

FOR SOME REASON, THE SUN KEEPS
RISING ON THIS BARREN WORLD,
DAY AFTER DAY, LIKE A LITTLE LIGHT
IS GOING TO DO US ANY GOOD.

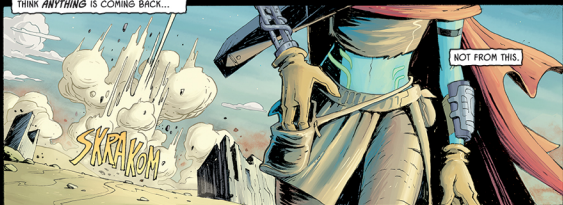
IT WON'T.



SOME OF THE FEW ZAI CLANS BELIEVE THAT IT'S ALL TEMPORARY.

THAT NATURE WILL COME BACK, AND LIFE ON MODIA WILL RETURN WITH IT.

BUT, IT'S BEEN HALF A MILLENNIUM SINCE THE COLLISION ERA, AND YOU CAN CALL ME A PESSIMIST, BUT I DON'T THINK *ANYTHING* IS COMING BACK...



NOT FROM THIS.



IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF TIME 'TIL WE'RE ALL *EXTINCT*.

WELL, EXCEPT FOR THESE RESILIENT LITTLE GUYS MAYBE. BUT WE CAN'T ALL BE COCKAROCHEs.



WE'RE SETTING ANOTHER AMBUSH FOR PHOTOSYNTHETIC FUEL TODAY.

BUT THEY'RE LATE.

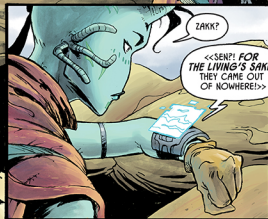
WHERE THE HELL ARE THOSE *BUCKETS*?

GNAM
GNAM



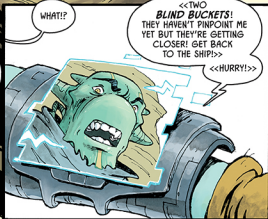
THEY SHOULD HAVE SENT PATROL DRONES BY NOW. I'M RIGHT ON TOP OF THE ROOT-NETWORK... I DON'T UNDERSTAND.

BEEP
BEEP



ZAKK?

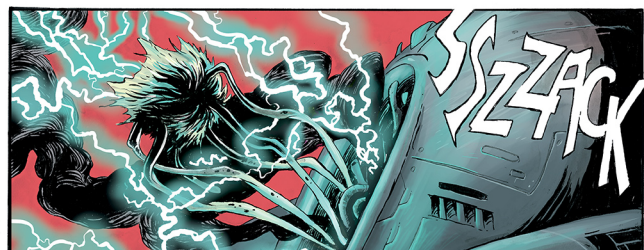
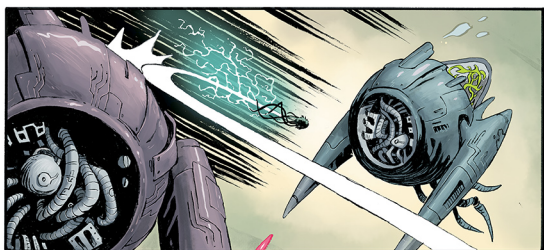
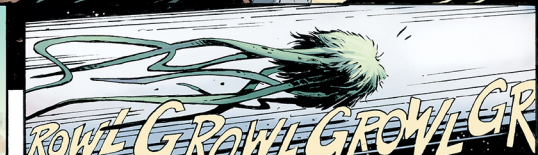
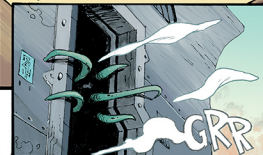
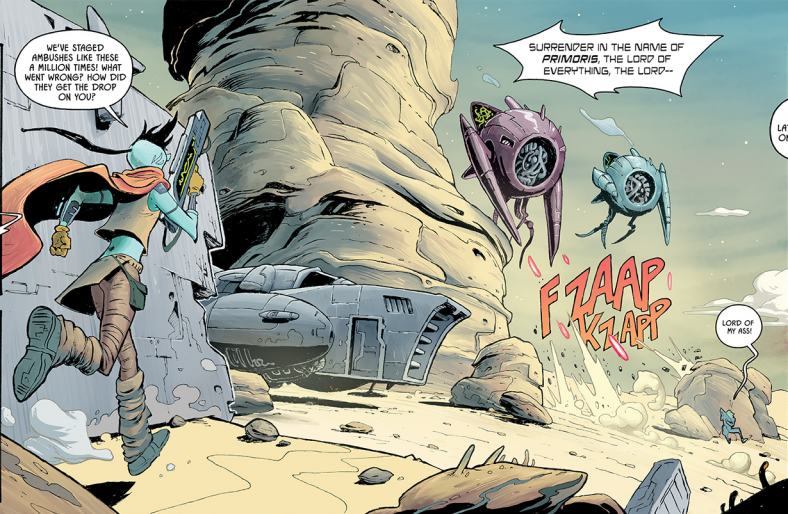
<<SEN?! FOR THE LIVING'S SAKE! THEY CAME OUT OF NOWHERE!>>



WHAT!?

<<TWO BLIND BUCKETS! THEY HAVEN'T PINPOINT ME YET BUT THEY'RE GETTING CLOSER! GET BACK TO THE SHIP!>>

<<HURRY!>>





I DON'T THINK GORN WILL BE BACK ANYTIME SOON. AND--

THAT BUCKET HAS A LASER SHIELD! WE HAVE NO CHOICE. THROW THE EGG!

BUT--



--THE CLANS NEED THOSE PLANTS TO POWER THE SHIPS! OUR RESOURCES ARE RUNNING OUT. DON'T WE HAVE A PLAN B?



NO, WE DON'T! THROW IT AND TAKE COVER BEFORE IT KILLS YOU!

NOW!



OK, OK-- IT'S COMING!



GOTCHA!

