

GRIDCURRENT

ISSUE 1



\$4.00 USD



ENB
COMICS

GRIDCURRENT

ISSUE 1

"UNWELCOME GUESTS"

Dr. Grant has spent years working on a secret project deep within the Creeping Rock formations on the small planet, Delta-5. With his work nearing completion, there is promise of a renewed life for him and his daughter, Betty.

Both unaware of the unexpected turn that awaits...

What you hold in your hands is the end result to a very long journey. If I said it was easy, I would certainly be a liar. I came up with the concept in 1998 and attempted to start this comic at least a dozen times since. No matter where I was in life, the story of "Gridcurrent" always remained in the back of my mind. The one thing I lacked in all my years as an artist has been the ability to believe in myself, it's like a disease really. It prevented me from accomplishing my dream. I felt the high from many different places of inspiration. Attending Evercon 13, which I found out was started by the afterschool gaming club I was an original member of in junior high. Then there's Kevin Smith and his amazing guests on the "Fat Man on Batman" podcast, just to name a couple.

Most importantly, my family and friends have been the greatest inspiration.

I want you, the reader, to go out and do what it is that makes you feel complete. Follow your dream no matter how large or small. Work hard to accomplish it. Just get it done. There will always be an audience of those who believe in you, regardless of whether or not you can see them.

I hope you enjoy this comic as much as I've enjoyed making it.

-DAN BIESEL

This book is dedicated to my wife, Stacy; and my three children, Connor, Niamh, and Brennan. Without them, I certainly would not be the man I am today. It has been their patience, understanding, support of my art, and love that have made this journey successful.

www.gridcurrent.com



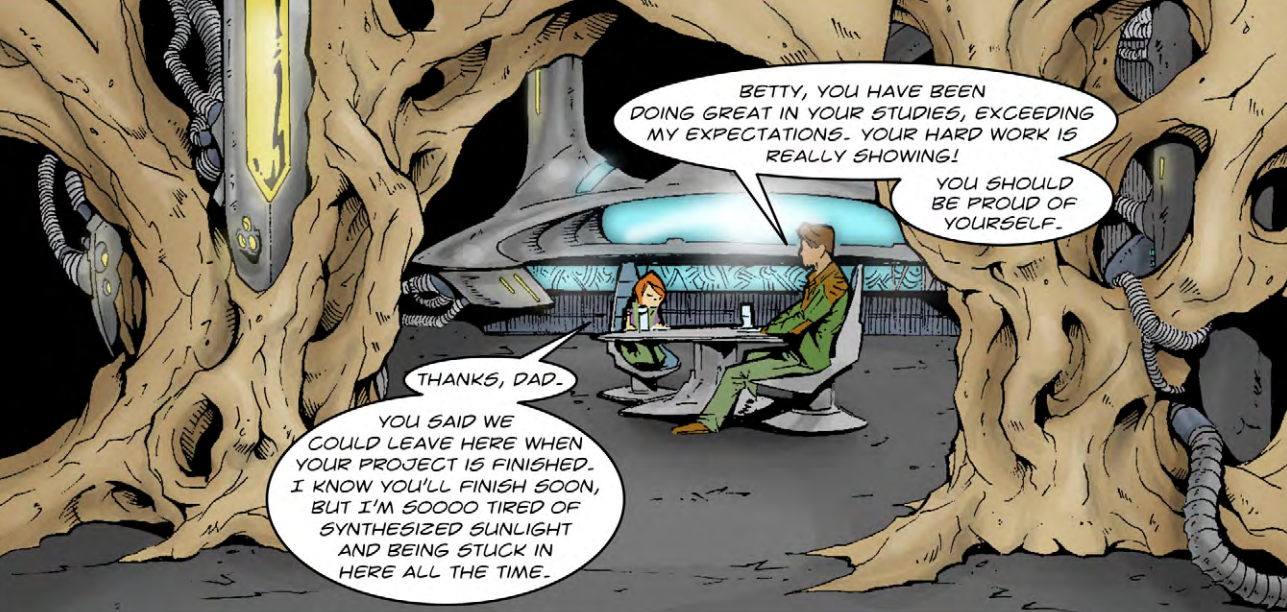
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The stories, characters and incidents mentioned in this book are entirely fictional.



BETTY, YOU HAVE BEEN DOING GREAT IN YOUR STUDIES, EXCEEDING MY EXPECTATIONS. YOUR HARD WORK IS REALLY SHOWING!

YOU SHOULD BE PROUD OF YOURSELF.

THANKS, DAD.

YOU SAID WE COULD LEAVE HERE WHEN YOUR PROJECT IS FINISHED. I KNOW YOU'LL FINISH SOON, BUT I'M SOOOO TIRED OF SYNTHESIZED SUNLIGHT AND BEING STUCK IN HERE ALL THE TIME.



I WANT TO BE OUTSIDE INSTEAD OF JUST READING ABOUT IT.



YOU ALSO WANT SOME REAL FRIENDS RATHER THAN HOLOGRAMS WITH NO REAL PERSONALITIES TOO.

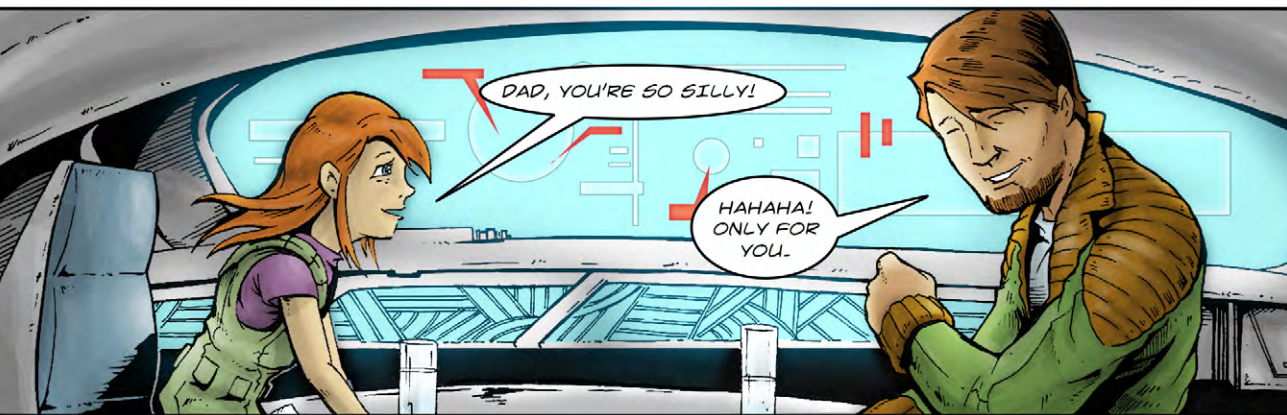
I UNDERSTAND.



WHEN I'M DONE, WE'LL BE FREE TO GO ANYWHERE YOU WANT! ALL THE WORLDS COULD BE OURS.

YOU PROMISE? ALL THE WORLDS?

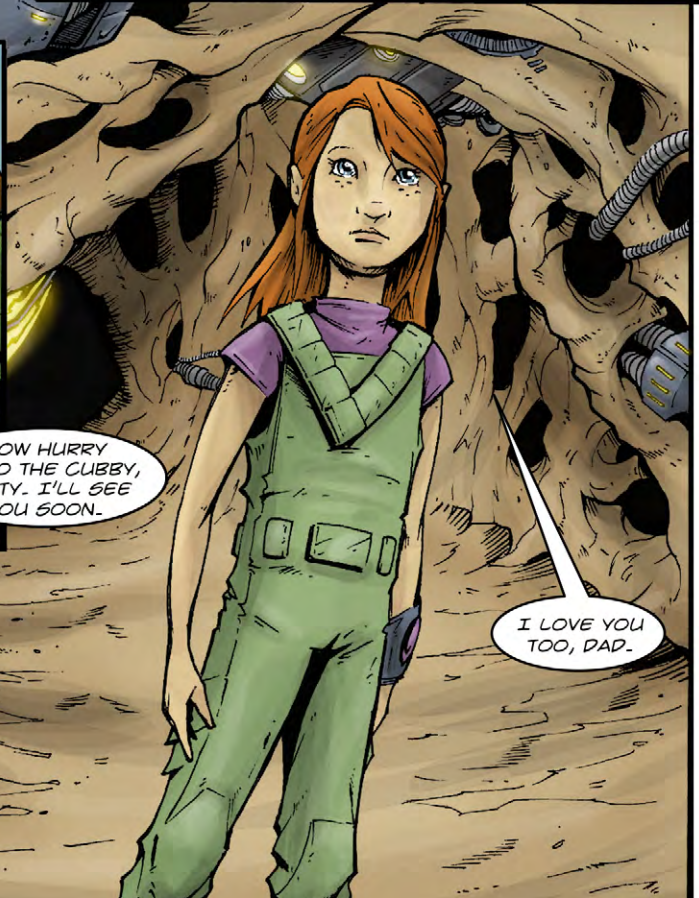
ALL THE WORLDS YOU COULD IMAGINE! THE UNIVERSE IS HUGE!

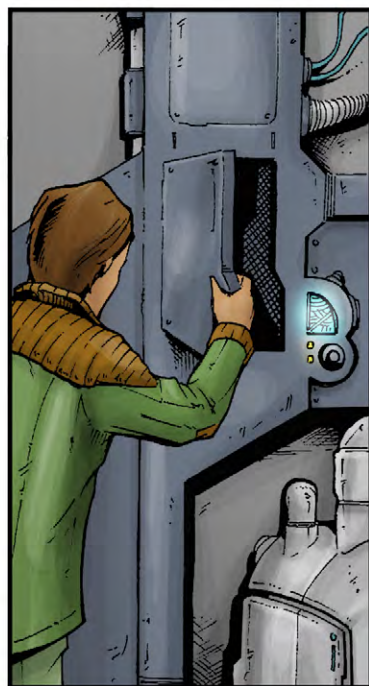


**INTRUDER ALERT! THREE LIFE FORMS DETECTED IN SECTOR E!
SAFETY DOORS ENGAGED. DRONES AND WEAPONS ARE OFFLINE.**



THAT'S RIGHT. NOW YOU NEED TO GET GOING.







HEY, SCIENCE BOY!

WHA...
WHAT...DO
YOU...W...W...
WANT?

POOR LITTLE
ALEC GRANT,
HIDING HERE,
UNDERGROUND.
HIDING FROM HIS
PAST. HIDING FROM
HIS DEAD WIFE
AND CHILD.

BECOMING
A MAD SCIENTIST
OUT OF GRIEF
AFTER WATCHING
HIS LOVED ONES
PAINFULLY DECAY
FROM **THE ROT**
BEFORE HIS
TEAR-FILLED
EYES.



HIS SEARCH FOR A
CURE ABANDONED, NOW
ONLY REVENGE ON THOSE WHO
INFECTED THEM REMAINS
IN HIS HEART.

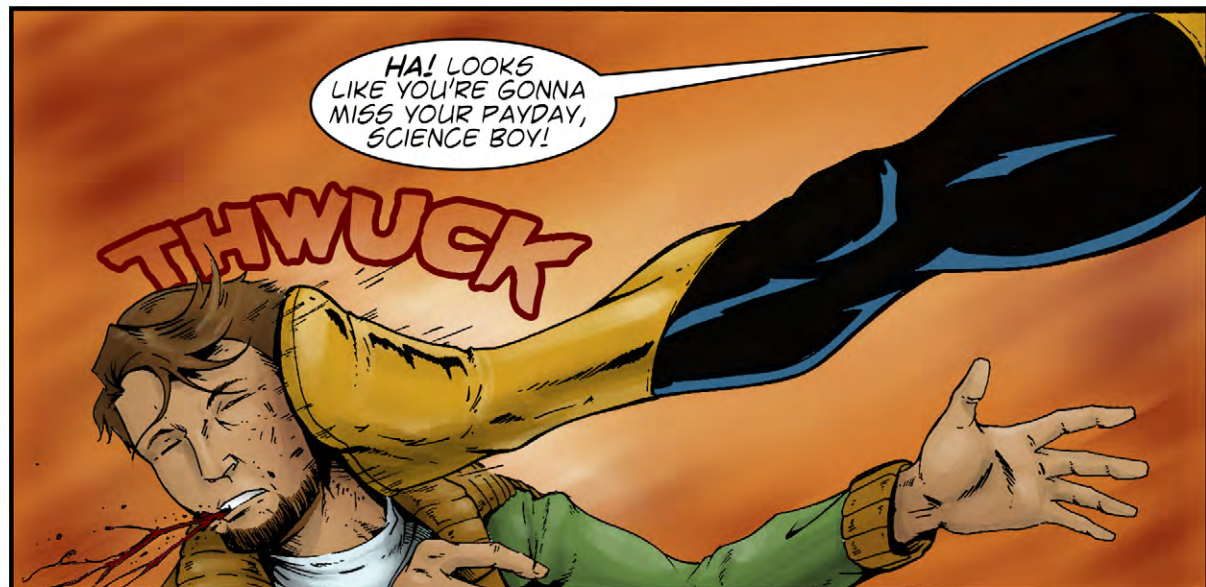
SO PATHETIC
AND WEAK!!!



WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?



YOU KNOW DAMN WELL
WHY I'M HERE. YOUR PROJECT IS
OVERDUE, AND I'M HERE TO COLLECT
WHAT YOU HAVE. THE BOSS ISN'T
PLEASED.



HA! LOOKS
LIKE YOU'RE GONNA
MISS YOUR PAYDAY,
SCIENCE BOY!

THWUCK



HEY GRELL, THE DAMN
SLUG HAD A SLIP-UP AND CLOSED
THE DOOR AT THE END OF THIS
CORRIDOR. THIS IS GOING TO TAKE
A LITTLE LONGER THAN
WE PLANNED.

WITH NO
SECURITY DRONES
ONLINE, IT DOESN'T
MATTER.

THIS SAD
SACK IS THE ONLY
THREAT. I THINK
I'LL STICK AROUND
HERE A BIT AND
HAVE ME SOME
MORE FUN.



THERE, THAT SHOULD
DO IT. PROGRAM 10-28 IS
LOADED AND READY TO GO.
DAD CAN GET MAD IF HE
WANTS, BUT VISITORS ARE
BAD NEWS.

AVEX, GOT ANY
UPDATES?



NOTHING?
GREAT.



SPEED IT UP
ALREADY, THE SOONER WE
GET OUT OF THIS PLACE
THE BETTER. IT'S LIKE
A TOMB IN HERE.



I'M SORRY, DACK.
THIS SYSTEM IS JUST SO
INTELLIGENT. I HAD TO BYPASS THE
CENTRAL PROGRAM FOR THE FACILITY.
THAT'S WHAT TOOK SO LONG.



UGH. YOU TALK TOO
MUCH. JUST GET THIS
DOOR OPEN. I'LL GET
THE LOADER READY.



THIS IS WILD THOUGH!
THE ENTIRE SYSTEM IS CUSTOM
WORK. THIS GUY IS A GENIUS! LIKE AN
ARTIST'S BRUSH STROKES IN A PAINTING.
I CAN'T WAIT TO HIT UP THE ZERO ZONE
AND GET TO THE REAL PRIZE. TOO BAD
WE'RE GOING TO BLOW THIS
PLACE TO PIECES.

ALMOST THERE.
YEAH. THIS SHOULD
DO IT, DACK!

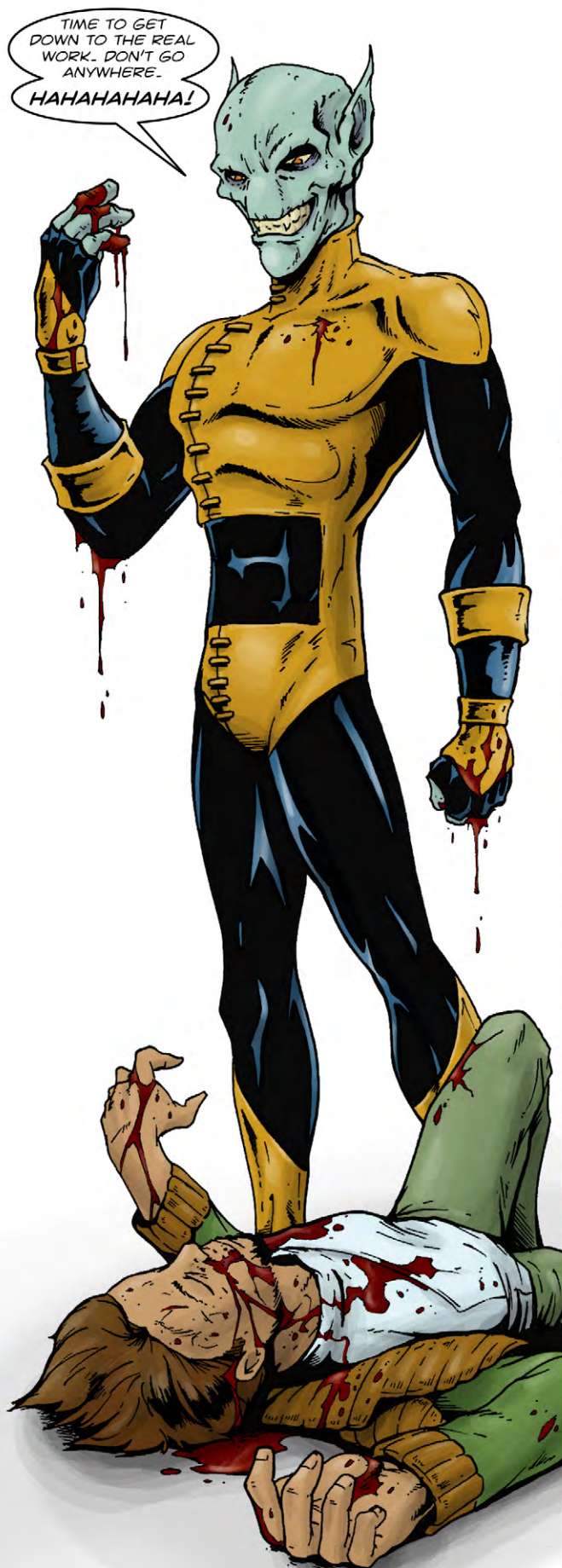
MAYBE WE'LL JUST
LEAVE HIM IN HERE
WHEN IT BLOWS...

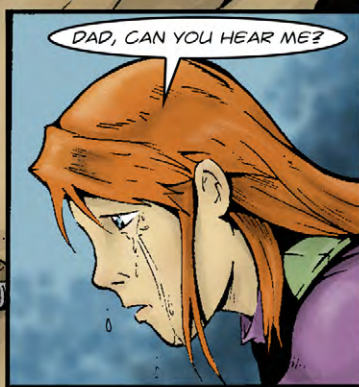


EXCELLENT!



HEY TEAM, ALL DOORS
ARE OPEN AND WILL STAY THAT
WAY FOR THE DURATION OF OUR
STAY! I'M HEADING INTO THE
ZERO ZONE TO START
THE DOWNLOAD.





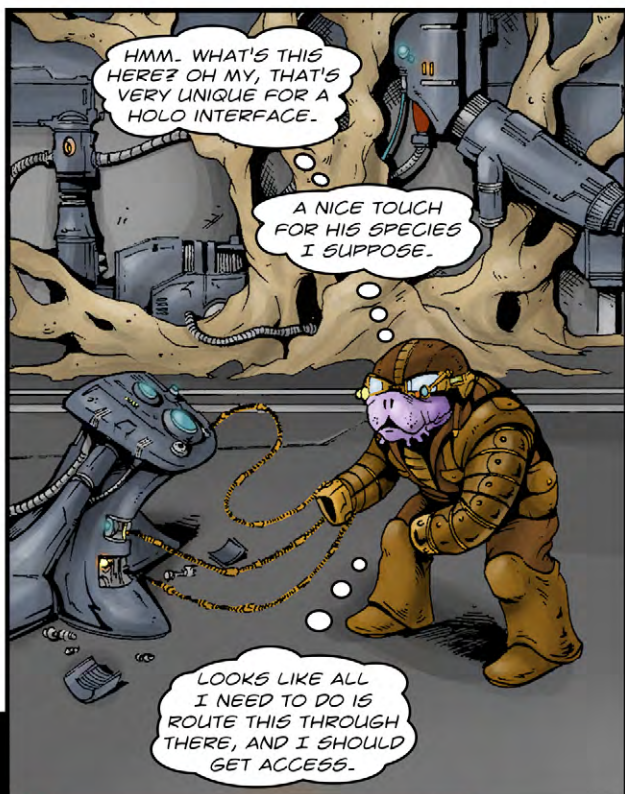


BETTY...
DANG...ER.
YOU MUST...LOAD
PROGRAM...
10-28.

ALREADY DONE,
DAD. JUST REST
HERE FOR NOW.

I'M GOING TO
HEAD BACK TO THE LAB
AND GRAB WHAT WE NEED
SO WE CAN GET YOU TO A
MED FACILITY.

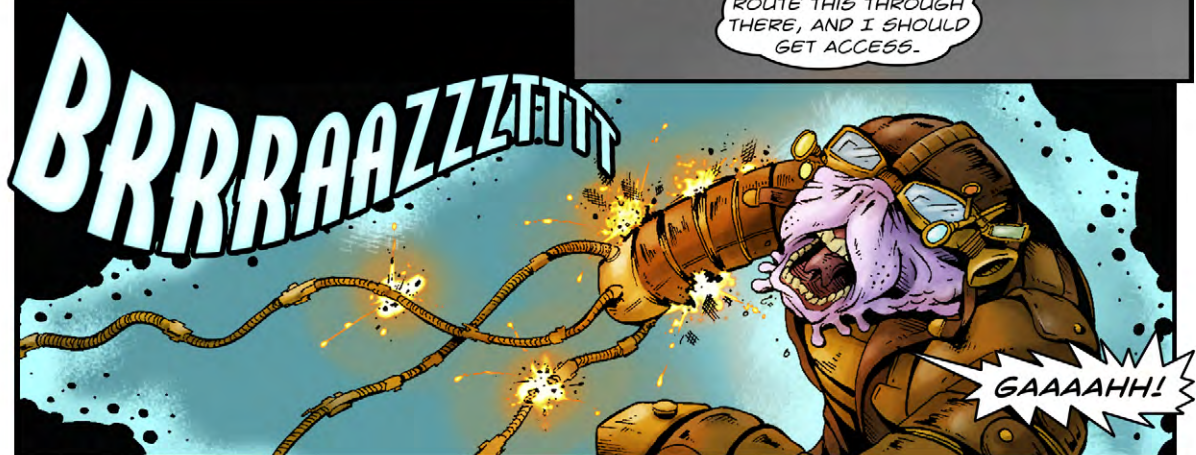
THAT'S...
MY GIRL.



HMM. WHAT'S THIS
HERE? OH MY, THAT'S
VERY UNIQUE FOR A
HOLO INTERFACE.

A NICE TOUCH
FOR HIS SPECIES
I SUPPOSE.

LOOKS LIKE ALL
I NEED TO DO IS
ROUTE THIS THROUGH
THERE, AND I SHOULD
GET ACCESS.



GAAAAHH!



I DON'T THINK
I'M MUCH OF A
FAN ANYMORE.
I'M LUCKY THIS
THING DIDN'T
KILL ME!



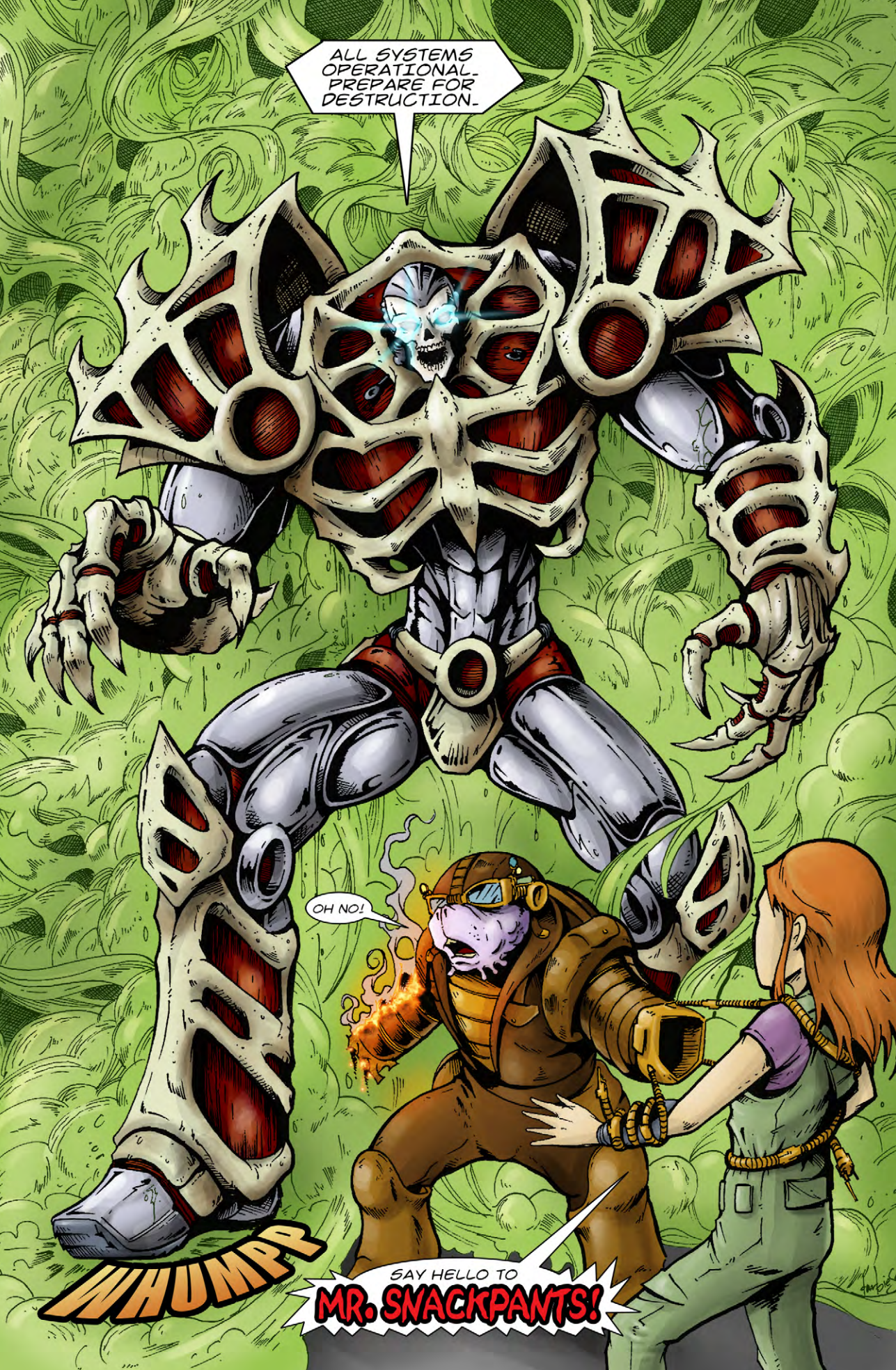
NOT YET,
JUST WAIT.

ALL SYSTEMS
OPERATIONAL.
PREPARE FOR
DESTRUCTION.

OH NO!

SAY HELLO TO
MR. SNACKPANTS!

WHUMPA





GRIDCURRENT CONTRIBUTORS

This comic was made possible by the generous support of the following individuals. Many thanks to them for believing in the power of independent comics!

Fantabulous Jase, Jeffrey Lombardo, Becky Schmidt,
Jeremy Lukes, Matthew Stifler, Geebotch, Amanda Mosher,
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Shane Clark, Scott Hallaron, Nathan Ciszewski,
Mike Golding, Jerrica Woller, Eric Damon Walters,
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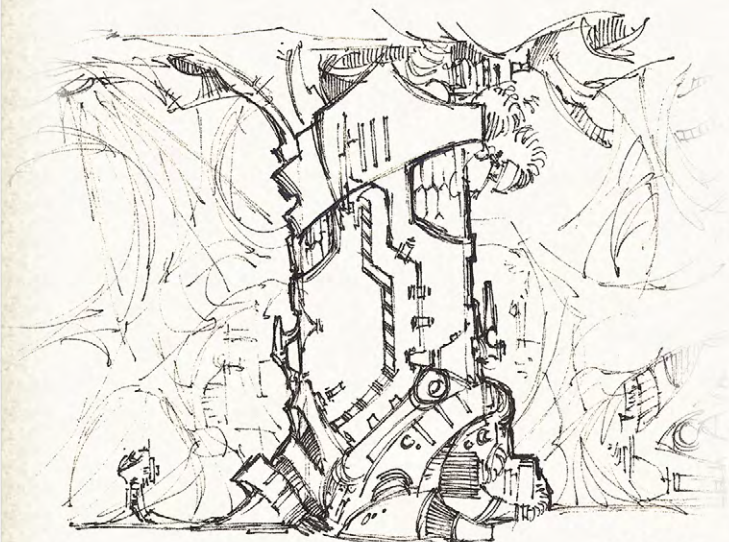


CONCEPTS & SKETCHES





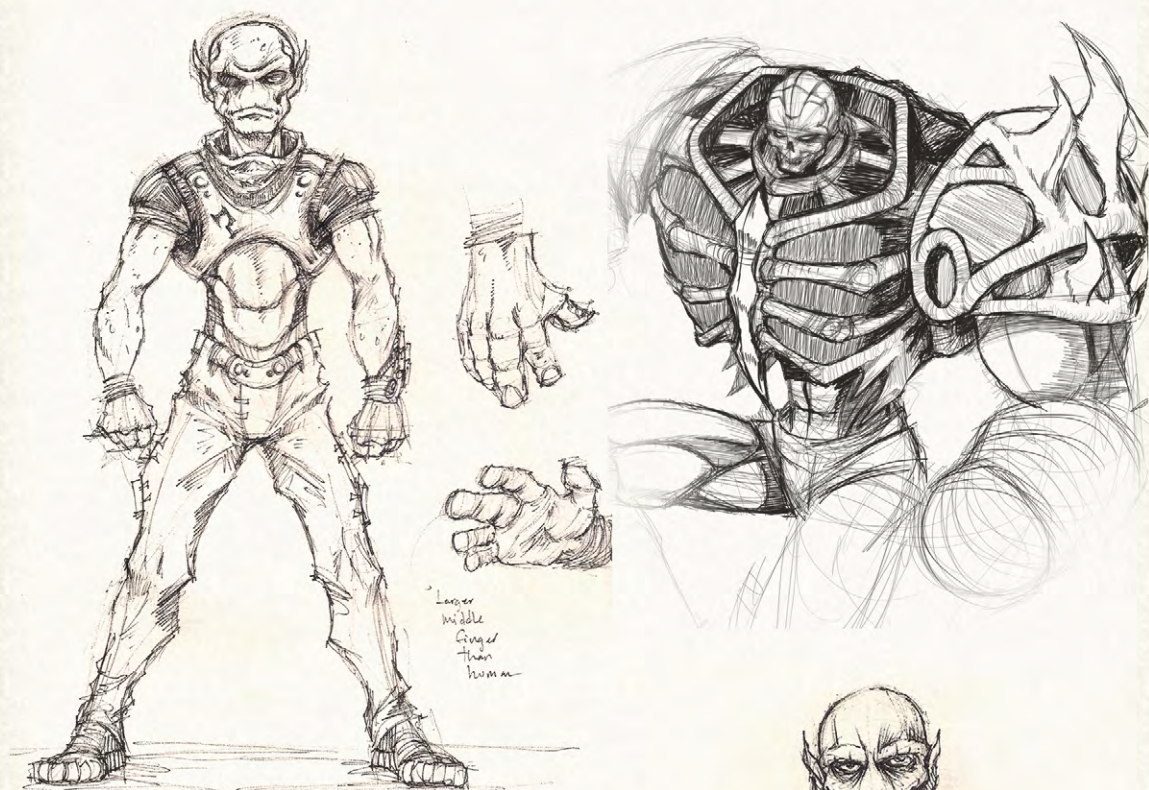
The world's greatest inventions and art have come from rough sketches. Just placing ideas to paper, no matter how crude, can make all the difference in the final product.



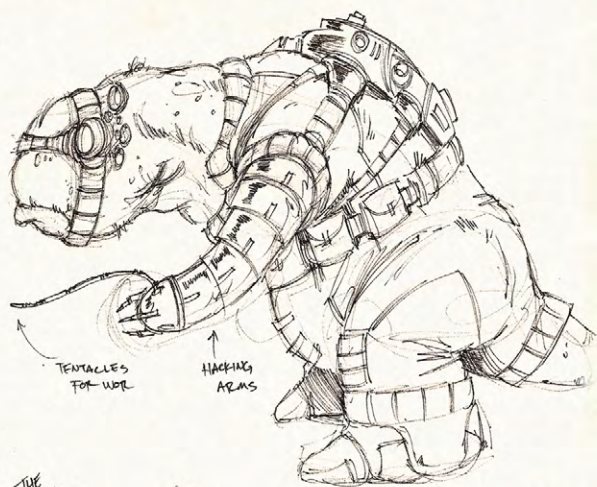
LOTS OF NON-LINEAR ALL OVER THE PLACE LOOK - I WANT THE TECH TO BE ALMOST NON-SENSEICAL BUT LOOK WILD!

CHAMBER





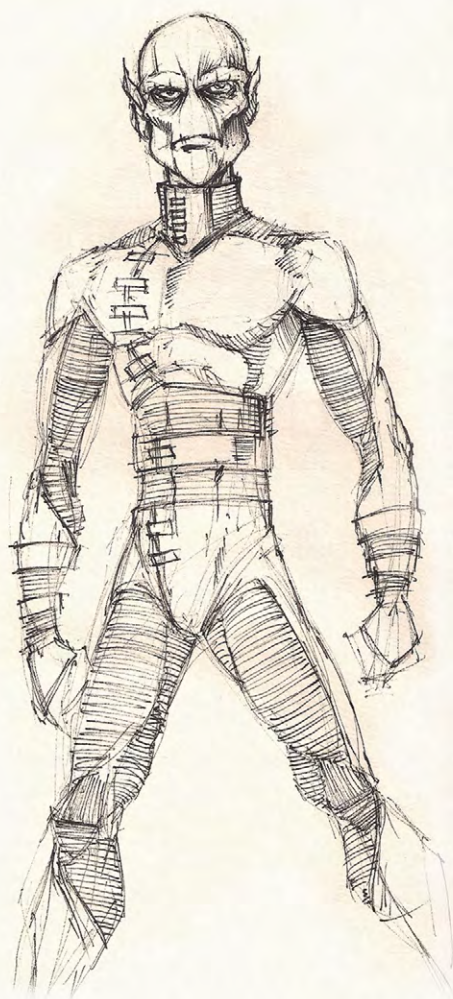
There have been changes ranging from the removal of a pocket and the dramatic removal of a tail. These are just some of the more recent alterations made to these characters since their concepts going back to 1998. Maybe it was story needs or simple esthetic preference on my part for the changes, but these sketches best represent the characters currently featured in the final vision of the story.



The
slug

OK

H. G. G.





A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING:

My dear friend, Jeff Lombardo, who is the model for the true definition of friendship. I am blessed to have Jeff in my life.

Steve Siewert, for refreshing my view on comics and taking the time to check this book out as it progressed from the script to the illustrations.



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