

T+ FOR TEENS PLUS

# GUARDIANS OF THE DAWN GRADUATION



Sept. 2014  
Issue 03



# NOT ALL FAN-MADE COMICS ARE FOR THE SAME READERS.

 **E FOR EVERYONE**

 **T FOR TEENS**

 **T+ FOR TEENS PLUS**

 **M FOR MATURE**

Many MMOs are rated “**T for Teens**”, but that doesn't mean that the same applies to fan-made comics.

That's why the City of Comic Creators came up with the **MMO Comic Index Content Ratings System**; a voluntary rating system for comic content that gives the readers a quick glance at what kind of content to expect. This allows readers to chose which kind of general audience suits them, and it gives the comic creators the freedom to provide the kind of stories that they feel comfortable doing.

For more information about the MCICRS, please visit the MMO Comic Index website.

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THE NEW HOME FOR THE CITY OF COMIC CREATORS

# MMO COMIC INDEX

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Star Wars The Old Republic - DC Universe Online - City of Heroes - Champions Online - Star Trek Online - World of Warcraft - The Secret World - Star Wars The Old Republic - DC Universe Online

Paragon City: the City of Heroes! The only place in the world where the hero-to-problem ratio is almost one-to-one. If you need a hero in this city, you just have to look around the corner.

But not all heroes are the same. Some are more mercenary than the others. But there are some who see the calling as a sign of brighter days ahead for all mankind. These are the heroes who fight for something better. They are the...

# GUARDIANS OF THE DAWN GRADUATION

## PART 3 - "CONFRONTATIONS"

Ryder Lightning has returned to the Guardians of the Dawn in the hopes that he would pick up the task left by his longtime friend and teammate, Icon Powers.

But Ryder quickly learns that this is not the same group that he once was a member of. Things have changed considerably.

One of those changes was the withdrawal of his fellow "Guardian Exile", MidKnight X, from active duties with the group. Searching for answers, Ryder manages to track down the "Knight's" lair in the sewers underneath Kings Row.

But he has also invoked the rage of his one-time friend, and it seems that the dark street vigilante is darker and more powerful than he ever was before.

Guardians of the Dawn GRADUATION #03 is created using material collected through the City of Heroes Multiplayer Online Roleplaying Game. Copyright © 2004-2012 This story is an independent not-for-profit 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 Freedom 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.



IN THE SEWERS UNDERNEATH KINGS ROW

PARAGON CITY, RI, USA

MY NAME IS RYDER LIGHTNING...

... AND I THINK I'M ABOUT TO DIE.

I'VE JOKED ABOUT RUNNING AWAY FROM DEATH ALL MY LIFE.

BUT THIS TIME... IT MIGHT ACTUALLY BE FOR REAL.

 **Ryder Lightning**  
ELECTRIC SPEEDSTER

AND MY KILLER...

YOU ONLY PROLONG YOUR OWN DEATH!

...WOULD BE A LONG-TIME TEAMMATE.

 **MidKnight X**  
STREET VIGILANTE

AND YOU FEED MY WRATH!

I'VE KNOWN JASON KNIGHT SINCE HE WAS AN ORPHAN.

THESE SEWERS ARE MINE! YOU CANNOT ESCAPE FROM MY DOMAIN!

BUT NOW... HE'S CHANGED. EVEN STRONGER THAN EVER BEFORE.

IT COULD HAVE BEEN A FAIR FIGHT...

...IF I STILL HAD ALL OF MY POWERS.

RIGHT NOW ALL I CAN DO IS HOPE I CAN GET SOME DISTANCE FROM HIM UNTIL THE "BIG GUNS" CAN GET HERE.

TALOS ISLAND - HELIOS TOWERS

HERO-FRIENDLY CONDOMINIUM

"YOU KNOW, IT JUST OCCURRED TO ME..."

...WE NEVER DID GET THAT BURGER.

 **John Cole**  
SON OF STATESMAN

AND YOU'RE THINKING ABOUT THAT NOW?

 **Galatea Powers**  
OTHERWORLD HERO

WELL WE DID JUST HAVE A RATHER HEAVY "WORKOUT".

NOT ALL OF US CAN GET RECHARGED SIMPLY BY SUNBATHING.

YOU KNOW, I REALLY DON'T GET MY POWERS FROM THE SUN.

I ONCE THOUGHT THAT I DID\*, BUT IT TURNS OUT IT'S A LITTLE MORE COMPLICATED.

(\* GUARDIANS OF THE DAWN SPOTLIGHT #3)

OKAY... A LOT MORE COMPLICATED.

WHAT'S THAT?

UH... NOTHING, I WAS JUST MUTTERING SOMETHING.

NO, I MEAN, THERE'S SOMETHING BEEPING IN HERE.



WAIT... I HEAR IT TOO.



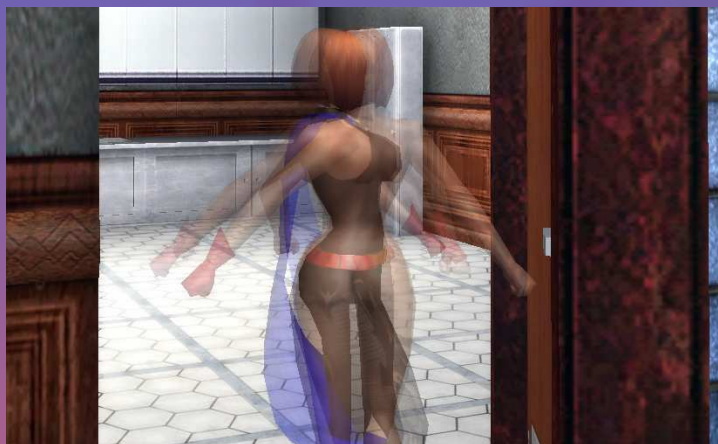
IT'S COMING FROM INSIDE YOUR ARMOIRE.



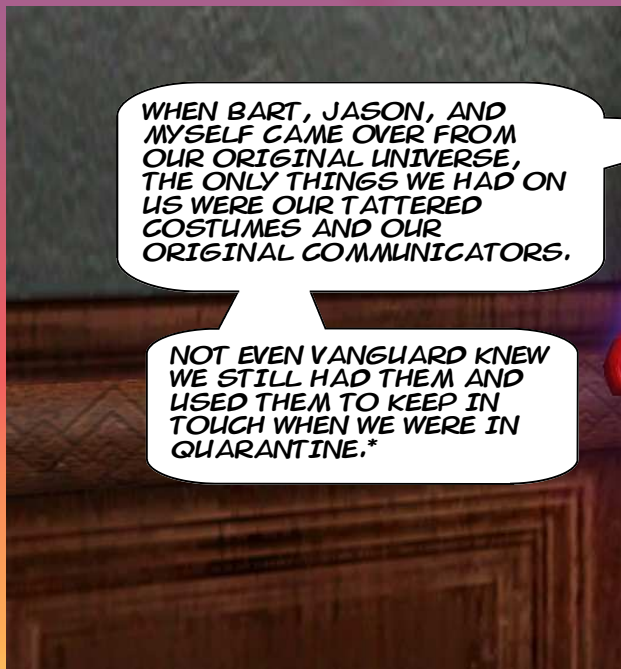
WHAT'S IN THERE?  
DO YOU HAVE AN OLD PAGER OR SOMETHING?



THAT'S THE ALERT FROM MY ORIGINAL COMMUNICATOR.



OKAY, SO WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?



WHEN BART, JASON, AND MYSELF CAME OVER FROM OUR ORIGINAL UNIVERSE, THE ONLY THINGS WE HAD ON US WERE OUR TATTERED COSTUMES AND OUR ORIGINAL COMMUNICATORS.

NOT EVEN VANGUARD KNEW WE STILL HAD THEM AND USED THEM TO KEEP IN TOUCH WHEN WE WERE IN QUARANTINE.\*



IT'S BEEN SO LONG THAT I ALMOST DIDN'T RECOGNIZE THE SOUND OF THE PANIC BUTTON.

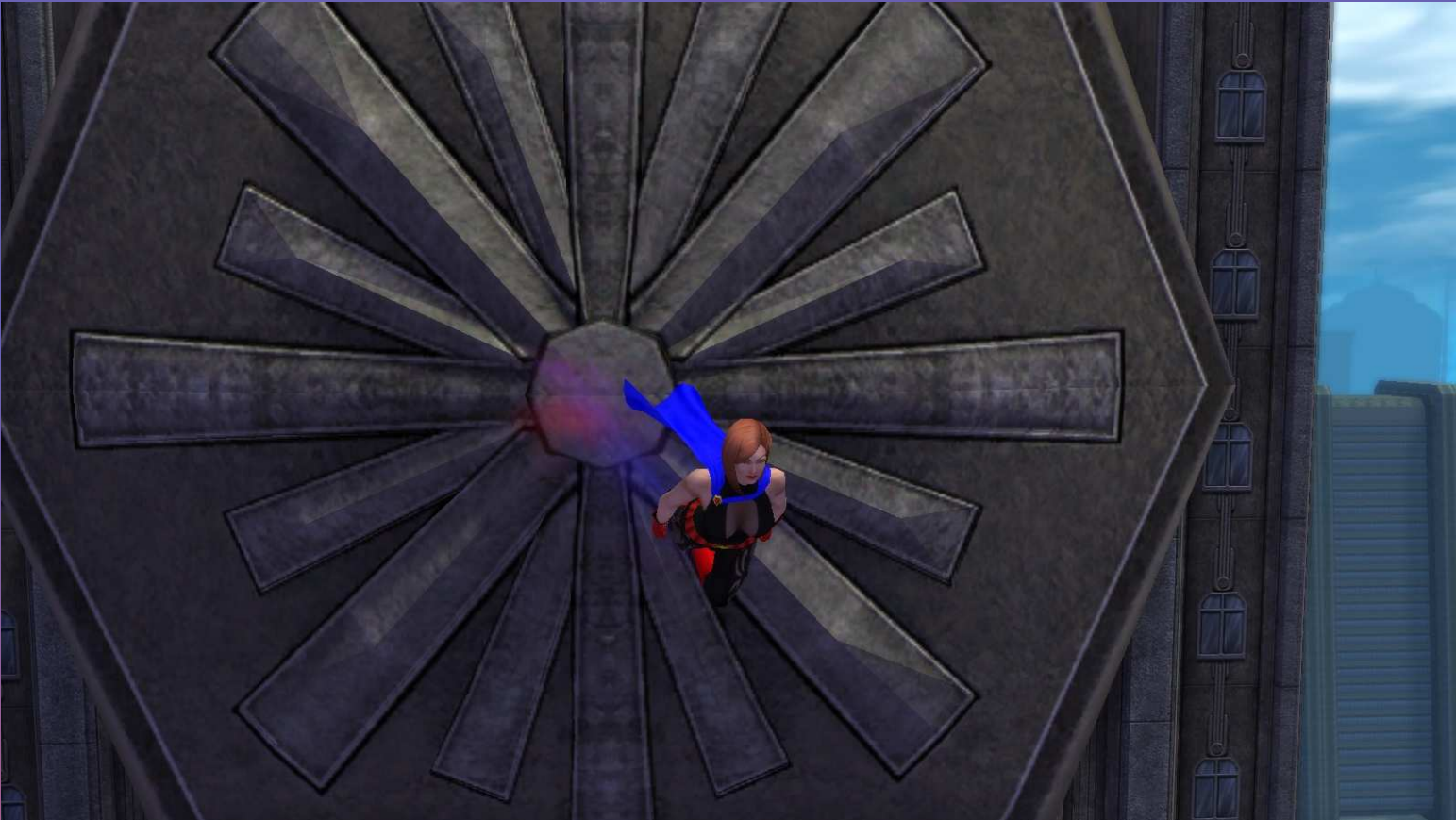
(\* TO BE REVEALED IN "THE CITY'S FINEST: GUARDIAN EXILES", KEEP CHECKING THE BATTLEROCK COMICS WEBSITE FOR DETAILS.)



CALL THE BASE.  
TELL THEM A  
GUARDIAN NEEDS  
ASSISTANCE AND  
TO FOLLOW MY  
COMM SIGNAL.



\*BING\*  
HERO EXIT  
TUBE OPEN.  
SUNDIAL EXIT.



GUARDIAN BASE,  
THIS IS JOHN COLE.  
PROTOCOL FOUR;  
GUARDIAN NEEDS  
ASSISTANCE.

GUARDIAN BASE

I HEARD THE CALL FOR ASSISTANCE. WHAT'S UP?

**Cardinal Syn**  
STREET VIGILANTE

JOHN COLE SAID TO TRACK GALATEA POWERS FOR THE LOCATION.

LOOKS LIKE SHE'S HEADING TO KINGS ROW.

KINGS ROW? WHY?

DON'T KNOW YET, BUT FROM WHAT I'M TOLD, RYDER LIGHTNING WAS LOOKING FOR MIDNIGHT X OVER THERE TOO.

OH NO... DAMMIT!

SHE'LL BRING HIM BACK TO KINGS ROW FOR CERTAIN!

PAGE PHARON!  
TELL HIM I NEED HIM IN THE KINGS ROW SEWERS RIGHT NOW!





I'VE BEEN USING WHAT LITTLE POWER I HAVE TO TRY TO ABSORB HIS KINETIC ENERGY.



\* CRACK \*



AND IT SLOWED HIM DOWN AT FIRST.

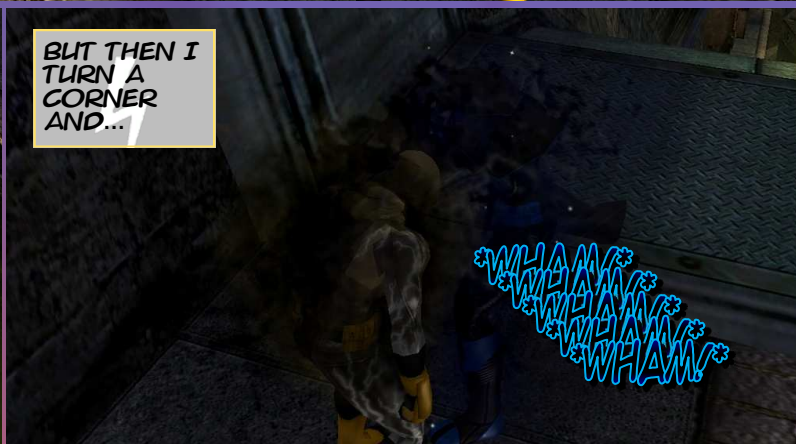


GAAH!

\* CRACK \*



IT ALSO GIVES ME A LITTLE EXTRA SPEED SO I CAN TRY TO RUN AWAY.



BUT THEN I TURN A CORNER AND...

WHEAAW  
WHEAAW  
WHEAAW



YOU THINK YOU CAN STEAL MY POWER AND FLEE. YOU ARE WRONG. LIKE THIS ONE WAS WRONG IN TRYING TO HARNESS ME.

YOUR DEATH AT HIS HAND WILL COMPLETE THE CONVERSION. MY NEW APOSTLE WILL RULE THIS LAND IN MY NAME!




NO!

**\*KA-POW!\***



GLAD YOU GOT MY SIGNAL.

BE THANKFUL I WAS ABLE TO HEAR IT. WHAT HAPPENED? WHY IS JASON-- ?



THAT'S NOT JASON. OR AT LEAST IT'S NOT THE JASON YOU AND I KNOW. JUST THE WAY HE'S TALKING... IT'S LIKE HE'S POSSESSED BY SOMETHING.

WELL, JUST LET ME HANDLE THIS. GO AHEAD AND TELEPORT BACK TO THE BASE.

GREAT IDEA...EXCEPT I'VE BEEN TRYING, AND THE TELEPORT DEVICES AREN'T WORKING.  
DOORS HERE ARE ALL SEALED SHUT AS WELL.

NO TELEPORTS... DOORS SEALED...  
ALL THE MAKINGS OF A DEUS-LIKE BEING.

OKAY, \*KNIGHT\*... OUT WITH IT.  
WHO'S PULLING YOUR STRINGS AND MAKING YOU TRY TO KILL OUR FRIEND?

GALATEA...  
RUN... GET RYDER OUT OF HERE...

RRR!!

MOT... WILL NOT BE DENIED AGAIN!  
THIS ONE WILL BE MY APOSTLE, AS IT WAS MEANT TO BE.

THE WATERS WILL RUN RED WITH BLOOD.  
THE SKY SHALL BE PITCH.  
THIS WORLD WILL WORSHIP AND FEAR ME AGAIN!

NOT EVEN YOU CAN STAND IN THE WAY OF A TRUE GOD!

\*CRACK\*

\*WHIAW\*  
\*WHIAW\*  
\*WHIAW\*  
\*WHIAW\*



WE ARE TOO LATE...

**Pharon**  
EGYPTIAN CHAMPION



"THEY'RE ALREADY IN BATTLE."



THEN WE HAVE NO CHOICE. YOU HAVE TO SUMMON HIM.



I... I DON'T KNOW IF I CAN. THE LAST TIME I DID...



WE ARE OUT OF OPTIONS, PHARON! EITHER GALATEA WILL BE FORCED TO GO ALL-OUT IN THE NEXT FEW SECONDS OR MOT WILL.

EITHER WAY, MOT WILL WIN... UNLESS YOU CAN BRING THE ONE FORCE THAT CAN END THIS RIGHT HERE AND NOW!



<HARSIESIS COME FORTH!>\*

(\* TRANSLATED FROM ANCIENT EGYPT)






**HOLD,  
FOUL ONE!**



**YOU HAD BEEN WARNED  
BEFORE AGAINST TAKING  
THAT WHICH IS NOT YOURS!**

**NOW YOU STAND BEFORE  
HORUS, SON OF OSIRIS  
AND ISIS, AND GOD OF  
WAR, VENGEANCE, AND  
PROTECTION!**




**THIS IS NO PLACE FOR YOU OR  
YOUR HOST, EGYPTIAN GOD.  
THIS ONE IS MINE, AND HE WILL  
BE MY APOSTLE SO I CAN SPREAD  
MY POWER BEYOND ASTORIA!**

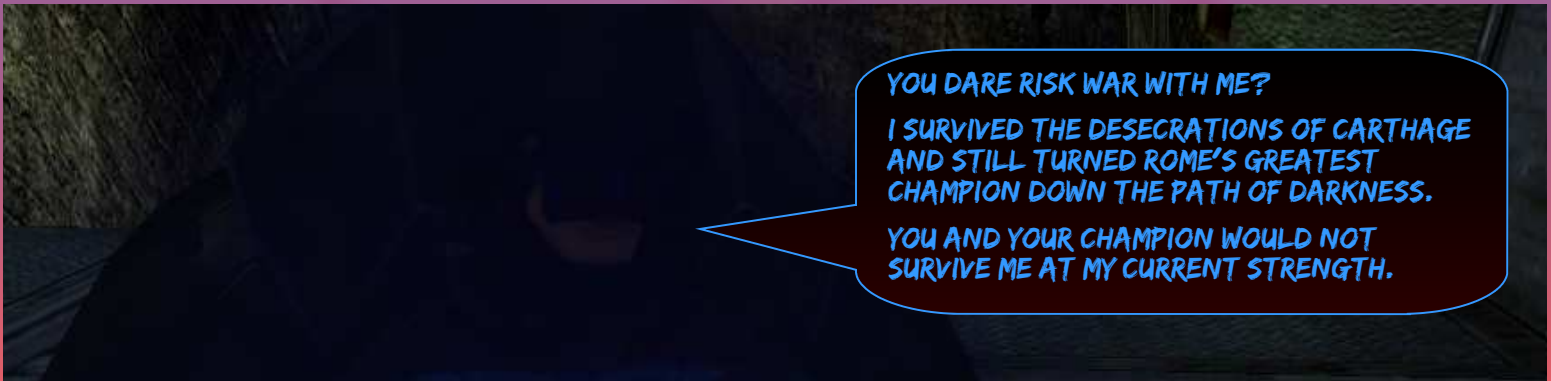


JASON KNIGHT WAS NEVER YOURS TO CLAIM.


JUST AS THE DARK ENERGIES THAT HE WIELDS IS NOT YOURS TO CLAIM. THOUGH ASTORIA IS LOST, I WILL NOT PERMIT YOU TO SPREAD FURTHER INTO THIS CITY.



YOU DARE TELL ME WHAT IS AND IS NOT MINE TO CLAIM? BE WARNED, GOD OF EGYPT, THAT YOU FACE THE MOST POWERFUL OF THE GODS OF PHOENICIA.



YOU DARE RISK WAR WITH ME? I SURVIVED THE DESECRATIONS OF CARTHAGE AND STILL TURNED ROME'S GREATEST CHAMPION DOWN THE PATH OF DARKNESS. YOU AND YOUR CHAMPION WOULD NOT SURVIVE ME AT MY CURRENT STRENGTH.



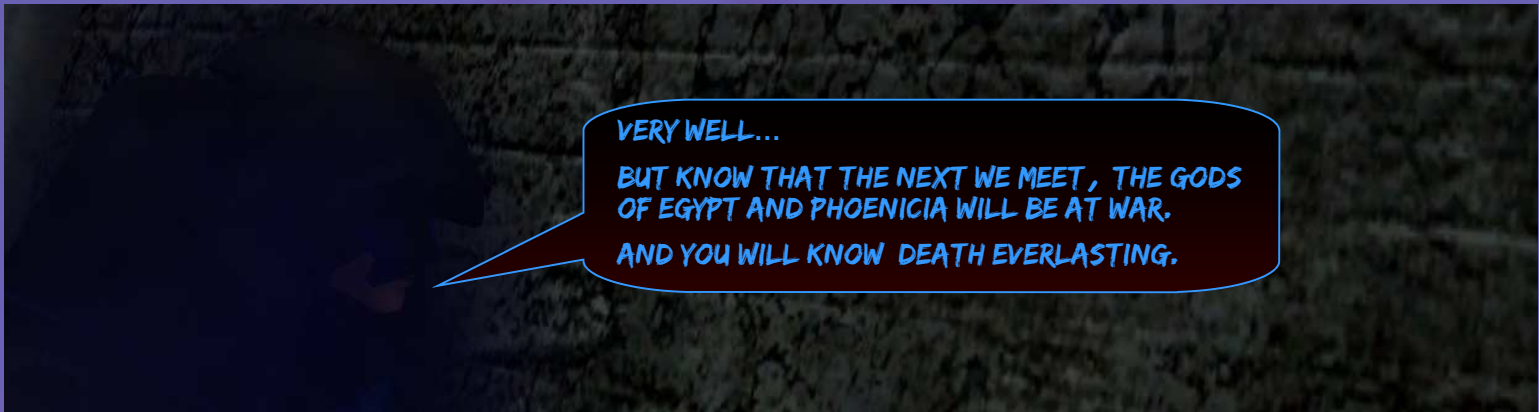
NOR WOULD YOU, FOUL ONE. FOR YOU NOT ONLY RISK WAR AGAINST THE GODS OF EGYPT, BUT ALSO AGAINST THE KHELDIAN WARSHADE KNOWN AS SHADOWSTAR, WHO PLEDGED HER ALLEGIANCE TO EGYPT, AND GAVE HER METAL TO MY CHAMPION TO USE AS HIS ARMOR.\*

© \*THE GUARDIAN POWERS\* #11



IS YOUR LUST FOR POWER WORTH WAR AGAINST BOTH THE MIGHT OF EGYPT AND THE POWER OF THE FULL KHELDIAN SPECIES?

RELEASE JASON KNIGHT... NOW. HE IS UNDER MY PROTECTION.



VERY WELL... BUT KNOW THAT THE NEXT WE MEET, THE GODS OF EGYPT AND PHOENICIA WILL BE AT WAR. AND YOU WILL KNOW DEATH EVERLASTING.



PERHAPS, FOUL ONE. BUT THAT DAY IS NOT TODAY.

**Jason Knight**  
AKA MIDKNIGHT X



YOU KNOW, THEY'RE NEVER GOING TO STEP OUTSIDE, KNOWING THAT YOU'RE WATCHING THEM LIKE THIS.



I DON'T CARE IF THEY STEP OUTSIDE. I WANT THEM TO KNOW THAT I HAVEN'T FORGOTTEN WHAT THEY DID TO MY FATHER. I WANT THEM TO KNOW THAT I'M ALWAYS WATCHING THEM; WAITING FOR MY MOMENT TO STRIKE.

WASTE OF TIME AND EFFORT, IF YOU ASK ME.



HEY, I DIDN'T DISMISS YOUR REVENGE PLANS WHEN WE WERE WORKING TO GET BACK YOUR COMPANY, LEXIE. YOU SHOULD AFFORD ME THE SAME PATIENCE.

FAIR ENOUGH.

WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT LORD GEDDY AND THE BILDERBURG ALLIANCE?

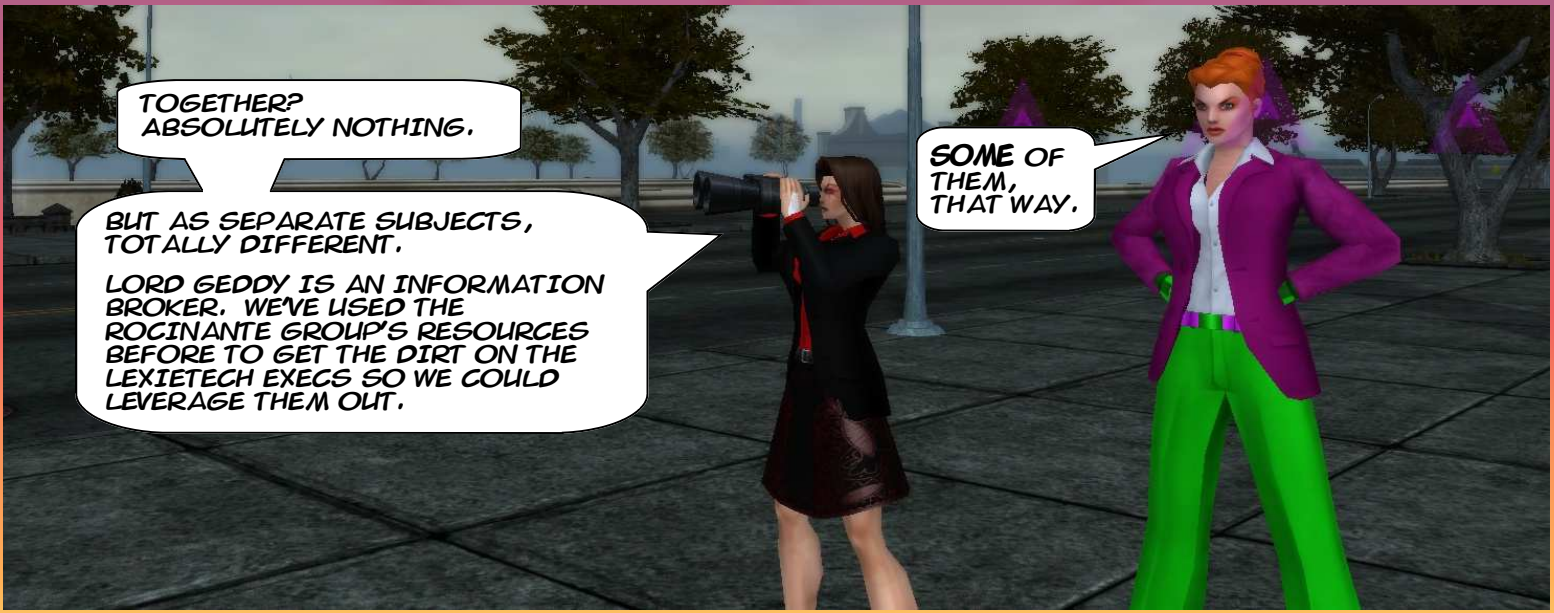


**Helena Goro**  
LEXIETECH INC.

**Lexie Lothora**  
LEXIETECH CEO

TOGETHER? ABSOLUTELY NOTHING. BUT AS SEPARATE SUBJECTS, TOTALLY DIFFERENT. LORD GEDDY IS AN INFORMATION BROKER. WE'VE USED THE ROCINANTE GROUP'S RESOURCES BEFORE TO GET THE DIRT ON THE LEXIETECH EXECS SO WE COULD LEVERAGE THEM OUT.

SOME OF THEM, THAT WAY.





RIGHT... **SOME** OF THEM.  
ANYWAY, GEDDY'S A STRAIGHTFORWARD MAN. HE DELIVERS WHATEVER HE PROMISES.

AND THE ALLIANCE?

CONSPIRACY THEORIES ASIDE, THE BILDERBURG ALLIANCE IS THE REAL THING.  
IT'S LIKE THE ROGUE ISLES INFRASTRUCTURE, BUT ON A GLOBAL SCALE.  
I'M TOLD DOCTOR AEON HAS BEEN A MEMBER FOR YEARS.

GEDDY'S MADE ME AN OFFER.  
ONE THAT I'M SERIOUSLY CONSIDERING.  
IT WOULD REQUIRE US TO PLAY A VERY DANGEROUS GAME, THOUGH.

IF IT'S WHAT I THINK IT IS, THEN YOU'D BE A FOOL TO TURN IT DOWN.  
BUT AS YOUR SECURITY EXPERT, I STRONGLY ADVISE YOU BE CAUTIOUS ABOUT WHATEVER "GAME" HE WANTS YOU TO PLAY.

YOU DON'T THINK HE WOULD DELIVER WHAT HE PROMISES?

I THINK THAT THERE IS A REASON WHY THE BILDERBURG ALLIANCE IS AS FORMIDABLE AS IT IS, AND TO HAVE GEDDY DANGLE THIS JEWEL IN FRONT OF YOU INSTEAD OF JUST OFFERING YOU A MEMBERSHIP SHOULD BE QUESTIONED.

DULY NOTED.  
I'M STILL GOING TO TAKE LORD GEDDY UP ON HIS OFFER.

BUT I WANT YOU TO STAY IN THE LOOP ON WHAT TRANSPIRES.  
IF THINGS GO SOUR...IF I AM BEING PLAYED FOR A PATSY...

THEN I WANT LORD GEDDY TO KNOW JUST WHY THOSE MEN IN THE CASINO ARE AFRAID TO FACE YOU.

# See The World - Save The World!



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Find out more at [www.HeroCorps.para](http://www.HeroCorps.para)

## Music Is My Life!

People don't just come here for the view. They also come here because I have the best audio in any dimension. And I can only get that by using the best audio equipment.

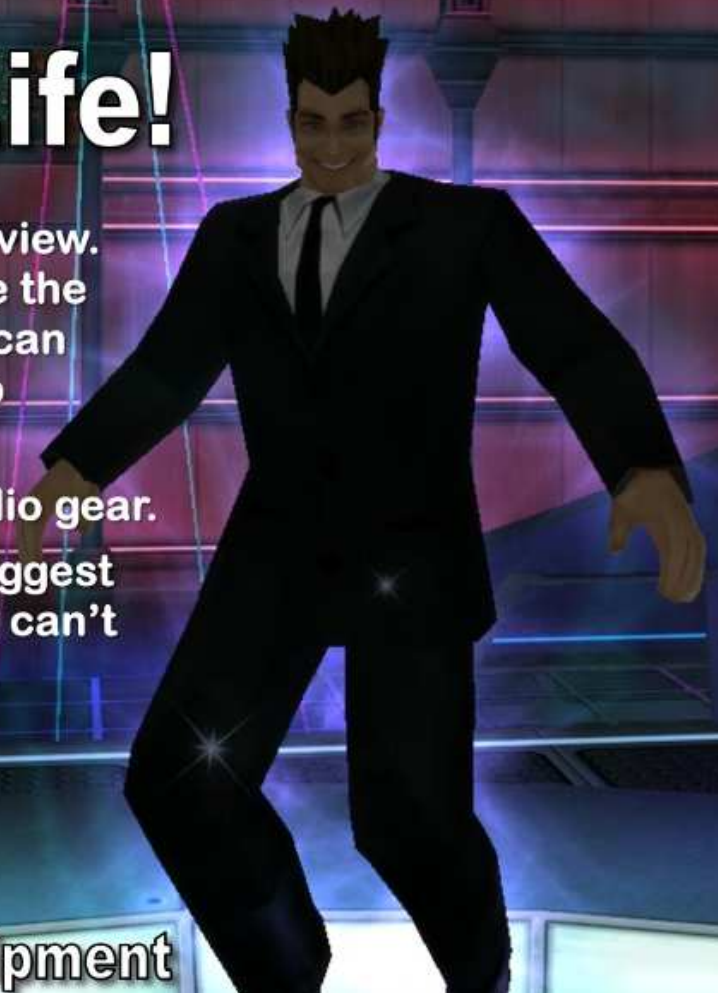
That's why I use the **LT** brand of audio gear. Because when you're hosting the biggest nonstop party in the omniverse, you can't settle for second best.

And neither should you!



**LexieTech**

Premium Audio Equipment



# THE INSULT THAT MADE A MAN OUT OF "MAC"



## Let Me PROVE I Can Make YOU A NEW MAN!

**A**RE you "fed up" with seeing 'Knuckles' walk off with all the best girls? Are you tired of feeling BARELY ALIVE? I know how you feel! I was once a 'Puny' weaking myself! I was so ashamed of my 98 lb. frame. I was scared to go outside!

**The Secret of How I got My Build**  
Visiting a Gym took too long, and Inventions took much of my Infamy! I just visited 'Serge'!!! Now I have gotten the power of the Well Of Furies. You too can have this power!

My techniques may be shared with all who bow allegiance to Arachnos!

### "Power Up" Build Armies Fast!

Through my patented regime, you too can control minions of great power. As an Incarnate Master-Mind in training you will have the power of the "Greek Gods"

### Clip Coupon for My Patented 32-Page Illustrated Book

Mailing this coupon will be your first step into my legions we refer to literally as a 'City of Villains'. Mail coupon to: **STEFAN RICHTER, Overcourt Drive, 115 E, Paragon City, RI**

Stefan Richter, Overcourt Drive 115E  
Paragon City, RI, USA

Dear Lord Recluse, please send my your book with info on:  
(Check all that apply)

MasterMinding and Minions  
Dominating all the surround me  
Corrupting Law Enforcement  
Stalking that Special Girl

British ways of the world  
Arachnos Soldering  
Widow and Me - Introspective

Please send me a copy of the Build Guide for the section that I checked. I hereby pledge service to Arachnos for the rest of my life, and understand that I will spend 50 levels of my career serving Lord Recluse and Arachnos until I finally am free from service.

Name.....Age.....

Address.....

City & State..... Zip Code.....

Arachnos Corporation of the Etoile Islands, USA

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Home of the Evil Malibu Barbie Series!

ZIGGURSKY CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

BRICKSTOWN



HELLO  
ELLE.

Lord Lee Geddy  
MARGRAVE OF NIAGARA



LORD  
GEDDY!

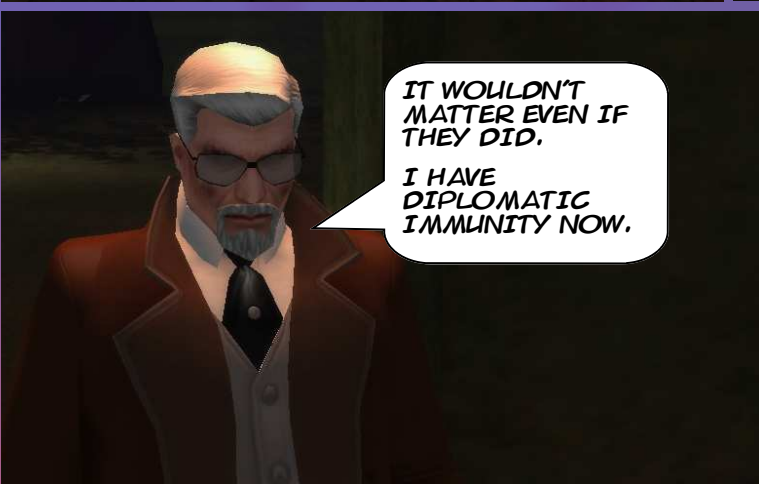
Ms. Elle Maple  
ROCINANTE GROUP



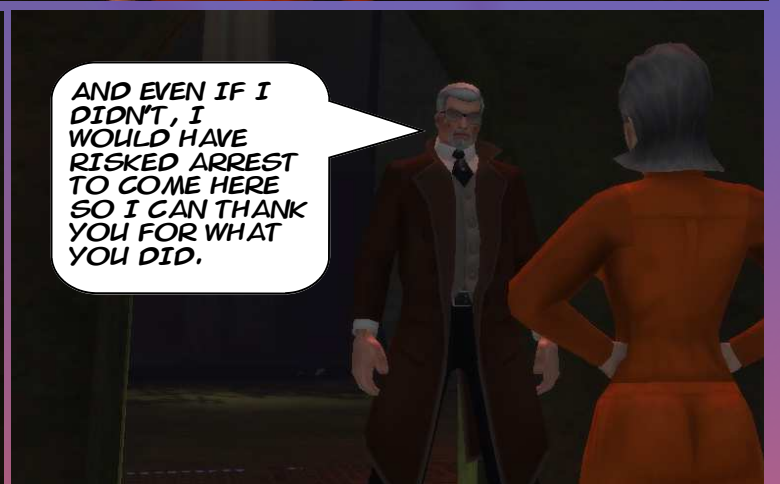
SIR, I'M... I'M  
PLEASED TO SEE YOU.  
BUT YOU REALLY  
SHOULDN'T BE HERE!  
YOU COULD BE  
ARRESTED IF  
SOMEONE KNEW--



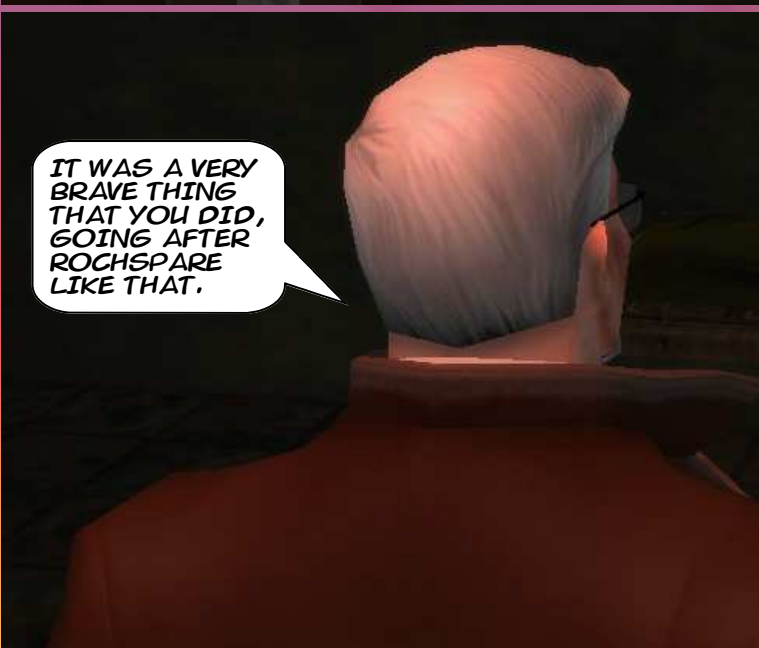
IT WOULDN'T  
MATTER EVEN IF  
THEY DID.  
I HAVE  
DIPLOMATIC  
IMMUNITY NOW.



AND EVEN IF I  
DIDN'T, I  
WOULD HAVE  
RISKED ARREST  
TO COME HERE  
SO I CAN THANK  
YOU FOR WHAT  
YOU DID.

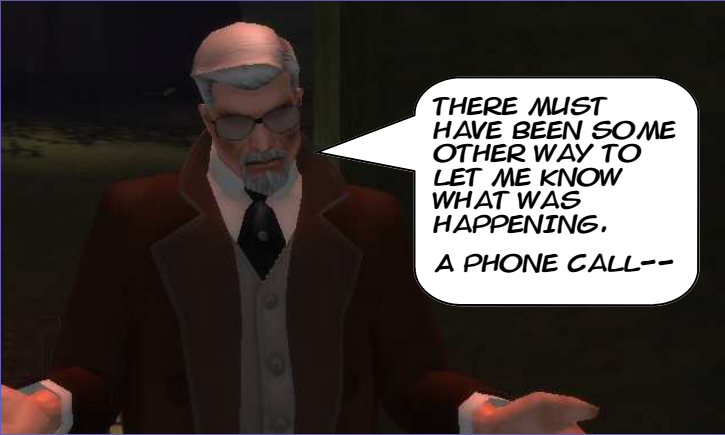


IT WAS A VERY  
BRAVE THING  
THAT YOU DID,  
GOING AFTER  
ROCHSPARE  
LIKE THAT.




HE LEFT ME NO CHOICE.  
HIS PLANS TO TAKE  
OVER THE ROCINANTE  
GROUP WERE MOVING  
SO FAST, I HAD TO DO  
SOMETHING SHOCKING  
TO STOP THE BOARD OF  
DIRECTORS FROM  
MEETING.





THERE MUST  
HAVE BEEN SOME  
OTHER WAY TO  
LET ME KNOW  
WHAT WAS  
HAPPENING.  
A PHONE CALL--



--WOULDN'T HAVE  
GONE THROUGH,  
SIR.  
ROCHSPARE WAS  
VERY THOROUGH IN  
CO-OPTING THE  
COMPANY'S  
INFRASTRUCTURE.



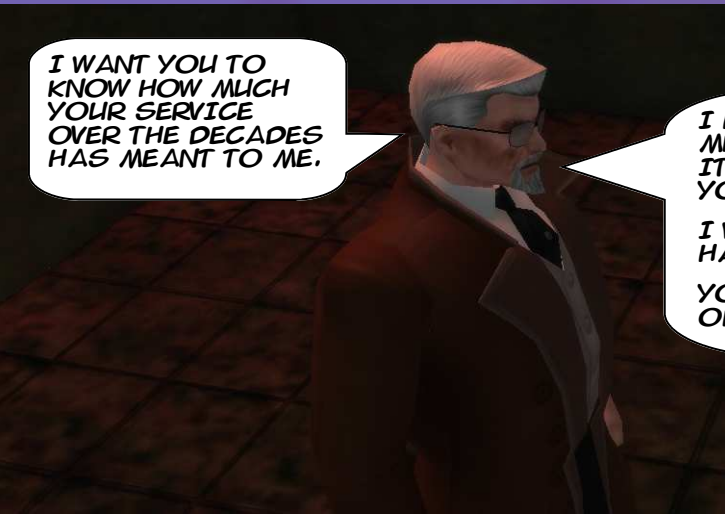
HE HAD ALREADY MADE IT CLEAR  
THAT MY BODYGUARD WASN'T  
GOING TO BE RELEASED FROM  
PRISON.

HE HAD SENT NOVAPRIMA TO THE  
BERLIN OFFICE.

HE CUT OFF ALL CONTACT WITH  
THE LIBRA ORDER.

IF THAT MEETING WAS ALLOWED  
TO HAPPEN, HE WOULD HAVE ALL  
THE VOTES TO REPLACE YOU.

I SEE...




I WANT YOU TO  
KNOW HOW MUCH  
YOUR SERVICE  
OVER THE DECADES  
HAS MEANT TO ME.



I HAVE COME TO RELY ON YOU FOR SO  
MUCH TO HELP KEEP THE COMPANY GOING,  
IT'S JUST NOT THE SAME WITHOUT YOU AT  
YOUR DESK.

I WILL NOT STOP UNTIL I FIND A WAY TO  
HAVE YOU RELEASED, I PROMISE YOU THAT.

YOU DO NOT DESERVE TO SPEND THE REST  
OF YOUR LIFE BEHIND BARS.



IT'S OKAY, LORD  
GEDDY. I KNEW THE  
CONSEQUENCES OF MY  
ACTION.

BESIDES, DESPITE THE  
SQUALOR, THE OTHER  
INMATES TREAT ME  
WITH THE LIT MOST  
RESPECT...

MOSTLY OUT OF FEAR  
OF WHAT BLOODBLADER  
WOULD DO TO THEM.

JUST THE SAME, IF  
THERE IS ANYTHING  
THAT CAN BE DONE,  
DO NOT HESITATE TO  
LET ME KNOW, ELLE.

YOU DESERVE FAR  
BETTER THAN THIS.

RIKTI WAR ZONE

VANGUARD HEADQUARTERS



"DOCTORS SAY JASON IS IN AN INDUCED SLEEP."



HE'LL STAY THERE WHILE THE VANGUARD MYSTICS WORK ON PURGING ANY REMNANTS OF MOT FROM HIS BODY.

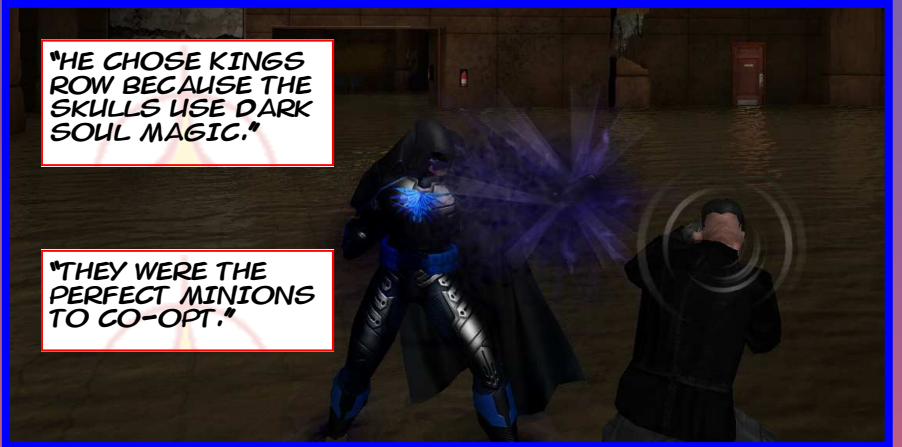
IT'LL PROBABLY BE THE MOST SLEEP HE'S GOTTEN IN A LONG TIME.



SO...WHO WANTS TO START?



LAST OCTOBER, MOT DECIDED TO EXPAND HIS INFLUENCE BEYOND THE WALLS OF DARK ASTORIA.



"HE CHOSE KINGS ROW BECAUSE THE SKULLS USE DARK SOUL MAGIC."

"THEY WERE THE PERFECT MINIONS TO CO-OPT."



"BUT, OF COURSE, JASON USES THE SAME KIND OF SOUL MAGIC."

"HE DIDN'T REALIZE JUST HOW MUCH MOT HAD SPREAD INTO THE AREA UNTIL IT WAS TOO LATE."



"BEFORE HE KNEW IT, MOT TOOK OVER."



"HE BECAME MOT'S APOSTLE."



SYN WAS JUST STARTING AS JASON'S APPRENTICE WHEN IT HAPPENED. SHE DIDN'T KNOW HE WAS COMPROMISED AT FIRST.



BY THE TIME I WAS CALLED TO THE SCENE, HE WAS FORMING THE SKULLS INTO MOT'S DARK ARMY.



AND... BEING ABLE TO SUMMON EGYPTIAN GODS? WHEN DID YOU LEARN TO DO THAT?



THAT SAME NIGHT.



"I HAD INITIALLY CALLED ON THE GODS FOR GUIDANCE, BUT IT WAS THE GOD HORUS WHO TOLD ME HE WAS NEEDED TO BREAK MOT'S CONTROL OVER JASON."

"YES, BUT AFTERWARD, THE OTHER GODS HAD TO FORCE HORUS TO GIVE UP HIS CONTROL OVER MY BODY."

"I PRESUME HE WAS SUCCESSFUL THEN."

"IT'S WHY I DON'T WANT TO DO THAT UNLESS ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY."



SO WHY DIDN'T HE TURN TO THE GUARDIANS FOR HELP WITH THIS?  
WHY TRY TO STICK IT OUT ON HIS OWN IN THE SEWERS?



ARE YOU KIDDING?  
THIS IS JASON KNIGHT WE'RE TALKING ABOUT!

HE STILL THINKS THE GUARDIANS WERE SOLD OUT TO ANDREW WENTWORTH.



I KNOW JASON ASKED YOU TO JOIN THE GUARDIANS, SYN, TO KEEP AN EYE ON THE GROUP FOR HIM.

IT WAS AN ARRANGEMENT THAT JASON MADE WITH ICON POWERS.  
SUN ZHU'S ADVICE OF "KEEP YOUR FRIENDS CLOSE AND YOUR ENEMIES CLOSER".



AND THAT MAKES YOU... WHAT?



ENOUGH!  
THIS IS GOING NOWHERE.



JASON WON'T BE ABLE TO TELL ME, SO I GUESS I'LL HAVE TO GO TO THE ONE PERSON LEFT WHO CAN.

TELL GUARDIAN BASE THAT I'M TAKING THE VANGUARD PORTAL TO THE DAWN PATROL OFFICE IN CARDIFF.  
IT'S TIME THAT I SPEAK WITH ICON POWERS HIMSELF.



ELSEWHERE IN THE VANGUARD BASE...

THANK YOU FOR YOUR REPORT, MISTER COLE.

YES SIR.

WE HAD ALWAYS SUSPECTED THAT GALATEA AND THE OTHERS HAD THEIR OWN METHOD OF COMMUNICATING WITH EACH OTHER, AND NOW WE KNOW FOR CERTAIN.



BUT... I SUSPECT THERE'S MORE THAN WHAT YOU JUST TOLD ME.

**Gaussian**  
VANGUARD TACTICIAN



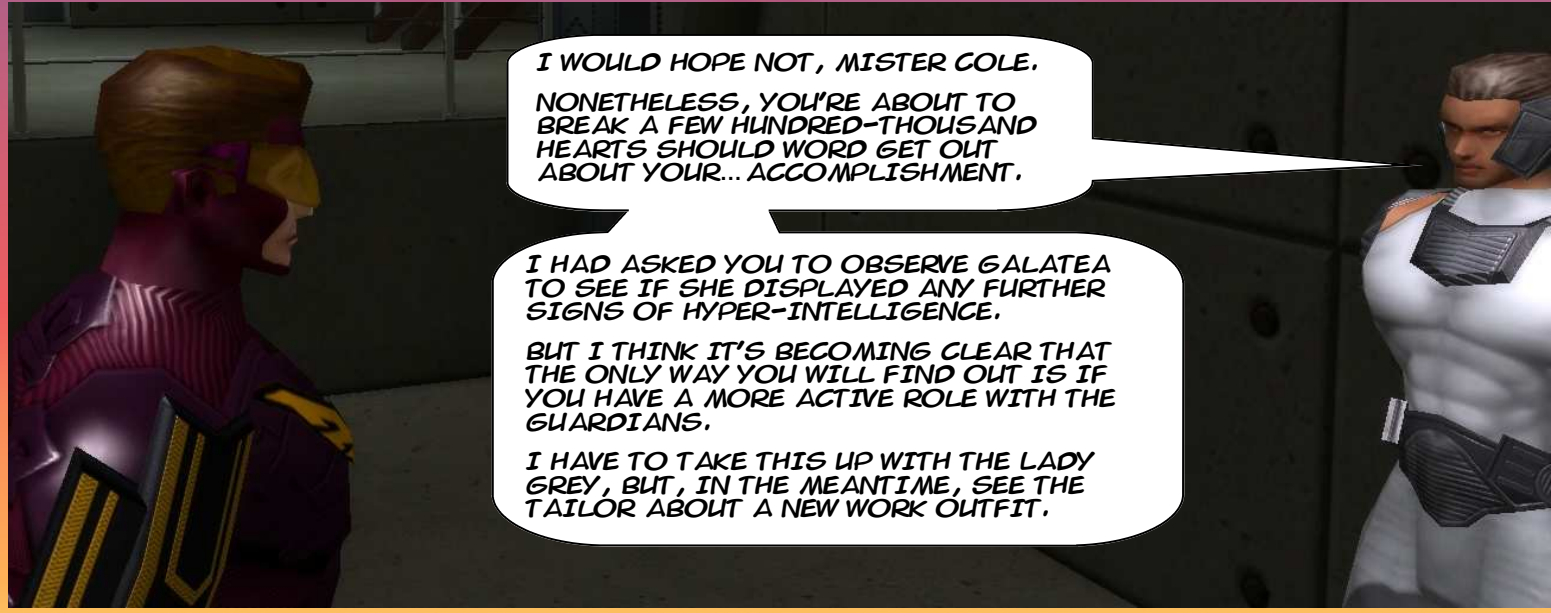
WELL... SIR... I DON'T KNOW IF I SHOULD...



SO YOU TWO ARE INVOLVED NOW... NOT EXPECTED, BUT ALSO REALLY NOT SURPRISING GIVEN HER LACK OF A PERSONAL LIFE.



SIR, I DIDN'T PLAN ON SEDUCING HER JUST TO GATHER INTEL ON HER.



I WOULD HOPE NOT, MISTER COLE. NONETHELESS, YOU'RE ABOUT TO BREAK A FEW HUNDRED-THOUSAND HEARTS SHOULD WORD GET OUT ABOUT YOUR... ACCOMPLISHMENT.

I HAD ASKED YOU TO OBSERVE GALATEA TO SEE IF SHE DISPLAYED ANY FURTHER SIGNS OF HYPER-INTELLIGENCE. BUT I THINK IT'S BECOMING CLEAR THAT THE ONLY WAY YOU WILL FIND OUT IS IF YOU HAVE A MORE ACTIVE ROLE WITH THE GUARDIANS. I HAVE TO TAKE THIS UP WITH THE LADY GREY, BUT, IN THE MEANTIME, SEE THE TAILOR ABOUT A NEW WORK OUTFIT.

SOMEWHERE IN PEREZ PARK...

BEFORE WE BEGIN, I WANT TO LET YOU KNOW JUST HOW EXCITED I AM THAT YOU WOULD SHOW UP HERE TO BE MY "VOLUNTEER".

**Hank Geddy**  
AKA ST ARCYGENUS



OF COURSE, THE NEURAL PARALYSIS THAT I GAVE YOU PREVENTS YOU FROM MOVING OR TALKING.



BUT, REST ASSURED, YOU WILL NOT BE THE LAST TO VISIT MY VERY HUMBLE ABODE.



AND YOU CERTAINLY WILL NOT BE ALONE FOR LONG.



YESSSS...



THAT IS... ODD.



SIR? IS EVERYTHING OKAY?



FOR A MOMENT I HAD A FEELING OF... DÉJÀ VU. AS THOUGH A CONSCIOUSNESS WAS BEING UPLOADED TO DEEP-NET FIVE.

IT WAS SIMILAR TO THE PROCESS USED WHEN MY MIND IS UPLOADED INTO A NEW BODY. I MUST CATALOGUE THIS FOR FUTURE INVESTIGATION.

**Databank**  
JUSTICE-KNIGHTS MEMBER

CAP AU DIABLE - AEON CITY

ROGUE ISLES

"LORD GEDDY,  
THIS IS LENIE  
LOTHORA..."

I JUST WANTED TO  
LET YOU KNOW  
THAT I'VE DECIDED  
TO TAKE YOU UP  
ON YOUR OFFER.

EXCELLENT.

I ANTICIPATED  
YOUR ACCEPTANCE  
AND SENT OVER A  
COUPLE OF "GIFTS"  
TO HELP YOU GET  
STARTED.

THAT'S MOST  
KIND OF YOU,  
LORD GEDDY.  
WHAT SORT OF  
"GIFTS" SHOULD  
I EXPECT?

WELL THE FIRST IS A DATA  
PACKAGE THAT YOUR  
EXPERTS SHOULD FIND  
QUITE USEFUL IN SETTING  
THE STAGE FOR YOUR FIRST  
ASSIGNMENT.

THE BULK OF THE DATA  
COMES COURTESY OF A  
CERTAIN "FAMOUS" GENETIC  
SCIENTIST UNDER MY CARE.

BUT I THINK YOU'LL FIND THE  
GREATER VALUE IN THE SECOND  
GIFT.

YEARS AGO I WAS GIVEN THE  
GIFT OF A SKILLED SPECIALIST  
IN FACILITATION.

A GIFT THAT I NOW SHARE WITH  
YOU.

"HE SHOULD BE ARRIVING  
AT YOUR AEON CITY  
OFFICE SHORTLY."

"I'LL MAKE SURE  
HE GETS A WARM  
RECEPTION."

"OH, YOU WON'T HAVE TO  
WORRY ABOUT MAKING  
HIM FEEL AT HOME, MISS  
LOTHORA.

"WHEN THE TIME IS RIGHT,  
HE'LL INTRODUCE HIMSELF  
TO YOU."

GOT A LITTLE LOST ON YOUR WAY BACK TO CLASS, PROFESSOR?

FUNNY... AND HERE I THOUGHT I WAS THE RUNAWAY IN THE GROUP.

YOU'RE LOOKING GOOD, BART.  
I TAKE IT KATIE TOLD YOU WHERE TO FIND ME.

SHE GAVE ME A GENERAL DIRECTION.  
I REMEMBER YOU USED TO TALK ABOUT THE CLIFFS HERE WHEN YOU VISIT THE POWERS FAMILY FOR THE HOLIDAYS.

**Kent Poderes**  
AKA ICON POWERS

ALEX CAME TO ME A FEW DAYS AGO AND TOLD ME THAT YOU UP AND QUIT BACK IN FEBRUARY!  
I'VE BEEN TRYING TO GET A GRASP OF WHAT'S BEEN GOING ON WITH THE GUARDIANS SINCE I WAS THERE, BUT IT'S ALMOST LIKE IT IS A COMPLETELY NEW GROUP!

WHAT THE HELL HAPPENED, KENT?  
IN ALL OUR YEARS, I'VE NEVER KNOWN YOU TO RUN AWAY FROM A FIGHT, EVEN FROM A LOSING ONE.  
SO WHY HAVE YOU?

**Prof. Bart Wallace**  
AKA RYDER LIGHTNING

**\*SIGH\***

I WISH I COULD SAY THAT I JUST GOT TIRED... BUT IT'S A LITTLE MORE COMPLICATED THAN THAT.

BACK WHEN WE WERE "DISBANDED ON PAPER", I WAS ABLE TO KEEP THE GUARDIANS GOING AS A "GHOST GROUP" BECAUSE OUR GROUP WAS SMALL, AND THEY RELIED MORE ON MY EXPERIENCE THAN MY PHYSICAL ABILITY.\*

I DON'T HAVE TO TELL YOU THAT LEADING A GROUP IS NOT A MATTER OF POWER, BUT MORE ABOUT WILL.

ALTHOUGH MY POWERS HAVE BEEN DIMINISHING, I WAS ABLE TO RELY ON FORCE OF WILL TO MOTIVATE OTHERS. AT LEAST AT FIRST.

"BUT WHAT NONE OF US REALIZED WAS JUST HOW THINGS HAD CHANGED SINCE DOC TOR AND GALATEA BROUGHT BACK THOSE 2200 PEOPLE FROM THE TIME ECHO OF GALAXY CITY."

◀ "THE GUARDIAN POWERS" #15

"SOME OF THE GUARDIANS FELT NO EFFECTS OF BEING TRAPPED IN THERE FOR OVER A YEAR."



"BUT FOR OTHERS..."

**TashaTiger**  
MYSTICAL CATGURL



"...THEY LOST CONTROL OF THEIR ABILITIES."

I KNOW THAT COEUR DU FELU HAD TO SPEND A YEAR WITH THE STONEHENGE COVEN TO MASTER THE CHANGES THAT HAPPENED TO HER.\*

AND I READ UP ABOUT THE "INCIDENT".



FEH!



◀ PART 1

"READING UP" ABOUT IT DOESN'T COMPARE TO ACTUALLY SEEING IT HAPPEN.

IT'S LIKE READING ABOUT A TRAIN WRECK VERSUS ACTUALLY WATCHING IT AS IT IS ABOUT TO HAPPEN.



I KNEW THE "LOST TIME" WAS HARD ON STREET JUSTICE AND WHYSPERA. HE HAD NO IDEA WHAT SHE WAS GOING THROUGH BEING A MUTANT AND HAVING HER POWERS CHANGED BY THE TIME ECHO.

AND IT WAS NATURAL THAT SHE WOULD TURN TO ANOTHER MUTANT LIKE ARKTIC CHILL.

"I TRIED TO TALK TO MARTIN; TRIED TO GET HIM TO UNDERSTAND THAT IT WASN'T HUNTER'S FAULT."



**Street Justice**  
STREET VIGILANTE

"I HAD HOPED MY FORCE OF WILL WOULD BE ENOUGH TO AVOID THE CONFRONTATION."



"I WAS WRONG."

**Arctic Chill**  
ESKI MO VIGILANTE



"BECAUSE I UNDERESTIMATED THE SITUATION, MARTIN LOST BOTH OF HIS ARMS FROM FROSTBITE."



"AND ARKTIC WAS LOST TO US."

I TRIED TO REACH OUT TO HUNTER, TO GET HIM TO COME BACK.  
BUT HE TOLD ME THAT HUNTER BLOODMOON WAS GONE AND THAT HE WAS SIMPLY "ARKTIC".





OKAY, SO YOU WERE WRONG.  
YOU WERE THE ONE THAT USED TO SAY THAT WE HAD TO LEARN FROM THESE THINGS AND TO DO BETTER THE NEXT TIME AROUND.

I DID.  
AND I TRIED TO LIVE UP TO MY OWN ADVICE.

BUT IT WASN'T THE ONLY THING THAT HAPPENED TO CAUSE ME TO CHANGE MY MIND.



"THERE WAS ALSO WHAT HAPPENED TO JASON."



"WATCHING AS MOT CORRUPTED HIM INTO A MONSTER."



"I WAS THE ONE THAT ORIGINALLY TALKED JASON BACK INTO THE GUARDIANS\*... ONLY TO WATCH HIM LEAVE US AGAIN."

"ONLY THIS TIME, NOTHING I COULD SAY WOULD CHANGE THAT."

(\* THE GUARDIAN POWERS\* #4)



"AND THEN THERE WAS JIMMY HELLFIGHTER."

"YOU COULDN'T SAVE HIM, KENT. NOBODY COULD!"




THAT'S NOT IT.

IT'S HOW HE SPENT HIS LAST FEW YEARS BEFORE THE CANCER DID HIM IN.

HE TRIED TO SPEND THEM ALONE... APART FROM HIS OWN FAMILY.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?



I MEAN HE NEVER LET PYROGURL KNOW THAT HE WAS HER GRANDFATHER UNTIL ALMOST THE VERY END!

ALL THAT TIME WITH US, AND SHE NEVER KNEW!

HE DROVE THE ROMANNA FAMILY AWAY TO SUPPOSEDLY SPARE THEM THE PAIN OF HIS DEATH.

BUT EVENTUALLY HE REALIZED IT WAS WRONG TO DO THAT.

I TALKED WITH HIM IN THE HOSPITAL... JUST THE DAY BEFORE HE DIED.

HE TOLD ME TO NOT MAKE THE SAME MISTAKE HE DID.

THAT GOT ME THINKING ABOUT THE FAMILY THAT I HAVE HERE.



GALATEA IS STILL BITTER OVER WHAT I DID TO SAVE HER FROM LIONEL'S MANIPULATIONS.\*

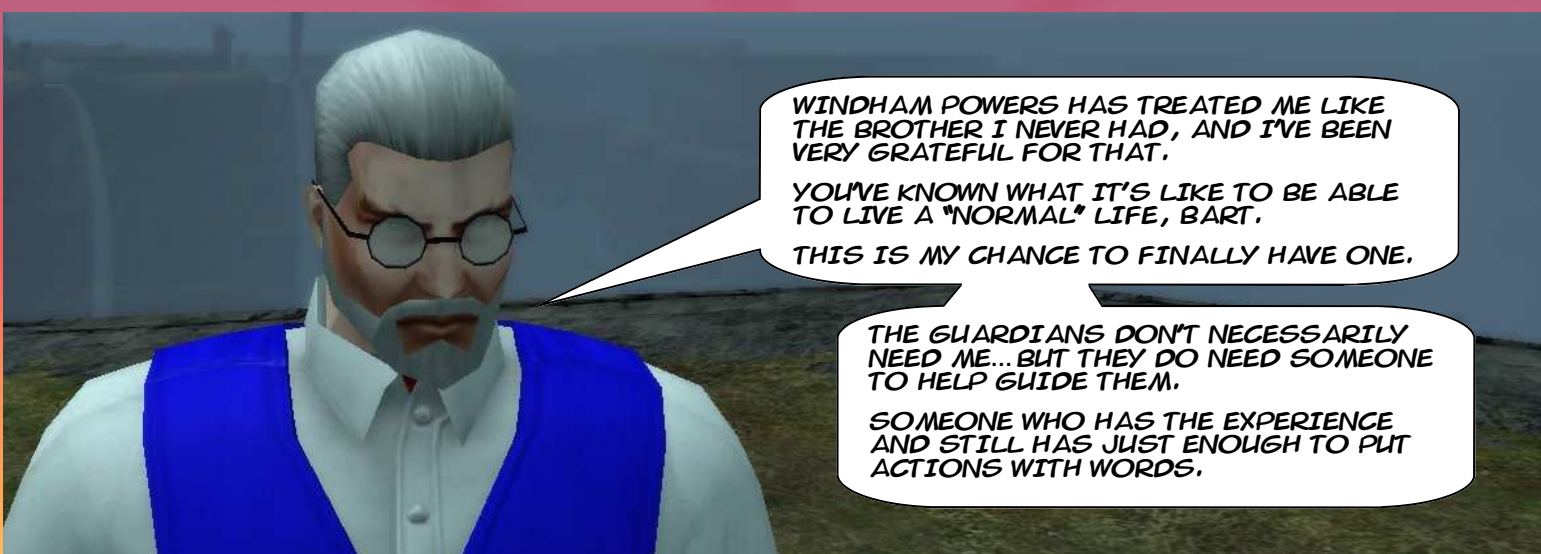
BUT HERE IN WALES, I HAVE AN ADOPTED FAMILY I CAN FINALLY GET TO KNOW.

IT MAKES SENSE.

YOU NEVER REALLY HAD A CHILDHOOD IN OUR WORLD.

YOU EITHER LIVED IN SECLUSION OR IN CONTINUAL LIMELIGHT.

< \*GUARDIANS OF THE DAWN SPOTLIGHT\* #19 >



WINDHAM POWERS HAS TREATED ME LIKE THE BROTHER I NEVER HAD, AND I'VE BEEN VERY GRATEFUL FOR THAT.

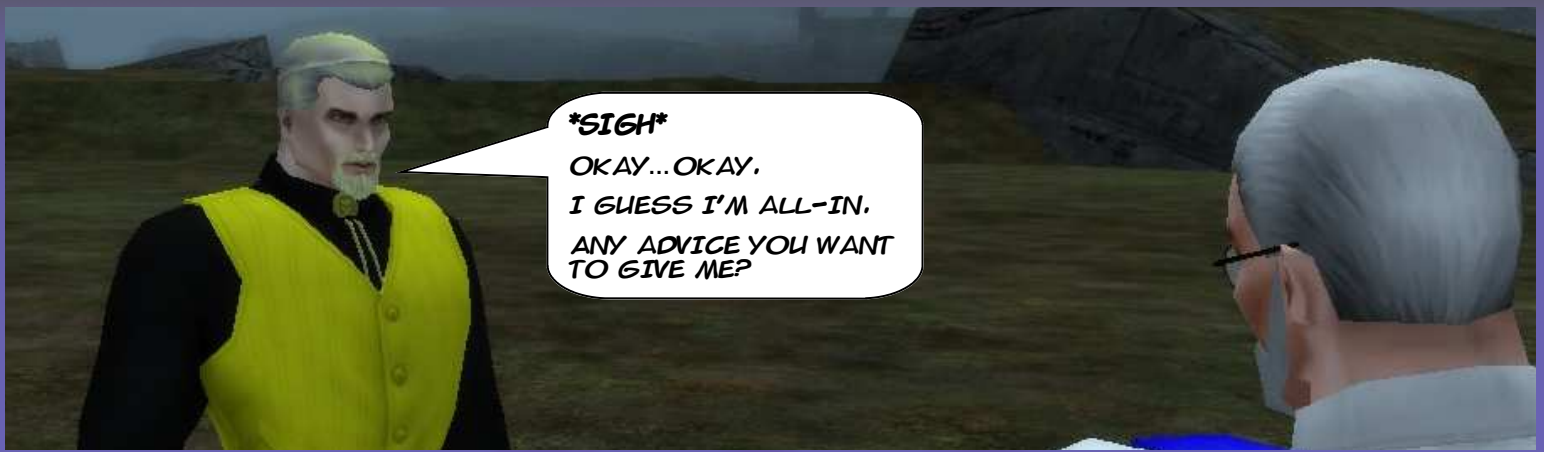
YOU'VE KNOWN WHAT IT'S LIKE TO BE ABLE TO LIVE A "NORMAL" LIFE, BART.

THIS IS MY CHANCE TO FINALLY HAVE ONE.

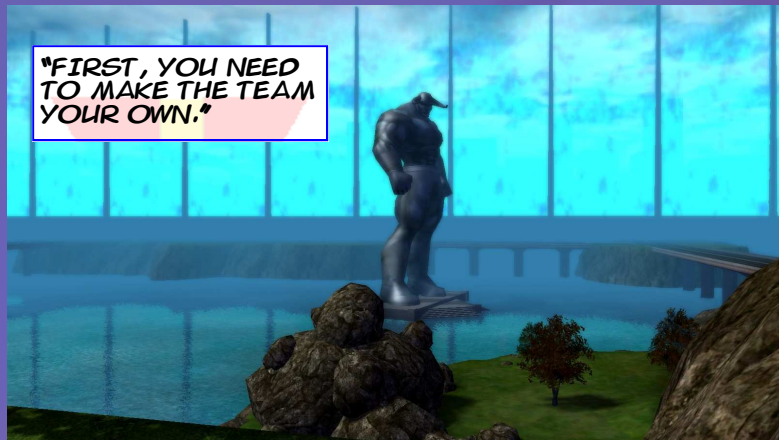
THE GUARDIANS DON'T NECESSARILY NEED ME... BUT THEY DO NEED SOMEONE TO HELP GUIDE THEM.

SOMEONE WHO HAS THE EXPERIENCE AND STILL HAS JUST ENOUGH TO PUT ACTIONS WITH WORDS.





**\*SIGH\***  
OKAY... OKAY.  
I GUESS I'M ALL-IN.  
ANY ADVICE YOU WANT  
TO GIVE ME?



**"FIRST, YOU NEED  
TO MAKE THE TEAM  
YOUR OWN."**



WELL?  
THINK YOU CAN  
PICK UP WHERE  
ICON LEFT OFF?

**Libertarian Avenger**  
VIGILANTE ARCHER



**"NOT MY TEAM...NOT  
ALEX'S TEAM...NOT EVEN  
HIS UNCLE'S TEAM."**

**"IT HAS TO BE YOUR  
TEAM THROUGH-AND-  
THROUGH."**

I DO THIS... IT HAS TO BE ON  
MY TERMS, ALEX.

WE WORK TOGETHER ON  
RECRUITS. NO MORE OF YOUR  
UNCLE'S "BACK DOOR"  
RECRUITING.

I KEEP YOU IN THE LOOP ON  
ANY ISSUES THAT COME UP,  
BUT YOU LET ME HANDLE  
THOSE ISSUES AS I SEE FIT.



I DON'T HAVE A  
PROBLEM WITH THAT.  
ANYTHING ELSE?

YOU DO REALIZE THAT  
YOU'RE ASKING A  
PROFESSOR TO DO A JOB  
THAT NORMALLY  
REQUIRES A WHEELCHAIR.

**\*CHUCKLE\***

I THINK YOU'LL SOMEHOW  
MANAGE TO PULL IT OFF  
WITHOUT ONE.

ALSO MAKE SURE THERE ARE NO SECRETS OR SURPRISES. YOU NEED ALL THE BOOKS OPENED UP FOR YOU.

I GUESS THAT MEANS I'LL HAVE TO SPEAK WITH ANDREW WENTWORTH AS WELL TO SEE WHAT HE CAN TELL ME ABOUT THE BILDERBURG ALLIANCE.

I THINK YOU'LL HAVE A BETTER TIME GETTING INTEL FROM JASON ABOUT THE ORGANIZATION. HE WAS THE ONE THAT FIRST MADE THE CONNECTION BETWEEN THE ELDER WENTWORTH AND THE ALLIANCE.\*

C\* \*GUARDIANS OF THE DAWN SPOTLIGHT\* #28)

THE TALON ROOM

AND NOW WE WILL HEAR FROM THE NEWEST VOICE IN OUR INNER CIRCLE...

"IT'S SAFE TO ASSUME THAT WHATEVER INFORMATION THE ALLIANCE DEEMS IMPORTANT THAT ANDREW KNEW ABOUT HAS ALREADY BEEN CHANGED."

THIS IS ELEVEN.

THE VOICES HAVE ALL BEEN GATHERED. WE ARE READY TO BEGIN.

"I WOULD BE MORE INTERESTED IN KNOWING WHO TOOK HIS PLACE."

"AND WHAT HE OR SHE HAS IN STORE FOR YOU."

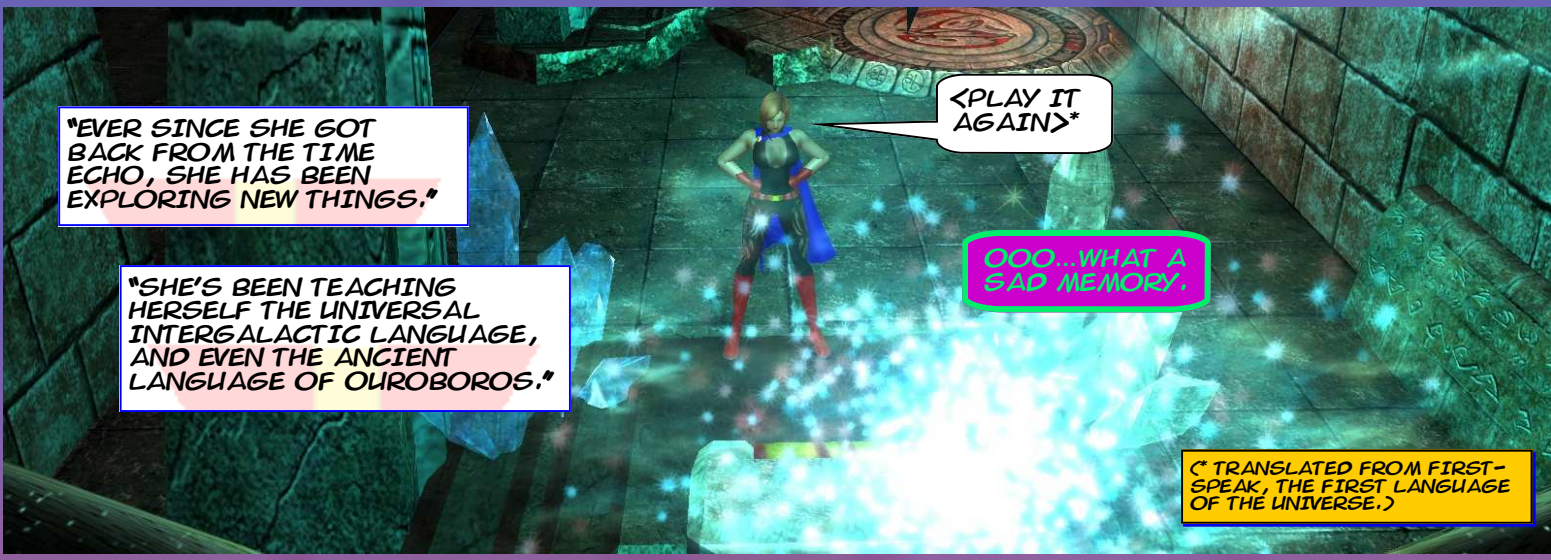


I HAVE A FAVOR TO ASK OF YOU...

THERE ARE TWO PEOPLE I WANT YOU TO LOOK OUT FOR.

I'LL TRY... WHO ARE THEY?

THEY'RE BOTH FAMILY. THE FIRST ONE IS GALATEA.



"EVER SINCE SHE GOT BACK FROM THE TIME ECHO, SHE HAS BEEN EXPLORING NEW THINGS."

"SHE'S BEEN TEACHING HERSELF THE UNIVERSAL INTERGALACTIC LANGUAGE, AND EVEN THE ANCIENT LANGUAGE OF OUROBOROS."

<PLAY IT AGAIN\*>

GOD...WHAT A SAD MEMORY.

\* TRANSLATED FROM FIRST-SPEAK, THE FIRST LANGUAGE OF THE UNIVERSE. >



... ALL THAT TIME AND YOU NEVER TOLD HIM THAT YOU LOVED HIM.

WH-WHO?

JOHN COLE, OF COURSE.

"IF SHE IS DEVELOPING HYPER-INTELLIGENCE, THEN WE NEED TO BE CONCERNED."

ALL THAT TIME WITH HIM, AND HE DIED NOT KNOWING HOW YOU REALLY FELT."

"THE LAST THING WE NEED IS FOR HER TO BE AN ALL-POWERFUL VERSION OF HER GENETIC FATHER."

\* EXCERPTS FROM "FUTURE'S GUARDIAN" #9, AVAILABLE THROUGH BATTLEROCK COMICS. >

"WHO'S THE OTHER FAMILY MEMBER?"

"FURIA POWERS."

"SHE'S BEEN HAVING A HARD TIME ADJUSTING TO LIFE IN THE PRIMAL UNIVERSE."

"IN PRAETORIA, SHE LIVED A DOUBLE LIFE, SERVING EMPEROR COLE WHILE ALSO HELPING THE RESISTANCE WITH SURVIVORS FROM FIRST WARD."

"HERE, PEOPLE DON'T KNOW WHERE SHE STANDS...  
"AND SHE DOESN'T KNOW WHO TO TRUST AS WELL."

\*KNOCK-KNOCK\*

Furia Powers  
FORMER PRAETORIAN

YES?

"SOUNDS LIKE A CERTAIN BROODING SEWER-DWELLER THAT WE BOTH KNOW."

THEY'RE READY FOR YOU IN THE INTERVIEW ROOM.

"THEN LET'S MAKE SURE THAT SHE DOESN'T END UP LIKE JASON."

\*SIGH\*  
LET'S GET THIS OVER WITH.

"SHE CAN BE EVERY BIT AS HEROIC AS GALATEA IF SHE IS GIVEN THE RIGHT MOTIVATION."

Find out what happens next in...

**FURIA**  
AND THE **GUARDIANS**



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



## Longbow Intelligence Unit

### Assessment/Profile Division

A subsidiary of Freedom Corps, Inc.



**From:** Ms\_Liberty (liberty@freedom.corps.para)  
**To:** Icon\_Powers (ipowers@gotd.para)  
**Subject:** Incident in Steel Canyon

Icon,

I came across the incident report from two Freedom Corps officers regarding the fight between Arctic Chill and Street Justice in the middle of Steel Canyon. Can you give me more information as to what happened?

- Ms. Liberty

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**From:** Icon\_Powers (ipowers@gotd.para)  
**To:** Ms\_Liberty (liberty@freedom.corps.para)  
**Subject:** re: Incident in Steel Canyon

Ms. Liberty,

I am still trying to get all of the details, but from what I am able to piece together, the matter was a personal conflict between Arctic and Street that escalated.

I will let you know more when I have all of the details.

- Icon Powers

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**From:** Ms\_Liberty (liberty@freedom.corps.para)  
**To:** Icon\_Powers (ipowers@gotd.para)  
**Subject:** re: Incident in Steel Canyon

Icon,

I'm afraid that will not suffice. I am getting calls from the Paragon Times and PNN. They want to know what is going on, and I can't keep quiet when they already have pieces of the story from the two Corps officers at the scene.

- Ms. Liberty

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**From:** Icon\_Powers (ipowers@gotd.para)  
**To:** Ms\_Liberty (liberty@freedom.corps.para)  
**Subject:** re: Incident in Steel Canyon

Ms. Liberty,

I would rather not get into all of the details as long as I am unable to confirm this with Arctic, but from what I understand, it concerned an accident that involved him and Whyspera that triggered their emergency medial teleport devices. The accident left Whyspera in intensive care and Arctic with some

*Continues on next page...*

temporary hearing loss. Street blamed Arctic for the accident, which led to the confrontation.

Street is currently undergoing surgery to have his amputated arms replaced with cybernetics. Arctic has abandoned his communicators and was last seen heading to the Hollows. There are several hideouts previously used by Frostfire that he can run to and we are trying to locate him there.

I would prefer to keep these details out of the hands of the media at least until I can confirm what has happened. We really do not need the media to blow this situation out of proportion like they did with Doc Tor.

- Icon

-----

**From:** Ms\_Liberty (liberty@freedom.corps.para)

**To:** Icon\_Powers (ipowers@gotd.para)

**Subject:** re: Incident in Steel Canyon

Icon,

While I respect your desire to keep the Guardians out of another embarrassing incident with the media, I really cannot stay silent about it. At the very least, this is something that should be reviewed by the Oversight Committee.

- Ms. Liberty

But is this the whole story?

Is there more going on?

Find out this October when the focus shifts to the one group that we haven't heard from in "GRADUATION", and see what role they played in the events you've just seen.

# The LIBRA ORDER

<http://BattlerockComics.wordpress.com>



**"GRADUATION" MAY BE OVER, BUT OUR STORIES IN THE WORLD OF THE CITY OF HERIES ARE FAR FROM DONE.**

**FIRST, CHECK OUT THE "OTHER" SIDE OF THE "LOST TIME" WITH THE ONE-SHOT SPECIAL "THE LIBRA ORDER: DEBTS OF HONOR".**

**THEN FIND OUT WHAT HAPPENS NEXT IN "FURIA AND THE GUARDIANS" #1!**





**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!**

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

**Green  
Pouch**

*"I really don't know what to expect anymore.*

*"In my world, I was a hero. But being a hero there is not the same as it is here.*

*"It looks like I will have to start from scratch to find out what it means to be a part of the 'City of Heroes'."*

- Furia Powers  
former Praetorian



# **FURIA**

AND  
THE **GUARDIANS**



**[HTTP://BATTLE ROCK COMICS.WORDPRESS.COM](http://battlerockcomics.wordpress.com)**



A PROUD MEMBER  
OF THE CITY OF  
COMIC CREATORS