

MUTANT CHRONICLES™



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96

SERIE
GOLGOTHA™

PART IV OF IV

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GOLGOTHA™

PART IV OF IV

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I'M IN THE GUTS OF A
DARK LEGION CITADEL.
I'VE BEEN SHOT AT, BEATEN,
TORTURED, AND MY *BRAIN*
INVADED BY COSMIC EVIL.

ALL IN ALL, IT'S BEEN
A REALLY *BAD* DAY.
AND THIS *LOWER BACK*
PAIN IS ABSOLUTELY
MURDER.

IF I'D *KNOWN* IT WOULD BE LIKE THIS I
WOULD NEVER HAVE JOINED THE AGENCY.



"LOTS OF
TRAVEL,"
THEY SAID.



I AM
GOING TO
CLEANSE
YOU, STAHLE.
PURGE YOU
OF EVIL.

"GOOD *PENSION*
PLAN," THEY SAID.



"MEET INTERESTING
PEOPLE," THEY SAID.

MIGHT AS WELL TRY TO
INCINERATE A *ROCK* AS
BURN *THAT* DAMN THING.



THROAAAAR!



I'M GOING TO DIE!



DAKKA!
DAKKA!



WHY ME?
IT'S JUST NOT RIGHT.



KAA-
BOOM!

WHEN WE FOUND OUT THAT STAHLER HAD SECRETLY STOLEN THE EYE OF ALGEROTH...



YOU'RE FAST,
MORTIFICATOR.

...WE ATTACKED HIS OFFICE IN HEIMBURG. HE ESCAPED AND WE FOLLOWED HIM HERE, TO THIS CITADEL. THAT WAS WHEN STAHLER WAS STILL HUMAN-- MORE OR LESS.



IT'S BEEN DOWN HILL EVER SINCE.











THE CATHEDRAL,
HEIMBURG.







OF COURSE!
THE *BISHOP* WILL
BE PRESENT. SUCH
AN ACT WOULD BE THE
GREATEST BLOW TO
MORALE THIS WORLD
HAS EVER
WITNESSED.

NOT TO
MENTION THE
LOSS OF HUNDREDS
OF THOUSANDS
OF *SOULS*.



WE MUST
WARN THEM.
THEY'LL HAVE
TO *CANCEL*
THE MASS.



THEY WILL
NEVER DO THAT.
THE MASS HAS BEEN
CELEBRATED IN THE
CATHEDRAL EVERY
NIGHT FOR OVER
A *THOUSAND*
YEARS.



WARN
THEM? HELL,
WE'D BETTER
GET OVER
THERE--AND
FAST.

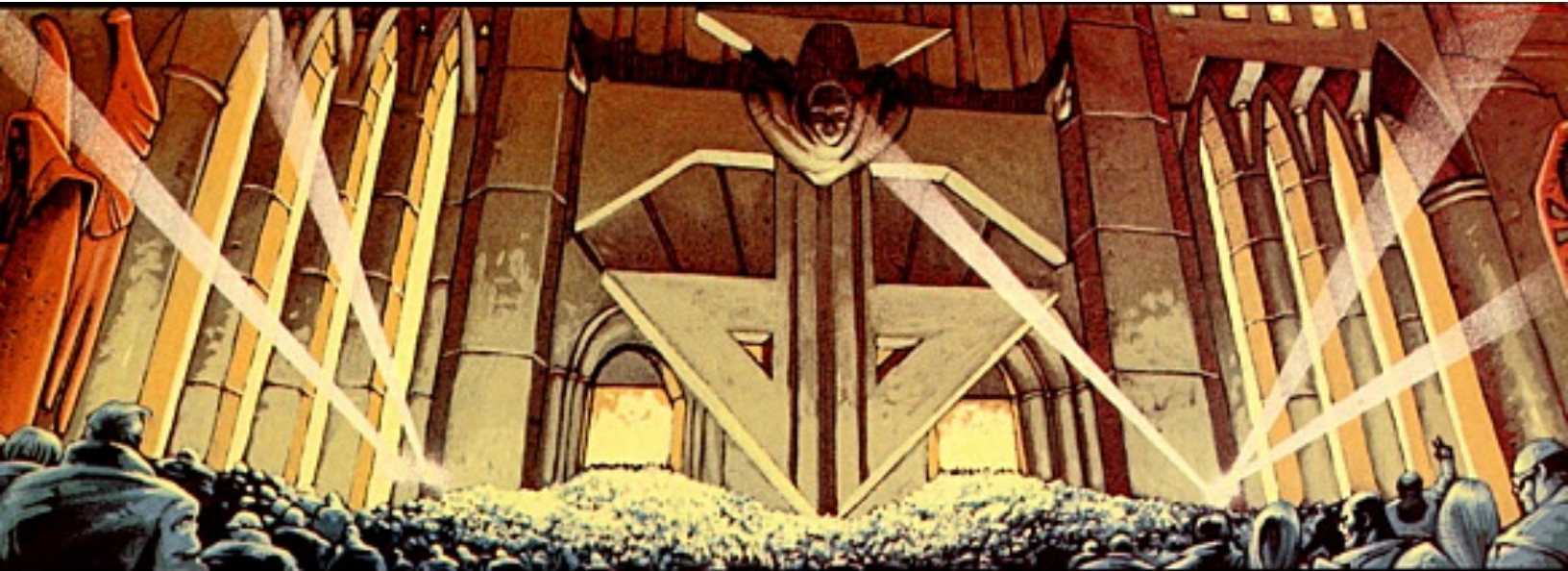
I WANT
TO BE IN ON
THE *KILL*!



I *KNEW* HE
WAS GOING
TO SAY THAT.



MY
PRIVATE
HELICOPTER IS
ON THE ROOF.
IF ANY OF YOU
WOULD CARE
TO *JOIN*
ME...



SECURITY FORCES HAVE BEEN DOUBLED--
TWICE. EVERY CONCEIVABLE HIDING PLACE HAS BEEN CHECKED. NO SIGN OF *EVIL* HAS BEEN FOUND AND OUR SENSORS HAVE FAILED TO DETECT ANY *HINT* OF THE DARK LEGION.



STILL, YOUR EXCELLENCY--I AM UNHAPPY.

I UNDERSTAND, BUT AT THIS MOMENT THERE IS NOTHING MORE WE CAN DO. IF YOUR *NEPHARITE* SHOWS HERSELF, WE WILL DEAL WITH HER THEN.



THERE IS NO MORE TO BE SAID. THE MASS IS ABOUT TO BEGIN.



CRENSHAW-- YOU ARE A *MORTIFICATOR*. A BROTHERHOOD *ASSASSIN*. YES?

IN THESE DARK TIMES THE *FAITH* MUST USE WHATEVER *WEAPONS* NECESSARY...



OF COURSE, NO OFFENSE INTENDED, BUT IF YOU WANTED TO *KILL* THE BISHOP, WHERE WOULD YOU DO IT FROM?

KILL THE BISHOP? IT IS *UNTHINKABLE* THAT I WOULD...



BUT WHAT IF YOU *DID*?













YOU SHOULD HAVE *LEARNED* BY NOW. I THOUGHT YOU HAD THE *MOST* PROMISE.

SPAK

SPA

SPAK-

SPAK



MY OLD *TEACHER* USED TO SAY THAT.

I WILL TEACH *YOU* THE MEANING OF *AGONY*.



DIE--
SPAWN OF DARKNESS!



GLUKK

FOOL! WHILE I HOLD THE EYE NOTHING CAN DEFEAT ME.



WHILE SHE *HOLDS* THE EYE, HUH? THANKS, SISTER.



IF ANYTHING CAN HURT THAT CREATURE, IT'S HUNTER'S HIGHLANDER BLADE. FORGED AGAINST DARKNESS BY ORDER OF THE CARDINAL HIMSELF.











FAITH
HAS MADE
IT'S POINT.

GURFF!

FEESH!

KESHERIKI

THE NEXT DAY...



WELL,
WE CLEARED
THAT ONE
UP.

WE,
FAT MAN?



YEAH! WE'VE SEEN THE LAST OF STANLER
AND THE NEPHARITE GOLGOtha.
WHAT MORE DO YOU WANT?

THE PLACE IS
PRETTY EMPTY
TONIGHT.



WE HAD
A LITTLE
TROUBLE
LAST NIGHT,
MAJOR.



YEAH,
SO DID
WE.

BUT AT LEAST
WE'LL NEVER SEE
THAT FRIGGING
EYE AGAIN!



HEIMBURG CATHEDRAL.

YOU'VE DONE WELL, CRENSHAW. THE NEPHARITE IS DEAD AND THE EYE HAS BEEN DESTROYED. THE LIGHT HAS TRIUMPHED. GO IN PEACE.

THANK YOU, EXCELLENCY.



MUTANT CHRONICLES

THE MERCHANT CORPORATIONS

The worlds of *Mutant Chronicles* are largely controlled by the boards of the megacorporations instead of, as in times past, the governments of nations. In fact, a person employed by the Capitol Corporation, for example, is actually termed a citizen of Capitol.

Politically, not much else is new, though, except that there are no longer any nations. Society is now multicultural, and on all levels of society, in every branch of employment, all that matters is that you're part of a team, your corporation.

This attitude was already set before the Brotherhood entered the scene. Large companies took control of smaller enterprises and incorporated these into their growing businesses. Large tracts of land were bought and reserved for the employees. The corporations could offer a lifestyle without starvation and insecurity. People lived their lives within their vertically integrated corporations. Education, housing, medicine,

security—everything was provided by the employer. And so the megacorporations were born.

Four megacorporations managed to survive after the initial, wasting wars in our Solar System. These were corporations that personified certain ancient ideas and values, allowing them to present a strong front to other competitors. These four were Capitol, Bauhaus, Mishima and Imperial. Soon they were joined by a surprise, new force in the corporate world, Cybertronic.

Today, the five megacorporations make up the bulk of the corporate worlds. Their combined assets are enormous, and they indirectly control other independent businesses, the freelancers, which depend on the larger corporations for survival.

WAYS OF LIFE

The megacorporations are much more than just financiers and employers. They are cultures, ways of life. And since most people





actually do have a way of life, they in one way or another belong to a megacorporation, even if they aren't directly employed.

All aspects of life involve the megacorporations in one way or another. They provide security in the cities, supply shelter, food and other goods people need to survive, and so on. For those employed by the corporations, life is often secure and uneventful. For those outside the corporate umbrellas, life is more of a hazard. But at least they can entertain the illusion of freedom.

THE CONFLICTS

There is constant war between the corporations as they all try to grow and become the single, largest power in our Solar System. So far, no one has gained the upper hand, and only the future will determine if they can stand against the onslaught of the Dark Legion or if they will be engulfed by the powers of destruction.

To avoid disaster, the megacorporations have formed an organization through which they can solve their problems on a diplomatic level. This organization has been named the Cartel and consists of delegations from all five megacorporations, as well as Observers from the Brotherhood. It is the purpose of this organization to coordinate

the battle against the Dark Legion, as well as to promote a greater understanding between the different megacorporations. It is hard to tell which of the two tasks is more difficult.

And while the megacorporations bicker among themselves, the Darkness has infiltrated humanity and spreads like a rotting disease.





"I'm going to kick your butt...Twice!"

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