

X-O M A N O W A R

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BEN TEMPLESMITH

The skies of planet Gorin are filled with fire – the monolith, a strange floating pillar that rains destruction down from above, has attacked. Though Aric has proven that the late general colluded with the mysterious ships, there is no true indication of why they're here or what they're after. Only one thing is clear: their arrival on planet Gorin is no coincidence, and neither is their genocide of the Burnt.

Now, with the planet hanging in the balance, Aric must ward off the alien armada and save his new home, charging forward from one war directly into the next...



ARIC OF EARTH

With the power of his own growing army at his back, Aric has achieved the rank of General. No longer allied with Azure, Aric can only trust those closest to him.



SHANHARA

Aric has so far refused to don the X-O armor, but the war has escalated, and so has Aric's dependency on Shanlara.



ARIC'S TEAM

Comprised of Ironside, Wynn, Colt, and Bruto, these soldiers have fought beside Aric since the initial assault on the Cadmium. With each battle, their devotion and respect for their leader increases.



SCHON

An Azure citizen who took Aric in and made a life with him. Since he joined the war against the Cadmium, Schon has had to house the ghostly Shanlara armor as it awaits Aric's return.



THE EMPEROR

Hungry for planetary dominance, the Emperor will stop at nothing to subjugate the Burnt.



THE MONOLITH

Strange visitors from off world, the monolith rains fire down on Planet Gorin, but why are they here? And what are they looking for?

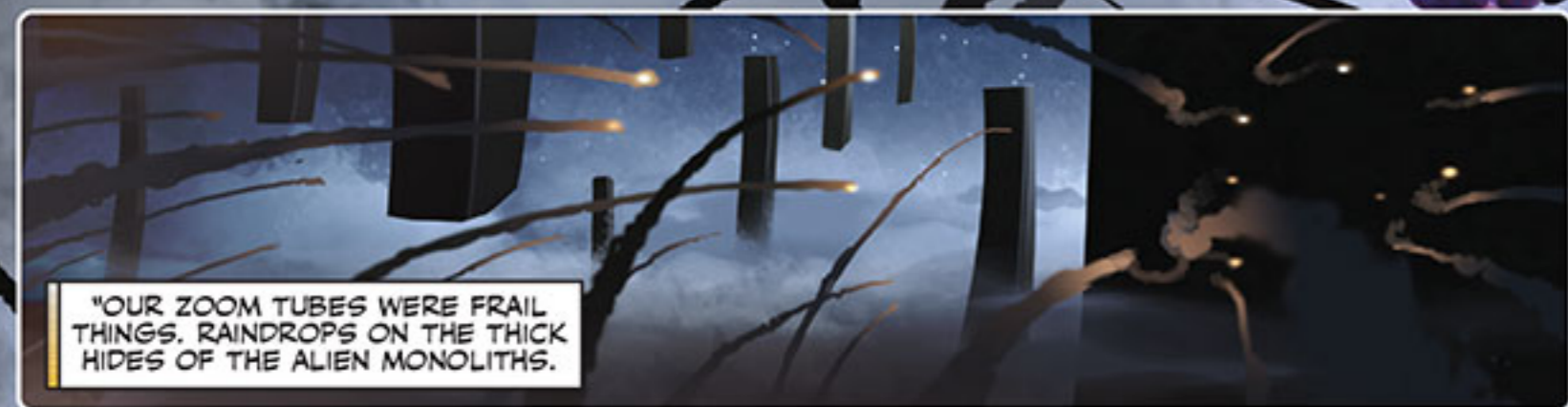


WE ENTER CLOUDS OF OUR OWN MAKING...



GIVING US THE COVER WE NEED...

WE WILL BE ON THEM BEFORE THEY REALIZE WHAT WE'VE DONE.



"OUR ZOOM TUBES WERE FRAIL THINGS. RAINDROPS ON THE THICK HIDES OF THE ALIEN MONOLITHS.



"BUT IT WAS ENOUGH."

SHNK! SHNK! CHNK!

"THEY WERE THE MOUSE THAT SCARED THE ELEPHANT.



"THE BOLDNESS OF THE PLAN WAS ITS STRENGTH."

FWP! SHK! FWP!

"IT WAS THE ARROGANCE OF THE ALIENS...THE SHELTERED SENSE OF SECURITY THAT THEIR POWER GAVE THEM..."



"THAT ALLOWED THEM TO BE TAKEN BY SURPRISE."

NOW!

"WHO WOULD DARE LAUNCH A FRONTAL ASSAULT ON A FAR-SUPERIOR FORCE?"



"WHO WOULD DARE THROW PEBBLES AT A GIANT?"

BEAT THESE BASTARDS! THIS IS JUST THEIR OUTER DEFENSE!



