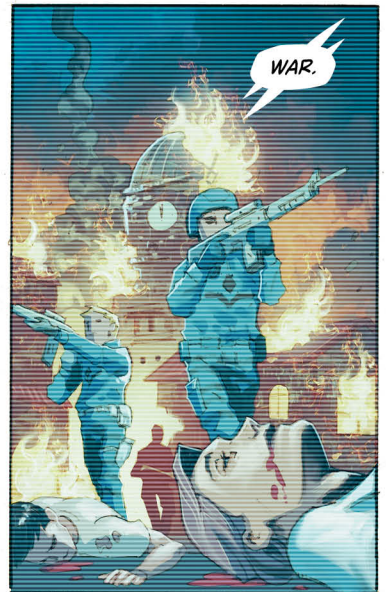


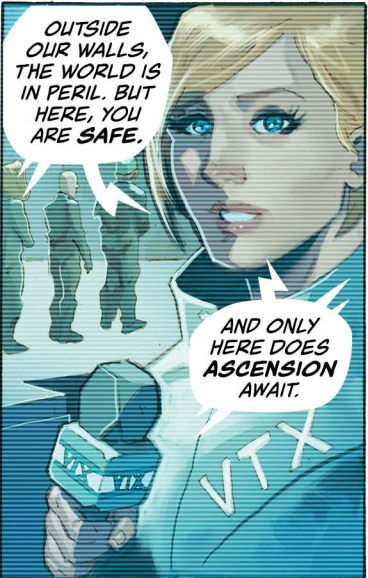
FAMINE.



DROUGHT.



WAR.



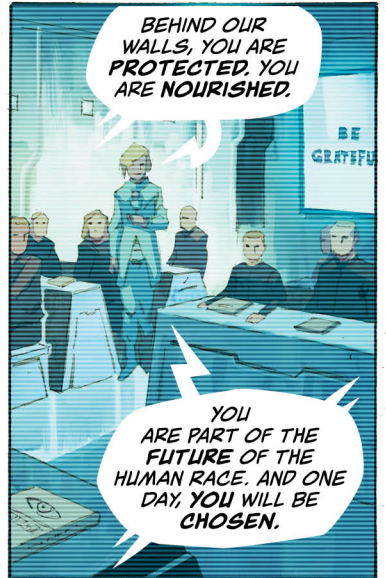
OUTSIDE OUR WALLS, THE WORLD IS IN PERIL. BUT HERE, YOU ARE SAFE.

AND ONLY HERE DOES ASCENSION AWAIT.



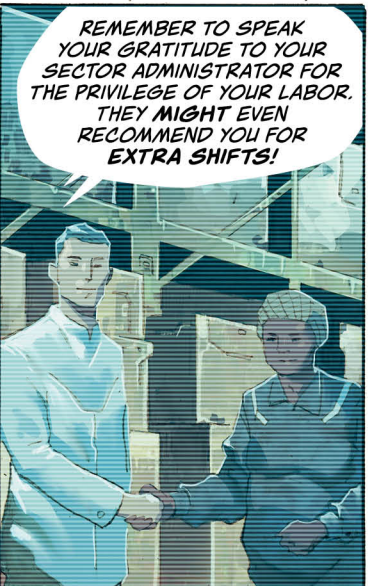
THE DAY MY WIFE ASCENDED WAS THE BEST DAY OF MY LIFE.

I WORK HARD SO I CAN JOIN HER IN HIGH LEVEL.



BEHIND OUR WALLS, YOU ARE PROTECTED, YOU ARE NOURISHED.

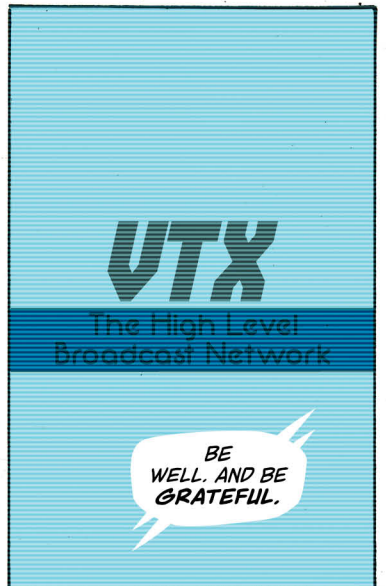
YOU ARE PART OF THE FUTURE OF THE HUMAN RACE. AND ONE DAY, YOU WILL BE CHOSEN.



REMEMBER TO SPEAK YOUR GRATITUDE TO YOUR SECTOR ADMINISTRATOR FOR THE PRIVILEGE OF YOUR LABOR. THEY MIGHT EVEN RECOMMEND YOU FOR EXTRA SHIFTS!



HARD WORK AND OBEDIENCE ARE THE KEYS THAT WILL UNLOCK YOUR PATH TO ASCENSION.



**VTX**

The High Level Broadcast Network

BE WELL. AND BE GRATEFUL.

SOMEWHERE IN THE OUTLANDS...

THIRTEEN...I'M SORRY ABOUT YOUR FRIEND. IT'S...IT'S ALL MY FAULT.

...NO. IT'S NOT. YOU WERE RIGHT TO HOLD ME BACK. **BARRON** WOULD HAVE KILLED ME AND BURNED THE WHOLE TOWN.

DO YOU THINK HE'S STILL ALIVE?

I HOPE NOT, BUT WE HAVE TO KEEP MOVING TOWARD **HIGH LEVEL**...

...BECAUSE **BLACK HELIX** WILL BE AFTER US EITHER WAY.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT IT IS ABOUT YOU, BUT THESE GUYS **REALLY** WANT YOU BACK.

HAVE YOU EVER KILLED ANYONE? **BEFORE** THAT?

...YOU'RE TALKING TOO MUCH.

CAN'T WE REST? JUST FOR A BIT?

NO. WE NEED TO FIND SOME **WATER** SOON, OR WE'RE GONNA DIE OUT HERE.

BUT I'M SO TIRED...IT'S SO HOT...

JUST BE GLAD IT'S **WINTER**.



HOW MUCH FARTHER? WHERE ARE WE GOING?



THE MAIN ROAD ISN'T SAFE, SO WE'RE CUTTING OVER TO THE **SMUGGLER ROUTES**. RISKY, BUT WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO FIND SOME SUPPLIES THERE...

...IF WE LAST THAT LONG.



THIS WAY.

NO, I JUST TOLD YOU, WE NEED TO GO--



IT'S OVER HERE!

OH, COME THE FUCK ON, KID...



MINNOW! WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING?!

IT'S RIGHT HERE!

CALM DOWN, YOU'VE GOT SUNSTROKE, YOU'RE NOT THINKING STRAIGHT.



LOOK!

WHAT THE...?

THIS IS AN A.N.A. SUPPLY CRATE! FROM THE OLD WARS...HOW'D YOU KNOW THIS WAS HERE?

I JUST KNEW.

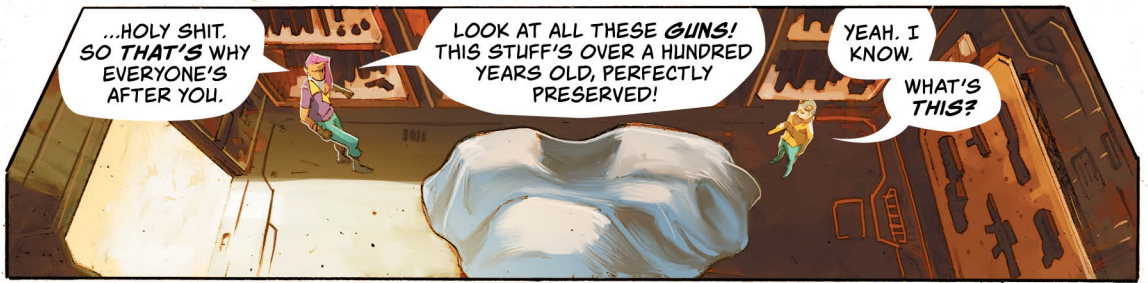


OKAY, WELL, GOOD TRICK, KID, BUT **NO ONE** KNOWS HOW TO...

PSSSSSHHH

...OPEN  
THESE...





...HOLY SHIT. SO THAT'S WHY EVERYONE'S AFTER YOU.

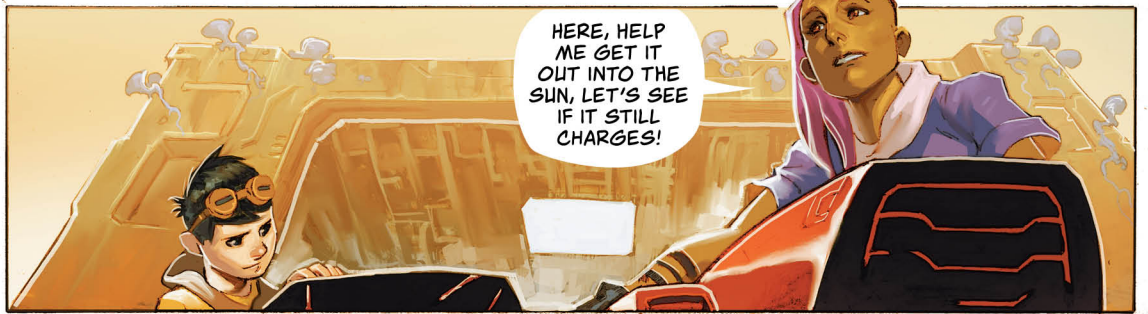
LOOK AT ALL THESE GUNS! THIS STUFF'S OVER A HUNDRED YEARS OLD, PERFECTLY PRESERVED!

YEAH. I KNOW. WHAT'S THIS?

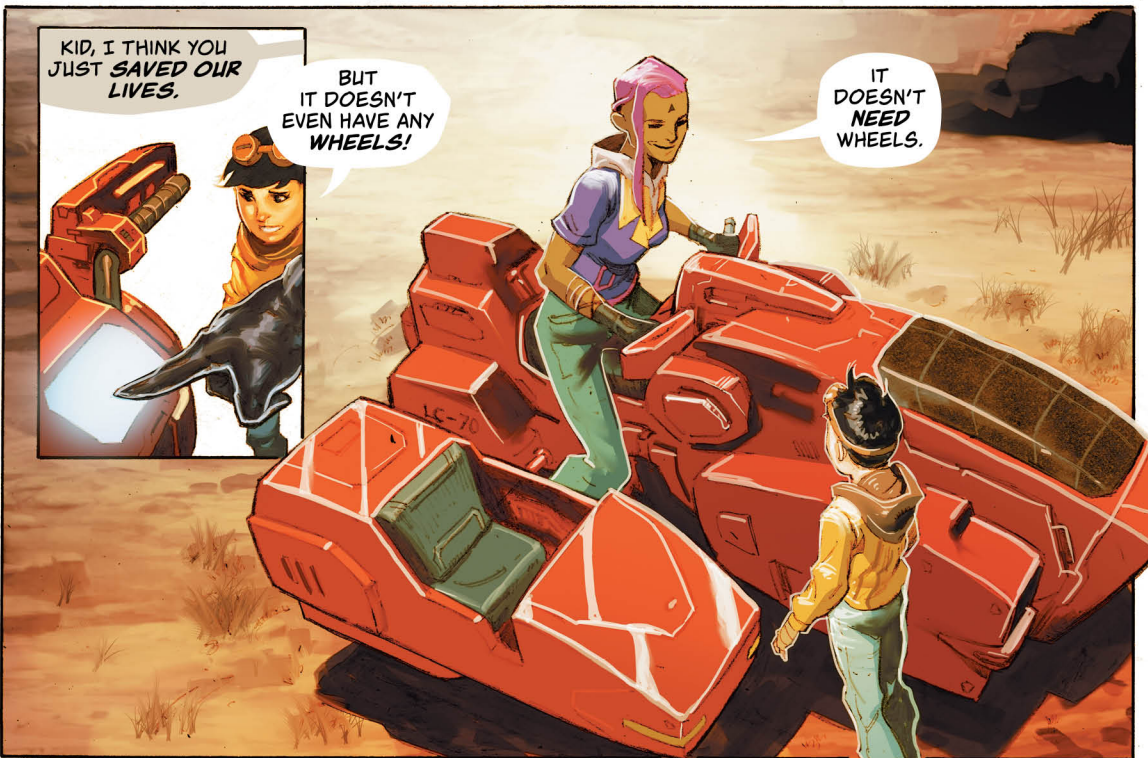


FUCK. ME.

IT'S AN LC-70! I'VE ONLY SEEN REBUILT SHELLS OF THESE THINGS, BUT THIS ONE IS...IT'S BEAUTIFUL!



HERE, HELP ME GET IT OUT INTO THE SUN, LET'S SEE IF IT STILL CHARGES!



KID, I THINK YOU JUST SAVED OUR LIVES.

BUT IT DOESN'T EVEN HAVE ANY WHEELS!

IT DOESN'T NEED WHEELS.



WITH THE BIKE WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO MAKE IT ALL THE WAY TO NIBI BEFORE SUNDOWN. WE CAN RESUPPLY THERE.

WHY ARE YOU TAKING THOSE GUNS?

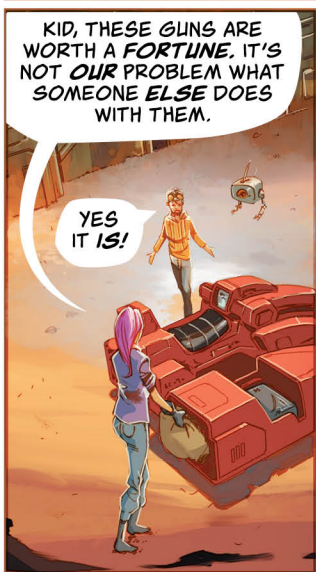
TO TRADE FOR SUPPLIES.



NO! NO GUNS!

ALL MY MONEY WAS IN THE VAN. WE HAVE NOTHING TO TRADE.

NO! THIS IS WHAT THEY USE ME FOR! I FIND GUNS, I OPEN DOORS, AND PEOPLE DIE BECAUSE OF ME!



KID, THESE GUNS ARE WORTH A FORTUNE. IT'S NOT OUR PROBLEM WHAT SOMEONE ELSE DOES WITH THEM.

YES IT IS!

YOU GOTTA LOOK OUT FOR YOURSELF. NO ONE ELSE MATTERS. THIS IS YOUR TICKET HOME, AND MINE. IT'S JUST BUSINESS, KID.

WELL, I HATE IT.

JUST GET IN THE BIKE. SPARE ME THE PITY PARTY.

