

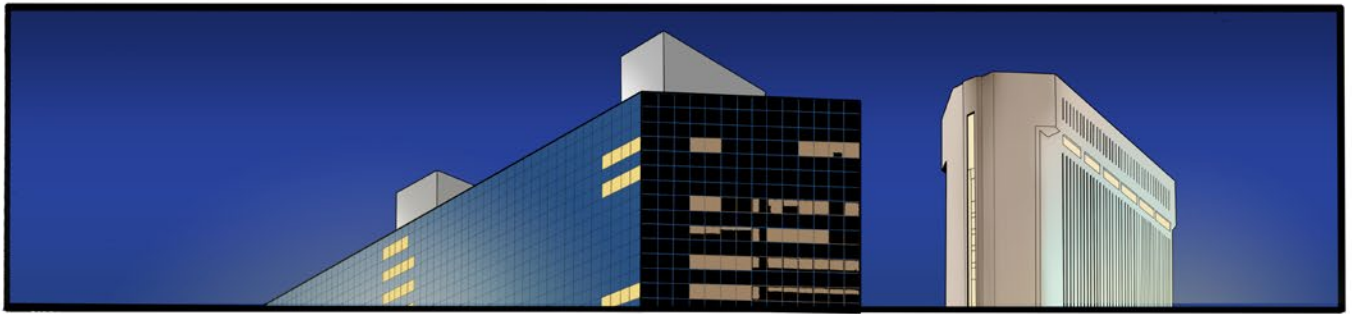
# SPINNERETTE

ISSUE 23

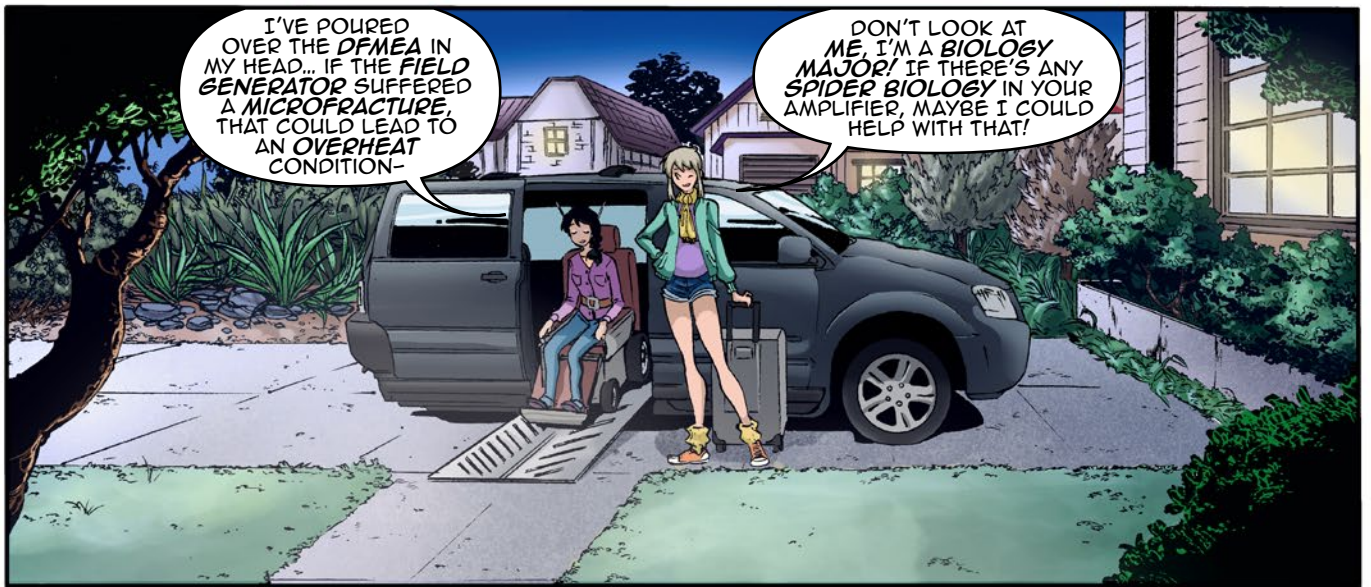


STORY: KRAZY KROW  
ART: ROCIO ZUCCHI



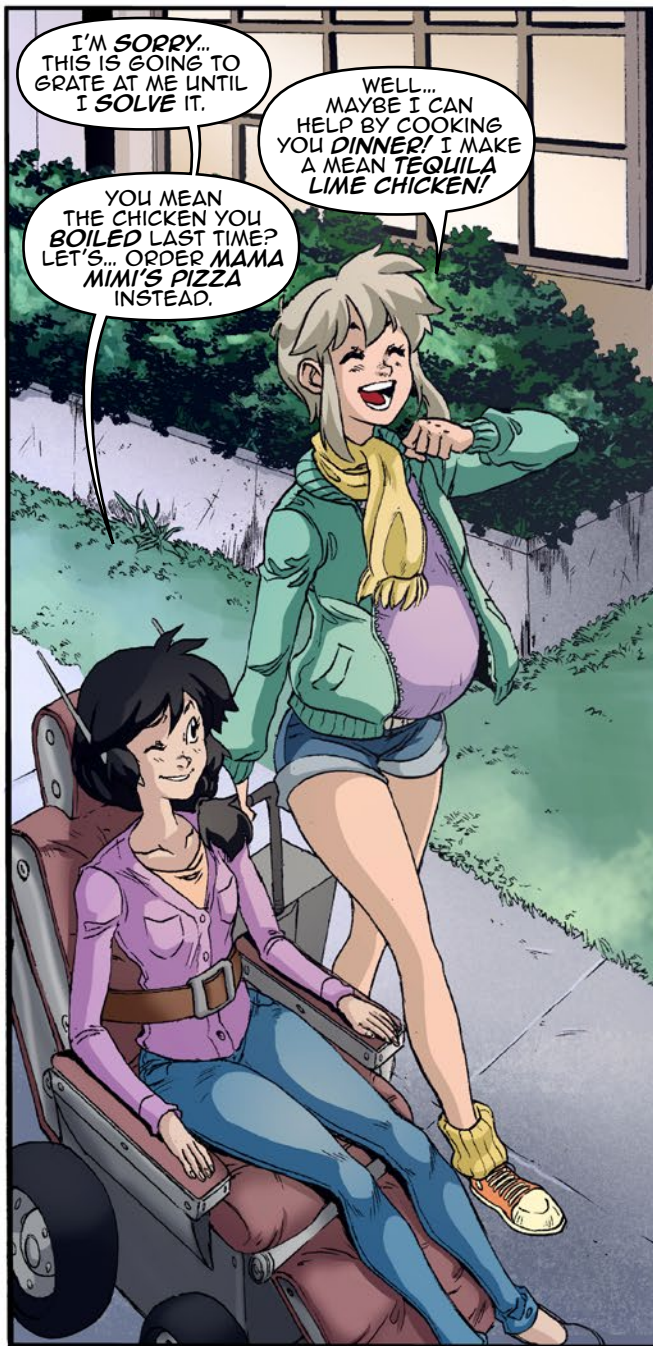






I'VE POURED OVER THE *DFMEA* IN MY HEAD... IF THE *FIELD GENERATOR* SUFFERED A *MICROFRACTURE*, THAT COULD LEAD TO AN *OVERHEAT* CONDITION-

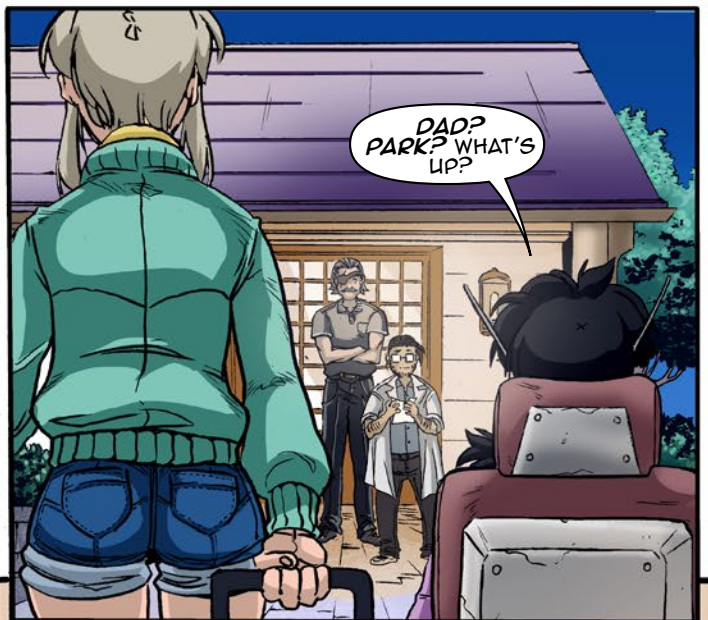
DON'T LOOK AT ME, I'M A *BIOLOGY MAJOR*! IF THERE'S ANY *SPIDER BIOLOGY* IN YOUR AMPLIFIER, MAYBE I COULD HELP WITH THAT!



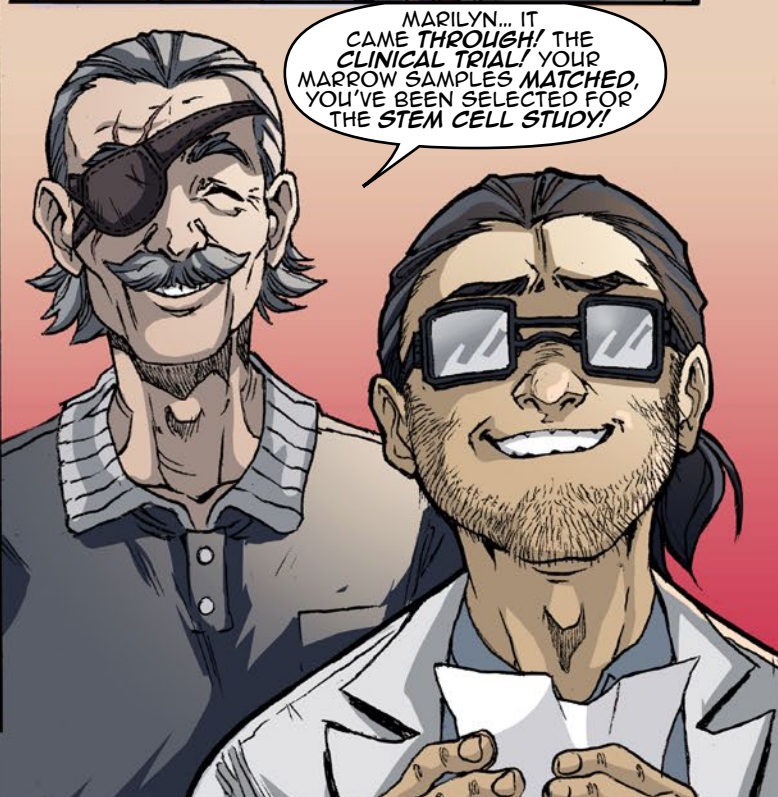
I'M SORRY... THIS IS GOING TO GRATE AT ME UNTIL I SOLVE IT.

WELL... MAYBE I CAN HELP BY COOKING YOU DINNER! I MAKE A MEAN *TEQUILA LIME CHICKEN*!

YOU MEAN THE CHICKEN YOU BOILED LAST TIME? LET'S... ORDER MAMA MIMI'S PIZZA INSTEAD.



DAD? PARK? WHAT'S UP?



MARILYN... IT CAME THROUGH! THE *CLINICAL TRIAL*! YOUR MARROW SAMPLES MATCHED, YOU'VE BEEN SELECTED FOR THE *STEM CELL STUDY*!



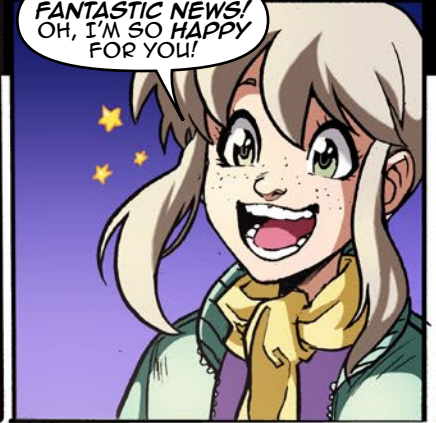
YOU MEAN... MY ALS...



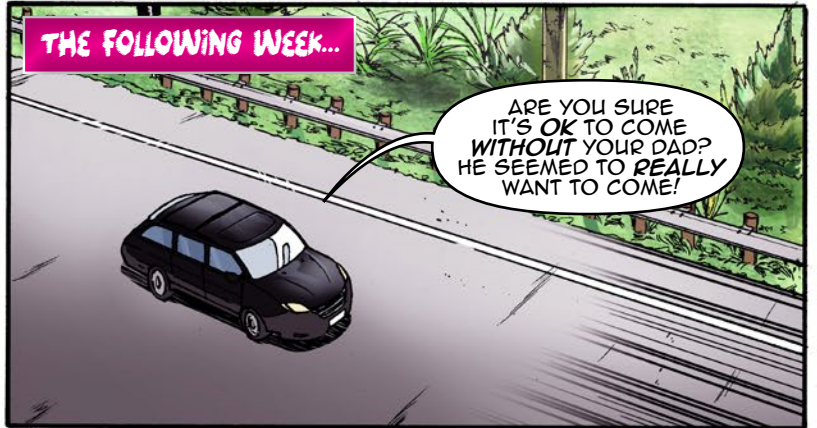
YES! THIS COULD BE THE CURE WE'VE BEEN PRAYING FOR!



TH-THAT'S FANTASTIC NEWS! OH, I'M SO HAPPY FOR YOU!



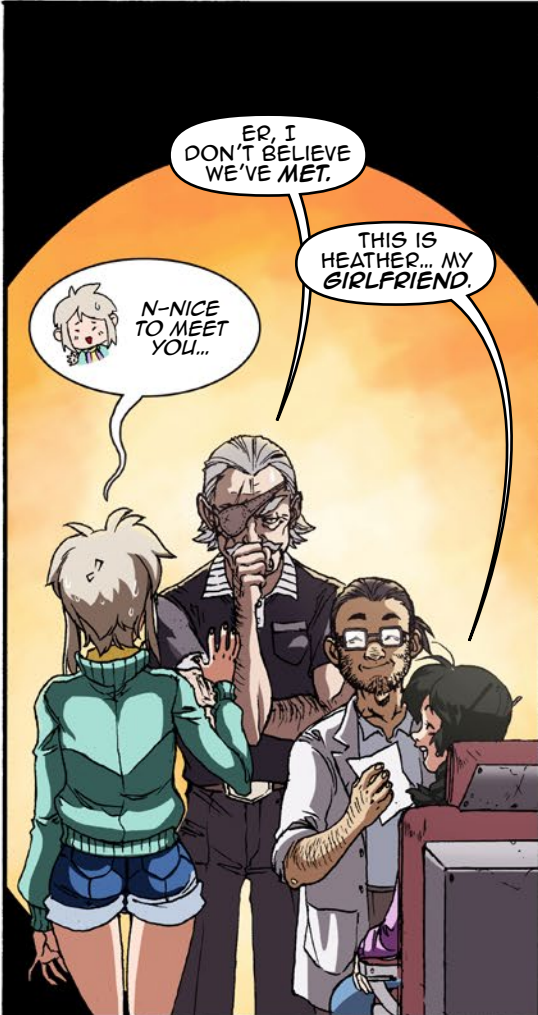
THE FOLLOWING WEEK...



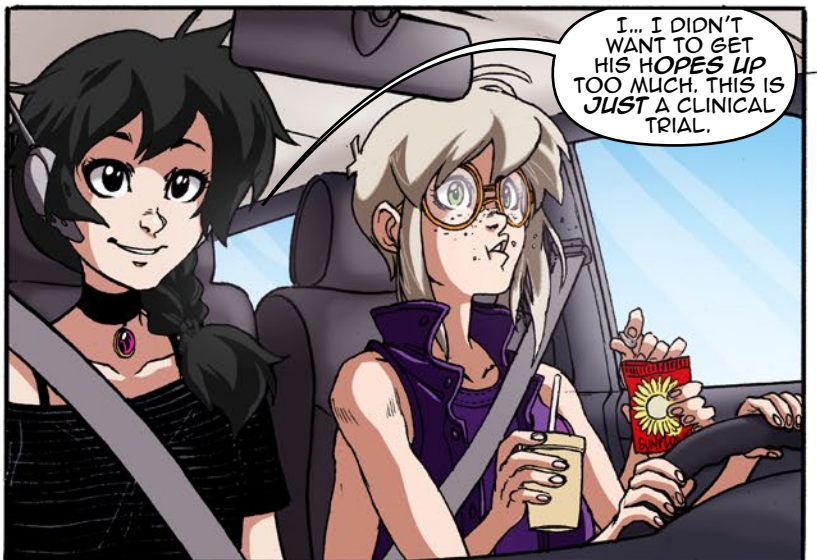
ER, I DON'T BELIEVE WE'VE MET.

THIS IS HEATHER... MY GIRLFRIEND.

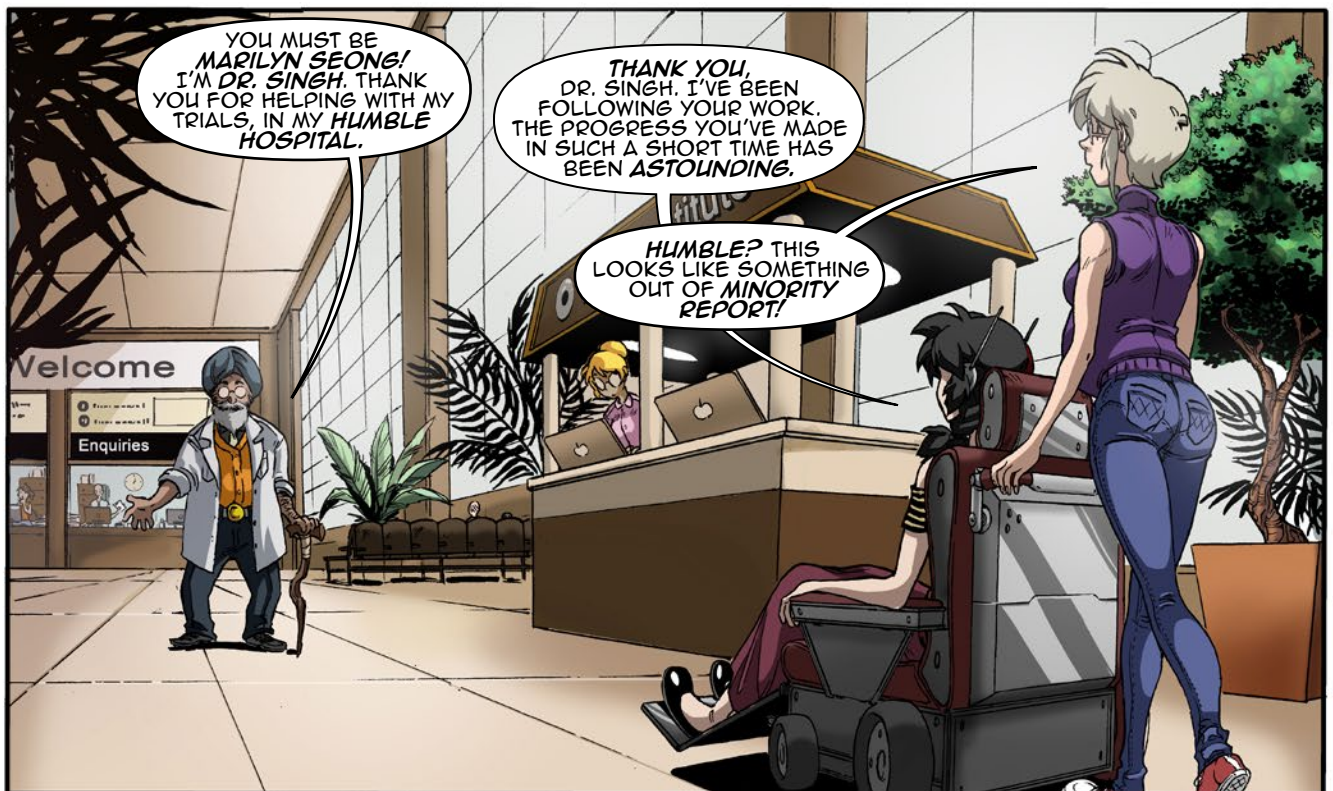
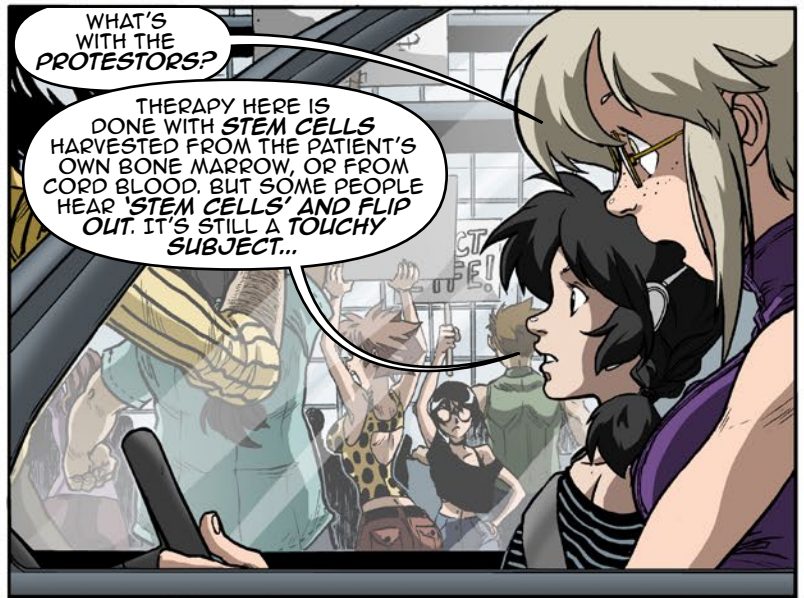
N-NICE TO MEET YOU...



I... I DIDN'T WANT TO GET HIS HOPES UP TOO MUCH. THIS IS JUST A CLINICAL TRIAL.









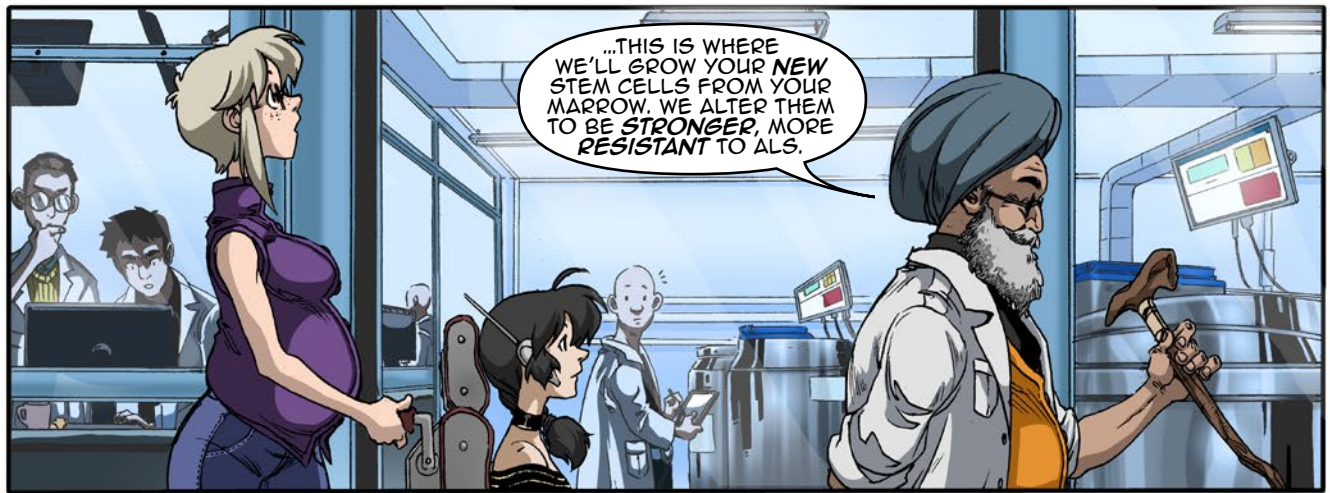


THIS IS QUITE THE FACILITY YOU HAVE.

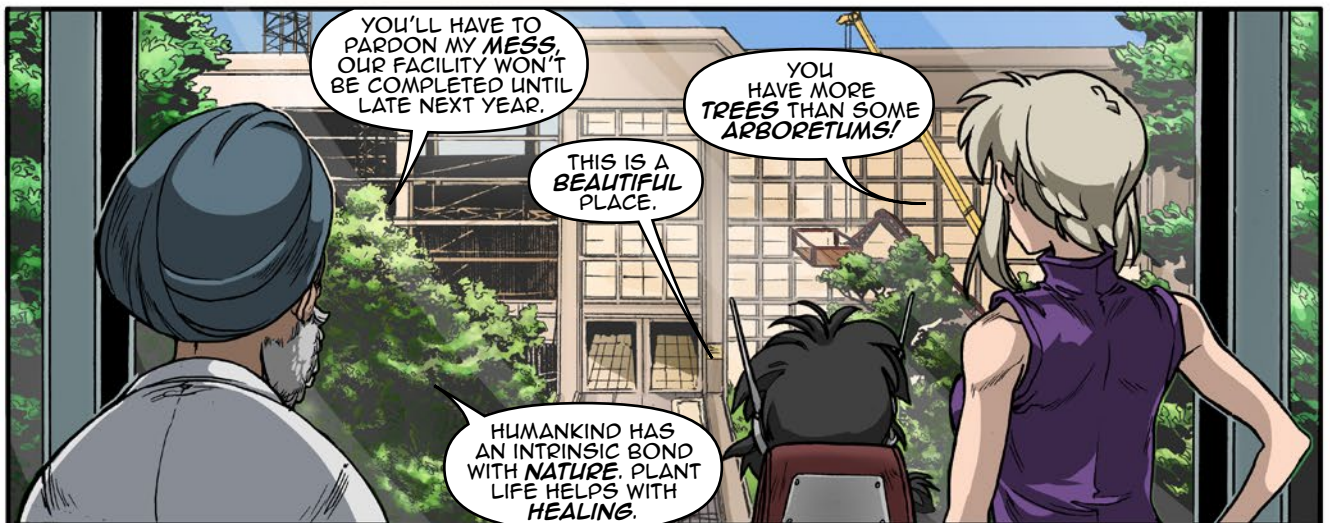
OUR BOARD IS THINKING **LONG-TERM**. WE'VE ALREADY DEMONSTRATED THAT STEM CELL THERAPY CAN **HALT** THE PROGRESSION OF **ALS**, IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF TIME UNTIL WE CAN **REVERSE** IT.



ONCE THAT HAPPENS, THE KEY TO MAKING IT **AFFORDABLE** IS **SCALE**. THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE ARE DIAGNOSED WITH **ALS** EACH YEAR, I WANT TO CURE **EACH AND EVERY ONE OF THEM**.



...THIS IS WHERE WE'LL GROW YOUR **NEW** STEM CELLS FROM YOUR MARROW. WE ALTER THEM TO BE **STRONGER**, MORE **RESISTANT** TO **ALS**.



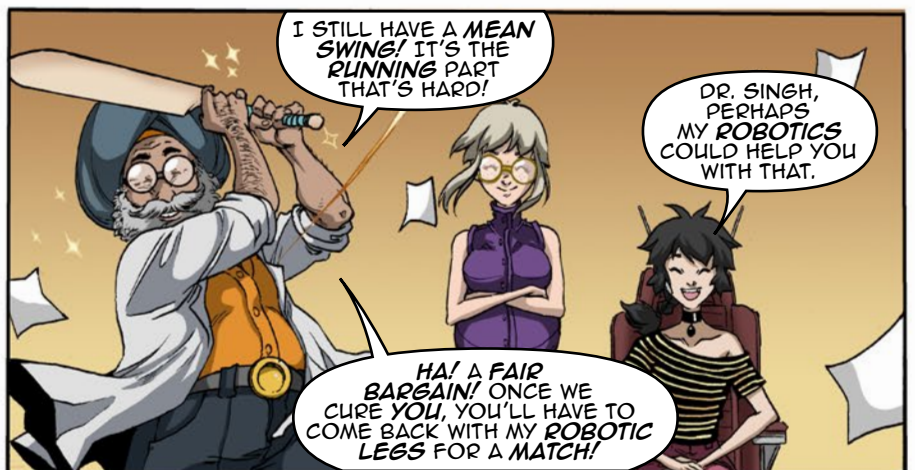
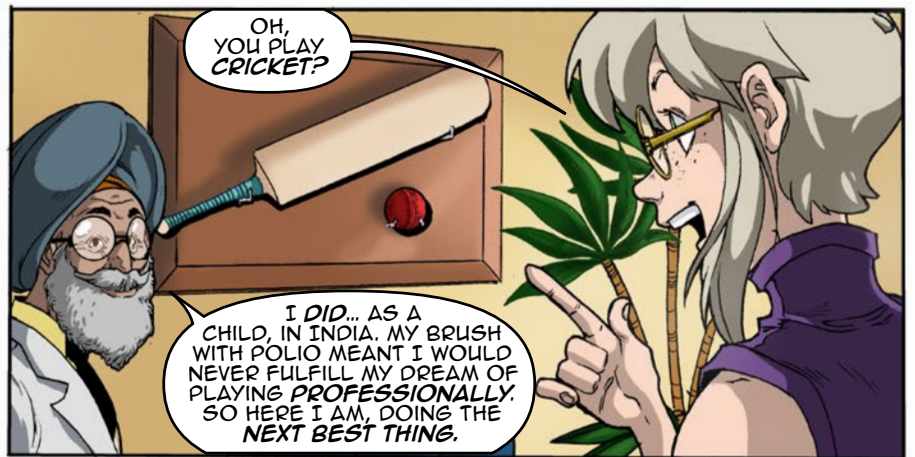
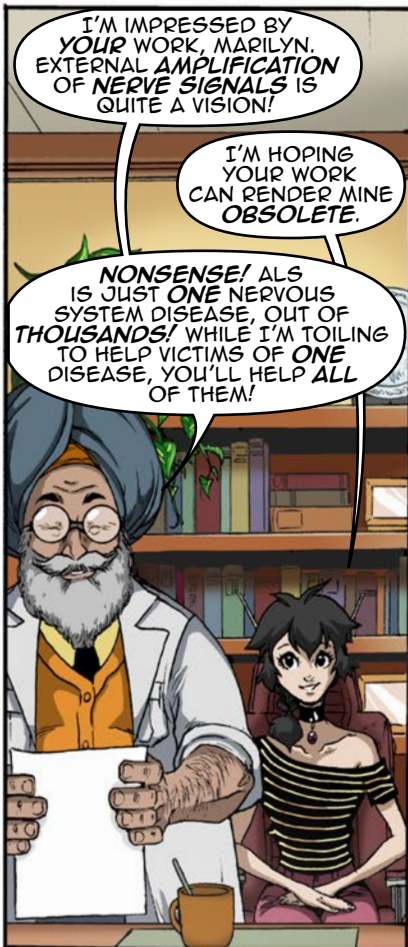
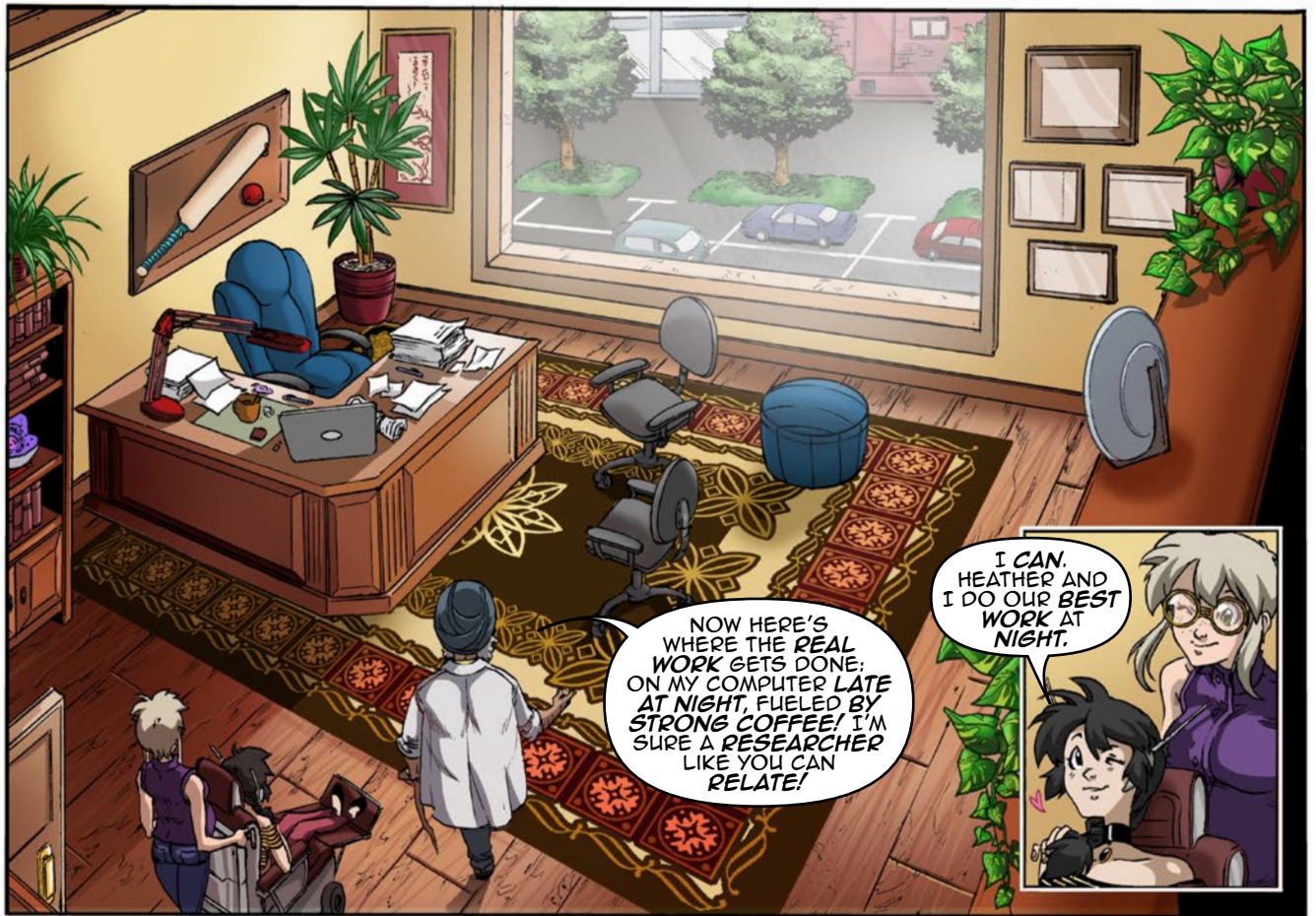
YOU'LL HAVE TO PARDON MY **MESS**, OUR FACILITY WON'T BE COMPLETED UNTIL LATE NEXT YEAR.

THIS IS A **BEAUTIFUL** PLACE.

YOU HAVE MORE **TREES** THAN SOME **ARBORETUMS!**

HUMANKIND HAS AN **INTRINSIC** BOND WITH **NATURE**. PLANT LIFE HELPS WITH **HEALING**.

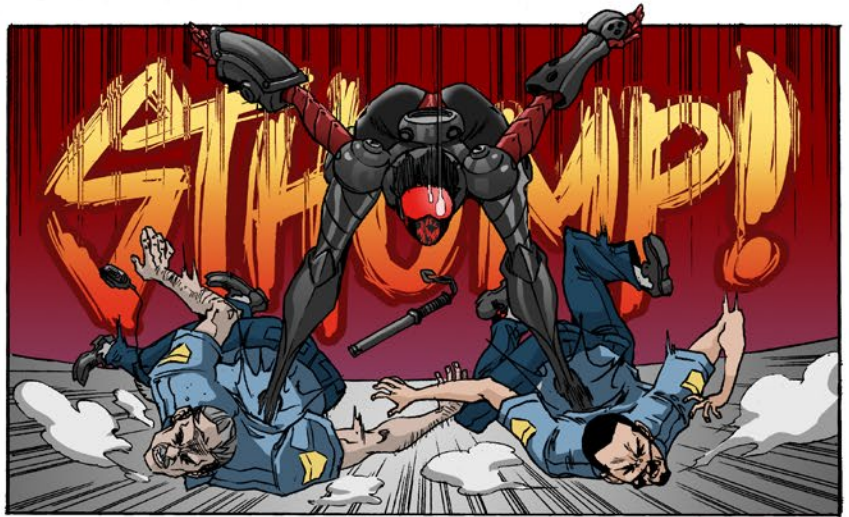












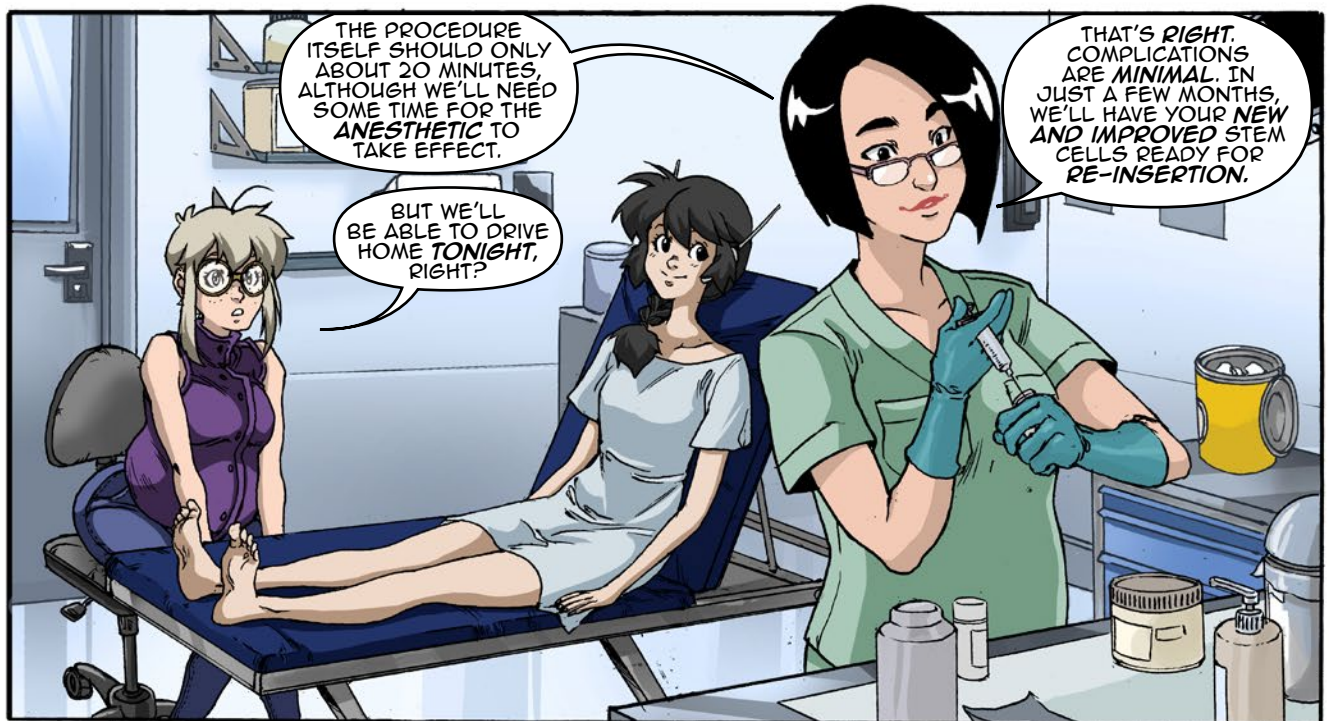
DISPATCH,  
CODE RED! WE'RE  
UNDER ATTACK,  
CODE RED!

KSSKKKK...

YOU  
HAD YOUR  
CHANCE.



-NOW YOU'LL  
PAY THE SAME  
PRICE AS  
SINGH!

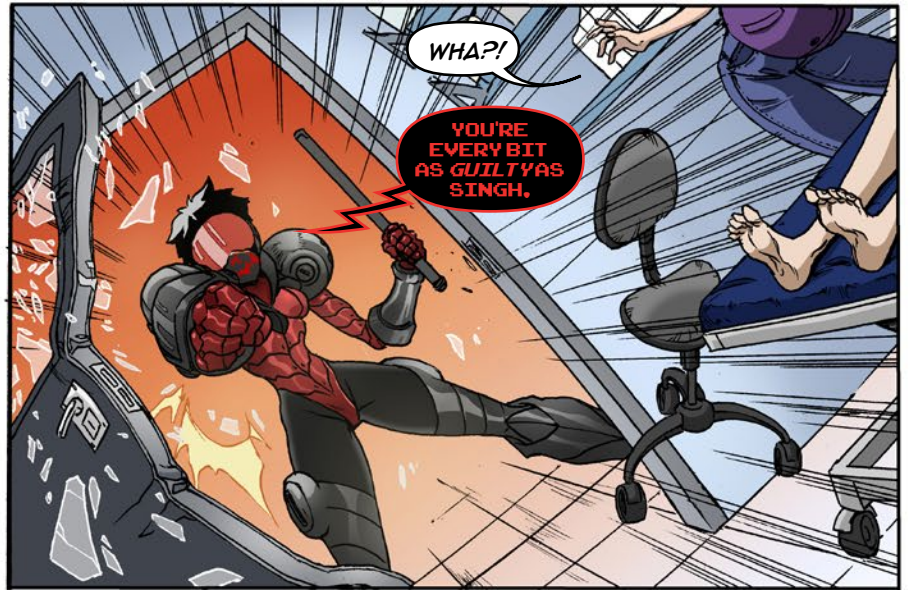


THE PROCEDURE  
ITSELF SHOULD ONLY  
ABOUT 20 MINUTES,  
ALTHOUGH WE'LL NEED  
SOME TIME FOR THE  
ANESTHETIC TO  
TAKE EFFECT.

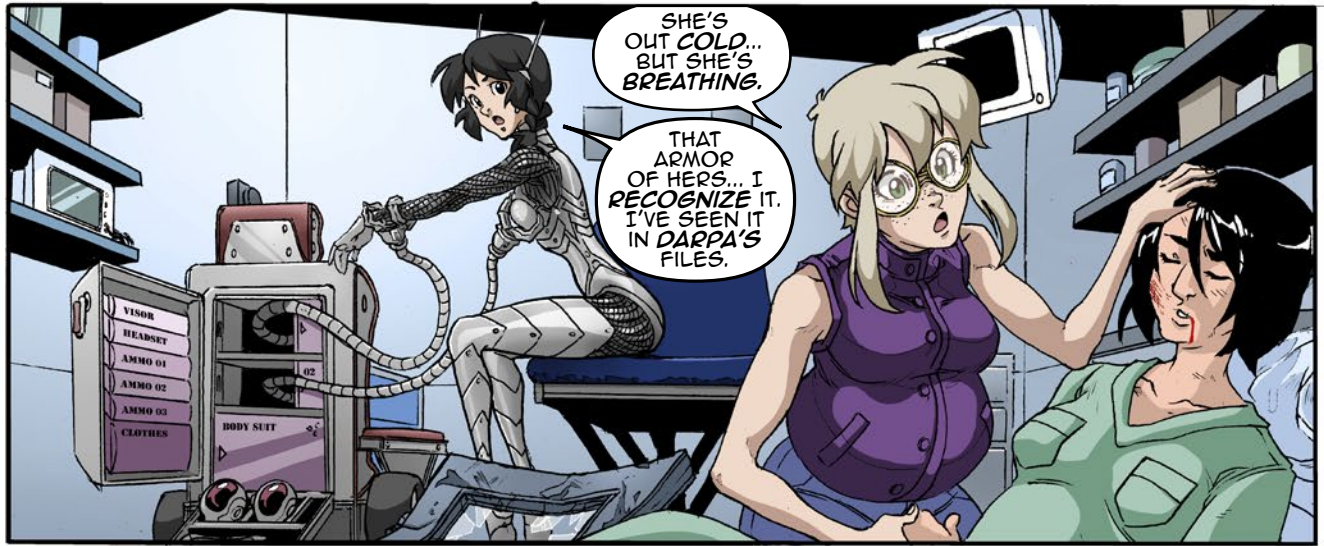
BUT WE'LL  
BE ABLE TO DRIVE  
HOME TONIGHT,  
RIGHT?

THAT'S RIGHT.  
COMPLICATIONS  
ARE MINIMAL. IN  
JUST A FEW MONTHS,  
WE'LL HAVE YOUR NEW  
AND IMPROVED STEM  
CELLS READY FOR  
RE-INSERTION.









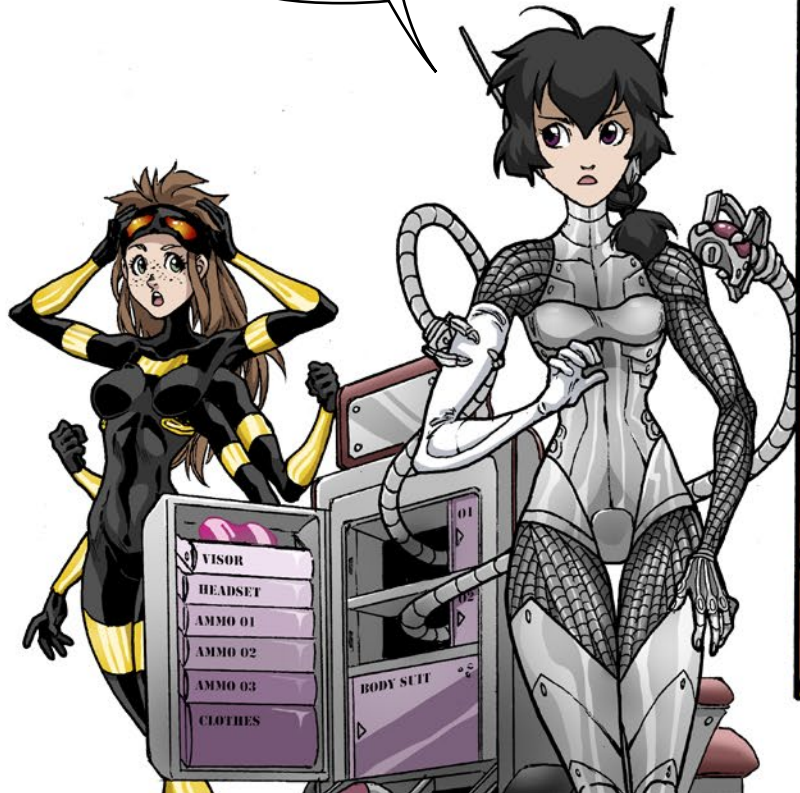
SHE'S OUT COLD... BUT SHE'S BREATHING.

THAT ARMOR OF HERS... I RECOGNIZE IT. I'VE SEEN IT IN DARPA'S FILES.

??? NOTHING! THE FIRE ALARMS ARE OUT! MY CELL PHONE HAS NO SIGNAL EITHER!

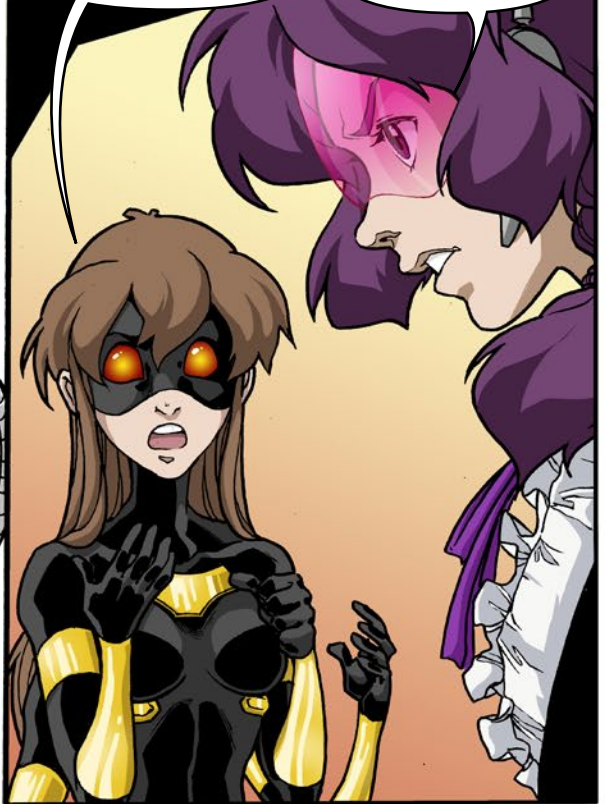


CYBER-WARFARE. SHE'S BLOCKING OUR SIGNAL. WE NEED TO PROTECT DR. SINGH AND HIS STAFF!

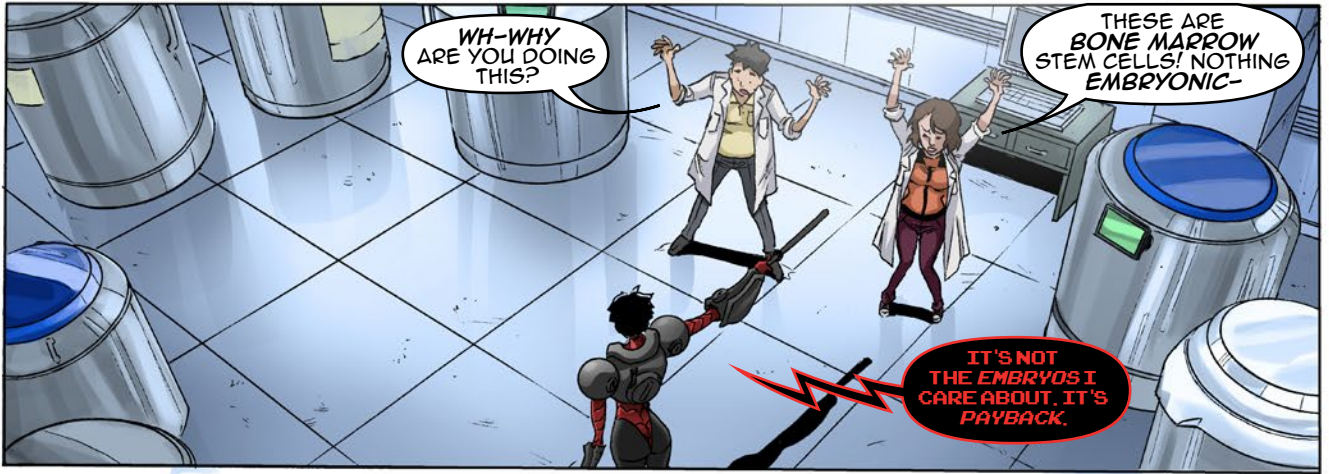


YOUR PORTABLE SUIT IS ONLY LIGHTLY ARMED! I CAN HOLD OFF THE VILLAIN UNTIL YOU CAN GET YOUR MISSILES-

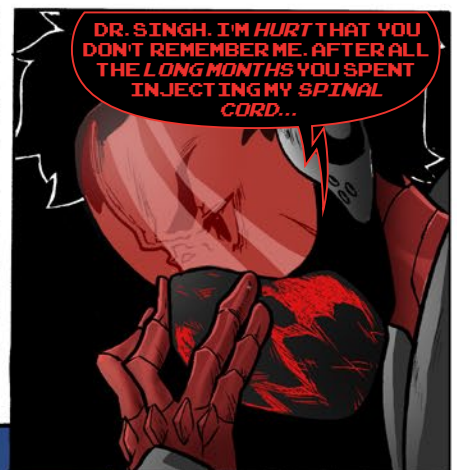
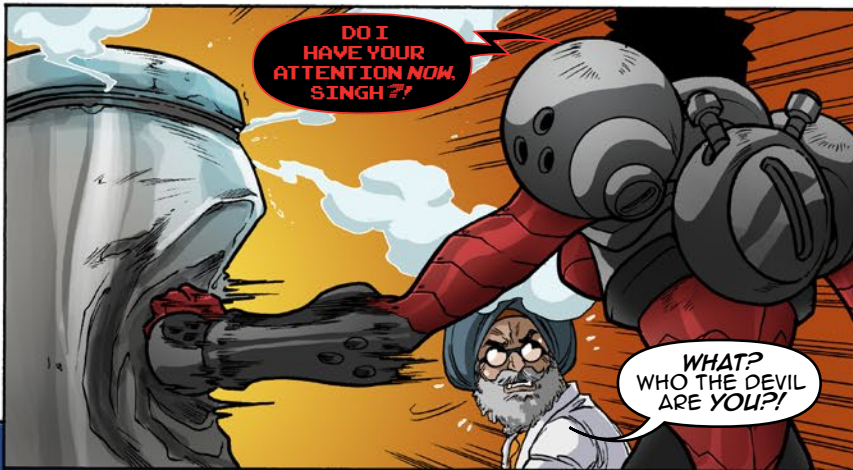
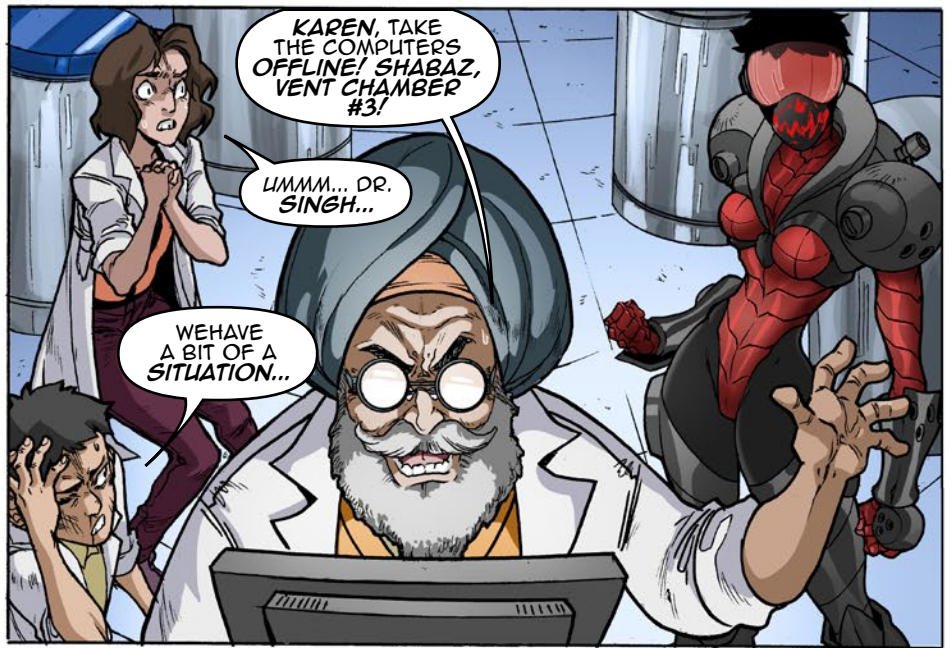
NO. IF SHE KILLS SINGH... THAT'S A DEATH SENTENCE FOR ME, AND EVERY OTHER PATIENT WITH ALS.







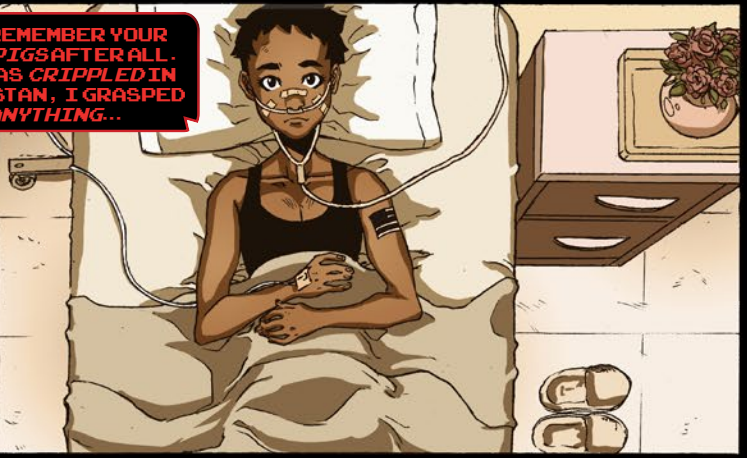








SO YOU REMEMBER YOUR GUINEA PIGS AFTER ALL. WHEN I WAS CRIPPLED IN AFGHANISTAN, I GRASPED AT ANYTHING...

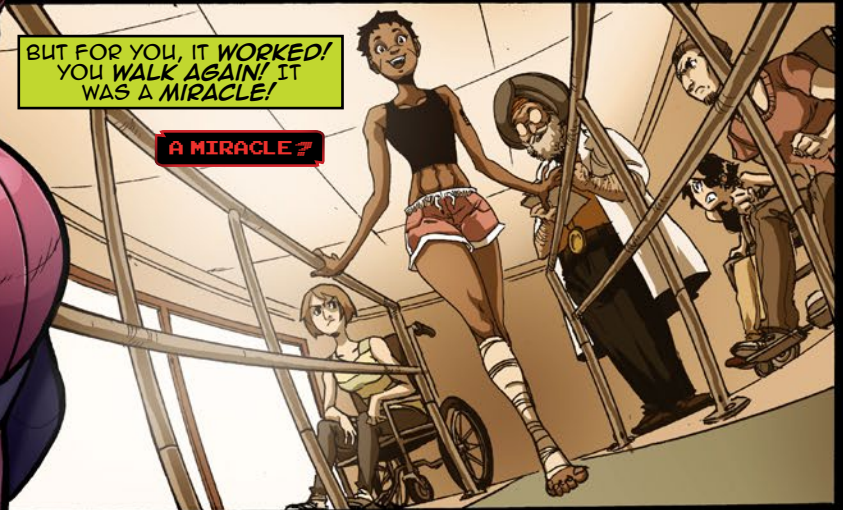


...EVEN YOUR SHODDY RESEARCH, BEFORE IT WAS SHUT DOWN!



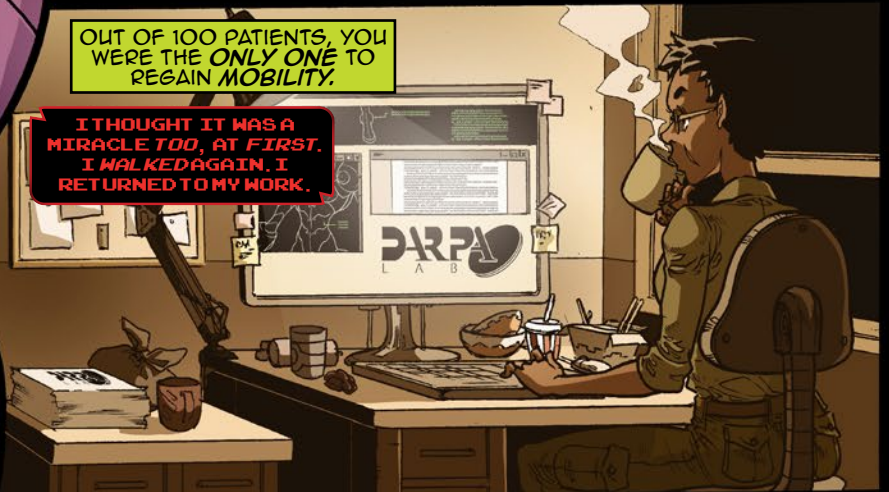
BUT FOR YOU, IT WORKED! YOU WALK AGAIN! IT WAS A MIRACLE!

A MIRACLE?



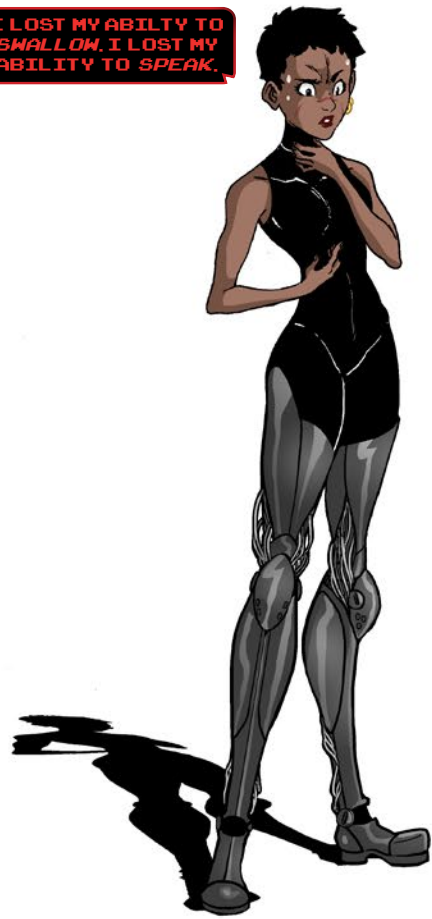
OUT OF 100 PATIENTS, YOU WERE THE ONLY ONE TO REGAIN MOBILITY.

I THOUGHT IT WAS A MIRACLE TOO, AT FIRST. I WALKED AGAIN. I RETURNED TO MY WORK.

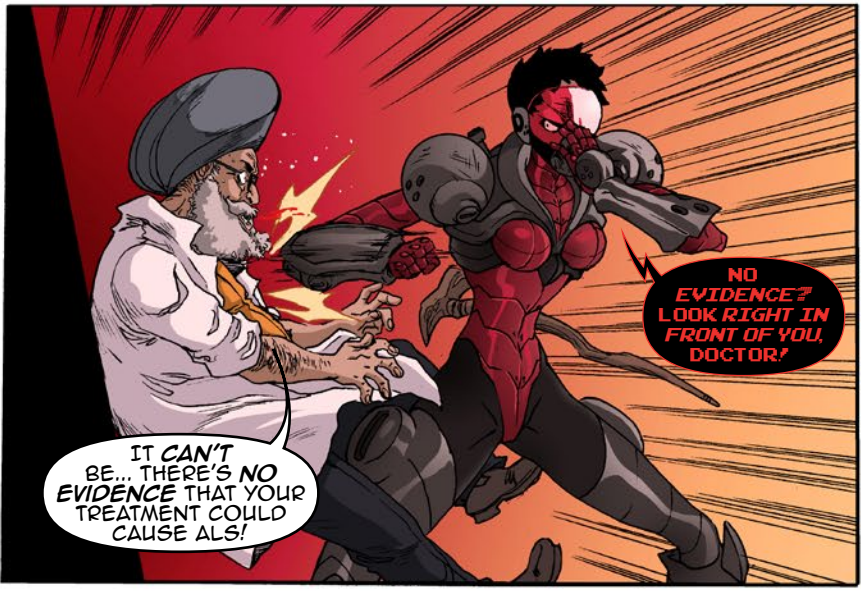




I LOST MY ABILITY TO SWALLOW. I LOST MY ABILITY TO SPEAK.



SOON I COULD NO LONGER EVEN BREATHE. I HAD ALS. AND IT WAS BECAUSE OF YOU.



IT CAN'T BE... THERE'S NO EVIDENCE THAT YOUR TREATMENT COULD CAUSE ALS!

NO EVIDENCE? LOOK RIGHT IN FRONT OF YOU, DOCTOR!



YOU'VE DAMNED ME TO A SLOW, MISERABLE DEATH!



BUT BEFORE I DIE... I'LL MAKE YOU SUFFER AS I'VE SUFFERED.



PLEASE... STOP THIS! WE CAN HELP YOU! OUR THERAPY WORKS!

**KREEEEEEEE!**



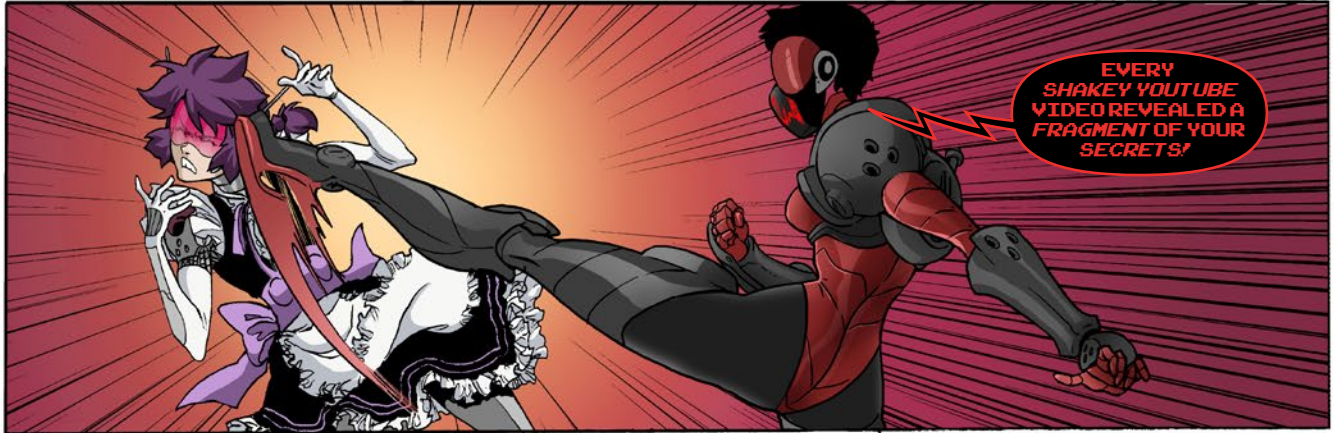


WHAT GIVES YOU THE RIGHT TO DESTROY HOPE FOR SO MANY OTHERS?!

NO ROBOT JOX WANNABE IS GOING TO GET THE BEST OF MECHA MAID AND SPINNERETTE!











**TOO SLOW!**



**GOT YOU! POWER DOWN YOUR SUIT!**

**YOU HAVE ME?**



**YOUR ARMOR IS SUCH A WASTE. YOU DRESS UP LIKE A MAID. LIKE THIS IS A GAME.**



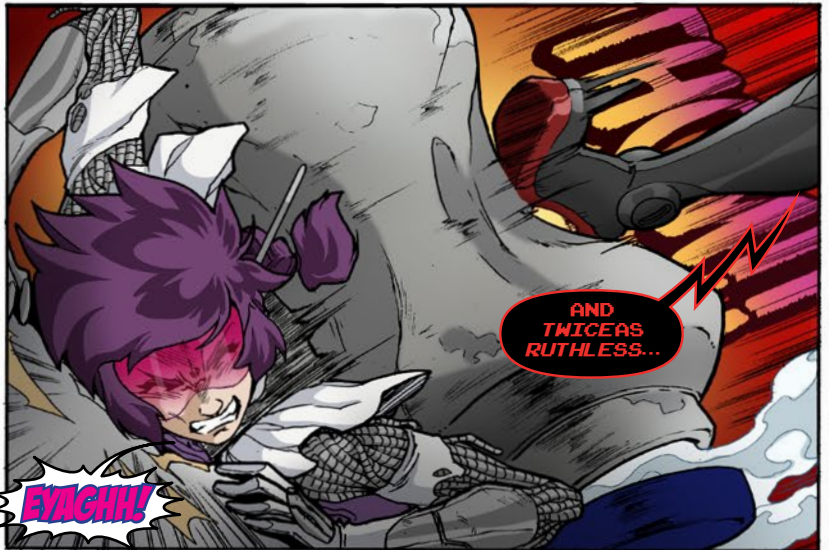
**WARNING! WARNING!**



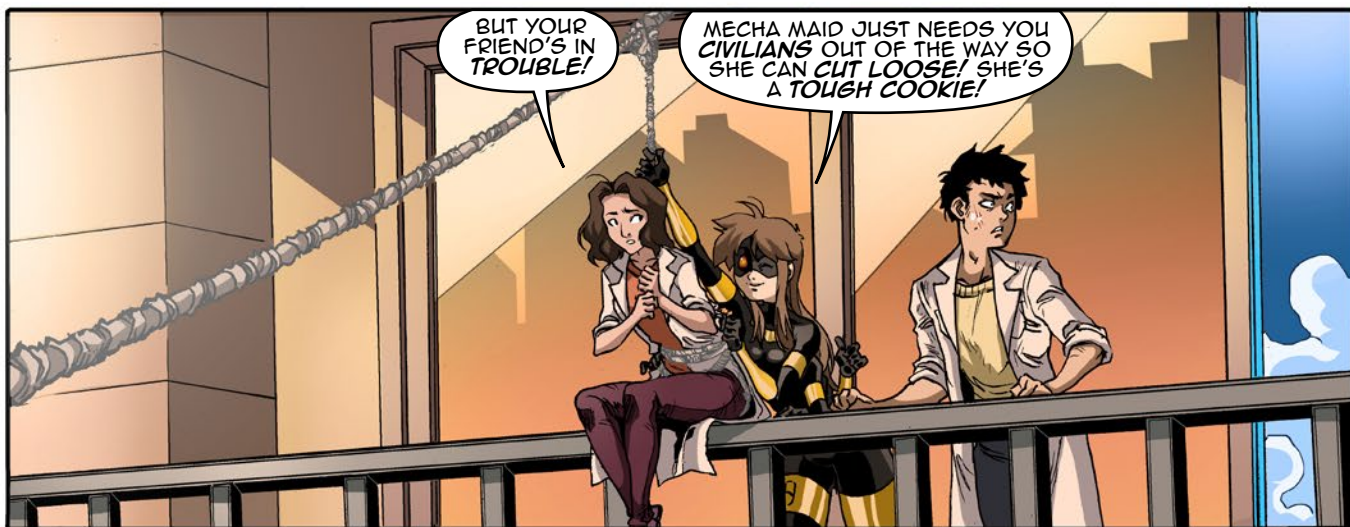
**...WHEN I AM REVENGE INCARNATE!**

**UNGH!!**

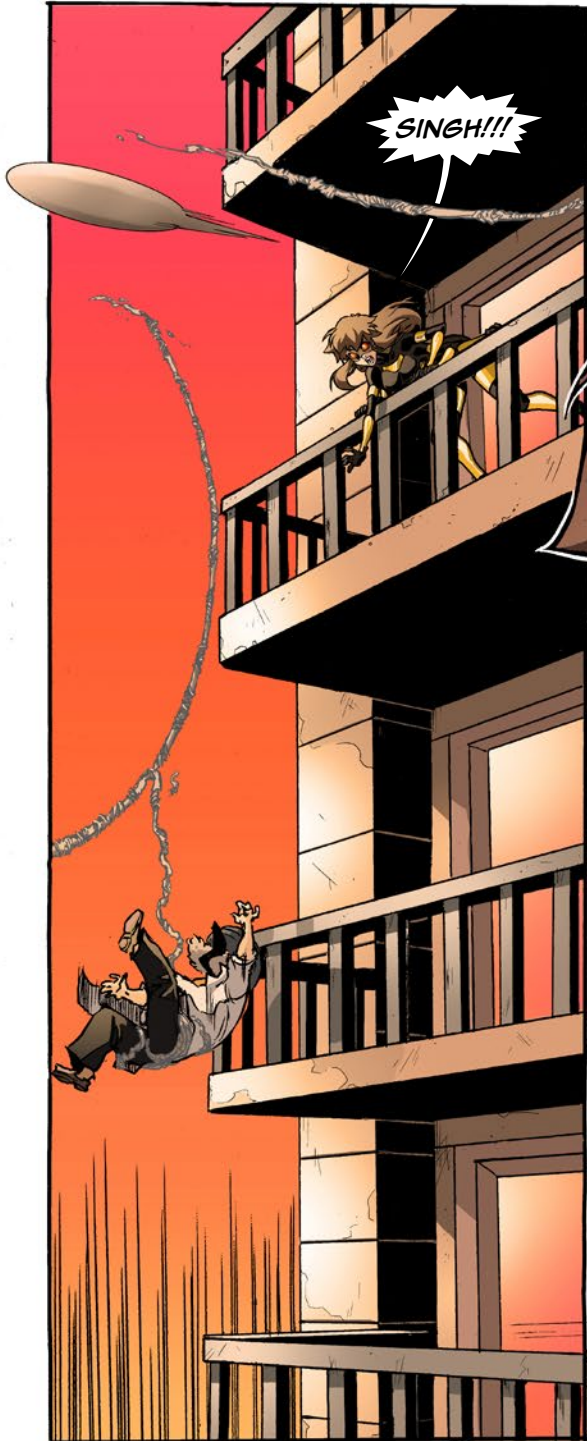










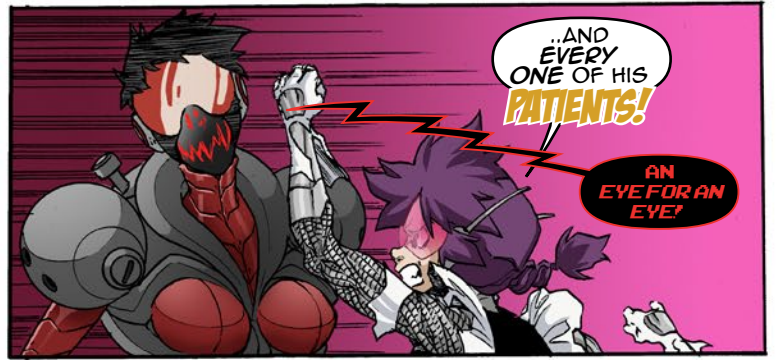


NO... THE CURE...

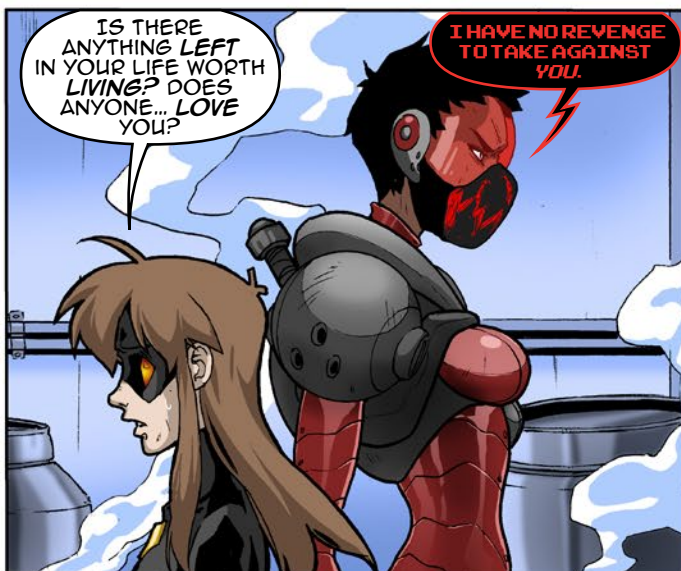


**K-THUD!**

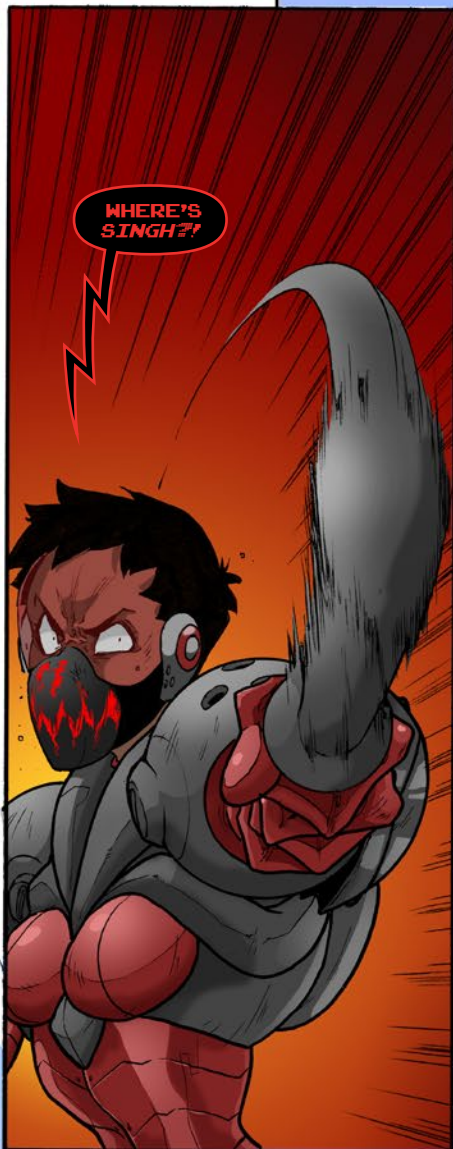
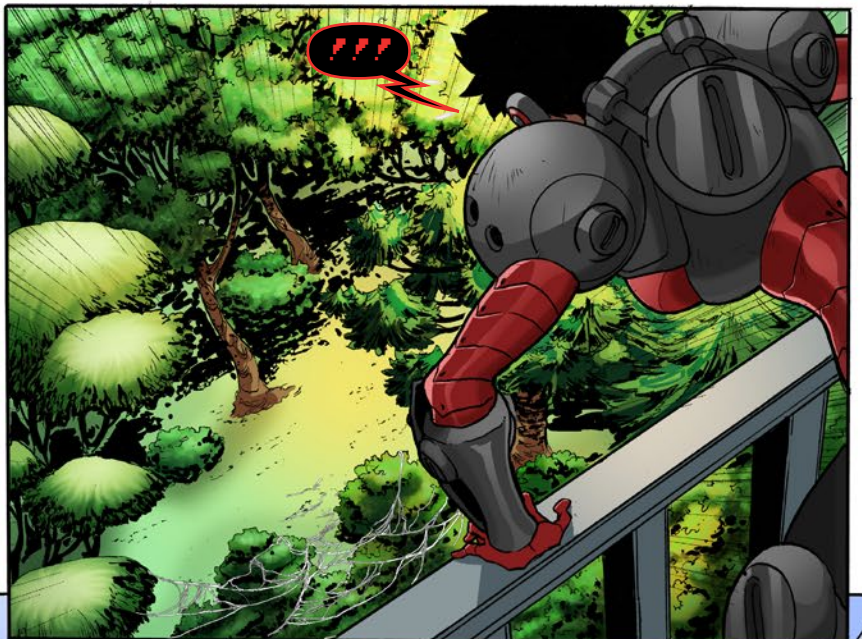




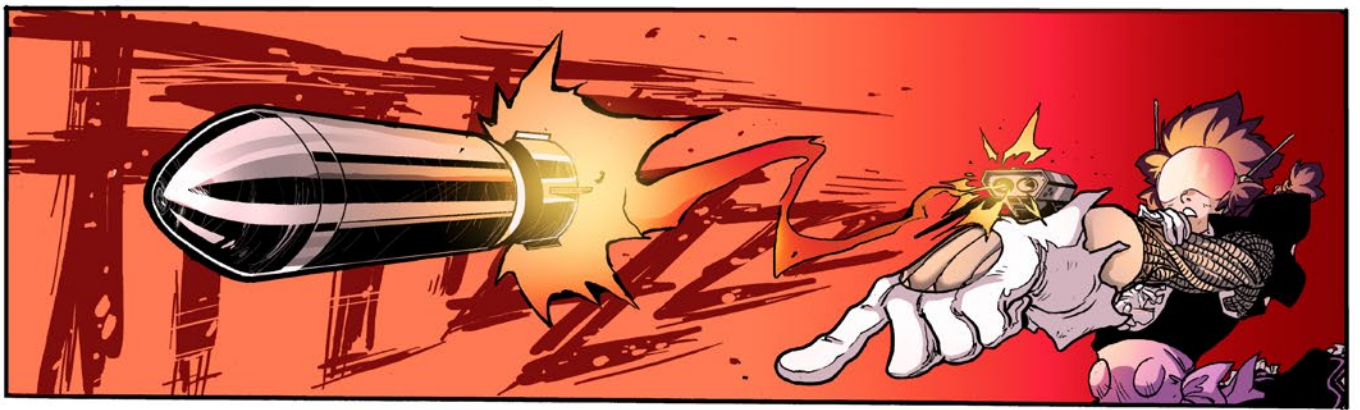








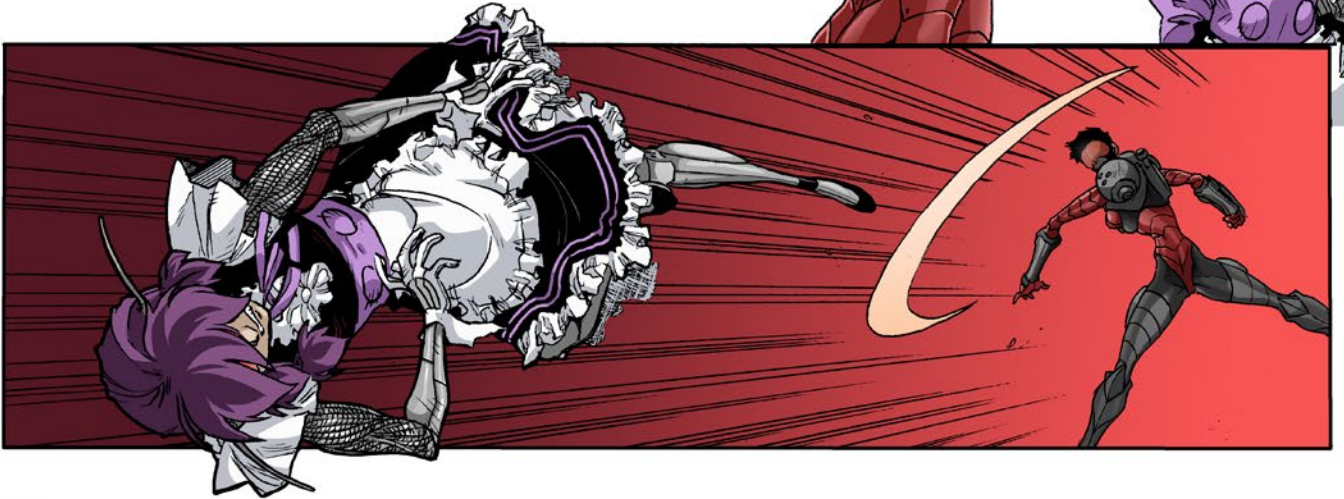
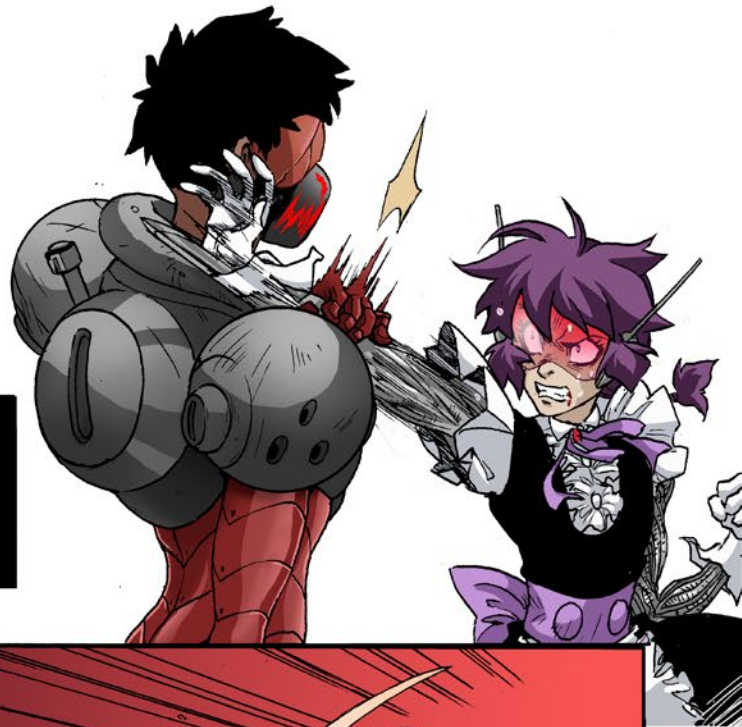
















I HAVE ON LAST TRUMP CARD... MY NNEMP. IT'LL KNOCK OUT HER ELECTRONICS, AND MINE, DRAW HER IN.

BUT WITH HER STRENGTH-



MY RANGE IS ONLY A FEW FEET.

WARN: NNEMP WILL DESTROY ALL ELECTRONICS!



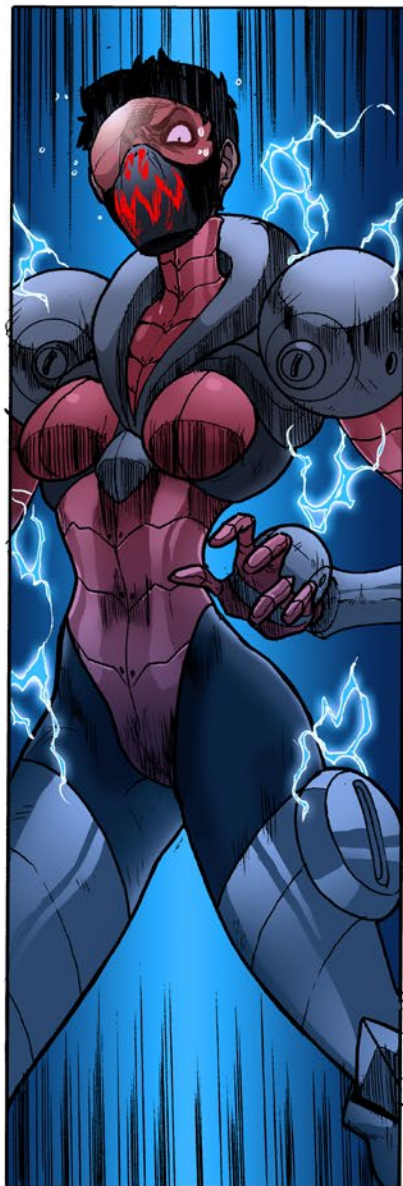
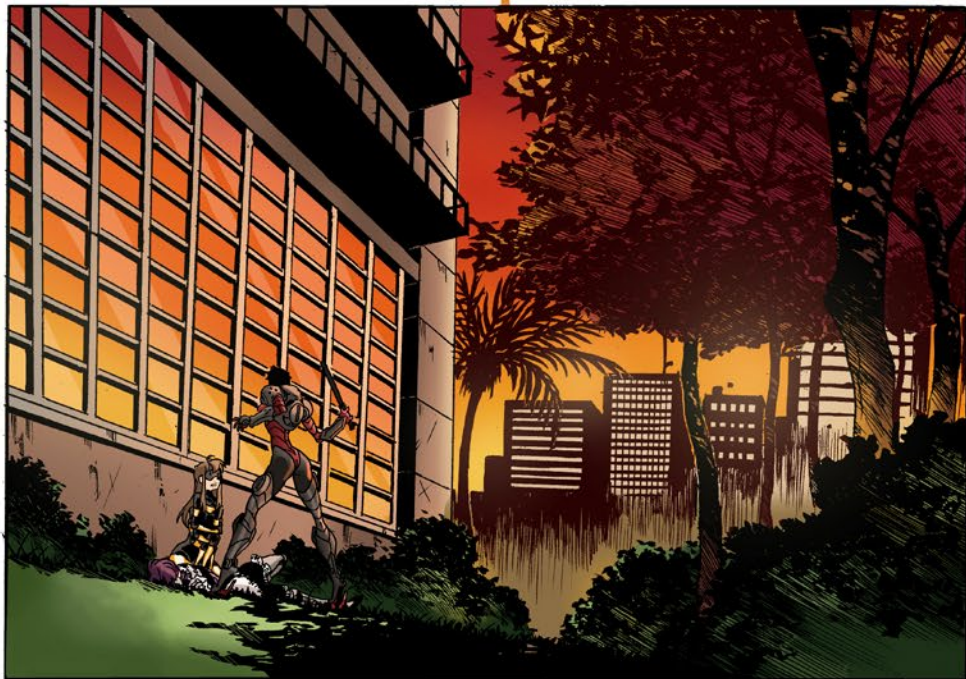
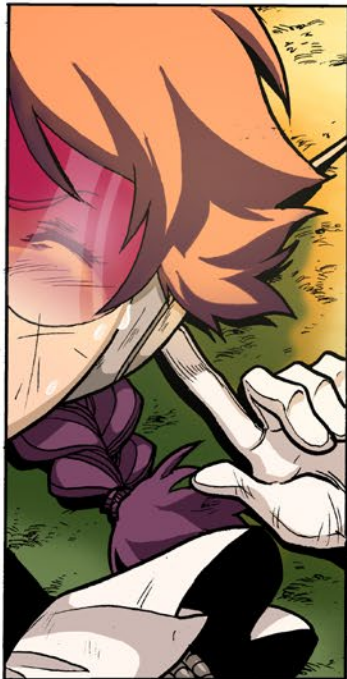
ADRASTEIA... YOU'LL NEVER FIND SINGH. WANT TO KNOW WHY?



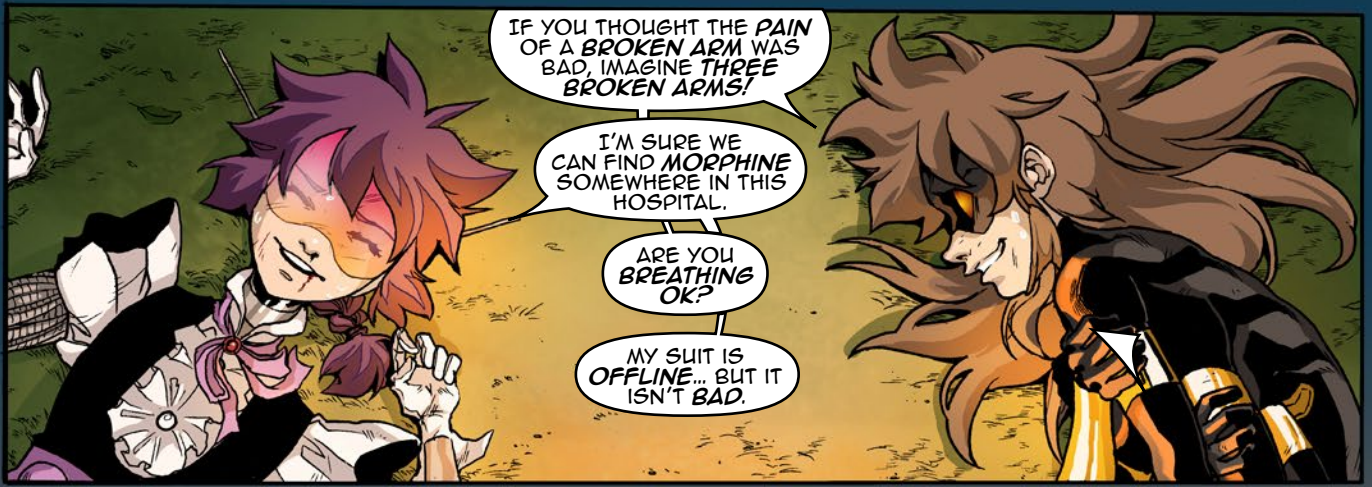
ENLIGHTEN ME, LITTLE GIRL. BEFORE I SMASH THE TEETH OUT OF YOUR SKULL.

...







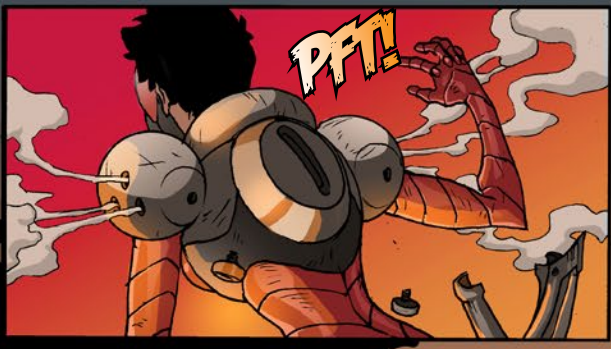


IF YOU THOUGHT THE PAIN OF A *BROKEN ARM* WAS BAD, IMAGINE *THREE BROKEN ARMS!*

I'M SURE WE CAN FIND *MORPHINE* SOMEWHERE IN THIS HOSPITAL.

ARE YOU BREATHING OK?

MY SUIT IS *OFFLINE...* BUT IT ISN'T BAD.

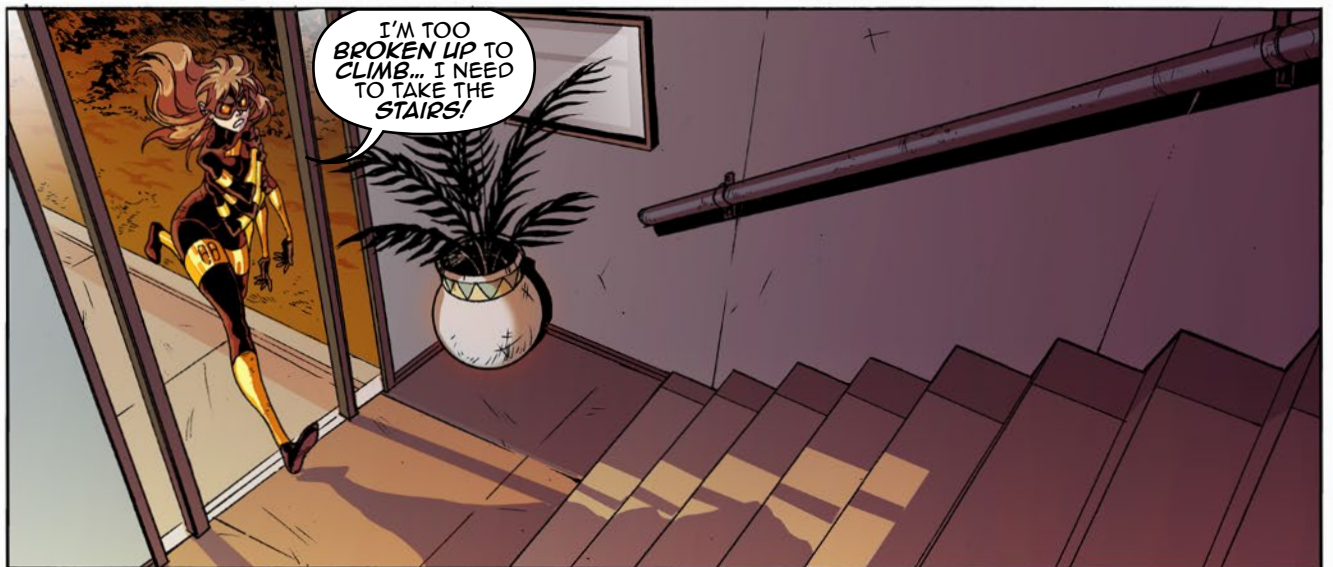
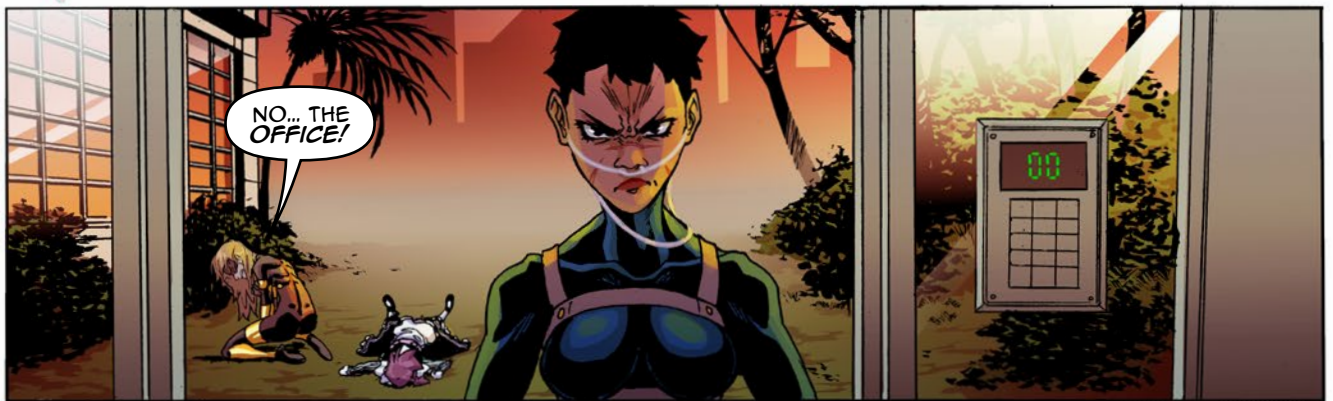


**!!!**  
HOW? HOW? YOU HAVE ALS!!

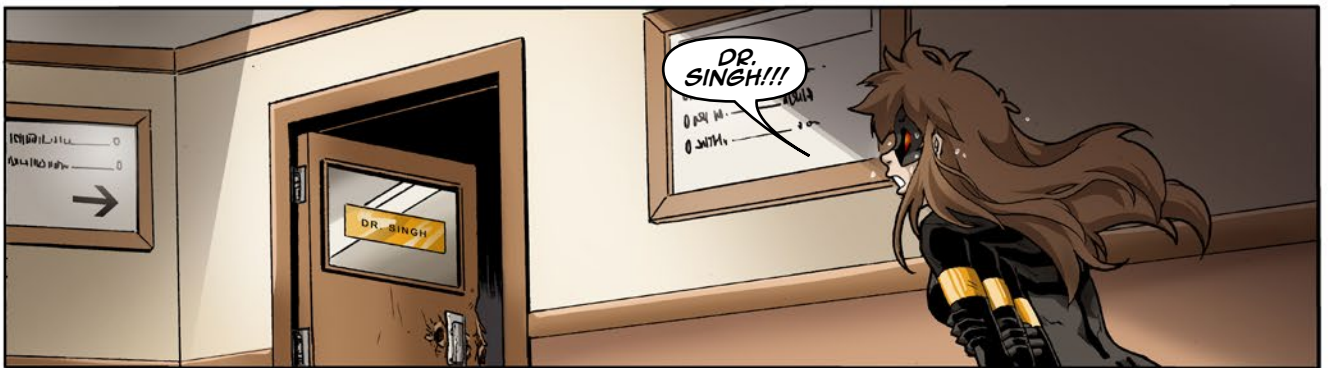


I HAVE *BULBAR ONSET ALS.*











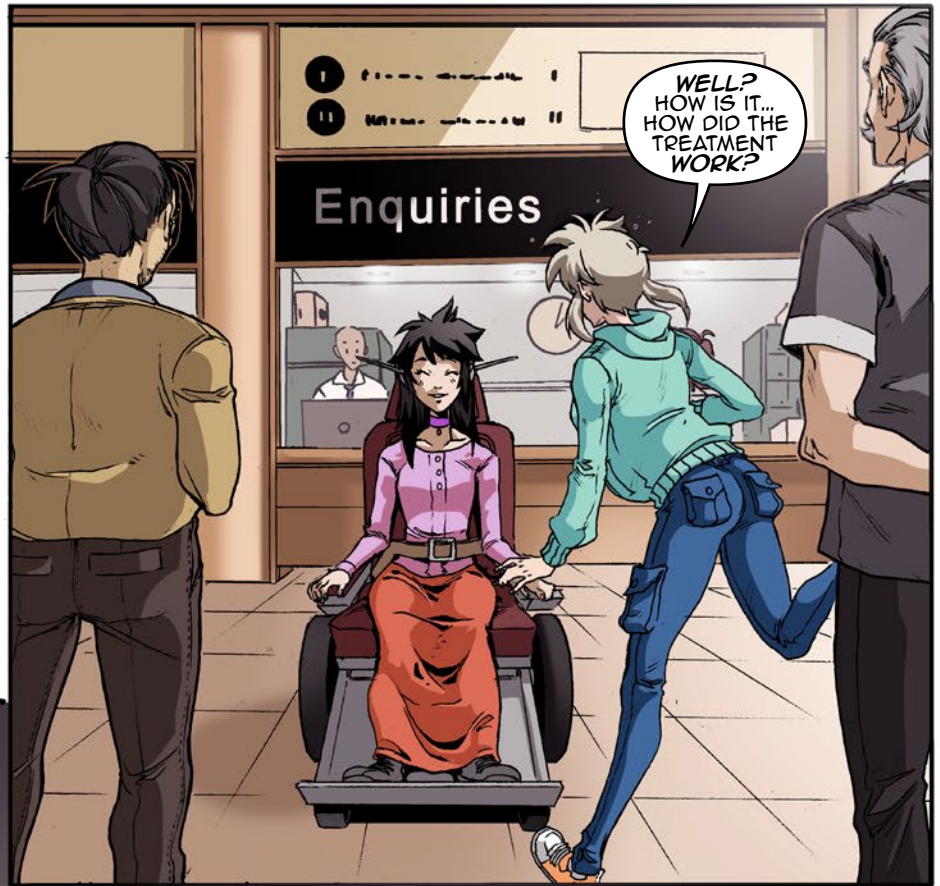
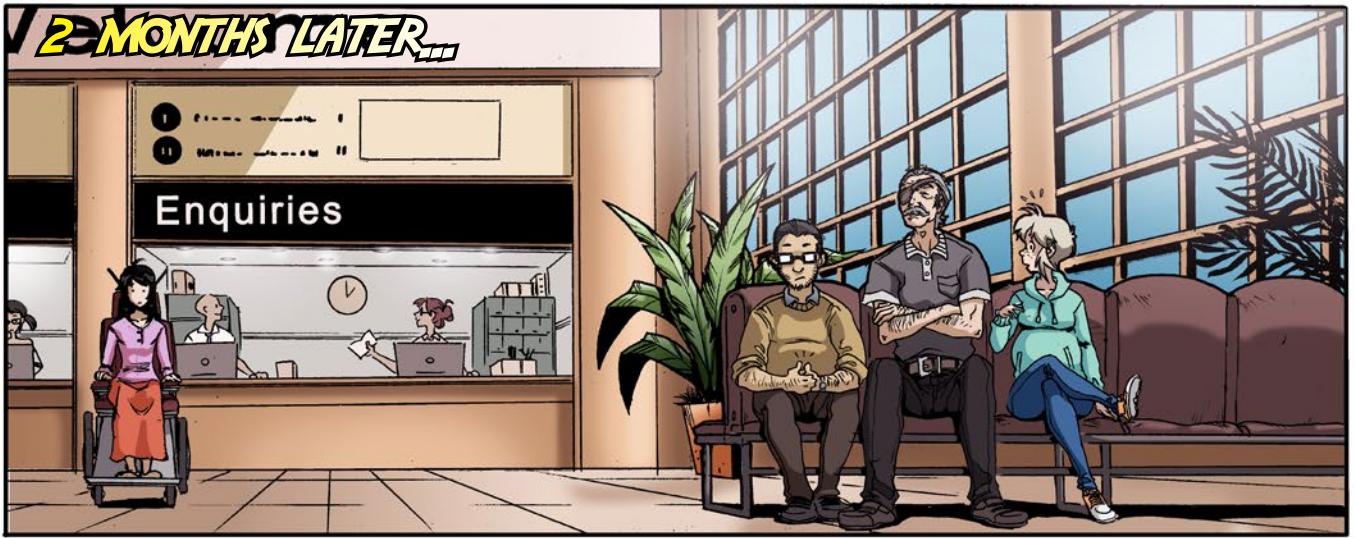


ADRASTEA!!

AND THAT'S A SIXER!

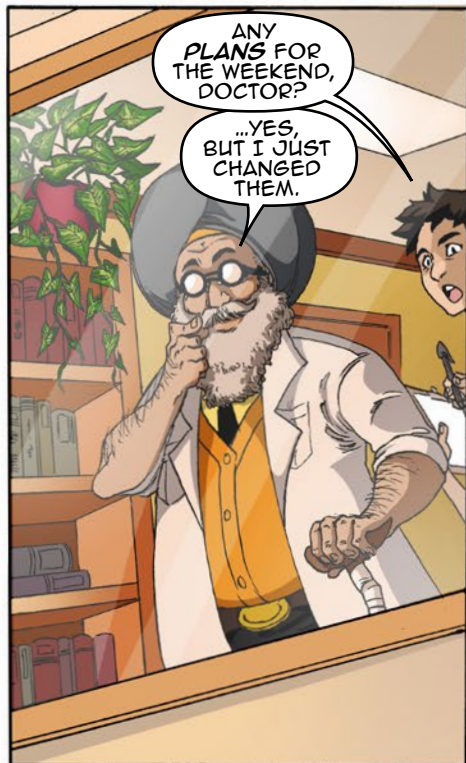
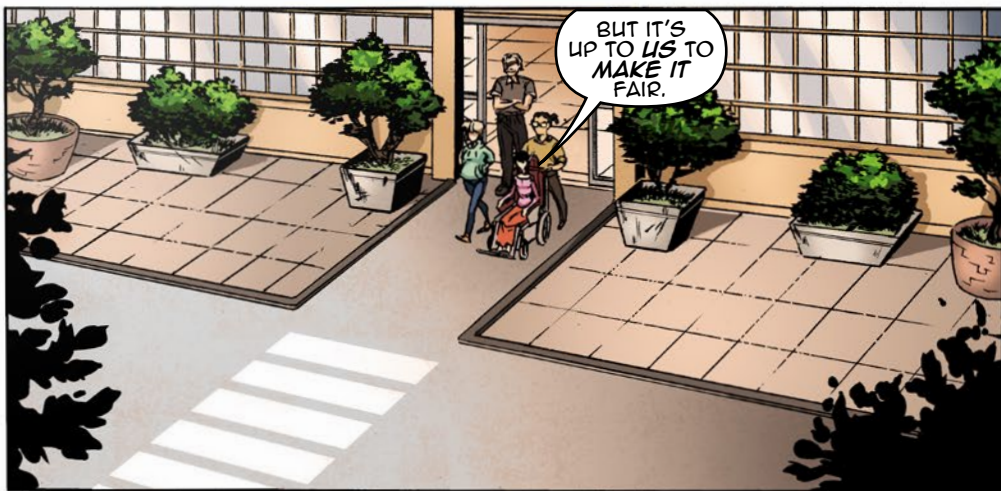
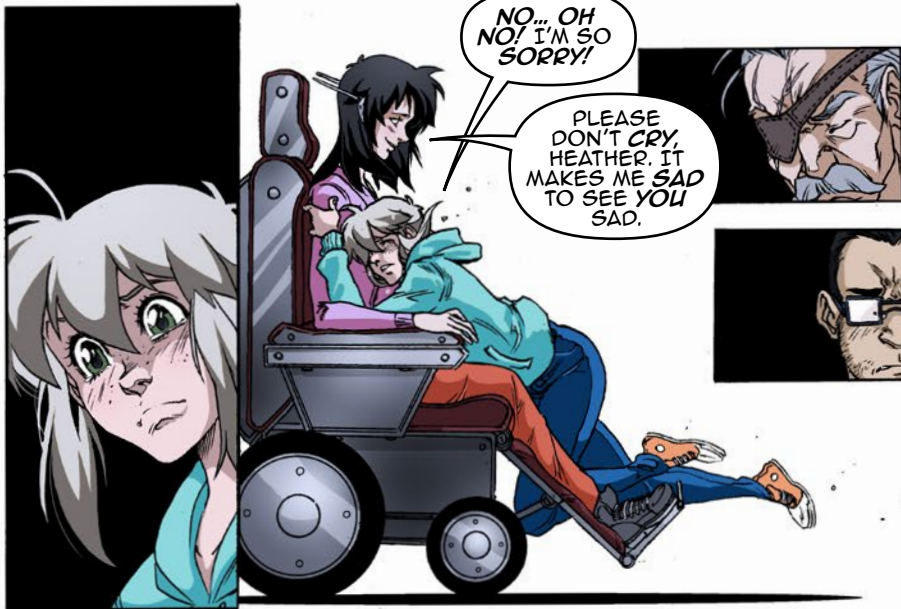






I'M AFRAID I'VE HAD NO IMPROVEMENT. IT SEEMS THAT STEM CELL THERAPY DIDN'T WORK FOR ME.





END