

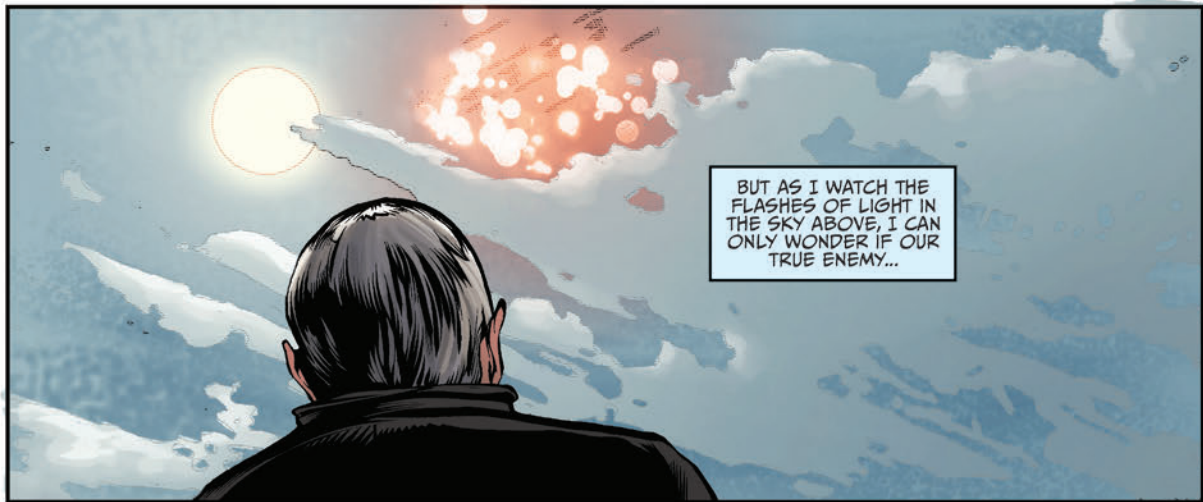


IT HAS ALL
COME DOWN
TO THIS.

WAR IN ORBIT
OVER CETI
ALPHA V.

THE ROMULAN EMPIRE
HAS SENT THEIR FLEET
TO ELIMINATE THE LAST
SURVIVING VULCANS, WHO
SEEK TO BUILD A NEW
HOME ON THIS WORLD.

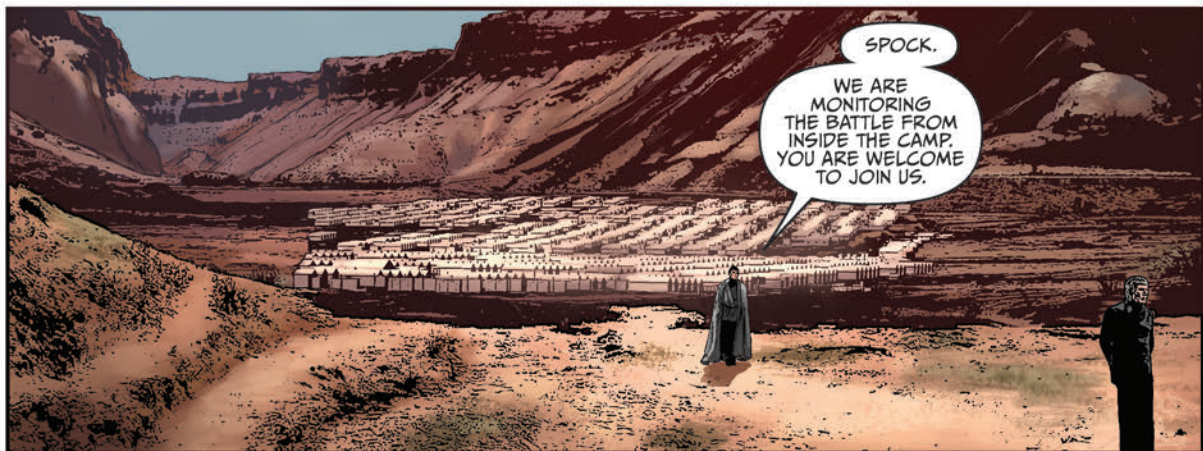
I ARRIVED JUST
IN TIME TO WARN
MY PEOPLE OF
THE THREAT.



BUT AS I WATCH THE FLASHES OF LIGHT IN THE SKY ABOVE, I CAN ONLY WONDER IF OUR TRUE ENEMY...



...IS A *DESTINY* WE CANNOT HOPE TO ESCAPE.



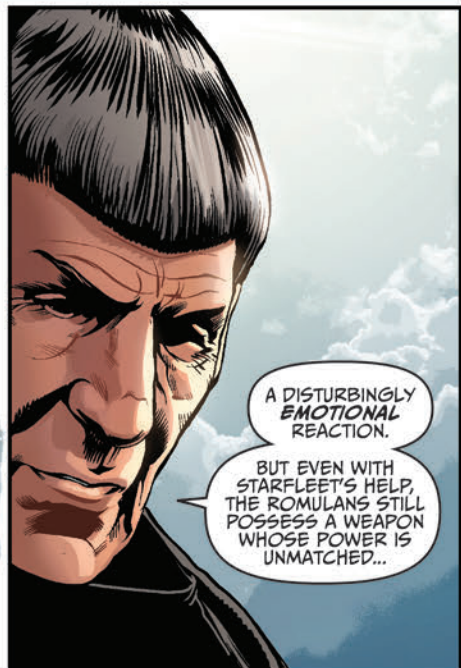
SPOCK.
WE ARE MONITORING THE BATTLE FROM INSIDE THE CAMP. YOU ARE WELCOME TO JOIN US.



THE ELDERS' REFUSAL TO ASK FOR STARFLEET'S HELP IS ILLOGICAL. OUR SHIPS ARE OUTMATCHED, SAREK.

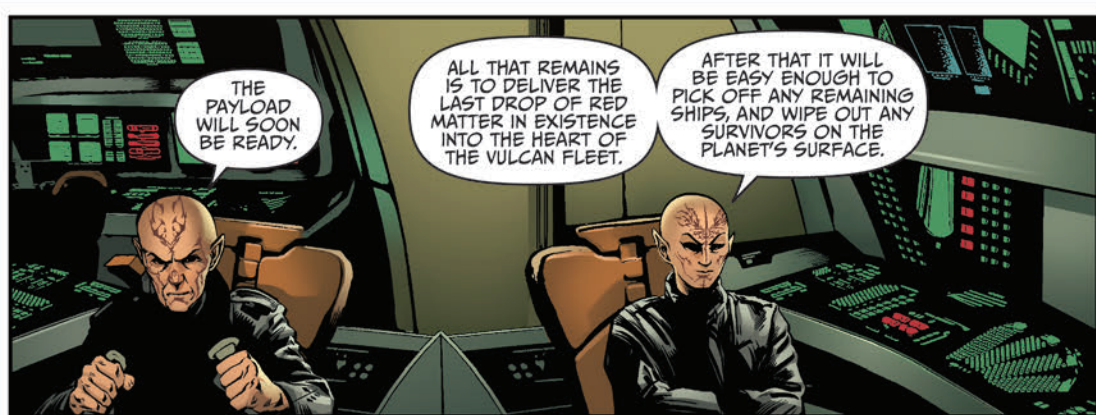
THE ELDERS BELIEVE THAT STARFLEET FAILED US ALREADY, WHEN OUR PLANET WAS DESTROYED.

THEY BELIEVE THAT IT IS OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO ENSURE *OUR OWN* SURVIVAL NOW.



A DISTURBINGLY *EMOTIONAL* REACTION.
BUT EVEN WITH STARFLEET'S HELP, THE ROMULANS STILL POSSESS A WEAPON WHOSE POWER IS UNMATCHED...

"...AS WE KNOW
ALL TOO WELL."



THE
PAYLOAD
WILL SOON
BE READY.

ALL THAT REMAINS
IS TO DELIVER THE
LAST DROP OF RED
MATTER IN EXISTENCE
INTO THE HEART OF
THE VULCAN FLEET.

AFTER THAT IT WILL
BE EASY ENOUGH TO
PICK OFF ANY REMAINING
SHIPS, AND WIPE OUT ANY
SURVIVORS ON THE
PLANET'S SURFACE.



RELLA...WE
HAVE JOURNEYED FAR
TOGETHER. BUT ONLY
ONE OF US NEEDS TO
PILOT THE SHIP UNTIL
DETONATION.

LEAVE ME
TO DO IT.



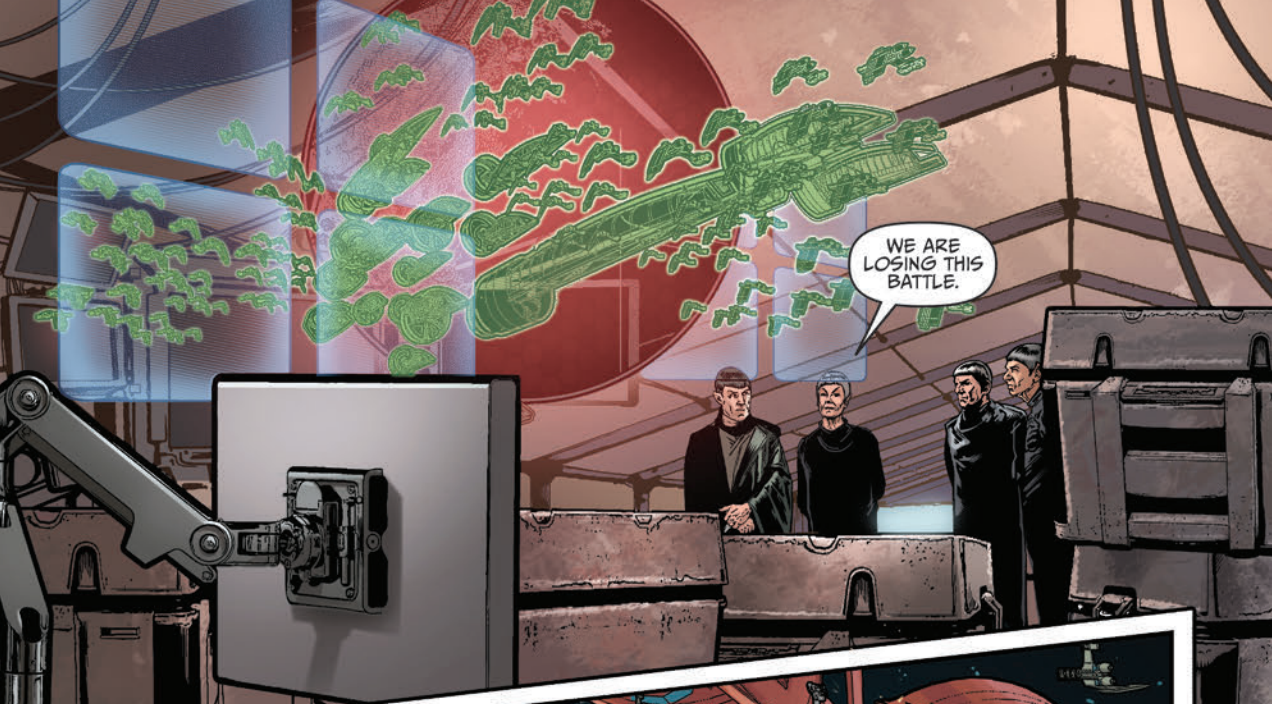
LEAVE YOU? AND
GO WHERE? WE
ARE **STRANGERS**
IN THIS NEW
REALITY.

EVERYONE
WE EVER KNEW IS
DEAD. OUR WIVES,
OUR CHILDREN, OUR
PARENTS, OUR
FRIENDS.

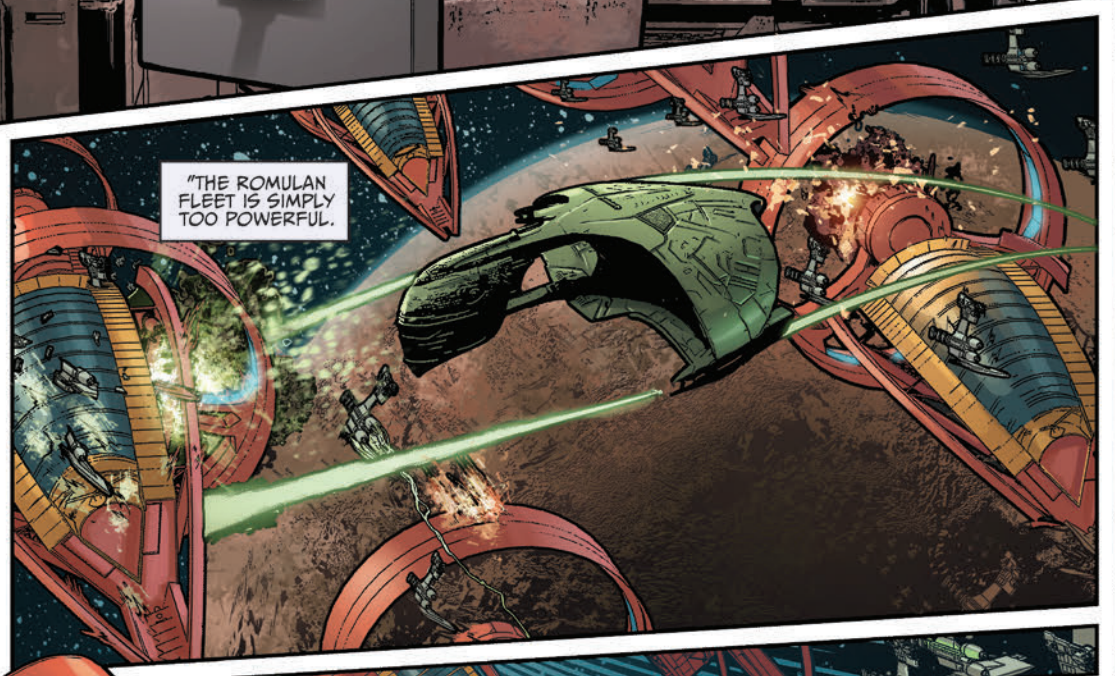
DEAD.



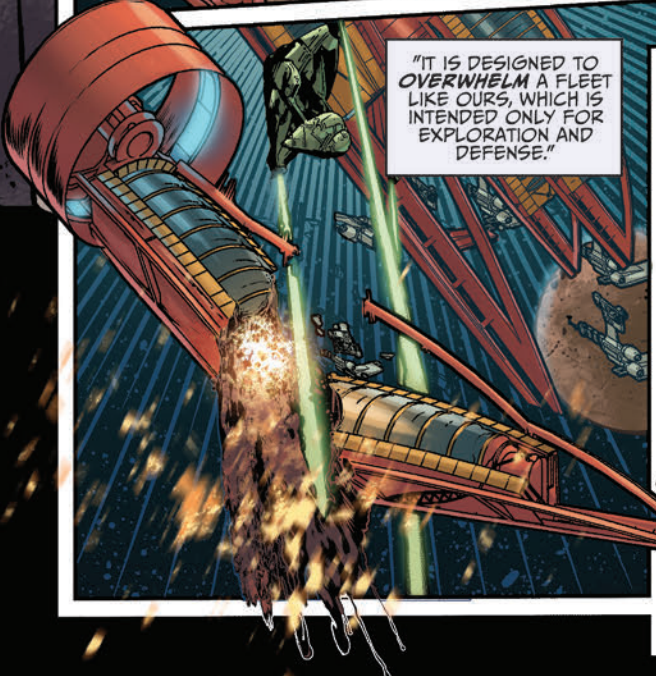
MY
PLACE--MY
HOME--IS
WITH YOU,
NOW.



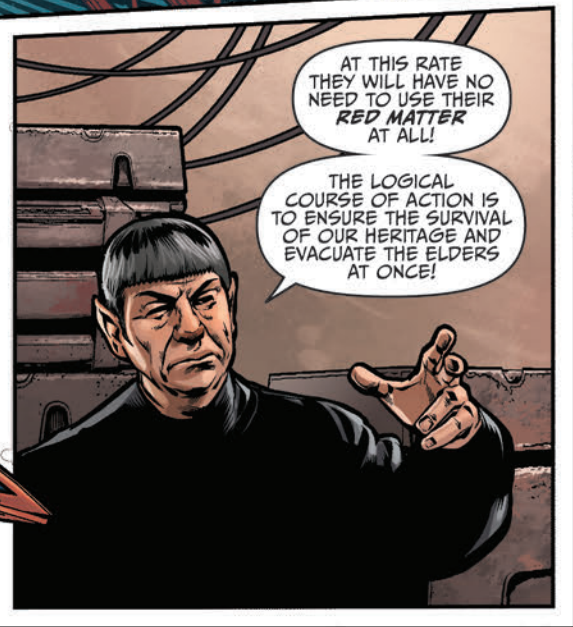
WE ARE LOSING THIS BATTLE.



"THE ROMULAN FLEET IS SIMPLY TOO POWERFUL."



"IT IS DESIGNED TO OVERWHELM A FLEET LIKE OURS, WHICH IS INTENDED ONLY FOR EXPLORATION AND DEFENSE."



AT THIS RATE THEY WILL HAVE NO NEED TO USE THEIR RED MATTER AT ALL!

THE LOGICAL COURSE OF ACTION IS TO ENSURE THE SURVIVAL OF OUR HERITAGE AND EVACUATE THE ELDERS AT ONCE!



ABANDON THE REST OF OUR PEOPLE?

YOUR FEAR OF LOSING YOUR OWN LIFE IS UNBECOMING OF YOUR STATION.



ELDER T'PAH! WE HAVE DETECTED A NEW SHIP IN ORBIT!

THEY ARE HAILING US!

--ZZKKT--ULCAN COMMAND, THIS IS--ZZTK



MODULATING THE FREQUENCY NOW! GO AHEAD--

WE HEAR YOU LOUD AND CLEAR.

DO ME A FAVOR, WOULD YOU?



ASK AMBASSADOR SPOCK WHY HE LEFT WITHOUT SAYING GOODBYE.

OH, AND TO USE AN OLD EARTH EXPRESSION--