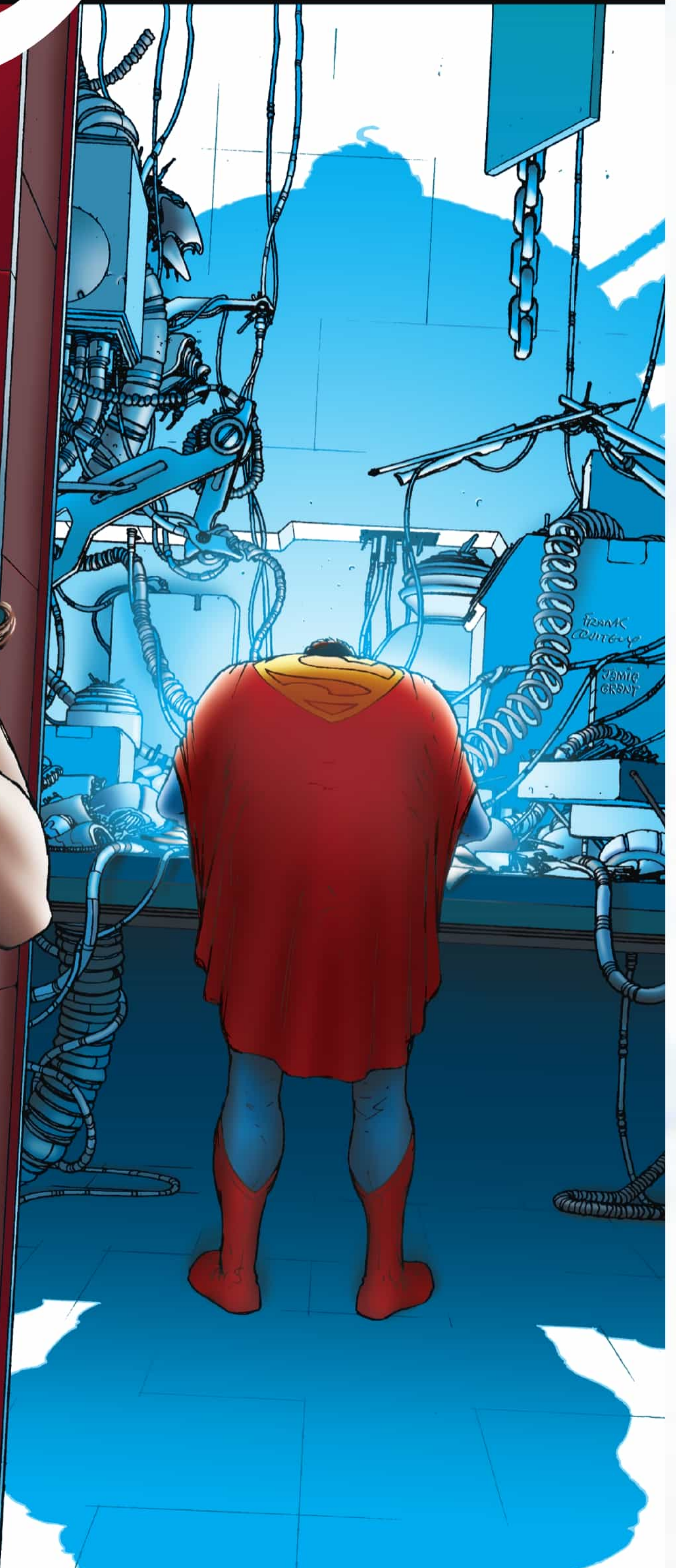
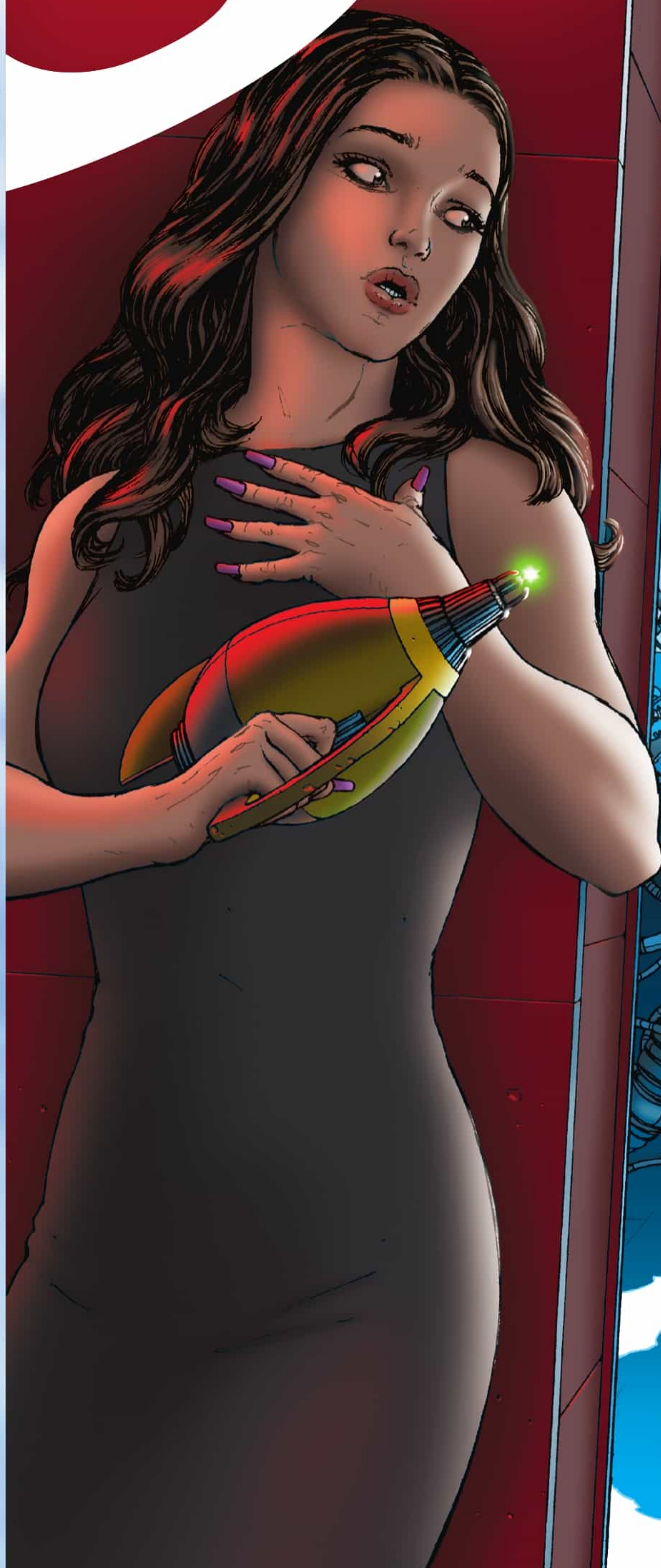


ALL★  
STAR

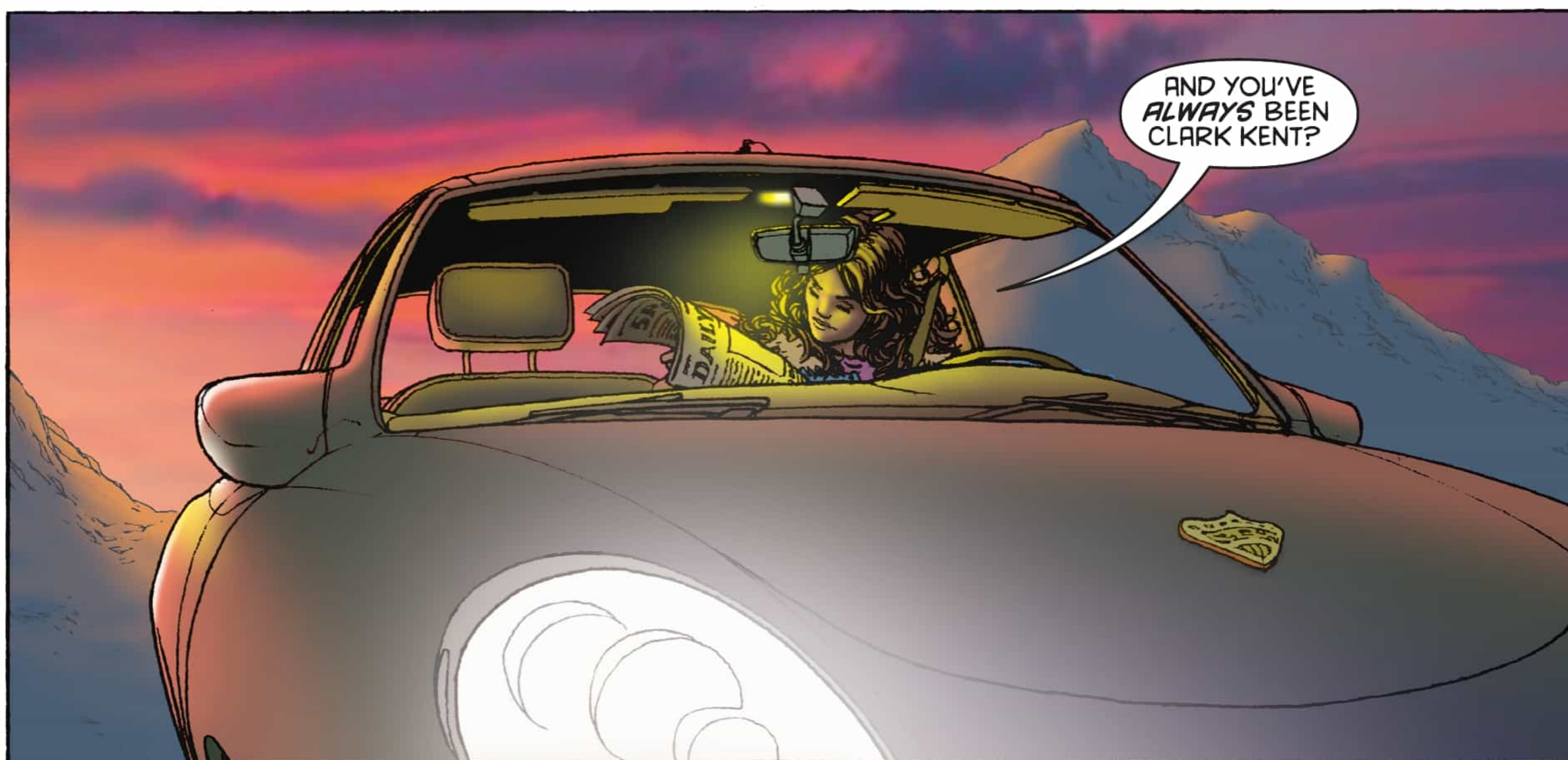
# SUPERMAN®



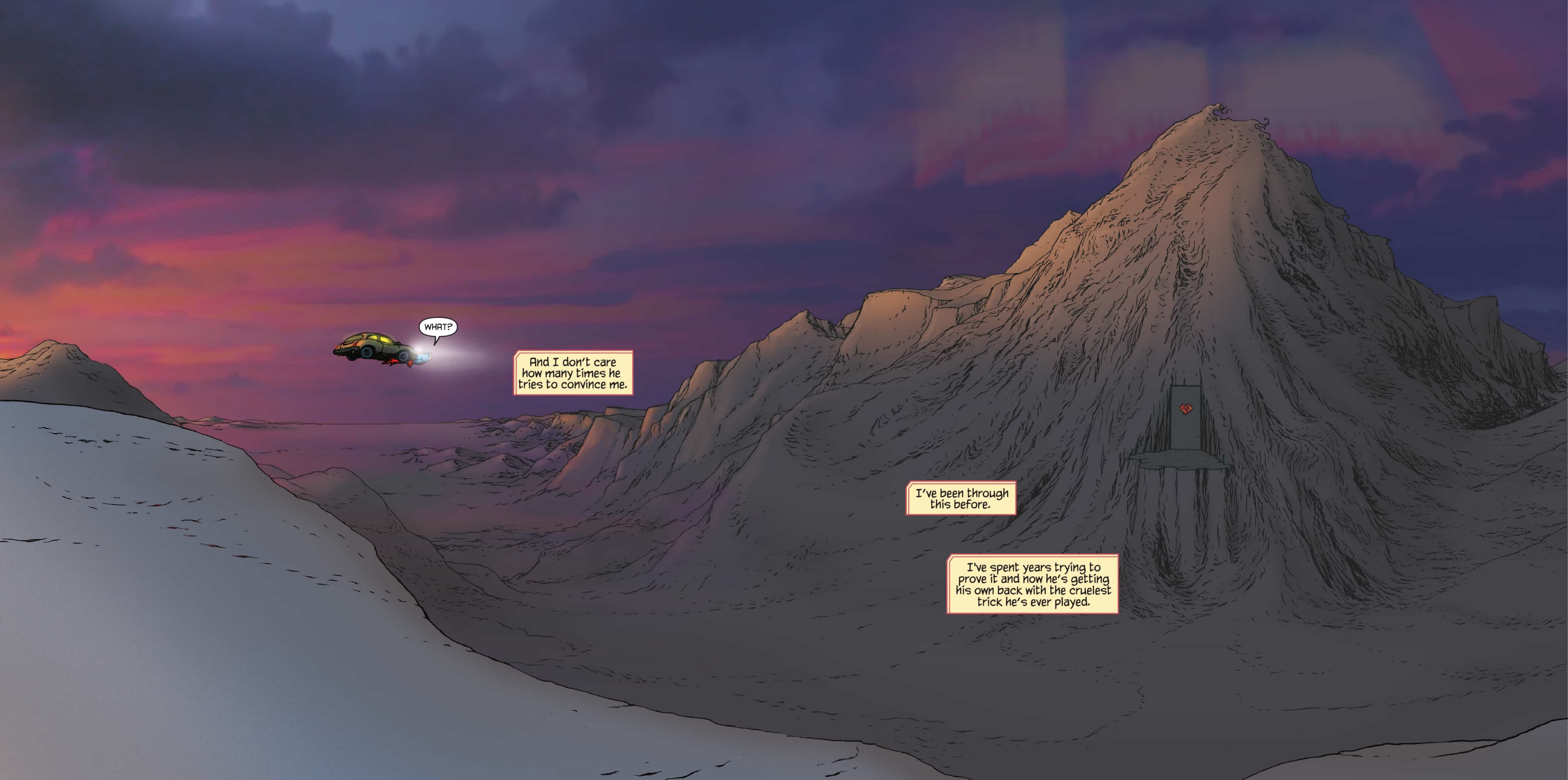












WHAT?

And I don't care  
how many times he  
tries to convince me.

I've been through  
this before.

I've spent years trying to  
prove it and now he's getting  
his own back with the cruelest  
trick he's ever played.



He says Clark Kent  
is Superman after all.



But I know  
he can't be.

OKAY, I'LL GO  
ALONG WITH THIS BUT  
THERE HAD BETTER BE  
A DEVASTATING  
PUNCH LINE.

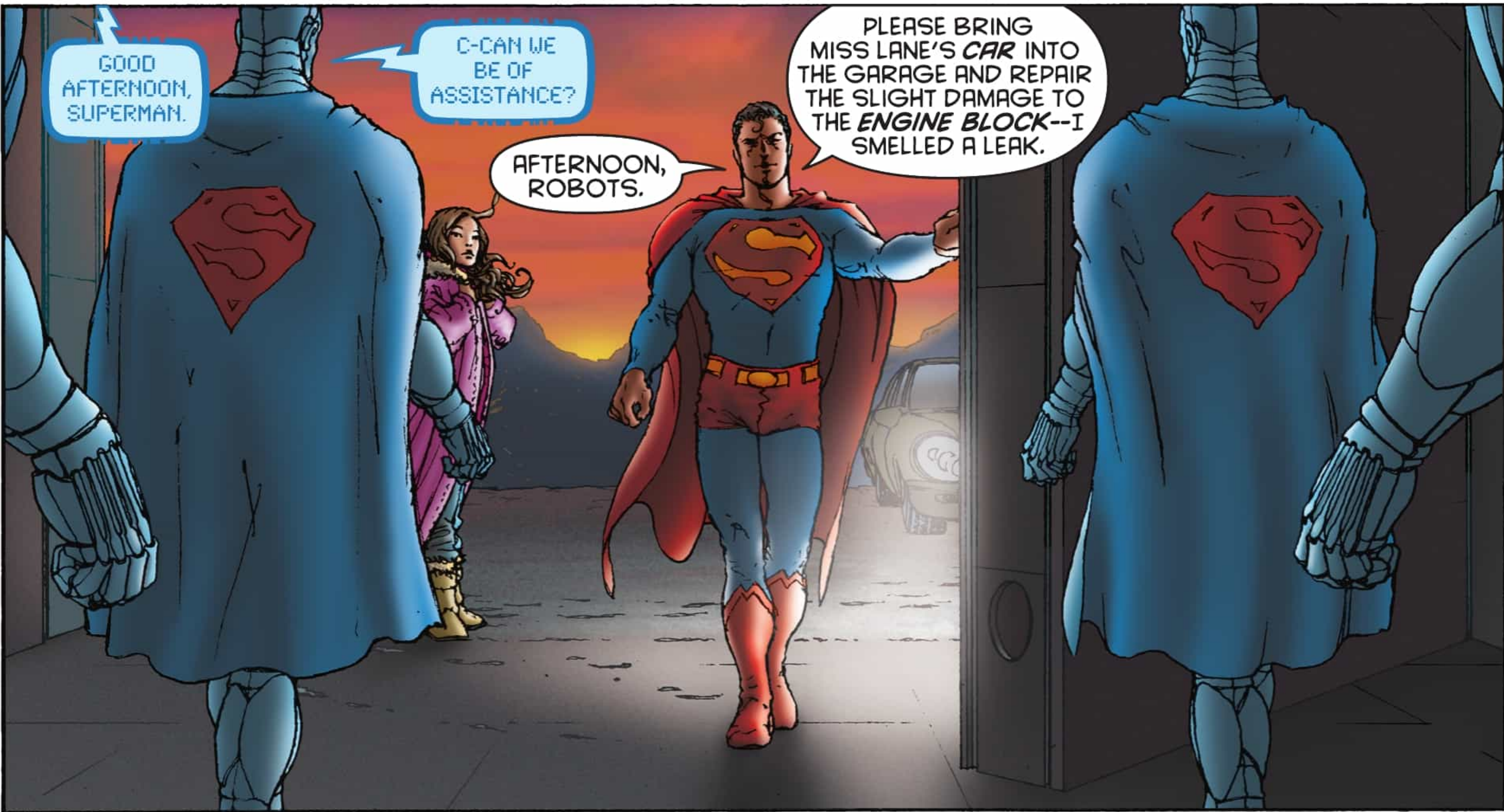


WHAT HAPPENED TO  
THE BIG GOLDEN  
KEY?

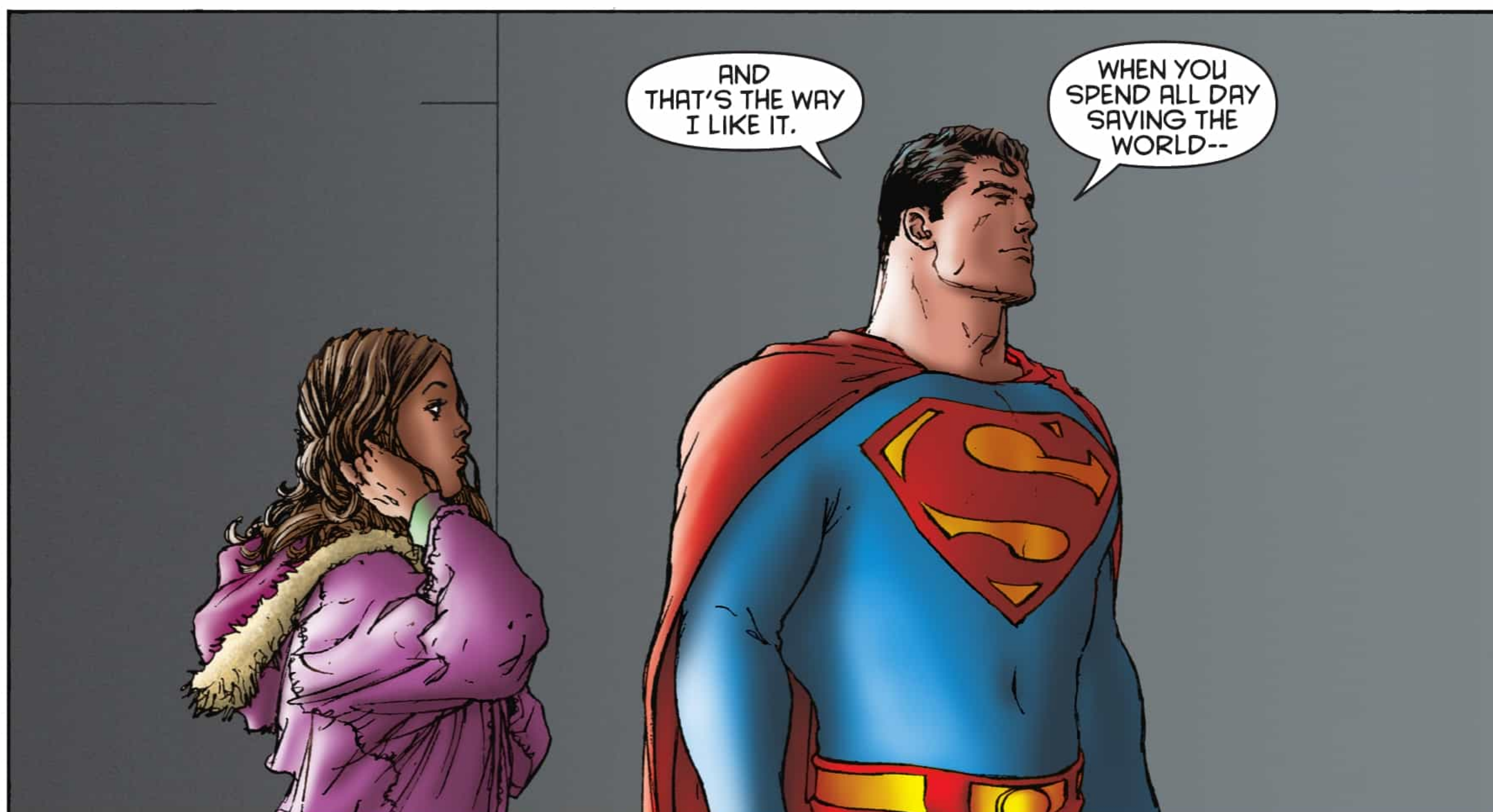
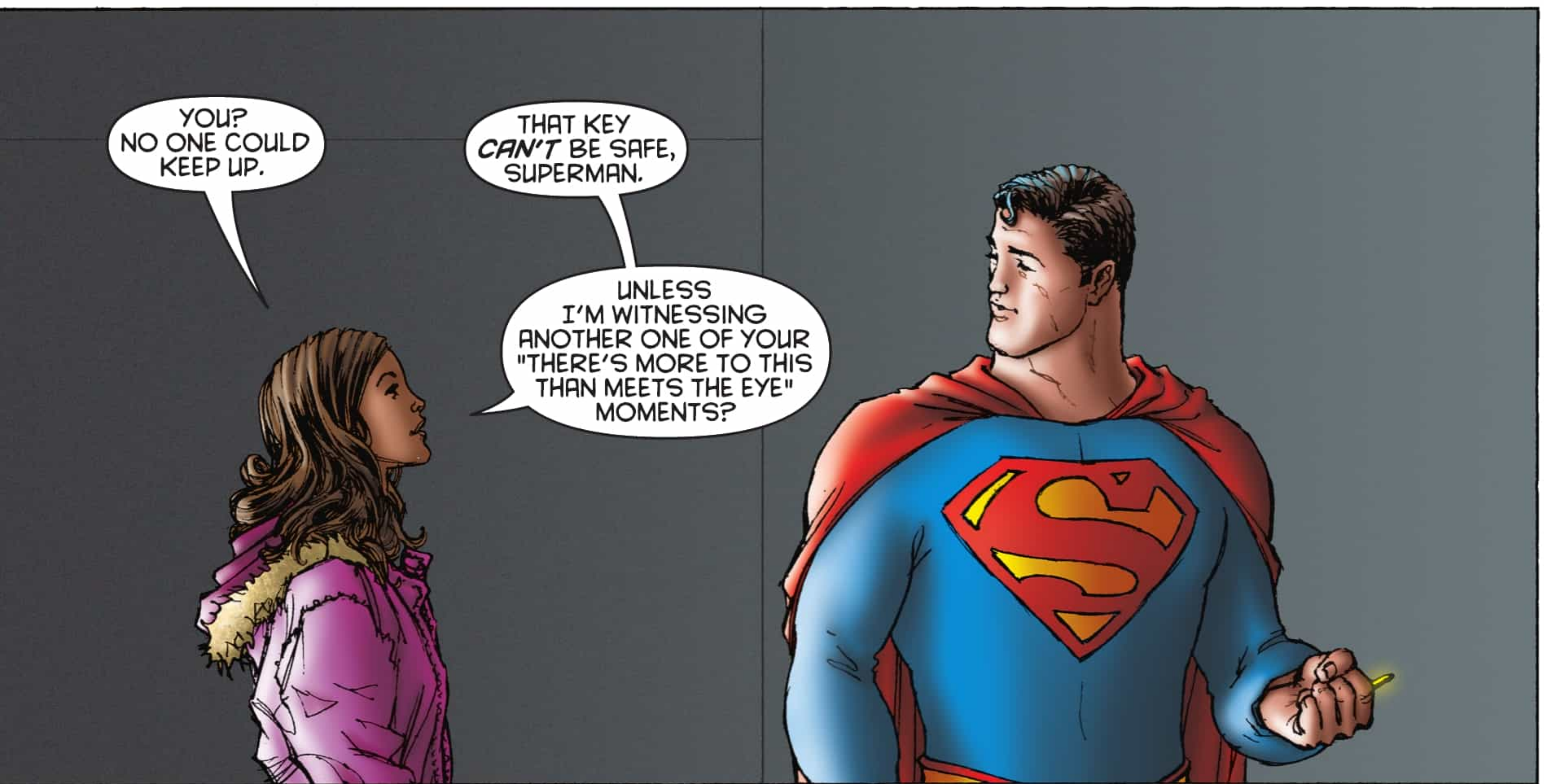
THE ONE  
YOU USED TO  
HAVE?

DIDN'T  
THINK IT WAS  
SECURE  
ENOUGH.











# SUPERMAN'S FORBIDDEN ROOM

--YOU NEED  
SOMEWHERE QUIET  
TO RELAX.



DC COMICS PRESENTS ALL STAR SUPERMAN EPISODE 2: "SUPERMAN'S FORBIDDEN ROOM"

WRITTEN BY GRANT MORRISON PENCILLED BY FRANK QUITELY

DIGITALLY INKED & COLORED BY JAMIE GRANT LETTERED BY PHIL BALSAMAN

EDITORIAL ASSISTS BY BRANDON MONTCLARE EDITED BY BOB SCHRECK

SUPERMAN CREATED BY JERRY SIEGEL & JOE SHUSTER A DC COMICS PRODUCTION

DC GENERAL AUDIENCES  
PARENT STRONGLY CAUTIONED  
SOME MATERIAL MAY BE INAPPROPRIATE FOR CHILDREN





Lois Lane, Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist... and I don't know what to think about this.

Does it have something to do with my birthday tomorrow?



Is this where it all turns serious at last?

Is this where Superman's girlfriend finally gets what she always wanted?



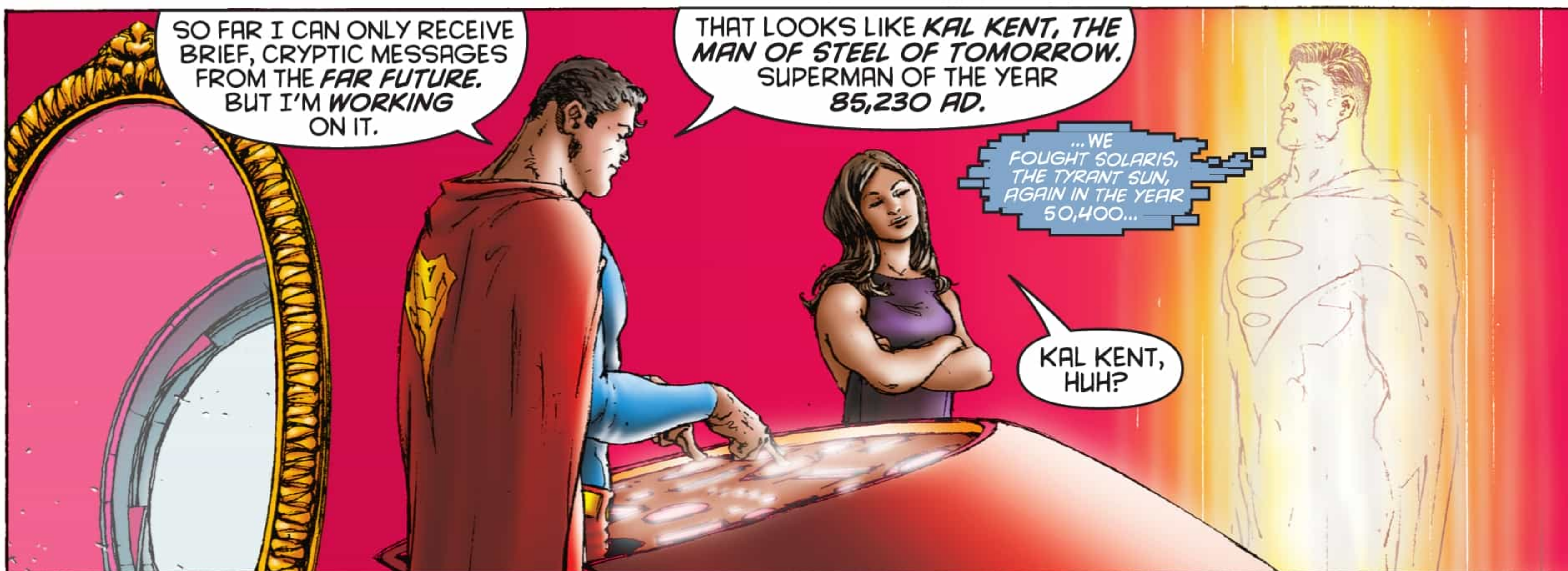
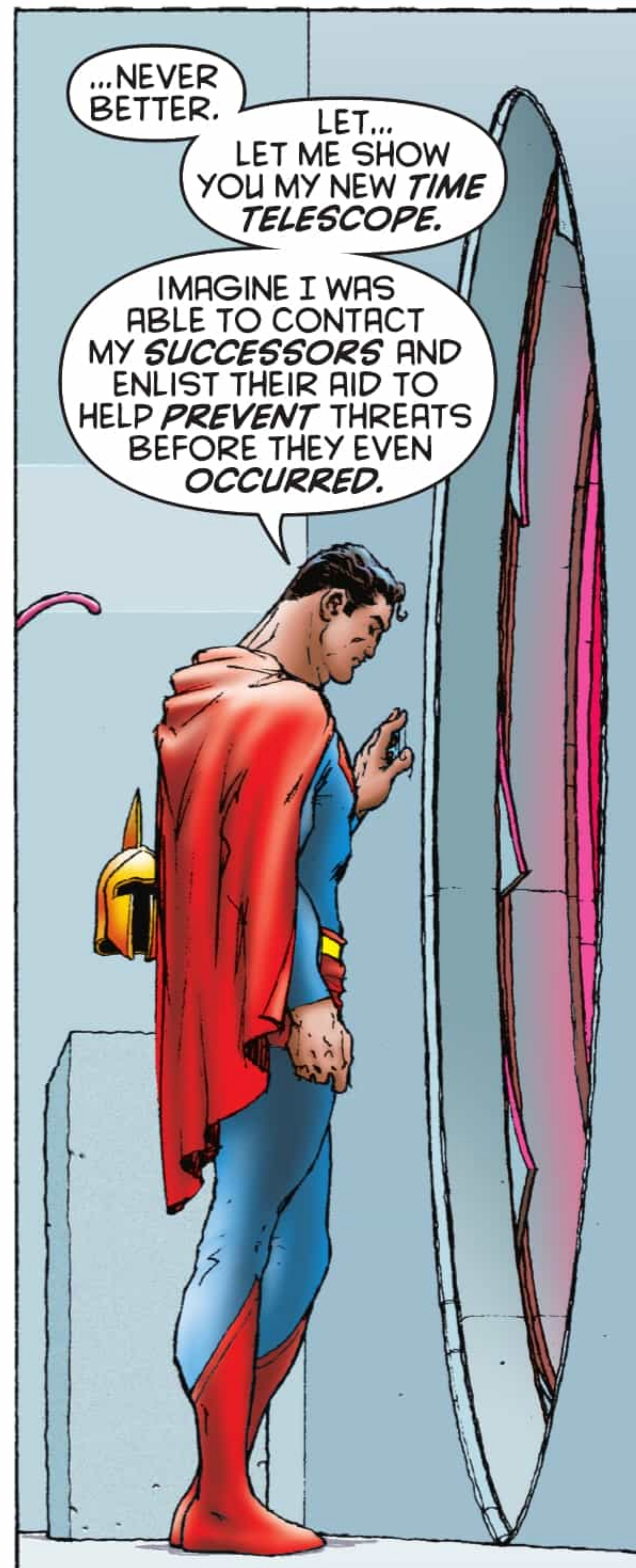
When we're married fifteen years, when I'm sagging and he looks just the same, will he still meet me and say things like...

THESE ARE FOR YOU. I PICKED THEM ON ALPHA CENTAURI 4.



Or is he setting me up for another big joke?









...THE *PHANTOM ZONE* MAP ROOM'S PRETTY *DULL* UNLESS YOU CAN SEE *RADIO-NEGATIVE ANTI-WAVES*... BUT HOW ABOUT *THIS* CRITTER?

HE'S A BABY *SUN-EATER*; I CAUGHT HIM PROWLING AROUND THE ORBIT OF *JUPITER*.

->eeurr<-

WHAT DO YOU *FEED* HIM?

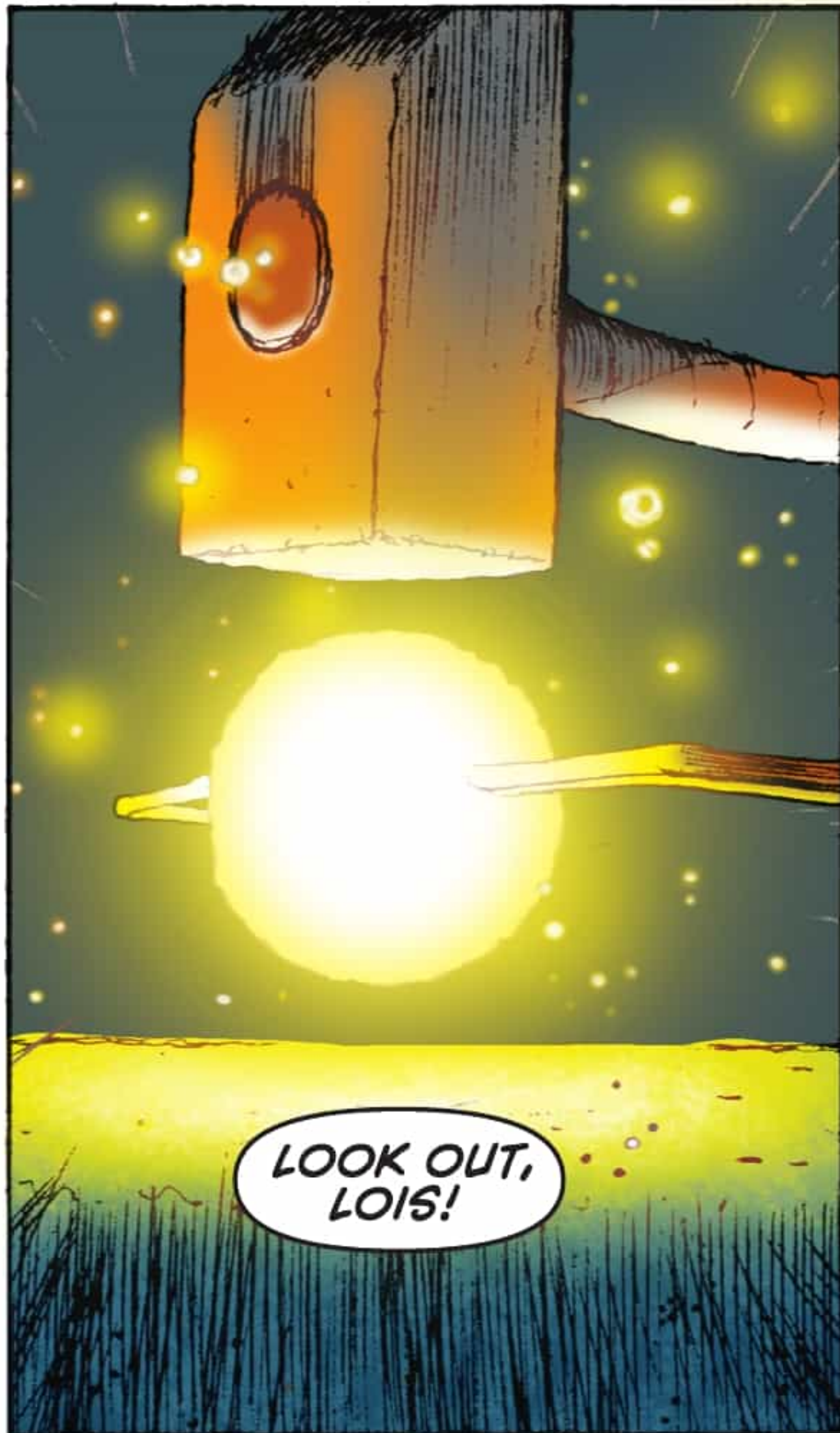


SUNS, WHAT *ELSE*?!

*MINIATURE* SUNS I CREATE HERE ON THIS *COSMIC ANVIL* FROM *NEW OLYMPUS*.



COME TO THINK OF IT, HE'S STARTING TO LOOK A LITTLE *HUNGRY*, WOULDN'T YOU SAY?



LOOK OUT, *LOIS*!



THERE YOU GO, BIG FELLA!

*BON APPETIT*.

But now we come to the part of the story of my life where things go *wrong*.

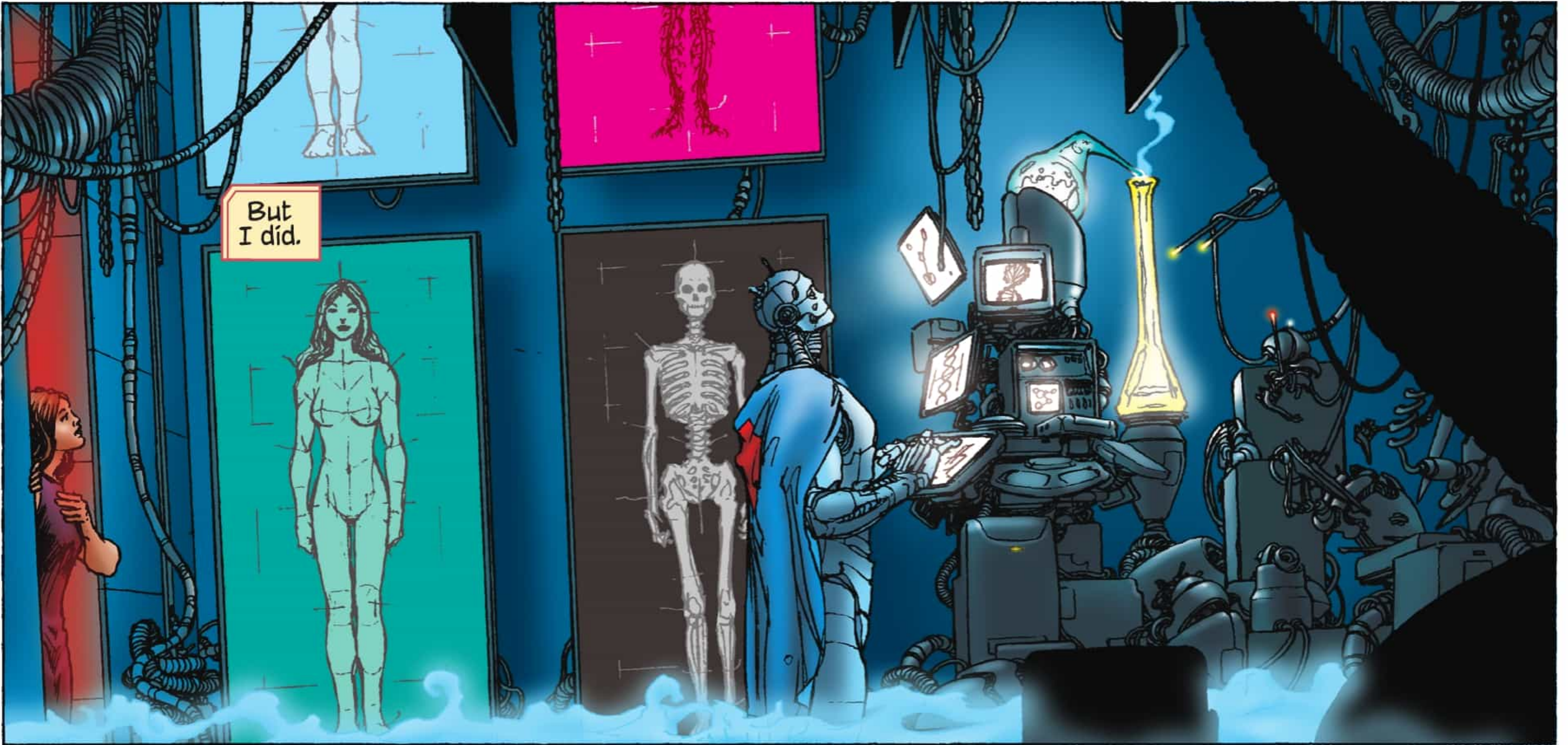




It wasn't *my fault*  
the door was open.



I know I wasn't  
supposed to  
see inside that  
weird room.



But  
I did.

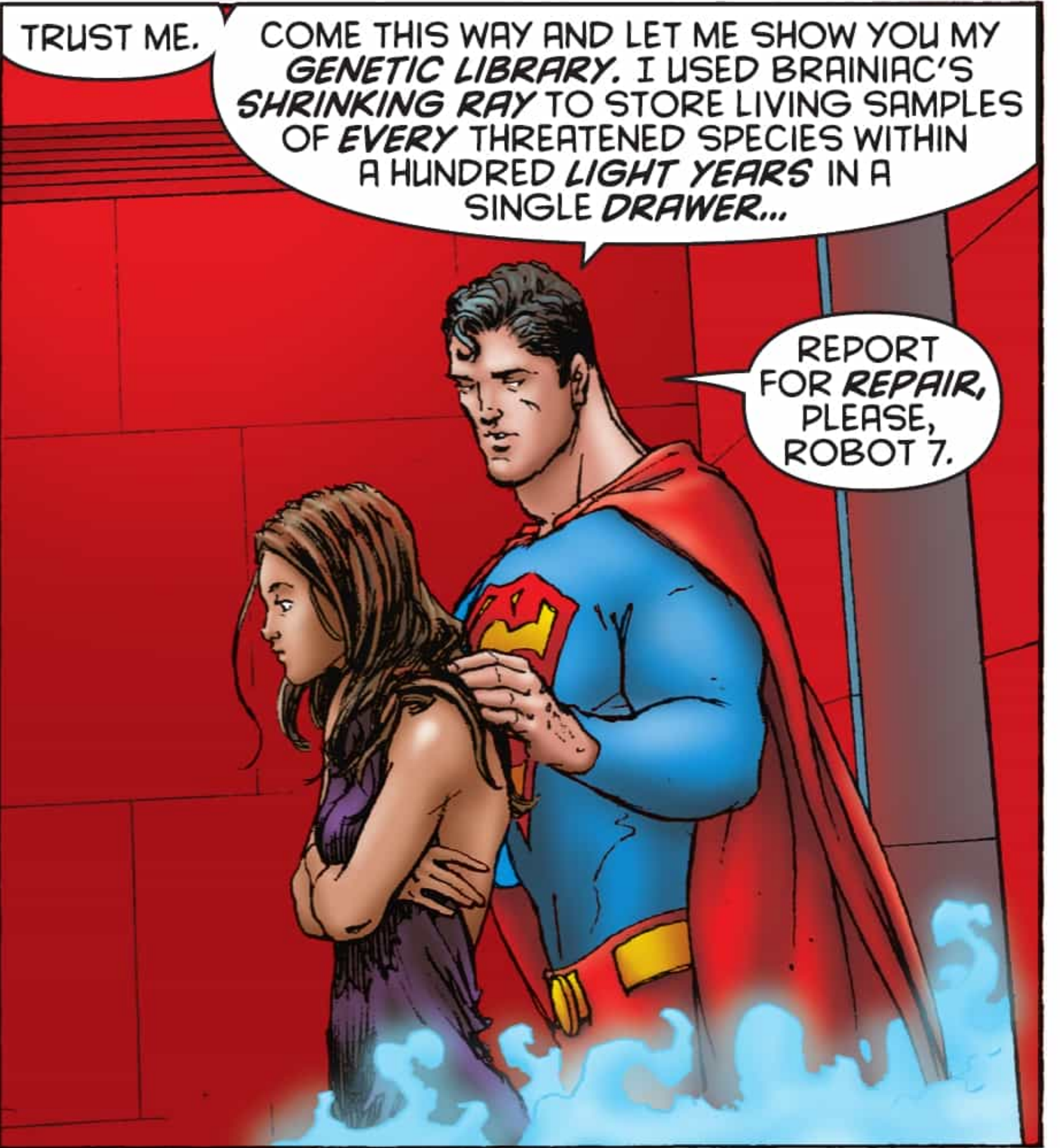


-wuhh-

IT'S NOT WHAT  
YOU THINK.

LOIS,  
DON'T GO  
IN THERE!

YOU CAN GO  
*ANYWHERE* IN THE  
FORTRESS, BUT  
THIS ROOM IS *OFF*  
LIMITS.



TRUST ME.

COME THIS WAY AND LET ME SHOW YOU MY  
*GENETIC LIBRARY*. I USED BRAINIAC'S  
*SHRINKING RAY* TO STORE LIVING SAMPLES  
OF *EVERY* THREATENED SPECIES WITHIN  
A HUNDRED *LIGHT YEARS* IN A  
SINGLE *DRAWER*...

REPORT  
FOR *REPAIR*,  
PLEASE,  
ROBOT 7.

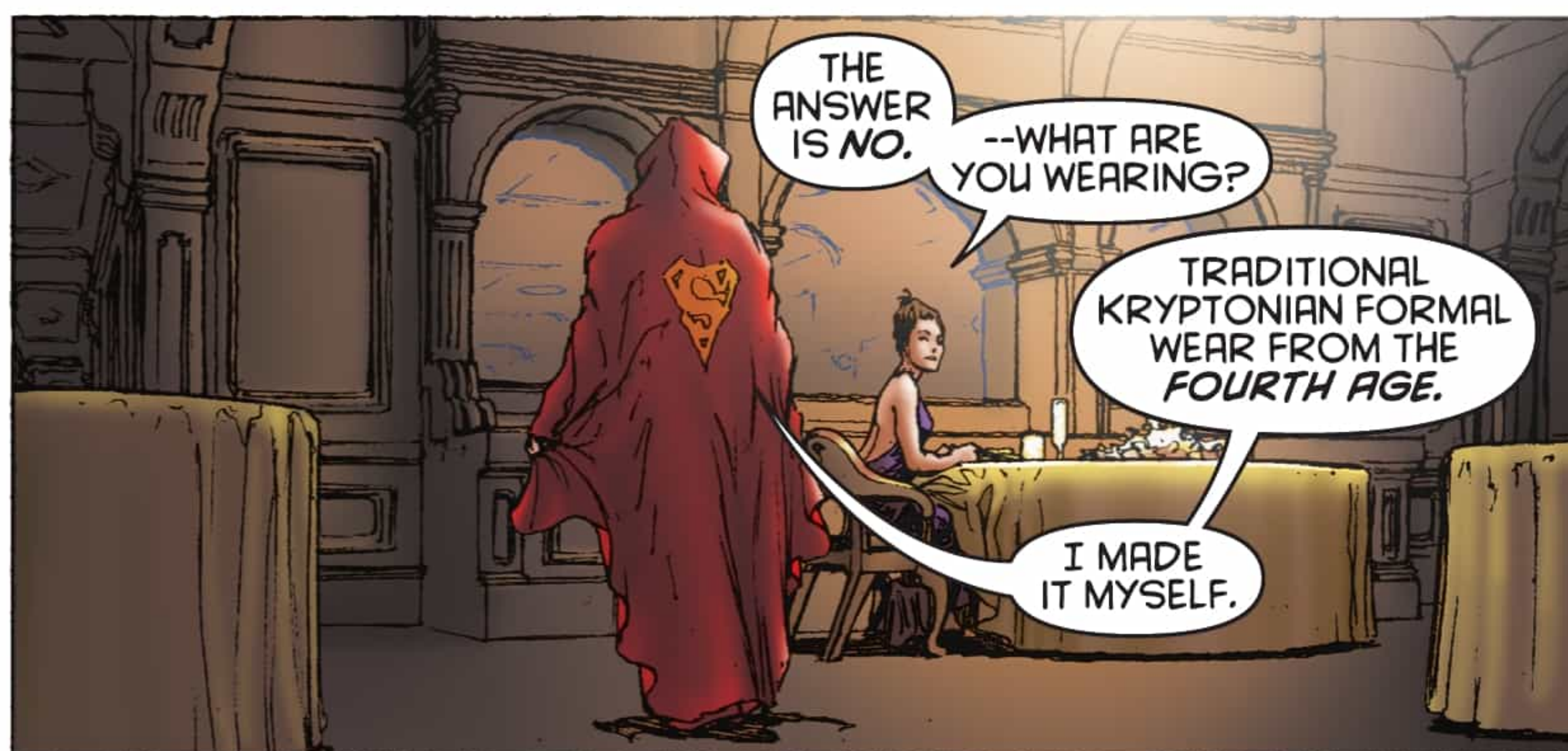




...OKAY, "TIME" MAGAZINE, NO LESS, CALLS ME ONE OF THE FINEST INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISTS IN THE COUNTRY, IF NOT THE *WORLD*.

I *EAT* SECRETS FOR BREAKFAST.

BUT IN ALL MY *YEARS* OF TRYING TO *PROVE* CLARK WAS YOUR *DISGUISE*, DID I UNCOVER EVEN ONE SHRED OF SOLID EVIDENCE?

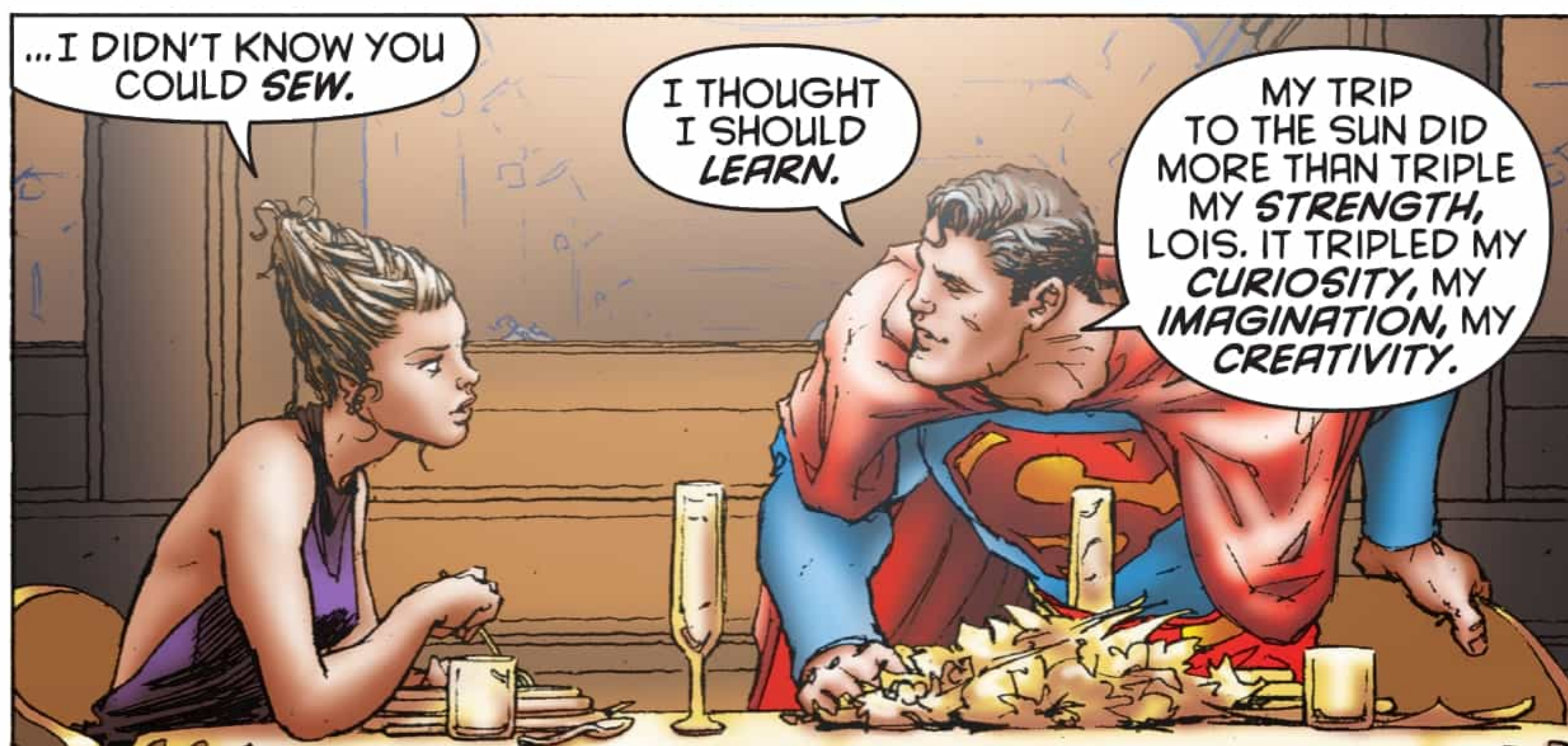


THE ANSWER IS *NO*.

--WHAT ARE YOU WEARING?

TRADITIONAL KRYPTONIAN FORMAL WEAR FROM THE *FOURTH AGE*.

I MADE IT MYSELF.



...I DIDN'T KNOW YOU COULD *SEW*.

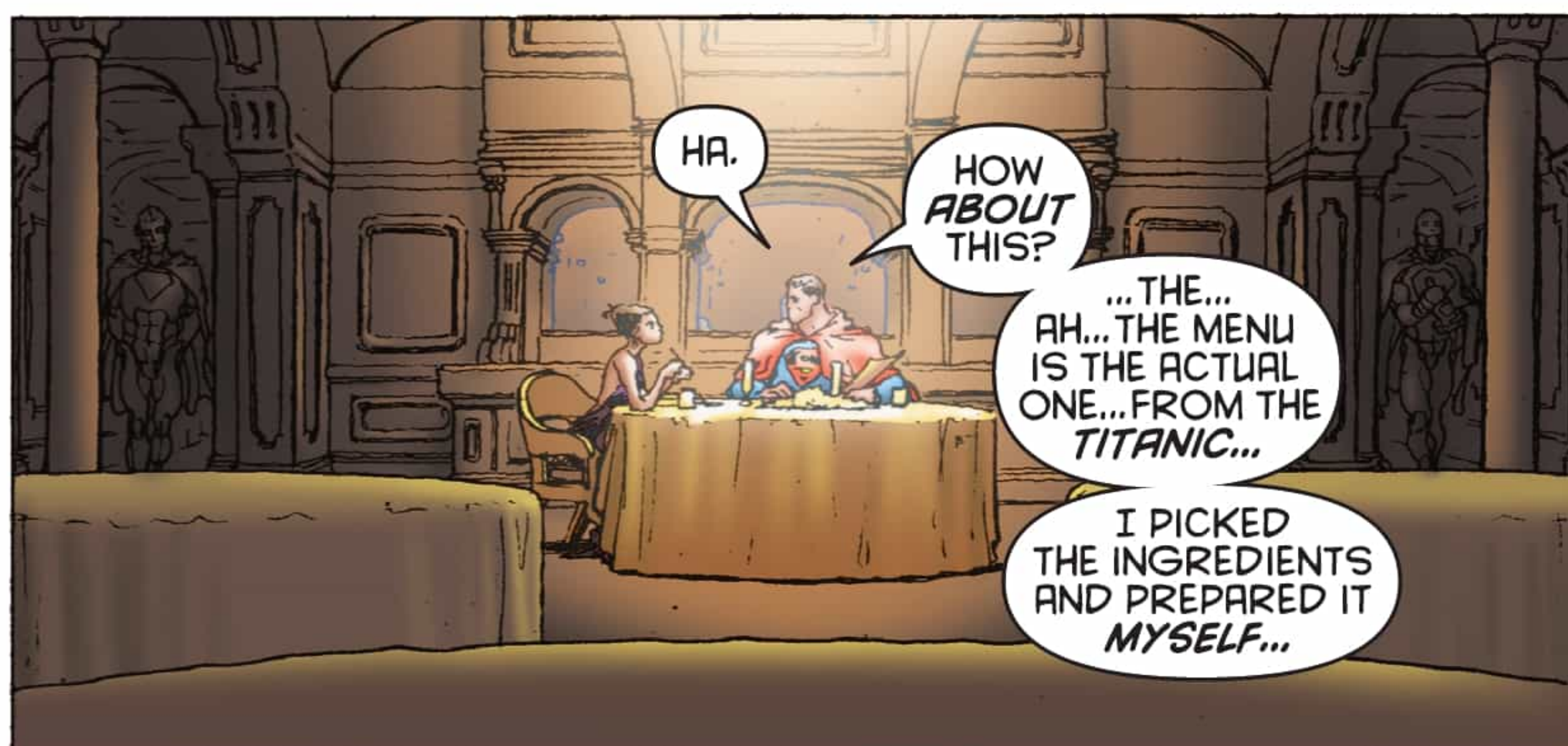
I THOUGHT I SHOULD *LEARN*.

MY TRIP TO THE SUN DID MORE THAN TRIPLE MY *STRENGTH*, LOIS. IT TRIPLED MY *CURIOSITY*, MY *IMAGINATION*, MY *CREATIVITY*.



AND IT'S ALSO MADE YOU THREE TIMES MORE *HONEST*, IS THAT WHAT I'M SUPPOSED TO BELIEVE?

SPARE ME THE *SUSPENSE*, SUPERMAN! WHEN DO *CLARK* AND *JIMMY* AND *PERRY* POP OUT OF THE SALT AND PEPPER SHAKERS AND YELL "*HAPPY BIRTHDAY?*"



HA.

HOW ABOUT THIS?

...THE... AH... THE MENU IS THE ACTUAL ONE... FROM THE *TITANIC*...

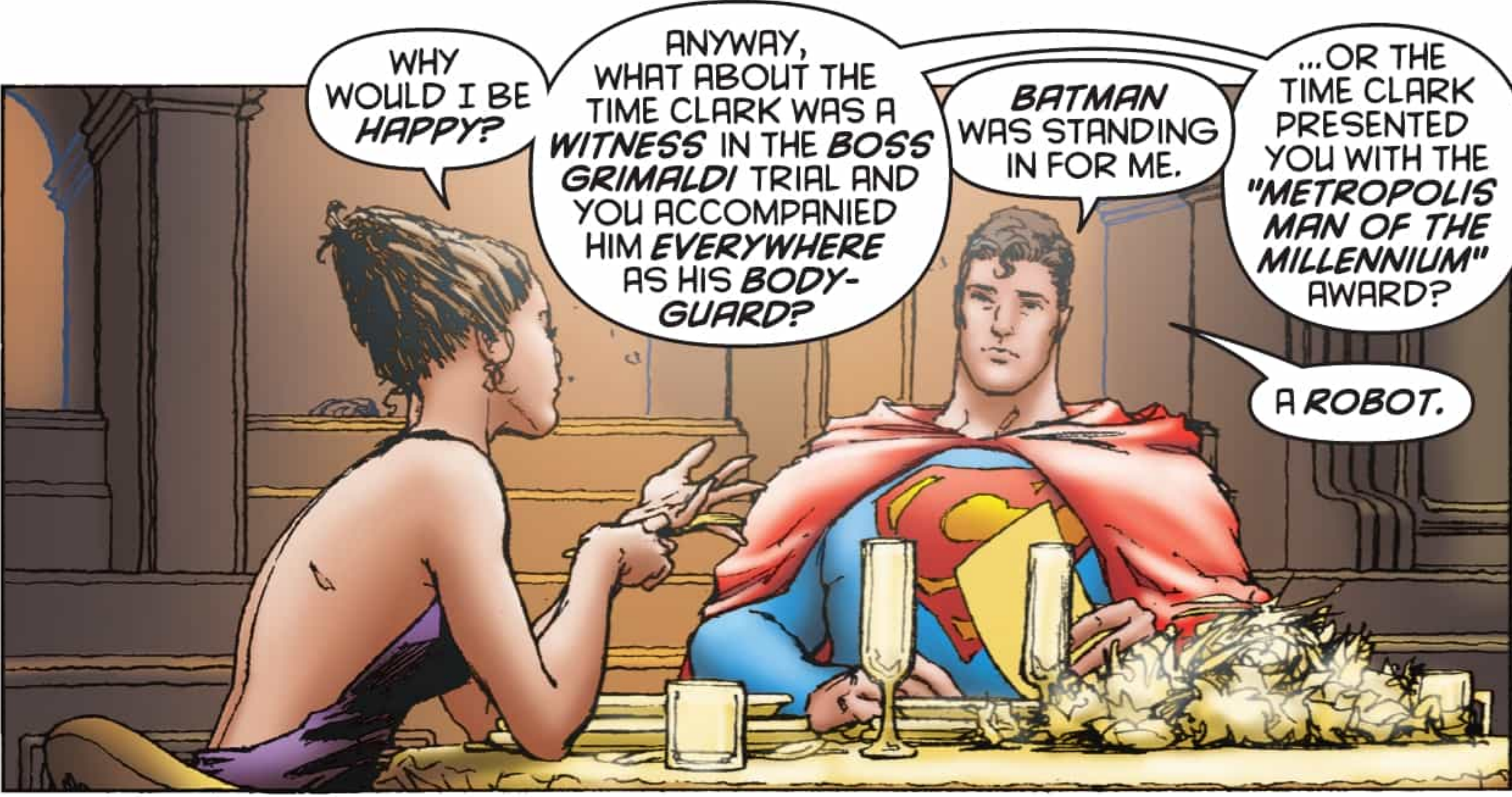
I PICKED THE INGREDIENTS AND PREPARED IT *MYSELF*...



LOIS, PLEASE, I *AM* CLARK.

AREN'T YOU *HAPPY* YOUR SUSPICIONS WERE *RIGHT* ALL ALONG?





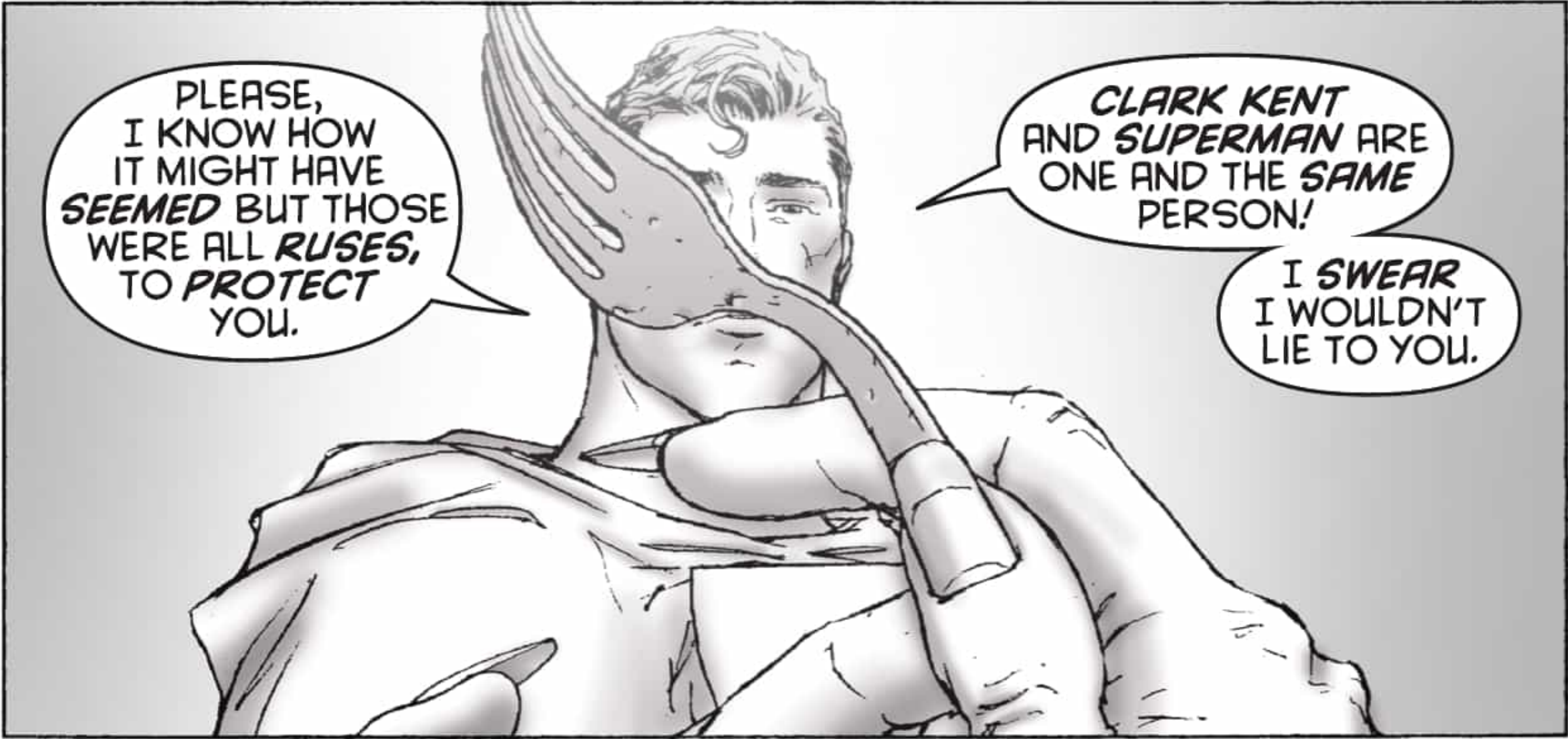
WHY WOULD I BE HAPPY?

ANYWAY, WHAT ABOUT THE TIME CLARK WAS A WITNESS IN THE BOSS GRIMALDI TRIAL AND YOU ACCOMPANIED HIM EVERYWHERE AS HIS BODY-GUARD?

BATMAN WAS STANDING IN FOR ME.

...OR THE TIME CLARK PRESENTED YOU WITH THE "METROPOLIS MAN OF THE MILLENNIUM" AWARD?

A ROBOT.



PLEASE, I KNOW HOW IT MIGHT HAVE SEEMED BUT THOSE WERE ALL RUSES, TO PROTECT YOU.

CLARK KENT AND SUPERMAN ARE ONE AND THE SAME PERSON!

I SWEAR I WOULDN'T LIE TO YOU.



DON'T SWEAR... BECAUSE IF YOU WERE CLARK...

IF CLARK KENT WAS SECRETLY SUPERMAN OR THE OTHER WAY AROUND, WHATEVER.

IF IT WAS ALL A "RUSE."



THAT WOULD MEAN YOU'D BEEN LYING TO ME FOR YEARS, WOULDN'T IT?

SO WHY CONFIDE IN ME NOW?

AFTER ALL THIS TIME?



I...

I CAN'T TELL YOU WHY, LOIS.

YOU HAVE TO...TRUST ME.



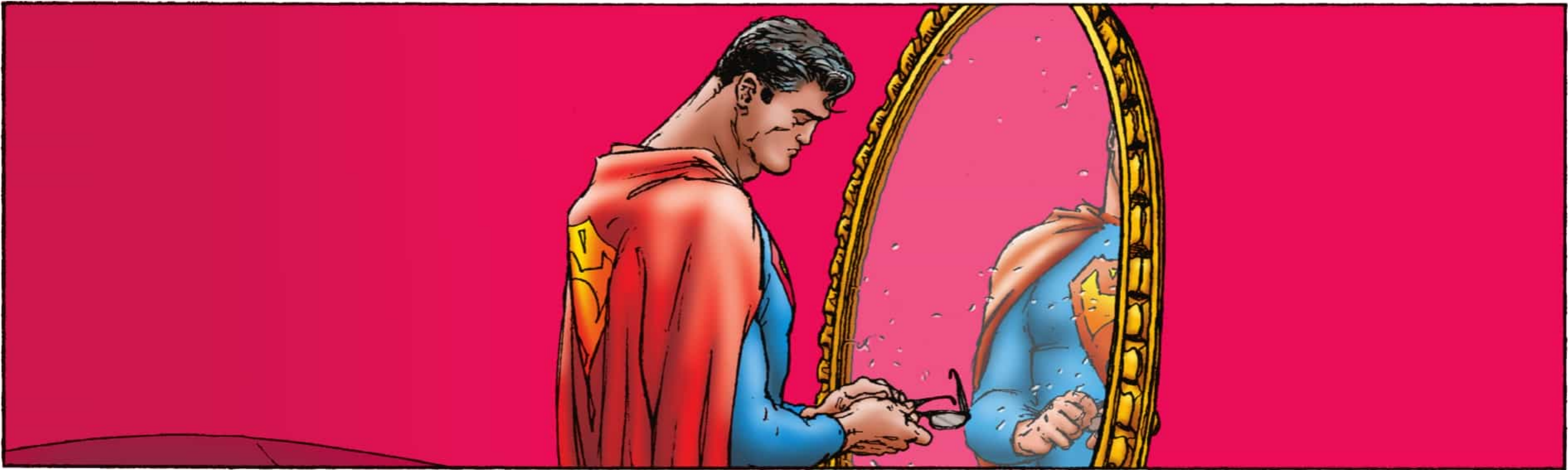
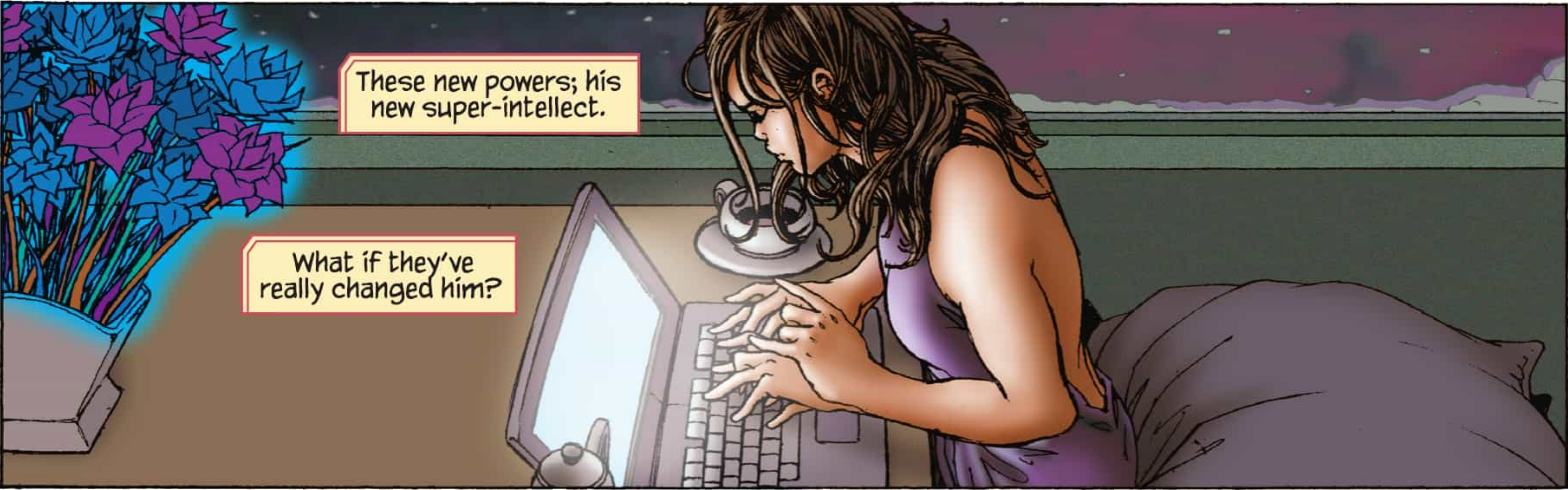
SAID WITH SUCH CONVICTION!

YOU'RE ACTING VERY STRANGELY, SUPERMAN!

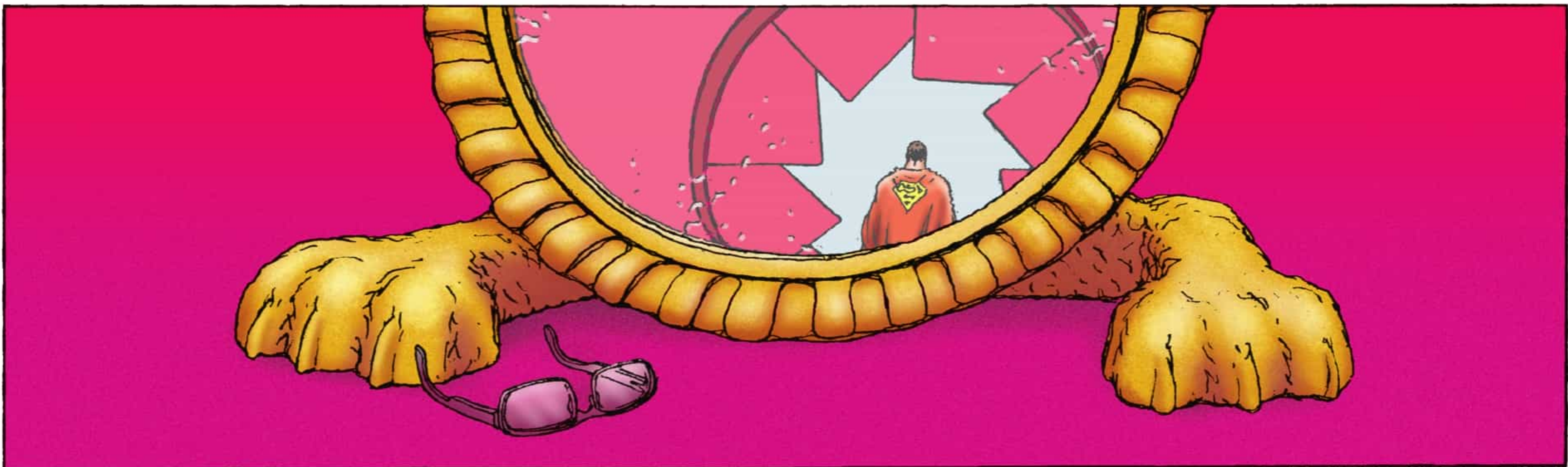
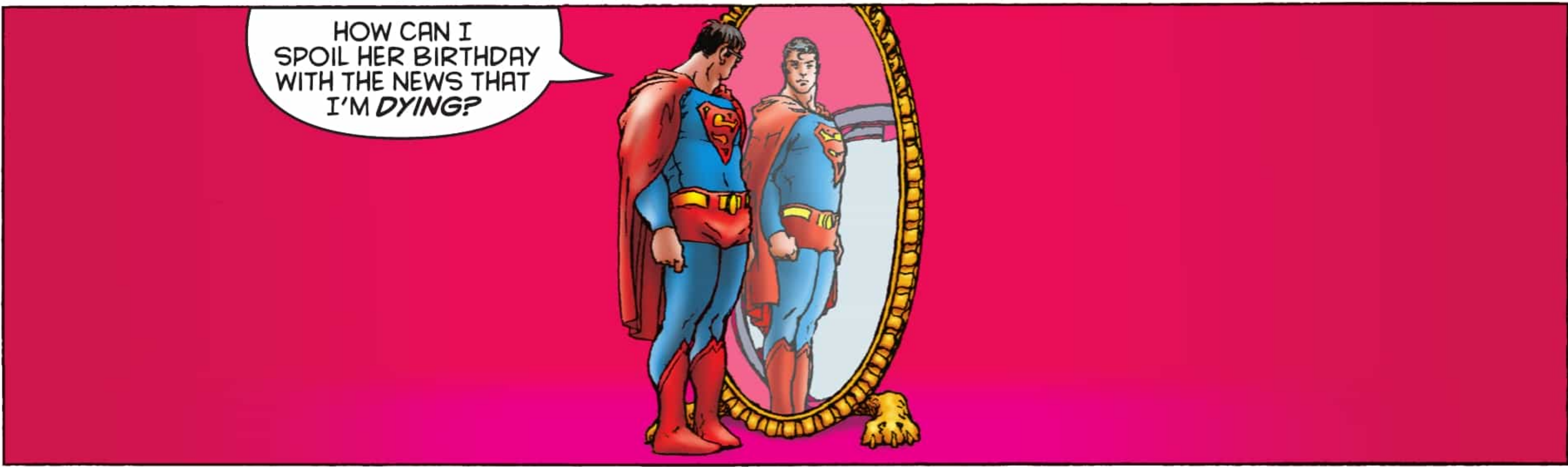
AND I'M NOT SURE I LIKE IT.

It was the first time I'd really seen our whole freakish relationship in stark black and white.

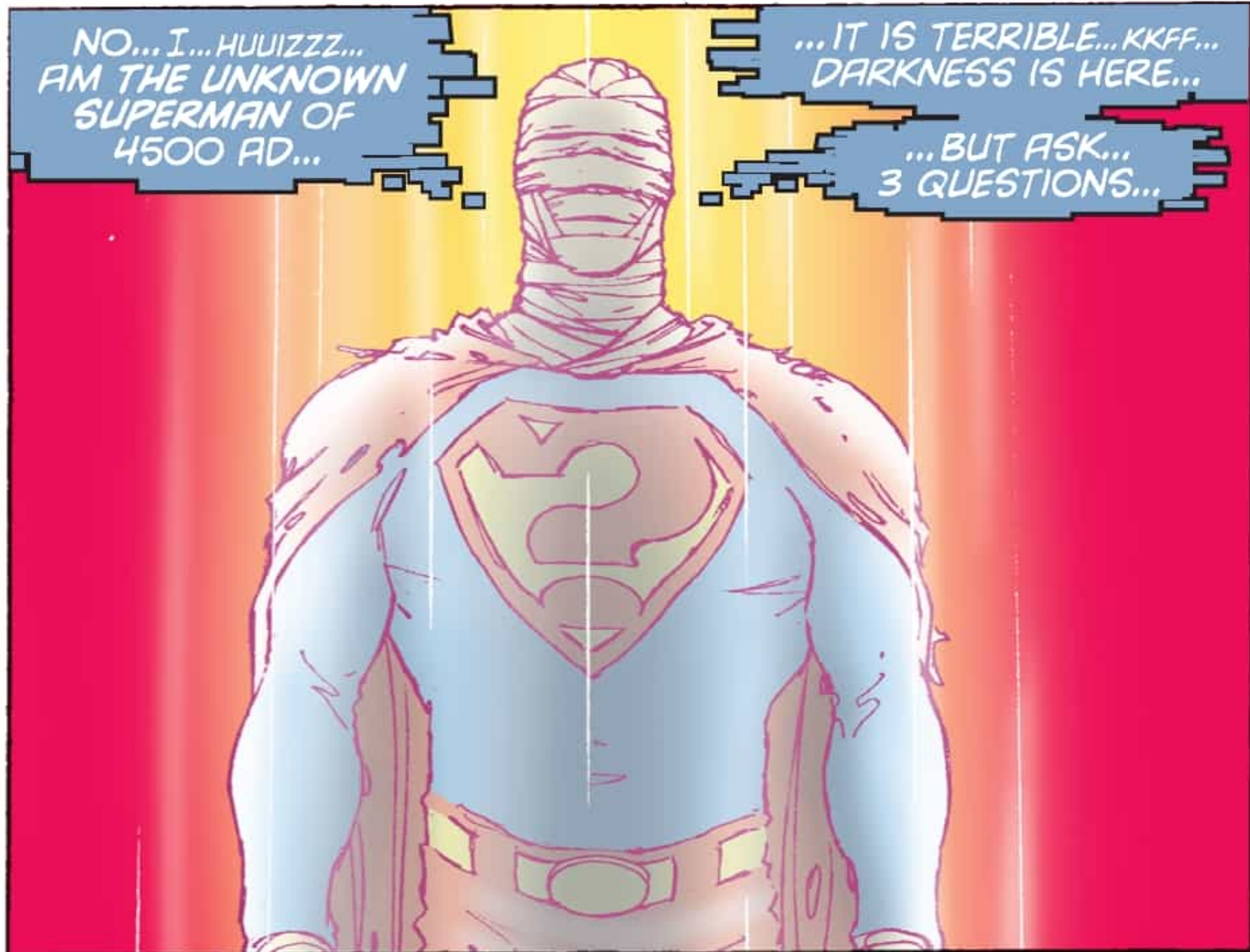
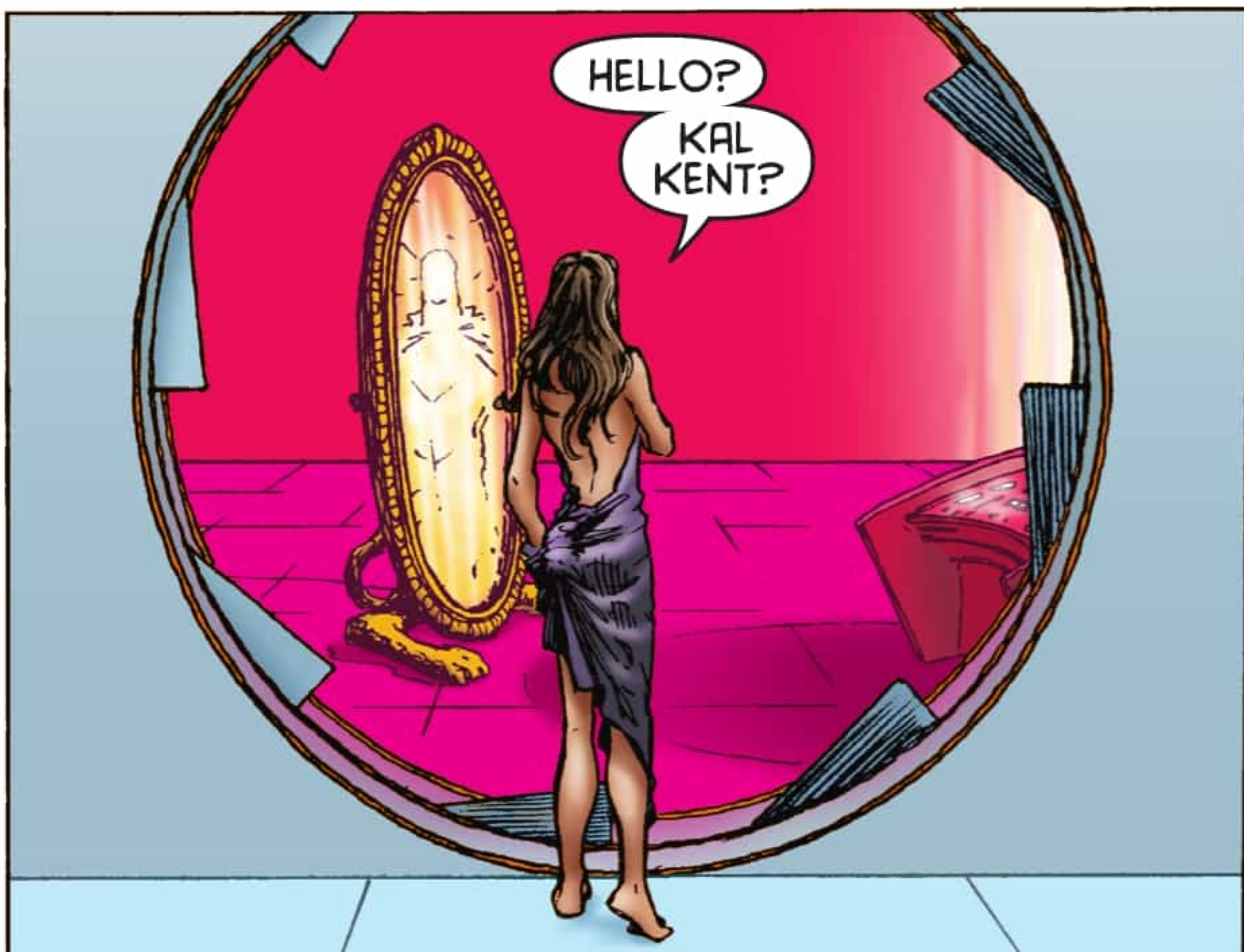




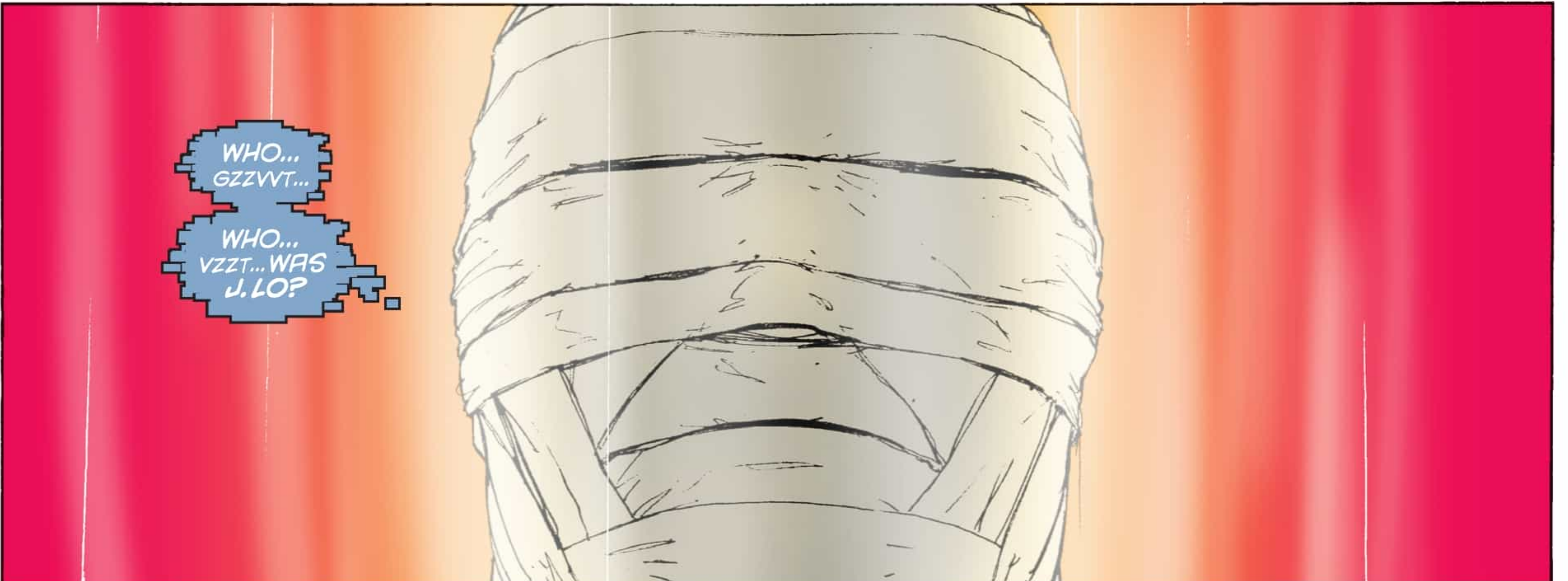
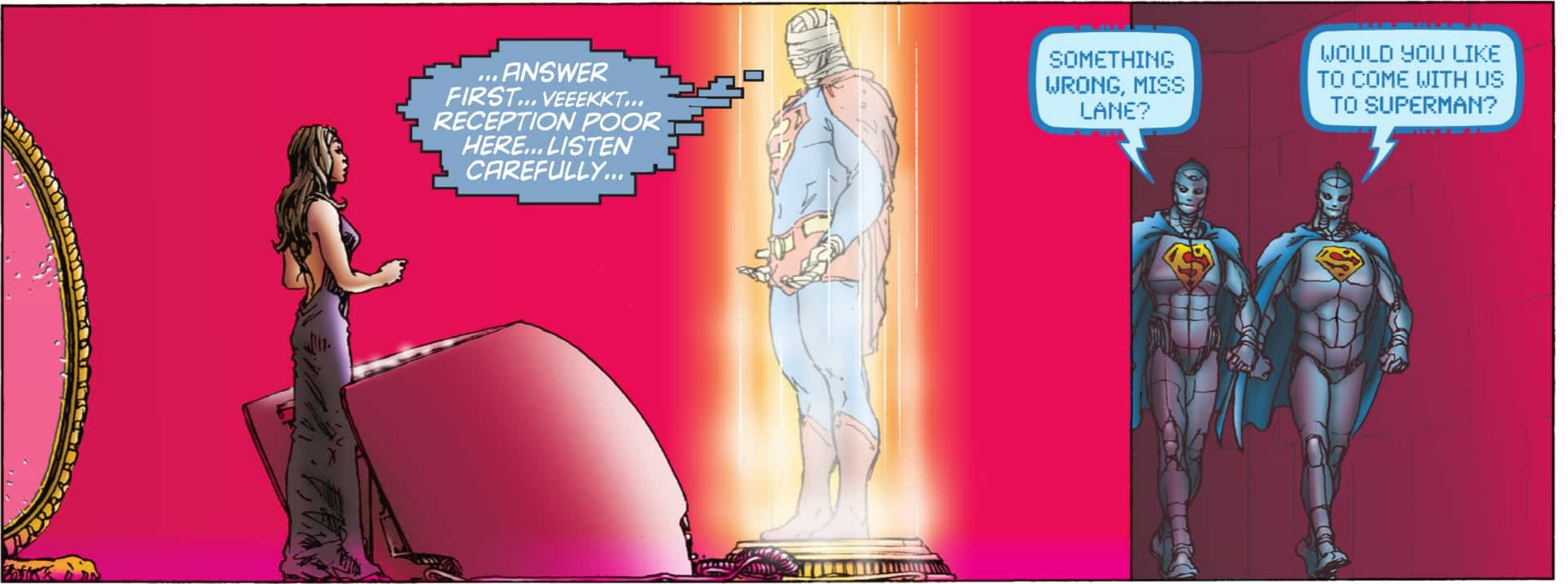
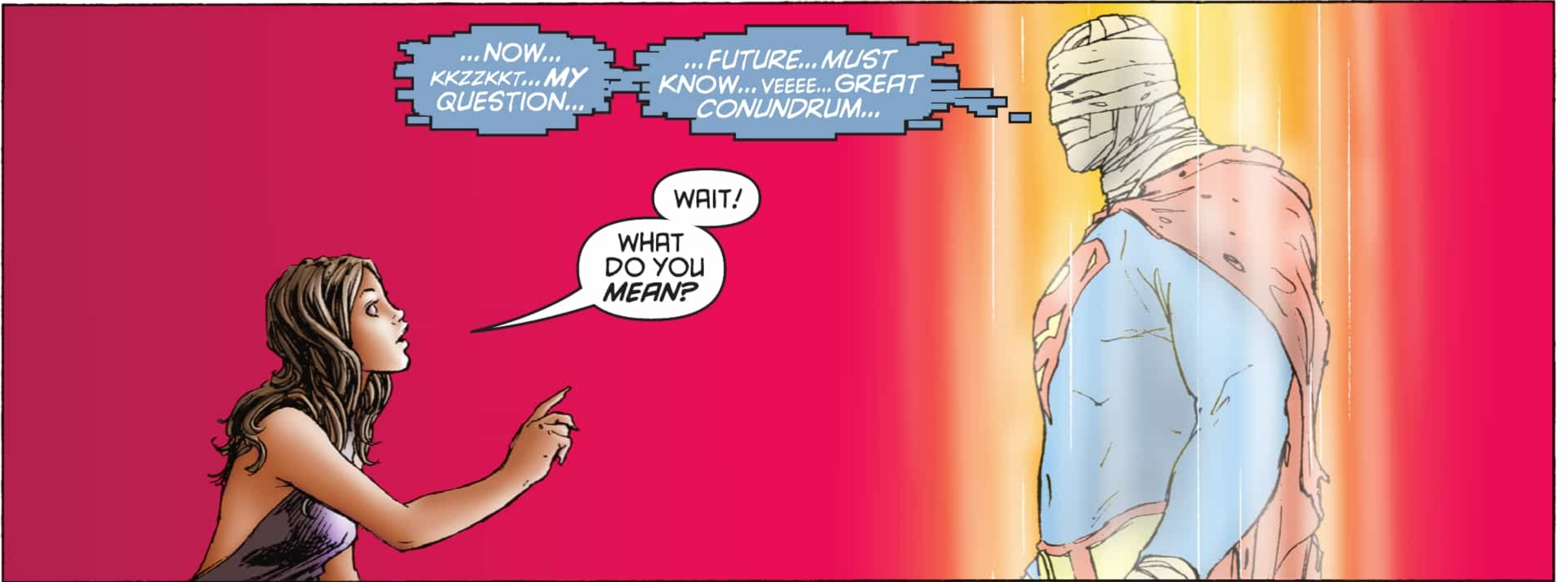
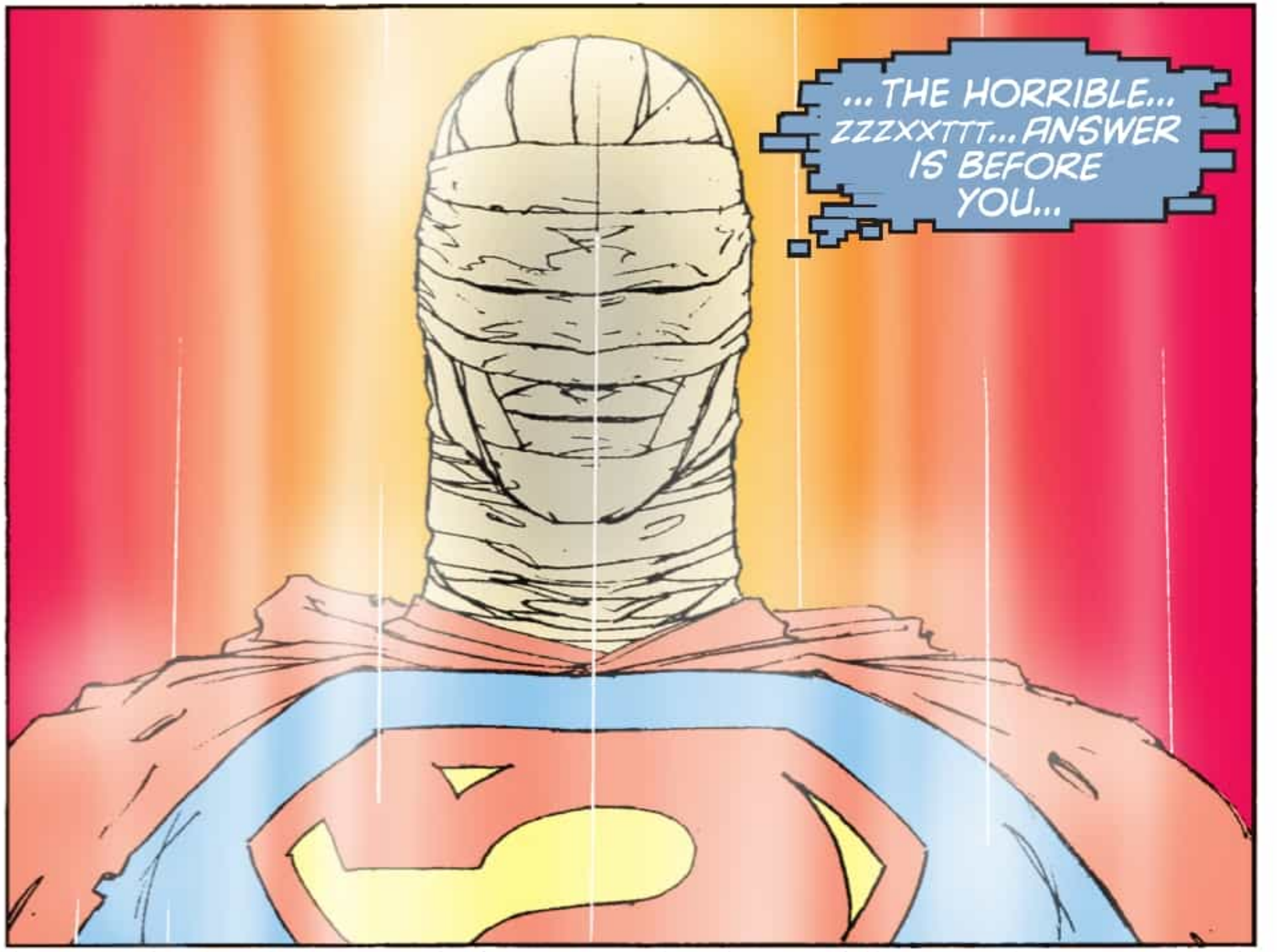
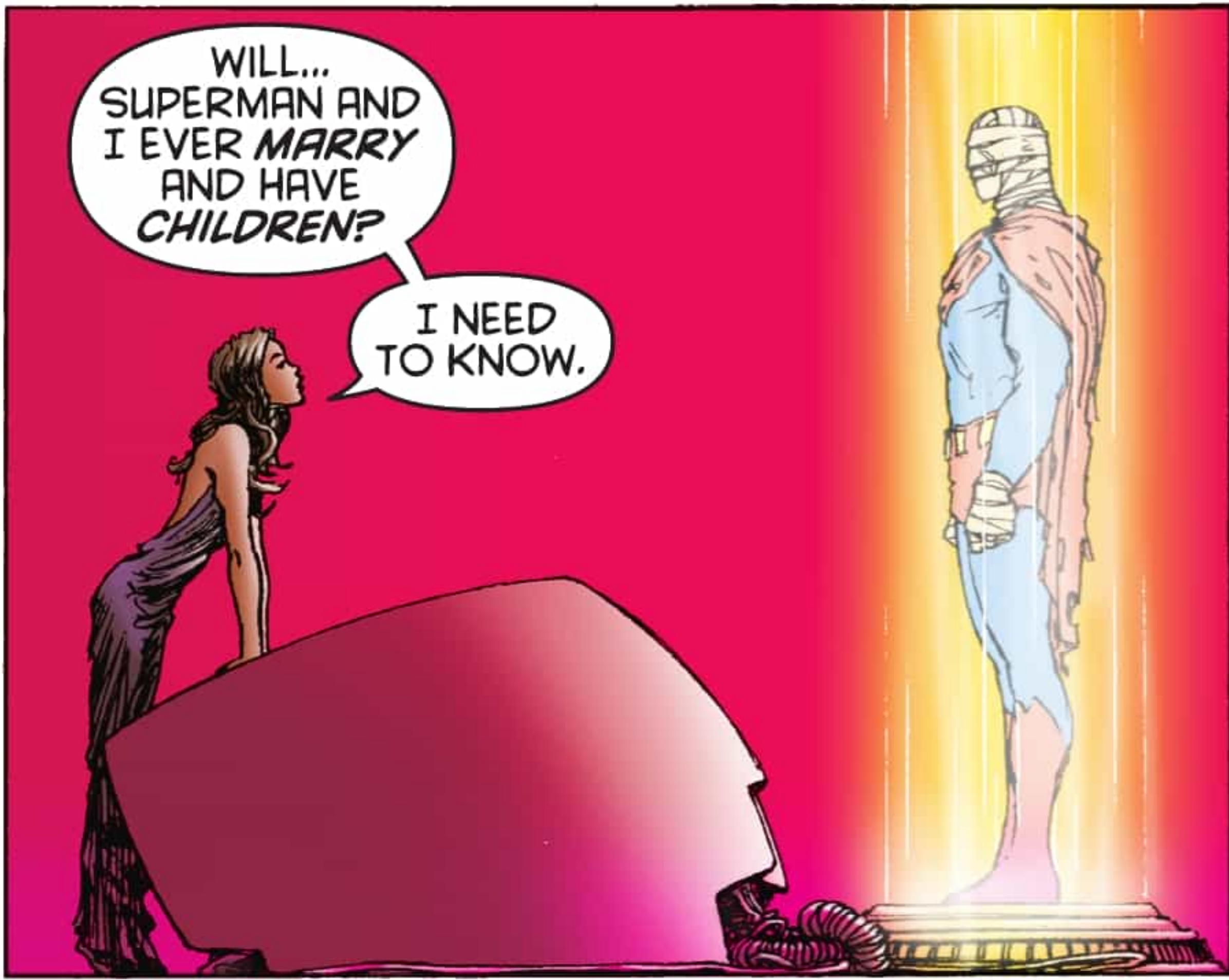
















MISS  
LANE?

I'M... I'M FINE...  
SERIOUSLY...

I DON'T  
NEED ANY HELP,  
THANK YOU.

Future  
Supermen?

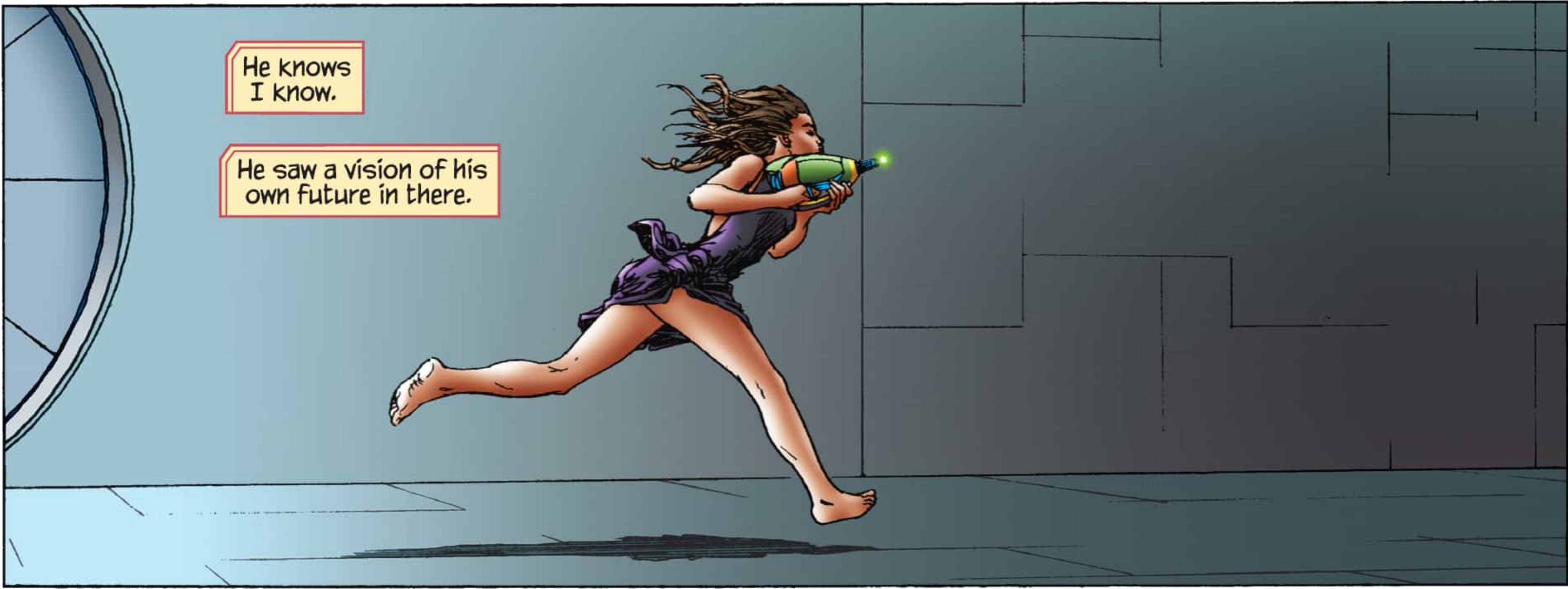


GOTCHA!

It's all  
making  
sense.

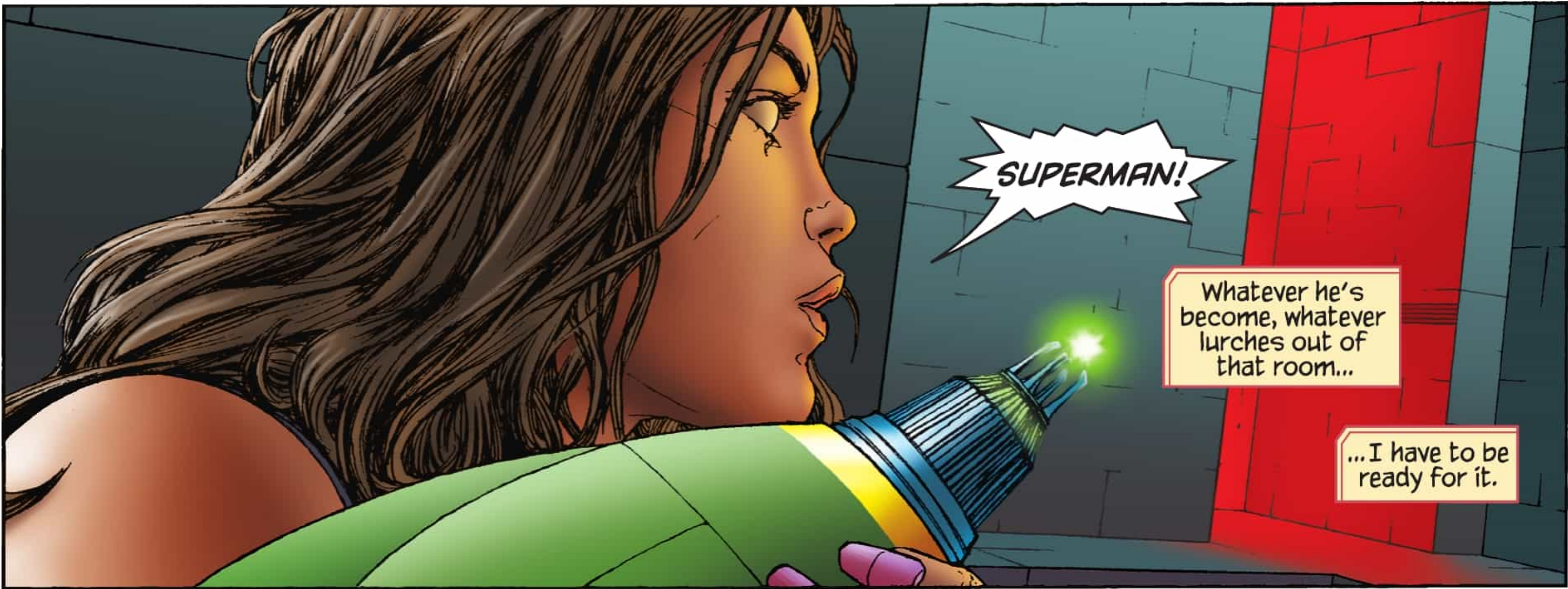


What if that was really him,  
transformed into a monster  
so awful he has to hide his face  
and lie about his deformity?



He knows  
I know.

He saw a vision of his  
own future in there.

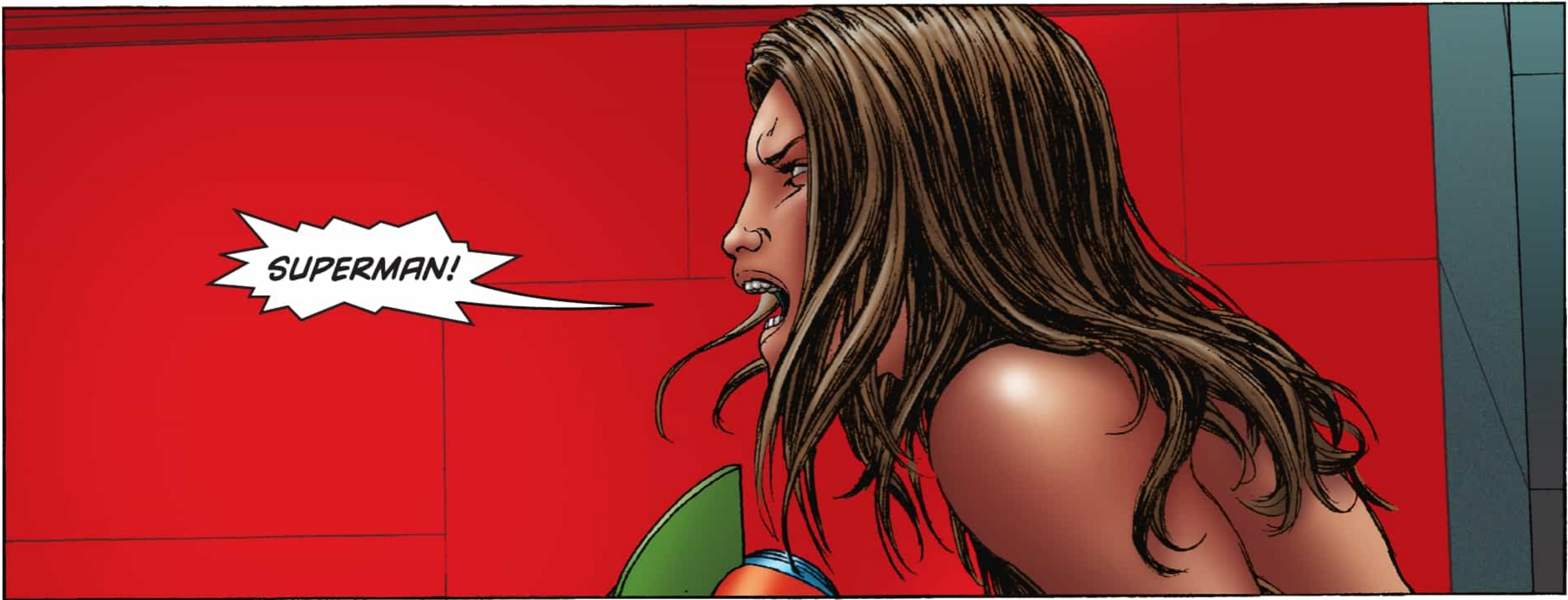
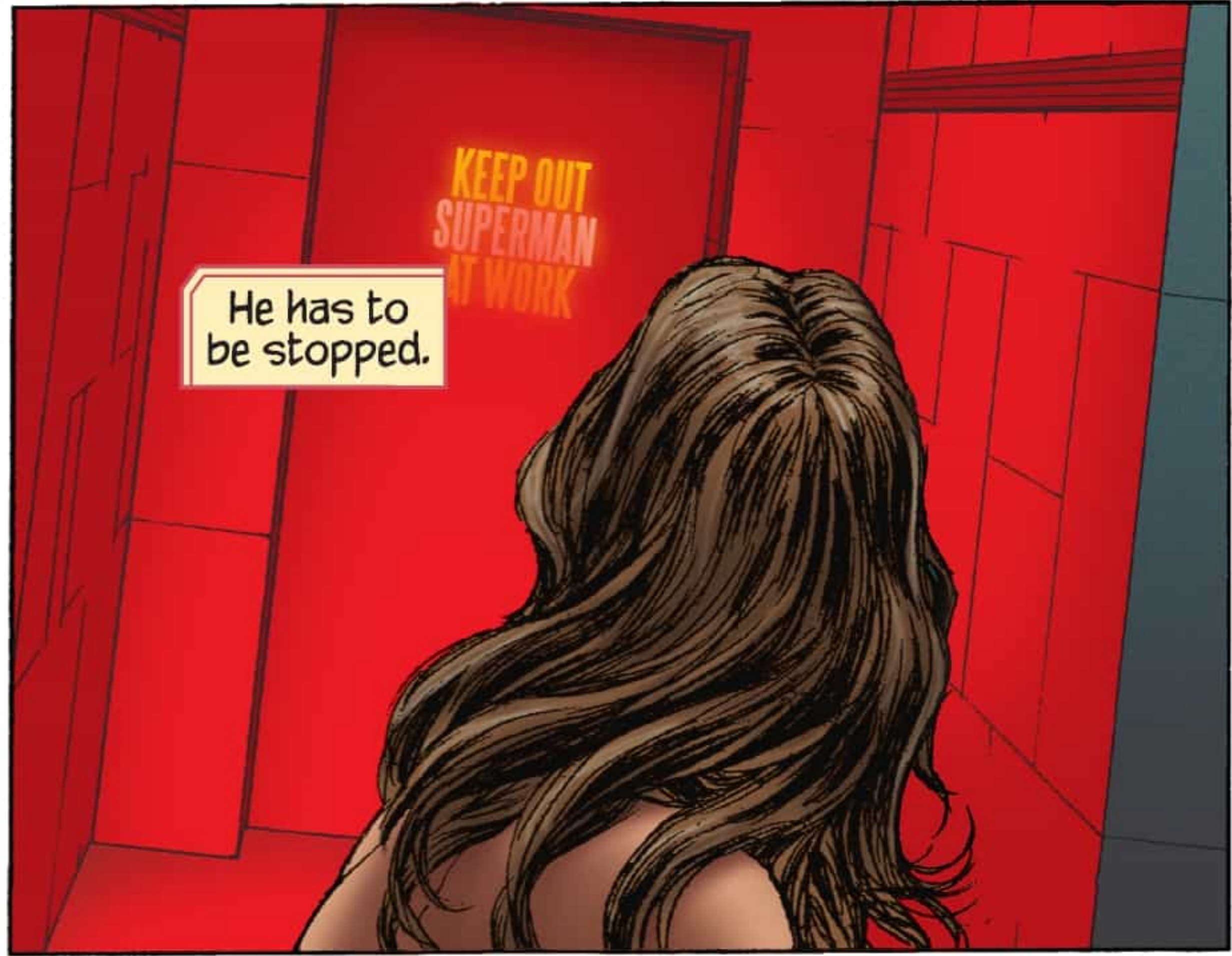


SUPERMAN!

Whatever he's  
become, whatever  
lurches out of  
that room...

...I have to be  
ready for it.

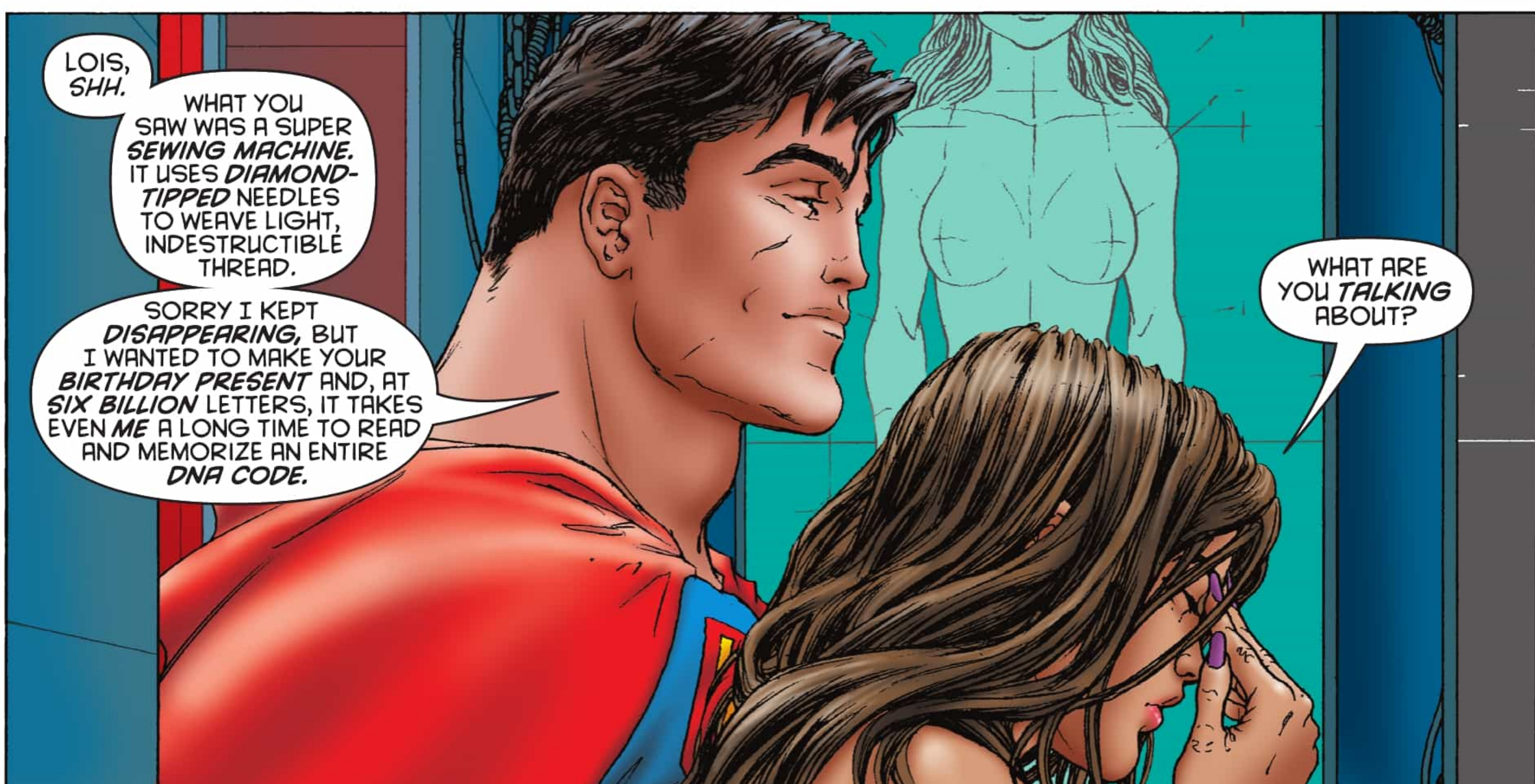




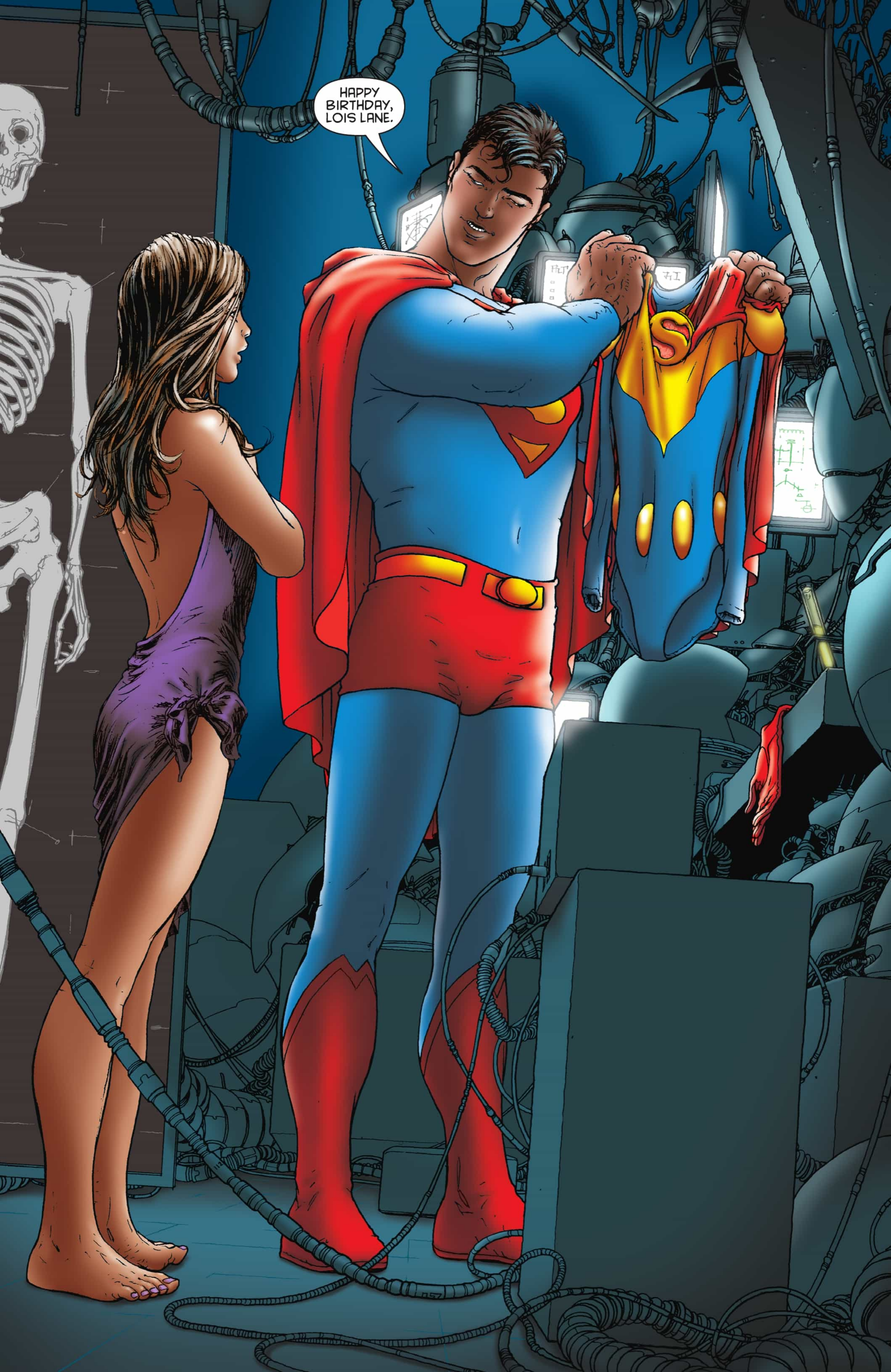












HAPPY  
BIRTHDAY,  
LOIS LANE.