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image

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3

# TECH JACKET

DIGITAL™



RANDOLPH  
2013  
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# TECH JACKET

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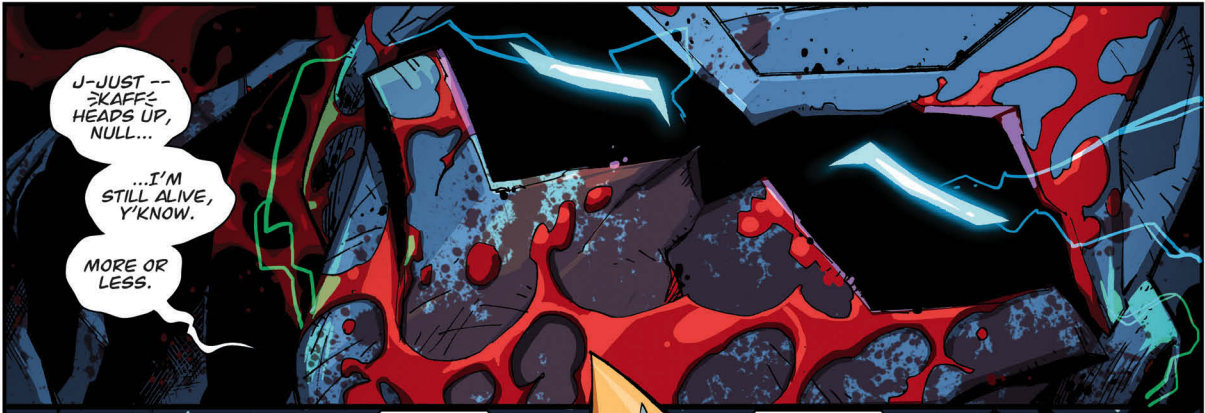
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J--JUST --  
SKAFFK  
HEADS UP,  
NULL....

...I'M  
STILL ALIVE,  
Y'KNOW.

MORE OR  
LESS.



I'M WELL  
AWARE.

I'VE BEEN  
DOING THIS  
FOR A LONG  
TIME.

LONG  
ENOUGH TO  
KNOW WHEN  
THE END IS  
INEVITABLE.

I --



SKAKK!  
K

**THROOM!**

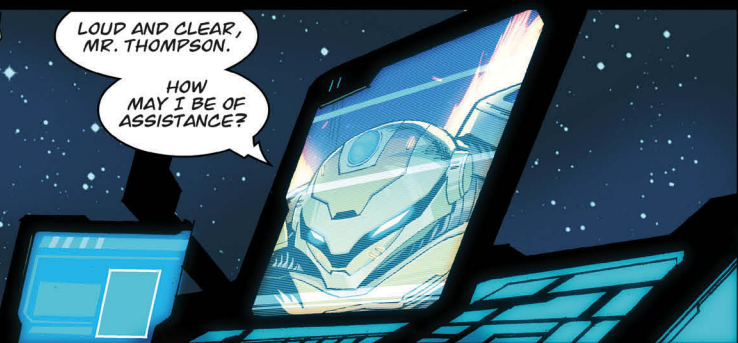
QUIET DOWN.  
I DON'T HAVE  
TIME FOR  
RESISTANCE.



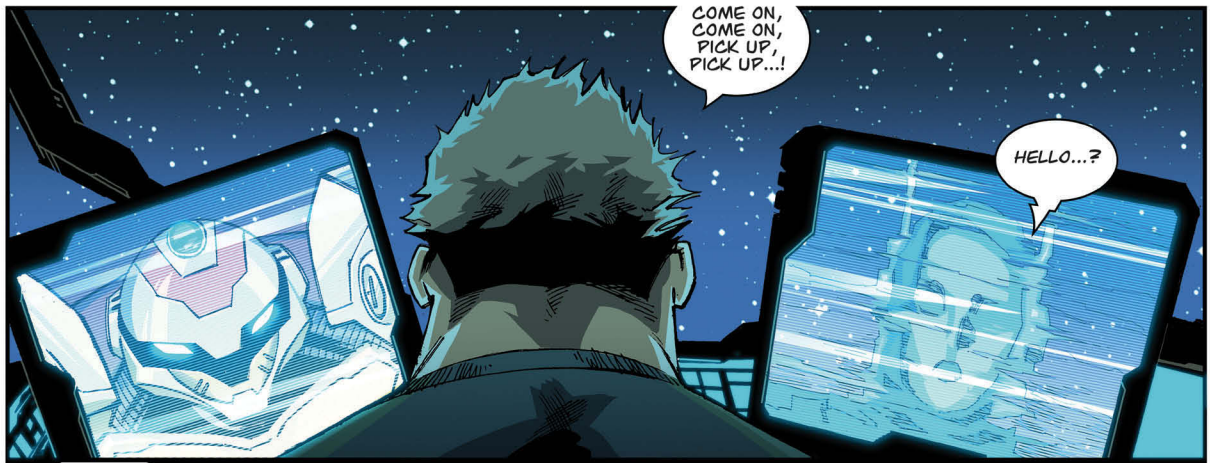
YOU  
SEE --  
THIS?  
RIGHT  
NOW?

THIS IS  
THE END  
OF YOU.









COME ON,  
COME ON,  
PICK UP,  
PICK UP...!

HELLO...?

LINI!  
IT'S ZACK'S  
DAD!

IS THERE  
ANY CHANCE  
YOU'RE STILL ON  
EARTH?! YOU GOT  
ONE OF THOSE  
SUPER-FAST  
GELDARIAN  
SHIPS,  
RIGHT?!

UM. HI, MR. THOMPSON.



YEAH. I  
AM -- AND  
YEAH, I  
DO.

WHAT'S  
UP?

IT'S ZACK!  
HE -- OH, MAN,  
I REALLY MESSED  
UP AND SET HIM ON  
SOMETHING REAL  
BAD GOING ON IN  
KANSAS AND I  
DON'T THINK HE  
WAS READY  
AND --

IS HE  
OKAY?



IT'S, UH --  
IT'S NOT  
LOOKING  
LIKE IT.

SEND ME THE  
COORDINATES.



I'M  
ON MY  
WAY.



A two-panel comic book page. The top panel shows Batman in his tactical suit and cowl, lunging towards a large, blue and red mechanical villain. The villain has a bulky, armored body with glowing green eyes and a red, vein-like pattern on its chest. The villain is shouting "KRAMMM!!!" in large, yellow, stylized letters. A speech bubble from Batman says, "I WILL GRANT YOU ONE SOLE REPRIEVE." The bottom panel shows the villain in a state of intense pain or destruction, with a large, jagged hole in its chest. The villain is shouting "DOOM!!!" in the same yellow, stylized font. A speech bubble from the villain says, "I PROMISE TO MAKE HASTE." The background is a bright, fiery orange and yellow, suggesting a high-temperature environment or a powerful energy source. Debris and splatters of red liquid are visible around the villain.

I WILL GRANT YOU ONE SOLE REPRIEVE.

**KRAMMM!!!**

UNH!

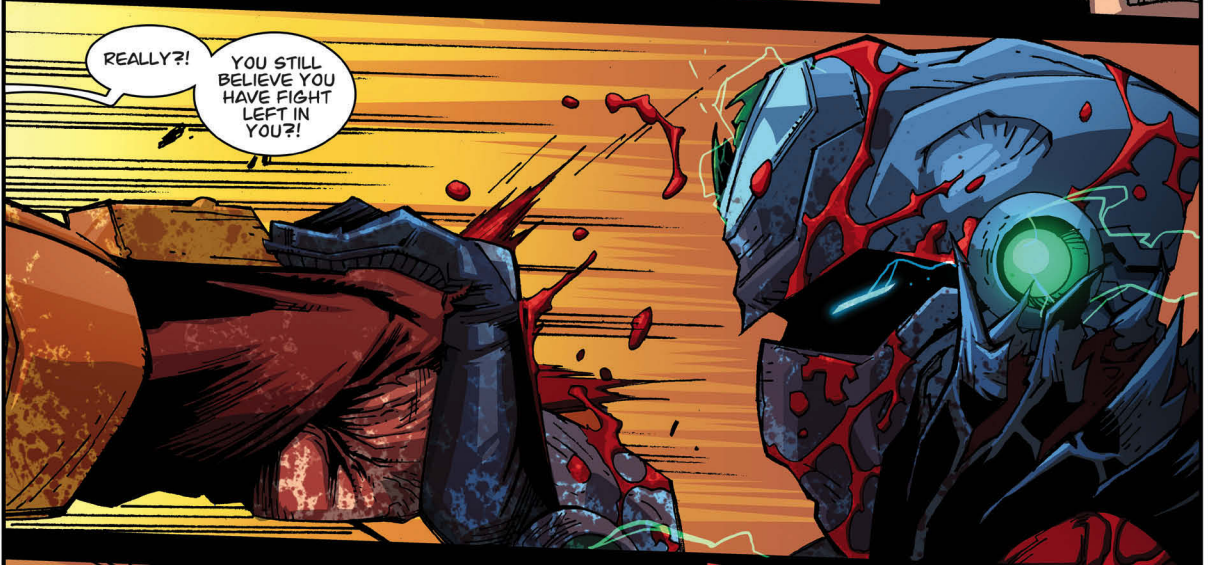
I PROMISE TO MAKE HASTE.

**DOOM!!!**





I'LL BRING YOUR DEATH SWIFTLY.



REALLY?!

YOU STILL BELIEVE YOU HAVE FIGHT LEFT IN YOU?!



FINE.

I'LL SHOW YOU TRUE PAIN.

**KRAK!**

**AAARRRRGGGGH!!!**



SKRAKKAZORROT!!!

L-LIN...?

GET THE \$@# AWAY FROM MY BOYFRIEND.







ZACK!  
C'MON!

I'M GETTING  
YOU OUT  
OF HERE!

SKAFF!  
BUT--

MOVE!



WHAT HOPE  
DO YOU THINK  
YOU HAVE  
HERE?

I DESTROYED  
AN ENTIRE  
TOWN ON A  
WHIM.

THIS IS  
JUST  
ANOTHER DAY  
ON THE JOB  
FOR ME.

I TORE THE  
STRONGEST  
GELDARIAN  
ARMOR FROM  
THE INSIDE  
OUT.

SO, ALL  
THIS IS  
YOUR  
JOB?

KICKING  
SOMEONE'S  
ASS IS MY  
LINEAGE?

GREAT.

I'M  
GELDARIAN!

KICKING  
SOMEONE'S  
ASS IS MY  
LINEAGE!



THROKKOTHA OM!





QUAINT.  
AND SO  
HEARTFELT.

YET  
ULTIMATELY  
SO FUTILE.

NOTHING  
ON THIS  
EARTH CAN  
STOP ME.



YOU  
SHOULD  
KNOW I DO  
TAKE JOY  
IN THIS.

KILLING  
HIM'S JUST  
A JOB.

SLAUGHTERING  
YOU'S A PERK.

GIVE  
IT A  
SHOT!

**LIN!**





'NOTHING ON THIS EARTH.'  
OH, MAN.

SUIT, RUN A DIAGNOSTIC.

WHAT AM I WORKING WITH?



TOTAL POWER LEVEL IS AT 20%

ELECTRICAL... 5%

COMMUNICATIONS... 5%

DEFENSES... 5%

WEAPONRY... 5%

ANY WAY I CAN REROUTE ALL POWER TO PROPULSIONS?



POSSIBLE, BUT NOT ADVISABLE.

SUIT INSTABILITY IS GUARANTEED. DAMAGE ESTIMATED TO BE CATASTROPHIC.

MAKE IT HAPPEN.

LEAVE JUST ENOUGH FOR A BURST TRANSMISSION TO THE SATELLITE.

I GOTTA WARN DAD.

REROUTING...





YOU WANT ME TO WHAT?!

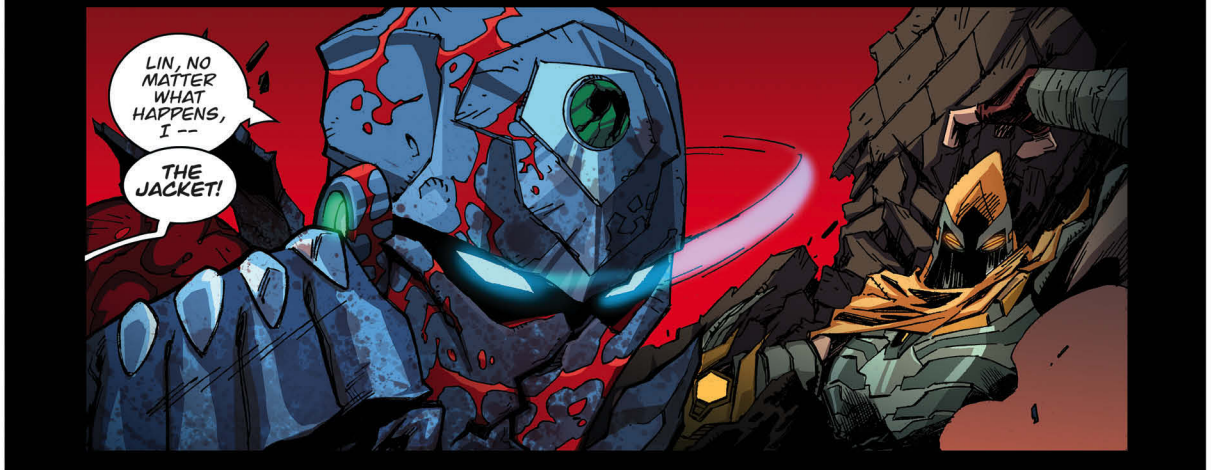
GET THE HELL OUT OF THERE, DAD!  
NOW!

BUT WHY?!

JUST GO!

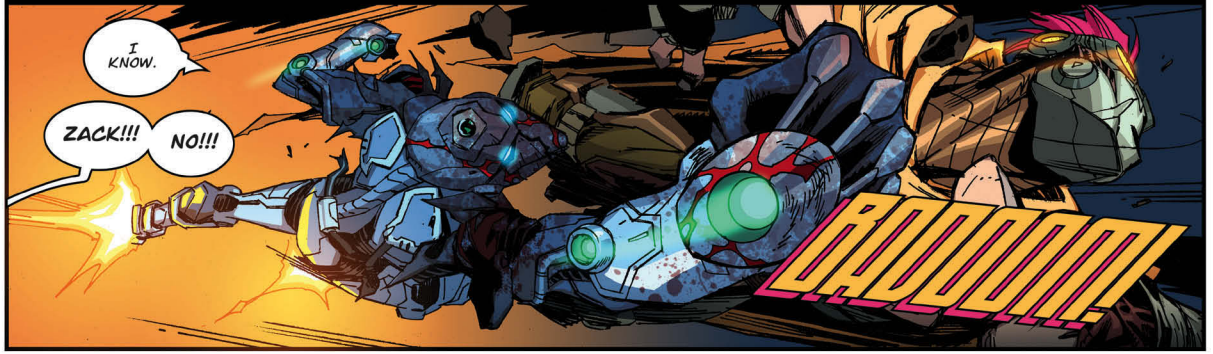
ZACK!

**KROK KROVAV OT!**



LIN, NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS, I --

THE JACKET!



I KNOW.

ZACK!!! NO!!!

**BOOOOM!**



TECH JACKET  
CORE UNSTABLE.

SHUT DOWN  
COMMENCING  
TO ENSURE --

BYPASS.

SOUNDS  
LIKE YOU  
DON'T HAVE  
LONG, BOY.

YOU  
LOOK EVEN  
WORSE.

I'VE SEEN  
THIS ALL PLAY  
OUT BEFORE.  
MORE TIMES  
THAN YOU CAN  
IMAGINE.

SHUT DOWN  
BYPASSED  
TECH JACKET  
COMPROMISED.

AND I'LL  
SEE IT  
THROUGH TO  
THE END.

I GET  
IT.

YOU THINK  
YOU'RE A HERO.  
YOU THINK THIS  
GIVES YOU  
HOPE.

BUT THIS  
ISN'T GOOD  
VERSUS  
EVIL.

THIS  
IS ALL JUST  
BUSINESS.

JUST  
A JOB.

COMPLETE SYSTEM  
COLLAPSE INEVITABLE.



**YOU  
AND ME  
BOTH.**





WARNING!  
SATELLITE  
POWER CORE  
COMPROMISED!

I DO  
ADMIRE YOUR  
WILLINGNESS TO  
SACRIFICE.

SUCH  
RESILIENCE  
IS RARE.

**KATHROOM!**

TOTAL  
STRUCTURE  
MELTDOWN  
IMMINENT!  
EVACUATION  
STRONGLY  
ADVISED!

YOUR SUIT'S  
GONE QUIET.  
YOUR SATELLITE  
HASN'T  
STOPPED  
ME.

YOU'RE  
ALONE  
NOW. NOTHING  
LEFT TO DO  
BUT DIE.



TELEPORTATION  
CHAMBER ACTIVATED!  
DESTINATION  
REVISED!

JUST  
ABOUT.

SHOVING  
ME THROUGH  
YOUR  
TELEPORTER?!

THAT'S  
YOUR BIG  
PLAN?

**THROTT!**

WHEREVER  
YOU'RE SENDING  
ME WON'T BE FAR  
ENOUGH!

I'LL TEAR  
THIS UNIVERSE  
APART TO  
DESTROY  
YOU!

**KRIZZZZ...**

**...KRAZZA!**

YEAH,  
WELL.

GOOD LUCK,  
ASSHOLE.





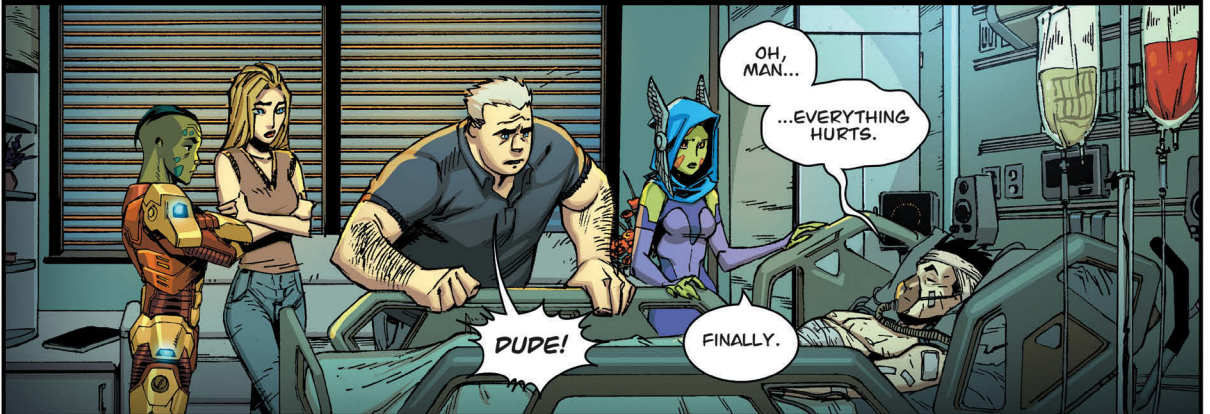






C'MON,  
YOU BIG  
JERK.

WAKE UP  
ALREADY.



OH,  
MAN...

...EVERYTHING  
HURTS.

DUPE!

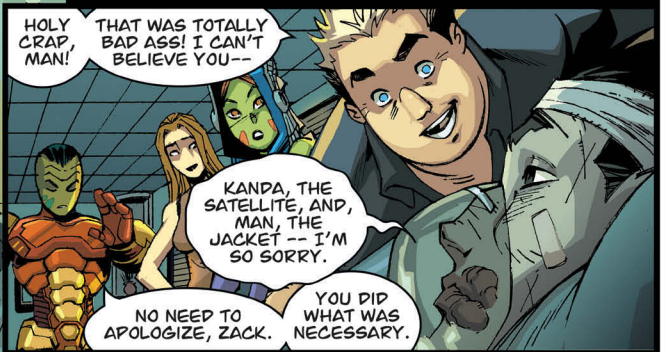
FINALLY.



I, LIN--

YEAH?

I AM  
REALLY SICK OF  
HOSPITALS.



HOLY  
CRAP,  
MAN!

THAT WAS TOTALLY  
BAD ASS! I CAN'T  
BELIEVE YOU--

KANDA, THE  
SATELLITE, AND,  
MAN, THE  
JACKET -- I'M  
SO SORRY.

NO NEED TO  
APOLOGIZE, ZACK.

YOU DID  
WHAT WAS  
NECESSARY.



GELDARIANS...  
WE'RE NOW  
PERCEIVED AS  
A WARRIOR  
RACE.

BUT  
IT'S NOT  
TRUE.

WE DEVELOPED  
THESE SUITS OUT  
OF NECESSITY.  
WHEN OUR SOCIETY  
BECAME TOO HARSH  
TO EXIST IN AS IS,  
WHEN OUR WORLDS  
WERE SCORCHED  
AND REQUIRED  
EVOLUTION.

WE'LL DO  
NOW WHAT WE  
DID THEN -- WHAT  
WE'VE ALWAYS  
DONE.



**"WE REBUILD."**







YOU'RE LOOKING PRETTY GOOD THERE, MISTER.

I'M FEELING PRETTY GOOD.

WHAT A DIFFERENCE A MONTH MAKES.



SO, MY DAD... HE SAYS I GOTTA GO. LIKE, ACROSS THE GALAXY.

I GET IT.

YOU'RE A SPACE PRINCESS. YOU GOTTA DO SPACE DIPLOMACY.

IT SUCKS YOU'LL BE GONE, BUT IT'S KINDA YOUR JOB, RIGHT?



WHENEVER YOU'RE BACK, THOUGH... WELL... YOU AND ME?

I'M HOPING IT'S STILL "YOU AND ME."

YOU SURE?

WHAT ABOUT... Y'KNOW?

WE'LL MAKE IT WORK.



LISTEN, IF YOU'VE EVER GOTTA, UM, TAKE CARE OF BUSINESS -- I GET IT.

CONSIDERING... YEAH.

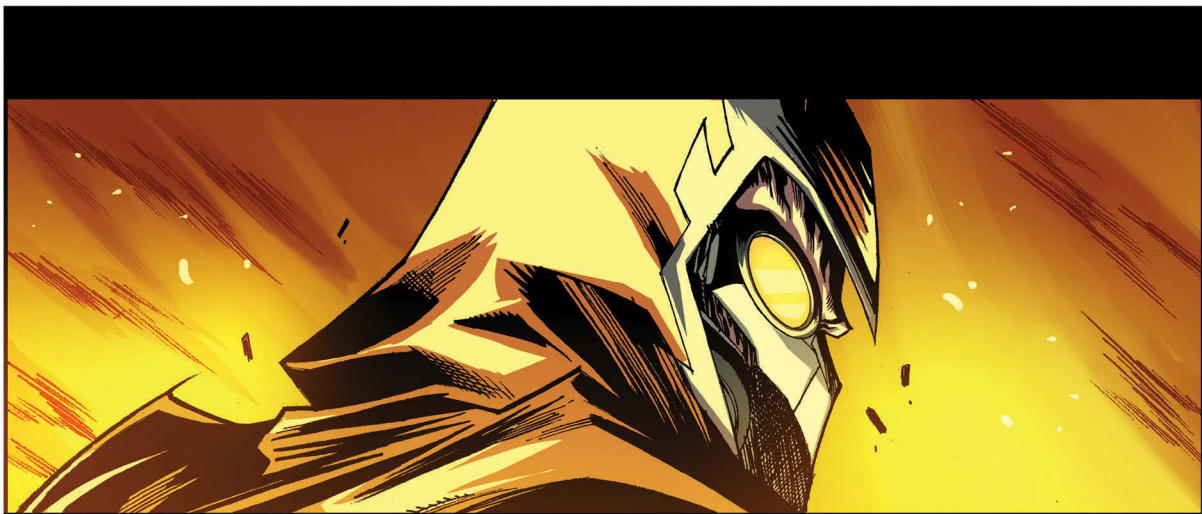
YOU TOO, OF COURSE, BUT, LOOK, I JUST WANT --

YOU AND ME?



YOU AND ME.









Send letters to:  
[techjacket@skybound.com](mailto:techjacket@skybound.com)

## This isn't my first time drawing Tech Jacket.

My admiration goes back a whole decade, when I asked Robert Kirkman if I could do a pinup in the back of the original series. I like anime, I like robots, and I like aliens. It was a lock for me. And this image is actually one of my first published works. It's not very good, but hey, I did what I could. I can't remember what issue it wound up in, but I was super proud of it at the time.

A little bit of backstory — I grew up on Image Comics books. Comics were always around and in my life, but I wasn't really in love with them until Image. They were cool, fun distractions up to that point. But then I saw Youngblood. And WildC.A.T.S. And Spawn. And Savage Dragon. And Cyberforce. And every other Image Comic #1 with a shiny cover and IO variants. You name it, and I bought it. ALL of them. Many times more than once. It was an obsession.

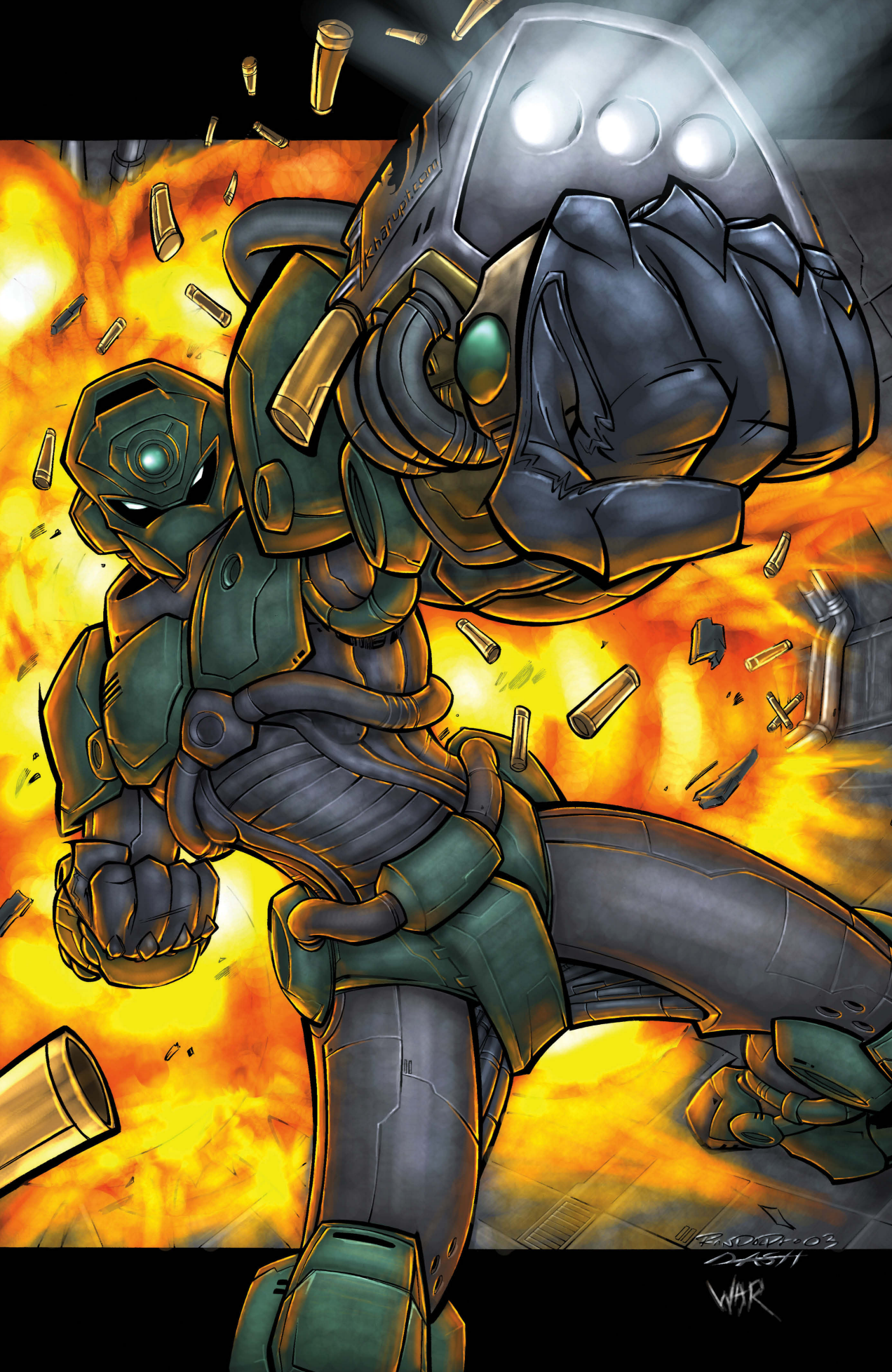
I liked them because they were fearless. They were brimming with this young, exuberant energy that spoke to 13-year-old me about a bold new future, full of possibility. It wasn't about being high art. It wasn't about following the rules. It was pure Jack Kirby and Stan Lee style comics. They weren't perfect. But they were fun. And I swore to myself, one day I would be one of those cool Image guys drawing a cool Image book. I also was sure I'd be a rapper and basketball player. And a marine biologist. But hey, one out of four ain't bad.

It look longer than I would have liked, but I finally did it. And I am eternally thankful to to Robert, Sean, Joe, Dave, Emilio, and everyone else involved for giving me this opportunity to draw an honest-to-God Image comic book. I promise to you guys, and to you the reader, that I'll do my very best to give you something worthy of your time. And hopefully maybe I can inspire some other 13-year-old to one day do the same.

**Khary Randolph**







R. S. D. 2003  
DRETT  
WAR

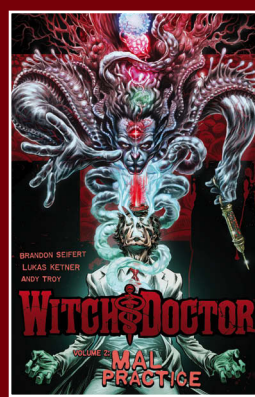


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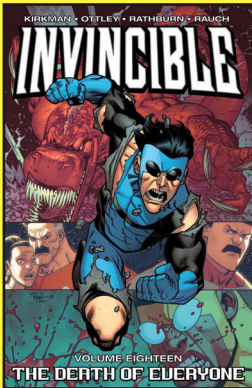
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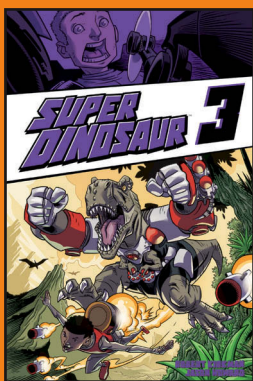


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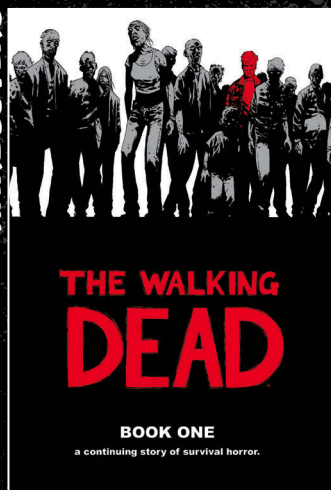


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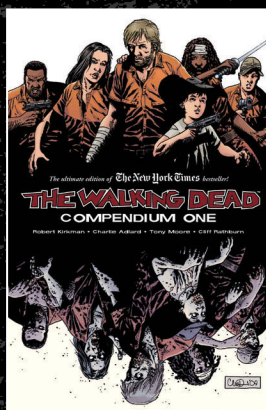
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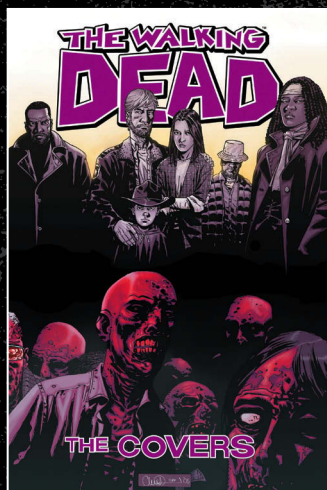
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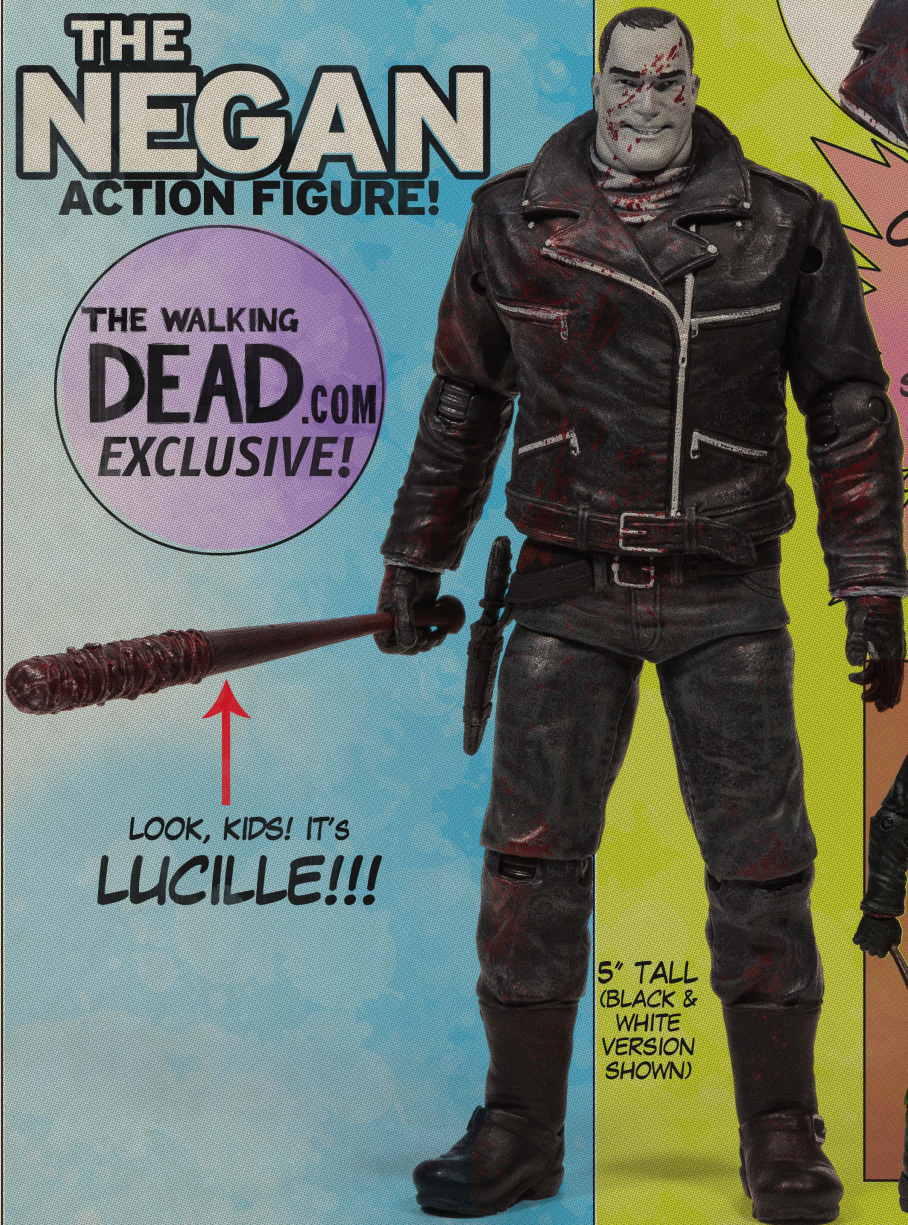


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BY KIRKMAN  
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