

ANTARCTIC PRESS
AP
★ 1985-2015 ★
30
YEARS
#1

STEAM WARS

FIRST EMPIRE



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A LONG TIME AGO...
IN A PLACE FAR
AWAY...

A NEST OF
THEM, YOU
SAY?

HOW AWFUL!

IS THERE NO
END TO THEIR
IGNOMINY?



DON'T WORRY,
JARVIS.

WE'LL SOON
PUT THIS LITTLE
INSURRECTION
TO THE TORCH.

I ONLY HOPE
THIS NEW GROUP
PROVIDES GOOD
SPORT FOR A
CHANGE.

LEST THEY DIE
BEFORE LEARNING THE
TRUTH OF THE WORLD
AND THE LIE OF THEIR
VAINGLORIOUS
STRUGGLES!

YES. EVERY
MAN IN HIS
PLACE.

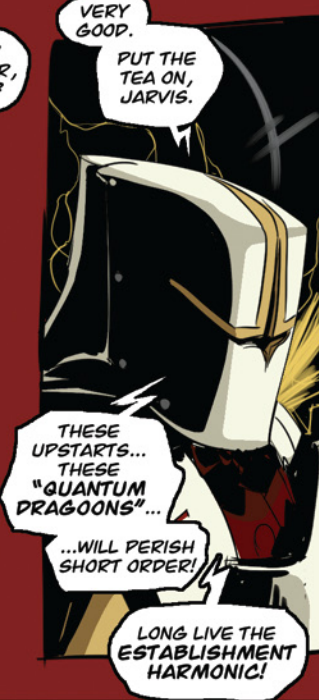
FROM
CRADLE TO
GRAVE, FOR
THE GOOD OF
ALL.

QUITE.

YOUR
TOXIZER,
SIRE?

VERY
GOOD.

PUT THE
TEA ON,
JARVIS.



THESE
UPSTARTS...
THESE
"QUANTUM
DRAGONS"...

...WILL PERISH
SHORT ORDER!

LONG LIVE THE
ESTABLISHMENT
HARMONIC!

STEAM WARS:
FIRST EMPIRE
"AN OLD HOPE..."



I DON'T UNDERSTAND.

I DON'T UNDERSTAND THIS AT ALL!

WE'VE ALL GOT PRICES ON OUR HEADS.

THE POWERS THAT BE ARE CLOSIN' BY THE SECOND.

AND MASTER YODEL HAS US PLAYING STREET GAMES?

CAREFUL, LUCAS.

YOU ALMOST DROPPED THE BALL!

KEEP THOSE EYES SHUT. FEEL. KNOW!



≡SIGH≡

MASTER YODEL'S TRAINING EXERCISES ARE ENIGMAS, LUCAS.

RIDDLES WITH ANSWERS BEFORE QUESTIONS.

I THINK SHE JUST LIKES TO GAME WITH US.

GIRLS HER AGE TAKE PLAYMATES WHERE THEY CAN FIND THEM.



SILENCE. FOCUS.

PASS THE BALL WITHOUT TOUCHING IT...WITHOUT SEEING IT.

LET IT LEAVE YOUR INFLUENCE.

LET IT BECOME ONE OF INFINITE POSSIBLE POSITIONAL STATES...

...SUPER-POSITION.

THEN COLLAPSE IT INTO QUANTUM COHERENCE.

GOOD.

NOW.

ON TO JUMP ROPE!



ALL RIGHT.

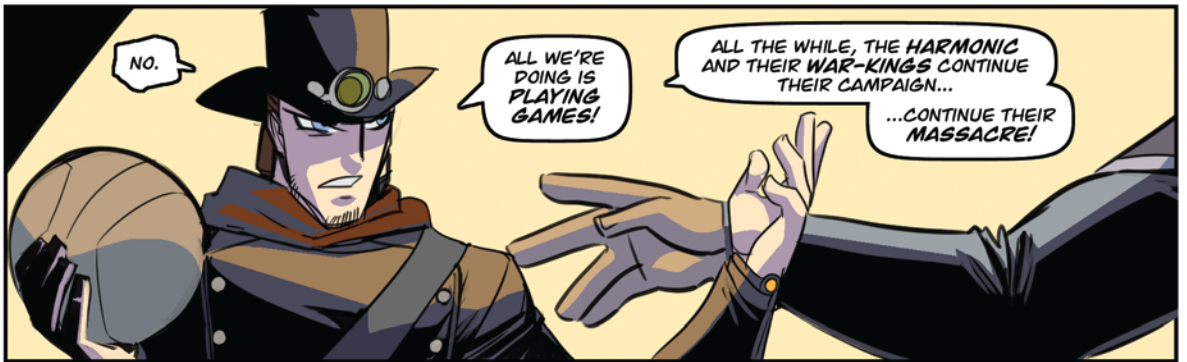
THAT'S ENOUGH.

NO MORE GAMES.

MASTER YOPEL, YOU SAID YOU WOULD TEACH US HOW TO DO THE THINGS YOU DO...

AND SHE'S KEEPING HER WORD, LUCAS.

HOW GOOD WERE YOU AT THIS BEFORE BECOMING A STUDENT?

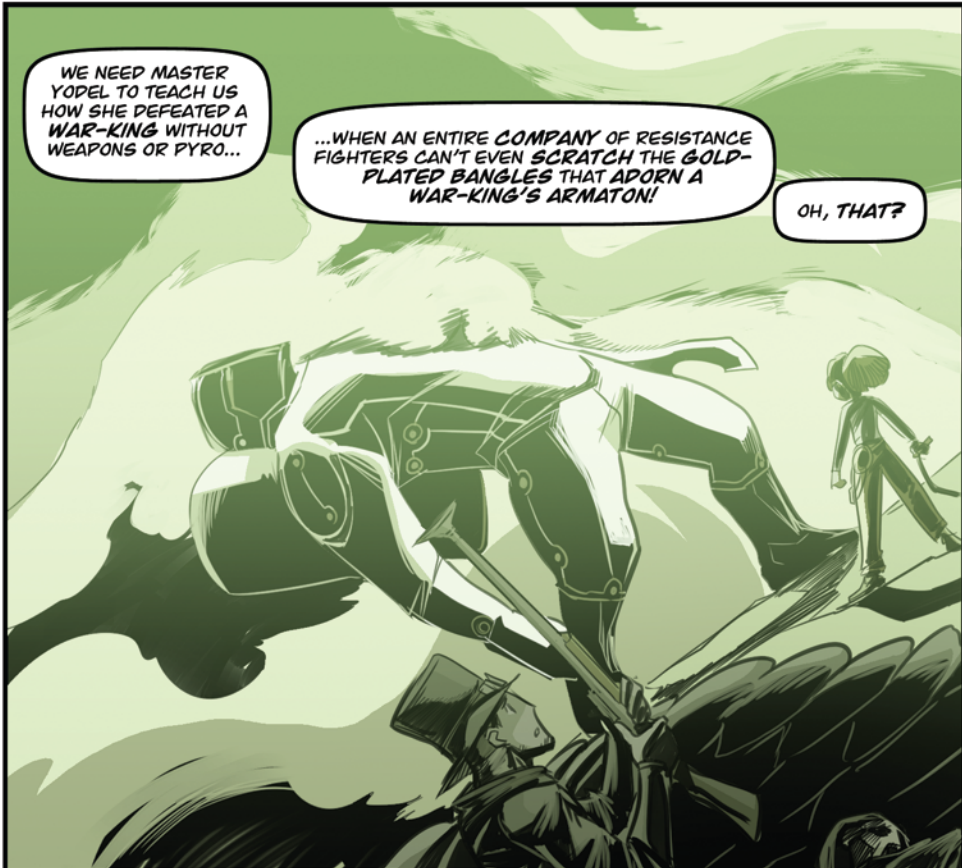


NO.

ALL WE'RE DOING IS PLAYING GAMES!

ALL THE WHILE, THE HARMONIC AND THEIR WAR-KINGS CONTINUE THEIR CAMPAIGN...

...CONTINUE THEIR MASSACRE!



WE NEED MASTER YOPEL TO TEACH US HOW SHE DEFEATED A WAR-KING WITHOUT WEAPONS OR PYRO...

...WHEN AN ENTIRE COMPANY OF RESISTANCE FIGHTERS CAN'T EVEN SCRATCH THE GOLD-PLATED BANGLES THAT ADORN A WAR-KING'S ARMATON!

OH, THAT?



I SMACKED HIM WITH MY JUMP ROPE.

IN JUST THE RIGHT SPOT, OF COURSE. 



"RIGHT SPOT"?

ARMATON ARMOR IS IMPENETRABLE!

IMPOSSIBLY HARD!

EVEN OUR STORM FOILS CAN'T--

NOPE.

NOTHING'S "HARD".

NOTHING'S "SOLID".

AND THERE IS NO "CAN'T".

BUT THERE ARE VIBRATIONS. CLOUDS OF NOTHING.

THAT'S WHAT I'VE BEEN TRYING TO TEACH YOU.

IF YOU CAN SEE...PERCEIVE THE GAPS...

...THE RIGHT SPOTS...

IF YOU CAN FOCUS ON WHERE THE THREADS ARE NOT...THEN THEY AREN'T THERE.



YOU. ME. THE ROCKS. THE GROUND. STUFF.

IT'S ALL ENERGY THAT IS SLOWED TO A DULL VIBRATION...

AND YOU CAN AFFECT IT JUST BY PERCEIVING IT IN THE RIGHT WAY.

YOU THREE JUST NEED PRACTICE.

YOU'RE ALMOST THERE.

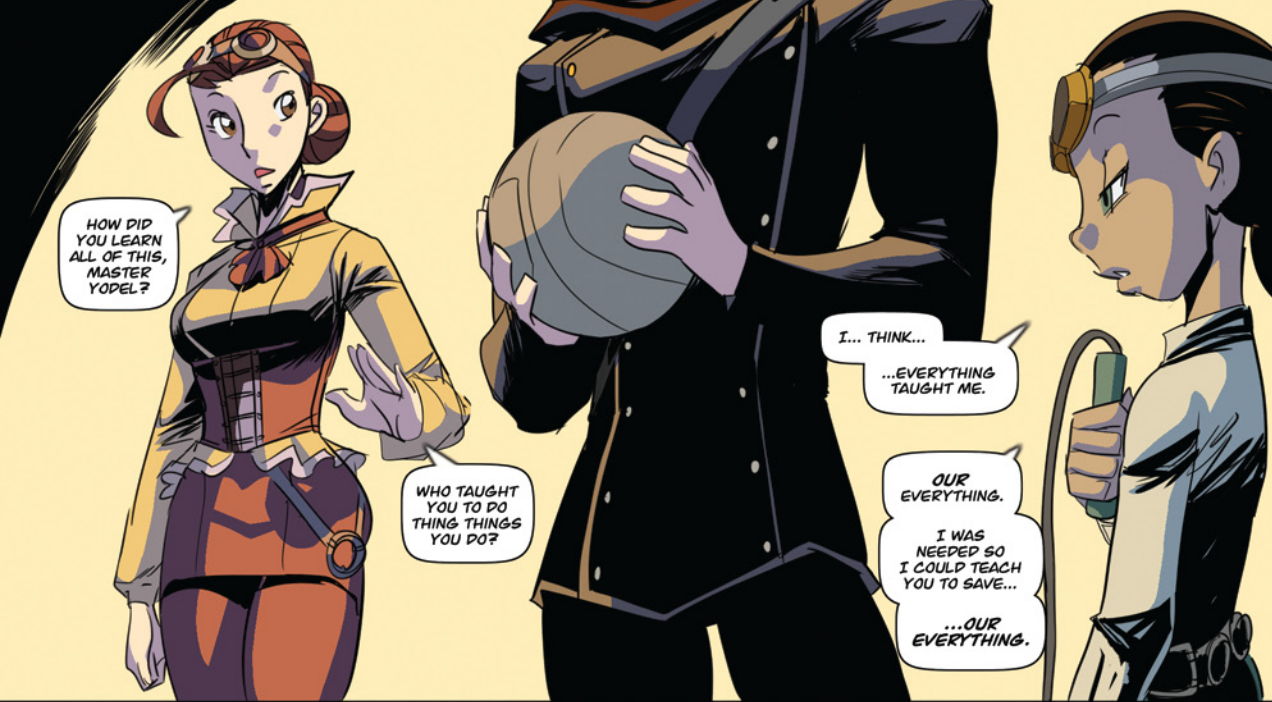
AND ONE DAY, YOU WON'T NEED STORM FOILS.

ONE DAY, YOU WON'T NEED STRATO STRIKERS OR OMNI-DRONES TO HELP YOU FIGHT EVIL.

ONE DAY, YOU WON'T NEED ME.

UNTIL THEN, YOU'LL BE QUANTUM DRAGOONS.

THE FIRST THREE.

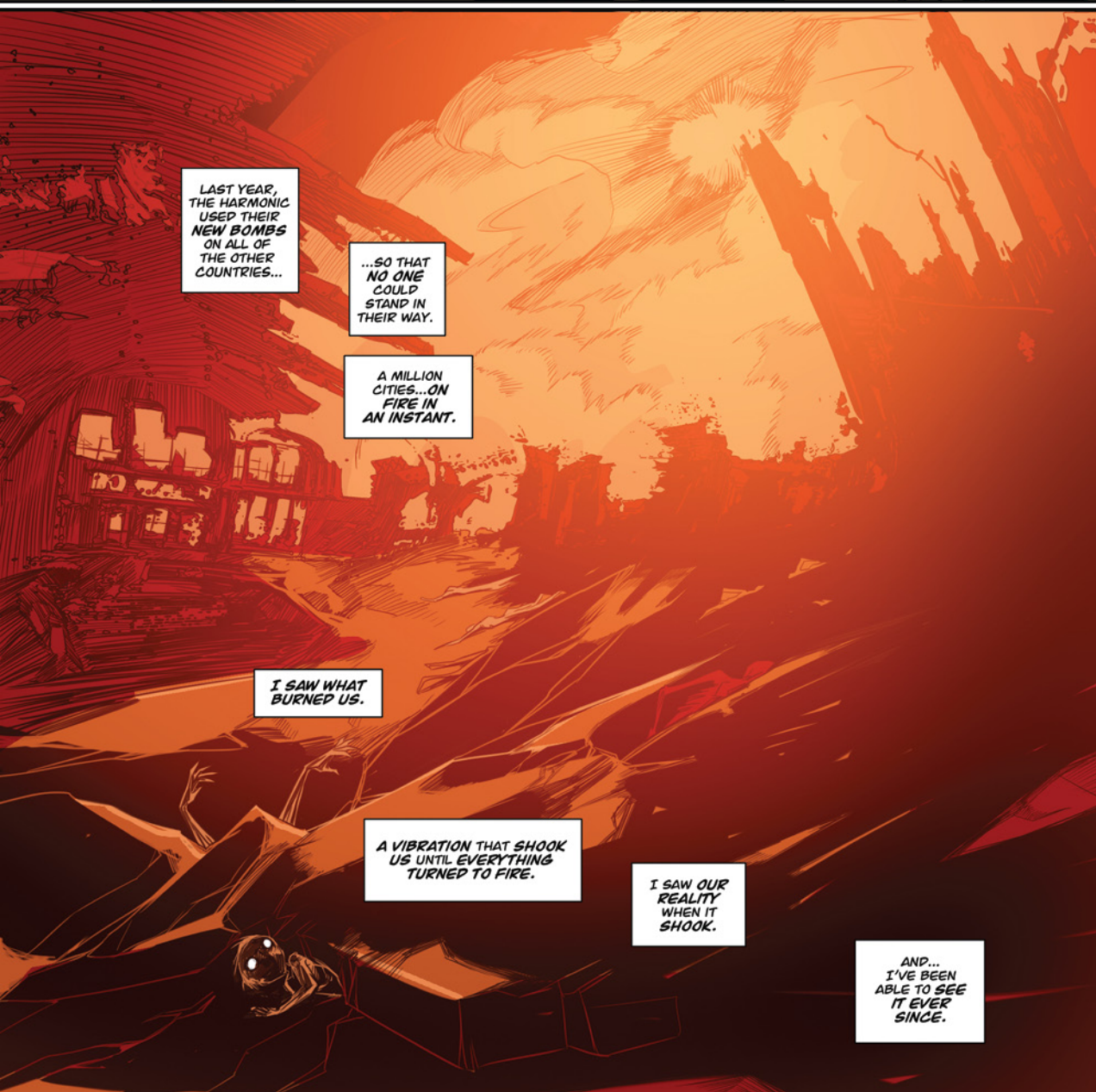


HOW DID YOU LEARN ALL OF THIS, MASTER YOPEL?

WHO TAUGHT YOU TO DO THING THINGS YOU DO?

I... THINK...
...EVERYTHING TAUGHT ME.

OUR EVERYTHING.
I WAS NEEDED SO I COULD TEACH YOU TO SAVE...
...OUR EVERYTHING.



LAST YEAR, THE HARMONIC USED THEIR NEW BOMBS ON ALL OF THE OTHER COUNTRIES...

...SO THAT NO ONE COULD STAND IN THEIR WAY.

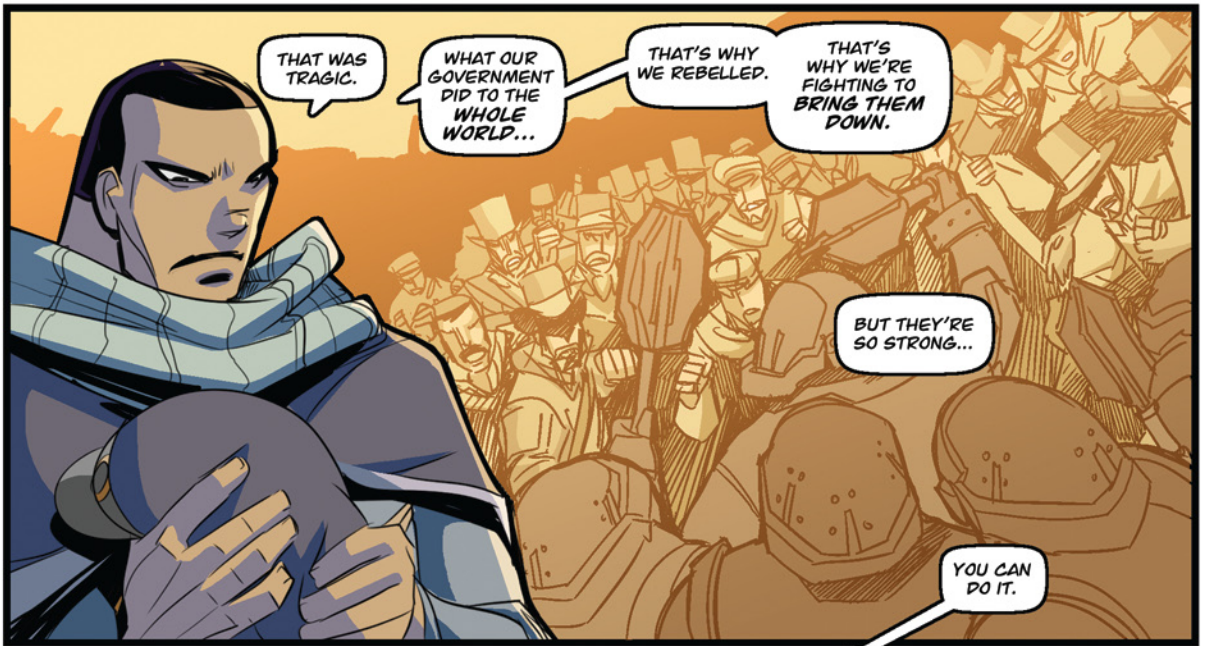
A MILLION CITIES...ON FIRE IN AN INSTANT.

I SAW WHAT BURNED US.

A VIBRATION THAT SHOOK US UNTIL EVERYTHING TURNED TO FIRE.

I SAW OUR REALITY WHEN IT SHOOK.

AND... I'VE BEEN ABLE TO SEE IT EVER SINCE.



THAT WAS TRAGIC.

WHAT OUR GOVERNMENT DID TO THE WHOLE WORLD...

THAT'S WHY WE REBELLED.

THAT'S WHY WE'RE FIGHTING TO BRING THEM DOWN.

BUT THEY'RE SO STRONG...

YOU CAN DO IT.



YOU SAVE EVERYONE.

YOU'LL BE STRONG ENOUGH!

I ONLY WISH I COULD BE THERE TO SEE IT.



BUT...

...I'M HERE NOW.

SO... HOW ABOUT SOME SKIP-ROPE?