



KHEN-DRAA

TRANSGENDERED WARRIOR



by KYM and BEPPI

A
CROSS-TALK
PUBLICATION

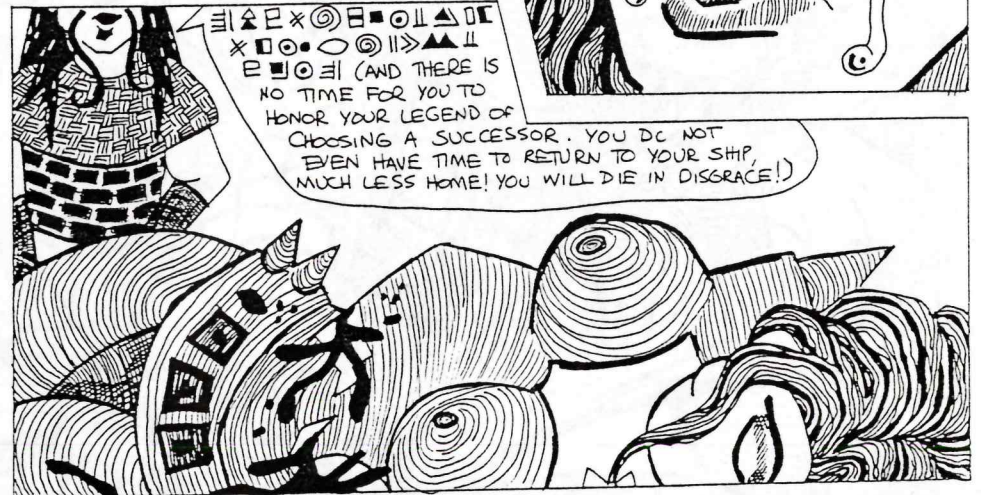


THE ALIEN WARRIOR-WOMAN HAS TRAVELLED FAR TO DO BATTLE WITH HER QUARRY. WHEN SHE SET OUT AFTER HIM, SHE KNEW SHE WAS HIS EQUAL IN ABILITY, STRENGTH, AND INTELLIGENCE... YET, BECAUSE THE TRAIL TOOK SO LONG TO FOLLOW, SHE NO LONGER FEELS SHE HAS THE STAMINA TO FINISH THE QUEST.

THE PLACE: SOMEPLACE IN THE MOJAVE DESERT, CALIFORNIA.
THE COMBATANTS: KHEN-DRAA, WARRIOR-BOUNTY HUNTER FROM TZARHEE, A PLANET SOME 50 LIGHT YEARS FROM EARTH... AND L HAR-ZHIL, AN OUTLAW WITH A PRICE ON HIS HEAD THAT EVEN BY EARTH STANDARDS IS BEYOND MERELY IMPRESSIVE.



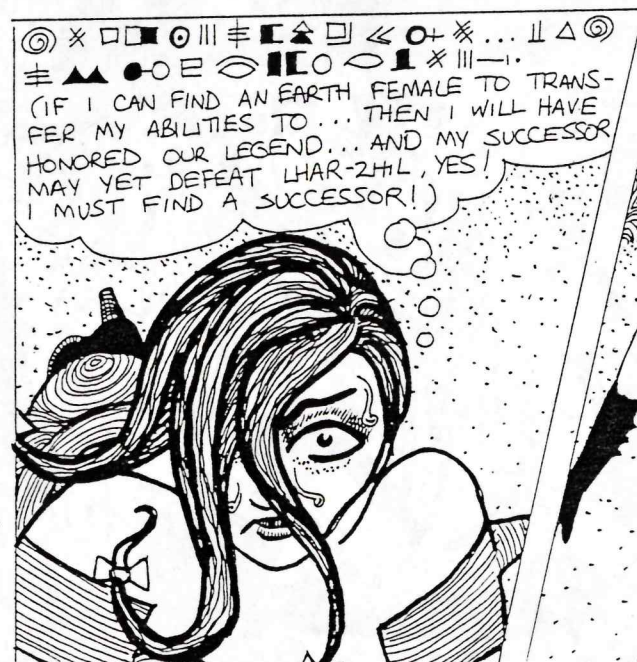
☉-||#▲□|*○+▽□●○
≡|||▲▲○↓□□*+○+
≡☉>>□□▲↓...
(HA! YOU THOUGHT YOU WOULD DEFEAT ME AND RETURN TO OUR WORLD A HERO. INSTEAD, THIS WILL BE YOUR FINAL RESTING PLACE AND I WILL HAVE A NEW WORLD TO CONQUER AND MAKE MY OWN!)



≡▲▲*☉□□▲□□
*□□○☉||>>▲▲↓
≡□□≡ (AND THERE IS NO TIME FOR YOU TO HONOR YOUR LEGEND OF CHOOSING A SUCCESSOR. YOU DO NOT EVEN HAVE TIME TO RETURN TO YOUR SHIP, MUCH LESS HOME! YOU WILL DIE IN DISGRACE!)



▲▲*|||□□○+
+ +...○...▲>>+
(HE IS RIGHT... I WILL DIE IN DISGRACE... UNLESS..)

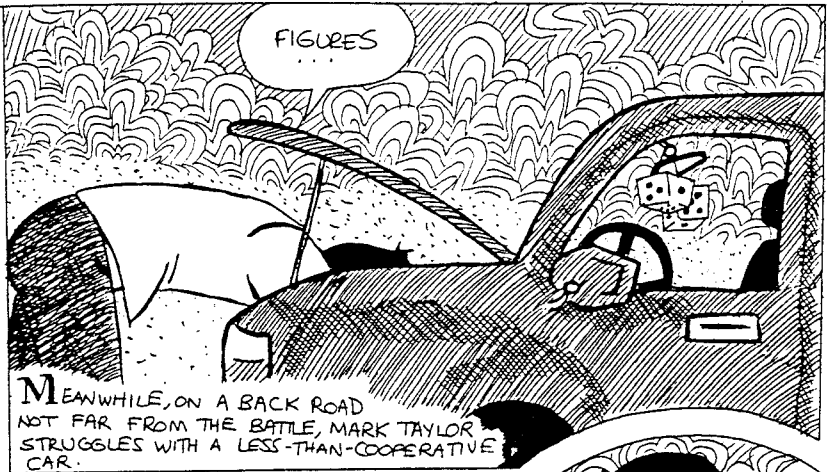


☉*□□☉|||≡▲▲□□◀○+*...↓△☉
≡▲▲●○≡|||○↓*|||—
(IF I CAN FIND AN EARTH FEMALE TO TRANSFER MY ABILITIES TO... THEN I WILL HAVE HONORED OUR LEGEND... AND MY SUCCESSOR MAY YET DEFEAT L HAR-ZHIL, YES! I MUST FIND A SUCCESSOR!)



☉□□—•☉□□
—• (I MUST... I... MUST...)

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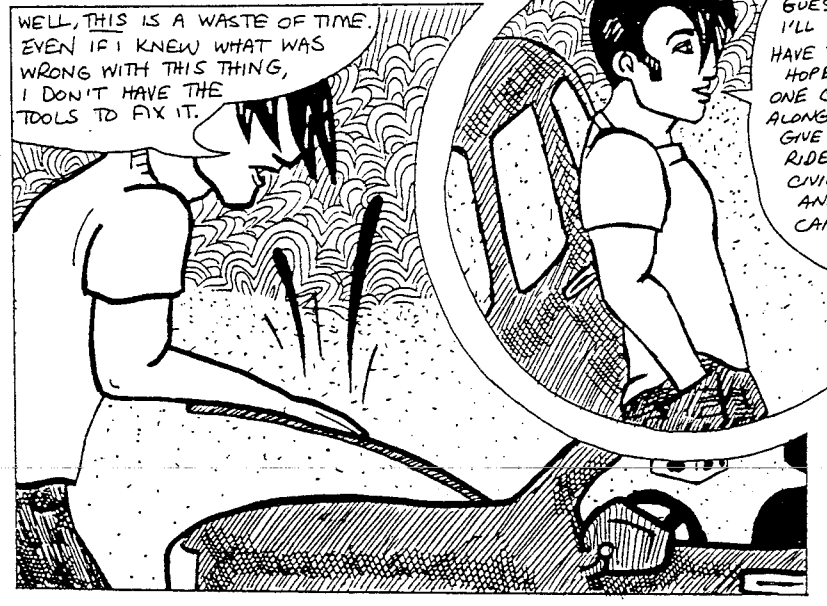


FIGURES

MEANWHILE, ON A BACK ROAD NOT FAR FROM THE BATTLE, MARK TAYLOR STRUGGLES WITH A LESS-THAN-COOPERATIVE CAR.

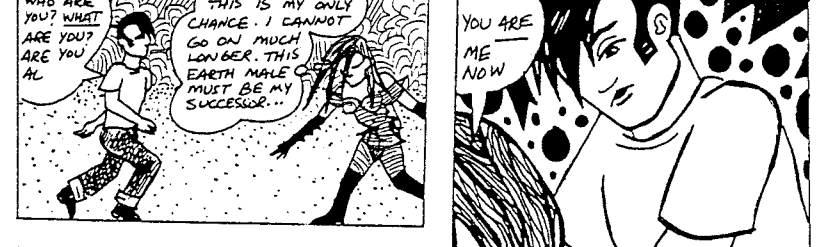
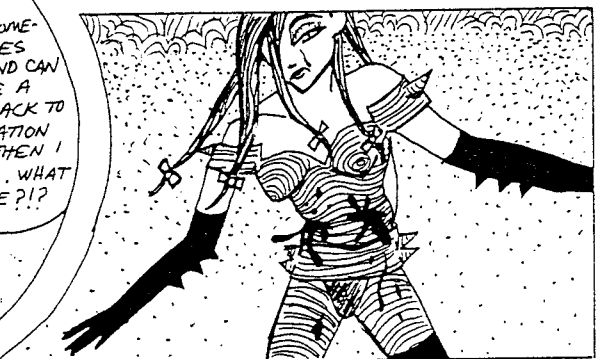


THE INSTANT I GET MILES FROM NOWHERE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE DESERT... THAT'S WHEN THIS PIECE OF JUNK PICKS TO BREAK DOWN...



WELL, THIS IS A WASTE OF TIME. EVEN IF I KNEW WHAT WAS WRONG WITH THIS THING, I DON'T HAVE THE TOOLS TO FIX IT.

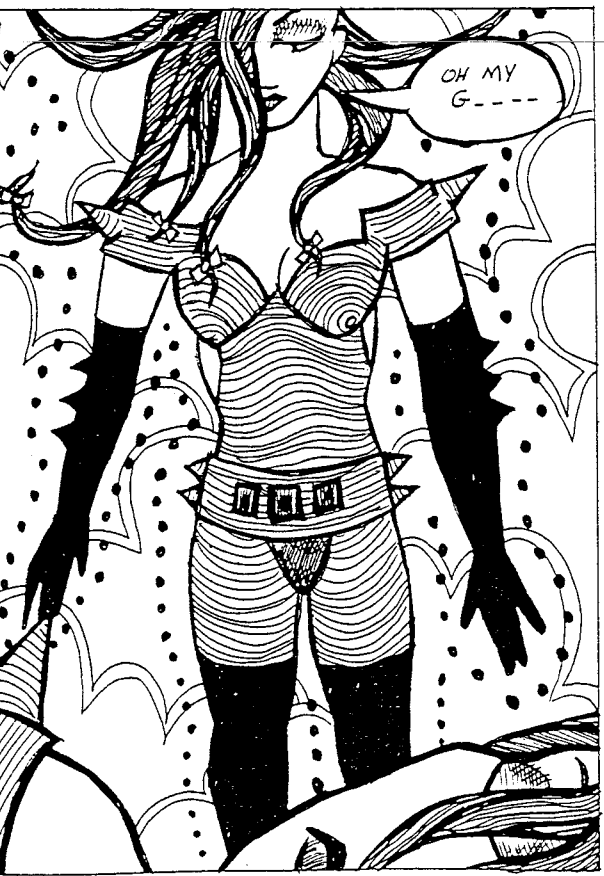
GUESS I'LL JUST HAVE TO HOPE SOMEONE COMES ALONG AND CAN GIVE ME A RIDE BACK TO CIVILIZATION AND THEN I CAN... WHAT THE?!?



WHO ARE YOU? WHAT ARE YOU? ARE YOU AL

THIS IS MY ONLY CHANCE. I CANNOT GO ON MUCH LONGER. THIS EARTH MALE MUST BE MY SUCCESSOR...

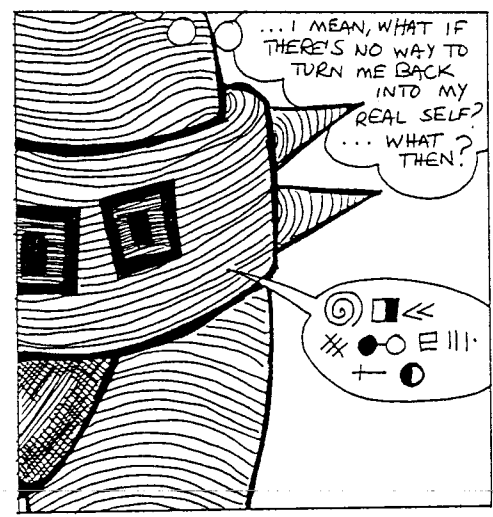
YOU ARE ME NOW



OH MY G----



MY GOD! WHAT'S HAPPENED TO ME? I'M... I'M... I'M HER!



... I MEAN, WHAT IF THERE'S NO WAY TO TURN ME BACK INTO MY REAL SELF? ... WHAT THEN?



WELL, THIS IS JUST GREAT. FIRST MY CAR STALLS OUT, THEN THIS REFUGEE FROM A UFO MOVIE TURNS UP, AND NEXT THING I KNOW I'VE BECOME HER TWIN SISTER!

AND TO TOP IT ALL OFF, I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT THIS THING IS SAYING!



KHEN-DRAA... THIS IS TZARHEE CENTRAL COMMAND... REPORT...

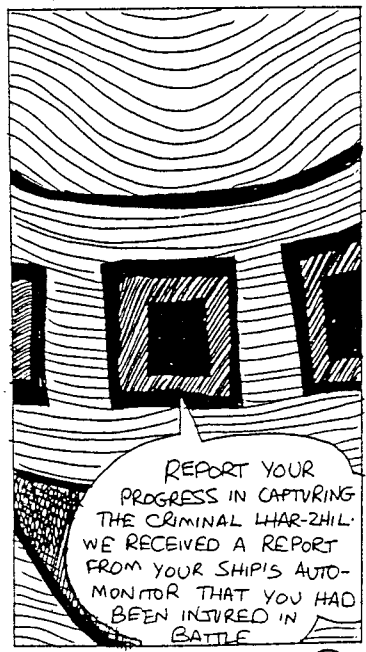
KHEN-DRAA??? IS THAT WHO I AM???



KHEN-DRAA... THIS IS TZARHEE CENTRAL COMMAND...

OH WELL... HERE GOES NOTHING... HOPE THIS THING IS VOICE-OPERATED

THIS IS... UH... KHEN-DRAA... UM... GO AHEAD?



REPORT YOUR PROGRESS IN CAPTURING THE CRIMINAL LVAR-ZHIL. WE RECEIVED A REPORT FROM YOUR SHIP'S AUTOMONITOR THAT YOU HAD BEEN INVOLVED IN BATTLE

WELL, I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT A SHIP AUTO-MONITOR OR THIS L'HARZ'HIL, OR EVEN WHAT'S HAPPENED TO ME!! YOUR KHE'DRAA IS DEAD AND I'M SUDDENLY IN A DUPLICATE OF HER BODY!!

THEN YOU ARE HER SUCCESSOR?

WE UNDERSTAND YOUR DIFFICULTY. YOU ARE NOT FAMILIAR WITH OUR WAYS, NOR DO YOU UNDERSTAND YOUR NEW ABILITIES. WE SHALL SEND YOU AN AIDE. UNTIL SHE ARRIVES YOU MUST KEEP L'HAR-Z'HIL FROM LEARNING WHAT HAS HAPPENED AND WHERE YOU ARE. YOU MUST CONCEAL YOURSELF FROM HIM.

CONCEAL MYSELF? THAT'S A LITTLE HARD TO DO, LOOKING LIKE THIS AND STUCK IN THE MIDDLE OF THE MOJAVE DESERT WITH A BROKEN-DOWN PIECE OF JUNK CAR!

YOU MUST CONCENTRATE ON WHERE YOU WISH TO RELOCATE. PROVIDED IT IS NOT FAR, THE SHIP'S AUTO-MONITOR WILL READ YOUR THOUGHTS AND ACTIVATE THE SHORT RANGE TELEPORTATION BEAM

CONCENTRATE HUH? OK, HERE GOES...

WHOA! IT WORKS!

WELL, AT LEAST I'M OUT OF THE DESERT AND BACK IN MY OWN APARTMENT. BUT I'M STILL STUCK WITH THIS BODY...

THANK GOD, I LIVE IN HOLLYWOOD AT LEAST THIS BODY WON'T LOOK OUT OF PLACE HERE.

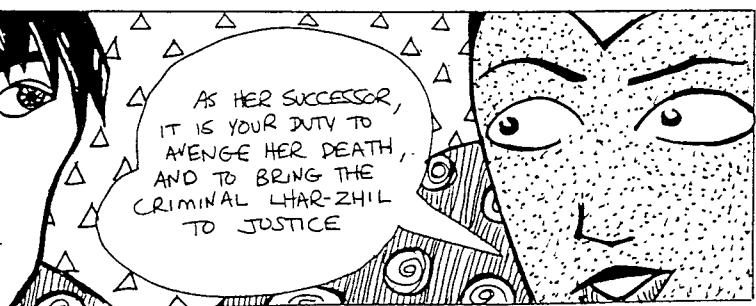
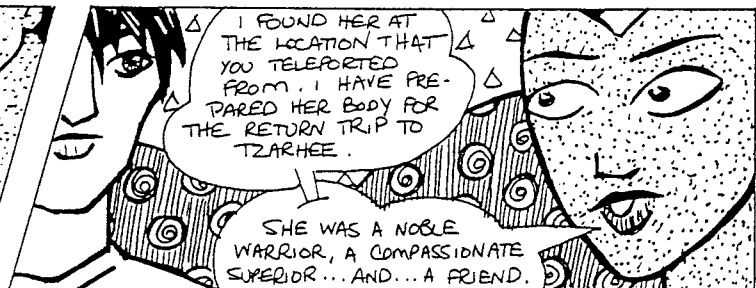
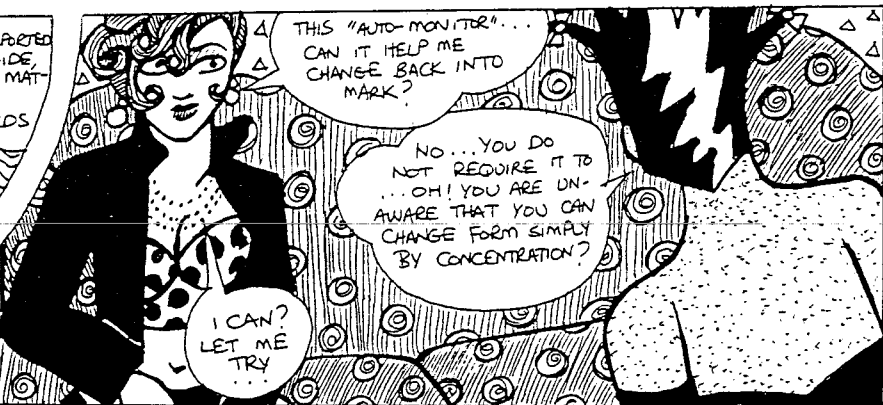
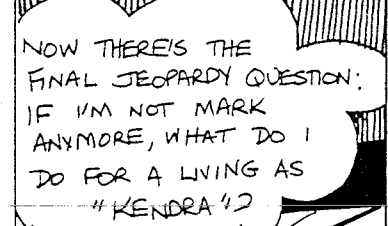
BUT THIS OUTFIT... EVEN IF IT WOULD PASS AROUND HERE... THE CENTRAL COMMAND SAID I SHOULD 'CONCEAL MYSELF' LOOKS LIKE I'M GOING TO HAVE TO DO A LITTLE SHOPPING...

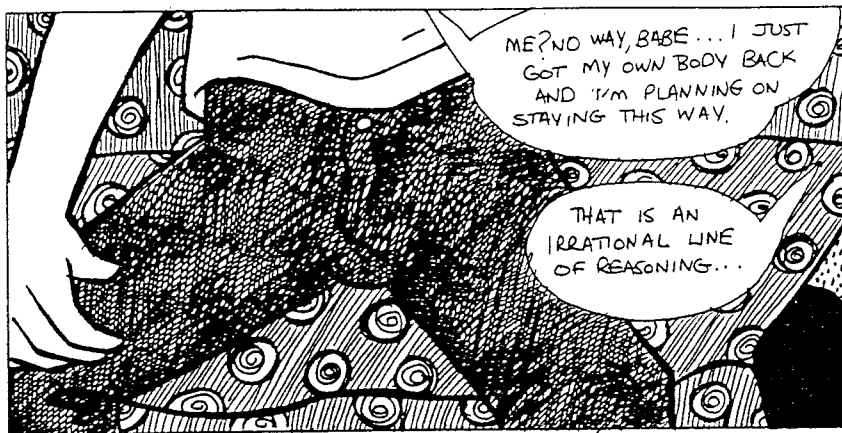
NOW! HOT OUTFIT!

45 MINUTES (AND A DOZEN OUTFITS) LATER...
FEEL BETTER NOW?
YEAH, A LITTLE...
CONSIDERING I'M STILL A GIRL...

HI, I NEED SOME HELP...
YEAH, BUT I THINK WHAT YOU'RE WEARING ALREADY IS REALLY COOL!
YEAH, BUT I NEED SOMETHING MORE SUITABLE FOR... WELL... YOU KNOW, EVERY-DAY...

YOU KNOW WHAT YOU NEED IS A NEW HAIRSTYLE. AND, YOU REALLY SHOULD WEAR MAKE-UP... YOU'D LOOK REALLY PRETTY... AND MAYBE ACRYLIC NAILS?





ME? NO WAY, BABE... I JUST GOT MY OWN BODY BACK AND I'M PLANNING ON STAYING THIS WAY.

THAT IS AN IRRATIONAL LINE OF REASONING...

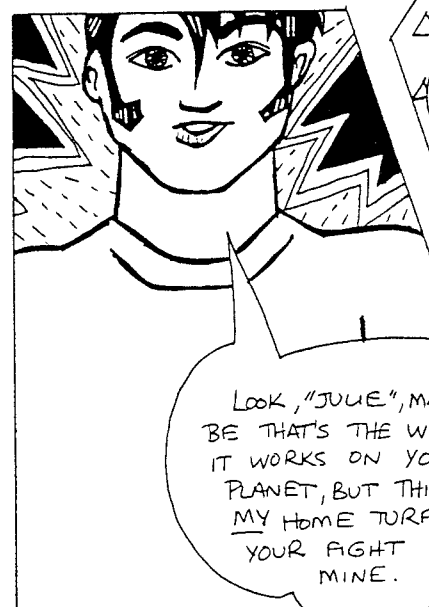


YOU HAVE ALL OF KHEN-DRAA'S ABILITIES, INCLUDING THE ABILITY TO CHANGE FORMS AT WILL. ALL YOU MUST DO IS CONCENTRATE ON THE FORM YOU WISH. GO AHEAD, TRY...



WOW THIS COULD BE USEFUL. BUT WHAT HAPPENS TO THE CLOTHES? THEY'VE CHANGED WITH ME EVERY TIME!

THE AUTO-MONITOR KEEPS A RECORD OF EACH FORM'S ATTIRE. IF YOU ARE WITHIN RANGE, THE TELEPORTER WILL RECLOTHE YOU WHENEVER YOU CHANGE FORM. SO IT IS A SIMPLE MATTER FOR YOU TO CHANGE INTO KHEN-DRAA'S BASIC FORM AND TRACK DOWN L HAR-ZHIL. IT IS YOUR DUTY... A MATTER OF HONOR.



LOOK, "JULIE", MAYBE THAT'S THE WAY IT WORKS ON YOUR PLANET, BUT THIS IS MY HOME TURF AND YOUR FIGHT ISN'T MINE.



YOU DO NOT UNDERSTAND. L HAR-ZHIL WILL CONQUER THIS PLANET, AS HE HAS SO MANY OTHERS. THIS IS YOUR FIGHT... YOU MUST...

CRASH



HA! SO THEY HAVE SENT A JUNIOR WARRIOR THIS TIME! THIS WILL BE EASY...



YOU!

YES, IT IS I... EARTH'S NEW RULER

DO YOU, A MERE CADET, THINK YOU CAN KEEP ME FROM CONQUERING THIS PLANET?



IT IS MY SWORN DUTY TO STOP THOSE THAT THE SUPREME COUNCIL HAVE DECLARED TO BE NOT ONLY OUR ENEMY, BUT OTHER WORLD'S ENEMY AS WELL!

HA! YOUR SUPREME COUNCIL MATTERS LITTLE TO ME...



... AND YOU MATTER TO ME EVEN LESS!

HEY NOW, WAIT A MINUTE! YOU CAN'T...



I SHALL DO WHAT I WANT, INSIGNIFICANT EARTH MAN.

NOW HOW SHALL I DISPOSE OF YOU TWO?



YOU MUST CREATE A DIVERSION, LONG ENOUGH FOR ME TO BLIND HIM FOR OUR ESCAPE.

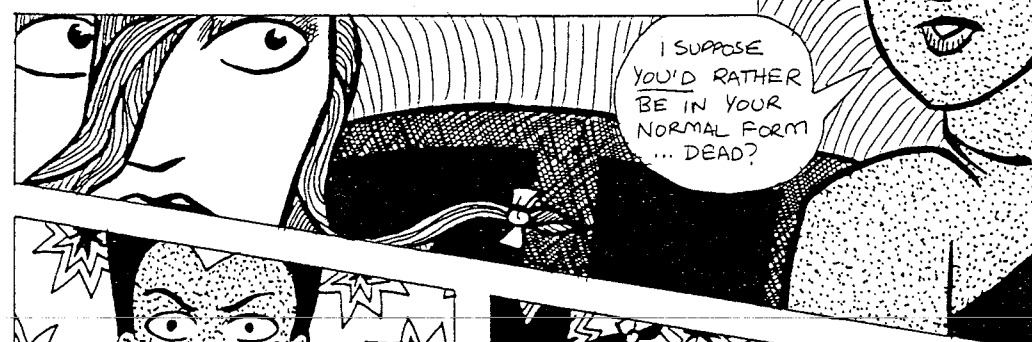
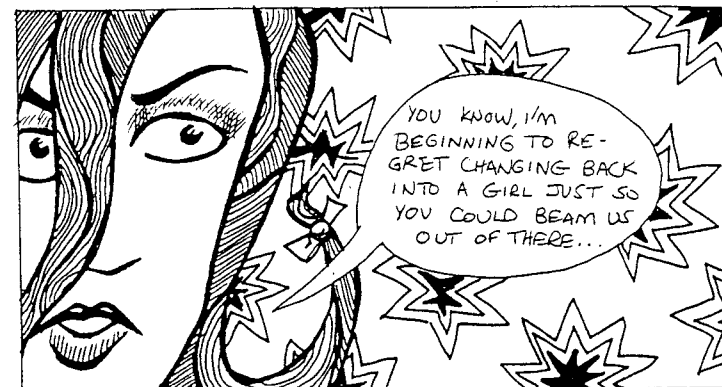
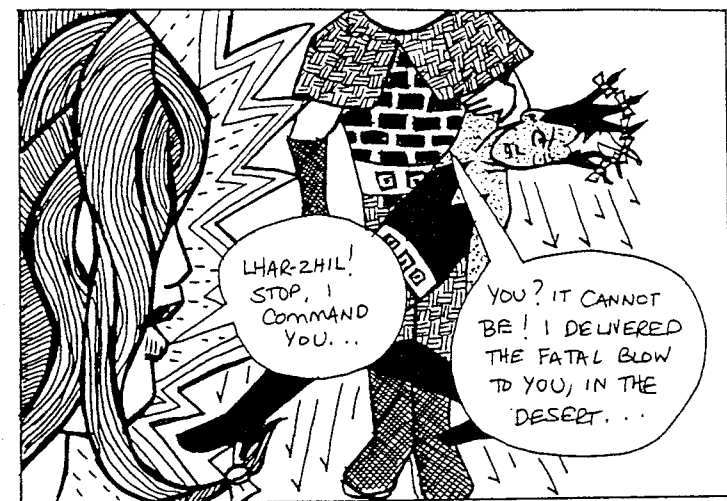
DIVERSION? ESCAPE?

YES. I AM NOT STRONG ENOUGH TO DEFEAT L HAR-ZHIL, AND YOU DO NOT YET KNOW ENOUGH ABOUT YOUR NEW ABILITIES...



IT HAS BEEN QUITE A DAY. TWO WARRIORS FROM TZARHEE IN ONE DAY!

WHAT KIND OF DIVERSION COULD I POSSIBLY... WAIT! I KNOW...





WELL, PERHAPS SOON YOU WILL GET THE CHANCE. I THINK I HAVE FOUND A WAY TO SHEILD YOUR SHIP'S AUTO-MONITOR FROM L HAR-ZHIL

IF YOU ASSUME THIS "MINI-SKIRT" FORM, AS YOU CALL IT, YOU WILL BE BETTER ABLE TO GET CLOSER TO L HAR-ZHIL. WE MUST OBTAIN IN THE ABILITY OF SURPRISE

HEY, WAIT A MINUTE. I WAS ONLY KIDDING WHEN I SAID I WAS MORE COMFORTABLE IN A MINISKIRT !!

GOOD. THE SOONER I GO BACK TO BEING MARK, THE BETTER

ACTUALLY, SINCE L HAR-ZHIL HAS SEEN YOU IN THAT MODE, IT WOULD BE BETTER FOR YOU TO RETURN TO THE FORM YOU HAD WHEN I MET YOU...

WHY DON'T YOU JUST ASSUME ANOTHER FORM AND SURPRISE HIM?

BECAUSE I AM A CADET. ONLY WARRIORS HAVE YOUR ABILITIES.

NO CHOICE, HUH? OH WELL...

IT MATTERS NOT. IT IS IMPARTANT THAT WE TAKE WHATEVER ADVANTAGES THAT ARE AVAILABLE.

I HOPE YOU'RE HAPPY...

ACTUALLY, NO...

I DID NOT HAVE THE SHRED FUNCTIONING WHEN YOU CHANGED FORM. YOU HAVE MADE IT POSSIBLE FOR L HAR-ZHIL TO LOCATE US



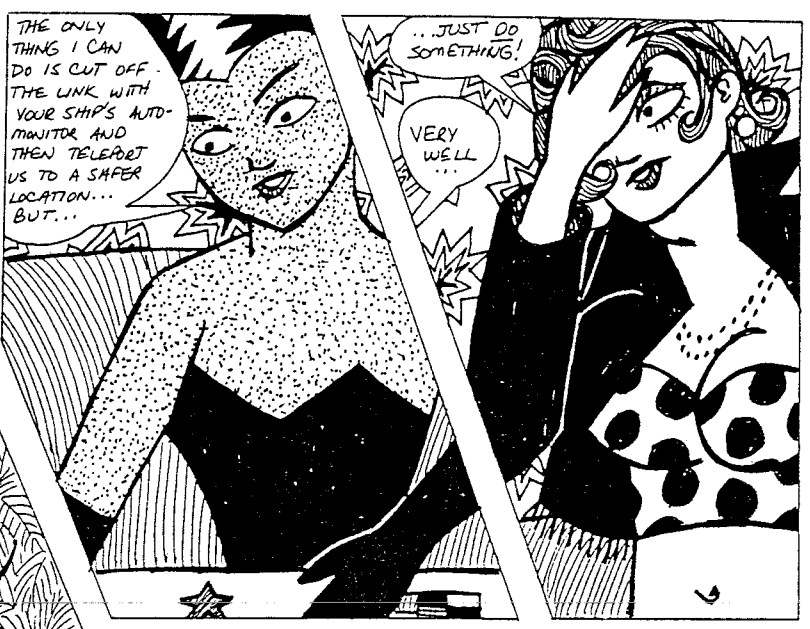
L HAR-ZHIL IS NO FOOL... HE IS MOST LIKELY TO BE TRACKING THE LOCATION OF MY SHIP RIGHT NOW! WHY COULD YOU NOT WAIT UNTIL I HAD PROPERLY PREPARED FOR YOUR CHANGE?



HEY, "JULIE" TRY TO REMEMBER I'M NEW AT THIS. I DIDN'T EVEN WANT TO GET INVOLVED WITH THIS! AND SHOULDN'T YOU BE DOING SOMETHING TO GET US OUT OF HERE?



THERE, L HAR-ZHIL WILL NOT BE ABLE TO FOLLOW US. I HAVE TAKEN THE APPROPRIATE ACTIONS TO DISGUISE OUR TELEPORTING TO THIS LOCATION.



THE ONLY THING I CAN DO IS CUT OFF THE LINK WITH YOUR SHIP'S AUTO-MONITOR AND THEN TELEPORT US TO A SAFER LOCATION... BUT...

...JUST DO SOMETHING!

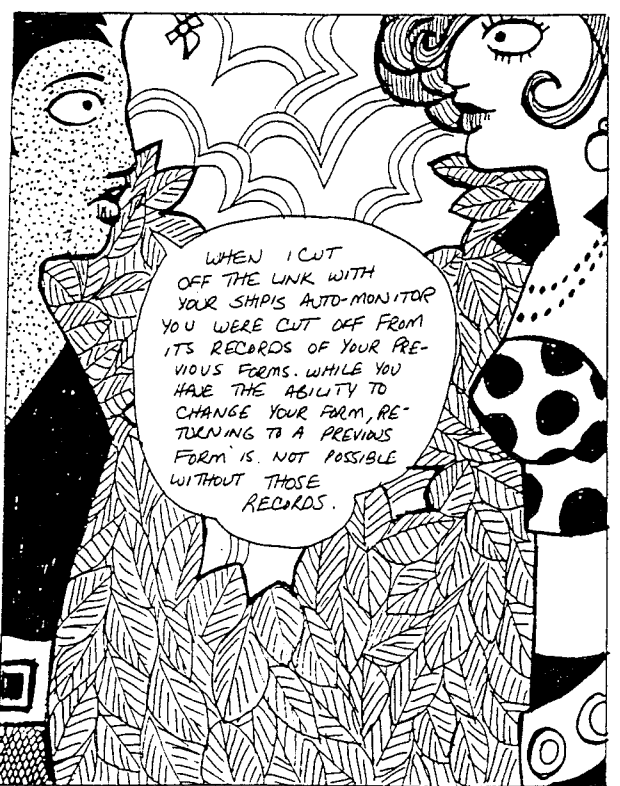
VERY WELL...



GREAT...SO NOW IT SHOULD BE SAFE FOR ME TO...

IT'S NOT WORKING!

OF COURSE NOT. THAT IS WHAT I ATTEMPTED TO TELL YOU.



WHEN I CUT OFF THE LINK WITH YOUR SHIP'S AUTO-MONITOR YOU WERE CUT OFF FROM ITS RECORDS OF YOUR PREVIOUS FORMS. WHILE YOU HAVE THE ABILITY TO CHANGE YOUR FORM, RETURNING TO A PREVIOUS FORM IS NOT POSSIBLE WITHOUT THOSE RECORDS.

BUT... BACK IN MY APARTMENT YOU SAID I DIDN'T NEED THE SHIP'S AUTO-WHAT-CHAMAKALLIT TO CHANGE FORMS...?

TRUE, BUT...

... YOU MUST EITHER HAVE A FORM PRESENT TO DUPLICATE OR ASSUME A FORM YOU HAVE USED BEFORE. SO IF YOU DO NOT PREFER THE FORM YOU PRESENTLY HAVE, YOUR ONLY OTHER OPTION AT THE PRESENT IS TO DUPLICATE MINE.

NO THANKS IF I HAVE TO BE A GIRL, I'D RATHER BE ONE I'M A LITTLE USED TO.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

SINCE I HAVE NO WAY OF KNOWING WHETHER OR NOT L'HAR-ZHIL WAS ABLE TO TRACE US THROUGH YOUR AUTO-MONITOR, I ACTIVATED CERTAIN SECURITY PRECAUTIONS ON MY SHIP.

SHOULD L'HAR-ZHIL SUCCEED IN FINDING MY SHIP, IT WILL TRANSMIT AN ALARM TO ME THEN DESTROY ITS AUTO-MONITOR RECORDS SO THAT HE CANNOT LOCATE US.

OF COURSE, IF THAT HAPPENS WE COULD NO LONGER TELEPORT...

AND I LOSE FURTHER TRACK OF MY OWN BODY, I SUPPOSE

POSSIBLY NOT. IT IS NOT LIKELY L'HAR-ZHIL WOULD DESTROY YOUR SHIP. HE PREFERS TO ACCUMULATE AS MANY POSSESSIONS AS HE CAN.

SO IF WE CAN RETURN TO YOUR SHIP AND IF L'HAR-ZHIL HAS NOT DESTROYED YOUR SHIP'S AUTO-MONITOR, YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO ACCESS THE RECORDS

AND IF WE CAN'T RETURN...?

THEN I HOPE YOU LIKE THE WAY YOU APPEAR NOW...



IT WOULD MOST LIKELY BE A GOOD IDEA IF I WERE TO ADOPT AN EARTH FEMALE APPEARANCE, AS YOU HAVE.

I PRESUME YOU ARE ATTRACTIVE BY EARTH STANDARDS?

I DON'T KNOW HOW IN YOUR EYES DEFINITELY DON'T BELONG ON THIS PLANET... AND IF YOU CAN'T CHANGE FORMS... BUT I GUESS WE CAN THINK OF SOMETHING!

WELL, I THINK YOU'LL FIT IN AROUND HOLLYWOOD NOW.

I ONLY WISH I COULD GO BACK TO BEING A GUY.

SHORTLY THEREAFTER, THANKS TO MARK'S ATM CARD STILL BEING IN KENDRA'S POSSESSION...

I NEVER REALLY GAVE THAT MUCH THOUGHT... AFTER ALL, I'VE ONLY BEEN A GIRL SINCE THIS MORNING... BUT YES, I GUESS I'M PRETTY...

THEN I MUST ATTEMPT A SIMILAR APPEARANCE.

DO NOT GIVE UP HOPE. WE MAY YET BE ABLE TO RETURN TO YOUR SHIP AND RE-STORE YOUR NORMAL FORM... ALTHOUGH I THINK I PREFER YOU AS YOU APPEAR NOW!

THANKS LOADS.

DO NOT BE SO NEGATIVE. IN YOUR PRESENT FORM YOU WILL BE ABLE TO APPROACH L'HAR-ZHIL WITHOUT HIM BEING AWARE OF YOUR TRUE IDENTITY.





WE MUST FIND A WAY TO STOP L HAR-ZHIL... WHICH IS EVEN MORE DIFFICULT NOT THAT WE HAVE FOUND IT NECESSARY TO TEMPORARILY SEVER THE AUTO-MONITORS TO OUR SHIPS

POW

WHO THE HELL IS THAT...?
WHAT THE...?
I WONDER WHAT'S GOING ON...

JULE! IT'S L HAR-ZHIL! LET'S TAKE HIM BY SURPRISE!

WE CANNOT. WITHOUT THE AUTO-MONITOR, YOU WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO CHANGE TO YOUR TRARHEEAN FORM...

...AND IT WOULD BE USELESS FOR YOU TO ENGAGE L HAR-ZHIL IN YOUR CURRENT FORM

I DON'T SEE HOW USEFUL CHANGING FORMS WOULD BE...

WAIT! I HAVE AN IDEA

THE WE'LL HAVE TO TAKE THAT RISK. OTHERWISE, L HAR-ZHIL WILL CERTAINLY CONQUER EARTH...

...AND I'LL BE STUCK IN THIS BODY FOREVER

WHAT YOU SUGGEST IS POSSIBLE... ALTHOUGH YOU WILL BE PLACING US AT GREAT RISK. ESPECIALLY IF YOU FAIL.



I HOPE THAT YOUR IDEA WORKS. I ADMIT THAT THE ELEMENT OF SURPRISE GIVES US AS MUCH OF AN ADVANTAGE AS WE CAN HOPE FOR.

LET'S JUST HOPE THAT THE REST OF MY IDEA WORKS AS WELL. OTHERWISE, WE'VE RESTORED THE AUTO-MONITOR LINKS FOR NOTHING.

L HAR-ZHIL! STOP! I COMMAND YOU!

SURELY YOU DO NOT BELIEVE THAT POSSESSING THE WARRIOR'S FORM IS SUFFICIENT TO DEFEAT ME... YOU KNOW NOTHING OF HER ABILITIES!

THUD

BANG!

YOU THINK NOT L HAR-ZHIL? PERHAPS YOU WILL THINK DIFFERENTLY SOON!

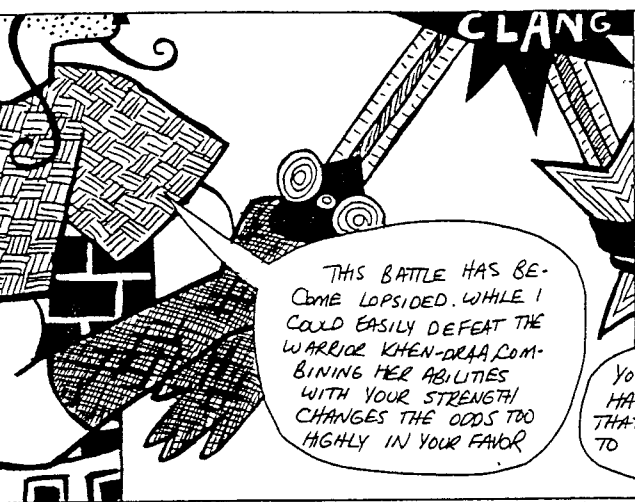
O.K., JULE... I'M LINKING TO YOUR THOUGHTS...

THAT IS GOOD... RELAY YOUR CONSCIOUS THOUGHTS AND I WILL GUIDE YOUR ACTIONS

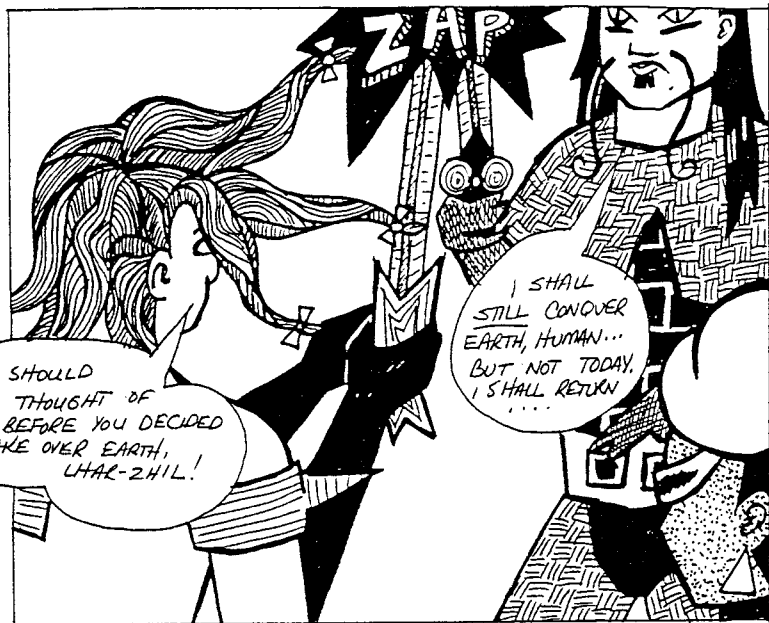
YOU GOT IT BABE...

STRANGE... YOU ARE SOMEHOW STRONGER THAN BEFORE...

OF COURSE! YOU POSSESS THE ADDITIONAL STRENGTH OF THE EARTH MALE!

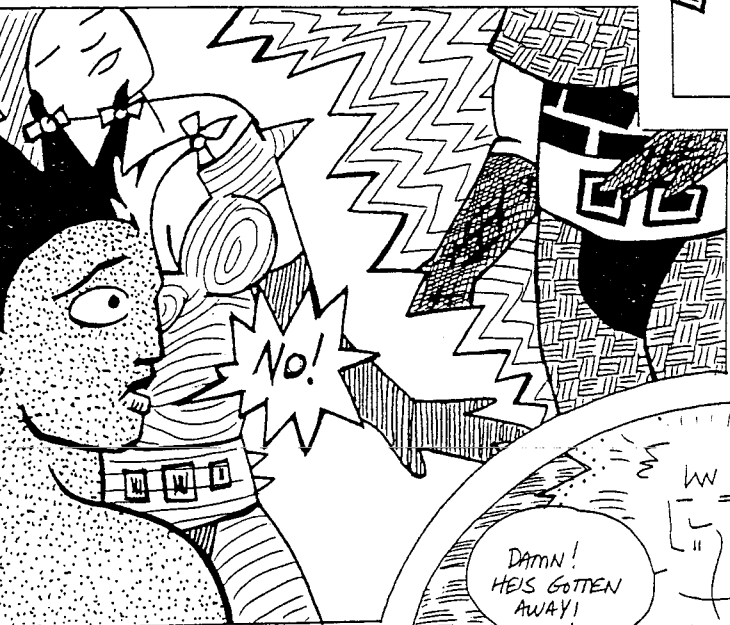


THIS BATTLE HAS BE-
COME LOPSIDED. WHILE I
COULD EASILY DEFEAT THE
WARRIOR KHEN-DRAA, COM-
BINING HER ABILITIES
WITH YOUR STRENGTH
CHANGES THE ODDS TOO
HIGHLY IN YOUR FAVOR



YOU SHOULD
HAVE THOUGHT OF
THAT BEFORE YOU DECIDED
TO TAKE OVER EARTH,
LHAR-ZHIL!

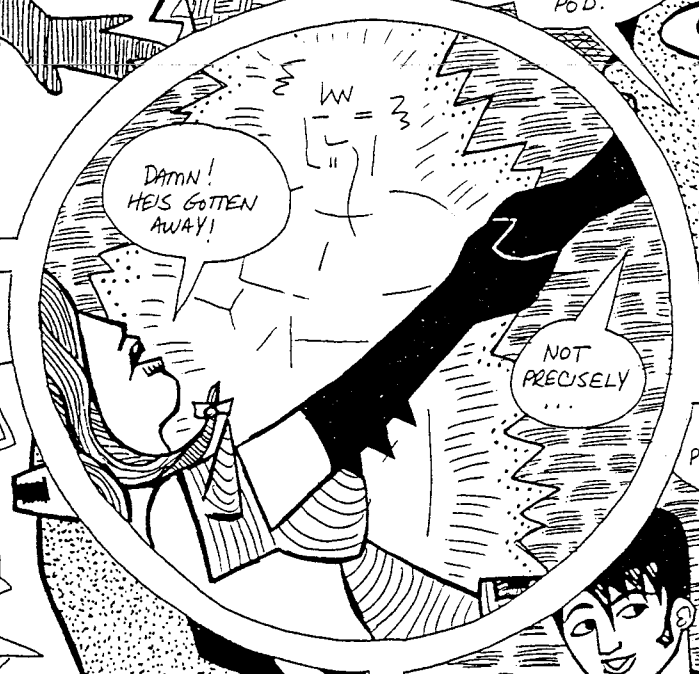
I SHALL
STILL CONQUER
EARTH, HUMAN...
BUT NOT TODAY.
I SHALL RETURN
....



No!

WHEN I RESTORED THE
AUTO-MONITOR, I PROGRAMMED
IT TO INTERCEPT ANY ATTEMPTS
BY LHAR-ZHIL AT TELE-
PORTING

HE'S ON HIS WAY
TO TZARHEE IN A PRE-
PROGRAMMED ESCAPE
POD.



DAMN!
HE'S GOTTEN
AWAY!

NOT
PRECISELY
...



YOU MEAN... YOU
CAME UP WITH A
BACKUP PLAN BY
YOURSELF?

ACTUALLY, IT
WAS SOMETHING
THAT JUST OCCURED
TO ME AND I JUST
... DID IT.

I THINK I'M
STARTING TO LIKE
YOU, JULIE...

Beppe



I HOPE YOU'RE
PLANNING TO STAY
AWHILE

WELL, I
WAS AS-
SIGNED TO
HELP YOU
LEARN YOUR
ABILITIES

THE END
(FOR NOW)

BUT I THINK I PREFER
YOU AS AN EARTH FEMALE
...

