

THE PLANET MALTUS.

HOME TO THE GUARDIANS OF THE UNIVERSE.

TEN BILLION YEARS AGO.

FROM THE
JOURNALS OF RAMI.

DAY ZERO.

Today, everything
changed.

We divorced ourselves from
all emotions. Sealed them
away in the Great Heart.
Our grand achievement.

But something
remarkable happened.

A ring
appeared...

...and the
visitor took it.

THE FIRST RING

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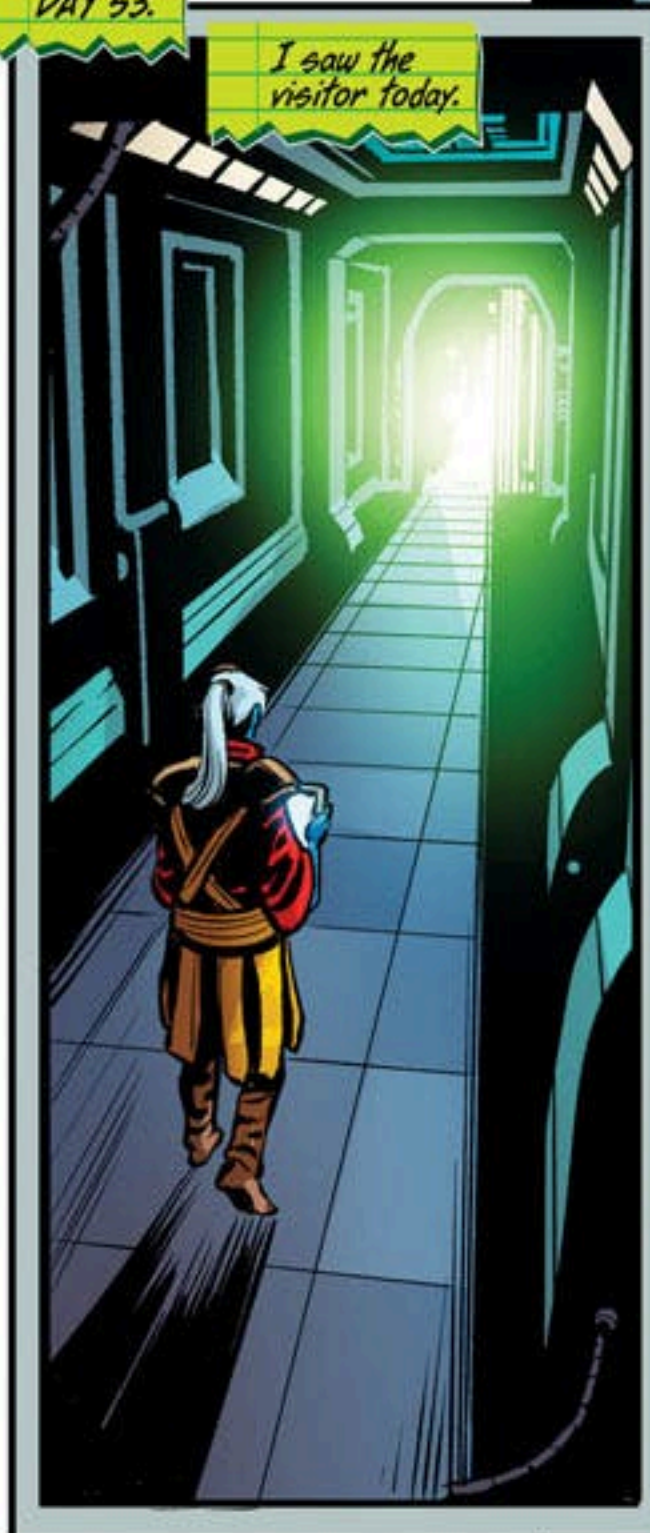
DAY 53.

I saw the visitor today.

They've been keeping him in secret, from the rest of the Science Citadel, while they study the ring.

Apparently he comes from elsewhere in the Multiverse. Via that device-- the Travel Lantern.

He looked... bored?



No.

Maybe... sad.



I felt bad for him.



RESTRICTED AREA, RAMI. MOVE ALONG.

REMEMBER OUR CITADEL VOWS, GANTHET?

"SCIENCE BELONGS TO ALL SENTIENT BEINGS."

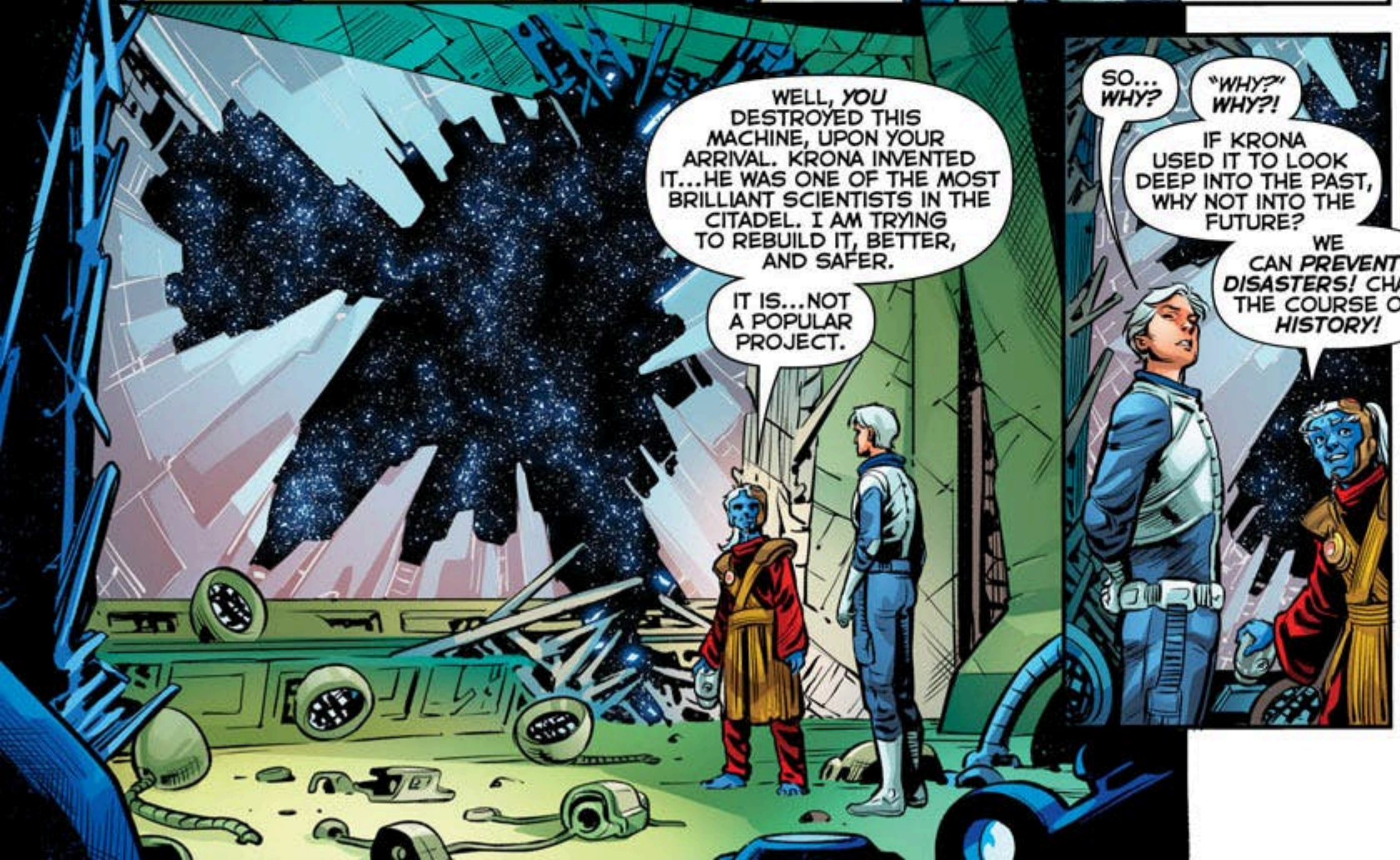
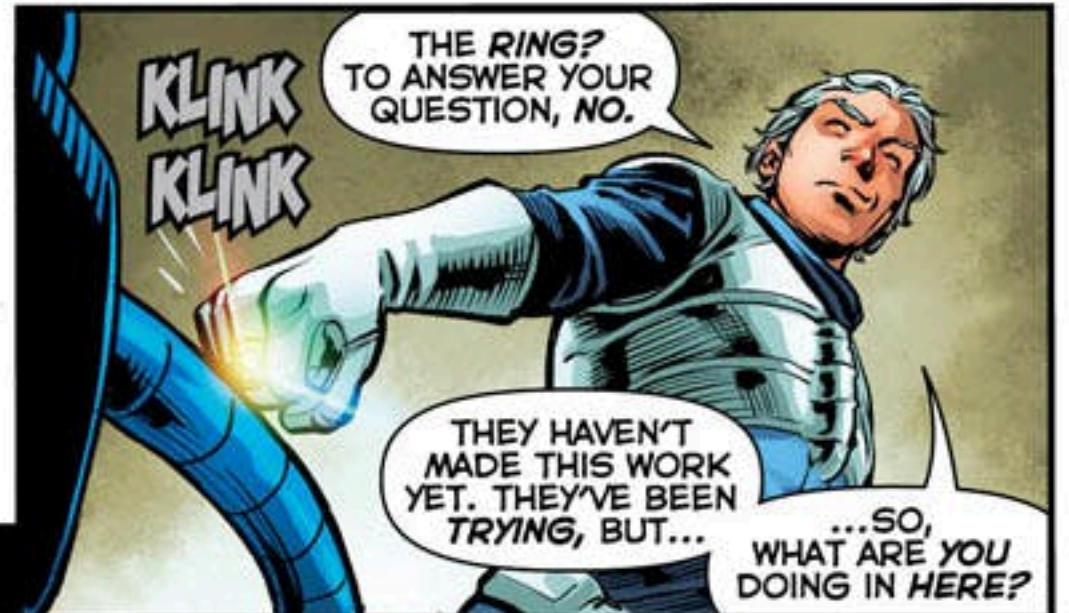


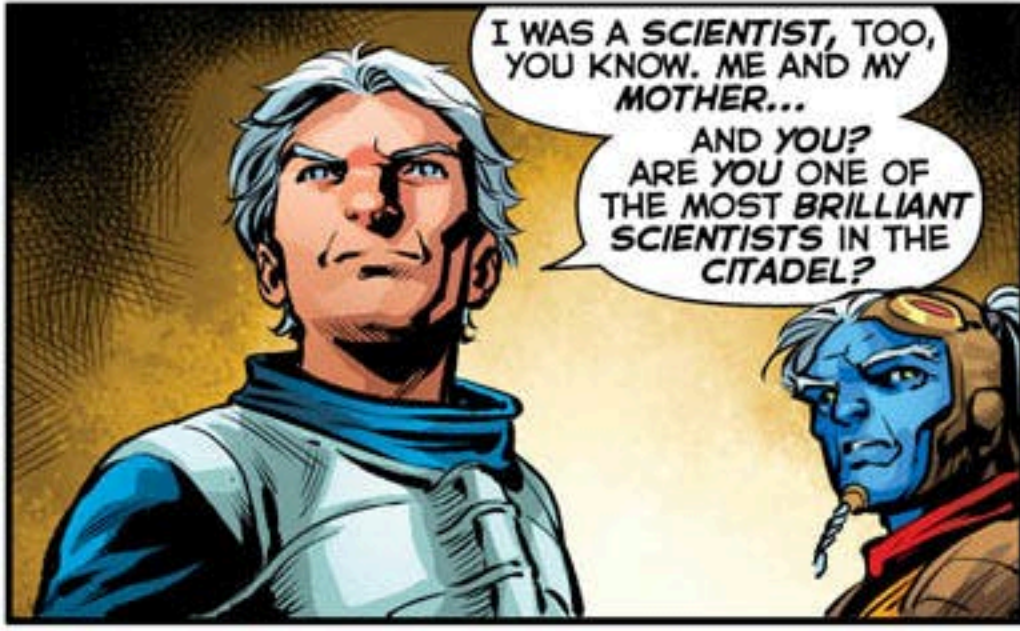
REMEMBER YOUR VOWS, RAMI?

"OUR HEARTS' EMOTIONS WE NOW FORSAKE."

BEWARE YOUR EXCESSIVELY EMOTIONAL REACTIONS.







I WAS A SCIENTIST, TOO, YOU KNOW. ME AND MY MOTHER...
AND YOU? ARE YOU ONE OF THE MOST BRILLIANT SCIENTISTS IN THE CITADEL?



ARE YOU ASKING THEM? OR ASKING ME?
IF YOU'RE ASKING ME... THE REST OF THEM CAN'T EVEN COMPETE.



HA!

MAYBE IT DOESN'T WORK. THE RING.

OH, IT WORKS.

HOW DO YOU KNOW...?



BECAUSE THE EMOTIONAL SPECTRUM GAVE IT TO US. EVERYTHING FROM THE EMOTIONAL SPECTRUM IS SPECIAL.



WELL, THOSE THICK-HEADED FOOLS AREN'T HOPELESS.
THEY'LL FIGURE IT OUT... EVENTUALLY...



NO. FORGET THEM.
WE WORK TOGETHER NOW. YOU AND ME.



CALL ME VOLTHOOM.

