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ISSUE  
**242**  
COVER A  
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# GI JOE

*A REAL AMERICAN HERO!*





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G.I. JOE: A REAL AMERICAN HERO #242

## SITREP

In Springfield, Granny Demon, Storm Shadow, Zartan, the New Snake-Eyes, the Collins family, and Senator Ling-Torres are able to escape the clutches of Cobra Commander and his marauding forces with the help of double-dealing Dreadnoks and a possessed Dawn Moreno, who carries the dark memories – and deadly skills – of the original Snake-Eyes inside her brain.

Meanwhile, Dr. Venom has similarly possessed Dr. Mindbender's body, making his own sneaky exit from the besieged community center and revealing himself to a shocked Cobra Commander.

And in Darklonia, the JOEs suffer a tragic death in the family as the battle-injured Sneak-Peek succumbs to the horrific damage inflicted on his body...



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Cover B  
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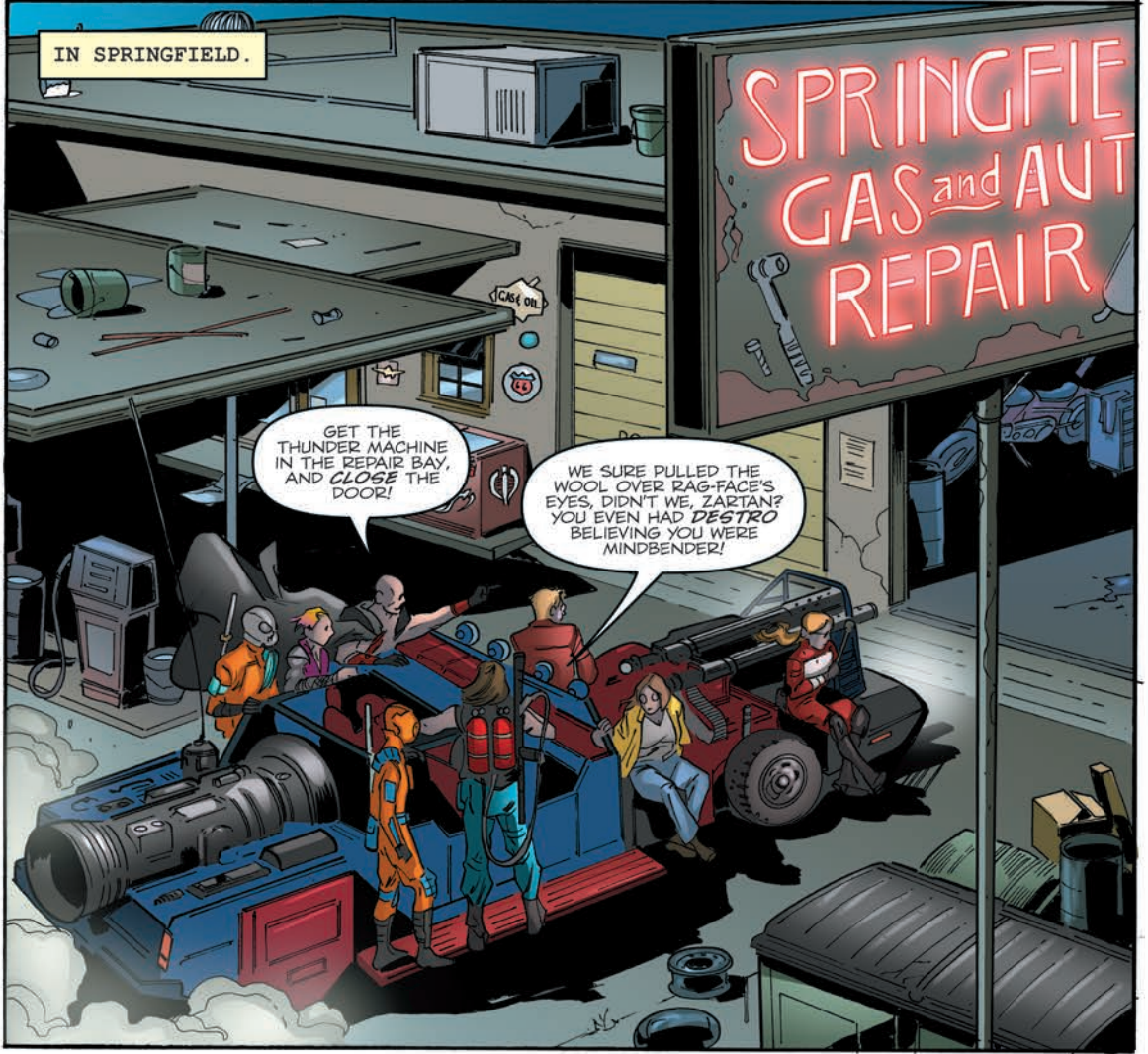


IN SPRINGFIELD.

SPRINGFIELD  
GAS and AUTO  
REPAIR

GET THE  
THUNDER MACHINE  
IN THE REPAIR BAY,  
AND CLOSE THE  
DOOR!

WE SURE PULLED THE  
WOOL OVER RAG-FACE'S  
EYES, DIDN'T WE, ZARTAN?  
YOU EVEN HAD DESTRO  
BELIEVING YOU WERE  
MINDBENDER!



IT IS FAR TOO  
EARLY TO GLOAT! WE  
ARE **NOT** OUT OF THE  
WOODS BY ANY MEANS!  
ROLL DOWN THAT DOOR!  
THE DECEPTION WILL  
BEGIN TO UNRAVEL  
ANY TIME NOW!







LET ME HELP YOU, GRANNY—

DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME, TOMMY. BETTER SEE TO DAWN.



WHAT AM I DOING HERE? WHAT HAPPENED...?



DAWN IS NOW BACK IN CHARGE INSIDE HER HEAD, AND SNAKE-EYES HAS RECEDED. SHE HAS NO MEMORY OF HER ACTIONS WHEN SNAKE-EYES WAS DOMINANT.



OH, SEAN— I'M SORRY WE HAD TO USE YOUR MASK AS PART OF OUR SUBTERFUGE! WE HAVE TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT THAT...



I THINK WE CAN JURY-RIG SOMETHING WITH THIS FUROSHIKI! ONCE I CUT SOME EYEHOLE'S IN IT.





WADE COLLINS—MY DREADNOKS WILL FERRY YOU AND YOUR FAMILY OUT OF SPRINGFIELD ON THEIR BIKES. AFTER THAT, YOU'RE ON YOUR OWN.

I APPRECIATE IT, ZARTAN...

...MY HOT WIRING SKILLS ARE STILL GOOD, SO TRANSPORT SHOULD NOT BE A PROB.



WH-WHAT'S GOING ON HERE? THE LAST THING I REMEMBER WAS GETTING OFF THE PLANE WITH FRED. WE WERE VISITING HIS HOMETOWN...

YOU'VE BEEN IN AN ACCIDENT, SENATOR LING-TORRES, BUT YOU'RE ALL RIGHT NOW...

ACCIDENT? I'M CONFUSED— WHY ARE YOU ALL IN STRANGE COSTUMES?

ERM—WE'LL ARRANGE FOR YOU TO GET BACK TO WASHINGTON. I ADVISE YOU TO BE DISCREET ABOUT YOUR MEMORY LAPSE IF YOU DON'T WANT TO BE REMOVED FROM OFFICE.





IT IS TIME FOR ME, SEAN, DAWN, AND STORM SHADOW TO BE ON *OUR* WAY AS WELL.



WE HAVE TO MAKE SURE THAT DAWN FINISHES HER *OWN* TRAINING, AND LEARNS HOW TO COPE WITH THE *OTHER* PRESENCE INSIDE HER.

I'M SORRY I CAUSE ALL THIS *TROUBLE*, GRANNY.

ZARTAN, YOU'RE *RIGHT* ON THE MONEY ABOUT OUR DECEPTION FALLING APART VERY SOON.

HOW LONG WILL IT BE BEFORE THEY REALIZE THAT *NONE* OF THE PRISONERS HAVE BEEN DELIVERED TO THE POLICE STATION?



I *ALREADY* HAVE AN EXTRACTION PLAN FOR MYSELF, ZARANA, AND THE DREADNOKS.

BUT WHAT ABOUT YOU AND GRANNY AND SEAN?



WE'RE ALL NINJAS.

NO NEED TO WORRY ABOUT *US* HAVING TROUBLE DISAPPEARING.





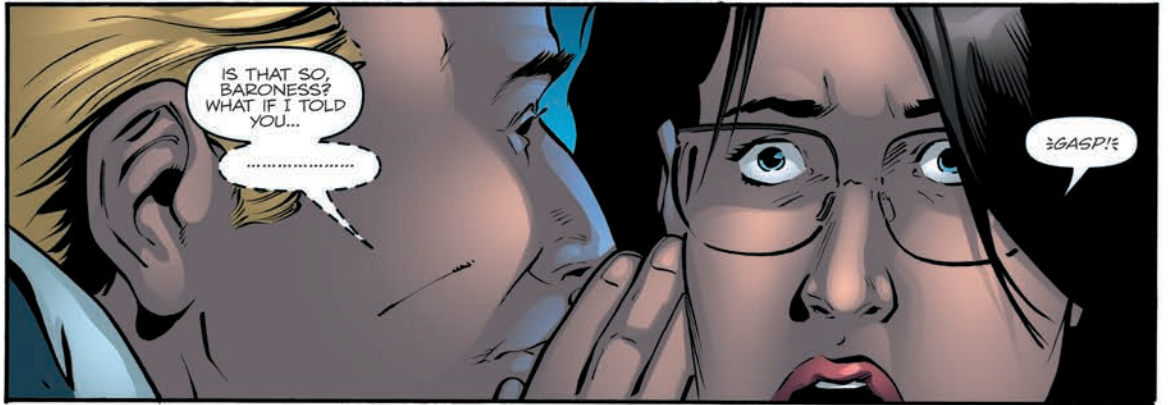
AT THE SPRINGFIELD COMMUNITY CENTER.

REALLY, IS THIS ANY WAY TO GREET AN OLD COHORT?

YOU'RE NOT DR. VENOM! YOU'RE PROBABLY ZARTAN DOING A VERY BAD MORPH JOB!

ZARTAN IS QUITE CAPABLE OF DOING A DEAD-ON IMPERSONATION. THIS IS SOMETHING ELSE.

VENOM IS DEADDER THAN DISCO! THIS IDIOT CAN'T POSSIBLY BE—

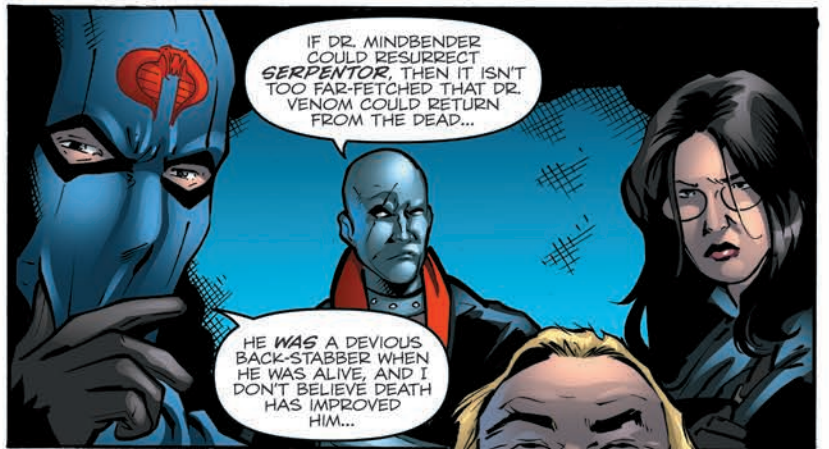


IS THAT SO, BARONESS? WHAT IF I TOLD YOU...

»GASP!«



NOBODY BUT DR. VENOM COULD POSSIBLY KNOW THAT!



IF DR. MINDBENDER COULD RESURRECT SERPENTOR, THEN IT ISN'T TOO FAR-FETCHED THAT DR. VENOM COULD RETURN FROM THE DEAD...

HE WAS A DEVIUS BACK-STABBER WHEN HE WAS ALIVE, AND I DON'T BELIEVE DEATH HAS IMPROVED HIM...



HA! WHAT A BUNCH OF LOSERS!

PATHETIC ASPIRANTS TO EPHEMERAL GLORY, WITH DREAMS OF EMPIRE AND NO VISION TO EXTRAPOLATE THE CONSEQUENCES OF THEIR PENNY-ANTE SCHEMES!