

ONE MONTH AGO.



I wanna go home.

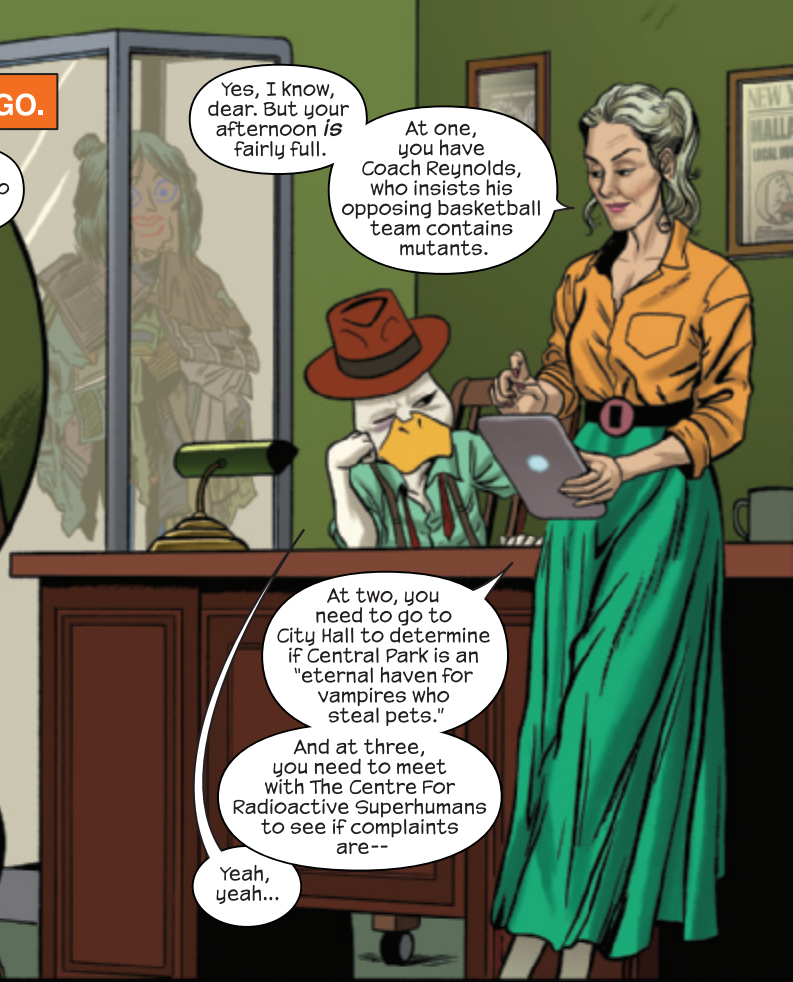
Yes, I know, dear. But your afternoon is fairly full.

At one, you have Coach Reynolds, who insists his opposing basketball team contains mutants.

At two, you need to go to City Hall to determine if Central Park is an "eternal haven for vampires who steal pets."

And at three, you need to meet with The Centre For Radioactive Superhumans to see if complaints are--

Yeah, yeah...



...I know what I *have* to do. And you've been a great help around here, Aunt May, really. I don't know how I ran this private eye biz without you, but I'm just...tired.

Can't I pet Biggs all day instead?

PURR



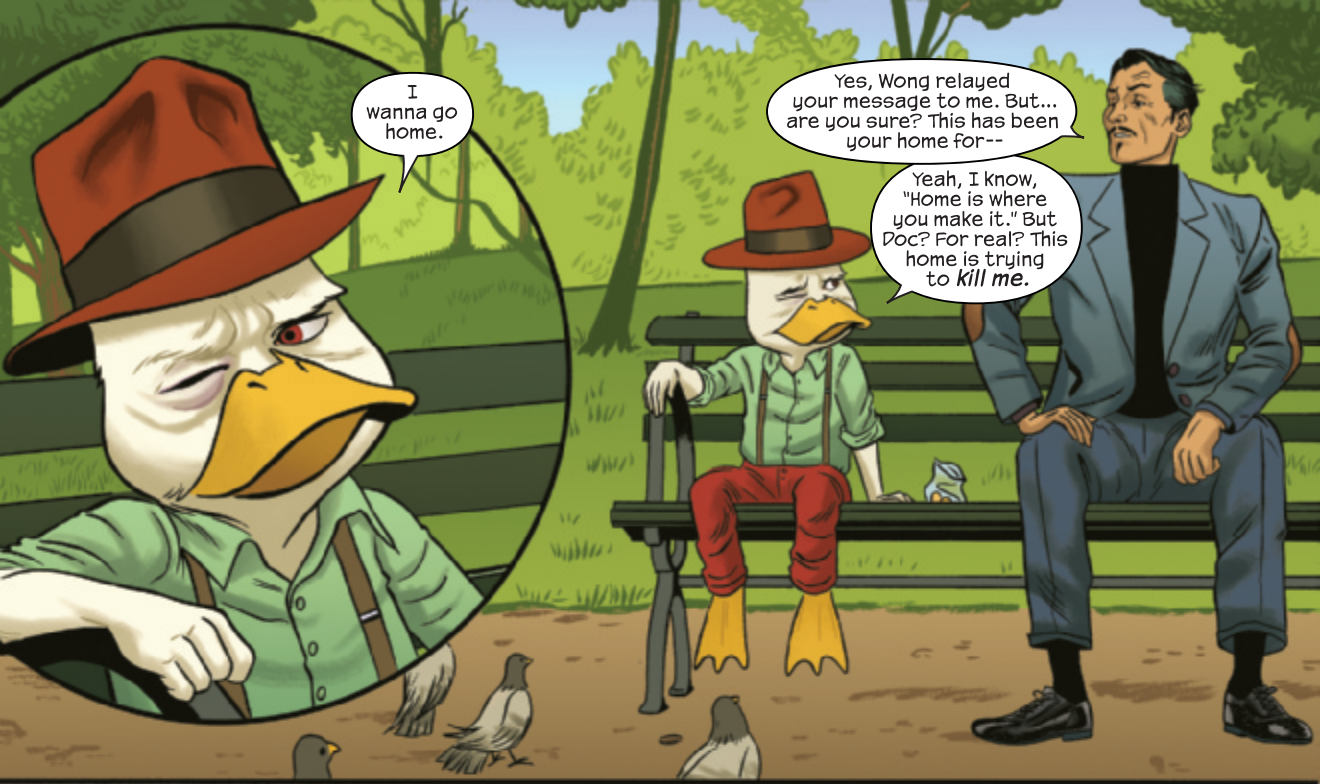
Howard...

Look, I just got punched by a Daytime Werewolf while solving a case, I just... I just need the afternoon off, okay? Clear my head in the park or something.



...Okay, Howard. I'll cancel the rest of the day, but remember, I'm flying back to Boston tonight for the week. Just... take care of yourself while I'm gone, dear.

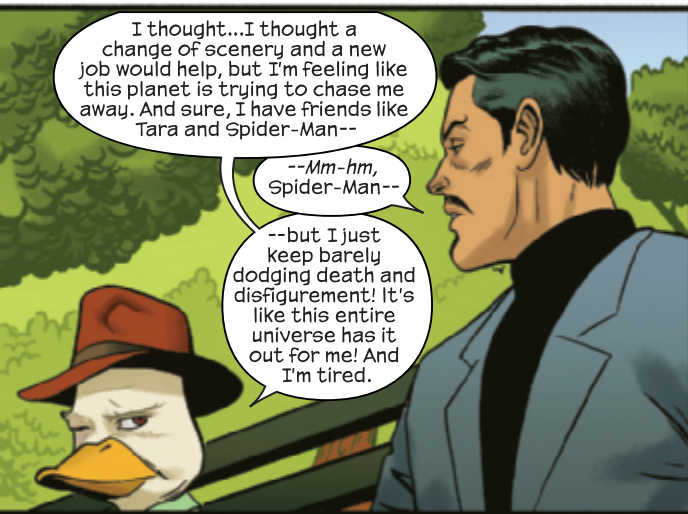
Yeah, I'm the king of self-care.



I wanna go home.

Yes, Wong relayed your message to me. But... are you sure? This has been your home for--

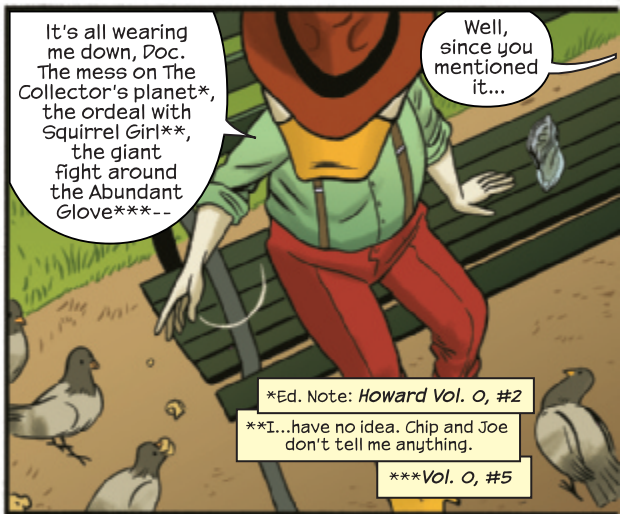
Yeah, I know, "Home is where you make it." But Doc? For real? This home is trying to kill me.



I thought...I thought a change of scenery and a new job would help, but I'm feeling like this planet is trying to chase me away. And sure, I have friends like Tara and Spider-Man--

--Mm-hm, Spider-Man--

--but I just keep barely dodging death and disfigurement! It's like this entire universe has it out for me! And I'm tired.



It's all wearing me down, Doc. The mess on The Collector's planet*, the ordeal with Squirrel Girl**, the giant fight around the Abundant Glove***--

Well, since you mentioned it...

*Ed. Note: *Howard Vol. 0, #2*

**I...have no idea. Chip and Joe don't tell me anything.

****Vol. 0, #5*



...the *Glove* may actually be the key to getting you back to your universe, Howard.



Of course it is! Why can't things be simple??

Based on your descriptions of the experience you had when you put it on, I believe the glove bonded to you and can "read" your mind and soul. With just the Compassion Gem still a part of it, you can use it as a map to get you home.



Can **nothing** be straight-forward! Serves me right for going to a guy named "Dr. Strange"! Who names himself that anyway!

Howard, it's my real name.



Unf!

The forces that brought you to Earth were cosmic, mystical and unusual in nature. The way back...



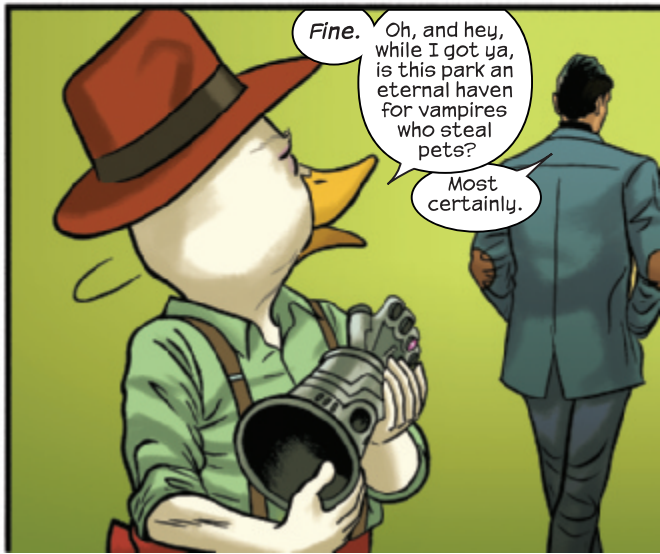
...will be the same, I'm afraid.

...Fine. Gimme the glove.



Please remember, Howard, when mystical and cosmic forces are involved in achieving your heart's desires...

...there is almost certainly a price to be paid.



Fine. Oh, and hey, while I got ya, is this park an eternal haven for vampires who steal pets?

Most certainly.