

EMPOWERING

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# EXPLORATIONS





J. Yubari with  
**MUSCLE FAN**  
Productions present:

## Empowering Explorations 6

The G.S.E. have managed to escape off planet, but the problems they left back on the surface still remain.

As the officers onboard Orcheus Station develop counter measures against the growing threat, their Amazonian enemies being expanding their ranks...

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CAPTAIN'S LOG.  
THERE'S BEEN LITTLE REST  
AFTER EXCAVATING MOST OF  
OUR PEOPLE FROM PLANET  
AEGEAN.

WE DON'T KNOW THE  
EXACT STATE OF THOSE  
THAT REMAIN ON ITS'  
SURFACE, LUNNERVING  
MUCH OF THE CREW.



I'VE GOT PEOPLE GOING  
OVER THE DATA SAMPLES  
WE'VE MANAGED TO  
ACQUIRE, AS WELL AS  
AN ENSIGN WHO WAS  
PART OF THE 'FIRST WAVE'  
OF INFECTED.

OOOH,  
PLEASE BE  
GENTLE?



WE NEED A SOLUTION  
TO DEAL WITH THIS  
PROBLEM. HOPEFULLY,  
ONE THAT WON'T HAVE  
US LOSE MORE PEOPLE.

I HATE TO  
LOSE ANY  
MORE TO  
THIS MESS.

OFFICER SO,  
ANY NEW  
INFORMATION  
YOU'VE FIGURED  
OUT YET?

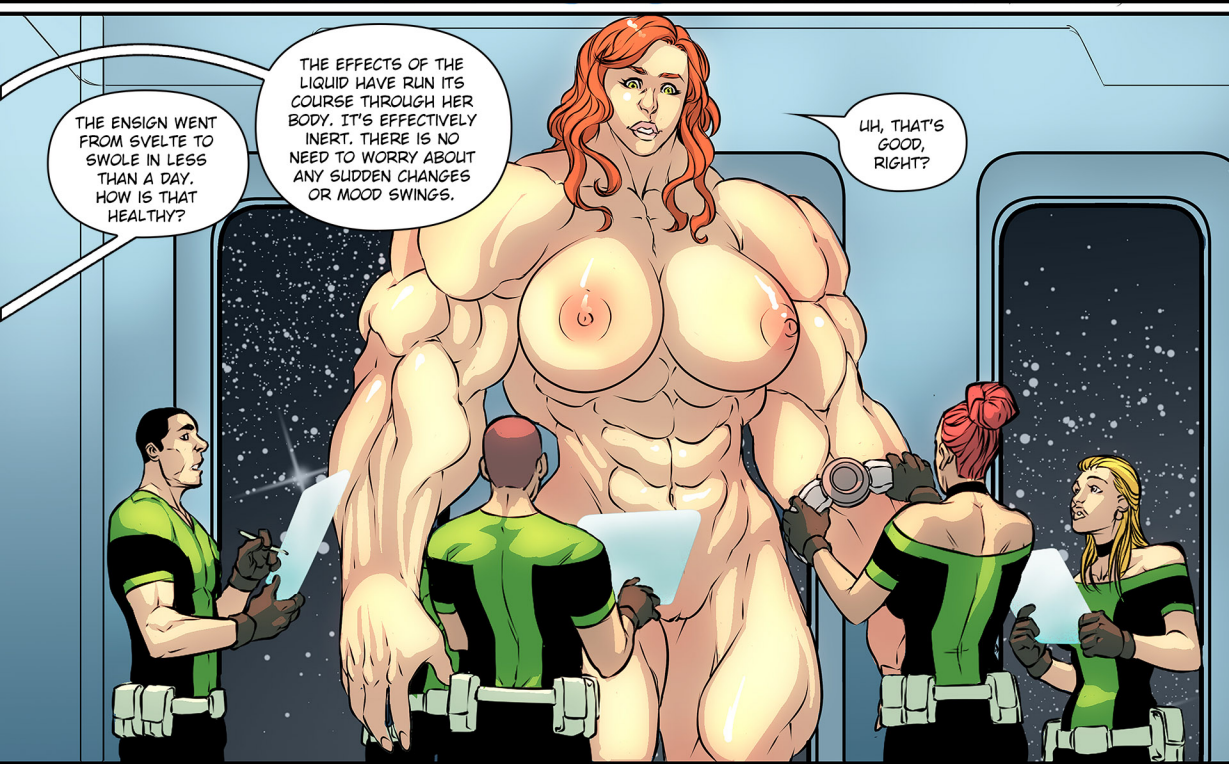
YES, CAPTAIN.  
IT'S QUITE...  
INTRIGUING.



WE'VE FINALLY COMPILED ALL AVAILABLE DATA ON THIS ABNORMAL LIQUID AND ITS EFFECTS ON MUCH OF THE CREW.

LIKE WITH ENSIGN WINDRUNNER, I GET THAT. I'M ASKING FOR SOMETHING NEW HERE.

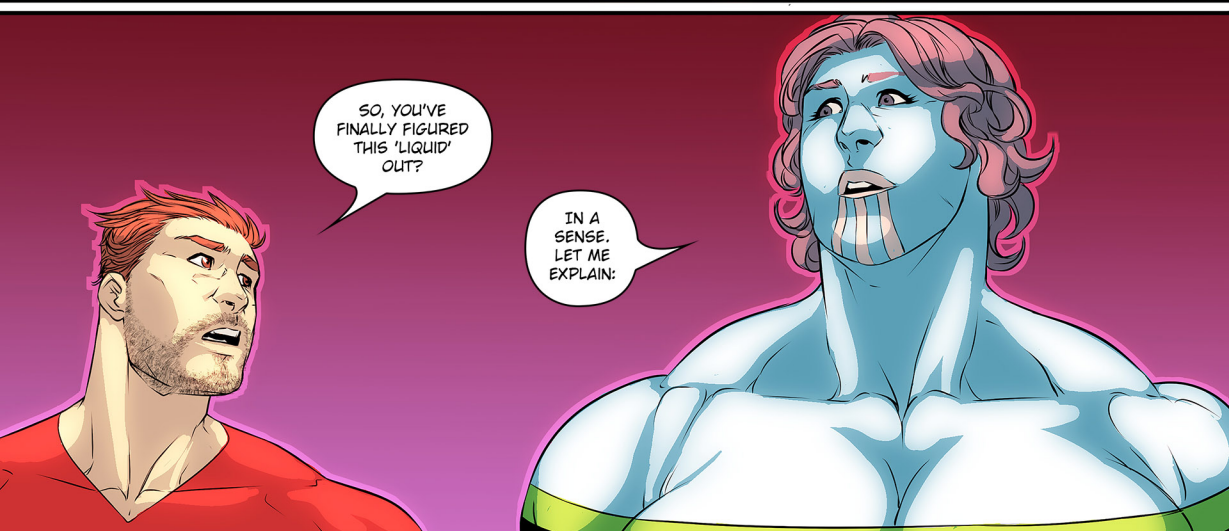
SIMPLY PUT, SHE'S PERFECTLY HEALTHY NOW.



THE ENSIGN WENT FROM SVELTE TO SWOLE IN LESS THAN A DAY. HOW IS THAT HEALTHY?

THE EFFECTS OF THE LIQUID HAVE RUN ITS COURSE THROUGH HER BODY. IT'S EFFECTIVELY INERT. THERE IS NO NEED TO WORRY ABOUT ANY SUDDEN CHANGES OR MOOD SWINGS.

UH, THAT'S GOOD, RIGHT?



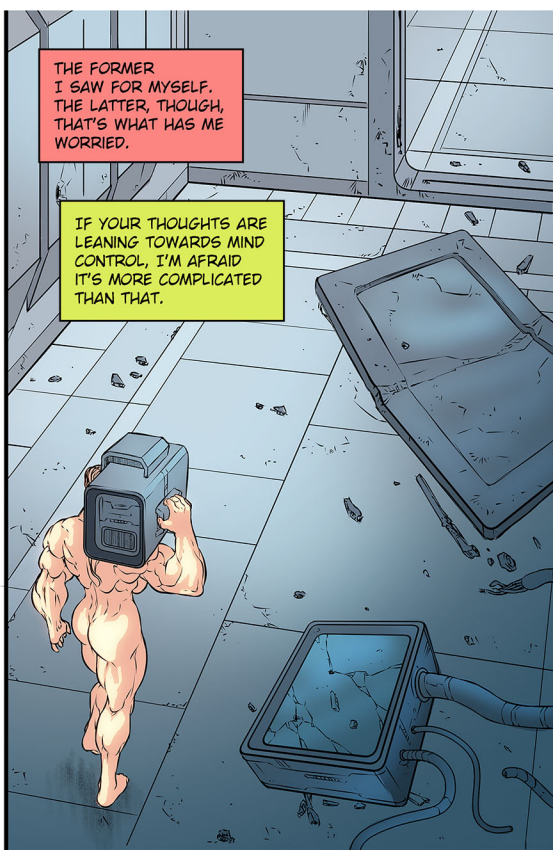
SO, YOU'VE FINALLY FIGURED THIS 'LIQUID' OUT?

IN A SENSE. LET ME EXPLAIN:



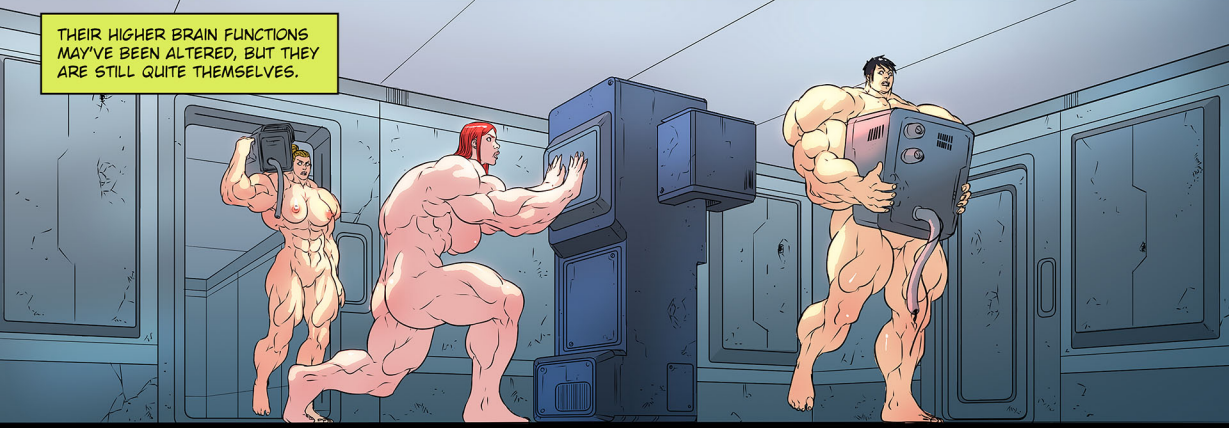
THE CLEAR EFFECTS OF THE LIQUID ON OUR AFFECTED CREWMATES IS THE INCREASE IN SIZE AND MASS, WITH STRENGTH BEFITTING THEM.

WHAT MAY NOT BE READILY APPARENT IS THE CHANGES TO THEIR MENTALITY.

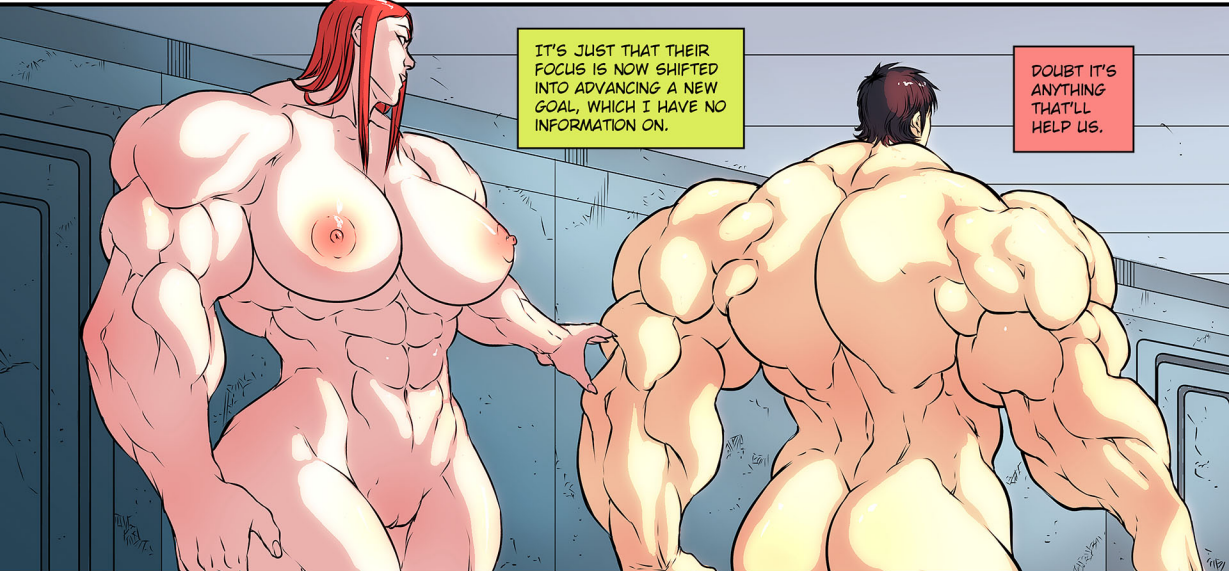


THE FORMER I SAW FOR MYSELF. THE LATTER, THOUGH, THAT'S WHAT HAS ME WORRIED.

IF YOUR THOUGHTS ARE LEANING TOWARDS MIND CONTROL, I'M AFRAID IT'S MORE COMPLICATED THAN THAT.



THEIR HIGHER BRAIN FUNCTIONS MAY'VE BEEN ALTERED, BUT THEY ARE STILL QUITE THEMSELVES.



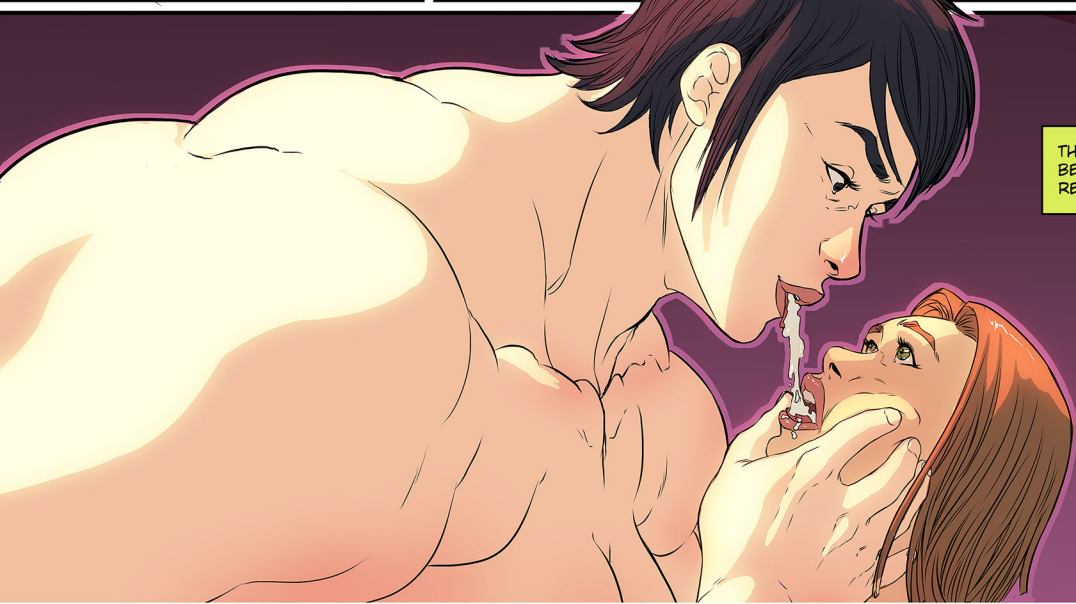
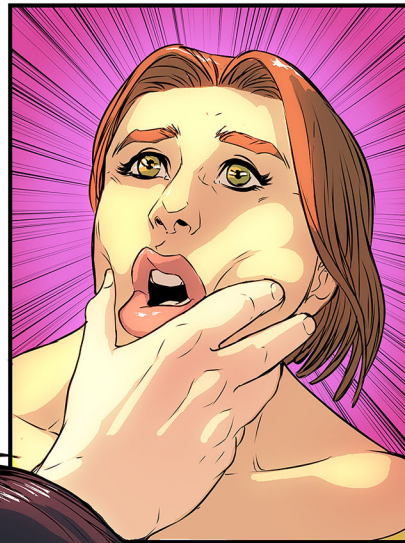
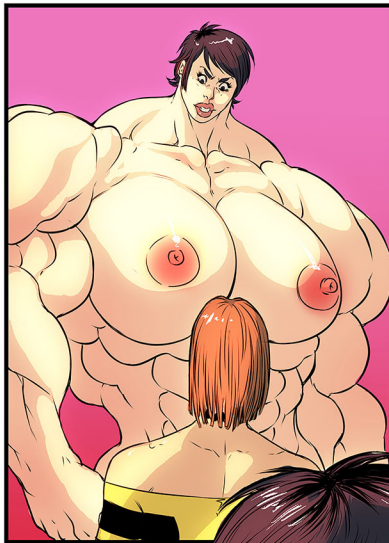
IT'S JUST THAT THEIR FOCUS IS NOW SHIFTED INTO ADVANCING A NEW GOAL, WHICH I HAVE NO INFORMATION ON.

DOUBT IT'S ANYTHING THAT'LL HELP US.

I'M WORRIED ABOUT OUR CREW CAPTURED BY THEM. THEY'RE HOSTAGES.



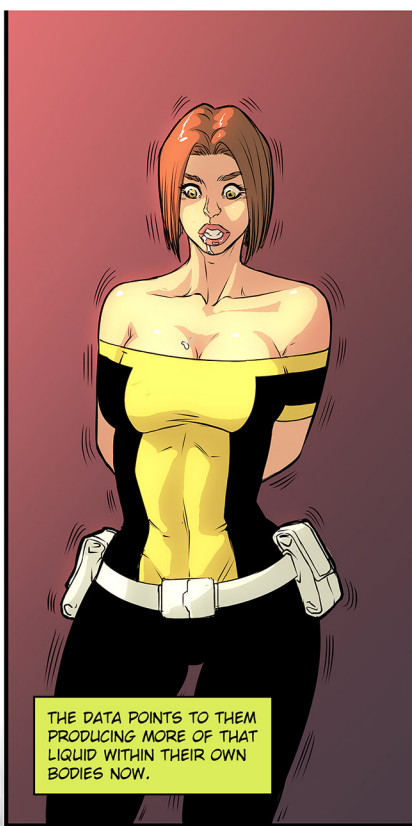
I THINK IT'S WORSE THAN THAT, CAPTAIN.



THEY COULD BE NEW RECRUITS.



WHAT DO YOU MEAN 'RECRUIT'? HOW WOULD THEY DO THAT?



THE DATA POINTS TO THEM PRODUCING MORE OF THAT LIQUID WITHIN THEIR OWN BODIES NOW.



IN THEORY, THEIR FORCES WILL GROW GREATLY...

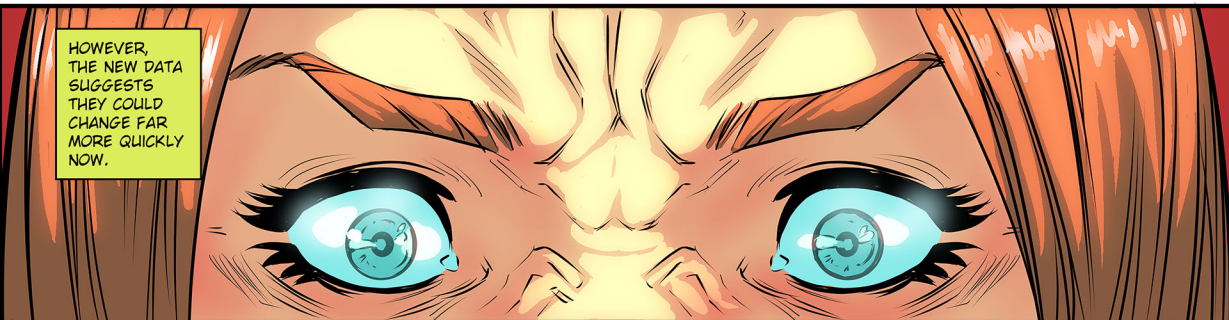


...BY TURNING OUR OWN CREW AGAINST US.



HOW LONG WOULD THAT EVEN TAKE? WHEN OFFICERS ISHIKAWA AND ERICKSON WERE AFFECTED-

-INDEED, IT TOOK SOME TIME.



HOWEVER, THE NEW DATA SUGGESTS THEY COULD CHANGE FAR MORE QUICKLY NOW.



IT WOULD ALSO MEAN NEW FOLLOWERS FOR THEIR FORCES.



TO WHAT ENDS, UNFORTUNATELY, ARE STILL UNKNOWN TO US.





THEN WE CAN'T GO BACK PLANETSIDE JUST YET.

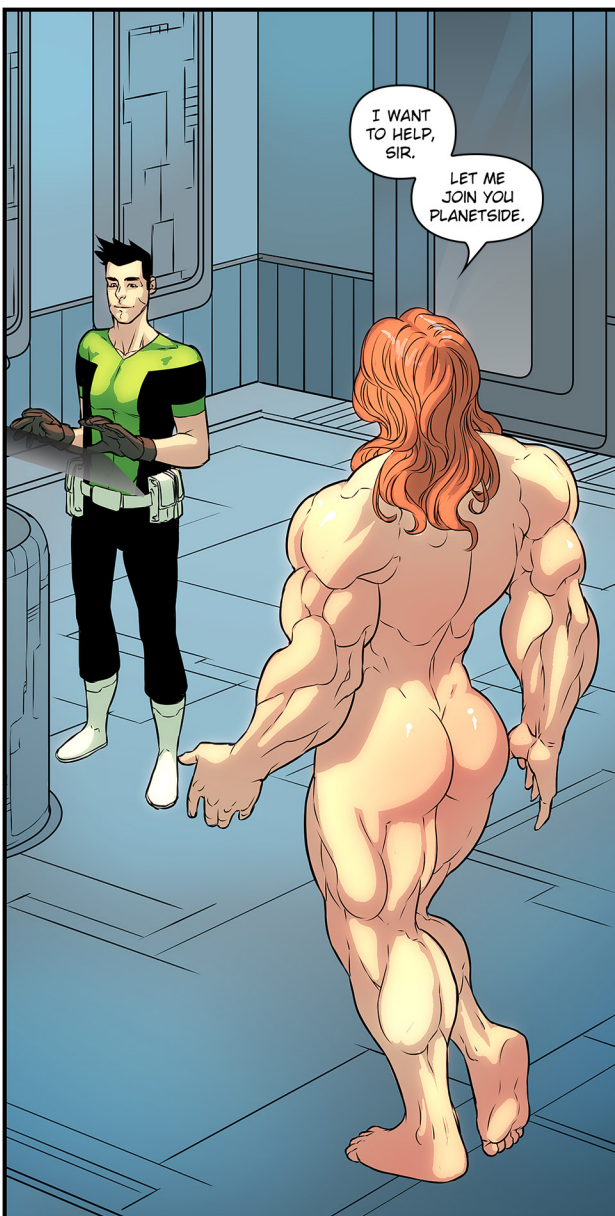
WE'D BE OUTGUNNED AND OUTMATCHED.



HOW WOULD WE EVEN FIGHT SO MANY?

I HAVE A FEW IDEAS, SIR.

I'VE GOT ONE TOO.



I WANT TO HELP, SIR.

LET ME JOIN YOU PLANETSIDE.



I'M NOT SURE THAT WOULD BE THE BEST COURSE OF ACTION.

OH PLEASE, CAPTAIN?

YOU SAID IT YOURSELF, OFFICER SO. I'VE PERFECTLY HEALTHY.

ONLY IN RELATION TO YOUR RECENT CHANGES, ENSIGN.




STILL, THERE AREN'T ANY TRACES OF THE LIQUID IN YOUR BODY NOW.

REALLY? HOW DID YOU MANAGE THAT?



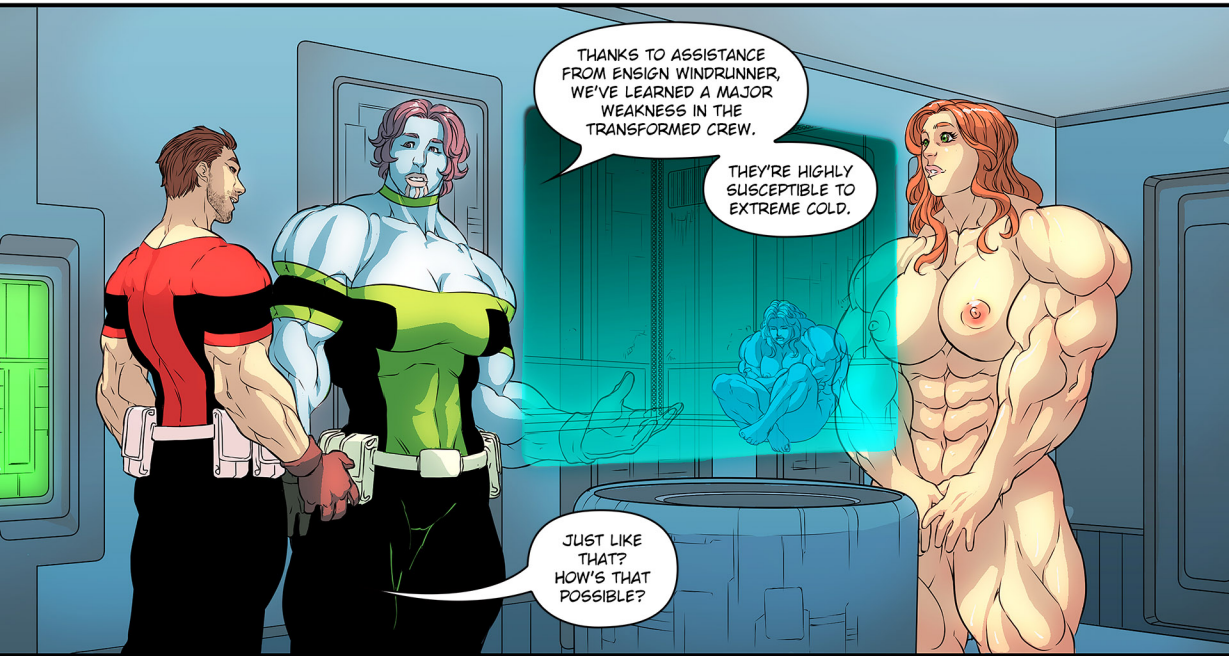
WE HAD IT...EVACUATED FROM HER BODY.

SO MUCH TIME IN THE LAVATORY...



AT THE VERY LEAST, WE MAY HAVE A MEANS TO BETTER COMBAT THEM.

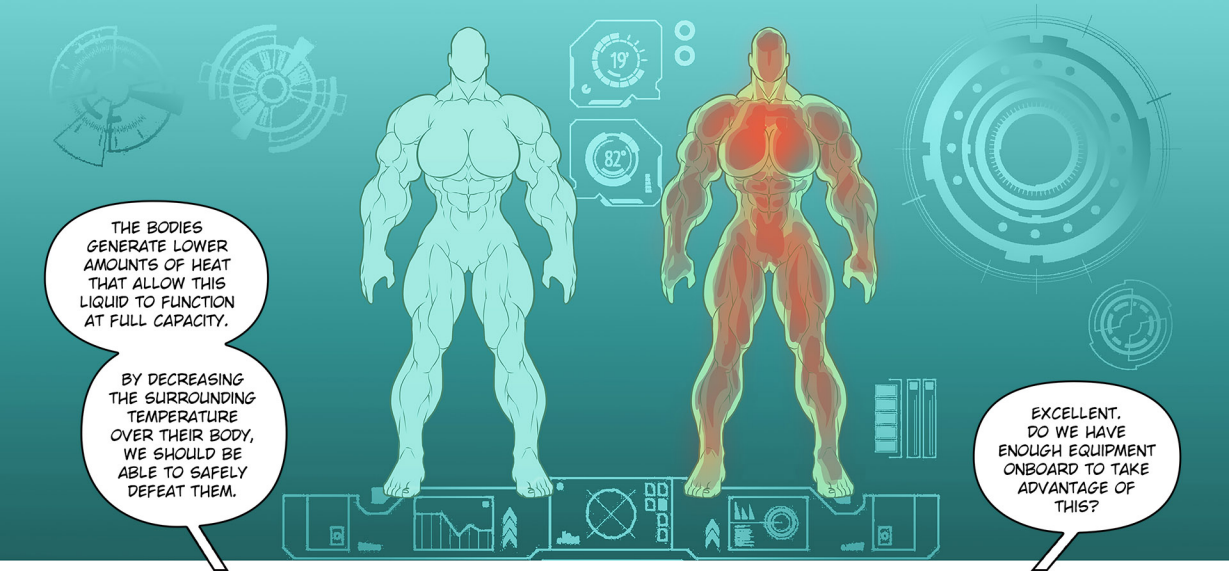
WHAT IS IT?



THANKS TO ASSISTANCE FROM ENSIGN WINDRUNNER, WE'VE LEARNED A MAJOR WEAKNESS IN THE TRANSFORMED CREW.

THEY'RE HIGHLY SUSCEPTIBLE TO EXTREME COLD.

JUST LIKE THAT?  
HOW'S THAT POSSIBLE?



THE BODIES GENERATE LOWER AMOUNTS OF HEAT THAT ALLOW THIS LIQUID TO FUNCTION AT FULL CAPACITY.

BY DECREASING THE SURROUNDING TEMPERATURE OVER THEIR BODY, WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO SAFELY DEFEAT THEM.

EXCELLENT. DO WE HAVE ENOUGH EQUIPMENT ONBOARD TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS?



AT LAST COUNT, WE DO. WE JUST NEED TIME TO MAKE THEM.

I'LL GET THE ENGINEERS TO WORK ON THEM ASAP.



PLEASE, CAPTAIN. I WANT TO HELP AS WELL.



I THINK YOU MIGHT BREAK THROUGH ANY WEAPON WE GIVE YOU, ENSIGN.



ACTUALLY, SIR...



...THERE IS SOMETHING SHE CAN DO.



TO BE CONTINUED...

CHECK OUT SOME  
PREVIEW PAGES FROM OUR  
UPCOMING COMIC LINEUP!





I THOUGHT THAT THIS WOULD BE MORE DIFFICULT.

I GUESS COLOSSAL-WOMAN IS LOSING HER TOUCH.



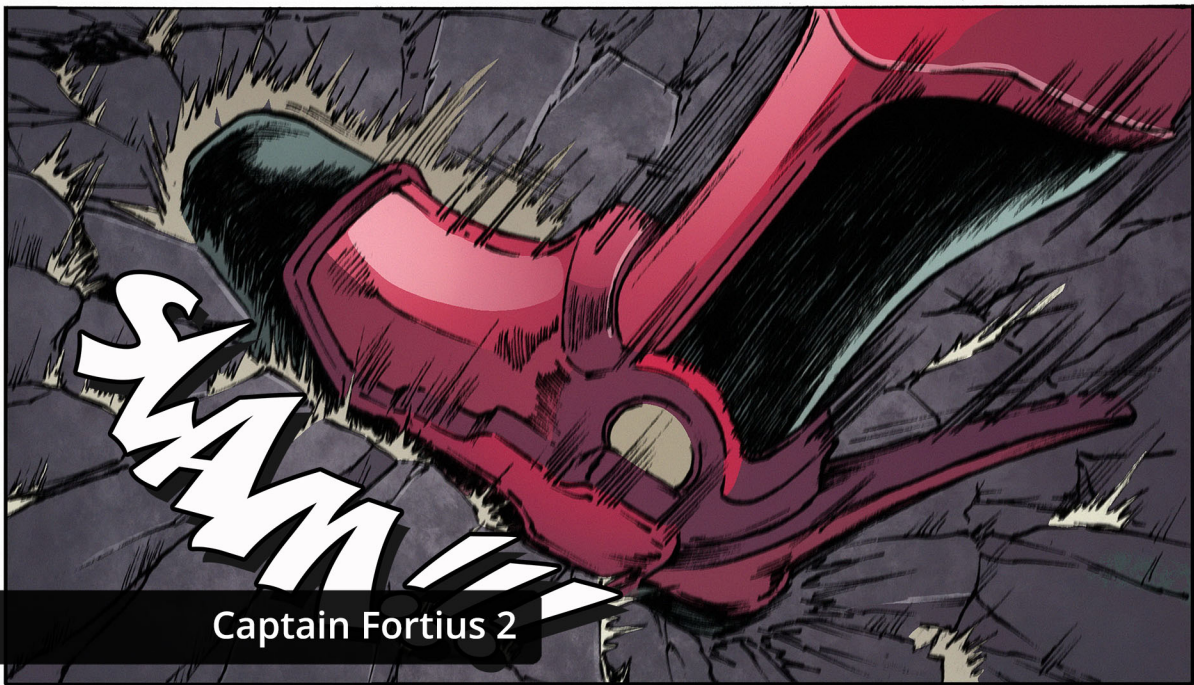
SLAM!!!



WOW, THAT ACTUALLY HURT ME.



OH NO...



SLAM!!!

IT'S PRETTY OBVIOUS THAT GETTING BIGGER  
JUST PUSHES THE PROVERBIAL ENVELOPE.



ARGH! THAT HURTS LIKE A BITCH!

HER ARM GROWS BACK IN A MATTER OF SECONDS.

**SPLORTCH!**

OH SHIT THIS BURNS!

BUT THE SERUM HAS MORE TO GIVE!

NGH!

AAAGGGHHH!

AHHHH! THAT HURTS!

MUCH, MUCH MORE THAN EVEN SHE REALIZED!

**POP!  
POP!**

**GROW!**

SHE STARTS TO UNDERGO ANOTHER TRANSFORMATION, WITH THE STRUCTURE OF HER BODY CHANGING YET AGAIN!

AGH!

**GROW!**