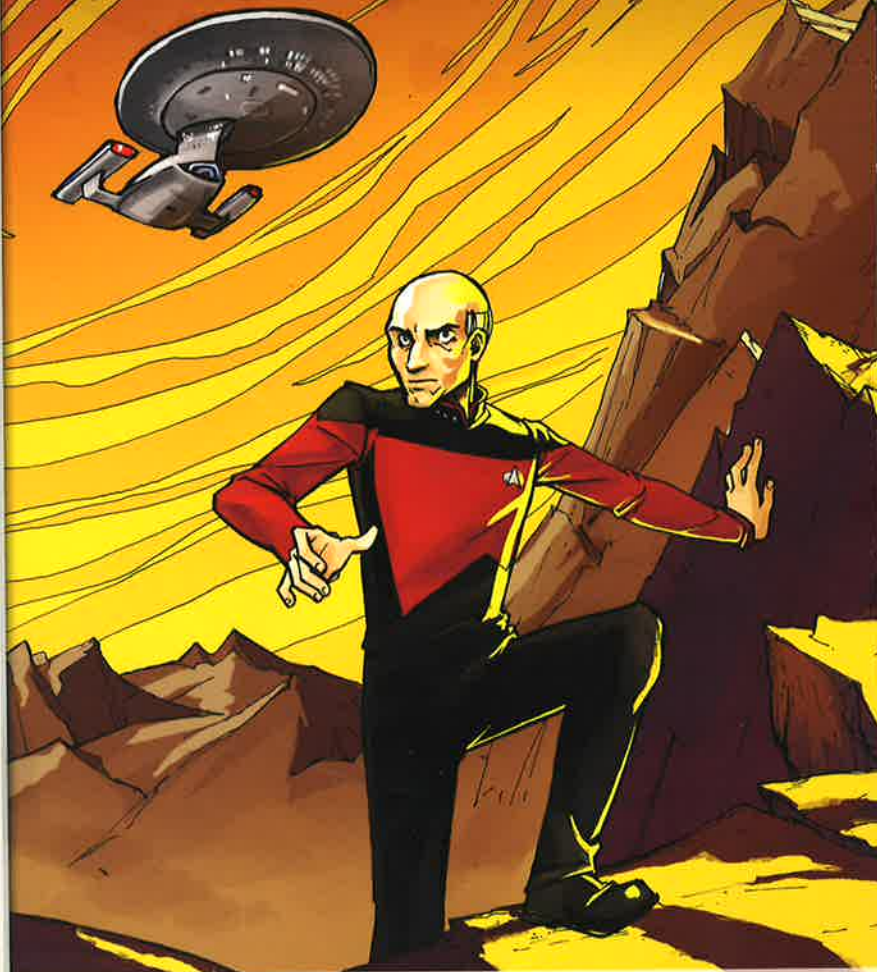


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Featuring an all-new story by veteran *Star Trek* scribe David Gerrold
writer of the classic episode "The Trouble with Tribbles"!



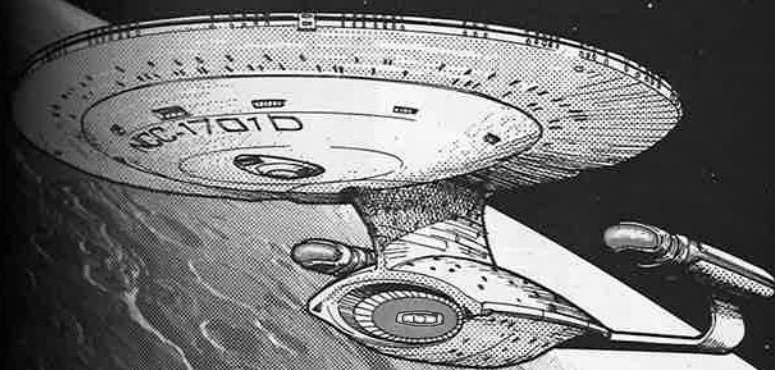
CAPTAIN'S LOG, STARDATE 43903.2

The Enterprise is delivering new staff members to the research outpost at Cawley IV. While we sojourn, members of my senior staff have recommended a mission to The Labyrinth of Wisdom. Commander Riker will lead the Away Team.

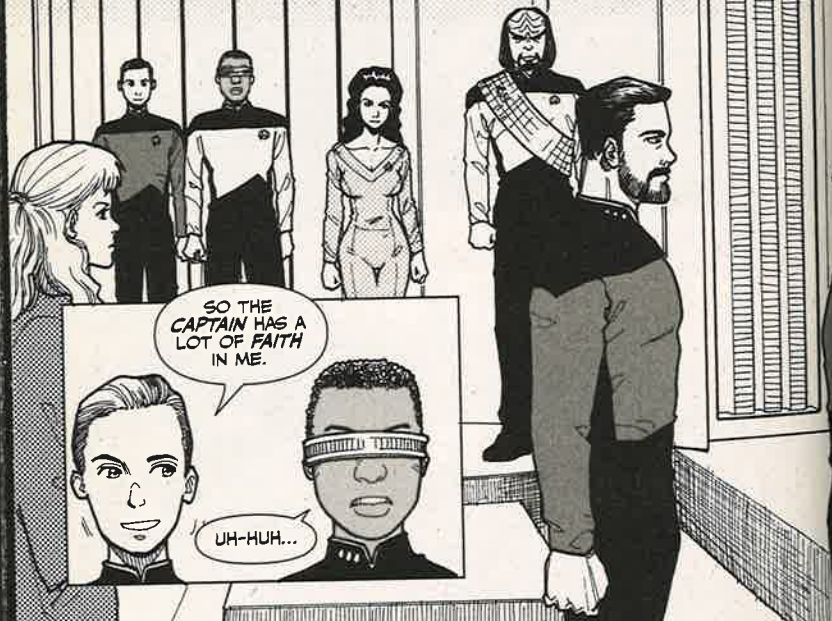
“Changeling”

***Story by
DAVID GERROLD***

***Art by
E. J. SU***



Also on the Away Team, Security Chief Worf, Counselor Troi, Chief Engineer LaForge...and, particularly, Wesley Crusher. This will be Crusher's first mission as an Ensign.



SO THE CAPTAIN HAS A LOT OF FAITH IN ME.

UH-HUH...

YOUR MISSION IS TO GO TO THE CENTER OF THE Labyrinth, DETERMINE THE FLUX PARAMETERS, AND MONITOR ALL CHANGES.

BE CAREFUL.

THE LABYRINTH IS THE NEXUS OF POWERFUL ENERGIES.

WATCH YOUR PLACEMENTS AND DON'T STRAY BEYOND THE BOUNDARIES OF PROBABILITY. THERE ARE DIFFERENTIAL CONSEQUENCES.

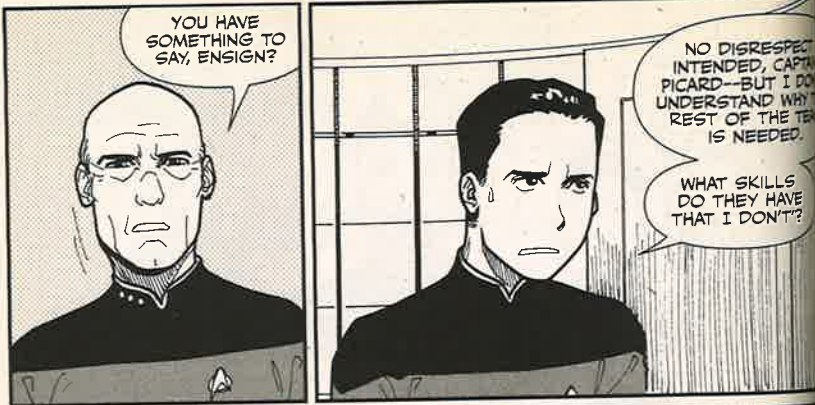


I KNOW ALL ABOUT CONSEQUENTIAL INDIFFERENCES. I'LL WATCH OUT FOR THEM, CAPTAIN.

ENSIGN, YOU WILL FOLLOW THE ORDERS OF COMMANDER RIKER. THE LABYRINTH IS NO PLACE FOR IMPETUOUS ACTION.

YES, SIR.

IT'S JUST THAT--



YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY, ENSIGN?

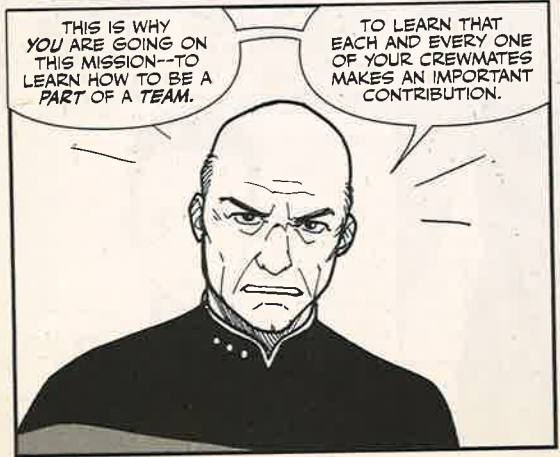
NO DISRESPECT INTENDED, CAPTAIN PICARD--BUT I DO UNDERSTAND WHY THE REST OF THE TEAM IS NEEDED.

WHAT SKILLS DO THEY HAVE THAT I DON'T?



I MEAN, COMMANDER RIKER AND I--

ENSIGN!



THIS IS WHY YOU ARE GOING ON THIS MISSION--TO LEARN HOW TO BE A PART OF A TEAM.

TO LEARN THAT EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOUR CREWMATES MAKES AN IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION.

YES, SIR.



VREEEN

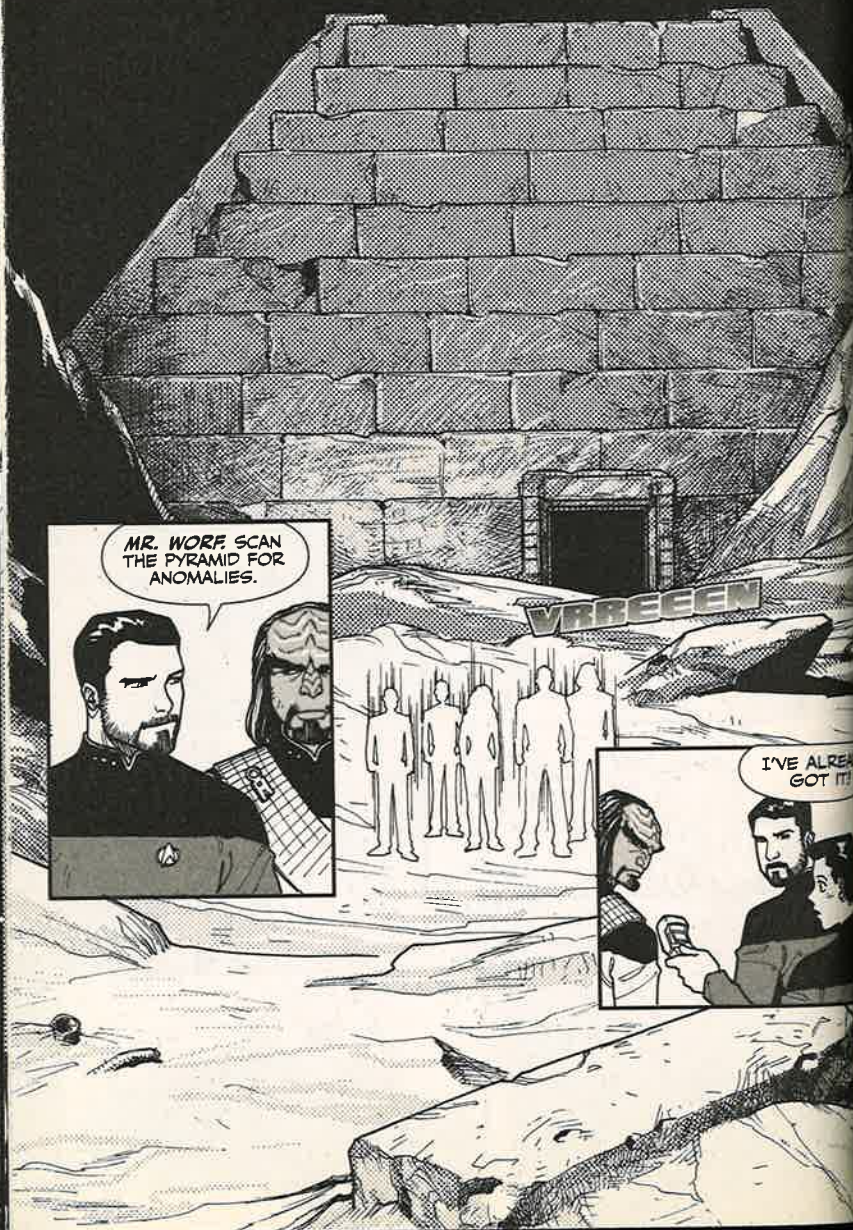


THEY'LL BE FINE.

I'M NOT WORRIED.



WE'LL MONITOR FROM THE BRIEFING ROOM.



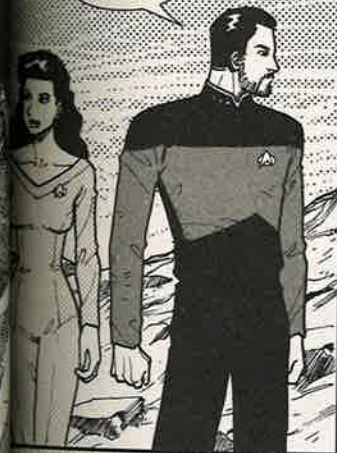
MR. WOLF SCAN THE PYRAMID FOR ANOMALIES.



I'VE ALREADY GOT IT.



TEAM, REPORT!



THERE ARE GREAT ENERGIES IN FLUX.



WE'RE OPTIMAL FOR GO.



I'VE RUN COMPARABILITIES WITH ALL PREVIOUS N-MATRICES AGAINST THE OPERATIVE FLUX PARAMETERS AND WE'VE GOT A CLEAR PATH TO THE CENTER OF THE LABYRINTH.

I'LL SHOW YOU THE WAY.

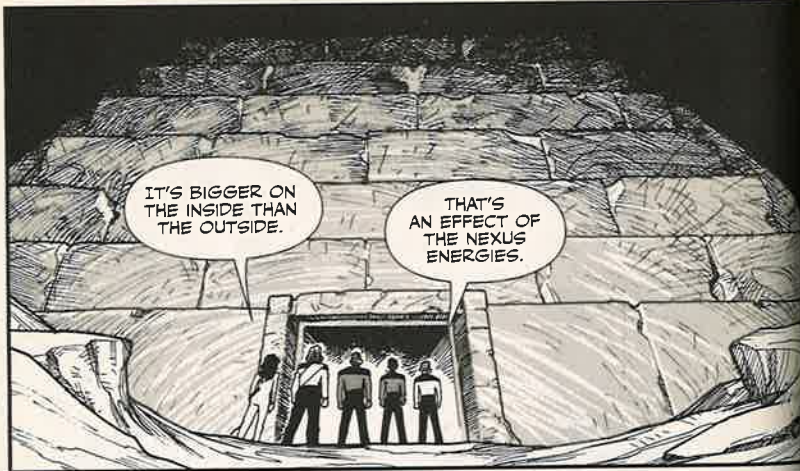


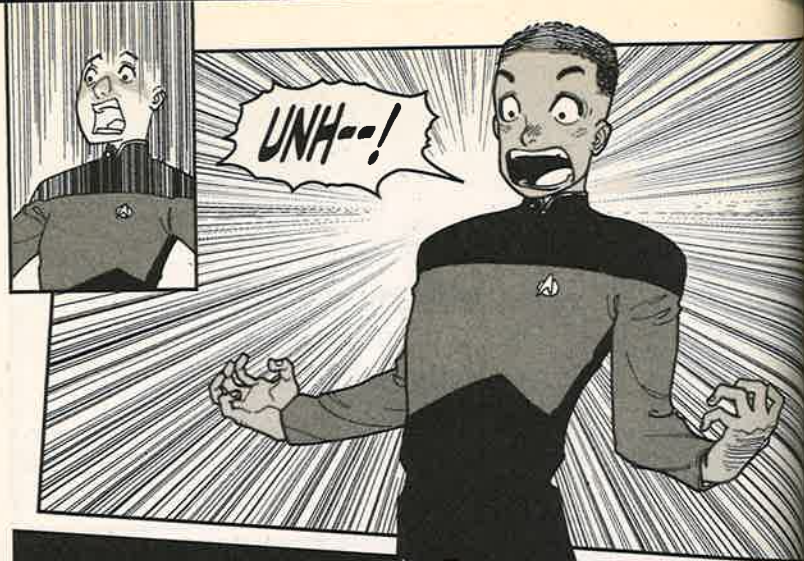
RECOMMEND WE PROCEED.

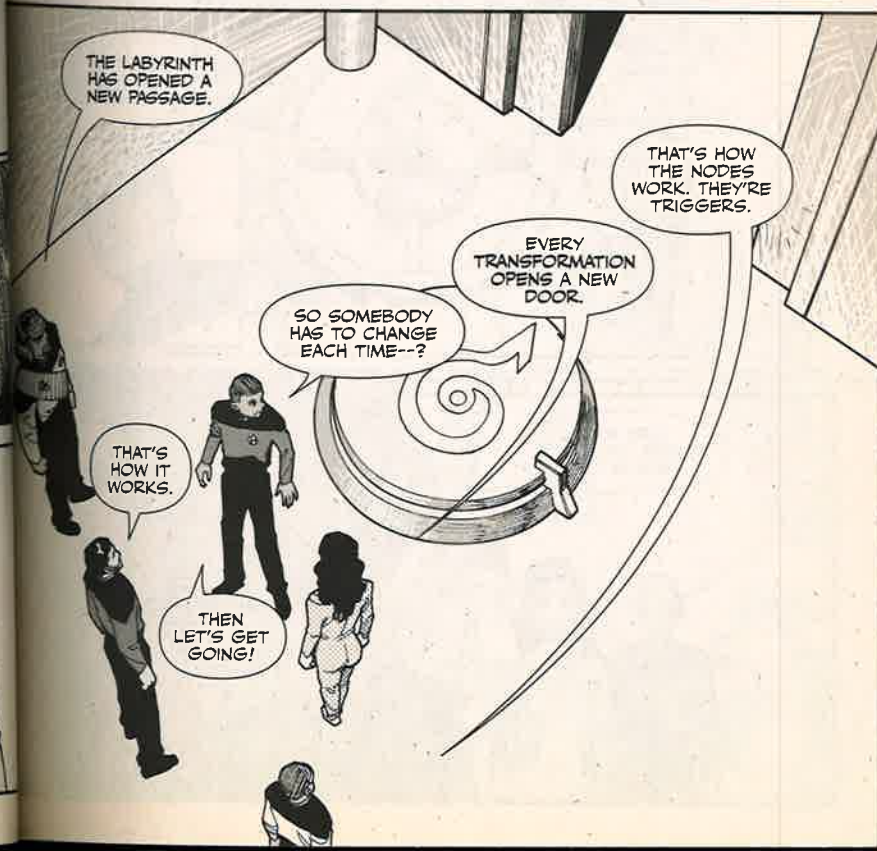
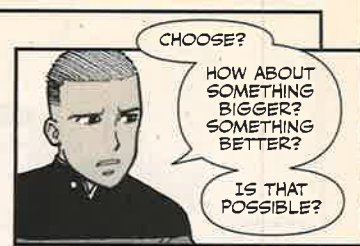
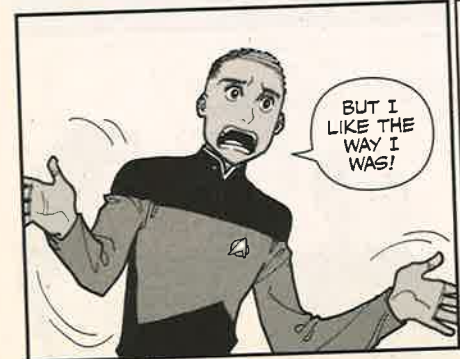


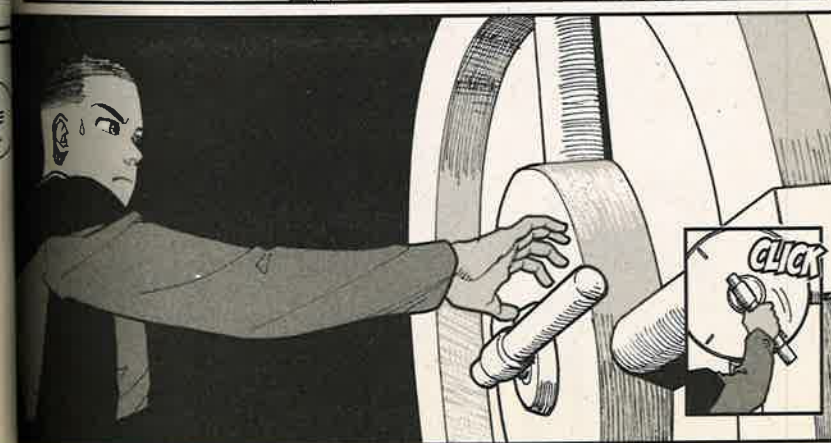
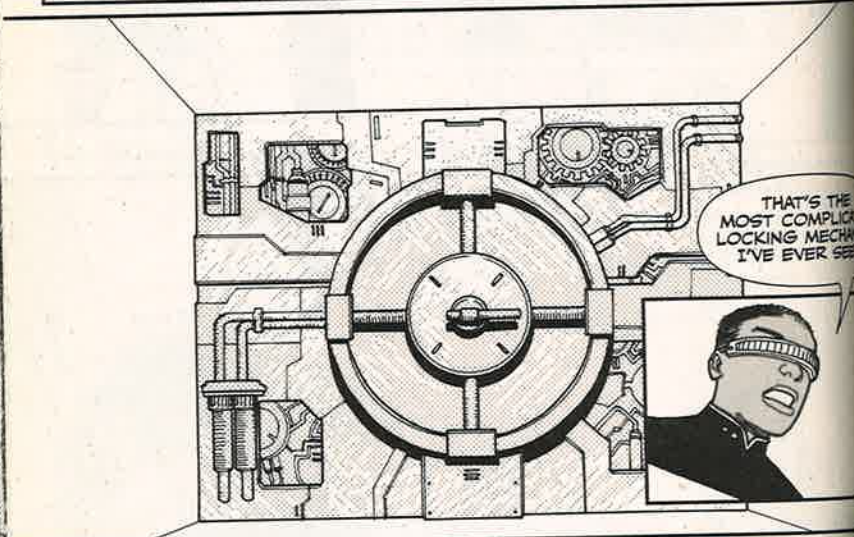
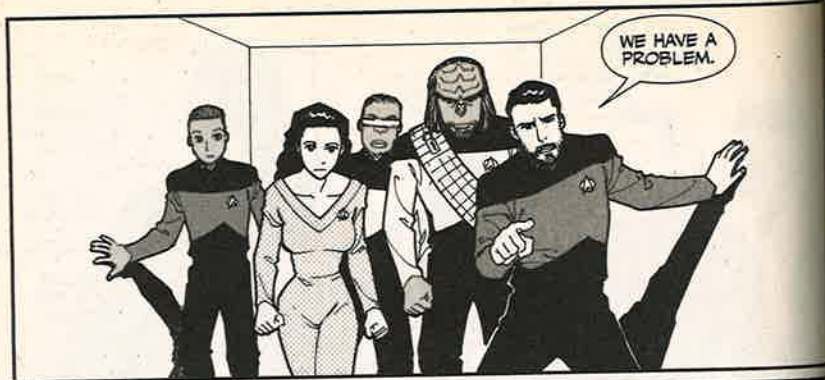
LET'S DO IT.

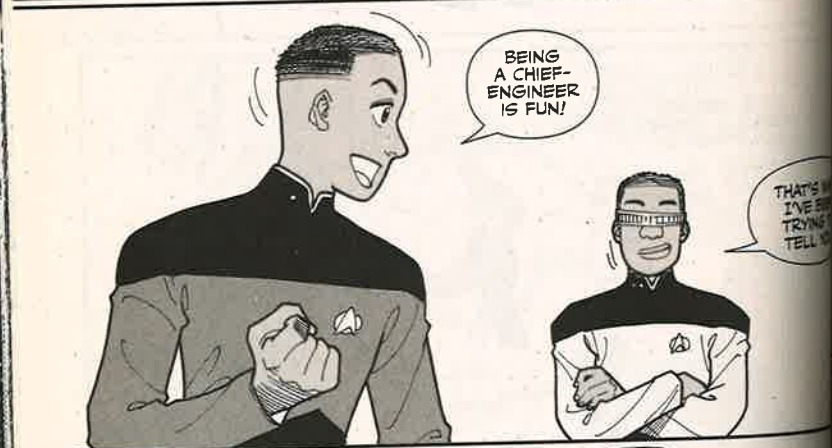


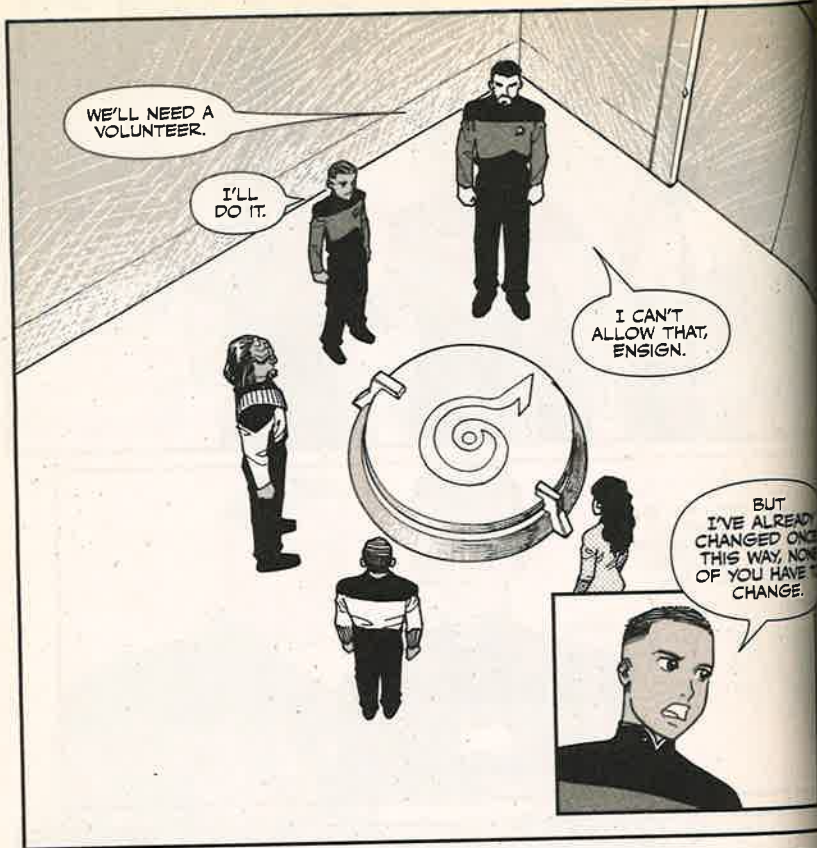
















THIS IS HORRIBLE!

IT'S WORSE THAN THAT! IT'S INSULTING!

WESLEY, YOU VOLUNTEERED TO GO FIRST--

BECAUSE I WANTED TO BE COURAGEOUS!

THIS IS WHAT COURAGE FEELS LIKE. YOU DO IT BECAUSE IT'S THE RIGHT THING TO DO.

EVEN IF YOU'RE AFRAID. ESPECIALLY YOU'RE AFRAID.



COURAGE ISN'T ABOUT NOT HAVING FEAR.

IT'S ABOUT NOT LISTENING TO FEAR.



KLINGONS HAVE FEAR?

THIS IS NOT SOMETHING WE DISCUSS.



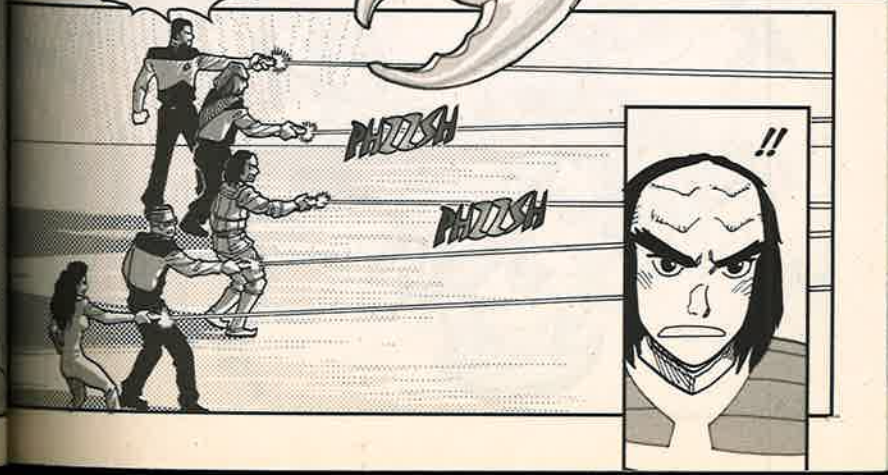
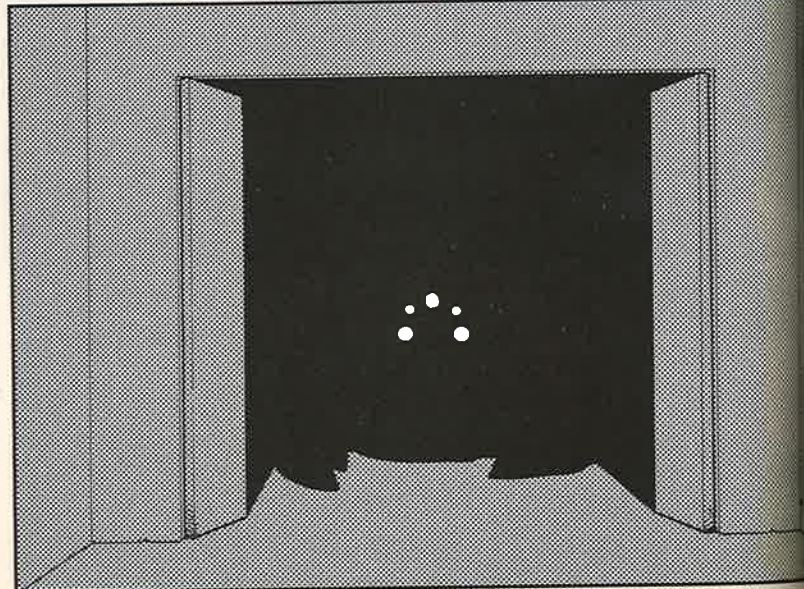
YES. IT HAPPENS.



SOMETIMES.

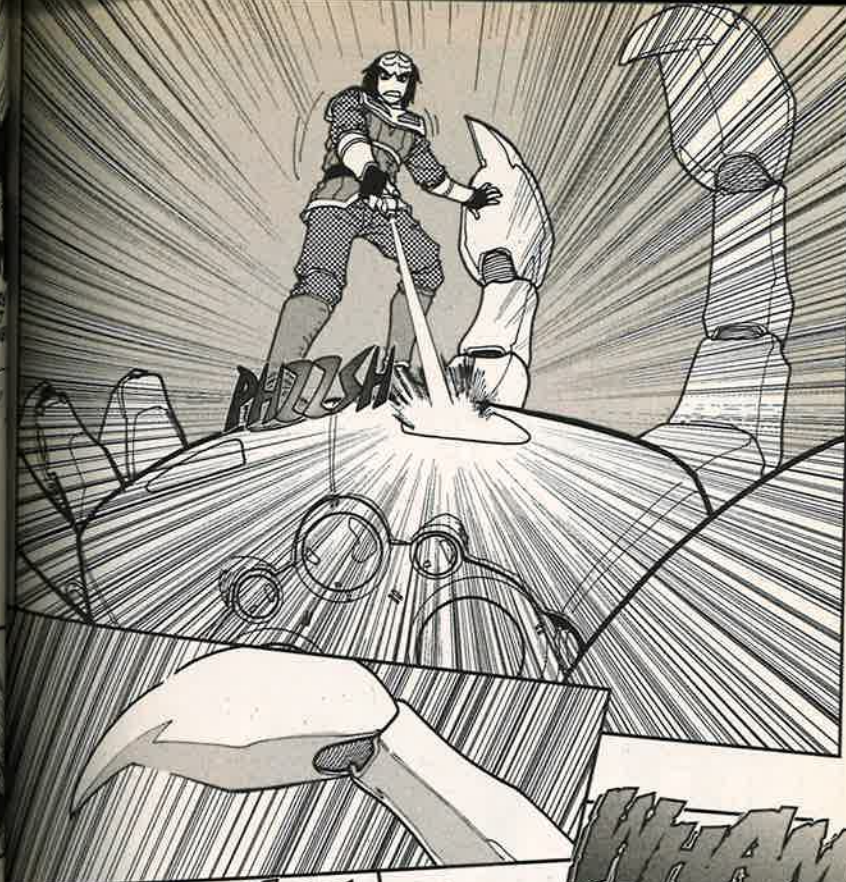
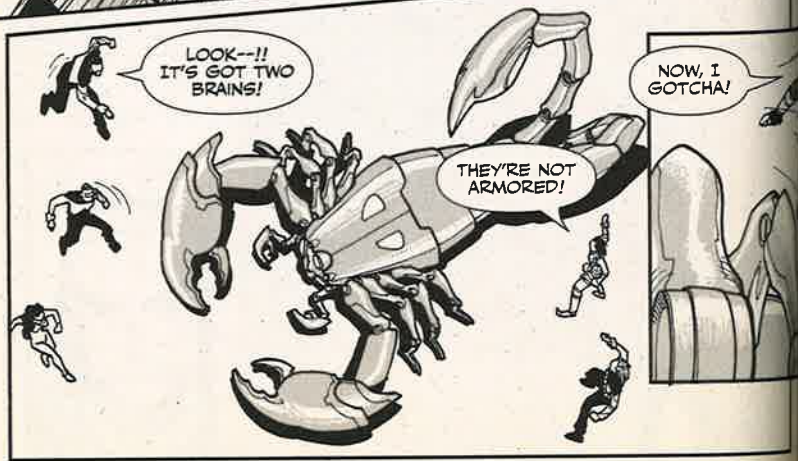


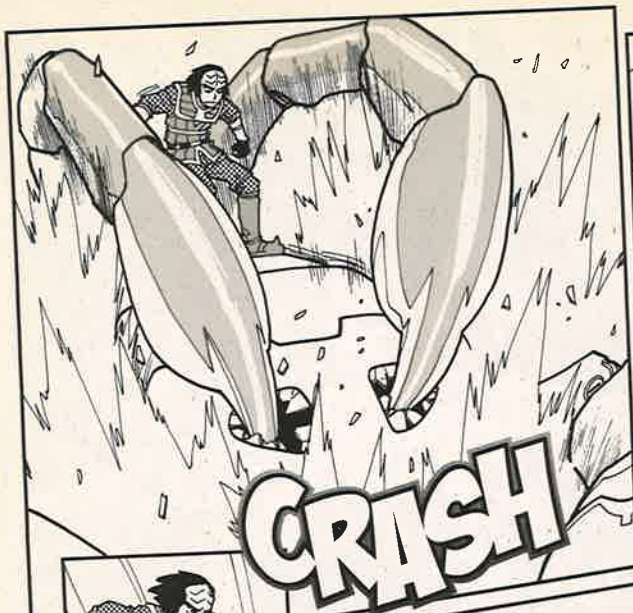
BUT NOT VERY OFTEN.



RRROOOARRR

PHASERS
AREN'T
WORKING





CRASH



HOW WAS THAT, WORF?



IT'S A GOOD START.

?!



LET'S MOVE OUT.

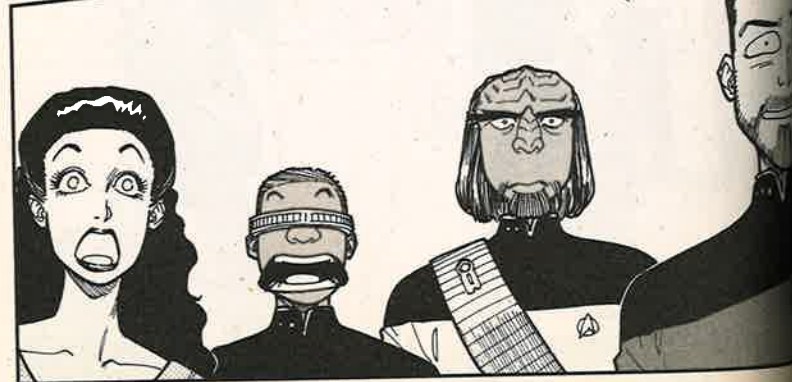


I'LL DO IT.





UNH--!



OH!

I SENSE ...
SOMETHING. GREAT
CONFUSION.



