


PRAXIS PRIME.





TYPICALLY,
GEOLOGY IS
NOT A GET-
RICH-QUICK
SCIENCE.



VARNU VAIN'S
THE EXCEPTION
TO THAT RULE.

HE'S GOOD AT
HIS JOB, FROM
WHAT I HEAR.




BUT HE'S
NOT IN IT
FOR THE
LOVE OF
THE GAME.

HE JUST
WANTS TO
FATTEN HIS
ACCOUNTS.



WALKS INTO
THE RAVE PIT
LIKE HE OWNS
THE PLACE.

BUT HE REALLY
JUST RENTS
SPACE.



SAME AS EVERYONE ELSE...

...LEASING A
FEW MOMENTS OF
SELF-IMPORTANCE...

...WHILE WE WAIT FOR THE DEVIL TO COLLECT HIS DUE.

DON'T JUST STAND THERE, VARNU.

THIS IS THE VIP ROOM, SO LET'S ACT LIKE VIPS.



COME IN. CLOSE THE DOOR.

WE WON'T BE ABLE TO HAVE A CIVIL CONVERSATION IF WE'RE YELLING OVER THAT PULSE MUSIC.

YOU...

...YOU MADE A MISTAKE COMING HERE.

ONE WORD FROM ME AND MY BODYGUARDS WILL TEAR YOU APART.

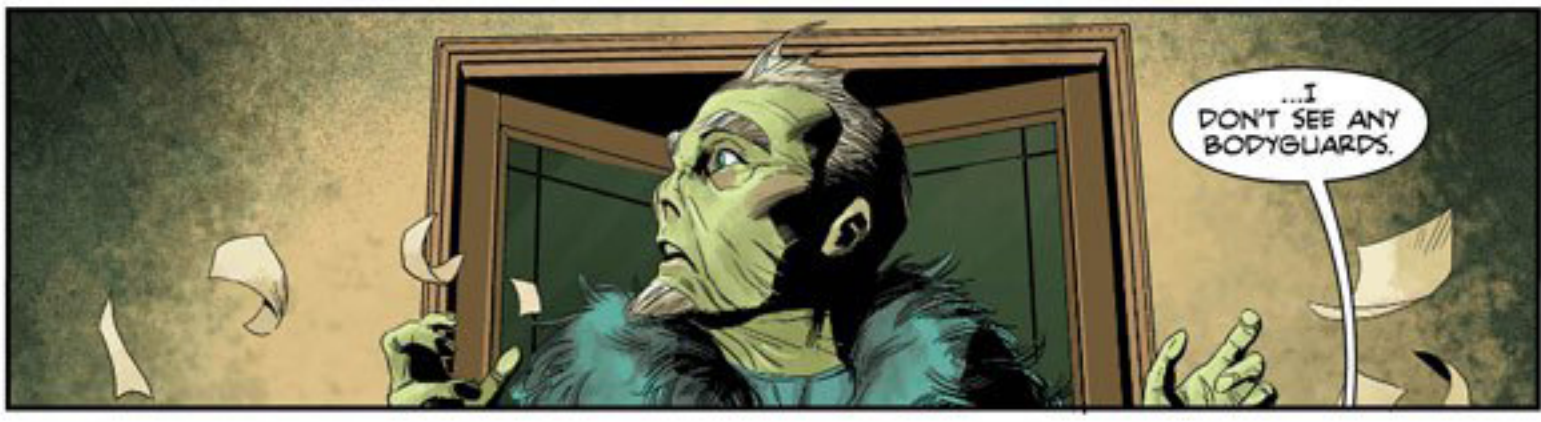


ASK THESE GENTS HOW THAT WORKED OUT FOR THEM.

AND BESIDES...



...I DON'T SEE ANY BODYGUARDS.



YOU GET POINTS FOR EMPLOYING SMART HIRED GUNS.

BUT SMART GUYS RUN WHEN THEY'RE FACED WITH THEIR IMMINENT DEMISE.

JUST AS WELL. GIVES US A LITTLE MORE PRIVACY WHILE WE CHAT.



HE'S GOING TO KILL HIM!

I JUST KNOW IT!

BUT... BUT...

...WE HAVEN'T BEEN PAID YET.

QUIET NOW, LADIES.

WE'LL ATTEND TO YOUR PROFESSIONAL CONCERNS IN A MOMENT.

OF COURSE, IF MY NEW FRIEND HERE ISN'T FORTHCOMING WITH WHAT I WANT TO KNOW...

...YOU MIGHT WANT TO AVERT YOUR EYES TO AVOID ANY PERMANENT MENTAL SCARRING.



L-LOOK... I KNOW WHO YOU ARE. I KNOW WHAT YOU WANT.

BUT THAT'S ALL I KNOW.

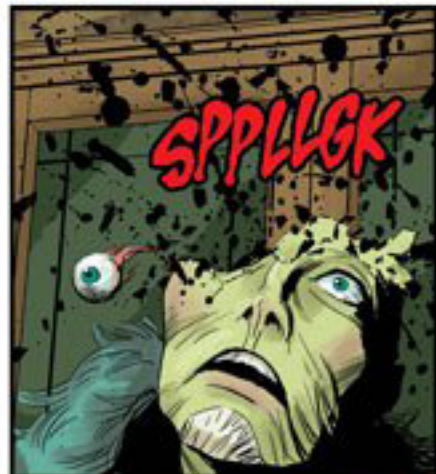
I CAN'T HELP YOU... I SWEAR!

I CONDUCTED GEOLOGICAL STUDIES... OF TERRA... OF CZARNIA...

...BUT THE CONTRACTS COME THROUGH ANONYMOUS CHANNELS. I NEVER KNOW--



SPPLLGK



SHOT CAME FROM BEHIND...

...FROM THE DANCE FLOOR...



