



BATTLE ROCK  
COMICS



**T** FOR TEENS

# FUTURE'S GUARDIAN



ISSUE 14  
2019



**CHAMPIONS  
ONLINE**

PERFECT  
WORLD

# HEY YOU!

Are you a gamer?

It doesn't matter if it's Champions Online, Star Trek Online, World of Warcraft, DC Universe Online, or any of the other MMO. You don't have to play it in silence or rely on that crappy, repetitive in-game music to keep you motivated.

**YOU DESERVE YOUR OWN GAMING MUSIC!**

You deserve... **THE CAPE RADIO!**

The Cape Radio is a player-oriented online radio station dedicated to keep you in the mood and in the game.

Cape Radio isn't some flash-in-the-pan station forever replaying the same two albums and is only online every third or fourth night for two hours when the kids aren't hogging the WiFi. This is a serious station, online 24/7, hosted by various Dee-Jays that participate in-game with live events.

You can see the Cape Radio personalities in-game, take part in live discussions as they share some of their best music with you, and you could even get recognized on the air as a serious Cape listener.

So tune in today! And remember...



[WWW.THECAPERADIO.COM](http://WWW.THECAPERADIO.COM)

From another time and from another world, Galatea Future arrived in the world of the Champions to do the one thing she tried so desperately to avoid before... to live.

It's not easy, though, when you're over a thousand years old and suddenly you're given a new life in more ways than one. Life is literally starting over again for her, and yet she is still doing what she does best: serving humanity as...

# **FUTURE'S GUARDIAN**

**"TO BOLD DISCOVERIES..."**

**- A CHAMPIONS ONLINE STORY BY DAVID 2**

WHILE INVESTIGATING THE HEAVILY RADIOACTIVE AREAS OF BURNING SANDS, NEW MEXICO, GALATEA FUTURE COMES ACROSS A DEVICE THAT CAUSES STRANGE MUTATIONS IN THE AREA.

WHEN SHE STARTS TO EXAMINE THE DEVICE, HOWEVER, IT ACTIVATES, AND SHE EXPERIENCES SOMETHING...

DIFFERENT.

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**"CAPTAIN'S LOG.**

**STARDATE: 96597.41**

**THE U.S.S. STARREACH HAS COMPLETED ITS SURVEY OF THE BRIAR PATCH AND OUR MISSION OF CATALOGUING TRANS-DIMENSIONAL ANOMALIES."**



**"WE ARE HEADING TO STARBASE 42, WHERE I WILL UPDATE STARFLEET COMMAND ON THE NEW HAZARDS IN THE AREA, INCLUDING THE NEW KLINGON THREATS THAT WE ENCOUNTERED WHILE INSIDE THE BRIAR PATCH."**





THE SHIP AND CREW ARE WELL.

BUT... WE ARE UNDERSTANDABLY LOOKING FORWARD TO A CHANGE IN SCENERY AND A BIT OF A RESPIRE.



THANKFULLY, STARBASE 42 HAS PLENTY OF...

... BOTH...  
END LOG.

**LT. CMDR. GALATEA QUANTUM**  
CAPTAIN, U.S.S. STARREACH



WHAT... WHAT IS GOING ON?

I'VE BEEN CAPTAIN OF THIS SHIP FOR OVER A YEAR NOW.

AND YET IT FEELS LIKE THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE BEEN ABOARD.

IT'S NOT "DÉJÀ VU"...  
MORE LIKE "DEJA NEW".



T'VRELL...



SCAN TO SEE IF THERE ARE ANY TEMPORAL ANOMALIES IN THE AREA.



IS THERE ANYTHING SPECIFIC?

NO... JUST... ANYTHING OUT OF THE ORDINARY.

**LT. T'VRELL**  
SCIENCE OFFICER



SENSORS READINGS ARE NEGATIVE.

OKAY, KEEP CHECKING, AND IF YOU PICK UP ANY KIND OF ABNORMALITY, NO MATTER HOW SMALL, LET ME KNOW.



UNDERSTOOD, CAPTAIN.



SOMETHING WRONG, CAPTAIN? ANYTHING I SHOULD KNOW?

**LT. ELSA FLORES**  
FIRST OFFICER

IT'S... A LITTLE HARD TO DESCRIBE, ELSA.

IT'S LIKE... PART OF ME IS SUDDENLY A FIRST-YEAR CADET AGAIN.

I FEEL LIKE... LIKE I SHOULD BE IN THE DESERT SOMEWHERE, LOOKING FOR SOME GREEN-SKINNED MONSTROSITY.



AS LONG AS YOU'RE PUNCHING OUT AN ORION SLAVE TRADER OR A GORN.



VERY FUNNY.  
IT'S A GOOD THING WE'RE NOT A STRICT BY-THE-BOOK SHIP OR ELSE I'D BE CITING YOU FOR INSENSITIVE COMMENTS ABOUT FEDERATION ALLIES.



SORRY. OLD HABITS.  
SO DO YOU WANT TO STOP THE SHIP AND CHECK IT OUT?  
I MEAN, THIS IS A SCIENCE VESSEL. IT'S SORT OF WHAT WE DO.

NO, IT'S OKAY, ELSA. IT'S PROBABLY JUST ME BEING TIRED.



I'M GOING TO TAKE A WALK TO SICKBAY.  
MS. FLORES, YOU HAVE THE CONN.



HUH...  
STRANGE.



JUST LIKE THAT...  
THE FEELING HAS FADED AWAY.



STILL, BETTER GET CHECKED OUT IN SICKBAY JUST TO MAKE SURE.

IN THE WORLD OF THE CHAMPIONS...

BURNING SANDS, NEW MEXICO

WHAT THE HELL?

WHERE WAS I?

WHY IS IT DAYLIGHT  
ALL OF A SUDDEN?

 GALATEA FUTURE  
OTHERWORLD GUARDIAN



OH NO...  
WHAT NOW?



NOOOOO...



...OOOO!



STAND STILL,  
PLEASE.



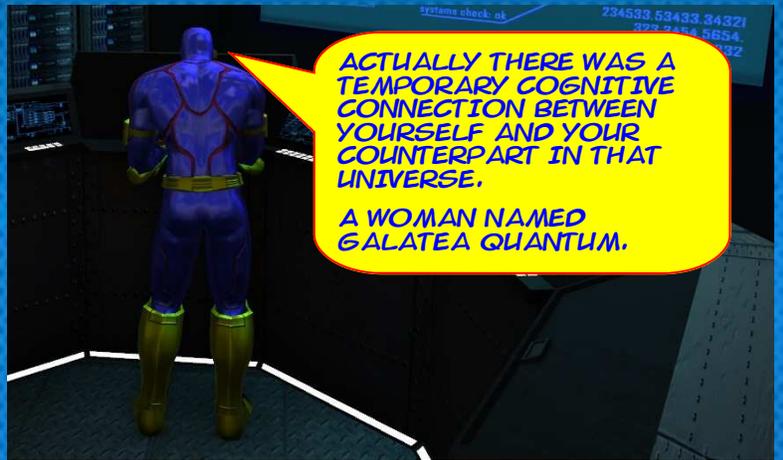
SIDESTEP?  
WHERE THE HELL AM I?  
WHERE THE HELL WAS I?

ALL WILL BE TOLD SOON.  
RIGHT NOW I NEED TO  
RECORD THE SHIFT IN  
YOUR QUANTUM ENERGY  
SIGNATURE BEFORE IT  
DISSIPATES.



SO I WASN'T HALLUCINATING.

I WAS IN ANOTHER UNIVERSE!



ACTUALLY THERE WAS A TEMPORARY COGNITIVE CONNECTION BETWEEN YOURSELF AND YOUR COUNTERPART IN THAT UNIVERSE.

A WOMAN NAMED GALATEA QUANTUM.



I THOUGHT THE ONLY OTHER VERSION OF MYSELF WAS THE ALTERNATE VERSION IN THE PARAUVERSE.\*

\* GALATEA FUTURE IS AN ALTERNATE FUTURE VERSION OF GALATEA POWERS THAT EXISTS IN THE NOW-DEFUNCT CITY OF HEROES UNIVERSE.\*



'VERSIONS', ACTUALLY. PLURAL. BUT THAT ITSELF IS A SUBJECT FOR ANOTHER DAY... IF AT ALL.

AGENT SIDESTEP  
MULTIVERSE OPERATIVE



SUFFICIENT TO SAY, THERE ARE NUMEROUS VERSIONS OF YOU THAT EXIST IN ALL OF THE MULTIVERSE.

NOT ALL OF THEM ARE LIKE YOU. NOT ALL VERSIONS OF YOU HAVE SUPERPOWERS.

THE ONE THAT YOU SHARED A BRIEF EXPERIENCE WITH IS ONE OF THEM, BUT SHE IS UNIQUE IN HER OWN WAY.

HOWEVER, YOU SHOULD NOT HAVE BEEN ABLE TO FORGE THAT KIND OF SHARED CONNECTION WITH YOUR COUNTERPART THERE AT ALL.

WHAT WERE YOU DOING TO CREATE THAT KIND OF ENVIRONMENT?



CREATE IT?

I DIDN'T DO ANYTHING OF THE KIND!



I WAS INVESTIGATING AN ABANDONED CAMP IN THE DESERT.

I WAS REPORTING ON A STRANGE DEVICE THAT WAS CAUSING SPONTANEOUS MUTATIONS, AND THEN... BLINK!

I'M A SPACESHIP CAPTAIN.

SPACESHIP CAPTAIN...  
FASCINATING.

PROPHET: LIST  
SIMILARITIES BETWEEN  
THE DESERT AREA AND  
DESIGNATION BETA-TWO-  
TWO-ZERO-ONE-TWO.

HIGH LEVELS OF DELTA RADIATION  
IN THE RADIOACTIVE AREA OF THIS  
UNIVERSE ARE SIMILAR TO THE  
DELTA RADIATION PRESENT IN THE  
SPACE VESSELS OF UNIVERSE  
BETA-TWO-TWO-ZERO-ONE-TWO.

NO OTHER SIMILARITIES  
DETECTED.

OKAY... I KNOW THAT I  
DON'T HAVE HYPER-  
INTELLIGENCE  
ANYMORE\*, BUT THAT  
DOESN'T SOUND LIKE  
THAT ITSELF SHOULD  
RESULT IN MY  
EXPERIENCING ANOTHER  
PERSON'S LIFE.

(\* GALATEA LOST MOST OF HER  
INCARNATE POWERS WHEN SHE CAME  
TO THE CHAMPIONS UNIVERSE.)

NO, BUT IT MAY  
EXPLAIN WHY  
THAT UNIVERSE  
WAS CHOSEN.

I WOULD SUSPECT THAT THE  
DEVICE YOU WERE EXAMINING  
REACTED TO THE FAINT  
QUANTUM SIGNATURE THAT  
YOU STILL CARRY FROM YOUR  
TIME IN YOUR PREVIOUS  
UNIVERSE, IN ADDITION TO  
THE DELTA RADIATION IN THE  
AREA AND SOMEHOW OPENED  
A LIMITED CONNECTION TO  
DESIGNATION BETA-TWO-  
TWO-ZERO-ONE-TWO.

THE VERY EXISTENCE OF THIS  
KIND OF DEVICE CAUSES  
CONCERN. THIS IS NOT  
SOMETHING THE PEOPLE OF THIS  
UNIVERSE SHOULD BE ABLE TO  
POSSESS AT THIS TIME.

AND THE FACT THAT IT'S  
CONNECTED TO PEOPLE  
THAT USED TO BE  
HEROES AND BECAME  
SUICIDAL VILLAINS IS  
SOMETHING THAT I  
NEED TO REPORT TO  
MAJOR CROSS.

AND I TO MY  
SUPERIORS  
AS WELL.

RETURN TO  
THE PAD  
AND I WILL  
SEND YOU  
BACK.

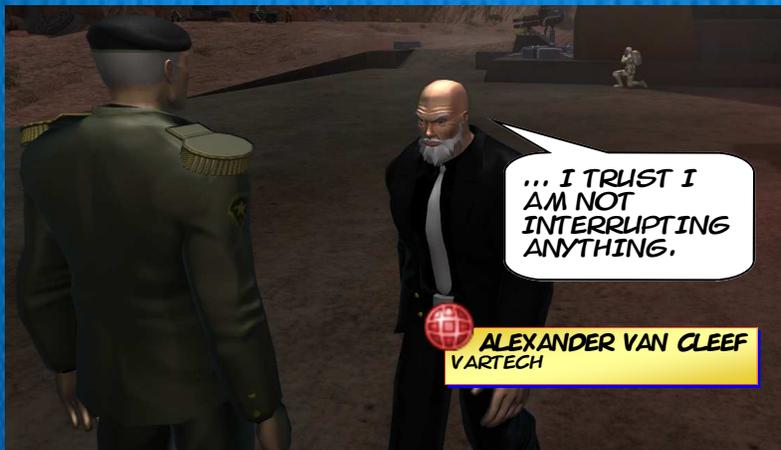
PROJECT GREENSKIN

A JOINT PRIMUS/UNTIL OPERATION



DIRECTOR KAUFMAN...

ROBERT KAUFMAN  
PROJECT GREENSKIN DIRECTOR



... I TRUST I AM NOT INTERRUPTING ANYTHING.

ALEXANDER VAN CLEEF  
VARTECH

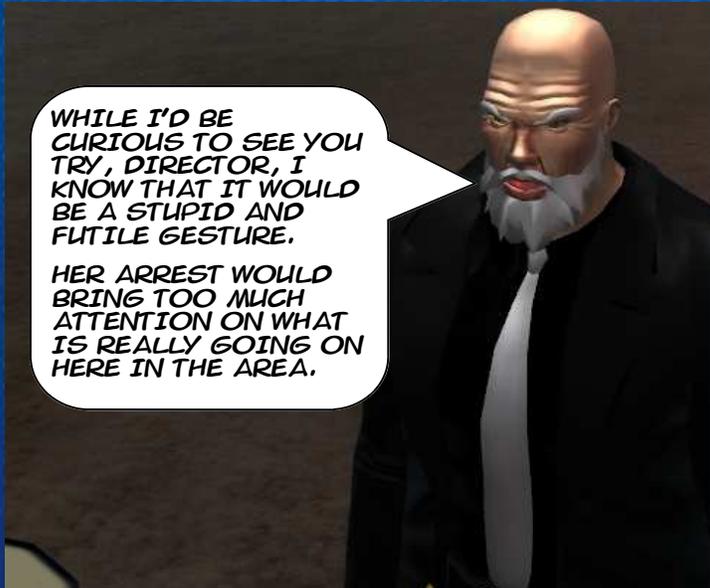


NOT AT ALL, MISTER VAN CLEEF.  
WHAT BRINGS YOU OUT HERE?

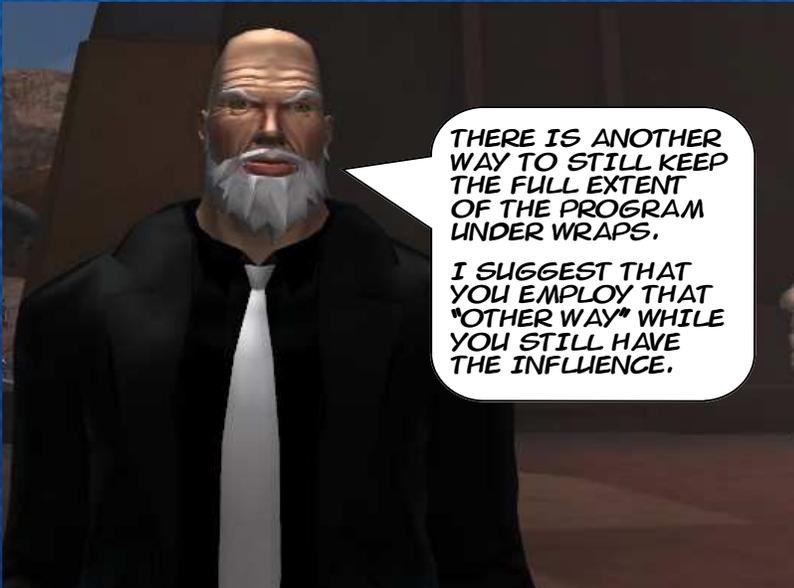


GALATEA FUTURE.  
MY PEOPLE TELL ME SHE'S FOUND CAMP RUNNER AND MAY HAVE DISCOVERED THE DEVICES THERE WHILE THEY WERE ACTIVE.

IF THAT'S THE CASE, I'LL HAVE HER UNDER HOUSE ARREST FOR DISOBEYING ORDERS.  
WE HAVE MORE THAN ENOUGH MANPOWER HERE TO BRING EVEN HER DOWN.



WHILE I'D BE CURIOUS TO SEE YOU TRY, DIRECTOR, I KNOW THAT IT WOULD BE A STUPID AND FUTILE GESTURE.  
HER ARREST WOULD BRING TOO MUCH ATTENTION ON WHAT IS REALLY GOING ON HERE IN THE AREA.



THERE IS ANOTHER WAY TO STILL KEEP THE FULL EXTENT OF THE PROGRAM UNDER WRAPS.  
I SUGGEST THAT YOU EMPLOY THAT "OTHER WAY" WHILE YOU STILL HAVE THE INFLUENCE.

MILLENNIUM CITY, MI

POWERHOUSE TRAINING FACILITY



WEAPONS TRAINING ROOM



CAUTION: LIVE FIRE IN PROGRESS



\*KA-CLICK\*

GANDACE SINCLAIR  
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW



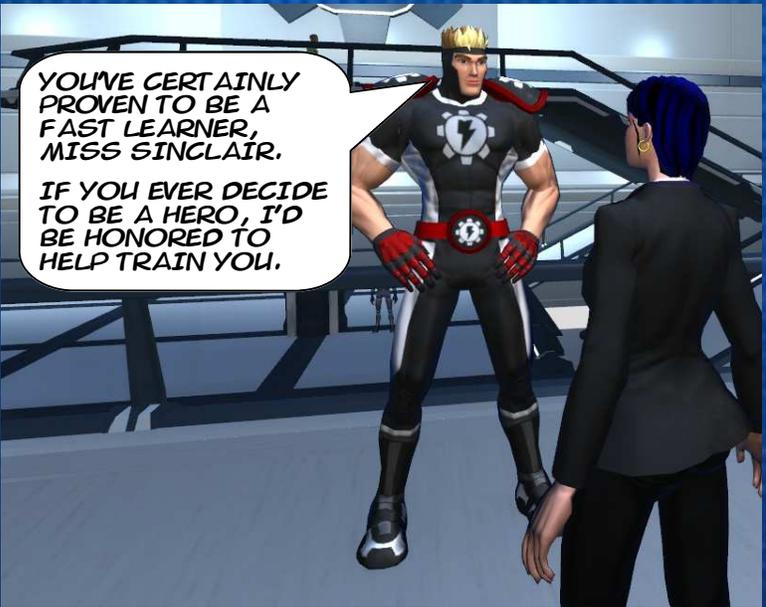
BAM!  
BAM!  
BAM!  
BAM!



BAM!



TARGET DOWN.  
RETARGETING.



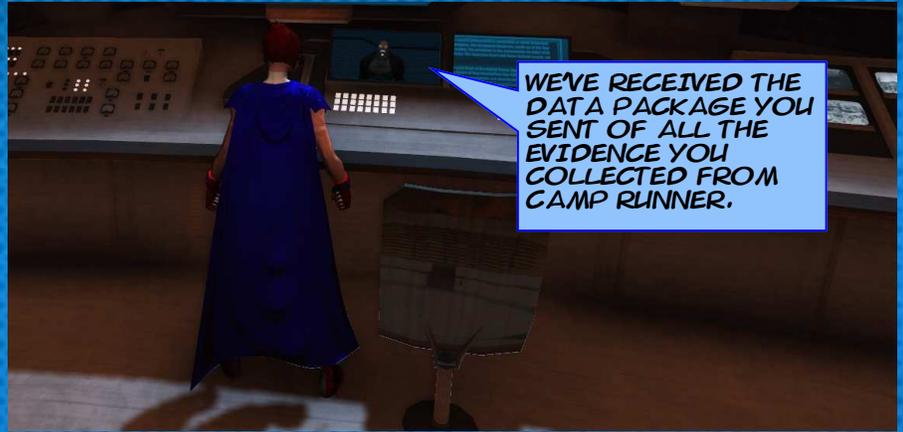
YOU'VE CERTAINLY  
PROVEN TO BE A  
FAST LEARNER,  
MISS SINCLAIR.  
IF YOU EVER DECIDE  
TO BE A HERO, I'D  
BE HONORED TO  
HELP TRAIN YOU.



THANKS, BUT I'M JUST  
DOING THIS FOR MY  
OWN WELL-BEING.  
I DON'T EVER WANT TO  
RELY ON THE  
PROTECTION OF  
ANYONE AGAIN, EVEN  
FROM MY FRIENDS.

PROJECT MYCROFT HIDEOUT

JUST OUTSIDE PROJECT GREENSKIN



WE'VE RECEIVED THE DATA PACKAGE YOU SENT OF ALL THE EVIDENCE YOU COLLECTED FROM CAMP RUNNER.



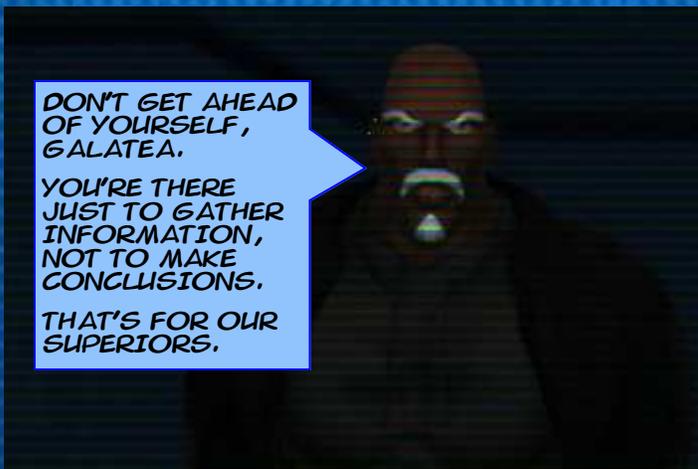
EVEN WITHOUT WHAT AGENT SIDESTEP TOLD YOU, THERE'S MORE THAN ENOUGH EVIDENCE FOR US TO CONCLUDE SOMETHING DANGEROUS IS GOING ON THERE.

MAJOR XAVIER CROSS  
PROJECT MYCROFT



"DANGEROUS" IS AN UNDERSTATEMENT, MAJOR.

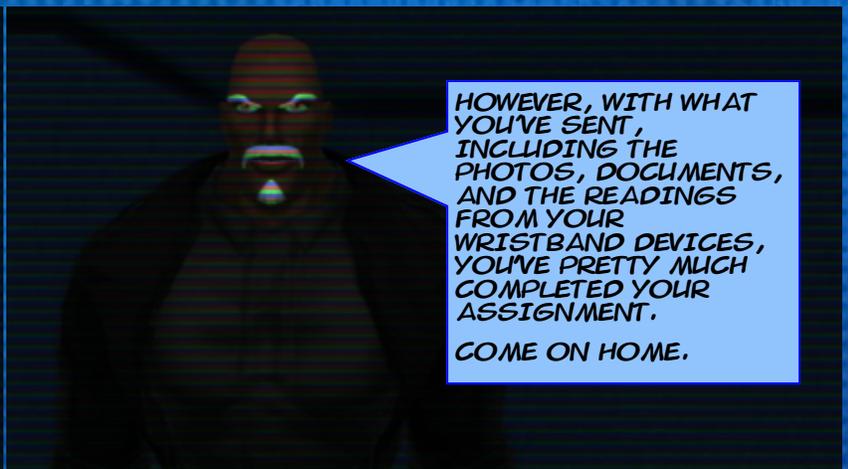
THOSE CAGES... THEY WERE DOING LIVE EXPERIMENTS WITH WHATEVER THOSE DEVICES ARE!



DON'T GET AHEAD OF YOURSELF, GALATEA.

YOU'RE THERE JUST TO GATHER INFORMATION, NOT TO MAKE CONCLUSIONS.

THAT'S FOR OUR SUPERIORS.



HOWEVER, WITH WHAT YOU'VE SENT, INCLUDING THE PHOTOS, DOCUMENTS, AND THE READINGS FROM YOUR WRISTBAND DEVICES, YOU'VE PRETTY MUCH COMPLETED YOUR ASSIGNMENT.

COME ON HOME.



HOME...  
AFTER ALL THIS TIME...



BUT... THERE'S ONE MORE THING THAT I HAVE TO DO WHILE I'M HERE.

IT'S... PERSONAL.

IT'LL JUST BE FOR A FEW MORE DAYS.

MILLENNIUM CITY, MI

YOU DON'T MESS WITH THE NEW PURPLE GANG! THIS IS OUR TERRITORY!



YOU CALL THAT A PUNCH?

UH OH...



THIS IS HOW YOU HIT A PERSON!

SLAM!



ANYONE ELSE WANT A FREE LESSON ON HUMILITY?

GRACKLE!

YEAH, RUN YOU SORRY GRAPE LOSERS! AND TELL THE REST OF YOUR CHEAP ITALIAN GANG THAT RAVENSWOOD IS OFF LIMITS!



YOU MESS WITH THESE STUDENTS AGAIN AND YOU'LL ANSWER TO

Elite ice

ELITE ICE  
ELEMENTAL MYSTIC



RAVENSWOOD ACADEMY

MILLENNIUM CITY SATELLITE CAMPUS



THANK YOU AGAIN, ELITE ICE, FOR RIDDING US THOSE THUGS.



EVER SINCE WE OPENED UP THIS SATELLITE BRANCH, THE STUDENTS HAVE BEEN HIT BY LOAN SHARKS AND PROTECTION SCAMS BY THAT "NEW PURPLE GANG".

ANY CHANCE TO HELP OUT MY ALMA MATTER, PROFESSOR. BESIDES, YOU KNOW ME... I HATE BULLIES!



UH, EXCUSE ME... PARDON ME... ELITE ICE?



EXCUSE ME... I'M SORRY... BUT IT'S URGENT THAT I GET IN TOUCH WITH YOUR BOSS AT U.N.T.I.L.



I PRESUME THAT IT'S IMPORTANT ENOUGH TO WARRANT INTERRUPTING A POLITE DISCUSSION.

BELIEVE ME, HER BOSS WILL WANT TO HEAR WHAT I HAVE TO SAY.

IT BETTER BE. U.N.T.I.L. CONTROL, THIS IS ELITE ICE. PUT ME THROUGH TO MAJOR CROSS.

It does not matter if it drives or flies.  
Whether it is old or new.  
Your vehicle still has to run on fuel.  
Someone has to get that fuel.  
Someone has to make it into fuel.  
Someone has to bring that fuel to you.  
Someone has to make it available and  
affordable so you can fuel your vehicle.  
Why not us?



# ARGENT

**MAKING THE WORLD A BETTER PLACE... FOR EVERYONE!**

Argent is a fictional business in the MMO world of Champions Online. Any comparisons to filthy, greedy, money-grubbing, polluting, real-world private corporations that get tax breaks from corrupt politicians in Washington while screwing over the taxpayers and denying the consequences of their actions are just coincidental. It's fiction, okay?

**Pickles? Got it! Tomatoes? Got them! Mayo? Sure! Mustard? Why not? Toasted? We can do it! Extra meat? On it! Want it hot and fast? Only way we know how!**

**The only thing we can't do is give it to you right off the page!**

# Millennium Mike's



**7 Days a week! 10am to Midnight**

**313-555-MIKE**

Millennium Mike's is a fiction business in the world of Champions Online. Not a real business.



*"Sure, I want to open a bank account, but I want to make sure my money is available when \*I\* need it, not when the bank decides that I should access it."*

We hear you.

That's why we offer 24-hour banking services available online, including virtual tellers that you can speak with live if you have any questions or special issues that need to be addressed.

Because National Bank believes that we're here for you, not the other way around.



The bank that truly puts you first.

National Bank is a fictional lending institution in the world of Champions Online. Not a real entity.

VISIT

*Millennium City*

[www.VisitTheFuture.millennium.city](http://www.VisitTheFuture.millennium.city)

UNITED NATIONS TRIBUNAL ON INTERNATIONAL LAW (UNTIL)

MILLENNIUM CITY HEADQUARTERS



SUB-SUB-BASEMENT



THIS IS NOT EXACTLY WHAT I HAD IN MIND FOR A MEETING PLACE.

NOT ALL OF US HAVE THE LUXURY OF PENTHOUSE OFFICE SUITES.

YOU INSISTED WE MEET, THAT IT WAS URGENT, AND THAT IT NEEDED TO BE SECURE.

YOU ARE, IT IS, SO START TALKING.

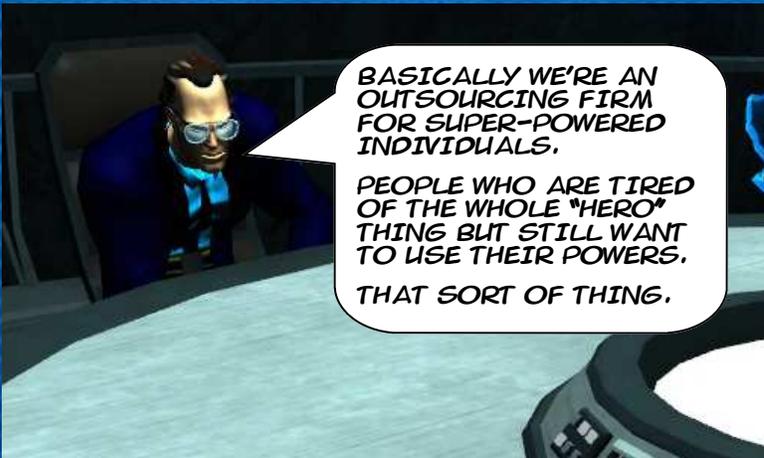


WELL... AS I SAID BEFORE, MY NAME IS MIKE MESSENGER, AND I AM THE EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT FOR A COMPANY CALLED X-TEND SERVICES.



BASICALLY WE'RE AN OUTSOURCING FIRM FOR SUPER-POWERED INDIVIDUALS.

PEOPLE WHO ARE TIRED OF THE WHOLE "HERO" THING BUT STILL WANT TO USE THEIR POWERS. THAT SORT OF THING.



THERE ARE A HALF-DOZEN FIRMS LIKE THAT AROUND THE WORLD, MISTER MESSENGER. SO FAR YOU'RE NOT TELLING ME ANYTHING NEW.



RIGHT... WELL, THE REASON WHY X-TEND SERVICES STANDS OUT ABOVE THE REST IS THAT WE HAVE EXCLUSIVE CONTRACTS WITH SOME OF THE MOST LUCRATIVE PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS.

ONE OF THOSE IS A RESEARCH FIRM THAT HAS A CONTRACTOR PERMIT FOR EXPERIMENTATION IN THE RADIO ACTIVE HOT ZONES.



SO YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT WHAT IS GOING ON AT PROJECT GREENSKIN.





DIRECTOR KAUFMAN WAS RATHER INSISTENT THAT I SPEAK WITH YOU TO... AS HE PUT IT... "SET THE RECORD STRAIGHT" BEFORE YOUR INVESTIGATION THERE SPINS INTO A JURISDICTIONAL CONFLICT.



OUR CLIENT, WITT ENERGY RESEARCH, WAS DOING EXPERIMENTS ON A NEW DEVICE THAT WAS AUTHORIZED BY DIRECTOR KAUFMAN.



"AS YOU MAY KNOW, IN 1978, THE U.S. ARMY DETONATED A NEW 'DELTA' BOMB, WHICH HAD A DETRIMENTAL EFFECT ON THE AREA."

"THE AREA WAS FLOODED WITH DELTA RADIATION, MAKING MOST OF THE FORMER WHITE SANDS AREA UNLIVABLE."

"THE DEVICE BEING TESTED WAS DESIGNED TO CONVERT THAT RADIATION INTO SOMETHING THAT WOULD BE TOLERABLE FOR HUMANS."

"IT WOULD, IN A SENSE, NEUTRALIZE THE RADIATION."



TONY ATWELL AND EMILY STREETER, WHOM YOU KNOW AS "FORECLOSURE" AND "PHILLY BUSTER", ALONG WITH A FEW OTHER FORMER HEROES, WERE THERE TO PROVIDE SECURITY FOR WITT.



SOMETHING WENT WRONG.

SOMETHING WENT HORRIBLY WRONG.



"THE DEVICES HAD AN ADVERSE EFFECT ON THE DELTA RADIATION IN THE AREA."

"THE ONES THAT BECAME IRRADIATED WERE THE LUCKY ONES."

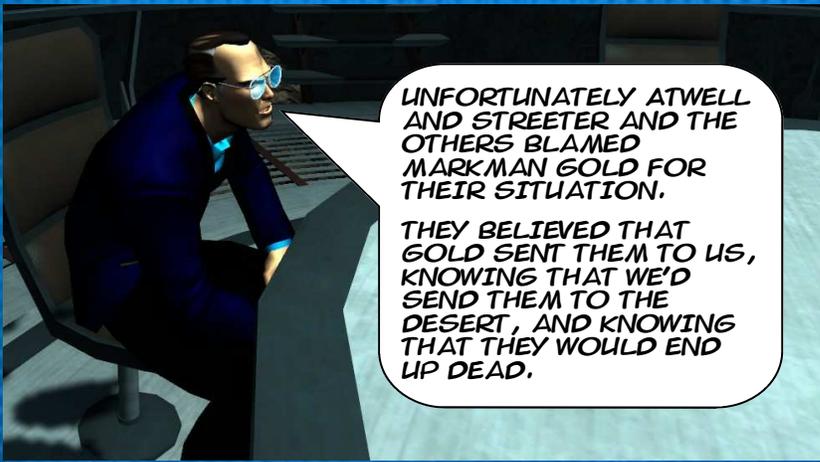
"THE ONES THAT SURVIVED THAT DID NOT MUTATE ENDED UP WITH STAGE 4 CANCER."



I PROMISE YOU, WE TRIED TO GIVE THEM THE BEST IN MEDICAL COVERAGE.

BUT...

BUT THEY KNEW THEY WOULD STILL BE DEAD SOON ANYWAY. SO WHERE DOES GALATEA FUTURE FIT IN ALL OF THIS?



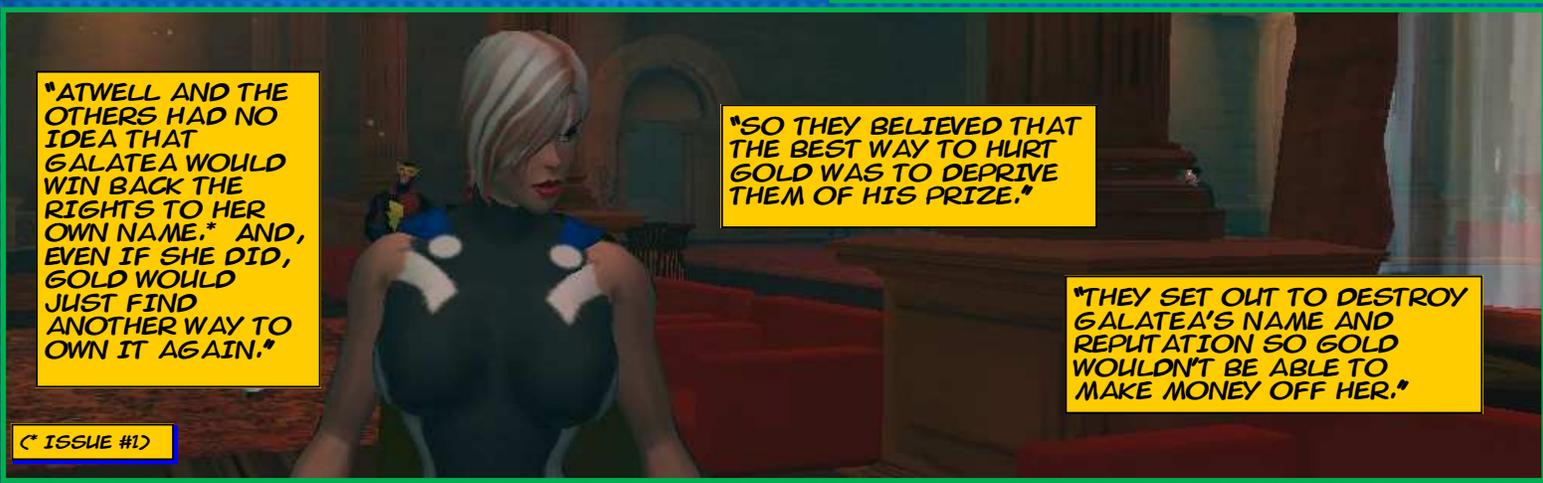
UNFORTUNATELY ATWELL AND STREETER AND THE OTHERS BLAMED MARKMAN GOLD FOR THEIR SITUATION.

THEY BELIEVED THAT GOLD SENT THEM TO US, KNOWING THAT WE'D SEND THEM TO THE DESERT, AND KNOWING THAT THEY WOULD END UP DEAD.



"AT THE TIME, GOLD WAS BOASTING THE FACT THAT HE 'OWNED' THE LEGAL RIGHTS TO GALATEA FUTURE."\*

(\* THE LOST ADVENTURES OF GALATEA FUTURE #4)



"ATWELL AND THE OTHERS HAD NO IDEA THAT GALATEA WOULD WIN BACK THE RIGHTS TO HER OWN NAME.\* AND, EVEN IF SHE DID, GOLD WOULD JUST FIND ANOTHER WAY TO OWN IT AGAIN."

"SO THEY BELIEVED THAT THE BEST WAY TO HURT GOLD WAS TO DEPRIVE THEM OF HIS PRIZE."

"THEY SET OUT TO DESTROY GALATEA'S NAME AND REPUTATION SO GOLD WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO MAKE MONEY OFF HER."

(\* ISSUE #1)



SO LET'S SEE IF I GOT THIS RIGHT...

YOUR GROUP RECRUITED MARKMAN GOLD'S FAILED HEROES.

YOU SENT THEM TO THE DESERT. THEY COME BACK WITH CANCER.

AND THEY BLAME MARKMAN GOLD AND DECIDE TO HURT GALATEA FUTURE.

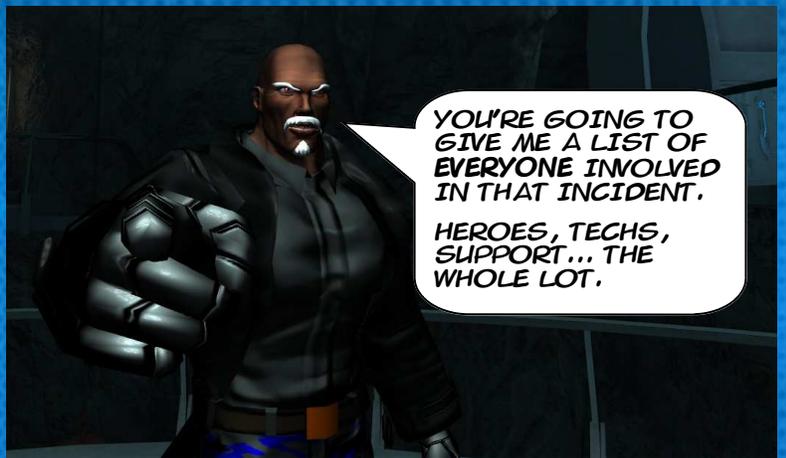
WHAT AM I MISSING HERE?

I WISH I COULD TELL YOU, MAJOR.

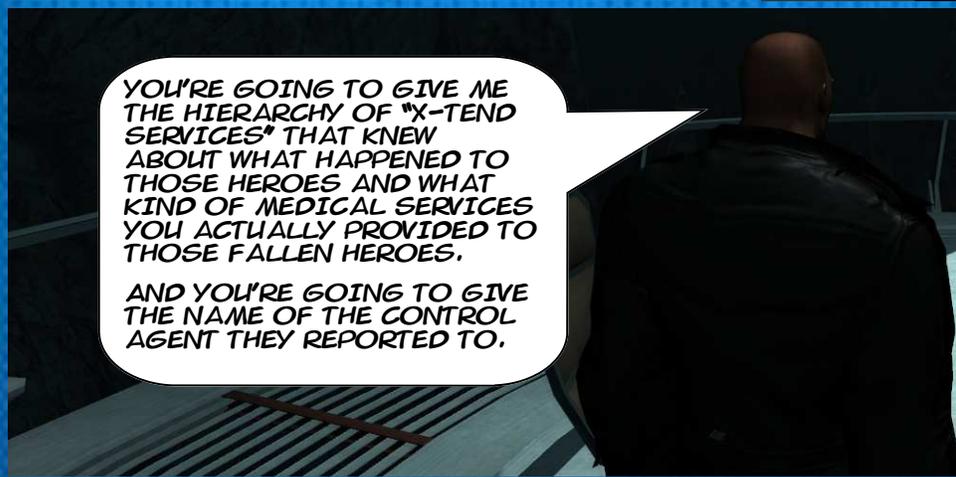
ALL I KNOW IS THAT I WAS ASKED TO TRY TO EXPLAIN EVERYTHING THAT I KNOW ABOUT THE SITUATION SO THE WRONG PEOPLE WON'T BE BLAMED FOR IT.



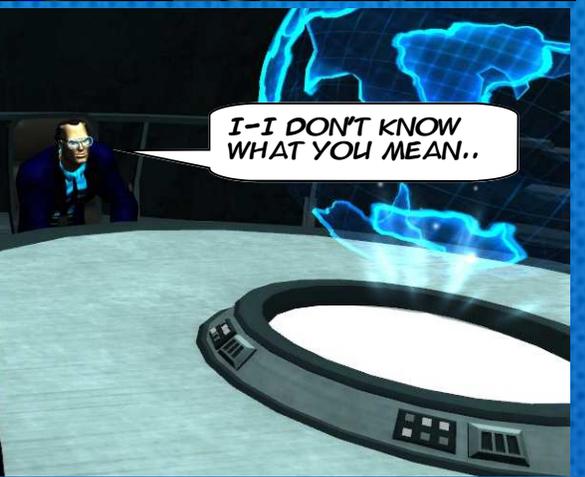
IF THAT'S THE CASE, THEN YOU BETTER GET YOURSELF COMFORTABLE, BECAUSE I'M FAR FROM DONE WITH YOU.



YOU'RE GOING TO GIVE ME A LIST OF EVERYONE INVOLVED IN THAT INCIDENT. HEROES, TECHS, SUPPORT... THE WHOLE LOT.



YOU'RE GOING TO GIVE ME THE HIERARCHY OF "X-TEND SERVICES" THAT KNEW ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED TO THOSE HEROES AND WHAT KIND OF MEDICAL SERVICES YOU ACTUALLY PROVIDED TO THOSE FALLEN HEROES. AND YOU'RE GOING TO GIVE THE NAME OF THE CONTROL AGENT THEY REPORTED TO.



I-I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN..



DON'T LIE TO ME, MISTER MESSENGER. YOU KNOW AS WELL AS I DO THAT FORECLOSURE, PHILLY BUSTER, AND ROTIART ALL HAD CONTROL AGENTS GIVING THEM ORDERS WHEN THEY ACTED ON GALATEA FUTURE. THEY WERE NOT LONE WOLF OPERATIVES WITH A GRUDGE.

YOU'RE GOING TO GIVE ME THOSE NAMES, MISTER MESSENGER. OR I'LL JUST ASSUME IT STARTS WITH YOU.



I'LL BE RIGHT BACK WITH A NOTEPAD AND PLENTY OF PENCILS AND PENS.

TWO HOURS LATER...

I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE HE GAVE UP EVERYTHING. I EXPECTED HIM TO WAIT IT OUT.



JOHN BATTLE  
LEGACY WARRIOR

HE DIDN'T GIVE UP ANYTHING THAT HE WASN'T TOLD TO TELL US.

DID YOU RUN THE NAMES THAT HE PROVIDED?

MOST OF THE "HEROES" THAT HE LISTED ARE DEAD FROM CANCER OR COMPLICATIONS FROM TREATMENTS.

THERE WAS ONE NAME ABSENT FROM THAT LIST: ROTIART.

ATWELL'S FRIEND. THE ONE THAT SAID HIS GRUDGE WAS PERSONAL.\* HE WASN'T THERE, BUT HE WAS STILL PART OF THE TEAM.

YOU WANT ME TO BRING MESSENGER BACK? HE SHOULDN'T BE FAR FROM HERE.

← ISSUE #2 →

NO, HE'S ALREADY DONE HIS PART.

I'VE BEEN ORDERED TO CLOSE THIS PART OF THE CASE. APPARENTLY THE BRASS IS A LITTLE TOO NERVOUS ABOUT WHAT ELSE WE MIGHT FIND OUT IF WE KEEP GALATEA THERE.

BUT... I STILL WANT TO KEEP A FILE OPEN FOR WITT ENTERPRISES.

YOU NEVER KNOW WHAT MIGHT COME UP FROM THEM.



DAYS LATER...



BE IT EVER SO HUMBLE...



THE HERO-FRIENDLY HOME OF ATHENA ROSE FAIRMORE.



\*DING\*  
\*CLICK-CLACK\*



... THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HOME.



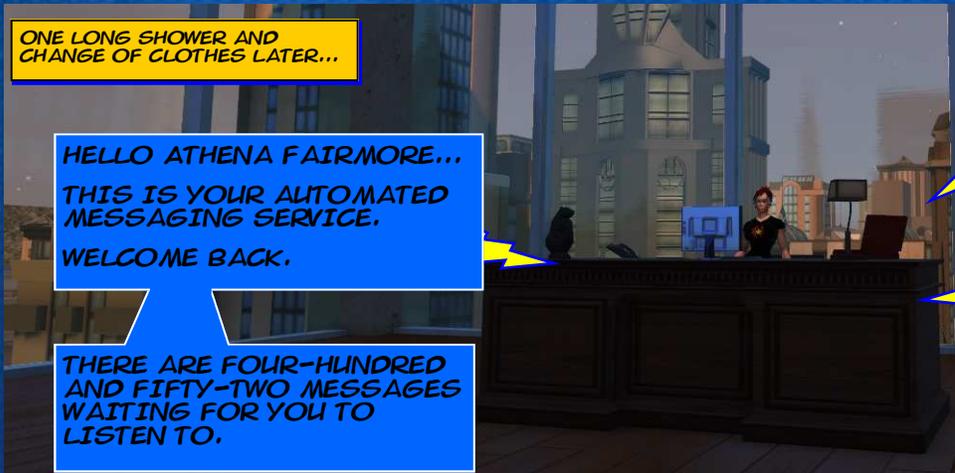
HMM... FOR A SECOND... THAT SOUNDED LIKE SCURRYING.



ONE LONG SHOWER AND CHANGE OF CLOTHES LATER...

HELLO ATHENA FAIRMORE... THIS IS YOUR AUTOMATED MESSAGING SERVICE. WELCOME BACK.

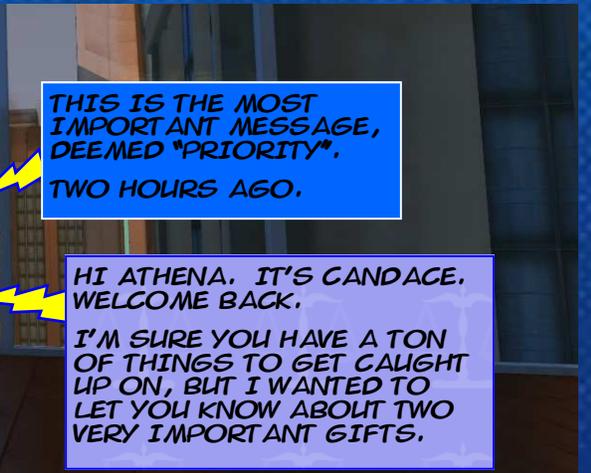
THERE ARE FOUR-HUNDRED AND FIFTY-TWO MESSAGES WAITING FOR YOU TO LISTEN TO.



THIS IS THE MOST IMPORTANT MESSAGE, DEEMED "PRIORITY". TWO HOURS AGO.

HI ATHENA. IT'S CANDACE. WELCOME BACK.

I'M SURE YOU HAVE A TON OF THINGS TO GET CAUGHT UP ON, BUT I WANTED TO LET YOU KNOW ABOUT TWO VERY IMPORTANT GIFTS.





IN FACT I'D BE SURPRISED IF YOU HAVEN'T FOUND THE FIRST ONE BY NOW...

WHAT?

\*MEW\*



\*PURRRRR\*



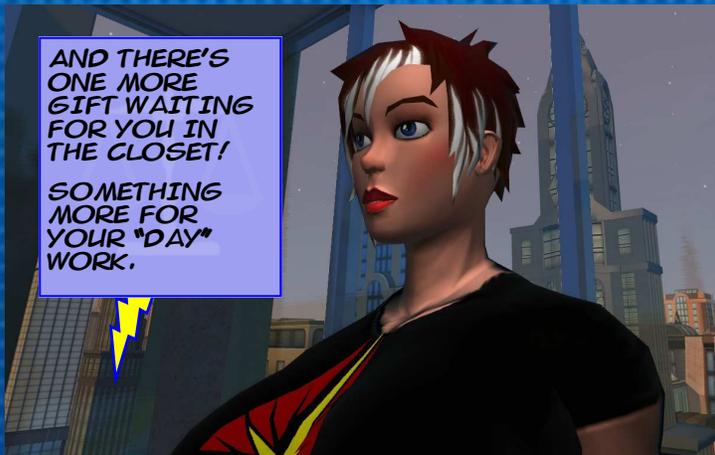
OHMIGOD! SO THAT'S WHO I HEARD SCURRYING! YOU'RE JUST A CUTE LITTLE FURBALL!

RONIN OMEGA SAID HE'S CALLED A "TRAVEL KITTEN". I THINK RONIN SAID HE STAYS THAT SIZE FOREVER.



HE'S GOT FOOD IN THE PANTRY... SO ALL HE NEEDS IS A NAME.

WELL, I JUST GAVE HIM ONE. ISN'T THAT RIGHT, FURBALL?



AND THERE'S ONE MORE GIFT WAITING FOR YOU IN THE CLOSET!

SOMETHING MORE FOR YOUR "DAY" WORK.



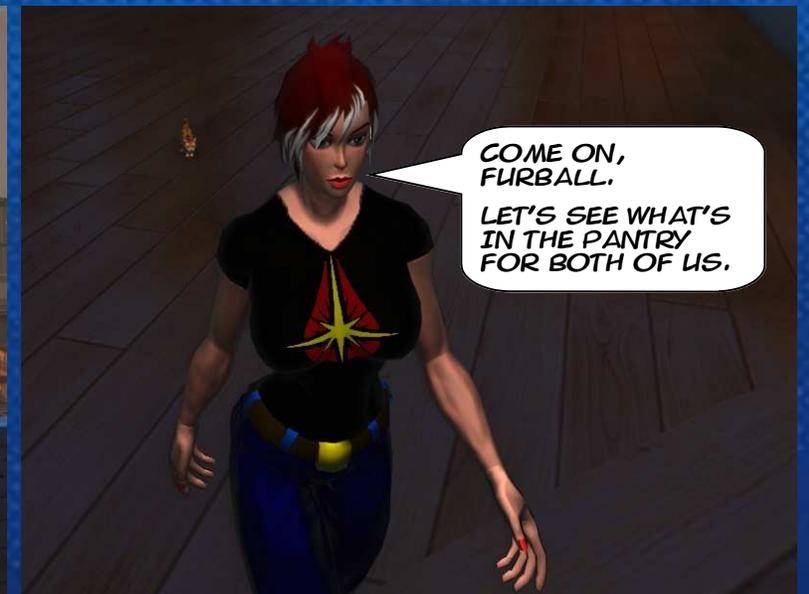
IT WAS THE LEAST I COULD DO AFTER... YOU KNOW.\*

ANYWAY, CALL ME WHEN YOU GET IN. BYE.

(\* SEE ISSUE #10)



I GUESS THIS MEANS MY TRAVEL DAYS ARE OVER WITH, HUH?



COME ON, FURBALL. LET'S SEE WHAT'S IN THE PANTRY FOR BOTH OF US.



WELCOME.

WHAT KIND OF UNIVERSE IS THIS?  
IT'S SO... HIDEOUS!



IT FEELS LIKE I SHOULD BE SELLING OVER-SATURATED SUGAR FOODS AND CHEAP PLASTIC TOYS.



IT WAS ONLY FAIR SINCE YOU WERE BEHIND THE BRIEF COGNITIVE MERGE WITH THE GALATEA OF THIS WORLD.

OH THAT WASN'T MYSELF, PER SE.



THE CONTINUUM DECIDED TO... AS THE HUMANS SAY... TAP YOU ON THE SHOULDER.



THE CONTINUUM IS WELL AWARE OF THE THREAT POSED BY CERTAIN PEOPLE OF THIS WORLD.  
THREATS THAT YOU AND YOUR COUNCIL OF LIGHT HAVE NOT, AS OF YET, ADDRESSED.



MY ONLY PART WAS IN CHOOSING THE SUBJECT.  
OF ALL THE VARIOUS CONSTANTS IN THE MULTIVERSE, I'VE FOUND MY GALATEA TO BE JUST AS INTERESTING AS JEAN-LUC.



AND I HAVE FOUND THE GALATEA OF THIS WORLD TO BE THE SAME, EVEN IF THIS IS NOT HER NATIVE UNIVERSE.  
REST ASSURED, THOUGH SHE IS NO THREAT TO THE MULTIVERSE. I HAVE VERIFIED THAT MYSELF.\*

\*CHUCKLE\*  
AND THERE IT IS... THAT FAINT MARK OF IGNORANCE AND ARROGANCE THAT MAKES YOU CLOSER TO THE HUMANS THAN YOU WOULD DARE ADMIT TO.

(\* BACK IN "THE LOST ADVENTURES OF GALATEA FUTURE" #2)



THE CONTINUED THREAT  
TO THE MULTIVERSE...

WHAT MAKES YOU  
THINK THAT I WAS  
REFERRING TO  
GALATEA FUTURE?



IF SHE'S NOT  
THE THREAT,  
THEN WHY  
INVOLVE HER AT  
ALL IN YOUR  
LITTLE "TAP"?

WHY NOT TELL ME  
DIRECTLY? WHY ALL  
THE AMBIGUITY?



BECAUSE IF YOU  
TRULY UNDERSTOOD  
THE THREAT THAT  
EXISTS IN THIS  
UNIVERSE, THE  
CONTINUUM WOULD  
NOT HAVE TO MAKE  
SUCH A TELLING  
GESTURE AT ALL.

BELIEVE ME, IT  
PAINS US TO HAVE  
TO BE THIS VAGUE.



IF GALATEA IS NOT THE  
THREAT... THEN YOU  
INVOLVED HER SO I  
WOULD HAVE TO TELL  
HER ABOUT HER  
COUNTERPARTS.

SO YOU THINK THAT SHE  
CAN PLAY A ROLE IN  
STOPPING THE THREAT.



IF YOU AND YOUR  
OPERATIVES,  
INCLUDING GALATEA  
FUTURE, ARE NOT ABLE  
TO STOP THE THREAT  
FROM GOING BEYOND  
THIS UNIVERSE, THEN  
THE CONTINUUM WILL  
HAVE TO TAKE ACTION.



AND YOU  
REALLY  
DO NOT  
WANT US  
TO TAKE  
ACTION.

\*SNAP!\*

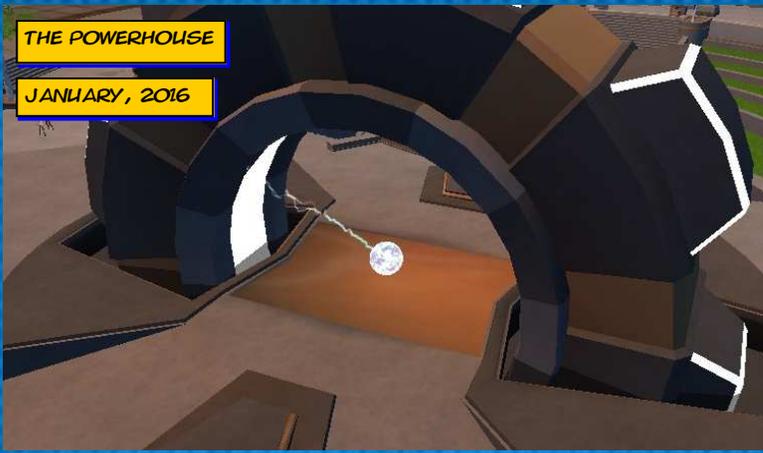
\*FWISSSSSSH\*



NO... I  
SUPPOSE  
NOT.

THE POWERHOUSE

JANUARY, 2016



POWERHOUSE THEATRE LOBBY



**STARLETT**  
STREET VIGILANTE



HI... WHAT'S UPP

WELL, IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE THE TWO OF US TALKED ABOUT ANYTHING.

I KNOW THINGS HAVE BEEN CRAZY THIS PAST YEAR OR SO... AND I'M SORRY I HAVEN'T HAD A CHANCE TO TALK WITH YOU TO SAY WHAT NEEDS TO BE SAID.

I HEARD YOU... IN THE STUDIO. TELLING YOUR FRIEND WHO YOU REALLY ARE.\*

← ISSUE #12



AND I TRUSTED THAT YOU NEVER TOLD MARKMAN GOLD ABOUT IT... EVEN THOUGH YOU COULD HAVE AT ANY TIME TO SAVE YOUR OWN CAREER.\*

(\* LAST ISSUE)



IT WASN'T RIGHT... I MEAN... I MADE MY HERO CAREER BRINGING DOWN SLIMY AGENTS WITH VIDEO CAMERAS.



I COULDN'T LET GOLD GET HIS HANDS ON THAT VIDEO OF YOU EXPOSING WHO MALIZIA WAS AND WHO YOU ARE. EVEN IF I DIDN'T KNOW YOU, IT STILL WOULD HAVE BEEN WRONG.



THAT'S HOW I KNEW I COULD TRUST YOU WITH KNOWING THAT PART ABOUT ME. I DO CONSIDER YOU MY FRIEND, STARLETT. I JUST WANTED YOU TO KNOW THAT.



THANK YOU... I'M GLAD I'M YOUR FRIEND AS WELL. SO.. UH... IS THERE SOMEPLACE THAT YOU SHOULD BE RIGHT NOW?

YEAH, I SHOULD BE GETTING READY FOR THE BIG EVENT. LISTEN, YOU WANT TO ATTEND? I CAN RESERVE A SEAT FOR YOU.



NO... THAT'S OKAY. I'M MORE OF A TECHNO-METAL FAN THAN STAGE SHOWS. BUT... THANKS FOR ASKING.

ANYTIME... AND MAYBE AFTER THIS I CAN STOP BY THE CLUB AND WE CAN CATCH UP SOME MORE... YOU KNOW, OFF-DUTY.



AN HOUR LATER...

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,  
PLEASE WELCOME BACK  
TO THE POWERHOUSE  
THEATER... CELEBRATED  
AUTHOR ATHENA ROSE  
FAIRMORE!

\*CLAP-CLAP!\* \*CLAP-CLAP!\*  
\*CLAP-CLAP!\* \*CLAP-CLAP!\*  
\*CLAP-CLAP!\* \*CLAP-CLAP!\*

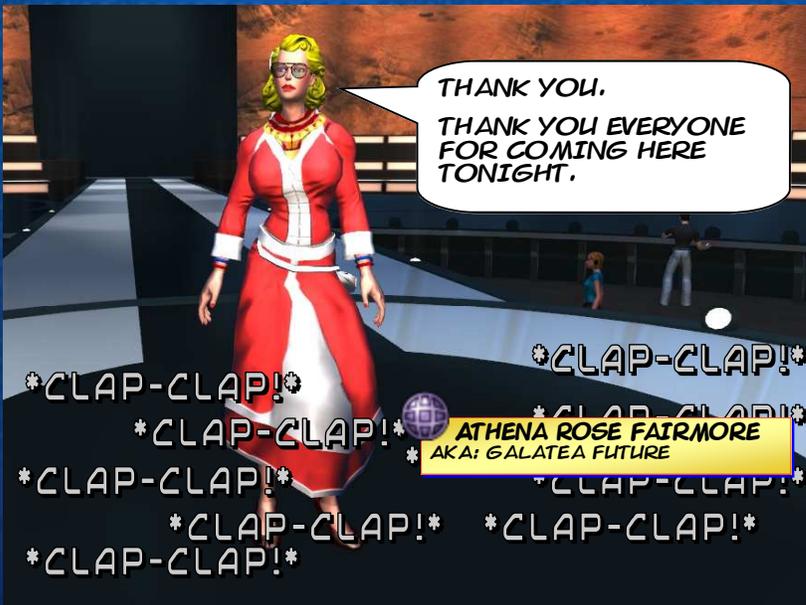
\*CLAP-CLAP!\*  
\*CLAP-CLAP!\*  
\*CLAP-CLAP!\*  
\*CLAP-CLAP!\*  
\*CLAP-CLAP!\*  
\*CLAP-CLAP!\*  
\*CLAP-CLAP!\*  
\*CLAP-CLAP!\*



\*CLAP-CLAP!\* \*CLAP-CLAP!\*  
\*CLAP-CLAP!\* \*CLAP-CLAP!\*  
\*CLAP-CLAP!\* \*CLAP-CLAP!\*



\*CLAP-CLAP!\* \*CLAP-CLAP!\*  
\*CLAP-CLAP!\* \*CLAP-CLAP!\*  
\*CLAP-CLAP!\* \*CLAP-CLAP!\*



THANK YOU.  
THANK YOU EVERYONE  
FOR COMING HERE  
TONIGHT.

\*CLAP-CLAP!\* \*CLAP-CLAP!\*  
\*CLAP-CLAP!\* \*CLAP-CLAP!\*

ATHENA ROSE FAIRMORE  
AKA: GALATEA FUTURE



TONIGHT YOU'RE  
GOING TO HEAR  
EXCERPTS FROM  
MY NEW BOOK,  
"SENTINELS OF  
LOVE: SANDS OF  
WASTELAND",  
WHICH WILL HIT  
THE SHELVES  
TOMORROW.



WITH THE DIALOGUE AS READ BY MEMBERS OF THE POWERHOUSE PLAYERS.



**DEE RISK**  
AKA: STARLETT



I'VE OFTEN SAID THAT "SENTINELS OF LOVE" IS MORE THAN JUST A LOVE STORY BETWEEN TWO HEROES. IT'S ALSO ABOUT KNOWING WHO THEY ARE OUTSIDE OF THEIR MASKS. THAT IS NO MORE TRUE THAN WHEN THEY FACE LOSS.

WE ALL FACE LOSS IN OUR LIVES. IT'S HOW WE DEAL WITH IT AND RECOVER FROM IT THAT WE KNOW OUR TRUE CHARACTER. THAT'S SOMETHING MY ADOPTED MOTHER TOLD ME WHEN I WAS A CHILD, AND IT STILL HOLDS TRUE.



SPEAKING OF DEALING WITH LOSS... TONIGHT'S PROCEEDS WILL BE GOING TO A GROUP THAT KNOWS THE SUBJECT ALL TOO WELL.

THE CHILDREN OF DETROIT FUND HAS BEEN HELPING CHILDREN DEALING WITH LOSS AND DISASTER EVER SINCE THE BATTLE OF DETROIT IN 1992. WITH YOUR HELP, THEY WORK TO MAKE SURE THAT NO CHILD HAS TO DEAL WITH THE HEARTBREAK OF LOSS ALONE, AND WORK TO PROVIDE A BETTER FUTURE FOR THEM AND FOR US ALL.



\*CLAP-CLAP!\*  
\*CLAP-CLAP!\*  
\*CLAP-CLAP!\*  
\*CLAP-CLAP!

THANK YOU... AND NOW OUR STORY BEGINS...

"THE HARSH DESERT SANDS WHIP PAST HER FACE, EACH GRAIN AGAINST HER CHEEK FELT LIKE A SLAP..."

LATER...

WHEW! I FORGOT HOW THAT FELT!

ARE YOU KIDDING? YOU'RE A NATURAL! YOU SHOULD HAVE BEEN AN ACTRESS.

THANKS, CAN, BUT I'LL STICK TO BEING A WRITER. I GO THROUGH ENOUGH "CHANGES" AS IT WERE.

THAT OUTFIT, BY THE WAY, LOOKS GREAT! WHO MADE IT?

WOULD YOU BELIEVE EMILIO VON FRERE\*? HE SENT IT OVER AS A GIFT. HE SAID "A WRITER OF HEROES SHOULD NOT ALWAYS APPEAR IN FRILLS."

(\* FIND OUT WHY THAT MEANS SOMETHING IN ISSUES #2 AND 3.)

IF ONLY HE REALLY KNEW WHO HE WAS GIVING IT TO... SO... WHERE TO NOW? OUR USUAL PIZZA PLACE FOR 'ZA AND SMOOTHIES?

I WAS THINKING WE CAN CHANGE INTO SOMETHING A LITTLE LESS FORMAL AND PAY CLUB CAPRICE A VISIT.

SO I GET TO MEET DJ RISQUE FINALLY? OR... IS THIS FOR RESEARCH FOR YOUR NEXT BOOK?

ACTUALLY I WAS THINKING OF GIVING "SENTINELS OF LOVE" A BREAK FOR A BIT. I'VE BEEN THINKING OF DOING A STORY ABOUT A FEMALE CAPTAIN ON A SPACESHIP.

END

# GUARDIAN WORDS

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

---

## “The Past Is Prologue”

This issue is special in many ways.

This is the first comic that actually includes two different characters from two different MMORPGs.

While this series and the preceding “**Lost Adventures of Galatea Future**” have teased Galatea’s connection to another MMO, specifically the now-defunct City of Heroes universe, we’ve never really shown that other MMO in these comics. We’ve always played around with it, partially because they are two different MMOs with content from two different companies.

So when we see Galatea Future in her Omega Incarnate form, it’s not exactly as she appeared in “**Guardians of the Dawn Spotlight**”, but rather how she would have appeared if the story took place in the world of Champions Online. Likewise, when we got to see a flashback of her childhood as Leona Powers in “**Future’s Guardian**” #13, we got to see it through CO’s eyes, not as we saw her in “Spotlight”. Again, this is because these are two different MMOs owned by different companies.

But showing Galatea Quantum and the crew of the *U.S.S. Starreach* is slightly different, because even though it is also a different MMO, it’s still being owned and controlled by the same company.

The world of Star Trek Online may be owned by CBS/Paramount, but it is also being managed by Arc/Perfect World, the same people behind Champions Online. They were also developed by Cryptic Studios, the same group that designed not only Champions Online but also City of Heroes.

Here, we felt we could bend the rules just a little bit and incorporate just a little bit of each into this story because of the connection they have, and not just with a character named Galatea.

The world of Star Trek Online is considerably different from what you’ve been seeing on TV and the movies.

First of all, the MMO takes place decades after “Star Trek: Nemesis”, and things have not been doing well for the Alpha Quadrant. Old alliances with the Klingons have broken off. They’re now the enemies. Times have been tough for the Romulan Empire after the destruction of their homeworld as seen in the rebooted “Star Trek” movie. The Borg are back. The crystalline creature is back. And a lot of the elements seen in the rebooted “Star Trek” movies, as well as “Deep Space Nine”, the original TV series, and the new “Star Trek: Discovery” are suddenly thrown into the picture.

It is... well, it is a mess. But it’s not entirely their fault. It is how the central stories keep changing with every new series and every new twist.

And thrust into this mess is Galatea Quantum and her eclectic crew of the U.S.S. Starreach, a science ship dedicated to exploring the things that still need to be discovered in the galaxy.

Will she get her own comic series? Who knows? Maybe Athena Fairmore will write one. Or maybe we will. Time will tell.

Speaking of time, it’s time we bring this series more into the present.

I’ve commented in the previous issue that nothing has really changed in

*Continues on next page...*

the world of Champions Online, and that has been both good and bad. Great for me in terms of getting caught up with stuff, but bad in terms of the overall stagnation for the city. I mean, what will it take for Mayor Biselle to leave office so we can have someone else running the city?

When we brought the series back from our prolonged absence, there were several issues that were unresolved that we needed to address. It's safe to say that with this issue, we've resolved most of them. We can now skip ahead to 2018... Whoops, I mean, 2019.

Skipping ahead three years will not mean that we won't have a few changes. The most visible of these changes you already saw with Galatea Future's appearance in the CoX Comics series "**The Crucible**", where she's sporting a slightly different outfit. You will see more of her in that series as well as seeing how that look will translate in this series starting with the next issue.

There are also several new characters that will be appearing in the pages of this issue as well as a few old ones coming back. Some of these returning characters are directly connected to the changing times in our own world.

Something that was brought up in this issue is the idea of similar characters from other universes. We know there are multiple versions of Galatea. There are three in the now-defunct City of Heroes universe, one in Champions, and now we know there is one in Star Trek Online. But Galatea isn't the only person with multiverse counterparts, and you'll see an interesting variation of one of them in 2019.

Finally, I would ask that you keep checking out my friend's series "**The Crucible**" over at CoX Comics as his main characters are still visiting the world of Champions Online and you'll be seeing a little more of Galatea Future there, as well as the reference to a certain group there that played a minor role in this issue.

You can find CoX Comics over at their official website... [www.CoXComics.com](http://www.CoXComics.com) ... Or you can find links over at our official site...

## **HTTP://BATTLEROCKCOMICS.WORDPRESS.COM**

### **NEXT ISSUE...**



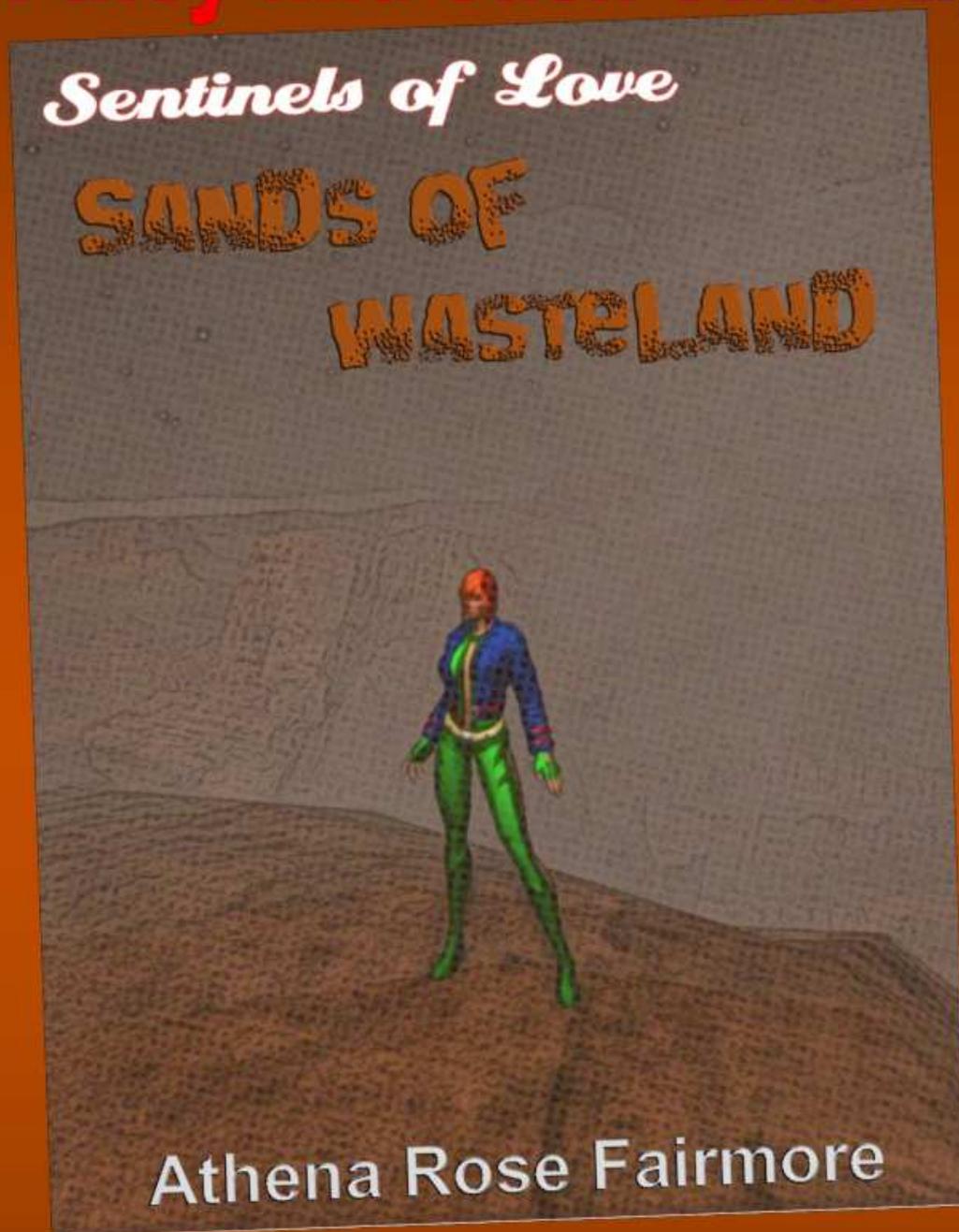
## **WE'RE GOING TO JUMP AHEAD TO 2019...**

## **WHAT'S GOING ON NOW IN MILLENNIUM CITY?**



**Their love was poisoned...**

**... can they find each other again?**



"The story will grip you all the way to the last page." - Harpy Books

"Athena Rose Fairmore is the new champion of hero drama" - Hero Reader Today

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# 'THE CRUCIBLE'



## JUDGMENT DAY

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