



CIVIL WARTM

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A MARVEL COMICS® EVENT IN SEVEN PARTS

2

CIVIL WAR

Hoping to boost their ratings, four New Warriors--young super heroes and reality television stars--attempt to apprehend a quartet of villains holed up in Stamford, Connecticut. When confronted, the explosive Nitro employs his self-detonation ability, blowing the heroes and a large chunk of Stamford into oblivion. The entire incident is caught on tape.

Casualties number in the hundreds.



In response to this tragedy, public sentiment is turning against super heroes. Johnny Storm, the Human Torch, is attacked outside a nightclub and beaten into a coma. Advocate Miriam Sharpe, who lost her son in the Stamford Disaster, calls for reform in the way super heroes conduct their affairs. On Capitol Hill, a Superhuman Registration Act is debated which would require all those possessing paranormal abilities to register with the government, divulging their true identities to the authorities and submitting to training and sanctioning in the manner of federal agents.

Some heroes, such as Iron Man, see this as a natural evolution of the role of superhumans in society, and a reasonable request. Others, embodied by Captain America, take umbrage at this assault on their civil liberties.



When Captain America is called upon to hunt down his fellow heroes who are in defiance of the Registration Act, he chooses to go AWOL, becoming a public enemy in the process.

In a closed-door meeting with the President and his Cabinet, Iron Man, Mr. Fantastic and Yellowjacket vow to bring Cap to ground.



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**CAPTAIN
AMERICA GOES
UNDERGROUND:**

LUNATIC
BROKE MY DAMN
NOSE.

I THOUGHT
YOU IDIOTS WERE
SUPPOSED TO BE
HUNTING HIM
DOWN OR
SOMETHING.



MORE BAD
GUYS, UNIT
FIVE?

TWO UP HERE, AND THE BOYS
DOWNSTAIRS SAY THEY'VE GOT
THE TRAPSTER CHAINED TO
A SINK IN THE MEN'S
ROOM.

HOW MANY DOES THE VULTURE
AND THE GRIM REAPER TAKE HIM
UP TO, COMMANDER HILL? IS THAT
EIGHT OF THESE FREAKS,
OR NINE?

S.H.I.E.L.D. HELICARRIER,
SIX MILES ABOVE NEW
YORK CITY:

FIFTEEN, SERGEANT.
FIFTEEN SUPER-CRIMINALS
INSIDE SEVENTY-TWO
HOURS.

BUT THE
NUMBERS DON'T ADD
UP. THERE'S JUST NO
WAY CAPTAIN AMERICA
COULD'VE TAKEN DOWN ALL
THESE GUYS AT ONCE.
IT'S PHYSICALLY
IMPOSSIBLE.

MEANING?

OUR NIGHTMARE
SCENARIO, UNIT
FIVE.

I DON'T
THINK HE'S ON
HIS OWN
ANYMORE.

REGISTRATION ACT PASSED BY CONGRESS

[illegible]

PRESIDENT PROMISES SWIFT ACTION



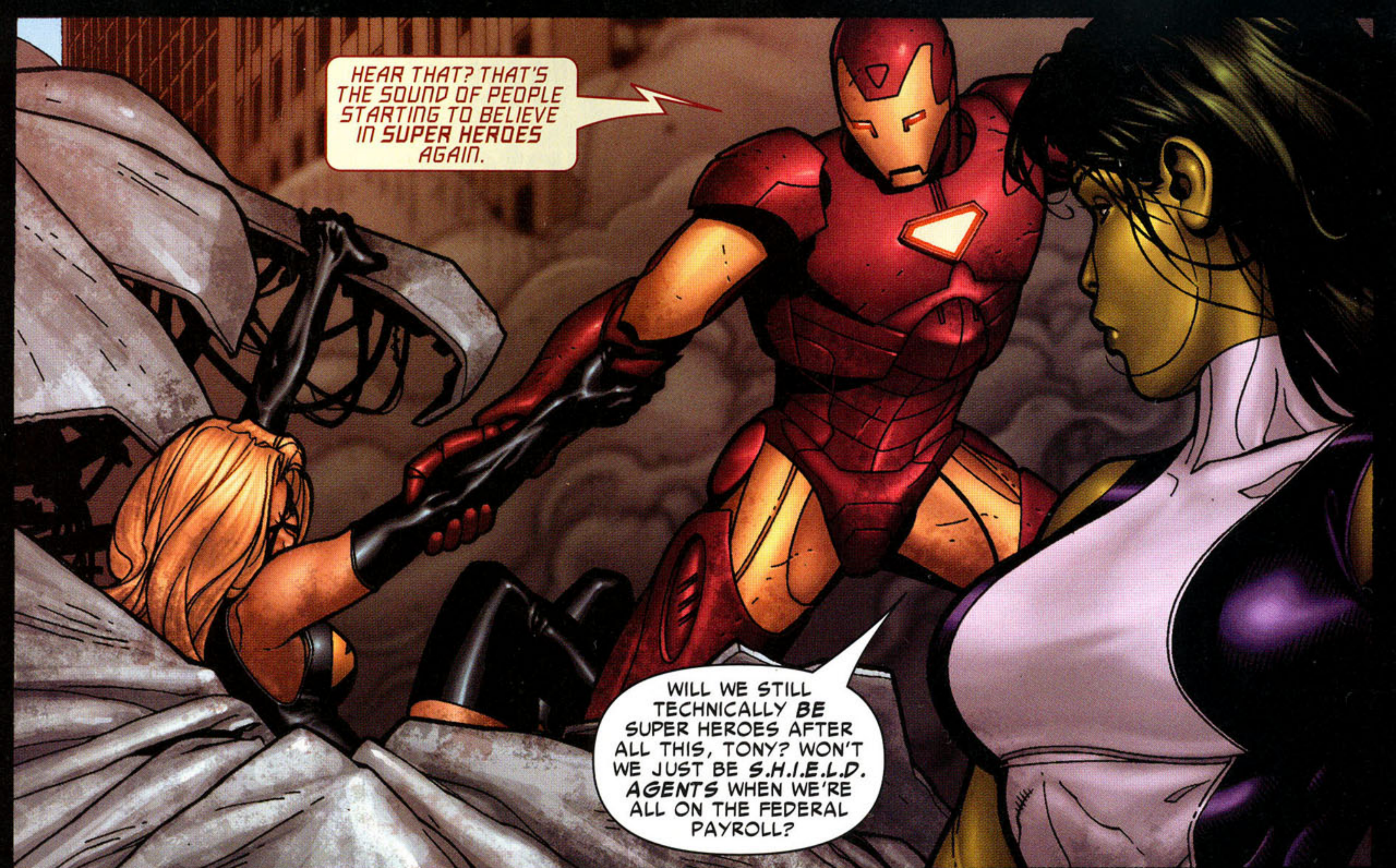
CAPTAIN AMERICA GOES INTO HIDING

TONY STARK NOW BACKING SUPER HERO REFORM




NEW YORK CITY:



A large panel showing Iron Man in his red and gold suit, holding the hand of Tigra, who is lying on a pile of rubble. She has orange fur and is wearing a black mask. In the foreground, the back of a woman with long black hair, wearing a purple and white outfit, is visible. She is looking towards Iron Man.

HEAR THAT? THAT'S
THE SOUND OF PEOPLE
STARTING TO BELIEVE
IN SUPER HEROES
AGAIN.

WILL WE STILL
TECHNICALLY *BE*
SUPER HEROES AFTER
ALL THIS, TONY? WON'T
WE JUST BE *S.H.I.E.L.D.*
AGENTS WHEN WE'RE
ALL ON THE FEDERAL
PAYROLL?

A close-up of Iron Man's helmet, showing the visor and the side of the helmet. The background is a city street with buildings.

NO, WE'RE SUPER HEROES,
JENNIFER. WE TACKLE
SUPER-CRIME AND WE SAVE
PEOPLE'S LIVES.

THE ONLY THING
CHANGING IS THAT
THE KIDS, THE
AMATEURS, AND THE
SOCIOPATHS ARE
GETTING WEEDED
OUT.

A panel showing Tigra on a pile of rubble. She is looking up at Iron Man. In the background, Iron Man's legs and feet are visible. The woman with black hair is also visible in the foreground.

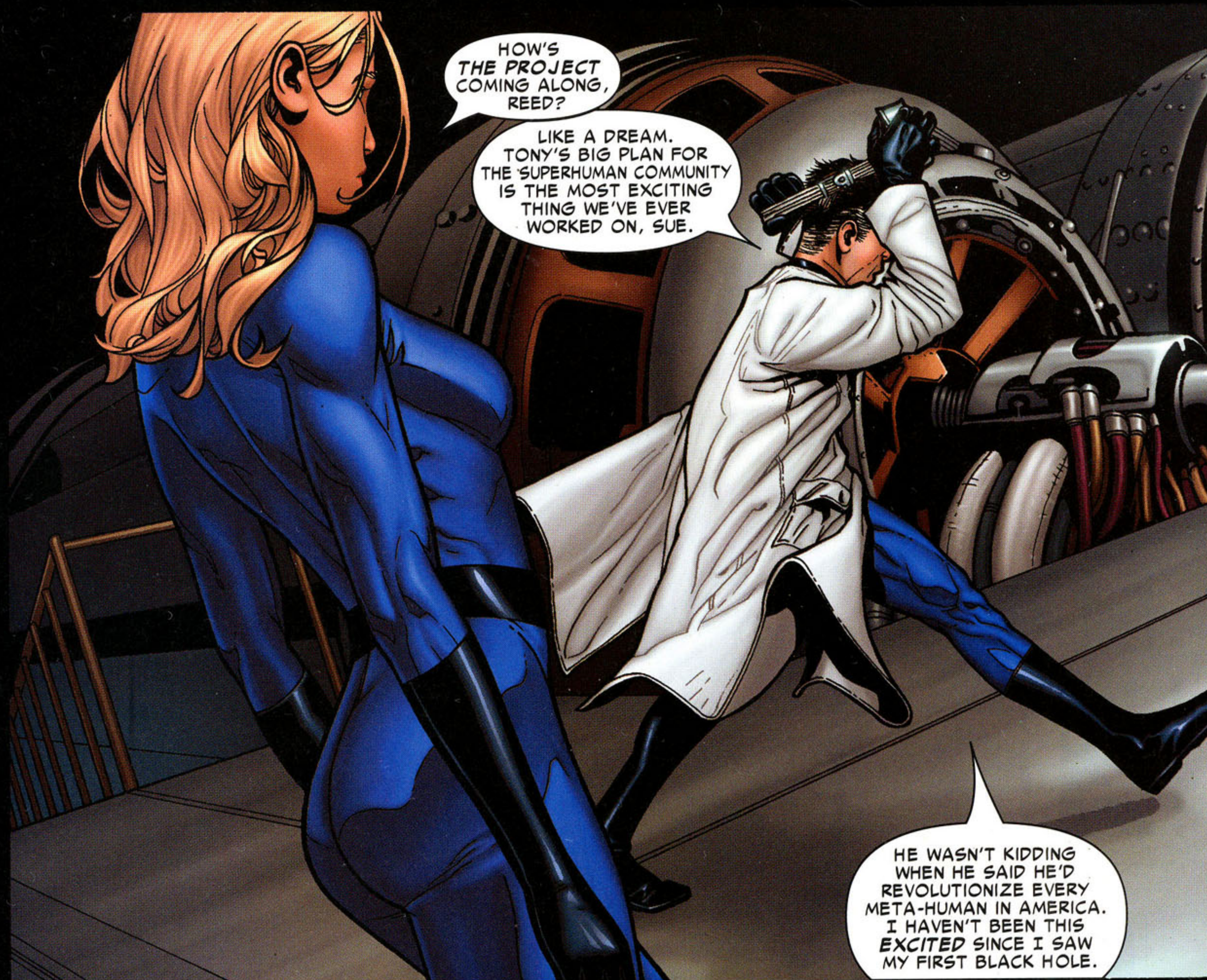
WHAT CATEGORY
DOES CAPTAIN
AMERICA FALL INTO,
IRON MAN?

A wide shot of the scene. Iron Man is standing on a pile of rubble. Tigra is sitting on the rubble. The woman with black hair is sitting on the rubble. In the background, there are other people, including a man in a blue suit. The scene is set in a city street with buildings.

HE'S WRONG
THIS TIME,
TIGRA.

TRUST
ME.

THE BAXTER BUILDING,
HOME OF THE FANTASTIC
FOUR:



HOW'S
THE PROJECT
COMING ALONG,
REED?

LIKE A DREAM.
TONY'S BIG PLAN FOR
THE SUPERHUMAN COMMUNITY
IS THE MOST EXCITING
THING WE'VE EVER
WORKED ON, SUE.

HE WASN'T KIDDING
WHEN HE SAID HE'D
REVOLUTIONIZE EVERY
META-HUMAN IN AMERICA.
I HAVEN'T BEEN THIS
EXCITED SINCE I SAW
MY FIRST BLACK HOLE.



YEAH, WELL. MAYBE I'D BE
EXCITED TOO IF HIS GENIUS
PLAN DIDN'T MEAN JAIL FOR
HALF OUR CHRISTMAS
CARD LIST.

AGREED. BUT THEY DON'T LEAVE
US ANY CHOICE IF THEY REFUSE TO
REGISTER, HONEY. JUST TAKE A
LOOK AT MY PROJECTIONS IF
YOU NEED TO SEE THE SOCIAL
DANGERS THEY'RE
CREATING.

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
THIS IS GOBBLEDYGOOK.

NO, IT'S THE EXPONENTIAL
CURVE THE NUMBER OF SUPER-
BEINGS IS FOLLOWING AND THE
APOCALYPSE WE'RE FACING
IF UNLICENSED ACTIVITY ISN'T
BROUGHT UNDER
CONTROL.

TONY'S SECRET PLAN IS
AN AMAZING OPPORTUNITY
FOR US, DARLING.

YOU SHOULD HEAR THE
IDEAS HE AND HANK PYM
HAVE BEEN TOSsing AROUND.
THEY'RE LIKE **CONCEPT-
MACHINES**. I DON'T THINK
I'VE EVER **SEEN** PEOPLE
THIS SUPER-CHARGED.

WHAT'S THIS
"NUMBER FORTY-
TWO" THING...?

I'M SORRY,
SUSAN, BUT I'M
AFRAID THAT'S
CLASSIFIED
INFORMATION.

OH.
RIGHT.

WELL, I GUESS
IT'S TIME I WAS
MAKING TRACKS
FOR THE HOSPITAL
ANYWAY, HUH?

MM.
GIVE
JOHNNY
ALL MY LOVE.

THE DAILY BUGLE:

JONAH, WE JUST GOT WORD ABOUT A HUGE PRESS CONFERENCE TONY STARK IS HOLDING TOMORROW MORNING. URICH IS IN, BUT PARKER'S OUT OF TOWN. WHO DO YOU WANT TO SEND IN HIS PLACE?

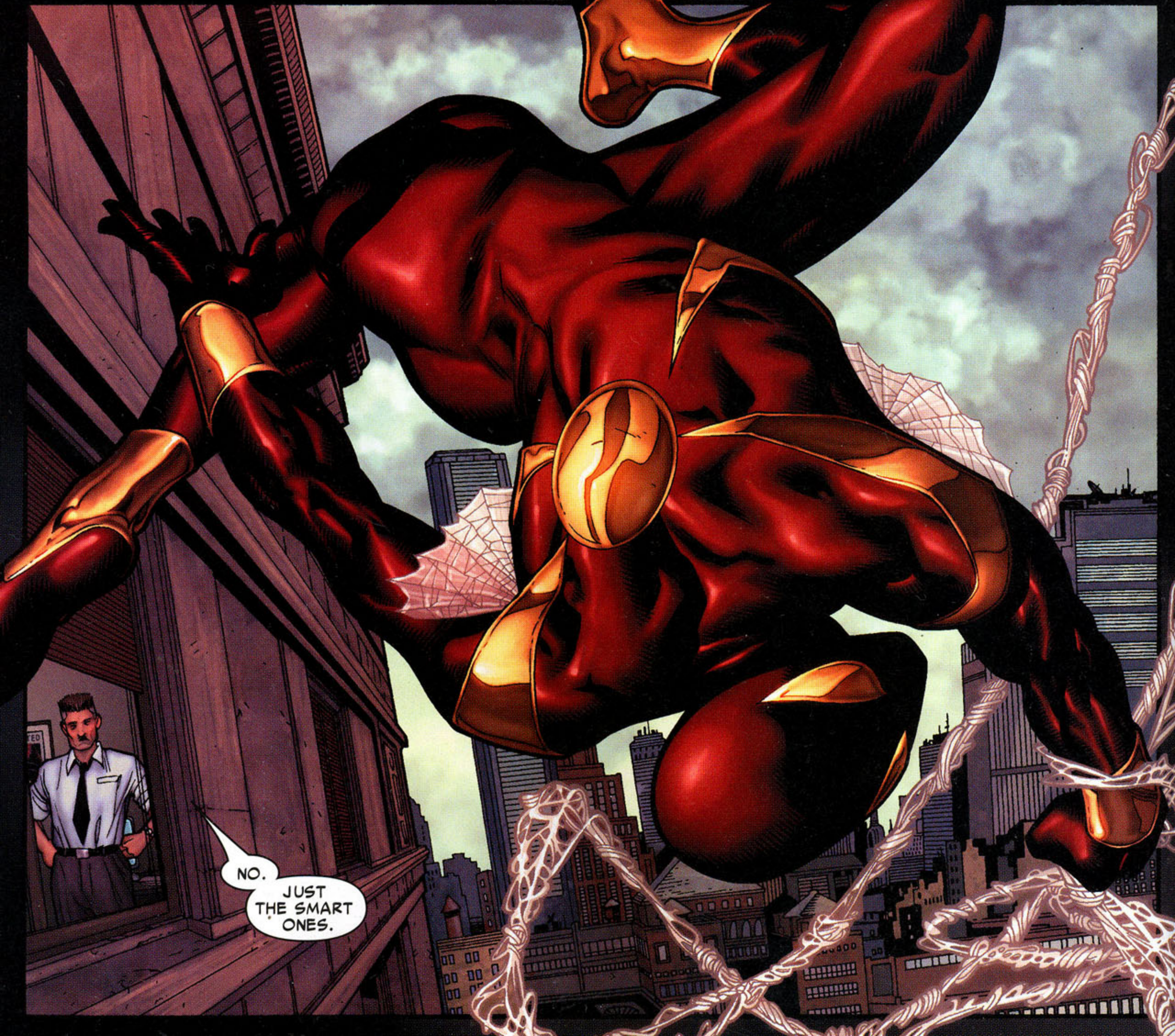
JONAH?

SORRY, ROBBIE. MILES AWAY.

JUST THINKING ABOUT HOW, AT MIDNIGHT TONIGHT, EVERYTHING THIS NEWSPAPER HAS EVER CAMPAIGNED FOR OFFICIALLY BECOMES LAW.

NO MORE MASKS AND NO MORE EXCUSES ABOUT CREEPY SECRET IDENTITIES. THESE CLOWNS FINALLY WORK FOR S.H.I.E.L.D. OR THEY THROW THEIR BUTTS IN JAIL.

YOU REALLY THINK THE SUPER HEROES ARE ALL GOING TO SIGN UP?



NO.

JUST THE SMART ONES.

TONY STARK'S PENTHOUSE:

TWENTY MINUTES TO GO, TONY.
WORD FROM S.H.I.E.L.D. IS THAT WE'RE
LOOKING AT THIRTY-EIGHT SIGNATURES
ALREADY. THAT'S PRETTY MUCH WHAT
YOU *ESTIMATED*, RIGHT?

PRETTY MUCH,
HAPPY. ANY WORD
FROM CAP?

ONLY THAT HE'S
PUTTING HIS OWN TEAM
TOGETHER AND HE'LL SEE
THIS THING TO THE
FINISH.

OH, GOD.

PLEASE LET
US BE DOING
THE RIGHT
THING HERE...

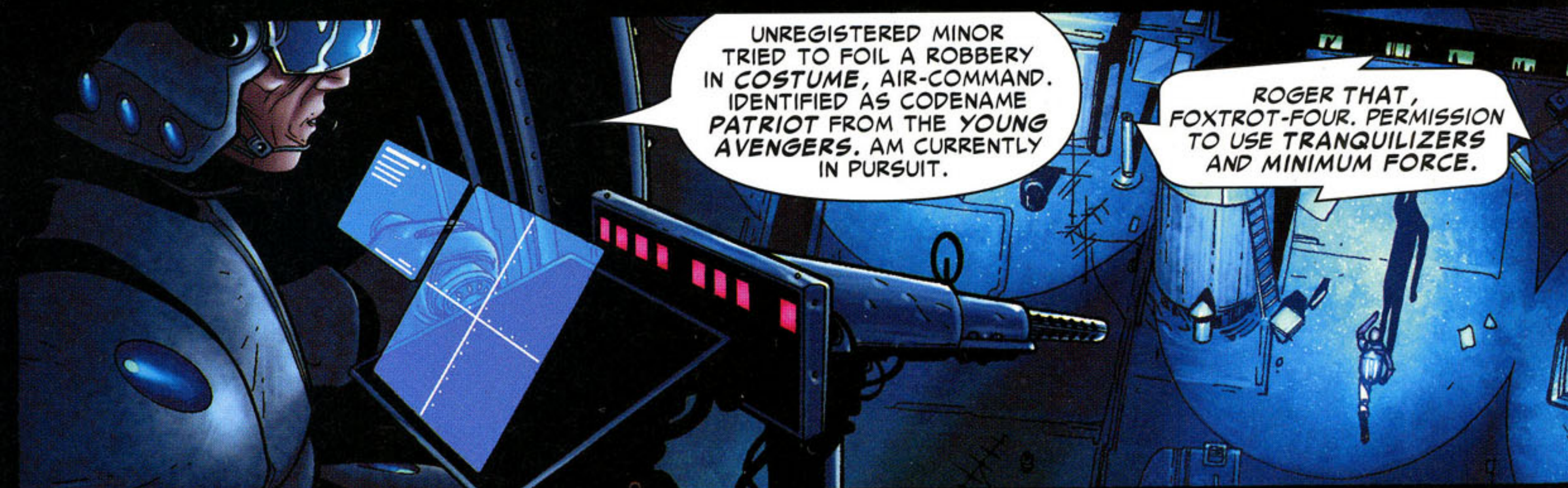
MIDNIGHT:

REGISTRATION
ACT BECOMES
LAW

SONY

REGISTRATION ACT BECOMES LAW REGISTRATION

24 HOURS LATER:

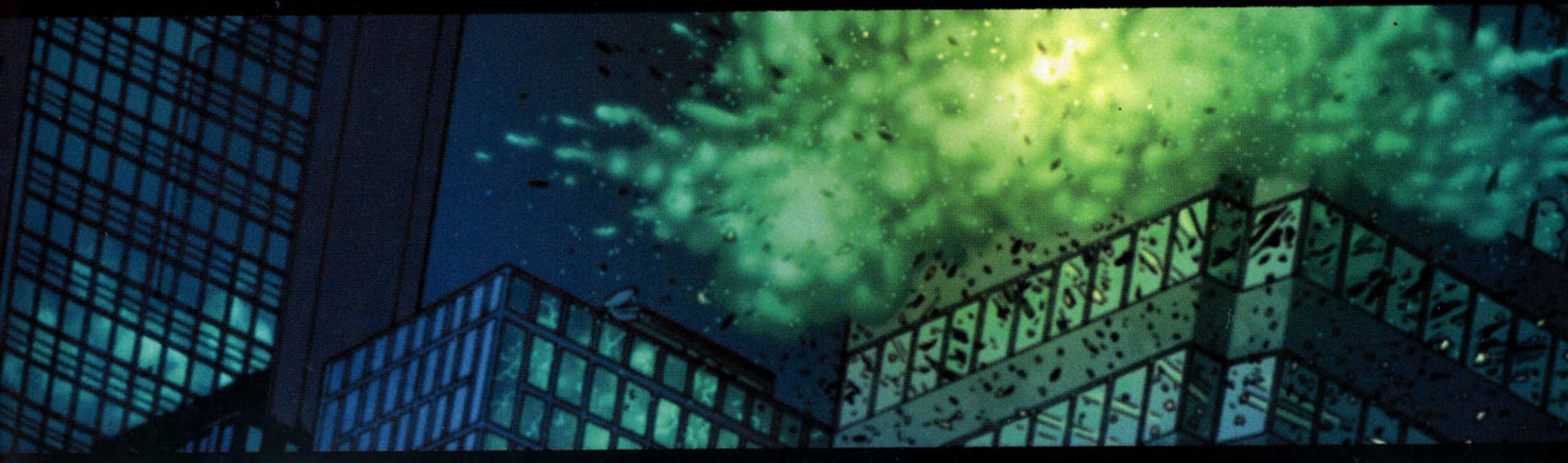


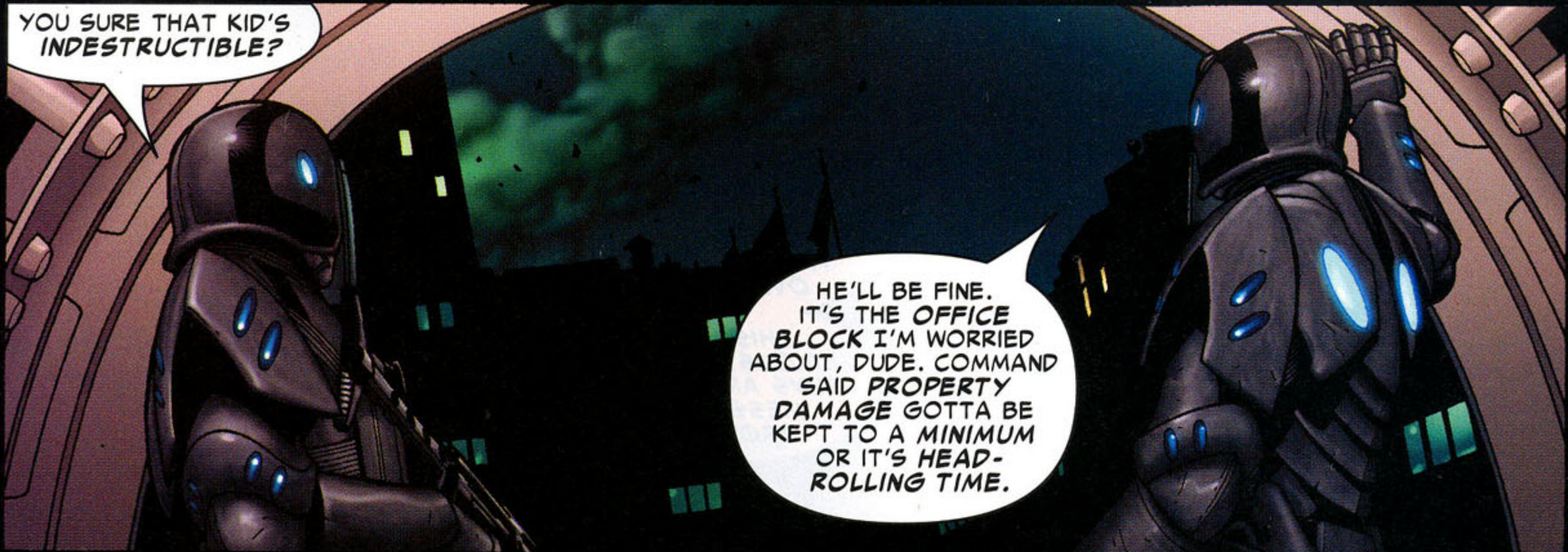
THIS LITTLE PUNK IS
BULLETPROOF
NOW?

DAMN INFO-BASE.
I THOUGHT WE HAD
FOLKS UPDATING
THIS THING.




AAAGH!!





YOU SURE THAT KID'S
INDESTRUCTIBLE?


HE'LL BE FINE.
IT'S THE OFFICE
BLOCK I'M WORRIED
ABOUT, DUDE. COMMAND
SAID *PROPERTY*
DAMAGE GOTTA BE
KEPT TO A MINIMUM
OR IT'S HEAD-
ROLLING TIME.



YOU SEE THE TROUBLE YOU
CAUSED? YOU SEE WHAT HAPPENS
WHEN YOU TRY TO BE SOME BIG
BAD VIGILANTE LIKE YOUR BUDDY,
CAPTAIN AMERICA?

ELSEWHERE:

S.H.I.E.L.D. UNIT
JUST PICKED UP
THE YOUNG
AVENGERS ON
WEST 23RD. SHOULD
WE GET A POSSE
TOGETHER AND
INTERCEPT?

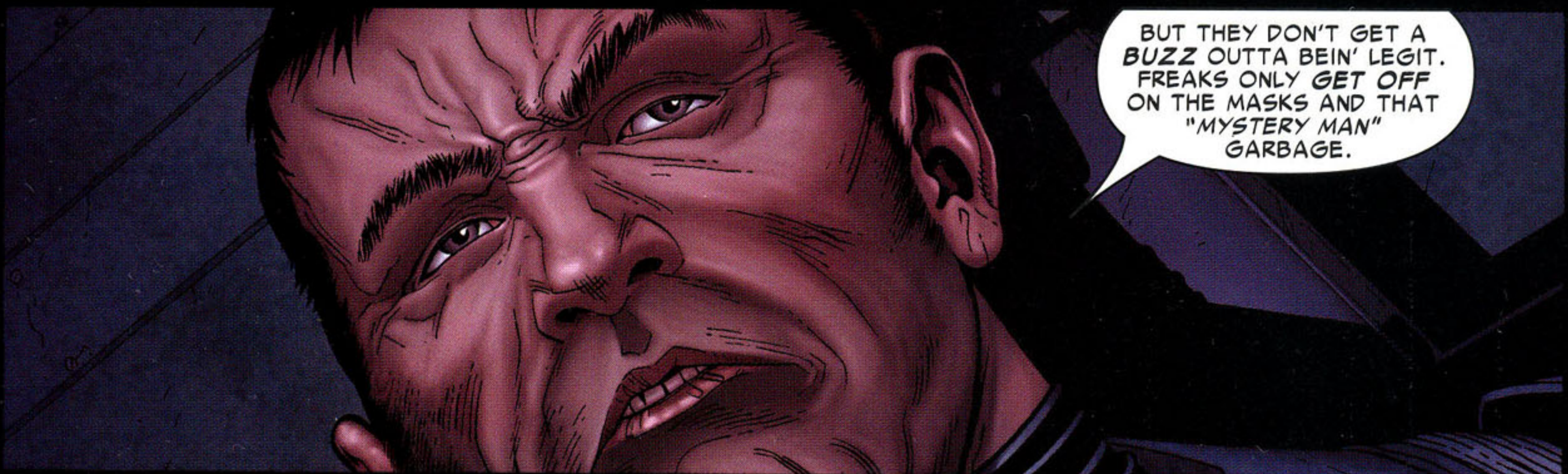


CAP AND THE FALCON
ARE ALREADY UNDERCOVER
ON THE *SCENE*, DAREDEVIL.
COCKY MISTER WILSON
EVEN TOLD ME TO GET
THE DAMN COFFEE
ON.



SEE, THIS IS WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT: THESE KIDS ARE WHAT--SIXTEEN YEARS OLD? SEVENTEEN, TOPS? AND THEY'RE OUT THERE IN THEIR PANTYHOSE LAUGHING IN OUR FACES.

IT'S NOT LIKE WE'RE **BANNING** 'EM, MAN. NOBODY'S **STOPPING** 'EM DOING THEIR THING. HELL, THEY'RE EVEN **PAYING** THESE CLOWNS TO GO OFFICIAL NOW.



BUT THEY DON'T GET A **BUZZ** OUTTA BEIN' LEGIT. **FREAKS** ONLY **GET OFF** ON THE MASKS AND THAT "MYSTERY MAN" GARBAGE.



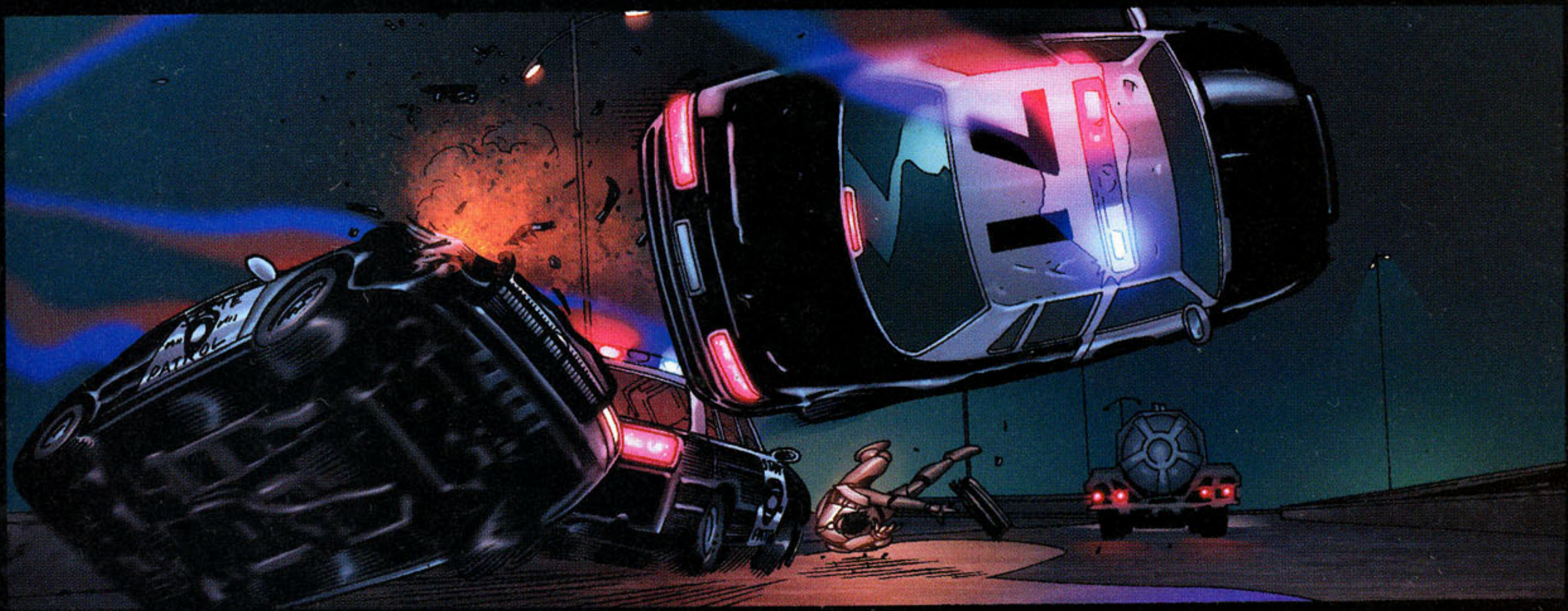
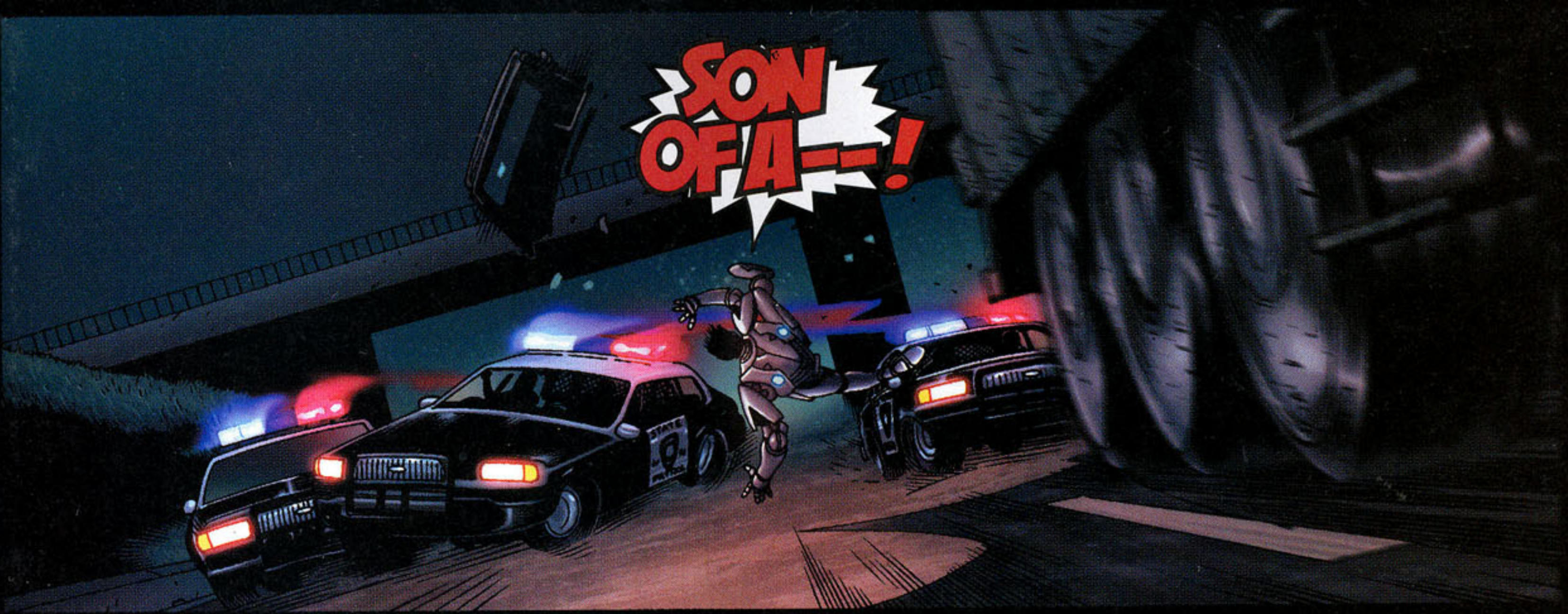
GONNA BE ONE COLD SHOWER WHEN THEY SEE THE NEW PEN THEY'RE BUILDING FOR THESE SUPER-CREEPS. YOU HEARD ABOUT THIS PLACE? THIS "NUMBER FORTY-TWO" THING THEY'RE CONSTRUCTIN'?

FRANK IN SUPPLIES SAID YOU'RE NOT EVEN ALLOWED TO LOOK AT **THE BLUEPRINTS** WITHOUT THESE WEIRD-ASS **SPECIAL GOGGLES**.

YOU KNOW SOMETHING, FELLA?



YOU TALK TOO MUCH!



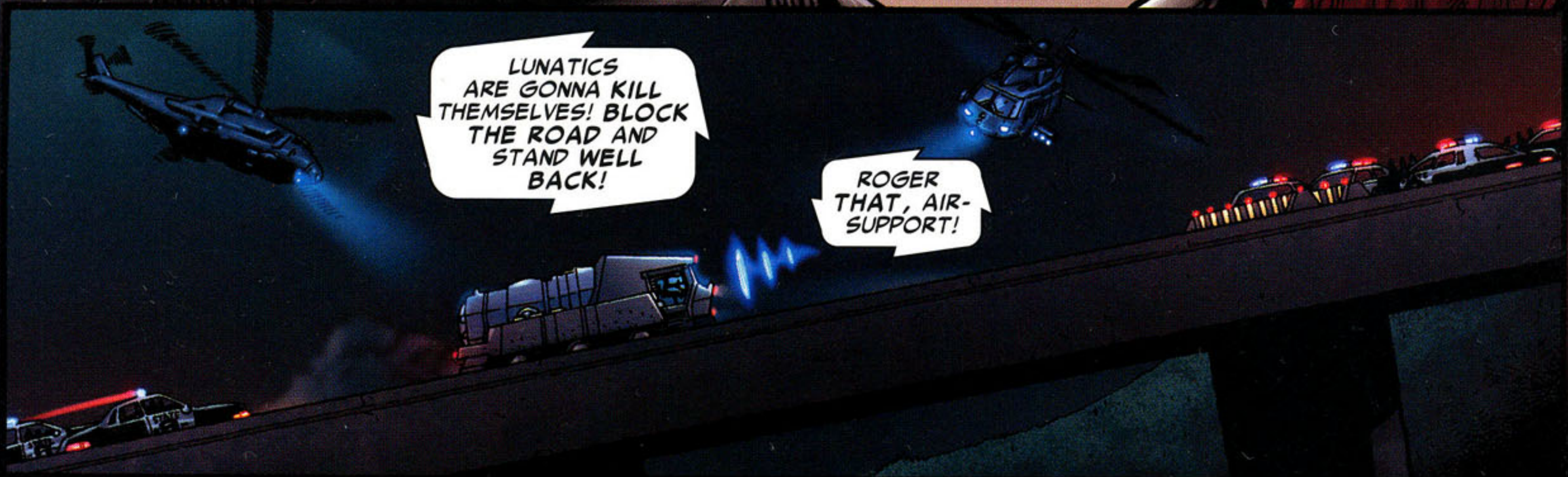


COPS ARE
BLOCKING THE
ROAD ALREADY,
FALCON!



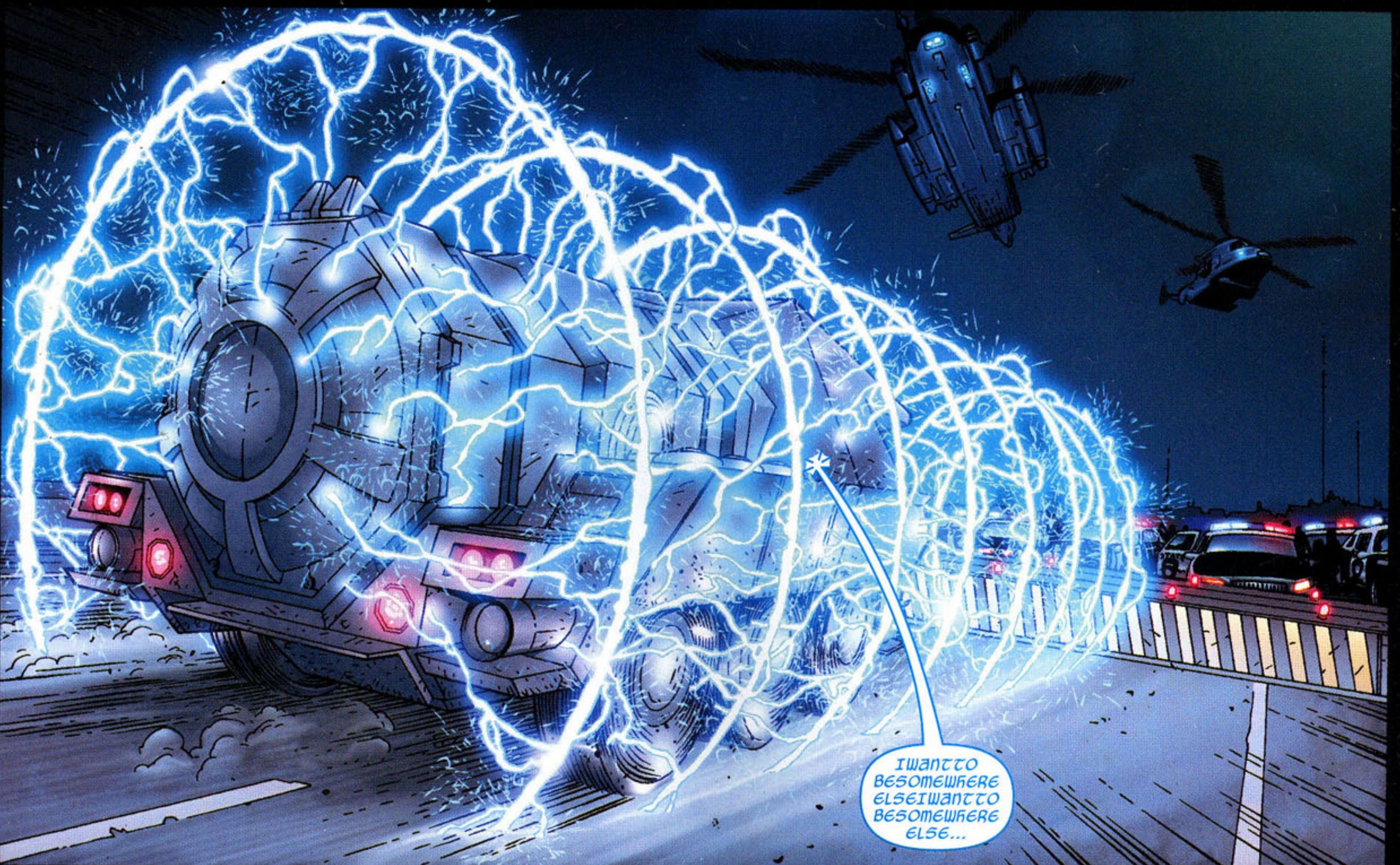
WOULD YOU
HURRY UP WITH
THAT FREAKIN'
SPELL?

I WANT TO
BE SOMEWHERE
ELSE I WANT TO
BE SOMEWHERE
ELSE...

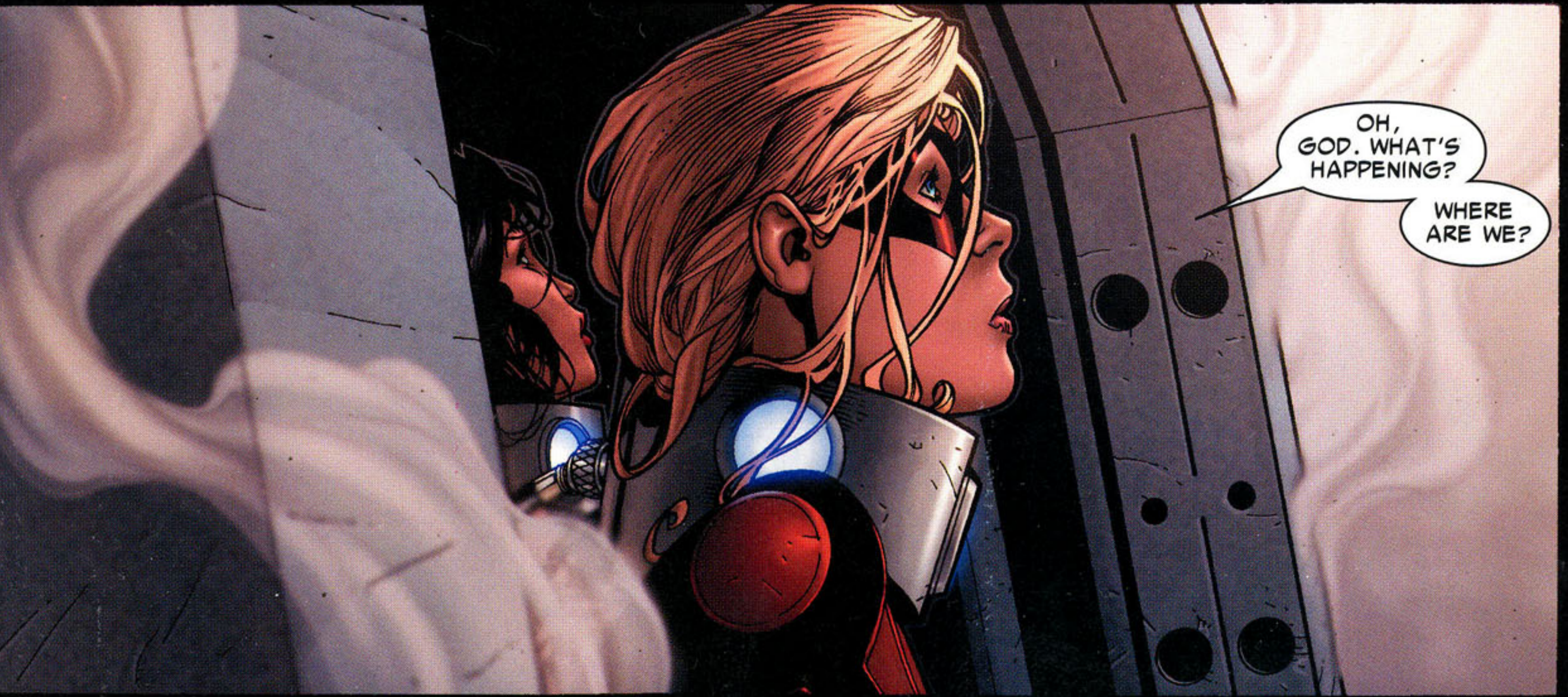
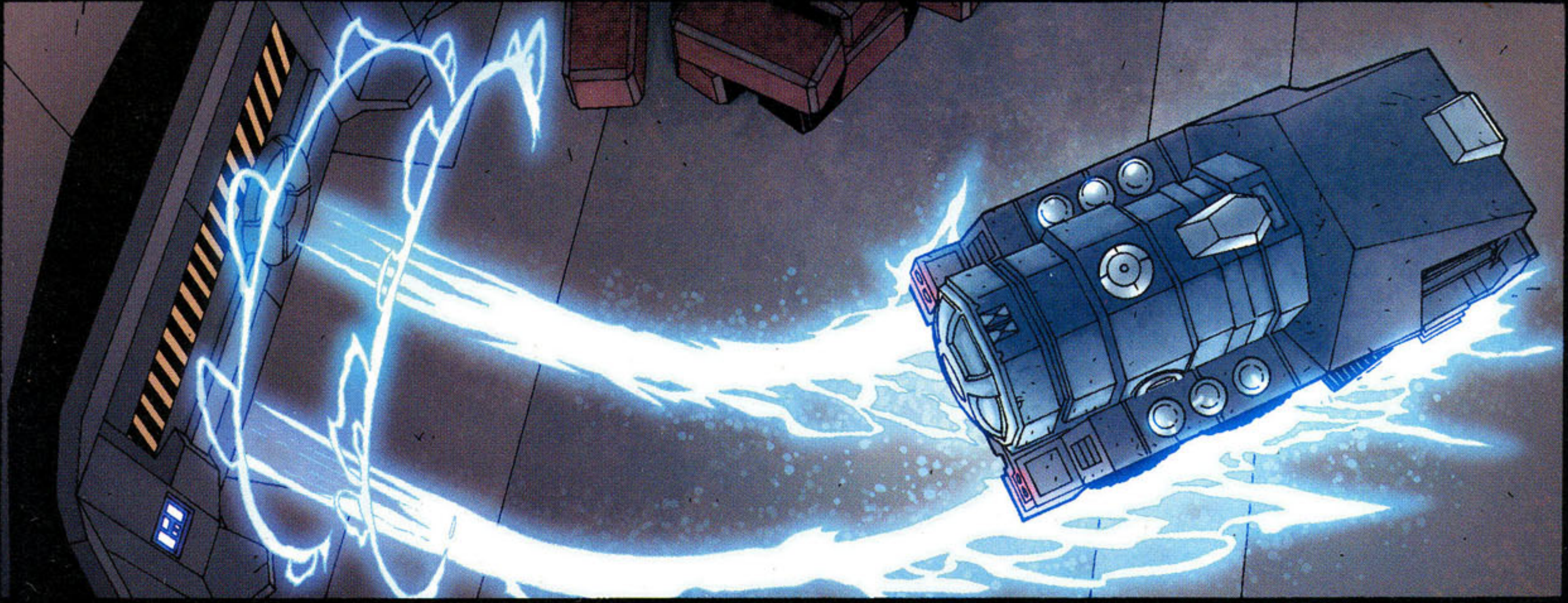
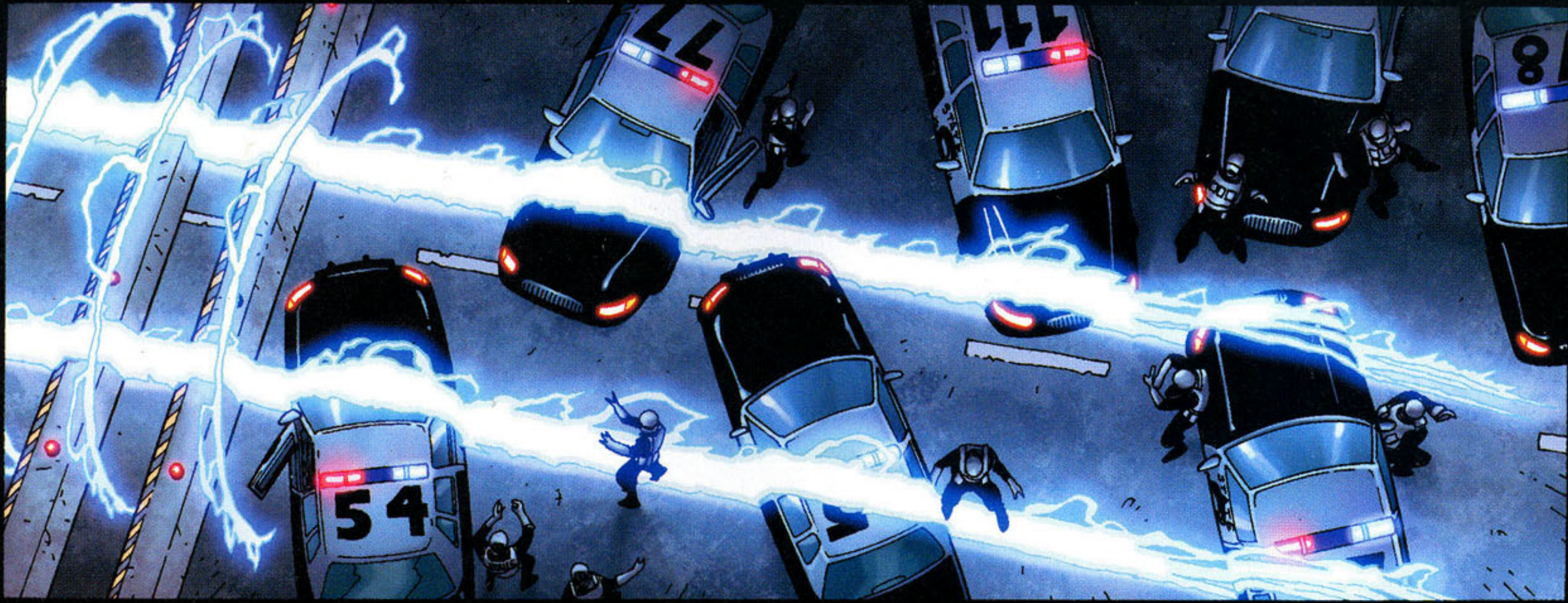


LUNATICS
ARE GONNA KILL
THEMSELVES! BLOCK
THE ROAD AND
STAND WELL
BACK!

ROGER
THAT, AIR-
SUPPORT!



I WANT TO
BE SOMEWHERE
ELSE I WANT TO
BE SOMEWHERE
ELSE...





CONGRATULATIONS,
CHILDREN.
YOU
JUST JOINED THE
RESISTANCE.



WHAT...WHAT IS
THIS PLACE?

S.H.I.E.L.D. SAFE HOUSE NUMBER TWENTY-THREE.
ONE OF TWENTY-THREE SUCH PLACES PEPPERING
THE GLOBE AND ONLY KNOWN TO THIRTY-THIRD-
DEGREE S.H.I.E.L.D. OFFICERS.

AND HOW
MANY OF THEM
ARE THERE
EXACTLY?



JUST NICK
FURY.

HE'S UNDERGROUND NOW TOO,
AND CAN ONLY BE CONTACTED VIA
SCRAMBLER-PHONE, BUT HE SAID WE
COULD USE THIS PLACE FOR AS LONG
AS WE LIKE. AND HE'S ALREADY
WORKING ON OUR NEW
SECRET I.D.S.



THIS IS WHERE
WE LIVE FOR THE
DURATION.

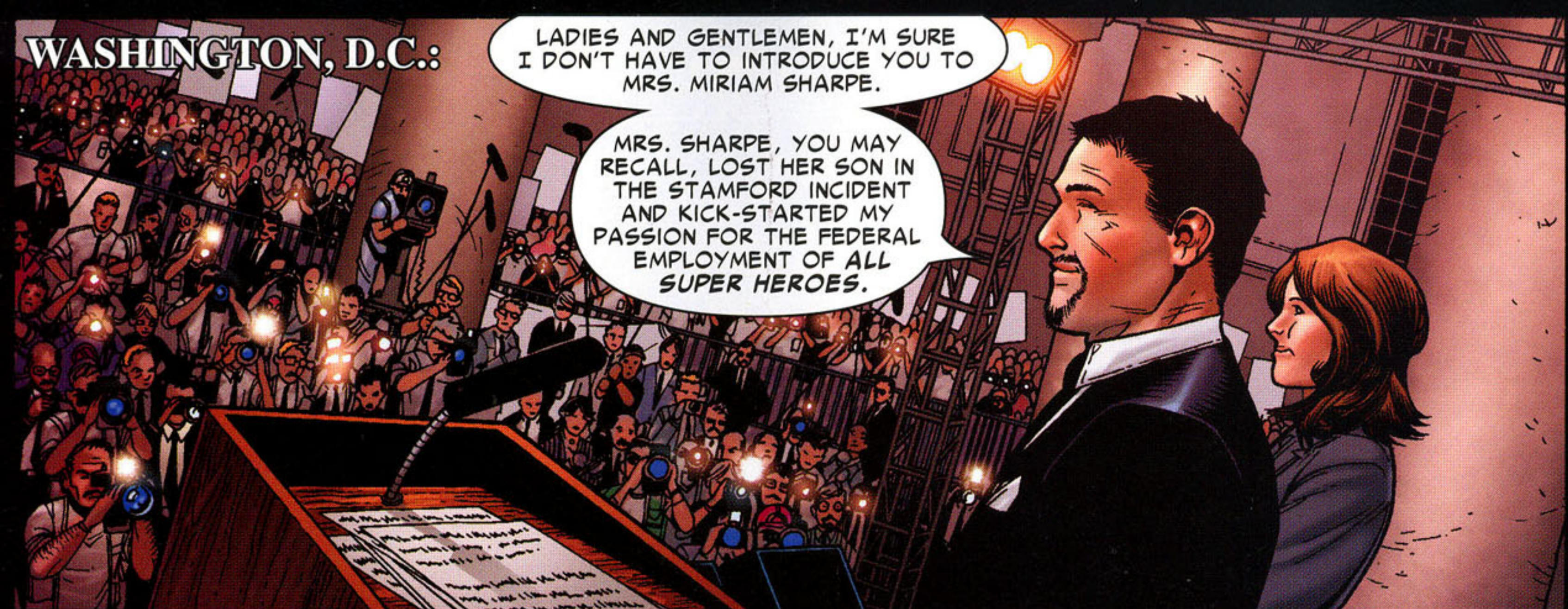
TONY'S CREW IS
PLANNING SOMETHING
HUGE OUT THERE, AND
THIS IS WHERE WE
START TO FIGHT
BACK.



WHY DO WE NEED NEW
SECRET IDENTITIES?

YOUR OLD ONES ARE
PROBABLY COMPROMISED,
PATRIOT, AND YOU'RE
GOING TO NEED **SOMEWHERE**
TO HIDE WHEN WE AREN'T OUT
THERE KICKING ASS AND
TAKING NAMES.

GUYS, I
THINK YOU
BETTER SEE
THIS...



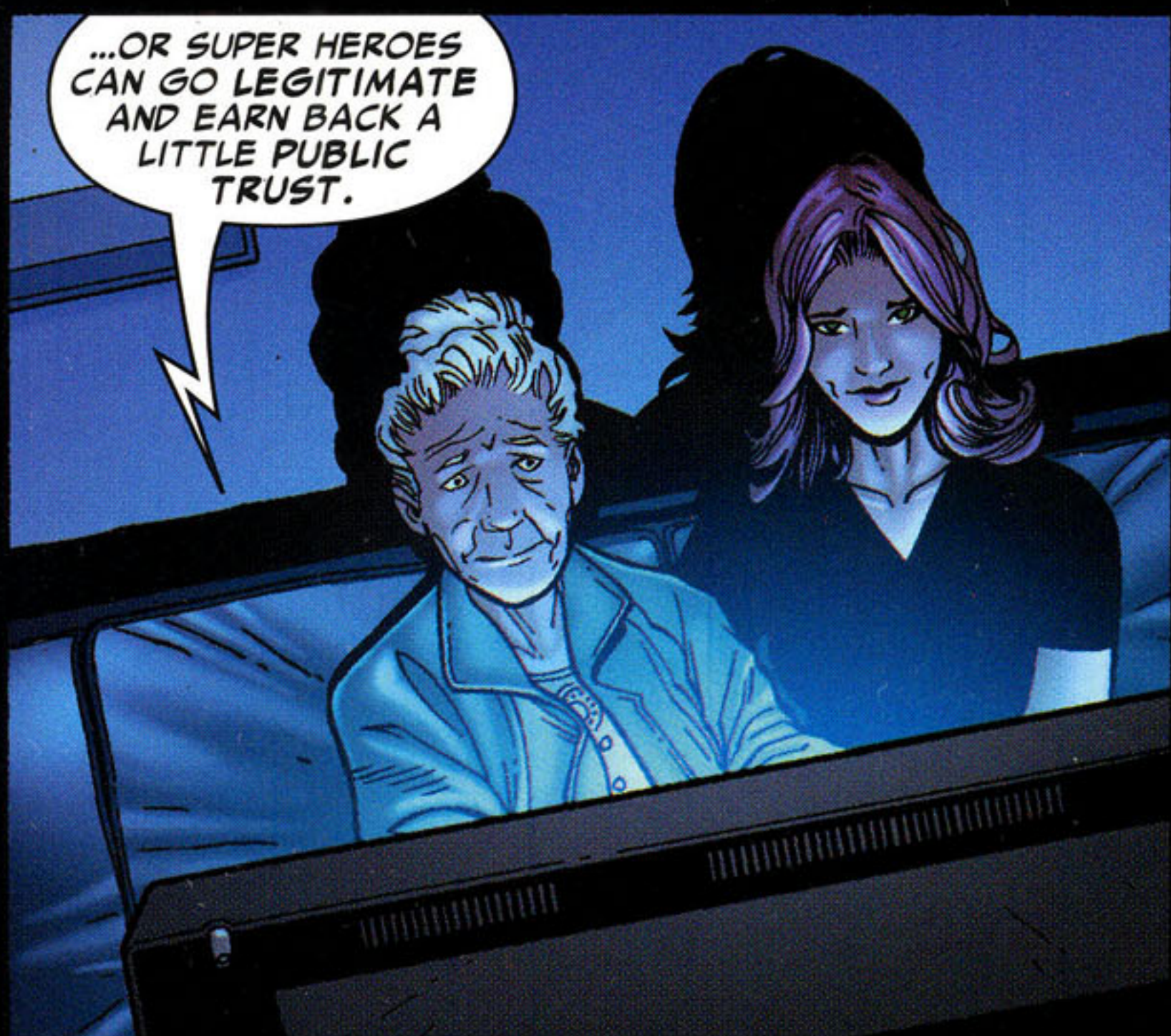


UM, AS MOST OF YOU PROBABLY KNOW, I'VE, UH, GUARDED MY SECRET IDENTITY **PRETTY CAREFULLY** OVER THE YEARS...

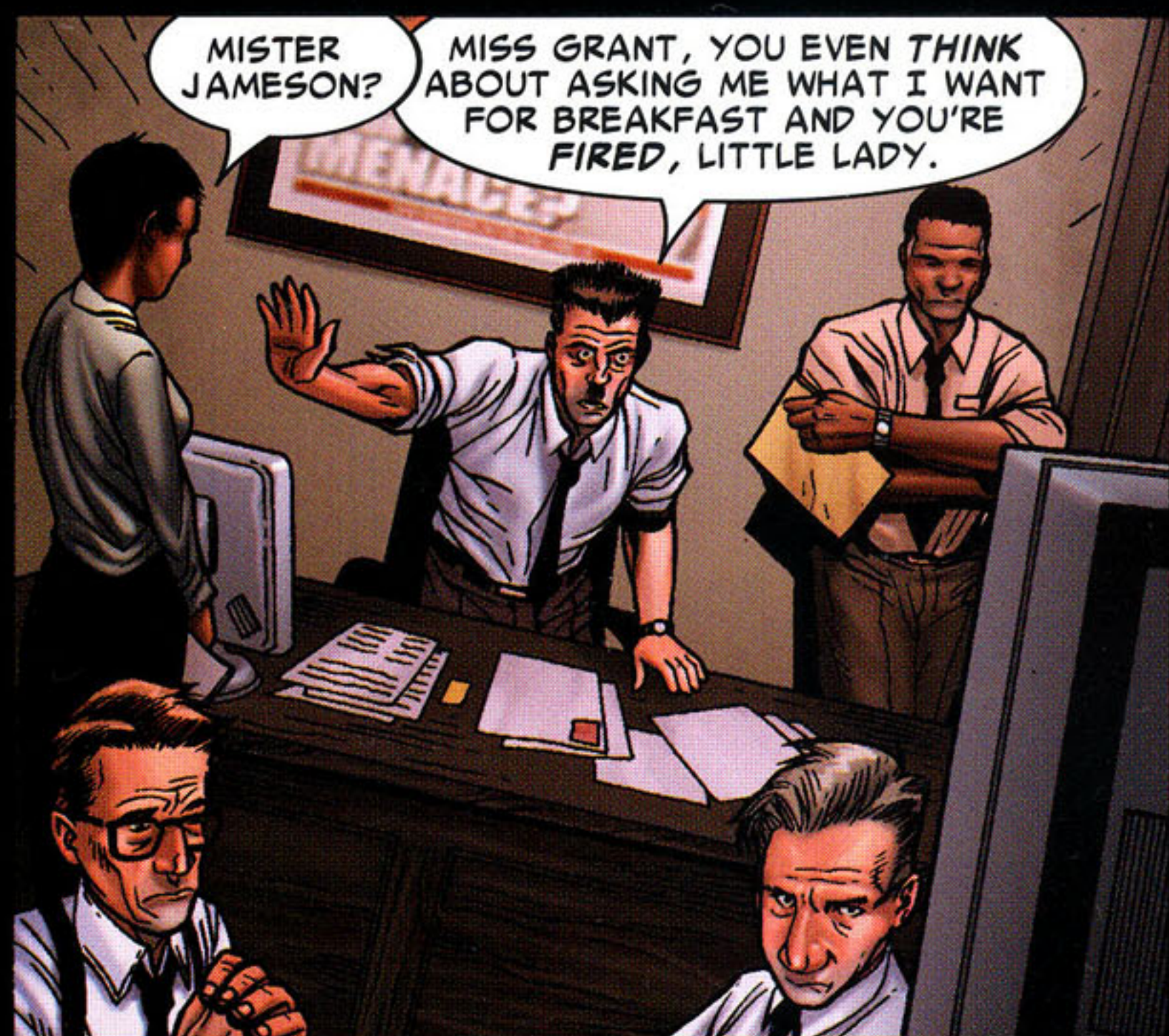
...AND IT'S ONLY AFTER A LONG TALK WITH MY WIFE AND FAMILY THAT I'VE DECIDED TO TAKE THE FOLLOWING STEP.



SEE, THE REGISTRATION ACT GIVES US A CHOICE: WE CAN CONTINUE THE TREND THAT CAPTAIN AMERICA ADVOCATES AND HAVE PEOPLE WITH POWERS COMPLETELY **UNCHECKED**...



...OR SUPER HEROES CAN GO LEGITIMATE AND EARN BACK A LITTLE PUBLIC TRUST.



MISTER JAMESON?

MISS GRANT, YOU EVEN THINK ABOUT ASKING ME WHAT I WANT FOR BREAKFAST AND YOU'RE **FIRE**D, LITTLE LADY.



I'M NOT WEARING MY OLD MASK BECAUSE I'M **ASHAMED** OF WHAT I DO. I'M **PROUD** OF WHO I AM, AND I'M **HERE** RIGHT NOW TO **PROVE** IT...

MY NAME IS
PETER PARKER,
AND I'VE BEEN
SPIDER-MAN SINCE
I WAS **FIFTEEN**
YEARS OLD.



MISTER
JAMESON?





ANY
QUESTIONS?

TO BE
CONTINUED...