

MY NAME IS THAT OF
MY BLADE--KATANA.
MY SOUL HAS BEEN
EXILED TO THE
FUKUMADEN,
THE DIMENSION INSIDE
MY MYSTIC SWORD, THE
SOULTAKER...

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KATANA IN WAR IN TWO WORLDS!

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KATANA AND HALO CREATED BY MIKE W. BARR AND JIM APARO



...WHILE MY BODY HAS
BEEN USURPED BY
THE SPIRIT OF THE EVIL
EVE, PARAMOUR OF THE
TERRORIST KOBRA.

I DO NOT WANT TO
THINK WHAT SHE IS
DOING WITH MY BODY!

IN A CRUMBLING
THIRD-WORLD
COUNTRY, EVE
WORKS THE WILL
OF HER LOVER,
KOBRA.

NOW, MY
LOVE? SPRING
THE TRAP!

NOT JUST
YET!

DO YOU
THINK THIS
DELAY
WISE?

I DO!
A FEW MORE
SECONDS...

"...AND THE
BOTHERSOME
SUICIDE
SQUAD WILL
BE A THORN
IN OUR SIDE
NO MORE..."

LET'S GO,
SQUAD! KATANA'S
GIVEN THE ALL-
CLEAR!

"...ONCE THEY
HAVE TASTED
KOBRA'S
STING!"

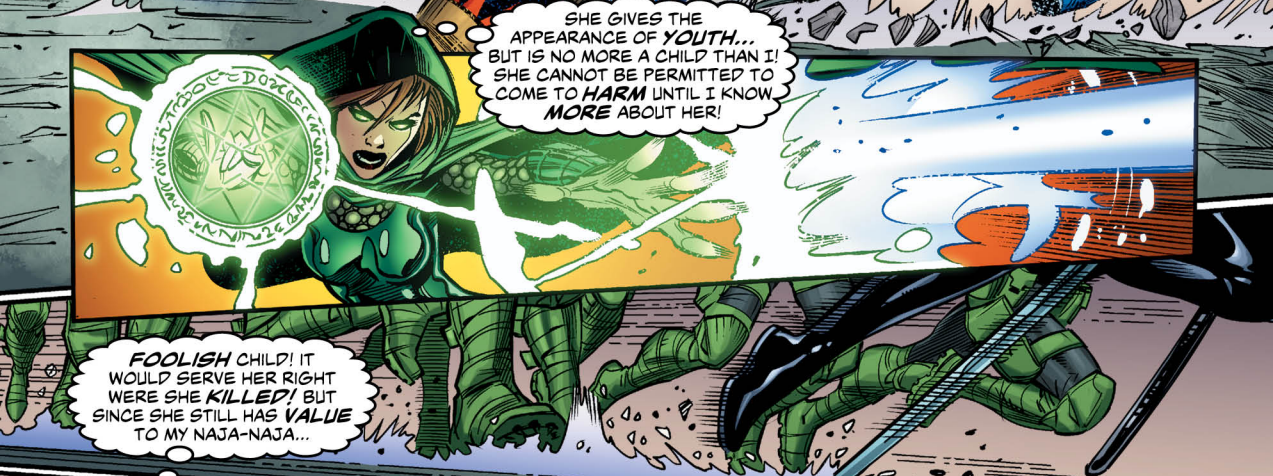
OY! WHO'S
TAKIN' RUDDY
POTSHOTS
AT MY 'IDE?

ANOTHER
COMPLICATION,
GANG...

...THOUGH
I GOTTA ADMIT,
THIS ONE'S
NEW T'ME!

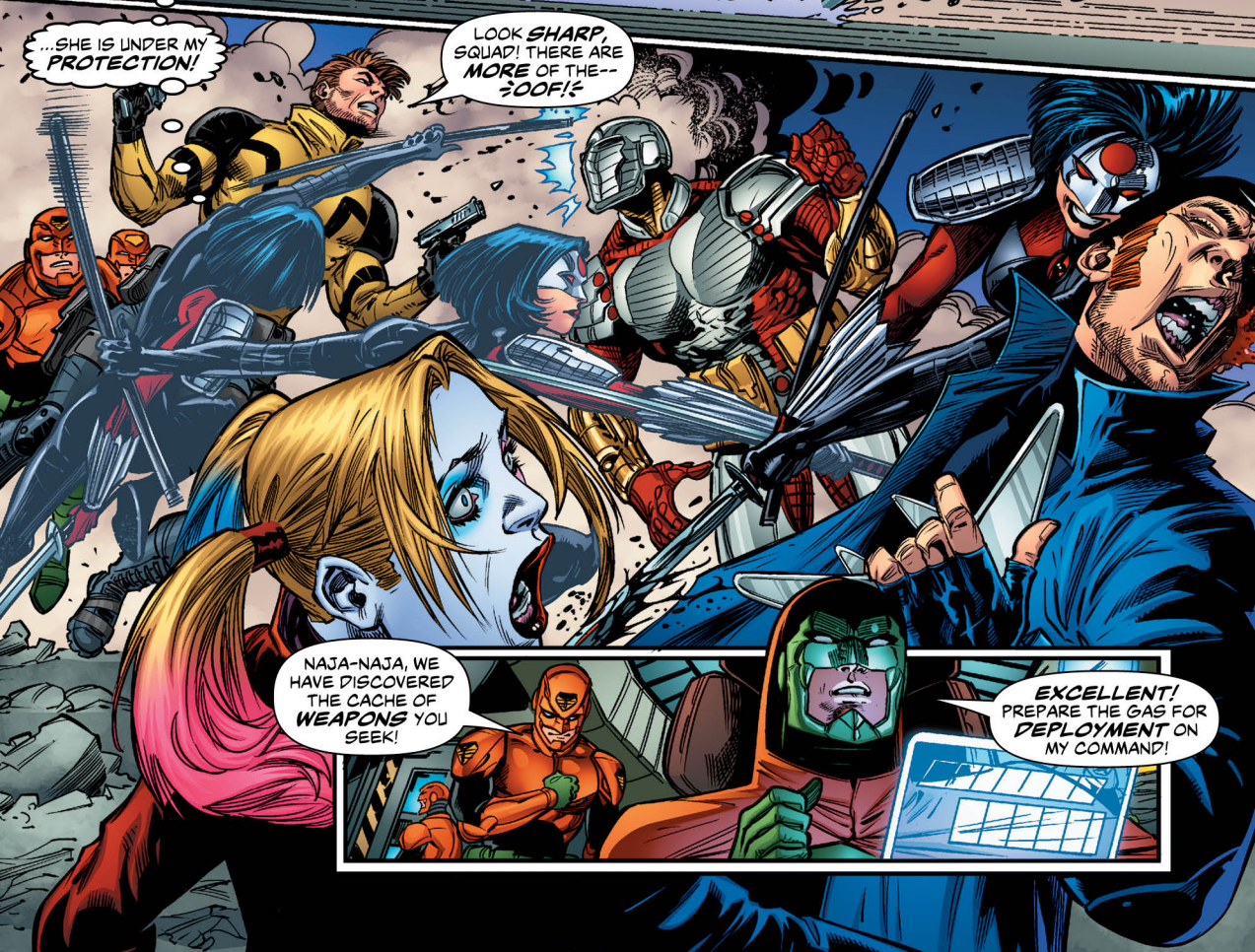


YOU
LEAVE KATANA
ALONE!



SHE GIVES THE
APPEARANCE OF YOUTH...
BUT IS NO MORE A CHILD THAN I!
SHE CANNOT BE PERMITTED TO
COME TO HARM UNTIL I KNOW
MORE ABOUT HER!

FOOLISH CHILD! IT
WOULD SERVE HER RIGHT
WERE SHE KILLED! BUT
SINCE SHE STILL HAS VALUE
TO MY NAJA-NAJA...

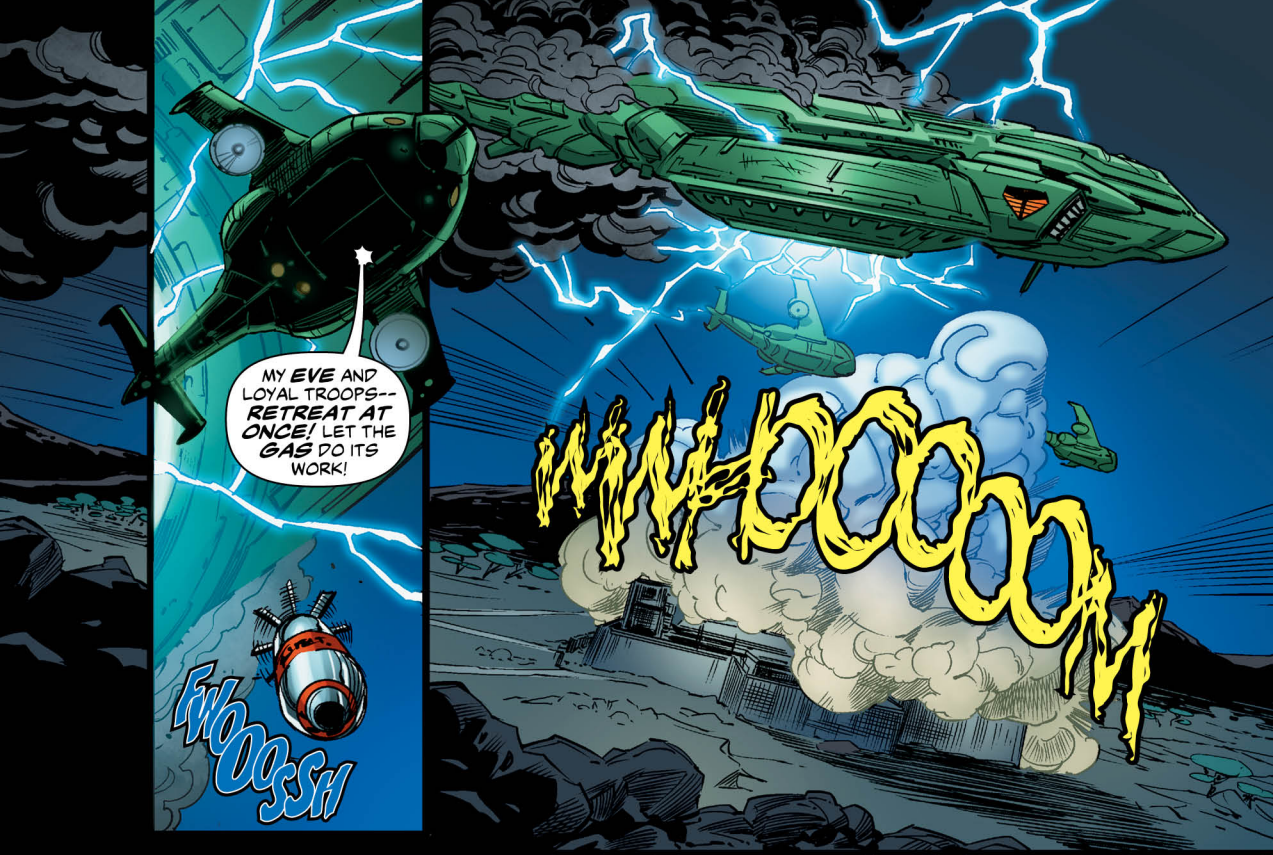


...SHE IS UNDER MY
PROTECTION!

LOOK SHARP,
SQUAD! THERE ARE
MORE OF THE--
DOOF!

NAJA-NAJA, WE
HAVE DISCOVERED
THE CACHE OF
WEAPONS YOU
SEEK!

EXCELLENT!
PREPARE THE GAS FOR
DEPLOYMENT ON
MY COMMAND!



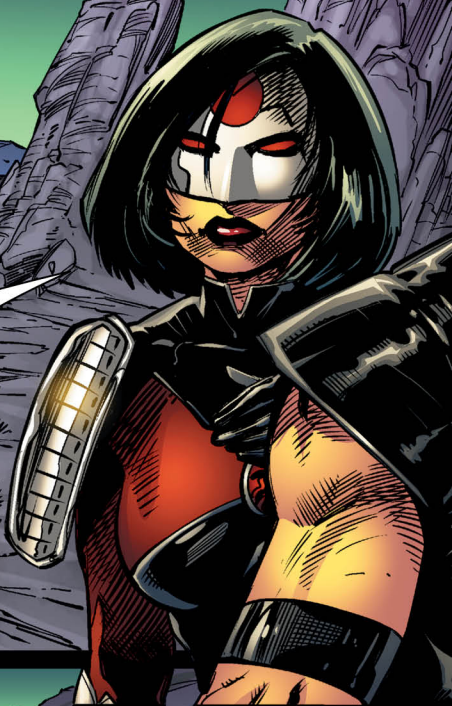


AND IN THE DIMENSION
KNOWN AS THE FUKUMADEN...

THIS...
PORTAL IS THE
ONLY WAY **OUT** OF
THIS DIMENSION,
TATSU?

AS FAR AS
I **KNOW**, MASEO...
BUT WAIT...

...THESE **SOULS**
ACT AS THOUGH THEY ARE
ALMOST **MESMERIZED**...
UNDER SOME
COMPULSION...



...THEY ARE HEADING FOR THAT
CAVE... THEIR PURPOSE MAY
BE **IMPORTANT**...



WHAT IF
THEY NOTICE
WE DO NOT
BELONG?

SUCH GROUPS
ARE RARELY THAT
DISCERNING.

BUT LOOK,
MASEO... AT THE
CROWD'S HEAD...



MURAMASA!

ALL OF YOU,
LISTEN--ALL OF
YOU CAPTIVE SOULS,
HEAR THE WORDS OF
MURAMASA!

