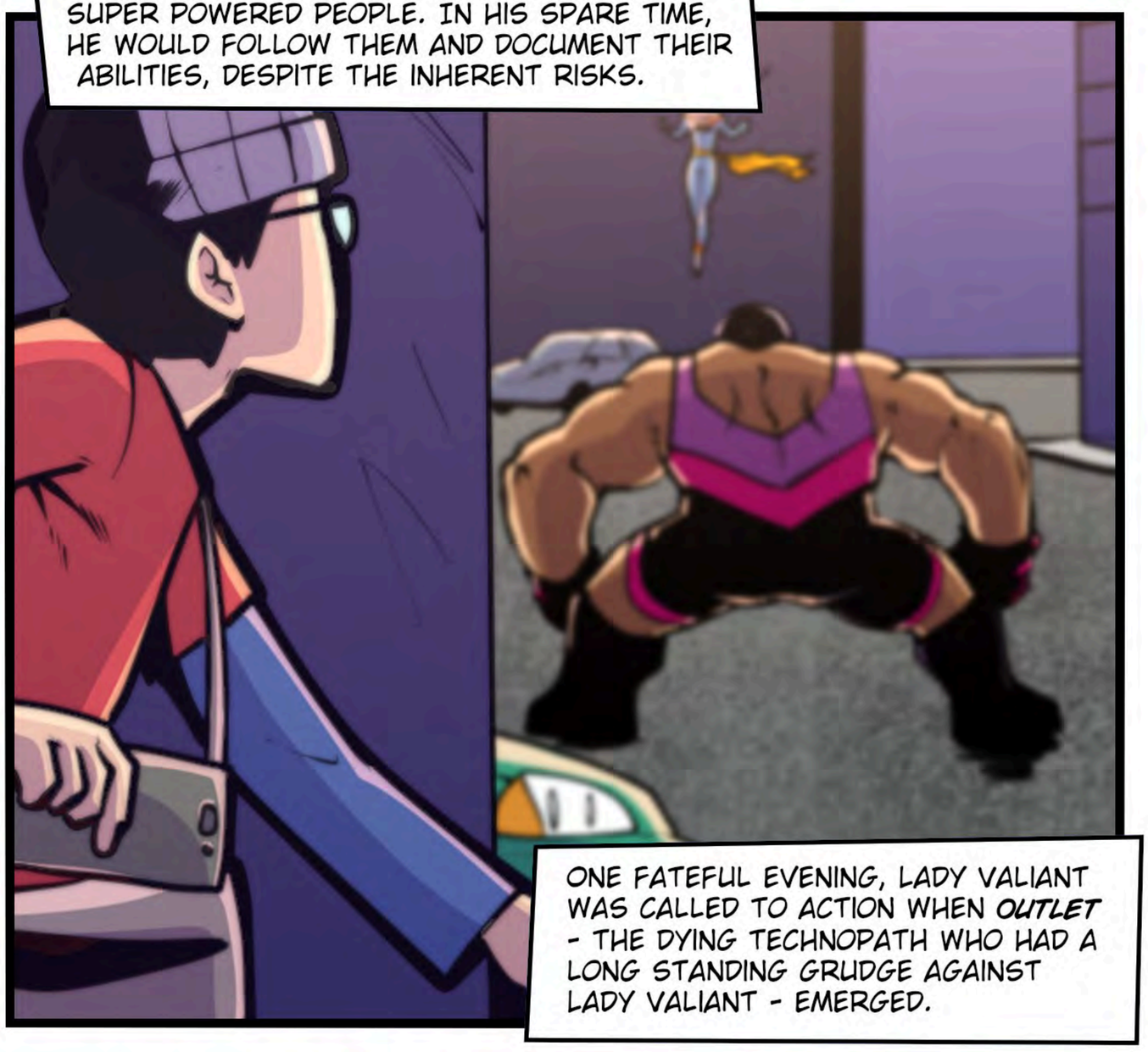
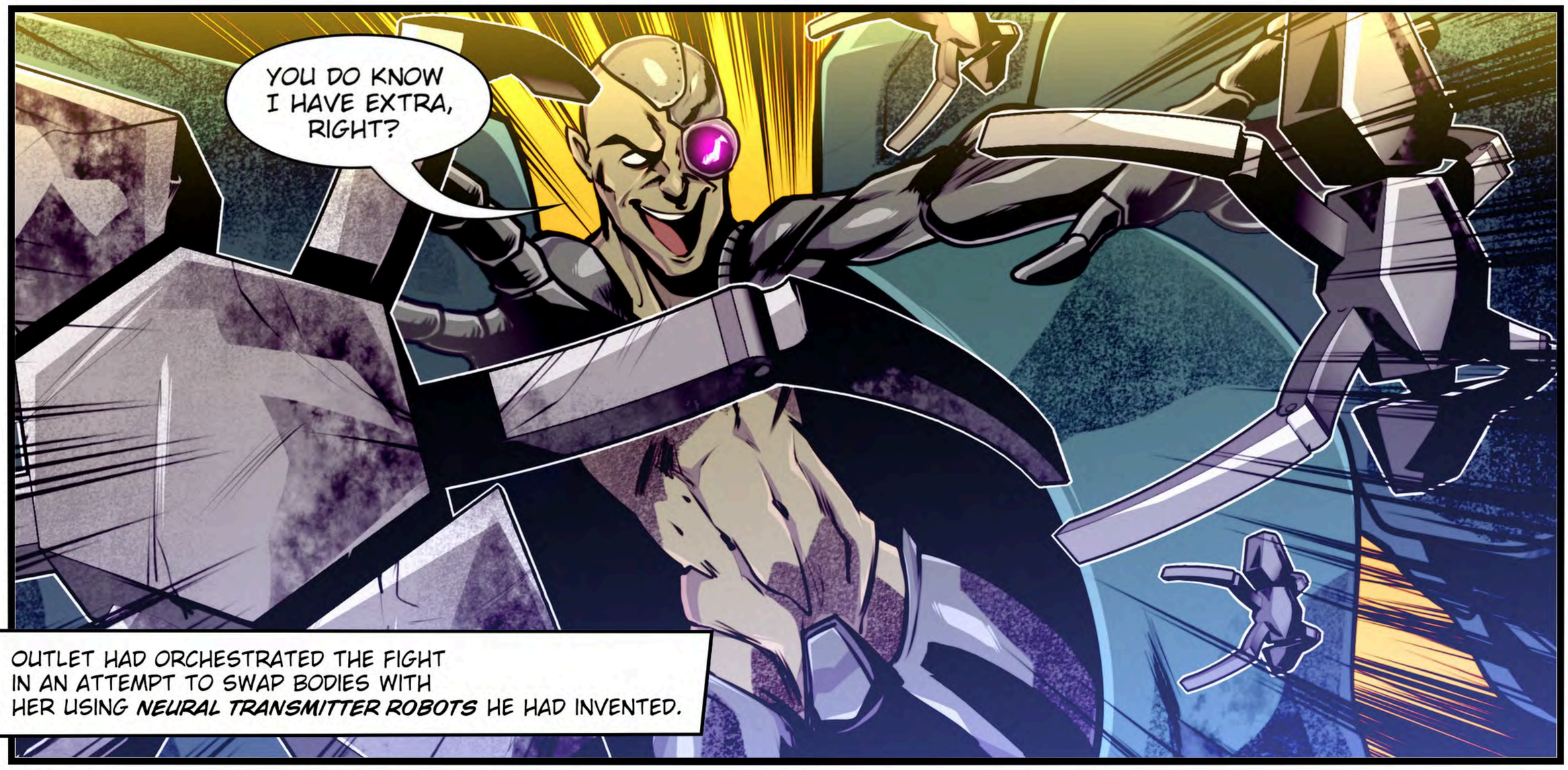
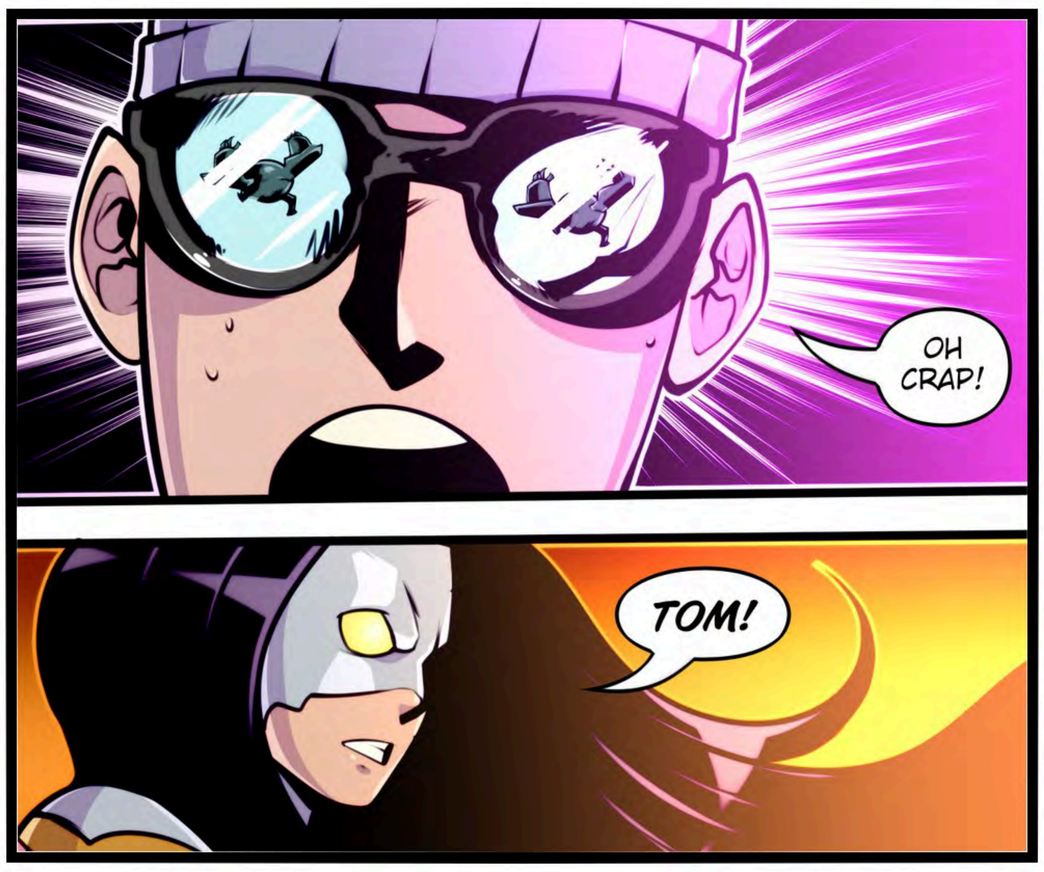
WE THREE ARE THE FATES. WE ARE TASKED WITH WEAVING THREADS INTO THE TAPESTRY OF TIME. THE TAPESTRY TELLS THE TALE OF ALL BEINGS, ACROSS ALL WORLDS
SOME THREADS ARE WOVEN TO COMPLETION, WHILE OTHERS MUST BE TRIMMED
SOME THREADS ARE MORE... COMPLICATED... THAN OTHERS. SOME HEROES ARE BORN, OTHERS ARE MADE, AND SOME...
...SOME FIND THEMSELVES THRUST INTO HEROISM

LADY VALIANT, A PARAGON OF JUSTICE IN A WORLD OF SUPER HUMANS. WITH THE POWERS OF SUPER STRENGTH, SUPER DURABILITY, AND FLIGHT AT HER COMMAND, LADY VALIANT PROTECTED THE PEOPLE OF HER CITY.

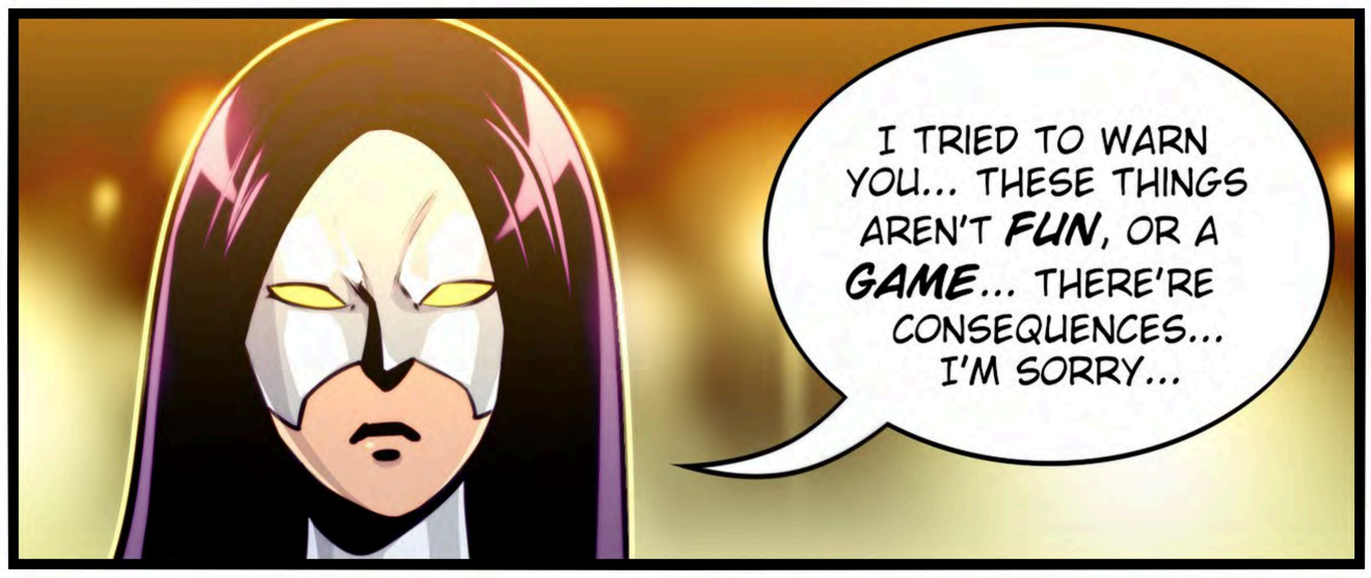

TOM SIMPSON, A YOUNG MAN WHO LOVED SUPER POWERED PEOPLE. IN HIS SPARE TIME, HE WOULD FOLLOW THEM AND DOCUMENT THEIR ABILITIES, DESPITE THE INHERENT RISKS.
ONE FATEFUL EVENING, LADY VALIANT WAS CALLED TO ACTION WHEN OUTLET - THE DYING TECHNOPATH WHO HAD A LONG STANDING GRUDGE AGAINST LADY VALIANT - EMERGED.

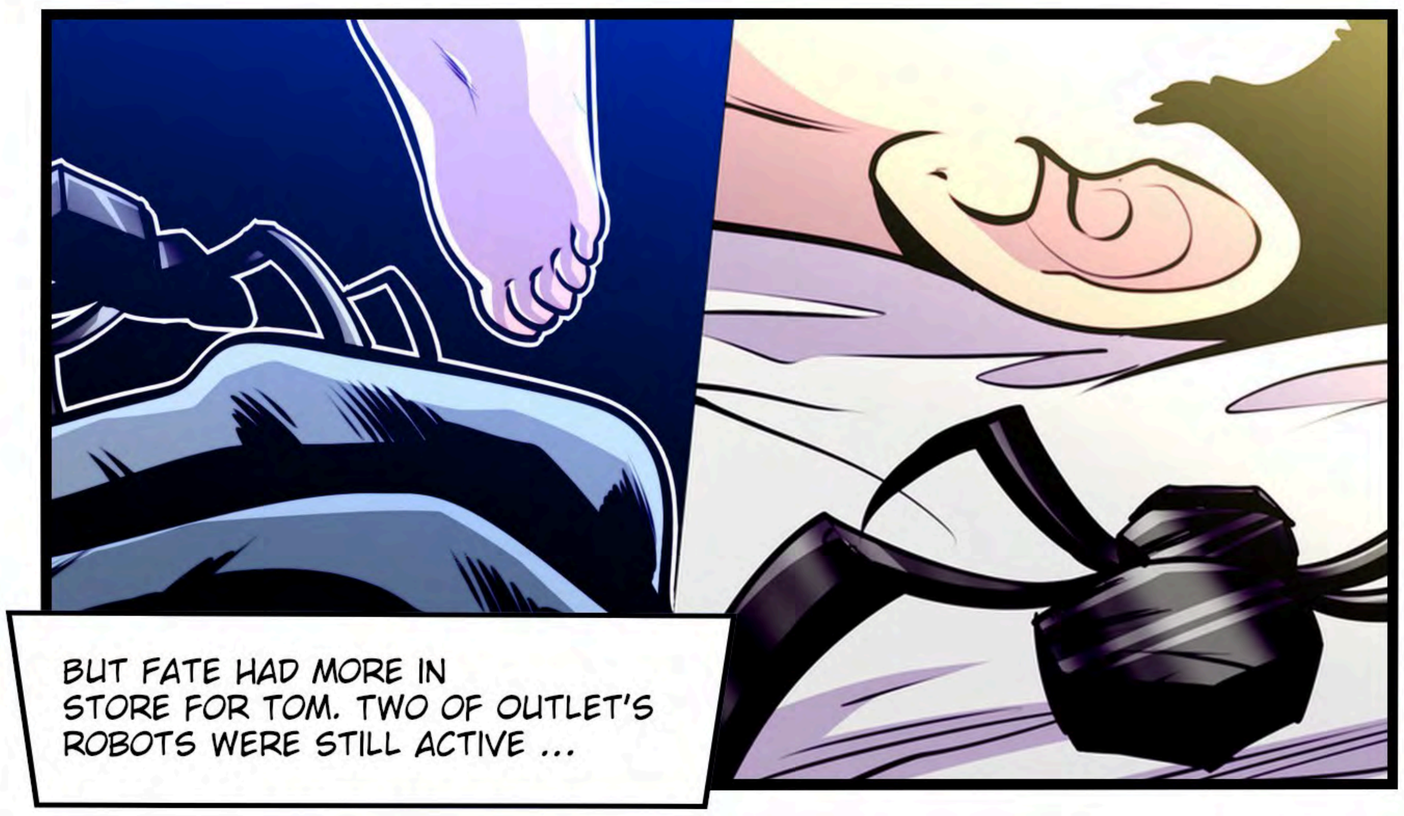

YOU DO KNOW I HAVE EXTRA, RIGHT?
OUTLET HAD ORCHESTRATED THE FIGHT IN AN ATTEMPT TO SWAP BODIES WITH HER USING NEURAL TRANSMITTER ROBOTS HE HAD INVENTED.

WHILE LADY VALIANT MANAGED TO DEFEAT THE VILLAIN -


OH CRAP!
TOM!

HER VICTORY CAME AT A COST.



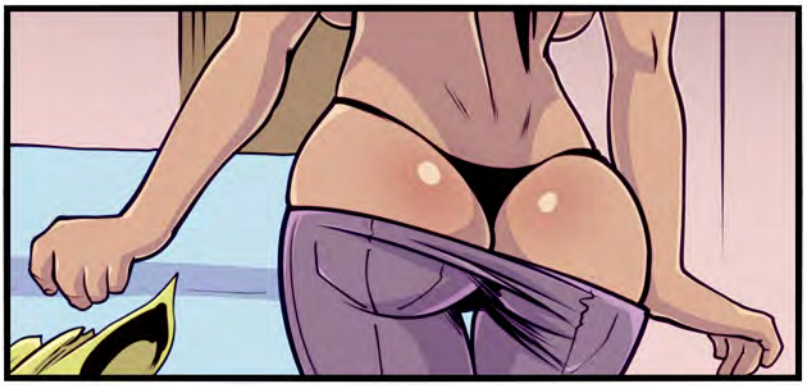



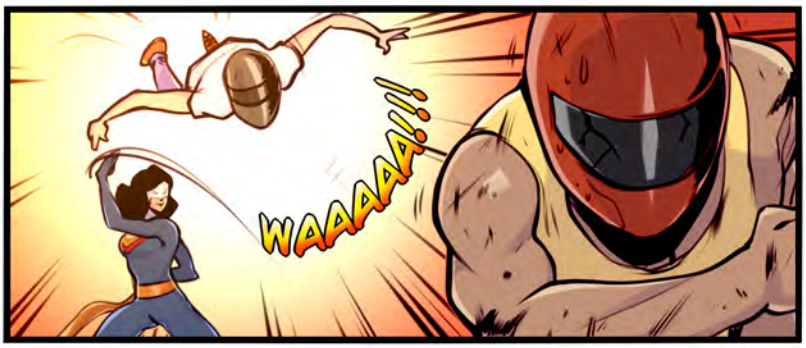
THEY FOREVER CHANGED THE COURSE OF TWO PEOPLE'S DESTINIES.
...
W-WHAT...?
WAKING UP IN A *NEW BODY* WAS ONLY THE FIRST SHOCKING EVENT FOR TOM...

FINDING THE NEAREST MIRROR, TOM WAS SURPRISED TO SEE THE FACE OF HIS MATH TEACHER, ANGELA LANE, STARING BACK AT HIM!
SOMETHING ON THE GROUND CAUGHT TOM'S EYE AND HE MADE A STARTLING REALIZATION ...
LADY VALIANT'S SUIT!
ANGELA LANE WAS LADY VALIANT!!
AND IF THAT WAS THE CASE, TOM WAS NOW INSIDE THE BODY OF A SUPER HERO!
WHAT WAS THAT?
KA-BOOM!
BEFORE TOM COULD FULLY EXPLORE HIS NEW ANATOMY, CHAOS ERUPTED NEARBY!
AND SO BEGAN TOM'S ADVENTURES AS LADY VALIANT!

AFTER HIS FIRST OUTING AS A SUPER HERO, TOM REALIZED HE NEEDED HELP. SO HE REACHED OUT TO HIS BEST FRIEND, JOHN.
KNOCK! KNOCK!
TOM LEARNED WHAT HAD BEFALLEN HIS BODY JUST A FEW HOURS LATER. HIS BODY, WITH ANGELA LANE'S MIND INSIDE OF IT, HAD FALLEN INTO A COMA.
WITH NO WAY TO RETURN TO HIS OWN BODY, TOM DID HIS BEST TO LIVE THE LIFE OF ANGELA LANE, INCLUDING TEACHING HIS FORMER CLASSMATES.
HE ALSO LEARNED ABOUT HIS NEW POWERS AND LIMITS WITH HELP FROM JOHN.

... AND THAT LEADS US TO THE NEXT STEP WHERE...
TOM QUICKLY ADAPTED TO LIFE AS A SUPER HERO, A TEACHER, AND A WOMAN...




WAAAAA!!!

... UNTIL A FATEFUL HAIR APPOINTMENT...

WHAT'S THIS?

Hair Appointment
Tomorrow - 5:30PM.

LOOKS FINE TO ME, BUT...

TOM WAS BROUGHT IN TO SPECIAL WEAPONS ACCESS AND PROCEDURES, OR ***S.W.A.P.***
WHISPER, THE DIRECTOR OF S.W.A.P., LET TOM KNOW THAT HE KNEW ABOUT THE BODY SWAP!

AS A GROUP THAT MONITORED THE ACTIVITIES OF SUPER POWERED PEOPLE, S.W.A.P. WOULD BE KEEPING THEIR EYE ON TOM.

***SPECIAL WEAPONS ACCESS AND PROCEDURES.***

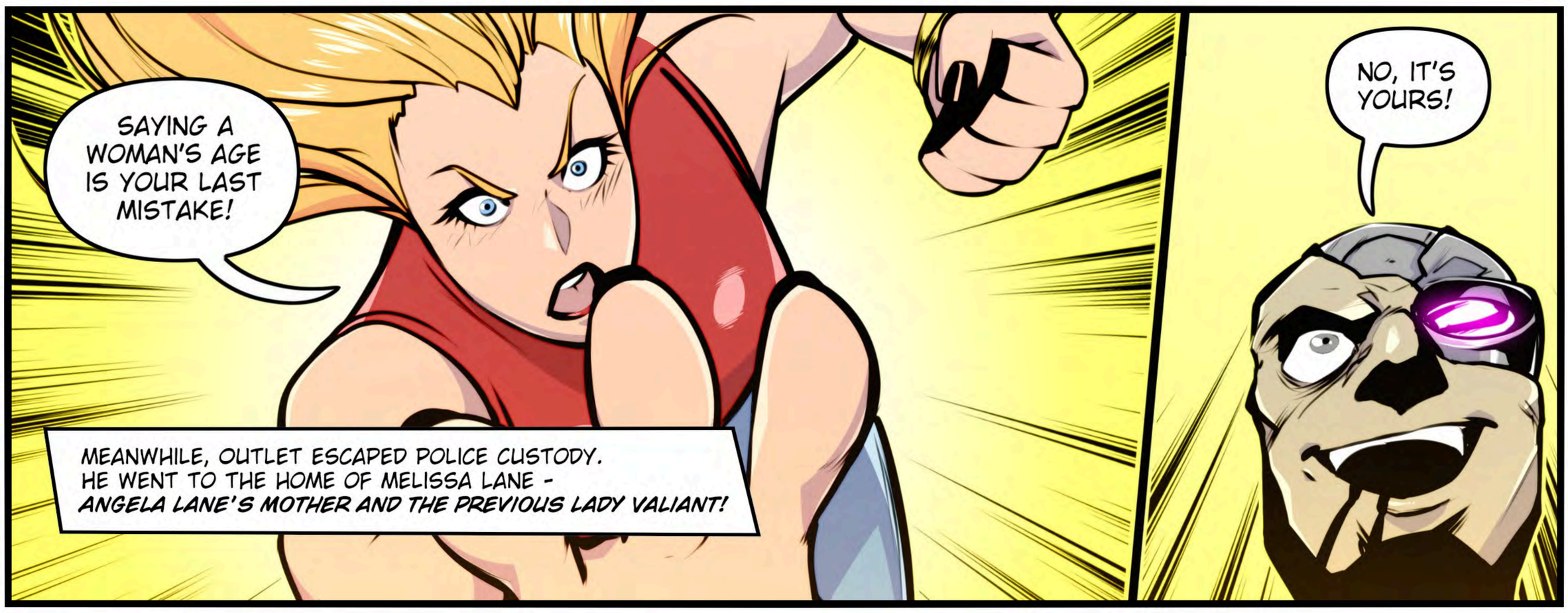
WHISPER

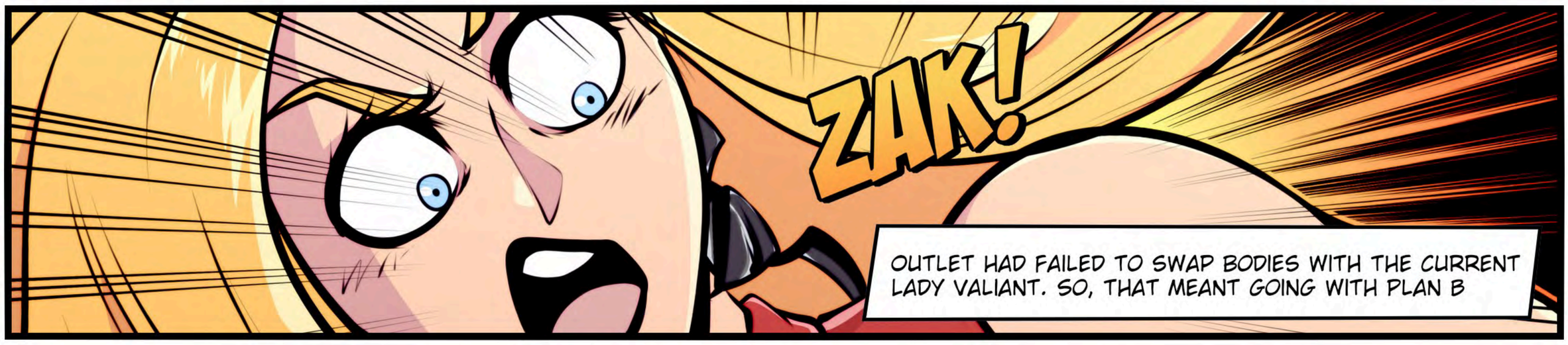
CHANT

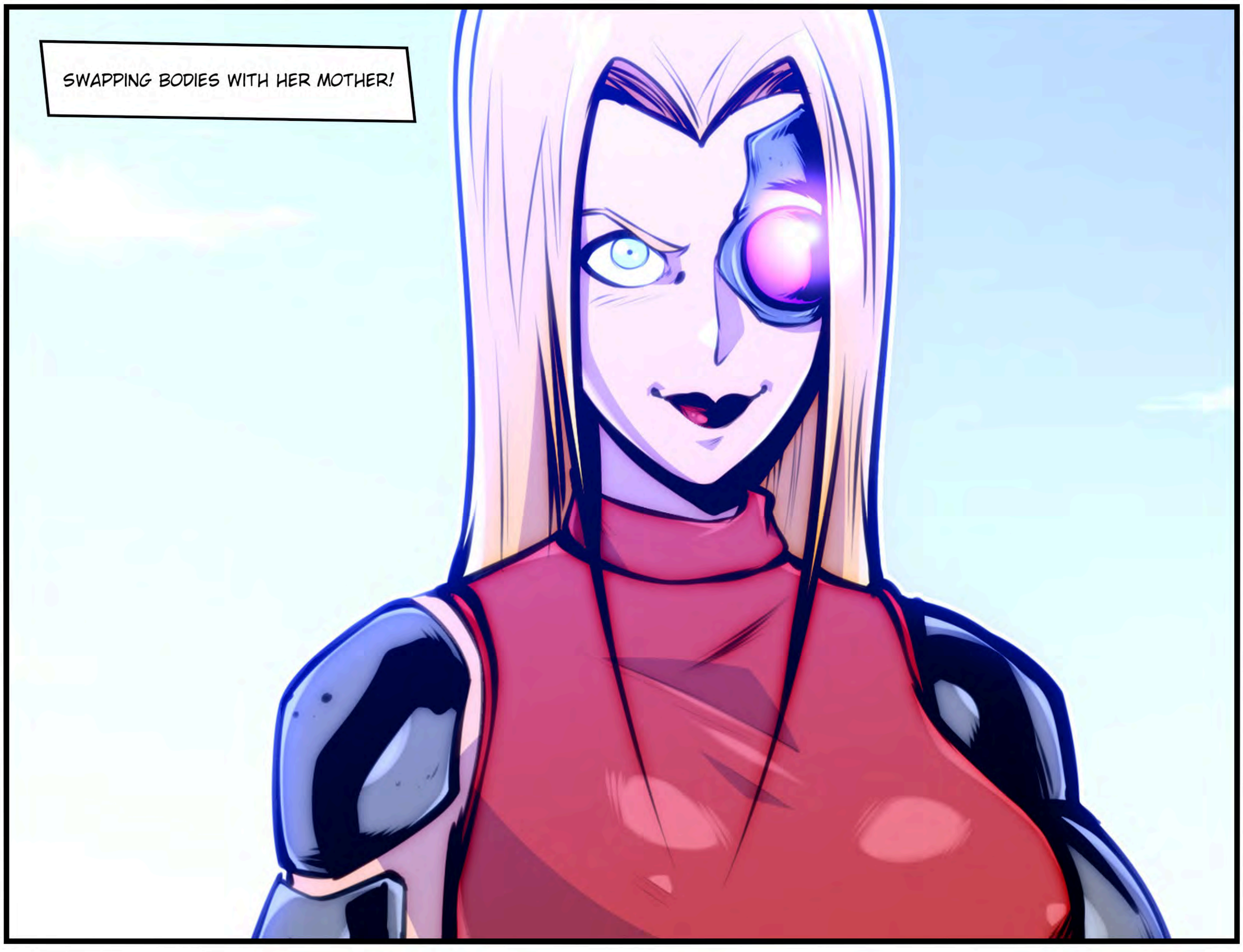
YELL

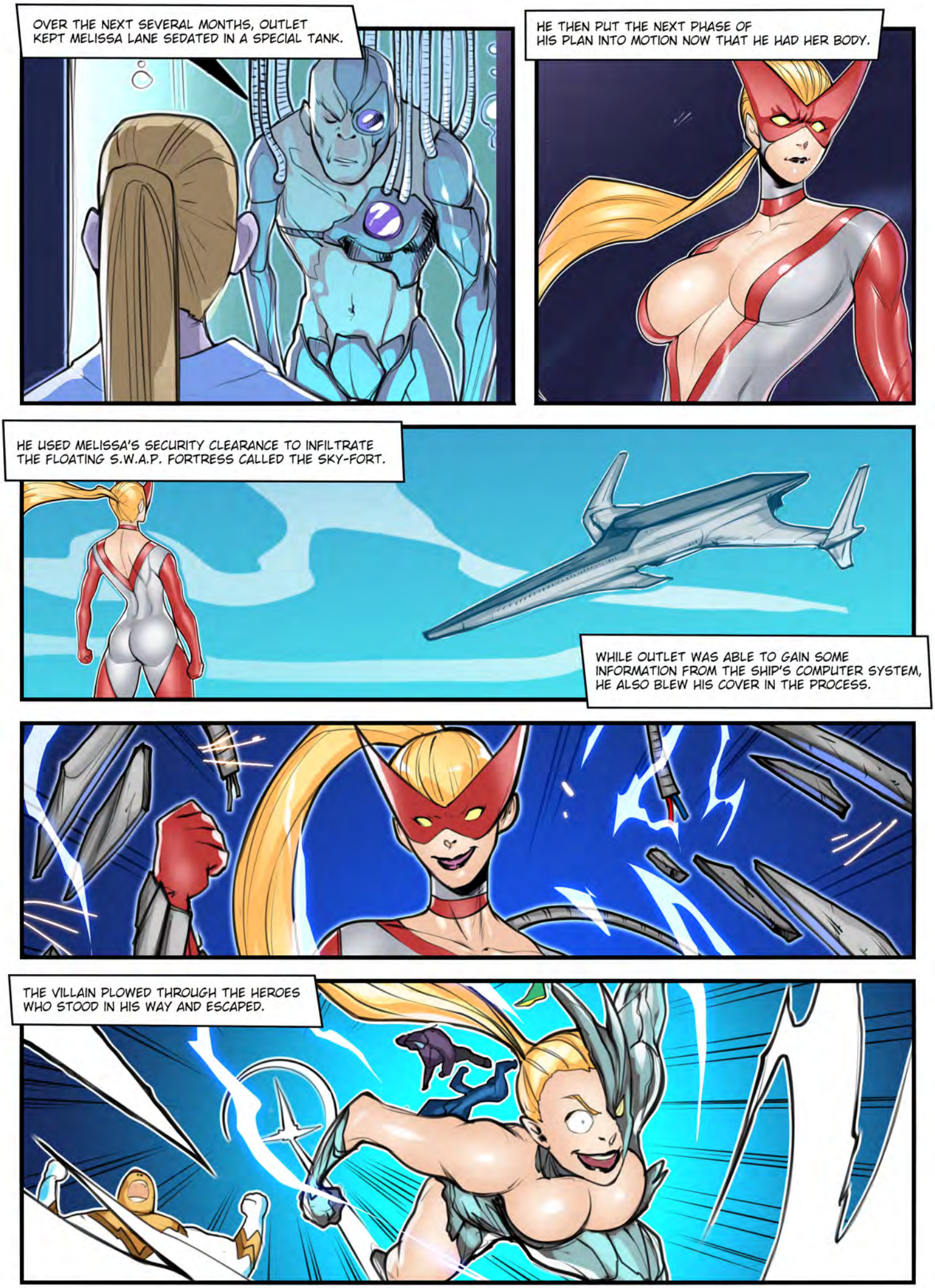
SHOUT

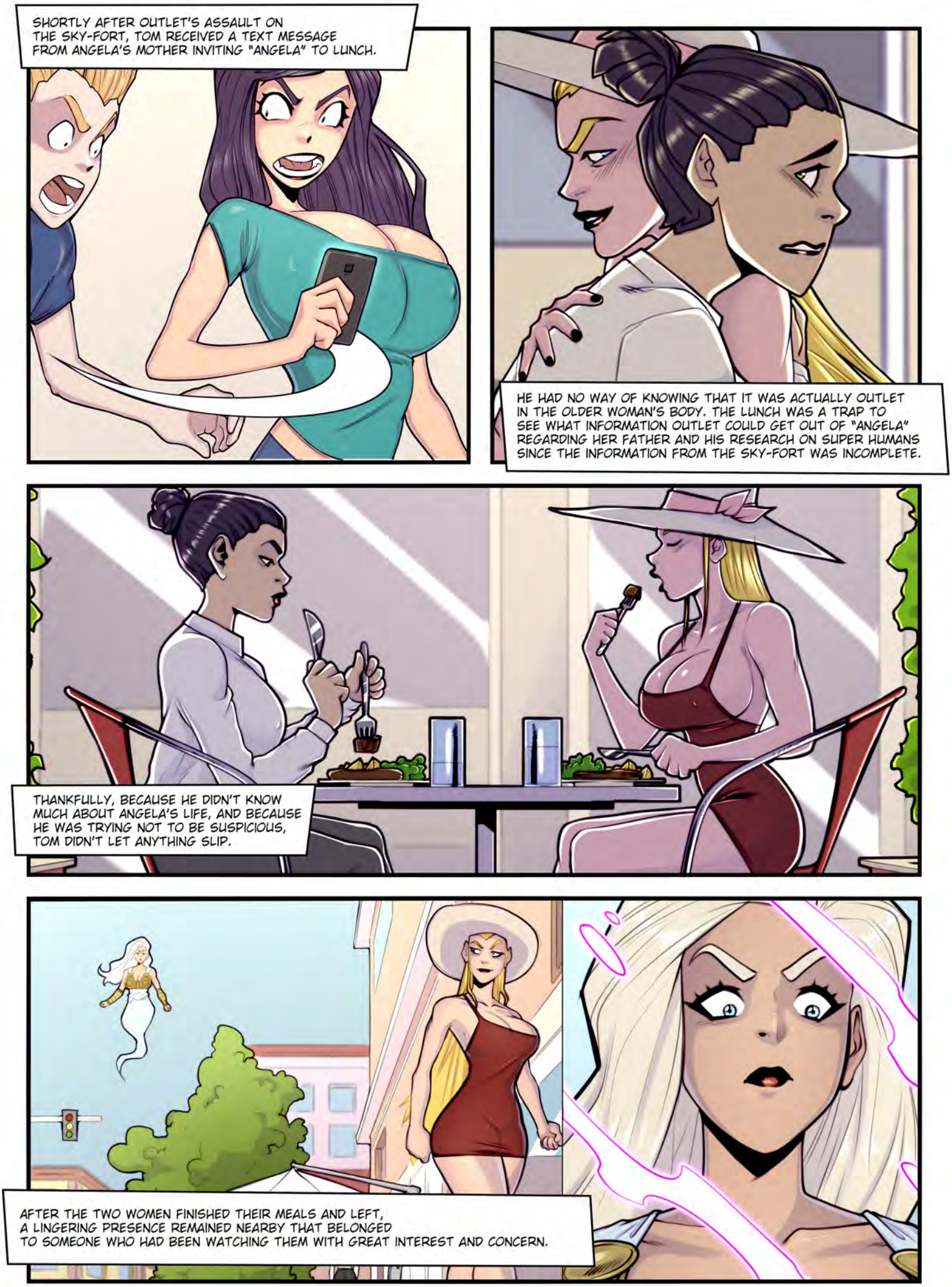
RUMOR

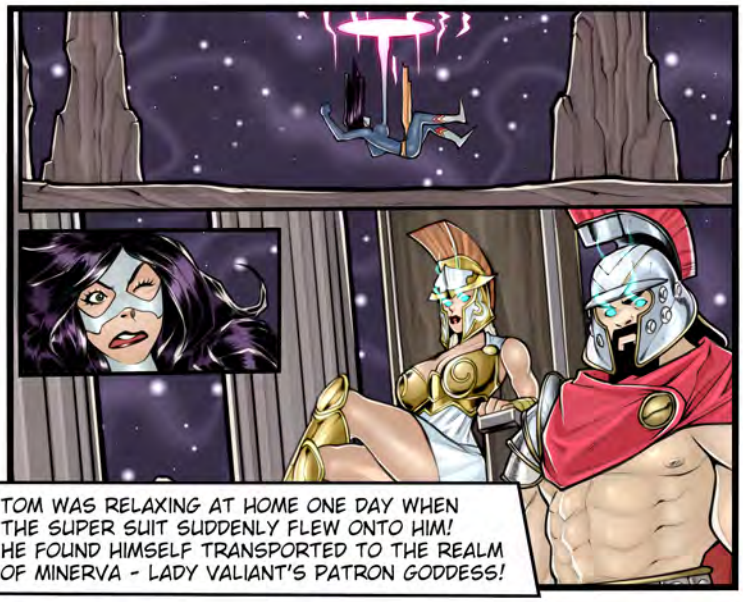

SAYING A WOMAN'S AGE IS YOUR LAST MISTAKE!
MEANWHILE, OUTLET ESCAPED POLICE CUSTODY. HE WENT TO THE HOME OF MELISSA LANE - *ANGELA LANE'S MOTHER AND THE PREVIOUS LADY VALIANT!*
NO, IT'S YOURS!

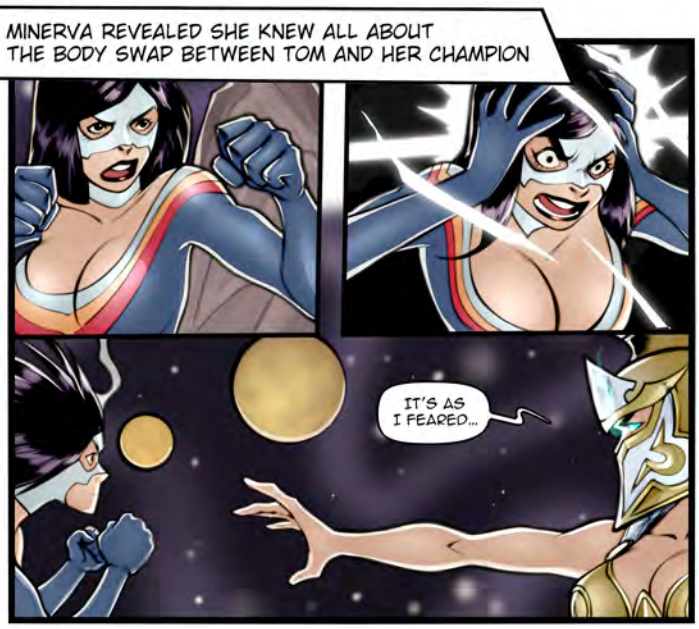

ZAK!
OUTLET HAD FAILED TO SWAP BODIES WITH THE CURRENT LADY VALIANT. SO, THAT MEANT GOING WITH PLAN B

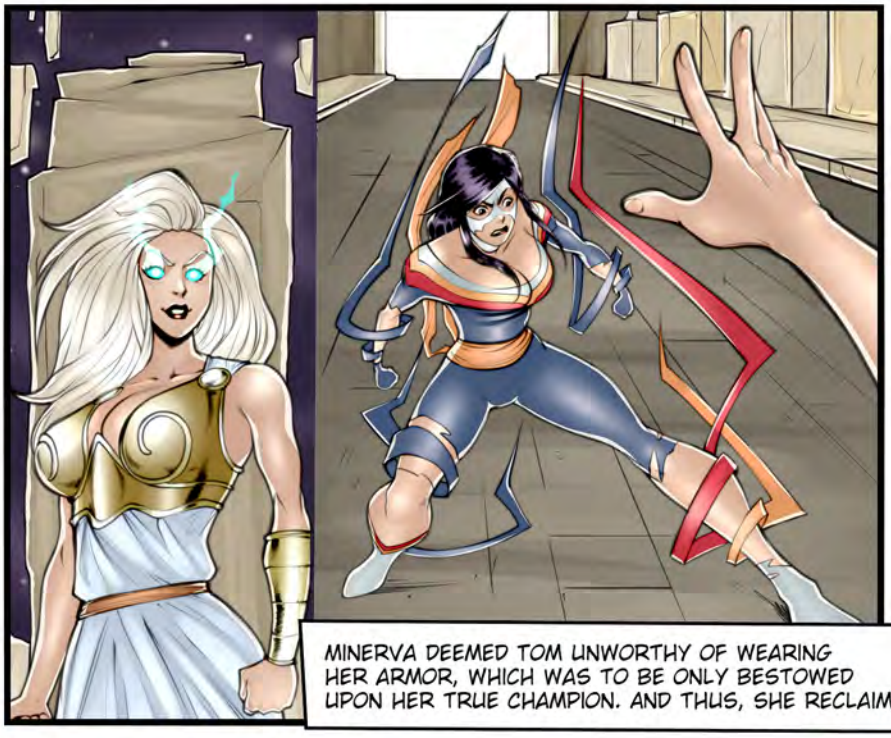

SWAPPING BODIES WITH HER MOTHER!


OVER THE NEXT SEVERAL MONTHS, OUTLET KEPT MELISSA LANE SEDATED IN A SPECIAL TANK.
HE THEN PUT THE NEXT PHASE OF HIS PLAN INTO MOTION NOW THAT HE HAD HER BODY.
HE USED MELISSA'S SECURITY CLEARANCE TO INFILTRATE THE FLOATING S.W.A.P. FORTRESS CALLED THE SKY-FORT.
WHILE OUTLET WAS ABLE TO GAIN SOME INFORMATION FROM THE SHIP'S COMPUTER SYSTEM, HE ALSO BLEW HIS COVER IN THE PROCESS.
THE VILLAIN PLOWED THROUGH THE HEROES WHO STOOD IN HIS WAY AND ESCAPED.


SHORTLY AFTER OUTLET'S ASSAULT ON THE SKY-FORT, TOM RECEIVED A TEXT MESSAGE FROM ANGELA'S MOTHER INVITING "ANGELA" TO LUNCH.
HE HAD NO WAY OF KNOWING THAT IT WAS ACTUALLY OUTLET IN THE OLDER WOMAN'S BODY. THE LUNCH WAS A TRAP TO SEE WHAT INFORMATION OUTLET COULD GET OUT OF "ANGELA" REGARDING HER FATHER AND HIS RESEARCH ON SUPER HUMANS SINCE THE INFORMATION FROM THE SKY-FORT WAS INCOMPLETE.
THANKFULLY, BECAUSE HE DIDN'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT ANGELA'S LIFE, AND BECAUSE HE WAS TRYING NOT TO BE SUSPICIOUS, TOM DIDN'T LET ANYTHING SLIP.
AFTER THE TWO WOMEN FINISHED THEIR MEALS AND LEFT, A LINGERING PRESENCE REMAINED NEARBY THAT BELONGED TO SOMEONE WHO HAD BEEN WATCHING THEM WITH GREAT INTEREST AND CONCERN.

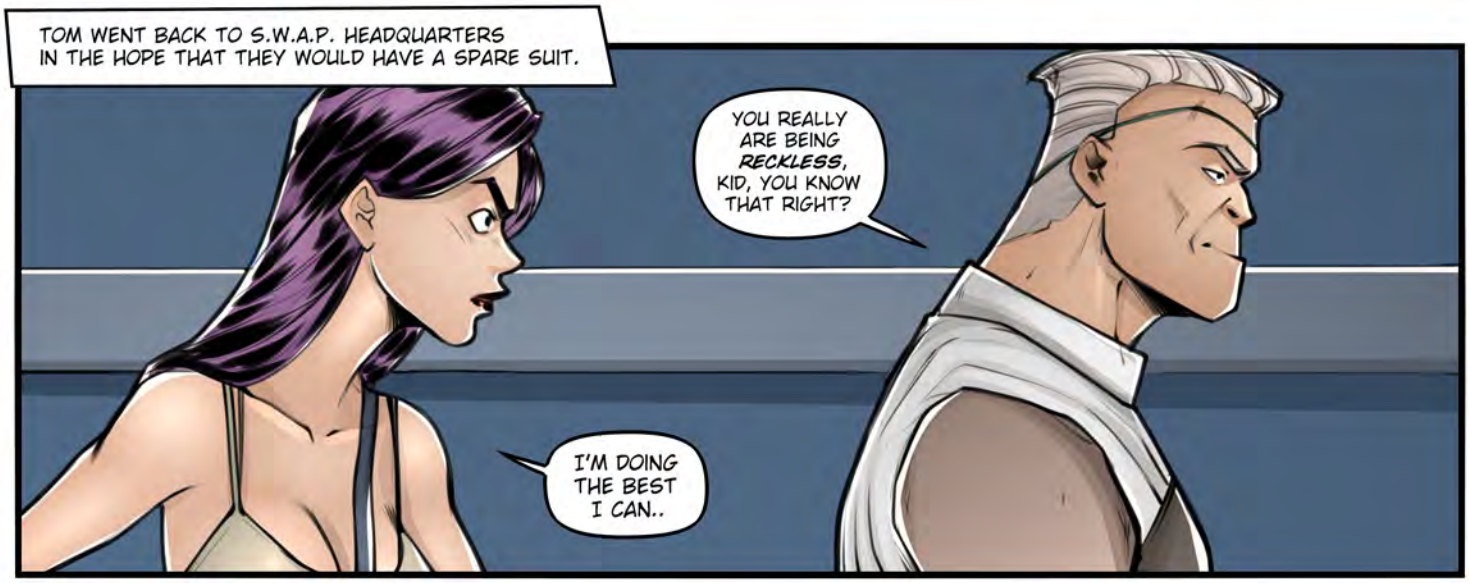

TOM WAS RELAXING AT HOME ONE DAY WHEN THE SUPER SUIT SUDDENLY FLEW ONTO HIM! HE FOUND HIMSELF TRANSPORTED TO THE REALM OF MINERVA - LADY VALIANT'S PATRON GODDESS!


MINERVA REVEALED SHE KNEW ALL ABOUT THE BODY SWAP BETWEEN TOM AND HER CHAMPION
IT'S AS I FEARED...


MINERVA DEEMED TOM UNWORTHY OF WEARING HER ARMOR, WHICH WAS TO BE ONLY BESTOWED UPON HER TRUE CHAMPION. AND THUS, SHE RECLAIMED IT.

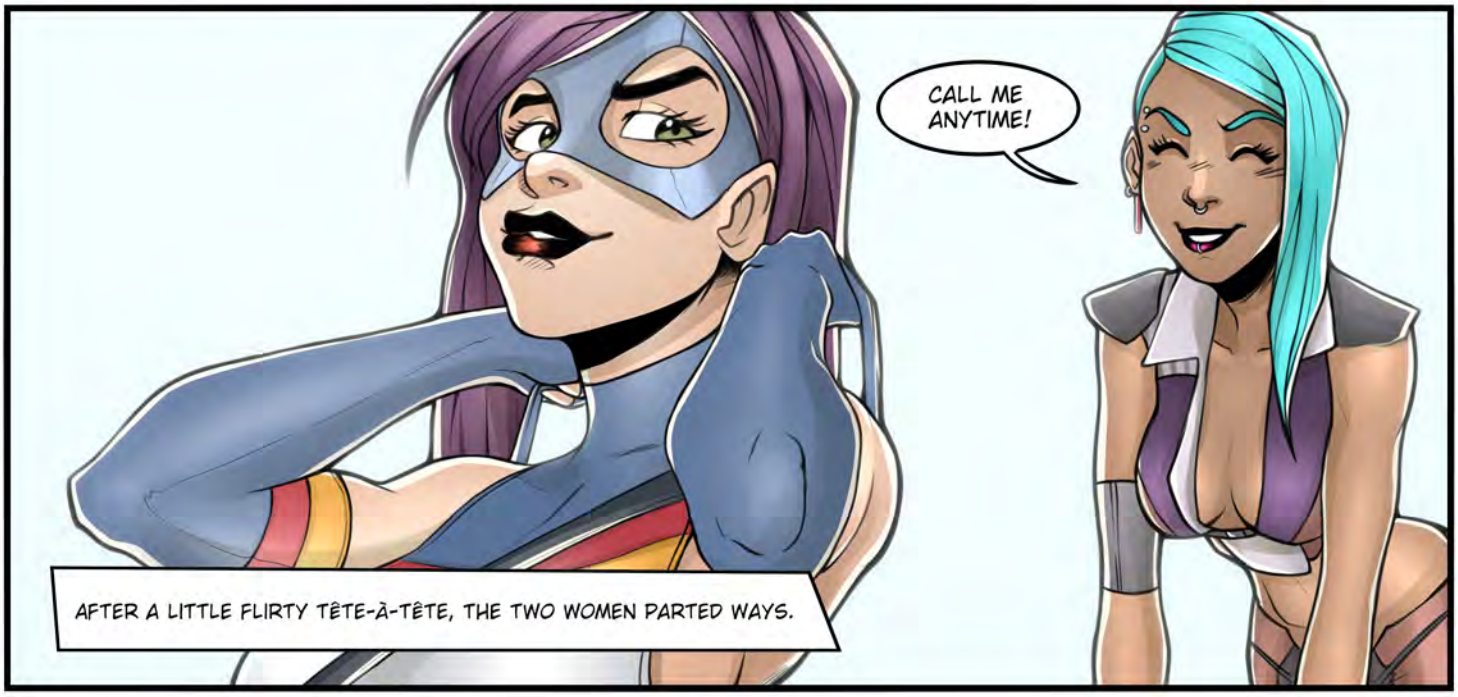
...THE HELL?!

SHE SENT TOM BACK TO THE MORTAL REALM AND LEFT HIM IN NEED OF NEW ATTIRE.

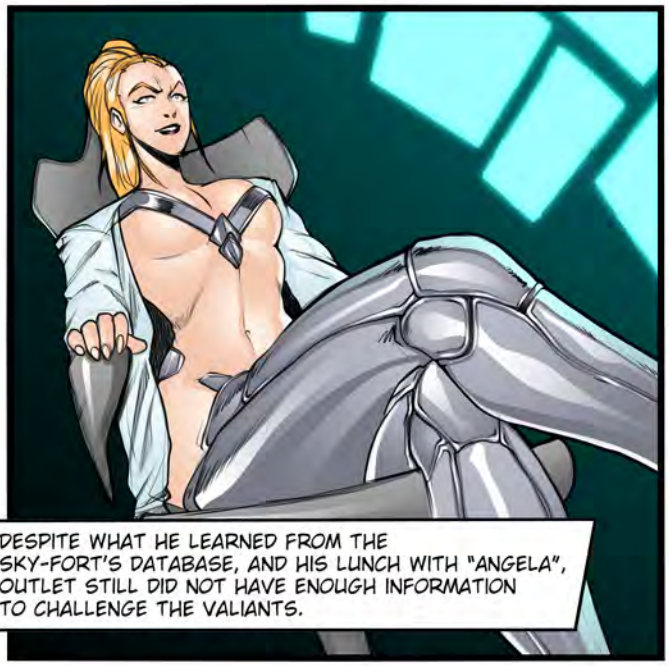

TOM WENT BACK TO S.W.A.P. HEADQUARTERS IN THE HOPE THAT THEY WOULD HAVE A SPARE SUIT.
YOU REALLY ARE BEING *RECKLESS*, KID, YOU KNOW THAT RIGHT?
I'M DOING THE BEST I CAN..

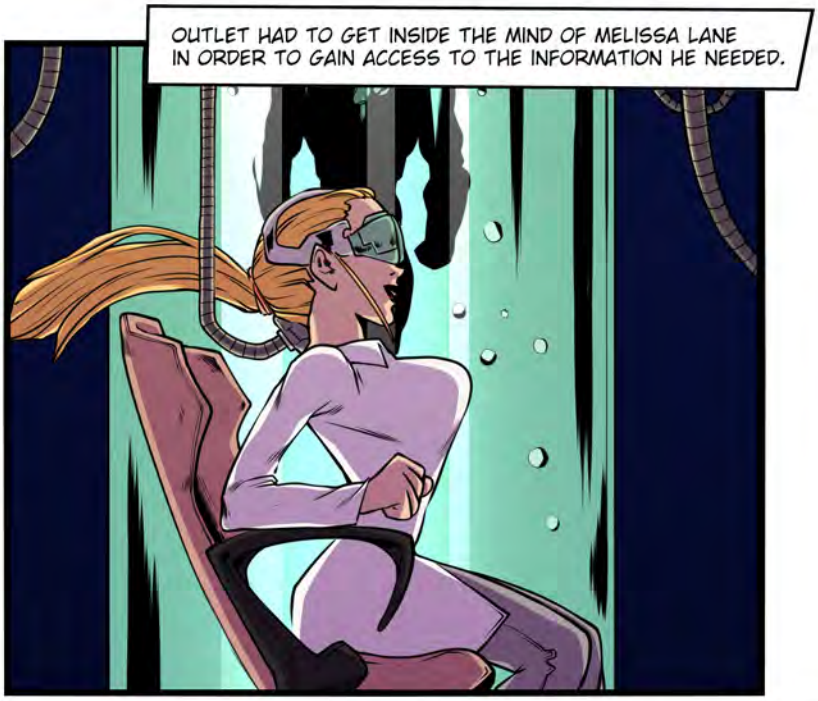
THE QUARTERMASTER, TORI "BRI" MASTERS, WAS MORE THAN HAPPY TO PROVIDE THE REQUESTED ITEM.

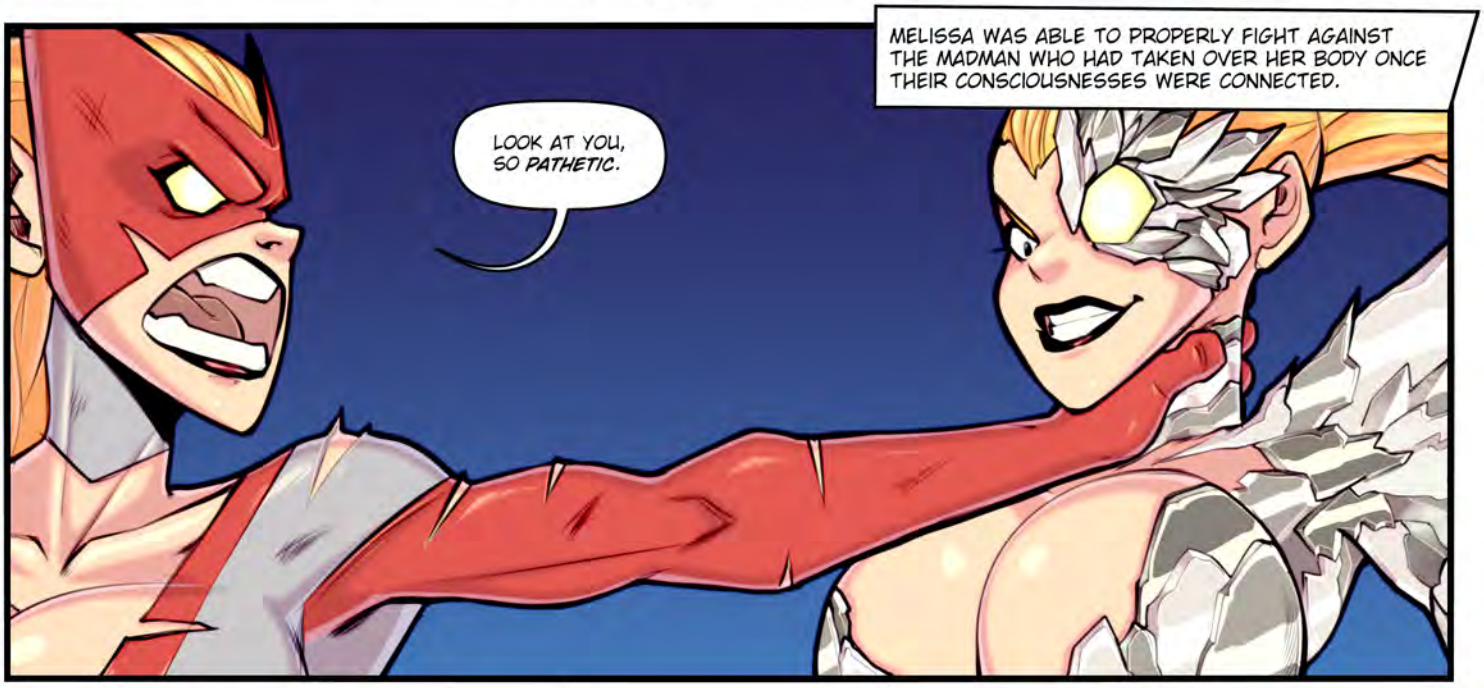
BRI WAS ABLE TO APPLY A LADY VALIANT TEMPLATE ONTO A SPECIAL SUIT THAT FIT TOM PERFECTLY.
OK, THIS ISN'T TOO BAD! GONNA NEED A *DOMINO* MASK TO GO WITH IT...

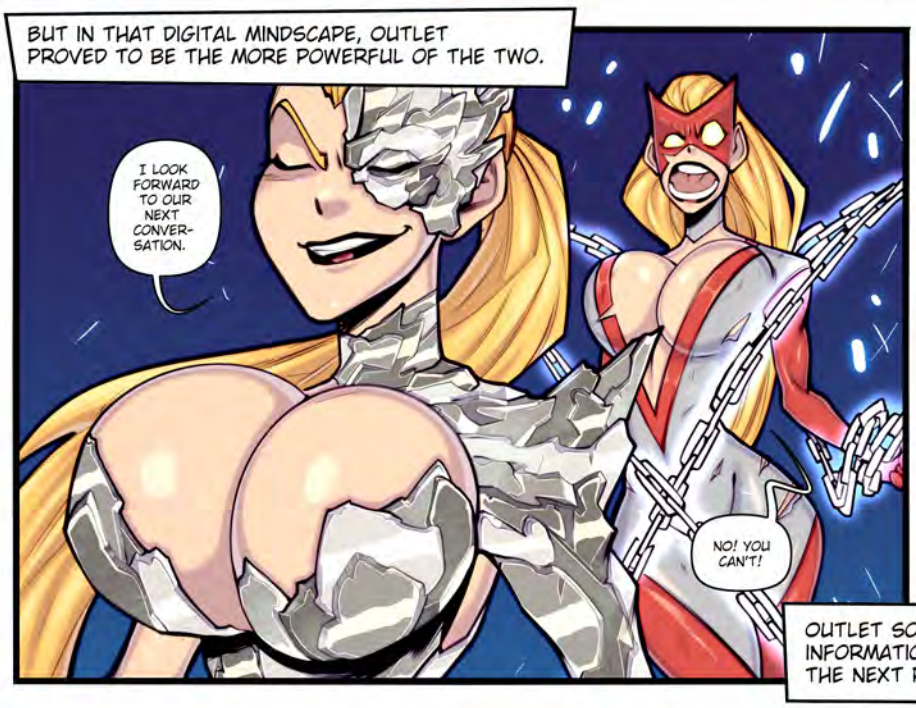

CALL ME ANYTIME!
AFTER A LITTLE FLIRTY TÊTE-À-TÊTE, THE TWO WOMEN PARTED WAYS.

WITH HIS NEW SUIT, TOM WAS ONCE AGAIN READY TO BE THE HERO THE CITY NEEDED.
GREAT JOB! THAT WOULD'VE TAKEN US HOURS WITH A CRANE!
JUST... DOING WHAT I DO.

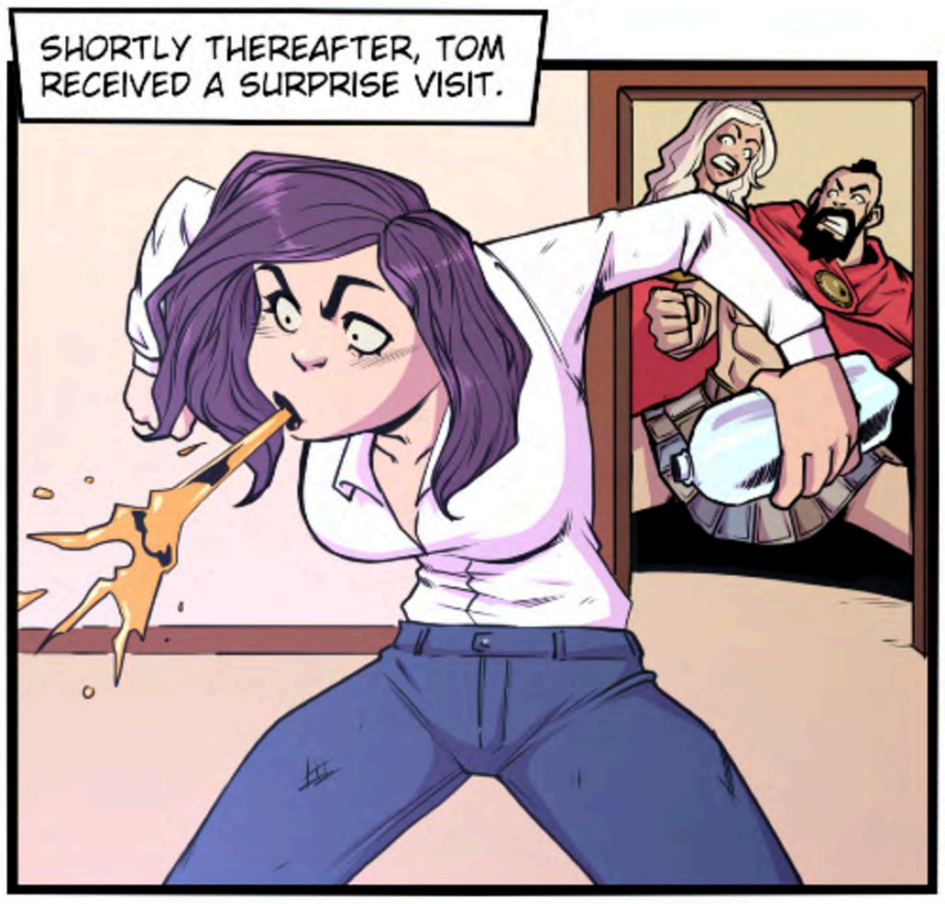

DESPITE WHAT HE LEARNED FROM THE SKY-FORT'S DATABASE, AND HIS LUNCH WITH "ANGELA", OUTLET STILL DID NOT HAVE ENOUGH INFORMATION TO CHALLENGE THE VALIANTS.

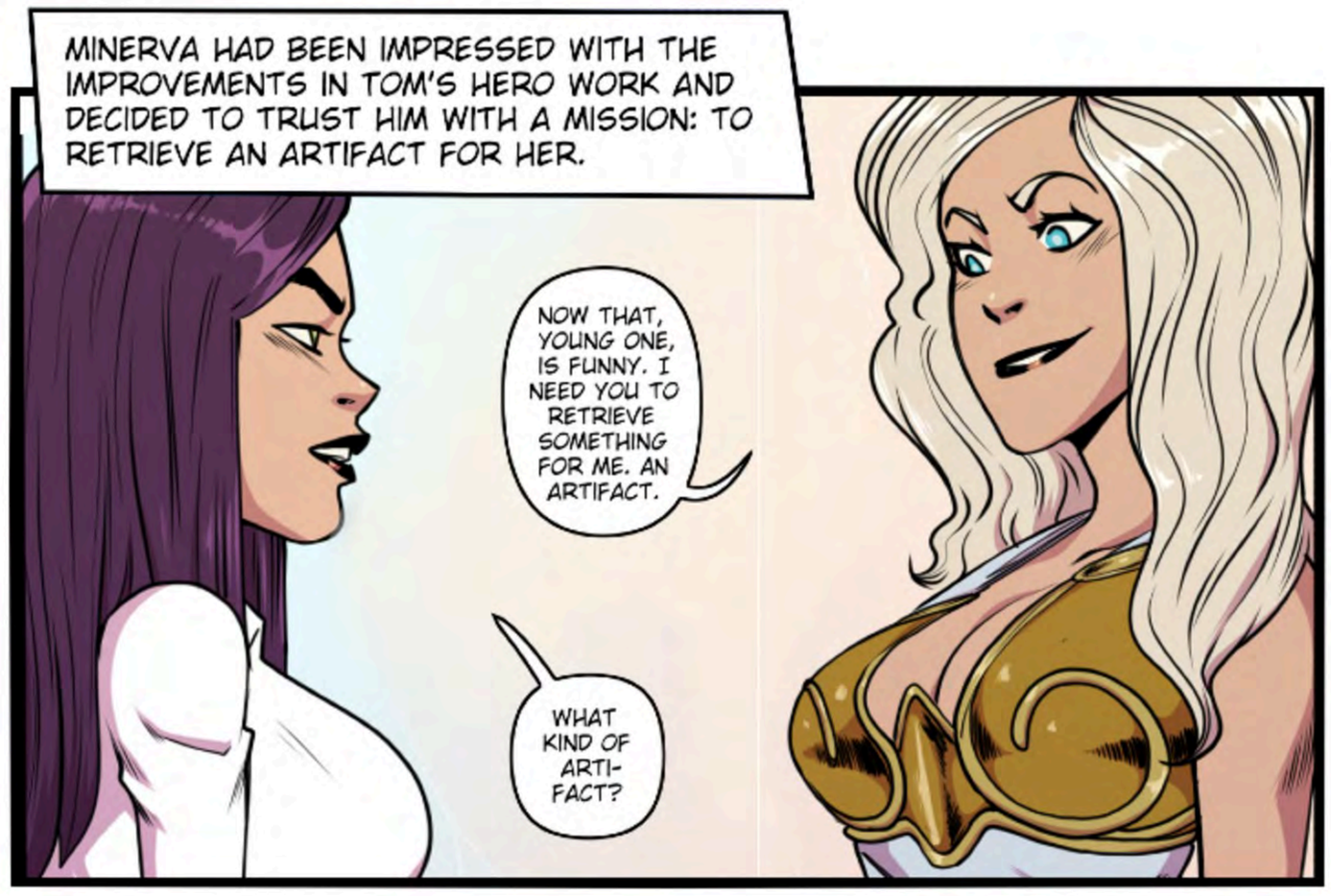

OUTLET HAD TO GET INSIDE THE MIND OF MELISSA LANE IN ORDER TO GAIN ACCESS TO THE INFORMATION HE NEEDED.

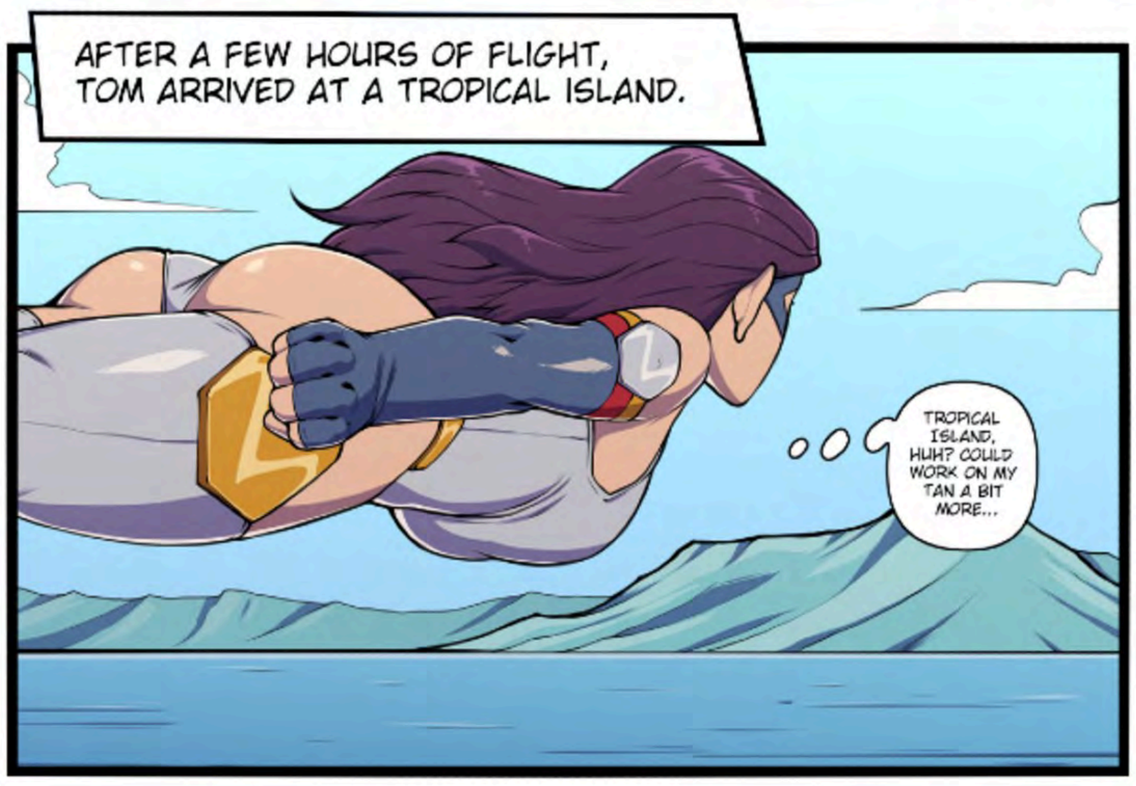

MELISSA WAS ABLE TO PROPERLY FIGHT AGAINST THE MADMAN WHO HAD TAKEN OVER HER BODY ONCE THEIR CONSCIOUSNESSES WERE CONNECTED.
LOOK AT YOU, SO *PATHETIC*.

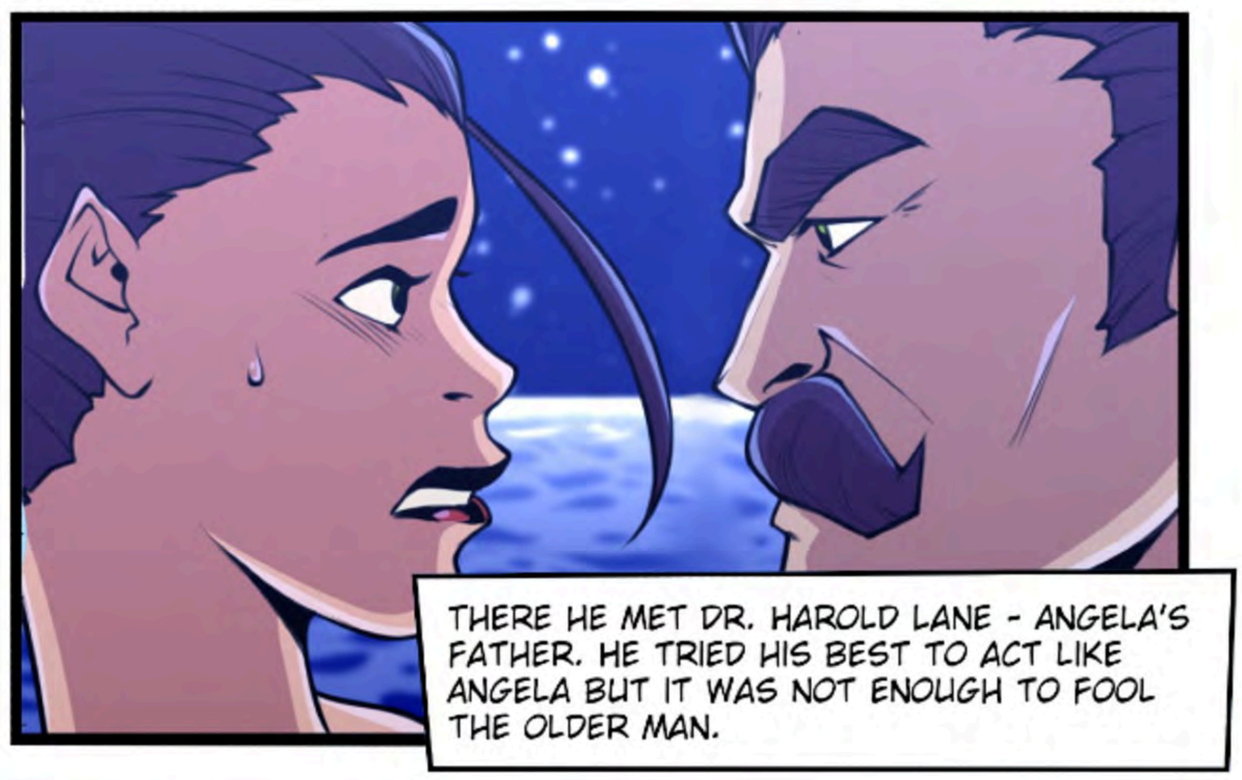

BUT IN THAT DIGITAL MINDSCAPE, OUTLET PROVED TO BE THE MORE POWERFUL OF THE TWO.
I LOOK FORWARD TO OUR NEXT CONVER-SATION.
NO! YOU CAN'T!

TARGET
SO THIS IS WHERE HE WAS HIDING, HUH?
OUTLET SOON HAD ALL OF THE INFORMATION HE NEEDED TO BEGIN THE NEXT PHASE OF HIS SINISTER PLAN.


SHORTLY THEREAFTER, TOM RECEIVED A SURPRISE VISIT.


MINERVA HAD BEEN IMPRESSED WITH THE IMPROVEMENTS IN TOM'S HERO WORK AND DECIDED TO TRUST HIM WITH A MISSION: TO RETRIEVE AN ARTIFACT FOR HER.
NOW THAT, YOUNG ONE, IS FUNNY. I NEED YOU TO RETRIEVE SOMETHING FOR ME. AN ARTIFACT.
WHAT KIND OF ARTI-FACT?

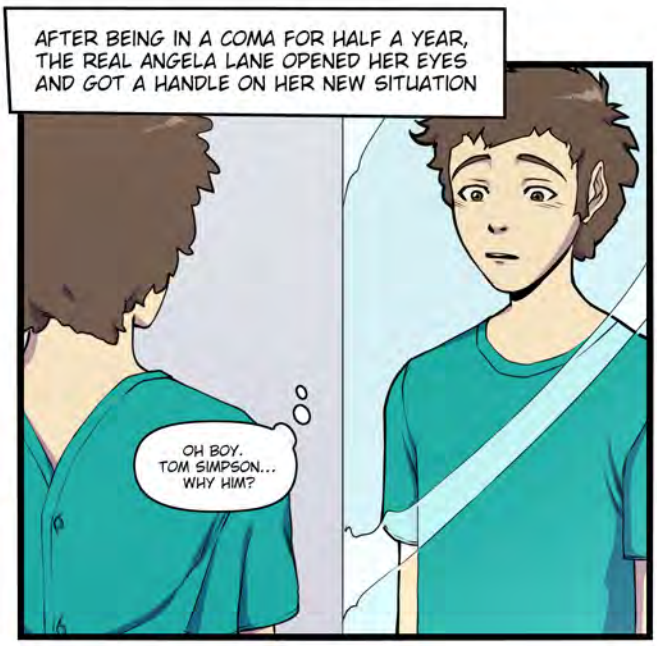

AFTER A FEW HOURS OF FLIGHT, TOM ARRIVED AT A TROPICAL ISLAND.
TROPICAL ISLAND, HUH? COULD WORK ON MY TAN A BIT MORE...

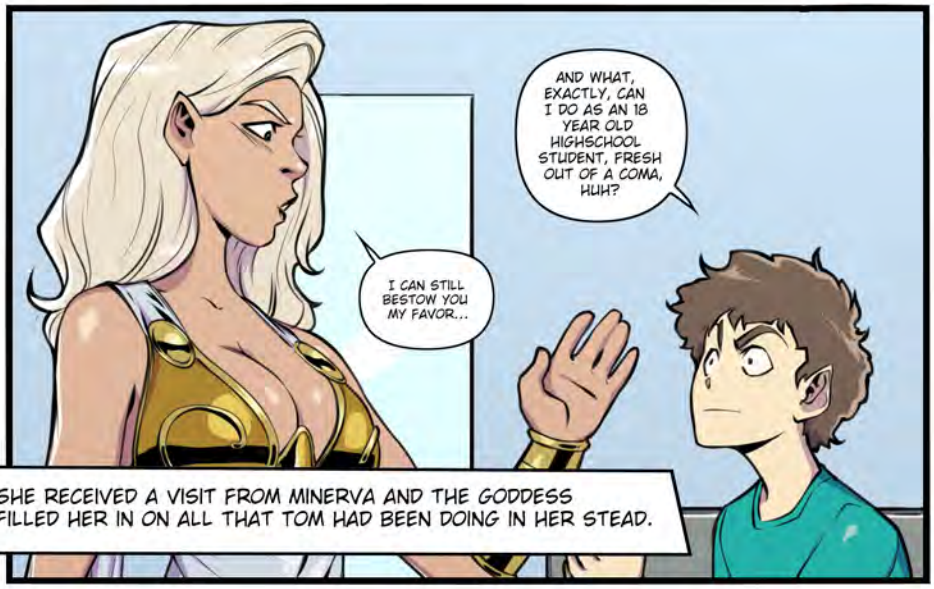

THERE HE MET DR. HAROLD LANE - ANGELA'S FATHER. HE TRIED HIS BEST TO ACT LIKE ANGELA BUT IT WAS NOT ENOUGH TO FOOL THE OLDER MAN.

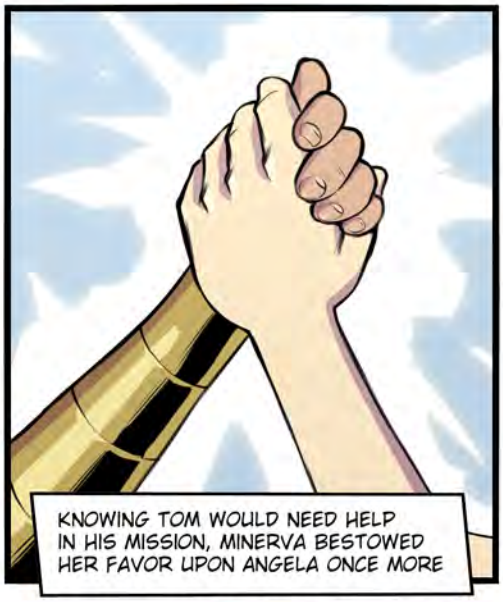
I THINK YOU'RE HALF RIGHT...
THE ILLUSTRIOUS DR. LANE...
ARCHEOLOGIST, PROFESSOR, WITH DOCTORATE IN ANTHROPOLOGICAL SUPERHUMAN STUDIES...
M-MO...
AS THEY TALKED THEY WERE SUDDENLY INTERRUPTED BY OUTLET. THE VILLAIN HAD FINALLY LOCATED HIS PRIZE ON THE ISLAND - AN ARTIFACT THAT HE BELIEVED WOULD MAKE HIM INVINCIBLE - *THE HELM OF MINERVA!*

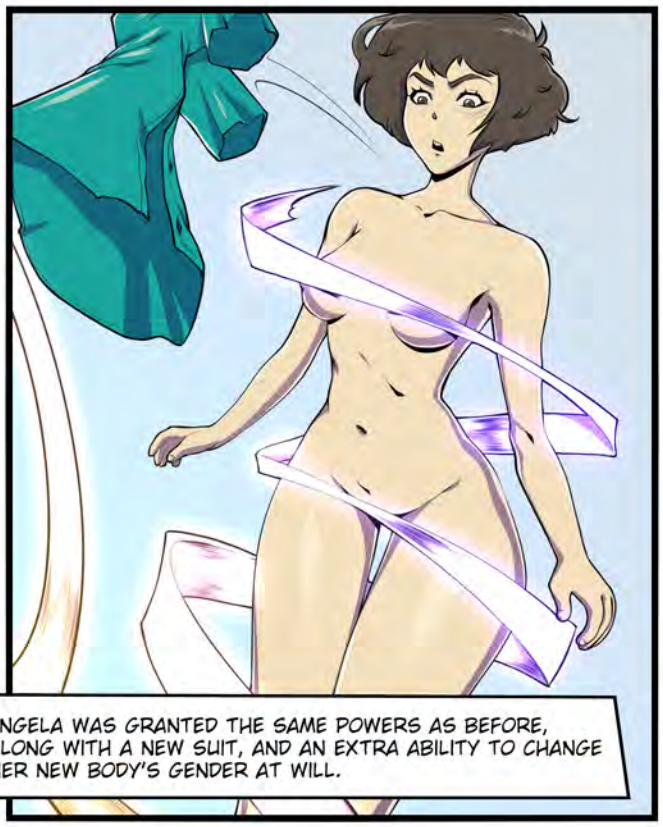
I'VE COME FOR THE HELM!

LITTLE DID ANYONE REALIZE THAT THERE HAD BEEN AN AWAKENING JUST A FEW HOURS EARLIER.


AFTER BEING IN A COMA FOR HALF A YEAR, THE REAL ANGELA LANE OPENED HER EYES AND GOT A HANDLE ON HER NEW SITUATION
OH BOY. TOM SIMPSON... WHY HIM?


AND WHAT, EXACTLY, CAN I DO AS AN 18 YEAR OLD HIGHSCHOOL STUDENT, FRESH OUT OF A COMA, HUH?
I CAN STILL BESTOW YOU MY FAVOR...
SHE RECEIVED A VISIT FROM MINERVA AND THE GODDESS FILLED HER IN ON ALL THAT TOM HAD BEEN DOING IN HER STEAD.

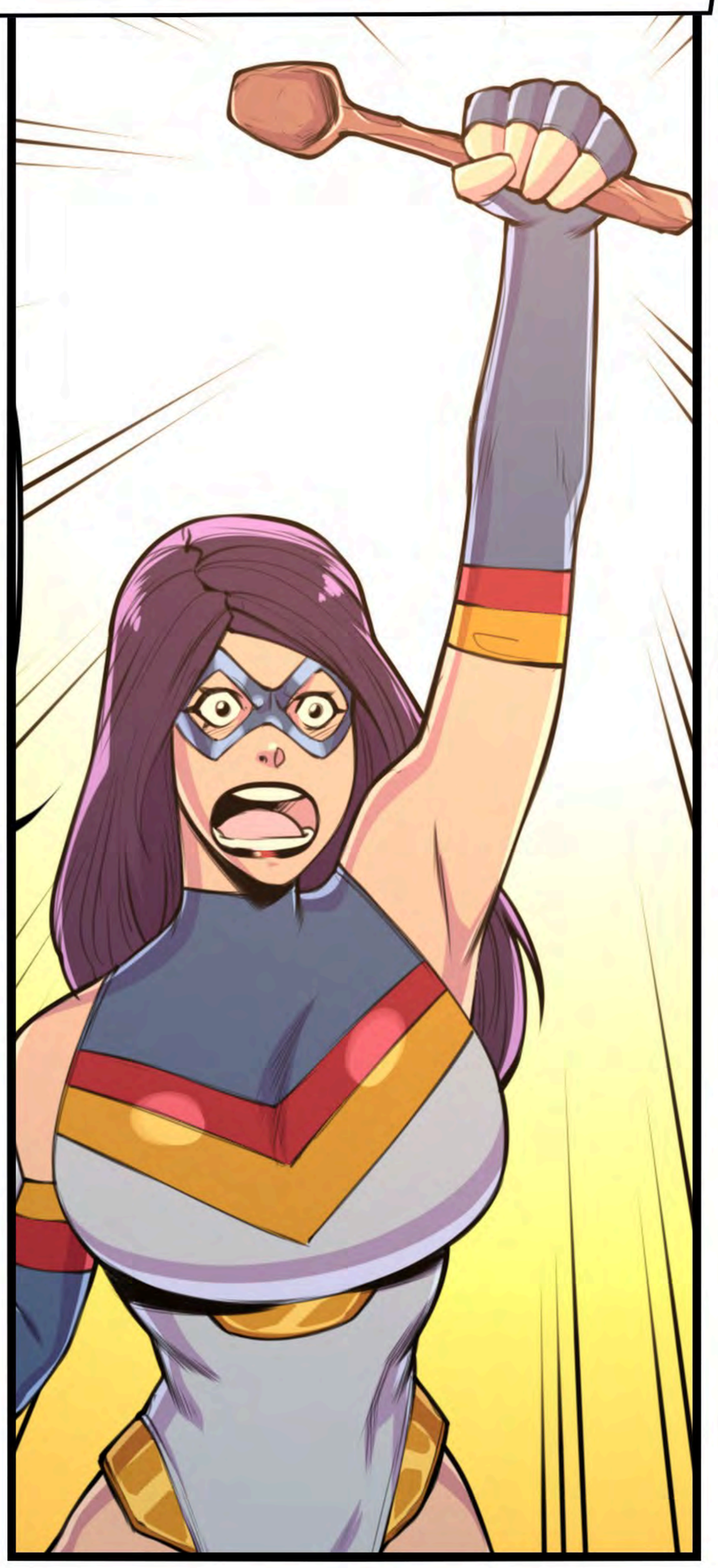

KNOWING TOM WOULD NEED HELP IN HIS MISSION, MINERVA BESTOWED HER FAVOR UPON ANGELA ONCE MORE

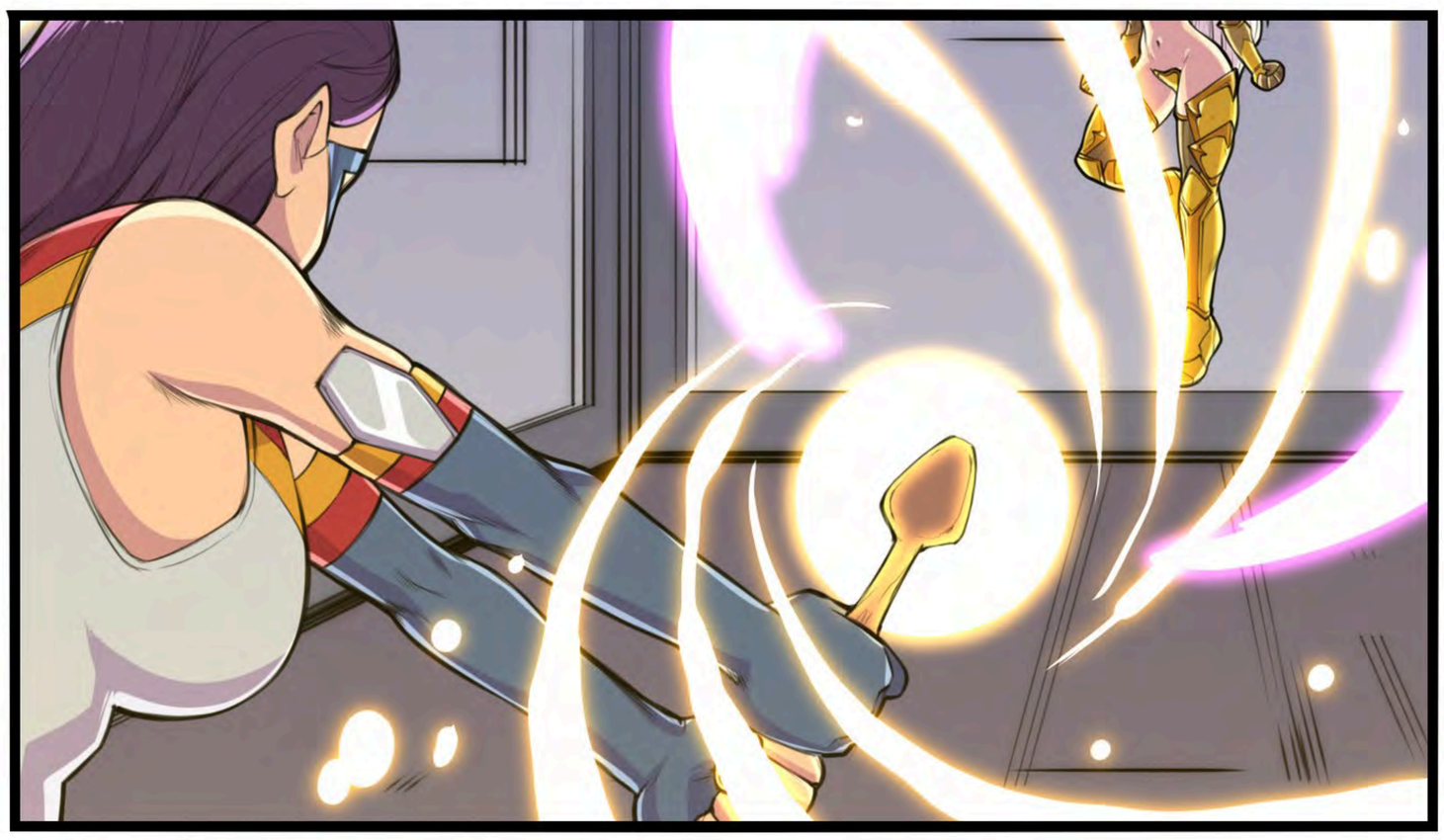

ANGELA WAS GRANTED THE SAME POWERS AS BEFORE, ALONG WITH A NEW SUIT, AND AN EXTRA ABILITY TO CHANGE HER NEW BODY'S GENDER AT WILL.

MINERVA, I'M HERE...
AND SO, A NEW FACE FOR JUSTICE WAS BORN.

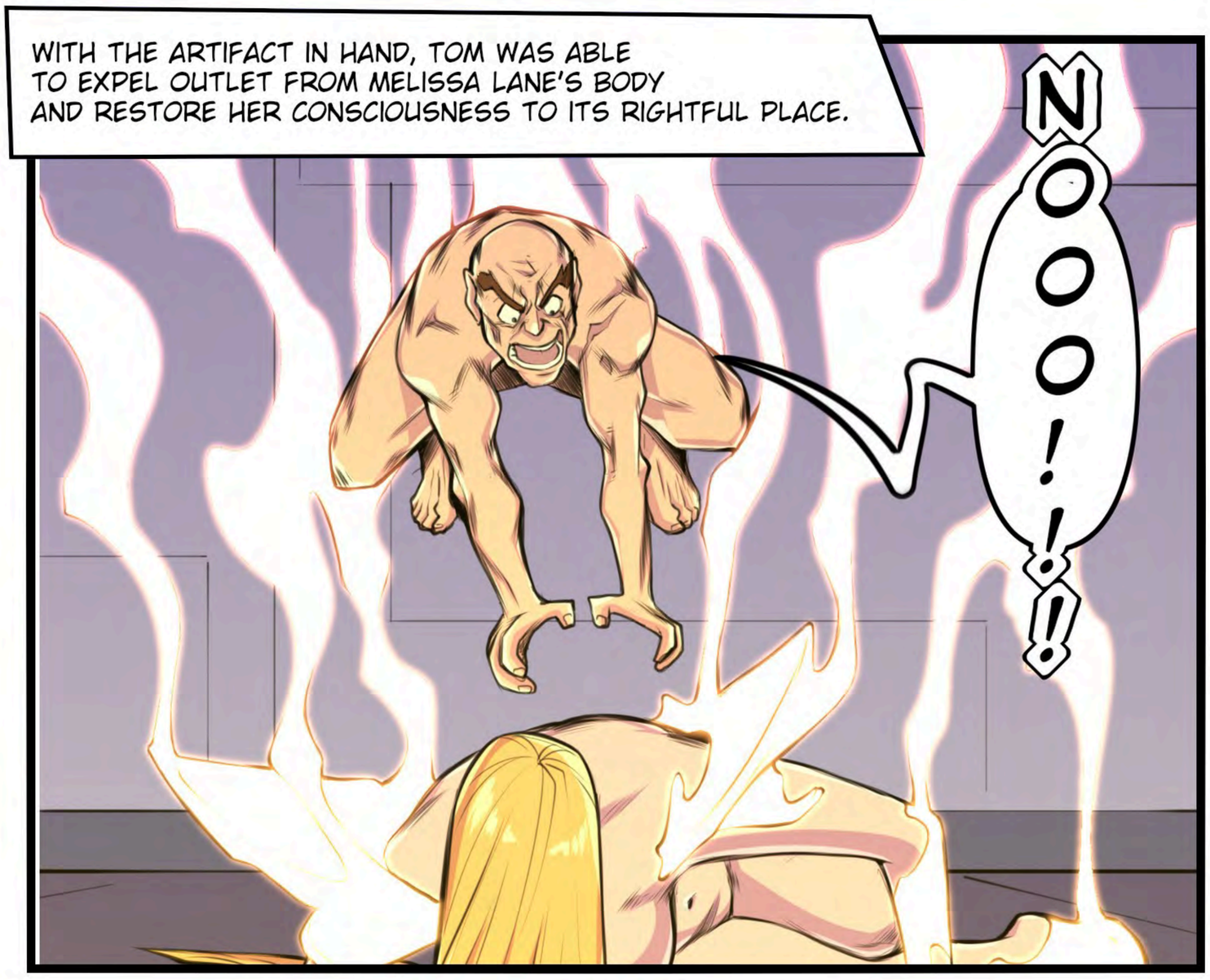
OUTLET LED A POWERFUL ASSAULT ON THE ISLAND.
LADY VALIANT COURAGEOUSLY FOUGHT BACK AGAINST THE VILLAIN.
ANGELA'S ARRIVAL SEEMED TO TURN THE TIDE OF BATTLE IN THEIR FAVOR.
BUT THEIR EFFORTS WERE NOT ENOUGH TO PREVENT OUTLET FROM GETTING HIS HANDS ON WHAT HE WAS LOOKING FOR.
ALL HOPE OF DEFEATING HIM SEEMED LOST.
I'VE WON!

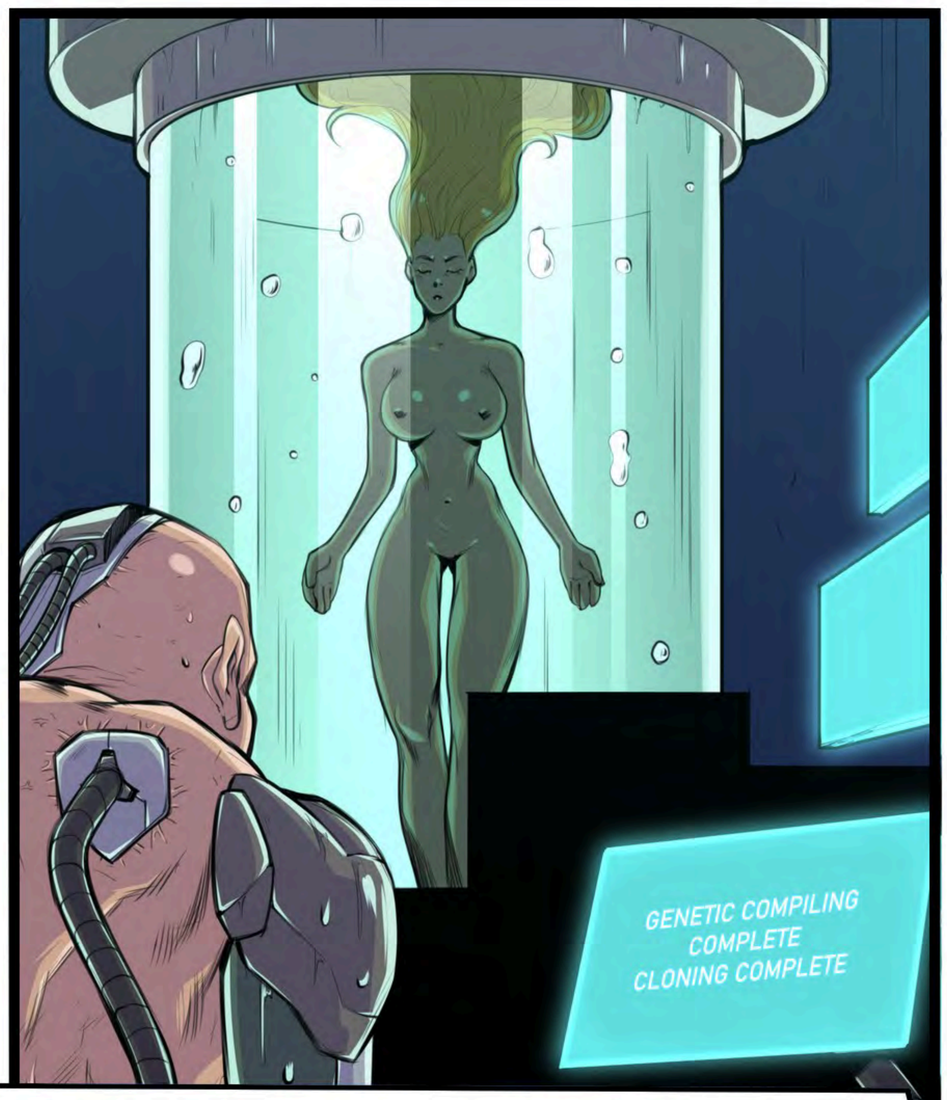
JUST WHEN THINGS SEEMED BLEAKEST, LADY VALIANT FOUND THE ARTIFACT THAT MINERVA HAD REQUESTED - A SPOON CARVED FROM A SACRED TREE WITH THE POTENTIAL POWER TO REWRITE REALITY.



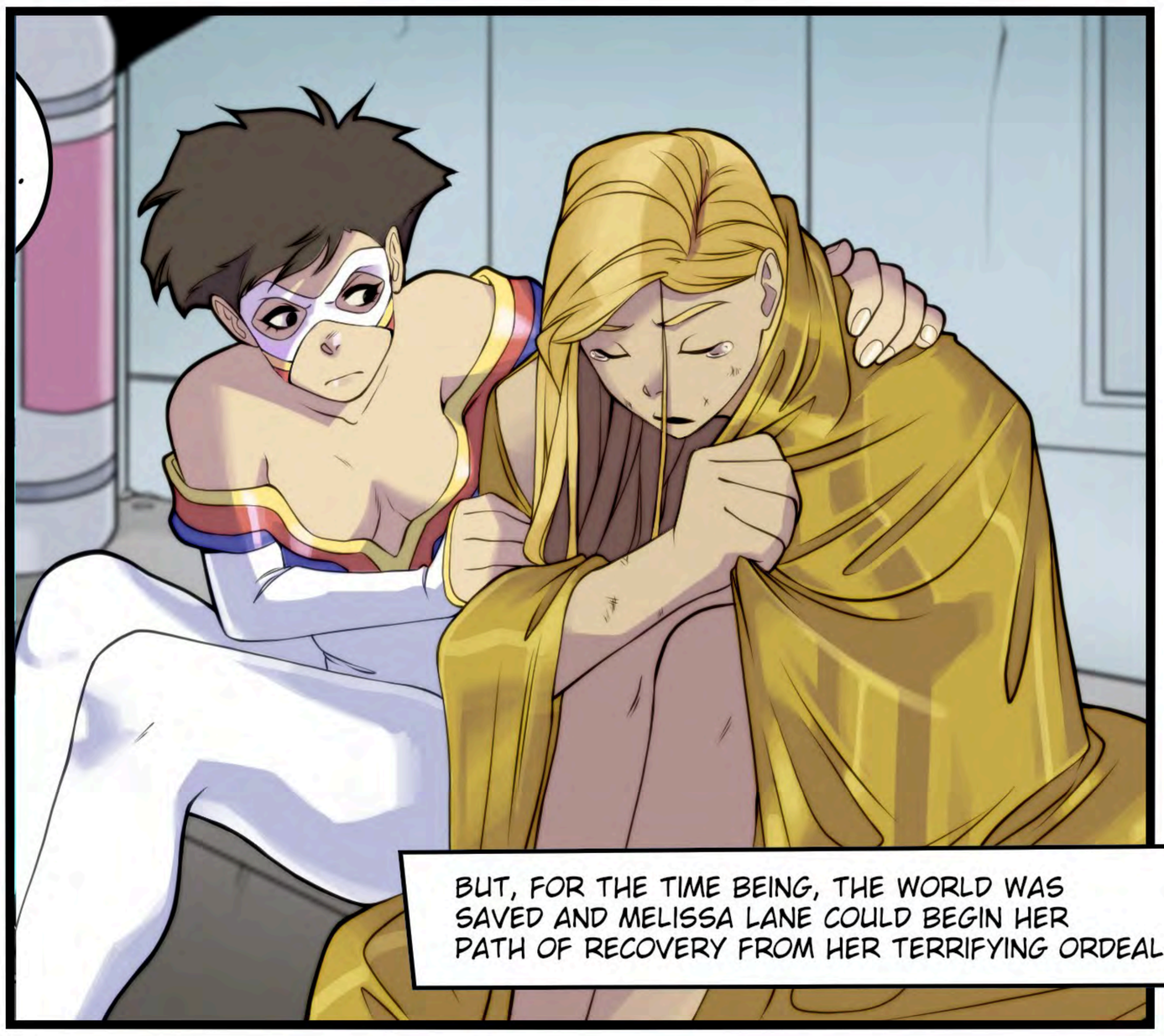


WITH THE ARTIFACT IN HAND, TOM WAS ABLE TO EXPEL OUTLET FROM MELISSA LANE'S BODY AND RESTORE HER CONSCIOUSNESS TO ITS RIGHTFUL PLACE.

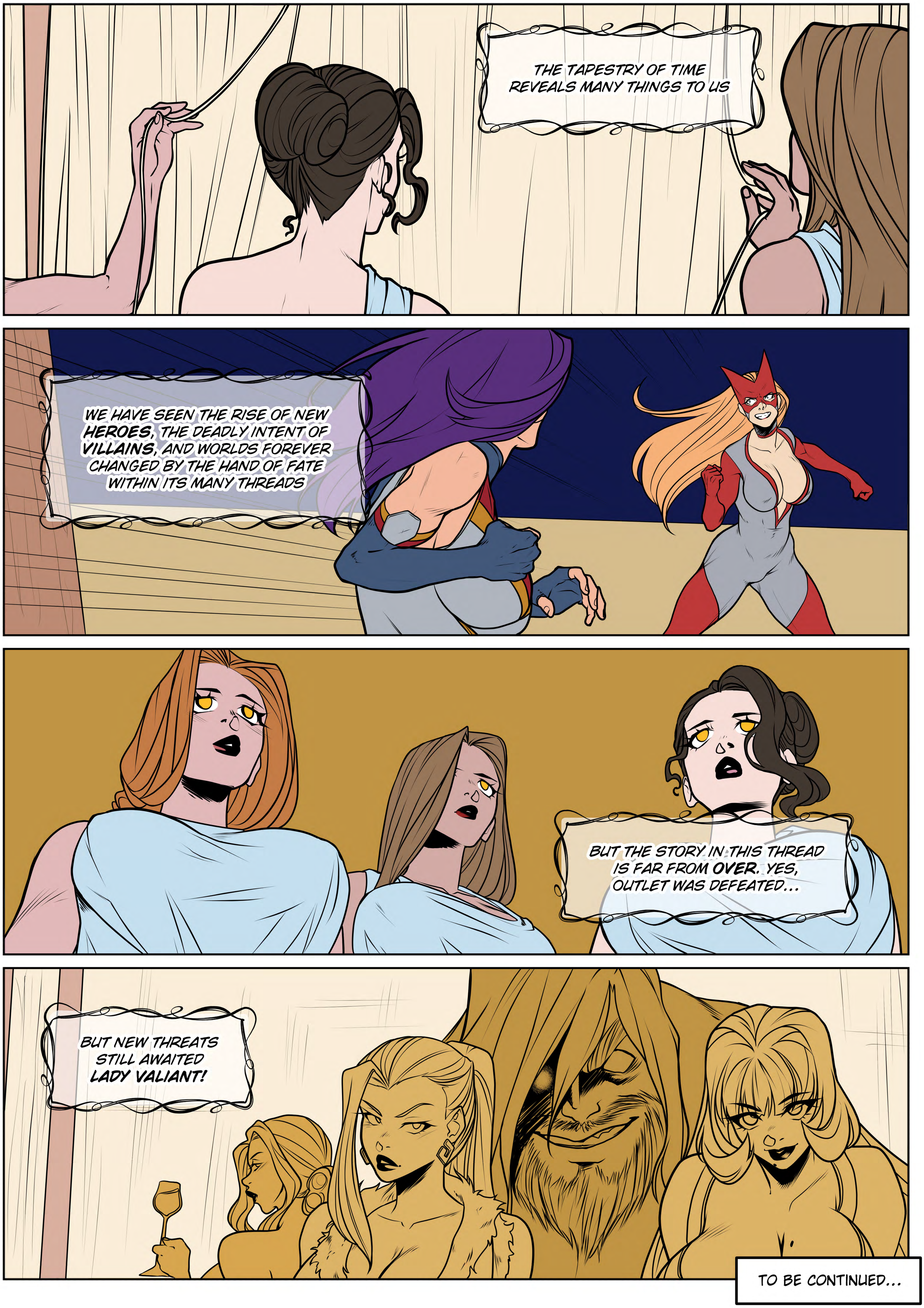



BUT THIS WOULD NOT BE THE LAST THE HEROES WOULD SEE OF OUTLET. THE VILLAIN HAD MORE TRICKS UP HIS SLEEVE THAT HE WOULD PULL OUT LATER



BUT, FOR THE TIME BEING, THE WORLD WAS SAVED AND MELISSA LANE COULD BEGIN HER PATH OF RECOVERY FROM HER TERRIFYING ORDEAL


THE TAPESTRY OF TIME REVEALS MANY THINGS TO US
WE HAVE SEEN THE RISE OF NEW HEROES, THE DEADLY INTENT OF VILLAINS, AND WORLDS FOREVER CHANGED BY THE HAND OF FATE WITHIN ITS MANY THREADS
BUT THE STORY IN THIS THREAD IS FAR FROM OVER. YES, OUTLET WAS DEFEATED...
BUT NEW THREATS STILL AWAITED LADY VALIANT!
TO BE CONTINUED...