



AGAIN?
WHAT FRESH
HELLSCAPE
HAVE I FALLEN
INTO *THIS*
TIME?

WE ARE IN THE
SPACE BETWEEN THE
ANALOG AND AZOTH. I HAD
AN EXPLOIT IN MY ARCHIVES IN
CASE ANYTHING WERE TO HAPPEN
TO ME, BUT *PSYCHE* WILL FIND
AND DESTROY IT ANY SECOND
NOW. BEFORE THAT HAPPENS,
THERE'S SOMETHING I
HAVE TO TELL YOU.

I'M *SO*
PROUD OF YOU
FOR FOLLOWING IN MY
FOOTSTEPS, *CASSANDRA*,
BUT THEY ARE ABOUT TO
LEAD YOU OFF
A CLIFF.



I TOOK THE JOB AT
HERMETICORP FOR THE SAME
REASONS YOU DID. I THOUGHT
IF I PLAYED THEIR GAME, I
COULD BORROW THEIR POWER
TO BUILD A BETTER WORLD.
BUT I UNDERESTIMATED
THEM.

THE PEOPLE
WHO HOLD ALL
THE CARDS WILL
NEVER DEAL
YOU A WINNING
HAND.



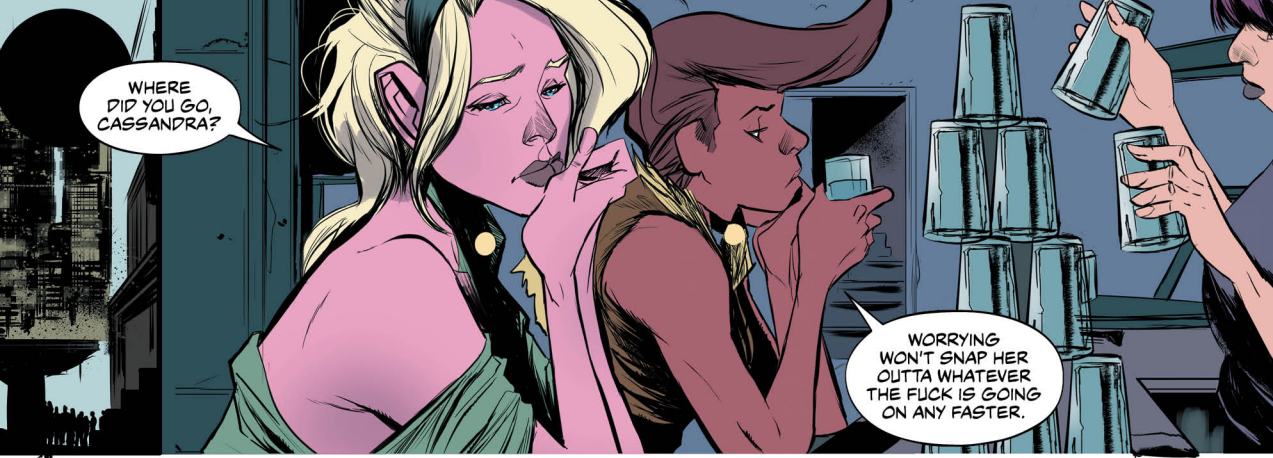
DAD...
THAT'S REALLY
YOU, ISN'T IT?
HOW IS THAT
POSSIBLE?

THERE'S
SO MUCH MORE
I NEED TO TELL
YOU ABOUT WHAT'S
COMING, BUT IT
SEEMS WE'RE OUT
OF TIME.



"PICK YOUR
BATTLES, BABY GIRL,
THERE'S DANGER
ON THE HORIZON."

Connection lost.



WHERE DID YOU GO, CASSANDRA?

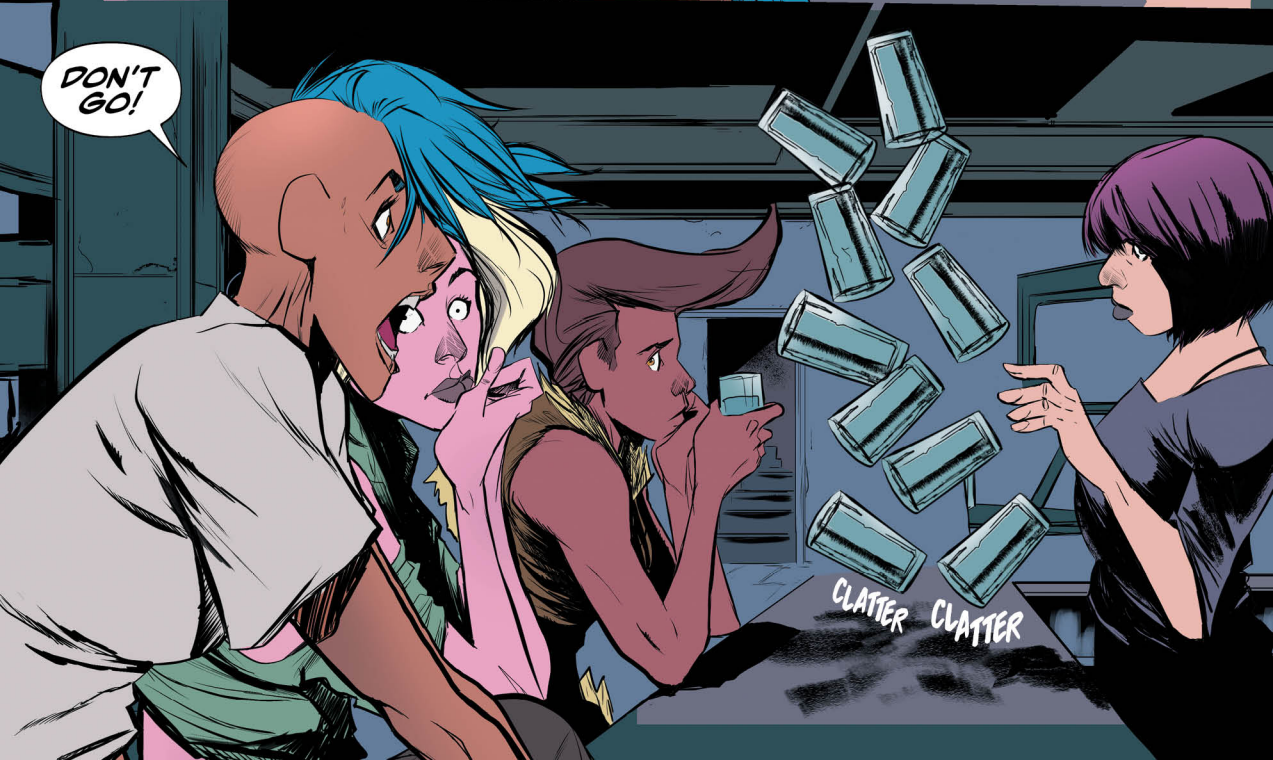
WORRYING WON'T SNAP HER OUTTA WHATEVER THE FUCK IS GOING ON ANY FASTER.



SORRY, FARRAH, BUT I CAN'T HELP IT.

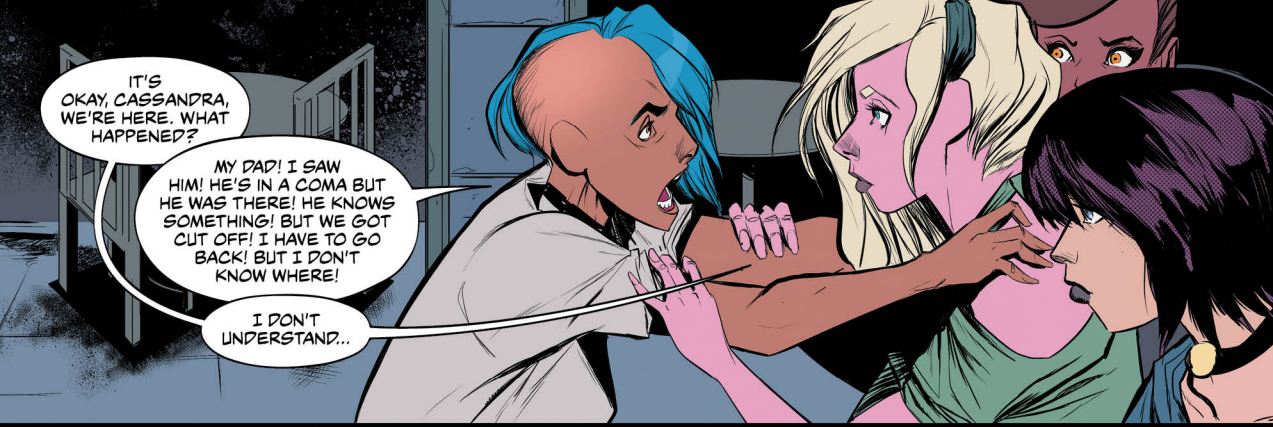
BETWEEN THE SUDDEN INCREASE IN DAEMON ATTACKS AND CASSANDRA'S MYSTERIOUS ASSAILANT, THESE ARE DANGEROUS TIMES.

YEAH, WOW, BET YOU WISH YOU HADN'T TOLD HER OFF FOR SAVING US THE LAST TIME YOU SAW HER, HUH, MARY?



DON'T GO!

CLATTER CLATTER



IT'S OKAY, CASSANDRA, WE'RE HERE. WHAT HAPPENED?

MY DAD! I SAW HIM! HE'S IN A COMA BUT HE WAS THERE! HE KNOWS SOMETHING! BUT WE GOT CUT OFF! I HAVE TO GO BACK! BUT I DON'T KNOW WHERE!

I DON'T UNDERSTAND...



HE WAS RIGHT IN FRONT OF ME AND I COULDN'T DO ANYTHING TO SAVE HIM!



JESUS, KID...

HE WAS RIGHT THERE... I NEED TO... I'VE GOT TO...

YOU'RE SHAKING.



BREATHE. JUST BREATHE.

WHATEVER IS GOING ON, WE'LL FACE IT AS A TEAM. I BROKE MY PROMISE TO KEEP YOU SAFE ONCE, BUT IT WON'T EVER HAPPEN AGAIN.



Y-YOU'RE RIGHT. SORRY I FREAKED OUT. I'M STILL FIGURING OUT HOW TO HANDLE THIS WHOLE "NOT BEING ALONE" THING.

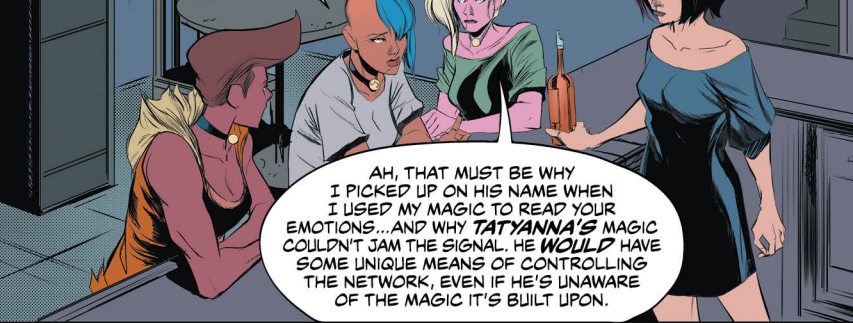


BARF.

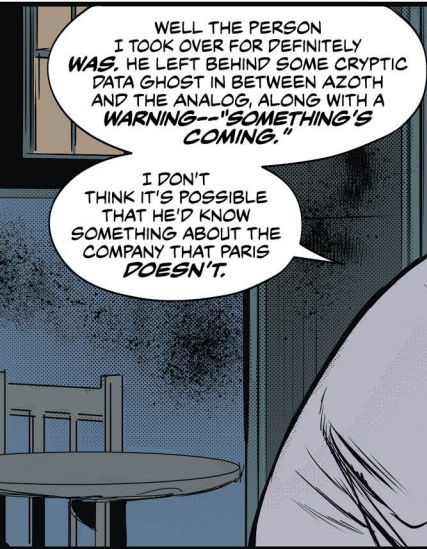
ANYWAY, SINCE YOU CAN FORM SENTENCES AGAIN, CARE TO TELL US WHAT ACTUALLY HAPPENED?

I'VE BEEN ATTACKED BY DAEMONS EVER SINCE ACCEPTING A SHADY JOB AT HERMETICORP, SO I THOUGHT MY BOSS WAS BEHIND IT SOMEHOW. I TRIED TO JUST GHOST HIM, BUT HE GOT THE CEO TO FORCE ME INTO A MEETING USING SOME 'EXECUTIVE PRIVILEGE.'

BOTH OUR PLANS BACKFIRED THOUGH. HE'S OBLIVIOUS TO THE WHOLE AZOTH THING, AND PARIS REYNOLDS JUST ENDED UP PROMOTING ME TO SPITE HIM.

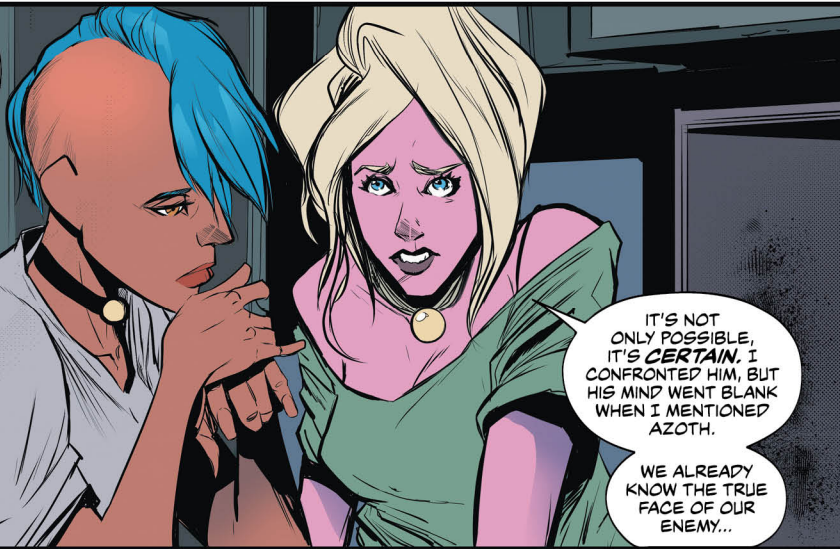


AH, THAT MUST BE WHY I PICKED UP ON HIS NAME WHEN I USED MY MAGIC TO READ YOUR EMOTIONS... AND WHY TATYANNA'S MAGIC COULDN'T JAM THE SIGNAL. HE WOULD HAVE SOME UNIQUE MEANS OF CONTROLLING THE NETWORK, EVEN IF HE'S UNAWARE OF THE MAGIC IT'S BUILT UPON.



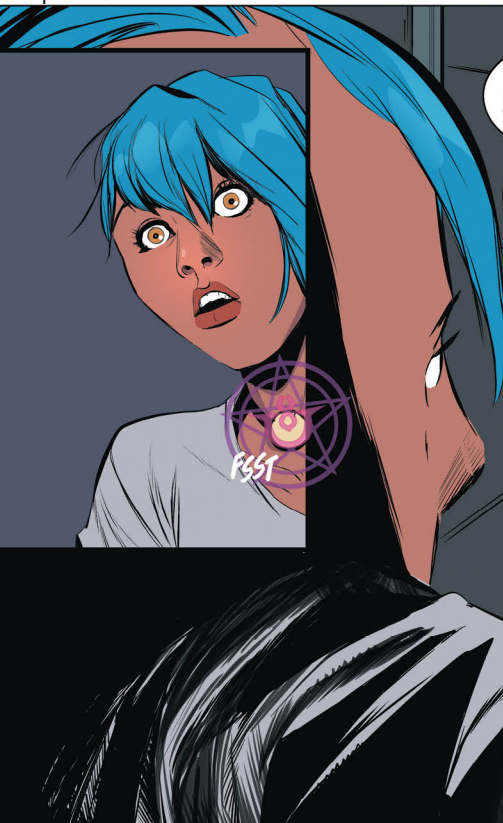
WELL THE PERSON I TOOK OVER FOR DEFINITELY WAS. HE LEFT BEHIND SOME CRYPTIC DATA GHOST IN BETWEEN AZOTH AND THE ANALOG, ALONG WITH A WARNING-- "SOMETHING'S COMING."

I DON'T THINK IT'S POSSIBLE THAT HE'D KNOW SOMETHING ABOUT THE COMPANY THAT PARIS DOESN'T.



IT'S NOT ONLY POSSIBLE, IT'S CERTAIN. I CONFRONTED HIM, BUT HIS MIND WENT BLANK WHEN I MENTIONED AZOTH.

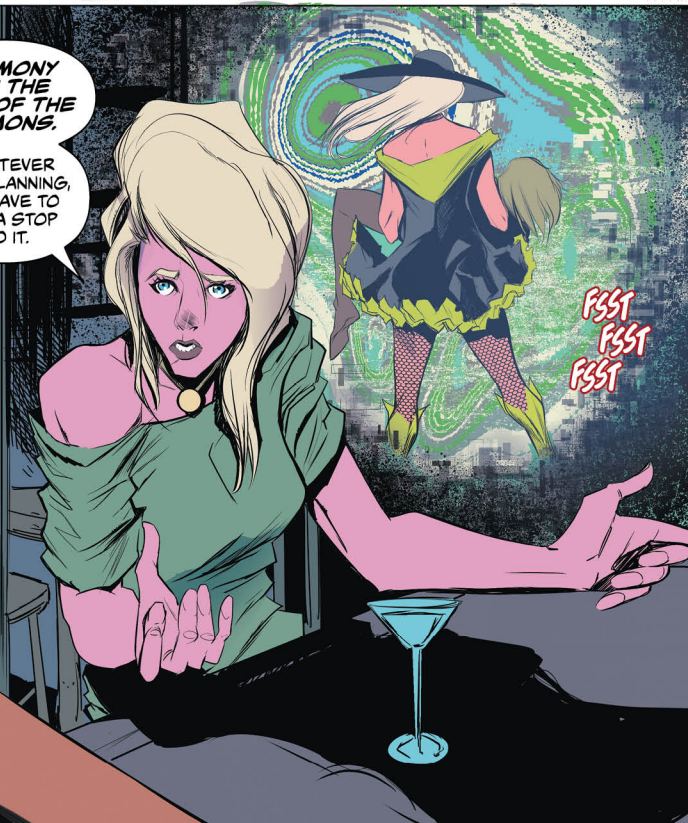
WE ALREADY KNOW THE TRUE FACE OF OUR ENEMY...



FSST

ANTIMONY AND THE REST OF THE DAEMONS.

WHATEVER IT IS PLANNING, WE HAVE TO PUT A STOP TO IT.



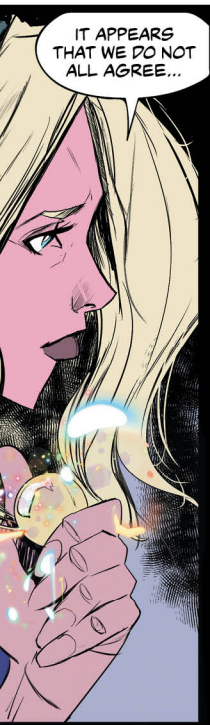
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ARE YOU OKAY? WHAT'S WRONG?

I'M TOO TIRED TO PRETEND I KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON ANYMORE.

WE'VE ALL BEEN RUNNIN' ON FUMES FOR DAYS. CAN WE ALL AGREE TO GO THE FUCK TO BED AND FIGURE IT OUT LATER?



IT APPEARS THAT WE DO NOT ALL AGREE...



I'M SORRY, I JUST CAN'T DISMISS ALL OF THIS AS EASILY...

DON'T OVERTHINK IT, KID, NOTHING'S CHANGED. WHATEVER THE FUCK IS COMING, WE'VE GOTTA KICK ITS ASS EITHER WAY.

LET'S CHEERS TO OUR VICTORIES AND GET OUTTA HERE. I'VE BEEN STUCK IN THIS ONESIE FOR DAYS.

I'M NOT SURE I'M IN THE MOOD FOR CELEBRATING...



YOU GOTTA CELEBRATE ALL THE VICTORIES, NO MATTER HOW SMALL. THERE ARE TOO MANY DEFEATS NOT TO.



TO SOME PEACE AND QUIET.

TO THE FUTURE.

TO MY FAMILY.

TO... WHATEVER'S PAST THE HORIZON.

CLINK!

