



Starting this issue!

DAEMONIFUGE

Ephrael Stern, sister of battle





ADEPTA



FILE: Battle Sister

DESG: Std

Many millennia ago, in a time of strife, the Adeptus Ministorum was banned from having men under arms. The elite all-female warriors of the Adepta Sororitas is the Adeptus Ministorum way of maintaining a military force without breaking this law.

Only the most physically adept sister are honoured the privilege of donning a sacred suit of Power armour and receiving the blessed rites of weaponry that allow them passage into one of Militant Orders to become a full Battle Sister.



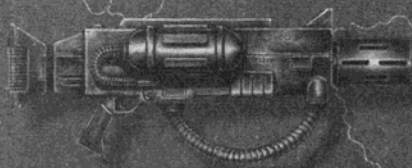
WPN: Boltgun
PTN: Mk.XII (Jove)

The standard weapon for the Adepta Sororitas is the boltgun, all Sisters are trained in its use. This devastating weapon is more akin to mini-rocket launcher, firing a rapid succession of lethal explosive bolts.

FILE: Battle Sister

DESG: Spc

Some Sister Superiors give additional training to the most skilled of their Battle Sisters, educating them in the use of more exotic weaponry. Often such weaponry is very short ranged and only the bravest are given the task of closing with the enemy to deal death with a super-heated blast or slaying many with devastating flame-thrower attack. Often these same Battle Sisters are demolition experts, taking out enemy bunkers with melta-bombs and plasma grenades.



WPN: Melta-gun **PTN: Mk.V (Necro)**

The melta-gun is just one example of the weaponry used by these Battle Sisters. It works on an atomic fusion principle, super-heating the particles in the target and reducing it to molten slag.

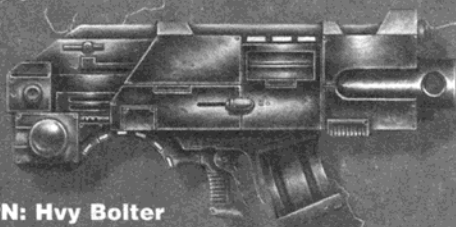


SORORITAS

FILE: Battle Sister

DSG: Hvy

The battlefields of the 41st millennia are filled with awesome war machines and deadly monstrosities, such targets may prove impervious to normal weapons fire. In such cases the Battle Sisters employ heavy weaponry. These weapons are much larger than normal guns, capable of firing heavier shells and much faster rate. Their only drawback being their great weight and cumbersome nature, although this proves little problem for a Battle Sister in a full suit of Power Armour.



WPN: Hvy Bolter
PTN: Mk.III (Jove)

This is a heavier version of the standard boltgun, it fires much larger shells capable of tearing apart such horrific targets as the alien warriors of the Tyranid hive fleets

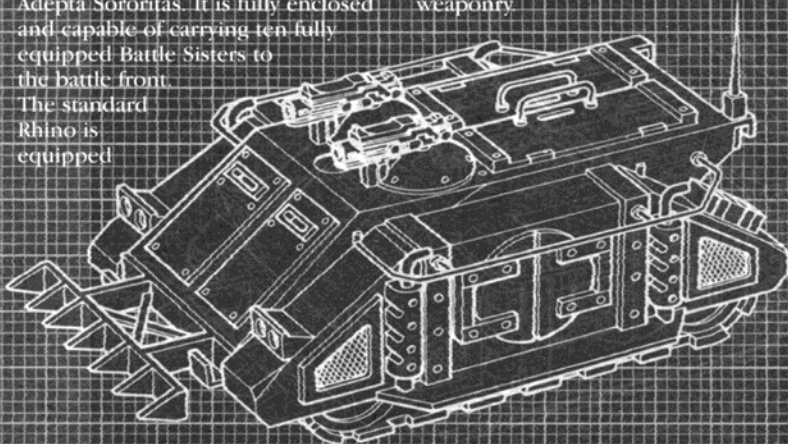


FILE: Rhino

DSG: Transport

The Rhino is the standard, armoured transport for many Imperial armies, including the Adepta Sororitas. It is fully enclosed and capable of carrying ten fully equipped Battle Sisters to the battle front. The standard Rhino is equipped

with twin boltguns, although there are many variants that have been upgraded to include much heavier weaponry.



TOP: Rhino Mk XXI (Ophelia)

WPN: Twin cannon (config unknown)

BOTTOM: Immolator Mk.I (Ophelia)

WPN: Twin heavy flammers

DAEMONIFUGE

SCRIPT JIM CAMPBELL & KEV WALKER • ART KEV WALKER • LETTERS FIONA STEVENSON

"I NEVER DREAMT THAT MY LIFE
WOULD END LIKE *THIS* ...

"I THINK I'D *LAUGH* ... IF MY LUNGS
WEREN'T FULL OF *BLOOD*.

"*EVERYONE* DIES – THE
EMPEROR HIMSELF
STANDS ASTRIDE THE
THRESHOLD OF LIFE AND
DEATH ...

"I DO NOT *FEAR* THE ENDING
OF THIS LIFE, FOR WE HAVE
ALWAYS BELIEVED THAT
DEATH IS SIMPLY ANOTHER
BEGINNING – AN *ENTRANCE*
TO A NEW EXISTENCE.

"THE FEAR OF DEATH IS BUT THE FEAR OF THE UNKNOWN AND I HAVE GAZED
INTO THE *ABYSS* SO MANY TIMES THAT THIS TRANSITION CAUSES NO REAL
PAIN. I AM OVERFLOWING WITH *DARKNESS* AND STEP TOWARDS THIS HORIZON
WITH GREATER *HOPE* THAN THE ONE I LEAVE BEHIND.

"I HAVE NO MEMORY OF *CHILDHOOD*, NOT ONE OF GROWING, NOT ONE
OF LEARNING. I RECALL ONLY ENTERING THIS WORLD FULLY-FORMED,
STEEPED IN THE *BLOOD* OF MY *SISTERS*, THE SCREAMING OF HUMAN
SOULS AND THE VIBRANT ROAR OF *CHAOS*.

"IT BEGAN IN *MADNESS*, AND IN *PAIN* ..."

CONVENT PRIORIS, TERRA.

" HOW MUCH *LONGER*,
PRIORESS ? OUR ORDER
IS *SHAMED* - "

"*QUIET*, SISTER. YOU
NEED NOT REMIND
ME OF OUR *VOWS*."

" BUT *FOUR YEARS* ? ALL THIS
TIME SHE HAS UTTERED
HERESIES AND DEFILED THE
VERY *WALLS* OF OUR *CONVENT*
WITH HER *BLASPHEMIES* !
THERE IS TALK... "

" ... AND WHERE NO HARM
CAN COME TO *HER*. "

I AM AWARE
OF THE
RUMOURS...

BUT *WHATEVER* YOUR FEARS,
WE HAVE NO *EVIDENCE* OF HER
CORRUPTION - WE KNOW ALMOST
NOTHING OF WHAT HAS
BEFALLEN HER...

...AND I WILL NOT *TOLERATE* ANY MORE IDLE
SPECULATION ON HER *NATURE*. I AM
PROMISED THAT AN INQUISITOR IS *FINALLY*
EN ROUTE TO ASSESS HER.

BE CONTENT THAT SHE IS
HELD *SECURELY*, WHERE SHE
CAN DO NO *HARM*...

... the Skins of the
Fathers shall be handed
down unto the *Seventh*
Generation...

REC..



... *red* is the *Eye* that shall open, *black* is the *Sky* where it *burns* ...



THAT *WITCH* MAKES MY SKIN *CRAWL* - THE WAY SHE *LOOKS* RIGHT *THROUGH* YOU ...



I HATE CLEANING UP AFTER HER ... SHE MAKES ME FEEL *SICK*.



IT IS THE STENCH OF *CHAOS* - IT SICKENS US *ALL*, SISTER.



AND I'M NOT PREPARED TO *WAIT* FOR THE INQUISITION ANY LONGER.



IT IS *WRITTEN* - WHERE *CHAOS* LIES, *OURS* IS THE HAND THAT MUST *STRIKE* ...

OH MY ...



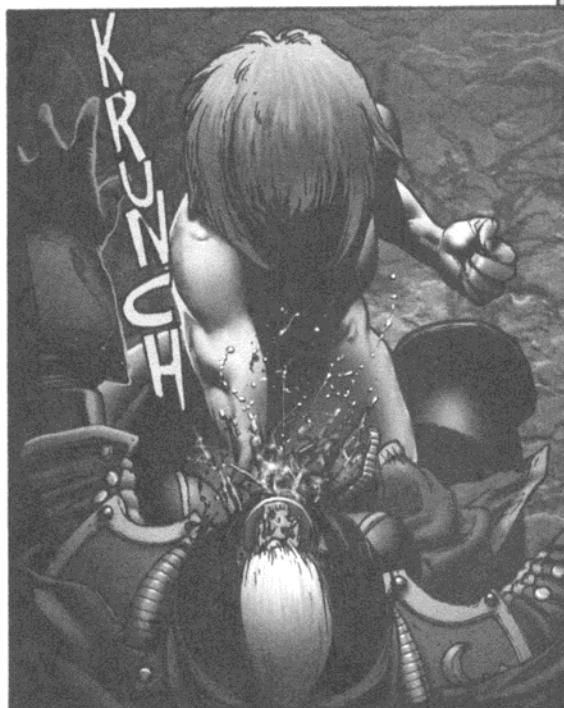
FOR THE WAY OF *CHAOS* IS *DEATH*.



... all is chaos and *unreason* ... the absence of *faith* ...



...THE ABSENCE OF
FAITH IS THE MARK OF
DAMNATION.



THERE IS
CHAOS HERE -
THE HAND OF
SLAANESH.



BURN
EVERYTHING.

"HAIL, SISTER.
YOUR TROUBLES
ARE ENDED -"

THE
INQUISITION IS
ARRIVED.

INQUISITOR HAND, WE HAVE BEEN
AWAITING YOUR ARRIVAL MOST
EAGERLY. PERHAPS WE MIGHT
SHOW YOU THE CONVENT
SANCTORUM BEFORE YOUR
WORK BEGINS ?

INQUISITOR HAND HAS NO TIME
FOR SUCH PLEASANTRIES.
CHAOS IS ABROAD WITHIN YOUR
HOLY WALLS - IT MUST BE
DESTROYED !

GROAN
CANONESS RAMIENTES,
YOU HAVE MY APOLOGIES
FOR ANY BREACH OF
CONVENT PROTOCOL...

YOU ARE IN THE
CONVENT PRIORIS
NOW, INQUISITOR. WITHIN
THESE WALLS YOU HAVE
NO AUTHORITY.

BUT THIS PLACE IS
INFECTED BY CHAOS'
TAINT.

... AND WHERE SUCH
INFECTION LIES, I HAVE ALL
THE AUTHORITY I NEED.

MY APOLOGIES,
INQUISITOR.

I MUST EXAMINE THE
REMAINS OF THE
DEMON, AND ITS
SORORITAS *HOST*.

YES, OF COURSE.
WHATEVER YOU WISH.



I DON'T KNOW
WHAT YOU HOPE
TO FIND ...

THE *NATURE* OF CHAOS IS
DECEIT - UNLESS ONE LOOKS PAST
SURFACE IMPRESSIONS, ONE CAN
NEVER HOPE TO DIVINE THE
PURPOSE OF THE *ENEMY*.

SIR ? I THINK
YOU SHOULD
SEE THIS.

THE MARK OF
SLAANESH ... AS THE
WITCH SAID ...

... AND WE ALSO
FOUND *THIS* ON THE
CADAVER.

A TOKEN OF
FORBIDDEN
AFFECTION,
PERHAPS?

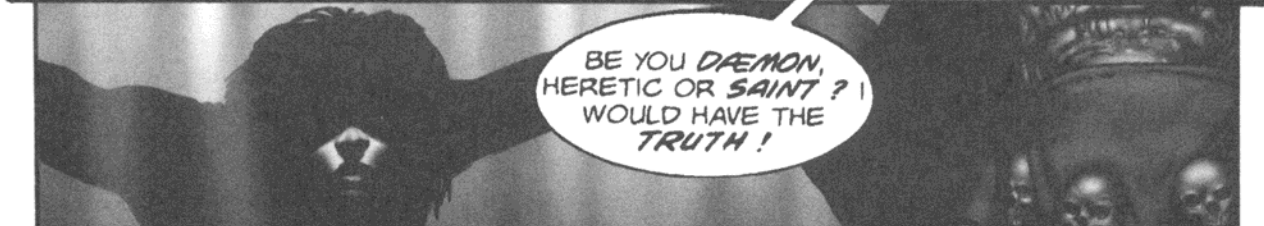
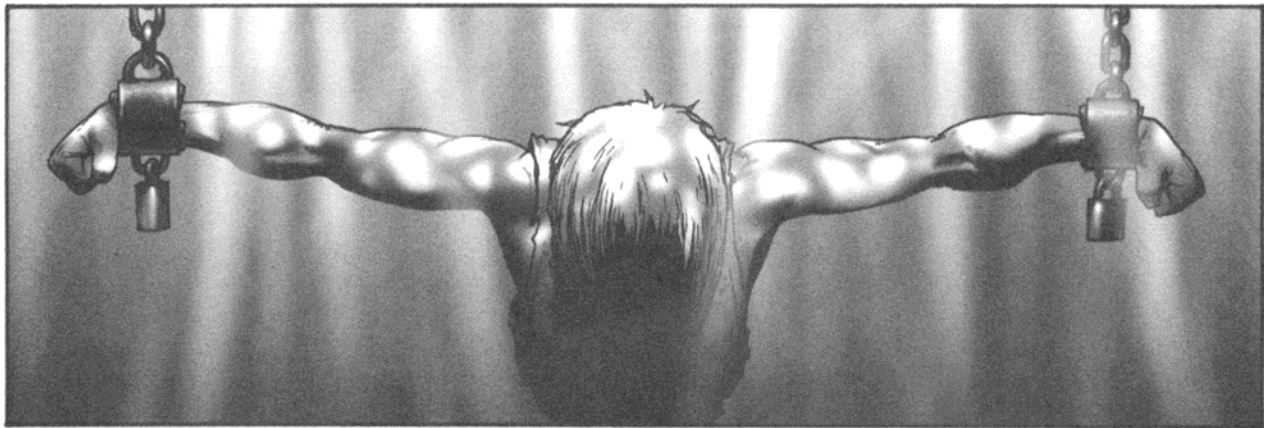
THAT IS THE NATURE OF
SLAANESH - TEMPTATION
AND SEDUCTION,
PLEASURE AND
PERVERSION.

THERE WILL
BE *OTHERS*.

THE NAVIS
NOBILITE ?

MANY ARE THE *FACES*
OF THE ENEMY, AND *MANY*
ARE THE *HANDS* WHICH
DO ITS WORK.

I TRUST *NO-ONE* AND
SPARE NO EFFORT UNTIL
I AM SATISFIED THAT *ALL*
OF CHAOS' SERVANTS
ARE *PURGED* FROM
THIS PLACE...



TO BE CONTINUED ...

DAEMONIFUGE

SCRIPT Jim Campbell & Kev Walker • ART Kev Walker
LETTERS Fiona Stevenson

CONVENT SANCTORUM :
OPHELIA VII

" FOUR YEARS OF *MADNESS*
BEHIND ME... EVERYONE, MYSELF
INCLUDED, WAS ANXIOUS TO SEE IF
MY OLD TRAINING REMAINED. "

" EVALUATION WAS *HARSH*, NO DOUBT
INCREASED FOR THE *BENEFIT* OF
INQUISITOR HAND. "

" BUT I WAS A SERAPHIM OF
THE ADEPTUS SORORITAS, "

" HOW *QUICKLY*
WE *FORGET*. "

" MY ACTIONS AS MUCH THE WILL
OF THE *EMPEROR* AS *ANY* BURNED
OUT INQUISITOR. "

" I'D NOT BE JUDGED BY ONE
LESS SANE THAN I *EVER* WAS ! "



HAH

EVALUATION
SCENARIO 278
COMPLETE. CLEAN -
UP CREWS TO MAIN
CHAMBER.



REMARKABLE ...
STILL.



AN ADEQUATE
DISPLAY...

... CONSIDERING
THE SISTER
FOUGHT ONLY
REMOTE
SERVITORS.



SPEAK
PLAINLY,
BROTHER
FAZAEI,
OR NOT AT
ALL.

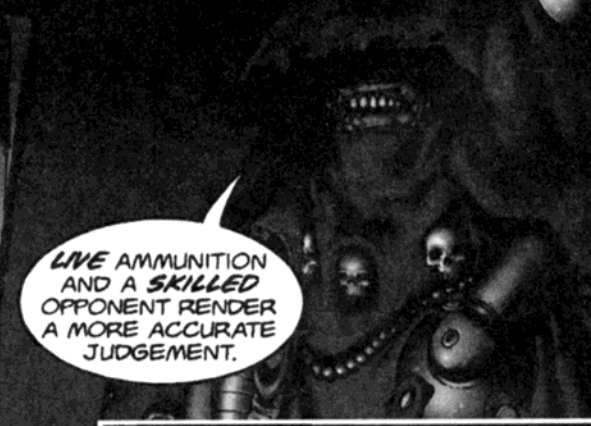


I MERELY
MEANT THAT.



SISTER STERN... ARE
YOU READY FOR A
REAL OPPONENT ?

WHY
NOT.



LIVE AMMUNITION
AND A *SKILLED*
OPPONENT RENDER
A MORE ACCURATE
JUDGEMENT.



INQUISITOR HAND...
WOULD YOU CARE
FOR A LITTLE ONE
ON ONE ?

WOULD YOU
PREFER ATTACK
OR DEFENCE ?

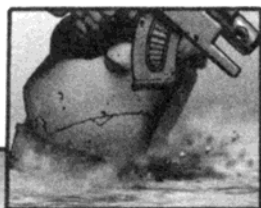
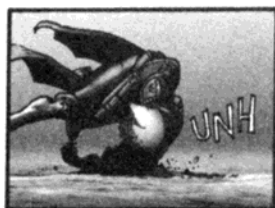
SISTER
STERN ...

ARE YOU READY
TO FACE THE
INQUISITION ?

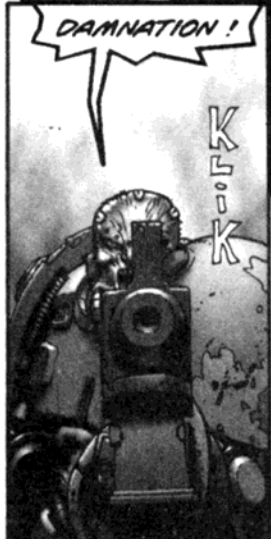
AS A DAUGHTER OF
THE EMPEROR, I HAVE
NOTHING TO FEAR.

TAKE CARE,
SISTER ... *PRIDE*
IS A DEADLY SIN !

" I HAVE SINCE BEEN PATRONISED
BY *BETTER* MEN THAN INQUISITOR
HAND - BUT NONE WITH MORE
CONVICTION IN THEIR BELIEFS ... "



SO IT IS *WRITTEN* - " AND
LO : BY THEIR *DEVICES* AND
DESIRES SHALL CHAOS
MAKE ITSELF KNOWN TO
THEE ! "



DAMNATION !



YOU' RE
KIDDING.



PRIORRESS...

I *KNOW* - SHE'S NO
MATCH FOR THE
INQUISITOR AT
CLOSE QUARTERS...



... UNLESS *FATE*
DECIDES TO EVEN
THE ODDS. YOU
BELIEVE IN FATE,
DON'T YOU ?



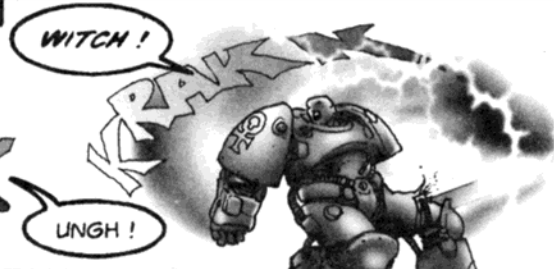
YOU CANNOT
AVOID ME
FOREVER,
SISTER !



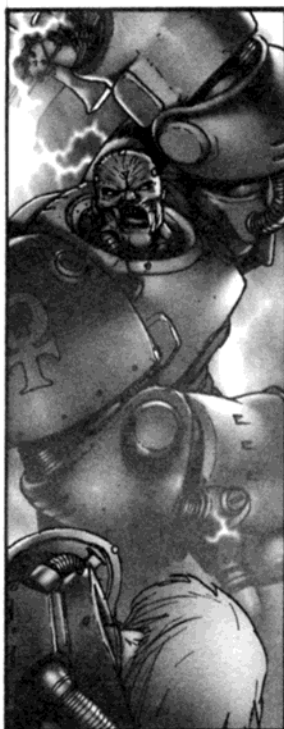
I DON'T
NEED TO.



WITCH !



UNGH !



COME ON,
DAMN YOU !

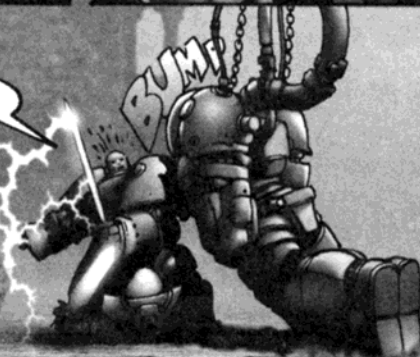
I'VE SEEN THE
EVIDENCE - IMPERIAL
ARMOUR PIERCED BY
A CHILD'S DELICATE
HANDS - THE DEMON,
TORN WHOLE FROM
THE FLESH OF A
SISTER...

SAVE
YOURSELF !



WHAT - ?

NNGH !



WE'LL NEVER HEAR THE
LAST OF THIS...

I KNOW, BUT THE
INQUISITION THINKS *TOO*
HIGHLY OF ITSELF.

ARROGANCE
BENEFITS NO - ONE -
A LITTLE HUMILITY IS
GOOD FOR THE *SOUL*.

DAMN YOU
ALL !

BY THE BURNING EYES OF
PERFIDY, THIS CORRUPTION
EATS *ALL* BEFORE ME, I AM
BESET BY *WITCHES* ON ALL
SIDES.

NO,
INQUISITOR...

... YOU PERCEIVE
CHAOS IN SIMPLE
HUMAN NATURE.

DON'T LECTURE
ME ON HUMAN
NATURE.

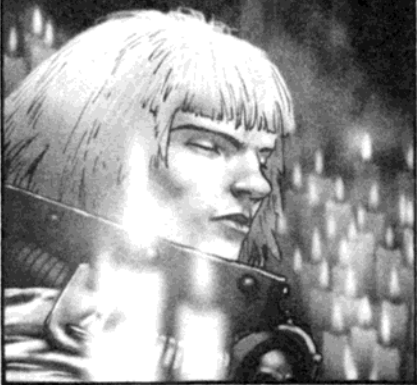
I HAVE *SEEN* INTO
THE EYE OF
TERROR, I *KNOW*
THE ENEMY.

AND YET YOU
REFUSE TO
LOOK INTO ME,
FOR FEAR OF
WHAT YOU MIGHT
SEE.

WOULD YOU
CONDEMN ME
FOR YOUR *OWN*
FAILINGS ?

OUR PATHS HAVE
CROSSED, SILAS HAND,
AND WILL CONTINUE
TOGETHER... BUT NOT
AS ENEMIES.

" TWO DAYS LATER, ALL TESTS COMPLETED, I WAS BORN AGAIN. "



" THE RITES OF REAFFIRMATION, NOT PERFORMED IN ALMOST THREE CENTURIES... "



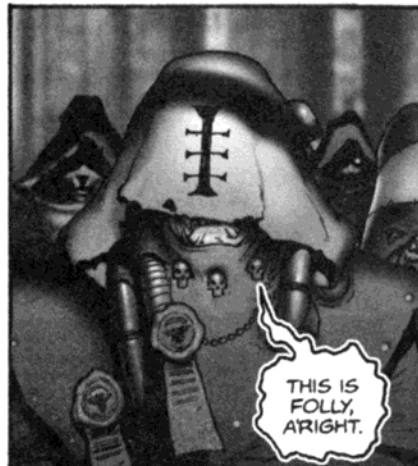
" _ RESERVED FOR THOSE MISSING IN ACTION, BUT RETURNED TO THE BOSOM OF THE CONVENT. "



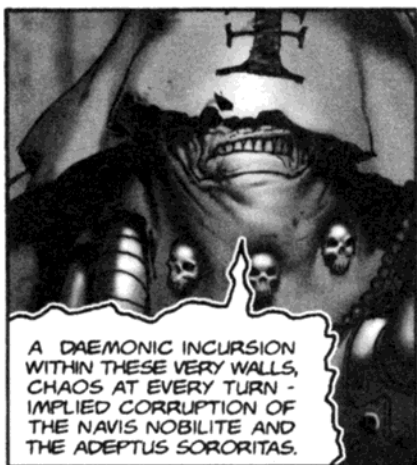
" HERE, IN THE CHAPEL OF OUR MARTYRED LADY, MY VOWS WERE RENEWED, MY PURITY RESTORED. "



" NOT ALL THOSE PRESENT APPROVED. "



THIS IS FOLLY, ARIGHT.



A DAEMONIC INCURSION WITHIN THESE VERY WALLS, CHAOS AT EVERY TURN - IMPLIED CORRUPTION OF THE NAVIS NOBILITE AND THE ADEPTUS SORORITAS.



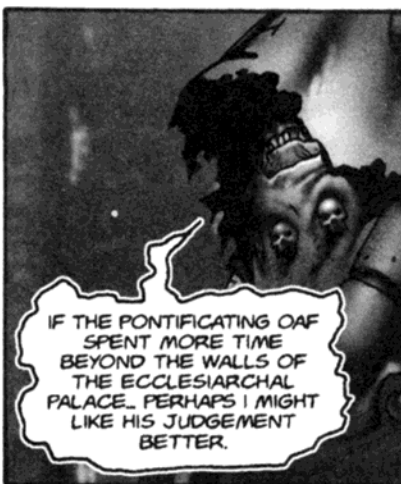
_ AND THEY EMBRACE THE OBJECT OF CHAOS' FOUL INTENTIONS.



I AGREE, MY LORD. BUT THE ECCLESIAARCH HIMSELF APPROVED HER...



THE ECCLESIAARCH ! WHAT DOES HE KNOW ?



IF THE PONTIFICATING OAF SPENT MORE TIME BEYOND THE WALLS OF THE ECCLESIAARCHAL PALACE... PERHAPS I MIGHT LIKE HIS JUDGEMENT BETTER.



CHAOS IS DEVIOUS, SUBTLE... THE WAY OF SHADOWS.



I AM **AFRAID**, FAZAEEL.
CHAOS IS AT WORK, A
DARK **SHADOW** HAS
FALLEN AMONG THE
ROSES...

"... AND **SHE** IS AT THE
CRUX OF IT ALL."

"I SHALL BE **WATCHING** YOU,
EPHRAEL STERN - I WOULD
KNOW WHAT YOU TRULY ARE."

To Be Continued ...

DAEMONIFUGE

SCRIPT Jim Campbell & Kev Walker

ART Kev Walker

LETTERS Fiona Stevenson

ECCLESIAIRCHY BATTLESHIP
'HAMMER OF THOR' -
BOUND FOR PARNIS, IN THE
YAROKIN VEIL.

" I WAS A SERAPHIM AGAIN. WHOLE,
HEALED AND RETURNED TO A
STATE OF GRACE.

" I THOUGHT UNCOVERING WHAT HAD HAPPENED
TO ME FOUR YEARS BEFORE WOULD BE A
SIMPLE MATTER.

" I WAS SO WRONG. "

... AND THE AUGMENTED PLASMA
BATTERIES PLACE THE *HAMMER OF
THOR* AMONG THE MOST POWERFUL
VESSELS IN THE FLEET.

... OH,
REALLY...

BE ASSURED, THE
HONOUR OF THE
ADEPTUS SORORITAS
IS SAFE WITHIN THIS
MOST IMPREGNABLE
OF BATTLESHIPS.

SOME PLACE THEIR TRUST IN
WARSHIPS, AND SOME IN
WEAPONS OF DESTRUCTION.
BUT WE REMEMBER THE DIVINE
EMPEROR. THEY ARE BROUGHT
DOWN AND FALLEN; BUT WE
ARE RISEN AND VICTORIOUS.

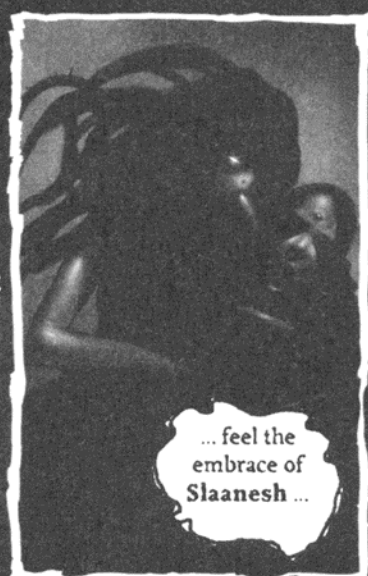
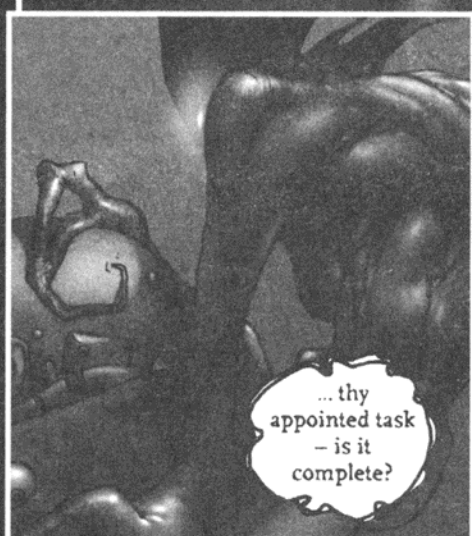
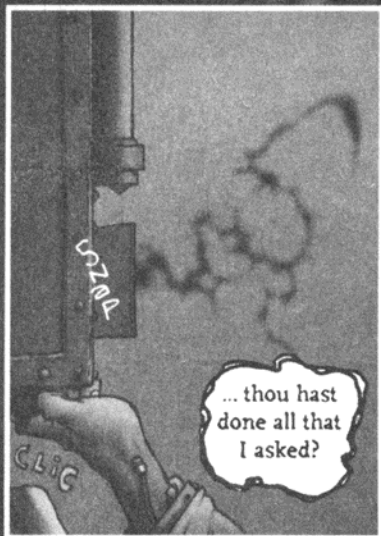
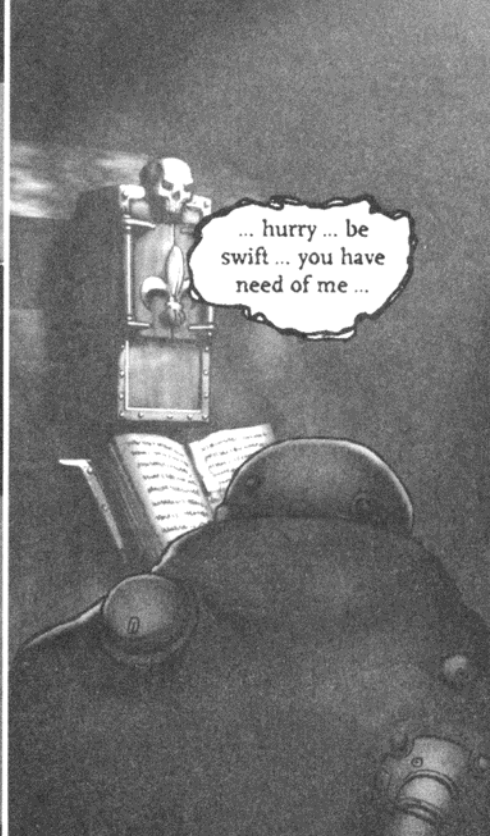
THE IMPERIAL
CREED... YES...
QUITE...

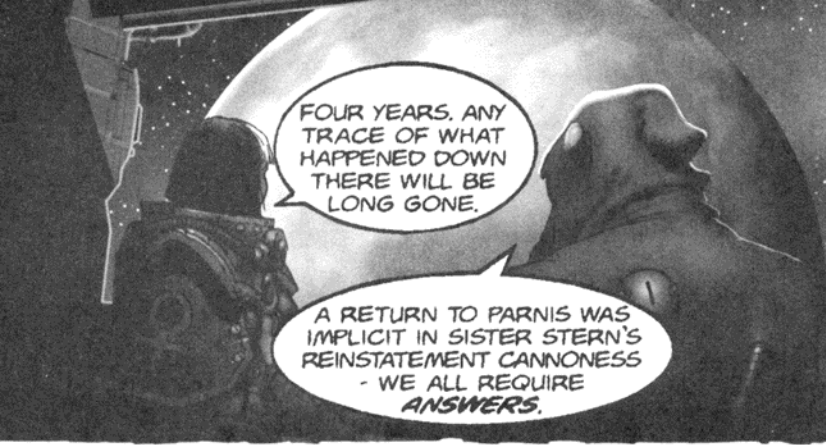
NAVIGATOR
MAIELLE, ARE
YOU UNWELL ?

JUST TIRED. IT'S A
LONG WAY FROM
OPHELIA VII.



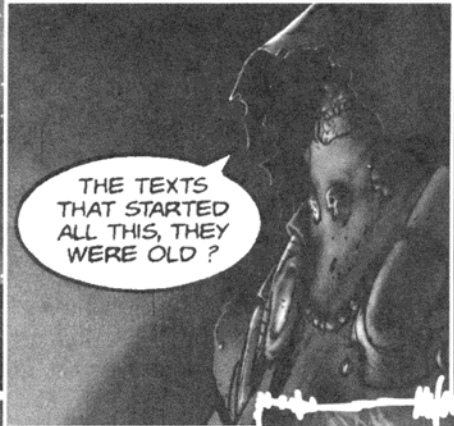
I NEED A DAMNED SIGHT MORE THAN THAT...





FOUR YEARS. ANY
TRACE OF WHAT
HAPPENED DOWN
THERE WILL BE
LONG GONE.

A RETURN TO PARNIS WAS
IMPLICIT IN SISTER STERN'S
REINSTATEMENT CANNONNESS
- WE ALL REQUIRE
ANSWERS.



THE TEXTS
THAT STARTED
ALL THIS, THEY
WERE OLD ?

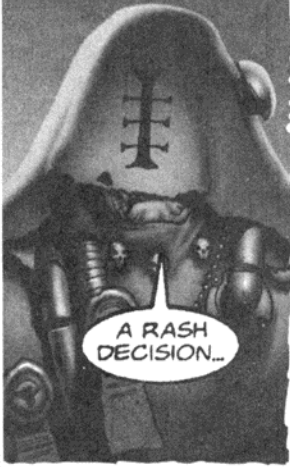


FROM THE
**BUCHARIS
APOSTASY,**
MOLECULAR
ENCRYPTIONS.



A **LOST ORDER**
OF SORORITAS.
NO NUMBERS, NO
NAME OR NATURE.
HARDLY THE
CLARITY OF
INFORMATION
REQUIRED FOR A
QUEST.

TWELVE
HUNDRED
SISTERS OF
YOUR ORDER
LOST.



A RASH
DECISION...



AAAAH!



CHAOS - IT
CLAWS AT ME !

FROM THE
PLANET ?!



COME.

A **SENDING,**
INQUISITOR. FROM
OPHELIA VII.



THAT CAN'T BE - YOU
SIFTED ALL MINDS
ABOARD FOR SIGNS OF
CHAOS, BEFORE WE
DEPARTED.

Inquisitor Hand - Urgent

(W/ref - Stern's would-be assassin/Navis
Nobilite)
✱ Secrecy pointless. Interrogations reveal
paramour travels WITH you ~ aboard
Hammer of Thor. Suggest GREAT ENEMY
well aware of current situation.
Navigator named Maille ~ imperial
record en route via subspace. Should be
considered **THREAT OF HIGHEST
ORDER.**

Emperor go with you,
Fazael



DAMN ME FOR
A FOOL !



TIME IS OF THE
ESSENCE, SISTER
STERN... CHAOS IS
NOT ACTUALLY
WITHIN HIM.



YOUR INTENDED
ASSASSIN, WAS
ENGAGED IN DEVIANT
ASSOCIATIONS WITH
THE **NAVIGATOR** OF
THIS VERY **VESSEL**...

IMPOSSIBLE.
THERE ARE
CHECKS AND
MEASURES TO
PREVENT SUCH



CAPTAIN VOLOCH, THIS
NAVIGATOR'S DAMNATION IS
BEYOND QUESTION.



BY WHAT DEGREE
HE HAS TAINTED
THE REST OF THE
CREW WILL REMAIN
TO BE SEEN.

BOOOOOOOOO



... BY THE BLOOD
OF THE EMPEROR.



DON'T
STOP...
PLEASE...



DEVIAN'TS...
BURN IN
SHAME !!



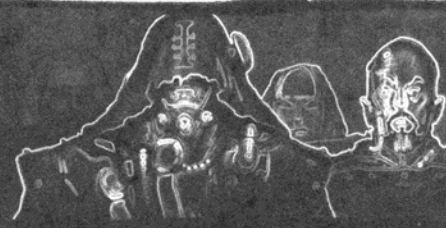
... fools ...
oblivion
awaits
thee ...



your tiny
lights are as
nothing to
the shadow ...



" MY HEART SANK AS THE
DAEMON GLANCED AT
EACH OF US IN TURN. "



" I FELT ITS *FEAR*. "

... YOU! ...
YOU LIVE
YET ...

" ITS FEAR WAS *NOTHING* COMPARED TO MY *OWN*. "



KNOW NOW THE
RIGHTEOUS LIGHT
OF THE DIVINE
EMPEROR !

" A CREATURE THAT SEES NOT AS WE DO, BUT BY
PERCEIVING THE *BRIGHTNESS* OF OUR *SOULS*... "

" HAD LOOKED UPON ME
AND SEEN... *NOTHING*. "



BURN
THEM.

EEEEEE



WHY SUCH
HASTE ?

CHAOS SNAPS AT OUR HEELS, SISTER,
AND WE ORBIT ITS HELLBORN SPAWNING
PLACE. OUR *DUTY* LIES BELOW.

I WOULD NOT SUFFER
BLASPHEMY TO PERSIST A
MOMENT LONGER WERE IT
WITHIN MY POWER !

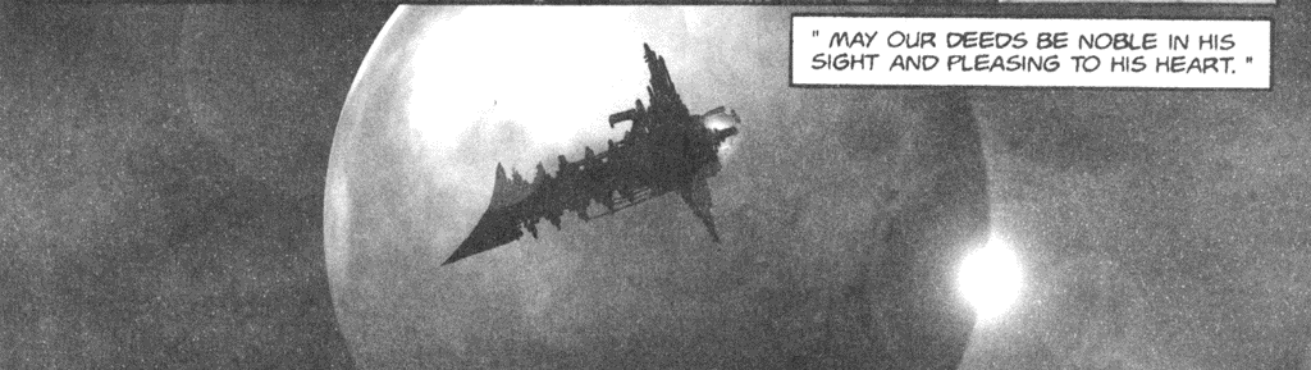
JUST AS THE
EMPEROR EXPECTS
NO LESS OF YOU !

ALL IS
READY -

LET US
PRAY.

" THE RIGHTEOUS SHALL FEAR NO EVIL, FOR WE
ACT IN THE DIVINE LIGHT OF THE EMPEROR. "

" MAY OUR DEEDS BE NOBLE IN HIS
SIGHT AND PLEASING TO HIS HEART. "



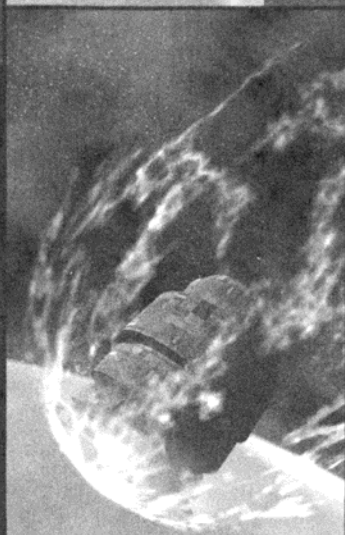
" WE PRAY THAT, IN PLEASING HIM, HIS DIVINE WILL BRINGS US COURAGE IN LIFE AND HONOUR IN DEATH.

" ALL PRAISE THE EMPEROR.

" SILAS HAND
LECTURED ME
ONCE ON THE SIN
OF *ARROGANCE*.



" HOW *IRONIC*.



" WE *IMAGINED* THAT WE
HAD ROOTED OUT THE EVIL,
THAT VOLOCH'S MIGHTY
BATTLESHIP WAS INDEED
SAFE.



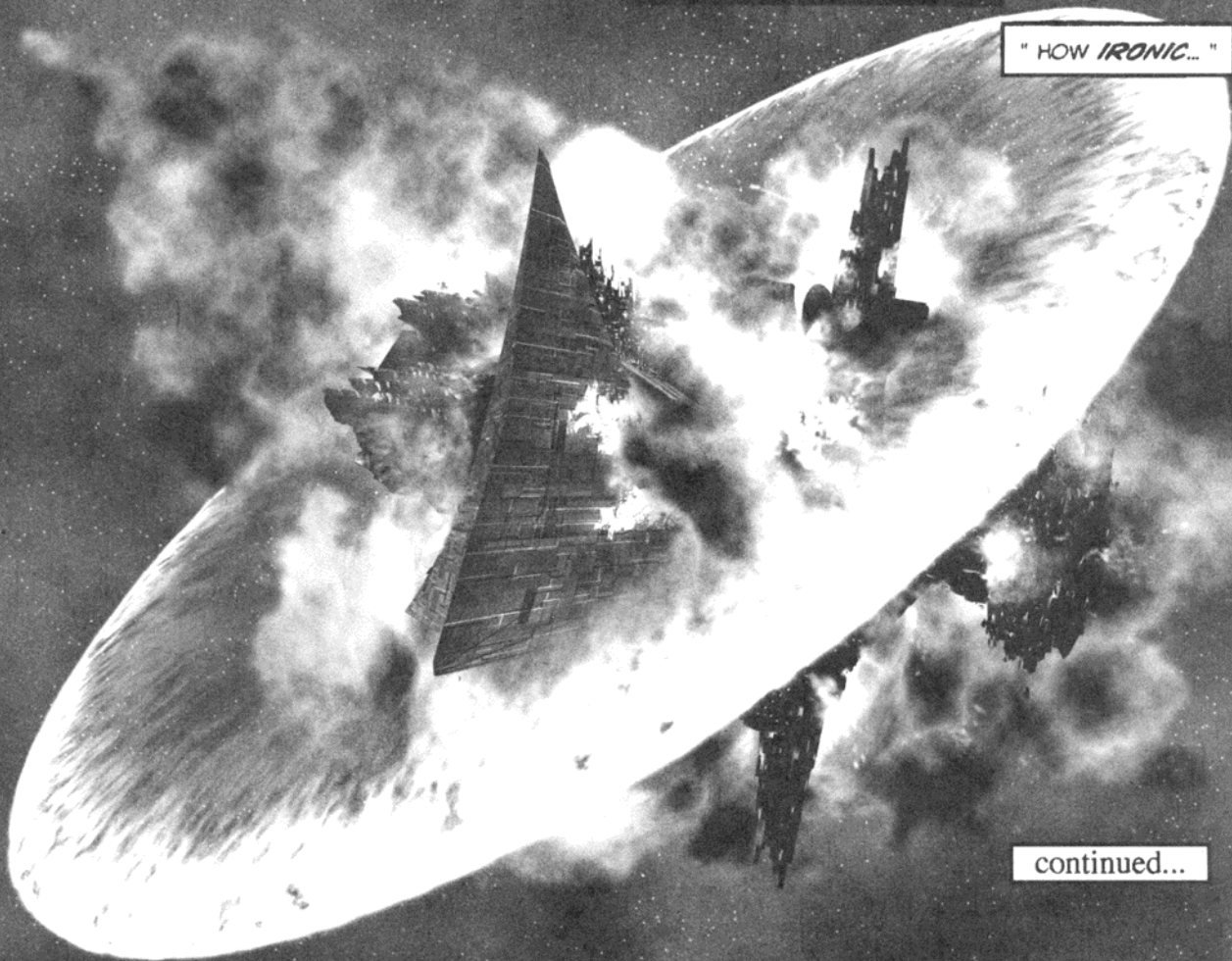
" AND YET, WE LIVED FOR
ANOTHER DAY ONLY AT
THE *WHIM* OF FATE...

" AND THE *EAGERNESS*
OF SILAS HAND TO
PURGE THE PLANET
BELOW.

" ONLY *FATE* AND THE
WILL OF A *MADMAN*
SPARED US.



" HOW *IRONIC*... "



continued...

DAEMONIFUGE

SCRIPT Jim Campbell & Kev Walker

ART Kev Walker

LETTERS Fiona Stevenson

"THE *HAMMER OF THOR* SPLIT THE HEAVENS ASUNDER, A NEW SUN IN THE FIRMAMENT.

"WE HAD BEEN UNAWARE THAT THE CHAOS-TAINTED NAVIGATOR, MAIELLE, HAD COMPLETED HIS FOUL DEED; OUR SIN OF PRIDE AMPLY DISPLAYED IN HIS HANDIWORK.

"ESCAPING BY MERE CHANCE, URGED ON BY AN INQUISITOR'S ZEAL, WE FELL PLANETWARD.

"BUT OUR LIVES HAD *NOT* YET BEEN SPARED.

SHOCKWAVE!!
BRACE FOR
IMPACT!

"CHAOS PURSUED US EVEN AS WE FELL THROUGH THE ATMOSPHERE OF PARNIS.

KKKRSCK

"THERE WAS NOTHING TO DO BUT HOLD FAST, HOPE WE COULD OUT-RUN IT...

"...AND PRAY EVER HARDER.

RUUTCH!

"IT WAS LIKE ANY ASSAULT DROP, ALL THUNDER AND FURY.

"BUT ONE AMONGST US FELT THE NAKED HORROR OF IT ALL."



NNNYYAAAAARRH!!

" I UNDERSTOOD, LATER, THAT BEING A PSYKER, HAND HAD FELT THE DEATH OF EVERY MEMBER OF THE CREW.

" TWO THOUSAND INNOCENT SOULS TURNED INSIDE OUT BY THE HAMMER OF THOR'S COLLAPSING WARP FIELD GENERATOR.

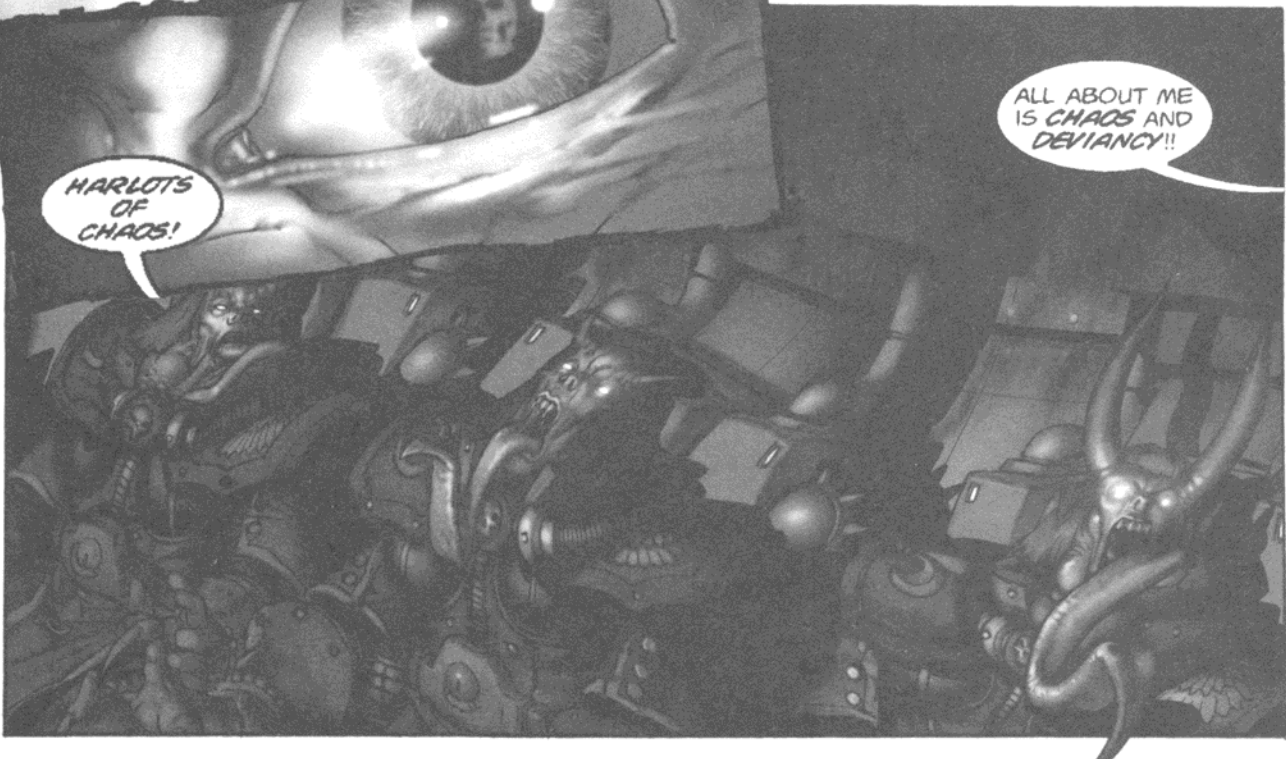
" I'M SURPRISED HE TOOK IT AS WELL AS HE DID. "



AAAHH! I SEE IT NOW... *VENOMOUS WITCHES...*



GHNNN!... IT'S *ALL SO CLEAR!*



HARLOTS OF *CHAOS!*

ALL ABOUT ME IS *CHAOS* AND *DEVIANCY!!*



WHAT'S GOT HIM?

BEATS ME.

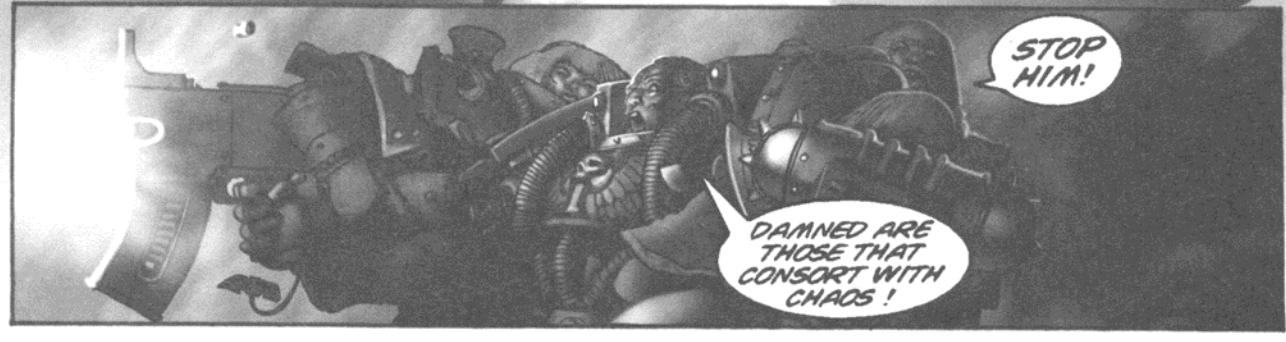


I'LL NOT SUFFER A WITCH TO LIVE!!



BLESSED ARE THEY THAT REAP THE SINNERS FROM THE SIGHT OF THE EMPEROR...

AAAAAGGHH!



STOP HIM!

DAMNED ARE THOSE THAT CONSORT WITH CHAOS!





UUNGH. SOLID
GROUND,
ALRIGHT.

UUNGH!
COME ON,
DAMN YOU-

LEAVE
HIM,
SISTER.

WE ARE GOING TO
HAVE QUITE ENOUGH
PROBLEMS, WITHOUT
A **MADMAN** TO
CONTEND WITH.

I **AM**
THINKING OF
THE MISSION.
I DON'T
KNOW WHY,
BUT I **KNOW**
WE NEED
HIM.

GO ON
AHEAD-I CAN'T
LEAVE THE
INQUISITOR.

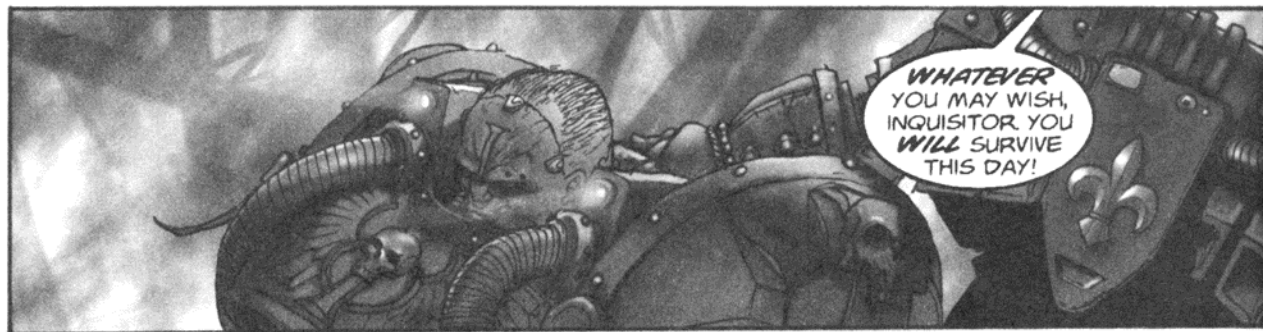
WE DON'T HAVE
TIME, EPHRAEL.
**YOU KNOW THE
DRILL!**

NOW ...
GET
YOURSELF
CLEAR!

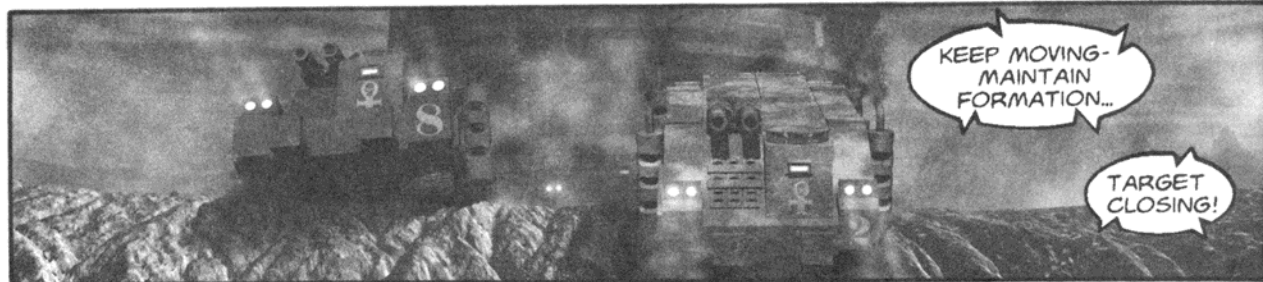
WE MUST
MAKE
HASTE!

THE HAMMER
OF THOR IS
**FOLLOWING
US DOWN!**

WE HAVE TO
CLEAR THE
LANDING SITE!



WHATEVER
YOU MAY WISH,
INQUISITOR, YOU
WILL SURVIVE
THIS DAY!



KEEP MOVING-
MAINTAIN
FORMATION...

TARGET
CLOSING!



UNGH **DAMN** YOU,
SILAS - GET ME
KILLED AND YOU'LL
REGRET IT!



WELL DONE,
MY SISTERS-
YOU, AT LEAST,
WILL BE SAFE.



...HIS DIVINE
WILL PRESERVE
US...



"...AND THE GROUND WAS SCOURGED BY ITS PURIFYING FLAME.

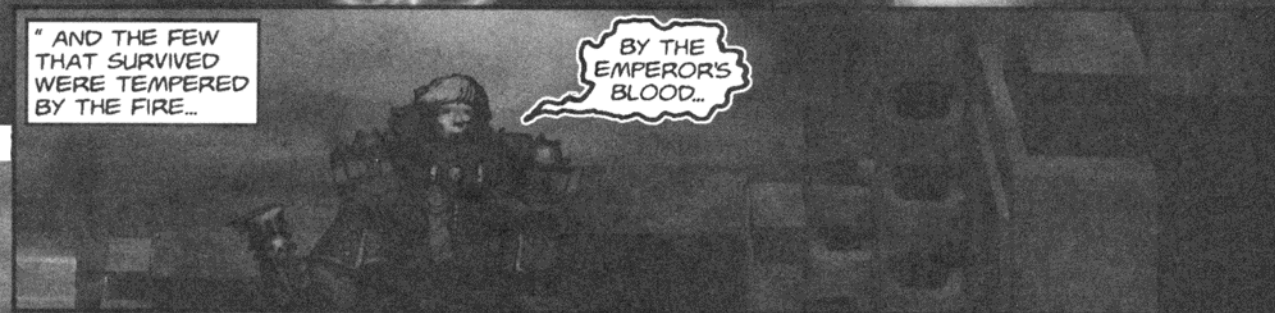


"CHAOS, SNAPPED AT THE HEELS OF THOSE THAT FLED, EXACTING A HEAVY TOLL.



"AND THE FEW THAT SURVIVED WERE TEMPERED BY THE FIRE...

BY THE
EMPEROR'S
BLOOD...



"...AND WHAT DOES NOT DESTROY THE ADEPTUS SORORITAS, MAKES THEM STRONGER."



EPHRAEL.

TO BE CONTINUED...

DAEMONIFUGE

SCRIPT Jim Campbell & Kev Walker

ART Kev Walker

LETTERS Fiona Stephenson

" I KNOW WHAT YOU
MUST ALL BE THINKING...

" THE HAMMER OF THOR
DESTROYED, THREE QUARTERS
OF OUR COMPANY *KILLED* IN THE
CRASH... WE'RE *MARDOONED*...

" YOU'RE THINKING THE ENTIRE MISSION
WAS A *FOOL'S ERRAND*, CHASING
GHOSTS AT THE BEHEST OF A MAD
INQUISITOR AND A LUNATIC SERAPHIM...

" WHAT KIND OF MISSION IS THAT FOR THE
ORDER OF OUR MARTYRED LADY ? "

I SHALL
TELL YOU !

WE SWORE AN *OATH*,
TO *OBEY* ORDERS, TO SPREAD THE
LIGHT OF THE EMPEROR BEFORE US
AND BANISH THE DARK. IT IS OUR *DUTY*
TO COMPLETE OUR MISSION NO MATTER
WHAT THE OBSTACLE !

WE DO
NOT BACK DOWN IN THE
FACE OF ADVERSITY, ELSE
WE *FAIL* IN HIS MOST
BLESSED SIGHT. WE ARE
THE DAUGHTERS OF THE
EMPEROR, SISTERS OF
BATTLE.

SISTERS OF
BATTLE !



SISTER SUPERIOR KALGA,
ORGANISE SEARCH GROUPS.
SEE WHAT **WEAPONS** OR
SUPPLIES CAN BE
SALVAGED.



AND SISTER
STERN ?

GIVE HER NO MORE
THOUGHT, OTHER THAN
IN YOUR PRAYERS FOR
THE DEAD.



" BOTH SHE AND
THE INQUISITOR
ARE **WELL** BEYOND
OUR ASSISTANCE. "



GNNNGH !

FIRES OF
DAMNATION !

I WILL BE
FREE !





I *DOUBT*
THAT VERY
MUCH.

GRIMSPYRE !

YOU HAVE
CAUSED US
GREAT
DISCOMFORT,
LITTLE FLEA...

AAAAAAGH !



... AND I FEEL
INCLINED TO
SCRATCH.



SILAS...!

WHAT- ?

EPHRAEL...?!



HE'S NOT
REAL, SILAS...
NONE OF THIS
IS...

WITCH !
I'LL EAT THY
SOUL !

SCANNING !

UNGH !

DIVINE
EMPEROR...

GIVE... ME...
STRENGTH !

IT IS NOT YOUR
PLACE TO STOP
WHAT *PASSES*
HERE !

AAGH !

HOW CAN YOU HELP
THOSE WHO WON'T HELP
THEMSELVES ? HIS *FEAR*
BINDS HIM IN *CHAINS* OF
HIS OWN MAKING.

WHAT USE IS SUCH
A ONE, WHOSE
TERRORS COLOUR
ALL HE SEES ?

CHAOS
FIEND !

WHA-! ?

THERE IS NAUGHT BUT
DECEIT AND *UNTRUTH*
ISSUING FROM THY *THROAT*.
I THINK IT BETTER TO BE
SILENCED.

ARRRGH !

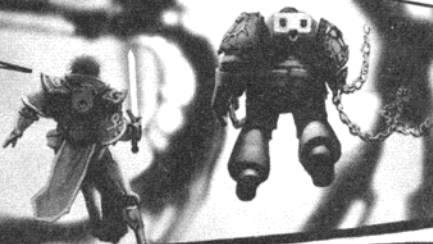


GRRARRRH!



SHRRRRKKK!

THIS IS YOUR *GUILT*... YOU KNEW IT BY NAME?



GRIMSPYRE ? YES. I *HAVE* BEEN TRAPPED BY THIS PLACE FOR TOO LONG...

WOULD THAT IT HAD REALLY HAPPENED THUS.



IT WOULD SEEM THAT WE ARE *LINKED*, YOU AND I... OUR *DESTINIES* ENTWINED.



OUR *DREAMS* AS WELL AS OUR *REALITIES*.



CANONESS !



HIS DIVINE WILL PRESERVE US...





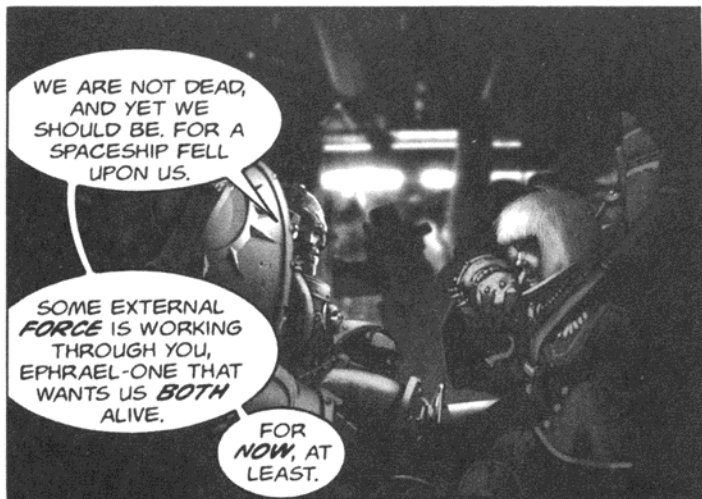
... SHE WAKES
- IT IS A
MIRACLE.

I *DOUBT*
THAT VERY
MUCH.



THERE ARE
GREATER THINGS
AT WORK ON THIS
PLANET THAN EVEN
SHE KNOWS.

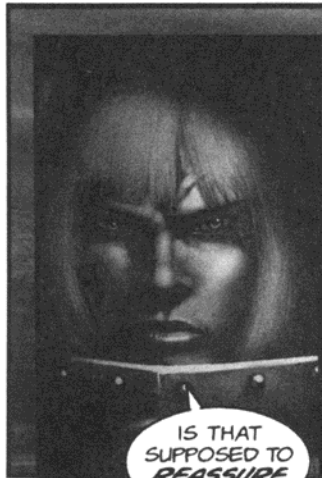
WHAT... WHAT
HAPPENED?



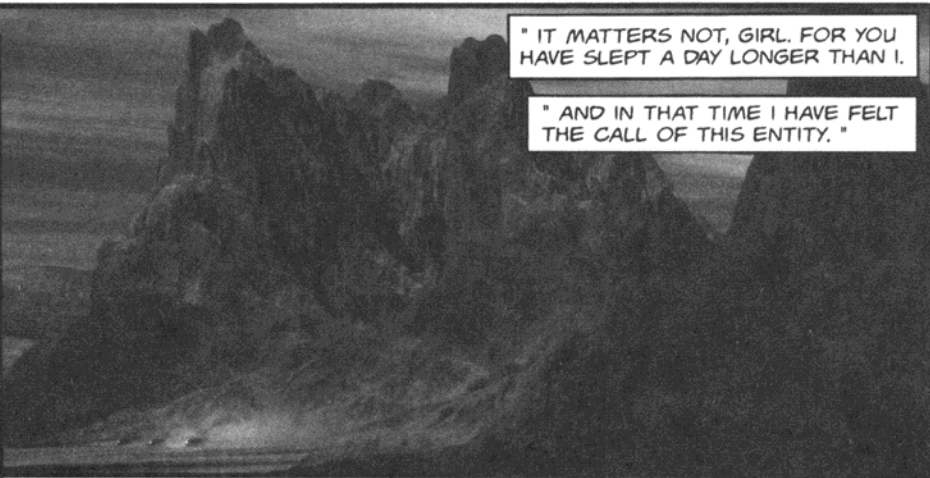
WE ARE NOT DEAD,
AND YET WE
SHOULD BE. FOR A
SPACESHIP FELL
UPON US.

SOME EXTERNAL
FORCE IS WORKING
THROUGH YOU,
EPHRAEL-ONE THAT
WANTS US *BOTH*
ALIVE.

FOR
NOW, AT
LEAST.



IS THAT
SUPPOSED TO
REASSURE
ME?



" IT MATTERS NOT, GIRL. FOR YOU
HAVE SLEPT A DAY LONGER THAN I.

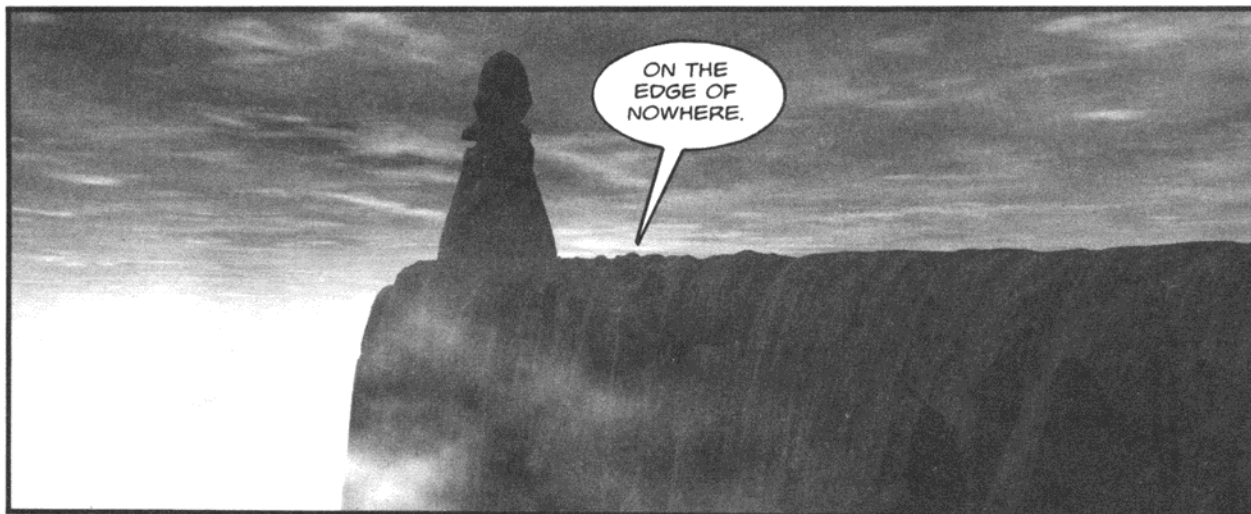
" AND IN THAT TIME I HAVE FELT
THE CALL OF THIS ENTITY. "



" A PLACE MORE CURSED AND
REMOTE I CANNOT IMAGINE.

" A *LOST CONVENT* OF THE
ADEPTUS SORORITAS. "

WE'RE
HERE.



ON THE
EDGE OF
NOWHERE.



I FEAR A
RECKONING
IS AT HAND,
CHILD.

I FEAR IT,
TOO...

YOU HAVE ACTED
HONOURABLY WHILE I
HAVE KNOWN YOU,
EPHRAEL STERN, EVEN
WHEN IT MIGHT HAVE
COST YOU DEAR...



BUT WE NEAR THE
VERY **HEART** OF
DARKNESS NOW, AND
THERE IS A GAPING
VOID AT THE CORE OF
YOUR BEING...

YOUR TRUE NATURE IS
SHIELDED, BOTH FROM
MY EYES AND FROM
THOSE OF **CHAOS** - FOR
WHAT **PURPOSE**, I
CANNOT GUESS...



FROM THIS
MOMENT HENCE,
I SHALL BE
WATCHING YOU,
SISTER STERN.

" AS MUCH AS I TRIED TO PAY
INQUISITOR HAND NO HEED, I COULD
NOT ESCAPE THE NAGGING DOUBT, THE
SUSPICION THAT HE MAY BE RIGHT.

" INSIDE ME GREW A QUAKING
FEAR THAT SOMETHING
TRULY AWFUL LAY WITHIN...

" UNFORTUNATELY, DUTY AND
FEAR OFTEN FOLLOW THE
SAME PATH. WE MUST FOLLOW
THE ONE, AND CONQUER THE
OTHER.

" AN **ABYSS** OF LOST MEMORY
GAPED BEFORE ME...

" A **DARKNESS** THAT
SWALLOWED US ALL. "

IF, FOR ONE
MOMENT, I BELIEVE
THAT YOUR TRUE
HEART IS ALLIED WITH
CHAOS, THEN **MINE**
SHALL BE THE HAND
WHICH SLAYS YOU.

I TRUST THIS
IS **CLEAR** ?

CONTINUED.

DAEMONIFUGE

SCRIPT Jim Campbell & Kev Walker

ART Kev Walker

LETTERS Fiona Stephenson

" ONCE HOME TO A LOST ORDER
OF SORORITAS, THEIR FATE AS
UNKNOWN AS MY OWN PAST. "

THIS PLACE IS
SLICK WITH
CHAOS...

... BUT THE ENEMY
IS NOT HERE... I'D
FEEL IT.

" HERE, ON FARNIS, AT A CRUMBLING
RUIN ON THE VERY EDGE OF
NOWHERE, OUR JOURNEY HAS
REACHED ITS CONCLUSION.

BY HIS DIVINE
WILL... WHAT WAS
THAT?

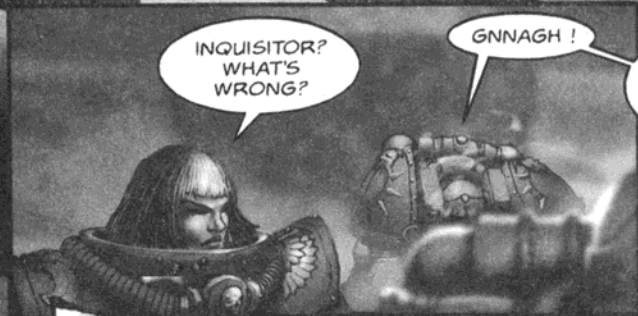
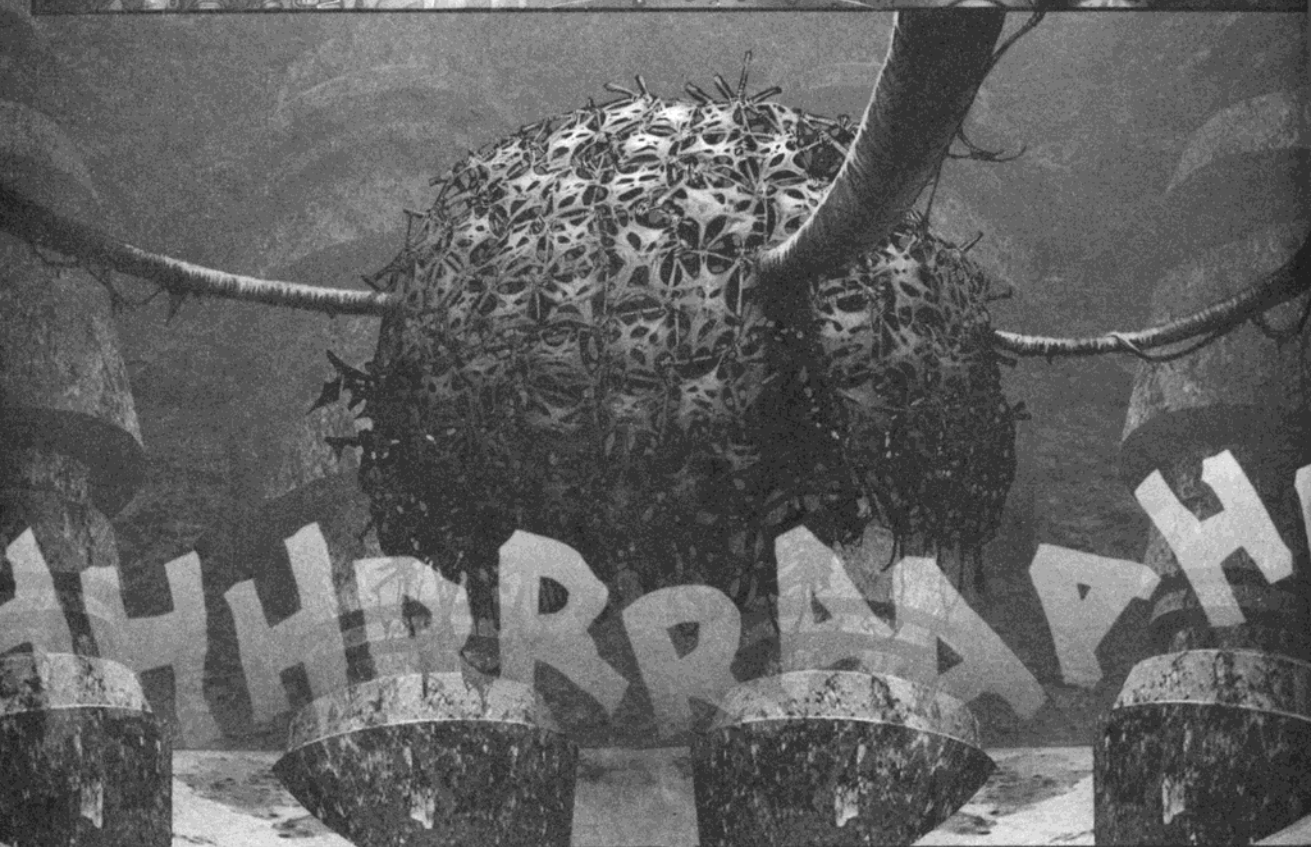
I KNOW NOT,
CANONESS - BUT IT
CAME FROM THIS
DIRECTION.

" THE DARKNESS WAS
MORE THAN JUST AN
ABSENCE OF LIGHT...

"...IT WAS A SHROUD
OVER ALL THAT
HAPPENED HERE. "



OH.



INQUISITOR?
WHAT'S
WRONG?

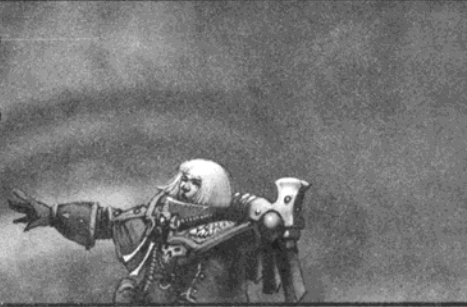
GNNAGH !



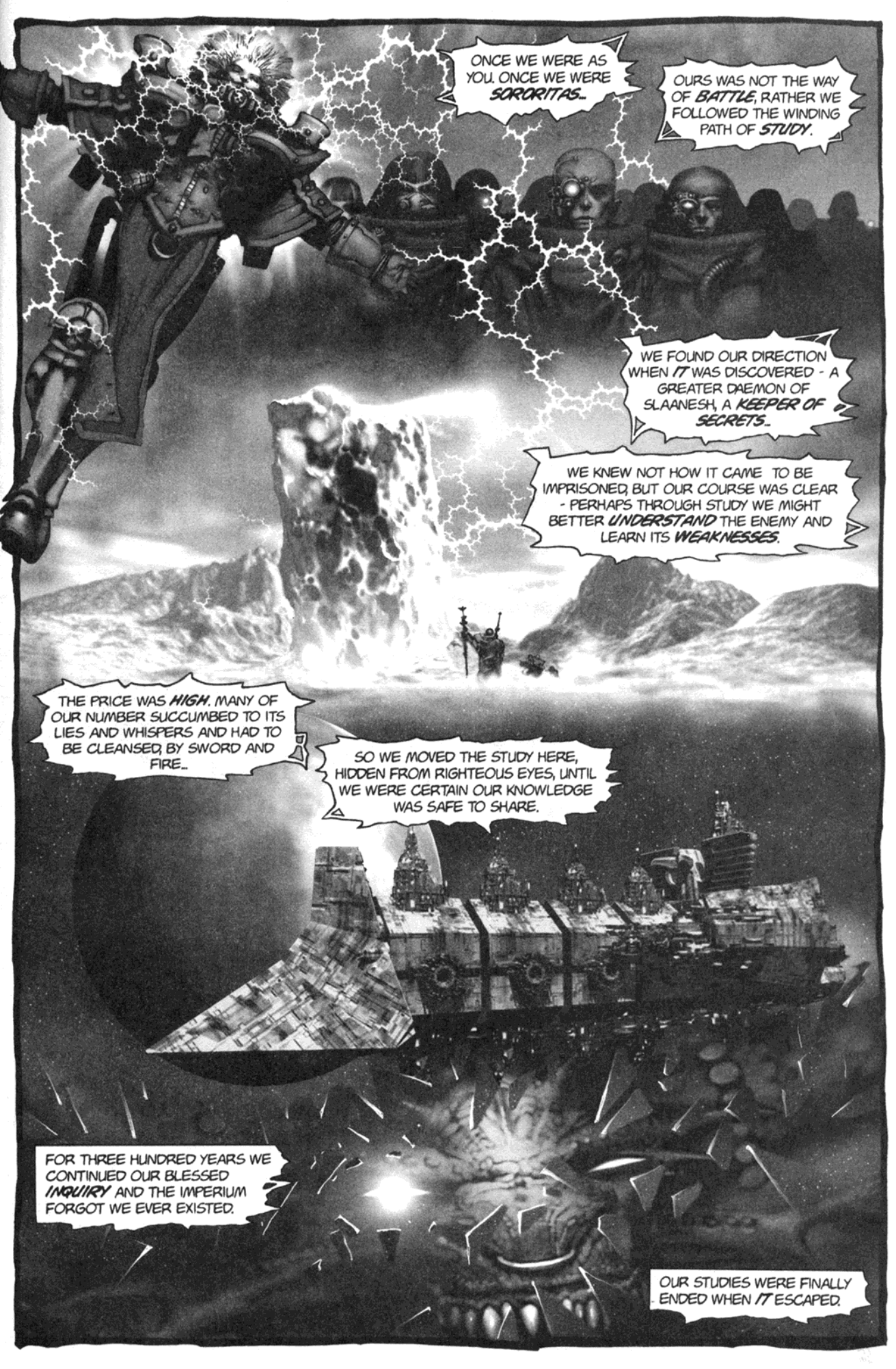
THIS
MONSTROSITY
TEARS AT MY
VERY MIND WITH
ITS HOWLING!



EPHRAEL,
NO !



WELCOME
HOME,
SISTER.



ONCE WE WERE AS
YOU. ONCE WE WERE
SORORITAS...

OURS WAS NOT THE WAY
OF *BATTLE*, RATHER WE
FOLLOWED THE WINDING
PATH OF *STUDY*.

WE FOUND OUR DIRECTION
WHEN *IT* WAS DISCOVERED - A
GREATER DAEMON OF
SLAANESH, A *KEEPER OF
SECRETS*...

WE KNEW NOT HOW IT CAME TO BE
IMPRISONED, BUT OUR COURSE WAS CLEAR
- PERHAPS THROUGH STUDY WE MIGHT
BETTER *UNDERSTAND* THE ENEMY AND
LEARN ITS *WEAKNESSES*.

THE PRICE WAS *HIGH*. MANY OF
OUR NUMBER SUCCUMBED TO ITS
LIES AND WHISPERS AND HAD TO
BE CLEANSED, BY SWORD AND
FIRE...

SO WE MOVED THE STUDY HERE,
HIDDEN FROM RIGHTEOUS EYES, UNTIL
WE WERE CERTAIN OUR KNOWLEDGE
WAS SAFE TO SHARE.

FOR THREE HUNDRED YEARS WE
CONTINUED OUR BLESSED
INQUIRY AND THE IMPERIUM
FORGOT WE EVER EXISTED.

OUR STUDIES WERE FINALLY
ENDED WHEN *IT* ESCAPED.



HE
CONSIDERED
HIMSELF AN
ARTIST OF
PAIN.

WE ARE HIS
MASTERPIECE.



OUR SOULS WERE NOT
ENOUGH - HE NEEDED
STILL *MORE* TO LEAVE THIS
PLANE AND RETURN TO THE
GREAT DARKNESS WHICH
SPAWNED HIM.

WHEN YOU AND YOUR
COMRADES ARRIVED,
ASTEROOTH WAS WAITING
AND CLAIMED THOSE OF
YOU NOT STRONG ENOUGH
TO RESIST HIM.

SISTER SLEW
SISTER - IT WAS
NOT LONG BEFORE
YOU *ALONE*
REMAINED...

CLIC
CLIC
CLIC
NO!

YOUR VALOUR WAS NOT
ENOUGH TO
WITHSTAND THEM -
YOU FOUGHT ON WITH
MORTAL WOUNDS.

"I REMEMBER -
I JUMPED."

A LEAP
OF
FAITH...



!... I
DIED ! ?

BUT YOU WERE
FREE OF CHAOS,
EPHRAEL STERN...

AND WE
WERE NOT
FINISHED
WITH YOU.

BUT ALL
OUR MINDS
COMBINED.

ASTEROOTH BOUND US
TOGETHER, SO THAT
OUR SUFFERING
MIGHT BE SHARED
EQUALLY...

AND
MAGNIFIED.



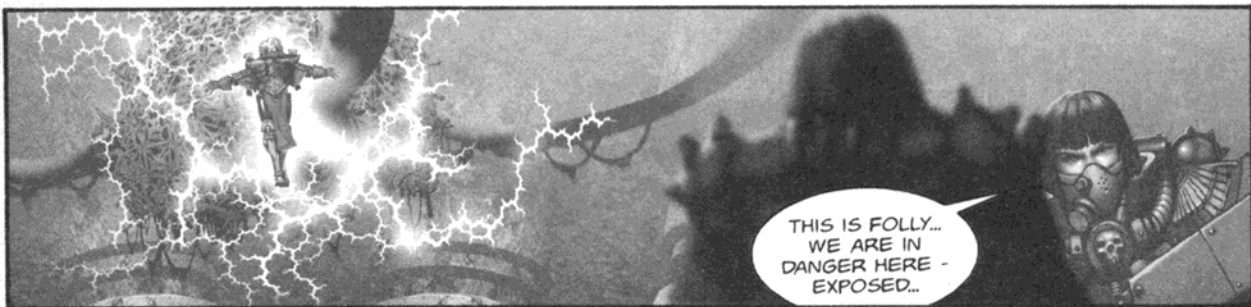
WE HEALED YOUR
WOUNDS, STARTED YOUR
HEART BEATING AGAIN.
AND THEN WE GAVE YOU
ONE INSTRUCTION...

...**FLEE.**

" YES - I REMEMBER... I KNEW
NOTHING, OTHER THAN THAT
I HAD TO GET AS FAR AWAY
AS POSSIBLE..."

WE HID YOU FROM THE
EYES OF THE ENEMY,
MASKED YOUR SOUL
FROM THOSE WHO
MIGHT HAVE SOUGHT IT
OUT.

WE HAD MUCH TO
COMMUNICATE - OUR
STUDY HAD YIELDED A
GREAT KNOWLEDGE...
WE WORKED THROUGH
YOU.



THIS IS FOLLY...
WE ARE IN
DANGER HERE -
EXPOSED...



WE KNEW THAT THE
ENEMY WOULD FIND
YOU ONE DAY, AND SO
WE MADE YOU STRONG
AND FAST, THAT YOU
MIGHT DEFEND
YOURSELF.

WHEN YOU WERE
ATTACKED, OUR
TIE WAS BROKEN.

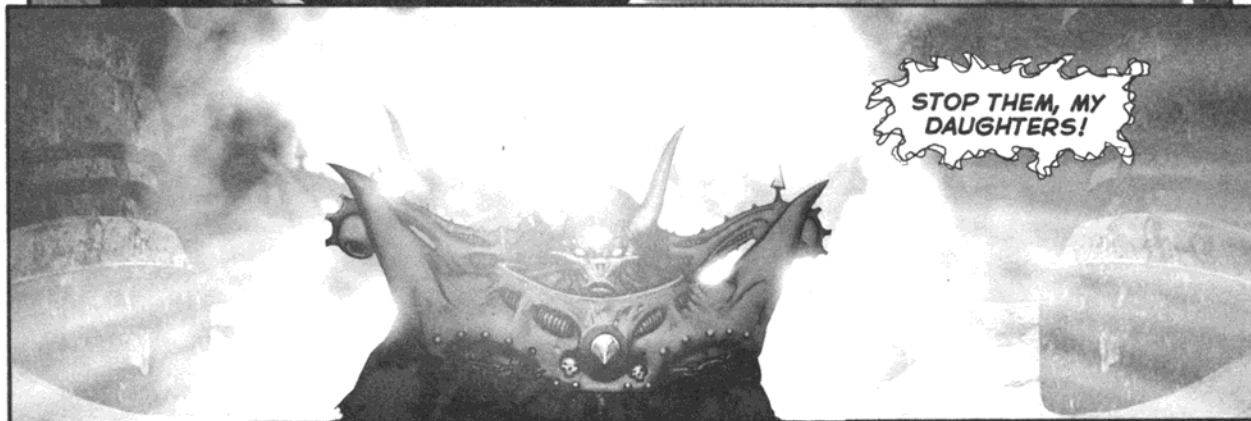


NOW WE WOULD
SHARE THE LAST OF
OUR SECRETS WITH
YOU, THAT YOU MAY
COMPLETE OUR
GREAT WORK.



A WARP!
DEFENSIVE
POSITIONS!

NO



STOP THEM, MY
DAUGHTERS!



SILAS HAND -
IT FALLS TO
YOU...

PROTECT OUR
WORK.
PROTECT
EPHRAEL STERN.



IT SHALL BE DONE -
WHILE THERE IS
BREATH IN MY BODY,
NO HARM SHALL
BEFALL HER !

THE PIECES
ARE ALL IN
PLACE.

NOW WE
PLAY THE
ENDGAME.



TO BE CONCLUDED.

DAEMONIFUGE

SCRIPT Jim Campbell & Kev Walker

ART Kev Walker

LETTERS Fiona Stephenson



"OUR QUEST WAS ALMOST ENDED.

"HERE, IN THE SHADOW OF THIS... *SCREAMING CAGE*, THE ENGINEERS OF MY MADNESS WERE EXPLAINING EVERYTHING...

"...WHILST THE FORCES OF CHAOS TRIED THEIR BEST TO STOP THEM!



"THE MASS MIND OF CURSED SORORITAS HAD MANY SECRETS STILL TO CONVEY.

"AS THEIR OWN *KEEPER OF SECRETS*, I WAS PERFECT FOR THE TASK. MY MIND SOAKED UP THEIR KNOWLEDGE LIKE A SPONGE."

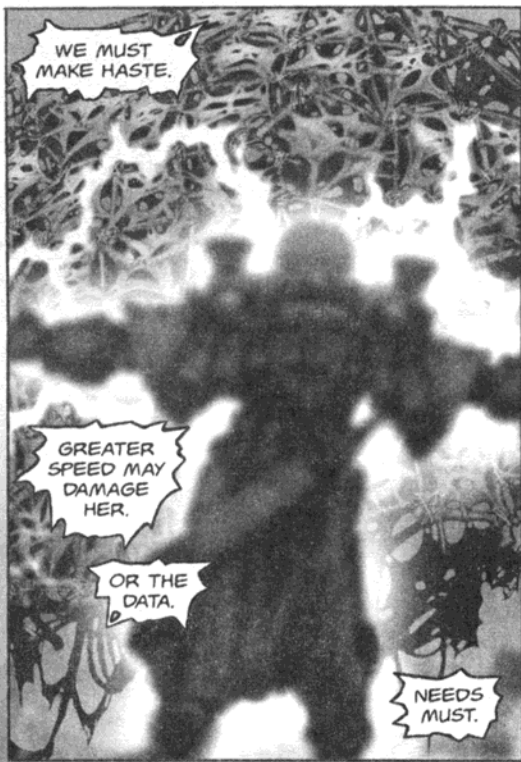


INQUISITOR HAND! WE ARE SORELY *PRESSED*! WE *MUST* FALL BACK TO A MORE DEFENSIBLE POSITION!



NO!

EPHRAEL MUST BE *PROTECTED*, ELSE WE ALL DIE FOR *NAUGHT*!



WE MUST
MAKE HASTE.

GREATER
SPEED MAY
DAMAGE
HER.

OR THE
DATA.

NEEDS
MUST.



ARRGH!

TAKE IT **ALL**,
EPHRAEL STERN!
TAKE ALL OUR
KNOWLEDGE
AND GUARD IT
WELL!



EMPEROR
PRESERVE
US...

NOW DO
WE FALL
BACK?



IT
RETURNS!

LONG SHALL BE
YOUR SUFFERING,
JOYOUS BE YOUR
PAIN.



ALL YOUR
SECRETS **DIE**
HERE WITH
YOU.



IT IS DONE.

OOF



SISTER STERN!
FORGIVE US-WE
CANNOT *PREVAIL*
AGAINST SUCH AS
THIS!

UHH... NOW IS
NOT THE TIME FOR
DOUBT, SILAS
HAND-THE *END* IS
NEAR...



... AND I
PROMISED
THAT YOU
WOULD KNOW
EVERYTHING.



KNOW NOW...



FALL BACK!
PROTECT EPHRAEL
STERN!



THE ORDER
OF BLESSED
INQUIRY HAS NO
MORE *NEED*
OF *ME*.

BUT THEY HAVE
ONE REQUEST OF
YOU.



NO!

" THE SEVEN HUNDRED TORTURED SOULS OF THE LOST ORDER FOUND A *VESSEL*... A CONDUIT FOR THEIR DESIRE TO BE *AVENGED*.

" THEY COULD NOT HAVE FOUND BETTER THAN SILAS HAND. "

I KNOW
YOUR NAME...
ASTEROOTH.

AND IT WILL BE
THE NAME OF ALL
THAT BOW BEFORE
THE LIGHT.



GREAT IS YOUR
SOUL-FIRE, MORTAL.
GREAT SHALL BE
YOUR *PAIN!!*

IMPERIUM *STEEL*
AND A TRUE *HEART*
WERE EVER A MATCH
FOR SUCH AS
YOU!

BRAVE LAST
WORDS!

AARRRGH!

NO!

NOT YET...
KOF ...

NOT LIKE
THIS...



RARRRRRGH!

ALL WILL
DIE HERE!

SMOK

UNGH!

I AM SILAS HAND, CHOSEN
OF THE INQUISITION. I AM THE FIST
OF THE EMPEROR HERE, AND I
DECIDE WHO DIES!

FZAAKT

NYAARGHH!

BAWOOOMF



A
WARP
GATE!

THE DARK
ONE FLEES!

SILAS!
WE MUST
GO!



NO...

IF WE *RETREAT* NOW...
HCK... CHAOS WILL... UNGH...
FOLLOW. OUR LIVES ARE
NOTHING COMPARED TO...
ULLKK... THE LIGHT OF THE
EMPEROR.

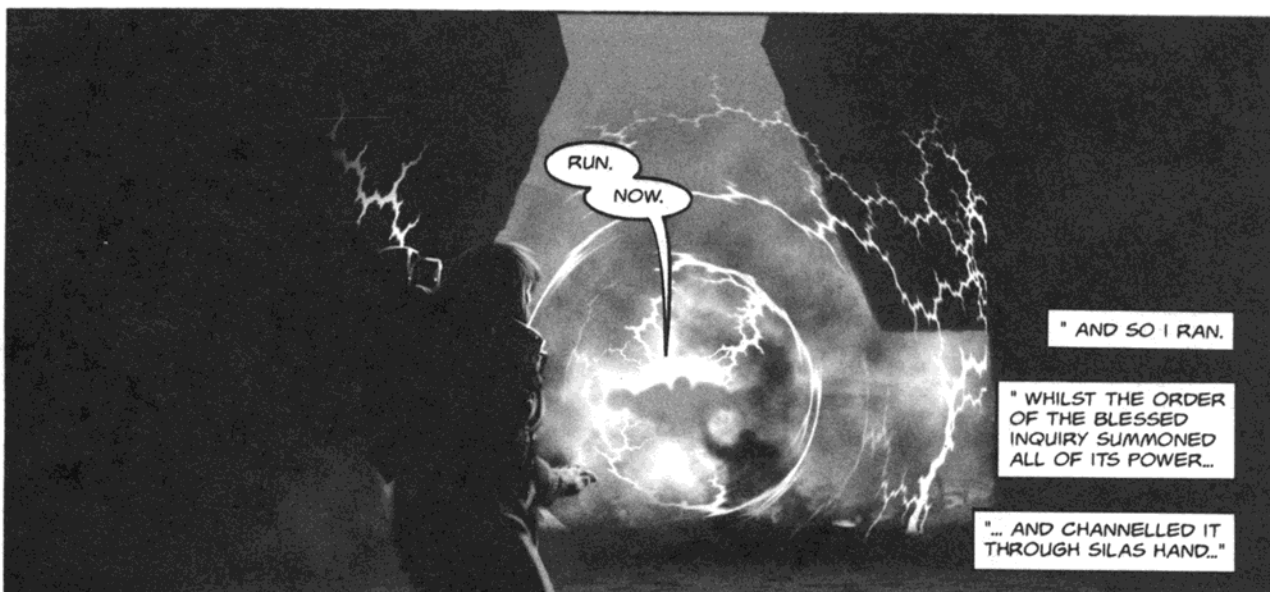


SHE'S
RIGHT!

YOU *MUST* TELL THE
ECCLESIAARCHY OF ALL THAT
HAS PASSED HERE, PASS ON
THE KNOWLEDGE... *NOTHING*
ELSE MATTERS.



WE WILL
TAKE CARE OF
ASTEROOTH.



RUN.
NOW.

" AND SO I RAN.

" WHILST THE ORDER
OF THE BLESSED
INQUIRY SUMMONED
ALL OF ITS POWER...

" ... AND CHANNELLED IT
THROUGH SILAS HAND..."



" AND LET GO.



" HE UNDERSTOOD
EVERYTHING. THAT
THIS WAS HIS DESTINY.



" THOSE WHO
BURN BRIGHTEST,
DIE THE HARDEST.



" SILAS HAND WAS A DAGGER
OF LIGHT THRUST INTO THE
HEART OF CHAOS. "



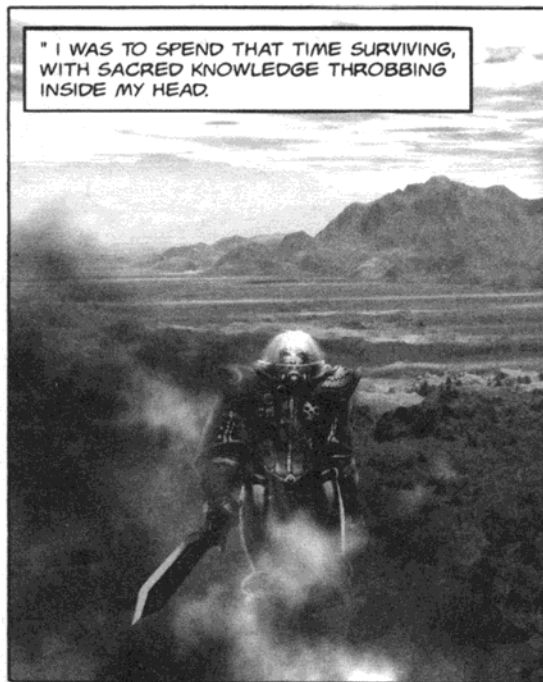
EMPEROR
PRESERVE
ME...

" WHEN I REGAINED
CONSCIOUSNESS,
EVERYTHING WAS
GONE.



" MOUNTAIN,
CONVENT...
EVERYTHING.

" THE IMPERIUM KNEW INSTANTLY
OF THE LOSS OF THE *HAMMER
OF THOR*, BUT EVEN SO, THE
RESCUE WOULD NOT BE IMMEDIATE.

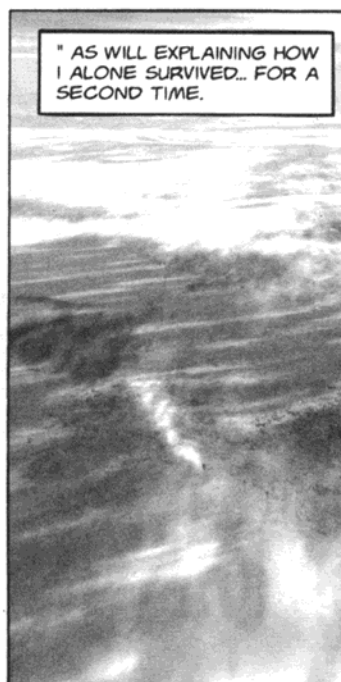


" I WAS TO SPEND THAT TIME SURVIVING,
WITH SACRED KNOWLEDGE THROBBING
INSIDE MY HEAD.



" ITS MEANING WAS UNCLEAR,
EVEN TO ME-THE MASS
MIND DID NOT THINK AS ANY
NORMAL HUMAN DOES.

" UNDERSTANDING IT ALL
WOULD TAKE A VERY LONG
TIME INDEED.



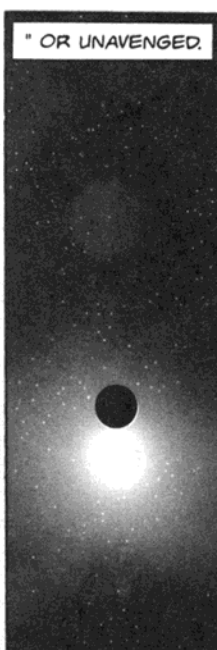
" AS WILL EXPLAINING HOW
I ALONE SURVIVED... FOR A
SECOND TIME.



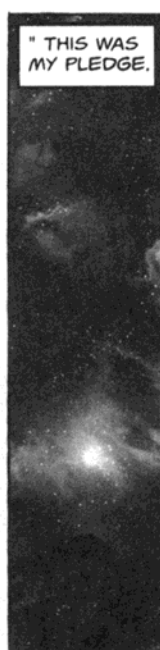
" I HAD BECOME A
WEAPON OF LIGHT
AGAINST CHAOS.



" THAT THE
SACRIFICE OF
INQUISITOR HAND
AND ALL THOSE
VALIANT SORORITAS
WOULD NOT GO
UNNOTICED.



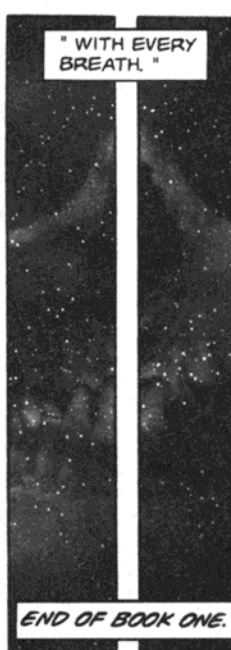
" OR UNAVENGED.



" THIS WAS
MY PLEDGE.



" FOR I WAS
ADEPTUS
SORORITAS.



" WITH EVERY
BREATH. "

END OF BOOK ONE.