

YEARS AGO.

FROM THE NANOJOURNAL
OF DR. ARON AUT, MASTER
ADEPT--QUANTUM
MATHEMATICS.

I HAVE ALWAYS
BEEN FASCINATED
BY SIMPLICITY.

MY PARENTS RAISED ME TO
STUDY NUMBERS AND
FIGURES, AS THEY DID.

THESE, THEY SAID, WERE THE TRUE
LANGUAGE WE USED TO QUANTIFY
EVERYTHING THAT IS.

BUT ALL I SAW WAS IMPERFECTION,
IMPRACTICALITY, INEFFICIENCY, THE
INELEGANCE OF EXISTENCE.

TO ME, THE
CONCEPT WITH THE
MOST ELEGANT
SIMPLICITY...

...WAS ALWAYS
NOTHING.



ZERO.

THE NULL
SET.



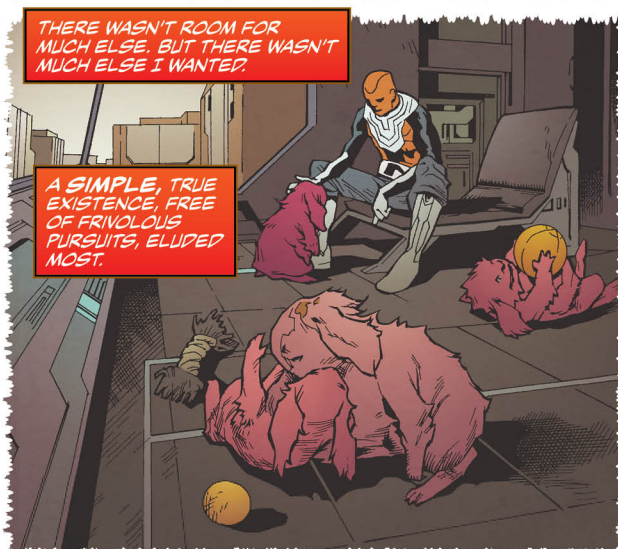
WHERE EVERYTHING BEGAN, AND
WHERE EVERYTHING WILL FINISH.

THE ONE CLEAN
FIGURE FROM WHICH
ALL THINGS
SPRUNG.



I FOUND ITS UTILITY
IRRISISTIBLE.

I DEVOTED MY LIFE
TO ITS STUDY.



THERE WASN'T ROOM FOR
MUCH ELSE. BUT THERE WASN'T
MUCH ELSE I WANTED.

A SIMPLE, TRUE
EXISTENCE, FREE
OF FRIVOLOUS
PURSUITS, ELUDED
MOST.



THEY LONGED FOR THINGS.
TO QUANTIFY THEIR EXISTENCE
WITH SOCIAL CURRENCY.

I WANTED
NOTHING OF
THEIR LIVES.

AND HAD
EVERYTHING
I NEEDED IN
MINE.



UNTIL THE
QUANTUM
STORMS.

THAT ABRUPT, INDELIBLE
SHOCK CREEPING
ACROSS CREATION.

SUDDENLY, A SIMPLE
EXISTENCE WAS
IMPOSSIBLE.



I'D ALWAYS BEEN
FASCINATED BY NOTHING
AS A THEORY. I DIDN'T
IMAGINE THE LOSS IT
TOOK TO GET THERE.



IT HURT. BUT IT SHOWED ME WHAT
IT WOULD TAKE FOR IT, FOR EVERY-
THING, TO END AND START ANEW.



SIMPLE.

AGAIN FROM
NOTHING.

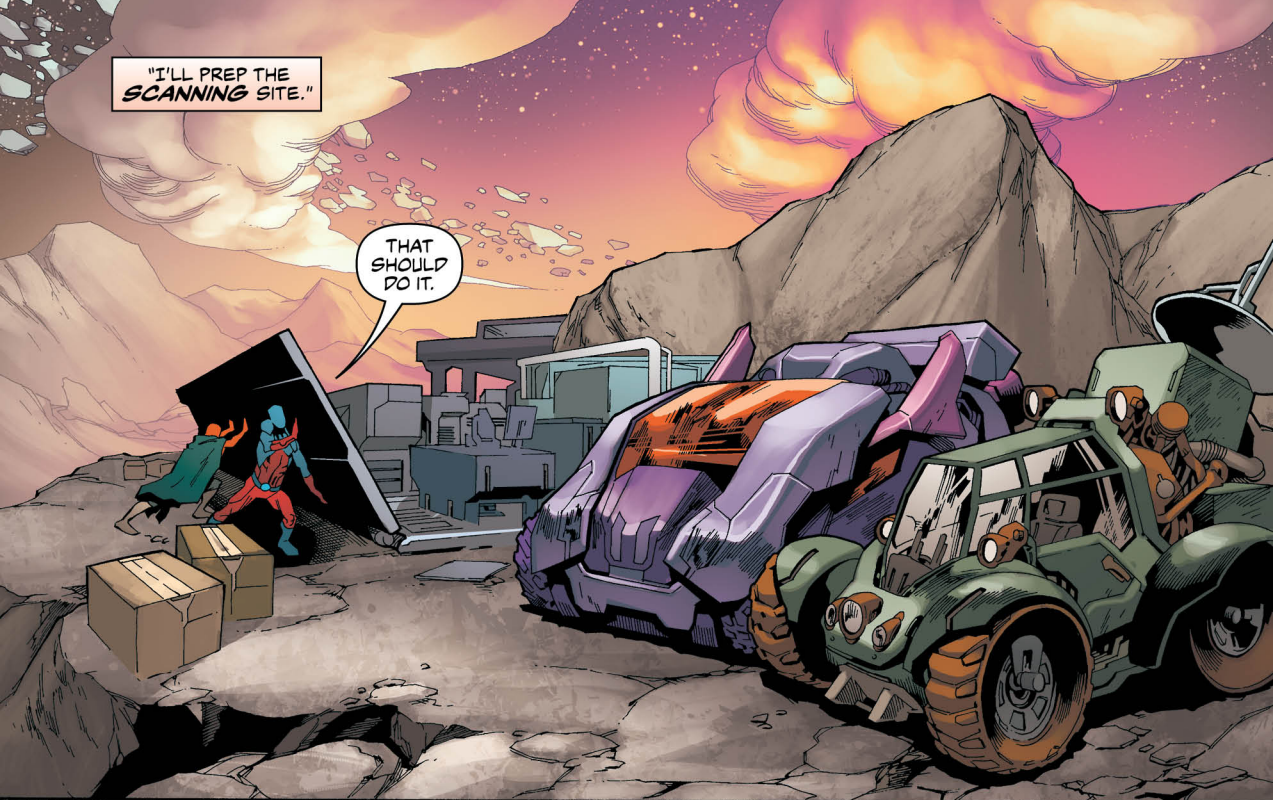
IT WAS **MERCY**. I NEEDED TO HELP
US GET **BACK** THERE, TO **NOTHING**...

WHATEVER THAT **MEANS**.

THE IGNITION POINT.

ARON...ARE
YOU SEEING WHAT
I'M SEEING UP THERE?
IT'S **UNBELIEVABLE**,
IT'S...





"I'LL PREP THE
SCANNING SITE."

THAT
SHOULD
DO IT.



OKAY,
ARON. THE 4D
SEISMOGRAPHS
ARE ALIGNED. LET'S GET
SOME READINGS AND
SEE IF WE CAN
STOP THIS--

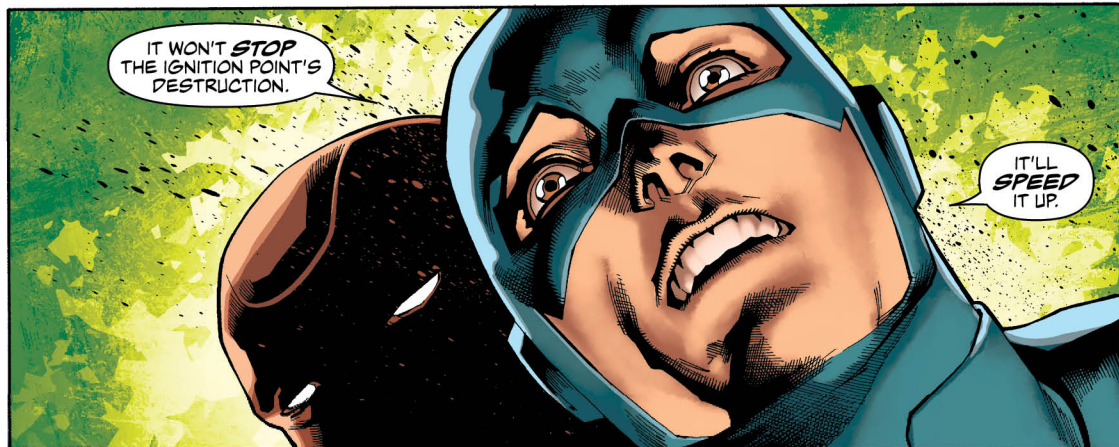
WAIT.

WAIT.



YOUR
SEISMOGRAPH.
I KNEW ITS DESIGN
WAS **DIFFERENT**. I
JUST **ASSUMED** IT WAS
PERSONAL AESTHETICS,
BUT **NO**.

THE
DESIGN...



IT WON'T **STOP**
THE IGNITION POINT'S
DESTRUCTION.

IT'LL
SPEED
IT UP.