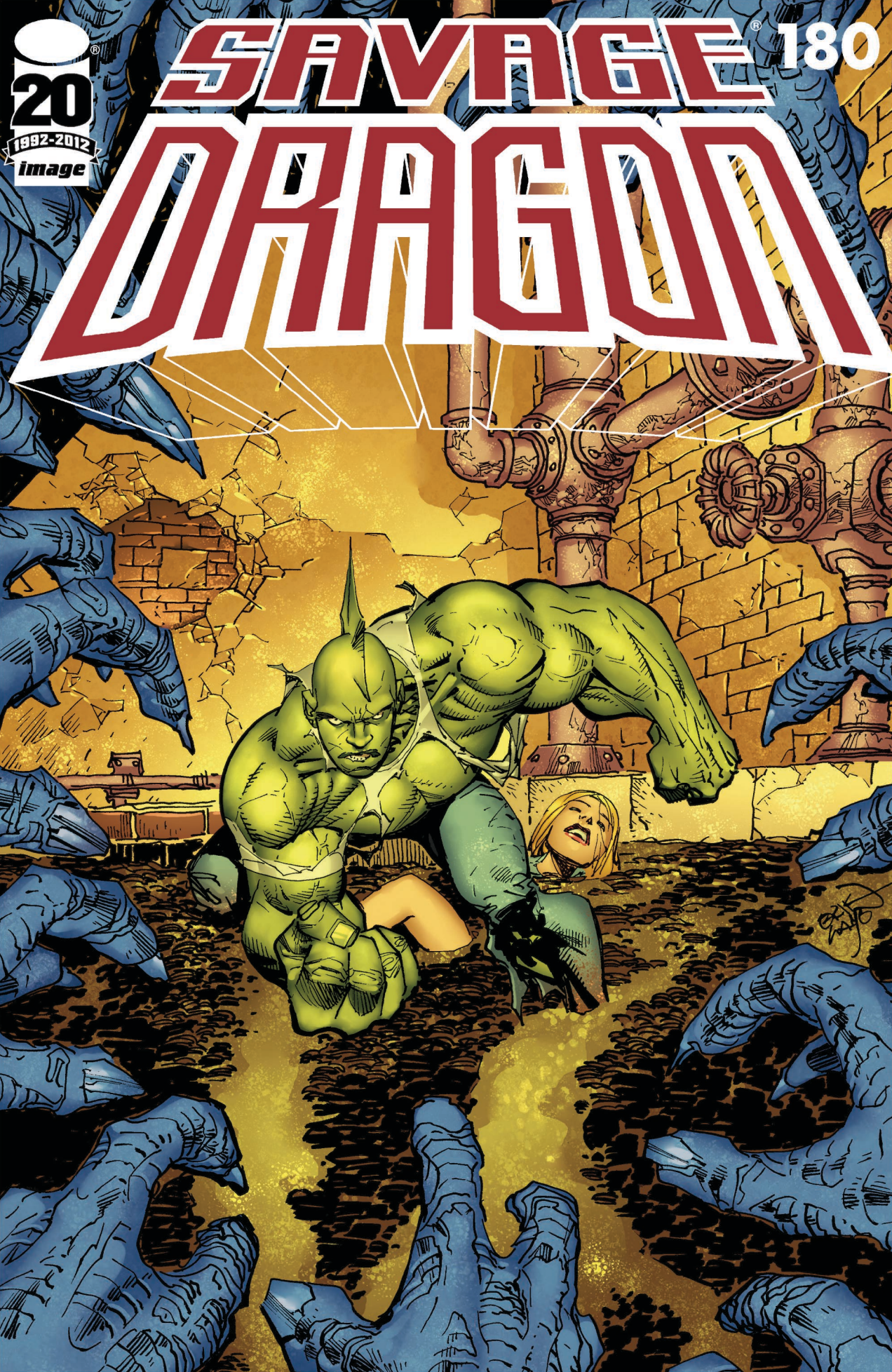



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**SAVAGE** 180

# **DRAGON**



# SAVAGE DRAGON

by 

**TOM ORZECHOWSKI**  
Letters

**NIKOS KOUTSIS**  
Colors  
**MIKE TORIS**  
Flats

**JOSH EICHORN**

**A monkey wearing a tuxedo made out of bacon riding a cyborg unicorn with a light saber for a horn on the tip of a space shuttle closing in on Mars while engulfed in flames.**

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# SAVAGE DRAGON™

# THE WAY IT MUST BE



**ERIK LARSEN**  
*PERPETRATOR*

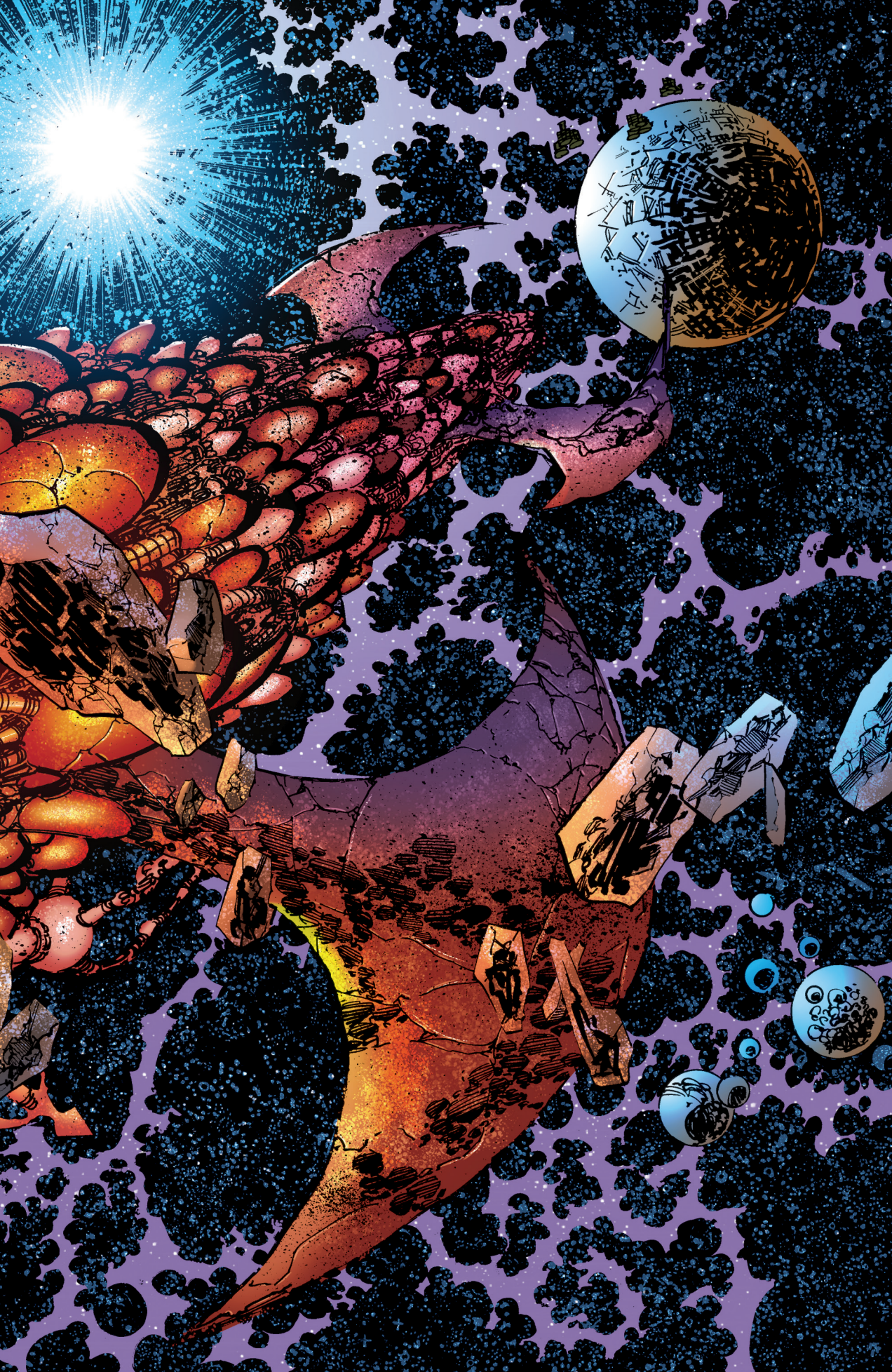
**TOM ORZECOWSKI**  
*LETTERER*

**NIKOS & MIKE  
KOUTSIS & TORIS**  
*COLORISTS*

WE--

--WE  
CAN'T  
DO  
THAT.





SINCE WHEN DID THIS BECOME A DEMOCRACY? I SEEM TO RECALL THAT I WAS IN CHARGE.

AND THAT BEING THE CASE-- I THINK I'M GOING TO BE THE GUY TO MAKE THE DECISIONS AROUND HERE-- EVEN IF YOU AREN'T SO CRAZY ABOUT THEM.

THESE ARE VICIOUS, NASTY CREATURES HELL BENT ON ENSLAVING OR DESTROYING EVERYTHING IN THEIR PATH. THEY SLAUGHTERED VANGUARD'S PEOPLE AND TOOK HIS HOME PLANET AND I AIM TO RETURN THE FAVOR.

BUT... BUT FATHER, YOU CAN'T! THOSE ARE LIVING BEINGS JUST LIKE US. YOU CAN'T JUST KILL THEM!

WATCH ME.

THOSE BASTARDS ARE CRAWLING ALL OVER EARTH-- KILLING EVERYTHING AND EVERYBODY. WE'RE TOO FAR AWAY TO SAVE THEM BUT WE CAN MAKE DAMNED WELL SURE THEY DONT DO IT AGAIN.

WE CAN'T KILL THEM. WE CAN'T! OUR LAWS FORBID IT! OUR BELIEFS-- OUR RELIGION-- EVERYTHING WE BELIEVE IN-- EVERYTHING THAT IS DEAR TO US.

WE ARE A PEACEFUL RACE!

WE CAN'T DO WHAT YOU ASK!

THERE MUST BE ANOTHER SOLUTION, SIRE. WE UNDERSTAND YOUR FEELINGS... BUT THAT DOESN'T EXCUSE COLD-BLOODED MURDER!

SURE IT DOES.

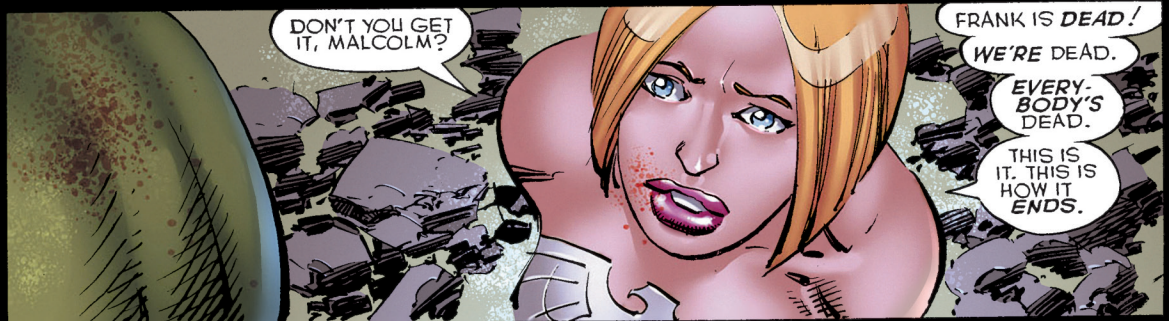
I THINK HE'S SERIOUS.



YOU CAN'T BE SERIOUS.

WE'RE IN THE MIDDLE OF A WAR ZONE! ALIENS ARE ATTACKING EARTH!

AND WHAT ABOUT FRANK? I THOUGHT YOU WERE GOING OUT WITH HIM. HOW DO YOU THINK HE'D FEEL ABOUT YOU SLEEPING WITH ME?



DON'T YOU GET IT, MALCOLM?

FRANK IS DEAD!

WE'RE DEAD.

EVERY-BODY'S DEAD.

THIS IS IT. THIS IS HOW IT ENDS.



NO WAY. I CAN'T ACCEPT THAT.

I CAN'T GIVE UP. I CAN'T.

AND I CAN'T JUST LET IT FALL APART-- NOT WITHOUT DOING EVERYTHING I CAN TO KEEP THAT FROM HAPPENING. I'M NOT GOING TO DIE THINKING I COULD HAVE DONE SOMETHING AND I DIDN'T TRY!



YOU AND I HAVE SUPERPOWERS, ANGEL. WE CAN FIGHT THESE GUYS.

WE TRIED THAT. IT TOOK US FOREVER TO BEAT ONE GUY. THERE ARE MILLIONS OF THEM.



OKAY, OKAY-- WELL WHAT ABOUT REX?

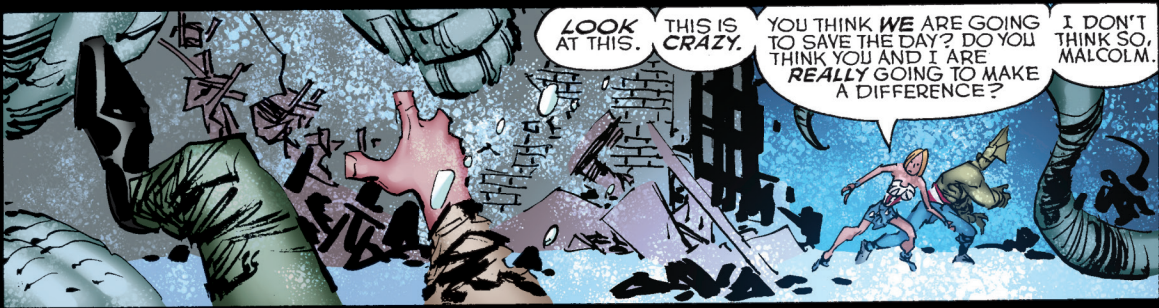
WHAT IF WE GOT REX TO TURN US INTO GIANTS OR SOMETHING?

OR MAYBE HE CAN TRANSLATE THEIR LANGUAGE INTO OURS SO WE CAN TALK TO EACH OTHER. OR-- OR MAKE US RAY GUNS OR INVENT A POISON THAT ONLY WORKS ON ALIENS OR-- OR SOMETHING!

I DON'T WANT TO DIE HERE!



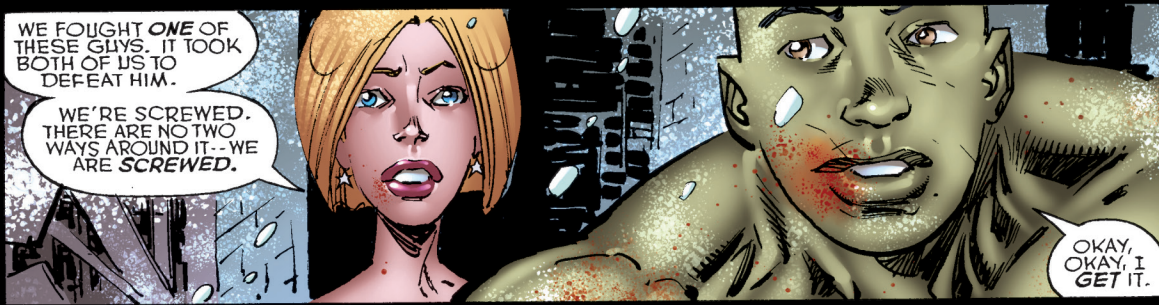
GRAAAAAH!



LOOK AT THIS. THIS IS CRAZY.

YOU THINK WE ARE GOING TO SAVE THE DAY? DO YOU THINK YOU AND I ARE REALLY GOING TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

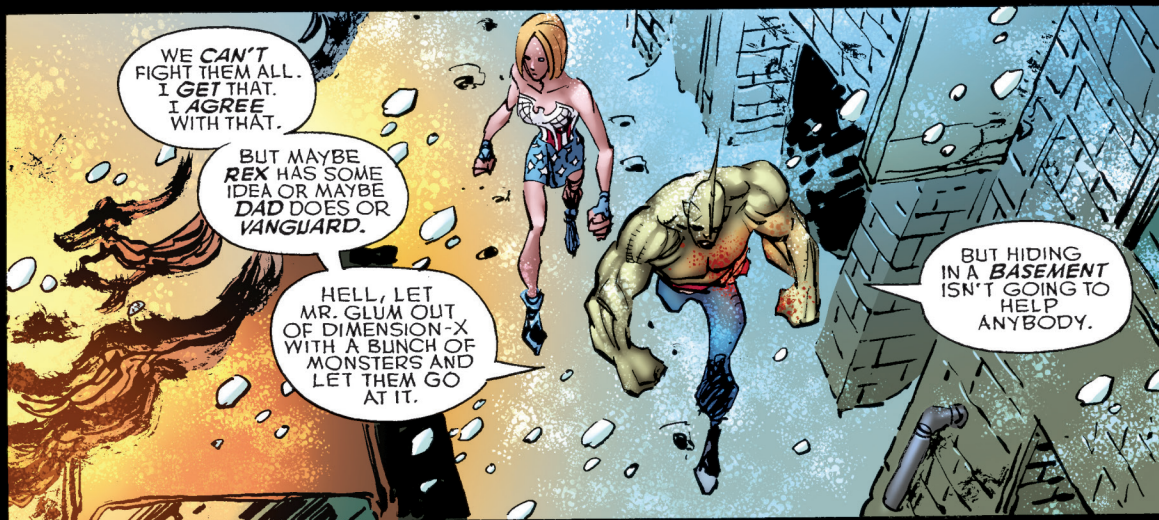
I DON'T THINK SO, MALCOLM.



WE FOUGHT ONE OF THESE GLUMS. IT TOOK BOTH OF US TO DEFEAT HIM.

WE'RE SCREWED. THERE ARE NO TWO WAYS AROUND IT--WE ARE SCREWED.

OKAY, OKAY, I GET IT.



WE CAN'T FIGHT THEM ALL. I GET THAT. I AGREE WITH THAT.

BUT MAYBE REX HAS SOME IDEA OR MAYBE DAD DOES OR VANGUARD.

HELL, LET MR. GLUM OUT OF DIMENSION-X WITH A BUNCH OF MONSTERS AND LET THEM GO AT IT.

BUT HIDING IN A BASEMENT ISN'T GOING TO HELP ANYBODY.



BY THE GODS!  
THESE MONSTERS ARE WITHOUT END!

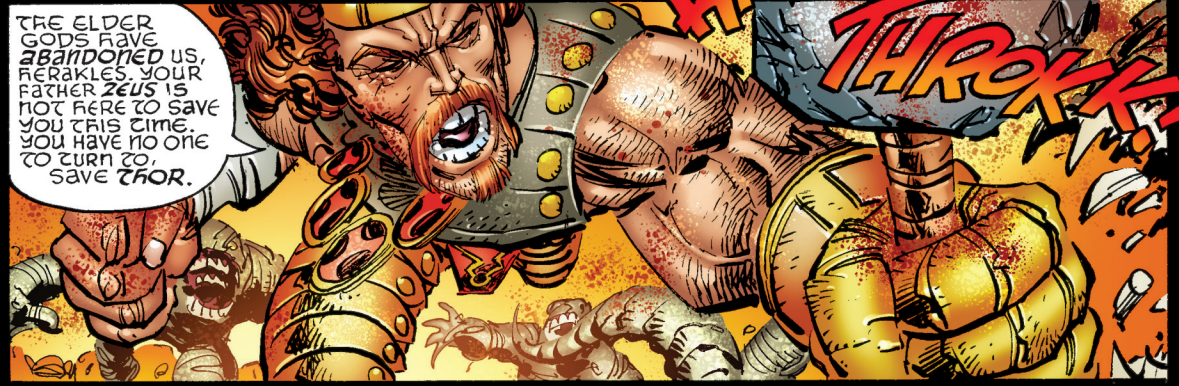
THEY TEAR THROUGH GODS AS THOUGH WE WERE MORTALS!

HUNDREDS HAVE FALLEN. TRULY THIS IS OUR DARKEST HOUR!



THE ELDER GODS HAVE ABANDONED US, FERAKLES YOUR FATHER ZEUS IS NOT HERE TO SAVE YOU THIS TIME. YOU HAVE NO ONE TO TURN TO, SAVE THOR.

THROKK!



THOUGH I BE BLINDED, THE SON OF ODIN, BATTLES ON!

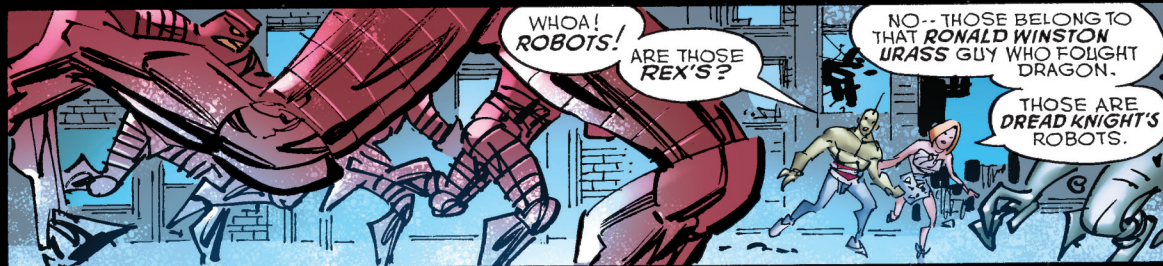
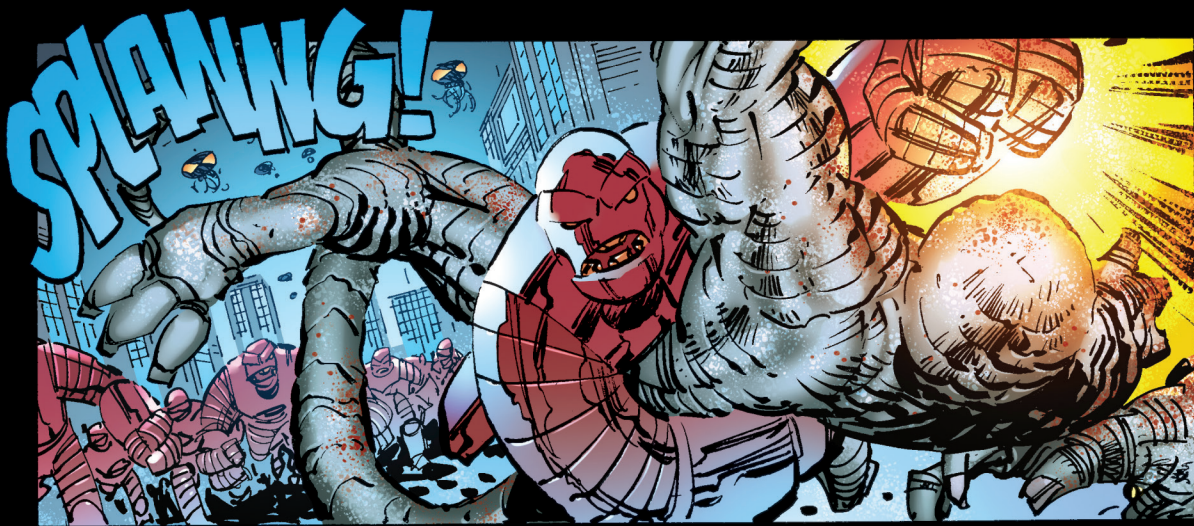
IT IS A WELCOME CHANGE TO BATTLE SIDE-BY-SIDE WITH YOU, THUNDER GOD!

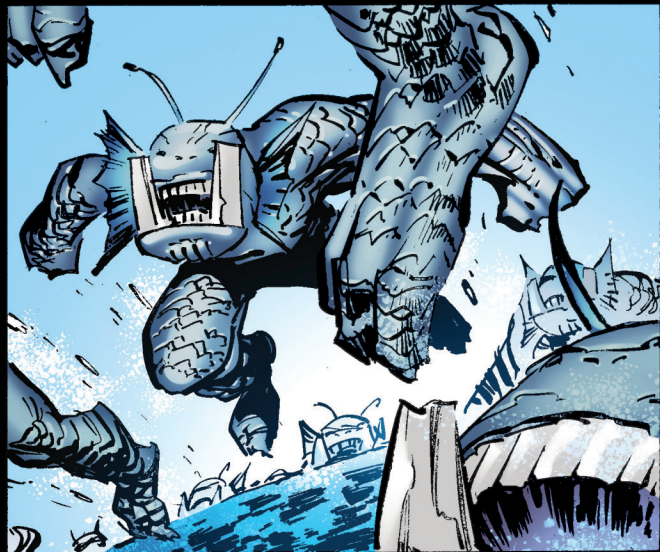
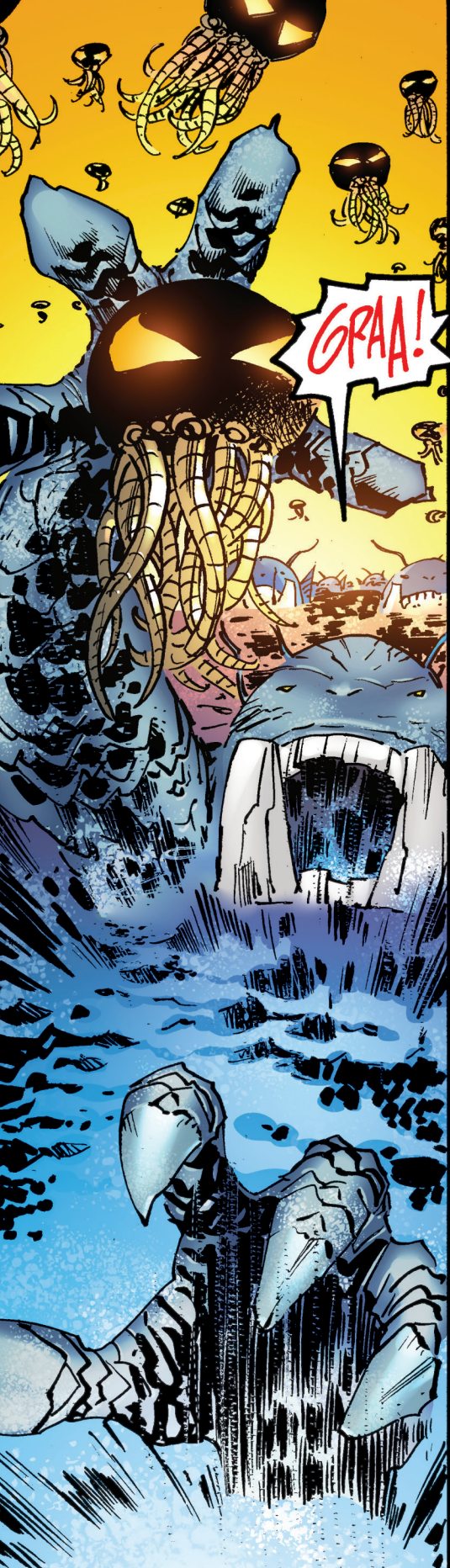
A MORE ABLE ALLY I COULD NOT HAVE ASKED FOR!

HAVE AT THEE!







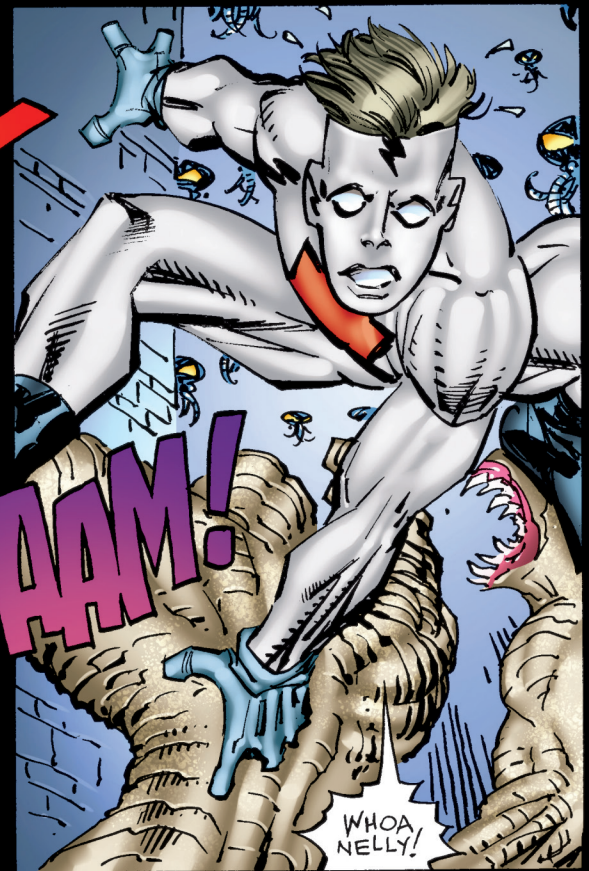
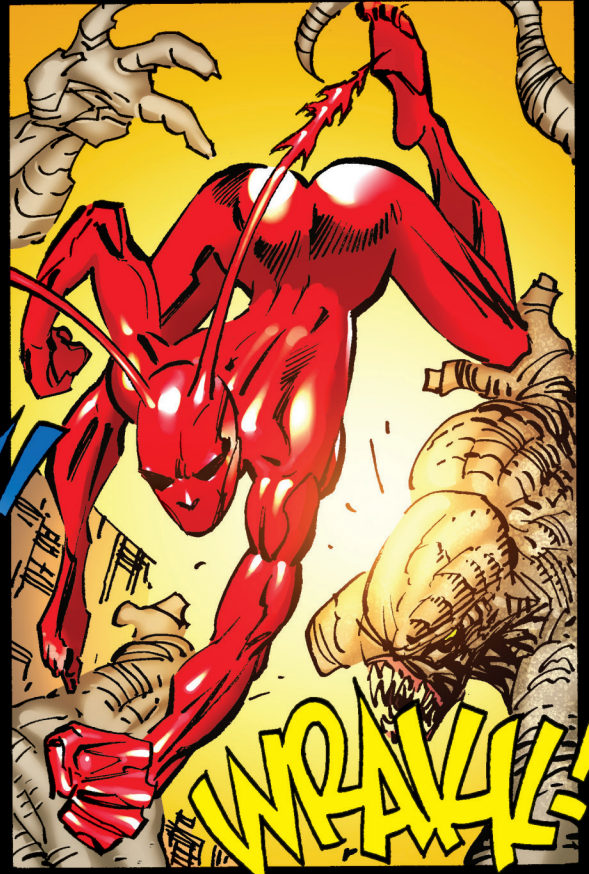


I THOUGHT KING GARF DIDN'T WANT TO AID THE SURFACE DWELLERS AND CONFRONT THE ALIENS.

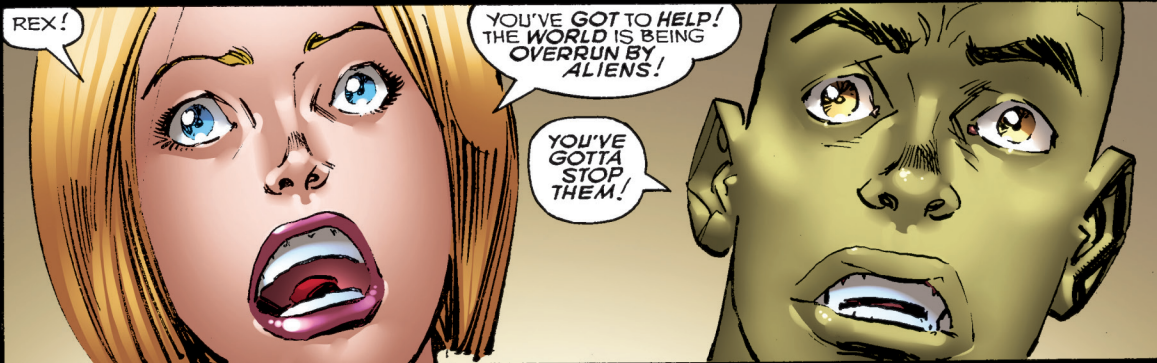
WE CAME TO AN UNDERSTANDING.

HE SAW THE LIGHT.





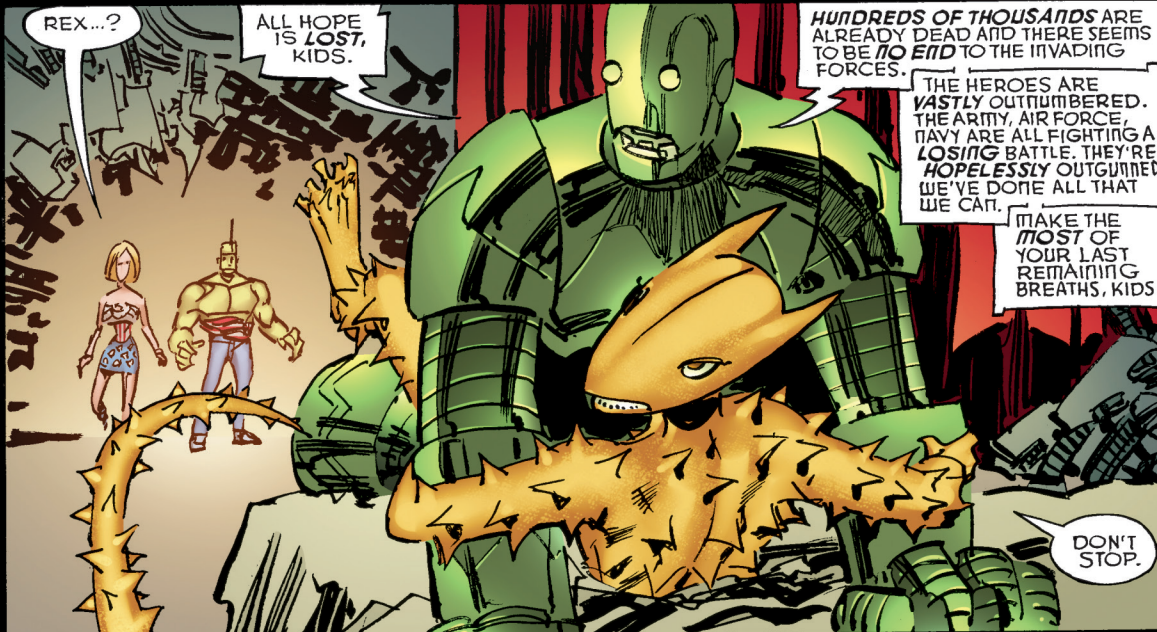




REX!

YOU'VE GOT TO HELP! THE WORLD IS BEING OVERRUN BY ALIENS!

YOU'VE GOTTA STOP THEM!



REX...?

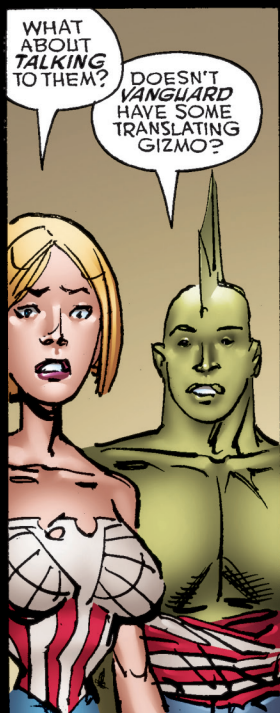
ALL HOPE IS LOST, KIDS.

HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS ARE ALREADY DEAD AND THERE SEEMS TO BE NO END TO THE INVADING FORCES.

THE HEROES ARE VASTLY OUTNUMBERED. THE ARMY, AIR FORCE, NAVY ARE ALL FIGHTING A LOSING BATTLE. THEY'RE HOPELESSLY OUTGUNNED. WE'VE DONE ALL THAT WE CAN.

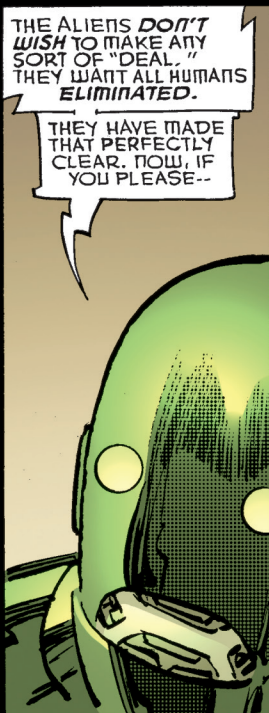
MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR LAST REMAINING BREATHS, KIDS.

DON'T STOP.



WHAT ABOUT TALKING TO THEM?

DOESN'T VANGUARD HAVE SOME TRANSLATING GIZMO?



THE ALIENS DON'T WISH TO MAKE ANY SORT OF "DEAL." THEY WANT ALL HUMANS ELIMINATED.

THEY HAVE MADE THAT PERFECTLY CLEAR. POW, IF YOU PLEASE--



WHAT ABOUT GOD?

DRAGON SAID HE MET HIM! MAYBE GOD CAN HELP!

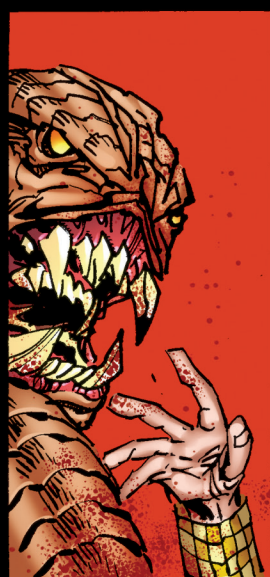
THAT WAS JUST SOME CRAZY DREAM, ANGEL.

THERE IS NO GOD!



THAT'S NOT ENTIRELY TRUE...







**ENOUGH!**

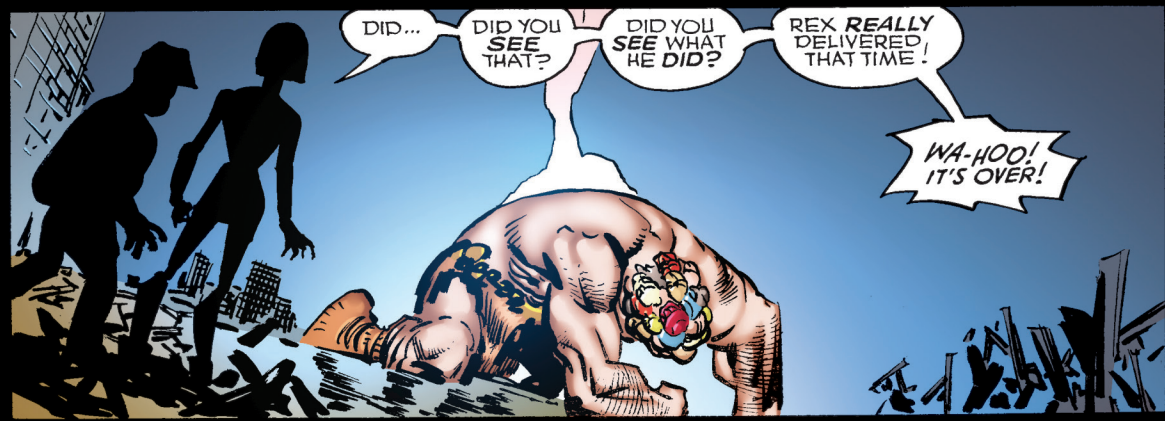
**THIS  
BATTLE IS  
ENDED!**

**ALL GOD  
COMMANDS  
IT!**



IT'S OVER!

OVER...



DID...

DID YOU SEE THAT?

DID YOU SEE WHAT HE DID?

REX REALLY DELIVERED, THAT TIME!

WA-HOO!  
IT'S OVER!



BRAKKA-  
BA-  
BOOM!



OH MY GOD!

OH MY GOD!

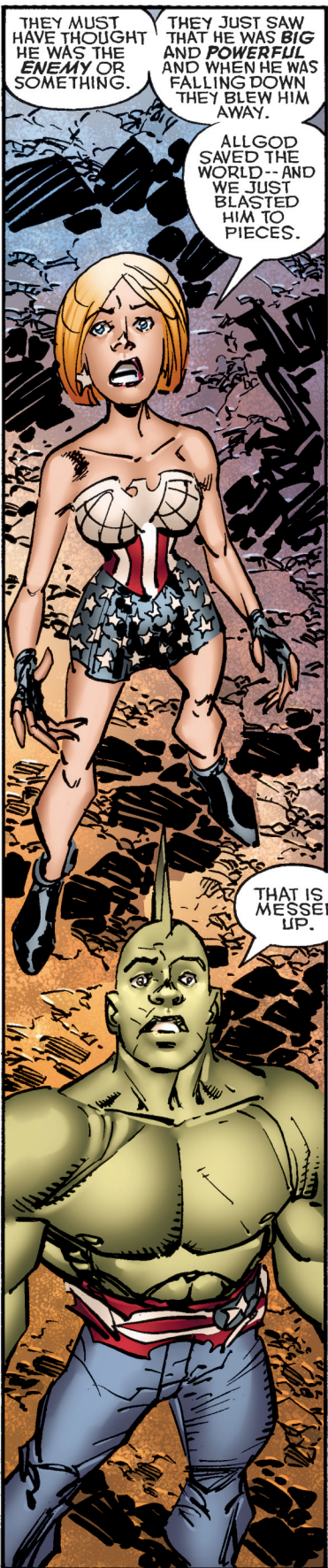
WHAT WAS THAT?

WHAT JUST HAPPENED?



THIS...

THIS IS NOT GOOD.

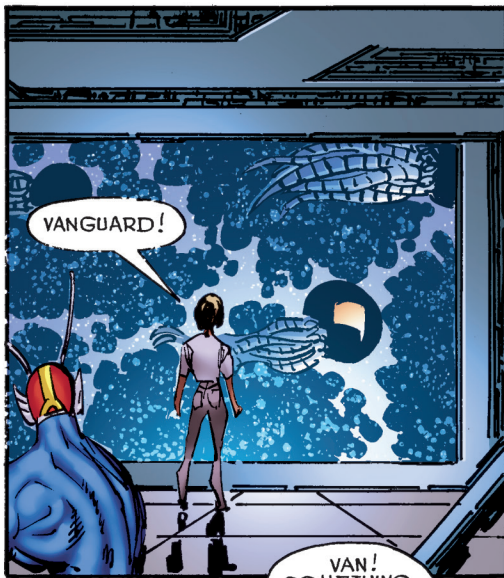


THEY MUST HAVE THOUGHT HE WAS THE ENEMY OR SOMETHING.

THEY JUST SAW THAT HE WAS **BIG** AND **POWERFUL** AND WHEN HE WAS FALLING DOWN THEY BLEW HIM AWAY.

ALL GOD SAVED THE WORLD-- AND WE JUST BLASTED HIM TO PIECES.

THAT IS MESSED UP.



VANGUARD!

VAN! SOMETHING MUST'VE HAPPENED ON EARTH!

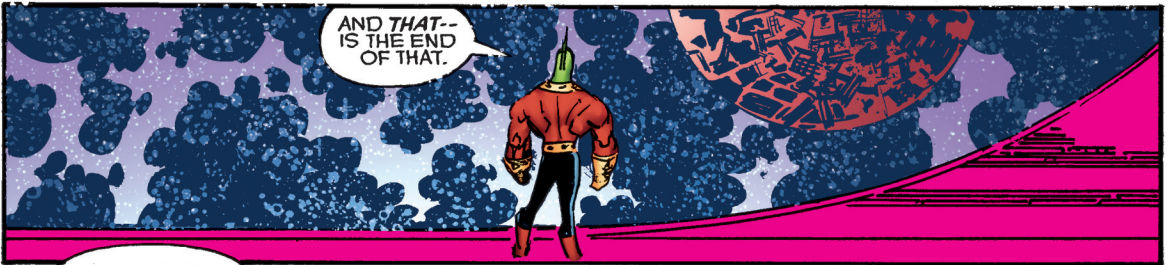
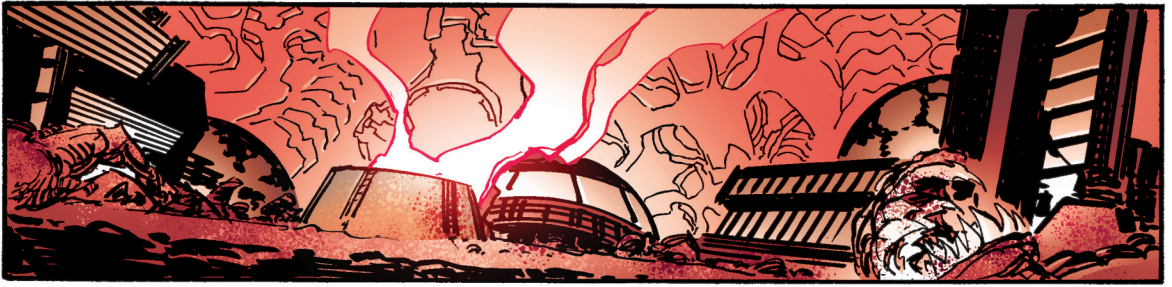


THE TYRRANEANS ARE LEAVING IN A HURRY.

WIPE 'EM OUT!



EVERY LAST ONE OF THEM!





**Send letters to:**  
2134 Allston Way, 2nd Floor  
Berkeley, CA 94704

e-mail: Erik@savagedragon.com

visit our website at [www.savagedragon.com](http://www.savagedragon.com)

*It seems like I am forever blowing it and then making lame excuses for my tardiness. Sometimes things just go the way you'd hoped they would. I'll try to do better next time. Thankfully that whole invasion mess is behind me now. In the meantime--here's the mail...*

**Hi Erik,**  
Sorry to be so late in getting this to you, but I wanted to write and let you know much I appreciated #177 of *Savage Dragon*. In particular, the moment where Malcolm blurts the news about Angel's loss of virginity to Dragon was amazing. The look on Dragon's face said it all, not angry or anything, just sort of hurt and aged. The panel perfectly portrayed the inevitable moment in a father's life in which he realizes that his little girl has grown up. Angel's reaction shot was equally moving. This is something no other comic currently on the stands could do. We've literally watched Angel (well, one version of her at least) her entire life, so in a weird way the reader is as invested and hit by that passage of time as Dragon is. But none of this overshadowed the action and fun of the book.

Every issue of *Savage Dragon* is great and I've nearly written in several times (last years payoff from the vision years and years ago with Malcolm in the spaceuit with WildStar pops to mind) but this issue, for me, just exemplified everything I love about your book. There was even a nice bit of commentary on the American public's reaction to Osama Bin Laden's death. But once again, the main thrust is always fun super-hero action.

I hope those are going well for the book sales wise. I recently moved to Chicago from Minneapolis, and when I chose my new LCS, AlleyCat Comics in Andersonville, the fact that they carried *Dragon* on the stands was a deciding factor. I push the book to as many people as possible and once they try it they generally fall for it, it's just getting them there. The trouble is that there's this split where people who love that old school image thing are turned off by the art's progression (a minority) and then those who don't like the '90s image stuff are turned off just by the association. But I'm sure you're all too aware of this.

The best selling method I've found is to point out that *Dragon*, unlike say "X-men" etc. is a book with consequences with a mind moving it forward. There is no movie or undercuts that hamper the books ability to turn on a dime. Not to pile up on the X-books, but it's common knowledge that the reason we haven't seen anything new come out of those books in 10 years is because Fox holds the movie rights and Marvel doesn't have a good deal with them compared to their deal with Sony for Spider-Man, or of course their own Marvel Studios. So why would they make new IPs for Fox when the X-men can just keep fighting Mister Sinister? This is the sort of s\*\*\* that has ruined the big two, whereas *Dragon* is only beholden to one man: its creator.

It's sort of like *The Walking Dead*'s success is built upon "What happens after the zombie movie's over?". *Savage Dragon* works on "What would happen if super-heroes were allowed to age, have dramatic changes to their lives, and not be stuck in variations of the same exact plot for eternity?".

But I digress... Great book, really looking forward to *Supreme*. I love that you continue to work with Gary Carlson, Vanguard remains on of my favorite characters. I'm always on the lookout for some more Deadly Duo action. I really thought they were gonna bite it in *Dragon War*. Kill-Cat for life.

Thanks for the great work!  
Best,  
JP Pollard

PS- Is there any way I could see a page or two of your more recent *Savage Dragon* art work without the color, just the inks? I love the Archives, but I feel like your work has evolved so much from that work. Anything from the past year or two that you have laying around would be awesome. Also does Tom Orzechowski or John Workman letter directly on your original pages? Those two guys are my favorites.

Both Tom Orzechowski and John Workman (and Chris Eliopoulos before that) lettered directly on my original art. There were a couple issues lettered on a computer (#121-123, if you must know) but all others are lettered on the boards.

Space in the printed comics is at a premium so I really can't run pages in black and white in addition to color but the Archive books are ongoing (if ongoing somewhat slowly). We'll get there eventually.

**Erik,**  
Hey, Erik! After working overseas for two months, the first comic book I read when I got back to the USA was your *Osama Bin Laden* story in SD #177. The last frame on page three ("Godzilla!") had me cracking up because I'd just returned from Oitnawa.

I had a lot of fun reading that issue and I just finished reading SD #178: I'm looking forward to the *Invasion* story line. I'm wondering what you've got planned when it comes to *Pewee*'s blood keeping people young; I guess that could solve a few of the problems that come about when writing your stories in real-time.

I didn't think you'd kill off that Adrian character so quickly; it was funny seeing him talk trash and try to bully Malcolm. Angel and Frank Jr., wow; kids these days, they grow up so fast.

By the time this letter sees print, if it does, the entire SD universe will have changed (again); this is going to be epic! I've been reading SD since the get-go and I never disappoints; it's the most entertaining funny-book on the shelf every single month. Recently, I recommended your book to my friend Scott, who just got into comics a few years back, and he's enjoying it as well. Thanks for the great books, Erik! Nankurunaisa! [I used exactly five semi-colons for those counting at home.]

John Chalos  
Terre Haute, IN

Congratulations on that. Are you going for some kind of record?

**Hi Erik,**  
Holy s\*\*\*, *Adrian* is dead. I didn't see that coming. Before I turned the page, where the Alien ripped him in half I put the book down on my lap and imagined what would happen next. I thought the monster would stop and go away, totally irritated that a puny human being is standing there and not being intimidated. The next panel on the next page hit me like a truck. I was like, WTF? Super dumb of me to think, that this creature, who supposedly has no mercy at all, would vanish because of the sight of Adrian. Logic says Adrian was dead before he knew it. He really had it coming. In another book, the hero would have saved Adrian before the monster killed him, or Adrian would only have been hurt. But this is SD, right? And here I thought Malcolm and Adrian would be friends some day. After all this bully rubbish. Like Flash and Peter, but this ain't Spider-Man. Please, don't get Malcolm on the guilt trip, after the Mars invasion, or what this is. Maybe he could have saved Adrian, maybe not, but it's clearly not his fault. Remember, we have got Peter Parker for guilt trips. Its okay if Malcolm addresses this and feels a bit s\*\*\*y about it, but he is not as good as his father (not yet, but he might be more powerful someday) because he lacks experience.

Another great book!  
Daniel Matzkin  
Germany

The story doesn't end there but I don't expect to be taking it in a direction you might anticipate it going in. Stay tuned!

**Hi Erik,**  
It seems like I've owed you and *Savage Dragon* a letter for a very long time, so here it is. Sheryl and I met for dinner last night after work and since I was a little early, I swung over to The Comic Stop to try and find your latest issue. I was in luck and found *Savage Dragon* #178 there.  
Congratulations on the twenty years. I can't believe it's been that long.

After missing a couple of issues, I really enjoyed reading about Malcolm *Dragon* and his interactions in High School. His banter with Adrian was fun. It was entertaining how Adrian was so calm and nonchalant in the face of either Malcolm's bulky muscles or thefang-mouthed alien. It's too bad he was ripped assunder as he would have made a good foil for Malcolm, kind of like a Flash Thompson to Peter Parker.

I'm not a big fan of Angel though. My advice (for what it's worth): write her out of the book and have the comic focus on the new *Dragon*. Malcolm *Dragon*. With only 20 pages, it is difficult to provide enough space for one main character, let alone two.

We always had a hot spot in my heart for Vanguard and Wally, and I think their 6 page back-up adds value to the book. I like the idea of developing a team for him to lead and I think Lurch and Modem would make good supporting characters on that team.

Thank you for the read! *Savage Dragon* remains the last and only comic I am buying. I know it sounds like sacrilege, but I have been spending my time reading novels, history books, and political books for the last couple of years. My 45-year addition to reading funny books seems to be broken, with one exception: *Savage Dragon*. You keep writing and I'll keep reading.  
Al Harris

That sounds like a good deal for everyone involved! The book continues to evolve over time as characters grow and change. Angel will graduate from high school in a few issues and things go on from there. Time will tell just what her involvement will be following that.

**Erik,**  
Issue 178 marks my 78th consecutive purchase of *Savage Dragon*. I think it's weird looking back. I was a big fan in the '90s in the days of the death of spinner racks I wasn't able to keep up with the series. When I got serious about making my own comics I turned to *Savage Dragon* to keep me inspired. For two months I had pondered getting the book but it was with issue 100 that I finally decided to jump on again. It's been a great ride

that I haven't regretted a moment of.

I'm proud to be a *Savage Dragon* reader because I feel like my investment into the series has never been betrayed. I'm not one to spend 30 bucks every Wednesday at my LCS so I have to choose wisely which series to follow. *Savage Dragon* has been one of the most consistently rewarding books that I've ever read. Like many others I became a reader because of your work on *Spider-Man*. I think many of us secretly hoped you would return to the book. (In my opinion the book never worked better than when you were on pencils.) The consistency and the pulse pounding inventiveness of *Savage Dragon* no surprises that other funny book published at Marvel. That is to say that *Savage Dragon* completely works on its own merits.

I wasn't sure if the new cast would win me over but I really like the high school vibe that's going on in the book. Through Adrian's excessive bullying I really remembered what it felt like to be in school again (or rather around guys who seemed to have their heads stuck in a dark orifice). Even though I enjoyed seeing Malcolm challenged like that I thought how long will Erik keep this going? Adrian's death was both shocking and a delight.

There is another death coming that I'm worried about: the end of the letter pages. I really don't want to see this time honored tradition go. I don't write in as much as I should because honestly, I couldn't be happier as a fan. In the last 3 year especially your work has seemed more inspired. It's hard to remember that creators need some positive feedback every now and then.

Best Wishes,  
David Brunstetter  
Evanville, IN

Online forums make it tough. With instant feedback on a message board it's easy to forget about letters pages in a comic book but when those message boards have long moved on to other subjects and previous posts require an exhaustive search it's kind of neat that every issue has its own mini-time capsule attached that gives readers a glimpse into what other fans thought at any given time. I'm a big fan of letters pages and read them in any book that runs them. Looking back at comics of old from the Golden Age it's one thing I truly feel is lacking. I'd love to get some insight into what readers thought when *Superman* or *Batman* were introduced back in the old days. We take a lot of these characters for granted but there was a time when everything was shiny and new and it would be a kick to see what those readers thought. I truly believe you guys are providing a huge service for readers of successive generations and I thank you for that.

And hey, if you started with issue #100--wouldn't #78 be your 79th consecutive issue?

**Hey Erik,**  
I just finished 178 and am super excited about the upcoming issues. The opening scene being a nut-punch was my day, and the battle that led up to the shot of all the alien spacecraft was terrific. I'm still really enjoying the high school setting and storyline. Felt bad for Maxine, though. Didn't feel bad for Adrian, however. I also like how you made us turn the page to see his ultimate demise. I hate it when the reveal is spoiled by being on the opposite page. I could ramble on, but I actually have a question. When are we going to see some more *Savage Dragon* merchandise? I'm a sucker for collectibles, and I'm very excited for the hardcover coming out in March, but will we see anything else for our *Savage Dragon* shelves in the future? Maybe something exclusive for readers to order?

Fin-Addict for life,  
Curtis Rezek

I'd be all into that but I can barely manage to get this book out--getting more stuff out there just isn't something I can pull off at this time!

**Dear Erik,**  
Just finished reading #178. I'm thinking Angel might need some "battle pants" or something... Nice to see the Tyranneman finally showing up, a plot that was set-up almost at the start of the series. I'm really interested to see where this goes.

It was refreshing to see a winter scenery, this book has been all "blue skies and orange blows" for a while now and though I do like the coloring, we don't need that much of a colored blast to emphasize the fight scenes. It often disrupts the mood of a page (or story) -- the line art alone makes it work just fine. Maybe it's just me, no offense to the team, of course.

I've read some of your comments on the different art styles that you've used over the years on experimental books like *Poggon* or *Hurculeam* and how you wished you could do more in that vein -- you shouldn't shy away from being more audacious on SD. This book is a pioneer of change. And I mean, seriously turn things around. We've had those opening chapter pages since #76 and so many other elements have remained golden-silver age in spirit since this *Savage World* -- I would prefer to have SD be more of an innovation in modern comic art than an ongoing homage (this sounds derogatory, but you know what I mean). On the other hand, I see you getting so much praise for doing so, especially in comparison to the re-hash we get from most of the Big Two (or so I heard, I've only been buying Image since the early '90s)...I guess that's what you get for doing so many things in one book, you just can't please everyone.

Hopefully this doesn't sound too negative, I still enjoy the hell out of this book and you'll always have my support. I may not have been reading comics today if it wasn't for the story intrigues and the overall dedication you've had for this book, so thank you!

Simon Mallette  
Montreal

One thing I've found over the years is that you can't please everybody. One guy likes title pages--one guy thinks they're corny and old school. One reader loves the *Dragon* and can't stand having Malcolm take center stage--another pledges to stop buying the book if he ever returns. One reader misses footnotes--another finds them annoying and disruptive. It's hard to know just what to do. So I do the best I can and hope somebody shows up every month to pick up a copy.

**Erik,**  
I finally got my hands on SD #178, and I have to echo the kind words of Mr. Benny Hasa. You have not failed me yet, and #178 was another fantastic issue. Your ability to put out high quality work on such a consistent basis is a testament to your passion for these characters.

Speaking of characters, we got to see a new twist in Malcolm's love life. The awkward dialogue from Malcolm at the beginning was perfect. Him being dumped struck a chord as I'm currently going through something similar (Why everyone thinks Valentine's Day is a great time to cut ties. I'll never know. I feel for the guy. It ain't easy being green, after all!) I was also happy to see "The Spoon" get his inevitable comeuppance. I wanted to go Joey Finkelberry on his overly exposed ass. You've really built this Tyranneman invasion up to the point that I'm legitimately worried about the outcome. These guys are scary! Have they appeared in SD before? I hope Vanguard, Malcolm, and Angel make it through this ok.

A couple questions:  
1. Can Malcolm shoot lightning like his Mom, or is it only when he comes in contact with things? Is he not as powerful as Bapure because he only has half of her genes?  
2. I recently read *Witchblade* #151 and #152 (Tim Seelye and Diego Bernard are doing some great work. I encourage everyone to check it out!) and Sarah Pezzini is now operating out of Chicago. I know the Top Cow Universe is fairly separate, but are there any plans for some crossover action?  
3. This Image Comics Expo seems really awesome, but my budget won't let me attend this year. Is this something you guys are planning to do every year?  
4. Will there be a letters page in *Supreme* once you take over?  
Thanks for bringing the fun once a month, and keep up the fantastic work.

Bus Dts  
Plainfield, IL

The Tyrannemen have not appeared in *Savage Dragon* before but they have been mentioned for about 30 years in various Vanguard stories from Megaton to his own title.

1. He can not turn lightning the way his mother could. He can only zap things he comes into direct contact with.

2. I'd certainly welcome it (and *WitchBlade* had a brief cameo in our previous issue) but there's nothing planned at this point.

3. We would like to. It was a pretty great event for all of us.

4. There will. Don't forget to write!  
-Erik Larsen

**NEXT: TRUTH AND CONSEQUENCES.**

And hey, don't forget to keep reading this book for more big-time funnybook fun!

# SAVAGE DRAGON INVASION

DEATH, DESTRUCTION, AND AN  
ALIEN ATTACK -- ALL IN A DAY'S  
WORK FOR SAVAGE DRAGON.



story & art  
by ERIK LARSEN

**JULY 2012**

Collects issues #175-180

image

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# ANNIHILATION!

STORY CARLSON ART FOSCO LETTERS PRUETT  
COLORS SELTZER & RED HERRING COLOR

## Vanguard

"CRAP! THE TYRRANEAN SHIPS  
ARE SWARMING ALL OVER US--  
BURYING OUR SHIP!"

"THE SHIELDS ARE DOWN!  
THEY'VE BREACHED OUR  
HULL! WE HAVE VISITORS!"



DAMN! I  
THOUGHT WALLY  
COULD HOLD  
THEM OFF WITH  
MODEM'S  
TRICKS!

WE'LL  
HAVE TO  
TELEPORT DOWN  
TO EARTH AND  
KEEP FIGHTING  
THERE!

WHAT?!



MY ORDERS  
WERE TO  
PROTECT THIS  
PLANET!

AND  
THAT'S WHAT  
WE'RE GOING  
TO DO!

IF WE CAN'T STOP  
THEM WITH A FULLY  
ARMED BATTLE  
CRUISER-- WHAT  
CHANCE DO WE  
HAVE IN HAND-  
TO-HAND  
COMBAT?

DON'T YOU GET IT,  
VANGUARD?

WE'RE THE  
LAST OF OUR  
RACE! IT'S TIME  
TO SAVE OUR-  
SELVES!

NO!



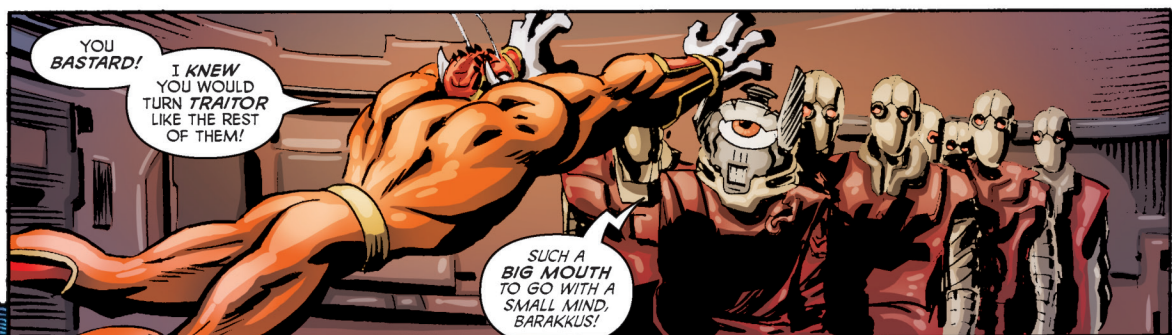


TOO LATE, VANGUARD. YOU'VE ALREADY LOST THIS FIGHT!

MY MECHANICAL BROTHERS HAVE SHOWN ME THE ERROR OF MY THINKING.

WITH KALYPTUS AND THE TYRRUS COMBINE OUT OF THE WAY, WE WILL BRING PEACE AND ORDER TO THE UNIVERSE!

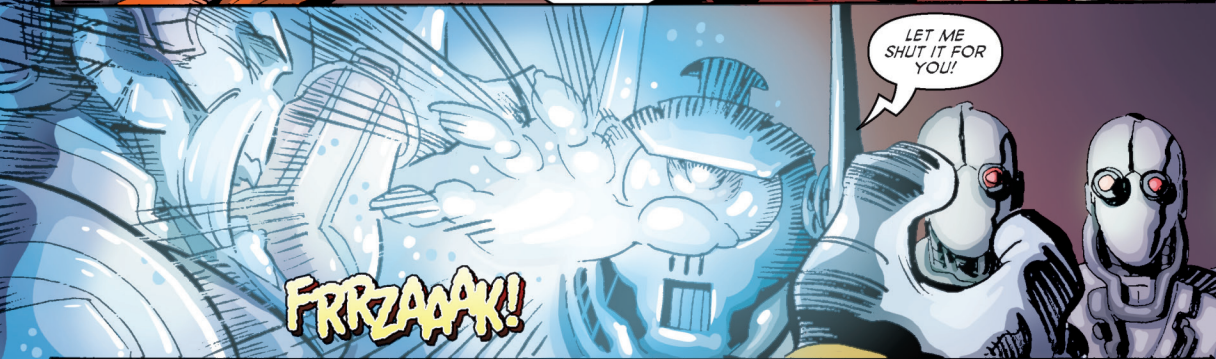
CRAP!



YOU BASTARD!

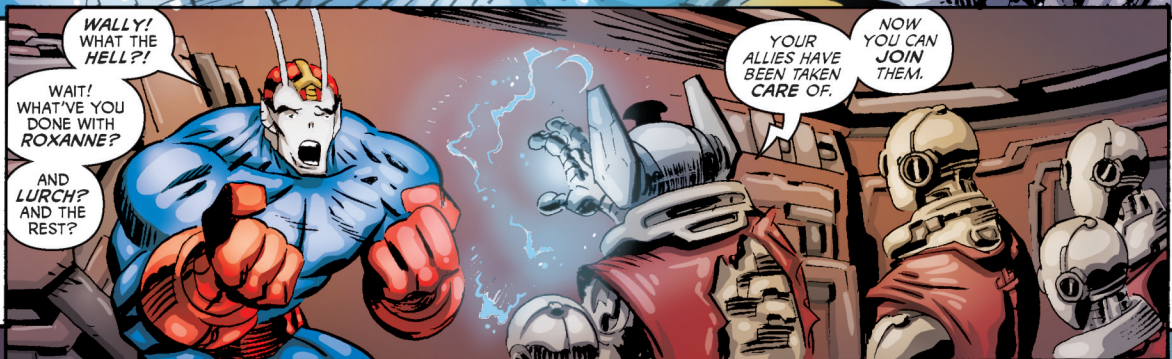
I KNEW YOU WOULD TURN TRAITOR LIKE THE REST OF THEM!

SUCH A BIG MOUTH TO GO WITH A SMALL MIND, BARAKKUS!



**FRRZAAAK!**

LET ME SHUT IT FOR YOU!



WALLY! WHAT THE HELL?!

WAIT! WHAT'VE YOU DONE WITH ROXANNE?

AND LURCH? AND THE REST?

YOUR ALLIES HAVE BEEN TAKEN CARE OF.

NOW YOU CAN JOIN THEM.

**FZZAKK!**

GOODBYE.

**NOOO! EEEYAAAAARRGH!**



HUH?!

I'M--  
ALIVE?



WE  
ALL ARE--  
THANKS TO  
WALLY!

HE SAID  
THE MEKKA-  
DRONES WERE  
LIKE A COMPUTER  
VIRUS, SLOWLY  
TAKING OVER  
YOUR SHIP!

THERE WERE  
TOO MANY OF  
THEM! THEY WERE  
BREAKING THROUGH  
MODERN'S DEFENSES.



HE PRETENDED  
TO JOIN THEM AND  
TELEPORTED US  
TO THIS TYRRANEAN  
SKULL SHIP.

HE SAID  
HE WAS SORRY,  
VANGUARD--

THAT  
THIS WAS  
THE ONLY  
WAY!



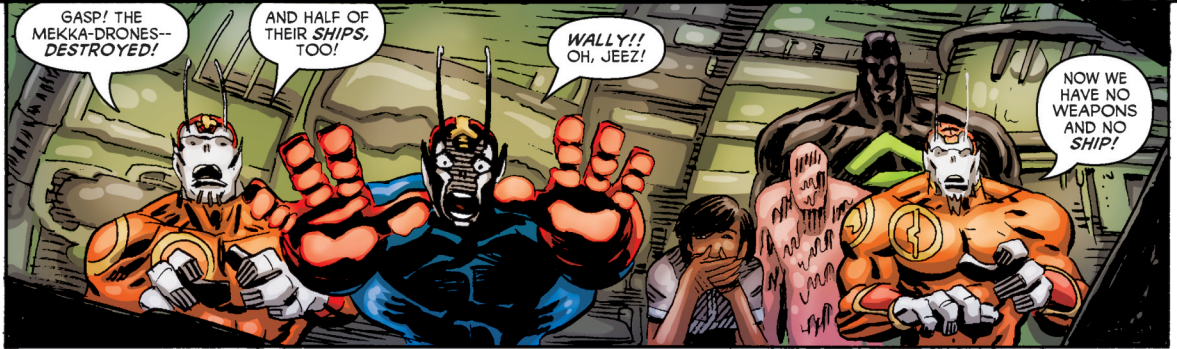
ONLY WAY  
TO WHAT? SAVE  
HIS OWN METAL  
BUTT?

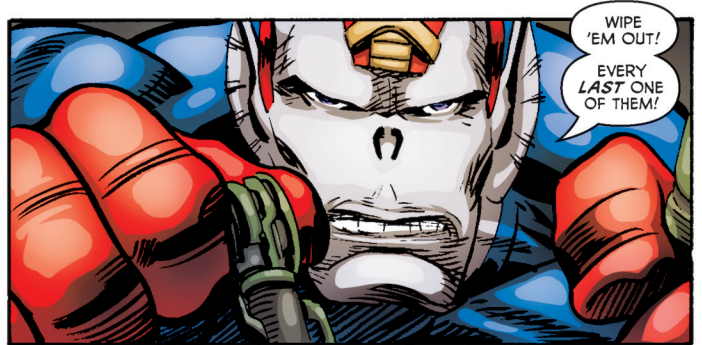
NO, THE  
ONLY WAY  
TO SAVE  
OURS!

HE PLANS  
TO SET OFF THE  
SELF-DESTRUCT  
DEVICE WHILE THE  
MEKKA-DRONES  
ARE ALL ON  
OUR SHIP!



BRAKKA OOM!





"WAHOO! WE'RE KICKING THEIR ASSES!  
THAT ONE'S FOR MY SISTER KAZI!  
THAT ONE'S FOR WALLY! AND MY  
MOM! AND MY GRANDFATHER!  
AND ANOTHER ONE FOR WALLY! ZAP!  
THAT ONE'S FOR YOU, ROXANNE!"

"JEEZ! REMIND ME TO NEVER  
PISS OFF AMOK AGAIN, OKAY?"



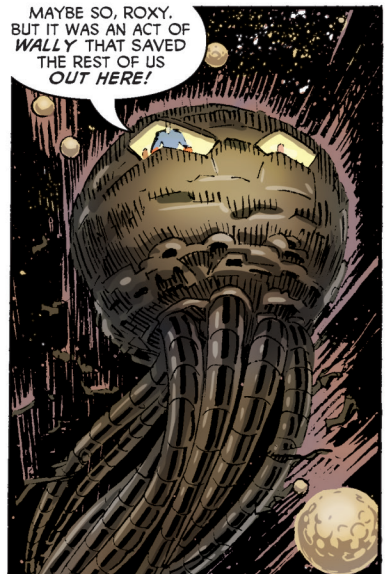
WHAT DO YOU SUPPOSE HAPPENED ON EARTH TO MAKE THE TYRRANEANS RUN AWAY, VAN?

I DON'T KNOW, BUT A LOT MORE OF THEM WENT IN THAN CAME OUT!

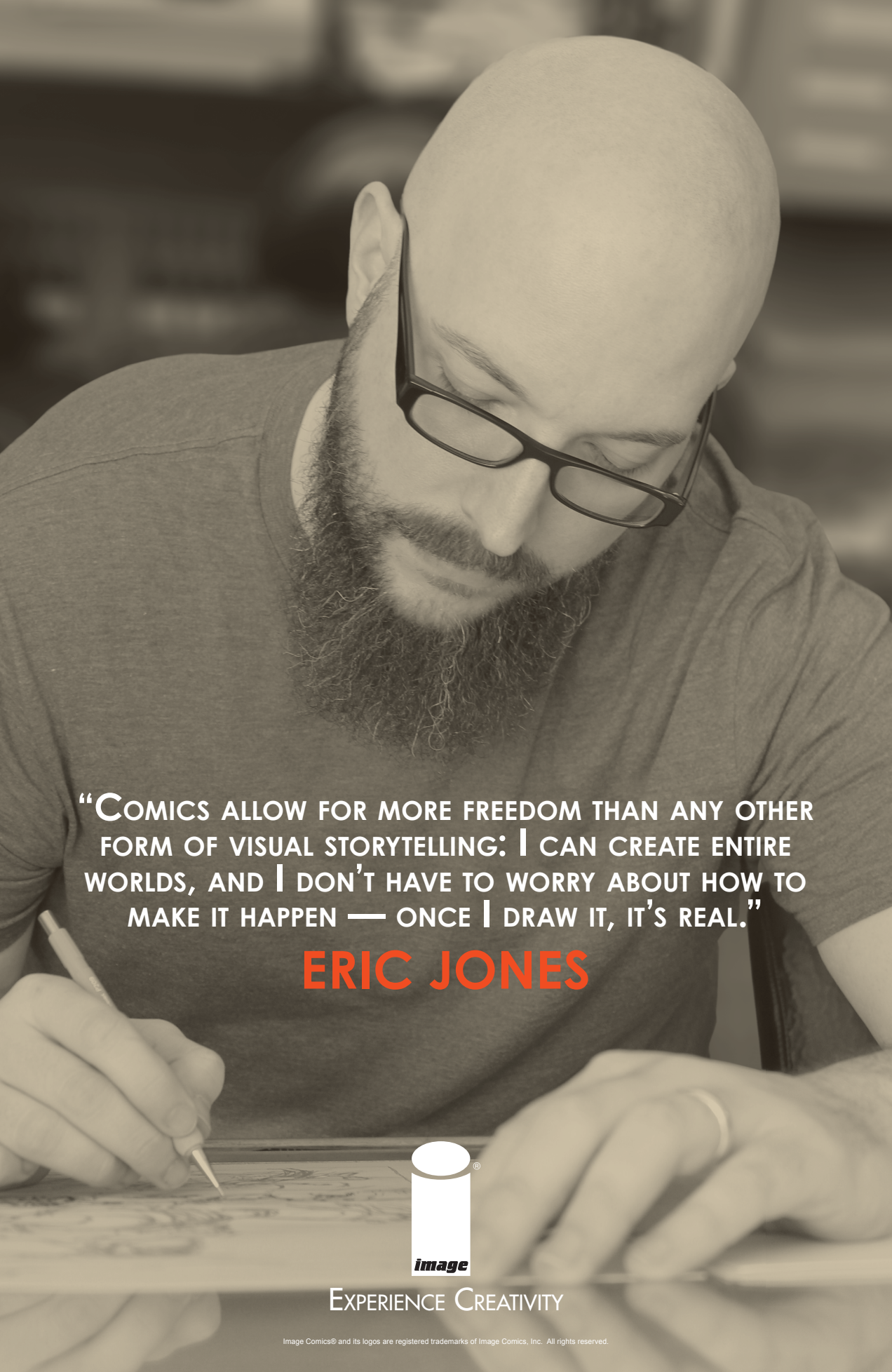


THE TV RECEPTION ISN'T SO GOOD OUT HERE--

--BUT I THINK THEY'RE SAYING SOMETHING ABOUT AN ACT OF GOD!



MAYBE SO, ROXY. BUT IT WAS AN ACT OF WALLY THAT SAVED THE REST OF US OUT HERE!



“COMICS ALLOW FOR MORE FREEDOM THAN ANY OTHER  
FORM OF VISUAL STORYTELLING: I CAN CREATE ENTIRE  
WORLDS, AND I DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT HOW TO  
MAKE IT HAPPEN — ONCE I DRAW IT, IT'S REAL.”

**ERIC JONES**



EXPERIENCE CREATIVITY

# FORWARD

WALLY!  
NOOO!



Frank Forno

**IS THIS... THE END?**

RATED T+ / TEEN PLUS