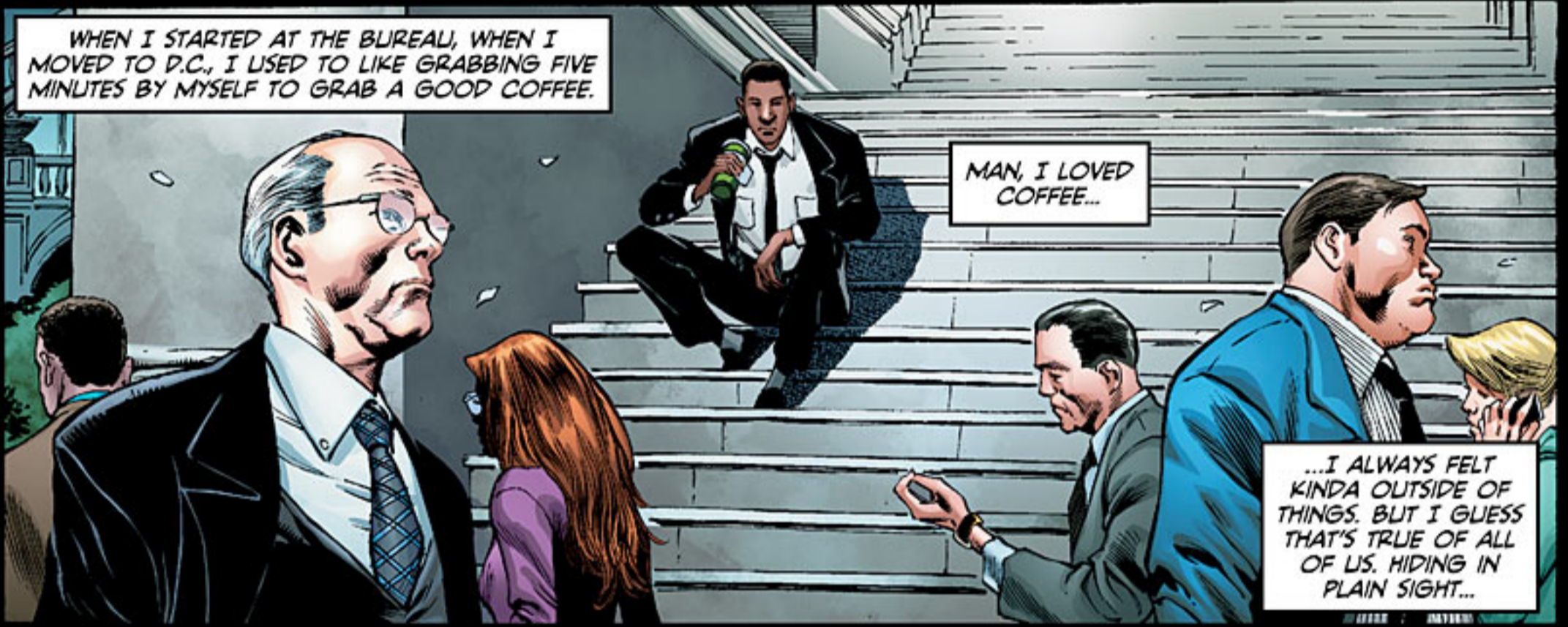




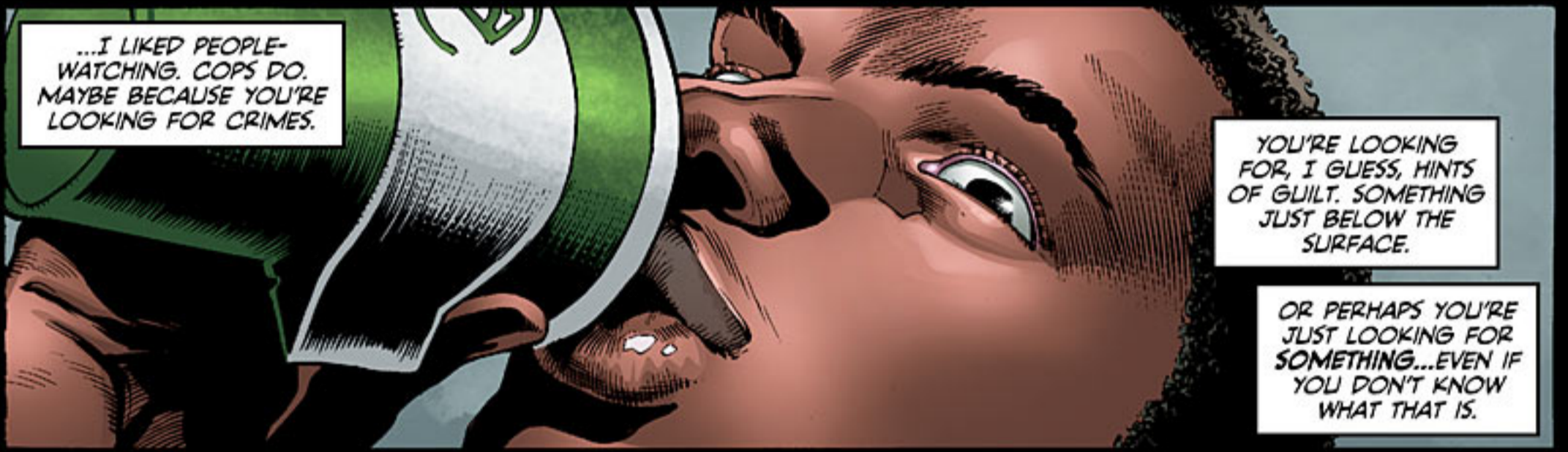
YOU CAN FEEL LONELY IN A CROWDED PLACE.



WHEN I STARTED AT THE BUREAU, WHEN I MOVED TO D.C., I USED TO LIKE GRABBING FIVE MINUTES BY MYSELF TO GRAB A GOOD COFFEE.

MAN, I LOVED COFFEE...

...I ALWAYS FELT KINDA OUTSIDE OF THINGS. BUT I GUESS THAT'S TRUE OF ALL OF US. HIDING IN PLAIN SIGHT...



...I LIKED PEOPLE-WATCHING. COPS DO. MAYBE BECAUSE YOU'RE LOOKING FOR CRIMES.

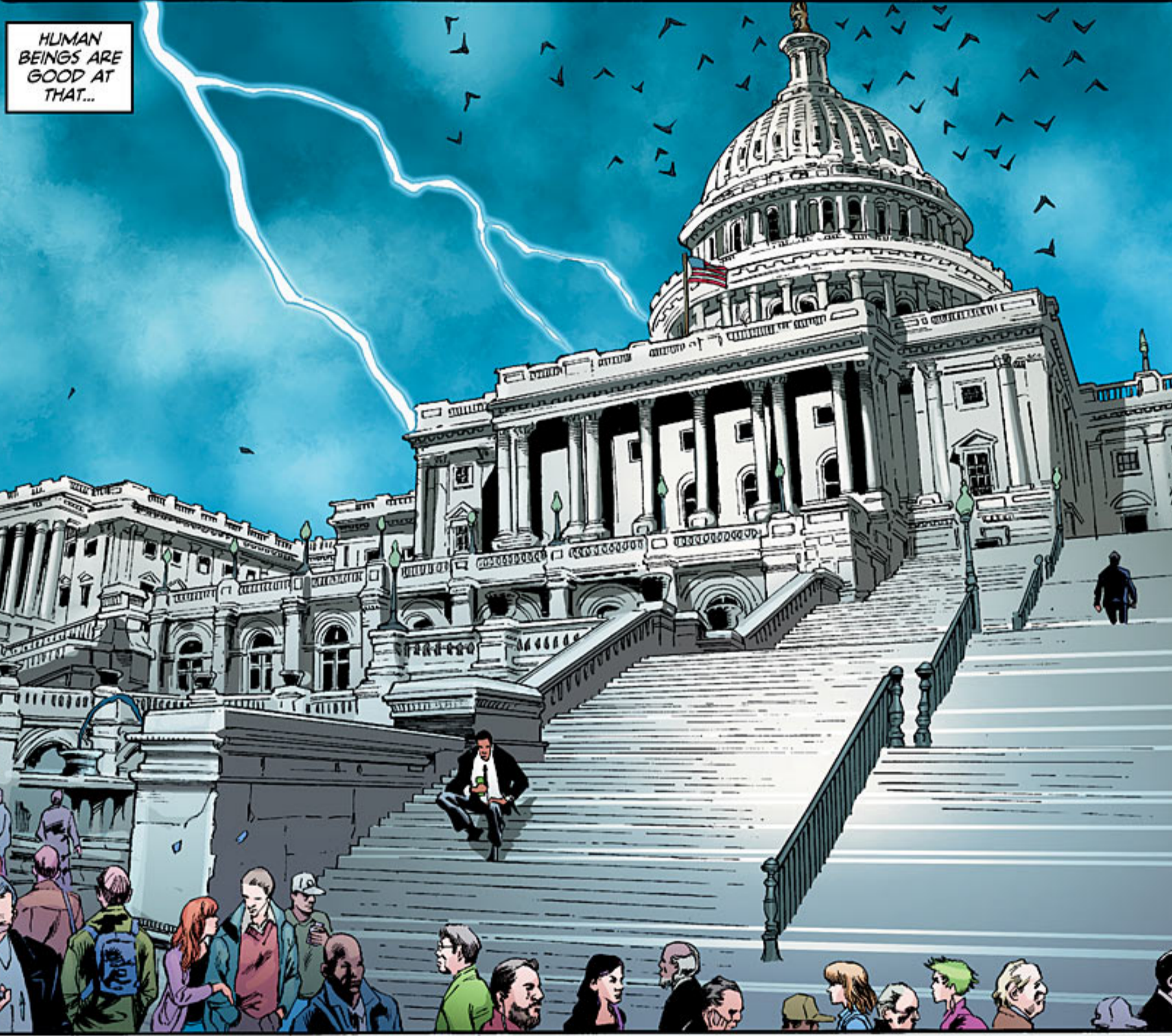
YOU'RE LOOKING FOR, I GUESS, HINTS OF GUILT. SOMETHING JUST BELOW THE SURFACE.

OR PERHAPS YOU'RE JUST LOOKING FOR SOMETHING...EVEN IF YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT THAT IS.



YOU'RE LOOKING FOR SOMEONE TO SAVE.

OR SOMEONE TO SAVE YOU.



<PIRATES!
RUN, PEARL!
GET INSIDE! GET
TO SAFETY!>

KRAKKA

KRAKKA

KRAKKA

KRAKKA

<RUN?>

<WHERE?>

THERE MUST BE NEARLY
TWENTY OF THEM. WE CAN'T
OUTRUN THEM, AND THERE'S
MAYBE ONE HANDGUN
ON THIS RUSTBUCKET.

THE CREW HAVE
BEEN GOOD TO ME.
FED ME. TREATED ME
WELL. AND THEY'RE ALL
GOING TO DIE. I'M
GOING TO DIE...

...I'M ON
MY OWN.

THUNKKK



NO. YOU ARE NOT.

AHH!

YOU NEED TO GET OFF THIS SHIP. IMMEDIATELY.



YOU...YOU'RE THE VOICE I HEARD ON THE ROOF IN DUBAI. YOU TOLD ME TO JUMP.

AND YET YOU ARE STILL ALIVE.

AND NOW YOU WANT ME TO, WHAT? JUST LEAP INTO THE STORMY OCEAN MILES FROM LAND? I'D DROWN!



THERE ARE THINGS BELOW THE WAVES THAT COULD GET YOU BEFORE YOU DROWN, PEARL.

WELL, THAT'S REASSURING.

NOT ALL OF THESE MEN ARE HUMAN. THEY CANNOT GET YOU AND THE OTHERS. FOR THE GOOD OF THIS WORLD.



NOT HUMAN...WHAT ARE THEY?

YOU KNOW WHAT THEY ARE.

HANDS UP! HANDS UP OR WE BLOW YOUR HEAD OFF!



THAT NOISE...

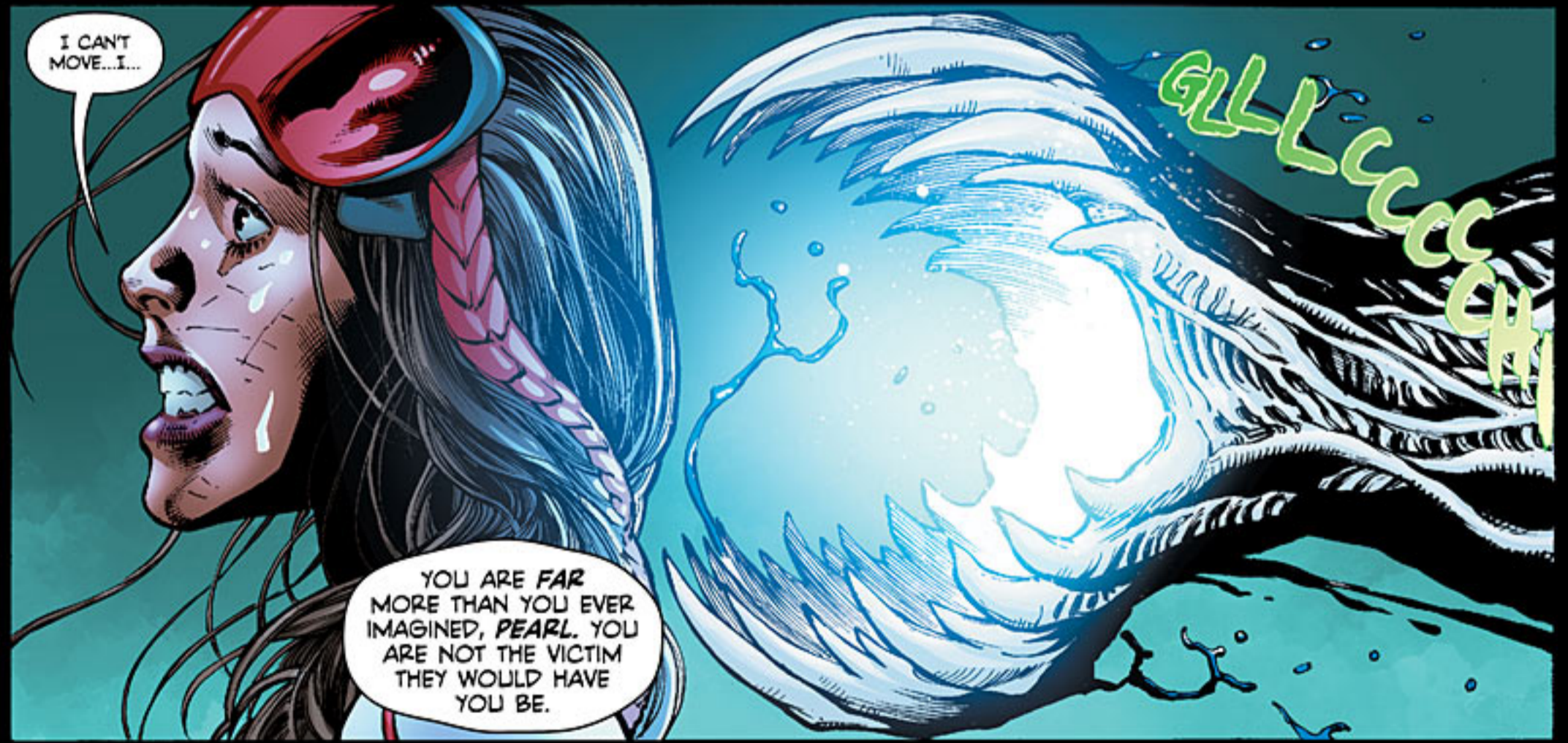
...OH, GOD.



I'VE HEARD IT BEFORE.

IN DREAMS.

IN NIGHTMARES.



I CAN'T MOVE...I...

YOU ARE FAR MORE THAN YOU EVER IMAGINED, PEARL. YOU ARE NOT THE VICTIM THEY WOULD HAVE YOU BE.

GILLCCCC
CH



YOU CAN BE A WEAPON.

IF THAT IS WHAT YOU WANT?

EXCLUSIVE PREVIEW