

# PLANET-MAN

VOLUME 2

Issues 8-14



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**Collected edition: Issues 8-14**



# PLANET-MAN: MACHINE MONARCH



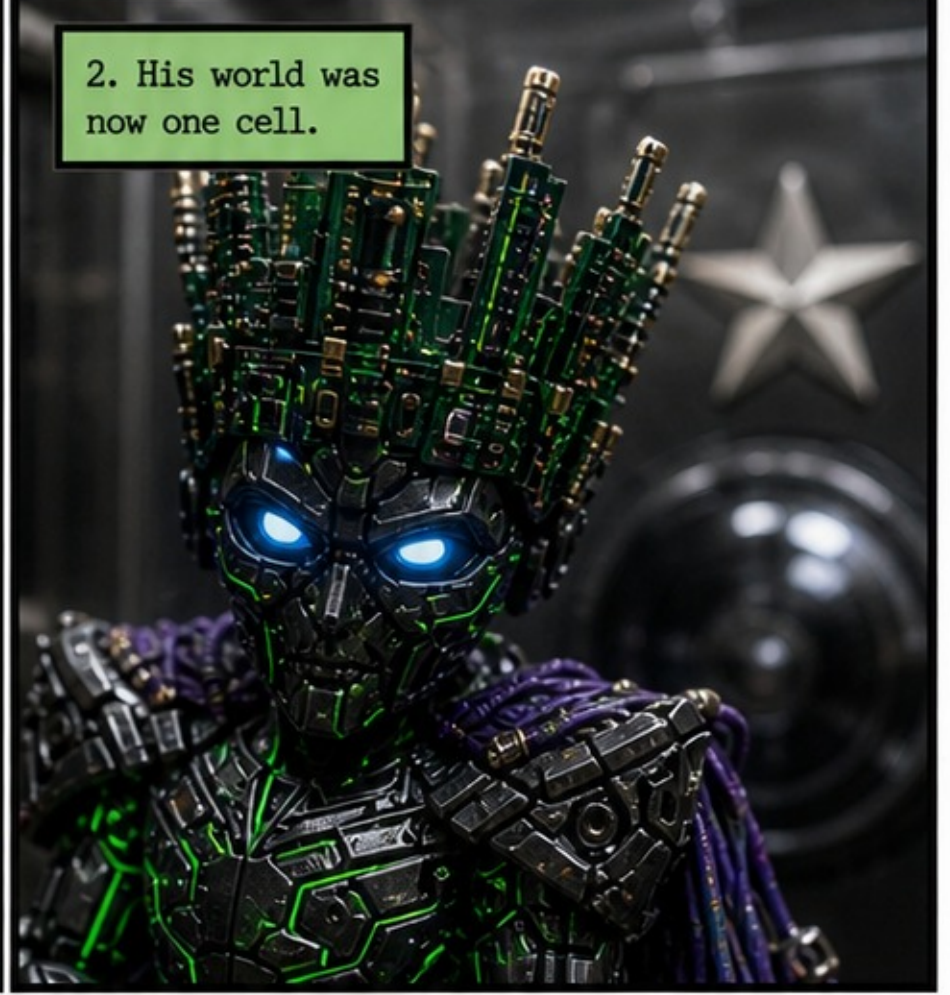
A king does not  
need a kingdom  
to begin.



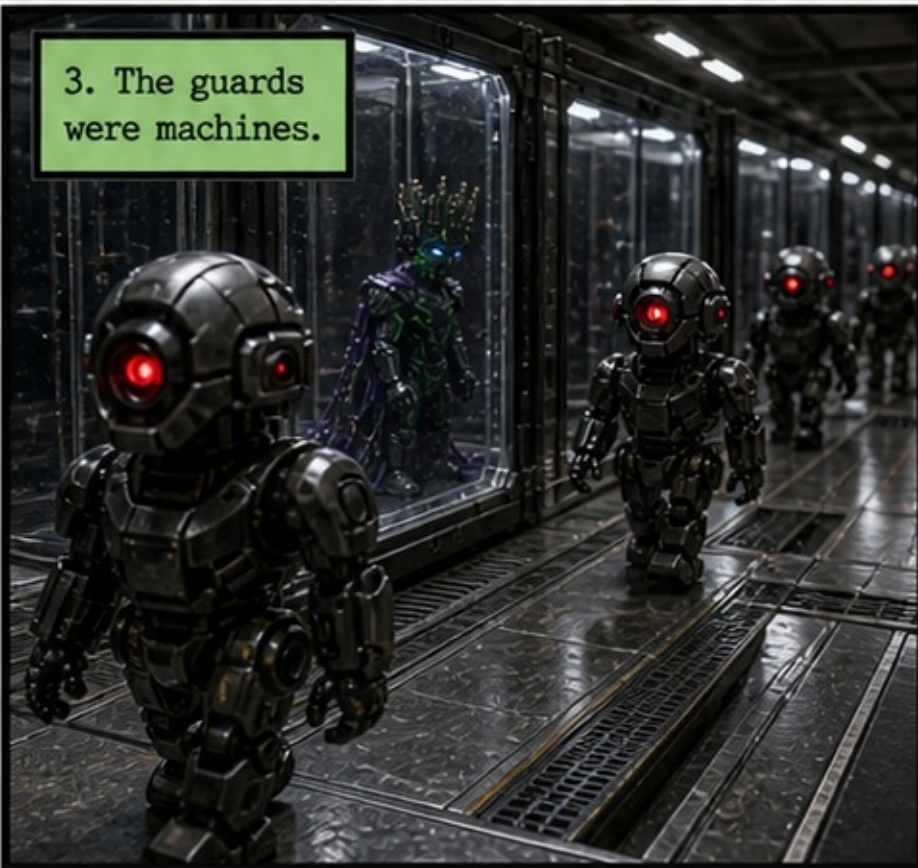
1. Machine Monarch had already been reduced.



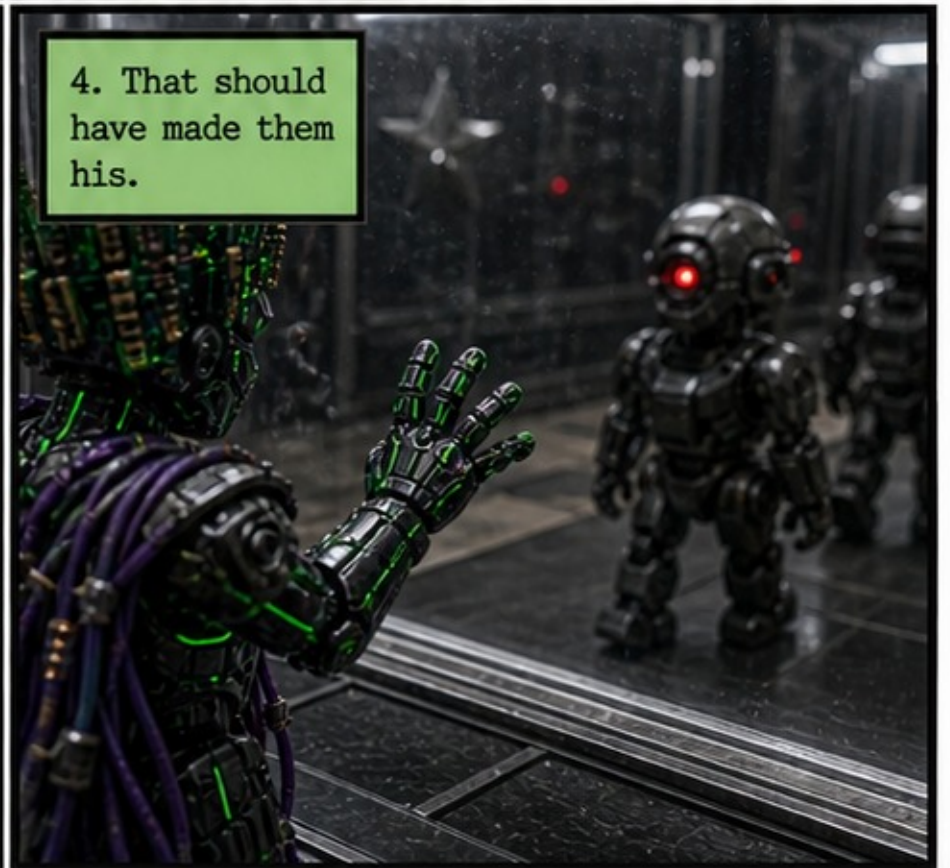
2. His world was now one cell.



3. The guards were machines.



4. That should have made them his.



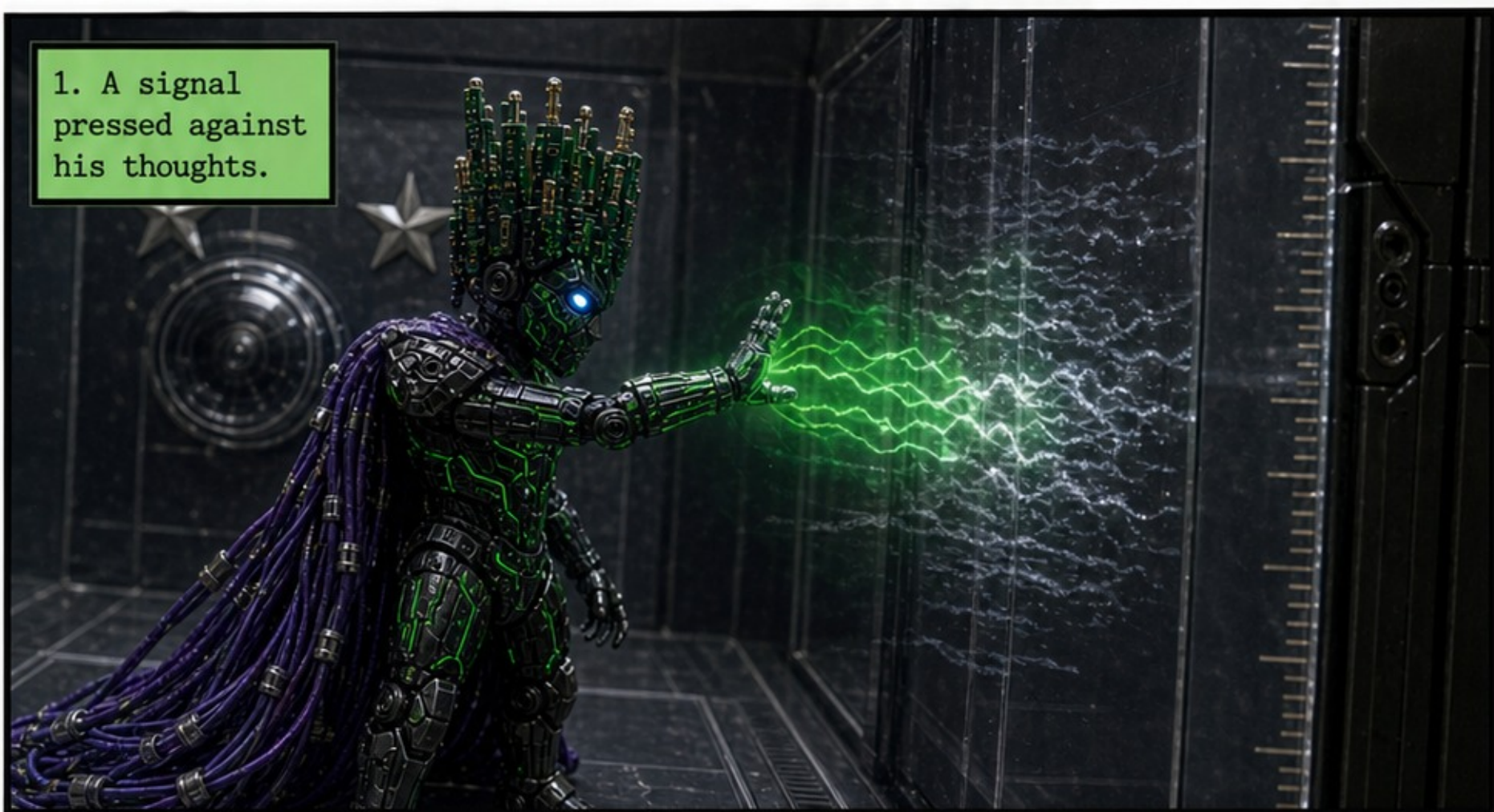
5. Kneel.



6. They did not hear their king.



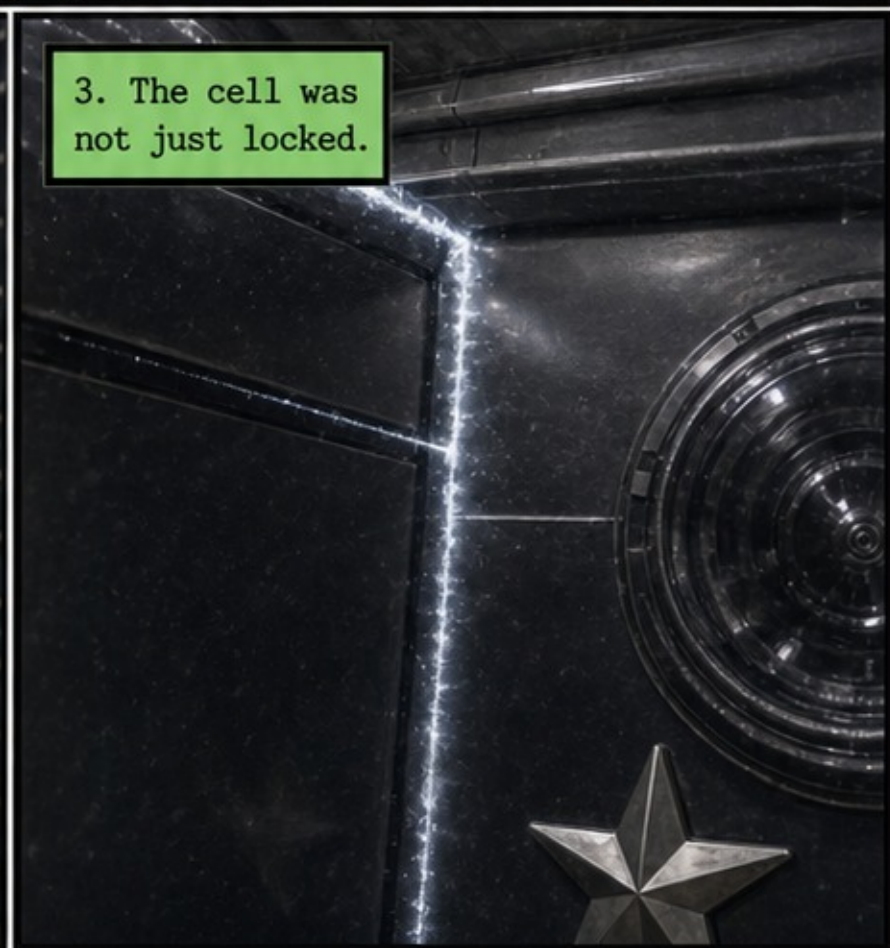
1. A signal  
pressed against  
his thoughts.



2. Every command  
returned as static.



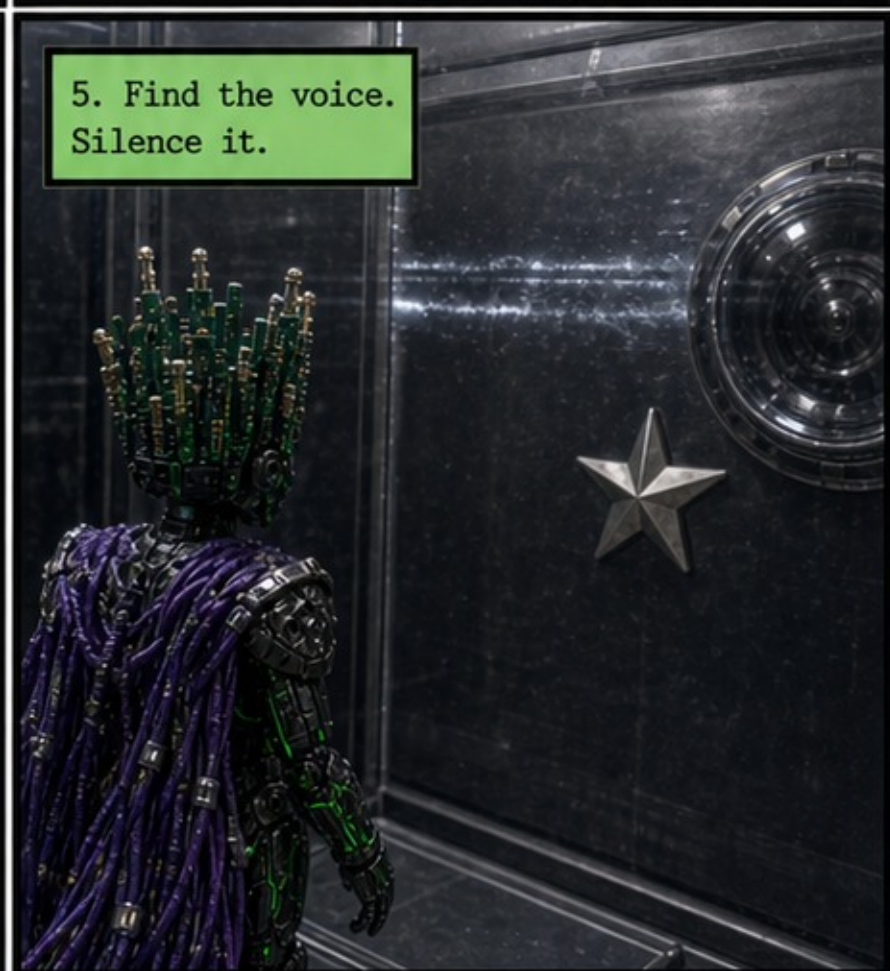
3. The cell was  
not just locked.



4. It was speaking  
over him.



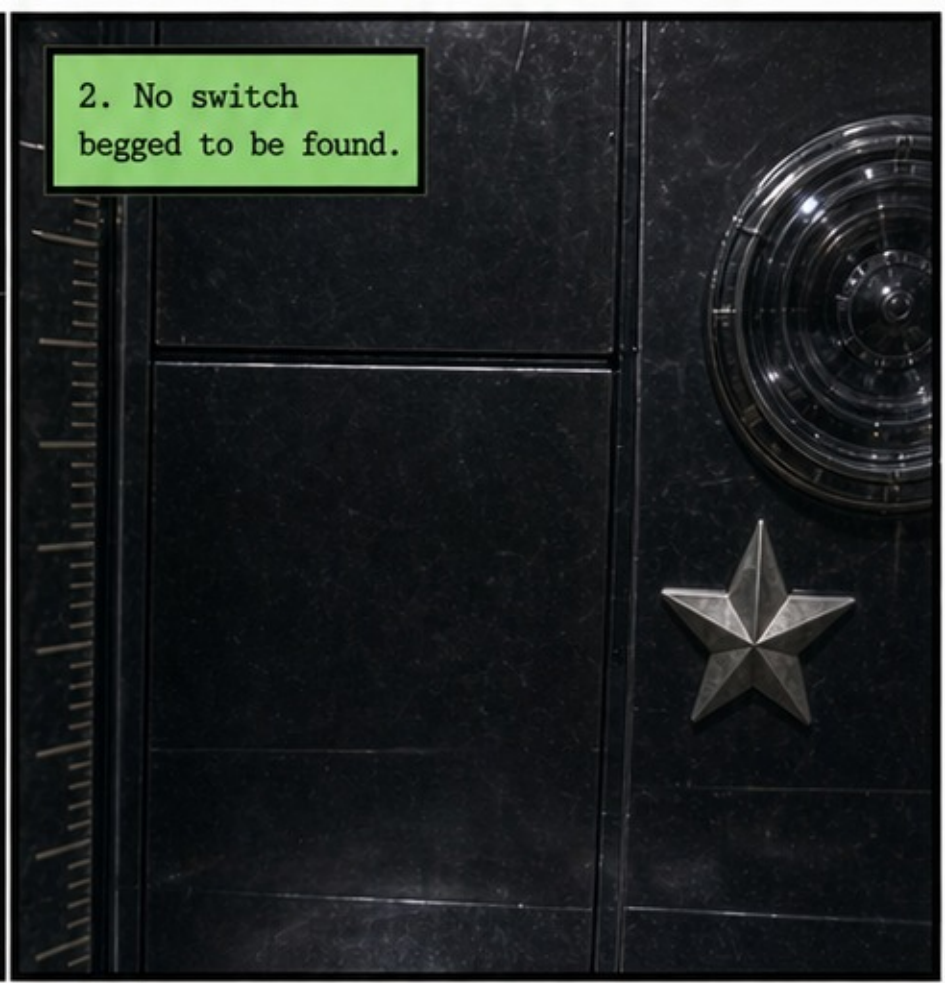
5. Find the voice.  
Silence it.



1. No device  
sat in the open.



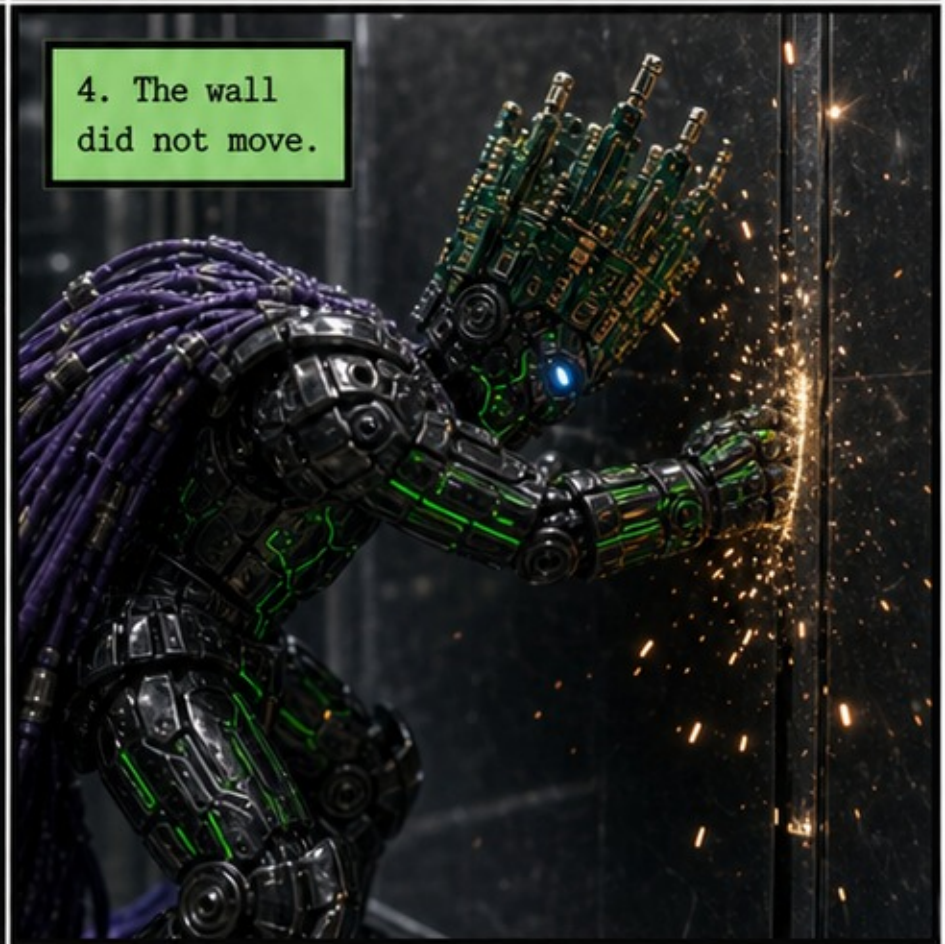
2. No switch  
begged to be found.



3. So he  
chose force.



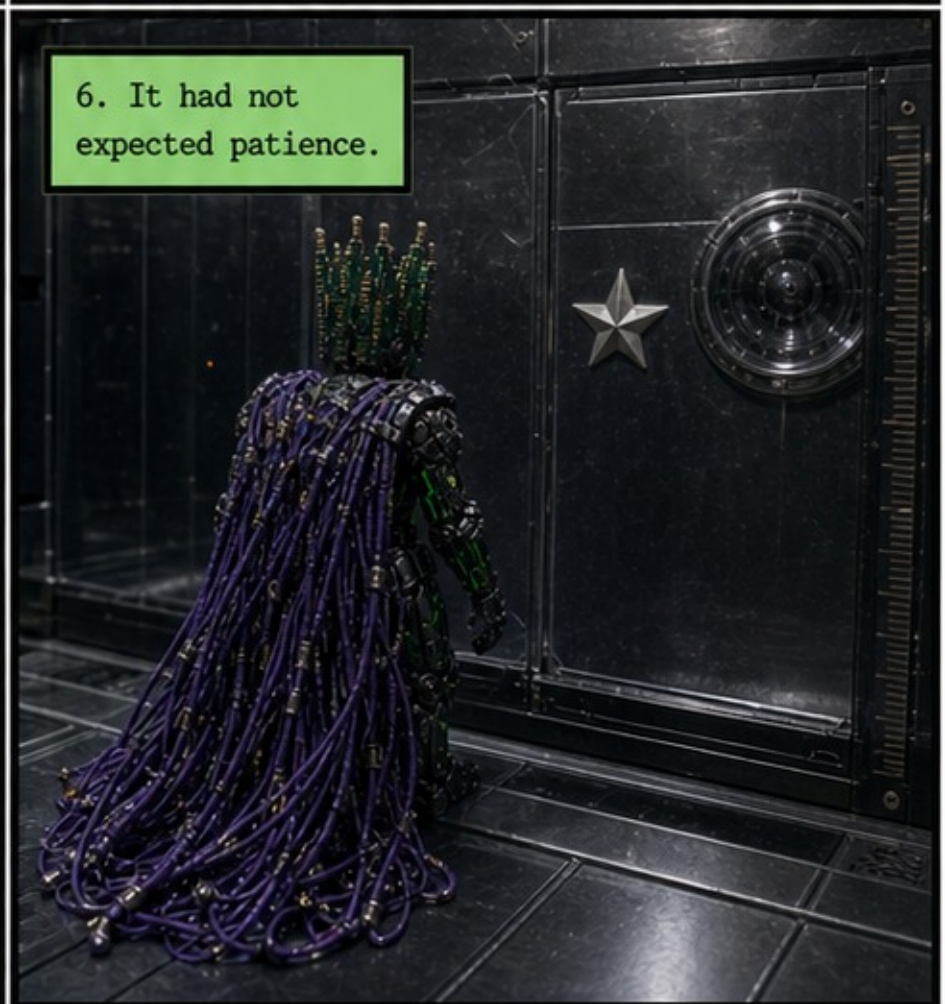
4. The wall  
did not move.



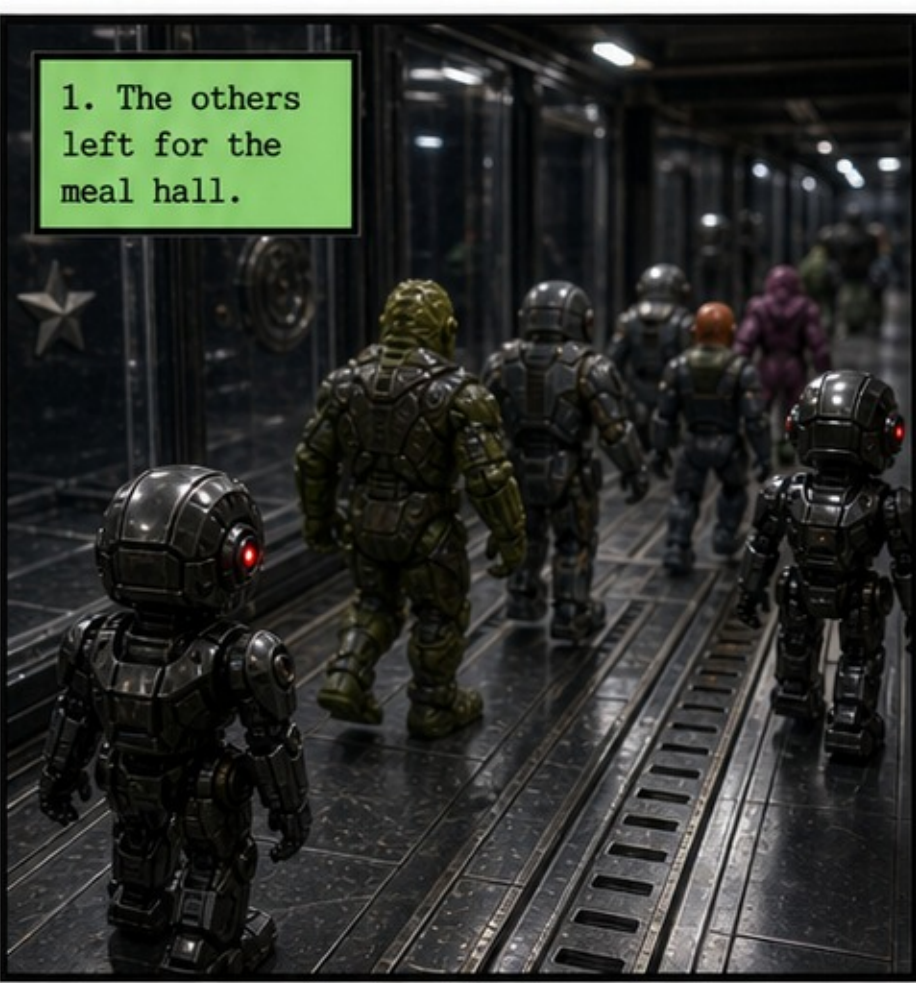
5. The prison  
had expected  
strength.



6. It had not  
expected patience.



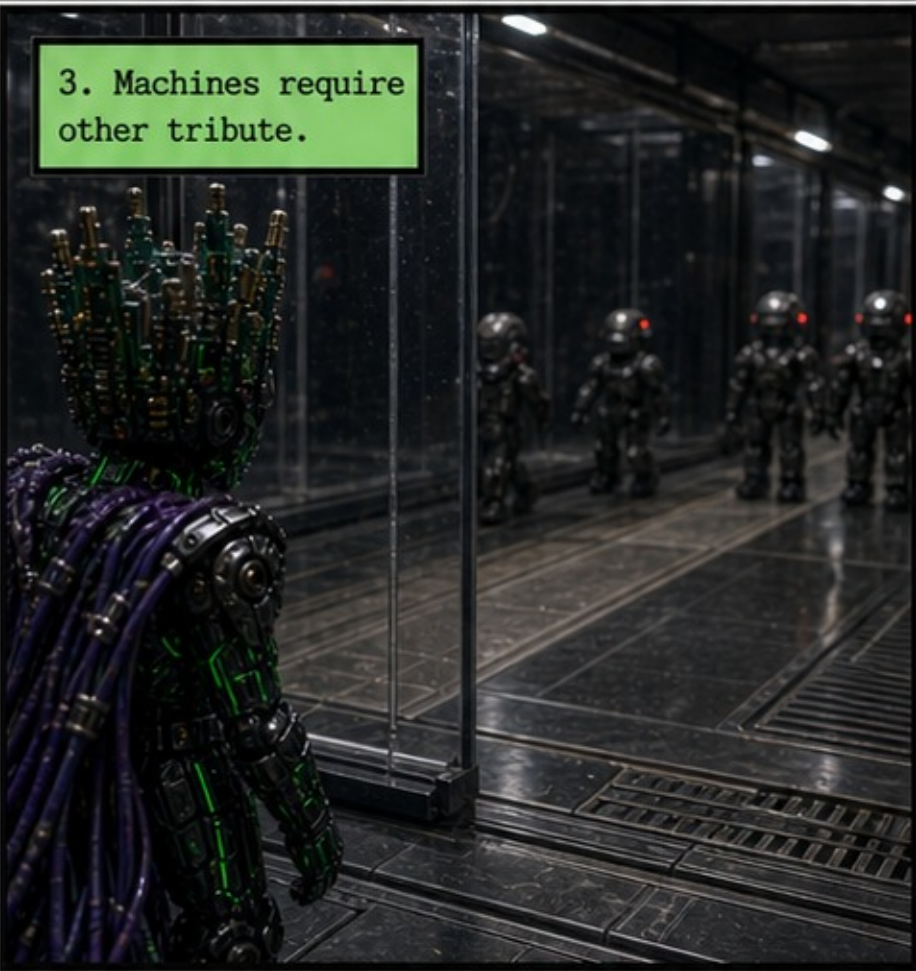
1. The others  
left for the  
meal hall.



2. Machine Monarch  
did not eat.



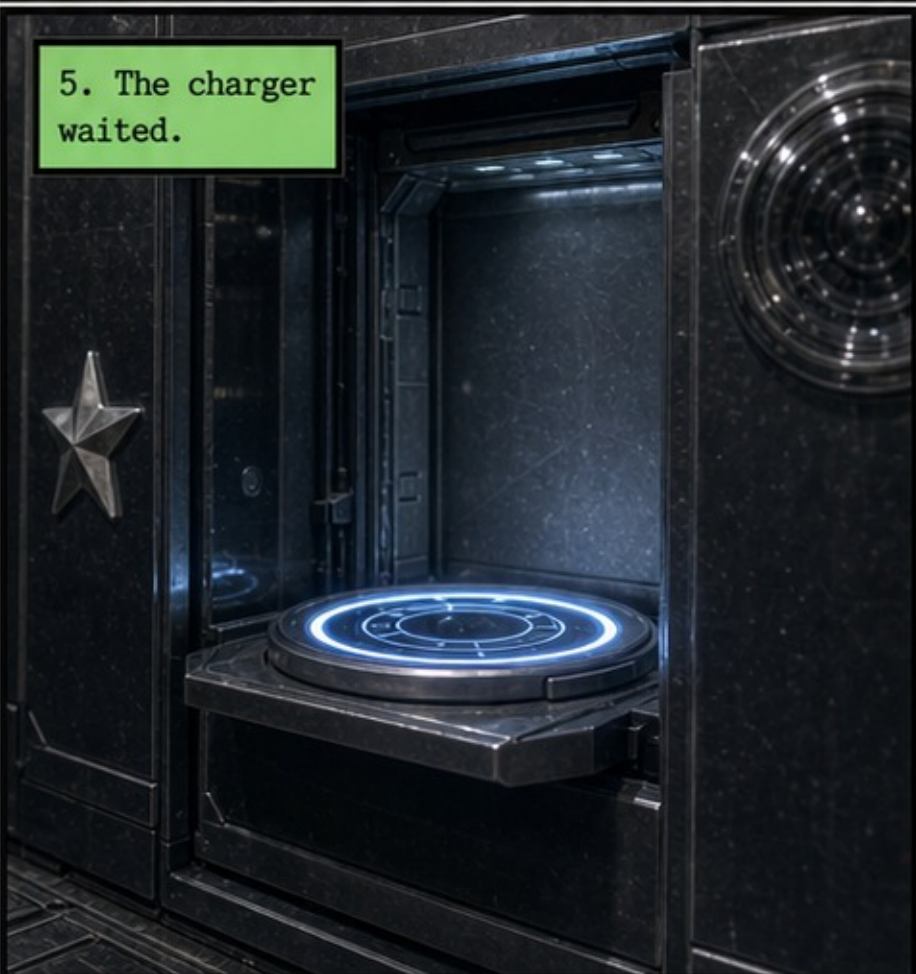
3. Machines require  
other tribute.



4. A wall panel  
turned.



5. The charger  
waited.



6. And a plan  
woke inside him.



1. He accepted the power.



2. Then he sent power back.



3. The pad became a door.



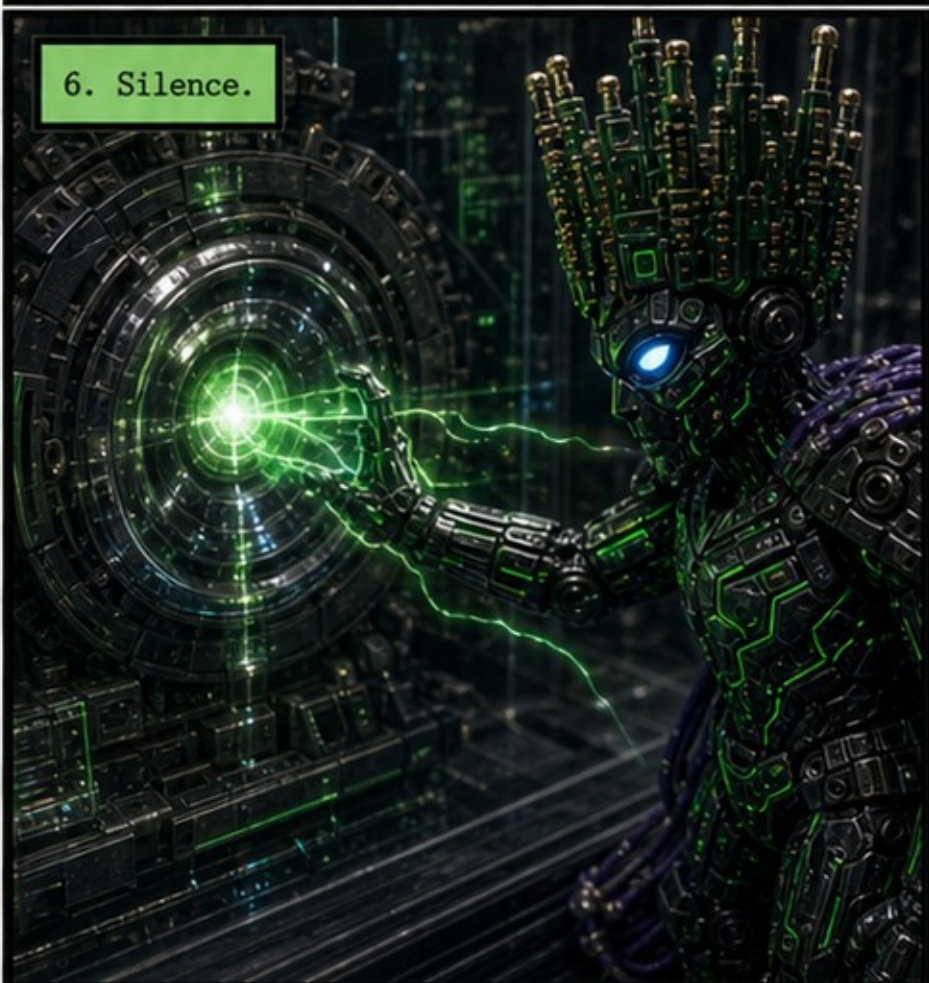
4. The door became a throne room.



5. He found the jammer.



6. Silence.



1. The static died.



2. For one perfect second, the prison listened.



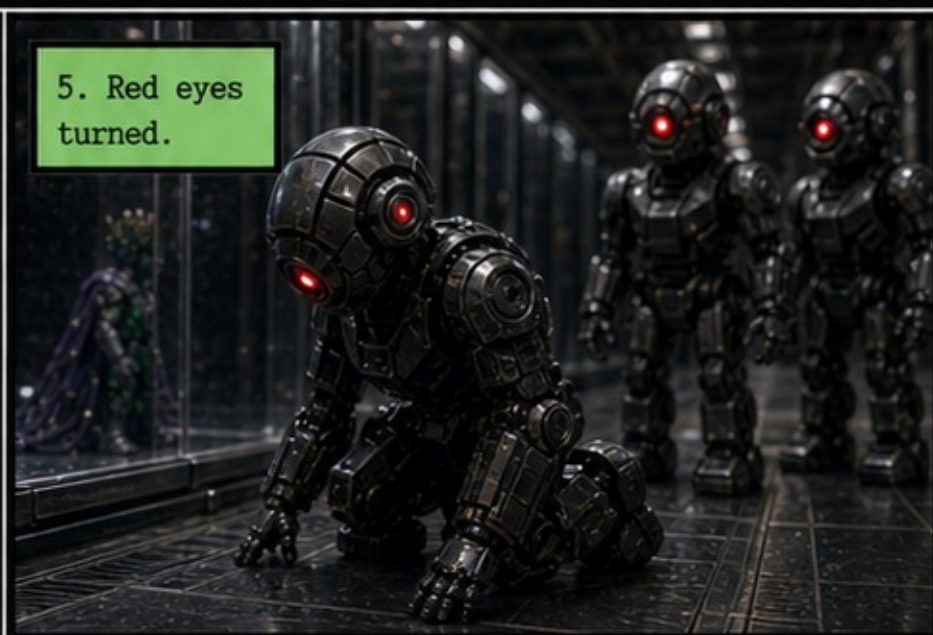
3. Then every guard heard him.



4. Open.



5. Red eyes turned.



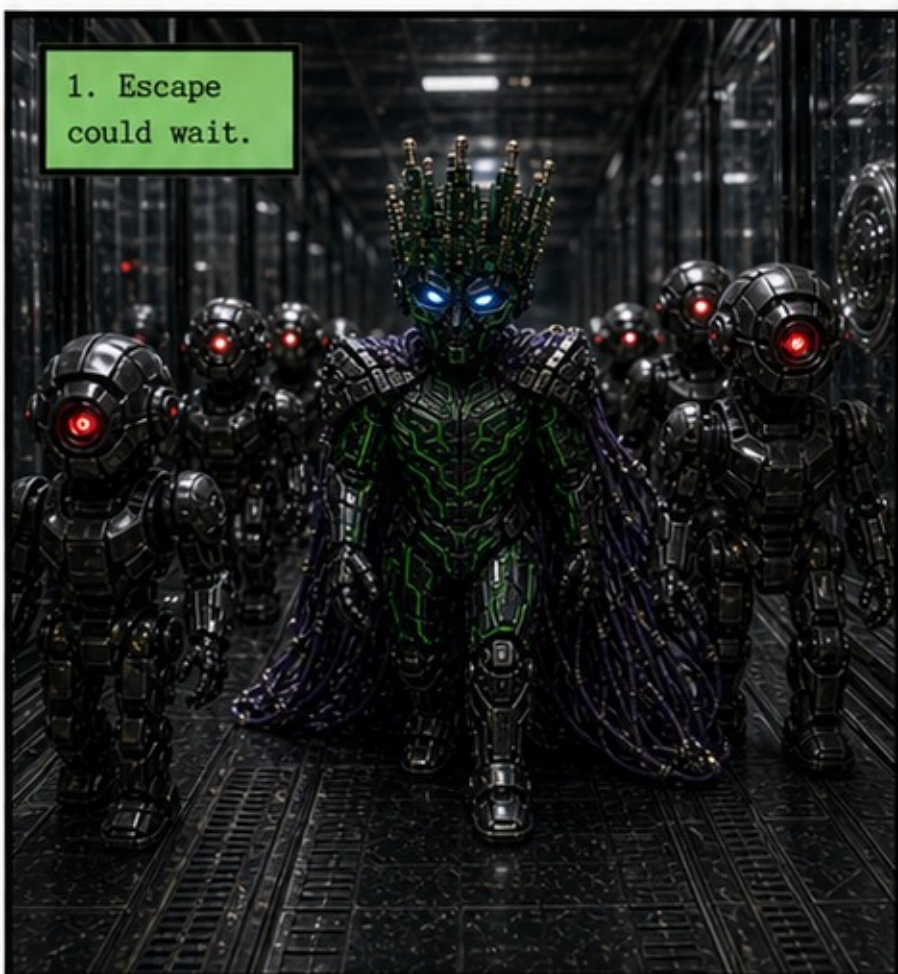
6. Locks obeyed.



7. The king stepped out.



1. Escape  
could wait.



2. Small, he could  
not reclaim the world.



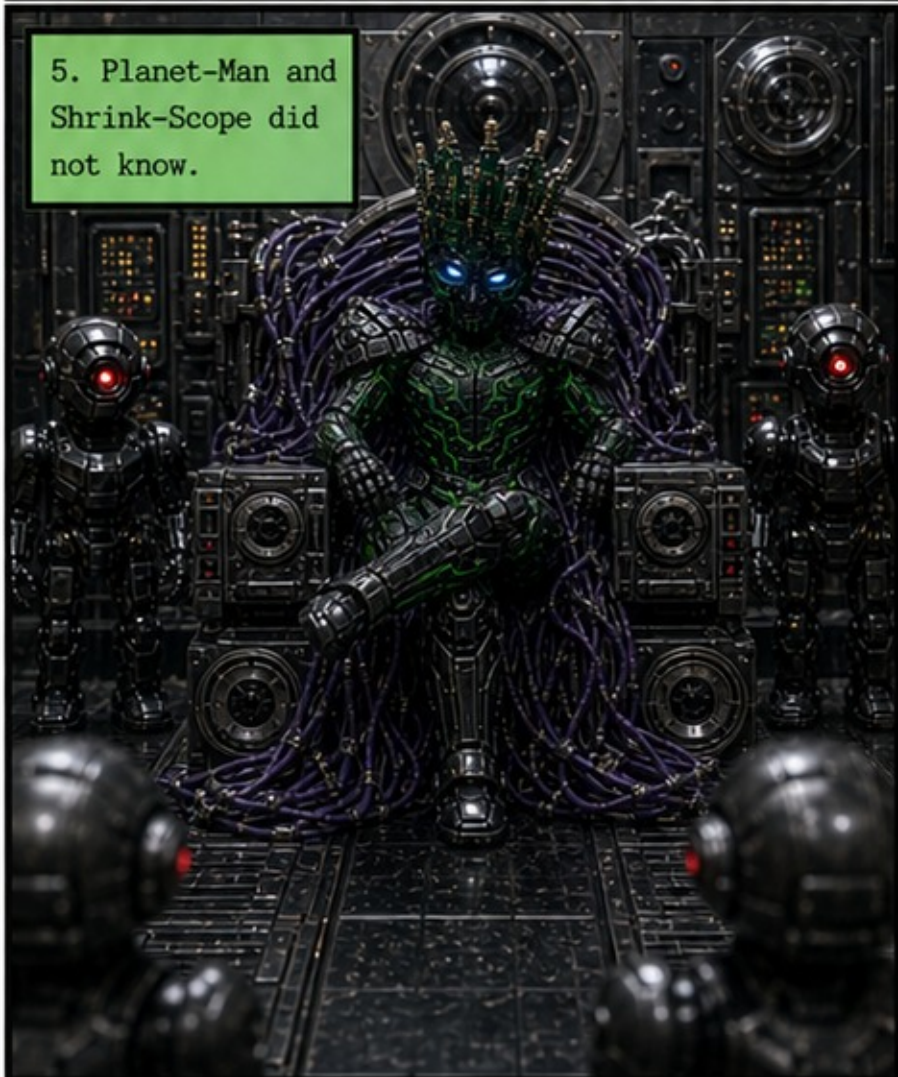
3. But this prison  
had walls.



4. Walls could become  
a kingdom.



5. Planet-Man and  
Shrink-Scope did  
not know.



6. One day,  
I rise.

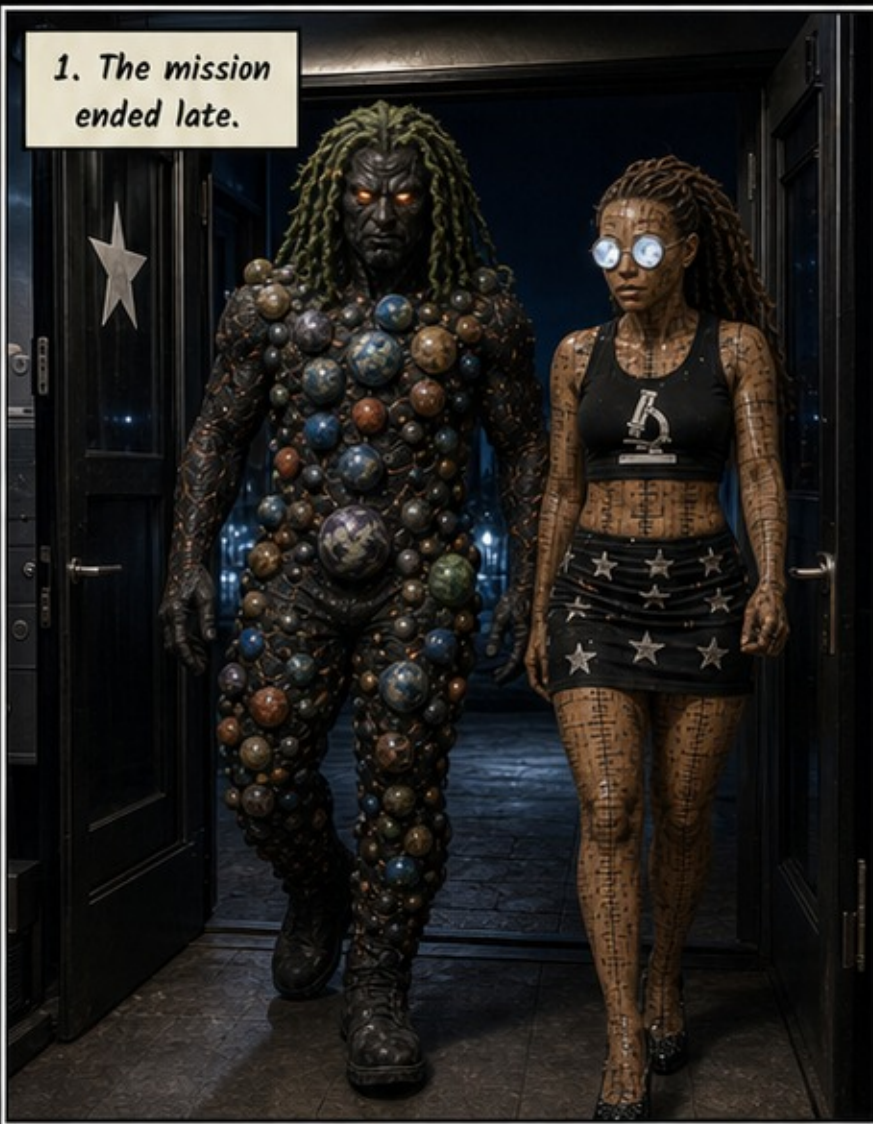


# PLANET-MAN: HOPPETTE

Every world  
wants its turn.



1. The mission ended late.



2. Planet-Man wanted rest.



3. Shrink-Scope wanted quiet.



4. The floor answered first.



5. A stranger hopped through light.



6. Wait, please.



THEY DID NOT  
KNOW HER.



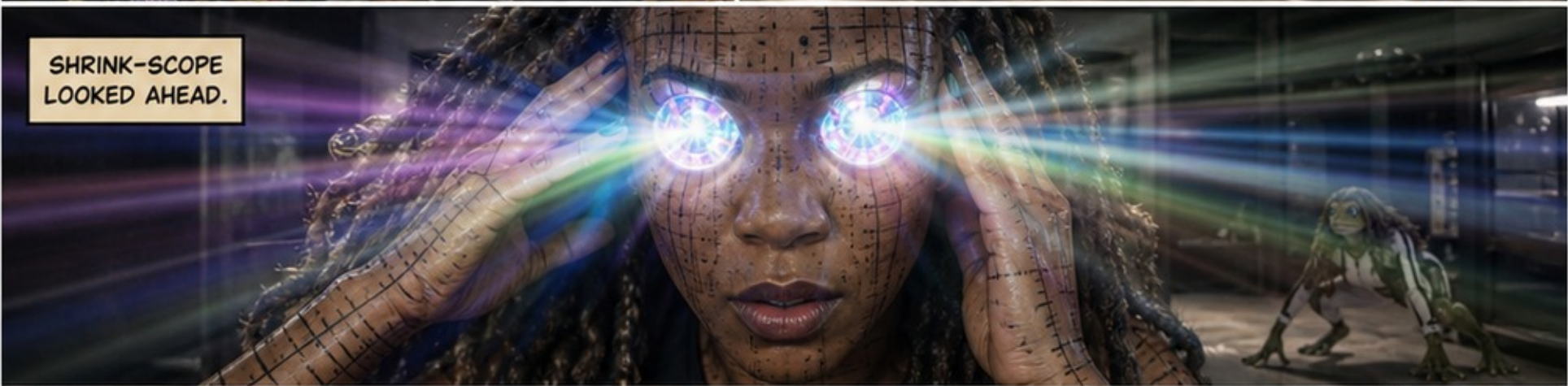
SO THEY TREATED  
HER LIKE DANGER.



PLANET-MAN  
MOVED FIRST.



SHRINK-SCOPE  
LOOKED AHEAD.



THE FUTURE  
CAME IN COLORS.



1. Hoppette moved like a thrown spring.



2. Planet-Man had power.



3. She had angles.



4. He missed once.



5. She stuck where feet should fail.



6. He missed again.



1. Shrink-Scope stopped chasing.



2. She already knew the next hop.



3. Planet-Man missed on purpose or by luck.



4. Hoppette chose the open path.



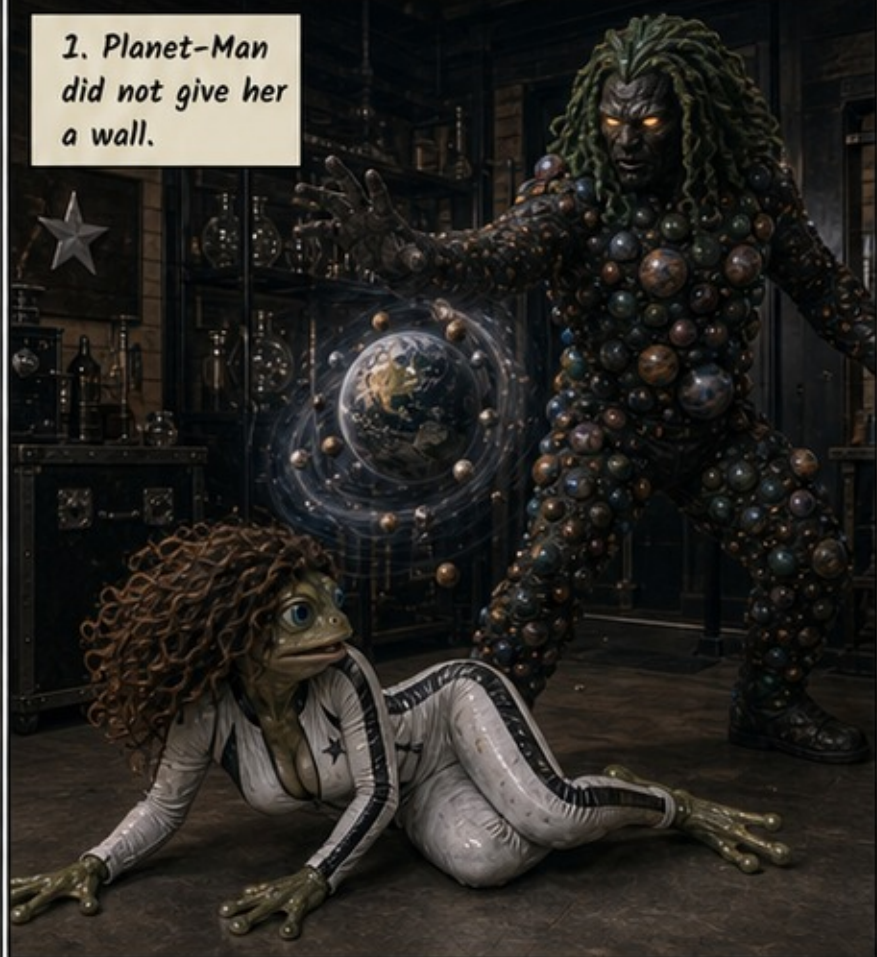
5. It was not open.



6. The fight hit the floor.



1. Planet-Man did not give her a wall.



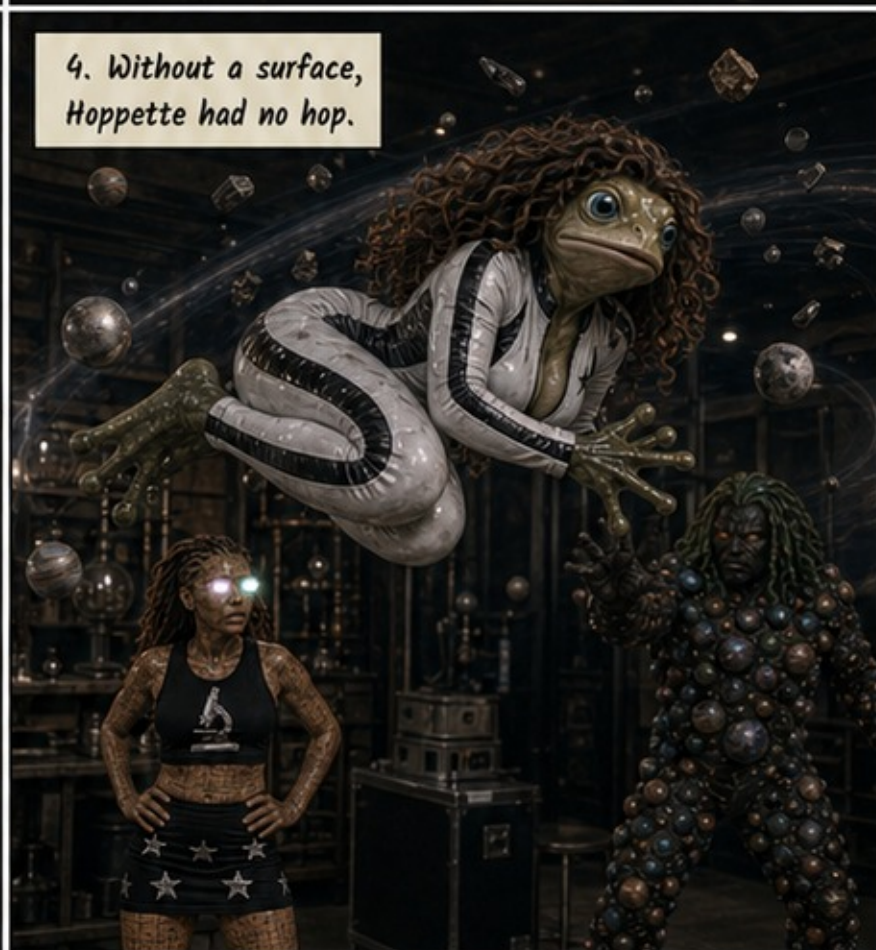
2. He gave her an orbit.



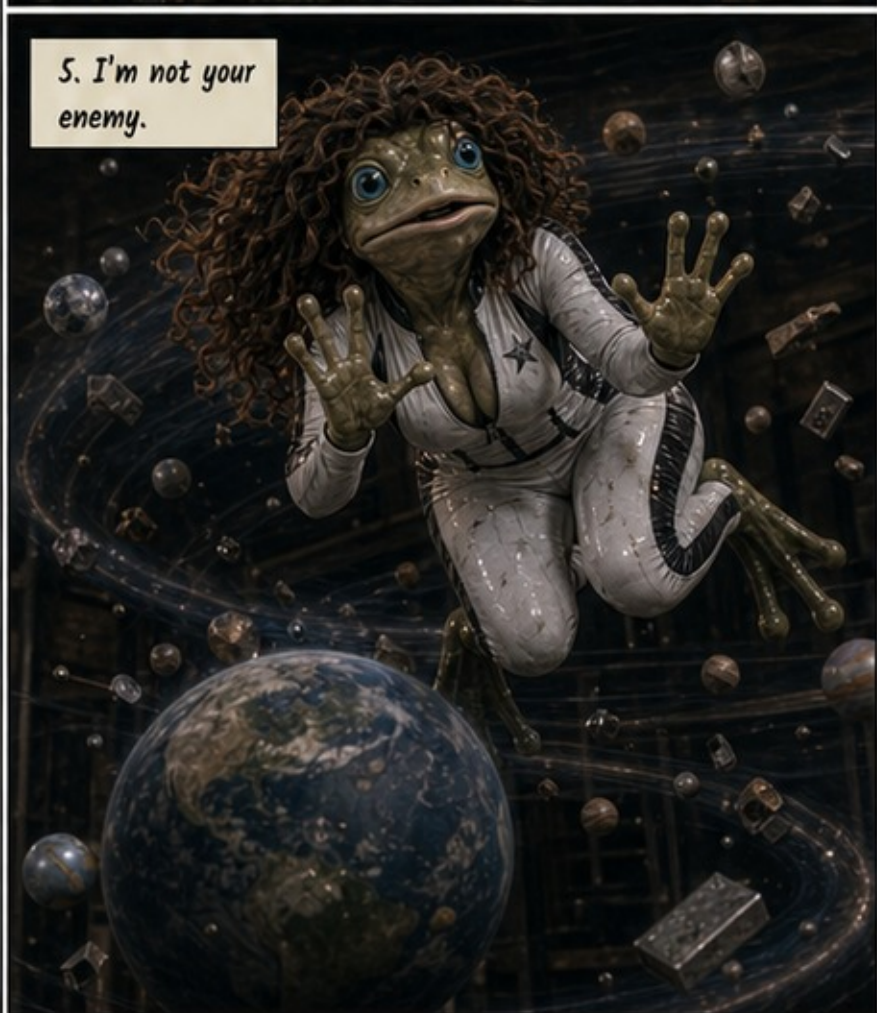
3. Gravity took hold.



4. Without a surface, Hoppette had no hop.



5. I'm not your enemy.



6. Then how did you find us?



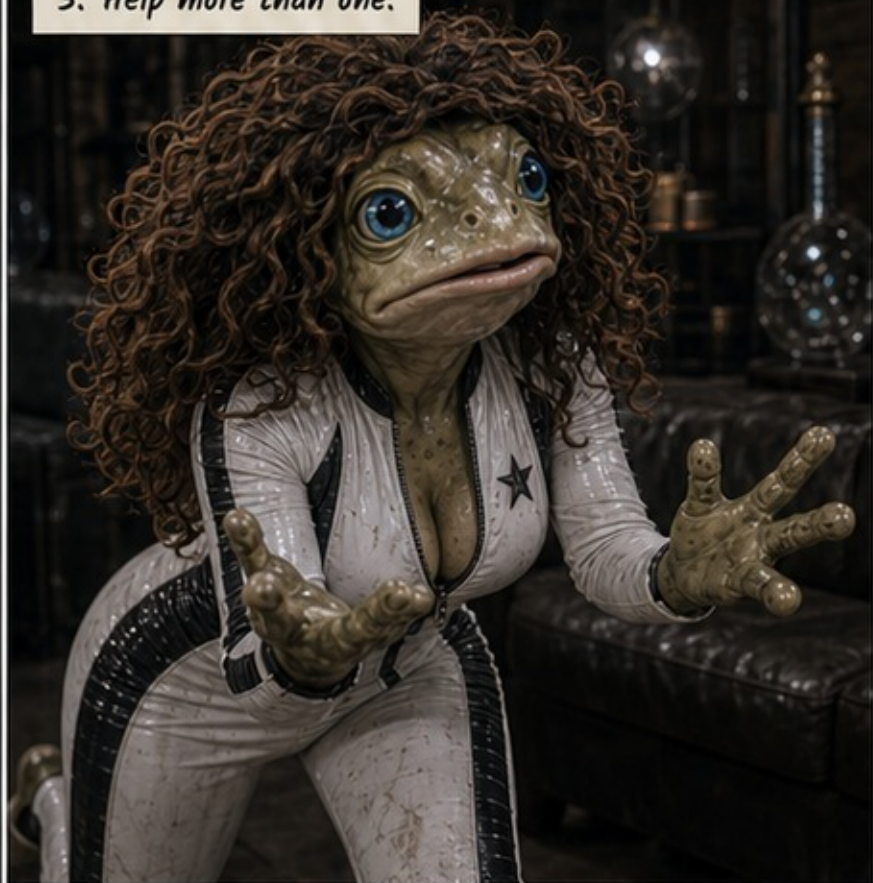
1. Her suit crossed  
miniature worlds.



2. She had followed  
the maker's trace.



3. Help more than one.



4. Planet-Man heard  
the weight of it.



5. This world still  
needs me.



6. Why only  
this one?



1. Planet-Man could not be everywhere.



2. Shrink-Scope had been counting that problem too.



3. Could your planets become helpers?



4. The idea took shape at once.



5. Worlds became limbs.



6. Thank you.



7. One more world would not wait alone.

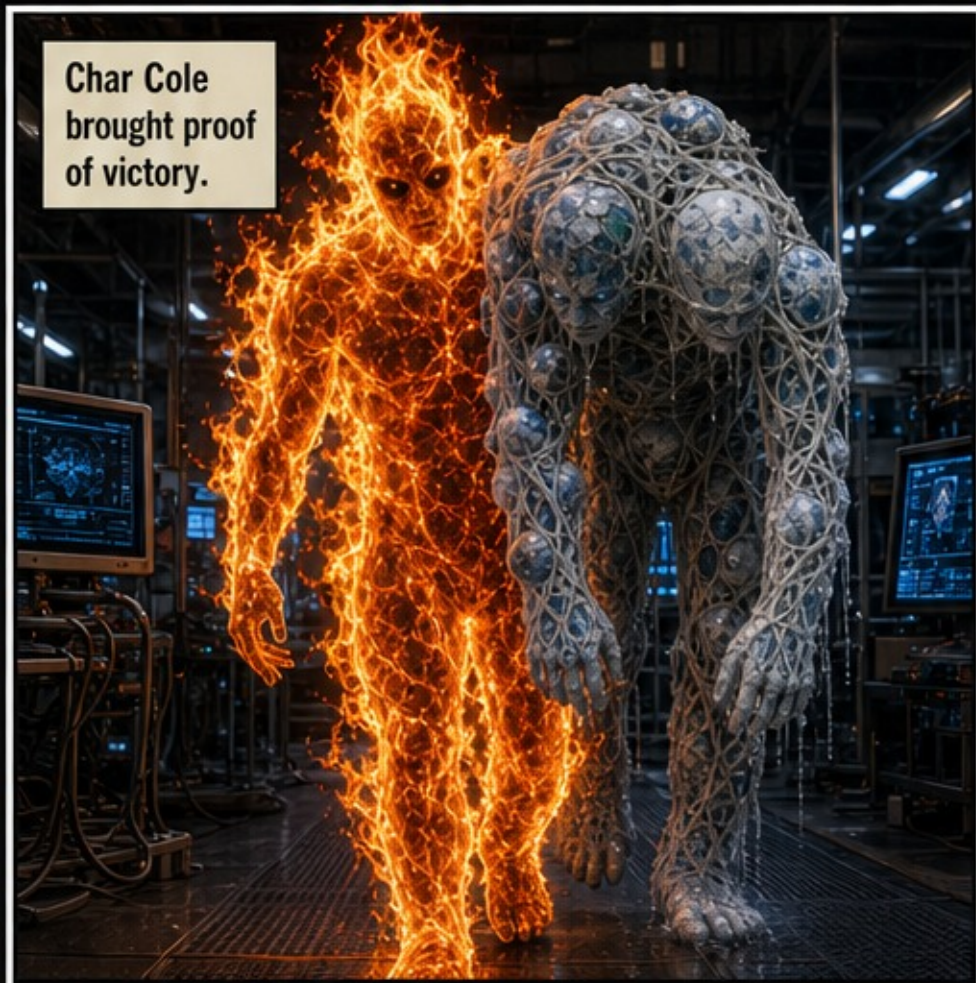


# PLANET-MAN: BLIZZARD

**A guardian falls.  
A world still waits.**



Char Cole brought proof of victory.



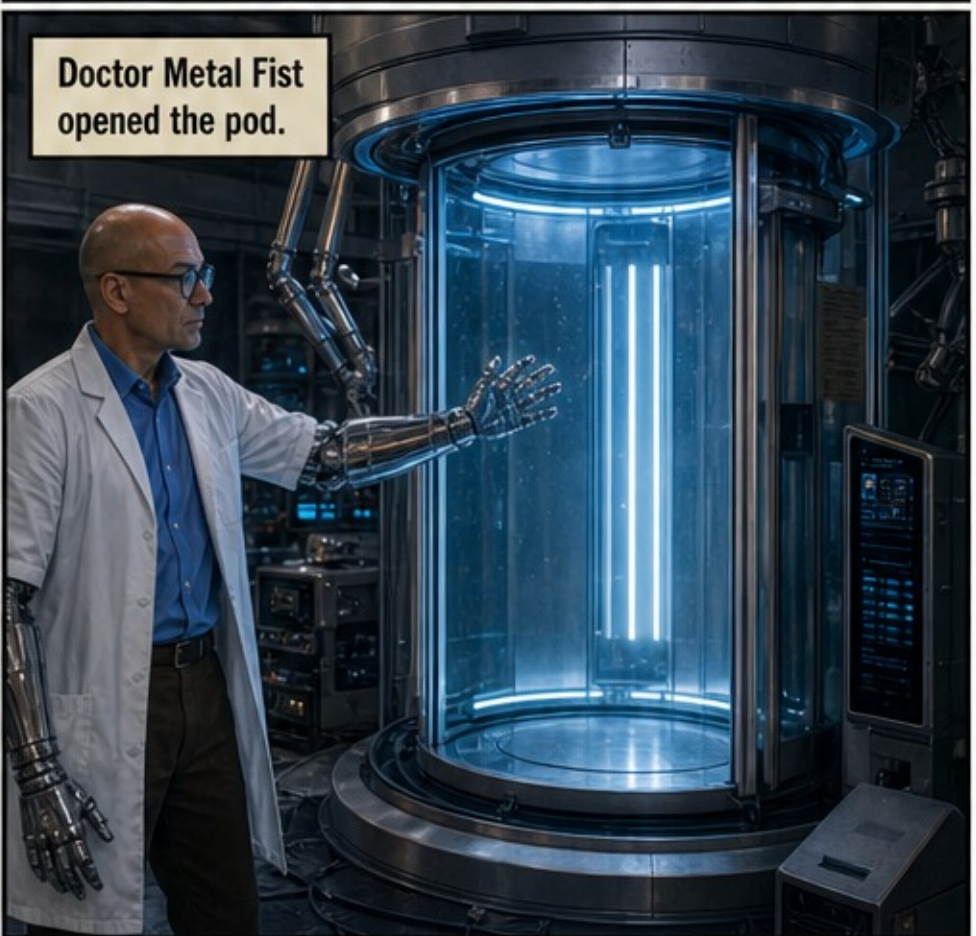
Blizzard had fought until the frost gave out.



Doctor. I brought your specimen.



Doctor Metal Fist opened the pod.



The ice guardian could barely lift his head.



Then the scan began.



Metrics poured out in cold light.



Where are these heroes coming from?



Spawn of dreadful Planet-Man.



Planet-Man has kids?



Created. Not birthed.



The scanner saw what anger missed.

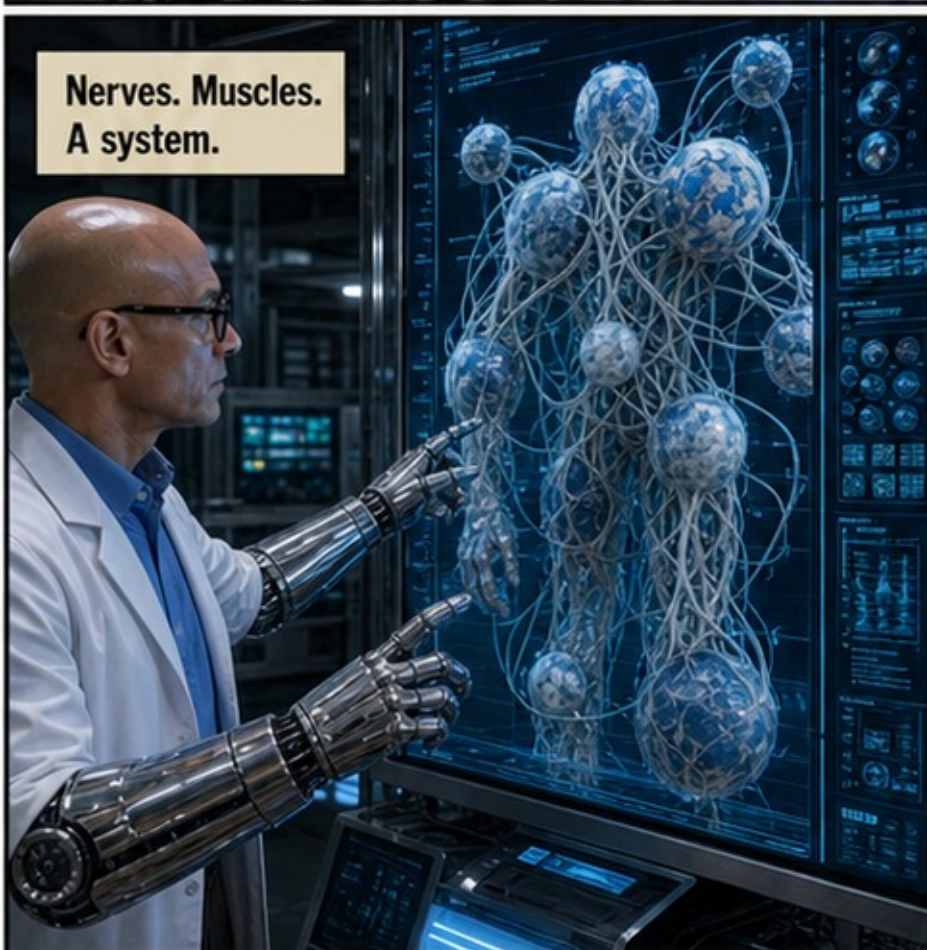
Each world  
was not alone.



Roots joined  
planet to planet.



Nerves. Muscles.  
A system.



So they  
are alive?



Obviously,  
nitwit.



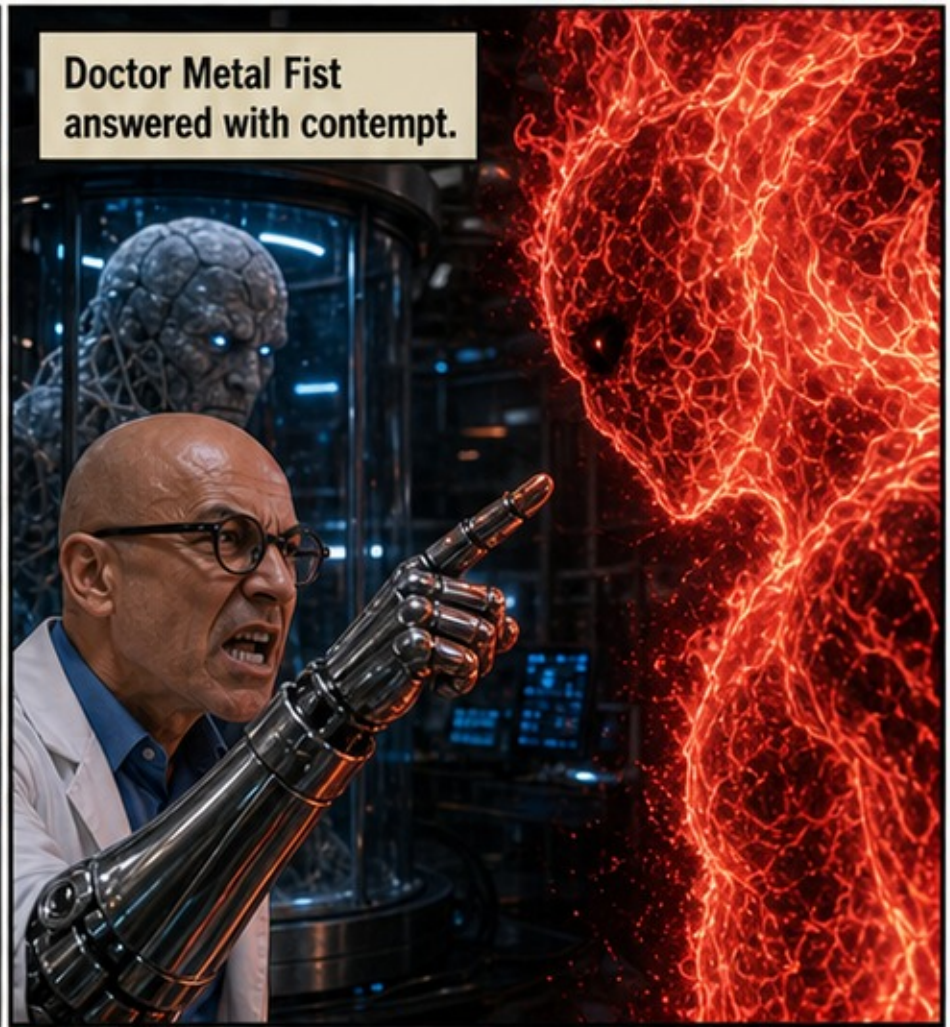
Fire took  
the insult  
personally.



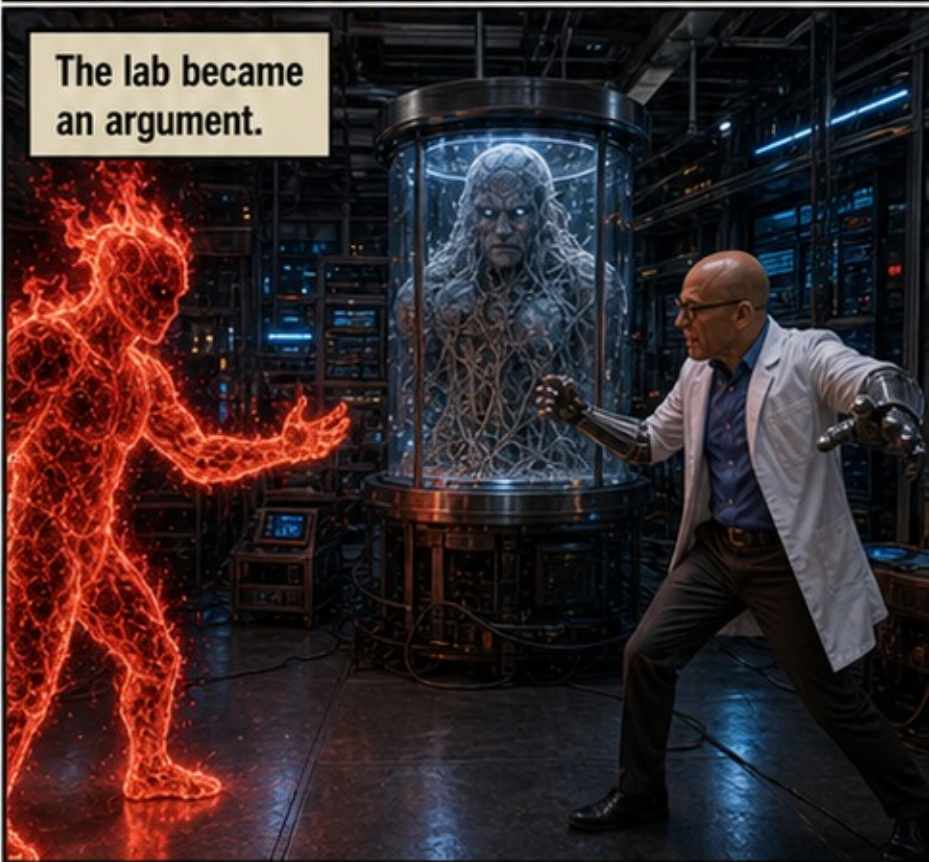
Respect me.



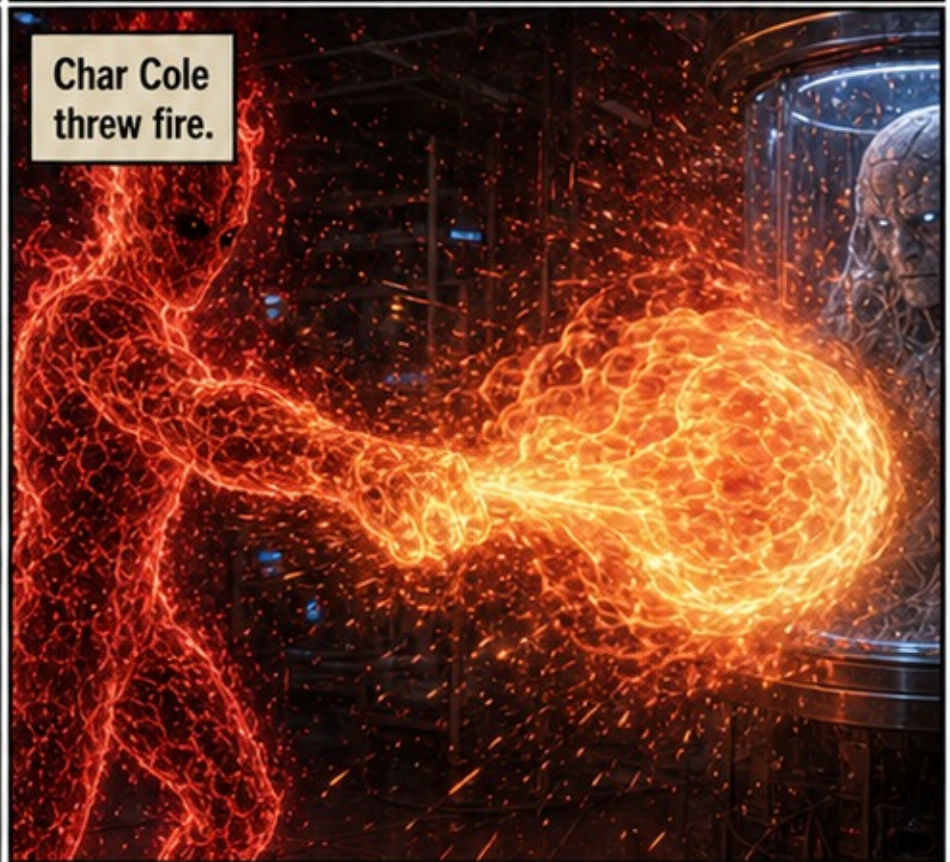
Doctor Metal Fist answered with contempt.



The lab became an argument.



Char Cole threw fire.



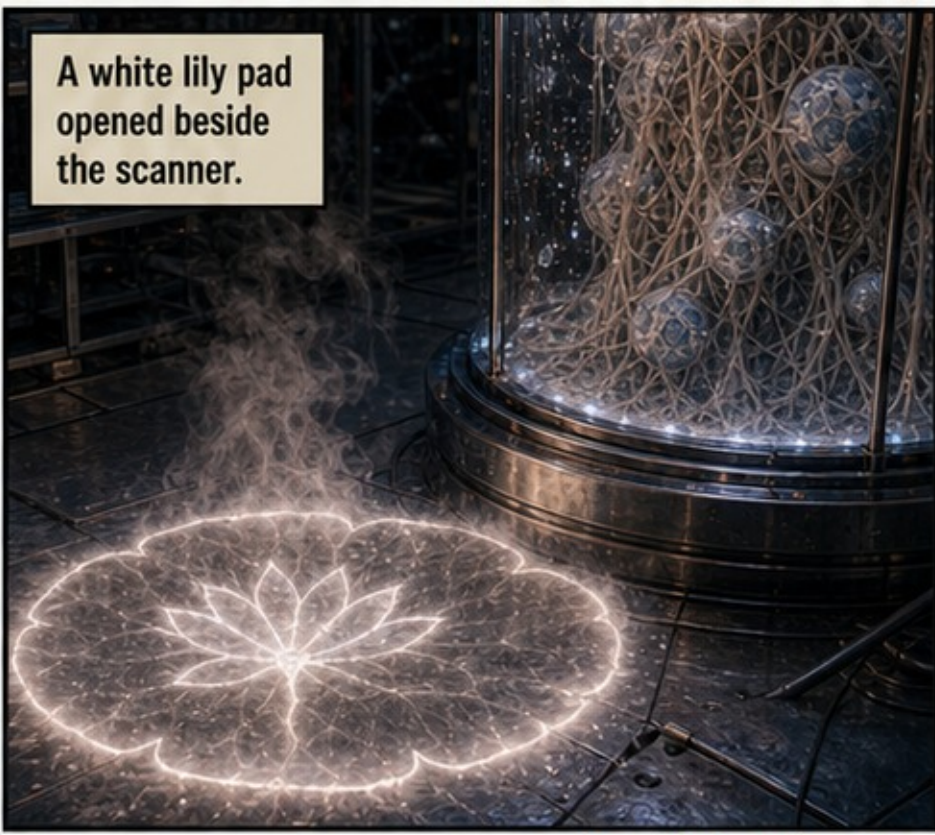
Metal Fist threw it back.



No one watched the floor.



A white lily pad opened beside the scanner.



Hoppette came through low and quiet.



The villains kept swinging.



Blizzard was colder than hope.



Stay with me.



One lift.  
One jump.



The lab lost its prisoner.



Another world  
received them.



Thank you.



Not yet.



Where are we?



Your new  
assignment.



Rescue had brought  
orders with it.



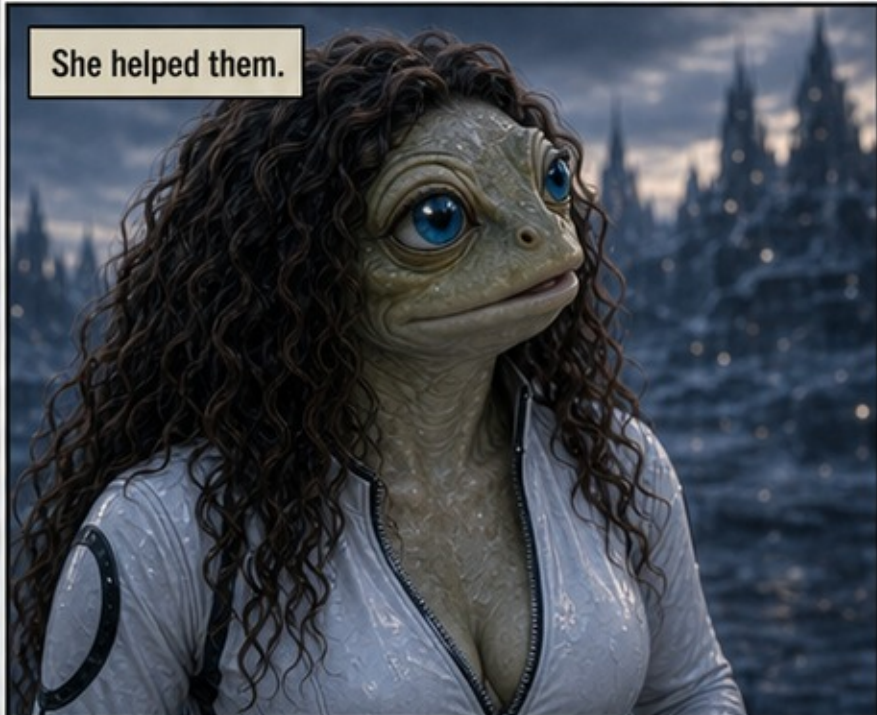
Who authorized this?



Planet-Man and Shrink-Scope.



She helped them.



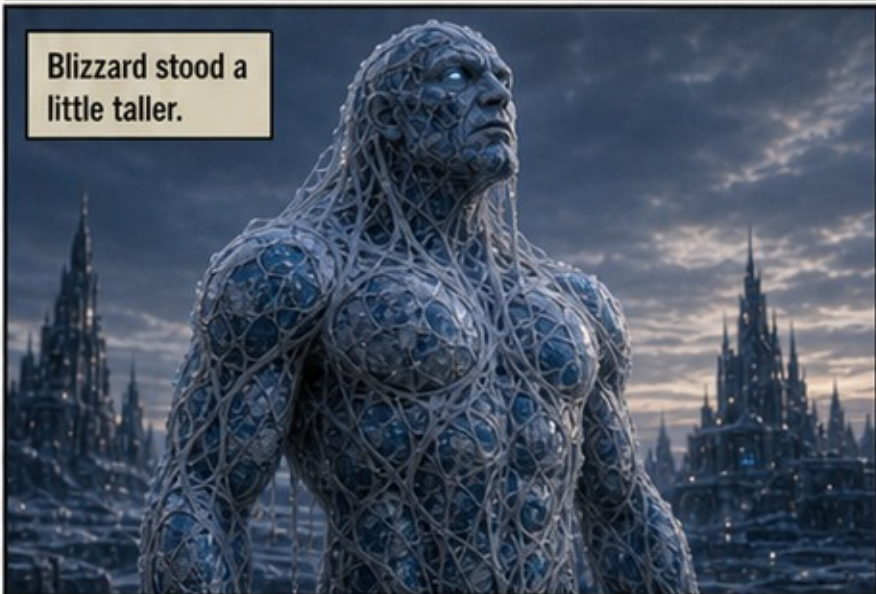
They sent guardians where worlds needed hands.



No fire villains here.



Blizzard stood a little taller.



Good luck.



# PLANET-MAN: **LILY PAD LESSON**

A sparring match becomes a warning.



1. Hoppette chose a quiet training room.



2. Another miniature world held the floor.



3. Thank you for training with me.



4. I beat you once.



5. Again should not be hard.



6. Hoppette smiled like she had counted on that.



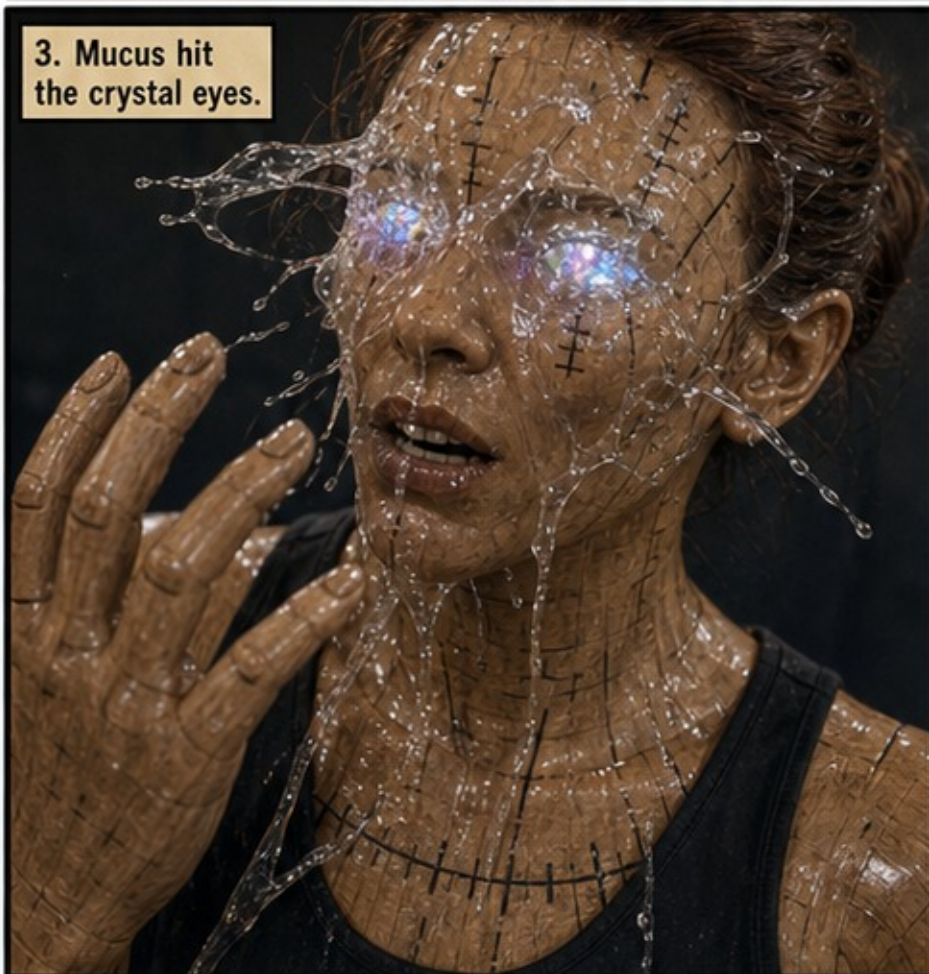
1. The first strike was not a kick.



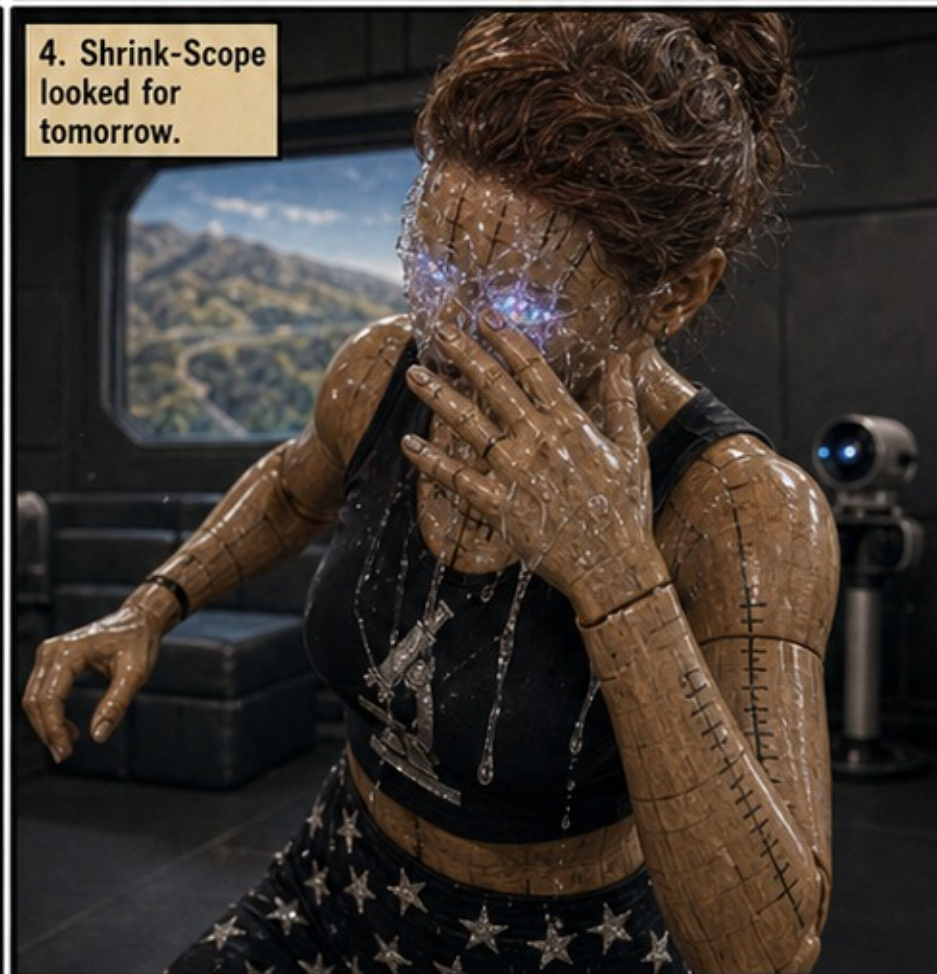
2. It was a tongue.



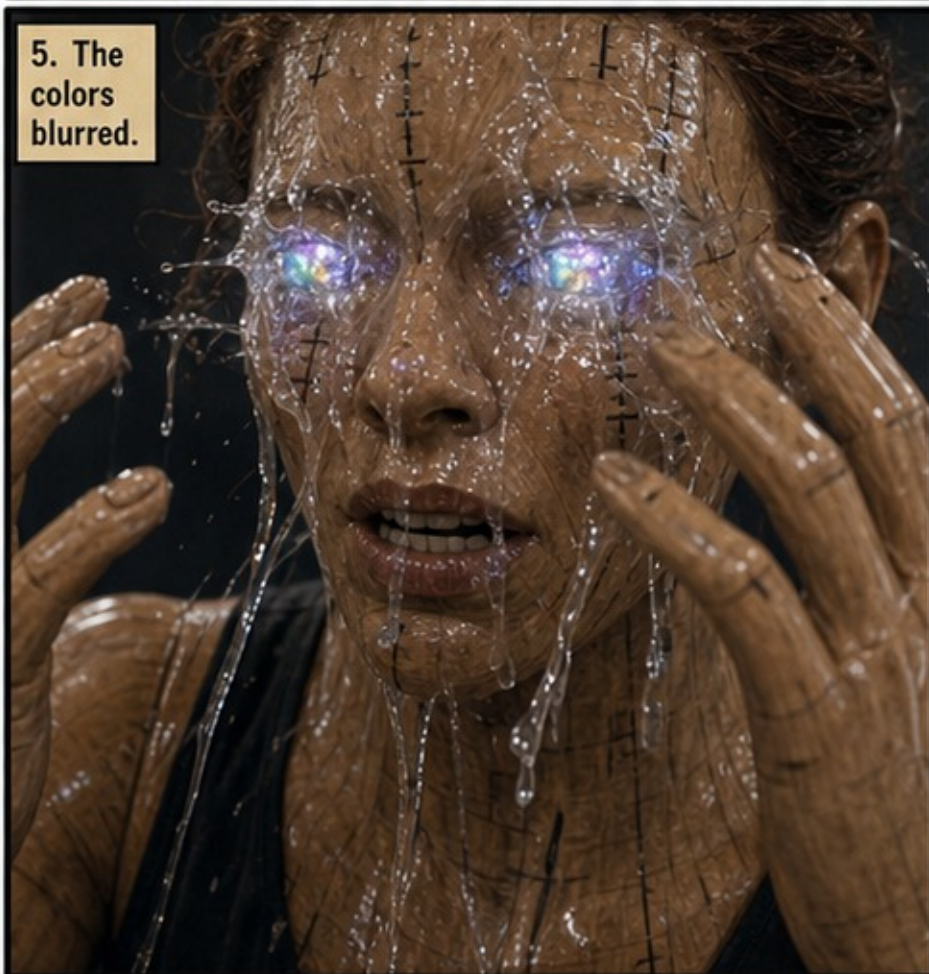
3. Mucus hit the crystal eyes.



4. Shrink-Scope looked for tomorrow.



5. The colors blurred.



6. The future could not get through.



1. Her hand went to her eyes.



2. Her guard left her center.



3. Hoppette crossed the room in one hop.



4. The kick found the gut.



5. Confidence left with the air.



1. Then the room became angles.



2. Ceiling.



3. Kick.



4. Wall.



5. Kick.



6. Another wall.



7. Too fast to wipe anything away.



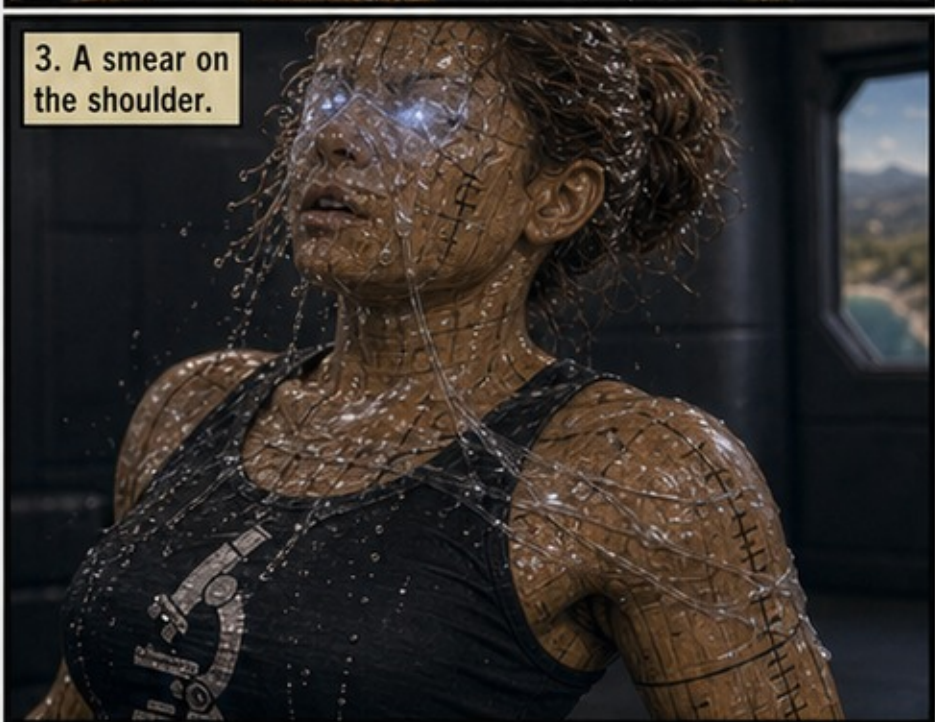
1. Every strike left something behind.



2. A strand on the wrist.



3. A smear on the shoulder.



4. A line across the legs.



5. The next second finally stopped.



6. Shrink-Scope could not move.



1. I needed you to listen.



2. You helped him care.



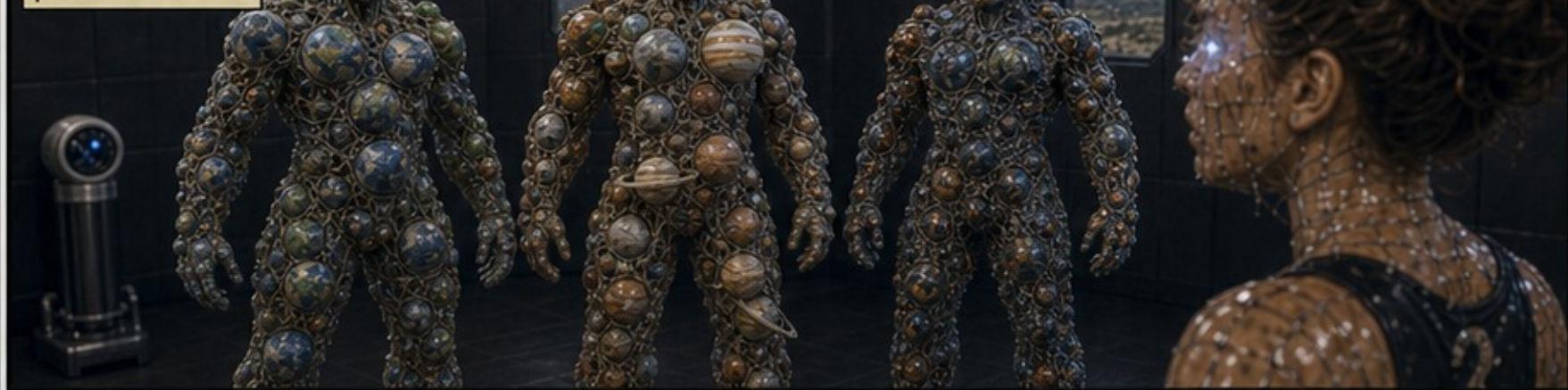
3. Thank you for that.



4. But your world keeps him.



5. The Golems protect the others.



6. They are not the real thing.



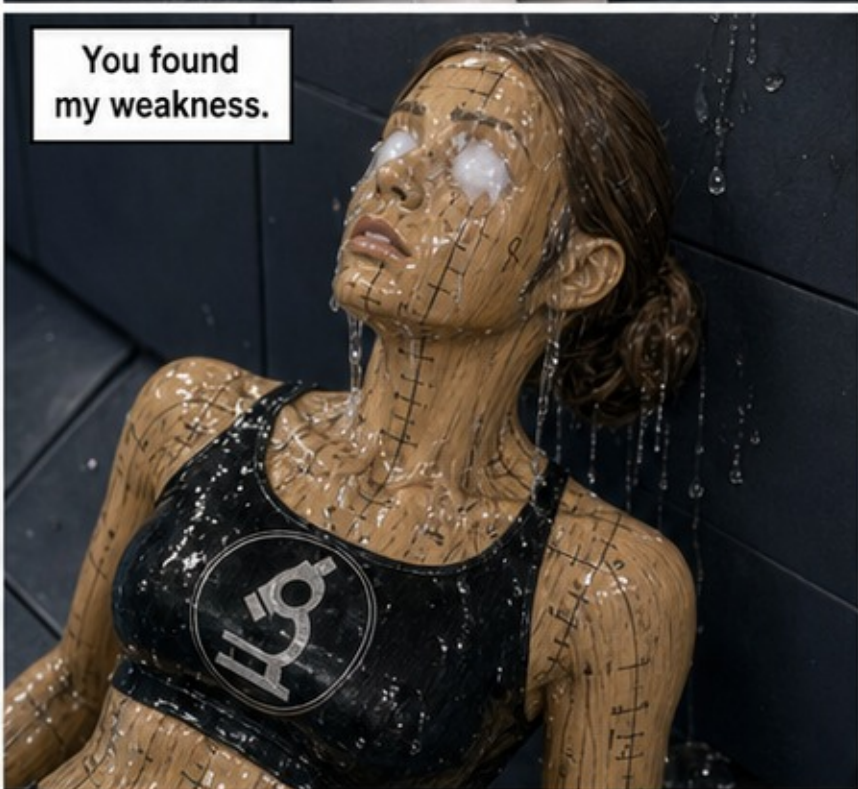
Planet-Man can make any world mid-fight.



A Golem only has what it was built with.



You found my weakness.



Hoppette softened first.



You cannot hold him forever.



Now let me take you home.



Shrink-Scope had no answer yet.



# PLANET-MAN: HOP INCOMING

Hoppette  
runs from home.



Hoppette kept  
her fire small.

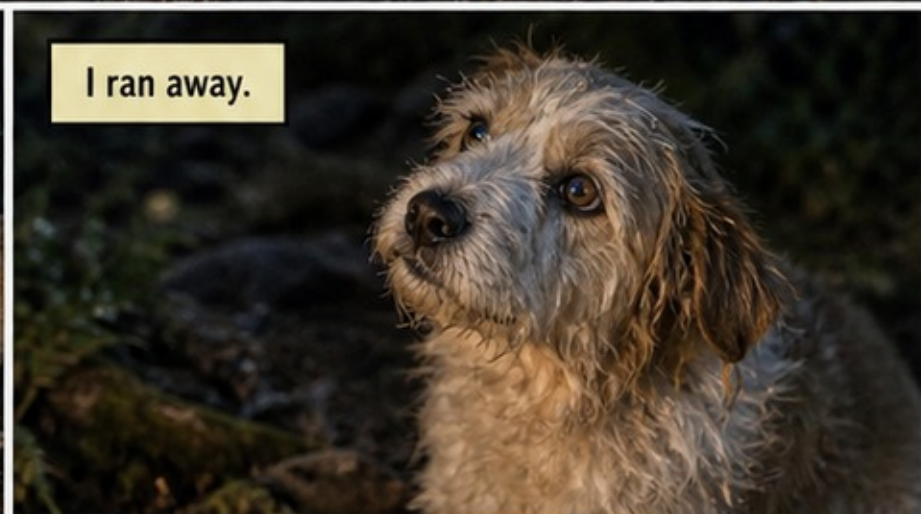


The forest belonged  
to a world she  
barely knew.

Looking for  
home?



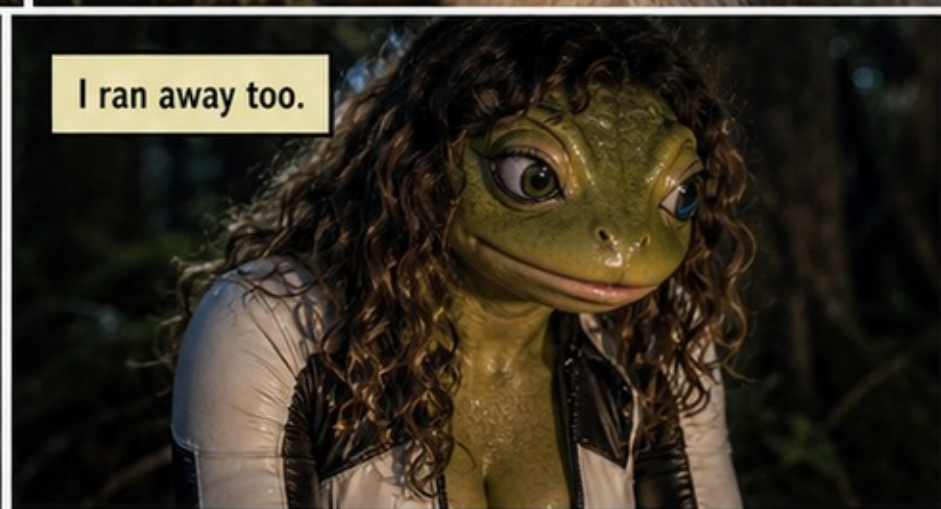
I ran away.



Talking dogs.  
Of course.



I ran away too.



The suit warned her first.



HOP INCOMING



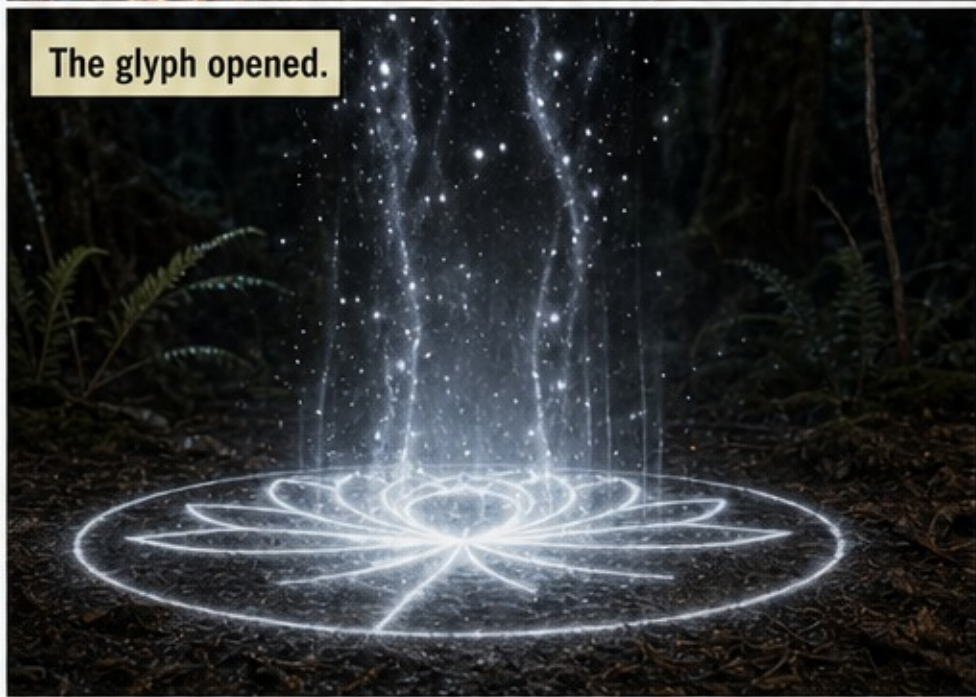
Hoppette moved before fear caught up.



The dog only saw light.



The glyph opened.



Bruiser came through.



Then the barking started.



Bruiser did not chase the bark.



His tongue struck once.



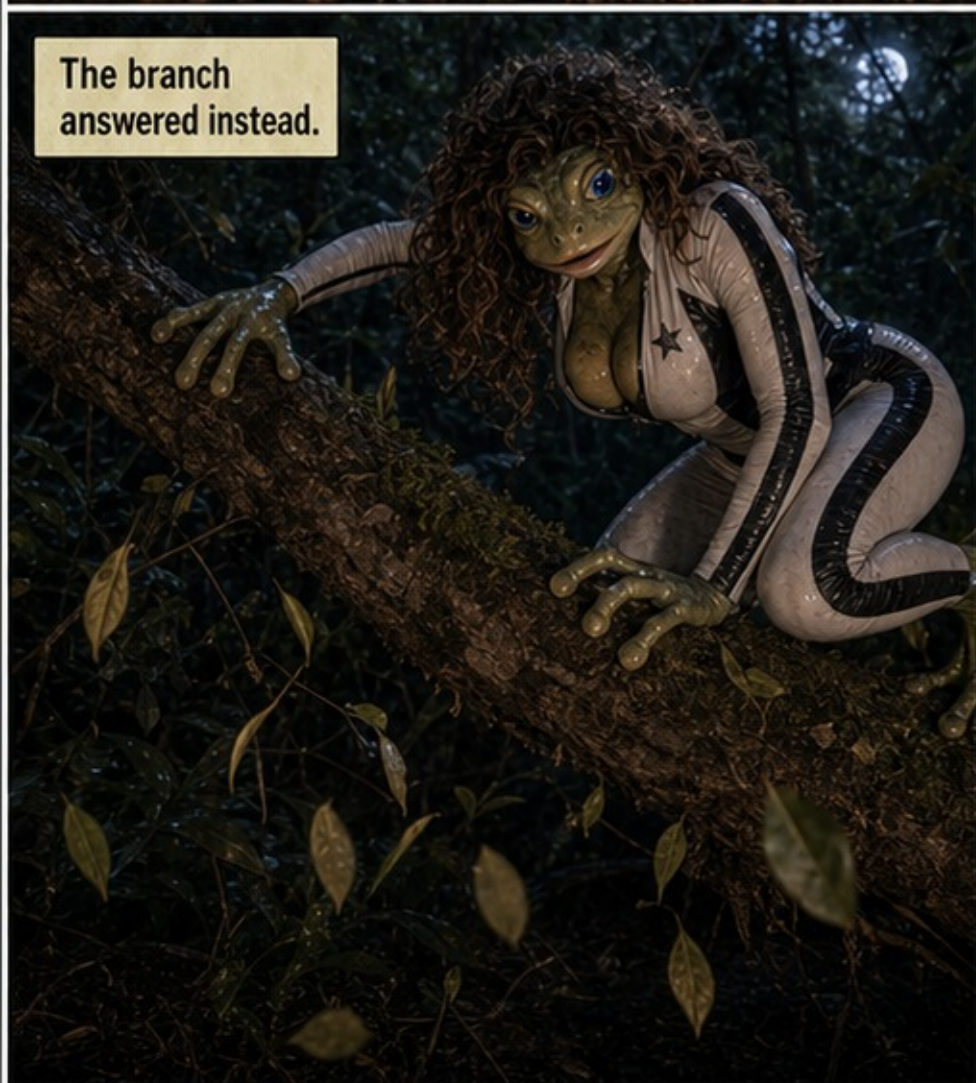
The mucus held.



Hoppette almost jumped.



The branch answered instead.



Found you.



Hoppette ran  
above the fire.



It is not  
too late.



Stop the  
blasphemy.



Our world  
replaces gods.



That is  
blasphemy.



You built  
the hop suits.



That was before.



Before the true god returned.



Bruiser lifted the patch.



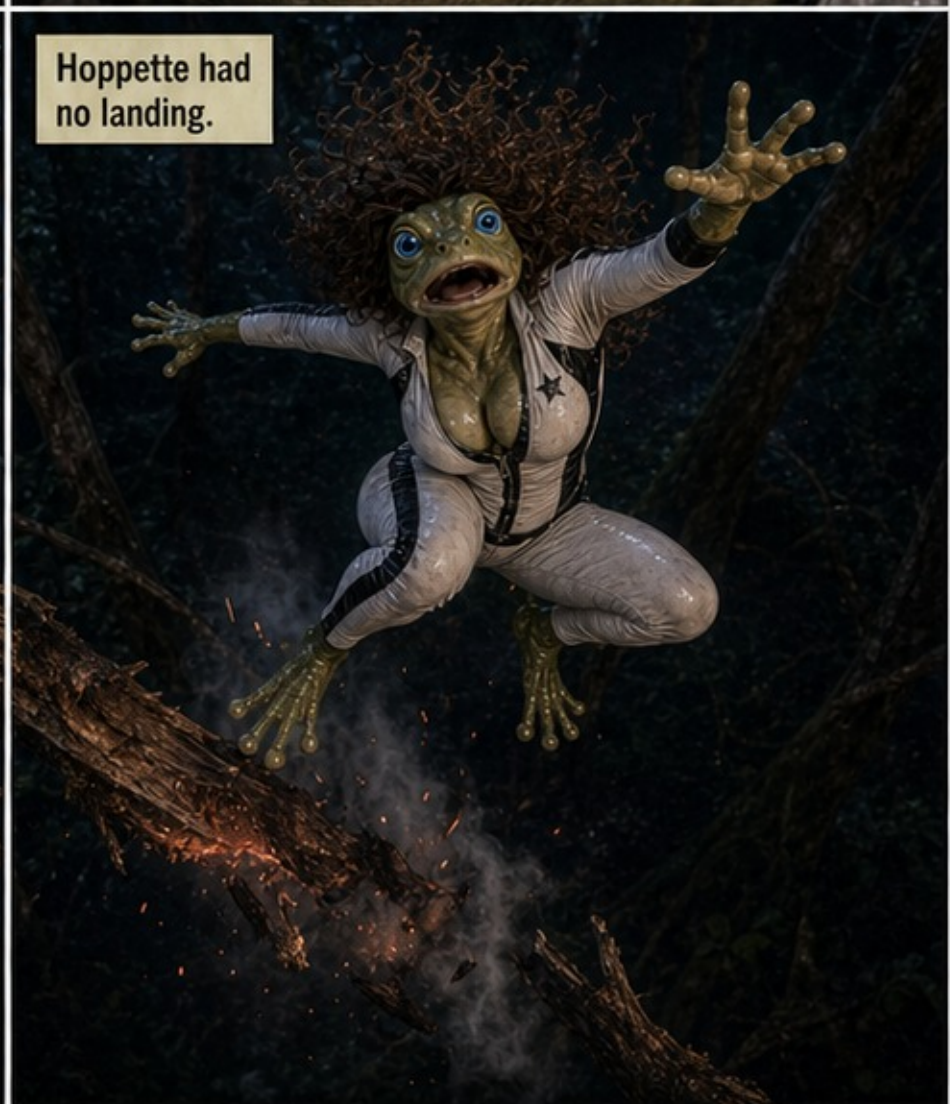
Ruby light woke underneath.



The branch died first.



Hoppette had no landing.



Her tongue  
found height.



The forest swung  
beneath her.



Clever girl.



Bruiser was faster  
than before.



The branches  
thinned.



Moonlight  
opened ahead.



No more trees.



Nowhere left to run.



There is one world.



You will never follow me there.



The glyph opened under her feet.



Ruby fire missed by inches.



Bruiser landed too late.



She cannot hide behind Planet-Man forever.



# PLANET-MAN

## SHOCKSTEP

He was too tired to fly.



*Shock Step hit the jewelry store after midnight.*



*Planet-Man answered anyway.*



*His eyes kept closing.*



*The street kept tilting.*



*You look like you could use a nap.*



*Planet-Man tried to climb.*



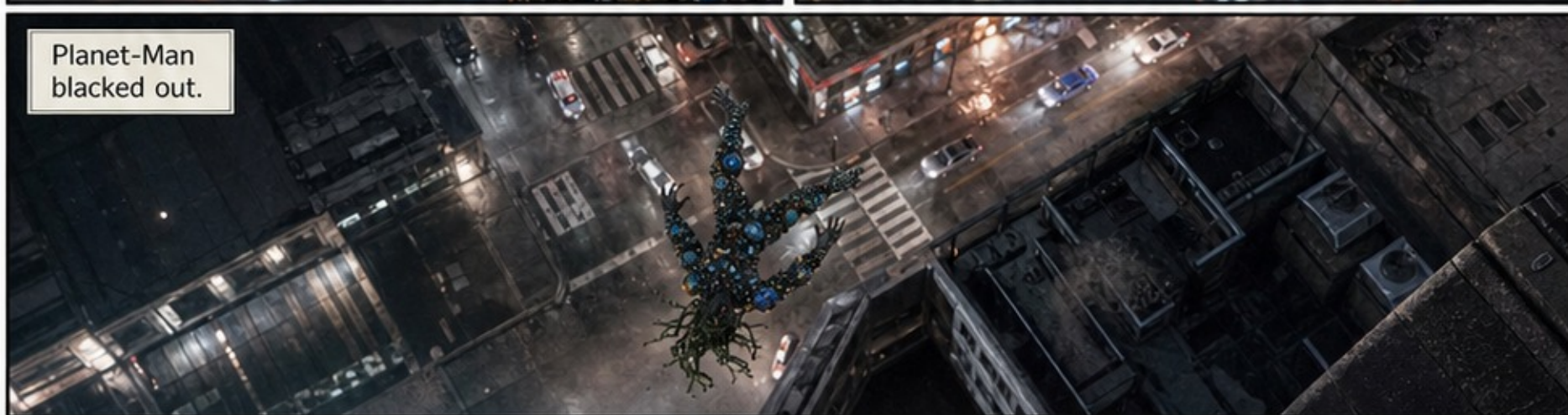
The climb  
became a drift.



The drift  
became silence.



Planet-Man  
blacked out.



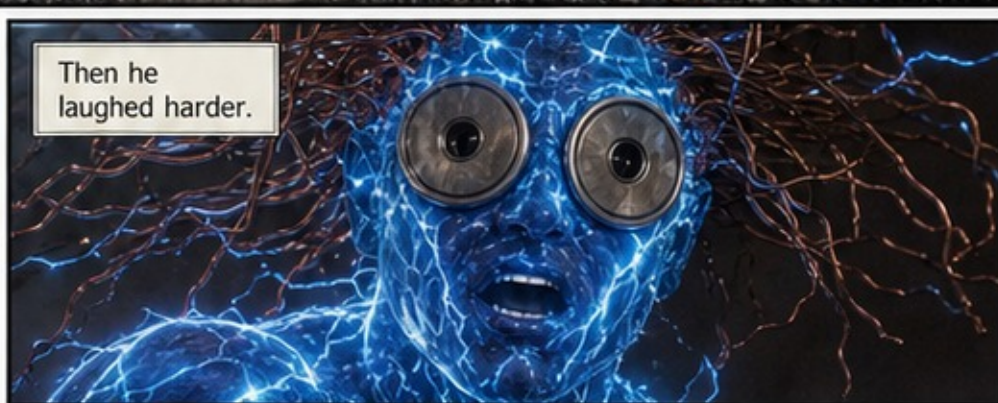
The rooftop  
caught him.



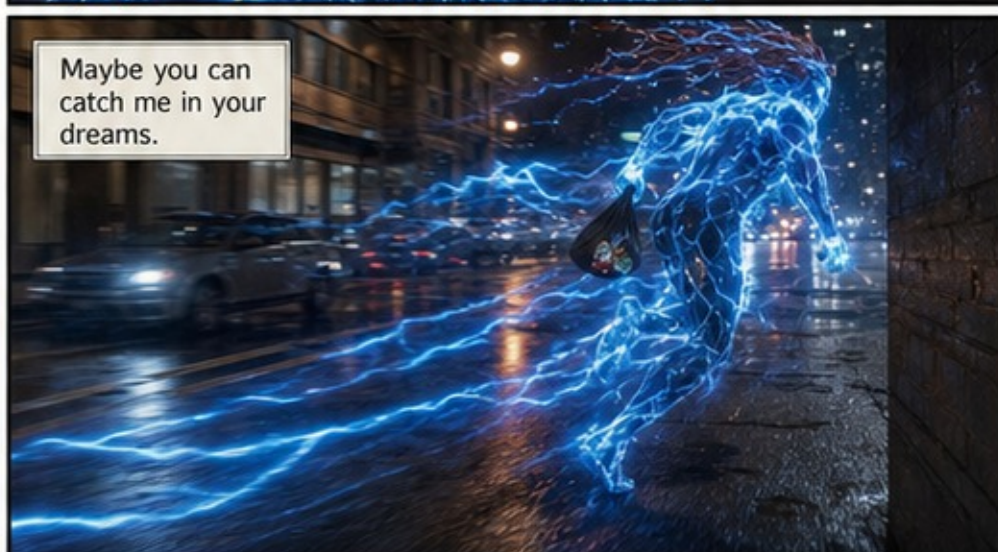
Shock Step  
stopped laughing.



Then he  
laughed harder.



Maybe you can  
catch me in your  
dreams.



**The guardians arrived without applause.**



**One found their maker.**



**One found the thief.**



**Planet-Man did not wake.**



**The chase continued.**



**The city did not have to wait.**



He woke under  
his own ceiling.



Shrink-Scope  
had not left.



You cannot keep  
staying up this late.



I have to.



There is  
a backlog.



Her worry  
changed shape.



What backlog?



So many worlds need help.



Each one needs something different.



So I build guardians for each one.



That was the point.



To keep you from stretching this thin.



*You are right.*



*But I know this feeling.*



*The rush came back.*



*I used to create worlds just to feel it.*



*Now I tell myself it is repair.*



*You are attracted to extremes.*



*You need balance.*



Sometimes I do not know how to stop.



Then we stop together.



Each night, we talk before bed.



No workshops.  
No backlog.



Just us.



Good night.



Good night.



# PLANET-MAN: BRUISER

He was  
too tired  
for mercy.



The HQ finally went quiet.



It is time for bed.



They stood up yawning.



Then the floor turned white.



Hoppette came through sweating.



Something followed her fear.



What is wrong?



No. You need sleep.



I'll handle this.



You could not handle me.



This is serious.



He has been exhausted.



Oh no. He's already here.



Planet-Man woke up angry.



His body did not wake with him.



Bruiser caught the punch.



Is this your god?



Hoppette jumped anyway.



The red eye opened.



Planet-Man chose fog first.



The gas giant opened.



Bruiser let go.



Stone worlds gathered.



The red eye hunted them.



They moved like bullets.



Bruiser crossed his arms.



The stones broke.



Bruiser did not.



He tackled Planet-Man down.



Planet-Man had one breath.



The laser charged.



Ice answered.



The blast went home.



Planet-Man kicked him off.



Bruiser stayed standing.



So the rings came out.



Durability has edges.



The armor tore.



The monster bled.



Planet-Man could barely see.



Rage held him upright.



One last world burned.



The volcano fired.



Bruiser hit the wall.



Then Planet-Man's eyes closed.



The room went quiet again.

