

ISSUE #3

STEINBERG

CHAMPION OF EARTH

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HEY,
EARTH.

CHAPTER 4:

THAT THING YOU DO



SO, UH, LOOK, I GUESS I HAVE TO, YOU KNOW, SAVE YOU FROM DESTRUCTION OR WHATEVER.

AND UH...

I DON'T KNOW IF I CAN DO IT...

I MEAN, LOOK... I'LL TRY, Y'KNOW?

I'LL DEFINITELY TRY.



I HOPE THAT'S GOOD ENOUGH.

I'M SORRY, STEINBERG-JEFF.

IT IS NOT.



OH, HEY... UH... FLOATING HEAD GUY.

CALL ME CAPTAIN DAVE.

HEY, CAPTAIN DAVE.



I KNOW THE TASK SEEMS DAUNTING, JEFF.

BUT, YOU WERE CHOSEN FOR A REASON.

IT MAY SEEM LIKE HAPPENSTANCE TO YOU, BUT, WE'VE BEEN DOING THIS FOR A LONG TIME, AND WE KNOW WHAT WE'RE DOING.



LOOK, MAN, MAYBE YOU SHOULD RUN IT AGAIN...

I CAN'T BE HUMANITY'S LAST HOPE...

I'M JUST NOT... CAPABLE.



AH YES, SELF-DOUBT, THE LEAST CHARMING TRAIT OF ALL TRUE HEROES.

THIS DOUBT IS WHAT MAKES YOU STRONGER AND MORE COURAGEOUS.

ALSO MUCH MORE RELATABLE TO AN AUDIENCE.

Huh?



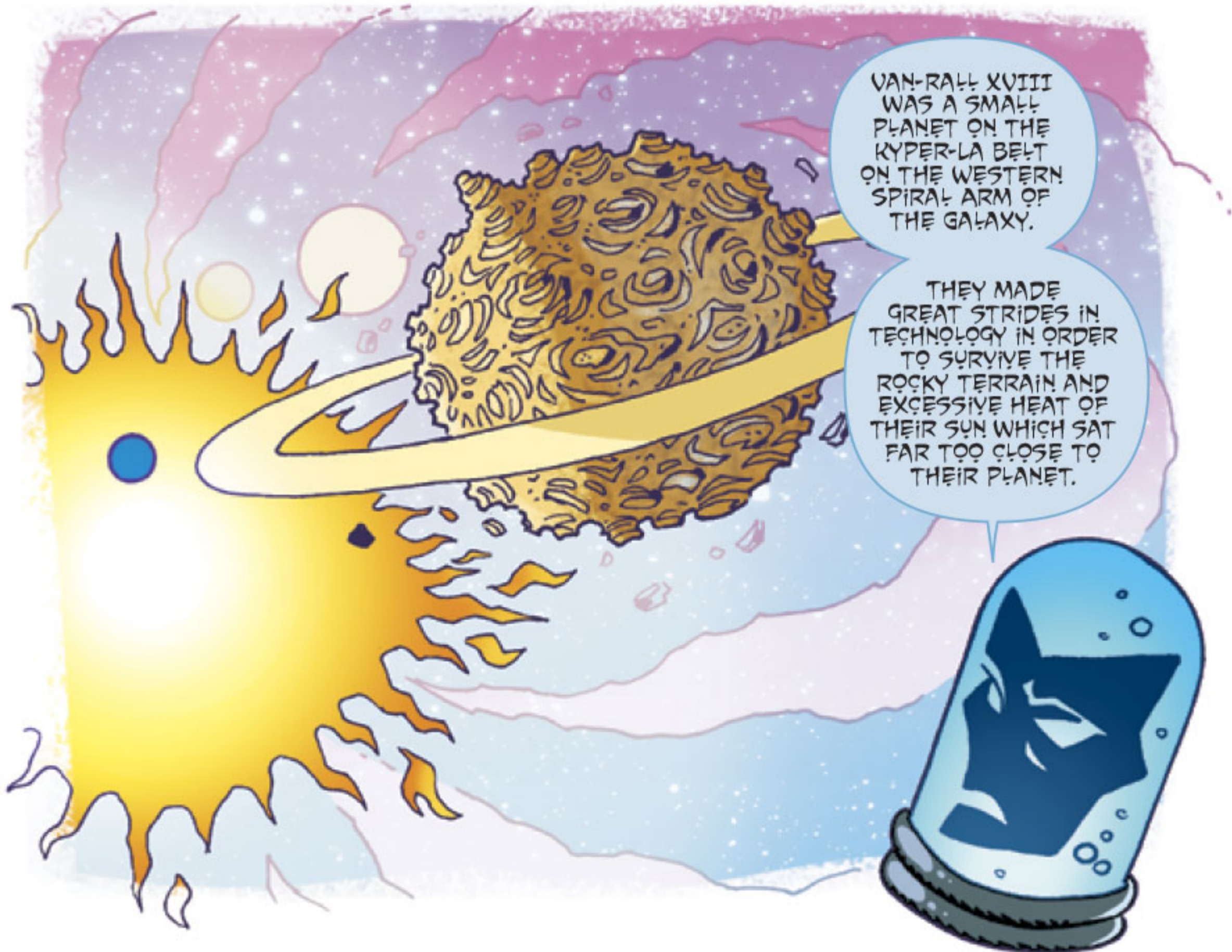
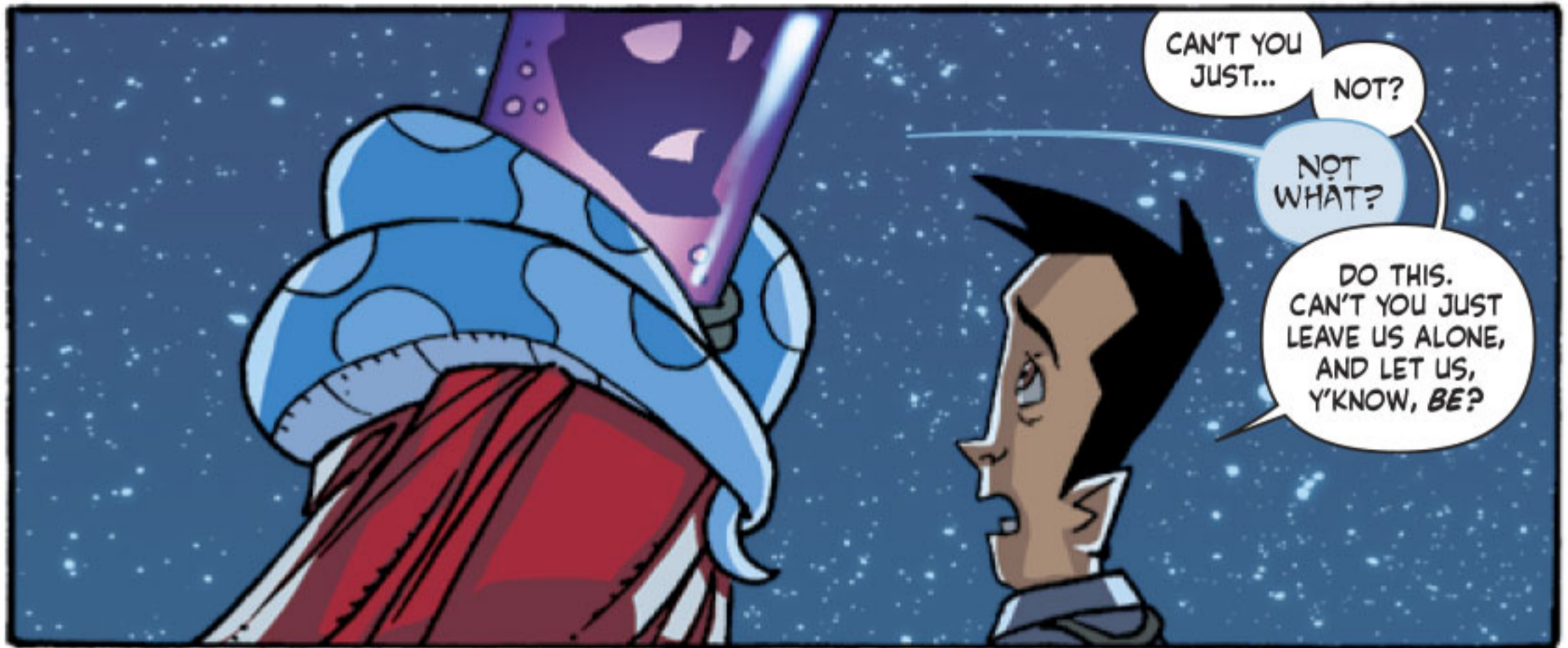
THERE IS A SAYING ON MY PLANET...

THE HERO YOU GET IS NOT THE HERO YOU WANT, BUT RATHER THE GUY WHO WAS TOO STUPID TO RUN AWAY.

THAT STUPID, STUPID GUY IS YOU, JEFF.



...





THEY BUILT A SLAVE CLASS OF THOSE WITH THICK ROCK HIDES WHO COULD WORK UNPROTECTED ON THE PLANET'S SURFACE...

"WHILE THOSE DEEMED THE THINKERS, AND THEREFORE THE 'VALUABLE' LAY UNDERGROUND IN HIDING AND IN GREAT COMFORT.



"THEY LEFT THEIR PLANET AND MADE CONTACT WITH ANOTHER SPECIES BEFORE WE WERE EVEN AWARE OF THEIR EVOLUTION.

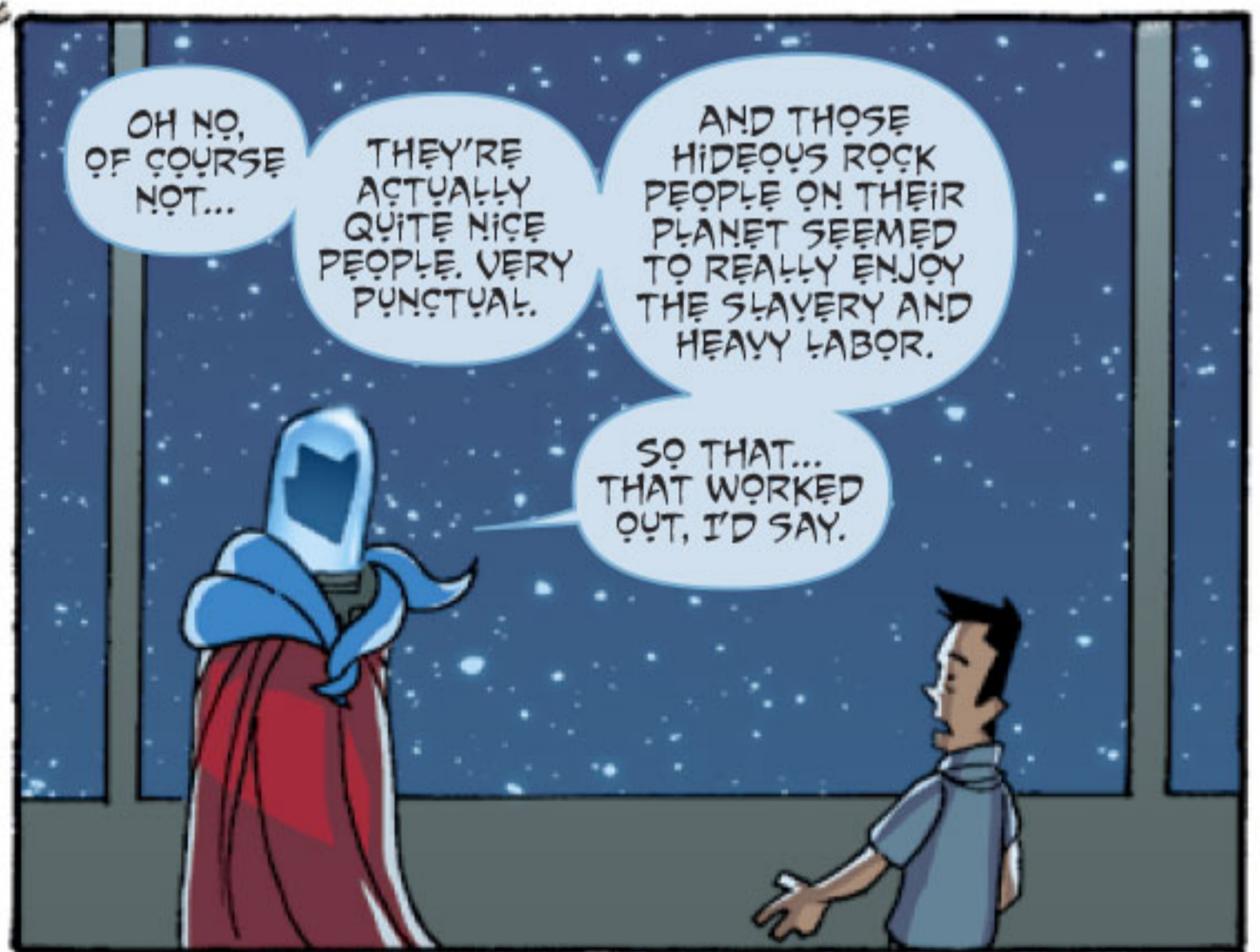


AND SO YOU SEE, JEFF, ONLY BY TAKING PRE-EMPTIVE ACTION CAN WE PREVENT--

PREVENT WHAT?

WHAT DID THEY DO?

DID THEY ENSLAVE THE OTHER SPECIES... OR... BLOW UP PLANETS OR...



OH NO, OF COURSE NOT...

THEY'RE ACTUALLY QUITE NICE PEOPLE. VERY PUNCTUAL.

AND THOSE HIDEOUS ROCK PEOPLE ON THEIR PLANET SEEMED TO REALLY ENJOY THE SLAVERY AND HEAVY LABOR.

SO THAT... THAT WORKED OUT, I'D SAY.



BUT...
HOW...

YOU WILL DO YOUR SPECIES PROUD, I'M SURE.

TRAIN HARD. I HAVE THE UTMOST FAITH IN YOU.



UNDER TWENTY-THREE HOURS REMAIN, JEFF STEINBERG.

USE THEM WISELY.



I WILL.