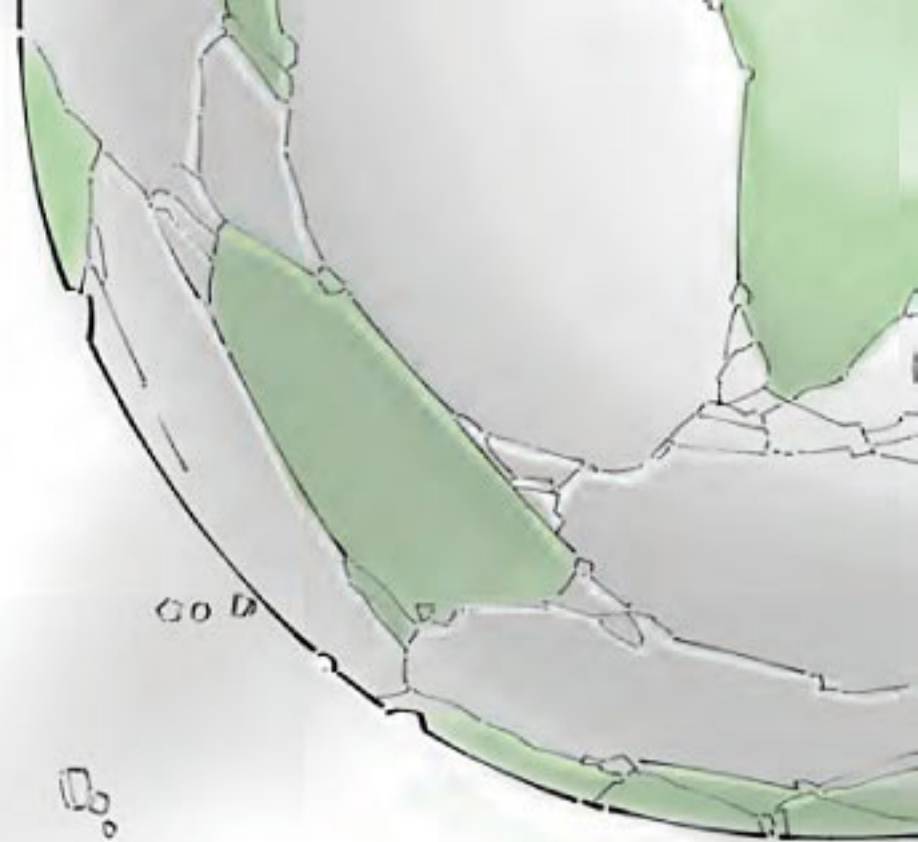


**YEARS AGO,
AND VERY FAR AWAY.**



DUNK

IT'S TIME,
MY LOVE.
THEY'VE FINALLY
DONE IT.

THEY'VE
FINALLY
LABELED US AS
HERETICS.

THERE'S
NO FUTURE
FOR US HERE
ANYMORE.

WE MUST GET
TO THE SHIP. WE
MUST TRUST IN
OUR SCIENCE.



OH, HIERONYMUS, TELL ME YOU DIDN'T SHOW THE ELDERS YOUR WORK.

I HAD TO TRY, ABBADONA. I COULDN'T LIVE WITH THEIR LIES AND WILLFUL IGNORANCE ANY LONGER.

YOU'RE A GOOD MAN, MY HUSBAND, BUT WE CAN'T SAVE THIS WORLD. WE NEVER COULD.

ALL THAT MATTERS NOW IS OUR FAMILY. THE SHIP IS READY. WE JUST HAVE TO--





LORD AND LADY HELLGORE OF TENTACLE HILL!

BY THE POWER VESTED IN US BY THE UNCLOSING EYE OF THE WITHERING DEVOURER, WE, THE *BLOOD MONKS* OF THE TEMPLE MACABRE, DO HEREBY ACCUSE YOU OF THE HIGH UNHOLY CRIME OF PRACTICING *SCIENCE!*

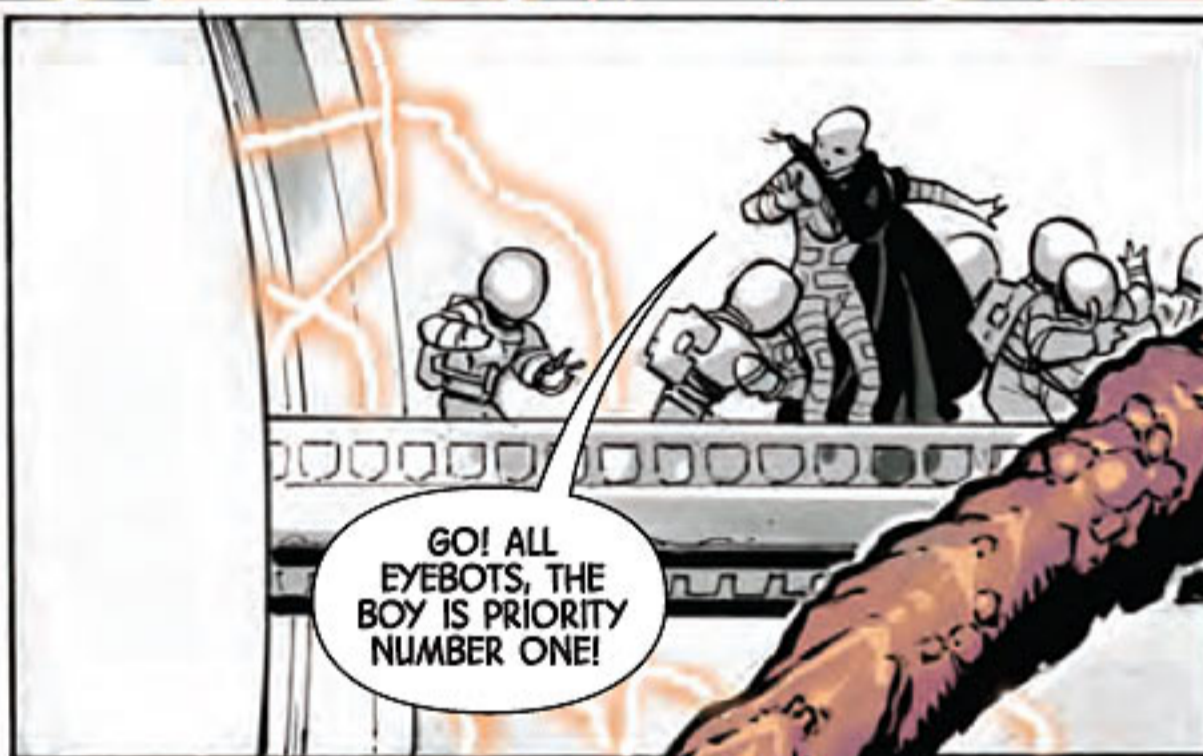
HOW DO YOU PLEAD TO THIS MOST SCANDALOUS OF CHARGES?

" $E = MC^2$ " IS HOW I PLEAD! ALL HAIL THE LAWS OF ORDER!

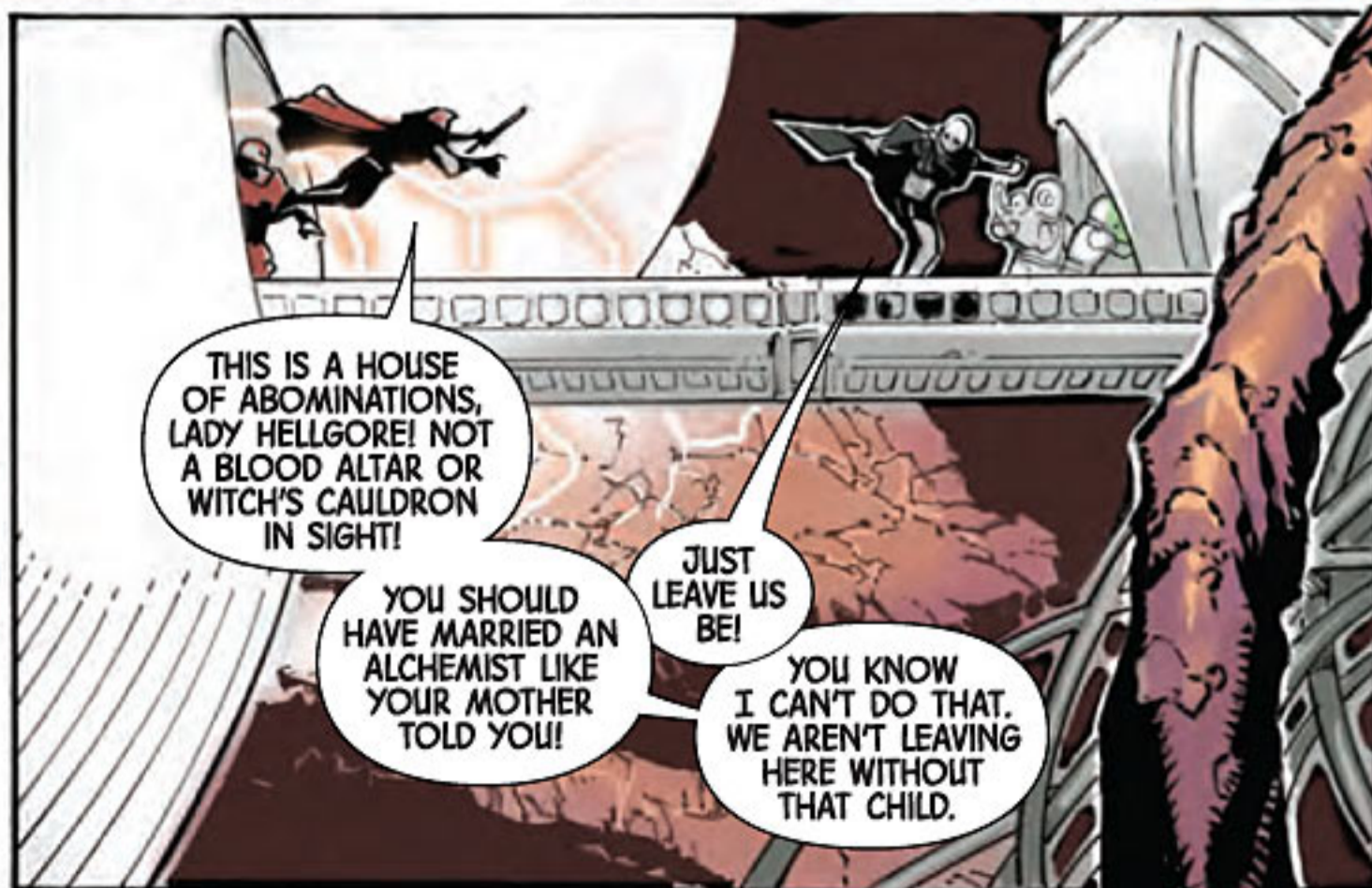
BLASPHEMY! SILENCE HIM AT ONCE!



ABBADONA, GET TO THE SHIP!



GO! ALL EYEBOTS, THE BOY IS PRIORITY NUMBER ONE!



THIS IS A HOUSE OF ABOMINATIONS, LADY HELLGORE! NOT A BLOOD ALTAR OR WITCH'S CAULDRON IN SIGHT!

YOU SHOULD HAVE MARRIED AN ALCHEMIST LIKE YOUR MOTHER TOLD YOU!

JUST LEAVE US BE!

YOU KNOW I CAN'T DO THAT. WE AREN'T LEAVING HERE WITHOUT THAT CHILD.



THEN YOU'RE NOT LEAVING HERE AT ALL.

MOMMA!



I DON'T CARE WHAT BLOOD MAGIC YOU'VE BROUGHT WITH YOU...



...NO ONE TOUCHES MY SON!



YOUR HUSBAND SAID THE SAME.



NO!!! OH, GODS, NO!!!

NOW THE CHILD WILL BE WRAPPED IN HIS FATHER'S SKIN WHEN HE'S DELIVERED INTO THE HOLY MAW OF HIS DARK IMMORTAL MASTER.

SHALL WE MAKE SWADDLING CLOTHES OF YOU AS WELL, GIRL?