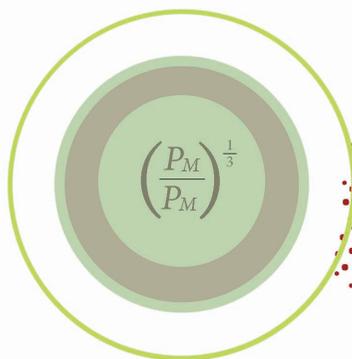
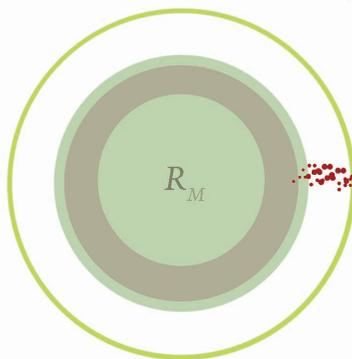




R O C H E L I M I T

M O R E C I
F E R R I E R

M A L H O T R A
B O Y D



PROLOGUE

THERE WAS A TIME, THE DISTANT PAST, WHEN PEOPLE LOOKED UP TO THE NIGHT SKY, TO THE STARS AND THE MOON, AND DREAMED.

— OF SCIENCE. —

— OF EXPLORATION. —

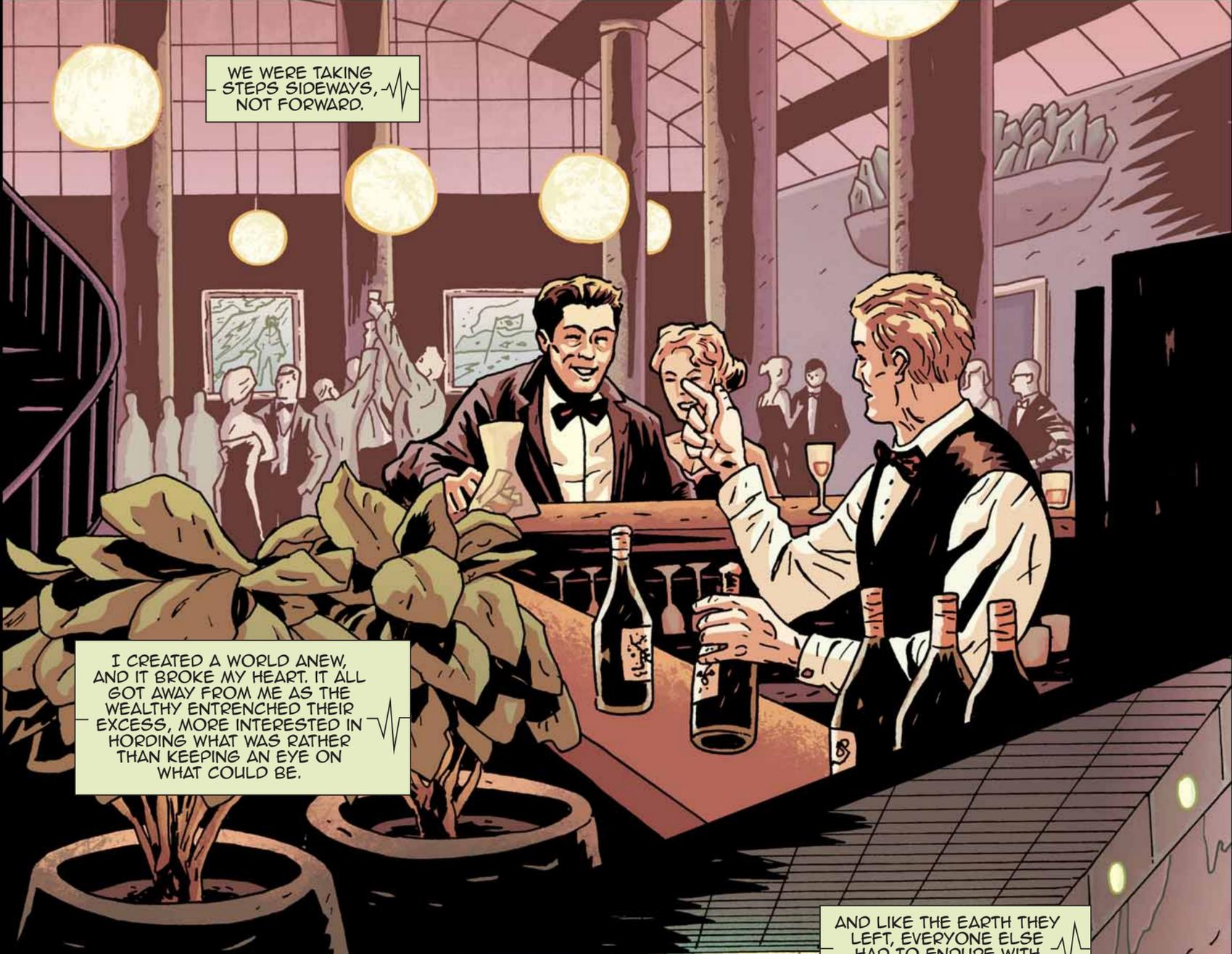


— OF ANSWERS TO THE OLDEST QUESTIONS AND PROMISES OF NEW BEGINNINGS. —

THE GREAT COSMOS, OUT THERE TO FULFILL THE LACKING WE HUMANS INHERENTLY HAVE. LIKE ME, SOME BELIEVED THAT IN THAT SWIRL OF SPACE WAS HUMANITY'S DESTINATION. THE NEXT STEP IN PROGRESS, OR MAYBE FULFILLMENT.

— BUT THE MORE ADVANCES WE MADE, THE MORE ONE THING BECAME APPARENT... —





WE WERE TAKING
STEPS SIDeways, NOT FORWARD.

I CREATED A WORLD ANEW,
AND IT BROKE MY HEART. IT ALL
GOT AWAY FROM ME AS THE
WEALTHY ENTRENCHED THEIR
EXCESS, MORE INTERESTED IN
HORDING WHAT WAS RATHER
THAN KEEPING AN EYE ON
WHAT COULD BE.

AND LIKE THE EARTH THEY
LEFT, EVERYONE ELSE
HAD TO ENDURE WITH
WHATEVER REMAINED.





I AM LANGFORD SKAARGRED, ADVENTURER, ECCENTRIC, AND BILLIONAIRE.

I AM RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ROCHE LIMIT COLONY AND THE HORRORS THIS PLACE HAS ENGENDERED.



IT STARTED AS A PLACE OF HOPE AND NEW BEGINNINGS. THE NEXT MARKER IN OUR JOURNEY TO WHATEVER LIES AHEAD.

THIS WASN'T MEANT TO BE AN END POINT, NO. JUST A TENT POST THAT REMINDED US--ALL OF US--HOW FAR WE COULD GO. BUT, AS THEY SAY, THE ROAD TO HELL...



OVER TIME, DESPITE MY INTENTIONS AND DREAMS, THE ROCHE LIMIT EVOLVED INTO SOMETHING... DIFFERENT.

NO...



NO...
NO!

PLEASE... PLEASE DON'T. PLEASE.



GAH!
STOP!
LET ME
GO!

THIS...PLACE BECAME A MELTING
POT OF GREED, CYNICISM, AND,
EVENTUALLY, LAWLESSNESS.



PEOPLE COME TO
INDULGE, TO WASTE
AWAY, AND MOST OF
ALL, TO DISAPPEAR.

AND ROCHE LIMIT
ACCOMMODATES.



IT'S UNCHECKED.

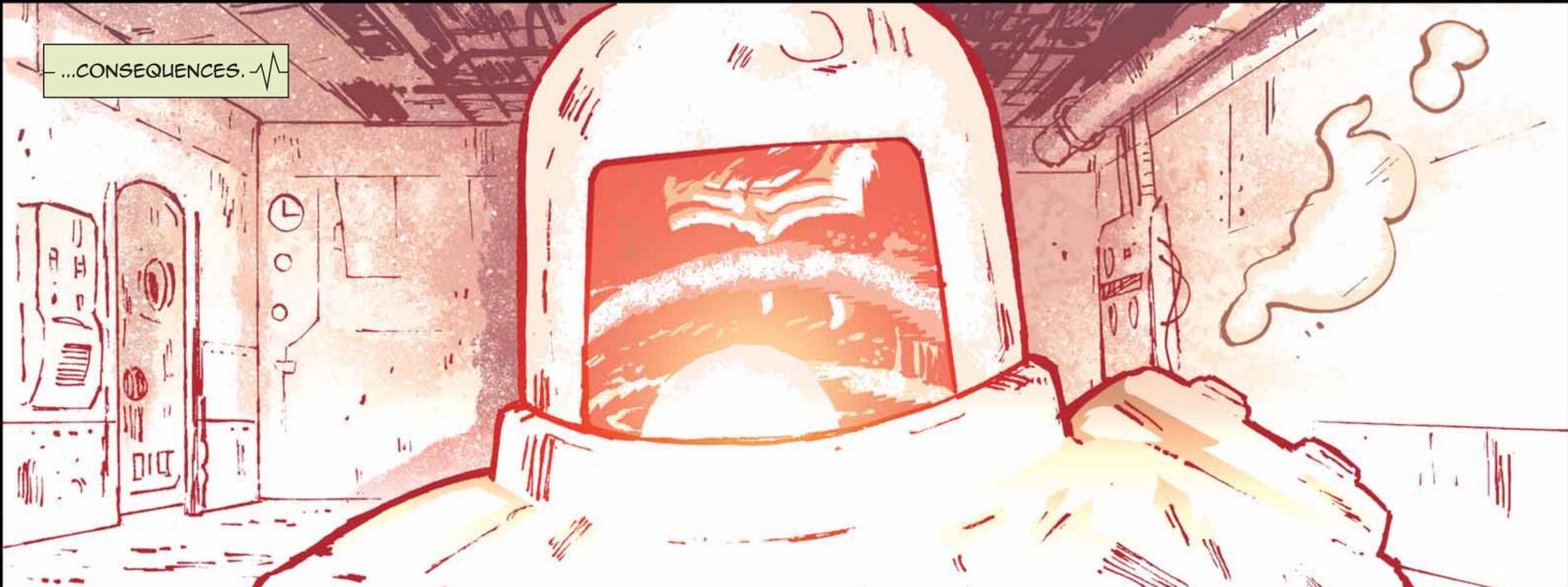
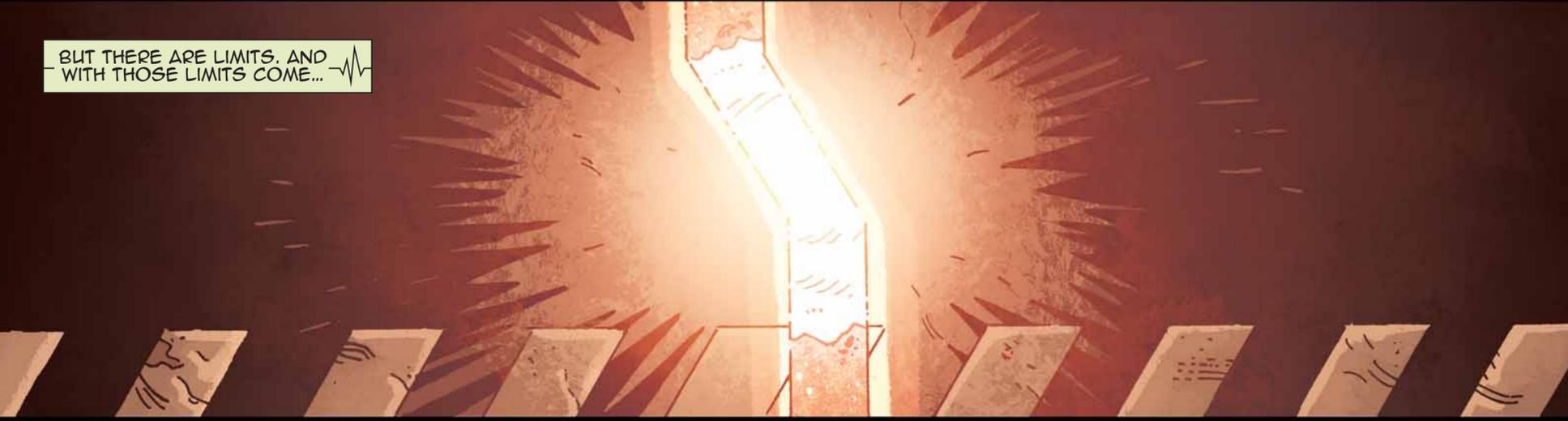


UNREGULATED.



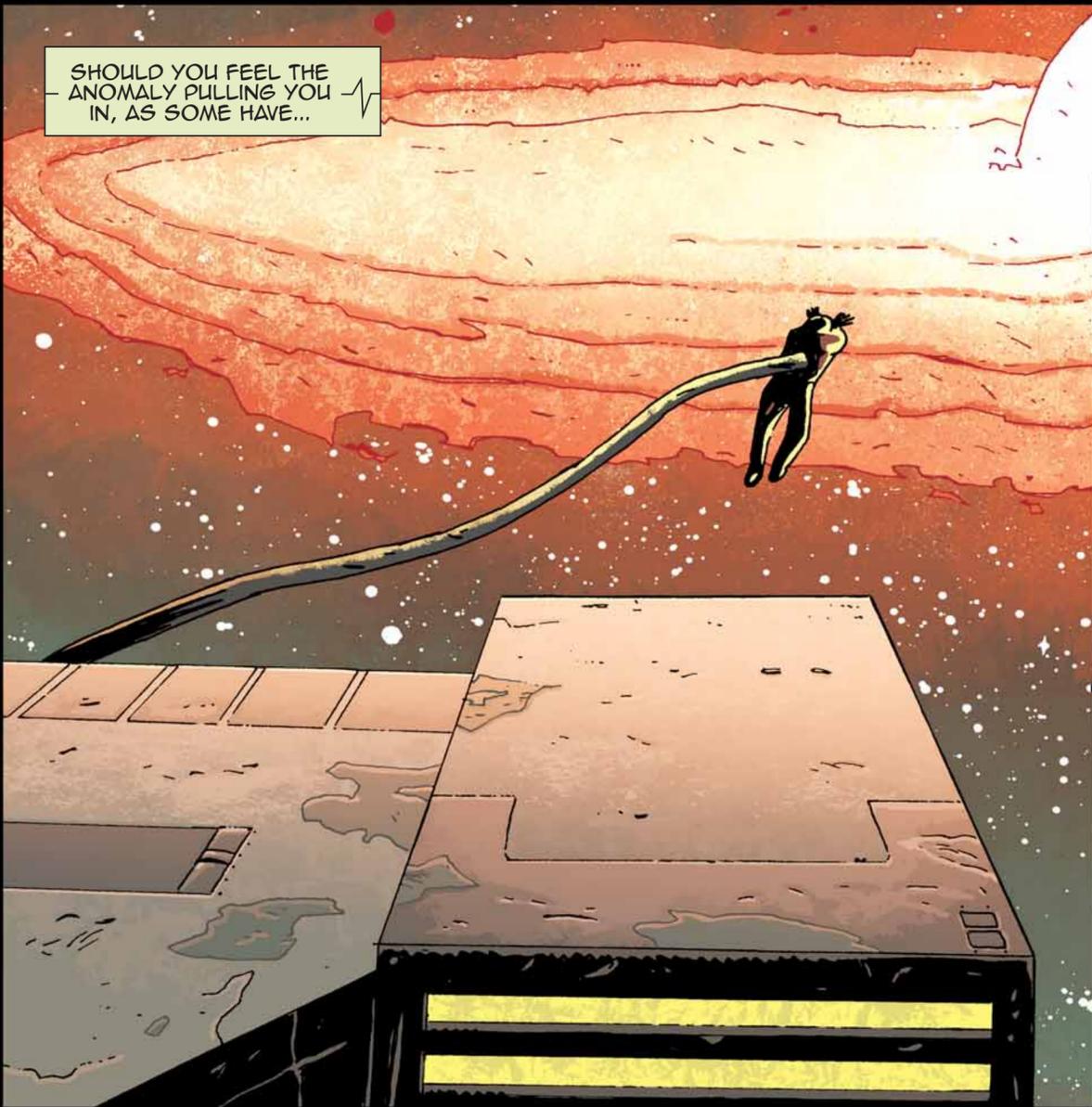
UNCONTROLLABLE.

BUT THERE ARE LIMITS, AND
WITH THOSE LIMITS COME...



...CONSEQUENCES.

SHOULD YOU FEEL THE ANOMALY PULLING YOU IN, AS SOME HAVE...



IF YOU MAKE THAT LEAP, SHOULD YOU RETURN...



IT MAY BE THE DEATH OF US ALL.

