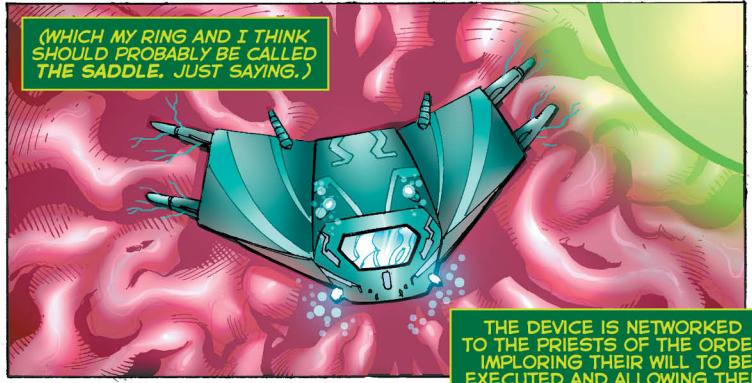
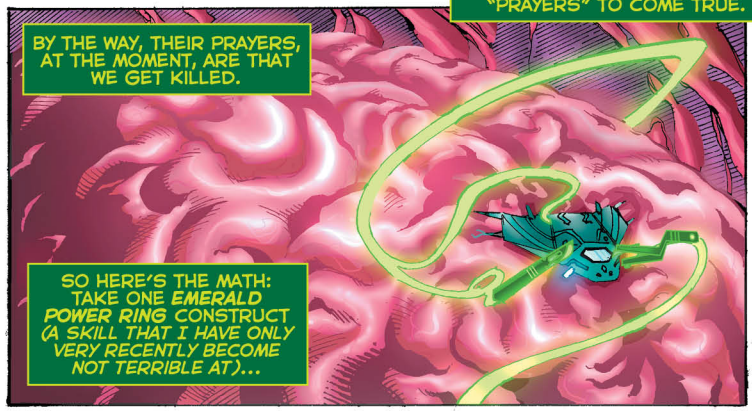


**THE ORDER OF THE STEED** HAS A PHILOSOPHY THAT SOME BEINGS HAVE TO BE THE RIDERS AND SOME HAVE TO GIVE THE RIDES ON A WHOLE NEW LEVEL WITH THIS DEVICE...



(WHICH MY RING AND I THINK SHOULD PROBABLY BE CALLED THE SADDLE. JUST SAYING.)

THE DEVICE IS NETWORKED TO THE PRIESTS OF THE ORDER, IMPLORING THEIR WILL TO BE EXECUTED AND ALLOWING THEIR "PRAYERS" TO COME TRUE.



BY THE WAY, THEIR PRAYERS, AT THE MOMENT, ARE THAT WE GET KILLED.

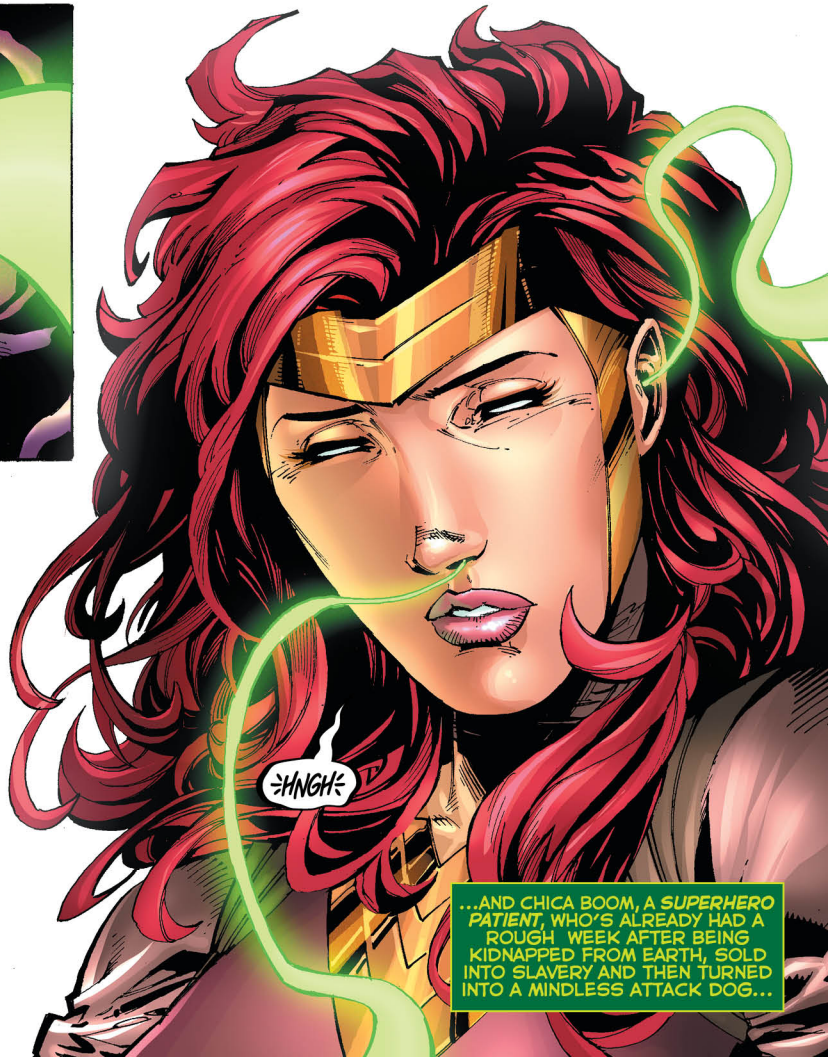
SO HERE'S THE MATH: TAKE ONE EMERALD POWER RING CONSTRUCT (A SKILL THAT I HAVE ONLY VERY RECENTLY BECOME NOT TERRIBLE AT)...



...SUBTRACT THE ABILITY TO CONCENTRATE AS A SPACE-COP RAID/SPACE BATTLE RAGES AROUND ME...



... THEN ADD AN EXTREMELY COMPLEX SURGICAL EXTRACTION PROCESS...



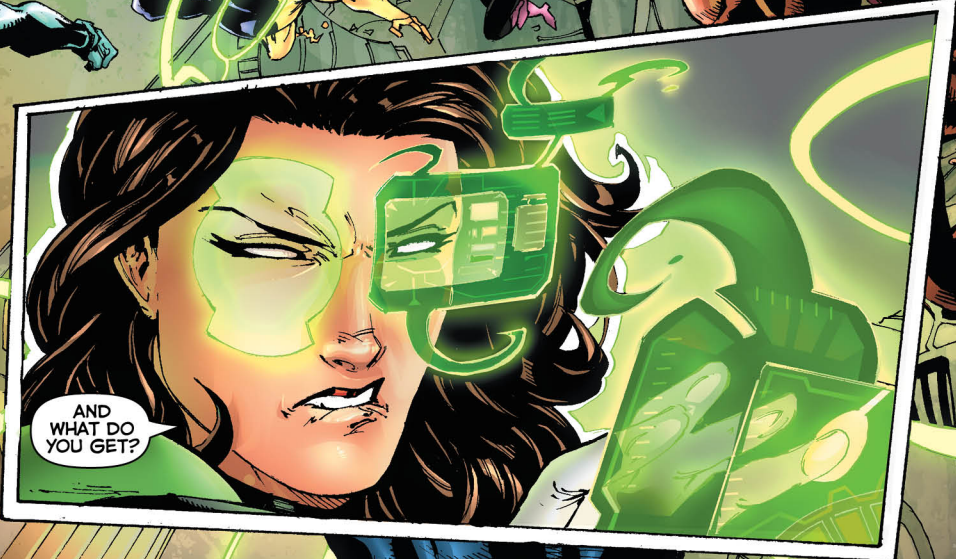
...AND CHICA BOOM, A SUPERHERO PATIENT, WHO'S ALREADY HAD A ROUGH WEEK AFTER BEING KIDNAPPED FROM EARTH, SOLD INTO SLAVERY AND THEN TURNED INTO A MINDLESS ATTACK DOG...

# SUPERHUMAN TRAFFICKING PART FOUR

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...AND THEN MULTIPLY THAT BY LIKE... TWENTY.



AND WHAT DO YOU GET?

ONE  
REALLY SWEATY  
JESSICA.

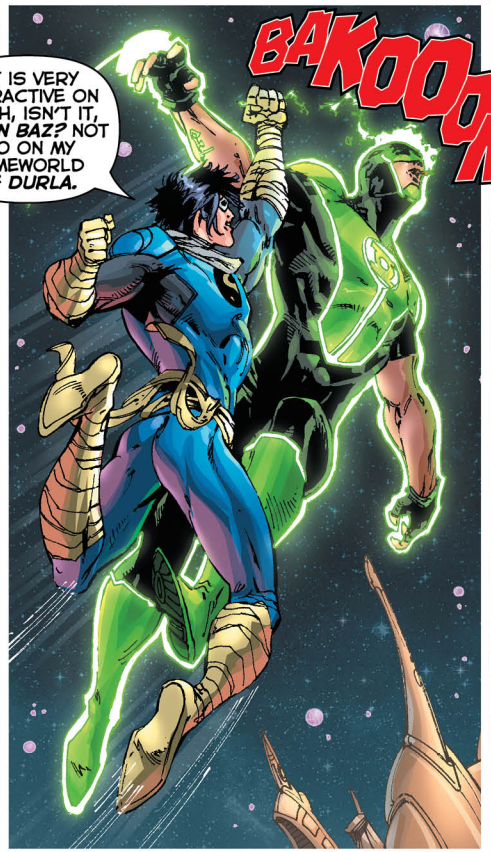
YOU CAN DO  
IT, CRUZ. LOOK AT  
IT LIKE THIS. YOU CAN  
NOW FEEL JUSTIFIED  
BINGEING ALL THOSE  
SEASONS OF GREY'S  
ANATOMY.



AH. SUCH  
CLEVER BANTER  
WITH YOUR PARTNER,  
AS YOU BATTLE FOR  
YOUR LIFE.

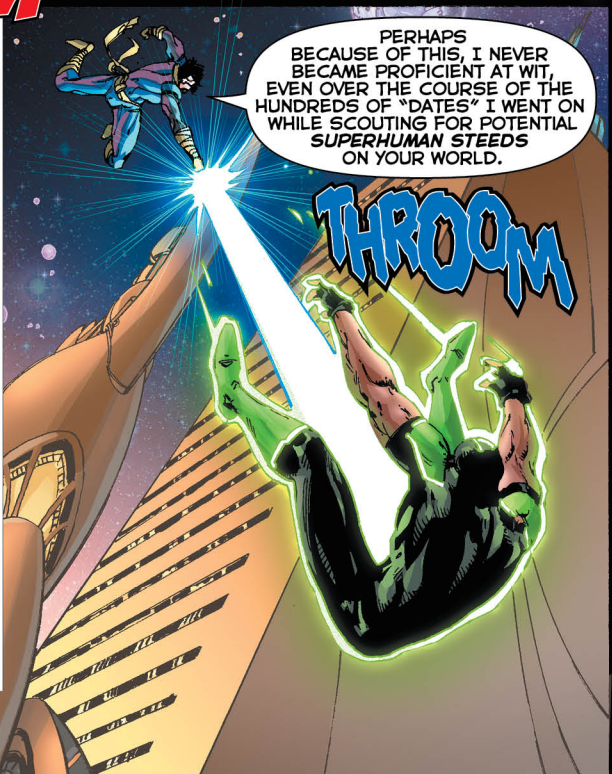
WIT IS VERY  
ATTRACTIVE ON  
EARTH, ISN'T IT,  
SIMON BAZ? NOT  
SO ON MY  
HOMEWORLD  
OF DURLA.

**BAKOOOM**



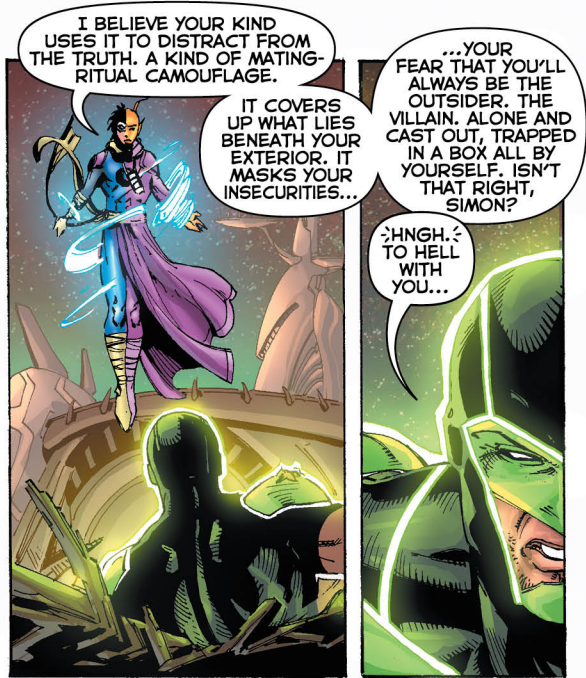
PERHAPS  
BECAUSE OF THIS, I NEVER  
BECAME PROFICIENT AT WIT,  
EVEN OVER THE COURSE OF THE  
HUNDREDS OF "DATES" I WENT ON  
WHILE SCOUTING FOR POTENTIAL  
SUPERHUMAN STEEDS  
ON YOUR WORLD.

**THROOM**





I WASN'T TERRIBLY CONCERNED AT MY INADEQUACY.

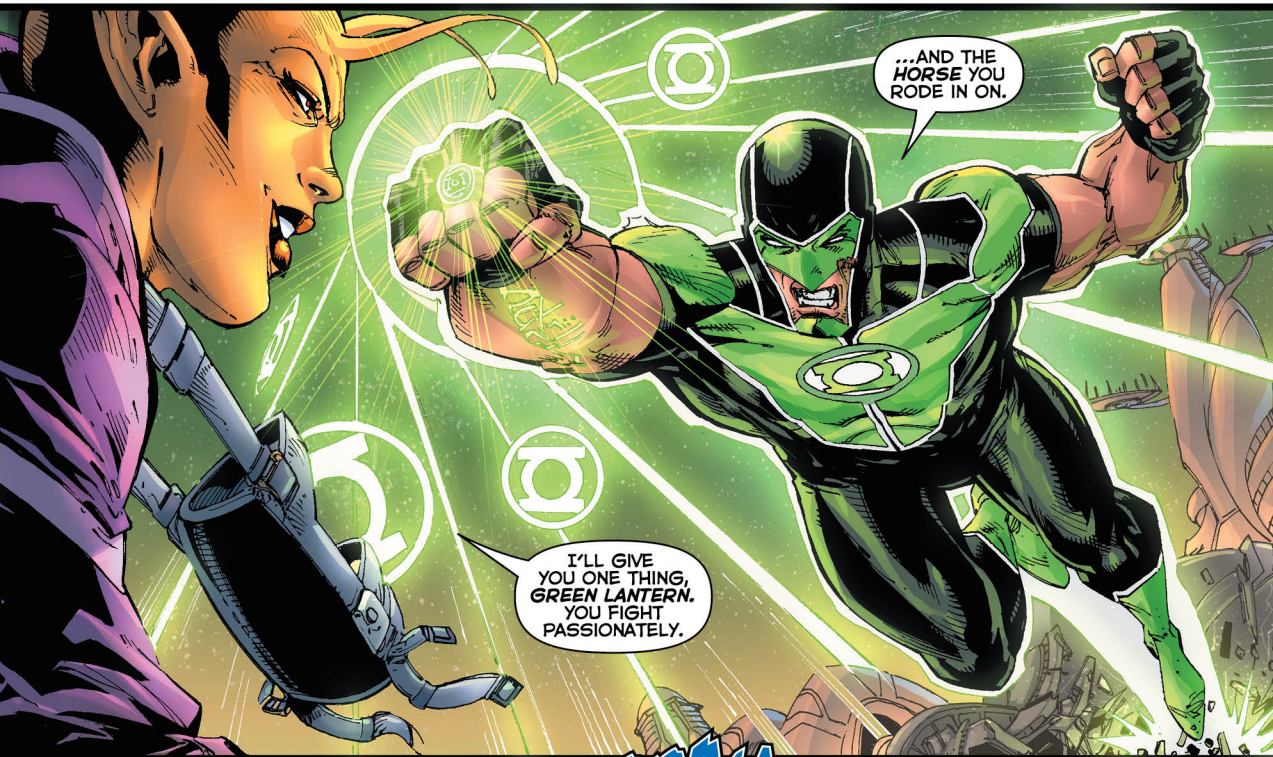


I BELIEVE YOUR KIND USES IT TO DISTRACT FROM THE TRUTH. A KIND OF MATING-RITUAL CAMOUFLAGE.

IT COVERS UP WHAT LIES BENEATH YOUR EXTERIOR. IT MASKS YOUR INSECURITIES...

...YOUR FEAR THAT YOU'LL ALWAYS BE THE OUTSIDER. THE VILLAIN. ALONE AND CAST OUT, TRAPPED IN A BOX ALL BY YOURSELF. ISN'T THAT RIGHT, SIMON?

YHGH. TO HELL WITH YOU...



...AND THE HORSE RODE IN ON.

I'LL GIVE YOU ONE THING, GREEN LANTERN. YOU FIGHT PASSIONATELY.



BUT ALL THIS DEVOTION SEEMS SO WASTED ON NIGHT PILOT, A WOMAN YOU WENT ON A FEW DATES WITH. A WOMAN YOU BARELY KNEW.