



SCIENCE FICTION

NO. 2 OF 3 NOV
\$2.50/3.50 CAN

CHICHESTER
•
KOBASIC
•
MAYERIK

SLIDERS™ DARKEST HOUR

BASED UPON THE HIT TV SERIES!



DIRECT SALES

00611

7 16892 88101 5

ON A VERSION OF EARTH Mired in the trappings of the trappings of the nineteen-fifties, **VERN TESSIO** searches for buried treasures.

VERN-O'S OUT OF LUCK. HIS BOOTY--A JAR OF PRIZED **PENNIES**--HAS BEEN STOLEN BY **QUINN MALLORY**.

TYPICALLY, **QUINN'S** MORE GIVEN TO QUANTUM PHYSICS THAN PETTY **LARCENY**.

SELF-CENTERED, UNTHINKING, LITTER-HEADED--

NEITHER IS HIS FRIEND, **WADE WELLS**, KNOWN FOR ATTACKS OF **KILLER RAGE**.

"FORTUNATELY," WADE'S **VICTIM** WAS ON AN EARTH POPULATED BY **BIO-MECHANICAL CONSTRUCTS**.

HE COULD BE **REBUILT**.

WHAT'S **HAPPENING** TO THE **SLIDERS** ISN'T SO EASILY **FIXED**.



IN *SLIDING BETWEEN ALTERNATE DIMENSIONS*, THE *FOURSOME* HAVE MADE THEIR SHARE OF ENEMIES.

NONE HAS PROVEN SO *DEADLY OR VENGEFUL* AS *ZERCURV MARAUD*.

YOUR *CUNNING* HAS *CONDEMNED* ME AND MINE, *QUINN*...*IMPRISONED* US IN THIS *LIMBO-HELL* BETWEEN REALITIES!

LET ALL OUR PAIN AND *MALICE* RETURN THE FAVOR!

WHATEVER EARTH YOU WALK, *HUMANS*...*SUFFER* THIS *NIGHTMARE!*

MARAUD'S CURSE WAS MEANT TO *SNARE* THE *SLIDERS* IN THE SAME TRAP HOLDING THE *ZERCURIANS*.

INSTEAD, IT *UNLEASHED* A *BLACKNESS* WITHIN EACH OF THE *TRAVELERS*.

A *DARK SIDE*... *EAGER* TO *GROW*.

Writer
D.G. CHICHESTER

Pencillers
KEVIN KOBASIC,
VAL MAYERIK,
DENNIS CALERO

Inks
SAM DE LA ROSA,
BARBARA KAALBERG

Letterer
JADE MOEDE

Colorist
ATOMIC PAINTBRUSH

Asst. Editor
JEOF VITA

Editor
JEFF GOMEZ

Editor-In-Chief
FABIAN NICIEZA

Cover
DENNIS CALERO

Sliders Created By
TRACY TORME &
ROBERT K. WEISS

ZZKKADOOM

DIMENSIONAL SHADOWS



EARTH..BY NAME, ANYWAY.

...AND A WHOLE NEW SET O' RULES.

I DON'T KNOW WHETHER TO BE INTRIGUED OR SICKENED BY YOUR SOCIETY, MONK!

ALL WE'VE DONE IS WHAT MAN HAS ALWAYS DONE, PROFESSOR ARTURO! TAKEN COMMAND OF OUR ENVIRONMENT!

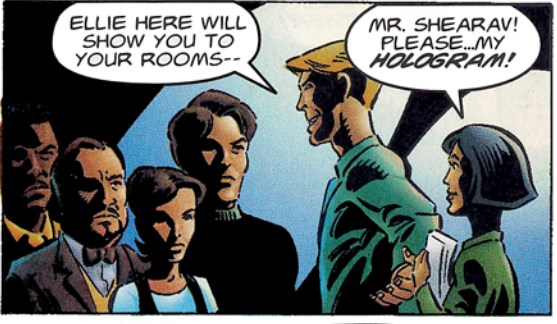
OH, I AM SORRY, ELLIE! HOW CARELESS OF ME.

NO REAL HARM DONE. IT'S JUST... YOU KNOW, MY PERSONAL SPACE.

WHY WAIT FOR EVOLUTION, WHEN WE CAN ADVANCE OUR OWN PHYSICAL STATE? HOMO-ELECTRIC, IF YOU WILL! OUR UPGRADE PATH IS "LIMITED" ONLY BY TECHNOLOGY... AND THAT DOUBLES IN POTENTIAL EVERY EIGHTEEN MONTHS



OUR LONGEVITY IS NEAR IMMORTAL. STILL, THE SAME LOOK CAN GET TIRESOME... I'M THINKING OF A CHANGE MYSELF!



ELLIE HERE WILL SHOW YOU TO YOUR ROOMS--

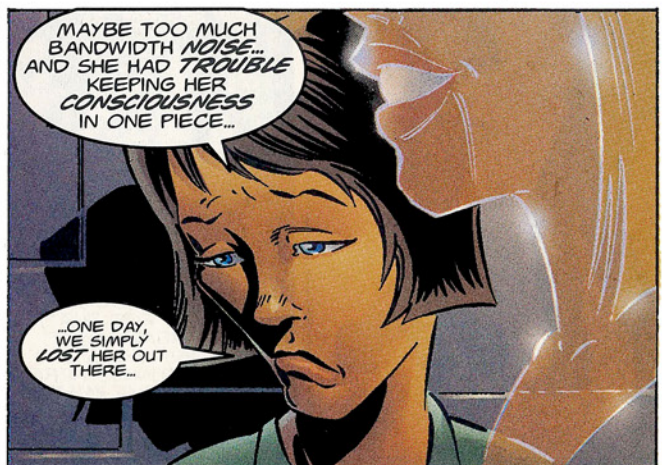
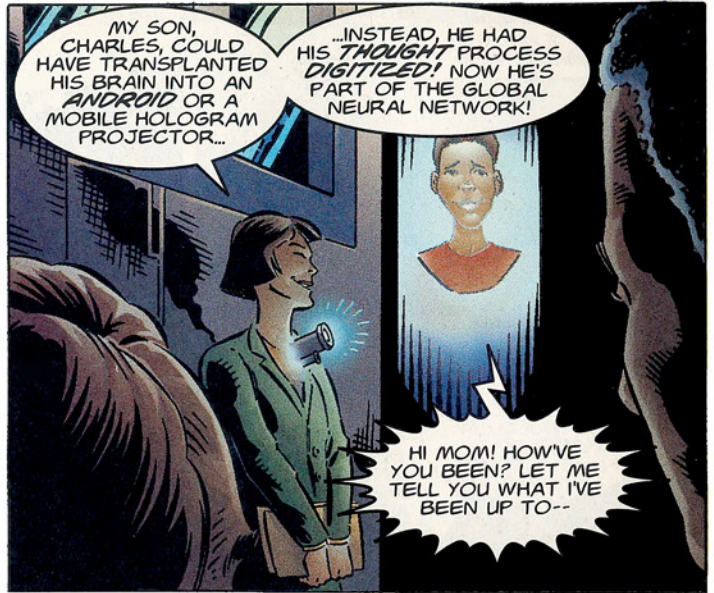
MR. SHEARAV! PLEASE...MY HOLOGRAM!



SHOW OUR GUESTS AROUND PROXY! WE WANT THEM TO FEEL COMFORTABLE!

WHAT HE "WANTS" IS US TRADING OUR BODIES FOR ONE OF THEIR ERECTOR SETS...

LIKE WE'D SIGN UP FOR THAT, REMBRANDT! THIS WHOLE SET-UP STINKS...THERE'S NOTHING HUMAN LEFT IN IT!





THAT NIGHT...

I SWEAR--
SLIDING HAS
TAKEN YEARS OFF
MY GOOD LOOKS!
THAT'S NOT GOOD
FOR MY *BOX*
OFFICE!

THE LADIES
LIKE THEIR
"CRYING MAN"
BROWN
BEAUTIFUL!

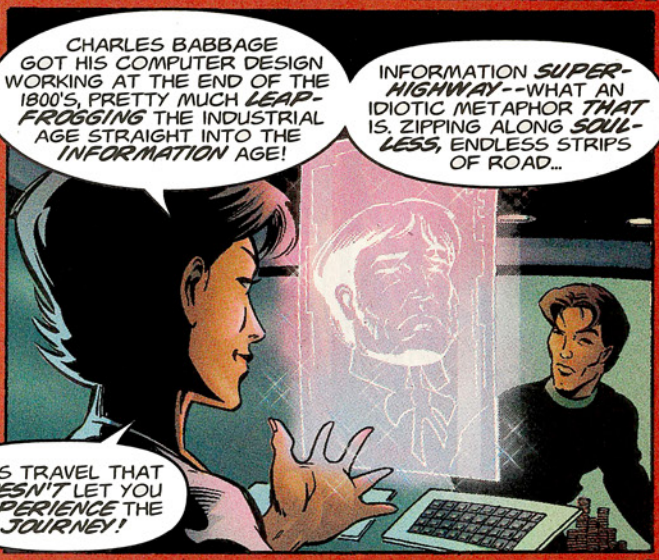


YOU KNOW, TO
MELT DOWN FOR
SOME *ROBOT*!



YOU THINK
THEY GAVE
BACK ALL MY
PENNIES?
WHAT IF
THEY *KEPT*
SOME?

I HACKED
US SOME
DIRT ON THIS
WORLD'S
ELECTRONIC
FAST
TRACK!



CHARLES BABBAGE
GOT HIS COMPUTER DESIGN
WORKING AT THE END OF THE
1800'S, PRETTY MUCH *LEAP-
FROGGING* THE INDUSTRIAL
AGE STRAIGHT INTO THE
INFORMATION AGE!

INFORMATION *SUPER-
HIGHWAY*--WHAT AN
IDIOTIC METAPHOR THAT
IS, ZIPPING ALONG *SOUL-
LESS*, ENDLESS STRIPS
OF ROAD...

...IT'S TRAVEL THAT
DOESN'T LET YOU
EXPERIENCE THE
JOURNEY!



MR. BROWN...IF YOU
CAN TEAR *YOURSELF*
AWAY FROM YOURSELF,
I'D LIKE A *WORD*!



WHAT'S UP, PROFESSOR?



TIMER SAYS WE'RE OUT OF HERE IN A DAY... MAYBE THEY'LL STRAIGHTEN OUT THEN!

THESE VAGUELY *SINISTER* PERSONALITY TRAITS WE'RE SEEING IN MR. MALLORY AND MS. WELLS. HIS *PETTINESS*...HER *ANGER*...

COULD BE *STRESS*, PROFESSOR. THIS EARTH IS PRETTY WEIRD!



PERHAPS... BUT WE HAVE HAD *CONFLICT* WITH *DOUBLES* OF OURSELVES ON VARIOUS EARTHS.

WE DARE NOT OVERLOOK THE POSSIBILITY THAT WE *LEFT* OUR FRIENDS BEHIND... AND *TOOK* ON TWO *STRANGERS* BY ACCIDENT!

I'VE BEEN THINKING, WADE...WE'VE GOT SOME TIME TO *TALK*...CATCH UP WITH ONE ANOTHER. SHARE OUR *FEELINGS*... YOU KNOW?

AND I'VE GOT TO SAY...YOU'RE *FEELING* PRETTY *GOOD*!



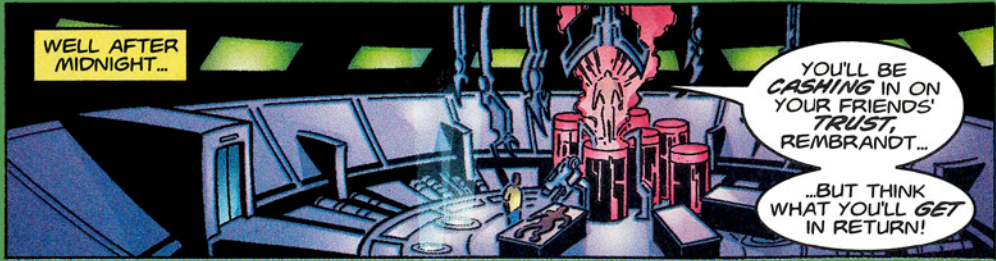
BACK OFF, QUINN! JUST BECAUSE WE'RE ON A PLANET OF ARTIFICIAL PEOPLE DOESN'T MEAN YOU CAN TREAT ME LIKE A *BLOW UP DOLL*!



IT'S ONLY A THEORY OF COURSE. BUT IT WOULD SERVE US WELL TO *STAY ON GUARD*.



I'M WITH YOU, PROFESSOR! YOU CAN *TRUST* ME TO *WATCH* YOUR BACK...



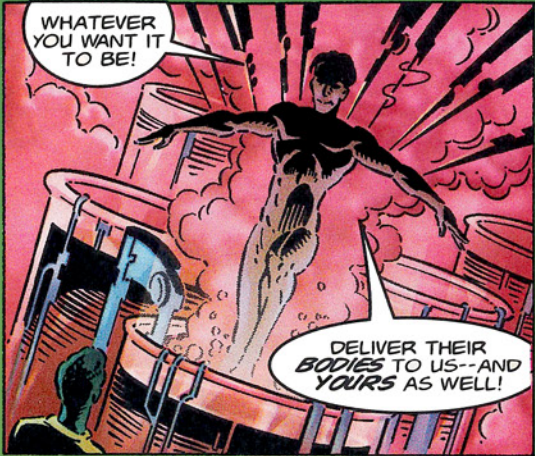
WELL AFTER MIDNIGHT...

YOU'LL BE CASHING IN ON YOUR FRIENDS' TRUST, REMBRANDT...

...BUT THINK WHAT YOU'LL GET IN RETURN!



TELL ME WHAT THIS IS AGAIN, MONK...



WHATEVER YOU WANT IT TO BE!

DELIVER THEIR BODIES TO US--AND YOURS AS WELL!



I HAVE BUYERS WAITING WHO WANT TO RETURN TO FLESH AND BLOOD...BUT THEY'LL ONLY GO FOR ALL FOUR OF YOU!

THEN YOU CAN BE REJUVENATED... REMADE... REBORN!



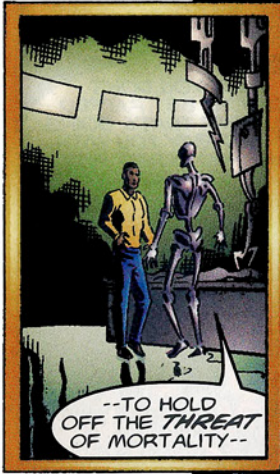
DO I REALLY HAVE TO WATCH THIS? Y-YOUR SKIN...



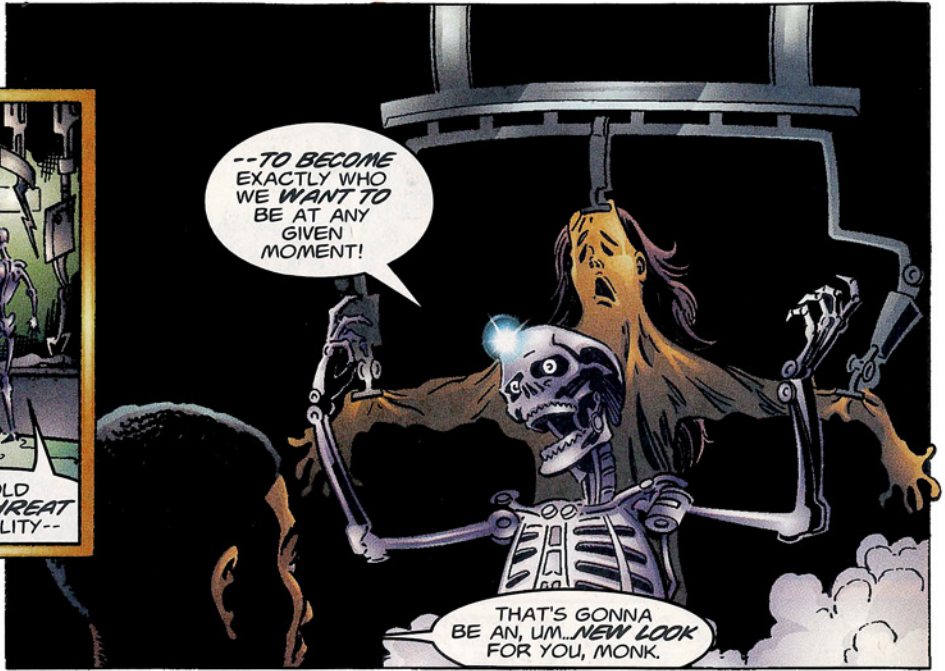
A FLEXIBLE PLASTICINE, REMBRANDT! AMAZINGLY LIFELIKE...BUT JUST ONE MORE MIRACLE OF THE DIGITAL AGE!

WE'RE SO MUCH CLOSER NOW TO BEING CRISP ONES AND ZEROES, INSTEAD OF MESSY CELLS AND ATOMS.

IT'S SIMPLICITY TO INDULGE THIS KIND OF CHANGE--



--TO HOLD OFF THE *THREAT* OF MORTALITY--



--TO BECOME EXACTLY WHO WE WANT TO BE AT ANY GIVEN MOMENT!

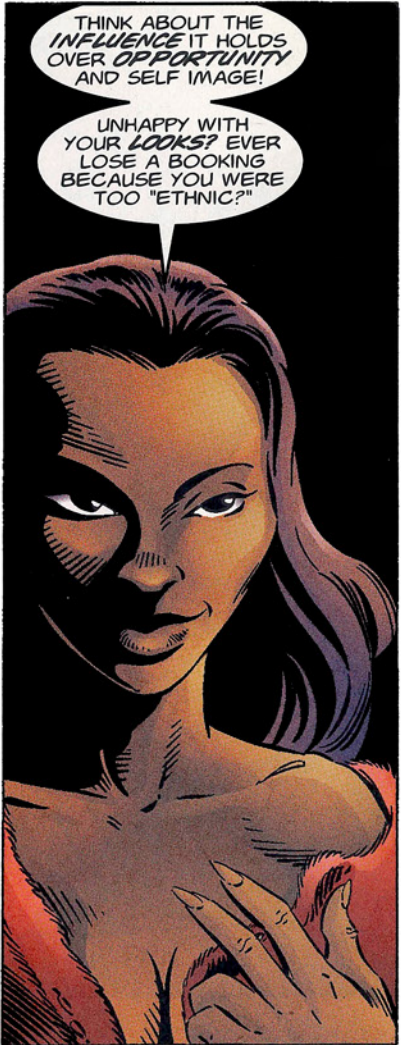
THAT'S GONNA BE AN, UM...*NEW LOOK* FOR YOU, MONK.



YOU CANT AVOID THE FACT THAT YOU HAVE CONCERNS IN THESE AREAS. YOUR *PHYSICAL APPEARANCE* IS IMPORTANT TO YOU--



--THAT'S *NOT BEING SHALLOW* OR VAIN!



THINK ABOUT THE *INFLUENCE* IT HOLDS OVER *OPPORTUNITY* AND SELF IMAGE!

UNHAPPY WITH YOUR *LOOKS*? EVER LOSE A BOOKING BECAUSE YOU WERE TOO "ETHNIC?"

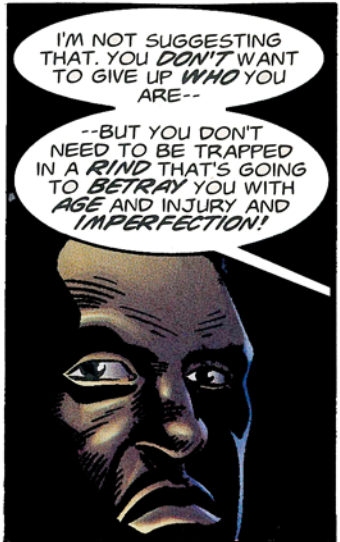


SHRINK THAT NOSE, STRAIGHTEN THAT HAIR... WHITEN THAT SKIN.

KLIK



THAT'S *NOT* WHAT I'M LOOKING FOR!



I'M NOT SUGGESTING THAT. YOU *DON'T* WANT TO GIVE UP *WHO* YOU ARE--

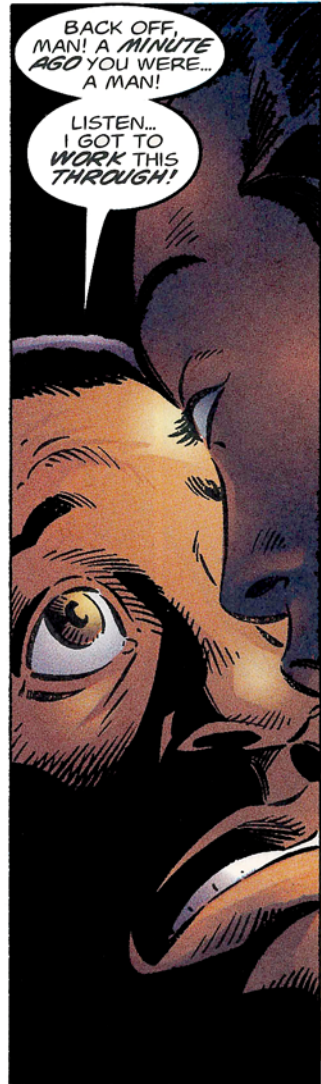
--BUT YOU DON'T NEED TO BE TRAPPED IN A *RIND* THAT'S GOING TO *BETRAY* YOU WITH *AGE* AND *INJURY* AND *IMPERFECTION!*



THINK OF THE *OPTIONS* THAT OPEN UP WHEN YOU DECIDE THE FACE YOU SHOW THE WORLD!

AND ALL I'VE GOT TO DO IS *GET* YOU MY *FRIENDS*...

WE'LL *CONVERT* YOU ALL...AND I'D BE SO VERY *GRATEFUL* TO YOU FOR HELPING MAKE THE DEAL HAPPEN!



BACK OFF, MAN! A *MINUTE* AGO YOU WERE... A MAN!

LISTEN... I GOT TO *WORK* THIS *THROUGH!*



I THINK YOU'VE MADE YOUR *DECISION* ALREADY, REMBRANDT. LET ME KNOW WHEN YOU WANT TO PUT YOUR THOUGHTS TO ACTION...ABOUT *ANYTHING*...

--AND REMBRANDT BROWN
CAN LEAVE *TEMPTATION* BEHIND.

IT'S JUST A
FEW HOURS TO
THE SLIDE.

THEN THE
GATEWAY
OPENS, THEY'RE
OFF THIS
EARTH--

I CAN
HOLD OUT
THAT LONG...
CAN'T I?

TALK IT
THROUGH,
TALK IT
OUT...



JESUS,
WHAT AM I
THINKING?

THESE
PEOPLE ARE MY
FRIENDS!



WE'VE STAYED
ALIVE BY STAYING
TOGETHER!



SURE...AFTER Q-BALL'S
SCREW-UP SUCKED ME
INTO THIS B.S. JOYRIDE.





REMBRANDT...
WASSUP? EVERY-
THING OKAY?

LET'S JUST SAY
THEY'RE BALANCING
OUT, Q-BALL!

SKZZAAK

URRK



WHAT'S THE
MATTER WITH
QUINN? REMBRANDT--
WHAT ARE YOU
DOING?!

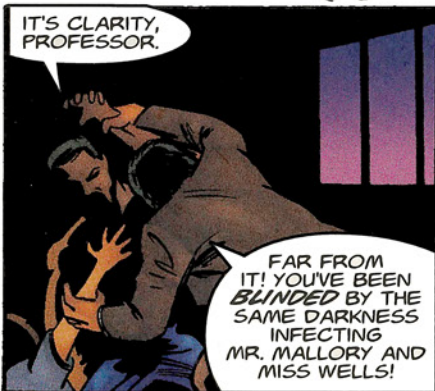


SKZZAK

GETTING MY
DUE, WADE!

I WAS SET
FOR A COME-
BACK BACK HOME.
NOW, HERE, THE
CRYING MAN CAN
STAR FOREVER!

MR. BROWN!
WHAT MANNER OF
MADNESS--?!



IT'S CLARITY,
PROFESSOR.

FAR FROM
IT! YOU'VE BEEN
BLINDED BY THE
SAME DARKNESS
INFECTING
MR. MALLORY AND
MISS WELLS!



LIKE I SAID...
CLARITY.

TRAAK

NO, NO...IT WASN'T SUPPOSED TO BE LIKE THIS!

THEY WERE SUPPOSED TO **VOLUNTEER!** WE DIDN'T WANT TO FORCE ANY OF YOU!

TELL ME WE **SLID** TO SOME **S&M BONDAGE EARTH...**

DON'T EVEN **ASK** ABOUT YOUR **PENNIES!**

CAN'T YOU **HURRY UP** AND GET THIS OVER WITH? YOU GOT WHAT YOU NEED, DON'T YOU?

YOU'RE RIGHT, OF COURSE, **REMBRANDT!**

THEY'LL BE HERE SOON. THE... **BUYERS.**

BLEEP

YOU MEAN **THIEVES!** YOU DON'T REPRODUCE-- YOU JUST REPEAT WHAT YOU WERE! **GHOSTS** IN YOUR MACHINES--

--**DEAD** A GENERATION BACK, LOOKING FOR A NEW **HAUNT** FOR YOUR **PATHETIC** SELVES! YOU WANT WHAT WE ARE BECAUSE YOU'RE **BARREN!**



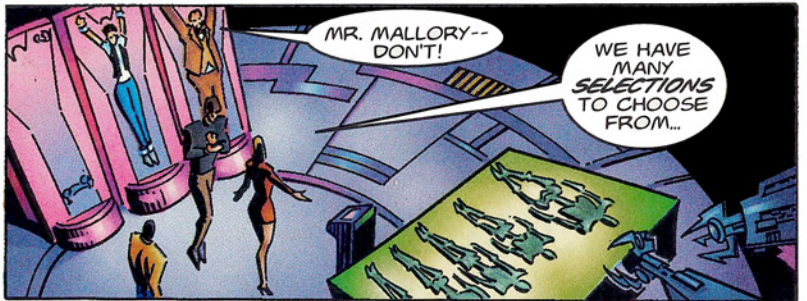
YOU READ TOO MUCH INTO OUR MOTIVATIONS, WADE. TRUTH IS, YOU'RE JUST A **THRILL**...ONE MORE EXPERIENCE TO ADD TO THE LIST!

I CAN GET INTO THAT EXPERIENCE-JUNKIE SCENE!

IS YOUR OFFER STILL ON, MONK?



NATURALLY, QUINN! THIS IS SO MUCH MORE PLEASANT!



MR. MALLORY-- DON'T!

WE HAVE MANY SELECTIONS TO CHOOSE FROM...



...YOU MIGHT LIKE ONE WITH COGNITIVE CO-PROCESSORS--OUR "BRAIN BOOST" MODEL!

I DIDN'T EXPECT YOU'D BUY IN, Q-BALL.

I'M FULL OF SURPRISES, CRYING MAN.



OH... THEY LOOK SQUISHY!

MEAT-WARE HOW QUANT!

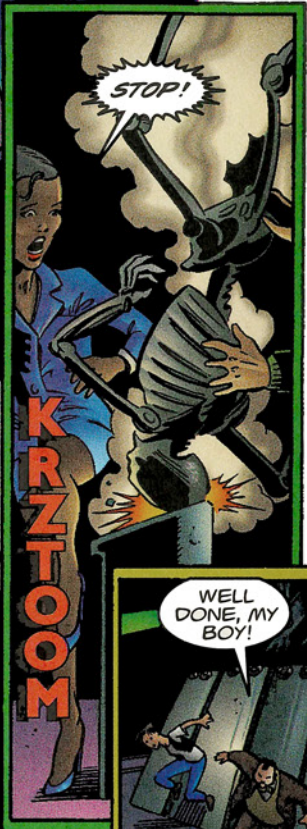
THIS IS GOING TO BE FUN!



JUST IN TIME FOR THE SHOW!



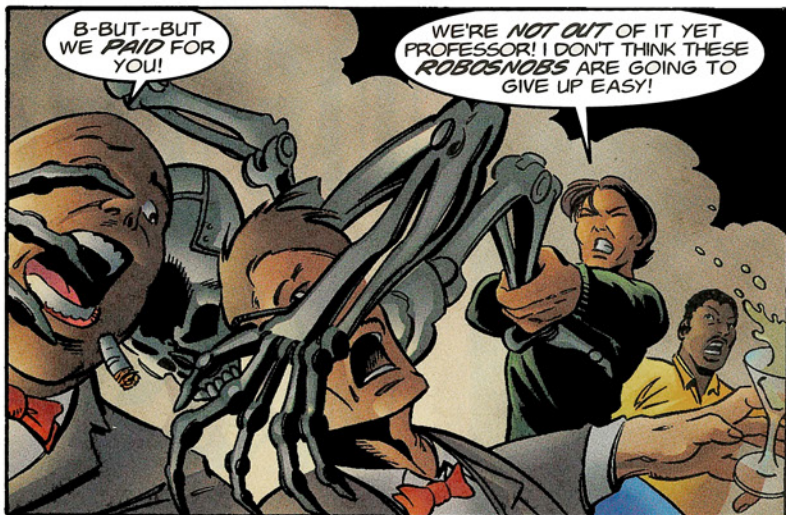
HEY, REMBRANDT--
SURPRISE!



KRZTOOM



WELL DONE, MY BOY!



B-BUT--BUT WE PAID FOR YOU!

WE'RE NOT OUT OF IT YET PROFESSOR! I DON'T THINK THESE ROBOSNOBS ARE GOING TO GIVE UP EASY!



ME NEITHER, Q-BALL!



I LIKE WHAT THIS EARTH CAN DO FOR MY IMAGE--THE CRYING MAN'S CAREER--

--AND I'M NOT LETTING LOOSE SO EASY!

WADE-- I GOT THE TIMER OFF HIM!



LESS THAN A MINUTE!

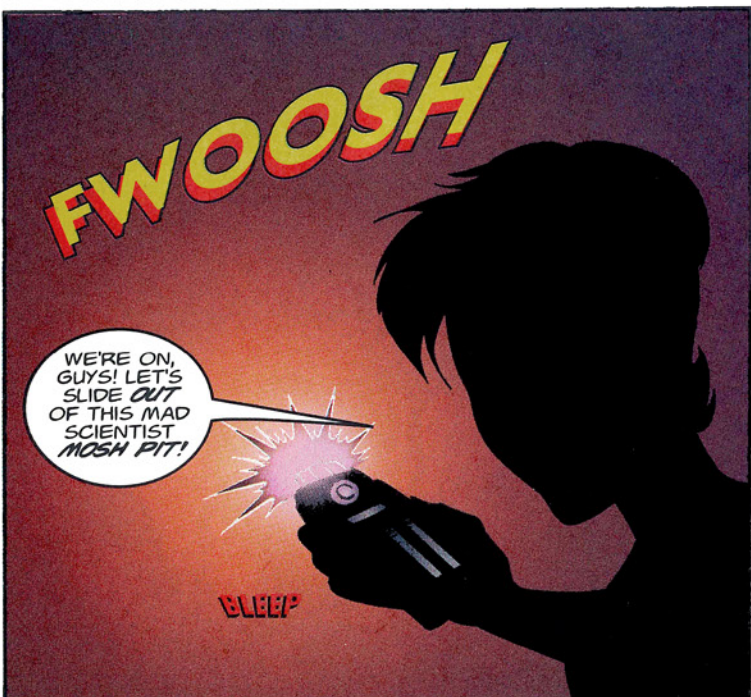


I'LL LIKE BEING YOU, HONEY. YOU'RE SO SOFT...



YEAH, BUT I GIVE A HELL OF A HARD TIME!

I'M NOT YOUR NOSTALGIA FIX LADY!



FWOOSH

WE'RE ON, GUYS! LET'S SLIDE OUT OF THIS MAD SCIENTIST MOSH PIT!

BLEEP



NO! THIS IS MY CHANCE--

MR. BROWN, YOU ARE FAR MORE IMPORTANT TO US THAN YOUR "IMAGE"--



--AND WE ARE NONE OF US PREPARED TO ABANDON YOU TO SO SHALLOW A FATE!



GET BACK HERE--



--I WANT MY GO AT REAL LIFE AGAIN!

THAT'S YOUR CHOICE, "SISTER!"

BUT WHAT'S REAL IN ONE DIMENSION DOESN'T ALWAYS CUT IT IN ANOTHER!

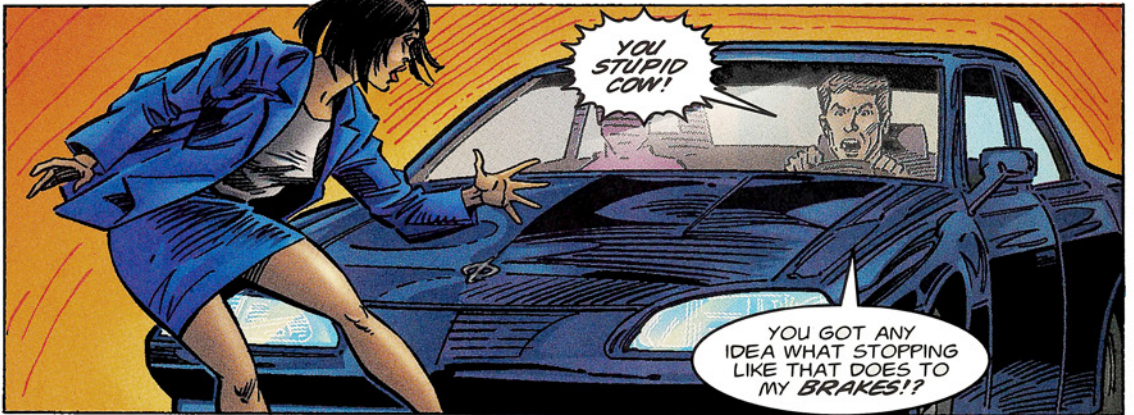
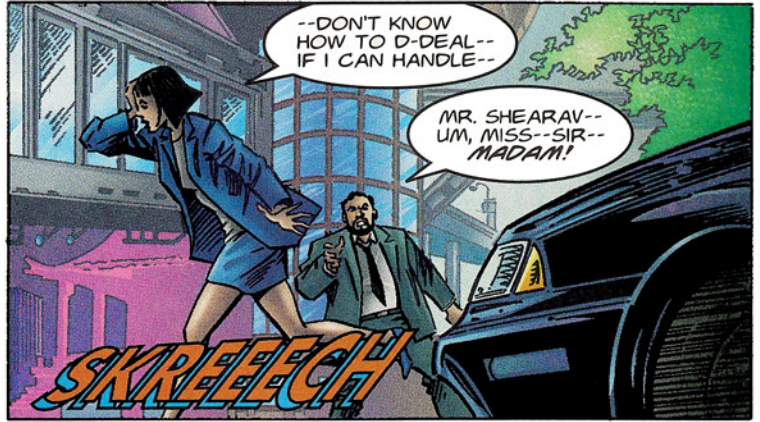
DEAR, SWEET LORD... WHAT WAS I DOING? WHY WAS I ACTING LIKE THAT? GUYS, YOU'VE GOT TO FORGIVE ME!

TRUTH IS, REMBRANDT, BEFORE I GOT STRAIGHT...



...I WAS SERIOUS ABOUT DOING A BODY SWAP! THE POTENTIAL OF ALL THOSE MINDS WIRED TOGETHER...

SO YOU'RE NOT ALONE IN WHATEVER'S--





THE PATH IS CLEAR, WELLINGTON-SAN!

TSSZZAAK



WHAT ARE YOU PUKES LOOKING AT?

NOTHING.



ANYONE INTERESTED IN FINDING SOME REFRESHMENTS?

SURE, I CAN EAT.



WAIT, WHAT ARE WE SAYING?

D-DID YOU FEEL THAT?

LIKE NO FEELING AT ALL. SO COLD...

IT'S GETTING WORSE, GUYS...



"...SOON, WE'RE NOT EVEN GOING TO **KNOW WHO WE ARE!**"

OMINOUS AS THE IMPLICATIONS MAY BE--



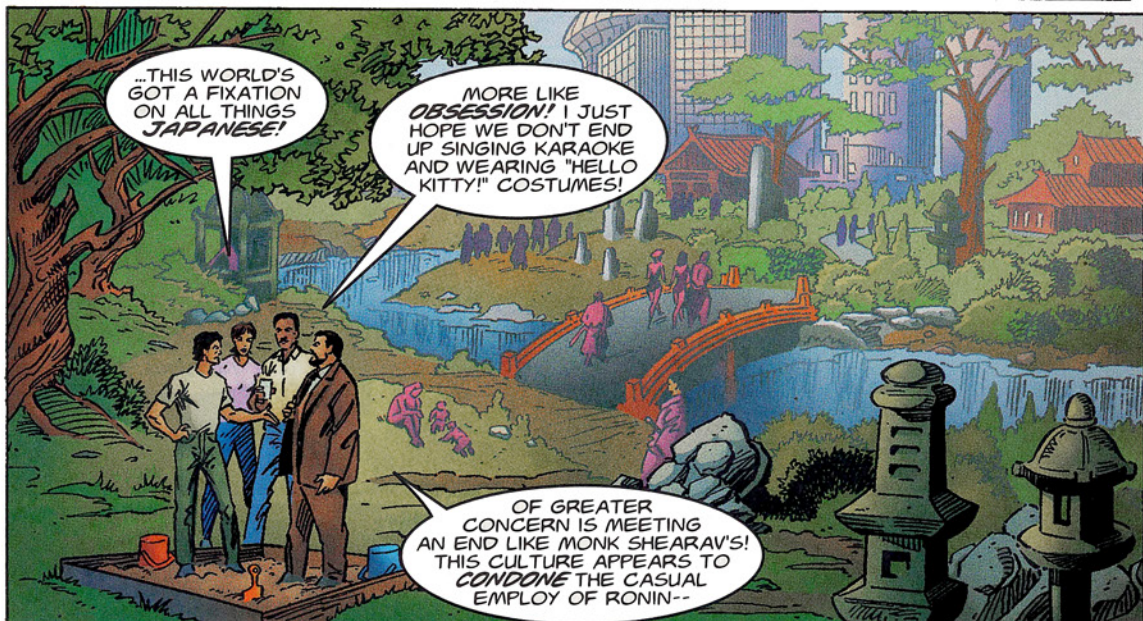
--WE MUST CONSIDER SOME ASPECT OF **SLIDING** ITSELF IS AT THE ROOT OF OUR PERSONALITY "EVILS!"

WE GOT SOME EATS!



BLECCH! THEY'VE GOT A **SCARY** CONCEPT OF THE **HOT DOG** IN THIS DIMENSION!

SORRY, ALL THEY HAD WAS **SUSHI!**...



...THIS WORLD'S GOT A FIXATION ON ALL THINGS **JAPANESE!**

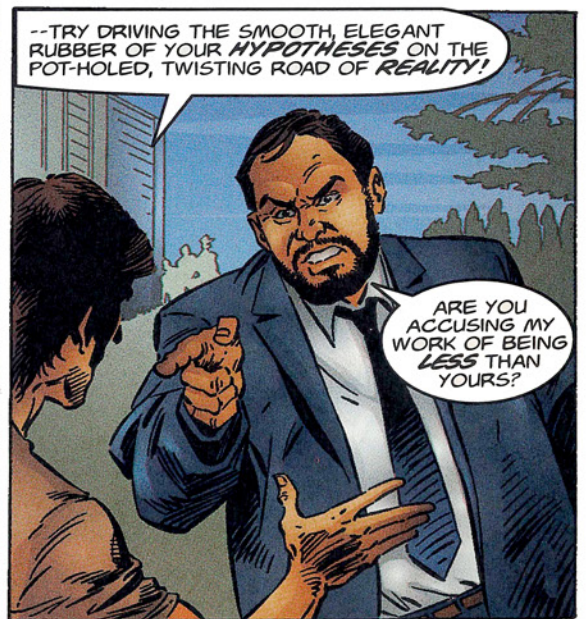
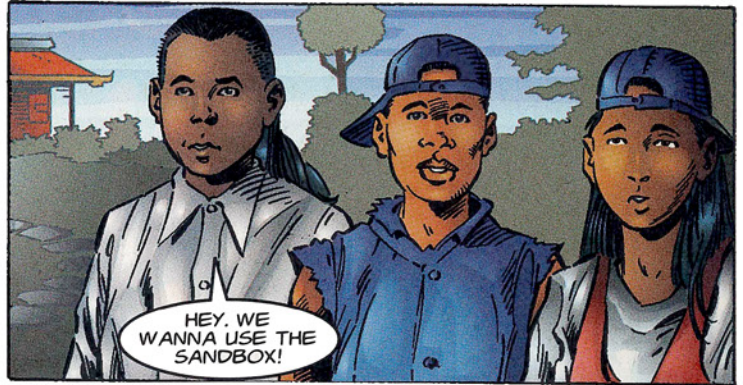
MORE LIKE **OBSESSION!** I JUST HOPE WE DON'T END UP SINGING KARAOKE AND WEARING "HELLO KITTY!" COSTUMES!

OF GREATER CONCERN IS MEETING AN END LIKE MONK SHEARAV'S! THIS CULTURE APPEARS TO **CONDONE** THE CASUAL EMPLOY OF **RONIN**--



--USING MASTER-LESS SAMURAI TO RESOLVE CONFLICT! RONIN OF THE PAST WERE OFTEN DANGEROUS **MERCENARIES**--

LET'S SAVE THE HISTORY LESSON, PROFESSOR, AND GET BACK TO WHAT'S CASTING A **SHADOW** INSIDE OUR **SKULLS!**





YOU WORK HARD, I'LL GIVE YOU THAT. BUT *THEORISTS* GET HOME FOR *DINNER*.

IF WE WAITED ON THICK THINK TANKS LIKE YOU TO GET TO EXPERIMENTING, *PHYSICS* WOULD NEVER HAPPEN!



WANT MY *THEORY* ON OUR TROUBLES?

THIS LITTLE *MEMENTO* FROM OUR VISIT TO THAT "SATANIST EARTH!"

*SLIDERS: ULTIMATUM #2-- CONTINUITY COVEN LEADER GOMEZ



YOU AND THAT *WITCH* DOUBLE OF WADE'S GOT PRETTY *TIGHT*, PROFESSOR! DID YOU CUT SOME KIND OF DEAL?

THIS IS *IRRATIONAL*, QUINN-- WE'RE MEN OF SCIENCE! WE'RE BOTH FALLING *PREY* TO THESE *CHANGES* INSIDE...



THAT'S NOT ALL WE'RE *PREY* TO...

YOU SHOULD LET US *PLAY*! NOW IT'S YOURS *PLAYING* DEAD...

NEXT:
SHOWDOWN WITH SAMURAI AND DARK CORNERS OF THE SOUL!
SLIDERS: DARKEST HOUR CONCLUDES IN 30 DAYS!