

T+ FOR TEENS PLUS

FURIA

AND THE GUARDIANS



Issue 20
2016



See This Guy?

His name is Snaptooth, and he hates two things: heroes, and the holidays.

In fact, he hates these two things so much that he kidnaps Baby New Year every year so he can ruin the holidays for everyone, and also so it will bring as many heroes his way so he can pound on them.

Of course, he always loses, but that doesn't stop him from trying over and over again.

So if someone as twisted as him can continue to give everything he has into something he thinks is worthy, then why can't you do the same?

Heroes put their lives on the line every day. They deserve nothing less than our support, especially when they give the ultimate sacrifice for us.



Give To The Fallen Heroes Support Fund!

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.FALLENHEROESFUND.PARA FOR MORE INFORMATION.

NOT A REAL CHARITY. NOT A REAL WEBSITE.

PANDORA'S BOX



MAGIC IS NOT SOMETHING TO BE TREATED LIGHTLY. HAVING THE RIGHT CHARMS AND SPELLS ON HAND CAN LITERALLY BE A MATTER OF LIFE OR DEATH.

WE OFFER THE BEST TOOLS FOR MYSTICS, MAGES, WIZARDS, AND SORCERERS OF ALL FOLLOWINGS AND COLLECTIVES.

WE ALSO OFFER FREE SCREENINGS FOR THOSE BELIEVED TO BE "CHARMED" OR "CURSED".

COME IN TODAY AND CHANGE YOUR LIFE!

SKYWAY CITY - STEEL CANYON - INDEPENDENCE PORT - TALOS ISLAND

Born in an alternate world where heroes ruled and humanity was endangered, Faith Powers was the last surviving member of the legendary Powers family. Brought up in the watchful eyes of the Praetors, she became Furia Powers, champion of the weak.

But then she became aware that all was not right in the supposed "Utopian Society". Forced to choose between the Praetors and a chance at a new family, she choose family and left for the Primal Universe.

Now Furia Powers is a member of the Guardians of the Dawn, a superhero team dedicated to helping humanity to that bright future that is always just beyond the horizon. It is a team that is on the brink of becoming legend. They are...

FURIA



AND THE GUARDIANS

Previously...

A sudden solar storm produced the largest coronal mass ejection in human history. The immediate threat was stopped thanks to the heroic efforts of the human-Kheldian hybrids led by Daybright of the Guardians of the Dawn.

But while Earth was spared the brunt of the damage, the CME still caused problems for civilization. Power outages and overloads spread around the world. Riots and looting were rampant.

With most of the superhero community busy trying to keep the peace, Galatea Powers led a search-and-rescue mission for Daybright and any other surviving Kheldians with help from the Justice-Knights and their repurposed Rikti mothership, the Gilgamesh.

Galatea found Daybright and several other badly injured Kheldians atop a lone orbiting defense platform, but she also found herself suddenly overwhelmed with power. The Justice-Knight also discovered that the injured Kheldians were the only ones keeping that orbital platform in a stable orbit around the Earth. With the hybrids now evacuated to the Gilgamesh, the platform's orbit has decayed.

Now...

The orbital defense platform is falling back to Earth, and with the Kheldian hybrids unable to help, the only hope for the planet rests with a seemingly incapacitated Galatea Powers.

"ICARUS - PART 3"

- A CITY OF HEROES STORY BY DAVID 2

Furia and the Guardians #20 is created using material collected through the **City of Heroes** Multiplayer Online Roleplaying Game. Copyright © 2004-2012 This story is a not-for-profit independent derivative work of the City of Heroes Game. All original rights are reserved by NCsoft and Paragon Studios. NCSoft, the interlocking NC logo, Paragon Studios, City of Heroes, City of Villains, and all associated logos and designs are trademarks or registered trademarks of NCsoft Corporation and Paragon Studios. Cryptic Studios is a trademark of Cryptic Studios, Inc. All other trademarks are property of their respective owners. Battlerock Comics is a subsidiary of Get Brutal Productions. Neither Battlerock Comics nor Get Brutal Productions makes any claim on above mentioned content.

The "Justice-Knights" are the creation of Joseph Cohen (*aka Sin Stalker*) and appear courtesy of JK Comics. Dr. Frostburg is the creation of Dr. Frostburg. Biosphere is the creation of Aaron Nellis. President Barack Obama is a public figure and therefore considered public domain.



THE GOOD NEWS, LADY GREY, IS THAT WE ARE STARTING TO GET SOME DATA FROM WHAT IS HAPPENING IN ORBIT.

YES, MA'AM, I KNOW THAT THE CORONAL MASS EJECTION DESTROYED ALL OF OUR ORBITING SATELLITES.

BUT THE GOOD NEWS IS THAT OUR GROUND-BASED TELESCOPES ARE STARTING TO COME BACK ONLINE!

THE BAD NEWS, MA'AM, IS WHAT THEY'RE TELLING US.

Director Leopold Simms
UNITED NATIONS SPACE AGENCY

WE'RE SEEING ONE OF THE ORBITAL PLATFORMS ON A RAPIDLY DEGRADING PATH TO EARTH.

AND WE'RE SEEING WHAT APPEARS TO BE A RIKTI MOTHERSHIP RUNNING PARALLEL TO IT!

YES, MA'AM. PARALLEL.

MA'AM, IF I HAD TO SPECULATE, IT APPEARS THAT THE RIKTI SHIP MAY HAVE BEEN RESPONSIBLE FOR MOVING THE PLATFORM OUT OF ORBIT.

LADY GREY, I STRONGLY RECOMMEND YOU AUTHORIZE ANY AND ALL POSSIBLE DEFENSIVE MEASURES TO STOP THE RIKTI SHIP....
... WHILE YOU STILL CAN.

NO, LADY GREY, I ASSURE YOU THAT RIKTI SHIP IS ON OUR SIDE.

YES, MA'AM, THAT'S THE GILGAMESH.

IF I HAD TO VENTURE A GUESS, IT'S BECAUSE THE AMBIENT ENERGY STILL UP THERE FROM THE CORONAL MASS EJECTION IS INTERFERING WITH ITS ULTRA-LOW FREQUENCY TRANSPONDER.

Ryder Lightning
(BART WALLACE)

NO, I UNDERSTAND HOW DIRECTOR SIMMS COULD MAKE THAT MISTAKE GIVEN THE CIRCUMSTANCES, BUT THAT SHIP UP THERE IS THE JUSTICE-KNIGHTS BASE.

YES, WE ARE AWARE OF THE THREAT AND WE ARE TRYING TO COME UP WITH A SOLUTION.

WE APPRECIATE YOUR CONFIDENCE, MA'AM. WE WILL KEEP YOU UPDATED.

I JUST STOPPED VANGUARD FROM GETTING OBAMA TO FIRE A NUCLEAR MISSILE AT THE GILGAMESH.

BUT WE MAY HAVE TO DO THAT TO KNOCK OUT THE PLATFORM IF WE CAN'T FIX ITS ORBIT.

IT WOULDN'T NEED TO BE AN OPTION IF WE CAN SOMEHOW FIND OUT WHAT HAPPENED TO GALATEA... OTHER THAN SHE'S ON THE PATH TOWARDS BECOMING AN INCARNATE.

Carlton Sage
VANGUARD OVERSEER

SOMETHING'S BEEN BOTHERING ME, THOUGH...

THE GILGAMESH IS A RESTORED RIKTI MOTHERSHIP, RIGHT?

WHY CAN'T THE KNIGHTS USE THE RIKTI WEAPONS?

LET'S ASK THE KNIGHTS THEMSELVES...

GUARDIAN BASE TO GILGAMESH:

WHAT KIND OF WEAPONS DO YOU HAVE UP THERE THAT COULD HELP?

OVER EARTH

NOTHING THAT COULD HELP, GUARDIAN BASE.

DESPITE THE ALIEN INFLUENCE, THE RIKTI DESIGNED THESE SHIPS MOSTLY FOR TERRESTRIAL DAMAGE.

Biosphere
(DR. AARON NELLIS)

STORAGE INVENTORY DOES INCLUDE SEVERAL SMALLER VESSELS,

HOWEVER THEY ARE NOT AUTOMATED AND WE DO NOT POSSESS THE MANPOWER TO BOTH PILOT THEM AND MAINTAIN THIS VESSEL.

Databank
JUSTICE-KNIGHTS MEMBER

WHEN THE TAOSIANS HELPED US REBUILD THE SHIP, THEY MADE IT CAPABLE OF INTERSTELLAR TRAVEL, BUT THEY DIDN'T INCLUDE ANY OF THEIR WEAPONS.

NOT EVEN A TRACTOR-BEAM?

WHAT ABOUT THE DROP SHIPS? THE HEAVY PROBES? THE BOMBS?

MOST OF THE DROP SHIPS WERE JETTISONED BEFORE THE SHIP CRASHED DURING THE RIKTI WAR. USING THE BOMBS WOULD ONLY FRAGMENT THE PLATFORM... WHICH WOULD BE JUST AS BAD.

AND WE ONLY HAD TWO FUNCTIONING RIKTI DRONES... AND YOUR FRIEND DOC TOR RAN ONE OF THEM INTO A SHIVAN ROCK A FEW YEARS AGO.*

BUT WE'RE GOING STILL GOING TO TRY TO FIND SOMETHING TO STOP THE PLATFORM FROM COMING DOWN ON THE PLANET.

* GUARDIANS OF THE DAWN SPOTLIGHT #10

ON THE SURFACE OF THE ORBITAL
DEFENSE PLATFORM...

IT'S SO...
OVERWHELMING!

I CAN FEEL THE SHIFT
OF THE MOLTEN
SURFACE AS IT
SLOWLY COOLS.

I CAN... I CAN HEAR
THE TRANSMISSIONS
FROM EARTH.

I SHOULDN'T BE
ABLE TO, BUT I CAN.

Galatea Powers
(FAITH KARL)

THE COSMOS... I
CAN SEE IT ALL.

THE STARS, THEIR
PLANETS AND
MOONS, THE DISTANT
GALAXIES...

IT'S LIKE THE WHOLE
UNIVERSE OPENED UP
RIGHT IN FRONT OF ME.

I WANT TO GET UP...
I WANT TO JUST FLY OUT
THERE AND SEE IT ALL.

BUT IT'S LIKE EVERY
NERVE IN MY BODY
IS SUPERCHARGED
AND I CAN'T MOVE.

OH GOD WHAT IS
HAPPENING TO ME?

TALOS ISLAND

PENNY FOR YOUR THOUGHTS?

HELLO? ANYONE HOME?

★ **Monstermass**
FRESHMAN HEROINE

SORRY. I GUESS I WAS... LOST IN THOUGHT.
IT'S A NICE VIEW.

YEAH, IF YOU'RE AN ARCHITECT.
BUT FOR MOST PEOPLE, THE REAL VIEW IS THE STATUE OF TALOS... WHICH IS IN THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION.

★ **Guardian Star**
(JOHN COLE)

WELL, TALOS MAY BE A NICE SIGHT, BUT ONCE YOU'VE LIVED HERE A WHILE, YOU GET USED TO IT.

OH. WELL, SEE, I'M STILL NEW TO ALL OF THIS, SO IT'S ALL STILL EXCITING.

SPEAKING OF WHICH...

I'M TOLD THERE'S A DOOR TO POKED D JUST A BLOCK AWAY.

MAYBE WE CAN CELEBRATE OUR FIRST TEAM-UP WITH A DRINK OR TWO AND SEE WHAT ELSE CAN BE "NEW AND EXCITING"?
MY TREAT.



WAIT...
NO...
SORRY,
I CAN'T.



DON'T GET ME
WRONG... I ENJOYED
TEAMING WITH YOU.
BUT... I'M SEEING
SOMEONE, AND I
DON'T WANT ANYONE
TO GET MIXED
MESSAGES.



BESIDES, WE STILL
HAVE A WAY TO GO
HERE BEFORE
THINGS GET
STABLE ENOUGH
FOR ANYONE TO
CELEBRATE.

SURE... SURE...
WHAT WAS I
THINKING?
DUH! SORRY.

PING
PRIORITY CALL FOR
GUARDIAN STAR



THIS IS
GUARDIAN STAR,
RESPONDING TO
PAGE.

VANGUARD
CLEARANCE.
UNDERSTOOD.

EMERGENCY CALL
AT PHOENIX
MEDICAL CENTER.
VANGUARD
CLEARANCE ONLY.



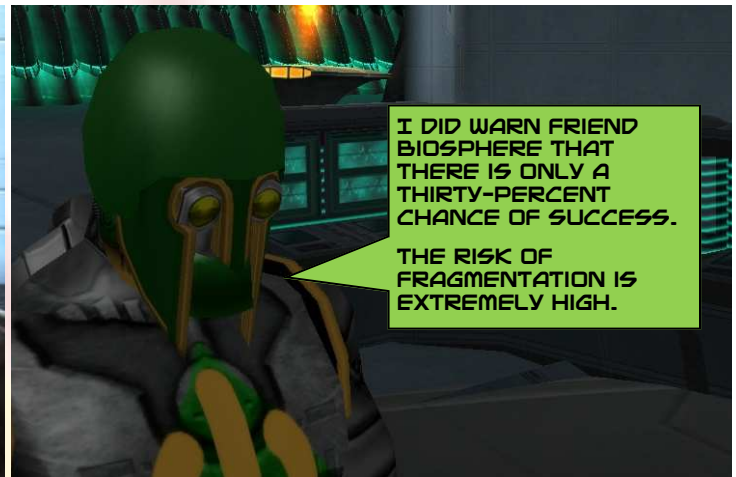
SORRY, BUT THIS
IS ONE OF THOSE
MISSIONS THAT I
HAVE TO HANDLE BY
MYSELF.
BUT IT WAS A
PLEASURE TEAMING
WITH YOU.



LIKEWISE.
AND, WHO KNOWS?
WE MAY BE TEAMING
TOGETHER AGAIN.



WAIT... YOU'RE FIRING HARPOONS AND TOW CABLES AT THE PLATFORM? THAT'S... ACTUALLY A GOOD IDEA.

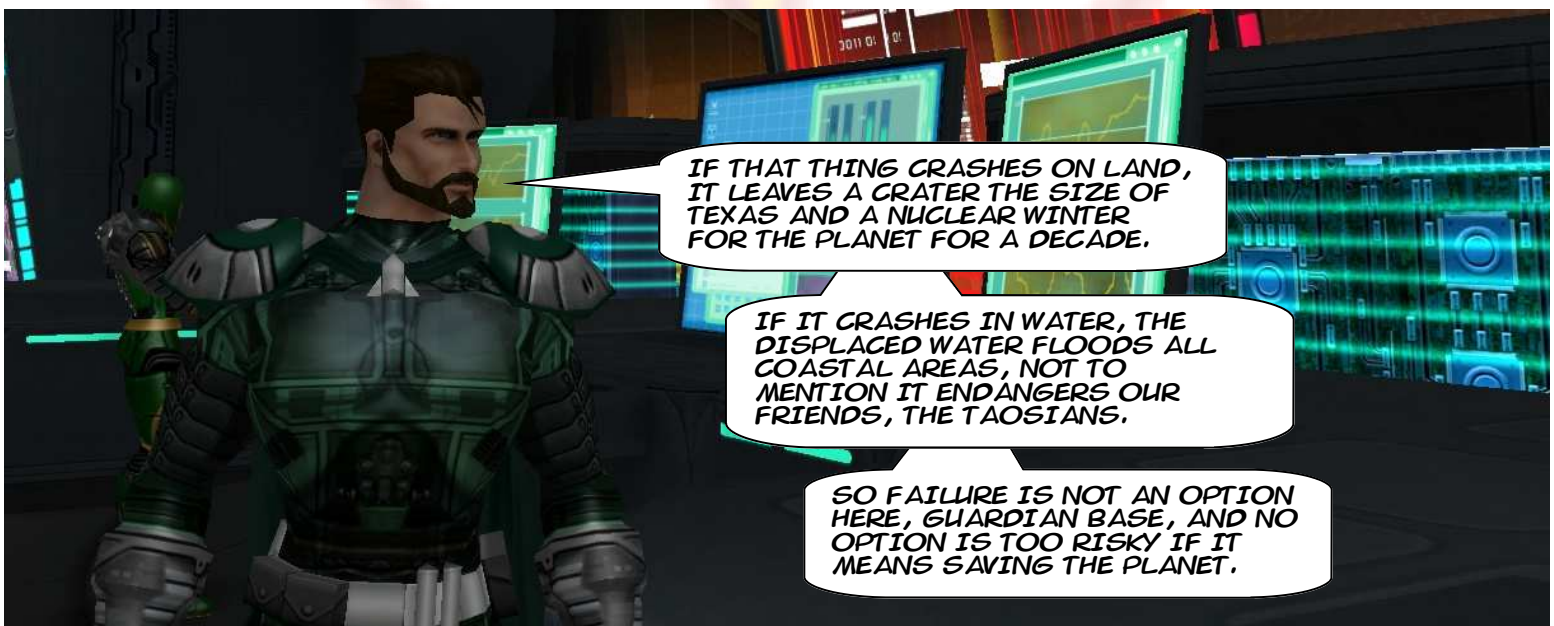


I DID WARN FRIEND BIOSPHERE THAT THERE IS ONLY A THIRTY-PERCENT CHANCE OF SUCCESS. THE RISK OF FRAGMENTATION IS EXTREMELY HIGH.



THAT WAS ALSO BEFORE DATABANK WAS ABLE TO COMPUTE JUST WHAT THE DAMAGE WOULD BE IF WE LET THE PLATFORM FALL.

IT'S NOT LARGE ENOUGH TO BE AN EXTINCTION-LEVEL EVENT, BUT IT WOULD STILL BE LARGE ENOUGH TO CAUSE SERIOUS DAMAGE TO THE PLANET.



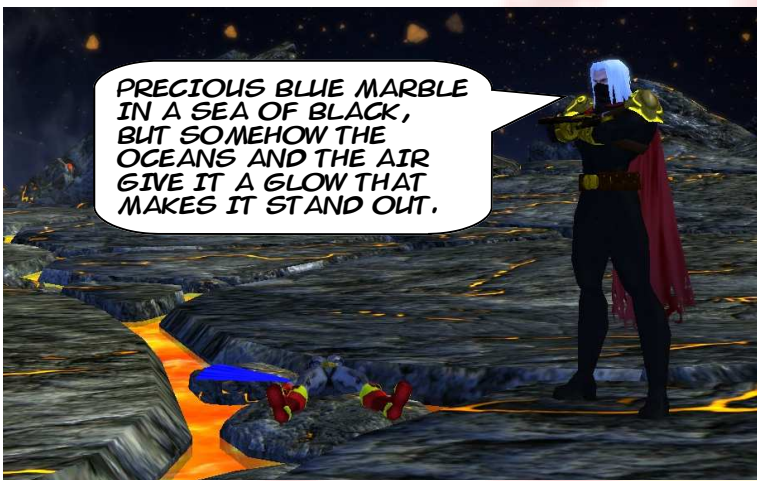
IF THAT THING CRASHES ON LAND, IT LEAVES A CRATER THE SIZE OF TEXAS AND A NUCLEAR WINTER FOR THE PLANET FOR A DECADE.

IF IT CRASHES IN WATER, THE DISPLACED WATER FLOODS ALL COASTAL AREAS, NOT TO MENTION IT ENDANGERS OUR FRIENDS, THE TAOSIANS.

SO FAILURE IS NOT AN OPTION HERE, GUARDIAN BASE, AND NO OPTION IS TOO RISKY IF IT MEANS SAVING THE PLANET.



QUITE A VIEW,
ISN'T IT?



PRECIOUS BLUE MARBLE
IN A SEA OF BLACK,
BUT SOMEHOW THE
OCEANS AND THE AIR
GIVE IT A GLOW THAT
MAKES IT STAND OUT.



OH, AND YOU CAN
GET UP NOW. I'VE
FILTERED OUT MOST
OF THE NEUTRINOS
THAT WERE
SUPERCHARGING
YOUR BODY.



YOU... YOU'RE
TALKING... I CAN
HEAR YOU... BUT IT'S
NOT ON THE RADIO.
BUT THAT'S NOT
POSSIBLE HERE!
THERE'S NO AIR!



WAIT... I
CAN'T HEAR
THE COMMS.



YOU CREATED A NULL
FIELD AROUND US.
SOMEPLACE WHERE WE
CAN TALK BUT
WITHOUT ANYONE
ELSE KNOWING.

YOU PICKED
UP ON THAT
FASTER THAN
EXPECTED.
GRATZ.

THIS IS INCREDIBLE!
IF THERE'S SOME WAY WE CAN USE THIS SO I CAN GET BACK TO THE SHIP...

I'M AFRAID OUR TIME IS LIMITED AND THERE IS SOMETHING FAR MORE IMPORTANT I HAVE TO SHARE WITH YOU.

BUT... HOW ARE YOU DOING THIS? HOW?
AND... WHO ARE YOU? I SAW YOU ONCE BEFORE...*

MY NAME IS QUINN... AND THE SHORT ANSWER TO "HOW" IS UTOPIAN TECHNOLOGY.

ON THAT DEAD EARTH, YES.
I SHOWED YOU THE WAY HOME.

(* ISSUE #5)

YOU'RE A UTOPIAN?
BUT GILL GAMMA SAID THAT HE WAS THE LAST OF THE UTOPIANS.

GILL GAMMA IS MANY THINGS, GALATEA POWERS.
"TRUTHFUL" IS FAR FROM BEING ONE OF THEM.

BUT YOU'LL FIND OUT THE REST OF THAT IN DUE TIME.
WHAT I HAVE TO SHARE WITH YOU CANNOT WAIT.

YOU ARE AT THE CUSP OF YOUR PERSONAL EVOLUTION.

YOU ARE ON THE PATH TO BECOMING AN INCARNATE BEING.

NORMALLY THIS PROCESS WOULD TAKE YEARS, BUT THE UNIQUE RADIATION FROM THE EJECTED SOLAR MATERIAL GAVE YOUR BODY A BOOST, WHICH IS WHY YOU WERE OVERWHELMED WITH ENERGY.



BUT MY POWERS DON'T COME FROM THE SUN! I FOUND THAT OUT YEARS AGO.

YOU'RE RIGHT. YOUR POWERS COME FROM SOMETHING FAR MORE BASIC IN THE UNIVERSE: DARK ENERGY. THE OMNI-FORCE THAT KEEPS THE UNIVERSE IN MOTION.



FOR THE FEW BEINGS THAT BECOME INCARNATE, THEIR LIVES AND THEIR PERSONALITIES ARE MAGNIFIED.

WHAT WAS KIND AND NOBLE BEFORE BECOMES HEROIC. WHAT WAS PETTY AND SELFISH BECOMES EVIL.

BUT WHILE YOUR TRANSFORMATION MAY MAGNIFY THE HEROIC TRAITS YOU ALREADY POSSESS, IT WILL ALSO BE AT A LEVEL THAT WILL MAKE CERTAIN COSMIC FORCES NERVOUS.

GILL GAMMA IS JUST ONE OF THESE BEINGS THAT SEE IT. THERE ARE FAR MORE POWERFUL BEINGS THAT WILL SOON SEE YOUR POTENTIAL AS A OUTHRIGHT THREAT TO THEIR EXISTENCE.



YOU MEAN RULARUU.

DO NOT BE SO OPEN WITH HIS NAME, GALATEA.

EVEN LESSER GODS LIKE MOT PAUSE AT HIS MENTION.

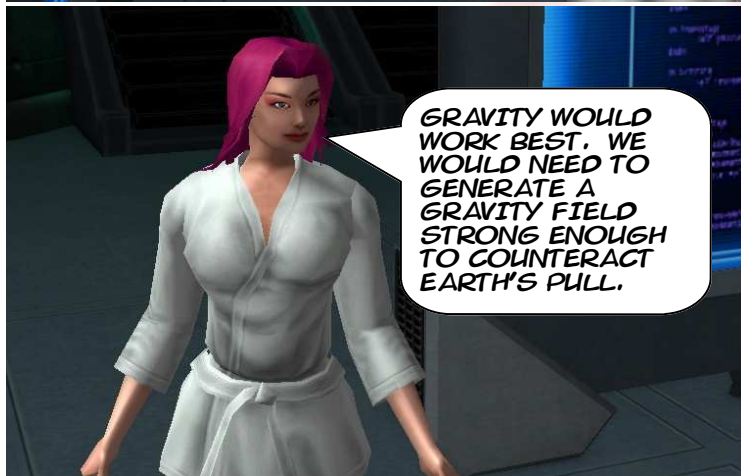
BUT, YES, HE ALREADY SEES YOUR POTENTIAL AS A THREAT TO HIS POWER.



IT'S A LITTLE COMPLICATED, BUT DATABANK IS RIGHT ABOUT WHO I AM.

PRESUMING YOU'RE RIGHT... WHAT ELSE WOULD WE NEED?

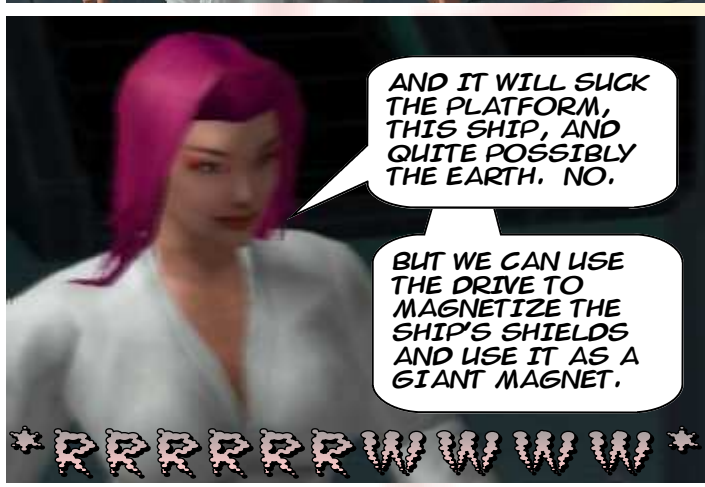
AND ALL THE TOW CABLES IN THE WORLD WON'T BE ENOUGH TO PULL IT OUT OF EARTH'S PULL RIGHT NOW.



GRAVITY WOULD WORK BEST. WE WOULD NEED TO GENERATE A GRAVITY FIELD STRONG ENOUGH TO COUNTERACT EARTH'S PULL.



OUR SHIP IS POWERED BY A MINIATURE BLACK HOLE DRIVE. MAYBE WE CAN JETTISON THE DRIVE...



AND IT WILL SUCK THE PLATFORM, THIS SHIP, AND QUITE POSSIBLY THE EARTH. NO.

BUT WE CAN USE THE DRIVE TO MAGNETIZE THE SHIP'S SHIELDS AND USE IT AS A GIANT MAGNET.

RRRRRRRWWW *WWW*



ENGINEERING CONSOLE'S RIGHT THERE. GO!



WHOA! AN OLD TAOSIAN CONFIGURATION! NO WONDER IT'S BEING UNDERUTILIZED.

I FEEL LIKE I WAS JUST HANDED AN APPLE LISA.

Change Your Costume With A Click!



If you're a hero, then you know that embarrassing moment when some big crisis happens and you don't have your hero outfit with you.

Sure, you can try to wear your hero outfit under your clothes, but that gets too uncomfortable really fast. And carrying them around in a purse or knapsack invites you to either leave it behind or to have it stolen by some punk.

Now you don't have to worry about changing into your hero attire thanks to the **icon** costume pack.

The **icon** costume pack allows you to change to and from your hero outfit with just a click of a button. Within seconds, your civilian attire is gone and you are in your hero gear, ready to fight evil. And after the day is saved, another click will restore you to your civilian attire like nothing ever happened.

So why worry about whether or not you can change into your hero attire in time? Head on over to your nearest **icon** tailor store today and you can be just one click away from ready.

Atlas Park * Steel Canyon * Independence Port * Founders Falls

i c o n

IT'S LIKE SHE'S WEARING NOTHING!

Don't get caught with ugly underwear lines under your skin-tight hero outfit, or risk possible embarrassment by having nothing on underneath.

Our patented **Skin 2** lingerie covers you where you need it the most, preventing you from having those embarrassing moments of being "overexposed", as well as providing miracle support even in the most harrowing of deathtraps.

And no matter the intensity of the crisis, nobody will mistake your seriousness for anything else as long as you're wearing **Skin 2** under your costume.

Whether defending the world or rescuing kittens, **Skin 2** is there for you like it was your own skin.

Skin 2

Available exclusively at your nearest **ICON** tailor store.





Not All Holiday Events Are "Fun"!

It's a FACT:

- ⇒ Even though they first appear in brightly-colored boxes, Winter Horde monsters are far from festive creatures.
- ⇒ Even when defeated, still-melting snow creatures have been known to cause havoc with the daily commute and have even caused power-outages.
- ⇒ While a “winter wonderland” is beautiful to view in Atlas Park, the mere threat by Lord and Lady Winter to make the rest of the world a frozen wasteland is still enough to shut down stores and schools.

Why let holiday monsters ruin your holiday living?



Green Pouch survival kits are perfect year-round, providing enough food to feed a family of four without cooking or refrigeration. And they provide enough variety to ensure that you won't suffer winter blues from blandness.

Buy Green Pouch Survival Kits at any local store.

Don't wait until the next threat of a great freeze! Get prepared TODAY!



PHOENIX MEDICAL CENTER - TALOS ISLAND

I WAS A BIT RELIEVED TO GET THIS ASSIGNMENT SOLO.



I DON'T MIND WORKING WITH NEW HEROES.

I'M STILL NEW AT THIS MYSELF.

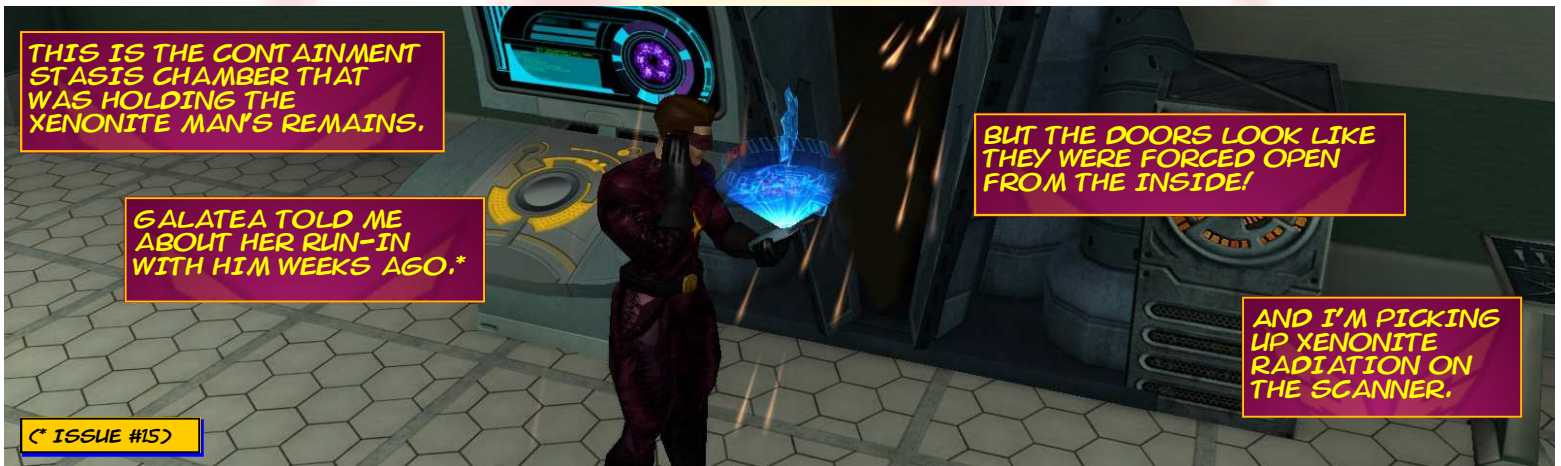


BUT I THINK MONSTERMASS WAS LOOKING FOR ANOTHER KIND OF "TANK AND SPANK".



MIND ON THE CASE, COLE!

THERE'S SOMETHING SERIOUSLY WRONG HERE.



THIS IS THE CONTAINMENT STASIS CHAMBER THAT WAS HOLDING THE XENONITE MAN'S REMAINS.

GALATEA TOLD ME ABOUT HER RUN-IN WITH HIM WEEKS AGO.*

BUT THE DOORS LOOK LIKE THEY WERE FORCED OPEN FROM THE INSIDE!

AND I'M PICKING UP XENONITE RADIATION ON THE SCANNER.

(* ISSUE #15)



GUARDIAN STAR TO BASE: THE XENONITE MAN'S BODY IS GONE. HOW THAT COULD HAVE HAPPENED REMAINS A MYSTERY FOR NOW.

THE SCANNER IN MY COMM DEVICE IS PICKING UP A FAINT TRAIL OF XENONITE RADIATION. I'M GOING TO FOLLOW IT TO SEE IF I CAN CATCH UP TO WHOEVER HAS TAKEN THE BODY.



THE GILGAMESH...



THE PLATFORM IS FALLING TO EARTH. YOU KNOW THIS. YOU'VE BEEN FEELING IT ALONG WITH EVERYTHING ELSE HERE.



THEY'RE NOT GOING TO SUCCEED, NOT BY THEMSELVES.

I HAVE TO DO SOMETHING.

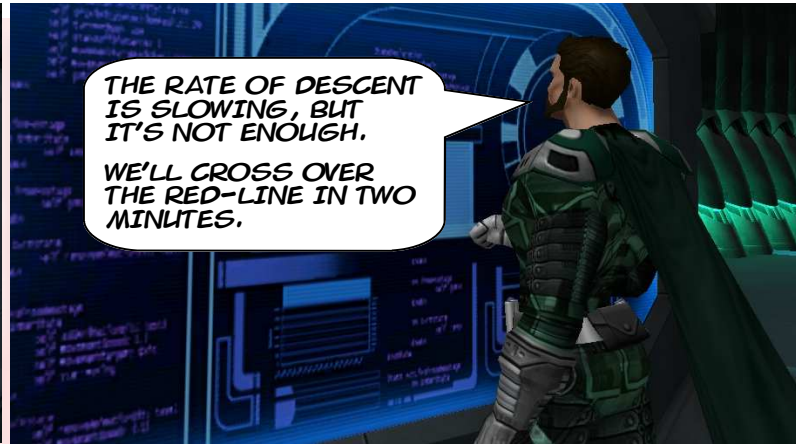


ONCE YOU LEAVE THE NULL FIELD, YOU WILL ONCE AGAIN BE BOMBARDED WITH THE NEUTRINOS THAT HAVE BEEN SUPERCHARGING YOUR BODY AND HASTENING YOUR TRANSFORMATION.

YOU KNOW WHAT IS HAPPENING TO YOU NOW. USE THAT AS A TOOL. AND KNOW THAT I WON'T BE THE ONLY ONE WATCHING FROM A DISTANCE.



ALL AVAILABLE POWER HAS BEEN DIVERTED TO THE FULL POLARIZATION OF THE SHIELDS.



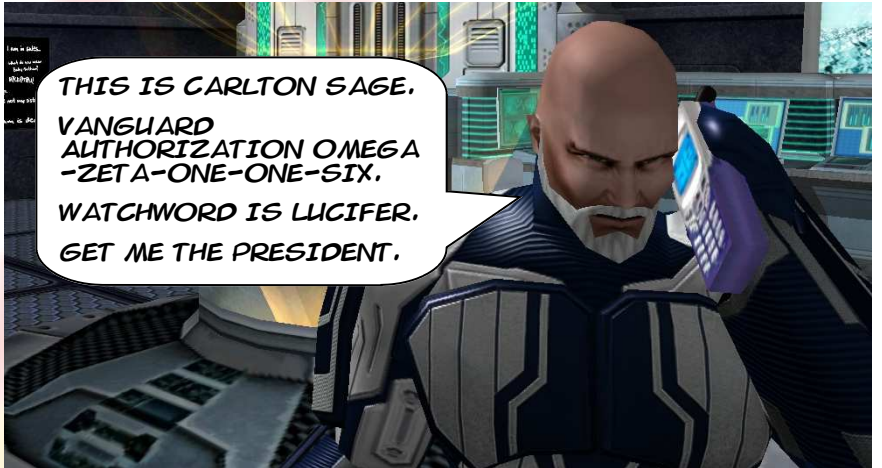
THE RATE OF DESCENT IS SLOWING, BUT IT'S NOT ENOUGH. WE'LL CROSS OVER THE RED-LINE IN TWO MINUTES.



THEY WON'T MAKE IT IN TIME.

DAMMIT...

MAKE THE CALL.



THIS IS CARLTON SAGE. VANGUARD AUTHORIZATION OMEGA-ZETA-ONE-ONE-SIX. WATCHWORD IS LUCIFER. GET ME THE PRESIDENT.



NMF THIS IS... GALATEA... POWERS.



TAYAP

LISTEN TO ME... GET OFF THAT PLATFORM RIGHT NOW!



ON THAT... ON THAT WE'RE IN AGREEMENT. JUST NOT... NOT IN THE WAY YOU THINK.



I'M GOING... TO USE MY FLIGHT POWER TO PUSH THE PLATFORM INSTEAD OF IT PUSHING ME. IT NORMALLY TAKES A LOT OF... OF POWER.

HEH... THANKFULLY RIGHT NOW I HAVE... PLENTY TO... SPARE.



TAYA... YOU DO REALIZE THE AMOUNT OF THRUST YOU'LL NEED TO--



GILGAMESH... WE CAN EITHER DO OR DEBATE... AND I'M VOTING "DO".



SEE YOU... PLANETSIDE.





MY GOD...
SHE JUST...
LAUNCHED HERSELF.



COMPENSATING FOR
ADDITIONAL THRUST.
THE PLATFORM IS
MOVING AWAY FROM
CRITICAL GRAVITY PULL.



IF I'M READING
THIS RIGHT... WE
SHOULD HAVE
ENOUGH MOMENTUM
TO GUIDE THE
PLATFORM INTO A
NEW STABLE ORBIT.



GALATEA DID IT.
I JUST HOPE SHE
CAN SURVIVE RE-
ENTRY.



IS THERE ANY WAY
WE CAN TELEPORT
HER HERE?

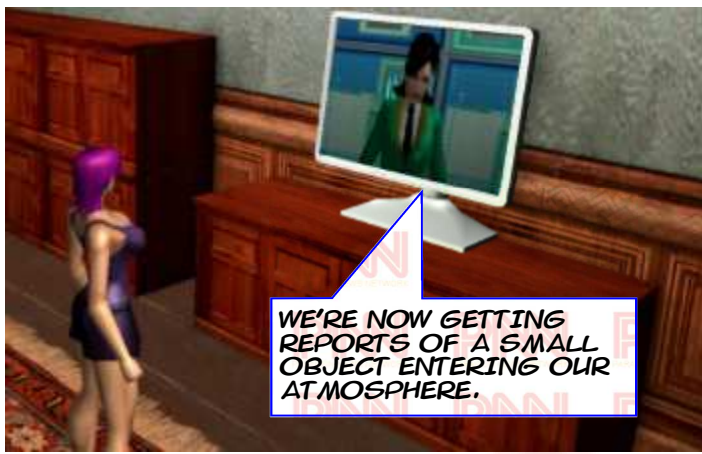
UNDER NORMAL CIRCUMSTANCES...
WITH ALL OUR SATELLITES
WORKING AND WITHOUT THE
AMBIENT ENERGY STILL IN THE
ATMOSPHERE FROM THE C-M-E?
MAYBE.

RIGHT NOW?
NO CHANCE AT ALL.

CITY HALL - ATLAS PARK



"I'M MORE CONCERNED
ABOUT WHAT WILL HAPPEN
WHEN SHE LANDS AT THAT
SPEED."



WE'RE NOW GETTING REPORTS OF A SMALL OBJECT ENTERING OUR ATMOSPHERE.



THERE IS NO WORD WHETHER OR NOT THIS IS PART OF THE ORBITAL PLATFORM WHICH WAS REPORTEDLY HEADING TO EARTH.



"CIVIL AUTHORITIES ARE ON FULL ALERT. MEANWHILE ALL CIVILIANS ARE URGED TO STAY AWAY FROM WINDOWS AND TO SEEK SHELTER."

"STAY HERE WITH P-N-N FOR MORE INFORMATION AS IT BECOMES AVAILABLE."

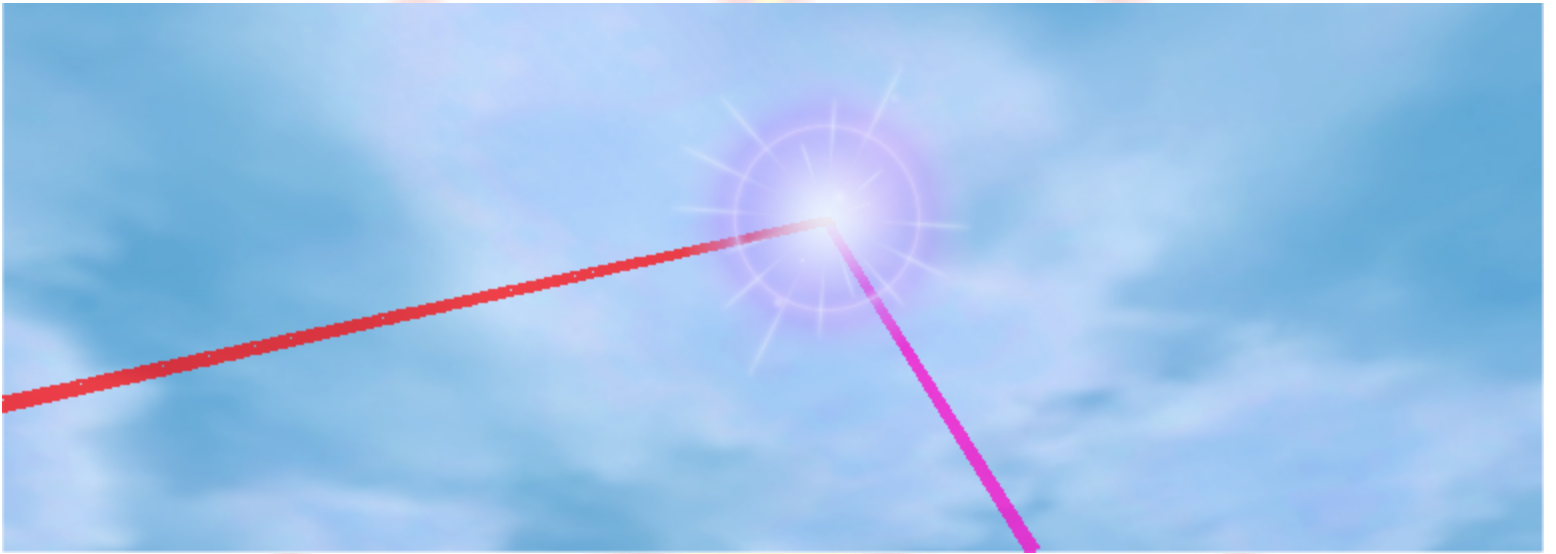
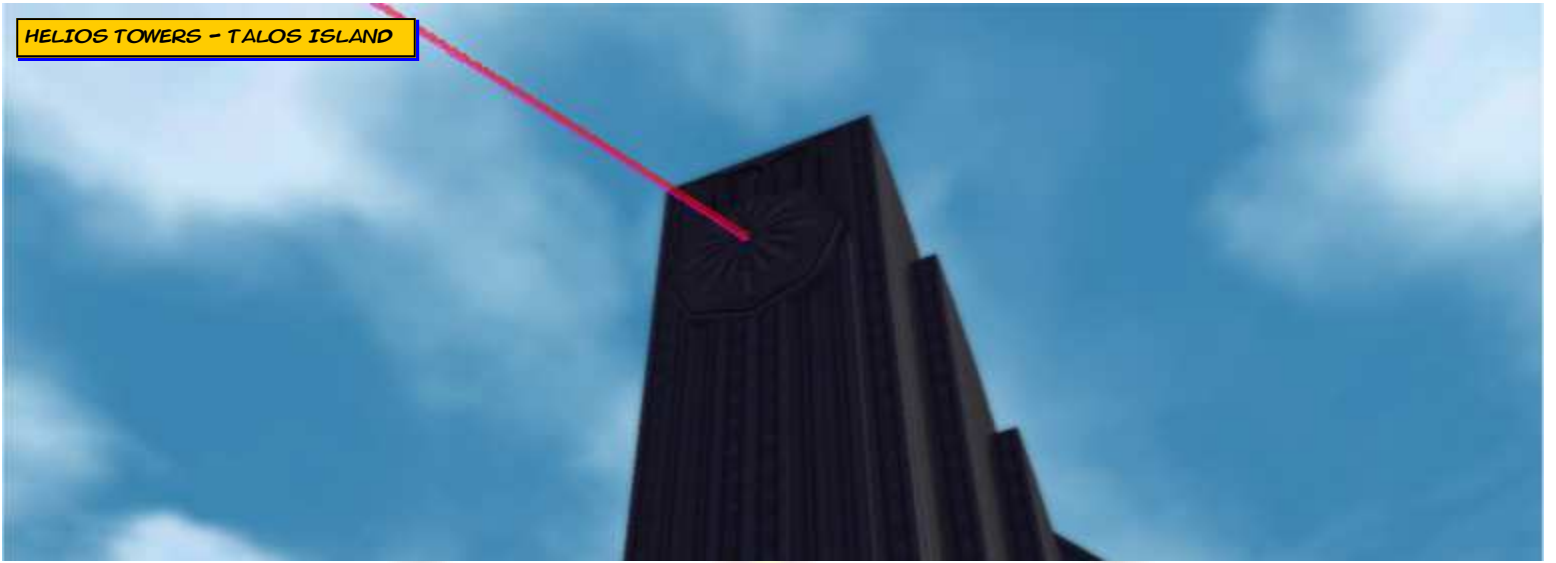
STEEL CANYON



"IF SHE HITS ONE OF THE POPULATED PARTS OF THE CITY AT THAT SPEED, IT'LL BE LIKE THE SHIVAN METEOR STRIKE IN GALAXY CITY."

"IT'LL KILL HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE...
... AND THIS TIME WE'LL REALLY BE THE ONES AT FAULT!"

HELIOS TOWERS - TALOS ISLAND



THE HOLLOWS (FORMERLY EASTGATE)





I HATE GOING INTO THE SEWERS... BUT THE TRIAL IS LEADING ME HERE.



I JUST HOPE I CAN CATCH UP WITH HIM SOON.



WHAT THE HELL? THIS WALL WAS BLASTED IN, NOT OUT.

SOMEONE WAS PREPARING FOR THIS.



DAMN... THEY WENT TOPSIDE.



AND THE RADIATION TRAIL ENDS HERE.



THIS IS GUARDIAN STAR.

I FOLLOWED THE RADIATION TRAIL THROUGH THE SEWER SYSTEM, BUT THEN IT EMPTIED INTO A COMMERCIAL BUILDING.

SOMEONE TOOK THE XENONITE MAN, AND WHOEVER IT WAS, THEY WERE PREPARED.

UNDERSTOOD, GUARDIAN STAR.

SUBMIT YOUR REPORT WHEN YOU CAN AND WE'LL INFORM RYDER LIGHTNING.



NNNN..
COUGH-COUGH



I'M BACK...
AND I DON'T FEEL THE POWER SURGES ANYMORE.
BUT... HOW DID I GET HERE? I FELT SOMETHING INTERCEPT ME...



OH MY GOD... IS THAT...?



FURIA!



NNN... NOT SO LOUD...



EVERYTHING STILL HURTS LIKE HELL... BUT IT WAS WORTH IT.

Furia Powers
(FIONA PODERES)



I COULDN'T CONTROL WHERE I WAS GOING... I DIDN'T KNOW WHERE I WAS--

--HEY...



DID YOU REALLY GO OUT IN SPACE IN JUST YOUR BRA AND PANTIES?



SNORT
HAHAHAHAHAHA

'CUZ... YOU KNOW... THAT WOULD BE REALLY BADASS.



HAHAHAHAHAHA...
NO, MY SPACE SUIT BURNED UP IN RE-ENTRY.

TOO BAD... YOU MISSED ONE HELL OF AN OPPORTUNITY.
"ONE SMALL STEP FOR MAN, ONE GIANT LEAP FOR LINGERIE."



HAHAHAHAHAHAHAHA
HAHAHAHAHAHAHAHA
HAHAHAHAHAHAHA

I'D LAUGH BUT IT STILL HURTS TOO MUCH...

BUT I'M GLAD I COULD HELP...
IT'S WHAT SISTERS ARE FOR, RIGHT?



I FOUND HER WORLD.

OF COURSE I DESTROYED ANOTHER EARTH'S SUN IN THE PROCESS, BUT IT WAS WORTH IT IF IT BRINGS ME HERE.



THE SOLAR STORM MASKS MY ARRIVAL TO THIS WORLD, AS IT DID FOR ALL OTHER UNIVERSES I'VE VISITED.

I WILL BREAK GALATEA POWERS AND HUMILIATE HER AS SHE DID TO ME.

BUT BY THE TIME I AM FINISHED, THEY WILL ALL KNOW WHO I AM.

AND THEN THIS WORLD WILL KNOW THE FULL POWER OF THEIR INCARNATE MASTER...
ULTRALORD

TIME PASSES...

WOUNDS HEAL.

THE CITIES RECOVER.

AND SO DO THEIR HEROES.



"SO... WHAT DO YOU THINK SO FAR?
HELL OF A VIEW, HUP?"



IT'S OKAY.
BUT IT'S NOTHING LIKE BEING OUT THERE YOURSELF.

OH, DID I MENTION THAT SHE'S SPACE-WORTHY?
WE CAN TAKE IT OUT FOR A SPIN, IF YOU WANT.
QUICK JUMP TO THE ORT CLOUD AND BACK...



THERE'S A PLACE HERE ON THE SHIP THAT... WELL, I THINK YOU'LL AGREE IS THE CLOSEST THING TO HEAVEN IN THE RIGHT SETTING.

★ Dr. Frostburg (DR. FREDRICK ROSSBERG)



DOCTOR, YOU ASKED ME TO COME HERE TO CHECK OUT THE DRIVE CONFIGURATION.
IF YOU THINK THAT CAN BE A PETTY PLOY TO CHECK OUT MY CONFIGURATION...

WELL, JUST REMEMBER THAT I CAN STILL X-RAY SOMEONE'S TESTICLES STERILE.

IN ONE OF HIS LAST ACTS IN OFFICE, PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA VISITED PARAGON CITY TO PERSONALLY THANK THE BRAVE MEN AND WOMEN KHELDIAN HYBRIDS THAT SACRIFICED THEIR LIVES TO SAVE THE PLANET FROM THE CORONAL MASS EJECTION THIS PAST FALL.

OVER ONE HUNDRED KHELDIANS WERE INVOLVED WITH THE EMERGENCY SHIELD WHICH COST THE LIVES OF FORTY-TWO, AND SEVERELY INJURED THIRTY-NINE HYBRIDS.



PNN AFTERNOON NEWS WITH ROBIN STEED



"PRESIDENT OBAMA IS SEEN HERE WITH SUNSTORM AND DAYBRIGHT, TWO OF THE LEADERS OF THE DEFENSE TEAM, AS THEY ACCEPTED THE PRESIDENTIAL MEDAL OF FREEDOM ON BEHALF OF THEIR FALLEN BRETHERN."



OBAMA PAYS HOMAGE TO KHELDIAN HEROES



WORDS CANNOT EXPRESS... THE GRATITUDE... WE HAVE... FOR OUR KHELDIAN FRIENDS FOR... THEIR NOBLE SACRIFICE.

THE INCIDENT WE ENDURED... SHOULD REMIND US ALL... JUST HOW FRAGILE OUR WORLD TRULY IS. WE ARE BLESSED... TO HAVE SUCH NOBLE... AND KNOWLEDGEABLE FRIENDS... FROM ACROSS THE STARS.



PRESIDENT OBAMA



PRESIDENT OBAMA



THE PRESIDENT ALSO USED THE OPPORTUNITY TO PERSONALLY THANK GALATEA POWERS OF THE GUARDIANS OF THE DAWN ALONG WITH MEMBERS OF THE JUSTICE-KNIGHTS FOR THEIR ASSISTANCE IN RESCUING THE INJURED KHELDIANS IN SPACE.

BIOSPHERE, DOCTOR FROSTBURG, AND DATABANK JOINED GALATEA POWERS IN ALSO RECEIVING THE NATION'S HIGHEST CIVILIAN AWARD. IN ADDITION, DAYBRIGHT AND THE OTHER KHELDIANS WERE AWARDED THE ORDER OF ATLAS, PARAGON CITY'S HIGHEST AWARD FOR SACRIFICE UNDER FIRE.




OUTGOING PRESIDENT THANKS HEROES





THIS IS NICE... I'M GLAD WE ARE ABLE TO DO THINGS LIKE THIS AGAIN.

WITH EVERYTHING GOING ON, I THOUGHT WE NEEDED SOME TIME TO TALK.



TAYA... I...
I SHOULD HAVE TOLD YOU THAT--

--I'VE KNOWN FOR A WHILE, JOHN.


I KNEW THAT YOU WERE SENT TO OBSERVE ME BECAUSE VANGUARD AND A FEW OTHERS WERE NERVOUS ABOUT MY GROWING HYPER-INTELLIGENCE.*

John Cole
AKA GUARDIAN STAR

(* GUARDIANS OF THE DAWN GRADUATION #3)



AT FIRST I WAS INSULTED...
BUT THEN I REALIZED I NEEDED SOMEONE LIKE YOU TO WATCH OUT FOR ME.



I WISH I COULD SAY THAT THIS WAS... JUST A JOB.
BUT THE LONGER I SPENT WITH YOU, THE MORE I BEGAN TO REALIZE JUST HOW MUCH I'VE COME TO CARE ABOUT YOU.



I DIDN'T WANT TO FIND OUT THE TRUTH. I WANTED TO TELL THEM THAT THEY HAD NOTHING TO FEAR FROM YOU.

I KNOW... AND I DON'T BLAME YOU. BUT IT'S ALL MOOT NOW.



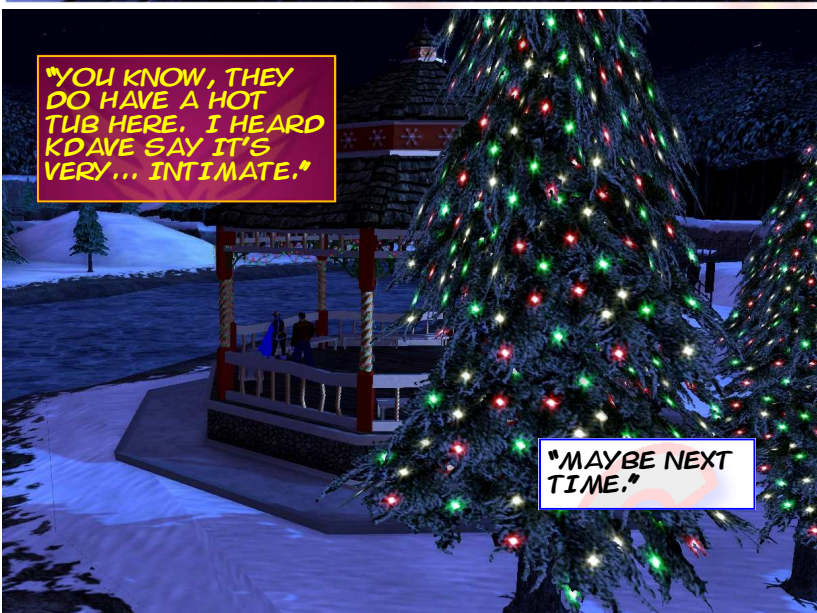
I'M SCARED, JOHN. I'M SCARED OF WHAT I'M BECOMING.
THIS "PATH TO INCARNATE" STUFF IS GOING TO MAKE ME MORE POWERFUL AND MORE OF A TARGET TO CERTAIN PEOPLE.

I CAN REALLY TRUST ONLY A HANDFUL OF PEOPLE WITH WHAT I'M BECOMING, AND YOU'RE ONE OF THE FEW THAT ISN'T FAMILY.
I DO CARE ABOUT YOU, JOHN, AND I NEED TO KNOW THAT YOU STILL HAVE MY BACK.



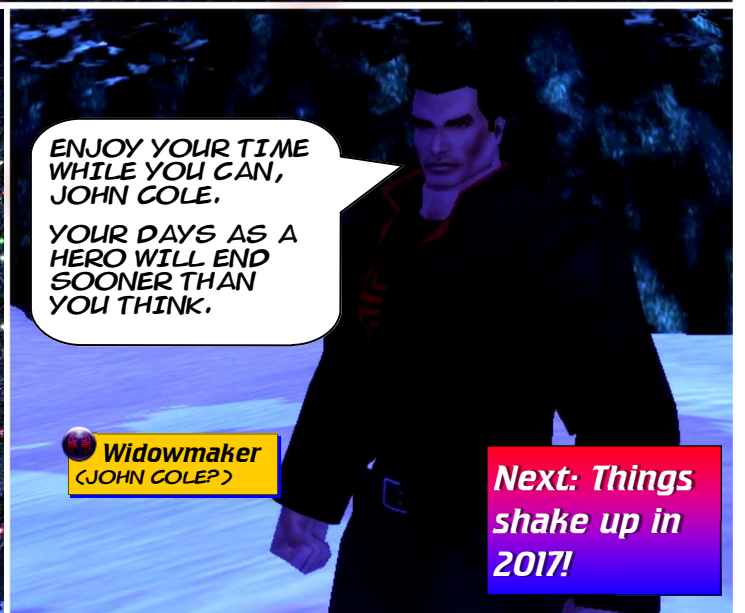
ALWAYS, TAYA. ALWAYS. AND YOUR FRONT TOO.

GIGGLE
WHY DID I KNOW YOU WERE GOING TO SAY THAT?



"YOU KNOW, THEY DO HAVE A HOT TUB HERE. I HEARD KDAVE SAY IT'S VERY... INTIMATE."

"MAYBE NEXT TIME."



ENJOY YOUR TIME WHILE YOU CAN, JOHN COLE. YOUR DAYS AS A HERO WILL END SOONER THAN YOU THINK.

Widowmaker
(JOHN COLE?)

Next: Things shake up in 2017!

FURIOUS SCRIBBLINGS

Words of wisdom from writer and creator David 2.

Thoughts On “Icarus” And The End Of An Era

So here we are... We’ve come to the end of the “Icarus” storyline, which also marks the end of an era.

And it’s also the end of 2016. Let’s not forget that!

Let’s start with “Icarus”.

I can’t say thanks enough to Sin Stalker and Biosphere for their assistance with this storyline. They helped me bring the Justice-Knights not only into the story, but also into 2016, since their own comic takes place almost ten years in the past. Sin has also been helpful with the development of certain concepts, including the Cole-Smythe Particle, along with a few other traceable particles that we’ll probably get into in various future issues. *(You can probably also expect a detailed explanation of these particles in the MMO Comic Index resource site at some point.)*

As with the “Destitution” storyline from last year, I sometimes get my inspiration from music, and choosing the name “Icarus” for this storyline is no coincidence. The initial inspiration of this storyline came from the instrumental song “Icarus” by the group Two Steps From Hell. They’re pretty good at providing trailer music for TV shows, major motion picture releases, and video games.

As for the use of a coronal mass ejection as the “villain” of the storyline, I have to thank the Discovery Network’s various cable channels, including Sci, for their research into the subject and how they have an impact on human civilization.

“Icarus” also allowed me to start Galatea Powers on her path to becoming an Incarnate.

The Incarnate process was a relatively new concept in the City of Heroes MMORPG when the game was still active. Developers had long worked on what they referred to as the “endgame” stage for character development. Prior to that point, characters could only advance to “Level 50” and stay there. But then there were some characters that were long established in the MMO that were even more powerful than that. Certainly the two iconic characters, Statesman and Lord Recluse, were considered incarnate. But until the introduction to the Incarnate System in 2011, players could not reach that level.

In the game, becoming an incarnate was a lengthy process, divided into six tiers, starting with Alpha and ending in Omega. Each level required completing a specific trial, and most of those required teamwork. In theory, “Omega” would put heroes on the same level as Statesman and Recluse.

Sadly, though, players would never experience the “Omega” level as the MMO was shut down in 2012. The last Incarnate trial known as the Magisterium Trial, was part of “Where Shadows Lie” update, and it covered the tier-four level of “Hybrid”.

Continues on next page...

Of course, the City of Heroes comics were not bound by the same rules as the game. In “Guardians of the Dawn Spotlight” #17, Lord Recluse was warned that Galatea Powers had the potential to become an incarnate being. This was published a few years before the Incarnate System was released in the game. And in the alternate future told in Issue #18, we find Galatea Powers not only becoming an incarnate, but she eventually becomes an Omega Incarnate; powerful enough to challenge gods.

So the idea was always there for Galatea Powers to become an incarnate. It was simply a matter of when this could be introduced and how.

This issue also marks the end of an era.

Various comics over the years have used real-world figures as part of their publications. From pop stars to athletes to Presidents, people in the public eye have been included in comics to give the stories a connection to the real world and their real-world readers. And the same holds true to our current President with the City of Comic Creators.

President Barack Obama first appeared in the “City of Comic Creators Compendium” #5 as a quick cameo in a story featuring the Guardians of the Dawn. He would later appear in “Guardians of the Dawn Spotlight” #14. He then appeared in the “PNN News Break” specials, and finally here in “Furia and the Guardians”.

But as Obama’s real-life tenure as President comes to an end, so too will his present-day appearances in the world of comics. As president, Obama is considered a public figure, and thus his likeness is allowed under public domain, which is why we’ve been able to use it.

But as one president steps down, another will soon come to power, whether we like him or not. And given the caustic and abrasive nature of this person even before he ran for public office, one only has to wonder what sort of impact he will have not only in the real world, but also in the world of comics.

We’ll find out in 2017.

<http://BattlerockComics.wordpress.com>

NEXT ISSUE...

**THINGS WILL REALLY
BE SHAKEN UP IN
2017...**

**AND YOU CAN GUESS
WHO WILL PLAY A
ROLE IN IT.**



Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays!



From:

The Major Dee Universe

<http://www.majordeejuniverse.com/>

Happy Holidays From Battlerock Comics!

THIS YEAR IT'S MY TURN
TO WISH EVERYONE
SEASON'S GREETINGS.

I DON'T KNOW HOW THE HECK
GALATEA DOES THIS IN A
SLEEVELESS JACKET!

FURIA POWERS
'FURIA AND THE GUARDIANS'

<http://BattlerockComics.wordpress.com>

THE GAME IS GONE...



...BUT THE STORIES GO ON!
MMOCOMICINDEX.COM
THE NEW HOME FOR THE CITY OF COMIC CREATORS