

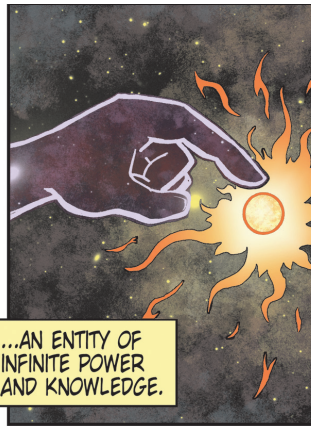
# CHAPTER 15

## GAME ON!



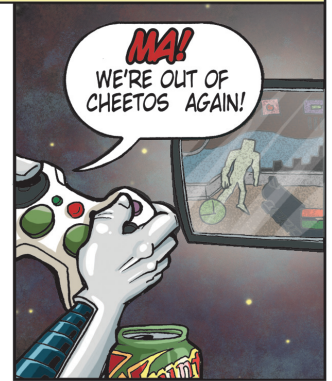
IN THE FAR REACHES OF SPACE... NEAR THE VERY CENTER OF THE UNIVERSE... LIES AN ENTITY OF UNFATHOMABLE AGE...

...A BEING WHO HAS WATCHED THE CREATION AND DESTRUCTION OF MYRIAD GALAXIES.



...AN ENTITY OF INFINITE POWER AND KNOWLEDGE.

AND IN THAT BEING'S BASEMENT...



**MA!**  
WE'RE OUT OF CHEETOS AGAIN!



THE EONS-OLD GRANDGAMER OF THE UNIVERSE BELLOWS IN ANGUISH!

**MAAAAAA!**

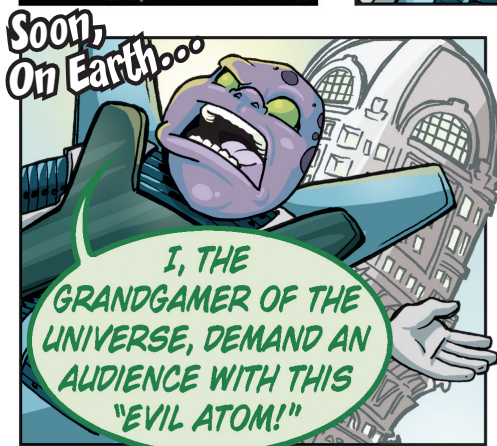


ONCE EVERY TWO OR THREE MILLENNIA, THE GRANDGAMER FACES AN ENNUI OF STELLAR PROPORTIONS...

...HAVING MASTERED ALL OF THE GAMES OF ALL OF THE CIVILIZED GALAXIES IN THE UNIVERSE...

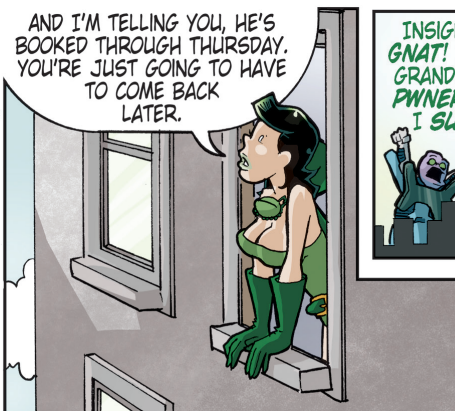


WELL, 1975 HARDLY COUNTS... WHAT WAS THERE BACK THEN -- MAYBE PONG AND CONNECT FOUR...?



Soon, On Earth...

I, THE GRANDGAMER OF THE UNIVERSE, DEMAND AN AUDIENCE WITH THIS "EVIL ATOM!"



AND I'M TELLING YOU, HE'S BOOKED THROUGH THURSDAY. YOU'RE JUST GOING TO HAVE TO COME BACK LATER.

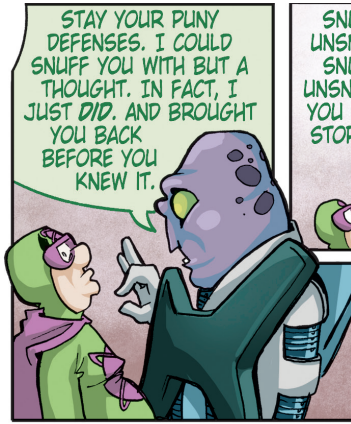
INSIGNIFICANT GNAT! I AM THE GRANDGAMER... PWNER OF ALL I SURVEY!

↵sigh COME IN, I'LL TRY TO SQUEEZE YOU IN.

THANKS. I PWE YOU ONE.



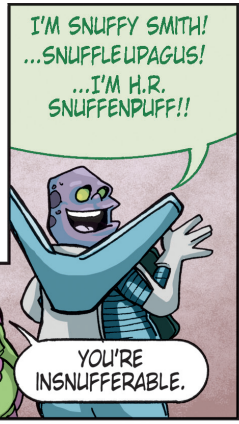
**WHO ARE YOU AND WHAT DO YOU WANT?**



STAY YOUR PUNY DEFENSES. I COULD SNUFF YOU WITH BUT A THOUGHT. IN FACT, I JUST DID. AND BROUGHT YOU BACK BEFORE YOU KNEW IT.

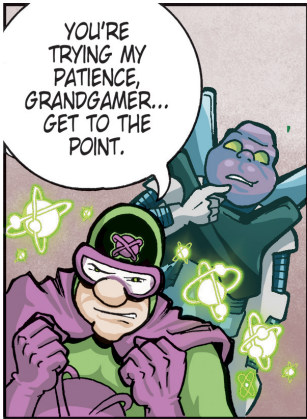


SNUFF, UNSNUFF, SNUFF, UNSNUFF... YOU CAN'T STOP ME!



I'M SNUFFY SMITH! ...SNUFFLEUPAGUS! ...I'M H.R. SNUFFENPUFF!!

YOU'RE INSUFFERABLE.



YOU'RE TRYING MY PATIENCE, GRANDGAMER... GET TO THE POINT.



I'VE BEEN MEANING TO ASK... ARE YOU REALLY THREATENING ME WITH IMPOSSIBLY LARGE ATOMS?! TWO ELECTRONS... THAT'S, LIKE, HELIUM, ISN'T IT?!



AM I SUPPOSED TO COWER IN FEAR BEFORE ENORMOUS HELIUM ATOMS?! WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO -- MAKE MY VOICE SQUEAKY??



YOU DON'T GET INVITED TO PARTIES MUCH, DO YOU?

Oooh! LOOK OUT! BEACHBALL-SIZED HELIUM ATOMS! Oooh! Oooh! AND I HATE PARTIES ANYWAY.



ARE YOU... EVER... GOING TO TELL ME WHY YOU'RE HERE?

A CONTEST. YOU AND YOUR BEST THREE WARRIORS AGAINST FOUR HEROES OF MY CHOOSING.



I WILL REWARD THE VICTOR BY FULFILLING A SINGLE WISH. AND BELIEVE ME, I CAN DO IT, BROTHER. I'M... oh, WHAT'S THAT WORD... LIMITLESS POWER TO DO ANYTHING...?

"OMNIPOTENT."

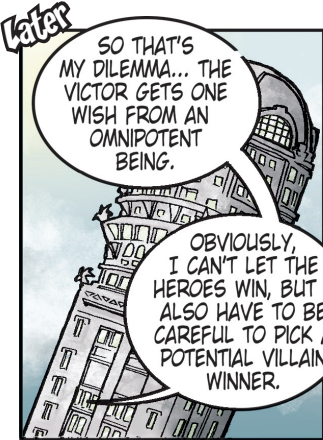


Oh, I'M SORRY TO HEAR... THEY MAKE LITTLE, BLUE PILLS TO HELP WITH THAT, THOUGH...



**HAW HAW HAW!** 'LITTLE GOD HUMOR... SORRY...

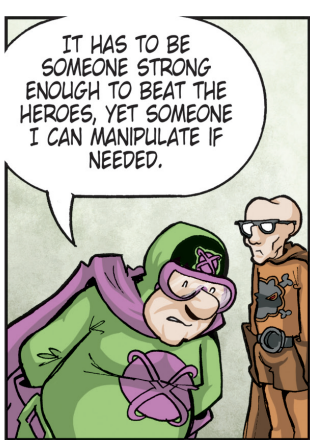
...VERY LITTLE GOD...



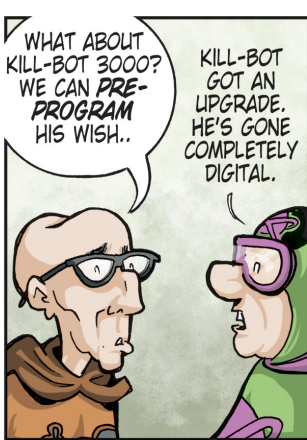
**Later**

SO THAT'S MY DILEMMA... THE VICTOR GETS ONE WISH FROM AN OMNIPOTENT BEING.

OBVIOUSLY, I CAN'T LET THE HEROES WIN, BUT I ALSO HAVE TO BE CAREFUL TO PICK A POTENTIAL VILLAIN WINNER.



IT HAS TO BE SOMEONE STRONG ENOUGH TO BEAT THE HEROES, YET SOMEONE I CAN MANIPULATE IF NEEDED.



WHAT ABOUT KILL-BOT 3000? WE CAN PRE-PROGRAM HIS WISH..

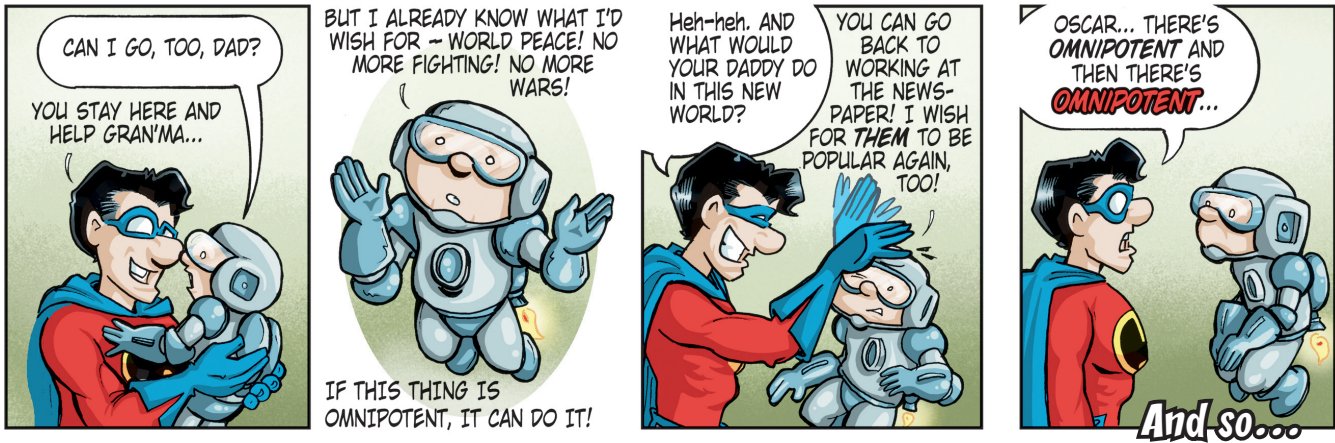
KILL-BOT GOT AN UPGRADE. HE'S GONE COMPLETELY DIGITAL.



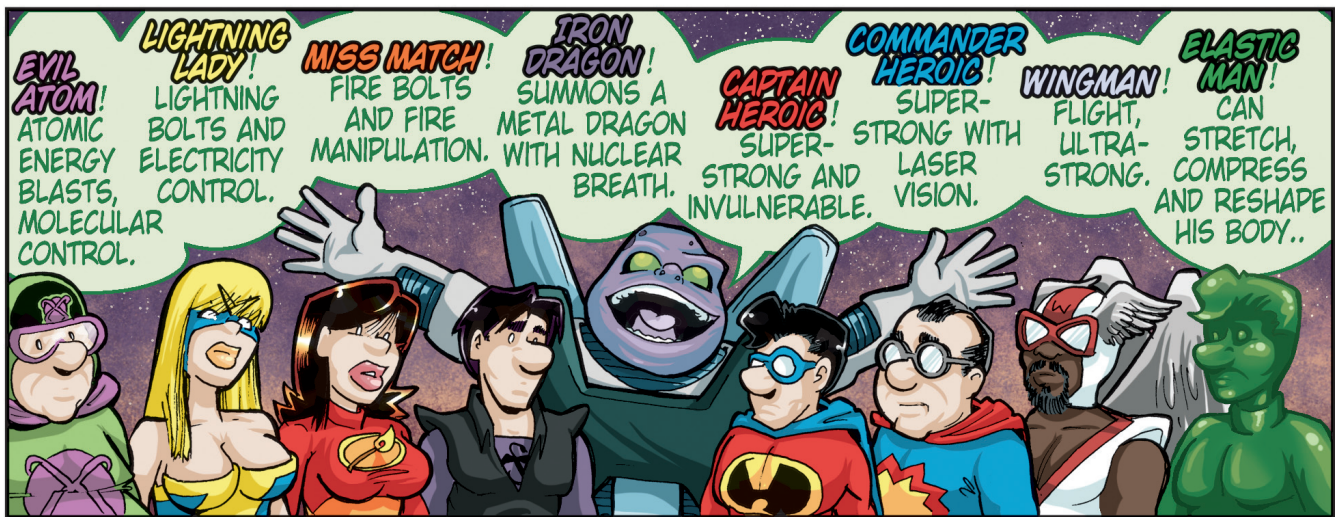
**ARGH!** THE DANGED THING BIT ME!

KILL. ALL. HUI-MANS!

**Meanwhile, across town, Grandgamer makes the same offer to Captain Heroic...**



"WELCOME TO THE CENTER OF THE UNIVERSE! FOUR VILLAINS... FOUR HEROES... IN THE BATTLE OF THE AGES!"



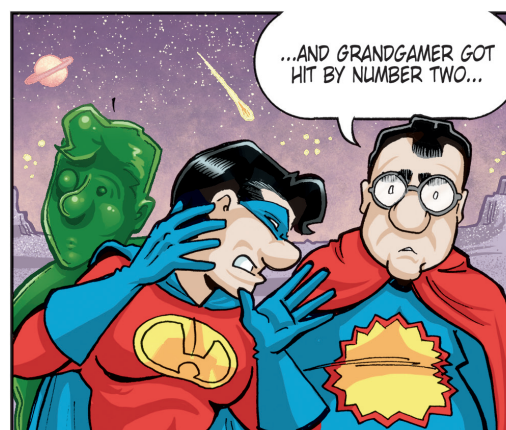
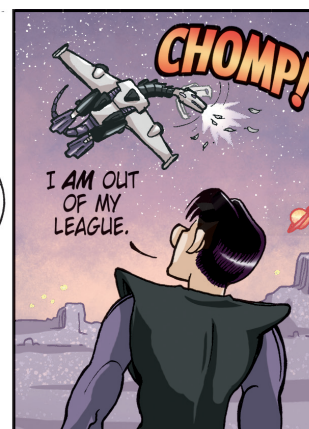
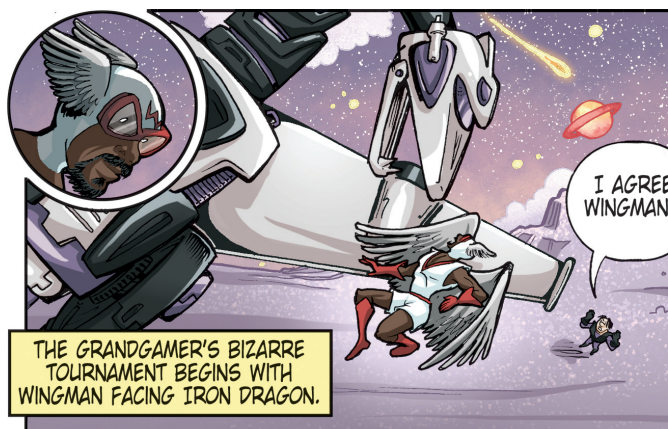
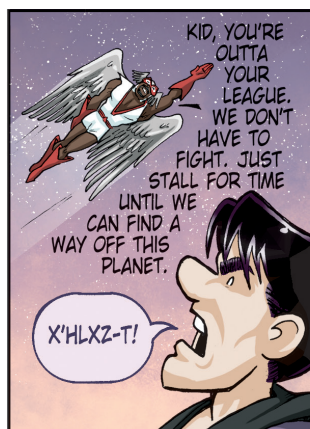
**Editor's note:** When this story originally appeared on the Evil Inc website, it was accompanied by a contest. Readers were encouraged to fill out the bracket below and guess the outcome of the contest. Hundreds entered — two of whom guessed the outcome in its entirety. They were awarded an Evil Inc graphic novel featuring an original illustration.

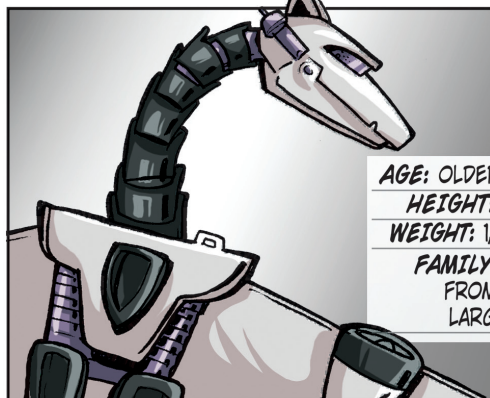
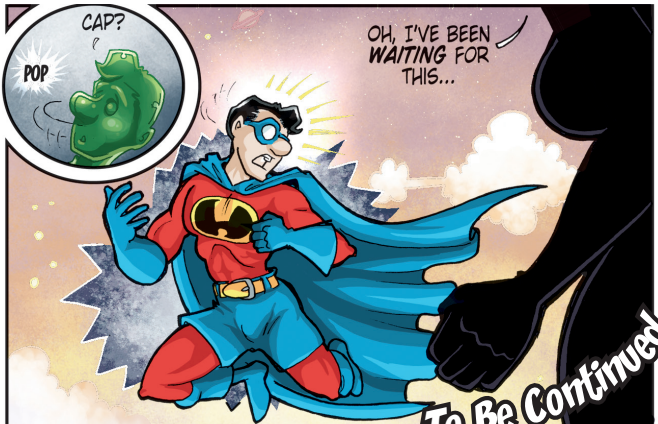
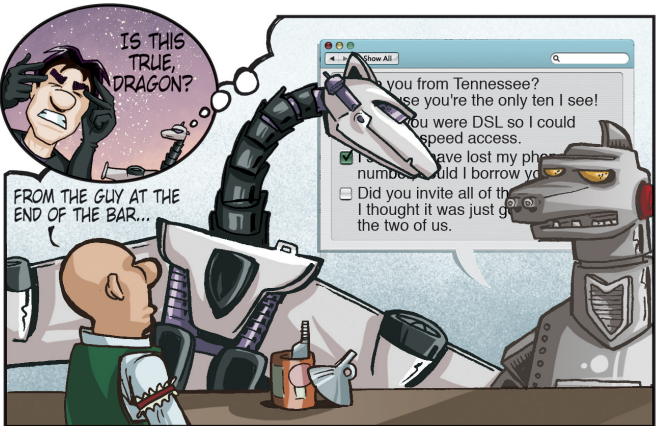
WINGMAN	
IRON DRAGON	
CAPTAIN HEROIC	
LIGHTNING LADY	
ELASTIC MAN	
MISS MATCH	
COMMANDER HEROIC	
EVIL ATOM	

**To Be Continued**

# CHAPTER 16

# Wingman vs. Iron Dragon





AGE: OLDER MODEL  
 HEIGHT: 17 FEET  
 WEIGHT: 1,500 LBS  
 FAMILY: COMES FROM A VERY LARGE FLEET

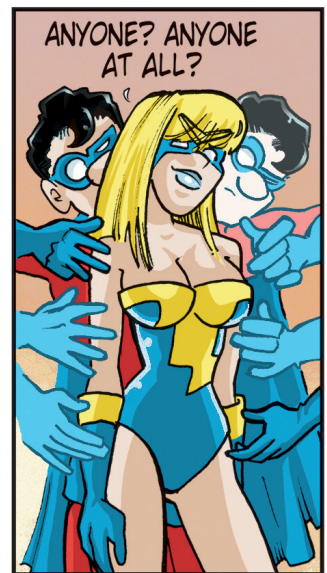
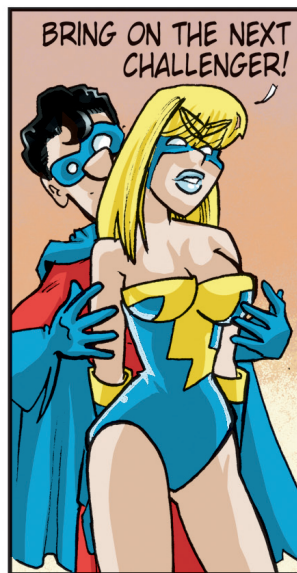
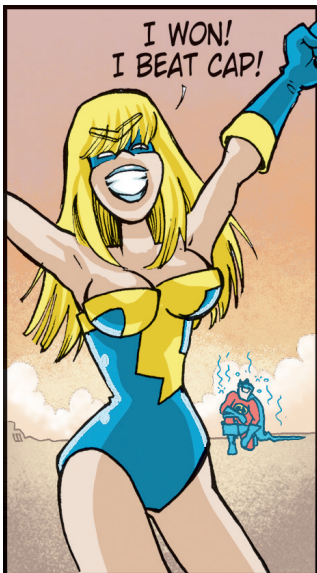
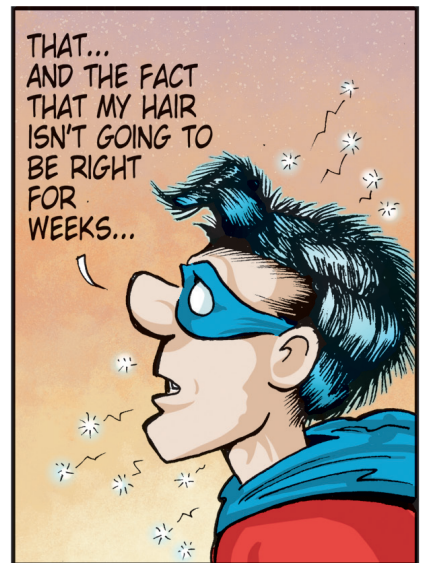
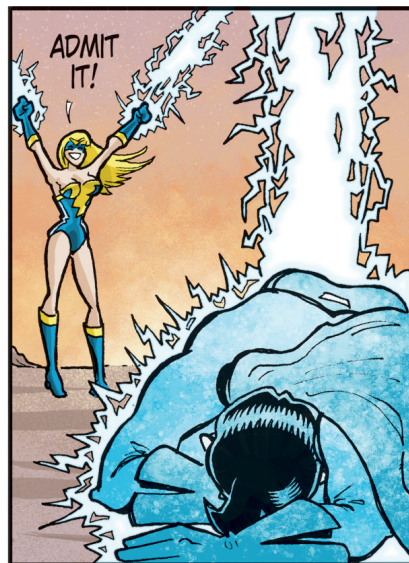
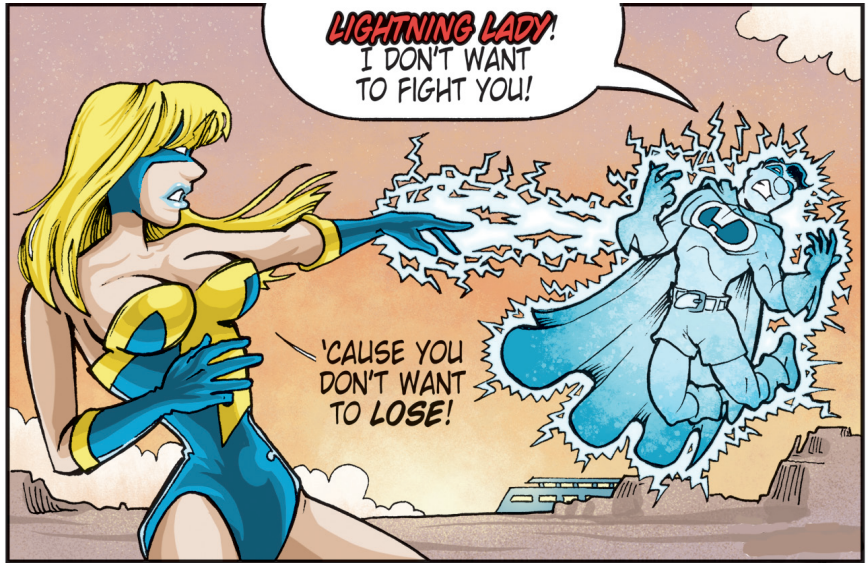
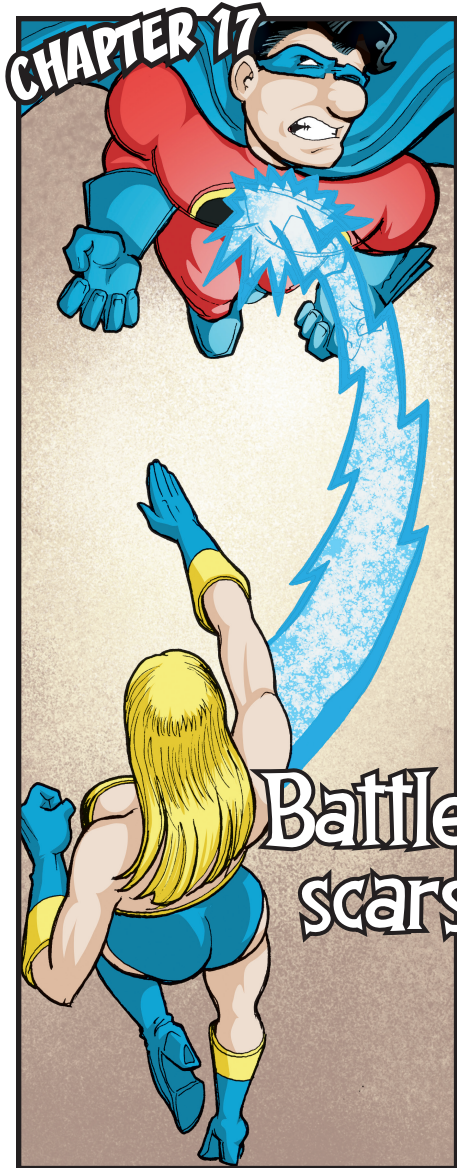
**Evil Inc.** PERSONNEL FILE: X'HLXZ-T **Evil Inc.**

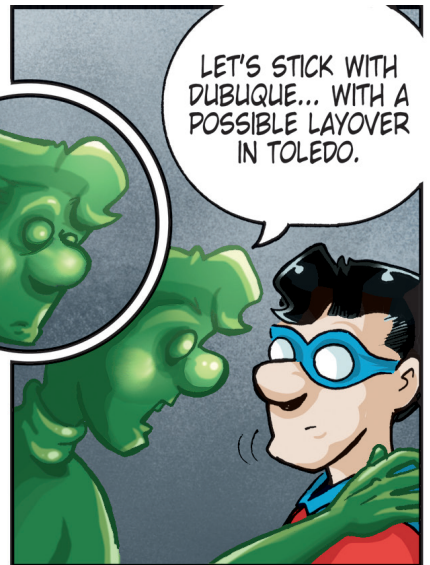
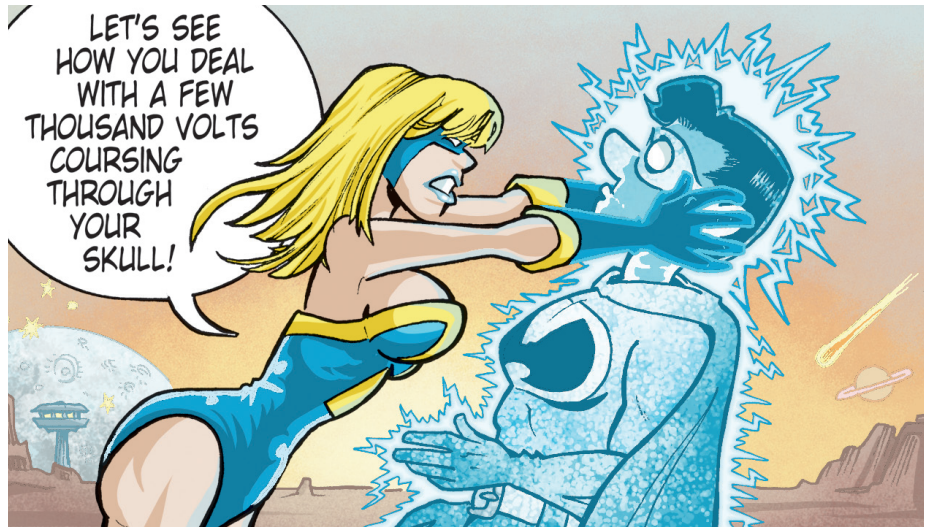
**NAME:** X'HLXZ-T

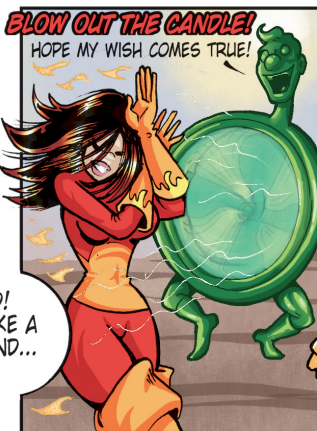
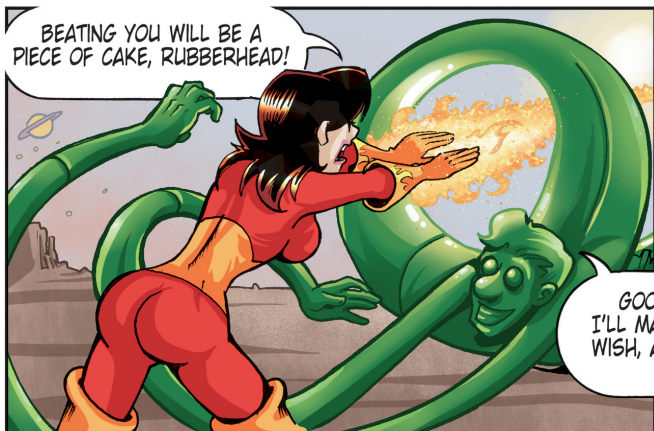
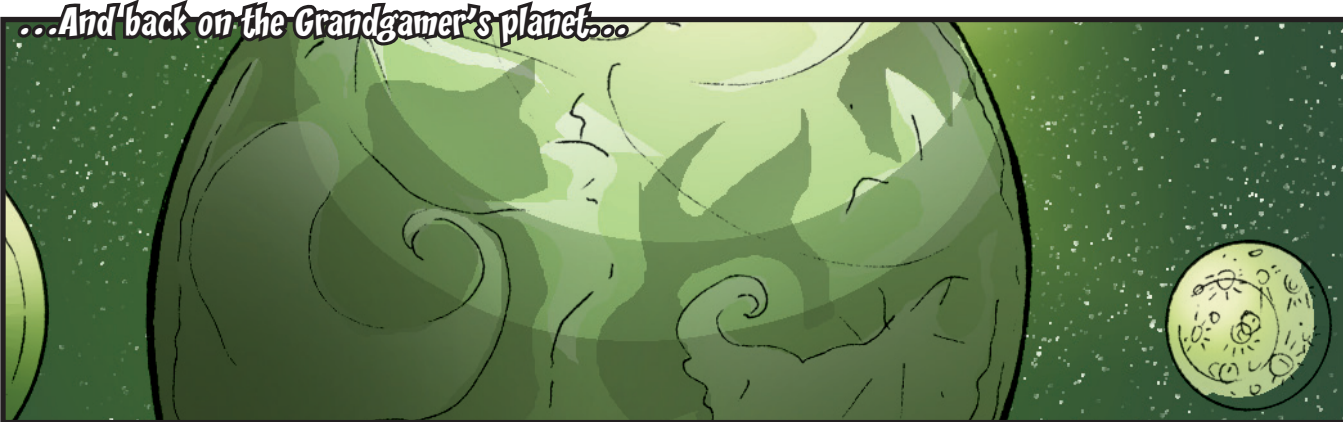
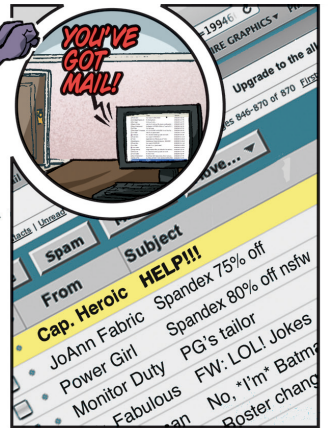
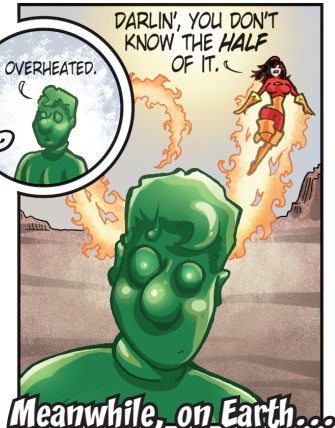
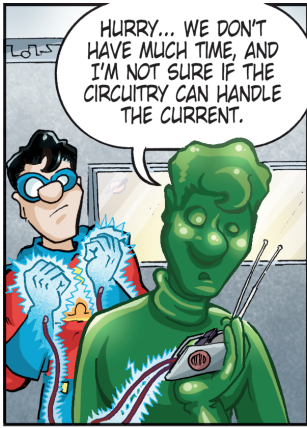
**ORIGIN:** HAILING FROM MYTHICAL DRAGON ISLAND, X'HLXZ-T IS ACTUALLY AN ELDER DRAGON SPIRIT THAT WAS PLANTED INTO THIS METAL FRAME WHEN ITS BODY FAILED.

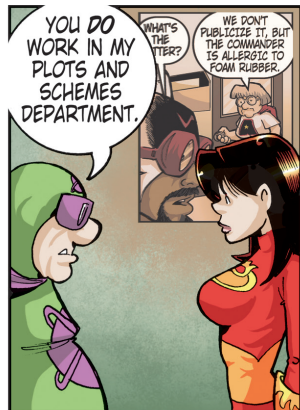
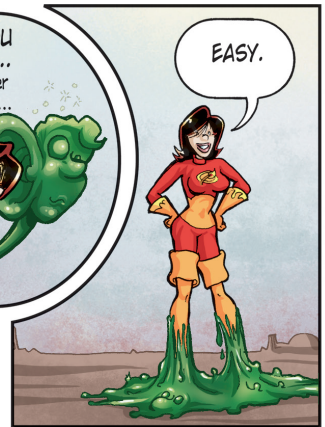
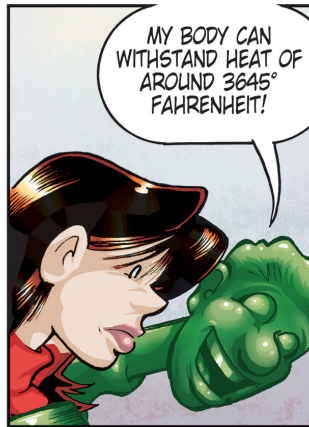
**HISTORY:** WHEN IRON DRAGON, ONE OF A LONG LINE OF DRAGONEERS, DEVELOPED HAYFEVER, HIS EPIC SNEEZES INADVERTENTLY

**POWERS:** X'HLXZ-T POSSESSES GREAT STRENGTH AND SURPRISING AGILITY FOR SUCH A LUMBERING MASS. IT ALSO BREATHES A SEARING NUCLEAR BLAST, AND COMMANDS KNOWLEDGE FROM EONS OF LIFE ON THE PLANET.









To Be Continued