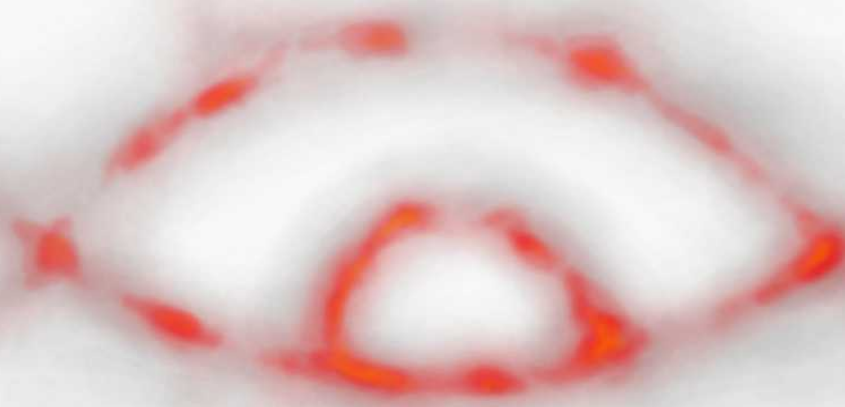


"A storm is coming... it will wipe out humanity unless we stop it."

GOLDEN GANG



A DANIEL SCHENSTRÖM STORY

Daniel Schenström - Rom Freire - Devina - Salomon Farias - Armin Ozdic - Shannon Hall - Viktor Matiesen - David Antón Gomis
With André Ciderfao - Claudinei Ribeiro - Leonardo Santana

Hi!

This is a sampler for the first volume of stories featuring the Golden Gang. It contains almost the entire first episode plus a sample pages from seven of the following eight episodes that make up the first volume of the Golden Gang collection. Finally there's also a page from a short story that's included in the first volume. Some pages might differ slightly from the final versions.

Golden Gang was first created back in 1984 or 1985 and has been through many iterations since then. This version and was conceived in 2007 and is intended to be the definitive version. In 2011 I started looking for people to help bring Golden Gang to life and some of the talented people who applied have their work in this sampler for you to enjoy.

I'll be back to talk to you more later, but for now, thank you for your interest. I hope you'll like what you're about to read.

-Daniel Schenström, September 2012

1290 BEFORE OUR RECKONING. PERU.

FOR OVER 100 YEARS THE SHAMANS OF WHAT WILL BE KNOWN AS THE CHAVIN HAVE COME TO THE CAVES HERE AT X'LERAN. THEY BELIEVE THEY CAN SEE INTO THE SPIRIT WORLD AND RECIEVE GUIDANCE, THEIR SENSES AMPLIFIED BY HERBAL INCENSE.

FWOOSH!

TODAY THE VISIONS WILL BE
A LOT MORE...REAL.



MANY YEARS LATER, WHAT WAS ONCE CHAVIN LAND IS NOW PART OF THE ENORMOUS INCA EMPIRE. INSTEAD OF SIMPLE CAVES AS PLACES OF WORSHIP THEY NOW HAVE GREAT TEMPLES.



LATER, THE VAULT OF AGES IS WHERE THE EMPIRE STORES ALL OF ITS MOST VALUABLE TREASURE. TROPHIES, TOTEMS AND SACRED ITEMS INHERITED FROM ALL ITS MEMBER STATES.



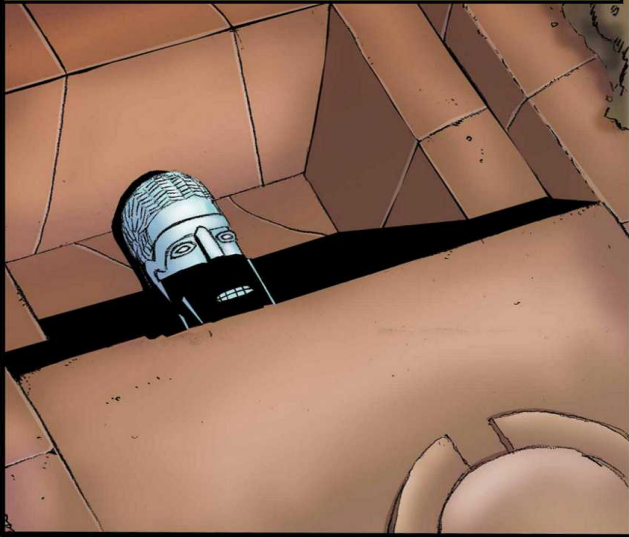
A FEW CENTURIES LATER, MOSTLY BECAUSE OF THE FALL OF ATLANTIS, MAGIC IN THE WORLD IS AT SUCH A LOW LEVEL THAT THE STATUES BECOME INERT.



1497. WHEN SPAIN PLUNDERS THE EMPIRE THEY TAKE THE GOLD STATUE BUT THE SHIP THAT'S SUPPOSED TO CARRY IT BACK TO SPAIN, SANTA ELENA, IS LOST IN A STORM.



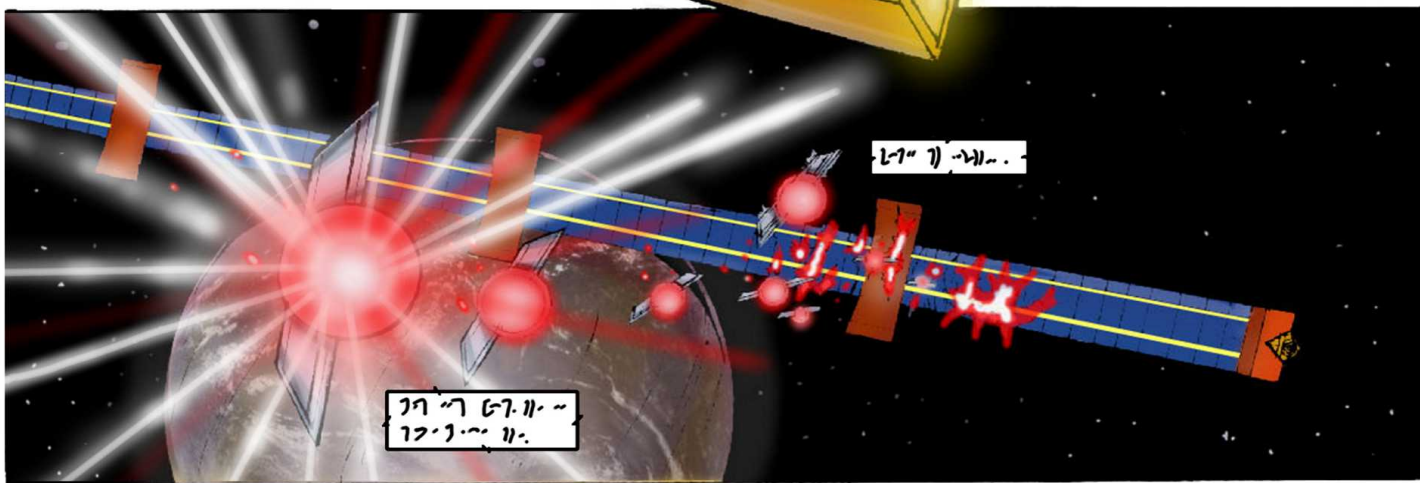
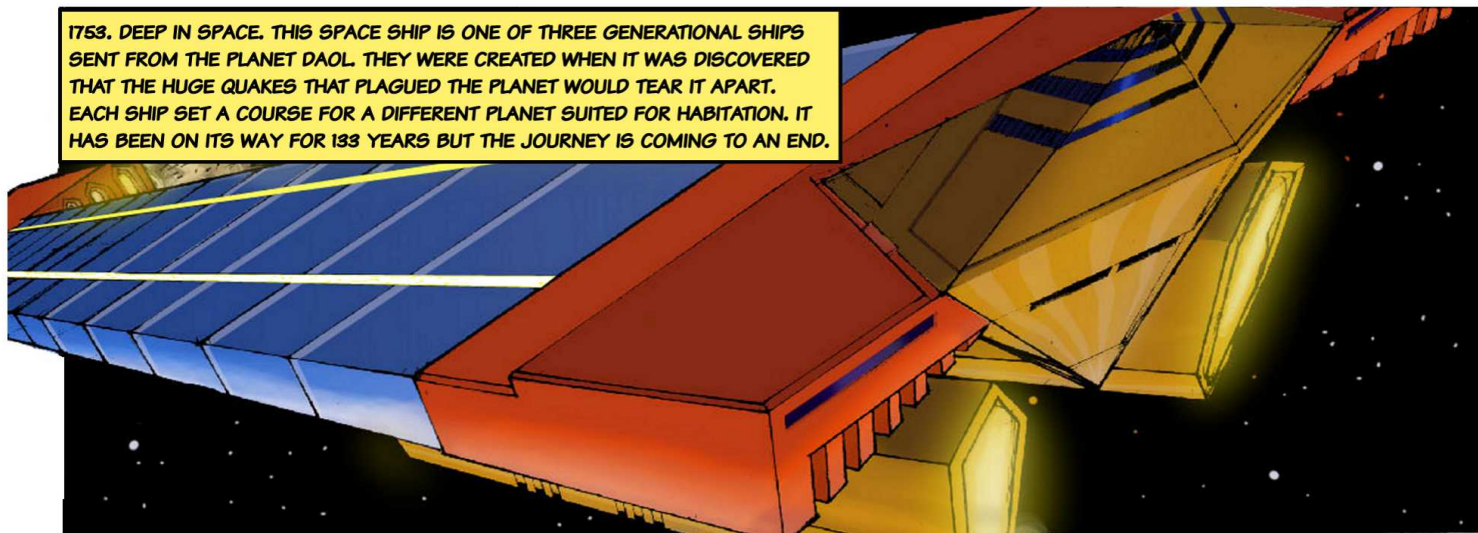
THE SILVER STATUE IS HIDDEN IN MACCHU PICCHU WHICH IS THEN ABANDONED SO THE SPANISH INVADERS WON'T FIND IT.



1577. COBURG, GERMANY. A YOUNG NOBLEWOMAN INFLECTED BY LYCANTHROPY, THE WEREWOLF DISEASE, IS OUT RIDING ONE DAY WHEN SHE SPOTS SOMETHING UNUSUAL.



1753. DEEP IN SPACE. THIS SPACE SHIP IS ONE OF THREE GENERATIONAL SHIPS SENT FROM THE PLANET DAOL. THEY WERE CREATED WHEN IT WAS DISCOVERED THAT THE HUGE QUAKES THAT PLAGUED THE PLANET WOULD TEAR IT APART. EACH SHIP SET A COURSE FOR A DIFFERENT PLANET SUITED FOR HABITATION. IT HAS BEEN ON ITS WAY FOR 133 YEARS BUT THE JOURNEY IS COMING TO AN END.



WE NEED TO
ESCAPE NOW!

GET TO THE ESCAPE
PODS. I NEED TO STAY
TO FIGHT!

NO! COME WITH US.
THE BATTLE IS LOST!
YOU MUSTN'T DIE!

RUN!



YOU KNOW MY DUTY
AS CAPTAIN...



7-7-71-771



1821. COBBLER'S HILL NEAR GLOUCESTER, ENGLAND. A NEWBORN BABY BOY IS LEFT AT THE STEPS OF A SMALL COTTAGE BY HIS PARENTS AS THEY FADE OUT FROM THIS WORLD.



THE COUPLE WHO HAD FAILED TO GET CHILDREN OF THEIR OWN HAPPILY ACCEPT THE BOY. THEY SOON DISCOVER HOW DIFFERENT HE IS. HE NEVER BECOMES ILL, HE CAN SEE IN THE DARK, AND HE NEVER NEEDS TO SLEEP.



AND HE CAN FLY.

1945. ULM, GERMANY. WHEN THE NAZI GOVERNMENT FALLS A GROUP OF HIGH-UPS IN HITLER'S AHNENERBE HAVE SETS A RESERVE PLAN IN MOTION. CALLING THEMSELVES CHAIN AFTER THE MAGIC ARTEFACT CALLED THE CHAIN OF KATUN THEY DISAPPEAR WITH VAST AMOUNT OF NAZI GOLD AND ALL OF THE OCCULT ARTEFACTS IN THEIR POSSESSION.



1956. CAPTAIN SUN BEGINS HIS CAREER AFTER FINDING THE MAGIC INCA SUIT.



THE WORLD'S FIRST SUPERVILLAIN, THE NORWEGIAN WHITE GHOST, APPEARS AND CAPTAIN SUN DEFEATS HIM AFTER A BANK ROBBERY.



1974. HEROES UNION, THE FIRST SUPERHERO ORGANIZATION IS FOUNDED BY CAPTAIN SUN, TIME TRAVELLER BLACKFLASH, ALIEN TRIP'TAL, THE MAGICALLY ALTERED GRASSHOPPER AND THE GENETICALLY MODIFIED SPIDER.



1961. SAN FRANCISCO. MUSCLES, THE FIRST HUMAN WITH SUPERPOWERS, IS BORN.



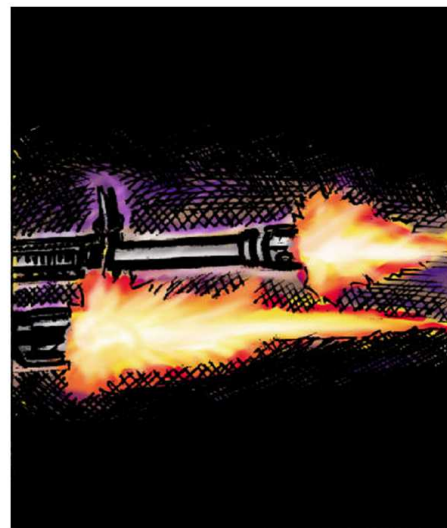
THE FIRST SUPERVILLAIN ORGANIZATION, THE ?-GROUP, IS ALSO FOUNDED THIS YEAR.



1978. A GIRL IS BORN TO PARENTS SUBJECTED TO GENETIC ALTERATION BY CHAIN. SHE IS TRAINED TO BECOME ONE OF THEIR ELITE SUPERSOLDIERS.



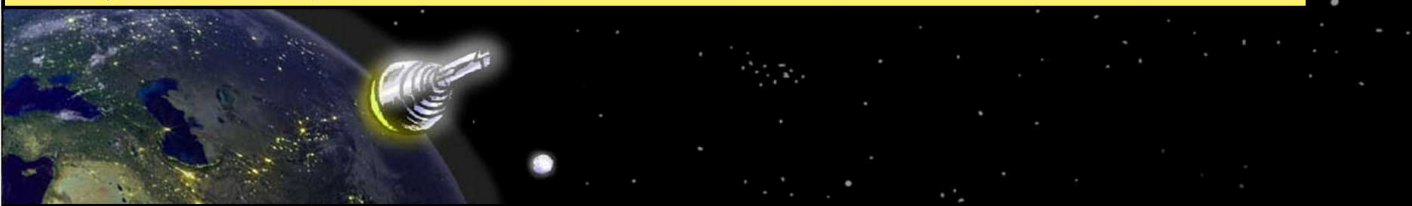
1984. SICILY, ITALY.



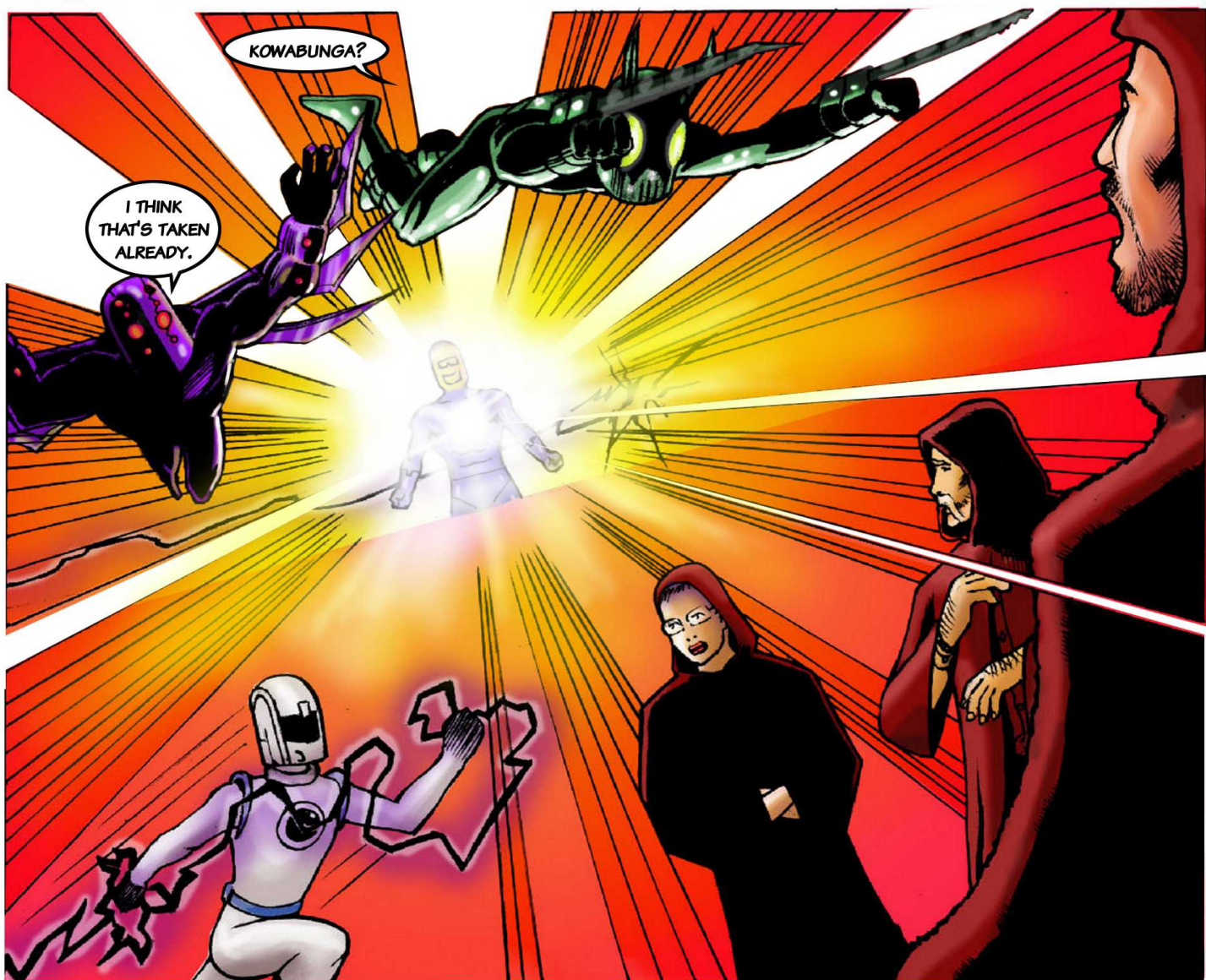
1984. BRAZIL. SEVERAL LOGGING COMPANIES HAVE THEIR EQUIPMENT DESTROYED BY WHAT THEY CALL A WEREWOLF. SOON SHE WILL BE KNOWN AS THE SUPERHERO WOLFWOMAN

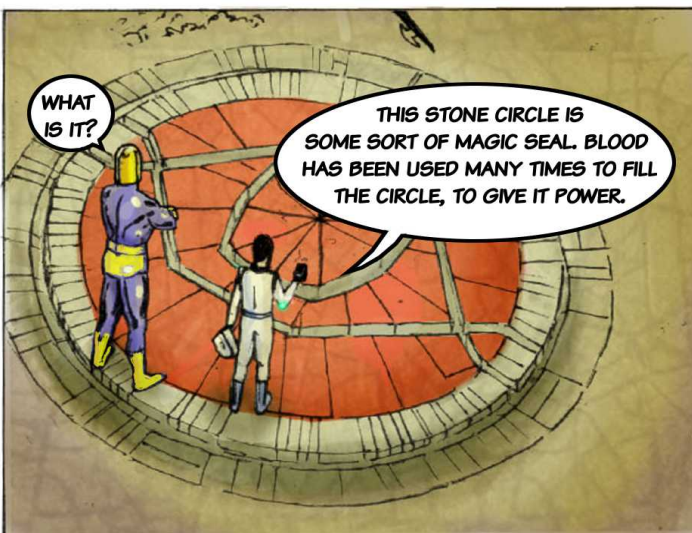
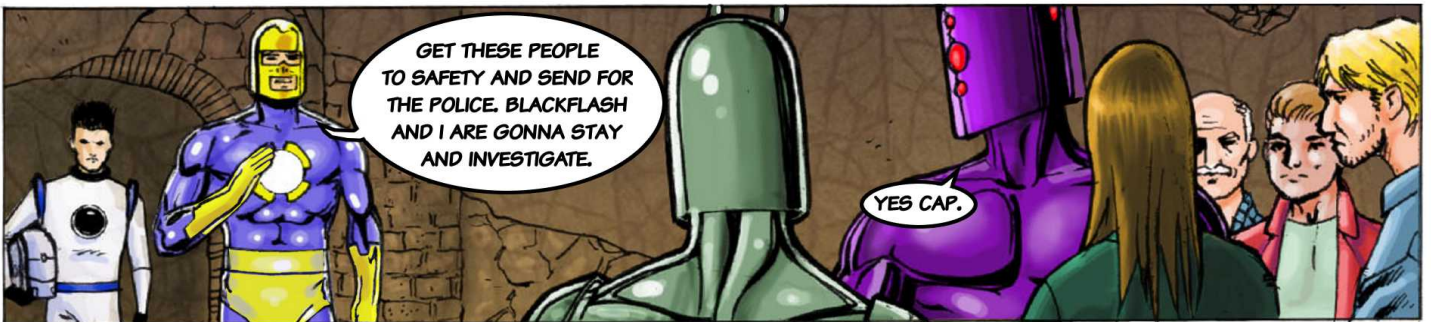
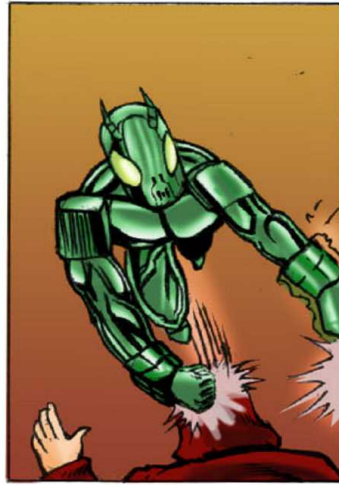


1988. SWEDEN. PRINCE K'RISS FOLLOWS IN HIS GRANDMOTHER'S FOOTSTEPS AND TRAVELS TO PLANET EARTH IN ORDER TO STUDY ITS CULTURES, REPORT BACK HOME, AND HAVE SOME FUN.



1990. PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC. A SERIES OF KIDNAPPINGS HAVE LED HEROES UNION TO AN UNDERGROUND MEDIEVAL TEMPLE.







WHAT IS THAT?

SOME SORT OF MAGICAL
ENERGY IS POURING OUT. WE HAVE
TO ALERT THE AUTHORITIES.

THIS IS THE ETERNAL NIGHT, A PLACE NO HUMAN KNOWS ABOUT, A PLACE NOTHING LIVING AS
WE DEFINE IT EXISTS, A PLACE WHICH NO TECHNOLOGY COULD EVER DISCOVER.

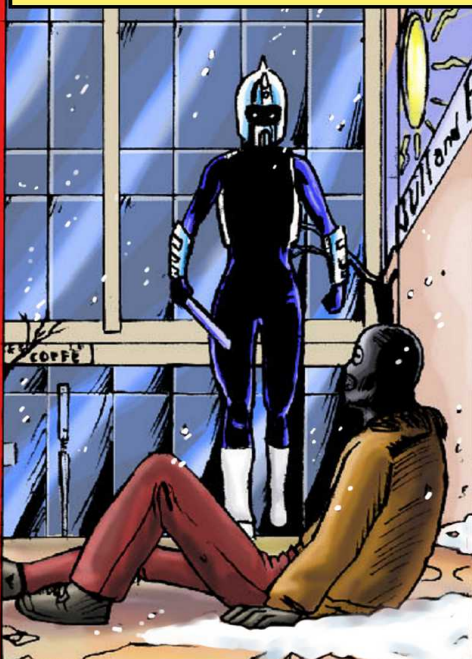
IT'S A TWO-DIMENSIONAL PLANE DESIGNED TO BE A PRISON FOR ITS RULER WHO WAS IMPRISONED
HERE EARLY IN THE UNIVERSE'S EXISTENCE. IT'S STILL HERE BUT ITS JAILORS ARE LONG GONE.

AFTER MILLIONS OF YEARS IT LEARNED THAT NO AMOUNT OF FORCE WOULD SET IT FREE. INSTEAD
IT REACHED OUT WITH ITS MIND ACROSS THE UNIVERSE UNTIL IT FOUND WEAK MINDS THAT WOULD DO
ITS BIDDING. FOR NEARLY 10,000 YEARS ITS SERVANTS ON EARTH HAS TRIED TO STRANGLE THE
MAGIC THAT KEEPS IT IMPRISONED.

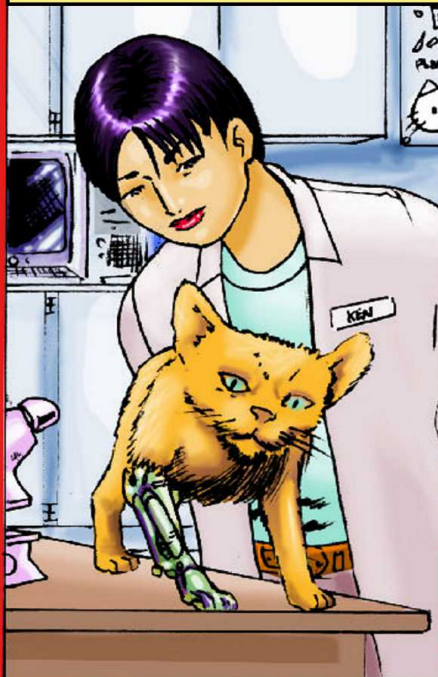
MASTER, ONE OF THE MAGIC
WELLS HAVE BEEN OPENED. YOUR HUMAN
SERVANTS HAVE FAILED.

PREPARE AN OBSERVER AND SEND
IT THROUGH. I WANT TO KNOW HOW THEY
WERE DISCOVERED.

1990. HAMILTON, CANADA. UNHAPPY WITH THE
JUDICIAL SYSTEM A YOUNG POLICE OFFICER
STARTS HER CAREER AS THE VIGILANTE SPIKE,
THE FIRST ORDINARY HUMAN TO PUT ON A
COSTUME AND FIGHT CRIME.



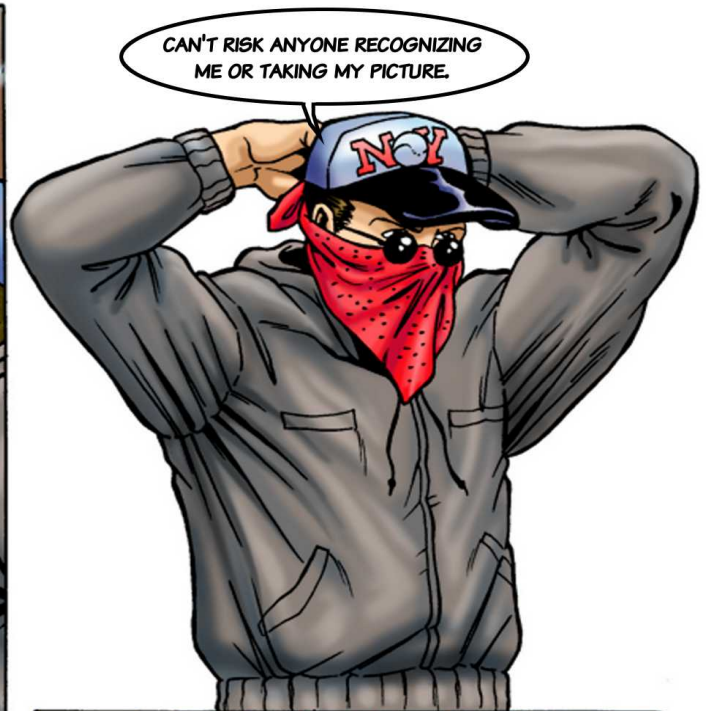
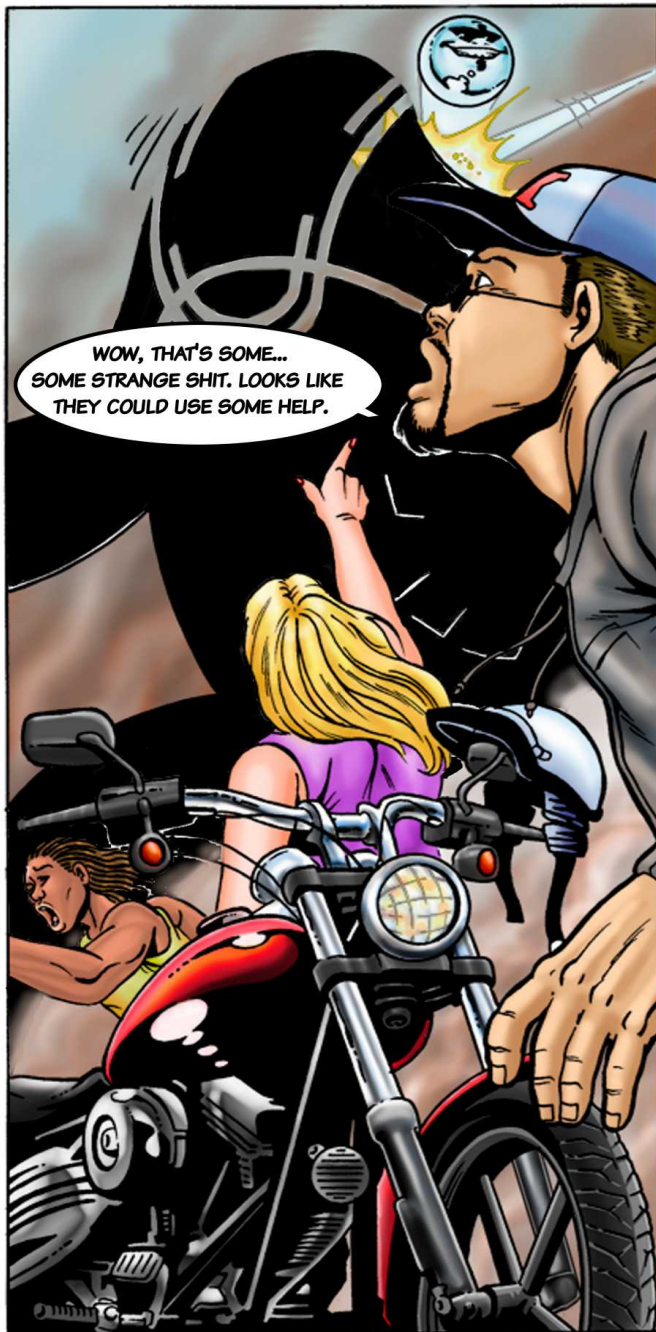
KYOTO, JAPAN. SAKIKO KEN PIONEERS
INTERFACES BETWEEN ORGANIC AND
ELECTRONIC FUNCTIONS REVOLUTIONIZING
PROSTHETICS.



HEROES UNION CROSSES OVER INTO A
PARALLELL WORLD WHERE THEY RUN INTO
ITS SELF APPOINTED GUARDIANS,

THE DARK
STARS.





TWO DAYS LATER, TWO FAMILIAR INDIVIDUALS ARE MAKING THEIR WAY ACROSS THE ATLANTIC.

I'VE ALWAYS BEEN MEANING TO ASK YOU, WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT HUMANS?

THAT'S A TOUGH QUESTION.

ONE THING, I THINK IT'S STRANGE THAT THEY ARE SO NICE WHEN THEY'VE GOTTEN TO KNOW YOU BUT CAN BE SO UNPLEASANT OTHERWISE.

THEY SEEM TO HAVE TROUBLE PUTTING THEMSELVES IN OTHER PEOPLE'S SITUATIONS.

WHAT'S YOUR PEOPLE LIKE?

WE'RE A MUCH MORE UNITED CULTURE. WE DON'T HAVE COUNTRIES LIKE YOU HAVE HERE, ONLY ONE LANGUAGE, GREATER TOLERANCE. BUT THAT ALSO MEAN EVERYTHING'S A LOT MORE PREDICTABLE FOR GOOD AND BAD.

HOW 'BOUT YOU? YOUR PEOPLE?

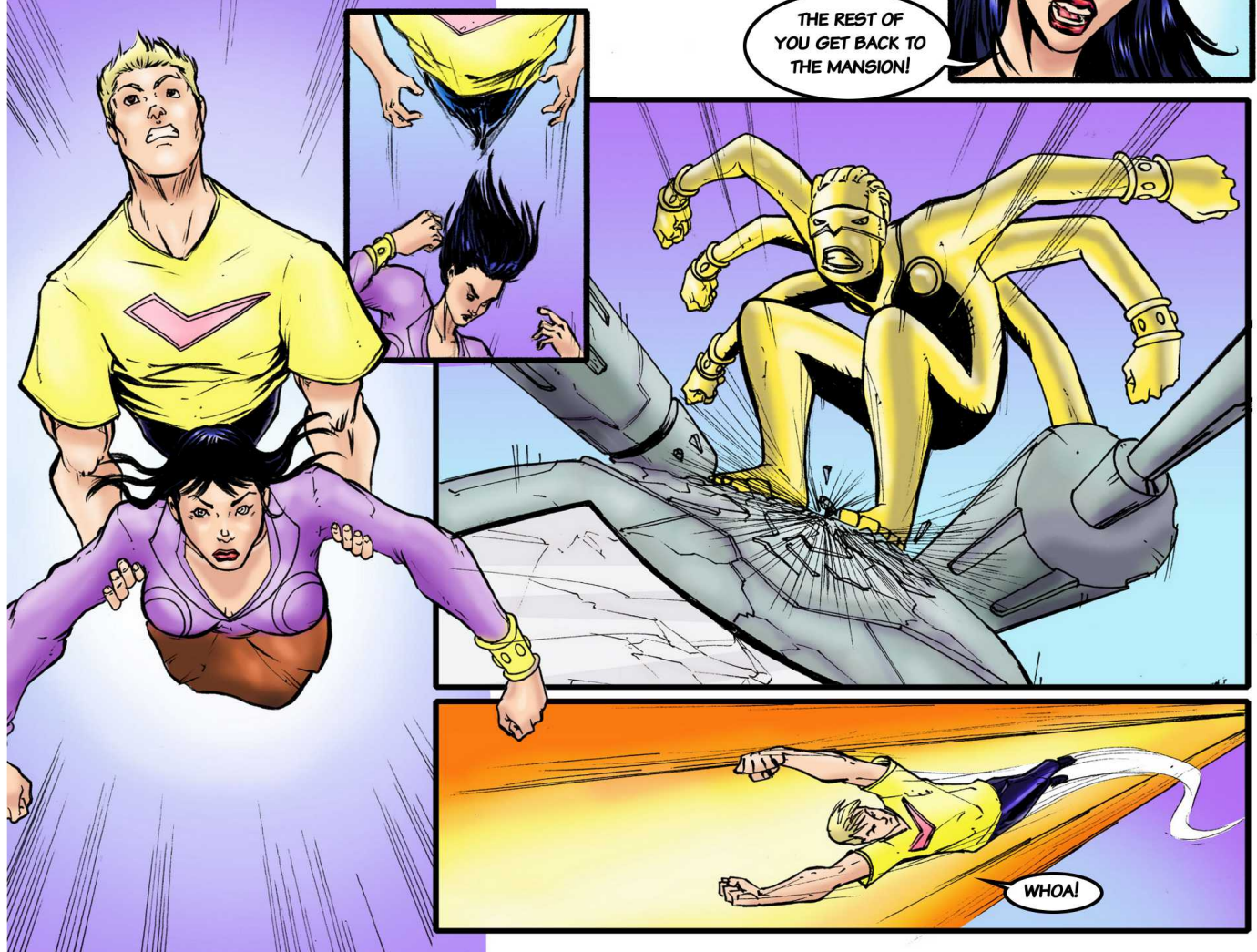
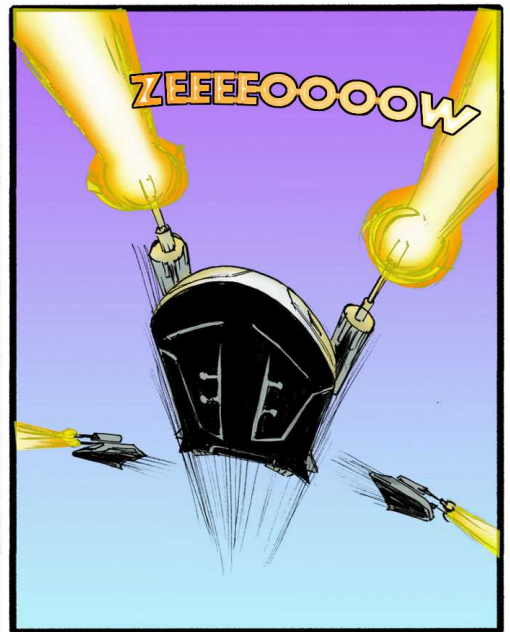
I REALLY DON'T KNOW. EVERYTHING I READ ABOUT ELVES, IF THAT'S WHAT I AM, SEEMS LIKE IT'S JUST FICTION, MAKE-BELIEVE FAIRY TALES.

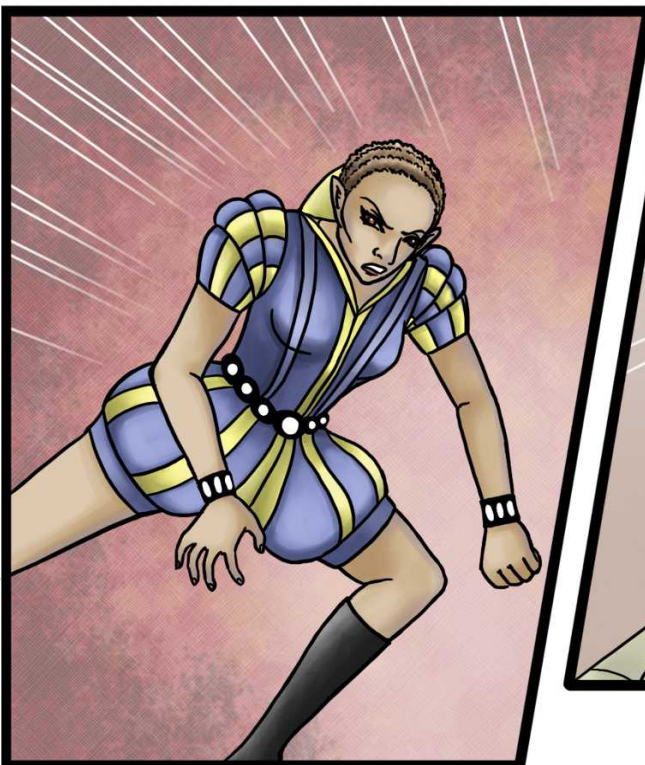
I HAVE A HUGE COLLECTION OF BOOKS ON THE SUBJECT BUT I CAN'T FIND ANY REAL SIMILARITIES IN THE VARIOUS SOURCES.

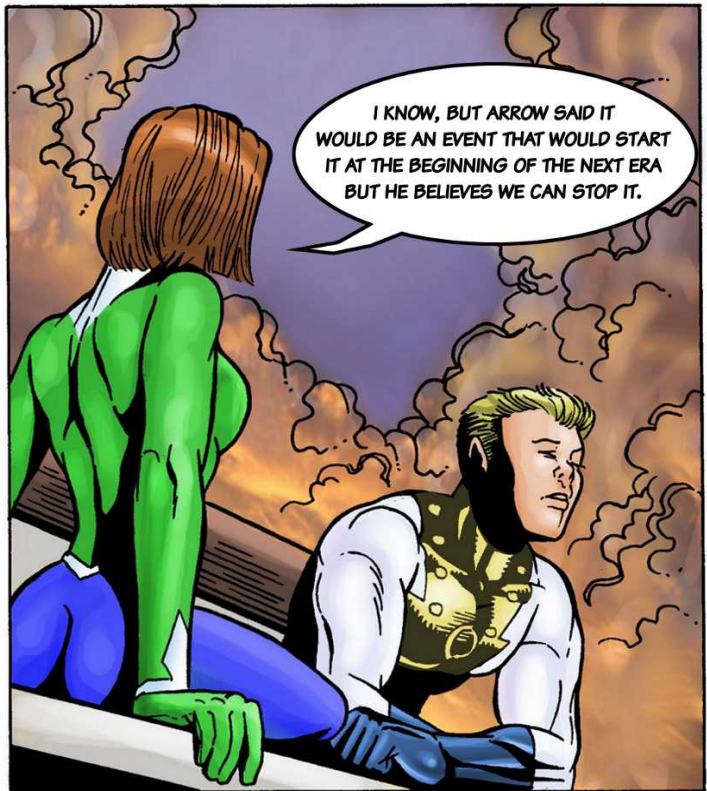
FAIRY TALES... THAT'S ONE OF THE THINGS WE DON'T HAVE.

WHAT DO YOU TELL YOUR CHILDREN WHEN YOU'RE PUTTING THEM TO BED?

REAL HISTORICAL STUFF. FICTIONAL STORIES IS REALLY RARE AND IT'S A RECENT DEVELOPMENT.









SCRIPT: Daniel Schenstrom LINE ART: Shannon Hall - Devina - Viktor Matthesen COLOR WORK: André Cidefæe - Claudinei Ribeiro

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS. USA. A WEEK AGO THE CITY WAS THE SITE OF AN ATTACK BY AN OTHERWORLDLY SPECIES NICKNAMED TROLLS. REBUILDING HAS ALREADY STARTED BUT IT'S ESTIMATED TO TAKE TWO YEARS. TOGETHER WITH THE 20 SPECIALS AND STRIKERS OUR GANG OF HEROES MANAGED TO DEFEAT THE TROLLS.

TODAY THE GANG IS BACK TO TRY TO FIND TWO OF IT'S MISSING MEMBERS. THEY JUMPED THROUGH A MAGIC PORTAL SET UP BY THE TROLLS AND HAVEN'T BEEN HEARD FROM SINCE..

EVERYONE NEEDS TO BE READY. IF WE MANAGE TO OPEN A PORTAL WE DON'T KNOW WHAT TO EXPECT. ANOTHER TROLL ARMY COULD BE WAITING ON THE OTHER SIDE.

DANIEL SCHENSTRÖM - SHANNON HALL - DEVINA - VIKTOR MATIESEN - ANDRÉ CIDERFAO - CLAUDINEI RIBEIRO
SCRIPT, COLOR ART ART, COLOR ART COLOR COLOR

THE END OF THE WORLD

THE END OF THE WORLD

The Creator's Word

I hope you liked what you saw and want to know a little more about the publication of Golden Gang.

The first trade volume will be available as both a physical trade paperback (in December) and digital download (TBA). Information on how to get a hold of either one is on the next page. The volumes are planned to be released annually towards the end of the year. The first one will contain nine episodes and one short story, while the next one will have six episodes and a short story or two. After that, depending on how well the first volumes do, I'll determine what a good number of episodes is for coming volumes.

If the reception is good, the plan is for 100 episodes in around 30 volumes. If it isn't successful I will shorten the story so it can be finished in 3-5 volumes instead. No matter what, you will get to read the conclusion. And that takes us into why you should invest your time in Golden Gang when there's so much else to put time and money into. Here's my thoughts, promises and philosophies regarding Golden Gang:

-Golden Gang's story will be a finished one. In case of my death or disability the story material that's unreleased will be first made available to comics creators I've worked with. If they're unavailable or unwilling to continue it will be made public so that anyone who wants to can finish it, and everyone who wants to can read what the end is intended to be like.

-Golden Gang's story will have consequences and surprises. There will be no characters coming back from the dead, reboots or returns to some favored status quo. Unlike the bigger companies I do not have to keep my heroes or villains alive because they're valuable economic assets. There's no editorial mandates to follow, just my personal vision.

-Golden Gang is all you need. There will be no crossovers or the like and everything you need to understand the story will be in the story.

-Golden Gang is for mature readers. This does not mean it will have lots of gore or sexual imagery, but that there will be mature themes like religion, politics, relations and such. Topics that some consider to be controversial. It is not a soapbox for my personal beliefs, it will contain characters with differing beliefs, experiences and so on. For me, mature isn't about age as much as it is about acceptance and understanding.

-Golden Gang is a not for my profit publication. Both the trade paperback and digital download is priced as low as possible. And the profit goes to the other artists, I personally keep none of it.

-Golden Gang is still about super hero adventures! After all the serious stuff above it's important to mention that above all the stories are meant as entertainment.

Ok, you've convinced me, tell me how to give you my money!

Golden Gang Volume 1: Endings is available for purchase in physical form.

In the beginning it will be available to order from Indyplanet. It will also be distributed to comicbook stores and bookstores later. The exact dates for the releases will be posted on the Golden Gang website and you can sign up to be emailed when they're available.

The digital download will have no copy protection and will sell for \$0.99 unless Indyplanet raises the minimum price. The date it will be available will be posted on the web site.

The trade paperback is 200 pages and priced at \$22. Links to where you can purchase it is on the web site.

**Visit Golden Gang at <http://www.griffindesign.org/gg.html>.
Any questions, e-mail me at daniel@griffindesign.org.**