

\*WHEN NEW BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES ARRIVE, IT'S ALWAYS EXCITING.

\*A NEW PARTNERSHIP OFFERS ENDLESS REWARDS.

\*AND THE COSTS ALWAYS SEEM MINIMAL AND MANAGEABLE.

\*THE SKY IS THE LIMIT...

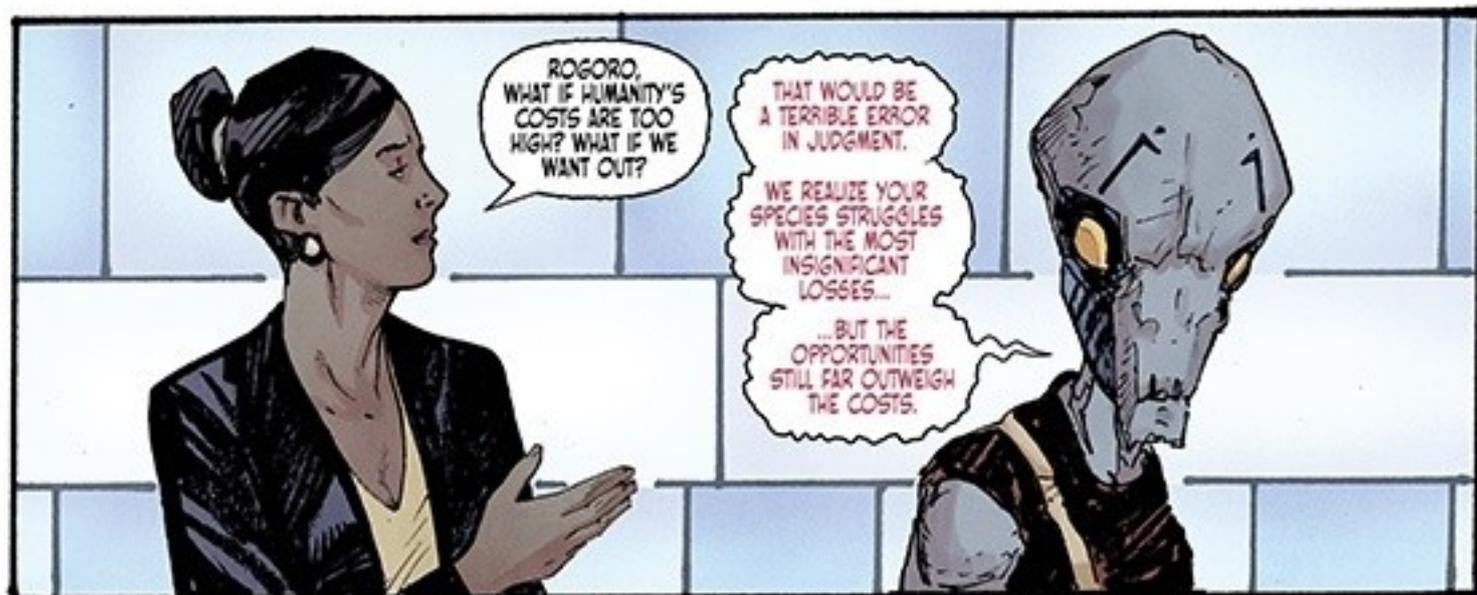
\*...AS IT WAS WHEN THE CONSORTIUM CAME TO EARTH.

\*BUT BUSINESS ONLY WORKS WHEN IT IS MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL.

\*AND WHEN THE COSTS BECOME TOO GREAT...

\*...WHEN ONE PARTY PAYS MORE THAN THE OTHER...

\*...THE BUSINESS ENDS.\*



ROGORO,  
WHAT IF HUMANITY'S  
COSTS ARE TOO  
HIGH? WHAT IF WE  
WANT OUT?

THAT WOULD BE  
A TERRIBLE ERROR  
IN JUDGMENT.  
WE REALIZE YOUR  
SPECIES STRUGGLES  
WITH THE MOST  
INSIGNIFICANT  
LOSSES...  
...BUT THE  
OPPORTUNITIES  
STILL FAR OUTWEIGH  
THE COSTS.



WE'VE ALREADY  
RECEIVED THE WATER  
ENGINE TECHNOLOGY.  
WHAT OTHER  
OPPORTUNITIES ARE  
THERE?

OPPORTUNITIES  
BEYOND ANY  
TECHNOLOGY.  
OPPORTUNITIES  
FOR HUMANITY TO  
SWIM IN THE  
EXCITING OCEAN  
OF GALACTIC  
COMMERCE.



THERE ARE PLENTY OF PLANETS  
AND ORGANIZATIONS READY TO  
CONNECT AND TRADE.  
AND EARTH HAS  
MUCH MORE TO OFFER  
THAN WATER.



PERHAPS WE ARE A  
LITTLE WARY GIVEN THE  
CURRENT SITUATION--

LET US DISPENSE WITH THE  
SEMANTICAL DRAMATICS. EARTH  
HOSTS OVER 7.7 BILLION HUMAN  
BEINGS AND OVER 3 YEARS, THERE  
HAVE BEEN ONLY 4,000 HUMAN  
DEATHS FROM INCIDENTS WITH PORT  
TRAVELERS. THAT IS ONLY  
.0000005% YOUR TOTAL  
POPULATION.  
WHY, YOUR OWN PEOPLE  
KILL EACH OTHER MORE  
FREQUENTLY!



SO INSTEAD  
OF CONCERN  
AND FEAR, BE  
HOPEFUL.



JULIA,  
ALLOW ME  
A PERSONAL  
MOMENT.

MY PLANET  
REGALBA BEGAN  
JUST AS YOURS.  
YOUNG AND  
FRIGHTENED,  
STRUGGLING TO  
EVOLVE AND  
MATURE.

BUT WE  
ACCEPTED THESE  
COSTS, AS YOU  
SAY...

...AND TODAY,  
WE ARE A MIGHTY  
PLANET OF TRADERS  
AND PROUD  
MEMBERS OF THE  
CONSORTIUM.



AND ANY  
PLANET CAN  
JOIN?

ANY WHO SO  
CHOOSES!

PROVIDED ONE HAS A C-LEVEL PORT, OPEN  
PLANETARY BORDERS AND A CONSORTIUM  
SPONSOR, ALONG WITH OPERATIONAL  
COSTS AND SECURITY CONTRIBUTIONS,  
OF COURSE.



WHAT DO YOU  
MEAN BY OPEN  
BORDERS?

MOST EVOLVED PLANETS  
AND ALL CONSORTIUM  
MEMBERS EXTEND VISAS,  
EVEN PERMANENT  
RESIDENCE TO ALL  
GALACTIC TRAVELERS.



YOU'RE SUGGESTING ALIENS  
LIVING HERE WITH US? I DO NOT  
THINK HUMAN BEINGS ARE  
READY FOR THAT.



BUT JULIA, AS  
YOU CALL US, ALREADY  
RESIDE AT THE PORT...  
...HERE ON  
EARTH.



SO YOU  
SEE...  
...WE'RE  
ALREADY  
HERE.