

# MAN'S BEST™

PORNSAK  
PICHESHOTE

JESSE  
LONERGAN

JEFF  
POWELL





# MAN'S BEST™

PICHETSHOTE LONERGAN POWELL

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STUDIOS

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**man's  
BEST**

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# CHAPTER **ONE**

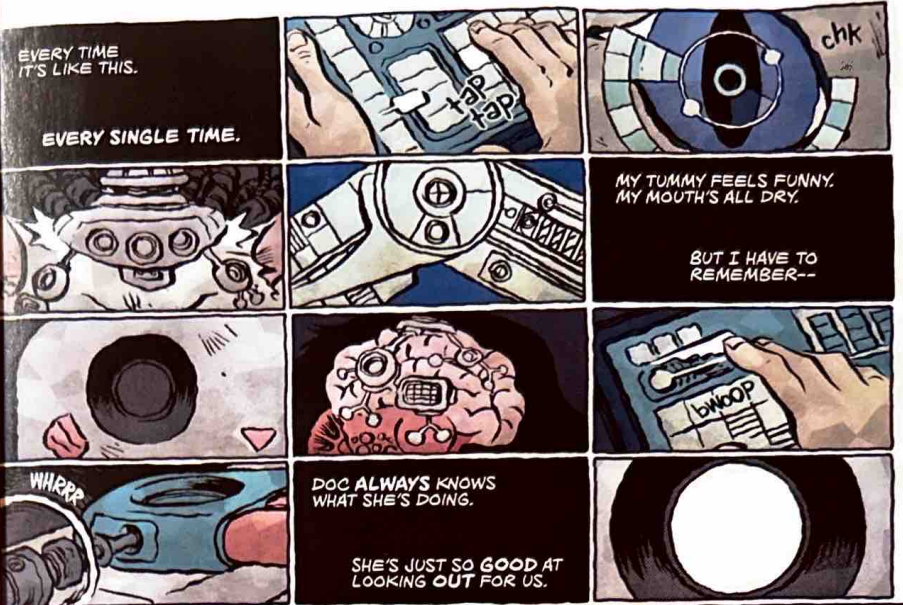


**SPACE TRAVEL  
HAS AGAIN  
MADE CHILDREN  
OF US ALL.**



—RAY BRADBURY

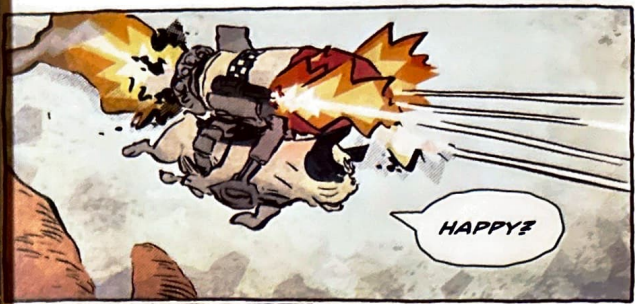




Issue One Variant Cover by Trish Forstner



I GOT IT!



HAPPY?



NOT ITS LEGS, ITS FACE--

FIRST, YOU SAY I'M NOT HELPING, THEN, WHEN I HELP--

I ALWAYS LISTEN!

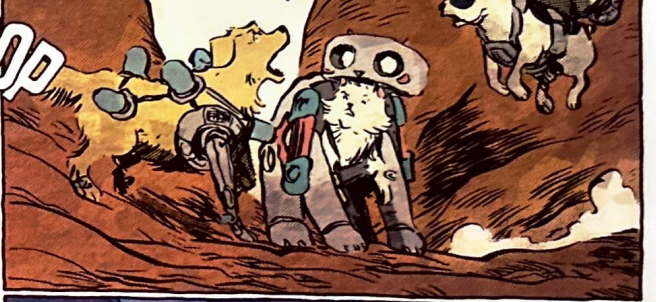
YOU DIDN'T DO WHAT ATHOS SAID! YOU NEVER LISTEN!



Oh



don't-- don't got it



LOVEY! HELP PORTHOS AND GET IN THE AIR!



SHOOT IT IN THE FACE!!



FINE-- FINE-- 'CUZ YOU'RE "THE BOSS..."



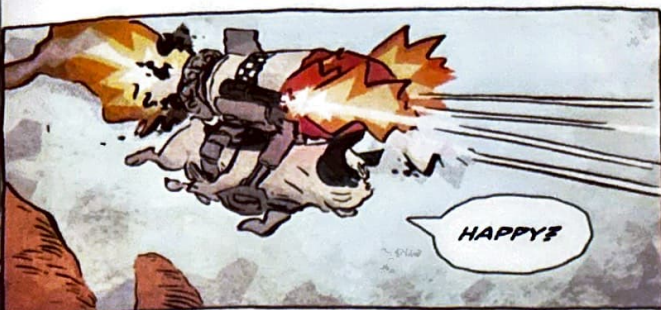
GREAT. NOW PORTHOS GOT US TRAPPED!

I GOT US--Z!

IT'S--IT'S OK! WE'VE DONE THIS BEFORE. EVERYBODY JUST--



I GOT IT!



HAPPY?



Oh



don't-- don't got it

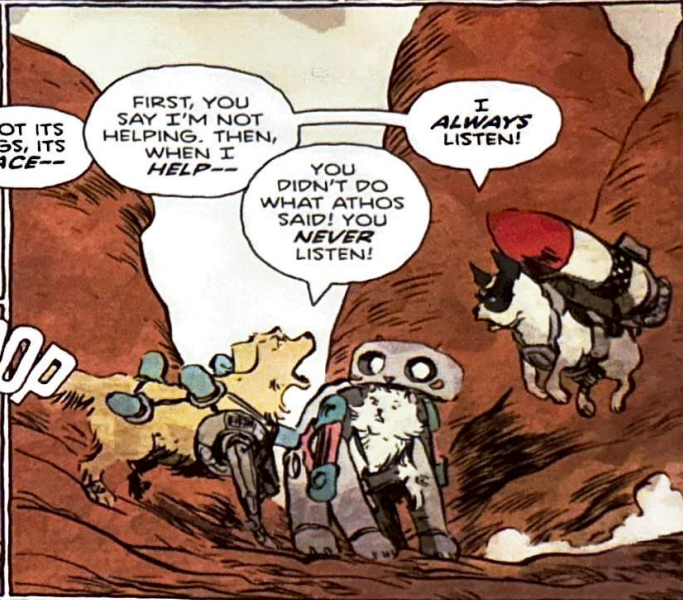


NOT ITS LEGS, ITS FACE--

FIRST, YOU SAY I'M NOT HELPING. THEN, WHEN I HELP--

I ALWAYS LISTEN!

YOU DIDN'T DO WHAT ATHOS SAID! YOU NEVER LISTEN!



POP



LOVEY! HELP PORTHOS AND GET IN THE AIR!



SHOOT IT IN THE FACE!!



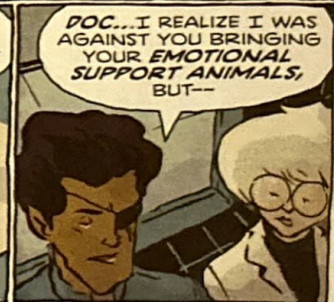
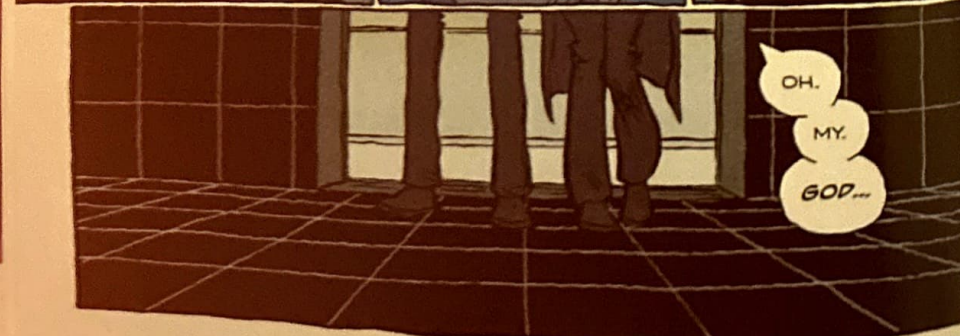
FINE-- FINE-- CUZ YOU'RE "THE BOSS..."



GREAT. NOW PORTHOS GOT US TRAPPED!

I GOT US--?!

IT'S--IT'S OK! WE'VE DONE THIS BEFORE. EVERYBODY JUST--



SPEAKING OF... THE CREW'S QUADRUPLE-CHECKED THEIR READINGS. EVERYTHING SAYS EPSILON-32 IS...

GONE.

CAPTAIN, PLANETS DON'T DISAPPEAR--

WELL, WE'LL BE WARPING THERE SOON ENOUGH.

BUT IF WE CAN'T LOCATE EPSILON-32-- TERRAFORM IT--

--HUMANITY'S DOOMED...

HUMANITY... RIGHT.

WITH OUR ENDLESS CIVIL WARS AND ENVIRONMENTAL CRISES...

WHERE INSTEAD OF FIXING ANY OF IT, WE FIGHT ABOUT... WHAT?

HOW WE'RE BORN.

WHO WE LOVE.

WHAT WE PRAY TO.

"AND THAT'S WHY WE'RE SEARCHING FOR A NEW WORLD, A PLACE TO START FRESH--"

"PLEASE--WHATEVER HAPPENS ON ANY NEW PLANET'LL COME DOWN TO WHAT THE TOMORROW CORP'S SHAREHOLDERS DECIDE. NOT US. WE'RE STILL NOT ENOUGH TO COUNT."

"BUT SOCIETIES CAN CHANGE. PEOPLE JUST NEED THE RIGHT INSPIRATIONS..."

...YOU KNOW WHY WE FEEL BETTER AROUND OUR PETS?

BECAUSE WE SEE IN THEM OUR BEST--SINCERITY, LOYALTY, PERFECT INNOCENCE.

AND THEY CAN PROVE YOU CAN SURVIVE ON JUST THAT.

HERE? SURE.

BUT IN THE REAL WORLD--THEM AND THEIR SINCERITY AND LOYALTY?

WATCH IT ALL FALL APART.

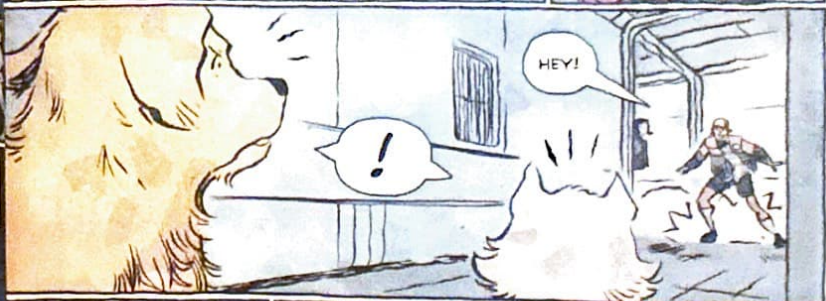
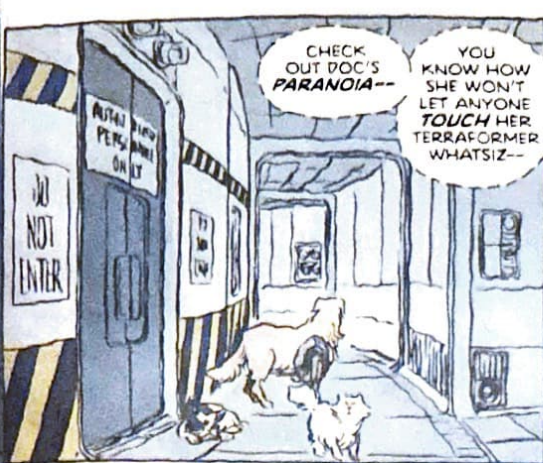
I PROMISE.

CAPTAIN, SPACE TRAVEL WAS BUILT ON THE BELIEF THERE'S POWER IN INSPIRATION, AND--

--AND LOVE...

... SORRY TO WASTE YOUR TIME, DOC.

YOU'VE BETTER TO DO THAN LISTEN TO ME.





GO! DON'T TOUCH! DON'T TOUCH!

IT'S NOT SAFE!



...seriously, what's that smell...?



SEE?



...THE WAY IT SHOULD BE.

HEY, GIRL!



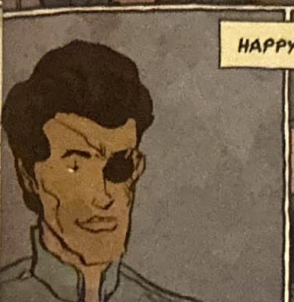
OUR PATROLS STILL KEEP EVERYBODY AWAY FROM THE DON'T TOUCH, AND--

WHAT'S WRONG?

WHO SAID SOMETHING'S WRONG?



YOU ALWAYS LICK WHEN SOMETHING'S WRONG.



HAPPY.



ATHOS'S SORE 'CUZ HE LOST AGAIN.



HEY! WE LOST! WE!

AND ATHOS JUST NEEDS TO TRUST HIMSELF...



GUYS?

LET'S JUST, UH, KEEP PATROLLING?



WE'D WIN IF I WAS IN CHARGE, YOU KNOW.



WE FOLLOW ATHOS!

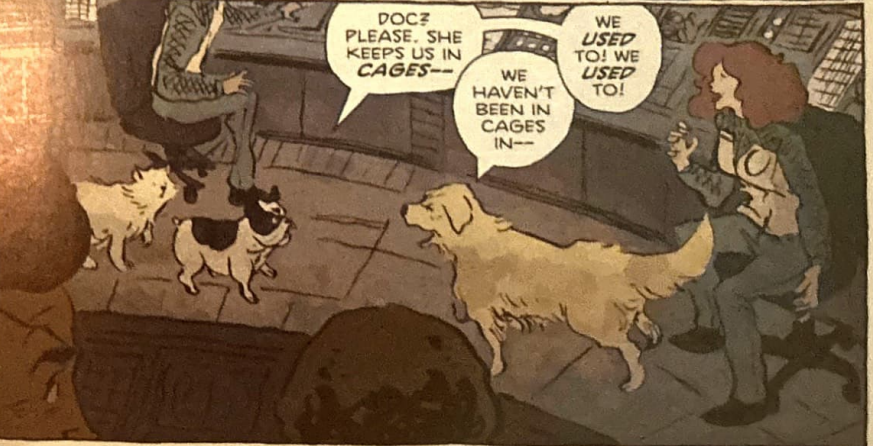
THAT'S HOW DOC TRAINED US!



'CUZ EVEN IF WE CAN'T BEAT A KLANGER, WE COULD STILL KEEP EVERYBODY SAFE.



'CUZ EVEN THOUGH WE WERE SMALL, WE STILL HAD OUR PART.



DOC? PLEASE, SHE KEEPS US IN CAGES--

WE HAVEN'T BEEN IN CAGES IN--

WE USED TO! WE USED TO!

KEEPING EVERYTHING...



I'VE BEEN WITH HER LONGEST!

AND YOU ALWAYS SAY LISTEN TO YOU, BUT YOU TWO NEVER LISTEN TO ME.

WE DON'T MATTER TO DOC! WE CAN'T TRUST HER!



WHEN'S THE LAST TIME WE EVEN SAW GRASS? DO YOU REMEMBER GRASS?

I REMEMBER GRASS!

YOU DON'T!

I DO!

GRASS! GRASS! GRASS!

SO GREEN! I REMEMBER!



UM, GUYS? MAYBE SETTLE DOWN...

BUT IT WAS TOO LATE.



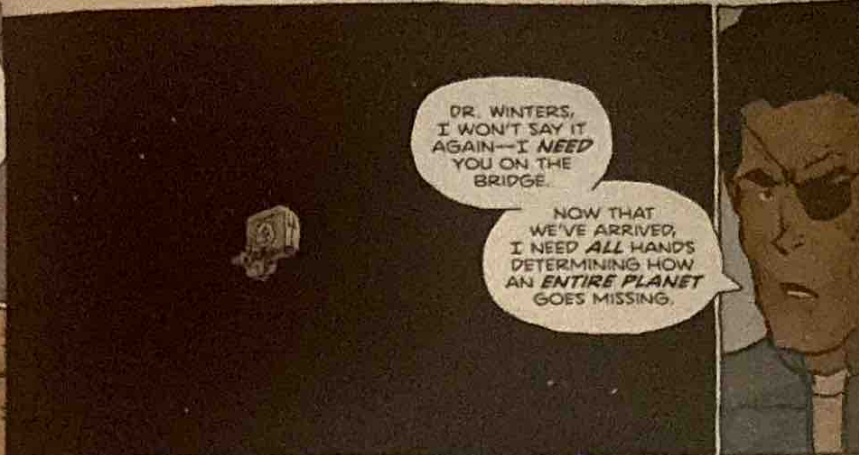
THEY WOULDN'T EVEN LET US KEEP THEM HAPPY.



BECAUSE I COULDN'T KEEP THE OTHERS IN LINE.



AGAIN.



DR. WINTERS, I WON'T SAY IT AGAIN—I NEED YOU ON THE BRIDGE.

NOW THAT WE'VE ARRIVED, I NEED ALL HANDS DETERMINING HOW AN ENTIRE PLANET GOES MISSING.



I KNOW, IT'S JUST POOR PORTHOS'S LEG WAS ACTING UP--



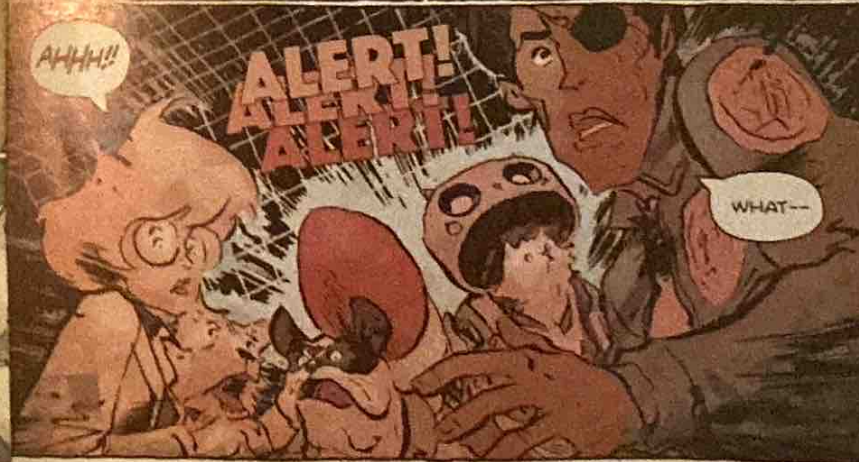
OH, LOOK AT HOW JEALOUS LOVEY IS.



YOU KNOW, I MEANT TO NAME HIM ARAMIS?

ATHOS, PORTHOS, ARAMIS-- THE THREE MUSKETEERS. BUT--

HE'S SUCH A LOVEY DOVE--



AHHH!!

ALERT! ALERT! ALERT!

WHAT--



"IT'S DAMN GRAVITY  
PULLING US IN!"

"REVERSE  
THRUSTERS--"

"REVERSE  
THRUSTERS--"

"GOTTA  
GET--THE  
RIDGE--"

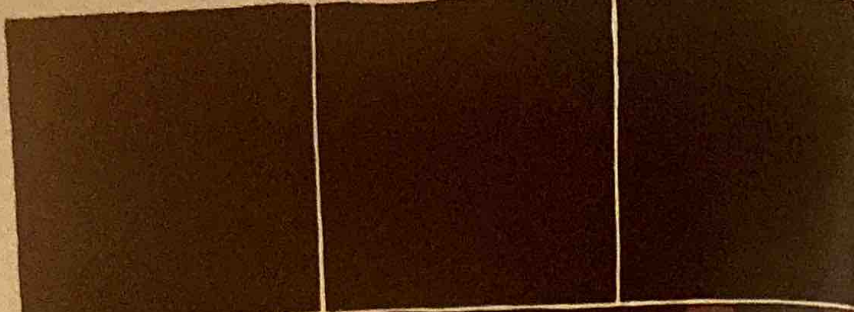
"ATHOS--  
ATHOS!  
WHAT'S  
HAPPENING?"

"OH OH  
OH--"

"OOOON--"



"THAT--  
THAT PLANET!  
POPPED--OUT OF  
NOWHERE--"



What...



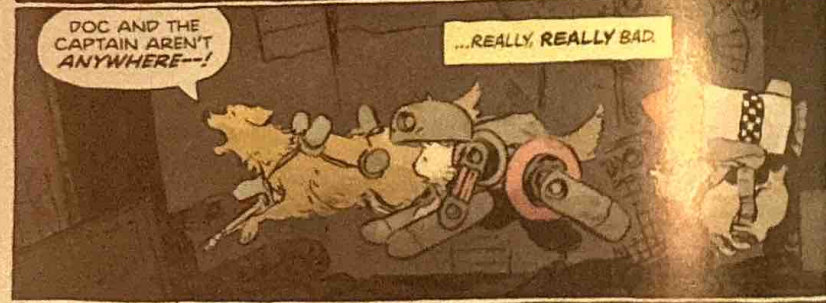
...HAPPENED?!

WHERE'S...  
**DOC?**

THINGS  
WERE  
BAD...



HEY,  
WAKE  
UP...



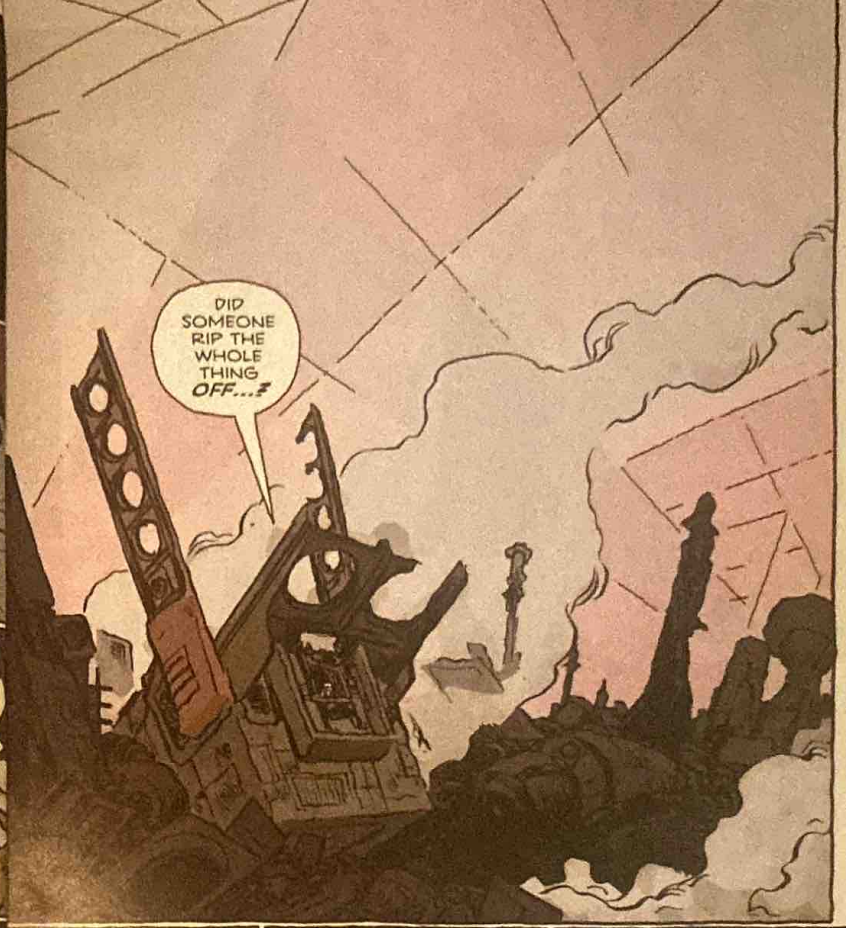
DOC AND THE  
CAPTAIN AREN'T  
ANYWHERE--!

...REALLY, REALLY BAD.



Uh-oh.

THE--  
THE DON'T  
TOUCH...



DID  
SOMEONE  
RIP THE  
WHOLE  
THING  
OFF...?



OK... WE  
SHOULD...  
Um, FIND  
DOC--

GUYS...



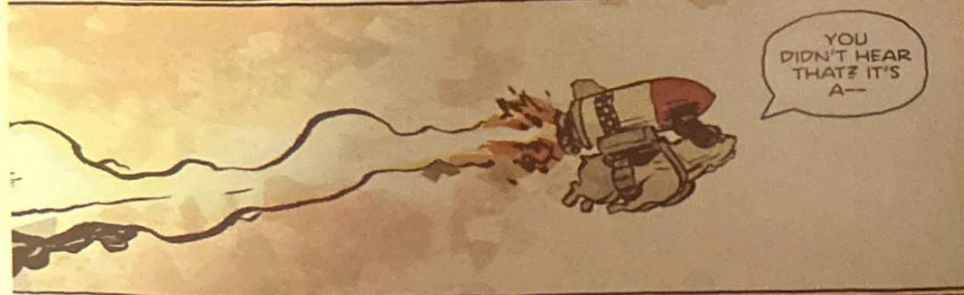
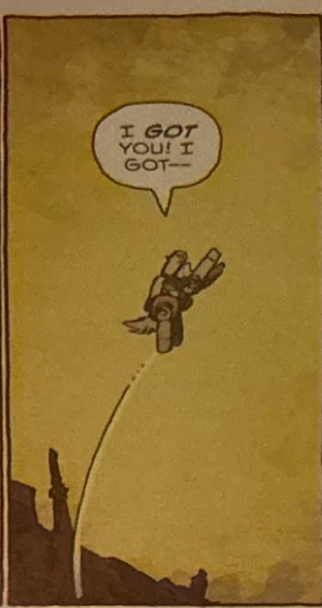
WHERE  
ARE WE?



I--  
I DON'T  
KNOW...

OVER  
HERE...

I  
GOT DOC  
AND THE  
CAPTAIN'S  
SCENT  
OVER...



DON'T WORRY,  
I'LL STOP THE  
KLANGER---



WHAT---?

TELL US  
WHAT TO  
DO!



BUT--I--  
I--



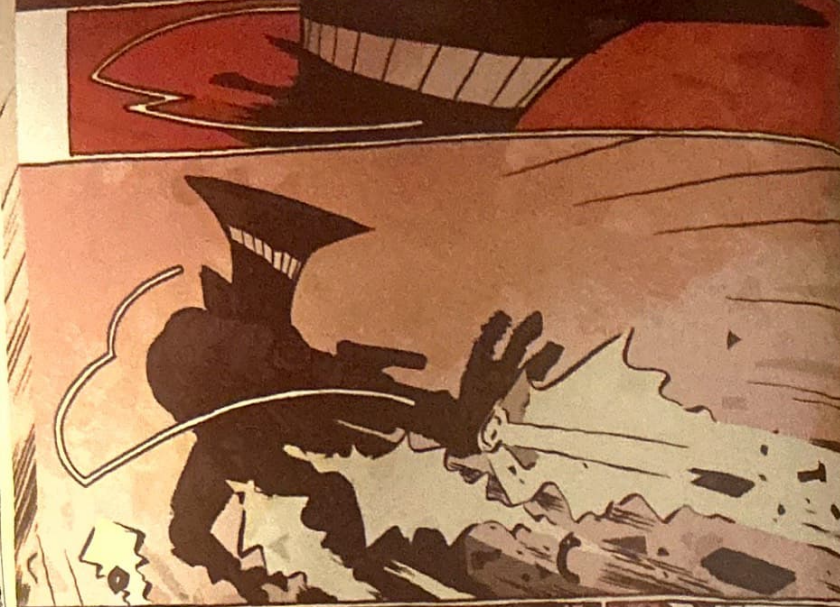
SAY  
SOMETHING!  
SAY--



GET  
HIGH!



SHOOT--  
SHOOT IT  
IN THE  
EYES!



NOW  
WE'RE  
TALKING!



ohohohoh

never  
mind never  
mind



ATHOS??

WHAT  
SHOULD  
WE DO?



PORTHOS?

PORTHOS!



RUN!!

OK...

WELL, THE SUIT'S ALWAYS LOW AFTER SHOOTING, BUT...

WAIT-- WAIT WAIT--

DID--DID WE JUST BEAT A KLANGER?

OK...

OK!

WE BEAT A KLANGER!!

YOU DID IT, ATHOS! I KNEW YOU COULD!

I MEAN, I HELPED TOO--

THAT'S WHY DOC ALWAYS HAD US FIGHTING THEM! SO WE CAN SAVE HER!

WHAT?!

SO, Um--LET ME GET MY HELMET DOWN--

NO, WE GOTTA GET OUT OF HERE.

BUT...WE CAN'T FLY THE SHIP.

I CAN.

YOU CAN??

WELL...NO. BUT HOW HARD COULD IT BE?

# CHAPTER TWO



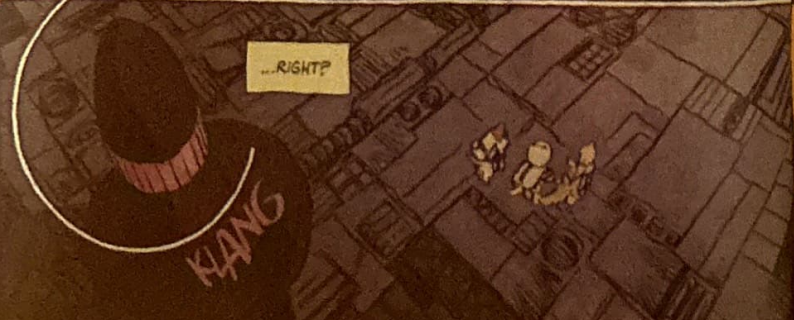
'CUZ SURE, THINGS LOOKED SO BAD, AND WE WERE...SO LITTLE.

BUT THAT DIDN'T MEAN WE DON'T COUNT...

CAREFUL, PORTHOS. THERE'S NO TELLING WHAT'S OUT HERE...

*Sigh*  
...YOU TWO'LL JUST GET HURT WITHOUT ME...

COME ON! BESIDES, WHAT'RE THE ODDS WE FIND ANY MORE KLANGERS...





Issue Two Variant Cover by Jay Stephens

THE KLANGERS HAD BEEN CHASING US SINCE WE LEFT THE SHIP!!

BUT I JUST HAD TO REMEMBER...

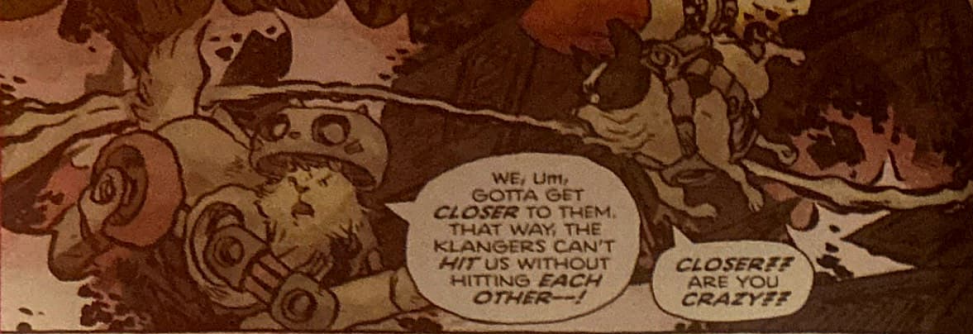
IT DIDN'T MATTER WE WERE LITTLE. WE BEAT THEM. WELL--ONE OF THEM... BY WORKING TOGETHER.

WE'D BE OK, AS LONG AS I GOT US TO WORK TOGETHER.

ATHOS!!!

WHAT'S THE PLAN??





WE, UM, GOTTA GET CLOSER TO THEM. THAT WAY, THE KLANGERS CAN'T HIT US WITHOUT HITTING EACH OTHER--!

CLOSER?? ARE YOU CRAZY??



AHH!



HOW DOO!

PORTHOS! WHY IS YOUR--  
GET YOUR SHIELD UP!



I CAN'T! I LOST DOC AND THE CAPTAIN'S SCENT! WHEN MY SHIELD'S DOWN, I CAN--



SNIFF AFTER WE LOSE THE KLANGERS!

UH-OH...



WHAT ARE THESE THINGS?



I--I DON'T KNOW!



THEY'RE EVERYWHERE!



HA!



ATHOS, WHAT'S THE PLAN?

ATHOS!



WHAT'D IT JUST DO?



ATHOS! HELLO?

PLAN!!

LET ME THINK, LET ME THINK...

THROUGH HERE!

YEAH SOMETIMES, BEING LITTLE'S GOOD--

GUYS, I STILL CAN'T FIND DOC'S SCENT...

EXCEPT PORTHOS STILL WASN'T LISTENING.

PORTHOS-- PUT YOUR SHIELD UP!

OK UMI, STAY CLOSE AND WE CAN...

Oh boy.

HOW WAS I GOING TO GET US TO WORK TOGETHER IF--

LOVEY!

I TRIED REMEMBERING EVERYTHING DOC HAD US DO--

BUT THERE WAS NOTHING EVEN KIND OF LIKE THIS...

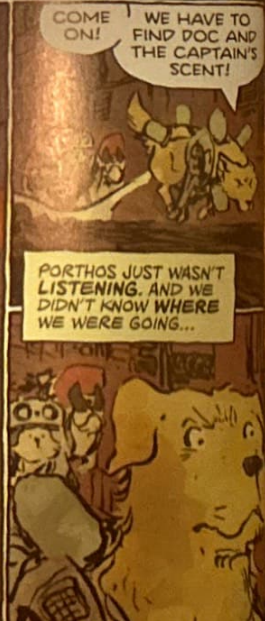
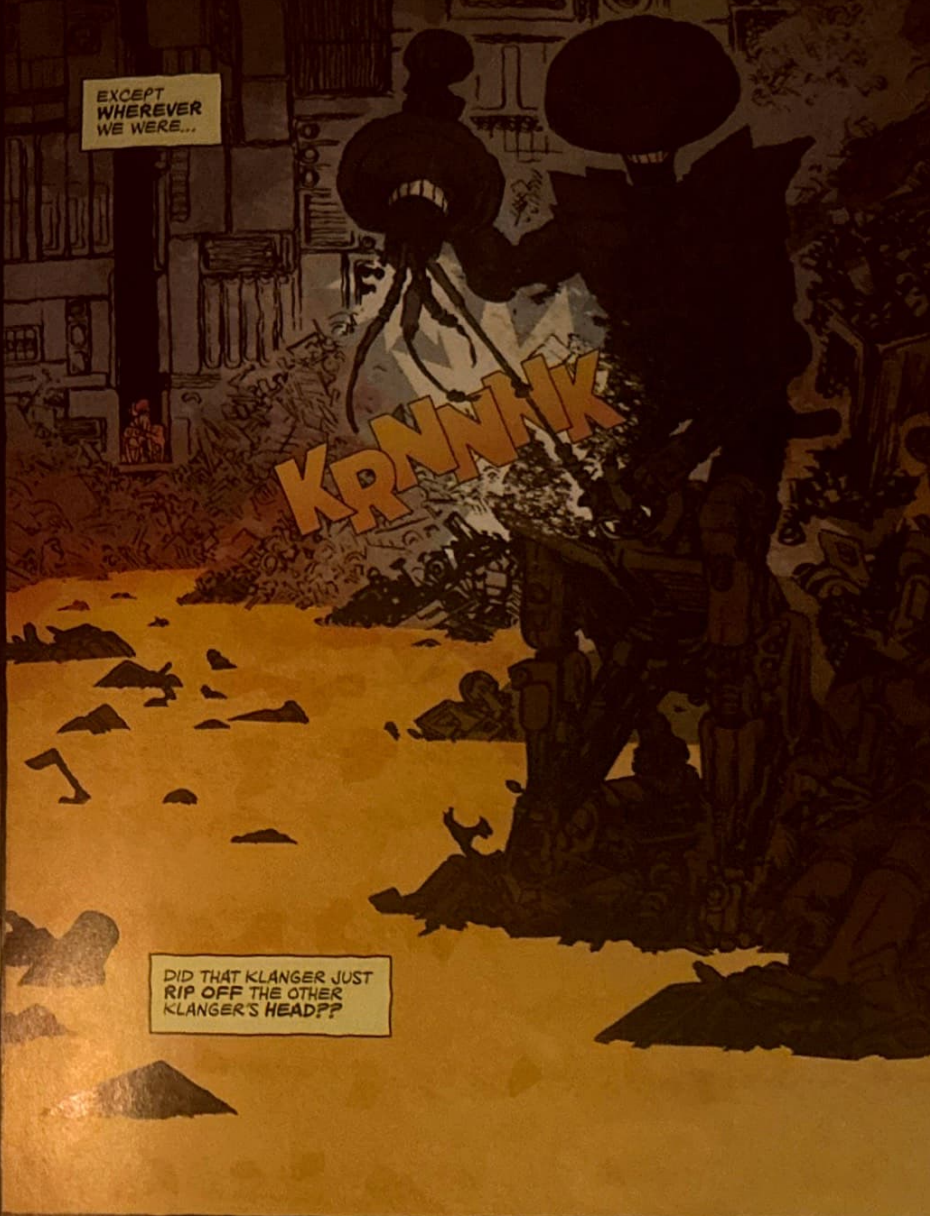
PORTHOS--

SHIELD UP RIGHT NOW RIGHT NOW RIGHT NOW!!

!



EXCEPT WHEREVER WE WERE...



AND MAYBE IT WASN'T  
THE ONLY ONE...



QUICK,  
NOW THAT THE  
KLANGERS  
LEFT...

DON'T  
WORRY--



--YOU'RE SAFE  
IN HERE WITH ME!



YEAH,  
BUT... WHY  
WOULD THE  
KLANGERS  
HURT EACH  
OTHER?



MAYBE  
SOME OF  
THEM WERE  
BAD.

SO THEY GOT  
TURNED INTO  
PARTS?

CAN'T  
KLANGERS BE  
TOLD TO THINK  
THE SAME  
THING?



MAYBE  
SOME OF  
THEM NEVER  
DO WHAT  
THEY'RE  
SUPPOSED  
TO.

LIKE SOME  
DOGS WE  
KNOW.



HEY!



WHAT'S THAT MEAN?

HUH?!

STUPID KLANGERS...

"TRYING?"

WE'RE STANDING ON MELTED KLANGERS! YOU WANT THAT TO BE US?

PORTHOS IS ALWAYS SAYING YOU'RE IN CHARGE. WELL, IF YOU ARE, STOP BEING SO SOFT!

'CUZ IF YOU WON'T, I'M HEADING BACK!

LOVEY'S ALWAYS COMPLAINING-- BUT HE'S NEVER EVER LEFT US.



STUPID, STUPID...

VRR RRR

RUFF RUFF RUFF

HEY--



BUT...HE'S NEVER BEEN ALMOST HURT EITHER.

LOOK... JUST--CALM DOWN. I--I PROMISE...

I'LL MAKE PORTHOS LISTEN.



HE SAID WHAT?

PORTHOS, CALM DOWN--!



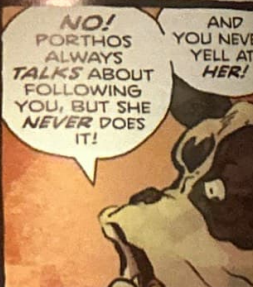
ARE YOU OK--?

WHAT--? HOW?

LOVEY--

NO-- I'M GOING BACK TO THE SHIP

I'LL FIGURE IT OUT.



NO! PORTHOS ALWAYS TALKS ABOUT FOLLOWING YOU, BUT SHE NEVER DOES IT!

AND YOU NEVER YELL AT HER!



WELL, SHE'S TRYING--



IF LOVEY WANTS TO GO, THEN LET HIM!

WE BEAT THAT KLANGER 'CUZ OF YOU, NOT HIM.

WE BEAT IT 'CUZ WE WORKED TOGETHER.

KEPT TELLING YOU TO PUT YOUR SHIELD UP.

I WAS TRYING TO HELP! I WAS SNIFFING FOR DOC AND—

YOU HELP THE *MOST* BY DOING WHAT DOC TAUGHT US AND LISTENING TO ME—

BUT YOU WEREN'T TELLING US WHAT TO *DO!* YOU KEPT THINKING— *REMEMBERING*— BUT NOT SAYING ANYTHING...

...  
I know.

I WAS TRYING... *REALLY*... BUT YOU'RE *RIGHT*.

IF LOVEY HAD GOTTEN HURT...

...IT WOULD HAVE BEEN BECAUSE OF *ME*.

BECAUSE I WAS *SLOW*.

I WAS A *BAD CAT*.

YOU...?  
ATHOS—

—YOU'RE THE *BEST CAT* IN THE WORLD.

YOU JUST EEP TO STOP THINKING AND TRUST YOURSELF.

LIKE YOU DID WITH THAT *FIRST* KLANGER.

LOOK, NEXT TIME, TRUST YOURSELF, AND I *PROMISE* TO FOLLOW YOU.

COME ON, I'LL APOLOGIZE TO...

LOVEY?!

HEY, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!

VARRRRRRMMMMMMMM

GUYS...

NOT EVEN *DOC* RUBBED LIKE THISSSSS...

VARRRRRRMMMMMMMM

AFTER BEATING THE FIRST KLINGER--  
I THOUGHT WE'D COME TOGETHER.

ANYWAY, BACK WHEN PORTHOS FIRST  
FOUND DOC AND THE CAPTAIN'S  
SCENT, I SNIFFED SOMETHING TOO--

BUT BEING ON OUR  
OWN...WE WERE  
LIKE WE ALWAYS  
WERE. JUST...  
MORE. I GUESS  
THAT'S WHAT  
DANGER DOES.

THE SMELL  
OF WHATEVER  
TOOK THEM.

SO WHEN WE FOUND ITS TRAIL,  
WE FOLLOWED IT TO...

ATHOS?

WHAT  
ARE THE  
KLANGERS  
DOING?

THAT BIG EYE  
JUST FLOATED  
HIGH IN THE AIR...

...AND IT  
LOOKED  
LIKE THE  
KLANGERS  
WERE...  
BOWING  
TO IT??

WAS BIG  
EYE THEIR  
LEADER?

AND WHEN THE  
KLANGERS LEFT,  
WE GOT AN EVEN  
CLOSER LOOK  
AT IT.

GUYS,  
WHATEVER  
TOOK DOC, ITS  
SCENT LEADS  
TO...*THAT*.

THAT  
BIG  
THING?

WELL,  
WHAT  
ARE WE  
WAITING  
FOR?

WE DON'T  
KNOW HOW  
LONG THE  
KLANGERS'LL  
BE GONE.

SO LET'S GET  
DOC AND THE  
CAPTAIN BEFORE  
THEY'RE *BACK!*  
ATHOS--YOU'RE  
THINKING TOO  
MUCH--

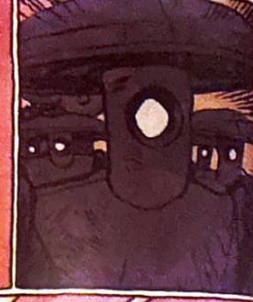
WE DON'T  
EVEN KNOW  
DOC AND THE  
CAPTAIN ARE  
THERE--

THEY  
ARE! I  
KNOW  
IT--!

PORTHOS,  
YOU SAID  
YOU'D  
FOLLOW  
ME--

THEY'RE  
*THERE!*

PORTHOS--!



HEY!

GET AWAY FROM HER!

WHOA.

IT'S A DOOR!

BUT IT WAS TOO SMALL FOR A KLANGER. WHY--?

NO TIME! PORTHOS-- HOP ON LOVEY AND THEN YOU GUYS FOLLOW ME.

I--I'M TRYING TO BE GET MY SHIELD UP, BUT MY LEG--IT'S NOT-- WORKING--

My shield doesn't start if I can't run.

HEY!

BZZZ

FOLLOW YOU--?

NOW!

FOLLOW--

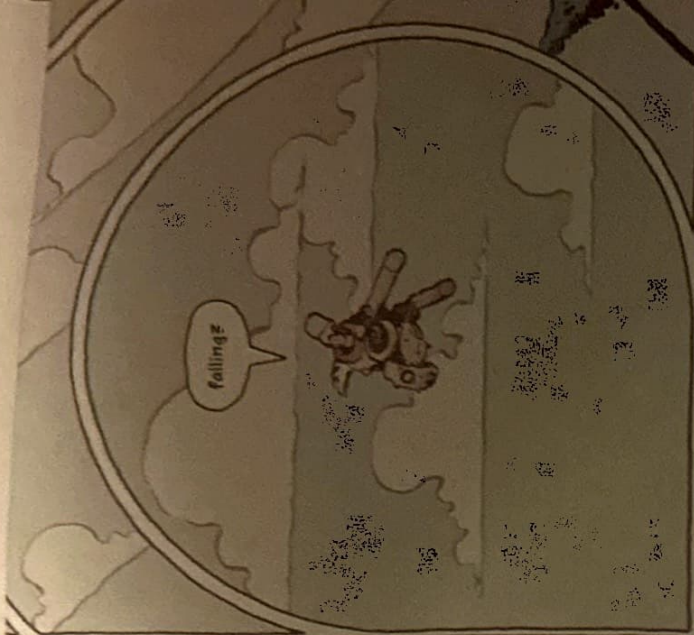
LOVEY-- ARE YOU--

I'M OK, I'M OK...

THEY HIT MY BACKPACK, BUT...

BUT NOW WE WERE TRAPPED. WHAT ELSE COULD WE--

HEE--

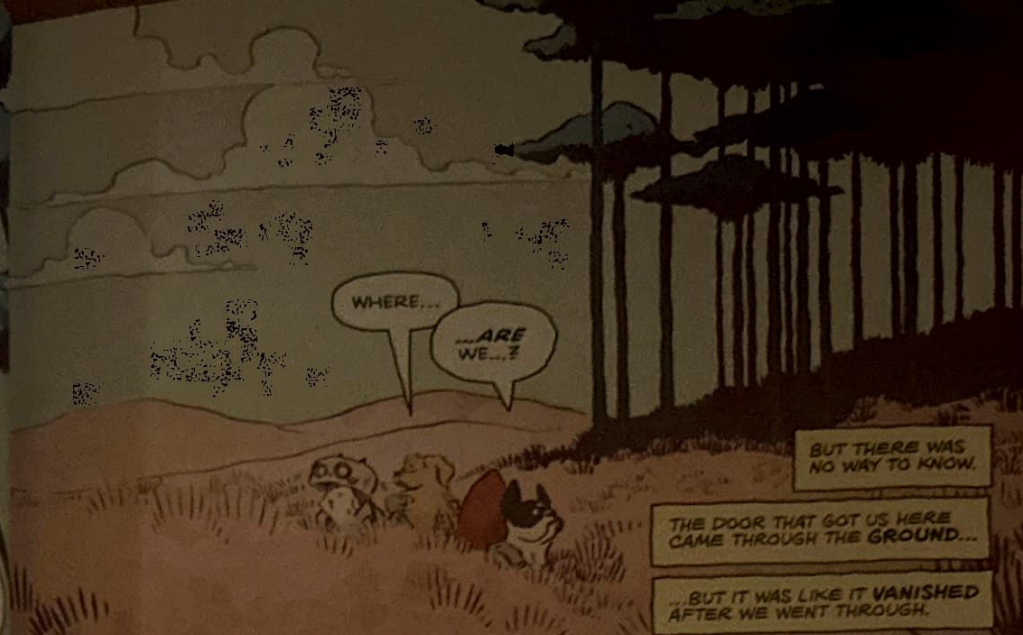


falling?



falling!

And heading back where we



WHERE...

...ARE WE...?

BUT THERE WAS NO WAY TO KNOW.

THE DOOR THAT GOT US HERE CAME THROUGH THE GROUND...

...BUT IT WAS LIKE IT VANISHED AFTER WE WENT THROUGH.



falling!

And heading back where we



BUT AT LEAST EVERYBODY WAS OK.



MY LEG!



OOOF! FWOON!



IT WORKS AGAIN! IT MUST HAVE MADE ITSELF BETTER FROM WHATEVER THE KLANGERS DID!

RIGHT?!

OH, THAT'S... GREAT.



HOOOOOHHHWWLL



HEY, ATHOS-- WHAT'S WRONG?

AND OF COURSE I WAS RELIEVED. I'D NEVER WANT ANYTHING BAD HAPPENING TO PORTHOS, BUT--

YOU SAID YOU'D FOLLOW ME YOU PROMISED

YOU—YOU WERE THINKING TOO MUCH AGAIN—

BUT I THOUGHT DOC AND THE CAPTAIN WERE—

BECAUSE IT WASN'T SAFE.

YOU PROMISED YOU'D LISTEN AND YOU DID WHAT YOU WANTED ANYWAY.

AND THEN YOU GOT HURT, AND IT WOULDN'T'VE BEEN MY FAULT—

IT WOULD'VE BEEN YOURS. CUZ YOU WERE SELFISH.

YOU WERE A BAD POG.

BUT SO WAS PORTHOS. IT WASE OK, WE WERE LITTLE IF WE WERE TOUGH AND FAST.

WE'D GET HURT IF WE WEREN'T TOUGH AND FAST.

YEAH, THE KIDNAPPER'S SCENT'S STILL HERE, SO WE CAN—

...FOLLOW IT...?

Uh-oh...

Really?

YOU REALLY THINK SO?

OF COURSE NOT.

THE ONLY THING THAT MATTERED WAS SHE WAS SAFE.

BUT WHAT IF SHE DID IT AGAIN? AND GOT REALLY HURT?

YES.

BECAUSE LOVEY WAS RIGHT...

"THAT POOR, TINY THING LOOKS SO SCARED!"

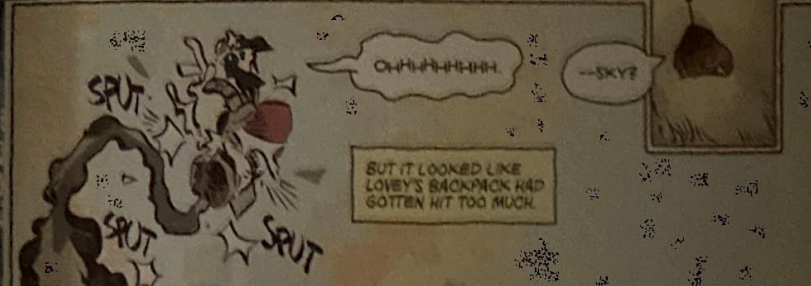
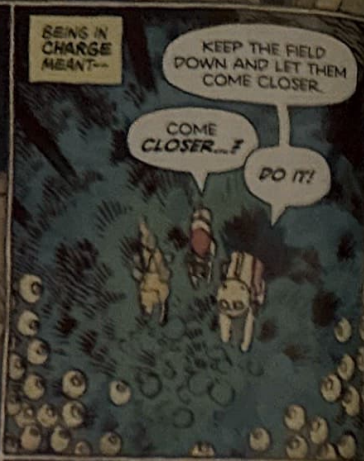
"YEAH! WE SHOULD HELP—"

OH MY— OH MY— DID THE TINY ONE JUST—

Um, maybe we should...

OH MY— OH MY— DID THE TINY ONE JUST—

Um, maybe we should...



GUYS! GET BEHIND ME. I'LL TURN ON MY SHIELD—

NO!

TOUGH AND FAST.

BEING IN CHARGE MEANT—

KEEP THE FIELD DOWN AND LET THEM COME CLOSER.

COME CLOSER...?

DO IT!

NOW!  
LOVEY! GET HIGH! FAST!

PORTHOS— THAT CLEARED US A PATH. LET'S GO!

LOVEY! FOLLOW US FROM THE—

OH-H-H-H-H-H  
--SKYE  
SUT  
SUT  
SUT

--BEING TOUGH AND FAST AND... SURE. I HAD TO REMEMBER HOW DOC TRAINED US. AND...

Um. ATHOS...

JUST WAIT...

...WAIT...

ATHOS...!

OWW!

LOVEY!

IT'S OK I'M OK...

I FEEL ON A SOFT...

Tiny thing?

CHAPTER  
**THREE**

