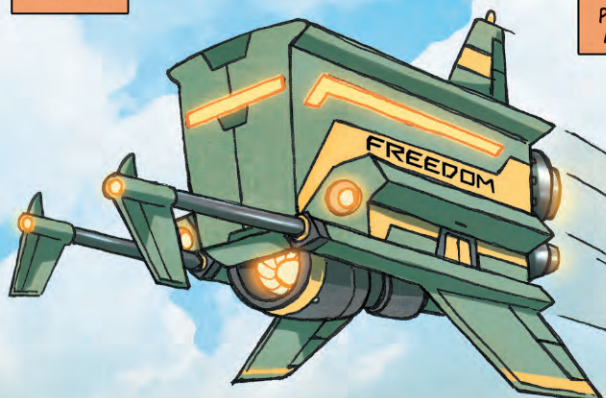
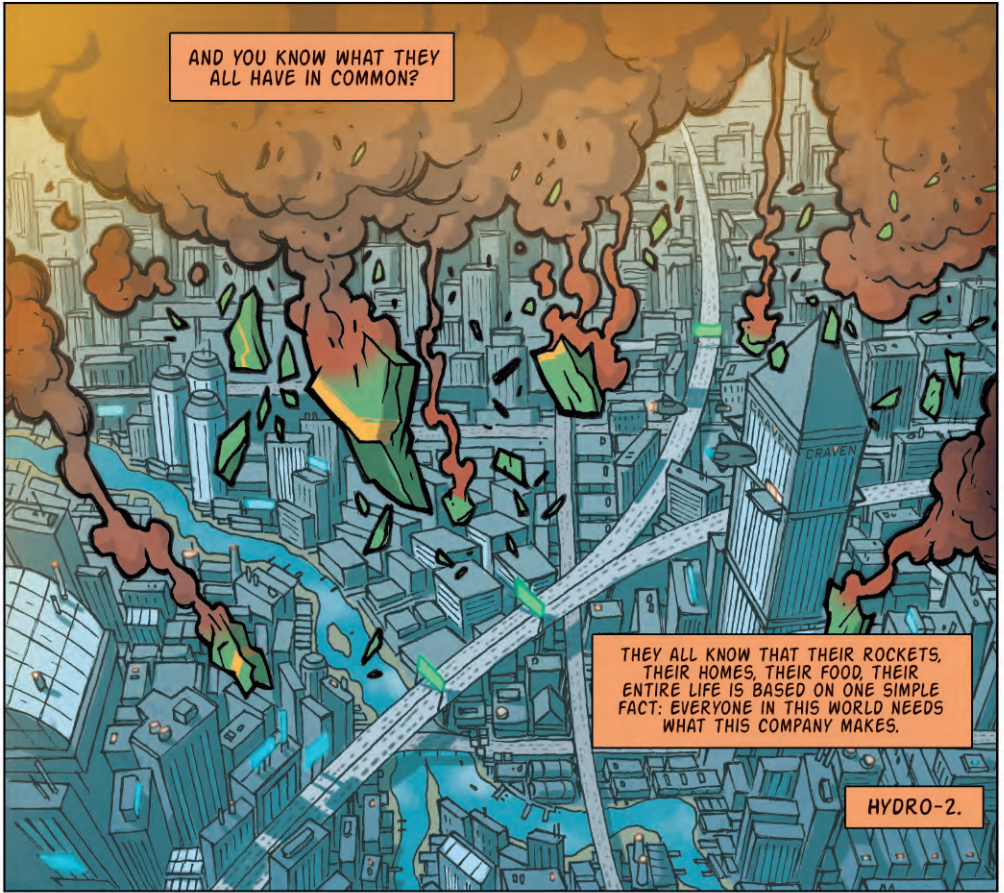


52,739.

THAT'S HOW MANY
PEOPLE WORK HERE
AT CRAVEN MINING.

FOR ME.

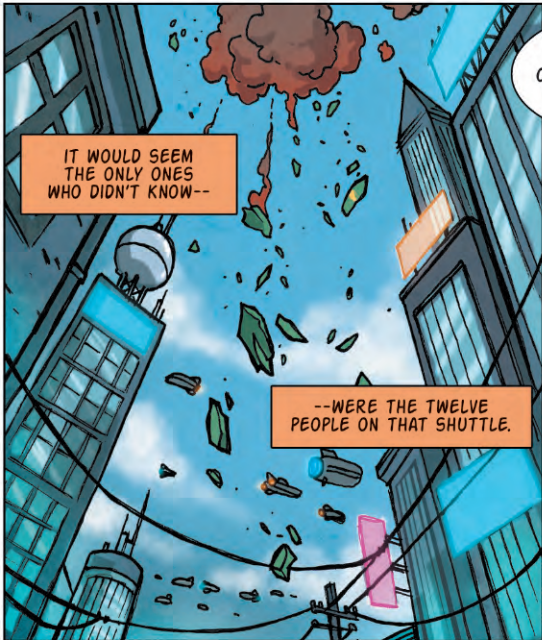




AND YOU KNOW WHAT THEY ALL HAVE IN COMMON?

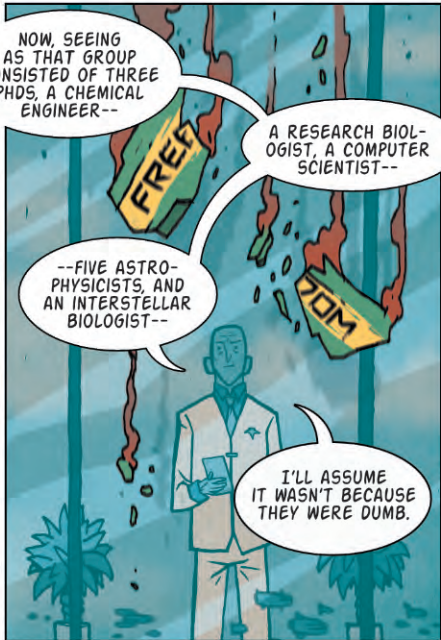
THEY ALL KNOW THAT THEIR ROCKETS, THEIR HOMES, THEIR FOOD, THEIR ENTIRE LIFE IS BASED ON ONE SIMPLE FACT: EVERYONE IN THIS WORLD NEEDS WHAT THIS COMPANY MAKES.

HYDRO-2.



IT WOULD SEEM THE ONLY ONES WHO DIDN'T KNOW--

--WERE THE TWELVE PEOPLE ON THAT SHUTTLE.

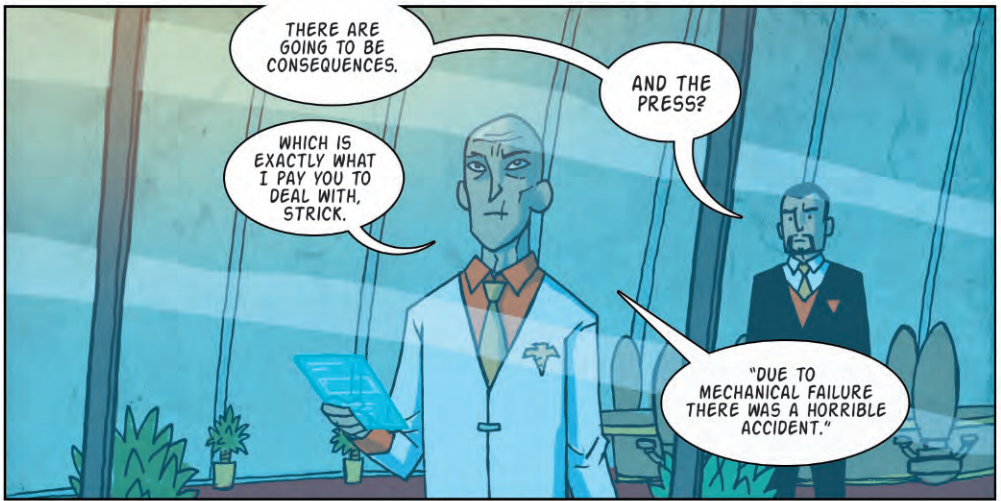


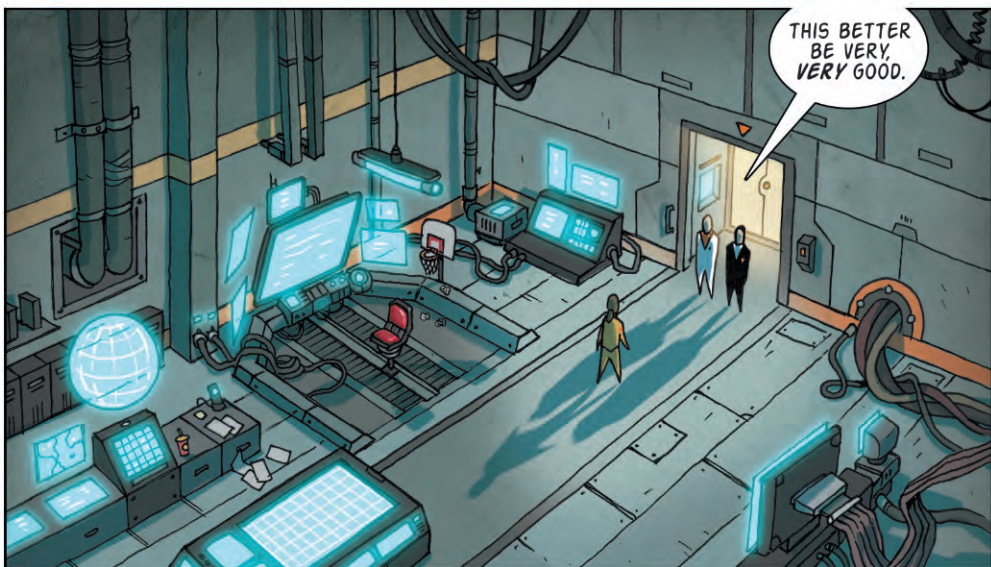
NOW, SEEING AS THAT GROUP CONSISTED OF THREE PHDS, A CHEMICAL ENGINEER--

A RESEARCH BIOLOGIST, A COMPUTER SCIENTIST--

--FIVE ASTROPHYSICISTS, AND AN INTERSTELLAR BIOLOGIST--

I'LL ASSUME IT WASN'T BECAUSE THEY WERE DUMB.



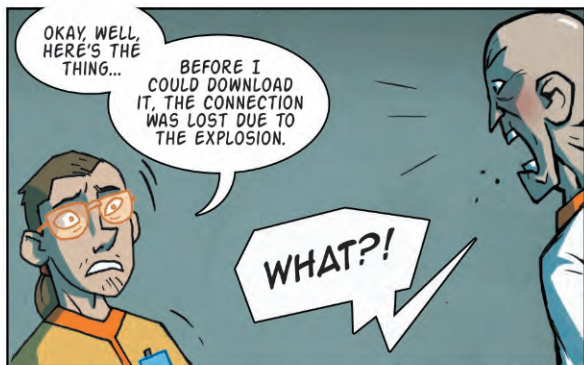


THIS BETTER BE VERY, VERY GOOD.



MR. CRAVEN, SOMEONE ON THAT SHUTTLE SENT A FILE RIGHT BEFORE IT EXPLODED.

LET ME HAVE IT.



OKAY, WELL, HERE'S THE THING...

BEFORE I COULD DOWNLOAD IT, THE CONNECTION WAS LOST DUE TO THE EXPLOSION.

WHAT?!



WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

D-DAVE.

LISTEN TO ME VERY CAREFULLY, DAVE.

I WANT YOU TO DROP EVERYTHING AND FIND OUT WHERE THAT FILE WAS SENT.

BECAUSE YOU'RE NOT LEAVING UNTIL YOU DO.



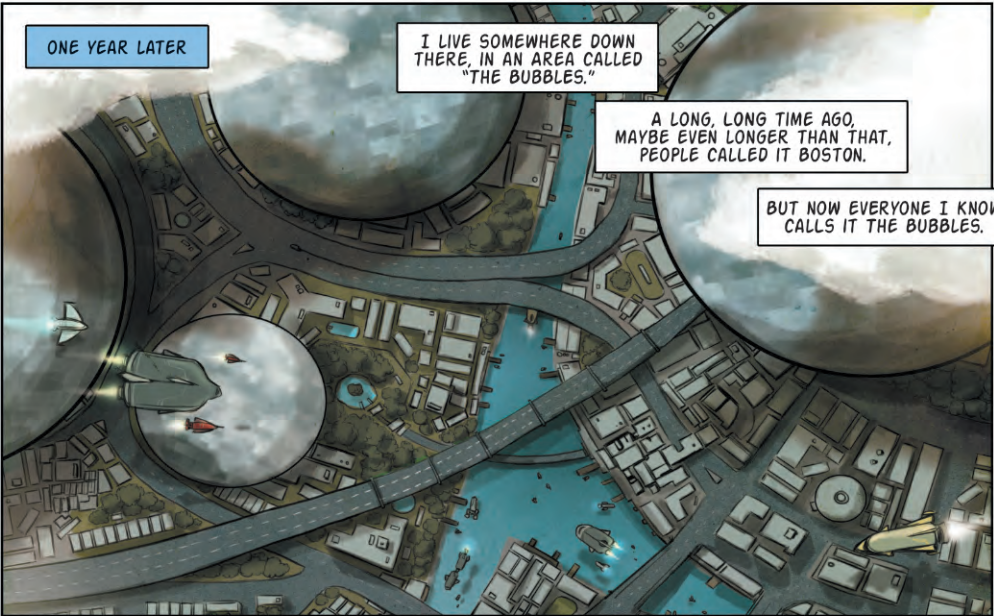
B-BUT I DON'T KNOW IF IT'S EVEN POSSIBLE TO--

WAIT... WHEN YOU SAY I'M NOT LEAVING YOU DON'T LITERALLY MEAN I'M NOT--

'CAUSE I'M 85% SURE I FORGOT TO FEED MY FISH THIS MORNING AND--



BY THE END OF THE DAY!

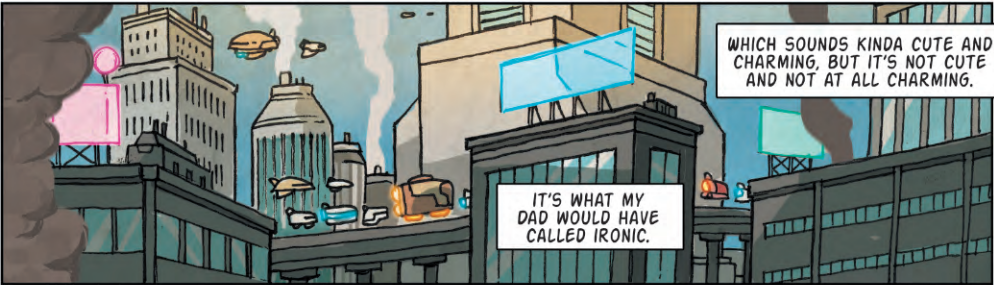


ONE YEAR LATER

I LIVE SOMEWHERE DOWN THERE, IN AN AREA CALLED "THE BUBBLES."

A LONG, LONG TIME AGO, MAYBE EVEN LONGER THAN THAT, PEOPLE CALLED IT BOSTON.

BUT NOW EVERYONE I KNOW CALLS IT THE BUBBLES.

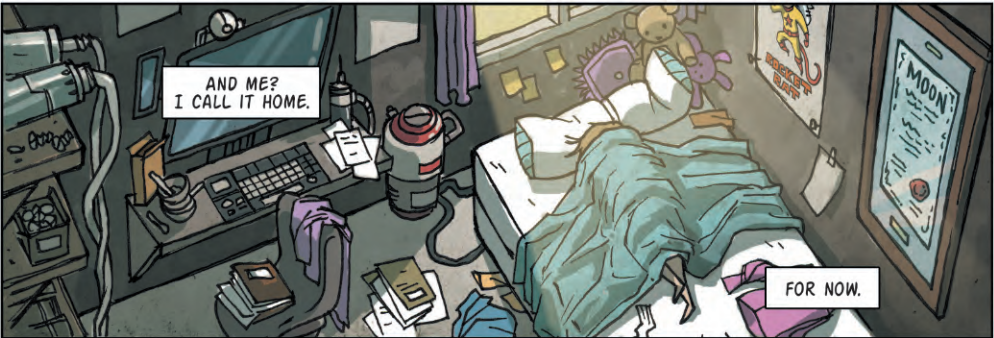


WHICH SOUNDS KINDA CUTE AND CHARMING, BUT IT'S NOT CUTE AND NOT AT ALL CHARMING.

IT'S WHAT MY DAD WOULD HAVE CALLED IRONIC.



MY MOM JUST CALLED IT DEPRESSING.



AND ME? I CALL IT HOME.

FOR NOW.