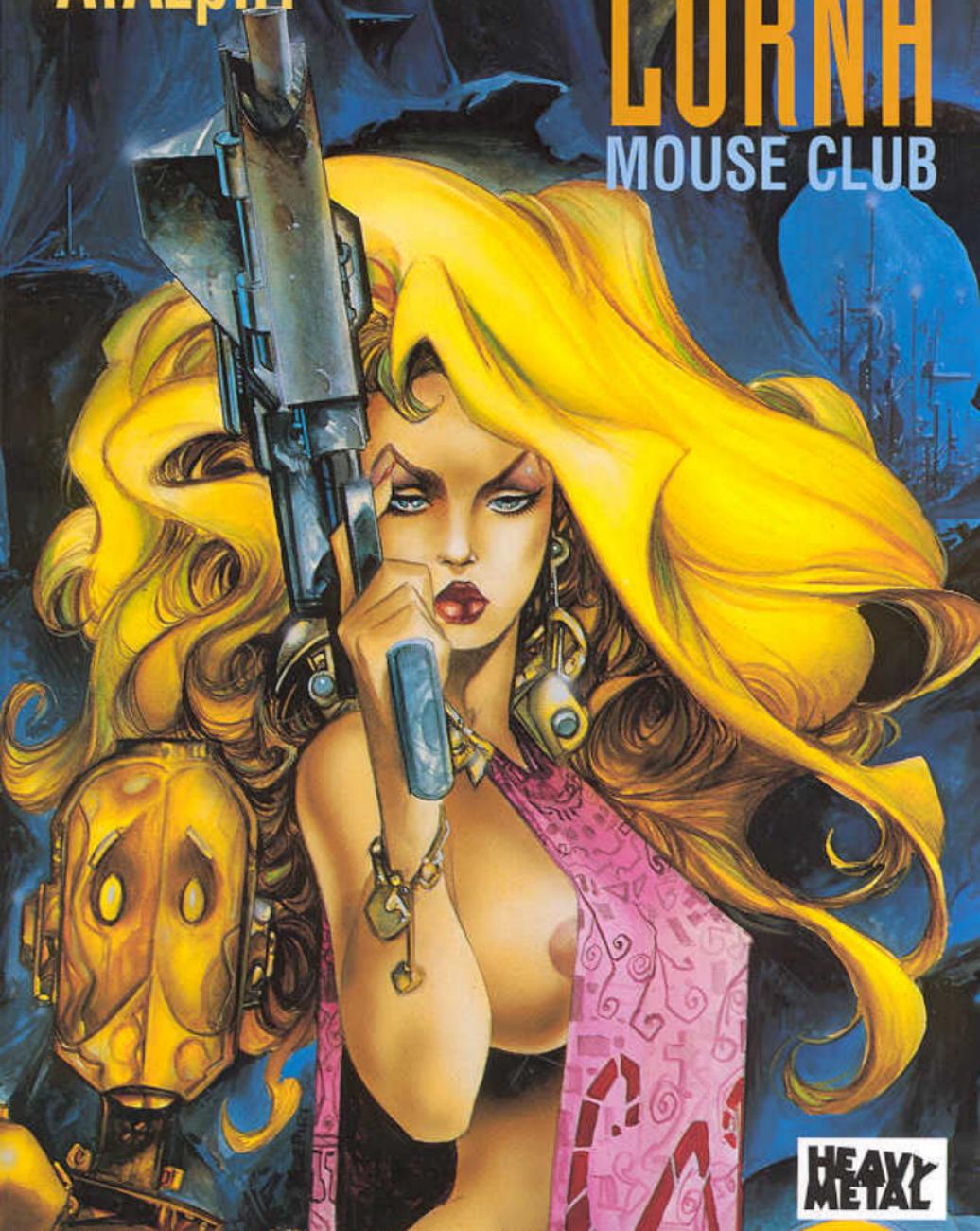


A. Azpiri

LORNA

MOUSE CLUB



HEAVY
METAL

LORNA. MOUSE CLUB

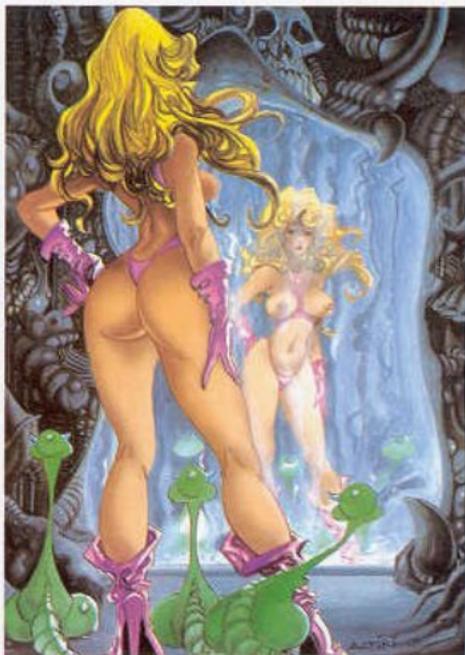
Heavy Metal presents a collection of stories by Azpiri, one of Europe's premier artists, featuring the adventures of Lorna.



LORNA

MOUSE CLUB

A. Azpiri



**HEAVY
METAL**

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LORNA. MOUSE CLUB

by Alfonso Azpiri

Originally published by NORMA Editorial, S.A. SPAIN

All material printed in Heavy Metal magazine.

Heavy Metal is a Metal Mammoth Company

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ISBN: 1-882931-22-X

Printed in Spain by Índice, S.L.

**HEAVY
METAL**

THIS IS THE PLACE THE SIGNALS ARE COMING FROM SOMEWHERE DOWN BY THERE.

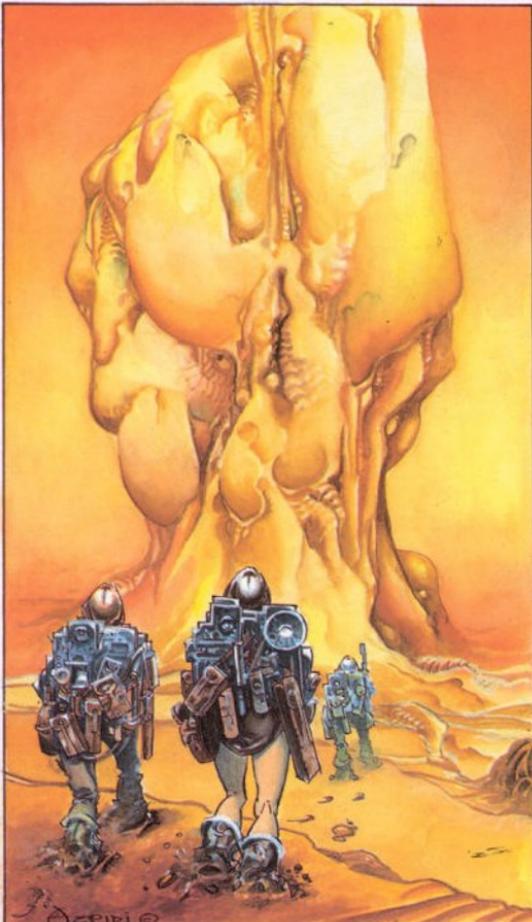
WE'VE ONLY GOT TWO HOURS TO GET BACK.

THE TEMPERATURE ON THIS PLANET REACHES FIFTY BELOW WHEN THE SUN GOES DOWN.



HIBERNATION

DON'T WORRY, WE'VE GOT ENOUGH TIME. CALL THE BASE AND TELL THEM THAT OUR DESTINATION IS IN SIGHT AND WE ARE PROCEEDING WITH PHASE TWO OF OUR OPERATION.





"WHEN I SAW YOU, I TREMBLED... I TREMBLED WITH JOY... WHEN I GROW..."



THE SIGNALS ARE COMING FROM THERE.

WHAT THE HELL IS THAT?

"WHEN...
ERRR..."
GROW...



SHT! THE RADIO ISN'T WORKING!

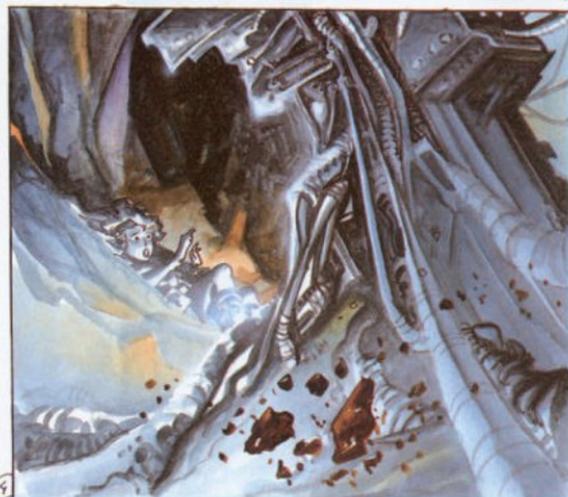
THE SIGNALS MUST BE INTERFERING WITH OUR RADIO FREQUENCY. THEY SOUND LIKE THEY'RE FROM SOME ANCIENT CIVILIZATION. I CAN'T UNDERSTAND THEM.



AS FAR AS I CAN TELL THIS THING IS VERY OLD... IT LOOKS AS IF IT'S BEEN OBSERVATING FOR A VERY LONG TIME... A MILLENNIUM OR SO, I'D SAY...



WE'LL TAKE SOME PICTURES AND SO BACK. I DON'T EXPECT TO FIND ANYTHING LIKE THIS. OUR INVESTIGATION...





I DON'T REMEMBER... I'VE BEEN WAITING SUCH A LONG TIME... NO, I CAN'T REMEMBER...

MY CIRCUITS ARE RUSTY... THEY'LL TAKE A WHILE TO WARM UP...

MY MEMORY...

I'M BEGINNING TO REMEMBER...



I REMEMBER A DISTANT PAST... FUNCTIONS... PROGRAMS...

THAT'S IT... PROGRAMS... I'M PROGRAMMING MYSELF... MY CIRCUITS ARE BEING ACTIVATED...

WARMTH...

ORGANIC MATTER...

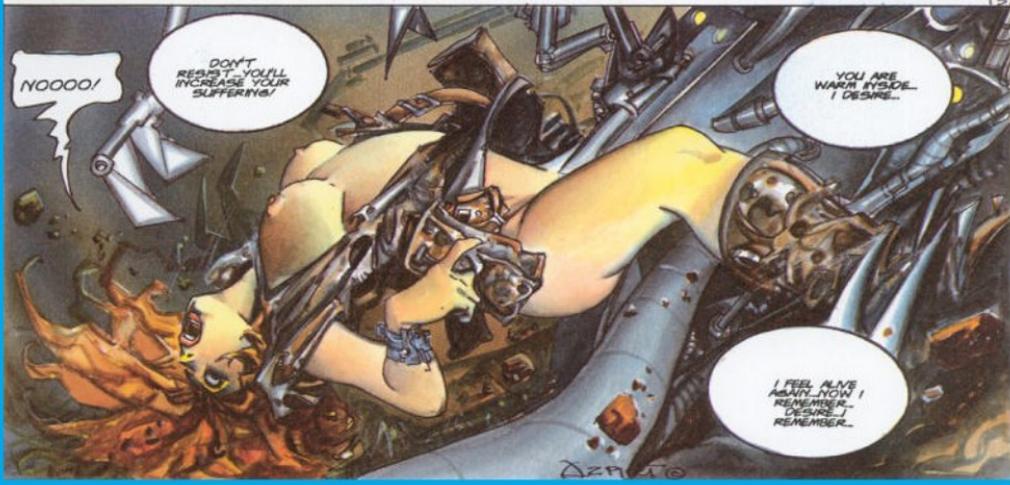
I'M ANALYZING THE SUBSTANCE YOU ARE MADE OF...



IT'S SOMEWHAT CORRUPTED... BUT STILL USEFUL

DON'T BE AFRAID... OUR COURTING WILL BE PAINFUL... BUT YOU WILL SURVIVE... WARMTH...

YOU ARE VERY DELICATE... YOU WILL SUFFER...



NOOOO!

DON'T RESIST... YOU'LL INCREASE YOUR SUFFERING!

YOU ARE WARM INSIDE... I DESIRE...

I FEEL ALIVE AGAIN... NOW I REMEMBER... DESIRE... I REMEMBER...

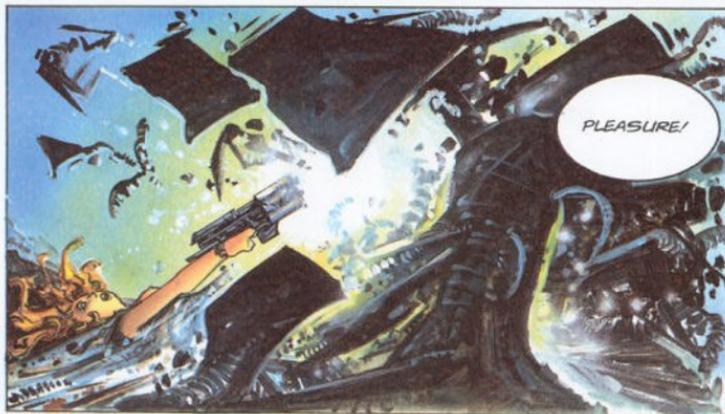
ASATO



I'VE WAITED FOR SUCH A LONG TIME... DESIRE... OH YES... NOW I FEEL IT... I FEEL ALIVE... OH WHAT PLEASURE!



PLEASURE!



PLEASURE!



GO TO HELL!

ORGAS...!



PROFESSOR! I COULDN'T FIND YOU AND I WAS... WHAT HAPPENED IN THERE?



SOME ANCIENT IDIOT FORGOT TO TURN OFF HER VIBRATOR!



IT'S THE KIND OF PLACE THAT MAKES MY CIRCUITS SHORT OUT... I DON'T THINK THIS WAS SUCH A GOOD IDEA....



DON'T WORRY, EVERYTHING HAS BEEN TAKEN CARE OF AND NOTHING SHOULD GO WRONG. ALMOST ALL THE MONEY IN THE GALAXY ENDS UP IN THIS PLACE....



AND WE WILL DO OUR BEST TO TAKE SOME OF THAT MONEY OUT OF HERE.



WELL, IF I LOOK AT IT THAT WAY, I FEEL BETTER.



HERE WE ARE

MOUSE CLUB



THIS IS THE MOUSE'S CLUB.

HEAVENS! IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE A FRIENDLY KIND OF PLACE. AND WHAT IF WE TRIED THIS SOME OTHER DAY?

DON'T BE A COWARD!



IT'S NOT FEAR... IT'S A
GUT FEELING...



STOP RIGHT
THERE!



NO ONE CAN
GET IN WITHOUT
THEIR SPECIAL
PASS...



IT'S ONE OF
THE BETTER
PASSES I'VE
SEEN
TONIGHT...



ONE DAY YOUR TRICK
WON'T WORK AND THEN...
GOOD LORD!

DRUGS, PROSTITUTION, SMUGGLING,
AND MONEY... THAT IS ALL WE WANT
... MONEY!



YOU HAVE
TEN MINUTES
TO GET TO
THE
CENTRAL
COMPUTER.

...AND OPEN THE
SAFE. I KNOW
THAT.

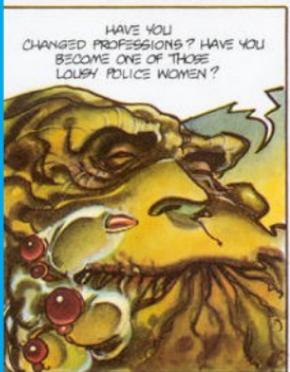


THEN...
THE PARTY
WILL BEGIN...



NO ONE MOVE! NO ONE! MOUSE, DON'T TRY TO DO ANYTHING, AND TELL YOUR MEN TO LEAVE ME ALONE!

MY DEAR, LORNA! IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE WE SAW YOUR PRETTY BODY AROUND THIS PLACE... I HEARD ABOUT YOUR STAY IN TURKUM!



HAVE YOU CHANGED PROFESSIONS? HAVE YOU BECOME ONE OF THOSE LOUSY POLICE WOMEN?



POLICE WOMEN? WHAT ON EARTH ARE YOU SAYING? THE REASON I'M HERE IS TO EASE SOME OF YOUR WORRIES...



GREAT EVERYTHING IS WORKING OUT JUST AS WE HAD PLANNED...



THE COAST IS CLEAR LET'S GET TO WORK...



DON'T LOOK SO SAD, I JUST WANT TO HAVE SOME FUN.



YOU WANT TO HAVE A NICE TIME? YOU COULDN'T HAVE CHOSEN A BETTER PLACE ISN'T THAT SO, MY FRIENDS?



NOW FOR THE EXPLOSION, I'LL ESCAPE IN THE CONFUSION THAT WILL FOLLOW...



DON'T RUSH, ONE AT A TIME... I KNOW HER WELL AND I CAN ASSURE YOU THERE WILL BE ENOUGH FOR EVERYBODY....



WHERE'S THE EXPLOSION?



WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON? WE SHOULD HAVE HEARD IT BY NOW!!



I'M EXHAUSTED. I CAN'T GO ON. GIVE HER... GIVE HER ALL SHE WANTS...



THAT MORON OF AN ANDROID! JUST WAIT UNTIL I GET MY HANDS ON IT AGAIN!



SIX HOURS!! SIX HOURS WAITING FOR THE SIGNAL, HAVING TO PUT UP WITH ALL SORTS OF ABUSE FROM THOSE JERKS, AND IN ALL THAT TIME YOU WEREN'T ABLE TO FIND THE COMBINATION THAT WOULD HAVE MADE US ALL RICH!!...

PLEASE, PROFESSOR, TRY TO UNDERSTAND... SHE IS MY COUSIN AFTER ALL AND WE HADN'T SEEN EACH OTHER IN THIRTEEN YEARS... SHE WAS SO HAPPY TO SEE ME...

COME ON, DON'T BE MAD AT ME, PLEASES....

BEEP... BEEP... BEEP...

THE RETURN



WELCOME TO THE HOME OF MOUSE. COME IN, MY FRIENDS, AND MAKE YOURSELVES COMFORTABLE.

THANK YOU, GREAT MOUSE. IT IS AN HONOR FOR US TO BE IN THE PRESENCE OF THE MASTER OF THE UNIVERSE. HOW CAN WE BE OF SERVICE TO YOU?



YOUR DILIGENCE PLEASES ME AS WELL AS THE GOOD DEEDS THAT PRECEDE YOU. YOU HAVE BEEN SUMMONED PRECISELY BECAUSE OF YOUR SERVICES.

I HAVE A PENDING PROBLEM AND I BELIEVE THE HOUR HAS COME TO RESOLVE THE MATTER.

YOU WILL NOT REGRET YOUR DECISION, AND I MUST SAY THAT YOU HAVE ALWAYS BEEN GENEROUS.

SURE.

WHOSE IDEA WAS IT TO SPLUT OUR REWARDS BY HEIGHT?

I WOULD NOT SAY TOO MUCH.

IT WILL NOT BE EASY. FOR THIS MISSION I NEED THE BEST. OF COURSE, I UNDERSTAND THE RISKS THAT COME WITH AN UNDERTAKING OF THIS KIND AND SO I AM READY TO PAY HANDSOMELY FOR A JOB WELL DONE.



HMMM... WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

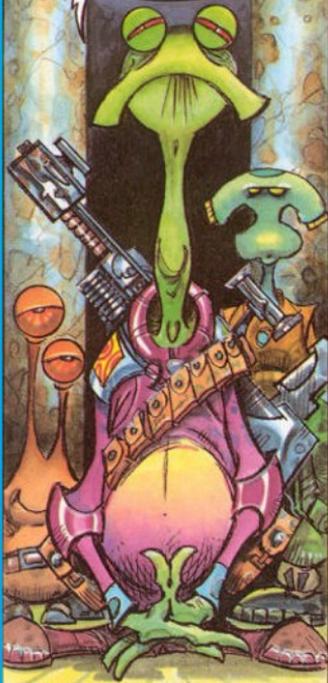
IT MEANS THAT...FINE THAT WE ARE ANXIOUS AND CAN HARDLY CONTAIN OURSELVES.

I WANT YOU TO GO TO THE TERRANUS IV SYSTEM. OF COURSE I WILL REIMBURSE YOU FOR TRANSPORTATION EXPENSES AND THERE YOU WILL SEARCH FOR A FEMALE HUMAN AND TWO ROBOTS.

WHEN YOU FIND THEM, BRING THEM TO ME ALIVE. ALTHOUGH NOT NECESSARILY WHOLE.

I UNDERSTAND, GREAT MOUSE, THAT NO ONE CAN FIND OUT ABOUT THIS OPERATION. ONLY I MUST KNOW WHAT SHE LOOKS LIKE.

OF COURSE, GENTLEMEN... THIS IS YOUR BOOTY.



FOR A THOUSAND MILLION RACKS, A SILLY FEMALE!

CHIEF, WHY NOT KEEP HER WITH US?

DON'T BE DECEIVED BY THE WAY SHE LOOKS. I KNOW THE IMPRESSION SHE MAKES, BUT SHE KNOWS HOW TO DEFEND HERSELF AND THE TWO ROBOTS HAVE MORE RESOURCES THAN YOU MIGHT THINK

HO!

WE'LL BRING HER ON A PLATTER, GREAT MOUSE.







HEAVENS!
AN EMERGENCY
MESSAGE! SOMEONE
NEEDS HELP.



I MUST
INFORM THE
CAPTAIN
IMMEDIATELY!



EFFICIENCY
IN SUCH CASES
IS BASED ON THE
SPEED WITH WHICH
THE RESCUE IS
EFFECTUATED.

PROFESSOR,
PROFESSOR, WE
HAVE AN
EMERGENCY!



PROFESSOR?

OOOOH...
ADL, MY LOVE, COULD
YOU LOWER THE VOLUME
OF YOUR CIRCUITS OR I'LL
HAVE TO GIVE YOU A KICK
IN THE...AAHH! THIS HEAD-
ACHE IS KILLING
ME.



HOW DISGUSTING!
I'VE BEEN INFORMED THAT
A SHIP SUSCEPTIBLE TO
BREAKDOWNS REQUIRES
OUR ASSISTANCE.

THAT'S
BETTER! TAKE
CARE OF THE RESCUE.
AS SOON AS MY HEAD
SETTLES DOWN, I'LL
BE WITH YOU.

HOW
DISGUSTING!
YOU'RE ALWAYS
ACTING LIKE
ANIMALS!



I'M
ALWAYS AT
MY POST.

...AND GIVEN
THAT ARNOLD, THE
PILE OF WORN-OUT
CIRCUITS, ISN'T
AT HIS POST...

PANCREAS
AND LIVER ZONES
DESTROYED...

OUT-OF-
ORDER KIDNEYS, A RIB
HAS PERFORATED THE PLEURA
AND THE LUNGS HAVE FILLED
UP, MANIFESTING EPILEPTIC
CONVULSIONS. BONES
AND LIGAMENTS: 80%
DESTROYED...

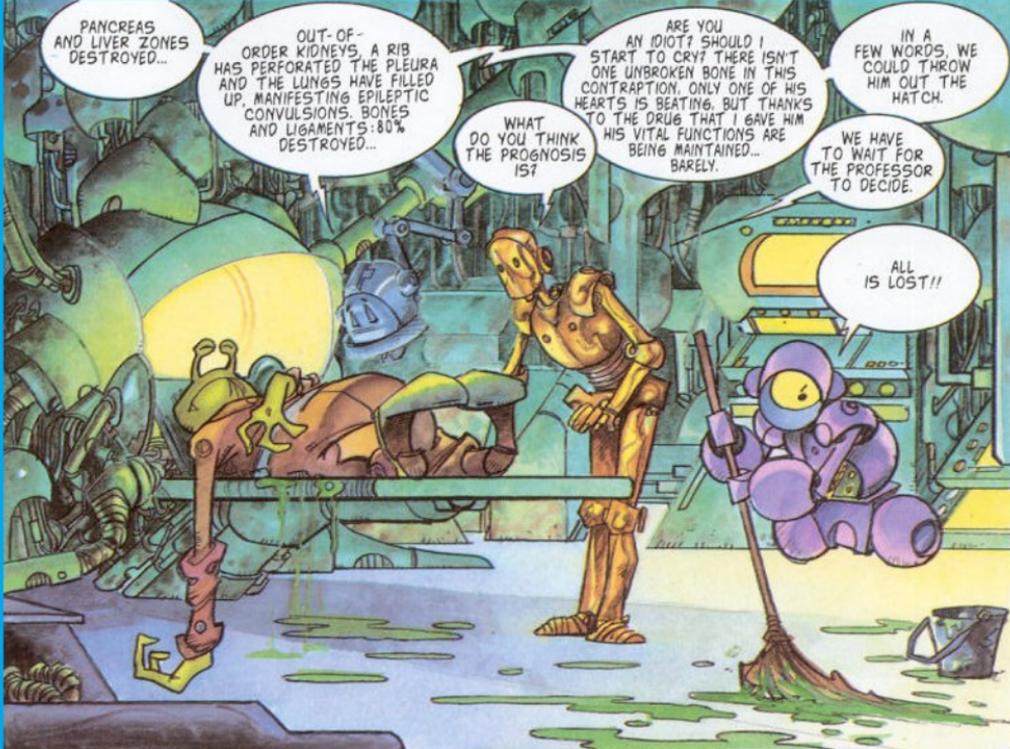
WHAT
DO YOU THINK
THE PROGNOSIS
IS?

ARE YOU
AN IDIOT? SHOULD I
START TO CRY? THERE ISN'T
ONE UNBROKEN BONE IN THIS
CONTRAPTION, ONLY ONE OF HIS
HEARTS IS BEATING, BUT THANKS
TO THE DRUG THAT I GAVE HIM
HIS VITAL FUNCTIONS ARE
BEING MAINTAINED...
BARELY.

IN A
FEW WORDS, WE
COULD THROW
HIM OUT THE
HATCH.

WE HAVE
TO WAIT FOR
THE PROFESSOR
TO DECIDE.

ALL
IS LOST!!



LOOK, IT
SEEMS LIKE HE'S
RECOVERING.

...OHMM...

...SEX...

BUT
DON'T THINK
ABOUT THAT
NOW, MAN.

I'M
THE ONLY
SURVIVOR...

YOU MUST
HELP ME...MY SPECIES
CANNOT BECOME
EXTINCT.

I DON'T
BELIEVE IT
WOULD BE A
GREAT LOSS.

MY MISSION
HAS FAILED...MAYBE
DEATH WOULD BE THE
BEST THING TO
HAPPEN...BUT BEFORE...
I NEED SEX...





THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY TO...

WHAT HAVE YOU DONE TO HIM?

HE WAS LIKE THIS WHEN WE FOUND HIM.



YUCK! WHAT A DISGUSTING PATIENT.

SEX!
SEX!



SEX!



GET THIS PIG OFF ME AND OUT THE DOOR.

MY PRAYERS HAVE BEEN ANSWERED.



THIS IS MORE THAN I HOPED FOR... THANKS...



GET HIM! HE'S COMPLETELY CRAZY!

AND THAT'S BECAUSE HE'S DYING...



YES. YES...OH, WHAT HAPPINESS!



I DIDN'T HAVE MUCH TIME...NOW I CAN GO RELAX...GLORES...



POOR GUY, HE HAD A HORRIBLE DEATH.

I DON'T KNOW, THAT'S A STRANGE SMILE...

THAT'S RIGOR MORTIS!

ALREADY...



HE PUT ME IN ORBIT...WE HAVE TO THINK ABOUT HOW TO DISPOSE OF THE CORPSE.

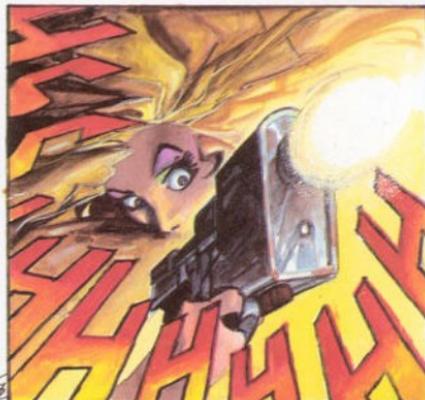
CORPSE? WHAT'S UP? DID HE KILL SOMEONE?



LOOK! HE'S MOVING! WHAT'S HAPPENING TO HIM?

IT'S NORMAL IN THESE CASES SOME INDIVIDUALS OF THIS SPECIES CAN'T RESIST CHILDBIRTH.

CHILD-BIRTH? WHAT CHILDBIRTH?





THIS IS FOR THE BEST.



OOOOF... IT'S ALL OVER. I'VE HAD ENOUGH FOR TODAY.

I'M GOING TO TAKE A SHOWER. DISPOSE OF HIM.



WHAT IS THAT LITTLE NOISE?

TRI... TRI... TRI...



HAVE YOU EVER SEEN A SMALL CUBIC METAL OBJECT WITH A SCREEN IN WHICH YOU CAN SEE NUMBERS COUNTING? AND ITS CONNECTED TO A POWERFUL EXPLOSIVE THAT WILL GO OFF IN SIXTY...FIFTY-NINE...

TRI... TRI...



AND NOW WHAT?

RUN, RUN, RUN!

FORTY-SIX, FORTY-FIVE, FORTY... WHERE ARE YOU GOING? DON'T LEAVE ME HERE, YOU COWARDS!

I HOPE THAT URDAK HAS SUCCEEDED IN INFILTRATING THE STATION AND DISCONNECTING THE RADAR. IT'S BEEN AN HOUR SINCE HE CALLED. HOW DOES HE GO BACK TO SLEEP FLYING...

AND IF WE STAY THERE?

THERE IT IS! PREPARE FOR BOARDING!

THIS IS NO TIME FOR KIDDING.

THIRTEEN... TWELVE... ELEVEN...

LATER, NOW WE HAVE TO GET GOING.

DOES SOMEBODY WANT TO EXPLAIN WHAT'S UP?

WHAT IS THIS?

A METEOR HAS STRUCK THE HULL.

UUUF... NEARLY.

YOU TELL HER ABOUT THE STATION.

YOU TELL HER!

NO, YOU!

YOU!

I'M JUST TAKING A QUICK SHOWER AND THEN WE'LL GO HOME.

AND SUDDENLY WE WERE SHAKEN BY A VIOLENT EXPLOSION. I STILL CAN'T EXPLAIN WHAT HAPPENED.

WE'LL GET THEM ANOTHER DAY, GREAT MOUSE.

WELL, DON'T COUNT ME IN.

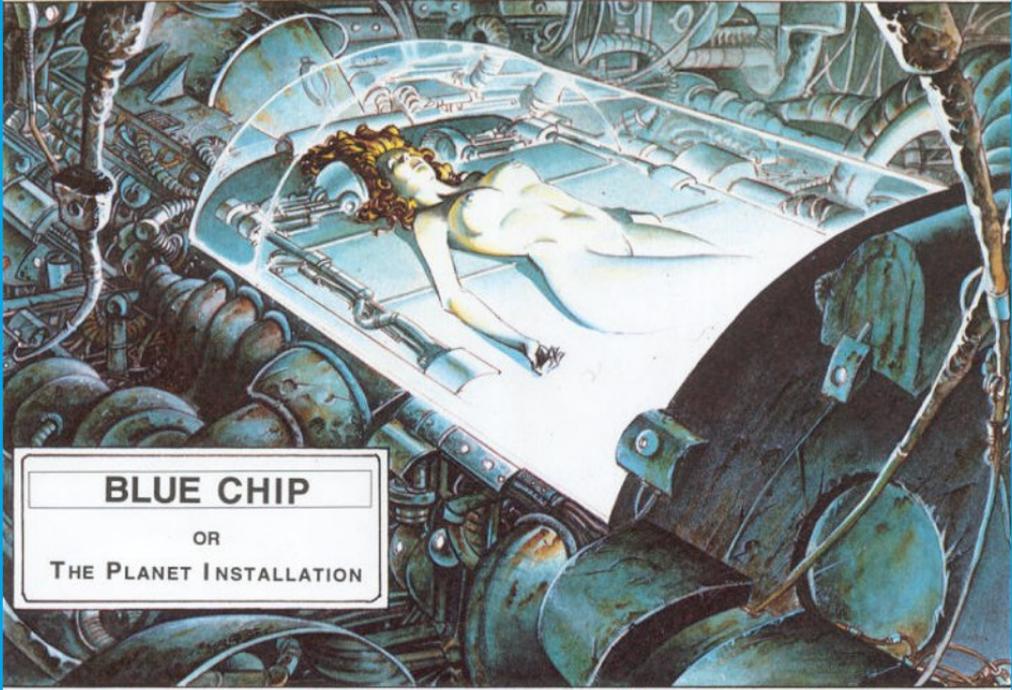
Too
Too

TIME: 3054

STATUS: Radioactivity 0 (Life forms negative, probability of supporting life 100%)

ATMOSPHERE: N₂ O₂, H₂ 20 trace amounts of lighter gases

CONTACT: ...in preparation

A woman with long, curly brown hair is lying on a white, curved surface within a complex, industrial-looking environment. The scene is filled with various mechanical components, pipes, and machinery, all rendered in shades of blue and green. The woman is wearing a white, form-fitting outfit. She is looking towards the viewer with a slight smile.

BLUE CHIP

OR

THE PLANET INSTALLATION

A woman with long, curly brown hair is lying on her side on a white, curved surface. She is wearing a white, form-fitting outfit. She is looking towards the viewer with a slight smile. The background is filled with various mechanical components, pipes, and machinery, all rendered in shades of blue and green.

I HAVE WAITED SO LONG FOR YOU. MY NIGHTS WERE ENDLESS AND FILLED WITH LONELINESS. SLEEP BROUGHT NO RELIEF TO MY LONGINGS.

NOW YOU ARE HERE.



IS IT AN
ACCIDENT
OR PROVIDENCE?

ANSWER
THAT QUESTION YOURSELF!
WE ARE ALONE! ONLY US TWO...!
THE EARTH...THE UNIVERSE
BELONGS TO US!
BECAUSE THERE ARE ONLY FEW
NATURAL BEINGS IN THE
UNCOUNTABLE WORLDS! I WAS
SO BORED! I COMPLETED
THE PLANET CYCLE!



OR I
BEGAN IT
ANEW...



DO YOU
UNDER-
STAND?

WE ARE
TOGETHER. THAT IS
WHAT MATTERS. WHY ARE
WE TOGETHER? WORDS ARE
NOT SUFFICIENT TO DESCRIBE
MY FEELINGS...YOUR TOUCH!
YOU ARE LIFE...



I HAVE ONLY
ONE WISH: THAT THIS
CYCLE PROCEEDS
DIFFERENTLY! ALREADY
DURING THE LAST TIME I HAD
SO MUCH TROUBLE, TRYING
TO MAKE EVERYTHING
PERFECT. YOU SAW WHAT
WOULD COME OUT
OF IT...!

THEREFORE,
YOU FEEL
GUILTY?



IN A CERTAIN WAY...
YES, WHEN THE PROGRAM
WAS INITIALIZED... IN
SEVERAL MOMENTS MY
PURPOSE WAS FULFILLED. MY
POWER WAS NOT SUFFICIENT
TO INFLUENCE THE
INSTALLATION PROCESS.



...THEREFORE,
IT CAN RUN DOWN
AGAINST ALL ELSE...
AND END SO HORRIBLY? CAN'T
YOU AT LEAST TAKE THE VIOLENCE
AND CRUELTY OUT OF THE PRO-
GRAM? DESTRUCTION LEADS TO
SELF-DESTRUCTION...
SHOULD YOU PASS
THIS ONE?

I WANT TO
REMAIN ONE WITH
YOU FOR ETERNITY,
WITH THE UNIVERSE,
WITH THE
KNOWLEDGE, WITH
THE TRUTH...



I CAN NO
LONGER REMAIN
WITH YOU, MOTHER!
THAT IS WHAT HAS
DEVELOPED... LIKE
THIS OR THAT...





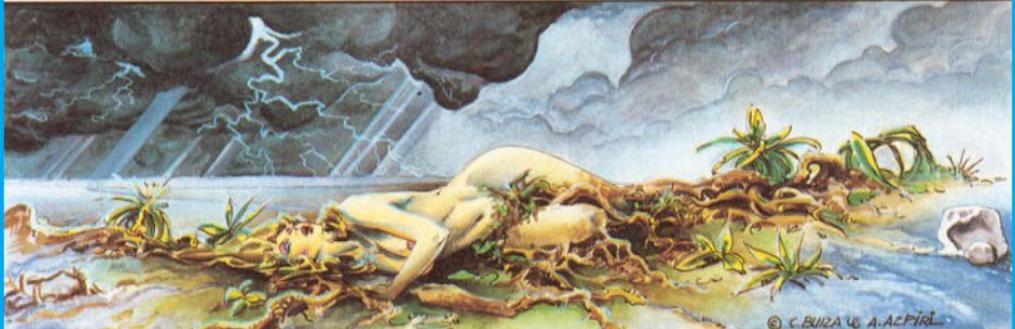
WE WILL SEE
EACH OTHER AGAIN IN
ETERNITY. ENJOY THE TIME
AS IT PASSES...THE
MEMORY OF THE MOMENT
OF A NEW PLANET CYCLE
LASTS FOREVER.



WE WILL SEE
EACH OTHER AGAIN
IN ANOTHER TIME, IN
ANOTHER WORLD, IN
ANOTHER FORM, IN
ANOTHER
DIMENSION.



MOTHER
EARTH! THE
PROCESS CAN
NOT BE UNDONE.
I AM YOURS
FOREVER.



© C. BUZZA U. A. ACPIRE

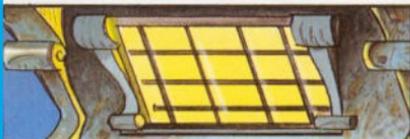
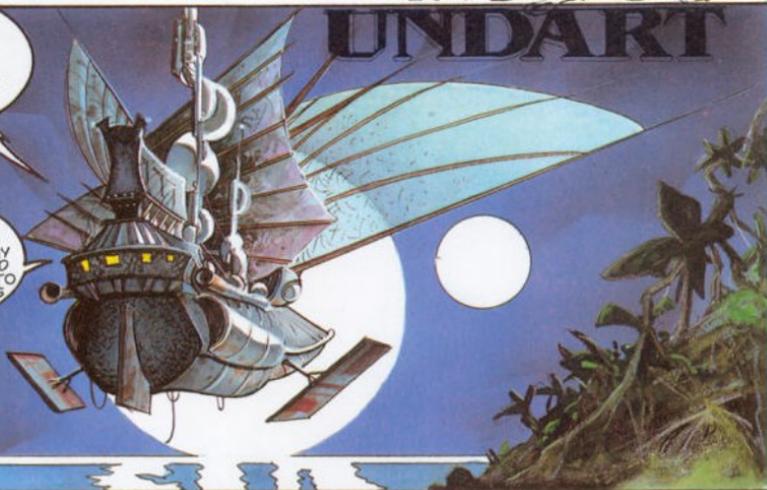
TWO MILLION YEARS PASS. THEN COMES
THE DAY WHEN A NEW MAN BEGINS TO
MAKE SOMETHING OF THE EARTH.

UNDART

SOME-
THING KEEPS
TRYING TO
HOOK UP TO THE
ELECTROMAGNETIC
NETWORK
COORDINATES
24, 15, 5.

SHOULD
WE TELL THE
CAPTAIN?

I DON'T
WANT TO INTER-
RUPT HIS BIRTHDAY
PARTY, LET'S SEND
A COUPLE OF MEN TO
FIND OUT WHAT'S
GOING ON.



A LITTLE
WAVE-TYPE SHIP
HAS BEEN CAUGHT,
WITH THREE CREW-
MEMBERS WHO ARE
ABOUT TO ARRIVE BUT
LISTEN... LISTEN
...LISTEN...

PERFECT,
BRING THEM
IN AS A
SURPRISE!

MY DEAR
AND BELOVED
UNDART, KING OF
THE SOUL OF THE
UNIVERSE, HYENA
OF SPACE!

ENOUGH OF
THAT SPOUTING
UMBACA,
GET TO THE
POINT.

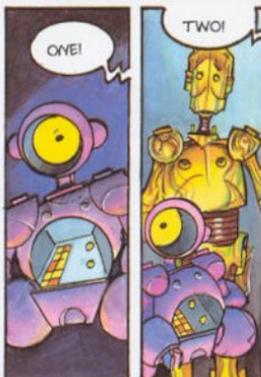
BROWN
NOSE!

I ONLY
WANT TO GIVE
YOU A PRESENT YET
BETTER YET
THREE

ONE!

TWO!

AND
THREE!





HEAVENS, WE'RE DOOMED FACED WITH SUCH A MAN!

MAKE NO MISTAKE ABOUT IT, THEY DON'T SEEM LIKE THEY'D ENJOY CANS WITHOUT THE SARDINES.



WHO IS YOUR LEADER? I WANT TO SPEAK WITH HIM!



I AM!

NO, ME!

I ALSO WANT TO SPEAK!



I AM THE GREAT UNDAFT!



YOU HAVE EVERYTHING IN THE SHIP, JUST LET US GO...



...WE ARE COMPLETELY OF NO USE TO YOU.



I THINK YOU'RE WRONG ABOUT THAT, LITTLE ONE.



MMMMM...
FANTASTIC!



IT'S
ENORMOUS!



...BUT...



...I BELIEVE
YOU HAVE
AN EXTRA
HALF!



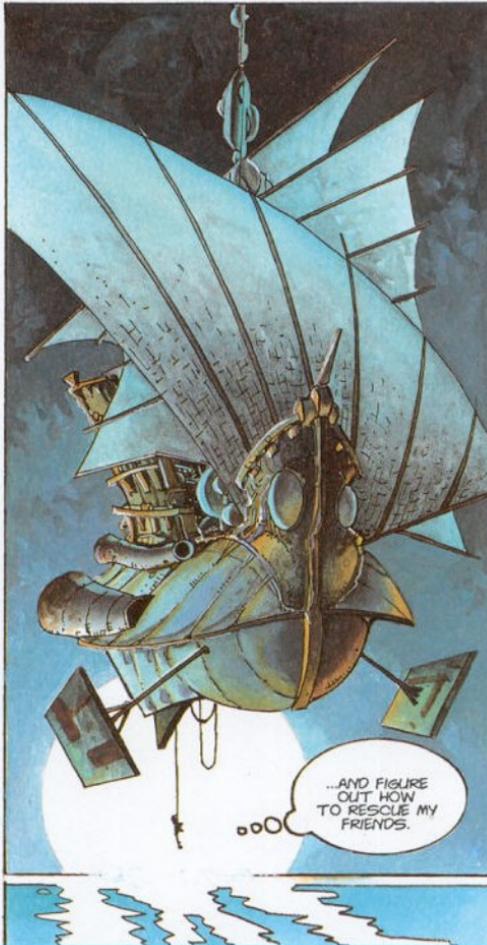
CATCH
THAT EVIL
BITCH!!!
A#####!

CALL
A DOCTOR
QUICKLY!

I THINK
IT FELL
OVER
HERE!



WHOSE PORK
SAUSAGE
IS THIS?





OK, CAPTAIN, IT'S ALL SEWED UP. FOR A TIME YOU MUSTN'T GET EXCITED OR YOU WILL RIP THE STITCHES, AND WITHIN THREE MONTHS YOU WILL BE ABLE...



THREE MONTHS?

WELL...NOT ...NOT NECESSARILY ...TWO?...ONE? I THINK...I THINK LESS.



I SHOULD HAVE SEWED IT TO HIS NOSE.

THAT WOMAN HAS DISAPPEARED. SURELY SHE DROWNED OR WAS DEVoured BY THE FISH...

FINE PUT THOSE ROBOTS IN A CELL AND POST TWO GUARDS... NOW I WANT TO REST...



I DON'T WANT TO SEE ANY WOMAN NEAR ME!!



SO THEY REPAIRED THE GREAT UN-DART.



GET INSIDE!! SOON ENOUGH OUR CAPTAIN WILL THINK OF SOMETHING FOR YOU.



WHAT'S BECOME OF OUR BELOVED LORNA?

I HARDLY CAN THINK, I'M TERRIFIED.



HALT! WHO GOES THERE?



I WAS SENT BY THE CAPTAIN, WHO DOESN'T WANT ANY OF HIS MEN TO STOP HAVING FUN ON SUCH AN IMPORTANT DAY.



HE SENT US A GREAT PIECE OF CAKE.

YES! YES. WITH FRUIT TOPPING AND EVERYTHING.



WAIT... DON'T! KISS YOU?

WELL...



...YOU'RE THE WOMAN WHO ...AAAAH...

WHAT?



WITH THIS OUR ROMANCE ENDS.



LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!



IT'S HER ...IT'S HER.

WE'RE SAVED.



LET'S BUST OUT OF THIS STINKING JOINT.

I KNOW WHERE THEY'VE GOT SOME SMALL SHIPS IN WHICH WE CAN GET GOING.

BEFORE THAT, I'VE GOT SOMETHING TO DO.



HEY...!
MM...
MMMM...



MY DEAR CAPTAIN,
I'M SORRY TO INTERRUPT
YOUR PLEASANT
DREAMS. I JUST WANTED
TO SEE YOU OFF, AND
TO SHOW YOU
SOMETHING...

...SOMETHING
WHICH I CAN DO
WITHOUT HAVING
TO APPLY
FORCE.

MMMM
...MM!



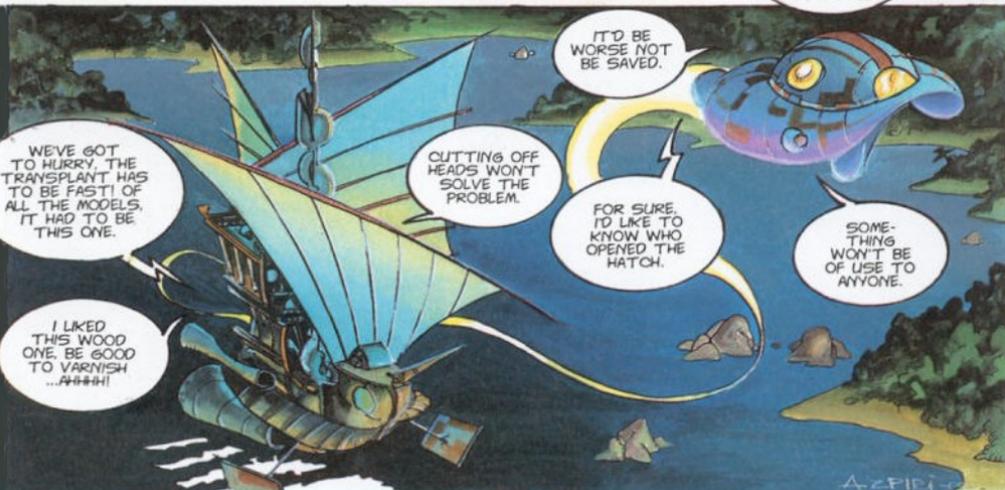
HEY...IT'S
GROWING! COME ON,
CAPTAIN, DON'T YOU
REMEMBER YOUR
DOCTOR'S
ORDERS...?

CAPTAIN,
YOU'RE GOING
TO RIP YOUR
STITCHES.

MMMM
...MM!



OH...I'M SORRY,
I JUST
REMEMBERED THAT
I HAVE SOME
LOOSE ENDS
TO SEW UP.



WE'VE GOT
TO HURRY, THE
TRANSPLANT HAS
TO BE FAST!
OF ALL THE MODELS,
IT HAD TO BE
THIS ONE.

I LIKED
THIS WOOD
ONE, BE GOOD
TO VARNISH
...AAAAH!

CUTTING OFF
HEADS WON'T
SOLVE THE
PROBLEM.

IT'D BE
WORSE NOT
BE SAVED.

FOR SURE,
I'D LIKE TO
KNOW WHO
OPENED THE
HATCH.

SOME-
THING
WON'T BE
OF USE TO
ANYONE.

ASTROPORT

Inut Airport,
6:30 am

What are we doing here? This is the most violent place in the whole Galactic Confederation.

Totally! The statistics say that 36.5% die per day. The rest end up wounded. That totals seven dead per day.

Um, I don't understand.

Wire brain, we don't have enough fuel to continue in our voyage...

I'M CLEAN!

Why don't we stay on the ship? It's comfortable enough.

Come on, come on. Don't be cowards. With this arsenal nobody is going to mess with us.

It's like we're taking a vacation.

Boys, its time to play tourists!



I think that following my advice and covering yourself up was a good idea. I don't think a lot of women come here.



Watch out! Don't touch anything.



Or-da et. On carsost!



Excuse me, sir. This man says that your nose looks like an onion.



...it isn't in vain that he knows ten thousand dialects...

Very funny!



Would you be so kind as to put my robot on the ground?

Oh, no problem!

Why do we have to get involved in things that don't concern us?

Is this pile of junk yours?

It is!

You haven't trained it.



Look, it's a terrestrial woman!



Kill them!

Only the robots.

Ahhhh!



I knew it wasn't a good idea to leave the ship!

We've got to stick together! We've got to try...



...get out of here!



What the devil?

Are we dead?

I'm sorry, it was me.



I don't understand.

You talk like us.

Nobody talks like you.



All of this is my fault. Really, I have a universe living in my brain in which there are thousands of worlds, but I can't control them.. I can only travel to them...

...I'm not familiar with the nature of the phenomenon as much as perturbed by how it works beyond my control.



It's amazing! We could get out of any danger with that!



I think we've got to concentrate.



Do something before these wild animals devour us.

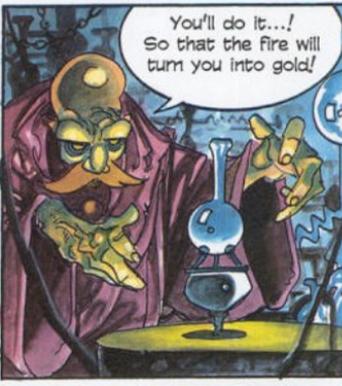
Well if you don't hurry, your brain will be history.

I need time.

The gun... I've got to grab it.



I don't want to do you any harm, therefore I'm not obligated to...



You'll do it...! So that the fire will turn you into gold!



Aaaah!

Aaah!



I'm sorry, I wasn't aiming at you.

It worked...it worked!... It isn't gold but it's very good, very good.

And now, where are we?





I'm sorry, I can't seem to concentrate, sometimes this happens to me.



Well, I'm already tired of...Heavens!



I've never seen anything like it.



You are like a golem! I must have you!



Now we're in trouble again. Let's get out of here!



I can't, I don't see any danger.



hsh!
hsh!
hsh!

Horrible!



Stop!
Don't do anything...!



I am more than satisfied!



Do you know what happened? There was no danger and that man seemed to be so hospitable.

I think that as it will end with you, it will begin with me.



Arnold!

Look, I found a letter...!

It says, "An asteroid for nuclear use. Eject ten thousand kilometers."



We're in
trut...

We made
it back to our
ship alive...

and we
have fuel!

LET'S
GO!!

In the end
he saved our
lives...

...why are you
looking at me
like that?...

...what are you
going to
do?...

No, I'm
going to...

Don't take
this the wrong way,
but I'm not going to take
another vacation for at
least a thousand years.

Ungrateful!
Get me out
of here!

Don't leave me
alone in my
universes...

Oh, no! Carnivorous
plants!

The dragons want
to eat me...

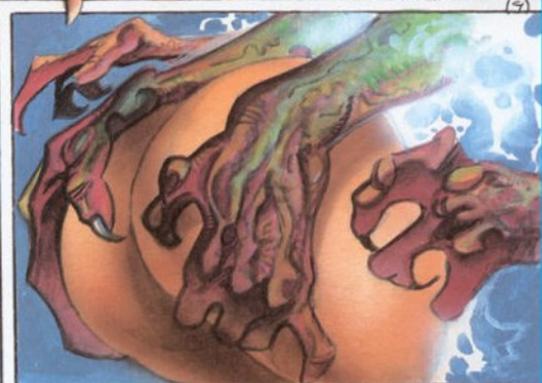
He burned
me!
Help!

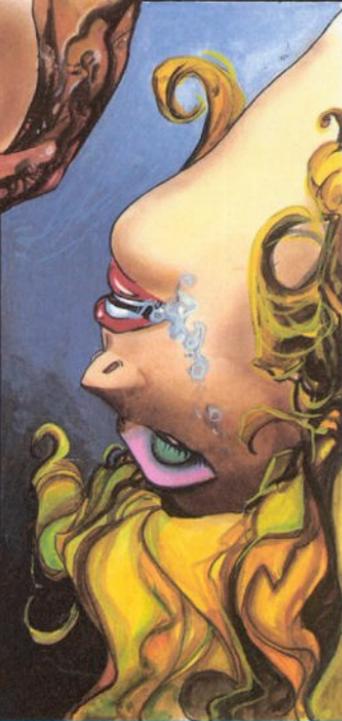
THE GATE





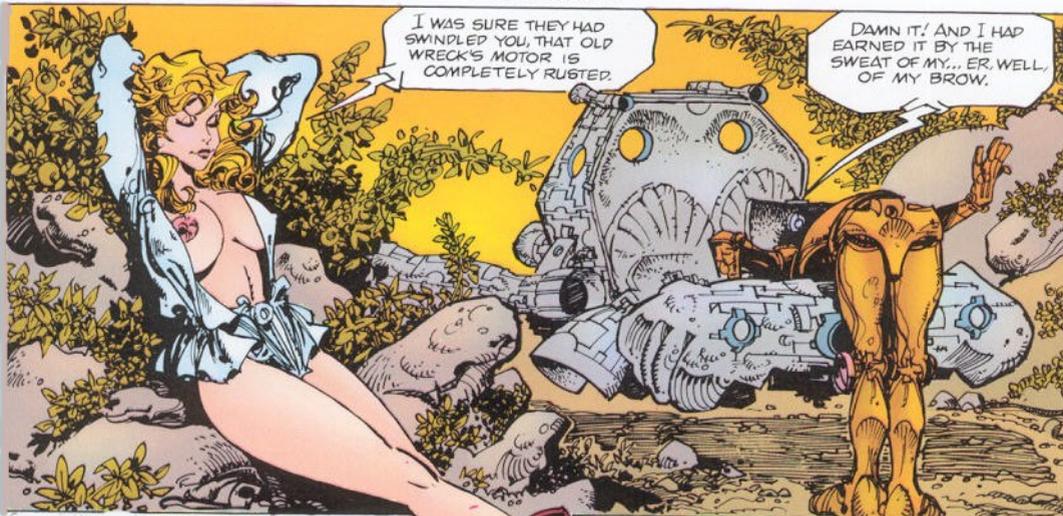








PILGRIMS



I WAS SURE THEY HAD SWINDLED YOU, THAT OLD WRECK'S MOTOR IS COMPLETELY RUSTED.

DAMN IT! AND I HAD EARNED IT BY THE SWEAT OF MY... ER, WELL, OF MY BROW.



WORK HARD, BOY, WORK HARD AND WHEN YOU'VE FINISHED YOUR TOILING, YOUR CREATOR WILL REWARD YOU IN THE USUAL WAY.

USUAL REWARD! THE REWARD IS TO YOUR PLEASURE. CAN'T YOU THINK ABOUT ANYTHING ELSE?



AND WHAT DO YOU USUALLY THINK OF, FOOL? I AM BEGINNING TO SUSPECT THAT YOUR MEETING WITH THAT LITTLE ROBOT FROM THE WILD SIDE OF THE ROAD HAS ALTERED YOUR SENSES.

SHH! PROFESSOR, WE HAVE COMPANY!

GOOD AFTERNOON...

...GIVE US...

THE GALACTIC SPIRIT!

LORDA



WHO WILL THESE THREE LITTLE ONES BE?

PLEASE, PROFESSOR, LET ME SPEAK, I AM A BETTER DIPLOMAT, WHO ARE YOU, GOOD PEOPLE?



WE ARE WANDERING PILGRIMS WHO WALK UNFALTERINGLY...

...IN SEARCH OF THE MYSTIC ARK OF THE GREAT ORIGINS ...

...CAN WE BE OF ANY HELP?



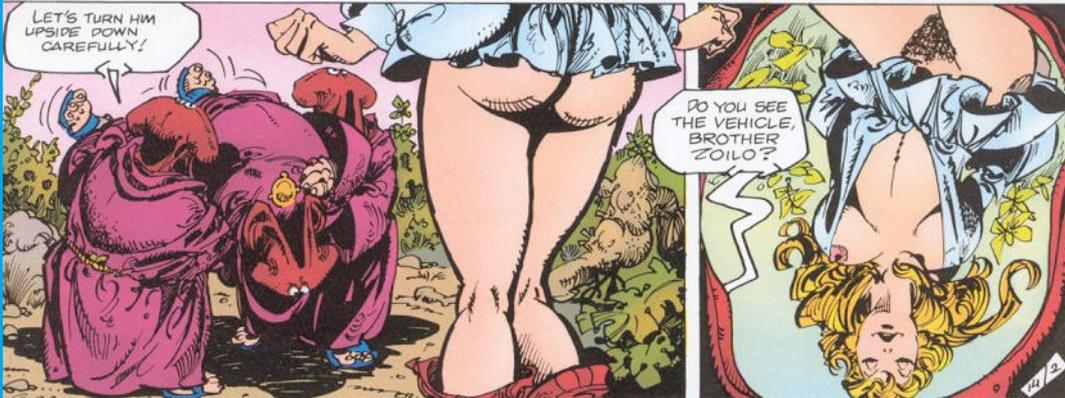
WELL, IF YOU COULD HELP US FIX THIS VEHICLE, WE WOULD BE ETERNALLY GRATEFUL.



WHICH VEHICLE? WE DON'T SEE ANY VEHICLE!

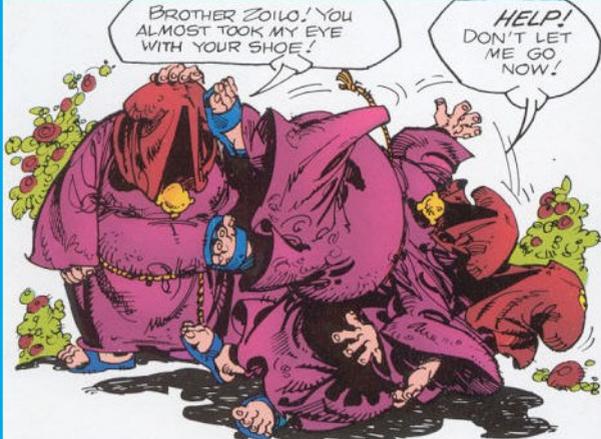
... BECAUSE, MORPHOLOGICALLY, OUR EYES ...

...ARE ALWAYS DIRECTED TOWARDS HEAVEN. BUT WE WILL ATTEMPT TO HELP YOU.



LET'S TURN HIM UPSIDE DOWN CAREFULLY!

DO YOU SEE THE VEHICLE, BROTHER ZOILO?



BROTHER ZOILO! YOU ALMOST TOOK MY EYE WITH YOUR SHOE!

HELP! DON'T LET ME GO NOW!



WHAT A REACTION HE'S HAD...

BUT WHAT HAVE YOU SEEN, BROTHER ZOILO?

...IT WAS... HEAVEN, HEAVEN.



PLEASE, PROFESSOR, GET OUT OF HERE FOR A MOMENT, OR WE'LL NEVER GET ANYWHERE!

WELL, WE CAN'T EXPECT MUCH FROM THESE PILGRIMS!

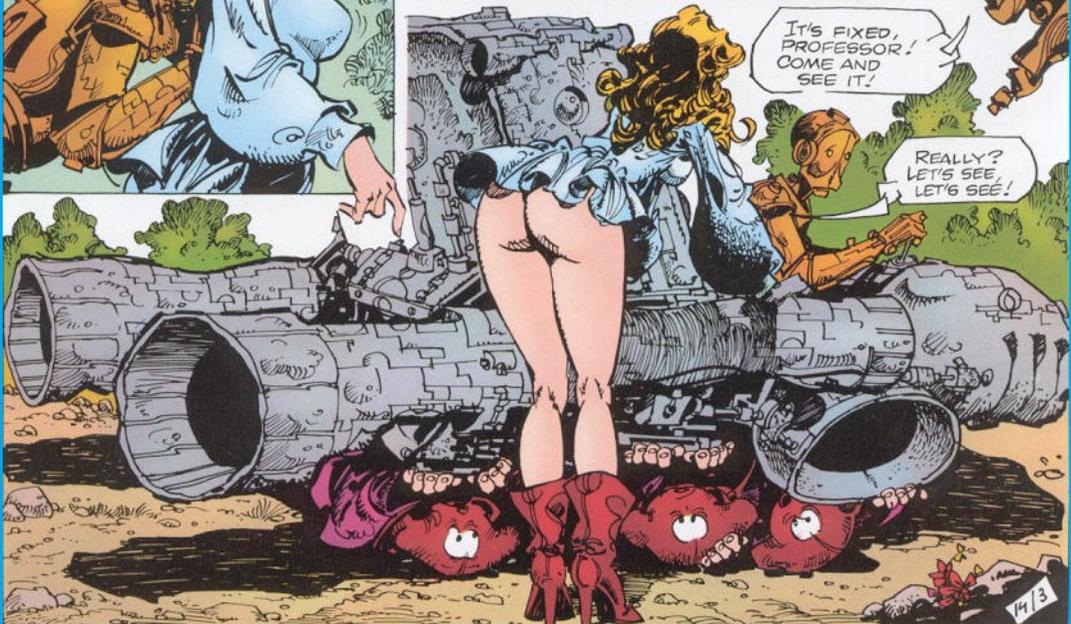


NOW CHANGE TO...

...THE SECOND...

...GEAR.

I'LL SAY, IT LOOKS AS IF IT'S WORKING!



IT'S FIXED, PROFESSOR! COME AND SEE IT!

REALLY? LET'S SEE, LET'S SEE!



BUT, WHAT ARE YOU DOING? BARBARIANS, MURDERERS, YOU'RE GOING TO KILL ME! 'HELP'!

!?!?

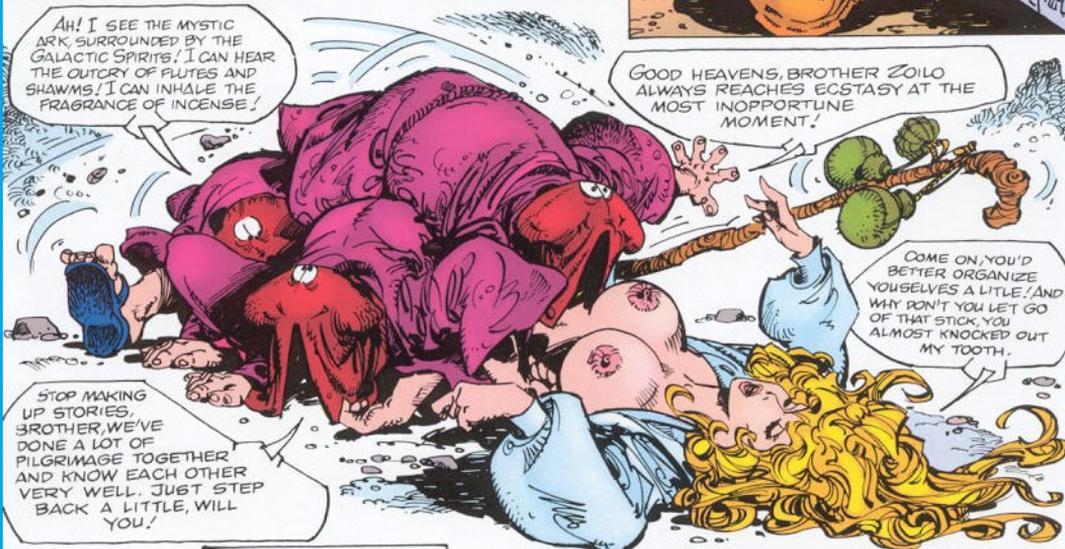


TURN ME UPSIDE DOWN, I CAN'T SEE HER!

WE CAN'T, WE ARE BUSY, BROTHER ZOLO!



HEAVENS, WHAT A BLOW! GET ME OUT OF HERE...!



AH! I SEE THE MYSTIC ARK, SURROUNDED BY THE GALACTIC SPIRITS! I CAN HEAR THE OUTCRY OF FLUTES AND SHAWMS! I CAN INHALE THE FRAGRANCE OF INCENSE!

GOOD HEAVENS, BROTHER ZOLO ALWAYS REACHES ECSTASY AT THE MOST INOPPORTUNE MOMENT!

COME ON, YOU'D BETTER ORGANIZE YOURSELVES A LITTLE, AND WHY DON'T YOU LET GO OF THAT STICK, YOU ALMOST KNOCKED OUT MY TOOTH.

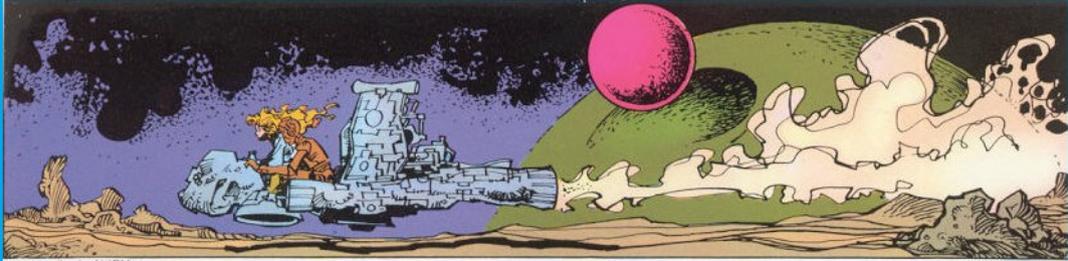
STOP MAKING UP STORIES, BROTHER, WE'VE DONE A LOT OF PILGRIMAGE TOGETHER AND KNOW EACH OTHER VERY WELL. JUST STEP BACK A LITTLE, WILL YOU!

SIX HOURS LATER...



GOODBYE, BOYS! BEST OF LUCK AND I HOPE YOU FIND THAT MYSTIC ARK OF YOURS IN GOOD CONDITION!

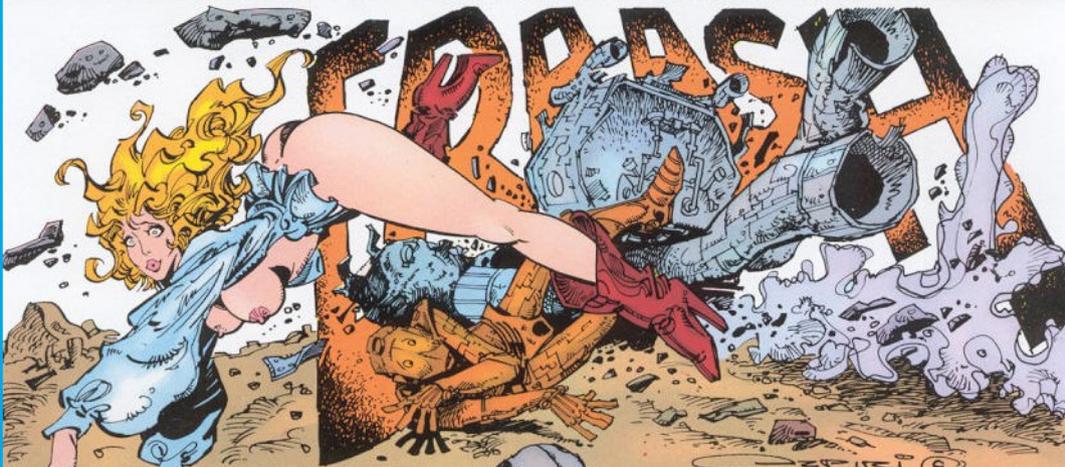
LOOK AT THEM, HOW THEY LEAVE, LOOKING TOWARDS HEAVEN AS IF NOTHING HAD HAPPENED. HOW, SHAMELESS!



LET ME TAKE THE WHEEL, PROFESSOR. YOU ALWAYS LET YOURSELF BE CARRIED AWAY AS WHEN YOU... YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN...

WILL YOU PLEASE LEAVE ME ALONE. YOU PILE OF TIN! I HAVE NO NEED FOR YOUR ADVICE!

WE'LL CRASH! BE CAREFUL! THE ROCK! THE...



OF COURSE, YOU SEE! THE ONLY ROCK IN THE WHOLE COUNTRYSIDE! BUT AS SOON AS YOU SAW ITS SHAPE, YOU HAD TO GO FOR IT! AS THOUGH YOU WERE HYPNOTIZED!

YOU ARE RIGHT, MY FRIEND, I SHOULD HAVE LISTENED TO YOU. I AM SORRY.

WELL, DON'T WORRY, WE CAN GO ON ALONG THIS RIVER, AS FOR THE VEHICLE, THERE IS NO PILGRIM WHO CAN FIX IT. I'LL BUILD A RAFT.



TWO LOGS PARALLEL TO EACH OTHER AND ONE ACROSS INTERPLANETARY SPACE SHIPS ARE NOT SO EASY TO BUILD.



OH! WHAT'S THIS?



NO, PROFESSOR, I WASN'T TALKING ABOUT THIS! I HAVE TO CHOP TEN TREES AND YOU KNOW THAT IF WE START WITH THAT, NIGHT WILL FALL AND THERE MIGHT BE WILD ANIMALS AROUND.



YOU HAVE MISUNDERSTOOD ME, I'VE SIMPLY DECIDED TO TAKE A LITTLE SWIN IN THE RIVER.



IN THE RIVER?

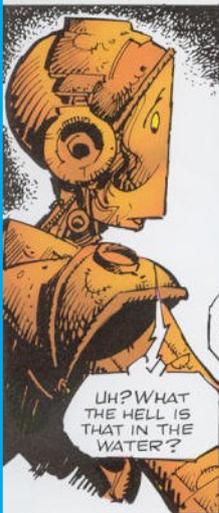
BUT... THAT IS UNWISE! THAT RIVER MAY BE DANGEROUS! NOTHING CAN BE DONE, SHE PAYS ME NO ATTENTION, SHE HAS QUICKLY FORGOTTEN ABOUT THE ROCK!





DON'T GRUMBLE SO MUCH,
THERE IS NO DANGER HERE.
THE WATER IS BEAUTIFUL...

ACTUALLY, SHE IS THE ONE
WHO IS REALLY BEAUTIFUL. I'LL
HAVE TO TIGHTEN ALL MY CIR-
CUITS IN ORDER TO STOP LOOKING
AT HER AND GO BACK TO WORK
ON THE RAFT.



UH? WHAT
THE HELL IS
THAT IN THE
WATER?



A HUGE
THRONG OF FISH ARE
COMING, PROFESSOR, THEY
COULD BE CARNIVOROUS
PIRANHA. QUICK, SWIM
TOWARDS THE
SHORE!

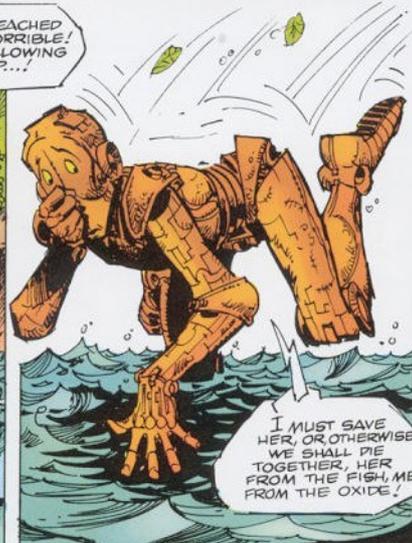


HURRY UP, GET
OUT OF THE WATER,
THEY ARE ABOUT TO
REACH YOU! TAKE
HOLD OF MY HAND,
QUICK!

I'M COMING...
I'M COMING,
DON'T MAKE ME
NERVOUS!



THEY'VE REACHED
HER! HOW HORRIBLE!
THEY'RE SWALLOWING
HER UP...!



I MUST SAVE
HER, OR OTHERWISE,
WE SHALL DIE
TOGETHER, HER
FROM THE FISH, ME
FROM THE OXIDE!



WELL MY WEIGHT HAS
TAKEN ME TO THE BOTTOM
OF THE RIVER, BUT, IT DOESN'T
MATTER, I WILL MOVE FORWARD
WHICHEVER WAY I CAN!
OH, POOR PROFESSOR..!



DO YOU ALSO WANT TO SWALLOW ME UP? IT WON'T BE EASY, I'M TOUGHER THAN YOU THINK!



I GOT YOU! AT LEAST YOU WILL PAY FOR ...



... BUT, WHAT'S THIS?



... WHAT YOU'RE DOING TO MY MASTER! I AM GOING TO...!



THE SAME SHAPE AS THE ROCK FROM BEFORE... THEN THEY ARE DOING SOMETHING ELSE...!



FOR THE MOMENT THESE NICE FISH, WITH THEIR VIRILE ASSAULTS, ARE PUSHING US WITH THE STRENGTH OF AN ATOMIC OUTBOARD MOTOR! REMIND ME THAT I MUST GET A PATENT FOR THIS MOTOR.



DAMN IT! AND THIS IS WHY I'VE DIVED INTO THE WATER AND HAVE RUSTED ALL MY JOINTS! I SHOULD HAVE PAID MORE ATTENTION TO THE NATURE OF HER SCREAMS!