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SUPergirl® GOES TO WAR!



DAVID
KIRK
RIGGS

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SUPERGIRL

DO YOU THINK IT'S TRUE? WHAT BUZZ SAID?

THAT THERE'S BEEN SOME SORT OF... OF MORAL SWITCH? THAT SOME EVIL CREATURE HAS ASSUMED THE POWER OF HEAVEN...

...AND BECAUSE OF THAT, OUR OWN PERCEPTIONS ARE... SKEWED?

I MEAN... THE WAY WE HANDLE THINGS DOWN AT THE STATION...

YOU CAN'T USE POLICE AS A YARDSTICK, FRED.

FOR INSTANCE, GOTHAM CITY POLICE COULD SUDDENLY TURN EVIL, AND WHO COULD TELL THE DIFFERENCE?

THAT'S NOT FUNNY, MARTHA! I'M SERIOUS HERE!

SO AM I! YOU'RE ALL BRUTES! WHAT PASSES FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT... IT'S DISGUSTING!

GET OUT!

FRED--!

I'LL LEAVE WHEN I'M GOOD AND READY TO--

NOW.

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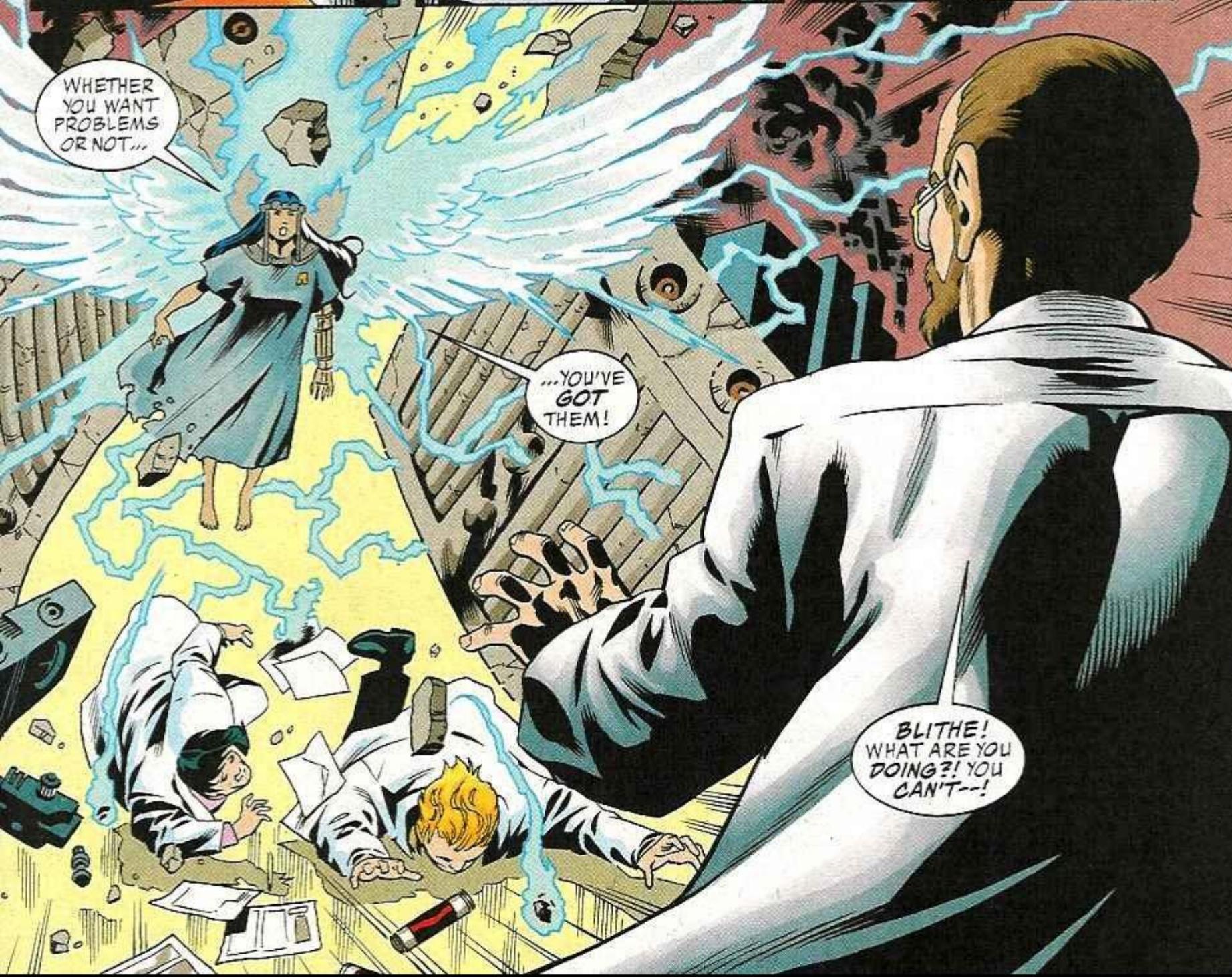
"...I THINK YOU COULD SAY
THAT SOMETHING'S UP."



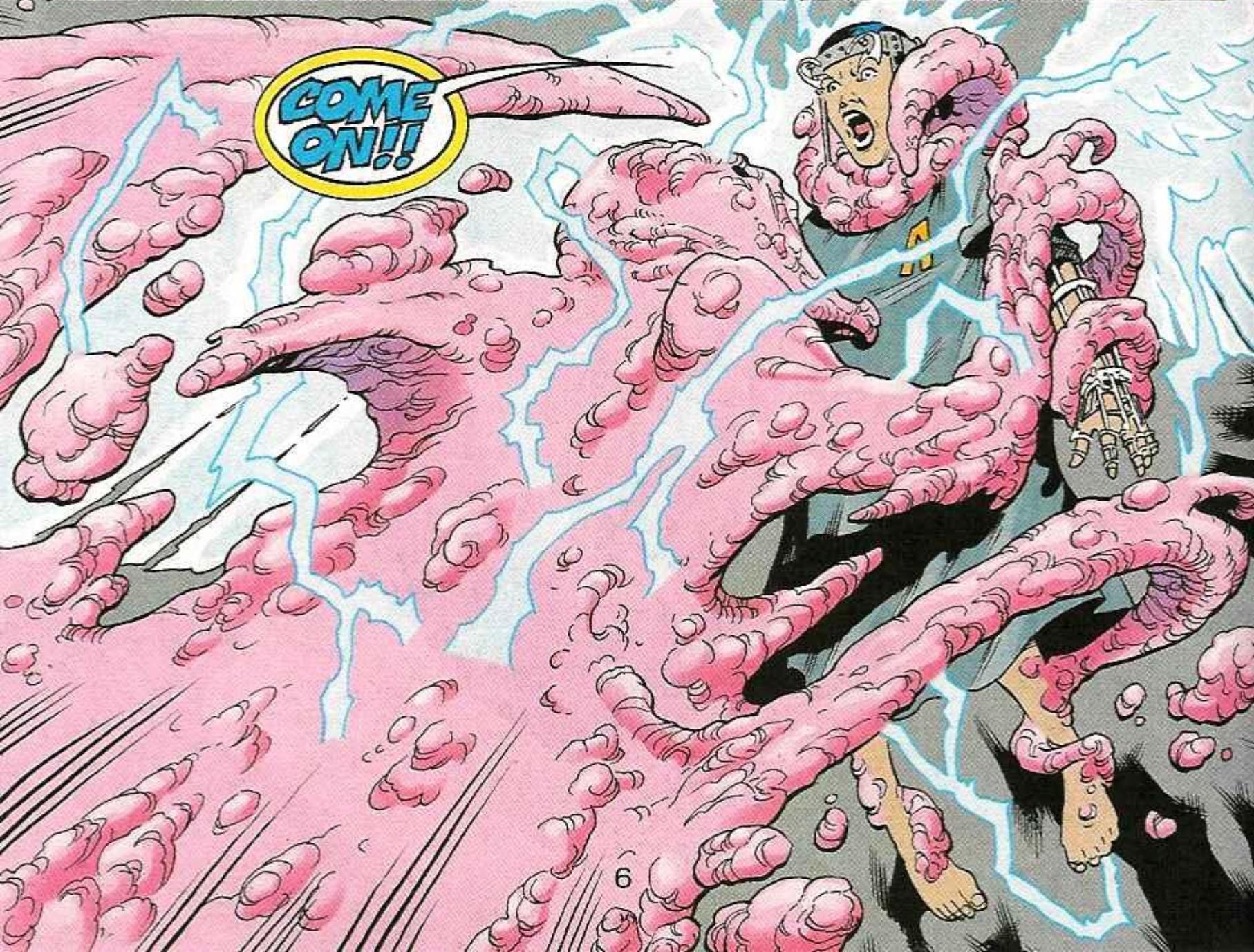
WALLY'S ANGELS

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COME ON! YOU CAN'T BELIEVE THAT IMPRISONING THIS...THIS EARTH-BORN...IS ANYTHING BUT BAD BUSINESS. I'M TELLING YA...

DON'T LET CARNIVEAN HEAR...

YEAH, YEAH, I THINK SO.

CARNIVEAN WALKS THE CLOUDS OF HEAVEN AND COULDN'T GIVE A DAMN WHAT I SAY. I CARE MORE ABOUT WHAT THE EARTH-BORN IN THERE IS SAYING. IS SHE STILL TALKING TO HERSELF?

WELL, THAT'S GOT TO BE A GOOD SIGN, RIGHT?

EEYYAAAH!

BKOON!

YES, ANDY. I HEAR YOU. SENSE YOU.

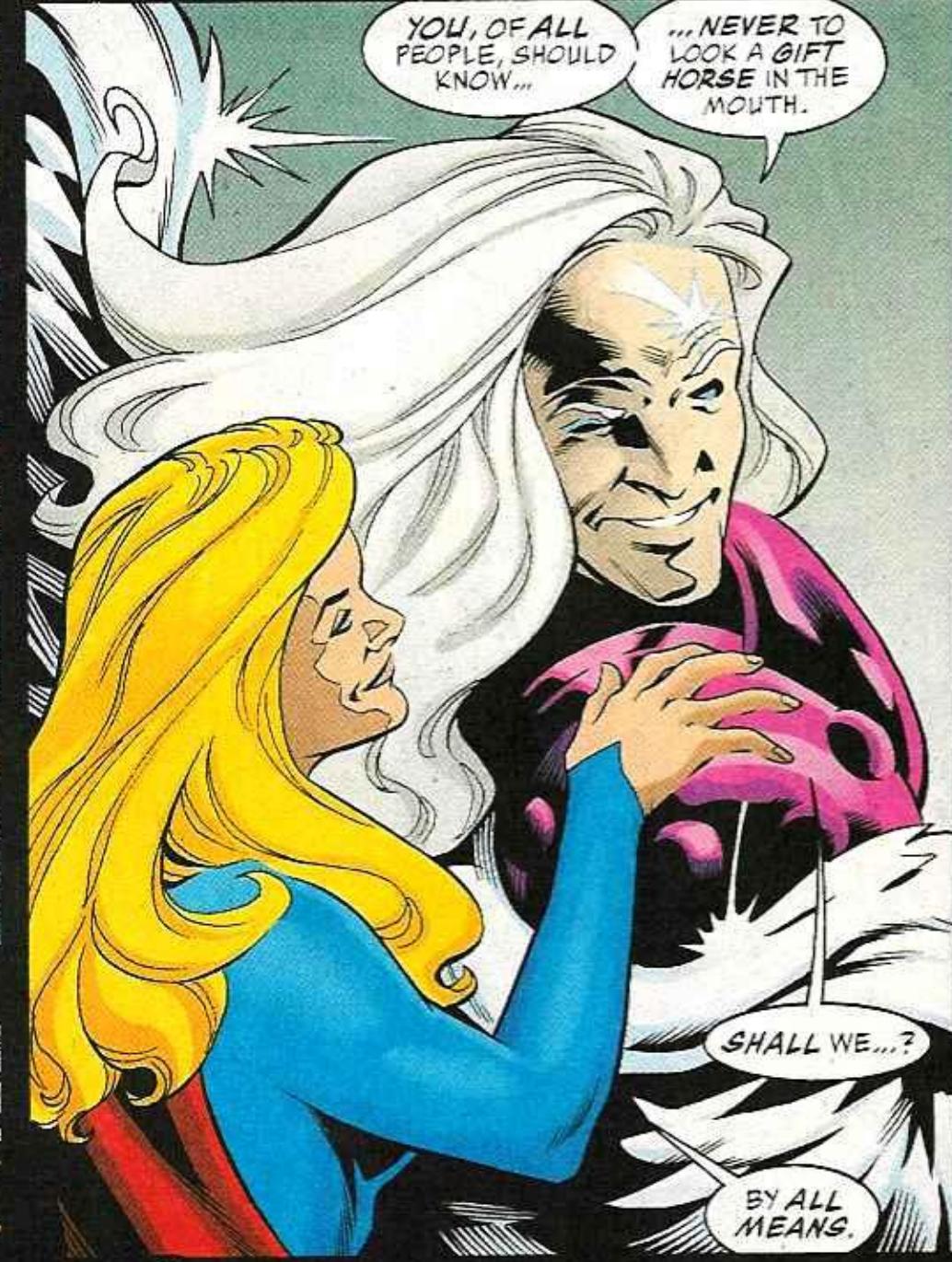
YOU'VE FULLY COME INTO YOUR OWN... I WISH I COULD HAVE BEEN THERE TO HELP...

IT'S ALL RIGHT,
LINDA. IT WAS...
PAINFUL. BUT...
BIRTH IS ALWAYS
PAINFUL.

CAN
YOU COME
HERE?

CALL THE
SMOKE EATERS!
THIS COULD BE A
THREE-ALARM--!

FWOOSH



HITCHING A RIDE SO
YOU CAN TAKE IT
EASY?

SOMETHING
LIKE THAT.
SHUNTING FROM
THE CARNIVORE'S
LAIR TAKES A LOT
OUT OF ME. NEED
A LITTLE TIME
TO REGAIN MY
STRENGTH.

IF I SENSE
WHAT I THINK I'M
SENSING... IT MIGHT
NOT BE AS BIG A
PROBLEM AS YOU
THINK.

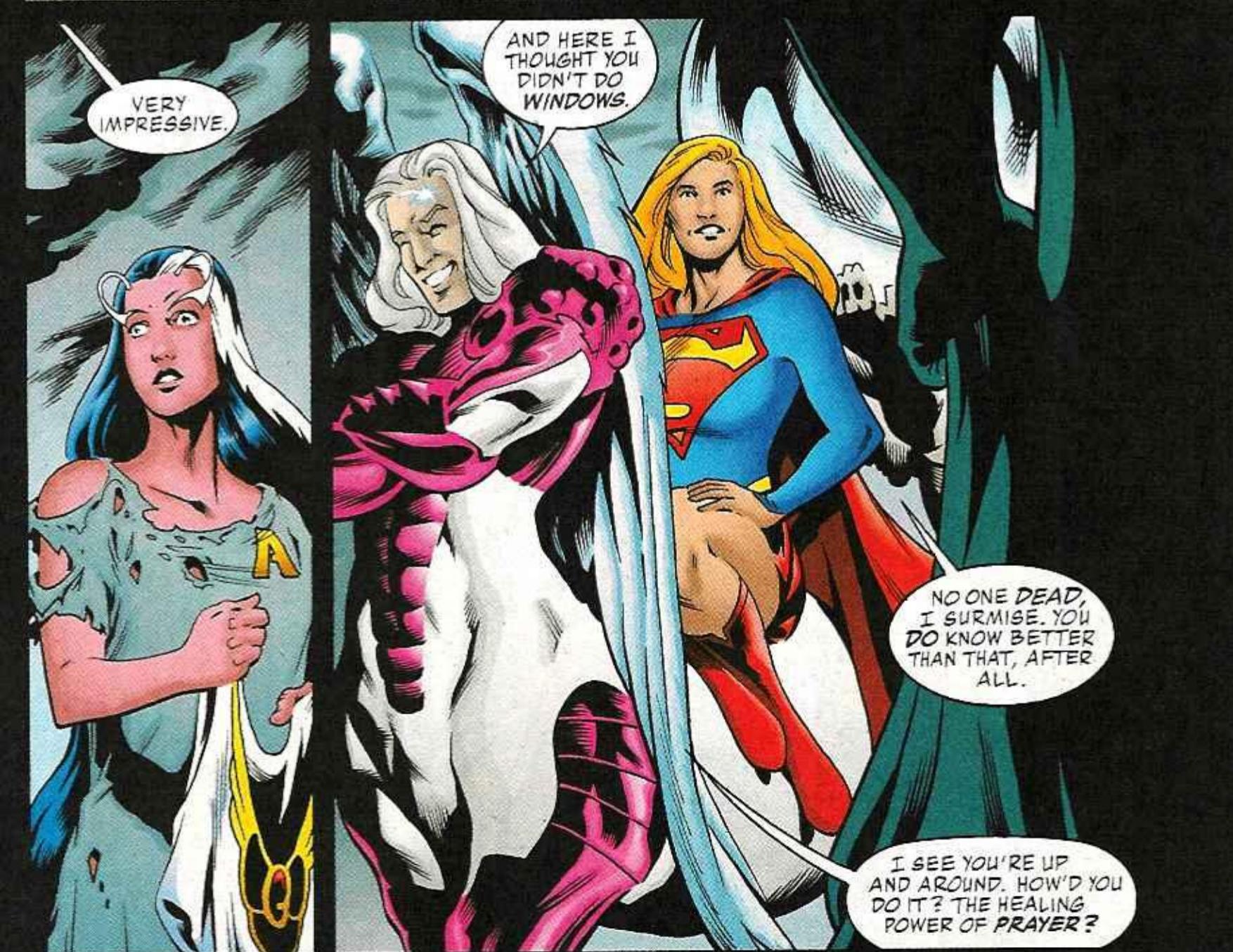
YOU GOT AS FAR AS YOU
DID... WITH SUPERGIRL... BECAUSE
YOU WERE ONCE PART OF HER.
THAT GAVE YOU AN EDGE,
MATRIX.

BUT I'M A FULLY
REALIZED EARTH-BORN
ANGEL... AND YOU'RE TRYING
TO POSSESS ME. STUNTS
LIKE THAT NEVER WORK
OUT WELL.

SO... NOW
WHAT?

WE NEED
TO BE AT FULL
STRENGTH. THAT
MEANS WE NEED
BLITHE ON OUR SIDE,
AND THAT MIGHT
BE A PROBLEM.





NO, NO, THAT'S
NOT WHAT SHE DID.
I CAN TELL.

MATRIX. THE
CARNIVORE
SALVAGED SOME
OF MATRIX... AND
YOU USED IT TO
REBUILD YOURSELF,
DIDN'T YOU?

I MEAN, CONSIDERING YOU'RE
THE ONE WHO TURNED ME INTO
THE HUMAN JIGSAW PUZZLE, I'D
THINK YOU'D BE RELIEVED.

I AM, BUT I'M
ALSO CONCERNED.
NO ONE KNOWS
BETTER THAN ME...

DON'T
SAY
THAT.

WHY?
THE TRUTH
BOTHER
YOU?

VERY GOOD.
AND YOU HAVE
A PROBLEM
WITH THAT?

NO, IT'S
UNGRAMMATICAL.
IT SHOULD BE
"KNOWS BETTER
THAN I."

OH.

LOOK, YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND.
HE... CARL... HE MADE ME... IN HIS
IMAGE. I WAS EVERYTHING HE
EVER WANTED ME TO BE. EXCEPT...
I THOUGHT I WAS MORE...

...AND IN THE
FINAL ANALYSIS,
I WAS JUST A
MEANS TO AN
END. I CAN'T
SAY I LIKE
THAT.

IT'S VERY
POSSIBLE... HE
KNEW YOU'D
FEEL THAT
WAY.

MEANING
WHAT?

IF GOD MOVES IN MYSTERIOUS WAYS... HOW MUCH MORE BIZARRE ARE THE MOVES OF HIS FALLEN ANGELS AND DEMONS GOING TO BE?

I THINK, IN A WAY... THAT THE CARNIVORE IS SOWING THE SEEDS OF HIS OWN DESTRUCTION. AS IF... AS IF HE DOESN'T REALLY WANT TO WIN, BECAUSE HE WANTS TO BELIEVE IN... IN SOMETHING GREATER THAN HIMSELF.



PUTTING ASIDE WHAT HE DID TO ME... I SHOULD GO "AGAINST" HIM WHY, PRECISELY?





THE CARNIVORE WILL NOT MAKE THE SAME MISTAKE AS THE PRESENCE DID WITH LUCIFER. IN TIME, YOU WILL BE SUMMONED ON HIGH. AND ULTIMATELY... WHAT ELSE HAVE WE BUT TIME?

PERHAPS WE'VE NOT EVEN THAT! WHAT IF THE EARTH-BORN ATTACK HERE INSTEAD OF HEAVEN?

A FOOLISH CONCERN, ZAVEBE. THE CARNIVORE IS NOW OMNISCIENT. HE KNOWS, BEYOND QUESTION, THAT THE EARTH-BORN WILL CHALLENGE HIM DIRECTLY, AND WASTE NO TIME H--





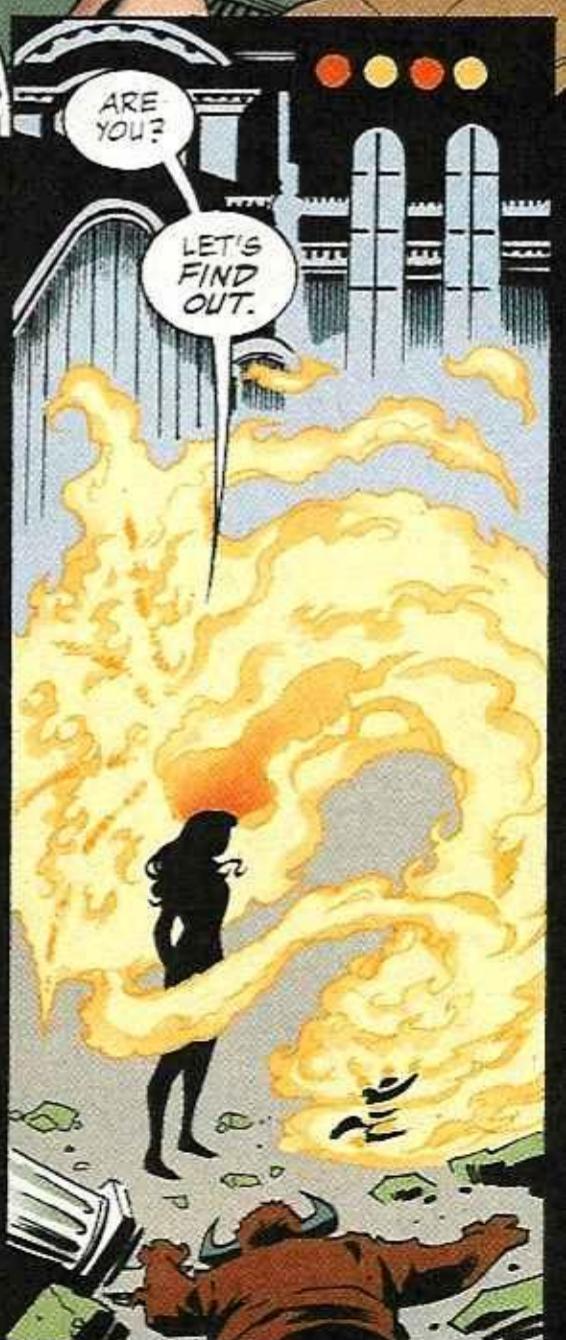
The rationale's simple:
Attacking the Carnivore
in Heaven itself is not the
best idea, because that
has become his new place
of power.

Not will he, I think, be
obliging enough to come
down to Earth. To say
nothing of the devasta-
tion a battle down
there would cause.

But we of the Earth-born walk
between Heaven and Earth. The
Between City, constructed by the
Carnivore to be his reflection of
the Firmament, is as much a
connector, a bridge, as we
ourselves are.

Here, at least, the
playing Field is
somewhat level.

Now all we have to do is
level it some more, and
gamble that carnivean
will still have enough pride
left in his construct to
want to come down and
defend it.







I'M SHOCKED, LADIES. SHOCKED.

HERE YOU ARE... IN MY FORMER HOME... AND YOU SEEM INCAPABLE OF EXTENDING EVEN THE SLIGHTEST SEMBLANCE OF COURTESY.

WHAT DO YOU HOPE TO ACCOMPLISH HERE?

YOU LOOK LIKE AN ADULT VERSION OF WALLY. WHY?

WHO?

DON'T ACT INNOCENT! ARE YOU HIM... GROWN UP? THE SAME PERSON? OR HAVE YOU ADOPTED HIS LOOK BECAUSE YOU'RE A DARK DISTORTION OF HIM?

IS IT GOING TO DEVASTATE YOU WHEN I INFORM YOU THAT I'VE NO IDEA WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT?

IS THIS WHY YOU CAME HERE, EARTH ANGELS? TO PLAY WORD GAMES? SAY THAT I REMIND YOU OF SOMEONE ELSE? BANDY ABOUT EMPTY THREATS?

OR ARE YOU GOING TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT ME?

AND IS IT GOING TO DEVASTATE YOU, CARL, WHEN WE POINT OUT THAT SOMEONE WHO IS NOW SUPPOSED TO BE OMNISCIENT SHOULD NEVER HAVE "NO IDEA" ABOUT ANYTHING?

...THEN I
THINK IT IS BEST
YOU ATTEND TO
IT QUICKLY!

IF IT IS THE
LATTER...

YOUR
BETRAYAL WAS
THE HARDEST OF
ALL FOR ME TO
STOMACH,
BLITHE!

PARTICULARLY SINCE I
SEE THE TRUTH OF WHAT YOU
ARE. YOU DO NOT CARE FOR YOUR
ANGELIC "SIBLINGS." YOUR EGO
WAS SIMPLY HURT WHEN YOU
REALIZED I HAD NO NEED OF YOU!
IF I OFFERED TO AID YOU, LOVE
YOU, CHERISH YOU... YOU WOULD
TURN AGAINST THESE OTHERS
IN A HEARTBEAT!

DON'T TALK TO ME
ABOUT HEARTBEATS,
CARL! SOMEONE WITH
NO HEART DOESN'T
GET TO SPEAK OF
SUCH THINGS!

BLITHE,
WAIT! GET
BACK
HERE!

THE ONLY
CHANCE WE HAVE
AGAINST HIM IS
IF WE'RE
UNITED!

OH... IS
THAT THE
CHANCE YOU
HAVE?

MY CONDOLENCES!

BLITHE!
NO!!

COMET,
FALL BACK! WE
NEED TO--

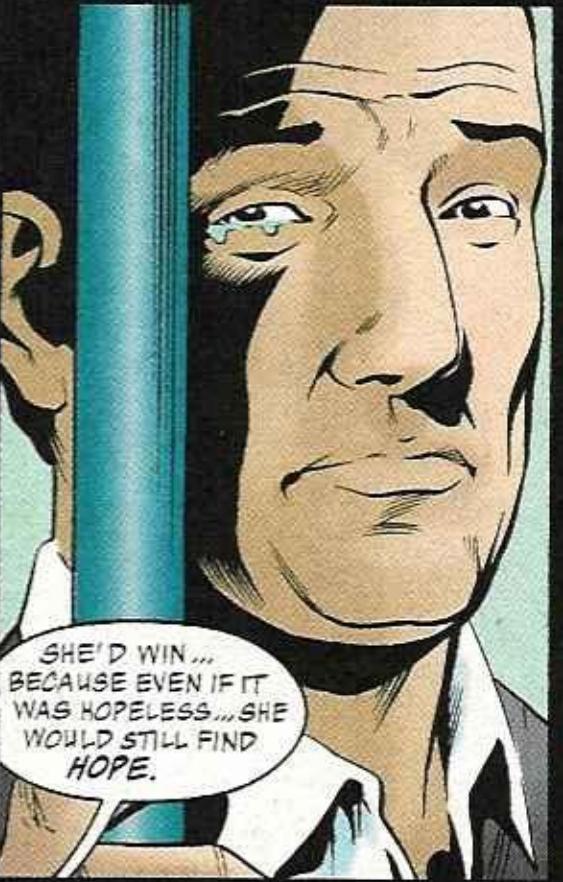
--DEVELOP A
PLAN? HAVING ONE
BEFORE YOU ARRIVED
HERE MIGHT HAVE BEEN
PREFERABLE.

POOR LITTLE
EARTH ANGELS.
TRYING TO MUSTER
THE FEMININE
POWER OF THE
PRESENCE AGAINST
ONE WHO WIELDS
THE ULTIMATE
POWER OF
CREATION.

I FIND THAT
QUITE FUNNY.
WHY DO YOU
NOT?

WOOM

BA-ROOM





AS I SAID... A PLAN WOULD HAVE BEEN EFFECTIVE. MY PLANS INCLUDED YOUR CREATION... BLITHE'S TURNING... THE UNDERMINING OF SUPERGIRL. NOTHING HAS BEEN OVERLOOKED.

-Unhhh...
NOTHING...
EXCEPT
YOURSELF...

PARDON?



SUPergirl... HAS IT FIGURED OUT. YOU DON'T... DON'T REALLY WANT TO WIN...



IT'S... LIKE GROUCHO ALWAYS SAID...

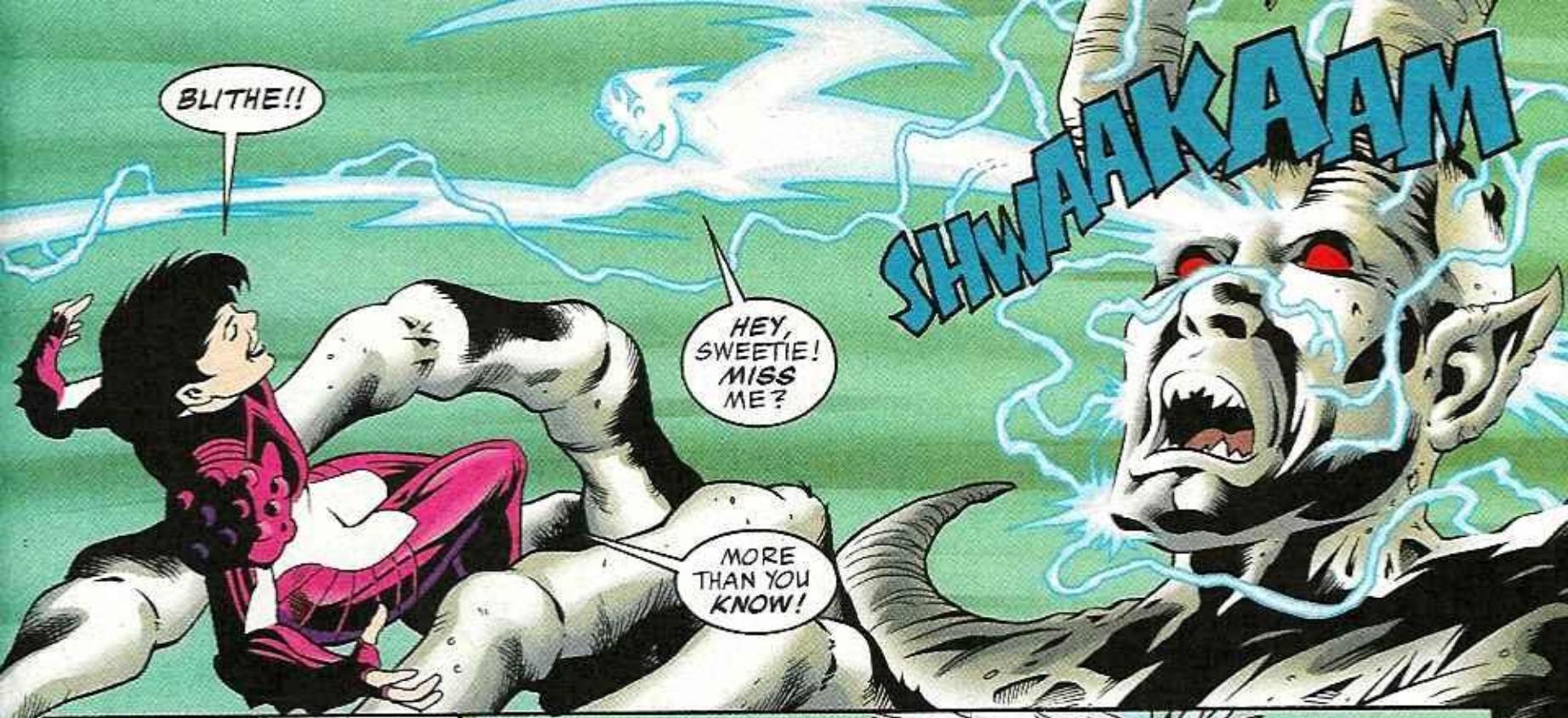


YOU WOULDN'T WANT TO BELONG TO ANY CLUB... THAT WOULD HAVE YOU AS A MEMBER...

YOU'RE HOPING... TO BE DEFEATED... BECAUSE YOU DON'T TRULY WANT TO EXIST IN A UNIVERSE... WHERE SUCH AS YOU... CAN RULE THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN.







The Angel of Fire. Fire which cleanses, purifies, burns away the rotting and diseased so that something new and immaculate can grow in its stead.

And here stands the Carnivore... wielding the power of the Presence... capable of defeating any outside force.

But our power comes from God's inner light... from the Schechina... from the female side of divine puissance.

Here, now, in the Between City... the Carnivore battles the Avatars of a force that is not from outside... but a part of himself...

...and it isn't going the way he planned.

I can't help but wonder ... if, in assuming the power of the Presence, in twisting morality around ... he may have outsmarted himself.

He was a creature who was the symbol of all that Heaven reviled... and now, in creating a universe where the concepts of good and evil have been turned inside out... it might very well be that he now despises his very essence.

Indeed, it might be that this battle... which I had thought would be the most difficult of my existence... might be the easiest.



Then again... maybe not.

FOOLS! PRE-TENTIOUS IDIOTS! I AM CARNIVEAN! I AM CARREAU, EX-PRINCE OF THE ORDER OF POWERS!

WHEN THE FIRST VAMPIRES ROSE FROM THE EARTH... I WAS THERE!

WHEN THE FIRST DEMON WORSHIPPERS CALLED DURING THEIR SABBATHS INTO DARKNESS... I WAS THERE!

WHEN SISTER SERAPHICA OF LOUNDUN WAS POSSESSED... I WAS THERE!



ME?

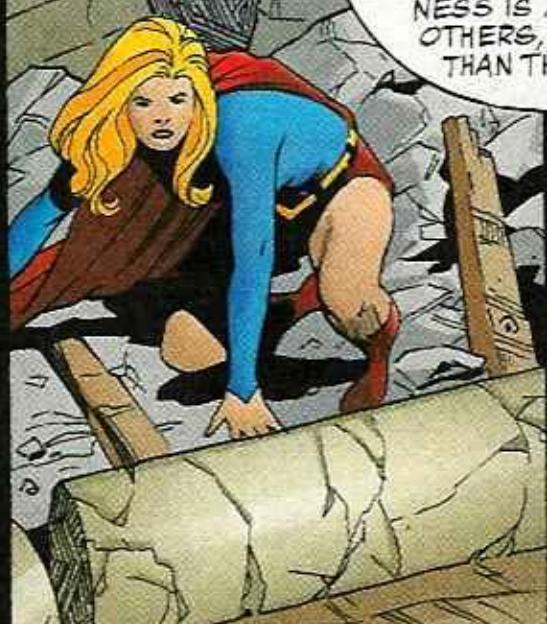
I AM... I'M...

I AM... NO ONE SPECIAL. ONE OF GOD'S CREATURES. A SINNER WHO ASPIRED TO GREATNESS AND, BECAUSE OF THAT, FELL FROM A GREAT HEIGHT. BECAUSE ONE SHOULD NEVER ASPIRE TO GREATNESS... MERELY GOODNESS. GREATNESS IS ATTRIBUTED BY OTHERS, TO DEEDS RATHER THAN THE PERSON.

BUT I HAVE MY ROLE IN THIS, TOO, CARNIVEAN. YOU SEE... I'M THE ONE...

...WHO IS DESTINED TO FORGIVE YOU... AND PERHAPS, IN SOME WAY...

...TO HELP BOTH OF US... FORGIVE OURSELVES.



WHAT ARE YOU
TALKING ABOUT,
CHILD? MY ONE SIN
IS ALLOWING YOU
TO HAVE LIVED
PAST YOUR
USEFULNESS...!

NO. YOU KNOW
YOURSELF FOR WHAT
YOU ARE.

YOU CALL ME
CHILD... YET YOU ARE
THE ONE WHO IS LOST.
HOW CAN ONE WHO IS
MERELY ONE OF THE
FLOCK... SEEK, AS YOU
DID, TO DESTROY THE
SHEPHERD?

YOU'RE
BLATHERING...

NO... I'M
UNDERSTANDING YOU.
AT THE LAST, UNDER-
STANDING AND FORGIVE-
NESS... IS ALL ANY OF
US HAS.

I WAS AS LOST
A SOUL AS YOU... BUT
EVEN AS I FALL... I
AM FOUND...

MORE
BLATHERING!
I AM NOT
LOST... I AM
EVERWHERE...
EVERYTHING...
I HAVE NO
REGRETS...

THEN YOU'VE NOTHING TO FEAR FROM
MY JUDGMENT... MY WINGS... FOR THEY
WILL NOT HURT THOSE WHO ARE
CONVINCED OF THE
RIGHTNESS OF
THEIR CAUSE.

MY
WINGS WILL ONLY
WORK ON THOSE WHO,
IN THEIR HEART, KNOW
THEY ARE LOST...

BUT AS BLITHE
SAID... I HAVE
NO HEART...

A PITY THAT
YOU...

...CANNOT
SAY THE
SAME!

LIIINDAAA!!

SINCE I'VE
CUT YOU DOWN TO
SIZE, EARTH ANGEL...
I'LL BRING MYSELF
DOWN AS WELL.

SO TELL ME...
NOW THAT I'VE
KILLED YOU... NOW
THAT YOUR FALL IS
UPON YOU, THE
BLACKNESS PULL-
ING AT YOU...

...DO
YOU STILL
FORGIVE
ME MY
SINS?

DO
YOU?!

OF
course.

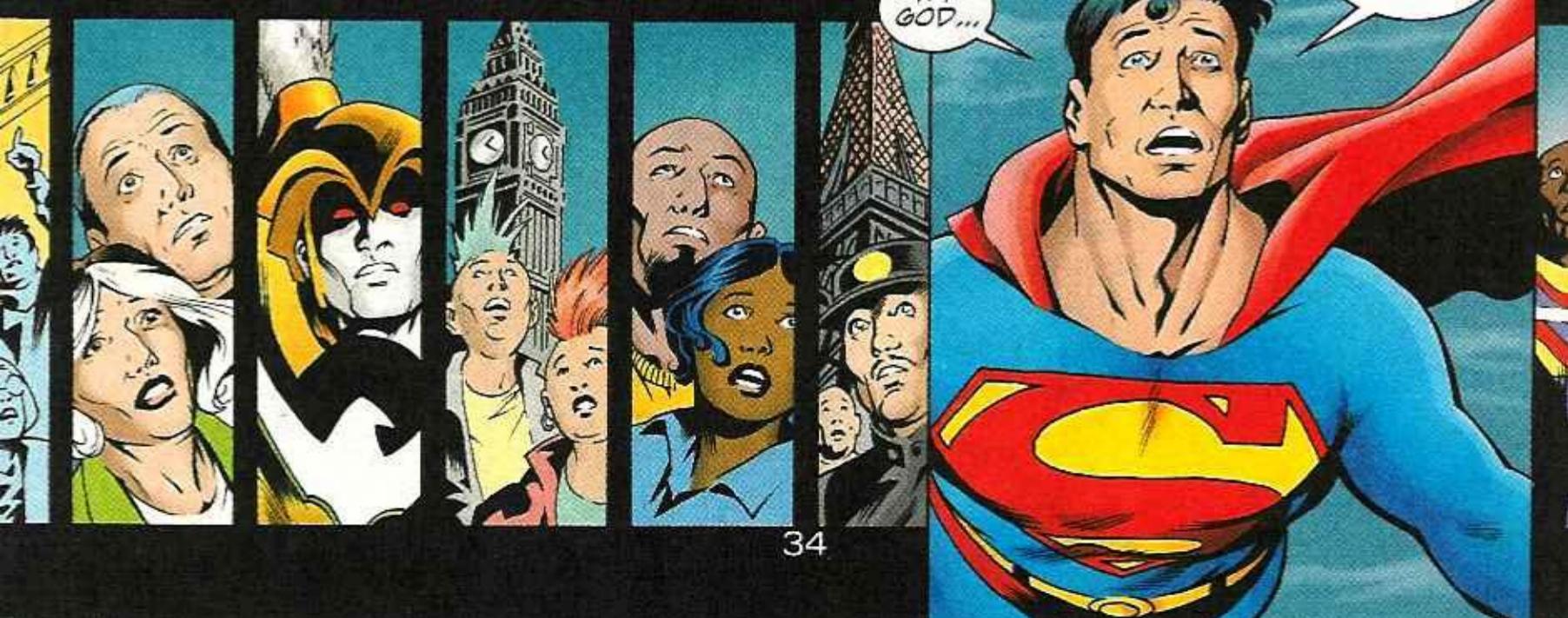
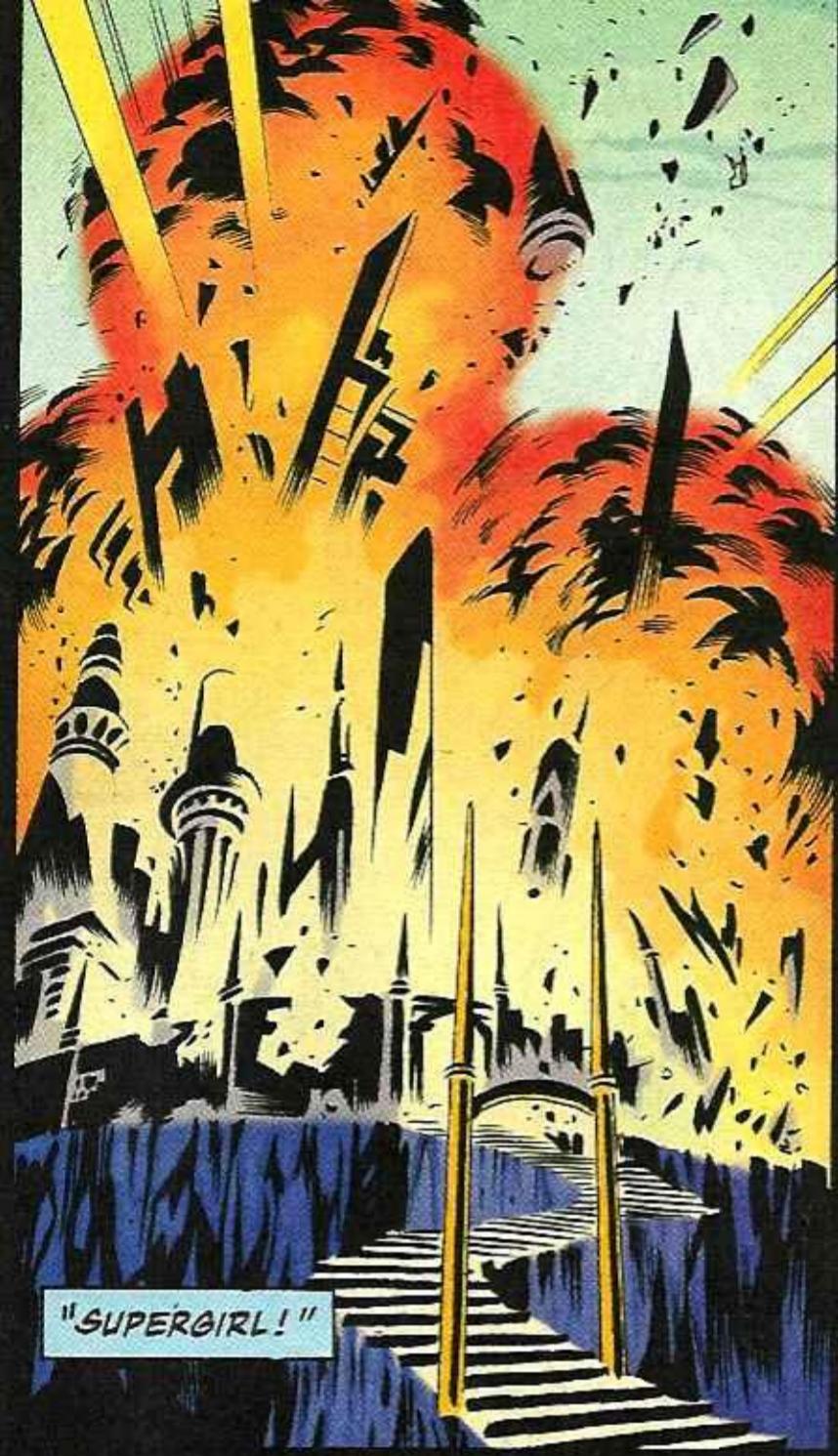
GO...
and sin no
more.

W-WHAT?

I am Supergirl...
Linda Danvers...
the two who are
one...

...but there
is always
room...

...For one more...



Blackness... mind numb...
Carnivean... I feel him.
Falling away... I feel him...
sobbing... or is it me...?
Hard to tell...

Mom... Dad...
Clark... I'm sorry
... I tried...

...at the last...
tried to be...
on the side...

...of the
angels.

WOOMP!

OOOFF!

I'M... I'M
IN HELL...

THAT'S BECAUSE YOU'RE
NOT IN HELL, LUV.
YOU'RE OUTSIDE A POULTRY
BUTCHER IN DOWNTOWN
LEESBURG.

...AND IT'S
ILLED WITH
EATHERS. AND
MELLS LIKE...
HICKEN?

BZZZ! B-BUT... WHAT
ARE YOU DOING HERE? FOR
THAT MATTER... WHAT AM
I DOING HERE? AND...
JEEZ... WHAT
HAPPENED TO YOU?

GOT HIT BY A BLOODY LIGHT-
NING BOLT, THAT'S WHAT.
WHEN I CAME TO, I HAD THIS
LETTER IN MY POCKET,
ADDRESSED TO YOU, HERE...

I THINK IT'S
FROM THE BIG
CHEESE.

CAPTAIN MARVEL?

NO, YE TWIT! THE
BIGGEST CHEESE! THE
MAN UPSTAIRS!

SUPERR... I'M...
I CAN SENSE IT... I'M
... NOT SUPERR
ANYMORE!

Y'STILL GOT HER
EYES, FOR WHAT
THAT'S WORTH. BUT
IF YOU'RE DEPOWERED,
WELL, JOIN THE
CLUB.

I MEAN I'M POWERLESS,
THAT'S WHAT. A FREAKIN'
MORTAL. HOW'S THIS FOR A
FINE PAYBACK, EH? SOMEONE
HAVIN' A GIGGLE AT MY
EXPENSE.

WHAT DO
YOU MEAN?

POWERLESS?
YOU'RE SURE?

ABSOLUTELY, ONE
HUNDRED PER-



DIDN'T FEEL LIKE A FULL-POWERED PUNCH, BUT I'VE STILL GOT SOME POP TO GO WITH THE BABY BLUES. NOW LET'S SEE...



"The first thing you should know is, all's right with the world... thanks to you. Everyone had a part to play, as everyone always does... but yours was the most difficult, and you handled it beautifully."



"Furthermore... although they remain Earth-born angels... they need never fear their power overwhelming their souls, as you did. I felt it the least I could do."



"As for Supergirl, well... that's a bit more complicated."



