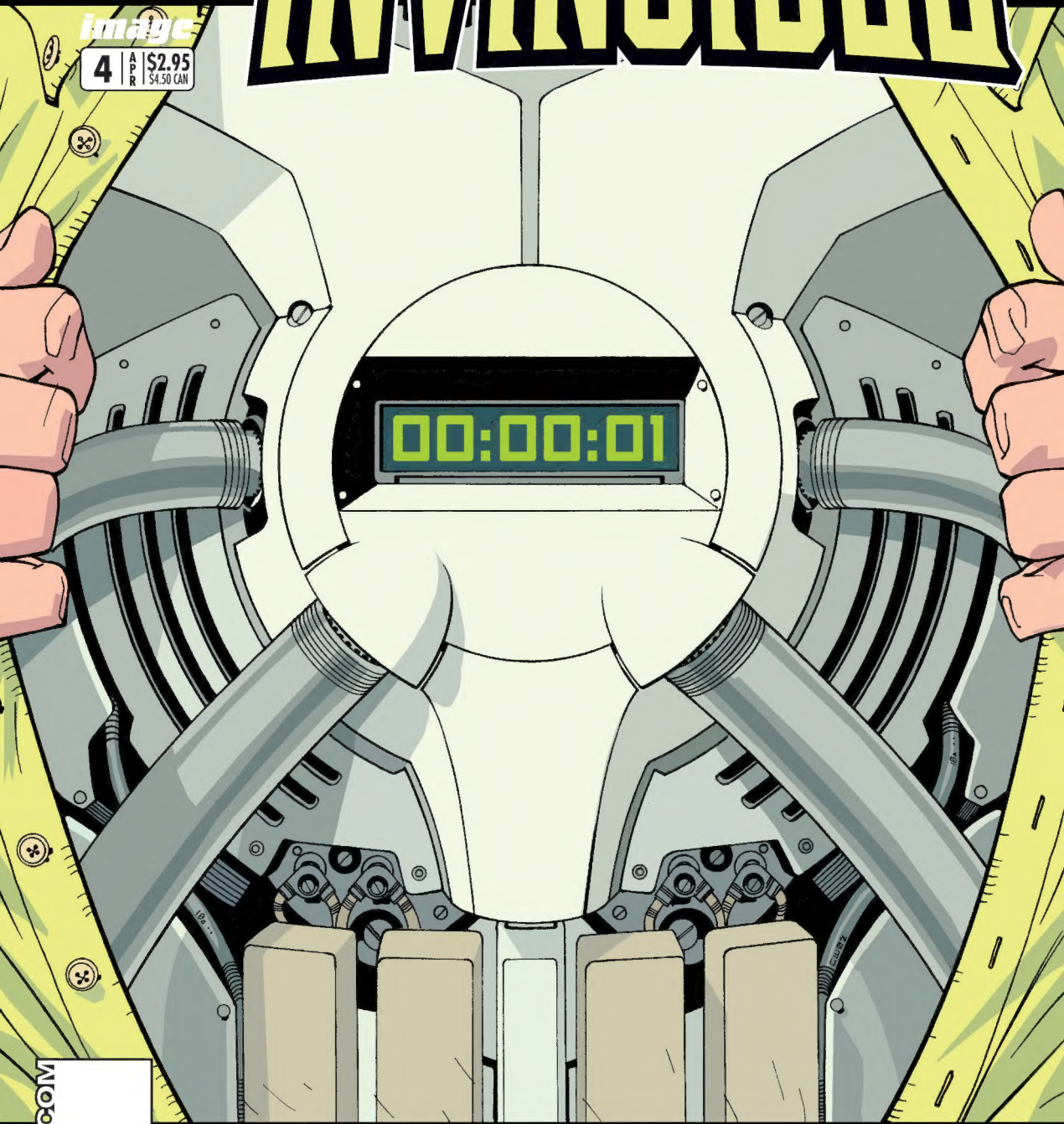




Girls, acne, homework, super-villains.
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uh oh...

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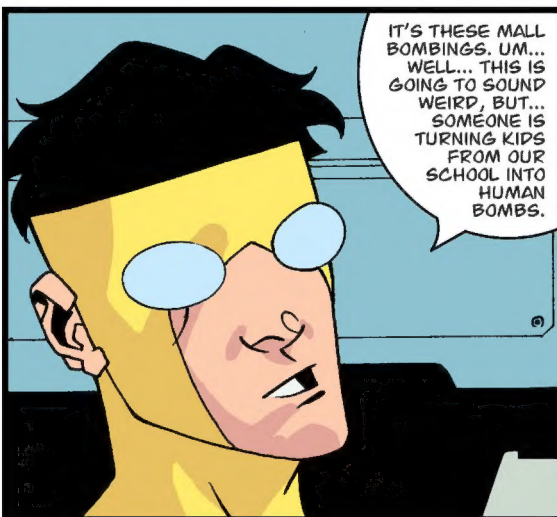
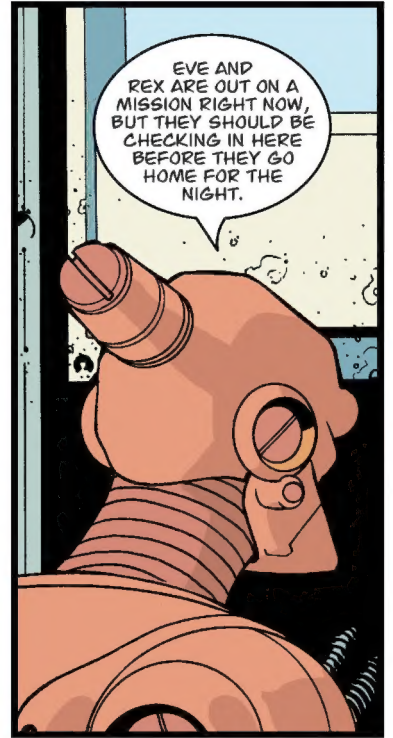
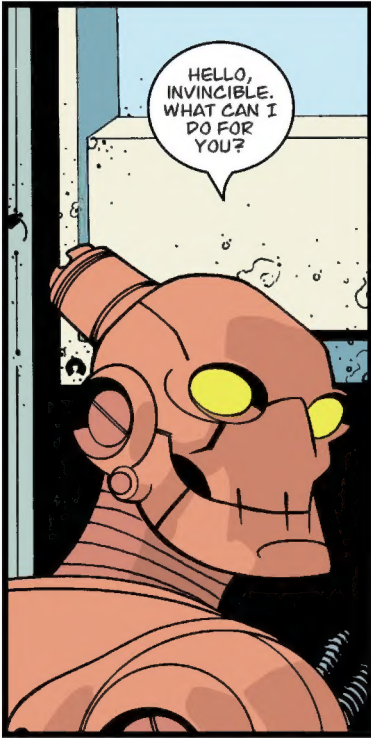
REMARKABLE.

THE GAME BOX PROCESSOR IS SO ADVANCED IT COULD OPERATE THIS MACHINE FOR YEARS WITH A BURNOUT RATE OF LESS THAN TEN PERCENT!

HAD WE NOT STOPPED THE MAULER TWINS BEFORE THEY ACTIVATED THEM, THEY WOULD HAVE BEEN NEARLY UNSTOPPABLE.

FASCINATING. SIMPLY FASCINATING.

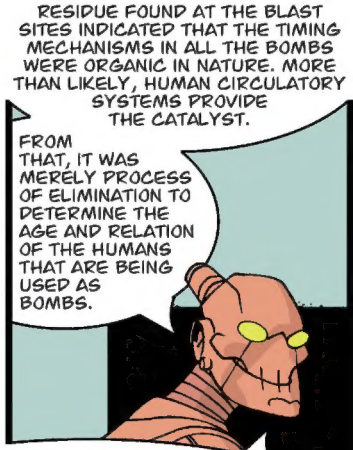
ROBOT?





I MEAN, IT'S LATE AND ALL BUT I JUST WANTED TO LET HER KNOW SO THAT--

WAIT... WHAT?



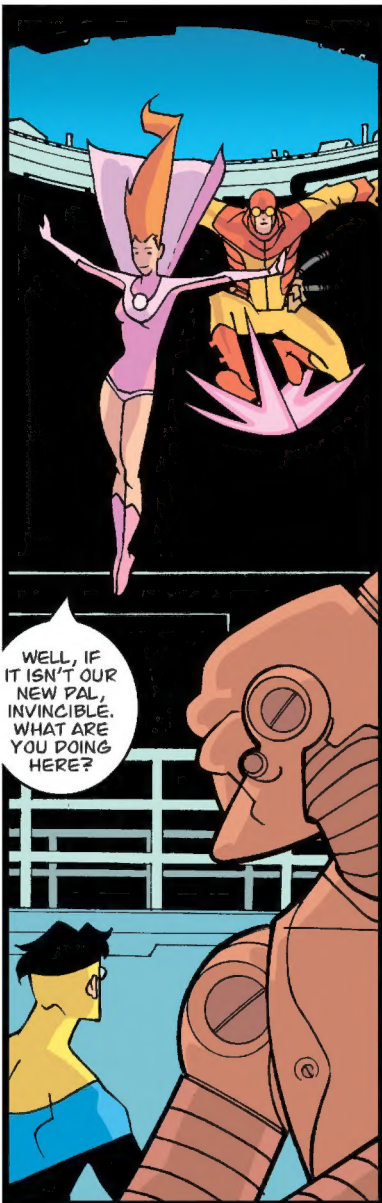
RESIDUE FOUND AT THE BLAST SITES INDICATED THAT THE TIMING MECHANISMS IN ALL THE BOMBS WERE ORGANIC IN NATURE. MORE THAN LIKELY, HUMAN CIRCULATORY SYSTEMS PROVIDE THE CATALYST.

FROM THAT, IT WAS MERELY PROCESS OF ELIMINATION TO DETERMINE THE AGE AND RELATION OF THE HUMANS THAT ARE BEING USED AS BOMBS.

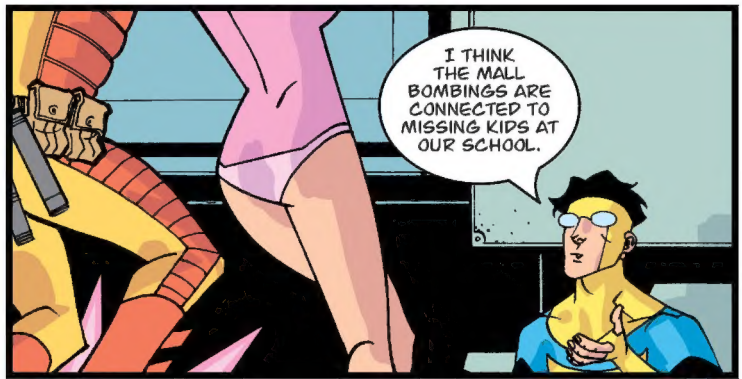
I DIDN'T KNOW THEY WERE ALL FROM YOUR SCHOOL IN PARTICULAR, BUT I'M SURE I WOULD HAVE... EVENTUALLY.



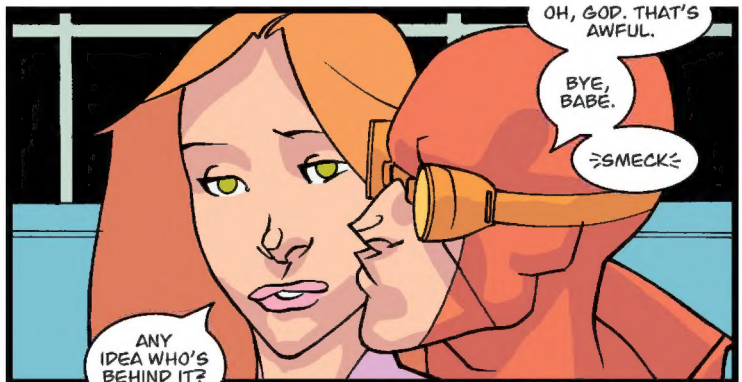
WELL... I'M ONLY SURE THAT THE MOST RECENT ONE WENT TO MY SCHOOL, BUT HE'S ONE OF THE THREE KIDS THAT ARE MISSING.



WELL, IF IT ISN'T OUR NEW PAL, INVINCIBLE. WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?



I THINK THE MALL BOMBINGS ARE CONNECTED TO MISSING KIDS AT OUR SCHOOL.

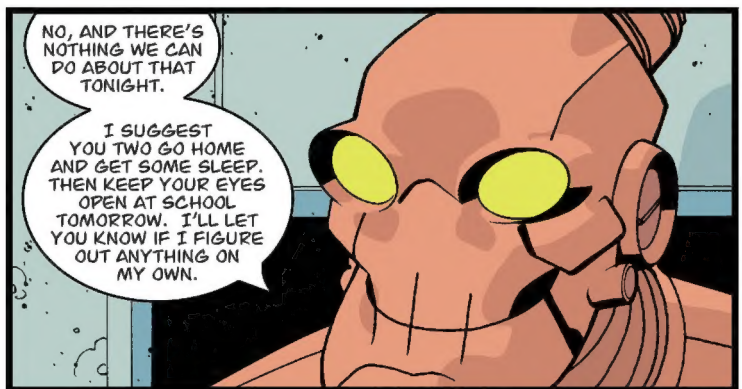


OH, GOD. THAT'S AWFUL.

BYE, BABE.

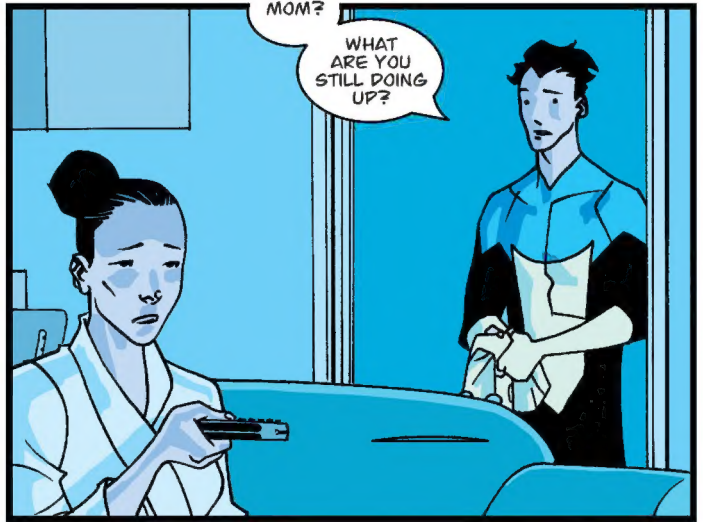
≧SMECK≦

ANY IDEA WHO'S BEHIND IT?



NO, AND THERE'S NOTHING WE CAN DO ABOUT THAT TONIGHT.

I SUGGEST YOU TWO GO HOME AND GET SOME SLEEP. THEN KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN AT SCHOOL TOMORROW. I'LL LET YOU KNOW IF I FIGURE OUT ANYTHING ON MY OWN.



AREN'T I ALLOWED TO WATCH SOME LATE NIGHT TV IN MY OWN HOUSE? BESIDES, I SHOULD BE ASKING YOU THE SAME QUESTION, YOUNG MAN.



I GUESS I JUST GOT TIED UP AT THE TEEN TEAM'S PLACE...

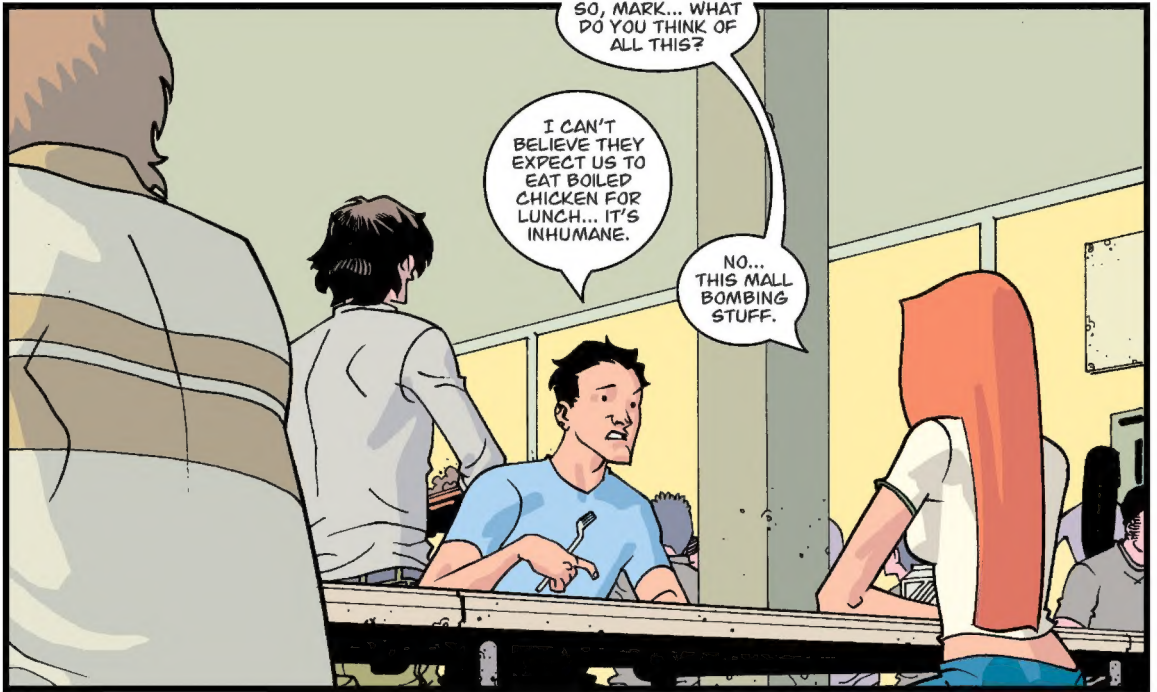


I CAN SIT HERE AND WATCH HIM BATTLE HUNDRED-FOOT DRAGONS ON TV ALL DAY LONG, BUT FOR SOME REASON... EVERY TIME HE'S IN ANOTHER DIMENSION... I CAN'T HELP BUT ASSUME THE WORST.



I JUST NEVER KNOW WHAT TO THINK... THERE'S NO WAY OF TELLING HOW LONG HE'LL BE GONE. DO YOU REMEMBER WHEN YOU WERE LITTLE... AND HE WAS GONE FOR ALMOST SIX MONTHS? HE MISSED YOUR BIRTHDAY THAT YEAR.





SO, MARK... WHAT DO YOU THINK OF ALL THIS?

I CAN'T BELIEVE THEY EXPECT US TO EAT BOILED CHICKEN FOR LUNCH... IT'S INHUMANE.

NO... THIS MALL BOMBING STUFF.



I DON'T KNOW... IT'S UNSETTLING. I MEAN, I KNOW THIS IS GOING TO SOUND BAD, BUT I'M TRYING NOT TO THINK ABOUT IT.

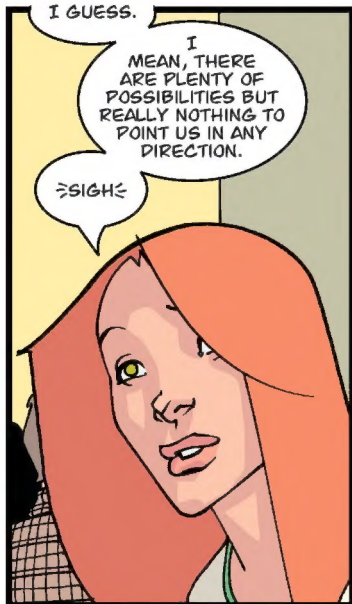


WELL, THAT'S A GREAT WAY TO FIGURE THIS THING OUT!



SORRY, BUT LET'S BE REALISTIC. SHOULD WE BE SEARCHING FOR CLUES RIGHT NOW? I FOR ONE AM NOT DRESSED FOR THAT SORT OF THING, AND WE DON'T EVEN HAVE A DOG.

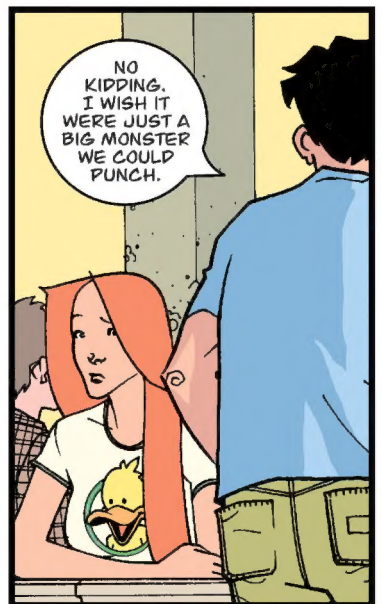
DON'T THINK FOR A SECOND THAT I DON'T WANT TO CATCH THIS GUY. I JUST THINK THAT WE DON'T REALLY HAVE ANYTHING TO GO ON RIGHT NOW...
...RIGHT?



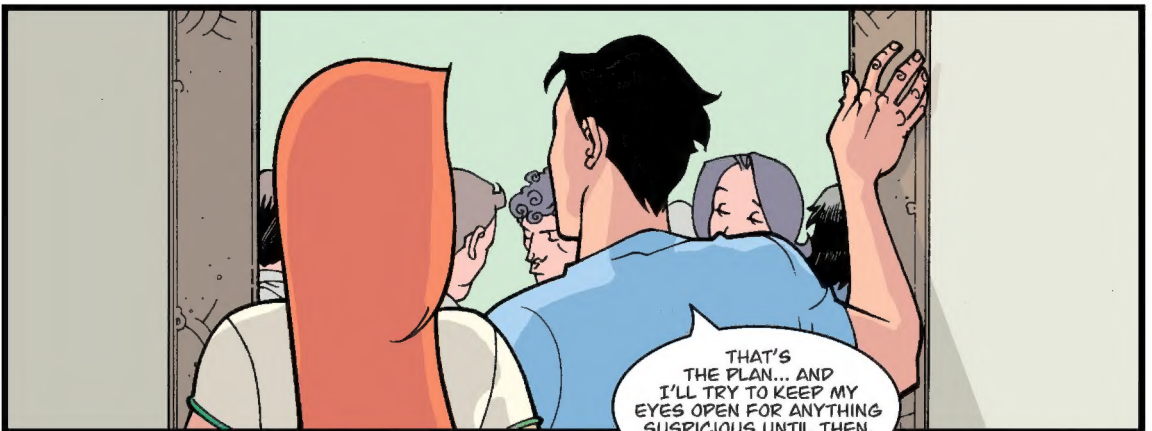
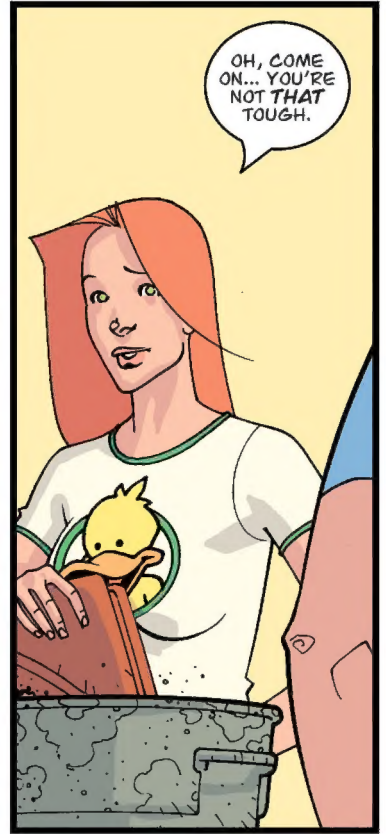
I GUESS.

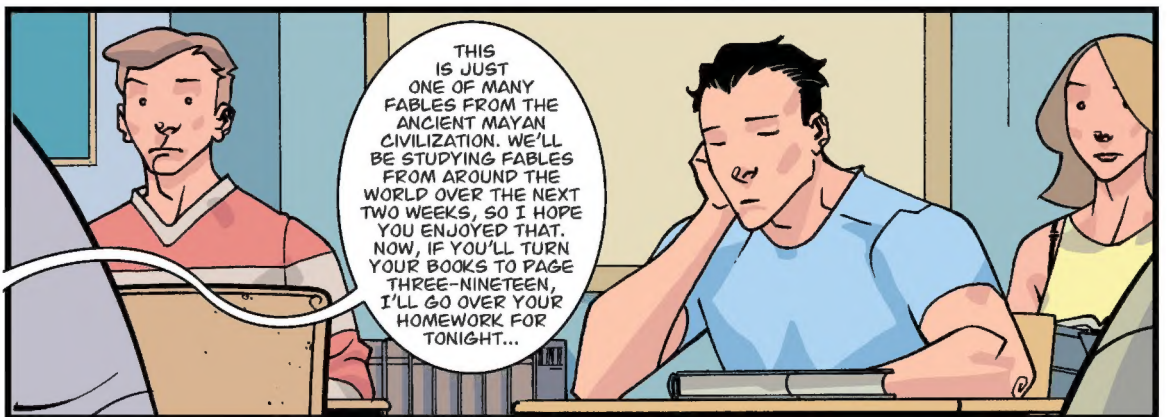
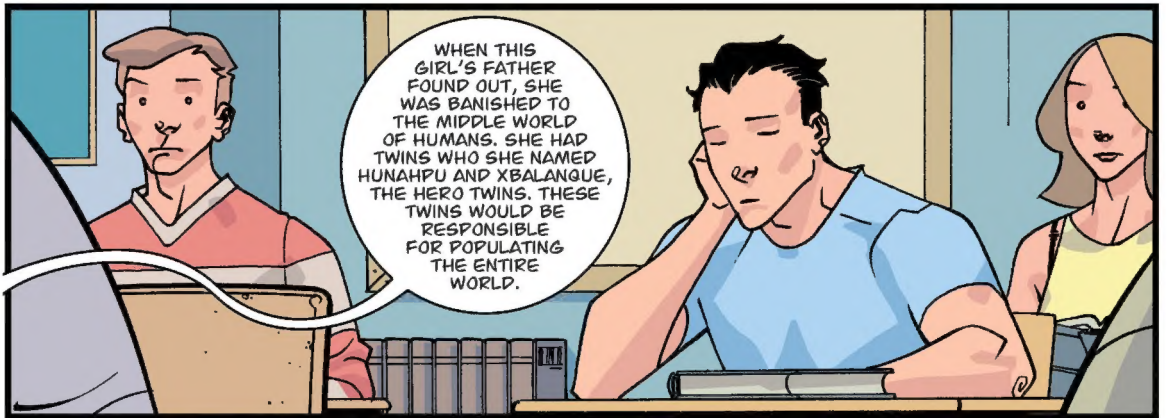
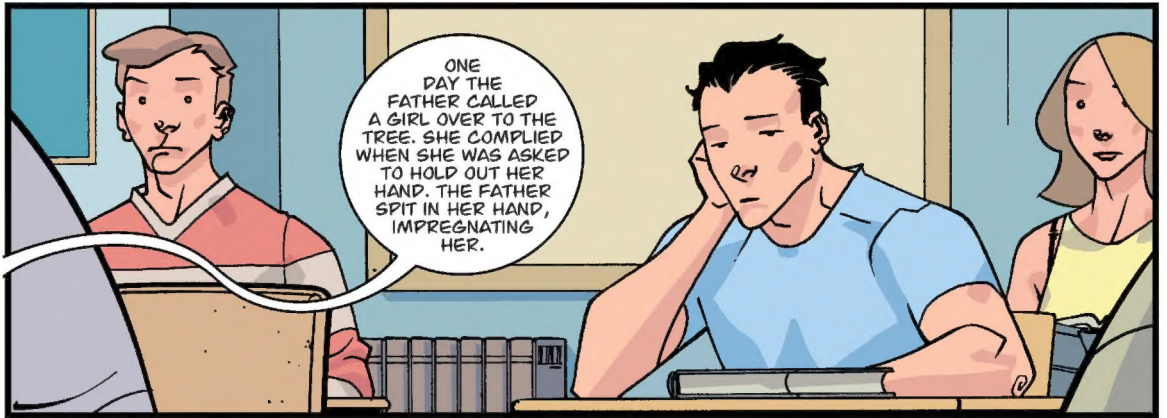
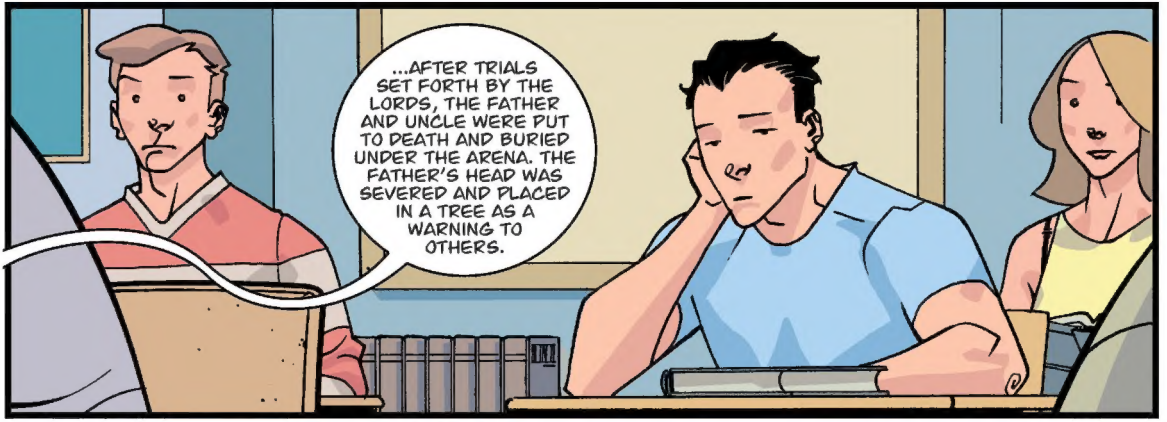
I MEAN, THERE ARE PLENTY OF POSSIBILITIES BUT REALLY NOTHING TO POINT US IN ANY DIRECTION.

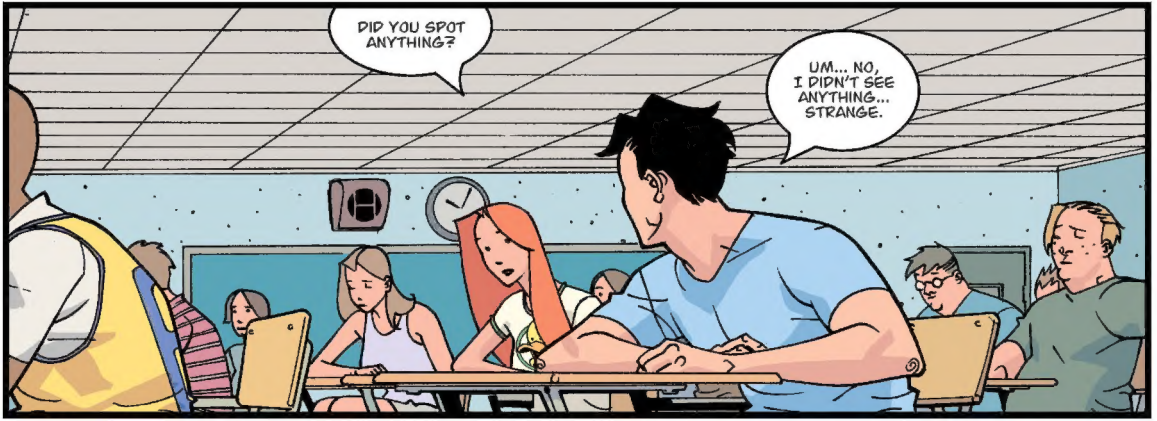
~SIGH~



NO KIDDING. I WISH IT WERE JUST A BIG MONSTER WE COULD PUNCH.

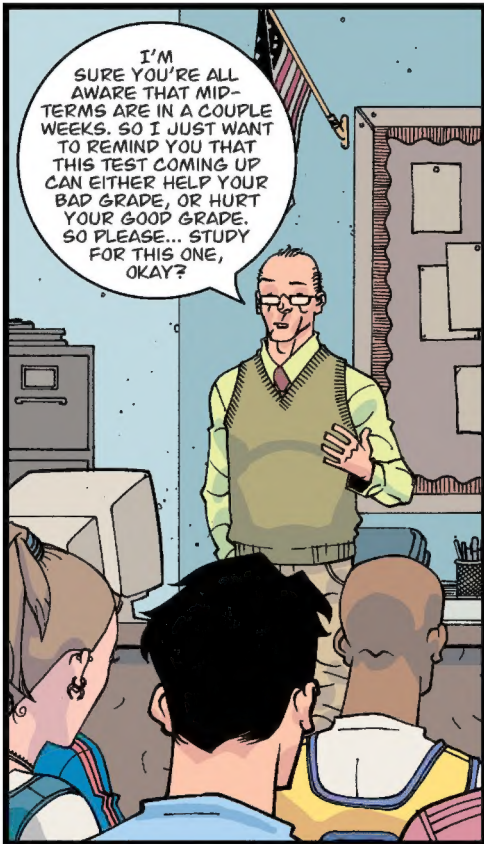




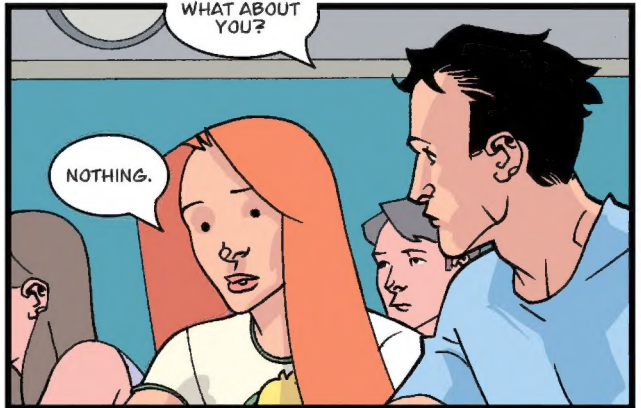


DID YOU SPOT ANYTHING?

UM... NO, I DIDN'T SEE ANYTHING... STRANGE.



I'M SURE YOU'RE ALL AWARE THAT MID-TERMS ARE IN A COUPLE WEEKS. SO I JUST WANT TO REMIND YOU THAT THIS TEST COMING UP CAN EITHER HELP YOUR BAD GRADE, OR HURT YOUR GOOD GRADE. SO PLEASE... STUDY FOR THIS ONE, OKAY?

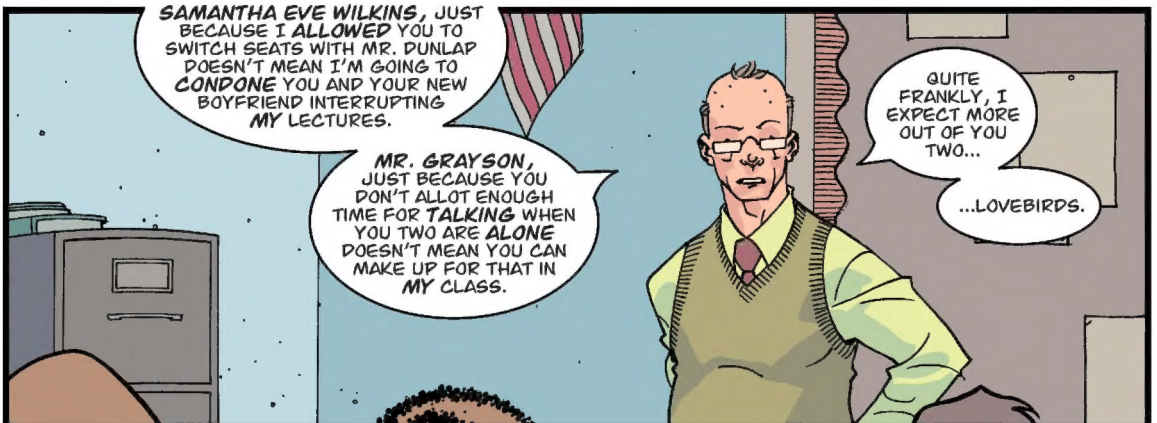


WHAT ABOUT YOU?

NOTHING.



EXCUSE ME, YOU TWO!

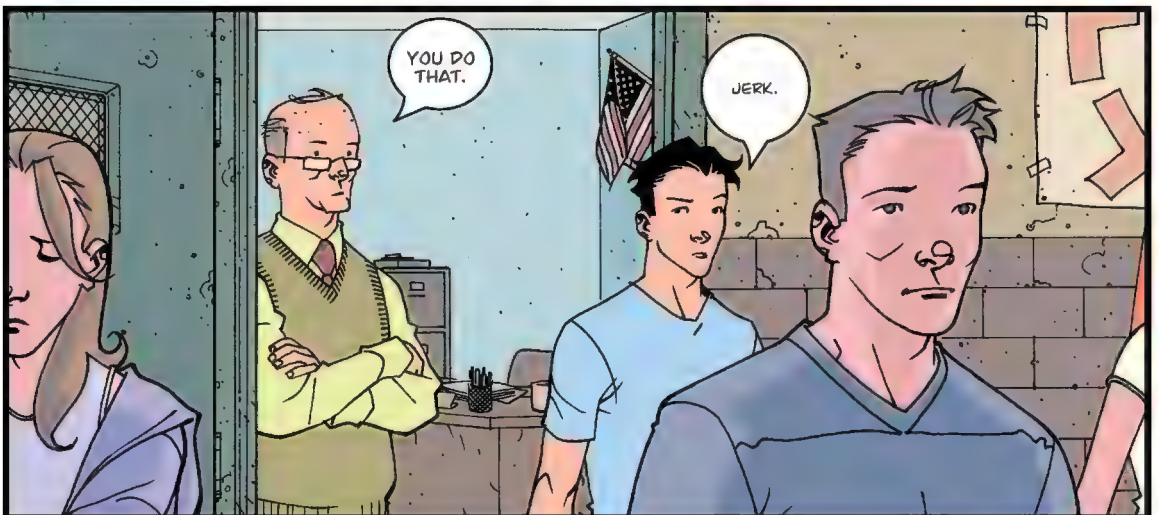
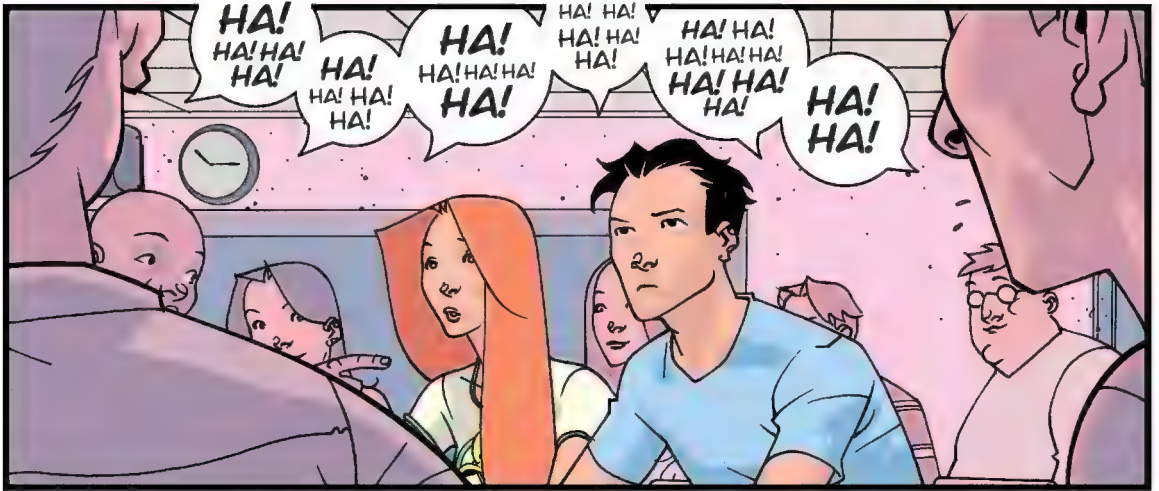


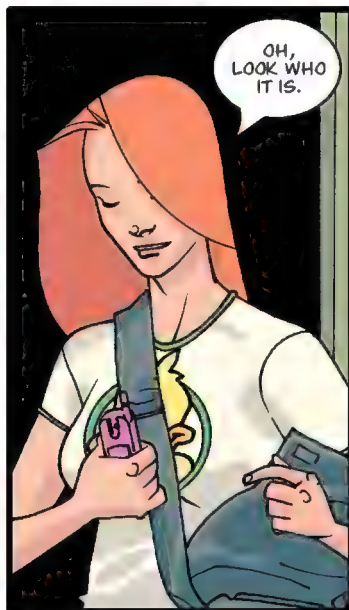
SAMANTHA EVE WILKINS, JUST BECAUSE I ALLOWED YOU TO SWITCH SEATS WITH MR. DUNLAP DOESN'T MEAN I'M GOING TO CONDONE YOU AND YOUR NEW BOYFRIEND INTERRUPTING MY LECTURES.

MR. GRAYSON, JUST BECAUSE YOU DON'T ALLOW ENOUGH TIME FOR TALKING WHEN YOU TWO ARE ALONE DOESN'T MEAN YOU CAN MAKE UP FOR THAT IN MY CLASS.

QUITE FRANKLY, I EXPECT MORE OUT OF YOU TWO...

...LOVEBIRDS.





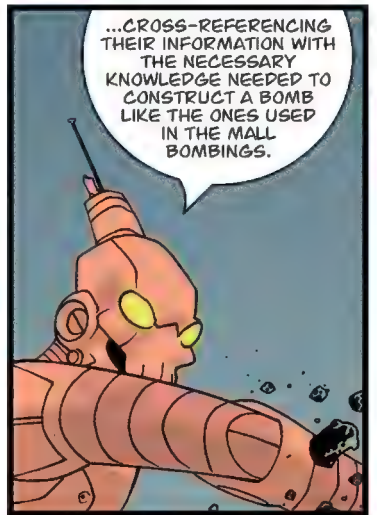


I'VE BEEN USING SECONDARY OPERATING SYSTEMS TO RUN CHECKS ON ALL EMPLOYEES OF YOUR HIGH SCHOOL. TEACHERS, CUSTODIANS, BUS DRIVERS, EVERYONE, AND I--

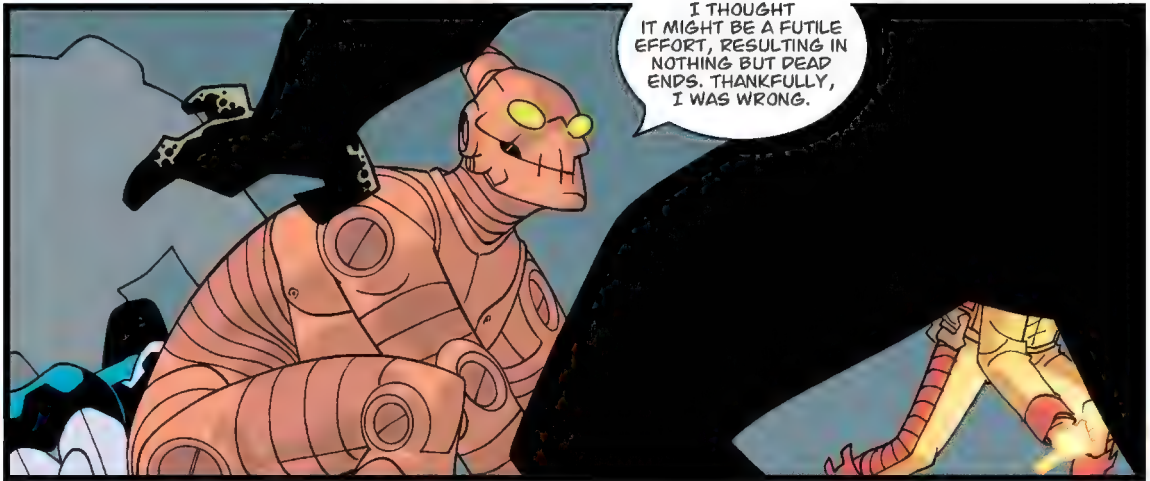
HOLD ON.



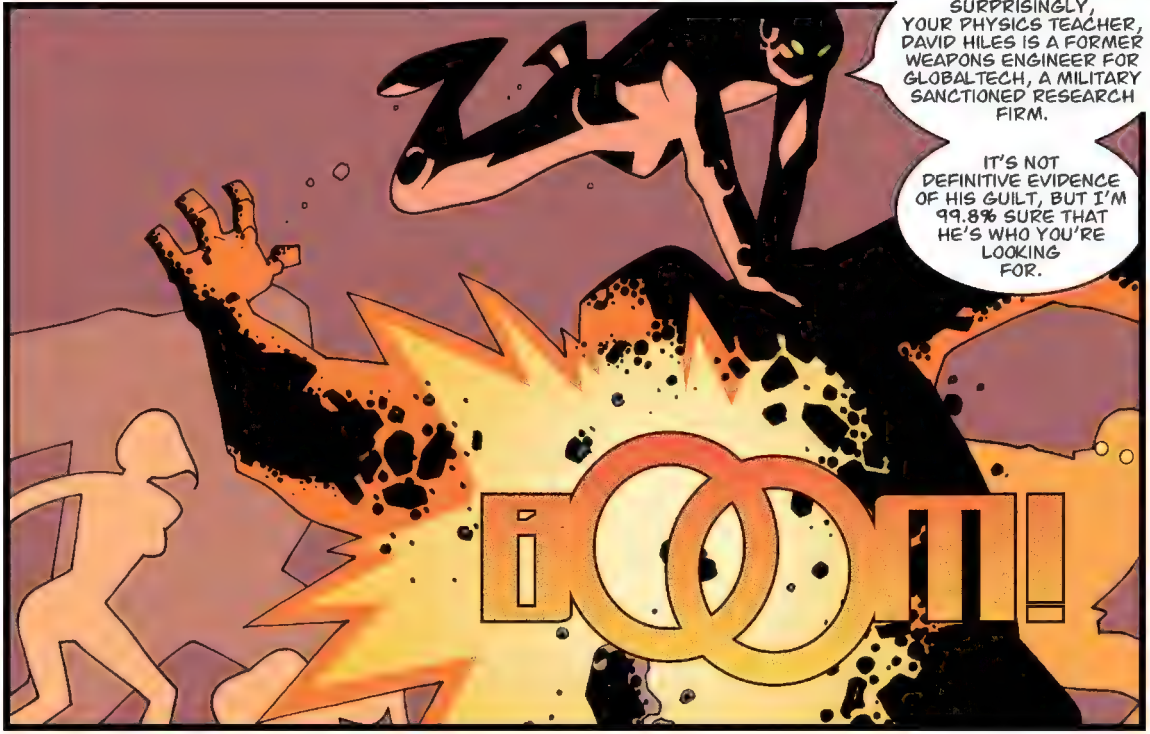
AS I WAS SAYING, I WAS CHECKING THE BACKGROUND, AND EMPLOYMENT HISTORIES ON THE EMPLOYEES OF YOUR SCHOOL...



...CROSS-REFERENCING THEIR INFORMATION WITH THE NECESSARY KNOWLEDGE NEEDED TO CONSTRUCT A BOMB LIKE THE ONES USED IN THE MALL BOMBINGS.



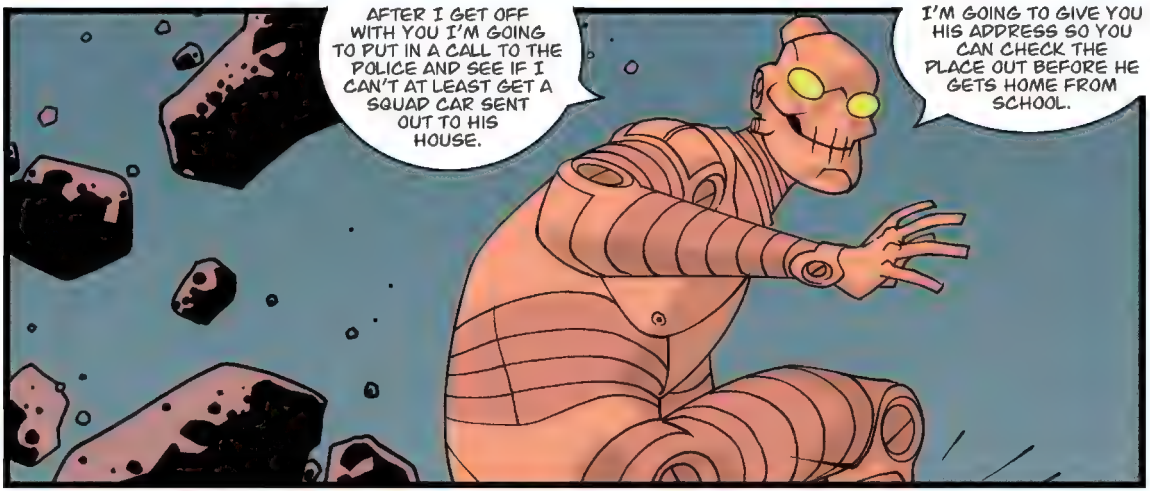
I THOUGHT IT MIGHT BE A FUTILE EFFORT, RESULTING IN NOTHING BUT DEAD ENDS. THANKFULLY, I WAS WRONG.



SURPRISINGLY, YOUR PHYSICS TEACHER, DAVID HILES IS A FORMER WEAPONS ENGINEER FOR GLOBALTECH, A MILITARY SANCTIONED RESEARCH FIRM.

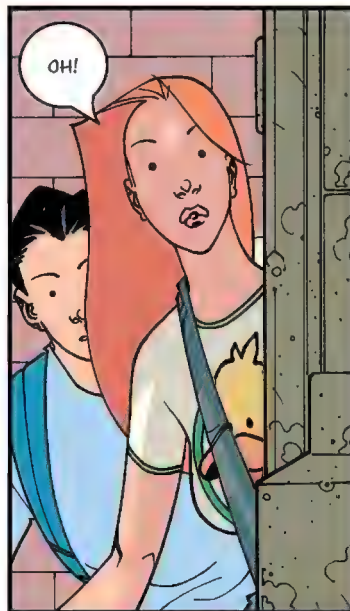
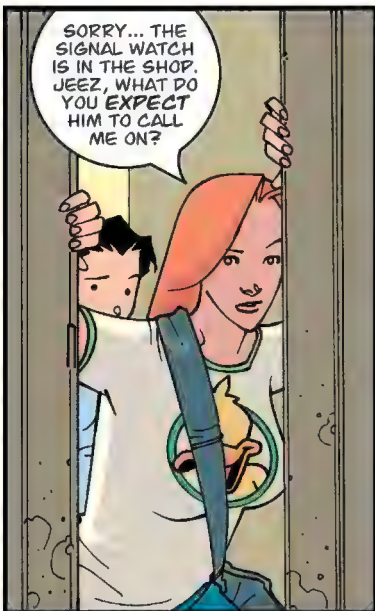
IT'S NOT DEFINITIVE EVIDENCE OF HIS GUILT, BUT I'M 99.8% SURE THAT HE'S WHO YOU'RE LOOKING FOR.

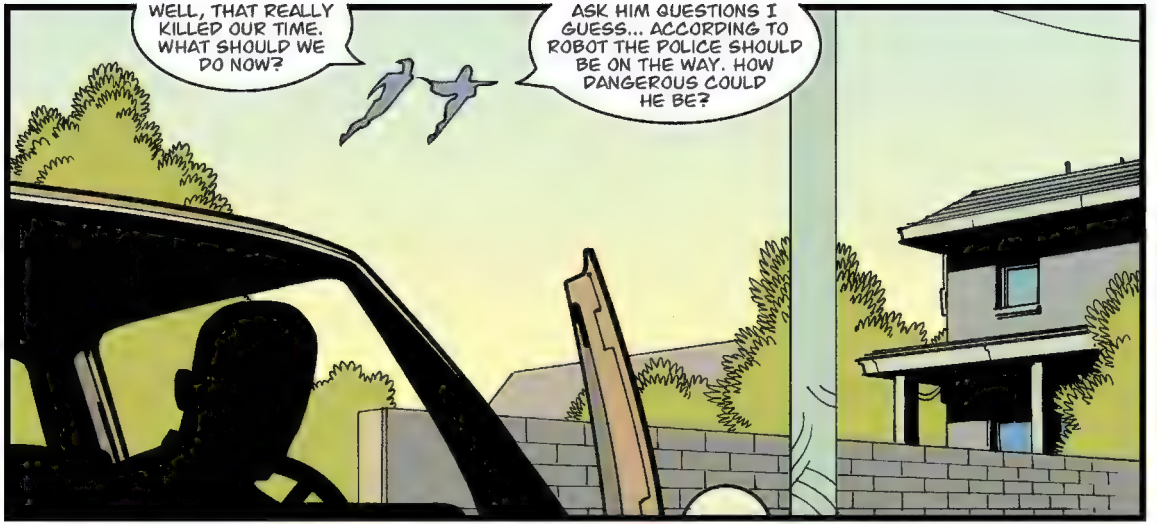
BOOM!



AFTER I GET OFF WITH YOU I'M GOING TO PUT IN A CALL TO THE POLICE AND SEE IF I CAN'T AT LEAST GET A SQUAD CAR SENT OUT TO HIS HOUSE.

I'M GOING TO GIVE YOU HIS ADDRESS SO YOU CAN CHECK THE PLACE OUT BEFORE HE GETS HOME FROM SCHOOL.





WELL, THAT REALLY KILLED OUR TIME. WHAT SHOULD WE DO NOW?

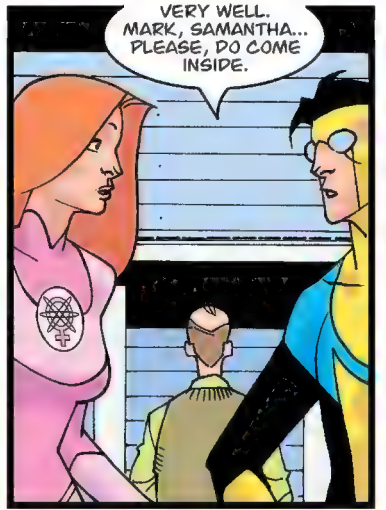
ASK HIM QUESTIONS I GUESS... ACCORDING TO ROBOT THE POLICE SHOULD BE ON THE WAY. HOW DANGEROUS COULD HE BE?



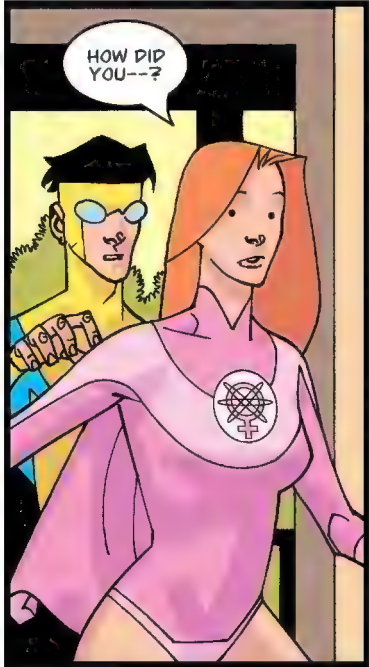
HOLD IT RIGHT THERE, SIR!



I DIDN'T EXPECT TO GET CAUGHT QUITE THIS EARLY, AND I CERTAINLY EXPECTED... MORE CONVENTIONAL AUTHORITIES WHEN THE TIME DID COME...



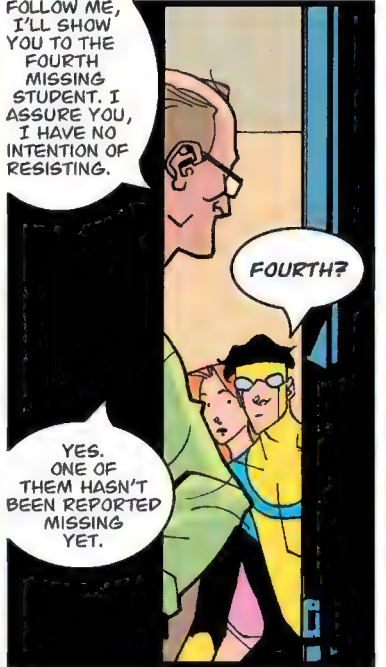
VERY WELL. MARK, SAMANTHA... PLEASE, DO COME INSIDE.



HOW DID YOU--?



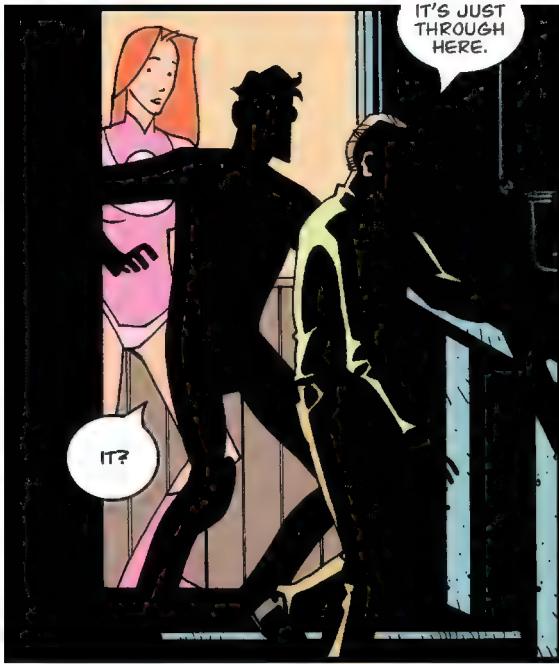
ARE YOU KIDDING ME? YOU'RE NOT EVEN WEARING A MASK.



FOLLOW ME, I'LL SHOW YOU TO THE FOURTH MISSING STUDENT. I ASSURE YOU, I HAVE NO INTENTION OF RESISTING.

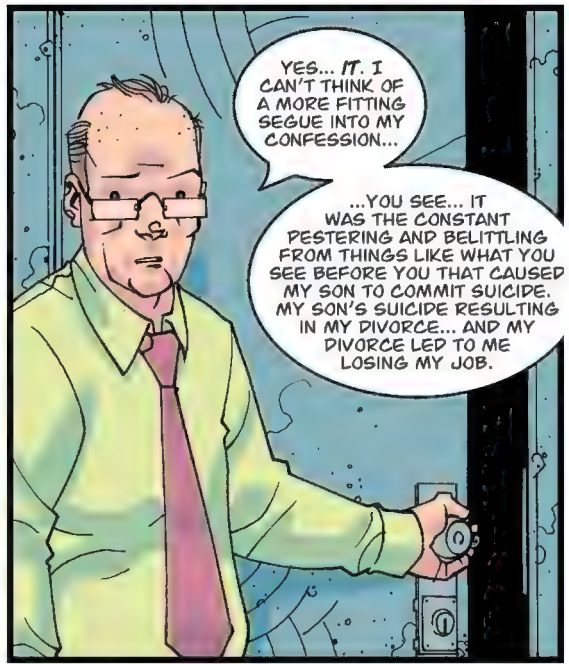
FOURTH?

YES. ONE OF THEM HASN'T BEEN REPORTED MISSING YET.



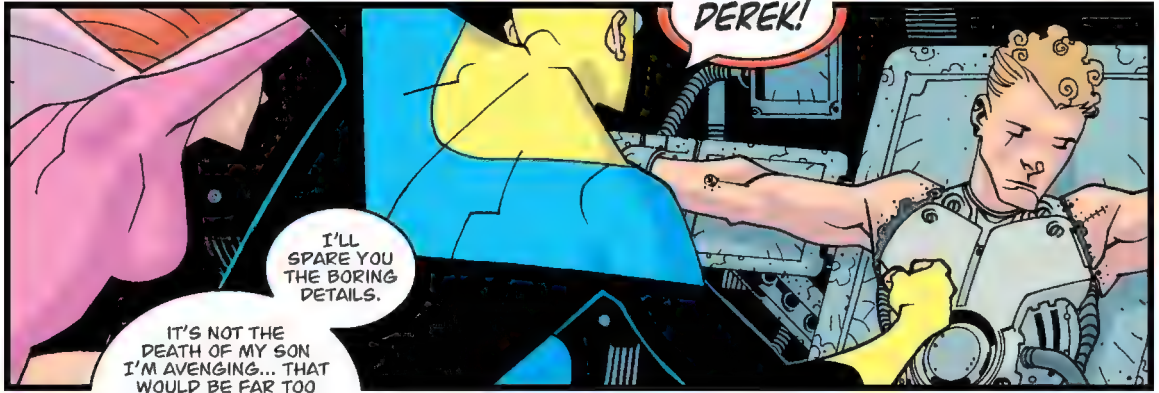
IT'S JUST THROUGH HERE.

IT?



YES... IT. I CAN'T THINK OF A MORE FITTING SEGUE INTO MY CONFESSION...

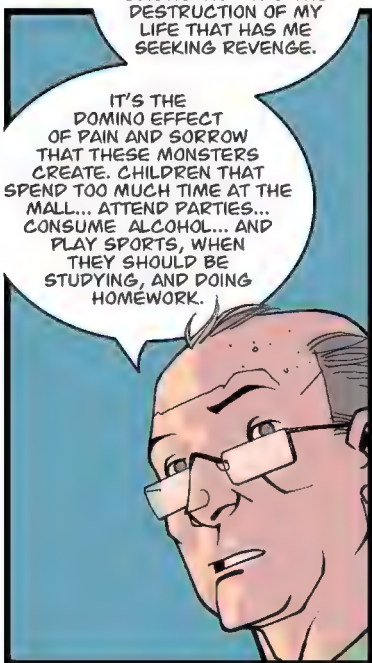
...YOU SEE... IT WAS THE CONSTANT PESTERING AND BELITTLING FROM THINGS LIKE WHAT YOU SEE BEFORE YOU THAT CAUSED MY SON TO COMMIT SUICIDE. MY SON'S SUICIDE RESULTING IN MY DIVORCE... AND MY DIVORCE LED TO ME LOSING MY JOB.



DEREK!

I'LL SPARE YOU THE BORING DETAILS.

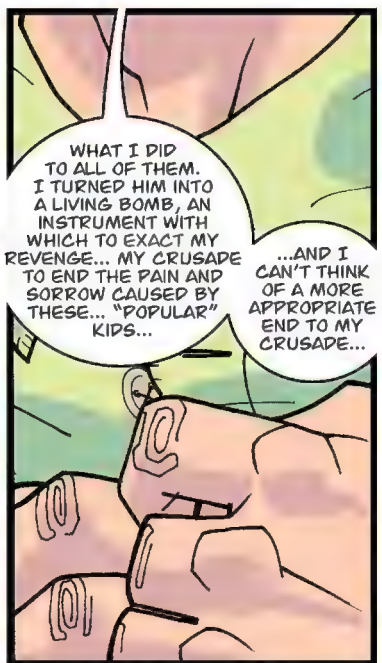
IT'S NOT THE DEATH OF MY SON I'M AVENGING... THAT WOULD BE FAR TOO CLICHÉ. NO... IT'S THE DESTRUCTION OF MY LIFE THAT HAS ME SEEKING REVENGE.



IT'S THE DOMINO EFFECT OF PAIN AND SORROW THAT THESE MONSTERS CREATE. CHILDREN THAT SPEND TOO MUCH TIME AT THE MALL... ATTEND PARTIES... CONSUME ALCOHOL... AND PLAY SPORTS, WHEN THEY SHOULD BE STUDYING, AND DOING HOMEWORK.

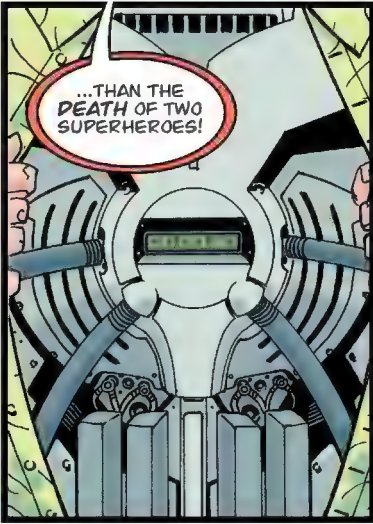


WHAT DID YOU DO TO HIM?

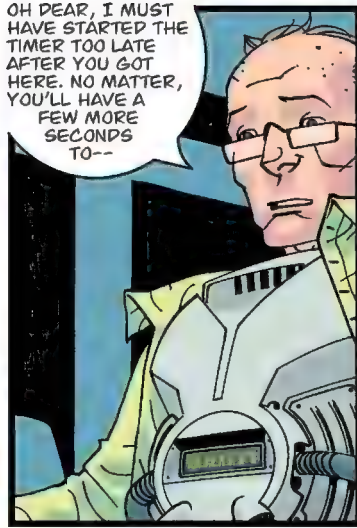


WHAT I DID TO ALL OF THEM. I TURNED HIM INTO A LIVING BOMB, AN INSTRUMENT WITH WHICH TO EXACT MY REVENGE... MY CRUSADE TO END THE PAIN AND SORROW CAUSED BY THESE... "POPULAR" KIDS...

...AND I CAN'T THINK OF A MORE APPROPRIATE END TO MY CRUSADE...



...THAN THE DEATH OF TWO SUPERHEROES!



OH DEAR, I MUST HAVE STARTED THE TIMER TOO LATE AFTER YOU GOT HERE. NO MATTER, YOU'LL HAVE A FEW MORE SECONDS TO--



I'M NOT WAITING AROUND FOR THIS.

C'MERE!

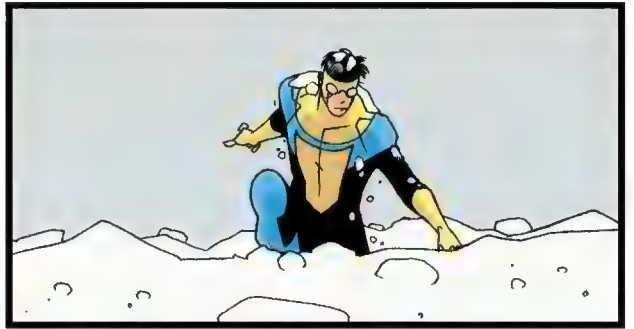


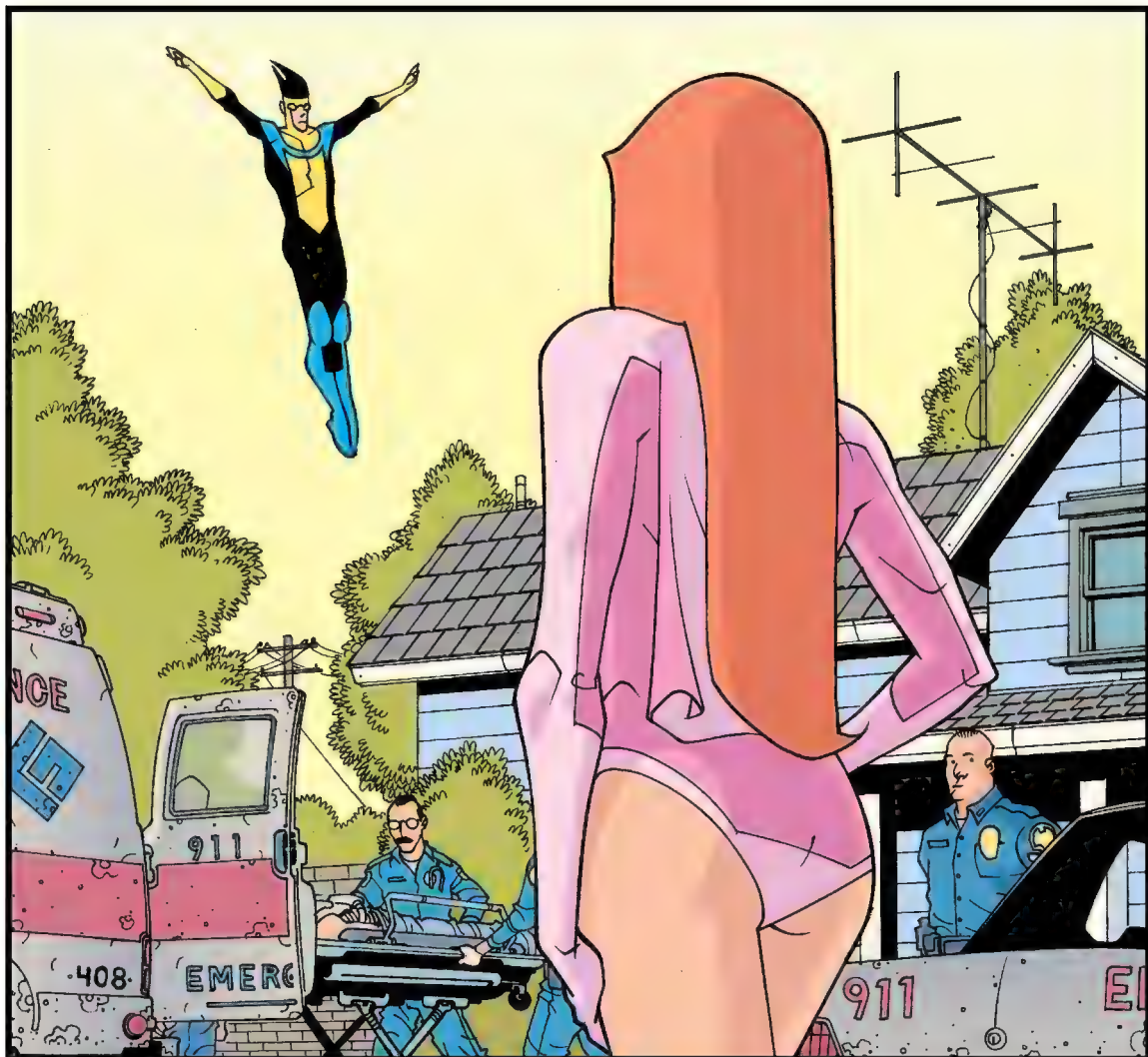
THAT STUFF IN CLASS TODAY WAS UNCALLED FOR.

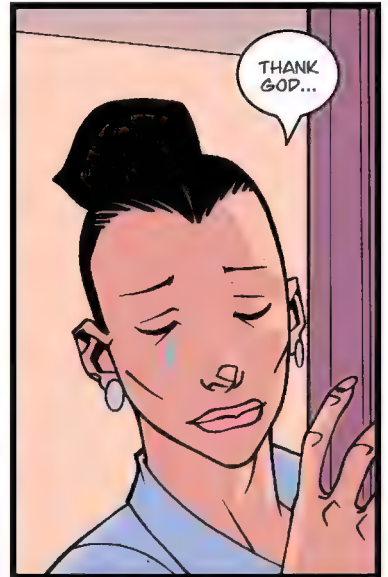
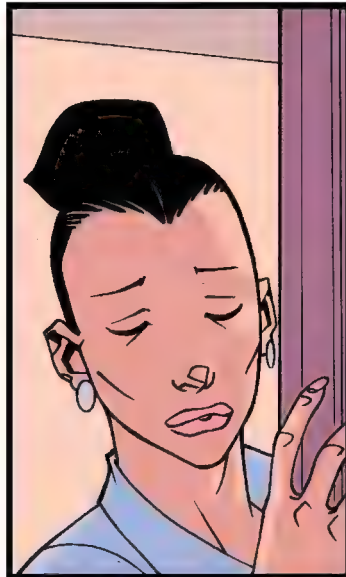
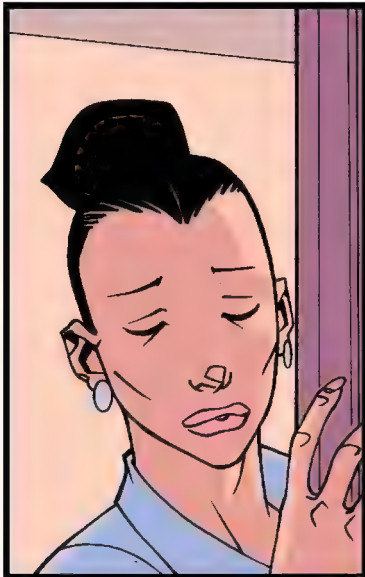
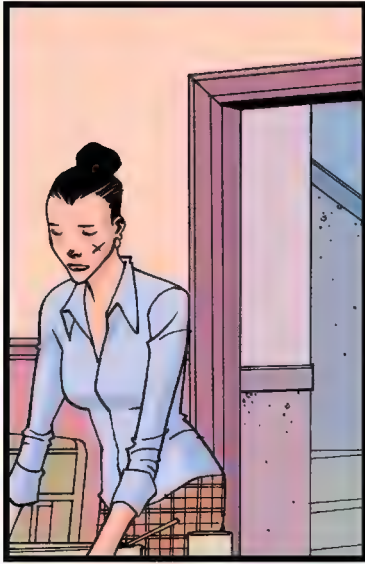


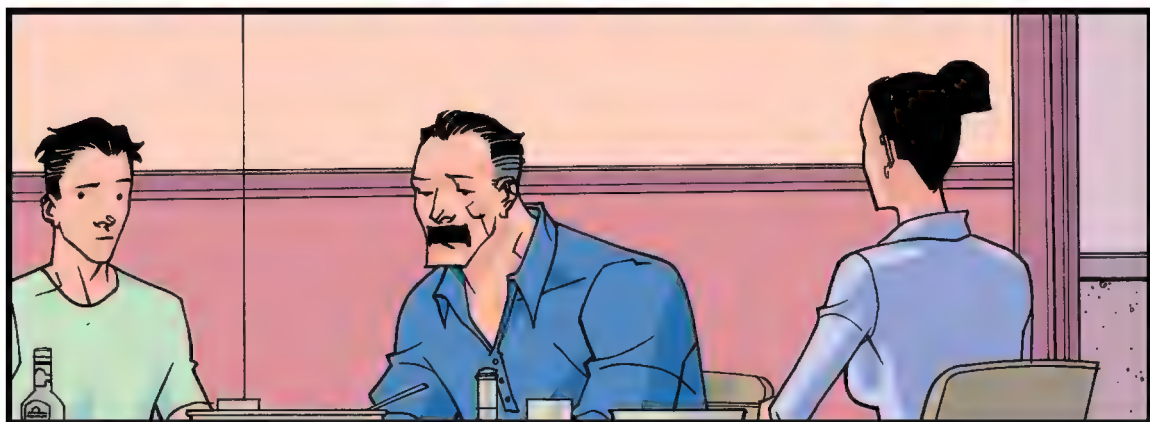
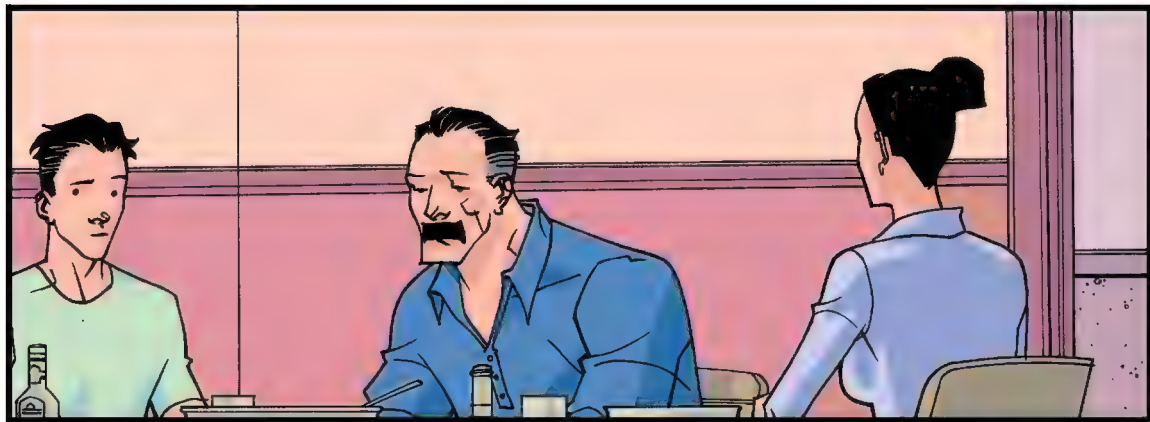
Y'KNOW YOU REALLY RUINED MY AFTERNOON.

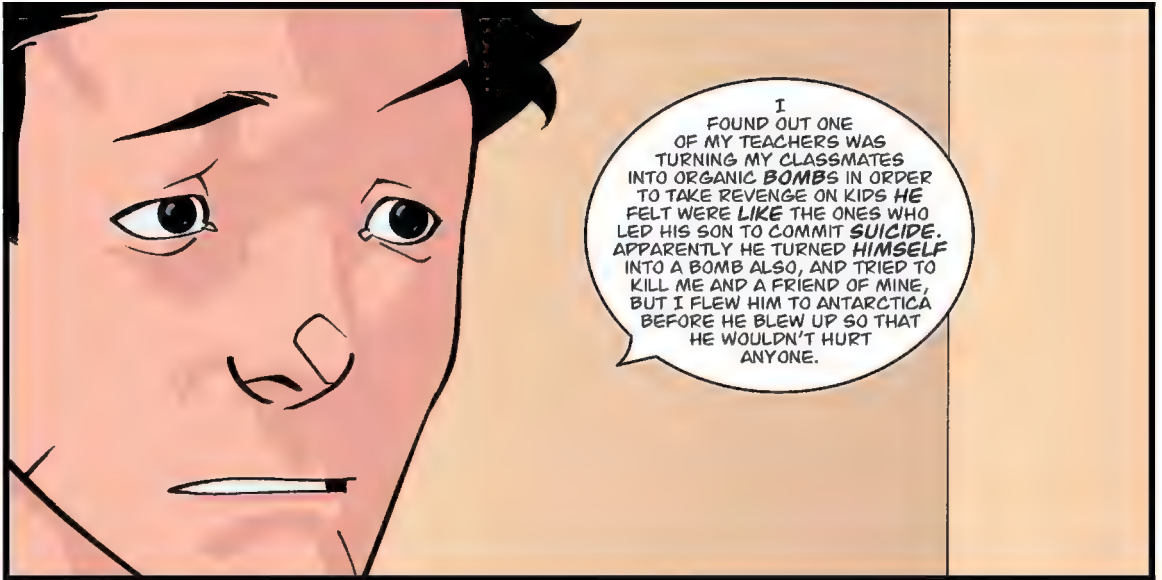












I FOUND OUT ONE OF MY TEACHERS WAS TURNING MY CLASSMATES INTO ORGANIC BOMBS IN ORDER TO TAKE REVENGE ON KIDS HE FELT WERE LIKE THE ONES WHO LED HIS SON TO COMMIT SUICIDE. APPARENTLY HE TURNED HIMSELF INTO A BOMB ALSO, AND TRIED TO KILL ME AND A FRIEND OF MINE, BUT I FLEW HIM TO ANTARCTICA BEFORE HE BLEW UP SO THAT HE WOULDN'T HURT ANYONE.



I SPENT THE LAST EIGHT MONTHS ENSLAVED BY AN ARMY FROM AN ALTERNATE DIMENSION, ALTHOUGH IT SEEMS MUCH LESS TIME HAS PASSED HERE. ABOUT A WEEK AGO I LED A REVOLT AGAINST MY CAPTORS AND REGAINED CONTROL OF MY POWERS. TODAY, A TEAM OF SCIENTISTS FROM THE REBELLION FOUND A WAY TO GET ME HOME.



THAT'S NICE. WHO'S READY FOR DESSERT?

WRITE US @

INVINCIBLE
C/O FUNK-O-TRON
P.O. BOX 54386
LEXINGTON, KY 40555-4386.

INVINCIBLE@FUNKOTRON.COM

INVINCIBLE™

Holy smokes!! Issue four already!! It seems like just yesterday I was sending issue one off to Image to be printed... I'll never get used to how fast these things go by once you get started on them. Oh well... at least a few of you seem to be enjoying this book. I as write this issues 1 and 2 are COMPLETELY sold out at Diamond and issue 3 is nearly gone as well. Due to this fantastic turn of events we'll have a TPB of issues 1-4 out in August. So if you're missing an issue or two... make sure you pick that up so you can be good and caught up by the time we get to the GOOD stuff.

If any of you out there REALLY enjoy my writing, I've got four one-shots coming out over the summer featuring the villains of Masters of the Universe (y'know, He-Man). I think they're pretty swell reads so you guys should seek them out. In a less toy related vein I've also got BRIT coming out in July with artist Tony (Battle Pope) Moore, so keep an eye out for that... as long as you're not squeamish... it's for mature readers only.

Now, onto some letters!

Invincible Guys,

I just picked up Invincible #2, read through it, and I think I'm sticking with it. I sense Mark's humorous side, which makes his character believable. I hate it when superheroes don't have a sense of humor.

It would have been funny to see Mark go through a bunch of different costumes before settling on one. You know, costumes that don't hold up during a fight or perhaps the villains could make fun of the colors he chose. No matter, I think his costume is awesome and the series is even better.

Thanks,
Ashur Givargis

I too enjoy superheroes with a humorous nature... hence the book, glad you like it too. It would have been nice to do a lot of different stuff with Mark's costume but I had an idea of where I needed to be by the time I got to the end of issue one and what I needed to do before I got there... and there just wasn't enough room.

Dear Invincible Team,
I just bought Issues 1 & 2 of Invincible and I have to say, WOW! This book is awesome. It shows that good superheroes are still good to come around in comics nowadays. The art is superb! I have to say that this book is #1 on my comics to buy list. Now on to a few questions:

- 1.) Are we going to see any crossovers anytime soon? Like Venture or SuperPatriot?
- 2.) Are we going to see more about Invincible's father origin?

Sincerely,
Dallas B Johnson

1. We plan on doing some crossovers in the future. Though nothing is in the works at the moment I wouldn't count either of those to out... I certainly LIKE both of them... and Cory and I have a history with SuperPatriot.

2. Eventually, we'll see more of his origin, yes... but not anytime soon, this is Mark's book, after all.

Hey Robert,

I've been reading your comics since St. Michael and the Battle Pope series. I've loved your work on all of them. Now, Invincible is toned down on the humor, but I understand that it has to be being at Image and all. But I think it really shows your work as a writer. I think Mark's character is fantastic. He has the "every other kid" attitude, then finds out he has super powers. How cool would that be?! I loved the Slayer shirt that one kid had on in class, very nice. You used Slayer in your Battle Pope book when the nerdy tenant was wearing it also, do you like Slayer? You might be too busy to respond and that's okay I understand. I just wanted to say great job!! I loved the idea of Vitrum. Keep up the good work and make a battle pope poster dammit!

-Sy Lehl

I think there's a time and a place for the kind of humor that was in Battle Pope and this book ISN'T it. I'm trying to accomplish something completely different with this book and it's good to see fans of that crude stuff are liking this book as well. I myself am not a very big fan of Slayer... but Cory Walker is, so that's how it made it's way onto that shirt. The Battle Pope appearance of the slayer shirt was probably just a coincidence, with THAT artist ALSO liking Slayer. I'm SURROUNDED by Slayer fans!

Hi Guys!
Invincible # 1 was sold-out everywhere here in Philly so I had to order it from your website. I just got it today so now...I can geek out...WOW!!! I wish that I had more to say, but I wanna read #'s 1 and 2 back to back and I don't wanna waste time talkin' to you guys!

-Warren Faison, Jr.

P.S. I hope that you realize that the \$2.95 that I'm paying for this book is coming outta my beer fund. It better stay just as good as it already is or get better!! :)

Well, looks to me like Philly is a place with good taste! I don't think you'll miss that beer one bit by the time you get to some of the stuff we've got planned. It only gets better from here, I promise!!

I have to say I really enjoyed this comic! Just one question: What's the obsession with "Family Matters"?

-Jill Katz

I have no idea what you're talking about.

That said, keep an eye out in August for "Invincible Volume 1: Family Matters" at a comic shop or bookstore near you!

ITEM!! Erik Larsen was gracious enough to do an ALL NEW pin-up JUST for this comic! Well... actually it's a page from Savage Dragon #107, guest starring Invincible (and Firebreather). There's a good chance that issue will be on sale around the same time as this one so I apologize if it's old news... but those of you who DON'T buy Dragon (shame on you) will still get to see this AWESOME page, featuring coloring by our own Bill Crabtree and lettering by the MASTER, John Workman.

ITEM! Tech Jacket's resident colorist Ron Riley is also supplying us with a pin-up this month, showing that his talents down stop at the crayon box. Check that thing out! Great job, Ron!

ITEM! Eric Stephenson and Terry Stevens are giving me the opportunity to unveil their new book NOWHERE MEN in the form of the pin-up appearing just a scant 3 pages from this one. I'm totally amped to read this book and you should too! I think they're planning on a November release date but nothing is set in stone yet. Rest assured, when it DOES come out, I'll be there, and I'll keep all of you informed if that date does change.

That's all she wrote folks! Be here next month to see Mark get into a big fight... IN SPACE!!

Until then.

-Robert Kirkman





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98

INVINCIBLE™

ISSUE NUMBER 5

IT CAME FROM
OUTER SPACE...



CW02

ROBERT KIRKMAN
CORY WALKER

JUNE 2003 FROM *image*®

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