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SITTERSON
CANNON
ASTONE
ESPOSITO

EXPANSION
PROTOCOLS
PART 2 OF 2

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The Interplanetary Development Alliance, in perpetual need of both workers to produce goods and markets in which to sell them, typically developed its universal expansion around the accession of planets already successfully inhabited by humanity.



By way of contrast, the Orouran approach was markedly less discerning, proceeding irrespective of human presence; the Empire's primary objectives comprised the extraction of exploitable resources and the settlement of its teeming population.

Upon discovery of a habitable planet, the Empire deployed its Apostles, elite special forces personnel tasked with reconnaissance and advance operations.

GUH--!

APOSTLE
NIKETAS:
AWAKEN!

LALOUX MISSION
APOSTLE #78-734022
NIKETAS
DAY 001

CONGRATULATIONS
ON YOUR FIRST
MISSION.

An Apostle was always aided by their Witness, in-orbit support personnel providing guidance via cerebral implant.

WHEN
THE GREAT
SUN CALLS, IT IS
OURS BUT TO
ANSWER.

No expense is spared on the Apostle's Glaive; diamond-like carbon coating provides enhanced durability and resistance to its high-carbon stainless steel head.

MY NAME IS LAINA; I AM YOUR WITNESS. TO SPEAK WITH ME, SIMPLY THINK IT.

I REMEMBER MY TRAINING. THANK YOU, WITNESS LAINA.

NO. THANK YOU. YOU HAVE SACRIFICED SO MUCH, WORKED SO HARD, FOR SO LONG...

IT IS AN HONOR TO SERVE YOU, APOSTLE NIKETAS.

THE HONOR IS MINE. TO SHINE THE GREAT SUN'S LIGHT UPON A NEW WORLD IS A PRIVILEGE BEYOND WORDS.

AND YET YOU PHRASE IT SO ELEGANTLY.

YOUR GLAIVE HAS BEEN CALIBRATED; WOULD YOU LIKE A MOMENT TO REFLECT? TO TAKE IN LALOUX?

At seven years of age, the most independent and capable Orourans are selected, given wide-ranging training and permitted to wear the Apostolic Escutcheon.

Sign of office, reliable melee weapon and, most importantly, telemetry unit, providing a continuous feed of planet-side data to the Apostle's in-orbit Witness.

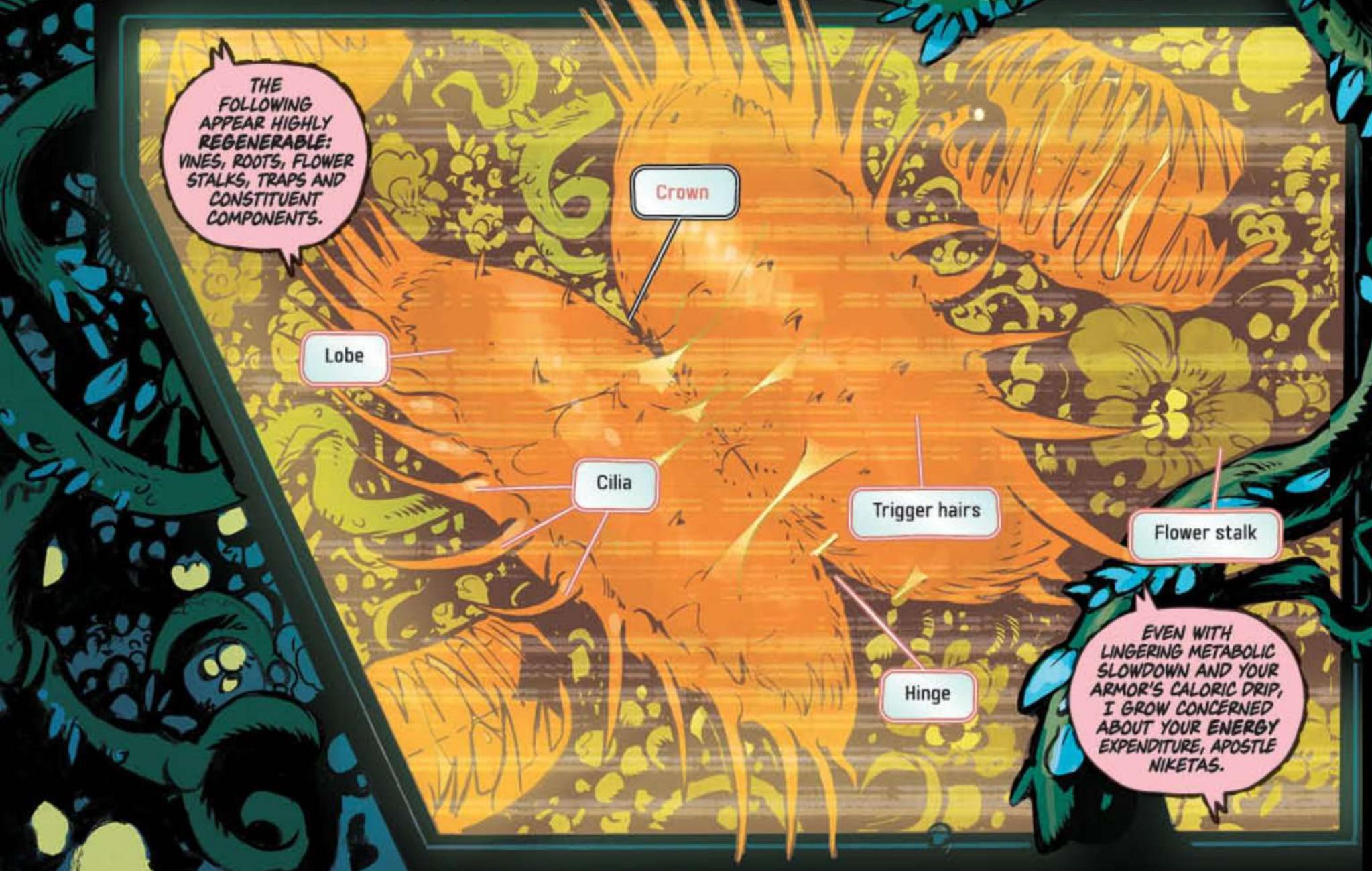
APOSTLE STANDARD ISSUE KIT

The loadout of Apostles is otherwise identical to marines more broadly; it is the Orouran inside the armor and wielding the submachine gun that makes the difference.

The workhorse IMC-57—like all Orouran weaponry—utilizes metal composite rounds; Apostles are deployed with a single additional magazine.

Specially ported muzzle brakes, in concert with Orouran heft and the strength and stability benefits of Orouran armor, allow the IMC-57 to be fired one-handed.







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