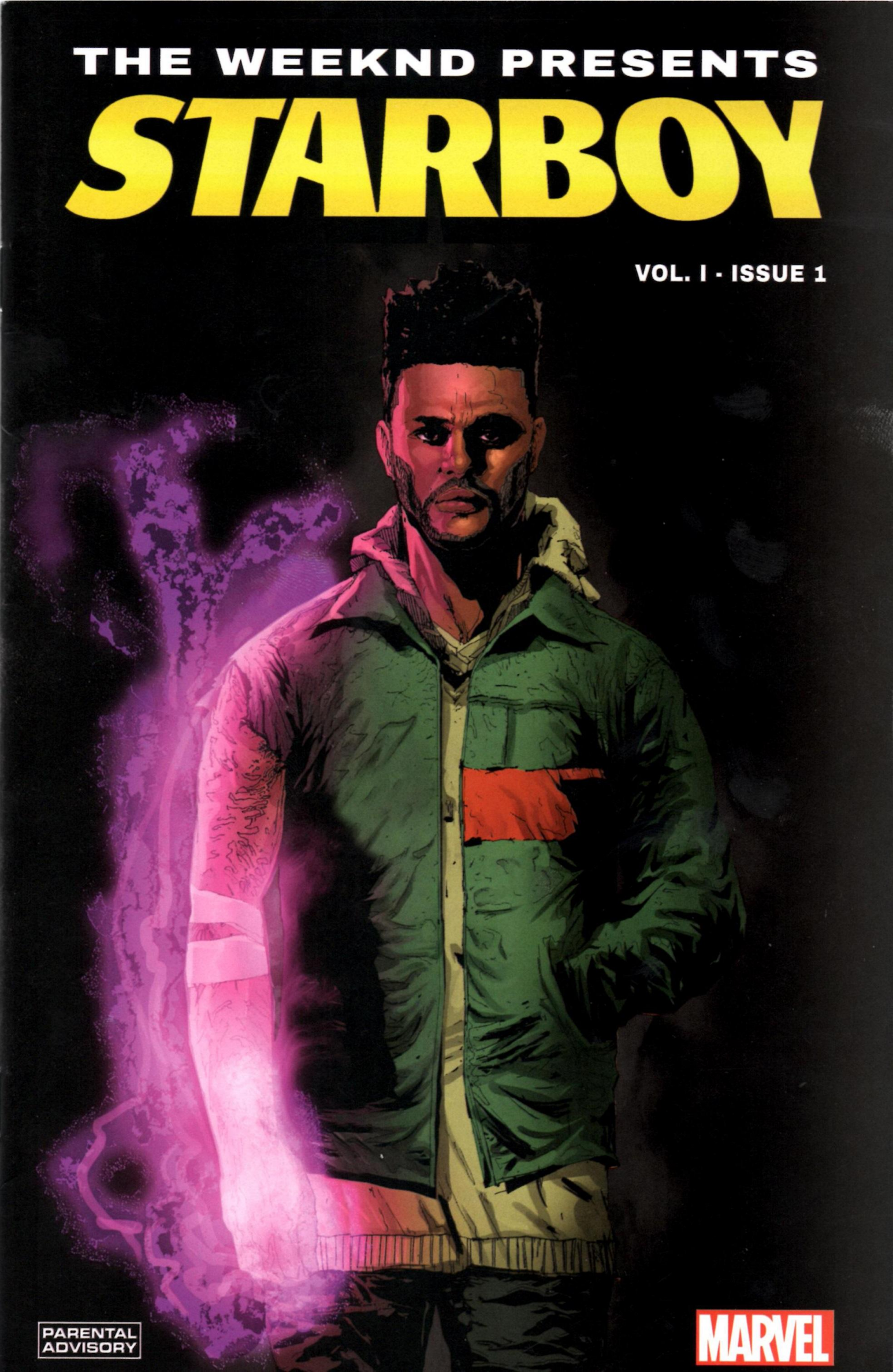
THE WEEKND PRESENTS

STARBOY

VOL. I - ISSUE 1



PARENTAL ADVISORY

MARVEL

A few years from now.

The city of **ALPHATRON** is in the grip of a crime wave.
The terrifying **JACK "THE CHEF" SMILEY** has unified all
criminal organizations with his ruthlessness and strategic genius.
Not content to brutally murder his victims, he also feasts upon their flesh.

The citizens live in fear, as do the police,
who have been directly targeted by Smiley.

The city is in desperate need of help. . . in need of a hero.

THE WEEKND PRESENTS
STARBOY

created by

Abel Testaye

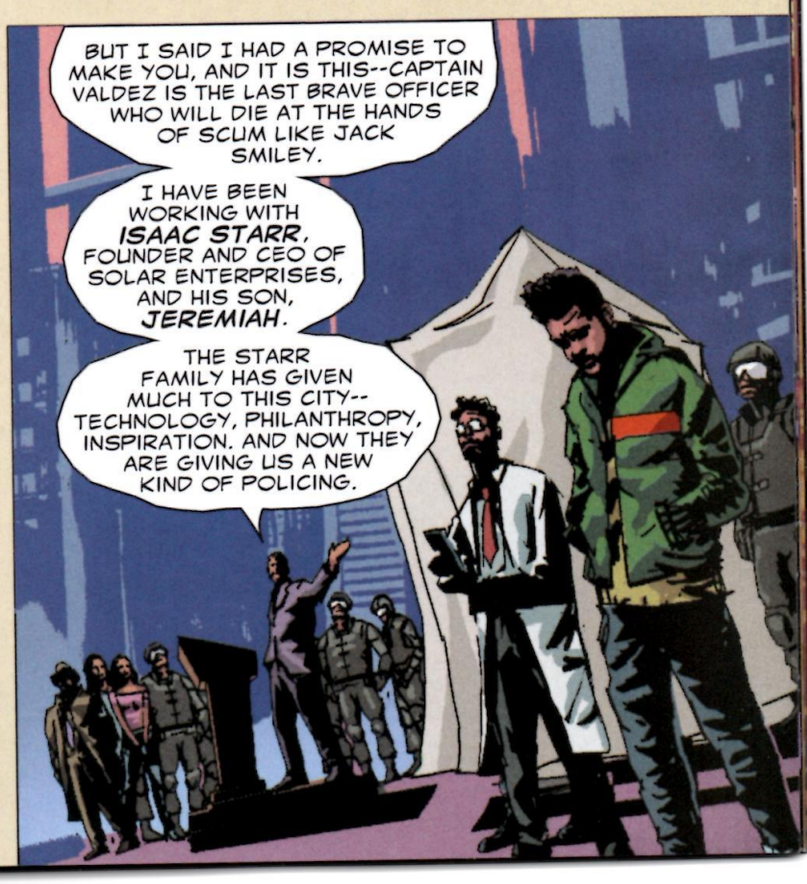
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THE MEGA-CITY OF ALPHATRON.
CITIZENS OF ALPHATRON, I COME BEFORE YOU TODAY WITH A TRAGEDY...AND A PROMISE.


FIRST THE TRAGIC NEWS. AS EVERYONE KNOWS, SOLAR POLICE CAPTAIN VALDEZ AND SIX OF HIS OFFICERS HAVE BEEN MISSING FOR THREE DAYS.
CAPTAIN VALDEZ WAS SPEARHEADING OUR EFFORTS TO END THE REIGN OF TERROR OF JACK SMILEY, THE CRIME LORD WHO HAS UNITED OUR CITY'S GANGS UNDER HIS COMMAND.
FOR THREE DAYS, MY BROTHER, COMMISSIONER REX WINTER, AND I HAVE OVERSEEN THE TIRELESS SEARCH FOR THESE BRAVE OFFICERS.
THIS MORNING, I AM SAD TO SAY... THAT SEARCH CAME TO AN END.


"THE DETAILS OF THEIR MURDERS ARE TOO DISTURBING TO DESCRIBE, BUT CONSISTENT WITH FAR TOO MANY OTHER BRAVE OFFICERS WE'VE LOST TO THIS MADMAN.

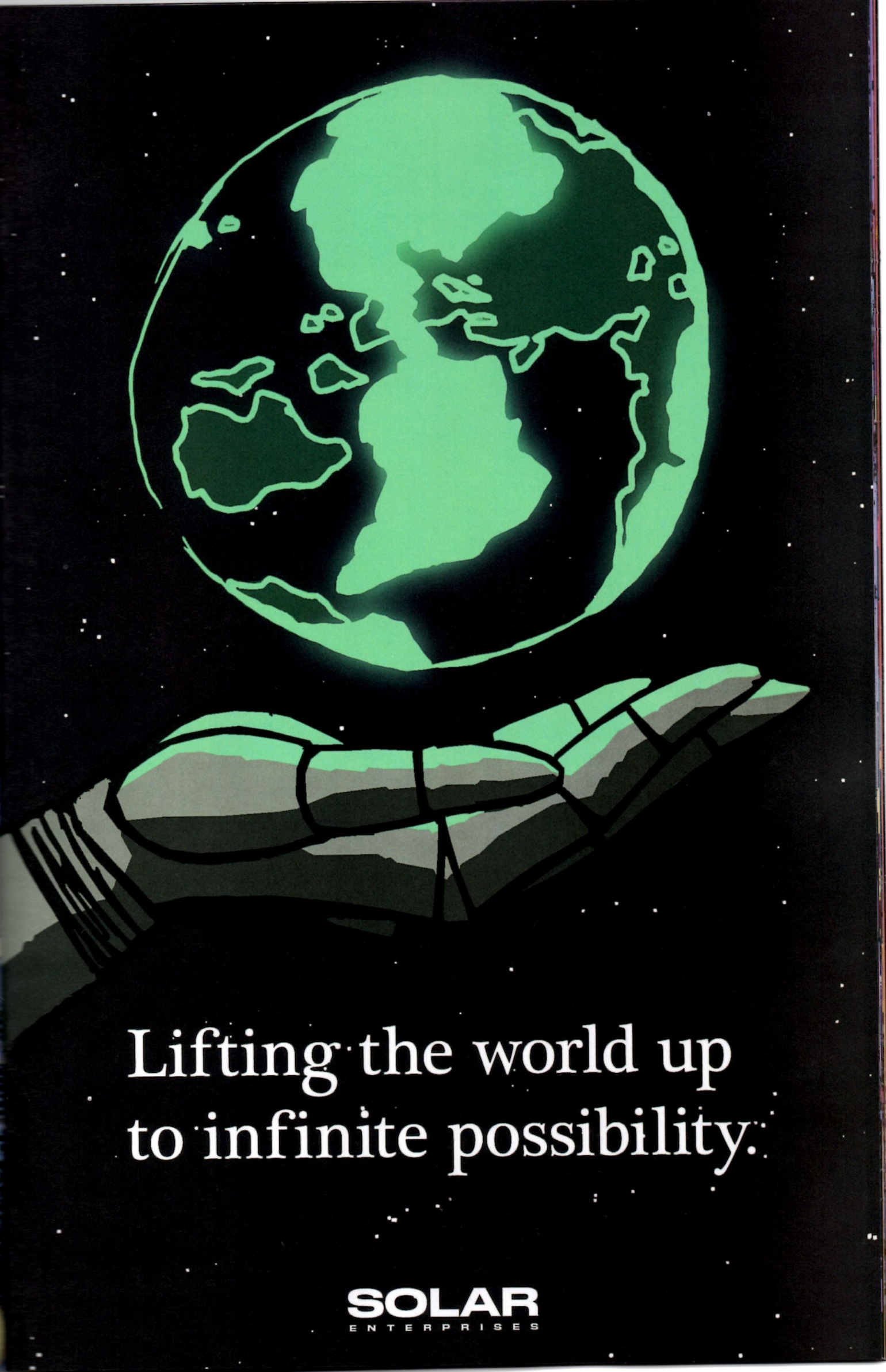

"WE HAVE RECOVERED THEIR...REMAINS...AND THE EVIDENCE LEAVES NO DOUBT AS TO WHO DID THIS."


BUT I SAID I HAD A PROMISE TO MAKE YOU, AND IT IS THIS--CAPTAIN VALDEZ IS THE LAST BRAVE OFFICER WHO WILL DIE AT THE HANDS OF SCUM LIKE JACK SMILEY.
I HAVE BEEN WORKING WITH ISAAC STARR, FOUNDER AND CEO OF SOLAR ENTERPRISES, AND HIS SON, JEREMIAH.
THE STARR FAMILY HAS GIVEN MUCH TO THIS CITY--TECHNOLOGY, PHILANTHROPY, INSPIRATION. AND NOW THEY ARE GIVING US A NEW KIND OF POLICING.


IT IS ONE OF MY PROUDEST MOMENTS AS MAYOR TO PRESENT TO YOU--
--THE SOLAR POLICE FORCE!
A.I.-GUIDED ANDROID OFFICERS WITH THE FIREPOWER TO BRING DOWN THE CRIMINALS OVERRUNNING ALPHATRON.
THEY ARE NOT MEANT TO REPLACE OUR VALIANT HUMAN OFFICERS, BUT TO PERFORM HAZARDOUS DUTY SO NO MORE LIVES ARE LOST. AND THEY HAVE ALL THE FIREPOWER THEY'LL NEED.
THE COMMISSIONER AND I ARE IN COMPLETE AGREEMENT THAT THIS IMPORTANT STEP IS CRUCIAL TO RECLAIMING OUR CITY FROM THE FORCES OF LAWLESSNESS.
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR. THAT MORNING.
THIS IS BULLSHIT AND YOU KNOW IT, ARNOLD!

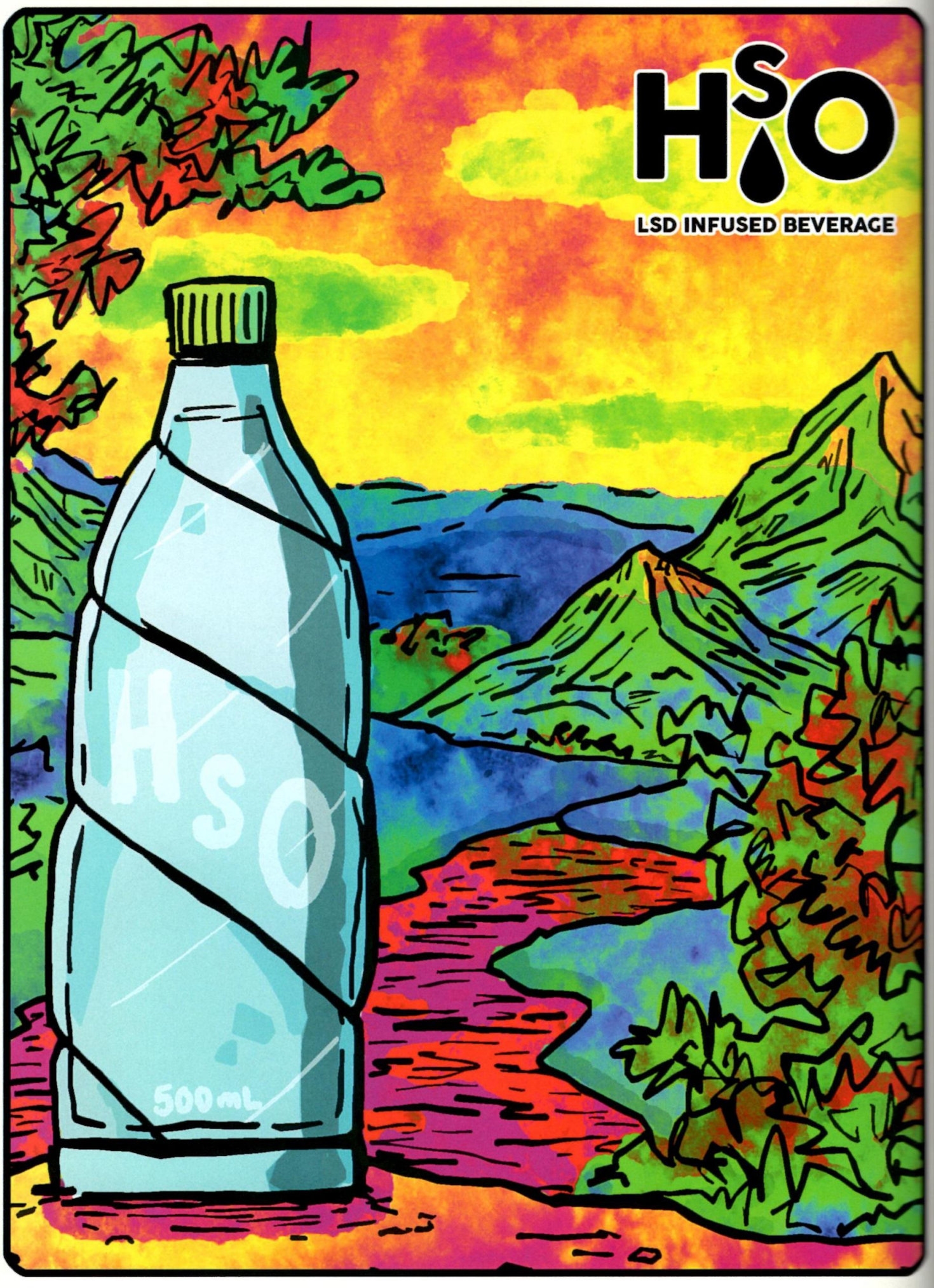

YOU CAN'T TRUST A GODDAMN ROBOT TO DO POLICE WORK! YOU CAN'T REPLACE HUMAN BEINGS WITH MACHINES!
THEY'RE NOT REPLACING ANYONE. YOUR PEOPLE WILL STILL HAVE THEIR JOBS.
YEAH--AND YOU'RE SAYING THEY CAN'T DO THOSE JOBS!
BECAUSE THEY CAN'T!
EVERY DAY I'VE GOT MORE DEAD COPS! MORE WIDOWS CRYING ON THE NEWS, MORE QUESTIONS ABOUT WHAT SMILEY DOES WITH THE PIECES HE CUTS OFF OF THEM!
THIS CITY'S FALLING APART, AND WE'VE GOT TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT!
YOU CAN GET BEHIND IT, OR YOU CAN RESIGN.
WHAT YOU'RE DOING WILL MEAN THE END OF HUMAN COPS. MAYBE NOT NOW, BUT SOON. LET ME PUT TOGETHER A TASK FORCE, MY BEST PEOPLE--
THAT'S WHAT VALDEZ WAS SUPPOSED TO BE. NO. I'M SORRY, REX.
YOU MAY BE MY BIG BROTHER, BUT I'M YOUR BOSS. AND I'VE MADE MY DECISION.


EARLY TESTS OF THE SOLAR POLICE FORCE HAVE BEEN OVERWHELMINGLY POSITIVE.
SOLAR ENTERPRISES IS MANUFACTURING MORE ANDROIDS AROUND THE CLOCK, IN THIS VERY FACTORY.
AND THANKS TO SPECIAL EMERGENCY POWERS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY THE CITY COUNCIL, THEY WILL BE READY FOR DUTY WITHIN DAYS.
THESE DARK TIMES WILL SOON BE BEHIND US, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN. IT'S A NEW ERA FOR ALPHATRON.
PLEASE JOIN ME IN APPLAUDING THE GENIUS AND GENEROSITY OF ISAAC STARR AND SOLAR ENTERPRISES!
CLAP CLAP CLAP


Lifting the world up
to infinite possibility.
SOLAR
ENTERPRISES


SOLAR ENTERPRISES.
YOU COULD HAVE AT LEAST PRETENDED TO CARE, JEREMIAH!
THIS IS AN AMAZING ACHIEVEMENT!
THE SPACE MISSION WOULD BE A HELL OF A LOT BIGGER, DAD. AND MORE PROFITABLE.
BUT WE HAVEN'T WORKED IN THE SUBLEVEL FOR MONTHS! THE BUNKER'S COLLECTING DUST DOWN THERE WHILE YOU WASTE OUR TIME AND RESOURCES ON THIS BULLSHIT.
THAT BUNKER'S INDESTRUCTIBLE. IT'LL BE THERE WHEN WE'RE READY FOR IT, AND SO WILL OUTER SPACE. AS FOR PROFITS...
...WE'RE ALREADY RICH BEYOND ANYTHING I COULD'VE DREAMED OF WHEN I WAS YOUR AGE. THIS ISN'T ABOUT MONEY OR AMBITION, SON. OUR CITY NEEDS US.
WE CREATED THE ANDROIDS' DESIGN. LET SOMEONE ELSE BUILD THE DAMN THINGS. OR AT LEAST CHARGE THE CITY ENOUGH TO FUND OUR OTHER WORK.
I REALIZE WE'VE BEEN COMFORTABLE YOUR WHOLE LIFE. BUT IS IT REALLY THAT HARD TO UNDERSTAND?
I GREW UP WITH NOTHING. I WAS LUCKY ENOUGH TO RISE TO THE TOP.
THAT'S WHEN YOU HAVE THE GREATEST OBLIGATION TO HELP OTHERS WHO AREN'T AS FORTUNATE. NOT TO PULL THE LADDER UP AFTER YOU.


THAT'S THE WHOLE POINT OF THE STAR CHAMBER. TO PROVIDE EVERYONE WITH CLEAN, FREE ENERGY FROM AMBIENT COSMIC RAYS.
YOU'VE WORKED INCREDIBLY HARD ON IT. MADE ME SO PROUD. AND IT'S FOR THE SAME REASON, SO WHY--
YEAH, THE STAR CHAMBER'S DOPE. LITERALLY HARNESSING ENERGY FROM DISTANT STARS THAT WENT SUPERNOVA.
BUT IT'S THE CHALLENGE I LOVE, DAD. CAPTURING HIGH-ENERGY PROTONS, ATOMIC NUCLEI. DOING THINGS NO ONE'S EVER DONE BEFORE.
YOU'RE SELLING YOURSELF SHORT. AND ME, TOO. WE'RE NOT LUCKY, WE'RE GOOD.
LET SOMEONE ELSE BUILD ROBOTS. WE HAVE THE ABILITY TO DO THINGS NOBODY ELSE CAN. WE SHOULD USE IT.
I'M NOT DISRESPECTING YOU, SON. I'M TRYING TO MAKE YOU UNDERSTAND.
WELL, THAT'S NOT GONNA HAPPEN TONIGHT. I'M GOING OUT. MAYBE YOU DON'T WANT TO REWARD YOURSELF, BUT I THINK I'VE EARNED IT.
TAKE CARE, DAD. I'LL SEE YOU LATER.



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DAD WAS RIGHT. I'D NEVER KNOWN WHAT IT WAS LIKE NOT TO BE RICH. NOT TO HAVE EVERYONE TREAT ME LIKE A KING.
BUT I WASN'T STUPID. I KNEW WHY.
WHY PEOPLE SANG MY PRAISES. WHY THE WAITERS RAN OVER WHEN I RAISED AN EYEBROW. WHY WOMEN FOUGHT FOR MY ATTENTION.
AS LONG AS THE PARTY KEPT GOING. THE MONEY KEPT FLOWING.
THERE WASN'T A SINGLE ONE OF THEM I COULD REALLY TRUST... EXCEPT MAYBE MAX WINTER. I'D KNOWN HER ALL MY LIFE.
BUT I PUSHED HER AWAY, AS USUAL. SHE ACTUALLY CARED ABOUT ME, AND I DIDN'T KNOW HOW TO DEAL WITH THAT.
NO, FOR HONESTY AND TRUTH, I COULD ONLY TURN TO ONE MAN IN THE WORLD. AND I'D JUST BASICALLY CALLED HIM A FOOL.
I DON'T KNOW IF I WAS PLANNING TO APOLOGIZE. I WASN'T BIG ON THAT. PROBABLY JUST HEAD BACK AND HELP DAD WITH THE STAR CHAMBER. SHOW I WAS SORRY THAT WAY.
DECISIONS THAT SEEM SO SMALL ARE THE ONES THAT CHANGE EVERYTHING.
Bank
BUT DESPITE THE HELL I WENT THROUGH AS A RESULT OF GOING BACK THAT NIGHT...STAYING OUT WOULD'VE BEEN WORSE.

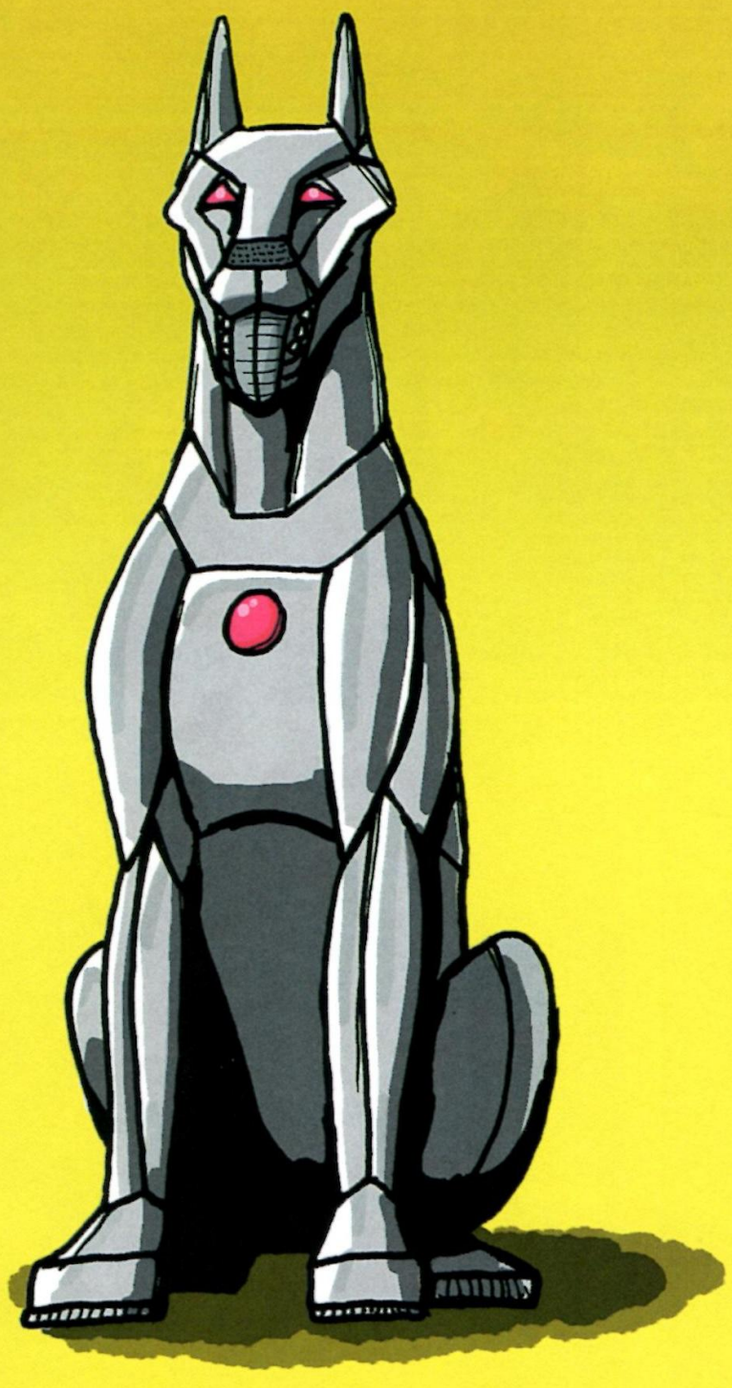

DAD? YOU STILL UP?
I HAD SOME IDEAS ABOUT IMPROVING THE STORAGE CAPACITY ON THE STAR CHAMBER.
DAD?
HELLO...?
KWCH
HELLO.
YOU MUST BE THE VEAL.


WELCOME NEWS, DR. STARR. I THINK I'VE FOUND A WAY TO MAKE OUR DISCUSSION MORE PRODUCTIVE.
OH, GOD... DAD!
L-LEAVE MY SON OUT OF THIS. HE'S GOT NOTHING TO DO WITH ANY OF IT.
FOR CHRIST'S SAKE, JACK, WE NEED TO HURRY THIS UP BEFORE ANYONE ELSE SHOWS.
NO ONE CAN KNOW I WAS HERE.
THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT I'M DOING, COMMISSIONER. DR. STARR HAS BEEN... UNCOOPERATIVE. BUT NOW WE HAVE A WAY TO CHANGE THAT.
NO! WHATEVER THEY WANT, DON'T GIVE IT TO THEM!
I AM MANY THINGS, DR. STARR. BUT I AM A MAN OF MY WORD.
THIS IS YOUR CHANCE TO ENSURE YOUR BOY DOESN'T RECEIVE THE SAME UNCOMFORTABLE TREATMENT YOU HAVE...
...OR END UP THE WAY YOU'RE GOING TO.


THIRD LOCKER FROM THE RIGHT. CODE'S 8-3-9-4-1.
THERE NOW. I KNEW WE COULD TALK LIKE REASONABLE MEN.
AHH, THERE WE ARE. I FLATTER MYSELF THAT I'M AN INTELLIGENT MAN, EVEN THOUGH I DON'T HAVE YOUR SCHOOLING, DOCTOR.
BUT I THOUGHT IT ONLY LOGICAL THAT THE INVENTOR OF SUCH INCREDIBLE TECHNOLOGY AS THESE ANDROIDS WOULD HAVE A SINGULAR METHOD FOR CONTROLLING THEM.
STILL, IF NOT FOR THE COMMISSIONER, I'D NEVER HAVE KNOWN WHAT THAT WAS.
STOP WASTING TIME ADMIRING THE DAMN THING.
TAKE OUT THE CONTROL CHIP AND DESTROY IT ALREADY. THAT AND KILLING STARR WILL STOP THEM MAKING NEW ONES.
BUT WE HAVE TO BLOW UP THE FACTORY TOO, OR MY ASSHOLE BROTHER STILL HAS AN ARMY OF GODDAMN ROBOTS RUNNING ON THEIR EXISTING A.I.
I GAVE YOU MY WORD, COMMISSIONER. WHEN WE FORGED OUR MOMENTARY TRUCE, I SAID I'D MAKE SURE YOUR BROTHER DOESN'T GET A SINGLE ANDROID UNDER HIS COMMAND.
AND HE WON'T.
BECAUSE THEY'RE *MINE*.


KILL THE COMMISSIONER. WE DON'T NEED HIM ANYMORE.
YOU DOUBLE-CROSSING--
BLAM BLAM
THAT'S FUNNY, COMING FROM A MAN WHO SOLD OUT HIS BROTHER. WHAT'S TO BE DONE WITH SOMEONE SO DISLOYAL?
YES, THAT'S A GOOD START.
TAKKATAK
KATAKKA

Good Dog.



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DROVE ID: BESTDOGCOMPANY

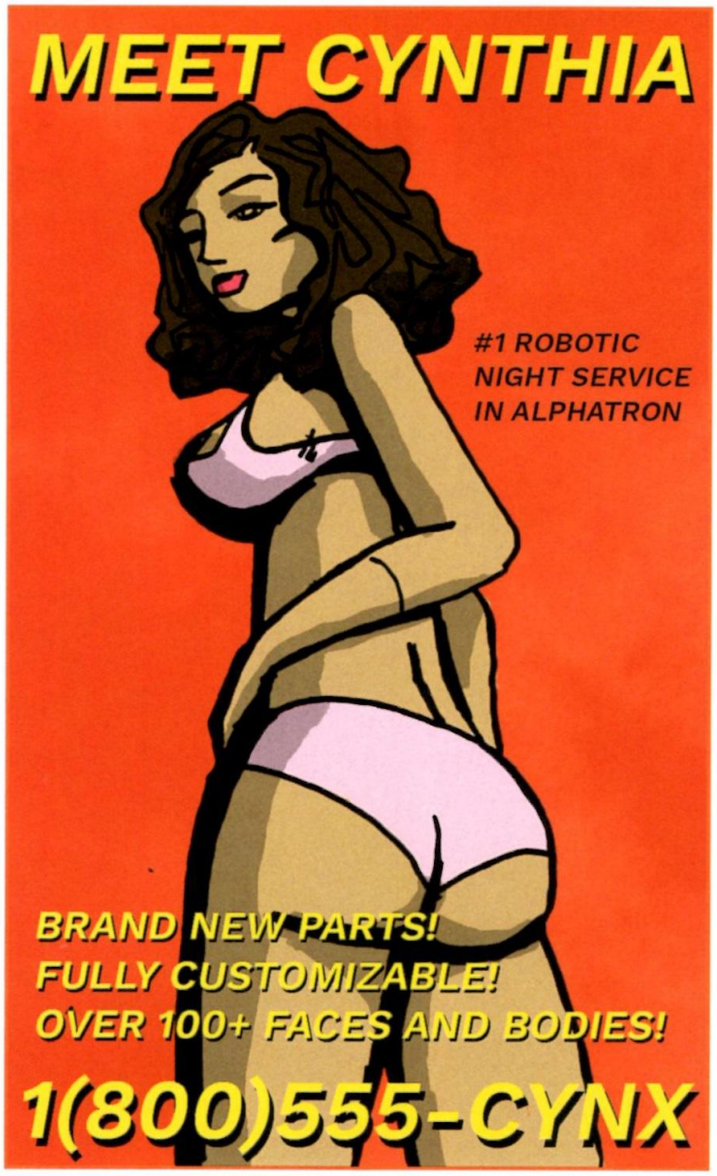

PARDON THE INTERRUPTION, DR. STARR. I HAVEN'T FORGOTTEN ABOUT YOU.
RELEASE THE HOUNDS.
AAIIEEEGH!
NO! YOU SAID YOU'D LET US GO IF HE GAVE YOU THE HELMET! YOU PROMISED!
YOU DON'T LISTEN VERY WELL. THAT'S NOT WHAT I PROMISED AT ALL.
I SAID YOU WOULDN'T SHARE HIS FATE. AND YOU WON'T.
BUT YOU WILL BEAR WITNESS TO IT.
EEEGHHUKK!


UHHH...
WELCOME BACK, YOUNG MAN.
I'D ASK YOU TO JOIN ME FOR DINNER, BUT I DON'T THINK YOU'D CARE FOR THE MAIN COURSE.
ISAAC STARR AU JUS.
NOOO!
DON'T WORRY. I PROMISED YOU WOULDN'T SHARE HIS FATE. AND ALTHOUGH I NEVER SAID I'D LET YOU GO, I'M EVEN GOING TO GIVE YOU A CHANCE TO WIN YOUR FREEDOM.
ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS GET PAST ME.
RELEASE HIM. AND DON'T INTERFERE.
YOU BASTARD!


THAT'S NOT VERY NICE.
WAP
I'LL HAVE YOU KNOW MY PARENTS WERE MARRIED.
WHUD
WHUGG--
I MUST SAY, THIS EVENING'S ENTERTAINMENT HAS BEEN DISAPPOINTING.
AT LEAST WE'RE ENDING WITH FIREWORKS.


EEAAGHH!
AND, AS PROMISED, THE SON DOES NOT MEET THE SAME FATE AS HIS FATHER.
GENTLEMEN, WE'RE LEAVING.
WARNING. SAFETY SHUTDOWN DISABLED. ENERGY LEVELS APPROACHING CRITICAL.
WARNING-- WARNING-- WARNING--
AS THE ENERGY FILLED EVERY CELL IN MY BODY, I WAS READY TO DIE. I WANTED TO DIE.
BUT ALL I REMEMBER IS NEVER-ENDING PAIN.
KRAKABOOOOOM


WHILE I SUFFERED, SO DID THE CITY.
WITHOUT LIFTING A FINGER, SMILEY TOOK OVER THE SOLAR POLICE FORCE ANDROIDS, CONTROLLING THEM ALL WITH HIS THOUGHTS.
HE BROUGHT THEIR LOOK MORE IN LINE WITH HIS SENSIBILITIES...
...ALONG WITH THEIR ACTIONS.
HE HAD AN ARMY. AND WITHIN A MATTER OF HOURS, HE HAD THE CITY.


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SEVERAL HOURS LATER.
MY PAIN DIDN'T STOP. BUT JEREMIAH STARR DID DIE THAT NIGHT.
EVERYTHING HE HAD, EVERYTHING HE WAS, ENDED FOREVER.
AND SOMEONE ELSE WAS BORN.
SOMEONE FILLED WITH THE PRIMAL ENERGIES OF THE STARS. SOMEONE WHO HAD NOTHING, AND WANTED ONLY ONE THING.
REVENGE.
KRAASSH


ONE NAME RAN ENDLESSLY THROUGH HIS MIND.
JACK SMILEY.
JACK SMILEY.
JACK SMILEY.
TO BE CONTINUED!

STARBOY

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