

THERE IS THE WORLD WE KNOW, WHERE GOOD MEN STRUGGLE AGAINST THE SELFISH AND THE CRUEL.



BUT THERE IS A REALITY BEYOND THE WORLD WE KNOW. A REALITY WHERE THE SELFISH AND THE CRUEL ARE EMBRACED, AND THE QUALITIES OF KINDNESS AND MERCY ARE NOT SEEN AS IDEALS TO BE LAUDED, BUT INSTEAD WEAKNESSES TO BE SNUFFED OUT.

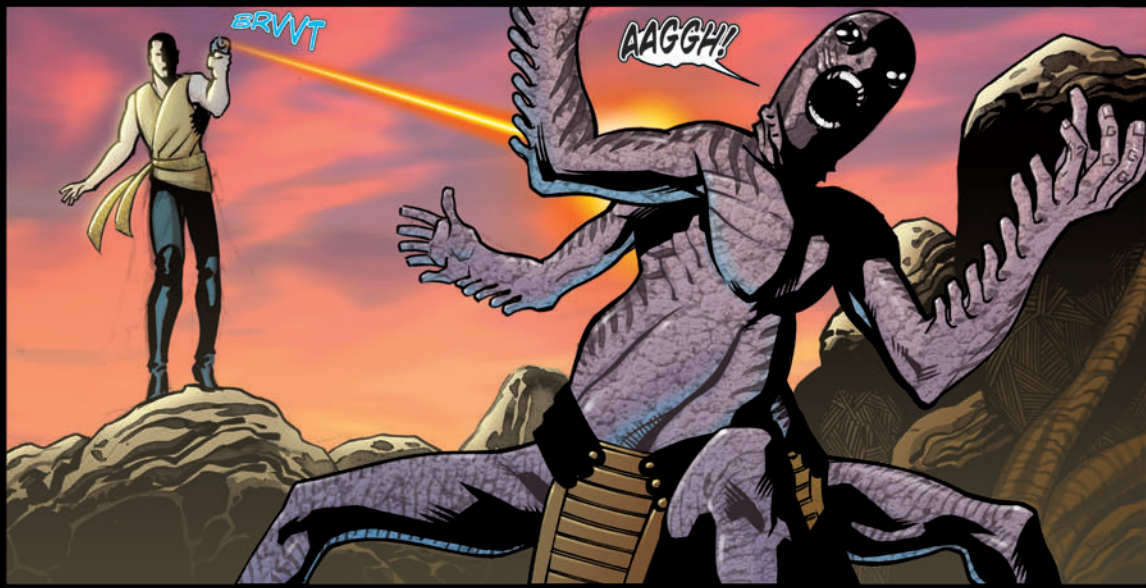


A REALITY THAT AT FIRST GLANCE SEEMS IDENTICAL, BUT IS IN FACT REVEALED TO BE A TWISTED, DARK REFLECTION OF OUR OWN. AND THEREIN LIES THE IRONY. FOR HOW CAN A WORLD THAT SEEMS SO FAMILIAR...



...BE SO DIFFERENT?





BRVT

AAGGH!



GOT HIM.

BREE EEP



PIKE
HERE.

THIS IS
KELSO, CAPTAIN.
THE MINES HAVE
BEEN TAKEN.

ACKNOWLEDGED,
LIEUTENANT. MEET
ME BACK AT THE
BELLARMIINE FOR A
FULL REPORT.

TELL YOUR MEN
TO MAKE SURE TO LEAVE
ENOUGH OF THESE THINGS ALIVE
TO KEEP THE MINES OPERATING.
AS FOR THE REST—TELL THEM
TO ENJOY THE HUNT.

AYE,
SIR.

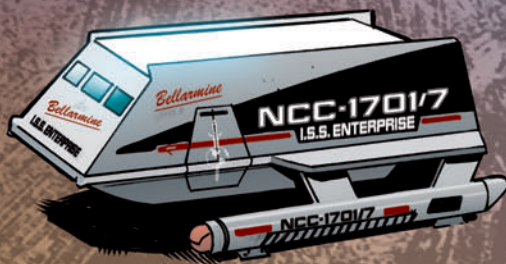


THE DILITHIUM MINES ARE INDEED AS RICH AS THE SCANNERS HAVE INDICATED, SIR. THE MILITIA THESE PRIMITIVES HAD ORGANIZED HAS BEEN ROUTED. AND WE'RE ROUNDING UP THE STRAGGLERS NOW.



EXCELLENT! A MOST REWARDING ENDEAVOR! HAVE AS MUCH DILITHIUM AS IS ALREADY PROCESSED BEAMED TO THE SHIP'S STORES, AND SELECT SEVERAL OF THE MORE AMBITIOUS NATIVES TO SERVE AS OVERSEERS, SO AS TO KEEP THE MINES GOING FOR THE NEXT IMPERIAL VESSEL.

THERE'S ALWAYS ONE OR TWO GREEDY ONES IN THE BUNCH WHO SEE THE ADVANTAGE OF COOPERATION.



YES, SIR!

I'M HEADING BACK TO THE ENTERPRISE. SIGNAL WHEN YOUR SQUADRON IS READY TO BE BEAMED UP.





KA-
BOOM!

