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PARAGON  
COMICS



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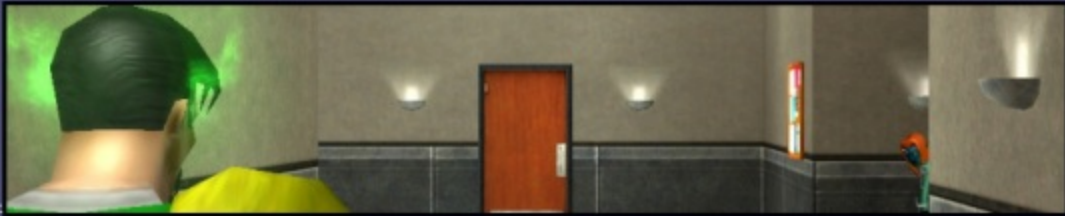
# THE SPECTACULAR SPARKY

STARRING A.R.G.H.

ISN'T THIS COVER A LITTLE  
BLAND FOR BEING THE TWELFTH  
ISSUE? WHERE'S THE ACTION  
AND EXCITEMENT?

TRUST ME, YOUR NIPPLE ON  
THE COVER IS MORE THAN  
ENOUGH EXCITEMENT.

**AMAZING 12TH ISSUE!**  
**AND IT ONLY TOOK 2 YEARS TO REACH!**







NOT HERE? WHY DOESN'T THAT SURPRISE ME.

EXCUSE ME, EXCUSE ME! HAS ANYONE SEEN MY SON?

YOUR SON?



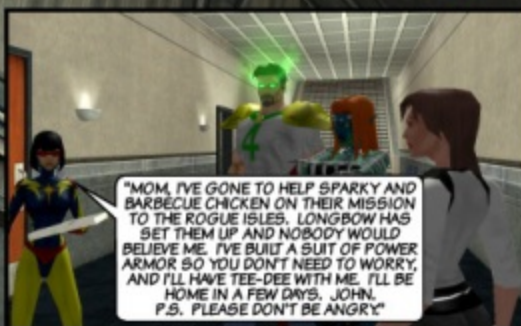
ABOUT YOUR HEIGHT, BROWN HAIR, HAS A TARGETING DRONE FOLLOWING HIM AROUND.

OH! SO THAT'S WHO THAT WAS.

YOU'VE SEEN HIM?

NOT FOR A FEW DAYS. IS THERE A PROBLEM?

HE LEFT THIS CRAZY NOTE AND WELL JUST LOOK FOR YOURSELF.



"MOM, I'VE GONE TO HELP SPARKY AND BARBECUE CHICKEN ON THEIR MISSION TO THE ROGUE ISLES. LONGBOW HAS SET THEM UP AND NOBODY WOULD BELIEVE ME. I'VE SUIT A SUIT OF POWER ARMOR SO YOU DON'T NEED TO WORRY, AND I'LL HAVE TEE-DEE WITH ME. I'LL BE HOME IN A FEW DAYS. JOHN. P.S. PLEASE DON'T BE ANGRY"



IT IS NOT! HE'S JUST A CHILD! WAIT UNTIL HIS FATHER FINDS OUT.

SALLY?

HE REALLY WENT TO THE ROGUE ISLES?



HELLO, YOU'VE REACHED THE JUSTICE JUDGE. OH, HI HONEY. MHHMM...

QUIT SQUIRMING CRIMINAL SCUM!

CRUNCH!



I'M SORRY SWEETIE, I MISSED THAT. COULD THIS WAIT UNTIL I GET HOME? OKAY, LOVE YOU!



HE HUNG UP? HE HUNG UP! FIRST I HAVE TO GIVE UP SUPERHEROING TO RAISE OUR SON AND NOW... AGH!



LET'S GO, WHERE?

THE ROGUE ISLES, WHEN?

RIGHT FRIGGING NOW.

I LIKE HER.



HOW!!

PIRATES! NINJAS! PIRATES! NINJAS! PIRATES! NINJAS!

HEY, DO YOU HEAR THAT?

I'M SORRY, IS MY WHIMPERING IN INTENSE PAIN BOTHERING YOU?

NOT AT ALL, I'M JUST CURIOUS ABOUT ALL THE SHOUTING.

WHAT'S GOING ON DOWN THERE?

SAME THING THAT HAPPENS EVERY DAY. ALL THE PIRATES AND NINJAS SHOW UP AND START SHOUTING ABOUT WHO IS BETTER. EVENTUALLY IT DEGRADES INTO A BRAWL WITH NO CLEAR WINNER. THEN TOMORROW THEY'LL DO IT ALL OVER AGAIN.

IT'S ALWAYS THE SAME?


PIRATES! NINJAS! PIRATES! NINJAS! PIRATES! NINJAS!

NO, ONE DAY IT WAS DIFFERENT. A COUPLE OF CLOWNS SHOWED UP AND IT, IT WAS HORRIBLE. THEY SLAUGHTERED EVERYONE!


I CAN STILL HEAR THE SCREAMS. THEY WERE SO LOUD. AND THE PIES! OH LORD THE PIES! CREAM PIES! CHERRY PIES! LEMON MERINGUE PIES! PLEASE MAKE THE SCREAMS STOP!

MAKE THEM STOOOOOP!!


RIGHTY-O THEN, YOU HAVE A NICE DAY NOW.




WHY IS THIS PARTICULAR CLONE SO IMPORTANT?




BECAUSE HE IS UNIQUE.




CREATED FULLY GROWN, FULLY CLOTHED, AND WITH ALL THE POWERS, ABILITIES AND MEMORIES OF THE HERO HE WAS CLONED FROM.




A PERFECT COPY, EXCEPT FOR BEING UTTERLY EVIL.



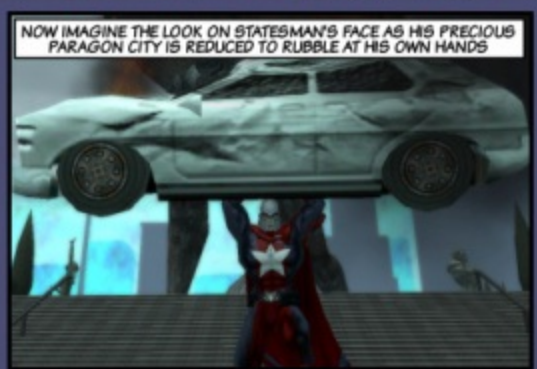
THINK OF WHAT COULD BE POSSIBLE IF WE CAN DISCOVER THE REASON.




IMAGINE IT, AN ARMY OF STATESMAN CLONES, ALL EVIL.



AND ALL WHOLLY LOYAL TO ME.




NOW IMAGINE THE LOOK ON STATESMAN'S FACE AS HIS PRECIOUS PARAGON CITY IS REDUCED TO RUBBLE AT HIS OWN HANDS



MAN I LOVE BEING AN EVIL BASTARD.

HAHAHAHA!



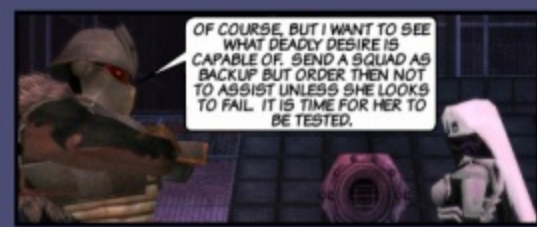
LORD RECLUSE, ONE OF OUR AGENTS HAS DISCOVERED TWO HEROES MASQUERADING AS VILLAINS. SHALL SHE ELIMINATE THEM?

WHICH AGENT DISCOVERED THEM?


DEADLY DESIRE.

AW YES, I LIKE HER. SHE HAS SPUNK. TELL HER TO OBSERVE THEM AND REPORT BACK WHEN SHE HAS DISCOVERED THEIR REASON FOR BEING HERE

COULDN'T WE JUST TORTURE THEM FOR THAT INFORMATION?



OF COURSE, BUT I WANT TO SEE WHAT DEADLY DESIRE IS CAPABLE OF. SEND A SQUAD AS BACKUP BUT ORDER THEN NOT TO ASSIST UNLESS SHE LOOKS TO FAIL. IT IS TIME FOR HER TO BE TESTED.



AS FOR YOU, DISCOVER THE SECRET OF THIS CLONE OR -

OR ELSE I'LL SUFFER A FATE WORSE THEN DEATH. YES, YES, I KNOW. NOW GO AWAY, YOU'RE CROWDING MY GENIUSNESS.

BECOME  
MORE

HONESTLY, THIS PLACE  
ISN'T HALF BAD.

IF YOU LIKE THE  
BOMBED OUT, POST  
APOCALYPTIC LOOK.

AW YOU'RE BEING TOO  
HARSH BOB. THIS PLACE  
HAS POSSIBILITIES.

BARF

OH YEAH, IT'S  
VERY CHARMING.

CRIPES IT'S EATING  
THROUGH MY BOOT!

HOW ABOUT WE JUST FIND  
OUR CONTACT BEFORE WE  
END UP GETTING ATTACKED  
BY EVERY VILLAIN HERE.

BUT HOW COULD THEY EVER  
SEE THROUGH OUR CLEVER  
DISGUISES?



THIS WOULD BE A LOT EASIER IF WE'D BEEN TOLD WHO OUR CONTACT IS SUPPOSED TO BE.



HOW ABOUT WE ASK THAT LONE LONGBOW AGENT OVER THERE? HE MIGHT KNOW SOMETHING.



VILLAINS! THEY'RE EVERYWHERE! AND THEY'RE ALL OUT TO GET ME!



EXCUSE US, BUT DO YOU HAPPEN TO KNOW WHERE OUR CONTACT CAN BE FOUND?

HE SEEMS TO BE A LITTLE ABSTATER.



AAAAH VILLAINS! DIE! DIE! DIE!



YEAH, I DON'T THINK HE KNOWS ANYTHING.

YOUR FIRST CLUE BEING THE CANNON HE HAS POINTED AT US?



RAT-TAT TAT



I JUST WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT YOU ARE SERIOUSLY SHAKING MY CONFIDENCE IN LONGBOW!

ALSO, YOU'RE A LOUSY SHOT!



RAT-TAT TAT

YIPES!

SEEMS WE'RE NO CLOSER  
TO FINDING OUR CONTACT.

Y'KNOW SPARKY I'M  
BEGINNING TO SUSPECT  
WE'VE BEEN SET UP

YES! THAT'S  
IT EXACTLY!

NINE PAGES BEFORE WE  
GET TO APPEAR? WHAT  
THE HELL IS UP WITH THAT?

BUZZ OFF FELLA,  
THIS IS A PRIVATE  
CONVERSATION.

I STILL SAY WE  
LET THEM DIE.

THEY'RE JUST FOCUSED  
ON THEIR MISSION.

WHAT WE NEED TO DO IS MAKE THEM  
THINK THEY'VE COMPLETED THEIR  
MISSION SO THEY'LL RETURN TO  
PARAGON CITY.

OKAY THIS HERO WORSHIP THING YOU'VE GOT  
GOING IS STARTING TO GET RIDICULOUS.  
THOSE TWO ARE GOING TO GET US KILLED AND  
THEN YOUR MOM IS GOING TO BRING US BACK  
JUST TO KILL US AGAIN AND YOU'RE NOT  
LISTENING TO A WORD I'M SAYING ARE YOU?

FINE, FINE, AND HOW  
DO WE DO THAT?

I'M NOT SURE, BUT I  
THINK I KNOW A  
GOOD PLACE TO START.



BUCK BUCK  
BUCK AWK!



YOU NEVER SAID ANYTHING  
ABOUT HAVING FAMILY HERE.




MURFI



I'M PRETTY SURE THE HERO HANDBOOK STATES THAT FLYING INTO THE ENEMIES HEAVILY GUARDED FORTRESS IS ONE OF THE TOP TEN ITEMS NOT TO DO. RIGHT UP THERE WITH NOT WEARING BRIGHT PRIMARY COLORS IF YOU WISH TO BLEND IN OR BEING A REGEN SCRAPPER.

BUT IT'S OUR ONLY CHANCE AT HELPING SPARKY AND BARBECUE CHICKEN.




BESIDES, THEY DO IT IN THE MOVIES ALL THE TIME. HOW HARD CAN IT BE?




OKAY DOUBLE O BUZZ, LET'S SEE YOU GET PAST THE GUARD.

PIECE OF CAKE!



I'VE GOT A DELIVERY HERE FOR MR... UH... ARACHNOS. SON. ARACHNOSSON. HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL. SO I'LL JUST TAKE IT IN TO HIM... NO? MAYBE I COULD JUST USE YOUR BATHROOM THEN? THE GAS STATION DOWN THE STREET IS INFESTED WITH ANGRY UNDEAD AND I REALLY HAVE TO GO...



DELIVERIES ARE ONLY ACCEPTED AT GATE TWO WITH PROPER PAPERS AND ALL LABORATORIES ARE FOR ARACHNOS PERSONNEL ONLY. SO YOU'D BEST HOLD IT AND FIND AN ALLEY TO DO YOUR BUSINESS IN.




NICE TRY, NOW WATCH  
A MASTER. \*AHEM\*  
LET US IN.

LOOK PAL, YOU AND  
YOUR TOY ARE NOT  
GETTING IN, SO  
GET LOST!



**GLANG!  
BZZT!  
KA-CHUNK!  
WHIRRRRR!**

WHAT THE?



GADZOOKSI!

WHAT IF I  
SAID PLEASE?

YOU CAN GO IN!  
YOU CAN GO IN!

TEE-DEE, HAS MY  
MOM BEEN  
TINKERING WITH YOU?

JUST A LITTLE. SHE WANTED TO MAKE  
SURE YOU WERE SAFE WALKING AROUND  
PARAGON CITY. NOW YOU'D BETTER  
KNOCK THIS GUY OUT BEFORE HE  
REALIZES I CAN'T FIRE THESE BEAUTIES.

WHAT?  
WHY NOT?

WELL AFTER A LITTLE INCIDENT  
WHILE TESTING YOUR MOM  
PUT A SAFETY ON THEM AND  
NOW IT TAKES A PASSWORD  
CODED TO HER VOICE TO TURN  
IT OFF.

INCIDENT?

HEY, THAT CAT HAD  
IT COMING!



WHAT A FASCINATING DEVICE. IT WAS AS THOUGH IT TOOK MERE MOMENTS FOR US TO REACH OUR DESTINATION.

AND EVERYONE THOUGHT I WAS CRAZY FOR BUYING THE SUB, AND DIGGING THAT SUBMERGED TUNNEL FROM OUR BASE TO INDEPENDENCE PORT.



SO WHAT'S THE PLAN?



FIND MY SON AND BEAT THE CRAP OUT OF ANYONE WHO GETS IN OUR WAY.

SIMPLE YET BRUTAL. I APPROVE.



HEY! YOU CAN'T PARK THAT THING HERE! THIS DOCK IS FOR ARACHNOS VESSELS ONLY!



IS THAT SO?

TEN BONE SHATTERING SECONDS LATER...



LET'S MOVE OUT PEOPLE!

SURE THING!

RIGHT BEHIND YOU!

AND THAT MEANS EVERYBODY!

I SENSE MUCH STRENGTH IN THIS ONE.

MAN I'M BORED. BORED, BORED, BORED.

WELL IF YOU'RE SO BORED WHY DON'T YOU GO BE ONE OF THEM GLADIATORS.

NO FREAKING WAY IS SOME HERO GOING TO GET HIS JOLLIES BY PUTTING ME UP AGAINST A DOZEN DEVOURING EARTH MONSTERS.

FRED SAID IT WASN'T BAD.

ISN'T HE THE GUY THAT DRANK HIS FLAMETHROWER FUEL JUST TO SEE IF HE COULD SET HIS FARTS ON FIRE?

NO THAT WAS FRANK. FRED WAS THE ONE THAT REPROGRAMMED THOSE MEKIMEN TO GO INTO BUILDINGS AND ACT LIKE HOSTAGES JUST TO MESS WITH THE HEROES.

HAHAHAHAHA! OH YEAH, THAT WAS HILARIOUS.

AH, THE GOOD OLD DAYS.

CRACKED RIBS!

TELL ME ABOUT IT.

HEY, DID YOU HEAR THE LATEST RUMOR?

I WANT TO FIGHT THE NAZIS!

WE'RE SUPPOSED TO BE VILLAINS.

I CAN BE A VILLAIN AND STILL FIGHT NAZIS! ... I LOST MY HELMET.

NO, WHAT'S IT ABOUT?

WELL, I DON'T WANT TO GET YOUR HOPES UP.

SPILL IT OR I START WITH THE PAIN.


OKAY, OKAY. WELL IT SOUNDS LIKE THERE'S A CHANCE WE MIGHT RETURN TO PARAGON CITY IN HALF A YEAR.









IS THAT HER?



YES, THAT'S DEADLY DESIRE.




SHE DOESN'T LOOK ALL THAT IMPRESSIVE SO WHY DO WE HAVE TO BABYSIT HER FOR LORD RECLUSE?




HOW SHOULD I KNOW, MAYBE HE'S GOT A THING FOR BLONDS.



THIS IS SO UNFAIR.



I SAY WE TAKE HER OUT THEN DEAL WITH THOSE HERO SPIES OURSELVES. I HATE THIS WATCH AND WAIT CRAP.




AND I AGREE BUT WE MUST BE PATIENT AND STRIKE AT A TIME WHEN IT WILL BE MOST BENEFICIAL TO US.




NIIIIICE



WHAT DID YOU SAY?



UH, NOTHING! C'MON FOCUS.



VERY WELL, BEFORE WE PROCEED WE SHALL NEED TO CALL IN SOME ADDITIONAL SUPPORT.







<BLEEP> <BLEEP>  
<BLEEP> <BLEEP>!



WHOOOOSH!



IT'S MY DUTY AS A HERO  
TO SAVE YOU. YOU BEING  
A BEAUTIFUL WOMAN IS  
JUST A BONUS.

YOU SAVED  
ME?

BEAUTIFUL?



VILLAINS, SPARKY!  
VILLAINS!

WHOOOOSH! I  
FORGOT!



... UMMM...



SORRY!

DROPI!


HEY!



CRASH!




OH HE IS SO  
GOING TO  
REGRET DOING  
THAT...



A BIG ROOM FULL OF COMPUTERS INSIDE A TOWER IN AN ARACHNOS FORTRESS AND NOT A SINGLE GUARD TO BE FOUND. WELL I SUPPOSE ONE OF US HAS TO SAY IT. IT'S QUIET, TOO QUIET.

WHAT WAS THAT TEE-DEE?

NOTHING IMPORTANT. HAVE YOU MANAGED TO BREAK INTO THEIR COMPUTER SYSTEM?



I JUST CRACKED THEIR ENCRYPTION KEY. OKAY TEE-DEE, I NEED YOU TO INTERFACE WITH THE COMPUTER.

UH-UH, NO WAY! I'M NOT ABOUT TO INTERFACE WITH A COMPUTER. I JUST MET. THERE'S NO TELLING WHERE IT'S BEEN AND WHAT IT'S DONE. I COULD GET A VIRUS!

WE DON'T HAVE TIME TO ARGUE, TEE-DEE!

CAN'T WE AT LEAST GO OUT FOR DINNER AND A MOVIE TO GET TO KNOW EACH OTHER FIRST?



INITIATING WIRELESS CONNECTION. \*GASP\* THEY'RE USING A PIRATED COPY OF WINDOWS!

THE FIENDS! DOES THEIR VILLAINY KNOW NO BOUNDS?



I HAVE FULL ACCESS TO THEIR SYSTEM. WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO COPY?


WE DON'T HAVE TIME TO SORT THROUGH EVERYTHING. JUST COPY WHATEVER LOOKS IMPORTANT.

YOU GOT IT. DOOMS DAY DEVICE PLANS, LIST OF ARACHNOS DOUBLE AGENTS, GHOST WIDOW GONE WILD VIDEOS. WHOA, OKAY A FEW MORE ITEMS AND NOW I THINK WE'D BETTER RUN FOR OUR LIVES AS FAST AS WE CAN.

WHAT DID YOU DO, TEE-DEE?

NOTHING! WELL I MIGHT HAVE ACCIDENTLY, TOTALLY BY CHANCE, SET OFF A SILENT ALARM. ALERTING ALL OF ARACHNOS THAT WE'RE HERE AND WHAT WE'VE BEEN DOING.






FREEZE OR WE'LL  
OPEN FIRE!



RIGHT ABOUT NOW YOU  
MIGHT WANT TO THINK  
WHAT WOULD MOM DO?



SOMETHING  
LIKE THIS!

**AHOOO!**



ACK!


OOF!

GUTTERAL SHOUT  
DENOTING PAIN!


**BOOM!**



A SEVEN-TEN SPULTI  
THINK YOU CAN  
PICK UP THE SPARE?



WHO WAKE  
WRETCH UP?



WRETCH GET MAD IF HE DONT  
GET MINIMUM RECOMMENDED  
EIGHT HOURS OF SLEEP!




YEEESH, THAT FELLA IS  
ALL KINDS OF NASTY.

HOLY HUGO  
STRANGE!



A MEGA BLAST SHOULD  
PUT HIM BACK TO SLEEP!

POOM!



HERE WE COME TO  
SAVE THE DAY!

AND NOW YOU SEE WHY  
I TOLD YOU TO PACK THAT  
MINIATURE NUCLEAR BOMB.

COULD YOU SHOUT  
LOUDER SPARKY? I  
DONT THINK THE  
GUY WE WERE  
SNEAKING UP ON  
HEARD YOU.

GRRRR!

WRETCH HEAR  
JUST FINE!

ALLEZ-OOP!

AND DID YOU  
HEAR YOUR  
JAW BREAK TOO?

**CRACK!**

HOLD THAT POSE UGLY AND PREPARE TO FEEL  
THE MIGHT OF MY ELECTRIC FISTS OF FURY! I'M  
CHARGED UP AND READY TO UNLEASH THE HURT  
UPON THE FACE OF VILLAINY! KNOW THIS  
EVILDOER, FROM THIS DAY FORWARD YOU  
SHALL KNOW BETTER THAN TO TANGLE WITH  
**THE SPECTACULAR SPARKY!**

**AAAGH!**


**WHA-NG!**

THAT WAS  
AMAZING!


NO KIDDING, HOW DID  
HE MANAGE TO SAY ALL  
THAT WHILE IN MID-LEAF?

YES! ONE PUNCH! IN  
YOUR FACE MR. 'BLASTERS  
AREN'T SUPPOSED TO  
MELEE' TANKER! PTHBB!






MR. LONGBOW AGENT PERSON, SIR. WE'RE HERE TO RESCUE YOU SO YOU CAN TELL US WHAT OUR MISSION IS.




HOLD ON, HOW DO WE KNOW THIS GUY IS OUR CONTACT. HE LOOKS PRETTY SHifty TO ME, ESPECIALLY THAT TARGETING DRONE



THAT'S RIGHT! I'M YOUR CONTACT! BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY THERE IS INFORMATION VITAL TO THE SURVIVAL OF PARAGON CITY IN THIS TARGETING DRONE'S MEMORY. WE MUST GET IT BACK TO THE CITY, IT'S OUR ONLY HOPE!

ER, DEEP BOOP BRAINT!

AND, UM, MS. LIBERTY SAID YOU CAN TRUST US.



YOU CAN COUNT ON US. WE'LL PROTECT THE DRONE WITH OUR VERY LIVES.

OKAY THAT'S IT. WHEN WE GET HOME WE'RE FINDING YOU A GIRLFRIEND OR A REALLY GOOD SHRINK.

NO TIME FOR TALK, WE'D BETTER GET MOVING BEFORE SOME GUY IN BLACK ARMOR SHOWS UP TO STOP US.

PAUSE FOR THOSE THAT WREST  
PAINFUL ATTENTION THE FIRST  
TIME, I'LL EXPLAIN THE PLAN AGAIN.

THE DEEV'CO ARE IN GREAT  
NUMEROUS TROUBLE. WHEN  
THEY COME, ONLY WE CAN  
STOP THEM. WE MUST THROW A  
BIG PARTY. MARGARITA  
FOR INSPIRATION. WE'VE GOT  
BIG NEEDS. I MEAN HELLO  
YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN!

I HOPE HE FIND YOUR  
SON BEFORE HE GETS  
INTO... TROUBLE.

YOU HAVE  
TROUBLE!

WELL THEN  
CONGRATULATIONS  
YOU ARE FOUND AN  
ARMY OF DEEV'CO.



YOUR MERE LITTLE HEROES  
AND YOUR MERE SIDEKICKS  
THEY SHOULDN'T BE COULD  
PROVE THEMSELVES IF THEY DON'T  
SURRENDER RIGHT NOW

OH COME YOU'RE RIGHT WE  
SHOULD SURRENDER BECAUSE  
THERE'S NO POSSIBLE WAY WE  
COULD DEFEAT THE MASTERS OF  
MIND IF ONLY I HAD SOME FRIENDS TO  
STAND ALONG WITH ME EXTRA HELP

OH MY  
LEAD





**NEXT ISSUE:**

**CITY  
HEROES**

**VS**

**CITY  
VILLAINS**

# CAMEOS! THE HEROES

1. AZURE GUARDIAN
2. RISK
3. CANADIAN SNOWBIRD
4. MARISA
5. SURGETRON
6. SHOCKFIST
7. I-ON
8. UNDEAD TED
9. LORD MALUS
10. CAPEMIKE
11. XYFEN
12. FOREIGNER FREAK
13. MISTER MASKED MAN
14. PYXIE STIX
15. CRMSN CONUNDRUM
16. GILL BATES



# THE VILLAINS

17. BARBEQUE CHICKEN  
(YES, THERE'S ANOTHER ONE)
18. EVIL DONNCHADH
19. SHI O MOTARASU
20. LORD SCURGE
21. HALIMDAR
22. HEAVY METAL
23. BIG BOA
24. DR. PEPPER
25. TERMINAL VELOCITY
26. MISTRESS VINE
27. ENGINEER
28. ARACHNOS COMMANDER
29. POIOXIC
30. FORTUITY
31. GAD-GIT
32. ACID QUEEN
33. YEE HAW

