

GEORGE PÉREZ'S **SIRENS**

BOOK FOUR ANGRY DEAD PLANET

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COVER
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VARIANT COVER
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CONNECTING PENCIL VARIANT COVERS
GEORGE PÉREZ

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GEORGE PÉREZ
COLORS BY **LEONARDO PACIAROTTI**

Dedicated to my personal Siren and Muse: the glorious Carol Flynn, known to the world of belly dance as Phoenixia, to Sirens readers as Fanisha, and to me as my wife. After 34 years (and counting) her enchantment and inspiration continue to enrich my soul.

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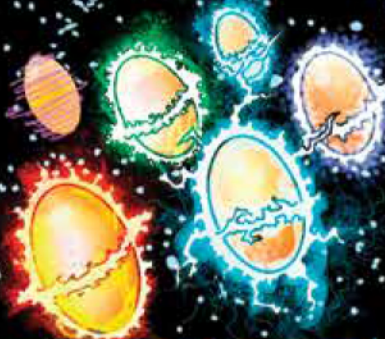
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*FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO FLUNKED INTERGALACTIC HISTORY, THIS IS--OR WAS--TERRA PRIME.



*THE PLANET THE ANCIENTS ONCE CALLED 'EARTH', FACING ITS FINAL HOURS.

*THE END ARRIVED, SEEMINGLY OUT OF NOWHERE, IN THE FORM OF SIX GIGANTIC, GOLDEN EGGS. ORIGINS? UNKNOWN.



*PURPOSE? WELL, THAT SOON BECAME ALL TOO EVIDENT AS EACH POSITIONED ITSELF IN FIXED ORBIT OVER THE UNSUSPECTING SPHERE--



*--EACH OVOID SATELLITE HOUSED LIVING WEAPONS INTENT ON USING OUR FORMER HOMEWORLD'S OWN ELEMENTS AGAINST IT:

*EARTH.



*WIND.



*LIGHTNING.



*FIRE.



*WATER.



*ICE.



*BY THE TIME THE LUNAR FORCES ASCERTAINED THE TRUE DISPOSITION OF THE EGGS, IT WAS ALREADY TOO LATE."

CAPT. B-LAK!
NAVIGATION AND
WEAPONRY HAVE
SHUT DOWN.
WE'RE DEAD IN
SPACE!

SOMETHING'S
INFECTED OUR
COMPUTERS.
INITIATE MANUAL
OVERRIDE!

I'M AFRAID I CAN'T
LET YOU DO THAT,
CAPT. B-LAK.

EH! AN
INTERFACE?

YOU'RE
THE ONE THEY
CALL SHERITA--
ONE OF THE
REBELS!





A
SIREN!



AFFIRMATIVE, CAPTAIN. FEAR
NOT. IF MY IMPERATIVE WAS
TO DESTROY YOUR FLEET--

--IT
WOULD
ALREADY
BE SO.

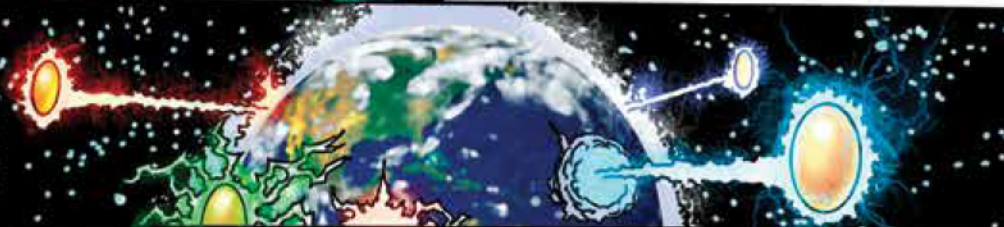


YOUR PART IN THIS
INITIATIVE IS NOT TO DIE,
BUT TO SURVIVE--

--AND
TO BEAR
WITNESS.

AND THAT'S
WHAT B-LAK AND
THE OTHER
PILOTS DID--

AS INTERFACE
SADISTICALLY
CHANNELED EACH
MONITOR TO PLAY
OUT THE CATACLYSM
THAT FOLLOWED.



SOMETHING WITHIN
THE GOLDEN SHELLS
SEEMED TO MAGNIFY
THE POWER OF THE
SIRENS INSIDE
BEYOND MEASURE.



TREMOR'S CONTROL OF
EARTH AND STONE WAS NOW
STRONG ENOUGH TO CAUSE
SEISMIC ERUPTIONS
THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE
BODY OF THE PLANET.



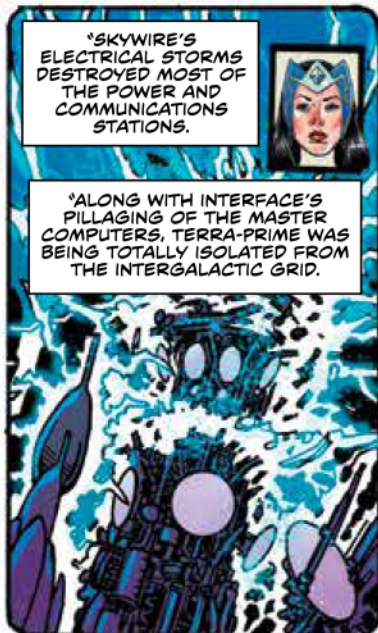
ZEPHYR'S POWER
OVER THE WIND NOW
MANIFESTED ITSELF
WITH CYCLONES AND
HURRICANES CAPABLE
OF DECIMATING ALL
FIGHTER AND DEFENSE
AIRCRAFT IN THEIR
PATHS.



SKYWIRE'S
ELECTRICAL STORMS
DESTROYED MOST OF
THE POWER AND
COMMUNICATIONS
STATIONS.



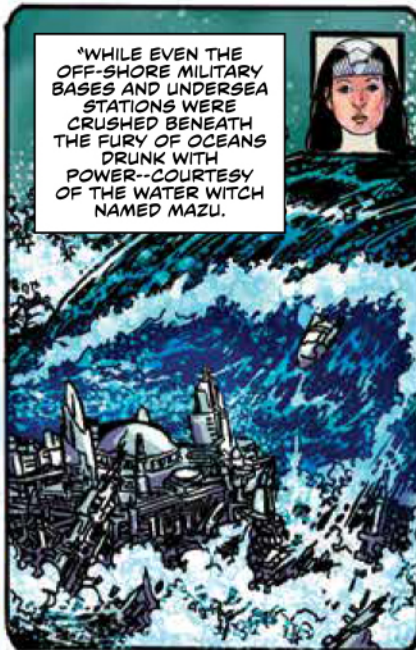
ALONG WITH INTERFACE'S
PILLAGING OF THE MASTER
COMPUTERS, TERRA-PRIME WAS
BEING TOTALLY ISOLATED FROM
THE INTERGALACTIC GRID.



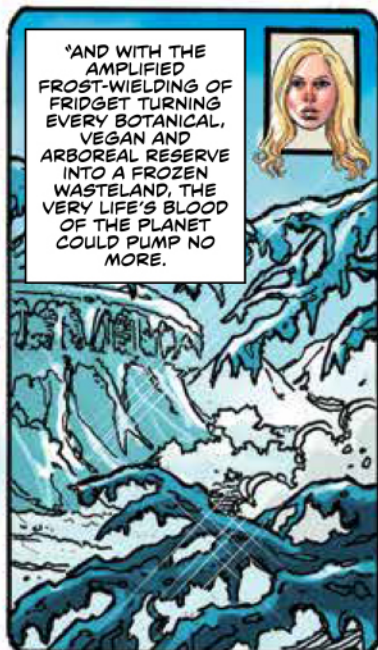
ENTIRE CITIES WERE
REDUCED TO CINDERS
IN THE WORLDWIDE
CONFLAGRATION
BROUGHT ABOUT BY
THE INCENDIARY
SIREN, SUNBURN.



WHILE EVEN THE
OFF-SHORE MILITARY
BASES AND UNDERSEA
STATIONS WERE
CRUSHED BENEATH
THE FURY OF OCEANS
DRUNK WITH
POWER--COURTESY
OF THE WATER WITCH
NAMED MAZU.



AND WITH THE
AMPLIFIED
FROST-WIELDING OF
FRIDGET TURNING
EVERY BOTANICAL,
VEGAN AND
ARBOREAL RESERVE
INTO A FROZEN
WASTELAND, THE
VERY LIFE'S BLOOD
OF THE PLANET
COULD PUMP NO
MORE.



*AT FIRST, THE
WORLD CAPITAL,
NEW MECCA,
SEEMED TO BE
SPARED FROM
MUCH OF THE
ARMAGEDDON--



*--BUT, ONLY BECAUSE
THOSE SINISTER
SIRENS HAD A SPECIAL
DEATH SENTENCE TO
IMPOSE UPON IT.



*THE PRESIDENTIAL
AIR ARMADA
PROVED WOEFULLY
INEFFECTUAL
AGAINST THE
NUCLEAR MIGHT
OF THE APTLY
NAMED
BOMBSHELL.

*EVEN AS THE
MECHANIZED
GROUND FORCES
FARED NO
BETTER AGAINST
THE DESTRUCTIVE
POWER OF THE
SIREN BARRAGE.



*AND WHEN IT CAME
TO CLOSE-QUARTER
COMBAT--IT WAS NO
CONTEST--



*WHETHER IT
WAS AGAINST THE
NINJA-GHOST
KAGE--



*--OR THE
SADISTIC BRUTE
AGONY--



*--OR THE
KNIFE-THROWING,
STEEL-CLAWED
SISTER SLASH--

*USELESS.
PATHETICALLY
AND TRAGICALLY
USELESS.

*B-LAK DID GET ONE LAST
TRANSMISSION FROM THE
VICE-PRESIDENT OF NEW
MECCA, DOUBTLESS ON A
WHIM FROM INTERFACE.



*NO SOUND--

*--BUT NONE
WAS NEEDED.



*THE SIREN AMMO
ONCE DECLARED
HERSELF AN
EX-ASSASSIN.



*SEEMS LIKE THE 'EX'
PART WAS GROSSLY
EXAGGERATED.

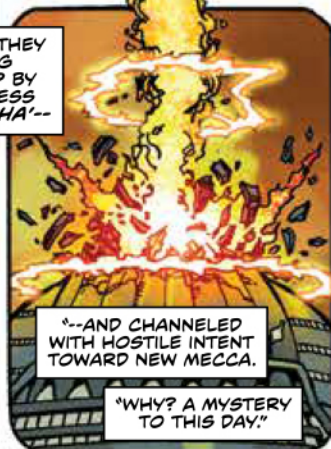


"NO ONE KNOWS EXACTLY THE NATURE OF THE STRANGE EMANATIONS COMING FROM THE HEKLA TEMPLE IN WHAT WAS ONCE CALLED ICELAND--



"--ONLY THAT THEY WERE BEING CONJURED UP BY THE SORCERESS CALLED 'FANISHA'--

"--IRONICALLY, DRAGGO FOR 'SAVIOR'--



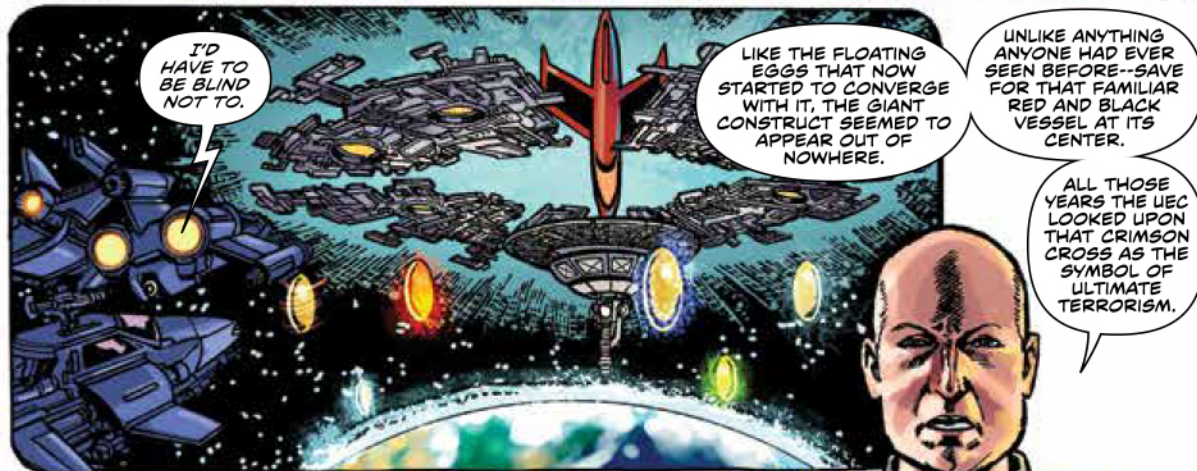
"--AND CHANNLED WITH HOSTILE INTENT TOWARD NEW MECCA.

"WHY? A MYSTERY TO THIS DAY."



CAPTAIN B-LAK! LOOK! OVER TERRA-PRIME!

I SEE IT, PRYNCH-PEH.



I'D HAVE TO BE BLIND NOT TO.

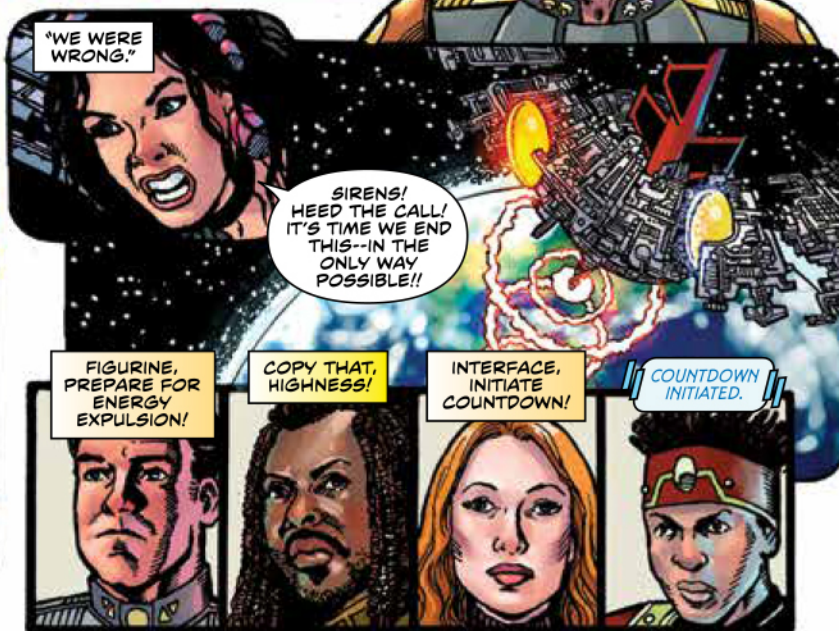
LIKE THE FLOATING EGGS THAT NOW STARTED TO CONVERGE WITH IT, THE GIANT CONSTRUCT SEEMED TO APPEAR OUT OF NOWHERE.

UNLIKE ANYTHING ANYONE HAD EVER SEEN BEFORE--SAVE FOR THAT FAMILIAR RED AND BLACK VESSEL AT ITS CENTER.

ALL THOSE YEARS THE UEC LOOKED UPON THAT CRIMSON CROSS AS THE SYMBOL OF ULTIMATE TERRORISM.



"AND PERDITION AS ITS FACE.



"WE WERE WRONG."

SIRENS! HEED THE CALL! IT'S TIME WE END THIS--IN THE ONLY WAY POSSIBLE!!

FIGURINE, PREPARE FOR ENERGY EXPULSION!

COPY THAT, HIGHNESS!

INTERFACE, INITIATE COUNTDOWN!

COUNTDOWN INITIATED.

"ACCORDING TO B-LAK AND HIS PILOTS, THE COUNTDOWN EITHER TOOK FOREVER--OR AN INSTANT."

EITHER WAY, THE RESULT WAS THE SAME, AND ON THE 9TH OF JUNE, 4591, A DATE FOREVER MARKED IN RED ON THE TERRAN CALENDAR, TERRA-PRIME, AND ALL THE RACES, NATIVE AND ALIEN, WHO PEOPLED IT--DIED.

ALL THAT WAS LEFT WAS A BLAZING BALL OF RADIOACTIVE, NUCLEAR WASTE ORBITING IN SPACE LIKE A FLOATING CORPSE.

TO THIS DAY, IT REMAINS NOT ONLY THE MOST HEINOUS MASS-GENOCIDE EVER RECORDED IN TERRAN HISTORY--BUT ALSO, BY ITS VERY APOCALYPTIC NATURE--THE LAST.

IF ANY GOOD CAN BE SAID TO HAVE COME FROM THIS HOLOCAUST IT'S THAT IT UNITED ALL THE FEUDING RACES, TERRAN AND ALIEN, AGAINST A COMMON ENEMY.

WITH THE BREED B-LAK ASSIGNED TO LEAD THE VENGEFUL CHARGE.

IN THE COURSE OF ONE DECADE, SEVEN SIRENS WERE EITHER EXECUTED AFTER TRIAL OR KILLED TRYING TO EVADE JUSTICE.

THE FATE OF EIGHT OF THE OTHERS REMAINS A MYSTERY EVEN NOW.

"HOWEVER, B-LAK'S BIGGEST COUP WAS CAPTURING HIGHNESS, WHEN HER OWN GREED AND ARROGANCE PROVED HER UNDOING ON THE GROOG PLANET--ONCE HAVEN TO HER FORMER PARAMOUR AND FELLOW TERRORIST PERDITION.

"FROM WHAT THEY FOUND THERE, THAT LOVE AFFAIR DID NOT END WELL.

"TRIED BY THE VERY RACE SHE CLAIMED WERE THE ENEMY OF THE TERRAN PEOPLE, MADAME VIZCARRA, A.K.A. HIGHNESS, WAS SENTENCED BY THE GROOG EMPIRE TO LIFE ON MULKAI-5, THE FORMER P.O.W. PLANET CALLED DUNGEON ROCK.

"ALTHOUGH SHE WAS TERRAN BORN, THE UEC SAW NO REASON TO INTERCEDE. AFTER ALL, FOR AN IMMORTAL, LIFE ON THAT INFAMOUS TORTURE PLANET WAS A FAR CRUELER--AND THUS, MORE FITTING--PUNISHMENT THAN ANY DEATH SENTENCE.

"AND SO THERE SHE REMAINED, ALONE, ABANDONED, AND, IT WAS HOPED, FORGOTTEN."