

JAMES S.A. COREY

LAMBERT • LEE • DANLAN • FARRELL

THE
EXPANSETM
ORIGINS: JAMES HOLDEN

BOOM!TM **NO. 1**
STUDIOS [OF 4]

THE EXPANSE™

ORIGINS: JAMES HOLDEN

BASED ON THE BOOKS BY **JAMES S.A. COREY**

STORY BY **JAMES S.A. COREY**

WRITTEN BY **HALLIE LAMBERT** AND **GEORGIA LEE**

ILLUSTRATED BY **HUANG DANLAN**

COLORED BY **TRIONA FARRELL**

LETTERED BY **JIM CAMPBELL**

COVER DESIGNED BY **SCOTT NEWMAN**



The story of *THE EXPANSE* unfolds across a colonized solar system 200 years in the future. The crew of **The Rocinante** finds themselves at the center of an interplanetary conflict that threatens to destroy all of human civilization. But before our team were heroes, and before there was The Rocinante, our crew were just a bunch of ice-haulers on a third-rate ice trawler called **The Canterbury**. And these are the stories of the winding roads that led to The Cant...

DESIGNER **SCOTT NEWMAN**
ASSOCIATE EDITOR **CAMERON CHITTOCK**
EDITOR **ERIC HARBURN**

SPECIAL THANKS TO **BEN ROBERTS**,
JOHN SANDERSON, AND THE ENTIRE TEAM AT
ALCON TELEVISION GROUP.

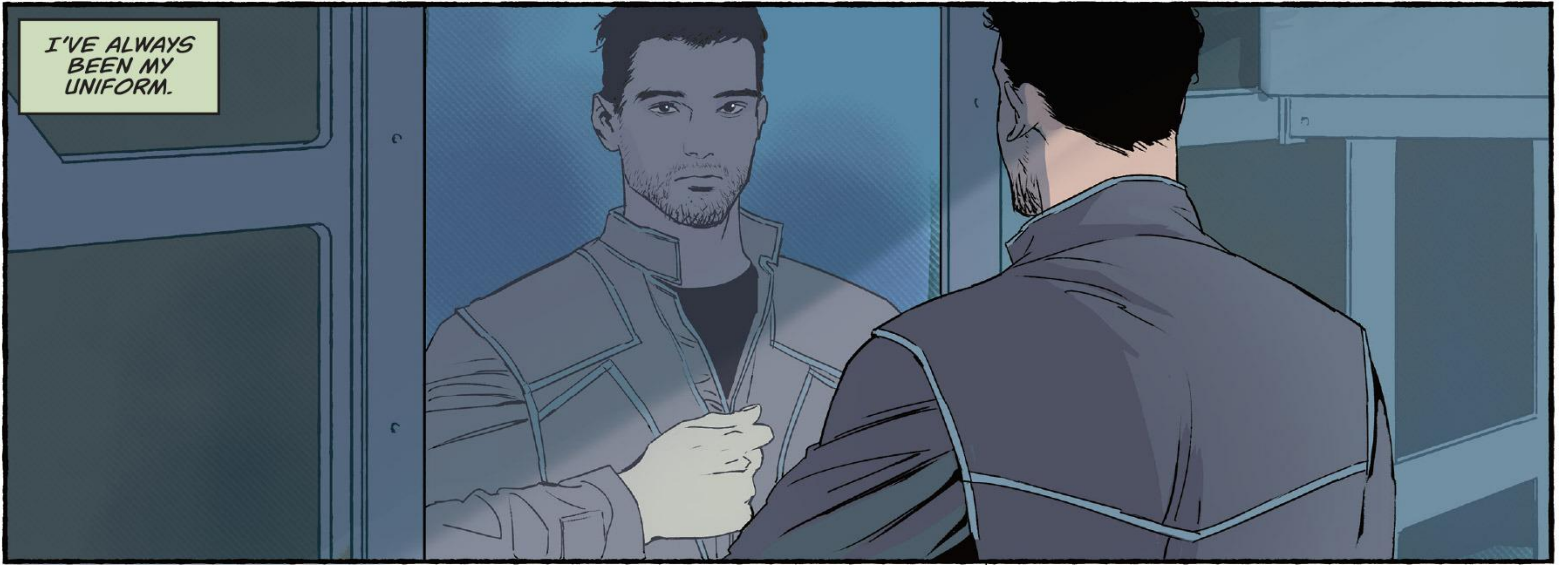


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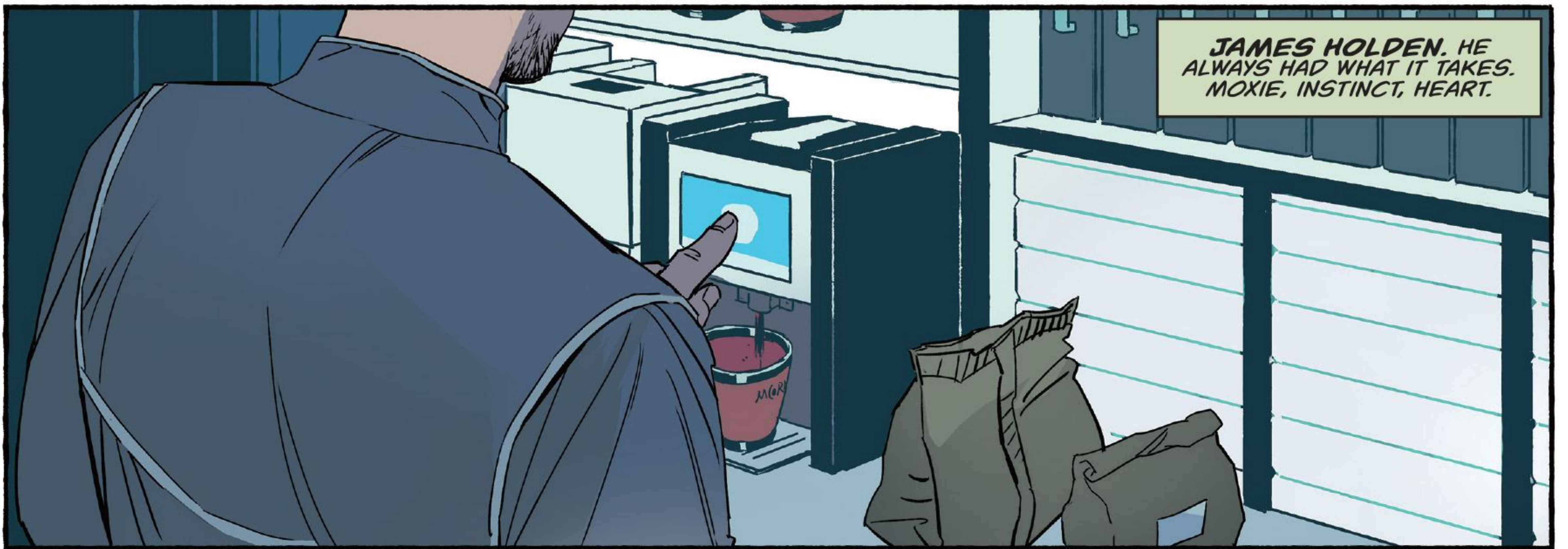
I'VE ALWAYS BEEN MY UNIFORM.



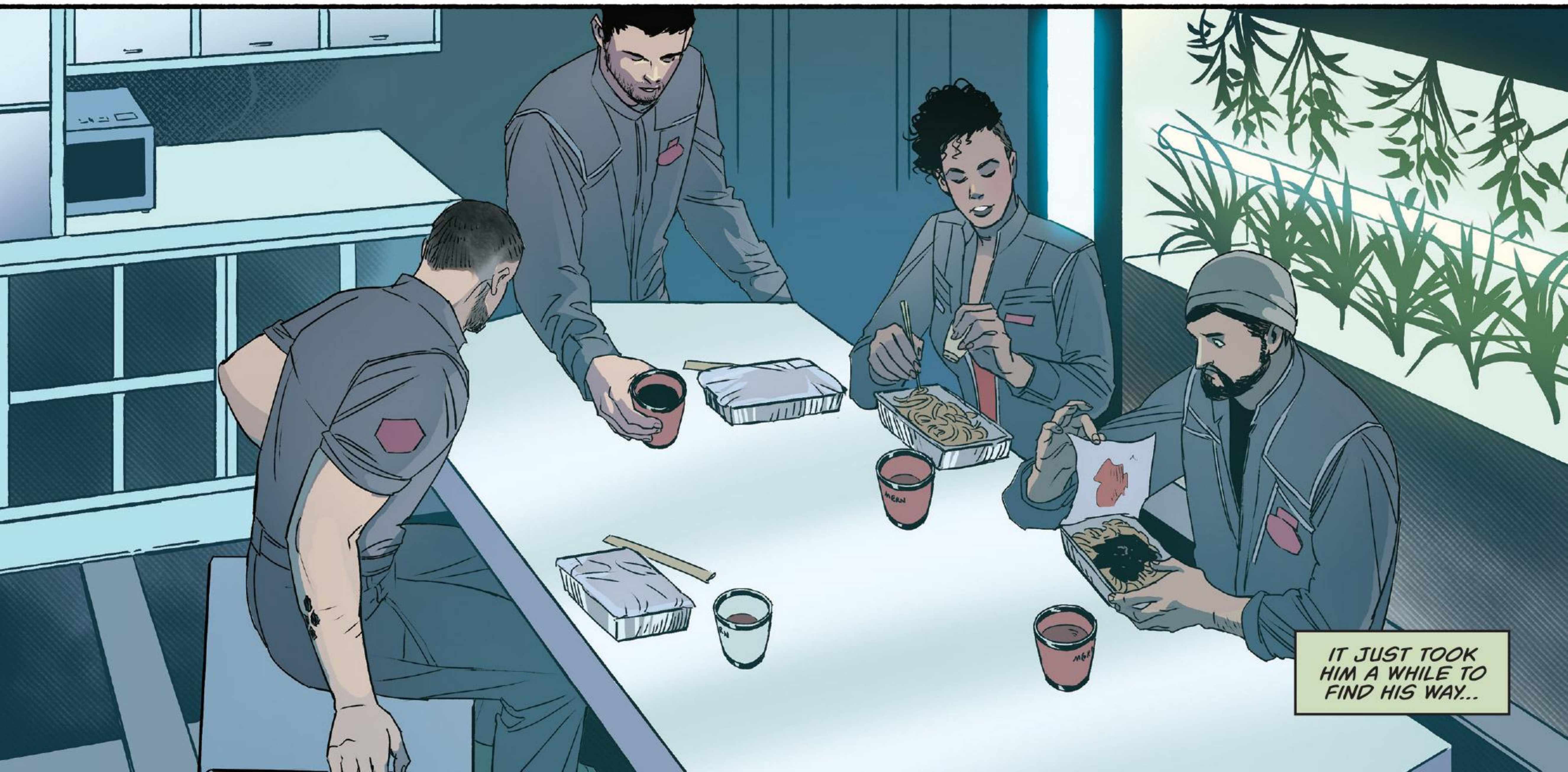
SOME ARE BORN KNOWING WHO THEY ARE AND WILL BE.

SOME SEARCH THE SYSTEM FOR IT...

AND SOME NEVER FIND THEIR WAY...



JAMES HOLDEN. HE ALWAYS HAD WHAT IT TAKES. MOXIE, INSTINCT, HEART.



IT JUST TOOK HIM A WHILE TO FIND HIS WAY...

UNN Zheng Fei. Asteroid Belt.
Eight years earlier.



MY CREW ON THE ZHENG FEI
WERE GREEN. MOST HAD
NEVER SEEN REAL ACTION.

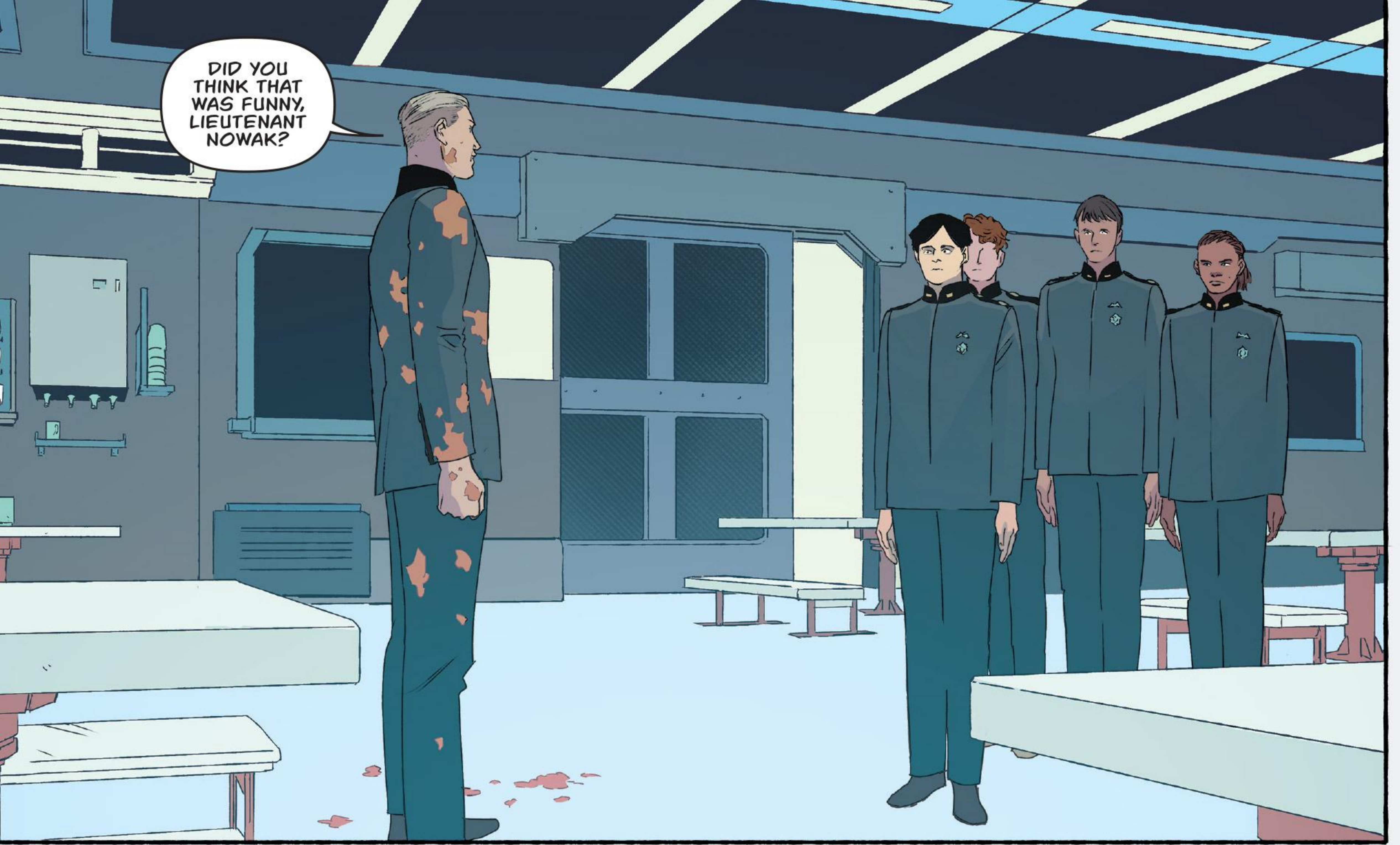
I TELL THEM ABOUT THE VESTA BLOCKADE.
ABOUT CALLISTO. HOW DANGEROUS IT IS
FIGHTING ON ENEMY TURF. HOW THE OPA
IS NEVER TO BE UNDERESTIMATED.



BUT I WON'T
BE AROUND
FOREVER.



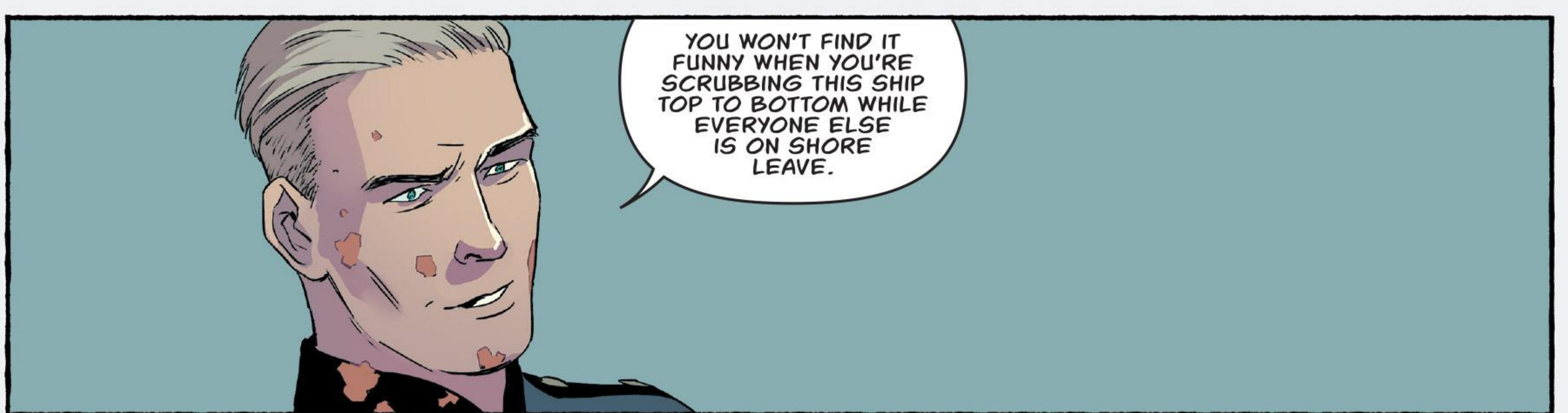
I HOPE THE
NEW KIDS
ARE READY.



DID YOU THINK THAT WAS FUNNY, LIEUTENANT NOWAK?

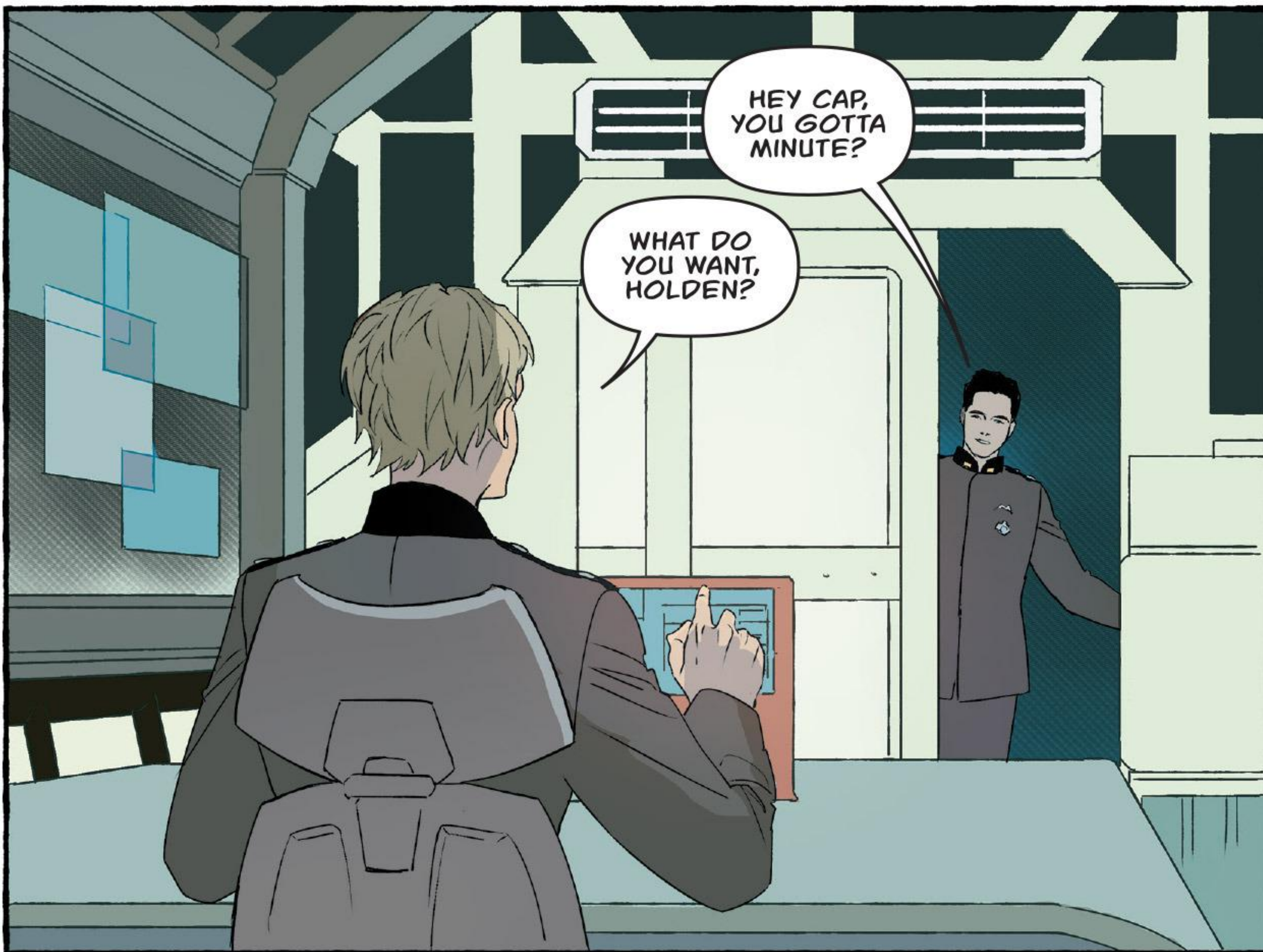


NO, SIR.



YOU WON'T FIND IT FUNNY WHEN YOU'RE SCRUBBING THIS SHIP TOP TO BOTTOM WHILE EVERYONE ELSE IS ON SHORE LEAVE.





HEY CAP,
YOU GOTTA
MINUTE?

WHAT DO
YOU WANT,
HOLDEN?



BY ALL
MEANS,
HAVE A
SEAT.



IT WAS A JOKE.
LIEUTENANT NOWAK
WAS JUST TRYING TO
FIT IN. DON'T YOU THINK
TAKING AWAY HIS SHORE
LEAVE IS A LITTLE
EXTREME?

COMMANDER
DORAN HANDLED
THE SITUATION
BY THE BOOK.

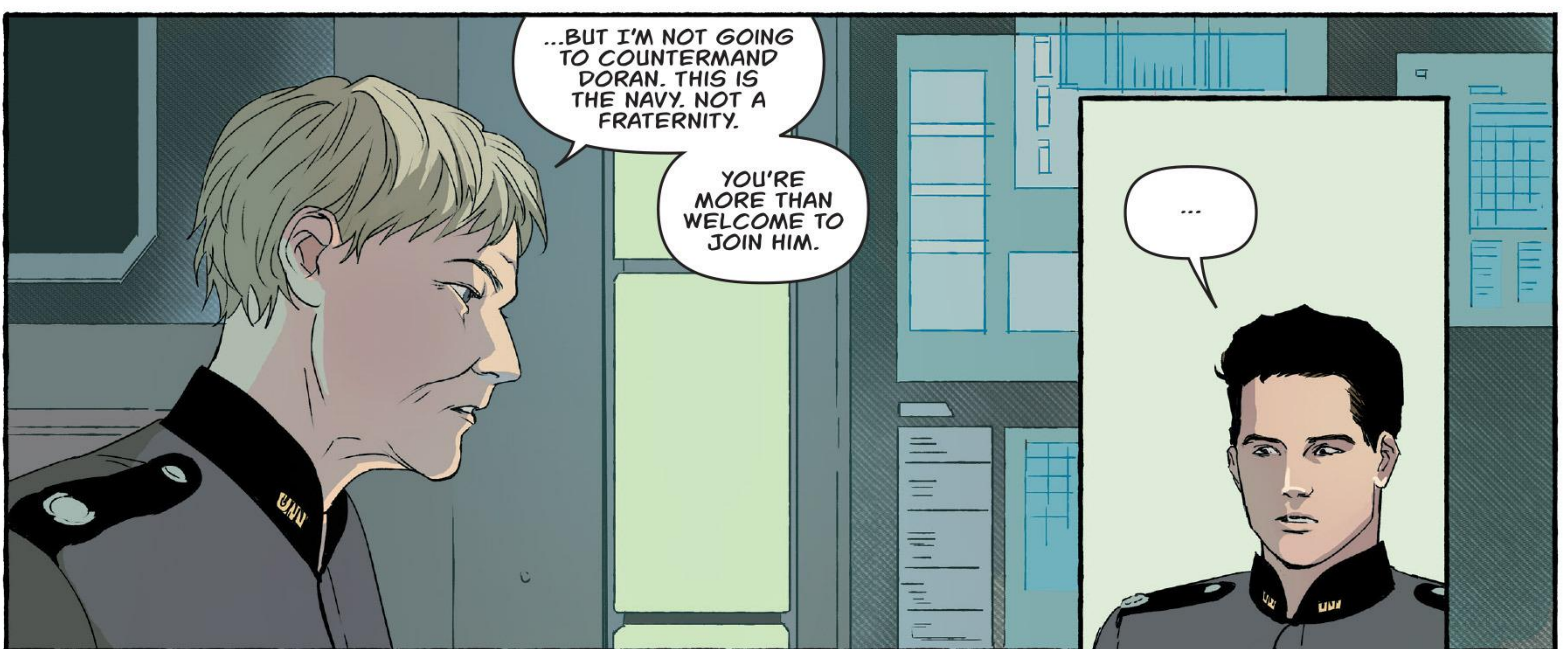
IT WOULD
DO YOU GOOD
TO REMEMBER
WHO IS IN
CHARGE.



ANY ROOM FOR
LENIENCY IF AN
ACCOMPLICE
CONFESS?



CHARM
WILL GET
YOU FAR IN
LIFE...



...BUT I'M NOT GOING
TO COUNTERMAND
DORAN. THIS IS
THE NAVY. NOT A
FRATERNITY.

YOU'RE
MORE THAN
WELCOME TO
JOIN HIM.



...



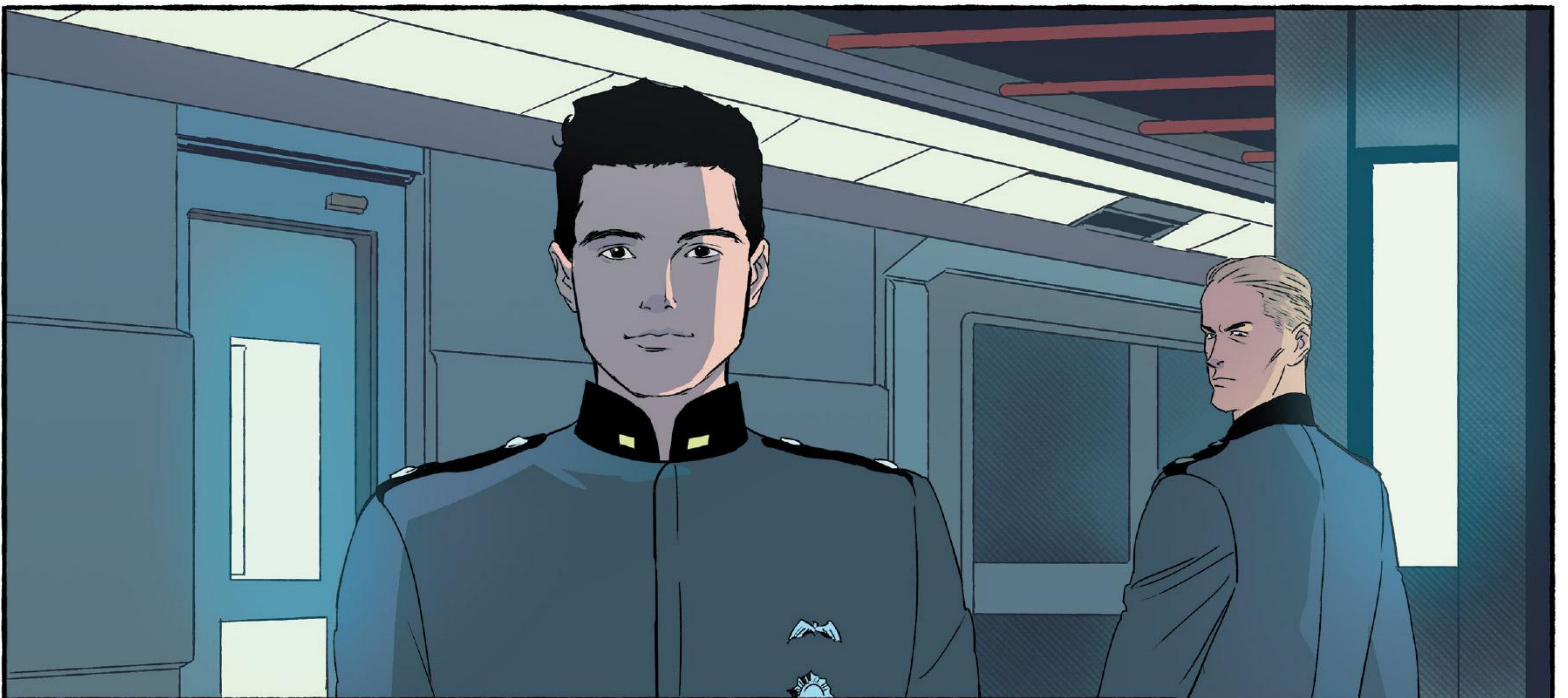
WELL, GUESS THE SHIP'LL GET CLEAN TWICE AS FAST.

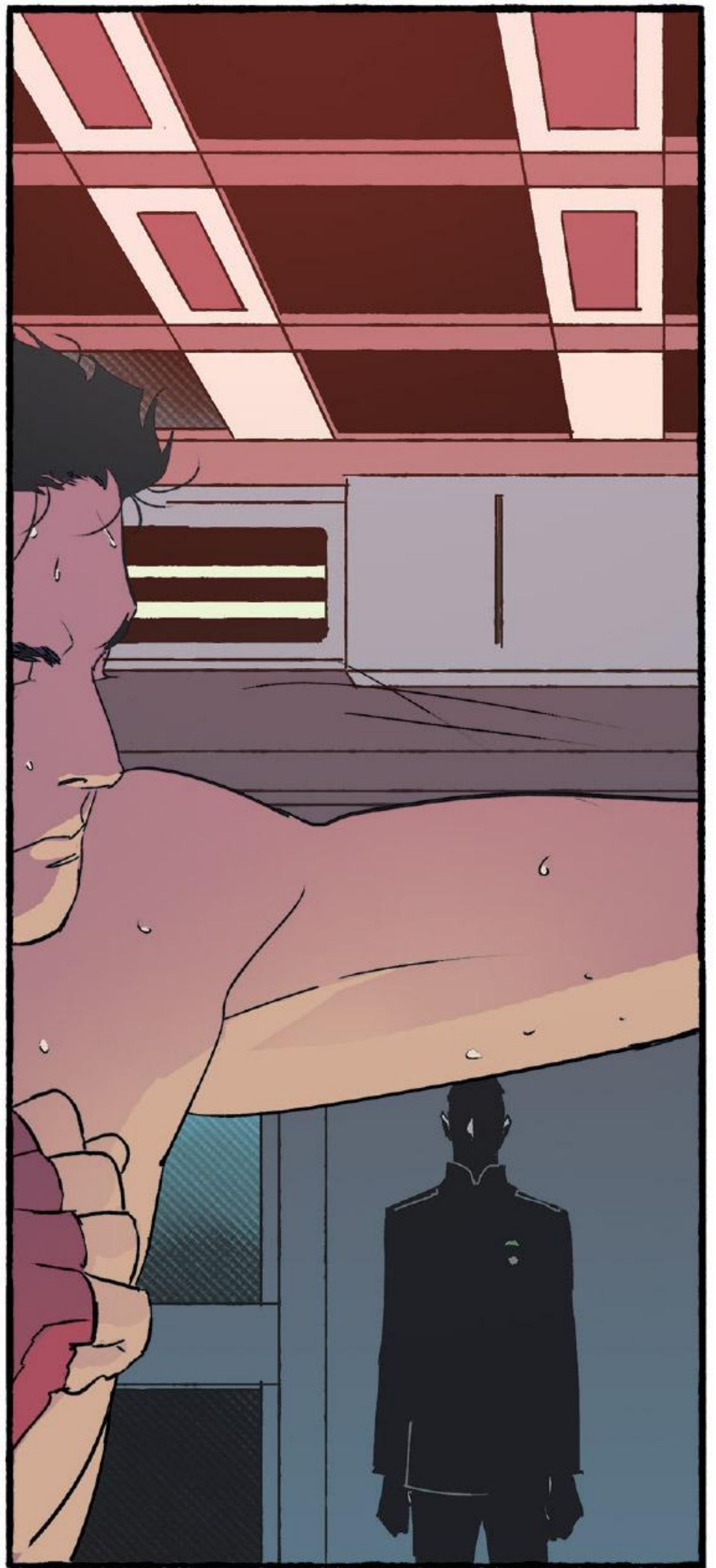
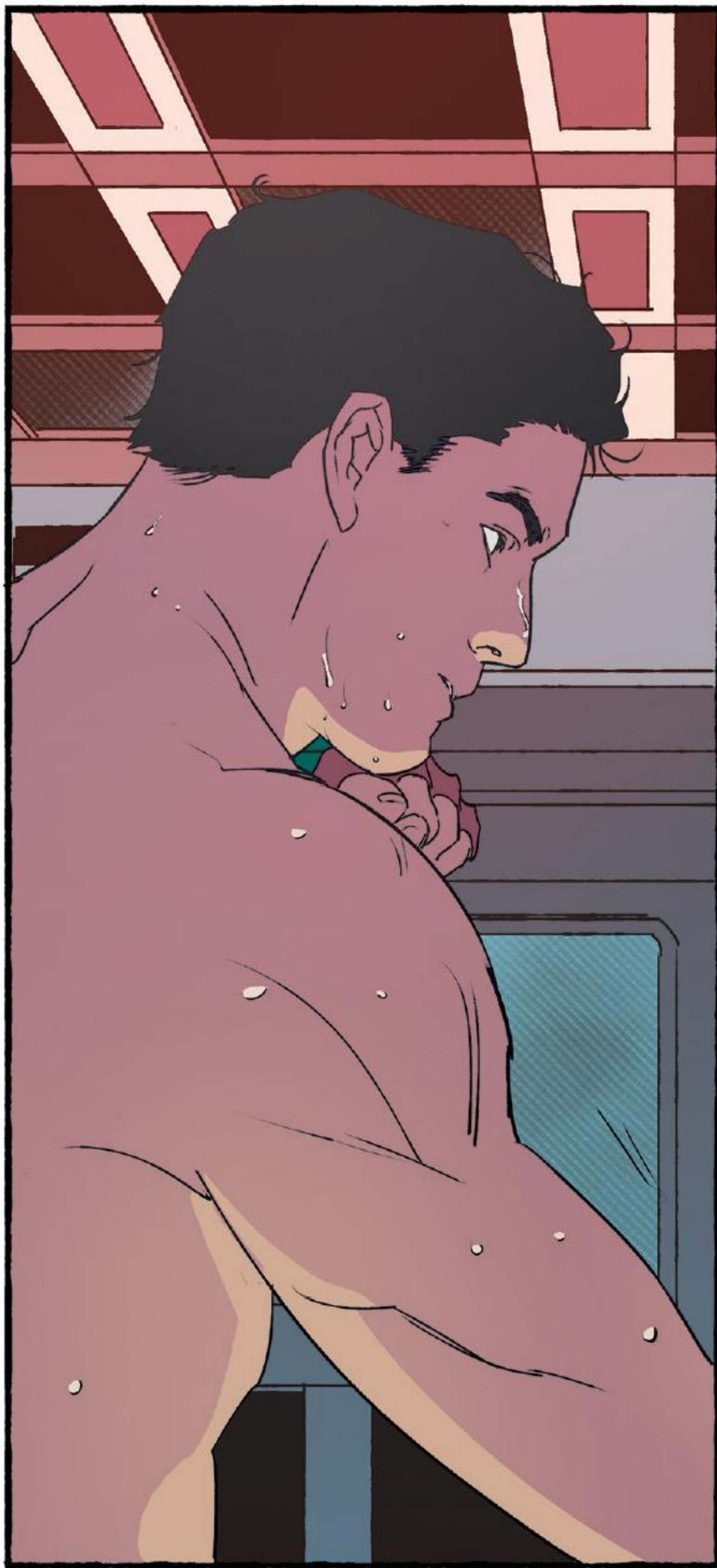
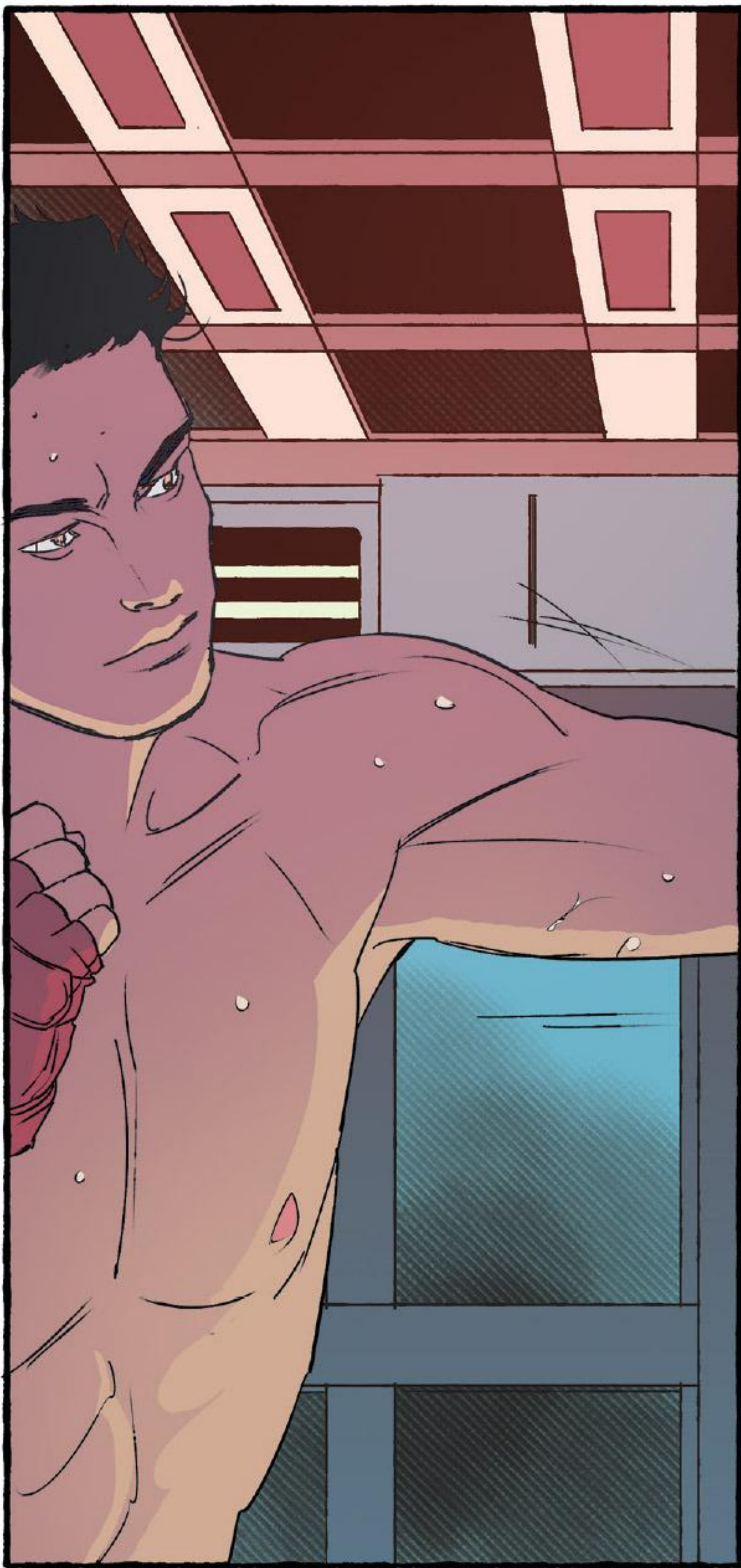


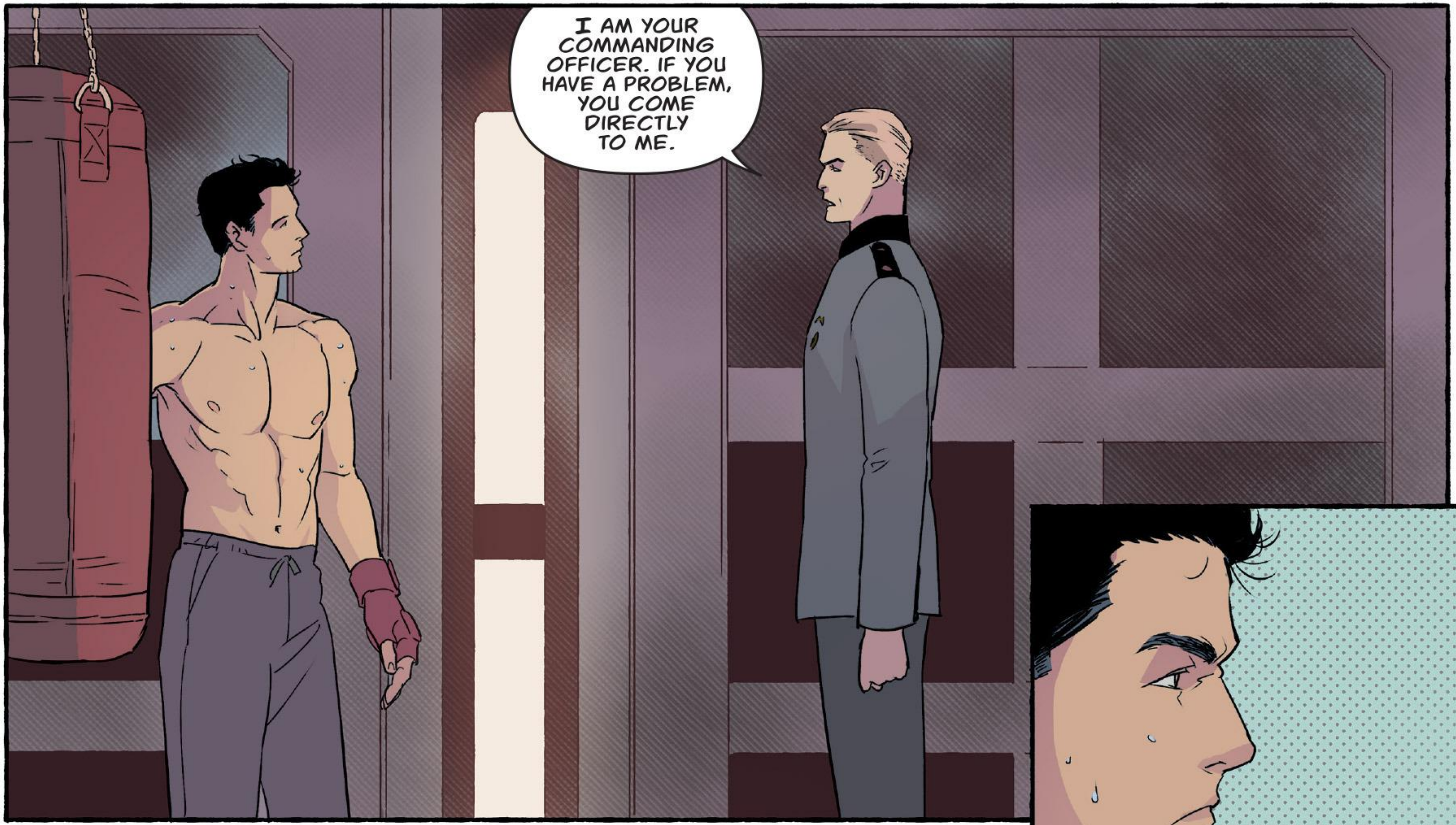
JAMES HOLDEN. ALWAYS TRYING TO PROTECT THE UNDERDOG.



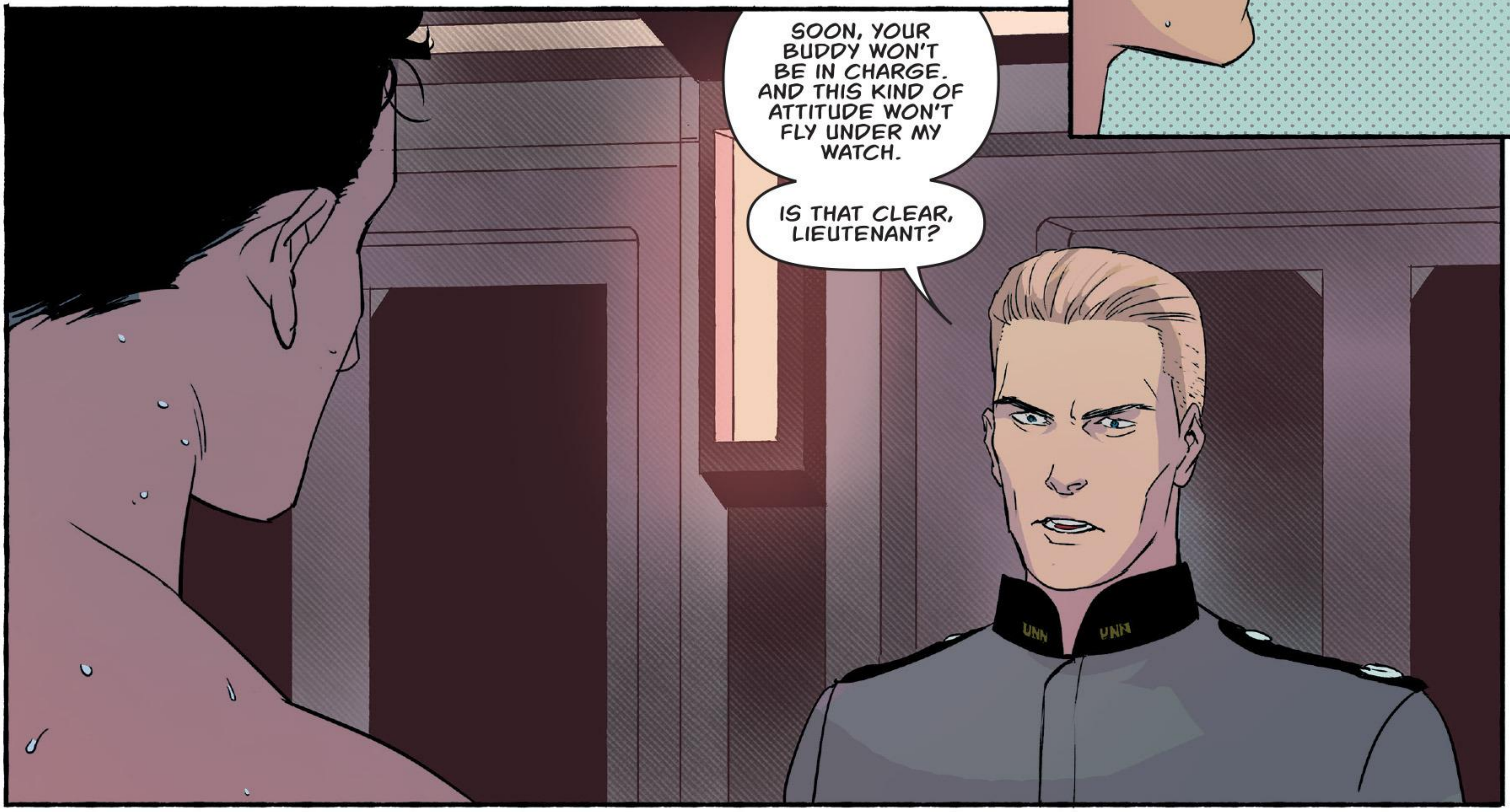
IT WAS PRETTY FUNNY.





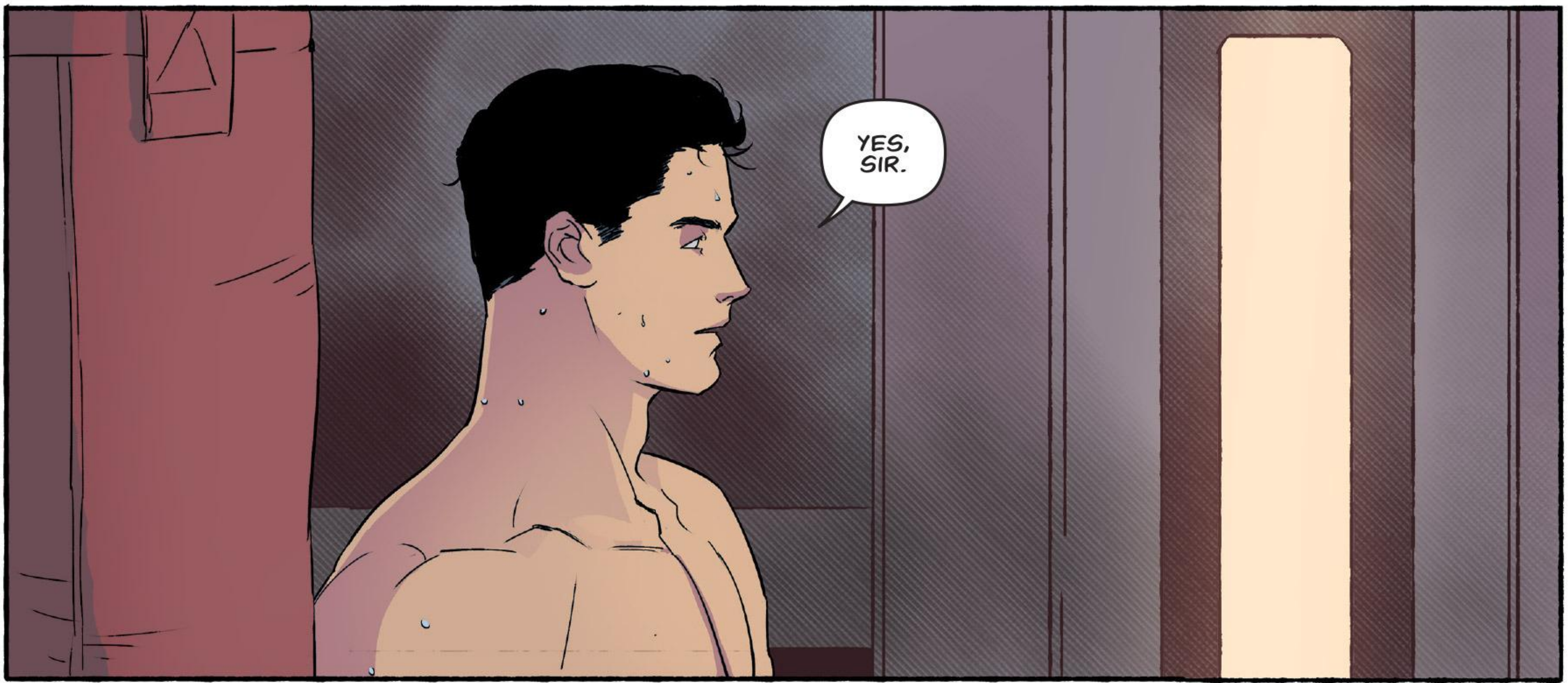


I AM YOUR COMMANDING OFFICER. IF YOU HAVE A PROBLEM, YOU COME DIRECTLY TO ME.

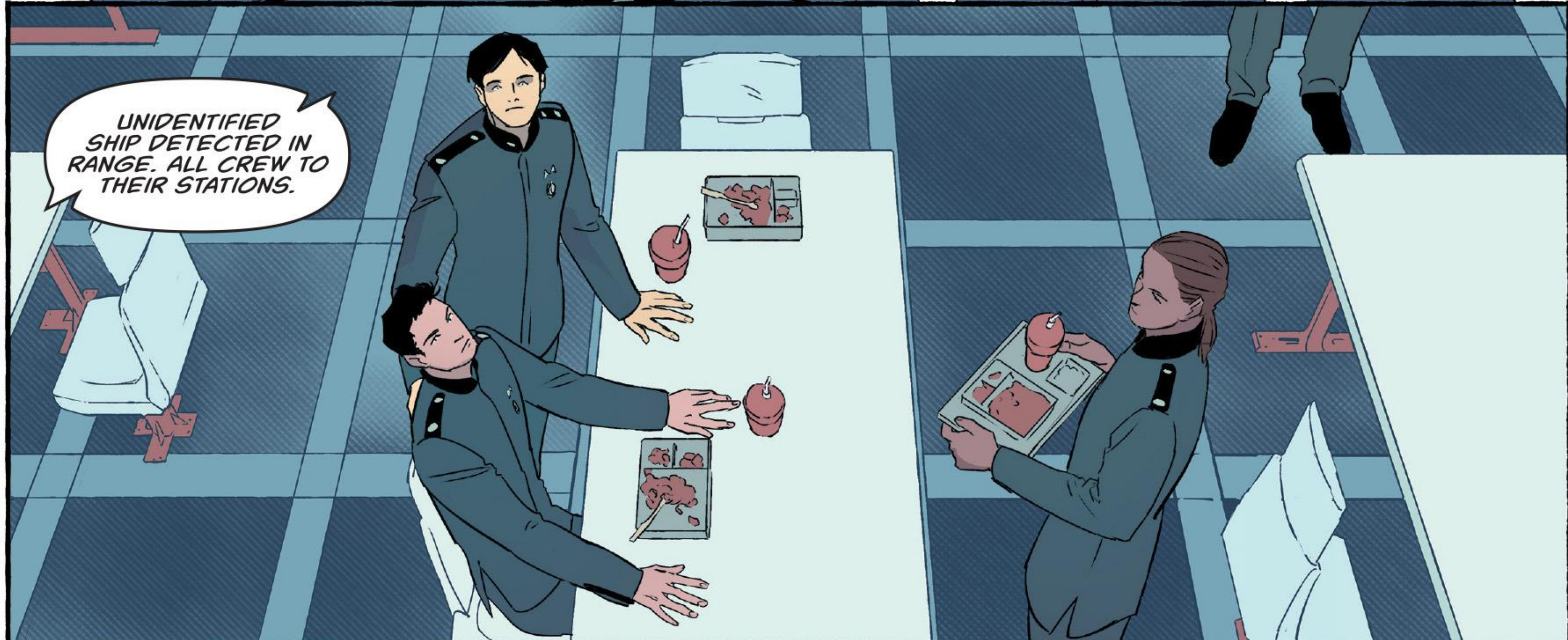


SOON, YOUR BUDDY WON'T BE IN CHARGE. AND THIS KIND OF ATTITUDE WON'T FLY UNDER MY WATCH.

IS THAT CLEAR, LIEUTENANT?

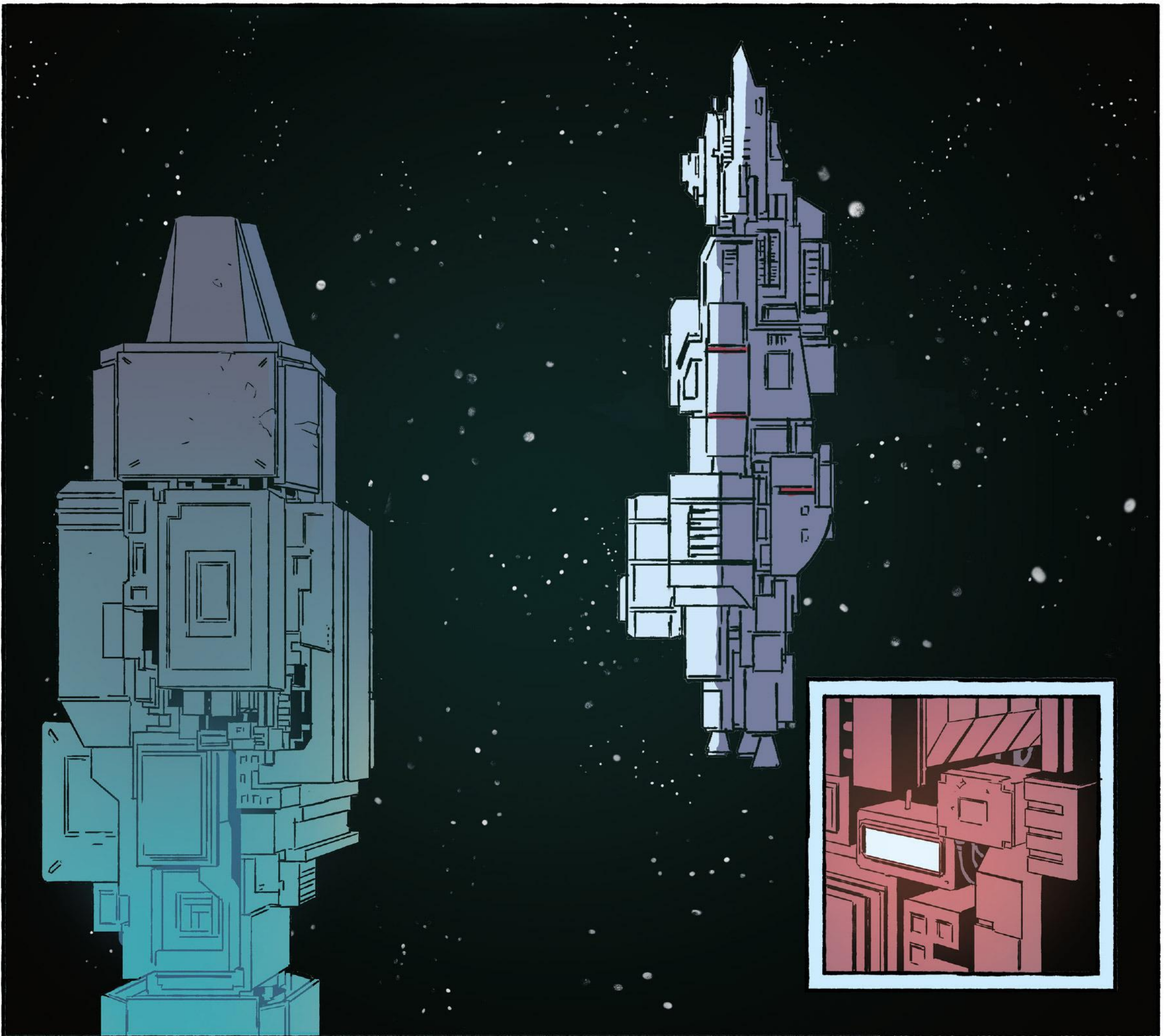
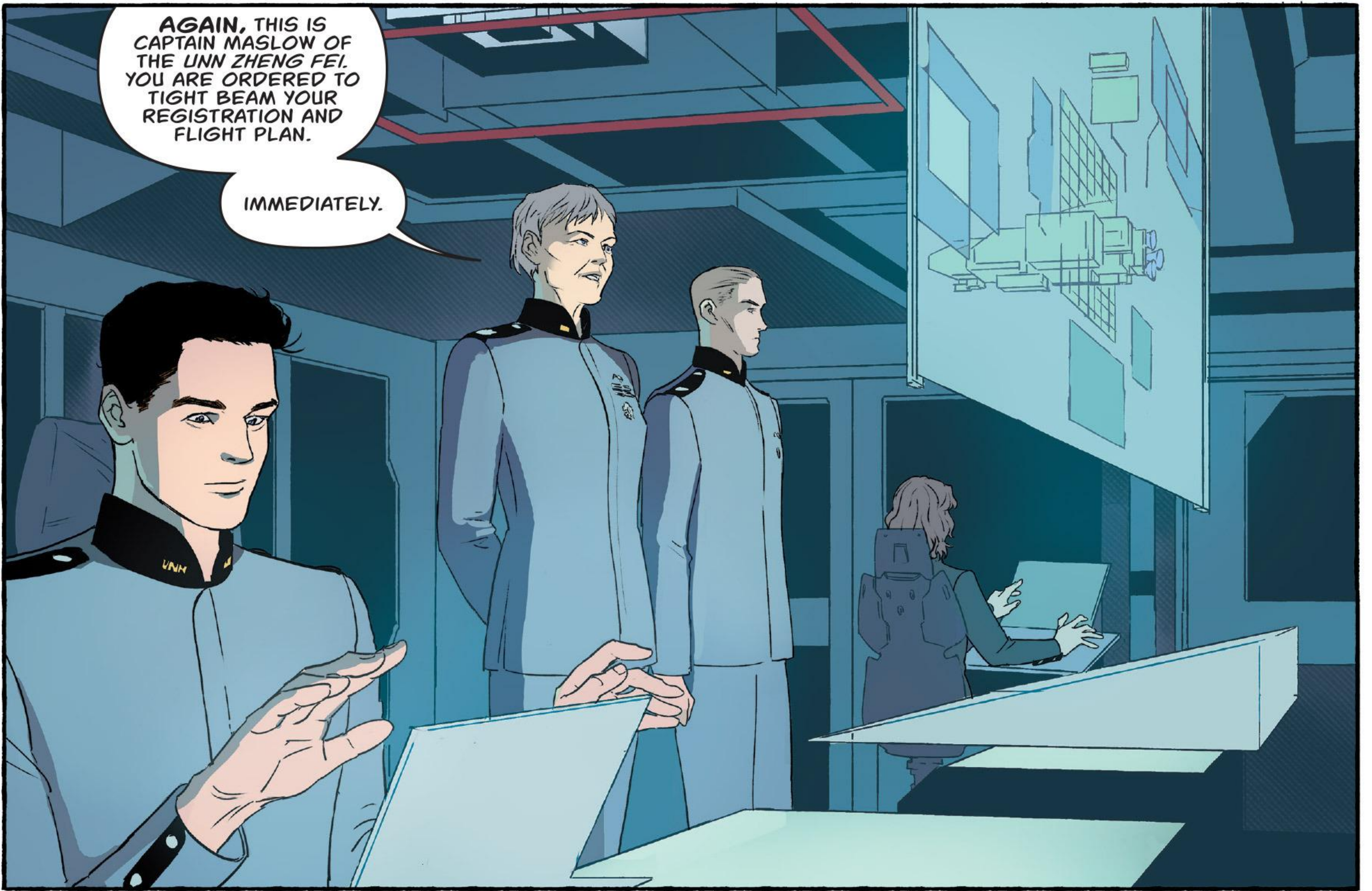


YES, SIR.



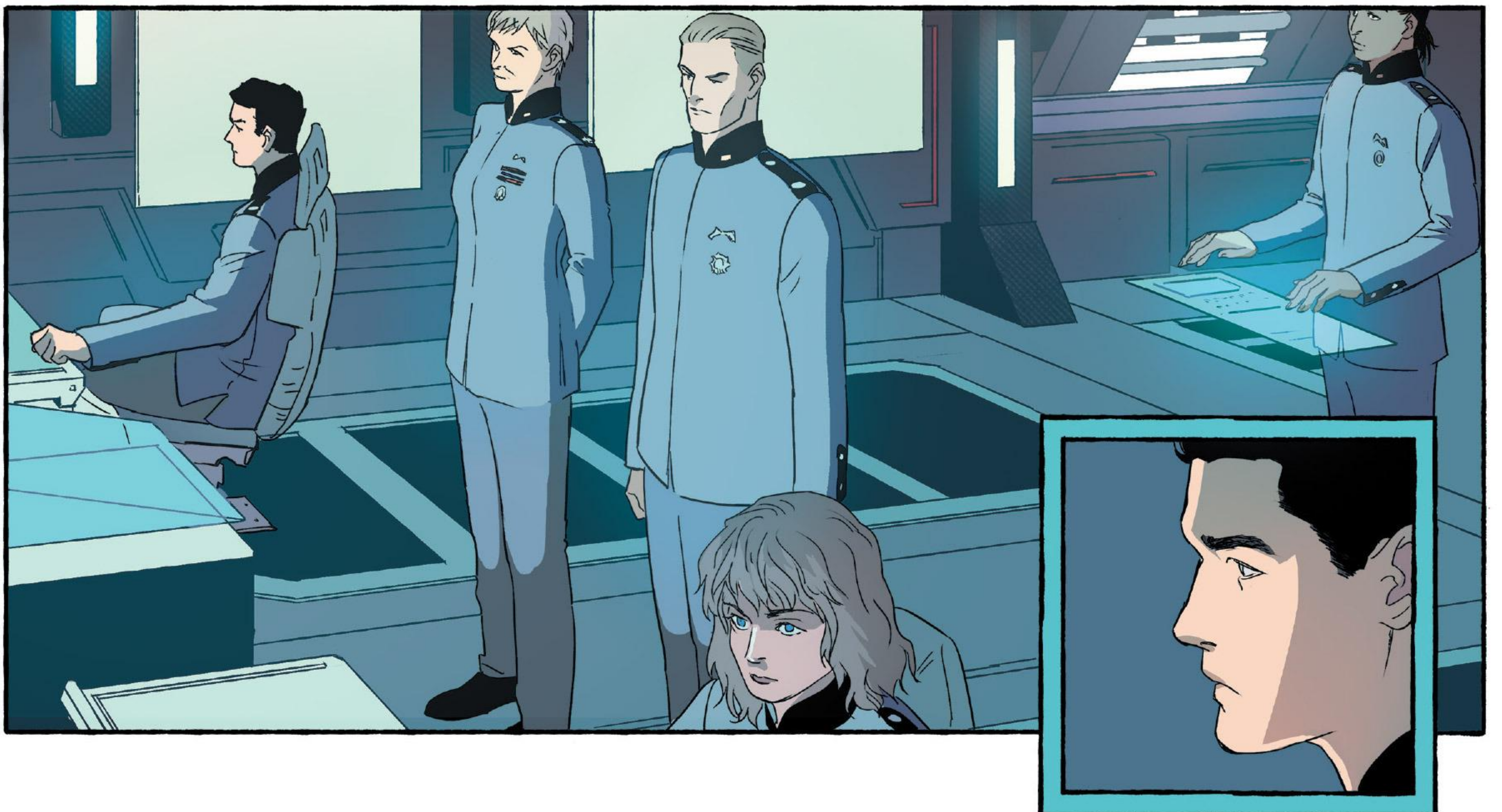
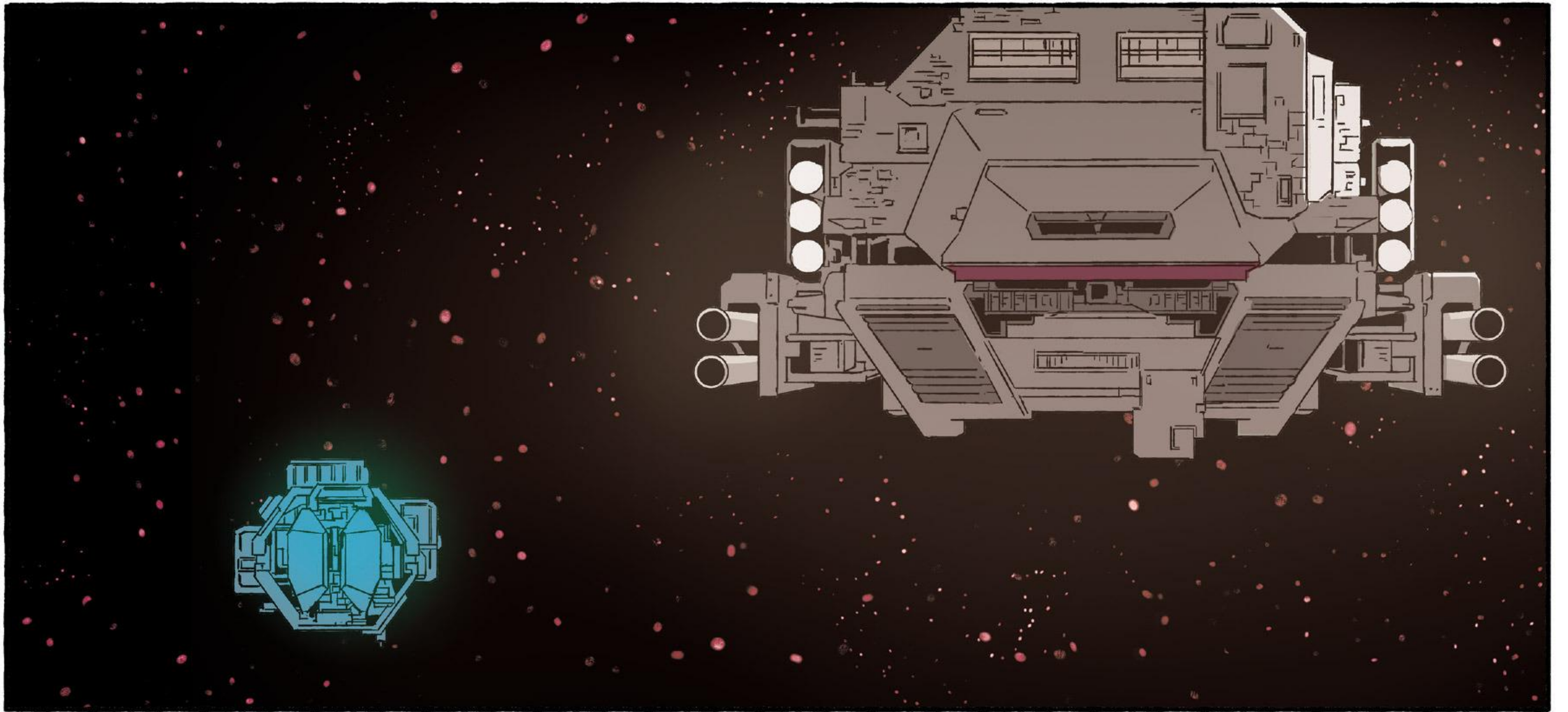
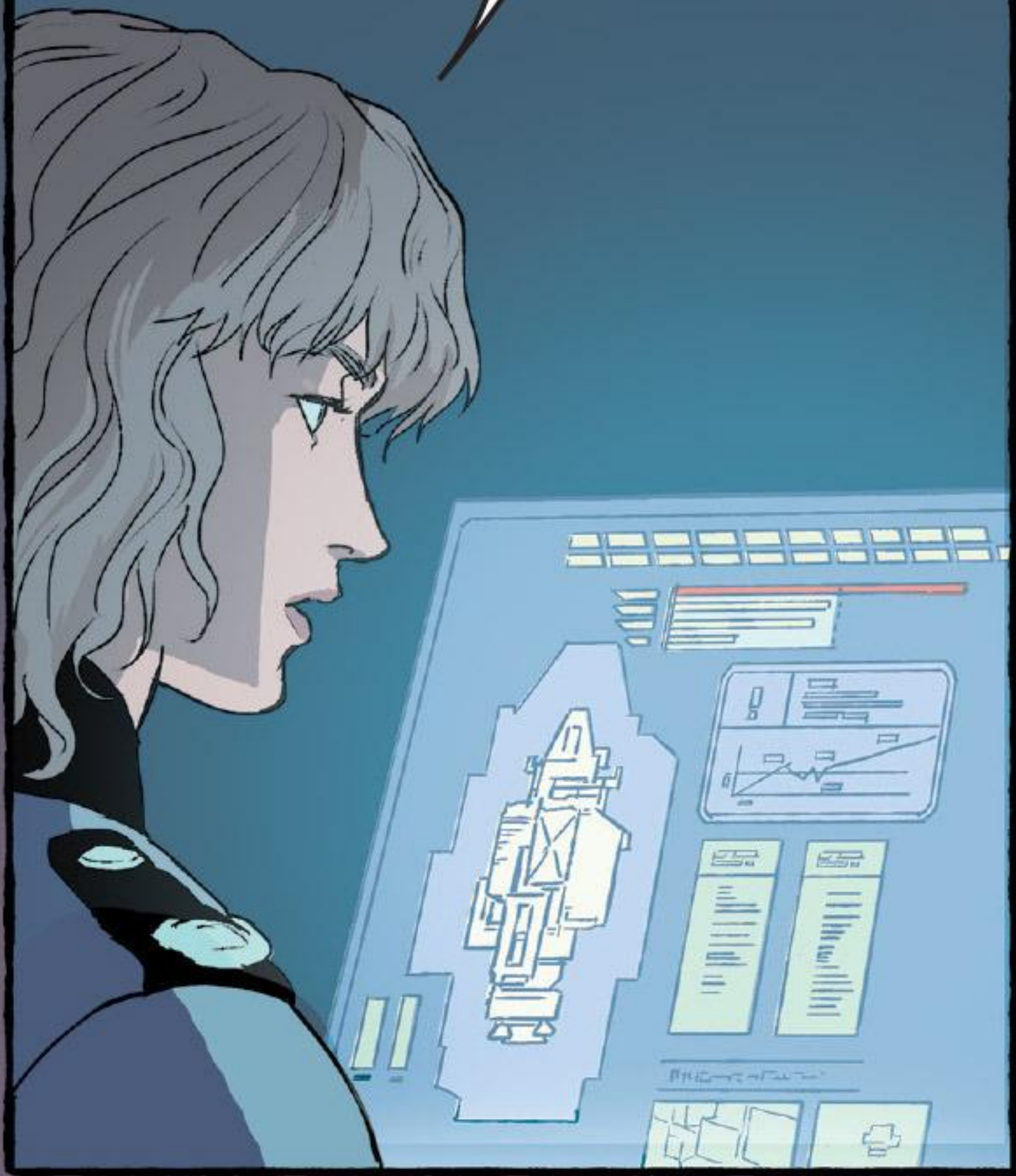
AGAIN, THIS IS CAPTAIN MASLOW OF THE UNN ZHENG FEI. YOU ARE ORDERED TO TIGHT BEAM YOUR REGISTRATION AND FLIGHT PLAN.

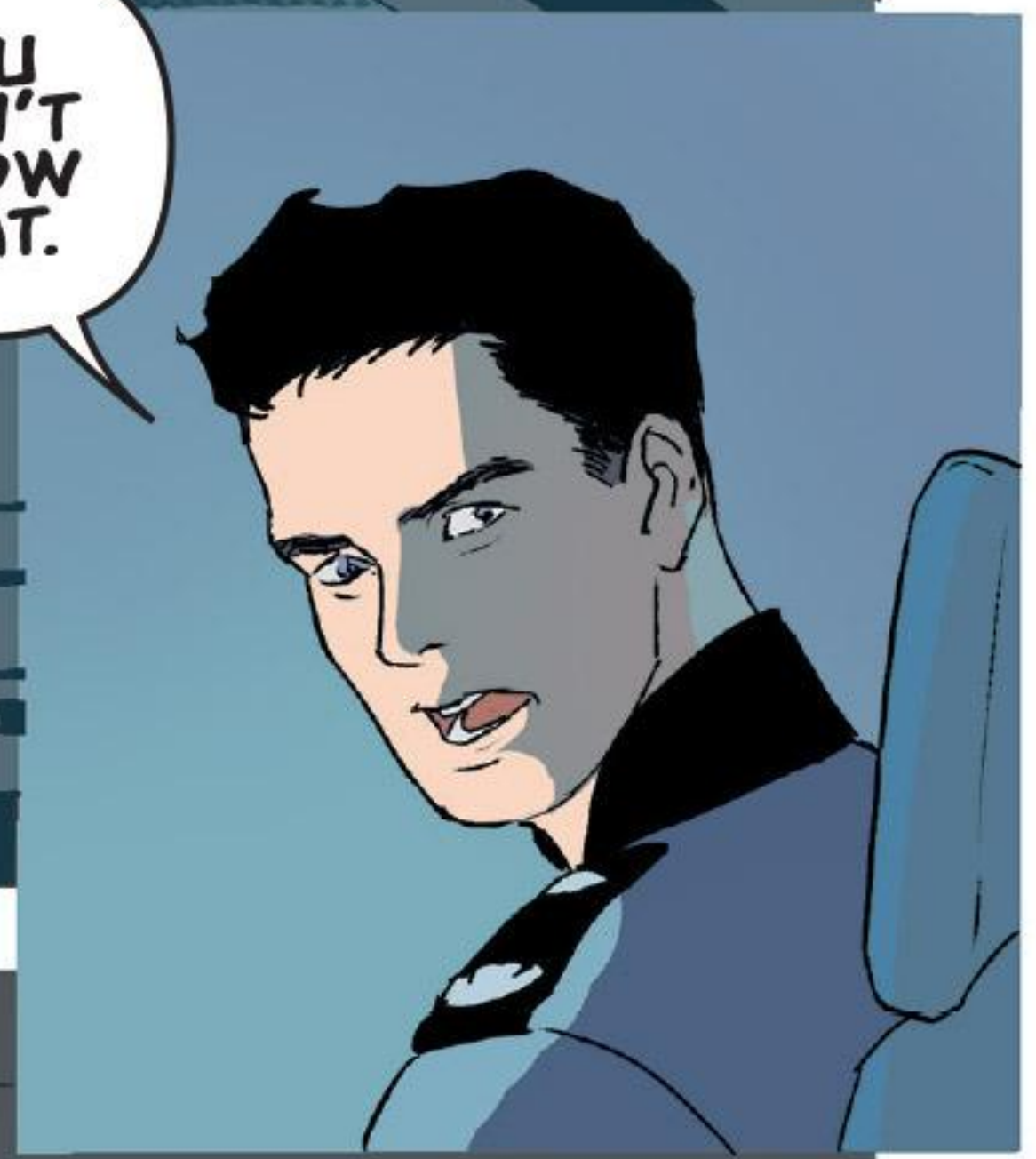
IMMEDIATELY.

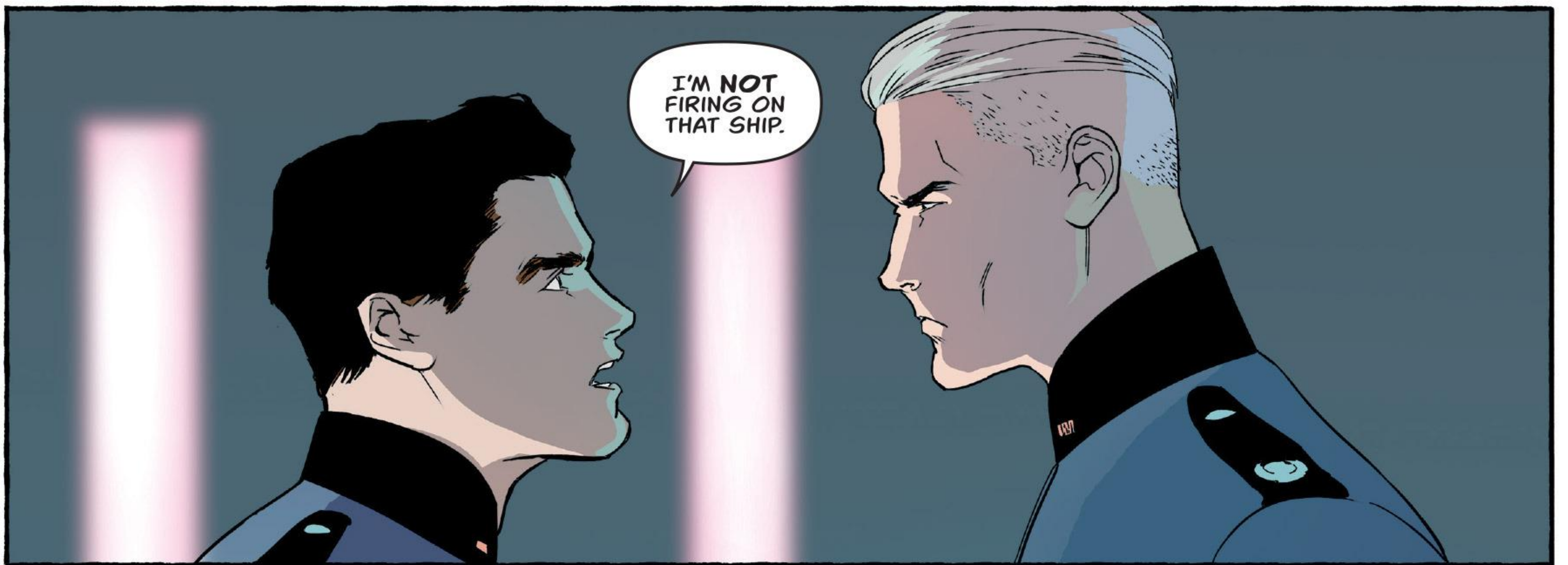
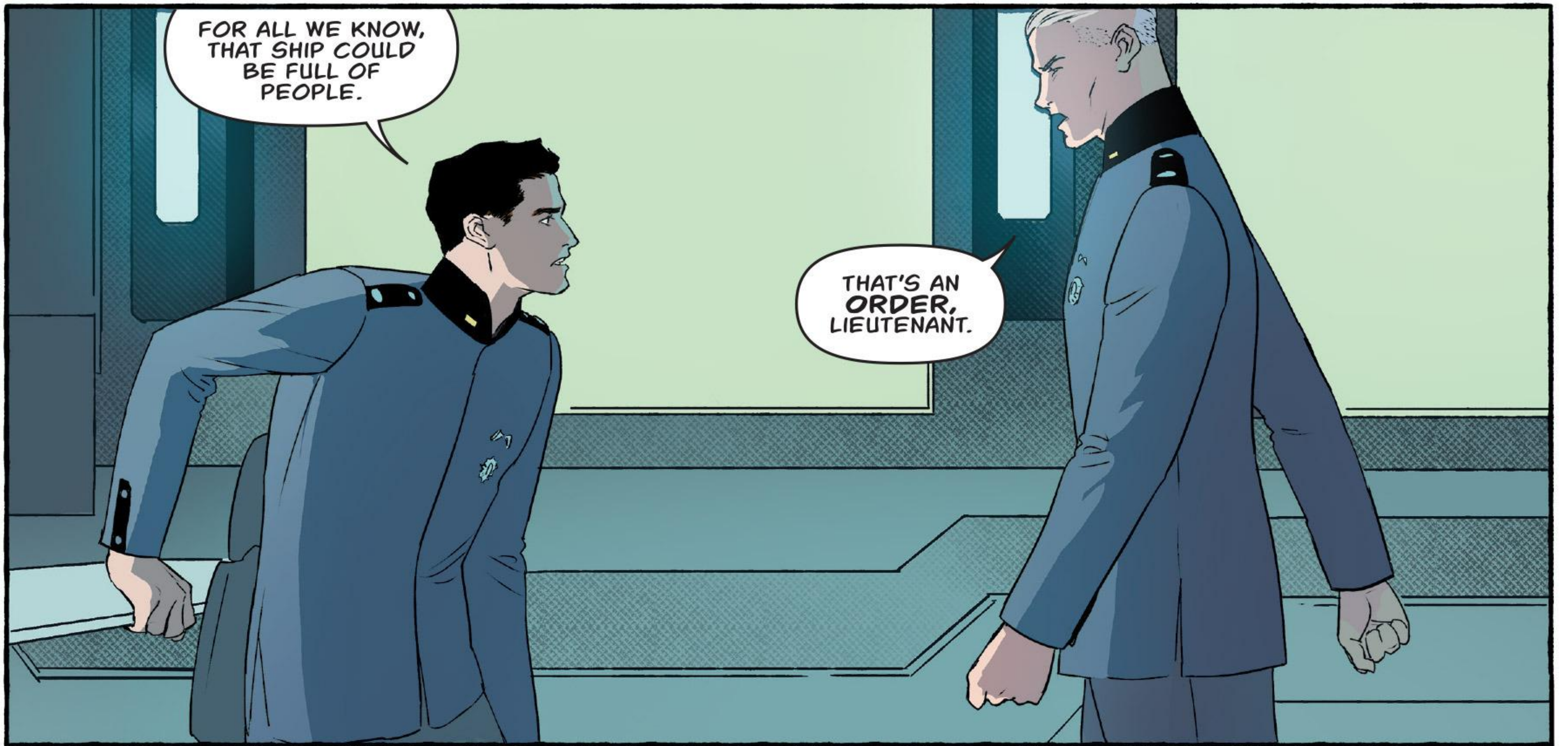


CAPTAIN,
WE'RE READING
A CHANGE IN HEAT
SIGNATURE. THEY
MAY TRY TO MAKE
A RUN FOR IT.

THIS IS YOUR
FINAL WARNING,
IDENTIFY YOURSELF
NOW OR WE WILL
BE FORCED
TO FIRE.









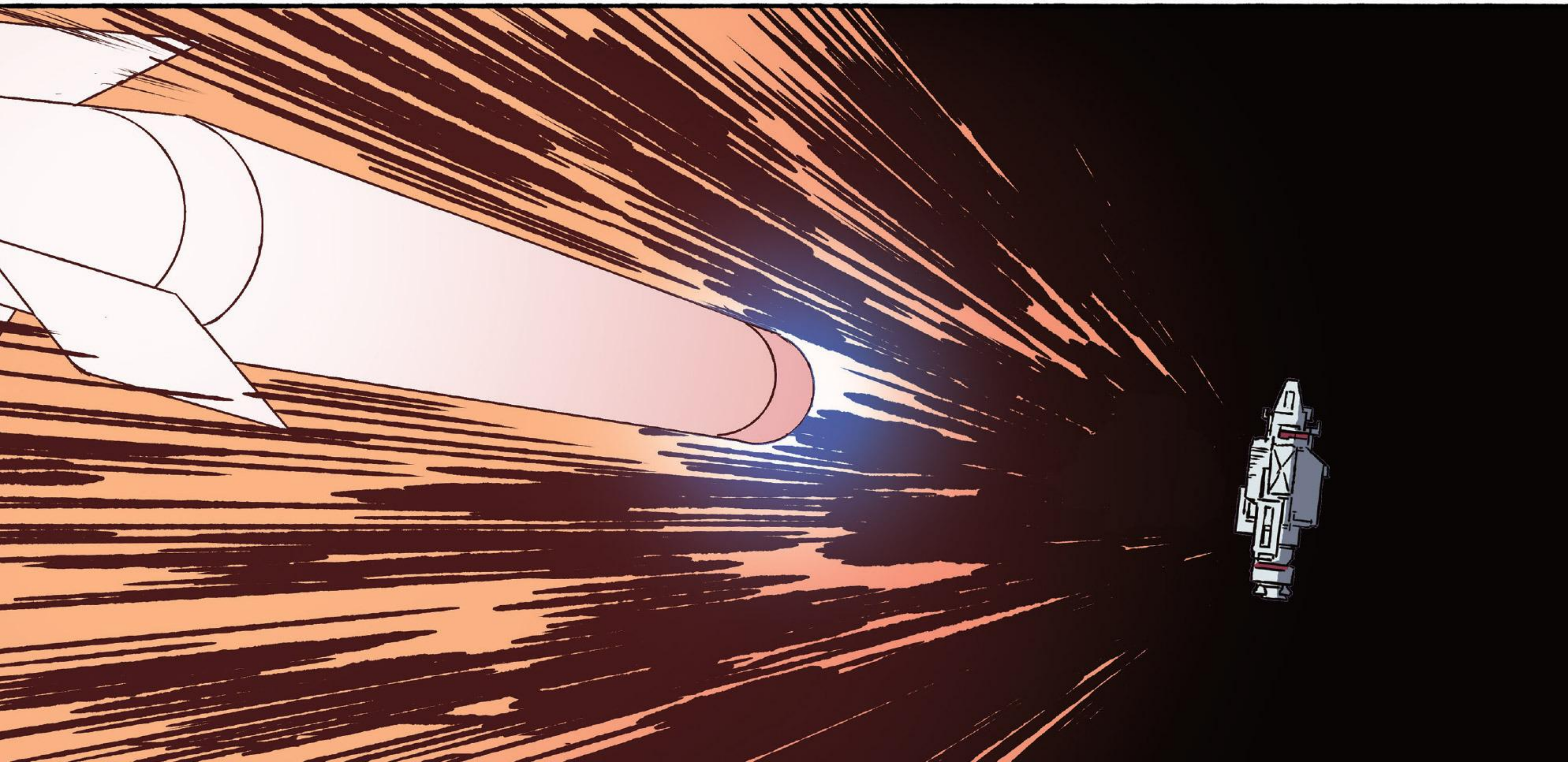
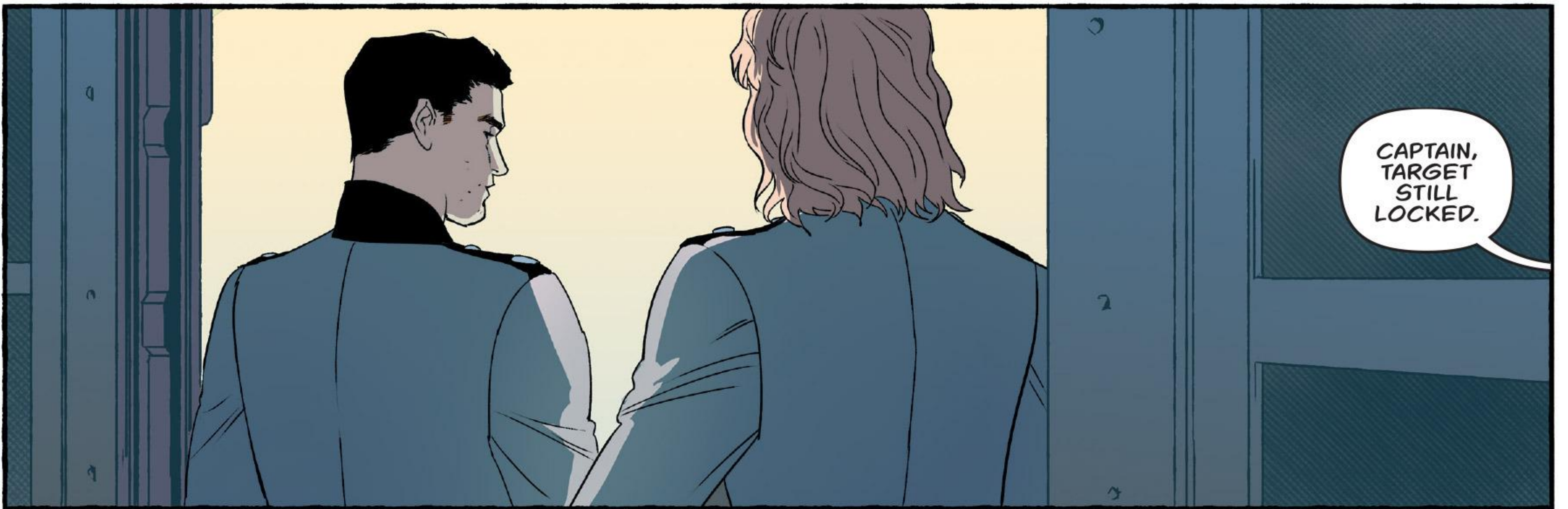
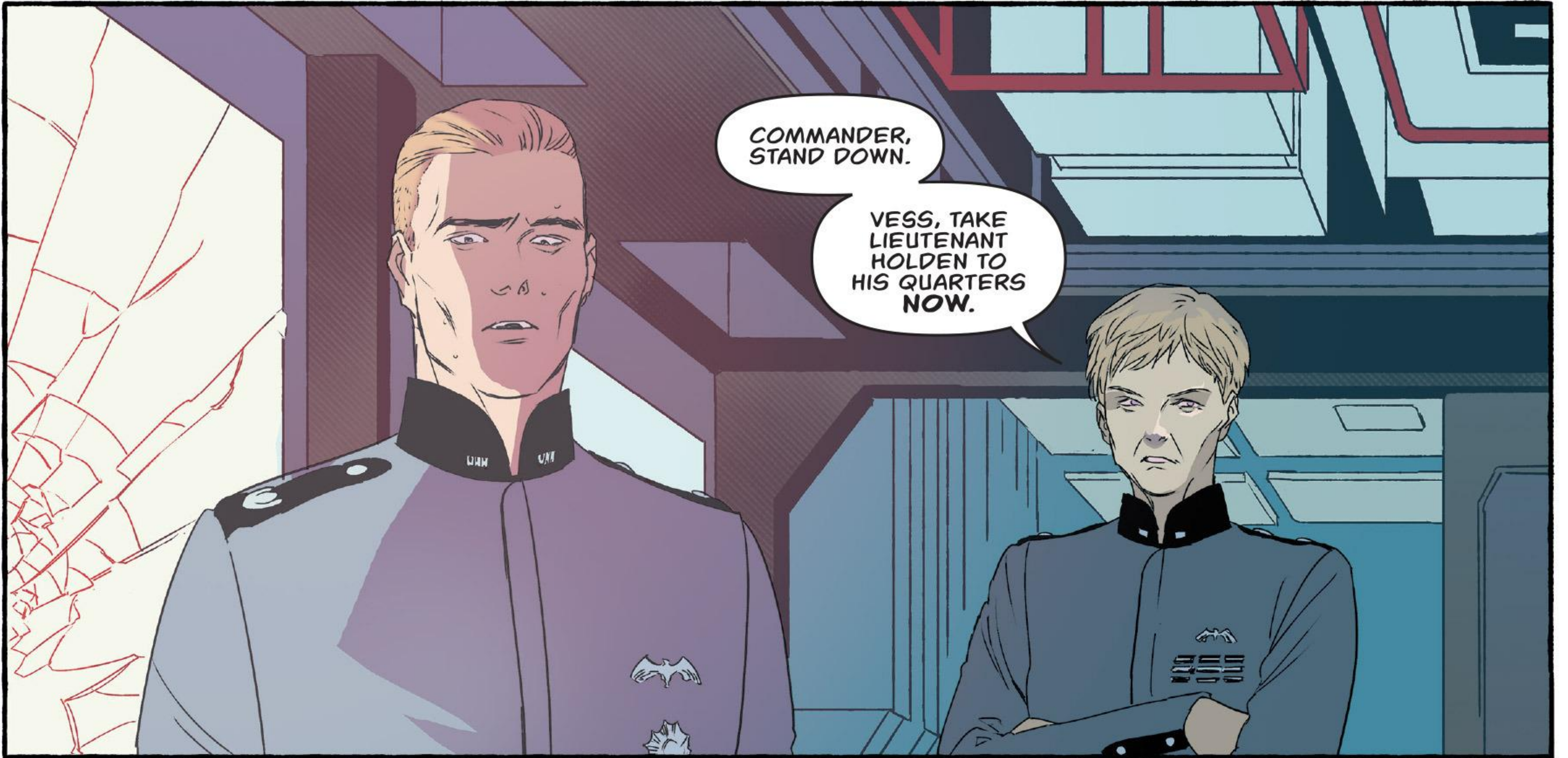


YOU'RE A THREAT TO THIS SHIP.

AND YOU'RE A THREAT TO THE SYSTEM.

HOW DARE--





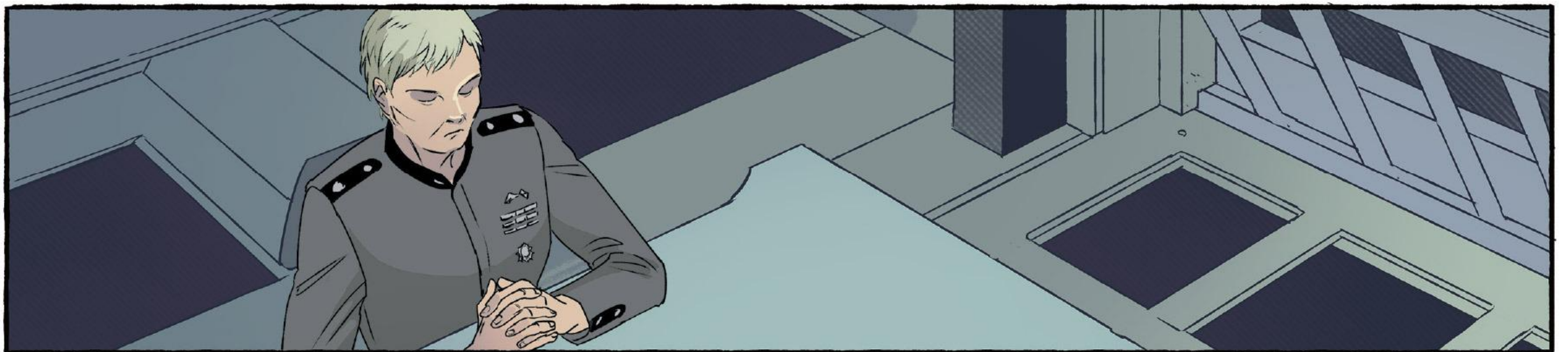
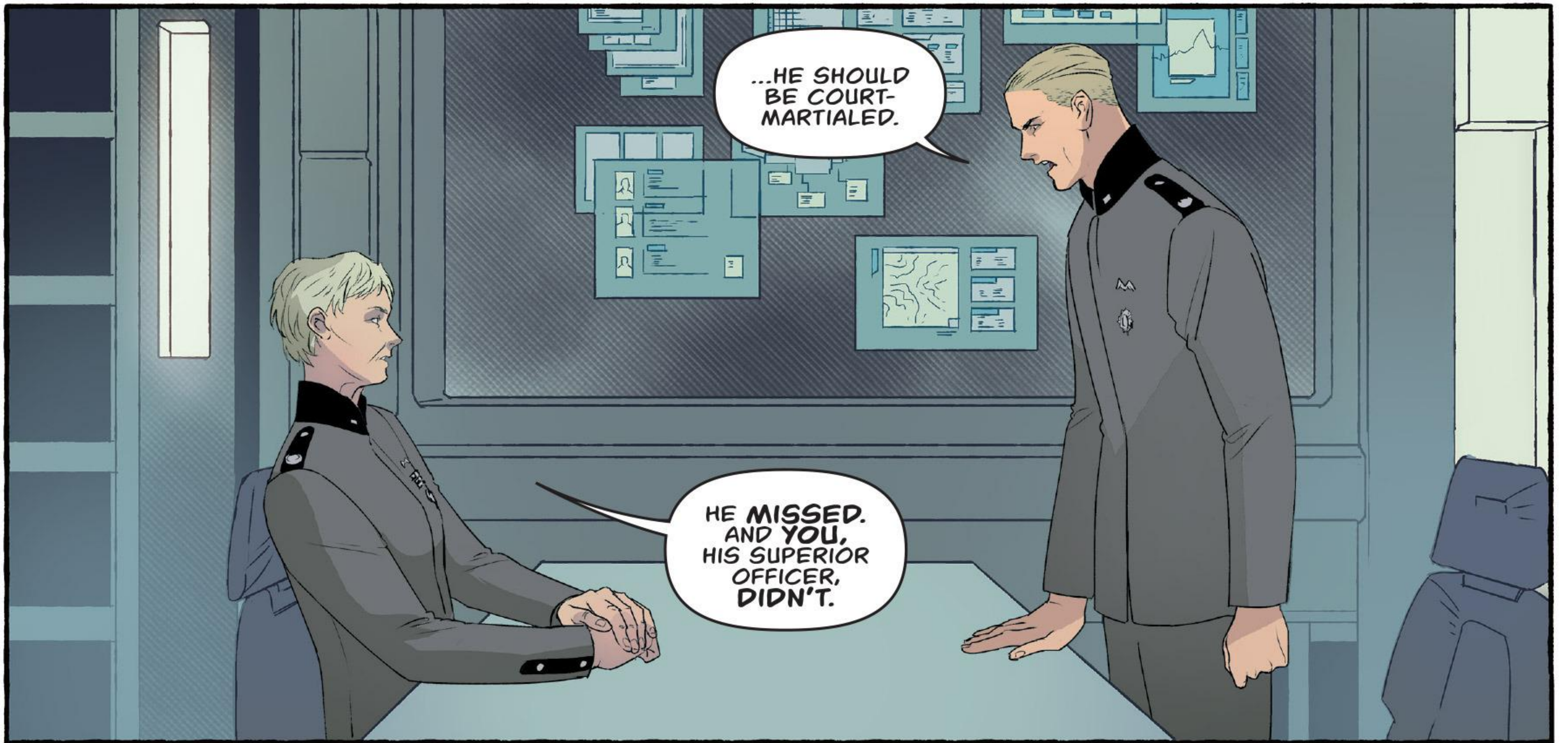
I KNEW THE RISKS.



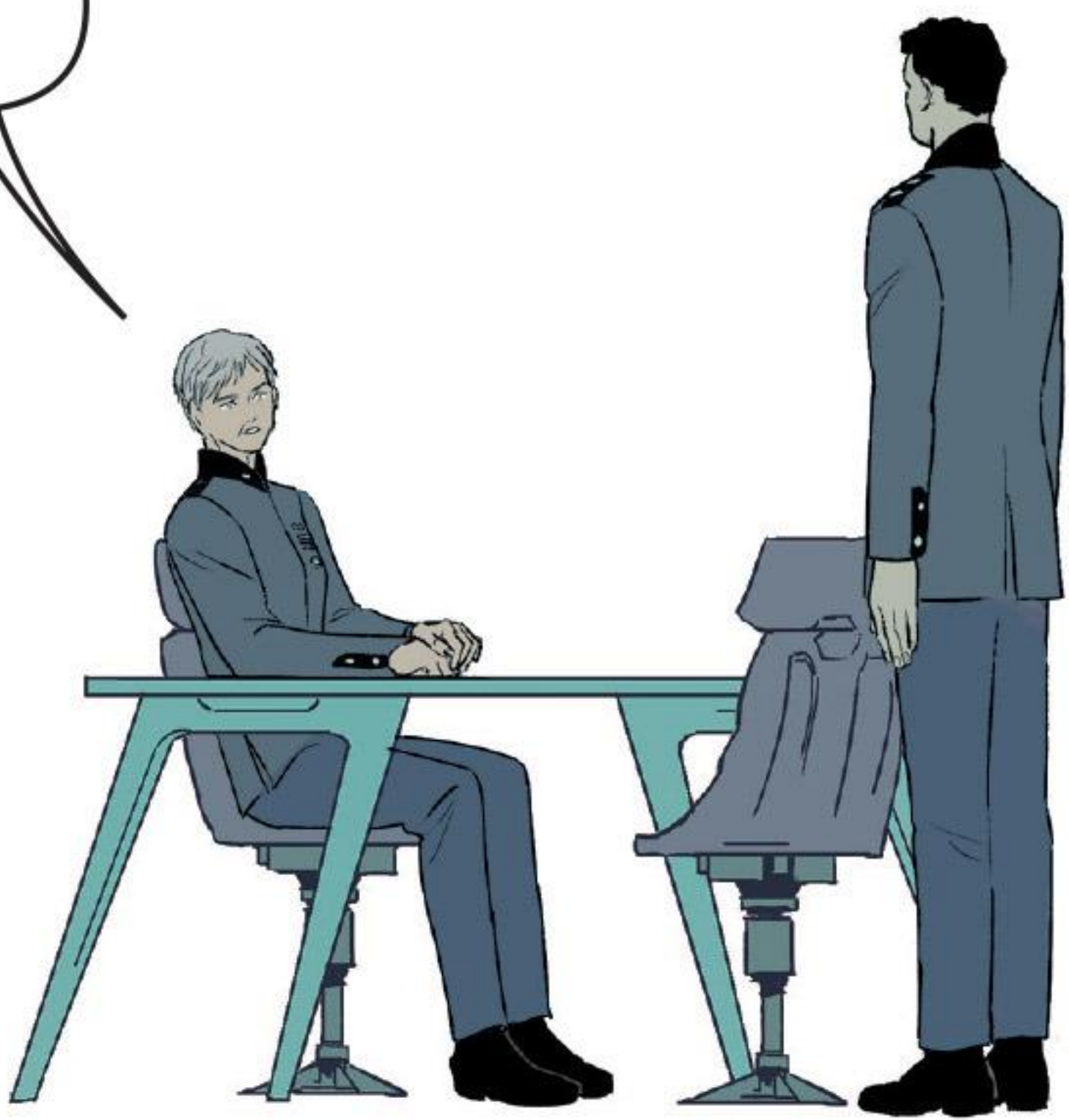
IT DIDN'T GO OUR WAY THAT DAY.



BUT IT'S THE JOB.
IT'S MY JOB.



SIT.



YOU WERE RIGHT. THEY WERE SMUGGLING PEOPLE NOT WEAPONS. BUT YOU WERE **WRONG** WHEN YOU DISOBEYED A DIRECT ORDER.

WE HAVE THESE PROTOCOLS FOR A REASON, AND IT'S UNFORTUNATE WHEN PEOPLE DIE. BUT IT'S NOT YOUR PLACE TO DECIDE.



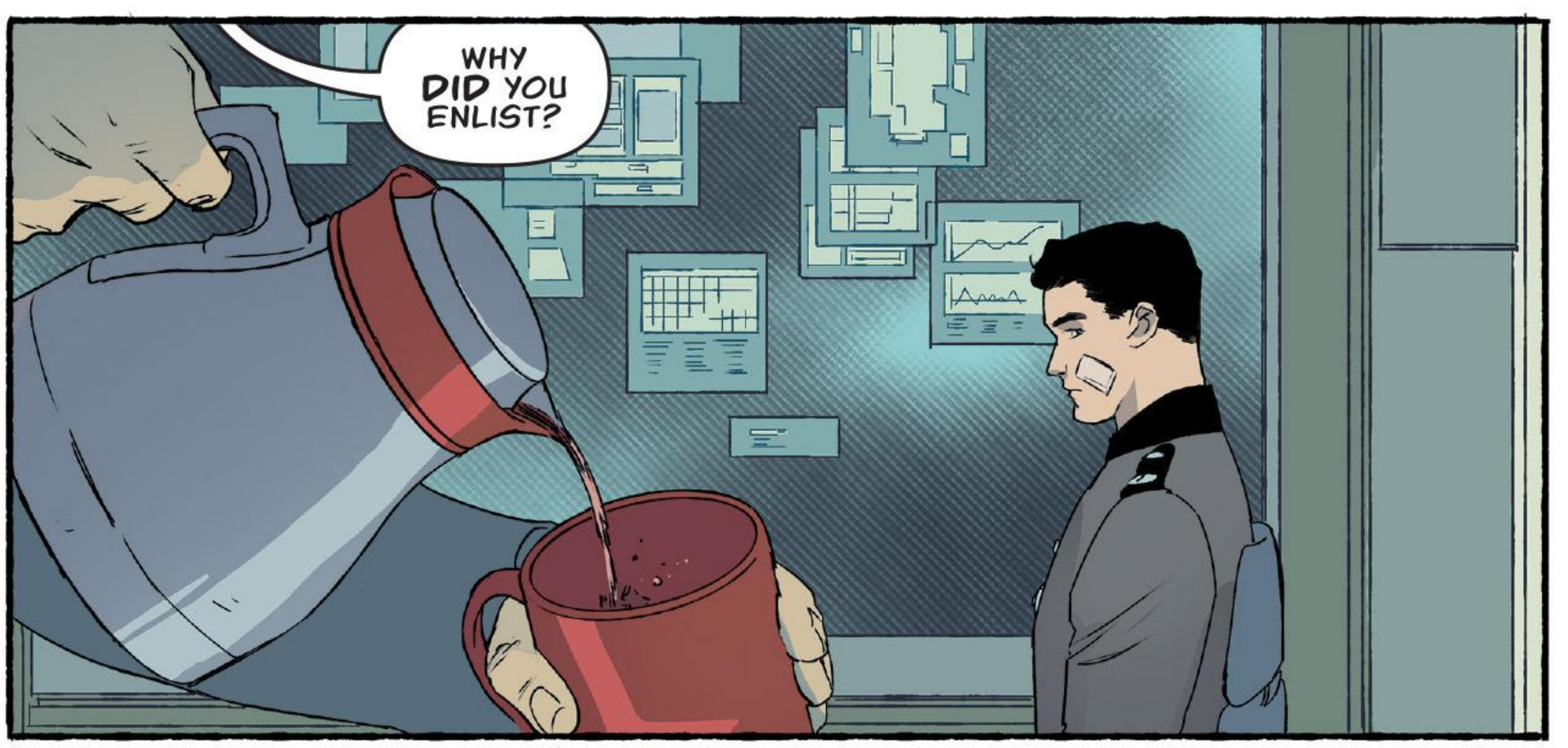
BUT THOSE PEOPLE WOULD STILL BE ALIV--

WHAT JUST HAPPENED WAS THE EXCEPTION TO THE RULE.

NINE TIMES OUT OF TEN, IT IS A WEAPONS SMUGGLER. AND IF THOSE WEAPONS GET INTO THE HANDS OF TERRORISTS, WE RISK LOSING A HELL OF A LOT MORE.



YES, SIR...



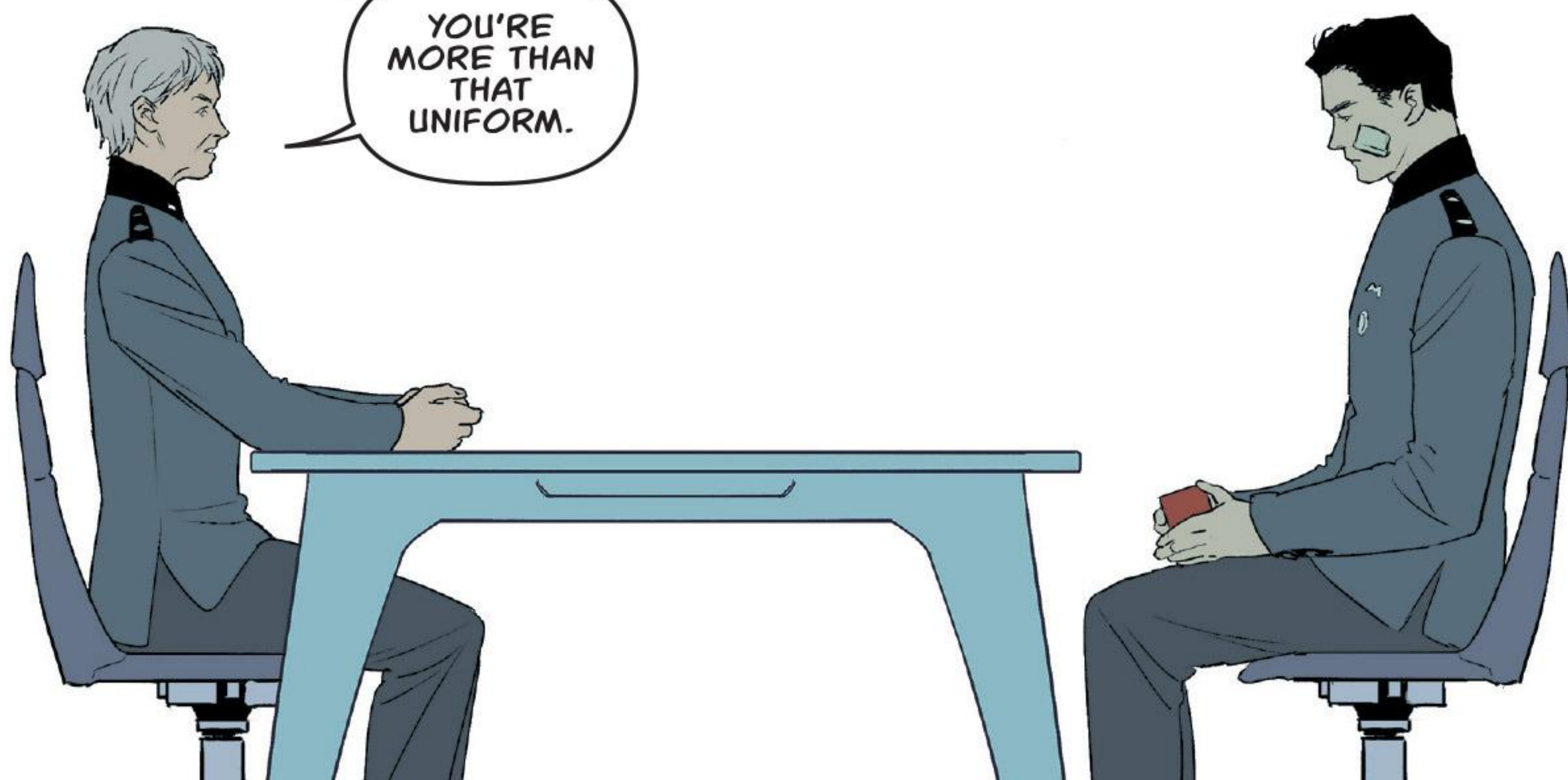
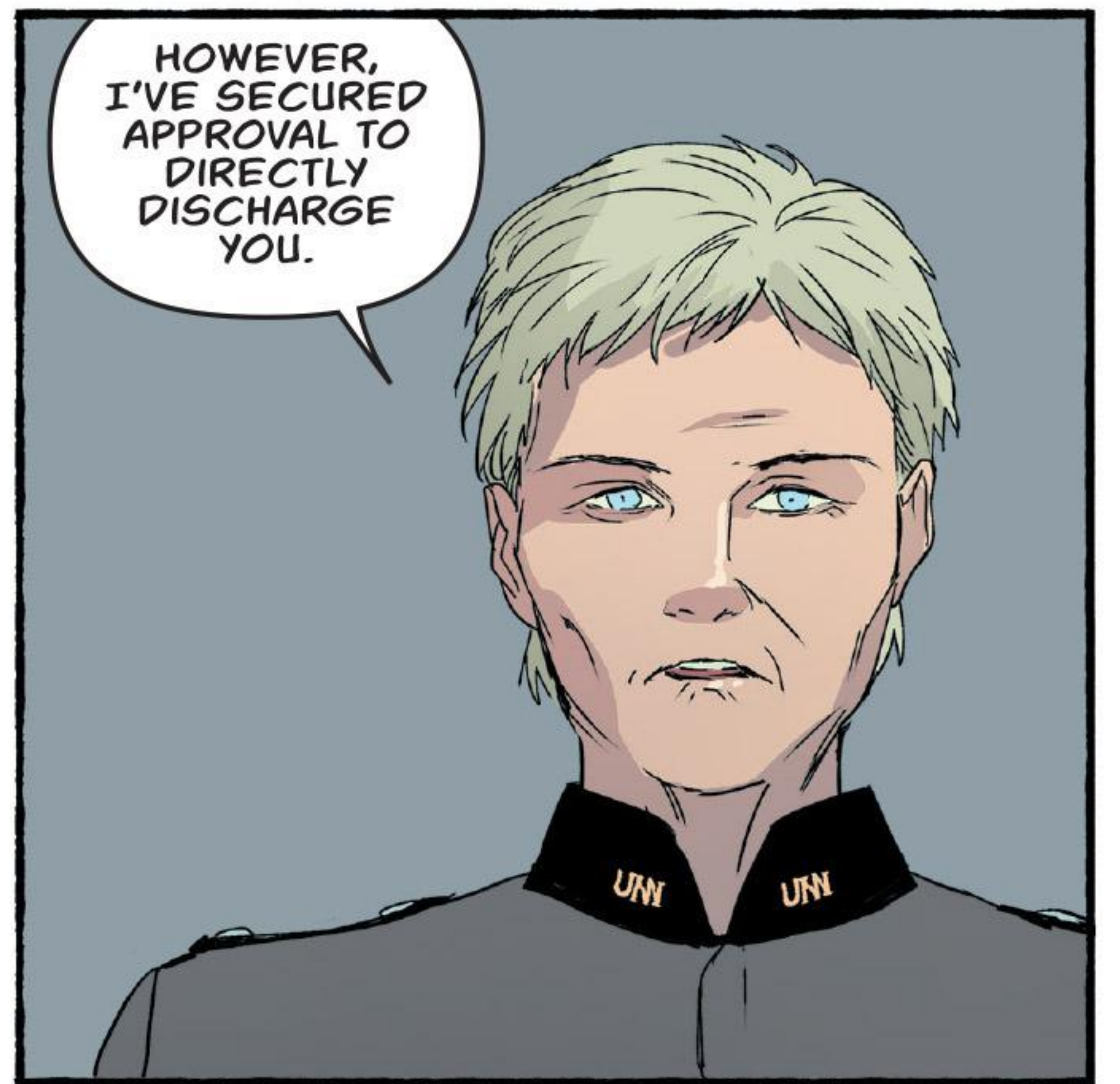
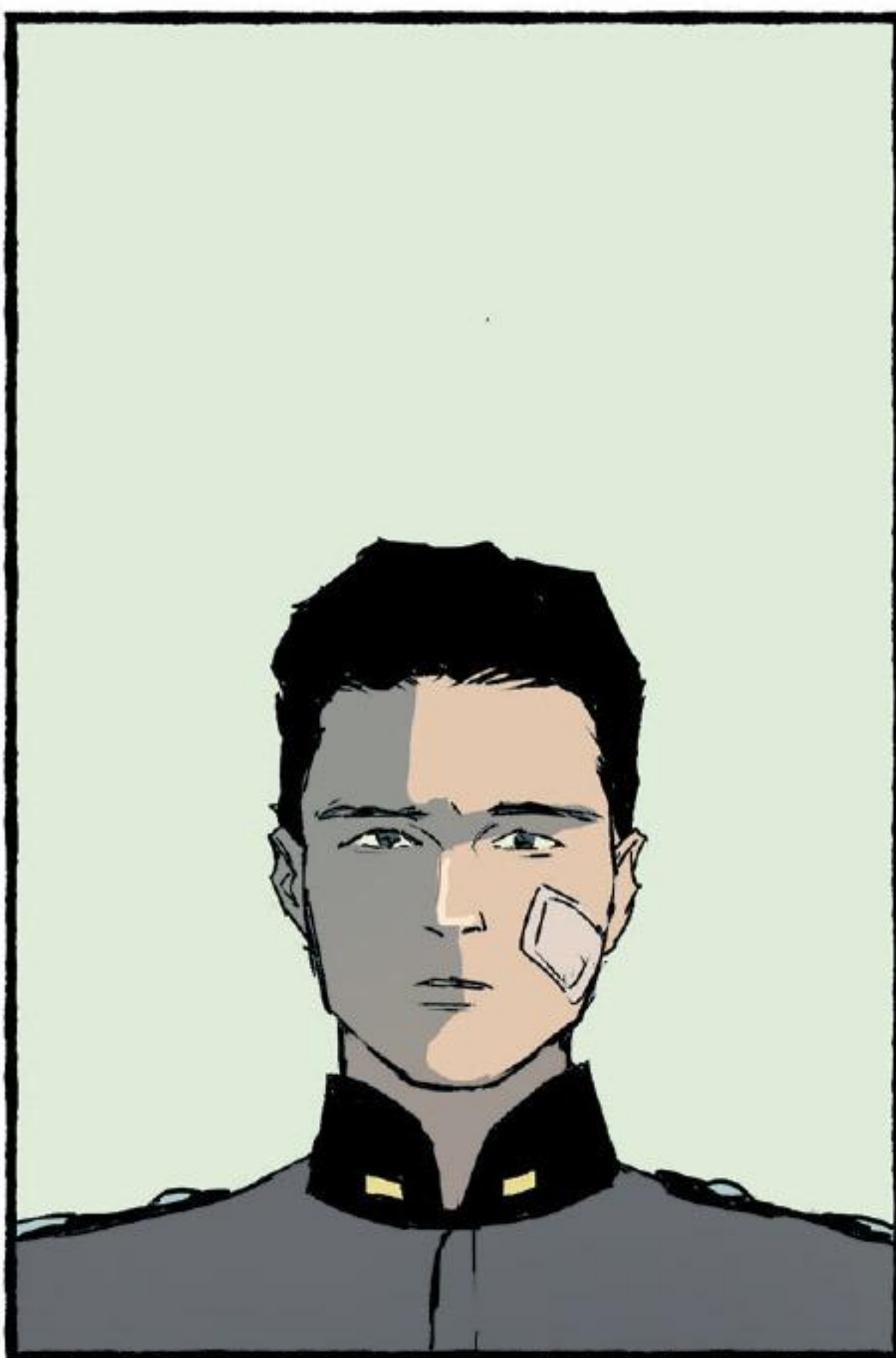
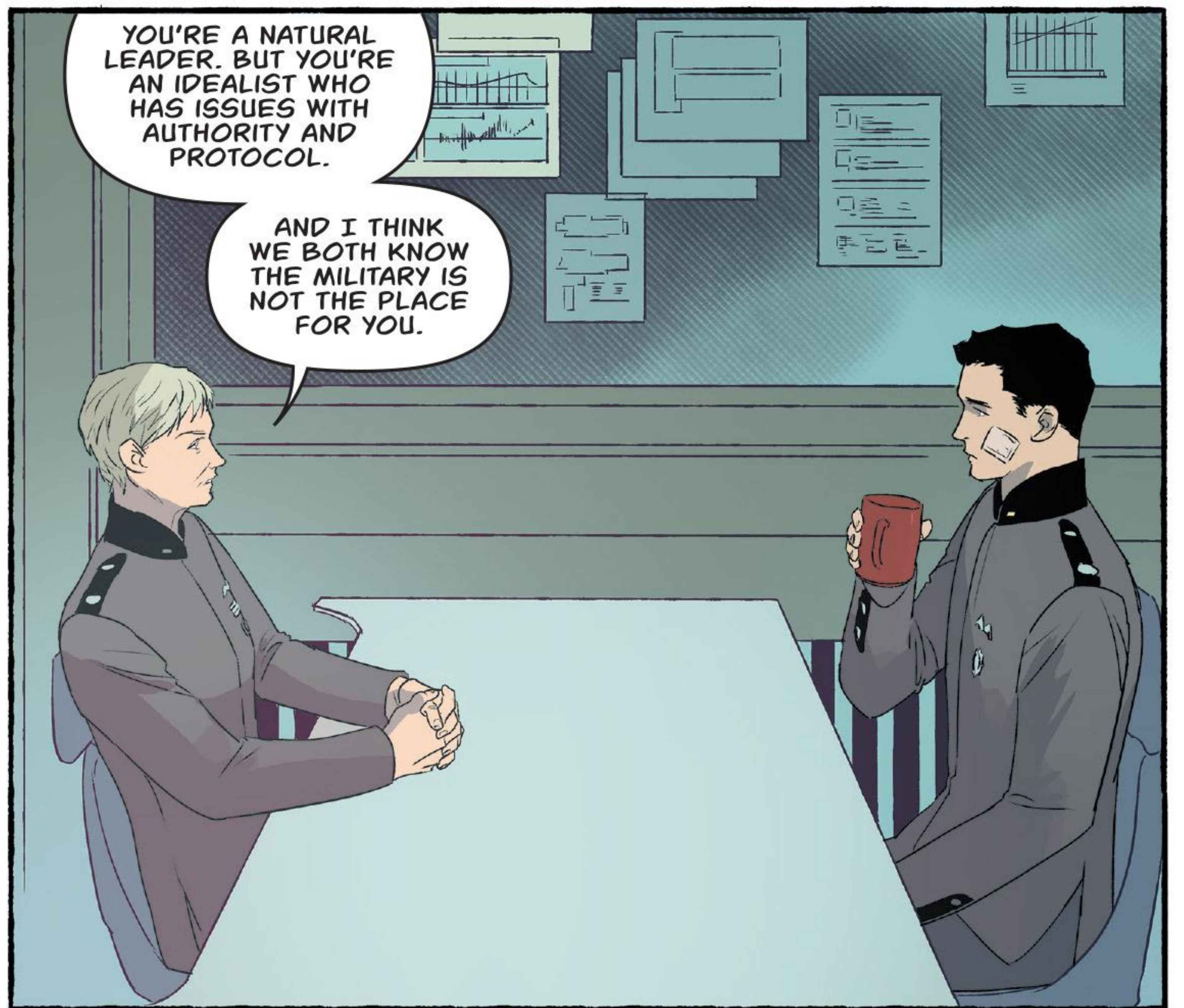
WHY DID YOU ENLIST?



I WANTED TO FIGHT FOR WHAT'S RIGHT...?

MANY JOIN BECAUSE THEY DON'T KNOW WHAT ELSE TO DO.





WE LEARN NOT TO MAKE PEOPLE WHO WE WANT THEM TO BE...



AND NEVER AT THE EXPENSE OF WHO WE ARE.

Incoming:

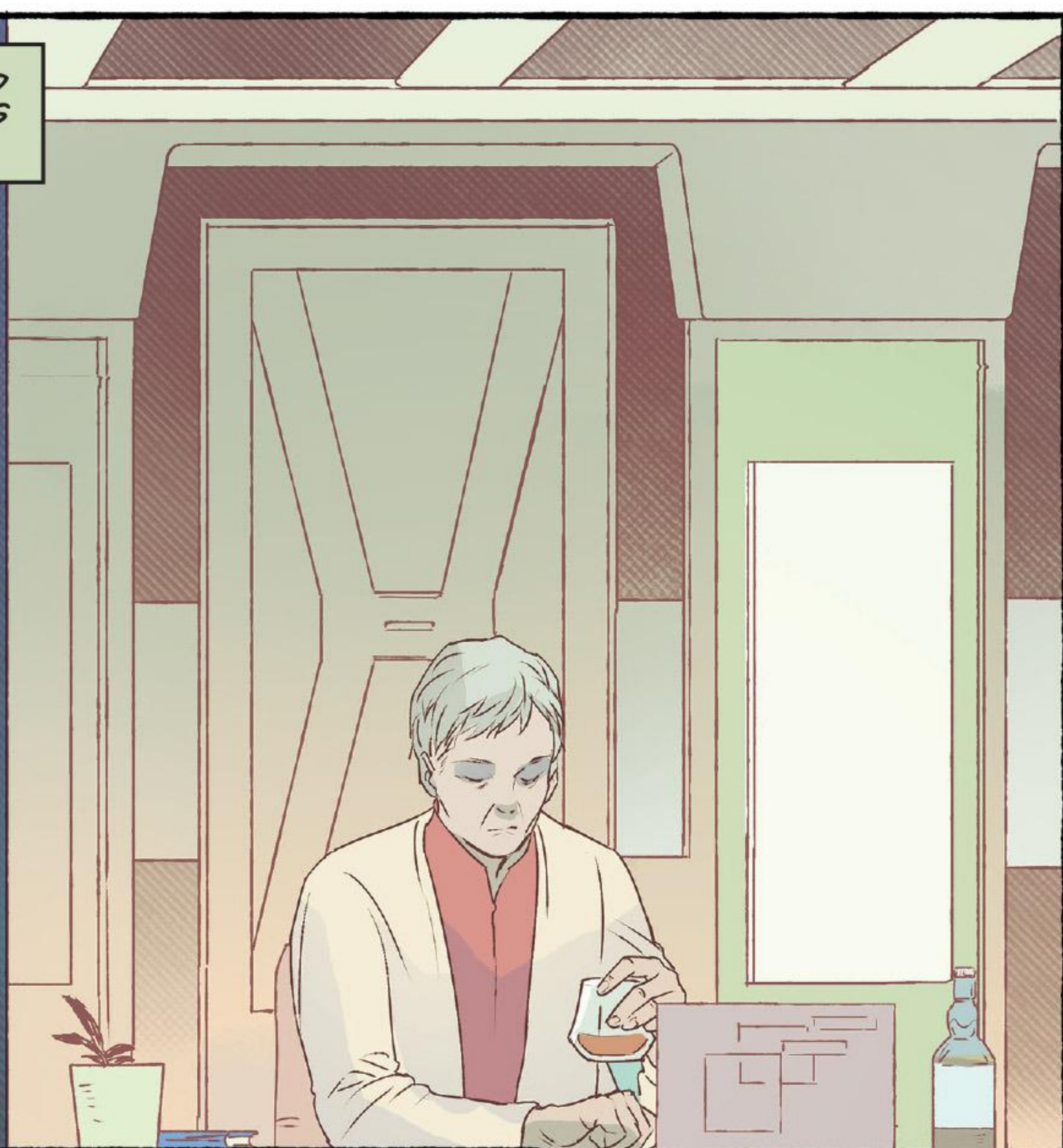
Congratulations on your retirement! Excited you'll finally be back down the well. Got a lot of people in the private sector who'd love you on their team. What's next for you?



COMMANDER DORAN FEARS HE DOESN'T DESERVE HIS UNIFORM...



I'M AFRAID OF LOSING MINE...



AND HOLDEN...HE'S STILL SEARCHING.



...HEARD THEY'RE SENDING YOU BACK HOME...

...
I'M NOT GOING HOME.



BUT I KNOW, ONE DAY...HE'LL FIND ONE THAT FITS.