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entirely fictional.

The story so far...

For years, the Alliance Shipping
Federation (ASF) has been the
lifeblood of an entire galaxy. They
started as a small trade fleet on the
planet Mandit. Eventually they expanded
to other systems and charted the Spaceways: stellar trade routes
that offered safe passage between worlds. They have since
evolved into a galactic corporation that facilitates 99% of all
interplanetary trade and transportation. They have enjoyed a
prosperous and welcomed existence, free from any major
opposition or conflict...until now.

About one year ago, ASF ships along the outer rim of the Spaceways started falling under attack by a mysterious tyrant called Rancor. His army moved slowly down the Spaceways in his massive traveling home world, terrorizing everything in its path; hijacking ships, killing crews, and invading member planets all in an attempt to strong-arm the ASF into submission.

The ASF Board of Directors voted to fight back, and expanded and restructured their security forces. Superior technology was their one advantage over the Army of Rancor's sheer power, so they refocused their resources into developing an armada of advanced ships and combat-trained Force Teams that would make up the new Security Fleet. As Rancor draws closer, the ASF is making final preparations for their first wave of counter-offensives.

Meanwhile, another mystery has emerged in Goldenrod City, home to ASF Headquarters on Mandit. A young man was discovered with no memory and no clues to his past other than a collar with name "Sam" inscribed on the tag. After being treated at an ASF sponsored clinic, Sam took up residence in a small apartment along the outskirts of the city where he is now forced to start a new life while struggling to remember his old one. Is Sam simply an unfortunate victim of a strange and unexplained case of amnesia? Or is his sudden appearance during these troubled times more than a coincidence...







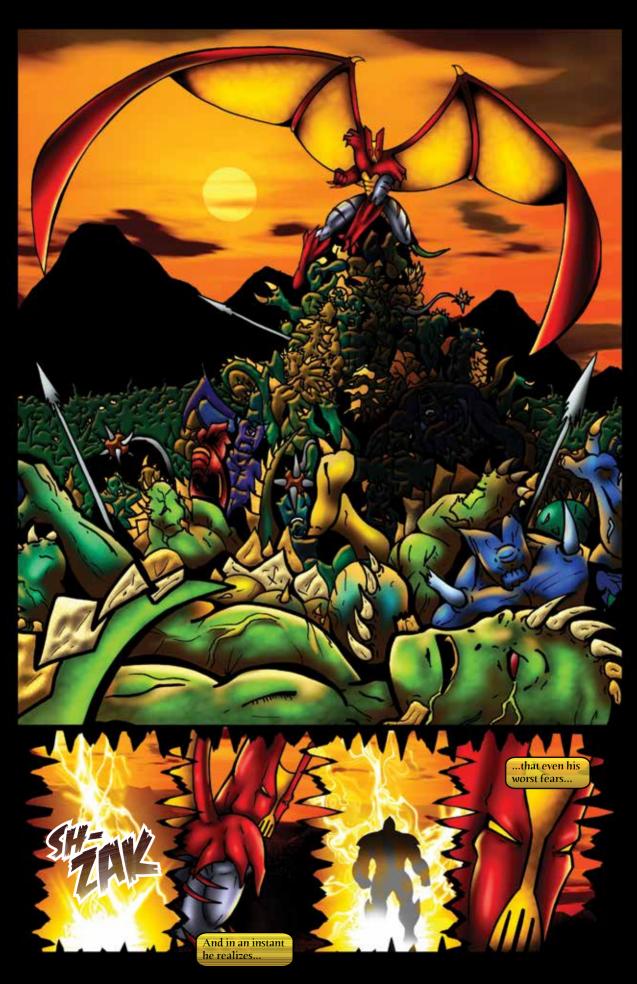




































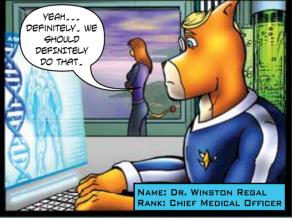


IT'S
GOING TO BE
A BEAUTIFUL
DAY.

WE SHOULD
DO SOMETHING
OUTSIDE, DURING
LUNCH. MAYBE TAKE
A WALK ALONG THE
BAY? WE HAVEN'T
DONE THAT IN
A WHILE.

NAME: FEEFEE CHAMPLAIN RANK: SENIOR MED TECH



















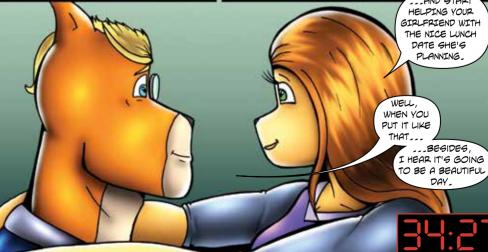




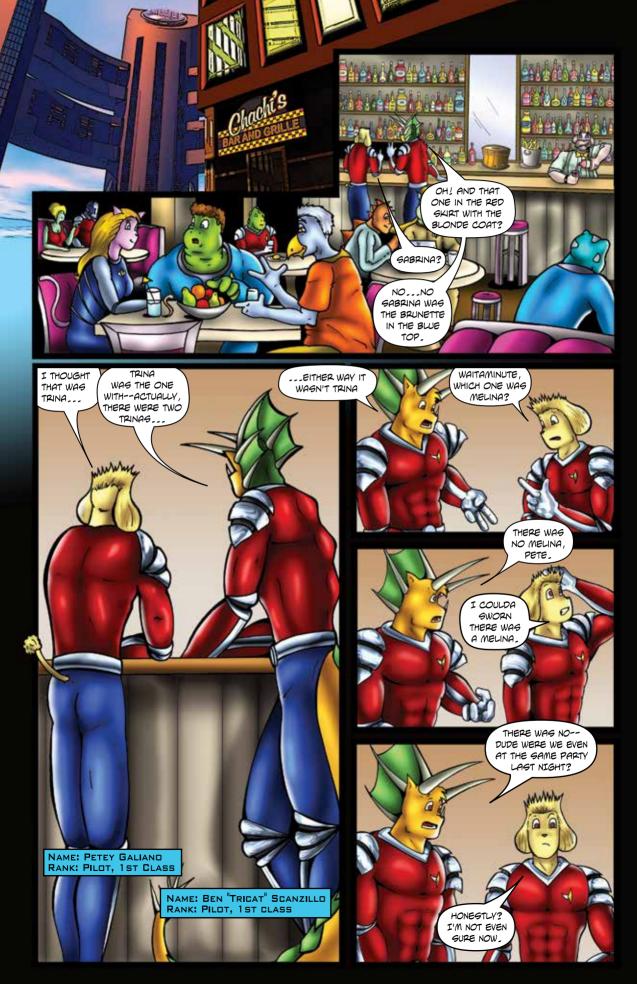






























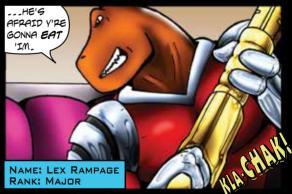








































RANCOR DRAWS CLOSER

ASF Ships, Planets Remain Under Constant Attack

BY CECIL GIMPY

Despite the recalling of most ASF cargo and transport ships in the system, the Army ---CAN'T BE ANY WORGE THAN USUAL. stumb across attacked vessely stripped of all goods and left drifting without power or life support.

planets have also been subject to numerous attacks and violent intimidation. Everything within a thousand miles of the Aleazar itself has been at the mercy of Rancor's satellite armadas. Invasion parties strike quickly and without warning, and local defenses have proven to be no match against their power and numbers. Some planets have broken all ties with the ASF to result of the atrocities that

the ASF's decision to stand up against Rancor, when conceding to his demands would likely put an end to the bloodshed. ASF press secretary Callista Johannsen issued a statement at yesterday's daily conference addressing this

"Our hearts go out to all who have suffered losses as a







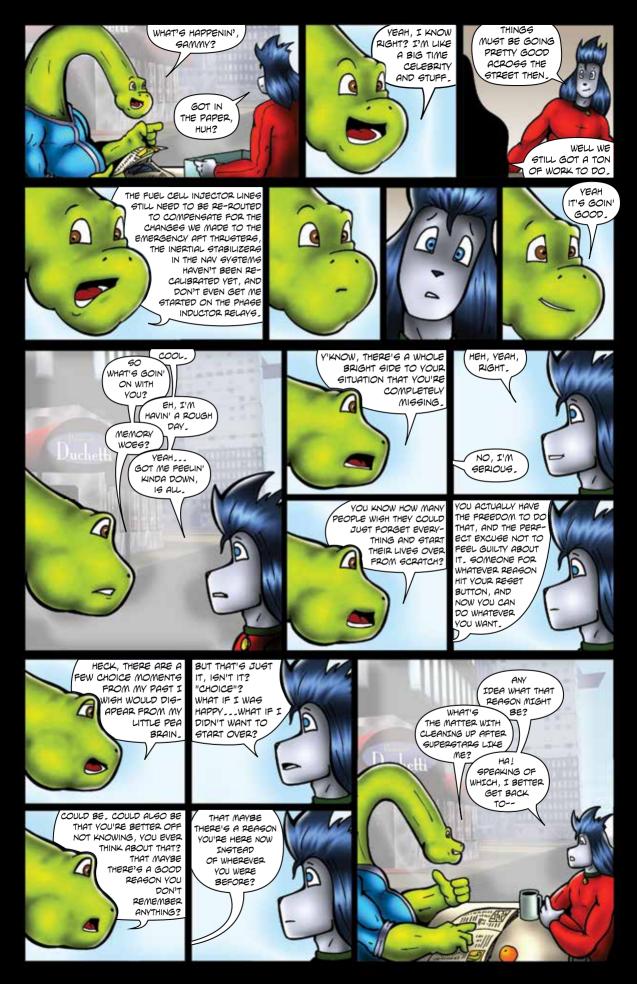






























Sam was revived once more when Bil met Ron Smith while the two were working in a local supermarket. Both aspiring comic creators, Bil and Ron would brainstorm ways to integrate their characters into one universe. Eventually both Bil and Ron left the produce department to pursue separate careers in graphic design. Fortunately, Alex had been off at college, rediscovering comics at a time when the medium was seeing some of the best writers and artists it had in a long time. With a new appreciation for the craft, he decided to make one more effort to make Sam a reality.

After dragging Bil out of a creative coma, the two hunted down Ron, and together they spent week after week developing the story and characters into what you see here today. With the help and support of their families and some very good friends, the three are now committed to making their life-long dream of telling these stories come true.

And the rest, we hope, will be history...