

IDW[®]

#1 • CVRA

**BURNHAM
NAVARRO
SANZ**

THE X FILES CONSPIRACY GHOSTBUSTERS[™]

CONSPIRACY
X
PART 2 of 6

GHOSTBUSTERS

**TOP
SECRET**

Los Angeles Times

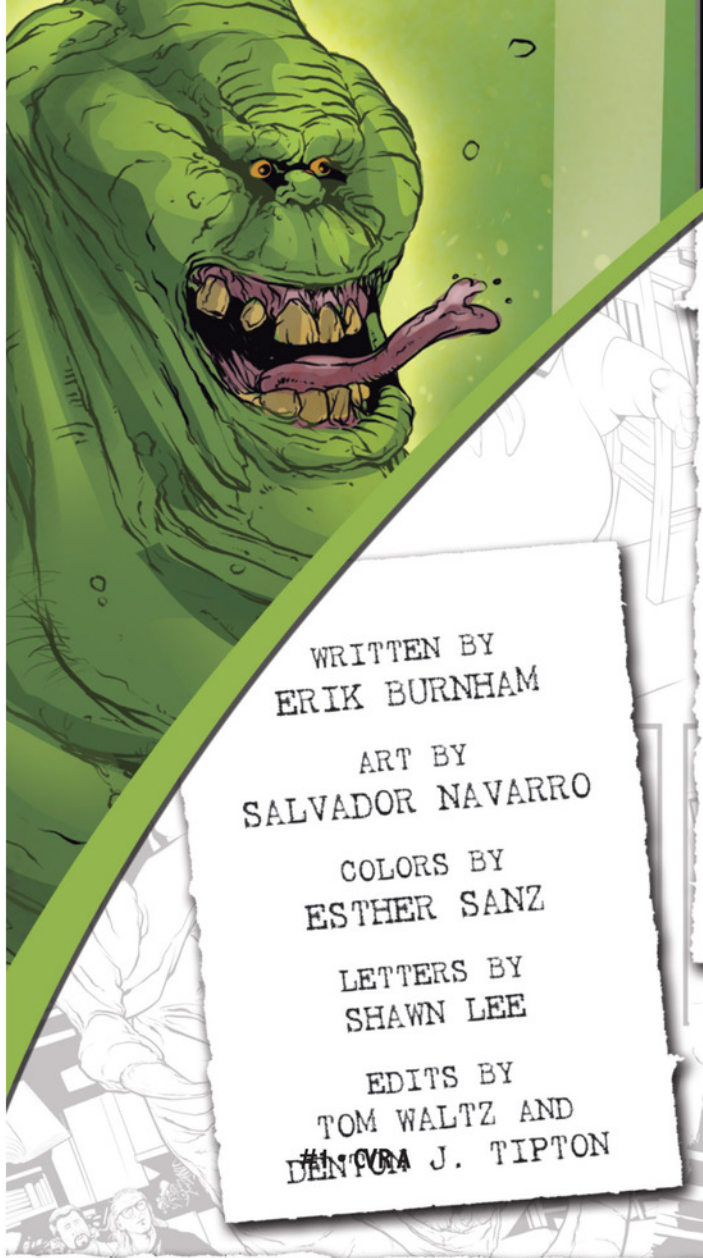
Part II / Friday, October 31, 2014

Unit in Agony

es AroLr min for

GHOSTLY
NEWS





WRITTEN BY
ERIK BURNHAM

ART BY
SALVADOR NAVARRO

COLORS BY
ESTHER SANZ

LETTERS BY
SHAWN LEE

EDITS BY
TOM WALTZ AND
DENYSE J. TIPTON

THE CONSPIRACY SO FAR...

Never ones to stray far from the center of corporate or government intrigue, The Lone Gunmen--John Byers, Melvin Frohike, and Richard "Ringo" Langly--play like a misguided Mission: Impossible team, embarking on a series of comic adventures that simultaneously highlight their genius and their ineptitude.

When university parapsychologists Dr. Peter Venkman, Dr. Ray Stantz, and Dr. Egon Spengler were fired from their cushy positions, the trio went into business for themselves and opened Ghostbusters, a ghost removal service, in a New York City firehouse. Along with hired hand Winston Zeddemore and receptionist Janine Melnitz, the team serves all your supernatural elimination needs.

The Lone Gunmen have received an email with disturbing reports apparently from the future. After the stories were corroborated by FBI agents Fox Mulder and Dana Scully, the Gunmen began investigating the various urban legends mentioned in the documents, starting with the Ghostbusters...



CONSPIRACY
PART 2 of 6

Special thanks to Joshua Izzo and Lauren Winarski at Twentieth Century Fox and Gabe Rotter at Ten Thirteen Productions for their invaluable assistance.

The X-Files created by Chris Carter.

IDW
www.IDWPUBLISHING.com
IDW founded by Ted Adams, Alex Garner, Kris Oprisko, and Robbie Robbins

Ted Adams, CEO & Publisher
Greg Goldstein, President & COO
Robbie Robbins, EVP/Sr. Graphic Artist
Chris Ryall, Chief Creative Officer/Editor-in-Chief
Matthew Ruzicka, CPA, Chief Financial Officer
Alan Payne, VP of Sales
Dirk Wood, VP of Marketing
Lorelei Bunjes, VP of Digital Services
Jeff Webber, VP of Digital Publishing & Business Development

Facebook: [facebook.com/idwpublishing](https://www.facebook.com/idwpublishing)

Twitter: [@idwpublishing](https://twitter.com/idwpublishing)

YouTube: [youtube.com/idwpublishing](https://www.youtube.com/idwpublishing)

Instagram: [instagram.com/idwpublishing](https://www.instagram.com/idwpublishing)

deviantART: [idwpublishing.deviantart.com](https://www.deviantart.com/idwpublishing)

Pinterest: [pinterest.com/idwpublishing/idw-staff-faves](https://www.pinterest.com/idwpublishing/idw-staff-faves)



THE X-FILES/GHOSTBUSTERS: CONSPIRACY. JANUARY 2014. FIRST PRINTING. The X-Files™ & © 2014 Twentieth Century Fox Film Corporation. All Rights Reserved. Ghostbusters™ & © 2014 Columbia Pictures Industries, Inc. All Rights Reserved. © 2013 Viacom International Inc. All Rights Reserved. TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES and all related titles, logos and characters are trademarks of Viacom International Inc. Based on characters created by Peter Laird and Kevin Eastman. HASBRO and its logo, TRANSFORMERS, and all related characters are trademarks of Hasbro and are used with permission. © 2013 Hasbro. All Rights Reserved. "The Crow" © 2013 James O'Barr (under exclusive license to Top Dollar Comics, Inc. and Crownvision Inc., exclusively licensed to IDW Publishing.) THE CROW™ and "The Crow," the original motion picture © 1996 Crownvision Inc. Used with permission. All Rights Reserved. IDW Publishing, a division of Idea and Design Works, LLC. Editorial offices: 5080 Santa Fe Street, San Diego CA 92109. Any similarities to persons living or dead are purely coincidental. With the exception of artwork used for review purposes, none of the contents of this publication may be reprinted without the permission of Idea and Design Works, LLC. Printed in Korea. IDW Publishing does not read or accept unsolicited submissions of ideas, stories, or artwork.

THE GHOSTBUSTERS' FIREHOUSE HEADQUARTERS.

NOW.

THRRONNK

Do not touch

WELL, HUH.

THE NEW JERSEY TURNPIKE.

SEVERAL HOURS EARLIER.

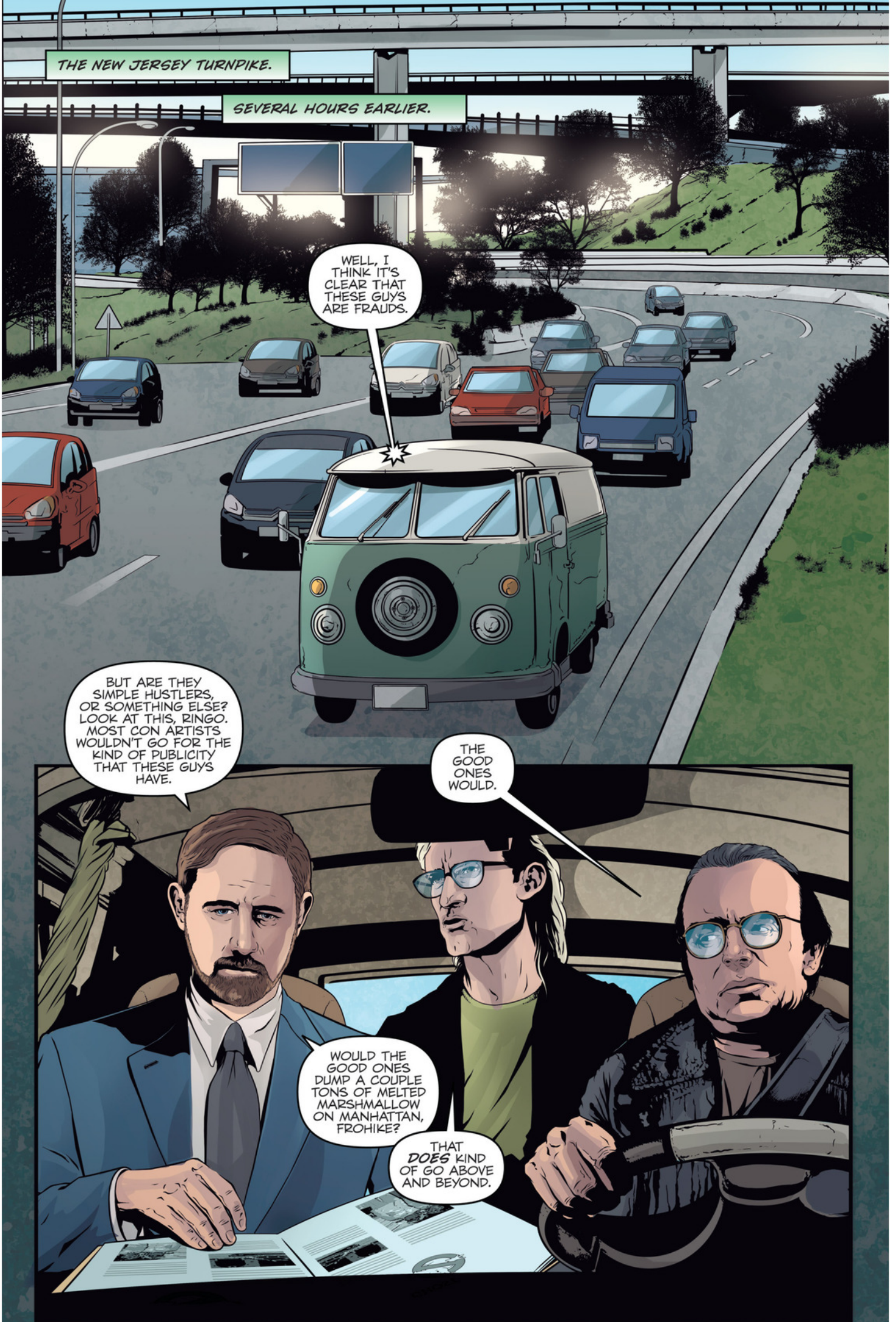
WELL, I
THINK IT'S
CLEAR THAT
THESE GUYS
ARE FRAUDS.

BUT ARE THEY
SIMPLE HUSTLERS,
OR SOMETHING ELSE?
LOOK AT THIS, RINGO.
MOST CON ARTISTS
WOULDN'T GO FOR THE
KIND OF PUBLICITY
THAT THESE GUYS
HAVE.

THE
GOOD
ONES
WOULD.

WOULD THE
GOOD ONES
DUMP A COUPLE
TONS OF MELTED
MARSHMALLOW
ON MANHATTAN,
FROHIKE?

THAT
DOES KIND
OF GO ABOVE
AND BEYOND.



THEY COULD BE TESTING A WEALTH OF HALLUCINOGENIC MATERIALS.

OR BIO-WEAPONRY.

YEAH, AND ALL THE WHILE COVERING IT UP WITH A SONG AND DANCE ABOUT SUPERNATURAL ACTIVITY.

MAN, I *HATE* CREATIVE EVIL SCIENTISTS.

SO, HOW ARE WE GETTING IN, BYERS?

I READ THAT THEY HAD A THING WITH THE *EPA*... MAYBE WE CAN USE THAT?

SAY WE'VE BEEN SENT TO RE-INSPECT THE PREMISES OR SOMETHING?

IT'LL BE EASIER THAN THAT. AFTER ALL—WHAT'S THE BEST WAY TO INVESTIGATE SOMEONE WHO CLOAKS THEMSELVES IN CELEBRITY?

UH...

YOU JUST *ASK*.



MANHATTAN.

SEVERAL HOURS OF TRAFFIC LATER...

WELL, LOOK, I HAVE THE FORM RIGHT IN FRONT OF ME—



—AND YOU TURNED DOWN THE EXTRA COVERAGE WHEN YOU ENGAGED OUR SERVICES!

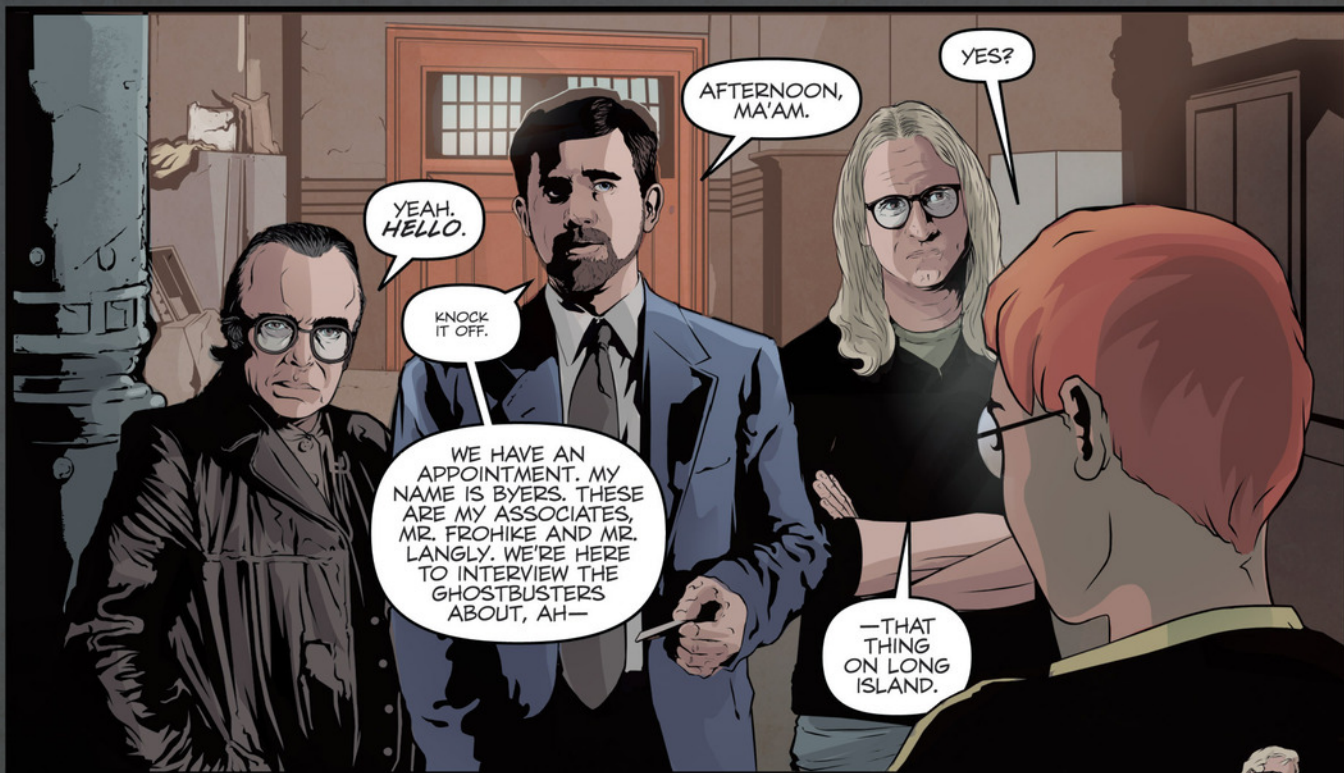
YES, THAT *DOES* MEAN THAT YOU'RE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DAMAGES.

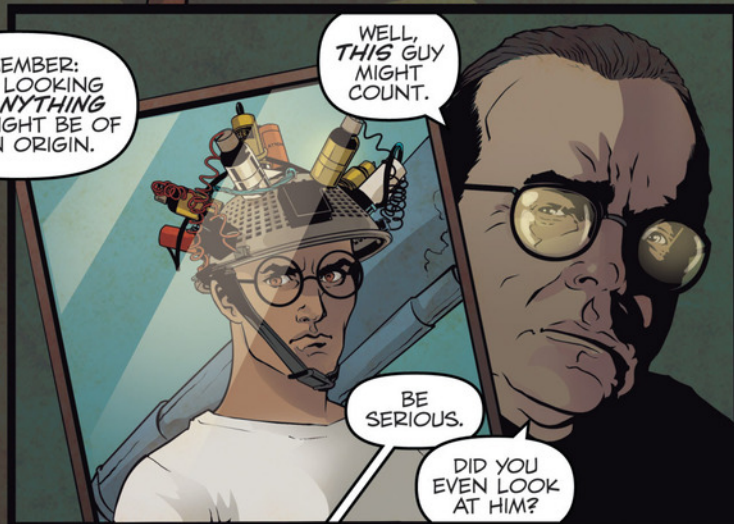
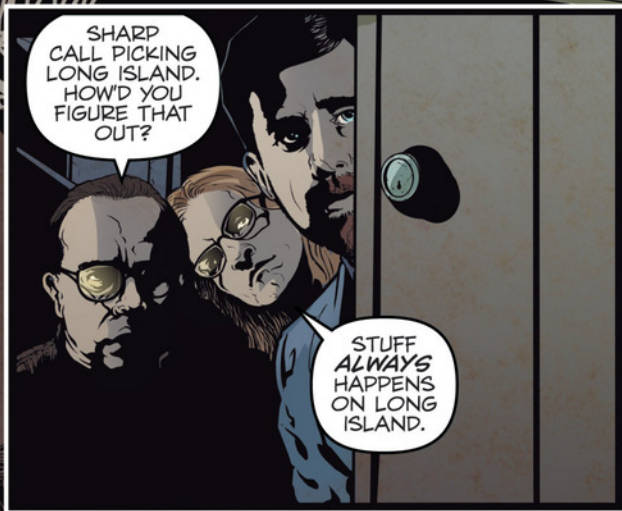
OF COURSE IT'S FAIR—YOU WERE GIVEN THE OPTION, AND DECLINED.

WELL, YOU *DID* SAY YOU WERE PSYCHIC, MA'AM. WE TEND TO TAKE THAT KIND OF THING AT FACE VALUE.

HEY, I LIKE THE REDHEAD.

DON'T YOU ALWAYS?







HOLY—
LOOK AT
ALL THIS
JUNK!

I
KINDA
LIKE IT.

GENTLEMEN,
LET'S FOCUS.

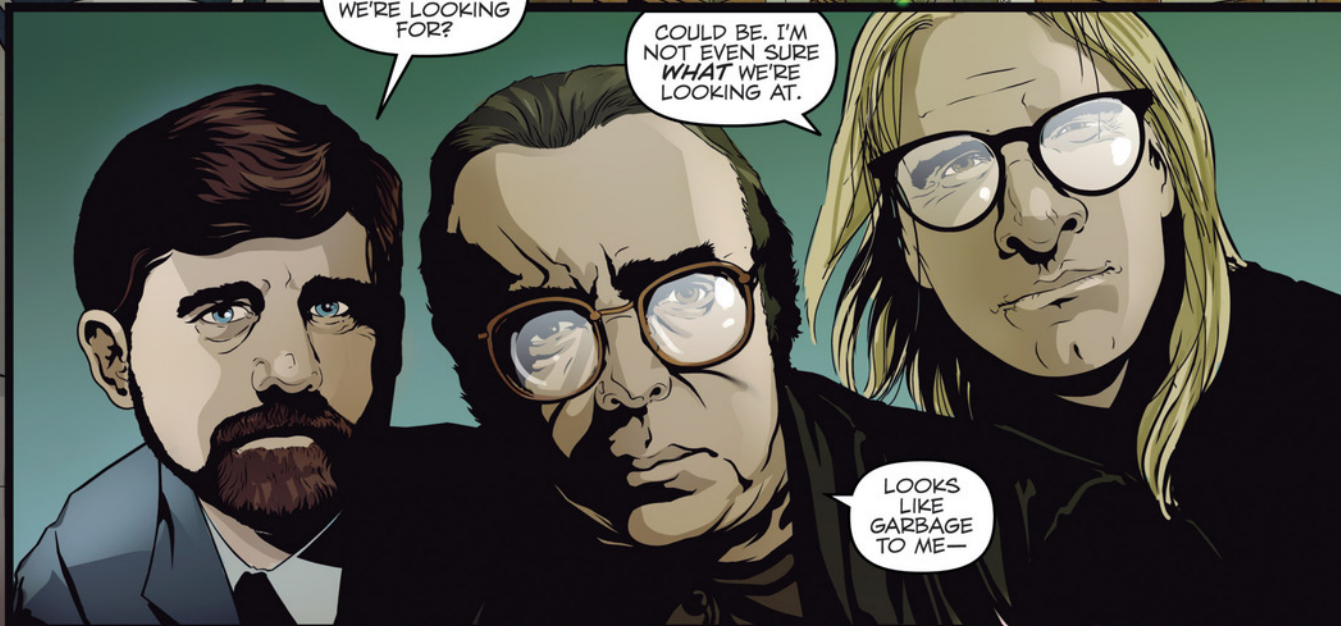


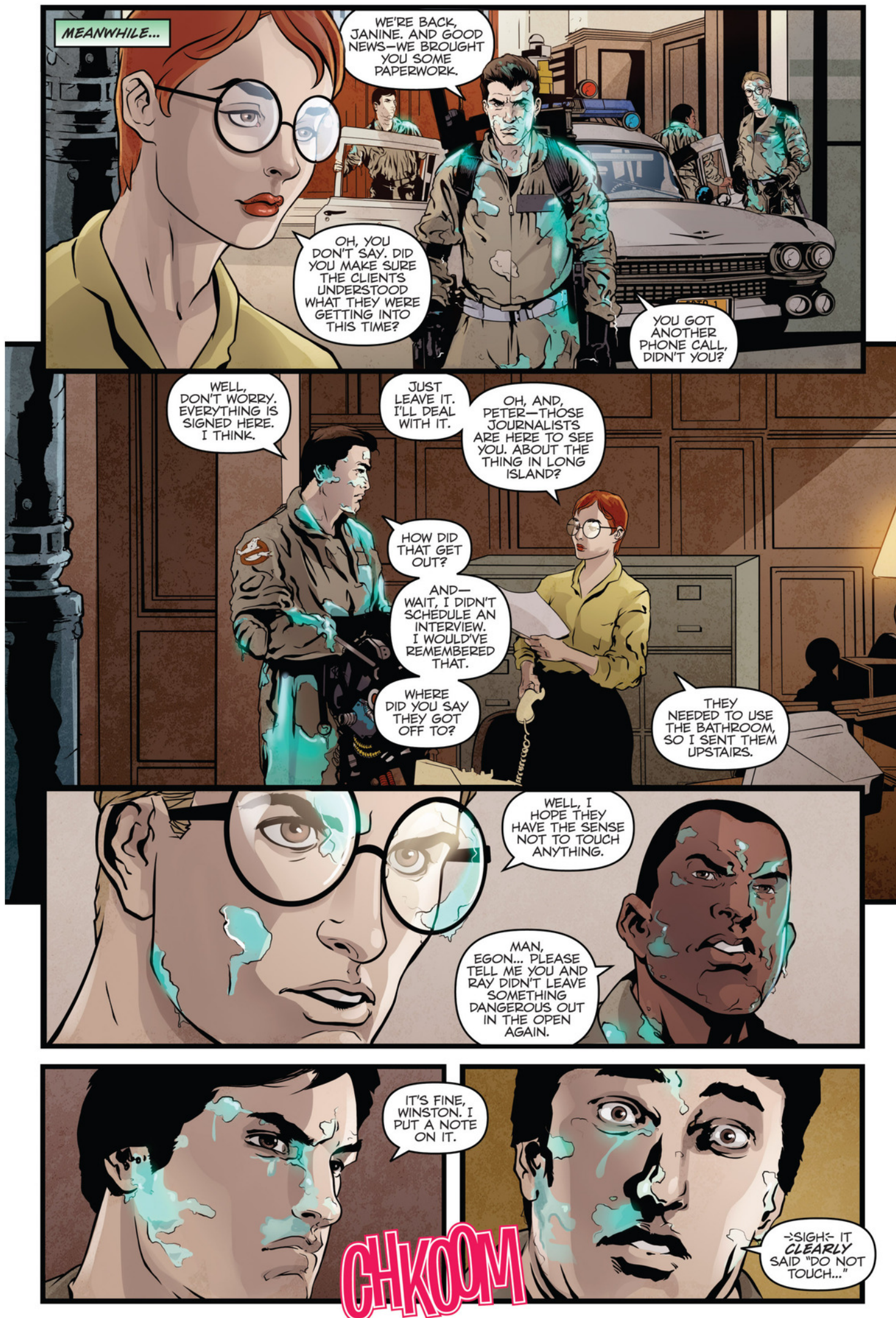
YOU SEEN
THIS? COULD BE
SOMETHING.



OPTICS.
PARLOR
TRICKS.

HOW
ABOUT
THIS?





MEANWHILE...

WE'RE BACK, JANINE. AND GOOD NEWS—WE BROUGHT YOU SOME PAPERWORK.

OH, YOU DON'T SAY. DID YOU MAKE SURE THE CLIENTS UNDERSTOOD WHAT THEY WERE GETTING INTO THIS TIME?

YOU GOT ANOTHER PHONE CALL, DIDN'T YOU?

WELL, DON'T WORRY. EVERYTHING IS SIGNED HERE. I THINK.

JUST LEAVE IT. I'LL DEAL WITH IT.

OH, AND, PETER—THOSE JOURNALISTS ARE HERE TO SEE YOU. ABOUT THE THING IN LONG ISLAND?

HOW DID THAT GET OUT?

AND—WAIT, I DIDN'T SCHEDULE AN INTERVIEW. I WOULD'VE REMEMBERED THAT.

WHERE DID YOU SAY THEY GOT OFF TO?

THEY NEEDED TO USE THE BATHROOM, SO I SENT THEM UPSTAIRS.

WELL, I HOPE THEY HAVE THE SENSE NOT TO TOUCH ANYTHING.

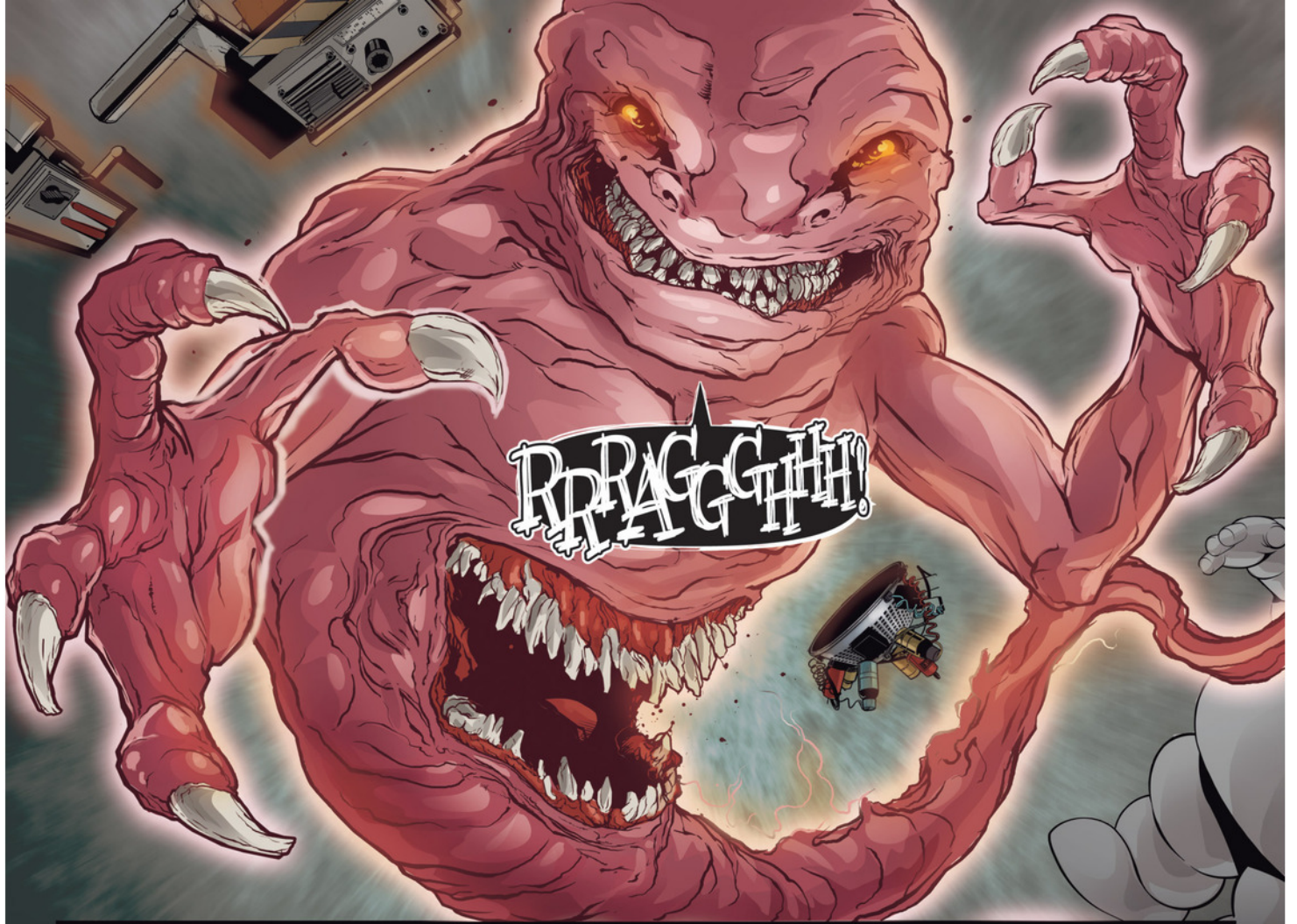
MAN, EGON... PLEASE TELL ME YOU AND RAY DIDN'T LEAVE SOMETHING DANGEROUS OUT IN THE OPEN AGAIN.

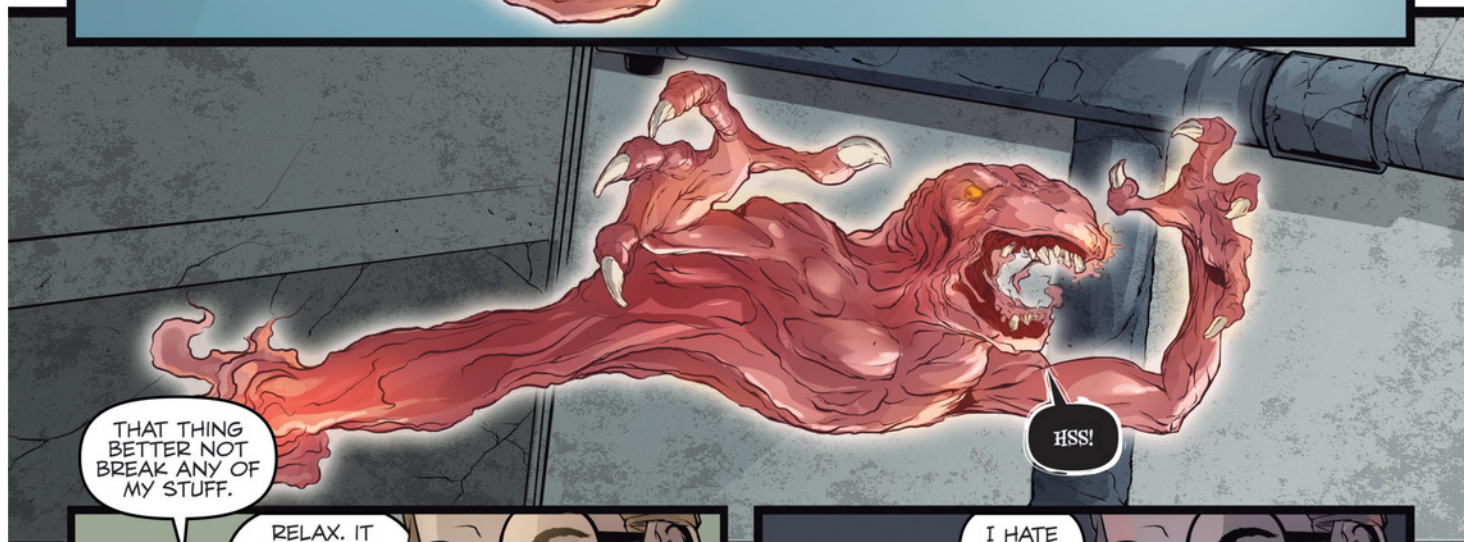
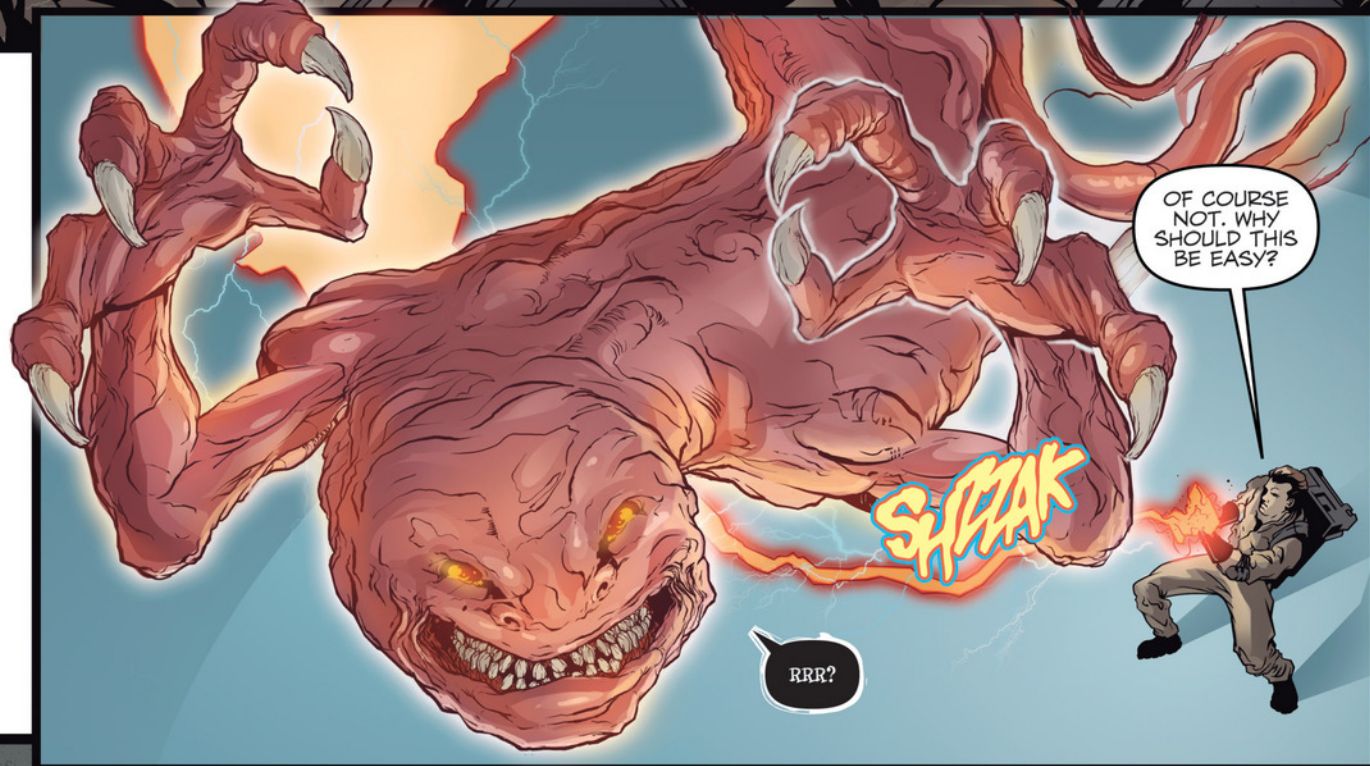
IT'S FINE, WINSTON. I PUT A NOTE ON IT.

—SIGH— IT CLEARLY SAID "DO NOT TOUCH..."

CHKOOM







I DIDN'T THINK WE COULD LOSE POWER WITHOUT SOMETHING BLOWING UP. SOMETHIN' GONNA BLOW UP?

CONTAINMENT UNIT HAS ITS OWN POWER SUPPLY. BACKUP GENERATOR SHOULD KICK THE LIGHTS BACK ON IN A BIT.

MEANWHILE, WE'D BETTER TRACK DOWN THE LITTLE FENCEJUMPER BEFORE HE GETS INTO ANY MISCHIEF.

SO, NO. MAN, I DON'T KNOW WHO I'M ANGRIER AT, RAY. YOU AND EGON FOR LEAVING THAT THING OUT IN THE OPEN—

WE PUT A NOTE ON IT...

—OR THESE GUYS FOR POKING AROUND AND PISSING THAT THING OFF!

HEY, PAL—WE'RE NOT THE ONES WHO SET UP SOME KIND OF ELABORATE SPECIAL-EFFECTS DEATH TRAP ON THE WAY TO THE BATHROOM, SO DON'T—

AHEM!

A SCIENTIFICALLY MODIFIED CLASS FIVE IS WANDERING AROUND THE FIREHOUSE, AND THAT IS EXTRAORDINARILY DANGEROUS. WE NEED TO RECAPTURE IT WHILE IT IS STILL CONFUSED.

AND, LATER, WE CAN FIGURE OUT WHO THESE FRAUDS ARE.

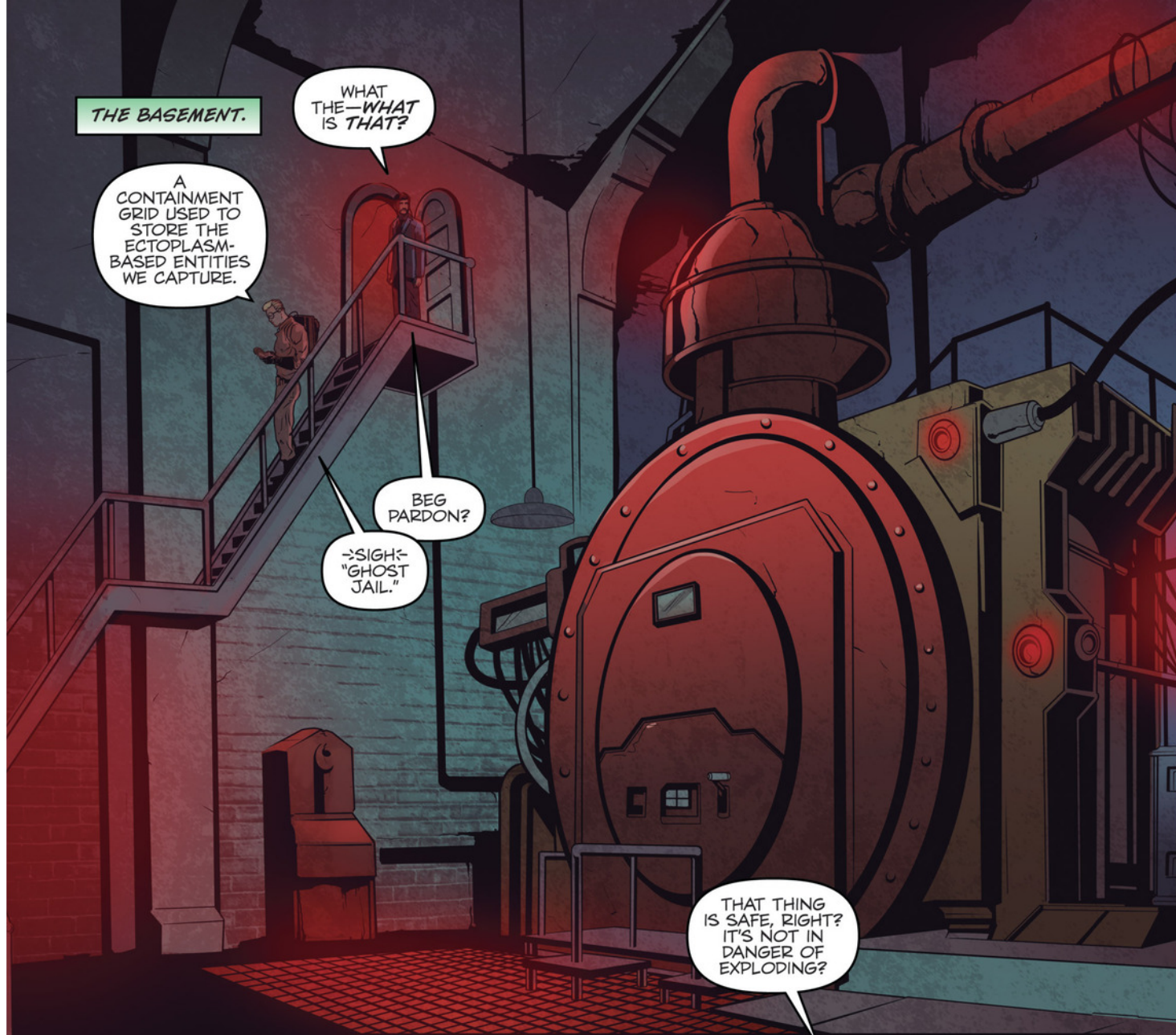
I BEG YOUR PARDON? WE'RE THE FRAUDS?

I SAID AHEM!

WHAT PART OF **EXTRAORDINARILY DANGEROUS** MODIFIED CLASS FIVE DID YOU PEOPLE NOT UNDERSTAND? WE NEED TO SORT THIS OUT IMMEDIATELY.

SPLITTING UP IS GOING TO BE NECESSARY, AND WE'LL HAVE TO BABYSIT OUR VISITORS, BESIDES. STAY FOCUSED.

ARE WE SURE THAT GUY'S NOT AN ALIEN?



THE BASEMENT.

WHAT
THE—WHAT
IS THAT?

A
CONTAINMENT
GRID USED TO
STORE THE
ECTOPLASM-
BASED ENTITIES
WE CAPTURE.

BEG
PARDON?

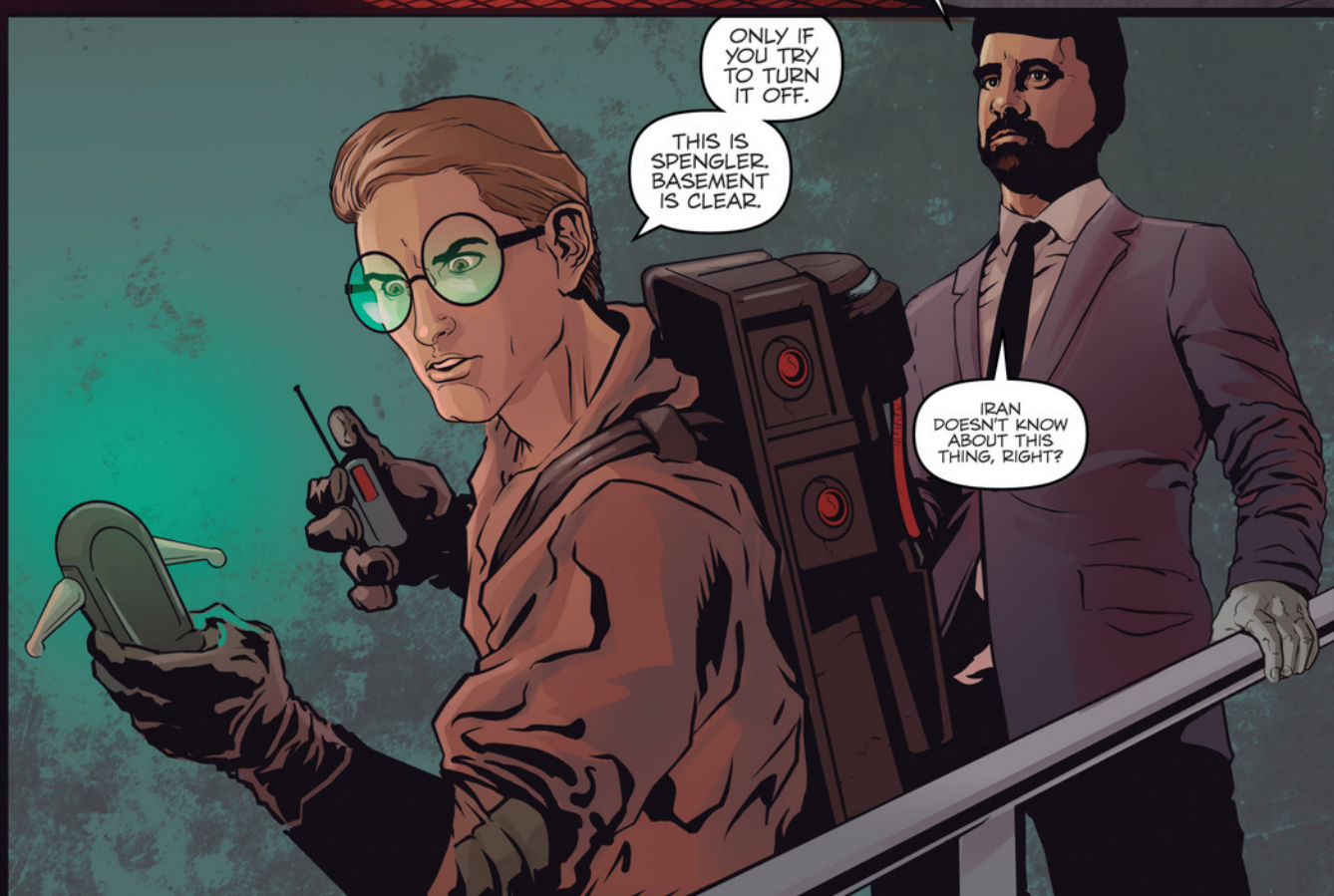
~SIGH~
"GHOST
JAIL."

THAT THING
IS SAFE, RIGHT?
IT'S NOT IN
DANGER OF
EXPLODING?

ONLY IF
YOU TRY
TO TURN
IT OFF.

THIS IS
SPENGLER.
BASEMENT
IS CLEAR.

IRAN
DOESN'T KNOW
ABOUT THIS
THING, RIGHT?







NOTHING UP
HERE, EITHER. I
THINK IT MIGHT
BE SCREWING
WITH US.

LIVING
QUARTERS.

MAYBE
YOUR THING
DOESN'T
WORK.



I'LL HAVE YOU KNOW, SIR,
THAT THIS PSYCHOKINETIC
ENERGY DETECTION DEVICE
WAS CALIBRATED TO ITS
HIGHEST SENSITIVITY THIS
MORNING AT APPROXIMATELY
8:53, AND AS SUCH, IS
HIGHLY UNLIKELY TO BE
PERFORMING AT
ANYTHING LESS THAN
PEAK EFFICIENCY!

GOT
A FULL
CHARGE,
TOO.

YEAH!



HO!

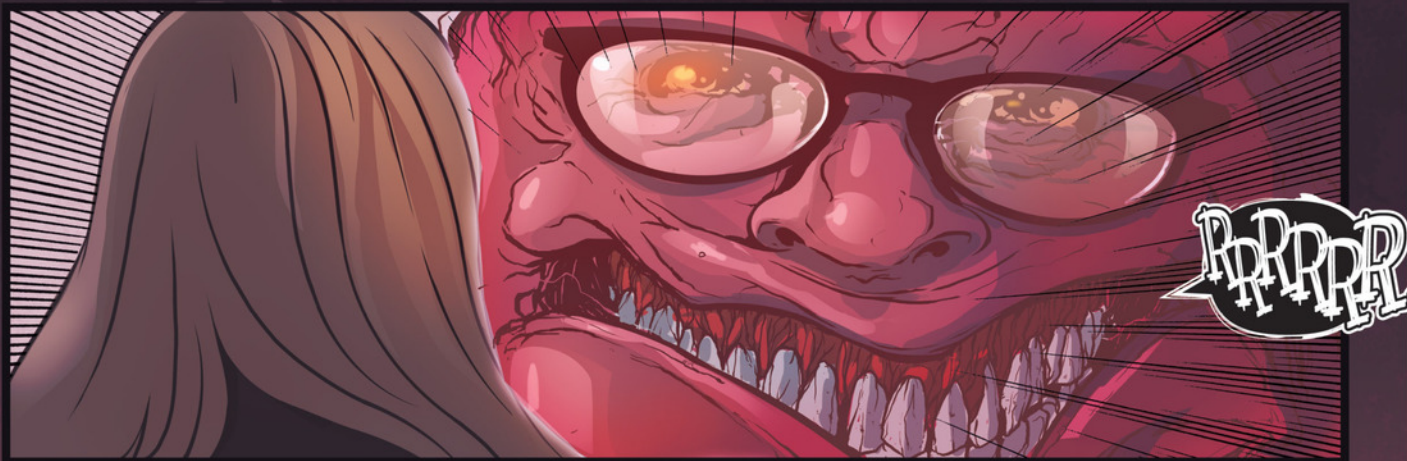
WHAT?

NOBODY
PANIC.

WE FOUND IT.
IT'S HERE. IT'S
RIGHT BEHIND OUR
HIPPIE FRIEND.

I'M NOT
A FREAKIN'
HIPPIE,
MAN.

I'M
AN—





LOOKS LIKE WE'RE GONNA TAKE A HELLUVA JOLT HERE. AT LEAST THE LIGHTS CAME BACK ON...

YEAH, I'M REALLY COMFORTED, RAY.

SHAZAK

WAIT— THAT DOESN'T SOUND LIKE DEATH-LIGHTNING...

WELL, OF COURSE NOT. YOU CAN'T GET KILLED BY YOUR EXPERIMENTS UNTIL YOU CLEAN UP THE ROOM, HERE.

NRRRP!

OH, BE QUIET AND GET BACK IN YOUR HOLE.

ZRRRT

THERE. THAT TRAP GONNA HOLD HIM, EGON? DO WE NEED ANOTHER NOTE?

THE OTHER TRAP WAS SIMPLY MODIFIED TO CHANGE THE GHOST'S STRUCTURE, SO IT—

SO, YES. GOOD. NOW LET'S GET SPARKY HERE DOWN TO THE CONTAINMENT UNIT...

"...AND THEN WE CAN DEAL WITH THE GUYS WHO LET HIM LOOSE."

OKAY, BOYS, EXPLAIN YOURSELVES. ARE YOU DEBUNKERS? WEIRD FANS? STALKING EGON? WHAT? I KNOW YOU'RE NOT JOURNALISTS...

ACTUALLY, IN POINT OF FACT, WE ARE. WE DIDN'T LIE ABOUT THAT. WE'RE—



YOU'RE FROM *THE LONE GUNMEN*! I LOVED THAT PAPER! I USED TO SUBSCRIBE!

I THOUGHT I'D HEARD YOU GUYS WERE DEAD, AND I'VE BEEN TRYING TO MEET YOU EVER SINCE!

UH... YES, THAT'S US. WE'VE ACTUALLY BEEN WORKING ON A NEW PIECE, AND YOUR FIRM CAME UP IN THE COURSE OF OUR INVESTIGA—



OH! FEDERALLY SANCTIONED PSYCHOTROPIC CHEMICALS FOR USE IN MAKING CONTACT WITH THE OTHER SIDE? REMOTE VIEWING? HEXES AND THEIR PLACE IN THE SUPREME COURT? USE OF OTHERWORLDLY SPECIMENS FOR TARGETED TIME TRAVEL?

WAIT, WHAT?

DID I PICK A WINNER?

NOT EXACTLY, I... JUST HAPPEN TO BE INTERESTED IN TIME TRAVEL.

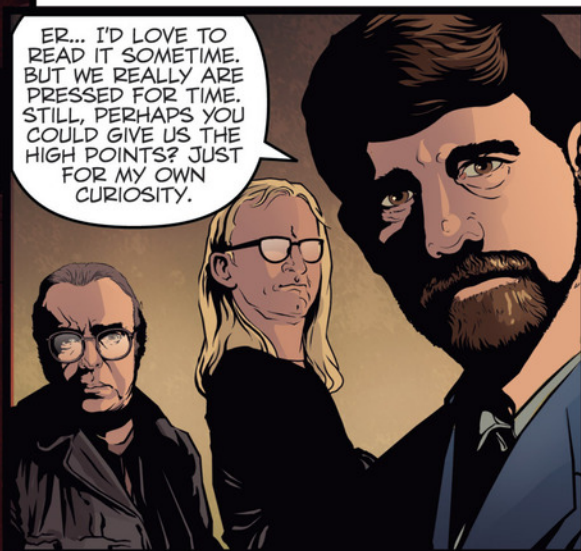
I WAS JUST READING UP ON SOME OF THE DISCOVERIES OUT OF CERN RECENTLY AND I'VE BEEN FASCINATED.

THE CERN DISCOVERIES ARE PROMISING, YES, DESPITE THEIR... *LIMITED* VISION.

I MYSELF RECENTLY WROTE A PAPER ON THE SUBJECT—"THE HIGGS SINGLET AND THE USE OF SUPERNATURAL ENTITIES AS A MEANS OF DIRECTIONAL TIME TRAVEL."

RAY THINKS IT'S A LITTLE SHORT, BUT I FIND THAT KEEPING IT AT AROUND 500 PAGES MAKES IT FAR MORE ACCESSIBLE TO THE LAYMAN.

ER... I'D LOVE TO READ IT SOMETIME, BUT WE REALLY ARE PRESSED FOR TIME. STILL, PERHAPS YOU COULD GIVE US THE HIGH POINTS? JUST FOR MY OWN CURIOSITY.





HERE WE GO. THEY UNLEASHED THE BEAST.

I HEARD THAT, PETER. DON'T WORRY, I'LL TRY TO KEEP THIS BRIEF.

THE *HIGGS SINGLET* CAN BE USED TO SEND ELECTRONIC DATA PACKETS BACK THROUGH TIME. PHOTOS, VIDEOS, REAMS OF TEXT... THERE'S *NO LIMIT* TO WHAT KIND OF INFORMATION COULD BE SENT.

THE PROBLEM IS THAT THERE'S NO MANMADE DELIVERY SYSTEM CAPABLE OF HOLDING UP TO THE STRESSES OF THE *TIME STREAM*, AND SO ANYTHING SENT WOULD BE UNDELIVERABLE.



BUT I POSIT THAT A *SUPERNATURAL ENTITY* WOULD BE IMMUNE TO THE PARTICULAR STRESSORS OF THE *TIME STREAM*, AND COULD EASILY NAVIGATE THE FIFTH DIMENSION, CONDUCTING ANY INFORMATION TO AN INTENDED TARGET IN THE PAST OR, I SUPPOSE, IN THE FUTURE.

GHOSTS ARE UNIQUELY QUALIFIED TO DO THIS BY THEIR VERY MAKEUP. SPECTRAL ENERGY FORMS THE INSULATION BETWEEN DIMENSIONAL WALLS AND IS, AS SUCH, A PRODUCT OF *ANY AND ALL* THEORETICAL REALITIES.



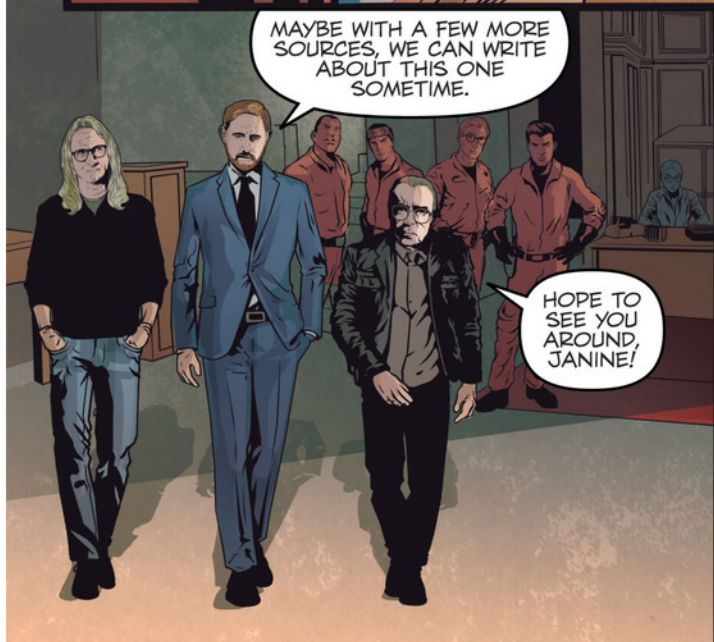
I... SEE. WELL, THAT'S CERTAINLY NOT THE WEIRDEST THING WE'VE HEARD THIS WEEK.

BUT, OUT OF CURIOSITY, DO YOU GENTLEMEN PRESENTLY HOUSE ANY QUOTE-UNQUOTE "GHOSTS" IN YOUR VERY SCARY BASEMENT THAT COULD POTENTIALLY BE USED FOR SUCH A THING? HYPOTHETICALLY.

NO *TYPICAL* GHOST WOULD DO. ONE WOULD NEED A HIGHLY INTELLIGENT AND FOCUSED SPIRIT FOR THIS. SOMETHING POWERFUL ENOUGH TO CROSS DIMENSIONS.

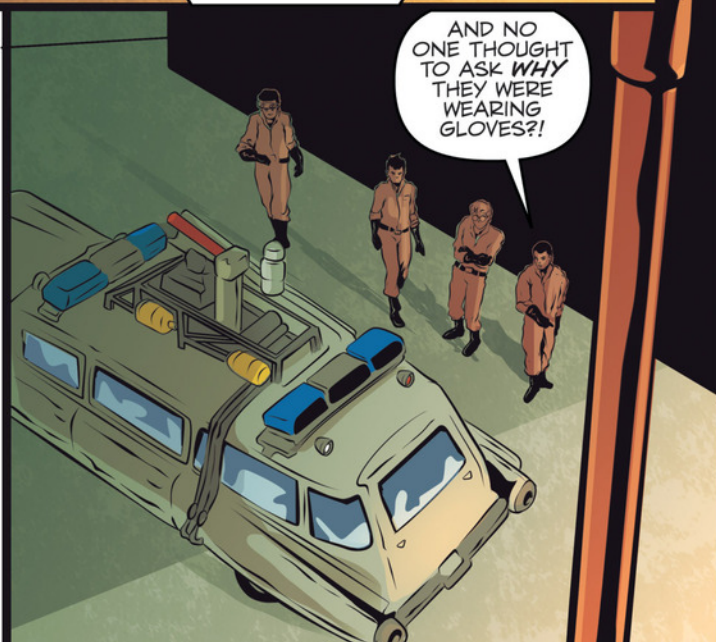
THIS TYPE OF ENTITY WOULD BE BOTH HIGHLY DANGEROUS AND IMPOSSIBLE FOR A HUMAN BEING TO CONTROL.

I APPRECIATE YOUR TIME, SIR, AND WE'RE SORRY ABOUT THE MESS.



MAYBE WITH A FEW MORE SOURCES, WE CAN WRITE ABOUT THIS ONE SOMETIME.

HOPE TO SEE YOU AROUND, JANINE!



AND NO ONE THOUGHT TO ASK *WHY* THEY WERE WEARING GLOVES?!

LATER...

WELL, THAT WAS A BUST.

IT WASN'T A BUST. WE JUST DON'T KNOW IF WE LEARNED ANYTHING OR NOT YET.

THAT'S A LOAD OF GLASS-HALF-FULL CRAP AND I DON'T WANT TO HEAR IT.

WE'RE LISTENING TO THE RADIO UNTIL WE HIT MASSACHUSETTS, AT LEAST.

TUNE IT TO—

DRIVER'S CHOICE.

—TERRUPT THIS PROGRAM FOR A SPECIAL NEWS BULLETIN.

THE CDC REPORTS THE DEADLY OUTBREAK REPORTED IN VIRGINIA YESTERDAY IS WORSENING, WITH HUNDREDS NOW REPORTING INFECTION, AND MORE BY THE HOUR.

THE WHITE HOUSE HAS YET TO ISSUE A FORMAL STATEMENT, AND MEMBERS OF CONGRESS ARE CALLING ON THE PRESIDENT TO RESPOND WITH A PLAN TO STAVE OFF A POTENTIAL AMERICAN PANDEMIC.

REPORTING FROM CAPE FEAR FOR USNN, THIS IS BERT THOMPSON.

TO BE CONTINUED IN
THE X-FILES/
TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA
TURTLES: CONSPIRACY!

MANPHIBIAN

THE CONSPIRACY CONTINUES IN:



PART
3

THE X FILES™
CONSPIRACY
TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA
TURTLES

