

# MUTANT CHRONICLES™

1AERIE™  
**GOLGOTHA**

PART II OF IV

Biz 96  
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PRESENT

# MUTANT CHRONICLES™

# GOLGOTHA™

## PART II OF IV

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WHAT DID I EVER  
DO TO *DESERVE*  
THIS? I MEAN--WHAT  
HAVE I *DONE* LATELY.

I'M NOT A *BAD*  
MAN REALLY...  
*COMPARATIVELY*  
SPEAKING.



OKAY--SO I'VE  
CAUSED A FEW  
HUNDRED *DEATHS*  
IN MY TIME.



BUT HEY--I'M AN  
*AGENT* OF CAPITOL  
MEGACORPORATION.  
I'VE GOT CERTAIN  
*RESPONSIBILITIES*.



AT MY AGE I SHOULDN'T *HAVE*  
TO FIGHT DARK LEGION *HERETICS*  
AND THEIR PET MONSTERS.

WHERE THE  
*HELL* IS  
HUNTER?







AT THAT  
MOMENT...



AT  
LAST...



THE  
EYE OF  
ALGEROTH IS  
OURS ONCE MORE.  
NOW THE GREAT  
WORK CAN  
BEGIN.

TELL ME  
ABOUT YOUR  
NEW TOY, STAHLER.  
AND MAKE IT  
GOOD.

CLICK!









WOLFE'S  
DOWN.

THAT'S A CLAYMORE,  
A HIGHLANDER *BATTLE-*  
*SWORD*. FORGED  
AGAINST THE DARKNESS



IF *ANYTHING* CAN  
HURT THAT THING,  
IT WILL.



WELL--*THAT* COULD  
HAVE GONE BETTER.  
NOW *HUNTER'S*  
DOWN, TOO. LOOKS  
LIKE I'M ON MY OWN  
AGAIN.

BACK IN STAHLER'S OFFICE.



MADAME DUVAL, WHAT A PLEASANT SURPRISE. I *TRULY* DIDN'T EXPECT A VISIT FROM YOU.

SAVE IT, STAHLER. WHAT *IS* THAT THING?



YOU'RE *ETOILES MORTANT*, MADAME DUVAL. DIDN'T THEY TEACH YOU *ANYTHING* AT THAT BROTHERHOOD TRAINING CAMP?



THE ONLY THING I NEED TO KNOW ABOUT *HERESY* IS HOW TO ERADICATE IT.

YES, OF COURSE. THE BROTHERHOOD ALWAYS *DID* BELIEVE IN KEEPING ITS *PAWNS* IGNORANT. A PITY... *FOR YOU.*



THEN WHY DON'T YOU ENLIGHTEN ME, *HERETIC*?

WHACK!



IT IS A POWERFUL RELIC OF THE ANCIENT DAYS WHEN GLORIOUS *ALGEROTH* WALKED THIS WORLD. I AM *SURPRISED* YOU DON'T KNOW THAT.





YOU SEE--  
I HAVE BEEN  
**REMADE**.  
GRANTED GIFTS  
OF THE DARK  
TECHNOLOGY.

SSSKLING!



I **CANNOT**  
BE DEFEATED.  
I AM FAR **FASTER**  
AND FAR **STRONGER**  
THAN OTHER  
MEN.



YOU  
WILL  
BE MY  
SLAVE.

WAAAA




YOU WILL  
BE SENT TO  
THE **DISTORTION**  
**CHAMBERS**, TAUGHT  
THE **WAYS** OF  
DARKNESS.



YOU WILL  
**BEG** TO BE  
IMPREGNATED  
WITH THE **SEED**  
OF THE DARK  
TECHNOLOGY.



BELIEVE ME--  
YOU WILL LEARN  
TO **LOVE** THE  
LASH. IT'S SWEET  
CARESS WILL  
**INFECT** YOUR  
DREAMS.



I have followed Hunter's **psychic spoor** to this vile place.




The Club Arkadin-- a cesspool of filth and licentiousness. A haven of the unrighteous.

It should be **cleansed**.



I have not the time for this. I must **find** Hunter and **learn** his connection with the ark stolen from the Sacred Vaults.

HEY, CARDINAL'S MAN--WE DON'T WANT YOUR SORT HERE.



I AM LOOKING FOR HUNTER. TELL ME WHERE HE IS.


AIN'T NO HUNTER HERE. GET OUT, BEFORE ME AND THE BOYS THROW YOU OUT-- **PIECE BY PIECE.**




I AM A MORTIFICATOR OF THE BROTHERHOOD. YOU SHOULD SHOW MORE RESPECT.



OH YEAH? **"RESPECT" THIS!**




SO MANY GUNS IN THIS TOWN. AND SO **FEW** BRAINS.




FORTUNATELY, I ALWAYS  
KEEP A LITTLE *SURPRISE*  
HANDY--JUST FOR *SPECIAL*  
OCCASIONS LIKE THESE.

GUESS IT'S UP  
TO *ME* NOW.  
OLD AGE AND  
WISDOM TO  
THE *RESCUE*  
ONCE AGAIN.




IF THIS DOESN'T  
*RUIN* HIS DAY,  
NOTHING WILL.



SHAPED CHARGE.  
IN THE *FREEDOM*  
*BRIGADES* WE  
USED THEM TO TAKE  
OUT TANKS...AND  
MAYBE A TIRESOME  
*LIEUTENANT*  
OR TWO.

**KA-THOOM**



WELL, HOW DO  
YOU LIKE THAT--  
*IT WORKED!*



I CERTAINLY HAVE TO  
GIVE HUNTER *THIS*--HE  
REALLY HAS STYLE. THE  
MAN'S TOTALLY *INSANE*  
OF COURSE, BUT ON  
HIM IT LOOKS GOOD.



UUUHHNNN...  
WHAT HAPPENED?



COME  
ON AND  
DIE!



I'LL  
TAKE  
THAT.



TIME TO  
CROAK!









Y-YES SIR.  
**HUNTER** WAS  
HERE. HE LEFT  
WITH VALERIE  
DUVAL AND SOME  
DUMPY LOOKING  
FAT GUY.



O-DONT  
KILL ME, SIR.  
SOMEONE SAID  
THEY MENTIONED THE  
**STAHLER PALACE**  
AS THEY WERE  
LEAVING



I SUGGEST  
YOU *PRAY*, BROTHER,  
YOU MUST HAVE MANY  
*SINS* ON YOUR  
CONSCIENCE.









OUT OF BULLETS,  
LITTLE FLOWER? HOW  
UNFORTUNATE.



GUNFIRE! WHAT  
THE HELL IS  
HAPPENING?

THAT'S DUVAL.  
SHE'S GOT THE  
HERETIC.



HYMM--  
FOOTSTEPS.  
IT WOULD  
APPEAR THAT  
SOMEHOW MY  
CREATURE HAS  
FAILED.



NO MORE  
TIME, MY DOVE.  
THE GATE IS OPEN.  
I MUST BID YOU  
FAREWELL.



TILL WE  
MEET AGAIN,  
MADAM DUVAL.  
AND BE ASSURED  
THE TIME WILL  
BE SOON.





I *KNEW* THIS WAS  
A BIG MISTAKE. WHY  
DON'T PEOPLE EVER  
LISTEN TO ME?



# MUTANT CHRONICLES

## THE ARRIVAL OF THE APOSTLES



*The Dark Legion is evil and Darkness incarnate. For untold ages, the Dark Apostles waited to gain entry to the Solar System and begin their Dark Crusade against humanity.*

It was the first human explorers on the tenth planet, Nero, who awoke the sleeping horror. There they found unworldly formations and seals, and under the insidious influence of the Dark Symmetry, they released the Darkness from its ancient bonds.

Doing this, they opened the gate for the Dark Soul to enter our worlds. Soon the weak-minded and those of Dark thoughts were lured by the temptations of the Great Darkness. The Darkness sought its nourishment from the twisted minds and corrupted thoughts of humanity, and it did not go hungry. The power of the human mind gave the Dark Soul the energy it craved, and it soon after gave birth to the first Apostle, Ilian, the Dark Mistress. Under her guidance, the Dark Symmetry silently assaulted the worlds of humanity and laid the foundation for the horrible Darkness that was to descend upon us.

As the despair and confusion grew, more and more humans cried out in anguish. Nurtured on despair and anxiety, Muawijhe, the Lord of Insanity, emerged and entered the realms of the sleeping and dreaming. No more could humanity find peace in the lands of sleep.

Humanity tried to do battle against the Apostles, but could not lay aside its own petty, internal squabbles. The megacorporations waged their wars against each other, and trust wore thin. From this, the Darkness drew Semai, the Lord of Spite, the Nurturer of Revenge. To him was given the mission to turn siblings against each other, to corrupt the leaders of humanity and to sow the seeds of Darkness in the minds of humanity.

The scene was set for the greatest conflict humanity had ever faced. On one side stood the Brotherhood and the forces of the megacorporations, divided as they were, and on the other, the forces of Darkness. From the turmoil of the initial skirmishes and battles on the borderline of Darkness grew Algeroth, the Demon Lord of the Dark Technology and the Lord of Destruction. He took the forces of the Dark, transformed them into the Dark Legion and gave evil a brutal, physical might with which to devastate worlds.

Led by the mighty conqueror, the hordes of Darkness marched to battle. Relentlessly, they threw themselves against the defenses of our forces, and mighty battles raged across the Solar System. On every world, the fires of war burned,

and bodies littered the fields and plains. Soon Demnogonis, the Fifth Apostle, gazed out across the void. Filth and plague, famine and mutations followed his trail as he slithered from world to world, from battlefield to battlefield. He infested our cities with the Heretic mutants and spread the rot of Darkness among our troops.

## THE AGE OF THE DARK SYMMETRY

That was only the beginning of the Dark time.

Plagues and mutations spread throughout the Solar System. Sometimes whole worlds fall victim to the destructive powers of the Darkness. The Dark prophets and the corrupters of the Dark Symmetry agitate and infiltrate, aiming to bring the downfall of humanity from within. In this they are aided by the Heretics, humans that have been lured by the promises of the Dark Symmetry. The Heretics destroy the very foundations of society and seduce the weak to serve the powers of Darkness.

On the battlefields, the Dark Apostles, the generals of the Dark Legion, drive their twisted Legionnaires and Necromutants to attack the desperate forces of humanity again and again.

Accompanied by the terrible Nepharites and the Razides, the lost souls of the Dark Legion battle on with mad frenzy and energy. This is the age of the Dark Symmetry.

## THE SOUL OF DARKNESS

The Dark Legion has a supreme power, an entity so powerful that other evil beings are mere reflections of its might. This entity has no name and no known physical manifestation. It has been called the Great Darkness and the Dark Soul.

None but the Apostles and a few privileged Nepharites have ever experienced its presence.

In secret, outside our material spheres, this being exists and works its unfathomable plans. With the patience only attainable by a higher entity, the Darkness struggles toward its final goal. It is well aware that its greatest ally is time.

## THE APOSTLES

From the Dark Symmetry, the five Apostles were born. Feeding on the confusion and fear that grips the human worlds, these Dark generals march before the hordes of evil engulfing our Solar System.

The Dark Apostles are the five most powerful servants of

Algeroth

Muawijhe

Demnogonis

Semai

Ilian



## Golgotha

the Dark Soul, and they command its worldly and mysterious armies. They have been given the power to seduce and entrap the souls of the weak, to create and lead the terrible Legions and to distort and corrupt reality, time and space. They are deities to the untold souls that make up the Dark Legion and to the forever-cursed Heretics that have betrayed the Light.

The five Apostles are each unique. They all have their own Dark missions and control their own Legions. These missions are all part of the complex web of power that the Dark Soul is weaving, in which the final victory is the extinction of humanity.

## SIBLING RIVALRY

All the Apostles have emerged from the same raw power, the Dark Symmetry. Their ultimate master is the Dark Soul, but otherwise they answer to no one.

As the First Apostle, Ilian is the leader of the five. Her control of the Dark Symmetry is unrivaled and is her means of controlling her brothers. Algeroth is the only Apostle that openly opposes Ilian and actively plots against her. He is supported by Semai, while Demnagonis and Muawijhe work their own Dark and mysterious plans. They do not openly support either one of their mightier brethren, hoping the two will clash in a mighty duel, leaving the scene open for the other Apostles.

Ilian is well aware of the rivalry among her lesser kin and the plots against her, but she stays her vengeful hand, as she still has to answer to the Dark Soul, as do her brothers.

Since the final goal of all the Apostles is the same (the quenching of the last light in our Solar System), they have a certain degree of cooperation. Some powers not available to one Apostle may be given by another, but at a cost. This bargaining has gone on for untold ages, and from it the Legions of the Apostles have emerged.



## THE NEPHARITES

Serving under the Apostles are the Nepharites, the eternal enemies of humanity. The Nepharites are the most powerful creatures in the ranks of the Dark Legion and act as the officers in the army of Darkness. The evil lieutenants are ranked in a strict hierarchy with the Nepharite Overlords as the supreme rulers. They only answer to their Apostle.

Every Nepharite has powers and abilities that make it unique. Their nature varies and is ultimately controlled by their Apostle. Some Nepharites have a great understanding of the Dark Symmetry and wield its powers well in the battle against humanity.

The Nepharites are the most competitive of the warriors in the Dark Legions. They are experienced and have the ability to make decisions on their own, and their loyalty is without doubt. They exercise total control over their subordinates, and the slightest mistakes are rewarded with a fate worse than death.

The physical appearance of the Nepharites varies greatly depending on which Apostle they follow. They all strike a dark and powerful pose, radiating evil. Sharp spikes or other metallic implements cover their bodies. Their strength is reflected in their faces, which are a grotesque mockery of humanity.

Their blank, staring eyes lack pupils, and the deformed shapes of their faces are macabre, nightmare masks.

Nepharite Overlords do not conform strictly to these standards. As they grow in power, they become more twisted and corrupted and are often reborn in other, unique shapes more true to their horrible natures.

## Dark Legion Forces





"This hurts...a lot!!"

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