

STAR WARS™
WAR OF THE BOUNTY HUNTERS
PRELUDE



PAK
VILANOVA
WHITE

MARVEL

12

PRELUDE
“INTO THE TRAP”

WAR OF THE BOUNTY HUNTERS

PRELUDE: Into the Trap

Emperor Palpatine finally revealed to Darth Vader a mere glimpse of his power on Exegol.

It was enough to make Vader kneel before his master once more.

Darth Vader is beginning to understand the full scope and might of the Emperor's plans for the galaxy. Now Vader's own plans must also change....

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& EMILY SHKOUKANI
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Coruscant.

MAKE WAY FOR THE RETURN OF LORD VADER!

OR WHAT'S LEFT OF HIM.

HOW IS HE EVEN ALIVE, ADMINISTRATOR?

HE IS A SITH, MAS AMEDDA.

HIS HATRED GIVES HIM POWER.



HE WILL
FIND HIS TRUE
ENEMY SOON
ENOUGH.

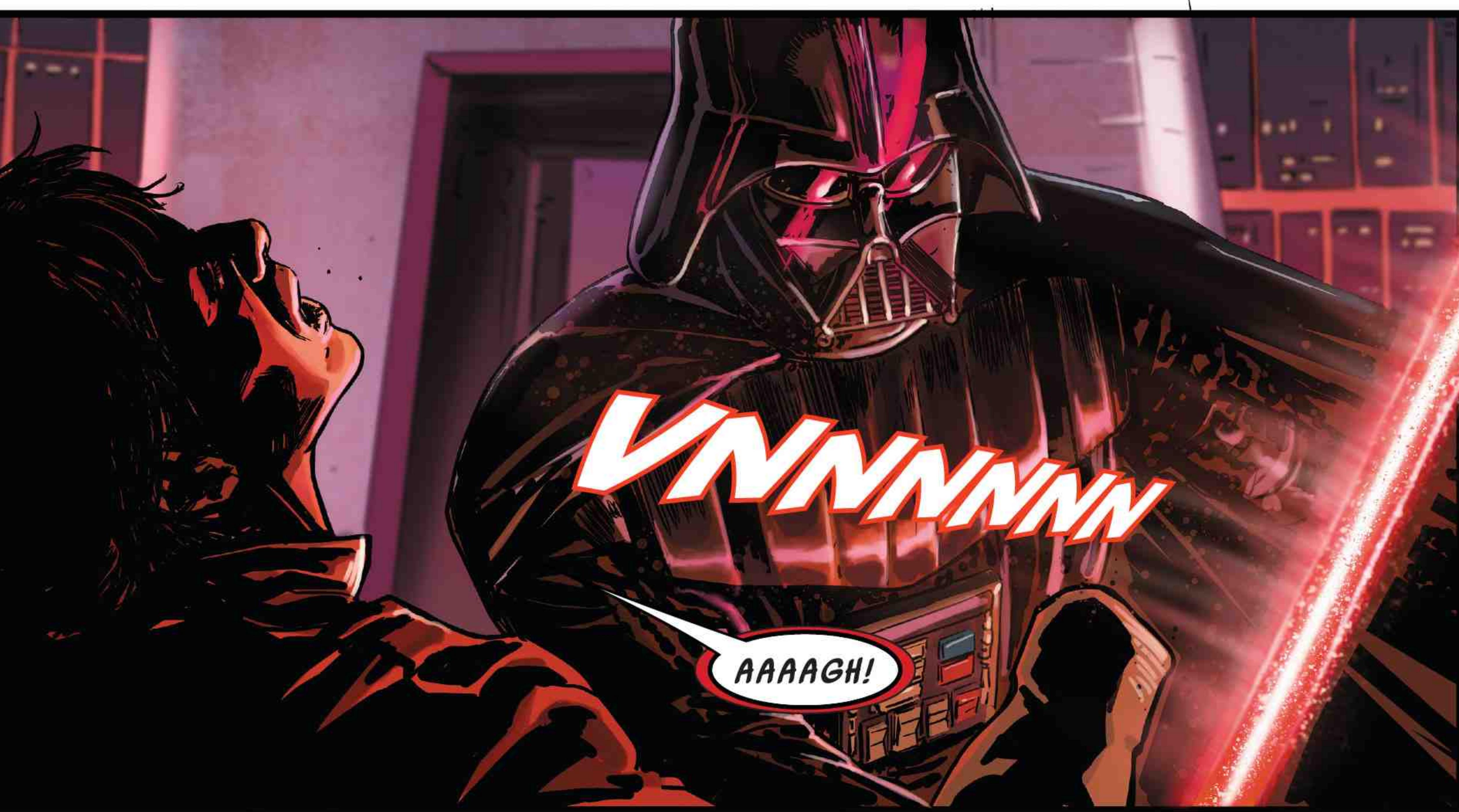
PREPARE
FOR
SHUTDOWN.

NO.

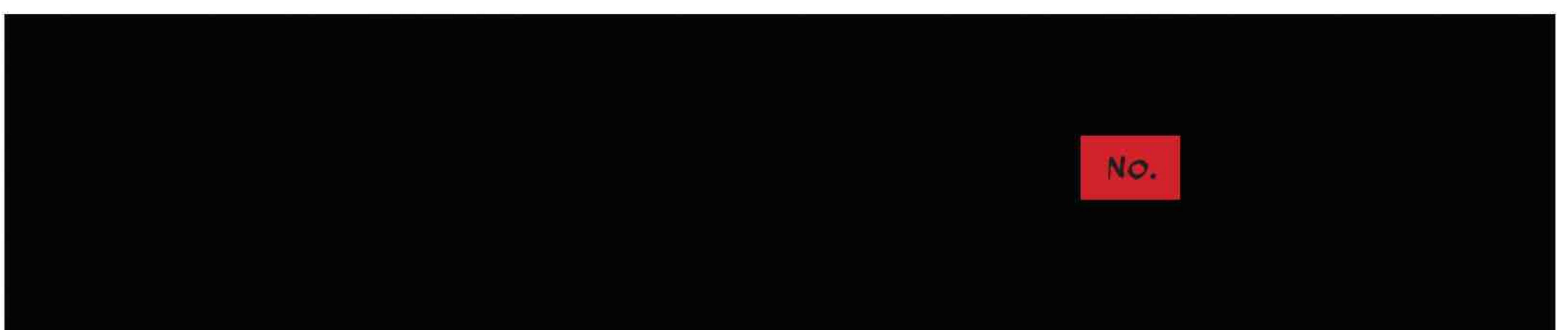
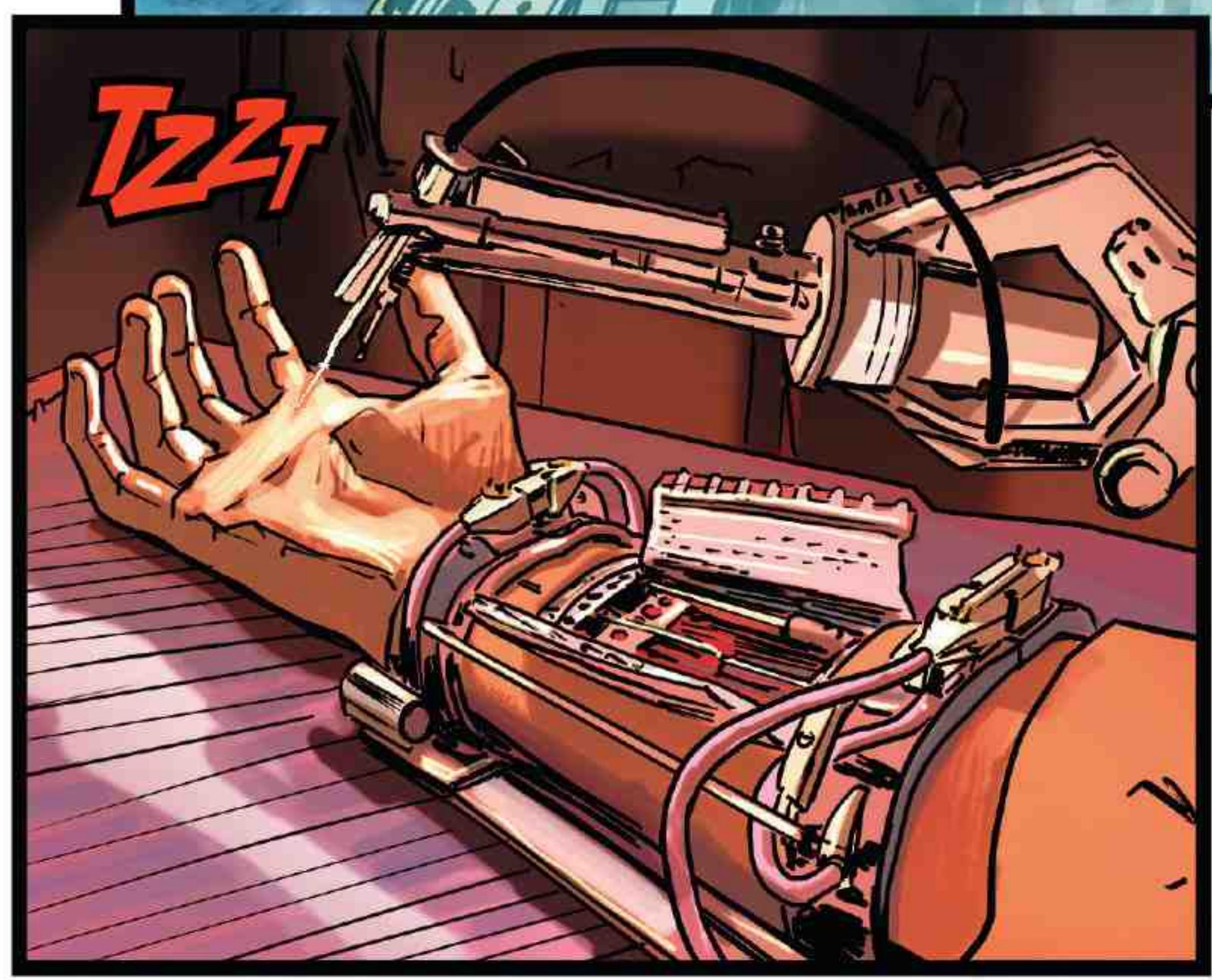
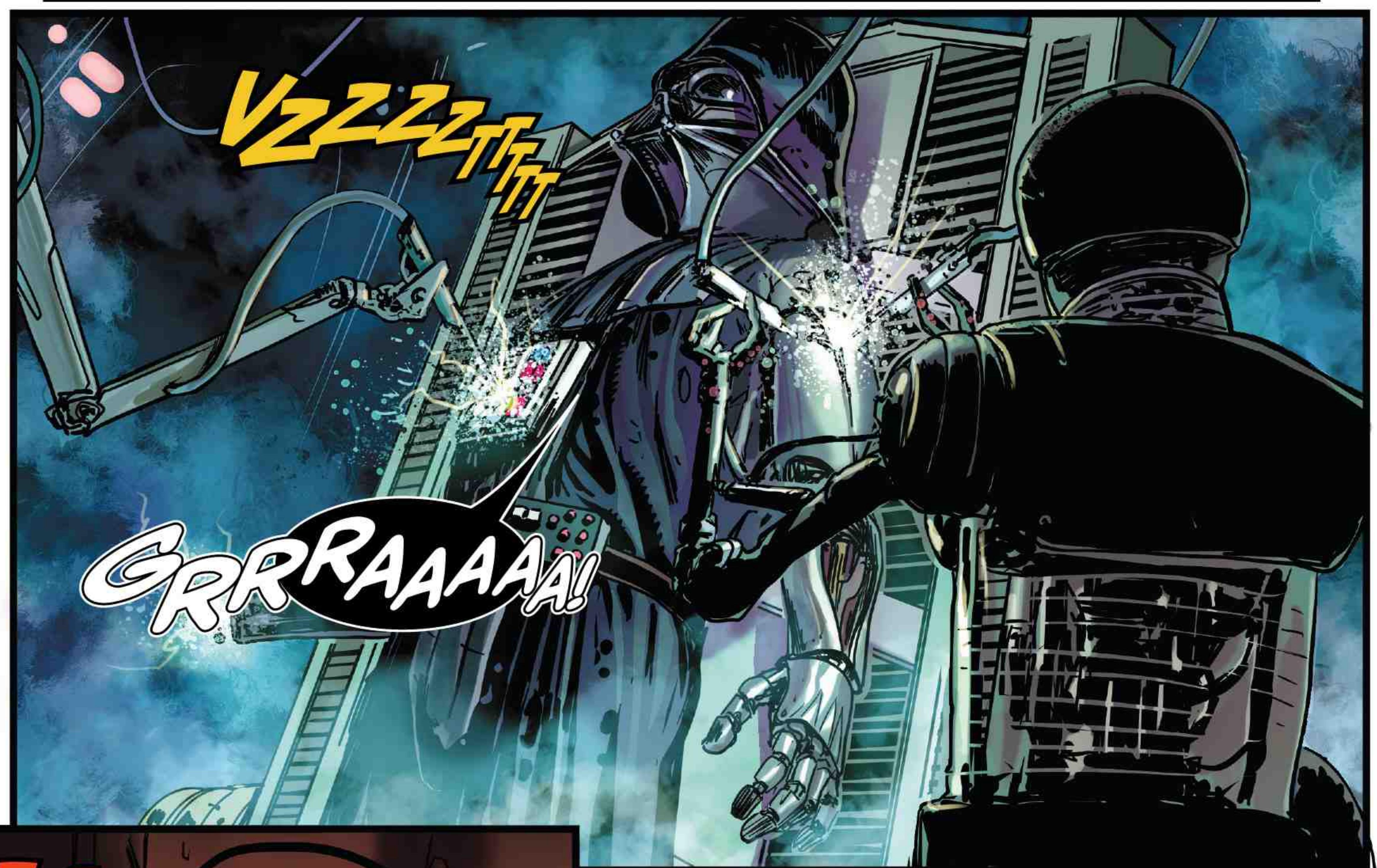
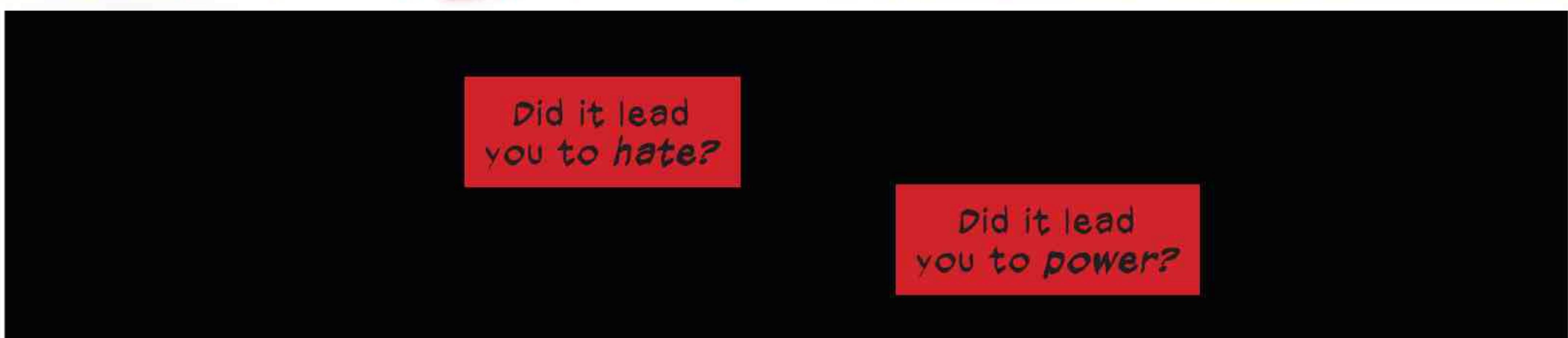
AS YOU
WISH.



Pain.

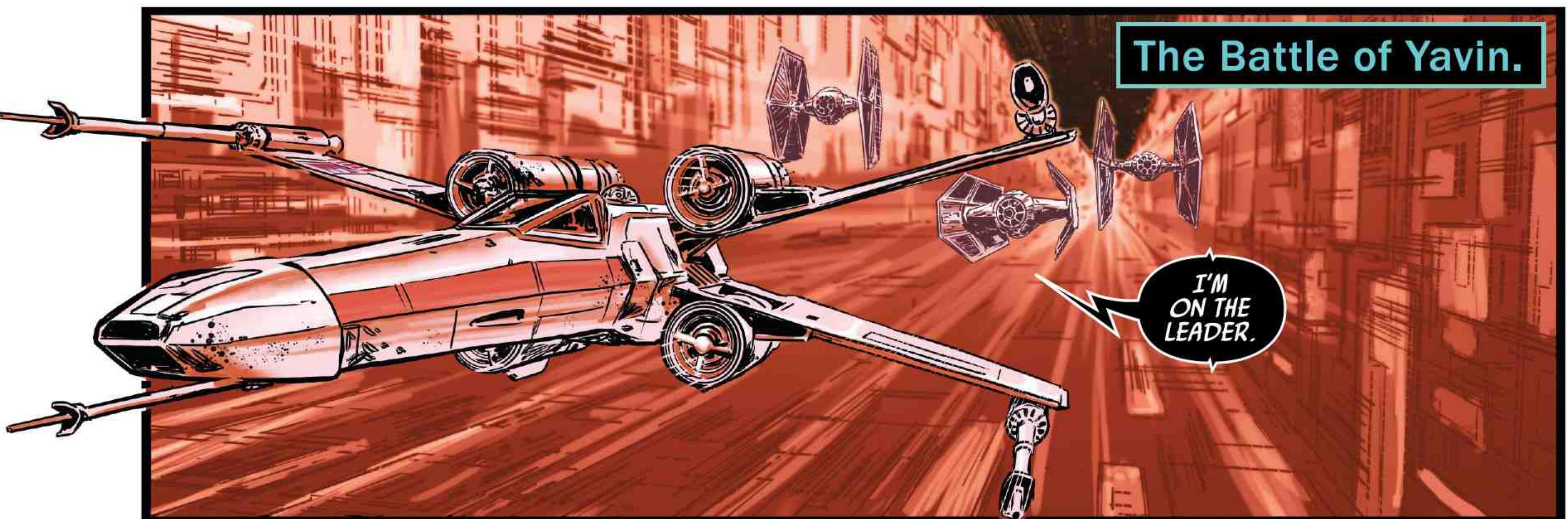


Like I gave
to you, my son.



You could have
ruled the galaxy
by my side.

The Battle of Yavin.



But despite
all your
promise...

...you're
weak.



You have
never done
anything...

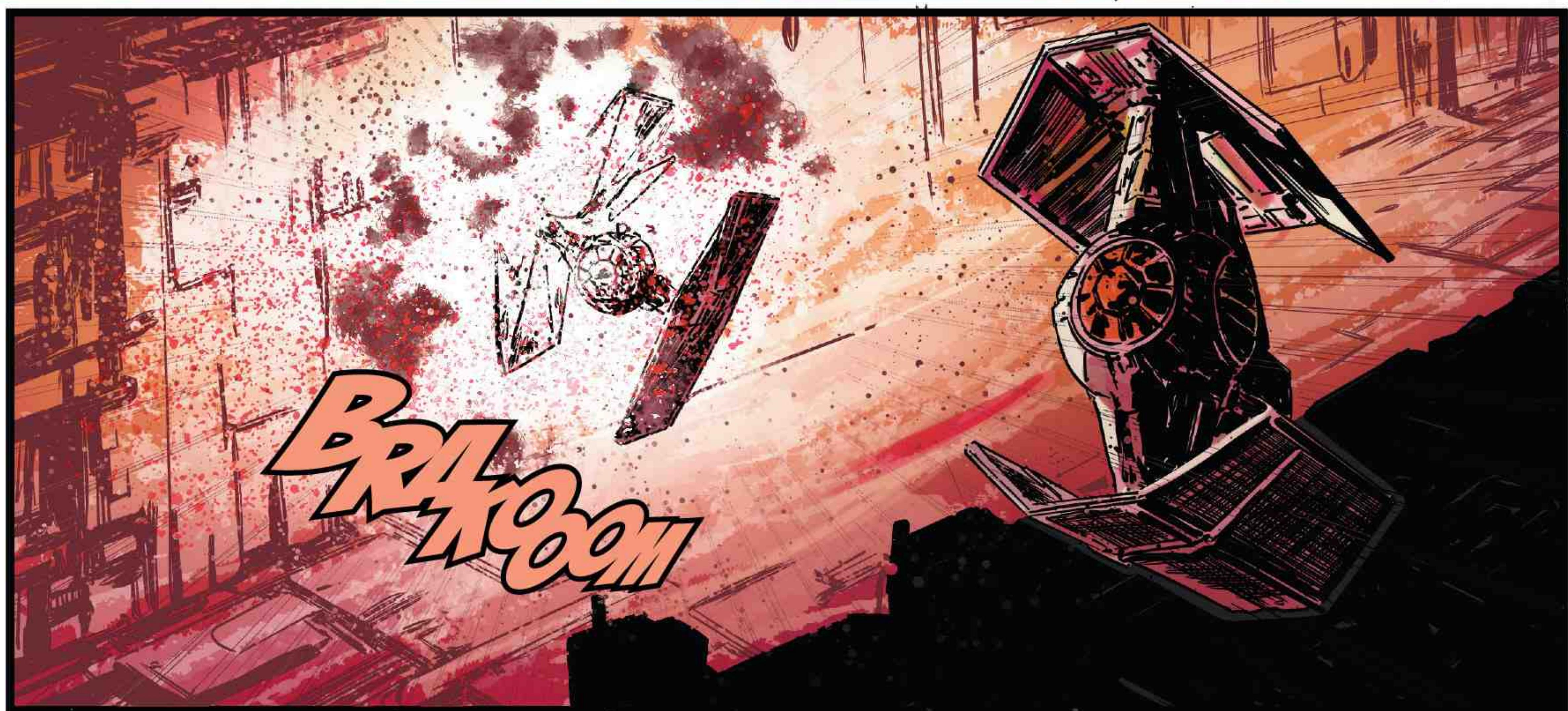
...without
your friends.

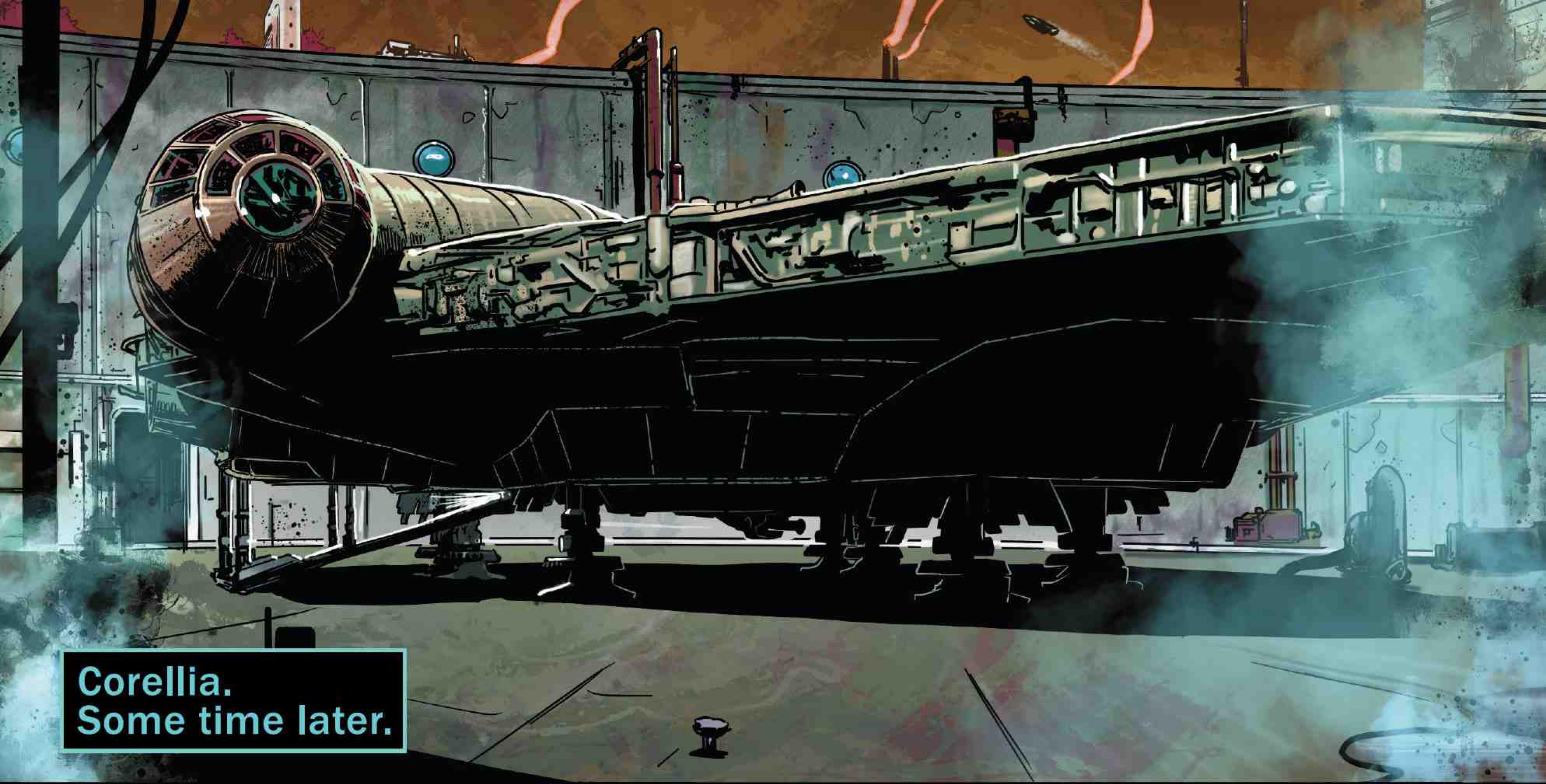
Fiaaaaaah

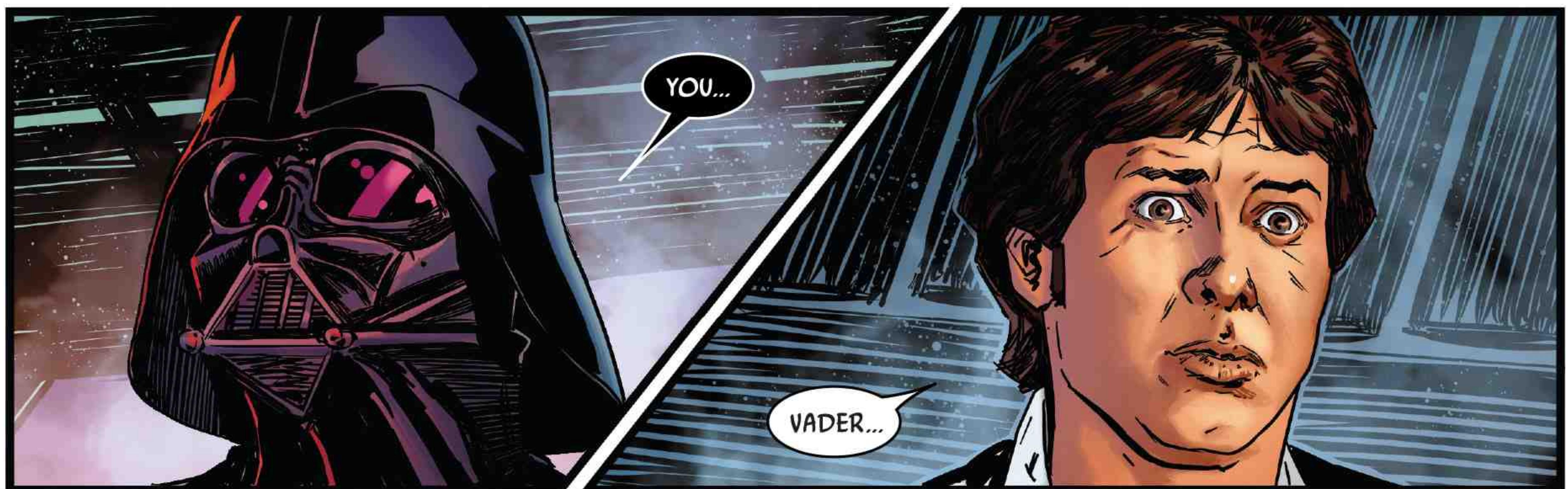
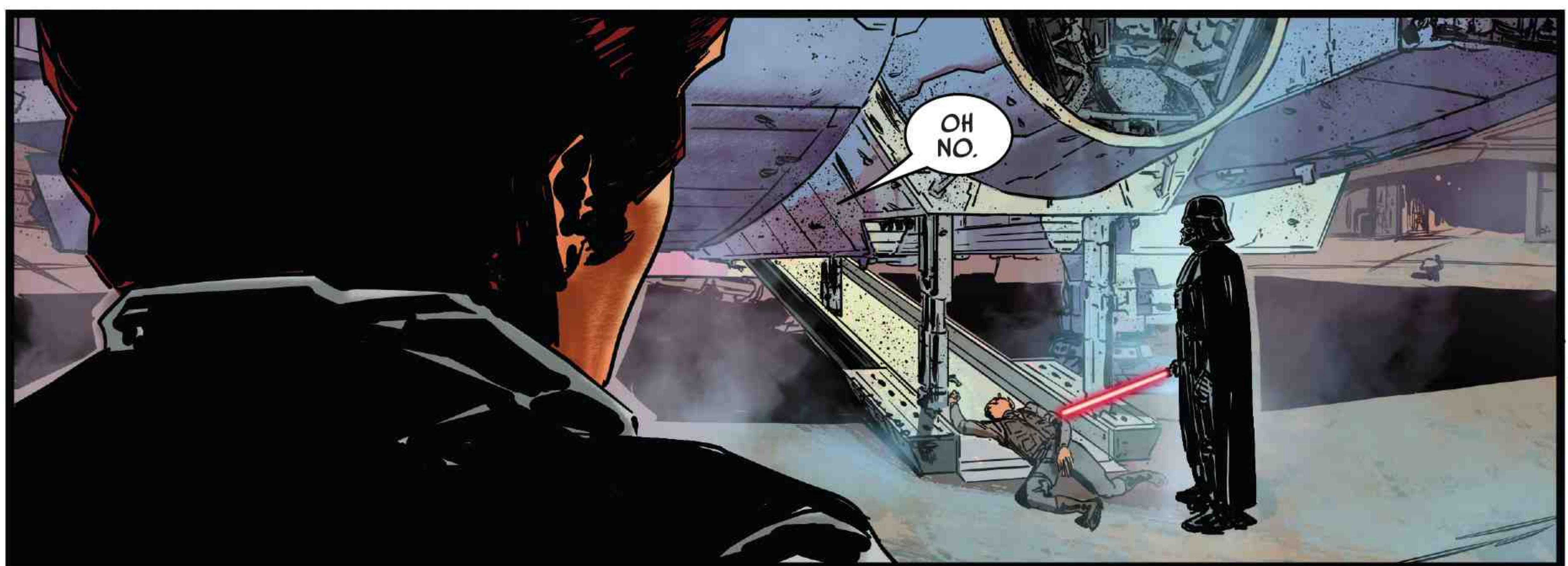
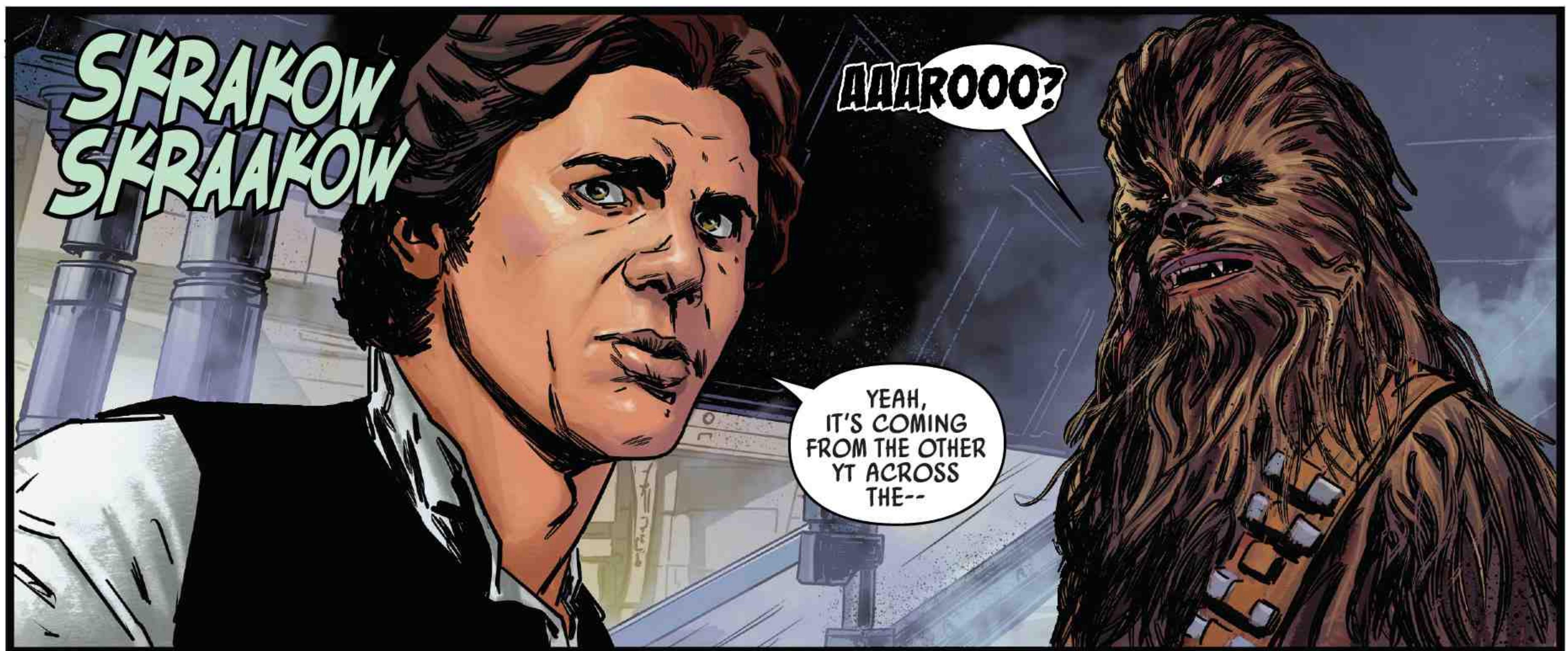


YEEEEE-HOOO!









V
N
N
N
N
N

AROOOOOO!

I KNOW,
CHEWIE!
THAT'S
WHY WE'RE
RUNNING!

WOOOOOOH

SKRAAKOOW
SKRAAKOOW

RRRAOOWR?

YES, I
SAW HIM DEFLECT
OUR LASER
CANNONS!

ARRROOOOO!

YES, I KNOW
THE HYPERDRIVE'S
STILL BUSTED!

ARROUCH?

NO, I
DON'T THINK
WE CAN TAKE
HIM!

WE'VE BEEN IN OVER OUR
HEADS EVER SINCE LUKE
BLEW UP THE DEATH
STAR, CHEWIE.

LET'S FACE IT--
WE'RE A COUPLA
NOBODIES
HERE...

...BUT FOR
ONCE...

"...MAYBE THAT'LL
WORK TO OUR
ADVANTAGE."



Corellian Engineering
Corporation YT-Series Warranty
and Repair Shipyard B33.

Later.

I'M TERRIBLY
SORRY YOU WERE
UNABLE TO FIND
YOUR PARTY.

BUT I DON'T MIND
TELLING YOU IT'S AN
ENORMOUS HONOR....

...I CAN'T IMAGINE
ANY YT-SERIES
SHIPIARD HAS
EVER HAD A
VISITOR OF SUCH
MAGNITUDE--

SILENCE.

SOLO?

NO? IT REALLY
WON'T BE
ANY TROUBLE.

THERE.

RIGHT!

THAT'S
HAN
SOLO.

YEAH, LOCAL
BOY, ACTUALLY.
BUT YOU CAN'T SAY
HE MADE GOOD.

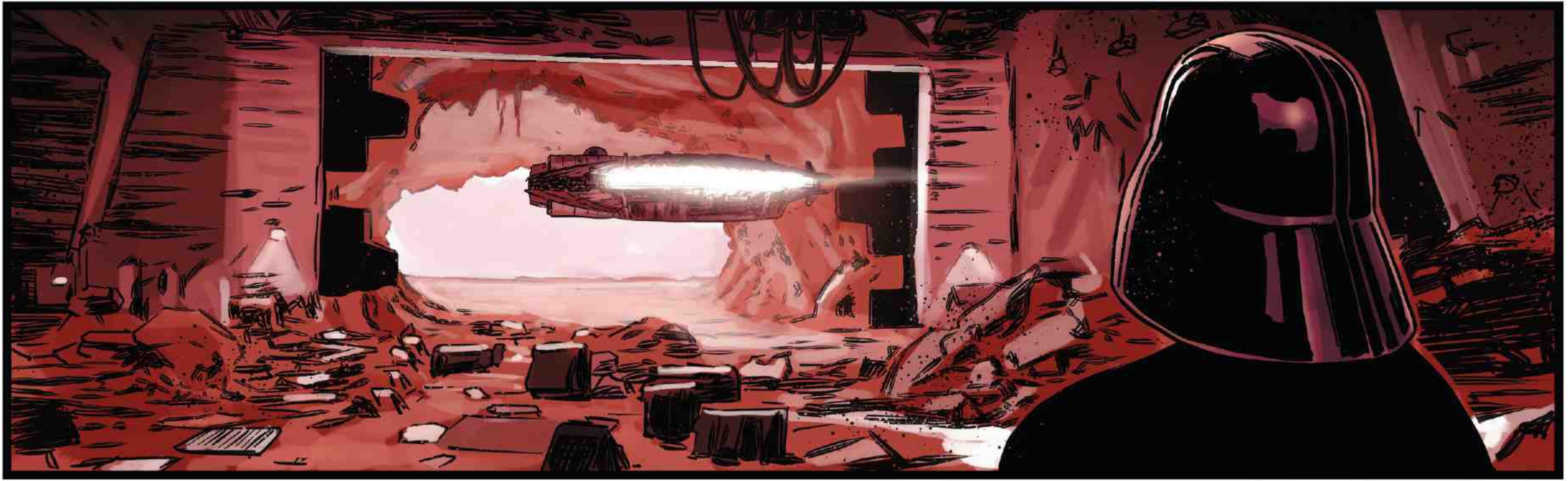
JUST ANOTHER
SCRUM RAT
TURNED
SMUGGLER.

HE CAN'T HAVE
GOTTEN FAR.
SHOULD WE--?

NO.

IF LORD
VADER SAYS
NO--

--THE
ANSWER
IS NO!



Your friends.

You think they
saved you.

You think you
saved them.



Good...

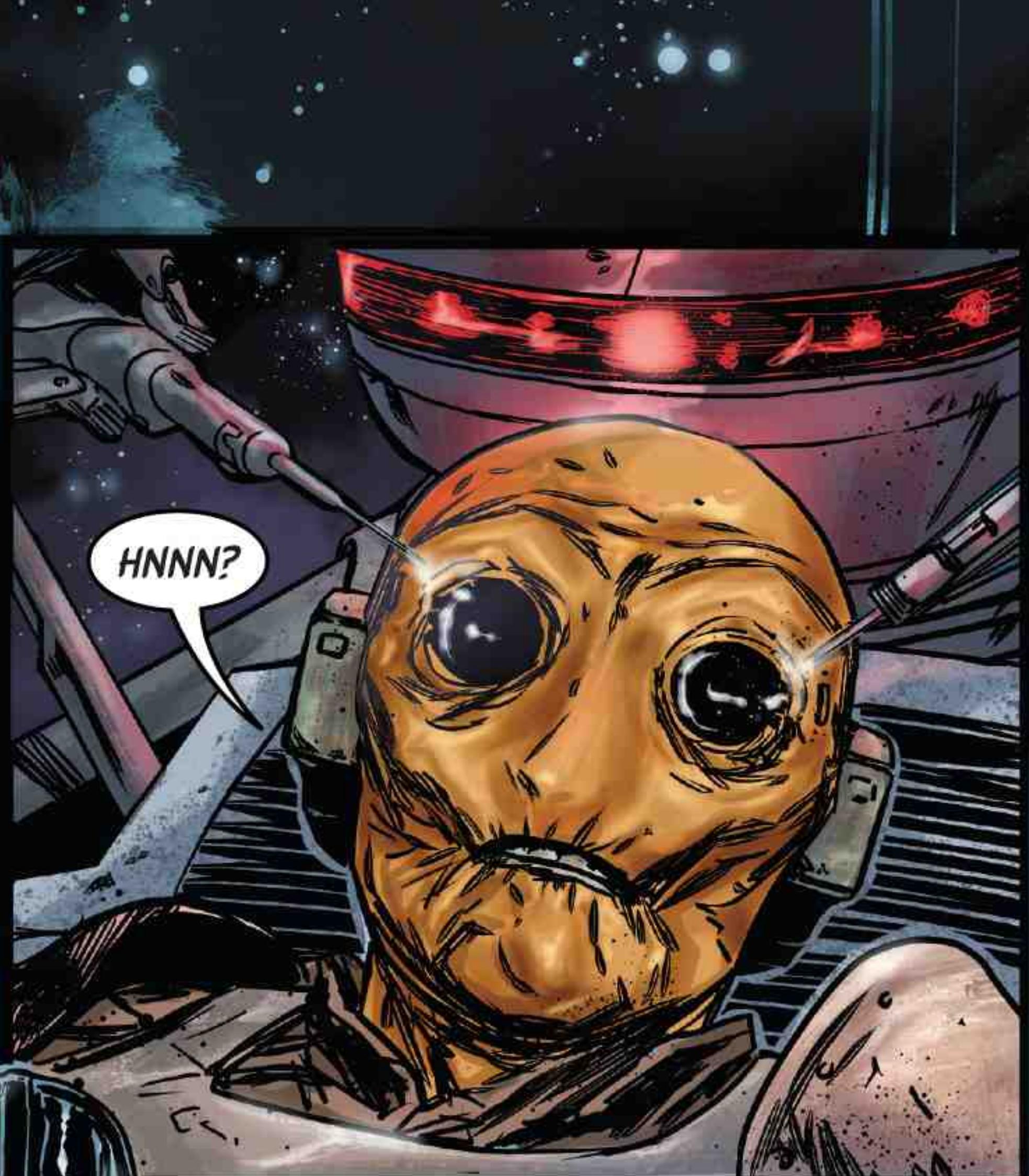
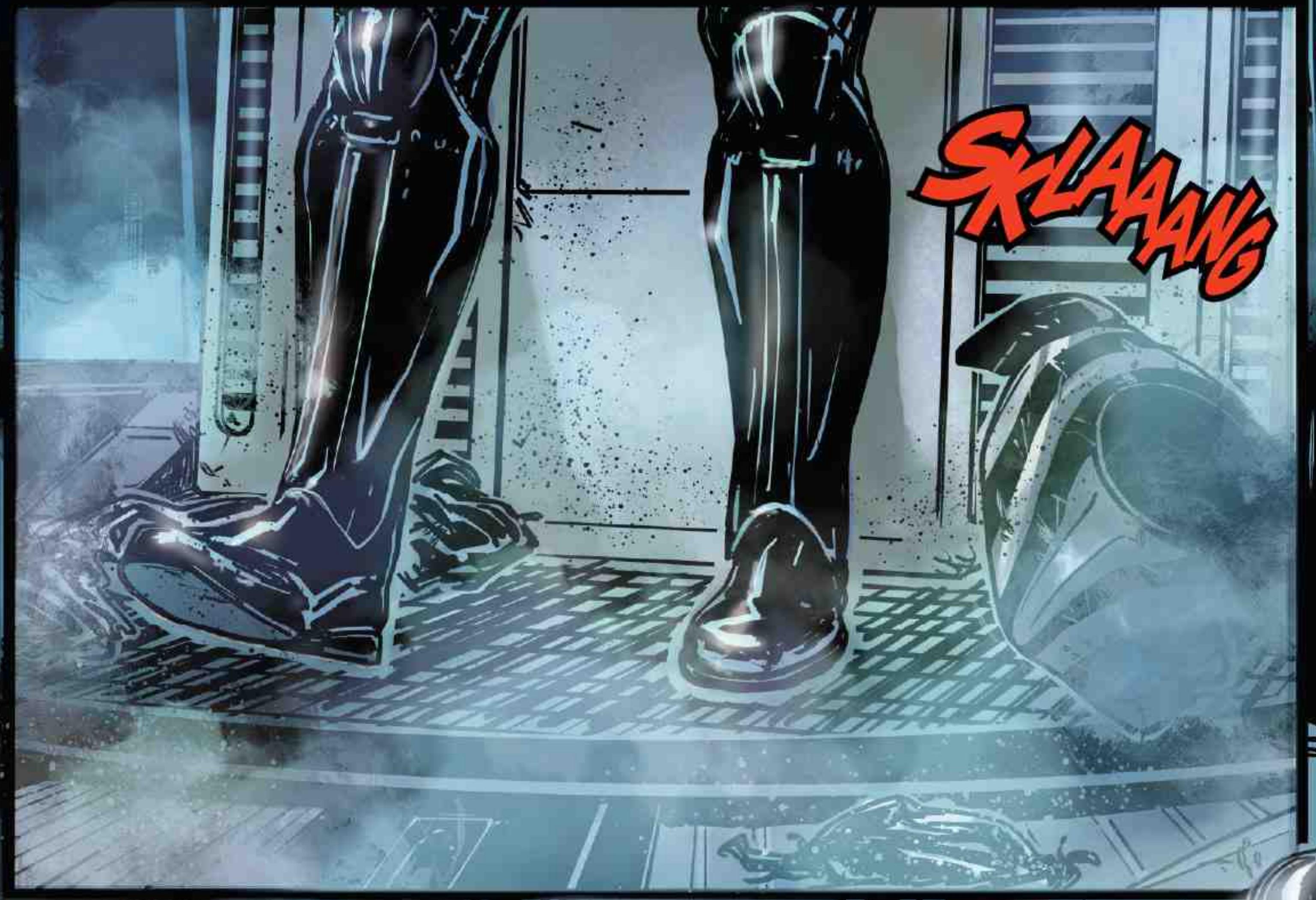
...keep on
believing it...

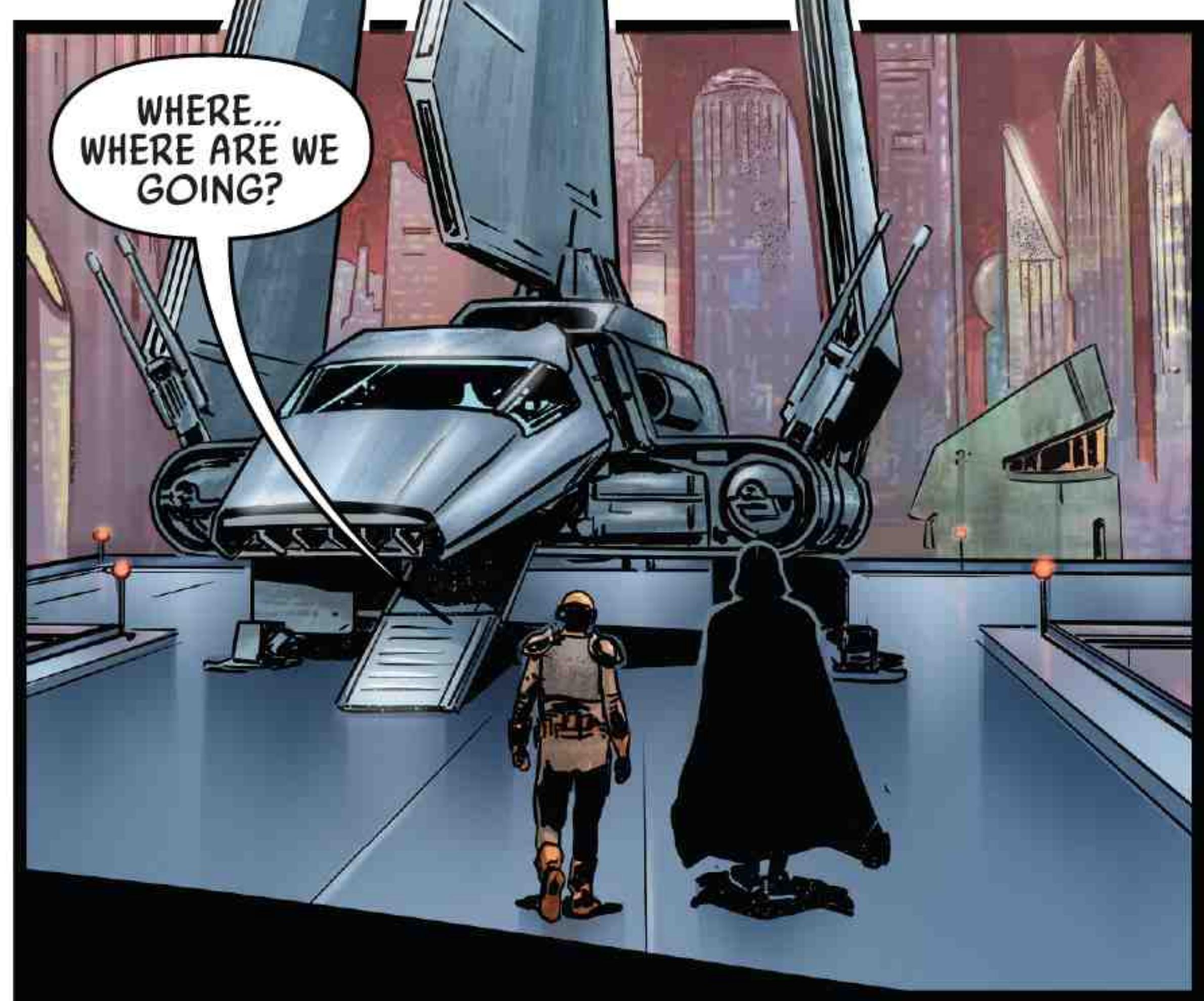
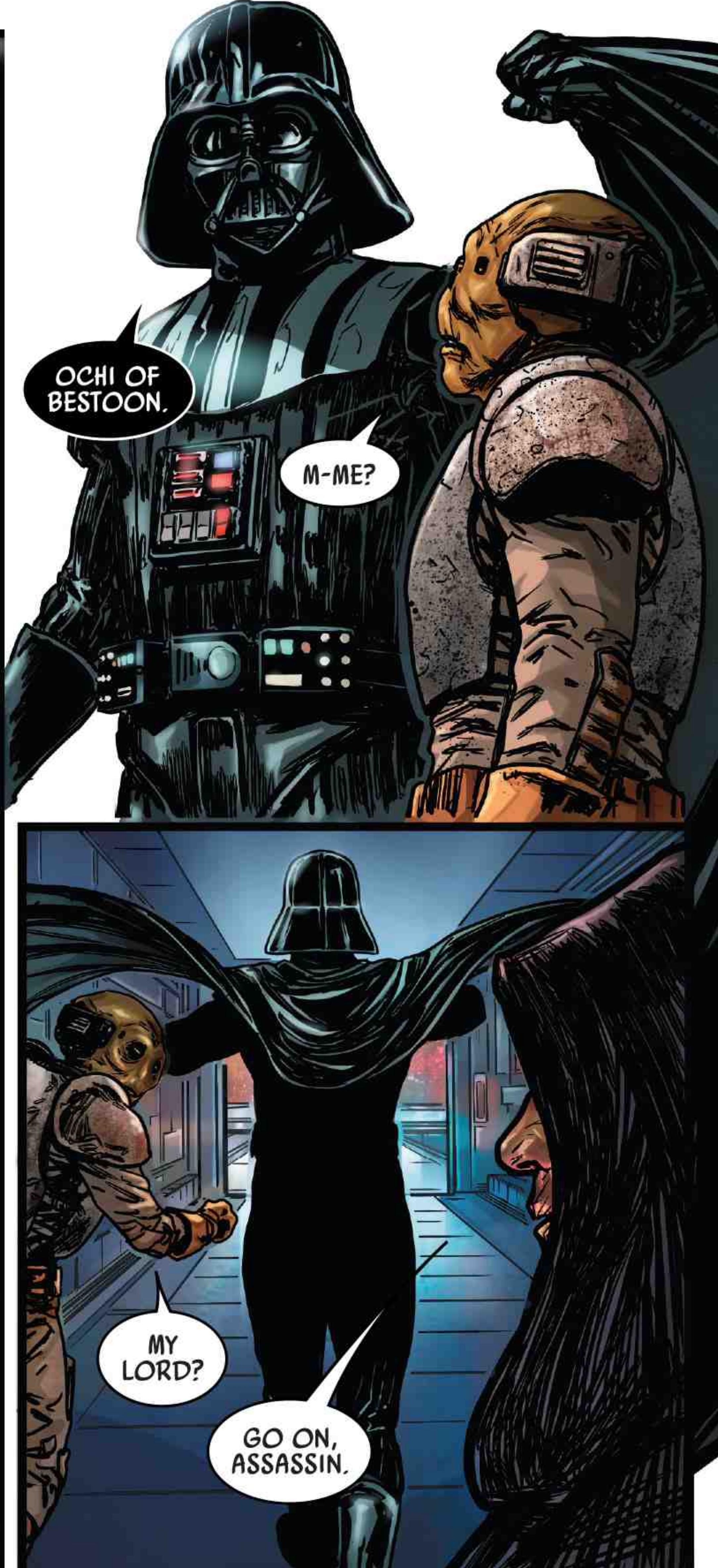
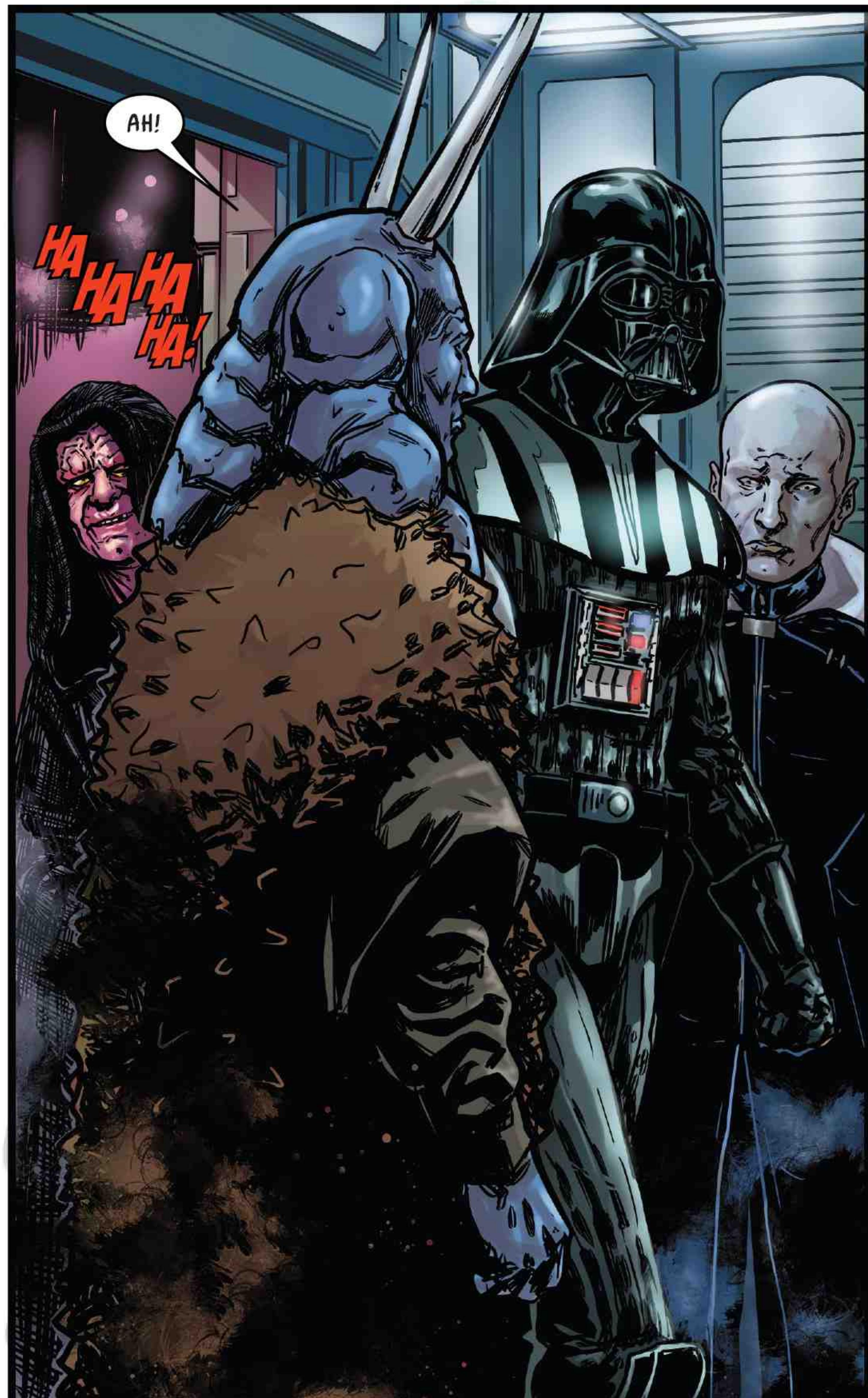
...believe that you and your friends have survived this long through strength or fortune...



...instead of my design.







You could still be
strong, my son.

I know there
is power in you.



But I have seen
the true might and
purpose of the Sith.

And there is no
room for another.

so this
time...



...you
will die.

Outer Rim.

<YOU WANT SOLO?>*

*TRANSLATED FROM HUTTESE.

<SOLO WAS STOLEN. >

YOU MEAN JABBA LOST HIM.

<JABBA REMAINS STRONG. HE WILL RECOVER HIM, AND HIS POWER WILL INCREASE. >

NO, BOKKU...

...YOU WILL RECOVER HIM, AND GIVE HIM TO ME.

AND, LUCKY YOU, YOUR POWER WILL INCREASE.

<SO... STRANGE, OCHI OF BESTOON. >

<NONE OF MY REGULAR IMPERIAL CONTACTS HAVE SPOKEN TO ME OF THIS... FOOLHARDY PLAN. >

I SERVE POWER, BOKKU. SO TODAY...

<ARE YOU CERTAIN THAT YOU SERVE THE EMPEROR? >



...I SERVE
VADER.

AS DO
YOU.

To be continued in
STAR WARS
WAR OF THE BOUNTY
HUNTERS #1!

STAR WARS WAR OF THE BOUNTY HUNTERS

DARTH VADER

From the beginning, **STAR WARS: DARTH VADER** has felt like one of those special books. It's been blessed with tremendous art teams, incredible editors, wildly supportive readers and amazing partners at Lucasfilm, who gave us the green light to explore this eerie time in Vader's story in such emotional depth and to add so much to classic characters from every era in the *STAR WARS* mythos.

So I'm thrilled to report that as we head into the biggest **STAR WARS** comics crossover in the modern Marvel era with **WAR OF THE BOUNTY HUNTERS**, we'll keep raising the stakes of Vader's emotional journey: his anger at the Emperor, his growing understanding of the threat of Luke Skywalker and his own relationship with ambition

and power. At the same time, we'll dig deep into the hearts and minds of unexpected characters in Vader's ambit--from the original trilogy's IG-88, to the prequels' Umbaran administrator, Sly Moore, to the final trilogy's Ochi of Bestoon. These are stories you won't find anywhere else, and it blows my mind every day that we're getting to tell them.

Huge thanks to the entire creative team and to everyone who's been reading and supporting these books. We've got so much more coming your way. See you next month as Vader takes on everyone's favorite old school Phlutdroid--and reveals more about the nature of his own dark heart.

Greg Pak
New York City

STAR WARS

WAR OF THE BOUNTY HUNTERS

MAY

WAR OF THE BOUNTY HUNTERS
PRELUDES

WAR OF THE BOUNTY
HUNTERS ALPHA

By Charles Soule and Steve
McNiven. "Precious Cargo"

Boba Fett travels to Nar Shaddaa to
fix Han Solo's malfunctioning
carbonite. The only way to pay for the
job? Gladiatorial combat.

STAR WARS #13

By Charles Soule and Ramon
Rosanas. "The Hunt for Han Solo"
Luke Skywalker and Chewbacca head
to Nar Shaddaa to hunt down Boba
Fett and his prize!

BOUNTY HUNTERS #12

By Ethan Sacks and Paolo Villanelli.
"Target Solo"

Valance and Dengar tear through Nar
Shaddaa for leads on Han Solo's
location, but Valance can't escape his
past or a deadly assassin!

DARTH VADER #12

By Greg Pak and Guiu Vilanova.
"Into the Trap"

Darth Vader's body and status are
restored! But his thoughts drift to the
past...when he first hunted Han Solo
after the smuggler defied him at the
Death Star!

DOCTOR APHRA #10

5/26/2021

By Alyssa Wong and Ray-Anthony
Height. "The Invitation"

Doctor Aphra and Sana Starros
attempt a daring escape from
Vukorah and the Unbroken Clan,
setting them on a collision course with
one of the galaxy's most frightening
bounty hunters!

JUNE

WAR OF THE BOUNTY
HUNTERS #1

STAR WARS #14

DARTH VADER #13

DOCTOR APHRA #11

BOUNTY HUNTERS #13

JULY

WAR OF THE BOUNTY
HUNTERS #2

STAR WARS #15

DARTH VADER #14

DOCTOR APHRA #12

BOUNTY HUNTERS #14

JABBA THE HUTT #1

AUGUST

WAR OF THE BOUNTY
HUNTERS #3

STAR WARS #16

DARTH VADER #15

DOCTOR APHRA #13

BOUNTY HUNTERS #15

4-LOM & ZUCKUSS #1

SEPTEMBER

WAR OF THE BOUNTY
HUNTERS #4

STAR WARS #17

DARTH VADER #16

DOCTOR APHRA #14

BOUNTY HUNTERS #16

BOUSHH #1

OCTOBER

WAR OF THE BOUNTY
HUNTERS #5

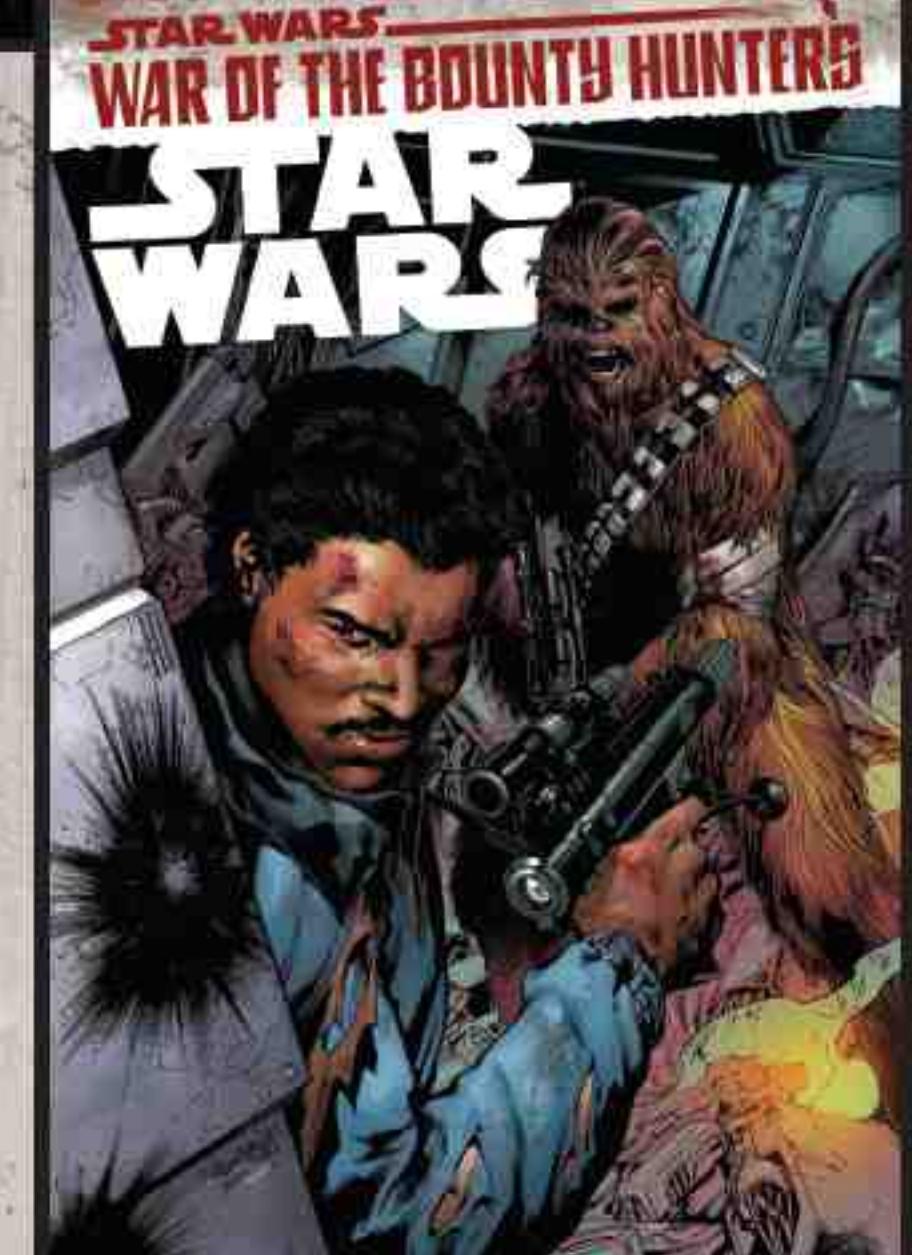
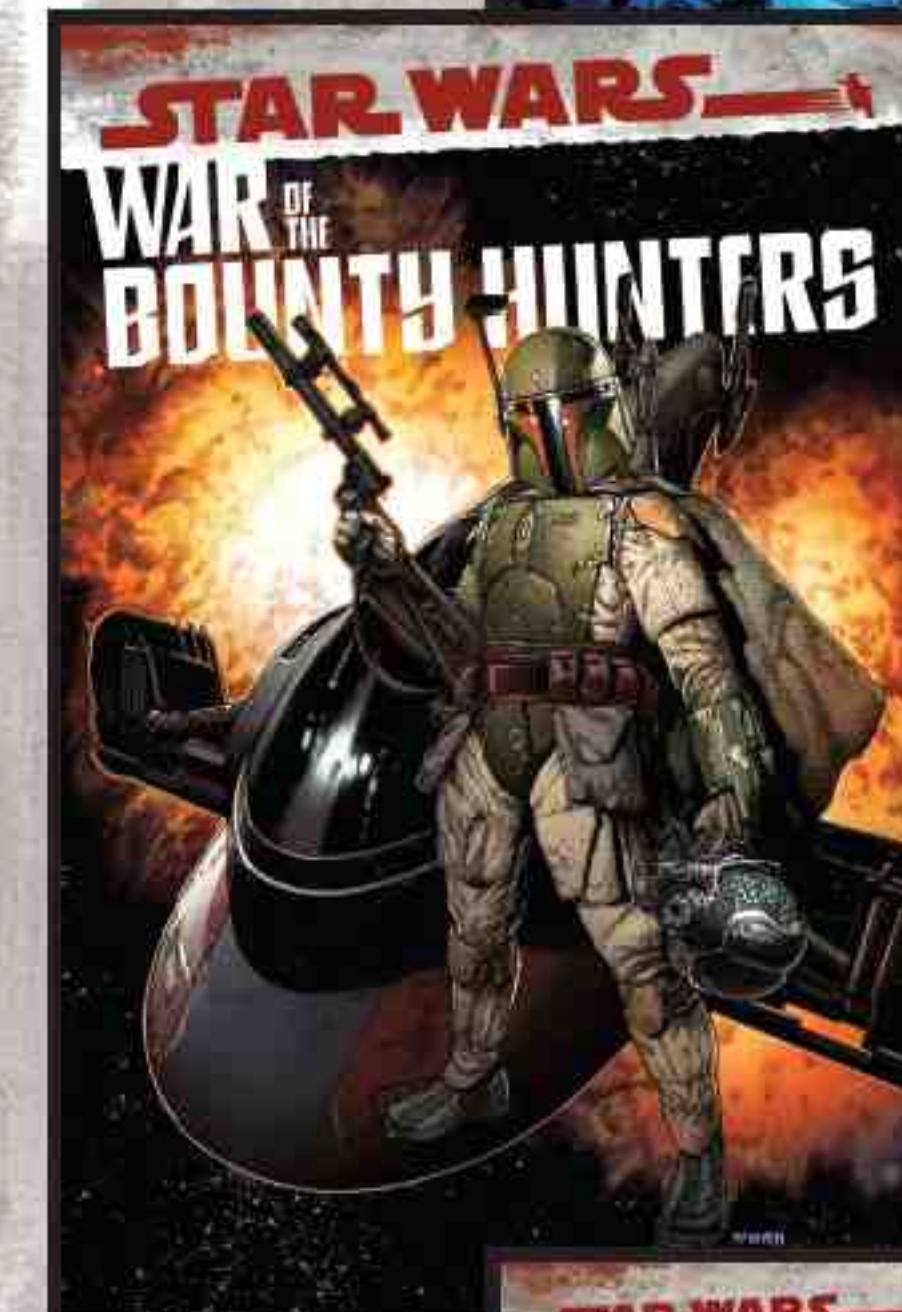
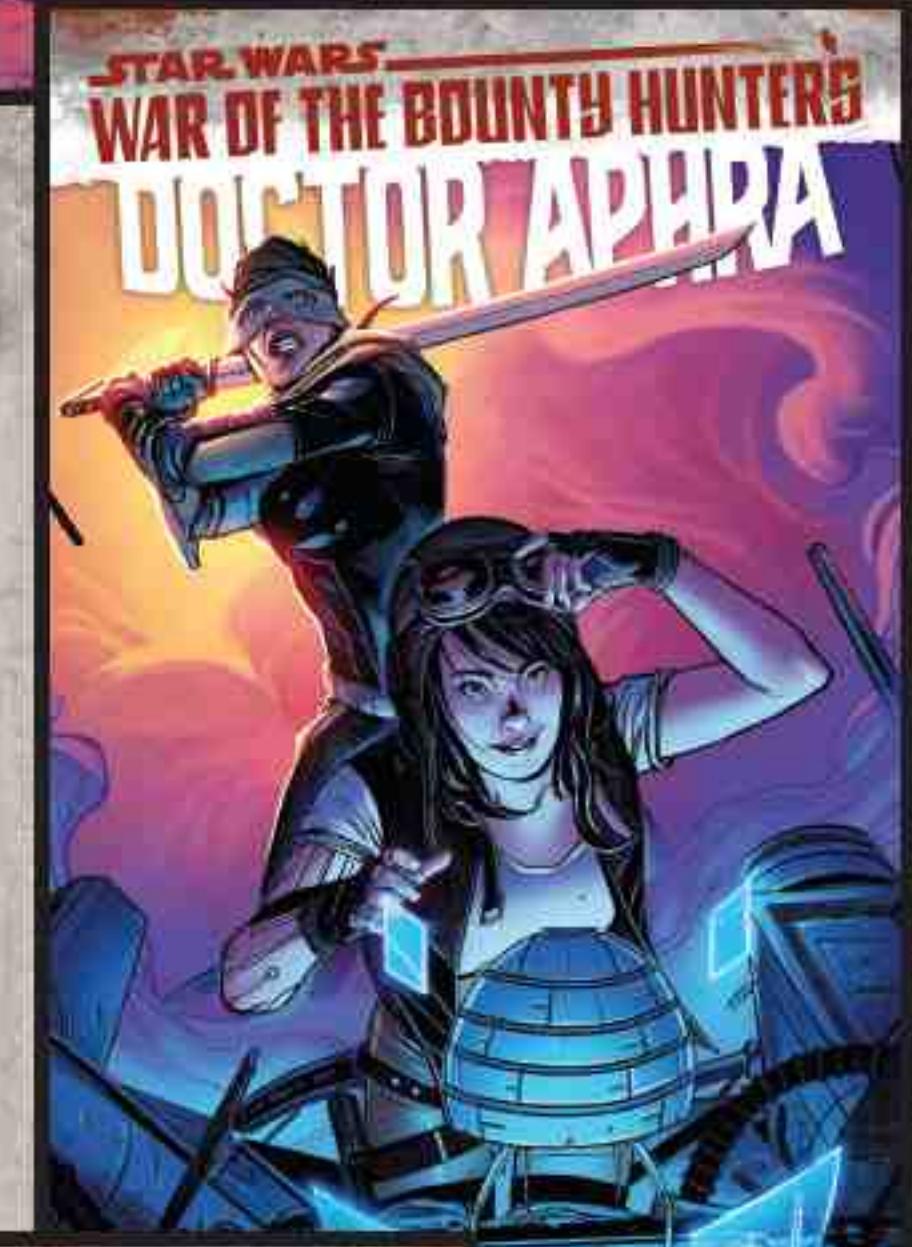
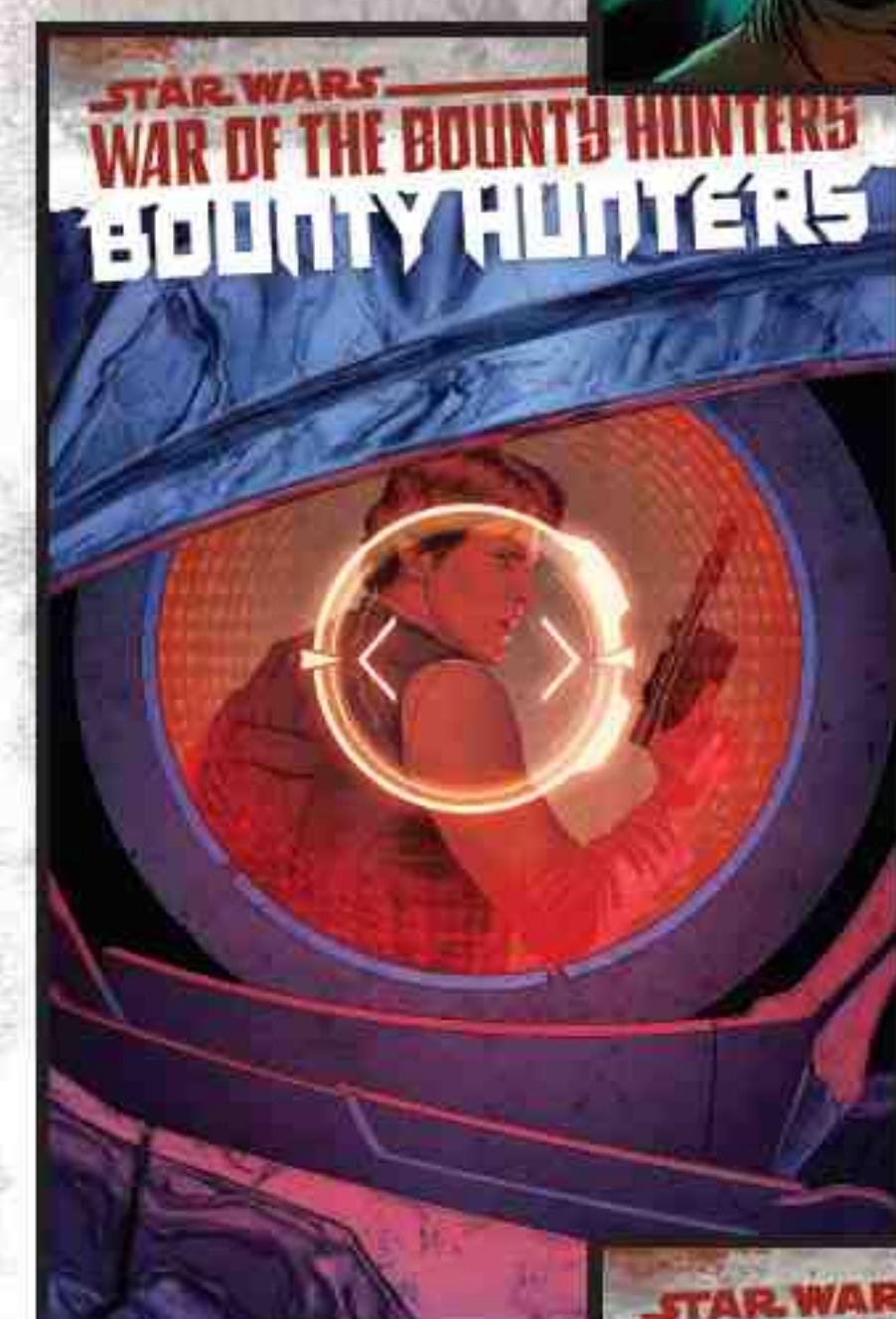
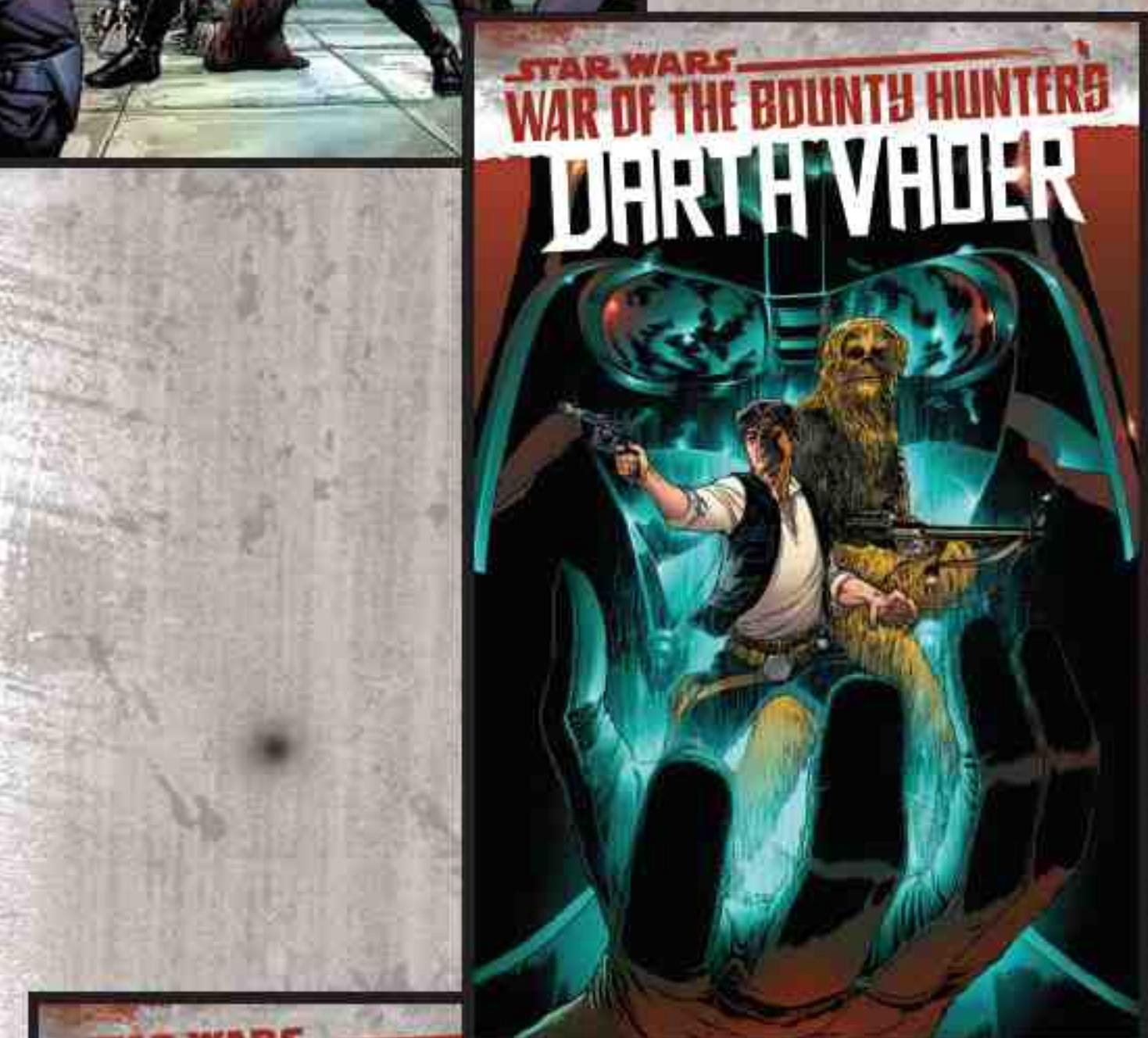
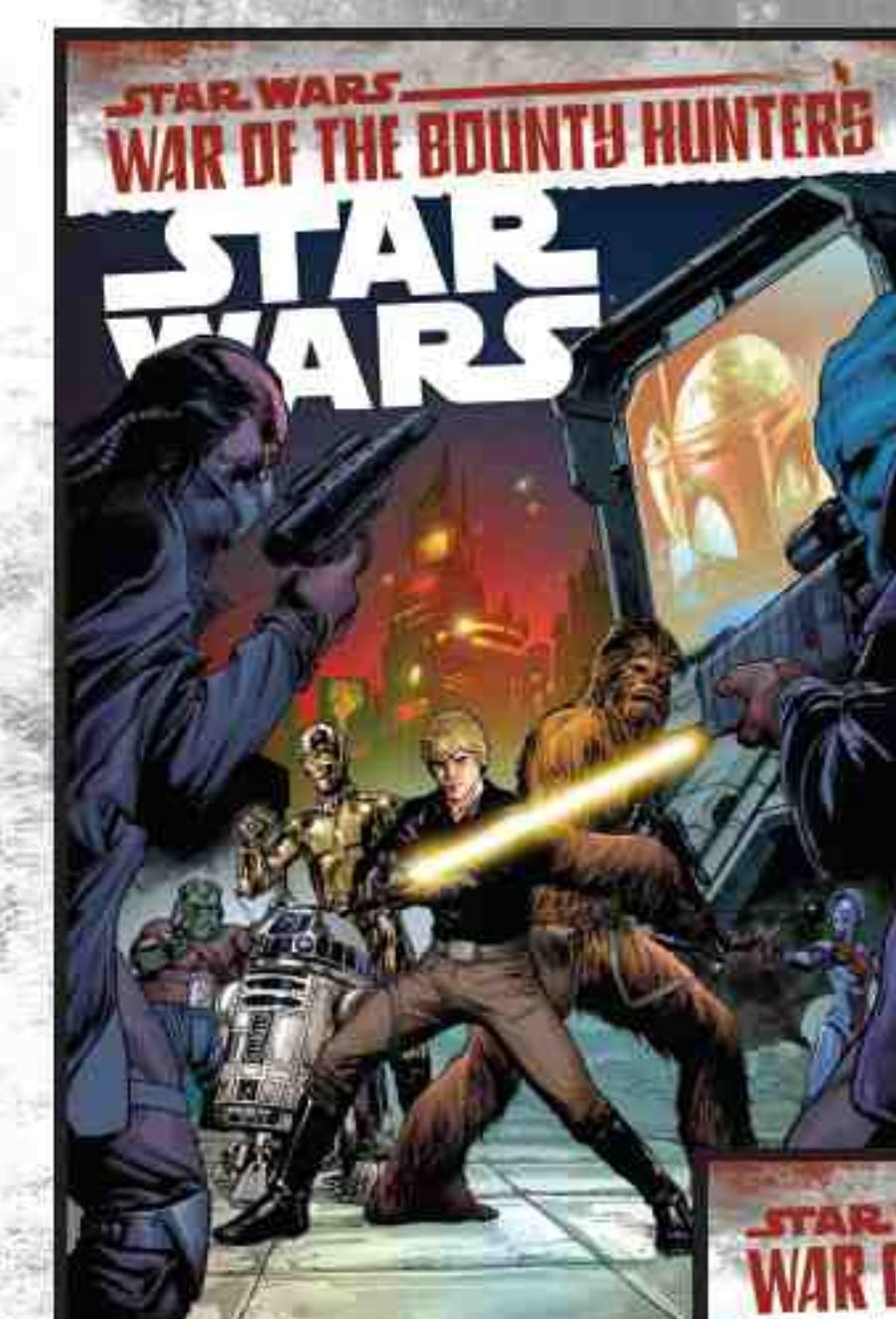
STAR WARS #18

DARTH VADER #17

DOCTOR APHRA #15

BOUNTY HUNTERS #17

IG-88 #1



STAR WARS™ WAR OF THE BOUNTY HUNTERS

DARTH VADER

NEXT ISSUE:

#13



By Greg Pak and Raffaele Ienco
Cover by Aaron Kuder

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MY NAME IS
JEAN GREY

NOW...

