

THE GUARDIAN POWERS



ONCE THEY REPRESENTED THE NEXT GENERATION OF SUPERHERO TEAMS... THE GUARDIANS OF THE DAWN! THEY BATTLED CRIME LORDS, CORRUPT GOVERNMENT AGENTS, AND EVEN GODS AND DEMIGODS. THEY MADE A DIFFERENCE WHEN MANY BELIEVED THEY WOULD NOT.

BUT WHILE THE GUARDIANS OF THE DAWN ARE NO MORE, SEVERAL OF THE HEROES REFUSE TO GIVE UP THE FIGHT TO MAKE THAT BRIGHTER FUTURE POSSIBLE. CONTINUING TO OPERATE COVERTLY AS A "GHOST GROUP", THEY ARE KNOWN COLLECTIVELY AS...

THE GUARDIAN POWERS



ICON POWERS/KENT PODERES - TECHNICAL CONSULTANT

THE GREATEST HERO OF HIS EARTH, AND FOSTER FATHER OF GALATEA, KENT SACRIFICED EVERYTHING, INCLUDING HIS COUSIN'S TRUST. NOW HE HAS LOST MUCH OF HIS POWERS AND SEEKS TO REBUILD THE TRUST OF HIS TEAMMATES.

EXGEMINI - FORMER ASCENDED

THERE IS MUCH ABOUT NATHAN FURIAN THAT IS A SECRET. HE ONCE WAS A COSMIC POWER, BUT SUPPOSEDLY GAVE IT UP BECAUSE OF A NEWFOUND LOVE FOR HUMANITY. ONE FEARS WHAT WILL HAPPEN WHEN THAT FAD FADES AWAY.



FURIA POWERS - PRAETORIAN SUPERHERO

IN ANOTHER REALITY, SHE'S THE LAST SURVIVING MEMBER OF THE LEGENDARY POWERS FAMILY. SHE'S MADE A VOW TO SEE JUSTICE DONE, AND TO AVENGE THE DEATH OF HER YOUNGER SISTER.

MIDNIGHT ARACHNIA - MYSTICAL CRIMEFIGHTER

JESSICA DANNERS GREW UP IN THE ROGUE ISLES, UNAWARE THAT SHE WAS DESTINED TO DESTROY GHOST WIDOW. TO SAVE HER LIFE AND THOSE OF THE ISLES, SHE WAS SENT TO PARAGON CITY TO BE A FORCE FOR GOOD.



GALATEA POWERS - PARAGON CITY'S "TRUE GUARDIAN"

BORN FROM ANOTHER WORLD, GALATEA CAME TO THIS WORLD WITH NO KNOWLEDGE OF WHO SHE WAS. GIVEN A NEW LIFE AND A NEW NAME, SHE'S NOW ONE OF THE MOST POPULAR HEROES IN PARAGON CITY.

"DOC" TOR - EXILED TIME MANIPULATOR

ONCE A MEMBER OF EXTRA-DIMENSIONAL TIME OBSERVERS, TOR BECAME AN AGENT OF CHANGE TO MANIPULATE EVENTS TO PREVENT TRAGEDY. FOR HIS "CRIMES", HE WAS EXILED TO OUR WORLD.



"ECHOES IN TIME"

- A CITY OF HEROES STORY BY DAVID 2

The Guardian Powers #14 is created using original characters in the City of Heroes Multiplayer Online Roleplaying Game.

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GALAXY CITY - PARAGON CITY, RI, USA

SEPTEMBER 13, 2011 - 10:02AM ET

"I REMEMBER
WHAT WENT ON
THAT MORNING."

"I REMEMBER THERE WAS A
PROBLEM WITH THE WAR WALL
GATES TO PEREZ PARK, AND
SOMETHING WAS WRONG WITH
THE TRAINS, BUT THEY WERE
BOTH BEING WORKED ON."

"I WAS AT MY
USUAL POST."

"ALWAYS
HELPIN' OUT
THE NEW
BLOOD."

 BACK ALLEY BRAWLER
LEGENDARY CRIMEFIGHTER

HOLY \$#*8!
EVERYONE TAKE
SHELTER...
NOW!

"THAT'S WHEN I
FIRST SAW IT...
COMING DOWN
RIGHT ON MY
HEAD."

"I REMEMBER
TURNING
AROUND TO
RUN INSIDE."

"THEN EVERYTHING AROUND
ME WENT BLACK."

"I THOUGHT
THIS WAS IT.
I THOUGHT I
WAS DEAD."

ATLAS PARK - POLICE STATION

NOVEMBER, 2012

NEXT THING I KNEW, I WAS
COMING OUT THE TUNNEL
INTO KINGS ROW, CATCHING
UP WITH STATESMAN AND THE
OTHER FREEDOM PHALANX
MEMBERS THAT JUST ARRIVED
AT THE TUNNEL ENTRANCE.

I HAD NO IDEA HOW I WENT
FROM FREEDOM COURT TO THE
KINGS ROW TUNNEL ON THE
OTHER SIDE OF THE AREA.

AND SOMEHOW I ALSO LOST
THIRTY MINUTES OF TIME.

SISTER PSYCHE MIND-
SCANNED ME TO TRY TO FIND
OUT WHAT HAPPENED, BUT SHE
SAID THERE WAS NOTHING.

NOT A GAP, NOT A BLANK
SPOT... LITERALLY NOTHING!

 GALATEA POWERS
OTHERWORLD HERO

I AM SORRY GALATEA; I JUST DO NOT KNOW HOW I ENDED UP IN ATLAS PARK.

IT WAS THE SAME STORY WITH EVERYONE ELSE.

DOZENS OF PEOPLE WHO WERE IN GALAXY CITY AT THE TIME OF THE SHIVAN METEOR ATTACK ALL SAID THE SAME THING.

PRINCE KIROS NANELU
G.I.F.T. DEPUTY DIRECTOR

THEY EACH REMEMBER THE EVENTS OF THAT TRAUMATIC DAY WITH CRYSTAL CLARITY.

SHADOWSTAR
WARTHOG MENTOR

THREE SHRINKS, TWO TELEPATHS, AND A SHERPA MONK IN A BALL CAP, AND I'M STILL CLUELESS.

EXCEPT FOR THE TIME AFTER THE FIRST METEOR STRIKE.

DEREK AMBERSION
E.L.I.T.E. TACTICIAN

ARE YOU SURE YOU DON'T REMEMBER ANYTHING ELSE ABOUT THAT TIME?

UH-HUH...

NO, I WASN'T TALKING TO YOU...

YES I'M TALKING ABOUT GREEN POUCH SURVIVAL PACKS. THE COOKING PACKS HAVE A SHELF LIFE OF THREE YEARS, BUT THE REST OF THE FOOD IS SO CAREFULLY PRESERVED IT COULD LAST FOR DECADES!

HOLD ON ONE MOMENT...

AND THEY ALL DO NOT KNOW HOW THEY MANAGED TO ESCAPE GALAXY CITY!

I'M SORRY, MISS POWERS, BUT UNLESS YOU HAVE ANY MORE QUESTIONS, I REALLY HAVE TO TAKE THIS IMPORTANT CALL.

CAITLIN MURRAY-DAVIES
D.A.T.A. DEPUTY DIRECTOR

FOR SOME OF THEM, SURVIVOR'S GUILT HAS BEEN EATING AWAY AT THEM LIKE A CANCER.

YOU... YOU DON'T KNOW HOW THIS WHOLE THING HAS HURT ME.

I MEAN, I WAS A FIRST RESPONDER!

I WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN RUNNING AWAY FROM A DISASTER! I WOULD HAVE BEEN RUNNING TOWARDS IT!

THEY'RE ALIVE, BUT THEY ALL HAVE NAGGING QUESTIONS AS TO HOW AND WHY THEY SURVIVED WHEN OTHERS DIDN'T.

I HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO HANDLE AN EMERGENCY CALL SINCE... I CAN'T EVEN BE CLEARED FOR DUTY BECAUSE OF WHAT HAPPENED!

PACO SANCHEZ
E.M.T. RESPONDER

VANGUARD HEADQUARTERS

TOO MANY QUESTIONS...
AND NOT ENOUGH
ANSWERS FOR THEM.

I WAS TASKED BY RICHARD
CYRIL OF CYCORP TO
DELIVER HIS SUPPOSED
"EVIDENCE" OF WHAT HE
SAYS HAPPENED TO GALAXY
CITY TO THE VANGUARD.*

EVIDENCE THAT D@MNS A
FELLOW GUARDIAN, AND THE
REST OF US BY EXTENSION!

I'M SORRY,
GALATEA, BUT
RICHARD CYRIL'S
DATA SUPPORTS
HIS HYPOTHESIS.

GAUSSIAN
VANGUARD TACTICIAN

(LAST ISSUE)

BUT YOU CAN'T BELIEVE
THAT DOC TOR WOULD BE
RESPONSIBLE FOR
SOMEHOW BRINGING THE
SHIVAN METEORS TO
EARTH AND SPECIFICALLY
TARGETING GALAXY CITY!
THAT'S JUST RIDICULOUS!

IT'S NOT A MATTER
OF WHAT I BELIEVE,
GALATEA.

THE DATA THAT CYRIL
PROVIDED MATCHES
OUR OWN.

FEEL FREE TO CHECK
IT YOURSELF.

SO I DO.



ONLY... IT STILL
PROVES THAT
CYRIL IS RIGHT!

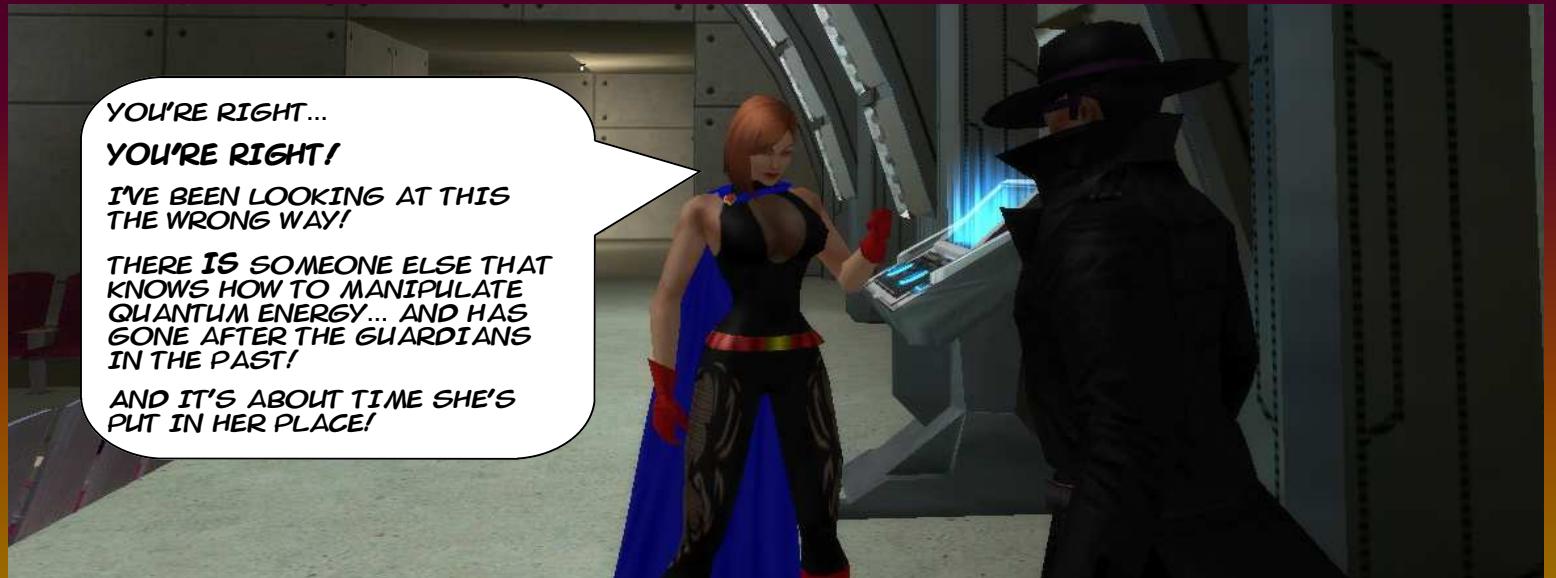
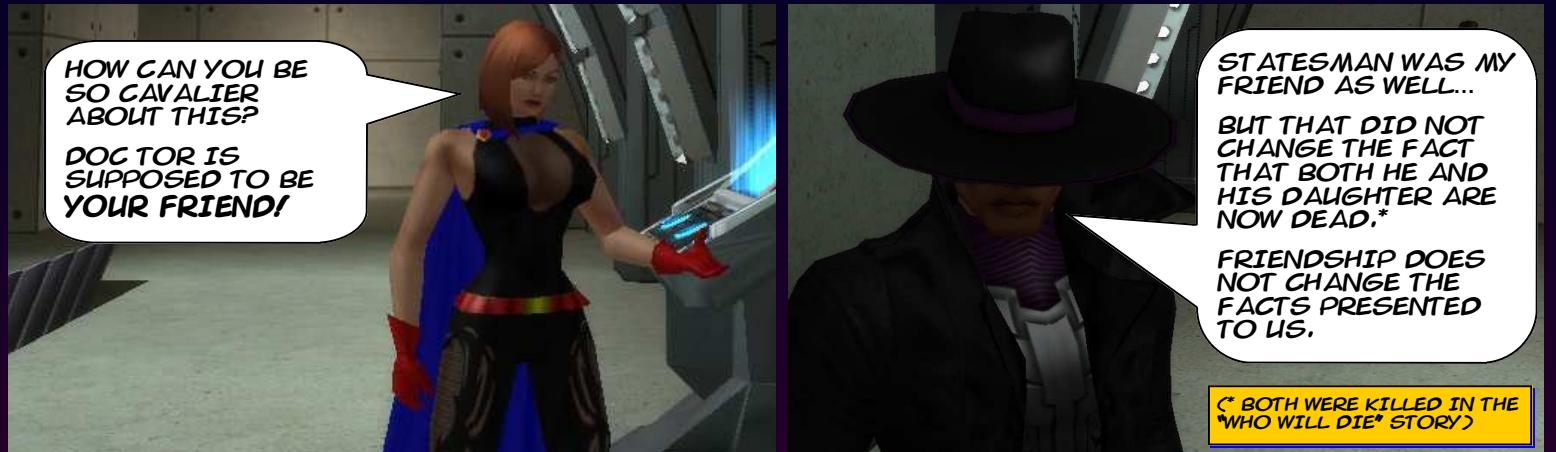
PROBLEMS?

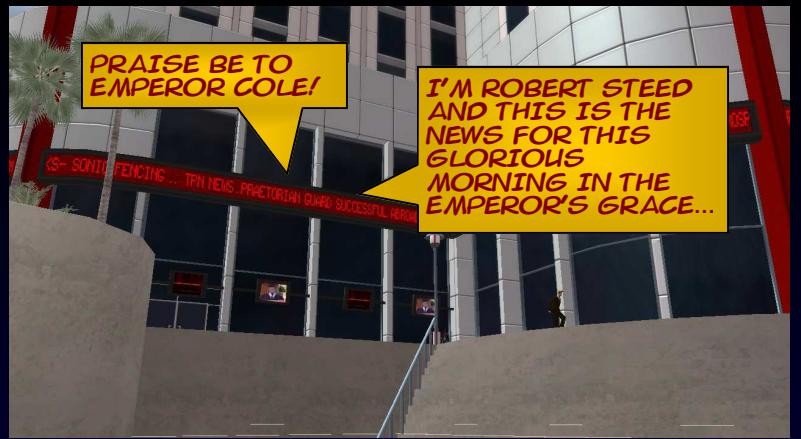
DOC TOR COULD CREATE
A QUANTUM FIELD USING
RIKTI TECHNOLOGY AND
USE IT LIKE A BEACON
JUST LIKE CYRIL SAID.

I DON'T WANT TO BELIEVE
IT, BUT THE EVIDENCE
SUGGESTS THAT'S WHAT
HE DID. D@MNIT!!!

YOU COULD
SAY THAT,
DARK WATCHER.

DARK WATCHER
VANGUARD ADVISOR

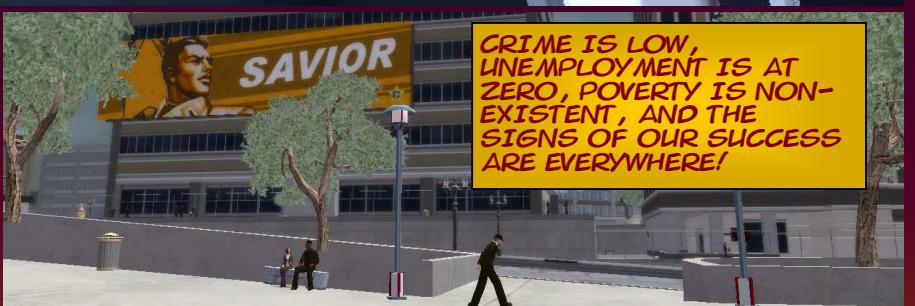




PRAETOR WHITE, DIRECTOR OF THE POWERS DIVISION, CREDITS THE APPREHENSION OF LADY MIDNIGHT TO FORMER EVAC SPECIALIST MATT BURKE, WHO IS EXPECTED TO BE HONORED AT THE MAGISTERIUM LATER TODAY.



LADY MIDNIGHT WILL BE EVALUATED AT THE BEHAVIOR ADJUSTMENT FACILITY BEFORE SHE IS BROUGHT TO TRIAL FOR HER MANY CRIMES AGAINST PRAETORIA.



PRAETORIAN DETENTION CELL

SO THE SEERS SAY THAT YOU HAVEN'T TOLD THEM ANYTHING YET.

 MATT BURKE
LOYAL PRAETORIAN

MUST HAVE SOME SERIOUS SKILLS IN THAT OTHER WORLD TO DO THAT. EITHER THAT OR MAGIC.

DON'T GET TOO CONFIDENT, THOUGH... THE LADIES HERE ARE UNDER ORDERS TO GO EASY ON YOU FOR NOW. WE NEED YOU LUCID FOR YOUR "TRIAL". IT'S REALLY JUST A FORMALITY, BUT WE GOTTA KEEP APPEARANCES GOING.

SPEAKING OF, I WAS CURIOUS AS TO WHAT MY COUNTERPART ON YOUR WORLD IS TO YOU.

WE'RE NOT FAMILY... BIOLOGICALLY SPEAKING... SO WHAT AM I TO YOU THERE? FRIEND? BOSS? LOVER?

NOT... EVEN... IN... YOUR... DREAMS...

 "LADY MIDNIGHT"
AKA MIDNIGHT ARACHNIA

SEE, I KNEW YOU WERE HOLDING OUT ON US.

ONE WAY OR ANOTHER, THE SEERS WILL FIND OUT AFTER THEY GET THE GREEN LIGHT TO BREAK YOU.

WON'T... HAPPEN...

THINK THEY CAN'T DO THAT?

IVE BEEN IN THE EMPEROR'S SERVICE LONG ENOUGH TO WATCH THESE SEERS TURN EVEN THE TOUGHEST MEN INTO QUIVERING CRYBABIES.

OH, THEY PUT UP A BRAVE FRONT, BUT SOON THEY'RE MESSIN' THEIR PANTS AND DROOLING AWAY.

JUST LIKE YOUR TWO FRIENDS WILL BE AFTER I HAVE THE HONOR OF TAKING THEM DOWN AND PARADING THEM BEFORE EMPEROR COLE RIGHT ALONGSIDE YOU.







("SPOTLIGHT" #14)



ASPECT OF THE PILLAR OF ICE AND FLAME
OROBOROS ARTIFACT



NEUTROPOLIS - PRAETORIAN UNIVERSE







WHAT DO YOU MEAN YOU JUST LOST CONTACT WITH THE WHOLE D@MN PLATOON?

THERE'S ENOUGH FIREPOWER THERE TO TAKE OUT THREE HAMIDON SEEDS!

YOU GET OVER TO NEUTROPOLIS AND YOU GET YINDELL ON THE LINE OR THE NEXT CALL I MAKE WILL BE TO HIS WIDOW! DO YOU--

HAVING PROBLEMS, MISTER BURKE?

 FURIA POWERS
PRAETORIAN HERO

WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING HERE, POWERS?

YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE LEADING THE OUTSIDERS TO THE AMBUSH LOCATION.

I MEAN, THIS THING IS SUPPOSED TO BE YOUR PLAN!

ACTUALLY THAT WAS YOUR PLAN.

MY PLAN IS THE ONE BEING CARRIED OUT RIGHT NOW...

WITH THE SO-CALLED "OUTSIDERS" TAKING OUT YOUR D.U.S.T. FORCES, WHILE I WALTZ ON IN AND TAKE LADY MIDNIGHT OFF YOUR HANDS.

WAIT... WHAT?

WHAM



FROM THE CREATOR OF JUSTICE-KNIGHTS...

STALKTRESS

Vengence or Justice?
Cruelty or Mercy?
Angel or Monster?



JKComics.com





Why wait until disaster strikes to stock up for it?

It's a FACT:

- ▷ Paragon City is the disaster capital of the world!
- ▷ The first thing cut and the last thing restored in a disaster is civilian electricity.
- ▷ The very last thing that most people think about until it is too late is checking their emergency supplies to ensure freshness!

Why put your family's mealtime at the mercy of the villains and alien invaders bent on world domination?

Your family **NEEDS** Green Pouch Survival Kits!

**Green
Pouch**

Every Green Pouch kit contains enough to feed a family of four without needed electricity or refrigeration, and with enough selections to ensure that you won't get bored any time soon!

Available at all grocery and supply stores in Paragon City.
Don't wait until the next invasion! Get prepared NOW!



"AS TOLD IN THE "TIME AND CHANGES" AND "GALATEA DAWNING" STORYLINES OF "GUARDIANS OF THE DAWN SPOTLIGHT"





"JESSICA, ARE YOU SURE ABOUT THIS PART OF THE AREA?"

"YEAH, WE SHOULD BE SAFE FOR A FEW HOURS. THIS IS WHERE THE RESISTANCE SENDS THE FIRST WARD REFUGEES FOR A WHILE UNTIL THEY GET THEIR NEW IDENTITIES SET UP."

"THE SEERS DON'T COME DOWN HERE UNLESS IT'S WITH A FULL IMPERIAL SQUAD. TOO MANY 'UNSTABLE MINDS' FOR THEM TO TOLERATE."

"WHY CAN WE STAY ONLY FOR A FEW HOURS?"

"THAT'S WHEN THE FACTORY WORKERS ARE LET OUT. THEY'RE THE SOURCE OF THE 'UNSTABLE MINDS'."

SO WHAT THE HELL HAPPENED, JESSICA?
WHY DID YOU RUN OFF WITHOUT LETTING ANYONE KNOW WHERE YOU WERE?
WE THOUGHT MAYBE GHOST WIDOW KILLED YOU... AGAIN!"

("SPOTLIGHT" #8)

I KNOW... D@MNIT I KNOW!
AND I'M SORRY!
BUT IT WAS ALL PART OF LIBRA'S PLAN.
HE SAID WE NEEDED TO BE DISCRETE ABOUT THIS.

LAST YEAR, I GOT A CALL FROM MY BROTHER MATT. HE SAID HE HAD A JOB FOR ME AND FOR JOHN COLE THAT WOULDN'T INVOLVE THE ROGUE ISLES AT ALL.

BEAR IN MIND THAT THE GUARDIANS WERE JUST DISBANDED, AND WE BASICALLY HAD NOTHING BETTER TO DO.

TURNED OUT IT WASN'T MATT THAT REALLY CONTACTED ME, THOUGH. IT WAS LIBRA.

LIBRA HAD A SPECIAL TASK FOR BOTH MYSELF AND JOHN THAT INVOLVED COMING HERE, TO PRAETORIA, AND IT HAD TO DO WITH THE WELL OF THE FURIES.

THE WELL IS THE ARTIFACT THAT GAVE BOTH STATESMAN AND LORD RECLUSE THEIR INCARNATE ABILITIES, BASED OFF THE GREEK GODS ZEUS AND TARTARUS.

WE ARE FAMILIAR WITH THE LEGEND.
WHAT DOES ANY OF THIS HAVE TO DO WITH PRAETORIA?



ACCORDING TO LIBRA,
THE WELL IS A PAN-
DIMENSIONAL ARTIFACT.

IN OTHER WORDS, JUST
LIKE SUPERADINE, IT
PRETTY MUCH APPEARS IN
EVERY UNIVERSE IN ONE
WAY OR ANOTHER!

AND... IT'S SENTIENT!

LIBRA SAID THAT WHEN
OUR MARCUS COLE DRANK
FROM THE WELL, IT AWOKE
THE WELL ITSELF.

IT SOUGHT A CHAMPION,
SOMEONE WHO WOULD
DEFEND IT LIKE THE
FLURIES ONCE DID.

THE PROBLEM BEING, IT
CHOSE MARCUS COLE.

THE MARCUS COLE OF
THIS UNIVERSE!

A MEGALOMANIAC WITH
THE FULL POWER OF THE
GREEK PANTHEON AT HIS
DISPOSAL.

NO WONDER LIBRA SAW
THIS AS A THREAT.

I WOULD TOO IF I WAS
STILL ASCENDED.

RIGHT. SO ANYWAY,
LIBRA RECRUITS JOHN
AND MYSELF TO COME
HERE AND HELP
CHALLENGE TYRANT,
HOPING TO FORCE THE
WELL TO GIVE COLE UP
AND CHOOSE OUR
MARCUS COLE AS THE
NEW CHAMPION.

ONLY SOMETHING ELSE
HAPPENED THAT
CHANGED EVERYTHING.

"YOU MEAN
STATESMAN'S DEATH
AT THE HANDS OF
DARRIN WADE."

"YEAH. BUT I DIDN'T KNOW
ABOUT THAT UNTIL AFTER
I GOT HERE AND TPN WAS
GLOATING ABOUT IT."

"I DEDUCED THAT THIS WAS
THE REASON WHY LIBRA
CHANGED HIS MIND ABOUT
SENDING JOHN HERE."

"WITH HIS FATHER DEAD,
JOHN WOULD BE THE NEXT
SUITABLE CANDIDATE FOR
THE POWER OF THE WELL."

"AS SEEN IN THE IN-GAME
"WHO WILL DIE" STORY"

STATESMAN
LEGENDARY SUPERHERO

"THAT EXPLAINS WHY WE
SAW LIBRA RIPPING OUT
ALL OF JOHN'S ARACHNOS
IMPLANTS IN LIMBO."

"OHMIGOD, I DIDN'T
KNOW ABOUT THAT!
IS HE OKAY?"

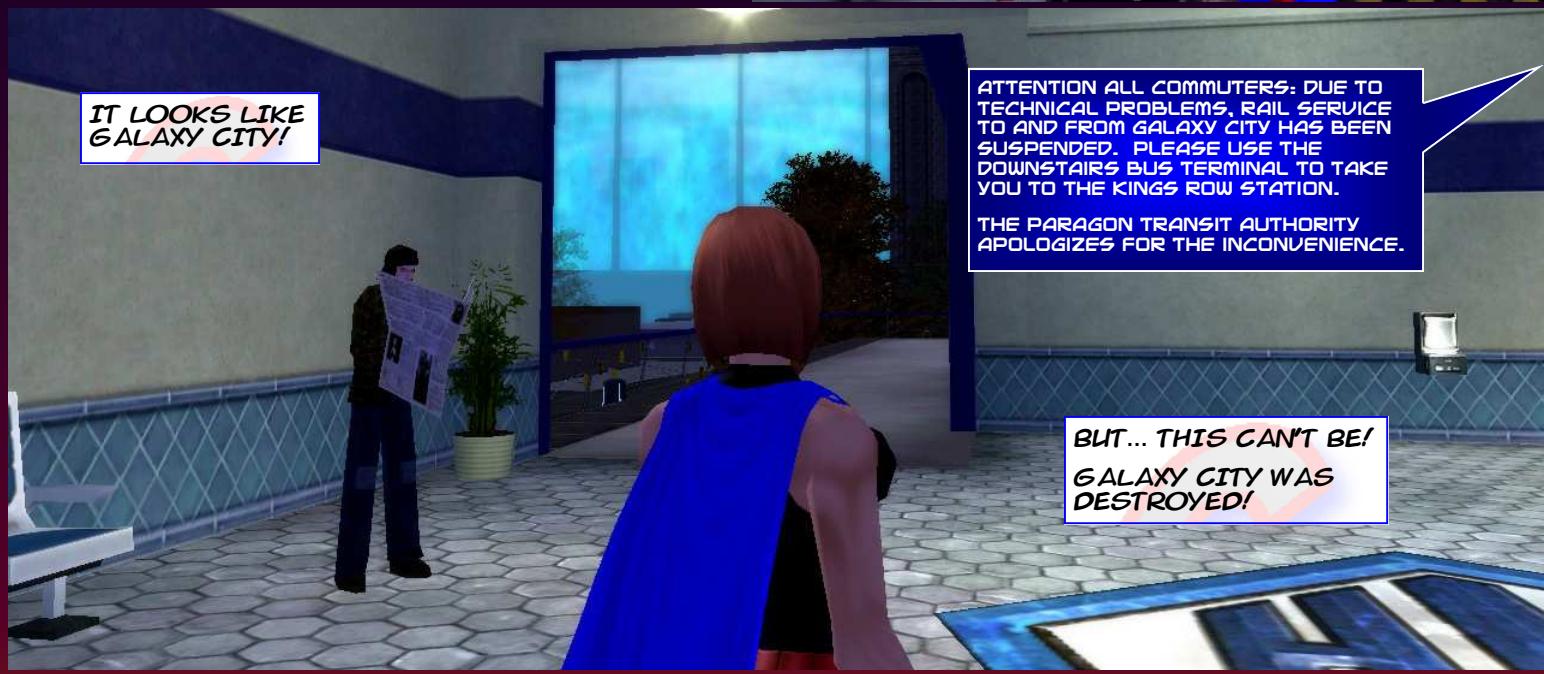
"HE'S FINE, JESSICA. I
TOOK HIM TO VANGUARD
AND HE MANAGED TO HEAL
HIMSELF IN A FEW WEEKS."

HE'S STAYING IN PARAGON
CITY NOW AND STARTING
HIS LIFE OVER AGAIN."

"AS SEEN IN ISSUE #83"

JOHN COLE
FORMER "WIDOWMAKER"





HE'S READING THE NEWSPAPER FROM SEPTEMBER 13TH OF LAST YEAR.

EXCUSE ME, SIR.
CAN I ASK YOU SOMETHING?

SIR? CAN YOU HEAR ME?

HE'S NOT RESPONSIVE.
HE DOESN'T EVEN ACT LIKE I EXIST.

ALL THE PAPERS SAY IT'S SEPTEMBER 13TH OF LAST YEAR.

BUT THIS DOESN'T MAKE SENSE!

I'VE TRAVELED BACK IN TIME BEFORE THROUGH THE PILLAR OF ICE AND FLAME, AND PEOPLE WOULDN'T BE OBLIVIOUS TO MY PRESENCE.

GRANTED, THERE'S A PERCEPTION FIELD THAT WOULD PREVENT PEOPLE IN THE PAST FROM KNOWING WHO I WAS, BUT THEY STILL WOULD TALK WITH ME.

WAIT A MINUTE...

THERE'S SOMETHING GLARINGLY WRONG WITH THIS SCENE!

IF THIS REALLY WAS
SEPTEMBER OF LAST YEAR...

HE WAS ADAMANT ABOUT
BEING AT THE SAME SPOT
EVERY SINGLE DAY!

THEN WHERE'S
PACO SANCHEZ?

IF THIS REALLY IS THE PAST,
THEN PACO SHOULD BE
STANDING AT HIS USUAL
MEETING SPOT IN BETWEEN
EMERGENCY CALLS.

UNLESS THERE WAS AN
EMERGENCY CALL THAT HE
HAD TO RESPOND TO.

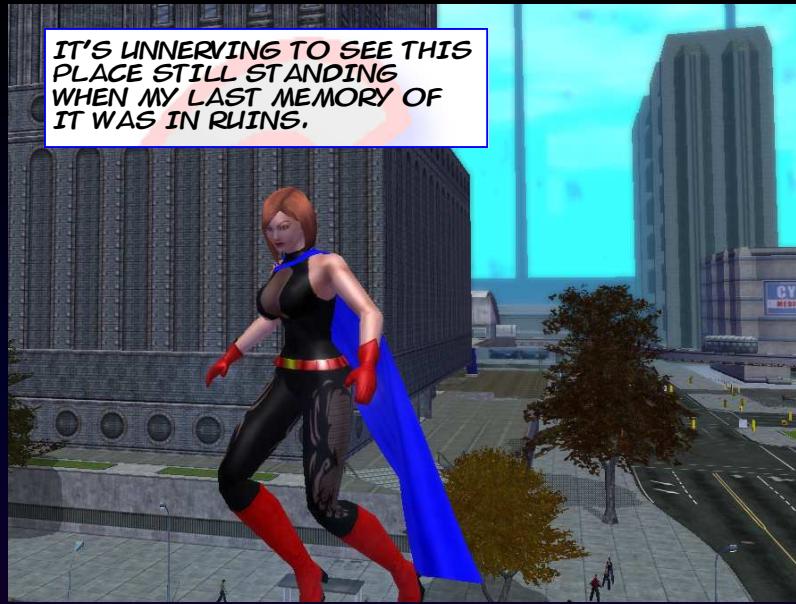
BUT HE TOLD ME THAT HE
DIDN'T HAVE ANY CALLS
THAT MORNING BEFORE
THE METEORS FELL!

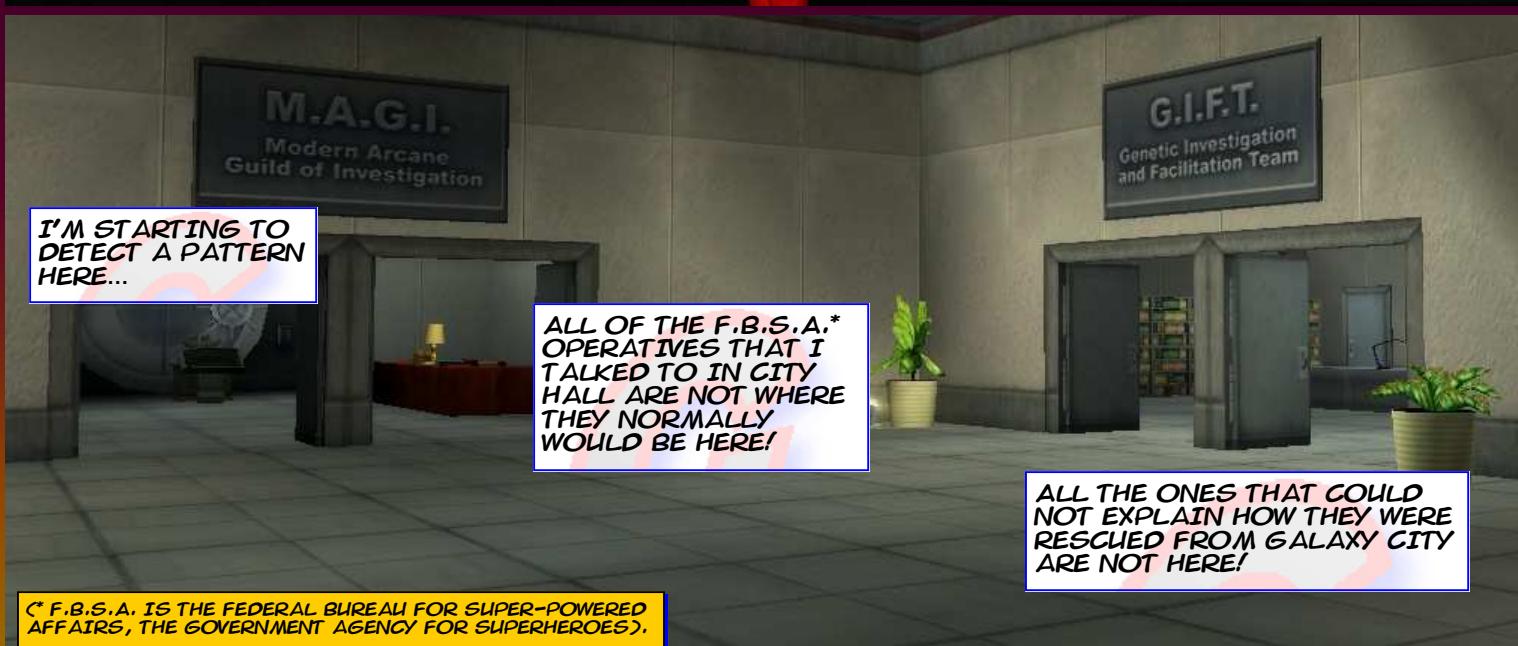
FREEDOM SQUARE.
THE HEART OF
GALAXY CITY ITSELF!

HEADQUARTERS TO THE
FREEDOM CORPS; ONE-TIME
HEADQUARTERS OF THE
FREEDOM PHALANX... *

* THE FREEDOM PHALANX USED THE
BUILDING AS THEIR BASE IN THE
TOP COW INCARNATION OF THE
"CITY OF HEROES" COMIC SERIES.
THEY LATER RELOCATED IN-GAME
TO FORT TRIDENT IN ATLAS PARK.)

AND THE HOME TO
HUNDREDS OF HEROES
AND HERO GROUPS
UNTIL THEY FIND
THEIR OWN PLACES IN
THE CITY.





THE COMPUTER NETWORKS STILL FUNCTION AND THEY RECOGNIZE MY HERO ID.

I CAN INTERACT WITH THE ENVIRONMENT, SO THAT RULES OUT ME BEING A GHOST.

AND ACCORDING TO THIS, THE SYSTEM CLOCKS SAY IT'S SEPTEMBER 13TH, 2011.

BUT THAT CAN'T BE RIGHT IF THE PEOPLE THAT I KNOW WERE HERE ON THAT DAY AREN'T!

I'M NOT IN THE PAST. AND THE WORLD AROUND ME IS NOT STATIC.

SO WHAT IS THIS PLACE?

BOOP
BOOP
BOOP

CLICK

MAYBE THE LOWER LEVELS WILL SHED SOME LIGHT ON THIS MYSTERY.

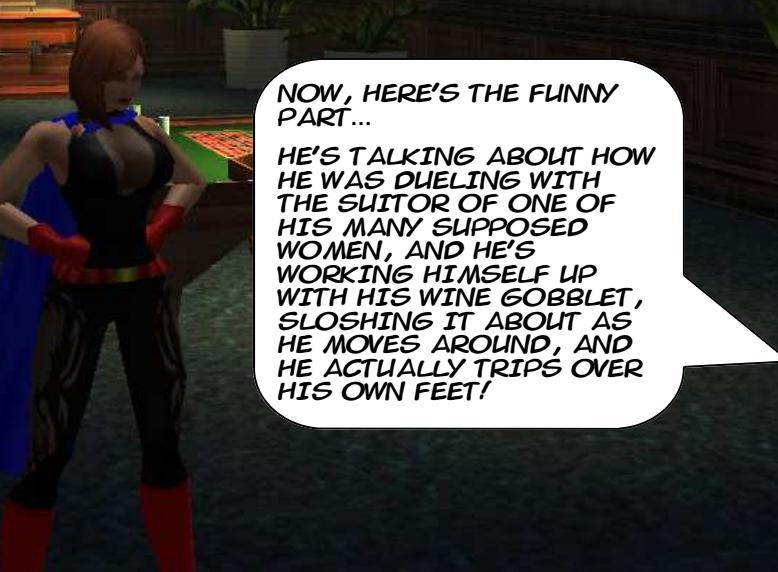
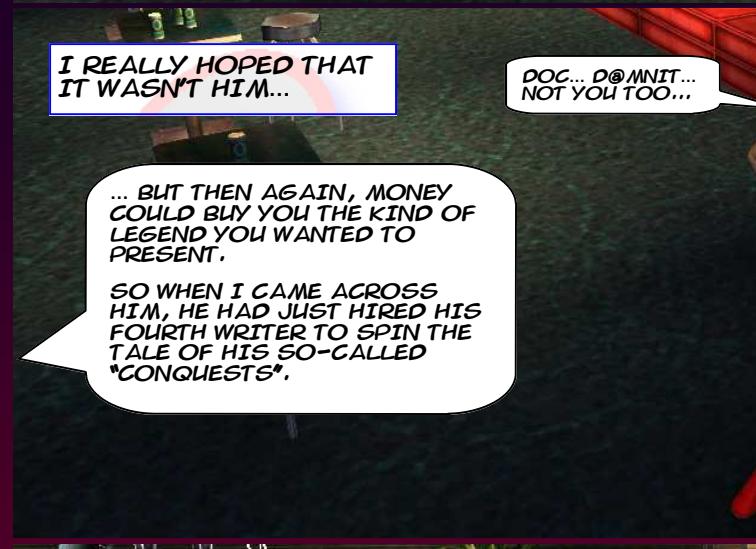
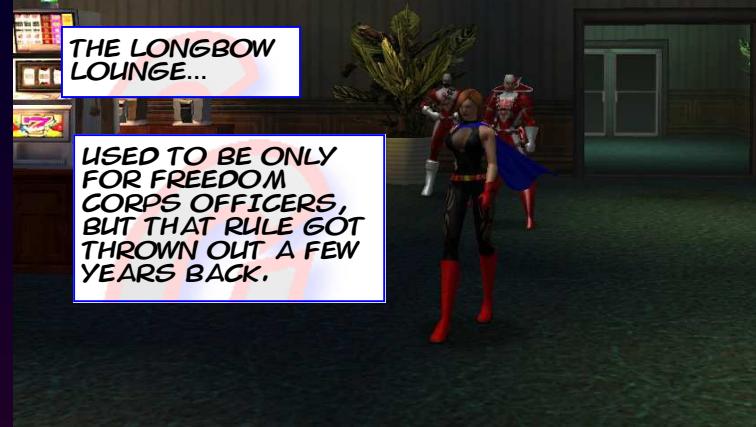
YOU WOULD NEVER KNOW THERE'S A WHOLE LABYRINTH OF CORRIDORS AND ROOMS UNDERNEATH THE SECOND FLOOR OF THE BUILDING.

WHERE HEROES AND FREEDOM CORPS AGENTS LIVE AND WORK.

GASP!

IS THAT... ?
YES, IT'S HIM!





YOU KNOW, IT'S FUNNY THAT YOU SHOULD MENTION PIZZA...

A LOT OF PEOPLE THINK THAT IT'S AN ITALIAN CREATION, BUT IT REALLY CAME FROM THE GREEKS.

THE ROMANS WERE GREAT CONQUERORS AND ADMINISTRATORS AT THE TIME, BUT WHAT THEY REALLY LOVED TO DO WAS TO BORROW IDEAS FROM OTHER CULTURES. JUST LIKE THEY BORROWED ARCHITECTURE AND PANTHEISTIC RELIGION FROM THE GREEKS, SO TOO DID THEY BORROW THEIR COOKING TIPS.

YOU KNOW, I'VE NEVER SEEN HIM PRATTLING ON AND ON LIKE THIS BEFORE.

IT'S ALMOST LIKE HE'S BEING REALLY TALKATIVE ON PURPOSE.

"DOC" TOR
EXILED MANIPULATOR

I DON'T KNOW... I STILL HEAR THOSE RUMORS ABOUT PARAGON PIZZA PIE BEING LINKED TO THE FAMILY.

I DON'T WANT TO GIVE MY MONEY TO A BUSINESS THAT SUPPORTS MOBSTERS.

WELL I'M HUNGRY, SO LET'S FIND SOMETHING.

AND NONE OF IT IS MATCHING THE REST OF THE CONVERSATION!

I THINK IT'S ABOUT TIME WE GOT TO WORK...

DON'T YOU THINK SO, GALATEA?

WHAT?

WHAT?

YOU MEAN YOU... YOU CAN SEE ME?

SEE YOU, HEAR YOU...

I ACTUALLY WONDERED HOW LONG IT WOULD TAKE BEFORE YOU REALIZED THAT THE TRIO OF SOLDIERS WERE TAKING PART IN A CONVERSATION THAT WAS MISSING A FOURTH MEMBER.

ONE OF THE DRAWBACKS TO RESCUING PEOPLE ONE AT A TIME.

COME ON MALRY, YOU'LL LIKE IT!

AND WE'LL MAKE UP FOR IT BY TAKING DOWN SOME SKULLS!

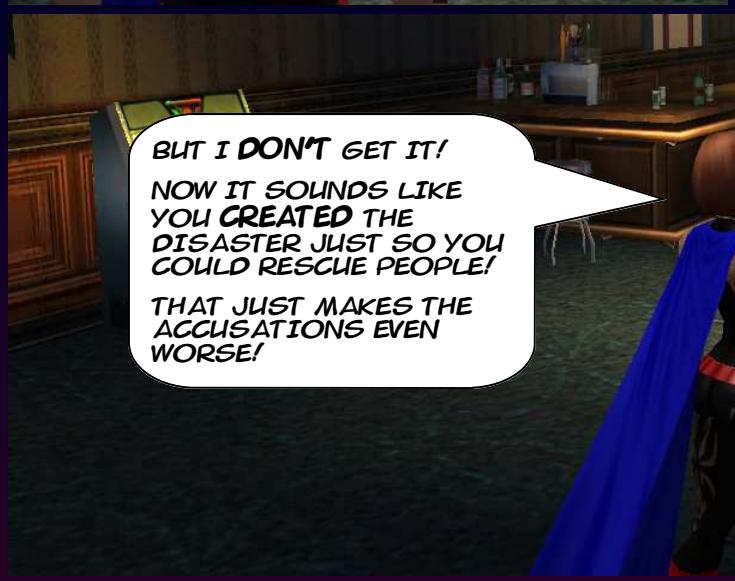




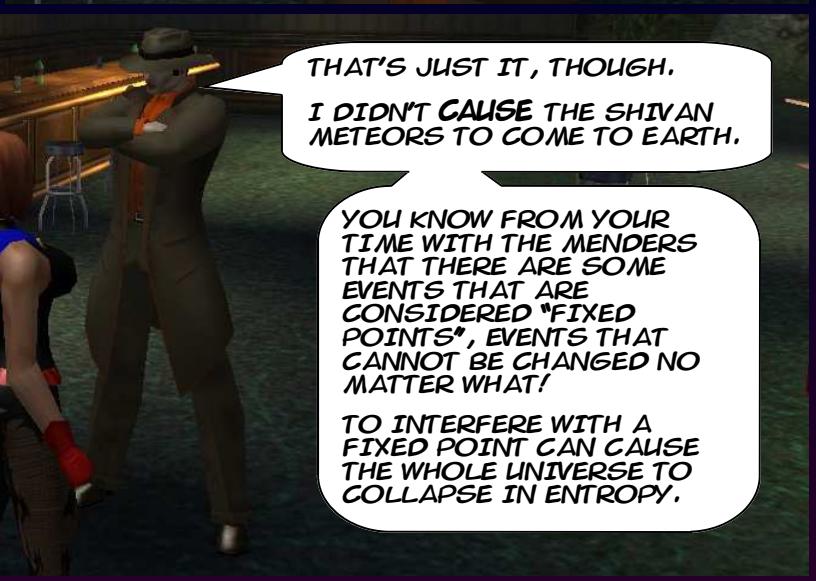
UNLESS... THEY
WERE HERE FOR
THAT TIME!



NOW YOU'RE
GETTING IT.



BUT I DON'T GET IT!
NOW IT SOUNDS LIKE
YOU CREATED THE
DISASTER JUST SO YOU
COULD RESCUE PEOPLE!
THAT JUST MAKES THE
ACCUSATIONS EVEN
WORSE!



THAT'S JUST IT, THOUGH.
I DIDN'T CAUSE THE SHIVAN
METEORS TO COME TO EARTH.

YOU KNOW FROM YOUR
TIME WITH THE MENDERS
THAT THERE ARE SOME
EVENTS THAT ARE
CONSIDERED "FIXED
POINTS", EVENTS THAT
CANNOT BE CHANGED NO
MATTER WHAT!

TO INTERFERE WITH A
FIXED POINT CAN CAUSE
THE WHOLE UNIVERSE TO
COLLAPSE IN ENTROPY.



"SUCH AS
WHEN ALOR
DESTROYED
YOUR WORLD
BY KILLING
PHOTONIS,"

("SPOTLIGHT" #22)



OKAY, SO YOU'RE
SAYING THAT THE
DESTRUCTION OF
GALAXY CITY IS ONE
OF THESE "FIXED
POINTS" IN TIME.

SO... WHAT ARE YOU
TRYING TO DO HERE
IF YOU COULDN'T
STOP THE DISASTER?

THE PROBLEM
IS THAT THE
EVENT WASN'T
ORIGINALLY
A "FIXED
POINT".



SOMETHING ALTERED
THIS UNIVERSE'S
TIMELINE, FORCING THE
DESTRUCTION OF GALAXY
CITY TO BECOME A FIXED
POINT AND THIS CAUSED
OTHER TRAGEDIES TO
HAPPEN.

BUT I DIDN'T DO ALL THIS TO
TRY TO STOP GALAXY CITY
FROM BEING DESTROYED.

I DID THIS TO SAVE THE
PEOPLE THAT WERE CAUGHT UP
IN THE TRAGEDY.

AND NOW THAT YOU'RE HERE,
WE CAN SAVE THE REST OF
THEM!

BUT CAN THEY?
FIND OUT!

POWER TRIP



Words of wisdom and reference from writer and creator David 2.

Selected excerpts from the book...

“My Uncle’s Keeper: The Story of Lionel Powers” - by Icon Powers

Part 5: The Final Confrontation

Kent Powers tried to keep the existence of Leona a secret for as long as possible. This was done partially to keep her hidden from the media, but also to prevent Lionel from getting any kind of information about his birth-daughter.

Much to everyone’s surprise, though, Lionel never asked about Leona. Even though the warden at the Ultra-Max prison promised that Lionel would be shut off from any kind of contact with the outside world, it was a foregone conclusion that if Lionel was so determined, he’d find out what was going on. And he demonstrated that capacity by asking about the events of the Iran-Contra scandal and of Manuel Noriega’s arrest in Panama.

But he never asked about anything concerning his own daughter. That made some people nervous.

...

Lionel’s book, “The Millennium Manifesto”, was critically panned by pundits and book critics alike. Most of it was dismissed as being “extreme social and economic Darwinism”. One critic even went so far as to consider it “the ramblings of a psychotic madman”. This led to a call to have Lionel declared mentally insane, but Lionel himself squashed all such pleas, saying that he was right where he needed to be.

...

Hearing Lionel’s words coming from young Leona’s mouth was almost as frightening to Kent as watching her mercilessly attack the bridge bandits before turning her attacks on him. Even worse was when she would say them in Lionel’s own voice.

...

Lionel was not surprised to know that Kent was going to pay him a visit for the first time since being incarcerated. His calmness upon hearing about Leona’s breakdown clinched Kent’s suspicions of Lionel’s “master plan”.

...

Kent managed to keep his composure as he left the facility, but he couldn’t keep it for long. He had lost so much at that point. His parents were gone. His most recent girlfriend, who helped him raise Leona, was gone. And now he’s learned that the little girl that he has raised as his own daughter had become Lionel’s instrument of vengeance on the whole world.

It is said that there is no sound in space, but on that day a huge crystalline cloud of nitrogen and oxygen was found briefly above Earth’s orbit. And when it was pulled back to Earth, some people claimed, even though it was scientifically impossible, that they heard someone faintly yell.

...

What helped carry Kent’s story about Karen was that most of the world did not know that Leona really existed. It was easy to say, then, that she was a victim of Lionel’s brainwashing and that “Karen” was the supposedly “real” personality. However, once the news of a new member of the Powers family was made public, it was impossible to hide her connection to her birth-father. But Karen soon won over much of the media with her sunny personality and disarming beauty.

...

Most people laughed at the so-called “Millennium Bug”, but like all other rumors and myths, there was a grain of truth to the supposed software flaw.

Continues on next page...

The program was called “Revelation” and it was designed to ensure that the Council’s fatalistic belief that civilization would not see the 21st Century.

Hidden inside the so-called “Fail Safe” systems to America’s Cold War nuclear arsenal was a code connected to a clock. At midnight on January 1st, 2000, regardless of world affairs or executive decisions, the command for launch would be given that could not be countermanded.

The part that brought chills to the White House was the realization that nobody would have known this program existed or what it would do if not for a fluke incident with an ICBM silo in Kansas that reset its clocks. Although the ICBM launched automatically, it was thankfully stopped in its ascent by the alien hero Photonis.

...

Kent knew that his uncle had an ulterior motive for offering his “help” in stopping the “Revelation” program. He was never offered a pardon for his past crimes, nor did he ask for one. Lionel seemed content to be able to stop the last vestiges of “The Circle” as part of his ongoing vendetta with them.

But everyone knew that there was nothing “simple” when it concerned Lionel.

...

It was a Kansas City doctor that reported that a bloody and battered Lionel walked into the hospital holding a slip of paper that contained the frequency needed to counteract the program before the midnight deadline.

...

Lionel Powers was pronounced dead on January 2nd, 2000. As per his final instructions, there was no service for him. His body was cremated, as was witnessed to ensure there was no deception. Afterward, his ashes were sealed in a container and handed to Kent Powers, who scattered them on the dark side of the moon before throwing the container into the sun.

Lionel believed that he was destined to change the world. To some extent he did, but not in the way that he wanted to.

[END]

[NOTE: Although all copies of the physical book “My Uncle’s Keeper” were destroyed along with the rest of the XHT-S7 Universe in 2007, a digital copy of the book still resided in a memory drive of the tech-based suit of Icon Powers when he was brought over to the Primal Universe. These data fragments were all that remained after the suit was badly damaged in his final battle with Alor in 2010.]

**<http://GuardiansOfTheDawn.wordpress.com>
NEXT ISSUE...**



It all comes down to this...

*Can Doc Tor and Galatea Powers
REALLY save the people of Galaxy City?*

*One way or another, the Guardians will
no longer be a “ghost group” at
the end of this final issue.*



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