

MARVEL

KIERON GILLEN
JACEN BURROWS
JAVA TARTAGLIA

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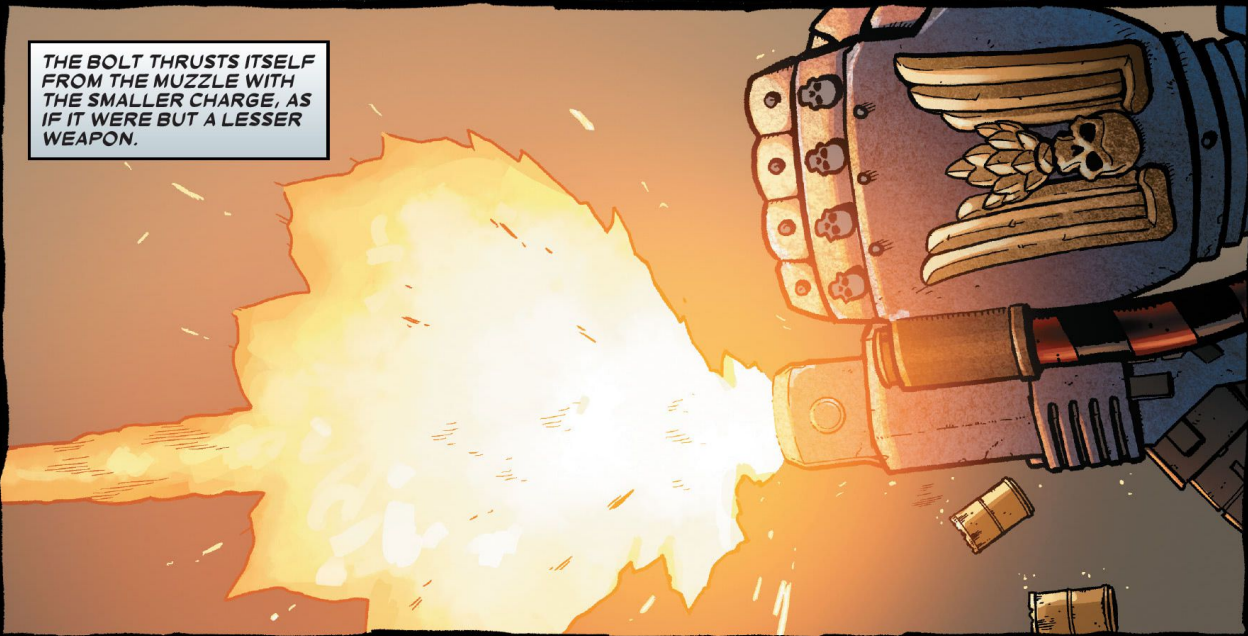
PARENTAL
ADVISORY

WARHAMMER
40,000

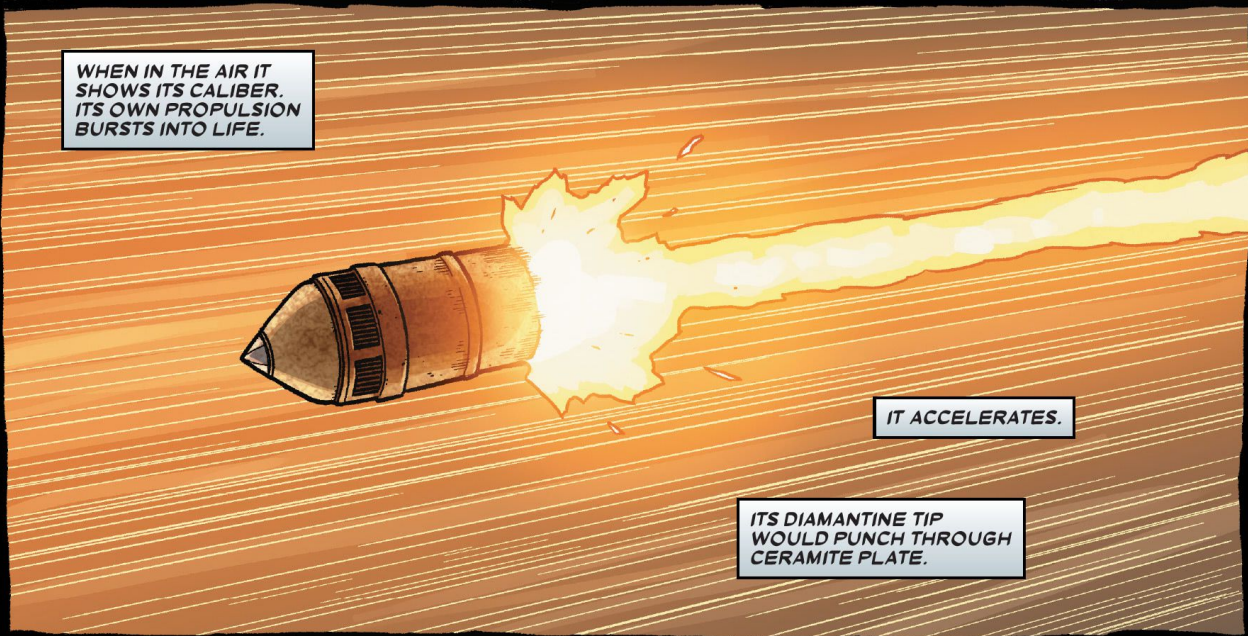
MARNEUS CALGAR



WARHAMMER
OFFICIAL
LICENSED
PRODUCT



THE BOLT THRUSTS ITSELF
FROM THE MUZZLE WITH
THE SMALLER CHARGE, AS
IF IT WERE BUT A LESSER
WEAPON.



WHEN IN THE AIR IT
SHOWS ITS CALIBER.
ITS OWN PROPULSION
BURSTS INTO LIFE.

IT ACCELERATES.

ITS DIAMANTINE TIP
WOULD PUNCH THROUGH
CERAMITE PLATE.



THE
MACHINE
SPIRIT
PAUSES,
GIVING A
MOMENT TO
BURROW
INSIDE...

IT DETONATES.

A HERETIC DIES.



WE
REPEAT.

WARHAMMER

40,000

MARNEUS CALGAR

FOR MORE THAN TEN THOUSAND YEARS THE LIVING CORPSE OF
THE EMPEROR HAS SAT IMMOBILE ON THE GOLDEN THRONE.
THE IMPERIUM OF MAN IS BESET FROM EVERY SIDE.

A MILLION SPACE MARINES, THE EMPEROR'S ANGELS OF DEATH,
DEFEND THESE MILLION WORLDS.

THERE IS NO HOPE. NO PEACE. NO LOVE.

IN THIS GRIM DARKNESS OF THE FAR FUTURE, THERE IS ONLY WAR.

AND HEROES LIKE MARNEUS CALGAR FIGHT IT.

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WARHAMMER 40,000: MARNEUS CALGAR No. 1. Published Monthly by MARVEL WORLDWIDE, INC., a subsidiary of MARVEL ENTERTAINMENT, LLC. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 1290 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10104. Warhammer 40,000: Marneus Calgar © Copyright Games Workshop Limited 2020. Marneus Calgar, the Marneus Calgar logo, GW, Games Workshop, Space Marine, 40K, Warhammer, Warhammer 40,000, the 'Aquila' Double-headed Eagle logo, and all associated logos, illustrations, images, names, creatures, races, vehicles, locations, weapons, characters, and the distinctive likeness thereof, are either © or TM, and/or © Games Workshop Limited, variably registered around the world, and used under licence. © 2020 MARVEL No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. All rights reserved to their respective owners.

**NOVA THULIUM,
MACRAGGE SYSTEM, ULTRAMAR.
NOW.**

[0010K] LORD
CALGAR?

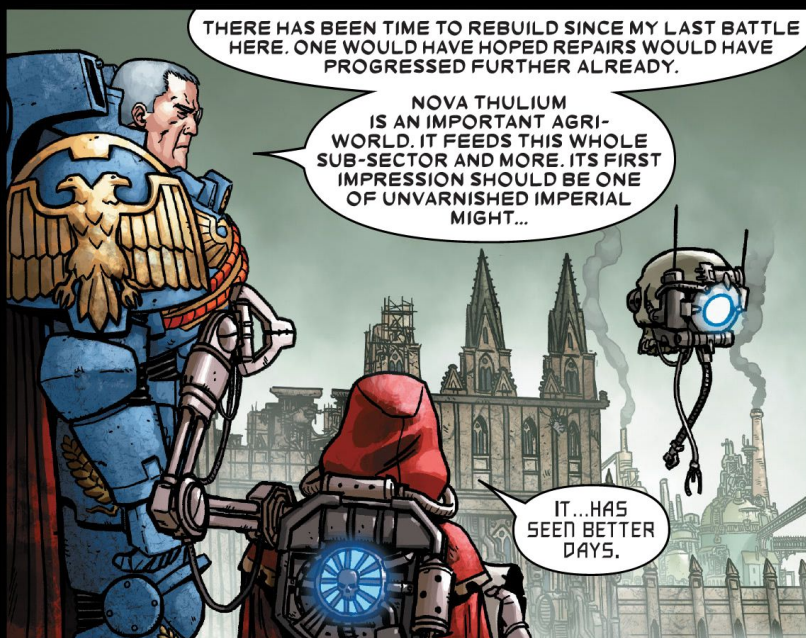
I AM
96.875% SURE
YOUR MIND IS
ELSEWHERE...





KLLK.

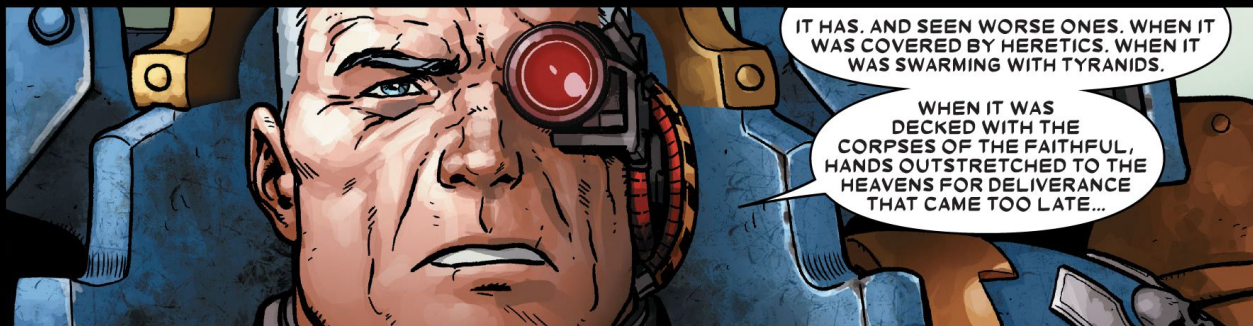
LORD?



THERE HAS BEEN TIME TO REBUILD SINCE MY LAST BATTLE HERE. ONE WOULD HAVE HOPED REPAIRS WOULD HAVE PROGRESSED FURTHER ALREADY.

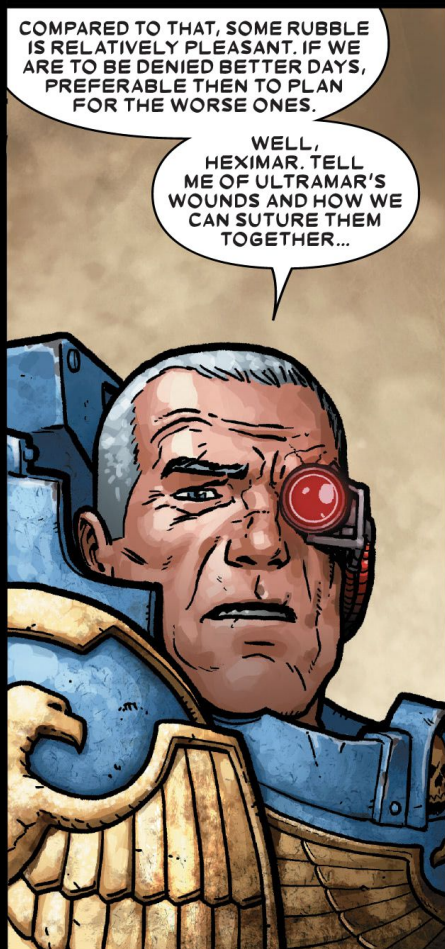
NOVA THULIUM IS AN IMPORTANT AGRI-WORLD. IT FEEDS THIS WHOLE SUB-SECTOR AND MORE. ITS FIRST IMPRESSION SHOULD BE ONE OF UNVARNISHED IMPERIAL MIGHT...

IT...HAS SEEN BETTER DAYS.



IT HAS. AND SEEN WORSE ONES. WHEN IT WAS COVERED BY HERETICS. WHEN IT WAS SWARMING WITH TYRANIDS.

WHEN IT WAS DECKED WITH THE CORPSES OF THE FAITHFUL, HANDS OUTSTRETCHED TO THE HEAVENS FOR DELIVERANCE THAT CAME TOO LATE...



COMPARED TO THAT, SOME RUBBLE IS RELATIVELY PLEASANT. IF WE ARE TO BE DENIED BETTER DAYS, PREFERABLE THEN TO PLAN FOR THE WORSE ONES.

WELL, HEXIMAR. TELL ME OF ULTRAMAR'S WOUNDS AND HOW WE CAN SUTURE THEM TOGETHER...



WHILE SOME OF MY TEAMS ARE STILL IN THE FIELD, I HAVE SOME INITIAL ANALYSIS THAT--

MY LORD. THERE IS AN ATTACK.

HERE.



A FORCE OF HERETICS. THEY CRASHED A TRANSPORT VESSEL INTO ONE OF THE HARVEST'S FRONT LINES.

HOW SUCH A SMALL FORCE MANAGED TO PENETRATE SO FAR INTO OUR DOMAIN IS...AS YET UNKNOWN, MY LORD.

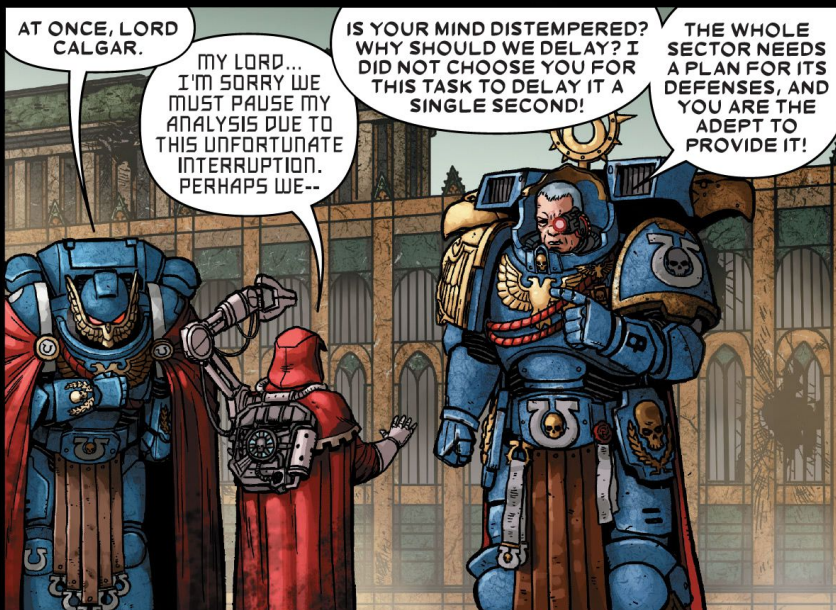
HMM. CLEVER HERETICS.



THE REWARD FOR SUCH UNEXPLAINED INGENUITY IS DEATH.

THIS REQUIRES AN IMMEDIATE AND PERSONAL RESPONSE.

PREPARE A THUNDERHAWK. BRING ME A DEMI-COMPANY OF MARINES. UNSEAL THE GAUNTLETS OF ULTRAMAR.

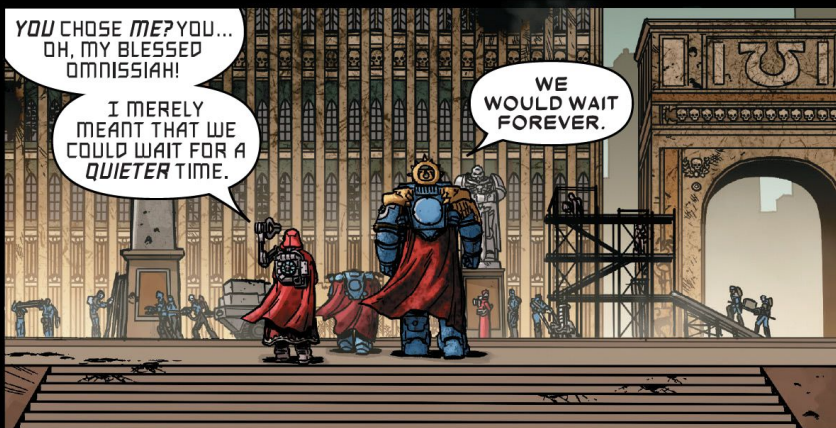


AT ONCE, LORD CALGAR.

MY LORD... I'M SORRY WE MUST PAUSE MY ANALYSIS DUE TO THIS UNFORTUNATE INTERRUPTION. PERHAPS WE--

IS YOUR MIND DISTEMPERED? WHY SHOULD WE DELAY? I DID NOT CHOOSE YOU FOR THIS TASK TO DELAY IT A SINGLE SECOND!

THE WHOLE SECTOR NEEDS A PLAN FOR ITS DEFENSES, AND YOU ARE THE ADEPT TO PROVIDE IT!



YOU CHOSE ME? YOU... OH, MY BLESSED OMNISHIAH!

I MERELY MEANT THAT WE COULD WAIT FOR A QUIETER TIME.

WE WOULD WAIT FOREVER.



DID YOU THINK WE WERE IN A TIME OF PEACE, LITTLE ADEPT?

THE MACRAGGE SYSTEM

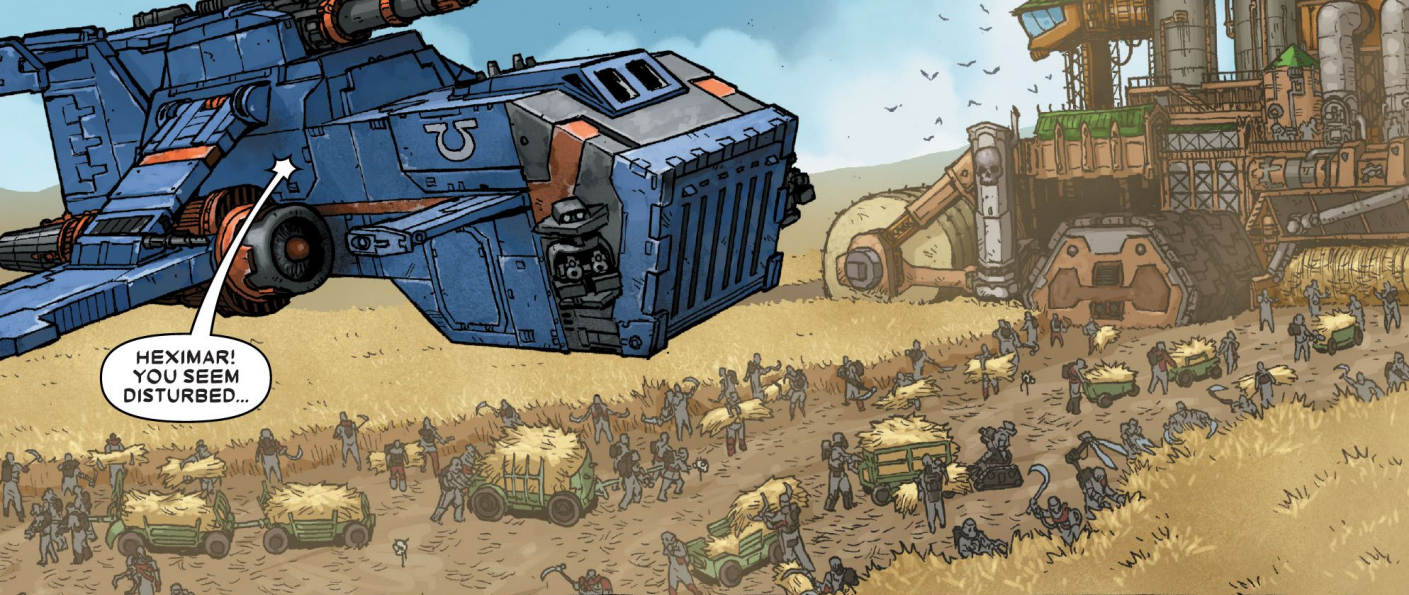
THE HOME OF THE ULTRAMARINES SPACE MARINES CHAPTER.

CAPITAL WORLD: MACRAGGE

A functional sub-empire inside the larger Imperium, this realm is the purview of the Ultramarines and their Successor Chapters. It is one of the relative bastions of stability in a universe of horror. Until the recent disasters, the average human life expectancy even managed to reach the mid-thirties.

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HEXIMAR!
YOU SEEM
DISTURBED...

AN UNFORTUNATELY TWITCHY
MACHINE SPIRIT DWELLS IN
MY LIMBS. IT DOES--KLLK--
AGITATE AT HIGH
ALTITUDES...

...BUT
IN TRUTH, YOU
CHOOSING ME MAY
BE A CONTRIBUTING
FACTOR. YOU
KNOW ME?

I AM THE CHAPTER MASTER
OF THE ULTRAMARINES AND
LORD OF ULTRAMAR. I
KNOW EVERY WEAPON
IN MY ARMY.

THE
IMPERIUM IS
TORN ASUNDER.
WE NEED SUPPLY. YOU
ARE THE MOST PROMINENT
ADEPT IN THE WHOLE
SECTOR. THIS BATTLE OF
GRAPHS IS YOURS.

I NEED
YOU TO ENSURE
THERE ARE WEAPONS
IN EVERY HAND THAT
NEEDS ONE. FIND A WAY.

MY LORD, I AM BUT A COGITATOR. I KNOW
THERE ARE MANY BATTLES THAT DATA
ALONE WOULD SUGGEST ARE
UNWINNABLE.

ACCORDING TO
MY STUDIES--[[KKIOIOIO]]--
THERE WERE INSUFFICIENT
BOLTER SHELLS ON MACRAGGE
TO DEFEAT HIVE FLEET
BEHEMOTH, FOR EXAMPLE,
YET YOU STILL FOUND
VICTORY...

DUTY DOES
NOT CARE WHAT
WEAPON IT HAS. IF NOT
BOLTS, BLADES. IF NOT
BLADES, FISTS. DUTY IS
A WEAPON THAT DOES
NOT BREAK...

BUT, GIVEN THE
CHOICE, WE PREFER
THE BEST WEAPONS. GIVE
US A GRAND SURFEIT OF THAT.

I THINK "THE
TASK IS IMPOSSIBLE"...
BUT I KNOW NOTHING IS
IMPOSSIBLE FOR ONE WITH
SUFFICIENT FAITH IN
THE GLORIOUS
OMNISSIAH.

I AM
HONORED, MY
LORD.

YOU ARE.
BUT I HAVE
OFTEN THOUGHT
HONOR IS MERELY
DUTY WITH A
FEW PURITY
SEALS.

DO NOT
FAIL.

VERY WELL. WITH THE HOLY ANALYSIS GATHERED BY MY FELLOW ADEPTS SO FAR, I THINK WE COULD INCREASE SUPPLY BY ONE-POINT-TWO PERCENT IF WE MODULA--

AH, QUINTUS.

MY APOLOGIES.

WE MUST PAUSE ONCE MORE.

"I HAVE
OTHER BUSINESS
TO ATTEND TO."



LATER.

ARE THESE
MATTERS CONCLUDED
TO YOUR SATISFACTION,
MY LORD?

NO.

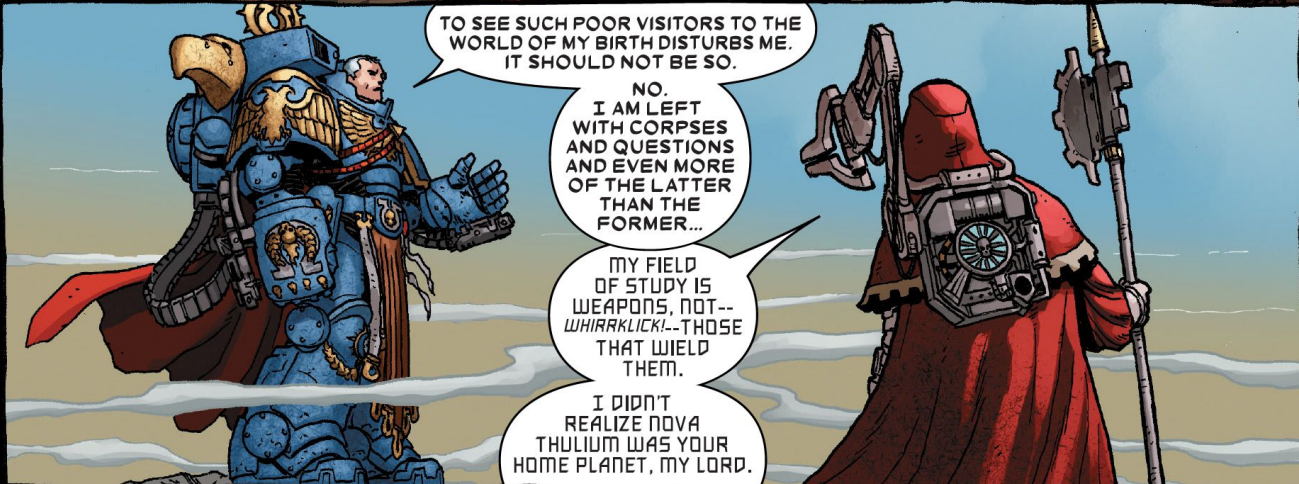


TO SEE SUCH POOR VISITORS TO THE
WORLD OF MY BIRTH DISTURBS ME.
IT SHOULD NOT BE SO.

NO.
I AM LEFT
WITH CORPSES
AND QUESTIONS
AND EVEN MORE
OF THE LATTER
THAN THE
FORMER...

MY FIELD
OF STUDY IS
WEAPONS, NOT--
WHIRRLICK!--THOSE
THAT WIELD
THEM.

I DIDN'T
REALIZE NOVA
THULIUM WAS YOUR
HOME PLANET, MY LORD.



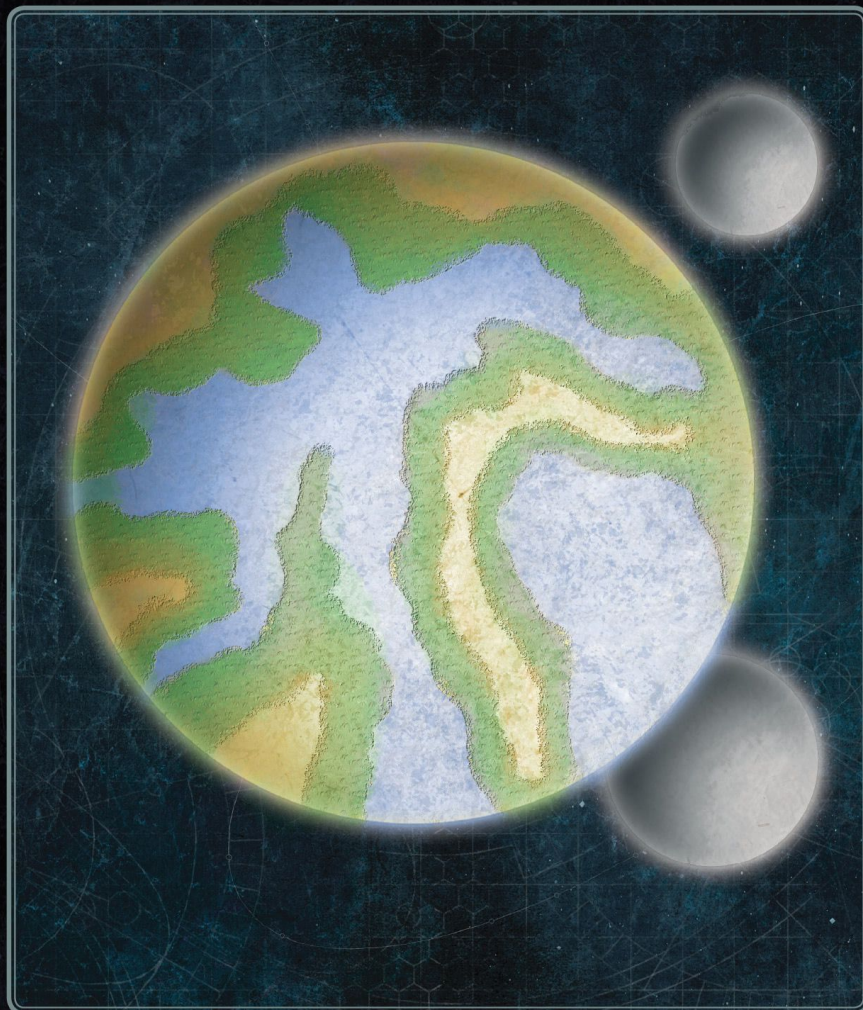
THIS PLACE
WAS NEVER MY
HOME.

IT IS
SIMPLY WHERE I
WAS FROM.



NOVA THULIUM

SYSTEM: MACRAGGE
SUB-SECTOR: ULTRAMAR
SEGMENTUM: ULTIMA



Working under the feudal system common across the Imperium, Agri-world Nova Thulium provides the vast majority of the food for the rest of the Macragge system. However, due to the demands of the endless mouths of the neighboring hive world Ardium, malnutrition is common. This proves to be a secondary concern due to the endemic chemlung suffered by the workers. A productive life beyond forty is unlikely. When the body fails, they can still serve the Emperor—as a natural supplement to the artificial fertilizers that killed them.

Thought for the Day:

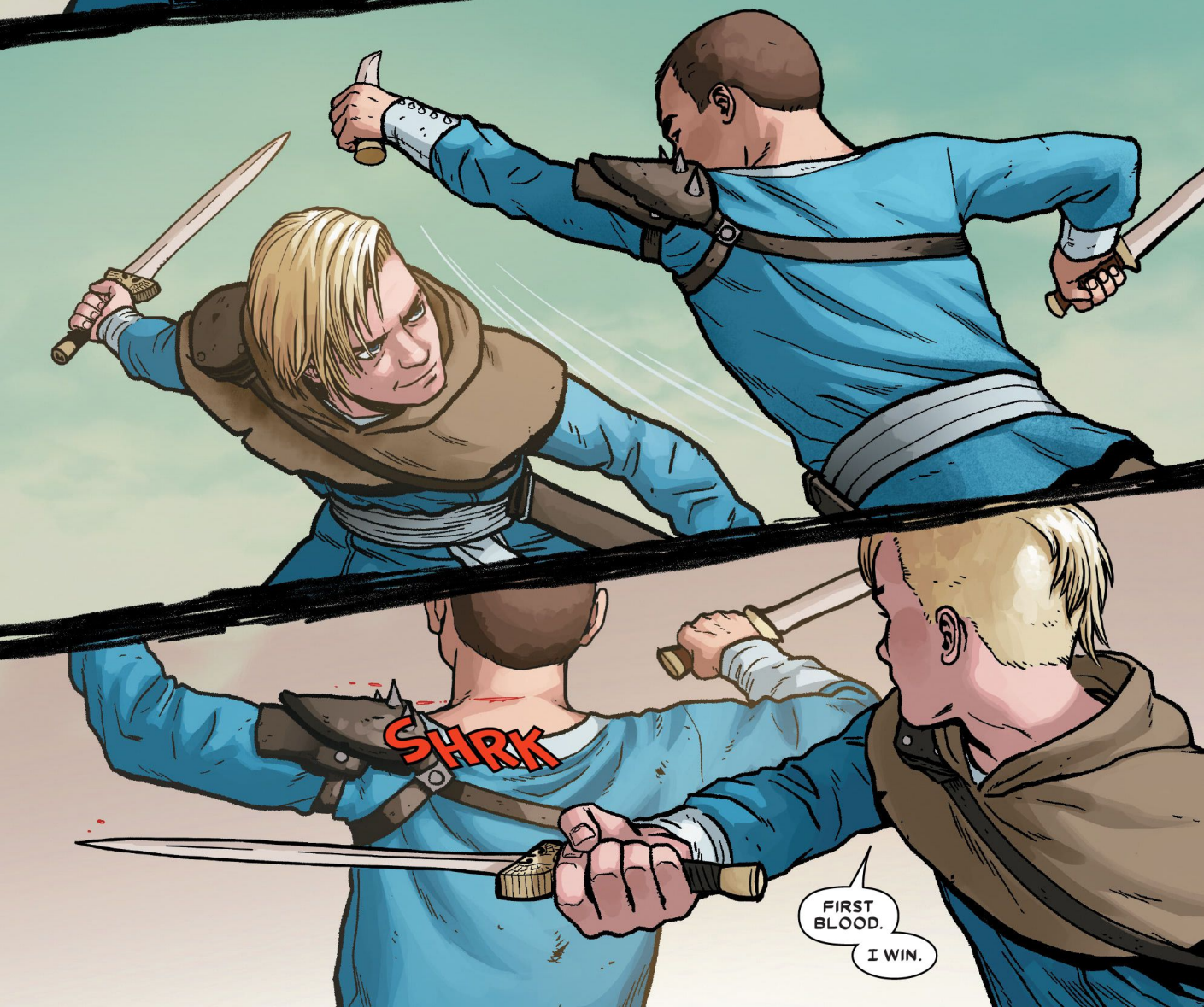
A farmer who fails to feed the soldier is as much an abomination as a soldier who flees the battlefield.

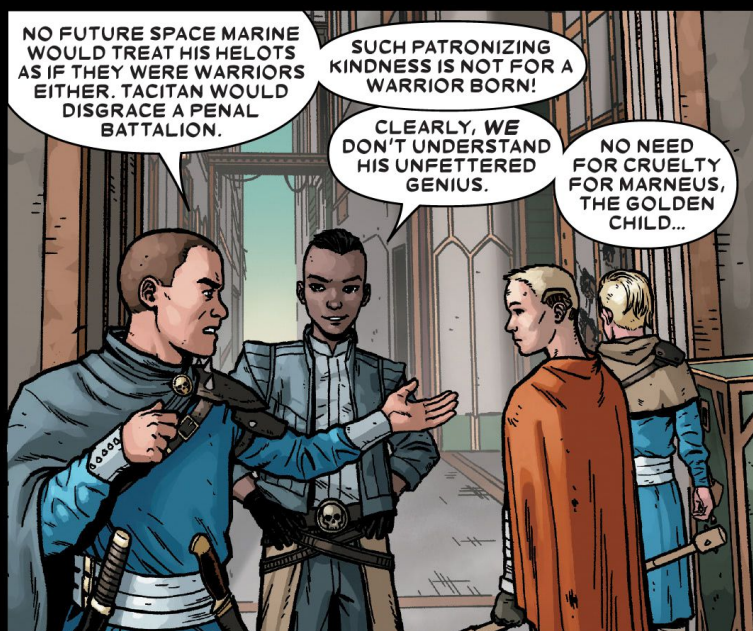
NOVA THULIUM,
CENTURIES EARLIER.

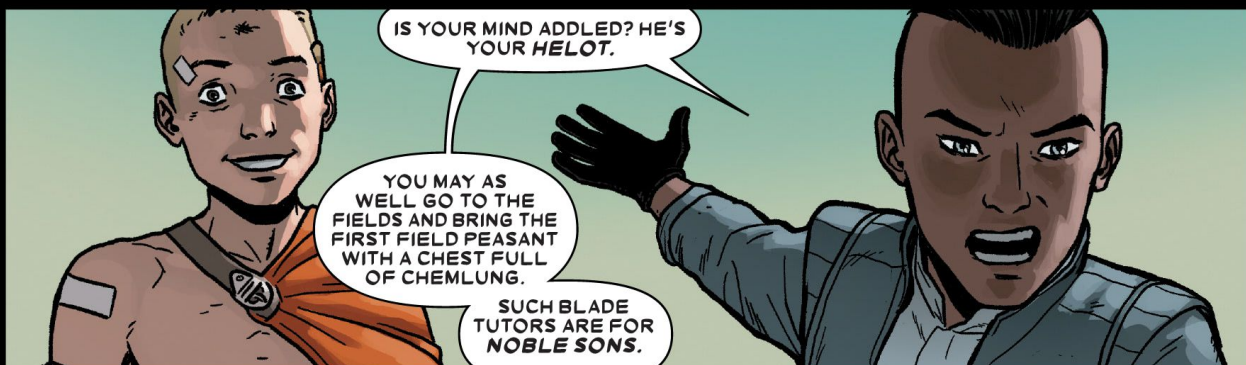
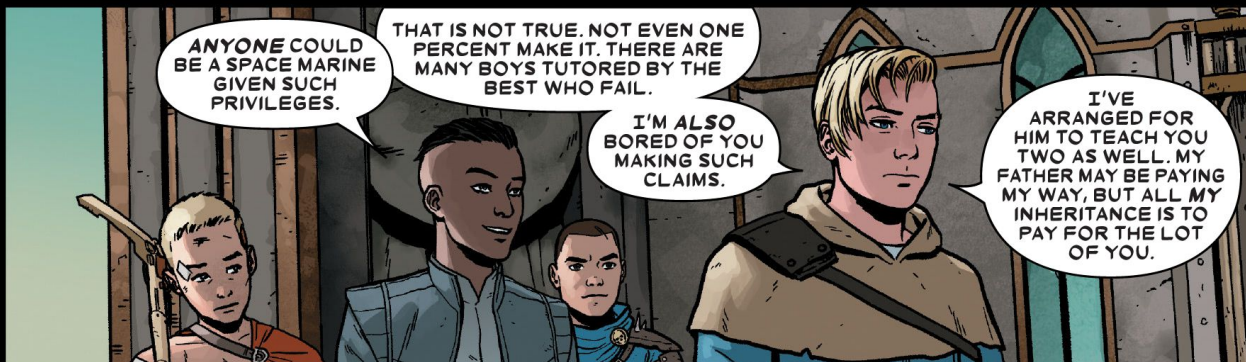
MARNEUS!

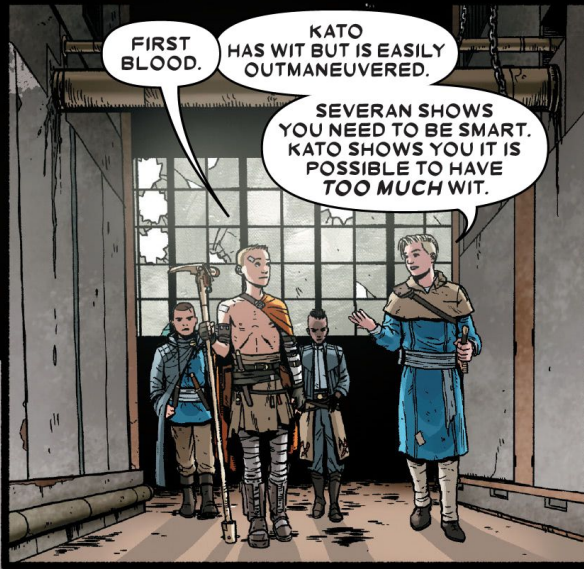










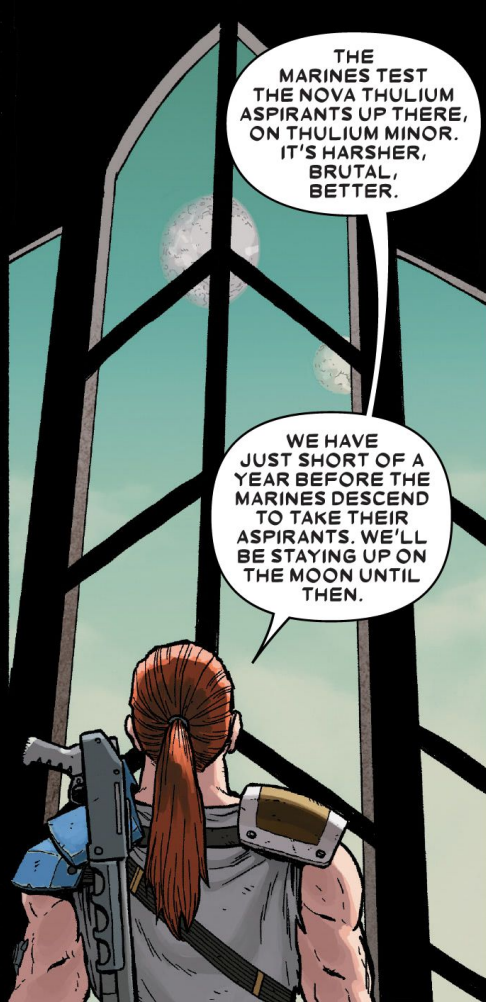






NOW, MARINES
OFTEN TEST ASPIRANTS
ON THEIR HOMEWORLD
BEFORE SHIPPING THEM
OFF...BUT NOVA THULIUM
IS TOO SOFT.

THIS
PLANET GROWS
GRAIN, NOT
WARRIORS.



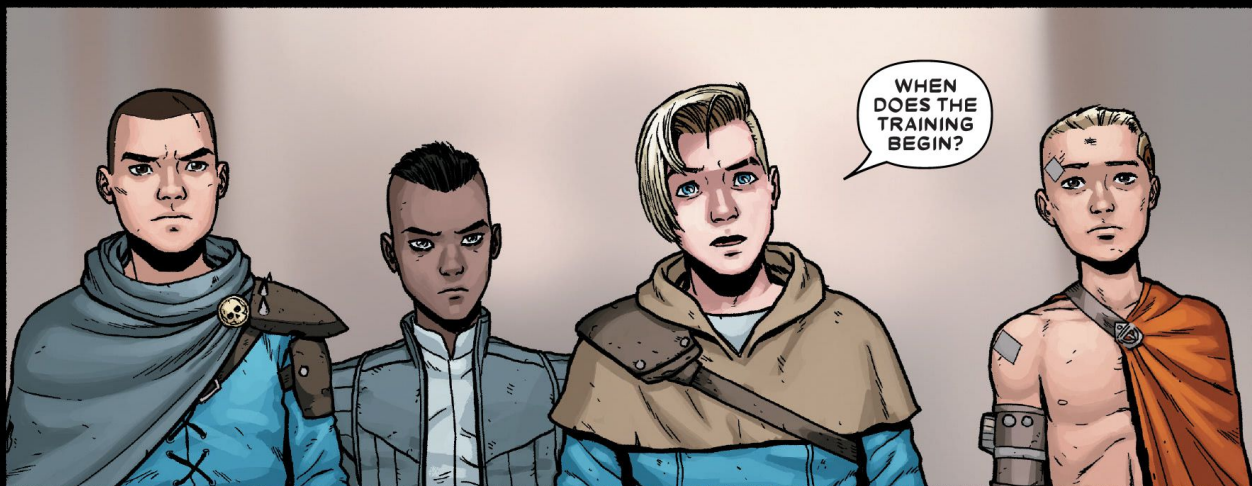
THE
MARINES TEST
THE NOVA THULIUM
ASPIRANTS UP THERE,
ON THULIUM MINOR.
IT'S HARSHER,
BRUTAL,
BETTER.

WE HAVE
JUST SHORT OF A
YEAR BEFORE THE
MARINES DESCEND
TO TAKE THEIR
ASPIRANTS. WE'LL
BE STAYING UP ON
THE MOON UNTIL
THEN.



IT'S A
FROZEN HELL. IT'S
GLORIOUS.

IT WILL
MAKE MEN OF YOU,
OR IT WILL MAKE
CORPSES.



WHEN
DOES THE
TRAINING
BEGIN?



LAST NIGHT
WAS THE FINAL
TIME YOU WILL
SLEEP IN YOUR
OWN BEDS.

LET'S GET
MOVING.

SPACE MARINE INITIATION TIMELINE

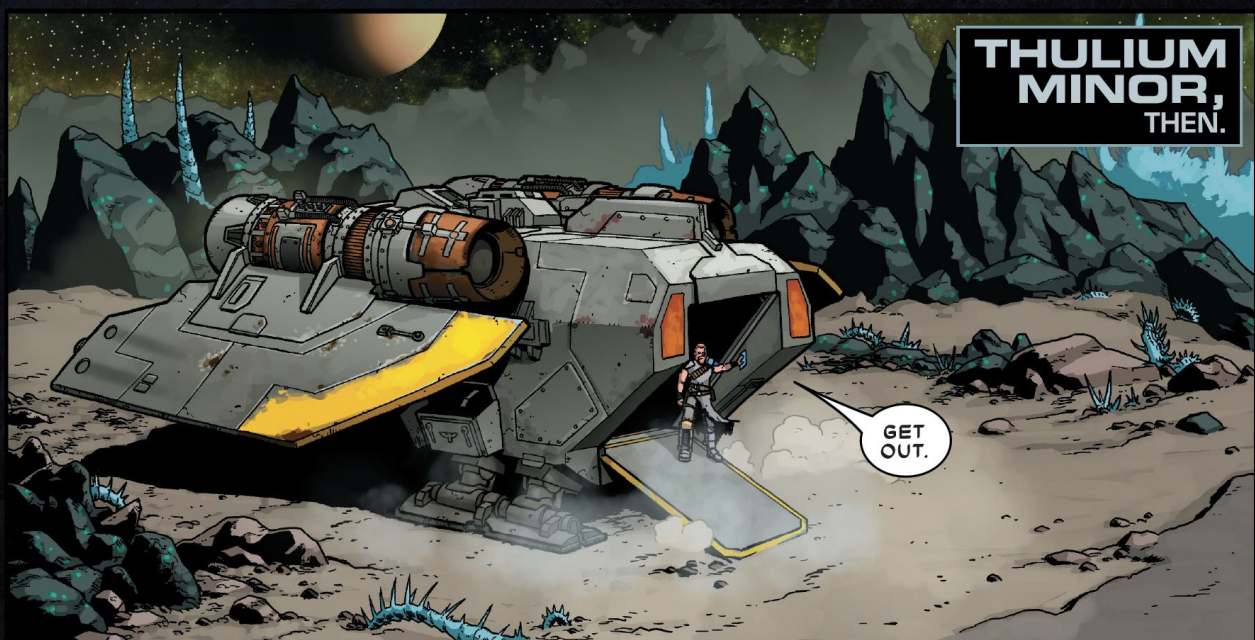


ASPIRANTS (C. 10-12 YEARS OLD)
ASPIRANTS: CANDIDATES TESTED FOR PHYSICAL, EMOTIONAL, AND SPIRITUAL SUITABILITY. FAILURE RATE IS CLOSE TO 100%.

NEOPHYTES
ALONGSIDE A PERIOD OF INTENSIVE TRAINING, INDOCTRINATION, CONDITIONING, AND CHEMICAL ENHANCEMENT, NEOPHYTES HAVE NINETEEN NEW BIOLOGICAL ORGANS IMPLANTED. EVENTUALLY, IF THEY BOTH SURVIVE AND ARE DEEMED COMPETENT, THEY ARE PUT INTO THE FIELD TO ACT AS SCOUTS AS PART OF THE CHAPTER'S 10TH COMPANY.



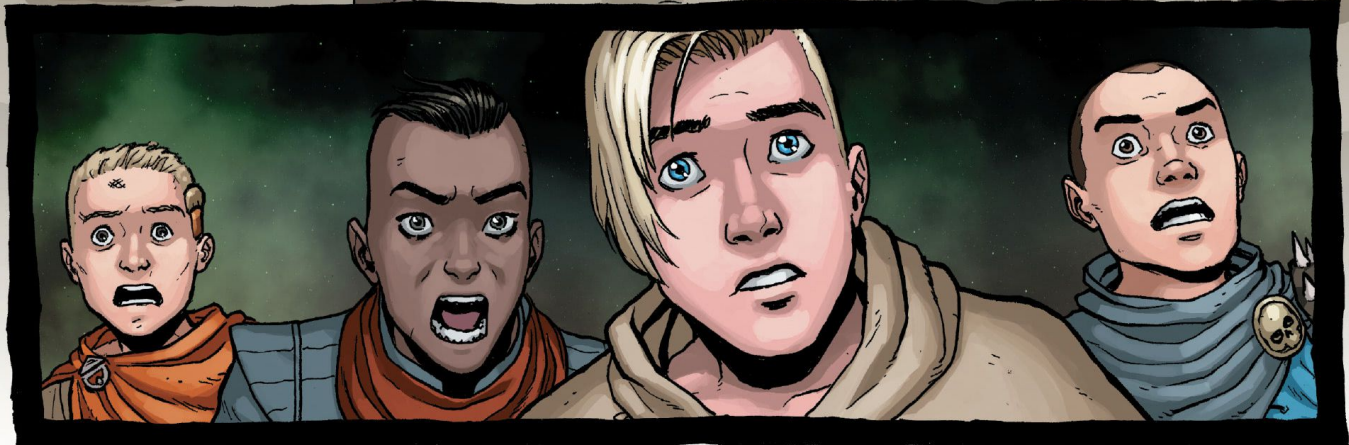
MARINES (C.16-18 YEARS OLD)
THE SURVIVING NEOPHYTES ARE PROMOTED TO FULL SPACE MARINE BATTLE BROTHERS, AND GAIN FURTHER EXPERIENCE IN THE RESERVE COMPANIES OF THE CHAPTER.



**THULIUM
MINOR,
THEN.**

GET
OUT.

GGGGHHHHH!



NOW.

IT SHAMES ME TO ADMIT THAT I AM MORE EXPERIENCED WITH BATTLE UPON A MAP OR CHART.

I HAVE NEVER SEEN COMBAT LIKE... THIS.

UNTIL THE GREAT RIFT I RARELY SAW THIS EITHER. RAIDS ATTACKING THE EDGES OF THE REALM OF ULTRAMAR IS ONE THING.

ATTACKING WORLDS AT THEIR HEARTS, IN SUCH INSUFFICIENT NUMBERS? WITH NO HOPE OF ESCAPE?

THIS ATTACK WAS SUICIDAL. WHY?

TO UNDERSTAND THE MIND OF A HERETIC IS HERESY IN AND OF ITSELF.

HMM. PERHAPS...BUT TO DEFEAT YOUR FOE YOU MUST KNOW THEIR GOALS. THERE IS MORE AFOOT HERE.

LET ME CONSIDER. WHIRR... WHIRR... WHIRR...

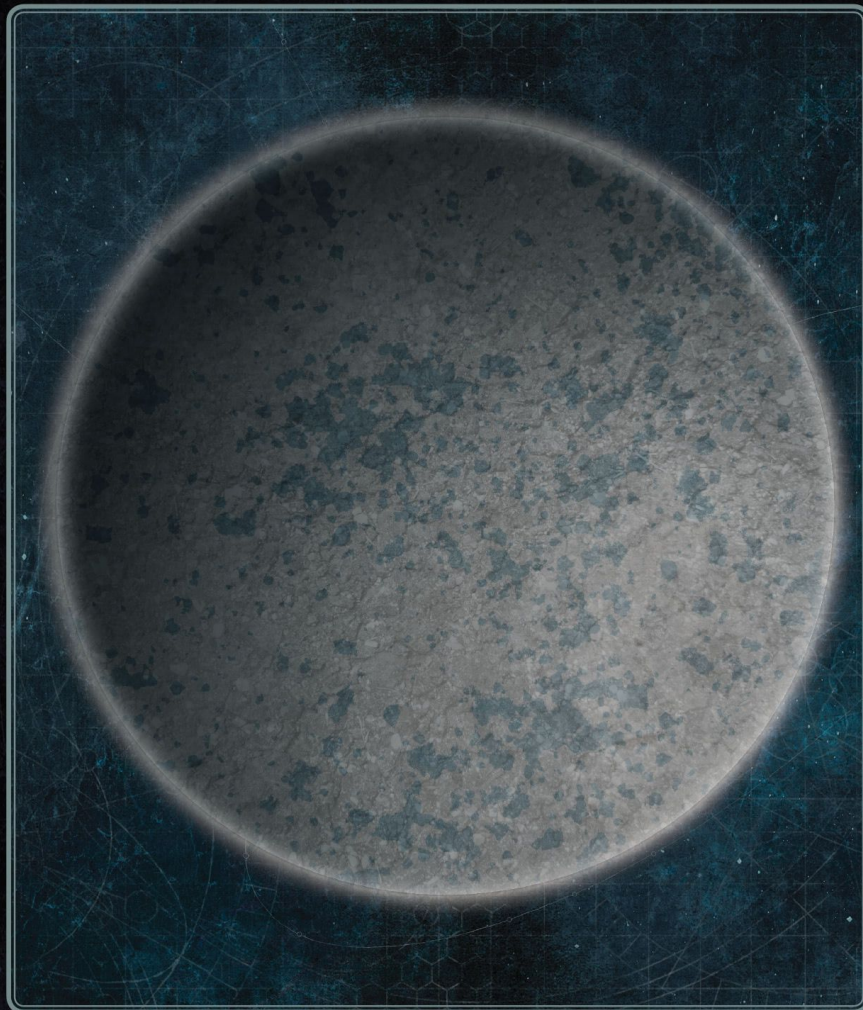
THE OMNISSIAH DOES NOT GIVE ME THE REQUIRED INSIGHT.

WHAT COULD THEY DESIRE?

THAT IS WHAT I WILL DISCOVER.

THULIUM MINOR

SYSTEM: MACRAGGE
SUB-SECTOR: ULTRAMAR
SEGMENTUM: ULTIMA



The smallest habitable moon of the agri-world of Nova Thulium, its primary historical use was testing Aspirants of the Ultramarines. In recent centuries, it was transformed into an orbital strongpoint. Adeptus Mechanicus adepts of the Ordo Reductor rated it 1.5 on Saint Arthos' scale of indestructibility. It was devastated during the 13th Black Crusade.

Thought for the Day:
Why are you thinking?

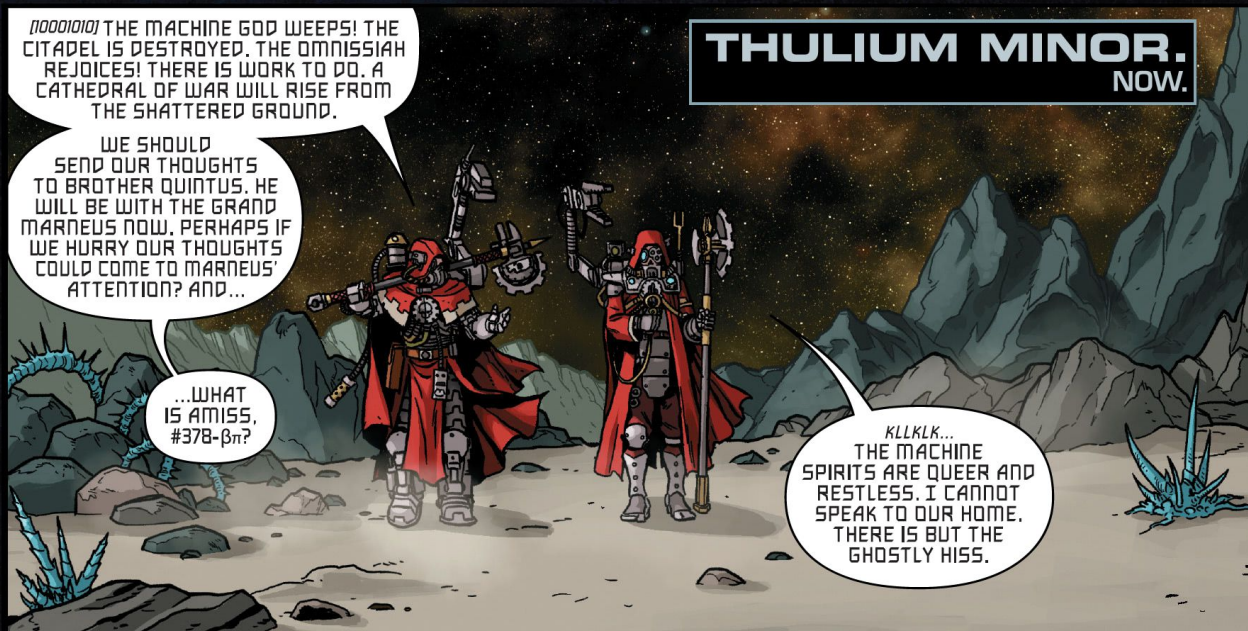
[00001010] THE MACHINE GOD WEEPS! THE CITADEL IS DESTROYED. THE OMNISSIAH REJOICES! THERE IS WORK TO DO. A CATHEDRAL OF WAR WILL RISE FROM THE SHATTERED GROUND.

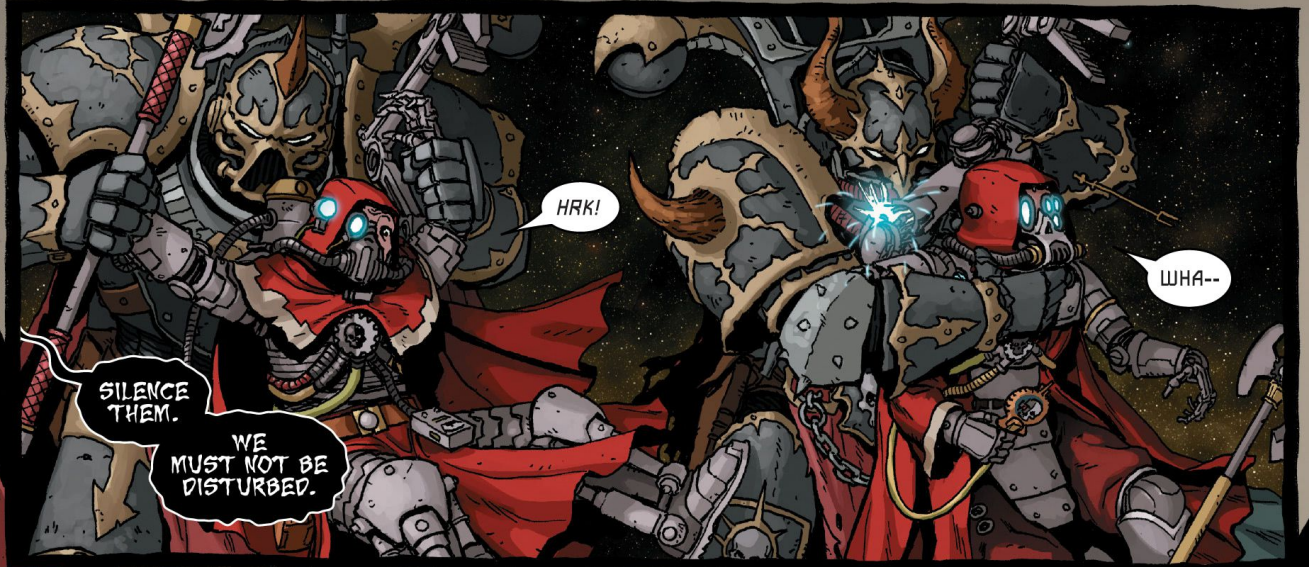
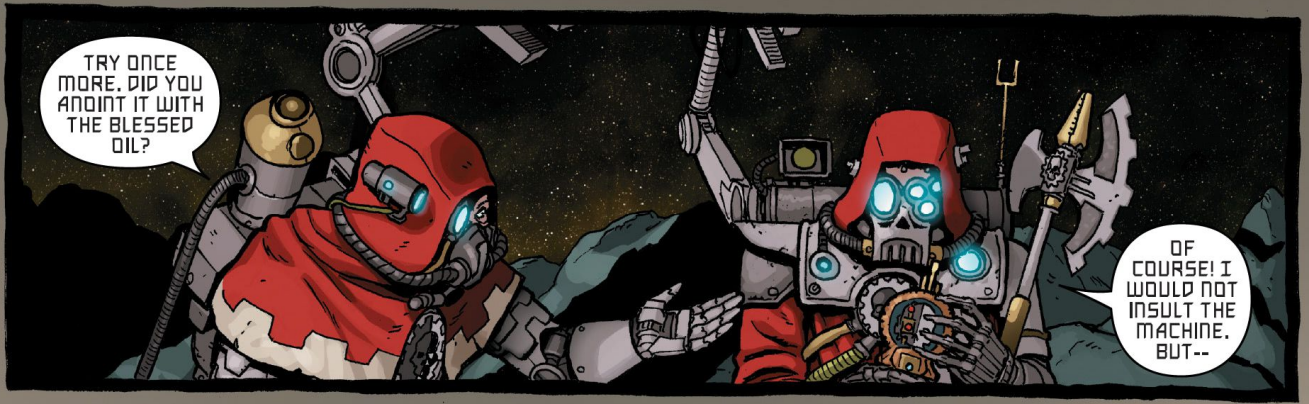
WE SHOULD SEND OUR THOUGHTS TO BROTHER QUINTUS. HE WILL BE WITH THE GRAND MARNEUS NOW. PERHAPS IF WE HURRY OUR THOUGHTS COULD COME TO MARNEUS' ATTENTION? AND...

...WHAT IS AMISS, #378-βπ?

THULIUM MINOR.
NOW.

KLLKLLK...
THE MACHINE SPIRITS ARE QUEER AND RESTLESS. I CANNOT SPEAK TO OUR HOME. THERE IS BUT THE GHOSTLY HISS.





NEXT

