

THE RED SOLSTICE



THE CRADLE OF THE STORM



1 HAVE
A VISION.

4 VISION IN WHICH
HUMANITY IS STRONG.

1 T RELIES ON ITS STRENGTHS.
IT TRUSTS ITS INSTINCTS.

1 T CONQUERS THE CHALLENGES.
WINS OVER OBSTACLES.

BLAM
BLAM

BLAM

BLAM
BLAM

1 HAVE A VISION IN WHICH
HUMANITY IS THE PINNACLE
OF EVOLUTION.

1 THE ULTIMATE
OF THE SPECIES.

OK, VIVIAN.
THAT WAS THE
LAST ONE.

BLAM

STAND BACK
FROM THE DOORS.
I'M GOING TO BLOW
THEM OPEN.

1 RULERS OF EVERYTHING.
SERVANTS OF NONE.

1 SPECIES WHICH
OBLITERATES ITS
OPPOSITION.

1 EVEN WHEN IT
MEANS MASSIVE
SACRIFICES.

KA BOOM

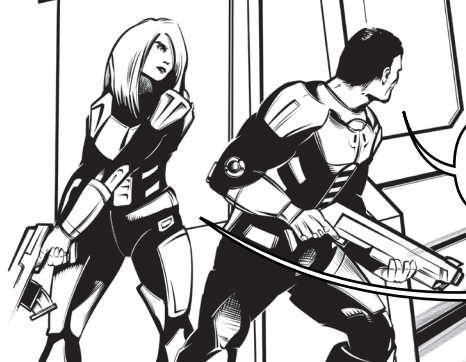
TYLER HUNT. VIVIAN PARKS. THE FISTS OF MY VISION. AND ONE OF ITS MOST VITAL ASSETS. THE SOLE SURVIVORS OF WHAT WE NOW CALL THE LOST GENERATION. "A FUTILE ATTEMPT TO IMPROVE OUR SPECIES THROUGH GENETICAL ENGINEERING AND NANOTECH INFUSION".



WHEN TYLER SIGNED UP FOR EREBUS CORPORATION PRIVATE MILITARY FORCES, HE JUST ATTACHED HIS MILITARY RECORD TO APPLICATION FORM. ALL OTHER FIELDS AND BRACKETS WERE EMPTY. AS IF HE DIDN'T EXIST WITHOUT A GUN IN HIS HAND.



YET, ONE COULD TELL TYLER WAS MUCH MORE THAN A GOOD SOLDIER. HIS WILL AND DETERMINATION TO KEEP OTHERS SAFE REVEALED HIS TRUE NATURE. HE WAS A HERO, OR AT LEAST IT COULD BECOME ONE. AND MY CAUSE WAS DEPENDENT ON HEROES.



THINK THE OLD MAN IS WATCHING THIS?

NO DOUBT ABOUT THAT. I BET HE SITS IN FRONT OF HIS SHINY MONITOR RIGHT NOW, AND WATCHES THE SHOW.

HOPEFULLY THE ACTION SCENES ENDED A MINUTE AGO.

BETWEEN YOU AND ME, HE SOUNDED A BIT STRANGE DURING THE BRIEFING.

YOU MEAN, HE LOOKED EVEN GRIMMER THAN USUAL?

SORT OF. WHAT DO YOU THINK?



VIVIAN, COULD ONLY BE VIVIAN. A WOMAN WITH LARGE MOUTH, AND EVEN LARGER MIND. HER WIT AND DISCERNING CHARACTER COULD ONLY BE COMPARED TO HER MILITARY SKILLS.

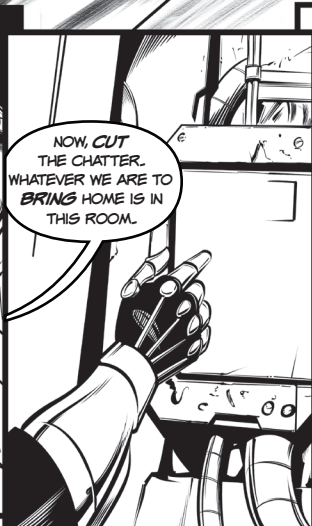
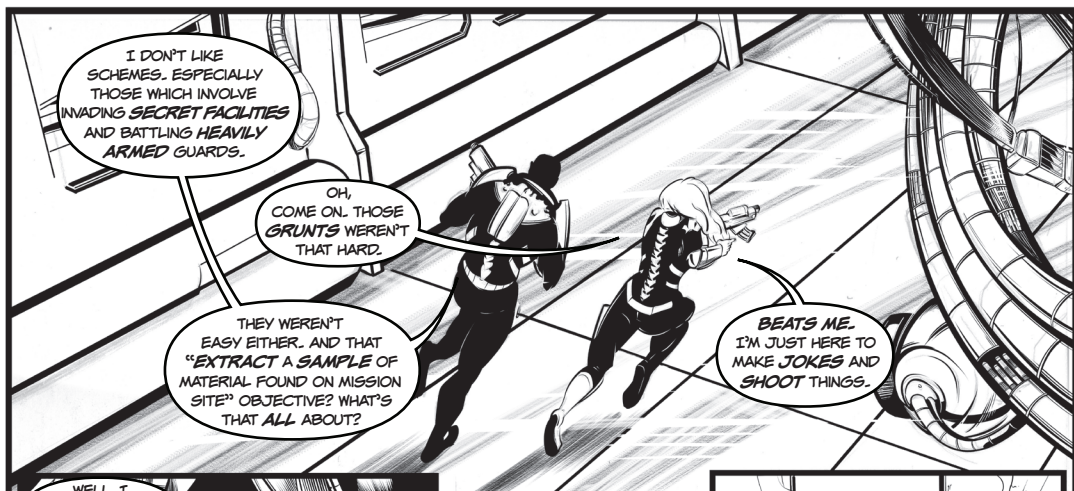
YOU KNOW EREBUS WELL, HUNT. HE RUNS A BIG CORP, AND BIG CORPS HAVE BIG SCHEMES.

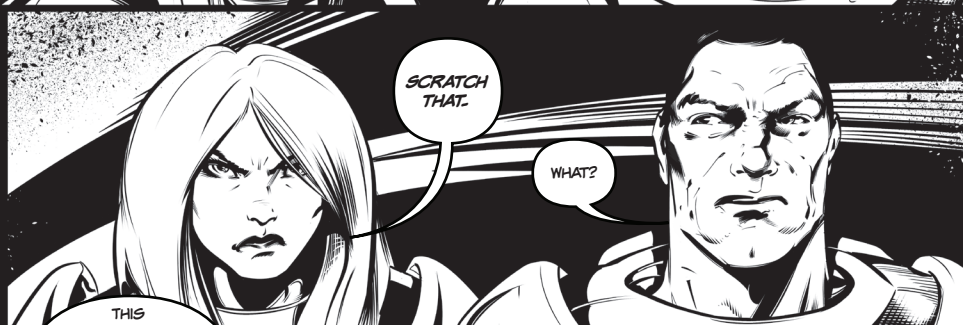
WHATEVER USE HE WILL GET FROM THIS MISSION IS NOT OUR BUSINESS, REALLY.

I KNOW, BUT STILL...



SHE WAS QUICK, TACTICAL AND HAD STAMINA OF A WELL-TRAINED ARMY. ONE MOMENT SHE WOULD BE AN INGENIOUS SCIENTIST, ONLY TO TURN INTO A KILLER OF SURGICAL PRECISION.

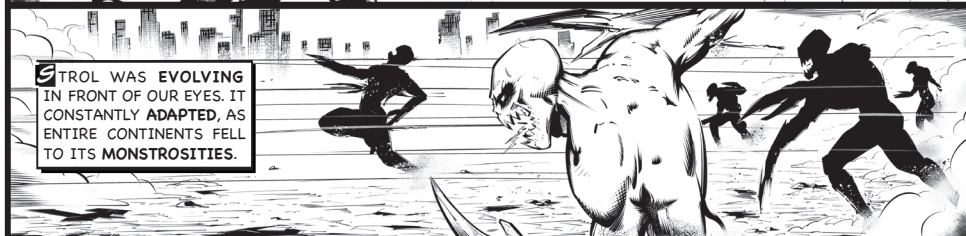






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OBODY KNOWS WHAT BROUGHT
STROL VIRUS TO OUR ECOSYSTEM.
BUT IT QUICKLY SPREAD THROUGH
POPULATION, CHANGING PEOPLE IN
MOST GRUESOME WAYS.

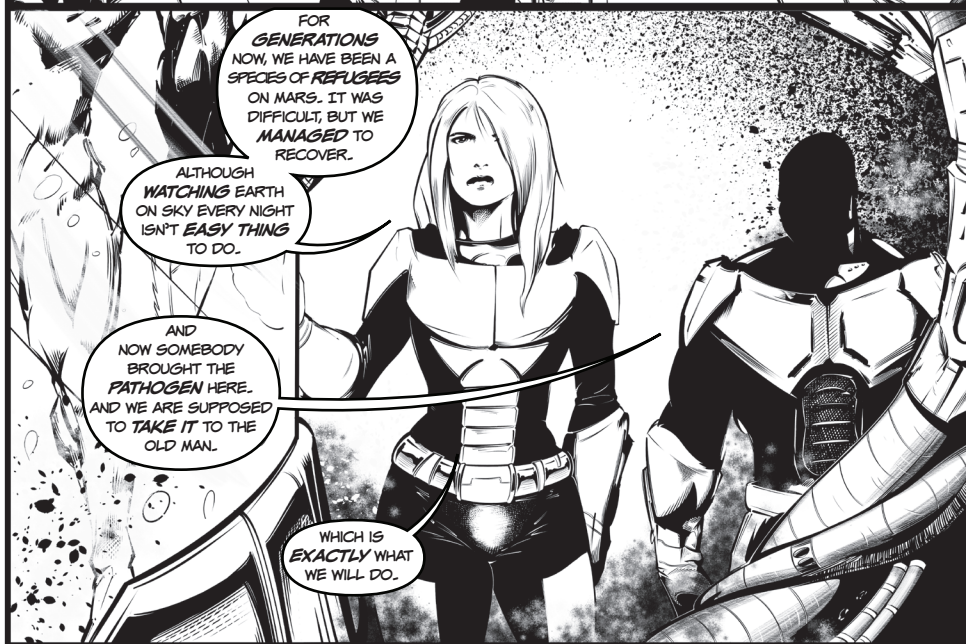
W
HEN SCIENCE FAILED TO
FIND THE CURE, MILITARY
WAS CALLED TO CONTAIN
THE PANDEMIC. BUT IT
NEVER STOOD THE CHANCE.



S
TROL WAS EVOLVING
IN FRONT OF OUR EYES. IT
CONSTANTLY ADAPTED, AS
ENTIRE CONTINENTS FELL
TO ITS MONSTROSITIES.



M
ILLIONS DIED BEFORE WE
REALIZED THE GRIM TRUTH.
WE HAD TO FLEE OUR
HOMELAND AND LEAVE IT
TO ABOMINATIONS.



FOR
GENERATIONS
NOW, WE HAVE BEEN A
SPECIES OF REFUGEES
ON MARS. IT WAS
DIFFICULT, BUT WE
MANAGED TO
RECOVER.

ALTHOUGH
WATCHING EARTH
ON SKY EVERY NIGHT
ISN'T EASY THING
TO DO.

AND
NOW SOMEBODY
BROUGHT THE
PATHOGEN HERE.
AND WE ARE SUPPOSED
TO TAKE IT TO THE
OLD MAN.

WHICH IS
EXACTLY WHAT
WE WILL DO.

ARE YOU
CRAZY?
NO WAY ARE WE GOING
TO DO THAT! THIS THING
CAN KILL US ALL.
WE NEED TO REPORT
IT.

OLD
MAN CAN
SCREW
HIMSELF.

I KNOW
YOU ARE WORRIED,
BUT I'M SURE THERE'S
MORE THAN MEETS THE
EYE. AS FAR AS WE KNOW,
EREBUS MIGHT NEED
STROL TO MAKE A
CURE.

I'LL
TAKE A
SAMPLE.

NO,
YOU
WON'T.

PUT
THAT THING
DOWN,
VIVIAN.

ARE
YOU ACTUALLY
DOING THIS,
HUNT?

POKING A
GUN AT ME, READY
TO BLOW MY BRAINS
OUT OVER THIS?

HERE,
LET ME HELP
YOU. I'M TURNING
OFF MY DEFENSE
SUB-SYSTEMS.

NOW
SHOOT.
BE TRUE TO
YOURSELF.



