



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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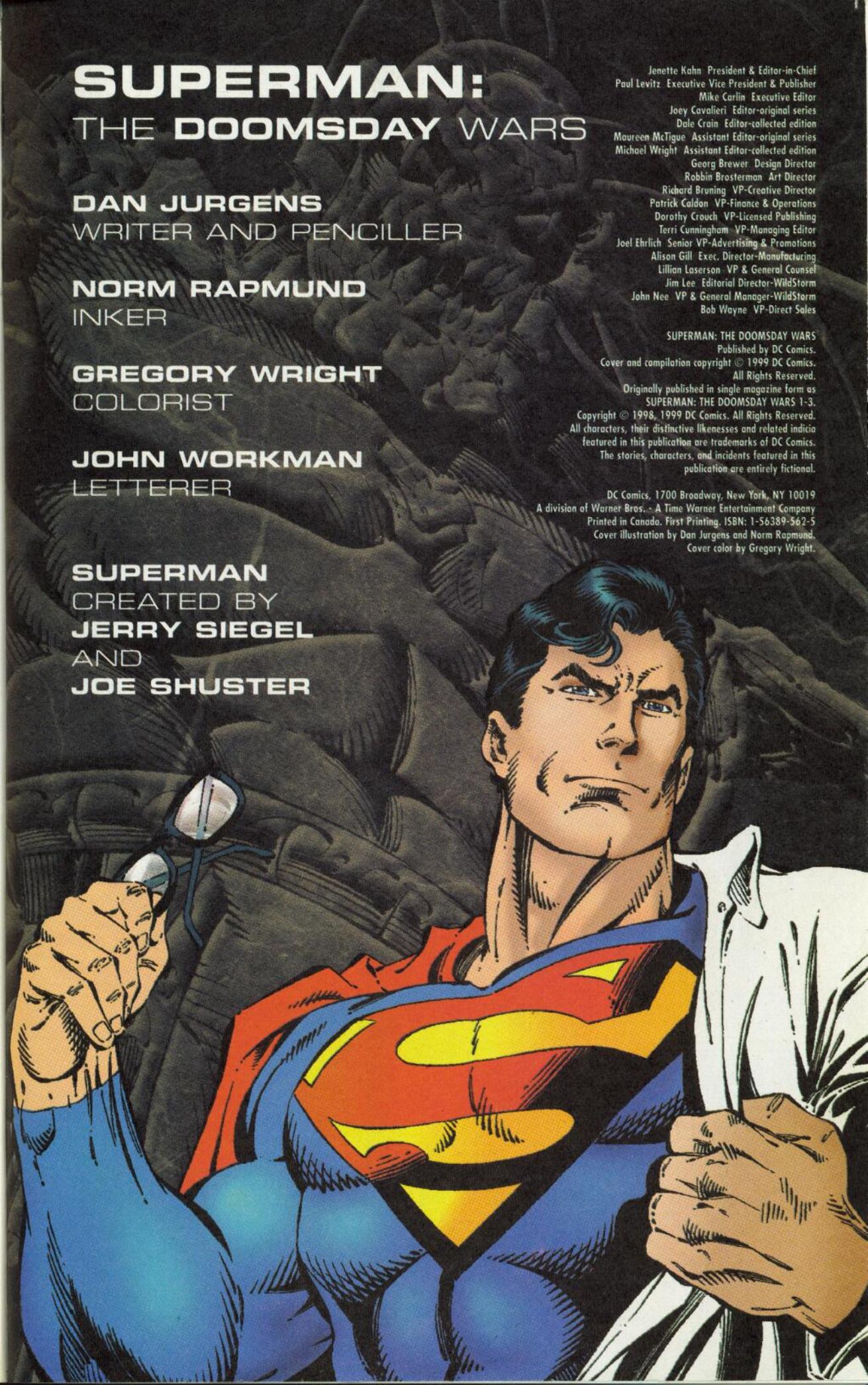
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THERE ARE CERTAIN EVENTS
IN EVERYONE'S LIVES THAT
ARE NEVER FORGOTTEN.

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 LIVESTOCK
WILL STARVE OR
FREEZE, AND THAT--



--IS
COMPLETELY,
TOTALLY
UNACCEPT-

CLARK!
LOOK
OUT!

VRRRROOM WUMMFF





THE ODDS WERE
IMPOSSIBLE.

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

BEFORE I HAD
MY 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.

TRACUNNNNCH



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!!!

ORC

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

COULD IT BE
BE THAT YOU'RE
ACTUALLY FEARFUL
THAT MY ASSAULT
DROIDS 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!



SO
MIGHTY.

SO
PROUD.

SICKENING
TRAITS THAT
MAKE THIS--

--MUCH
MORE
ENJOY-
ABLE.

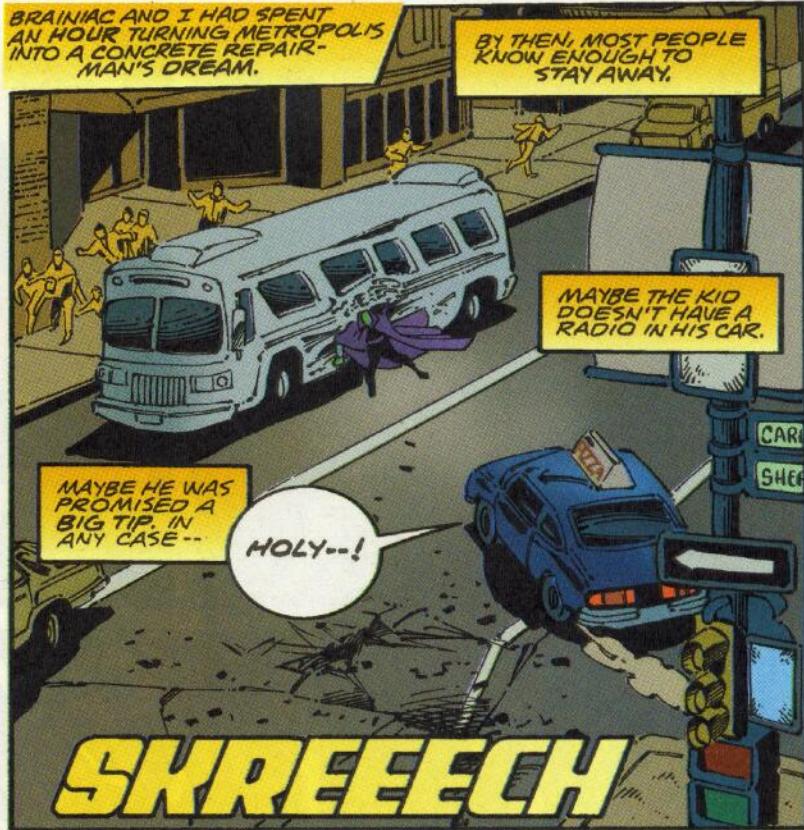




I DIDN'T PLAN WHAT HAPPENED NEXT.

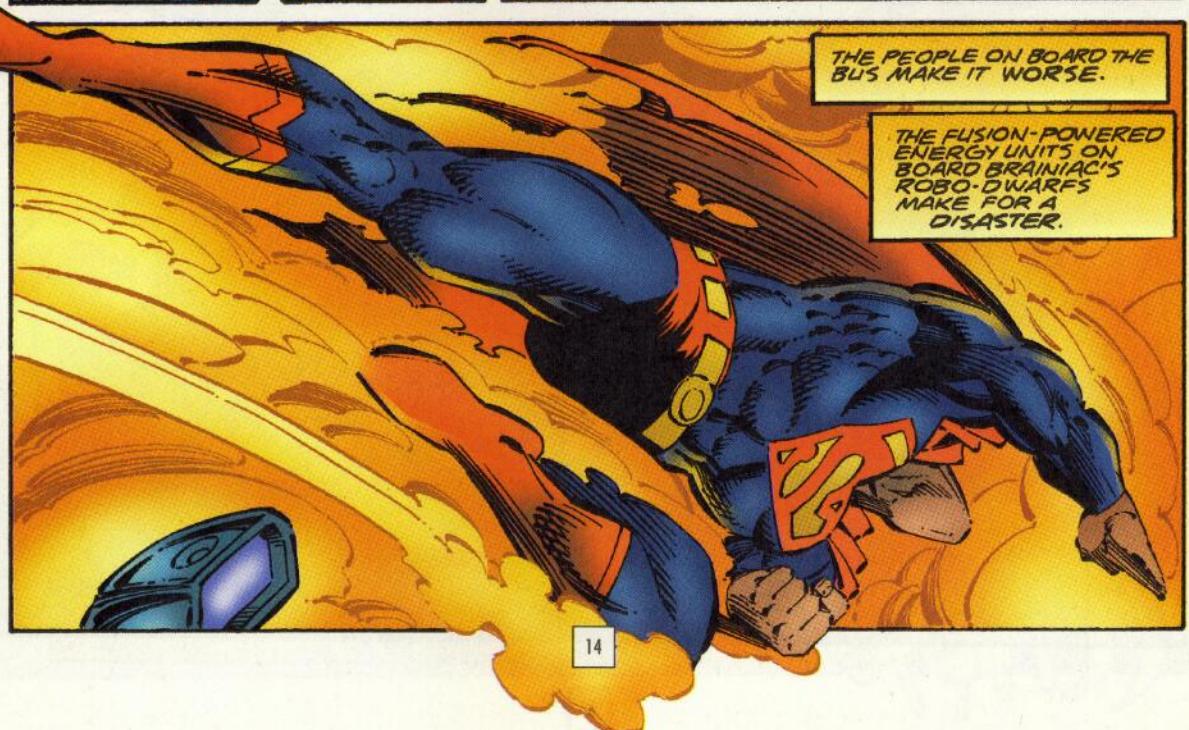


BRAINIAC AND I HAD SPENT AN HOUR TURNING METROPOLIS INTO A CONCRETE REPAIR-MAN'S DREAM.



HE DOESN'T MAKE THE TURN IN TIME.







TEEP TEEP TEEP TEEP

PRRRmmmmmmmm

PRRmmmmmm

TEEEP

PSSSSSH

PSSH

TEEEEP

PSSSSHT

TEEEEP

"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 BRAINIAC
WE'RE TALKING
ABOUT.
REMEMBER
THAT.

WHAT'S
THAT?



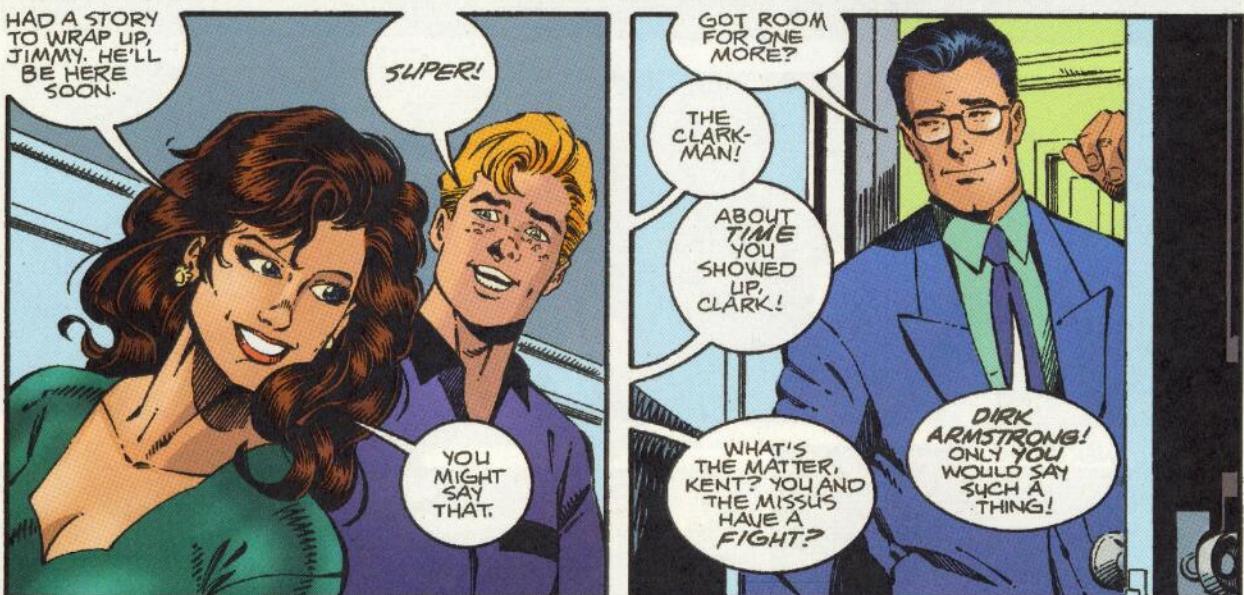
BUT YOU WERE TOO
BUSY TAKIN' CARE OF
THE PEOPLE ON
THAT BUS!

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 COULDN'T NAME A PRICE I WOULDN'T 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 YOUR-
SELF.

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.

HOW...
HOW CAN
I FACE
PA?

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

--I
FAILED
?

SUPERMAN FAILED YOU,
CAT. DO YOU--
EVER BLAME
HIM?

NOT
EXACTLY,
CLARK.

BUT IT'S
WEIRD,
Y'KNOW?

I MEAN, SUPERMAN
HAS SAVED THE WHOLE
PLANET ABOUT FIFTY
TIMES OVER. LOOK UP
THE WORD "HERO" IN
THE DICTIONARY--

--YOU'LL SEE,
SUPERMAN!
YET, HE COULDN'T
SAVE THE LIFE OF
ONE SMALL BOY.

HOW D'YOU
SUPPOSE HE
FEELS ABOUT
THAT?

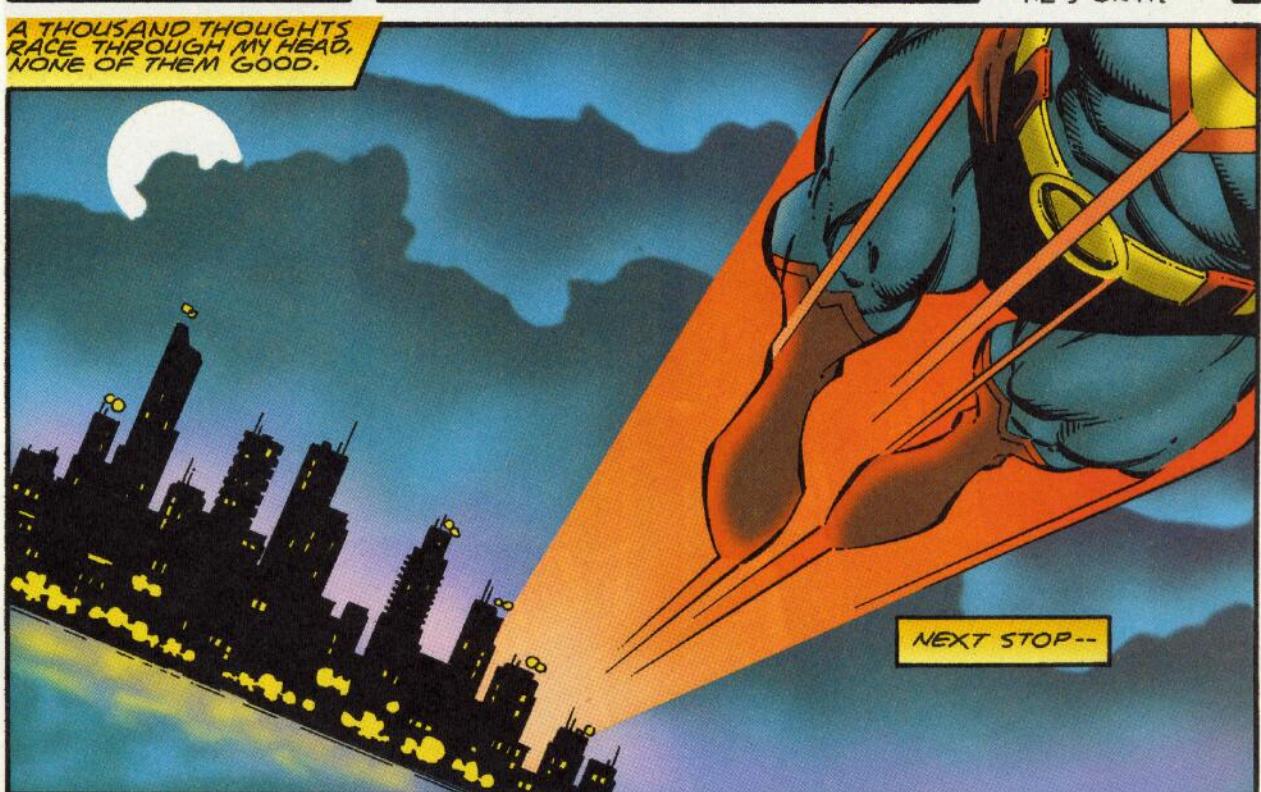
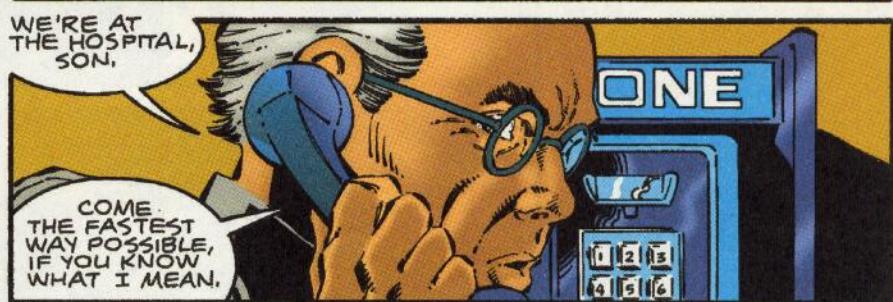
CLARK?
PHONE.
IT'S YOUR
FATHER.

TELL
HIM I'LL
CALL HIM
BACK,
HON.

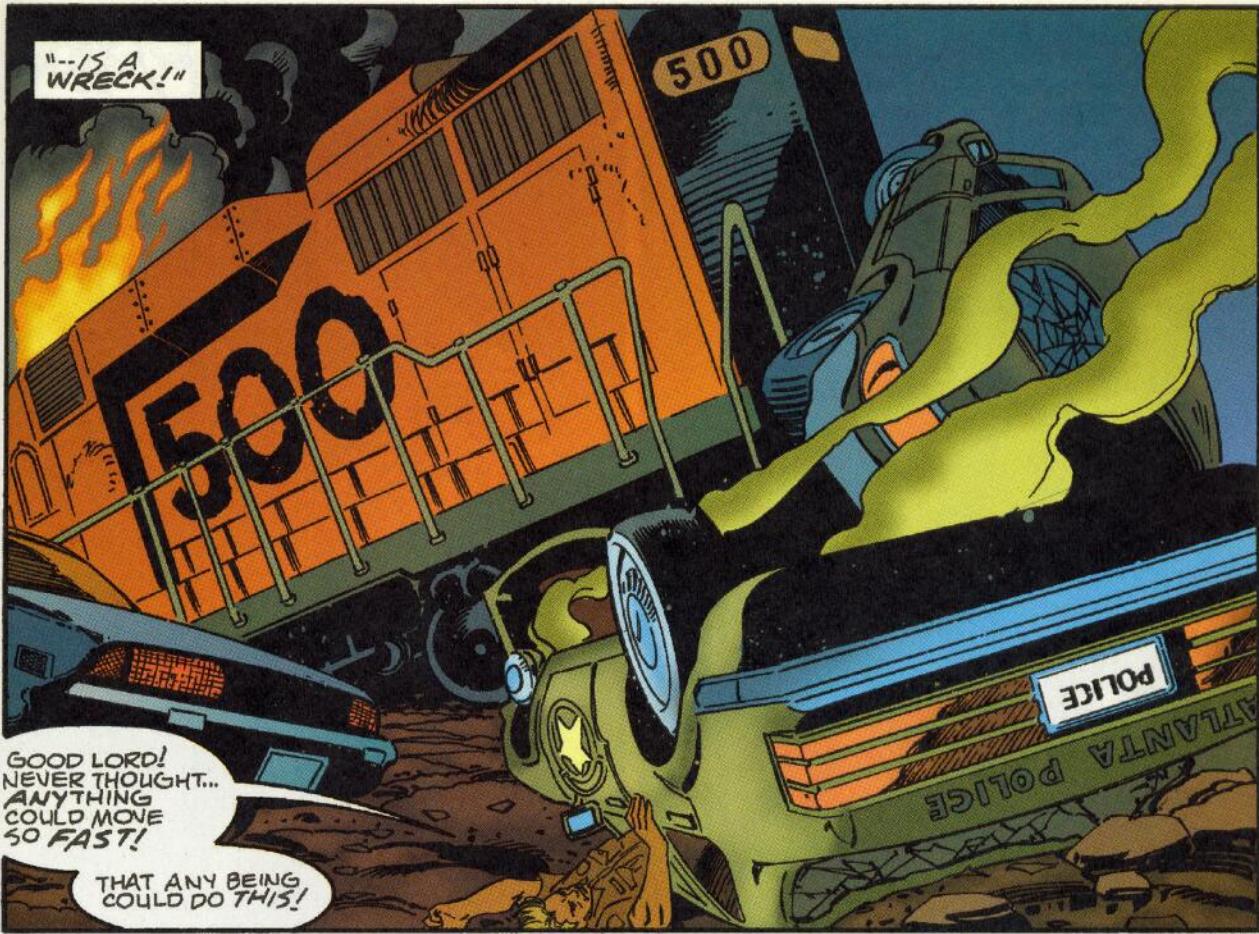
BETTER
TAKE IT NOW.
SOUNDS LIKE
TROUBLE.

WHAT'S
UP,
PA?

SON, YOUR
MOM AND I,
YOU KNOW WE
DO OUR
DARNEDEST
NOT TO
BOther YOU.







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.

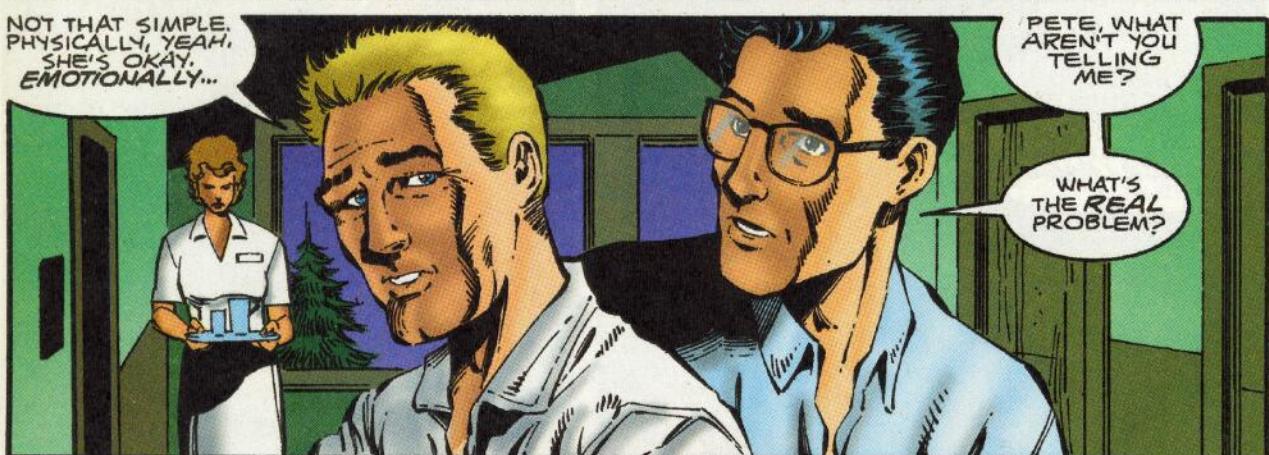
THAT'S A RELIEF!
THE WAY EVERY-
ONE WAS ACTING,
I FEARED THE
WORST.

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

Radio



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



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

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

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

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

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!

QUIET, PLASTIC MAN. THIS IS SERIOUS BUSINESS.

CHECK THE BLAZE! WHO BROUGHT THE MARSH-MALLOWS?





WHOOM



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.

Get well Soon!

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
RIGHT. 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!

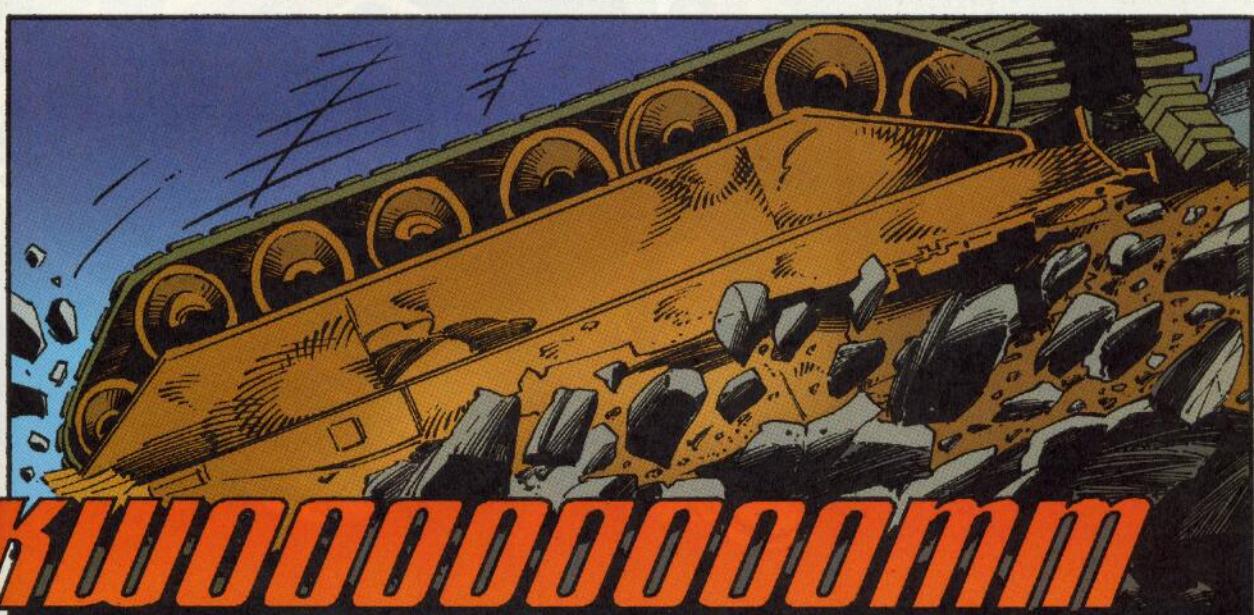
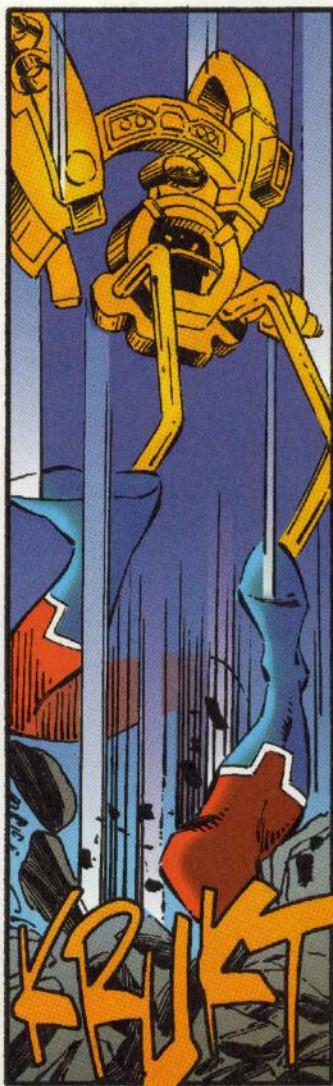
AND
NONE OF
THEM--

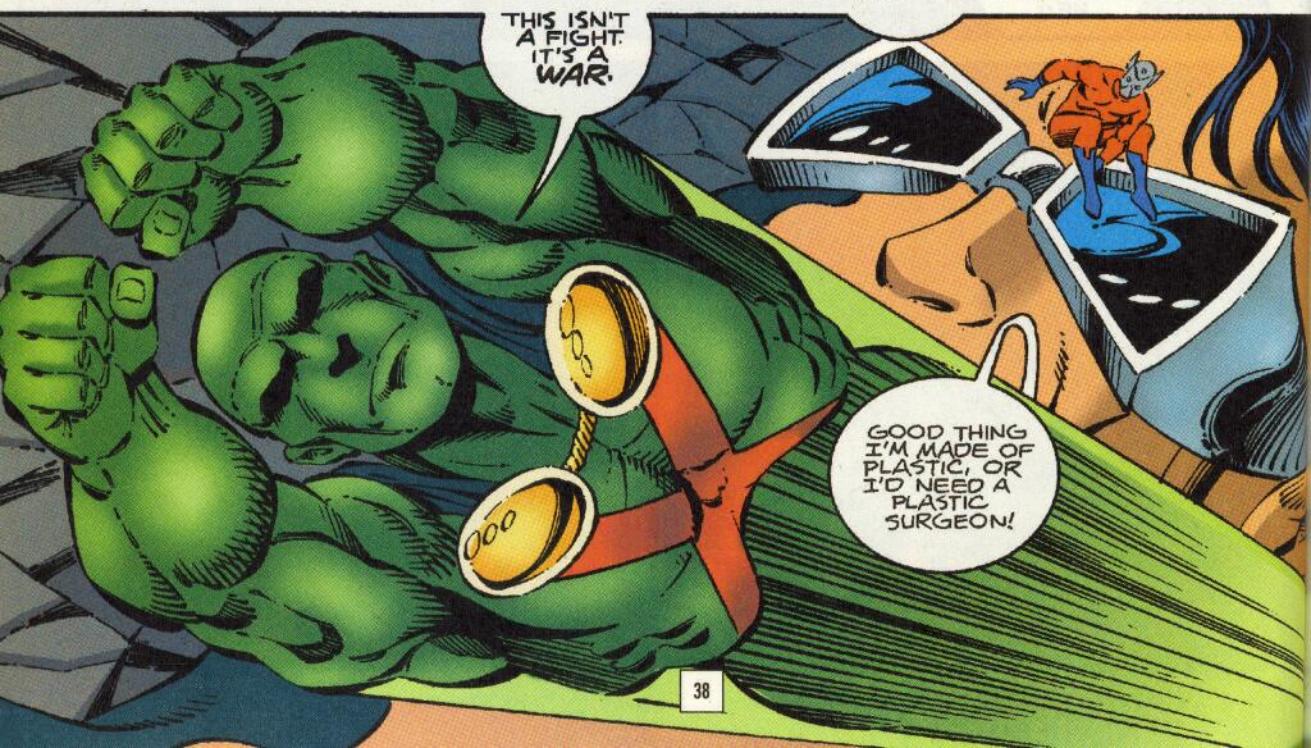
--CAN
WITHSTAND
THE ASTRO
FORCE!

IMPOSSIBLE!
HE STILL
STANDS!?!?

PICKING UP
A MASSIVE
BOULDER!
PLANNING TO--

BRAAAAMMM

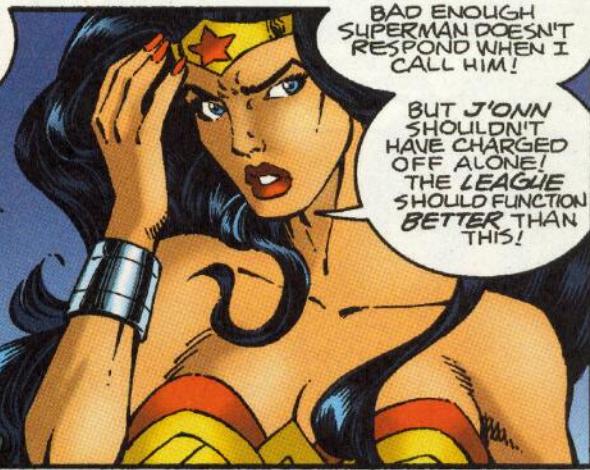




YOU OKAY, BIG FELLA? COME ON! IT'S FOURTH AND GOAL! THE TEAM NEEDS YOU!

LEGS... TOO WEAK TO STAND...

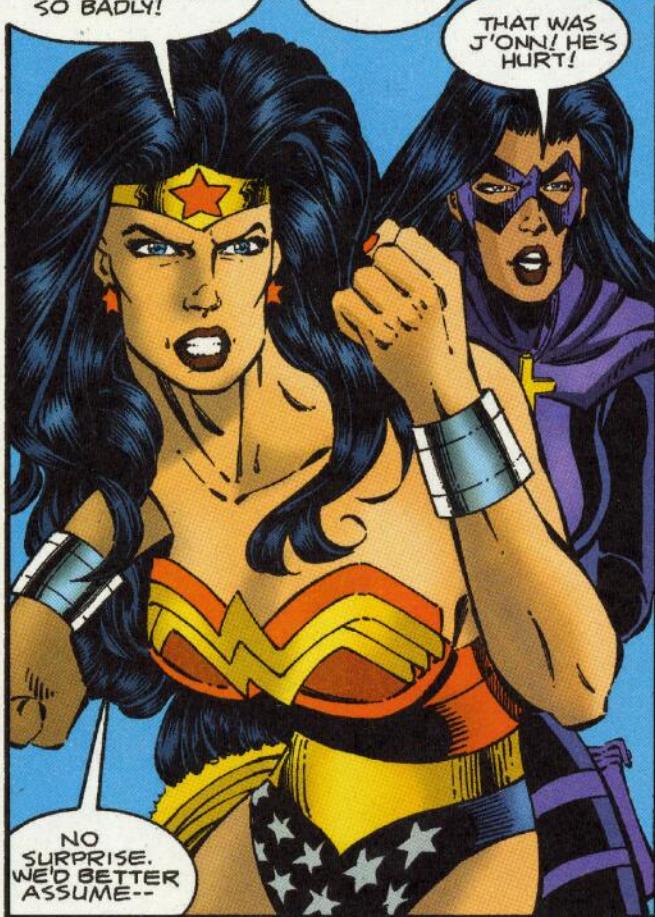
BAD ENOUGH SUPERMAN DOESN'T RESPOND WHEN I CALL HIM!



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?"



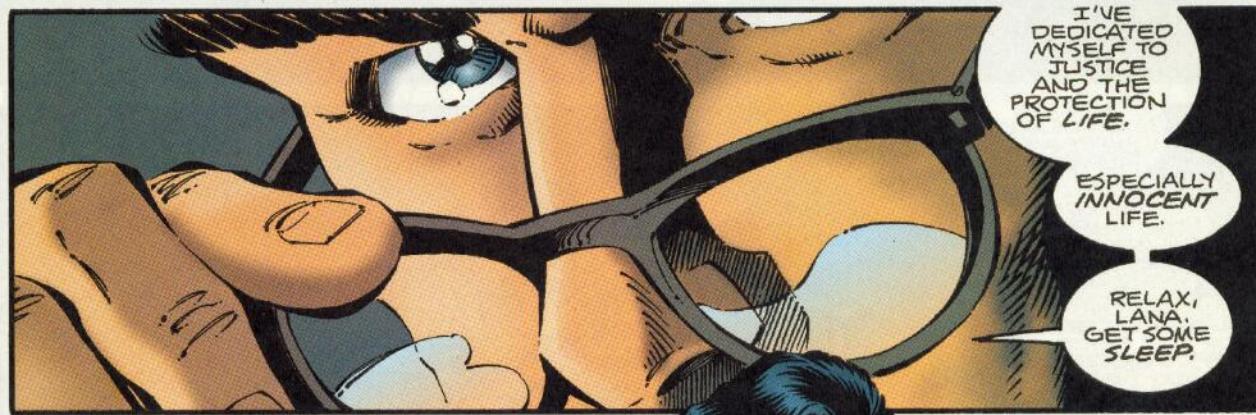
PLEASE, CLARK. BEFORE YOU RUN OFF TO YOUR JLA BUDDIES, GO TO THE PREEMIE UNIT AND TAKE A LOOK AT MY PRECIOUS, TINY, LITTLE BOY.

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'VE DEDICATED MYSELF TO JUSTICE AND THE PROTECTION OF LIFE.

ESPECIALLY INNOCENT LIFE.

RELAX, LANA. GET SOME SLEEP.

THIS IS A JOB--

--FOR SUPERMAN.



I NEVER,
EVER THOUGHT
I'D SEE ANY-
ONE DO THAT
TO JONN.

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!

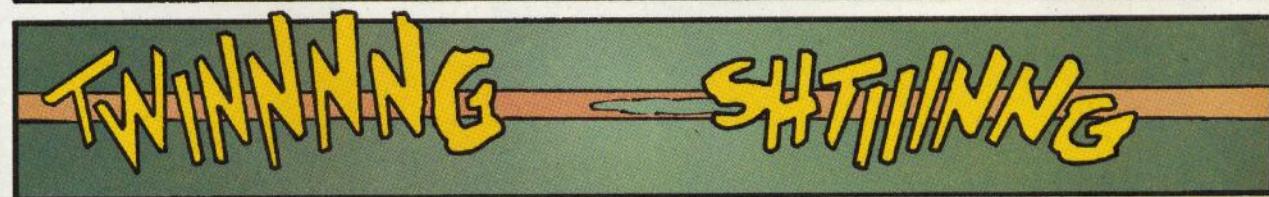
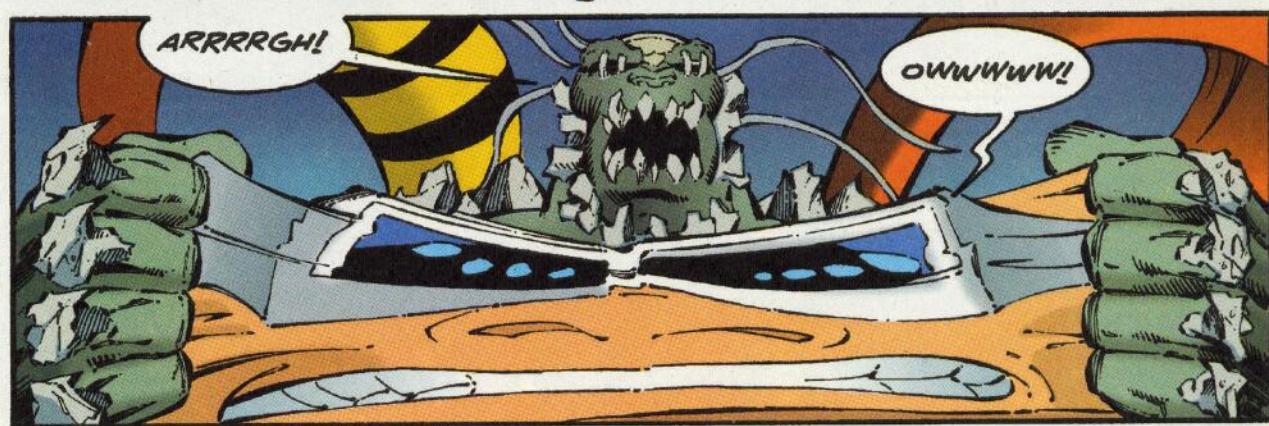
BUT, EXCEPT
FOR OUR BRIEF
TUSSLE EARLIER,
YOU AND I HAVEN'T
EVER FOUGHT
IT OUT!



AND
THIS IS
WHERE--

RRRA
AHHH!











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 NATAL INTENSIVE CARE UNIT ISN'T EQUIPPED TO DEAL WITH INJURIES OF THIS SCOPE--

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.

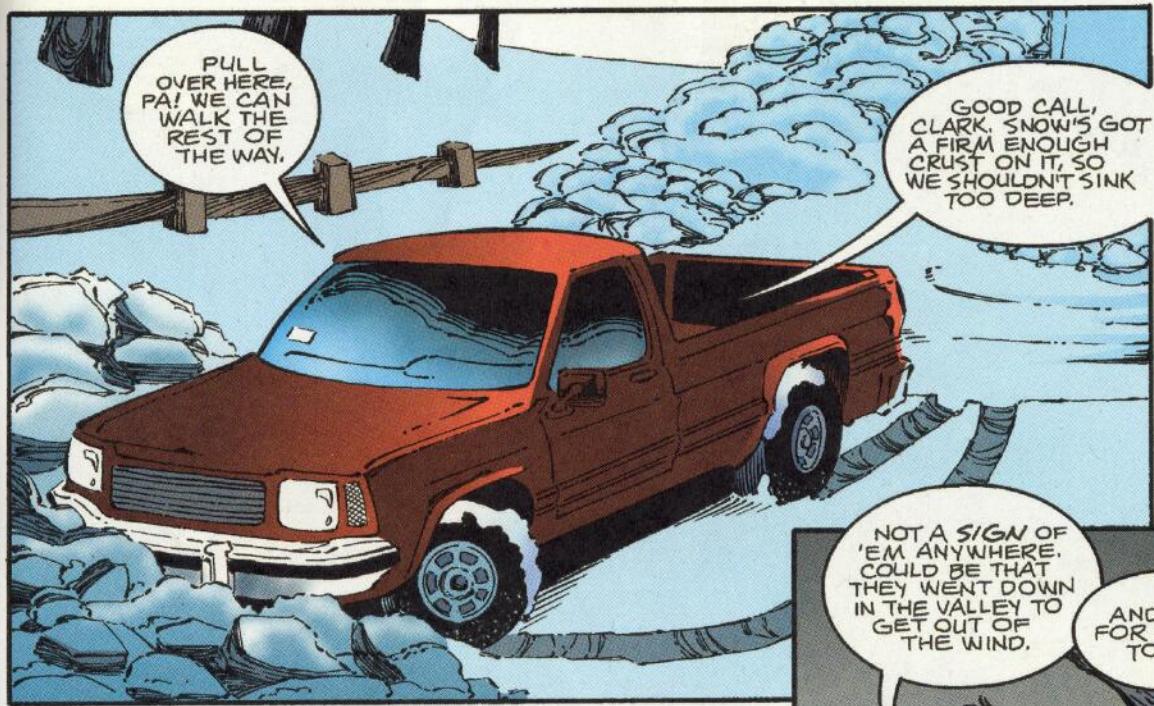
MY BEST FRIENDS IN
THE WORLD, PETE
ROSS AND LANA LANG
AND I, WERE FOILED
BY THE DRIFTS WHILE
TRYING TO GET FOOD
TO THE CATTLE.

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.





OH, MARTHA.
WHAT ARE WE
GONNA 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--

--YOU AND
KENT SEEM
CLOSER.

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

WE DON'T NEED
HIS HELP TO
CARE FOR OUR
SON!



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!

SUPERMAN? WHY? HE
NEEDS MY KID TO CATCH
A CROOK?

I WON'T
ALLOW THIS,
LANA. WHERE
ARE THEY?



BY NOW,
SOMEWHERE
OVER
LOUISIANA.



GREAT.
SINCE KENT
ISN'T HANGING
AROUND--
-SUPERMAN
MUST'VE
HAULED HIM
ALONG, TOO.
INSTEAD
OF ME.

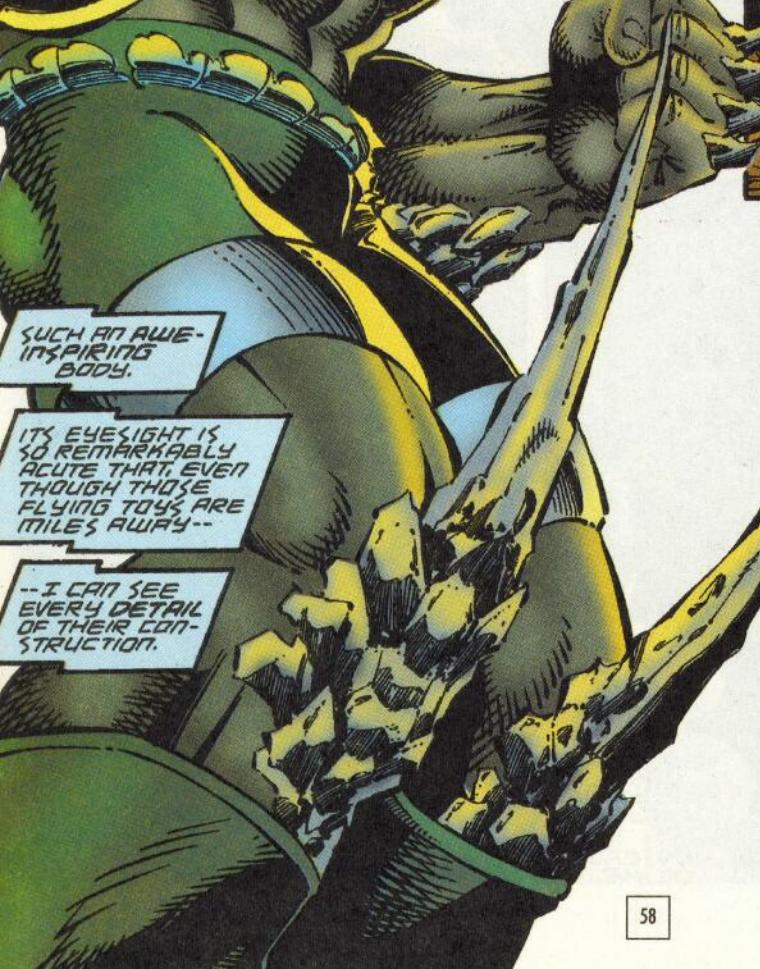


"ATLANTA!"

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-TOOM

SHA-KOOOM

IMPRESSIVE.

THE AREA IS
NOW FREE OF
INTRUDERS.

CHECK
THAT.

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

AT LAST.

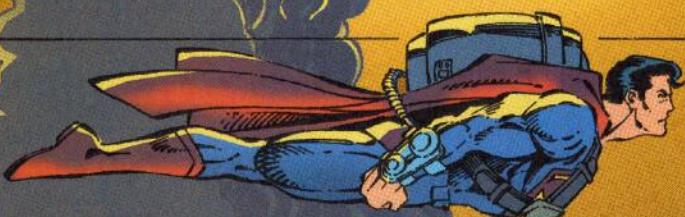
IT'S HIM.

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 IS PERFORM-
ING PERFECTLY.



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

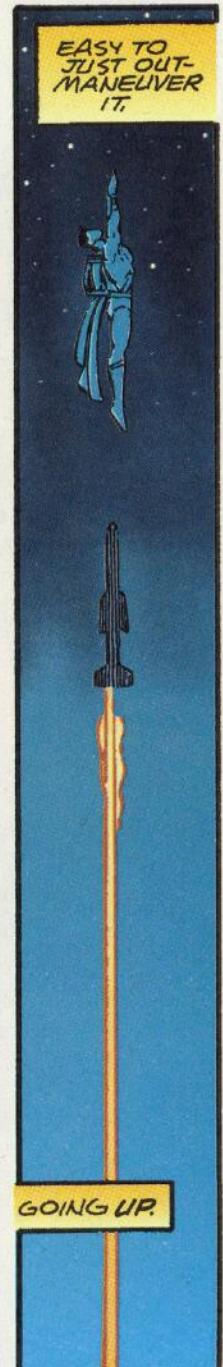
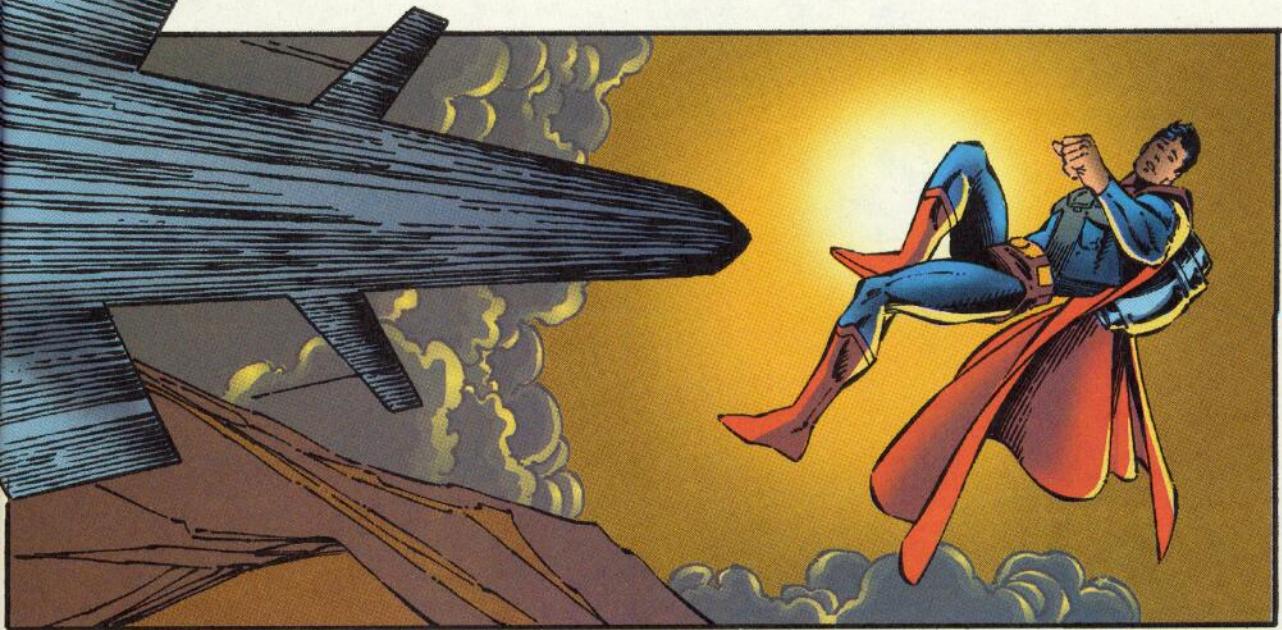
THAT
SOUND?



I'VE HEARD
IT BEFORE.

LIKE...
MISSILES
BEING
FIRED?





I CAN SURVIVE
THE BLAST, BUT
MY PASSENGER
CAN'T.

--AND WORRY
ABOUT THE
SHOOTER
LATER.

IT'S PROGRAMMED
TO FOLLOW ME
WHEREVER I GO.

EASY TO
JUST OUT-
MANEUVER
IT.

HAVE TO
MOVE FAST--

GOING UP.

GOOD. I OUTRAGED
ITS ENGINE'S CAPACITY.

BUT WHY WOULD
AN AMERICAN
NAVY PILOT FIRE
AT ME?

EEEEEP

HAVE TO
GET DOWN
AND HOPE
THE ATTACK
IS OVER!

EEEP EEEP EEEP

THE ALARM!

THE OXYGEN IN
THE TANK WON'T
LAST FOREVER!

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!

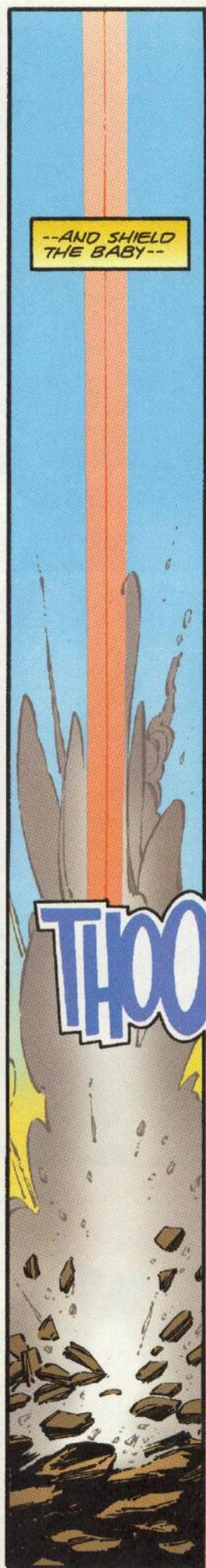
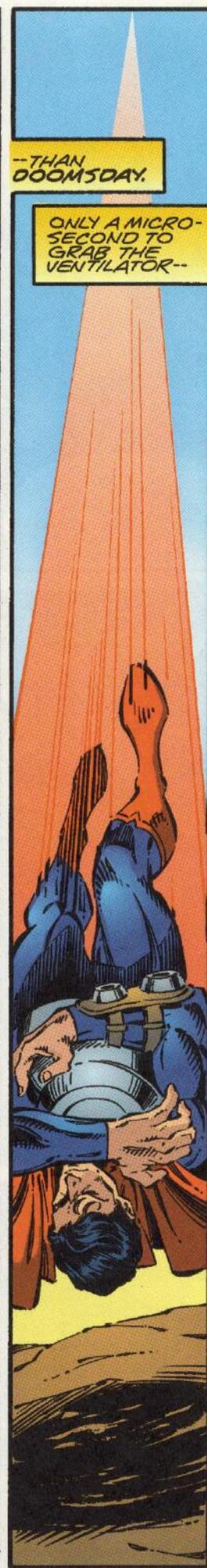
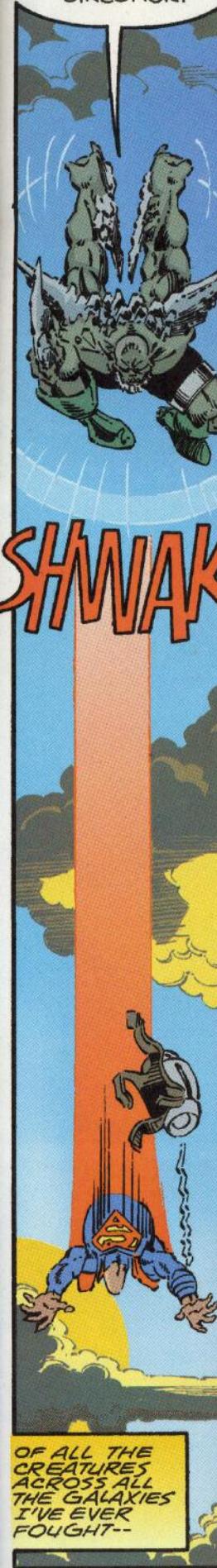


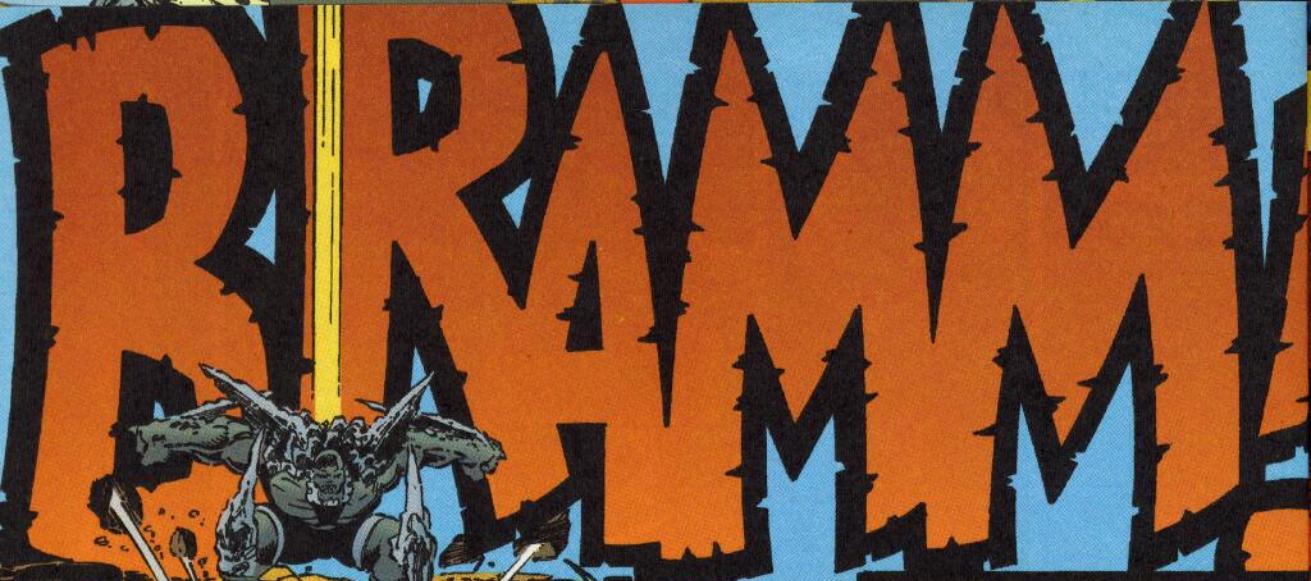
DOOMSDAY!

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.





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.

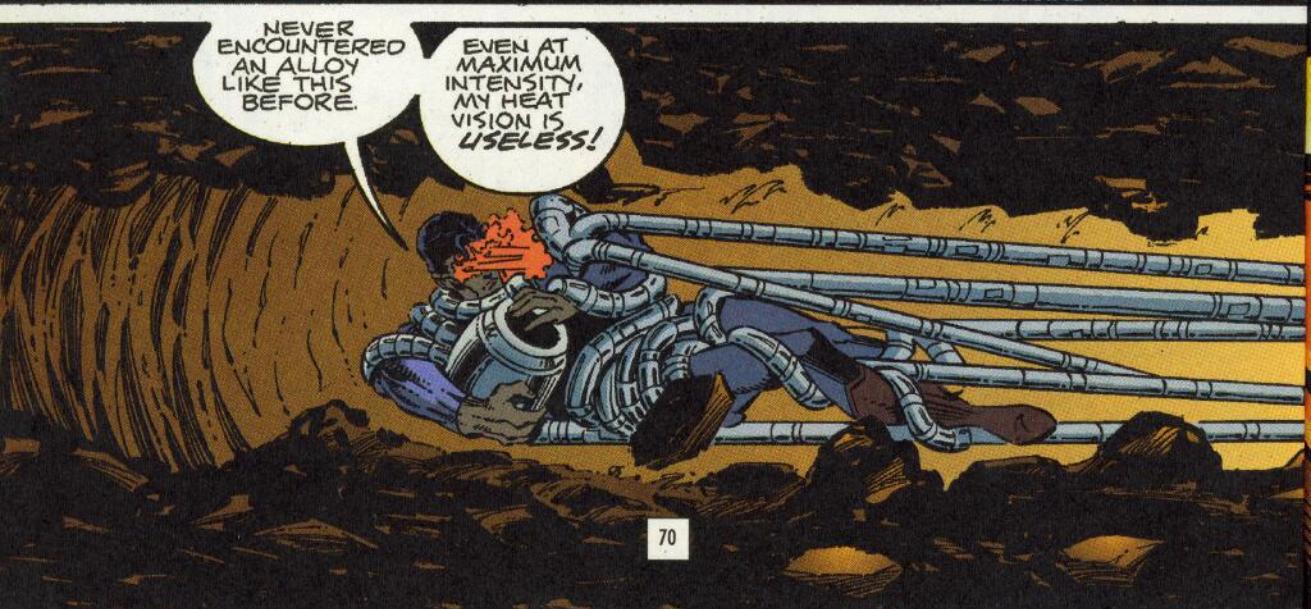
EVEN WITH LIMITED INTELLIGENCE, DOOMSDAY WAS
NOTHING LESS THAN THE
PERFECT KILLING MACHINE.

GIVE HIM A REAL
BRAIN AND--



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.



EXCEPT
THIS.

I
RECOGNIZE
THAT
TECHNOLOGY!

IT'S
COLLAN!

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

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
DEMONSTRATION
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.

"HE'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.

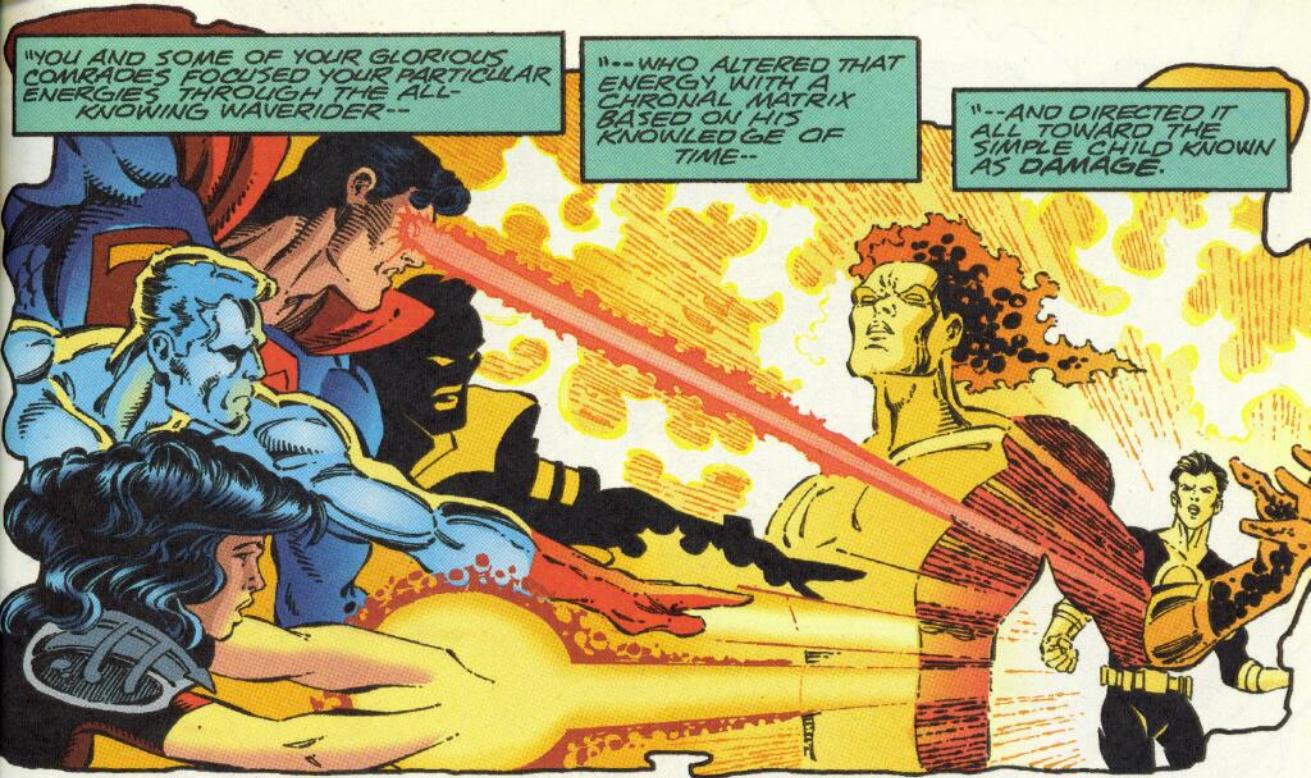
"THE LEVEL OF CHAOS REACHED A CRESCENDO WHEN THE ONE, TRUE TIMELINE CRUMPLED AS WELL.

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

"YOU AND SOME OF YOUR GLORIOUS
COMRADES FOUCUSED 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.



--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."

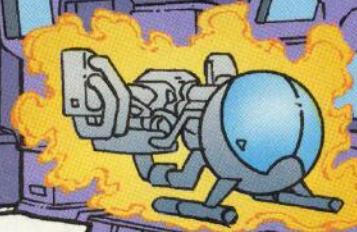
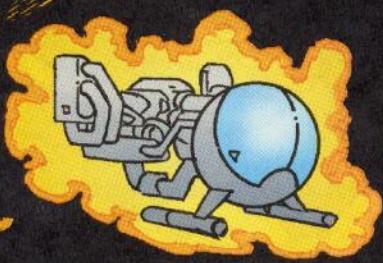
"IMMEDIATELY AFTER YOU LEFT, A SAVIOR ARRIVED."

"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."

"COLUVANS ARE
FORBIDDEN BY
LAW FROM TIME
TRAVEL AND LIKE
EXPERIMENTATION--"



"...BUT PRIN VNOK
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.



LET THE PROCEDURE BEGIN!

TO DO SO, THE STASIS FIELD MUST BE DROPPED FOR A SECOND.

PREPARE.



???

RRRRAAAHHHRRRR!

QUICKLY! INITIATE THE TRANSFER!

Y-YES, MASTER!







SO.

THE TRUTH
IS KNOWN TO
YOU AT LAST.
KRYPTONIAN.

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

BRAINIAC.

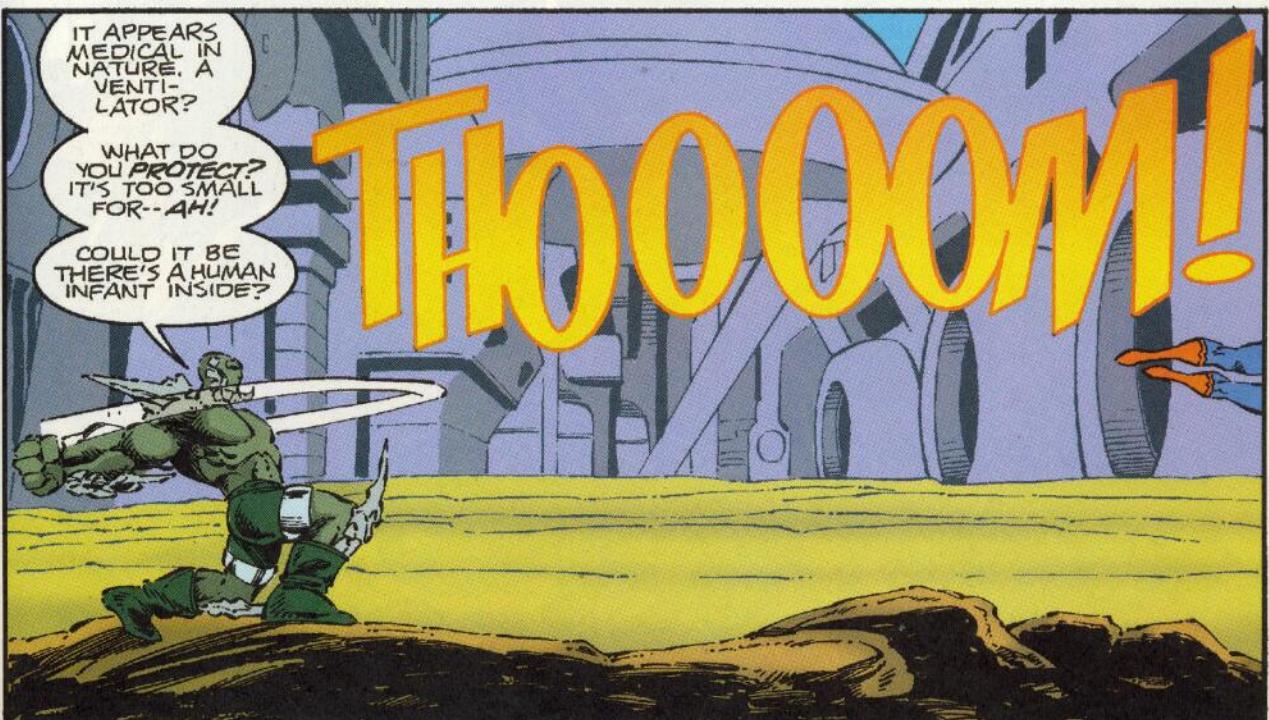
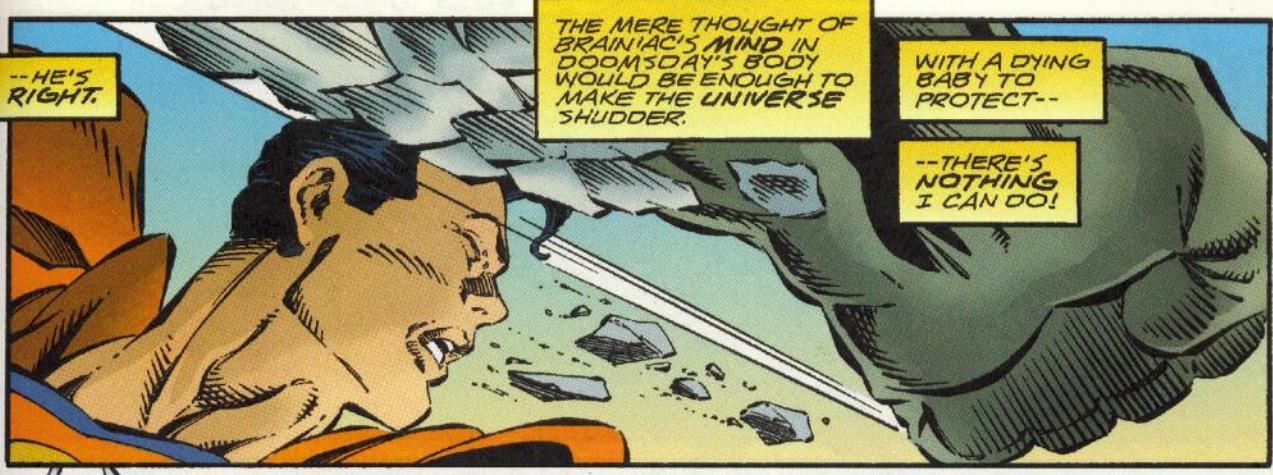
DOOMS-
DAY.

AND THE
SUM 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!

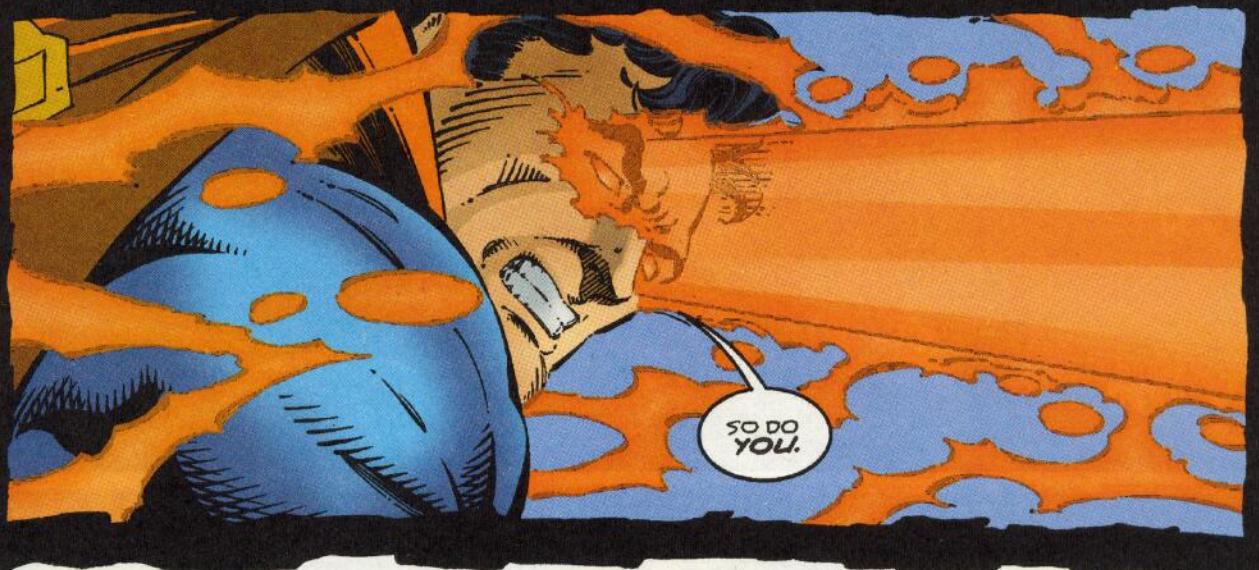
YOUR
OWN
PERHAPS?

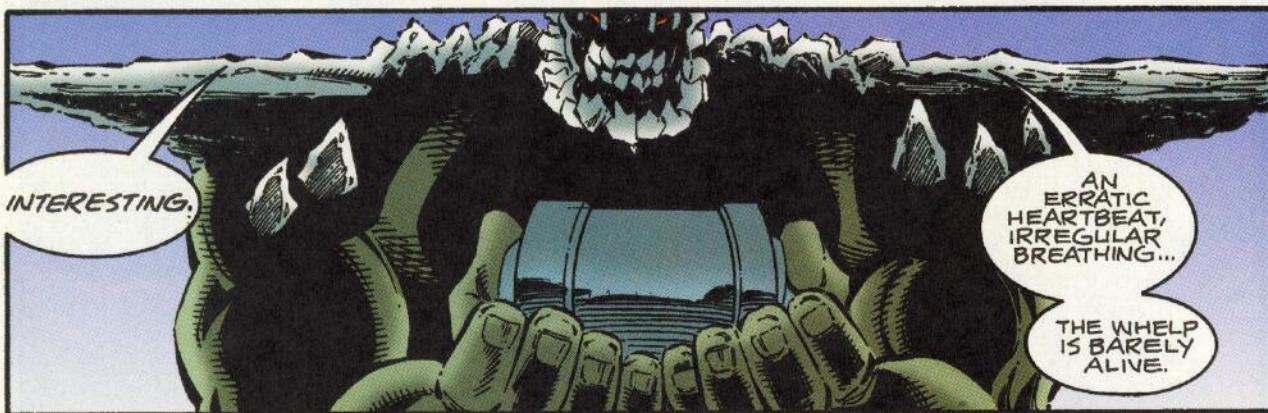
NO!

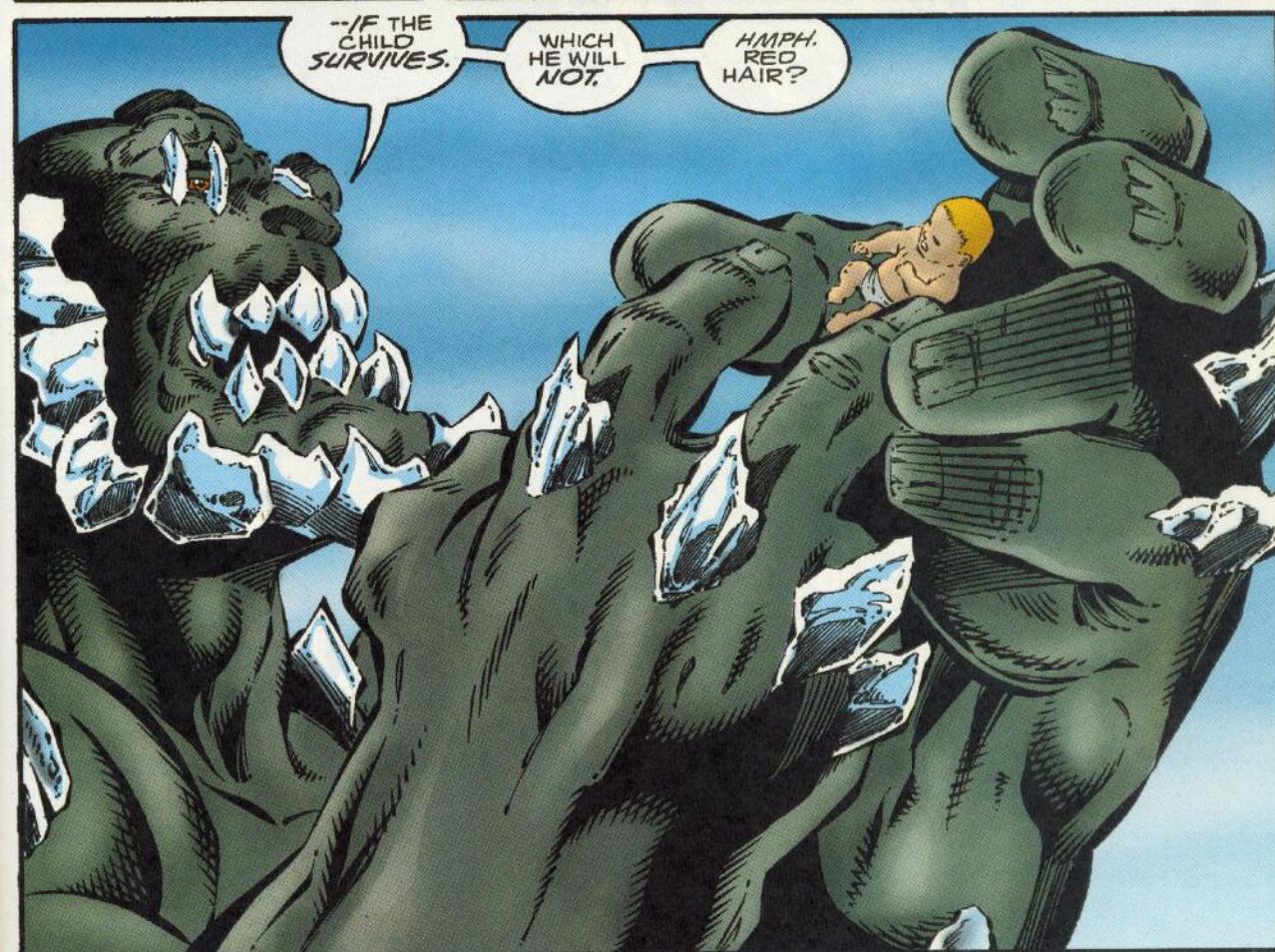
NO
MATTER.

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,
BRAINIAC.

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.



FOR YOU
SURELY REALIZE
BY NOW THAT
THERE IS
NOTHING YOU
CAN DO TO
STOP ME.

NOR CAN THE
KRYPTONIAN.

NOT WHEN
HE'LL SOON BE
RESPONSIBLE
FOR THE
DEATHS OF
HUNDREDS.



IT'S THE WIND THAT
WAKES ME UP.

NO, NOT
THE WIND
EXACTLY...



BRANNIAC
WANTED
THIS!

SAW FAR ENOUGH
TO SEE THE PLANE--

--AND PLOTTED
THE COURSE!



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

--AND
MOVE!

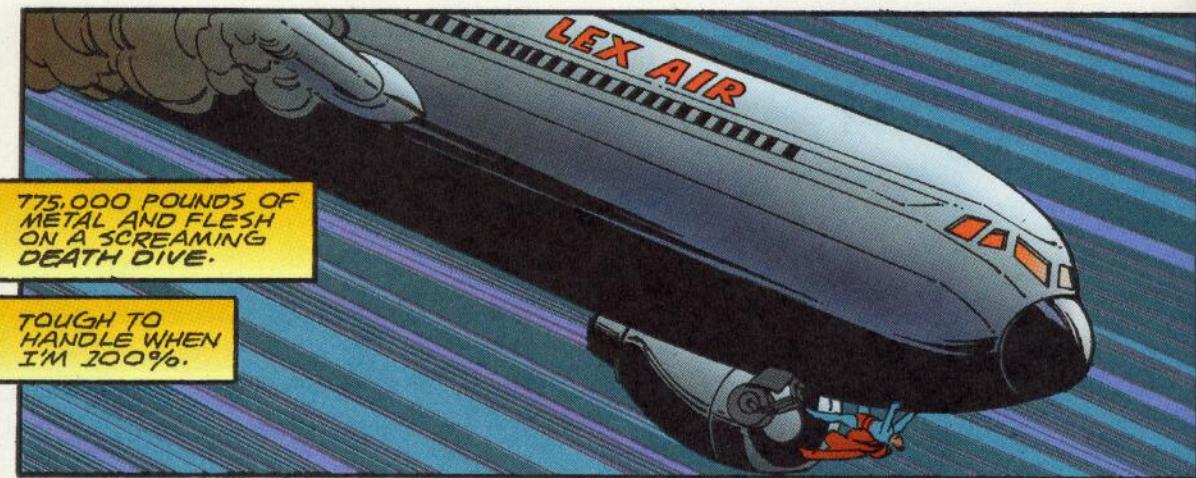


FEELS LIKE I'M...
WATCHING SOMEONE
ELSE DO THIS.

LIKE I'M...
DETACHED.

MUST HAVE A
CONCUSSION.

AT LEAST I CAN BLOW
OUT THE FIRE.



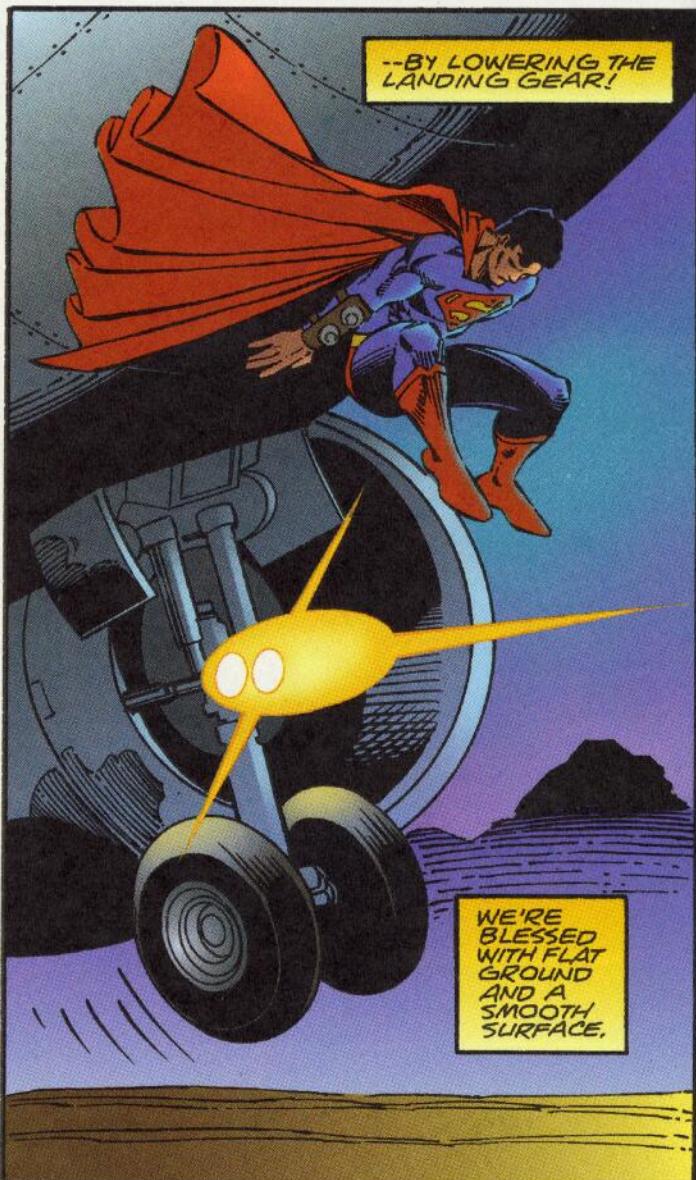
775,000 POUNDS OF METAL AND FLESH ON A SCREAMING DEATH DIVE.

TOUGH TO HANDLE WHEN I'M 100%.



NOW... I FIGHT LIKE MAD TO GET THE NOSE UP--

--PRAYING THE PILOT'S DOING HIS PART--



WE'RE BLESSED WITH FLAT GROUND AND A SMOOTH SURFACE.

SOME SAY IT'S BETTER TO BE LUCKY THAN GOOD.

WHO AM I TO ARGUE?



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

ROUGHEST
FLIGHT OUT
OF KANSAS
I'VE EVER
HAD.

LEXAIR

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
OFF--

KRUNNCH

YOUR
HAND--

MY
SON.
YOU'VE
LOST MY
SON!

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

IT'S HAPPEN-
ING 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 HAVE 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
THING IS--

--THEY'RE
USUALLY
BAD.

BUMMER
CITY.

TELL
ME ABOUT
IT.

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

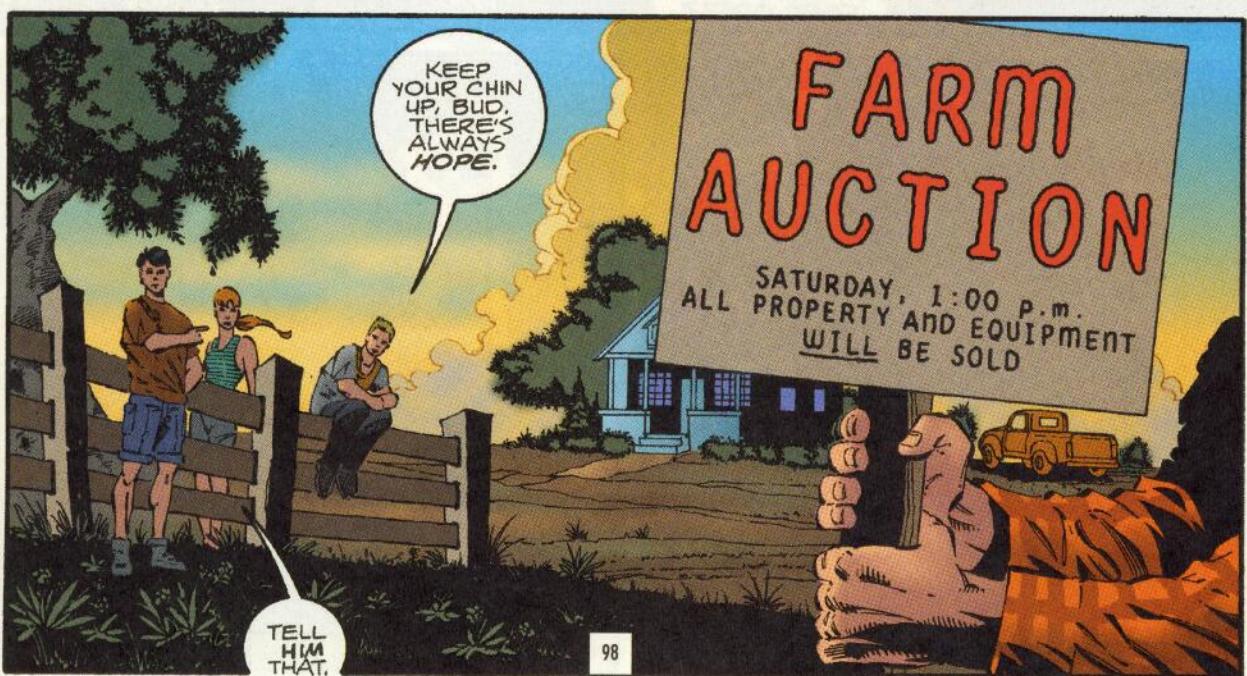
ROB
A BANK,
MAYBE WANT
TO ROUND UP SOME
GUNS?

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.

WHY'D THAT GUY PUNCH YOU, SUPERMAN? YOU WANT US TO TIE HIM UP OR SOMETHING?

NO.
MORE
THAN
ANY-
THING--



--I
WANT
YOU TO
TAKE
CARE
OF
HIM.



HE'S A
FRIEND.

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

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

KENT?
WHERE'S
CLARK?



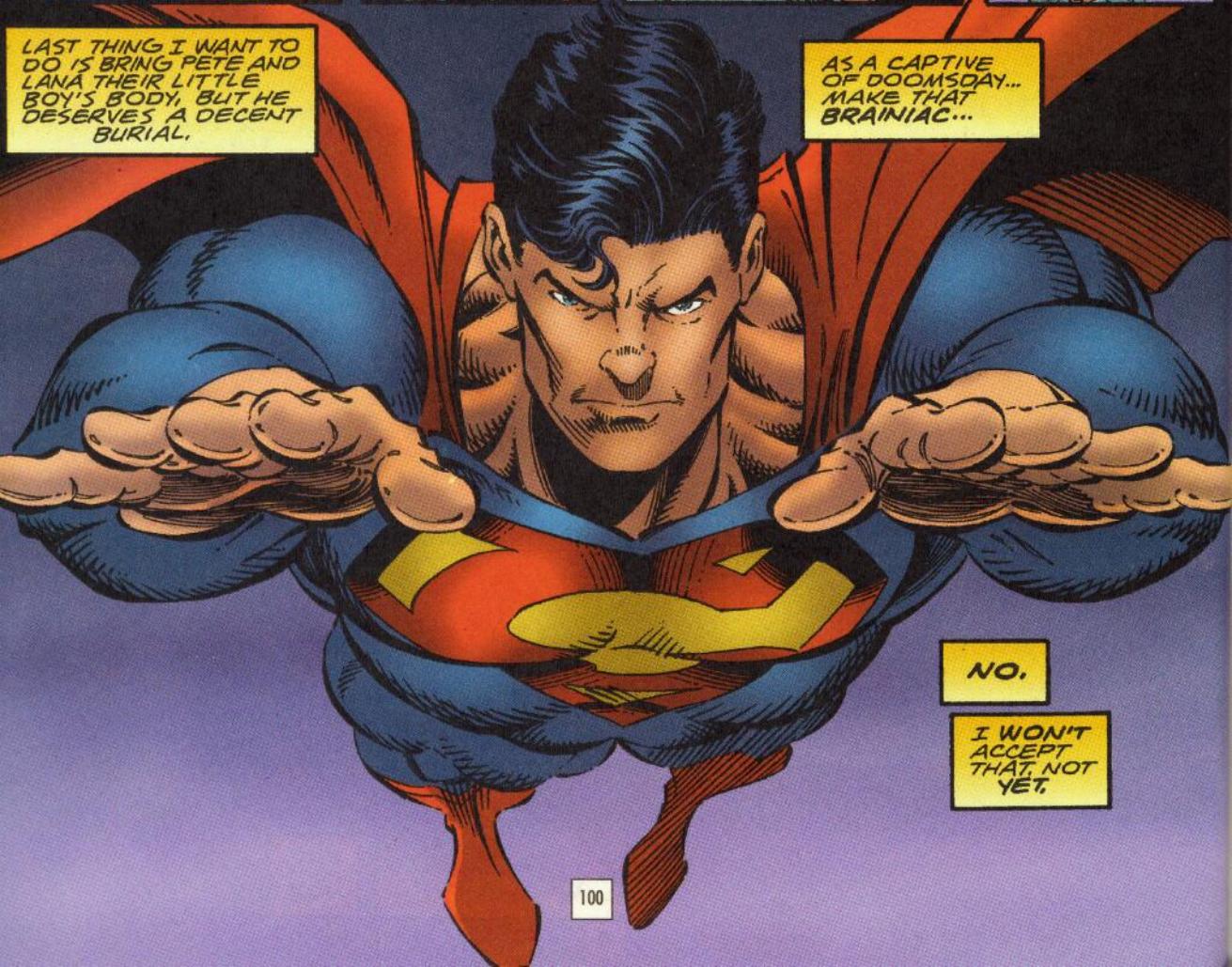
WAIT HERE FOR THE
RESCUE CHOPPERS,
MR. ROSS. I'LL FIND
CLARK--

--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.

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.

JLA WATCH-TOWER. AQUAMAN HERE.

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 CONTINUALLY FABRICATE MATERIALS 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.

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

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.

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

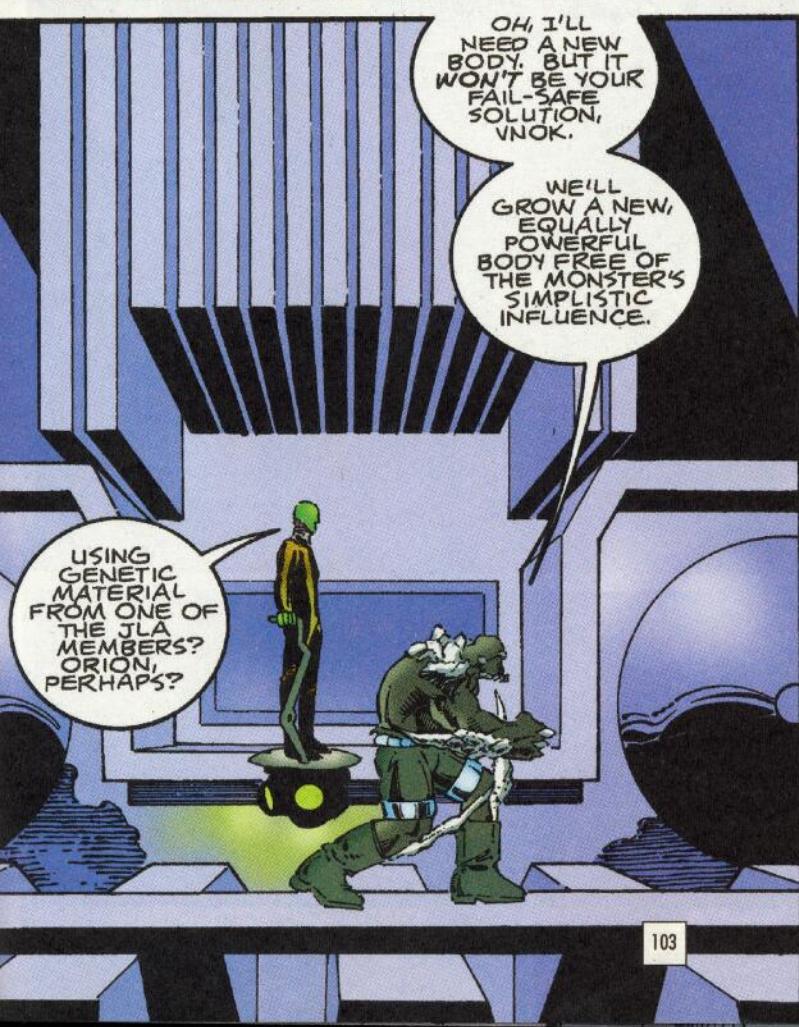
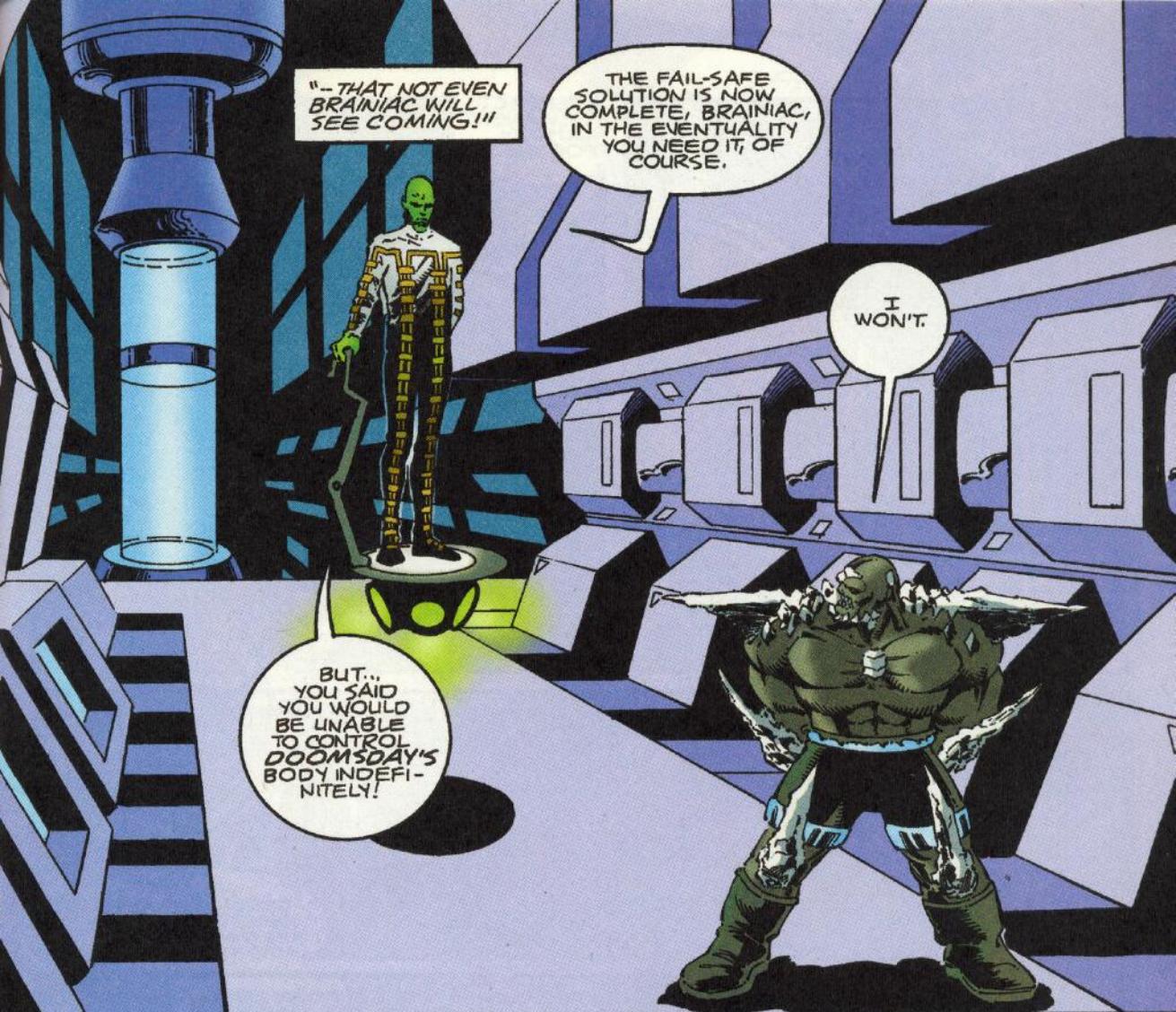


HE WANTS TO
TURN EARTH INTO A NEW
COLU!

WITHOUT
ROOM FOR
HUMAN
LIFE.

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--



A HUMAN INFANT,
PERFECT FOR
ENGINEERING MY
NEW BODY.



A PERFECT,
PERMANENT
HOUSING
FOR ME.



DOOMSDAY'S
PRESENT
BODY?



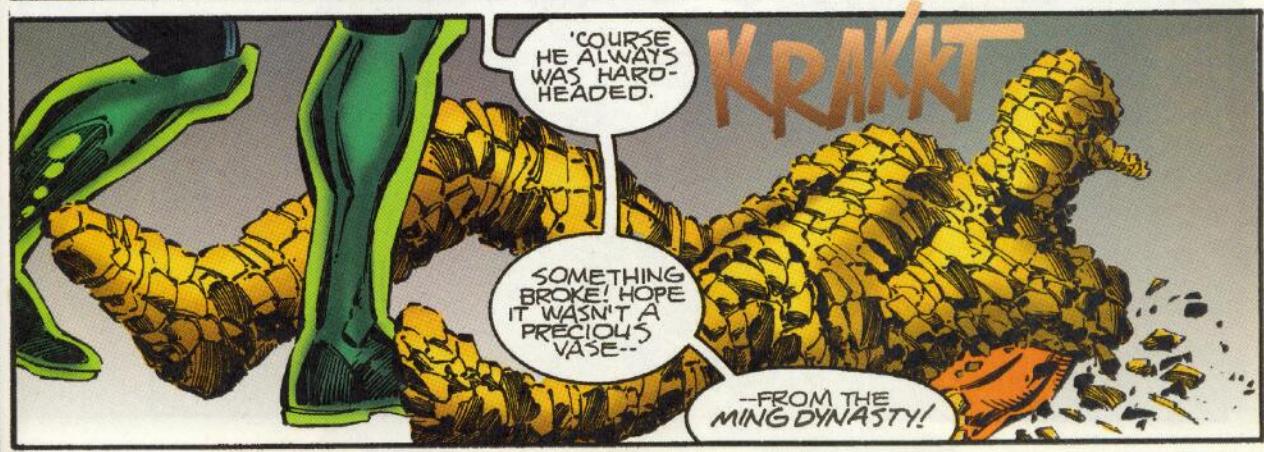
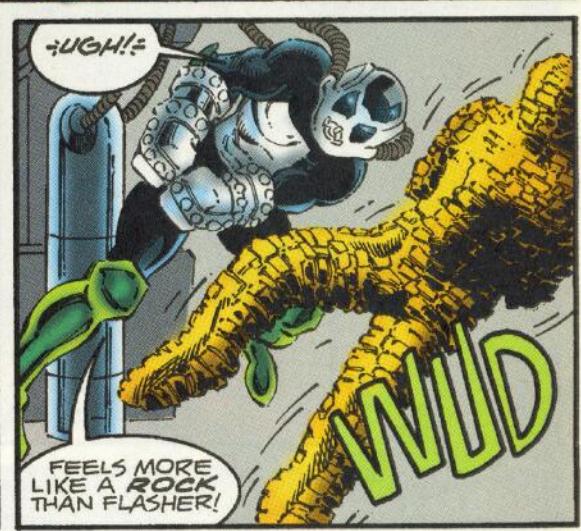
HOW LONG--
MASTER?

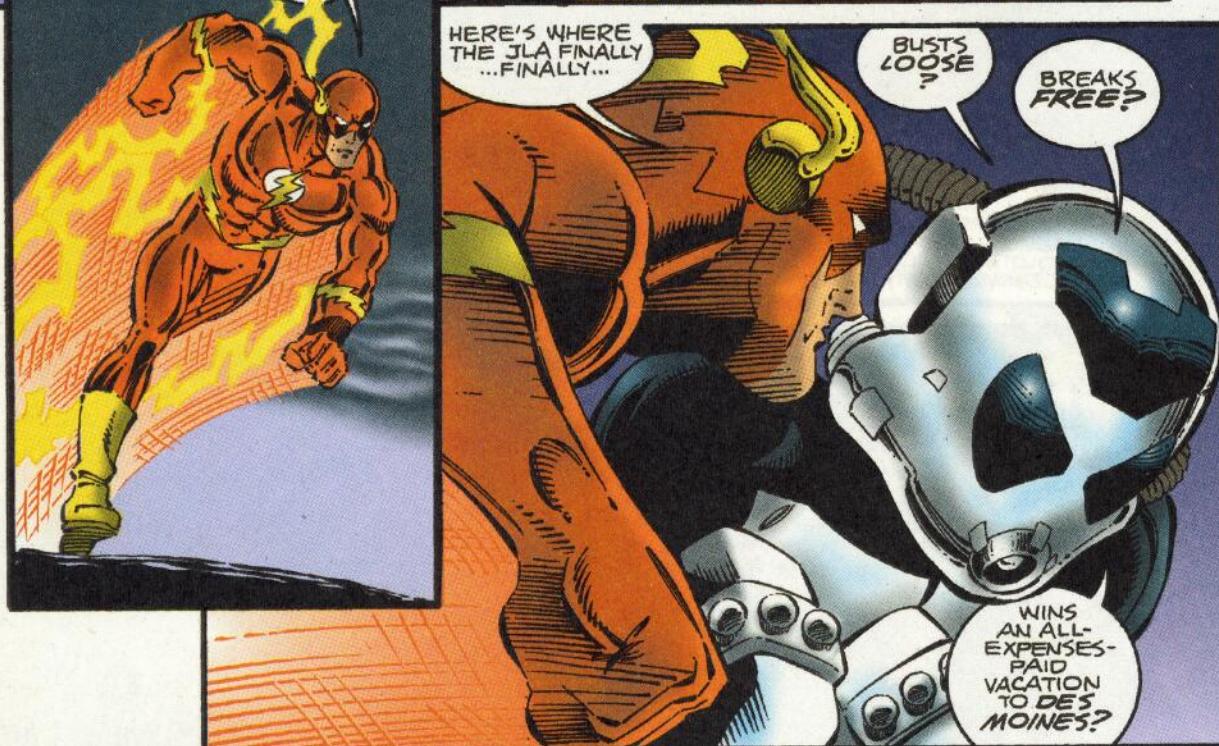


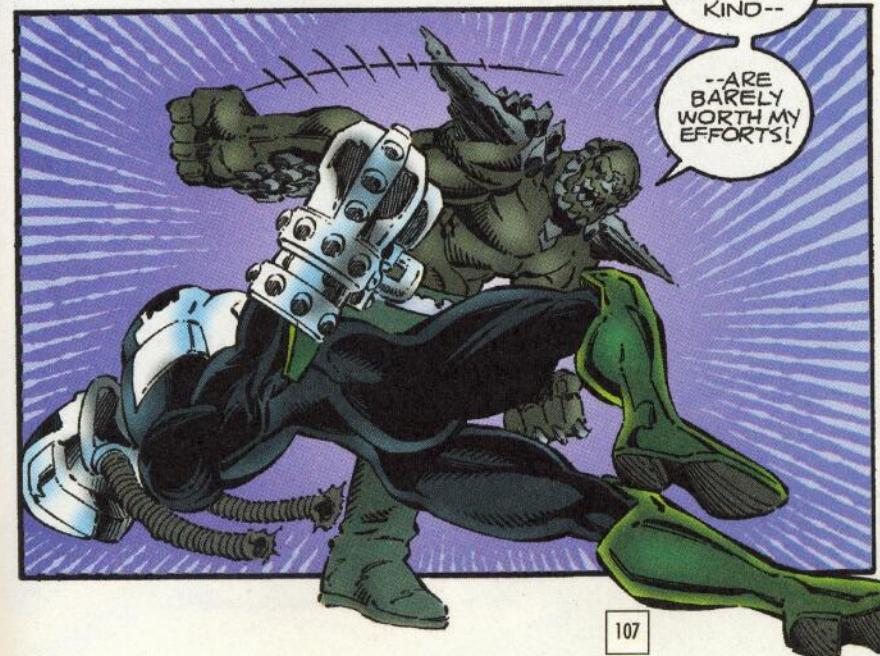
ACCELERATE
THE ENGINEERING
PROCESS.

THE INFANT
MUST BE MUTATED
WHILE THERE'S
STILL TIME!









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

SSSH! 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."

--IF CLARK
GOT TANGLED
UP WITH
DOOMSDAY...

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.

BRAA
MMA
LLE

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.

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

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

I AM.

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!



WITH THIS
BODY--

--AND OVER-
WHELMINGLY
SUPERIOR
INTELLIGENCE--



I AM
YOUR
BETTER
IN EVERY
WAY!

FOR I
CONTROL
NOT ONLY
THE SHEER
FORCE OF
DOOMS-
DAY--



-- BUT THE
COMBINED
FORCES --

-- OF
EACH WEAPON --

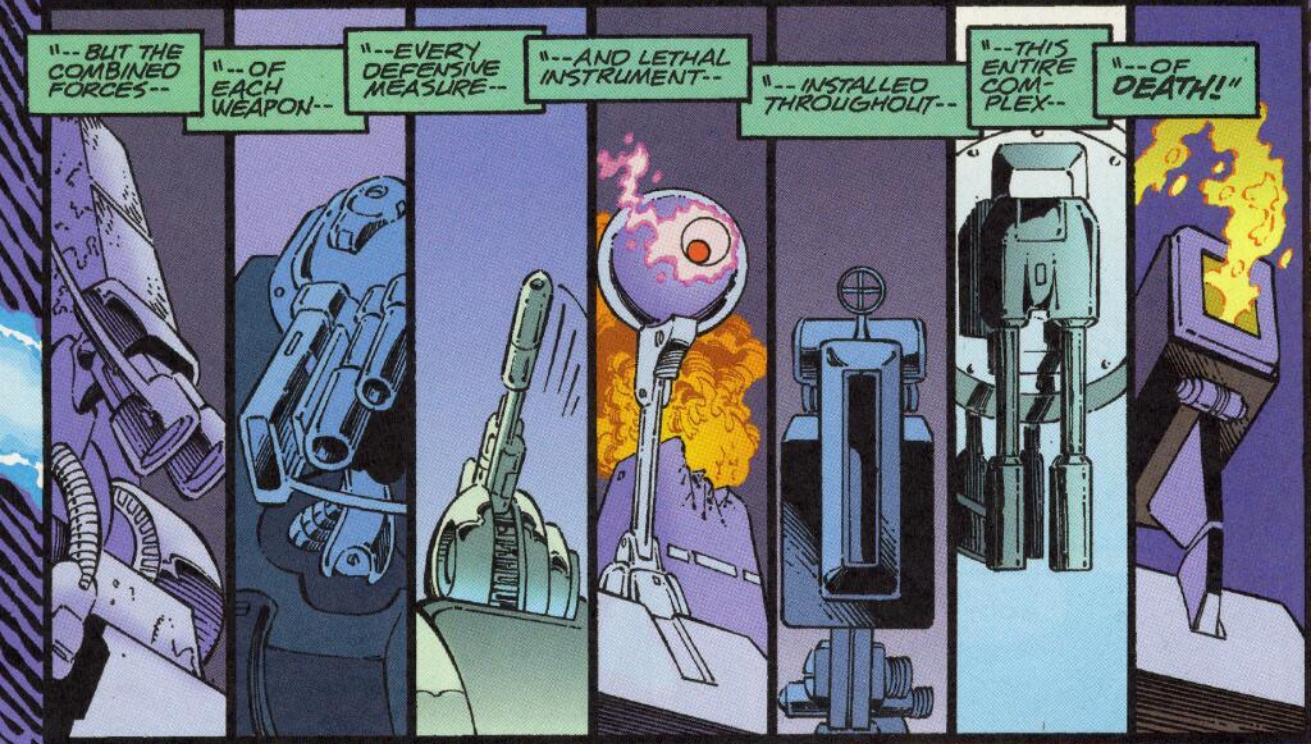
-- EVERY
DEFENSIVE
MEASURE --

-- AND LETHAL
INSTRUMENT --

-- INSTALLED
THROUGHOUT --

-- THIS
ENTIRE
COM-
PLEX --

-- OF
DEATH!!





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



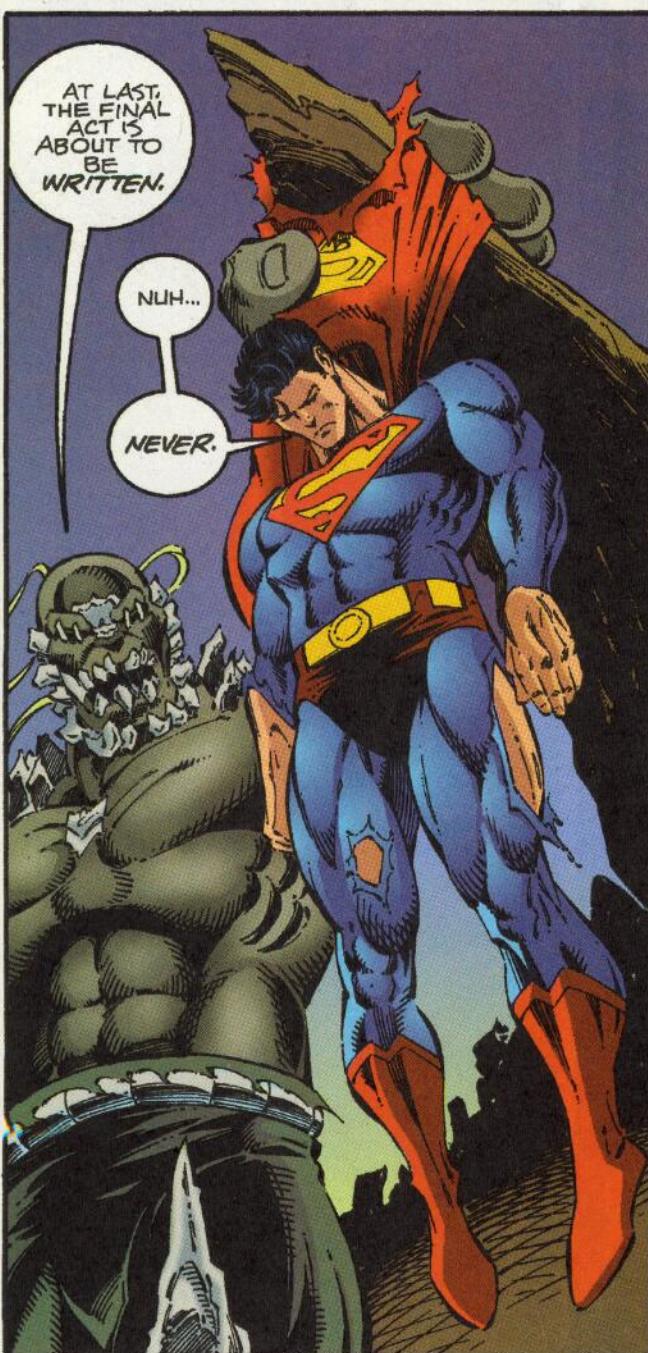
EACH TIME, YOU'VE WALKED AWAY THE VICTOR.



AT LAST, THE FINAL ACT IS ABOUT TO BE WRITTEN.

NUH...

NEVER.



THE MASTER CANNOT HOPE TO CONTROL DOOMSDAY FOR LONG, AND THE INFANT IS VERY NEARLY EXPIRED.

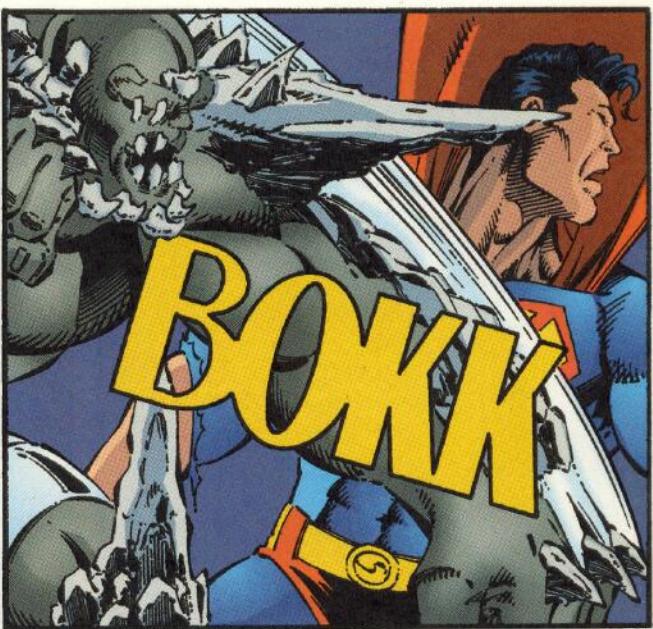
HE MUST BE MUTATED WITH GENETIC ENGINEERING--

--BY WAY OF SPLICING IN SOME OF DOOMSDAY'S DNA WITH HIS OWN!

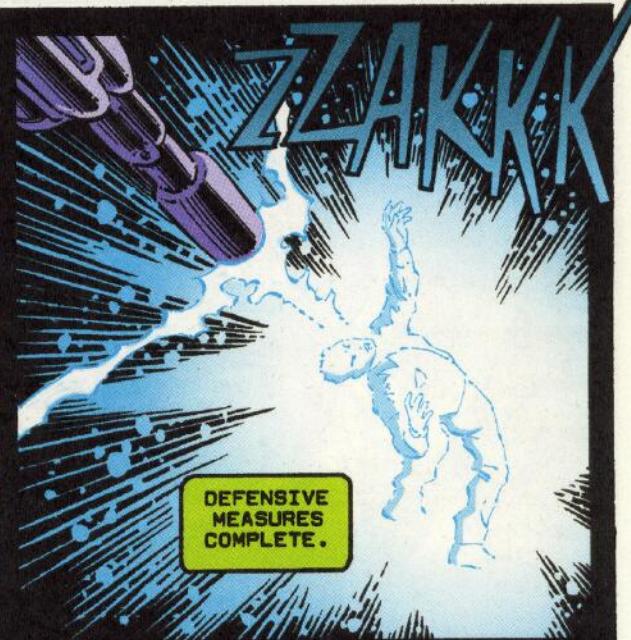
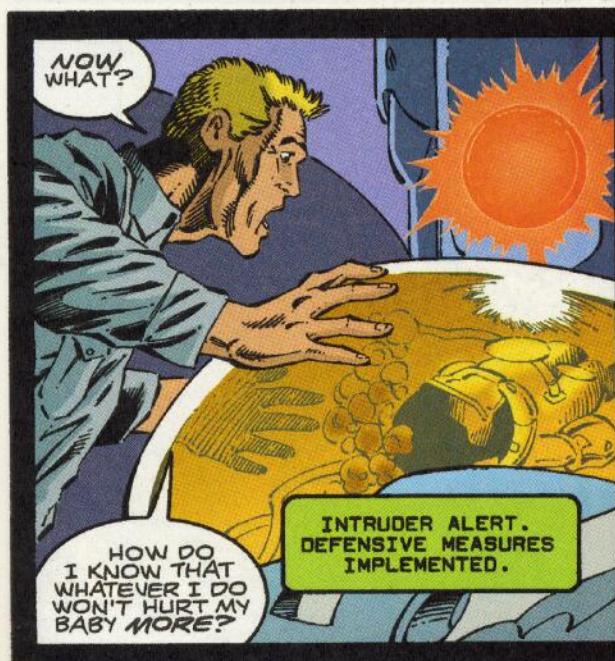
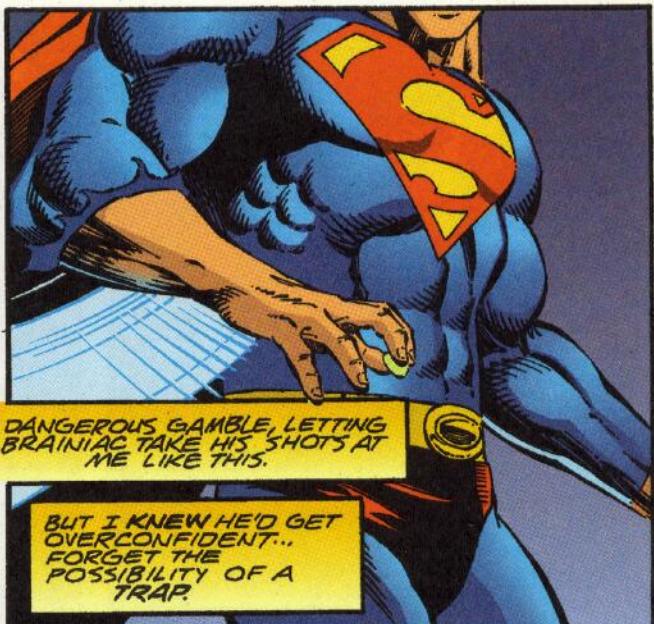
HIS LIFE WILL BE SAVED, AND HE WILL START TO AGE--

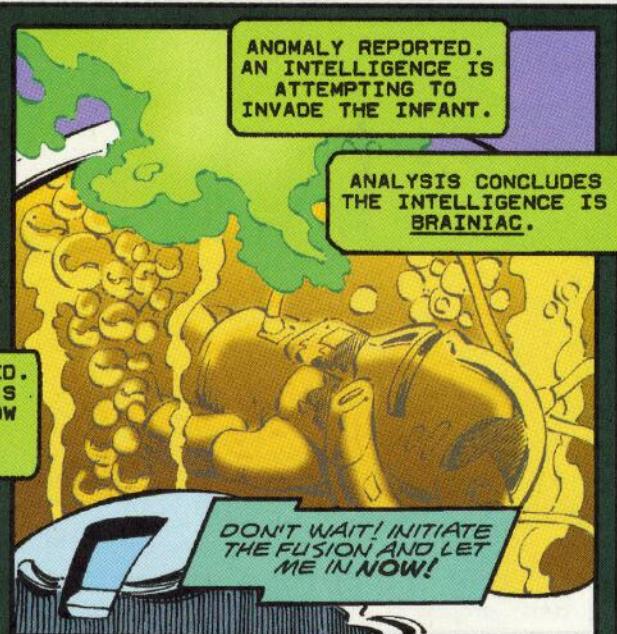
--UNTIL HE BECOMES THE IDEAL PERMANENT VESSEL FOR BRAINIAC!





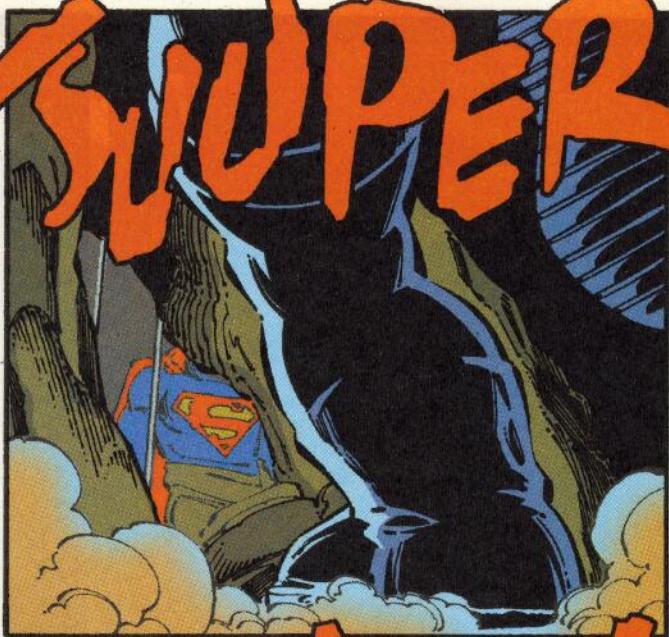








PAHR/SUPER



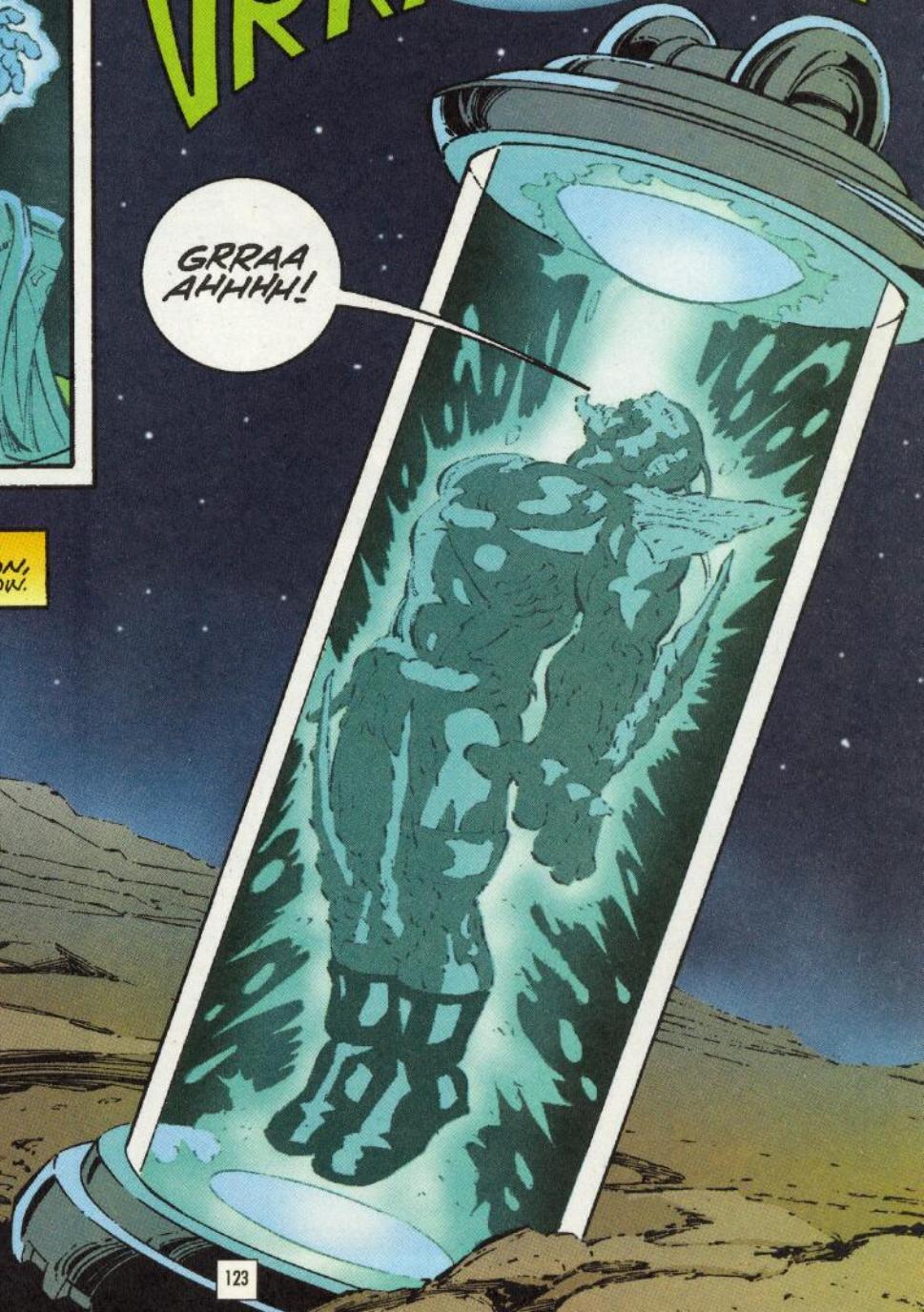
-AND DOOMSDAY REACTED AS EXPECTED. HE'S IN THE JLA TRANSPORTER I RIGGED UP RIGHT ABOUT NOW.



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

VRM

GRRRAA
AHHHH!



GET YOUR
HEAD TOGETHER,
PETE. I NEED
YOU.

YOU'LL BE FINE
IN A MINUTE. HERE'S
YOUR SON, PETE.
HEALTHY AND
WHOLE.

OH... WHO--?

IT'S
ME. YOUR
SON IS
SAFE.

FEEL
LIKE
JELLY
... CAN
BARELY
SEE...

CONGRA-
TULATIONS.

YOU... YOU
GOT HIM
OUT?

CLARK...
HOW... HOW
CAN I EVER
THANK
YOU?

...
BY
GETTING
HIM TO
SAFETY.
MOVE.

WHAT
ABOUT
YOU?

SUPERMAN'S
ON HIS WAY.
I'LL BE
FINE.

BETTER FIND
THE JLA FAST.
I MIGHT HAVE
STOPPED BRAINIAC
FOR NOW--

--BUT HE UNDOUBTEDLY HAS A BACKUP PLAN.

INFERNAL KRYPTONIAN!

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

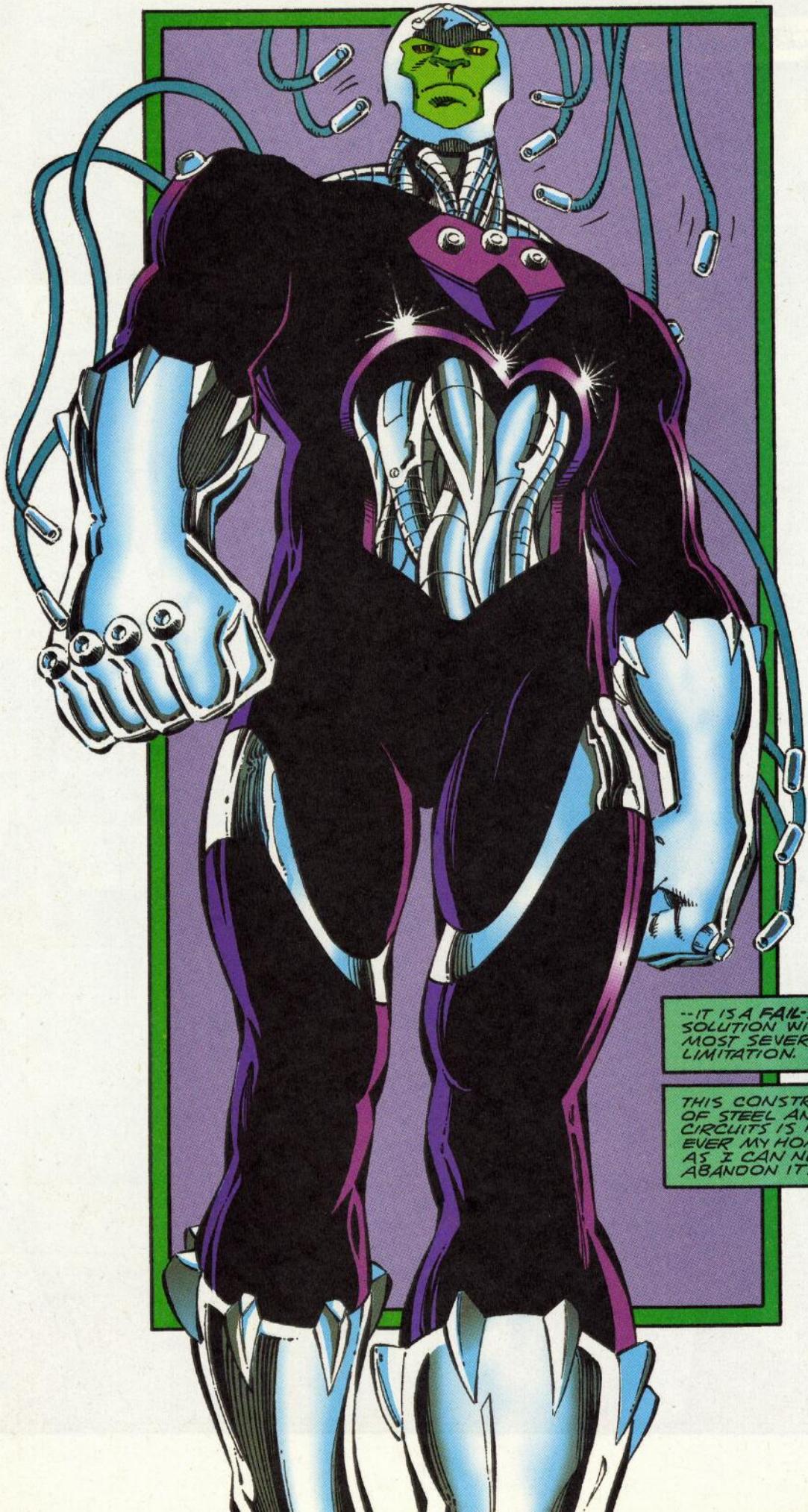
THIS TIME... HIS INTERFERENCE HAS COST ME MORE THAN EVER. DOOMSDAY'S DNA, COMBINED WITH THE INFANT--

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

THIS... MY PSI-ESSENCE... CANNOT LAST LONG WITHOUT A NEW BODY.

IN THE EVENT OF DISASTER, VNOK 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.

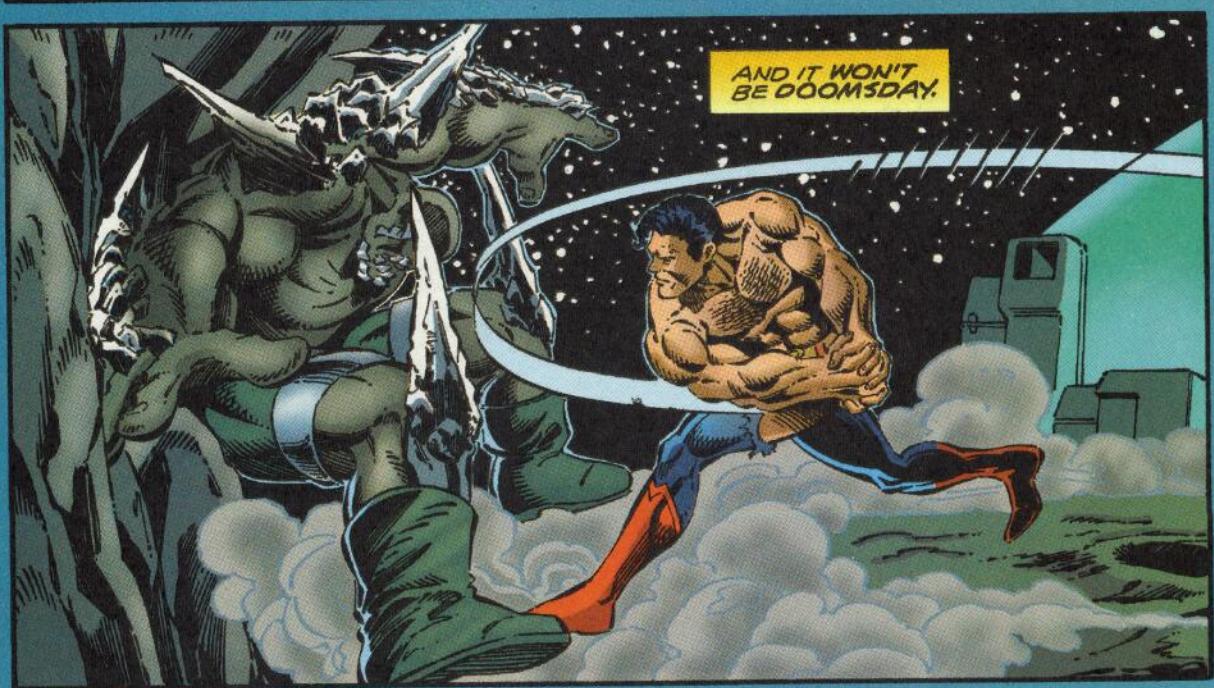
BY NOW HE'S FOUND THE WATCHTOWER.

EVERY SECOND WE WASTE WORKS IN HIS FAVOR.

HE CAN SENSE THE TRANSPORTERS INSIDE.

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





WHEN THE JLA
FIRST SIGNALED
ME, I IGNORED
IT.



I WAS WITH
LANA...TRYING
TO SAVE HER
BABY'S LIFE.

SOME MIGHT
SAY THAT WAS
A MISTAKE.
AN EXAMPLE OF
CONFUSED
PRIORITIES.

NO WAY.



THE BABY
WILL LIVE.

AND I HAVE THE
CHANCE TO SHUT
THIS MONSTER
DOWN FOR --

--GOOD?



YOW! SUPERIS
LUCKY THAT HAY-
MAKER DIDN'T
RIP HIS HEAD
CLEAN OFF!

I CONCUR.
HE'LL NEED
A HAND,
GREEN
LANTERN.

SAY NO MORE,
J'ONN! ONE READY-
MADE, INCREDIBLY
RELIABLE AND
DOWNRIGHT PHOTO-
GENIC LIFE-SAVER
COMING UP!



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



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



KEEP
DOOMSDAY
BUSY UNTIL
I GET BACK
TO END
THIS!

I SHALL
DO MORE
THAN KEEP
HIM BUSY.

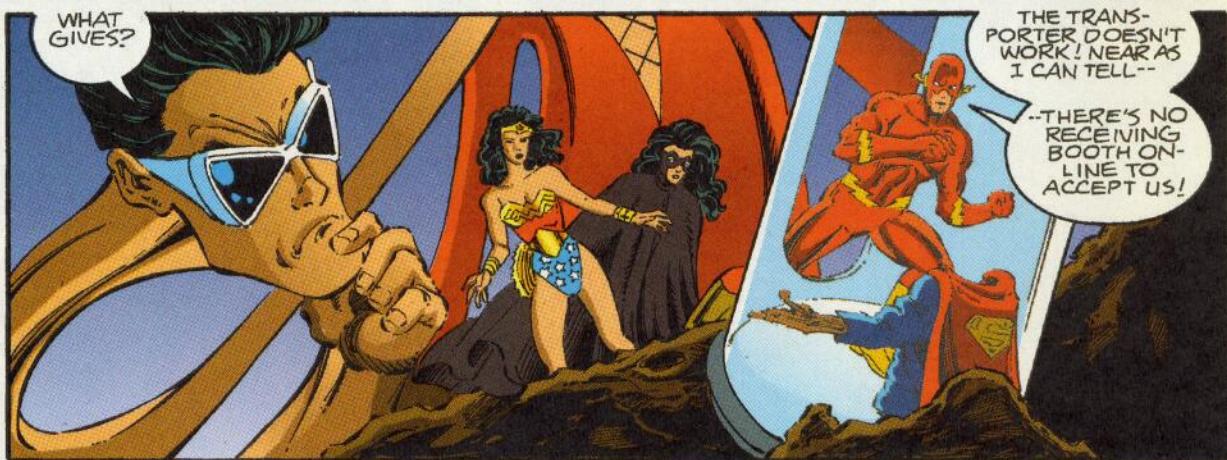
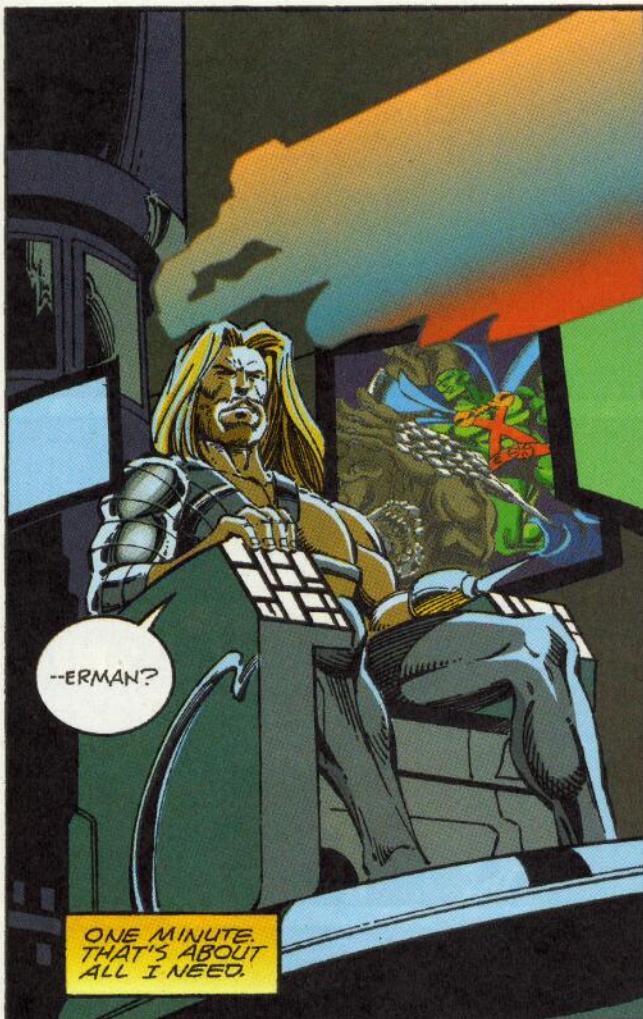
EASY,
ORION.
SUPERMAN
HAS A
PLAN IN
MIND...



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

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

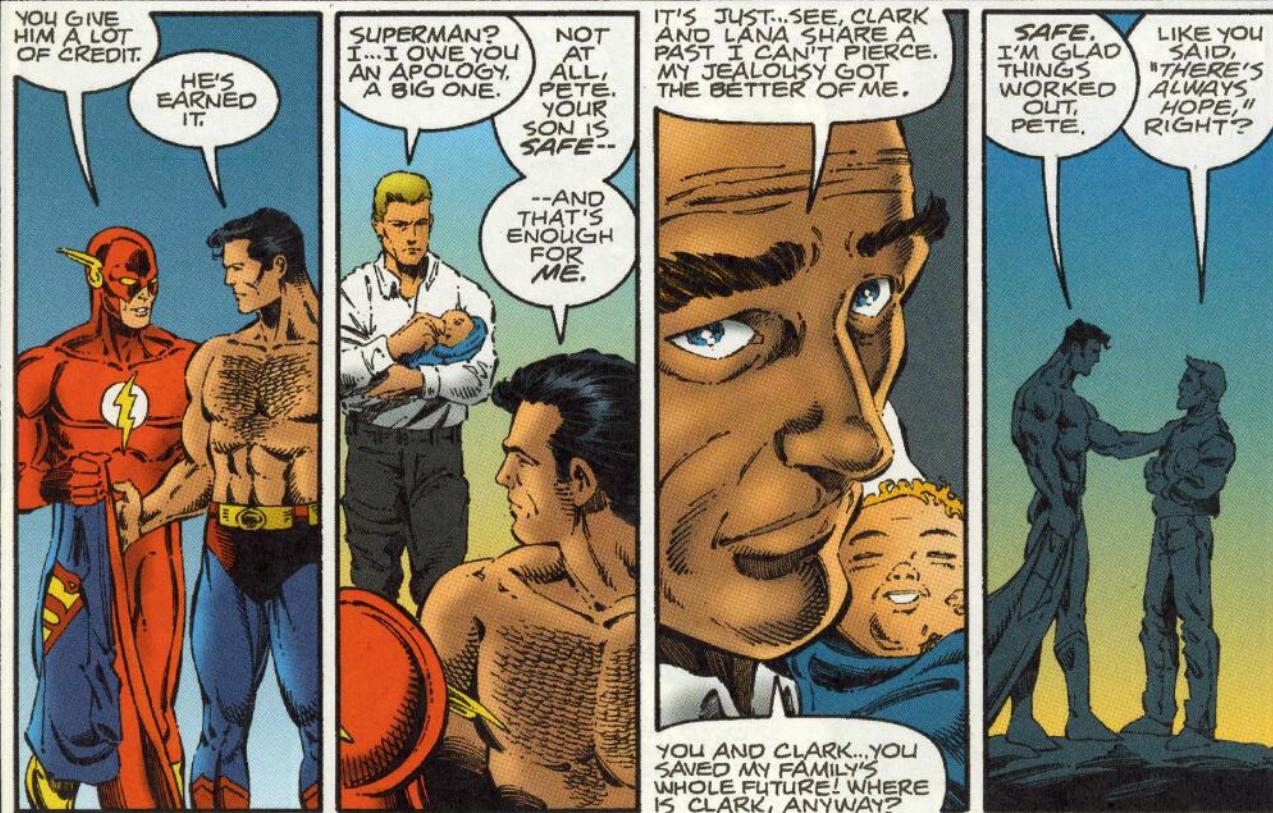






URRMMm **o** **m**





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

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!

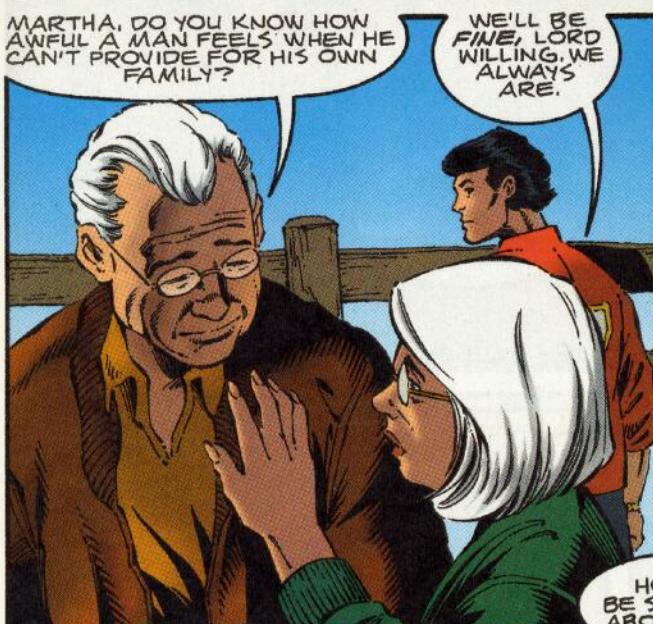
BUT I KNOW I CAN TURN THIS AROUND. I'M A GOOD FARMER.

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



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.

VULTURES!



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?

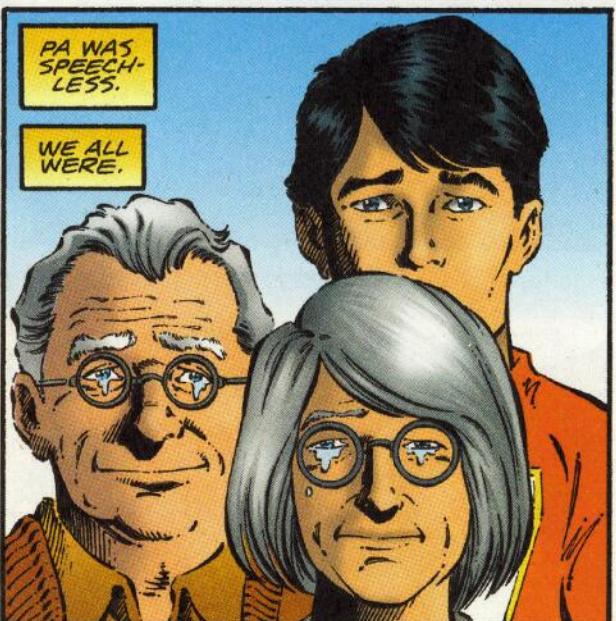
I DON'T GET IT!
DO WHAT?!

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



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

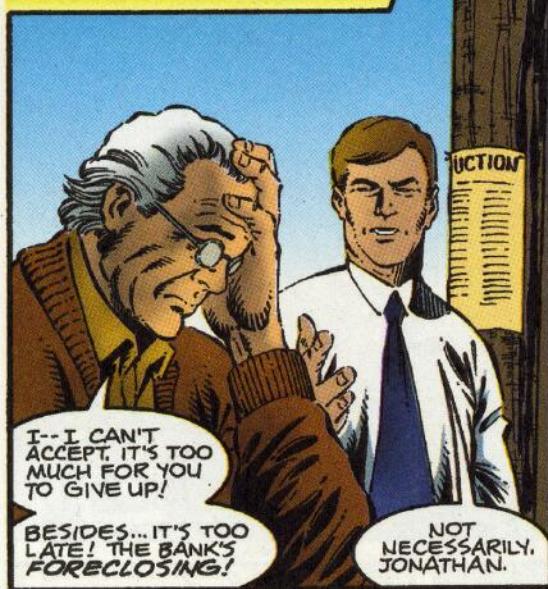
WE'RE EACH
CONTRIBUTING
ONE DAIRY COW
OF OUR OWN TO
HELP YOU BUILD
A NEW
HERO!



PA WAS
SPEECH-
LESS.

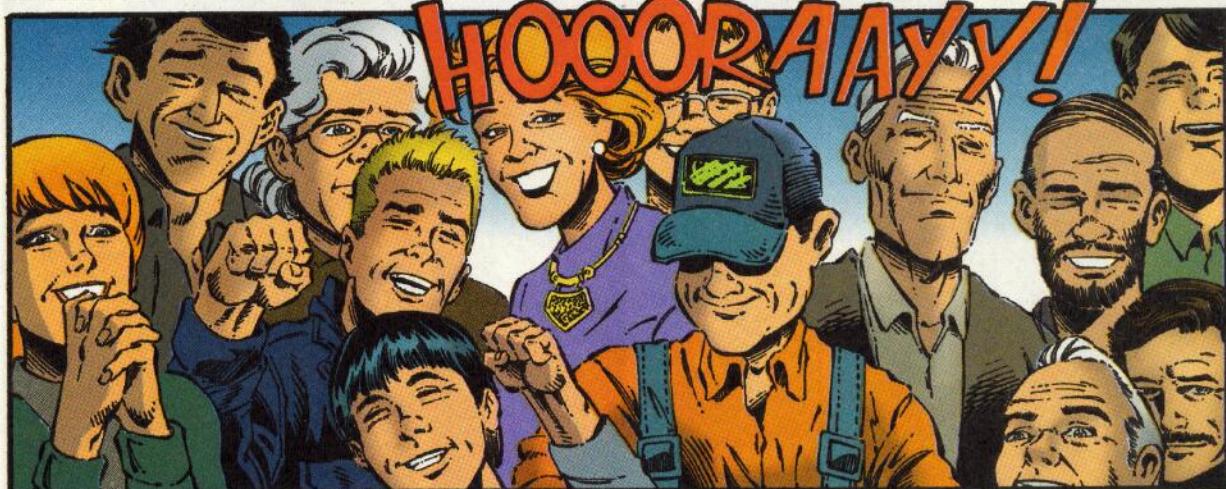
WE ALL
WERE.

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

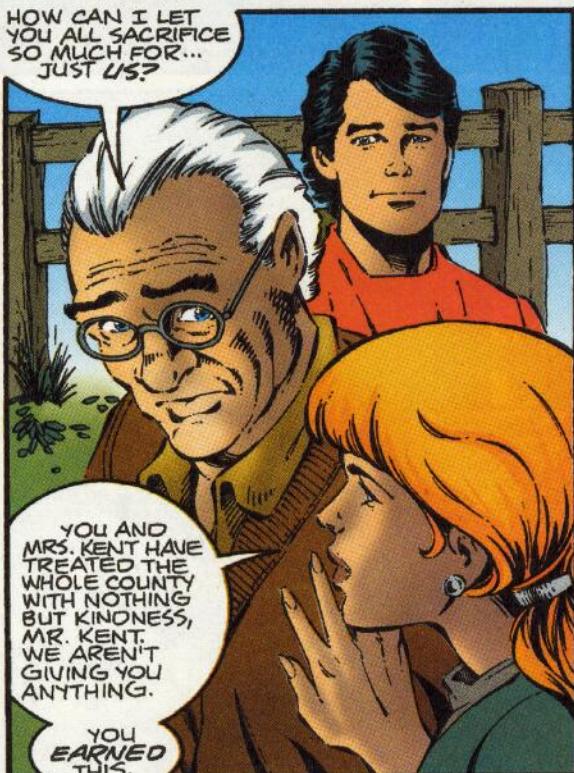


THANKS TO THE
GRACIOUSNESS OF
YOUR NEIGHBORS,
I'D SAY YOU'RE
WELL-STOCKED
ENOUGH NOW TO
KEEP UP WITH
YOUR PAYMENTS.

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



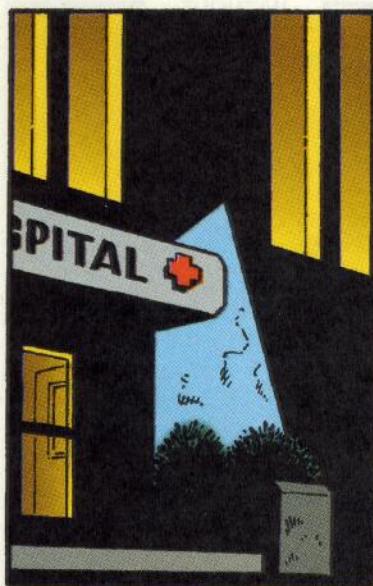
HOW CAN I LET
YOU ALL SACRIFICE
SO MUCH FOR...
JUST US?



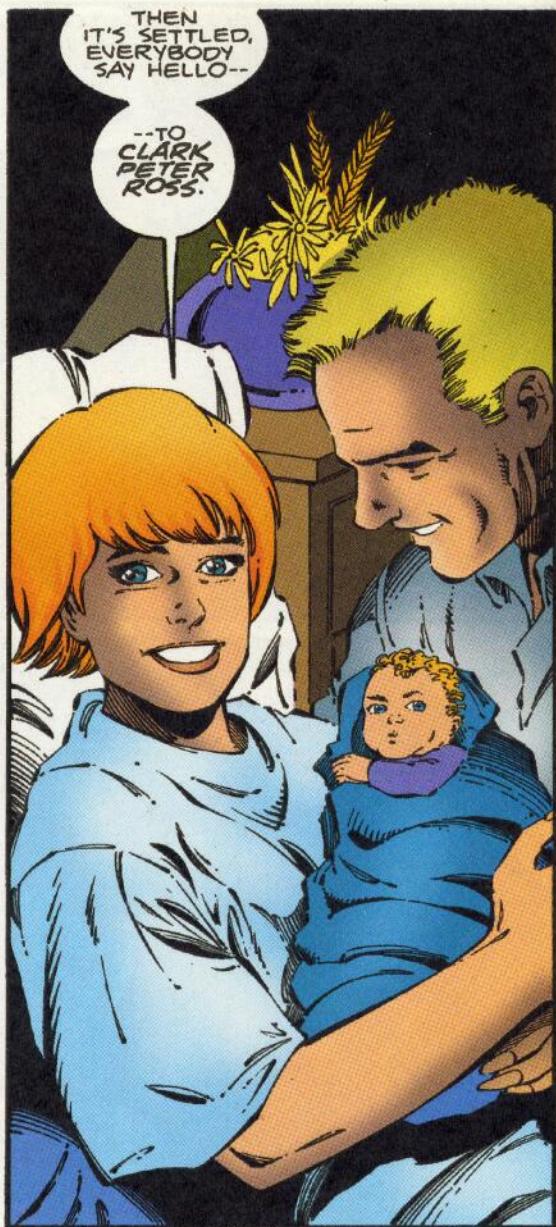
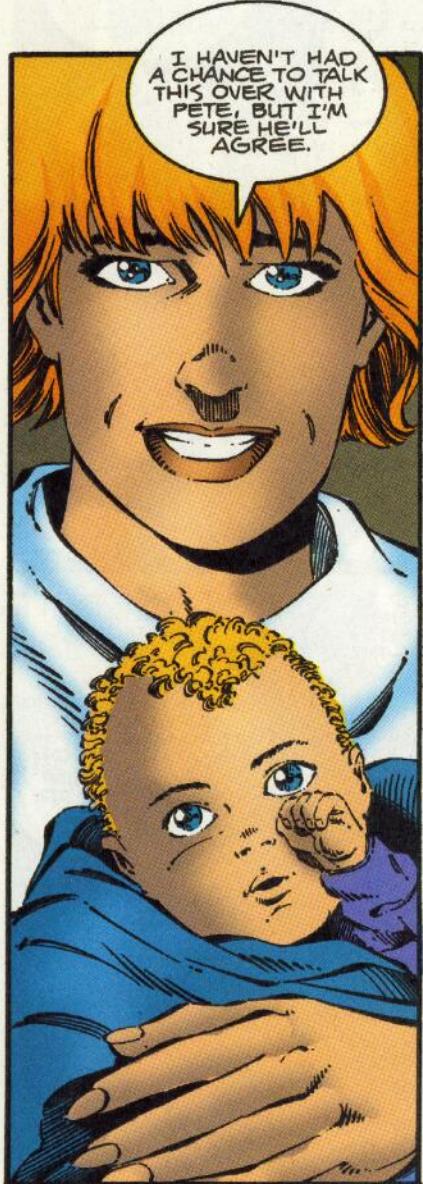
SO WE
KEPT THE
FARM.

AS THE HERD GREW, PA GAVE
EVERYONE WHO CONTRIBUTED
A NEW CALF IN RETURN.









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