

THE CLEAVAGE CRUSADER

FADE TO BLANK

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J. Yubari with ExpansionFan Productions present:

THE CLEAVAGE CRUSADER 9

Samantha must face a deadly new foe and the unintended consequences of her actions in a battle that could mean the end of the Cleavage Crusader!



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SHE NIMBLY BOUNDS FROM ROOFTOP TO ROOFTOP WITH THE SKILL OF AN OLYMPIC GYMNAST, HYPER-CHARGED LEG MUSCLES WORKING IN PERFECT TANDEM WITH INFLATED FLESH.

SUBCONSCIOUSLY, SHE ALTERS THE WEIGHT, DENSITY, AND EQUILIBRIUM OF HER EVERY STEP TO OVERCOME THE CHALLENGES PRESENTED BY EACH INDIVIDUAL LEAP.

HER MOVEMENTS ARE AS GRACEFUL AS HER SILHOUETTE IS ABSURD.

THIS SHOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE.

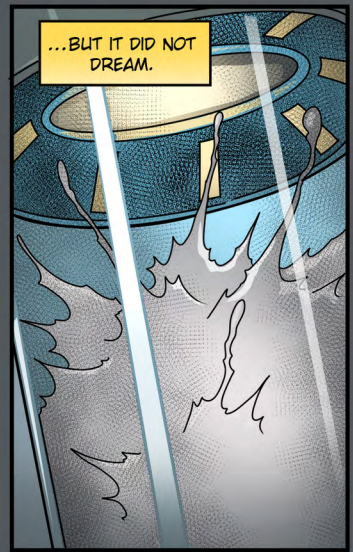
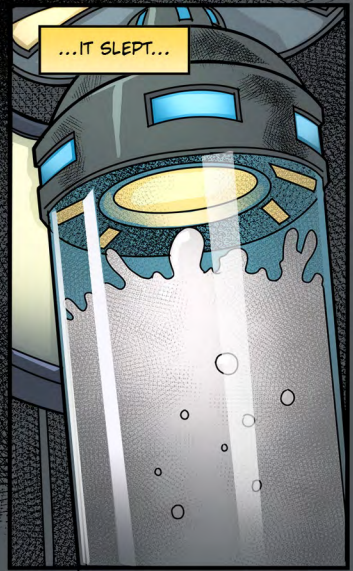
SOMETHING IS WRONG.



THEY'D DISCOVERED IT AMONGST THE RUINS OF TYRANNOUS GRIFFIN'S "OPERATION: OMINOUS": A STRANGE NEW SUBSTANCE BORN OF FIRE, CHAOS, AND MYSTERY.

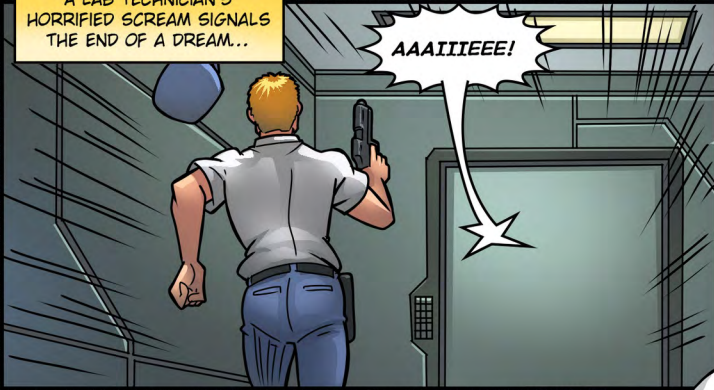
IT DIDN'T TAKE LONG FOR GRIFFIN'S BEST RESEARCHERS TO REALIZE THAT IT WAS ALIVE, BUT IT DID TAKE THEM LONGER THAN IT SHOULD HAVE TO REALIZE IT CONTAINED HUMAN DNA.

NOT THAT SUCH A REVELATION CAUSED NEARLY ENOUGH CONCERN, AS FAR AS ANYONE COULD TELL...



A LAB TECHNICIAN'S HORRIFIED SCREAM SIGNALS THE END OF A DREAM...

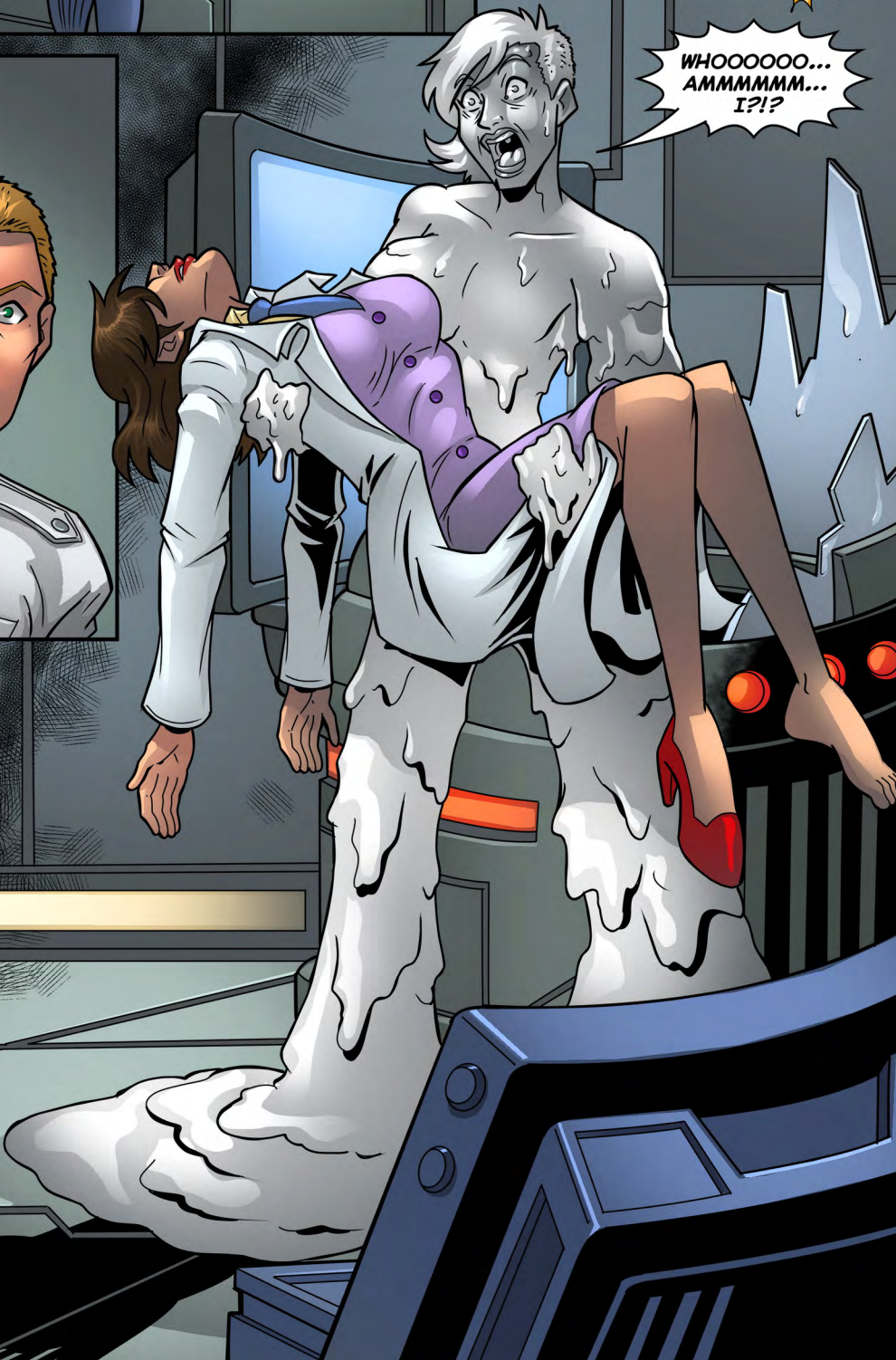
AAAAIIIEEE!

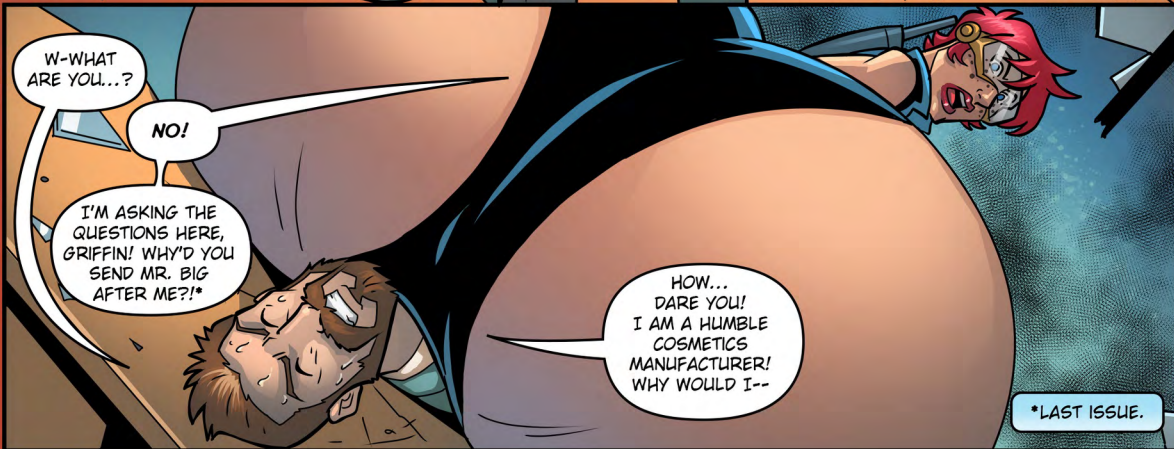


...AND A NIGHTMARE'S BEGINNING.

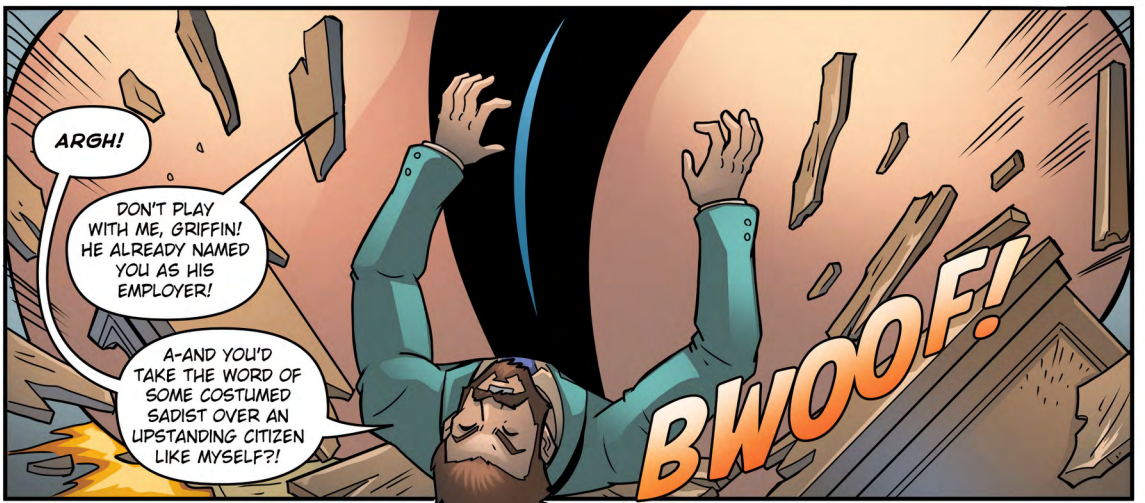


WHOOOOOO...
AMMMMMM...
I!?!?





*LAST ISSUE.

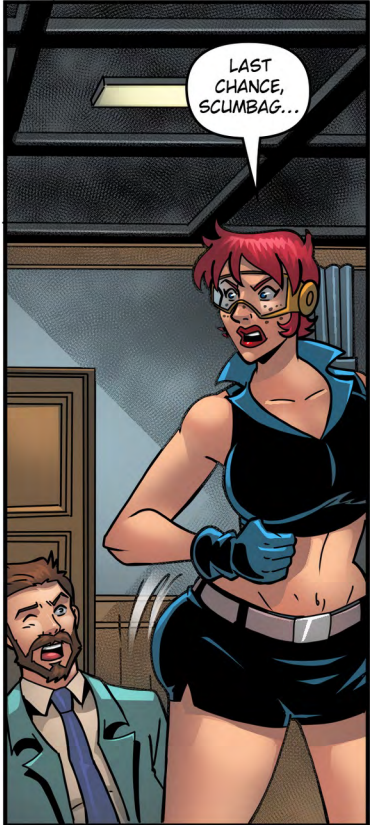


ARGH!

DON'T PLAY WITH ME, GRIFFIN! HE ALREADY NAMED YOU AS HIS EMPLOYER!

A-AND YOU'D TAKE THE WORD OF SOME COSTUMED SADIST OVER AN UPSTANDING CITIZEN LIKE MYSELF?!

BWOOF!



LAST CHANCE, SCUMBAG...



WHY'D YOU SEND THAT SHRINK RAY LUNATIC AFTER ME?!

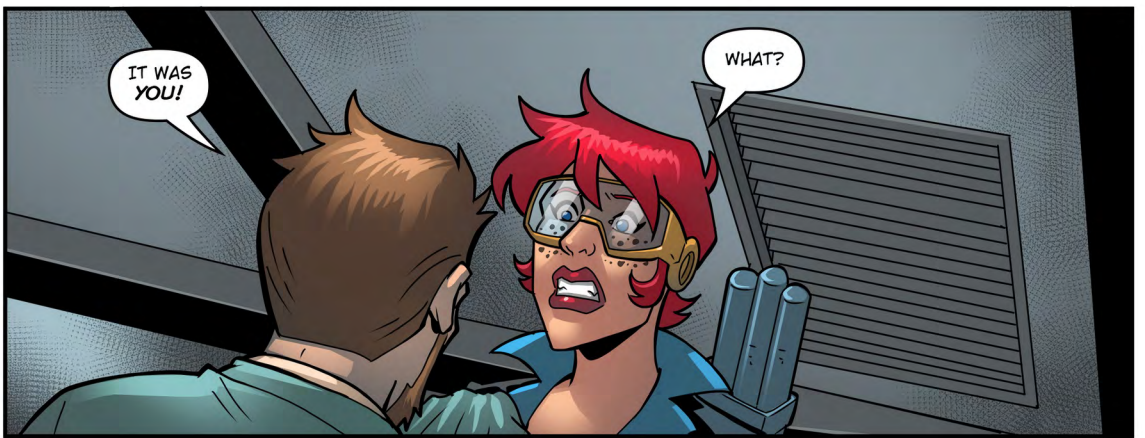
I TOLD YOU, I DON'T KNOW THE MAN... ALTHOUGH, ONE OF MY MORE MORALLY QUESTIONABLE COLLEAGUES MIGHT HAVE MENTIONED SOMETHING.

WHICH WAS?



ALLEGEDLY, MR. BIG HAD SAID HE'D FOUND THE SABOTEUR WHO'D... BLOWN UP MY FACTORY... AND WANTED TO COLLECT ON THE BOUNTY...

...OH, MY GOD.



IT WAS YOU!

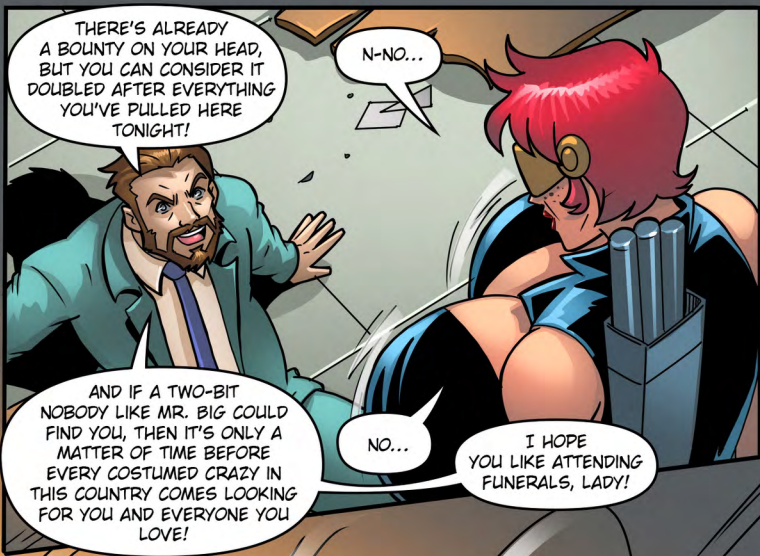
WHAT?



WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

YOU'RE BUSTED, BUSTY! I'VE GOT SURVEILLANCE FOOTAGE OF YOU BREAKING IN AND DELIBERATELY PLACING EXPLOSIVES!*

*THIS KINDA-SORTA HAPPENED WAY BACK IN THE CLEAVAGE CRUSADER #!!



THERE'S ALREADY A BOUNTY ON YOUR HEAD, BUT YOU CAN CONSIDER IT DOUBLED AFTER EVERYTHING YOU'VE PULLED HERE TONIGHT!

N-NO...

AND IF A TWO-BIT NOBODY LIKE MR. BIG COULD FIND YOU, THEN IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE EVERY COSTUMED CRAZY IN THIS COUNTRY COMES LOOKING FOR YOU AND EVERYONE YOU LOVE!

NO...

I HOPE YOU LIKE ATTENDING FUNERALS, LADY!



NO!



THAAAAAT FAAAAACCCE... I KNOOW IIIIT... IIIIT'S HERRRR!

WHAT... WHAT DID I JUST DO?

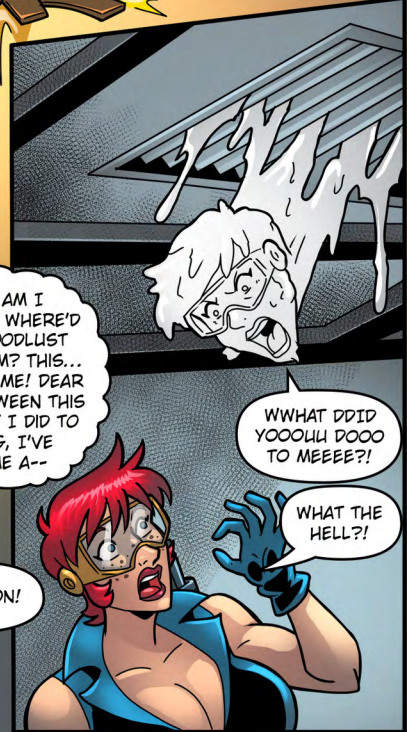


I COULD'VE KILLED HIM WITH THAT ATTACK... WHICH MEANS I'D HAVE FINALLY PUT THIS ANIMAL OUT OF EVERYONE ELSE'S MISERY...

NO!

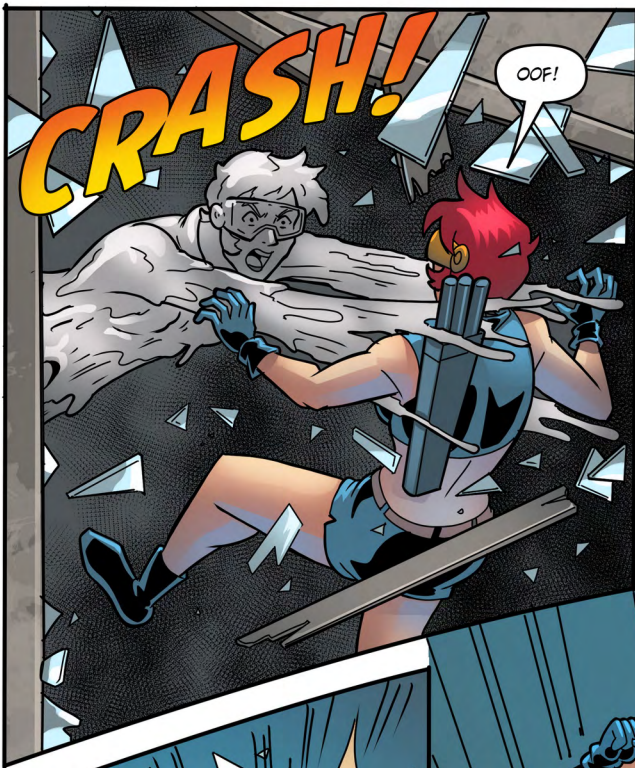
WHAT AM I THINKING? WHERE'D THIS BLOODLUST COME FROM? THIS... THIS ISN'T ME! DEAR LORD, BETWEEN THIS AND WHAT I DID TO MR. BIG, I'VE BECOME A--

DEEEEEEMON!



WWHAT DDID YOOOUU DOOO TO MEEEE?!

WHAT THE HELL?!



MEANWHILE, IN
INTERLUDE PARK...

YOU'RE TRAPPED,
URBAN AMAZON! WITHIN
MERE MOMENTS, YOU
SHALL BE DEAD... AND
MY NAME WILL BE
KNOWN AROUND THE
WORLD AS THE
WESTERN SEABOARD'S
DEADLIEST ASSASSIN!

"I MUST, I
MUST, I MUST
INCREASE MY
BUST..."



WHOOPS.
SORRY ABOUT
THAT, COUGAR.
I COULD HAVE
SWORN I'D SET
THIS THING TO
SILENT...

HA! I SEE THROUGH
YOUR TRICKS, AMAZON, BUT
THERE'S NO WAY IN HELL
I'M GOING TO LET YOU CALL
IN REINFORCEMENTS NOW
THAT I HAVE YOU
CORNERED!



NO ONE CAN
SAVE YOU FROM
MY CLAWS OF
DEA--!



--GLEGH!

GRAB!



SORRY
ABOUT THE WAIT
THERE, BIG C.
WHAT'S UP?



UHM, ACTUALLY...
THIS IS HER ROOMMATE,
TAMMY. I KNOW I
SHOULDN'T BE USING A
SUPERHERO'S CELL LIKE
THIS... BUT I THINK MY
BEST FRIEND IS IN
TROUBLE...



"...AND I THINK YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN SAVE HER."

WRECKING BALL MANEUVRE... NOT AS DEVASTATING... AS I'D HOPED!

I MUSSST KNOOOOW THEEE TRUUUUUTH...



YOoooooUUUUU WIIIIIIIIII TELLIIIIII MEEEEEE... ORRRRR DIIIIIIIE...

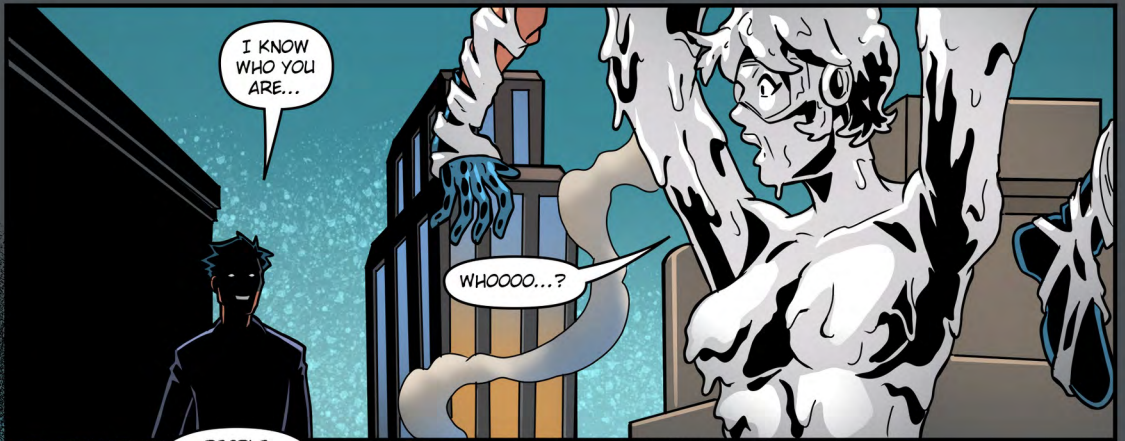


GRIP... TOO STRONG!

CAN'T... MAINTAIN... DENSITY CONTROL!



WHOOOOOO... AMMMMMM... I!?!?



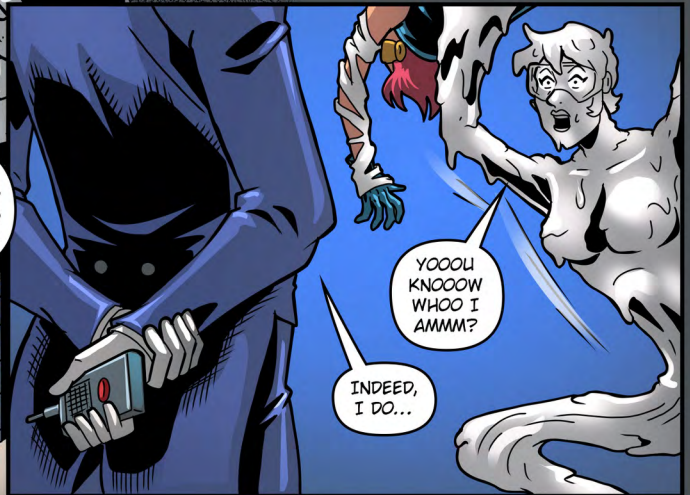
I KNOW WHO YOU ARE...

WHOOOO...?



PEOPLE TEND TO CALL ME... **THE BENEFACTOR.**

IT IS A TITLE THAT I CAN CERTAINLY LIVE UP TO IN REGARDS TO YOUR PARTICULAR PLIGHT.



YOOOU KNOOOW WHOO I AMMM?

INDEED, I DO...

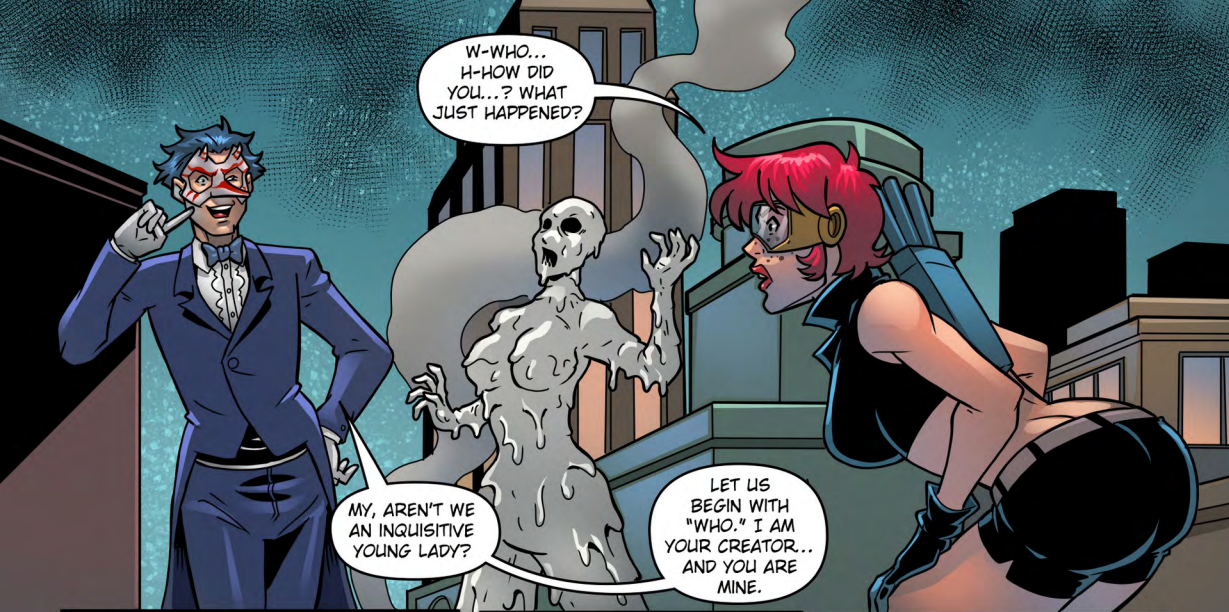


BZZAAAP!

GRAAAAAHHH!



YOU WERE SUPPOSED TO BE MY DEATH.



W-WHO...
H-HOW DID YOU...? WHAT JUST HAPPENED?

MY, AREN'T WE AN INQUISITIVE YOUNG LADY?

LET US BEGIN WITH "WHO." I AM YOUR CREATOR... AND YOU ARE MINE.



COULD YOU BE A LITTLE LESS WEIRD AND CRYPTIC ABOUT THIS?

MY APOLOGIES. I HAVE A TASTE FOR THE THEATRICAL.

NO OFFENSE, BUT I KINDA ALREADY GUESSED THAT FROM YOUR OUTFIT.

TOUCHE!

I WAS ORIGINALLY THE PROJECT LEADER ON SOMETHING THAT TYRANNOUS GRIFFIN UNIRONICALLY REFERRED TO AS "PROJECT: OMINOUS."

THEN I FOUND OUT THAT GRIFFIN INTENDED TO WEAPONIZE MY RESEARCH AND SELL IT TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER.



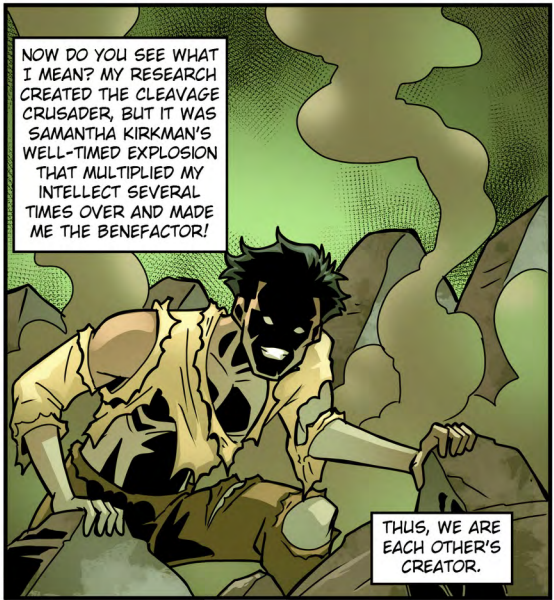
AS FAR AS I KNEW, I WAS DEVELOPING NANITE TECHNOLOGY WITH THE ABILITY TO MANIPULATE HUMAN TISSUE FOR SOLELY HUMANITARIAN NEEDS. AN END TO EVERY DISEASE AND DISABILITY THAT HAS EVER OR WILL EVER PLAGUE MANKIND.



GRIFFIN FIGURED OUT THAT I INTENDED TO STOP HIM, SO HE SENT AN ASSASSIN TO SILENCE ME...



...WHICH IS RIGHT ABOUT WHEN YOU CAME ALONG AND SAVED ME!



NOW DO YOU SEE WHAT I MEAN? MY RESEARCH CREATED THE CLEAVAGE CRUSADER, BUT IT WAS SAMANTHA KIRKMAN'S WELL-TIMED EXPLOSION THAT MULTIPLIED MY INTELLECT SEVERAL TIMES OVER AND MADE ME THE BENEFACTOR!

THUS, WE ARE EACH OTHER'S CREATOR.

WAIT A MINUTE. THE SOURCE OF MY POWERS IS AN ARMY OF MICROSCOPIC ROBOTS?

THE SOURCE FOR ALL THREE OF OUR POWERS. THREE LITTERLY SEPARATE COLONIES OF NANOTECH, ADAPTING AND EVOLVING UNDER SUBTLY DIFFERENT CIRCUMSTANCES TO CREATE WILDLY DIFFERENT RESULTS!

BUT NOT SO DIFFERENT THAT I COULDN'T REPROGRAM OUR SLIMY FRIEND'S COLONY TO RESPOND TO YOUR MENTAL WAVELENGTH INSTEAD OF THEIRS...

YOU MEAN... I'D HAVE COMPLETE CONTROL OVER HER--?

GRAAAAAAAAAAAAA!!!

AH!



APOLOGIES, MY DEAR. I SHOULD'VE MADE IT CLEARER THAT MY LAST ATTACK HAD ALREADY REPROGRAMMED ITS NANITE COLONY. ARE YOU HURT?

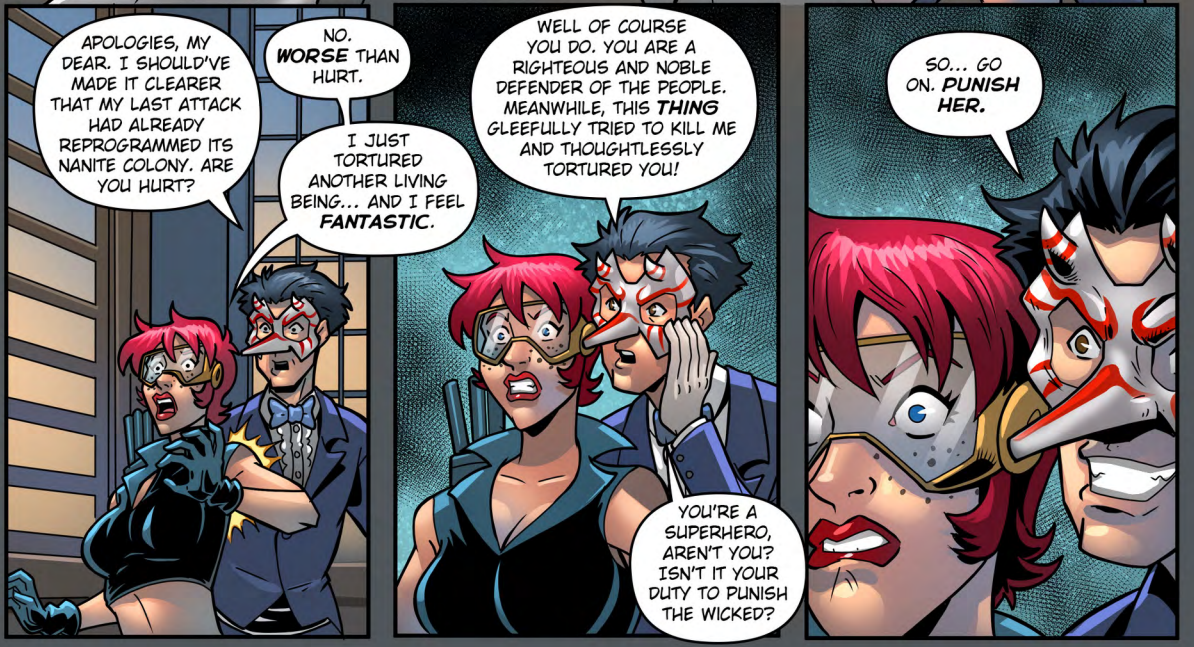
NO. WORSE THAN HURT.

I JUST TORTURED ANOTHER LIVING BEING... AND I FEEL FANTASTIC.

WELL OF COURSE YOU DO. YOU ARE A RIGHTEOUS AND NOBLE DEFENDER OF THE PEOPLE. MEANWHILE, THIS THING GLEEFULLY TRIED TO KILL ME AND THOUGHTLESSLY TORTURED YOU!

SO... GO ON. PUNISH HER.

YOU'RE A SUPERHERO, AREN'T YOU? ISN'T IT YOUR DUTY TO PUNISH THE WICKED?





CHRIST, THIS IS JUST WHAT I NEED! ALONE IN THE DARK WITH A MONSTER ON THE LOOSE AND SOME BIMBO BITCH BREAKING MY WINDOWS--

CHARLIE! GUS! ANYBODY?!

DAMN... HOW LONG WAS I OUT...?!

...ESPECIALLY WHEN YOU AREN'T ALONE IN THE DARK.

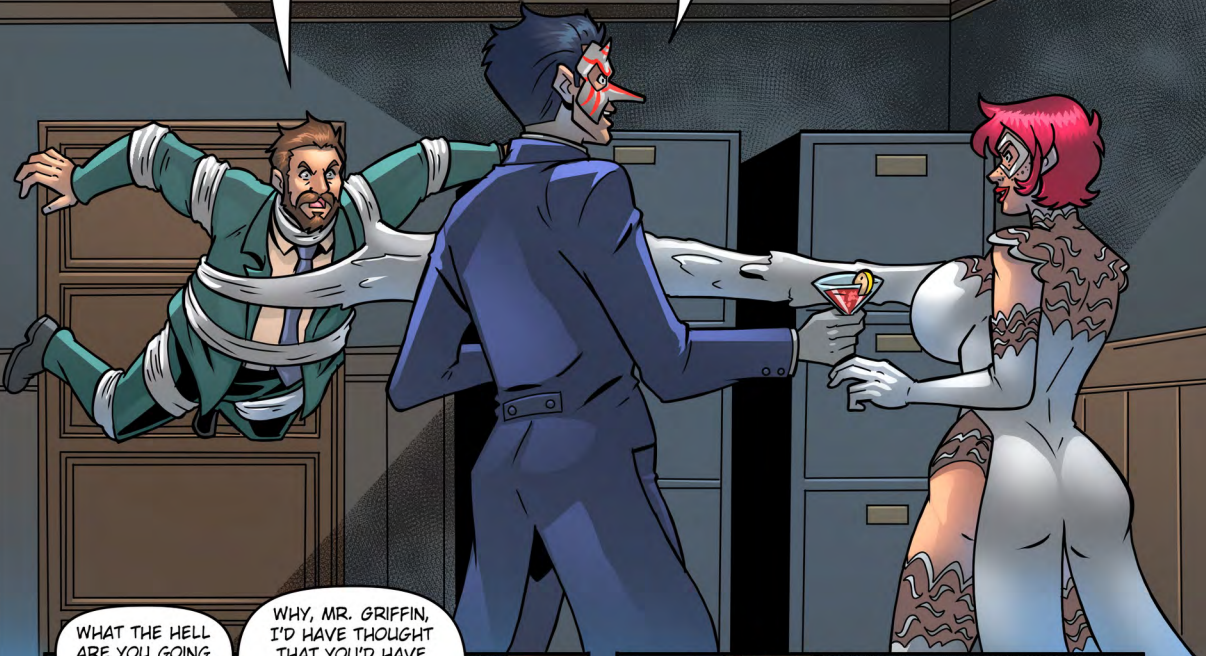
--GAH!

YOU SHOULD BE MORE CAREFUL ABOUT THE THINGS YOU SAY, MR. GRIFFIN...

SA-THWIP!
THAP!
THAP!

THAT VOICE... YOU'RE THE MANIAC THAT'S BEEN ATTACKING MY OPERATIONS! I SHOULD'VE KNOWN YOU TWO WERE WORKING TOGETHER FROM THE BEGINNING!

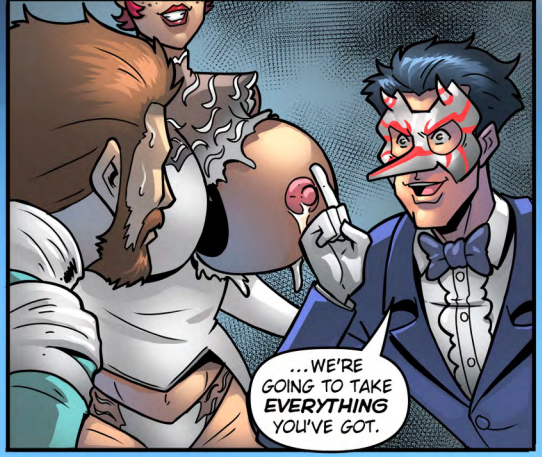
BELIEVE WHAT YOU WANT TO. OUR HISTORY TOGETHER OR LACK THEREOF WON'T MATTER ONCE WE'RE DONE WITH YOU.



WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU GOING TO DO TO ME?

WHY, MR. GRIFFIN, I'D HAVE THOUGHT THAT YOU'D HAVE ALREADY GUESSED THAT FROM OUR LAST CONVERSATION...*

*THE CLEAVAGE CRUSADER #4: BLIMPS OF PREY



...WE'RE GOING TO TAKE EVERYTHING YOU'VE GOT.



GKKG!



MHMMM...

"AND WHAT'S HE THEN THAT SAYS I PLAY THE VILLAIN?"

"DIVINITY OF HELL!"

"WHEN DEVILS WILL THE BLACKEST SINS PUT ON, THEY DO SUGGEST AT FIRST WITH HEAVENLY SHOWS, AS I DO NOW..."

"SO WILL I TURN HER VIRTUE INTO PITCH, AND OUT OF HER OWN GODDNESS MAKE THE NET THAT SHALL ENMESH THEM ALL."

TO BE CONTINUED...



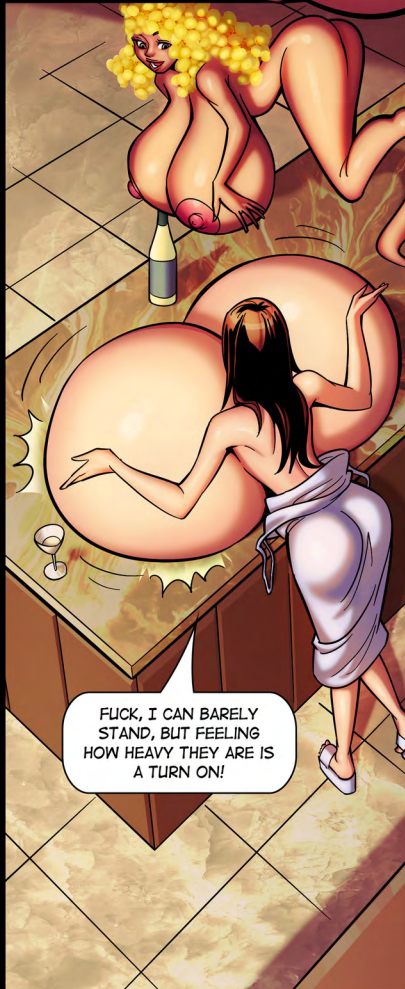
CHECK OUT SOME
PREVIEW PAGES FROM OUR
UPCOMING COMIC LINEUP!



WHITE'S A DELIGHT, BUT THE REDDER THE BETTER

AUTHOR:
DAN STANDING

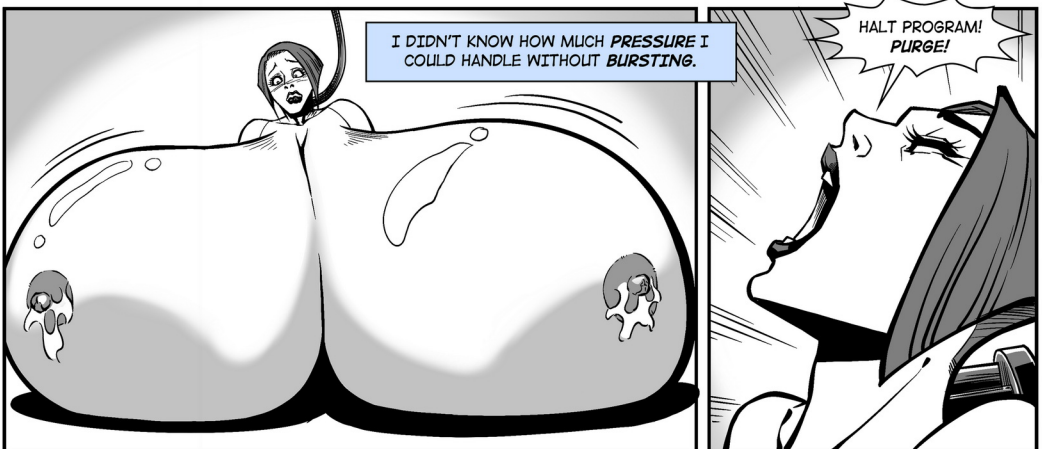
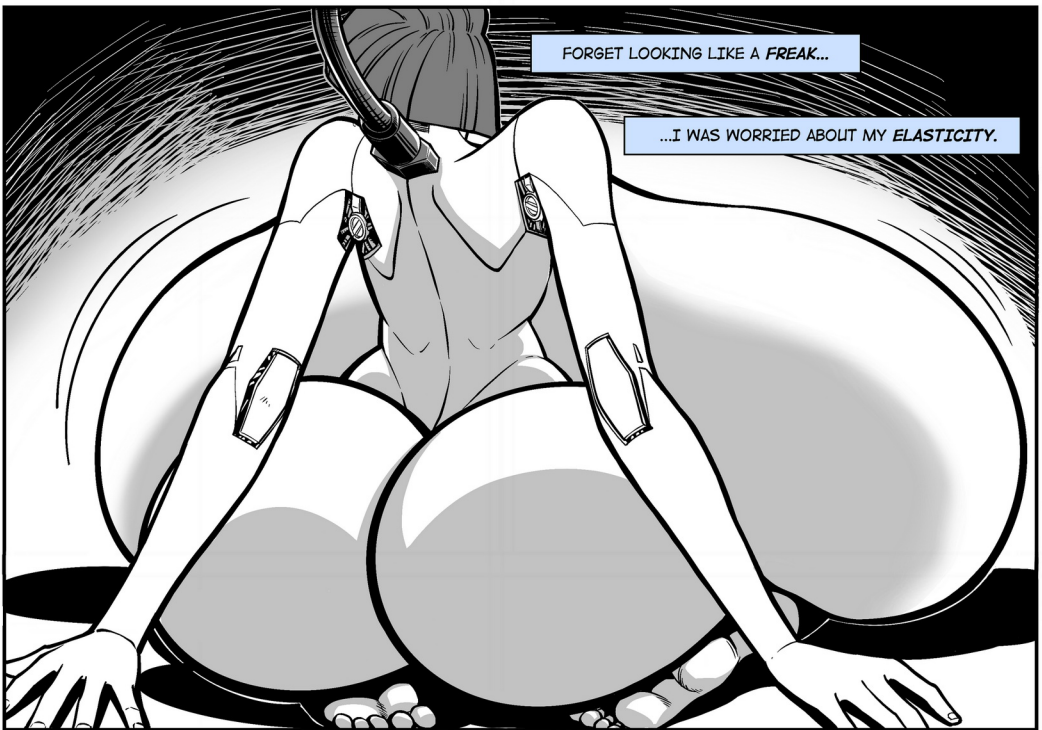
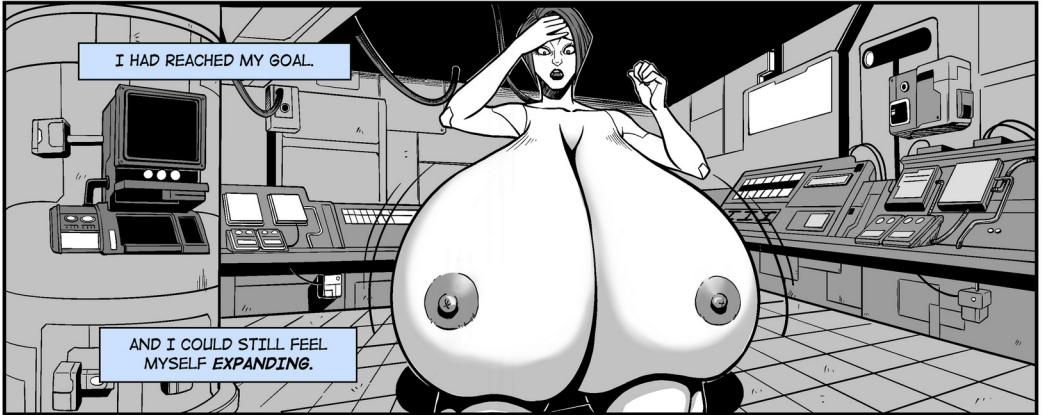
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GALATEA

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LOST TALES OF ADIPOSIA

THE SOFT SURROGATE

AUTHOR:
J. FARADAY

ARTIST:
OSCAR CELESTINI



PLASTIC SORCERY

AUTHOR:
WILLIAM PRATT

ARTIST:
BOKUMAN

