

 VALIANT

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#28

X-O MANOWAR




ARMED
HUNTERS



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X-CO MANOVAR



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First Printing.

The story so far...



The Armor Hunters—a group of the most dangerous and battle-hardened soldiers in the galaxy—have arrived on Earth.

Their target is the X-O Manowar armor—perhaps the most deadly weapon in the galaxy.

With the singular purpose of eliminating the plague of sentient armors across the

galaxy, Primary Reebo, his companion Malgam, and a newly recruited team of Armor Hunters have proven themselves extremely efficient in hunting and killing the armors. Their efforts have saved numerous worlds...for now.

BEFORE.

THE PLANET
LUND.

AN IDYLIC
WORLD.

TEEMING WITH
FLORA AND FAUNA.

UNSPOILED BY THE
BASER INSTINCTS OF
CIVILIZED CULTURES.



UNTIL THE
ARMOR ARRIVED.

LOGS UPDATED, PRIMARY. ONE ARMOR DESTROYED, THREE FRIENDS LOST.

Among the Living

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THE PLANET GENNIN.

MAIN OPERATIONS BASE OF THE ARMOR HUNTERS.

INCOMING TRANSMISSION FROM CONTROL.

SEND IT THROUGH, GIN-GR.

I'M READING YOU, CONTROL.

PRIMARY REEBO. CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR FIRST HUNT BEING A SUCCESS.

CLARIFYING IN CASE THE LOGS WERE GARBLED, WE LOST THREE HUNTERS TO ONE ARMOR.

MANY TEAMS DON'T RETURN FROM THEIR FIRST HUNT AT ALL.
YOU DIDN'T JUST TAKE DOWN ONE ARMOR, YOU ELIMINATED ALL THE ARMORS IT WOULD'VE REPRODUCED. YOU SAVED A WORLD TODAY, REEBO.

I'M SENDING THE COORDINATES FOR KRYSOLL, YOUR NEXT HUNT. I'LL HAVE THREE RECRUITS RENDEZVOUS WITH YOU, SO YOUR SQUAD IS AT FULL STRENGTH.

AND THE REMAINS OF THE FALLEN? HOW DO WE GET THEM HOME?

THOSE HUNTERS' WORLDS WERE GONE LONG AGO. BURY THEM. DECONTAMINATE THE PLANET AND MOVE OUT.

AND REEBO?

YES, CONTROL?

TAKE HEART.

WE'RE WINNING.

UNDERSTOOD. THANK YOU, CONTROL.

WE'RE WINNING...



THE PLANET KRYSOOLL.

THE SECOND HUNT.



**ONE ARMOR ESCAPED OFF-WORLD.
TWO HUNTERS LOST.**

THE PLANET DNYM.

THE FOURTH HUNT.



**ONE ARMOR KILLED ON-WORLD.
THREE HUNTERS LOST.**

THE THIRD MOON OF BINJ.

THE SEVENTH HUNT.



**ONE ARMOR UNACCOUNTED FOR.
FOUR HUNTERS LOST.**

THE PLANET AIRLOCK.

THE ELEVENTH HUNT.



**ONE ARMOR KILLED ON-WORLD,
ONE ARMOR ESCAPED OFF-WORLD.
FOUR HUNTERS LOST.**

THE PLANET BIER.

THE FOURTEENTH HUNT.



**ONE ARMOR KILLED ON-WORLD.
ONE HUNTER LOST.**

THE PLANET XYLITH.

THE EIGHTEENTH HUNT.



**ONE ARMOR ENCOUNTERED ON-
WORLD. LOCATION UNKNOWN.
TWO HUNTERS LOST.**

GENNIN.

ARE YOU SURE ABOUT THIS?

YES, CONTROL.

PREVIOUSLY DE-CONTAMINATED WORLDS ARE BECOMING RE-CONTAMINATED.

AS THE ARMORS REPLICATE, THE NEW SPECIMENS ARE CONTINUING TO SPREAD OUTWARD. BUT THE OLDER SPECIMENS ARE CONTRACTING INWARD.

THEY'RE CONVERGING, CONTROL. THEY'RE RETURNING TO WHERE THE PLAGUE STARTED.

THEY'RE COMING HERE.

CONTACT THE SQUADS ALREADY ON HUNTS. EXTEND THEIR CAMPAIGNS. THEY'RE NOT TO RETURN TO BASE UNTIL THEIR ASSIGNED AREAS ARE CLEAR.

ALL SQUADS CURRENTLY ON GENNIN ARE TO REMAIN ON GENNIN.

IF THE ARMORS ARE HOMESICK--

"--WE'LL BE HERE TO WELCOME THEM."

THE PLANET TARTUS.

THE TWENTY-FIRST HUNT.



PRIMARY REEBO TO CONTROL.

KZZZSSHH



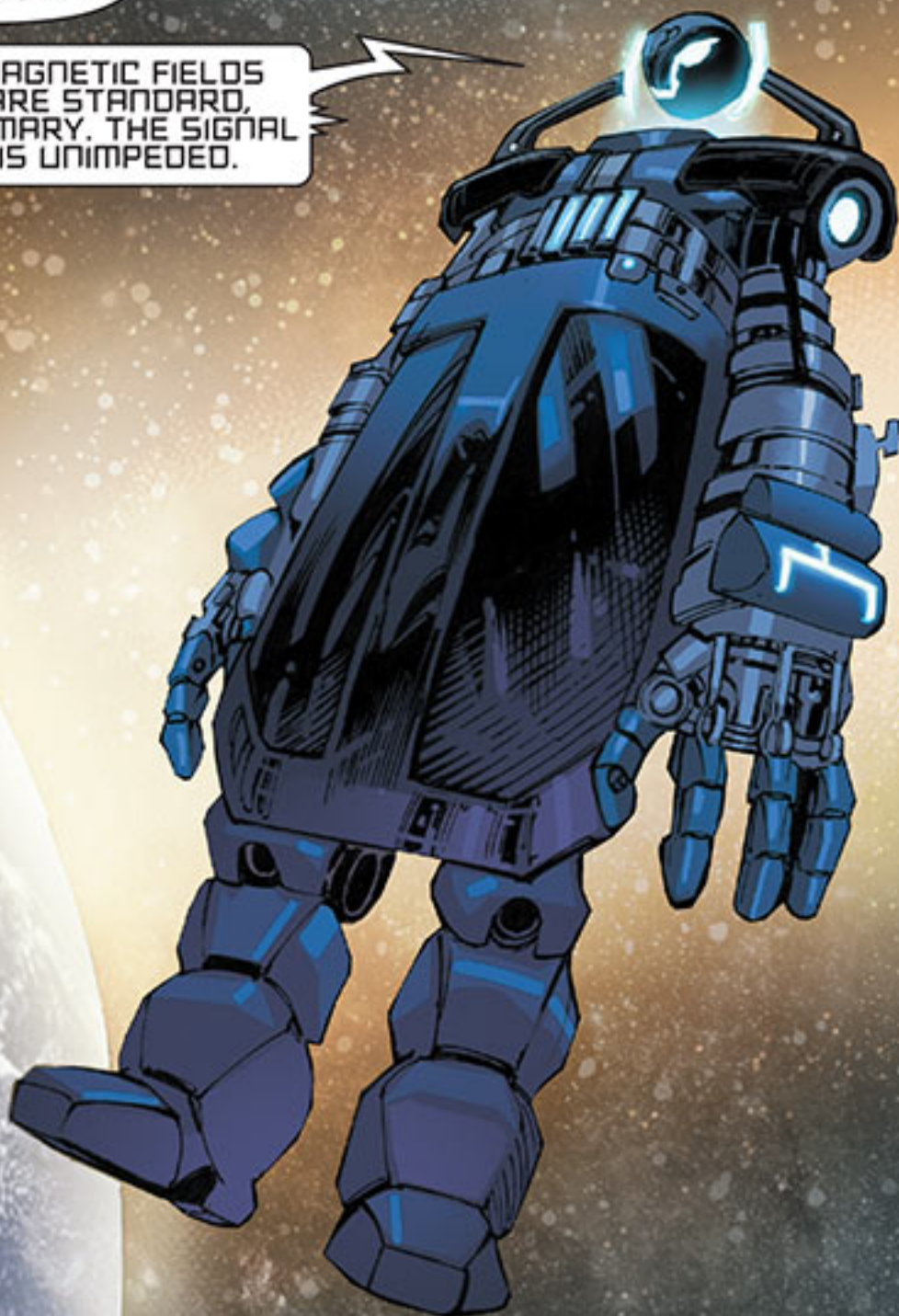
CONTROL. WE'VE REACHED OUR NEXT TARGET. ARE YOU RECEIVING ME?

SSSHKZZZ

GIN-GR, THE PLANET'S MAGNETIC FIELDS ARE INTERFERING WITH OUR COMMS.

CAN YOU GET A MESSAGE THROUGH FROM ORBIT?

MAGNETIC FIELDS ARE STANDARD, PRIMARY. THE SIGNAL IS UNIMPEDED.



HOWEVER, CONTROL IS NOT RESPONDING.

KEEP TRYING, GIN-GR.

YOUR ORDERS... PRIMARY?