

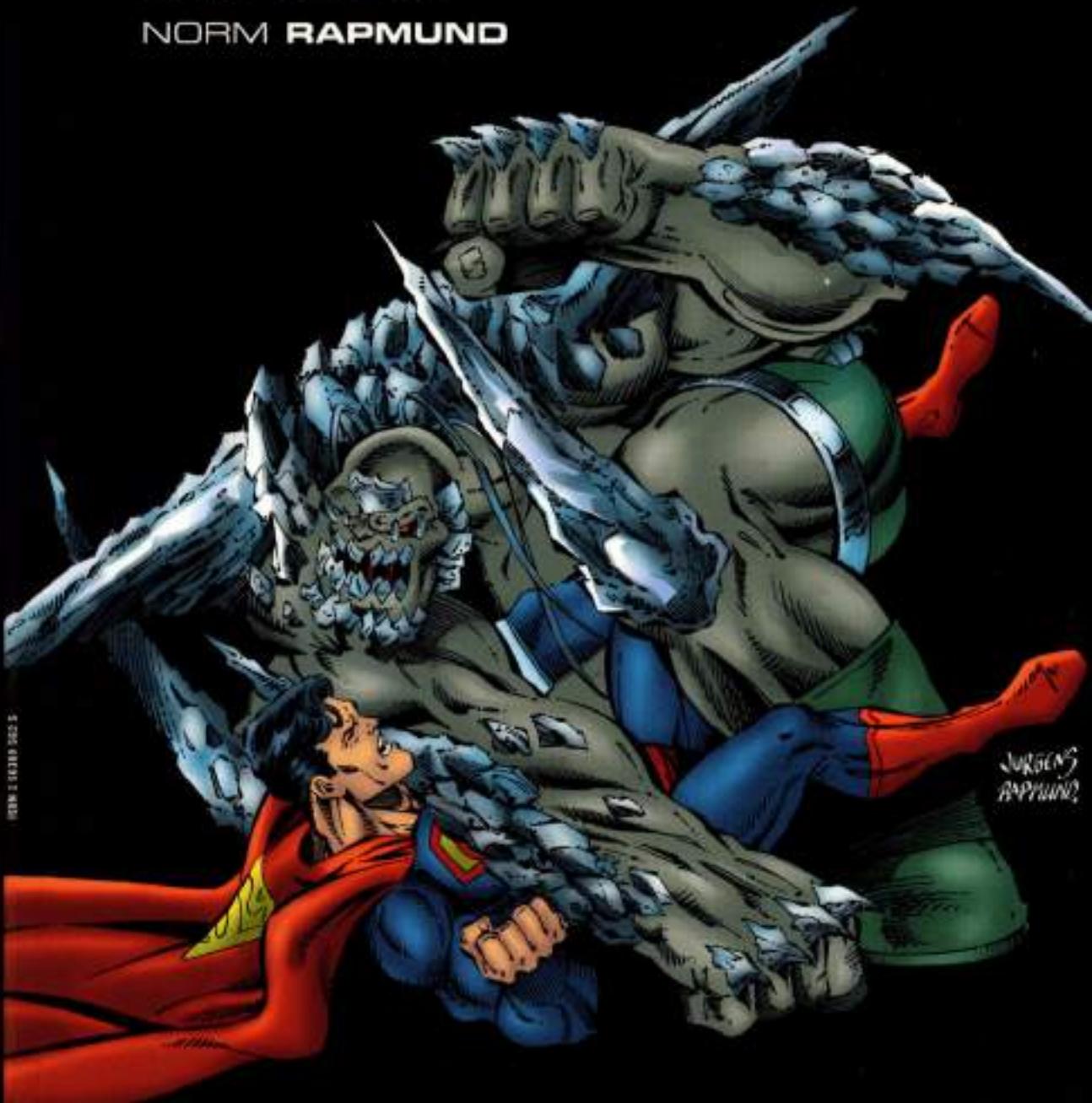


SUPERMAN

THE DOOMSDAY WARS

DAN JURGENS

NORM RAPMUND



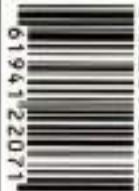
He thought the terror was finally over.

Superman had imprisoned his most formidable enemy, Doomsday, at the end of time. But now, the murderous juggernaut has returned to Earth more powerful than ever. Even the mighty Justice League stands powerless against him.

Will Superman forsake a promise to save the infant son of his oldest friend in order to join the battle?



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SUPERMAN: THE DOOMSDAY WARS

DAN JURGENS
WRITER AND PENCILLER

NORM RAPMUND
INKER

GREGORY WRIGHT
COLORIST

JOHN WORKMAN
LETTERER

SUPERMAN
CREATED BY
JERRY SIEGEL
AND
JOE SHUSTER

Imanu Kahn: President & Editor-in-Chief
Paul Levitz: Executive Vice-President & Publisher
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Monica McTigue: Assistant Editor-original series
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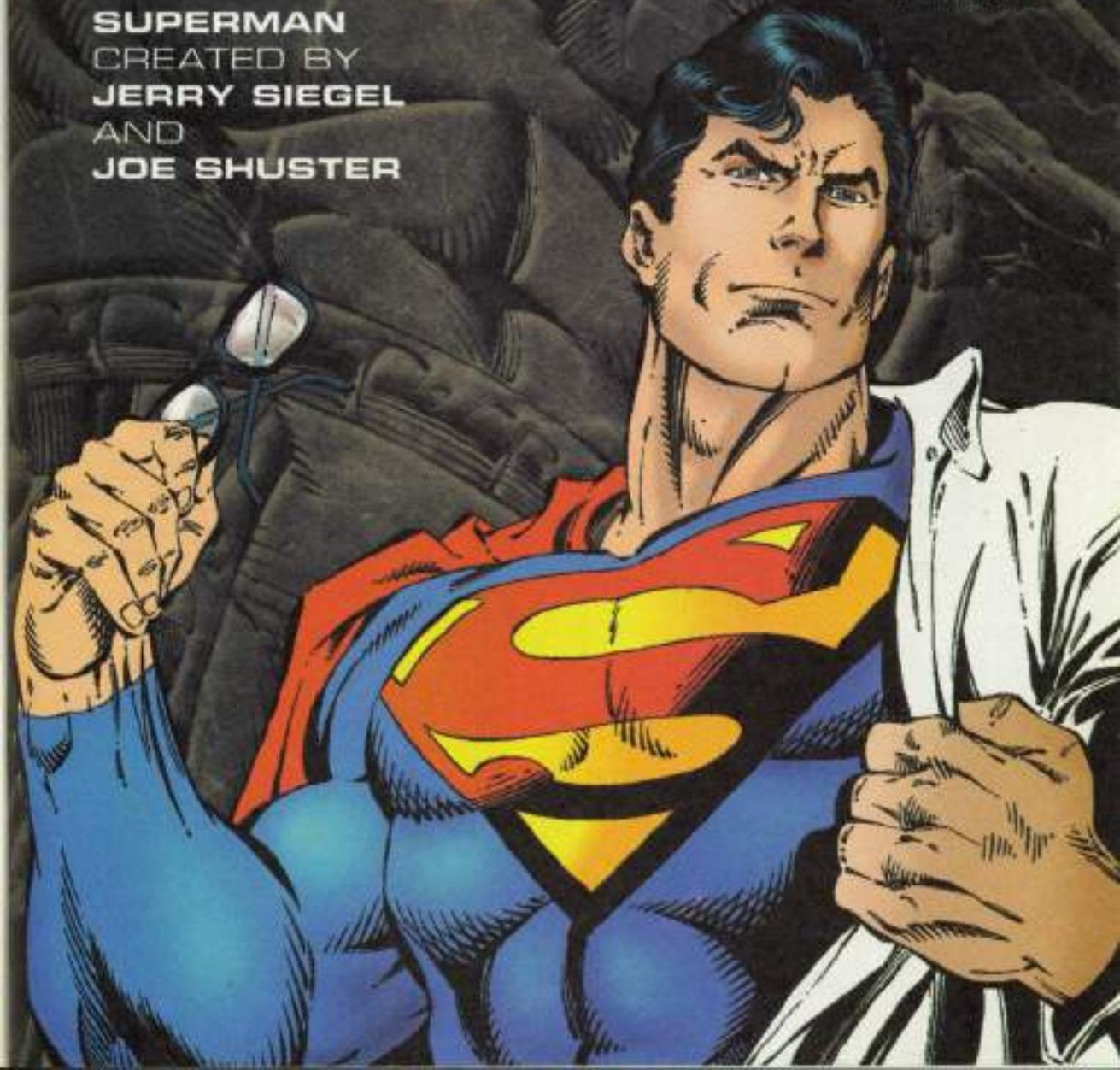
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THREE ARE CERTAIN EVENTS
IN EVERYONE'S LIVES THAT
ARE NEVER FORGOTTEN.

MEMORIES, RECALLED WITH
SUCH TREMENDOUS CLARITY,
THAT THEY'RE AS TANGIBLE AND
RELIABLE AS THE MORNING
NEWSPAPER.

DON'T KNOW WHY, EXACTLY...
BUT ONE OF THOSE
GALVANIZING MEMORIES
JUST POPPED INTO MY
HEAD.

A DARK, COLDER-THAN-COLD JANUARY NIGHT
IN KANSAS.

LANA, PETE, AND I...
WE'RE ALL ABOUT
FIFTEEN.

OUR FIRST
EXPERIENCE
WITH DEATH.

IF YOU
ASK ME, WE
ALL OUGHTTA
HAVE OUR
HEADS
EXAMINED.



I MEAN,
IT'S ALREADY
24 DEGREES
BELOW
ZERO,
CLARK!

PICK-UP'S
HEATER IS ABOUT
AS USEFUL AS A
SHOESHINE
STAND AT A
NUDIST
COLONY.

LOOK, IF
IT WAS SUNNY
AND 75, WE
WOULDN'T HAVE
TO BE OUT HERE,
PETE. YOU
KNOW WHAT'S
AT STAKE!

YEAH! OUR
BUTTS! WHICH
ARE GONNA
FREEZE
STONE
COLD!

DON'T BE
SUCH A
GROUCH,
PETER
ROSS!

WE'RE
HERE TO
HELP
CLARK!

THOUGH
THE WAY THIS
SNOW IS PILING UP,
I DON'T SEE ANY
WAY WE'LL MAKE
IT TO YOUR PA'S
SOUTH GRAZING
FIELDS!

TELL ME
ABOUT IT.
WORST
BLIZZARD
KANSAS HAS
SEEN IN
SEVENTEEN
YEARS!

WE CAN'T LET
THAT STOP US
ANY MORE THAN
IT STOPPED
PA.

HE TOOK THE
TRACTOR TO
RESCUE THE
HORSES OVER
ON THE EAST
ACREAGE.

ARE YOU
SURE THIS
IS REALLY
NECESSARY?



WITHOUT A
DOUBT.

THIS STORM SNUCK
UP ON US SO FAST, WE
NEVER HAD A CHANCE
TO BRING 400 HEAD
OF CATTLE INTO
THE BARNs.

THE ENTIRE HERD'S
BEEN TRAPPED FOR
DAYS WITHOUT FOOD,
WATER, OR SHELTER.



SO WE SERVE 'EM
UP A NICE MEAL
OF HAY DU JOUR.
PROVIDING WE
GET THERE.

PETE'S RIGHT.
THIS ROAD LOOKS
COMPLETELY
SNOWED IN.
IMPASSABLE.

OH, WE'LL MAKE
IT ALL RIGHT. IF WE
DON'T, THE LIVE STOCK
WILL STARVE OR
FREEZE, AND THAT--

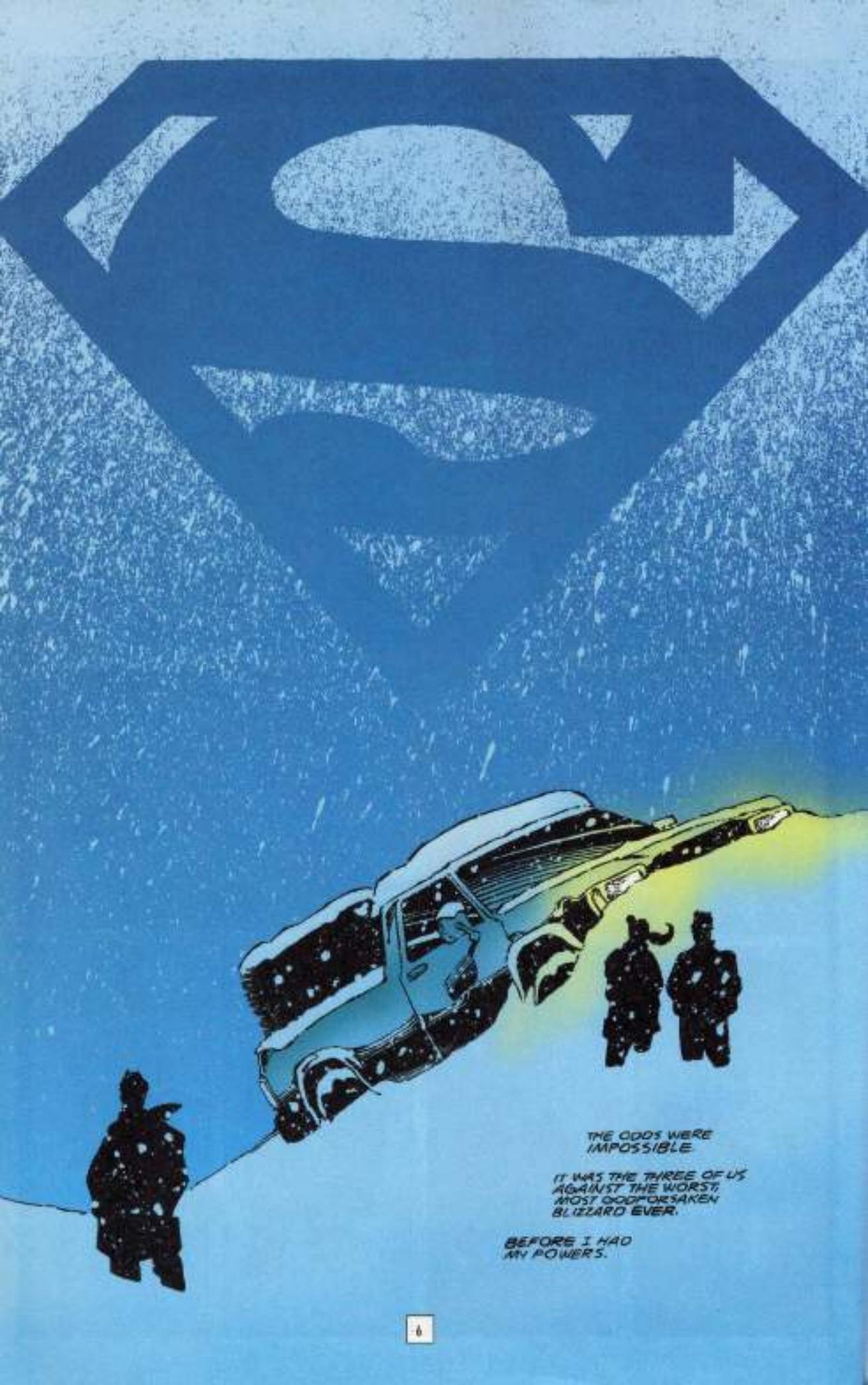


IS
COMPLETELY,
TOTALLY
UNACCEPT-

CLARK!
LOOK
OUT!

VRRROOM WUMMFF





THE ODDS WERE
IMPOSSIBLE

IT WAS THE THREE OF US
AGAINST THE WORST,
MOST GODFORSAKEN
BLIZZARD EVER.

BEFORE I HAD
ANY POWERS.

OVER TWENTY YEARS
AND I REMEMBER IT
LIKE IT WAS YESTERDAY.

THREE
KIDS--

--AGAINST
IMPOSSIBLE
ODDS.

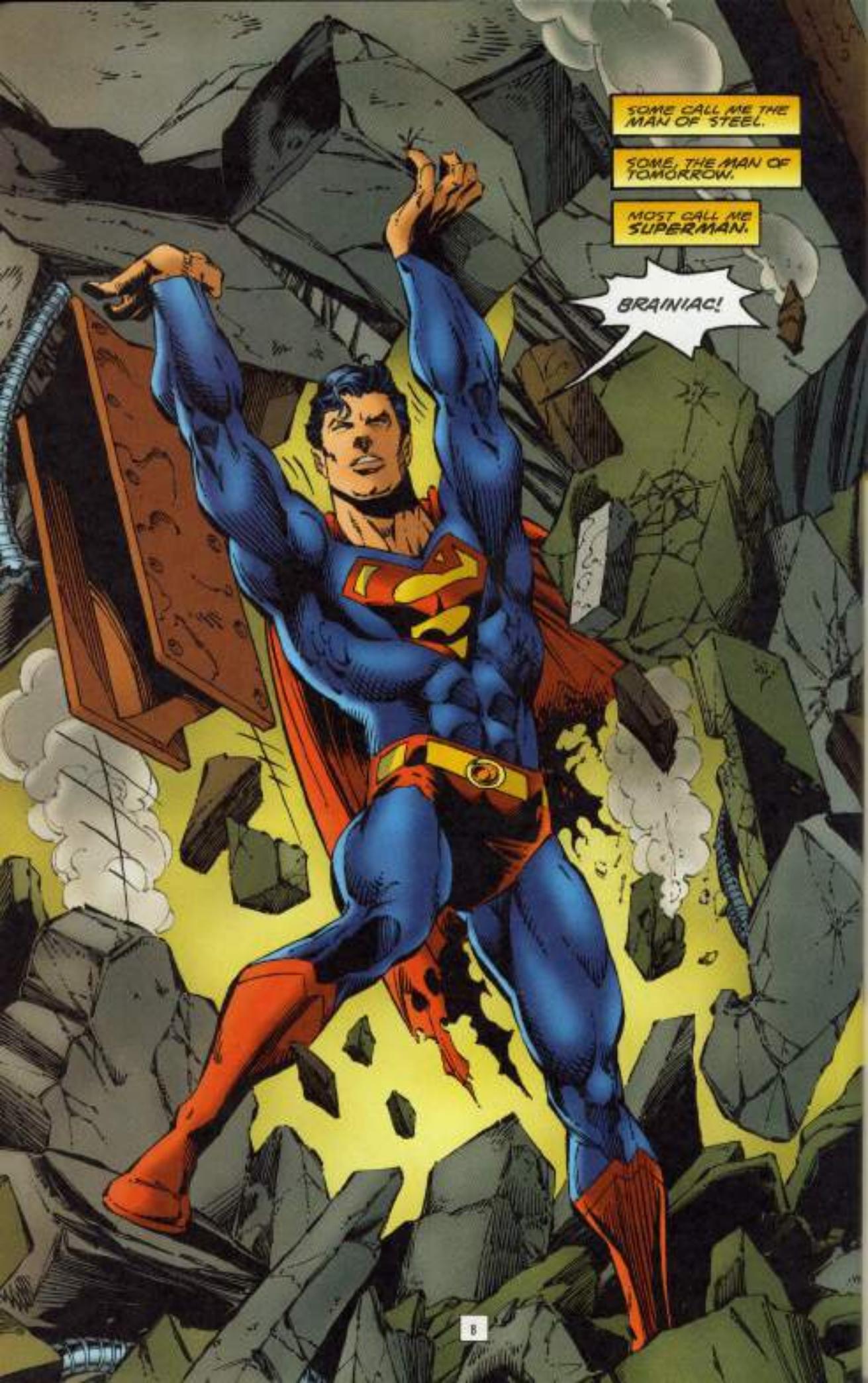
DAUNTING.

BUT NOT AS
DAUNTING
AS THIS.

THREE TONS PLUS OF
RUBBLE DUMPED ON
ME LIKE THAT STORM
DUMPED ON KANSAS.

BUT THIS TIME...
I HAVE MY POWERS.

TRUUNNNCH

A dynamic comic book illustration of Superman in flight. He is wearing his classic blue suit with red and yellow accents, including a large 'S' on his chest. His right arm is raised, pointing forward, while his left hand holds onto a piece of twisted metal or debris. The background is filled with dark, jagged rock formations and smoke, suggesting a scene of destruction or a post-explosion environment. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting Superman's form against the darker background.

SOME CALL ME THE
MAN OF STEEL.

SOME, THE MAN OF
TOMORROW.

MOST CALL ME
SUPERMAN.

BRAINIAC!

YOU'VE
GONE TOO
FAR THIS
TIME!

NO ONE
TURNS MY
CITY INTO A
WAR ZONE...

--LEAST
OF ALL
YOU!!!

OR
G

INTERESTING,
I DON'T RECALL
EVER SEEING YOU THIS
ANGRY, KRYPTONIAN.

COULD IT BE
BE THAT YOU'RE
ACTUALLY FEARFUL
THAT MY ASSAULT
DROID'S WILL
EXTERMINATE
THESE SHEEP
WHO WORSHIP
YOU?

HOW
VERY--

BRAMMM

WELL,

YOU ARE
ENRAGED.

YOU SEEK
TO WOUND,
NOT KILL, OR
I'D BE QUITE
DONE IN.



FORTUNATELY,
I NEVER GIVE IN
TO HUMAN
FRAILTIES AND
WEAKNESSES!

NOT
WHEN I
CAN DO
THIS!







I DIDN'T PLAN WHAT HAPPENED NEXT



CALL IT A RESULT OF CHAOS ON THE BATTLE-FIELD.

BRAINIAK AND I HAD SPENT AN HOUR TURNING METROPOLIS INTO A CONCRETE REPAIR-MAN'S DREAM.

BY THEN, MOST PEOPLE KNEW ENOUGH TO STAY AWAY.



MAYBE HE WAS PROMISED A BIG TIP. IN ANY CASE --

HOLY--!

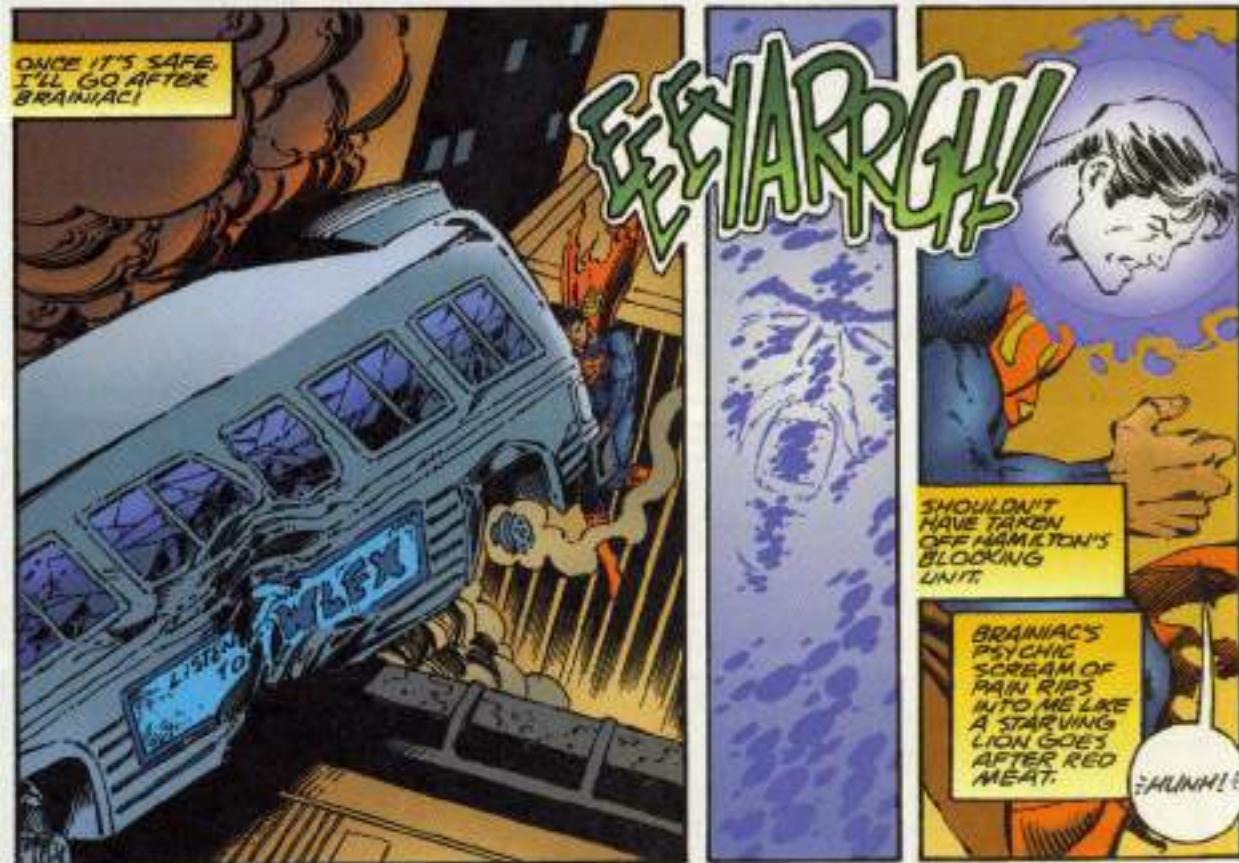
HE DOESN'T MAKE THE TURN IN TIME.



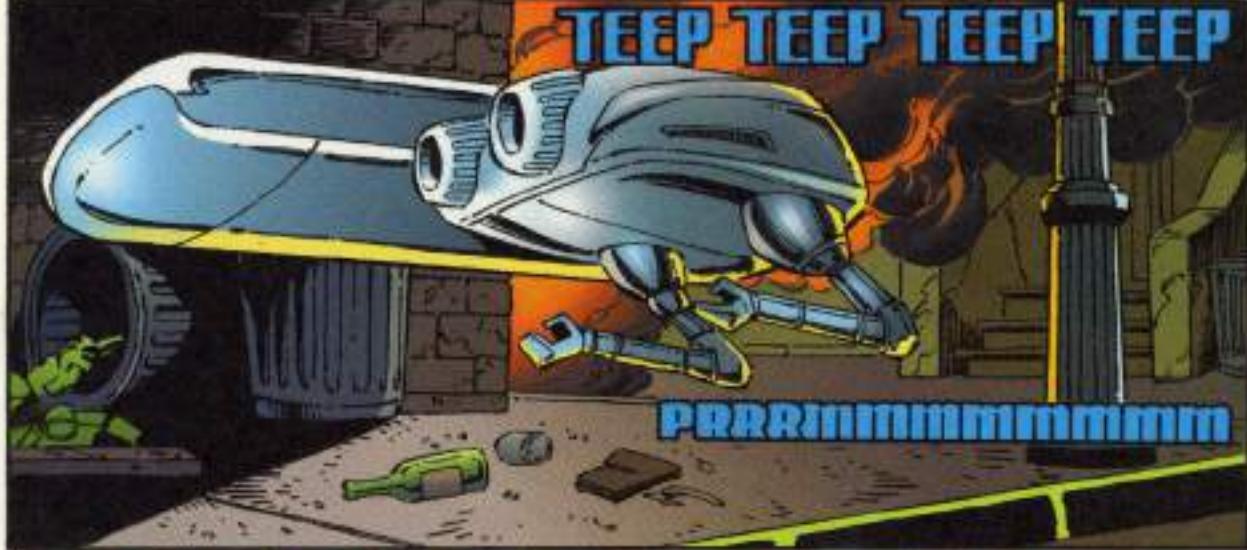
BRAINIAK PLAYS THE ROLE OF A LIVING AIRBAG.







TEEP TEEP TEEP TEEP



PRRRIMMMIMMMIMM



PSSSSSH



TEEEP

PSSSSHT

TEEEP

"ANY SIGN O' THE
GREEN-SKINNED
FREAK, SUPERMAN?"

"NO. AND UNTIL WE FIND
THE BODY, I'LL HAVE
TO ASSUME HE SUR-
VIVED, TURPIN."

FAT CHANCE!
THAT WAS NO
WIENIE ROAST,
SUPERMAN!

THANKS
TO THE WEIRD
CHEMICALS IN
THOSE FLOATERS
OF HIS, IT WAS
AN *INFERNO*!

THE MAN
DID NOT
SURVIVE!

"MAN?" THIS
IS **BRAINAC**
WE'RE TALKING
ABOUT.
REMEMBER
THAT.

WHAT'S
THAT?



BUT YOU WERE TOO
BUSY TAKIN' CARE OF
THE PEOPLE ON
THAT BUS!

WASN'T YOUR FAULT
SOME OF 'EM NEEDED
TO GET TO THE HOS-
PITAL BECAUSE THEY
INHALED THOSE
CHEMICALS FROM
THE FIRE.

YOU SAVED A
BUS FULL O'
INNOCENT PEOPLE,
SUPERMAN! GAVE
EM LIFE! AINT
NOTHING TO
APOLOGIZE
FOR!

THANKS,
TURPIN.





CAT, I FEEL LIKE AN INSENSITIVE MORON FOR THROWING A PARTY TODAY OF ALL DAYS! PLEASE FORGIVE ME!

NO PROB, LOIS! HELPS TAKE MY MIND OFF MY TROUBLES.

OFF ADAM.

I ADMIRE YOU, CAT. LOSING A CHILD MUST BE THE WORST TRAGEDY OF ALL.

IT'S LIKE FALLING INTO A PRIVATE HELL YOU CAN'T CLIMB OUT OF.

I BLAMED MYSELF FOR NOT PROTECTING ADAM, FOR NOT BEING THERE WHEN I HAD TO BE--

--EVEN THOUGH IT WAS THE TOYMAN WHO KIDNAPPED HIM.

SUPERMAN DID EVERYTHING HE COULD TO RESCUE ADAM.

BUT IT WASN'T ENOUGH.

I DREAM ABOUT ADAM EVERY NIGHT, EVERY SINGLE NIGHT!

MY MOST SIGNIFICANT FAILURE. A LITTLE BOY DIED BECAUSE I COULDN'T FIND HIM IN TIME.

SOME SUPERMAN I AM.

THE DEVIL HIMSELF COULDNT NAME A PRICE I WOULDNT PAY TO HAVE MY BABY BACK.



I KNOW.

DIG!

SOON AS WE'RE OUT, WE PUSH ON!

WE CAN'T MAKE IT, CLARK! WE GOTTA TURN AROUND AND GO BACK!

NOT A CHANCE, LANA! PA'S DEPENDING ON ME. IT'S MY RESPONSIBILITY!

CLARK-O, YOUR NUMERO UNO RESPONSIBILITY IS TO YOURSELF.

YOU THINK YOUR DAD WANTS YOU TO FREEZE TO DEATH OUT HERE FOR THE SAKE OF SOME DUMB OLD COWS?

BUT THEY'LL DIE, PETE. ALL OF 'EM!

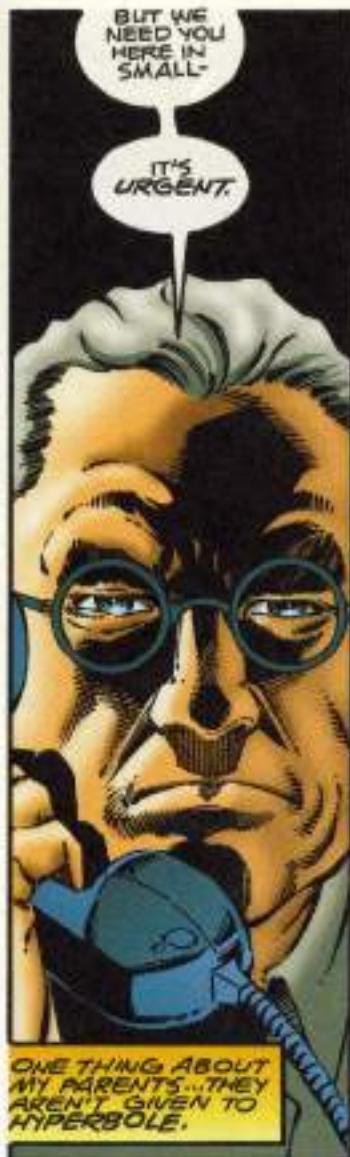
YOU DID YOUR BEST, BUD. WE ALL DID.

--I FAILED?

HOW... HOW CAN I FACE PA?

HOW CAN I LOOK HIM IN THE EYE AND TELL HIM--





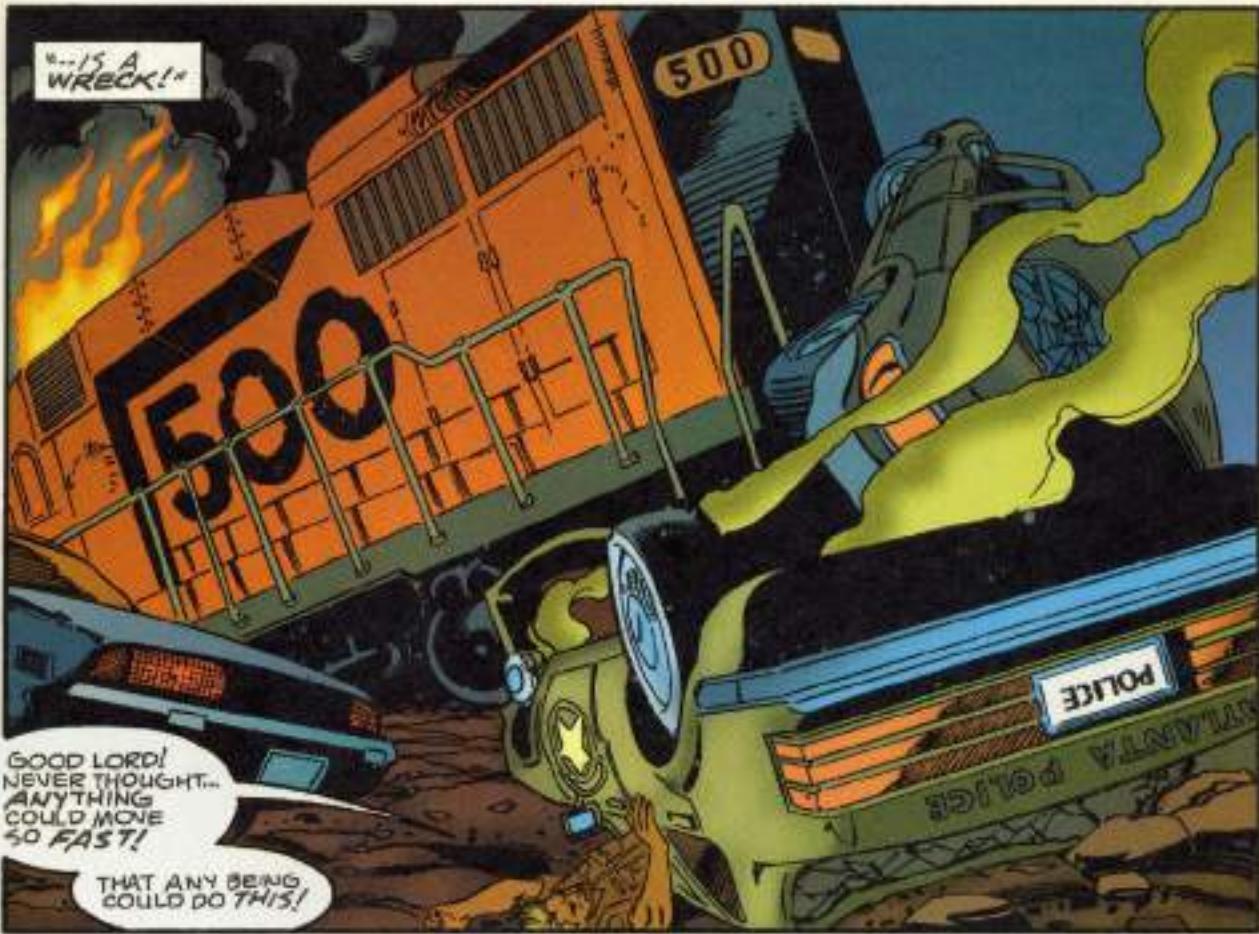
WHAT A NEWS HOUND. ONE SMELL OF A STORY AND SAM! HE'S ON IT!

ONE THING ABOUT MY PARENTS...THEY AREN'T GIVEN TO HYPERBOLE.

A THOUSAND THOUGHTS RACE THROUGH MY HEAD, NONE OF THEM GOOD.







NOD!

HAVE TO ADMIT THAT
I'M GLAD YOU'RE HERE,
CLARK-O. IT'S LANA.

SHE WAS HOSPITALIZED
THIS MORNING, AND
I'M AFRAID SHE'S IN
TOUGH SHAPE.

WHAT
HAPPENED,
PETE? SHE
SICK OR--?

CAR ACCIDENT.
BROADSIDED BY
A GRAIN TRUCK
ON HIGHWAY 55.
INTERNAL IN-
JURIES, BUT
SHE'LL LIVE.

THAT'S A RELIEF!
THE WAY EVERY-
ONE WAS ACTING,
I FEARED THE
WORST.

IF
SHE'S
AWAKE,
I'D
LOVE TO
LOOK IN
ON HER.

Radio



NOT THAT SIMPLE.
PHYSICALLY, YEAH,
SHE'S OKAY.
EMOTIONALLY...

PETE, WHAT
AREN'T YOU
TELLING
ME?

WHAT'S
THE REAL
PROBLEM?



LANA WAS
PREGNANT,
CLARK, SEVEN
MONTHS. THE
TRAUMA FROM
THE ACCIDENT
CAUSED HER
TO DELIVER
EARLY, AND
... WELL...

...THERE'S NO
EASY WAY TO
SAY IT. THE
BABY'S BARELY,
BARELY
HANGING
IN THERE.



PREGNANT?
I HAD NO IDEA!
WHY DIDN'T YOU
TELL ME?

YOU...YOU
COULD'VE
CALLED
OR...SOMETHING.

LANA WAS
ADAMANT.
WANTED TO
TELL YOU
FACE TO
FACE.

SAID SHE
KNEW HOW
HAPPY
YOU'D BE
FOR US AND
WANTED TO
SEE YOU
SMILE.

YOU'RE OUR
BEST FRIEND,
CLARK. WE
WANTED TO
TELL YOU IN
PERSON, AND
LET'S FACE IT—
YOU HAVEN'T
BEEN AROUND
MUCH LATELY.

SOUNDS
LIKE
HER.

MAYBE
IT'S BETTER
IF SHE
DOESN'T
SEE ME
NOW.

FRANKLY,
SHE'S BEEN
HOPING
YOU'D COME.
ALMOST
FRANTIC
ABOUT
IT.

CLARK?!
THANK
HEAVEN
YOU'VE
COME!

PETE'S FILLED
ME IN, LANA.
HOW'RE YOU
FEELING?

WILL YOU
LEAVE CLARK
AND ME ALONE,
PETE? PLEASE?

WE NEED TO
TALK
PRIVATELY.

HAVE
A CHAIR,
CLARK. I'LL GET
US A COUPLE
OF SODAS.

THE DISTRESS CALL FROM THE GEORGIA AUTHORITIES WAS CERTAINLY WARRANTED.

WHATEVER TORE THROUGH THIS AREA WOULD PRESENT A FORMIDABLE OBSTACLE FOR ANY ORDINARY POLICE FORCE.

NOT TO MENTION THE NATIONAL GUARD, MARINES, NAVY, AIR FORCE, AND AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED PERSONS!

CHECK THE BLAZE! WHO BROUGHT THE MARSHMALLOWS?

QUIET, PLASTIC MAN. THIS IS SERIOUS BUSINESS.

WONDER WOMAN SPEAKS TRUE.

THE DESTRUCTION IS SO COMPLETE, ONE MIGHT SUSPECT THE MINIONS OF DARKSEID HIMSELF HAD WAGED WAR HERE!

WHOEVER DID THIS WAS THOROUGH, ORION. I DON'T THINK THERE'S A BLADE OF GRASS LEFT UNTOUCHED!

THERE'S A SMALL TOWN TO THE EAST THAT LOOKS TRASHED! SHOULD I CHECK IT OUT?

YOU STAY HERE.

HEAD'S UP! WE GOT AN INCOMING OBJECT HEADED THIS WAY FAST!

A TANKER TRUCK? WHO COULD BE POWERFUL ENOUGH TO HURL SUCH AN OBJECT THIS FAR?

SOMEONE WHO PRESENTS A CHALLENGE.

FLASH, I WANT A RECONNAISSANCE REPORT ON THE COMMUNITY PLASTIC MAN MENTIONED.

I'M ON IT!



THOOMP



I CANNOT BELIEVE THAT MY OWN WIFE ASKED ME TO LEAVE!

TO SPEAK TO HER OLD BOYFRIEND, NO LESS!

OH, PETER, I'M SURE SHE'S JUST TRYING TO GIVE YOU A BREAK. YOU'VE BEEN HERE ALL DAY!

DON'T SOFT-SOAP ME, MARTHA. I REMEMBER FULL WELL HOW MUCH LANA LOVED CLARK. WHEN WE WERE KIDS, HE WAS ALL SHE THOUGHT ABOUT!

SHE'S SCARED, PETER. DON'T READ ANYTHING INTO THIS!

ALL DAY LONG, SHE WAS HOPING CLARK WOULD COME!

I SWEAR, THOSE TWO SHARE SOME KIND OF BOND. I'LL NEVER UNDERSTAND!

LANA'S HAVING A TOUGH TIME, SON. SHE NEEDS ALL THE SUPPORT SHE CAN GET. SO DON'T GO STARTING TROUBLE.

I KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN, JONATHAN. BUT WHAT CAN MY WIFE GET FROM YOUR SON--

--THAT SHE CAN'T GET FROM ME?

CLARK, I'VE NEVER ASKED FOR ANYTHING LIKE THIS BEFORE, BUT I NEED YOU.

I NEED SUPERMAN.



WHATEVER YOU WANT, CONSIDER IT DONE. JUST TELL ME-- WAIT.

MY BEEPER.

BEEPER? BUT I DIDN'T HEAR A THING.

IT'S A JLA EXCLUSIVE BUILT INTO MY BELT BUCKLE. OPERATES ON A FREQUENCY SO HIGH...

...ONLY A KRYPTONIAN CAN HEAR IT.

IT'S NOT TO BE USED UNLESS THE SITUATION IS CRITICAL.

ARE YOU SAYING YOU HAVE TO LEAVE?

I'LL BE BACK AS SOON AS I CAN.

NO! STOP!

DO YOU WANT MY BABY BOY TO DIE?

DIE? LANA, WHAT... WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?

OH! I WAS IN AN ACCIDENT, CLARK! MY BABY WAS BORN MONTHS PREMATURELY WITH SEVERE INJURIES!

WE'RE IN SMALLVILLE. THIS HOSPITAL WAS BUILT IN THE 30'S.

CLARK, THEY DON'T HAVE THE FACILITIES, EQUIPMENT, OR TALENT TO KEEP HIM ALIVE UNTIL MORNING!

FROM THE DAY YOU SHARED YOUR SECRET WITH ME, I'VE KEPT IT.

EVEN FROM MY HUSBAND.

SO I'M ASKING YOU NOW, I'M BEGGING YOU.

SAVE MY BABY'S LIFE!

BUT...THE JUSTICE LEAGUE...

AND IN ALL THAT TIME, I NEVER ASKED YOU... NEVER ASKED SUPERMAN FOR A BLESSED THING.

FIND THE BEST DAMN PREEMIE CARE UNIT IN THE WORLD AND TAKE HIM THERE! PLEASE!

JUSTICE? WHERE'S THE JUSTICE IN AN INNOCENT BABY LOSING HIS LIFE?

THEY CAN TAKE CARE OF THEMSELVES! MY SON NEEDS SUPERMAN!



CLARK, DO YOU REALLY WANT THE DEATH OF AN INNOCENT CHILD ON YOUR CONSCIENCE?

NO. ONE IS ENOUGH.

BESIDES, LANA'S RIGHTS SAY WHATEVER YOU WANT ABOUT THE LEAGUE.



THEY CAN
TAKE CARE
OF THEM-
SELVES.

ONE LONE
BEING DID THIS
TO THE
JUSTICE
LEAGUE.

WHAT HOPE
IS THERE...
FOR THE
WORLD?

STAY
BACK, GIRL.
THOUGH
DARKSEID
HIMSELF
FEARS THE
ONE WE
FIGHT--

—ONLY
DEATH WILL
BRING DOWN
ORION THE
HUNTER!

BUT KNOW
YOU FULL WELL,
MONSTER--

--THAT MOST IN
THE UNIVERSE
FEAR ME! FEW
DARE CHALLENGE
ME IN BATTLE!

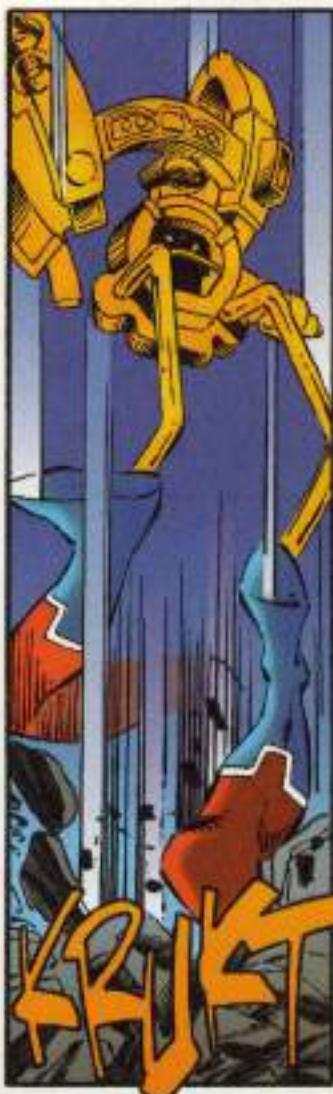
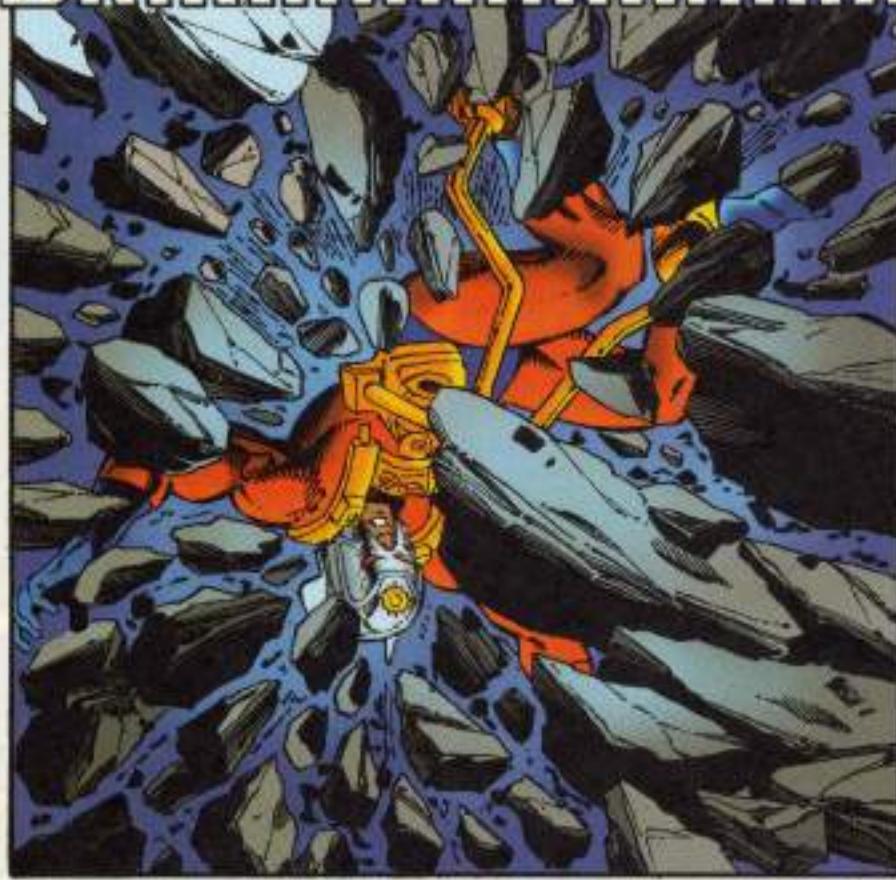
AND
NONE OF
THEM--

--CAN
WITHSTAND
THE ASTRO
FORCE!

IMPOSSIBLE!
HE STILL
STANDS!?!?

PICKING UP
A MASSIVE
BOULDER!
PLANNING TO--

BRAKAAAAMMM





YOU OKAY, BIG FELLA? COME ON! IT'S FOURTH AND GOAL! THE TEAM NEEDS YOU!

LEGS... TOO WEAK TO STAND...

BAD ENOUGH SUPERMAN DOESN'T RESPOND WHEN I CALL HIM!



MUST BE BECAUSE WE'RE NOT USED TO BEING BEATEN SO BADLY!

YAARRRRGH!

THAT WAS J'ONN! HE'S HURT!



WE NEED MORE MUSCLE.

WHY DOESN'T HE RESPOND? WHAT FORCE IN THE GALAXY IS SO POWERFUL--



"...THAT IT CAN KEEP
SUPERMAN AWAY FROM
DOOMSDAY?"



PLEASE, CLARK. BEFORE YOU RUN OFF TO YOUR JLA BUDDIES, GO TO THE PREEMIE UNIT AND TAKE A LOOK AT MY PRECIOUS, TINY, LITTLE BOY.

YOU'LL SEE ME IN HIM, AND PETE.

ONCE YOU DO THAT, I KNOW YOU WON'T LET HIM DIE!



UNNECESSARY, EVEN IF YOU AND PETE WERE COMPLETE STRANGERS, I'D DO WHAT'S RIGHT.



I NEVER
EVER THOUGHT
I'D SEE ANY-
ONE DO THAT
TO J'ONN.

YOU MUST
HAVE FOUND
SOME WAY AROUND
HIS PHASE
POWERS!



I KNOW
YOU NEARLY
DESTROYED
SUPERMAN...

--AND DID
THE SAME TO
A WEAKER
VERSION OF
THE JLA!

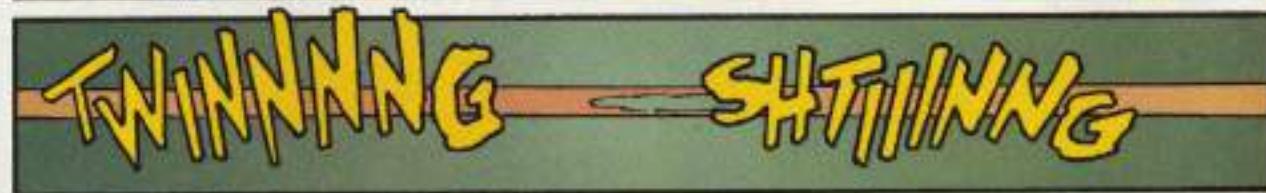
BUT, EXCEPT
FOR OUR BRIEF
TUSSLE EARLIER,
YOU AND I HAVEN'T
EVER FOUGHT
IT OUT!



AND
THIS IS
WHERE...

RRRA
AHWW!











MY OWN
MENTAL
DEFENSES
BARRED
YOUR OVER-
CONFIDENT
FRIEND
FROM THE
TRUTH.

TO
PARTIALLY
QUOTE ONE
OF YOUR
HUMAN
AUTHORS--

--THE REPORTS
OF MY STUPIDITY
WERE GREATLY
EXAGGERATED!



...CAN'T THANK YOU ENOUGH FOR COMING, SUPERMAN! THOUGH IT'S BEYOND ME HOW YOU HAPPENED TO HEAR ABOUT THIS!

BABY ROSS IS IN THE MECHANICAL VENTILATOR.

UNFORTUNATELY, OUR NEONATAL INTENSIVE CARE UNIT ISN'T EQUIPPED TO DEAL WITH INJURIES OF THIS SCOPE—

--WHICH ARE COMPOUNDED BY THE FACT THAT HE WAS BORN EIGHT WEEKS PREMATURE.

CLARK KENT AND I ARE ACQUAINTANCES, DOCTOR. WHEN HE DESCRIBED THE SITUATION, I COULDN'T HELP BUT COME.

WHAT'S THE BABY'S STATUS?

WE THOUGHT ABOUT AIRLIFTING HIM TO KANSAS CITY OR ST. LOUIS, BUT THERE'S NO WAY HE'D SURVIVE THE FLIGHT.

I'M AFRAID... IT'S A MATTER OF TIME. WE HAVEN'T MUCH HOPE.

THERE'S ALWAYS HOPE, DOCTOR. WHAT'S THE BEST NICU FACILITY IN EXISTENCE?

THE MEDI-LIFE INSTITUTE, JUST NORTH OF ATLANTA. BUT... THERE'S NO WAY THIS INFANT WILL SURVIVE A TRIP THERE!

LET THEM KNOW I'M ON MY WAY, DOCTOR.

THIS BABY WILL LIVE, NO MATTER WHAT.

YEARS HAVE PASSED,
BUT IT SEEMS LIKE
ONLY YESTERDAY.

I WAS FIFTEEN BACK
THEN, LIVING ON A
FARM OUTSIDE
SMALLVILLE, KANSAS.

PA RAISED A VARIETY
OF CROPS AND HANDED
A GOOD-SIZED DAIRY
OPERATION.

IT WAS THE COLDEST
WINTER ON RECORD.
WE WERE DIGGING
OUT OF THE WORST
BLIZZARD EVER.

OUR ENTIRE HERD OF
CATTLE WAS TRAPPED
OUT ON THE FIELDS,
UNABLE TO NAVIGATE
THE DEEP SNOW AND
REACH THE SAFETY
OF THE BARN.

MY BEST FRIENDS IN
THE WORLD, PETE
ROSS AND LANA LANG
AND I, WERE FOILED
BY THE DRIFTS WHILE
TRYING TO GET FOOD
TO THE CATTLE.

WE WAITED
THREE DAYS
FOR THE
COUNTY TO
PLOW US A
PATH.

THE RIDE BETWEEN
THE FARM AND FIELD
WAS USUALLY A
SHORT ONE.

THAT PARTICULAR
DAY, FOLLOWING
THE SNOW PLOW--

--THE RIDE SEEMED
TO TAKE LONGER
THAN WALKING
FROM MONTREAL
TO EL PASO.

PULL OVER HERE,
PA! WE CAN WALK THE
REST OF THE WAY.

GOOD CALL,
CLARK. SNOW'S GOT
A FIRM ENOUGH
CRUST ON IT, SO
WE SHOULDN'T SINK
TOO DEEP.

NO ONE SAID MUCH AFTER
THAT. CERTAINLY NOT ME.

I WAS CARRYING
TOO MUCH GUILT.

MA AND PA...
THEY NEVER...
EVER ASKED
FOR MUCH
OF ME.

BUT WHEN THEY
DID, WHEN ALL MY
FATHER WANTED
WAS FOR ME TO
GET HAY TO HIS
CATTLE, I BLEW IT.

THERE!

BLEW IT BIG
TIME.



OH, MARTHA.
WHAT ARE WE
GOING TO DO
NOW?

PA?

PA,
ARE YOU
OKAY?

DEAD,
EVERY
LAST
ONE OF
'EM.

DEAD.

TRANSLATION:
WE'RE BROKE,
NO CATTLE TO
GIVE MILK AND
PAY THE
MORTGAGE
ON THE FARM,
NO INSURANCE
TO COVER THE
LOSS.

I'M
SORRY,
REALLY
SORRY,
PA.

OF COURSE
I DID, CLARK!
THERE WAS NO
CHANCE!

I COULD'A GOTTEN
THE HAY OUT HERE...
BUT PETE TALKED
ME INTO STOPPING.

WOULDN'T
LET ME DIG
OUR WAY HERE!

THERE'S
ALWAYS
A CHANCE,
PETE!
ALWAYS!

SOMETIMES...
DEATH COMES.
NOT BECAUSE
IT'S ANYONE'S
FAULT--

--BUT
BECAUSE
IT JUST
DOES.

IF WE'D GOTTEN STUCK
IN THOSE DRIFTS, WE'D
BE AS DEAD AS THOSE
CATTLE, CLARK, AND
YOU KNOW IT!

ENOUGH.
YOU TWO! IT'S
NATURE'S WAY,
THAT'S ALL!

LANA AND I
ALWAYS WERE
CLOSE.

WHEN I GOT OLDER
AND MY POWERS
DEVELOPED, I TOLD
HER AND NO ONE
ELSE EXCEPT MY
FOLKS.

NOW SHE'S ASKED FOR
MY HELP THE SAME WAY
PA DID THAT WINTER.

LANA'S BABY WAS
BORN PREMATURELY.
HIS CONDITION IS
CRITICAL, UNLESS
HE GETS TO THE
BEST FACILITY IN
THE WORLD SOON.



YOU'RE ALL SET, SUPERMAN. THIS PORTABLE VENTILATOR IS RATHER CRUDE, BUT IT SHOULD WORK FOR A TIME.

IT'S POWERED BY A SMALL MARINE BATTERY. I'D SAY IT WILL SUPPLY POWER FOR ONE, MAYBE TWO HOURS.

IT HAS A SMALL OXYGEN TANK, A PRESSURIZATION UNIT, AND EVEN A GYROSCOPIC BALANCER TO ACCOUNT AND CORRECT FOR YOUR FLIGHT MANEUVERS. HE SHOULD BE UNAFFECTED, NO MATTER HOW FAR OR FAST YOU FLY.

BABY ROSS HAS BEEN MEDICATED FOR THE FLIGHT. I SUPPOSE HE'S AS READY AS HE'LL EVER BE.

YOU'RE SURE HE'LL SURVIVE THE JOURNEY?

NOT AT ALL. BUT I DO KNOW HE'LL DIE IF HE STAYS HERE.

THESE MONITORS WILL KEEP YOU FULLY INFORMED AS TO THE BABY'S CONDITION, SUPERMAN.

SUPERMAN, MEET BABY ROSS. BABY ROSS--

--MEET YOUR GUARDIAN ANGEL.

THEIR LOOKS SAY IT ALL. THEY HAVE THE SAME EXPRESSION AS WHEN PA ASKED ME TO SAVE HIS CATTLE.

AS WHEN CATHERINE GRANT ASKED ME TO SAVE HER SON AND I FAILED.

A MISTAKE THAT HAUNTS ME TO THIS DAY.

A MISTAKE I SWEAR NEVER TO MAKE AGAIN.

PETE AND LANA
ROSS WILL NOT
SUFFER THE WAY
CAT HAS.

LANA?

LANA!

I JUST CAME FROM
N.I.C.U.! OUR BABY--
HE'S GONE!

I'M AWARE OF
THAT, PETER. HE'S
BEING FLOWN TO THE
VERY **BEST** UNIT IN
THE WORLD. JUST
OUTSIDE ATLANTA.

BUT... THE
DOCTORS SAID HE
WOULDN'T SURVIVE A
LENGTHY FLIGHT!

OUR
CHILD WON'T
BE FLYING BY
NORMAL
MEANS,
PETER.

THANKS
TO CLARK,
SUPERMAN
CAME TO
HELP OUT!

NO WONDER YOU
BLEW ME ASIDE TO
TALK WITH CLARK
ALONE!

YOU GOT DOWN ON YOUR
KNEES AND BEGGED
HIM TO DRAG
SLIPERMAN
INTO THIS!

TO SAVE
MY SON'S
LIFE!

DON'T
YOU
MEAN
OUR
SON?

I RESENT
BEING CUT OUT
OUT OF THE
PROCESS!

THERE WASN'T
TIME! SUPER-
MAN, WELL...

HE ARRIVED
SECONDS
AFTER CLARK
CALLED AND
WANTED TO MOVE
IMMEDIATELY!

WHY CAN'T YOU UNDERSTAND?
YOU'RE MY WIFE, BUT NO MATTER
HOW CLOSE WE ARE...



HIGH SCHOOL WAS
YEARS AGO, LANA. YOU
MIGHT HAVE LOVED HIM,
BUT HE REJECTED
YOU.



LISTEN TO YOURSELF!
HOW CAN YOU BE UP-
SET ABOUT THIS?

CLARK'S FRIEND-
SHIP WITH SUPER-
MAN IS OUR BABY'S
ONLY CHANCE
FOR LIFE!



BY NOW,
SOMEWHERE
OVER
LOUISIANA.



WHERE
ARE YOU
GOING?
WHERE
ELSE?



"ATLANTA!"

TARGET ACQUIRED.
FOX LEADER
GUIDANCE SYSTEMS
LOCKED.

COPY THAT,
ARM MISSILES
AND PREPARE
TO FIRE.

NO WAY THAT
MONSTER CAN
SURVIVE THESE.



SUCH AN AWE-
INSPIRING
BODY.

ITS EYESIGHT IS
SO REMARKABLY
ACUTE THAT, EVEN
THOUGH THOSE
FLYING TOYS ARE
MILES AWAY --

-- I CAN SEE
EVERY DETAIL
OF THEIR CON-
STRUCTION.



IN THE PAST, I
WOULD HAVE
PERMITTED
THEIR ASSAULT.

A FORCE FIELD
WOULD HAVE
ENSURED MY
SURVIVAL, BUT
SUCH A TACTIC
IS DEPRESSINGLY
PASSIVE.

WITH THIS BODY, I
HAVE FAR MORE
OPTIONS.





WHA-TOON

SHAKOON

IMPRESSIVE.

THE AREA IS
NOW FREE OF
INTRUDERS.

CHECK
THAT.

A SMALLER TARGET,
ORGANIC IN NATURE,
HAS PENETRATED
THE PERIMETER.

AT LAST.

IT'S HIM.

RURAL GEORGIA.
I'M MINUTES
AWAY FROM THE
HOSPITAL.

ONCE I'M THERE,
IT'S UP TO THE
DOCTORS.



THE BABY'S CONDITION
IS HOLDING STEADY AND
THE GYROSCOPIC
BALANCER'S PERFORM-
ING PERFECTLY.

ALL IN ALL, THINGS
COULDN'T BE
GOING BETTER.

THAT
SOUND?

I'VE HEARD
IT BEFORE.

LIKE...
MISSILES
BEING
FIRED?





GOOD. I OUTRAGED
ITS ENGINE'S CAPACITY.

BUT WHY WOULD
AN AMERICAN
NAVY PILOT FIRE
AT ME?

EEEEP EEEEP EEEEP

THE ALARM!

THE OXYGEN IN
THE TANK WON'T
LAST FOREVER!

EEEEEPP

HAVE TO
GET DOWN
AND HOPE
THE ATTACK
IS OVER!

NO SUCH LUCK.
GETTING IT WITH
BOTH BARRELS
THIS TIME.

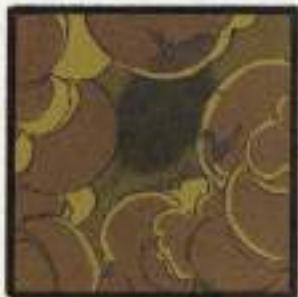
MISSILE ON
THE LEFT
AND A SUICIDE
RUN ON THE
OTHER.

THIS SOLUTION
WILL HAVE TO BE
FASTER STILL!

HEAT
VISION.

OUT AT
SECOND.





THE PILOT
EJECTED.

I SHOULD
IGNORE
HIM, BUT
EVEN WITH
ALL THIS
SMOKE--



--I CAN TELL
THERE'S NO
CHUTE.

IN FACT, IT
ALMOST
LOOKS LIKE...

...LIKE...

NO!

IMPOSSIBLE!

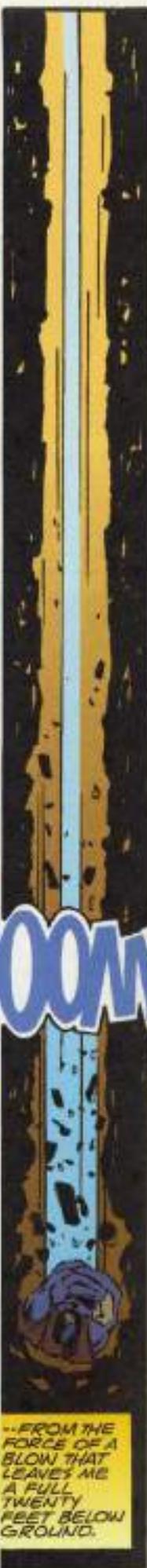
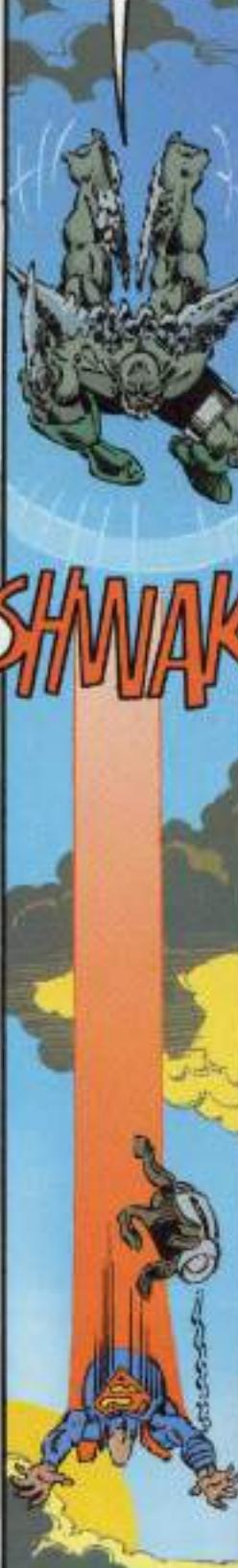
DOOMSDAY!

KRYPTONIAN

A PLEASURE
TO SEE YOU
AGAIN, OLD
FRIEND.



AT THIS MOMENT,
I'D VENTURE TO
SAY YOU ARE THE
ONLY ONE HEADING
IN THAT PARTICULAR
DIRECTION.



OF ALL THE
CREATURES
ACROSS ALL
THE GALAXIES
I'VE EVER
FOUGHT--

DOOMSDAY!

YOU ARE
DOUBTLESS
EXPECTING
A MERELY
PHYSICAL CONTEST
AT THIS POINT,
KRYPTONIAN.

MILDLY
APPEALING,
BUT LACKING
IN THE STRATEGIC
TACTICS I PREFER TO
EMPLOY THESE DAYS.

EVEN WITH LIMITED INTELLIGENCE, DOOMSDAY WAS
NOTHING LESS THAN THE
PERFECT KILLING MACHINE.

GIVE HIM A REAL
BRAIN AND--



IS THIS
HIS
DOING?

NEVER
ENCOUNTERED
AN ALLOY
LIKE THIS
BEFORE.

EVEN AT
MAXIMUM
INTENSITY,
MY HEAT
VISION IS
USELESS!



WAIT, I HAVE
SEEN THIS
ALLOY!

THESE CHAINS
KEPT DOOMSDAY
IMPRISONED FOR
YEARS!

WHOEVER
SENT HIM
HERE -

--WHOEVER
GAVE HIM
INTELLIGENCE--

-IS COMING
AT ME WITH
EVERYTHING
THEY'VE GOT-

-AND
MORE.

BRAAAM

I JUMP UP RIGHT
AWAY, NOT WANTING
TO BE TAKEN BY
SURPRISE.

I MAKE IT A
PRACTICE TO
BE READY FOR
ANYTHING.

EXCEPT
THAT.

I
RECOGNIZE
THAT
TECHNOLOGY!

IT'S
COLLAN!

I SALUTE YOUR
OBSERVATIONAL
SKILLS, KRYPTONIAN.
THIS MARVELOUS
STRUCTURE DID,
INDEED, ORIGINATE
FROM THE PLANET
COLU.

IMPRESSIVE,
IS IT NOT?
AND WELL IT
SHOULD BE--

--FOR IT
REPRESENTS
EARTH'S
FUTURE.



THIS
EXPLAINS
IT.

YOU'RE
A ROBOT OR
CLONE... BRED
WITH SOME
LEVEL OF
INTELLIGENCE!

PLEASE,
KRYPTONIAN.

DO
NOT
INSULT
ME.

I AM FAR,
FAR MORE
THAN YOU DARE
DREAM!

YOUR
ULTIMATE
NIGHTMARE
MADE REAL!

PERHAPS A
DEMONSTRA-
TION IS IN
ORDER.

NOT OF THE
BRUTE, SAVAGE
STRENGTH
YOU EXPECT.

SOME-
THING
ELSE.

SOMETHING
...EQUALLY
PAINFUL TO
CONSIDER...

SOME-
THING
...SUCH AS
THIS.

ARRGH!

A TELE-
PATHIC
BLAST
...?

LIKE THE FLINTY
SPARKLE OF LIGHTERS
AT A ROCK CONCERT--

--A CASCADE OF
IMAGES FLASHES
AND EXPLODES
THROUGH MY
MIND.

"YOU DESIRE ANSWERS,
KRYPTONIAN. LET US
BEGIN WITH DOOM'S
DAY'S DEMISE.

"WE'D NEARLY BEATEN
YOU UNTIL WAVE RIDER
TOOK YOU BOTH TO THE
END OF TIME ITSELF--

"...WHERE ENTROPY
EATS AWAY AT EVERY-
THING, CAUSING THE
END OF ALL
EXISTENCE!

"YOU ABANDONED
HIM THERE, AND,
THOUGH YOU DID
NOT WITNESS
HIS FATE--

"...YOU KNEW
WELL WHAT
MUST HAVE
HAPPENED.

"THE CRUSHING
FORCE OF THE
END ENGULFED
HIM.

"EVEN THE
SINGLE, MOST
PERFECT
EXAMPLE OF
SURVIVAL THE
UNIVERSE HAD
EVER KNOWN
COULD NOT
SURVIVE SUCH
A FORCE.



"UNTIL THE CALAMITOUS EVENT KNOWN AS ZERO HOUR.

"A FORMER COLLEAGUE OF YOURS, NOW CALLED PARALLAX, ATTEMPTED TO CREATE NEW WORLDS AND TIMELINES.

"FOOL THAT HE WAS, UNABLE TO CONTROL THE FORCES HE'D UNLEASHED, ENTIRE TIMELINES BEGAN TO COLLAPSE...

--AS ALTERNATE REALITIES SEEPED IN AND OUT OF EXISTENCE.

"THE LEVEL OF CHAOS REACHED A CRESCENDÒ WHEN THE ONE, TRUE TIMELINE CRUMPLED AS WELL.

"YOU WERE, AS IT'S QUIPPED ON EARTH, ABOUT TO EARN YOUR PAY.

"YOU AND SOME OF YOUR GLORIOUS COMPANIONS FOULDED YOUR PARTICULAR ENERGIES THROUGH THE ALL-KNOWING WAVERIDER--

"--WHO ALTERED THAT ENERGY WITH A CHRONAL MATRIX BASED ON HIS KNOWLEDGE OF TIME--

--AND DIRECTED IT ALL TOWARD THE SIMPLE CHILD KNOWN AS DAMAGE.



"HE GAVE YOU THE MEGA-BLAST NEEDED TO RE-START EVERYTHING--"

"--IN A FLASH OF SPECTACULAR WHITE LIGHT."

"AN AMAZING FEAT, THE RECONSTRUCTION OF TIME AND EXISTENCE."

"I'D NOT THOUGHT YOU HUMANS CAPABLE OF CONCEIVING, MUCH LESS EXECUTING, SUCH A GRAND SCHEME."

"EVEN THE LINEAR MEN, WATCHING FROM VANISHING POINT, WOULD SEEM UNEQUAL TO THE TASK."



"BUT THE RECONSTRUCTION OF THE TIMELINE MEANT EVERYTHING HAD TO HAPPEN AGAIN."

"JUST AS BEFORE, YOU AND DOOMSDAY FOUGHT TO THE SAME CONCLUSION, WITH YOU AND YOUR INTERFERING FRIEND LEAVING YOUR FOE TO BE CRUSHED BY ENTROPY!"

"FORTUNATELY, OTHERS WANTED DOOMSDAY ALIVE, AND THIS WAS A GREAT OPPORTUNITY."

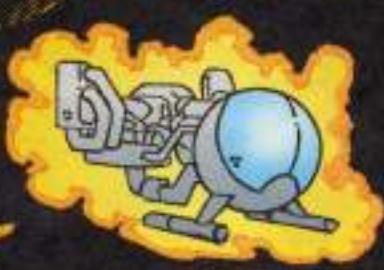
"IMMEDIATELY AFTER YOU LEFT, A SAVIOR ARRIVED."

"ONE WHO RESCUED HIM BEFORE ENTROPY DID ITS WORK."

"A MICROSECOND
BEFORE DEATH,
DOOMSDAY WAS
SAVED..."

"...AND TAKEN TO THE MOST
TECHNOLOGICALLY ADVANCED
WORLD IN ALL THE UNIVERSES
...COLU."

"COLUANS ARE
FORBIDDEN BY
LAW FROM TIME
TRAVEL AND LIKE
EXPERIMENTATION..."



"...BUT PRIN VNOOK
IGNORED THOSE LAWS."

MY MISSION
WAS A SUCCESS.
THE LIVING
ENGINE OF
DESTRUCTION
IS OURS!

EXCELLENT.

"HE ALONE UNDERSTOOD THE
GAIN TO BE ACHIEVED IN
RESCUING DOOMSDAY."

HOW FORTUNATE THAT COLUAN TIME-TRAVEL TECHNOLOGY ALLOWED US TO LEARN THE FATE OF THE DESIGNATE. WHERE IS HE?

DOOMSDAY IS IN STASIS, MASTER. HEALTHY, WHOLE-

--AND READY FOR PROCESSING.

YOU REALIZE YOUR ACTIONS ARE IN VIOLATION OF THE LAWS OF COLU?

PERHAPS, BUT YOU LED THE REBELLION AGAINST THE COMPUTER TYRANTS OF COLU TO SERVE YOU--

--IS AN HONOR!

YOU HAVE SERVED ME WELL, MONITORING MY ACTIONS ON EARTH.

DESPITE MY INTELLECTUAL SUPERIORITY--

--THIS WEAK, PATHETIC BODY HAS BEEN DEFEATED REPEATEDLY!

NEVER AGAIN, MASTER! ONCE WE HAVE COMPLETED THE PROCESS--

--THE ULTIMATE LIFE FORM WILL BE YOURS!

MORE TO THE POINT, THAT LIFE FORM--

--WILL BE--

--ME!

WE MUST HURRY, MASTER. YOUR PRESENT BODY IS WITHOUT SALVATION.

IN FACT, IT WILL CEASE TO FUNCTION WITHIN MINUTES.

THOUGH YOU MIGHT ACCOMPLISH TRANSFER ON YOUR OWN--

--A TECHNO-CHEMICAL ASSIST WILL MAKE IT PERMANENT AS WE DESTROY ANY TRACE OF THE CREATURE'S OWN MIND.







SO.

THE TRUTH
IS KNOWN TO
YOU AT LAST,
KRYPTONIAN.

YOU FACE A
BEING FAR MORE
LETHAL THAN A
DOOMSDAY
WHO SIMPLY
SPEAKS.

BRAINIAC.

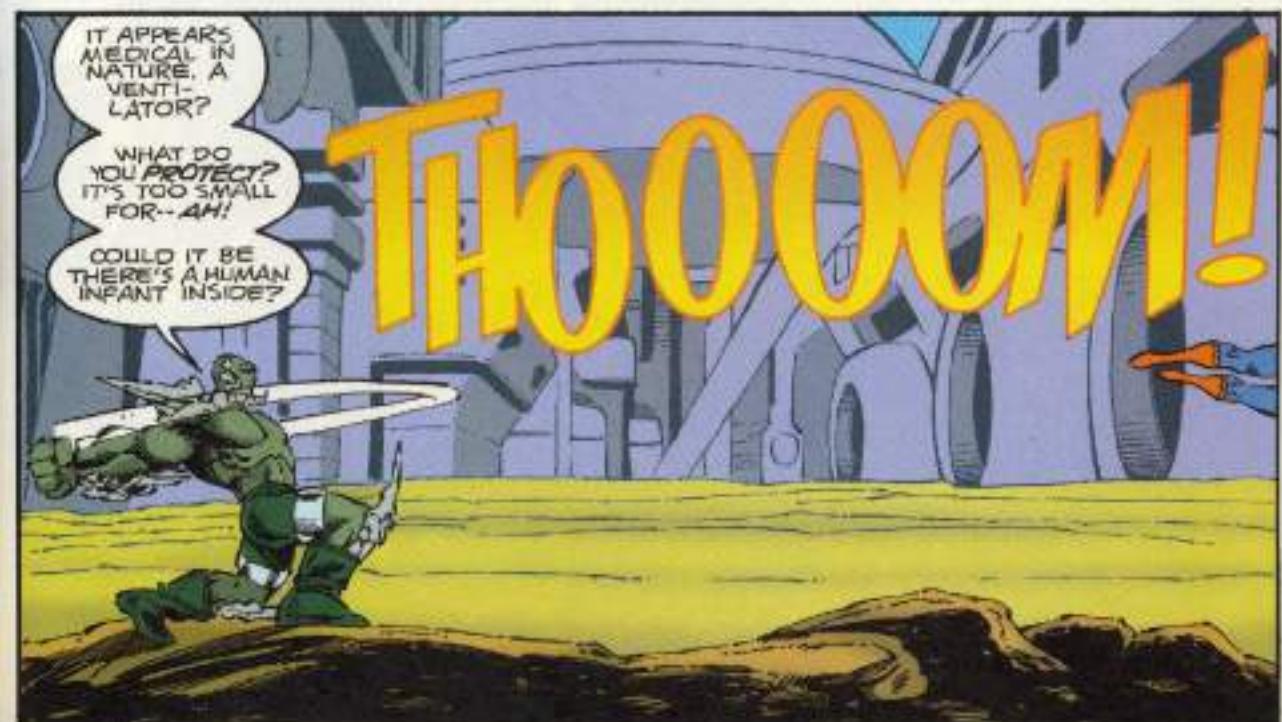
DOOMS-
DAY

AND THE
SLIM IS YOUR
DEATH!!

I...NEVER
WOULD'VE
GUESSED--!

IN
ONE.

MUCH AS
I HATE TO
ADMIT IT--



WHY? THE
CHILD OF A
PRESIDENT?
A KING?

HAVE TO
GET THE
BABY TO
SAFETY!

YOUR
OWN
PERHAPS?

NO!

NO
MATTER.

HE'S AS
GOOD AS
DEAD.

YOU HAVE MORE
IMMEDIATE
CONCERNS.







ALAS,
THE CHILD
MUST NOT
BE YOURS.

THINK
OF THE
SPORT I
MIGHT HAVE
HAD IF HE
WERE.

NEVERTHELESS,
HE IS OF GREAT
USE TO ME.

COMPUTER!

AWAITING YOUR
INSTRUCTIONS,
BRAINIAK.

IMMEDIATE
ASSEMBLY, LIFE
SUPPORT UNIT
FOR A PREMATURE,
HUMAN MALE
INFANT.

PRESSURIZED,
DIRECT OXYGEN
FEED, THE PROPER
STIMULANTS FOR
CARDIOPULMONARY
AND RESPIRATORY
REGULATION.

CONSTRUCTION
IMPLEMENTED.

FASTER, DOOMSDAY'S
SINGLE REASON FOR
EXISTENCE IS TO
SURVIVE! EVEN NOW
I CAN FEEL HIS
PERSONALITY
STRUGGLING TO
FORCE ME OUT.

WE MUST GROW FOR
ME A NEW BODY... ONE
DEVOID OF THAT
PERSONALITY--

--FROM THE
RAW TISSUE OF
THIS MISSHAPE
HUMAN INFANT!

VENTILATOR
COMPLETE.

EXCELLENT.
FOR THOSE
AMONG YOU WHO
MUST BE REPULSED
BY WHAT I PLAN,
THIS MUST BE A
RATHER GALLING
MOMENT.





BRANIAC
WANTED
THIS!

SAW FAR ENOUGH
TO SEE THE PLANE--

--AND PLOTTED
THE COURSE!



NO TIME TO
WASTE, CLARK!
GET YOUR ACT
TOGETHER...

--AND
MOVE!

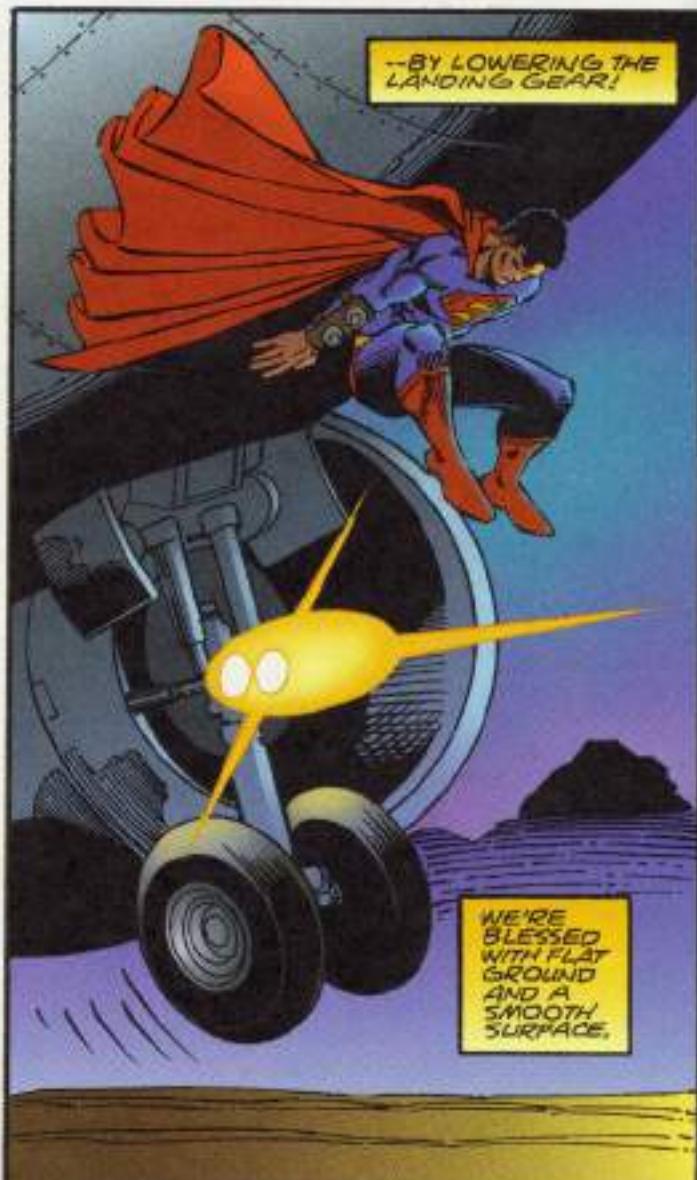


FEELS LIKE I'M...
WATCHING SOMEONE
ELSE DO THIS.

LIKE I'M...
DETACHED.

MUST HAVE A
CONCUSSION.

AT LEAST I CAN BLOW
OUT THE FIRE.



-FEW BROKEN LIMBS AND MIGHTY DISTURBED PASSENGERS--BUT OTHER THAN THAT, WE'RE OKAY, SUPERMAN.

ROUGHEST FLIGHT OUT OF KANSAS I'VE EVER HAD.

LEXAN

SORRY, BUT DOOMSDAY'S BACK AND HE-- DID YOU SAY KANSAS?

SUPERMAN? WHEN THE PLANE WENT INTO THE DIVE--I KNEW!

I KNEW!

PETE ROSS!

WHERE'S MY SON, SUPERMAN? WHERE'S MY BOY?

PETE, I--I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO TELL YOU. IT'S DOOMSDAY. HE'S--

...YOU... SON OF...

KRUNCH

YOUR HAND--

MY SON. YOU'VE LOST MY SON!

HE'S RIGHT. BY NOW, DOOMSDAY-- OR RATHER, BRAINIAC-- HAS--

IT'S HAPPENING AGAIN.

JUST LIKE IT DID WITH CAT'S SON YEARS AGO.

THE ALL-PERVERSIVE
FEELING OF DEATH...

-AND
DESPAIR.

LANA,
YOU SAID
DEATH COMES
NATURALLY.
THAT IT'S NOT
ANYONE'S
FAULT.

BUT
THIS...THIS
IS MY
FAULT.



IS THAT...
BESSIE?

WHO?

BESSIE. THE
KENTS SAY
THEY GOT HER
THE SAME
DAY CLARK
WAS BORN.

CAN'T IMAGINE
HER NOT BEING
IN THE BARN. AND THAT YOUNG ONE
UNDER HER?

IT'S HERS.
SHE WAS
TRYING IN
VAIN TO
PROTECT
HER OWN.



I'D GIVE ANY
THING TO HAVE
PREVENTED THIS.
ANYTHING.

IT'S THE WEATHER,
CLARK! YOU'D HAD TO
BE STARMAN OR GREEN
LANTERN TO DO THAT!

MAYBE. BUT I'D
STILL FAILED TO
STOP DEATH.

JUST AS I DID
WITH ADAM
GRANT

JUST AS I
DID TODAY



LET YOUR MEMORY DRIFT, AND
YOU'LL FIND DAYS AND EVENTS
REMEMBERED WITH SUCH
CLARITY AND DETAIL—

--THAT THEY SEEM
TO HAVE HAPPENED
YESTERDAY, SO TO
SPEECHLESS.

--THEY'RE
USUALLY
BAD.

SUMMER
CITY.

TELL
ME ABOUT
IT.

ARE
YOU SURE
THERE ISN'T
SOMETHING
YOU CAN
DO?

ROB
A BANK,
MAYBE WANT
TO ROUND
UP SOME
GUNS?

BE SERIOUS,
CLARK! I MEAN,
HOW MUCH CAN
SEED COST?

GIRL!
GEEEEZE!

YOU EVER THOUGHT
ABOUT HOW MUCH
WHEAT AND CORN
THOSE FIELDS HOLD?

EIGHT
HUNDRED
ACRES?
WORTH,
PETE.

PA'S SO
DEEP IN DEBT,
HE CAN'T BUY
ENOUGH TO
PLANT A
GARDEN, MUCH
LESS ALL
THAT.

AND EVEN IF HE
DID, THERE
WOULDN'T BE ANY
LEFT FOR
FERTILIZER,
INSECTICIDE, OR
THE IRRIGATION
SYSTEM!



WE WERE ALL OF
FIFTEEN THEN.
BEST FRIENDS.

FOREVER.

BUT THE PAIN OF
THAT DAY PALES
IN COMPARISON
TO THIS.

MY SON,
DEAD.

AND IT'S
YOUR FAULT,
SUPERMAN!

YOUR
FAULT!



I WISH I COULD TELL
HIM OTHERWISE,
I WISH HE WAS
WRONG.

BUT
HE'S
NOT.

WY'D THAT GUY
PUNCH YOU, SUPER-
MAN? YOU WANT
US TO TIE HIM UP
OR SOMETHING?

NO,
MORE
THAN
ANY-
THING--



MY SON.
MY...MY
BEAUTIFUL,
LITTLE
BABY BOY...

KEEP...
KEEP YOUR
CHIN UP,
MISTER ROSS.
THERE'S
ALWAYS
HOPE.

KENT?
WHERE'S
CLARK?

WAIT HERE FOR THE
RESCUE CHOPPERS,
MR. ROSS. I'LL FIND
CLARK--

--AND
YOUR
SON.



LAST THING I WANT TO
DO IS BRING PETE AND
LANA THEIR LITTLE
BOY'S BODY, BUT HE
DESERVES A DECENT
BURIAL.

AS A CAPTIVE
OF DOOMSDAY...
MAKE THAT
BRAINIAC...

NO.

I WON'T
ACCEPT
THAT, NOT
YET.

JLA
WATCH-TOWER.
AQUAMAN
HERE.

WHAT CAN I
DO FOR YOU,
GENERAL?

THE GEORGIA SITUATION
IS BEYOND CRITICAL.
AQUAMAN! EVERY FIGHTER
AND BOMBER WE'VE SENT
INTO THE THEATER
OF OPERATIONS--

--HAS BEEN DOWNED.
A CIVILIAN AIRLINER
FROM KANSAS, AS WELL.

ENTIRE TOWNS
ARE ISOLATED.
WHAT ABOUT
YOUR TEAM?

NO WORD.
I FEAR THE
WORST.

THE FEELING'S
JUSTIFIED.

SUPERMAN?
ABOUT TIME YOU
SHOWED UP!

SUPERMAN,
SATELLITE
PHOTOS
SHOW AN
ENORMOUS
COMPLEX THAT
APPEARED OUT
OF NOWHERE!

I KNOW.
I'VE BEEN
THERE.

IT'S COLUAN TECHNOLOGY,
GENERAL, ABLE TO CON-
TINUALLY FABRICATE MATE-
RIALS AND BUILD ITSELF
WITH RELENTLESS
EFFICIENCY AND
SPEED.

A WORLD SO
SOPHISTICATED
THAT EVERY
CENTIMETER IS
COVERED WITH
MACHINES AND
COMPUTERS.

COLU?
THE TECHNO-
PLANET?

THERE
HASN'T
BEEN SO
MUCH AS
A SINGLE
BLADE OF
GRASS FOR
CENTURIES.

SINCE WHEN DID
DOOMSDAY GET
THE BRAINS TO
DO THAT?

SINCE BRAINIAC
TOOK CONTROL
OF HIS
BODY.

IF I GO UP
AGAINST HIM
WITHOUT THE
PROPER
PREPARA-TIONS...

...I'M
SURE TO
LOSE.

CAME BACK IN TIME
AFTER A PERIOD OF
RECOVERY THAT
INCLUDED FINDING
DOOMSDAY.

WHAT DOES
HE WANT?
BLACKMAIL?
A PAYOFF? TO
BE KING?

HE WANTS TO
TURN EARTH INTO A NEW
COLL!

WITHOUT
ROOM FOR
HUMAN
LIFE.

BUT I THOUGHT
BRAINIAC DIED IN
METROPOLIS JUST
YESTERDAY!

I NEED
SOME SPECIAL
EQUIPMENT FROM
THE WATCHTOWER,
AS WELL AS THE
FORTRESS.

ONLY
CHANCE TO
WIN THIS IS
TO COME
UP WITH A
PLAN--

"- THAT NOT EVEN BRAINIAC WILL SEE COMING!"

THE FAIL-SAFE SOLUTION IS NOW COMPLETE, BRAINIAC. IN THE EVENTUALITY YOU NEED IT, OF COURSE.

I WON'T.

BUT...
YOU SAID
YOU WOULD
BE UNABLE
TO CONTROL
DOOMSDAY'S
BODY INDEFI-
NITELY!

OH, I'LL
NEED A NEW
BODY, BUT IT
WON'T BE YOUR
FAIL-SAFE
SOLUTION,
VNOK.

WE'LL
GROW A NEW,
EQUALLY
POWERFUL
BODY FREE OF
THE MONSTER'S
SIMPLISTIC
INFLUENCE.

NO, THOUGH USING
ORION WOULD BE A
UNIQUE WAY OF TWEAK-
ING HIS OVERRIDING
FATHER DARKSEID.

I REFER
INSTEAD TO
THAT VNOK.

USING
GENETIC
MATERIAL
FROM ONE OF
THE JLA
MEMBERS?
ORION,
PERHAPS?





HARDLY.

KKRRIPPT

NICE
MOVE,
BUD.

HERE'S WHERE
THE JLA FINALLY
...FINALLY...

BUSTS
LOOSE?

BREAKS
FREE?

WINS
AN ALL-
EXPENSES-
PAID
VACATION
TO DES
MOINES?

--DIES!

MY
OXYGEN!

CAN'T-
MAMM
FFF!



CAN'T UNDER-
STAND WHY WE
HAVEN'T HEARD
FROM CLARK
SINCE--

SSH! DID
YOU HEAR
WHAT SHE
SAID?

...REPEATING...
THIS HOUR'S TOP
STORY IS THE
DISAPPEAR-
ANCE...

OF LEXAIR
FLIGHT 367
EN ROUTE FROM
KANSAS TO
ATLANTA,
GEORGIA.

MILITARY SOURCES
CLAIM THE FLIGHT
MIGHT WELL HAVE
BEEN DOWNED OVER
GEORGIA AS PART OF
THE ONGOING BATTLE
WITH DOOMSDAY!

L
LEXAIR

DOOMS-
DAY?

OH, MY... PETE
SAID HE WAS
GOING TO
ATLANTA!

IF HE WAS
ON THAT
PLANE...

--THAT CLARK WILL COME
THROUGH FOR ALL OUR
SAKES.

ADIOS, PEOPLE.
WHILE YOU WAIT
FOR RESCUE
CHOPPERS--

HUSH, LANA.
NO SENSE
WORRYING NOW.
WE HAVE TO
HAVE FAITH--

HEY!
ANYONE
SEEN THAT
NUT CASE WHO
TRIED TO
PUNCH OUT
SUPERMAN?

-I HAVE MY OWN RESCUE TO PERFORM.



AND I INTEND
TO GET IT.

BRA
M
Z
Z
D
E

SKOWWW

THIS COLUAN MONSTROSITY IS EATING UP REAL ESTATE FASTER THAN LOIS' MOVES ON A HOT TIP.

KEEPS BUILDING AND GROWING FROM THE CENTER OUTWARD.

I'LL TRASH AS MUCH AS I CAN...

--INFILCT AS MUCH DAMAGE AS POSSIBLE--

--BEFORE I MAKE HIM SO MAD THAT HE CAN'T IGNORE ME.

OF COURSE HE DOES. DESTRUCTION ISN'T HIS GOAL.

I AM.

THE FOOL. DOESN'T HE REALIZE THAT ANYTHING HE DESTROYS WILL BE REBUILT WITHIN HOURS?

I SHALL NOT DISAPPOINT HIM.

CHOWN SKA-BAMM!

YOU TRULY ARE A REMARKABLE MAN, KRYPTONIAN. ONLY A PERSON OF GREAT COURAGE--

--OR GREAT STUPIDITY WOULD COURT DEATH AS YOU DO.

BRAINIAC! YOU SHOWED UP RIGHT ON CUE!

INSOLENT IDIOT!

DON'T YOU REALIZE THAT YOU CANNOT POSSIBLY SURVIVE THIS ENCOUNTER?

ARGH!-

TO SUGGEST THAT
I'M COMPLYING WITH
SOME SCHEME
OF YOURS IS
SHEER FOLLY!



FOR I CONTROL
NOT ONLY THE SHEER
FORCE OF
DOOMSDAY--



-- BUT THE
COMBINED
FORCES --

-- OF
EACH
WEAPON --

-- EVERY
DEFENSIVE
MEASURE --

-- AND LETHAL
INSTRUMENT --

-- INSTALLED
THROUGHOUT --

-- THIS
ENTIRE
COM-
PLEX --

-- OF
DEATH!!





WE'VE FACED EACH OTHER OFTEN, KRYPTONIAN. TOO OFTEN.

EACH TIME, YOU'VE WALKED AWAY THE VICTOR.















-AND DOOMSDAY REACTED AS EXPECTED. HE'S IN THE JLA TRANSPORTER I RIGGED UP RIGHT ABOUT NOW.

RUUH?

VRMMMM

GRRRAA
AHHHH!

GIVEN TIME, HE'LL FIND HIS WAY OFF THE MOON, BUT HE'LL HOLD FOR NOW.

GET YOUR
HEAD TOGETHER,
PETE. I NEED
YOU.



--BUT HE UNDOUBTEDLY HAS A BACKUP PLAN.

INFERNAL KRYPTONIAN!

I HAVE COLLIDED WITH HIM ENOUGH TIMES TO LAST A DOZEN LIVES!

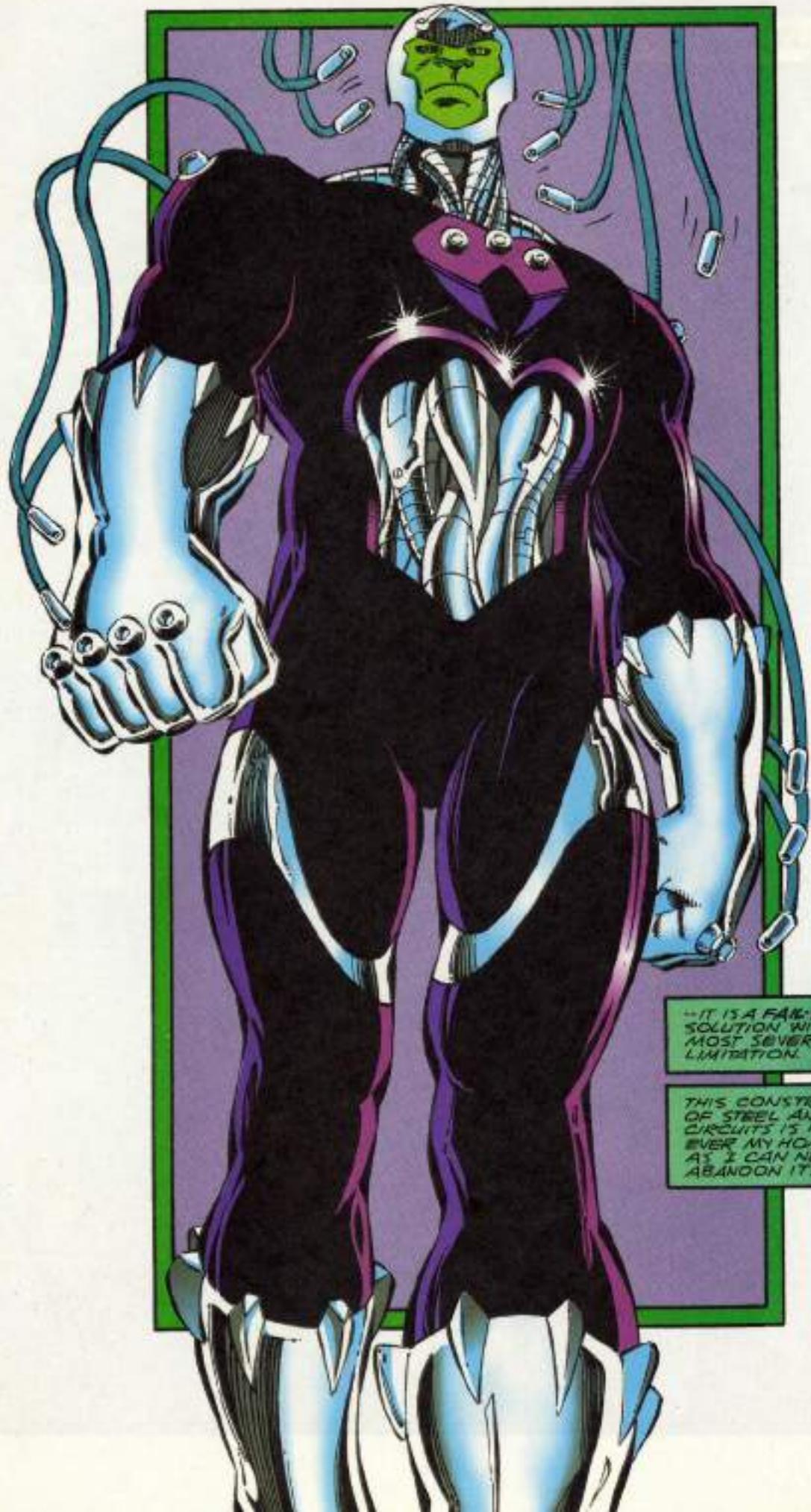
THIS TIME...HIS INTERFERENCE HAS COST ME MORE THAN EVER. DOOMSDAY'S DATA, COMBINED WITH THE INFANT...

--WOULD HAVE TRANSFORMED HIS BODY INTO THE ULTIMATE VESSEL.

THIS...MY PSYCHENDS CANNOT LAST LONG WITHOUT A NEW BODY.

IN THE EVENT OF DISASTER, WHO HAD THIS ALTERNATE REFUGE PREPARED.

UNFORTUNATELY...



"IT IS A FAIL-SAFE
SOLUTION WITH A
MOST SEVERE
LIMITATION."

"THIS CONSTRUCT
OF STEEL AND
CIRCUITS IS FOR-
EVER MY HOME,
AS I CAN NEVER
ABANDON IT!"

HEAD FEELS
LIKE IT WAS
RUN OVER BY
A FLEET OF
TRUCKS!

MATCHES
YOUR
LOOKS.

WERE I RESCUED
BY A LESSER MAN
THAN YOU, MY
SHAME WOULD
BE GREAT,
SUPERMAN.

I'VE SET UP A TRANSPORTER
BOOTH AT THE WEST EDGE
OF THIS COMPLEX. MEET ME
AT THE WATCHTOWER!



NO CHANCE OF THAT. I STORM OUT SO FAST THAT EVEN LIGHTRAY WOULD BE LEFT BEHIND.

THIS IS DOOMSDAY WE'RE TALKING ABOUT.

HE'S THE ULTIMATE SURVIVOR.

INCAPABLE OF PERMANENT DEFEAT OR DEATH.

WITH SO LITTLE GRAVITY, HE'S PROBABLY COVERED HALF THE MOON LOOKING FOR A WAY OFF.

BY NOW HE'S FOUND THE WATCHTOWER.

HE CAN SENSE THE TRANSPORTERS INSIDE.

KNOWS HE CAN USE THEM TO GO ANYWHERE ON EARTH HE WANTS.

EVERY SECOND WE WASTE WORKS IN HIS FAVOR.



WHEN THE JLA
FIRST SIGNALED
ME, I IGNORED
IT.



EFFECTIVE,
BUT NOT EXACTLY
WHAT I HAD
IN MIND."



"YOU WANT I
SHOULD WHIP
UP A MARTIAN
BAE NEXT
TIME?"

"NICE MOVE
TRANSPORTING
DOOMSDAY UP
HERE, SUPERMAN!
TOO BAD WE CAN'T
BOUNCE HIS BONY
BUTT ALL OVER
THE UNIVERSE
THAT WAY!"

"THROUGH THE
MARTIAN MANHUNTER,
THE JLA COMMUNICATE
IN SPACE
TELEPATHICALLY."

LANTERN, YOU'RE
A GENIUS! THAT'S
THE ANSWER!



EASY,
ORION.
SUPERMAN
HAS A
PLAN IN
MIND..

"...AND WE WOULD
DO WELL TO
FOLLOW HIS
LEAD."

WHERE'D
HE GO?
WHERE'S
SLIP--





VRRMmm





TRUE, BUT YOU AREN'T BORN WITH THAT PHILOSOPHY.

THIS WILL BE PAINFUL, JONATHAN. DON'T STAY FOR THE AUCTION.

IT COMES FROM THE ACTS OF KINDNESS AND GENEROSITY OF THOSE AROUND YOU.

I'M SORRY, JONATHAN. BUT WE HAVE TO GO FORWARD ON THIS. THE BANK'S MAIN OFFICE HAS LEFT ME NO CHOICE!

BUT I KNOW I CAN TURN THIS AROUND. I'M A GOOD FARMER.



YOU'RE ACTUALLY GOING TO SELL EVERYTHING I OWN?

MARTHA, DO YOU KNOW HOW AWFUL A MAN FEELS WHEN HE CAN'T PROVIDE FOR HIS OWN FAMILY?

WE'LL BE FINE, LORD WILLING. WE ALWAYS ARE.



HOW CAN YOU BE SO RELAXED ABOUT THIS, MA?

WHAT DID WE EVER DO TO DESERVE THIS?

YOU REAP WHAT YOU SOW. ALWAYS REMEMBER THAT, CLARK.



IT'S TIME. HERE THEY COME.

CHARLIE...WHAT
ON EARTH ARE
YOU UP TO?

DON'T
LOOK AT ME,
JONATHAN.
THIS ISN'T MY
DOING!

IT WAS ALL LANA'S
IDEA, MR. KENT. SHE
GOT TO TALKIN' TO
FOLKS ABOUT HOW
BAD IT WAS, YOU
LOSING YOUR FARM
AND ALL!

AND THAT
THERE HAD TO BE
SOME WAY FOR US
TO PITCH IN AND
HELP YOU OUT!

SO HERE
WE ARE!

NOT TO BUY,
NEITHER. WE'RE
HERE TO GIVE.

YOU'RE DOING
THIS...FOR US?

I DON'T GET IT!
DO WHAT?

IT'S LIKE I
SAID, CLARK!-
THERE'S
ALWAYS
HOPE!

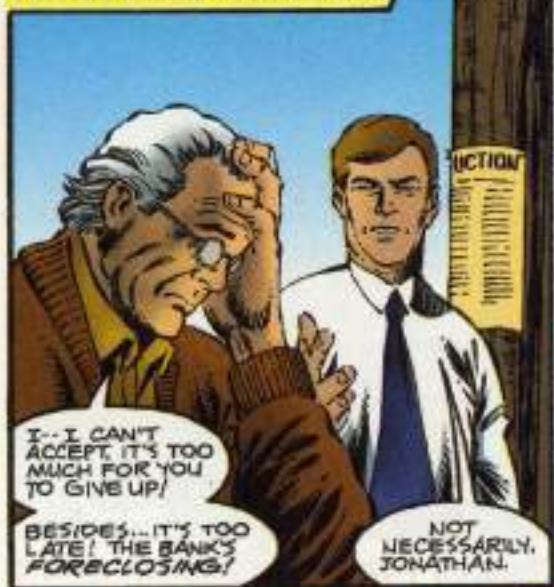
YOU'RE LIKE
FAMILY TO ALL
OF US... AND WE
REFUSE TO LET
FAMILY GO DOWN
WITHOUT A
FIGHT!

WE'RE EACH
CONTRIBUTING
ONE DAIRY COW
OF OUR OWN TO
HELP YOU BUILD
A NEW
HERO!

PA WAS
SPEECH-
LESS.

WE ALL
WERE.

BUT IT DIDN'T TAKE TOO LONG
FOR HIS PRIDE TO KICK IN!



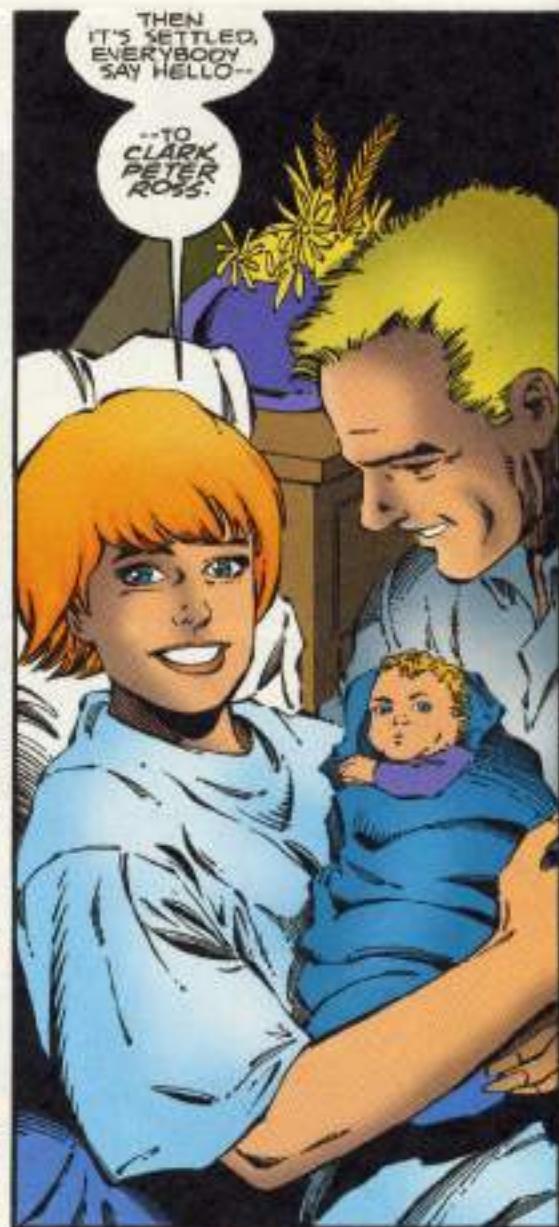
THANKS TO THE
GRACIOUSNESS OF
YOUR NEIGHBORS,
I'D SAY YOU'RE
WELL-STOCKED
ENOUGH NOW TO
KEEP UP WITH
YOUR PAYMENTS.

WITHOUT
THE COST
OF STOCKING
A HERO, YOU'RE
IN THE CLEAR.









EVER SINCE ADAM
GRANT DIED, I'VE
BEEN FRIGHTENED
BY THE CONCEPT
OF HAVING
CHILDREN.

LOIS AND I
...WE MAY
NEVER HAVE
OUR OWN.

LITTLE CLARK
ROSS MIGHT
BE AS CLOSE
AS I EVER GET.
AND RIGHT
NOW...THAT'S
ENOUGH FOR
ME.

THOUGH I'LL
NEVER FORGET
ADAM, MAYBE
THE GUILT WILL
EASE.

YES...

I THINK
IT WILL.

THE END