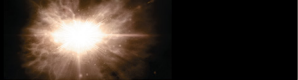


WHAT EXISTED
BEFORE KNOWING OR
UNDERSTANDING?

WHERE DID THE *SPARK* THAT
IGNITED EVERYTHING COME FROM?



THE EXPLOSION THAT FOLLOWED
THE SPARK CONTAINED ALL THE
INFORMATION THAT EVER WAS
AND EVER WILL BE.

THE EXPLOSION
INVENTED TIME.

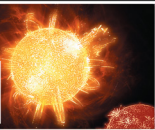


FOR 40,000 YEARS THE HEAT
FROM THE SPARK WAS SO
GREAT THAT NOTHING COULD BE
SUSTAINED, NOT EVEN LIGHT.



BUT THROUGH
EXPANSION THE
HEAT SUBSIDED,
ALLOWING
MOLTEN
INFORMATION
TO COOL.

AND
AGAIN CAME
THE SPARK.
IGNITING
POOLED GAS
BALLS INTO
STARS BY THE
MULTITUDES.



STARS, LANTERNS HUNG
IN THE EXPANDING ARC
OF SPACE, FUELED BY THE
EXCESS GASSES LEFT
FROM THAT FIRST GREAT
EXPLOSION.



400 MILLION YEARS AFTER
THE INITIAL *SPARK*,
THERE FINALLY WAS *LIGHT*.

HIROSHIMA, JAPAN, EARTH,
SOL SYSTEM, ORION ARM,
MILKY WAY, VIRGO SUPERCLUSTER.

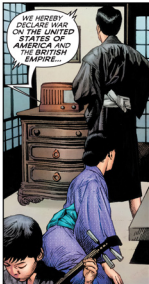
NYAAAA!

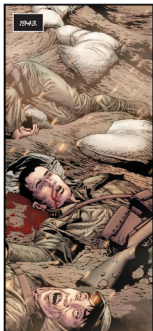
AND WHERE THERE IS
LIGHT THERE IS CLARITY.

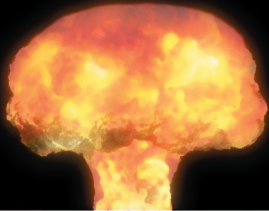
1936, C.E.—PLANET-SIDE
CALENDAR, 14 BILLION YEARS
AFTER THE BIG BANG.

MY BABY
IS A BOY!
A BEAUTIFUL
BOY!

1938.







the LIFE
and DEATH of
**TOYO
HARADA**
CHAPTER I:
THE SPARK

JOSHUA DYSART writer
CAFU and MICO SUJAYAN art
ANDREW DALHOUSE colors
DAVE SHARPE letters
DAVID MENDEL asst. editor
KARL BOLLERS editor
JOSEPH ILLIDGE
executive
editor



1948. PEACE FESTIVAL. HIROSHIMA.
GROUND ZERO.

**PEACE FOR A
BETTER WORLD**

I PRAISE
THE JAPANESE
PEOPLE FOR THEIR
SENTIMENTS
TODAY...

AT THE SAME
TIME, I MUST
REMINDE YOU
THAT YOU CAUSED
THIS TRAGEDY
YOURSELVES.

THE DESTRUCTIVE
WAYS OF WAR AND
AGGRESSION BROUGHT
THIS DISASTER UPON
YOUR CITY.

IT'S
YOU...

THE
BOY! HE'S
HERE!

HARADA-
SAMA!

WHO
THE BLOODY
HELL'S THAT
KID?

I'M SORRY,
COMMANDER-SAN?
WHAT CHILD DO
YOU SPEAK OF?
I SEE NO ONE.

COMMANDER...

COME
WITH ME,
EVERYONE
ELSE...