

HRSSSSSSSSSSSS

Detailed description: This is a full-page comic book illustration of a blue-skinned alien creature. The creature has a large, wide mouth filled with sharp, pointed teeth. Its eyes are glowing red and appear to be emitting a bright light. The creature's skin is a vibrant blue, and its body is covered in intricate, scale-like patterns. The background is dark and filled with vertical lines, suggesting a sense of depth or a confined space. The overall mood is terrifying and intense.

"IT WAS *TERRIFYING*.
THE MOST *TERRIFYING*
THING I'VE EVER SEEN.

"BUT I HAD *DUNCAN*
BY THE HAND THE
WHOLE TIME."

"THEY CALLED HIM
LORD ARACHNOS."

"I DON'T KNOW WHAT HE WAS
SUPPOSE TO BE A LORD OF.
OR IF HE MADE IT UP, OR WAS
SOME *HIGH-MUCKETY-MUCK*
ON THE PLANET HE'S FROM."

≈HNH≈
STORE UP...STORE
UP FOOD...

MUST HAVE
≈HNH≈
FOOD...

"HE'D GOT *STUCK* HERE ---
SPACESHIP CRASH OR
SOMETHING. SOME OF THE
STORIES SAID IT WAS A
PRISON SHIP...

"...BUT I DON'T KNOW IF HE
WAS PART OF THE *CREW* OR
ONE OF THE *PRISONERS*.

"MAYBE *THAT'S* WHAT
HE WAS LORD OF --
I DON'T KNOW.

"SOME FOLKS SAID THEY
JUST *DUMPED* HIM HERE, LIKE
EARTH WAS SUPPOSED TO BE
HIS *PRISON*, AND THEY JUST
DIDN'T CARE ABOUT US.

"I DON'T LIKE TO THINK ABOUT
SOME *SPACE CIVILIZATION* SMART
ENOUGH TO HAVE *FANCY SHIPS* AND
LAWS AND *PRISONS* AND STUFF...

"...AND THEY *STILL*
DON'T CARE ABOUT
WHO THEY DUMP THEIR
CRIMINALS ON.

"BUT I G-GOT
AHEAD OF MYSELF,
DIDN'T I?"

DOWN IN THE DEPTHS



"I'M ROSE WILKERSON. THIS WAS THREE WEEKS AGO. I PICKED UP MY SON DUNCAN AFTER SCHOOL..."

MOM!
MOM! I GOT 95 ON MY SPELLING TEST!

HEY, THAT'S GREAT, DUNC!



"IT WAS A SHORT WALK HOME. BUT..."

M-MOM?



EHNAHE PREY!

"I'D -- I'D READ ABOUT PEOPLE DISAPPEARING, BUT I THOUGHT IT WAS ONLY, YOU KNOW, HOMELESS GUYS, OR PEOPLE OUT TOO LATE.

"I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT IT REALLY WAS.



"NOT THE LITTLE ALLEY RIGHT BY THE SCHOOL."

MOM!

I'M HERE, DUNCAN! I'M HERE, IT'LL BE ALL RIGHT!



TSSSSSSS...

I'M H-HERE..



M-MOM?



"IT WAS TERRIFYING. I SAID THAT, I THINK."

"BUT IT WAS. AND DUNCAN..."



"...I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY TO DUNCAN."

I D-DON'T LIKE THIS, MOM.

I WUH-WANT TO GO HOME...



"SO I JUST HELD HIS HAND, TIGHT AS I COULD, SO HE'D KNOW I WAS THERE TO PROTECT HIM. AND I SAID..."

IT'LL BE OKAY, DUNCAN. IT'LL BE OKAY. I'M HERE. I'M RIGHT HERE WITH YOU.

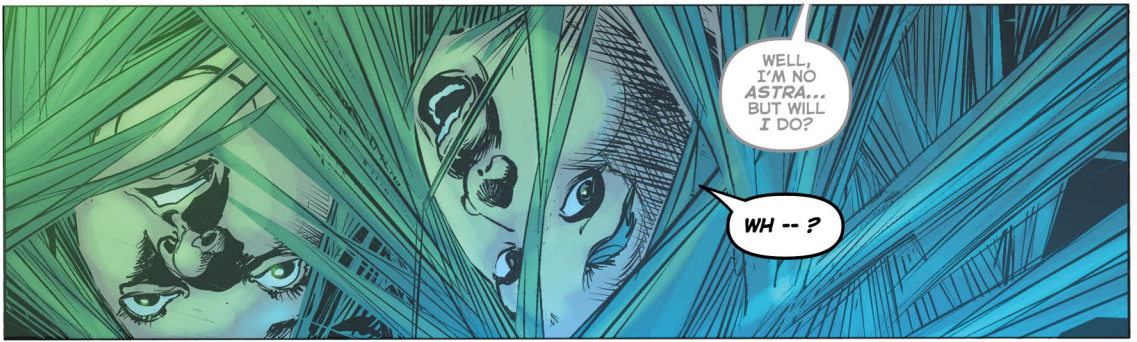
SOMEONE WILL COME. SOMEONE WILL HELP US. YOU'LL SEE.



"...I DON'T KNOW WHAT I SAID."

WILL THERE BE SUPERHEROES? LIKE, THE FIRST FAMILY, MAYBE?

I SAW ASTRA FURST THAT ONCE, BUT IT'D BE NICE TO SEE THE OTHERS...



WELL, I'M NO ASTRA... BUT WILL I DO?

WH -- ?



SHH, SHH!

DON'T WANT TO GET THAT THING LOOKING OUR WAY!

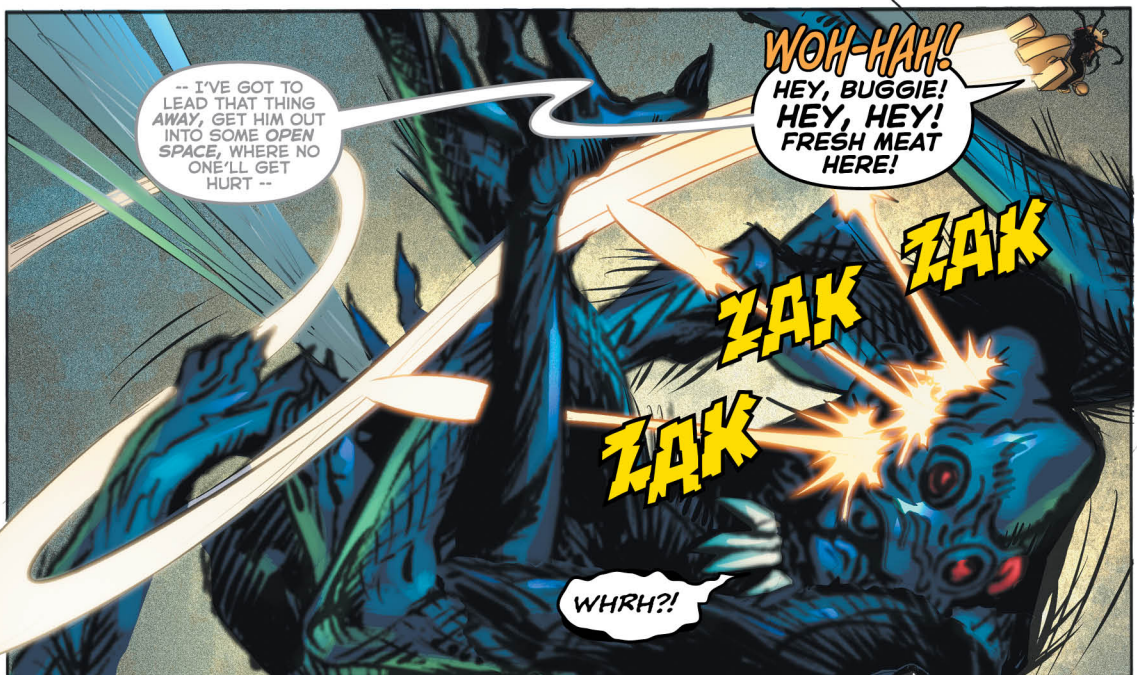
Uh --

JUST KEEP IT QUIET WHILE I DO MY THING, OKAY?



CAN YOU CUT US DOWN, SIR? SET US FREE? MY BOY'S ONLY SIX, AND --

REAL SOON NOW, I PROMISE. BUT FIRST --



-- I'VE GOT TO LEAD THAT THING AWAY, GET HIM OUT INTO SOME OPEN SPACE, WHERE NO ONE'LL GET HURT --

WOH-HAH!
HEY, BUGGIE!
HEY, HEY!
FRESH MEAT
HERE!

ZAK ZAK
ZAK

WHRH?!



HRADAAAAADAAAAAA

WOH-HO!
THIS WAY, YOU DAFT
BUGGER! LITTLE
BUT YUMMY,
RIGHT HERE!