

SLAYERS®



IT'S OMPARIAN VS QUARRON
 STARSLAYERS VS STAR EMPIRE!

READ: THE

FINAL CONFLICT

W. J. ...
 J. ...

Pgs 1-9: Willie Peppers & Bill Anderson
 Pgs 10-16: Willie Peppers & Mark Heike
 Pgs 17-22,24,26: Rick McCollum & Bill Anderson
 Pgs 23,25: Rick McCollum Thank you. --MB

THE FINAL CONFLICT!

CONCEIVED & WRITTEN BY MATT BUCHER



ON THE WEST SLAVE COLONY OF OMPAR, CHAOS RULES AS EMBITTERED SLAVES ARE BEING EQUIPPED WITH ARMS.

HURRY, MY FRIENDS! THE TIME FOR REBELLION IS AT HAND!

YOUR CHANCE IS NOW! PREPARE TO DEFEND YOURSELVES!

RAH!

RAH!

ARTISTS & LETTERS BY WILLIE PEPPERS
 INKS BY BILL ANDERSON & MARK HEIKE

ARTISTS & INKS BY RICK MCCOLLUM & BA

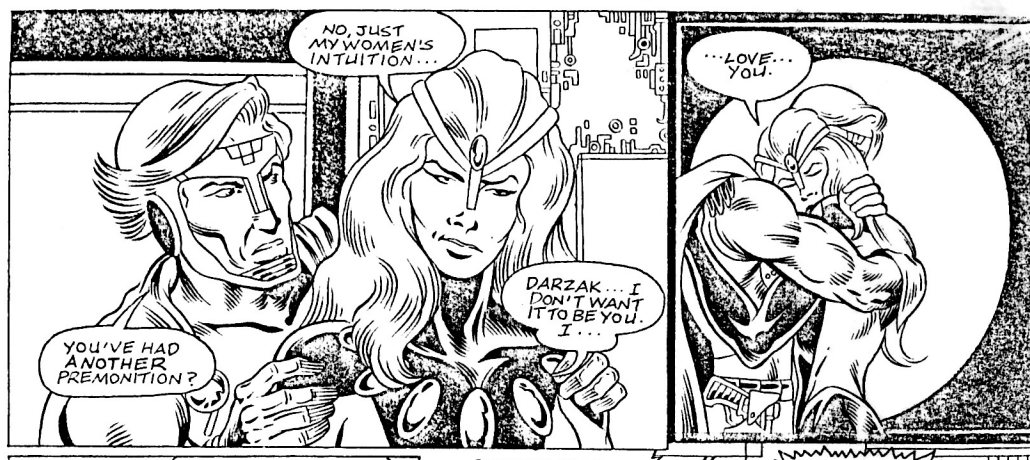
I GUESS, I JUST CAN'T SEEM TO PUT AWAY MY PREMONITION THAT BEFORE THIS IS OVER, A STARSAYER WILL DIE.



DARZAK, ALL THE WEAPONS ARE HANDED OUT.

WHAT ABOUT YOU, SARRAH? YOU READY?

THIS IS THE ENDGAME, DARZAK. AND IT'S GOING TO HAPPEN SOON, I CAN FEEL IT!



NO, JUST MY WOMEN'S INTUITION...

...LOVE... YOU!

YOU'VE HAD ANOTHER PREMONITION?

DARZAK... I DON'T WANT IT TO BE YOU. I...



ONCE THE REBELLION IS OVER, SARRAH, WE CAN BOTH RETREAT TO A LIFE OF HAPPINESS...

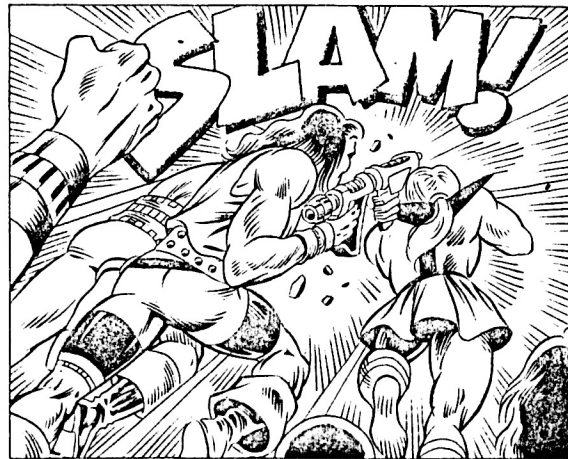
...TOGETHER.

BUT, UNTIL THAT TIME, THE CAUSE MUST COME FIRST.



SAVE THE CHARGES IN YOUR WEAPONS-- YOU'LL NEED THEM FOR QUARRONS!

BREAK THE DOOR DOWN, AND LET'S GO!

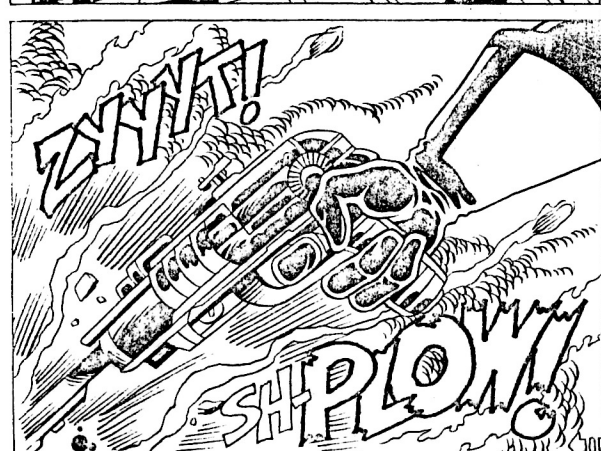


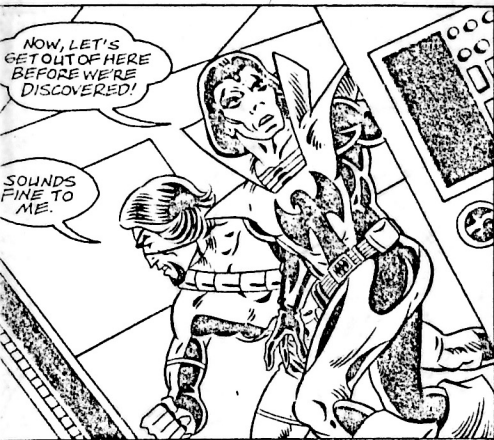
SLAM!



WH...? WHAT THE HELL'S GOING ON?!

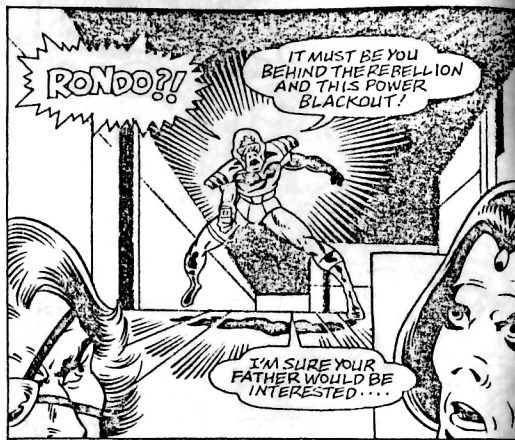
AS THE DOOR COLLAPSES, THE OMPARIANS, INSANE WITH ENTHUSIASM... ATTACK!!





NOW, LET'S GET OUT OF HERE BEFORE WE'RE DISCOVERED!

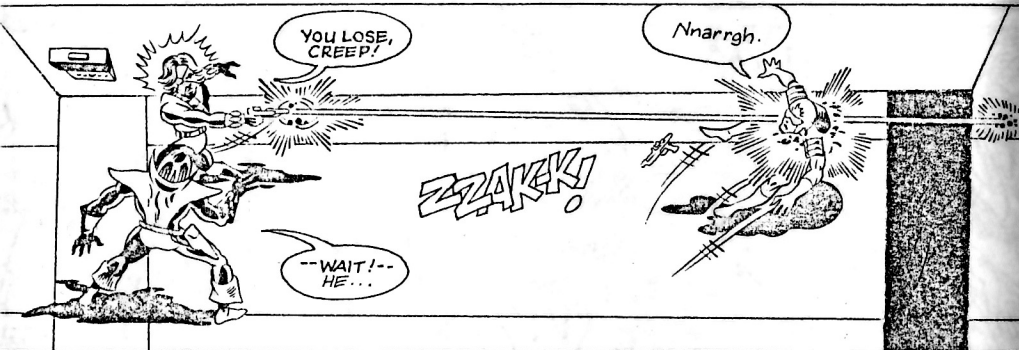
SOUNDS FINE TO ME.



RONDO?!

IT MUST BE YOU BEHIND THE REBELLION AND THIS POWER BLACKOUT!

I'M SURE YOUR FATHER WOULD BE INTERESTED...



YOU LOSE, CREEP!

Nnarrgh.

ZZAKAK!

--WAIT!-- HE...



BLACKSTAR! YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO KILL HIM!

LISSEN, RONDO, IT'S TOO LATE TO BE SWITCHIN' SIDES.

WE'RE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER, FOR BETTER OR WORSE!

C'MON!

BASTARD, HE'S RIGHT.



DAEMINS, WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON?

THE SLAVES ARE REBELLING, AND THEY HAVE CLT THE POWER, LORD KLARN!



ALL OUR MOST POWERFUL WEAPONS ARE USELESS NOW, BUT WE STILL OUTNUMBER THEM THREE TO ONE!

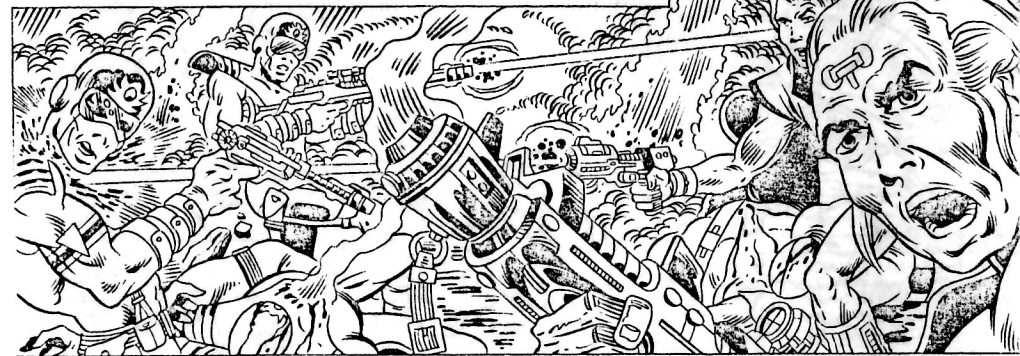


THEIR VALIANT EFFORTS ARE FOR NAUGHT... FOR, WHEN THIS IS ALL OVER...

THE STAR-SLAYERS WILL DIE!!



A FAMOUS PHRASE TELLS US THAT "WAR IS HELL" AND, TO EXPERIENCE AN ACTUAL WAR IS TO TRULY COMPREHEND THE HIDEOUS TRUTH OF THAT PHRASE.



FOR, WITH WAR... DEATH RUNS RAMPANT!

Aggh!



EVEN WITH THE AID OF THE STARSLAYERS THE PREVALENCE OF THE OMPARIAN IS, AT BEST, QUESTIONABLE.

... AND THEY STRIVE TO ELIMINATE THE SHADOW OF DOUBT.

...EED, THE STARSLAYERS ACCOUNT FOR MUCH OF THE PREVAILING OMPARIANS.

BUT WHEREAS THE STARSLAYERS ARE TRAINED IN THE ART OF COMBAT, THE SLAVES ARE NOT.



THE QUARRONS ARE WINNING!



WE'RE LOSING! I KNOW! HAS IT COME TO THIS? WE'VE COME THIS FAR TO LOSE IT WHEN WE NOW HAVE OUR CHANCE?



STARSLAYERS, LOOK!!

THE SCENE ITSELF IS BREATHTAKING. MASSIVE ARMIES FROM MORE THAN TEN WORLDS... TENS OF THOUSANDS OF WARRIORS COMING TO ARGON'S AID. THESE ARE ARGON'S FRIENDS, AND THROUGH THEIR FRIENDSHIP AND POWER...



... THEY WILL GIVE THE STARSLAYERS AND THE OMPARIANS A SECOND CHANCE.

HEREAS MOMENTS AGO THE OMPARIANS WERE LOSE TO DEFEAT, THE TABLES ARE NOW TURN-
D.



C'MON LADDIES,
LET'S BE GETTIN' US
SOME QUARRONS!



SOLAN, MY FRIEND!
YOU AND THE SURENS
ARE PACIFISTS! ---
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

DARZAK

MEME 3-31-82



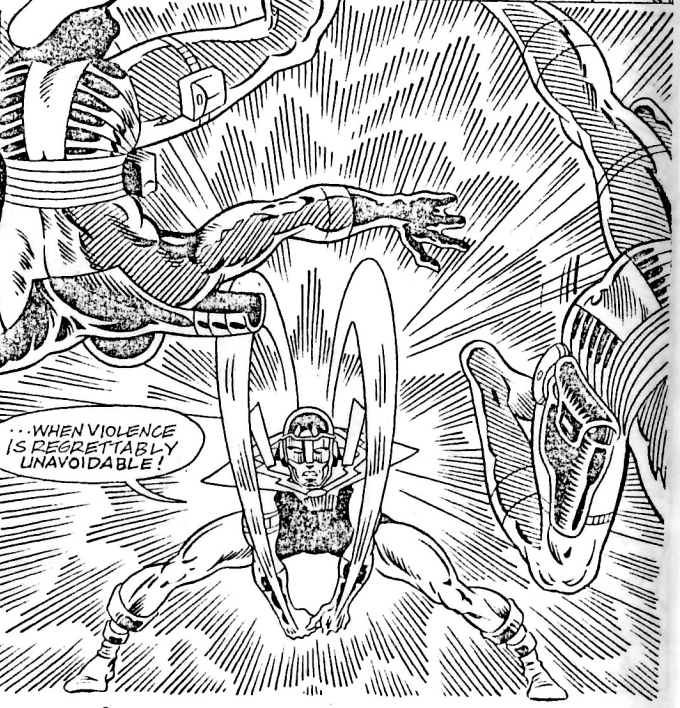
Hmmn.
THINGS ARE
STARTING TO
LOOK UP!



I WONDER HOW
THE REST OF THE
STARSLAYERS
ARE DOING?



IT IS ONLY NOW THAT
I FULLY UNDERSTAND YOUR
POSITION, ARGON.



...WHEN VIOLENCE
IS REGRETTABLY
UNAVOIDABLE!

AND THERE
ARE TIMES...

I TOLD SARRAH THAT
WE COULD RETREAT TO A
LIFE OF PEACE... BUT
I CAN'T SIMPLY IGNORE
THE LIFE I'VE LED
WITH DAMIEN.

CAN I FORSAKE
THAT EXCITEMENT?

... I MUST TRY.

HE TAUGHT ME
TO LIVE!...

WHERE IS
SARRAH?



THIS BATTLE WILL
SOON BE OVER...
I CAN FEEL IT.

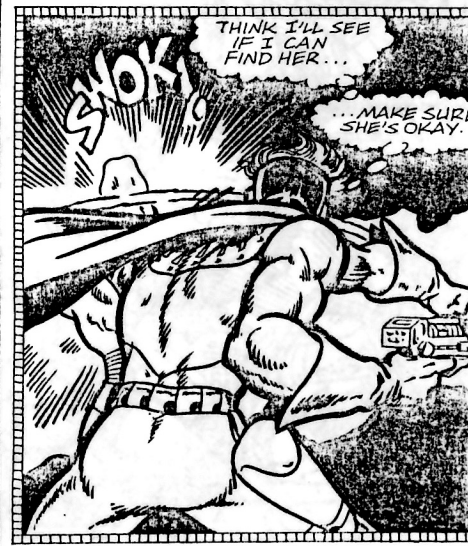
BUT AFTERWAR
WHAT THEN



...TO RELISH
EXCITEMENT...
AND DANGER.



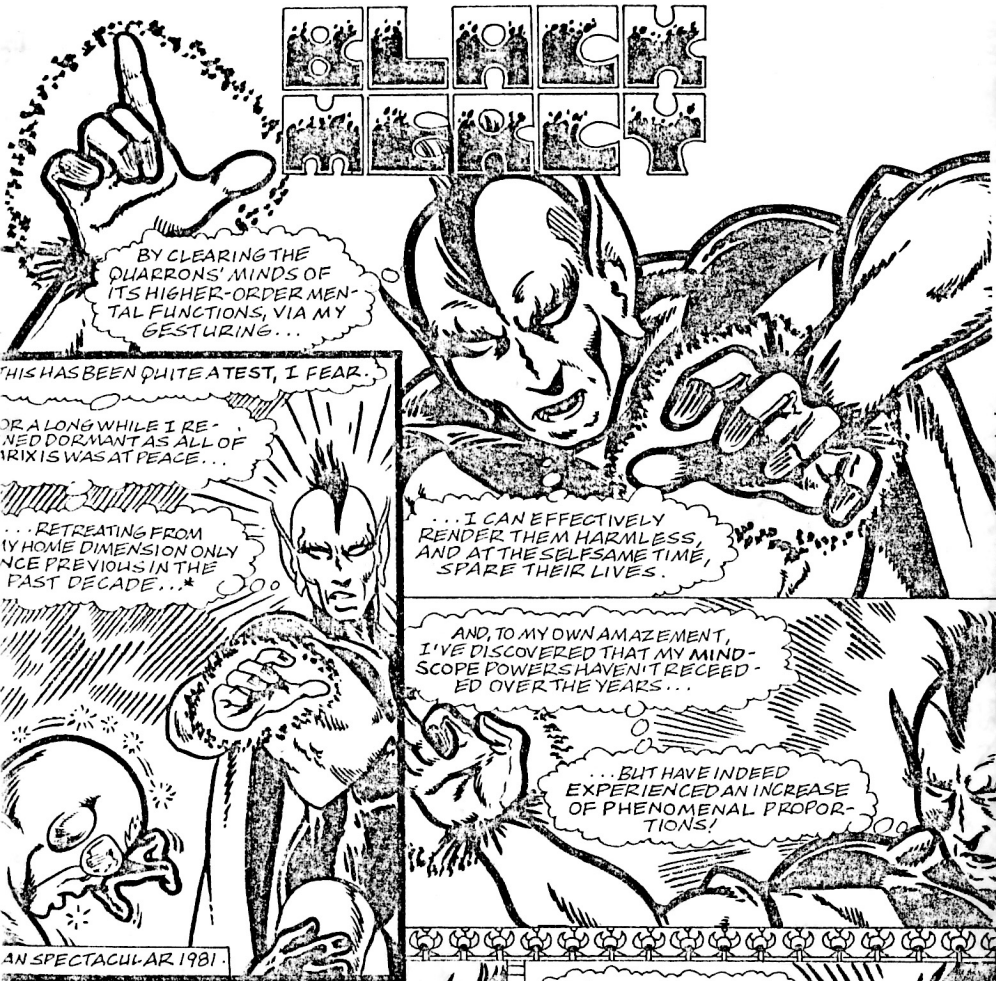
... I REMEMBER
SEEING HER JUST
A MOMENT AGO...



THINK I'LL SEE
IF I CAN
FIND HER...

SHOK!

... MAKE SURE
SHE'S OKAY.



ALL
HAPPY

BY CLEARING THE QUARRONS' MINDS OF ITS HIGHER-ORDER MENTAL FUNCTIONS, VIA MY GESTURING...

THIS HAS BEEN QUITE A TEST, I FEAR...

FOR A LONG WHILE I REMAINED DORMANT AS ALL OF ARIXIS WAS AT PEACE...

...RETRACTING FROM MY HOME DIMENSION ONLY ONCE PREVIOUS IN THE LAST DECADE...

... I CAN EFFECTIVELY RENDER THEM HARMLESS, AND AT THE SAME TIME, SPARE THEIR LIVES.

AND, TO MY OWN AMAZEMENT, I'VE DISCOVERED THAT MY MIND-SCOPE POWERS HAVEN'T RECEDED OVER THE YEARS...

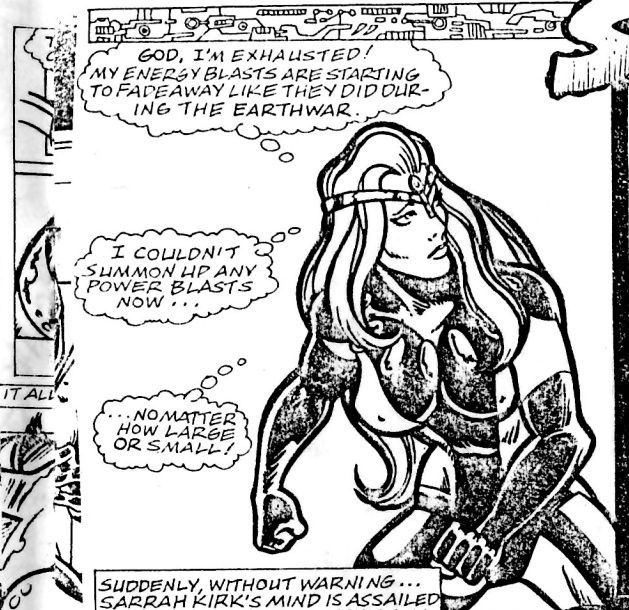
... BUT HAVE INDEED EXPERIENCED AN INCREASE OF PHENOMENAL PROPORTIONS!

AN SPECTACULAR 1981.

IF CURRENT METAMORPHOSIS CONTINUES, SOON I WILL BECOME CAPABLE OF THINGS BEYOND ALL IMAGININGS!

AND, IF I FAIL TO HONE THIS INCREASED POWER, IT WOULD CONTINUE TO MULTIPLY UNTIL SOON IT WOULD BE BEYOND EVEN MY CONTROL!...

... AND WHAT THEN? ...



GOD, I'M EXHAUSTED! MY ENERGY BLASTS ARE STARTING TO FADE AWAY LIKE THEY DID DURING THE EARTH WAR.

I COULDN'T SUMMON UP ANY POWER BLASTS NOW...

... NO MATTER HOW LARGE OR SMALL!

SARRAH

... AND IN MY HEART, I FEAR THAT MY BLASTS WILL NEVER RETURN... WHAT THEN--?

Sheezus, I WISH DARZAK WERE HERE...

... I'M SO SCARED.

SUDDENLY, WITHOUT WARNING... SARRAH KIRK'S MIND IS ASSAILED WITH A TORRENT OF PSYCHIC IMAGES... AND, AS SUDDEN AS THEY APPEARED...

Oh! A... VISION!...



... THEY ARE GONE.



Sheezus! RONDO'S GOING TO CONFRONT HIS FATHER!

HE MAY NEED MY HELP!



MEANWHILE, IT CONTINUES...



BY THE GOLDENDREAMER, IT'S ACTUALLY HAPPENING!

ALL THOSE MONTHS AGO WHEN I ESCAPED TO CONTACT ARGON...

I SERIOUSLY DOUBTED THAT THIS DAY WOULD EVER COME.

NO. WHEN THIS IS OVER I WILL NOT REJOICE, I WILL SUSTAIN. THE BATTLE HERE IS THE OUTER CONFLICT, BUT THERE HAS ALWAYS BEEN AN INNER CONFLICT TOO...

...THE ONE WITH MY FATHER!



... AND NOW THAT IT HAS, AM I HAPPY?

No. HOW CAN I BE HAPPY WHEN I AM DEFEATING MY OWN PEOPLE...

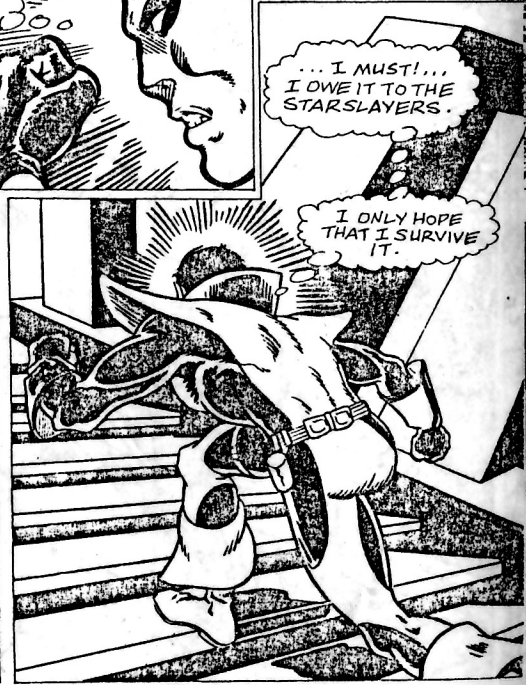
... MY OWN FATHER?...

... I MUST!... I OWE IT TO THE STARSLAYERS.

I ONLY HOPE THAT I SURVIVE IT.



I HAVE NEVER HAD THE COURAGE TO FACE MY FATHER, TO CONFRONT HIM, BUT NOW I FEEL I MUST!



AND, IN THE OFFICE OF LORD KLARN, MONARCH OF THE QUARRON EMPIRE...

IT HAS COME TO THIS HAS IT?

THE QUARRON RACE IS BEING HUMILIATED... AND I ALONG WITH IT.



THERE CAN BE ONLY ONE SOLUTION...

THE ANNIHILATION CONCEPT!

IT IS THE ONLY DESTRUCTIVE DEVICE LEFT INTACT. UNAFFECTED BY THE POWER OUTAGE, AND STILL THE MOST POWERFUL.

QUARRON AND OMPARIAN ALIKE SHALL DIE... BUT I WILL ESCAPE! LORD KLARN SHALL LAUGH LAST!

WHEN ACTIVATED, IT WILL DESTROY OMPAR! SPLIT IT ASUNDER!!

HE'S GONE INSANE!



NO!

I WON'T LET YOU DO IT, FATHER!

--RONDO?!--
HAHAHAH!

AND OUTSIDE...



I HAVE TO HURRY!

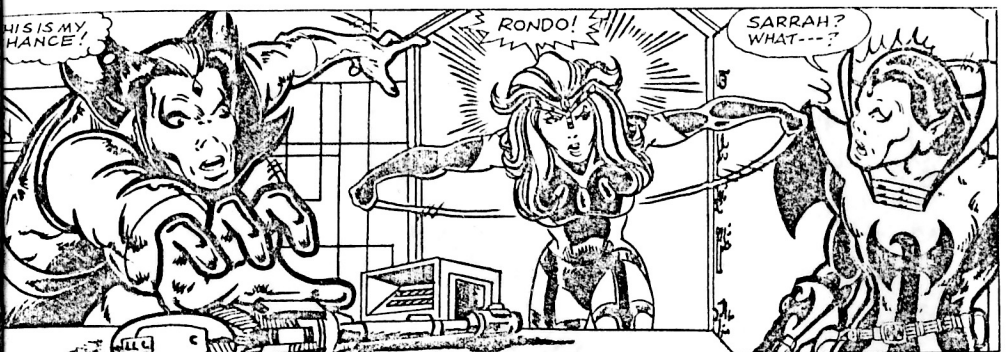


AND TELL ME, MY SON, JUST HOW DO YOU INTEND TO STOP ME?

DO YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES TO PULL THE TRIGGER?... TO KILL YOUR OWN FATHER?...

...DO YOU?!

I DON'T KNOW.



THIS IS MY CHANCE!

RONDO!

SARRAH? WHAT---



OF COURSE NOT!

YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN LIKE THIS! A DISGRACE TO THE FAMILY AND THE ENTIRE QUARRON RACE!!



YOU CANNOT STOP ME!

CAN'T WASTE TIME. IF I CAN JUST REACH THE BLASTER ON TOP OF MY DESK, I...



HAPPENS VERY FAST...

YOU SHOT HER!

YOU SHOT HER!!



NO! NO!



R-RONDO... NO.

SARRAH?!



TELL DARZAK... I... LOVED... X:

I WILL, SARRAH...

I WILL..

NOMAD

I HAVE PROVEN MYSELF TO THE OTHER STARSLAINERS, EVEN ARGON MUST NOW AGREE THAT—

OH!

THESE QUARRONS ARE STRONG, BUT THEY ARE AS NOTHING COMPARED TO NOMAD NOW THAT I AM THE CONQUEROR OF THE ABYSS!



SOMETHING'S HAPPENED—I FELT A DEATH— NO, TWO DEATHS!

ARGON, DID YOU FEEL THAT!

YES! BUT I AM UNSURE



ATTENTION!

CEASE FIGHTING! YOUR LEADER LORD KLARN IS DEAD! SINCE I AM NEXT IN LINE OF THE QUARRON DYNASTY, I NOW RULE! I DECLARE THIS WAR OVER!



NOW WHAT?

I DON'T BELIEVE IT—



KLARN DEAD? BY THE GOLDENDREAMER WE DID IT!

VICTORY HAS COME BITTERSWEET.



RONDO! WHERE IS SARRAH?

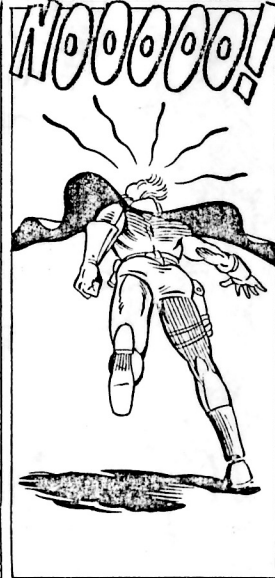
IT'S A SHAKY FEELING... ONLY RESPECT FOR MY ROYAL BLOOD BINDS THEM...

GODS.



DARZAK, MY FRIEND, SARRAH IS DEAD BY MY FATHER'S HAND.

NO!



IN MOMENTS THE WAR HAS ENDED AND THE PEOPLE OF OMPAR ARE FREE. BUT THERE IS NO CELEBRATION—



THERE HAS BEEN TOO MUCH DEATH.



PARZAK?



SARRAH... OH SARRAH... I LOVED YOU...



GET THE HELL OUT OF HERE!



HOW IS DARZAK TAKING IT?

YOU KNOW?

WE ALL DO.



AS WELL AS CAN BE EXPECTED.

12-9-81/773



WHEN SHE JOINED US SHE PREDICTED THE DEATH OF A STARSAYER. IT IS A MOCKERY OF COSMIC JUSTICE THAT IT TURNED OUT TO BE HER.

IT WAS THE COSMIC COMEDY THAT TOOK HER LIFE, NOT FATED IRONY.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT?

I-I'M NOT SURE.

SARRAH KNEW.

DARZAK?

SHE MUST HAVE KNOWN THAT SHE WOULD BE THE ONE TO DIE BUT IT WAS HIDDEN IN HER SUBCONSCIOUS. SHE GAVE HER LIFE FOR US—

I AM TO BLAME.

NONSENSE. IT WAS I WHO LET HER JOIN THE STARSLAYERS IN THE FIRST PLACE.

12-3-81/773



IT DOESN'T MATTER. SARRAH KIRK IS DEAD.

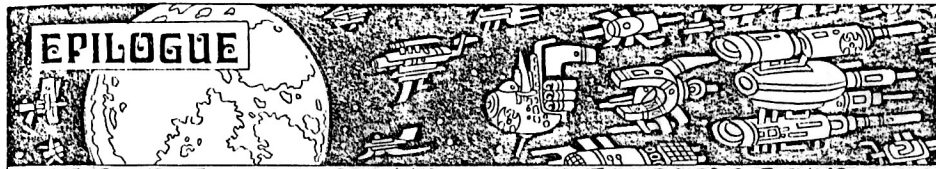
THIS IS HARD FOR ME TO SAY, DARZAK-

BUT I'M SORRY... FOR EVERYTHING.

CERTAINLY THERE IS CAUSE FOR SADNESS UPON THIS OCCASION, BUT DO NOT FORGET THAT OMPAR NOW BELONGS TO ITS PEOPLE. THAT MUST, IT TRULY MUST, COUNT FOR SOMETHING.

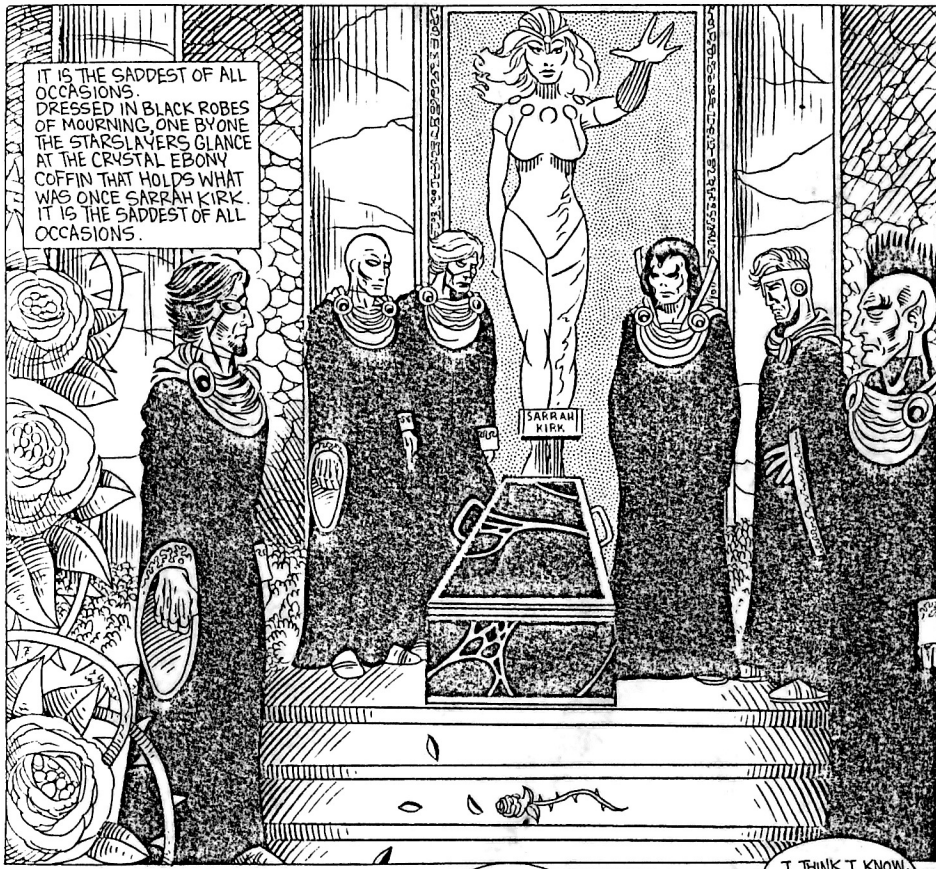
THEN WE'VE WON.

BUT AT WHAT PRICE?



EPILOGUE

IN SPACE OFF OMPAR, THE QUARRON FLEET STANDS TO, OUT OF RESPECT, UNDER ORDERS OF NEW LORD RONDO.



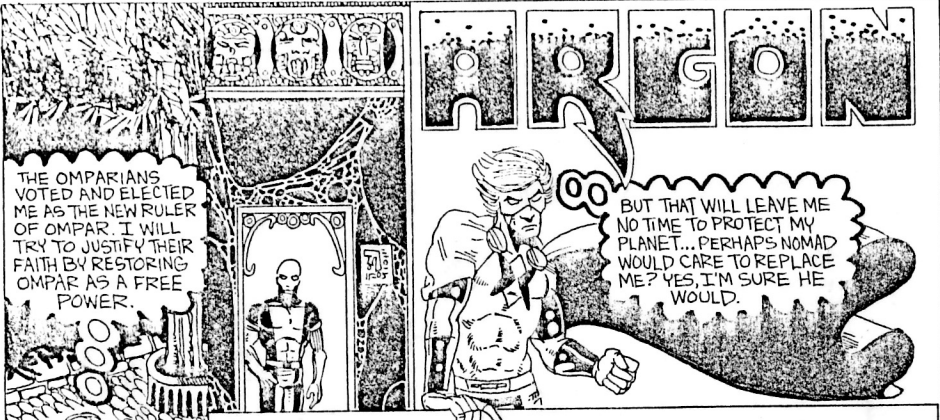
IT IS THE SADDEST OF ALL OCCASIONS. DRESSED IN BLACK ROBES OF MOURNING, ONE BY ONE THE STARSLAYERS GLANCE AT THE CRYSTAL EBONY COFFIN THAT HOLDS WHAT WAS ONCE SARRAH KIRK. IT IS THE SADDEST OF ALL OCCASIONS.

SARRAH KIRK



WHERE DID RONDO GO?

I THINK I KNOW. ALL OF YOU STAY HERE.

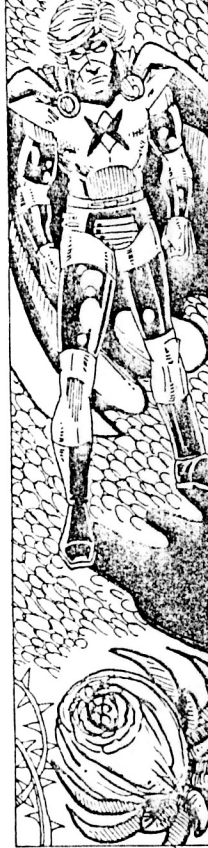


THE OMPARIANS VOTED AND ELECTED ME AS THE NEW RULER OF OMPAR. I WILL TRY TO JUSTIFY THEIR FAITH BY RESTORING OMPAR AS A FREE POWER.

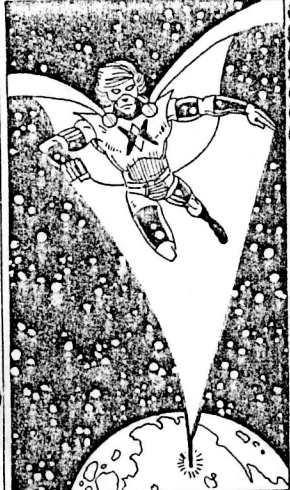
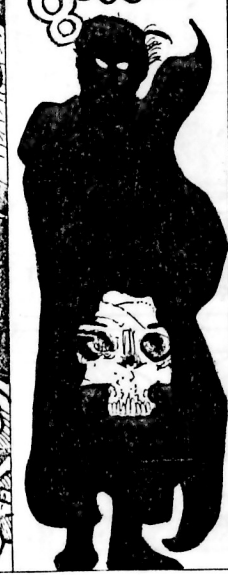
ARRIGON



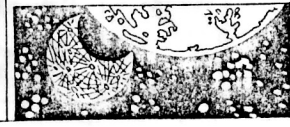
BUT THAT WILL LEAVE ME NO TIME TO PROTECT MY PLANET... PERHAPS NOMAD WOULD CARE TO REPLACE ME? YES, I'M SURE HE WOULD.



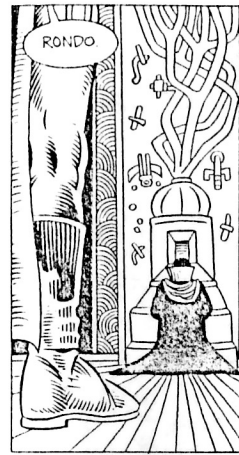
AND SOMEDAY SOON HE WILL STAND ALONE AS RULER OF OMPAR. FOR UNKNOWN TO ALL BUT MYSELF, I AM DYING...



*DURING OUR SEARCH FOR ALLIES I MUST HAVE CONTRACTED SOME SORT OF ALIEN VIRUS. I HAVE EXAMINED MYSELF BOTH INTERNALLY AND EXTERNALLY AND I FEAR I HAVE BUT SIX MONTHS TO LIVE.



I JUST FEEL FORTUNATE THAT I WAS ABLE TO RETURN OMPAR TO ITS RIGHTFUL HEIRS. IN THE FOLLOWING SIX MONTHS I WILL PUT FORTH MY GREATEST EFFORT TO RESTORE OMPAR TO GLORY!



RONDO



HUH? OH, IT'S YOU DARZAK. I'M PAVING MY LAST RESPECTS



HE IS RECOGNISED AS A MAN OF GREAT FAITH. SO ACCORDING TO OUR TRADITION HE HAS BEEN CREMATED. HIS ASHES ARE IN THIS URN. THE VASE CONTAINS A STRONG ACID. NOW STAND A BIT OFF AND BE QUIET DARZAK. I'VE A LAST RITE TO DO.

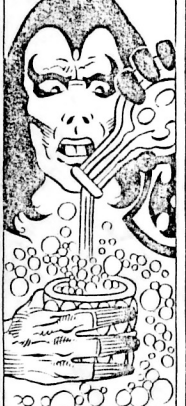
THE SONG OF RENEVAL DARZAK WATCHES RONDO SING IT-



"FOR I DO BANISH YOU- BLOT YOU OUT- I'LL REMBER NOT."



"OH FATHER YOUR LOINS WERE TAINTED- YOUR SEED MAY GROW IN ME- BUT NEVER--"



THE ACID DESTROYS THE ASH OF RONDO'S SIRE NOTHING AT ALL IS NOW LEFT. SOON NOT EVEN BAD MEMORIES.

"BUT STILL I'LL STORE YOUR LOVE."



EVEN THE ACID IS DESTROYED.



HE WAS A CRUMB.

WE'VE BOTH LOST A LOVED ONE, RONDO. WE MUST EACH OF US, BE STRONG. IT IS NOW YOUR SOLE RESPONSIBILITY TO LEAD THE VAST ARMIES OF QUARRON STRAIGHT. IT IS A GREAT JOB, YOU WILL DO WELL.



I'LL... DO MY BEST. IF I CAN... EVER BE OF... SERVICE.



I'LL CALL AND THE SAME GOES HERE DAMIEN AND I ARE FULL PARTNERS NOW, YOU KNOW...



PARTNERS? THAT'S GOOD! YOUR IDEA?



MINE! HA! HA!

DAMIEN

BLACKSTAR®

"IT WON'T BE EASY ADJUSTING TO THE FACT THAT DARZAK AND I ARE NOW FULL PARTNERS, BUT I'LL GIVE IT A TRY."

BUT WHAT'S REALLY WORRYING ME ARE THE DREAMS I'VE BEEN HAVING LATELY, WHERE I MEET UP WITH SOMEONE CALLED THE FOOL.

IT'S PROBABLY NOTHING, BUT I FEEL AS IF I SHOULD KNOW SOMETHING AND I'VE FORGOTTEN IT. OH WELL...

I THINK IT'S TIME THAT WE ALL BROKE UP AND WENT OUR SEPARATE WAYS. I'LL GO TALK TO ARGON.

25.

11-24-81-773



THESE, THEN, ARE THE STARSLAYERS-

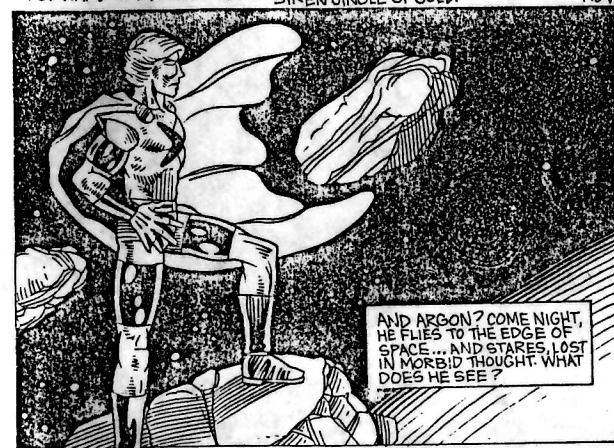


RONDO KLARN - NOW THE RULER OF A VAST ARMADA, HE MUST SHAPE DEADLY WARRIORS INTO CONSTRUCTIVE MEN OF PEACE. HE LOOKS FORWARD TO THE CHALLENGE.

BLACKSTAR AND DARZAK - CAST AS UNLIKELY HEROES, THEY WORE THE MANTLE WELL. BUT NOW, AS FULL PARTNERS, THEY LOOK OUT AT THE MANY WILD PLANETS AND HEAR THE SIREN JINGLE OF GOLD.

BLACK MERCY - ALWAYS THE INSCRUTABLE ALIEN, HE MUST RETURN NOW TO STARAXIS AND HIS OWN STRANGE AND ENIGMATIC ADVENTURES.

NOMAD - A MAN WHOSE FOUND HIS COURAGE, HE WILL BECOME A STERN BUT JUST RULER OF NEW OMPAR.



AND ARGON? COME NIGHT, HE FLIES TO THE EDGE OF SPACE... AND STARES, LOST IN MORBID THOUGHT. WHAT DOES HE SEE?



HE SEES THE STARS.

THE STARS ARE ETERNAL.

12-17-81-773

MAT BUCHER, FOLK, MILES OFFERTON, AND BILL ANDERSON



WHO WILL LIVE...?



WILHE
FELDER '72

WHO WILL DIE...?