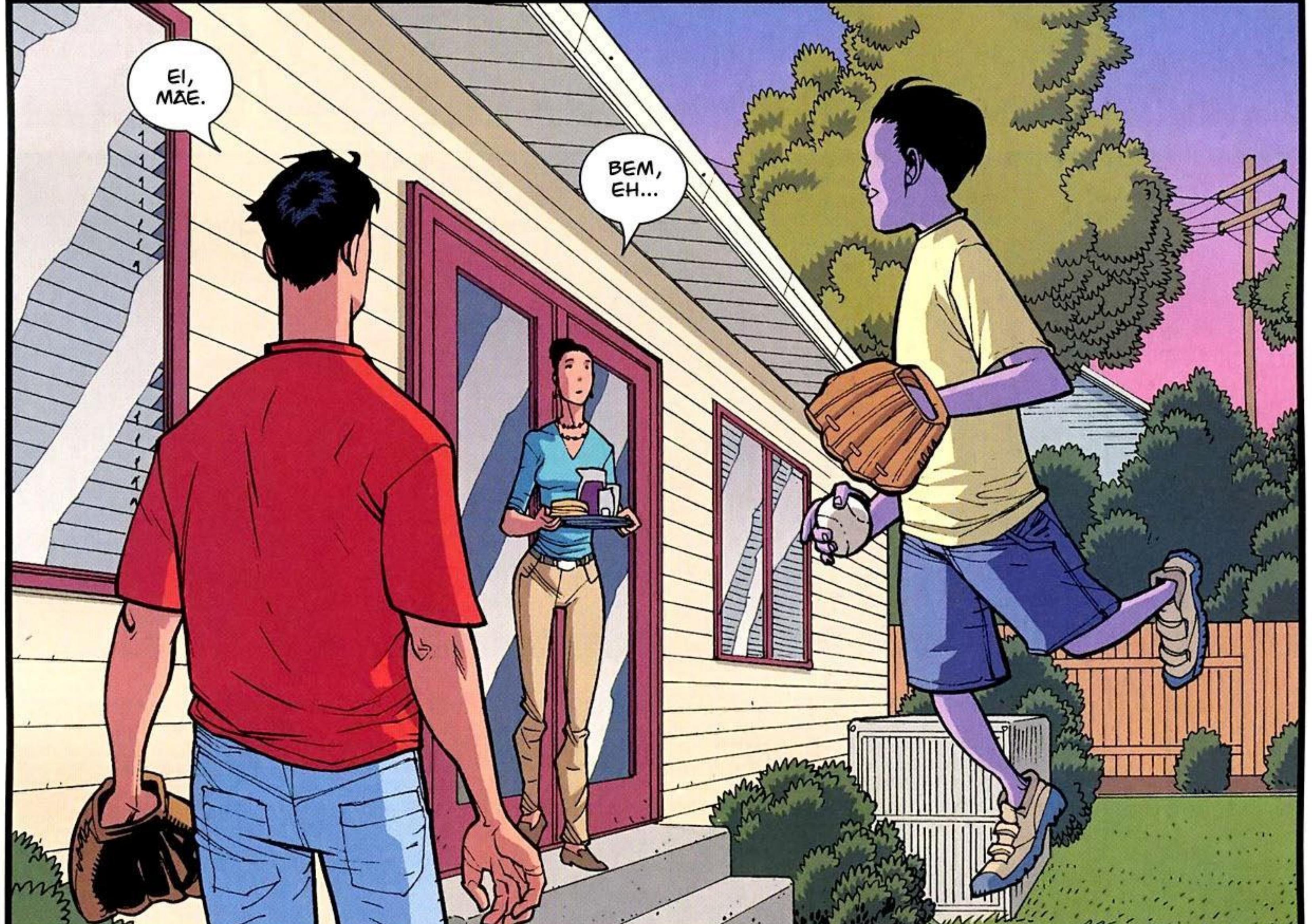
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PRINTED IN CANADA.



SEI QUE
É MEIO TARDE
MAS SE VOCES
ESTIVEREM COM
FOME--EU FIZ
SANDUICHES.



EI,
MÃE.

BEM,
EH...



ISSO NÃO
DEMOROU
MUITO.



BEM
LEGAL,
NÉ?

GAROTO
INVENCIVEL.
TENHO MEU
PRÓPRIO
AJUDANTE.



NÃO. NÃO
TEM.

ENTREM,
GAROTOS.



BEM, SE ISSO FOR TUDO-- SE ELE SÓ PRECISA DE ALGUÉM PARA ORIENTÁ-LO E AJUDA-LO A DESCOBRIR AS COISAS-- EU PODERIA FAZER ISSO.

VOCE TEM A ESCOLA.

EU PODERIA SAIR DA ESCOLA.

MARK.

O QUE? QUAL O GRANDE PROBLEMA?

ESTOU FALTANDO NA MAIORIA DE MINHAS AULAS-- NÃO ESTOU indo BEM MESMO. TENHO MUITAS DISTRAÇÕES. EU NUNCA TENHO TEMPO PARA FAZER MEU DEVER DE CASA. EU PERDI MAIS AULAS DO QUE FREQUENTEI.

E VAMOS ENCARAR...
ESTOU TOTALMENTE PERDENDO MEU TEMPO LÁ. ESTOU indo PRA FACULDADE PRA GANHAR TEMPO-- NÃO PARA APRENDER ALGO.

COM MEUS PODERES EU PODERIA FAZER QUALQUER COISA E VIVER DISSO. O SERVIÇO DE ENTREGA DE PIZZA MAIS RÁPIDO DO MUNDO-- QUALQUER COISA. CECIL JÁ ESTÁ ME PAGANDO MAIS DO QUE EU PODERIA CONSEGUIR NUM EMPREGO "REAL".

VOCE SABE QUE EU REALMENTE NÃO PRECISO DA ESCOLA. O QUE-- SEREI UM DENTISTA? PORQUE EU FARIA ISSO?

EU ESTARIA MELHOR AQUI-- TREINANDO OLIVER. EU PODERIA ME MUDAR DE VOLTA PRA CASA E TUDO.

NAO VEJO PORQUE NAO.

VOCE NÃO VAI SAIR DA ESCOLA.

ME DIGA PORQUE EU PRECISO DA ESCOLA E VOU CONSIDERAR FICAR.

PROSSIGA.

NO SUBTERRANEO, ABAIXO DO PENTAGONO DOS ESTADOS UNIDOS. CECIL STEPMAN DIRIGE A AGÉNCIA DE DEFESA GLOBAL.

UNITED STATES PENTAGON

Parking in Rear

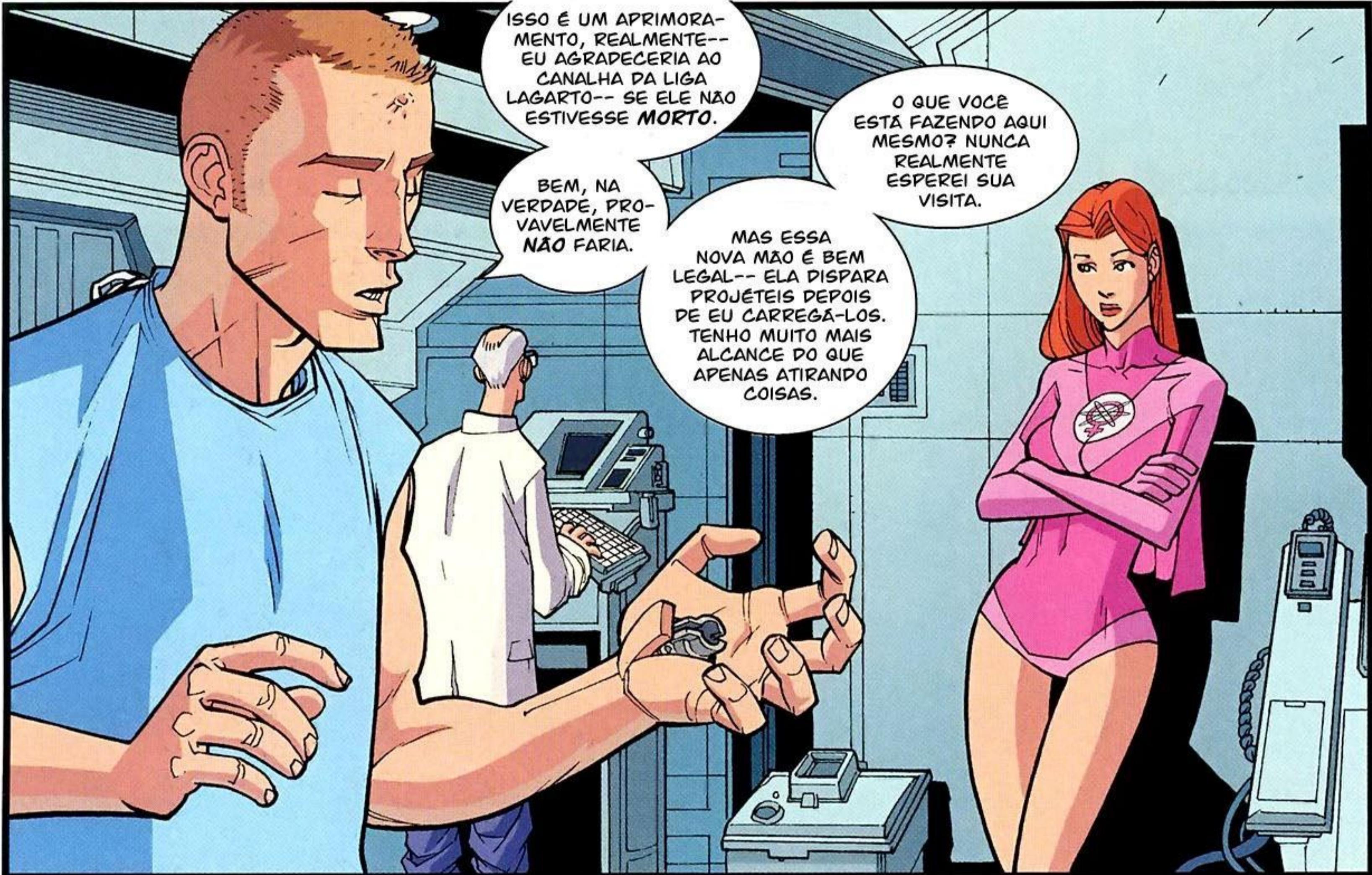
REX SPLODE ESTA ATUALMENTE NO CENTRO MÉDICO, SE CURANDO DEPOIS DE SOFRER UM FERIMENTO A BALA NA CABEÇA, TER A PERNAS QUEBRADAS E UMA MÃO DECEPADA.

ISSO É UM APRIMORAMENTO, REALMENTE-- EU AGRADECERIA AO CANALHA DA LIGA LAGARTO-- SE ELE NÃO ESTIVESSE MORTO.

BEM, NA VERDADE, PROVAVELMENTE NÃO FARIA.

MAS ESSA NOVA MÃO É BEM LEGAL-- ELA DISPARA PROJÉTEIS DEPOIS DE EU CARREGÁ-LOS. TENHO MUITO MAIS ALCANCE DO QUE APENAS ATIRANDO COISAS.

O QUE VOCÊ ESTA FAZENDO AQUI MESMO? NUNCA REALMENTE ESPEREI SUA VISITA.



OLHA, VOCÊ É UM CANALHA, DA MAIS ALTA ORDEM--

OBRIGADO.

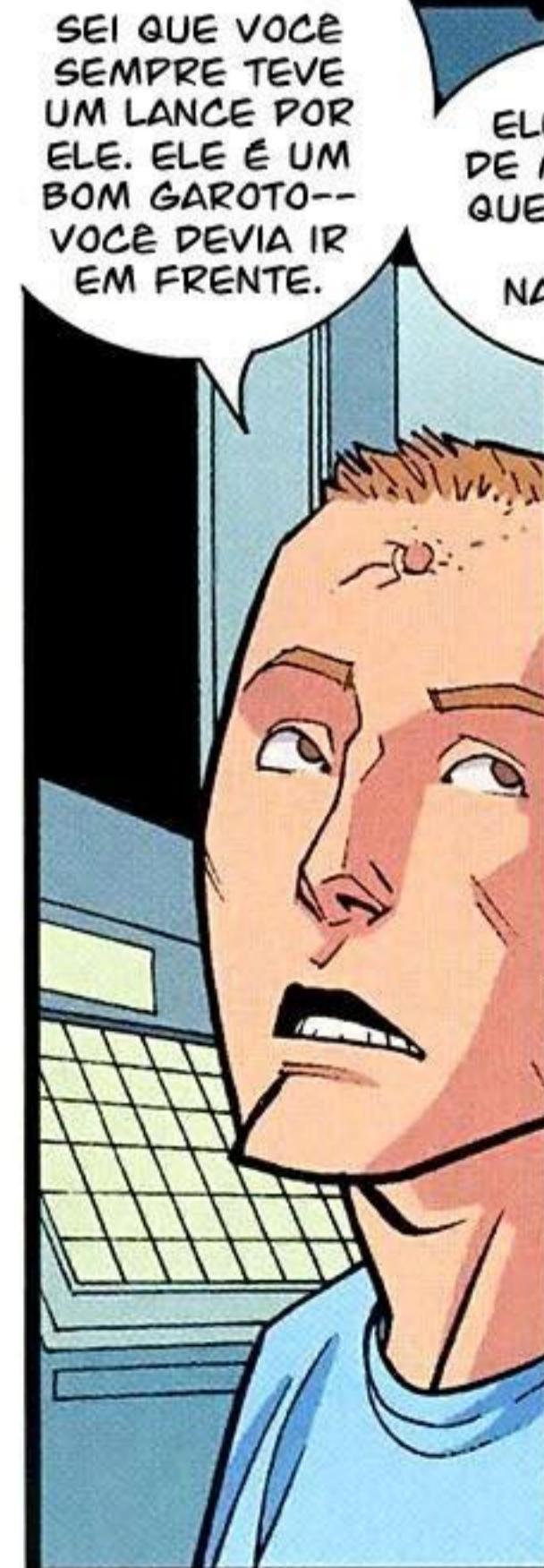
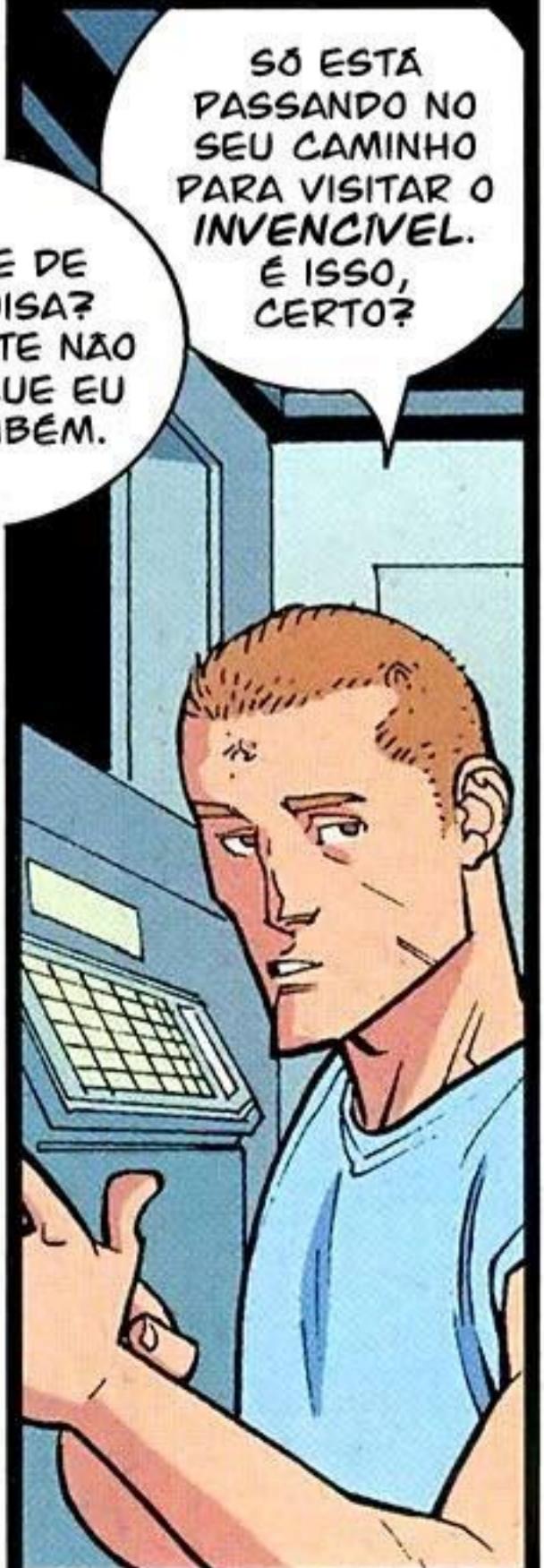
E, SABE DE UMA COISA? REALMENTE NÃO SEI PORQUE EU VIM TAMBÉM.

SÓ ESTA PASSANDO NO SEU CAMINHO PARA VISITAR O INVENCIVEL. É ISSO, CERTO?

O QUE TE FAZ PENSAR QUE EU VISITARIA ELE?

SEI QUE VOCÊ SEMPRE TEVE UM LANCE POR ELE. ELE É UM BOM GAROTO-- VOCÊ DEVIA IR EM FRENTE.

ELE ACABOU DE ME CONTAR QUE TERMINOU COM A NAMORADA.



UTAH, BASE NAS MONTANHAS
ROCHOSAS DOS GUARDIÕES
DO GLOBO.

SEI QUE VOCÊ PASSOU POR MUITA COISA
EM SUA ÉPOCA-- MAIS DO QUE ALGUÉM
PODERIA SUPORTAR, MAS VOCÊ NÃO TEM
QUE FAZER ISSO. VOCÊ NÃO TEM QUE AGIR
COMO SE ISSO NÃO ESTIVESSE TE
AFETANDO. VOCÊ PODE TIRAR
UM TEMPO DE FOLGA.

TALVEZ VOCÊ
DEVESSE TIRAR
UM TEMPO DE
FOLGA.

ESTOU BEM.
TENHO LIDADO COM
A MORTE POR TODA
MINHA VIDA. ESTOU ENTRISTE-
CIDO PELO FALECIMENTO DE
DUPLI-KATE MAS ELA NÃO
É A PRIMEIRA ESPOSA
QUE PERDI.

VOU LIDAR COM
ISSO DO MEU JEITO--
ISSO NÃO TERRA EFEITO
SOBRE MINHA HABILIDADE
DE LIDERAR OS
GUARDIÕES DO GLOBO.
PRA SER SINCERO,
EU PRECISO
DA DISTRAÇÃO.

ISSO É COMPRE-
ENSIVEL. SE TEM
CERTEZA--

ESPE-
RE--
ENTAO TEMOS
UM PROJÉTIL DO
ESPAÇO SEGUINDO
DIRETO PARA
A TERRA?
QUAL
O TAMANHO?

COM ESSE
TAMANHO-- COM
UMA TRAJETÓRIA
TÃO DELIBERADA
DEVE SER UM
ATAQUE. ELE--

ATAQUE?
EU LIDO
COM ISSO.

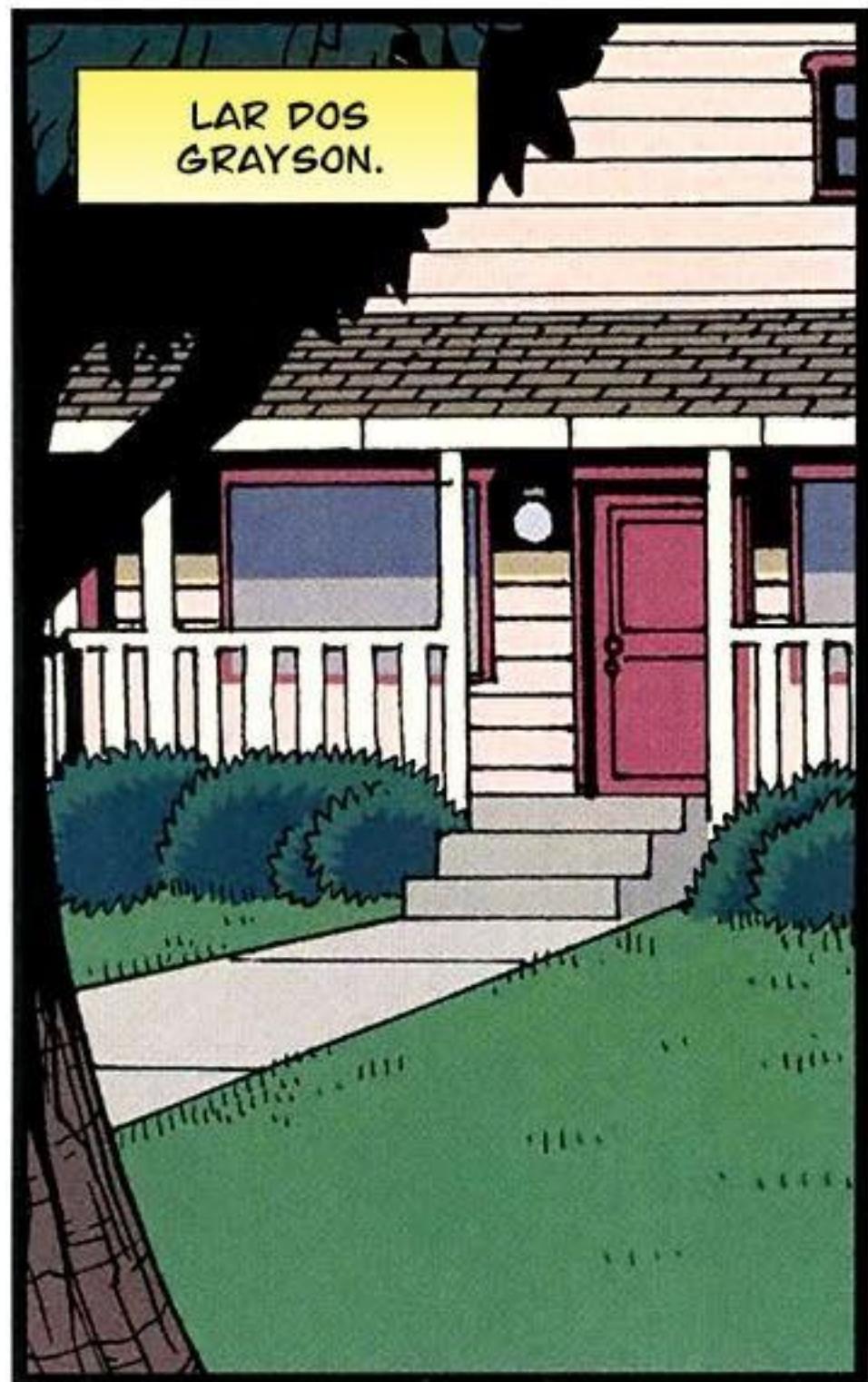
ENCONTRAREI
O OBJETO NO
ESPAÇO-- ELE NÃO
ALCANÇARÁ A
TERRA-- PODE
CONTAR COM ISSO.

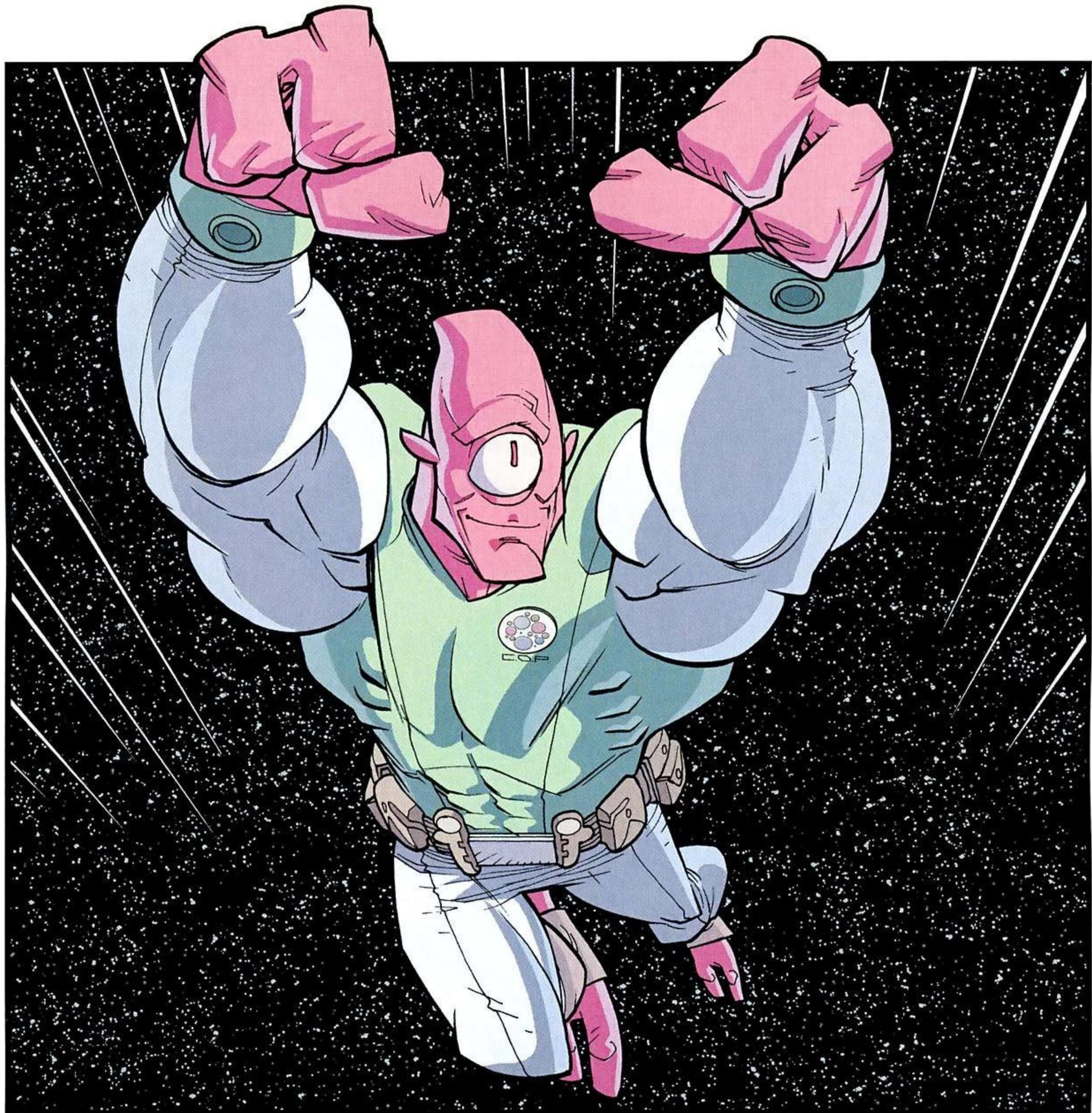
IMMORTAL--
ESPERE--
SIGH--
VOCE DISSE QUE
É ORGÂNICO?
PARECE ESTAR
VIVO?

HM.

ACHO QUE
SEI COM O
QUE ESTAMOS
LIDANDO.









--ALGUÉM.

ISSO ME PEGOU DE SURPRESA-- MAS NÃO DUEU.

PRA BOM ENTENDEDOR--
MAIS ALGUNS SOCOS COMO ESSE E TUDO QUE VOCÊ VAI FAZER É ME IRRITAR.

VOCÊ É DURÃO,
SEM DÚVIDA, MAS JÁ ENFRENTEI MUITO
MAIS DURÓES E SOU
MAIS FORTE AGORA
DO QUE JÁ FUI--
MUITO MAIS FORTE.



ENTAO... ESSA É SUA ÚLTIMA CHANCE DE SE RENDER.

EU SUGIRO QUE VOCÊ APROVEITE.



COMO OUSA ME AMEAÇAR? E VOCÊ QUEM ESTÁ INVADINDO MEU TERRITÓRIO.

NAO ESTOU A FIM DE ME RENDER.

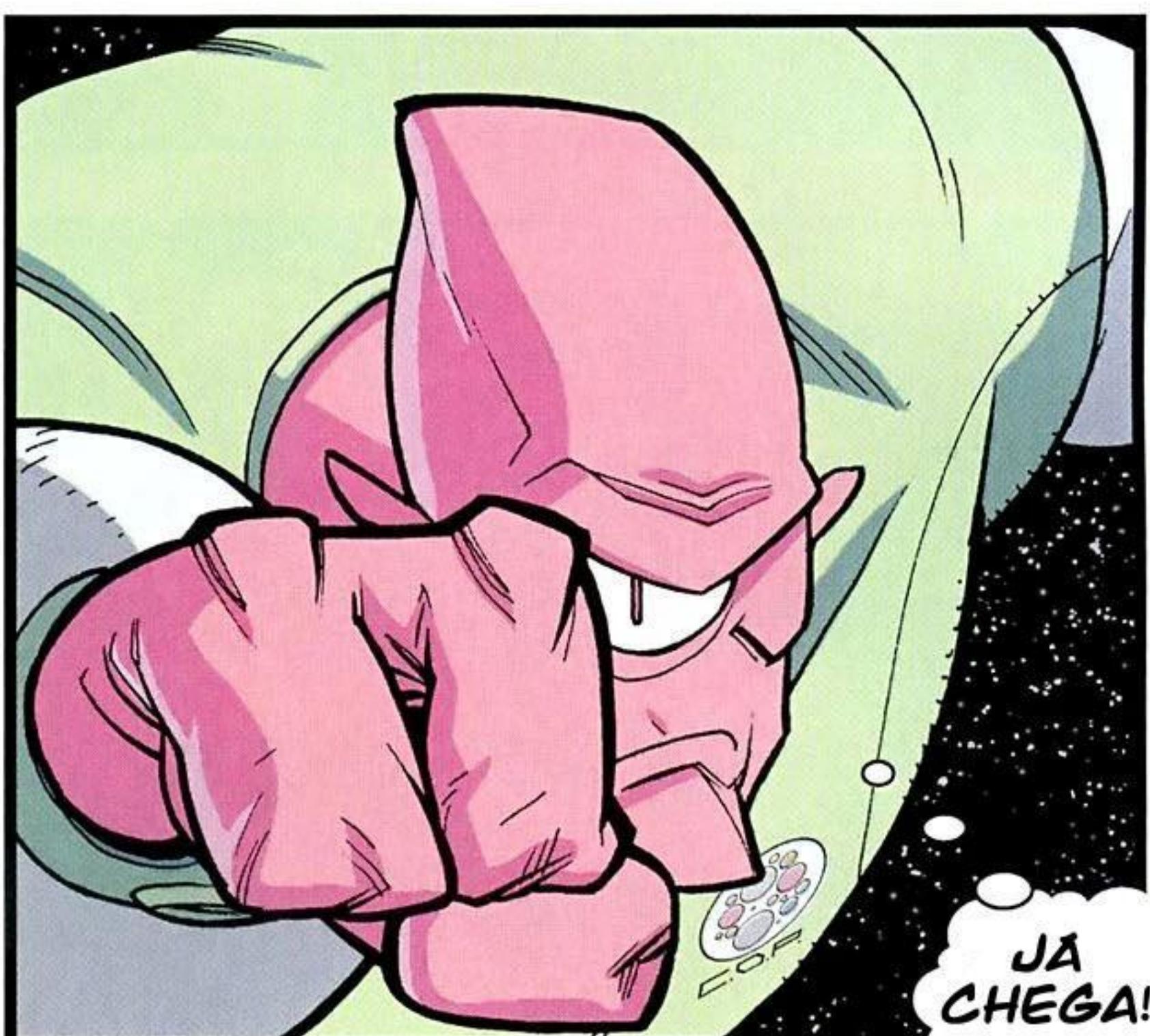
SE È UMA LUTA QUE VOCÊ QUER-- È UMA LUTA QUE TERA!



TANTO FAZ, CARA...

E O SEU FUNERAL.







UNIVERSIDADE UPSTATE.
DORMITÓRIO DE MARK GRAYSON
E WILLIAM CLOCKWELL.

NÃO SE PREOCUPE.
EU ENTRÔ POR ESSA
JANELA O TEMPO TODO.
DIFÍCILMENTE TEM ALGUÉM
NESTE LADO DO PRÉDIO--
E AS CHANCES DELES
OLHAREM PARA CIMA
NA MESMA HORA
SÃO BAIXAS.

O QUE
POSSO
FAZER POR
VOCÊ?

ESTA TUDO BEM
SE ALGUÉM ME VER
AQUI? PENSEI QUE
VOÇÊ MANTIVESSE
SUAS HABILIDADES EM
SEGREDO DA MAIORIA
DA SUA RACA.

MUITA COISA TEM
TRANSCORRIDO
DESPDE QUANDO
NOS VIMOS.

LEVEI NOTÍCIAS
DE SUA REBELIA
CONTRA O IMPÉRIO
VILTRUM A COALISÃO DOS
PLANETAS. VOÇÊ FOI
UMA INSPIRAÇÃO PARA
NOSSA CAUSA,
FRANCAMENTE.

DEPOIS DE EU CONTAR
A ELES SUA ESTÓRIA FUI
ATACADO. TRÊS VILTRUMITAS
ME QUESTIONARAM SOBRE
O PARADEIRO DE SEU
PAI. ELES TERIAM ME
MATADO, MAS--

APARENTEMENTE
TENHO MAIS PODERES
DO QUE SABIA. O QUE NÃO
ME MATA ME FORTALECE--
E DEPOIS DO QUE FIZERAM
COMIGO, NÃO SEI O QUE
PODE ME MATAR.

É-- EU
NOTEI QUE
VOÇÊ GANHOU
BASTANTE
PESO.

VOÇÊ ESTÁ
MAIS TRON-
CUDO.

OBRIGADO.

THAEDUS--
O LÍDER DA COALISÃO
DOS PLANETAS
SUSPEITA
QUE HAJA UM DELATOR
DENTRO DO GRUPO--
ALGUÉM QUE FALOU AOS
VILTRUMITAS SOBRE
MEU RELATO SOBRE A
TERRA, OS ENVIOU
ATRÁS DE MIM.

ESTOU
TRABALHANDO
EXCLUSIVAMENTE
PARA ELE AGORA--
ELE ME ENVIOU
AQUI.

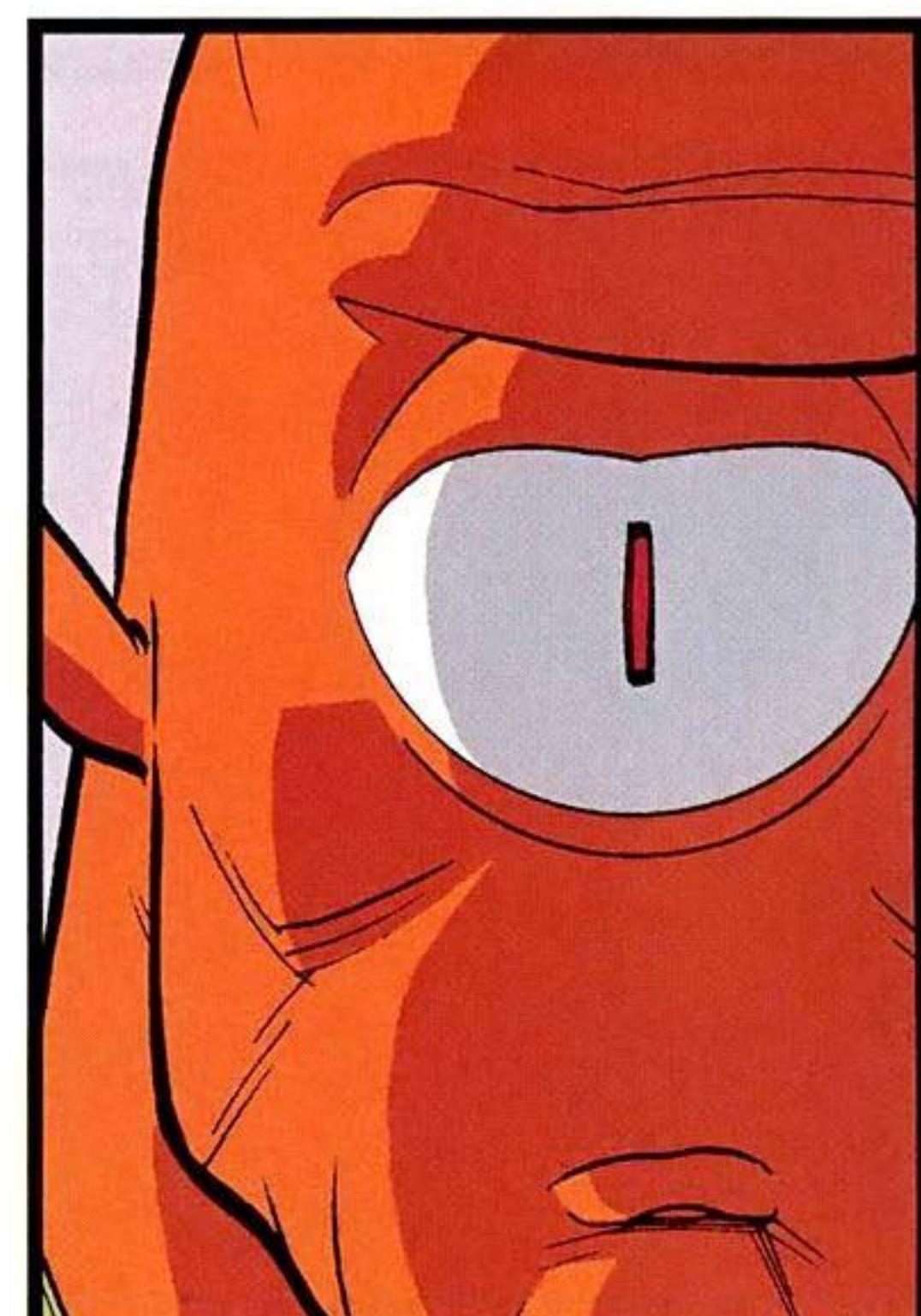
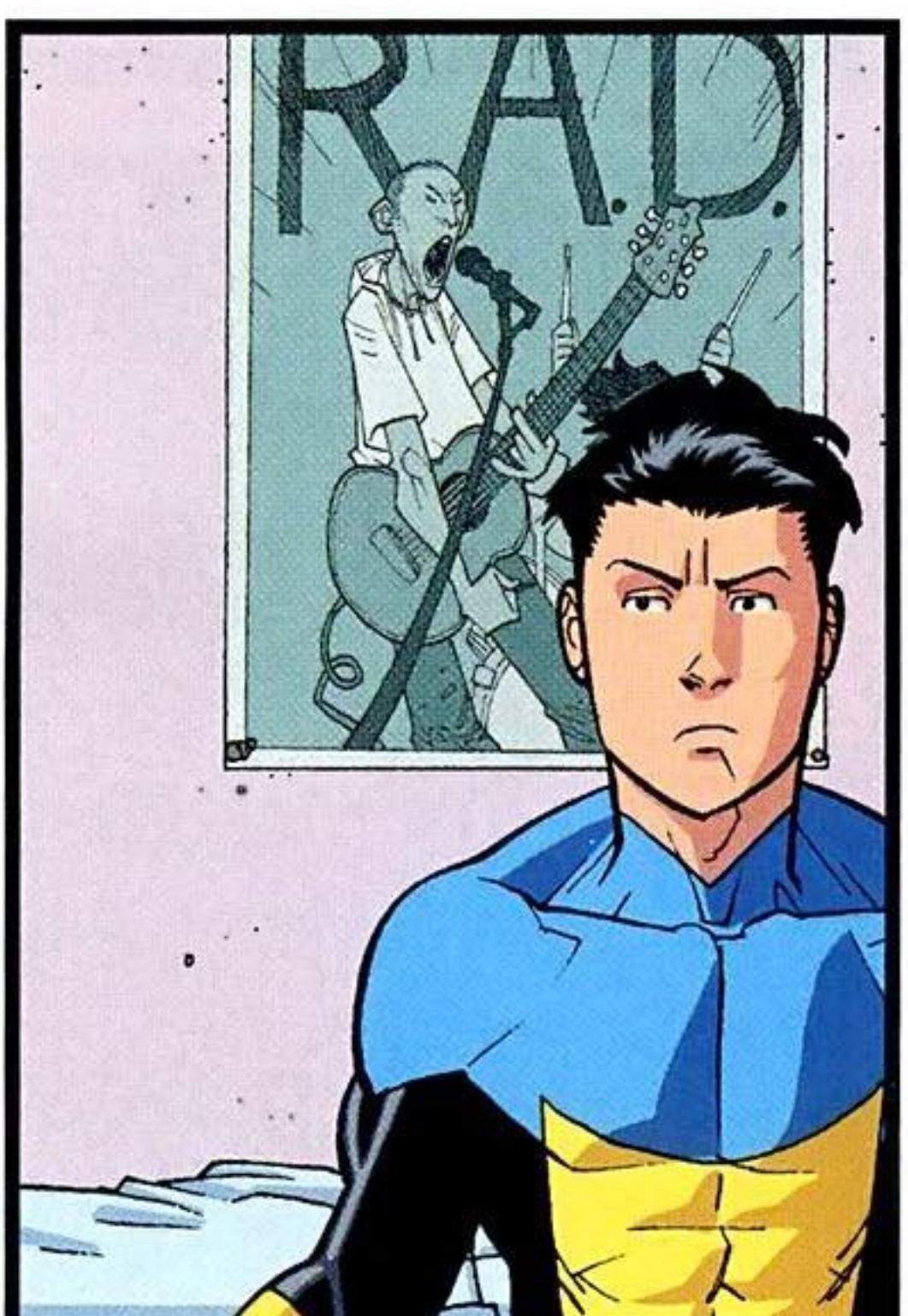
ENTÃO, THAEDUS É O CARA ENCARREGADO LÁ? ELE DIRIGE A COALISAO DOS PLANETAS. PORQUE ELE TE ENVIOU PARA CÁ?

POR VOCÊ.

ELE QUER QUE EU TE LEVE DE VOLTA A TADESCRIA, PARA ENCONTRAR COM ELE. SE VOCÊ QUISER FAZER AS MALAS-- NÓS PODERÍAMOS--

O QUE?!

NÃO! SEM ESSA-- NÃO VOU A LUGAR NENHUMA.



MARK, ESTOU FELIZ QUE ESTEJA AQUI, EU--

AAAAA!!! EEEEEE!!

NÃO SE PREOCUPE. ELE VAI FICAR BEM.

EU ACHO.

QUEM ERA ESSE? EU NÃO QUERIA--

ENTAO?

SIM?

ACHO QUE NÃO. NÃO. THAEDUS PARECE VALORIZAR MUITO VOCÊ. NÃO ACHO QUE ELE QUISSE QUE EU ARRISCASSE VOLTAR VOCÊ CONTRA NÓS.

VAMOS LUTAR?

MAS, MEIO QUE TE ENTENDO. VOCÊ PARECE SER UM CARA BEM LEGAL.

É BOM SABER DISSO-- OBRIGADO.

NÃO ACHO QUE PODERIA AGUENTAR UMA LUTA CONTIGO MESMO.

NÃO CONSEGURIA.

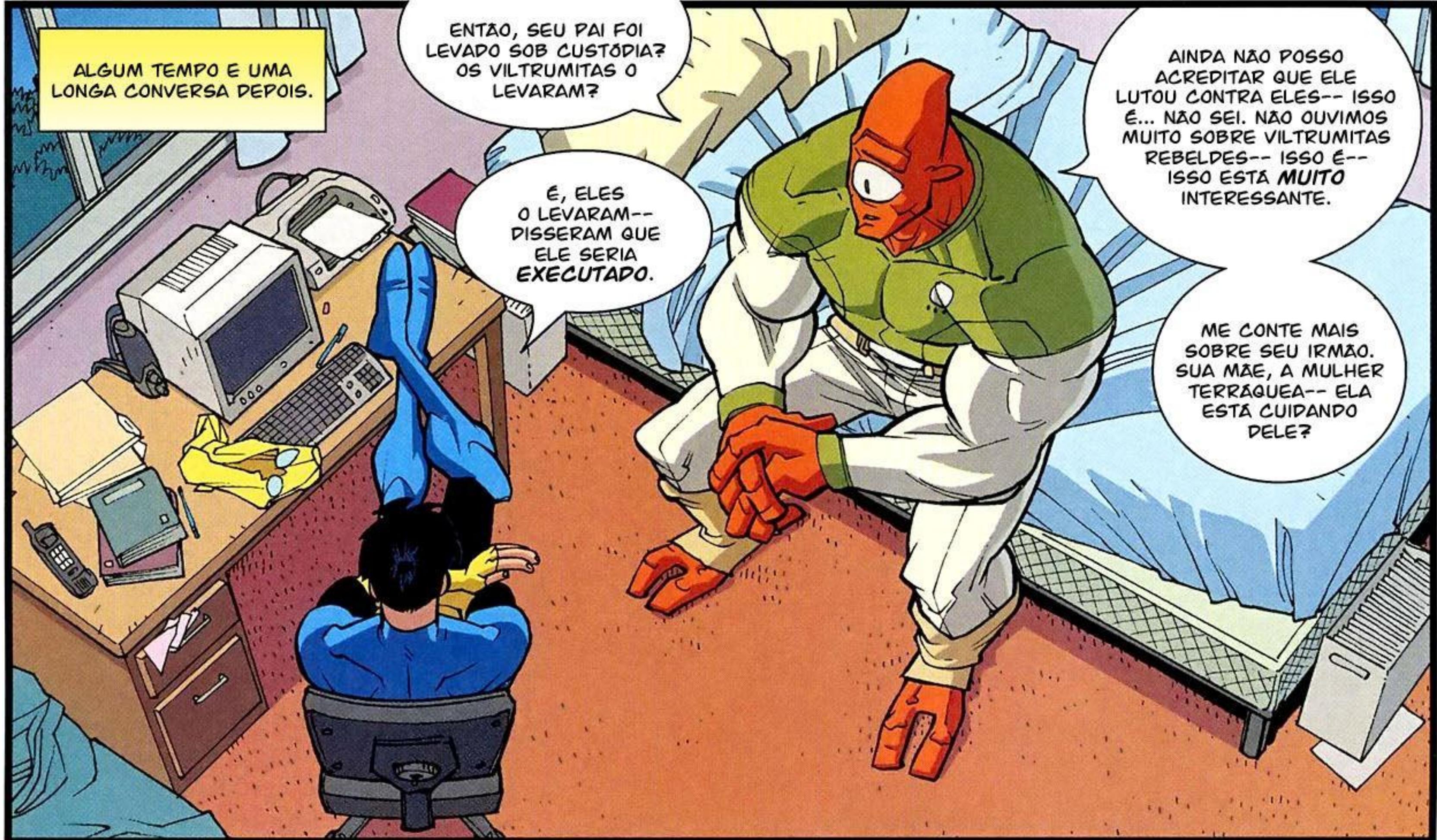
É BOM SABER TAMBÉM.

OLHA-- NÃO TENHO COMO DIZER O QUANTO QUERO AJUDAR AQUI, MAS REALMENTE NÃO ACHO QUE IR PARA O ESPAÇO COM VOCÊ FARIA MUITO BEM.

VOCE DISSE ALGO MAIS CEDO SOBRE TER UM IRMÃO?

EH, É... MUITA COISA ACONTEceu COMIGO TAMBÉM DESDE QUANDO NOS FALAMOS.

MEU PAI ESTAVA-- VOCÊ ESTÁ CONFORTÁVEL? ISSO PODE LEVAR UM TEMPO.



ISSO É--
QUERO
DIZER--

UAU.

ISSO É ALGO ENORME. SE
PUDÉSSEROMOS DECIFRAR O ASSUNTO
DESES LIVROS-- ENCONTRAR ESSES
LUGARES CITADOS-- ADQUIRIR
NOVAS ARMAS AQUI.

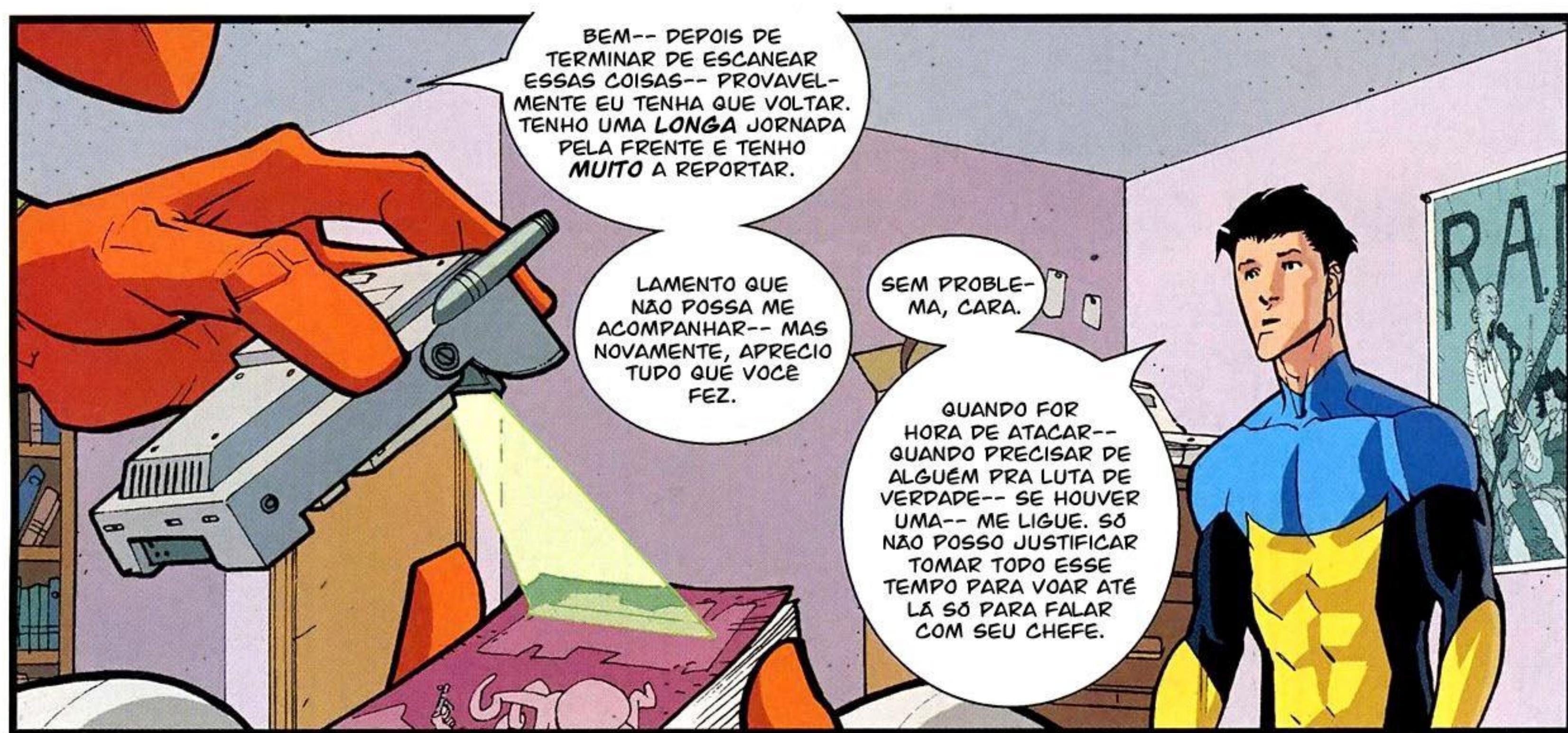
ISSO É ENORME.
O GRANDE THAEDUS
FICARÁ MUITO
SATISFEITO.

SABE-- QUALQUER
COISA PRA AJUDAR. SE
VOCÊS IMPEDIREM ESSES
PANACAS, NÃO VOU TER QUE
ME PREOCUPAR COM ELES
VINDO AQUI PARA TOMAR
MEU PLANETA A
QUALQUER HORA.

ISSO CERTA-
MENTE VAI
AJUDAR.

SE IMPORTA
SE EU ESCANEAR
ELES PARA MEUS
REGISTROS?

NAO
MESMO--
VÁ EM
FRENTE.



ENTENDIDO.

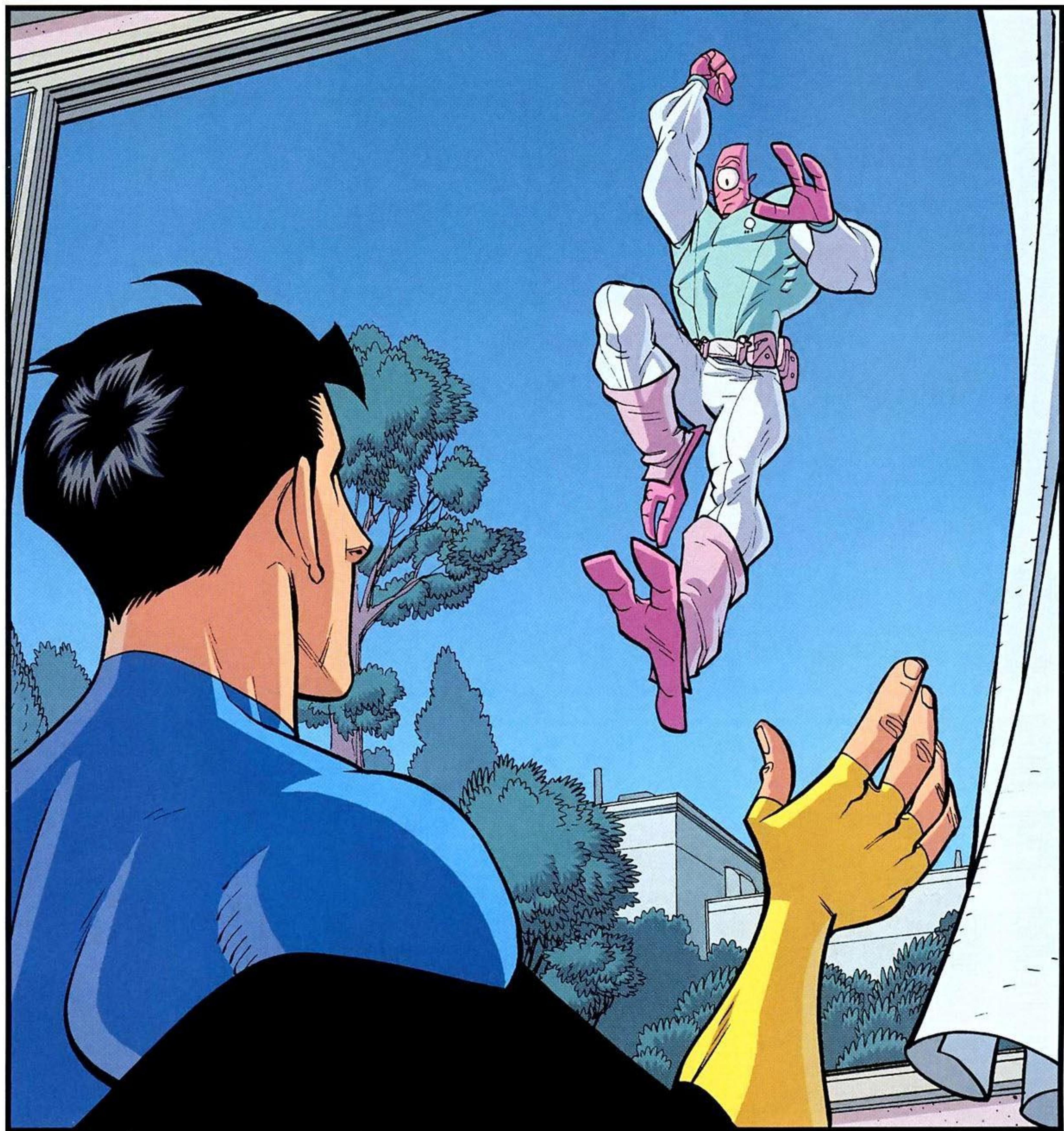
ÚLTIMO.
QUASE
PRONTO.

LEGAL TE VER
DE NOVO.

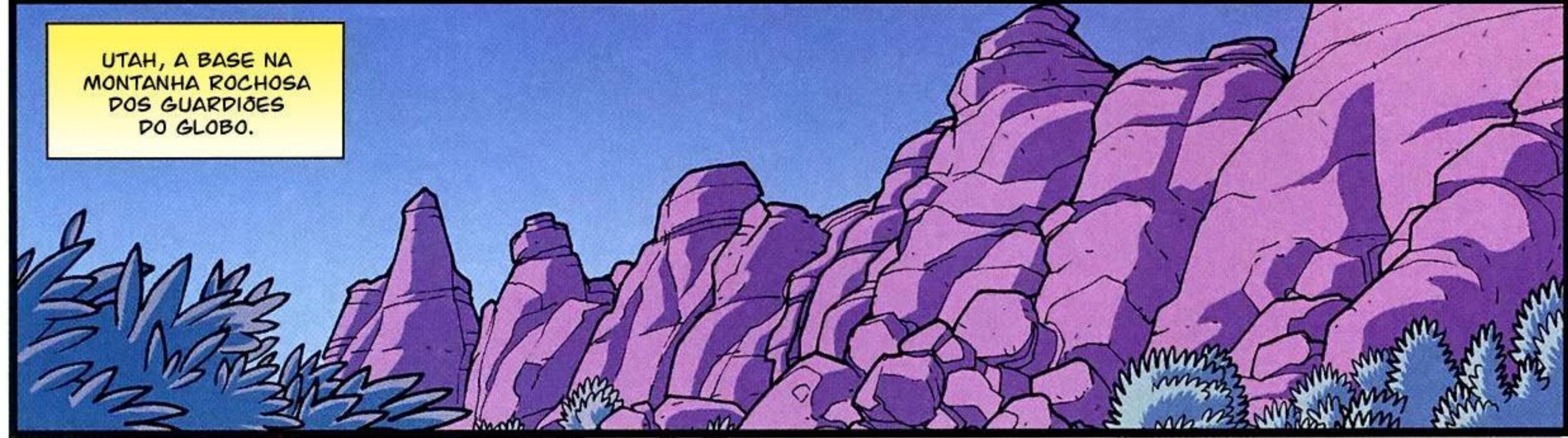
VOU TE MANTER
ATUALIZADO
SOBRE AS COISAS
COMO EU PUDER.
TENHO CERTEZA
QUE TE VEREI
LOGO.

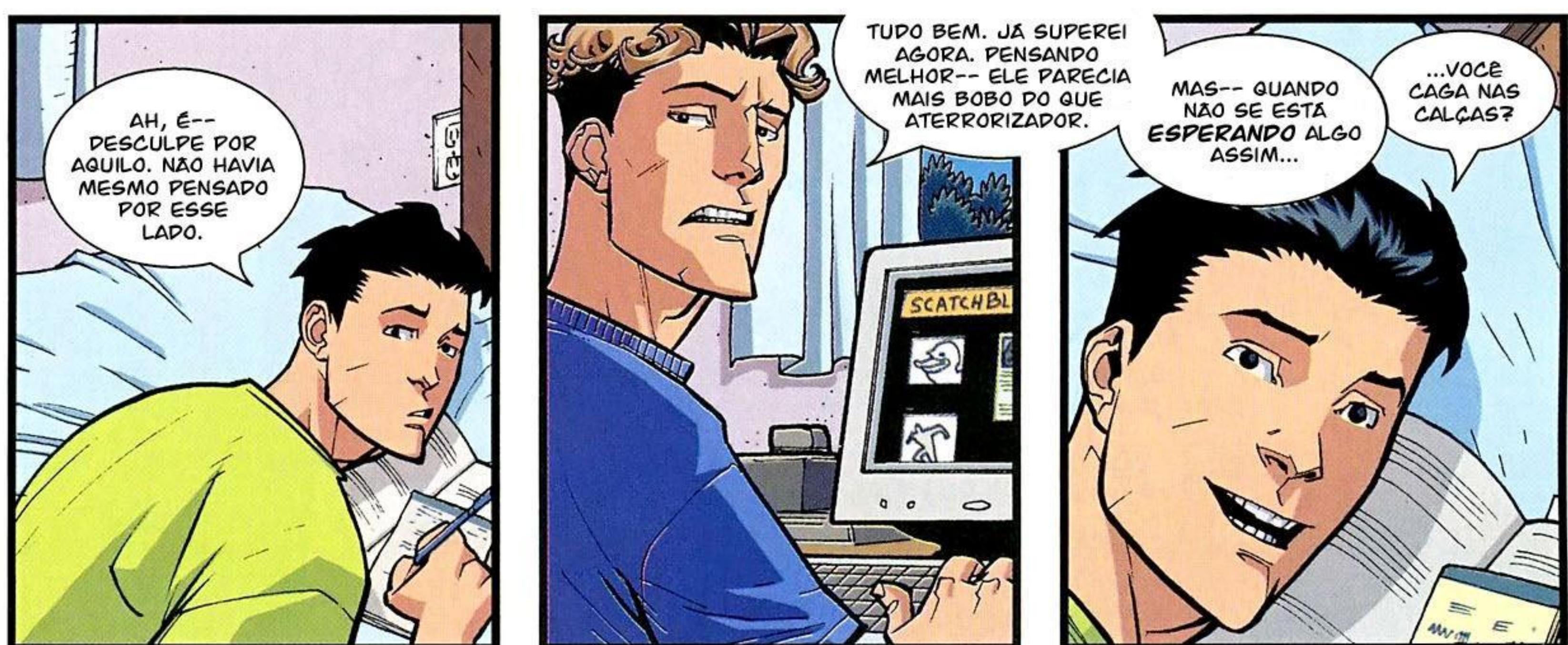
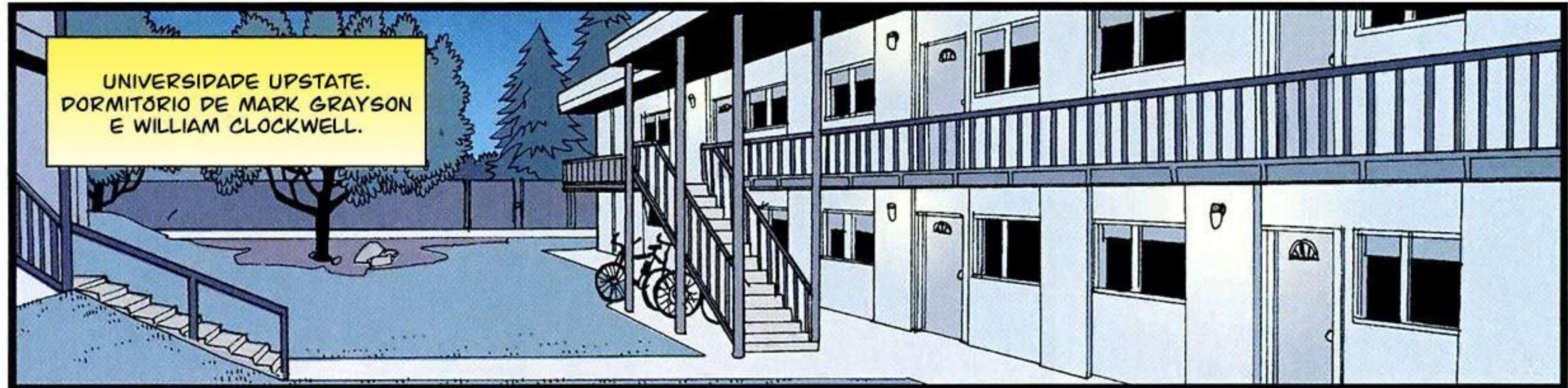
BOA SORTE
COM TUDO,
CARA.





UTAH, A BASE NA MONTANHA ROCHOSA DOS GUARDIÕES DO GLOBO.







WRITE US @

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C/O FUNK-O-TRON
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LEXINGTON, KY 40555-4386.

INVINCIBLE@FUNKOTRON.COM

INVINCIBLE

No letters column in issue 42... sorry about that. I feel like I haven't gotten to talk to you chaps (and chapettes) in a while.

First off I want to thank David Campbell for writing that recap of the series that ran in issue 42. David was one of the writers on the Official Handbook of the Invincible universe, so you know he knows his stuff. It was a huge help not having to write that thing myself.

Thanks, David!

With that out of the way--let's answer some mail!

Mr. Kirkman,

I'll make this as short as I can because I know you're a busy guy with a pretty packed schedule:

PLEASE stop having your characters say "Jesus" every time they're surprised or in disgust. I know you don't do it as much as Erik Larsen has in his books (I just read Savage Dragon archives #1 and man...practically every other page had it), but I still find it very offensive and I plan to stop buying your book if I continue to see it. I'm only one reader, so I'm sure this won't make a significant dent in your bottom line, but still, I cannot support this.

People in real life say it. I say it... I'm sorry if it offends you but if you can't tolerate even that, I don't understand how you've made it this long. Honestly, I'm sure Jesus doesn't mind. Why should you?

You have always written a great comic book with interesting characters and situations. Having your characters say these things adds absolutely nothing to the story. There are dozens of expressions for surprise and disgust that can be used that don't involve blasphemy, and they can be done without looking childish or silly.

It's my opinion that if you were to clean up the dialogue in your book, it would be more accessible to a wider audience. There would be virtually no stopping you at that point and Invincible would take its place alongside Superman, Batman, and Spider-Man in popular culture.

Finally, if for no other reason than what I said, at least stop doing it for the simple reason that ERIK LARSEN does it all the time!!! After reading his Savage Dragon archives and things you've said in past letter columns, it's pretty clear that he's a big influence. It makes it look like you're just carbon-copying his style and that you don't really have one of your own.

Anyways, I thank you for taking the time to read this. I really do appreciate it. Other than that obvious gripe, you and your team are incredibly talented and deserve to be recognized as some of the industry's finest.

Robert Hustwick

Jesus, that's a flattering letter!

Seriously, I don't mean to blatantly ignore your request but "Saying the Lord's name in vain" always seemed to me like one of those rules in the bible that was a bit out dated and kinda silly. I mean, is that really a big issue? Murder? I agree with that one. All the seven deadlys, really... that all makes sense. But cussing? Doesn't the big J, and his father have more important things to worry about? And using the word "Jesus!" as an exclamation seems like a petty complaint, too. I could argue any of these characters are actually calling out for Jesus... for help or something. That'd be okay, right? Just imagine that they're really saying "Jesus, help me!" or something.

Yo, Robert Dude!

My name is rob and I am 35 years old and its the tenth or twelfth time I've written to a comic book.

Everything about issue 40 was wicked sweet! Ryan just gets better with every issue and Bill's colors jump right off the page! For real, dude! You better be real proud, this book is Gold! I never gave these guys props once in any of my letters

for shame on me :(ok here are some reader friendly questions...

1. Is it true your wife is writing comics? I heard something about a book called "wedlock"?

You sir, have me confused with my good friend Scott Kurtz who is doing said book with his wife (soon to be released... in the future). You're probably mistaken because Scott mentioned it on an episode of Fanboy Radio where I was also the guest... and we both have pretty girly voices. (Here's a hint for next time--I sound like a redneck.)

2. Has anyone ever asked you if you were a clone of John Byrne? You look like you could be his son.

Apparently I look like anyone who has a beard's son. It happens.

3. Brit all colored was the best, any plans for any new stories?

Yes. BRIT: THE SERIES starts in AUGUST 2007, written by Bruce Brown, art by Cliff Rathburn and it's edited and overseen by ME.

4. What about St. Michael will he get the color treatment?

Possibly. It's still up in the air at this moment.

5. Did you write a wrestling comic? reprint it? please

Reprint it? It was never printed... and never will be. I drew it... it's terrible. I don't even like to show it to people. Trust me... you DON'T want to see it.

6. I'm still waiting for the invincible annual should i continue to wait?

Maybe... probably not.

Keep up the great work and keep Bill and Ryan happy these guys rule! can't wait for Wolf-Man!

Rob Steal

You and me both, chum. By now you should have a copy of The Astounding Wolf-Man #1... I'd love to hear what you think!

Messrs. Kirkman, Ottley, Crabtree, Wooton

I'm a long time comic reader who gave up writing letters to comics many years ago since they never got printed. So this would be a first (HINTHINT). Sorry. Anyways, it's also been a while since I read a comic that compelled me to bother trying again!

I'm a late comer to your work, Robert. I'm too damn picky, truth be told, and I hate wasting my hard earned money on something that just doesn't stand up to re-reading--or, sometimes first-time-throughs!! I finally picked up TWD late in the series due to recommendations from the right people. PHENOMENAL, by the way, but I'll address that in my letter to The Dead! In those letter cols I kept hearing about Invincible. Not being much of a capes and costumes reader anymore, I was skeptical. Finally, I succumbed to the overwhelming praise and the fact that I kept reading/hearing that you were doing something different. It also helped that I had some faith in your ability to tell a great story from TWD.

In a nutshell, I'm glad that I gave in. To be honest, I typically don't like to read "all ages" type fare because I'm 36 and prefer more creative, twisted, interesting, and sophisticated comics. I always want kids to be able to have the stories that I had when I was growing up (although Frank Miller's work on Daredevil was my fave!), but, frankly, I'm not a kid anymore! When someone gets punched, I want to see blood, characters should die, etc. because that's more realistic and easier to engage. It's hard to get into a story when you don't feel as though anyone is truly in peril. Invincible--to the whole creative team's credit--is able, somehow, to embrace the pure, innocent joy of classic superhero stories while at the same time incorporating realistic, brutal sequences. Issue #40 is a perfect example! You've got bright colors, characters in danger, discussing what they're going to do, using

their powers; however, you also have that big, orange dude (sorry, don't know the name!) literally tearing Kate's clones apart, eating Ray, and chomping Rex's arm, followed by an awesome head explosion. This, my friend, is great stuff! Even the "B story" of Amber and Gary is brilliant because it's not cheesy crap; we've grown to care about what happens here. Kudos to Ryan Ottley and Bill Crabtree for making every panel POP! I can't imagine how this comic could look any better! And, of course, your ability to drop plot threads and pick them up 20 issues later demonstrates to me that you know who you are as a storyteller, Robert, and you respect those that you're writing for. Just stating facts.

I could go on and on, but I'd like to add a few numbered questions to increase my chances of getting printed:

1. Are there future plans to develop Cecil's character more? I was happy to see you punch a few holes in the "benevolent governmental agent" facade with his private conversation with D.A., but I'm hoping for more.

There's more.

2. What is the current status on the movie, especially with the title "Invincible" now taken?

Who knows. Movie stuff is pretty much out of my hands. I'm writing the screenplay but past that I'm kinda in the dark.

3. Do you plan to write this title--as you've said with TWD--until you're an old man? If so, make sure you keep Ryan, Bill and Rus around!

I'll keep everyone around as long as I can. I have no plans to leave this title at any point just yet. But with TWD, I want to end it at some point in the far future (after 300 or so, if I make it that long). I'd like to see Invincible last past my death. I'd love to write 300 or more issues of this too... but I want to see it carry on to other people. I think that'd be awesome. You may disagree.

4. Will Rick have some lasting effects from having been a Reanimator? Quite a traumatic experience to just shrug off, eh?

Oh, he didn't just shrug it off. Stay tuned.

Thanks for your time! I anxiously await the arrival of The Wolf Man! Thanks to all of you for reassuring me that great stories can still be told in this genre!!

Jonathan Radmer

By now you should have a copy of The Astounding Wolf-Man #1... I'd love to hear what you think!

Dear Captain Kirkman,

Surprise, surprise. This issue was--great!! Love the Lizard League, too bad they all got wasted. I think you, and really a lot of people, need to work on your cliffhanger endings; course, time was we used to actually get AN ending to an issue... remember that?

Issues 38-41 was a continuing story, hence the issues continuing, without ending cliffhangers.

Lot of blood and gore this issue. Just as much as a Shadowline comic come to think of it. Usually that kinda stuff is a turn off for me, but, maybe I'm getting used to it.

How come it always takes a funeral to get Savage Dragon, SuperPatriot, Mighty Man and others to appear in these pages? And it was in the Capes backup feature at that! Capes is too much of a cartoon, said it b4 and I'll say it again. There's Way too many characters to keep track of.

I think I pay attention enough to these issues; I don't really reread comics very often. I think Invincible could've taken out a lot more of the Sequids by using his energy powers in this ish. Would've beaten standing around a lot.

This is a joke about not rereading the books, right? If so... funny.

A lot of character identification takes place by calling each other by name--and I think you could do a better job of that too. So how Does Image make enough money without ads and stuff?--or are you guys tired of answering that question? This was the best Invincible in quite some time really!

Sincerely,
Andrew J. Shaw

Image books make money from sales of the books. The founders of Image weren't big on ads breaking up the stories and frankly, I agree with them. Would you rather have some kind of terrifying TRUTH ad with eyes sewn shut staring at you while you sit on the toilet reading this thing? I'd rather not.

Glad you liked this issue... at least... partially.

YE GODS!

You like number-list-letters eh? Okay. Can do that.

1) Don't listen to Andrew J. Shaw. I love all the ongoing subplots, and you know, if I get lost along the way, I can always go back and reread the earlier issues. I mean, if the comic was good enough to buy in the first place, it's good enough to reread, right?

Sure, and I usually try to mention things again in at least a small way so you can understand things. I think you can read 38-41 and understand them just fine without going back and reading issue 18. I could be wrong, but I don't think I am.

2) That said, a bit of a Previously... blurb on the inside front cover wouldn't be the worst thing in the world.

I don't disagree... I just don't like them myself. I did cave and put them in The Walking Dead... maybe I'll do that in this book too... we'll see.

3) But don't listen to Andrew J. Shaw. He doesn't know who Battle Beast is, so clearly he's deranged in some way.

Clearly.

4) If Capes is ending, does that mean we're going to see more Hector Plasm?

I wish.

5) I thought Astounding Wolf-Man was going to just be a FCBD thing, but your letters page in #40 implies that it's ongoing. Are we truly to be blessed by funky lycanthropic action on a more regular basis?

Yes! It is an ongoing series!

6) That's it actually. Cheers for your time, Kirkmanatron!

- kelvin green

Cheers to you too, mate!

Hi Robert,

I thought issue #29 was the bloodiest issue of Invincible... you sure topped it with #40! That was nasty!

Call me skeptic, but I find it hard to believe that Dupli-Kate and Shrinking Ray are dead... there has to be a copy of her floating around somewhere (can anyone say Madrox?). Also, when Komodo Dragon swallowed S-R, I'm left to assume that he was swallowed whole. There was no "crunch" sound or chewing showed. He could shrink smaller and crawl out of the gaping hole in K-D's neck (yuk).

Or... maybe they're both dead. Or maybe just one of them is. The possibilities are endless.

The Lizard League seems to be a contender to become one of Mark's top foes. I love how they remind me of the old Serpent Squad/Serpent Society.

Who?

I wonder how long it will take for Rex to turn? (oops, wrong book!)

Oh, and kirkmania.com is still not running! I've been bugging you for months about it!

Thanks for the great read every issue!
Roch Vaillancourt

My website will be up in some form before the end of 2007. For real this time. I really need to get that thing up before my career in comics is over. I probably don't have much time left!

Mr. Kirkman,

I've been reading comics since I was a kid, I'm 24 now but never have I wanted to actually write to one until this great book came into my life. I always put it off cuz I really didn't have anything to say or ask, but with you saying that CAPES is coming to an end, now I do.

Give the back-up space to Rex Splode, please?

Pretty please?

Besides Eve, Rex is one of my favorite supporting characters in the whole Invincible universe. He's got cool powers, a wise-crackin attitude and an awesome backstory that is just ripe with stories to be told (seriously, he's been a government op since he was kid, Rex has got so much potential as a character.)

I'm happy with his showings in both the battles with the lizard league and the octo-boss, I felt that it showed how cool Rex could be. Sure, he's a jerk most of the time, but at the end of the day he knows what he's doing and can be counted on when the going gets tough.

I dig him, I'm sure I'm not the only one.

"Tales of Rex Explode" back up, make it so Kirkman.

Or a mini-series, that'd be cool too.

Sincerely,
Sketch Sanchez

You know, I'd love to do stuff like that but for now at least, CAPES was a whole lotta extra work for me and I'm not looking to heap on more just yet. Maybe in the future?

Dear Mr. Kirkman,

Long time reader (issue 8!), fan (I even have the HeroClix!) and such, but first time (I think) writing in. I have a semi-response to Mr. Shaw's letter this month, regarding what earns Invincible its place of prominence on my monthly comics reading list. I'll even make it numbered, just for you, because I know you love that so.

1.) Probably my single favorite thing about Invincible (as a series) is the scope. With all the zig-zag back-and-forth plotting, it reads like a cross-over mega-event from one of the Big Two that you'd normally have to buy six books just to pretend to follow, and then spend another three hours on the internet trying to figure out the bits where they got it wrong internally. Except Invincible is just you, Ryan, Bill, and Russ- a finely-honed precision unit. Every month, like clockwork. So for just one low monthly fee, I get all the action, intrigue, romance, and continuity wankery of, say, Teen Titans or JSA, without having to also buy every separate book featuring each separate character. I appreciate this.

2.) (This is also the reason I like Ultimate X-Men, and Ultimate Marvel in general. Good job on that, by the by- I didn't think anyone could fill Mr. Vaughan's shoes, but you're getting more solid on that book with every issue. Love the way you're picking up on things that other writers laid down way earlier in the book- that not only enhances my reading pleasure as a long-time fan of that series, but it keeps the continuity nice and clean for other writers later. Way to be a team player! This, in turn, is likely to keep the book a smooth and satisfying read for time to come.).

3.) That said, I do kinda miss the early days when the book was all about Mark. I love the expanded universe you've created- and call this issue "camping", because it was INTENSE- but I'm a big believer in re-investing in the base levels of superhero mythologies, to give weight to the big moments. The bloodbath in the nuclear silo this issue made the fight against the Sequids in the giant spaceship seem less exciting, in a way. The character moment with Amber was the only chance we had to breathe all issue long! I guess you're working more as a unified-series than individual-issue, though. That's cool too. Invincible, astonishingly, holds up pretty well either way (and it makes me want to buy all the collections, you sly dog).

Future storylines will focus on Mark more and more as time goes on.

4.) The HeroClix are pretty awesome, by the way. The sculpts are great, Omni-Man's a total beast, and the William Clockwell bystander token cracked me up- I didn't know that was going to be in there! Finally, a chance to re-enact the series' greatest running gag on the HeroClix board. Only problem? Only seven! I was hoping for Rex Explode so hard! And I don't think they understood Atom Eve's powers too well when they designed her dial... oh well, I'm still glad I own them. If you're ever near D.C., email me and we can play a game.

I have no clue how to play heroclix.

5.) This is the whiny part of the letter: remember I said "bloodbath" earlier? I know you've got a proud indy-comics screw-the-comics-code tradition to uphold, but all those dead Dupli-Kates, and the chowing down on Shrinking Ray (poor dude!) and the view of Rex's stump (which oddly disturbed me more)- and Komodo Dragon's head as it exploded, and etc. etc.- it was all a bit much for me. Poor Mr. Crabtree's red crayon must be down to the nubbin by now!

I bought Bill an extra set of red crayons just for this issue.

6.) But I know you're just setting us up for next issue, which I eagerly anticipate. I have no idea how the space heroes are going to get out of their jam, but I've got twenty (cents) that says at least one Dupli-Kate stayed out of the fight until the end, just like King Lizard. Or you could go the extreme Joss Whedon route, and Rex will die, and his death will become a point of contention between Mark and Eve, who decided to give it a try now that Amber's going for Gary. But that would be kinda sad. Poor Rex.

7.) Mr. Ottley (and Misters Crabtree and Wooton) really did kick it up a notch this issue. I was especially impressed with the detail on all those masses of Sequids.

8.) I've really been digging the Robot/Monster Girl sub-plot. Their predicaments are interesting, and they're so gosh-darn cute.

9.) I was going to ask when a Capes TPB might be available, but you just now answered that, so. Looking forward to that, then. I've enjoyed the back-up, but always had a bit of wondering "who are these people?"

When you read the TPB it'll be much clearer... and y'know... a few of them did show up in issue 17 and 27.

10.) I love that you have back-up stories. I loved the Benito & Nate days, love Capes, just love the whole thing. It rewards me for buying the monthly issues, which I plan to continue doing just as long as you'll keep releasing them.

Wow, this got way too long. All right, 'night then.

Yours loyally,
Robert D. Wilson

Ugh... more back-up stories, then. I'll see what I can do.

Man... what an issue. So many people died. I hope that Rex is just having some super-bad dream or something. Because, for some reason, you like numbers so much, I will number the following questions/comments.

I love how every letter writer now seems to begrudgingly number things like it's such a crappy thing. "Well, YOU like them..." am I the only one who reads letters columns and skips to the numbered questions? I guess those of you who do that wouldn't be reading this, then, huh? Well... screw you!

1) Will we ever see any more of Damien Darkblood demon detective? He is such a great character, and we haven't heard from him in a while.

Eventually.

2) Way to go Robert. You made Rex into such a likeable character. I used to hate him because he was such a dirtbag, but now he is one of my favourite characters.

Woo hoo! And thanks.

3) I love the issues you have with voice bubbles (dialogue balloons?) on the covers. They give such a 60's comics feel to them. My personal favourite is the "One side kiddo! This looks like a job for the Guardians of the Globe!" Great cover.

That was Kurt Busiek's idea--I swear. As I recall, he pretty much wrote that word balloon.

4) Will we ever see any Invincible t-shirts or action figures? Also, there is a poster out, right? If so, that thing is harder to find than the PS3!

There are t-shirts AND posters... and as far as I know they're BOTH available for order if you just ask your retailer to order them for you.

5) The first hardcover (the ultimate collection vol. 1) would make the perfect movie. Just might need to slim down on some things, I don't know what. And that ending is classic ("What are you gonna do now?" "I don't know, finish high school, I guess"!)

Thanks.

6) And last, I think that for Omni-Man, the perfect actor would be none other than Bruce Campbell. That's just my opinion, don't tear my head off. Thanks.

I do love me some Bruce Campbell... but then again, who doesn't?

Thank you for listening to my yammering. Keep up the fantastic work!

-Geoff R. Wenzlau

I'll see what I can do.

And with that, my friends, we bring this issue to a close.

Now, let's see if we can't get 44 out sooner than later.

See you then!

-Robert Kirkman

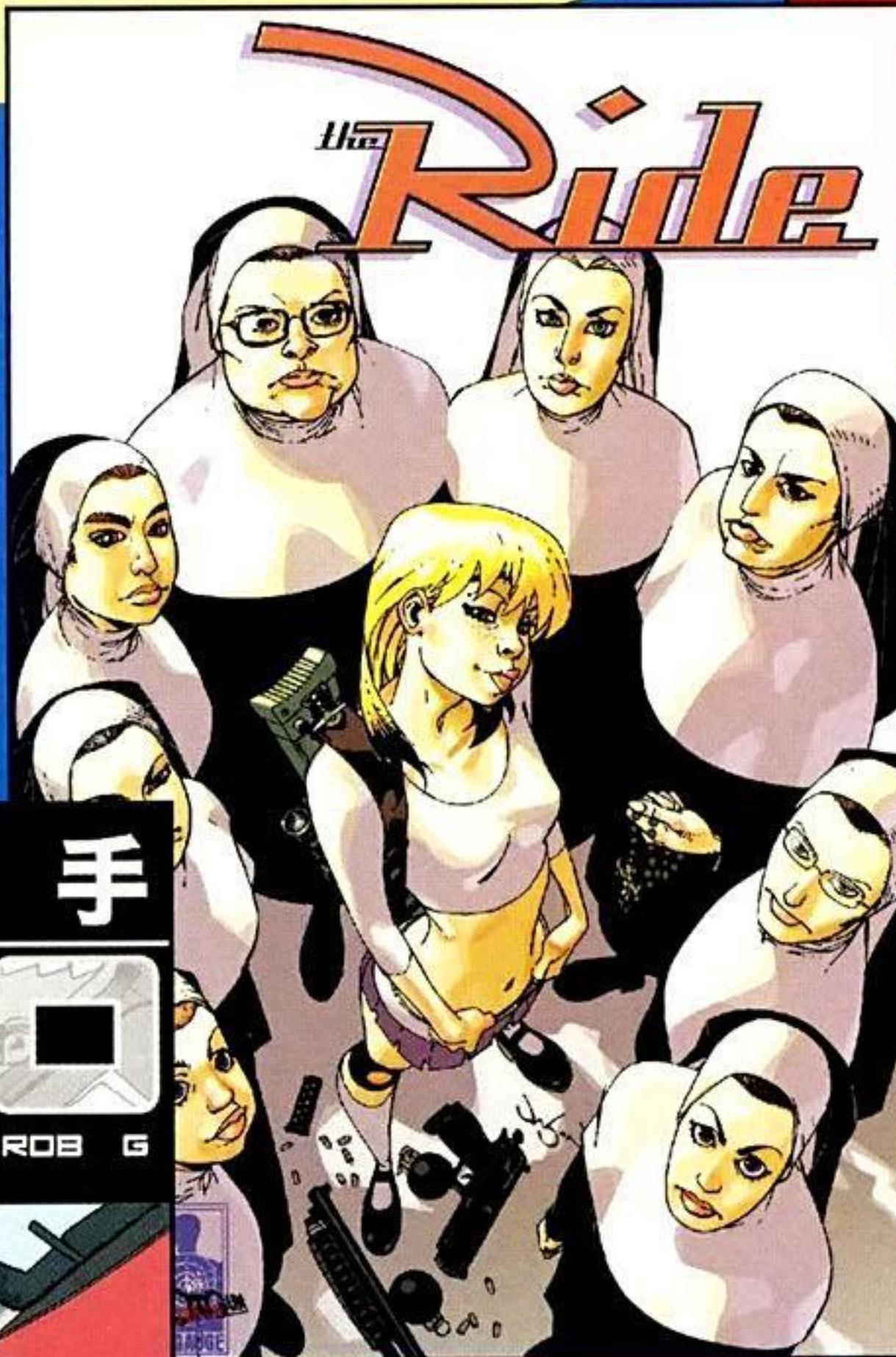
This Month's Pin-Up is by ROB STOTZ



The iWord

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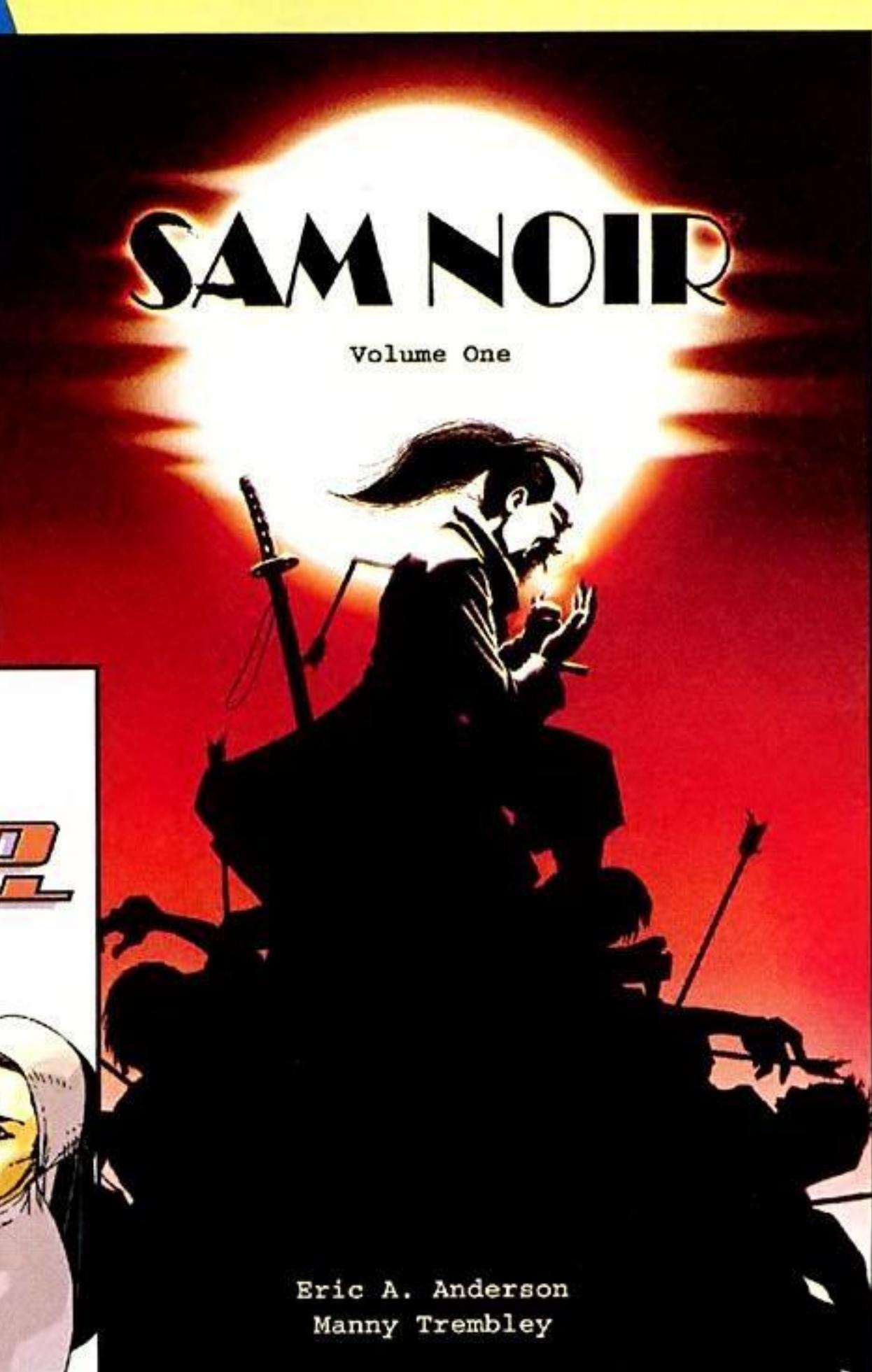
THE RIDE: DIE, VALKYRIE! #1 (of 3)
 Hot chicks, a stolen '68 Camaro, tons of guns, a car chase and a mess of dead bodies – all drawn by one of the best in the business, BRIAN STELFREEZE, artist of MATADOR and cover artist for BATMAN: SHADOW OF THE BAT. All this and the hottest teen-assassin in comics as a cherry on top!



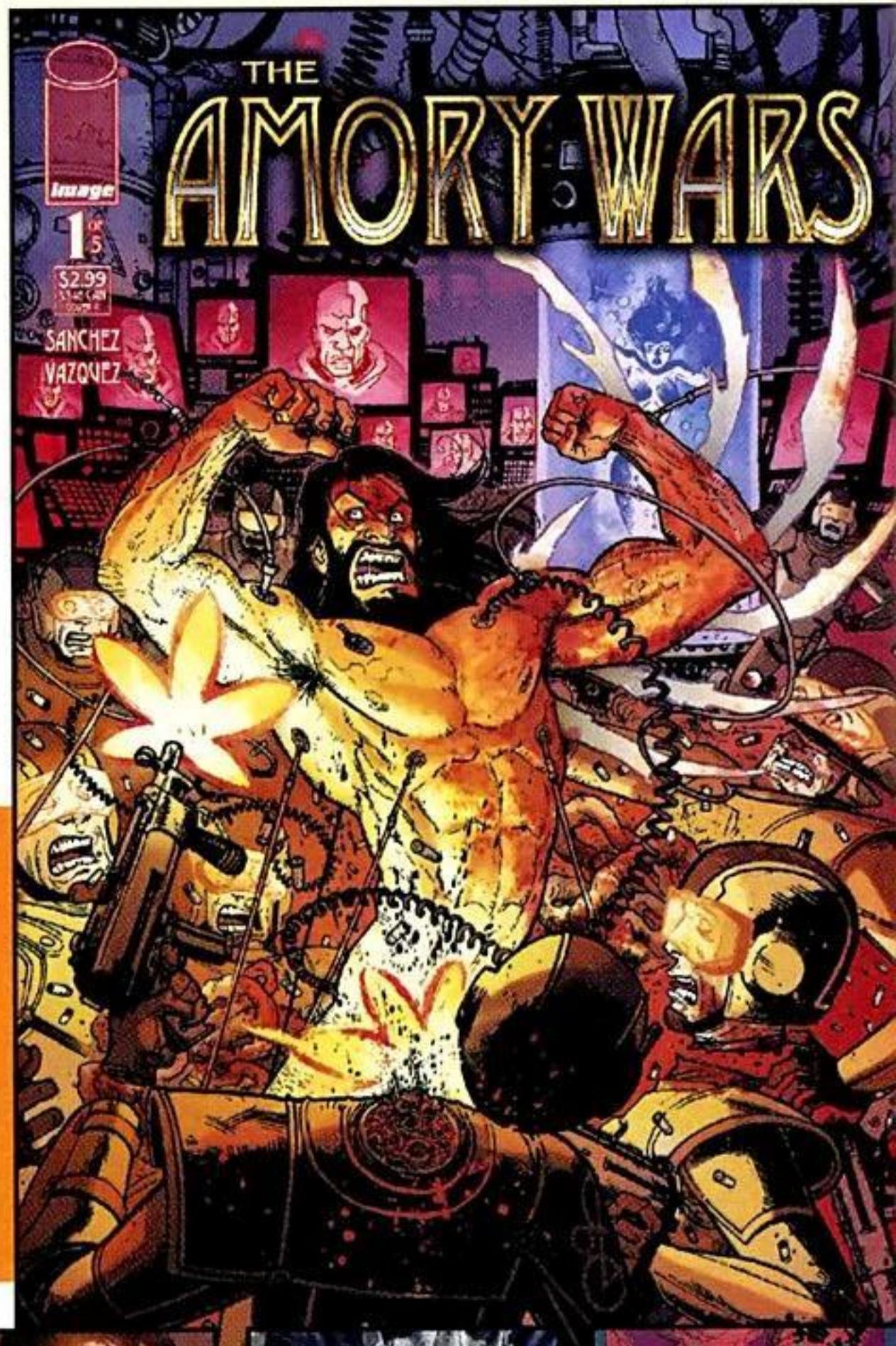
REPO #1 (of 5)
 From the team that brought you TEENAGERS FROM MARS, and THE COURIERS comes REPO, an all-out action comedy about two small-time repo men named KD and Emil. Usually their job is repossessing cars from deadbeats who owe the wrong kind of people money. Today the job is different – the repo of an escaped clone.

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JUNE HITLIST

AGE OF BRONZE #26

ALIEN PIGFARM 3000
#2 (of 4)

THE AMORY WARS
#1 (of 5)

BOMB QUEEN III: THE
GOOD, THE BAD, AND
THE LOVELY #4 (of 4)

DYNAMO 5 #4

FRANK FRAZETTA'S
DEATH DEALER
#3 (of 6)

GODLAND #19

GUTSVILLE #2 (of 6)

INVINCIBLE #43

MADMAN ATOMIC
COMICS #3

NOBLE CAUSES #30

PAUL JENKINS'
SIDEKICK: SUPER
SUMMER SIDEKICK
SPECTACULAR
#1 (of 2)

PVP #34

REPO #1 (of 5)

RIDE: DIE, VALKYRIE
#1 (of 3)

SPAWN #168

SPAWN: GODSLAYER #1

STRANGE
EMBRACE #1

STRANGE GIRL #18

SUPERPATRIOT: WAR
ON TERROR #4 (of 4)

WALKING DEAD #38

WARD OF THE STATE
#2 (of 3)

GRAND LARSENY

I gotta hand it to Jay Faerber! He's been plugging away at Image Comics for years, concocting new titles, collaborating with new artists and giving it everything he's got.

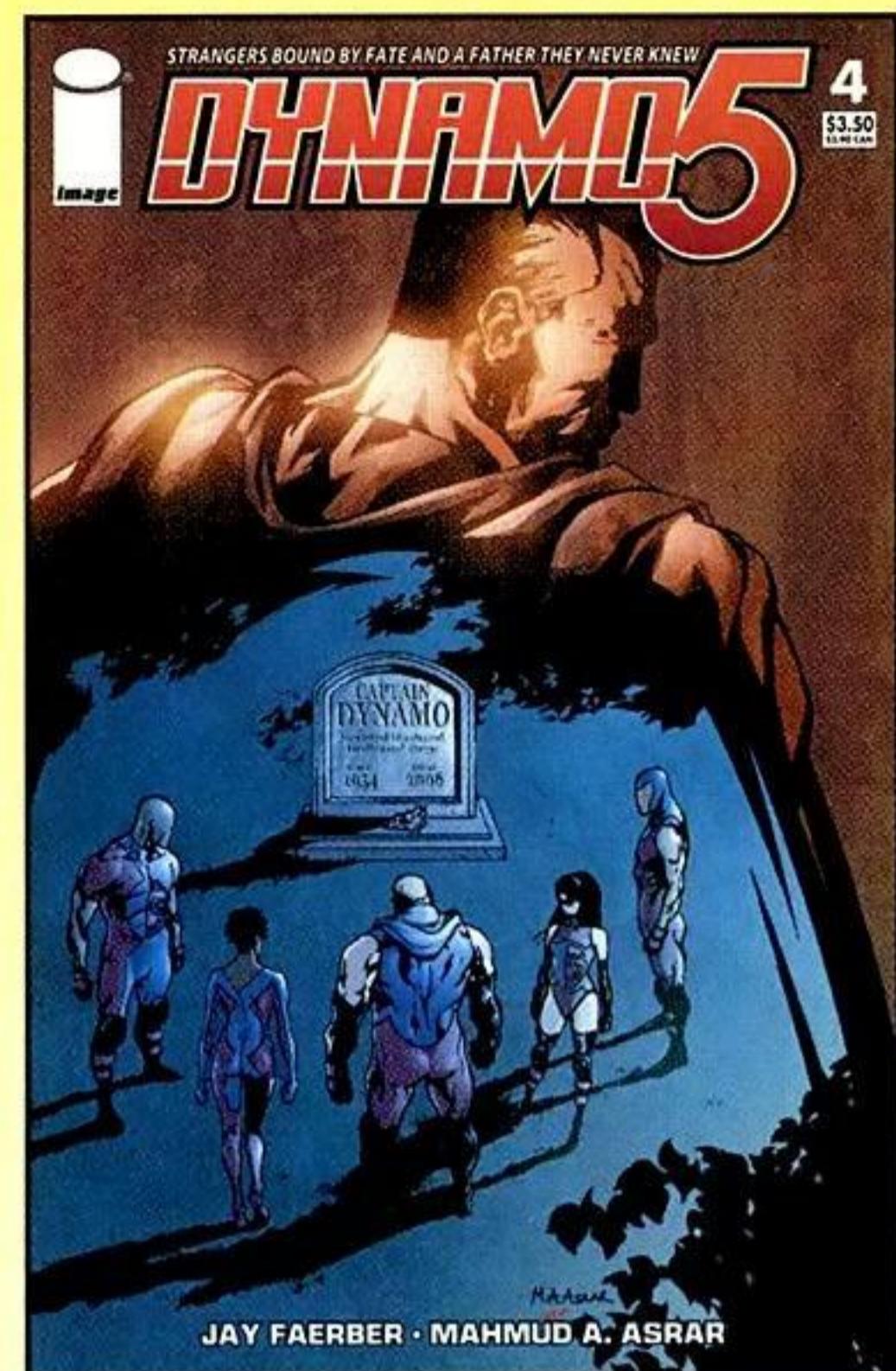
And it hasn't always been a walk in the park. Jay writes a brilliant comic book called NOBLE CAUSES but he's gone through a number of different artists in a relatively short period of time and that hasn't helped the title.

But now that Jay's paired with Yildiray Cinar, everything's turning up roses! Yildiray took over the art chores with NOBLE CAUSES #27 and the book is really hitting its stride! And let me tell you - changes are afoot that are guaranteed to knock your socks off!

NOBLE CAUSES is an ongoing title about a normal girl who marries into a family of world-famous superheroes. Jay likens it to "Spider-Man meets Desperate Housewives", only there's less web-slinging and more bed-hopping. It's got action, mystery, romance, and everything that comes along with romance - you know what I'm talking about.

And if that wasn't enough - Jay has a certifiable hit with his brand-spankin' new title, DYNAMO 5! Paired with rising star Mahmud Asrar, DYNAMO 5 is the story of the world's greatest superhero's illegitimate children, who have banded together to fight the forces of evil! (There's more to it than that, of course but I'm giving you the Reader's Digest version). The first issue sold out in record time, and a second printing was issued, and then the second issue flew off the racks as well, and a second printing followed it!

Readers love DYNAMO 5! Retailers love DYNAMO 5! Fellow creators love DYNAMO 5! And DYNAMO 5 fever has spilled into its sister publication, NOBLE CAUSES, which has caught fire as well (it doesn't hurt that the two titles are intrinsically linked... smart cookie, that Mr. Faerber).



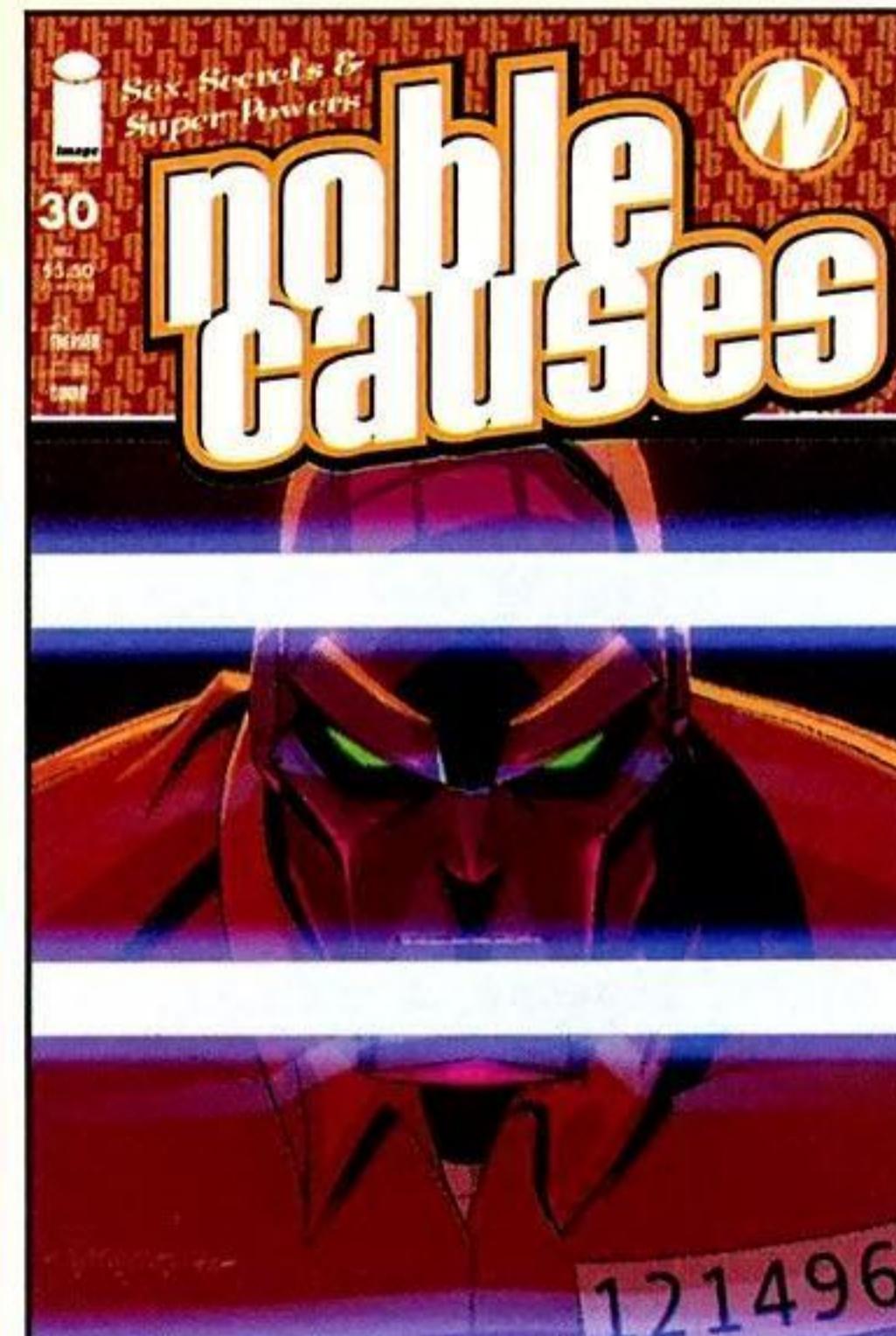
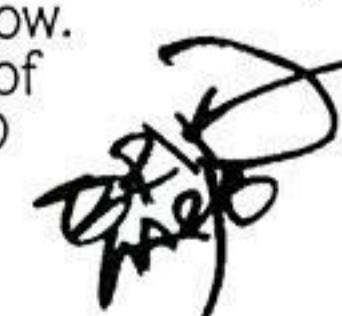
But who is Jay Faerber? Where did he come from? And where does he live so I can drop by the house unannounced and rummage through his refrigerator and fold back the covers of his comic books?

Jay Faerber was born as a small child in northeastern Pennsylvania sometime during the year 1972. Jay cut his writing teeth on comic books at Marvel and DC Comics, where he worked on such funnybooks as THE TITANS, NEW WARRIOR, GREEN LANTERN, SUPERBOY, ROBOTECH and GENERATION-X, among others. After numerous attempts to make their titles his own, Jay came to Image comics to make up his own titles (okay, okay, my chronology may be a bit off but you gotta admit - it sounded good).

Jay launched NOBLE CAUSES in 2001 to massive critical acclaim. Since then, he's diversified his resume as a creator of independent comic books by concocting a variety of titles such as DODGE'S BULLETS, FIREBIRDS, VENTURE, and the afore-mentioned DYNAMO 5.

And that's just the tip of the iceberg! Even now Jay Faerber is hard at work dreaming up new and unusual comic books just waiting to be sprung on an unsuspecting public (although I suspect that public may now suspect, after what I just mentioned). Oh, and in addition to his ongoing titles NOBLE CAUSES and DYNAMO 5, Jay is working on his first novel. The guy likes to keep busy and we're not complaining!

Jay lives in Gig Harbor, Washington - call first, if you're dropping by, and don't forget to bring cupcakes - he'll tell you where to get them if you don't already know. And if you see any copies of NOBLE CAUSES or DYNAMO 5, snap them up - quick! They're sure to be instant collector's items!



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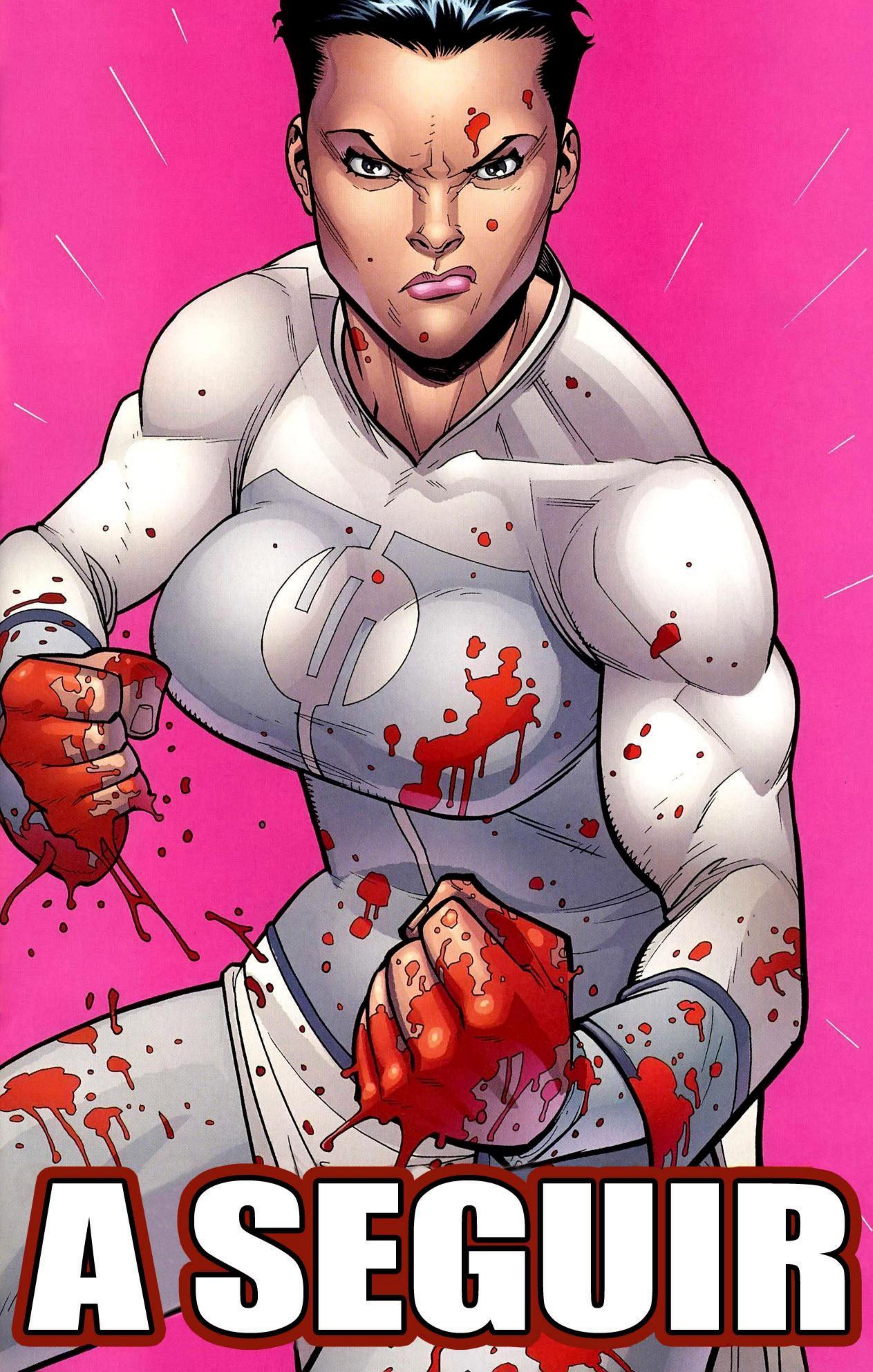


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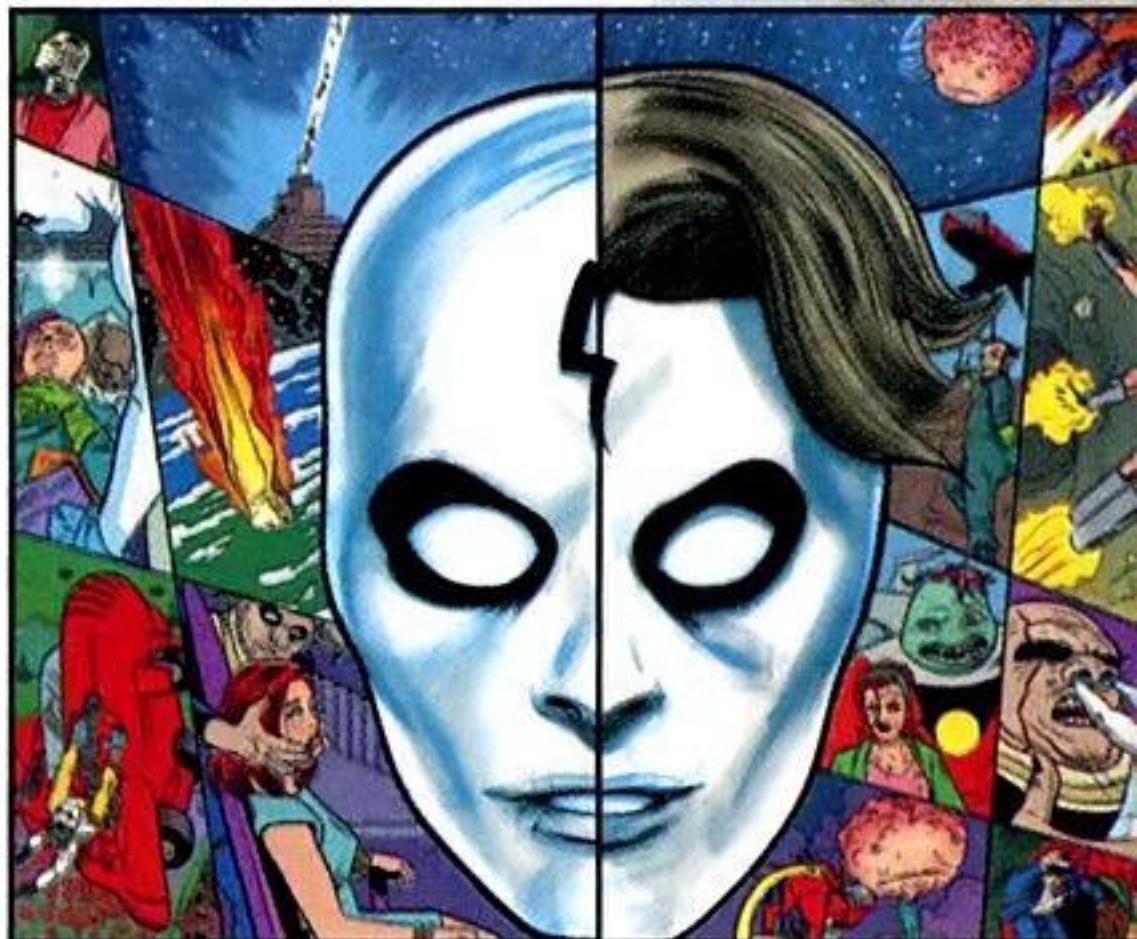
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