

# GI JOE

## HOMEFRONT



## I WANT YOU







# **GI JOE**

**HOMEFRONT**

**IDW**

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WRITER: **FRED VAN LENTE**

PENCILLER: **STEVE KURTH**

INKERS: **ALLEN MARTINEZ** WITH **PHYLLIS NOVIN,**  
**MARC DEERING,** AND **JUAN CASTRO**

COLORIST: **JOANA LAFUENTE**

LETTERERS: **NEIL UYETAKE,** **SHAWN LEE,**  
**TOM B. LONG,** AND **CHRIS MOWRY**

CONSULTING EDITOR: **CARLOS GUZMAN**

SERIES EDITOR: **JOHN BARBER**



COLLECTION COVER ARTIST: **STEVE KURTH**

COLLECTION COVER COLORIST: **HITO YOUNG**

COLLECTION EDITORS: **JUSTIN EISINGER** AND **ALONZO SIMON**

COLLECTION DESIGNER: **SHAWN LEE**

## CHAPTER ONE



ART BY **JUAN DOE**



# ROADBLOCK:



TWENTY-FIVE... MAYBE  
TWENTY-SIX METERS BETWEEN  
SHIPWRECK AND US.



HE'S GOT—WHAT? NINETY  
SECONDS? SIXTY SECONDS?

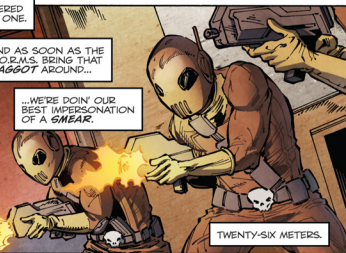
BEFORE HE BLEEDS OUT?



OUTNUMBERED  
THREE TO ONE.

AND AS SOON AS THE  
W.O.R.M.S. BRING THAT  
MAGGOT AROUND...

...WE'RE DOIN OUR  
BEST IMPERSONATION  
OF A SMEAR.



TWENTY-SIX METERS.



MIGHT AS WELL  
BE MILES.



**8 HOURS EARLIER:**

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN OF THE PRESS, MR. MAYOR, MEN AND WOMEN OF THE CITY COUNCIL...

...THANK YOU FOR COMING OUT TODAY FOR THE REDEDICATION OF GOVERNORS ISLAND, IN THE HARBOR OF THE GREATEST CITY IN THE WORLD...

...AS THE NEW HEADQUARTERS FOR THE JOINT SERVICES SPECIAL COUNTERTERRORIST GROUP...

...BETTER KNOWN COLLOQUIALLY...



...AND IN MY CASE, WITH A CERTAIN FATHERLY PRIDE...

**HAHAHAHA  
HAHAHA**

...AS "G.I. JOE."

**GENERAL COLTON!** COULD YOU COMMENT ON THIS MORNING'S POLITICO STORY YOU'RE SOON STEPPING DOWN TO RUN FOR PRESIDENT?

HOW DO YOU RESPOND TO SENATOR PEREZ'S CHARGES THAT G.I. JOE'S PRESENCE WILL ONLY ENCOURAGE TERRORIST ATTACKS AGAINST NEW YORK FROM GROUPS LIKE COBRA?

HAVE YOU SPOKEN TO YOUR OLD "ADVENTURE TEAM" MEMBERS ABOUT YOUR NEW ROLE AS THE JOES' C.O.?

DAN, BOB, CARL, PLEASE. THIS ISN'T ABOUT ME—

—BUT THE CREAM OF THE GREATEST MILITARY IN HISTORY PUBLICLY ASSEMBLING TO DEFEND AGAINST OUR NATION'S GREATEST ENEMIES.


WE WILL ONLY EVER TELL YOU THEIR CODENAMES, BUT THEIR DEEDS WILL LIVE FOREVER.

ALLOW ME TO INTRODUCE THEIR FIELD COMMANDER, DUKE, TO SAY A FEW WORDS...



NOW THAT THE  
DOG-AND-PONY  
SHOW IS OVER, WE  
CAN GET DOWN TO  
BRASS TACKS.

YOUR FIRST  
MISSION HAS BEEN  
CHOSEN FOR **MAXIMUM**  
MEDIA IMPACT.  
DAYTIME, U.S.  
SOIL.



WARRENTON, OHIO,  
IS A CITY OF ABOUT  
FIFTY THOUSAND NEAR  
THE PENNSYLVANIA  
BORDER ON THE LAKE  
ERIE COAST.

TWELVE HOURS  
AGO, LOCAL LAW  
ENFORCEMENT SIGHTED  
COBRA BOOTS ON THE  
GROUND AROUND THIS  
EMPTY FACTORY IN  
THE CENTER OF  
TOWN.



SAT RECON  
CONFIRMS A HEAVY  
W.O.S.M.S.\* PRESENCE  
MOVING IN AND OUT  
OF THE BUILDING  
AT NIGHT.

AERIAL  
ATMOSPHERIC  
TESTING SHOWS  
TRACES OF **LEWISITE**,  
AN ARSENIC-BASED  
MUTAGENIC  
COMPOUND.

\*WEAPONS ORDNANCE RUGGED  
MACHINE SPECIALIST



CHEMICAL  
WEAPONS  
PLANT?

OR STOCKPILE.  
W.O.S.M.S. SUGGEST  
WEAPONS WITH  
**RANGE**.

THIS IS THE  
SNAKES' **FIRST**  
MAJOR INCURSION  
INTO U.S. SOIL SINCE  
THEY CRAWLED OUT  
OF THE SHADOWS.

AND WE'RE  
GONNA TEACH  
THEM THEY CAN'T  
PLAY IN OUR BACKYARD  
WITHOUT US COMING  
OUT THE SCREEN  
DOOR WITH A  
SHOTGUN.  
PICKED YOUR  
TEAM?



**ROADBLOCK**

HEAVY WEAPONS

**QUICK KICK**

SILENT WEAPONS

**TUNNEL RAT**

COMBAT/ENGINEER (DEMOLITIONS)

**COVER GIRL**

INFILTRATION

**SHIPWRECK**

SPECIAL OPERATIONS, ADVANCED

**DOC**

MEDIC

I HAVE...

...ER, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE PENTAGON TO ENSURE THE RIGHT *MIX* OF ETHNICITY, GENDER, AND SERVICE BRANCH FOR THEM TO *MARKET* AROUND.

THAT SAID—*NONE* OF THESE PEOPLE ARE *TOKENS*. I'D ENTRUST ANY *ONE* OF THEM WITH MY LIFE.

SIX PLUS WE SHOULD BE PLENTY.

YOU'LL HAVE *EIGHT*. WORD IS FROM *HIGH*.

SIR?

AND I CAN TELL YOU RIGHT NOW:

YOU'RE NOT GONNA *LIKE* IT.

... PERMISSION TO SPEAK FREELY, SIR.

Singh, Aruna

ALWAYS.

I'M... HAVING A HARD TIME WRAPPING MY BRAIN AROUND THIS '*CELEBRITY SOLDIER*' CONCEPT.

THE JOES HAVE BEEN FIGHTING COBRA *OFF THE GRID* FOR QUITE A WHILE—

FIGHTING AND FAILING. COBRA'S BEEN RUNNING CIRCLES AROUND YOU. I'M HERE TO CHANGE ALL THAT.

I HIGHLY DOUBT THEY'D DREAM OF CONDUCTING OPERATIONS INSIDE THE U.S. UNLESS THEY THOUGHT THEY'D CRIPPLED THE JOES BY "WIKILEAKING" OUR EXISTENCE TO THE PRESS.

THEIR MISTAKE. TAKE IT FROM THE ORIGINAL "G.I. JOE"—MY ADVENTURE TEAM OPERATED IN PUBLIC THROUGHOUT THE COLD WAR.

WE'RE STILL HERE AND THE BERLIN WALL ISN'T.

SO YOU CAN'T HIDE BEHIND PHONY DEATH CERTIFICATES ANY MORE. BOOHOO.

A GOOD WARRIOR TURNS ANY CIRCUMSTANCE TO HIS ADVANTAGE.

THE PRESS—PUBLIC SUPPORT, THESE ARE WEAPONS YOU CAN USE.

GLORIFIED GANGSTERS LIKE COBRA HAVE TO HIDE IN THE SHADOWS.

WE CAN EMBRACE THE LIGHT.

BECOME THE EXEMPLAR OF HONOR AND PRIDE THE UNITED STATES HAS ALWAYS WANTED—NEEDED—ITS MILITARY TO BE.

D-O-D'S TRIPLED JOE'S BUDGET SO THE PENTAGON CAN USE YOU TO BOOST PUBLIC PERCEPTION, INCREASE RECRUITMENT.

THEY'RE MERCHANDISING YOUR TEAM'S UNIQUE IDENTITIES ACROSS THE BOARD—APPAREL, EVEN TOYS.

THERE'S GOING TO BE G.I. JOE TOYS?

NOW I'VE HEARD EVERYTHING.

LOOK, DUKE. I KNOW YOUR LOYALTY IS TO YOUR OLD C.O. AND I DON'T BLAME YOU. GENERAL HAWK'S A GOOD MAN.

BUT SOMEBODY HAD TO FALL ON THEIR SWORD AFTER THAT FIASCO IN NANZHAO, AND HE DREW THE SHORT STRAW.

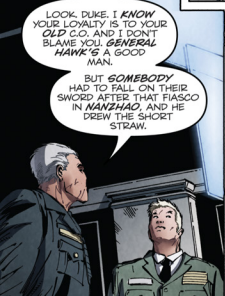
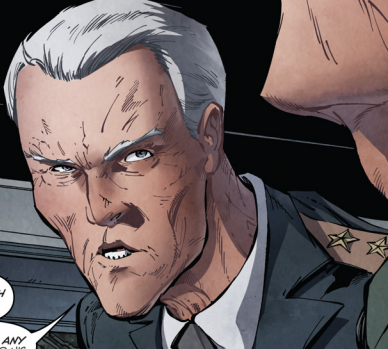
WITH YOUR HELP—AND YOUR TRUST—I'M GOING TO BUILD ON WHAT HE'S STARTED HERE.

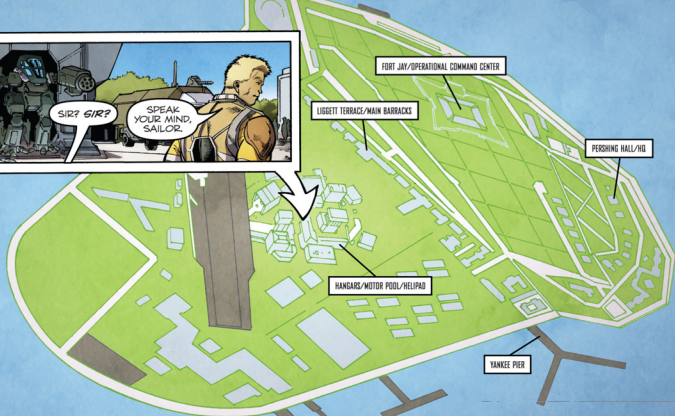
NOT DESTROY IT.

YOU... CAN COUNT ON ME, SI—WHEW!

THAT'S STILL SOME GRIP YOU'VE GOT THERE.

YEAH. I GET THAT A LOT.









BECAUSE THEN IT'D HAVE HALF A DOZEN JOES ALL FIGHTING OVER WHO GETS TO BE "BADASS!"

ANYTHING ELSE, OR DO I HAVE YOUR PERMISSION TO DEPLOY?



I GET TO KEEP THE BIRD, RIGHT?

PERSONAL OPERATIONS  
LOGISTICS LIAISON  
INTELLIGENCE



YOU KIDDING?

IN MY BOOK THE BIRD'S MORE VALUABLE THAN YOU.



OH, WELL THAT'S DIFFERENT.

SHIPWRECK REQUESTING PERMISSION TO COME ABOARD.

SIR.



WHAT'S THE MOST IMPORTANT THING A COMBAT MEDIC CAN DO, GIRL?

TRUST THE REST OF MY UNIT. I'M BASICALLY A NON-COMBATANT, SO MY LIFE DEPENDS ON THEIRS.

AND LISTEN TO THEM! PARTICULARLY WHEN THEY'RE YOUR PATIENTS. NO MATTER HOW HAIRY IT GETS, MISTAKES HAPPEN WHEN—



DAD. DAD!

THERE CAN ONLY BE ONE MOST IMPORTANT THING, YOU KNOW?!



SO ARE WE GOING TO TALK ABOUT IT?

WHAT?



THE THING WE NEVER TALK ABOUT, WE JUST DO.  
LIKE LAST NIGHT.



SORRY, NO TIME.

THAT'S WHAT YOU SAID LAST TIME.

SHOCKINGLY, IT WAS TRUE BOTH TIMES.

COVER GIRL, I'D LIKE YOU TO MEET OUR EMBEDDED BLOGGER—



—JOURNALIST.

WHATEVER, SHE'LL BE CHRONICLING OUR TRIUMPHS, OUR DEFEATS, ALL OUR BEST JOES. HER HANDLE IS—

HASHTAG. I CAME UP WITH IT MYSELF! ISN'T IT IRONIC?

FRESH MEAT GETS TO PICK HER NAME? THE HELL, DUKE?



SHUT UP, SHIPWRECK!

WE'RE TAKING A BLOGGER WITH US?  
THAT COULD BE THE SINGLE DUMBEST THING I EVER HEARD.



FUNNY, I TOLD GENERAL COLTON THE EXACT SAME THING.

YEAH? AND WHAT'D HE SAY?



NOTHING. HE JUST KIND OF WALKED AWAY FROM ME.  
LIKE THIS.

DUKE!

SHOW HASHTAG THE ROPES, WILL YOU?

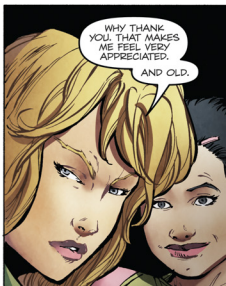


ROPES? WHAT ROPES?

O, M, G, SPECIALIST KRIEGER?

COVER GIRL'S FINE.

YOUR SEASON OF PROJECT RUNWAY WAS, LIKE, THE GREATEST EVER! I SLEPT THROUGH THE PSAT'S BECAUSE I STAYED UP PAST MY CURFEW TO WATCH THE FINALE!



WHY THANK YOU, THAT MAKES ME FEEL VERY APPRECIATED.  
AND OLD.



**TUNNE  
RAT.**

IS IT TRUE YOU  
FOUND THE HIDDEN  
BUNKER OF THE  
PRESIDENT OF  
AL-ALAWI?

I CAN NEITHER  
CONFIRM NOR DENY  
THAT...



YOU'D THINK A  
DICTATOR OF HIS  
MEANS WOULD HAVE  
BETTER *TASTE*.

TWEETING IT!



YOU ARE  
CLEARED FOR  
TAKEOFF.

SKIN US  
SOME SNAKES,  
WINDMILL.

ROGER  
THAT, GENERAL  
JOE.

ALL  
SYSTEMS...









WHAT'S YOUR BLOG?

NEVER HEARD OF IT.

MY *SITE* IS MIL-BRAT.DOT-COM?



OH, WELL, THEY JUST DID A WHOLE FEATURE ON ME ON BOING-BOING—

NEVER HEARD OF THAT, EITHER. WHAT BRANCH YOU IN?

R.O.T.C.— I'M STUDYING JOURNALISM AT FORDHAM—BUT I WAS BORN AT FORT LEWIS, IN TACOMA. MY DAD WAS A RANGER, AND HE'S PRETTY WELL CONNECTED IN D-O-D. I GREW UP POST TO POST—

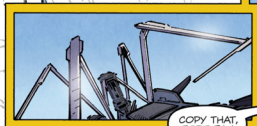
"RESERVE OFFICERS" TRAINING CORPS



"GREW" UP?  
PAST TENSE?  
REALLY?



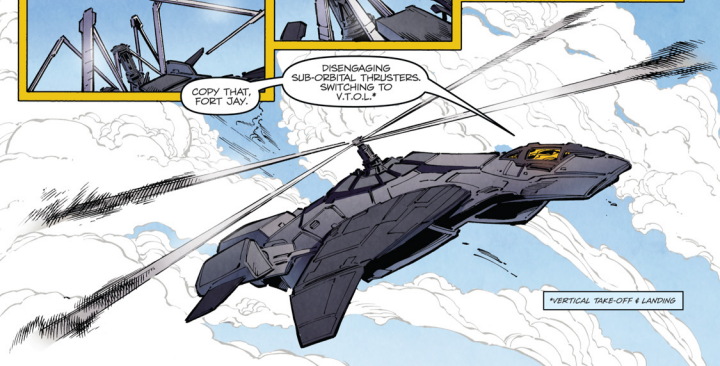
SKYSTORM, YOU ARE APPROACHING THE TARGET AREA.



COPY THAT, FORT JAY.



DISENGAGING SUB-ORBITAL THRUSTERS. SWITCHING TO V.T.O.L.\*



\*VERTICAL TAKE-OFF & LANDING



DANG,  
WARRENTON.

LOOKS LIKE  
YOU'VE **ALREADY**  
BEEN THROUGH  
A WAR.

AND  
**LOST.**



T-40 TO  
MILLER TIME.

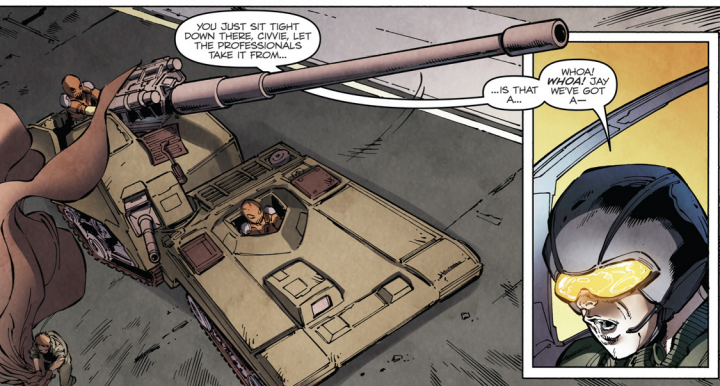
COPY THAT,  
WINDMILL.

OKAY,  
PEOPLE! GET  
READY TO—

DUKE, OUR LOCAL  
CONTACT'S GIVING  
THE ALL-CLEAR.

Z

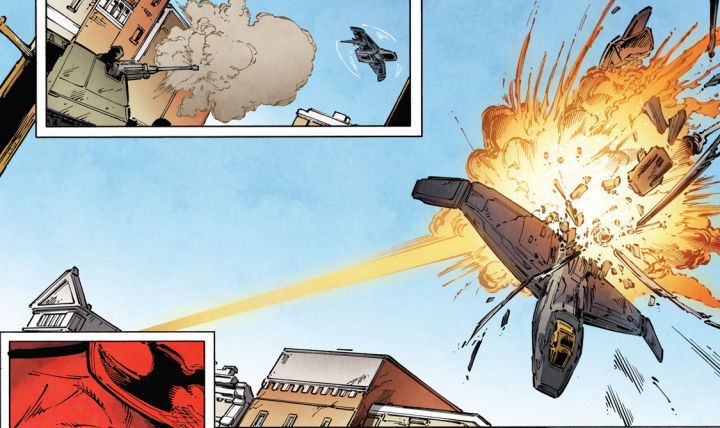
WILL  
SOMEBODY  
WAKE UP QUICK  
KICK?



YOU JUST SIT TIGHT  
DOWN THERE. CIVILIAN LET  
THE PROFESSIONALS  
TAKE IT FROM...

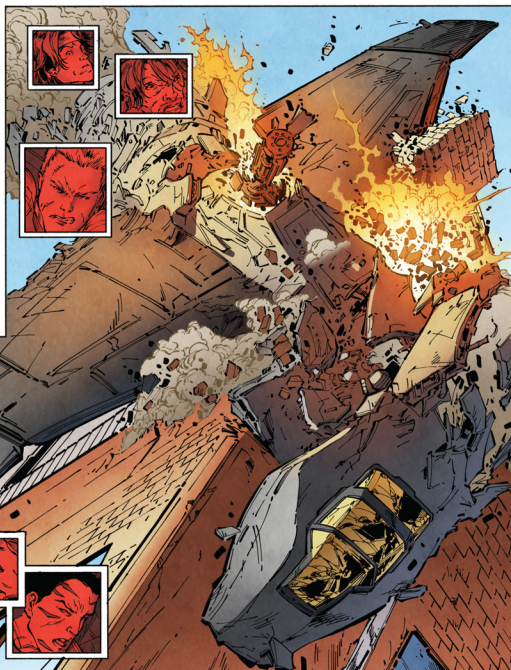
...IS THAT  
A...

WHOA!  
WHOA! JAY  
WE'VE GOT  
A—

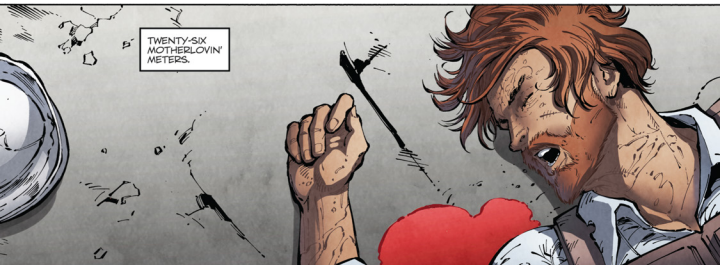


WE'RE HIT!  
JAY, WE'RE HIT!  
GOING DOWN!

JAY,  
WHERE ARE  
YOU?!







TWENTY-SIX  
MOTHERLOVIN'  
METERS.



MY ASIAN BROTHERS.

WE GOTTA GET SHIPWRECK QUICK OR—

MY MAG'S OUT.



GAHH! HELL'S THAT?!

HOLD ON, SARGE. THAT'S SHIPWRECK'S BIRD.

SAY WHAT?



PERSONAL RECON DRONE SEALS HAD D.A.R.P.A.\* WHIP UP.

\*DEFENSE ADVANCED RESEARCH PROJECTS AGENCY



HOW'D YOU KNOW THAT?

HOW DO YOU *NOT*? DUDE WON'T SHUT UP ABOUT IT.

OKAY THEN, POLLY:

SHOW ME SOME CRACKERS.



POLLY'S CIRCLED THE ENEMY AND SCANNED THE BATTLEFIELD.

POLLY, ZOOM IN... HERE.

SARGE, LOOK:



ACCESS HATCH IN THE LOT THEY'RE HOLDING. SO FIREMEN CAN GET THROUGH THE SEWER IF THE GATE'S LOCKED.

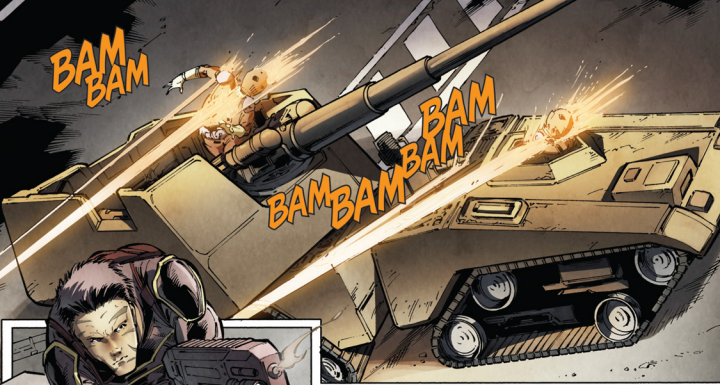
I CAN POP UP BEHIND THEM, IF...











CAP'N CRUNCH.  
BADASS.  
ARTHUR TREACHER'S.  
BADASS.  
TIDY-BOWL MAN.  
BADASS.  
-KOF!-



HEH, YOU'RE GONNA BE ALL RIGHT, SHIPWRECK.  
UGH.  
I PREFER 'TIDY-BOWL MAN'...  
-KOF!-



WE STOPPED THE BLEEDING, R.B., BUT THERE'S SOME NO-JOKE METAL BURIED IN THERE.  
...HELL, OR WINDMILL, FOR THAT MATTER.  
COMM'S NOT WORKING. GOT NO TWENTY ON DOG, COVER GIRL, DUKE...  
WINDMILL'S THERE.







WHAT KINDA  
SCREWED-UP **INTEL**  
WE GET ON THIS  
OP? WE WERE  
**SET UP!**

COBRA HASN'T  
SECURED ONE  
**BUILDING!**

**THEY GOT  
THE WHOLE  
FREAKING  
TOWN!**



THIS GROUP  
OF THREE IS  
**OURS**. THEY  
WON'T GET  
FAR.

WE GOT TEN  
CITIZEN PATROLS  
OUT LOOKING FOR  
THE REMAINING  
JOES.

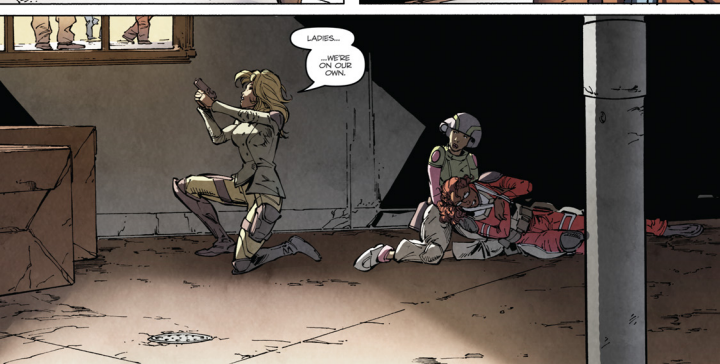
BY  
NIGHTFALL,  
WE'LL HAVE  
**TWENTY**.

DO YOU  
HAVE ANY  
MORE ORDERS  
FOR US?



NOT RIGHT  
NOW. **THANK YOU,**  
MR. MAYOR...

COMM'S  
OUT.



LADIES...

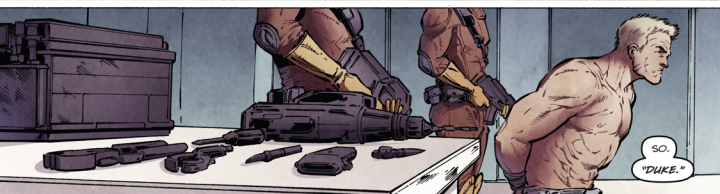
...WE'RE  
ON OUR  
OWN.



...YOU AND  
YOUR NEIGHBORS!  
COOPERATION, AS  
ALWAYS, MR.  
MAYOR...

NMF

...MUCH  
APPRECIATED.  
COBRA OUT.



SO.  
"DUKE."



IF THAT IS  
YOUR REAL  
NAME.



GENERAL  
JOE MADE YOU  
FAMOUS.



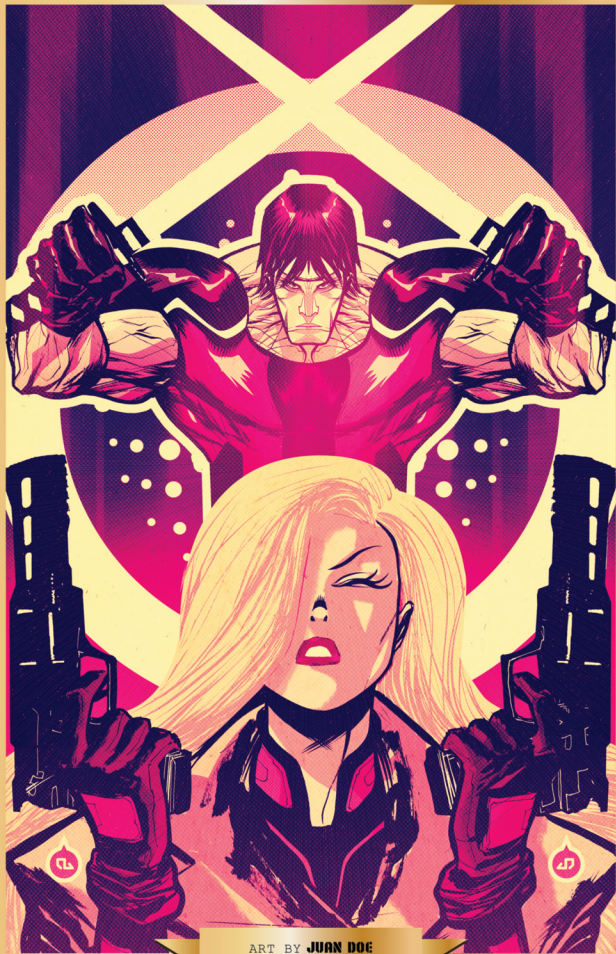
WELL, I'M  
GOING TO MAKE  
YOU INFAMOUS.



PENCILS BY **STEVE HURTH**  
INKS BY **ALLEN MARTINEZ**  
COLORS BY **JOANA LAFUENTE**



## CHAPTER TWO



ART BY **JUAN DOE**







"STATE BAILOUT FUNDS MAKE THEIR WAY TO POLITICALLY CONNECTED OWNERS OF CONSTRUCTION COMPANIES.



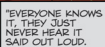
"WITH VERY LITTLE LEFT OVER FOR HONEST PUBLIC SERVANTS TO MAKE A LIVING.



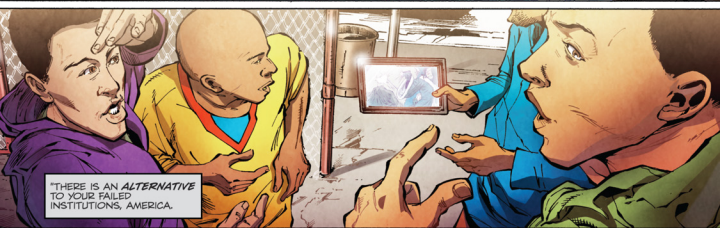
"THESE DOGS KNOW WHO THEY TRULY SERVE. THEY AWAIT SCRAPS TO DROP FROM THE BOSSES' FEASTING TABLE.

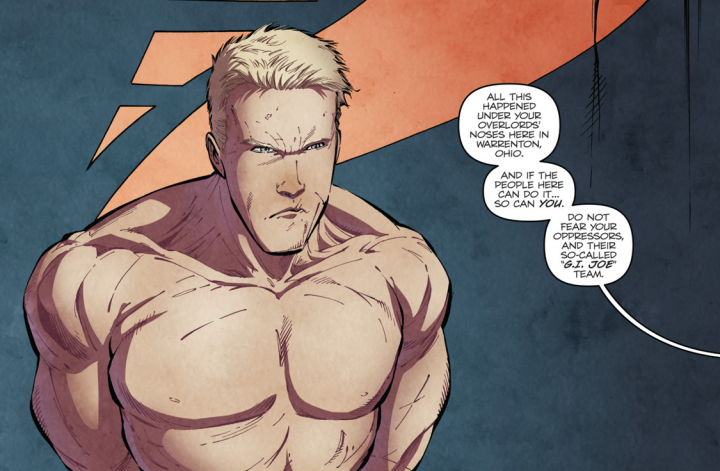


"AND THESE ARE JUST THE LEGAL CRIMINALS."





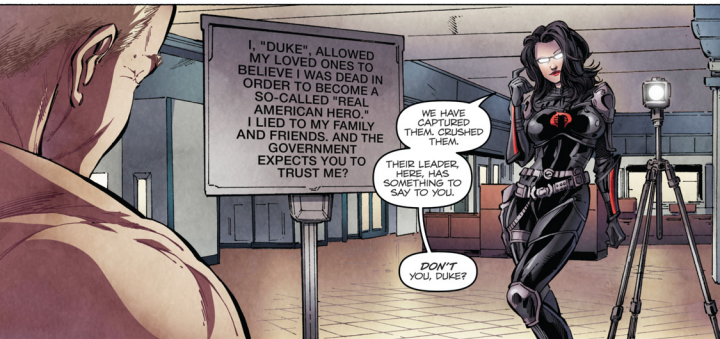




ALL THIS  
HAPPENED  
UNDER YOUR  
OVERLORDS'  
NOSES HERE IN  
WARRENTON,  
OHIO.

AND IF THE  
PEOPLE HERE  
CAN DO IT...  
SO CAN YOU.

DO NOT  
FEAR YOUR  
OPPRESSORS,  
AND THEIR  
SO-CALLED  
"G.I. JOE"  
TEAM.



I, "DUKE", ALLOWED  
MY LOVED ONES TO  
BELIEVE I WAS DEAD IN  
ORDER TO BECOME A  
SO-CALLED "REAL  
AMERICAN HERO."  
I LIED TO MY FAMILY  
AND FRIENDS, AND THE  
GOVERNMENT  
EXPECTS YOU TO  
TRUST ME?

WE HAVE  
CAPTURED  
THEM. CRUSHED  
THEM.

THEIR LEADER,  
HERE, HAS  
SOMETHING TO  
SAY TO YOU.

DON'T  
YOU, DUKE?



MY  
NAME IS  
"DUKE."

FIELD  
COMMANDER, JOINT  
SERVICES SPECIAL  
COUNTERTERRORIST  
GROUP.

MY SERIAL  
NUMBER IS  
U-P-Y-O-U-R-S--



TCH.

I'M TRYING  
TO MAKE YOU A  
YOUTUBE STAR,  
AND YOU'RE NOT  
HELPING.

AREN'T YOU  
AS SICK OF  
"BANGNAM  
STYLE" AS  
I AM?



YOU DIDN'T  
USE MY JOES AS  
BARGAINING CHIPS,  
**BARONESS.**

SO THEY'RE  
STILL **FREE**. NOT  
SO "CAPTURED  
AND CRUSHED."

A TEMPORARY  
CIRCUMSTANCE, I  
ASSURE YOU.

BROADCAST  
INTERCEPTORS  
PREVENT THEIR  
COMMS FROM  
WORKING.

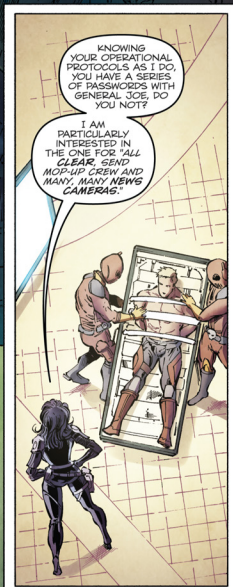


"AND YOUR COMMANDERS  
HAVE NO KNOWLEDGE OF  
YOUR PREDICAMENT."

"WE FILMED A MOST  
**CONVINCING** RAID  
ON OUR ALLEGED  
CHEMICAL WEAPONS  
PLANT A FEW  
WEEKS AGO."



"OUR BEST MIND IS  
SUPERVISING THE 'LIVE  
TRANSMISSION' TO  
YOUR CENTCOMM."



KNOWING  
YOUR OPERATIONAL  
PROTOCOLS AS I DO,  
YOU HAVE A SERIES  
OF PASSWORDS WITH  
GENERAL JOE. DO  
YOU NOT?

I AM  
PARTICULARLY  
INTERESTED IN  
THE ONE FOR "ALL  
**CLEAR**, SEND  
MOP-UP CREW AND  
MANY, MANY NEWS  
CAMERAS."





MY NAME IS "DUKE."

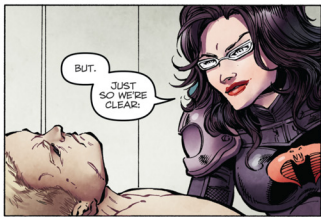
FIELD COMMANDER, JOINT SERVICES SPECIAL COUNTERTERRORIST GROUP.

MY SERIAL NUMBER IS U-P-Y-O-U-R-S-



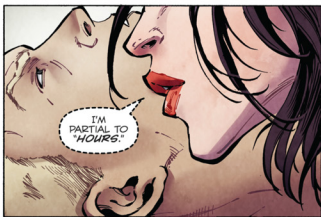
YOU'RE GOING TO TELL ME NOW.

OR YOU'RE GOING TO TELL ME IN A COUPLE OF HOURS.

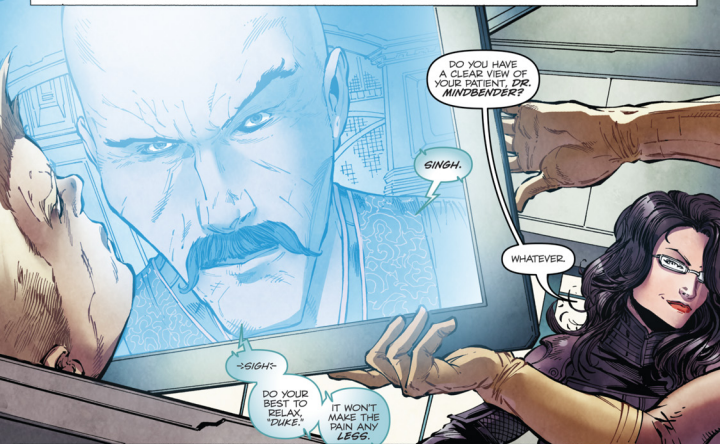


BUT.

JUST SO WE'RE CLEAR:



I'M PARTIAL TO "HOURS."



DO YOU HAVE A CLEAR VIEW OF YOUR PATIENT, DR. MINDBENDER?

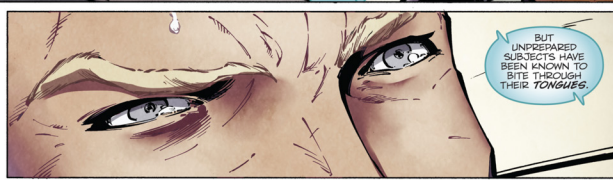
SINGH.

WHATEVER.

-SIGH-

DO YOUR BEST TO RELAX, "DUKE."

IT WON'T MAKE THE PAIN ANY LESS.

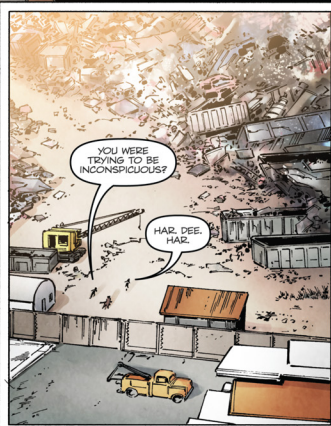


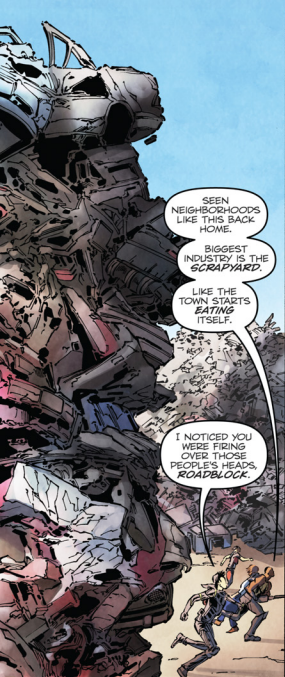
BUT UNPREPARED SUBJECTS HAVE BEEN KNOWN TO BITE THROUGH THEIR TONGUES.



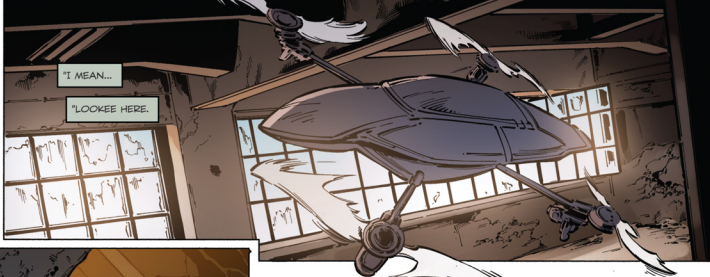












"I MEAN..."

"LOOKEE HERE."

"THAT FACTORY  
IS EMPTY."

"NO W.O.R.M.S., NO  
CHEMICAL PLANT."



WHOLE OP  
WAS A DAMN  
SNIPE HUNT  
FROM THE  
START.

COBRA'S  
PENETRATED  
LOCAL LAW.  
MUST HAVE.

MAYBE.

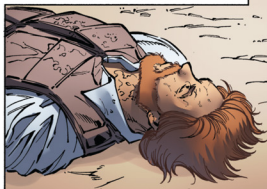
OR JOE'S  
SPRUNG A  
LEAK.

PRETTY  
SERIOUS CHARGE  
WITHOUT PROOF,  
SARGE.

GUT  
DON'T NEED  
PROOF.

GOVERNORS  
ISLAND'S GOT A  
SNAKE INFESTATION.  
BANK ON IT.

THAT'S ALL  
WELL AND  
GOOD...





"...BUT IT DOESN'T HELP  
US FIND THE *GIRLS*."

SEE WHAT  
CAUSED THAT  
EXPLOSION,  
DOC?

NO CLUE.  
HOPEFULLY  
OUR GUYS,  
KICKING ASS.

YO  
JOE.

ONCE THE  
SUN SETS  
WE'LL TRY AND  
JOIN THEM.

COVER  
GIRL. IF...

IF WE MEET  
RESISTANCE,  
WILL YOU BE  
ABLE TO...?

WHAT?

KILL  
AMERICANS.

I...

...I DON'T  
KNOW.

DON'T  
WORRY, GUYS.  
I CALLED FOR  
BACKUP.

WHAT?  
YOU'RE GETTING  
COMM OUT,  
HASHTAG?

SOMEBODY  
GAVE YOU  
A COMM?

WHAT ARE  
YOU TALKING  
ABOUT? I'VE  
GOT, LIKE, A  
BAR AND A  
HALF.

I TWEETED, I  
FACEBOOKED,  
HELL, I'M ABOUT  
READY TO PUT OUR  
GOOGLE MAPS PIN  
ON MYSPACE!

CAVALRY  
SHOULD BE  
HERE IN NO  
TIME.

WHAT?

YOU THINK  
MAYBE COBRA  
FOLLOWS ME  
ON TWITTER?



ALL MY  
NUMBERS ARE  
IN THERE!



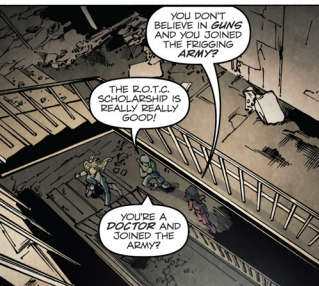
HOW COULD  
YOU BE SO  
STUPID? I  
SHOULD SHOOT  
YOU MYSELF!

STOP  
YELLING! I—I  
THOUGHT THE  
COPS COULD COME  
GET US! AREN'T WE  
THE GOOD GUYS  
HERE?!

COVER GIRL.  
CHILL. G.P.S. CHIP  
IN HER PHONE  
WOULDBE GIVEN US  
AWAY ANYWAY.



MAYBE.



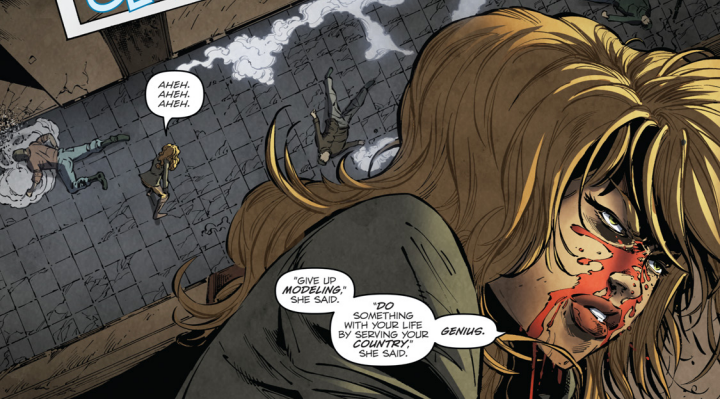








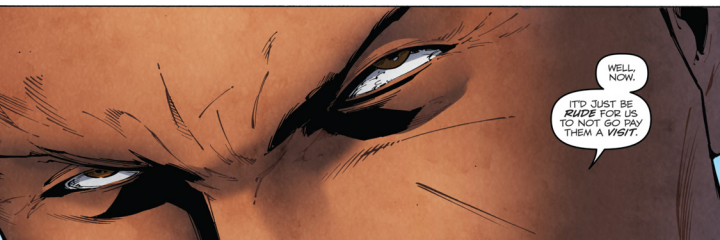
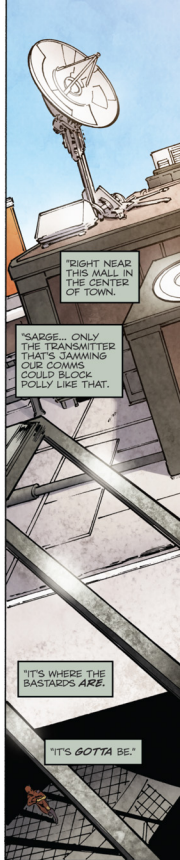














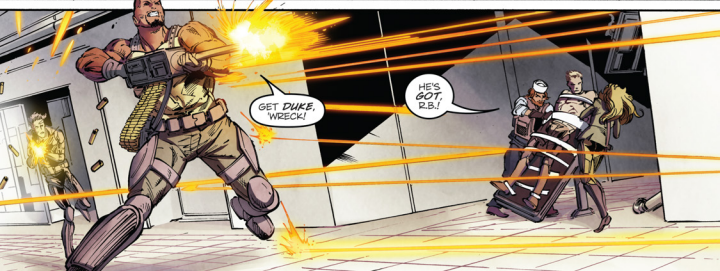
PENCILS BY **STEVE HURTH**  
INKS BY **ALLEN MARTINEZ**  
COLORS BY **JOANA LAFUENTE**

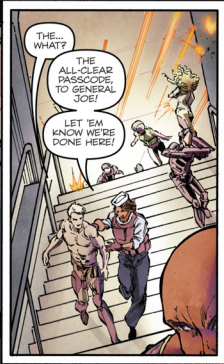
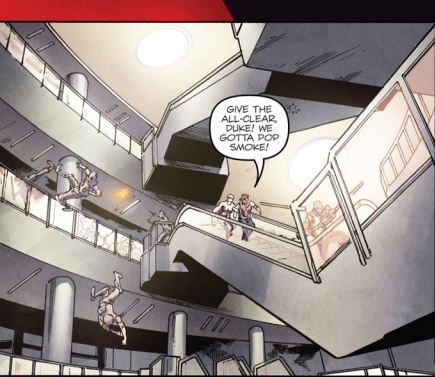
# CHAPTER THREE



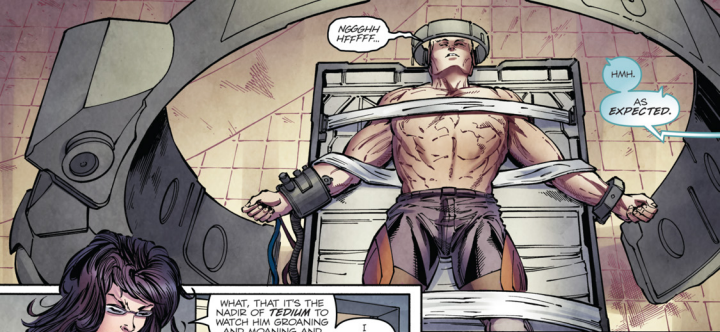
ART BY JUAN DOE











NGGGHH  
HFFFFFF...

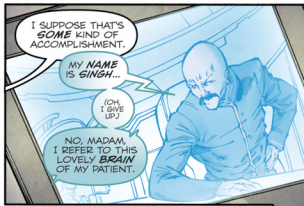
HMM.  
AS  
EXPECTED.



WHAT, THAT IT'S THE  
NADIR OF **TEDIUM** TO  
WATCH HIM GROANING  
AND MOANING AND  
MUMBLING TO  
HIMSELF?

I  
COULDN'T  
AGREE  
MORE.

YOU'VE  
SOMEHOW  
MADE TORTURE  
**BORING**.  
MINDBENDER.

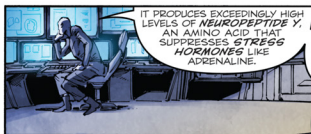


I SUPPOSE THAT'S  
**SOME** KIND OF  
ACCOMPLISHMENT.

MY NAME  
IS **SINGH**...

(OH,  
I GIVE  
UP.)

NO, MADAM.  
I REFER TO THIS  
LOVELY **BRAIN**  
OF MY PATIENT.



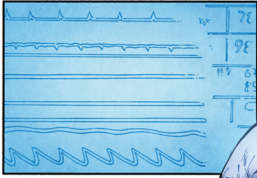
IT PRODUCES EXCEEDINGLY HIGH  
LEVELS OF **NEUROPEPTIDE Y**.  
AN AMINO ACID THAT  
SUPPRESSES **STRESS**  
**HORMONES** LIKE  
ADRENALINE.

N-P-Y ALSO  
AFFECTS THE  
BRAINSTEM,  
MODERATING  
ONE'S HEART  
RATE.

HIS HAS  
AN ALMOST  
**METRONOME**  
CONSISTENCY...



OH, HE  
SEEMS QUITE  
**SPIRITED**  
TO ME.



SPIRITED, YES.  
**JUMPY?** NO.

ONE OFTEN  
FINDS THESE  
N-P-Y LEVELS IN  
SOLDIERS WITH  
**SPECIAL FORCES**  
TRAINING...

...BUT  
**HIS** ARE HIGH  
EVEN BY **THAT**  
STANDARD.

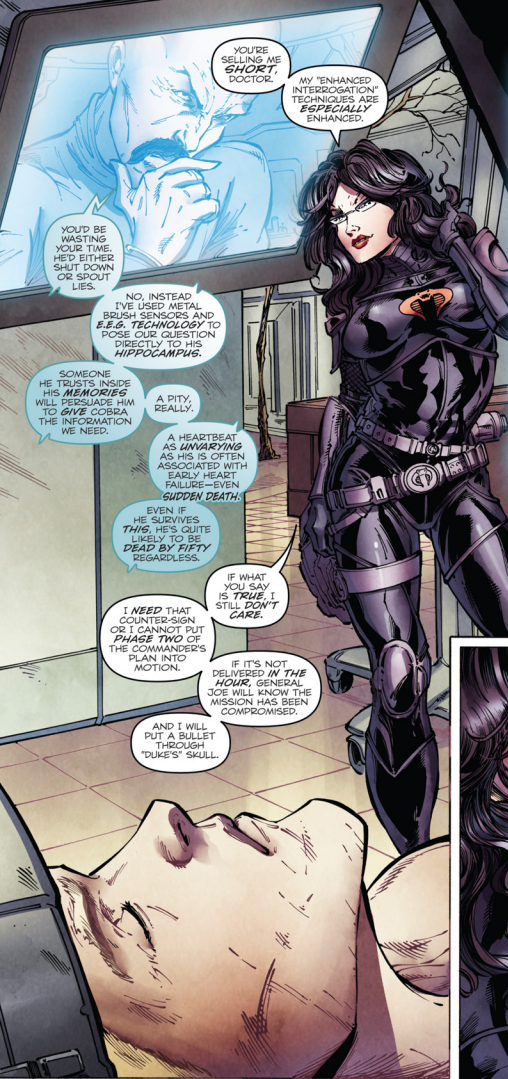
YOU WILL  
NOT **BREAK**  
THIS MAN,  
BARONESS.

NO MATTER  
HOW HARD YOU  
TRY. NO MATTER  
WHAT **METHOD**  
YOU TRY.

HE IS  
CHEMICALLY  
INCAPABLE OF  
YIELDING.







YOU'RE  
SELLING ME  
**SHORT**,  
DOCTOR.

MY "ENHANCED  
INTERROGATION"  
TECHNIQUES ARE  
**ESPECIALLY**  
ENHANCED.

YOU'D BE  
WASTING  
YOUR TIME.  
HE'D EITHER  
SHUT DOWN  
OR SPOUT  
LIES.

NO, INSTEAD  
I'VE USED METAL  
BRUSH SENSORS AND  
**E.E.G. TECHNOLOGY** TO  
POSE OUR QUESTION  
DIRECTLY TO HIS  
**HIPPOCAMPUS**.

SOMEONE  
HE TRUSTS INSIDE  
HIS **MEMORIES**  
WILL PERSUADE HIM  
TO **GIVE COBRA**  
THE INFORMATION  
WE NEED.

A PITY,  
REALLY.

A **HEARTBEAT**  
AS **UNVARYING**  
AS HIS IS OFTEN  
ASSOCIATED WITH  
EARLY HEART  
FAILURE—EVEN  
**SUDDEN DEATH**.

EVEN IF  
HE SURVIVES  
**THIS**, HE'S QUITE  
LIKELY TO BE  
**DEAD BY FIFTY**  
REGARDLESS.

IF WHAT  
YOU SAY  
IS **TRUE**, I  
STILL **DON'T**  
**CARE**.

I **NEED** THAT  
COUNTER-SIGN  
OR I CANNOT PUT  
**PHASE TWO** OF  
THE COMMANDER'S  
PLAN INTO  
MOTION.

IF IT'S NOT  
DELIVERED **IN THE**  
**HOURL**, GENERAL  
JOE WILL KNOW THE  
MISSION HAS BEEN  
COMPROMISED.

AND I WILL  
PUT A BULLET  
THROUGH  
**"DUKE'S" SKULL**.



THROUGH  
HIS **CHEST**. IF  
YOU'D PLEASE...  
PRESERVE THE  
**BRAIN FOR**  
**SCIENCE**.

YOU KNOW,  
"BARONESS,"  
FOR AN ALLEGED  
**ARISTOCRAT**...

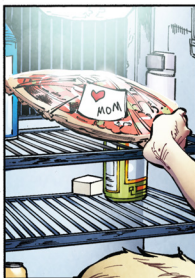
...YOU ARE  
QUITE THE  
**SAVAGE**.



WHY, MY  
DEAR DOCTOR  
MINDBENDER.

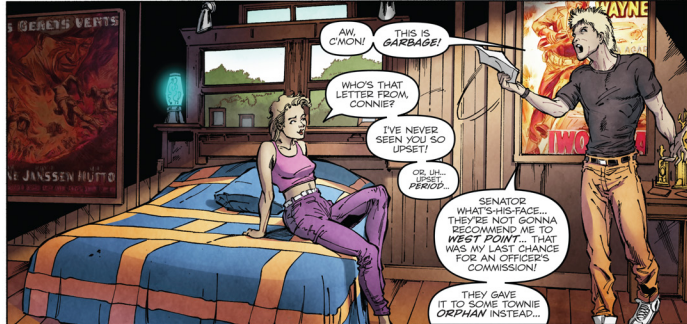
THAT'S THE  
**NICEST** THING  
ANYONE'S EVER  
SAID TO ME.

OZARK MOBILE HOME PARK,  
ARNOLD, MISSOURI.  
YEARS AGO.









AW,  
C'MON!

THIS IS  
GARBAGE!

WHO'S THAT  
LETTER FROM,  
CONNIE?

I'VE NEVER  
SEEN YOU SO  
UPSET!

OR, UH...  
UPSET...  
PERIOD...

SENATOR  
WHAT'S HIS FACE...  
THEY'RE NOT GONNA  
RECOMMEND ME TO  
WEST POINT... THAT  
WAS MY LAST CHANCE  
FOR AN OFFICER'S  
COMMISSION!

THEY GAVE  
IT TO SOME TOWNIE  
ORPHAN INSTEAD...



NAME'S  
"MONK" OR  
"MONKEY" OR  
SOMETHING  
LIKE THAT...

THIS IS  
GOOD  
NEWS!

EVERYTHING  
HAPPENS FOR  
A REASON.



YOU WON'T  
HAVE TO GO  
ALL THE WAY  
TO NEW YORK!

WE'LL GET  
TO GO TO FOPO  
COCO\* TOGETHER  
AND SPEND THE  
NEXT TWO YEARS  
SIDE-BY-SIDE!

THEN, ONCE WE'VE  
GRADUATED...

\* FOREST PARK  
COMMUNITY  
COLLEGE (MO.)



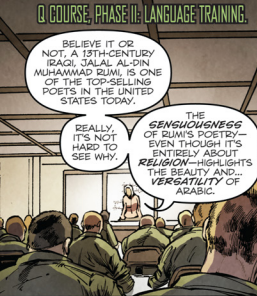
...I HEAR  
BELLS...

US ARMY SPECIAL FORCES QUALIFICATION COURSE ("Q COURSE").  
PHASE I: SPECIAL FORCES ASSESSMENT & SELECTION (S.F.A.S.).  
CAMP MACKALL, NORTH CAROLINA.



THEY TELL  
ME THAT AN  
OFFICER'S JOB  
IS TO URGE  
OTHERS TO  
TAKE RISKS.

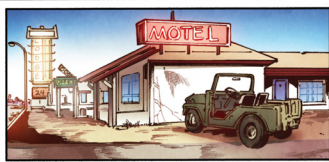
IF THAT'S  
WHAT AN  
OFFICER DOES,  
I DON'T WANT  
ANY PART  
OF IT—



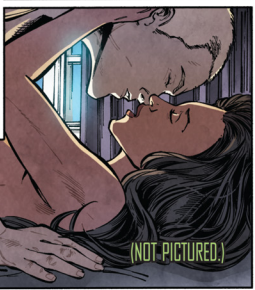
Q COURSE, PHASE III: SURVIVAL,  
EVASION, RESISTANCE & ESCAPE  
(SERIES)







Q COURSE, PHASE IV: M.O.S.  
SPECIFIC TRAINING & PHASE V:  
ROBIN SAGE CULMINATION EXERCISE.



(NOT PICTURED.)

Q COURSE, PHASE VI:  
GRADUATION.

DE OPPRESSO LIBER—"TO  
LIBERATE THE OPPRESSED"—  
THAT IS THE SPECIAL  
FORCES MOTTO.

THE ADVENTURE  
TEAM AND I TRIED TO  
LIVE UP TO THAT MOTTO  
IN OUR OWN, SMALL—IF  
HEAVILY PUBLICIZED—WAY  
IN THE BATTLE AGAINST  
INTERNATIONAL  
COMMUNISM.

AND I AM  
HAPPY TO PASS  
THAT TORCH ON  
TO YOU, THE NEXT  
GENERATION OF  
GREEN BERTS—



—WHO WILL  
NOT ONLY FIGHT  
AGAINST THOSE WHO  
WOULD CHALLENGE  
AMERICA'S  
FREEDOM...

...BUT TRAIN  
OTHERS TO DEFEND  
THEIR NATIONS  
AGAINST TYRANNY  
AS WELL.



US ARMY SPECIAL FORCES/  
TRUEJAL NATIONAL ARMY  
JOINT TRAINING CAMP "SALADIN"



(GO! GO! GO!)  
(CAN WE  
MOVE ANY  
SLOWER?)

\* ARABIC



(INSURGENTS GONNA  
BE HALFWAY UP YOUR  
ASS BEFORE YOU GET  
YOUR DAMN BOOTS  
ON, HABAB!)



(I WILL GET  
YOU STRAIGHT  
OR YOU WILL  
DIE TRYING!)



(YES,  
SIR!)



(“SIR”? I  
LOOK  
LIKE A DAMN  
OFFICER  
TO YOU,  
HABAB?)

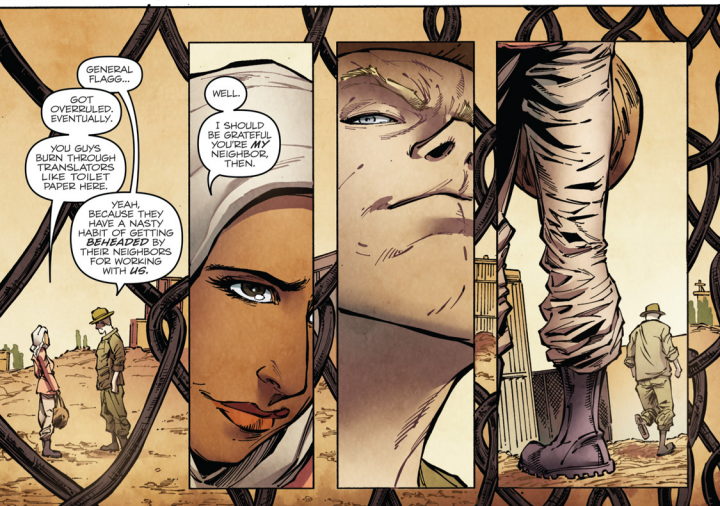
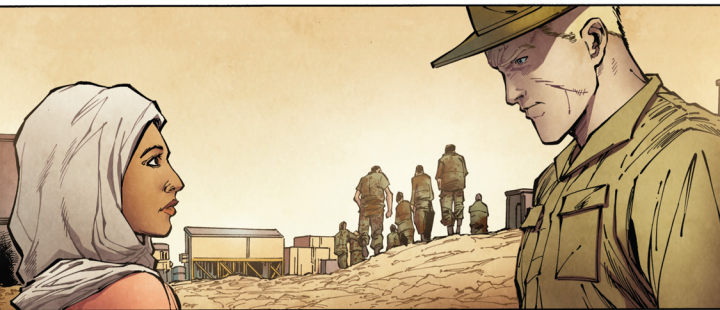


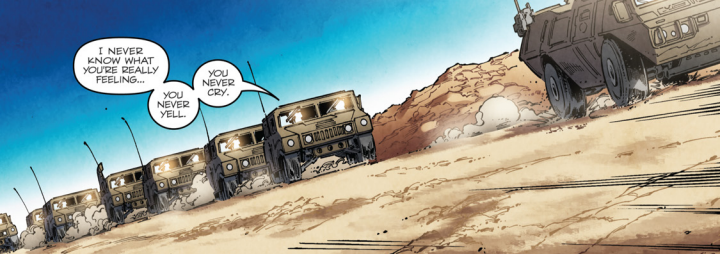
(YES, DRILL  
SERGEANT!)



(I MEAN  
NO, DRILL  
SERGEANT!)



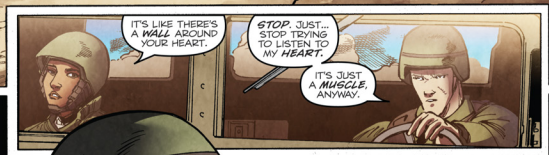




I NEVER  
KNOW WHAT  
YOU'RE REALLY  
FEELING...

YOU  
NEVER  
YELL.

YOU  
NEVER  
CRY.



IT'S LIKE THERE'S  
A WALL AROUND  
YOUR HEART.

STOP. JUST...  
STOP TRYING  
TO LISTEN TO  
MY HEART.

IT'S JUST  
A MUSCLE,  
ANYWAY.



MY... EVEN  
KEEL IS WHAT  
GIVES ME MY  
EDGE.

AND YOU—  
YOU MAKE  
ME SKIP A BEAT.

WHEN  
YOU'RE  
AROUND...  
YOU'RE ALL  
I CAN  
SEE.



AND THAT'S  
A DANGEROUS  
LIABILITY IN THIS  
BUSINESS.



I DIDN'T  
WANT YOU  
AWAY FROM  
HERE FOR  
YOUR  
SAFETY.



I  
WANTED  
IT FOR  
MINE.



BOOM



(HEY, SERGEANT HAUSER!!)

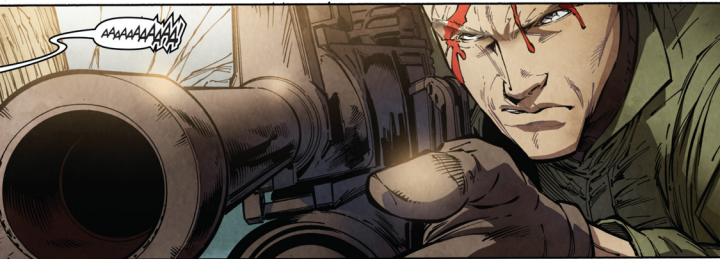
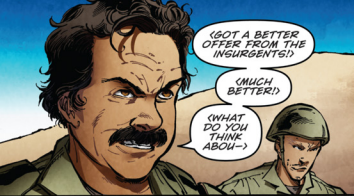
(THAT YOU MOVING AROUND IN THERE?)

(THANK YOU FOR TEACHING US HOW TO DO THAT AMBUSH!!)

(YOU DROVE RIGHT INTO IT!)

(I AM AFRAID WE HAVE DECIDED TO GUIT THE TRUCIAL NATIONAL ARMY, THOUGH!!)







ANY O' THESE DRONGOS SURVIVE THIS **FIGHT**, THEY CAN KISS MY OFFER OF EMPLOYMENT **GOODNIGHT**.



...**THEN** YOU REGROUPED THE SURVIVORS TO FIGHT OFF THIS "GREEN-ON-BLUE" ATTACK.

OUTNUMBERED THREE TO ONE BY YOUR OWN TRAINEES.

IMPRESSIVE.



MAYBE.

OR MAYBE I'M JUST A REALLY TERRIBLE DRILL INSTRUCTOR.

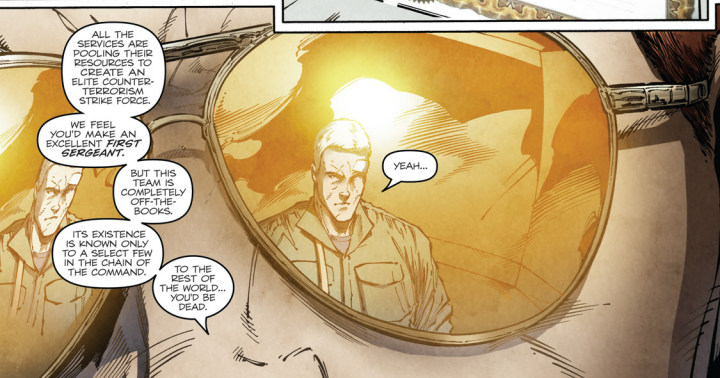


THAT SMOOTH AMBUSH THEY PULLED OFF SUGGESTS OTHERWISE.

CONSIDERING YOU WERE THE ONLY NON-CASUALTY IN THE END.



OF COURSE... **THAT PART'S OUR LITTLE SECRET.**



ALL THE SERVICES ARE POOLING THEIR RESOURCES TO CREATE AN ELITE COUNTER-TERRORISM STRIKE FORCE.

WE FEEL YOU'D MAKE AN EXCELLENT **FIRST SERGEANT**.

BUT THIS TEAM IS COMPLETELY OFF-**THE-BOOKS**.

ITS EXISTENCE IS KNOWN ONLY TO A SELECT FEW IN THE CHAIN OF THE COMMAND.

TO THE REST OF THE WORLD... YOU'D BE DEAD.

YEAH...

"...I KNOW HOW THEY *FEEL*."

NORTH SHORE HOSPICE,  
OYSTER BAY, LONG ISLAND,  
NEW YORK.

...24-HOUR CARE CAN COST AS MUCH AS A THOUSAND DOLLARS A DAY.

YOU'RE SURE THERE'S NO ONE ELSE WHO CAN HELP YOU OUT FINANCIALLY?

PARENTS—

AISHA'S FOLKS DISOWNED HER WHEN SHE STARTED COLLABORATING WITH THE U.S.

I'M ALL SHE'S GOT.

YOU JUST DO WHAT YOU *NEED* TO FOR HER.

I'LL FOOT THE BILL.

(SOMEHOW...)

THIS IS AN UNUSUAL SITUATION, MISTER...?

DUKE.

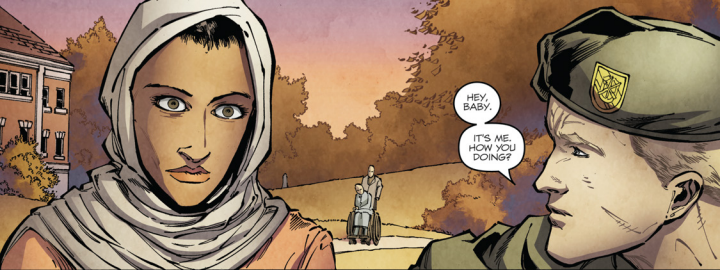
ALL THE NAME YOU NEED.

AS LONG AS YOU UNDERSTAND THAT WHAT WE CAN DO FOR HER IS... MINIMAL.

SHE SUFFERED CATASTROPHIC BRAIN TRAUMA FROM THAT I.E.D. ATTACK—HER HELMET IS THE ONLY REASON SHE'S STILL ALIVE.

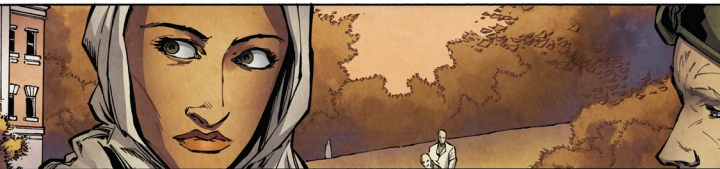
THE... BEST CASE SCENARIO IS THAT SHE REMAINS LIKE THIS FOR THE REST OF HER LIFE.





HEY,  
BABY.

IT'S ME.  
HOW YOU  
DOING?

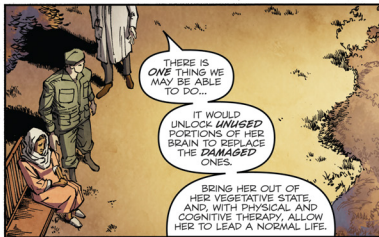


AW, BABE.

WE **BOTH**  
GOT LOCKED-UP  
HEART'S NOW...

ACTUALLY,  
HER HEART IS  
COMPLETELY  
HEALTHY—

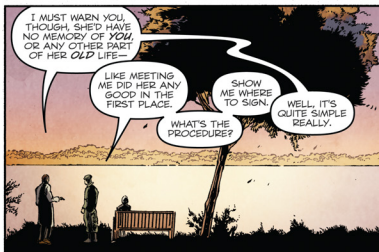
IN-JOKE.  
BETWEEN  
HER AND ME.  
SORRY.



THERE IS  
**ONE** THING WE  
MAY BE ABLE  
TO DO...

IT WOULD  
UNLOCK **UNUSED**  
PORTIONS OF HER  
BRAIN TO REPLACE  
THE **DAMAGED**  
ONES.

BRING HER OUT OF  
HER VEGETATIVE STATE,  
AND, WITH PHYSICAL AND  
COGNITIVE THERAPY, ALLOW  
HER TO LEAD A NORMAL LIFE.



I MUST WARN YOU,  
THOUGH, SHE'D HAVE  
NO MEMORY OF **YOU**,  
OR ANY OTHER PART  
OF HER **OLD** LIFE—

LIKE MEETING  
ME DID HER ANY  
GOOD IN THE  
FIRST PLACE.

SHOW  
ME WHERE  
TO SIGN.

WELL, IT'S  
QUITE SIMPLE  
REALLY.

WHAT'S THE  
PROCEDURE?



YOU JUST HAVE  
TO GIVE ME THE  
COUNTER-SIGN.



TO TOPAZ



THAT'S  
IT.

IT IS?  
HOW CAN  
YOU BE  
SURE?

IT'S THE  
ONLY THING  
PAST HIS  
LIPS IN AN  
HOUR...



AND IT'S  
THE ONLY TIME  
HIS HEARTBEAT  
HAS VARIED.

USE IT TO BRING  
IN THE REST  
OF THE JOES  
UNPREPARED.

AND YOU  
CAN END  
THEM.



EXCELLENT.

THEN IT  
IS TIME FOR  
YOUR SECOND  
DEATH.

FORT JAY,  
GOVERNORS ISLAND,  
NYC (G.I. JOE HQ).



DUKE'S TEAM IN OHIO HAS SENT THEIR COUNTER-SIGN, GENERAL COLTON.

"TOPAZ."

CONGRATULATIONS, GENERAL JOE.

THE PENTAGON WILL BE THRILLED TO HEAR THAT THE STRIKE TEAM'S FIRST PUBLIC MISSION IS SUCH A SMASHING SUCCESS.

I'LL NOTIFY D-O-D PUBLIC AFFAIRS IMMEDIATELY.

THEY'LL SEND IN THE CREWS AND THE COVERAGE TO MAKE **SURE** THIS IS THE LEAD STORY ON THE SIX O'CLOCK NEWS.

WAIT!  
DON'T.

WHAT?

WHY NOT?

NOT IN THE CHEST, EITHER.

I'D LIKE TO DISSECT HIS **HEART** TOO, IT MIGHT PROVIDE SOME CLUE AS TO HOW NAPA-1 IS ABSORBED BY THE BODY.



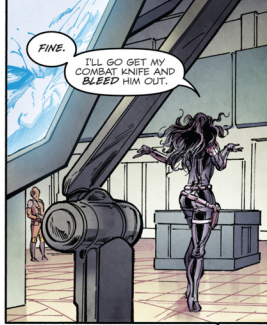
BUT I WANT TO.

BARONESS.

YOU'RE STILL TRYING TO GET BACK IN THE COMMANDER'S **GOOD GRACES**, YES?

STEP UP TO THE **MANHATTAN POSTING** EVERYONE'S BEEN CLAMORING FOR?

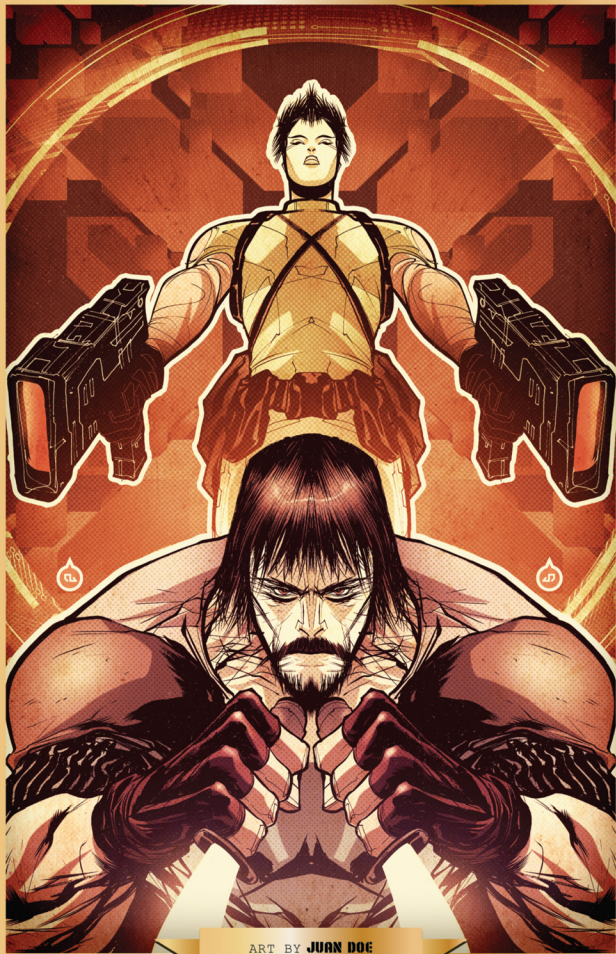






PENCILS BY **STEVE HURTH**  
INKS BY **ALLEN MARTINEZ**  
COLORS BY **HITO YOUNG**

## CHAPTER FOUR



ART BY **JUAN DOE**







SAVED MY ASS  
IS WHAT YOU DID,  
HASHTAG...

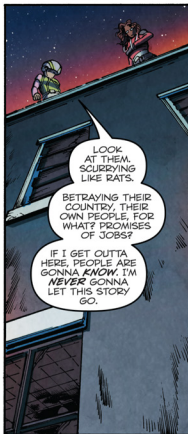
ACROSS THE  
ROOFTOPS LOOKS  
TO BE THE ONLY  
WAY TO GET OUT  
UNSEEN.

YOU WELL  
ENOUGH TO  
JUMP, COVER  
GIRL?

I GOT A  
CHOICE?



NOPE.



LOOK  
AT THEM.  
SCURRYING  
LIKE RATS.

BETRAYING THEIR  
COUNTRY, THEIR  
OWN PEOPLE, FOR  
WHAT? PROMISES  
OF JOBS?

IF I GET OUTTA  
HERE, PEOPLE ARE  
GONNA *KNOW*. I'M  
*NEVER* GONNA  
LET THIS STORY  
GO.



NOT UNTIL THE  
WHOLE WORLD  
KNOWS JUST WHAT  
THESE PEOPLE  
*DID*.



STILL A  
BIG "IF,"  
GIRL!



NNNF!

NOW  
MOVE!



DUDE

THE  
MAYOR

G.I. JOE  
WHACKED  
THE MAYOR

JOES ARE  
MONSTERS

WASN'T EVEN  
SURE COBRA  
WAS 100% RIGHT  
UNTIL NOW, BUT  
IT'S TRUE

HE WASN'T  
EVEN ARMED!

DO WE HAVE  
AN ELECTION?

HE HAD  
A TASER

TASER  
AIN'T ARMED  
ARMED

GUNNED 'IM  
DOWN IN COLD  
BLOOD



TIM, YOU'RE  
DEPUTY MAYOR.  
WHAT'S THE  
PLAN?

THIS IS  
RIDICULOUS. I  
GREW UP IN  
THIS TOWN.

I KNOW  
EVERY BUGH.  
I KNOW EVERY  
VACANT LOT. I  
KNOW EVERY  
ALLEY.



GIMME  
THAT MAP.

NOT  
POSSIBLE THEY  
CAN HIDE FROM US  
FOR THIS LONG.



PROCESS OF  
ELIMINATION,  
GUYS.



WE GOTTA  
LOOK IN SOME  
PLACE WE  
MISSED.

SCRAPYARD





HERE'S  
THE SITREP,  
LADIES:

WE GOT A MAN  
DOWN IN NEED OF  
IMMEDIATE MEDICAL  
ASSISTANCE.



AND WE'RE PRETTY  
SURE WE'VE LOCATED THE  
TRANSMITTER THAT'S  
BLOCKING OUR COMMS ON  
TOP OF A MALL ABOUT A  
CLICK AND A HALF FROM  
HERE, DOWNTOWN.

ONE OF YOU  
STAYS WITH DOC  
WHILE SHE OPERATES  
ON SHIPWRECK. THE  
REST OF YOU COME  
WITH ME TO—



SLIGHT  
PROBLEM WITH  
YOUR PLAN,  
SARGE.

THIS BUSTED  
WING IS WHAT  
I **OPERATE**  
WITH.

I CAN MAYBE  
TALK SOMEONE ELSE  
THROUGH IT.



BUT YOU ARE  
RIGHT—WE NEED TO  
GET THIS METAL OUT OF  
SHIPWRECK AND CLOSE  
HIM UP, OR HE'S NOT  
GONNA LAST THE NEXT  
COUPLE HOURS.

I KNOW MY  
WAY AROUND  
A KNIFE.

OR SO  
I'VE BEEN  
TOLD.

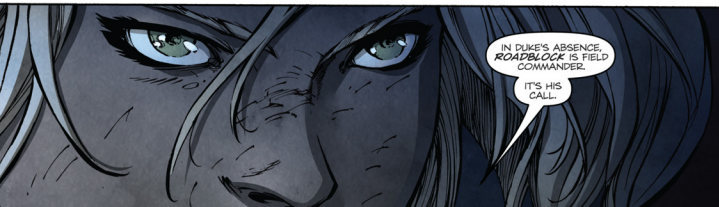


YEAH, BUT  
**QUICK RICK** IS OUR  
SILENT WEAPONS  
SPECIALIST.

THE REST OF US  
GOT NOTHING BUT  
SMALL ARMS AND  
**CHARISMA**.

ISNT  
INFILTRATING AN  
ENEMY POSITION  
WITHOUT HIM A  
LITTLE...

...UH,  
SUICIDAL?



IN DUKE'S ABSENCE,  
**ROADBLOCK** IS FIELD  
COMMANDER.

IT'S HIS  
CALL.



MAKE NO MISTAKE: I'D DO THIS FOR ANY *ONE* O' YOU.

WE ALWAYS GOT ONE MISSION THAT COMES FIRST, BEFORE ANY OTHER ON THE BATTLEFIELD:

*NO JOE LEFT BEHIND.*

(JANES, NEITHER)



QUICK KICK, YOU STAY WITH DOC, PATCH UP SHIPWRECK.

I'LL LEAVE MA DEUCE WITH YOU. HER BELT'S ALMOST OUT AND SHE'S TOO NOISY FOR THIS OP ANYHOW.



REST OF US ARE GOING *SHOPPIN'*—EVEN YOU, J-PEG.

*HASHTAG.*

YOU'RE IN THE REAR WITH THE GEAR—OPERATING OUR *POLLY* DRONE WITH THAT ONCE WE TAKE THE JAMMER OFF-LINE.

LET'S BOOGIE.







**KRACK!**





MANAGED TO RAID THE PHARMACY NEXT DOOR, GOT THESE INSTRUMENTS.

GREAT. HOLD EACH ONE OVER THE LIGHTER, THEN WIPE 'EM DOWN WITH THE ALCOHOL.



I DON'T SEE AN EXIT WOUND, SO WHATEVER HIT HIM IS STILL *IN* HIM.

TAKE THAT PROBE—GET IN THERE AND FIND IT, COWBOY.

OKAY...



AW... MAN...

IT'S A GUSHER.

SHOULD I PRESS DOWN—



NO! NO DIRECT PRESSURE.

YOU COULD SQUEEZE THE TISSUE AROUND THE SHRAPNEL AND MAKE IT WORSE.



HERE, I'VE GOT HIM INDIRECTLY, ON THE SUBCLAVIAN...

OH. DAMN.



FOUND IT—MOST OF IT. DEFINITELY LOOKS LIKE A CHUNK OF SKYSTORM.

OKAY, PULL IT OUT. CAREFULLY.



HERE, I  
CAN—WEEK—HELP  
YOU KEEP THE WOUND  
OPEN WHILE YOU  
PULL IT OUT.

YOU  
KNOW WHAT'S  
AMAZING...



...IS HOW CLOSE  
TO THAT GAME  
"OPERATION" THIS  
ACTUALLY IS.

TELL ME  
ABOUT IT.



THIS NASTY  
BUGGER WAS  
BURROWING RIGHT  
FOR HIS HEART.

REMINDS  
ME:



YOU GOT A  
BOYFRIEND?

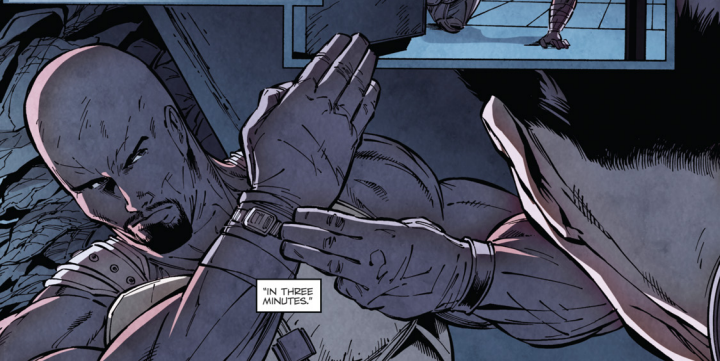
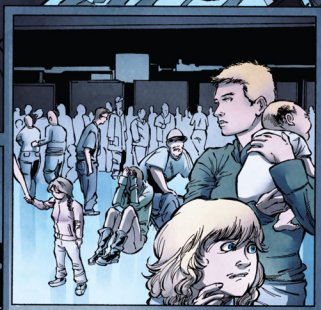
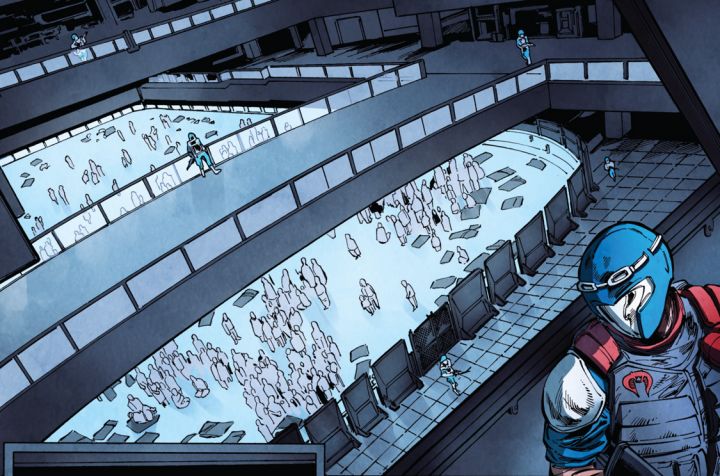
WHAT?



UH...

NOTHING.





"IN THREE MINUTES."



"YOU TAKE  
POSITION THERE."



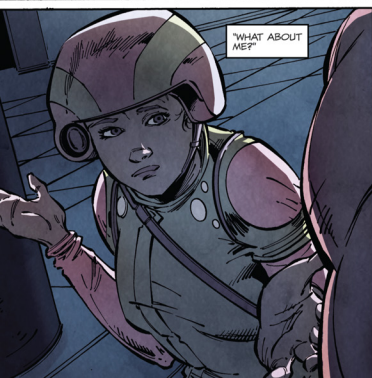
"YOU."



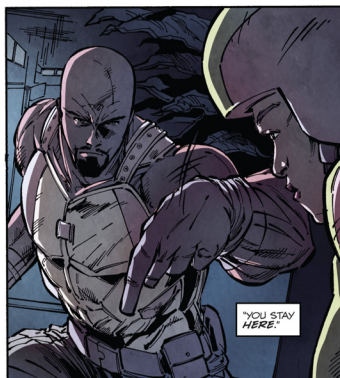
"WITH ME."



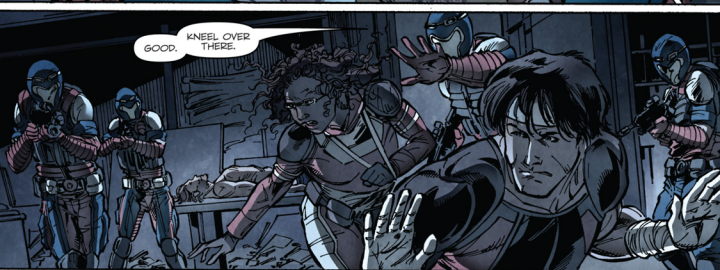
"DOWN THE  
STAIRS."



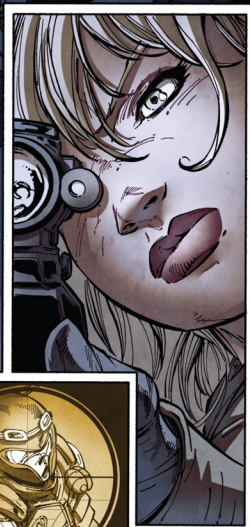
"WHAT ABOUT  
ME?"



"YOU STAY  
HERE."







WE HAVE MET THE ENEMY AND THEY ARE OURS  
Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry, September 10, 1815







BUT I WANT TO.

YOU'RE STILL TRYING TO GET BACK IN THE COMMANDER'S GOOD GRACES, YES?

STEP UP TO THE MANHATTAN POSTING EVERYONE'S BEEN CLAMORING FOR?

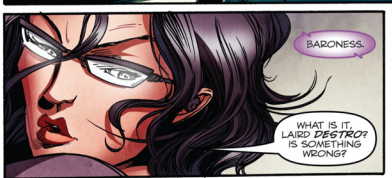


THEN DON'T MAKE ME TELL HIM YOU RUINED DATA THAT COULD BE INVALUABLE TO HIS CRIMSON GUARDSMEN PROJECT.



FINE.

I'LL GO FIND MY COMBAT KNIFE... BLEED HIM OUT...



BARONESS.

WHAT IS IT, LAIRD DESTRO? IS SOMETHING WRONG?



I'M AFRAID SO.

THE OHIO NATIONAL GUARD HAS BEEN MOBILIZED ON WARRENTON.

THE AIR FORCE BASE IN YOUNGSTOWN HAS BEEN PUT ON HIGH ALERT.





"A PHALANX OF *DRAGONFLIES*  
JUST LEFT GOVERNORS ISLAND."



DUKE.

DAMN THAT IDIOT  
MINDBENDER!

THE  
COMMANDER'S  
PLAN IS STILL  
VIALE.



BARELY.

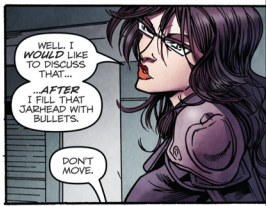
BUT WHY...  
WHY ARE YOU  
WARNING ME,  
LAIRD?

ISN'T THIS  
THE PERFECT  
OPPORTUNITY TO  
LET ME FALL--AND  
CLAIM THE NEW  
YORK POST FOR  
YOURSELF?



OH... I AM  
QUITE CONTENT  
IN MY CURRENT  
POSITION,  
THANK YOU.

IT'S  
YOU I...  
...HAVE  
MY EYE  
ON.



WELL, I  
WOULD LIKE  
TO DISCUSS  
THAT...

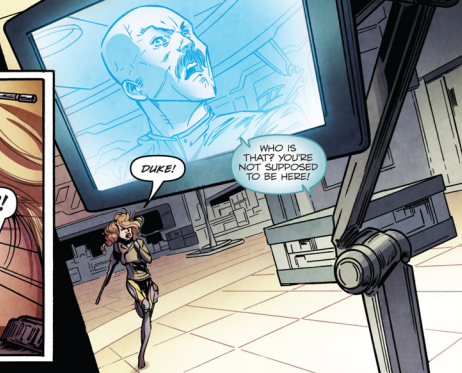
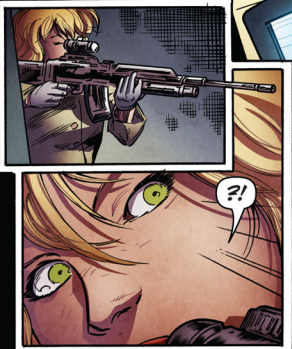
...AFTER  
I FILL THAT  
JARHEAD WITH  
BULLETS.

DON'T  
MOVE.

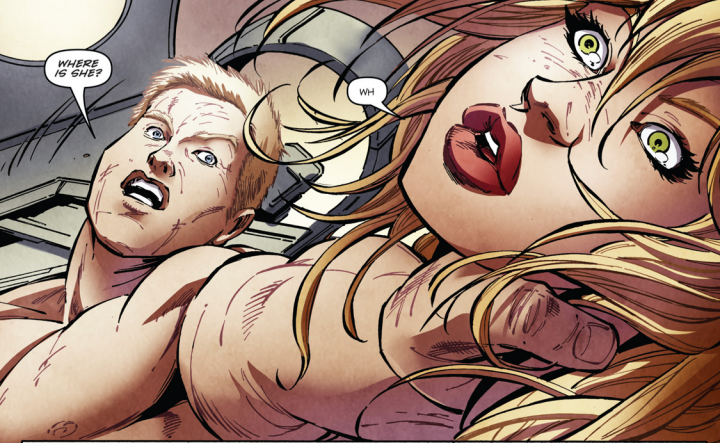


OR I'LL BLOW  
YOUR FREAKING  
HEAD OFF.









WHERE IS SHE?

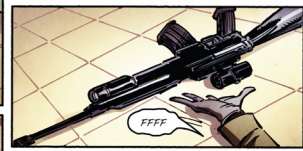
WH



WHAT HAVE YOU BASTARDS DONE WITH AISHA?!



NGGK



FFFF



SNAP OUT OF IT!

UHN!

IT'S COURTNEY.

KRAK

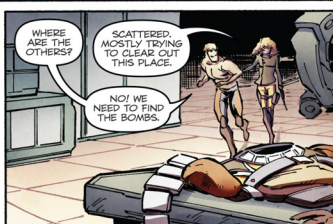


COURT...  
COVER GIRL.  
SORRY...  
I—

NO NEED  
OR TIME FOR  
APOLOGIES.

AND YOU CAN  
TELL ME WHO  
THIS "ASHA" IS  
LATER.

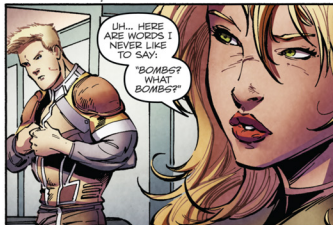
BUT WE NEED  
TO GET YOUR  
GEAR, THEN WE  
NEED TO GET OUT  
OF HERE.



WHERE  
ARE THE  
OTHERS?

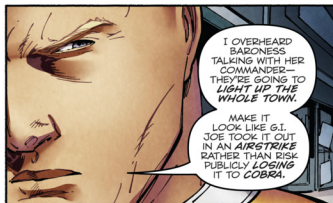
SCATTERED.  
MOSTLY TRYING  
TO CLEAR OUT  
THIS PLACE.

NO! WE  
NEED TO FIND  
THE BOMBS.



UH... HERE  
ARE WORDS I  
NEVER LIKE  
TO SAY:

"BOMBS?  
WHAT  
BOMBS?"



I OVERHEARD  
BARONESS  
TALKING WITH HER  
COMMANDER—  
THEY'RE GOING TO  
LIGHT UP THE  
WHOLE TOWN.

MAKE IT  
LOOK LIKE G.I.  
JOE TOOK IT OUT  
IN AN AIRSTRIKE  
RATHER THAN RISK  
PUBLICLY LOSING  
IT TO COBRA.



FOUND  
SATCHEL  
CHARGES,  
SARGE!

GET TOPSIDE,  
THEN—TAKE OUT  
THAT JAMMER!

ON IT.



WE OPPOSED  
COBRA'S TAKEOVER!  
THAT'S WHY WE'VE BEEN  
LOCKED UP IN HERE  
FOR WEEKS!

WE WANT  
TO SEE OUR  
FAMILIES! LET  
US OUT!

NO CAN  
DO, MAN,  
SORRY.

'TIL WE'VE  
SECURED THE  
BUILDING, THE SAFEST  
PLACE IN THIS TOWN  
IS WHERE YOU  
ALREADY ARE.



OKAY, THEN  
JUST KEEP THAT  
NUTCASE AWAY  
FROM US!

WHO—?



WARM  
BLOOD

OUT  
OF YOUR  
BOX  
NOW  
YOU'RE  
PREY



OH, YOU  
GOTTA BE  
FREAKING  
KIDDING  
ME.





HEY—YOU.  
REACH 'EM HIGH.

I WOULDN'T  
MAKE ANY SUDDEN  
MOVES, TUNNEL  
RAT.

THAT'S *YOU*  
ISN'T IT? YOU'RE  
*FAMOUS*.

I LIKE YOUR  
HANDLE.

...MINE'S  
*SCRAP  
IRON*.



I'M JUST GONNA  
GO AHEAD AND *GUESS*  
YOU KNOW WHAT *THIS* IS,  
AND WHY YOU DO *NOT*  
WANT TO PULL THAT  
TRIGGER.

DEAD MAN'S  
SWITCH.

WHERE'RE  
THE CHARGES  
IT'S WIRED  
TO?

REAL  
QUESTION  
IS...



...WHERE  
AREN'T  
THEY?

WHOLE  
*TOWN* IS WIRED  
TO BLOW,  
BRO.

I'M UP HERE  
TO WATCH IT  
*BURN*.

## CHAPTER FIVE



ART BY JUAN DOE

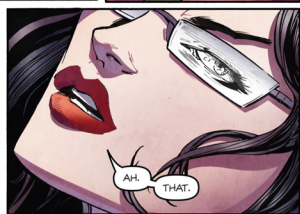


HOW?  
HOW DID YOU  
DO IT?

WHAT  
DID I DO?



TURN ALL THESE  
PEOPLE AGAINST  
US? AGAINST—THEIR  
OWN COUNTRY?



AH.  
THAT.



DO YOU KNOW HOW  
MANY PEOPLE BELIEVE  
THE PRESIDENT OF THE  
U.S. IS SECRETLY A  
FOREIGNER?

TWENTY-FOUR  
PERCENT.



THAT THE JFK  
ASSASSINATION WAS  
AN INSIDE JOB?

SEVENTY-SIX  
PERCENT.

9-11?

FIFTY-SEVEN  
PERCENT.

WHO BELIEVE  
THE ENTIRE  
UNIVERSE WAS  
CREATED IN 144  
HOURS?

FORTY-SIX  
PERCENT.





"YOU **STAGGER** THROUGH YOUR LIVES IN A MYTHOLOGICAL **FOG** OF IGNORANCE AND **TERROR**."

GAHHH!  
DAMN THINGS'RE  
FASTER THAN  
THEY LOOK!

BRRRRPPPP

BRRRRP

IT IS YOUR  
**SERPENT BRAIN**—THE  
**MEDULLA**—THAT DRIVES  
YOUR PASSIONS AND  
IMPULSES.

YOU **NEED**  
COBRA—TO  
DIRECT THIS PART  
OF YOU.

YOU  
DESPERATELY  
**WANT** US TO,  
EVEN THOUGH YOU  
CAN'T ADMIT  
IT ALOUD.

THAT'S IT,  
TUNNEL RAT—SET IT  
DOWN—OR I **USE**  
THIS DETONATOR...

...AND FOR  
WARZENTON THE  
PHRASE "DEAD-END  
TOWN" TAKES ON  
A **WHOLE NEW**  
MEANING.

THE  
QUESTION IS  
NOT **HOW** WE  
DID IT **HERE**.

THE QUESTION IS  
**HOW LONG** WILL IT  
TAKE US TO DO IT TO  
THE **REST** OF THE  
UNITED STATES?



**BLAM!**



RRAHH!



FIRST  
BLOOD—ALWAYS  
SWEETEST.



PLENTY HOT,  
STEAMING  
FLESH FOR THE  
CLUTCH.



NGGYYAH!  
LEGGO!

EH...?



RINK'S COOLANT  
SYSTEM?



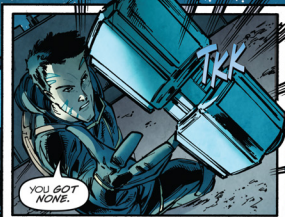
YOU'RE...  
GOING TO BLOW  
THE CHARGES  
NO MATTER  
WHAT I DO—THAT'S  
COBRA'S WHOLE,  
SICK PLAN.



MAYBE,  
MAYBE  
NOT.

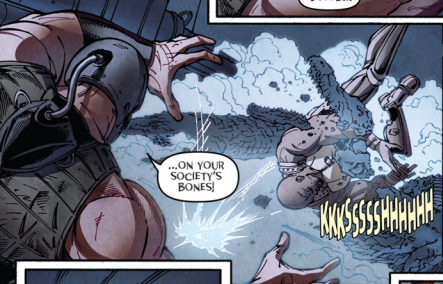
SO  
WHAT?



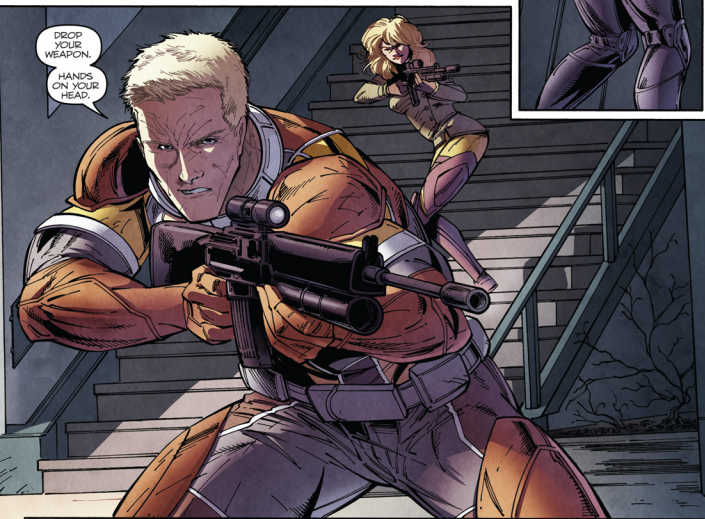


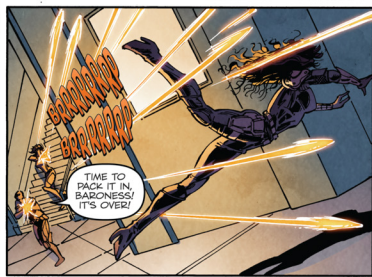












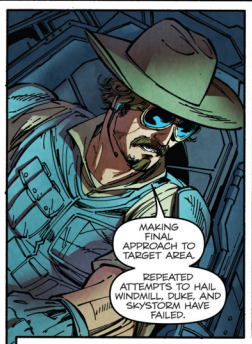
TIME TO  
PACK IT IN,  
BARONESS!  
IT'S OVER!



COULDN'T  
HAVE SAID  
IT BETTER  
MYSELF.



FORT  
JAY, THIS  
IS WILD BILL  
IN XH-ONE.



MAKING  
FINAL  
APPROACH TO  
TARGET AREA.

REPEATED  
ATTEMPTS TO HAIL  
WINDMILL, DUKE, AND  
SKYSTORM HAVE  
FAILED.



ASSUMING  
HOSTILE—



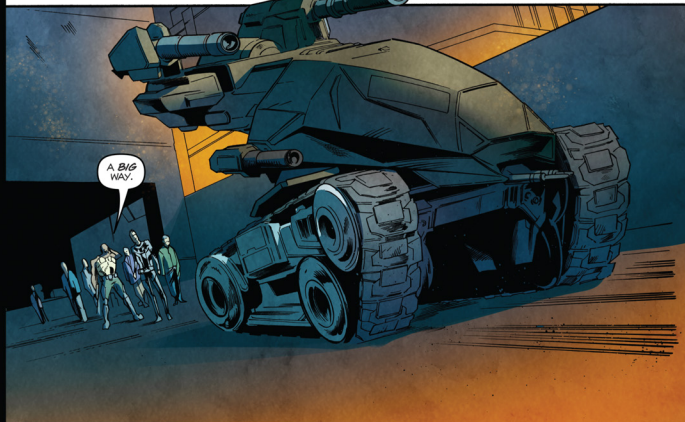
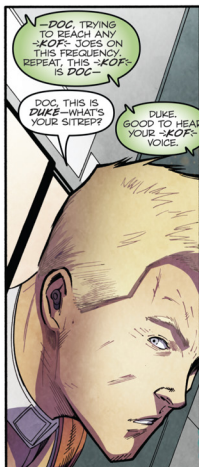
# RABOOOM

GOD.  
MY  
GOD.











BARONESS.

YOU HAVE FAILED TO MEET ALL MISSION PARAMETERS.

BUT AT THE VERY LEAST, A PARTIAL SUCCESS, SIR?

COMMANDER.



TRUE. SO YOU WILL NOT BE PUNISHED.

BUT PARTIAL FAILURE CANNOT BE REWARDED.

WITH REGARDS TO YOUR DESIRE TO BECOME HEAD OF THE MANHATTAN STATION...

...I'VE DECIDED TO GO IN A DIFFERENT DIRECTION...





SHIPWRECK,  
YOU IN  
POSITION?

OH, YEAH.  
-KOF-



MAGGOT'S  
NOT SO  
DIFFERENT THAN  
THE SIXTEEN-INCHERS  
ON THE U.S.S.  
FLAGG.



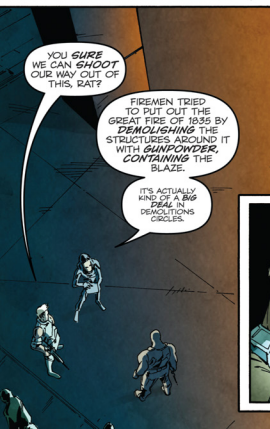
COVER  
GIRL?

I STARTED  
OUT BEHIND  
THE WHEEL OF A  
WOLVERINE A.M.V.\*  
REMEMBER?

\* ARMORED MISSILE VEHICLE.



I WANNA  
BREAK OUT  
INTO AULD  
LANG SYNE.



YOU SURE  
WE CAN SHOOT  
OUR WAY OUT OF  
THIS, RAT?

FIREMEN TRIED  
TO PUT OUT THE  
GREAT FIRE OF 1835 BY  
DEMOLISHING THE  
STRUCTURES AROUND IT  
WITH GUNPOWDER,  
CONTAINING THE  
BLAZE.

IT'S ACTUALLY  
KIND OF A BIG  
DEAL IN  
DEMOLITIONS  
CIRCLES.



THIS IS THE CLOSEST  
WE'RE GONNA GET TO  
THAT, USING OUR POLLY  
DROGNE'S MOTION  
SENSORS TO TARGET  
UNOCCUPIED  
BUILDINGS.



AND YOU'RE  
SURE THIS  
ISN'T JUST  
BECAUSE YOU  
REALLY LIKE TO  
BLOW THINGS  
UP?

IT CAN  
BE BOTH  
THINGS!



POLLY'S  
FEEDING YOU  
TARGETING  
COORDINATES  
NOW...

...FIRE  
WHEN  
READY!

WUMP

POWW

I LOVE  
THIS JOB!

HEROES & FANTASIES  
GAMES • COMICS • SPORTS • GIFTS



A comic book page featuring a collage of panels. The central panel is a close-up of a character with red hair and a white halo, looking down with a speech bubble that says "YO FREAKIN' JOE." Above this panel is a panel with the word "BOOOM" in large, stylized letters, depicting an explosion. To the right is a panel showing a building on fire. Below the central panel is a panel showing a building with a sign that says "FANTASIES" and a car parked in front of it. The entire page is filled with a warm, orange-yellow glow, suggesting a fire or explosion.

A comic book page featuring a collage of panels. The central panel is a close-up of a character with red hair and a white halo, looking down with a speech bubble that says "YO FREAKIN' JOE." Above this panel is a panel with the word "BOOOM" in large, stylized letters, depicting an explosion. To the right is a panel showing a building on fire. Below the central panel is a panel showing a building with a sign that says "FANTASIES" and a car parked in front of it. The entire page is filled with a warm, orange-yellow color palette, suggesting fire and intense action.

A comic book page featuring a collage of panels. The central panel is a close-up of a character with red hair and a white halo, looking down with a speech bubble that says "YO FREAKIN' JOE." Above this panel is a panel with the word "BOOOM" in large, stylized letters, depicting an explosion. To the right is a panel showing a building on fire. Below the central panel is a panel showing a building with a sign that says "FANTASIES" and a car parked in front of it. The entire page is filled with a warm, orange-yellow color palette, suggesting fire and intense action.





THE FREED  
DYSSIDENTS ARE  
IDENTIFYING THE  
**RINGLEADERS**  
OF THE COBRA  
SYMPATHIZERS.

**THEM**  
WE'RE TAKING  
IN AS ENEMY  
COMBATANTS.

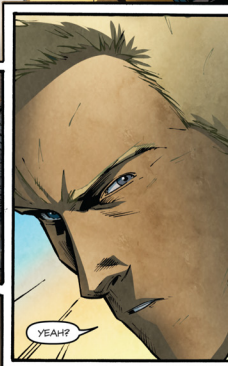
WE'LL LET  
THE **COURTS**  
FIGURE OUT  
WHAT TO DO  
WITH THE **REST**  
OF YOU.



YOU—YOU  
HAVE TO  
UNDERSTAND.

AMERICA  
TURNED HER BACK  
ON US. WHAT ELSE  
WERE WE SUPPOSED  
TO DO?

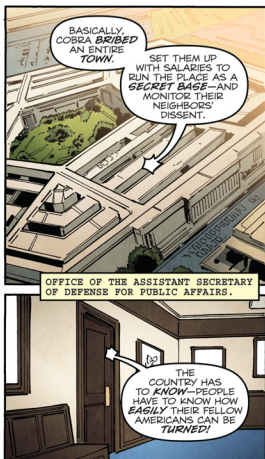
WE WERE  
TRYING TO  
SAVE OUR  
TOWN!

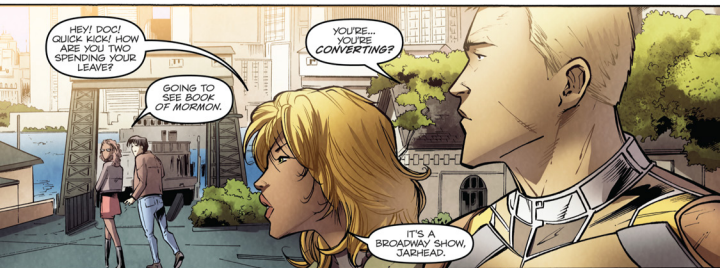
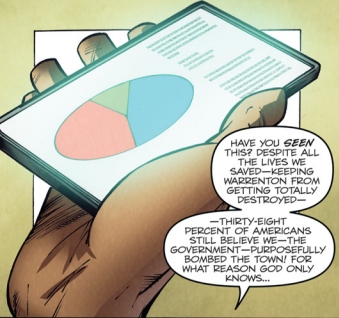


YEAH?

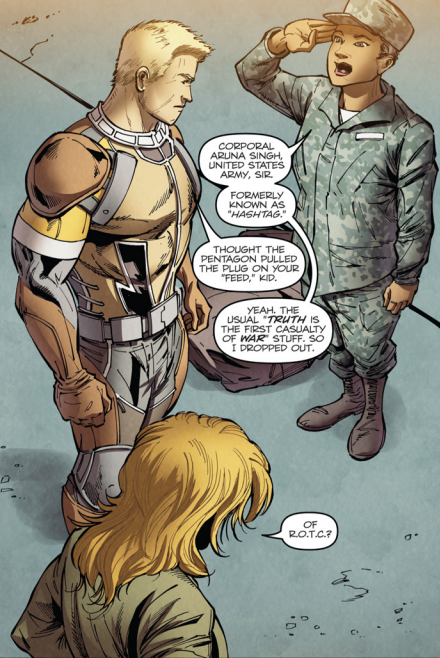


HOW'D  
THAT WORK  
OUT FOR  
YOU?









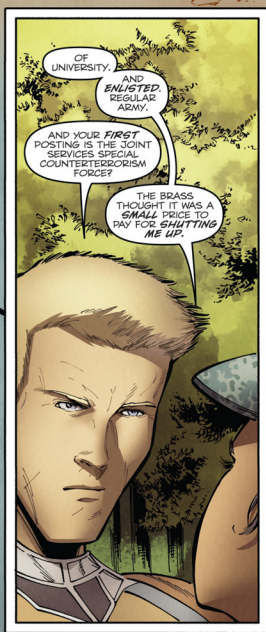
CORPORAL  
ARJUNA SINGH,  
UNITED STATES  
ARMY, SIR.

FORMERLY  
KNOWN AS  
"HASHTAG."

THOUGHT THE  
PENTAGON PULLED  
THE PLUG ON YOUR  
"FEED," KID.

YEAH, THE  
USUAL "TRUTH IS  
THE FIRST CASUALTY  
OF WAR" STUFF, SO  
I DROPPED OUT.

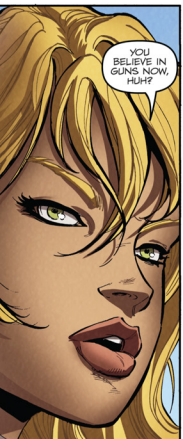
OF  
R.O.T.C.?



OF  
UNIVERSITY.  
AND  
ENLISTED.  
REGULAR  
ARMY.

AND YOUR *FIRST*  
POSTING IS THE JOINT  
SERVICES SPECIAL  
COUNTERTERRORISM  
FORCE?

THE BRASS  
THOUGHT IT WAS A  
SMALL PRICE TO  
PAY FOR SHUTTING  
ME UP.



YOU  
BELIEVE IN  
GUNS NOW,  
HUH?

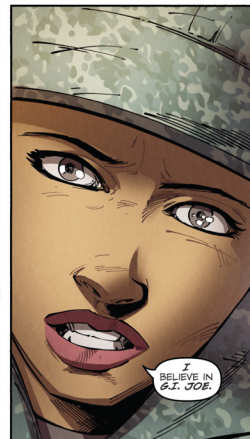


I BELIEVE...  
EVERYONE HAS A  
DARK SIDE, WHICH THEY  
SUCCUMB TO MORE  
OFTEN THAN THEY  
GIVE CREDIT FOR.

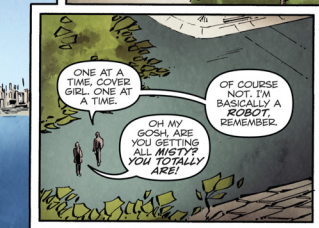
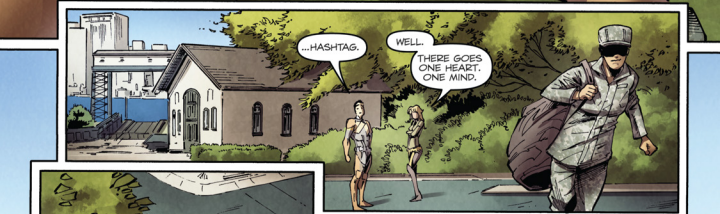
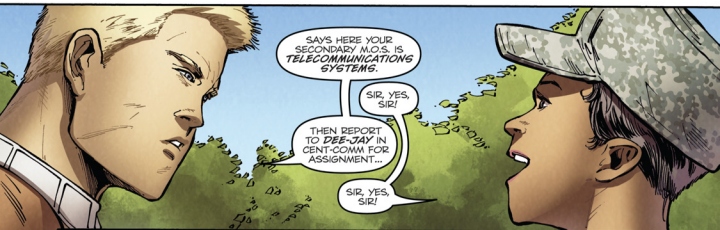
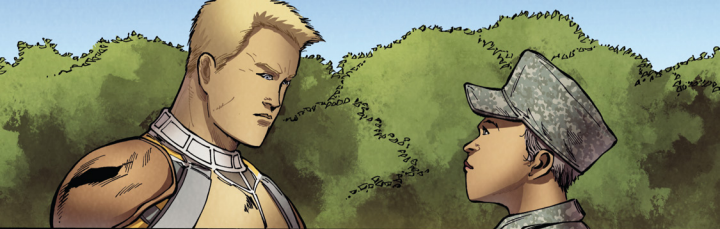
THAT'S WHY...  
WE HAVE TO FIGHT  
COBRA IN THE  
OPEN, NOT IN THE  
SHADOWS, BUT IN  
THE LIGHT.

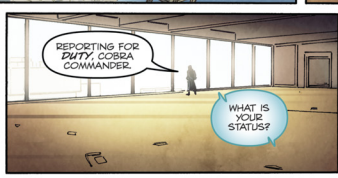
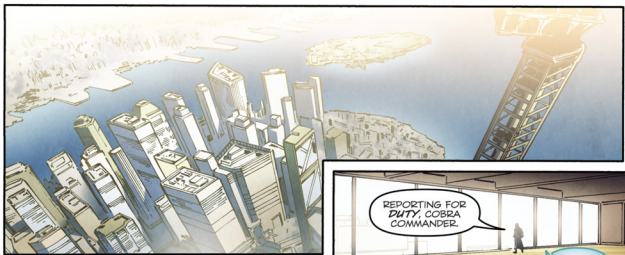
WE DON'T  
ALWAYS HAVE  
TO BE HEROES.  
I DON'T THINK  
THAT'S POSSIBLE.

BUT WE  
NEED TO  
SHOW PEOPLE  
HEROES ARE  
AN OPTION.



I  
BELIEVE IN  
G.I. JOE.





REPORTING FOR  
DUTY, COBRA  
COMMANDER.

WHAT IS  
YOUR  
STATUS?

MANHATTAN  
BUREAU IS FULLY  
OPERATIONAL.

WELL  
DONE, MAD  
MONK.

HERE ARE  
YOUR  
ORDERS...

THE STORY CONTINUES IN  
THREAT MATRIX!

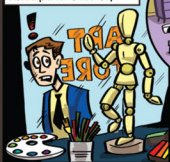


# The REAL history of

# GI JOE

PART 1

In 1963, a Hasbro employee found inspiration in a window display of an artist's drawing mannequin for a new toy.



A competitor's line of *fashion dolls* had proven wildly successful, but were primarily enjoyed by *girls*.



Hasbro aimed to make "boy dolls" that could be similarly accessorized with outfits and equipment, and capture a potentially huge and untapped market.

durable plastic construction

gripping hands

20 points of articulation

Small military figures had been popular with boys for almost a century, but were essentially just painted metal statues, simply sculpted and immobile.

Hasbro's new large, hand-sculpted prototype military figure was an *ultra-posable man of action*, unlike any doll made before!



\*A term invented by Hasbro's marketing division to remove the potential social stigma of boys playing with "dolls."

Finding a name for the toy proved difficult until a designer was inspired by a late night TV airing of the Ernie Pyle biopic *"The Story of G.I. Joe"*...



...which, according to combat vets, is one of the most authentic war films ever made!

The "G.I." acronym had already been part of U.S. military vernacular for decades:



It originated as a stamp placed on equipment circa World War I to identify it as being made of *Galvanized Iron*.



Later, the term evolved to stand for *Government Issued* gear and equipment.



By *World War II* it stood for the soldiers themselves.



Eisenhower himself even referred to active soldiers as "G.I. Joes!"

The rugged and petriotic acronym fit "America's movable fighting man" like a glove!

Hasbro couldn't trademark a generic human figure, so G.I. Joe was given his signature *FACIAL SCAR* to distinguish him from potential competitors' knock-offs.



WOOOAH...

The figures were also made with an intentional *FLAW* of the left thumbail molded on the wrong side of the finger...



...which would show up if anyone tried to copy the toy molds!

The figures were simply identified as "Soldier," "Sailor," "Pilot," and "Marine," generically representing their respective military branches.



IN MY UNIT YER "G.I. JOE"!!

A full range of outfits and accessories (and later on, vehicles) let kids transform and customize their figures in *endless* ways.



ART BY RYAN DUNLAUEY

The REAL history of

# G.I. JOE

PART 2

Hasbro continued to capitalize on the success of the world's first "action figure" with continuous new offerings of accessories to use with the figures kids already owned.

They made new models of the figures themselves with unique features—life-like hair, a range of ethnicities, and even ones that talked.

In 1967, G.I. Joe went into space!

Amid the cultural anti-war backlash of the late '60s, Hasbro started to move G.I. Joe away from his military roots and rebranded the toys as the G.I. Joe Adventure Team...

...a rugged group of do-anything, go-anywhere adventurers and explorers!

In 1974 a slightly re-tooled G.I. Joe doll was given his famous **Kung Fu Grip**, allowing for more play possibilities. The revamped doll proved very popular, out-selling the original in its first year!

New features quickly followed suit: **Eagle Eyed Joe** (whose eyeballs could move) was also a big hit with kids.

Not all trends worked out.

The cyborg **Mike Power** the Atomic Man was a mid sales success...

...but the **Bulletman** and the scaled down sci-fi themed **Super Joe** failed to catch on.

—PFFT—  
DORKS.

The decline in G.I. Joe's popularity coupled with rising plastics manufacturing costs due to the 1970s oil crisis, Hasbro quietly retired the king of the action figures in 1979 after 14 years of continuous sales.

G.I. Joe wasn't gone for good, but he was going to have to get **SMALLER** before he got **BIGGER!**

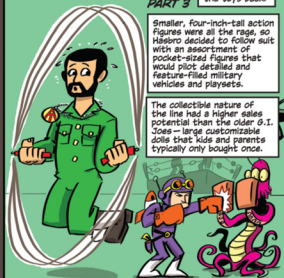
SOMEDAY I'M GONNA BE JUST LIKE YOU, GRANDPA!

HA, HA, SURE KID, SURE.

ART BY RYAN DUNLAUEY

# The REAL history of **GI JOE**

PART 3



By 1981 G.I. Joe had been off the shelves for almost 5 years and Hasbro was looking to bring the toys back.

Smaller, four-inch-tall action figures were all the rage, so Hasbro decided to follow suit with an assortment of pocket-sized figures that would pilot detailed and feature-filled military vehicles and playsets.

The collectible nature of the line had a higher sales potential than the older G.I. Joes—large customizable dolls that kids and parents typically only bought once.

It was a smart idea with one potential stumbling block.

Other toy lines were based on TV shows, comics, and movies. Aside from a few promotional ads, G.I. Joe had never had a real backstory, relying on kids' imaginations to fuel the playing experience.

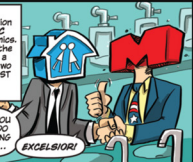
G.I. Joe needed a media tie-in, and quick!



Hasbro decided to outsource the creation of a **G.I. JOE COMIC BOOK** to Marvel Comics. Legend has it that the deal originated from a chance meeting of two executives in the REST ROOM of a charity dinner in 1981!

MAYBE YOU COULD DO SOMETHING WITH IT...

EXCELSIOR!



The comic, **G.I. JOE: A REAL AMERICAN HERO**, envisioned "G.I. Joe" not as a single soldier but the code name for an entire team of soldiers—a covert government-sponsored anti-terrorist unit of diverse three-dimensional characters, each with their own modern military specialty and corresponding toy-friendly vehicles and equipment.



The Real American Hero backstory was creatively spearheaded by cartoonist **Larry Hama**, who drew heavily upon his US Army service and personal interests in Asian culture and martial arts to add flavor and authenticity to the toys & characters Hasbro created.

At a 2009 convention appearance Hama said...

"[G.I. JOE] WAS REALLY A VEHICLE BASED TOY, THE FIGURES AND CHARACTERS WERE JUST THE ICING ON TOP... BUT THEY ENDED UP BEING WHAT ENDURED."



The G.I. Joe team was also given a definitive enemy to fight for the first time ever: **COBRA**...

...a snake-themed paramilitary group bent on world domination that was populated with its own sets of quirky characters outfitted with a full complement of playsets and accessories.

Hasbro was understandably reluctant to make "terrorist" toys but Marvel insisted on their inclusion.

The Cobra characters proved very popular and the toys based on them would eventually represent over forty percent of the G.I. Joe toy line!



ART BY RYAN DUNLAUEY



# The REAL history of **GI JOE** PART 4

In an unprecedented decision, Hasbro focused the early G.I. Joe marketing campaign around a series of animated TV spots for the G.I. Joe comic books rather than their own toys.

TOYS?!  
WHAT  
TOYS?



The gamble worked—the lively commercials got kids to buy the comics and built an immediate interest in the new characters, new concepts and (of course) new toys.

The ads built awareness with people who didn't typically read comics—parents, teenagers and nostalgic adults who had played with the original toys in the '60s and '70s.

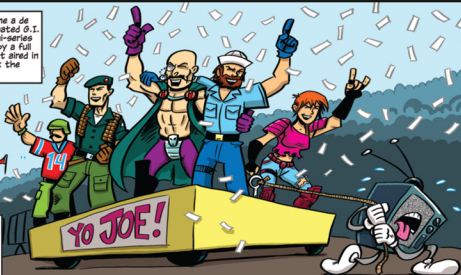


G.I. Joe rapidly became the #1 selling comic in North America and the toys started flying off the shelves!

The commercials became a de facto pilot for an animated G.I. Joe TV series. Two mini-series aired in 1984, followed by a full run of 99 episodes that aired in syndication throughout the rest of the decade.

*G.I. Joe: A Real American Hero* became a staple of weekday after-school television. The already-popular toys and comics sold like gangbusters.

The cartoon studio didn't own a stake in the property and, ironically, actually *lost* money on the show by giving it high production values and running over-budget!



At the zenith of its success, real-world pro athletes were drafted to be members of the Fictional G.I. Joe team!

G.I. Joe: A Real American Hero was one of the earliest examples of a *trans-media marketing campaign* that became the gold standard for selling brands to children.



Interest and sales remained high throughout the '80s.

A second, more cost-effective cartoon series debuted in 1999 that moved G.I. Joe away from its gritty military roots towards more colorful concepts:



The flashy new G.I. Joes weren't quite as popular with the kid audience, and the future of the property seemed uncertain for the first time in a decade.

ART BY RYAN DUNLAEVY

# The REAL history of **GI JOE**

PART 5

In 1994, after 12 years of ruling the toy aisles, production of the *G.I. JOE: A REAL AMERICAN HERO* action figure line was put on hold rather than risk consumer and creative burnout.

Two attempts to re-invent the brand—the retro *Sgt. Savage* and futuristic *G.I. Joe Extreme*—fizzled out and were quickly retired...

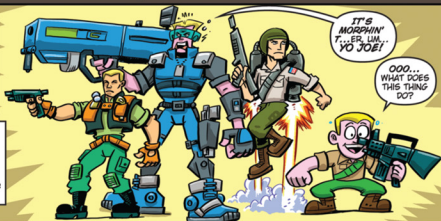
...but a one-time offering of a revived 12-inch G.I. Joe in the early '90s was a surprise sales hit that relaunched the original scale figures.

TIME TO SHOW YOU WHIPPER-SNAPPERS HOW IT'S DONE!

Marketed primarily to adult collectors, the *G.I. JOE HALL OF FAME* would be the centerpiece of the brand for the rest of the decade.

Around the turn of the millennium, *The Real American Hero* toys and comic books were reintroduced through a series of nostalgia-inspired relaunches and reboots.

Each iteration was financially and critically successful in their own right, but none of them came close to the runaway success the property had in the 1980s.



IT'S MORPHIN' T... ER... UM... YO JOE!

OOO... WHAT DOES THIS THING DO?

In 2009, G.I. Joe re-entered the public consciousness at large with *G.I. Joe: The Rise of Cobra*, a big-budget Hollywood film that brought the classic Real American Hero characters to live action entertainment for the first time!



TRY THIS ON FOR SIZE, BOYS!

WAIT—WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR ACCENT?!

NOT IN THE BUDGET.

Today, new G.I. Joe toys and comic books are perennial favorites of fans new and old worldwide.

A second live-action G.I. Joe movie debuted in March 2013 and featured the original 1964 G.I. Joe in a prominent role, bringing the characters' history full circle!



G.I. JOE WILL NEVER RETIRE—

—THE WORLD CAN'T SAVE ITSELF!

YO JOE!

ART BY RYAN DUNLAEVY



ARTHUR  
ADAMS  
3-30  
2012

ART BY **ARTHUR ADAMS**







ART BY **JAMAL IGLE**  
COLORS BY **ROMULO FAJARDO, JR.**



PENCILS BY **STEVE HURTH**  
INKS BY **ALLEN MARTINEZ**  
COLORS BY **HITO YOUNG**





PENCILS BY **STEVE HURTH**  
INKS BY **ALLEN MARTINEZ**  
COLORS BY **JORNA LAFUENTE**



ART BY **ROBERT ATKINS**  
COLORS BY **SIMON GOUGH**

ATKINS







# G.I. JOE

The truth is out: the world knows the G.I. JOE team is real. Now Duke leads his squad directly into the public eye, confronting COBRA on American soil! **Fred Van Lente** and **Steve Kurth** lead the charge taking *G.I. JOE* in a new direction in Volume 1: "Homefront."