

**BEFORE.**

MOMMY!  
MOMMY!

WHY IS  
THE SKY  
YELLOW?



DC COMICS  
PRESENTS

HAHA. DO YOU KNOW,  
I USED TO ASK MY  
MOTHER THE SAME  
QUESTION.

EVERY CHILD  
OF VOORL MUST,  
I THINK.



THE  
ANSWER  
DEAR, IS *THE*  
SHIELD.



MAY  
OMEGA  
BLESS  
IT.



THE  
OMEGA  
MEN  
#8

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OMEGA MEN CREATED BY  
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BUT  
MOMMY,  
WHAT'S THE  
SHIELD?

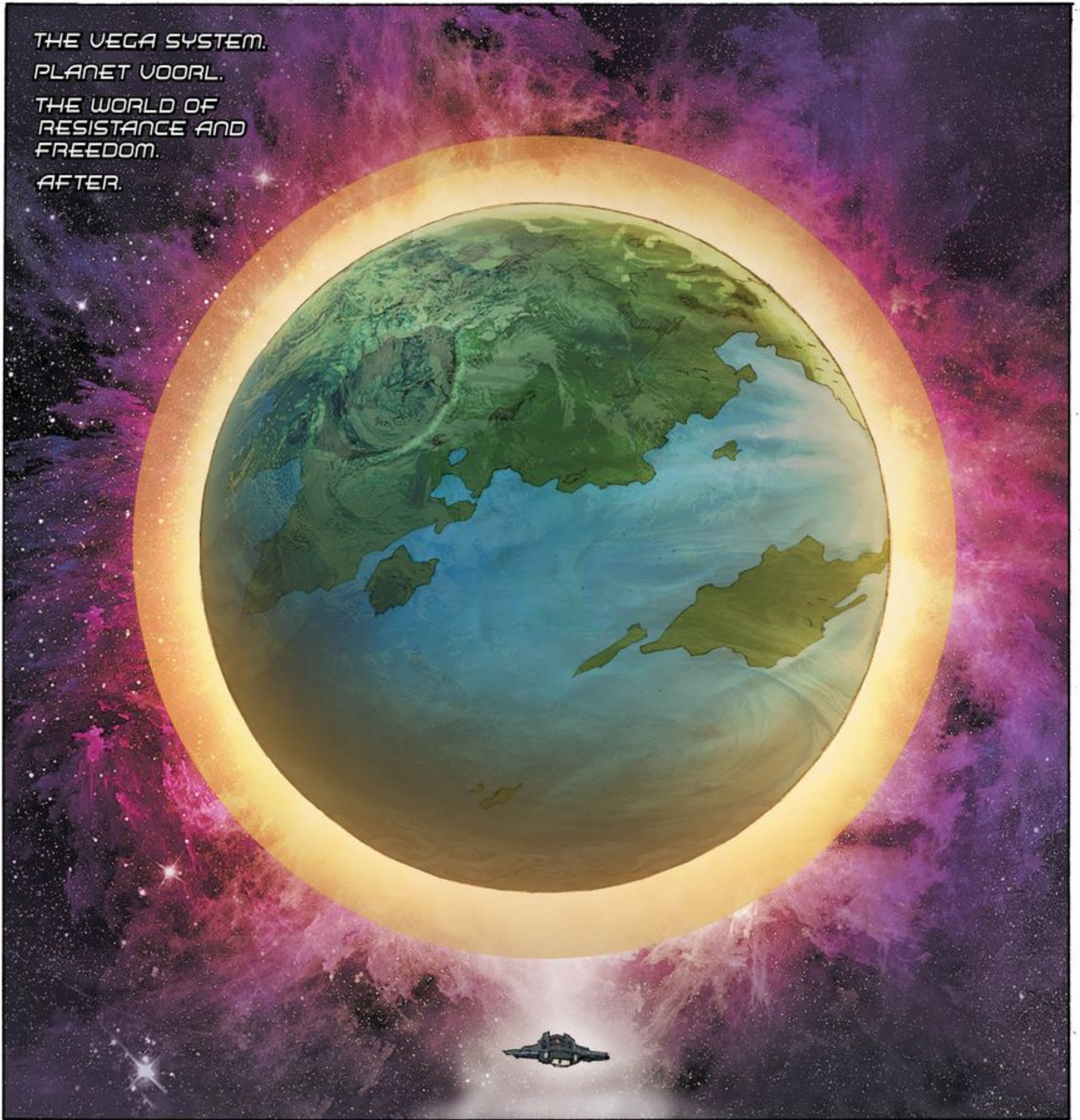


OH, IT'S  
NOTHING  
YOU HAVE  
TO WORRY  
ABOUT.

THAT'S WHY  
IT'S THERE, MY  
DARLING. SO YOU  
NEVER HAVE TO  
WORRY.



THE VEGA SYSTEM.  
PLANET VOORL.  
THE WORLD OF  
RESISTANCE AND  
FREEDOM.  
AFTER.



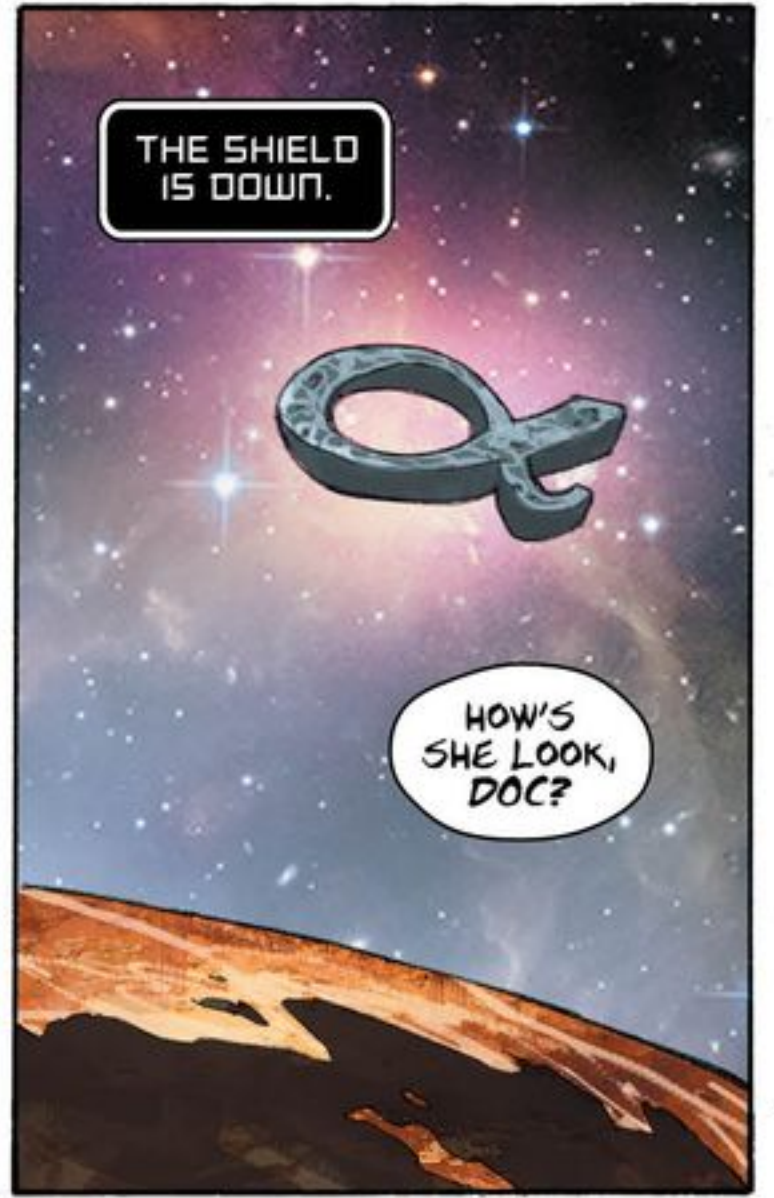
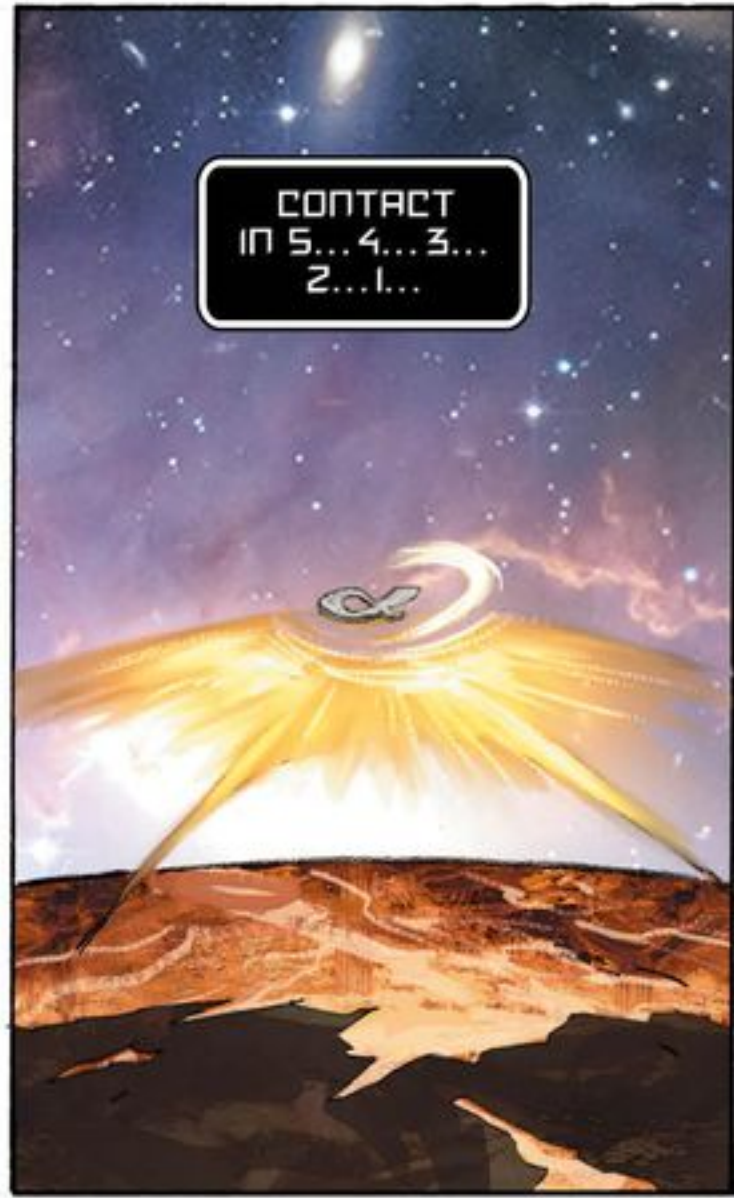
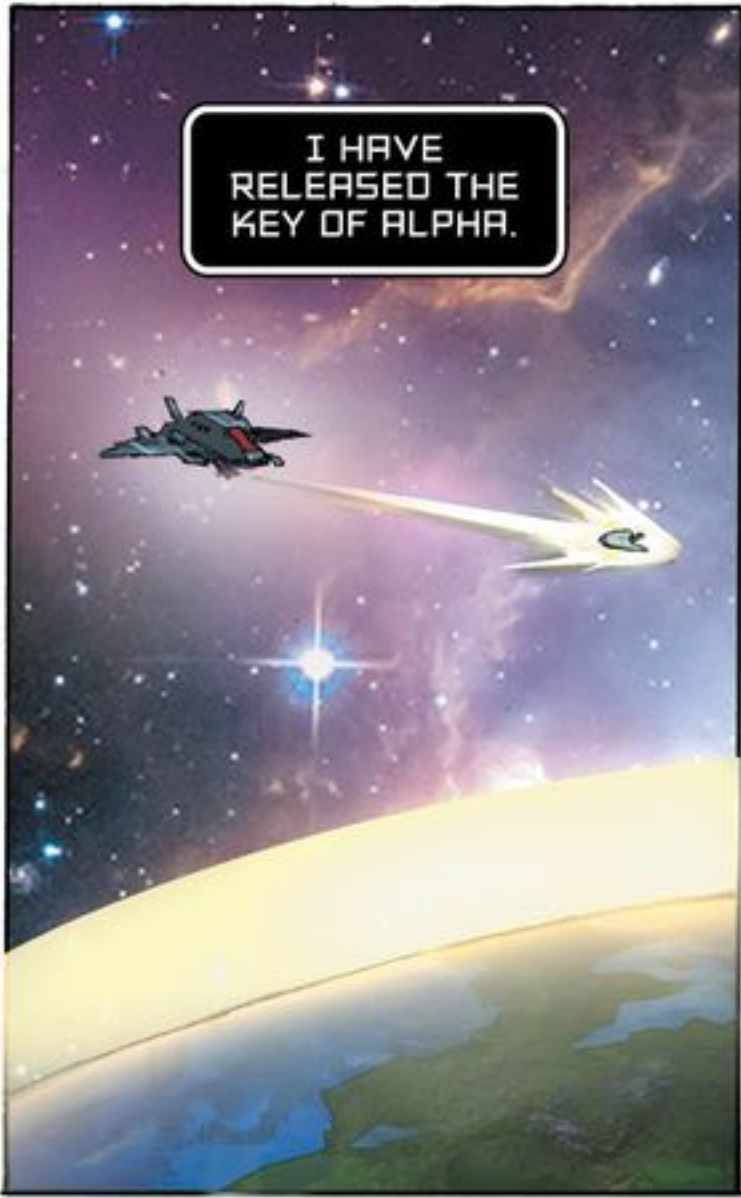
WE ARE IN FINAL  
APPROACH NOW.

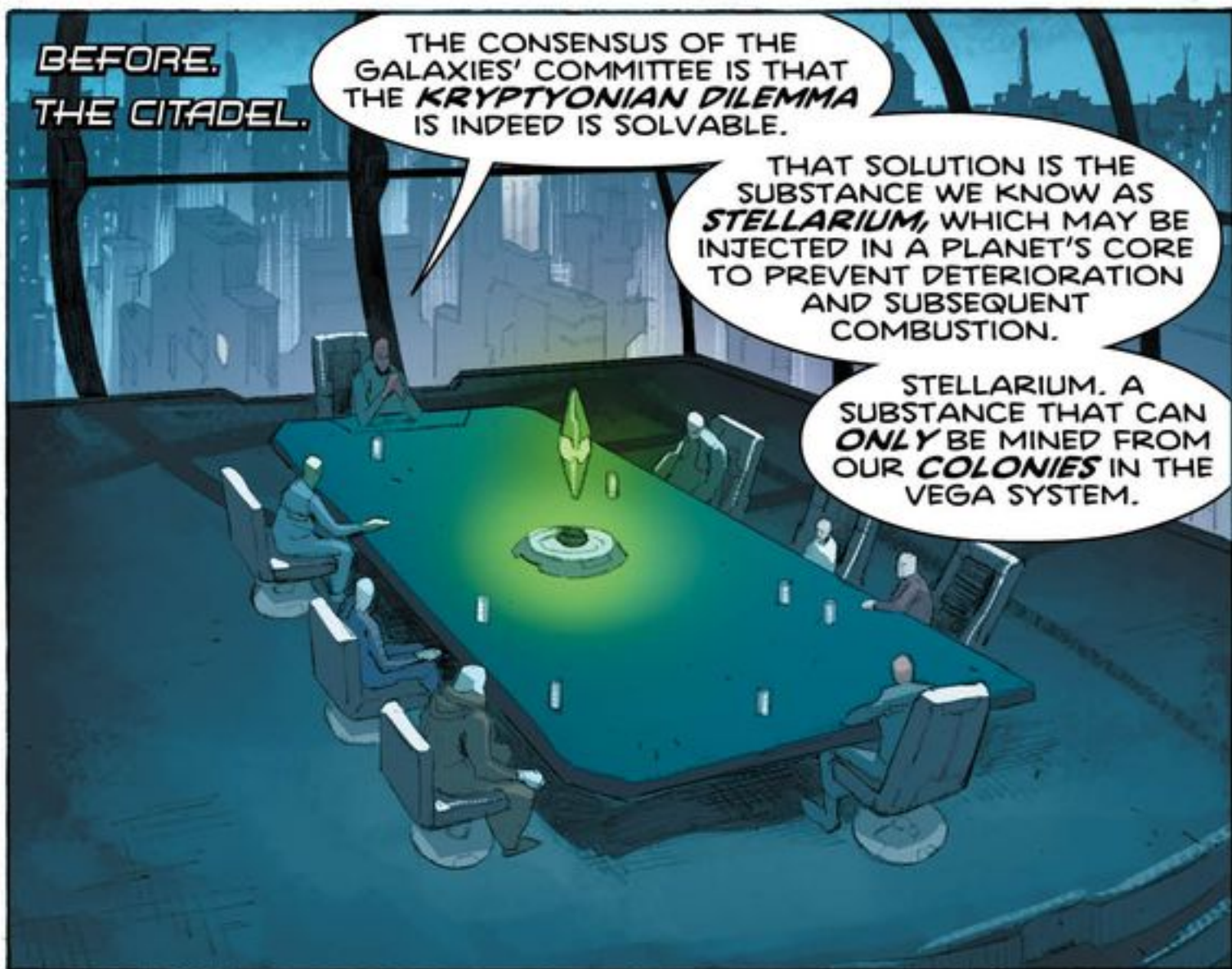


WE WILL STOP AS  
WE REACH THE SHIELD  
IN ORDER TO DEPLOY  
THE KEY.



IT SHOULD  
ONLY BE A  
SHORT DELAY,  
PRINCESS  
KALISTA.





**BEFORE THE CITADEL.**

THE CONSENSUS OF THE GALAXIES' COMMITTEE IS THAT THE **KRYPTONIAN DILEMMA** IS INDEED SOLVABLE.

THAT SOLUTION IS THE SUBSTANCE WE KNOW AS **STELLARIUM**, WHICH MAY BE INJECTED IN A PLANET'S CORE TO PREVENT DETERIORATION AND SUBSEQUENT COMBUSTION.

STELLARIUM. A SUBSTANCE THAT CAN **ONLY** BE MINED FROM OUR **COLONIES** IN THE VEGA SYSTEM.



NOW, AS YOU ALL KNOW, EXTRACTING STELLARIUM FROM A PLANET IS NOT...BENEFICIAL TO THE INHABITANTS OF THE MINED WORLD.

AND OUR ATTEMPTS TO RELOCATE THESE POPULATIONS HAVE NOT BEEN PRODUCTIVE.



HOWEVER, GENTLEMEN, A BILLION PLANETS WHO DO NOT WANT KRYPTON'S FATE ARE NOW TURNING TO US.

TO **OUR** CITADEL.

THEY WILL EXPECT THE PEOPLE IN **THIS** ROOM TO FIND A SOLUTION.



THEY WILL EXPECT **US** TO FIND A WAY TO **SAVE** THEM.

**ANY** WAY.



<DADDY...>

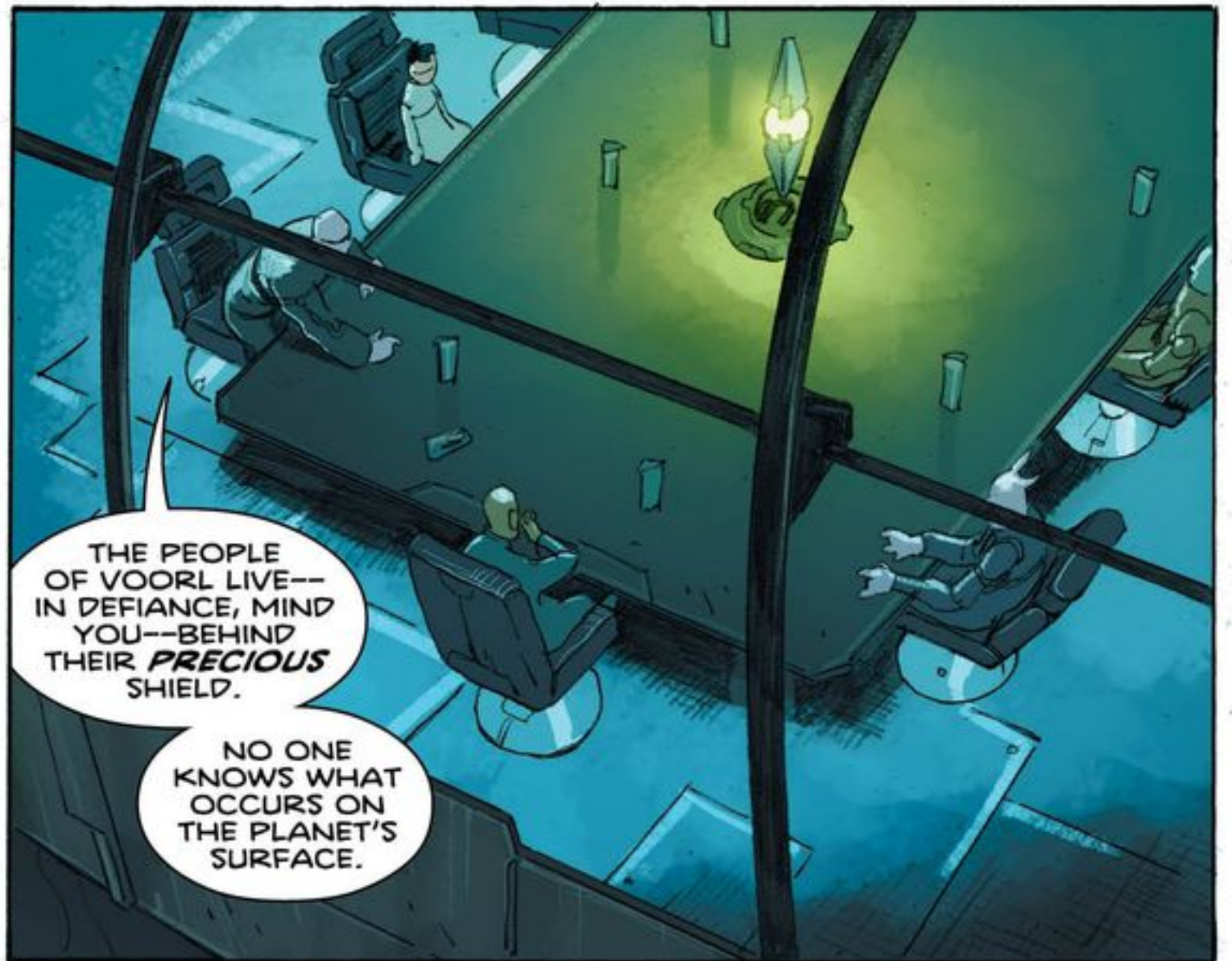
<QUIET, KALISTA. THIS IS WHY YOU WERE TAUGHT THE LANGUAGE OF THE CITADEL.>

<YOU ARE THE FUTURE LEADER OF THE BRAHMINS.>

<LISTEN. LEARN.>



IT SEEMS OBVIOUS TO ME THAT OUR ANSWER IS VOORL.



THE PEOPLE OF VOORL LIVE-- IN DEFIANCE, MIND YOU--BEHIND THEIR *PRECIOUS* SHIELD.

NO ONE KNOWS WHAT OCCURS ON THE PLANET'S SURFACE.



WE GO *BEHIND* THE SHIELD, WE TAKE CARE OF THE POPULATION, WE *EXTRACT* THE STELLARIUM.

AND, BECAUSE OF THEIR SHIELD, THE OTHER PLANETS, THE GALAXY COUNCIL ITSELF, WILL BE *UNAWARE* OF OUR *NECESSARY* CHOICES.

WHAT PROTECTS THESE UPPITY NATIVES WILL IN TURN PROTECT US.



PLEASE, THE MINISTER OF KARNA IS SPEAKING NONSENSE.

WE'VE BEEN TRYING FOR *CENTURIES* TO OPEN THE SHIELD.

DO YOU THINK THE NATIVES ARE JUST GOING TO *SUDDENLY* GIVE US THE KEY?

YES, VICEROY...



...THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT I THINK.