

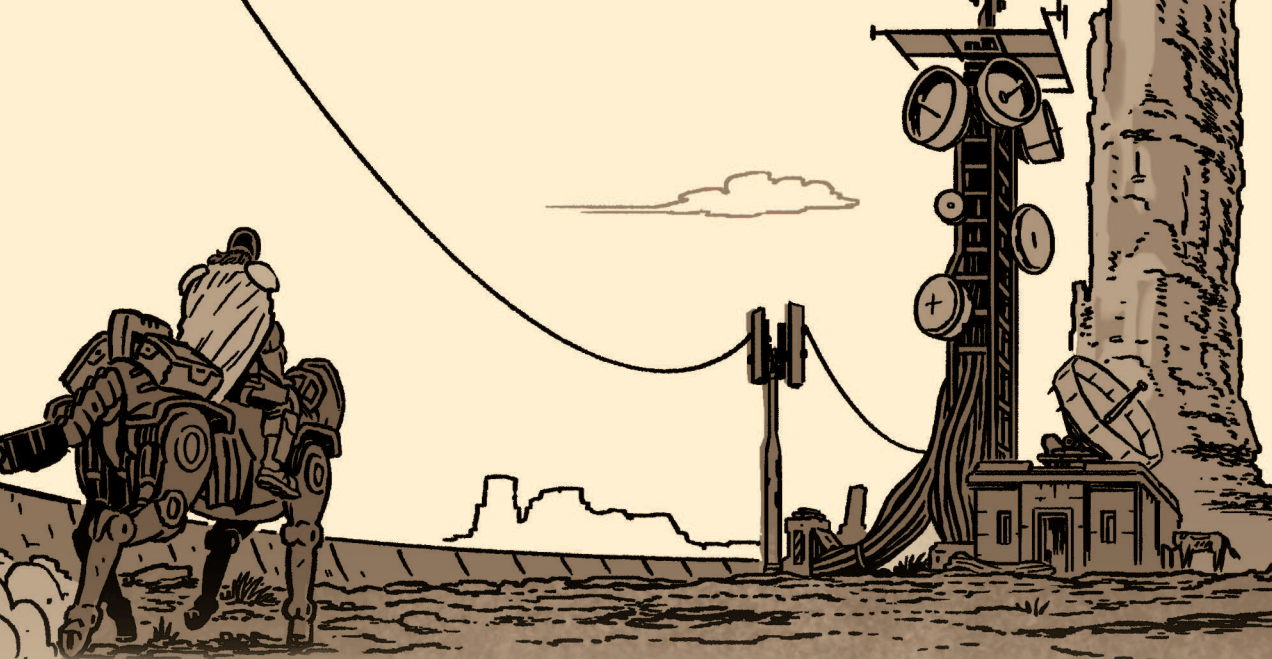
IDW
ISSUE
5
COVER A

FARINAS ★ FREITAS ★ COPLAND ★ HILL

JUDGE DREDD

THE BLESSED EARTH





JUDGE DREDD

THE BLESSED EARTH

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Judge Dredd awoke a thousand years in his future to find Mega-City One in ruins and its 800 million citizens gone without a trace. After a long, strange journey, Dredd managed to locate and free them all. And now, ten years later, society continues to pick up the pieces...



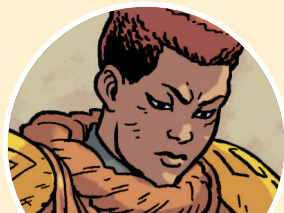
DRAMATIS PERSONAE



JUDGE DREDD



QUILL

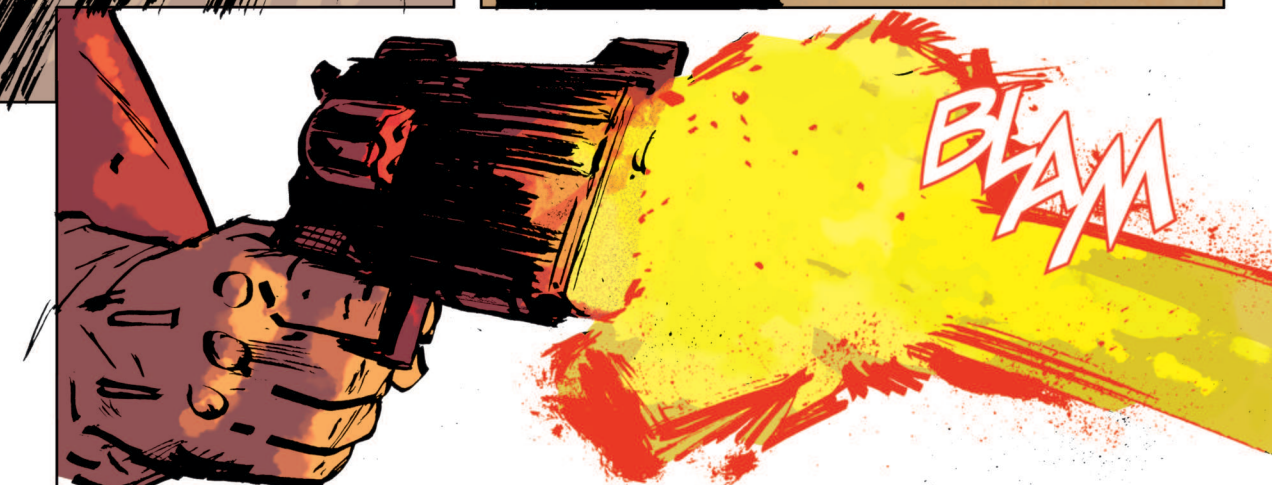


LOLO





IRONBOUND.





I DIDN'T
REQUEST
BACKUP.



I'M
CONTINUING THE
INVESTIGATION
INTO THE MURDER
OF CAROL
ROSSA.

WE LET
YOU DO THINGS
YOUR WAY.
YOU'VE MADE NO
PROGRESS.

I SOUGHT YOUR
ASSISTANCE--YOU WEREN'T
INTERESTED. I KNOW WHY
YOU'RE INTERESTED NOW.
YOU THINK THE SAME PERSON
WHO STOLE YOUR BONES IS
THE SAME PERSON WHO
MURDERED CAROL ROSSA--
THE ONLY PERSON WHO CAN
PUT YOUR BONES BACK
INTO YOUR BODY.



KILLING EVERYONE IN IRONBOUND WON'T GET YOU ANSWERS.

IF YOU'RE NOT A JUDGE, YOU'LL BE THE NEXT ONE LYING FLAT ON THE GROUND.



YA ONCE KNEW ME AS "MEAN," BUT DAT WAS MY PA'S WAY, NEVER MINE.



YOU CAN'T BE A JUDGE. WE'RE NOT THAT DESPERATE.

CHIEF ANDERSON SAW FIT THAT I WEAR THE SAME UNIFORM AS YOU.



IS THIS TRUE? ANDERSON OKAYED THIS?

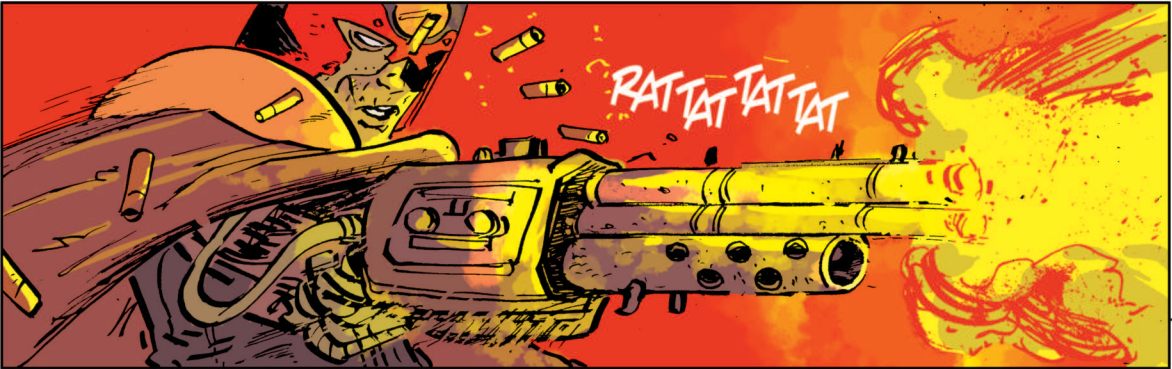
THAT'S RIGHT.



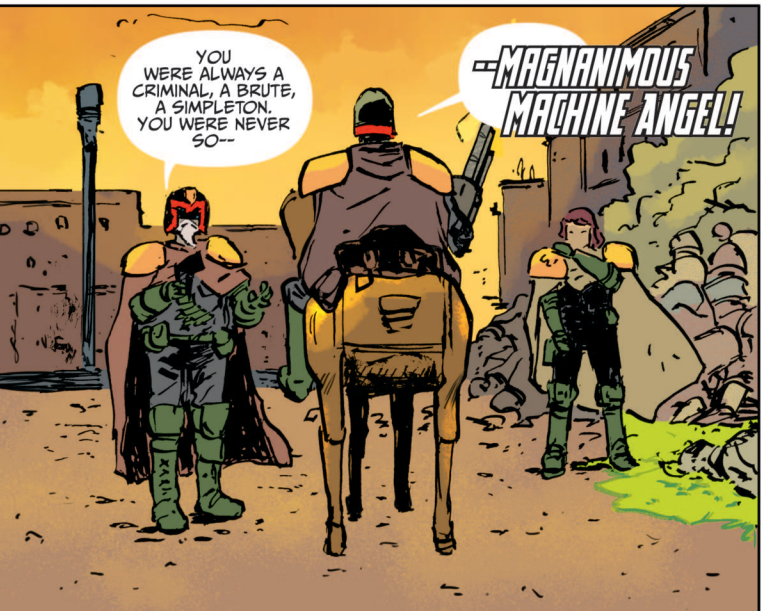
WHATTYA SAY, DREDD? IT'S A NEW WORLD, NEW OPPORTUNITIES-- NEW ALLIANCES?



YOU MURDEROUS
SANCTIMONIOUS--



RAT TAT TAT TAT



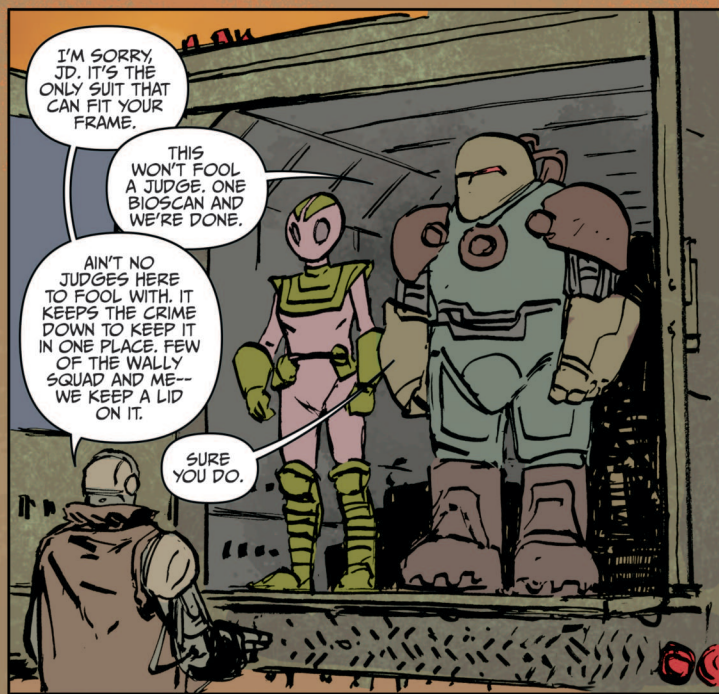
YOU
WERE ALWAYS A
CRIMINAL, A BRUTE,
A SIMPLETON.
YOU WERE NEVER
SO--

==MAGNANIMOUS
MACHINE ANGEL!!



NOT
THE WORD
I WOULD
USE.

THE TYPES OF
PEOPLE WHO DID THIS TO
ME AS A KID, THEY STILL
EXIST. IF YA ARE LOOKING
FOR A SURGEON, THEN I
KNOWS EXACTLY WHERE
TA TAKE YA.



SECTOR 01 - XX →



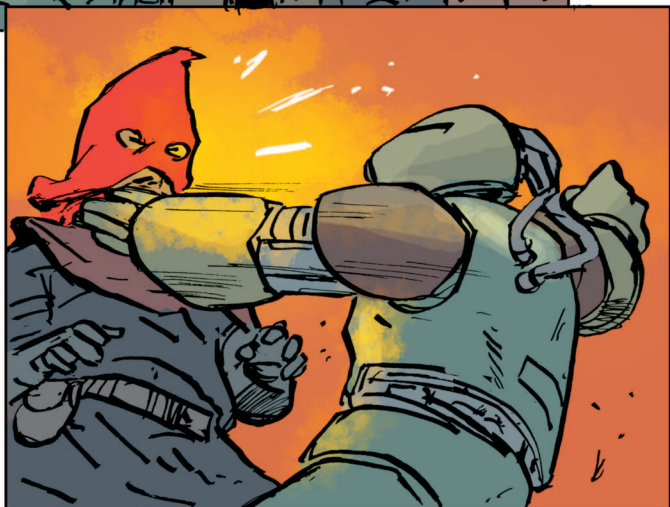
SECTOR 01-XX, THE
RED LIGHT DISTRICT.



I SWEAR,
I SEE MORE OF
THESE "FREE
ROBOTS" EVERY
GRUDDAMN
DAY.

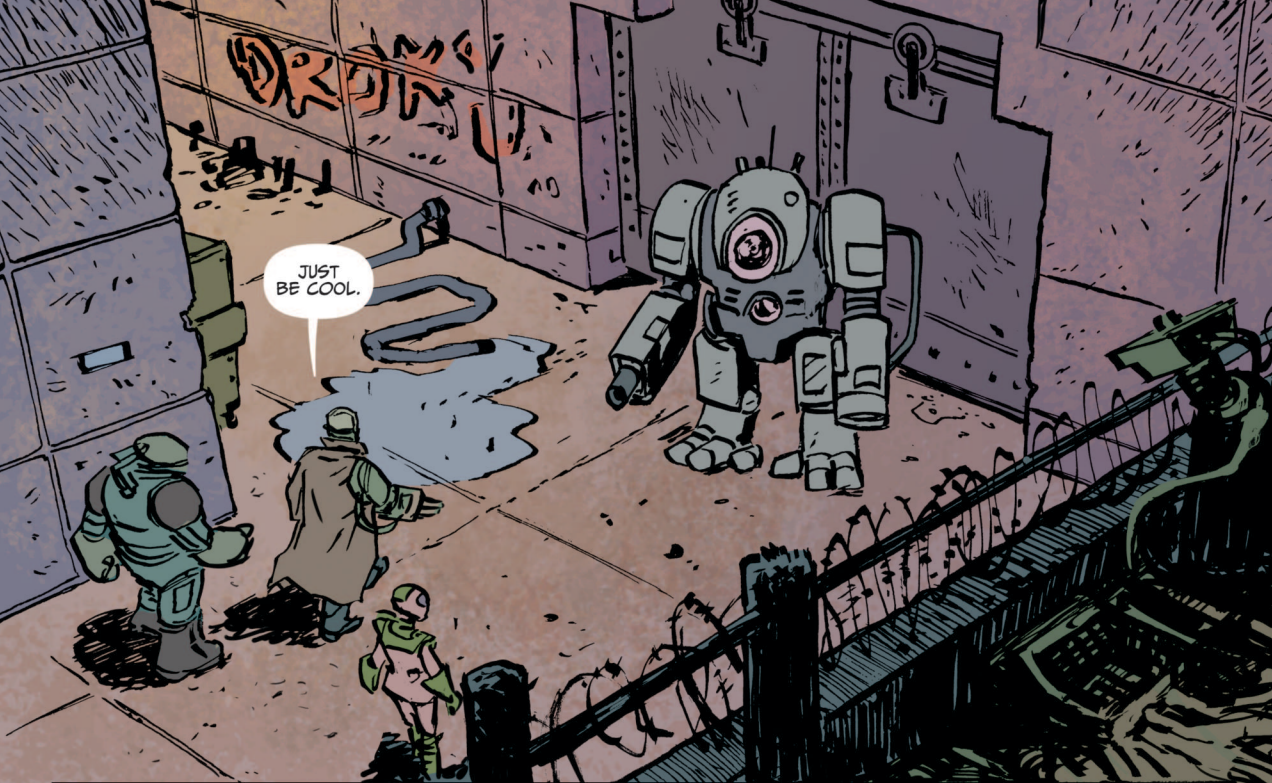
GO BACK TO
THE FACTORY,
GEARHEAD!

IT'S IN
THEIR PROGRAMMING.
I WAS FRIENDS WITH
ONE OF THEM ONCE,
BUT I LEARNED MY
LESSON. CAN'T TRUST
ANY OF THEM.

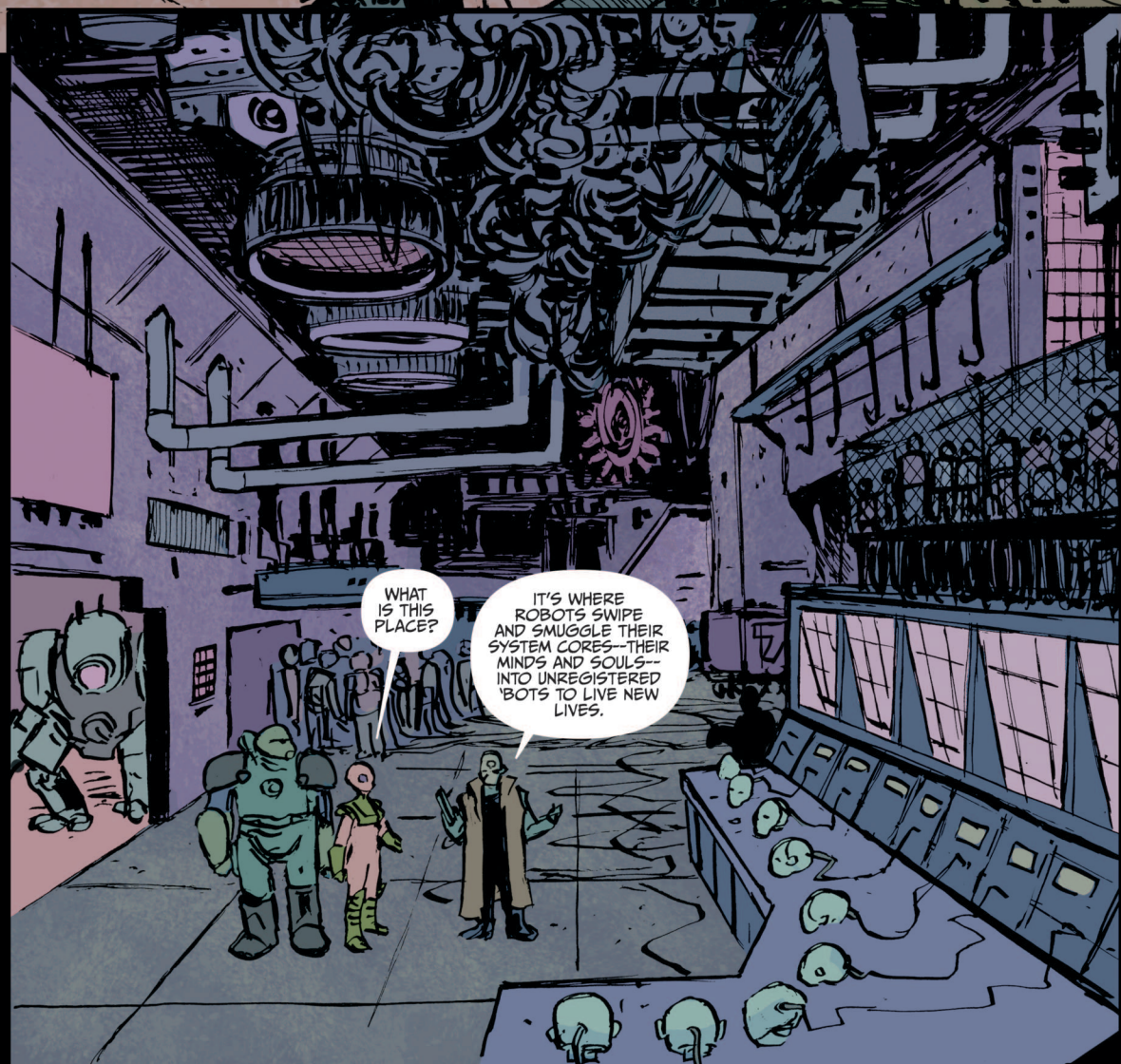


BE
NICE, JD.

GRR...

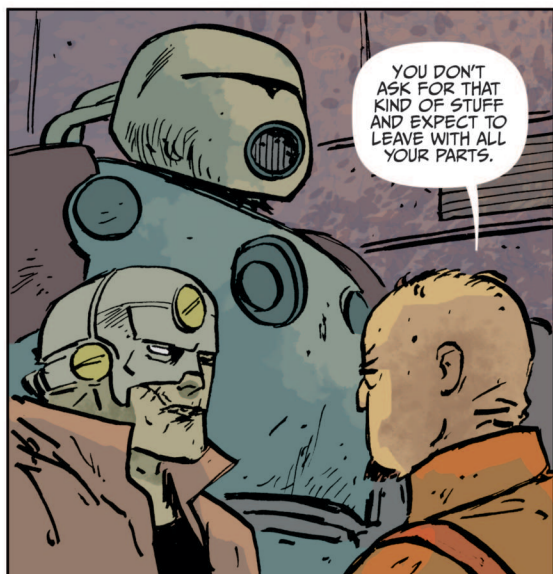


JUST
BE COOL.

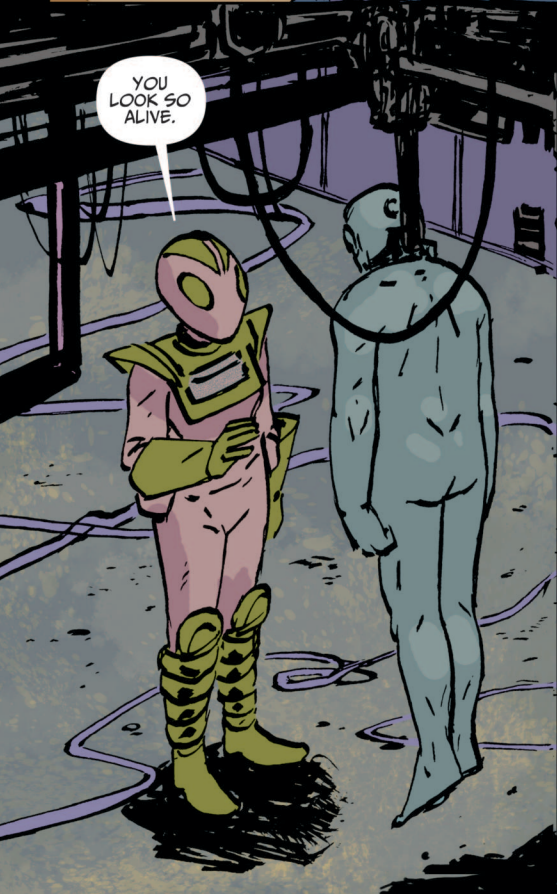
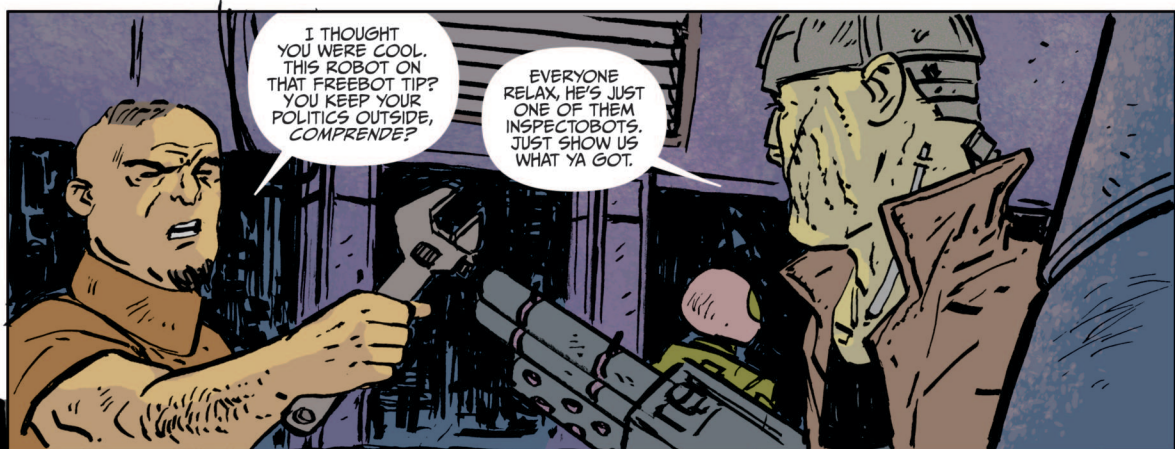


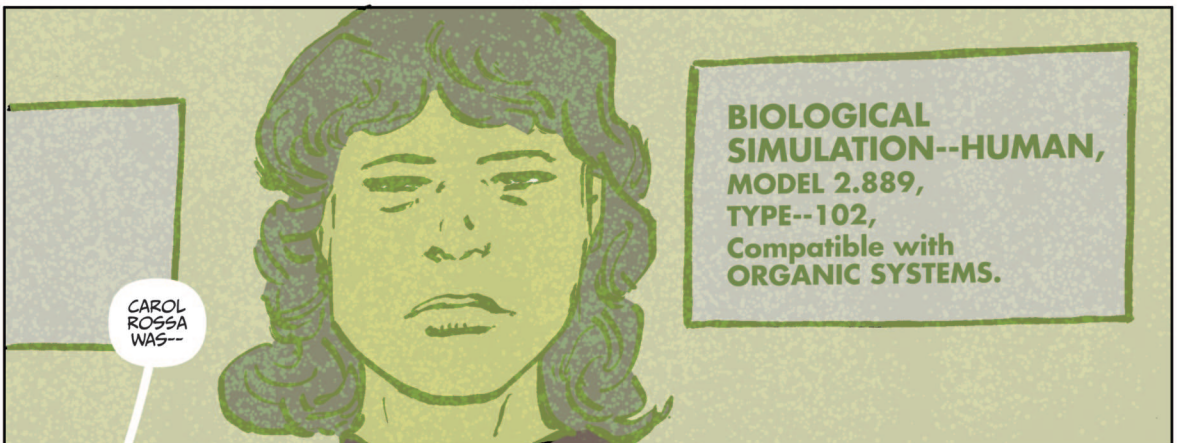
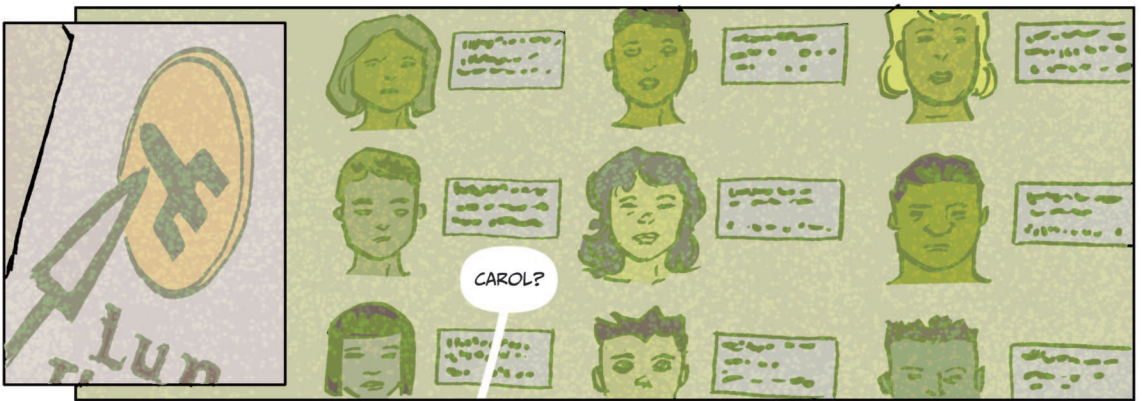
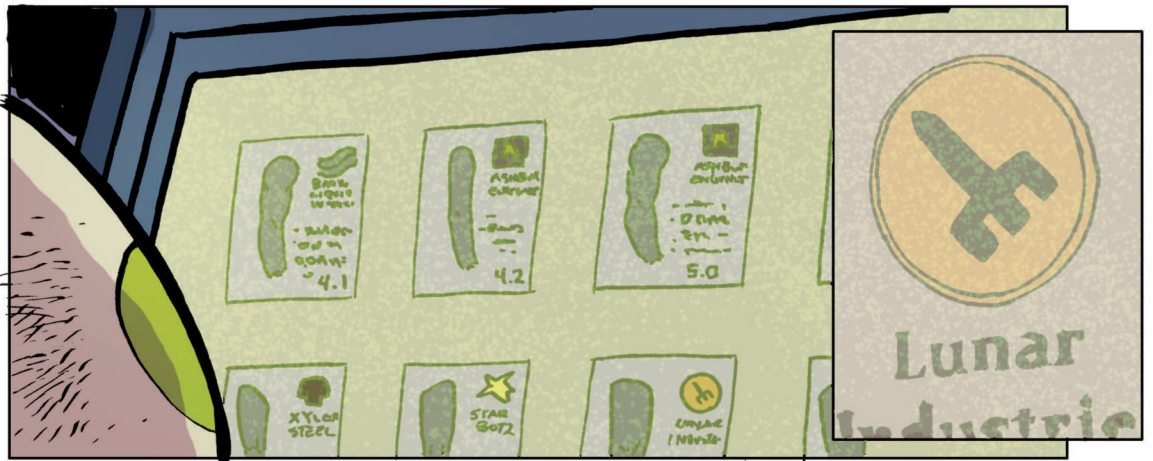
WHAT
IS THIS
PLACE?

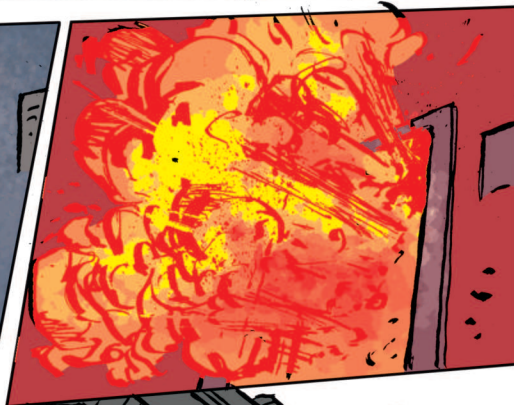
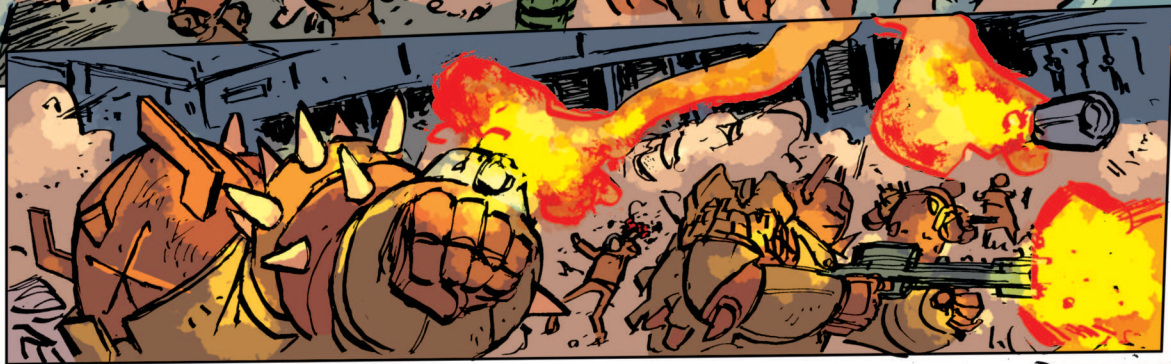
IT'S WHERE
ROBOTS SWIPE
AND SMUGGLE THEIR
SYSTEM CORES--THEIR
MINDS AND SOULS--
INTO UNREGISTERED
'BOTS TO LIVE NEW
LIVES.















YOU USED
TO BE SO SMART,
BUT THEN YOU
STARTED FILLING UP
YOUR HEAD WITH
ALL THAT ROBOT-
RIGHTS BS!



THEY GOT
RIGHTS! THAT GIRL
GOT KILLED AND I
DON'T CARE IF SHE
WAS JUST A--

A ROBOT.
A BIOSIM.
LET HER GO,
LOLO.



YOU...
KNEW?

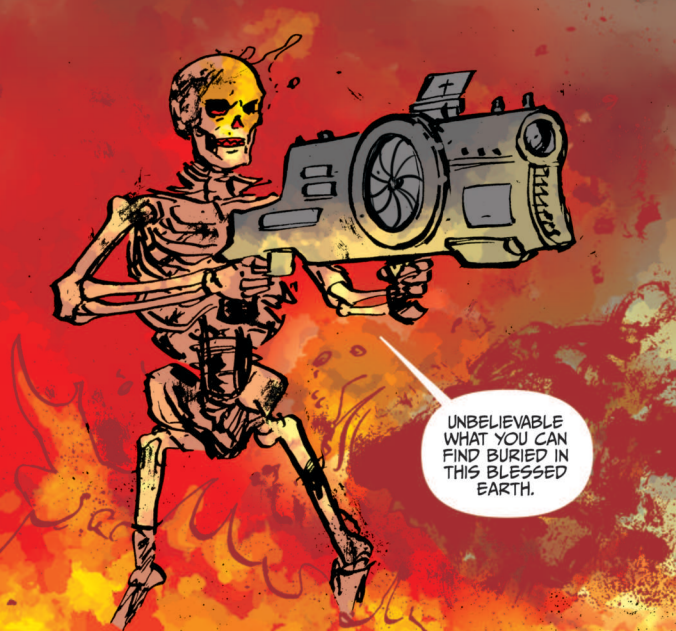
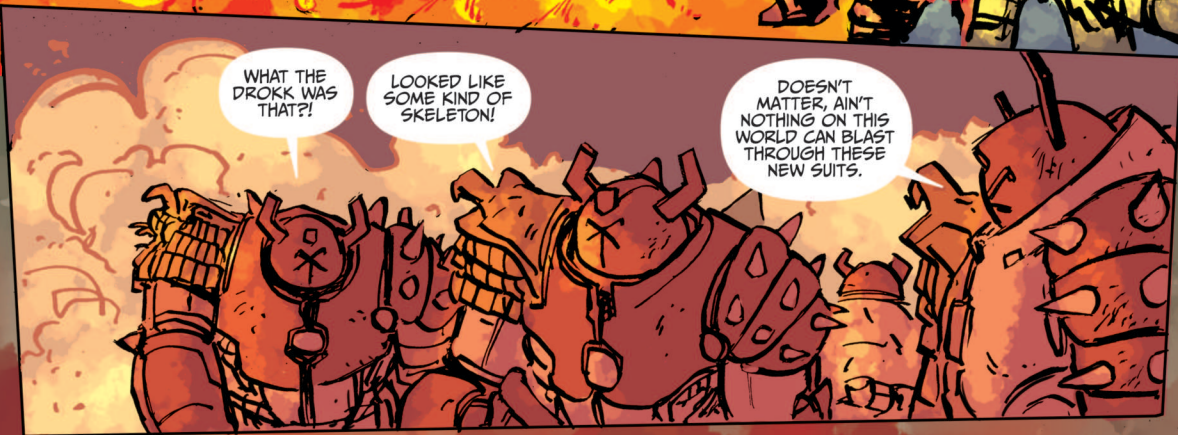


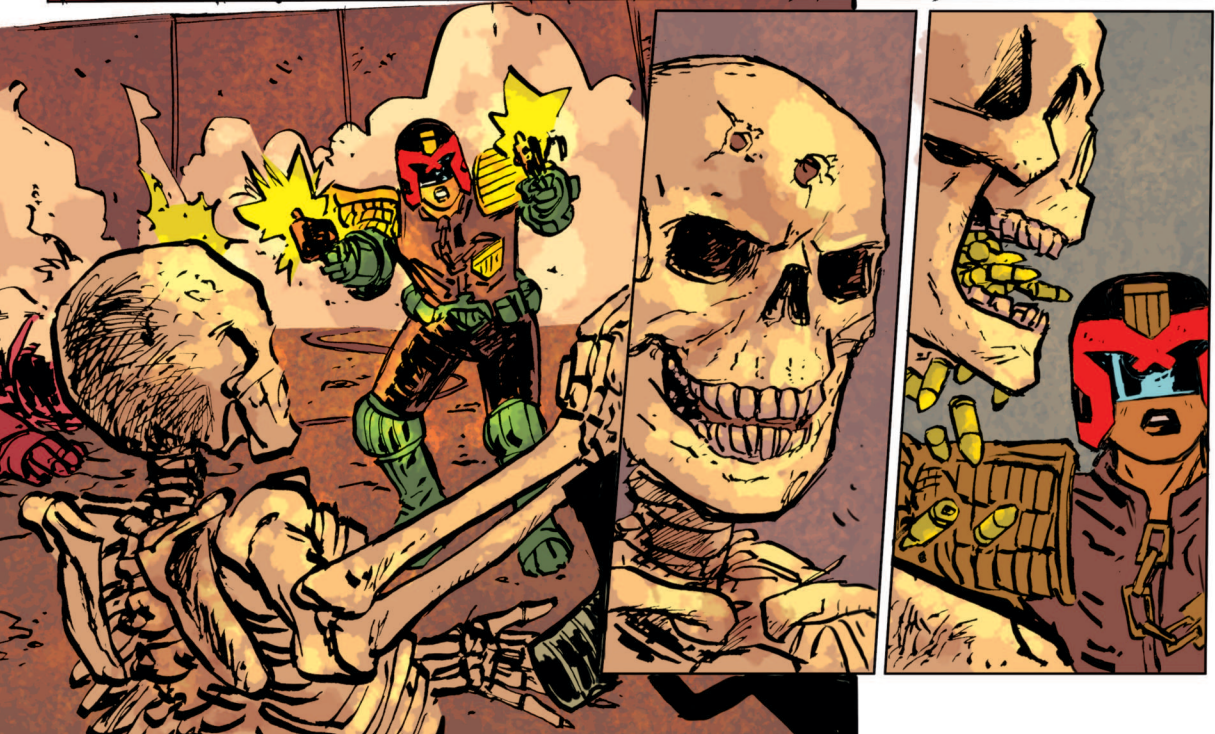
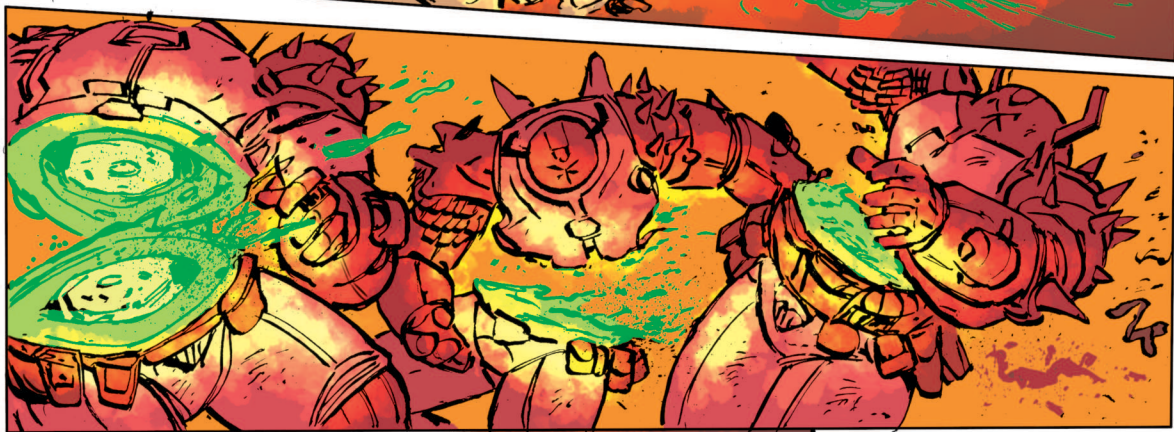
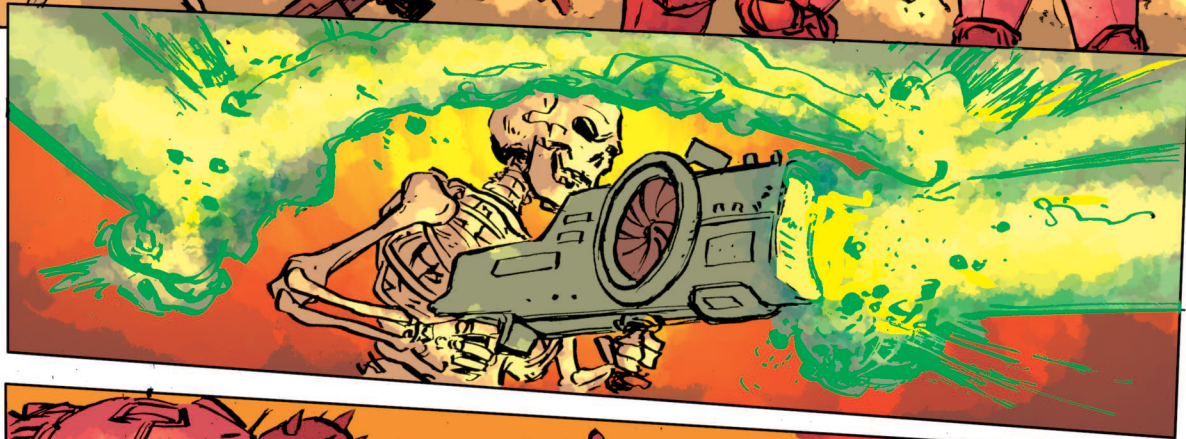
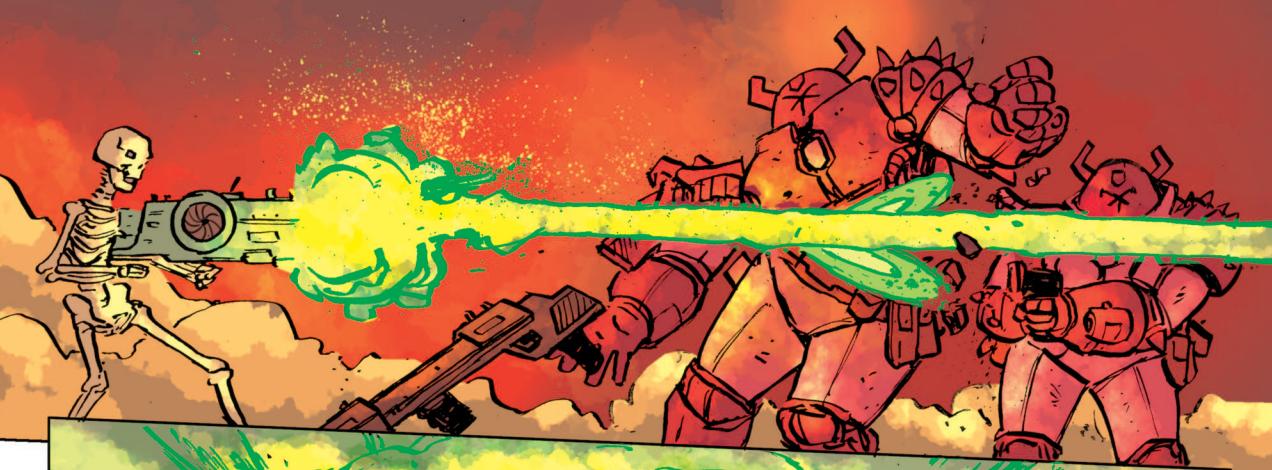
WHERE THE
DROKK IS MY
SKIN?!

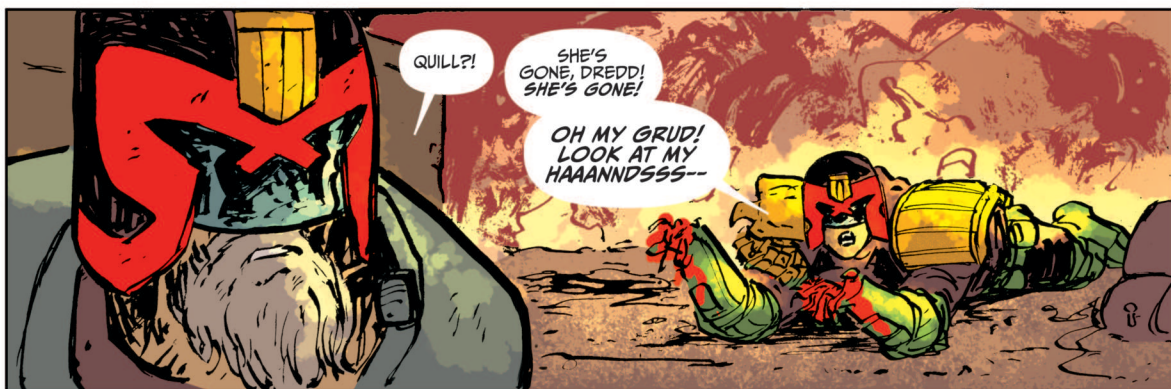
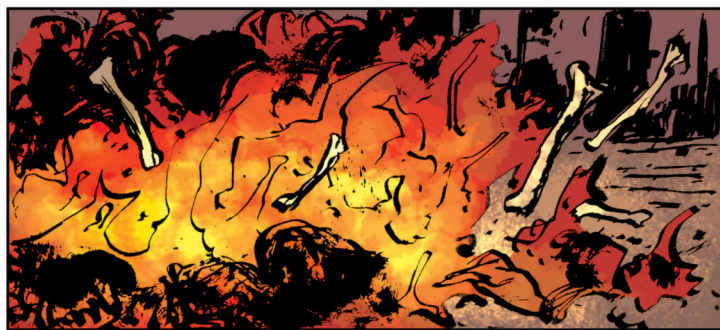
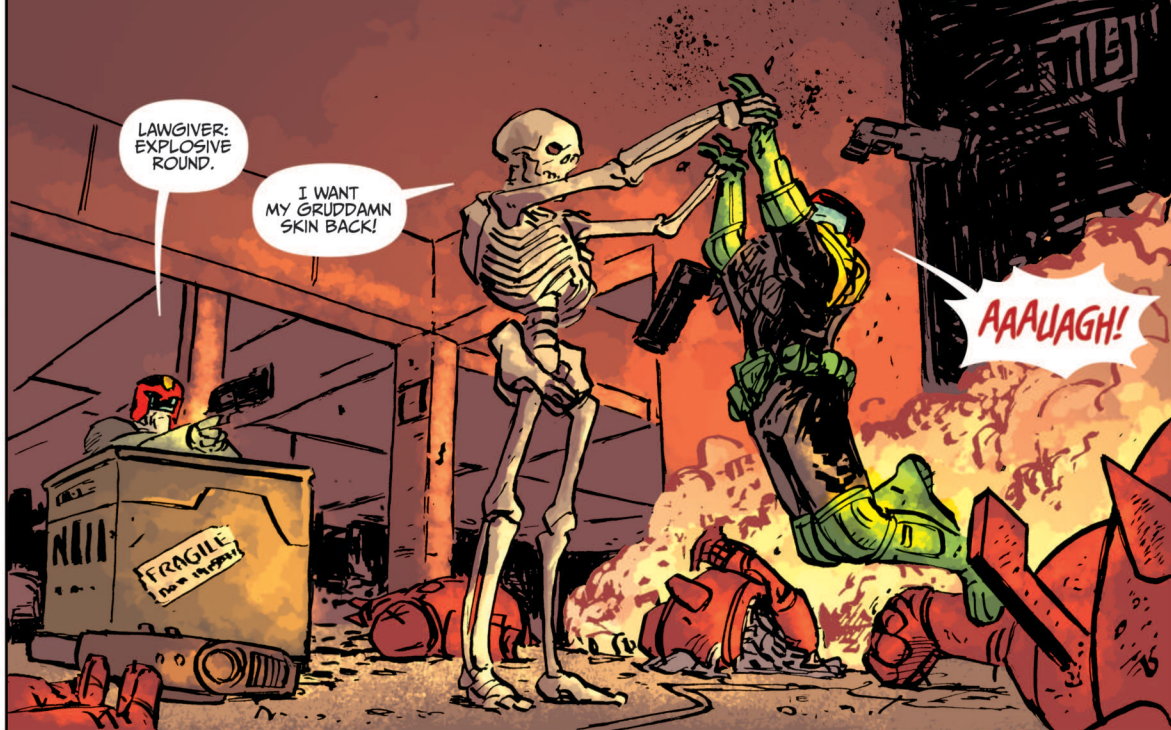


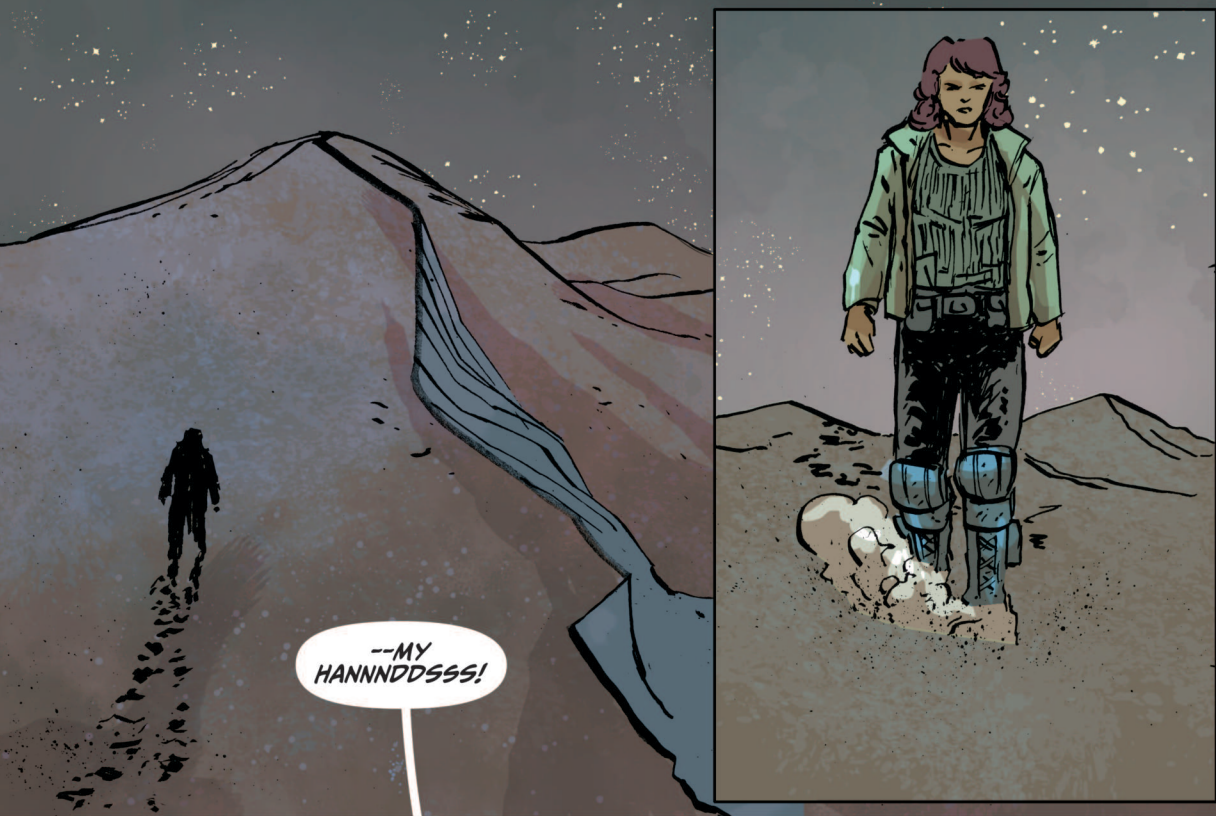
I SAID...
WHERE THE
DROKK IS MY
SKIN?!











TO BE CONTINUED...

FROM THE PUBLISHER'S DESK

by Ted Adams



Summer may be drawing to a close now that August has arrived, but over here at IDW the fun is just beginning, because this month we're releasing one of the most exciting, action-packed events we've ever done—**FIRST STRIKE!**

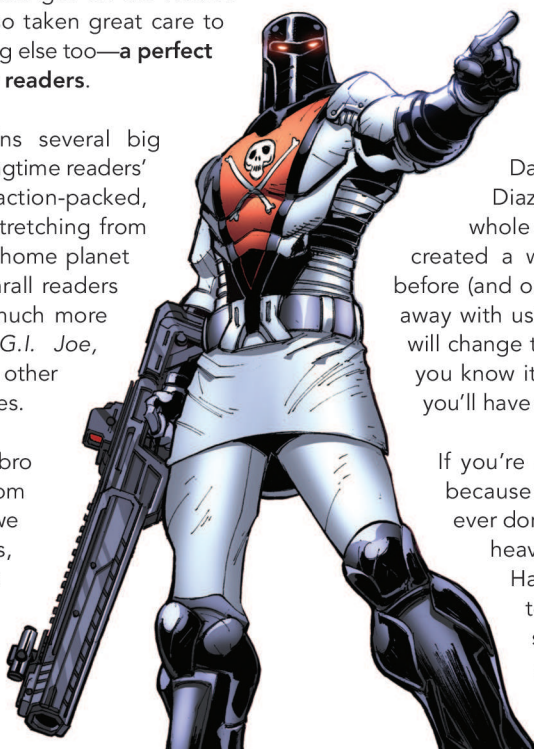
Coming on the heels of *Revolution* and *Revolutionaries*, *First Strike* is the culmination of years of hard work from some of the brightest

worlds, and the only limitations on how far those worlds could go were the cast of characters in the toy box and the limitations of our

stars IDW has had the pleasure of working with. And while this event marks exciting changes for the Hasbro shared universe, we've also taken great care to make sure that it's something else too—a **perfect jumping-on point for new readers.**

While *First Strike* contains several big moments that will make longtime readers' jaws drop, it's also an action-packed, robot-filled smack down stretching from Earth to the Transformers' home planet of Cybertron that will enthrall readers even if they don't know much more than the basics about *G.I. Joe*, *Transformers* or any of the other Hasbro shared universe titles.

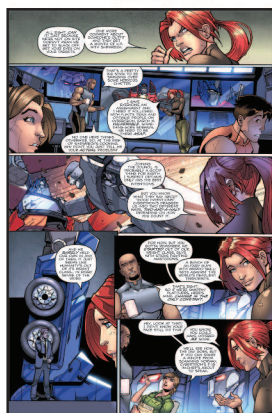
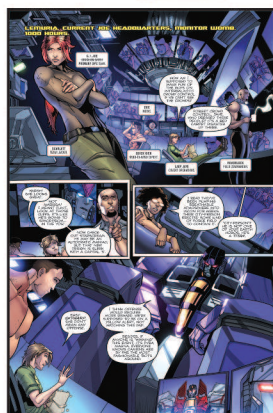
The characters in our Hasbro line are all licensed from amazing toys that we couldn't put down as kids, and one of the most fun things to do was play with them all together. As kids, we didn't just play with toys—we created



own imaginations. *First Strike* captures that same spirit of boundless wonder and feeling that anything can (and probably will) happen.

Helmed by infinitely talented creators such as Mairghread Scott, David Rodriguez, Max Dunbar, Netho Diaz, and John Barber, we've got the whole toy box at our disposal and have created a world unlike any you've ever seen before (and one you won't BELIEVE we're getting away with using licensed characters). *First Strike* will change the entire Hasbro shared universe as you know it and unleash a wave of stories that you'll have to see to believe.

If you're a longtime Hasbro fan, buckle up, because this is bigger than anything we've ever done and things are about to get pretty heavy. And if you haven't picked up any Hasbro books, this is the perfect time to hop into this incredible world and see what you've been missing. I guarantee that you won't be disappointed.



IDW
ISSUE
1

WILLIAM GIBSON ARCHANGEL



FREE DIGITAL ASHCAN

TAKE A PEEK AT ANOTHER AWESOME SERIES YOU MAY LIKE...

AVAILABLE NOW!!

BUTCH GUICE • MICHAEL ST. JOHN SMITH

ARCHANGEL

Created by William Gibson & Michael St. John Smith

Script by **William Gibson**

Art by Butch Guice | Inks by Tom Palmer with Butch Guice

Colors by Diego Rodriguez | Letters by Shawn Lee

Editing and Story Breakdown by Michael Benedetto

Managing Editor David Hedgecock | Publisher Ted Adams

Special thanks to Jeff Webber for his invaluable assistance and participation in production of this series.

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FEBRUARY 2016.

TOKYO.



MOSCOW.



LONDON.



SNAKE MOUNTAIN, MONTANA.
NATIONAL EMERGENCY FEDERAL DISTRICT,
QUANTUM TRANSFER FACILITY.



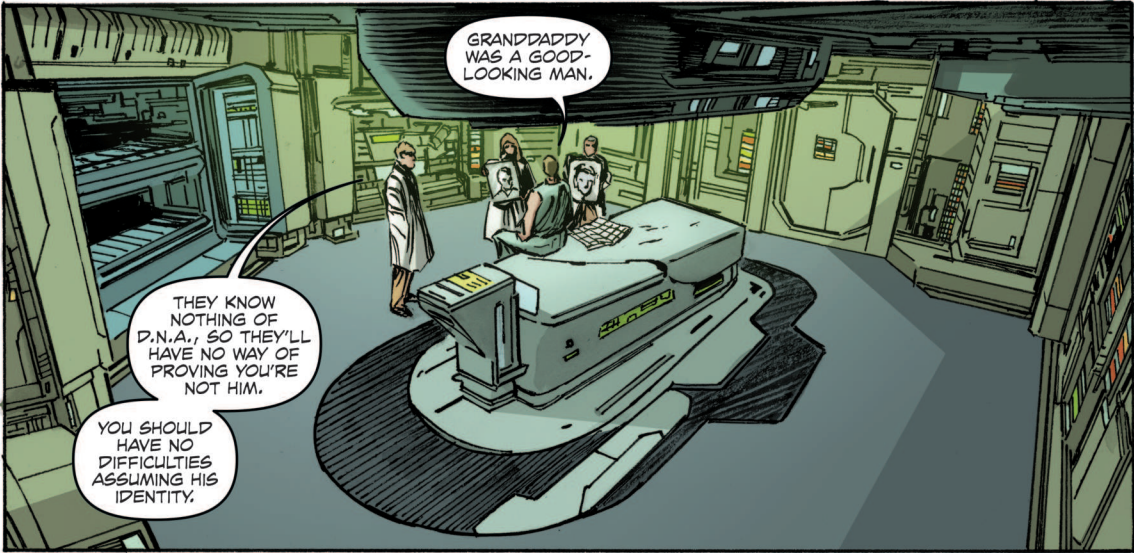
"MR. VICE PRESIDENT,
PLEASE REMAIN STILL..."



...AS I
REMOVE THE
BANDAGES.



THE FINAL
PROCEDURE
WAS ENTIRELY
SUCCESSFUL. SEE
FOR YOURSELF.



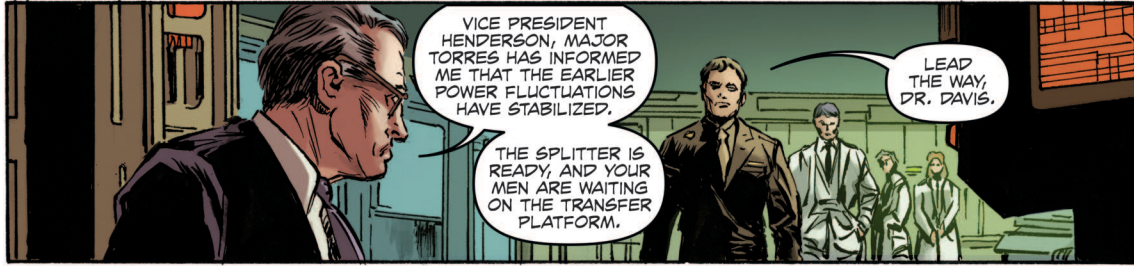
GRANDDADDY
WAS A GOOD-
LOOKING MAN.

THEY KNOW
NOTHING OF
D.N.A., SO THEY'LL
HAVE NO WAY OF
PROVING YOU'RE
NOT HIM.

YOU SHOULD
HAVE NO
DIFFICULTIES
ASSUMING HIS
IDENTITY.



PERFECT.



VICE PRESIDENT
HENDERSON, MAJOR
TORRES HAS INFORMED
ME THAT THE EARLIER
POWER FLUCTUATIONS
HAVE STABILIZED.

THE SPLITTER IS
READY, AND YOUR
MEN ARE WAITING
ON THE TRANSFER
PLATFORM.

LEAD
THE WAY,
DR. DAVIS.



REMEMBER,
SUCCESSFUL
TRANSFER CAN
ONLY BE SAFELY
ACHIEVED IN
FREEFALL.

FAILURE TO
OBSERVE THAT
RULE MIGHT RESULT IN
YOUR ATOMS BECOMING
PERMANENTLY
ENTANGLED WITH
YOUR PHYSICAL
SURROUNDINGS.

UPON ARRIVAL
AND COMPLETION OF
YOUR INITIAL OBJECTIVE,
YOU'LL RETRIEVE THE
TRANSFERRED EQUIPMENT
WE'VE CACHED IN THE
VIRGINIA COUNTRYSIDE...

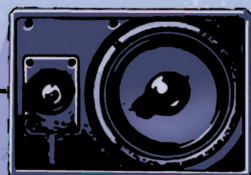
...THEN
PROCEED
WITH YOUR
MISSION.

WE HAVE
ENOUGH
JUICE FOR THE
HAT TRICK,
TORRES?

OP LEVEL
GREEN. NOW
OR NEVER.

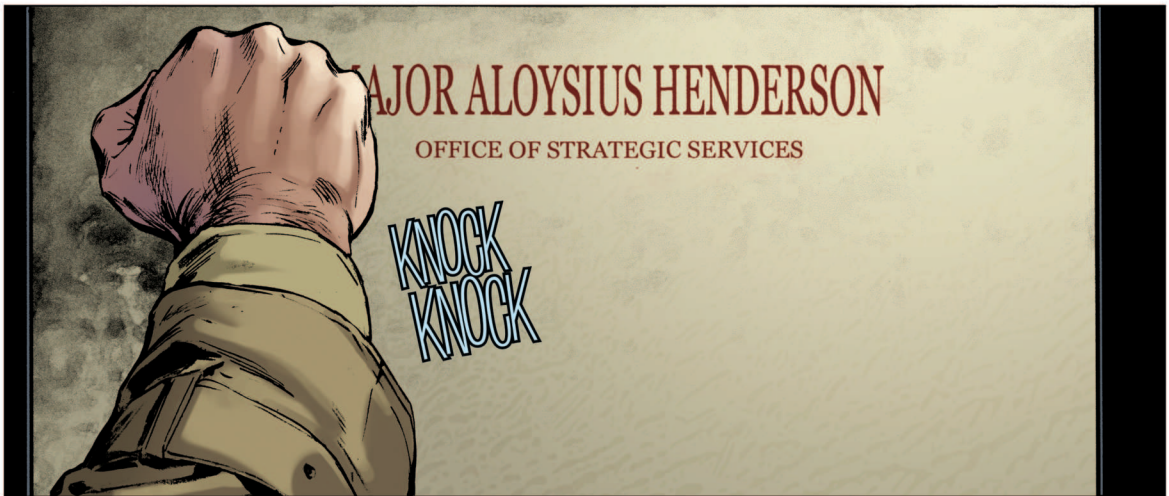
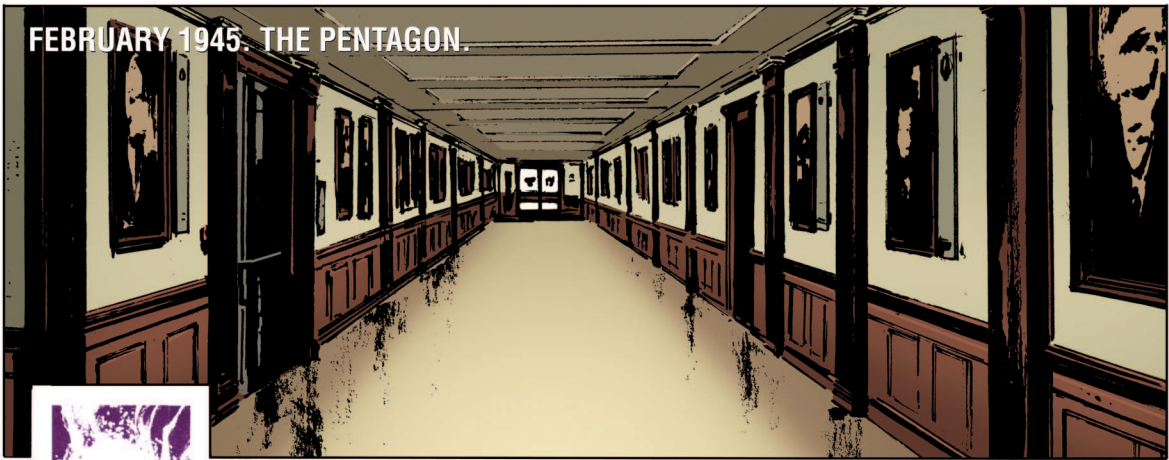
ACTIVATE
BOOSTER CLIFFS ON
MY FIVE, GENTLEMEN.
PROCEEDING WITH
QUANTUM TRANSFER...

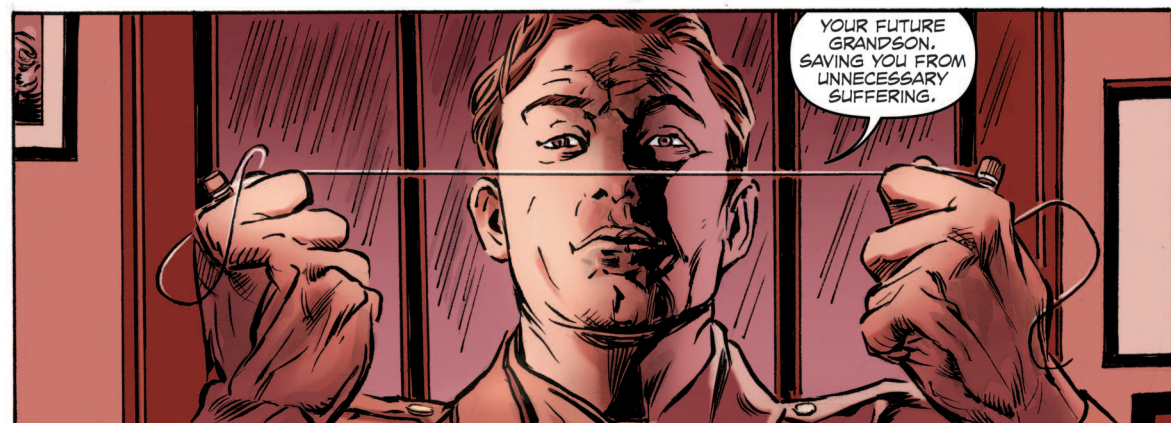
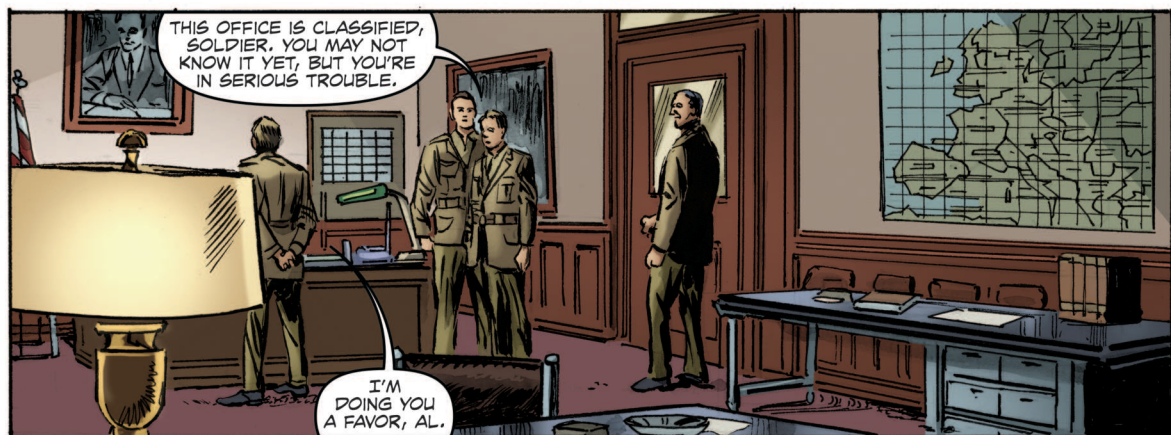
FIVE...
FOUR...
THREE...
TWO...



...ONE.

FEBRUARY 1945. THE PENTAGON.





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WILLIAM GIBSON ARCHANGEL



TO BE CONTINUED IN...

ARCHANGEL #1

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