



SAM

FATE REVOLUTION





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FOONGATZ!
STUDIOS

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The story so far...

For over a year, the tyrant known as Rancor has been moving slowly down the Spaceways in his massive traveling home world, hijacking, killing, and invading member planets all in an attempt to force the galaxy into submission. Only the Alliance Security Fleet stands in his way, but even they are no match for the Ranconians' might. All hope seemed lost, until a mysterious stranger named Sam emerged seemingly from nowhere. Having no memory but possessing amazing powers, Sam is swept up into the ranks of the ASF. Could he be the key to the Galaxy's salvation?



In Our Last Issue...

The ceremony to unveil a new class of warship was supposed to signal hope for the planet Mandit in the fight against Rancor, but celebration turned to disaster when the event was surprise-attacked by a rogue band of ocean-dwelling mercenaries. Weakened by a powerful poison, the ASF troops in attendance were quickly overwhelmed. Thanks to some timely medical assistance from Dr. Winston Regal, and some incredible heroics



by Sam, the tide of battle turned. The attack ended when Kodiac sensed and silenced the telepathic Ninter that held the mercs in thrall. The destruction halted, it was discovered that the attack was only one half of a two-headed ranconian plot: crippling the ASF fleet, and the abduction of Brontium Power. Now in the clutches of Rancor, what will become of Bronto?

THE ALCAZAR...

...ON THE FAR SIDE OF
THE MANDITIAN SUN.

GET YOUR FILTHY
CLAWS OFFA
ME YOU DAG
DIRTY...

OOF!

PURPLE, HUH?

WOULDN'T BE MY
FIRST CHOICE, BUT HEY,
YOUR EVIL LAIR.

YOUR **WIT** WILL
NOT SAVE YOU, LIZARD.
BUT YOUR **TONGUE** MAY
YET ALLOW YOU TO LIVE
TO SEE YOUR PLANET'S
DEMISE, IF IT TELLS
ME WHAT I WANT
TO KNOW.

NOT A CHANCE, SHINY!
I'LL NEVER GIVE UP
THE ASF'S DEFENSES!

YOUR PATHETIC
ASF DOES NOT
CONCERN ME.

THE NATURAL ORDER OF THE
UNIVERSE HAS BEEN THROWN INTO
CHAOS...

...AND MY
ONCE CLEAR
PATH IS NOW
CLOUDED.

UH... OK?
SO WHAT DO YOU
NEED ME FOR?



TELL ME ABOUT
THE ONE CALLED
SAM.

**The
Ranconian
War**

Chapter V
"Retaliation"

GOLDENROD HOSPITAL

HOURS AFTER THE SPACEPORT ATTACK





SOME SAVIOR I
TURNED OUT TO BE.



SAM!



SKIP, HEY.

HOW'RE YOU
HOLDIN' UP?

I'M NOT REALLY
SURE THAT I AM.



YOU DID **GOOD**
OUT THERE, SAVED A
LOT OF LIVES.

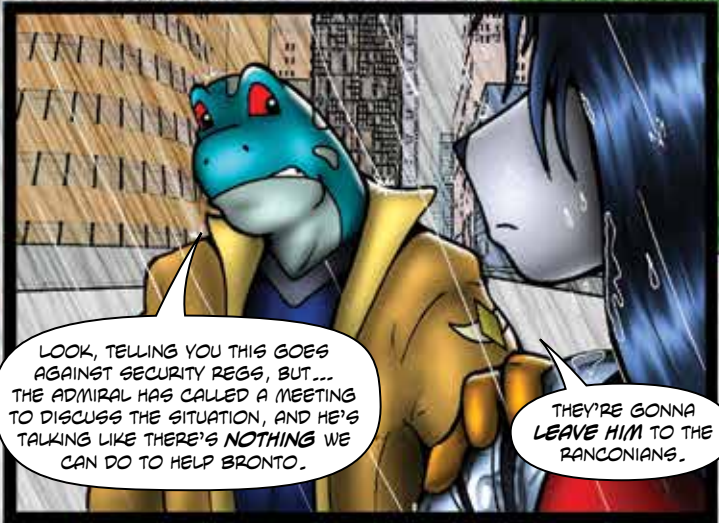
WOULD'VE BEEN
A LOT **WORSE** IF YOU
WEREN'T AROUND.

NOT GOOD ENOUGH...
DR. REGAL MIGHT NOT
WAKE UP. **FEFFEE'S** A WRECK,
AND **BRONTO-** I JUST HOPE THEY
CAN GET HIM BACK **SAFE**.



NOT LIKELY.

WHAT?!
WHY NOT?



LOOK, TELLING YOU THIS GOES
AGAINST SECURITY REGS, BUT...
THE ADMIRAL HAS CALLED A MEETING
TO DISCUSS THE SITUATION, AND HE'S
TALKING LIKE THERE'S **NOTHING** WE
CAN DO TO HELP **BRONTO**.

THEY'RE GONNA
LEAVE HIM TO THE
RANCONIANS.

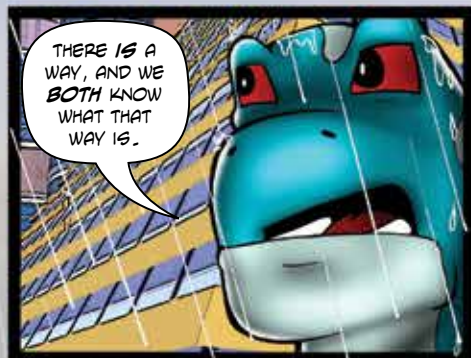


WHAT?! THEY CAN'T JUST ABANDON HIM LIKE THAT!

IT DOESN'T MAKE TACTICAL SENSE TO RISK A RESCUE MISSION INTO THE HEART OF THE ENEMY'S LAIR FOR ONE MAN. THE CHANCE OF SUCCESS IS SLIM TO NONE.



NO! WE CAN'T LET THIS HAPPEN! THERE HAS TO BE A WAY!



THERE IS A WAY, AND WE BOTH KNOW WHAT THAT WAY IS.



WHAT, ME? HOW CAN I-

OH COME ON, SAM. WE'VE ALL SEEN WHAT YOU CAN DO. THESE POWERS YOU HAVE, IF ANYONE CAN BRING BRONTO BACK, IT'S YOU.



EVEN WITH THESE POWERS, I CAN'T FIGHT A WHOLE ARMY.

LISTEN, BRONTO IS MY FRIEND TOO... MY ONLY FRIEND. AS MUCH AS I WISH I COULD, I CAN'T FIGHT TO GET HIM BACK. BUT YOU CAN.

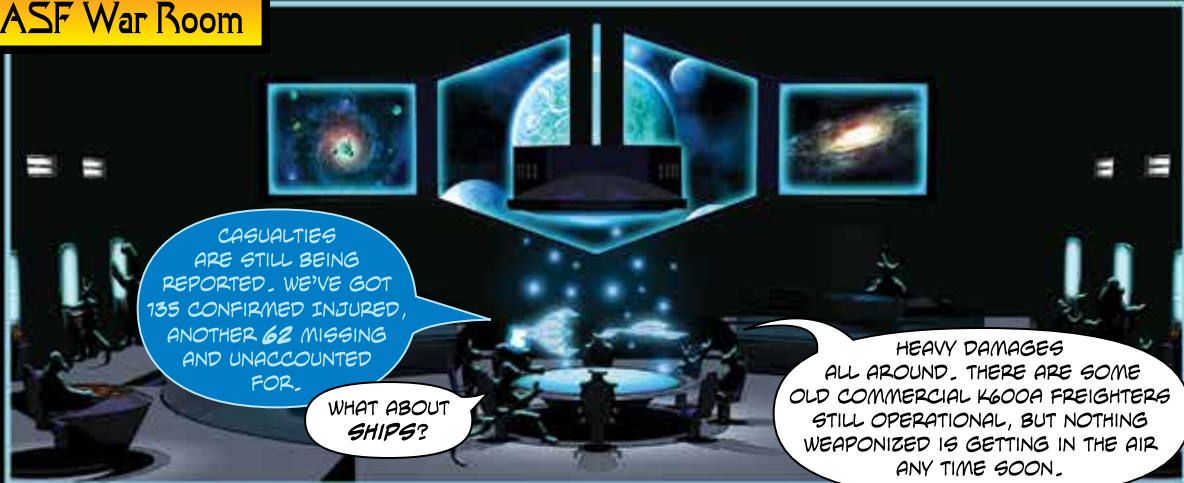
YOU MIGHT BE THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN.



YOU HAVE TO TRY TO CHANGE THE ADMIRAL'S MIND.



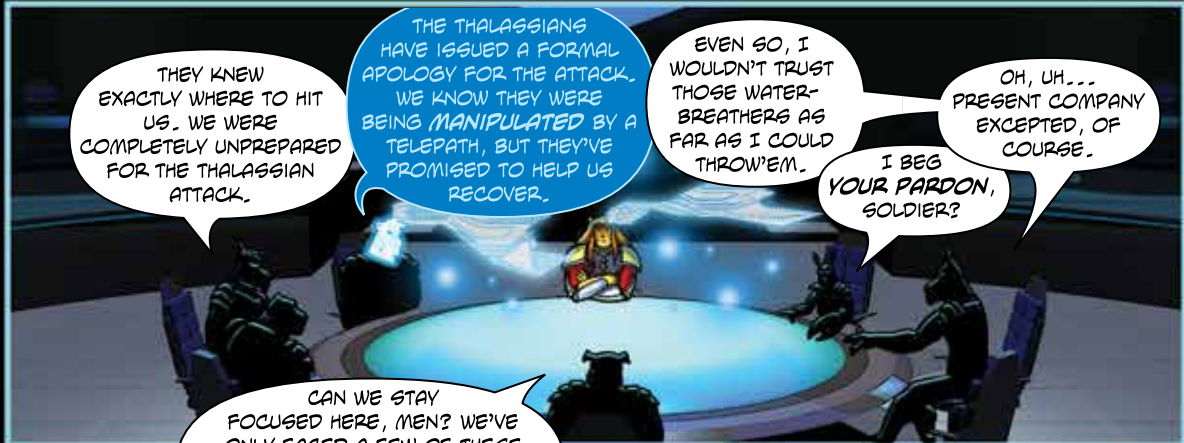
WHERE'S THIS MEETING?



CASUALTIES ARE STILL BEING REPORTED. WE'VE GOT 135 CONFIRMED INJURED, ANOTHER 62 MISSING AND UNACCOUNTED FOR.

WHAT ABOUT SHIPS?

HEAVY DAMAGES ALL AROUND. THERE ARE SOME OLD COMMERCIAL K600A FREIGHTERS STILL OPERATIONAL, BUT NOTHING WEAPONIZED IS GETTING IN THE AIR ANY TIME SOON.



THEY KNEW EXACTLY WHERE TO HIT US. WE WERE COMPLETELY UNPREPARED FOR THE THALASSIAN ATTACK.

THE THALASSIANS HAVE ISSUED A FORMAL APOLOGY FOR THE ATTACK. WE KNOW THEY WERE BEING MANIPULATED BY A TELEPATH, BUT THEY'VE PROMISED TO HELP US RECOVER.

EVEN SO, I WOULDN'T TRUST THOSE WATER-BREATHERS AS FAR AS I COULD THROW'EM.

OH, UH... PRESENT COMPANY EXCEPTED, OF COURSE.

I BEG YOUR PARDON, SOLDIER?

CAN WE STAY FOCUSED HERE, MEN? WE'VE ONLY FACED A FEW OF THESE RANCONIANS AND THEY'VE WALKED ALL OVER US. WHAT WILL WE DO WHEN THEY ARRIVE IN FULL FORCE?

THEY COULD HAVE BEEN HERE ALREADY.



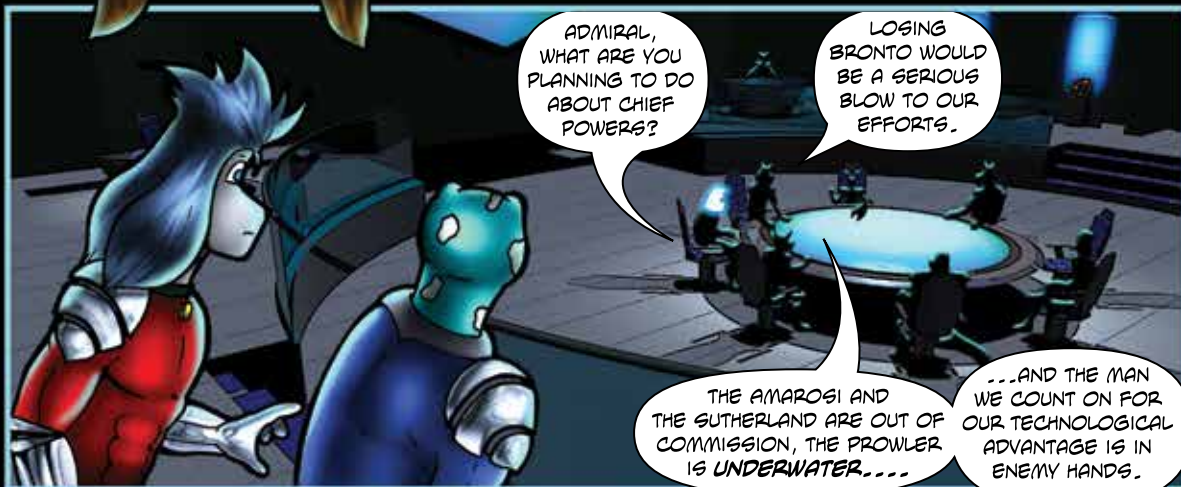
THEY'VE BEEN TOYING WITH US. TURNING US AGAINST EACH OTHER, TRYING TO DRIVE THE PLANET INTO CHAOS. MAKING US AN EASY CONQUEST

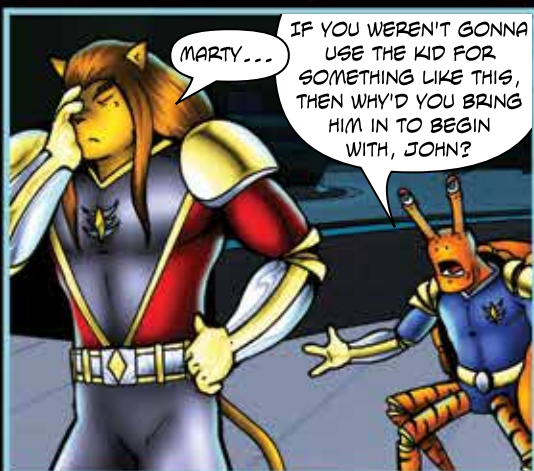


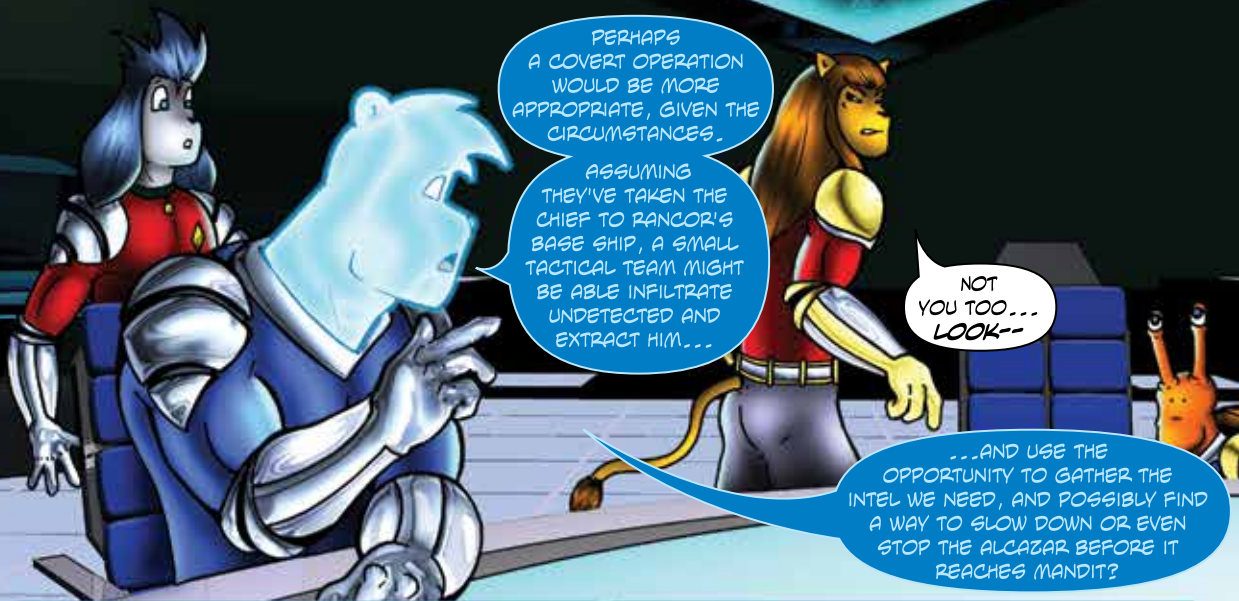
THEY'VE DONE A PRETTY GOOD JOB.

I'M NOT SURE HOW WE'RE GOING TO RECOVER FROM THIS.

EVERYONE'S STARTING TO LOSE HOPE, AND I DON'T THINK I BLAME--







PERHAPS
A COVERT OPERATION
WOULD BE MORE
APPROPRIATE, GIVEN THE
CIRCUMSTANCES.

ASSUMING
THEY'VE TAKEN THE
CHIEF TO RANCOR'S
BASE SHIP, A SMALL
TACTICAL TEAM MIGHT
BE ABLE INFILTRATE
UNDETECTED AND
EXTRACT HIM...

NOT
YOU TOO...
LOOK--

...AND USE THE
OPPORTUNITY TO GATHER THE
INTEL WE NEED, AND POSSIBLY FIND
A WAY TO SLOW DOWN OR EVEN
STOP THE ALCAZAR BEFORE IT
REACHES MANDIT?



I'M
LISTENING.

I CAN HAVE A
TEAM TOGETHER
IMMEDIATELY, BUT
GETTING THEM
THERE IS STILL A
PROBLEM.

IT'LL
TAKE TIME TO
GET EVEN
ONE SMALL
SHIP UP AND
RUNNING.



WHAT ABOUT THE
STERLING?

HOW DID
YOU--

THE
WHAT?

BRONTO
TOLD ME ABOUT
THIS SHIP HE
WAS WORKING
ON...

...HE CALLED IT
THE **STERLING**, HE
SAID IT WAS THE
BEST SHIP HE'S
EVER BUILT.

THIS IS
THE FIRST I'M
HEARING OF IT,
IS THIS TRUE
SKIP?

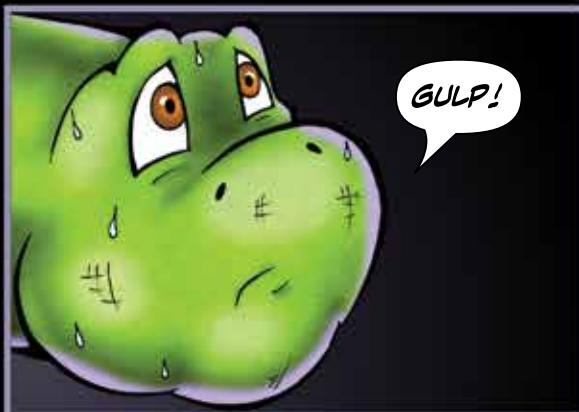


IT'S,
UH...

...WELL, YEAH,
KINDA, BUT IT'S NOT
FINISHED, STILL A
PROTOTYPE. I'M NOT
EVEN SURE IF IT
CAN--



**SHOW
ME.**



Mandit, deep below
ASF Headquarters

"WHY WASN'T I TOLD
ABOUT THIS?"

"IT WASN'T AN OFFICIALLY
SANCTIONED PROJECT, SIR."

"BUT HE TELLS THE
POODLE ABOUT IT."

"HE **DID** MENTION IT
WAS A SECRET."

AND
SINCE WHEN IS
UNSANCTIONED
ACTIVITY ALLOWED
ON **ASF**
PREMISES?

THE
CHIEF HAS A
VERY **LUCRATIVE**
CONTRACT WITH
THE ASF.

PART OF
HIS DEAL WAS HIS
OWN PRIVATE ON-SITE
WORKSHOP PLUS A
DISCRETIONARY FUND
TO DEVELOP HIS OWN
PET PROJECTS ON
HIS OWN TIME.

THIS PROJECT
WAS MONTHS AWAY
FROM BEING TESTED,
WHEN PRODUCTION
CAME TO A HALT WITH
THE COMING OF
RANCOR.

WOW...
LOOKED SMALLER
ON THE NAPKIN.

YOU CALL THIS A
"PET" PROJECT?! IT
MUST HAVE COST
THE COMPANY A
FORTUNE!

BELIEVE
IT OR NOT, BRONTO
SUPPLEMENTED THE
COMPANY FUNDING
HIMSELF.

WILL
SHE
FLY?

WELL, WE DON'T
HAVE ALL THE
MATERIALS.

THE EXOTIC
COMPONENTS
WERE IMPOSSIBLE
TO IMPORT WITH
THE RANCONIANS
BLOCKADING THE--

WILL SHE
FLY?

WELL, I MEAN
WE HAVEN'T WORKED
OUT ALL THE BUGS, WE
DON'T HAVE A KAFUBULATOR
FOR THE FLANGELATRIX
MODIFICATOR
OR A--

YOU KNOW, WE COULD
BYPASS THE EXPERIMENTAL
SYSTEMS AND RUN A MORE
CONVENTIONAL INJECTION
METHOD... PATCH THE HULL
WITH DURANIUM... YA
SHE'LL FLY.

WHA-? WHERE
DID YOU COME
FROM? WHAT
ARE YOU DOING
HERE?

THIS IS
WHERE I
TAKE MY
NAPS.

EVEN IF WE CAN PATCH HER UP, WE DON'T HAVE ANYONE WHO CAN FLY IT. BRONTO DESIGNED A NEW NAVIGATION SYSTEM FROM SCRATCH.

THE ADVANCED MANEUVERABILITY REQUIRES TWO PILOTS TO WORK COMPLETELY IN TANDEM... THEY LITERALLY HAVE TO BE ABLE TO PREDICT EACH OTHER'S MOVES FOR IT TO WORK.

IT WOULD TAKE MONTHS OF TRAINING BEFORE--

WE CAN FLY IT.



TRICAT AND I'VE BEEN FLYING TOGETHER SINCE WE WERE KIDS, SHOULDN'T TAKE US TOO LONG TO GET THE HANG OF THIS BIRD.

NOW WHO...



THIS ISN'T A VERY GOOD "SECRET" LAB.

NO KIDDING.



GALIANO, HOW LONG DO YOU THINK IT WILL TAKE THE TWO OF YOU TO GET UP TO SPEED ON THIS THING?

GIVE US A DAY IN THE SIMS AND WE'LL BE FLYING CIRCLES AROUND ANYTHING ELSE IN THE SKY.



ADMIRAL, WHAT ARE YOU THINKING?



CALL EVERYONE BACK TO THE WAR ROOM.



"I'M *STARVIN'...*...DON'T THEY EVER *FEED* YOU IN THIS JOINT? I'M CHEWIN ON MY TAIL OVER HERE..."

"YO BUDDY, YOU TALK? *HELLO?*"

IF I WAS BACK HOME RIGHT NOW I'D BE DIVIN' INTO A SALAD BAR...NO, MAKE THAT A SALAD TROUGH...

I'M NOT AFRAID OF THE DARK, BUT IT'D BE NICE TO HAVE A LITTLE MORE LIGHT, Y'KNOW?

SO WHAT'S YOUR NAME, BUD? HOW LONG'VE YOU BEEN DOWN--

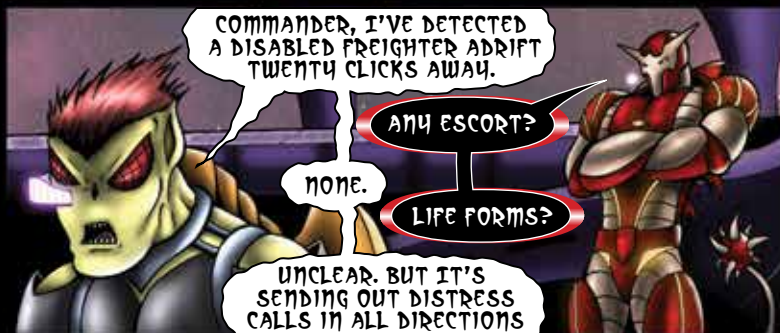
BE SILENT!!

AHHH!!!





Somewhere in Manditian space...



COMMANDER, I'VE DETECTED
A DISABLED FREIGHTER ADRIFT
TWENTY CLICKS AWAY.

ANY ESCORT?

NONE.

LIFE FORMS?

UNCLEAR. BUT IT'S
SENDING OUT DISTRESS
CALLS IN ALL DIRECTIONS



RIPE FOR THE
PICKING, EH?

SET AN
INTERCEPT COURSE,
AND PREPARE
TO BOARD.



WHAT DO YOU THINK
THEY'RE HAULING?

MAYBE SOME
GROG, EH? WE
DESERVE A LITTLE
DRINK FOR ALL THIS
BORING RECON
WORK.



"KNOCK, KNOCK"
HEH, HEH.



GIVE ME
SOME LIGHT.



ARE YOU DEAF?
I SAID GIVE ME
SOME...



GO AHEAD.
MAKE A *MOVE*.





WOW, THESE RANCONIAN CONTROLS ARE PRETTY WILD.

LET ME KNOW IF YOU HAVE ANY TROUBLE.

I'VE SENT WORD BACK TO MANDIT THAT PHASE 1 IS COMPLETE. WE'RE GOING DARK FROM HERE.

GENERAL, YOU MAY WANT TO CHECK ON THE "V.I.P." I THINK HE'S ABOUT TO HURL.

ARE YOU ALRIGHT?

HOLY **BEJEEBERS** WHAT THE HECK AM I DOING IN **SPACE** THOSE GUYS HAD **GUNS** AND THEY WERE REAL BIG AND **MEAN** AND NOW WE'RE GOING TO THE BAD GUYS! I THOUGHT THIS WAS A GOOD IDEA AT FIRST BUT NOW--

JUST TRY TO CALM DOWN. WE'LL PROTECT YOU. JUST LET LEX'S FORCE TEAM TAKE CARE OF ANY RESISTANCE WE MAY ENCOUNTER.

YEAH EASY FOR YOU TO SAY. YOU'RE... I MEAN, YOU'RE, UHH...

WHAT **ARE** YOU, ANYWAY?



I AM A
BEING OF PURE
ENERGY.



WHAT
DOES THAT
MEAN? WHAT
CAN YOU
DO?

WELL, I
CAN CHANGE SHAPE,
TRAVEL THROUGH
CONDUCTIVE METALS,
CREATE FORCE-
FIELDS...

REALLY?



I CAN
ALSO BE VERY
DANGEROUS.



MY POWER
SEEMS
DANGEROUS
TOO.

I MEAN
I'M STILL TRYING
TO UNDERSTAND IT,
NOT SURE I CAN
BE THIS "WEAPON"
HART WANTS ME
TO BE.

HOW DO
YOU DEAL
WITH IT?




I
AM NOT
A
WEAPON.


I TRY TO
USE MY ABILITIES TO
PROTECT PEOPLE. I KNOW
ALL TOO WELL THAT POWER
CAN BE A TERRIBLE THING
WHEN MISUSED.



HE'D
BETTER USE
THOSE POWERS
OF HIS!



THAT'S THE
ONLY REASON THE
ADMIRAL ALLOWED
YOU TO COME ON
THIS MISSION!



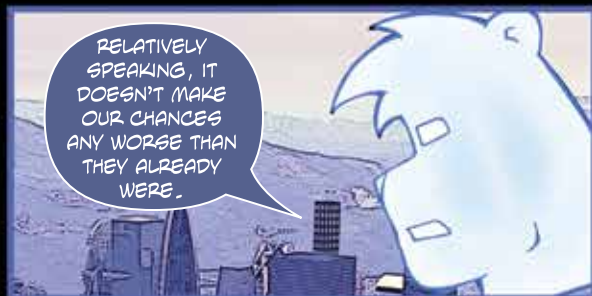
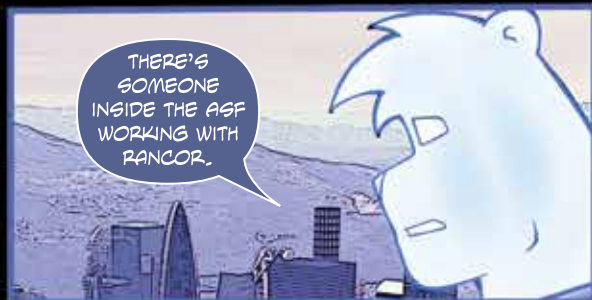
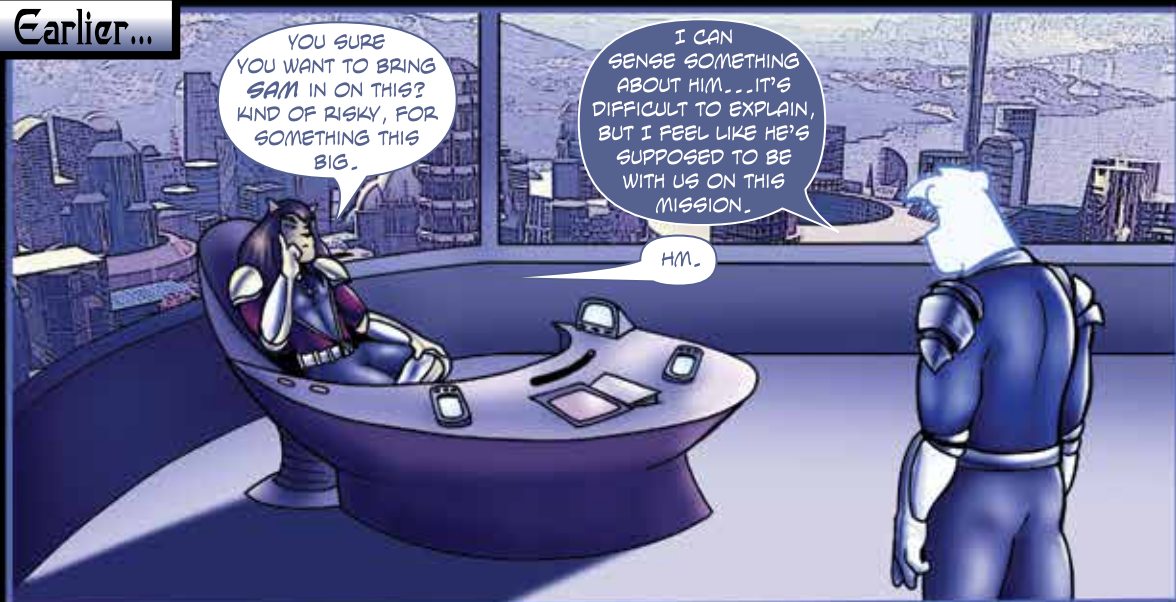
HECK
SAM, BLOW UP
THAT WHOLE SHIP
AND ALL OF US
WITH IT IF THAT'S
WHAT IT
TAKES!



SPEAKING
OF WHICH,
LOOK ALIVE
BOYS.



Earlier...



Now...



THIS IS
AGENT d145
REPORTING IN.
THEY TOOK THE BAIT
AND ARE ENROUTE,
WITH **SAM** ON
BOARD.

EXCELLENT...

"...RANCOR WILL
BE PLEASED."

NEXT ISSUE:
BELLY OF THE BEAST





Poodle

Posts

letters@foongatz.com • P.O. Box 559, Maynard, MA 01754

Welcome to the first edition of Poodle Posts! We always wanted to have our own letters page, and thanks to our fantastic readers, we have one! Keep those letters coming!

Hey Guys, great job!!

I was really impressed. The artwork was great and the story left me wanting to know what happens next! I'll have to read it again before the next one comes out so I can remember all those characters. The story between Ronda and Bronto is my favorite so far (and of course, Sam). I really enjoyed the back page where you explained how it all got started. (it had me laughing)

Kristin

Dear Kristin, Thanks so much for writing in. The Bronto & Ronda story is one of our favorite parts to write. We hope you stick around to see their relationship blossom because those two are in for a real rollercoaster.

I brought your book at the Pittsburgh Comic Convention to share with my students at KinderCare Learning Center. And I must say they love it. I got the coloring book and cards and they really enjoyed them. I even got hooked on the story. I want to start a subscription for myself and my students.

All of the students who read the book, boys and girls, really like it and I told them I would pass on their enjoyment. So keep up the good work and we can't wait for the next issue.

Your New Fans,
Troy and Klubmates
KinderCare Learning Center

Dear Troy and Klubmates, We couldn't be more pleased that we are reaching the younger audience. One of our goals is to bring comics back to kids. So many of today's comics have such mature themes, we think the comics world could use a few more all-ages super-poodle stories.

First off let me say I'm more a story guy than art. So a lot of my critique will come from a writer's standpoint than art. If a story keeps me in it, I can do without pictures. Of course, comics are a visual medium so it all has to come together to tell the story.

The Good:

- Overall plotline: I'm hooked. I want to know more about how the ASF works. The "prologue" with the Ranconian war was a great way to start it. I want to know what happens to SAM, I want to learn about all of the cast. Overall very good storytelling.

- Dialogue: The dialogue comes off perfect for all the characters. As stated before some of the best dialogue is in Chachi's Bar. Especially the meat-eater/plant eater plot point. It makes the comic a little more upbeat and allows us to start to get to know the characters a little more.

- Art: The art has me harkening back to the days when I was reading black and white TMNT comics by Eastman and Laird. It works like Justice League Unlimited and the other animated series for work for the DCU. It's uniform throughout the book and you get a sense of style.

The Bad (well not so bad just the constructive part):

- SAM: Not enough about Sam in this book. This may not be a bad thing since I have yet to read the next issues and I understand that the story has to be told in chapters. When I read "The story so far..." I expected the story to start more focused and then the world would be expanded as more characters came into focus. I was hoping for a story about Sam. Him being found and working outwards from there. He is going to be the huge central character for the book, I can sense that much. I just wanted more of him up front I guess.

- Digital Backgrounds: The computer graphics for the city, while they hold their own, distracted me from the characters in the panel. Now remember, I'm a story guy, so take any artistic critique with a grain of salt. Maybe I'm just weird like that, but the contrast between the art and the digital city just seemed a little off to me.

The Ugly:

There is no ugly, I just dig that movie.

Overall, I was entertained. I want the next book. If you produce something and people want to come back for more then you've done your job. You guys (and gals) have me wanting more.

Bring on Sam!

Mike

Dear Mike, Wow, you really got into it..... we really like the constructive criticism that only a true fan could give. We're new at this whole comic book thing, and we need feedback like yours to let us know what we can do better! We feel like we're getting better with every issue, and we even went back and re-mastered our first issue to make it look like it belongs with these latest issues! We hope we can live up to your expectations in our future issues and look forward to hearing from you again.

Well I wanted to write to you to tell you how much I have loved the first four issues of SAM. I saw your booth at the Pittsburgh Comicon and walked by it several times before stopping. Enjoying indy comics I decided to give your title a shot and man am I ever glad that I did!!! I love the whole concept of the story!! I could tell that you guys have taken your time on this and really have thought things out. In the story you are telling and your marketing. I picked up the doggie bag of SAM and really enjoyed the collecting cards that went along with the books. I gave my three and a half year old niece the coloring book and she has loved it! She keeps asking who all the characters are and I have been obliged to tell her. Just wanted to let you know you have two new fans! Now when will the rest of the story be coming out? I hope it won't be a long wait!

Anyways again congratulations on a great book and I will continue to check in and see how things are going!

Sincerely Bob

Dear Bob, We're so pleased you and your niece are enjoying SAM. The rest of the story is coming, we promise! (we're just a little slow).