



FIRE AND STONE

ALIENS™

2 OF 4 | \$3.50

CHRIS ROBERSON

PATRICK REYNOLDS



JULY 10, 2179.
3:21 PM, EARTH
CENTRAL TIME.
LV-223. ONE OF
THREE KNOWN
MOONS OF THE
CALPAMOS
PLANET IN
THE ZETA 2
RETICULI SYSTEM.

THE FIRST TIME I SAW IT, I THOUGHT MAYBE
IT WAS JUST A TRICK OF THE LIGHT, OR A
MOMENTARY HALLUCINATION BROUGHT ON
BY HUNGER AND EXHAUSTION.



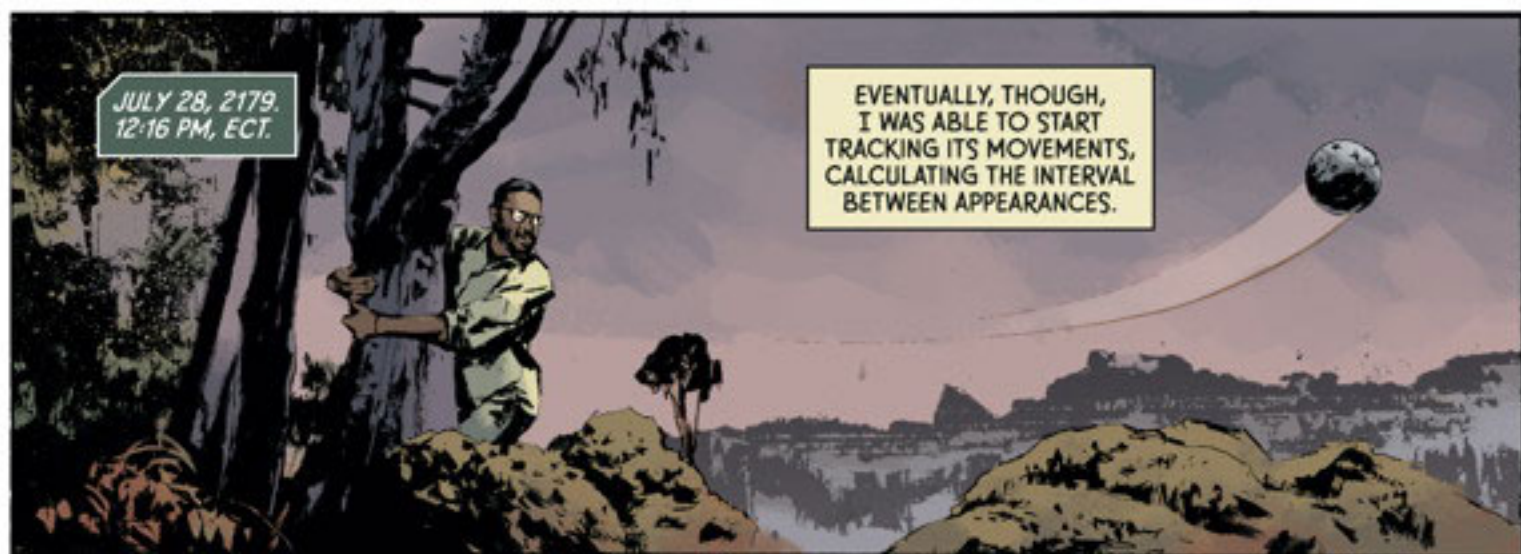
JULY 19, 2179.
11:52 AM, ECT.

THE SECOND
TIME, I HAD
OTHER THINGS
ON MY MIND.



JULY 28, 2179.
12:16 PM, ECT.

EVENTUALLY, THOUGH,
I WAS ABLE TO START
TRACKING ITS MOVEMENTS,
CALCULATING THE INTERVAL
BETWEEN APPEARANCES.



AUGUST 5, 2179.
7:09 AM, ECT.

AND THEN
IT WAS JUST
A MATTER
OF TIME...



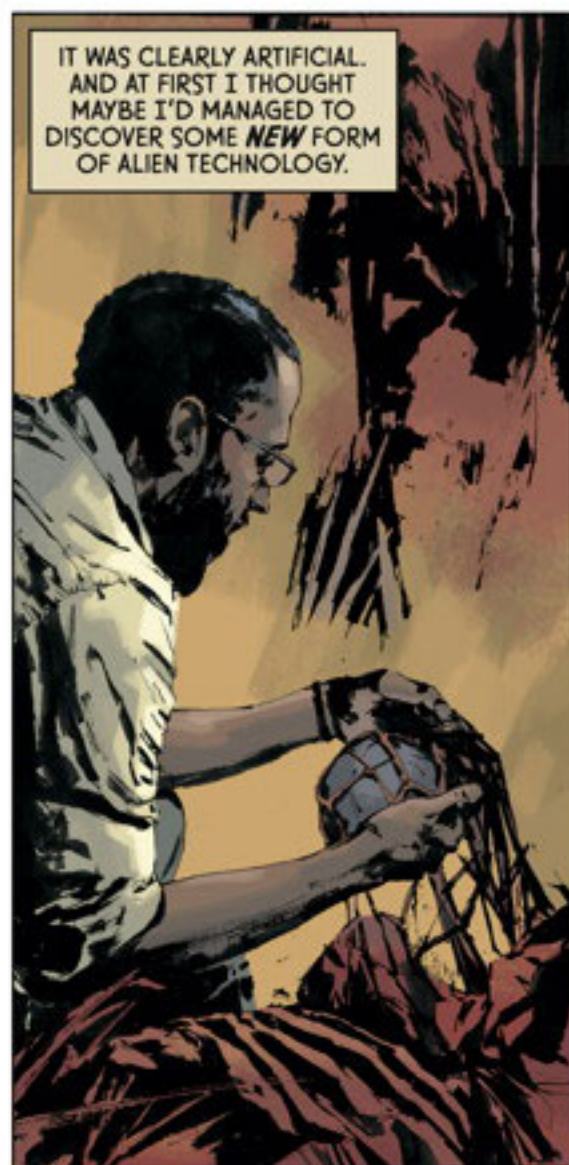
AUGUST 8, 2179.
6:30 AM, ECT.



GOTCHA!



IT WAS CLEARLY ARTIFICIAL.
AND AT FIRST I THOUGHT
MAYBE I'D MANAGED TO
DISCOVER SOME **NEW** FORM
OF ALIEN TECHNOLOGY.



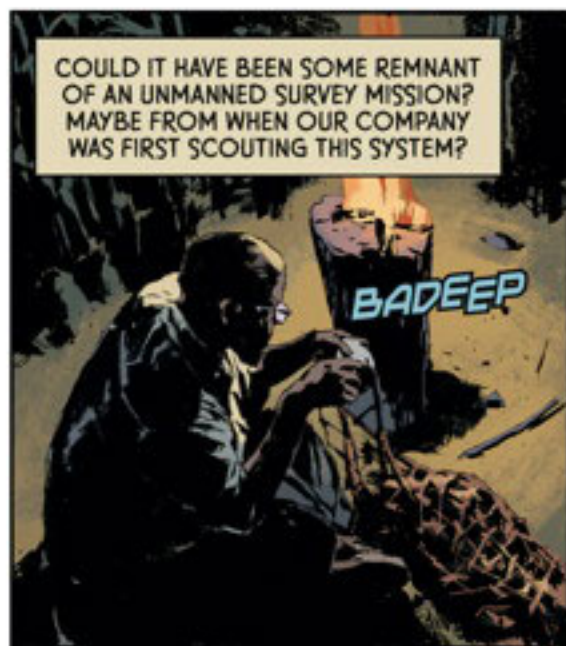
UPON CLOSER
EXAMINATION,
THOUGH, IT WAS
CLEARLY FROM
MUCH CLOSER
TO HOME
THAN THAT.

WHAT
THE---?



THIS WAS OLD WEYLAND-
YUTANI EQUIPMENT.
I'D TAKEN APART AND
RETOOLED ENOUGH
OF THE CORPORATION'S
RESEARCH AND
TERRAFORMING TECH
TO BE ABLE TO TELL.





COULD IT HAVE BEEN SOME REMNANT
OF AN UNMANNED SURVEY MISSION?
MAYBE FROM WHEN OUR COMPANY
WAS FIRST SCOUTING THIS SYSTEM?

BADEEP



WHOA!



PROMETHEUS,
WE ARE NOW
MAPPING.



SO NOT ONLY WERE WE
NOT THE FIRST **HUMANS** TO
SET FOOT ON LV-223--WE
WEREN'T EVEN THE FIRST
COMPANY **EMPLOYEES**.

JUST ONE OF MANY
ANSWERS THAT SERVED
ONLY TO RAISE
MORE **QUESTIONS**.

THE REST OF THE SURVIVORS DIDN'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT WHAT I'D FOUND YET, OF COURSE. THEY HAD OTHER MATTERS TO OCCUPY THEIR ATTENTION.

...AND I'M TELLING YOU, THERE'S NO OTHER WAY.



WE'VE GOT TO HIT THOSE ALIEN FREAKS **HARD**, ONCE AND FOR ALL!

THIS ISN'T SOME KIND OF **GAME**, CALE.



WE'RE BARELY MANAGING TO HOLD THINGS TOGETHER AS IT IS. WE CAN'T BE GOING ON SOME **RAIDING** PARTY.

WE NEED TO **ENTRENCH** HERE WHERE WE'RE SAFE. BUILD UP THE **DEFENSES**. GET SOME **INFRASTRUCTURE** INTO PLACE.

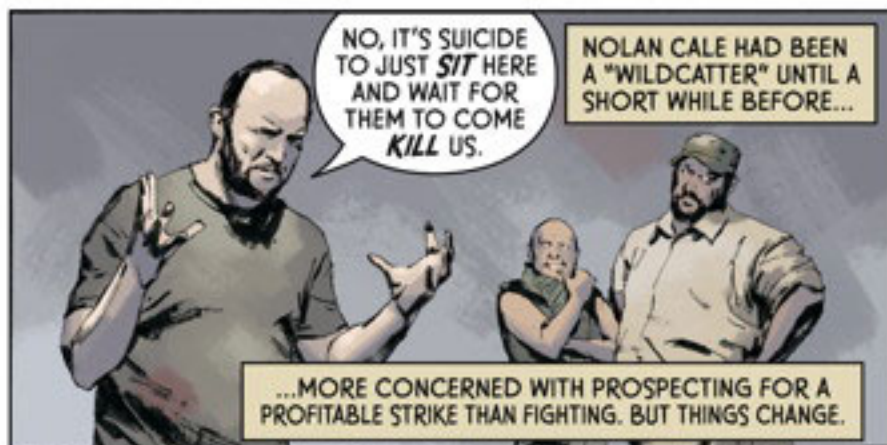


BECAUSE GOING AFTER THOSE "ALIEN FREAKS" WOULD JUST BE **SUICIDE**.

GENEVIEVE DIONE HAD BEEN A TEACHER BACK ON **ACHERON**, AMONG OTHER THINGS.

SHE WAS ONE OF THE LEADING VOICES IN OUR MAKESHIFT CAMP.





NO, IT'S SUICIDE
TO JUST *SIT* HERE
AND WAIT FOR
THEM TO COME
KILL US.

NOLAN CALE HAD BEEN
A "WILDCATTER" UNTIL A
SHORT WHILE BEFORE...

...MORE CONCERNED WITH PROSPECTING FOR A
PROFITABLE STRIKE THAN FIGHTING. BUT THINGS CHANGE.



MY MEN
LOADED *FOOD*
AND *SUPPLIES*
ON THE *ONAGER*
BEFORE WE
LIFTED OFF.

TO SAY *NOTHING* OF THE
EMERGENCY BEACON WE
COULD USE TO CALL FOR
HELP. AND ALL OF THAT IS
JUST *SITTING* THERE
DOWN IN THE
VALLEY...

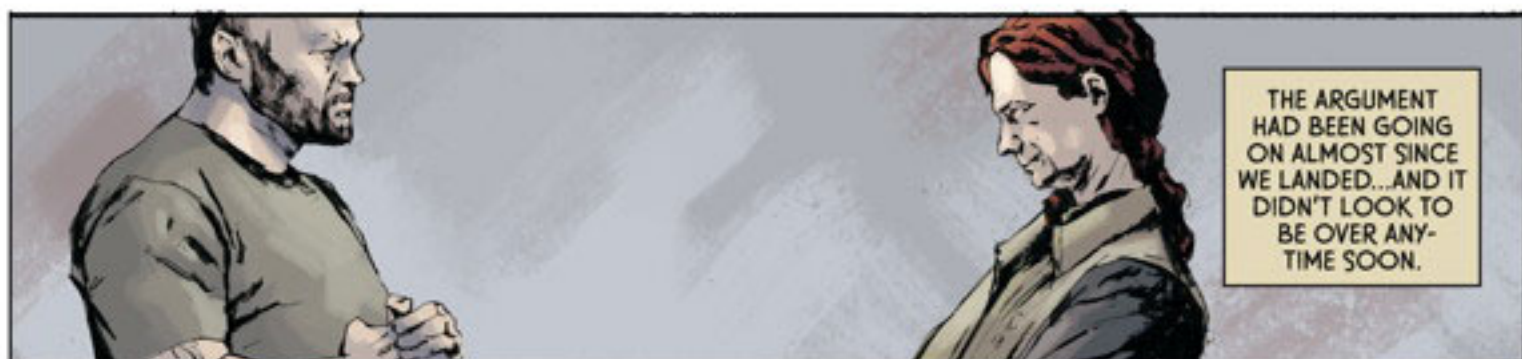


*...WITH JUST A
FEW OF *THOSE*
THINGS STANDING
IN OUR WAY.*



SO *AGAIN*, I
SAY THAT WE GO
DOWN THERE, *KILL*
THEM ALL, *GET* OUR
SUPPLIES, AND BE
DONE WITH IT.

HECK, WITH
THE BEACON,
WE COULD BE
OFF THIS ROCK
IN *NO* TIME.



THE ARGUMENT
HAD BEEN GOING
ON ALMOST SINCE
WE LANDED...AND IT
DIDN'T LOOK TO
BE OVER ANY-
TIME SOON.

WE HAD MANAGED TO FIND EDIBLE FLORA AND FAUNA IN OUR SHORT TIME ON THE MOON. BUT WE ALSO FOUND THIS WEIRD, OILY **BLACK SLUDGE**.

THE STUFF SEEMED TO TWIST AND MUTATE EVERYTHING IT TOUCHED. IF WE STEERED CLEAR OF IT, THOUGH, WE KNEW WE'D BE ABLE TO KEEP FROM STARVING TO DEATH. BUT JUST BARELY...



I SWEAR, THOSE LITTLE MONKEY THINGS **TASTE** EVEN WORSE THAN THEY **SMELL**.

WELL, HAVE YOU SEEN SOME OF THE FISH WE'VE PULLED OUT OF THIS LAKE?



THE ONES ON THE **OTHER** SIDE OF THE LAKE AREN'T SO BAD, BUT ON **THIS** SIDE? THEY'RE JUST...JUST...



...**STRANGE**.

LIKE THOSE **MONSTERS** WE BROUGHT WITH US AREN'T BAD ENOUGH. I SWEAR, RUSSELL, IF I EVER FIND OUT WHO--

