



189

Image

Bryce

# SAVAGE DRAGON

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has invited you to like his page  
"So, ladies...how about it?"

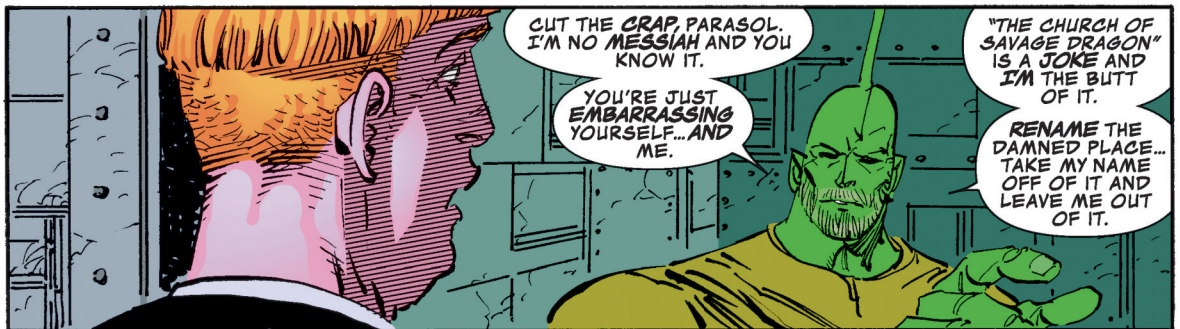


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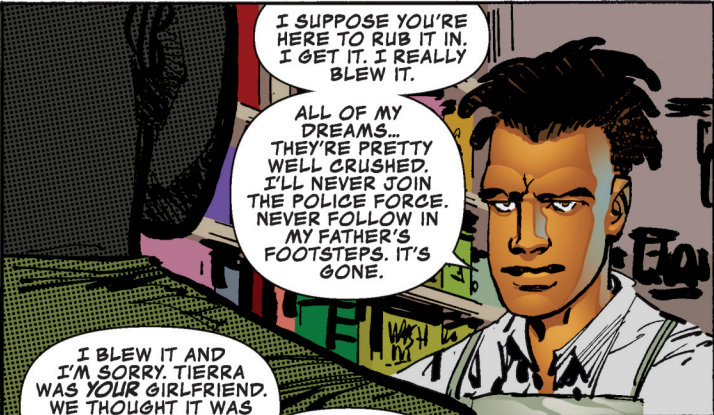
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HEY.

HI, MALCOLM.



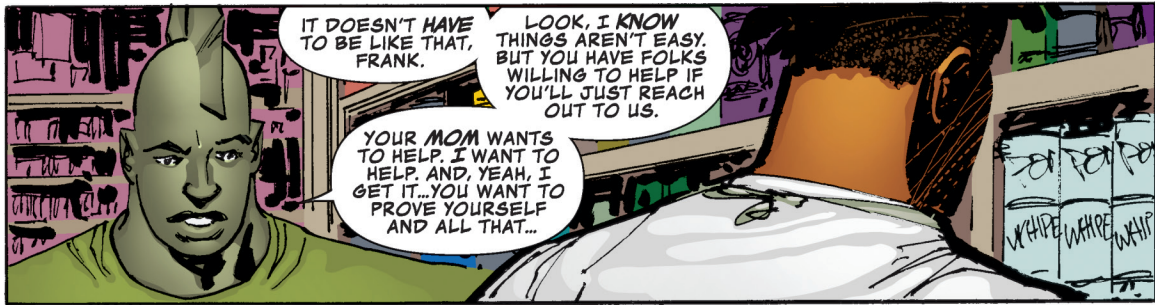
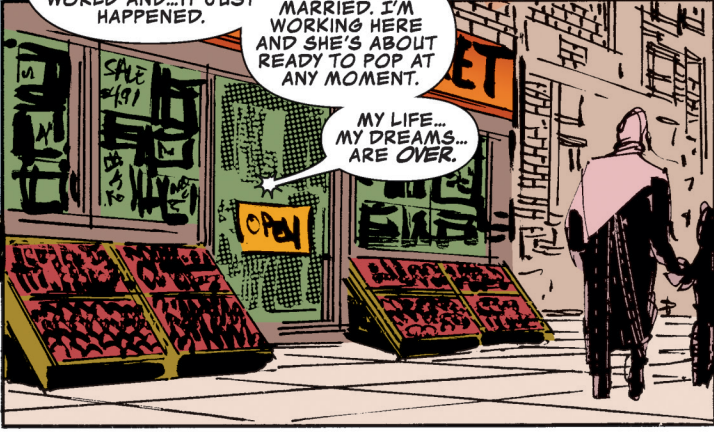
I SUPPOSE YOU'RE HERE TO RUB IT IN. I GET IT. I REALLY BLEW IT.

ALL OF MY DREAMS... THEY'RE PRETTY WELL CRUSHED. I'LL NEVER JOIN THE POLICE FORCE. NEVER FOLLOW IN MY FATHER'S FOOTSTEPS. IT'S GONE.

I BLEW IT AND I'M SORRY. TIERRA WAS YOUR GIRLFRIEND. WE THOUGHT IT WAS THE END OF THE WORLD AND...IT JUST HAPPENED.

NOW WE'RE MARRIED. I'M WORKING HERE AND SHE'S ABOUT READY TO POP AT ANY MOMENT.

MY LIFE... MY DREAMS... ARE OVER.



IT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE LIKE THAT, FRANK.

LOOK, I KNOW THINGS AREN'T EASY. BUT YOU HAVE FOLKS WILLING TO HELP IF YOU'LL JUST REACH OUT TO US.

YOUR MOM WANTS TO HELP. I WANT TO HELP. AND, YEAH, I GET IT...YOU WANT TO PROVE YOURSELF AND ALL THAT...



BUT DO THAT AFTER YOU'RE ON YOUR FEET. AFTER YOU'RE ON THE FORCE.

IT'S NOT THAT EASY.



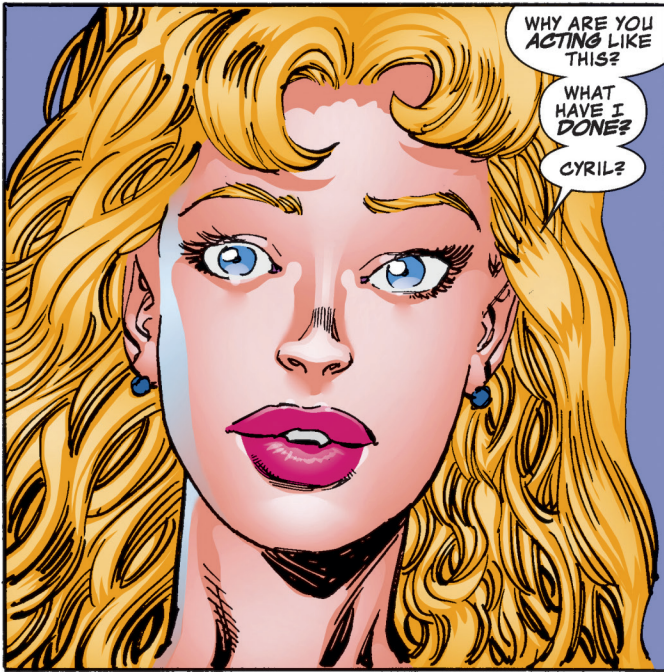
JUST SHUT UP AND TAKE MY MONEY, OKAY?



IF YOU NEED TO MOVE BACK HOME...THERE'S ROOM FOR YOU THERE.

I'M SURE MOM WOULD LOVE THAT. YOU TOO.

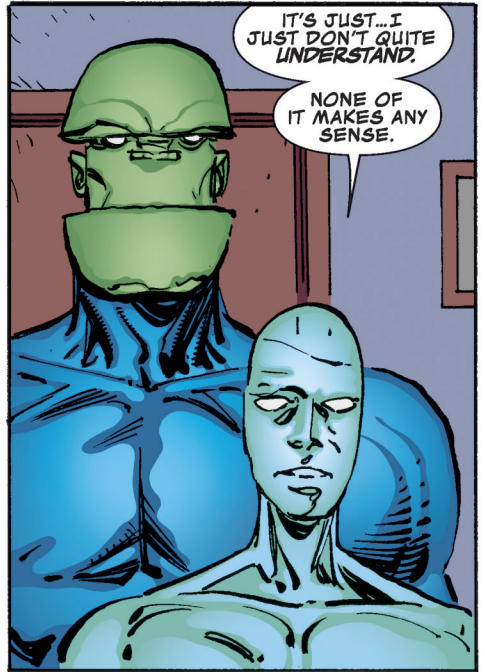
JUST THINK ABOUT IT.



WHY ARE YOU ACTING LIKE THIS?

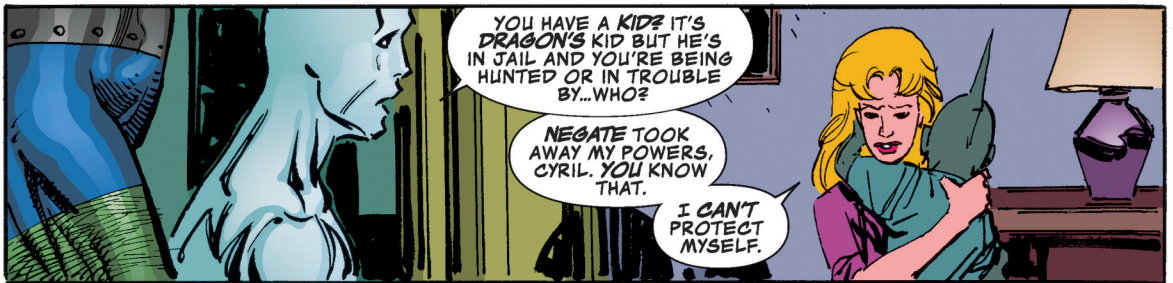
WHAT HAVE I DONE?

CYRIL?



IT'S JUST... I JUST DON'T QUITE UNDERSTAND.

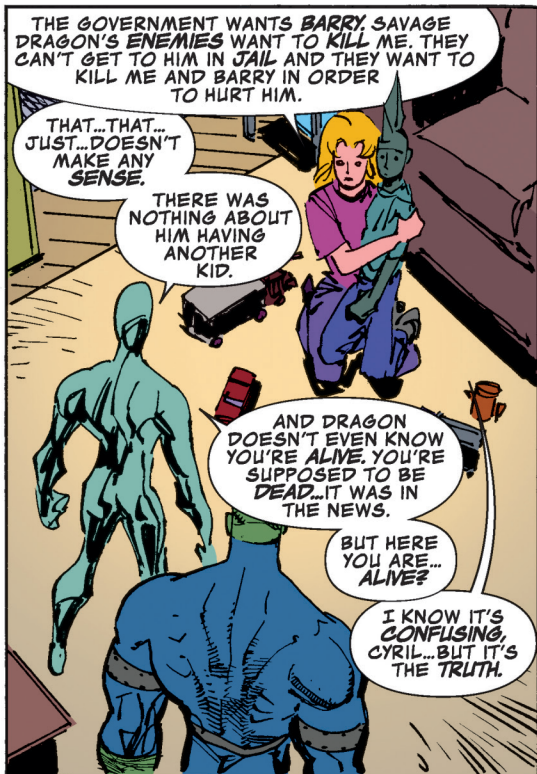
NONE OF IT MAKES ANY SENSE.



YOU HAVE A KID? IT'S DRAGON'S KID BUT HE'S IN JAIL AND YOU'RE BEING HUNTED OR IN TROUBLE BY...WHO?

NEGATE TOOK AWAY MY POWERS, CYRIL. YOU KNOW THAT.

I CAN'T PROTECT MYSELF.



THE GOVERNMENT WANTS BARRY. SAVAGE DRAGON'S ENEMIES WANT TO KILL ME. THEY CAN'T GET TO HIM IN JAIL AND THEY WANT TO KILL ME AND BARRY IN ORDER TO HURT HIM.

THAT... THAT... JUST... DOESN'T MAKE ANY SENSE.

THERE WAS NOTHING ABOUT HIM HAVING ANOTHER KID.

AND DRAGON DOESN'T EVEN KNOW YOU'RE ALIVE. YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE DEAD... IT WAS IN THE NEWS.

BUT HERE YOU ARE... ALIVE?

I KNOW IT'S CONFUSING, CYRIL... BUT IT'S THE TRUTH.



AND YOUR DEATH WAS FAKED... WHY?

I STILL DON'T QUITE GET IT...



YOU WERE THE ONLY ONE I COULD TURN TO, CYRIL. YOU AND FERRIS ARE THE ONLY FAMILY I HAVE.

PLEASE.

YOU HAVE TO BELIEVE ME.



THE CHILD IS MINE!

THRA-CHOOM!



RETURN THE CHILD TO HIS MOTHER, COW!

THOOM!



SO...YOU ARE NOT AS HELPLESS AS YOU PRETEND TO BE!

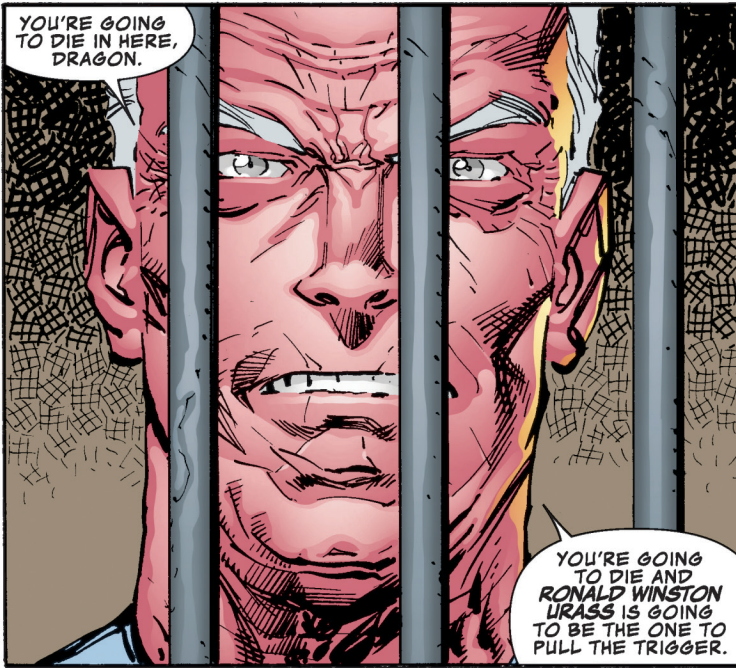
BUT WE'LL SEE JUST HOW FORMIDABLE YOU ARE!

DEFEND YOURSELF, COW! OR DIE AT THE HANDS OF BATTLE AXE!



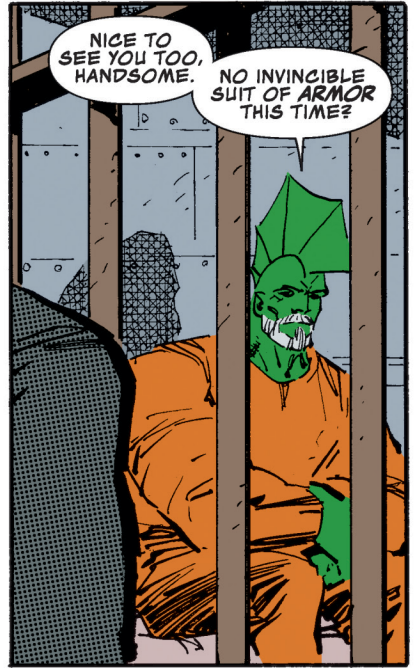
PLEASE! NO!

STAY BACK!



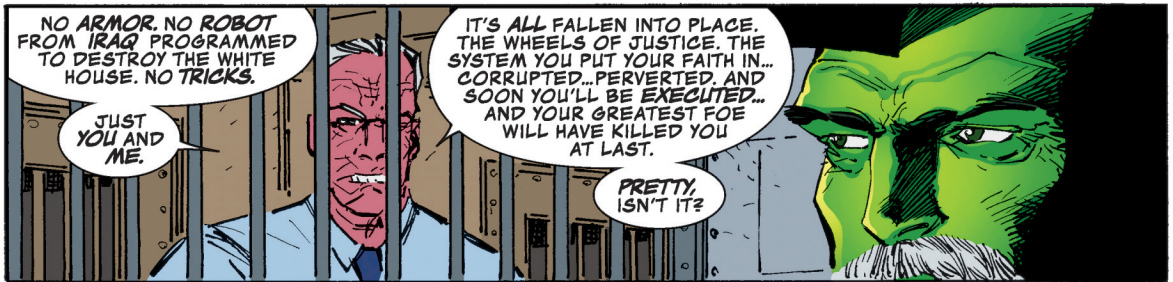
YOU'RE GOING TO DIE IN HERE, DRAGON.

YOU'RE GOING TO DIE AND RONALD WINSTON URASS IS GOING TO BE THE ONE TO PULL THE TRIGGER.



NICE TO SEE YOU TOO, HANDSOME.

NO INVINCIBLE SUIT OF ARMOR THIS TIME?



NO ARMOR. NO ROBOT FROM IRAQ PROGRAMMED TO DESTROY THE WHITE HOUSE. NO TRICKS.

JUST YOU AND ME.

IT'S ALL FALLEN INTO PLACE. THE WHEELS OF JUSTICE. THE SYSTEM YOU PUT YOUR FAITH IN... CORRUPTED... PERVERTED. AND SOON YOU'LL BE EXECUTED... AND YOUR GREATEST FOE WILL HAVE KILLED YOU AT LAST.

PRETTY, ISN'T IT?



DON'T FLATTER YOURSELF.

THERE ARE ABOUT A HUNDRED GUYS IN THIS PLACE WHO ARE A LOT HIGHER UP ON MY "GREATEST FOES" LIST THAN YOU.

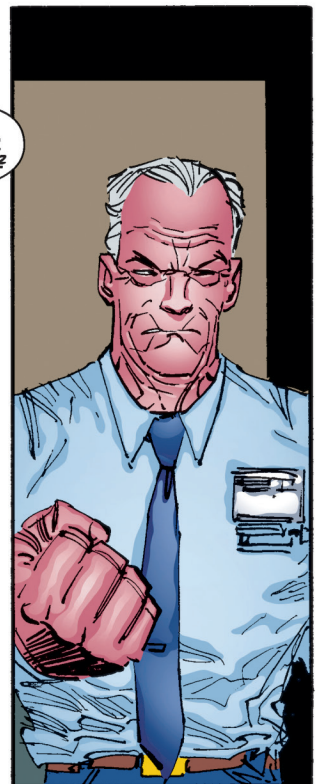
AS FOR THE REST... EXCUSE ME IF I DON'T GET TOO WOUND UP ABOUT IT. I KNOW HOW THESE THINGS GO. THE WHEELS OF JUSTICE TURN A LOT SLOWER THAN ALL THAT.

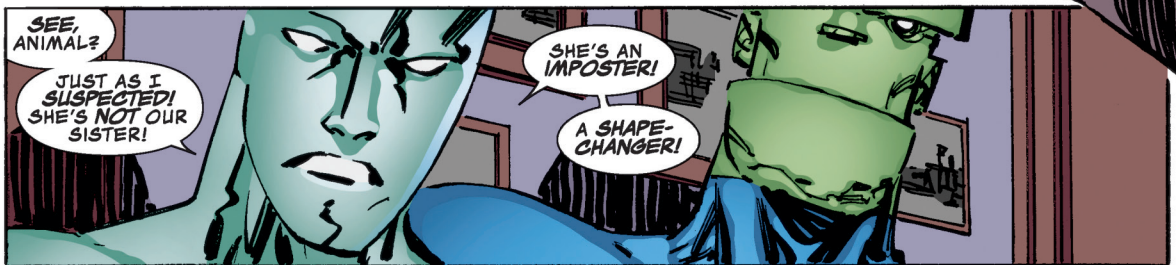
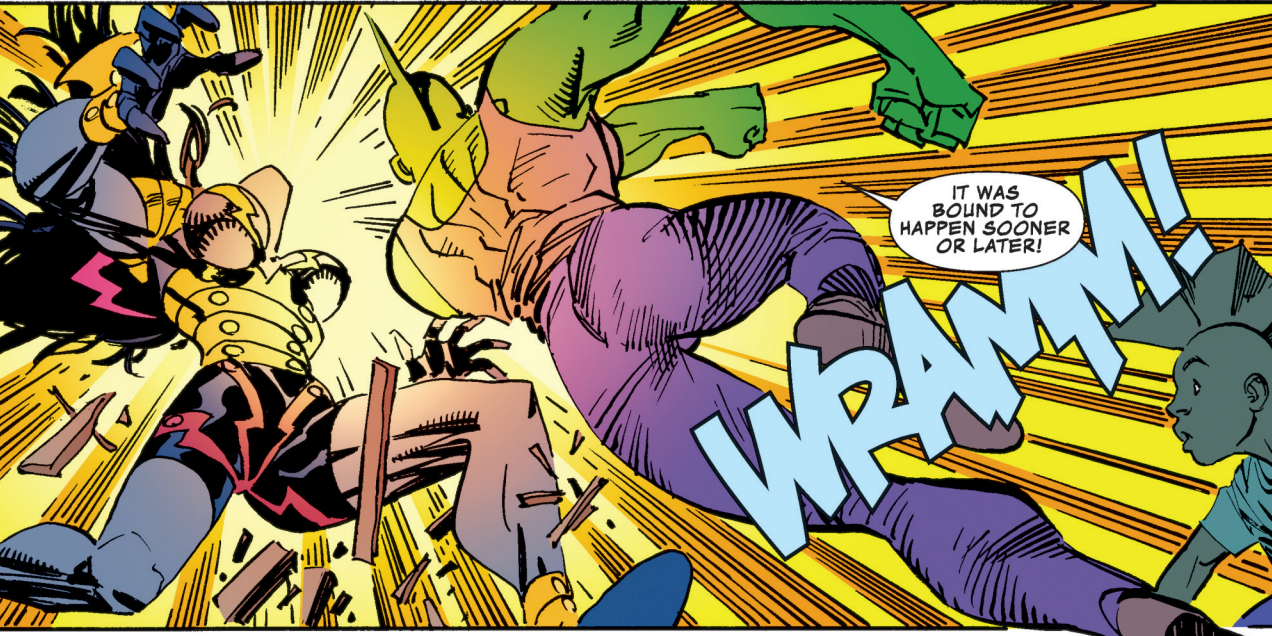
GUYS SIT ON DEATH ROW FOR DECADES. I'M NOT GOING AWAY ANY TIME SOON.



AS FOR YOU... YOU'RE AN OLD MAN. CHANCES ARE I'LL BE AROUND LONG AFTER YOU KICK THE BUCKET.

HOW'S THAT FOR JUSTICE?







WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING, GREEN-SKIN?

ISN'T THIS THE WAY TO THE POOL HALL?



YOU'RE LOOKING AT A WORLD OF HURT, OLD MAN.



SOME THINGS YOU MIGHT WANT TO CONSIDER...I'VE ALREADY BEEN CONVICTED OF MURDER AND I'M SLATED TO SIT IN THE HOT SEAT, SO A FEW MORE DEATHS AREN'T GOING TO CHANGE A DAMNED THING FOR ME.



AND I CAN HEAL UP FROM PRETTY MUCH ANYTHING...SO THE BEST YOU'RE GOING TO DO IS TO TEMPORARILY INCONVENIENCE ME. YOU, ON THE OTHER HAND...AREN'T GOING TO GROW BACK ANY OF THE PARTS THAT I TEAR OFF OF YOU.



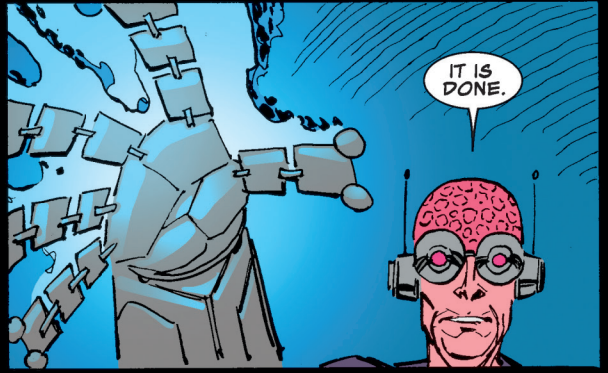
SO WHY DON'T YOU DO YOURSELVES A FAVOR...

AND KEEP ON WALKING.





OH.



IT IS DONE.



LINNNGH.

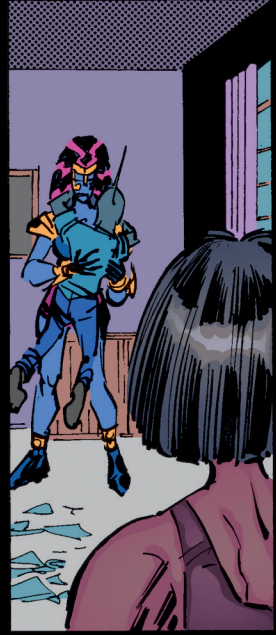


PLEASE...!

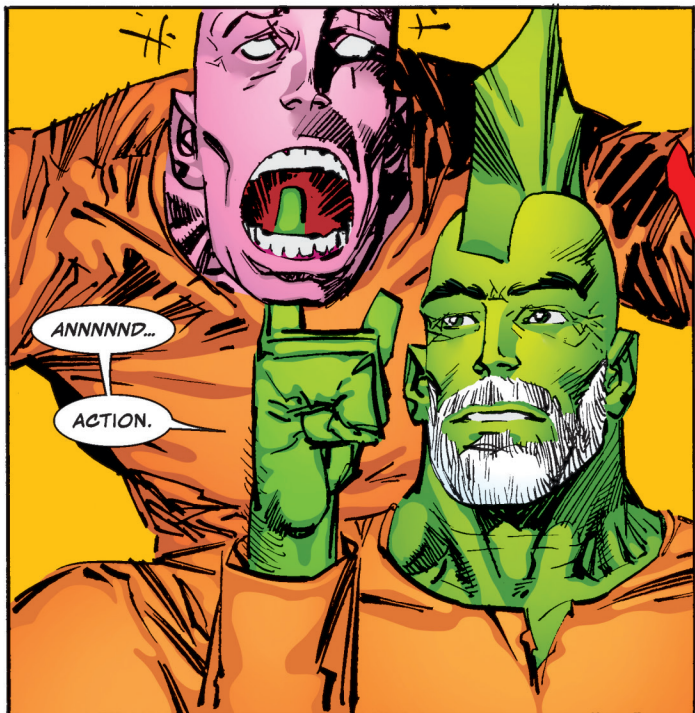


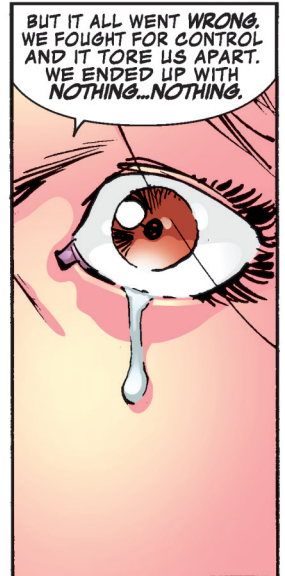
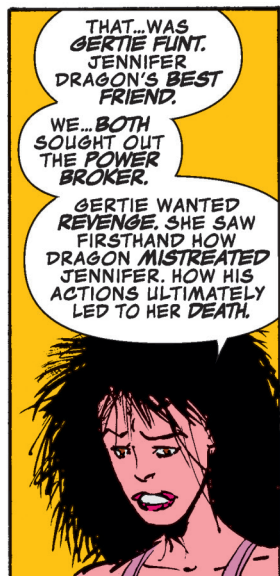
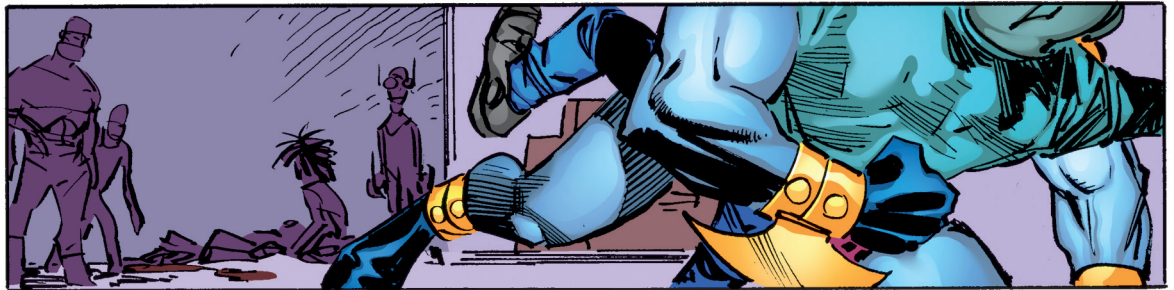
PLEASE... DON'T TAKE HIM AWAY FROM ME.

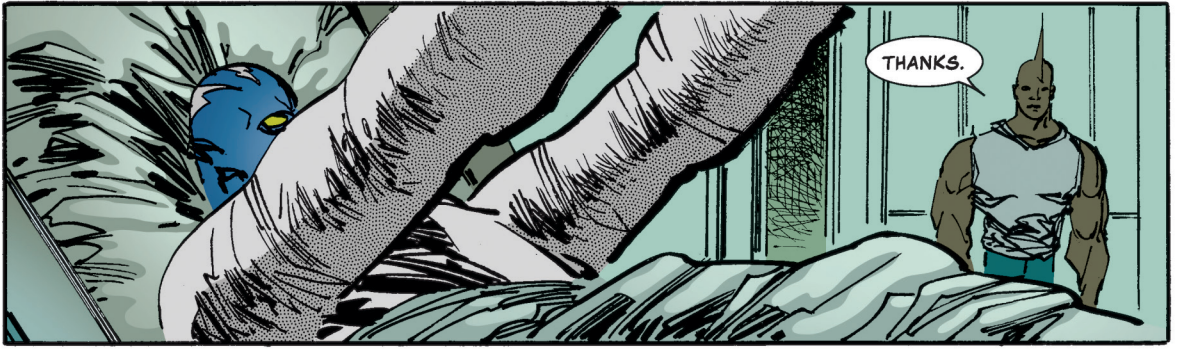
HE'S ALL I HAVE.

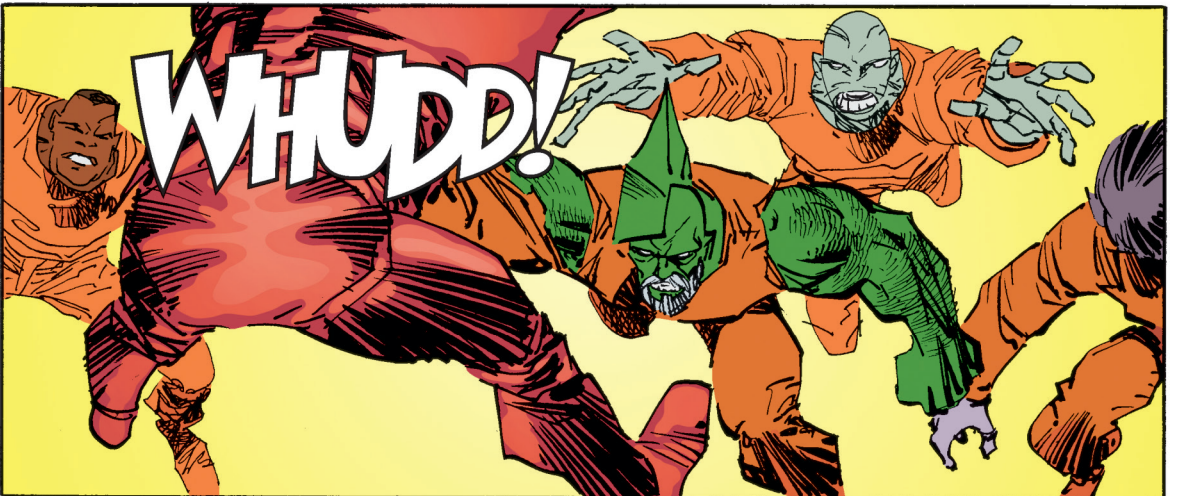
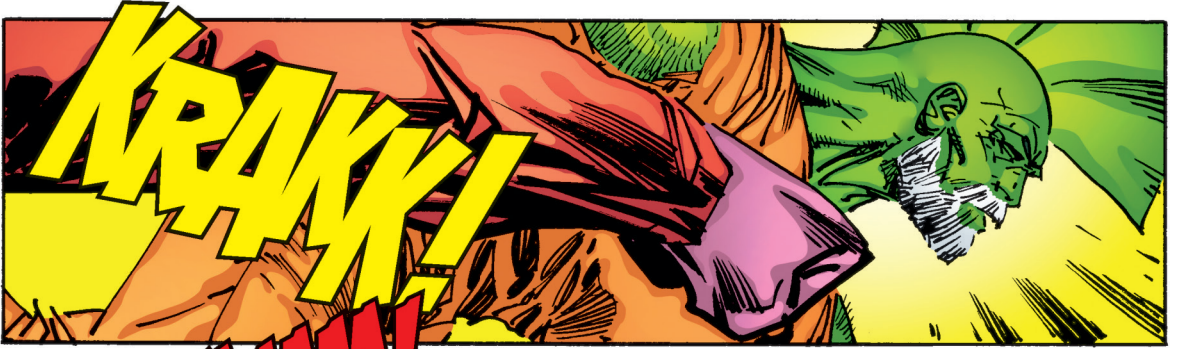


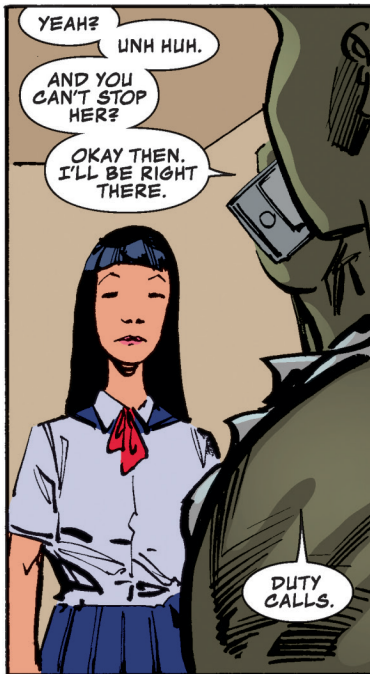
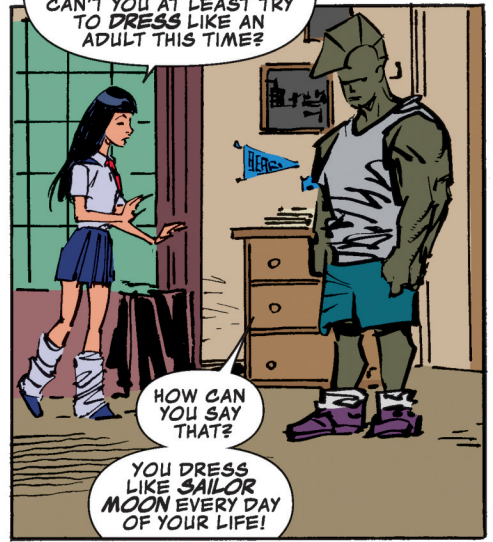
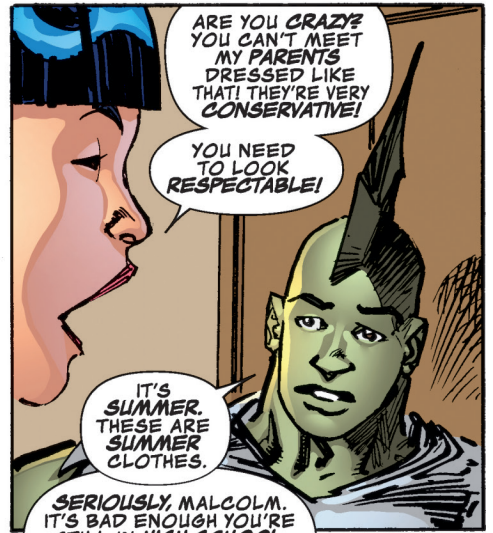
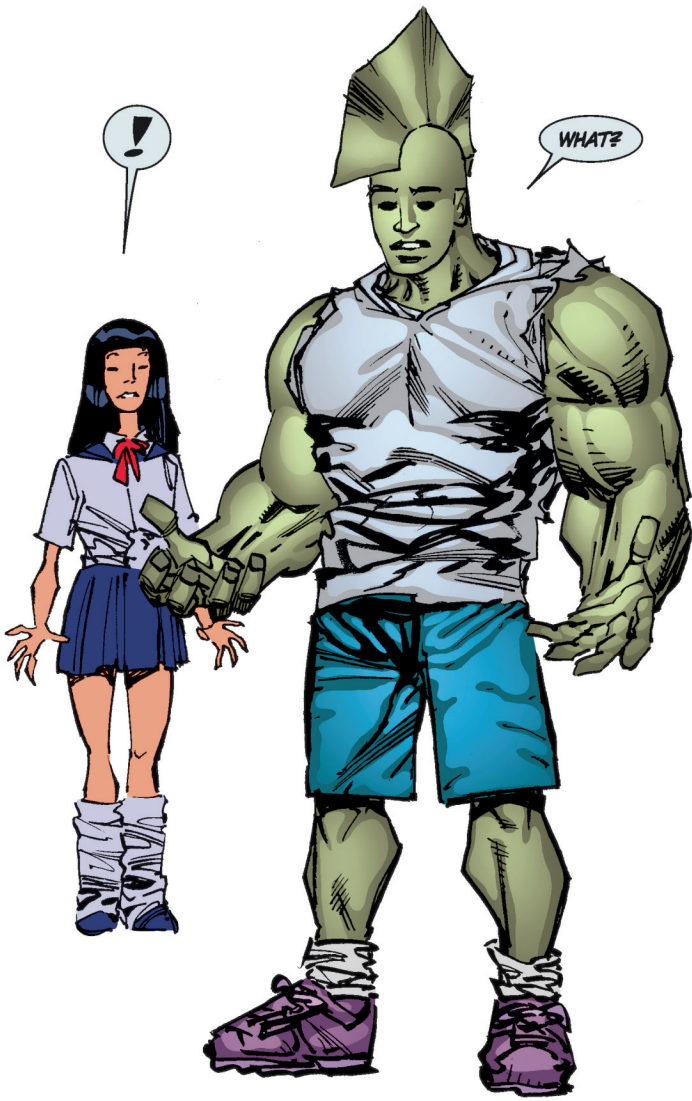
"ALL YOU HAVE"?

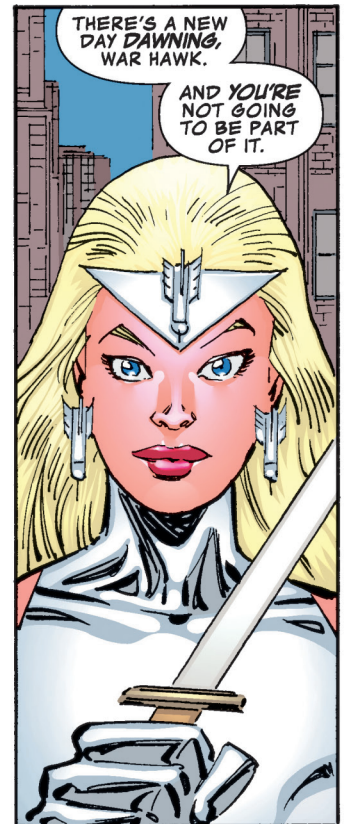
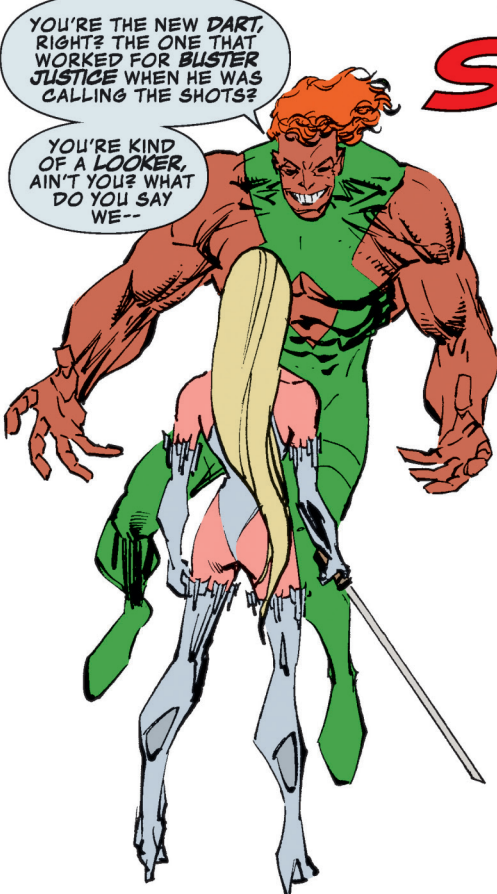
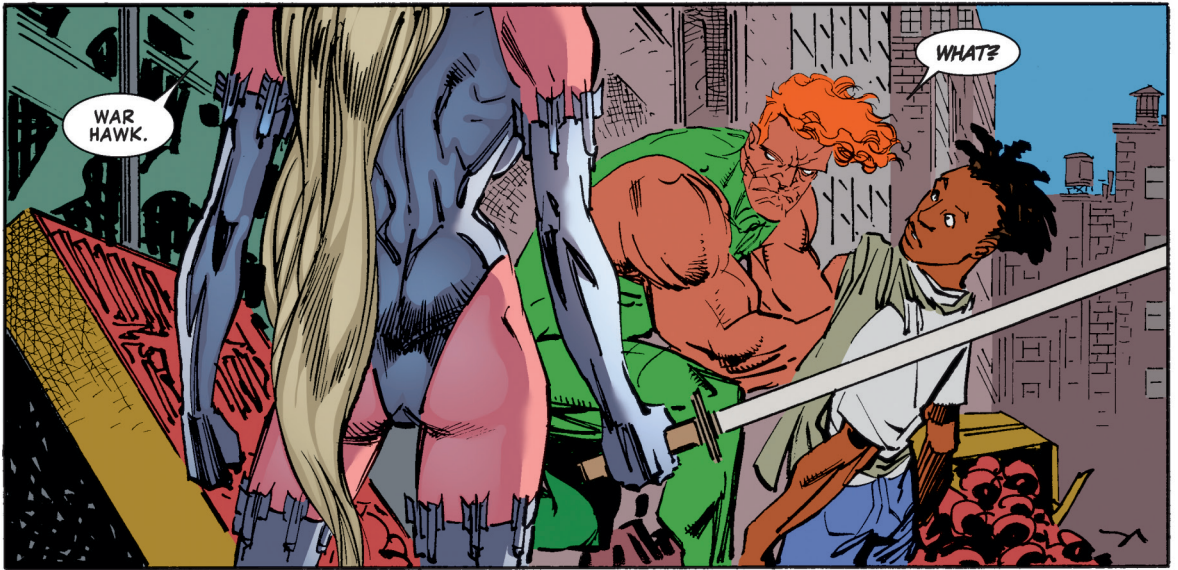






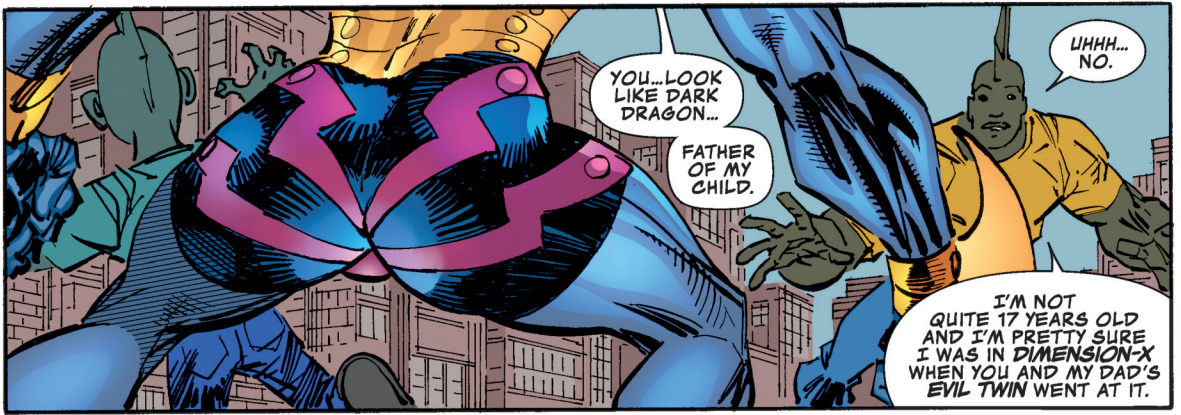










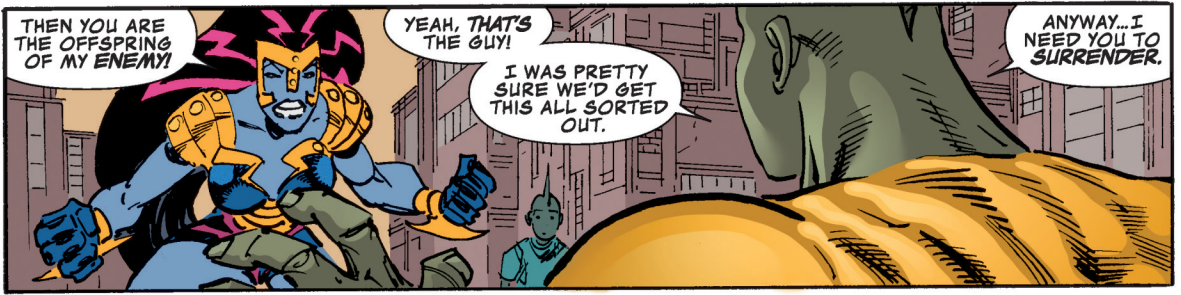


YOU...LOOK LIKE DARK DRAGON...

FATHER OF MY CHILD.

UHMM... NO.

I'M NOT QUITE 17 YEARS OLD AND I'M PRETTY SURE I WAS IN DIMENSION-X WHEN YOU AND MY DAD'S EVIL TWIN WENT AT IT.



THEN YOU ARE THE OFFSPRING OF MY ENEMY!

YEAH, THAT'S THE GUY!

I WAS PRETTY SURE WE'D GET THIS ALL SORTED OUT.

ANYWAY...I NEED YOU TO SURRENDER.



BATTLE AXE SURRENDERS TO NO MAN!

>KAKK!<



DON'T KILL HIM, MOMMY.

>HKKK!<

OH, LORDY.



**SKRAKKA-ZAKK!**

SCOUGH!

SCOUGH!



IS...  
IS SHE DEAD?

I SURE  
HOPE NOT.



SHE IS  
DEAD!  
YOU  
KILLED MY  
MOM!  
YOU  
KILLED MY  
MOM!

SHE WAS  
CHOKING ME!  
I DIDN'T...



I'M GOING  
TO KILL  
YOU.

WHEN I'M  
BIGGER I'M  
GOING TO  
FIND YOU  
AND KILL  
YOU.

YOU'LL  
SEE.

YEAH.



IT'S... LISTEN, DON'T CLEAN UP.

WE CAN'T...

**GISH!**



THE NIGHTMARE IS OVER.



I THOUGHT I COULD CONTROL HER, YOU KNOW? THAT I COULD KEEP HER FROM DOING ANYTHING BAD.

I THOUGHT WE COULD JUST... BE JENNIFER. JUST BECOME DRAGON'S WIFE. GERTIE KNEW HER... KNEW ALL ABOUT HER... AND I JUST WANTED TO BE WITH HIM IN ANY WAY I COULD.



IT IS OVER.

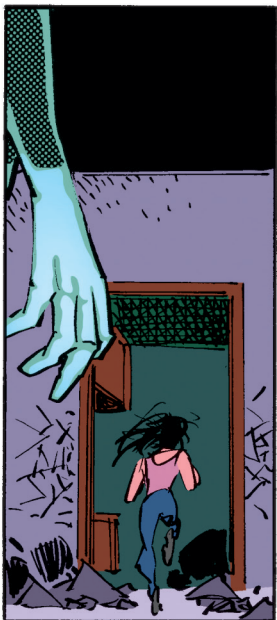
MY SISTER'S DEAD.

I DIDN'T WANT TO BELIEVE IT... BUT I DO NOW.

AND I'M... TIED.

TIRED OF THE GAME. TIRED OF THE ROUTINE... THE DEATH... EVERYTHING.

I THINK YOU'D BETTER GO.



YOU TOO, NEGATE.



BUT BEFORE YOU DO... I HAVE ONE SMALL FAVOR.

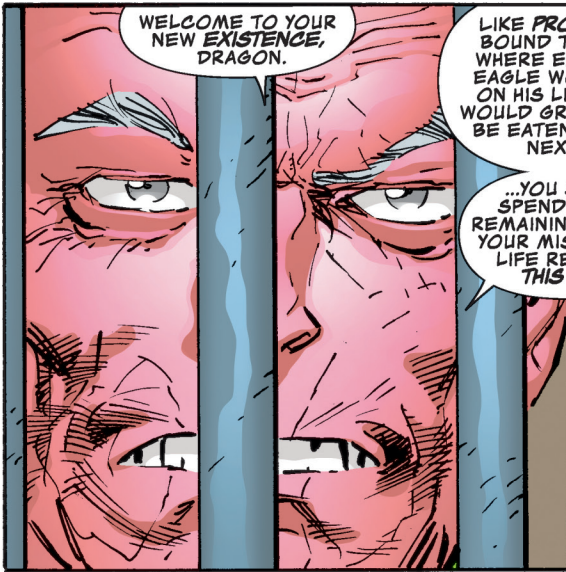
IF IT WOULDN'T BE TOO MUCH TROUBLE...



DO YOU THINK YOU MIGHT TOUCH ME AND FERRIS?

I THINK IT'S TIME THAT BOTH OF US WENT HOME...

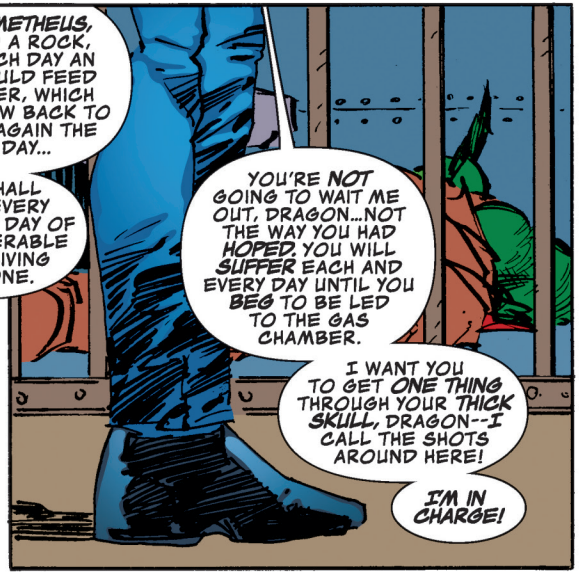
TO GO HOME AT LONG LAST.



WELCOME TO YOUR NEW EXISTENCE, DRAGON.

LIKE PROMETHEUS, BOUND TO A ROCK, WHERE EACH DAY AN EAGLE WOULD FEED ON HIS LIVER, WHICH WOULD GROW BACK TO BE EATEN AGAIN THE NEXT DAY...

...YOU SHALL SPEND EVERY REMAINING DAY OF YOUR MISERABLE LIFE RELIVING THIS ONE.



YOU'RE NOT GOING TO WAIT ME OUT, DRAGON...NOT THE WAY YOU HAD HOPED YOU WILL SUFFER EACH AND EVERY DAY UNTIL YOU BEG TO BE LED TO THE GAS CHAMBER.

I WANT YOU TO GET ONE THING THROUGH YOUR THICK SKULL, DRAGON--I CALL THE SHOTS AROUND HERE!

I'M IN CHARGE!



I WANT YOU...

...TO GET ONE THING...



...THROUGH YOUR THICK SKULL--



PTOO!

FUPP.



HEH, HEH, HEH.

e-mail: [Erik@savagedragon.com](mailto:Erik@savagedragon.com)

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

Another issue of Savage Dragon? Damned straight! And I'm going to keep 'em coming, pal! There's no stopping me!

Oh...except a cold. That slowed me down and I missed a week. But other than sickness...there's no stopping me!

If you've been following the Savage Dragon-related comic book news you know there's a major new direction coming your way with issue #193. That means things are going to be getting pretty crazy on the way there. There are a lot of cool things coming up and I can't wait for you to see 'em all.

21 years into this run and I'm still having a ball! Who'd have thought it?

## Cheers to you sir!

I've just finished reading both issues 186 & 187 of Savage Dragon. First of all, thank you so much for such enjoyable comics! If not for you I'd barely have a comic book related reason to visit my local shop!

I have to say, these issues have been among my favorites of the series so far. You've taken enormous risks in the book- the two page splash revealing the horrible goings-on surrounding Emperor Dragon's people, the rigid panel and color structure of the new issue- Wow. I found it interesting that you mentioned Herculean in the letters page of 187, because that issue made me think about that book quite a bit.

I feel like we've reached a point in Savage Dragon where you feel as if you can experiment freely. You've done this quite a bit with your art, lettering, and layout style over the years. I've always enjoyed that about the book immensely. There have been times when you've really dialed the line work back to the bare minimum. Other times you have played with a Frank Miller/Mike Mignola style high contrast look. The colors have gone from high contrast to flat to old school and everything in between. Never a dull moment. The first few pages of #187 (well, the whole damn thing really) reminded me a lot of all of your experimental work. Yes, every bit of it that I've had the pleasure to read.

All I'm saying here is this: Please keep up the good work! Your experiments keep Savage Dragon vital, thanks for everything you do!

Clay Moore,  
Charlotte NC

**I'm never sure exactly how anything will be received. And it's always risky to do something experimental. There are readers that don't want things to change ever...and they're put off by any number of things. The truth is...you can't please all of the people all of the time or even all of the people some of the time...the best you can do is not drive too many away. Glad this worked for you.**

Hey Erik,

I'm a little behind on commenting/critiquing of a couple issues, so I'll cover 186 and 187.

For starters, with SD 186, it's really great to have Chris Eliopoulos back as letterer. Even if it is digital lettering, I assume it's his own font and it looks great. Being a comic vet, and specifically of this title, I have complete confidence in his ability to deliver.

Story wise, it's going to take some getting use to seeing Flash Mercury trouncing around with Powerhouse. Instantly makes me want to see them in a tag-team bout against the Deadly Duo! Tons of future potential with VC the Next Generation. The most disturbing offspring for me personally has to be Dung's 'girls', Dumpling and Blossom. I'm a big fan of disturbing.

Wicked take on the Claw! Really cool seeing him delivering wholesale whoopins', tearing everyone out the frame. Great two page spread of the aliens returning to Kalyptus and slaughtering Dragon's race. Just great layout, inking, and coloring on that one.

And so Angel ventures out on her own, out of Chicago, to join the S.O.S. Leaves me wondering how Malcolm will now probably handle working largely alone, I imagine. Poor ole Daredevil gets shut down on the Angel front as well. What's this world comin' to?! Very cool last page with holographic Lorella paying Dragon a surprise non conjugal visit in the slammer. Having been a corrections officer for seven long years, I appreciate your attention to detail when it comes to the interior walls of Dragon's cell. It looks specially designed to keep a super-being, like Dragon, intact with the steel plating covering every surface. I suspect we'll soon see if it even matters.

Now, with all the experimentation going on within the pages of SD 187, I had to write right away. Simply said, I'm down with it all. Visually, we know it won't be every reader's cup of tea. Fortunately for you, I'm a big fan of tea, among other adult beverages. Six panel pages throughout the entire issue? Check! Different approach to coloring? Check! Central story focusing on the villains' points of view? Check!

Creepy cool two pages of Dart spying all ninja stealth like on Malcolm talking with Daredevil and the Little Wise Guys. An extra inked line here, and one there, and tah-dah! Dragon, Mako, and Dung are all really showing their age this issue. The characters aging accordingly has always been a highlight of your book. Speaking of Dung, quite possibly my two favorite pages of this issue are of his wife leaving him and their 'daughters' Dumpling and Blossom. So weird and sad. How do you successfully combine those two emotions simultaneously within a reader?! Mako on the loose taking on anybody and everybody! William and Rita! Malcolm with Lightning Punches to the Head! Powerhouse and Flash Mercury! Just some patented good time Erik Larsen slug-fest pages!

Last, but not least, the final page! Holy Hell, I sure as heck didn't see this coming! Jennifer?! Really?! If that doesn't stir the pot I don't know what does. How long has it been anyway? Oh I can imagine this building up to a head as you steamroll savagely to issue #200!

Good Times!

Nick Justus  
Somerville, NJ

**Things will be coming to a head before that! I can't wait for anniversary issues, dammit! I have too much stuff to do now!**

Hey Erik,

Wow, 187 issues down! Feels like just yesterday Malcolm was a "dead fetus". Now he has a hot girlfriend with an "epic" ass and is...the big leagues??? Damn, you can never accuse Dragon of just being the same old thing. I'm really diggin it though.

I honestly thought he would be having a much harder time without Dragon and Angel being around for help/support. Instead he is stepping up and even knocking out Mako of all people! Most impressive, and I definitely have enjoyed watching him grow into his own person/hero, although it does occasionally make me feel old!

I really liked your experimental issue, I think it turned out well and gave us a good chance to catch up on what was going on with most everyone. I mean, who woulda ever thought there was a Mrs. Dung!

I really like how you let us see that these bad guys are still people that sometimes have families and such. Hell, I even felt bad for his poor...children? I felt bad for Dung too, but really, can you blame his wife for leaving him? Talk about a stinky situation! I still wanna know if Dung can take that

amour off though. If not, I can only imagine sex to be...well, lets just not think about that.

Dragon on death row is an interesting situation. I compare it to the current Spider-Man situation, in that we all know that Peter will eventually regain his body from Doc Ock and someday another writer will bring Ock back to life. With you though, I wouldn't put it past ya to kill the big guy off. I mean, I hope not, because I love the big guy, but I would keep buying because I really think the book could survive without him. Wait, I'm not trying to encourage you though!

Everything else was pretty good. I'm honestly still not really sold on The Claw as the next big bad, but I suppose we shall see. Is Dragon gonna have to get out the joint to put him down at the end of the day? Stay tuned!

Oh, the Zeek backup was pretty good, though I hope this doesn't mean we've seen the last of Zeek.

And finally: Bring back the Deadly Duo!! Until next month, green man!

Don Smith

Vancouver, BC, Canada

**On of the genuine pleasures of doing this book has been the opportunity to not take the road most traveled. One of the pitfalls of corporate comics is the need to answer to a higher power whose interest is in maintaining the status quo. It may be a fun ride but we all know that eventually things will be back to normal and order will be restored. With Savage Dragon...I have no such restrictions.**

**The Deadly Duo will be back before you know it. In fact...they'll be back in our very next issue! I do love those guys.**

Hi Erik,

The blank lettercol fired me up to write for the first time, and issue 187 is the reason. I love how I can open a new issue of SD and be simultaneously surprised and welcomed by your experimental forays into new styles... even when doing homages to other artists it's completely new to SD. This issue's six-panel pages and simple color contrasts made for an enjoyable alternative style and suited the story well. Thank you for your experimentation! I always pick up your side projects and I'm sad Supreme couldn't continue. Just one question - do you sell original panel art?

Cheers,

Brian Hans

Bedford, MA

**I do sell original art. Not everything is available and I don't like splitting up complete issues if I can help it but several issues have been split up and I've been selling individual pages from those.**

**As far as Supreme goes...I'm okay with it. I said my piece so I have no regrets.**

Hey Erik,

Just wanted to share my thoughts and ask a few questions about SD 187. First off, I liked the coloring experiment for this issue. It is a nice change of pace to break up the artwork every now and then. While I do like a more traditional style, I hear your complaints about over-stylizing everything to the point where background art is distracting.

Now on to the story itself, which was really satisfying once again. You are on a roll lately, not that it was bad before but you seem to have some momentum going. Maybe that is because you have been wrapping up dangling plot-lines? Either way, I enjoyed seeing the young Vicious Circle in their environment compared to Malcolm and his.

And now, the questions:

1. Mako is one of my all-time favorites but he has to be getting up there in age. You can see it in his face, he is all beat up. I don't think sharks have particularly long life spans, is he wearing down now? Malcolm dropped him pretty good...

2. Or is Malcolm just getting stronger and stronger as he matures? Maybe a combination of the two?

3. Speaking on strength, does Malcolm have the potential to be stronger then Dragon or is that not possible since he is of mixed species?

4. Little confusion for me as I jump back in and am still reading past issues, is this original Jennifer or Jennifer that Glum had Angel kill?

There was also some great dialogue in the opening pages about asses, I can't forget to mention that...always a good job at writing regular conversations.

Looking forward to next issue,

Joe Gillespie

**1: He is wearing down but Malcolm had help. After Mako swatted into the sky he was jumped by both Powerhouse and Flash Mercury, both of whom have faced the Dragon and walked away from it. Mako defeated them while Malcolm tangled with some others and he was pretty wobbly by the time he ran into Malcolm a second time.**

**2: Malcolm is getting stronger, for sure, but he's still a 16-year old kid. It will be a good decade before he reaches his physical peak.**

**3: It's likely, actually. Since "chosen ones" always mate with normal people of Dragon's race, it's pretty clear that the powers don't get diluted when they mix, plus, due to his mother having genetic powers, Malcolm has powers his father doesn't have.**

**4: You'll just have to wait and see on that front. I can't give you all of the answers.**

Dear Erik,

Anyone who has been reading SD for a while knows you like to experiment from time to time. I had been looking forward to your next experiment because you had not done one since I don't remember when. But SD 187 wasn't exactly what I was hoping for. I probably won't be the only who asks you this, but I'm going to ask anyway: were you guys high when you picked out all those weird colors? Drunk? Or just in love with the idea of creating the most repulsive color combinations you could come up with just to see what they would look like? Was the whole thing suppose to be a big joke? Your art has become looser and more simple over the years. What has held it together lately has been some great color work that winds up holding my attention. I thought Cory Hamscher's inks on Supreme made your art look the best its been in years. I still wish you would get him to do the finishes on SD to pump up the look of the book. I don't know if you can't afford an inker, or if you're still a stick in the mud about doing it all yourself. But the color experiment in SD 187 make the shortcomings of your art more apparent. The colors were so bad I found myself looking at the line work in order to find something to like. But no dice. And no title page either. Just six panels on page one.

It reminded me of the comics other companies put out where the inside cover lists creator credits, but nobody gives a damn to give a title to the story I'm about to read. I've always appreciated the fact that you title every issue and it was a shock to see it missing. As far as the six panel layout goes, it was different, but I was so distracted by the color choices, so distracted by the search for something worth looking at, I couldn't follow the story and had to read the issue over again to figure out what was going on. Turns out, not much. It was another one of those "in-between" issues where a bunch a details have to be laid out to move the stories/sub-plots along to something more interesting. This wouldn't be so noticeable in a trade paperback, but when I read SD once a month and I hit an "in-between" I sometimes wonder why I still buy it.

SD 186 had horrible colors on the cover. SD 187 had horrible colors inside. I've been telling myself to stick with the book until #200 comes along, but you sure make it easy to reconsider my commitment. I'm not that interested in

Malcolm, and lately I've been thinking that every issue of SD is going to be my last. Daredevil and the kids, and The Yellow Claw don't interest me either. Well, like I said to myself last month, one more issue...and then I'll see if I want to keep buying this.

Daniel McMasters  
Sacramento

**When you perform an experiment there's always the risk that they may not be entirely successful. In this case...it worked for some but not for others. While some folks absolutely loved the colors in #187, others were less than taken with them. That's how that goes.**

**Same deal with the regimented panel grid. Some folks thought it was great...others found it monotonous. It actually stemmed from certain editors talking about how comics are "movies on paper" and me thinking, "that's not exactly the case...in the movies the screen doesn't change size and shape. But what if the screen in comics did stay the same size...what would that be like?"**

**And now we know.**

**The issue was focusing more on the villains than usual but I wouldn't call it an in-between issue. It resolved things, rather forcefully, with the villainous offspring. It also saw the final demise of the last remnant of Overlord. Two very important climaxes.**

**I stopped doing title pages six issues prior to #187, Daniel and just now you noticed? Well, there you go. The book started out with no title pages and didn't have them for the first 75 issues. Again, the feelings seem mixed. Some readers like them and some don't. Not everybody can have what they want. That's just how it goes.**

Erik,

I am now caught up to #185. I just picked up #186 and #187 from Comic Empire in Tulsa, Ok. I have not read them yet, but I already must say, please do more of what you did in #187. That style of drawing and coloring from you and your team is my absolute favorite!!! Six panel grid is awesome, but maybe change it up a bit with some 1/3rd or 2/3rd or even 4/12ths Double Paige Spreads please. Seriously, 'experimental'/exschperimantal!. Do this style more often please! Months at a time. 'Story arcs' at a time. Years at a time. Decades at a time! I dig it.

Thanks!  
Jeff Waesch

**You and Daniel McMasters need to just fight it out in a mud pit with spiked clubs and chainsaws. That's the only way we're ever going to get a consensus here. Deciding what to do is nearly impossible with all of the conflicting opinions bandied about. If I was to take directions from the readers I'd be completely baffled as to which move to make.**

Erik,

I just adore that real time is something you've strove to keep in this comic. The Vicious Circle's children's growing up and becoming the next threat makes sense. They have grudges, they most likely have poor opportunities. Like a Mafioso, it's the family business. Also sensible that Malcolm could take them out as well. He's been racking up more fight time with getting lost in Dimension-X. I am very curious to see what Octopus' kid can do other than look like a teenager from the '90s.

I thought you were brutal to your characters before. The deaths, the maiming and dismemberment. Genocide even. I think giving existential dread to Dung's daughters was really freakin' brutal (and then you go brag about it on Twitter!).

John-Paul Gorgoroso  
Elizabeth, NJ

**did mention it.**

Dear Savage Larsen,

Boy, I hate to see a family break up. All the sacrifice, the love, the memories just flushed down the toilet. Sure Dung's a crappy guy but how stupid was his wife? She's just now noticing that Dung stinks? And why take it out on the kids? They can't help being walking steamers. I mean it's not like they were rubbing her nose in it. Why they weren't wearing earrings of peanuts and corn and the only reason they didn't do chores like the dishes was because you wouldn't want them too. No wonder they're turning to a life of crime and hitting the skids.

So Jennifer's alive. That whole bit about Angel saying "oh by the way I killed mom" just wasn't a very satisfying end. So I look forward to seeing what this is all about.

Keep up the experiments. The six panel format has been gone so long that it's new again.

I've also been really enjoying seeing Powerhouse around. Please don't make him fly away.

So I'll see you next time in Savage Dragon#188.

Douglas Nelson,  
Sulphur, LA

**It sounds like a plan.**

**And I like Powerhouse too but he is at odds with the Vicious Circle. Letting him stick around would be asking for trouble.**

**Also, contrary to popular opinion...I'm not generally all that savage.**

Hi Erik,

I have started to buy Savage Dragon regularly. A consistent, class act like yours should be supported, especially since I think yours is the last of the grand tradition – Bendis has left Avengers and Peter David's X-Factor has been cancelled.

Having read 187 and its letters page about personal expression, I'm sorry to say I do prefer your crisper inking styles. I like your spheres and cylinders drawn with clean lines and serious black shadows.

The coloring experiment didn't work for me, either. Some panels had as few as three colors, which reduced my illusion of depth. I had trouble following the fight scene at the end, as costumes changed color from panel to panel.

Sorry to be so conservative in my first letter. It just shows how good your work has been to date. It's fun when you try things out in something other than a crowded superhero book, like NEXT ISSUE PROJECT.

My questions: Why is P.J. called "P.J." when he looks more like an "Eggbert?" Will he age while the other Little Wise Guys don't?

Best,  
Charlie Boatner

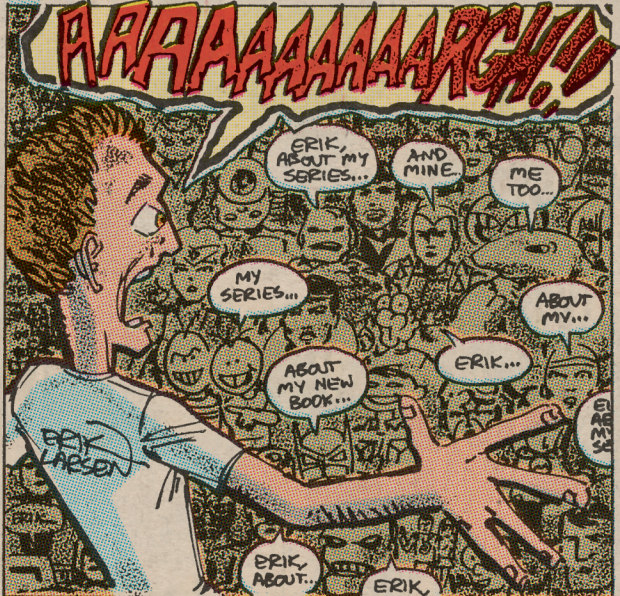
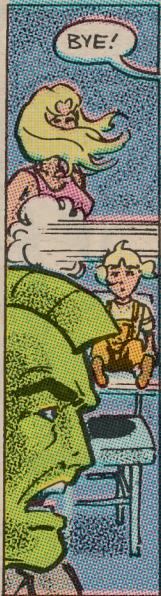
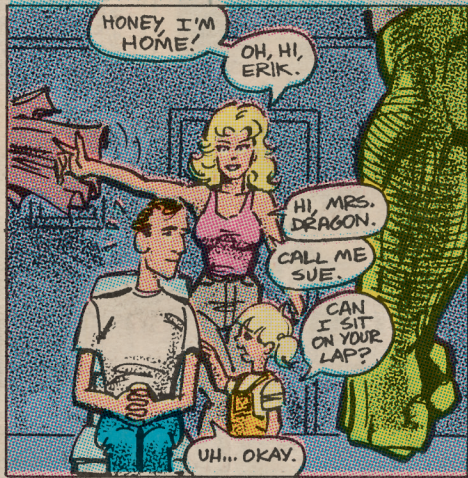
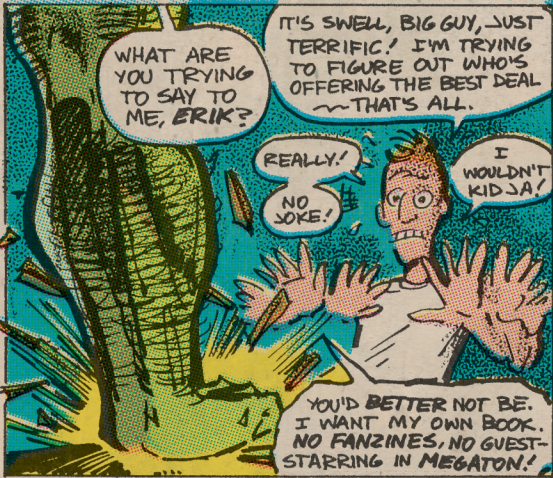
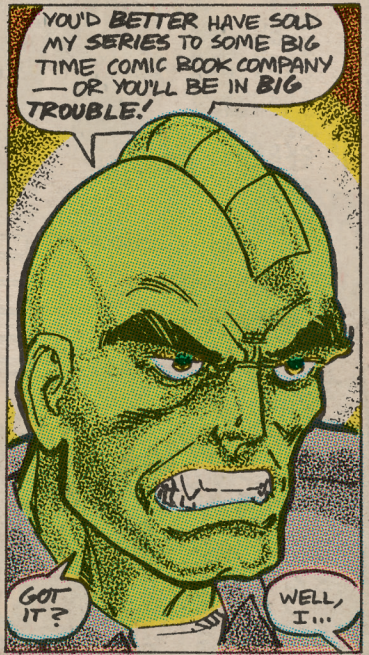
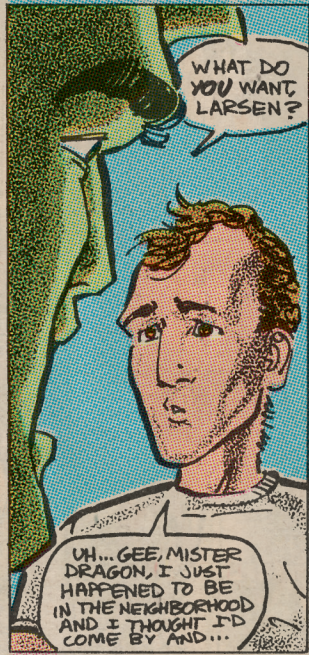
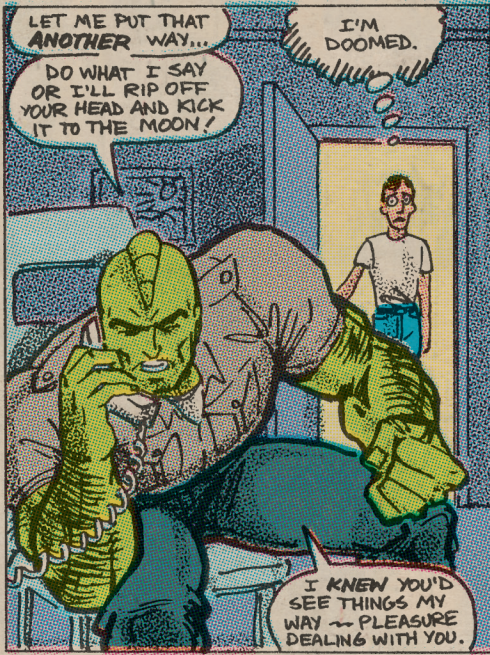
**P.J. became the blood brother of the other Little Wise Guys in Savage Dragon #174, exchanging blood with Pee Wee. Presumably, P.J. will no longer grow older and certainly there is no evidence to show that this is not the case at this point. He's no taller. He still fits his clothes. Something's going on.**

**-Erik Larsen**

**NEXT: Mako!**

**Here are some goodies from the past. Seen here in color for the first time! Enjoy!**

**I don't know that I'd call that "bragging" exactly. I**



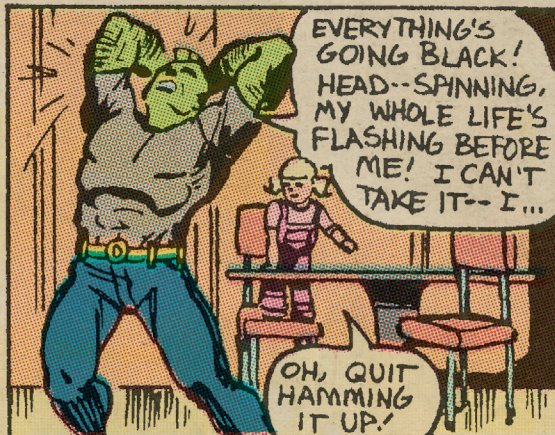
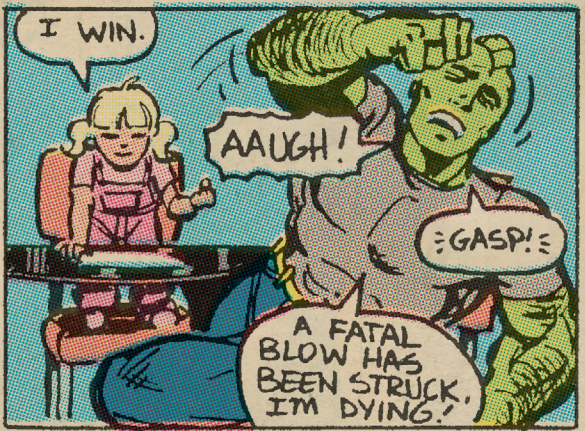
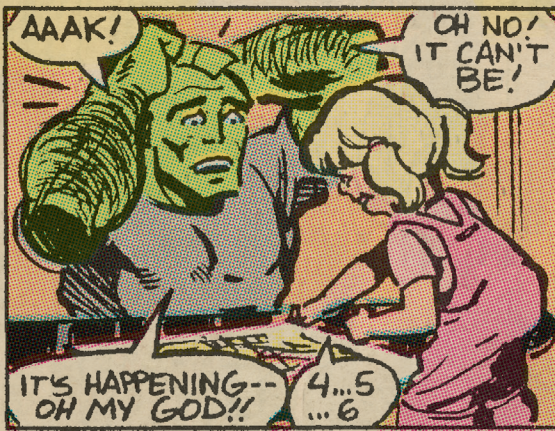
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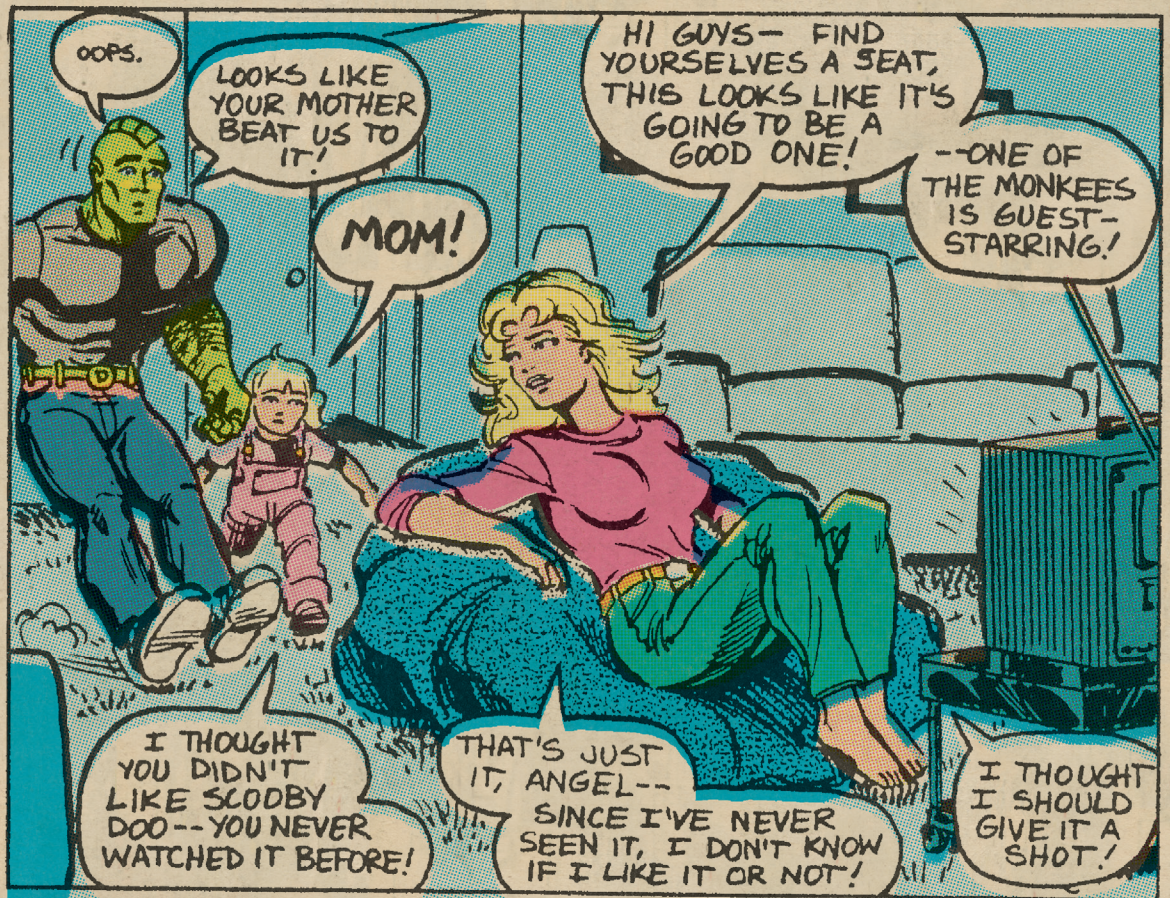
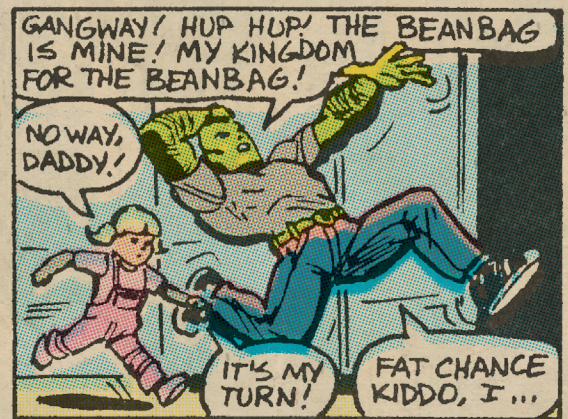
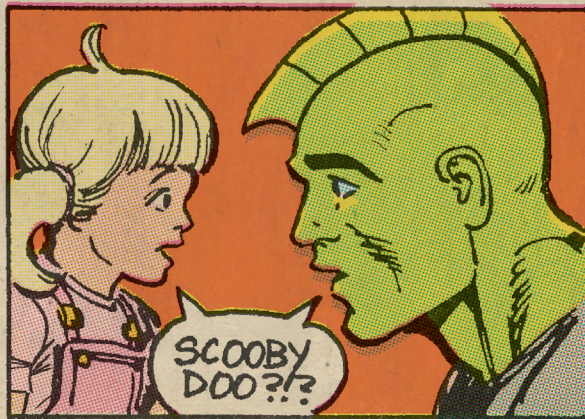
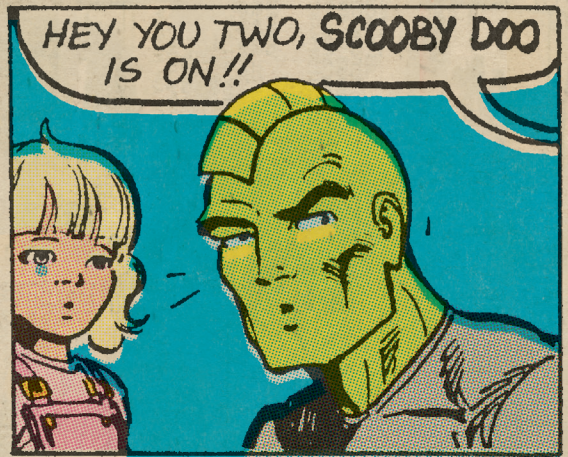
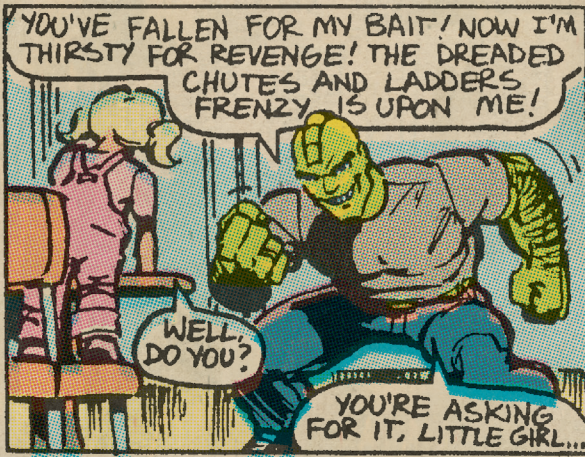
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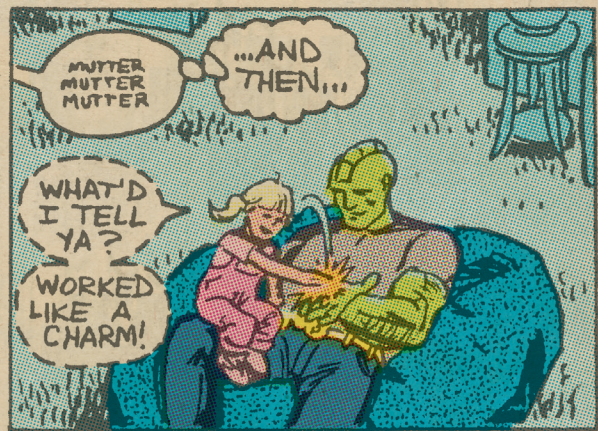
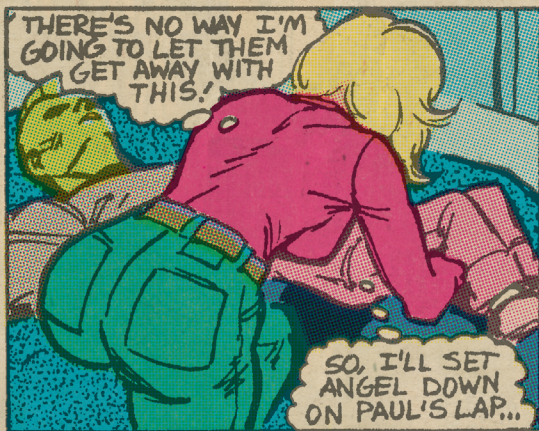
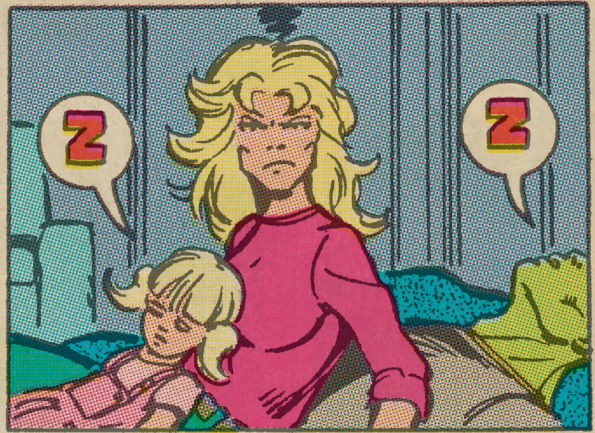
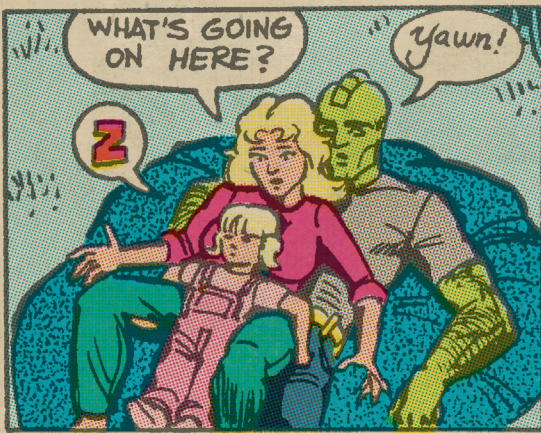
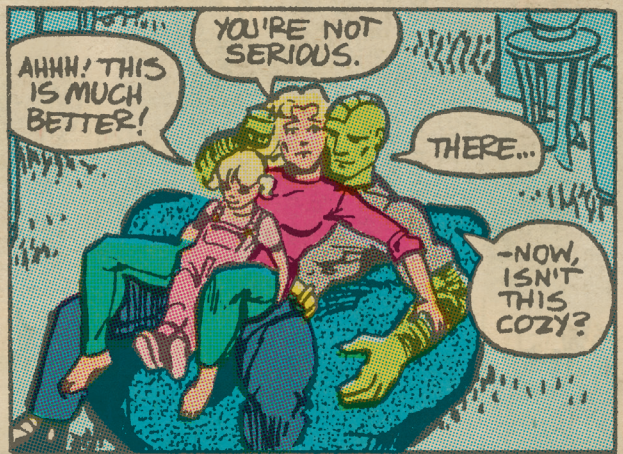
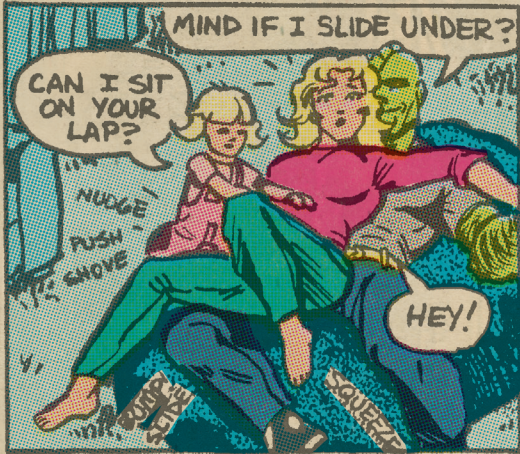
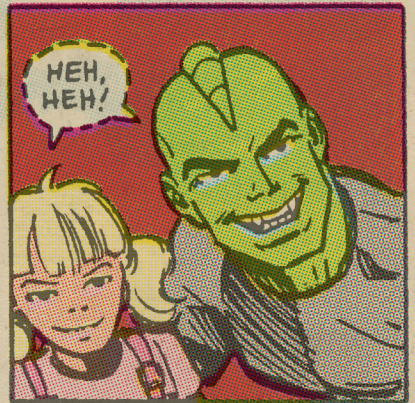
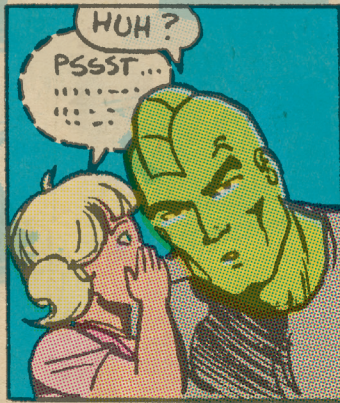
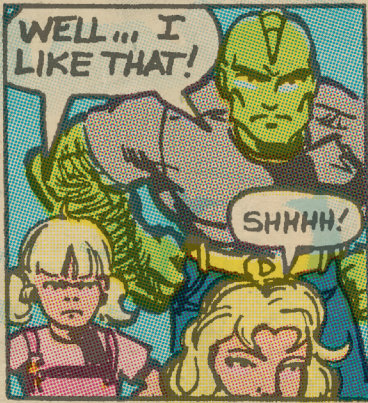
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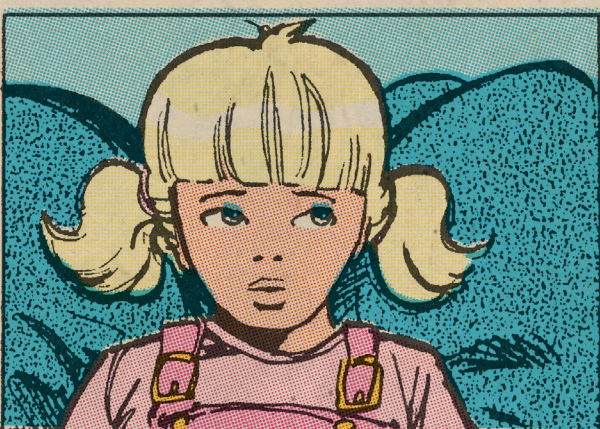
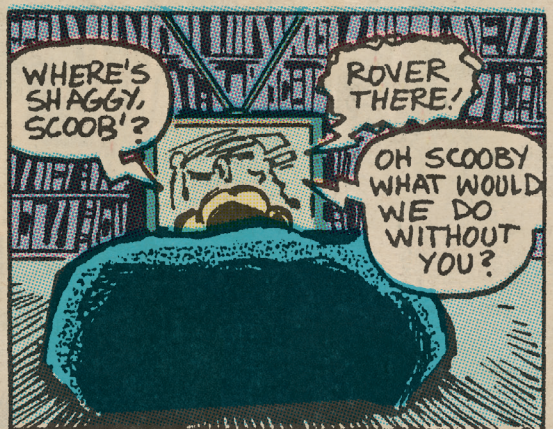
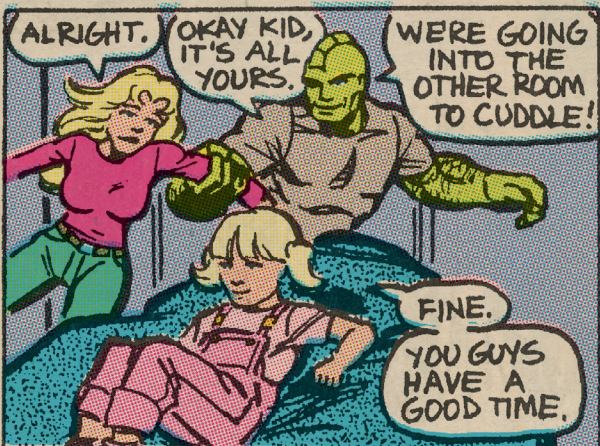
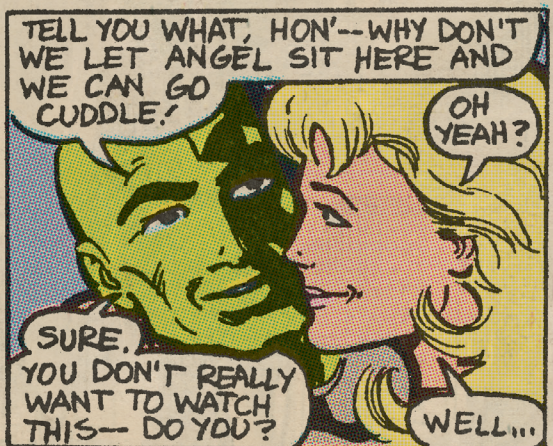
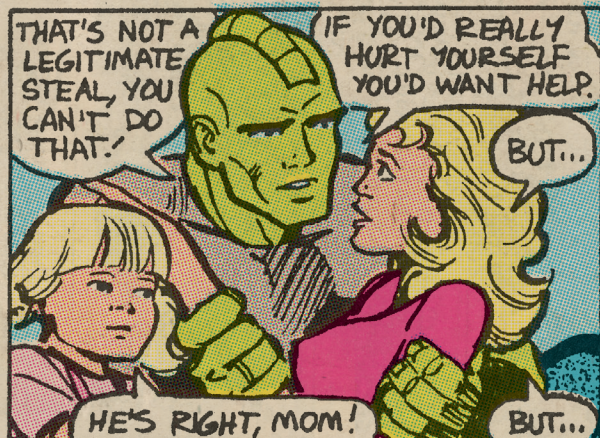
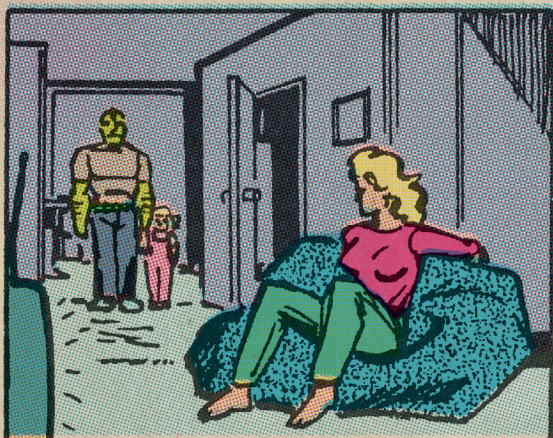
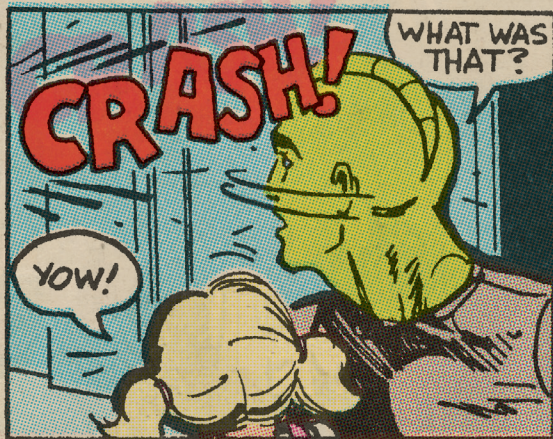
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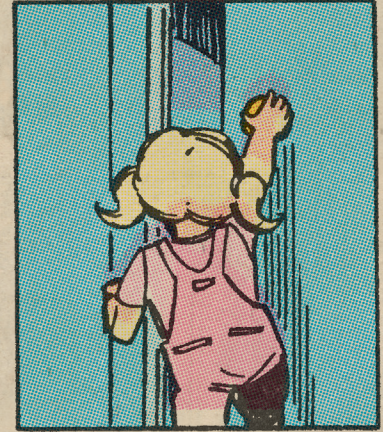
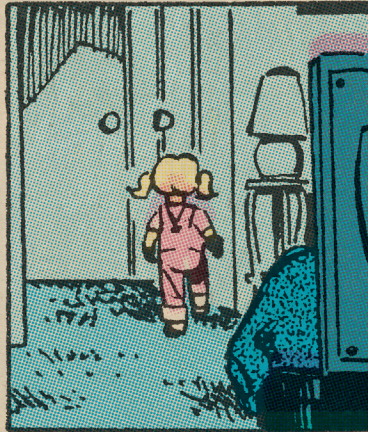
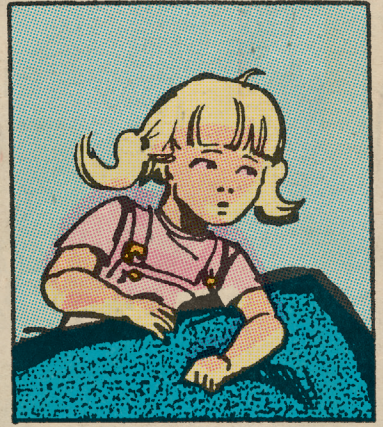
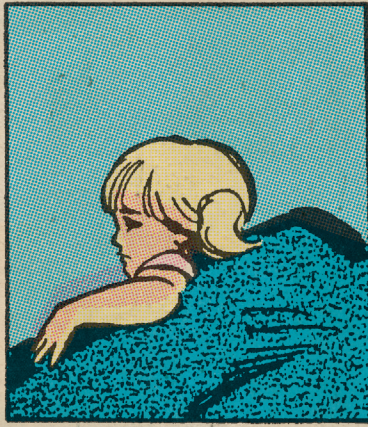
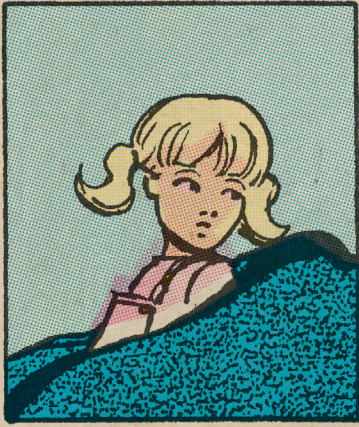
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