

IDW

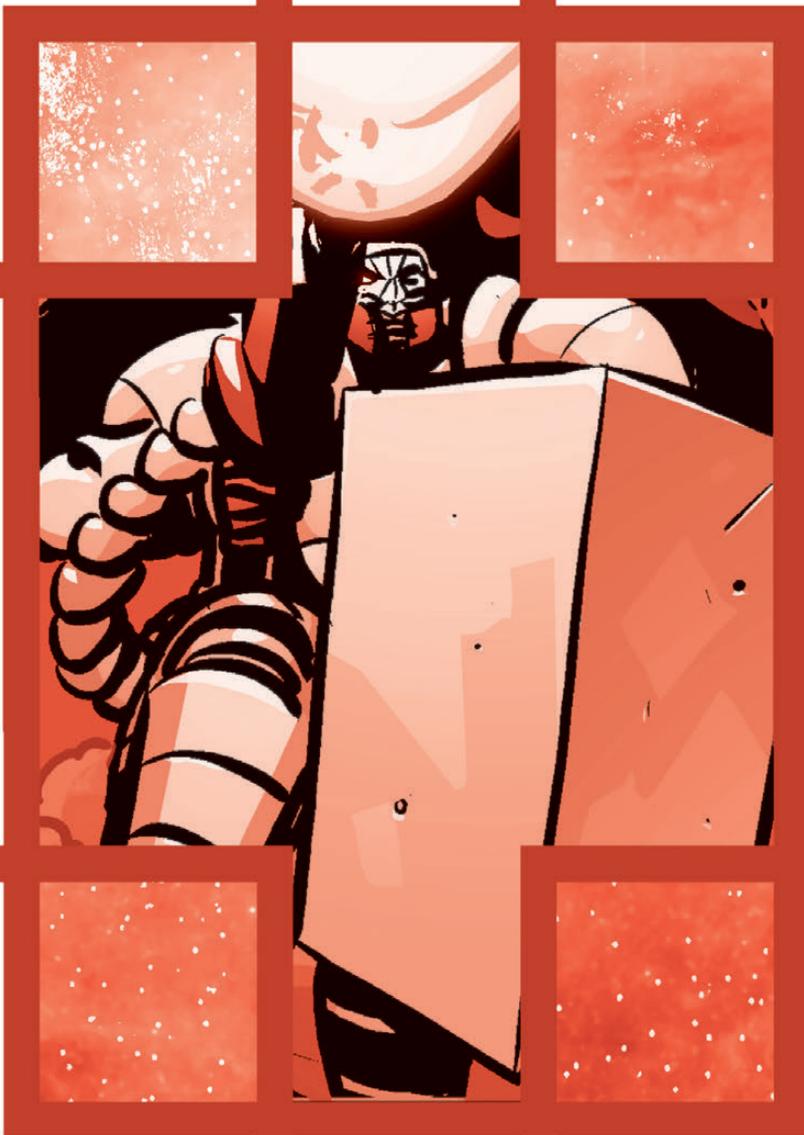
#4 • SUB CVR

WALTZ
MALONEY
YEE

THE LAST FALL

FOUR OF FIVE





WRITER: **TOM WALTZ**

ARTIST: **CASEY MALONEY**

COLORIST: **DUSTY YEE**

LETTERER: **SHAWN LEE**

EDITOR: **CHRIS RYALL**

Cover Checklist:



Regular Cover
Art by Casey Maloney
Colors by Dusty Yee



Subscription Cover
Art by Jose Holder

Very special thanks to Kristy Miller and Brian Miller of Hi-Fi Colour Design for their invaluable assistance in the creation of this comic book.

IDW[®]
www.IDWPUBLISHING.com
IDW founded by Ted Adams, Alex Garner, Kris Oprisko, and Robbie Robbins

Ted Adams, CEO & Publisher
Greg Goldstein, President & COO
Robbie Robbins, EVP/Sr. Graphic Artist
Chris Ryall, Chief Creative Officer/Editor-in-Chief
Matthew Ruzicka, CPA, Chief Financial Officer
Alan Payne, VP of Sales
Dirk Wood, VP of Marketing
Lorelei Bunjes, VP of Digital Services
Jeff Webber, VP of Digital Publishing & Business Development

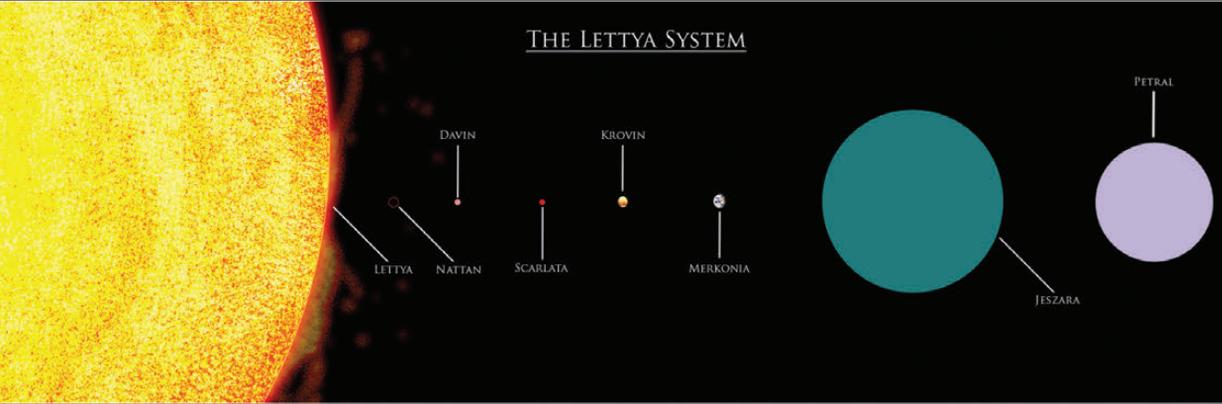
Facebook: [facebook.com/idwpublishing](https://www.facebook.com/idwpublishing)
Twitter: [@idwpublishing](https://twitter.com/idwpublishing)
YouTube: [youtube.com/idwpublishing](https://www.youtube.com/idwpublishing)
Instagram: [instagram.com/idwpublishing](https://www.instagram.com/idwpublishing)
deviantART: [idwpublishing.deviantart.com](https://www.deviantart.com/idwpublishing)
Pinterest: [pinterest.com/idwpublishing/idw-staff-faves](https://www.pinterest.com/idwpublishing/idw-staff-faves)



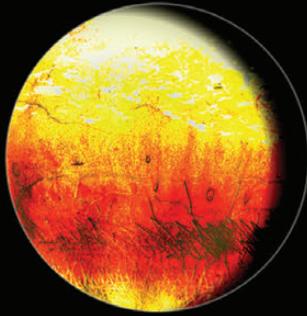
THE LAST FALL #4. MAY 2015. FIRST PRINTING. © 2015 TOM WALTZ, CASEY MALONEY AND IDEA AND DESIGN WORKS, LLC. © 2015 Idea and Design Works, LLC. IDW Publishing, a division of Idea and Design Works, LLC. Editorial offices: 5080 Santa Fe Street, San Diego CA 92109. The IDW logo is registered in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Any similarities to persons living or dead are purely coincidental. With the exception of artwork used for review purposes, none of the contents of this publication may be reprinted without the permission of Idea and Design Works, LLC. Printed in Korea. IDW Publishing does not read or accept unsolicited submissions of ideas, stories, or artwork.

THE LAST FALL

THE LETTYA SYSTEM



A SHORT HISTORY...



KROVIN



MERKONIA

THE LETTYA SYSTEM IS COMPRISED OF SEVEN ORBITING PLANETS, OF WHICH ONLY TWO ARE HABITABLE—KROVIN AND MERKONIA.

KROVIN IS A PRIMARILY DESERT PLANET RICH IN NATURAL SUBTERRANEAN RESOURCES, ORIGINALLY OCCUPIED BY PRIMITIVE, PANTHEISTIC, TRIBE-BASED NATIVES. MERKONIA IS LUSH AND ENVIRONMENTALLY DIVERSE, OCCUPIED BY A HIGHLY SOPHISTICATED CITIZENRY AND RULED BY A THEOCRACY.

LONG AGO, KROVIN WAS COLONIZED AND MINED BY MERKONIA FOR ITS ABUNDANT GEOLOGICAL RESOURCES, INCLUDING A POWERFUL NATURAL ENERGY SOURCE FOUND ONLY ON KROVIN. THE MERKONIAN UTILIZED THE PRIMITIVE INHABITANTS OF KROVIN—CALLED KROVINITES—AS SLAVE LABOR FOR THEIR MINING PURPOSES. IN TIME, THE MERKONIAN EXPLOITATION OF KROVIN CAME (SEEMINGLY) TO AN END, AND THE MERKONIAN ALL BUT ABANDONED THE DESERT PLANET, LEAVING BEHIND MUCH OF THEIR TECHNOLOGY, WHICH THE KROVINITES ULTIMATELY ADAPTED TO THEIR OWN EVOLVING SOCIAL AND POLITICAL NEEDS.

HOWEVER, WHEN MERKONIAN SCIENTISTS DISCOVERED THAT LETTYA WAS ENTERING ITS RED GIANT PHASE, THEY QUICKLY REALIZED TIME WAS RUNNING OUT FOR THEIR OWN PLANET AND THAT THEY WOULD NEED TO DEVELOP AN ESCAPE PLAN TO ENSURE THE CONTINUATION OF THEIR PEOPLE. ANY PLAN HINGED ON ONCE AGAIN MINING THE ABUNDANT FUEL SOURCE FOUND ON KROVIN, THUS PROMPTING THE MERKONIAN TO RETURN IN THE GUISE OF A RELIGIOUS WAR.

NOW, HOWEVER, THE KROVINITES—FAR MORE TECHNOLOGICALLY ADVANCED AND MILITARILY STRONGER—WOULD NOT HAND OVER THEIR HOME WORLD WITHOUT A FIGHT. AFTER YEARS OF FIERCE AND BLOODY WARFARE, AND NUMEROUS FAILED PEACE TALKS, TENS OF THOUSANDS HAVE DIED ON BOTH SIDES—AND CONTINUE TO DO SO—WITH ONLY ULTIMATE DOOM WAITING FOR BOTH PLANETS AS THEIR SHARED SUN BURNS HOTTER AND HOTTER.

SERGEANT MARCUS FALL, A MERKONIAN SOLDIER FIGHTING IN THIS FUTILE WAR, HAS EXPERIENCED HIS FAIR SHARE OF TRAGEDY, BOTH ON THE BATTLEFIELD AND ON THE HOME FRONT. THIS IS HIS STORY...

THERE IT IS, JUST AS WE WERE TOLD...

...IT APPEARS THE INTELLIGENCE WE GATHERED FROM COLONEL MALSTO WAS ACCURATE.

ALL DUE RESPECT, PRIEST-MAJOR ROLAND, BUT ARE YOU SURE?

I SEE A FEW GUARDS AND SCATTERED EQUIPMENT.

OTHER THAN THAT, IT DON'T LOOK LIKE MUCH TO ME.

THAT IS BECAUSE IT IS NOT MEANT TO LOOK SIGNIFICANT, GROUND-LIEUTENANT SINTAR.

IT'S APPARENT IRRELEVANCE IS, IN TRUTH, CAMOUFLAGE.

UNTIL NOW, THAT IS.

NOW WE KNOW THAT FACILITY IS SITTING ATOP LONG SOUGHT TREASURE, AND GOD WILLING, TREASURE THAT WILL BELONG TO MERKONIA BEFORE THE DAY IS DONE.

TREASURE YOUR MERKS WILL HELP US RETRIEVE, COLE, AND YOUR TICKET TO THE ASSIGNMENT AT BATTALION COMMAND THAT YOU'VE BEEN CRAVING.

BUT FIRST...

AIR-CAPTAIN LISTE, THIS IS PRIEST-MAJOR ROLAND. DO YOU READ? OVER.

LOUD AND CLEAR, SIR, OVER.

YOU MAY COMMENCE AIRSTRIKES. AND REMEMBER, CAPTAIN...



...I WANT THE ENEMY SHOCKED.

CHAPTER FOUR: TURNING AND RETURNING



I WANT THEM AWED.



"WE HAVE A LITTLE SURPRISE FOR YOU."



"SURPRISE? WHAT KIND OF SURPRISE?"



"OH, IT'S NOTHING, REALLY..."



"...JUST A LITTLE SOMETHING TO REMEMBER US BY."

