

THE LANDSCAPE OF STAR CITY--THE FIRST CORPORATE-OWNED AND SO-CALLED **SMART CITY**--HAS DRAMATICALLY CHANGED OVER THE PAST FEW MONTHS.

HISTORIC AND INDUSTRIAL AREAS HAVE BEEN **RAZED**, WHILE **LUXURY** CONSTRUCTION HAS **RISEN**.

THE LOWER AND MIDDLE CLASS HAS ALL BUT **VANISHED**.



KOMA NEWS 2

ASSAULT ON BIG RED, BELOVED LANDMARK

AND NOW ONE OF THE **BIGGEST, OLDEST TREES** IN THE CITY--A PINE NICKNAMED **BIG RED**--IS ABOUT TO VANISH, TOO.

THE ONE-TIME PUBLIC PARK WHERE IT IS ROOTED HAS BEEN AUCTIONED OFF FOR **DEVELOPMENT**.

BUT A MAN CALLING HIMSELF **SAWMILL** ISN'T HAPPY ABOUT IT.

HE CLAIMS THE TREE IS A TOTEM OF WHAT THIS CITY **USED** TO BE, THE LAST BASTION OF SEATTLE...

AND IF **BIG RED'S** GOING DOWN...

...THIS BASTARD **REAL ESTATE DEVELOPER** IS GOING DOWN WITH IT!

PLEASE! SOMEBODY--HELP!





IS THAT--?
HE'S BACK!!!

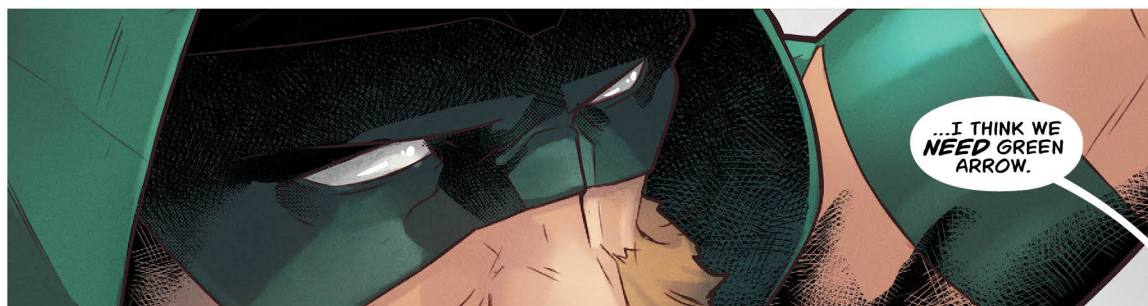
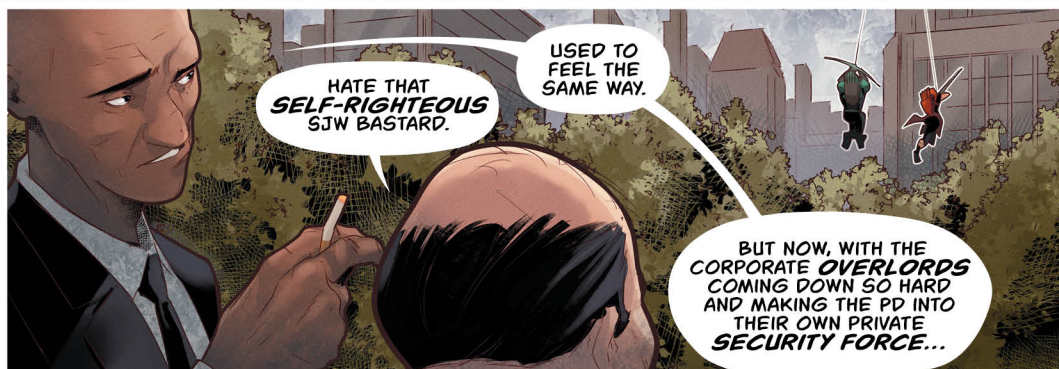
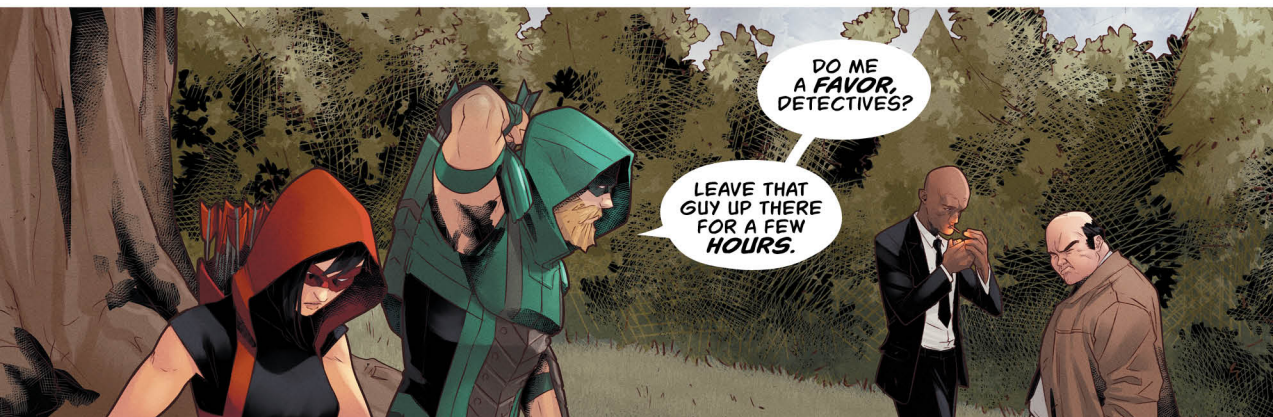
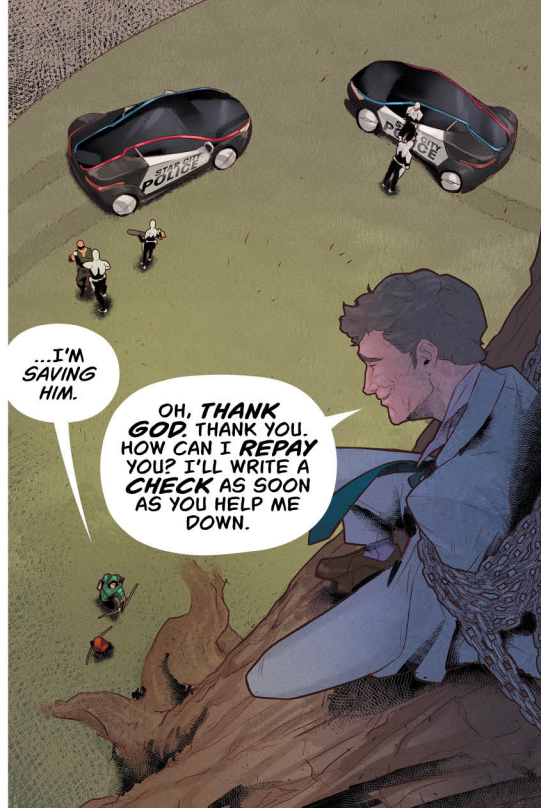


GREEN
ARROW!!!

IT'S SO
GOOD TO HAVE
YOU HOME,
BIG BRO.

EXCEPT
THAT THIS
DOESN'T FEEL
LIKE *HOME*,
EMI.





STAR TOWER.
STAR CITY.

I...
UNDERSTAND
THAT YOU ARE
DISAPPOINTED.

THAT IS AN
UNDERSTATEMENT,
MOIRA QUEEN.

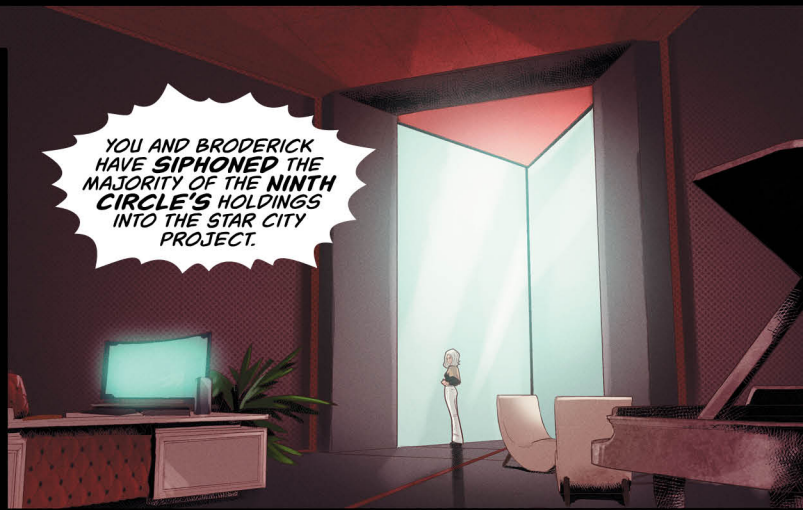
YOU PROMISED
IT WOULD GO
NATIONWIDE, A DARK
CONSTELLATION OF
CORPORATE CITIES.

YOU PROMISED
A HUNDRED-FOLD
RETURN ON OUR
INVESTMENT.

WE NEED TO
INVEST IN ANOTHER.
WE CAN'T CONTROL THE
POLITICIANS, MILITARY
AND BUSINESS LEADERS
WE NEED ON OUR
SIDE **WITHOUT** THEIR
VULNERABLE
DATA.

THE BOARD
IS COMPRISED
OF SOME OF THE
GREATEST CRIMINALS
IN THE WORLD.

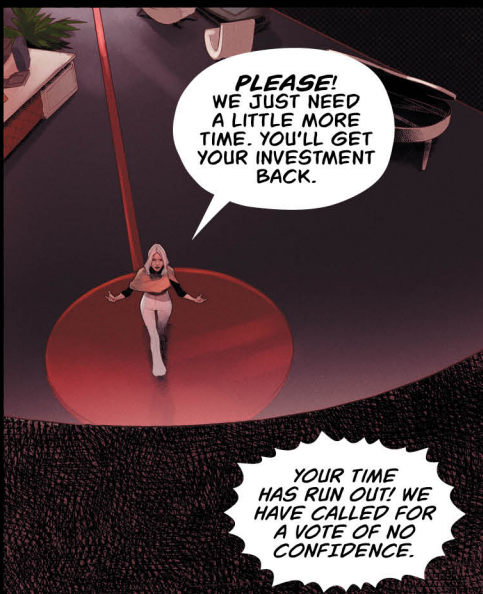
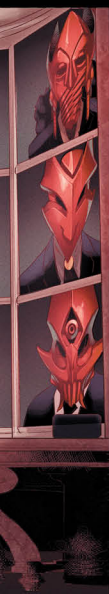
DO YOU THINK WE
DON'T HAVE OUR OWN
PLANS? OUR OWN
PRESSING NEEDS FOR
RESOURCES?



YOU AND BRODERICK
HAVE **SIPHONED** THE
MAJORITY OF THE **NINTH
CIRCLE'S** HOLDINGS
INTO THE STAR CITY
PROJECT.



WE RAN INTO
SOME...UNEXPECTED
ROADBLOCKS. THE
SATELLITE WAS
DESTROYED.



PLEASE!
WE JUST NEED
A LITTLE MORE
TIME. YOU'LL GET
YOUR INVESTMENT
BACK.

YOUR TIME
HAS RUN OUT! WE
HAVE CALLED FOR
A VOTE OF NO
CONFIDENCE.



YOU AND
BRODERICK ARE
FINISHED.

AND THE
NINTH CIRCLE
ALWAYS
COLLECTS ITS
DUES.