



SAVAGE

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1992-2012
image

DRAGON

SAK
HOTO

SAVAGE DRAGON

by 

TOM ORZECHOWSKI
Letters

NIKOS KOUTSIS
Colors
MIKE TORIS
Flats

JOSH EICHORN
the frothy mixture of lube and
fecal matter that is sometimes
the by-product of anal sex...

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SAVAGE DRAGON™

ATTACK



DRAGON--

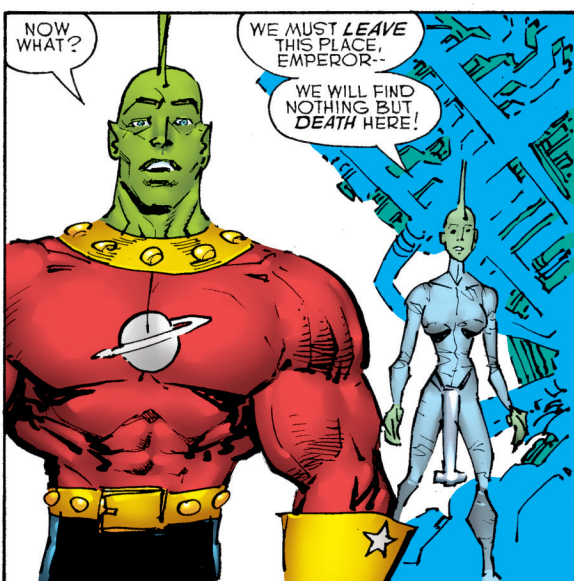
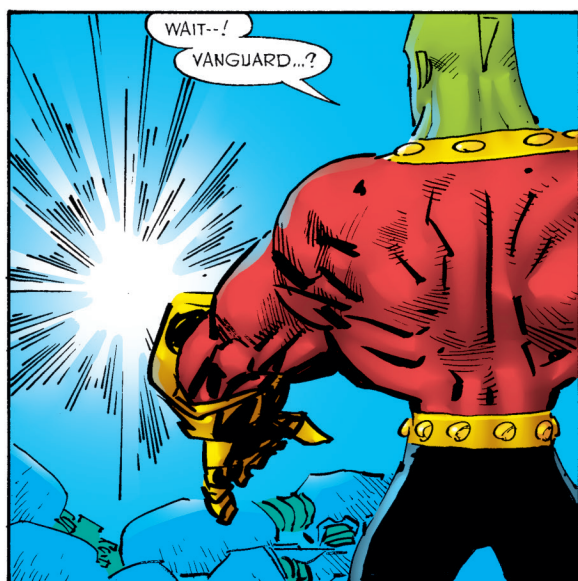
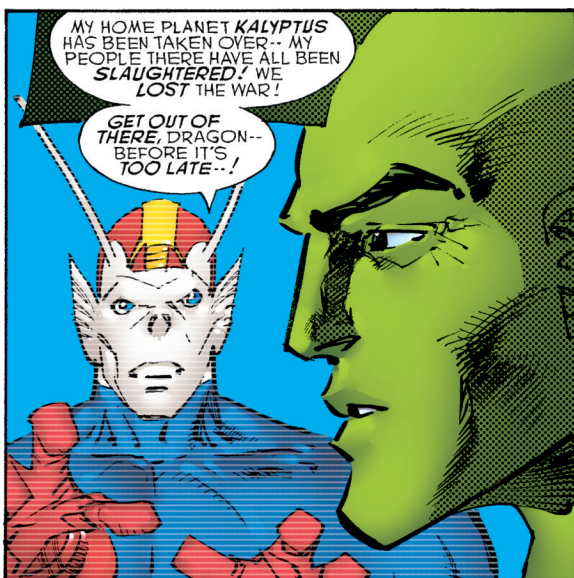
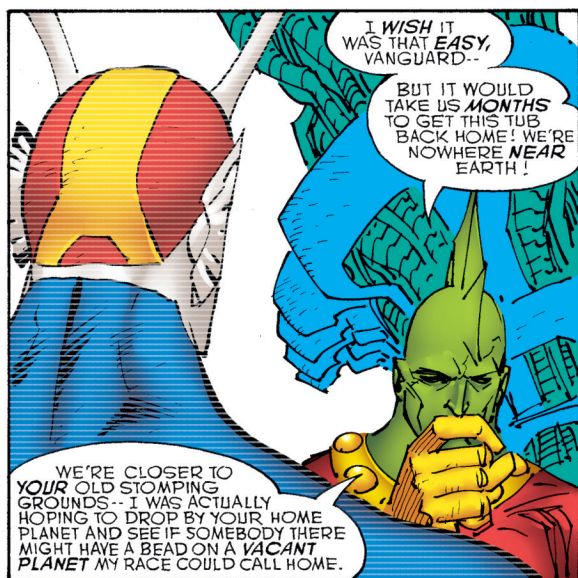
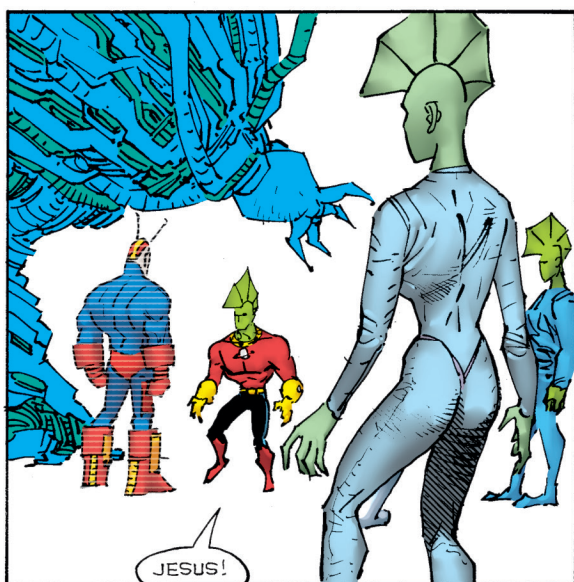
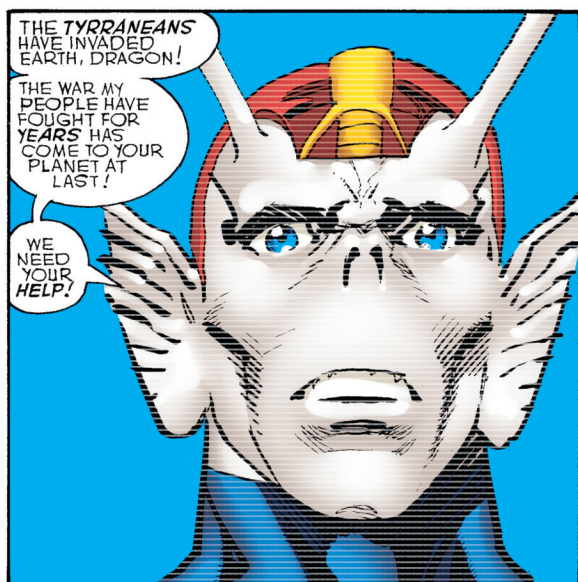
YOU'RE
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BACK
HOME.

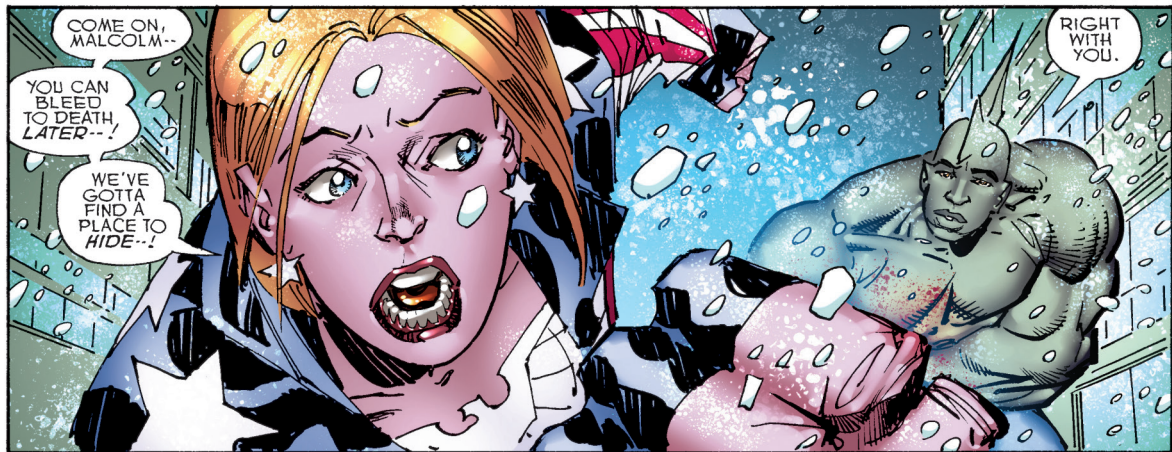
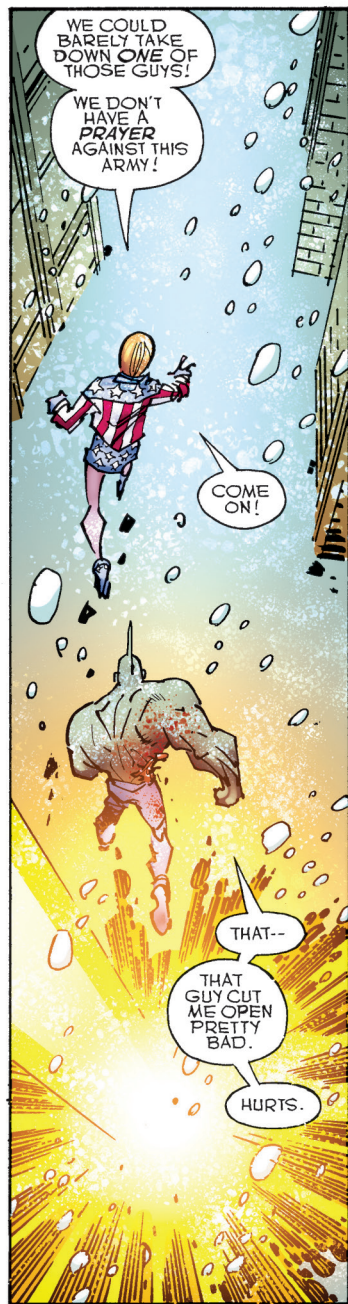
VANGUARD!

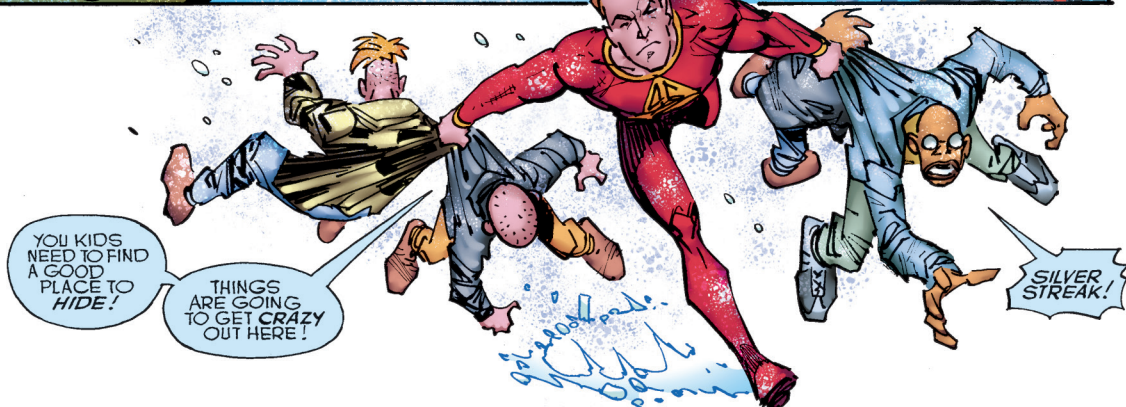
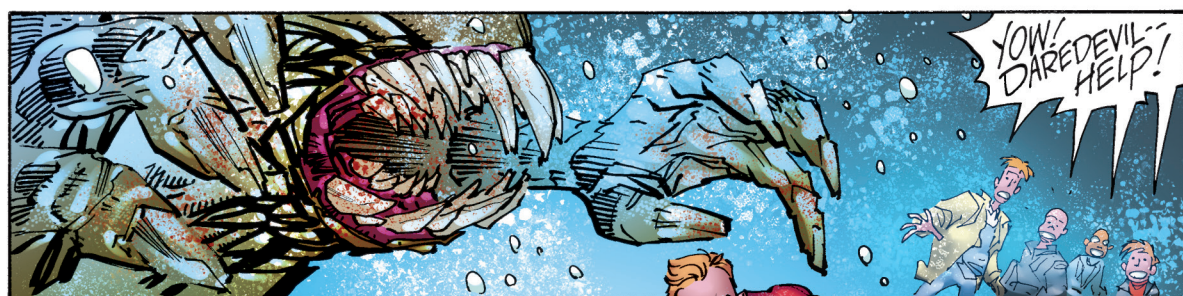
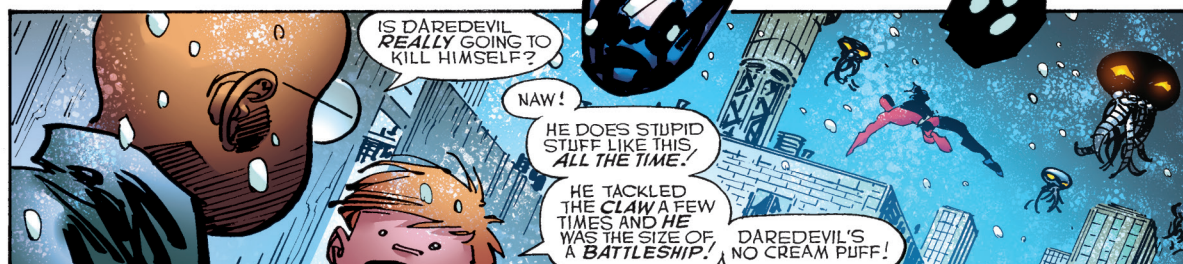
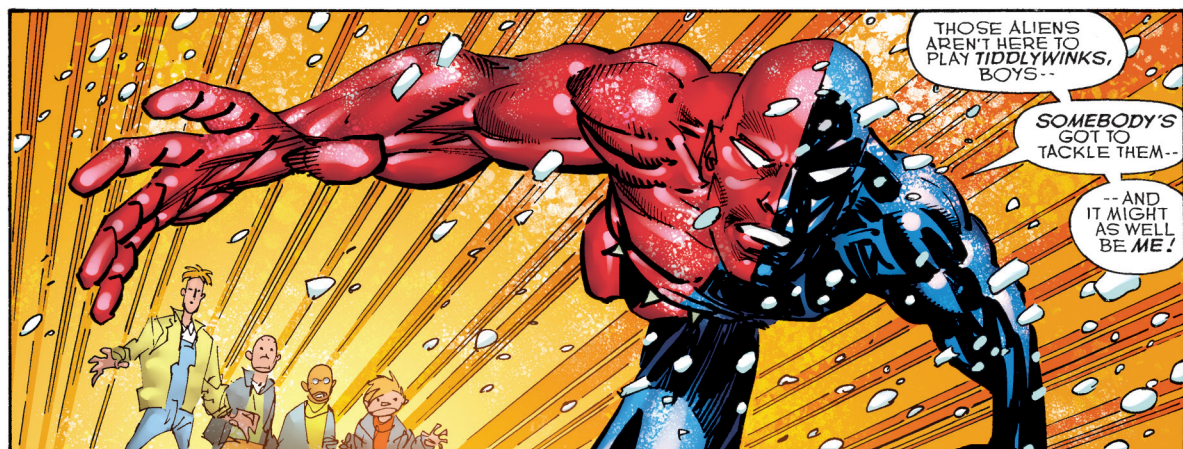
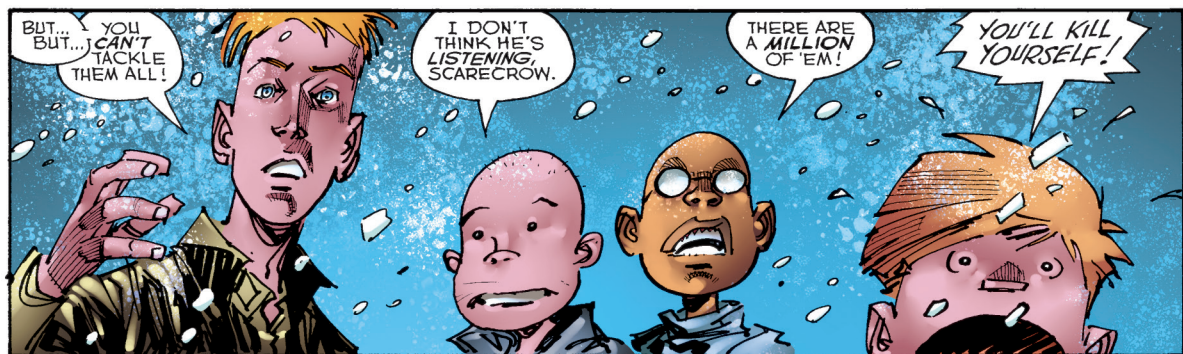
ERIK
LARSEN
PERPETRATOR

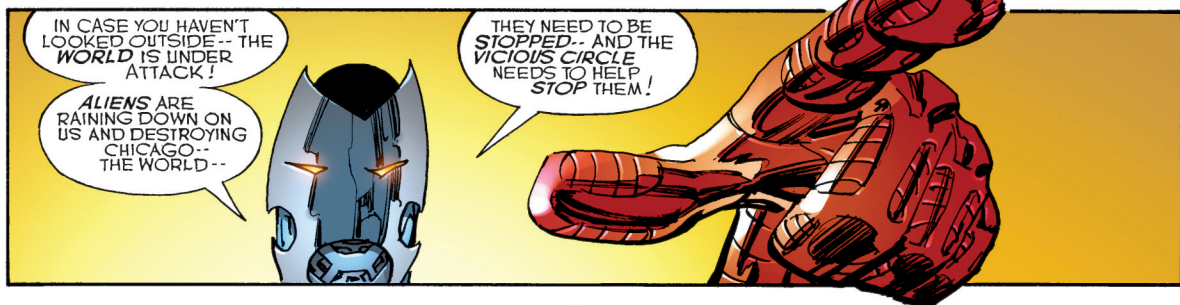
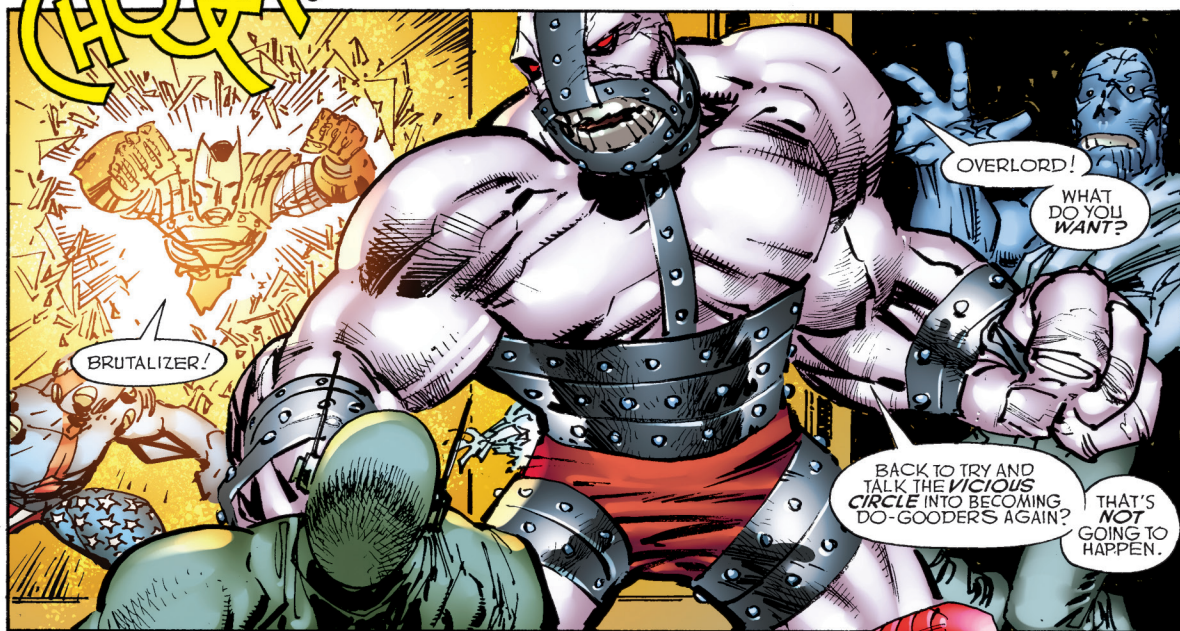
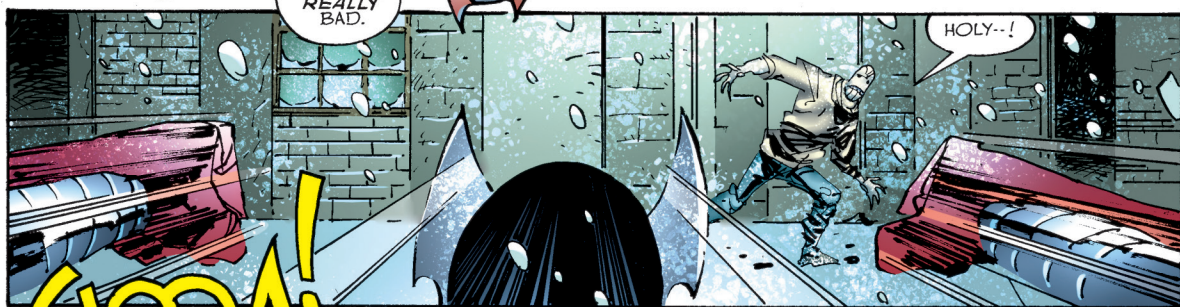
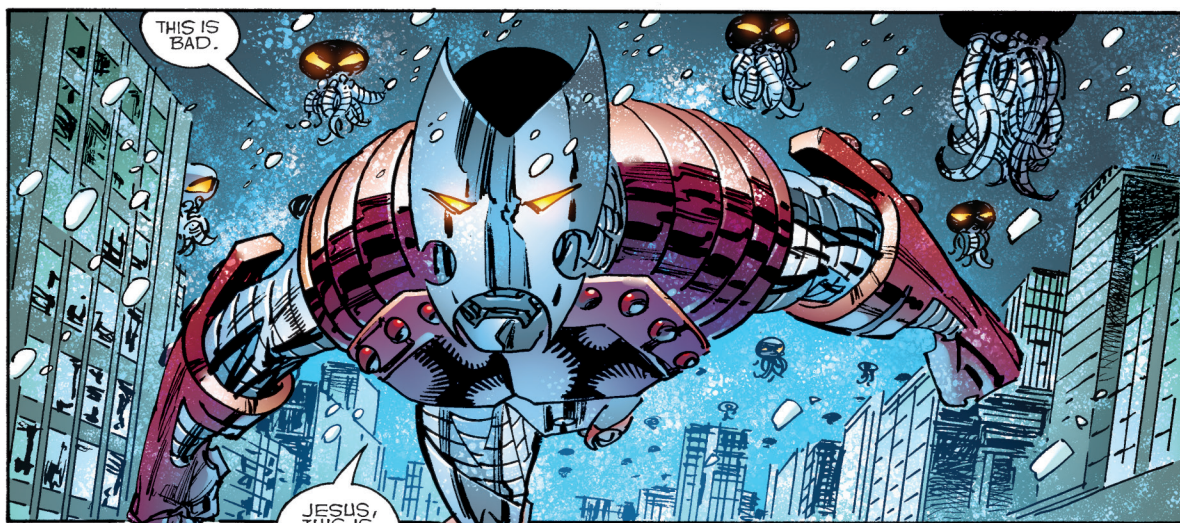
TOM
ORZECOWSKI
LETTERER

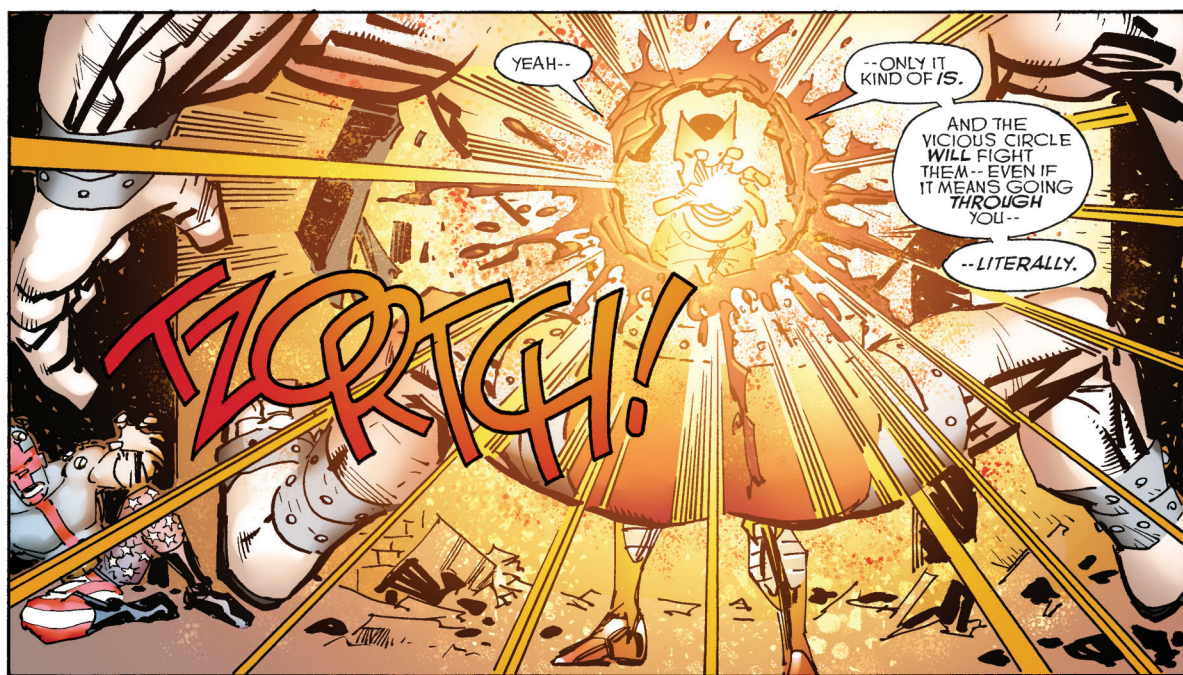
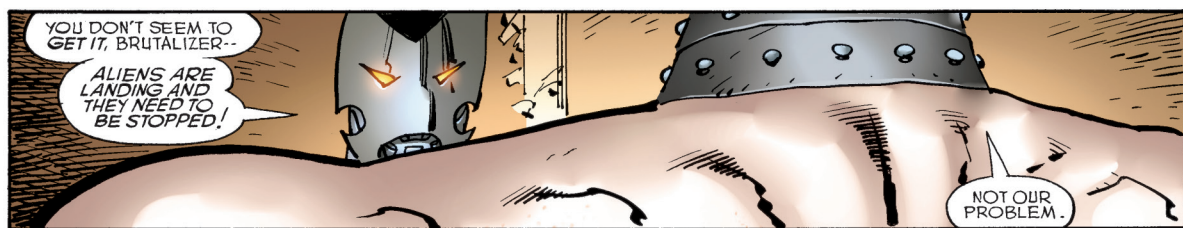
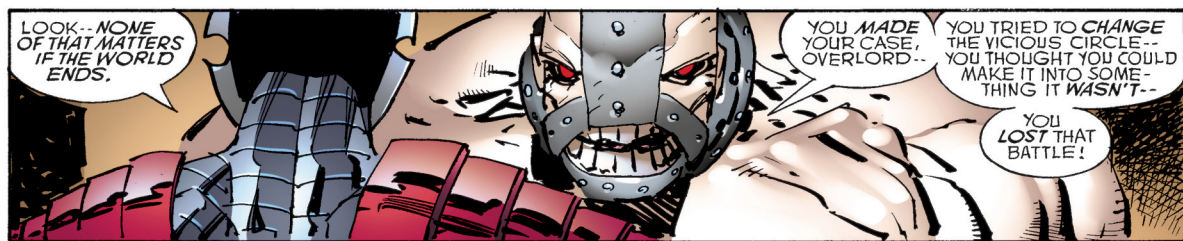
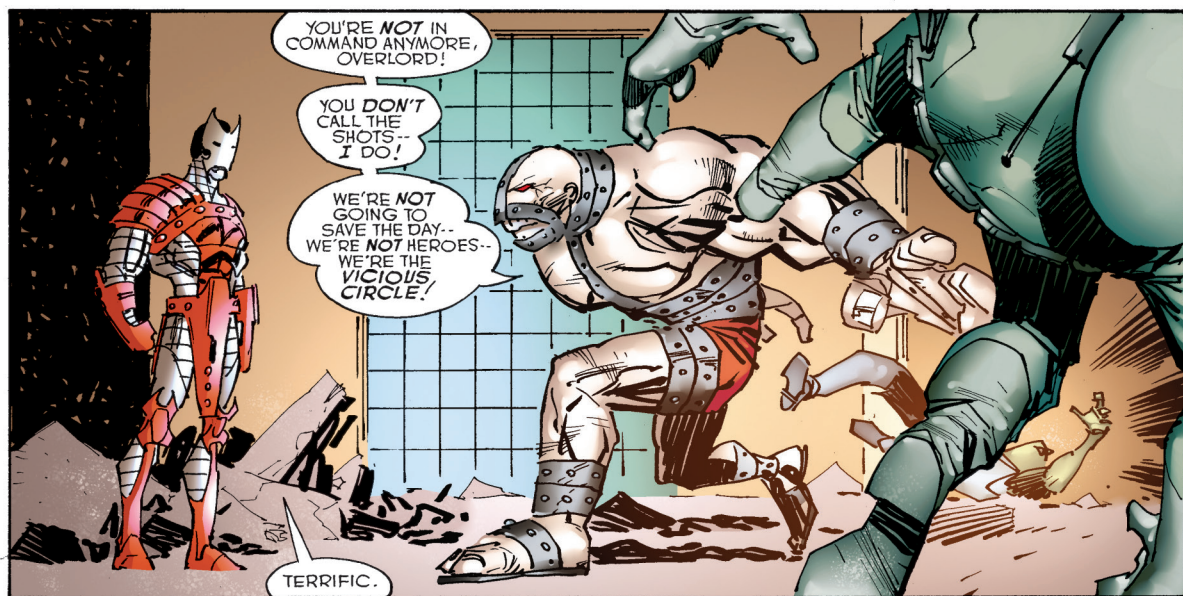
NIKOS & MIKE
KOUTSIS & TORIS
COLORISTS













GOD TOWN.

BY THE GODS!

THE SKIES ARE VERITABLY FILLED WITH AIRSHIPS FROM BEYOND THIS MORTAL REALM.

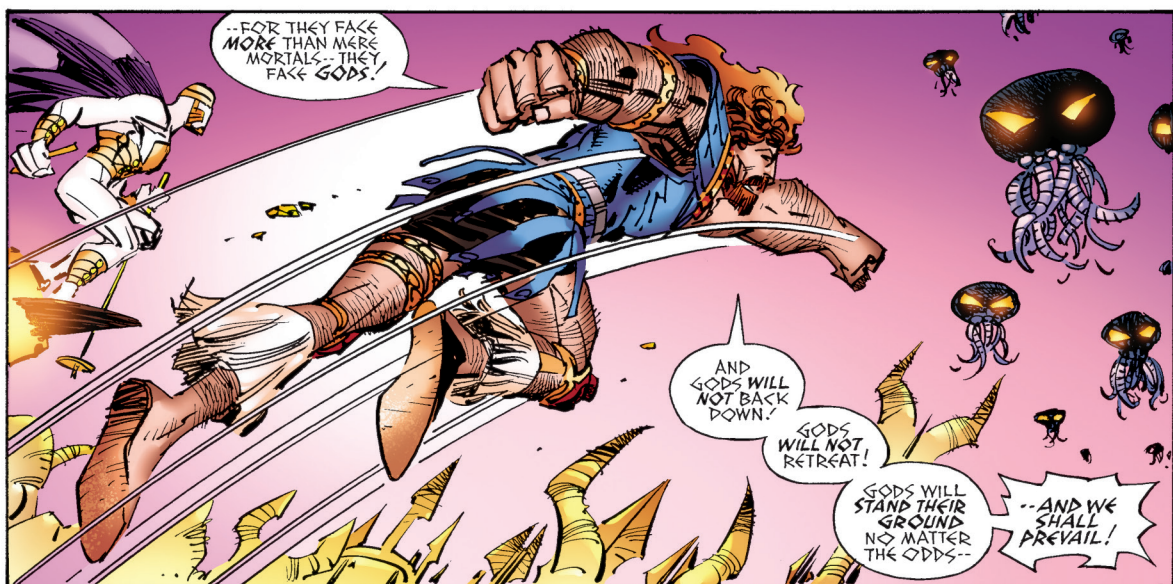
THEY ATTACK AS ONE! THEY DARE CHALLENGE THE GODS-- FIRING UPON THEIR HOME ON EARTH!

IT IS BEYOND BELIEF!



HERAKLES-- WE ARE UNDER ATTACK!

THEY KNOW NOT THE FOLLY OF THEIR ONSLAUGHT--



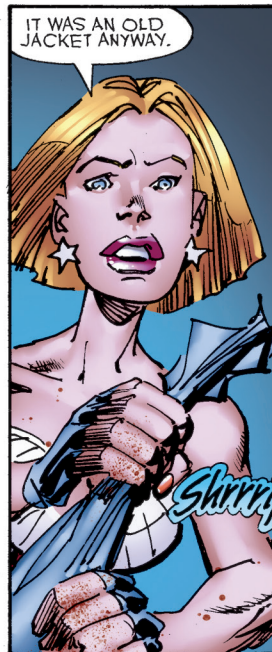
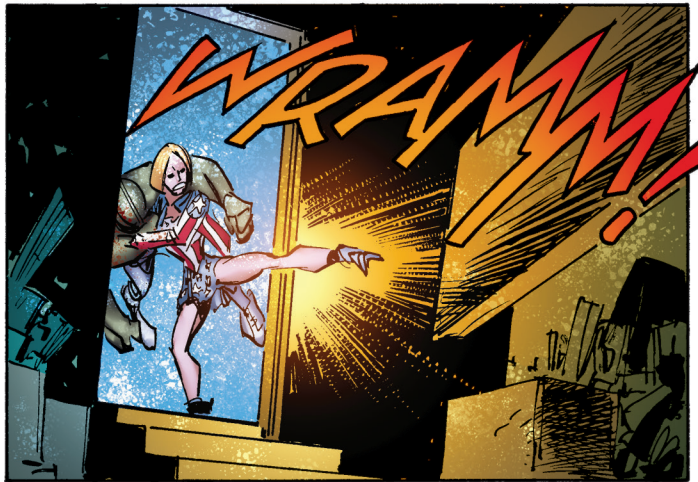
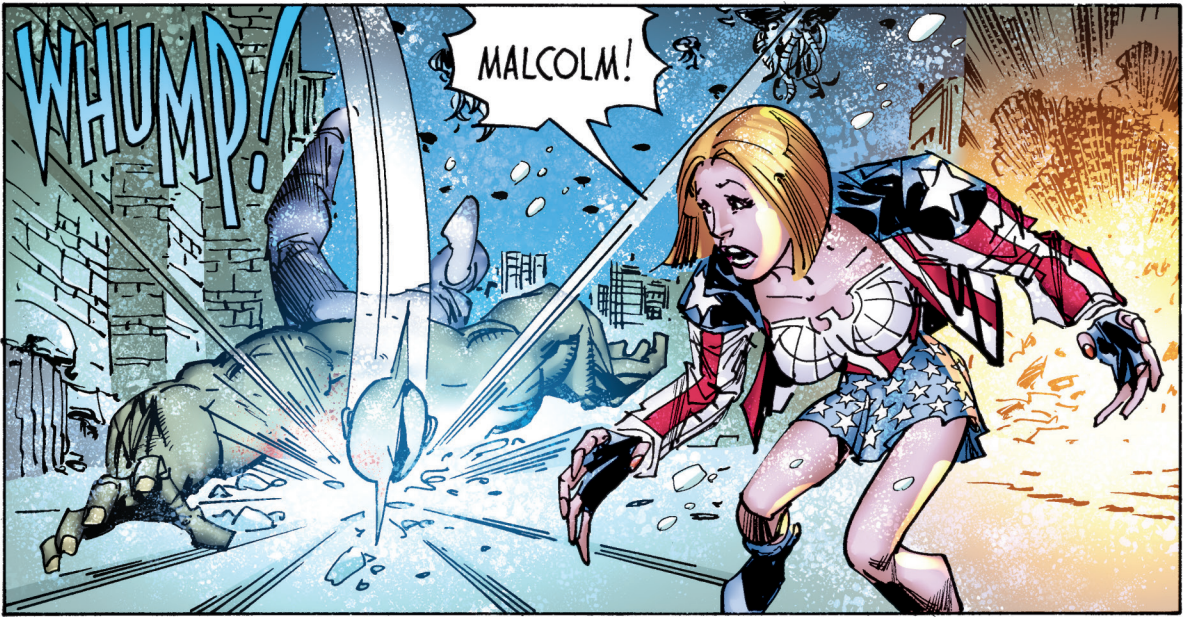
--FOR THEY FACE MORE THAN MERE MORTALS-- THEY FACE GODS!

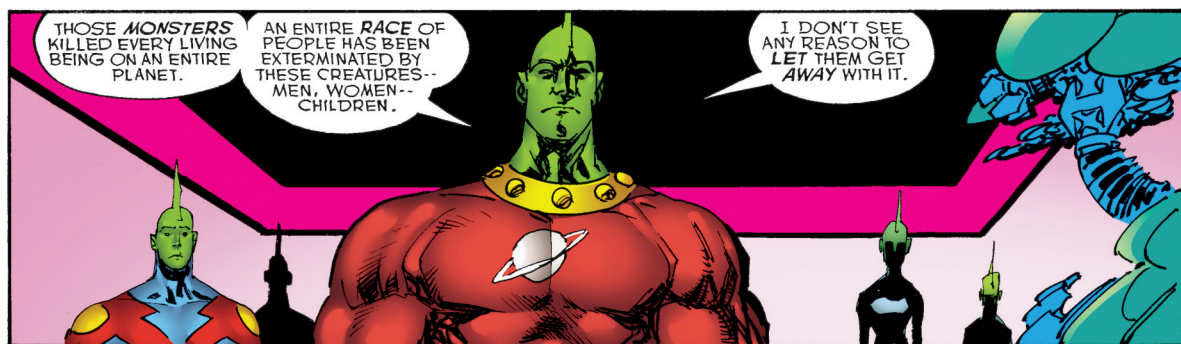
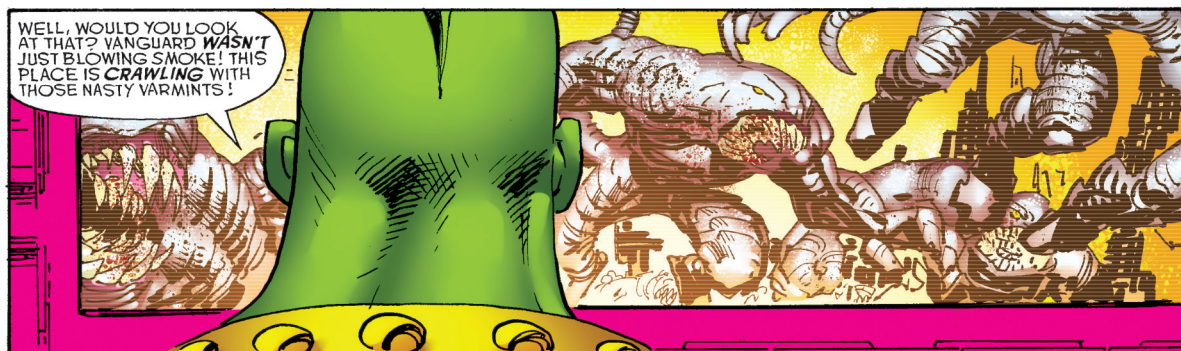
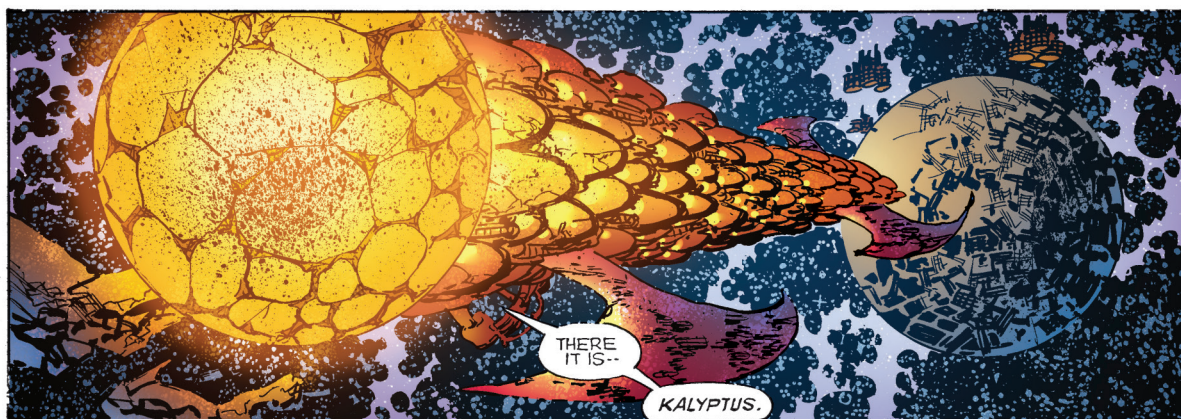
AND GODS WILL NOT BACK DOWN!

GODS WILL NOT RETREAT!

GODS WILL STAND THEIR GROUND NO MATTER THE ODDS--

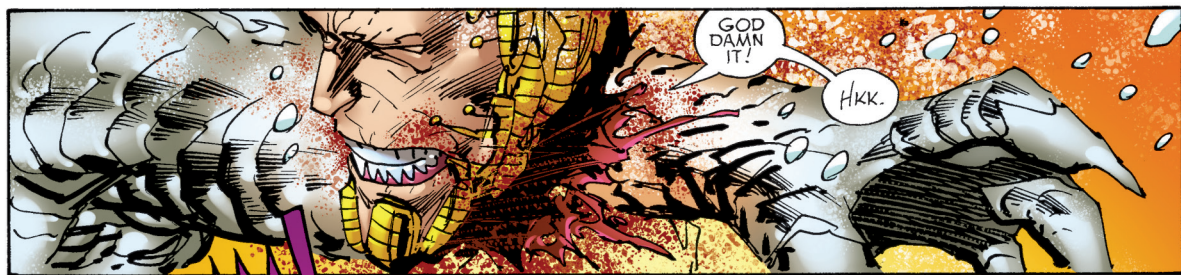
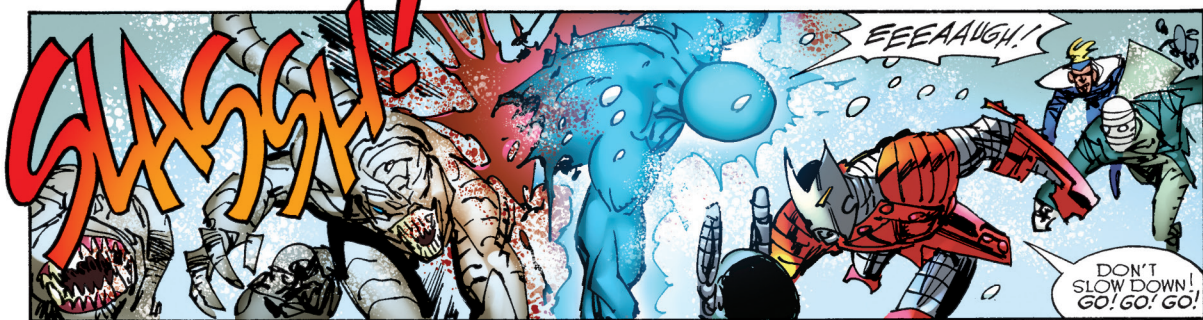
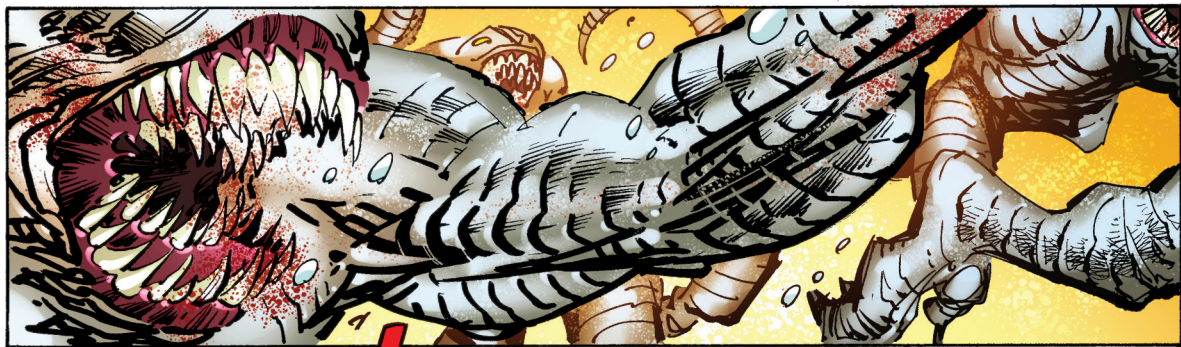
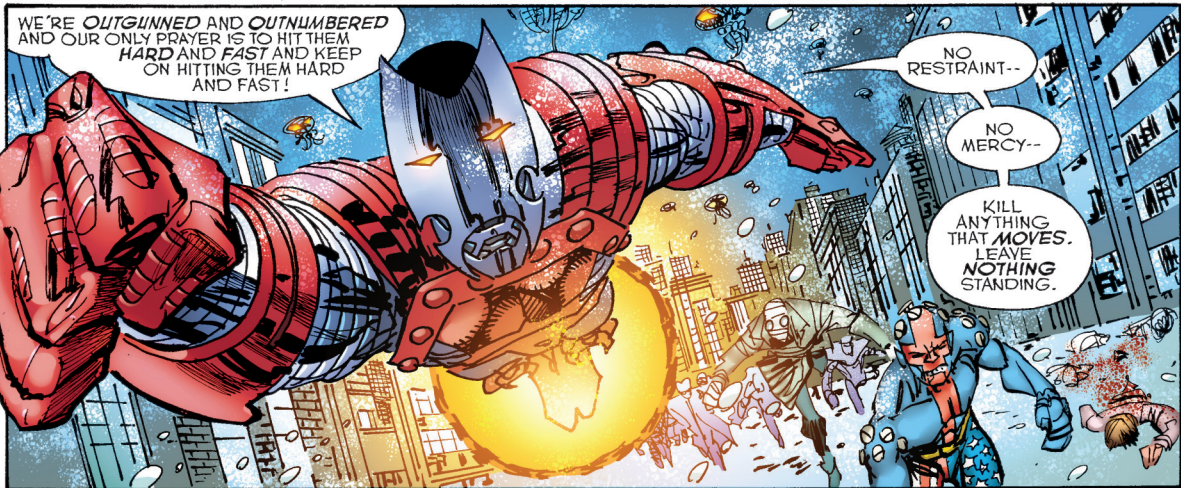
--AND WE SHALL PREVAIL!

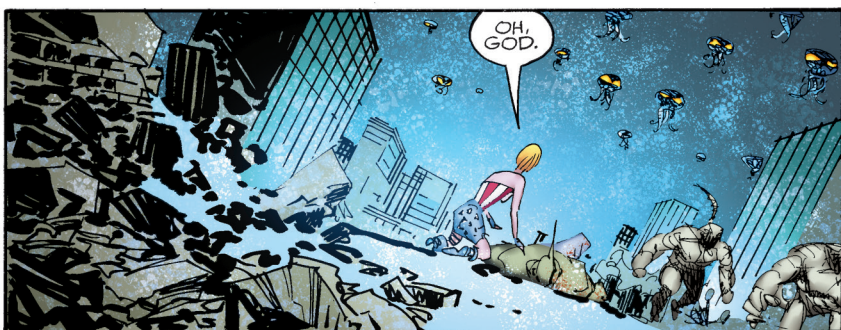
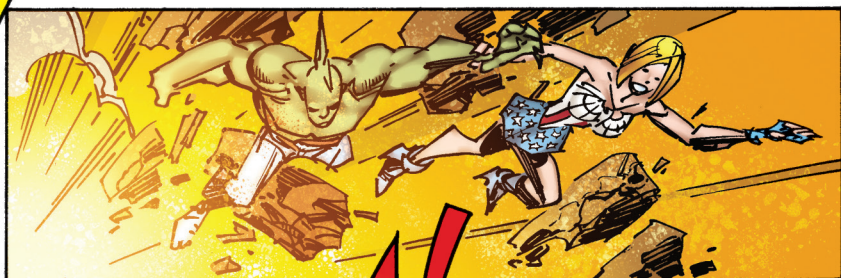
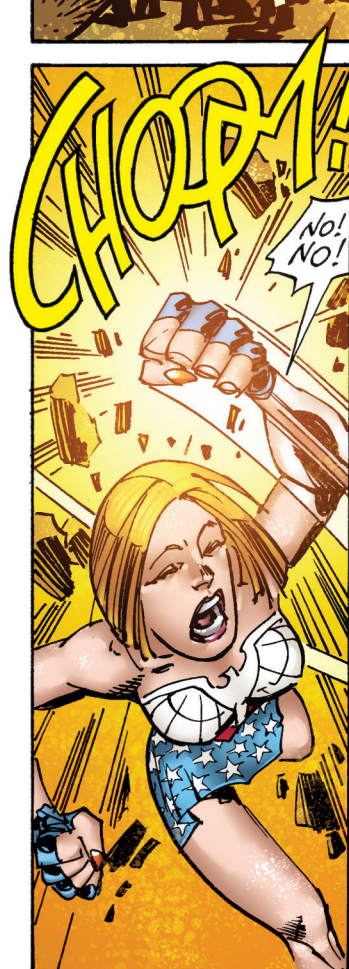


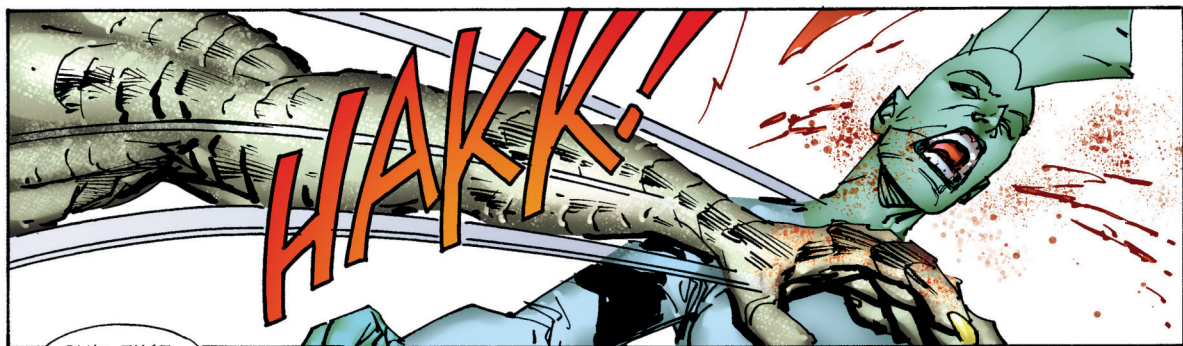
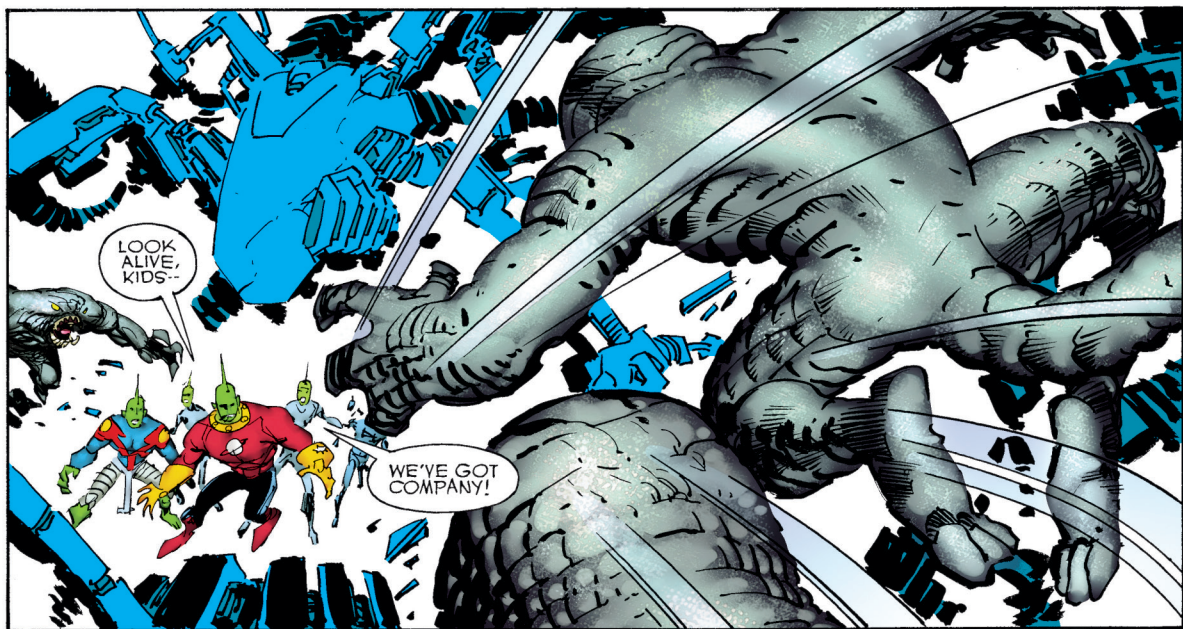


EARTH.

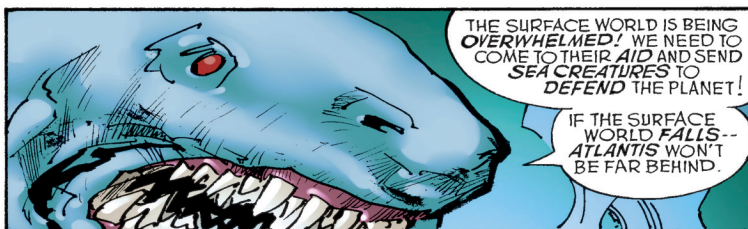
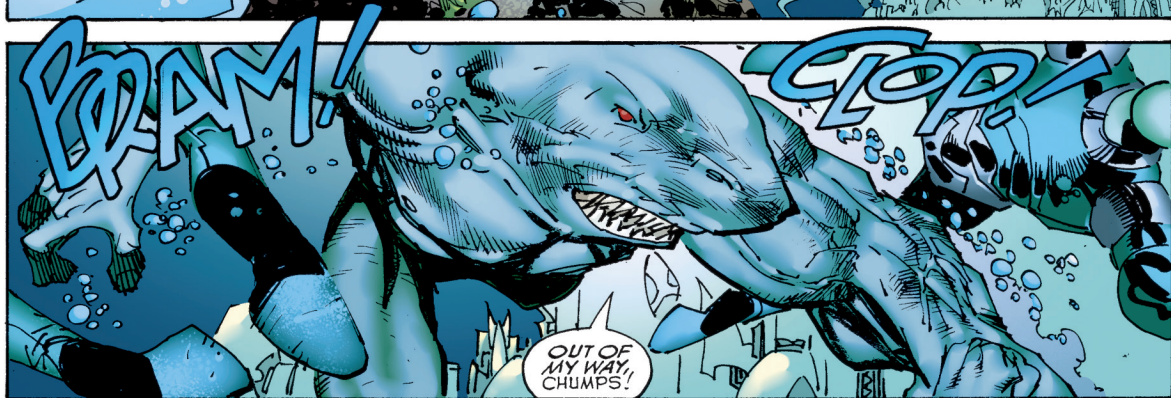
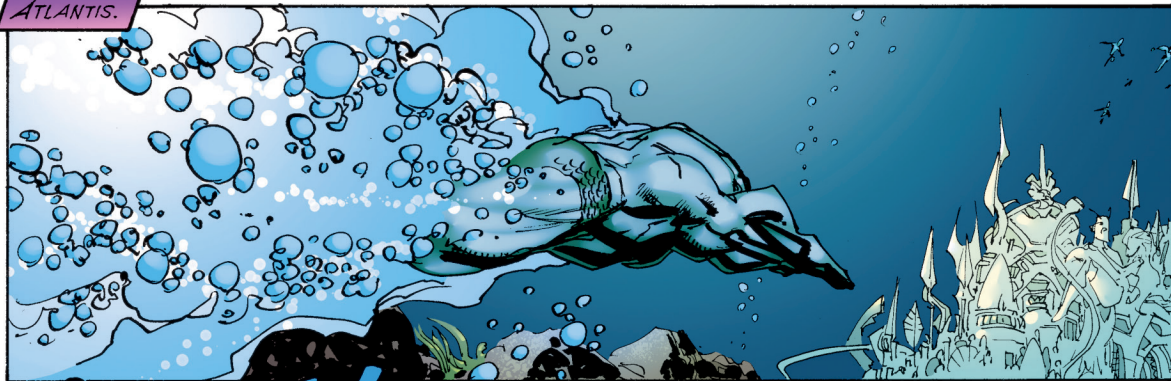




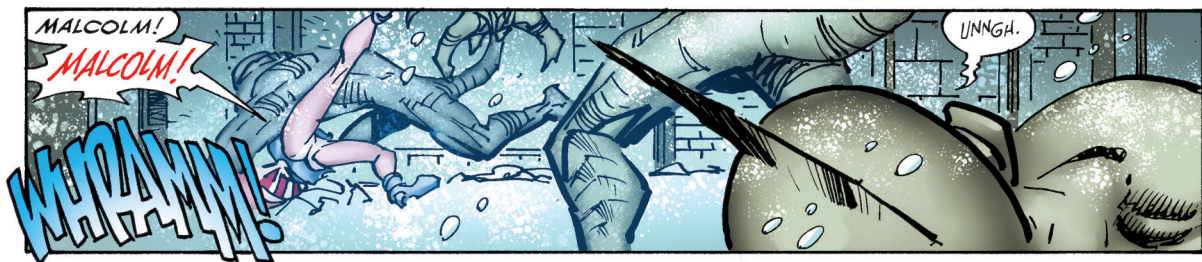
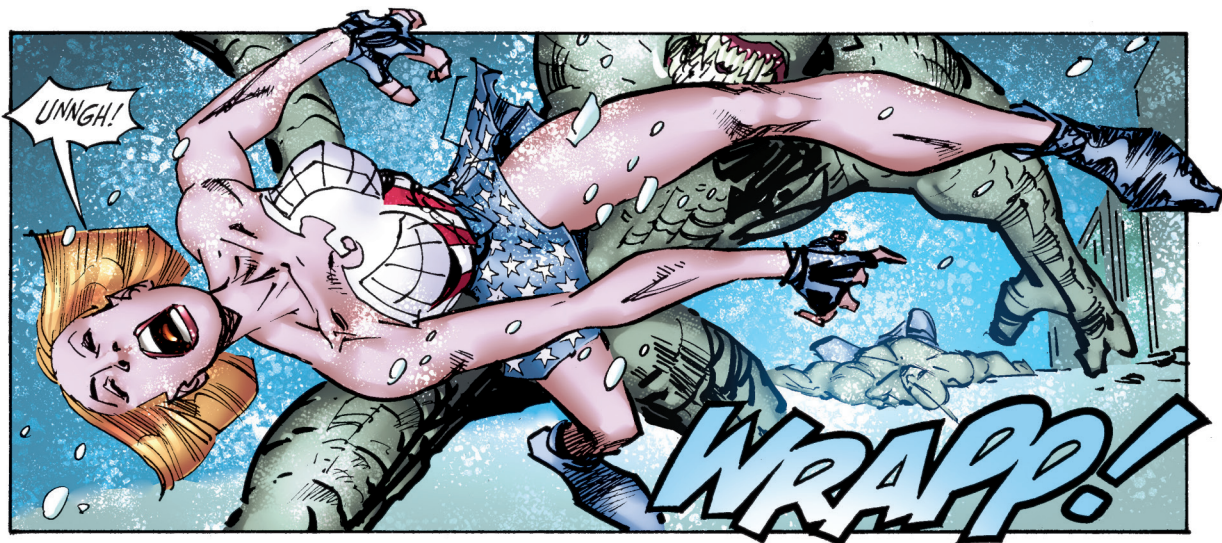


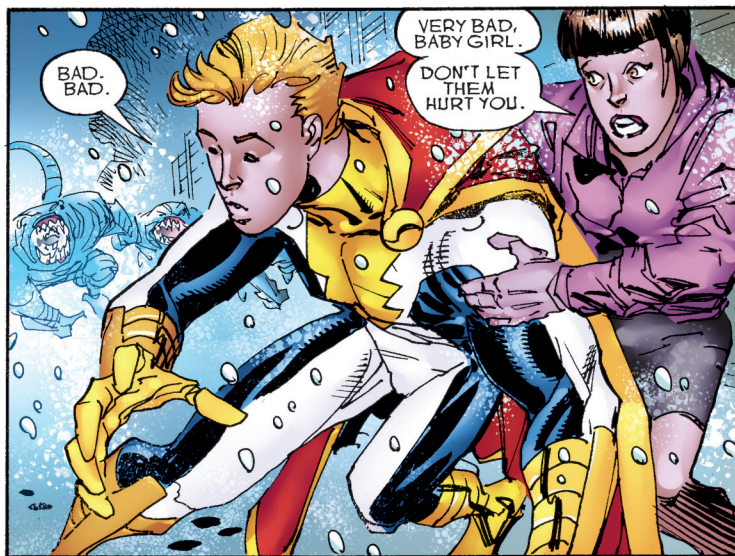
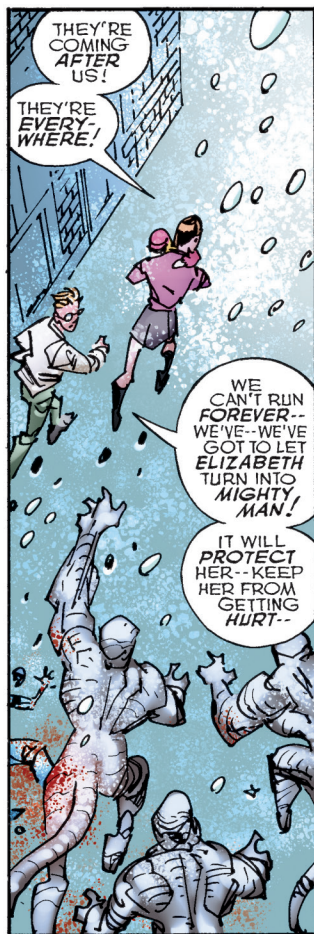


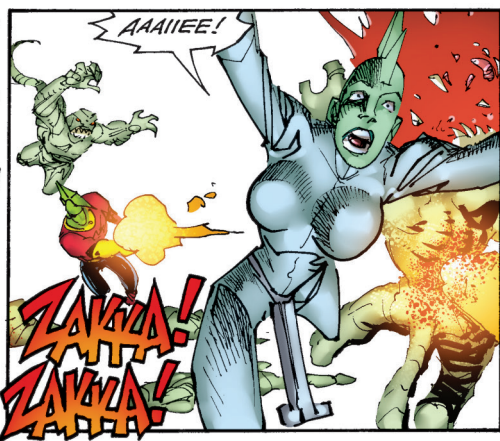
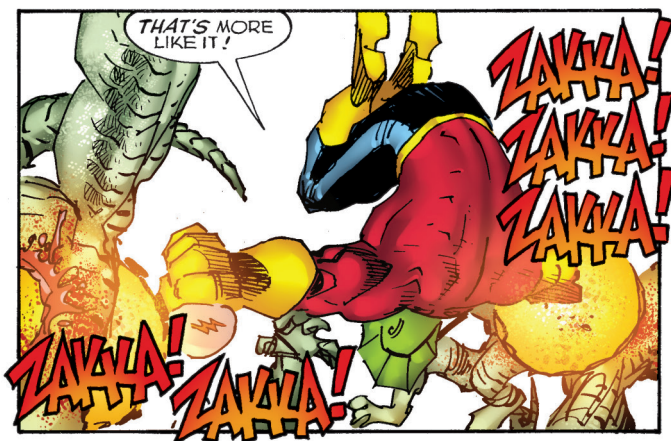
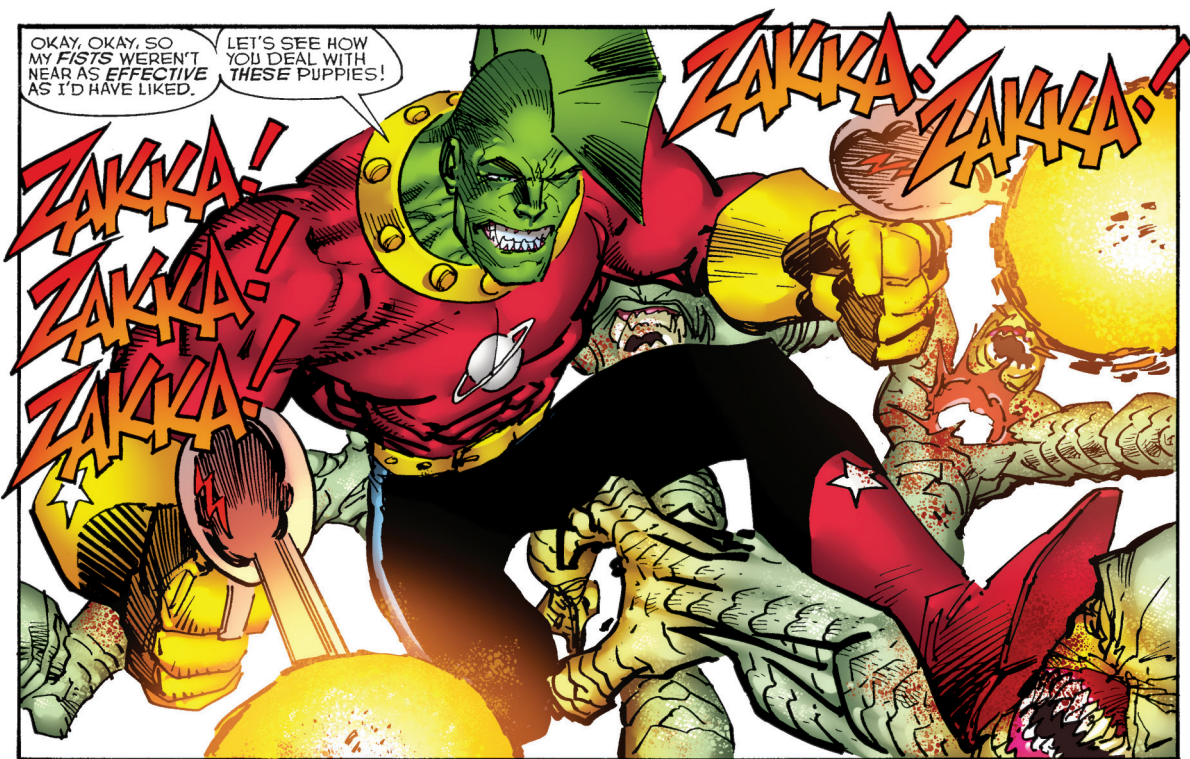
ATLANTIS.

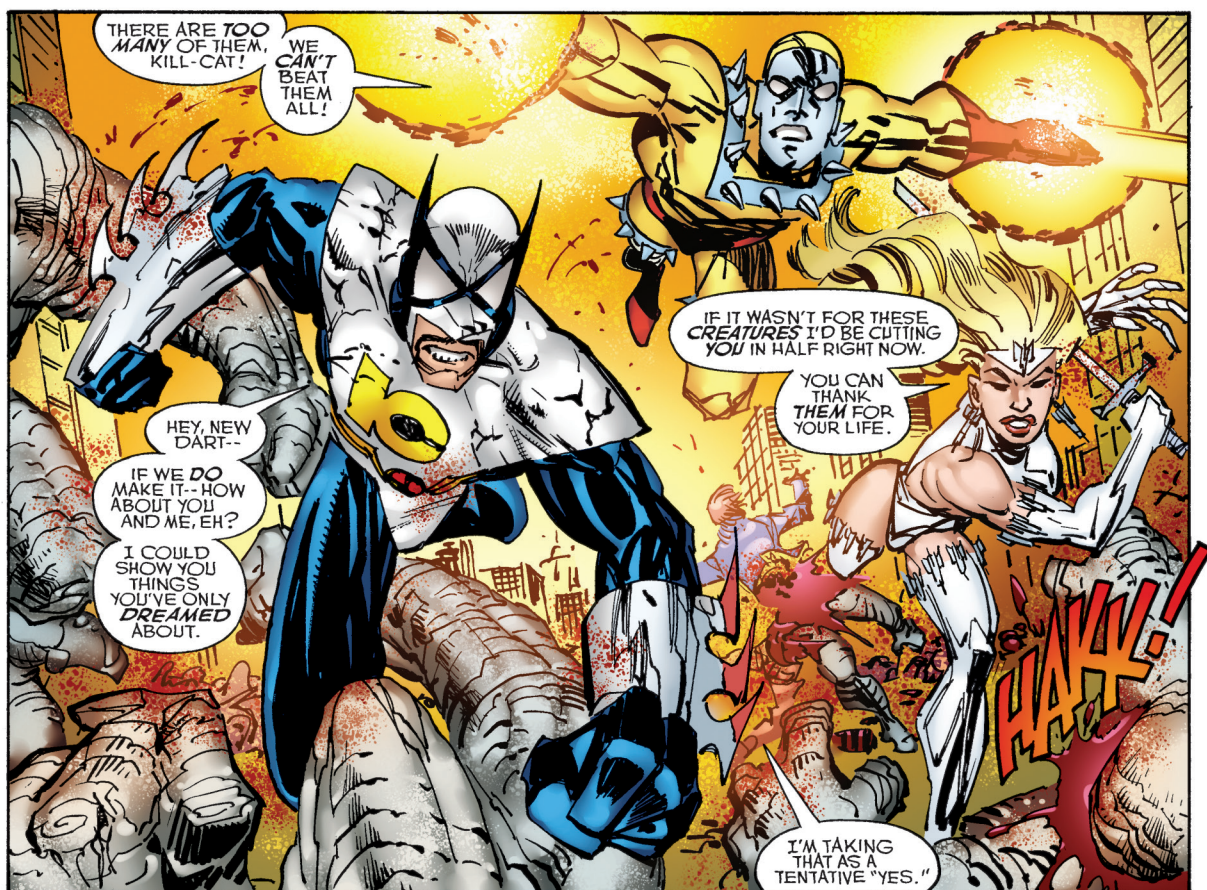


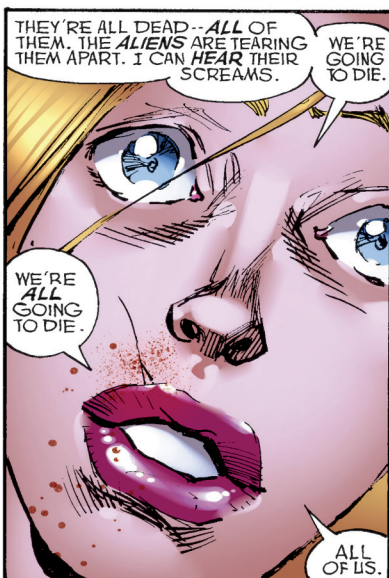
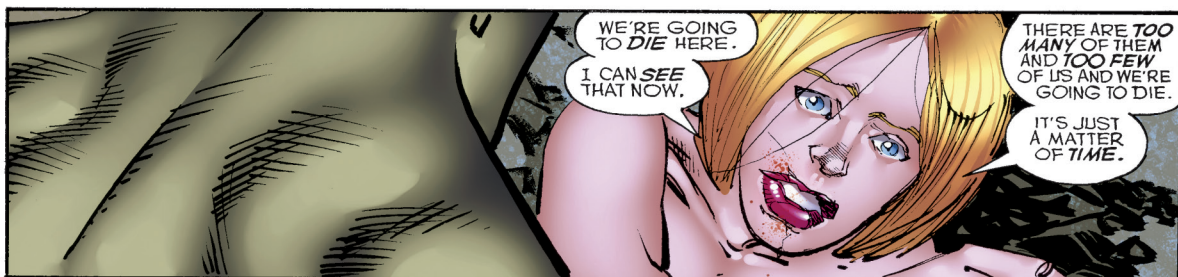
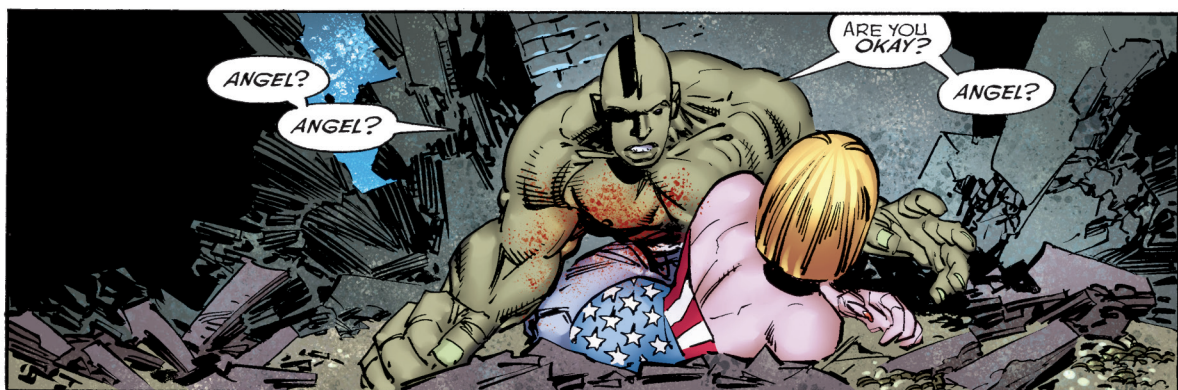














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Berkeley, CA 94704

e-mail: Erik@savagedragon.com

visit our website at www.savagedragon.com

So...I finally moved. It was a big stinkin' ordeal. We'd been living in the same house for 18 years and over that time we've accumulated a lot of stuff. Packing was a Herculean task. Moving was 27 hours over two days. Now we're in and stuff is still in boxes as we're slowly making the place into home. Finally, after 20 years--I'm back in San Francisco. I'm hoping that--this time--I'm here to stay.

If you love awesome comics (and who doesn't?) you might consider picking up Supreme #63 today. It's on the same newsstand you found this book and it's written by Alan Moore, penciled by me and finished by Cory Hamscher. It's a thing of beauty.

It's likely to be chaos around these parts for a while. Hopefully there won't be any more huge publishing gaps in the mix.

In the meantime--here are your letters...

Erik,

I normally just read the Topcow stuff from Image, but I gave SD#175 a try and really enjoyed it. It was the perfect jumping on point and I got SD's origin told in a nut shell. The Vanguard back-up was good too, liked Universo (Image's version of Galactus). The whole book had a Saturday morning cartoon feel about it (except the humping scene...lol). Looking forward to reading the next issue and I have to get some trades, thanks for the list.

A new fan,
Adam Reynold,
Trinidad, WI

Cool deal! Thanks!

Hey Erik,

It's been a while since I emailed you about my torrid history with Savage Dragon. At the beginning of issue 177, I finally thought "this feels right," Dragon is in space with "his people," Malcolm & Angel are fighting the good fight. After all the parallel universes and Savage Worlds, I finally feel like the book is settled. Which means you are probably going to flip it upside down again! You've come along way since the first issues where Dragon was a gun-toting cop. I'm still along for the ride!

Take it easy,
Matthew James Harris

P.S. I was wrong about Dimension-X Angel's face. I'm glad you brought her back a few issues ago!

Nothing stays normal around these parts for long.

Erik,

You are the freaking man....as I often say on my FB comments to you... not about any particular issue... the series overall... 40 years of love you put into your creation... 20 years of continuity and no stopping... I really hope you live longer than Stan Lee which means Savage Dragon for at least another 40 years! By the way... 177 was great... a great ode to yesteryear's kooky comic plots... but made perfect sense in the scheme of all things!!! A few comments/questions...

1. Did Savage Barbaric Ricochet ever have a kid? And I'm guessing that pre-Savage child Sharona died on that earth... Correct?

2. Will Alex ever show up in the series again? I know she's pushing 40 and should still be sexy as hell....who knows...may teach Malcolm some things...Considering Dragon never wises up...

To me the best thing out of his relationship with Jennifer was Angel. Well, original Jen I liked. Congrats on sharing your gifts with us and commenting my art on Facebook. U da man!

Slim Jim Longfoot

1: They've had several. They just don't have one named Sharona. Things didn't exactly play out the same.

2: She may at some point. I'm not ruling it out.

Erik,

It's hard to believe it's been 20 years since the beginning of Image Comics. I very clearly remember picking up the first issue of the original "Savage Dragon" mini-series at my local Walmart when I was still in junior high school. My how the times have changed.

One of my favorite parts about the series from the beginning has been the letter column. So few comics still do it, but I have always found it fascinating. Really, back then reading it each month was very similar to reading Twitter today.

Often times I would skip right through the bulk of the letters and go straight to the questions being answered by you...so it's only fitting, when writing in myself, that I throw a few Qs into the mix. So here goes...

1) Mighty Man is a character that I've really enjoyed over the years. From the retro "Big Bang" stories, to the more recent evolutions of the character and legacy. It seems like in a few years time Mighty Man will be coming full circle with a young boy wielding the power...do you have any plans to explore that? Maybe in back ups like the current Vanguard feature? (What I'm saying here is that I want more Mighty Man!)

2) Is there any chance of ever seeing the animated series again? Maybe as a DVD or digital download?

3) Have you ever thought of doing Twitter Q and As and posting them in the letters page? It'd be nice to have an archive of stuff like that

4) Will Supreme be making his way into the book, or vice versa anytime soon?

It's been great watching the series grow and change over the years. I'm really enjoying seeing Malcolm grow and evolve.

Savage Dragon has been one of my favorite books for 20 years... here's to 20 more!

Best,

Michael Murphey

1: Mighty Man is back in this very issue--but it's little Betty Bradford behind the wheel at this point. Fun times.

2: I've like that but in all honesty--nobody's pounding down the door to make this a reality and I'm too busy drawing comics to go make the rounds and pitch this.

3: I'd have to be a lot more organized than I am to put something like that together.

4: Not soon but there will be some crossover.

Hey Erik,

This is the first letter I've ever submitted to any funny book publication, so feel free to read this in a voice shaky with nerves. Late congratulations on #175! This milestone is a testament to the magical work you've been doing all these years. I must admit I'm a late comer to Savage Dragon, having hopped on with #145, jumped off at #152, and then jumped back on with #169. I was fuming with anger when I found out about all the cool s*** I missed out on with the whole Emperor Dragon story line. Definitely not one of my smarter moves.

Since then, I've been acquiring all the back issues of SD I can get my hands on. In the last few months, I've filled out the collection to where I'm only missing a handful of issues. I now have an unbroken run up to #108, so I've begun reading from the beginning while simultaneously devouring each new issue as it comes out. It's really fun filling in the blanks of the story, and I'm so glad to see you writing new issues with the same creative vitality you started off with 20 years ago.

True to form, #177 was an absolute blast. Reading Dragon's adventures makes me feel like I'm reading a book in the Marvel Age. Being a relatively young upstart (25 isn't old, is it?), I missed out on a lot of the rampant creativity that comics should be known for. What I love about Savage Dragon is that I can relive that era I was never able to be a part of, yet at the same time feel like I'm taking part in something new. Nothing recaptures that Silver Age feel like a giant radioactive Osama bin Laden rampaging the USA. That was an absolutely brilliant combination of current events used as the origins of Mutant bin Laden.

One question I've been wondering about concerns your seeming disdain for a certain Josh Eichorn. I picked up on your public shaming of Mr. Eichorn after the first few issues I ever bought, and it's been bothering me ever since. After diving into the back issues, I scoured the letters pages looking for clues, and all I dug up was one negative sounding question from Mr. Eichorn in SD #1. Then, starting in the credits of #5, he's being proclaimed as "America's Favorite Whistling Hobo." So, Erik, what's the deal? Did this guy lose a bet? Does he owe you money? Does he even exist?

Until Jim Lee redesigns the cast of Savage Dragon with overly rendered new costumes, Image Is It!

Sincerely,

Russ Otto

Plainfield, IL

P.S. Can't wait to read your run on Supreme! Should be aces!

For those not wanting to know the secret origin of Josh Eichorn--avert your eyes now.

Josh Eichorn was hired shortly after the initial Savage Dragon miniseries to be a lackey or sorts. Josh would retype letters (this was pre-email) and run various errands that needed running. Josh asked to have a credit in the book and so I obliged. He's been getting an absurd and insulting credits ever since. Josh hasn't worked for me in years but we stay in touch and he still gets a kick out of seeing his name in print and reading his job description. He's a good sport.

That's it for this issue, kids! Be here next month for more of the same--!

-Erik Larsen

NEXT: LO THERE SHALL COME...AN ENDING!

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



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SUPERHERO RETURNS WITH**

**ALAN MOORE'S
FINAL
SUPREME STORY!**

STORY ALAN MOORE ART ERIK LARSEN & CORY HAMSCHER

SUPREME

ISSUE 63 ON SALE APRIL



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VANGUARD

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

DIE, YOU
KALYPTAN
DOGS!

YOUR
SHIP IS NOW
THE PROPERTY
OF THE TYRRUS
COMBINE!

UNGH!

THE
TYRRANEANS'
MEKKA-DROID
HAS HIJACKED
THE COMPUTER
SYSTEMS--

OUR
WEAPONS--
OUR ARMOR--
NOTHING
WORKS!

ONLY BECAUSE
YOU GUYS KNOCKED
OUT MODEM AND LET
HIM TAKE CONTROL
OF MY SHIP,
STUPID!

SHOOOM!

"AND IF THEY KILL MODEM,
WE'RE ALL DEAD! AND EARTH,
TOO! SHE'S OUR ONLY HOPE.
WE'VE GOT TO RESCUE HER!
LET'S GO!"



"THAT'S AMOK AND HE HATES EVERYONE! ESPECIALLY KALYPTANS!"

"THE RADANIAN RACE WAS ENSLAVED-- GENETICALLY ALTERED-- AND AFTER THEY HAD BEEN TRANSFORMED INTO THE MOST POWERFUL BEINGS IN THE UNIVERSE, THE POWERS THAT BE, INCLUDING MY PEOPLE, GOT SCARED!"

"THEIR PLANET WAS DESTROYED AND THE PEOPLE WERE EXTERMINATED! ALMOST. AMOK IS THE LAST OF HIS KIND. HE SPENT THE LAST EIGHTY YEARS TRYING TO GET EVEN WITH THE REST OF US!"

"HE ENDED UP HERE AND BEAT THE SNOT OUT OF ME AND ALL THE SUPER GUYS ON EARTH! BUT HE TOOK A LIKING TO ROXANNE. SHE CONVINCED US THAT HE WASN'T A MINDLESS, RAMPAGING BEAST!"

"WALLY LINKED UP TO AMOK'S BRAIN TO COMMUNICATE, AND WHILE THEY WERE TALKING, SUPREME SUCKER-PUNCHED THEM-- RIPPED UP AMOK'S BRAIN, LOBOTOMIZING HIM! THE MEKKA-DROID MUST'VE WOKE HIM UP!"

RAWHN!

A RADANIAN? BUT THEY'RE EXTINCT!

WRONG.

ROXY?

I'M FINE, VAN. HE SAVED US!

I SAVED US, DARLIN'.

I FOUND TALL, DARK AND HANDSOME HERE IN YOUR MEDICAL WING.

LUCKY I HAVE A PHD IN GENETICS!

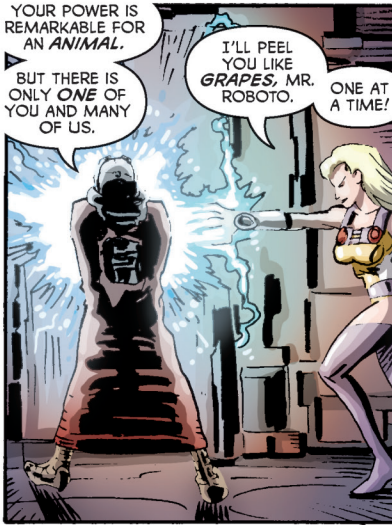
A LITTLE COMPUTER-GUIDED BRAIN SURGERY AND HE WAS AS GOOD AS NEW!



NOW FOR
A LITTLE MORE
SURGERY--

TO
REMOVE THIS
CANCER FROM
VANGUARD'S
SHIP!

HAH!

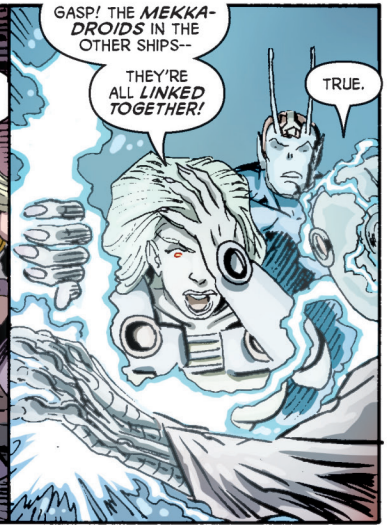


YOUR POWER IS
REMARKABLE FOR
AN *ANIMAL*.

BUT THERE IS
ONLY *ONE* OF
YOU AND MANY
OF US.

I'LL PEEL
YOU LIKE
GRAPES, MR.
ROBOTO.

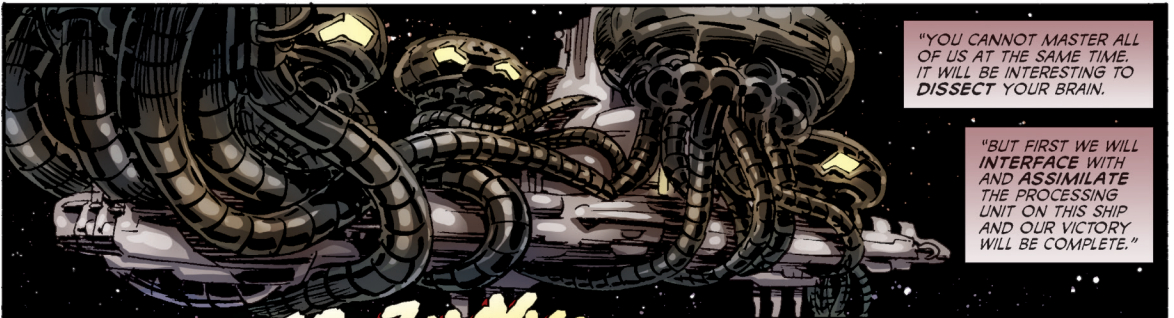
ONE AT
A TIME!



GASP! THE *MEKKA-*
DROIDS IN THE
OTHER SHIPS--

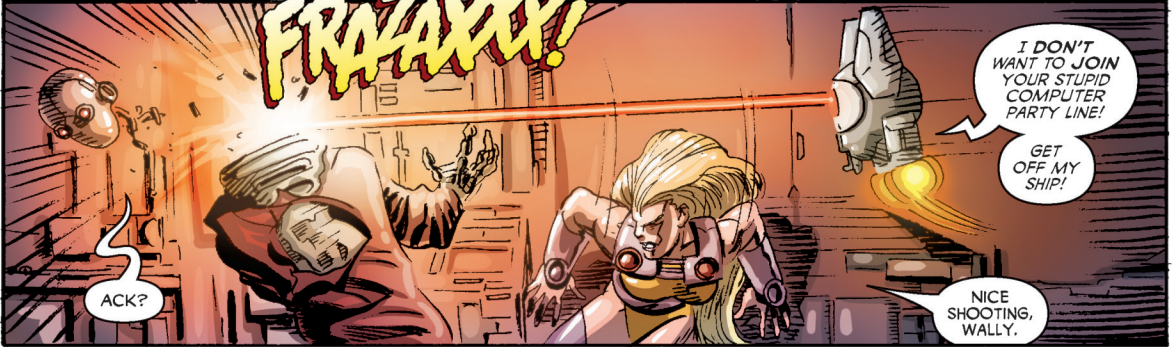
THEY'RE
ALL *LINKED*
TOGETHER!

TRUE.



"YOU CANNOT MASTER ALL
OF US AT THE SAME TIME.
IT WILL BE INTERESTING TO
DISSECT YOUR BRAIN.

"BUT FIRST WE WILL
INTERFACE WITH
AND *ASSIMILATE*
THE PROCESSING
UNIT ON THIS SHIP
AND OUR VICTORY
WILL BE COMPLETE."



FRAZZAXX!

ACK?

I DON'T
WANT TO JOIN
YOUR STUPID
COMPUTER
PARTY LINE!

GET
OFF MY
SHIP!

NICE
SHOOTING,
WALLY.



CRAP. THE
OTHER *MEKKA-DROIDS*
ARE STILL FIGHTING
FOR CONTROL OF
THE SHIP THROUGH
HIS BODY.

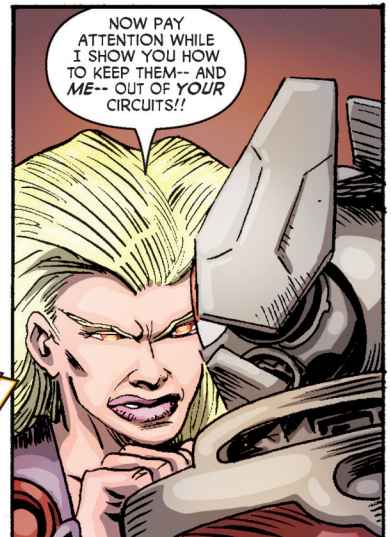


WE NEED
A *FIREWALL*
TO KEEP THOSE
GUYS OUT OF
HERE AND
YOU'RE IT!

LOOKS
LIKE WE GET
THAT THREE-WAY
AFTER ALL,
WALLY!

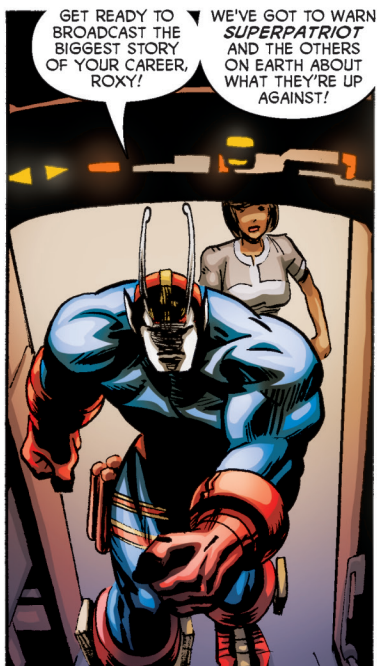
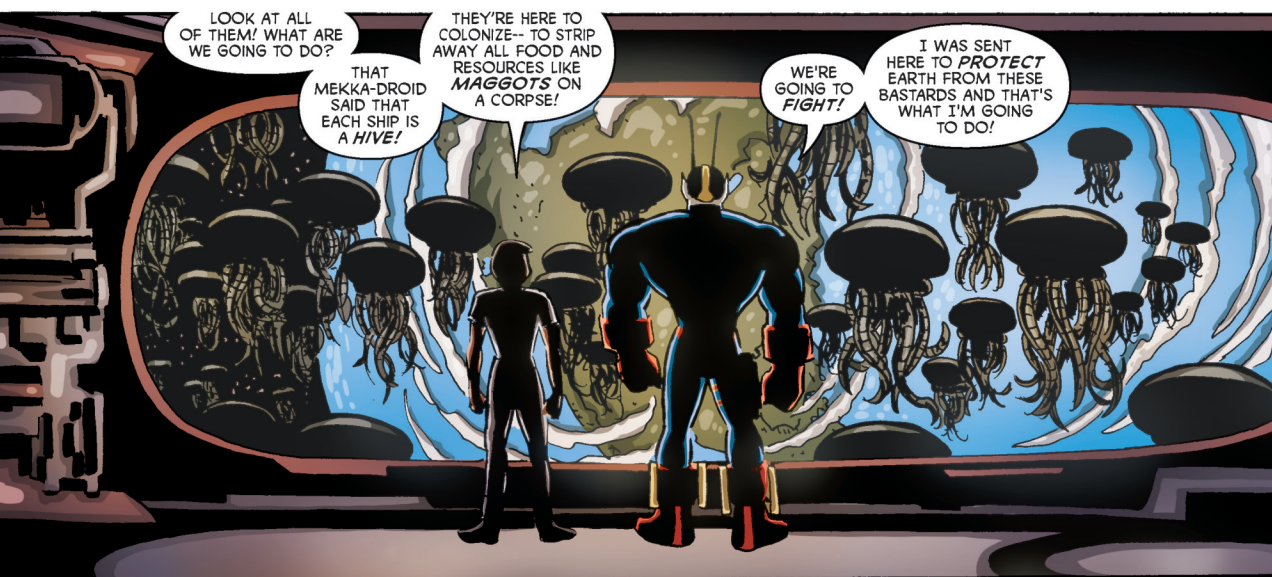
URK!

Krump!



NOW PAY
ATTENTION WHILE
I SHOW YOU HOW
TO KEEP THEM-- AND
ME-- OUT OF YOUR
CIRCUITS!!





Question of the Month

"For me, it's the Baltimore convention. The best comics conventions always have a good combination of guests, location and low presence of other media. Baltimore has the whole package. I sat there with Richard Starkings in 2009-2010 and I could feel such a genuine feeling of love for comics from everyone there. Other very comics friendly cons similar to this that I've thoroughly enjoyed include Emerald City Con and Heroes Con!"

Andre Szymonowicz
MAY 1994

"WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE COMIC BOOK CONVENTION?"

"Emerald City in Seattle. The con is special for one simple reason: the fans. As comic books are increasingly used to inject vitality into movies and video games, sometimes conventions can feel like comics are off to the wings, but Emerald City puts comic books center stage. The show is electrified with a love of comic books, and fans should make at least one pilgrimage to Emerald City."

Garry Duggan
THE ANNUAL AWARDS

"TCAF, the Toronto Comic Arts Festival in my hometown is a wonderful show that keeps growing every year without losing its intimate creator-centric focus. Independent comic creators, webcomics and comic art are on display and for sale in Canada's largest library during TCAF along with great panels and book premieres all weekend long. The fact that it's free to attend is just icing on the cake."

Jim Zub
SHOCKWAVE

"Emerald City Comic Con. Jim DeMott has created a popular show centered around creators in a great city with plenty of coffee shops, crape restaurants and rain! It's an Englishman's paradise. (Well, it's MY paradise!)"

Richard Starkings
ELFBOUNDED

"My favorite convention is Heroes Con because of the sheer number of artists that are there. It's also very laid back and family friendly. Almost like a comic summer camp weekend."

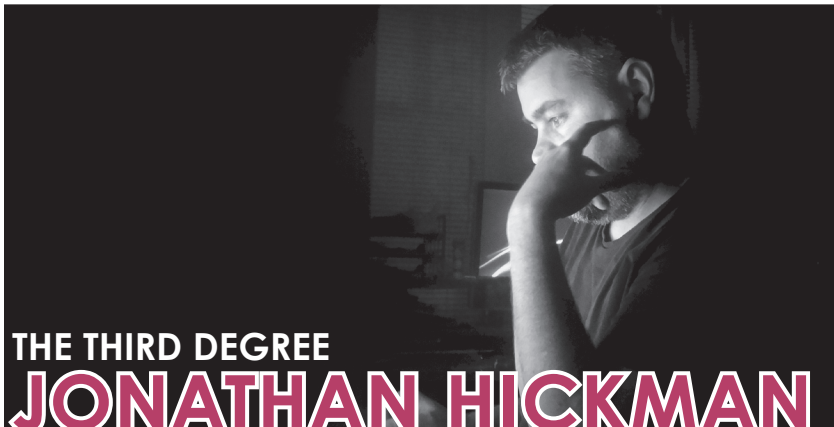
Phil Noto
THE SECRET GARDEN

APRIL 2012

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the **i** word
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THE THIRD DEGREE JONATHAN HICKMAN

Jonathan Hickman is the award-winning talent behind such works as *The Nightly News*, *Pax Romana*, *Transhuman* and *The Red Wing*. His upcoming books, *The Manhattan Projects* and *Secret*, along with his mainstream titles, *Fantastic Four* and the *Ultimates*, have cemented him as one of the unique voices in the industry.

What are you working on right now?
Today I'm writing *Secret*. The first issue of which happens to be out this month.

What's the best part of your job?
Making things up. Playing pretend... generally being paid to functionally act like a kid.

What's the worst part of your job?
Deadlines, right? It's got to be that -- running out of time, it's the worst.

How did you first discover comics?
Probably the same way the majority of fans my age did. Spinner racks in drug stores and 7-11s.

If you weren't working in comics, what would you be doing?
In the short term, Art directing probably. In the long term, probably killing myself from art directing.

What's the strangest thing a fan has ever said to you?
Oh, I have no idea. I don't take a lot of that seriously. Sure, I believe people are being sincere, but I'm so hard on myself I can't swallow most of it. I'm just glad when I smile, they smile and don't throw shit at me.

What's your favorite part of the comics-creating process?
Breaking the initial story. Figuring out where the story is going.

Who is the biggest influence on your work?
Writing? Frank Herbert. In comics, Grant Morrison or Warren Ellis probably. Art? No idea, that changes monthly, always has.

What is the single work of which you're most proud?
Wrong person to ask. I kind of love and hate each thing both equally and differently.

Own up to one of your guilty pleasures.
Oh, I think I wear it like a badge. Soccer.

What was the last comic book you bought?
I think it was *Fatale* #2, actually. I haven't been to the store in a bit because I've been traveling.

If you could be someone else for a day, who would it be?
Lionel Messi. Forget the day, just for one game.

Pick three things you couldn't live without.
My wife and kids.

What's the strangest thing you have in your house?
My wife and kids.

What is one of your favorite places?
I love the mountains.

What music are you listening to these days?
Usually just alt-rock. I am looking forward to Jack White's new album. Remastered Smiths is pretty amazing.

What is your favorite film of all time?
Probably, Lynch's *Dune*.

Who is your best friend?
Oh that's my wife, again.

What is the worst advice you've ever received?
I'm pretty good at making my own decisions regarding both my personal life and career, so I don't really take a lot of advice in general. The worst thing was probably a business thing that happened 15 years ago -- never get into bed with someone you don't really know.

When was the last time you were truly frightened?
When one of my kids got sick. That's a pretty scary, helpless feeling.

Name someone you really admire and explain why.
I assume you mean in comics, so, Professional/Business related? Bendis. Hands down. I don't think there's anyone in the medium that handles the volume of responsibility and work that guy does. It's stunning. Staggering. Talent-wise? Skottie Young's a beast. A professional cartoonist in the purist sense.

What would you like to see happen in comics in the next 12 months?
I think it would be cool to see Image get to double their percentage of the market. That would be pretty stunning.

What the world needs now is...
More love, less hate.

AMERICA'S GOT POWERS #1 (of 6)



Welcome to **AMERICA'S GOT POWERS**! It's the biggest TV show on Earth, where the chance to win fame, fortune and get laid are dangled in front of a generation of super-powered teens. All they have to do is WIN. Who is the fastest, the strongest or the greatest? Who survives? Young Tommy Watt's dreams of being the greatest hero of them all might just be shattered when the greatest show on the planet begins to reveal it's dark heart.

ANGER CLUB #1



What if the union of a generation's brightest minds was not a signal for optimism but a warning? The atomic bomb proved its capacity for immense devastation, but what if its creation was just a cover for a series of more unusual programs? A new series by Jonathan Hickman and Nick Pitarra takes a look at one of the most critical periods of the 20th century through a lens both darkened and strange.

SECRET #1



"TEETH, WITH WHICH TO EAT" A man gets shot in London, a law firm gets broken into in Washington, an accountant gives away the password to his computer, and something put to sleep 20 years ago awakens. What is the unsavory relationship all these things share, and how could it bring down two of the largest governments in the history of the world?

SUPREME #63



"REVELATIONS" The legendary Supreme returns! ALAN MOORE's final SUPREME tale is the ultimate jumping on point for new readers! The triumphant return of Image Comics' most powerful hero! As Supreme romances Diana Bone he takes her on a tour of the Citadel Supreme and tells all of his innermost secrets just as Supreme's most hated nemesis, Barlowe Bax, makes a most unfortunate discovery: the key to defeat his abhorred adversary!



VALOR

INTO THE
FRAY!

RATED T+ / TEEN PLUS