

LATER.

PRETTY COZY LITTLE PLACE WE'VE GOT HERE.

IT'S SAFE, THAT'S ALL THAT MATTERS.

WHAT ABOUT OUR FLURRY FRIENDS UP THERE? SEEMS A BIT UNFAIR FOR US TO BE PLAYING HOUSE DOWN HERE WHILE THEY SLEEP OUT IN THE OPEN.

THE BABBAS CAN TAKE CARE OF THEMSELVES AND HAVE DONE SO LONG BEFORE THIS PLANET WAS BOTHERED BY TWO-LEGGERS.

FAIR ENOUGH.



YOUR FRIEND...

GROOT.

YES, GROOT. I'D VERY MUCH LIKE TO HEAR HOW YOU CAME TO KNOW SUCH A THING AS HIM.



YOU KNOW, IT'S A CLASSIC MEET-CUTE. A LONG TIME AGO.

GROOT AND I MET IN A PRISON. I HAD THE BRAINS, HE HAD THE MUSCLE.

HEY BIG GUY! I WAS THINKING ABOUT GETTIN' THE %@!# OUT OF HERE. YOU WANNA HELP?

I'LL TAKE THAT AS A YES.

I AM GROOT.



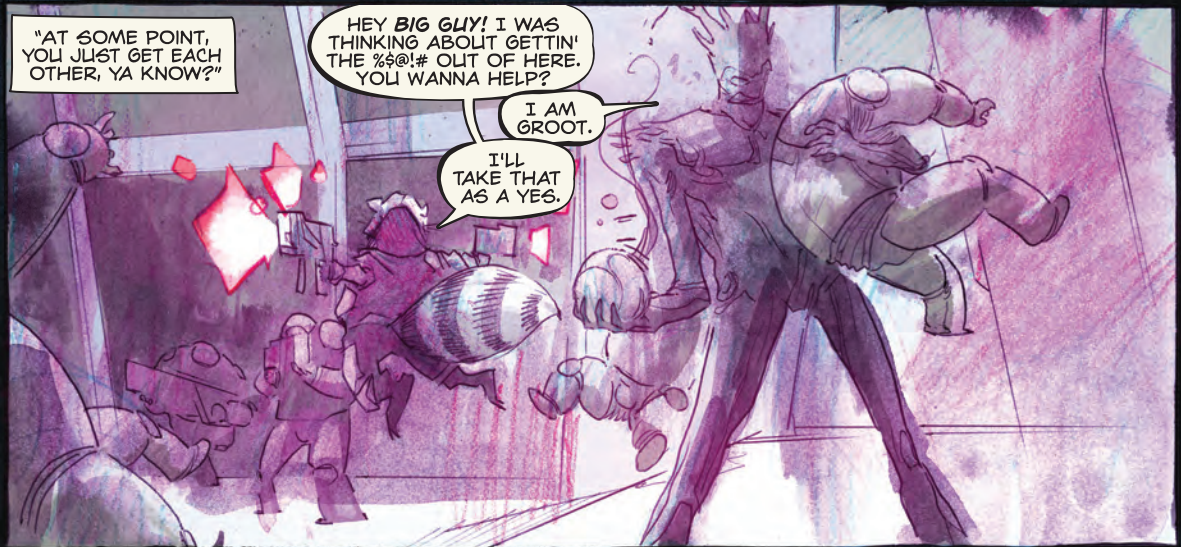


"OVER THE YEARS, THAT COMBINATION HELPED US OUT OF A LOT OF JAMS."

HEY **BIG GUY!** I WAS THINKING ABOUT GETTIN' THE %\$@!# OUT OF HERE. YOU WANNA HELP?

I AM GROOT.

I'LL TAKE THAT AS A YES.



"AT SOME POINT, YOU JUST GET EACH OTHER, YA KNOW?"

HEY **BIG GUY!** I WAS THINKING ABOUT GETTIN' THE %\$@!# OUT OF HERE. YOU WANNA HELP?

I AM GROOT.

I'LL TAKE THAT AS A YES.

THAT GUY HAS TAKEN A LOT OF HITS FOR ME. MORE THAN I SHOULD HAVE EVER ASKED FOR.

SO THERE IS NO **RISK** HERE. I GO FOR THIS QUEEN BEAST. MAYBE I GET AN EGG, MAYBE I DIE.

WE'LL FIND OUT TOMORROW, I GUESS.

YES, WE WILL. THANK YOU FOR SHARING YOUR STORY, ROCKET. I ENJOYED THE TALE.

THAT'S WHAT SH-

WHAT?

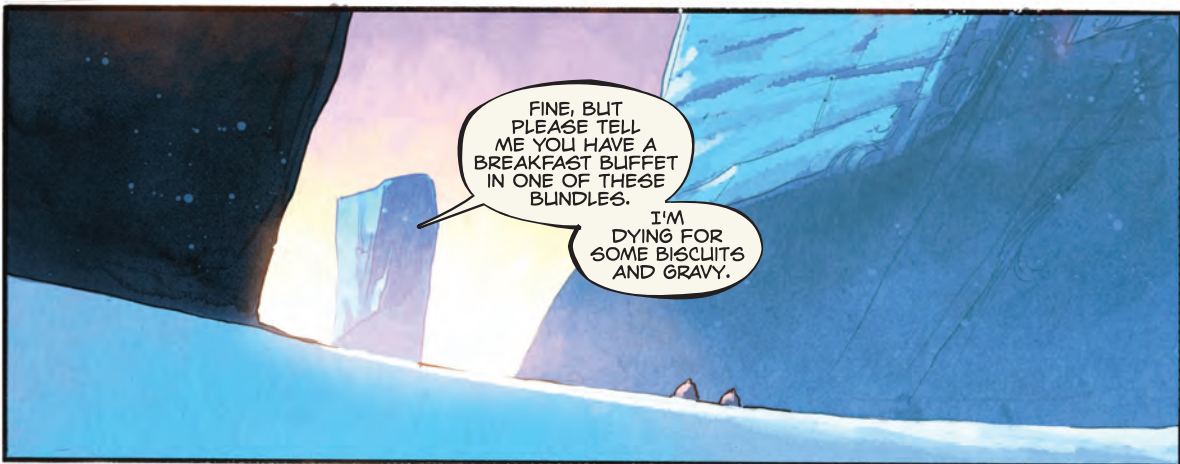
NEVER MIND. GOODNIGHT, JINK.

LET'S HOPE.

NEAR DAWN.

WE SPENT MORE TIME DIGGING THAT IGLOO THAN WE DID SLEEPING IN IT. IT AIN'T EVEN DAYLIGHT YET.

WE MUST GO IF WE PLAN TO GET TO THE NEST DURING THE LIGHT WHILE THE QUEEN SLEEPS.



FINE, BUT PLEASE TELL ME YOU HAVE A BREAKFAST BUFFET IN ONE OF THESE BUNDLES.

I'M DYING FOR SOME BISCUITS AND GRAVY.



DO YOU KNOW WHAT BACON IS? EARTH IS A REAL YAK HOLE BUT THEY HAVE SOME STELLAR GRUB THERE.

PIZZA. NOW THERE'S A THING OF BEAUTY. IT'S LIKE ALL THE STUFF ON THIS CRUST AND THEN YOU EAT IT AND THEN THE ANGELS SING AND BABIES SMILE AND PLIPPES BARK.

THING. OF. BEAUTY.

IF YOU'RE DONE TALKING ABOUT FOOD YOU MIGHT LIKE TO PREPARE YOURSELF.



WE'RE HERE.




OF ALL THE WAYS I THOUGHT I'D BITE IT, STEALING AN EGG FROM INSIDE A GIANT POPPSICLE WASN'T EVEN ON THE LIST.

WE STILL HAVE A BIT OF A CLIMB SO IT IS ENTIRELY POSSIBLE THAT YOU'LL DIE WELL BEFORE REACHING THE ENTRANCE.



EITHER YOU'RE A SUPER DARK LADY...

...OR YOU JUST MADE A JOKE. I'M NOT SURE WHICH IS MORE SCARY.



WE'VE GOT PLENTY OF SCARY AHEAD OF US. IT'S TIME TO MAKE OUR WAY INSIDE.