

FEATURING THE GRAPHIC NOVEL YUI #3: ASSASSAINTS

JULY 2004

U.S. \$5.99

CAN \$6.99

HEAVY

WPS 36587

THE ADULT ILLUSTRATED
FANTASY MAGAZINE

TIP-IN
PLATE
ENCLOSED

RETAILER: DISPLAY UNTIL JUNE 21, 2004



CONTENTS

Cover by Beet

6. Galactic Geographic by Karl Kofoed

8. Gallery on Ken Meyer Jr.

14. Dossier by S.C. Ringgenberg

18. How To Broach The Subject?
by Goupil and Walter

19. Watch Out For Used Cars!
by Goupil and Walter

21. No More by Nate Van Dyke

24. Oni Nights by Mauro Balloni

34. Yiu #3 - Assassaints
by Tehy, Guenet and J.M. Vee

72. Demon Winds #2 - The Demon Childe
Art by Azpiri Text by Lovern Kindzierski

85. The Good, The Bad And The Not-So Bad
by Abuli and Bernet

94. Pipe Dreams by Baloo, Aris &
Thierry Leprevost

How To Broach The Subject?
By Goupil and Walter ©Vents D'Ouest
Watch Out For Used Cars!
By Goupil and Walter ©Vents D'Ouest
The Good, The Bad And The Not-So Bad
By Abuli and Bernet ©Sefam



CONTENTS

Cover by Beet

6. Galactic Geographic by Karl Kofoed

8. Gallery on Ken Meyer Jr.

14. Dossier by S.C. Ringgenberg

18. How To Broach The Subject?
by Goupil and Walter

19. Watch Out For Used Cars!
by Goupil and Walter

21. No More by Nate Van Dyke

24. Oni Nights by Mauro Balloni

34. Yiu #3 - Assassaints
by Tehy, Guenet and J.M. Vee

72. Demon Winds #2 - The Demon Childe
Art by Azpiri Text by Lovern Kindzierski

85. The Good, The Bad And The Not-So Bad
by Abuli and Bernet

94. Pipe Dreams by Baloo, Aris &
Thierry Leprevost

How To Broach The Subject?
By Goupil and Walter ©Vents D'Ouest
Watch Out For Used Cars!
By Goupil and Walter ©Vents D'Ouest
The Good, The Bad And The Not-So Bad
By Abuli and Bernet ©Sefam



STAFF

publisher &
editor-in-chief...KEVIN EASTMAN

vice president/
executive director...HOWARD JUROFSKY

managing editor...DEBRA YANOVER

designers...KELL-O-GRAPHICS, INC.

subscription manager...PAT HAYWARD

editorial polyglot...FERSHID BHARUCHA

HEAVY METAL

HEAVY METAL MAGAZINE (ISBN 0085-7822):
"HEAVY METAL" is a trademark of Metal
Mammoth, Inc. ©2004. 100 N. Village Avenue, Suite 12,
Rockville Centre, NY 11570. (516) 594-2130 Fax
(516) 594-2133. All rights reserved. Nothing may be
reprinted in part without permission from the pub-
lisher. Any similarity to real people and places in
fiction and semi-fiction is purely coincidental.

EDITORIAL INFORMATION: Publisher assumes
no responsibility for unsolicited material. Return
postage must accompany submissions, otherwise
return of artwork is not guaranteed.

SUBSCRIPTIONS: Published bi-monthly by Metal
Mammoth, Inc., 100 N. Village Avenue, Suite 12,
Rockville Centre, NY 11570. \$18.95 paid annual
subscription, \$29.95 paid two year subscription,
and \$39.95 paid three year subscription in territo-
rial U.S. Add \$12.00 per year for Canada, add
\$15.00 per year for other foreign countries.
Periodicals paid at Plattsburgh, NY and additional
mailing offices.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Subscriber, please send
change of address to Subscription Department,
Heavy Metal Magazine, 100 N. Village Avenue,
Suite 12, Rockville Centre, NY 11570 or e-mail
change to heavymetal1@rcn.com Allow 4 to 6
weeks for change. POSTMASTER: Please send
change of address to Subscription Department,
Heavy Metal Magazine, 100 N. Village Avenue,
Suite 12, Rockville Centre, NY 11570.

ADVERTISING: Heavy Metal • (516) 594-2130

PRINTED IN CANADA.

◀ Illustration by Nate Van Dyke
To find out more about Nate's work,
contact him at:
www.n8vandyke.com



STAFF

**publisher &
editor-in-chief...KEVIN EASTMAN**

**vice president/
executive director...HOWARD JUROFSKY**

managing editor...DEBRA YANOVER

designers...KELL-O-GRAPHICS, INC.

subscription manager...PAT HAYWARD

editorial polyglot...FERSHID BHARUCHA

HEAVY METAL

HEAVY METAL MAGAZINE (ISBN 0085-7822):

"HEAVY METAL" is a trademark of Metal Mammoth, Inc. ©2004. 100 N. Village Avenue, Suite 12, Rockville Centre, NY 11570. (516) 594-2130 Fax (516) 594-2133. All rights reserved. Nothing may be reprinted in part without permission from the publisher. Any similarity to real people and places in fiction and semi-fiction is purely coincidental.

EDITORIAL INFORMATION: Publisher assumes no responsibility for unsolicited material. Return postage must accompany submissions, otherwise return of artwork is not guaranteed.

SUBSCRIPTIONS: Published bi-monthly by Metal Mammoth, Inc., 100 N. Village Avenue, Suite 12, Rockville Centre, NY 11570. \$18.95 paid annual subscription, \$29.95 paid two year subscription, and \$39.95 paid three year subscription in territorial U.S. Add \$12.00 per year for Canada, add \$15.00 per year for other foreign countries. Periodicals paid at Plattsburgh, NY and additional mailing offices.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Subscriber, please send change of address to Subscription Department, Heavy Metal Magazine, 100 N. Village Avenue, Suite 12, Rockville Centre, NY 11570 or e-mail change to heavymetal1@rcn.com Allow 4 to 6 weeks for change. **POSTMASTER:** Please send change of address to Subscription Department, Heavy Metal Magazine, 100 N. Village Avenue, Suite 12, Rockville Centre, NY 11570.

ADVERTISING: Heavy Metal • (516) 594-2130

PRINTED IN CANADA.

◀ **Illustration by Nate Van Dyke**
To find out more about Nate's work,
contact him at:
www.n8vandyke.com

PUBLISHER'S NOTE



MARTIN EMOND
1969-2004
AN AMAZING HUMAN
AN INCREDIBLE ARTIST.

Tough to start this month's Publisher's Note, as we lost one of the good ones recently. There is a lot that could be said here, but I'll just say the most important one—he will be missed.

I want to welcome another amazing European artist, "Beet" to the U.S. fans. After selling all over the place over there, he's jumping the pond to hang out with us. I want to give a special shout out to Nate Van Dyke who contributed our "Featured Artist" painting, as well as a short story inspired by it. Nate was shooting for the cover with this killer painting, and I promise his next one will get the front.

The featured story in this issue has been lighting up the web-site message boards with each of it's first two installments, and finally we get to all enjoy the third chapter of "YIU"! Everyone's favorite "Lorna" artist, Azpiri is back with his second chapter of "Demon Wind" for our reading pleasure, and look for the final chapter coming soon. Bernet and Abuli are back with the final chapter of the twisted western adventures of that rat, "Snake". All in all this is shaping up to be an issue of all my favorite contributors coming back to hang out with us! Mauro Balloni turned out a great new samurai short in "Oni Nights", Goupil and Walter join in with their wacky sex romps, and Baloo, Aris and Leprevost give us another crazy tale.

I always feel like I leave Karl Kofoed and S.C. Ringenberg for last, and I don't want them to think they're being looked over in our all-star lineups, as I always look forward to their contributions with "Galactic Geographic" and the "Dossier" as do a bunch of other folks. Keep shining on guys.

Ken Meyer Jr. is in the "Gallery" this issue, and I'm thrilled to get him there. He's been working hard, and waiting a long time. I love the work, Ken and know you're going to find more fans now.

To wrap up this month, I want to thank all the folks that have been hanging out on the Heavy Metal web-site, and invite all others to check it out. We're adding about 30 new images a week between all the channels, "Biz and Buzz Scout'n Tang" and "2 Drunk Idiots" still being the favorites. The new section "What's On My Brain" has turned out to be a hit, it's the newest channel where I talk about and post weekly photos of all my adventures. While you're there, be sure to sign up for the bi-weekly newsletter, as each installment gives you all the latest on upcoming Heavy Metal projects, original art, and always includes special discounts on choice items from the online store.

Okay that's it for me this time around gang, be talking to you all soon!

Best,

Kevin Eastman

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear H.M.,

I am from the land of Oz. I am a 21 year old male and have only found out about H.M. about 3 years ago. I don't know why, I guess Oz is pretty slack when it comes to promoting H.M. stuff... Anyway, ever since I was a kid I have been talented with art, so I have always had a good eye for detail and usually know when something is a crock of shit. But I will never forget the first time I saw my T.M.N.T. action figure (Raphael)... I was speechless... Never before had I seen something so cool. From then on I collected everything—video tapes, all the figures, comics, hell even the lunch boxes. I even used to be the best ninja turtle sketcher in my class. Anyway I hit puberty and all my turtle stuff slowly moved to the attic. Kevin Eastman and Peter Laird had disappeared from my life... for now.

Then in my late teens I wandered into my local video store in a stoned kinda way and saw this cool looking cover of a chick on the back of a pterodactyl... what's this I said to myself? I read the back cover... Wow! Kevin Eastman is involved in this? I gotta rent it! As soon as I got home I smoked a few cones and chucked in the video and whoa!! I was totally blown away. You mixed awesome animation with great enjoyable stories all the while with heavy metal music in the background... Kevin Eastman had won me over for the second time!! The movie inspired me so much. I can't thank you enough. Ever since that day I have been hunting down all kinds of heavy metal merchandise I can get my grubby hands on, but I can't find many of the magazines over here. Also I don't have a credit card to order stuff on the net and this is killing me.

Kevin, I see a lot of potential with H.M. in the future. I hope there are more movies and games in the pipeline. If there isn't you must be mad!!
Simon

Dear Simon,

Thanks for your letter and wonderful comments—really made my day! We have gotten a bunch of great mail from fans "Down Under" anytime the magazine reaches there. It's tough because the import costs and taxes put the price of it up so high. We tried to work out a publishing deal with a company to print it there to make it more affordable, but even that ended up too costly. Thanks for your support from so far away at such a high cost— I'm your biggest fan now!

Dear H.M.,

I've just bought CEREBUS #300. It's the first issue I've ever bought of this comic, due to all the brouhaha surrounding the final issue and I was surprised to see a photo in which we can see Kevin Eastman and Peter Laird. It's in the letters section, where a reader asks Sim about Laird's apparent intention of reprinting TMNT #8, editing out the appearance of Cerebus. Sim subsequently offers a lengthy response mentioning Kevin's name several times. I don't know if you've read it, Kevin, but if you did I'd like to know your opinion about it. And also, what do you think about Dave Sim and his 300 issue Cerebus run? What are your memories about your collaboration with him in TMNT #8?
Screametal

Dear Screametal,

Thanks for your e-mail, and I bought issue 300 as well. I used to buy every issue, but when Dave started putting out the big collections, I just waited for one of those, and then could read the whole storyline all at once. Dave was, is my mentor in many ways. He is an inspiration as a self-publisher to a great many, and specifically to me. I loved the "Underground" publishers that inspired Dave, but the success of Dave's "Cerebus" in the new direct distribution market, showed us it was possible to make a living at it and own and control your own creation. Dave's first issues of "Cerebus", he drew like Barry Windsor-Smith's "Conan", our first issue of the "TMNT's" were drawn like Frank Miller's "Daredevil" and "Ronin". I guess you'd say Dave's work was more than an inspiration, huh? Working with Dave on TMNT #8 was one of the best times I've ever had working on a comic, and one of the works I'm most proud of ever. If Pete feels the need to change it, shame on him, but at least the original vision is still out there somewhere.

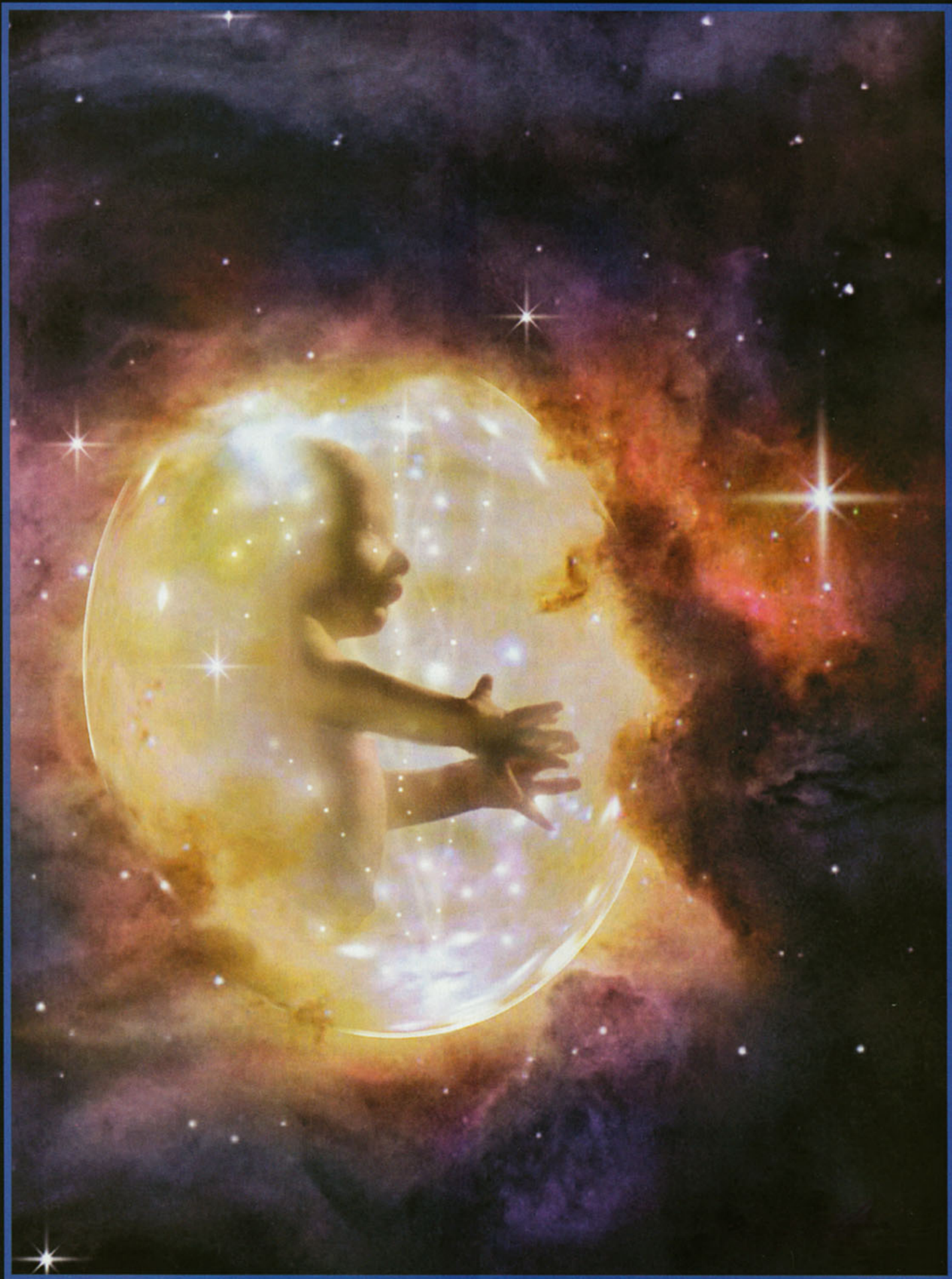
Dear H.M.,

Allow me to introduce myself. My name is Edgar Espino and I have been a fan of your publication for a long time now. It was back during May 1996, while browsing at a bookstore that I discovered your magazine. By that time I had been doing pencil drawings, which most of the people I knew thought were a bit too graphic and not artistic. Which was funny considering some of them were art students. Anyhow, back at the bookstore, some teenagers were flipping through the pages of what seemed like the pages of an adult magazine of some sort. One of them muttered, "Hey, that's very cool". "Oh you don't know Heavy Metal", the other one said. The words Heavy Metal caught my attention. They left and I picked up the magazine. On the cover was a painting of a very sexy woman surrounded by bats and in a very clad outfit (an Olivia cover). My curiosity grew as I realized the title of the magazine was everything but what I had in mind. I took the magazine to the counter and while waiting to pay for it I realized that the contents seemed a lot like something I would draw myself. But there was something more... much more. The graphic stories were intriguing and very interesting. The ads also revealed more artwork like that which graced the cover of the magazine. I found Royo, Olivia, Boris, Julie and so many more. I was so caught into it that the lady at the counter had to yell at me to call my attention. The next few days seemed like this magazine was the center of the universe. I ordered some back issues, a print of one of Royo's paintings that still hangs on my wall and finally two of the "best of" material to catch up with the stories.
Edgar

Dear Edgar,

Thanks a million for your wonderful, inspirational note! You sound like me when I first bought the first issue back in 1977—I was hooked for life at that moment, just like you—and it carried my drawing to a whole new place. I check out your web-site (www.fantasyserotica.net) and think your work is great. You're making leaps and bounds with your style, keep it up and I look forward to publishing you someday.

Check out our web-site at: www.heavymetal.com



CROWN OF CREATION

New painting at the Myhr Center recalls an artist's view of the meaning of life.

Artist and art historian DFA Jusk Ligeac was asked by a student to comment on the meaning of life. At the time, in 2061, the artist and teacher was creating a series of space art cover paintings for several books.

"Have you turned on your Datastrator today?" Ligeac demanded. The student glumly shook his head. "Then you're not likely to find out today, are you?" advised the professor.

Of course, the question was as important to the student and his professor as it is to all living things. We all wonder: "Who am I? Where did I come from? Where am I going? What is the meaning of life?"

These questions have haunted mankind since its beginnings. It is said that all of us live alone, together. In questioning the meaning of life we are united. Why did Ligeac answer his student as he did?

Perhaps he was saying that life is a search, and only by doing can we find the answer to our questions.

Ligeac left notes among his writings that give us a clue. "The meaning to life," he once wrote in a sketchbook, "isn't known until it's



To
reach
the
face
of
heaven.
To
touch
the
cosmic
egg.

been lived. Its meaning will be judged by our descendants." (*Stellar Journals*, 2049)

No doubt Ligeac was pondering this question when he created "*Crown of Creation*," the painting reproduced on the opposite page. One of several Ligeac homages to the historic film "*2001-A Space Odyssey*," it depicts a newborn child enrobed in a nebula full of bright newborn stars.

Art historians say the work was Ligeac's homage to his son, born earlier in the year he did the painting. But his son Quentin reported that he once asked his father, "Are you saying in this work that humanity is the crown of creation?" Ligeac shook his head. "No," he told his son sternly. "Life is."

For this reason this work of art was chosen from among many other great pieces of classical space art to hang in the Great Hall of Life at the

Myhr Center. J. H. Frank, director of the Myhr Arts Center, said at the picture's 3004 unveiling, "Without reverence for life, mankind has no business among the stars."

We think Jusk Ligeac would agree.



KEN MEYER JR.

Gallery

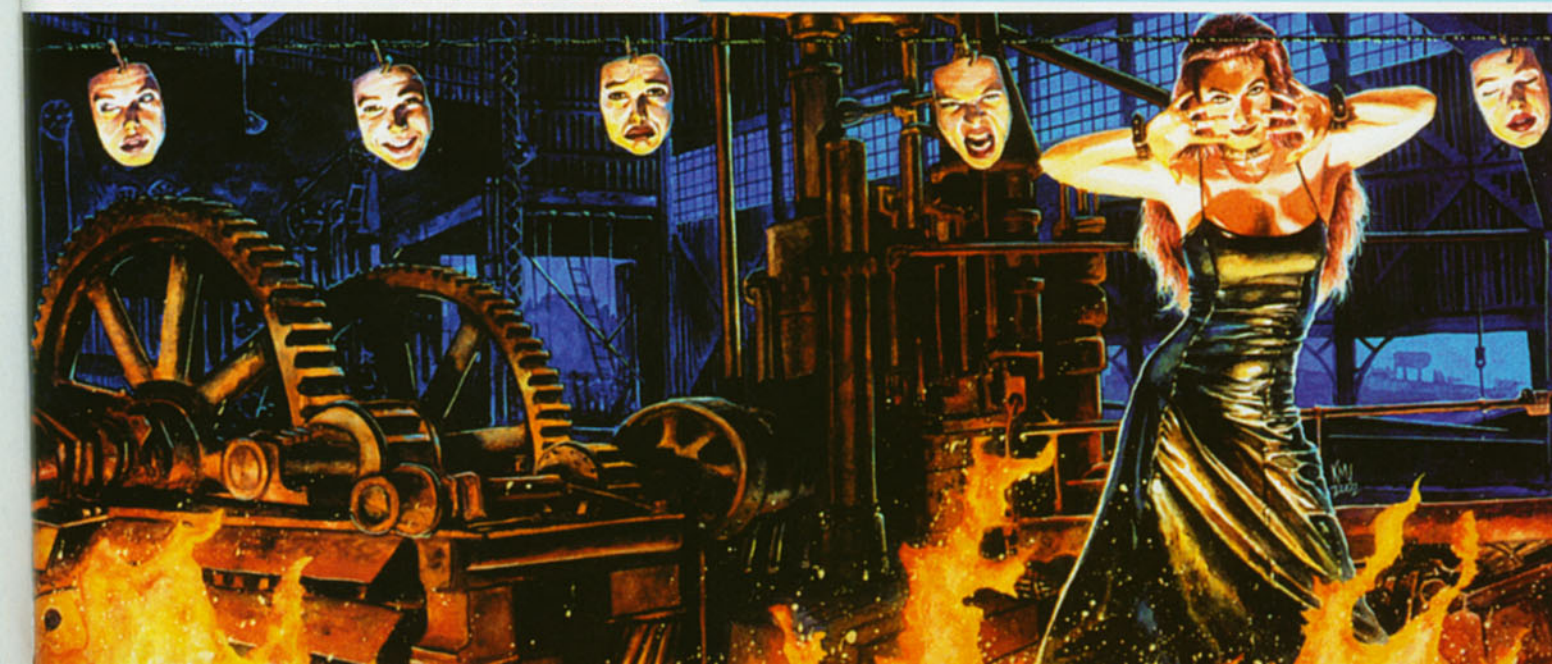


Ken Meyer Jr. has worked as an illustrator/designer for close to 20 years. He has worked in comics (being nominated for an Eisner award in the process), paper games (Magic the Gathering, White Wolf games and many more), online games (the popular Everquest) and more.





He has also worked in the education industry, in professional training, web design and other areas. Among his stranger jobs was working 'across the field from Area 51,' on the Stealth Fighter when it was still classified.



Current projects include the Tori Amos RAINN benefit calendar (05/06), which he designed, produced and did a painting for, along with work for Bell Helmets and many private commissions. He has lived in more than 10 states, the Philippines, and now resides in his old junior high school haunt, Savannah, Georgia. More work can be seen on his site at www.kenmeyerjr.com and he can be reached at kenmeyerjr@coastalnow.net





Hooray For Wally Wood!

By S.C. Ringgenberg

Wally Wood's (1927-1981) story is ultimately a dark tragedy, underlit by lightning bursts of artistic brilliance. He was a man consumed by his inner furies, who nonetheless left behind an amazing artistic legacy. Wood is one of the greatest cartoonists of all time, and his short, sad life is emblematic of the lives of many talented artists who devoted their lives to comics and received precious little in return. Wood was quite literally, a jack-of-all-trades. He could write, draw, ink, letter and conceive characters with the best of them. Many comics historians (myself among them) think he was the greatest comic book inker of all time.

TwoMorrows Publishing's *Against the Grain* is a masterpiece of biography and comics history. In all honesty, once I started reading it I had a hard time putting it down. It's mostly well written by knowledgeable sources and has the grim fascination of watching an inevitable train wreck unfold in slow motion right before your eyes. It shows that Wally Wood had many, many opportunities to succeed with his work. For instance, he could have made a fortune in commercial art like E.C. colleagues such as Jack Davis or Frank Frazetta, but he mostly chose not to because he loathed the advertising industry. At other times, Wood fell victim to plain old bad luck or bad timing. *Against the Grain* presents a balanced view of Wood's triumphs and failures

that's generally sympathetic but always honest.

Learning more of Wood's troubled personal life made me doubly appreciative of his amazing output of really first-rate work. Even Wood's mediocre work is still visually interesting, and imbues the lousiest script with a veneer of class due solely to Wood's complete mastery of his chosen medium.

He's an example of someone who really gave his all for his art. What a shame that he was never rewarded at a level commensurate with his skill. Throughout *Against the Grain*, Wood's talent, intelligence, generosity, and personal decency shine through, even though editor Stewart and his many contributors make no effort to gloss over Wood's alcoholism, his self-destructiveness and the bottled-up rage he was apparently unable to express.

Bhob Stewart and designer Greg Sadowski have done an admirable job of assembling this book. There is much rare and beautiful artwork here, thought it would have been nice to see more of the black and white artwork reproduced larger, especially the unpublished work. Personally, I could have done with a lot less of Wood's childhood artwork. A few examples showing early versions of his characters would have been sufficient. Still, these minor quibbles aside, this is a thorough, long-overdue look at one of the most influential creators in a native American art form. I predict that *Against the Grain* will stand as the definitive reference on Wally Wood.

Let's hope it also arouses more interest in reprinting all of his work from Marvel, Warren, DC, Gold Key, Harvey, Charlton, and other publishers. For instance, based on what's collected in *Against the Grain*, a book of all 200 of Wood's illustrations for sci-fi digests like *Galaxy* would be most welcome, as that represents some of his best work anywhere. Fortunately, all of his EC work has been reprinted and most of his *Mad* strips have been reprinted in paperbacks and special issues over the last five



decades. If you're unfamiliar with Wood's EC work, don't waste any time looking it up. His science fiction, shock, war, adventure, and humor strips for EC are some of the best work done in comics by anyone anywhere. Amazingly, the EC work is only a fraction of his vast, largely excellent oeuvre.

Against the Grain serves another valuable function, for it collects some of the only interviews Wood ever did. Despite the adulation many fans gave him, Wood had a rather prickly relationship with organized fandom, and his natural reticence kept him from speaking to interviewers more than occasionally. This is evident from the way some of the articles in *Against the Grain* keep returning to the same quotes from the few existing interviews. Still, there are new interviews here as well. An interview originally conducted in French is published here in English for the first time.

In the end, *Against the Grain* leaves us with a well-rounded portrait of an artistic giant who left behind a legacy of staggering beauty and unparalleled imagination. Wally Wood enriched the comics medium in ways that only a handful of others (Foster, Raymond, Caniff, Eisner, Kirby, Roy Crane to name a few) have ever matched. Despite the hardships he endured, the totality of Wood's output is a magnificent, heroic monument to his skill and vast imagination.

And if reading *Against the Grain* gets you fired up to track down some rare and unusual Woodwork, I heartily recommend Two Morrows' *The Wally Wood Checklist* by the Bhob Stewart and

uber-collector Jim Vadeboncoeur, Jr. It's packed with listings of most of Wood's comics, books, and magazines, though it includes a disclaimer that it's not complete. In fact, it doesn't even list the cover to the Sea Hunt board game that Wood painted, which is reprinted inside the checklist! Okay, so it doesn't record every board game, puzzle, lunchbox or piece of commercial art the prolific Wood ever did (which would be nigh unto impossible), it's still the best resource out there for serious Wood collectors and a damn good buy for \$5.95. It's available from TwoMorrows' web site: www.twomorrows.com.

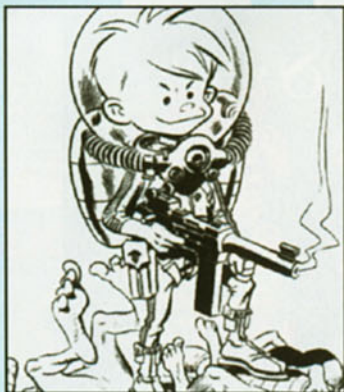
And fortunately, some of Wood's other worlds are back in print in a variety of easily accessible volumes and formats. DC Comics' Archive Editions will be reprinting the complete run of what was probably Wood's most sustained effort on any group of characters, the *T.H.U.N.D.E.R. Agents*. D.C.'s Archive Editions are hardbound volumes printed on slick heavy stock in color, and





they're consistently one of the best reprint series. They're available at comic book stores, mainstream bookstores, and at all the major online booksellers, of course.

For the serious Wood aficionado, getting the *T.H.U.N.D.E.R. Agents Vols. 1*, and all subsequent volumes, is a must. The *T.H.U.N.D.E.R. Agents* comics, including *Dynamo* and *Noman* contain some of Wood's finest comic book work of the 1960s. And since he was largely given free reign on the stories, they contain also some of his best writing and a seemingly endless flow of cool characters, mostly created by Wood himself. And, in addition to Wood's superb writing, drawing and inking, *T.H.U.N.D.E.R. Agents*, also features excellent work by Gil Kane, Reed Crandall, Dan Adkins, Chic Stone, Mike Sekowsky, and of course, Wood's ever-changing cast of assistants. As one of the best superhero series of all time, I give DC's *T.H.U.N.D.E.R. Agents Archives* my highest recommendation.



In addition to the *T.H.U.N.D.E.R. Agents* books, you'll also want to pick up the second volume of D.C.'s *Challengers of the Unknown* archives. The *Challengers* were created for D.C. by Jack Kirby, who drew the initial four or five *Challengers* stories, then brought Wood in as an inker for five issues of the comic book. As always, Wood's smooth inks coupled with Kirby's dynamic pencils made for exciting, beautiful art. As a fellow Wood enthusiast, I heartily recommend acquiring any comics that Kirby and Wood collaborated on. And don't overlook Pure Imagination's excellent *Sky Masters* collection that reprints the complete run of daily and Sunday pages for Kirby and Wood's short-lived outer space newspaper strip.

Marvel has also reprinted all of Wood's short but memorable run on the early *Daredevil* in both hardcover and trade paperback format. It's in full color on good paper and for the money is one of the best entertainment bargains out there. You can also find Wood's work sporadically within the *Essential Avengers*, Vol. 1, and here and there in other Marvel titles reprinting comics from the 60's. For more information on exactly where to track down Wood's comic book work, snag a copy of the aforementioned *Wallace Wood Checklist*.

And as always if you check out any of the companies mentioned in this article, please tell 'em *Heavy Metal* sent you.

And A Side of Red Meat

Carried in some 75 papers nationwide Max Cannon's *Red Meat* is one of the most bizarre and mordant comic strips on the independent comics scene. Cannon's gift for wringing laughs from truly odd humor and whacked-out characters may soon enable him to start warping even more minds, if a potential cable deal comes through. For additional helpings of *Red Meat*, check out his web site at www.redmeat.com.

RINGGENBERG: *Red Meat* is done in a unique visual style. How do you draw it?

CANNON: I use a Macintosh computer and a program Illustrator. Basically the artwork's all drawn with a mouse on the screen. No scanning involved. I reuse a lot of the art that I've created, but every week I modify it somehow or clean it up "It does subtly morph over the months and years, to change quite a bit" I basically do one cartoon a week generally "I'll sit down and just start free-associating basically...I usually don't ever have an idea ahead of time before I sit down to do it" I just try never to think about it ahead of time "Most of the characters come from either various aspects, albeit dysfunctional ones, of my own personality, or just things around me" sort of a composite of people I know or people maybe that I've run into that I don't really know but maybe struck me as unusual "(Ted), the dad character, is based physically on my dad growing up" As a child looking on adults, they seemed kind of quirky and bizarre and (there was) another layer of reality or several other layers of reality going on behind their ostensible behavior. So I sort of took that and amped it up injecting maybe a little paranoia, a little just out-and-out fear, a little bit of bizarre speculation and sort of come up with behavior patterns or situations that might indicate that other layer of reality that's happening behind the veneer.

RINGGENBERG: Where did Bug-Eyed Earl come from?

CANNON: Bug-Eyed Earl is a real hybrid. Physically, he's kind of based on my high school geometry teacher...He's the latent transient sort of character in all of us, the babbling to himself guy at the bus stop, or the stranger that's sort of a little unwashed, a little rump, that you might run into on a street corner that just starts talking to you. (Milkman Dan) is actually based on my oldest brother, who's an Air Force officer I sought to evoke that kind of 50's ad art look for Milkman Dan while basing it on pictures of my brother in his military uniform.

RINGGENBERG: Of all the characters, he seems the most emblematic of a child's view of adult cruelty.

CANNON: Yeah, he is in a way. He's that uncle or that older cousin that you're kind of terrified the adults are going to leave you alone with because maybe they don't see what's wrong with him.

RINGGENBERG: Your sense of humor is pretty dark and grotesque. Why is that?

CANNON: I think all good humor starts grotesque. All bad humor is sort of light and cheery and involves things kids say or little anecdotes like, what's the deal with boyfriends?, that kind of humor just leaves me dead cold. But the good stuff, *Monty Python and Kids in the Hall* and *ad infinitum*. It endures, it's lasting, it's part of whatever our humor response is.

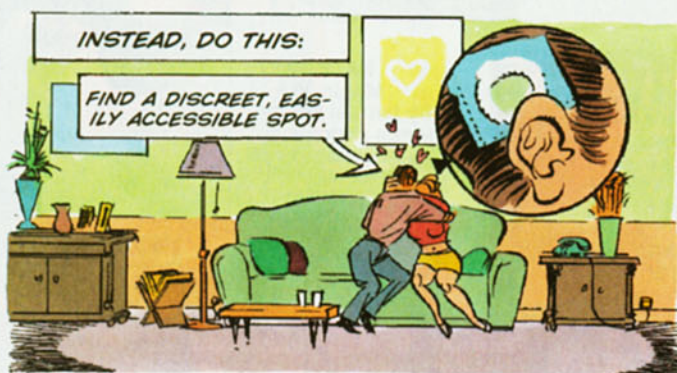
RINGGENBERG: Where would you think like to go with the strip in the future?

CANNON: The question is, where does the strip want to go in the future? At this juncture I already worked on one development project with Fox Studio for several years and got it all the way through the development phase and came out with a pretty great script and then Fox kind of shut everything down there. But now I'm talking to Comedy Central about an animated television series.



**HOW TO
BROACH
THE
SUBJECT?**

WITHOUT LOOKING LIKE AN IDIOT.

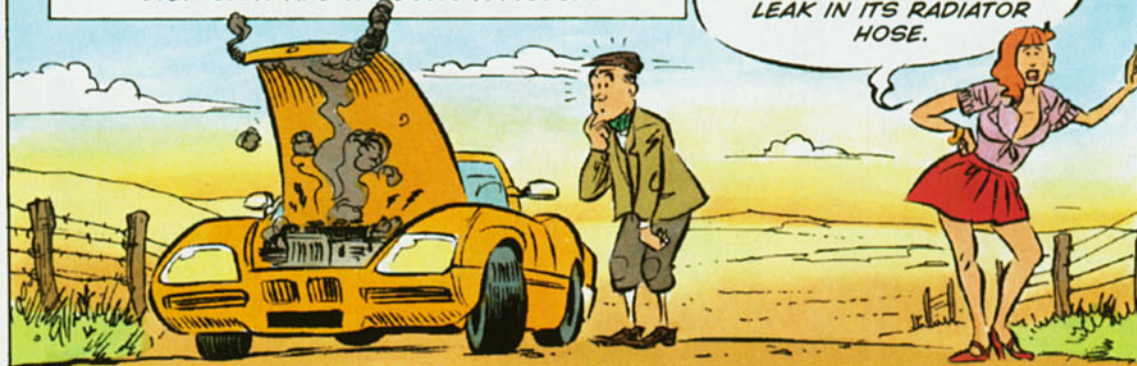


**WATCH
OUT FOR
USED
CARS!**

**THESE
ARE THE
FAQS OF
LIFE!**

WHAT'S A BREAKDOWN? A HIGHLY UNPLEASANT PHYSICAL PHENOMENON: YOU STEP ON IT AND IT BLOWS A PISTON.

JUST MY LUCK! THE LAST TIME I GOT INTO A HOTROD IT SPRUNG A LEAK IN ITS RADIATOR HOSE.



WHY THE BREAKDOWN?

WEAR AND TEAR, PERHAPS?

OR GETTING ON IN YEARS?



HOW TO SAVE FACE? COME UP WITH A GOOD EXCUSE.

I SWEAR... IT'S THE FIRST TIME THIS HAS HAPPENED...

MUST'VE RUN OUT OF GAS...



CAN IT BE FIXED?

SURE, DON'T WORRY. SHE JUST NEEDS A COMPLETE OVERHAUL!

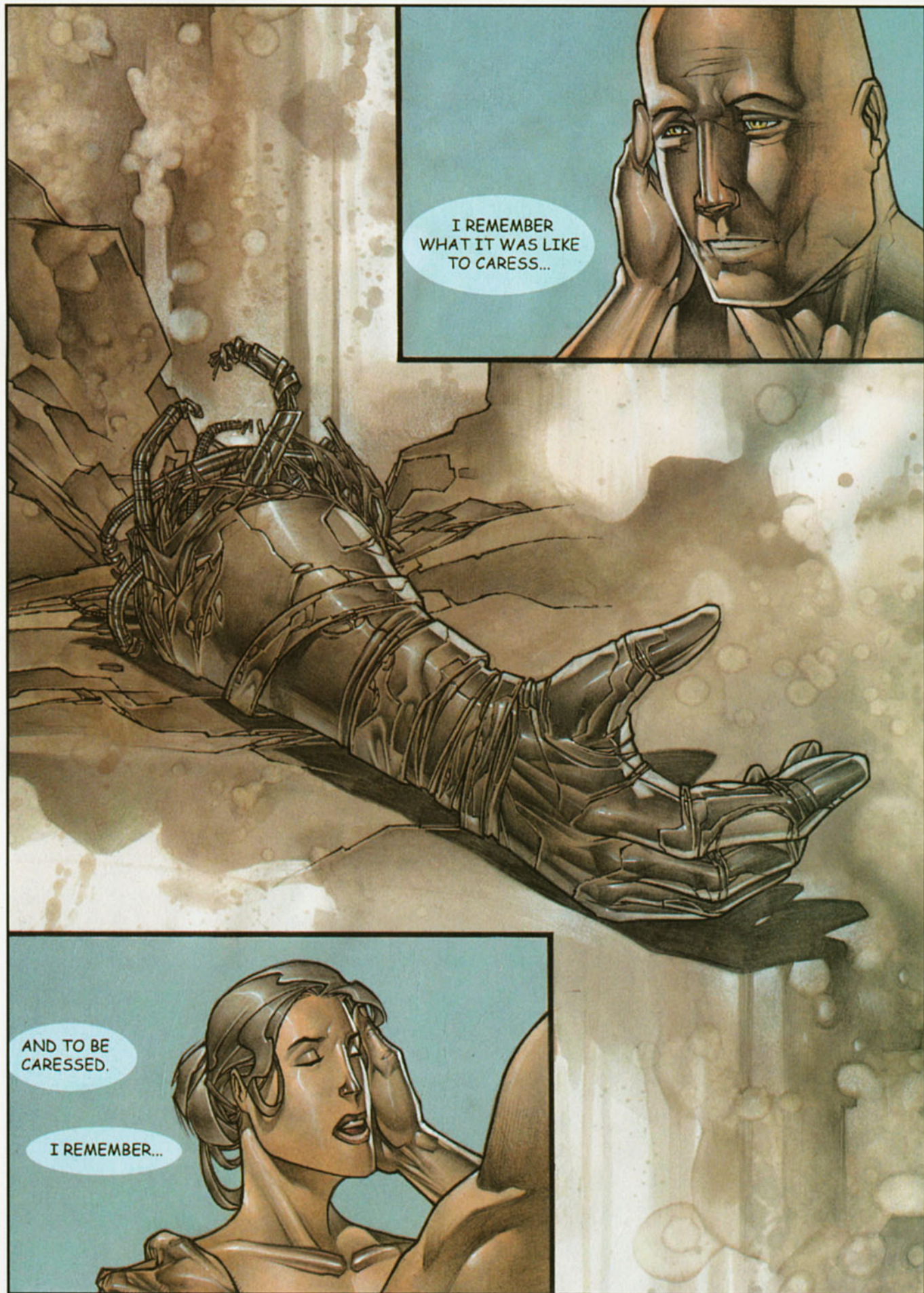


MY MECHANIC WILL TAKE CARE OF IT!

CAN IT HAPPEN AGAIN?

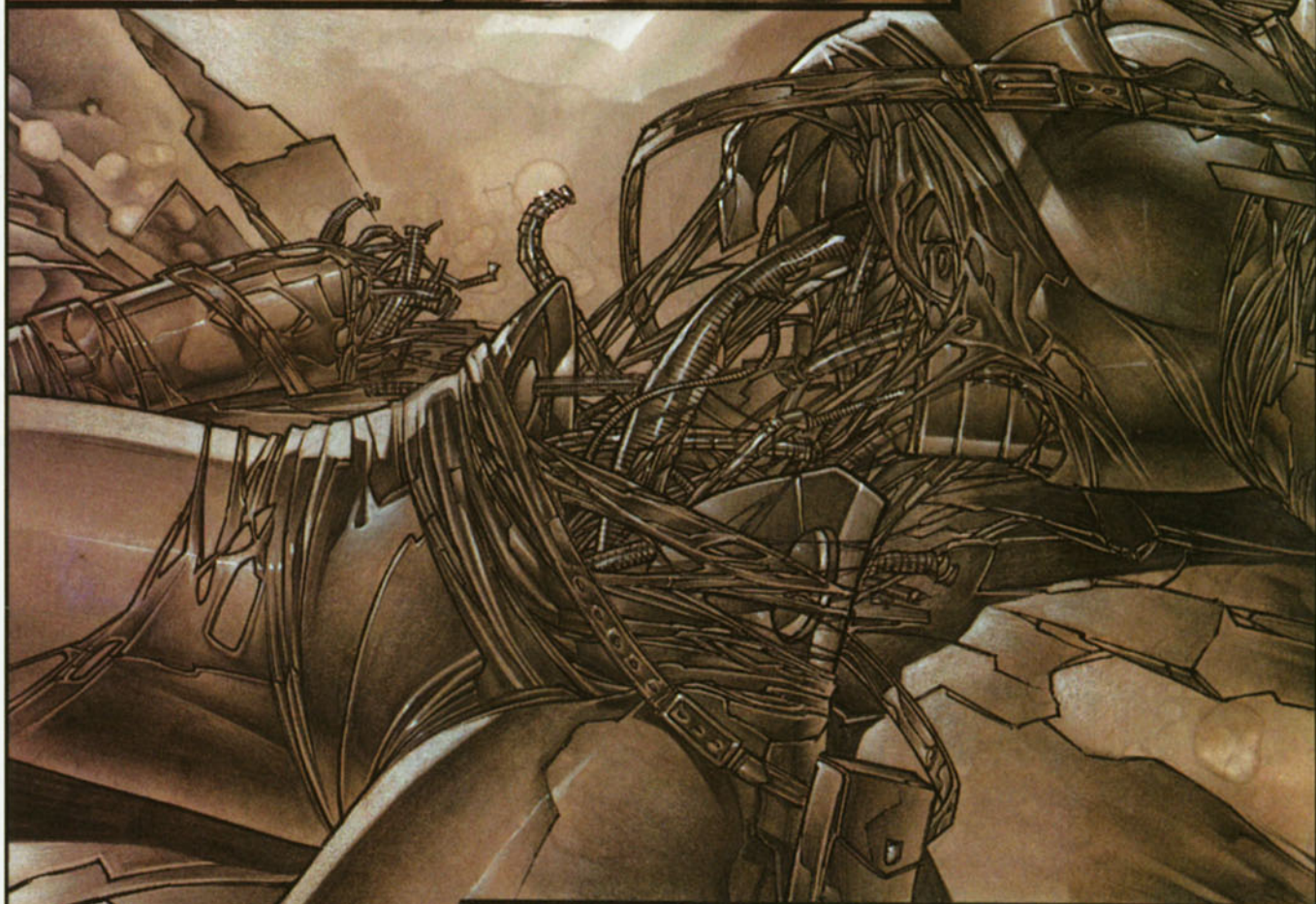
BE CAREFUL, IT'S A BIT RUNDOWN AND IT WILL ONLY GET WORSE AS THE YEARS GO BY!







WHAT IT
WAS LIKE TO
BE LOVED.



I REMEMBER
WHAT IT WAS LIKE
TO BE A MOTHER.



ONI NIGHT

BY
MAURO
BALLONI

translation by
Barbara De Nigris



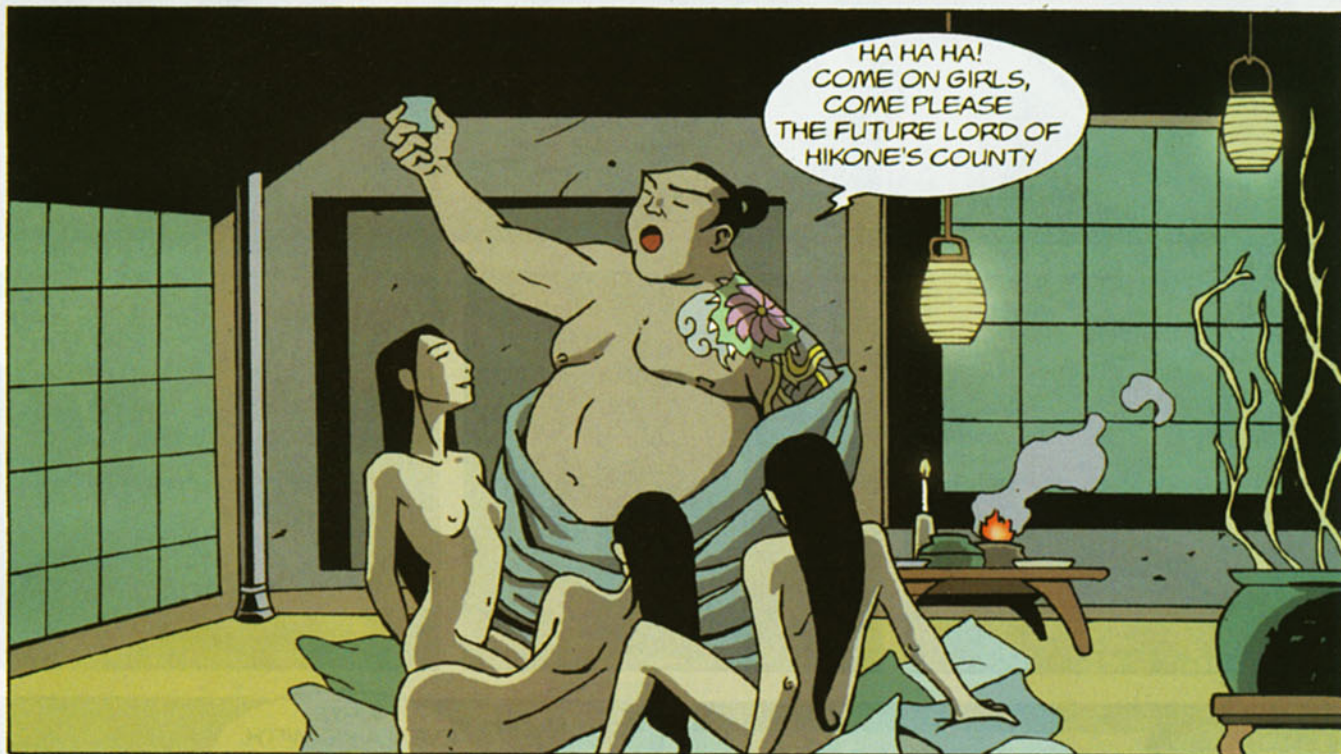
EVERYTHING FINE UP TO HERE,
BUT I GOTTA GET TO LORD
SUHAMA'S APARTMENTS NOW.



I JUST HOPE THAT
PIG DID NOTHING
WRONG TO YOUNG YUNO.



HA HA HA!
COME ON GIRLS,
COME PLEASE
THE FUTURE LORD OF
HIKONE'S COUNTY



THERE HE IS.
THERE ARE
NO GUARDS.

BUT I
CANNOT
SEE THE KID
EITHER.



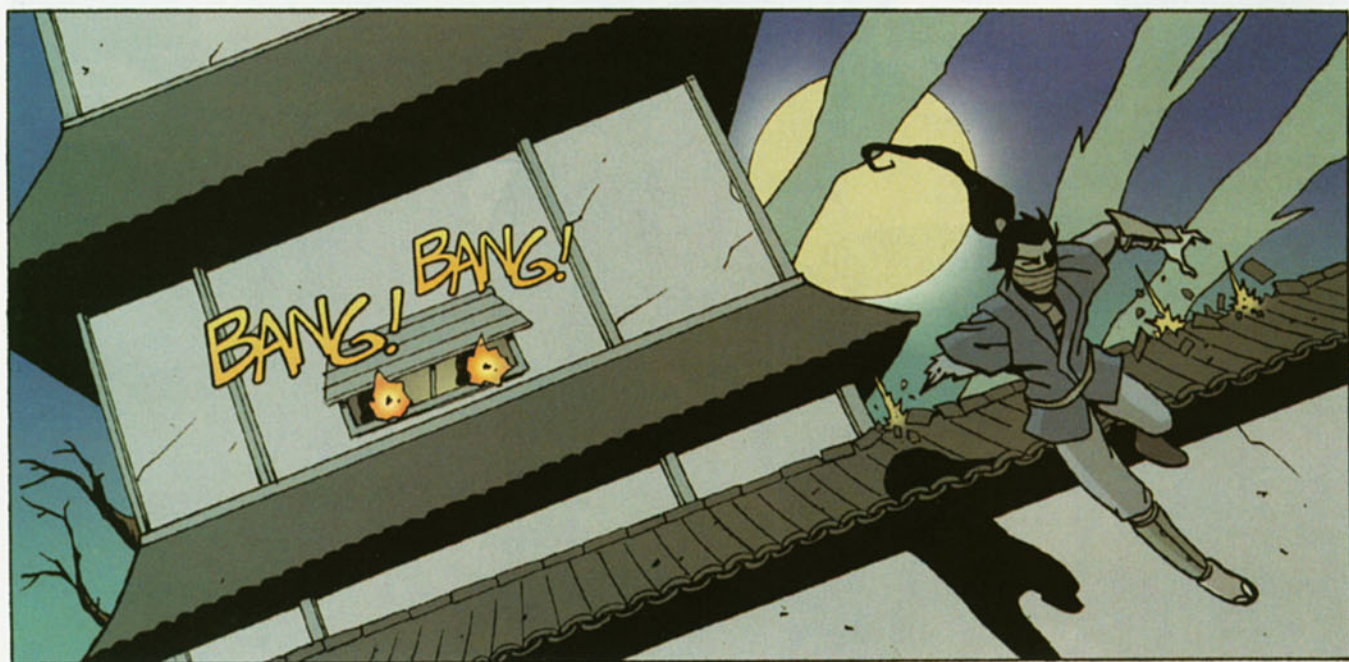
LORD
SUHAMA!

?!









THE NEXT DAY.



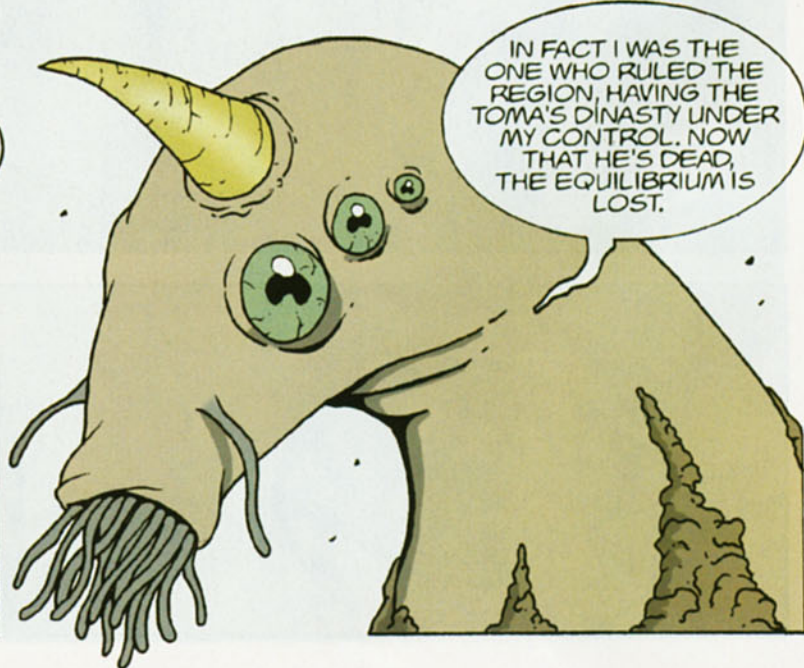
THE PAIN NEVER
LEFT ME ALL NIGHT,
LADY CHIYOKO.

BUT IT'S
GETTING
BETTER
NOW



GOOD.
TRY AND
UNCOVER
YOUR EYES
NOW.







YUI #3: ASSASSAINTS

*DIMARS.
THE 1ST DAY OF
JUNO, 2166 A.D.*

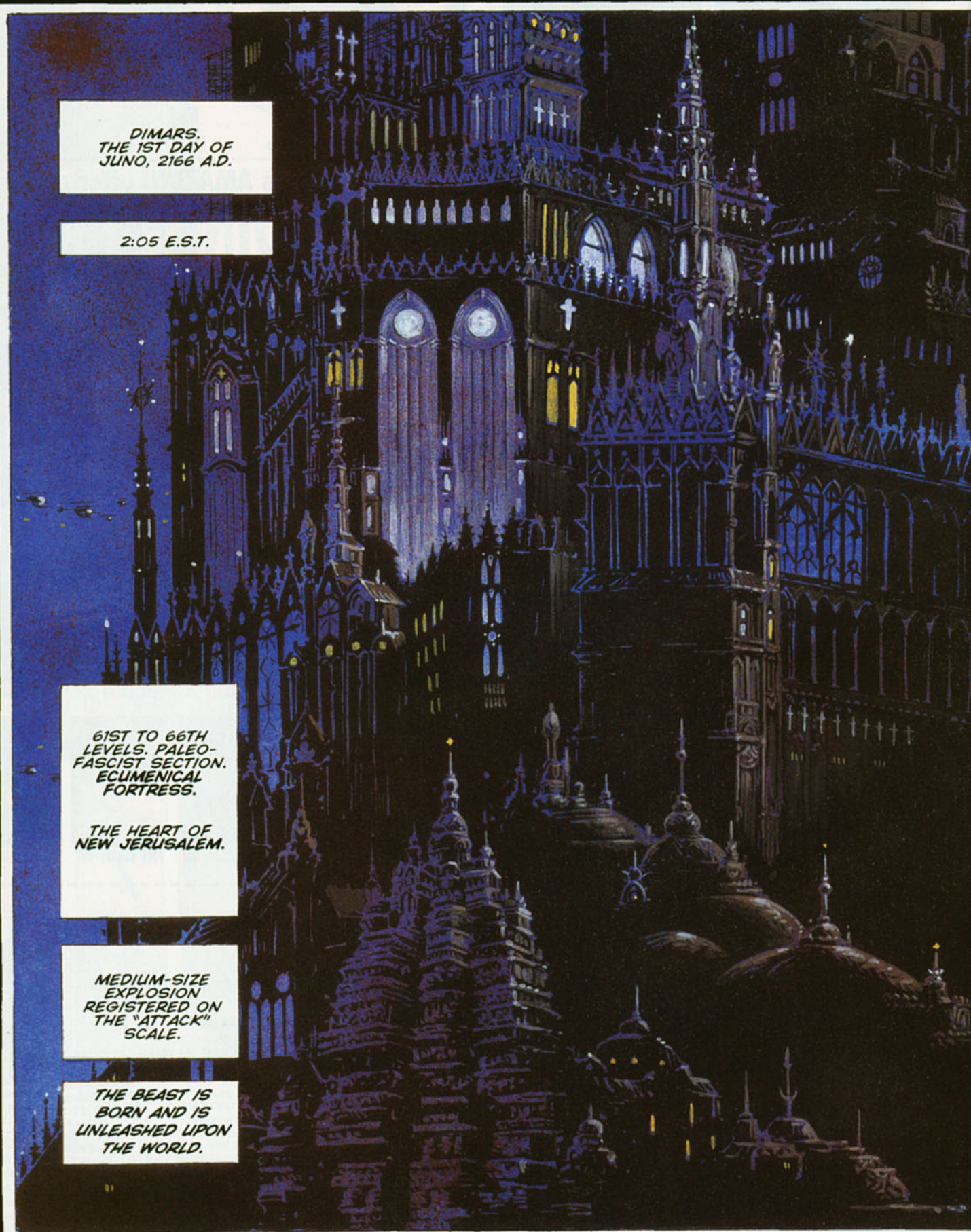
2:05 E.S.T.

*61ST TO 66TH
LEVELS. PALEO-
FASCIST SECTION.
ECUMENICAL
FORTRESS.*

*THE HEART OF
NEW JERUSALEM.*

*MEDIUM-SIZE
EXPLOSION
REGISTERED ON
THE "ATTACK"
SCALE.*

*THE BEAST IS
BORN AND IS
UNLEASHED UPON
THE WORLD.*



YUI #3: ASSASSAINTS

DIMARS.
THE 1ST DAY OF
JUNO, 2166 A.D.

2:05 E.S.T.

61ST TO 66TH
LEVELS. PALEO-
FASCIST SECTION.
ECUMENICAL
FORTRESS.

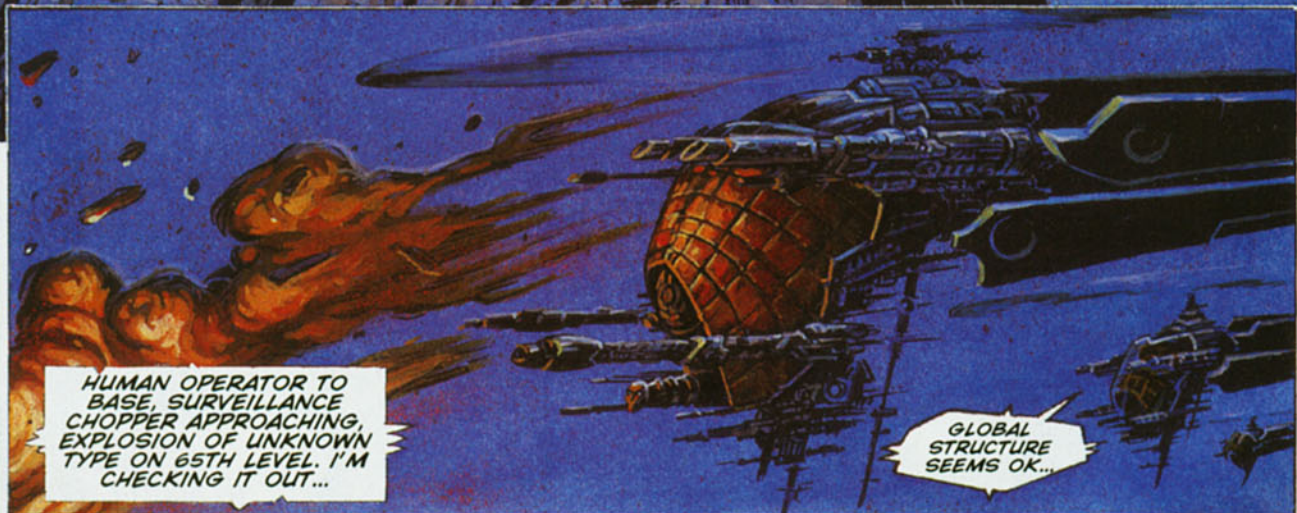
THE HEART OF
NEW JERUSALEM.

MEDIUM-SIZE
EXPLOSION
REGISTERED ON
THE "ATTACK"
SCALE.

THE BEAST IS
BORN AND IS
UNLEASHED UPON
THE WORLD.

KKFROOSH





HUMAN OPERATOR TO
BASE, SURVEILLANCE
CHOPPER APPROACHING,
EXPLOSION OF UNKNOWN
TYPE ON 65TH LEVEL. I'M
CHECKING IT OUT...

GLOBAL
STRUCTURE
SEEMS OK...



DIFFICULT TO
APPROACH AREA... NO
APPARENT DAMAGE
IN CARBO-RESIDUE...



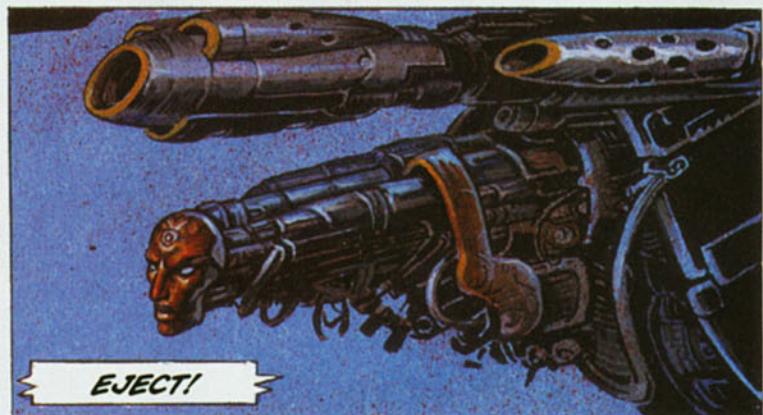
HOWEVER,
MASSIVE
QUANTITIES
OF CHON (1)
DETECTED...
AT LEAST 30
DEAD??

NOT ANOTHER
OF THOSE
DAMN
COLLECTIVE
SUICIDES!?

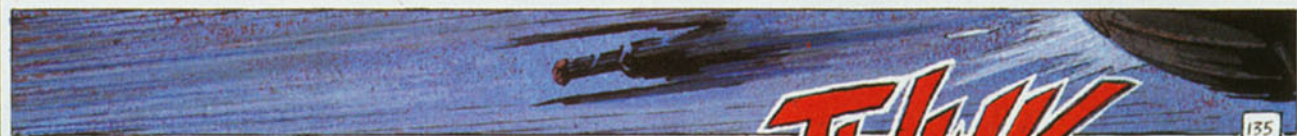


HUMAN OPERATOR,
LET THE ASSASSAINT
DO HIS JOB.
CLEAR OUT!

ANDROMORPH
ASSASSAINT
LAUNCH-
ING...

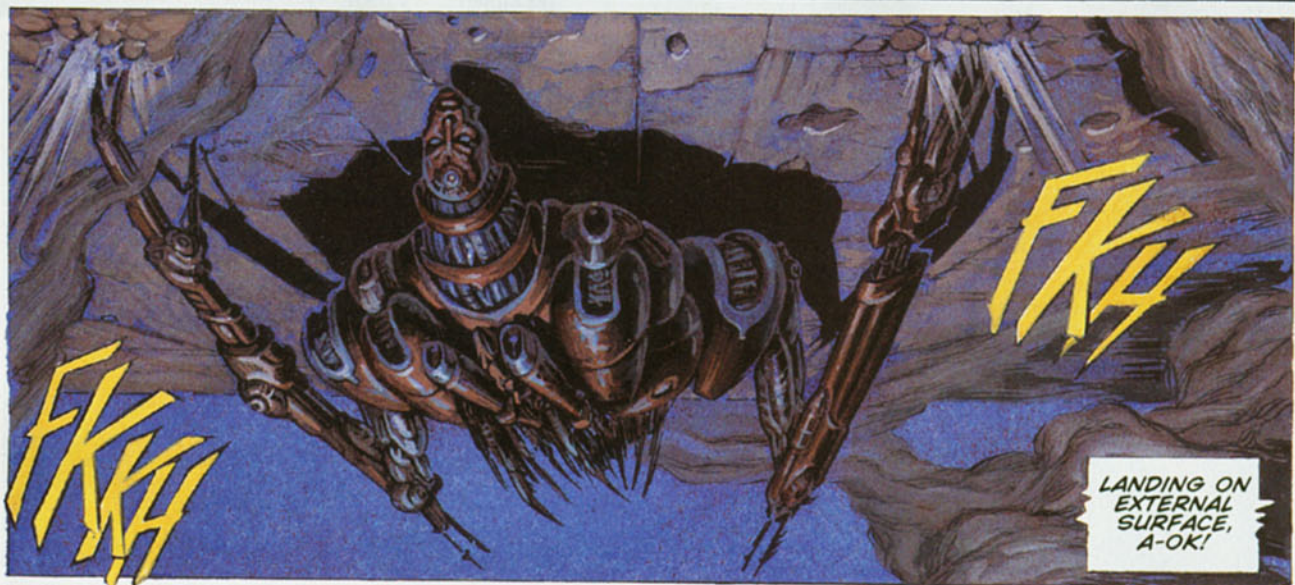


EJECT!



(1) CHON: CARBON-HYDROGEN-OXYGEN-NITROGEN: PRIMARILY
HUMAN ORGANIC COMPONENTS.

THW



FKH

FKH

LANDING ON
EXTERNAL
SURFACE,
A-OK!

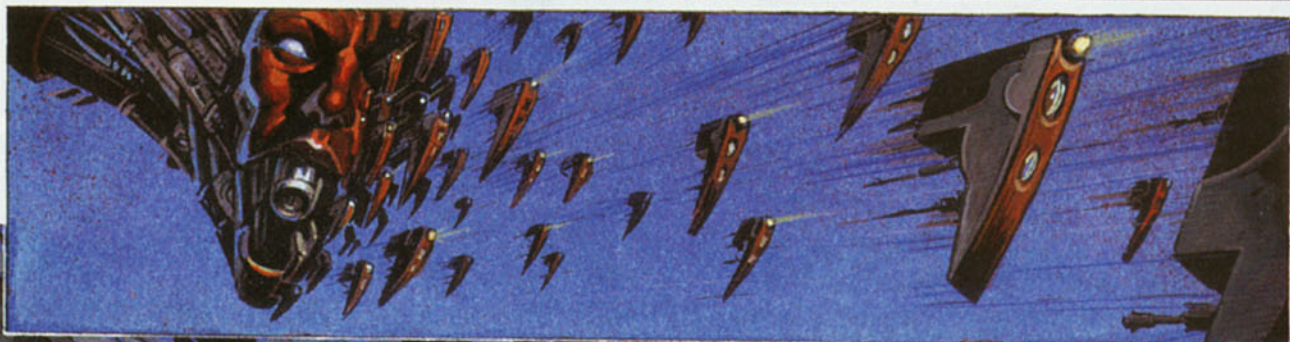


PREPARING TO
RELEASE
VIDEO-PROBES.

TAK TAK TAK TAK



SSKSHSHSH



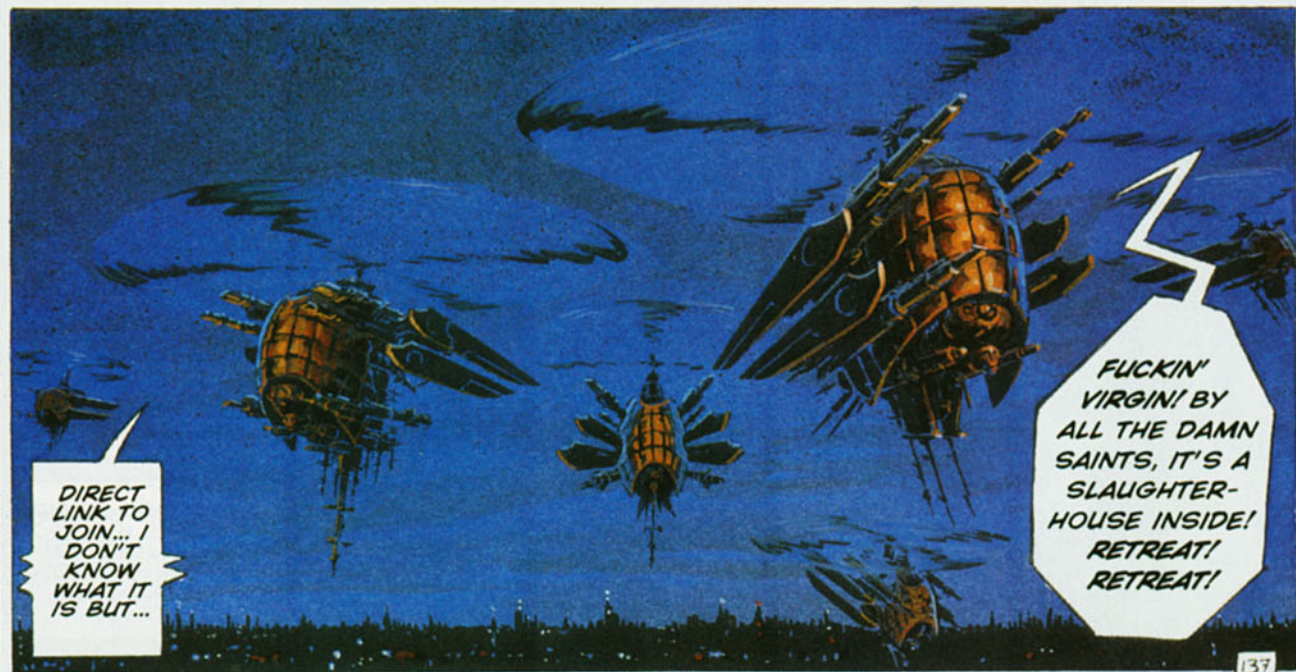
VIDEO-PROBES
EJECTED.

THE PROBE SQUAD
IS ON ITS WAY! GO
ON, MY LOVELIES,
SCRAMBLE, SEARCH
AND TRANSMIT
IMAGES!




SHIT! DO YOU
SEE WHAT...
WE GOTTA
GET OUTTA
HERE!

OPUS ECUMEN-NET! THIS IS AN
ATTACK-SURVEILLANCE! EXECUTE
IMMEDIATE BLOCKADE! MAJOR
PROBLEM DETECTED!!








2:39 E.S.T.

10 MILES FARTHER NORTH,
ABOVE BETHLEHEM.



THE MOTHER-CHOPPER
OF THE SISTERS OF
ZION, WHERE
REPRESENTATIVES OF
THE THREE RULING
MONOTHEISTIC
RELIGIONS⁽¹⁾ MEET
DURING MAJOR CRISES.



EXTERNAL VENTRAL
PLATFORM.
VENOM-CLASS,
BI-BLADE, CLOSE-
COMBAT CHOPPER.
MODEL BUILT BY THE
VATICAN GUARD FOR
THEIR MINOR
EVANGELICAL
CRUSADES.

DISCREET, RESISTANT,
EXTREMELY FAST AND
DEADLY.

(1) SEE BOOK TWO, THE BROTHERS OF THE REAL
CHRISTIAN FAITH, THE ARMED PROTESTANT ALLIANCE
AND THE ORDER OF THE SECULAR MINARET.

2:39 E.S.T.

10 MILES FARTHER NORTH,
ABOVE BETHLEHEM.

THE MOTHER-CHOPPER
OF THE SISTERS OF
ZION, WHERE
REPRESENTATIVES OF
THE THREE RULING
MONOTHEISTIC
RELIGIONS⁽¹⁾ MEET
DURING MAJOR CRISES.

EXTERNAL VENTRAL
PLATFORM.
VENOM-CLASS,
BI-BLADE, CLOSE-
COMBAT CHOPPER.
MODEL BUILT BY THE
VATICAN GUARD FOR
THEIR MINOR
EVANGELICAL CRUSADES.

DISCREET, RESISTANT,
EXTREMELY FAST AND
DEADLY.

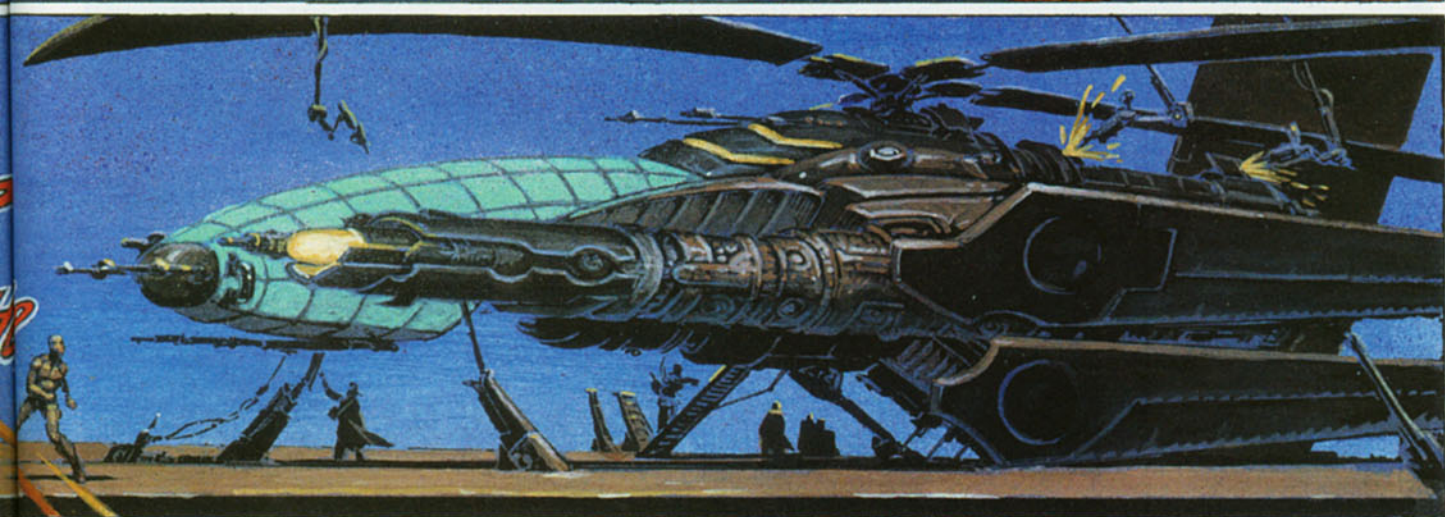
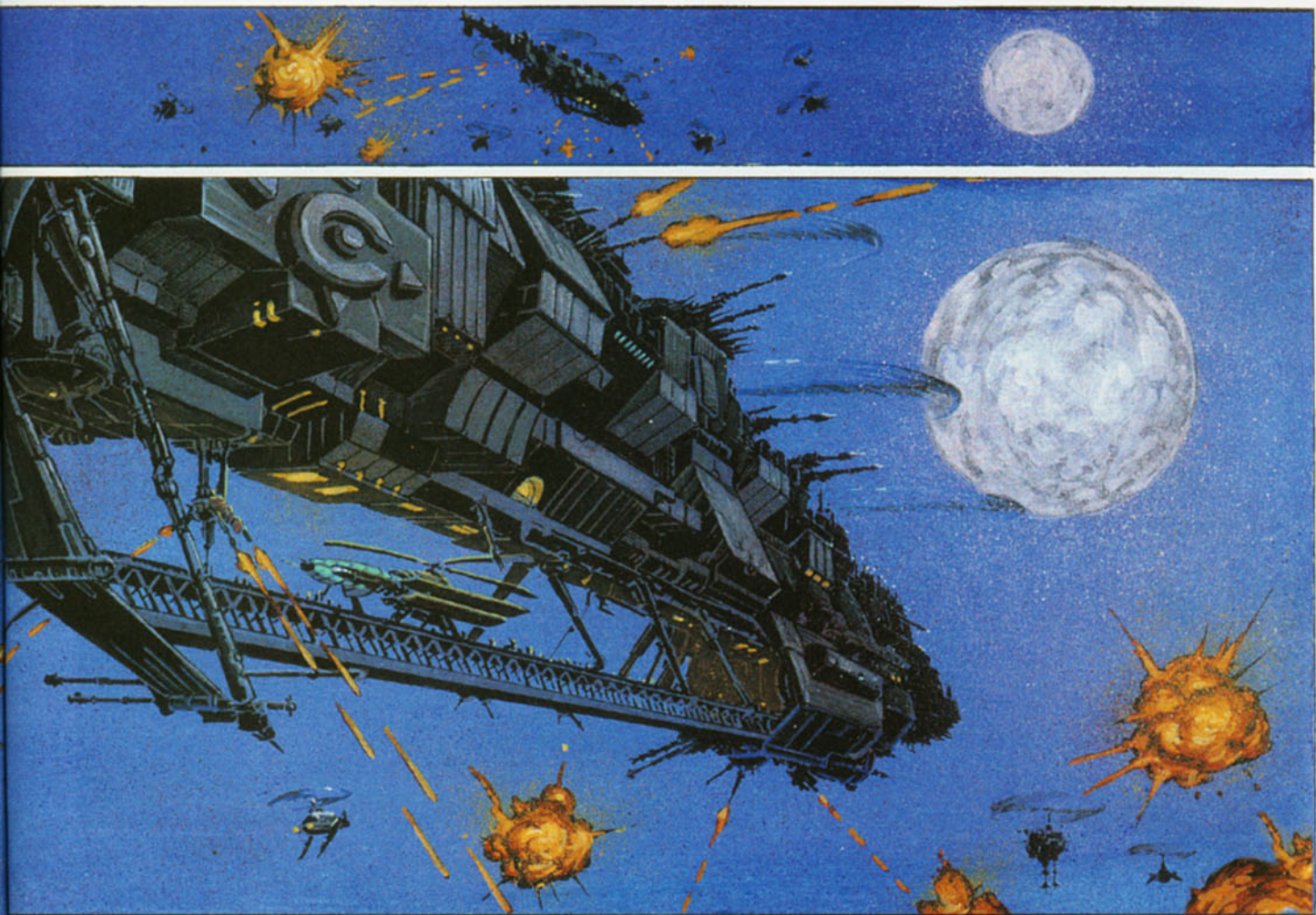
SHIP
SHIP

TUP
TUP
TUP

THE ANDROMORPH
ASSASSINATS ARE
COVERING US,
AIRSPACE WILL SOON
BE COMPLETELY
SECURE!!

YOU GUYS IN
THERE! LISTEN TO
ME! YLI HAS SUR-
VIVED THE IMPLANT!
THEY'RE ON THEIR WAY
WITH HER! TAKE YOUR
POSITIONS, D'YOU
HEAR ME?!

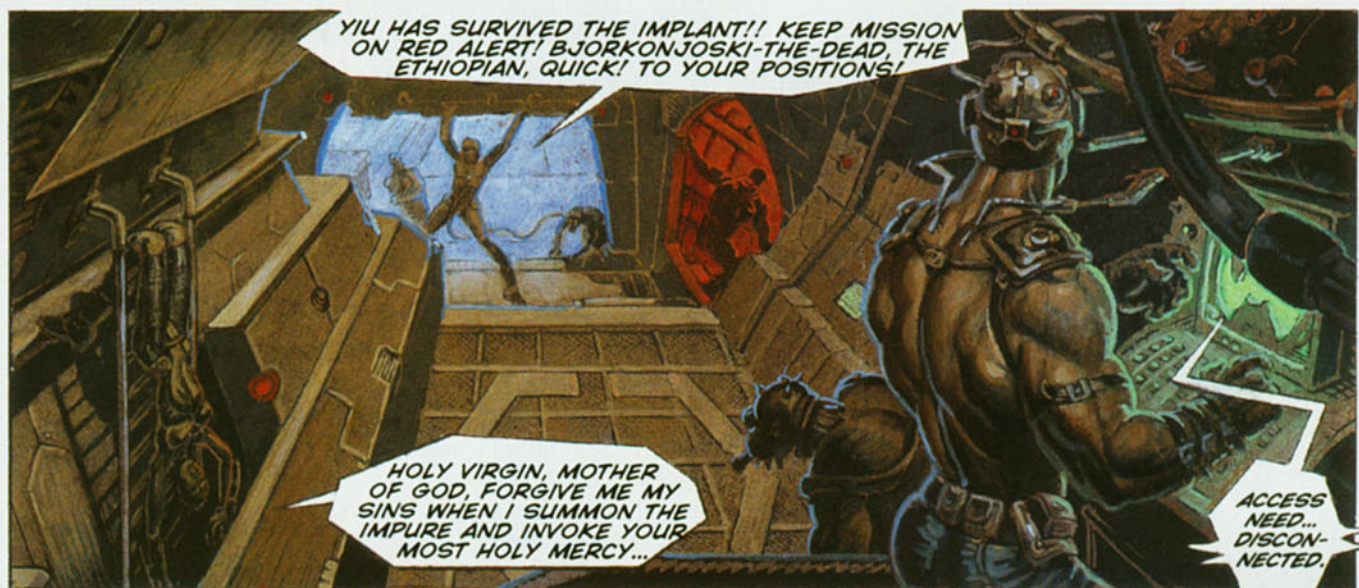
(1) SEE BOOK TWO. THE BROTHERS OF THE REAL
CHRISTIAN FAITH, THE ARMED PROTESTANT ALLIANCE
AND THE ORDER OF THE SECULAR MINARET.



THE ANDROMORPH
ASSASSAINTS ARE
COVERING US.
AIRSPACE WILL SOON
BE COMPLETELY
SECURE!!



YOU GUYS IN
THERE! LISTEN TO
ME! YIU HAS SUR-
VIVED THE IMPLANT!
THEY'RE ON THEIR WAY
WITH HER! TAKE YOUR
POSITIONS, D'YOU
HEAR ME?!



I HEAR...

I...

... EXPLOSIONS...
FAR AWAY...

A DEEP
RUMBLING...

THE CALL TO
BATTLE...

A SOUND...

THE SOUND OF A
WHEEL...

I'M... I'M
LYING
DOWN...

THEY'VE
BROUGHT
ME... LIGHT...

FLASHING
INSIDE ME...

GELLAR A-A HEATLEEN

UNE L'ETHIOPIENNE

EX-NONNE TUEUSE, 38 MISSIONS RÉUSSIES, DONT L'ÉLIMINATION DU GRAND SEIGNEUR EN PLEIN TEMPLE, EN 2
PAS D'ÉCHEC REÇUS. MEMBRE DES GARDIA VATICANA, GRADE DE 1ER
GARDE DU CORPS PERSONNELLE DE SHABETTAY, SPÉCIALISTE DU COMBAT

I...

IT'S ALL IN
MY HEAD...

RESIDUAL
IMAGES...
ONE OF
THEM
GRABS A
WEAPON...

MY EYE...
THE SHOT.

VIOLENT...
NEURAL
IMPLANT...

THE MISSION.
THE DATA
ARE ALL...

... INSIDE ME.

THE
TRUTH...

THEIR TRUTH...

MY
EYES...

MY EYESIGHT...
IT MUST COME
BACK... IT
ALWAYS COMES
BACK...

THERE WILL
BE A TEAM
WITH ME...

MERCENARIES...

(NO RETURN MISSION)

MATRICULE 9991

UN H.G.M. (HUMAN GENETICALLY MODIFIED)

NÉO-HÉBREU, NÉ DANS LES CAMPS DE LA BÉKA, RATTACHÉ AUX POLICIERS GÉNÉTIQUES DES 2144.
PILOTE D'APPROCHE ET SNIPER RÉPUTÉ, SEULS DEUX ANS D'ÂGE JUSQU'À LA MISSION DES N.R.M. (NO RETURN MISSION).

MY
VISION...

MY VISION MUST
COME BACK... IT
WILL COME BACK...

I'VE HAD A
CRANIAL
CAT-SCAN...
I THINK IT
WAS OK...

MY LEGS
ARE
ASLEEP...

THEY'VE
RECHARGED THE
NEURAL-MASTER AT
THE BASE OF MY
SPINE, THAT
WONDERFUL THING
THAT MADE ME
RECOVER THE USE
OF MY LEGS AFTER
THE CATASTROPHIC
MISSION IN
DJALIKA...

WILLIAM 5
IL "LA GUENON"

PLUS JEUNE...
PES D'ÉLITE...
L'EMPIRE AUSTRIEN...
QUE EN STRATÉGIE...
MISSIONS FORTES...

OTHER
MERCENARIES...
NAMES...

S... SLOWLY!
OVERLOAD!

OVERLOAD!

ACCESS
INFORMATION
FIRST LEVEL
ONLY!

YIU?

... A VOICE...

YIU?

I HEAR...

... THE
VOICE OF
A DOC...

YIU?
YIU?
SQUEEZE
MY HAND
IF YOU CAN
HEAR ME...

YES...

I CAN HEAR...
I CAN HEAR...

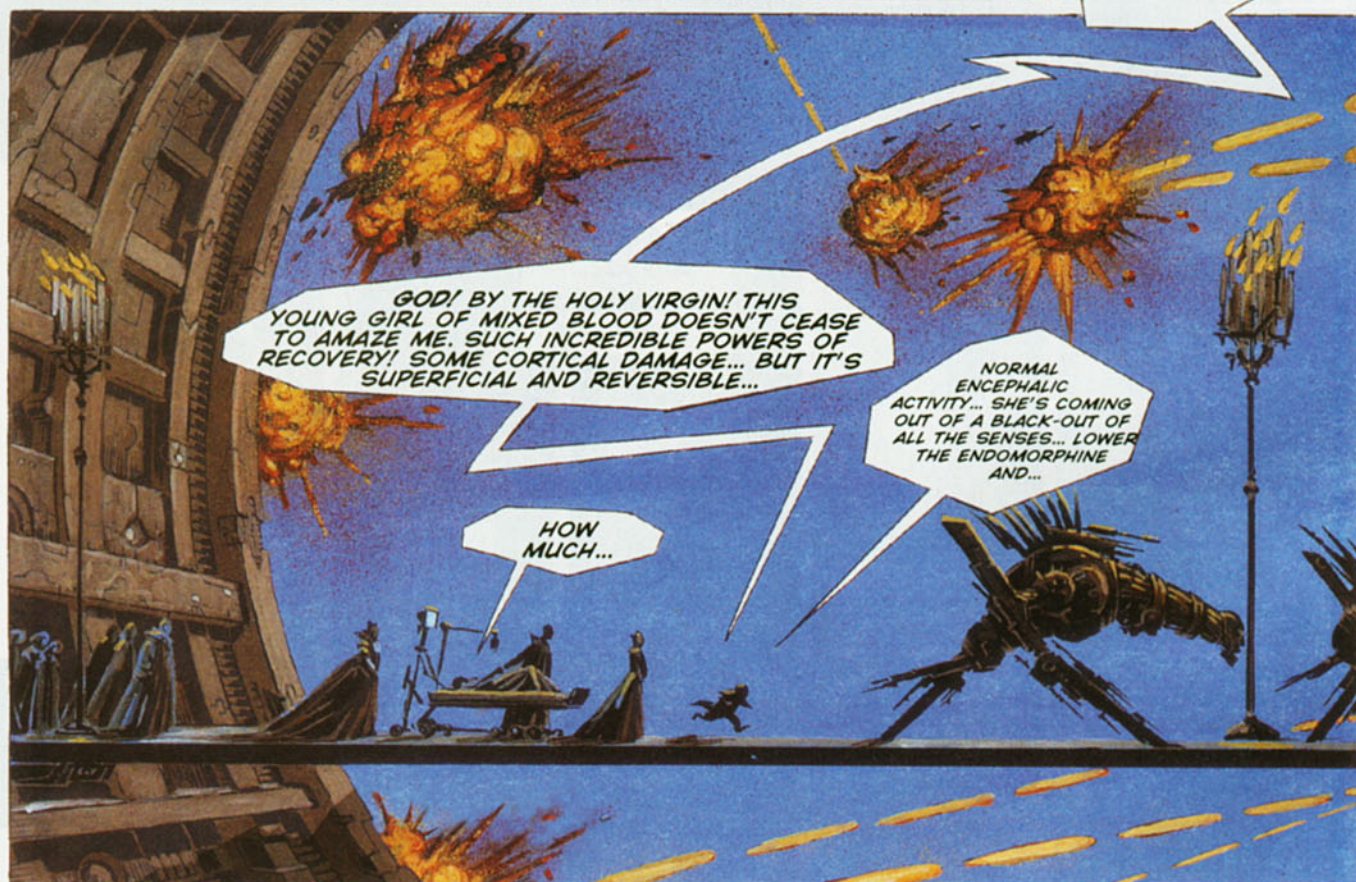
THE
VOICE...

F... FIND
MY HAND...

S...

SQUEEZE MY
HAND...

TAKE HIM TO
THE LAUNCHING
PLATFORM!



GOD! BY THE HOLY VIRGIN! THIS
YOUNG GIRL OF MIXED BLOOD DOESN'T CEASE
TO AMAZE ME. SUCH INCREDIBLE POWERS OF
RECOVERY! SOME CORTICAL DAMAGE... BUT IT'S
SUPERFICIAL AND REVERSIBLE...

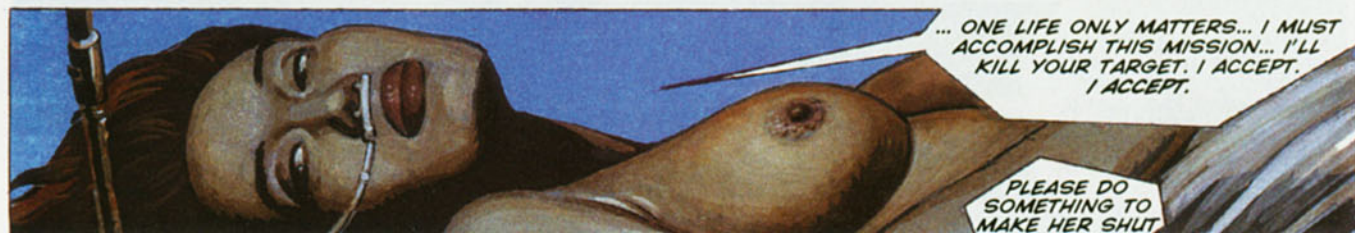
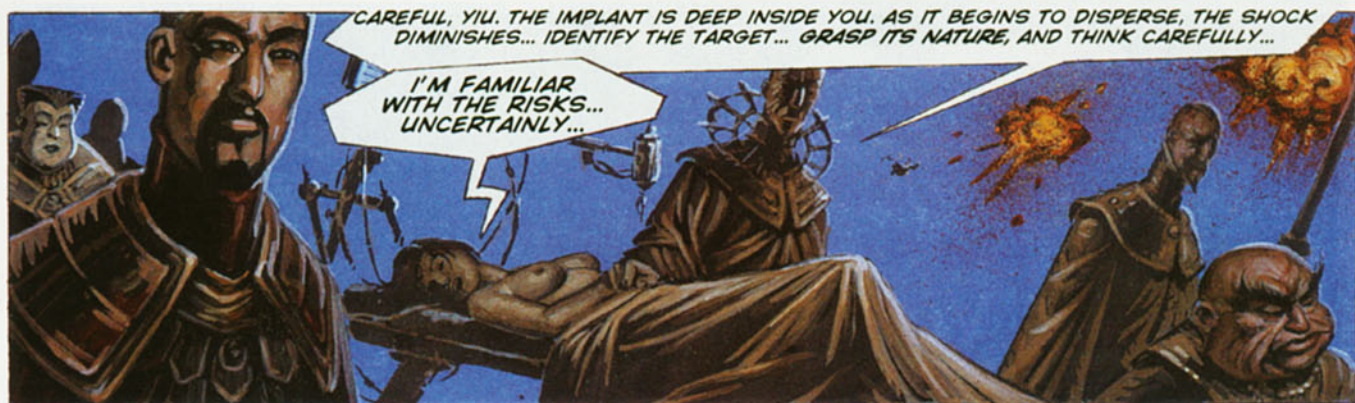
NORMAL
ENCEPHALIC
ACTIVITY... SHE'S COMING
OUT OF A BLACK-OUT OF
ALL THE SENSES... LOWER
THE ENDOMORPHINE
AND...

HOW
MUCH...

... HOW MUCH FOR THIS
MISSION?

INFANT YIU, THE OFFER IS 900,000
IN METALLIC CURRENCY. YOUR
ACCOUNT WILL BE CREDITED AS SOON
AS THE TARGET IS ANNIHILATED,
NOT BEFORE...

I ACCEPT.



MY HEAD...

I'M SEARCHING... THE TARGET...

TARGET

HE WHO PRESENTS HIMSELF AS CHRIST'S OPPONENT. HE WHOSE WRITINGS FEAR THE COMING...

PARTIAL INFORMATION: THE TARGET IS KEPT BY THE HERETICS IN THE ENUMENICAL FORTRESS, A NEUTRAL ZONE WHICH STANDS ON THE WAILING WALL.

FRAGMENTARY INFORMATION ON EXACT NATURE OF TARGET. ITS ESSENCE IS IMPURE OR (MORE PRECISELY) ARTIFICIAL.

TARGET: ANTI-C. VISUAL AS YET UNKNOWN.

HUMANOID APPEARANCE: 93% PROBABILITY. MOLECULAR INSTABILITY: 40.99% PROBABILITY.

SEARCHING... FOUND: ECUMENICAL FORTRESS.

PAGAN OR UNAFFILIATED FLOORS: 97.25%. HINDU-COMPLEX OF FINAL RENOUNCING: 1.85%. GREAT TAOIST PAGODA: 0.95%.

EMERGENCY TOTAL TIME SINCE INITIALIZATION: 4:32:00.

ESTIMATED TIME BEFORE TROUBLES LEVEL 5: 2 DAYS.

LEVEL 5
2 DAYS



WE KNOW VERY LITTLE WITH ANY CERTAINTY. ELEMENTS TAKEN FROM THE LAST NEURONS OF A SUCHITE TERRORIST WHO'D INFILTRATED A GROUP OF DEVIL WORSHIPPERS... THE TARGET IS A MONSTER, A HELLISH ABOMINATION.

A POWER THAT IS SECOND ONLY TO GOD'S...



IT IS SAID THAT SOON THIS POWER WILL APPEAR IN BROAD DAYLIGHT, SCORCHING THE LAND, AND WILL PROCLAIM HIMSELF THE KING OF KINGS OF JERUSALEM.



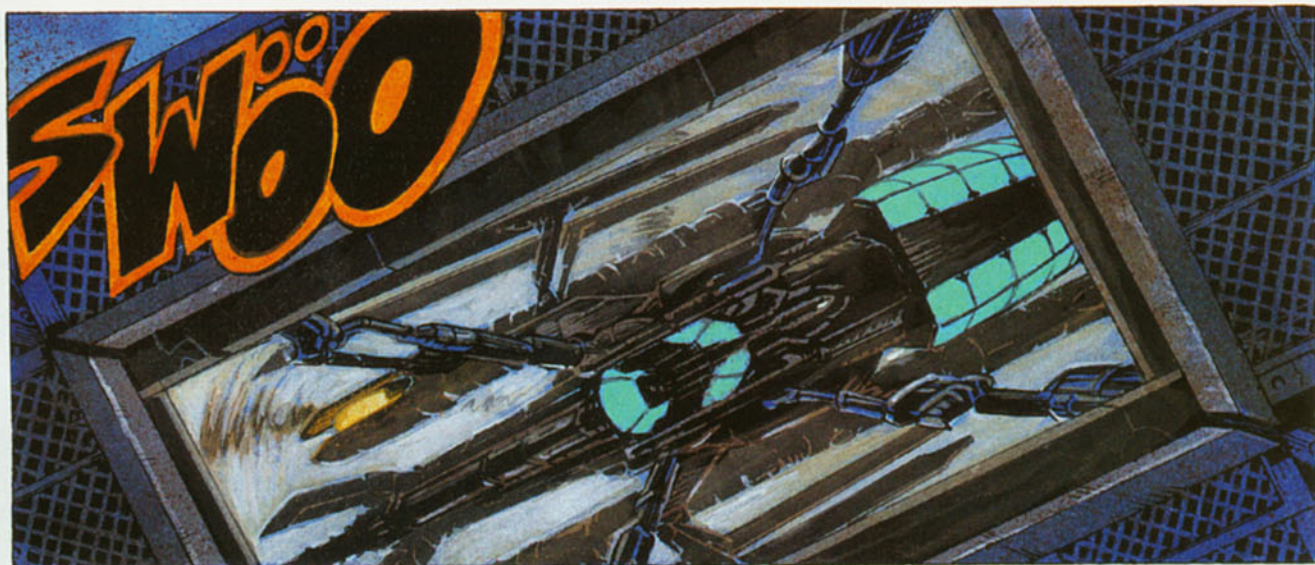
THE TARGET CANNOT, AND WILL NOT, LEAVE THE FORTRESS. IF IT REACHES THE OUTSIDE, ALL WILL BE OVER...



IMMINENT DEPARTURE. THIS IS IT... I CAN SEE THEM.

WARM UP THE ENGINES. MAINTAIN MAIN ROTOR! PREPARE TAKEOFF REACTOR...





RAMP UNLOCKED. READY
FOR DEPARTURE. IS
EVERYONE RECEIVING ME?

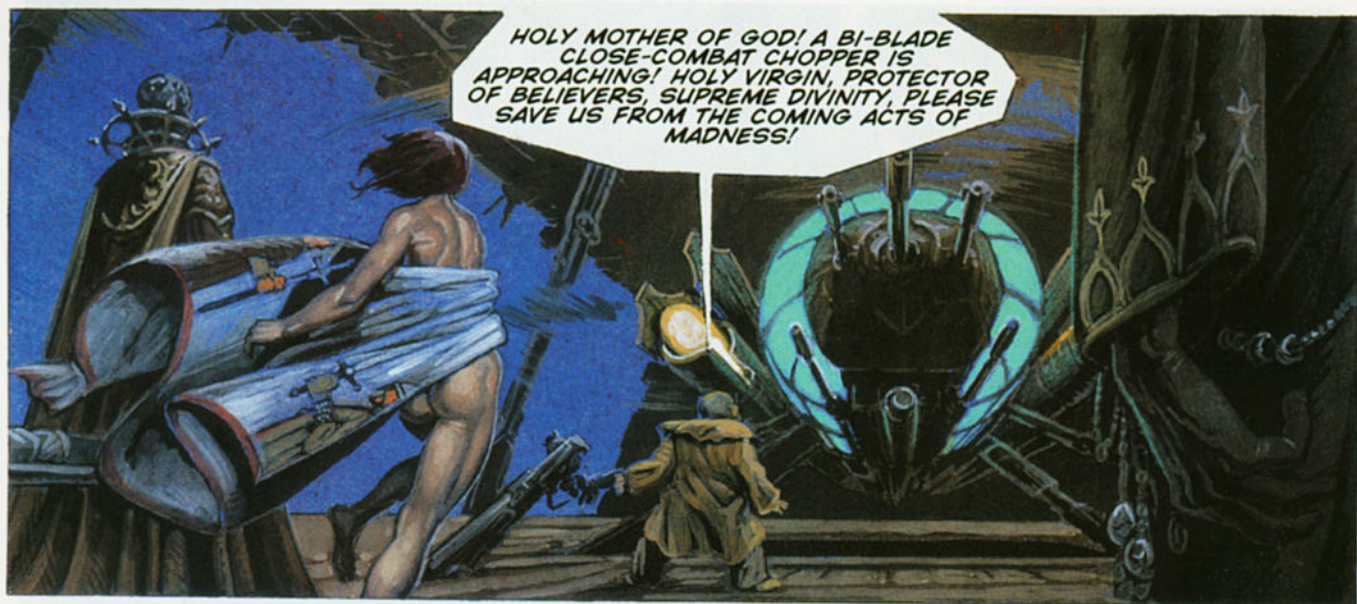
ALL SYSTEMS
GO!

ATTACKING THE ECUMENICAL
FORTRESS... CAN'T SAY I LIKE THAT!
IT'S A WAY OF MAKING ENEMIES OF
ALL THE RELIGIONS... AND THAT'S A
LOT OF FANATICS AGAINST US!

YIU, WE'LL
COVER FOR
YOU. WE'LL
IMPOSE
DISCRETION AND
THE MISGUIDED
PEOPLE WON'T
KNOW WHAT'S
GOING ON. LOOK,
THIS IS IT! THE
SECRET
OPERATIONS
RAMP...

SLOW
DOWN, NOT
SO FAST, YIU!
ENCEPHALIC
PRESSURE IS
TOO GREAT.
ACETYLCHOLINE
RATE AT
150%!!

AIR-
SPACE
SE-
CURED.



HOLY MOTHER OF GOD! A BI-BLADE
CLOSE-COMBAT CHOPPER IS
APPROACHING! HOLY VIRGIN, PROTECTOR
OF BELIEVERS, SUPREME DIVINITY, PLEASE
SAVE US FROM THE COMING ACTS OF
MADNESS!

AND SHE...
SHE HAS
RISEN, SHE...
SHE IS
WALKING.
HOLY
VIRGIN!!!

I'VE
CHECKED
THE
IMPLANT...
I'VE GOT A
COMMANDO
TEAM AT MY
ORDERS...

THREE MEN, ONE WOMAN
AND ONE TYPE-A ANDRO-
FEMALE AT THE HELM... AH
YES...

... AND
SHAKRA, MY
SYMBIO-
GUARD.

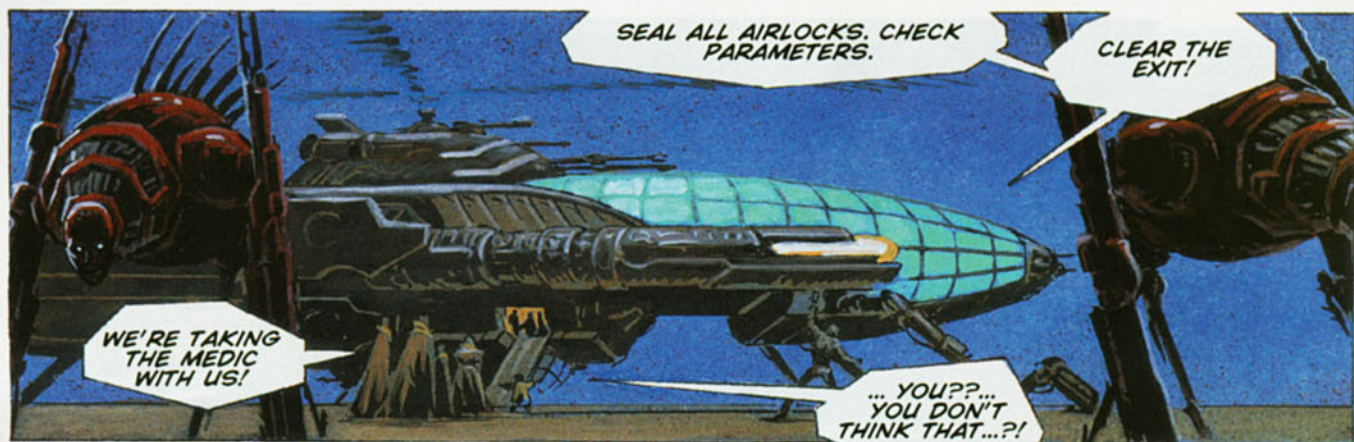
SHHKKIIII



YOU KNOW I HATE
WORKING WITH
OTHERS...

TOO MANY
THINGS
HAVE BEEN
DECIDED
WITHOUT
MY KNOW-
LEDGE...

... WE'RE
OUTTA
HERE!



SEAL ALL AIRLOCKS. CHECK
PARAMETERS.

CLEAR THE
EXIT!

WE'RE TAKING
THE MEDIC
WITH US!

... YOU??...
YOU DON'T
THINK THAT...?!



HOLY MOTHER! HOLY VIRGIN!!!

YIU...



WHATEVER HER
NATURE, HOWEVER
ARTIFICIAL AND
PERVERTED SHE
MAY BE, DON'T
FORGET THAT
SHE'S THE BEAST!

LOCK AND
LOAD!



ERADICATE HER
WITHOUT FAIL... I
BESEECH YOU!



AND NOW, MY CHILD, GO, GO! AND MAY
GOD BE WITH YOU...

BEE
BEEP
WEE



... WHAT'S THAT...???

??



CLOSING
DOORS.

PROBE-RELAY,
COMMUNICATION
INTERCEPTED IN THE
GLOBAL ECUM-NET
NETWORK, DIPLOMATIC
LEVEL 9 AND
BEYOND.

J. WILLIAM S...
WAIT!! STAND BY.
DON'T MOVE...

COME HERE
NOW...
QUICKLY!



I WON'T LEAVE UNTIL I
FIND OUT!



PROBE-RELAY HERE.
DIRECT CONNECTION.
DO YOU AGREE?

WE AGREE.

CHÁ



I'LL
TAKE IT
TOO.



EUROCOM ECUM-NET.
TAKE IT!

FAK

FAK
FAK

GOD
ALMIGHTY...
HELP US!



JI-A... ALL THIS...
FOR YOU...



... AND ONE DAY THE SONS
OF GOD CAME AND STOOD
BEFORE THE ETERNAL...

THAT
UNKNOWN
VOICE...



... AND SATAN
ALSO CAME
AND STOOD
AMONG THEM.
THE ETERNAL
SAID TO
SATAN, "WHERE
DID YOU COME
FROM?"

RECEIVING
IMAGES IN 6
SECONDS...
4... 3... 2... 1...



... AND SATAN REPLIED TO THE ETERNAL: "WHERE DO I COME FROM?" WHY, I'VE
BEEN WANDERING AROUND THE EARTH...

HA HA HA

AND NOW I'M
COMING
TOWARDS YOU...

WHO...

WHO IS THIS
VISIONARY?



LISTEN TO THE
WORDS OF THE
DEAD. LISTEN TO
THE VOICE FROM
BEYOND THE
GRAVE.

I'M THE DAWNING OF A
NEW TERROR.

I AM THE FATHER AND THE
CREATOR, THE PAGAN WHO
GIVES MEANING TO THE
HOLY SCRIPTURES.

I AM THE ARMED
BRANCH, THE
DESTRUCTIVE
FATHER. REMEMBER
MY FACE, AND
PLEASE...

... DON'T FORGET MY
NAME...

DELFI MIYAZANNHAUER, YOUR SERVANT.

**I AM SPEAKING TO YOU OF THE
TIME BEFORE MY DEATH... THIS
IS BUT MY FIRST MESSAGE...**

**OTHERS WILL FOLLOW... THE FLESH OF CHAOS
HAS JUST COME TO LIFE, WITH VIDEO CAMERAS AS
THE ONLY WITNESS.**



**WITNESSES OF
THIS INSTANT...**

**WITNESSES OF
MY DEATH...**

... AND BIRTH. (1)

OBSERVE THE
PRIME EVENT.

SEE HOW THE
INSTANT IS...

... CAPTURED.

REC

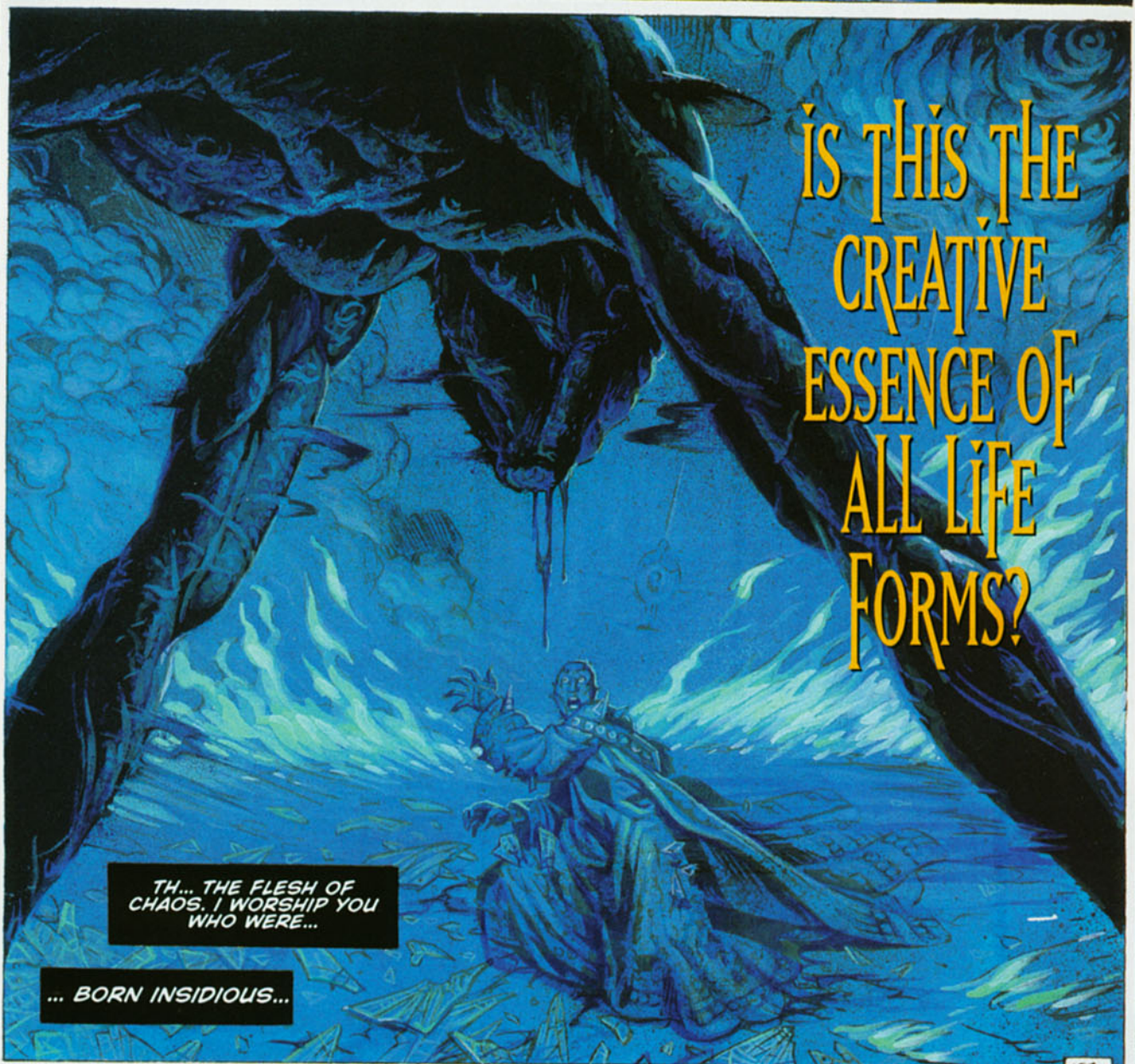
REC

REC

Decu.Net

REC

ENREGISTREMENT CAMÉRA INTERNE



IS THIS THE
CREATIVE
ESSENCE OF
ALL LIFE
FORMS?

TH... THE FLESH OF
CHAOS. I WORSHIP YOU
WHO WERE...

... BORN INSIDIOUS...

YOUR
FLESH
is
WEAK,
LITTLE
PROPHET

BORN INSIDIOUS

BORN INSIDIOUS

BORN
INSIDIOUS
BORN
INSIDIOUS
I VENERATE
YOU,
I RESPECT
YOU.
BORN
INSIDIOUS.

BORN
INSIDIOUS
BORN
INSIDIOUS

BORN
INSID

BORN
INSI

BORN
INSIDIOUS
BORN
INSIDIOUS
BORN
INSIDIOUS
BORN

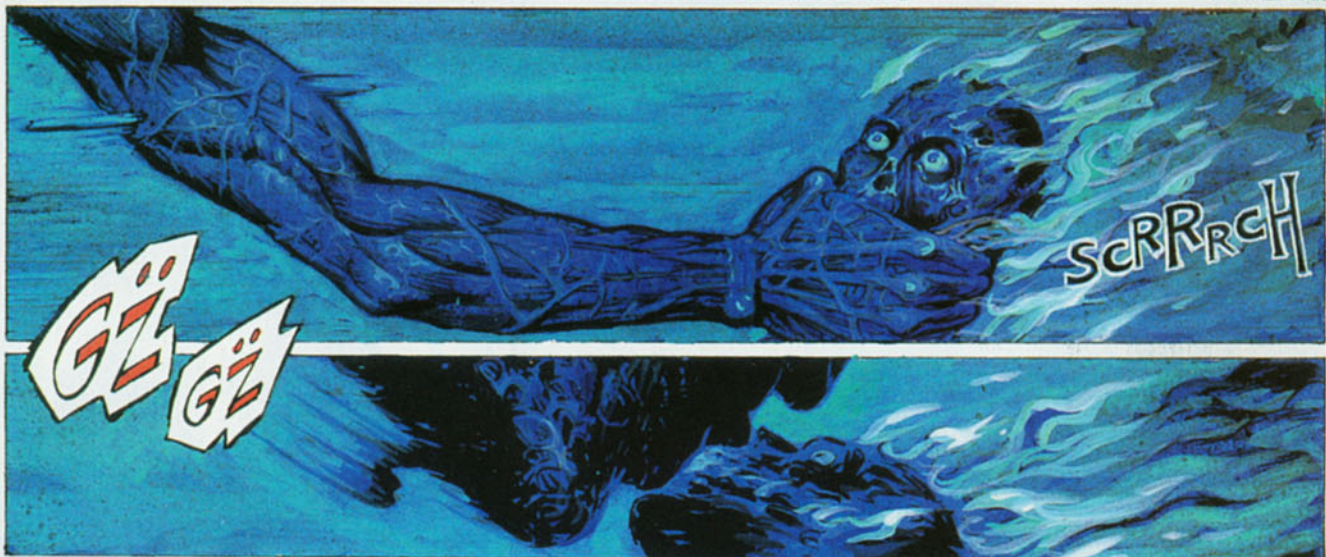
IN...

INSID!

BORN IN
INSIDIOUS
BORN IN
INSIDIOUS
BORN IN
INSIDIOUS

SKKKK

SKHHH
SKK
SKHHH





I'VE SEEN
ENOUGH!!

LET'S GET
OUT OF
HERE!!



... WILLIAM!
PRETTY BOY
FOLSEY, I SAID,
LET'S GET OUT
OF HERE! NOW!



SO GET
MOVING!!



... AND
SEAL THE
AIRLOCK!



LISTEN UP,
EVERYONE...
THIS IS YIU,
CHIEF OF THE
UNAFFILIATED
MISSION!
FROM NOW
ON, YOU ALL
GET YOUR
ORDERS
EXCLUSIVELY
FROM ME!!



I'M THE
ONLY ONE
WHO GIVES
ORDERS,
UNDER-
STOOD?!!



OKAY, WE'RE OFF!

WE'VE WAITED TOO LONG!
THE AIRSPACE IS OVERCROWDED
AGAIN WITH PARASITE
SPACECRAFT!!

GOTTA
CLEAN UP
THIS
MESS!

WE DON'T
HAVE TIME.
PULL THE
PNEUMATIC
JACKS!

PULL THE PNEUMATIC
JACKS! I'M ORDERING
THE ASSASSAINTS TO
CLEAN UP THE AREA
OF ALL...

WE DON'T
HAVE TIME,
I SAID!

WAIT! WAIT! STOP
INSISTING! THE
PROCEDURE DEMANDS
THAT THE AIRSPACE
BE SCRUPULOUSLY
CLEANED...



HOLY
VIRGIN!
HOLY VIRGIN!
SHE... SHE CAN'T
BE PLANNING TO
LEAVE US IN THE
MIDST OF THIS
AERIAL
COMBAT?

HANG IN
THERE, DOC!



EVERYBODY,
GRAB ON TO
SOMETHING,
NOW!



TAKE-
OFF!
READY?



LIFT OFF.

!!!
BY ALLAH! BY
THE VIRGIN MARY!
BY THE HOLY
MOTHER OF GOD!
BY JUDAAAAAS!!



AAH



STABILIZE NOW!
STABILIZE!!

GENTLY,
THAT'S
IT...

WE...
WE
MADE
IT??

WE MADE
IT?

BY ALLAH!
HOLY
VIRGIN! GOD
ALMIGHTY!
MOHAMMED,
HOLY
PROPHET!
THANKS!
THANKS!



CHECKING! COUPLERS
ACTIVATED. FRONT
SHIELDS ACTIVATED.

OK. LET'S TAKE
NORTH-NORTHEAST.
LATITUDE 8, MAXIMUM
VELOCITY.
USUAL LOCATING
PARAMETERS.

OBJECTIVE IN SIGHT, 13
MINUTES IN REAL TIME
BEFORE CIRCULAR
APPROACH.



SCRAMBLERS SWITCHED
ON. WE'LL BEGIN
DESCENDING INTO
ENEMY ZONE IN 7
SECONDS.

GLAD TO
SEE YOU
AGAIN,
YIU...

ENJOY,
BJORKONJOSKI...
BECAUSE MOST
LIKELY...



... YOU WON'T BE
GLAD FOR LONG.

5:55 E.S.T.

THE FORTRESS...
FROM HERE, YOU
COULD ALMOST SEE
THE PLASMA
CANNONS THAT
WERE AIMED AT US...

NO ONE CAN SAY
WHEN...

NO ONE CAN SAY
WHY, NOR HOW...


BUT SOME WORDS
STUCK IN MY MIND. A
FEW SIMPLE WORDS.

FIVE...

EXACTLY FIVE WORDS...

"WE WILL NOT MAKE IT."

I REVIEWED THIS STUPID
PLAN AND SHOUTED A FEW
ORDERS.



WE'LL STAY IN THE
DIRECT SECTOR AND
WE'LL TRY TO BLEND IN
WITH THEIR FIRST
PATROLS. KEEP YOUR
BUTTS CLENCHED!

... YOU WON'T BE
GLAD FOR LONG.

5:55 E.S.T.

THE FORTRESS...
FROM HERE, YOU
COULD ALMOST SEE
THE PLASMA
CANNONS THAT
WERE AIMED AT US...

NO ONE CAN SAY
WHEN...

NO ONE CAN SAY
WHY, NOR HOW...

BUT SOME WORDS
STUCK IN MY MIND. A
FEW SIMPLE WORDS.

FIVE...

EXACTLY FIVE WORDS...

"WE WILL NOT MAKE IT."

I REVIEWED THIS STUPID
PLAN AND SHOUTED A FEW
ORDERS.

NUMBER 9991!
GET INSIDE THE
TURRET!!!

DOC, GIVE THEM A
LAST CHECKUP BEFORE
THE BATTLE. THEY'VE ALL
GOT TO BE IN TOP
SHAPE.

ALTITUDE 2.8
EVERYTHING'S
A-OK... THEY
WANT OUR H.C.
IDENTIFICATION
CODE TRANS-
MITTED.

WE'RE IN NO-MAN'S LAND!
WE'LL GO ROUND THE OLD
ISRAELI WALL... BET YOU 1,000
CURRENCY UNITS THAT THEY'LL
BE FOOLED BY OUR HIGH-
CLERGY CODE!

CHECK!

WE'LL STAY IN THE
DIRECT SECTOR AND
WE'LL TRY TO BLEND IN
WITH THEIR FIRST
PATROLS. KEEP YOUR
BUTTS CLENCHED!

HEY??
NUMBER 9991, JEEZUS!
WHAT... WHAT ARE
YOU... DOING?



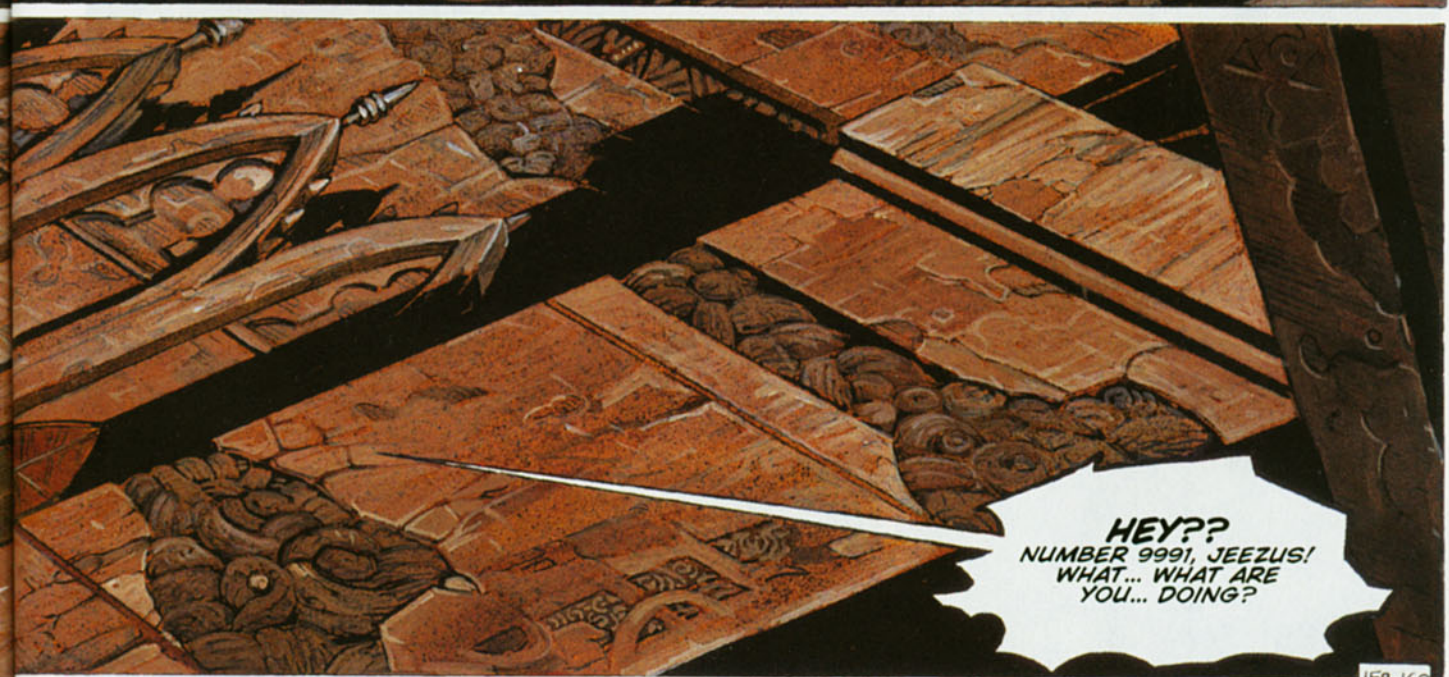
NUMBER 9991!
GET INSIDE THE
TURRET!!!

DOC, GIVE THEM A
LAST CHECKUP BEFORE
THE BATTLE. THEY'VE ALL
GOT TO BE IN TOP
SHAPE.

ALTITUDE 2.8
EVERYTHING'S
A-OK... THEY
WANT OUR H.C.
IDENTIFICATION
CODE TRANS-
MITTED.

WE'RE IN NO-MAN'S LAND!
WE'LL GO ROUND THE OLD
ISRAELI WALL... BET YOU 1,000
CURRENCY UNITS THAT THEY'LL
BE FOOLED BY OUR HIGH-
CLERGY CODE!

CHECK!



HEY??
NUMBER 9991, JEEZUS!
WHAT... WHAT ARE
YOU... DOING?



... WHAT SORT OF INJECTION IS THIS??

PCH

MORPHINE, TRIPLE DOSE. BANNED BY THE ECUMENICAL LAWS.

MOTHER OF GOD! ARE YOU HURT?



NO. PRECAUTIONARY TREATMENT.

GIVE ME A SHOT.

IF EVERYTHING'S OK, GET TO YOUR GUNS AND HURRY...

LET ME KNOW AS SOON AS ANY PROBLEMS ARISE.

CAN I ASK YOU YOUR NAME, DOC?

EUH, YES... AGOYA. CLES! AGOYA.

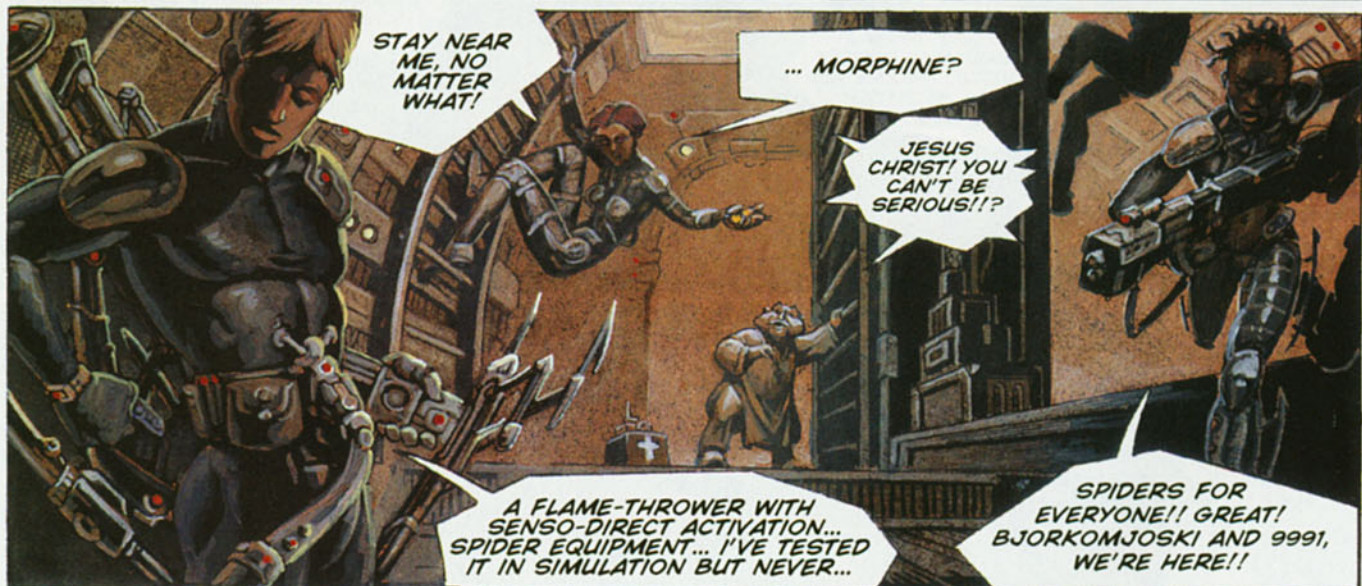
ARE YOU A BELIEVER?

ALLAH, CHRIST, BUDDHA, ADONAI, THE GREAT WATCHMAKER, I HAVE FAITH IN EVERY FAITH, I... I ADMIT IT... AND EUH...

... AND TODAY MORE THAN EVER... I... I'M AFRAID...



PSSH



STAY NEAR ME, NO MATTER WHAT!

... MORPHINE?

JESUS CHRIST! YOU CAN'T BE SERIOUS!!?

A FLAME-THROWER WITH SENSO-DIRECT ACTIVATION... SPIDER EQUIPMENT... I'VE TESTED IT IN SIMULATION BUT NEVER...

SPIDERS FOR EVERYONE!! GREAT! BJORKOMJOSKI AND 9991, WE'RE HERE!!

SHAAK

THIS WILL KEEP YOU AWAKE FOR UP TO THREE DAYS, AND YOU WON'T EVEN FEEL TIRED. BUT YOU'LL COLLAPSE AFTERWARDS.



I WANT SEVEN DAYS.

SEVEN DAYS??

HOLY VIRGIN, NO! JUST LOOK AT YOUR VEINS, YIU. NECROSIS IS SETTING IN, YOUR COMPLEXION IS DARKENING AND, IF YOU DON'T MIND MY SAYING SO...



SAYING WHAT?



EXCUSE ME, BUT
YOUR MOOD...
EHH... YOUR IRONIC
DESPAIR IS ONE
OF THE EARLY
SYMPTOMS
OF DEEP
DEPRESSION...

... IRONIC
DESPAIR?



YOUR NERVES ARE ON
EDGE, YOU WON'T BE
ABLE TO TAKE SEVEN
DAYS AND...

AND...?

... OK, OK,
IT'S YOUR
BLOOD, I'LL
DO WHAT YOU
WANT. HOLY
MOTHER
OF GOD!
I'LL DO
IT!

SO SHOOT
ME UP!



OUCHHHH

!!

►►► **J. WILLIAM S**
(A.K.A. THE APE)

YOUNGEST TEAM MEMBER. DESERTED FROM ELITE
TROOPS DURING THE RECONSTRUCTION OF THE
AUSTRALIAN EMPIRE IN 2153. HIGHLY GIFTED IN
COMBAT STRATEGY AND EXPERT IN PUNITIVE MISSIONS.

►►► (SNIPER)

IF YOU DON'T WANT TO DIE, THEN

►►► **BJORKONJOSKI-THE DEAD**

VERY KNOWLEDGEABLE IN GENETICS AND IN
ESOTERIC ARTS. FAMILIAR WITH TOP-SECRET SYSTEMS.
A.K.A. DEATH BECAUSE ADDICTED TO NEED/LEVE 9.
LEVEL 10 REMAINS ON THE OTHER SIDE.

HEMO-TENSION LETHAL LEVEL REACHED DANGER: OVERLOADING DANGER: OVERLOADING

YIU? YIU,
D'YOU HEAR ME?

YIU, D'YOU
HEAR ME?



I...

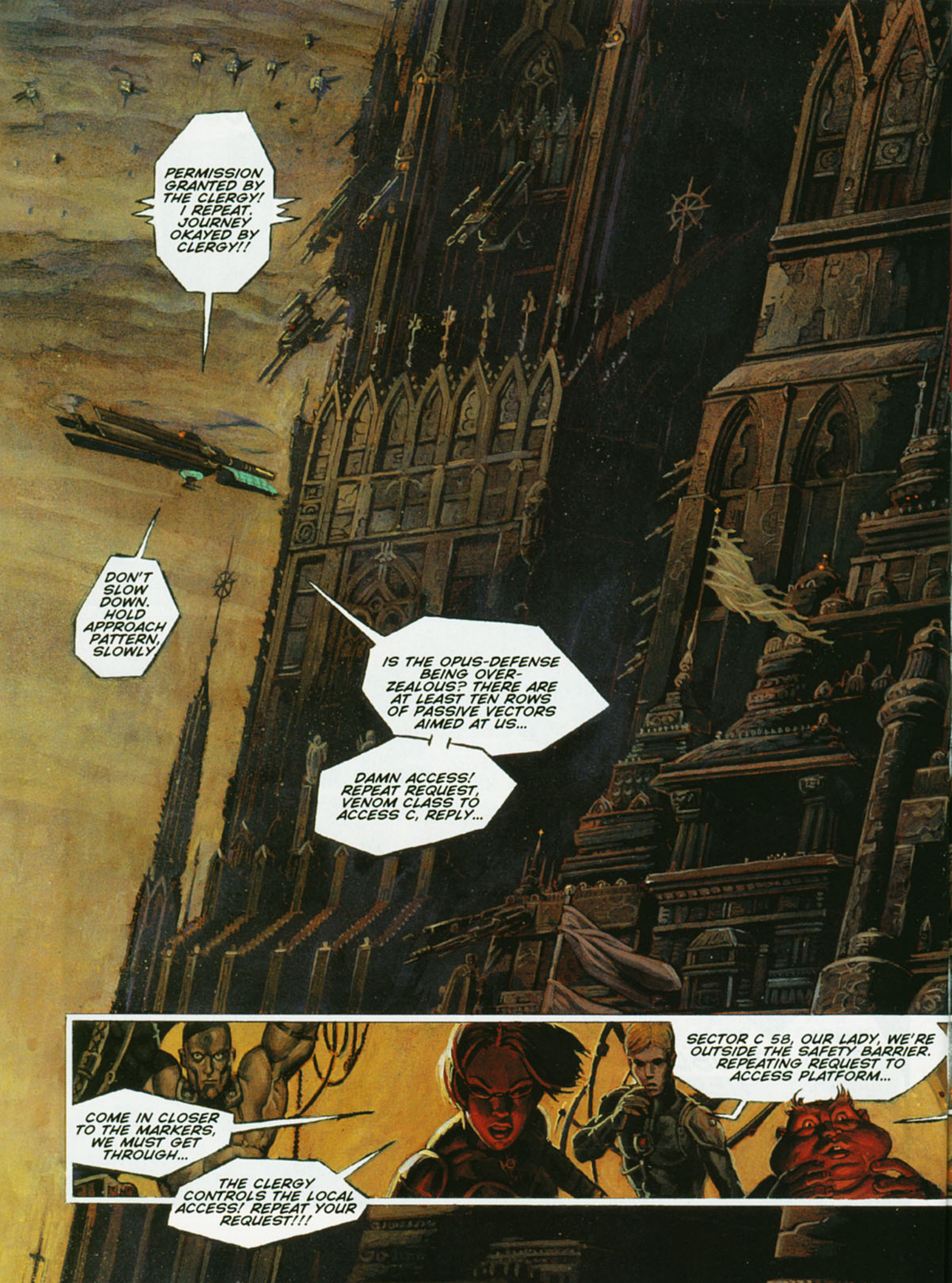
I... I'M OK
NOW... I'VE
HAD TOO
MANY
IMPLANTS...
BUT... I'LL
BE OK... I
WON'T
COLLAPSE!

PROBLEM
HERE!

DON'T SHOOT!
I REPEAT,
PERMISSION
CONFIRMED
ACCESS C, REPLY!



WHAT'S
GOING ON HERE?
BJORKONJOSKI,
WHAT'S
HAPPENING?
ANSWER ME!!



PERMISSION
GRANTED BY
THE CLERGY!
I REPEAT.
JOURNEY
OKAYED BY
CLERGY!!

DON'T
SLOW
DOWN.
HOLD
APPROACH
PATTERN,
SLOWLY

IS THE OPUS-DEFENSE
BEING OVER-
ZEALOUS? THERE ARE
AT LEAST TEN ROWS
OF PASSIVE VECTORS
AIMED AT US...

DAMN ACCESS!
REPEAT REQUEST,
VENOM CLASS TO
ACCESS C, REPLY...



SECTOR C 58, OUR LADY, WE'RE
OUTSIDE THE SAFETY BARRIER.
REPEATING REQUEST TO
ACCESS PLATFORM...

COME IN CLOSER
TO THE MARKERS,
WE MUST GET
THROUGH...

THE CLERGY
CONTROLS THE LOCAL
ACCESS! REPEAT YOUR
REQUEST!!!

PERMISSION
GRANTED BY
THE CLERGY!
I REPEAT,
JOURNEY
OKAYED BY
CLERGY!!

DON'T
SLOW
DOWN.
HOLD
APPROACH
PATTERN,
SLOWLY

IS THE OPUS-DEFENSE
BEING OVER-
ZEALOUS? THERE ARE
AT LEAST TEN ROWS
OF PASSIVE VECTORS
AIMED AT US...

DAMN ACCESS!
REPEAT REQUEST,
VENOM CLASS TO
ACCESS C, REPLY...

SECTOR C 58, OUR LADY, WE'RE
OUTSIDE THE SAFETY BARRIER.
REPEATING REQUEST TO
ACCESS PLATFORM...

COME IN CLOSER
TO THE MARKERS,
WE MUST GET
THROUGH...

THE CLERGY
CONTROLS THE LOCAL
ACCESS! REPEAT YOUR
REQUEST!!!

HOLY GHOST!!
LOOK UP THERE!
WHAT IS THAT...??!

REY, GOD
OF THE
GODS! THE
ANGEL
OFFERING
IS READY!
WELCOME
ME AT
LAST!

A
SACRIFICIAL
VICTIM!

SHIT! AND
HE'S UP TO
HIS ASS IN
NECRO-
BOMBS! STILL
NO REPLY
FROM THE
ACCESS
PLATFORM?

KEEP REPEATING
YOUR REQUEST
AND...

CONTINUE
MOVING IN
SLOWLY...

!!
COOL
IT!
COOL
IT!!

WELCOME
AMONG
THE
DISEASED!

FLC

EYH!

DAMN
WELCOMING
COMMITTEE!!



REY, GOD
OF THE
GODS! THE
ANGEL
OFFERING
IS READY!
WELCOME
ME AT
LAST!

A
SACRIFICIAL
VICTIM!

SHIT! AND
HE'S UP TO
HIS ASS IN
NECRO-
BOMBS! STILL
NO REPLY
FROM THE
ACCESS
PLATFORM?

HOLY GHOST!!
LOOK UP THERE!
WHAT IS THAT...??!

KEEP REPEATING
YOUR REQUEST
AND...

CONTINUE
MOVING IN
SLOWLY...



!!
COOL
IT!
COOL
IT!!

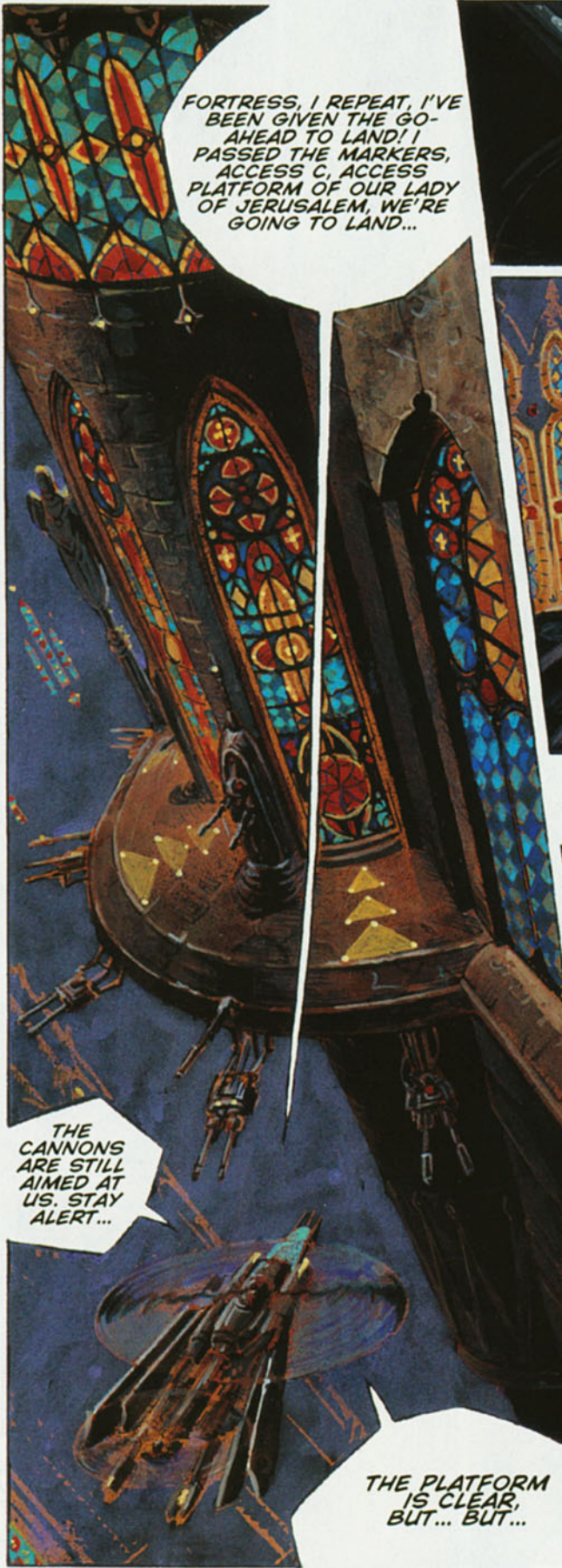
WELCOME
AMONG
THE
DISEASED!

FLC



EYH!


DAMN
WELCOMING
COMMITTEE!!



FORTRESS, I REPEAT, I'VE
BEEN GIVEN THE GO-
AHEAD TO LAND! I
PASSED THE MARKERS,
ACCESS C, ACCESS
PLATFORM OF OUR LADY
OF JERUSALEM, WE'RE
GOING TO LAND...



**FROOSH
FROOSH**



DON'T SHOOT! OUR
LADY!! THE CLERGY HAS
OKAYED THIS JOURNEY...
OH SHIT!!

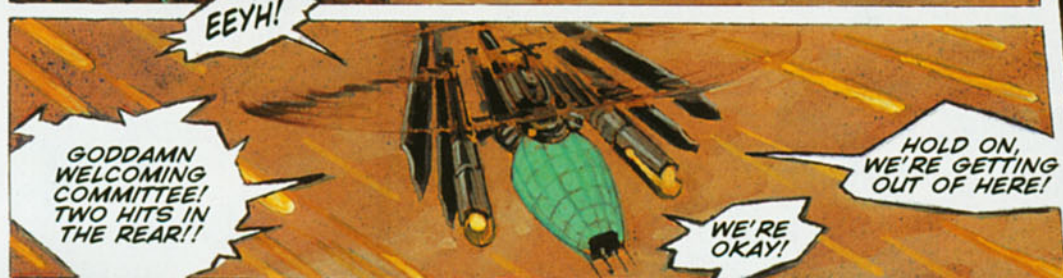
TURN BACK!
TURN QUICKLY!!

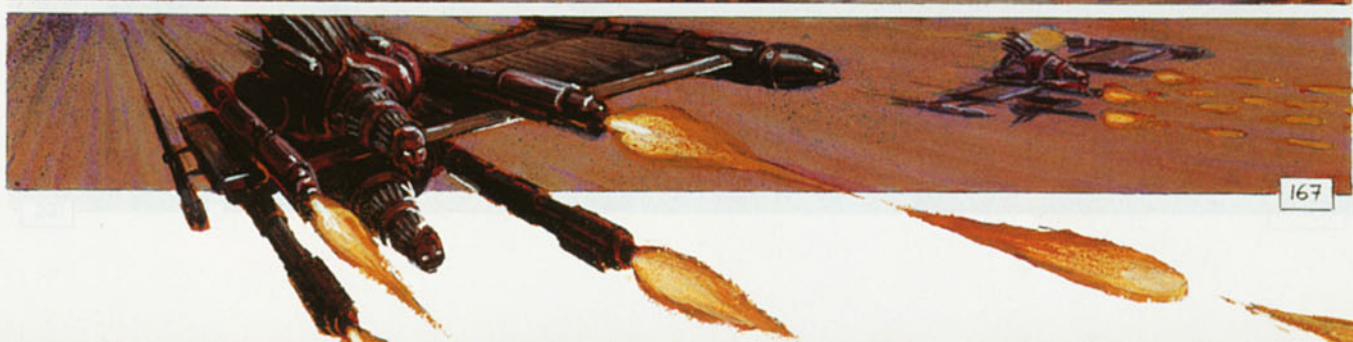
WHO SAID
THERE WAS A
SACRED
CONSENSUS!

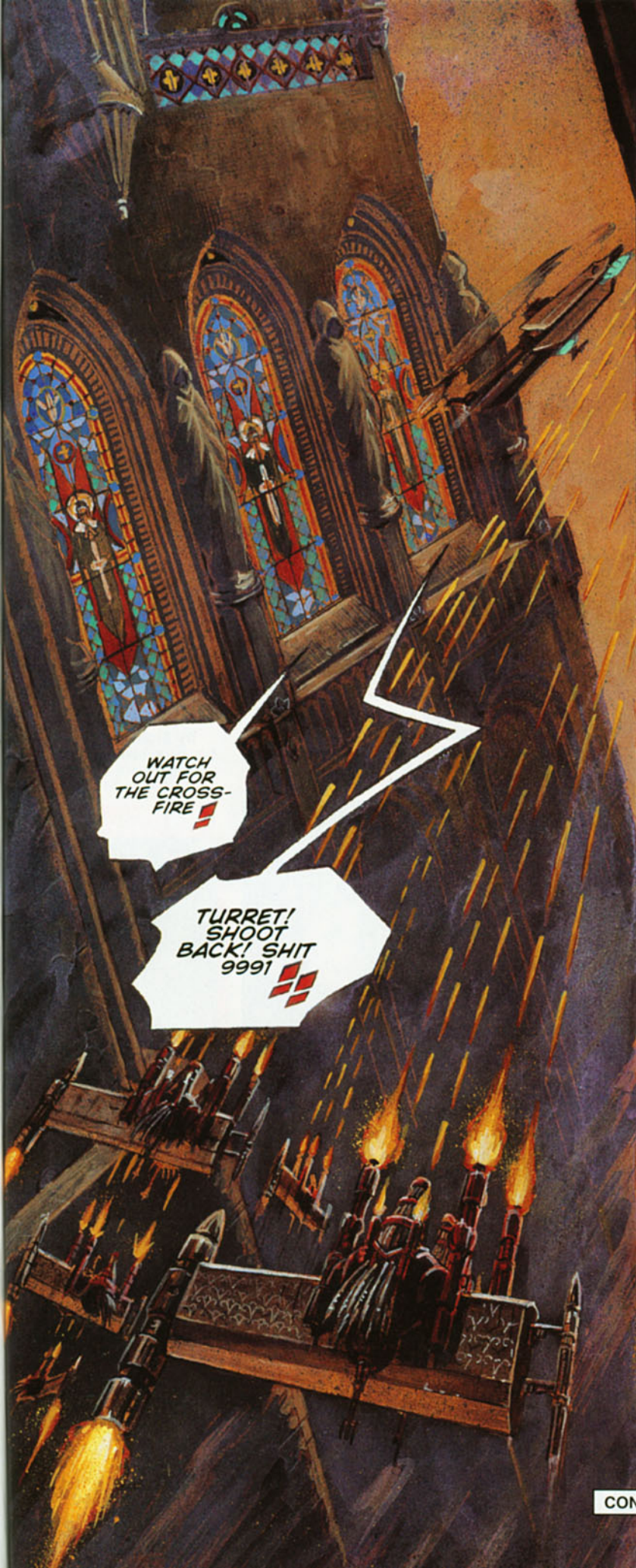
THE
CANNONS
ARE STILL
AIMED AT
US. STAY
ALERT...

THEY'RE OPENING FIRE!!
LET'S GET OUTTA HERE!
QUICK!!

THE PLATFORM
IS CLEAR,
BUT... BUT...







WATCH
OUT FOR
THE CROSS-
FIRE

TURRET!
SHOOT
BACK! SHIT
9991



9991
HERE!
YAAAAH!



WATCH
OUT! TOO
CLOSE!
PULL UP!
PULL...

THERE!
STRAIGHT
AHEAD!!



STRAIGHT
AHEAD,
HERE
GOES!!

THE DEMON WINDS II: THE DEMON CHILDE!

SOON AFTER THE ASCENSION OF THE SULTAN'S CONCUBINE GULNARE TO THE POSITION OF FIRST WIFE, MATRON OF THE HOUSEHOLD AND ALL HIS OTHER WIVES, AHMED BEDIR BASIM SHAH COMMANDED HIS ENTIRE COURT ASSEMBLED FOR AN ANNOUNCEMENT OF GREAT IMPORTANCE.

GULNARE HAD REPLACED THE SULTAN'S FIRST WIFE, PERIEZAD WHEN SHE HAD BEEN SEDUCED BY A DEVIL SUMMONED TO HUMILIATE AHMED SHAH. GULNARE HAD PLEADED FOR THE AHMED SHAH'S MERCY AND PERIEZAD LIVED TO DESPISE HER SUCCESSOR.

IN THE NAME OF ALLAH THE COMPASSIONATE AND ALL-MERCIFUL, KNOW YOU ALL THAT GULNARE, MY BEAUTIFUL AND GENEROUS WIFE, CARRIES WITHIN HER WOMB THE FIRST CHILD OF OUR BLESSED UNION.



... AND AS ALLAH HAS SO WILLED THIS BLESSING, I SHALL GIVE MY SULTAN A SON. A BOY CHILD BRIGHT LIKE A FALCON, WITH THE MOON ON HIS FOREHEAD AND THE STARS AT HIS BREAST.



PERIEZAD SAW HER OPPORTUNITY FOR REVENGE IN GULNARE'S BOAST AND PUT HER PLAN INTO ACTION BY FORMING A PACT WITH A FEARED WITCH WITH WHOM SHE HAD SMUGGLED INTO THE PALACE IN THE MIDST OF THE CELEBRATION.

SOON AFTER PERIEZAD HAD SEALED HER PACT WITH THE WITCH, SHE EMBARKED UPON THE SECOND STAGE OF HER REVENGE. SHE BRIBED THE MIDWIFE AND HER ATTENDANTS.



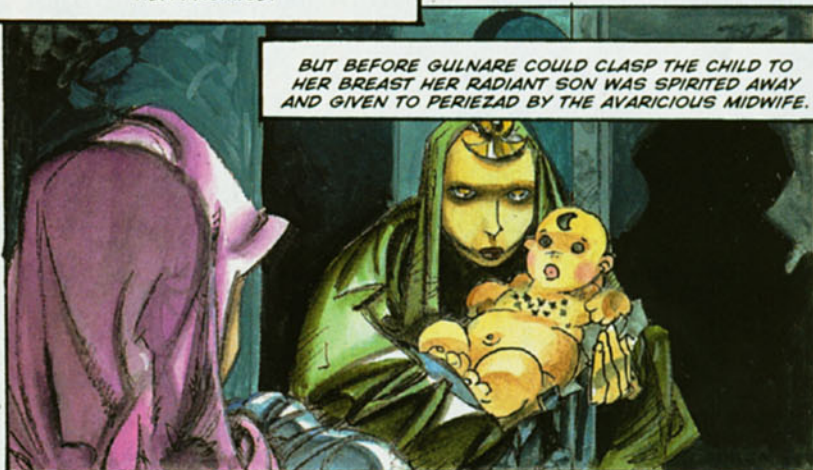
IT WAS A SMALLER MATTER TO ENTER THE SULTAN'S BEDCHAMBERS AND TEMPT HIM WITH HASHISH AND FORBIDDEN GAMES SHE KNEW FROM EXPERIENCE HE WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO RESIST.



BY THE WILL OF ALLAH THE BENEVOLENT, A FEW WEEKS LATER GULNARE GIVES BIRTH TO THE BRIGHT BOY CHILD OF HER PROMISE.



BUT BEFORE GULNARE COULD CLASP THE CHILD TO HER BREAST HER RADIANT SON WAS SPIRITED AWAY AND GIVEN TO PERIEZAD BY THE AVARICIOUS MIDWIFE.



IN RETURN THE MIDWIFE RECEIVED A CHANGELING PROCURED BY PERIEZAD THROUGH THE MALIGNANT MACHINATIONS OF THE EVIL DESERT WITCH.



NOT ABLE TO LEAVE THE PALACE GROUNDS UNNOTICED, PERIEZAD DISCARDS THE CHILD BLESSED OF ALLAH IN A LONG NEGLECTED PART OF THE SULTAN'S GARDEN.

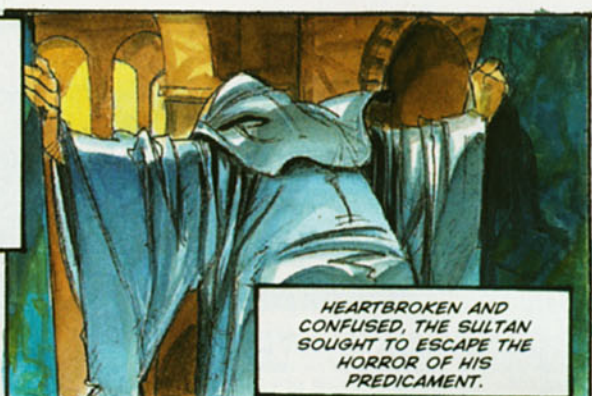


WHILE PERIEZAD DID AWAY WITH THE SULTAN'S SON THE MIDWIFE PRESENTED THE DEMON CHILDE TO AHMED BEDIR BASIM SHAH HIMSELF AS THE FRUIT OF HIS BLESSED WIFE'S WOMB.

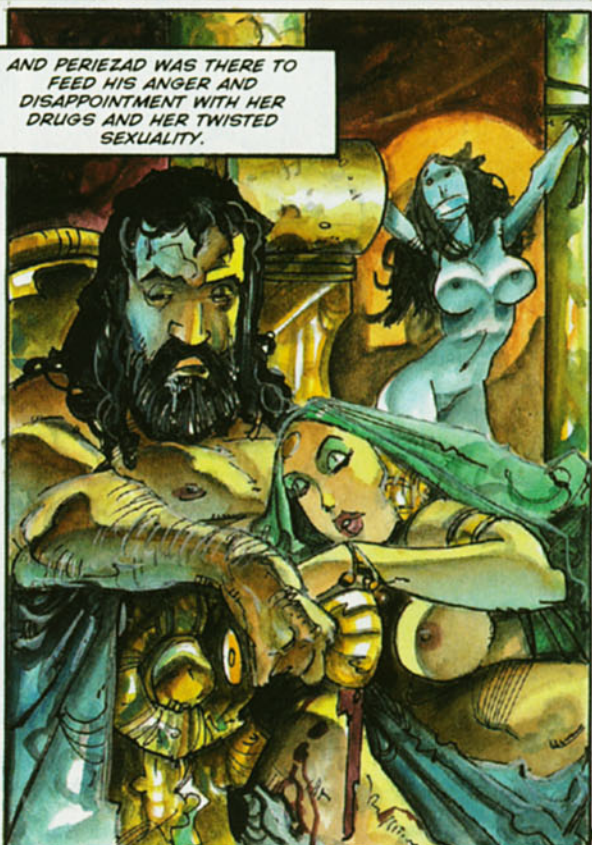




EVEN IN THE FACE OF THE SULTAN'S RAGE DID THE MIDWIFE CONFIRM THAT GULNARE DID INDEED GIVE BIRTH TO THE HORROR THAT HAD CONFRONTED AHMED SHAH. FOR SHE KNEW CONFESSION OF HER COMPLICITY IN PERIEZAD'S SCHEME WOULD EARN WICKED PUNISHMENT.



HEARTBROKEN AND CONFUSED, THE SULTAN SOUGHT TO ESCAPE THE HORROR OF HIS PREDICAMENT.



AND PERIEZAD WAS THERE TO FEED HIS ANGER AND DISAPPOINTMENT WITH HER DRUGS AND HER TWISTED SEXUALITY.



IT HAS COME TO PASS THAT MY WIFE HAS BORN ME A SON BUT NOT A BLESSED CHILD. NO THIS IS A CHILD OF THE INFERNAL PITS AND SO I FIND I MUST REPUDIATE OUR UNION AND HAVE GATHERED THE ELDERS OF OUR KINGDOM TO DECIDE HER FATE.



THE NEXT AFTERNOON...



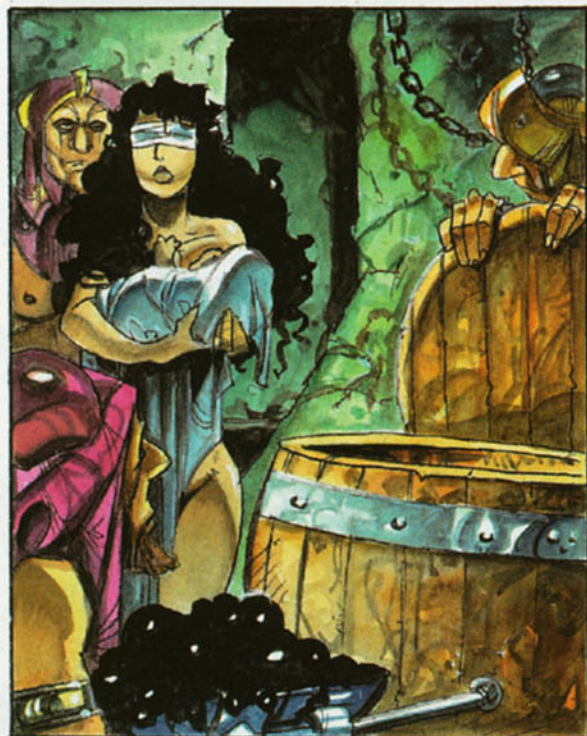
WE HAVE PONDERED AND DEBATED THE FATE OF GULNARE, ONCE FIRST WIFE TO THE SULTAN. ASSEMBLE THE ROYAL COURT AND SENTENCE SHALL BE PRONOUNCED.



IT IS OUR DECISION THAT GULNARE'S EYES BE GOUGED OUT, SHE BE PUT WITH HER CHILD INTO A TARRED BARREL, AND THEY BOTH BE BURIED IN THE DESERT. IF SHE IS GUILTY SHE WILL PERISH, IF SHE IS INNOCENT SHE WILL COME BACK TO US THROUGH THE WILL OF ALLAH.



IN A DUNGEON TOO FAR FROM THE ROYAL CHAMBERS FOR GULNARE'S PITEOUS CRIES TO REACH, THE ELDERS SENTENCE IS CARRIED OUT.



BY THE WILL OF ALLAH,
MY CONCUBINE, PERIEZAD
HAS BEEN VINDICATED AND
IS ONCE MORE RESTORED
TO HER PROMINENCE AS
FIRST OF MY WIVES.

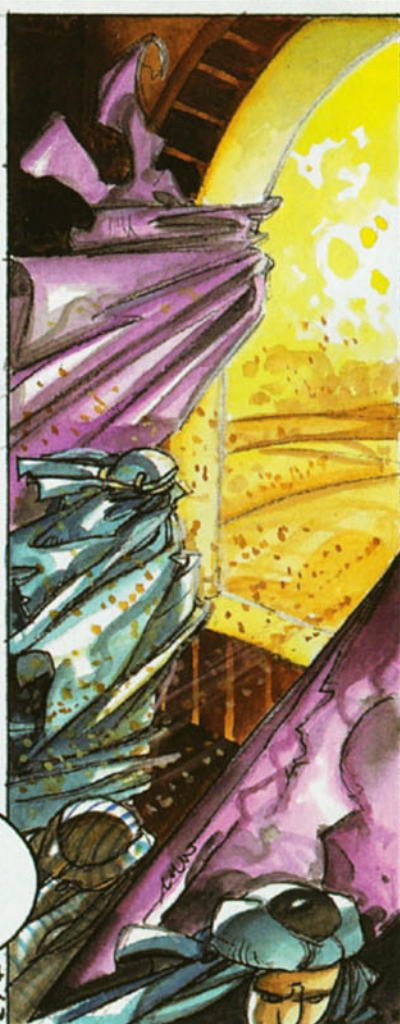
DEEP UNDER THE PITYLESS DESERT SANDS LOST
TO SYMPATHY OR CARE, GULNARE DOES WHAT SHE
CAN TO SOOTHE THE INFERNAL CHILDE THAT HAS
BEEN THE HARBINGER OF HER DOOM.

SUCKING AT THE BREAST OF THE
ONLY ONE WHO HAS CARED TO
MOTHER HIM, THE DEMON CHILDE
GROWS NOT BY THE DAY...

... BUT BY THE HOUR. HE SOON ACQUIRED SENSE
AND BECAME REASONABLE AND SAID...

MADAM MY MOTHER,
BY MY REQUEST, BY
THE PROPHET'S
COMMAND, BY THE WILL
OF ALLAH, LET US FEEL
THE WARMTH OF THE
SUN ONCE MORE.





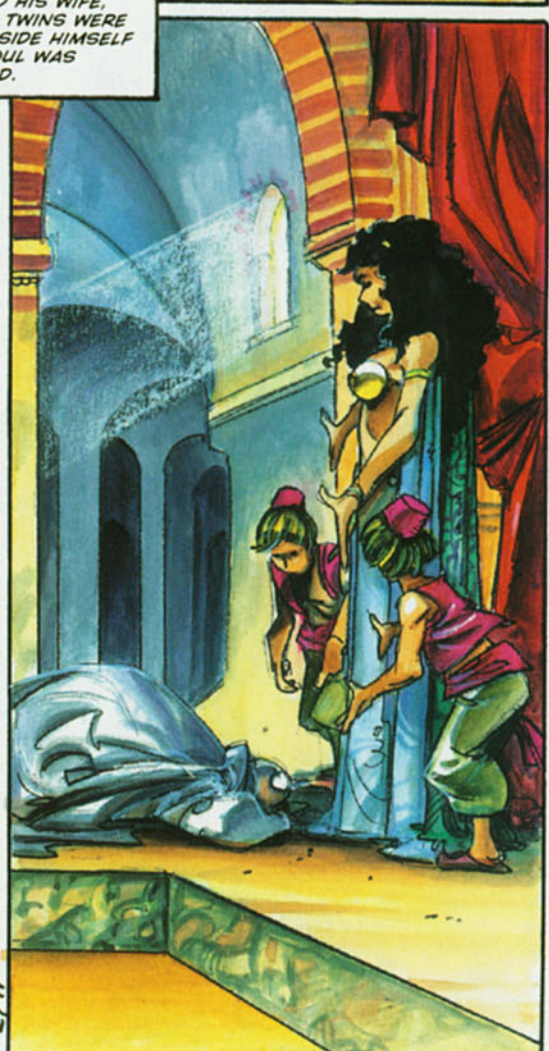








AHMED SHAH BEHELD HIS WIFE,
RECOGNIZED THAT THE TWINS WERE
HIS SONS AND WAS BESIDE HIMSELF
WITH JOY; HIS SOUL WAS
ILLUMINATED.





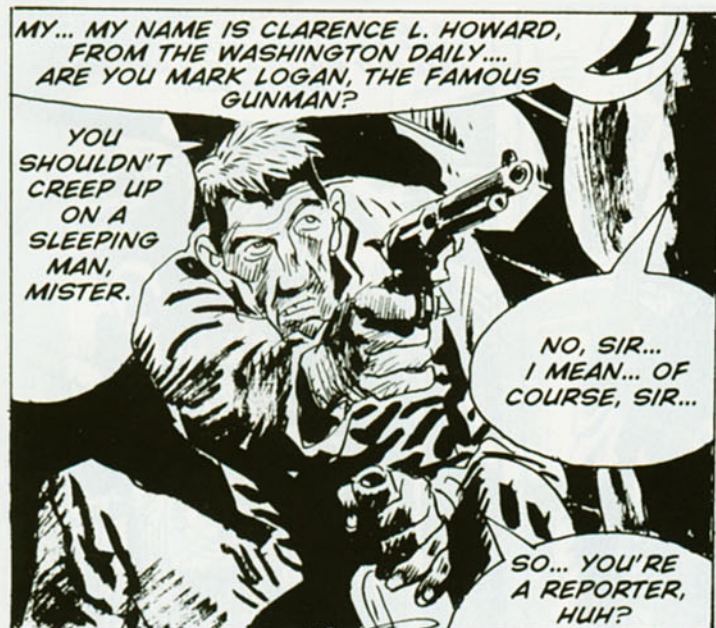
AHMED SHAH DID NOT NEED TO CALL FOR HIS WISE MEN TO PRONOUNCE SENTENCE ON PERIEZAD AND HER COLLABORATOR. BY ALLAH, WHAT WAS GOOD FOR ONE WIFE WAS CERTAINLY FITTING FOR THE OTHER.

PERIEZAD WOULD HAVE THE SAME CHANCE AT MERCY THAT GULNARE HAD RECEIVED FROM THE ALL KNOWING. SO THE FAITHLESS WIFE MADE THE SAME JOURNEY AS THE TRUE ONE.

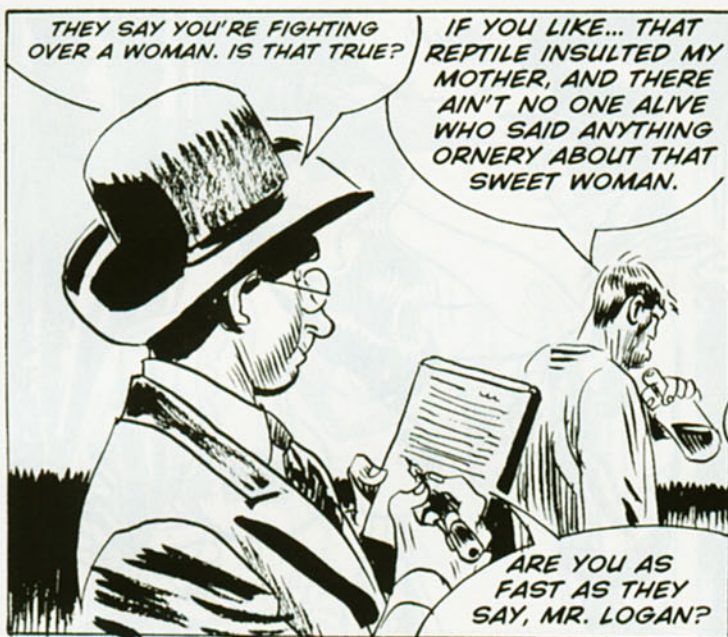


AND ALLAH DID NOT PROTECT HER!

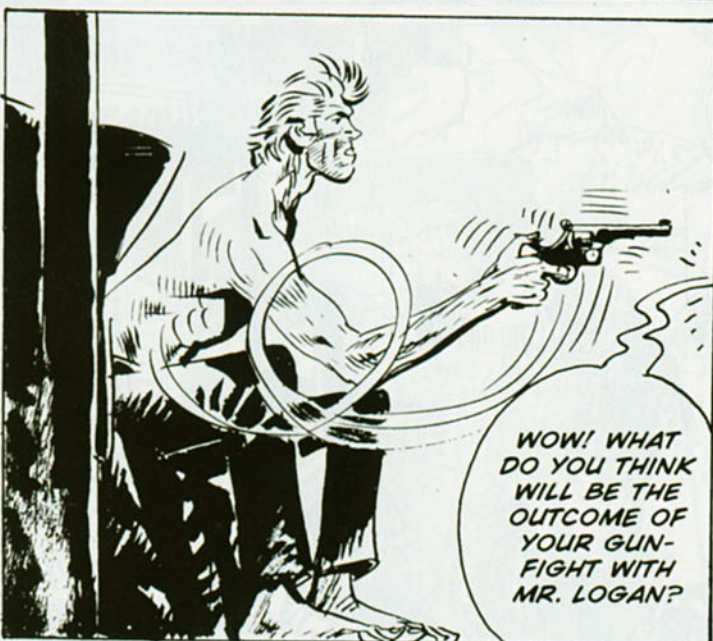
THE GOOD, THE BAD AND THE NOT-SO BAD









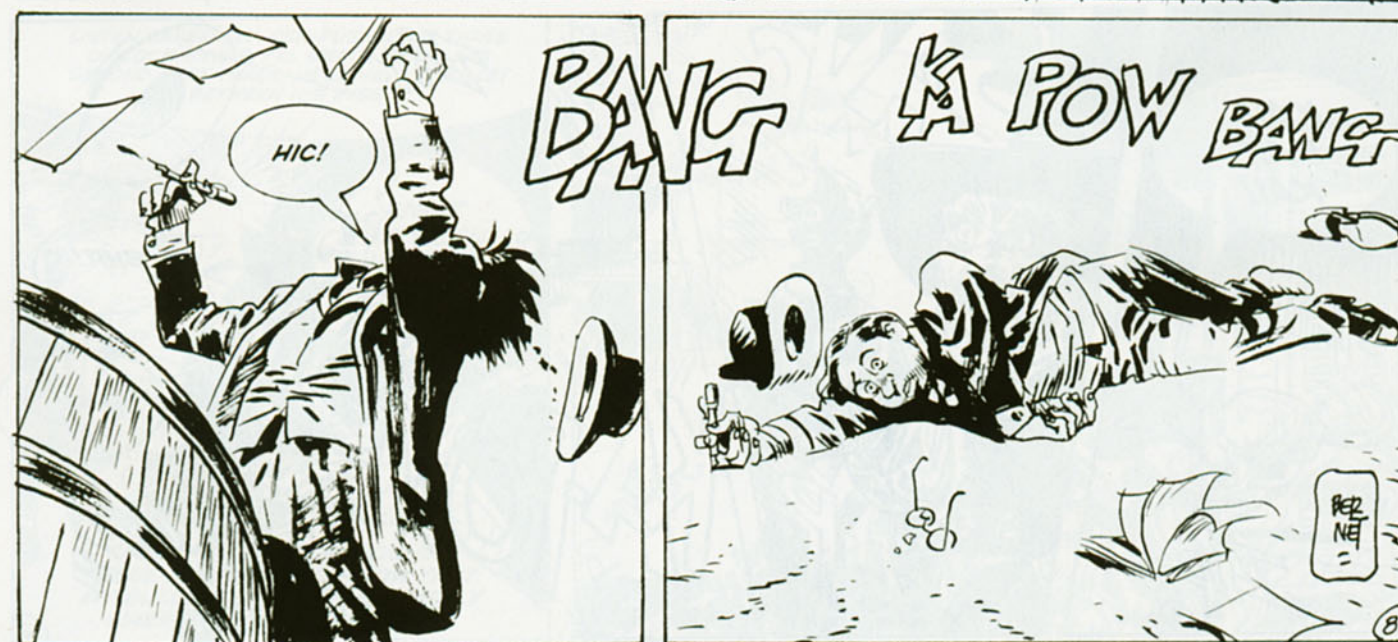
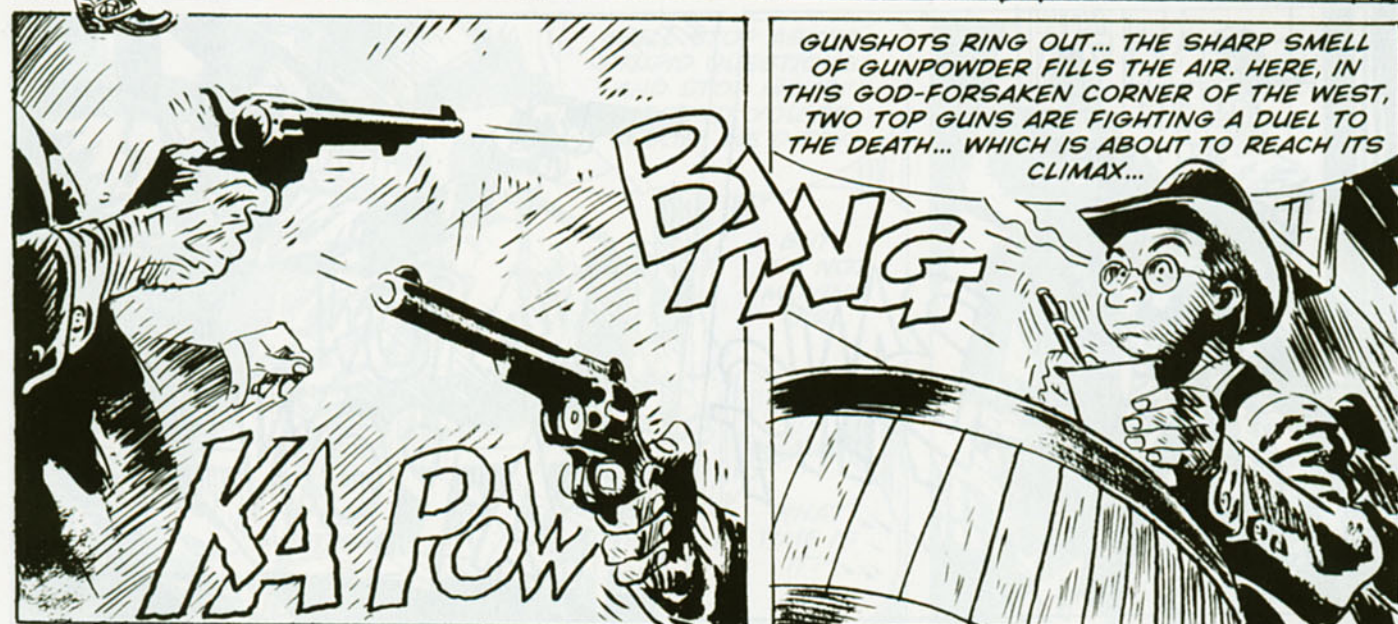
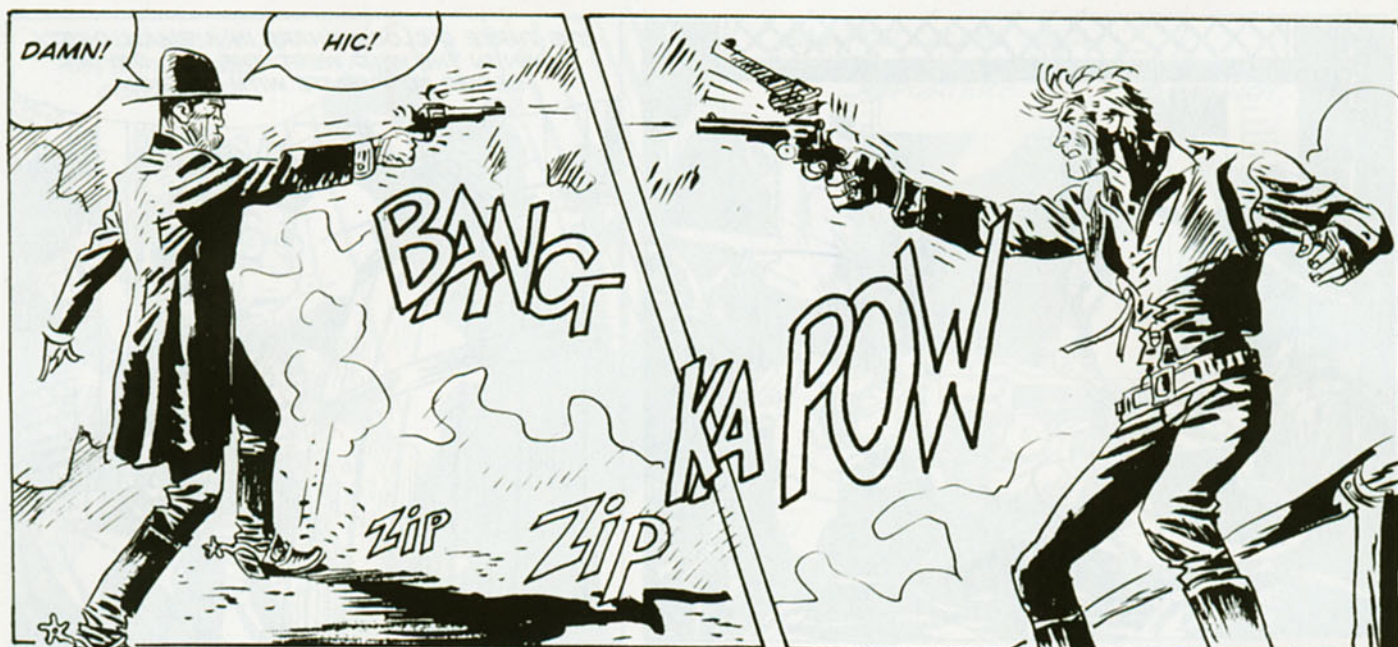






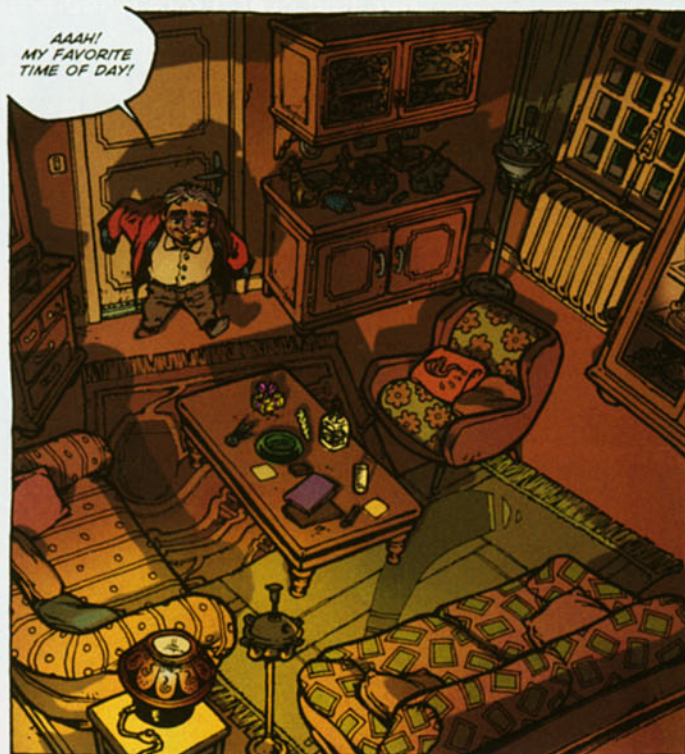
IT'S THREE O'CLOCK SHARP IN A SMALL DUSTY TOWN IN THE WILD WEST. THE HOT, DRY AIR SEEMS TO VIBRATE WITH TENSION...







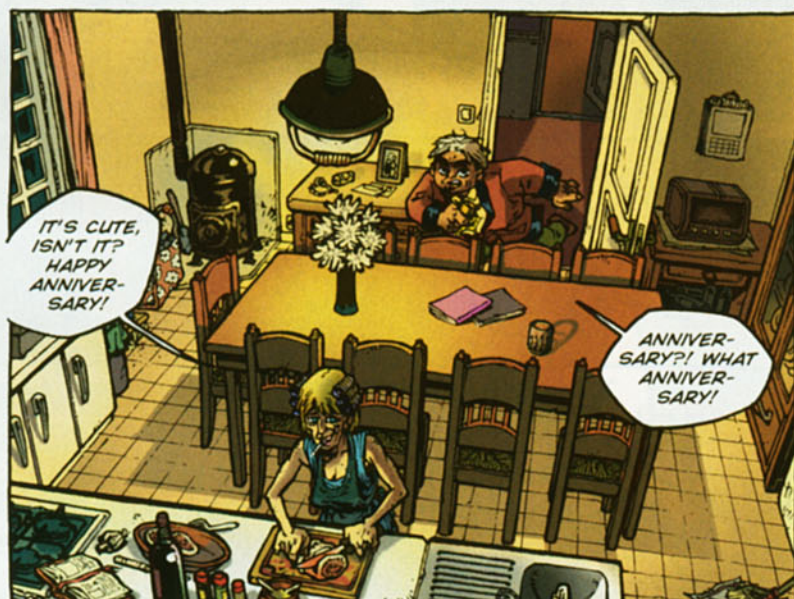
PIPE DREAMS





WHERE THE HELL DID YOU PUT MY OLD TOBACCO BOX?!

AND WHAT THE FUCK IS THIS?



IT'S CUTE, ISN'T IT? HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

ANNIVERSARY?! WHAT ANNIVERSARY!



OUR WEDDING ANNIVERSARY, DUMBBELL! THAT'S TWENTY-FIVE YEARS I'VE BEEN PUTTING UP WITH YOU! BUT YOU COULDN'T EVEN REMEMBER THAT!



I DON'T WANT YOUR SHIT!



WHAT I WANT TO KNOW IS WHERE YOU PUT MY OLD TOBACCO BOX!

AH-HA! I SEE! THAT OLD BOX MEANS MORE TO YOU THAN OUR ANNIVERSARY! THAT'S IT, HUH? CRAZY IDIOT!!



I SHOULD'VE LISTENED TO MY MOTHER AND MARRIED A LORD!

BUT INSTEAD, I GOT STUCK WITH A MANIAC WHO IS IN LOVE WITH HIS PIPE PARAPHERNALIA. YOU GOTTA BE STARK RAVING MAD TO COLLECT PIPES!! SOME MEN GO FISHING OR DRINKING WITH THEIR BUDDIES, BUT THIS ONE...

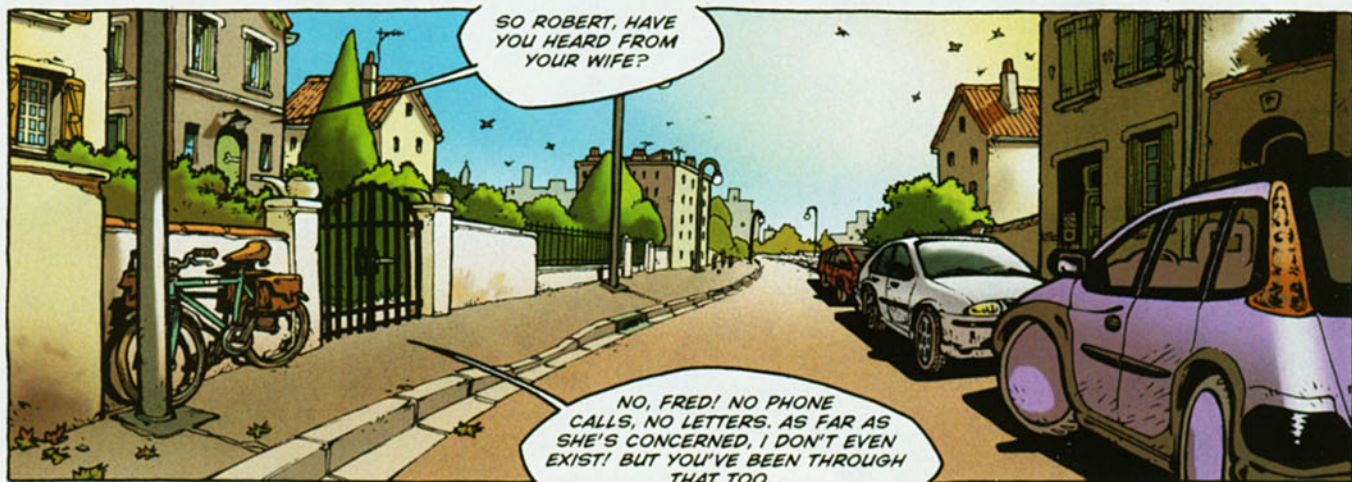




- ARTIST, 2002.



- COLLEURS-T. LERENDOT.



SO ROBERT, HAVE YOU HEARD FROM YOUR WIFE?

NO, FRED! NO PHONE CALLS, NO LETTERS. AS FAR AS SHE'S CONCERNED, I DON'T EVEN EXIST! BUT YOU'VE BEEN THROUGH THAT TOO...



I HAVEN'T HEARD A WORD FROM HER, SINCE SHE LEFT ME FOR A CROATIAN FLAMENCO DANCER!

WHAT POSSESSED HER AT THE AGE OF FIFTY-FIVE? AND WITH A FOREIGNER, ON TOP OF IT!



SHE HAD EVERYTHING TO BE HAPPY! WE HAD JUST CELEBRATED OUR TWENTY-FIFTH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY!

AH! WOMEN! CAN'T TRUST ANY OF THEM!



WHAT CAN YOU SAY? TO CONSOLE MYSELF I SMOKE A PIPE ONCE IN A WHILE!



HEY! THAT'S A VERY UNUSUAL TOBACCO BOX!


- BALDO.

- ARTIST: J. L. LEROUX.



YES! MARY JANE GAVE IT TO ME FOR OUR WEDDING ANNIVERSARY!


- COLLEZIONE: T. LEROUX.



ON TARGET! WE'RE
GOING THROUGH GATE 57,
ASIAN SECTOR,
SUPPOSEDLY
NEUTRAL!



HANG IN
THERE!
STRAIGHT
AHEAD!



DON'T...



WATCH
IT!
IN
FRONT!



... CRASH INTO
IT!



ON TARGET! WE'RE GOING THROUGH GATE 57, ASIAN SECTOR, SUPPOSEDLY NEUTRAL!



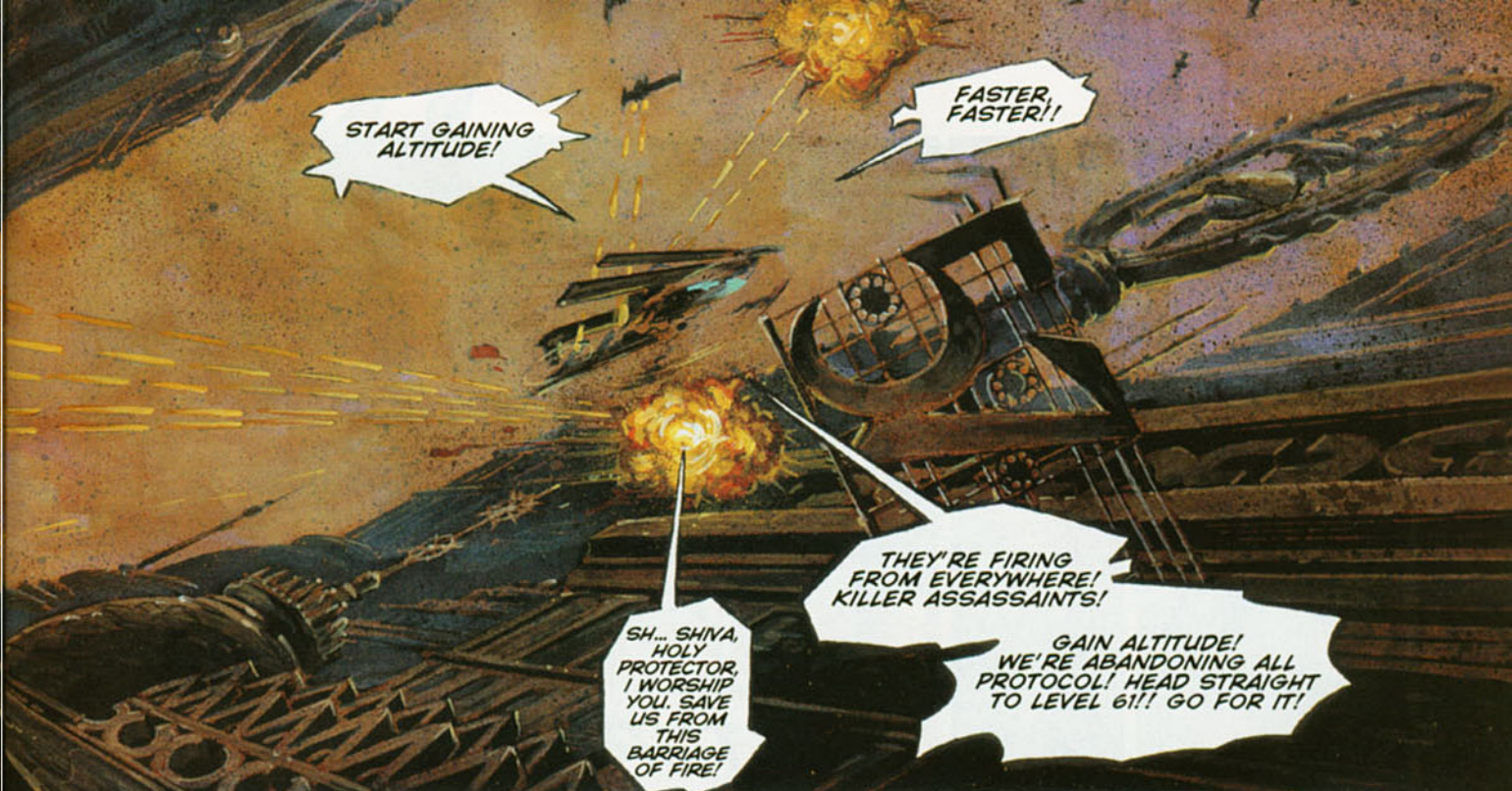
HANG IN THERE! STRAIGHT AHEAD!

DON'T...

WATCH IT! IN FRONT!



... CRASH INTO IT!



START GAINING ALTITUDE!

FASTER, FASTER!!

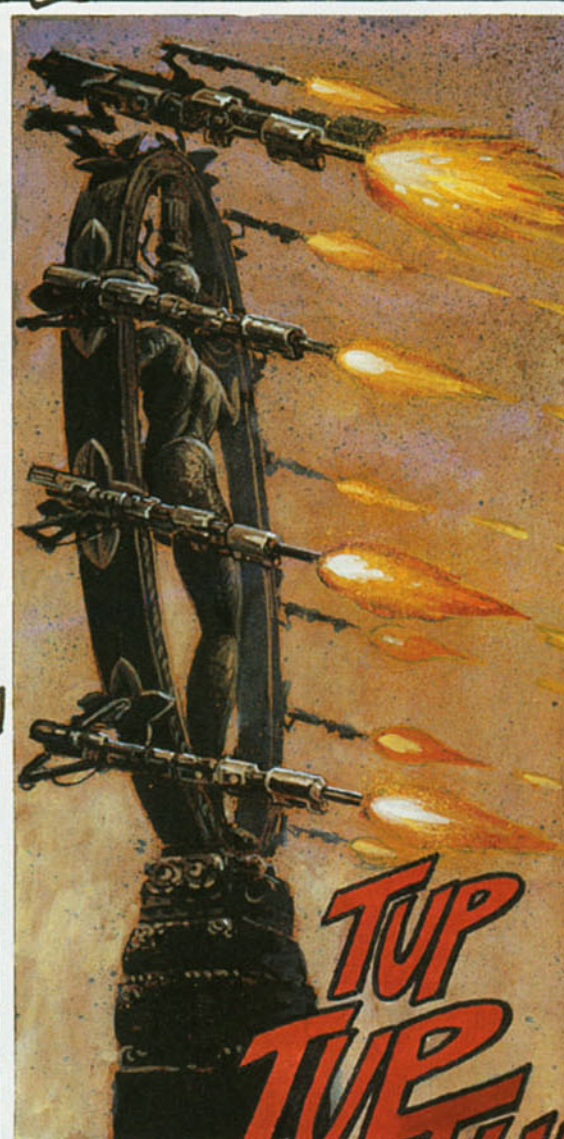
THEY'RE FIRING FROM EVERYWHERE! KILLER ASSASSAINTS!

SH... SHIVA, HOLY PROTECTOR, I WORSHIP YOU. SAVE US FROM THIS BARRIAGE OF FIRE!

GAIN ALTITUDE! WE'RE ABANDONING ALL PROTOCOL! HEAD STRAIGHT TO LEVEL 6!! GO FOR IT!

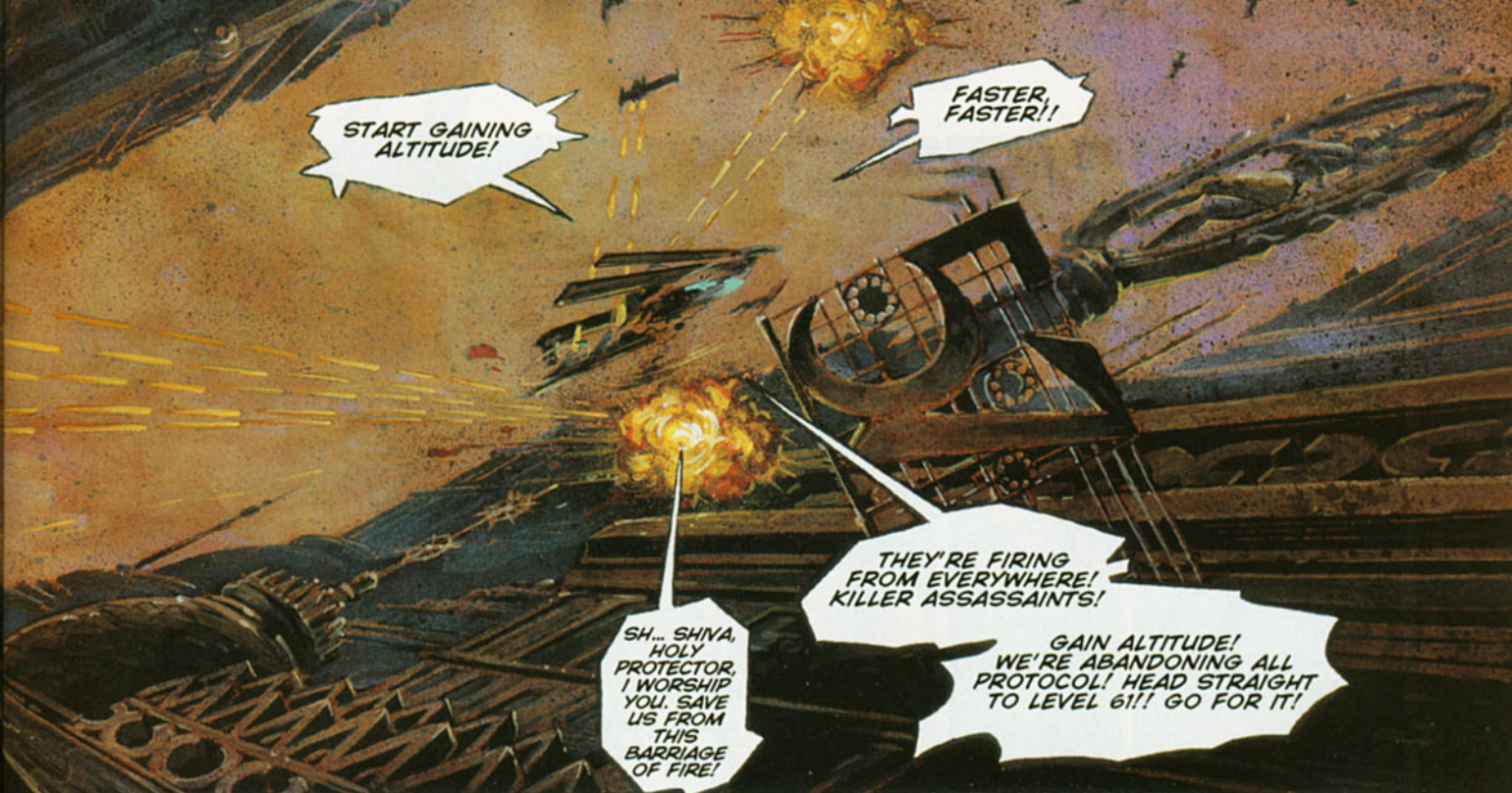


EYH, SHIT... RIGHT REAR ENGINE IS DOWN!



TUP
TUP
TUP

EYH, SHIT... RIGHT REAR ENGINE IS DOWN!



START GAINING
ALTITUDE!

FASTER,
FASTER!!

THEY'RE FIRING
FROM EVERYWHERE!
KILLER ASSASSAINTS!

SH... SHIVA,
HOLY
PROTECTOR,
I WORSHIP
YOU. SAVE
US FROM
THIS
BARRAGE
OF FIRE!

GAIN ALTITUDE!
WE'RE ABANDONING ALL
PROTOCOL! HEAD STRAIGHT
TO LEVEL 6!!! GO FOR IT!



EYH, SHIT...
RIGHT
REAR
ENGINE IS
DOWN!



EYH,
SHIT...
RIGHT
REAR
ENGINE
IS
DOWN!





171



GOZZZ



BLAM BLAM BLAM



TAK TAK TAK TAK TAK TAK



WE'LL NEVER MAKE IT THROUGH THIS WALL OF FIRE! WE'RE ABORTING! GO BACK DOWN, AND WE'LL ATTACK FROM THE GROUND!

999!!



NO! WE'RE ABORTING NOTHING!

SHIT, YIU, WE'RE GONNA CRASH!

WE HAVE NO MORE THRUST. WE HAVE TO ABORT.



WE'VE GOTTA GET OUT OF THIS TRAP! WE CAN'T GO ON!!

HEAD OUT AS FAR AS POSSIBLE AND LAND ON THE PERI-METER!

THAT'S AN ORDER!!





NEGATIVE! I GIVE THE ORDERS! WE'RE NOT ABORTING! WE'LL CARRY ON WITH THIS GODDAMN MISSION!!



DIRECT APPROACH!! TURN ROUND AND CARRY ON! WE CAN STILL CRASH THE BI-PLANE INTO THE FORTRESS!!

I'M AT 700 FEET! UNSTABLE...



WHAT??

STRAIGHT AHEAD!! ASSASSAINT CANNONS!!! FIVE BI-KILLERS!



YIU! THIS IS MADNESS!

I CAME HERE TO THIS HELL-HOLE TO DO SOMETHING SPECIFIC...



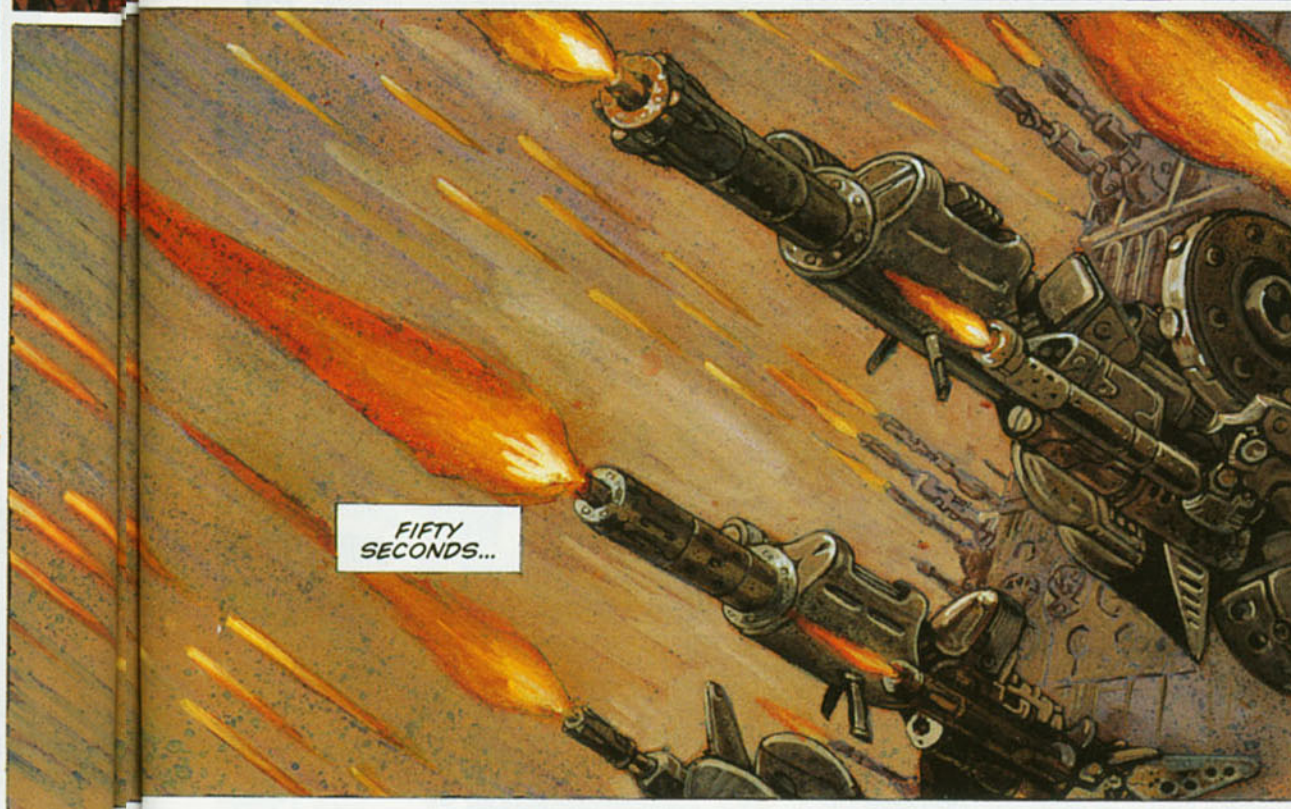
AND I WON'T LEAVE UNTIL I'VE DONE IT!

WE'RE CRASHING INTO THE TARGET SECTOR!



YIU! THIS IS SUICIDAL! GET OUT!!

WE WON'T LAND ANYWHERE ELSE!! WE'VE BEEN DUMPED! AS FAR AS THE HIGH CLERGY IS CONCERNED, WE'RE ALREADY DEAD, SO WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES IT MAKE? WE HAVE TO HANG IN THERE FOR ONE MORE MINUTE! I'M ONLY ASKING FOR ONE MINUTE FROM THIS VENOM-CLASS FUCKER! STRAIGHT AHEAD!



FIFTY SECONDS...



FORTY...



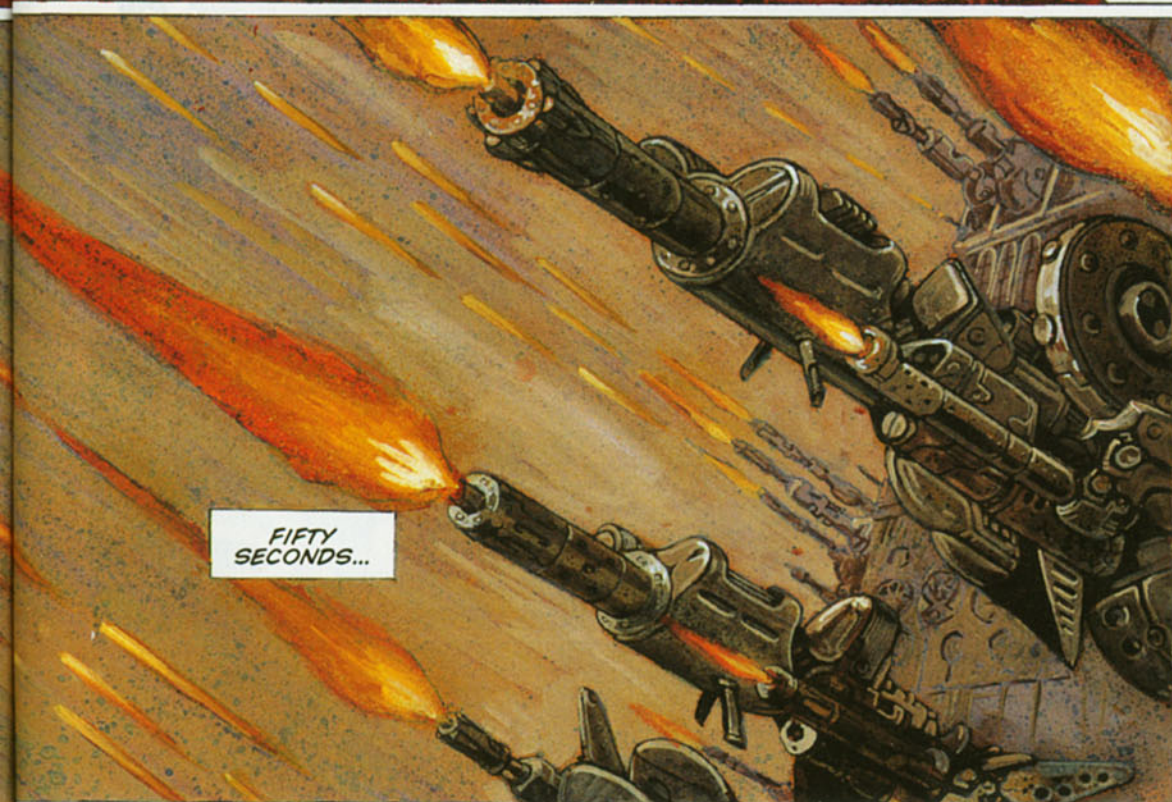
DIRECT APPROACH!!
TURN ROUND AND
CARRY ON! WE CAN
STILL CRASH THE BI-
PLANE INTO THE
FORTRESS!!

I'M AT 700 FEET!
UNSTABLE...



YIU! THIS IS
SUICIDAL!
GET OUT!!

WE WON'T LAND ANY-
WHERE ELSE!! WE'VE BEEN
DUMPED! AS FAR AS
THE HIGH CLERGY IS CONCERNED,
WE'RE ALREADY DEAD, SO WHAT
DIFFERENCE DOES IT MAKE? WE
HAVE TO HANG IN THERE FOR ONE
MORE MINUTE! I'M ONLY ASKING
FOR ONE MINUTE FROM THIS
VENOM-CLASS FUCKER!
STRAIGHT AHEAD!

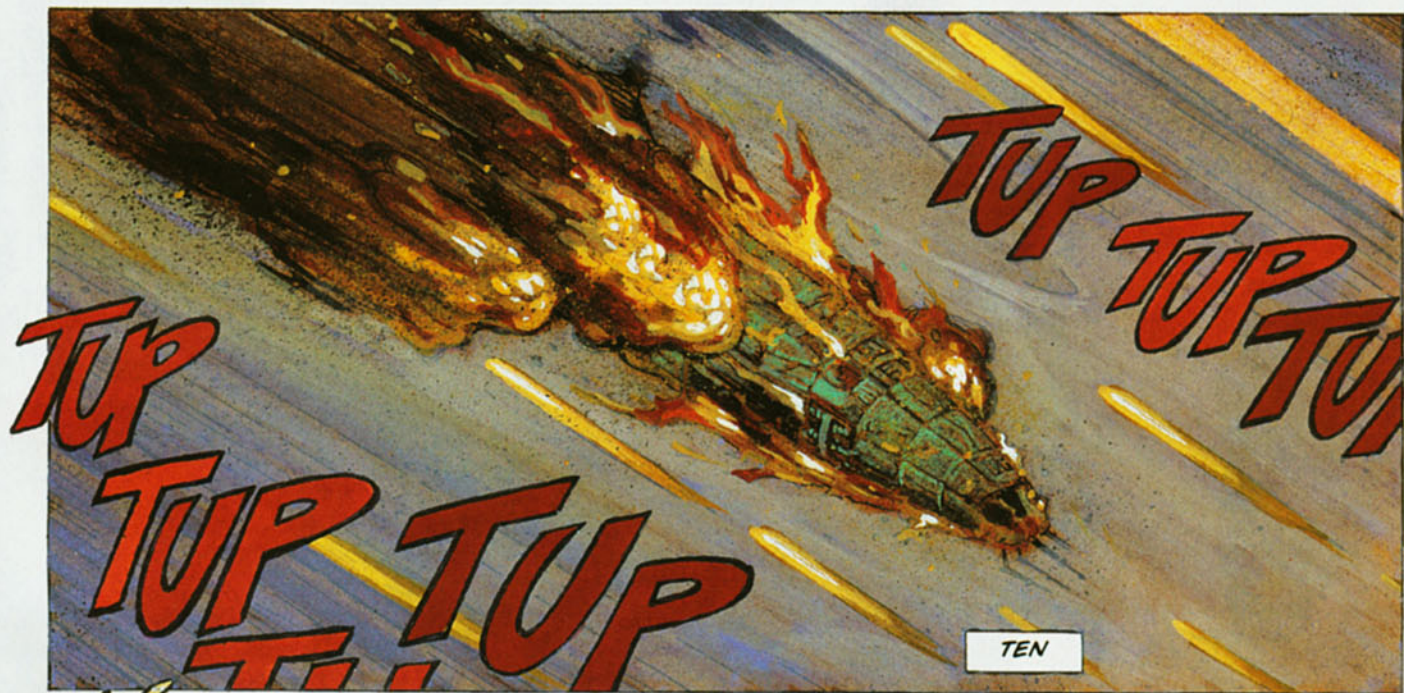


FIFTY
SECONDS...



FORTY...





ALMOST
THERE!!

SEVEN



ONE...
DOSE! ONE
DOSE!

ONE



ШРЗК



CHROK





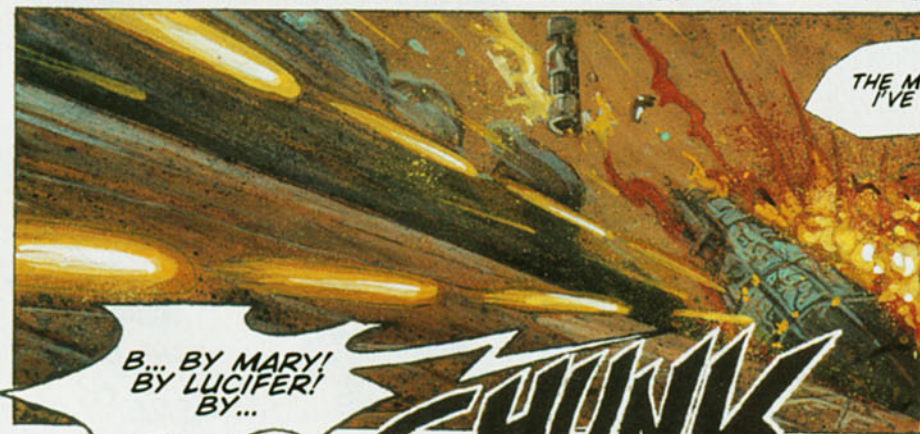


HEAVY FIRE
FROM THE
REAR!!!

TUP
TUPTUP
TUP

TUP

FRSL



B... BY MARY!
BY LUCIFER!
BY...

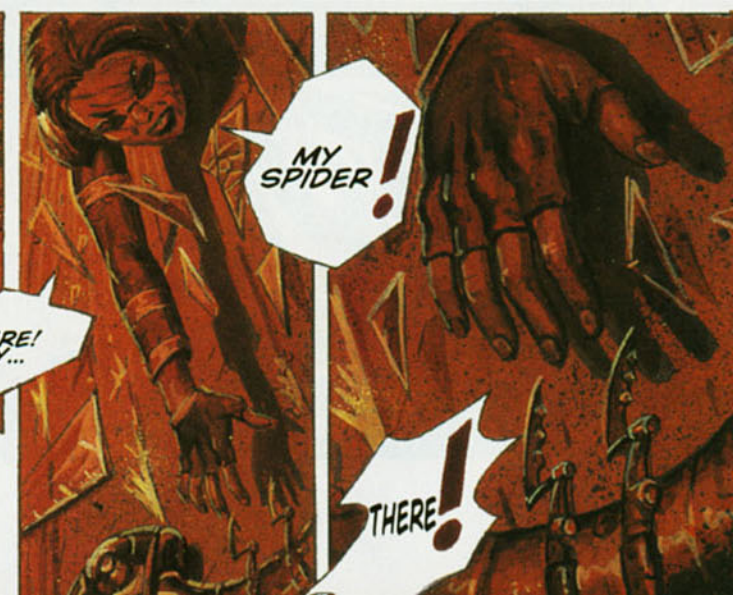
CHUNK



THE MORPHINE!
I'VE GOT IT!

MY
ARM!

SHOOT
UP...
SHOOT...





THERE'S
A
FINGER
HERE!
SOMEONE'S....



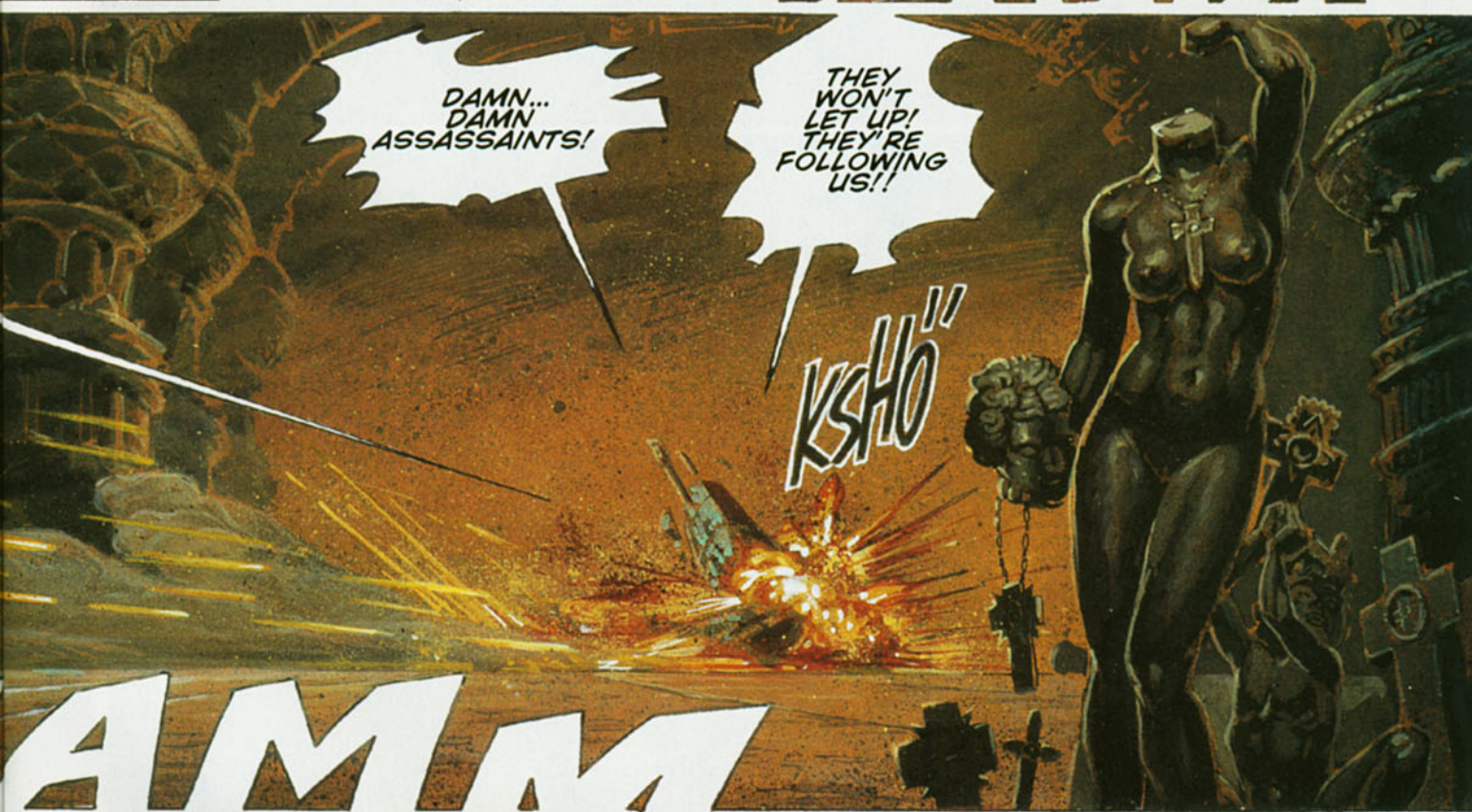
SOMEONE'S
LOST A
F...



TUP
TUP
TUP

EHHH...

CRASH



DAMN...
DAMN
ASSASSAINTS!

THEY
WON'T
LET UP!
THEY'RE
FOLLOWING
US!!

KSHO"

AMM



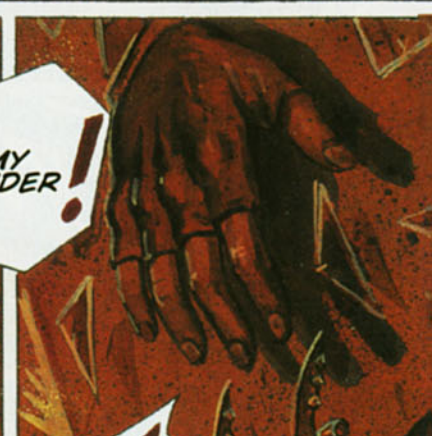
SKK

THERE!
MY...

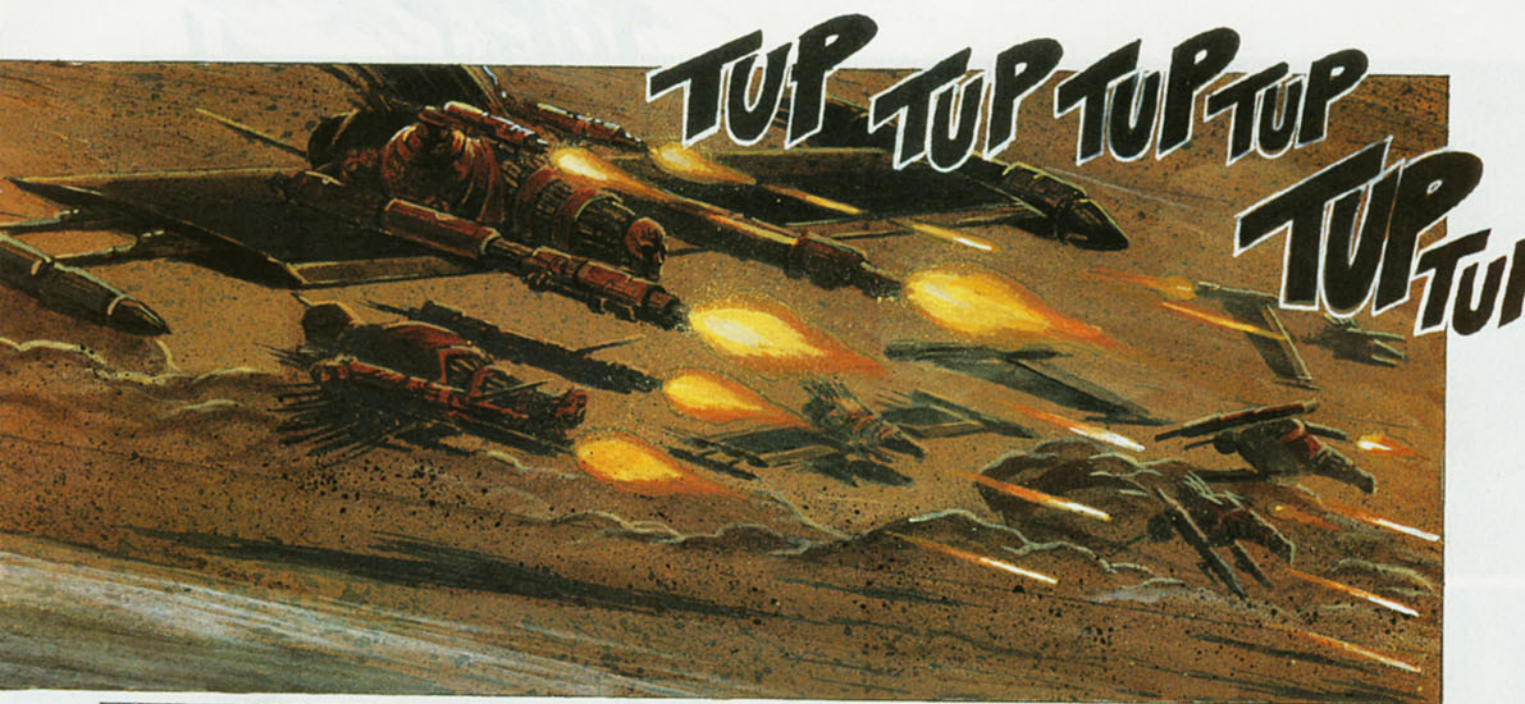
179 - 180



MY
SPIDER!



THERE!



FAK FAK



**DIE!
BITCH!
DIE!**

TUP TUP TUP TUP TUP

DIE!!



THERE!



DIE...

**TUP TUP
TUP TUP TUP**

**LOCK AND
LOAD!**



**SPIDER,
ATTACK MODE!**



CLIC

**LISTEN UP
EVERYONE!
START CLEANUP
OPERATION
THEN
REGROUP**

**GO FOR
IT!**

SHLAK



AH, FINALLY...

FFRRRR



??!
THEY
BREACHED
THE
FORTRESS!

??

CLOSE IN
ON THE
TARGET



THEY'VE PROFANED
IT!

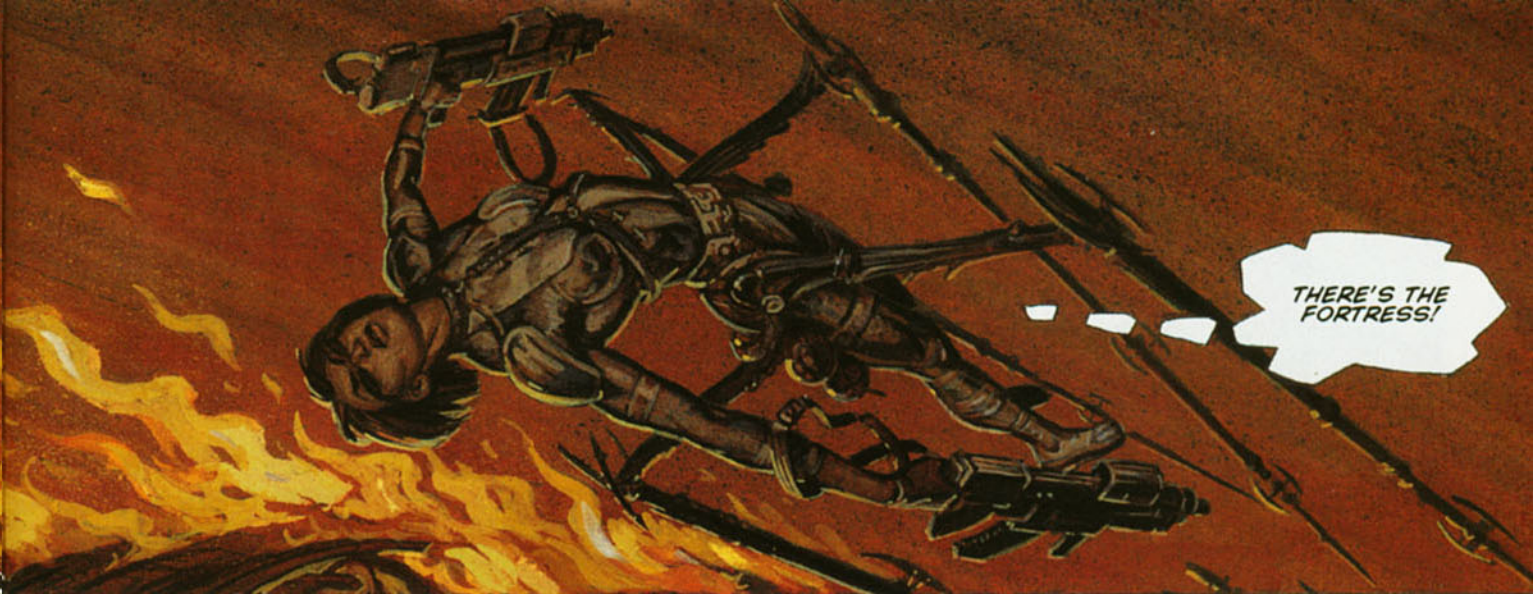
THAT'S BLASPHEMY
AGAINST OUR HOLY
TERRITORY!

GUARDS!!





AH, FINALLY...



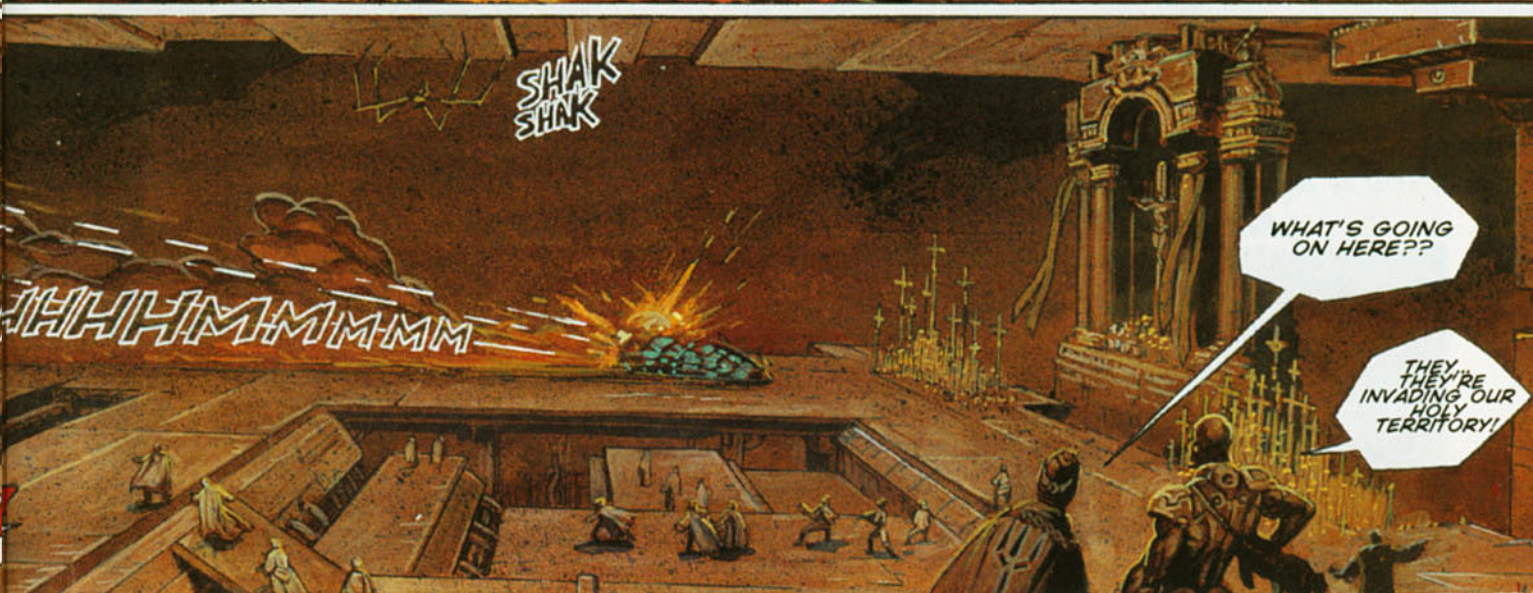
THERE'S THE
FORTRESS!



??!
THEY
BREACHED
THE
FORTRESS!

??

CLOSE IN
ON THE
TARGET



WHAT'S GOING
ON HERE??

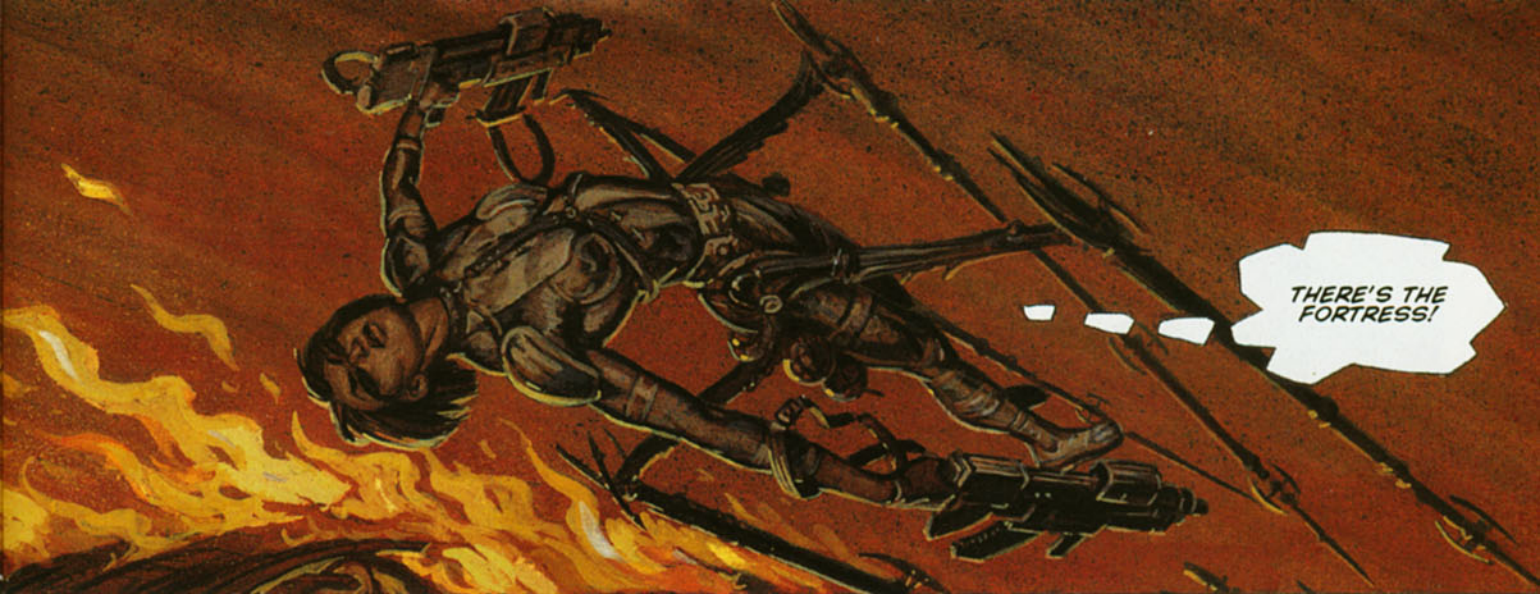
THEY
THEY'RE
INVADING OUR
TERRITORY!



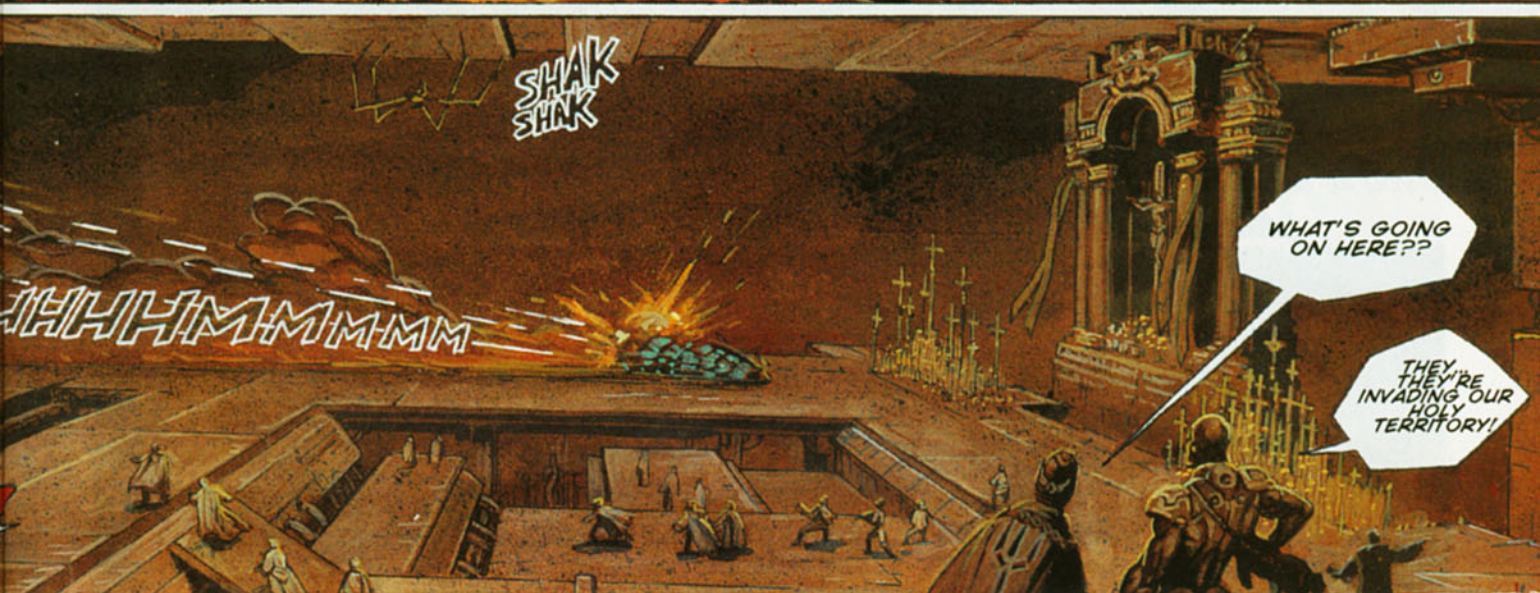
THAT'S BLASPHEMY
AGAINST OUR HOLY
TERRITORY!

GUARDS!!





THERE'S THE
FORTRESS!



WHAT'S GOING
ON HERE??

THEY'RE
INVADING OUR
HOLY
TERRITORY!



GET RID
OF THE
INTRUDERS!





HEY, ETHIOPIAN,
YOUR MOVE!

MOVE IT!



OUT!

J. WILLIAM!
YOU'RE ON!



CRASH



SENSO-DIRECT
GRAPNELS!



FAK

FAK



BLAM
BLAM



SLA



SHOK



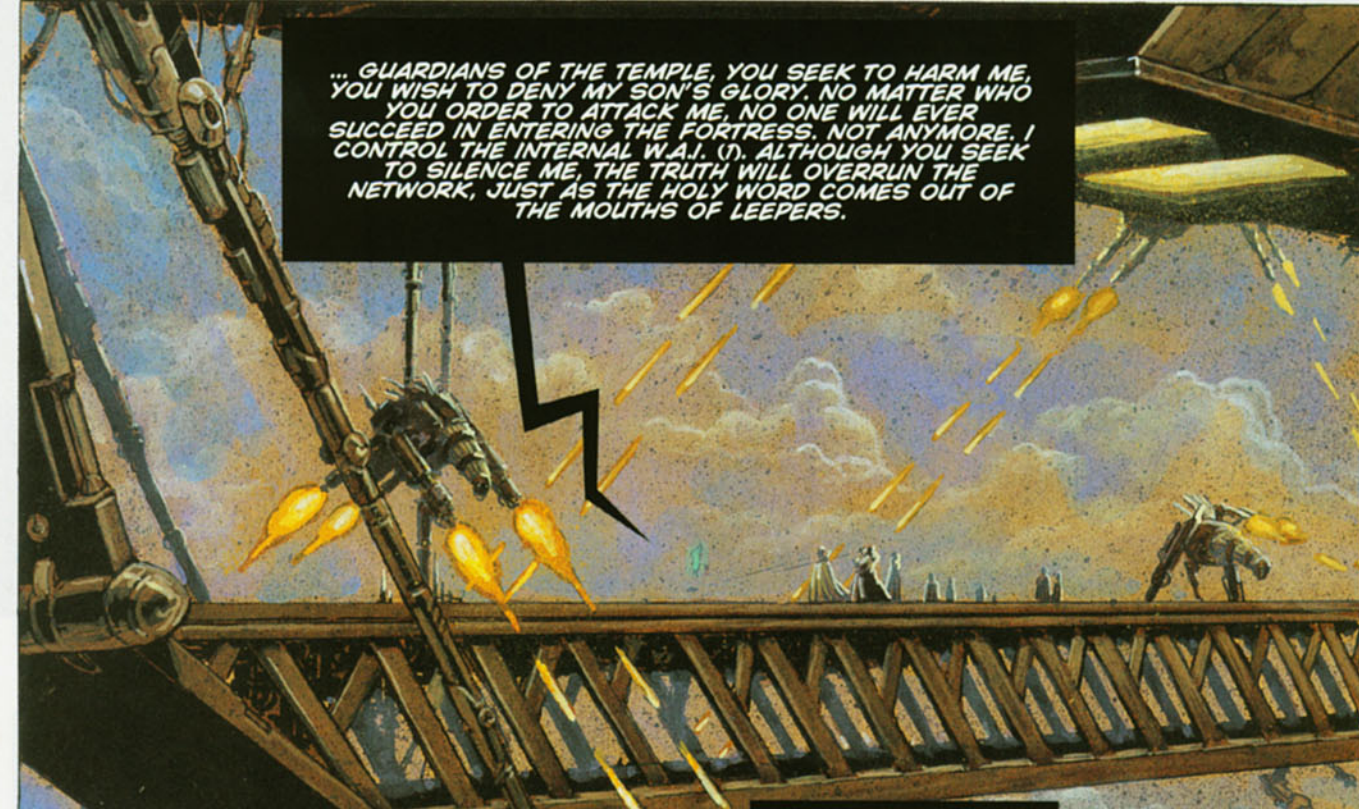
7:42 E.S.T.

MEANWHILE...

... ON THE VENTRAL
PLATFORM OF THE
MOTHER CHOPPER...

LET ME VIEW
THOSE LAST
IMAGES
AGAIN.

THE VERY LAST
ONES.




... GUARDIANS OF THE TEMPLE, YOU SEEK TO HARM ME, YOU WISH TO DENY MY SON'S GLORY. NO MATTER WHO YOU ORDER TO ATTACK ME, NO ONE WILL EVER SUCCEED IN ENTERING THE FORTRESS. NOT ANYMORE. I CONTROL THE INTERNAL W.A.I. (1). ALTHOUGH YOU SEEK TO SILENCE ME, THE TRUTH WILL OVERRUN THE NETWORK, JUST AS THE HOLY WORD COMES OUT OF THE MOUTHS OF LEEPER.



ALL ATTEMPTS TO ATTACK THE BEAST WILL BE VAIN AND COUNTERPRODUCTIVE.


I'M IN FULL CONTROL NOW, FROM THE W.A.I. ASSASSINANTS OF THE ECUMENICAL FORTRESS TO THE LOST FOLK OF THE LOW TOWN.



YOU HAVE SEEN DEATH EMBRACE ME.

I AM DEAD AND OMNIPRESENT... JUST LIKE GOD.

I AM FULFILLMENT. I AM THE BEAST'S GENETIC FATHER. MY NATURE WILL GIVE BIRTH TO FINAL CHAOS. THE PROMISED ARMAGEDDON.



I AM THE ONE WHO GIVES MEANING TO THE SCRIPTURES.

THE MOST INACCESSIBLE ENEMY IS A DEAD ENEMY, AND THAT IS WHAT I AM. INVIOLEABLE. INDESTRUCTABLE. THE WORLD IS ON THE BRINK OF ITS OWN GRAVE. FOR VERILY I SAY UNTO YOU, NO ONE CAN CONTROL THE ANTI

NO

(1) W.A.I. = WARRIOR ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE.

THAT NAME MUST NOT BE UTTERED!! IMPLORE, FATHER, WE IMPLORE YOUR FORGIVENESS! INVOKING THE BEAST OFFENDS YOUR HOLY CREATION, AMEN, AMEN, AMEN...

ALLAH, ALLAH, OH ALLAH, WASH OUR MOUTHS OF THEIR PUTRID MARKS, DRIVE OUT THE SPIRITS, THE FALSE GODS AND THE FALSE PROPHETS, OH ALLAH SUPREME FATHER...

EVERY SIX HOURS, MY MOUTH WILL DICTATE UNTO YOU THE EVENTS THAT WILL COME TO PASS IN THE FUTURE.

SO BE IT.

SHHH

MY BROTHERS...

THIS MESSAGE WILL CIRCULATE THROUGH ALL THE EXTERNAL CIRCUITS. IT WILL REACH THE MASSES. THERE WILL BE SUCH TENSION THAT SOON PANIC WILL...

THE PROPHETS HAVE ALWAYS MADE IT CLEAR THAT THE COMING OF GOD'S KINGDOM WILL BE PRECEDED BY HEAVY COMBAT BETWEEN THE ARMIES OF CHRIST AND THE POWERS OF DARKNESS...

THE POWERS OF DARKNESS ARE BEFORE US! THEY ARE READY...

THAT'S ENOUGH, HOLY SISTER! CONTACT ANTON SHARMANN SHEL NOW! HE WILL KNOW WHICH SACRIFICES ARE NECESSARY!

ANTON SHARMANN SHEL HIMSELF??

YOU MUST CONVINCE HIM THAT THE INTERVENTION OF OUR COMMANDO IS NECESSARY AND THAT YIU IS OUR LAST RESORT...

...AND LET'S HOPE THAT OUR LITTLE SCHEME WILL DIVERT HIS ATTENTION FOR AS LONG AS NECESSARY!

GODDAMN
BITCH!!

REINFORCEMENTS!
NOW! HURRY UP!!

I SAID
HURRY!
WE'RE
OUTFLANKED!

OUCH!

BIAM
BIAM

SACRILEGE!!

ANNIHILATE THEM! THEY'RE
THREATENING THE HARMONY
OF THE GENO-HOPE!

OVER THERE!
NEAR THE BI-
BLADE! FOUR
MEN!!

KILL!
KILL!

TUP
TUP

KILL...

SWIIING

TUP
TUP

J. WILLIAM!! GET OUTTA
THERE! RIGHT FLANK, HURRY UP!!
WE'RE GOING IN! FOLLOW ME!
COME ON! COME ON!

ROGER!



THE ETHIOPIAN,
YOU'RE ON NEXT!
I'LL COVER YOU!



WHAT A HELL
OF A DAY...
I LOVE MY
JOB!

SPIDER!
SENSO-
DIRECT
MODE!



FRASH

FRASH

NOW!!



WELL DONE,
MY LOVELY!



KCH

NO MORE
HEALTHY
ASSASS-
AINTS!!
HOW MANY
MEN LEFT?!

KKH
KKH



I DON'T
KNOW!! TAKE
COVER!! NOW!
HERE!!

HERE!

SHIT!
LOOK
AT
YIU!



SHE'S
GONE
MAD!!

SHAIIT!
LEG WOUND!
ENGAGE
REPAIR!



SHE'S ONE
CRAZY
ASSASSIN!



THERE! THERE SHE IS!!
REINFORCEMENTS!
HURRY! KILL THAT D...
DEVIL...

SHAK

BLAM
BLAM

SHAAK

STRAIGHT
AHEAD...
I... I SEE
HER!

HUMF

FIRE!
FIRE!



BLAM
BLAM

SHIT!
SHIT!

FUCKIN'
VIRGIN! I
WAS GONNA
GET HER!
WHERE DID
SHE GO?!

WHERE
THE FUCK
IS SHE!



B...
BEHIND...

HERE...

A SICKO IN
A WORLD
OF
SICKOS...

SHEEK



THE BATTLE...

THIS SHIT... HER
ELEMENT...

HUMPF
HUMPF

WHO... WANTS
SOME?

ANYONE ELSE??



IT'S HER ELEMENT...

YIU YIU! STOP IT!
GOOD GOD!!

ANSWER ME...
WHO?

BLAM
BLAM

BLAM
BLAM

IT'S ALL
OVER, YIU!
STOP!!

THEY'RE
ALL...

STOP, YIU...
THEY'RE ALL...

HUMFF
HUMFF

TAP
TAP
TAP

KAIIIIIIII

SOMEONE'S
RUNNING
AWAY!
OVER
THERE!

SHAAA

OUCH!

IT'S NO USE,
YIU! LEAVE IT!
LET'S CLEAR
OUT!

THAT'S OKAY, GUYS! I KNOW WHAT
I HAVE TO FINISH.

HUMFF
PTIE

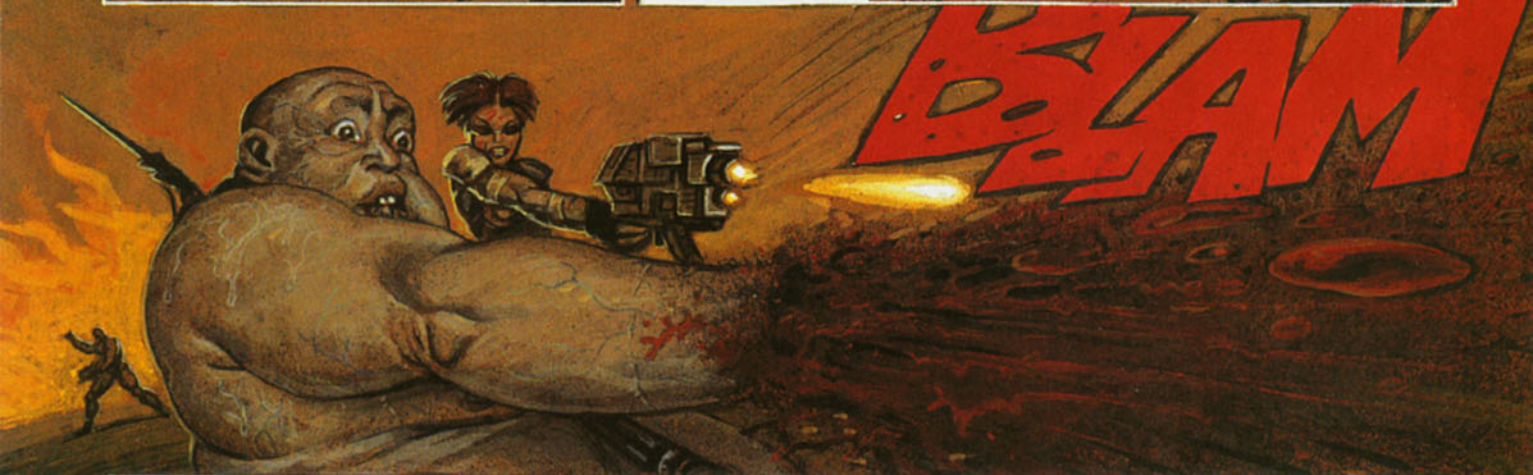
I...

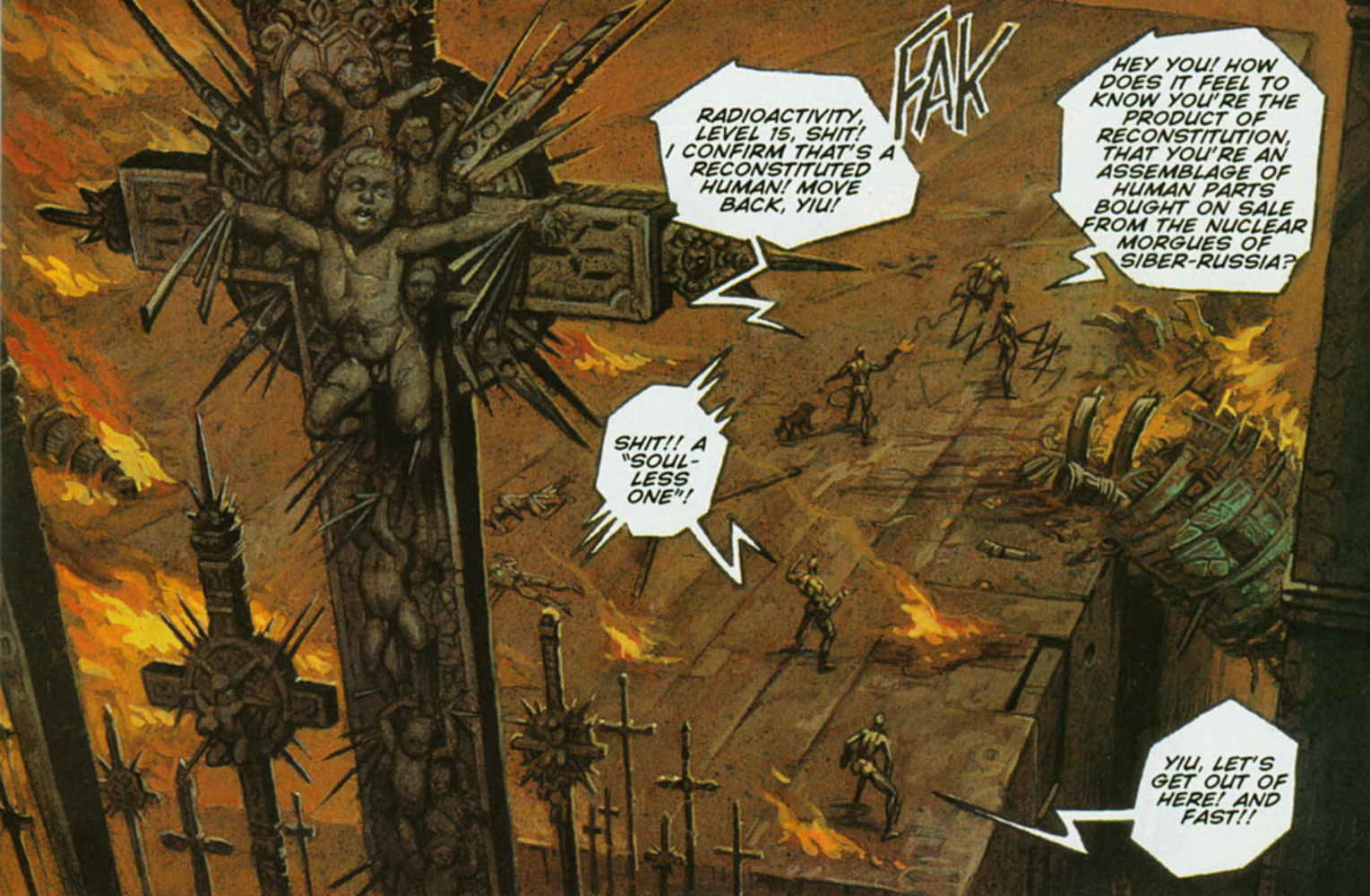
I BEG OF
YOU...

SHIT! MY LEG!
DAMN IT!
J. WILLIAM, GIVE
ME TWO BIO-
SUTURES!

YIU...
FIFTH
FINGER OF
YOUR LEFT
HAND.
SUTURE.
HEMORRHAGE
MUST BE
STOPPED.

THANKS.





FAK

RADIOACTIVITY,
LEVEL 15, SHIT!
I CONFIRM THAT'S A
RECONSTITUTED
HUMAN! MOVE
BACK, YIU!

HEY YOU! HOW
DOES IT FEEL TO
KNOW YOU'RE THE
PRODUCT OF
RECONSTITUTION,
THAT YOU'RE AN
ASSEMBLAGE OF
HUMAN PARTS
BOUGHT ON SALE
FROM THE NUCLEAR
MORGUES OF
SIBER-RUSSIA?

SHIT!! A
"SOUL-
LESS
ONE!"

YIU, LET'S
GET OUT OF
HERE! AND
FAST!!



IS THERE
ANYTHING HUMAN
LEFT IN YOUR
DIRTY RADIOACTIVE
BRAIN?? TRUE
RAGE IS HUMAN,
D'YA HEAR ME?!



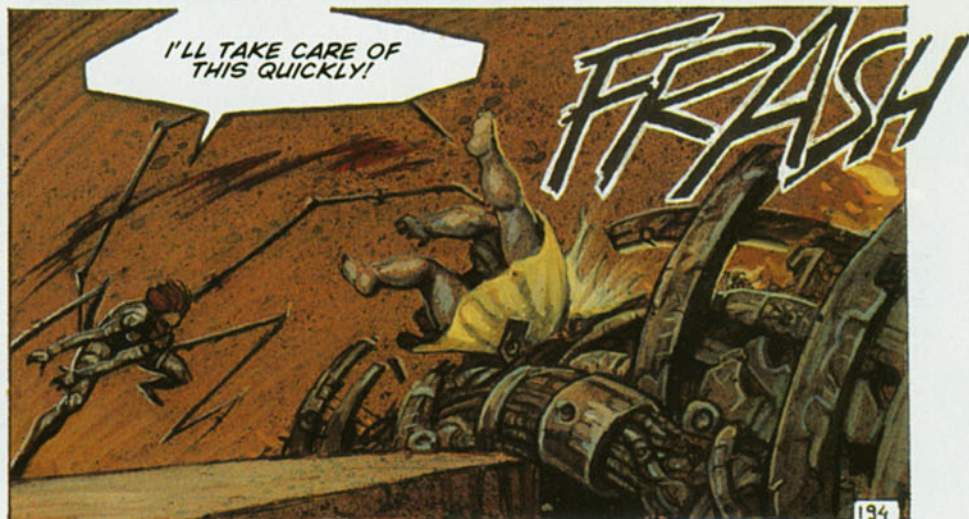
TRUE RAGE
IS HUMAN!



GUARD THE ENTRANCES. THIS
WAS JUST THE FIRST ASSAULT.
THEY HAD TO IMPROVISE. THE
NEXT ONE WILL BE BETTER
PLANNED!

LET'S
GO, YIU.
HE WON'T
SAY
ANYTHING
ELSE!

OH, YES,
HE'LL TALK!
I PROMISE!



I'LL TAKE CARE OF
THIS QUICKLY!

FRASH

CRR

CRR
RR
K

CR
R
R
CRRR

FAK FAK

I KNOW WHAT YOU ARE. I KNOW ALL ABOUT YOUR SORT...

KUMCH
HUMCH

I KNOW YOU FEEL FEAR...
I KNOW THAT YOU FEEL PAIN...

SHUT UP,
LISTEN, THEN
ANSWER
ME!!

YOUR BRAIN IS
KEPT ALIVE BY
IMPLANTS FROM
YOUR DAMN
CHURCH. YOU'RE
SATURATED WITH
INFO-SERMONS
FROM ECUM-NET...
BUT YOU'VE ALSO
GOT ACCESS TO
THE COLLECTORS.
I KNOW THAT.

SO WHAT THE
HELL HAPPENED
TO THE SACRED
CONSENSUS???

P...
PLEASE

SO
START
TALKING!

WHO CONTROLS THE
W.A.I.??! WHERE IS
THE CREATURE KNOWN
AS THE BEAST?
WHERE??!

PLEASE...
BELIEVE
ME... I DON'T
HAVE
ACCESS TO
THAT
SOURCE...

HOW... HOW CAN I
TELL YOU SOME-
THING THAT I...
I DON'T KNOW MYSELF?!

TUP
TUP

TUP
TUP
195

DAMN IT!... THEIR
REINFORCEMENTS
HAVE ARRIVED!

THERE'S
THE SECOND
SQUADRON OF
ASSASSINANTS!

SHIT, YII, TIME TO GET OUT OF
HERE! NOW!! WE'RE IN ENOUGH
TROUBLE ALREADY, DON'T YOU THINK?!!

NO, I DON'T.

HAVE... M... MERCY... BY THE
COVENANTS OF ETERNAL PEACE
AMONG ALL CREATURES... DON'T...
DON'T... HURT ME...

BY ALL
THE
TREATIES...
FOR THE
LOVE OF...

DIE!!!!

CRASH

**CLINK
CHAM**

TRUE
RAGE IS
HUMAN,
HUH...

**TUP
TUP
TUP**

**TUP
TUP
TUP**

**TUP
TUP
TUP**

**TUP
TUP
TUP**

**TUP
TUP
TUP**

TUP
TUP
TU



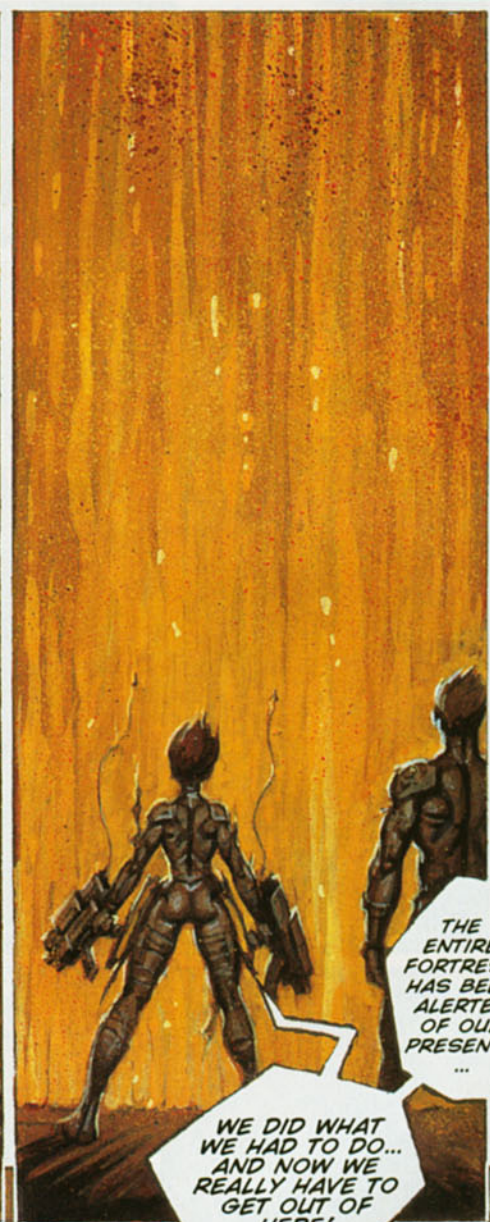
THE
ENTIRE
FORTRESS
HAS BEEN
ALERTED
OF OUR
PRESENCE
...

WE DID WHAT
WE HAD TO DO...
AND NOW WE
REALLY HAVE TO
GET OUT OF
HERE!



TUP
TUP
TU

FRASH



THE
ENTIRE
FORTRESS
HAS BEEN
ALERTED
OF OUR
PRESENCE
...

WE DID WHAT
WE HAD TO DO...
AND NOW WE
REALLY HAVE TO
GET OUT OF
HERE!

FROM
THE VERY
DEEPEST...
LIKE A CALL...

... RIGHT
TO THE
TARGET
ITSELF, I'M
SURE.

J.
WILLIAM,
E. GELLAR
AND
DEATH!
LET'S GO!
HURRY!
LEVEL 66,
PALEO-
FASCIST
SECTION!

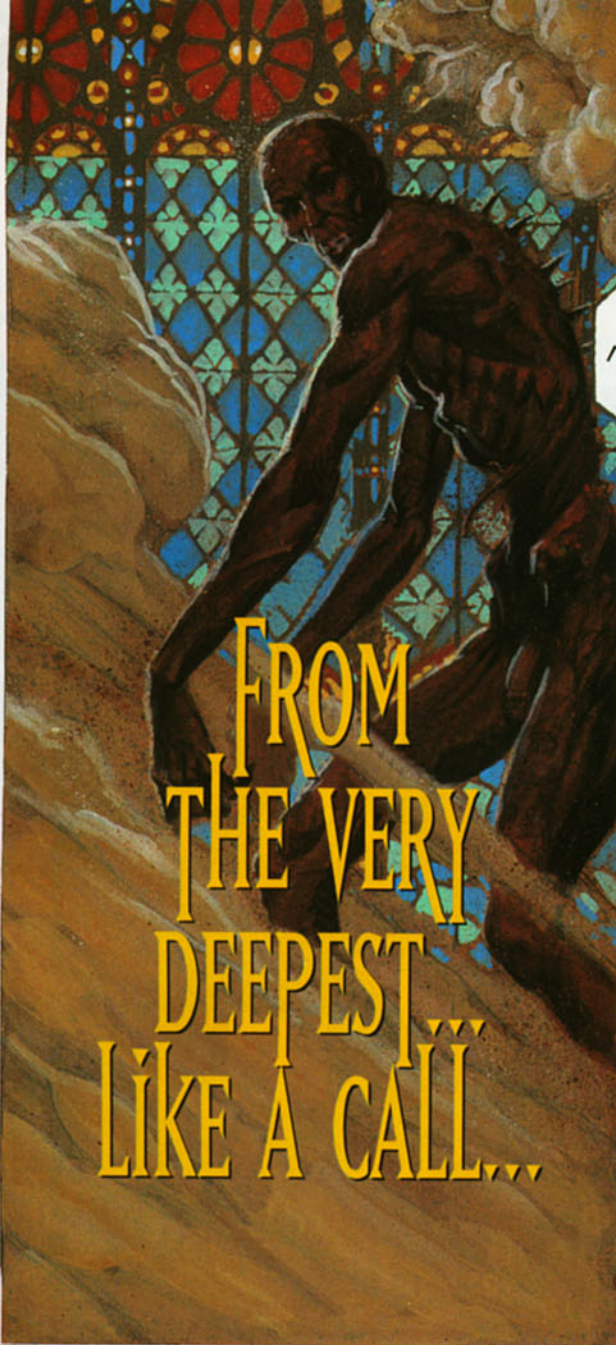
WE DON'T
GIVE A
DAMN ABOUT
THE REST.
D'YOU HEAR
ME?!!

THE
CALL OF
HATE...

LOCATING THE
TARGET...

ELIMINATE HER.
BLEED HER.
THAT'S ALL.

... THE FUCKING
GOD HUNT IS
STARTING.




FROM
THE VERY
DEEPEST...
LIKE A CALL...

... RIGHT
TO THE
TARGET
ITSELF, I'M
SURE.

J.
WILLIAM,
E. GELLAR
AND
DEATH!
LET'S GO!
HURRY!
LEVEL 66,
PALEO-
FASCIST
SECTION!!

WE DON'T
GIVE A
DAMN ABOUT
THE REST,
D'YOU HEAR
ME?!!



THE
CALL OF
HATE...



LOCATING THE
TARGET...

ELIMINATE HER.
BLEED HER.
THAT'S ALL.

... THE FUCKING
GOD HUNT IS
STARTING.

FEATURED IN THIS ISSUE:

YIU #3: ASSASSAINTS

BY TEHY, GUENET AND J.M. VEE

PLUS ALFONSO AZPIRI IN

DEMON WINDS 2



CHROK

Art from "Yiu #3: Assassaints"
by Tehy, Guenet, and J.M. Vee