

Tab 1

Allegiance

Genesis: Chapter 1

Written by Ben Sunding

Art by

Lettering by

Created by Ben Sunding

Introducing, ALLEGIANCE! For years, the world has been protected by the one and only AIR-HAWK. He fights crime, puts villains behind bars, saves cats stuck in trees, etc. But things begin changing when new super-powered characters mysteriously emerge within the twin metropolises of North and South City, expressing their disagreement with many of Air-Hawk's actions. Will the new champions join Air-Hawk in his heroic journey or clash with him as everyone watches? And who is really pulling the strings of all of this? Questions will be answered, epic battles will ensue, and it all begins in Issue #1 of Allegiance!

Page 1

Panel 1: Valgore, a great, gray, ogre-looking beast stands in the middle of what was before a busy intersection. Standing at nearly two stories tall, he is surrounded by the wreckage of his own doing. Cars are piled on top of each other. Buildings have chunks of their walls missing. Roads have been blocked off. Civilians watch in horror. He shouts out a terrible roar.

Valgore: AHAHAHAH! **VALGORE** HAS ESCAPED HIS PATHETIC PRISON ONCE MORE!

Panel 2: In the foreground, a reporter and her cameraman sneakily try to get close to the scene. An young 20-something Asian woman, the reporter stays alert as she attempts to get a great shot of Valgore. Behind them, an unaware Valgore continues to boast and proclaim himself to the public. Laura Lee faces the camera so that her face can be seen.

Valgore: **NORTH CITY**, I COMMAND YOU TO BOW DOWN TO YOUR KING!

Laura Lee: **Laura Lee** here with **Channel 9 News**. The terrible Valgore has taken over **City Square**, and as you can see the scene is devastating.

Panel 3: A close up of Valgore's ugly face as Laura catches his attention. He darts a menacing look her way.

Valgore: WHO DARES TO CROSS VALGORE'S PATH?

Panel 4: He runs over to try to pummel her and her crew. They all scatter fearfully.

Valgore: NO PITIFUL HUMAN IS A MATCH FOR THE SHEER POWER OF VALGORE!

Page 2

Panel 1: Before Valgore can throw his giant meaty fists down, Air-Hawk swoops in and delivers a sharp uppercut to Valgore's chin. He is a young man (college age) of South-Asian/Indian Complexion. He has dark and curly brown hair that flows past his ears. He wears his signature golden mechanical suit and

bronze wings. Along with a brown utility belt, the outfit is topped off with a black domino mask that allows us to see his dark brown eyes.

SFX: POW

Air-Hawk: Not so fast, Val.

Caption 1 (in a light yellow/golden box): Okay, here we go.

Caption 2: My name is **Deo Aurora**, also known as **AIR-HAWK**, and I'm the world's toughest, mightiest, and **only** superhero.

Panel 2: Air-Hawk punches a mutated man in the face. The man's skin is blue and deformed and he is only wearing pants. The man falls back from the blow. They are in a dark warehouse of some sort, with crates around them.

SFX: BAM

Caption: In my day, I've put some bad guys behind bars...

Panel 3: On a dark night and on top of a rooftop, Air-Hawk fights off numerous antagonists who are wielding swords, all dressed in black and nimble tacticle gear. The swords clink and ching against his armor. He falls back, shouting as the swarm of assassins overwhelm him, but manages to knock a few away from him in the process.

SFX: TING CLINK CHING

Caption: Helped bring down a secret assassin's syndicate...

Panel 4: Air-Hawk stands in a bird sanctuary filled with trees and various birds nesting and flying around. He holds up a hawk that rests on his arm, looking at it proudly.

Caption: Started a non-profit to preserve bird habitats...

Panel 5: Someone dressed as Air-Hawk stands on a spotlight stage. They sing an emotional tune.

Caption: And become the subject of a hit Broadway musical.

Page 3

Panel 1: Another close shot of Valgore. With a devious smirk on his face, he wipes blood from his chin.

Valgore: AHA! THE AIR-HAWK HAS COME TO CHALLENGE VALGORE ONCE AGAIN!

Caption: In case you didn't pick up on it, this is **Valgore**. He has a problem of breaking out of maximum security prisons.

Panel 2: On all fours, Valgore begins to charge after Air-Hawk as if he were a bull.

SFX: BADUMBADUMBADUM

Valgore: WELL IF IT'S VALGORE YOU WANT, IT'S VALGORE YOU SHALL GET!

Caption: He's as huge as he is loud, and as he wrecks everything in his path he leaves a stinky, slimy trail of drool.

Panel 3: Valgore rushes Air-Hawk's way, however what Valgore has in size he lacks in speed. As Valgore lashes out his massive claws, Air-Hawk dodges every strike, flying this way and that.

SFX: WHIFF

Air-Hawk: Gonna have to be quicker than that, bud.

Valgore: RRRRRAAAAHHHHHH!!!

Caption: He wasn't always like this though.

Page 4

Panel 1: A man stands in the foreground, scowling and dressed in a black hoodie. Behind him, other similarly dressed characters load some crates into an armored van.

Caption: He used to be **Dwayne Callahan**. He was your average crook, moving illegal goods to make a quick buck.

Panel 2: The same man from before stands in a disheveled apartment. Behind him, people are banging against a locked door trying to get in. He inserts a syringe filled with black liquid into his arm. He grimaces at the pain.

SFX: BANG BANG BANG

Caption 1: Then he tried to sell a top secret chemical that had been stolen from the government.

Caption 2: When the feds inevitably came banging on his door, he injected the chemical into himself with the belief that it would give him some type of invincibility.

Panel 3: The man slowly begins turning into Valgore. His face contorts in a disgusting manner as it turns gray and begins to protrude.

Caption: Somehow he lived, but now he's turned into this **thing** and calls himself Valgore.

Page 5

Panel 1: Valgore finally manages to grab hold of Air-Hawk. Air-Hawk looks down in fear as the tight fists grip his body like a vice.

Valgore: ENOUGH GAMES!

Panel 2: Valgore flings Air-Hawk high into the skyline, sending him crashing onto the roof of a building.

SFX: BLAM!

Panel 3: Having landed on the rooftop, Air-Hawk gets up and dusts himself off. He stands with one knee on the ground and an angered look in his face.

Air-Hawk: So that's how we're playing it today, huh?

Panel 4: In a fury, Valgore meets Air-Hawk at the top of the building. His arms are open wide and he is ready to lash out against Air-Hawk.

Valgore: READY FOR MORE BIRD BOY!?

Panel 5: Air-Hawk swiftly flies from his spot in effort to get behind Valgore. Valgore struggles to keep up and is only able to give Air-Hawk a dumb, stunned look.

SFX: SWOOSH

Caption: All things considered, he's more of a nuisance than anything else.

Panel 6: Air-Hawk gives Valgore a swift kick to his back. Valgore tumbles down in a faceplant to the other side of the rooftop, landing next to a satellite dish.

SFX: WHAM

Caption 1: Sure, he always does some damage to city infrastructure and private property...

Caption 2: But a few blows to the head usually puts him back in his place.

Page 6

Panel 1: Standing in the air, Air-Hawk crosses his arms and gives Valgore a smug look.

Air-Hawk: Are you done yet?

Panel 2: Valgore rips the satellite dish from its bearings. Hot and violent sparks emit from the wreckage. It's a wonder he doesn't electrocute himself.

SFX: PANG SCREECH

Valgore: NEVER!!!

Panel 3: Valgore throws the satellite dish Air-Hawk's way as if it were a frisbee.

Panel 4: Air-Hawk catches the dish mid-flight and using a spin move, he sends it back to Valgore with force.

SFX: FWIFF

Panel 5: The satellite dish nails Valgore right in the face.

SFX: DONG!

Valgore: NNH

Panel 6: Air-Hawk stands proudly chuckling at the sight of it all.

Air-Hawk: Now you're definitely not winning any beauty contests, Val.

Page 7

Panel 1: A close up of Valgore as he gets up. He has a menacing look in his eyes.

Valgore: YOU STILL HAVEN'T BESTED VALGORE YET!

Caption: Despite my efforts, the brute can take a beating.

Panel 2: A wide shot of Valgore rushing towards Air-Hawk again. He runs the length of the rooftop.

Valgore: BBBRRRAAAAAAAAAAHHHH!!!

Panel 3: Air-Hawk simply flies beyond the ledge of the building just out of reach.

Air-Hawk: Catch me if you can.

Caption: I need to be smarter than him...

Panel 4: Valgore jumps over the edge of the building, arms flailing, in an attempt to tackle Air-Hawk. Air-Hawk stands calmly in the sky, confident that he is safe.

Caption: And do better than cheap tricks.

Panel 5: Valgore grabs hold of Air-Hawk's ankle. His giant gray hands completely engulf Air-Hawk's calf.

Panel 6: A close up of Air-Hawk's face as he experiences a mix of fear and shock.

Air-Hawk: Oh no.

Page 8

Panel 1: A long panel that stretches down the length of the page. Air-Hawk and Valgore together fall down the sky line, buildings flashing behind them.

Panel 2: An explosion of sorts occurs as the two form a massive crater in the road. The remains of pavement and dirt fly everywhere.

SFX: BOOM! CRACKLE! THUD!

Panel 3: A bit bruised, Air-Hawk begins to slowly crawl out from the crater, a look of relief on his face.

Panel 4: Air-Hawk now stands up from out the crater, which can still be seen behind him.

Panel 5: Countless representatives from news outlets have now swarmed Air-Hawk, including Laura Lee and her cameraman. He looks at them all with great pride, ready to answer their questions.

Laura Lee: Air-Hawk, that was quite the battle you just had. Do you have any words of hope for this community that has just been ravaged by the destruction?

Air-Hawk: Of course, Laura. You see, Valgore isn't a real threat. He's just a minor annoyance and-

Panel 6: Valgore now crawls out of the hole as well, a disgruntled look in his face. In the foreground people scatter. Air-Hawk stands facing away from Valgore as he urges the civilians to get to safety.

Valgore: **A WHAT!?** THIS IS THE THANKS VALGORE GETS FOR BREAKING YOUR FALL!?

Air-Hawk: Everyone get back!

Page 9

Panel 1: A side view. With Air-Hawk's back turned, Valgore takes advantage of the moment. He punts Air-Hawk, who goes flipping high into the building opposite of where they were standing.

SFX: BOW!

SFX: CRASH

Caption: This time I've really made him angry. The worst thing you can do to Valgore is damage his ego.

Panel 2: Now upside down, Air-Hawk's back slams into a stone wall. He speaks through gritted teeth.

Air-Hawk: That wasn't very nice.

Panel 3: Air-Hawk tries to wring free from his position but can't.

Caption: I can't seem to wriggle free from the wall. Why aren't my wings working?

Panel 3: A shot of Valgore mid-leap as he goes to fetch Air-Hawk.

Caption: Oh crud, here he comes!

Panel 4: Valgore latches onto the building and rips Air-Hawk out of the crevice that he's been stuck in.

Panel 5: Valgore throws Air-Hawk back down onto the road with force

Panel 6: Air-Hawk lands on the road, cracking the pavement from the impact. He winces in pain.

SFX: CRACK!

Caption: I'm not sure if that cracking sound was from the road or me.

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Panel 1: Valgore leaps back down, crushing a car as he lands.

SFX: CRUSH!

Panel 2: Police officers begin shooting at Valgore. Valgore looks at them with annoyance as the bullets bounce off of him.

SFX: POP! POP! POP!

Caption: The cops try their best but it's no use. The guy's basically bullet proof.

Panel 3: A close up worm's eye view. Valgore picks up the car that he crushed and raises it over his head. With his spit flying everywhere, he lets out an ugly roar.

Valgore: RRRRRAAAAHHHHHH!!!

Panel 4: Valgore throws the car in the direction of the police officers who all go diving for cover.

Panel 5: Valgore walks back towards Air-Hawk menacingly, his hand raised in a fist. In the foreground, Air-Hawk is on his hands and knees, slowly beginning to stand up.

Val: YOUR BONES SHALL BE GROUND TO DUST BY THE TIME VALGORE IS THROUGH WITH YOU!

Page 11

Panel 1: Mustering all the strength he can, Air-Hawk attempts to stand up. He cringes as bones pop and muscles strain. He faintly attempts to let out a verbal jab.

SFX: CRACK POP

Air-Hawk (weakly): Oh yeah, you and what army?

Panel 2: All of the work is for nothing. Air-Hawk falls down again, appearing defeated. He now lies in Valgore's shadow.

Caption: That's not my best work. I need to get out of here. Why haven't my emergency wing boosters kicked in?

Panel 3: Valgore picks up Air-Hawk, an evil smile on his face. Air-Hawk looks helpless.

Panel 4: Valgore holds Air-Hawk in one hand as he raises his fist with the other. He prepares to deal Air-Hawk the final blow.

Val: TIME TO MEET YOUR MAKER, AIR-HAWK!

Panel 5: Worm's Eye view. A metal canister lightly bounces by Valgore's feet. He relaxes his stance but still holds Air-Hawk. He looks down at the canister in confusion.

SFX: TING TING TING

Val: HUH!?

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Panel 1: Worm's Eye View. The canister pops open and gray gas comes billowing out. Valgore drops Air-Hawk and backs away in fear.

SFX: POP TTSSSSSS

Val: NO! NO! VALGORE REFUSES TO RETURN TO THAT PUNY CELL!

Panel 2: A close up shot as Valgore breathes in the gas through his nose. His eyes open wide and his pupils dilate. He gasps for fresh air.

SFX: *snifffff*

Panel 3: Valgore stumbles around, stupidly fighting the effects of the gas. His eyelids droop down and his voice falters off. Armored guards begin to swarm him. They are equipped with armored clothes, helmets, guns, and ventilators.

Val: VALGORE WILL DESTROY YOU! VALGORE WILL Destroy...you...all...

Panel 4: Valgore passes out with a big thud and falls into a deep sleep. He drools all over the road. One of the guards checks his pulse and breathing.

SFX: THUD

Guard 1: All clear!

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Panel 1: Another guard helps Air-Hawk up. She latches onto Air-Hawk's hand with hers and hoists him to a standing position .

Guard 2: Sorry we were late, Air-Hawk. Roads were a mess.

Air-Hawk (giving the guard a weak smile): Better late than never.

Panel 2: The guard gestures towards Air-Hawk's appearance. He is bruised and his armor is damaged. In the background, a crane is lifting Valgore's unconscious body onto a trailer.

Guard 2: You look a mess. Go take care of yourself. We've got it from here Air-Hawk.

Panel 3: Air-Hawk gives the guard a kind yet exhausted smile.

Air-Hawk: Thanks. Stay safe out there and let me know if you have any trouble.

Panel 4: Air-Hawk shoots off into the sky, stirring up debris around his take off point. In the air, Air-Hawk's wing boosters weakly sputter after the damage they received in the fight, leaving a trail of short streaks of smoke.

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Panel 1: An aerial view of South City, specifically of the headquarters of the South City Press. The building is capped off by an elegant sign on the top.

Editor: Well, here we are again...

Panel 2: In a conference room, many journalists sit around a long table. At the head of the table, a large, bulky black man stands powerfully. This is the editor.

Editor: Air-Hawk versus Valgore. It's the same old story, but I want a fresh take. Thoughts?

Panel 3: A few eager journalists throw out some ideas. They are a diverse cast of characters. One young, white, male character with wispy brown hair sits in the back. He looks like he is fresh out of college. With his arms crossed, he fails to hide his annoyance.

Journalist 1: How about "Catastrophe in North City Square".

Journalist 2: Or "The Air-Hawk Versus Valgore Saga Continues".

Panel 4: With his hand on his chin as he stands thinking, the editor shakes his head in disapproval.

Editor: Have any of you written a headline before? None of that will catch anyone's attention.

Panel 5: Focus on the annoyed reporter from before. He leans back in his chair staring at the ceiling, exhausted from everyone else's commentary. This is Michael Adams.

Michael: I say it should be "Air-Hawk Flies Too Close to the Sun".

Panel 6: The Editor looks Michael's way with a hint of a smirk on his face.

Editor: If it isn't **Michael Adams** finally contributing something.

Page 15

Panel 1: Michael sits up straight in his chair, surprised at the attention he's receiving. All eyes are on him.

Editor: Well son, we're listening.

Panel 2: Michael begins speaking passionately.

Michael: Think about it: Over the years we've done nothing but glorify Air-Hawk. Sure, he's earned his time in the spotlight on occasion, but recently he's lost his edge.

Panel 4: Michael is now standing, speaking to the whole room. The Editor listens intently with his hand on his chin.

Micheal: He can barely fight Valgore these days, someone he basically described as more of a joke than a supervillain.

Panel 5: A shot of the rest of the reporters as they listen to Michael

Michael: It's time the press stops blindly honoring this guy and starts holding him accountable.

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Panel 1: Focus on the editor as he looks Michael's way with a grin on his face.

Editor: I like it. I want the story on my desk by the end of the day. We'll publish it first thing in the morning.

Panel 2: Michael is shocked.

Michael: The end of the day, *today*?

Panel 3: The Editor begins to gather his things and leave the room.

Editor: That's what I said, didn't I? Someone's gotta get this story out before Laure Lee does.

Panel 4: Everyone else stands up and prepares to leave the room as well. Michael continues to sit in his chair, elated and stunned. One reporter puts their hand on his shoulder as they pass behind him.

Michael looks up at them with pride.

Journalist 3: Good job, today!

Michael: Thanks

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Panel 1: Night time in a bedroom illuminated by moonlight. Air-Hawk (Deo Aurora) lies in bed sleeping. His shirt is off. He tosses and turns restlessly. His dreams seem to haunt him as he expresses a face of concern.

Panel 2: Valgore holds Air-Hawk by the throat with one hand as he raises his fist with the other. He prepares to deal Air-Hawk the final blow. Air-Hawk tries to wriggle free, desperately fighting for air. In addition to that, he is greatly bruised and injured. His wings appear broken and inoperable as well.

Valgore: HAHAAHAHA! AT LONG LAST, IT IS TIME...

Panel 3: Valgore has been switched with a different villain. Focus on the man's face as he continues choking Air-Hawk. He is a large and buff South Asian/Indian man who has short, slicked back gray hair and a white beard. He wears a black and red armored suit with a red cape. He stares into Air-Hawk's eyes with an evil grin on his face.

Villain: ...to meet your maker, Air-Hawk.

Panel 4: Focus on Air-Hawk's beat up face. He expresses a great sense of fear and horror.

Air-Hawk: *ghuk*

Panel 5: The Dark Soul deals the final blow to Air-Hawk. Great shock waves are produced by the punch.

SFX: KRAKOOOM

Panel 6: Deo jolts up from bed in a panic.

Deo: *gasp*

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Panel 1: Still sitting up, Deo puts his head in hands. He sits in a sorrowful position.

Caption: The nightmares are back.

Panel 2: Deo fills up a glass of water.

Caption: That was maybe the worst one yet.

Panel 3: Deo sits in bed and takes a sip of the water.

Caption: People say I'm a hero, but it's really the suit that does all the work.

Panel 4: With the glass of water in one hand, Deo looks at his phone with the other. The blue electronic light glows against his face.

Caption: I was able to repair the suit today, but I can't have it fail on me like that.

Panel 5: Focus on Deo's phone. He looks at a picture. The picture is of him and a friend. His friend is a young black male about his age who has short twisted and chopped braids. The two boys hold their arms around each other.

Caption: I'm only human, and it's hard doing this all alone.

Page 19

Panel 1: Night time. An aerial view of North City, specifically **Kinesthetic Research Labs**. The building is capped off by a sleek sign on the top.

Panel 2: A shot of the backs of two men in lab coats. They are waiting on an elevator. One holds a coffee, an asian man and the younger looking of the two. The other holds a few notebooks and a clipboard. He is a white man man with gray hair and a gray goatee.

Young Scientist: See that stuff about the girl that's gone missing?

Old Scientist: What was her name? **Emilia**?

Panel 3: The two men enter the elevator. Now we see their faces.

Young Scientist: Yeah, I just can't get over it. She's just a kid.

Old Scientist: Between what we see in this lab and what we see in the news, how can you really be surprised?

Panel 4: One of the scientists presses the elevator button that will take them to the bottom floor.

SFX: CLICK

Young Scientist: Fair enough. Hey, do you think the **big guy** will be in a good mood today?

Panel 5: Old Scientist looks over at his colleague with intrigue.

Old Scientist: Would you be if you were in his condition?

Page 20

Panel 1: The elevator door opens and the two men exit.

Young Scientist: No, can't say I would.

Panel 2: A shot from behind the two men as they approach two large steel doors. The doors are labeled with yellow stripes and say CAUTION: HAZARDOUS AREA.

Panel 3: Old Scientist punches in a code on a keypad next to the two doors.

SFX: BEEP BEEP BEEP

Panel 4: Side shot of the two scientists as they begin to walk through the opening doors.

Young Scientist: Who knows, maybe we'll have a breakthrough today.

Panel 5: The two men enter a large laboratory room. At the center of it is a large, circular, glass cage containing a giant humanoid rock monster. The rock monster sits in the cage on the floor, his back facing the audience. He looks behind himself as he hears people entering the room. His face is akin to a human's but is made of stone. He wears a black and red super suit. He looks angry.

Old Scientist: I doubt it.

Allegiance

Genesis: Chapter 2

Written by Ben Sunding

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Previously, Air-Hawk took on Valgore in a destructive showdown that nearly ended in disaster. Michael Adams, a reporter for the South City Press, wrote an article about the battle which sparked a public debate concerning Air-Hawk's declining performance. Meanwhile, a rocky creature angrily sits in a cage within the depths of Kinesthetic Research Labs. Air-Hawk fears that he can't continue his quest for safety and justice alone, but is there anyone who will step up to join him?

Page 1

Panel 1: An aerial view of a run down city. Buildings have crumbled. Those which haven't look as though they could fall apart at any moment. Ivy crawls across their cracked structures

Caption: Our home was in **shambles...**

Caption: And our **hope** was all but lost.

Panel 2: A few people sit distanced from each other on the cracked sidewalk. Weeds grow through the cracks. In the middle of the road there are abandoned cars which have been greatly damaged.

Caption: None of us knew how to move forward...

Panel 3: The same shot and perspective as Panel 2. This time the weeds have been pulled from the sidewalk and people are walking along it. The abandoned cars have been removed and cars are driving down the road. The buildings that line the road have scaffolding around them and construction workers fixing them. The ivy has been removed and many cracks have been repaired.

Caption: But it was **Dr. Richard Hawkins** who helped lead the charge rebuilding not just our city...

Caption: But that very hope.

Page 2

Panel 1: A bird's eye view of an artistic looking building at night.

Caption: And so, tonight we gather to honor those...

Panel 2: A dimly lit room packed with people in the foreground. The people sit at circular tables topped with white table cloths. They are all dressed in formal wear. In the background, an elderly white woman stands on a well lit stage, speaking into a microphone. Behind her is a large screen with an image of a modern city filled with beautiful skyscrapers. There is a large banner on the top of the stage which reads "THE HAWKINS AWARD FOR SCIENTIFIC ACHIEVEMENT"

Caption: Who continue the noble work which Dr. Hawkins began with the **Rebuild Initiative**.

Panel 3: Jane Carter is sitting in between her mother and father. She is about 18 or so, fresh into college. She looks stunning. She has dark brown skin and long brown hair that goes just past her shoulders. She is wearing a beautiful black dress. She slouches in her chair with her arms crossed, an annoyed look on her face. Meanwhile her mother is angrily telling her off. She is a round black woman with a round face and round glasses. Her hair is in a bob cut and she is wearing a white, woman's suit. Her father sits on the other side of her. He is a black man that is a bit overweight, with balding black hair and a thick mustache. He wears a three piece suit.

Mother: Quit your pouting. I didn't send you to a private university just for you to slouch in a chair on the most important night of your life.

Jane: You mean the most important night of **your** life.

Panel 4: Jane's mother scolds her. Her father leans in and interjects.

Mother: Don't give me that attitude! Your father and I have worked too hard for you to look bad now.

Father: You two stop it. Can't we have some peace, at least for tonight?

Panel 5: Jane stands up and looks at her mother with discontent.

Jane: I think I need to get some air.

Page 3

Panel 1: Jane walks outside of the back of the building. The area is not as pretty as the inside of the building. There are crates piled around, iridescent oil puddles, and a dim street lamp.

Caption (in a light purple/lavender box): My name is **Jane Carter**. My life has been all about straight A's and a perfect GPA.

Panel 2: Jane pulls a box of cigarettes out of her clutch purse.

Caption 1: My parents say if I put my head down and study hard, I'll be rewarded with a good career.

Caption 2: But that's not what I want.

Panel 3: Jane stands against a wall. She lights the cigarette while it still hangs from her mouth. Someone she didn't notice before addresses her.

SFX: CLICK

Word Bubble: That's a nasty habit, you know?

Panel 4: Jane looks to her left in shock. A large black man in a formal tux stands against the wall a few feet away from her. He has a smooth bald head and a black goatee.

Jane: Oh my gosh! Dr. Hawkins, w-what are you doing out here?

Panel 5: Focus on Dr. Hawkins' face. He is looking at Jane and smiling.

Dr. Hawkins: I like to have a moment to myself before these ceremonies

Panel 6: Jane shakes Dr. Hawkins' hand with great excitement.

Jane: Oh, uhm, I'll let you go, but it's so great to meet you! Your work on the Rebuild initiative, it really helped a lot of people.

Page 4

Panel 1: Looking at Dr. Hawkins' face again. Now he looks at Jane rather inquisitively.

Dr. Hawkins: It should be me complimenting **your** work, Ms. Carter. Discovering a **new mineral** is rather impressive.

Dr. Hawkins: Speaking of which, why are you out here and not inside being rightfully honored?

Panel 2: Jane holds her cigarette out. She has a disappointed face.

Jane: I... needed some space.

Panel 3: Dr. Hawkins looks away into the distance with a smirk on his face.

Dr. Hawkins: Parents can be hard to deal with.

Panel 4: Jane looks back at Dr. Hawkins with confusion. Dr. Hawkins looks back at Jane, chuckling.

Jane: What? How did you-

Dr. Hawkins: Jane, you're forgetting that I was your age once too.

Page 5

Panel 1: Jane looks up to the night sky with a frustrated face.

Jane: They make everything about themselves. They're only proud of me when I meet their expectations. They don't care to ask what **I** want.

Panel 2: Dr. Hawkins continues looking at Jane curiously.

Dr. Hawkins: And what is it that you want?

Panel 3: Jane looks back at Dr. Hawkins, speaking with passion.

Jane: I want to run away from it all! All of the school, and the stress, and the stupid awards! I just want one day to be **free**. One day to be **normal**.

Page 6

Panel 1: Dr. Hawkins stands in front Jane with his hands in his pockets. He has a smile on his face.

Dr. Hawkins: Why don't we get out of here?

Panel 2: Jane looks up at Dr. Hawkins with insecurity.

Jane: What? No, I have to receive this award.

Panel 3: Dr. Hawkins looks at Jane with amusement.

Dr. Hawkins: You're forgetting that I'm the one who gives out the awards. Do you really want to sit through two hours of pretentious speeches?

Panel 4: Jane looks away from Dr. Hawkins, still unsure.

Jane: What would we even do?

Panel 5: Dr. Hawkins puts his hand on Jane's shoulder.

Dr. Hawkins: I'm a millionaire scientist. What **couldn't** we do?

Page 7

Panel 1: An elderly white woman with white hair stands on the stage. In front of her is a microphone.

Woman: And now the moment we've all been waiting for. The Richard Hawkins Award for Scientific Excellence goes to Jane Carter!

Panel 2: A zoomed out shot of the woman. She begins to look a bit confused.

Woman: Jane Carter? Is Jane Carter in the building?

Panel 3: Jane's mother and father are shown. They look worried.

Woman: And where is Dr. Hawkins?

Page 8

Panel 1: The sun slowly rises over North City and South City. Traffic is clogged along the bridge that connects the two cities. Many people are stuck in line trying to pay the toll into North City. Below the bridge is a wide river, glistening in the morning sunlight.

Panel 2: Michael is in the left side driver's seat of his car and speaking to the toll worker, Lawrence. Lawrence is a skinny, black man that is not too much older than Michael. He is wearing a toll worker's uniform and greets Michael as an old friend. At the toll station, there is a missing poster with a girl's picture. She is a skinny white girl that has straight blonde hair, deep blue eyes, and freckles. She is in her late teens or early 20s. The sign reads MISSING at the top and EMILIA ROBINSON at the bottom.

Lawrence: If it isn't my man, Michael!

Michael: How's it going, Lawrence?

Panel 3: Focus on Lawrence. He seems very happy to be speaking with Michael.

Lawrence: Same stuff, different day. Hey, I read that Air-Hawk piece you wrote!

Michael: Yeah? What did you think?

Panel 4: Lawrence leans back in his chair and crosses his arms. He has a face of discontent.

Lawrence: It's about time someone called out that clown if you ask me.

Panel 5: Michael begins sifting through his wallet, smiling.

Michael: Heh, I thought so too. What's the toll these days? Two dollars?

Page 9

Panel 1: Lawrence gestures to a sign with the price of the toll listed.

Lawrence: Nope, they just raised it to four!

Michael: Four dollars just to get into **North City**!?

Panel 2: Lawrence leans in towards Michael, laughing.

Lawrence: I think that they're mad because a **South City** native just wrote a slam piece about their bird in shining armor.

Panel 3: A car behind Michael honks their horn and the two jump at the sound of it.

SFK: HONK!

Panel 4: Michael hands Lawrence the cash.

Michael: I guess I gotta run. I'm heading to the lab for their annual showcase.

Panel 5: Michael drives away and Lawrence shouts after him, waving and grinning ear to ear.

Lawrence: Don't get turned into a mutated monster while you're down there!

Page 10

Panel 1: An aerial view of Kinesthetic Research Labs. It is a sleek, modern building that has a sign with a minimalist design at the top.

Panel 2: Michael approaches the front desk. A nicely dressed man of Arabic descent greets him. Michael shows the secretary his press identification badge.

Secretary: How can I help you, sir?

Michael: I'm Michael Adams with The South City Press. I'm here for the showcase.

Panel 3: The secretary smiles at Michael kindly and points him in the right direction.

Secretary: Of course! Follow the signs to the main conference room.

Panel 4: Michael enters the conference room. It is a great room that is packed full of people. Some folks are mingling about, but many are sitting in rows of chairs. A stage with a podium and a white curtain stands before the diverse audience. The curtain is labeled with the logo of Kinesthetic Research Labs.

Page 11

Panel 1: A Ukrainian woman in a nice dress stands on the stage by the podium. She has light brown skin and flowing dark hair. This is **Dr. Mila Petrovich**, the Director of Operations at **Kinesthetic Research Labs**. In the foreground people begin sitting down.

Dr. Petrovich: Everyone please find your seats. The showcase is about to begin.

Panel 2: The Director continues on. Focus on her more than the audience now.

Dr. Petrovich: For those of you I haven't had the pleasure of meeting, my name is **Dr. Mila Petrovich**, Director of Operations here at **Kinesthetic Research Labs**. I am very excited about showing you all that we've accomplished this year.

Panel 3: Focus on Michael. He holds a face of discontent, disappointed that he won't be able to see what the lab has really been up to. He mutters under his breath.

Dr. Petrovich: That said, all that you will see today are mere fractions of our work. The most fascinating experiments are being done downstairs as we speak.

Michael: Pfft. Of course they are...

Panel 4: Michael spots Laura Lee who is leaving the conference room. He observes her with intrigue.

Dr. Petrovich: I'd also like to thank Dr. Richard Hawkins who isn't able to join us this morning.

Panel 5: Michael leaves the conference room, tailing Laura. The director continues speaking.

Dr. Petrovich: His dedication and generosity supports us greatly, and for that we thank him.

Page 12

Panel 1: Michael cautiously follows Laura, trying not to be seen by her. They both walk through the main lobby.

Panel 2: Michael follows Laura into a stairwell. He looks down through the series of steps as Laura walks down into the depths of the facility.

Panel 3: Michael opens a door to a pristine white corridor. It is a long hallway with many wings. It looks like something out of 2001: A Space Odyssey. Michael looks around as though he's lost Laura.

Panel 4: Michael begins to walk through the corridor with a look of determination. He whispers to himself.

Michael: Alright, Laura Lee. Show me where the **real** story is.

Page 13

Panel 1: Laura steps out from around a connecting corner, blocking Michael's way. This startles Michael and he jumps back.

Laura: Following me are you?

Michael: What? I was... just looking for the bathroom.

Panel 2: Laura points her finger in Michael's face in anger. Michael appears taken aback.

Laura: Sure. That's just like a white guy, riding the tailcoats of a successful Asian woman, huh?

Panel 3: Footsteps echo through the corridor, catching Michael's attention but not Laura's.

Laura: Don't just stand there and look stupid. What do you have to say for yourself?

Panel 4: Michael guides Laura away from the footsteps which are only getting closer.

Michael: Someone's coming! We have to hide.

Page 14

Panel 1: Michael pushes Laura into an open room. He looks in the direction of which the footsteps are coming from with fright. He begins to hear voices.

Laura: Don't push me!

Word Bubble: Anyways, by converting it to a gas, I was able to dilute the toxins.

Panel 2: Michael and Laura are now in a small room. The room has white walls like the rest of the area, but it also has a big window. Michael and Laura crouch under the window so as to not be seen. In the middle of the room is a small metal table with a cage of mice on top. Laura shoves Michael away from her. Michael shushes Laura. Michael sits to the right of the panel while Laura sits to the left, closer to the door they entered from.

Laura: Get away from me! You're so sweaty.

Michael: Stop talking!

Word Bubble: No more toxins means no more brainwashing.

Panel 3: Through the window, we see two scientists speaking with each other. One is a young latina woman wearing glasses. The other is an older white man with curly gray hair. They are both wearing lab coats. Under the window, Laura and Michael still crouch down. The older white man holds up a vile of a bright green liquid, inspecting it. The young latina woman stands proudly before him.

Older man: Good work, kid. If only someone had thought of this years ago.

Panel 4: Now on the other side of the window, we see that the scientists are standing by a control panel right in front of the window. The man kindly hands the vile back to the younger woman. He gestures to a part of the control board.

Older man: If you prep the conversion, I'll get the vents ready to go.

Panel 5: Focus on the woman's hand as she inserts the vile into the control board. She locks it onto a piece labeled ATOMIC CONVERTOR.

SFX: CLICK

Page 15

Panel 1: In the foreground is the table with the cage of mice. Laura points in the direction of the table with a face of curiosity.

Laura: What do you think these mice are for?

Panel 2: Focus on Michael's face as he stares at the mice with confusion.

Panel 3: Air begins to blow from vents at the top of the room.

Word Bubble: Vents are all set. Go ahead and latch the chamber door and then we can release the solution into the system.

Panel 4: Michael looks back at Laura with great fear.

Michael: We're in a gas room!

Page 16

Panel 1: Back down at the low levels of Kinesthetic Research Labs, the rock monster bangs against the walls of his glass prison. He is angry and shouting. This is Amir Cham, but of course the audience doesn't know that yet. He wears his black and red supersuit.

SFX: BANG BANG

Amir: When are you going to let me out!!!

Panel 2: The young asian scientist from the last issue stands away from the glass prison, slowly backing up. He is cautious and is trying to reassure Amir.

Young Scientist: I know it's scary being in there-

Panel 3: The rock monster snarls at the young scientist.

Amir: You have no idea what it's like being in this cage!

Panel 4: The older scientist from the last issue enters the frame.

Old Scientist: We've been over this before. We can't release you until we know exactly what you are and how to help you.

Panel 5: The rock monster yells at the scientist in a fury. The two scientists stand back in fear.

Amir: I'm getting tired of the same answers, old man!

Page 17

Panel 1: The rock monster begins fiercely punching the glass. Shock waves are sent out with each punch. The two scientists are knocked back by the forceful vibrations.

SFX: BOOM!

Amir: I've tried being nice! I've tried cooperating!

Panel 2: The rock monster continues punching the glass. The glass begins to crack.

SFX: CRACK!

Amir: But if **you** won't let me out...

Panel 3: With one final punch, the rock monster breaks out of the glass prison in a rage. Glass and pieces of the prison go flying everywhere. The two scientists flee the scene with fear.

SFX: POW!

Amir: I'll do it **myself!**

Page 18

Panel 1: An establishing shot of Dr. Hawkins high-dollar mansion.

Panel 2: Jane sits up from lying in bed within an elegant room. The sheets are messy as though someone else was in bed with her but left. She puts her hand up to her head wincing in pain. The room has cream colored walls and wood trimming. The sun illuminates the room and her white bed sheets. She slowly opens her eyes. Next to the bed is a night stand holding an empty liquor bottle on top as well as Jane's cellphone.

Jane: ugh...

Panel 3: Jane picks up her phone to check her messages. Focus on Jane's phone as she sifts through her notifications on her lock screen. She has several missed calls from her Mom and Dad.

Panel 4: Jane plops back down onto the bed. She covers her face with her hands.

Jane: Dr. Hawkins, my parents are going to kill me.

Panel 5: A loud noise comes from another room. The noise startles Jane. She sits up and looks over in its direction. It is coming from the direction of the bedroom door.

SFX: THUD! THUD!

Jane: Dr. Hawkins?

Page 19

Panel 1: Jane slowly opens the bedroom door. It leads down a long elegant hallway with a similar design as the room. The hallway is fairly dark, yet illuminated by some of the sunlight from the windows. Jane appears curious, yet scared.

Caption: Every morning at school, I start my day with my Bio Lab.

Panel 2: Jane continues walking down the hallway cautiously.

Caption: That lasts about an hour, but I usually stay late so I can help my professor grade assignments.

Panel 3: Jane hears the noise again and jumps.

SFX: THUD! THUD!

Caption: Afterwards, I get a break to study before heading to my Geology Lab.

Panel 4: Jane looks in the direction in which the noise came from. She sees an open door leading into the library room. It has a nice leather couch and walnut desk. Books are scattered across the floor. This room is dark because the curtains are drawn, but an ominous white light coming from the right illuminates the room.

Caption: That's the class where I discovered it. A new mineral called **Agrueneum**.

Page 20

Panel 1: Jane steps into the room from the hallway, her face becoming illuminated from the light as well.

Caption: I then attend some other classes that vary depending on the day, but I always end with Chemistry.

Panel 2: Now in the room, Jane stands in front of a secret entrance. A bookcase has split in two to open the secret entrance. The secret entrance is the source of the white light. To her right, is the door that she entered from.

Caption: I start my day in a lab and I end my day in a lab.

Panel 3: Jane cautiously walks down black metal steps into a white laboratory. There are tables with chemicals and tools. She looks very concerned.

Caption: I work with my professors and my classmates to dig into tough questions.

Caption: I'm continuously surrounded by some of the best scientific minds in the world.

Panel 4: Jane's face is shown looking in horror.

Caption: Together, we always find the answer.

Page 21

Panel 1: Dr. Hawkins is shown hunched over an operation table. He looks angry and menacing. Strapped to the table is a small, thin white girl with long blonde hair dressed in a hospital gown. It's Emilia Robinson, the girl from the posters. Dr. Hawkins appears to be operating on a tiny device attached to the side of the girl's head.

Caption: My name is Jane Carter...

Panel 2: Jane stands paralyzed with a terrified look on her face.

Caption: And for the first time in my life...

Jane: Oh my god!

Panel 3: Dr. Hawkins quickly turns around as he is caught red handed.

Caption: I **don't** have the answer...

Dr. Hawkins: **Jane!**

Allegiance

Genesis: Chapter 3

Written by Ben Sunding

Art by

Lettering by

Created by Ben Sunding

Previously, Jane Carter became famous for discovering a new mineral called Agrueneum. Before being honored for this achievement, she fled the scene to spend the night with esteemed scientist Dr. Richard Hawkins. But Dr. Hawkins has secrets that Jane never would have expected. Meanwhile at Kinesthetic Research Labs, a rocky creature begins to break out of his prison as Michael finds himself in an experimentation chamber with famous reporter Laura Lee.

Side Note for the Artist: Every time Emilia uses her powers, amber light emanates from her hands and whatever she is levitating

Page 1

Panel 1: The rock monster rages as he breaks out of his prison. Pieces of his cage go flying everywhere. He lets out a cathartic roar. The two scientists duck for cover.

SFX: SMASH

Amir: **RAAAAAHHHHH!!!**

Caption (in a light red box): My name is **Amir Cham**.

Panel 2: The young scientist rushes to push a bright red button on the wall labeled CODE X.

SFX: CLICK

Caption: I've been held captive down here for **6 months**.

Panel 3: A red siren light begins flashing on and off, illuminating all of the room. The rock monster steps through the room while the scientists rush around. The room vibrates with every step the monster takes.

SFX: FACILITY UNDER CODE X FACILITY UNDER X

SFX: THUD THUD

Caption: The doctors say they want to help me, but nothing has been working.

Page 2

Panel 1: The old scientist picks up an intercom device and begins desperately shouting into the microphone.

Old Scientist: Code X on Floor Zero!!! The patient has broken out! I repeat Code X on Floor Zero!!! We need an immediate evacuation!

Caption: They don't understand what's happened to me, and how I became this **monster**.

Panel 2: The rock monster kicks down the large doors that enter into the lab. The now damaged doors fly into the hallway.

SFX: KATHOOM

Caption: If I'm being honest, I don't quite understand it either. My memories are hazy.

Panel 3: The rock monster approaches the elevator and grabs hold of the entire door frame, crumbling it in his massive fists.

SFX: CRACK CRRRRREAAKK

Caption: What I do know is that I'm angry, scared, and confused all at the same time.

Panel 4: He rips the elevator doors out of the wall, throwing them into the opposite wall, causing a significant impact

SFX: BAHBAM

Caption: And the more I feel these things, the more my condition gets worse.

Panel 5: The rock monster begins to climb through the elevator shaft. He grabs onto the walls, his hands strong enough to create holds in the cement. With every grab he makes a rumbling sound.

SFX: POOM POOM

Caption: I gave the doctors a chance, but now it's time to fix things myself.

Amir: Going up!

Page 3

Panel 1: Meanwhile, upstairs in the control room with Michael and Laura, the female scientist turns a key and presses a bright green button on the control board.

SFX: CLICK BEEP

Younger Woman: Latching the door and initiating the experiment.

Panel 2: In the gas experimentation room, Michael pushes Laura Lee out of the testing room, just as the sliding door begins to close.

Michael: Get out of here!

Panel 3: Just as Laura escapes the testing chamber, a sliding glass door closes right before Michael can get out. Michael smashes into the door.

SFX: SHOOP

SFX: THUMP!

Michael: No! No! No!

Panel 4: The scientists in the control room finally notice Michael and Laura. The red lights begin flashing in the room and the male scientist looks around, confused as to what is going on. The woman looks into the testing chamber. She points at Michael with great shock.

SFX: FACILITY UNDER CODE X FACILITY UNDER X

Younger Woman: There's someone in the chamber!

Older Man: What the hell?

Panel 5: Michael begins to bang on the glass window towards the control center. He shouts for his life. His eyes are filled with fear and worry.

SFX: BANG BANG BANG

Michael: Hey! You have to let me out!

Page 4

Panel 1: The younger female covers her mouth and stands watching in horror. She begins crying.

Younger Woman: T-There's nothing I can do. The door stays locked until the experiment is complete. There's no way to override it.

Panel 2: The older male scientist walks up to the window and begins calmly instructing Michael on what he can do.

Older Man: Sir, a hazardous gas is beginning to enter the room.

Panel 3: A bright green gas begins to enter from the air vents within the testing chamber.

SFX: HHHHHSSSSSSSSS

Older Man: You're going to need to hold your breath until the gas fades away.

Panel 4: Gas continues entering the chamber. It fills the room more and more. Michael continues banging his fists on the glass window. Tears well down his face.

SFX: BANG! BANG! BANG!

Michael: Please! You have to get me out of here!

Panel 5: Laura Lee watches the whole spectacle in shock and horror. Tears stream down her face.

Page 5

Panel 1: Michael is in the chamber surrounded by the gas. He is kneeling down. He puts his hands on his head in worry.

Michael: This can't be happening to me...

Panel 2: Michael begins inhaling the gas. The gas can be seen entering Michael through his nostrils. His eyes dilate and he becomes overwhelmed with shock.

SFX: SSSNNNIFFFFF

Panel 3: Michael collapses. He grabs his chest, shouting and wincing due to the pain.

Michael: AAAAAAHHHHHH!

Panel 4: Michael rolls around on the floor helplessly. His face becomes red with anguish.

Michael: My lungs! They burn!

Panel 5: Michael looks up and opens his eyes. They are bloodshot and filled with tears. His face is red and his veins are popping out.

Michael: Get me out of here!!

Page 6

Panel 1: Michael's entire body burst in flames. Red lasers shoot out of his eyes, like Superman. He screams in a fury.

SFX: FFFWWWOOOOOM!

Michael: **AAAAAAAAAHHHHHH!!!!**

Panel 2: Laura desperately confronts the two scientists who look upon the spectacle in horror. The light from Michael's flames reflects off of their faces.

Laura: Please, you have to do something! How can you just stand there!?

Panel 3: Focus on the male scientist who continues to look Michael's way, mesmerized, unable to take his eyes off him. He speaks his words as though he were in a trance.

Older Man: It's- It's too late. His conversion is already complete.

Panel 4: Still on fire, Michael looks at his body in horror.

Michael: Someone has to help me!

Panel 5: Michael looks back through the window, shouting at them once more.

Michael: **HELP ME!!!**

Page 7

Panel 1: The rock monster comes crashing through the walls of the same control room that the other characters are in. The scientist and Laura all duck for cover.

SFX: CRASH!!!

Caption: Kinesthetic Research Labs is known for having the best scientists in the business.

Panel 2: The rock monster then rushes through the experimentation room that Michael is in. Michael blocks his face as debris and glass go flying everywhere. The gas begins to dissipate from the room.

SFX: BAM!

Caption: Apparently their **Emergency Task Force** found me unconscious after I supposedly destroyed a warehouse.

Panel 3: Three armored guards rush into the room. They run through the rock monster's wreckage as they chase after him. They aim their guns and prepare to take fire.

Guard #1: One more step and we're going to start shooting!

Caption: They weren't sure what to do with me, so they locked me up, saying it was for "my safety and the safety of others."

Panel 4: Michael, still on fire, steps in the way. He waves his arms back and forth. Everyone else in the control room hunkers down

Michael: Don't shoot! There's innocent people here!

Caption: Well, now the very people who talked about keeping me safe are pointing a gun at me.

Panel 5: The guards begin to panic at the sight of Michael.

Guard #1: Stand down, sir, that's an order!

Guard #2: We will shoot if you do not comply!

Caption: I can't say I'm surprised. They're scared. I'd probably do the same thing if I were in their position.

Page 8

Panel 1: Michael begins to look worried. He holds his hands up in the air to show his innocence,

Michael: What? There's no need to shoot, I'm telling you-

Caption: But now I don't know who to trust.

Panel 2: The guards continue to fiercely take aim.

Guard #1: I'm going to count down from 3 and if you're not on your knees with your hands on your head my team **will** fire! 3-

Caption: And I don't even know what the deal is with the guy next to me.

Panel 3: Michael becomes overwhelmed with fear.

Michael: Please! This is all a mistake!

Guard #1: 2-

Caption: For all I know, the researchers caused all of this...

Panel 4: Laura stands up from the ground to interject.

Laura: What is wrong with you!? He's not hurting anyone!

Guard #1: 1-

Caption: And I'm sure he's a victim too.

Panel 5: The guard orders his team to fire and they begin to shoot towards Michael and Amir.

SFX: PAHPAHPAHPAHPAHPAH

Guard #1: FIRE!

Page 9

Panel 1: Amir lunges forward, blocking the bullets from hitting Michael. They simply bounce off his rocky skin.

Amir: NOOO!!!

Panel 2: Still standing in front of Michael, Amir extends his arms all the way across the room. As bullets hit Amir, pieces of rock fall off his body.

Amir: Let's see how you like it when someone messes with you!

Panel 3: Amir uses his giant hands to grab the bodies of the guards. They try to wriggle free to no avail.

Panel 4: Amir smashes the guards into the walls, knocking them out.

SFX: WAPOW

Guards: Ugh, Nnn, Guh

Page 10

Panel 1: Michael looks at Amir with confusion

Michael: You... saved me.

Panel 2: Amir hears more guards that are preparing to rush the room again.

Guards: I hear them just around the corner!

Amir: It'll mean nothing if we don't get out of here.

Panel 3: Amir punches through a wall with great ferocity and the two begin to make a break for it.

SFX: BLAM!

Page 11

Panel 1: Jane begins to run back up the stairs but Dr. Hawkins grips onto her arm. She looks back at him anxiously.

Jane: I have to go now!

Dr. Hawkins: Please, no!

Panel 2: Dr. Hawkins turns Jane around forcing her to look at him. Her eyes are big and her mouth is open in terror.

Dr. Hawkins: I wanted you to see this, Jane.

Panel 3: Dr. Hawkins face is focused on. He looks flustered and nervous.

Dr. Hawkins: I brought you here so you could help me.

Panel 4: Dr. Hawkins brings Jane over to a counter. In a glass case is a large glowing, jagged, purple rock. His arm is wrapped around Jane's torso tightly and his hand holds onto her head, forcing Jane to look at the rock. Jane appears wildly uncomfortable and tries to break free from his grip. The purple glow of the rock illuminates their faces.

Dr. Hawkins: The mineral you discovered, **Agrueneum**, it is more powerful than you know. We can use it to change the world, and create something that man has never seen before.

Jane: Let me go!!

Panel 5: Dr. Hawkins then turns Jane to look at the girl on the table.

Dr. Hawkins: I'm building a new type of human. One with advanced abilities and powers unmatched by anyone in history...

Panel 6: Dr. Hawkins pushes Jane onto an inverted table that stands vertically. She squirms and tries her best to fight back yet cannot escape his clutches. Using a buckle attached to the table, Dr. Hawkins begins securing Jane onto the table.

SFX: CLICK BUCKLE

Dr. Hawkins: And I need **you** to be my next test subject, Jane.

Page 12

Panel 1: Amir and Michael stand powerfully outside of Kinesthetic Research Labs, behind them a giant hole in the wall. They find themselves in the middle of the street, surrounded by tall buildings. Guards swarm the area. Helicopters fly overhead.

SFX: WHUP WHUP WHUP

Panel 2: One guard speaks into a megaphone. The other guards around her stand armed and ready.

Guard #3: You can make this easier on yourselves or harder.

Panel 3: Amir stands powerfully, still in his rock formation.

Amir: All I want to do is go home!

Panel 4: The guard continues speaking into the megaphone

Guard #3: This facility has the most talented scientists in the world. They can help you.

Panel 5: Still on fire, Michael steps forward. He has an angry and fierce look in his eyes, and the flame effect over his face makes him look menacing

Michael: Oh, you've helped us enough.

Page 13

Panel 1: Air-Hawk gloriously swoops onto the scene.

SFX: SWOOP

Air-Hawk: Does anyone care if I join the party?

Panel 2: Amir is excited to see Air-Hawk, almost like a child. He pleads to him with hope.

Amir: Air-Hawk! Finally, someone who can help us.

Panel 3: Michael has an opposite reaction, looking at Air-Hawk with disdain. He steps in front of Amir, extending his hand as if to hold Amir back. Amir looks at Michael with confusion

Michael: Relax, pal. He just wants to play hero.

Panel 4: Air-Hawk looks back at Michael.

Air-Hawk: What's that supposed to mean?

Panel 5: Michael continues making verbal digs at Air-Hawk

Michael: Listen, I've clearly had a bad day. So why don't you step aside and go get your ass kicked by Valgore while you level half the city.

Page 14

Panel 1: Air-Hawk grits his teeth with anger.

Air-Hawk: If it wasn't for me you'd have a lot more to worry about than Valgore.

Panel 2: Michael steps forward towards Air-Hawk, heat radiating off of his flaming body.

Michael: You know, you sure do spend a lot of time here in North City. I'd love to see you south of the river for once.

Panel 3: Air-Hawk grows more frustrated.

Air-Hawk: When South City becomes littered with monsters and super villains, I'll be there. Right now the problems down there just aren't as big of a deal.

Panel 4: Michael is now shouting at Air-Hawk, growing more and more heated, both physically and emotionally.

Michael: Not as big of a deal!? We may not have lunatics rampaging through the streets every other week, but we have problems. Our homeless population has outgrown our shelters, our public schools are basically held together by duct tape, and everyone's always sick because no one can afford a doctor. You can't solve everything with a fist.

Page 15

Panel 1: From behind, the commanding guard calls out to Air-Hawk. Air-Hawk shouts back at her with shock.

Guard #3: Air-Hawk, should we fire?

Air-Hawk: What!? No!

Panel 2: Facing Michael and Amir again, Air-Hawk holds up his hands and tries to tone down the situation.

Air-Hawk: This is all a big misunderstanding. Let's just take it easy.

Panel 3: Michael balls up his fiery fists and prepares to strike Air-Hawk. His flames flare up.

Michael: Oh, I'm done taking it easy

Panel 4: Michael flies over towards Air-Hawk and punches him in the face, a trail of flames following him in his flight.

SFX: BAM!

Page 16

Panel 1: Jane is shown still strapped down onto an inverted table. She thrusts her body violently, trying her best to escape.

Jane: LET ME OUT OF HERE!

Panel 2: View from Jane's perspective. Emilia is shown on her metal table, but Dr. Hawkins is unstrapping her.

Dr. Hawkins: Forgive the dramatics Jane, but I know that no one in their right mind would willingly undergo my experiments.

Panel 3: Jane focuses on Dr. Hawkins and angrily questions him.

Jane: What are you doing with her?

Panel 4: Dr. Hawkins picks up Emilia's limp body and carries her over to a chair. Her arms drape down as if she is dead. In front of the chair is a table with a small soda can on top. Next to the first table is another one that is holding a computer.

Dr. Hawkins: I want to show you the progress we've made, Jane.

Jane: I'm not going to watch you play your sick game.

Panel 5: Emilia is placed into the chair. She is still unconscious.

Dr. Hawkins: Oh, you'll want to see this. I'd like to introduce you to my friend. I'm sure you've seen her face all over the news.

Jane: T-That's the girl that's been missing! You've had her here this whole time?

Panel 6: Dr. Hawkins types something into the computer.

SFX: CLACK CLACK CLACK

Dr. Hawkins: Yes, and I assure you she's been safe. In fact she's been sedated nearly the whole time. But now, it's time to wake up, **Emilia**.

Page 17

Panel 1: Emilia opens her eyes. She stares ahead of herself, a blank look in her eyes.

Panel 2: Dr. Hawkins points to the can, commanding Emilia.

Dr. Hawkins: Pick the can up.

Panel 3: Without blinking, Emilia swiftly reaches her hand out to grab the can. She follows the orders of Dr. Hawkins almost in a robotic way.

Panel 4: Dr. Hawkins shakes his head in disappointment.

Dr. Hawkins: No, the other way.

Panel 5: Emilia continues to reach her hand out but doesn't touch the can. She concentrates hard and as she does so, amber light emanates from her hand.

Page 18

Panel 1: As Emilia looks at the can, it begins to rise in mid-air. The can too emanates amber light.

Panel 2: Focus on Dr. Hawkins. He balls his hand into a fist.

Dr. Hawkins: Now crush it.

Panel 3: The panel focuses on the can as it is crushed flat.

SFX: CRRRRRUUSH

Panel 4: Dr. Hawkins sticks his hand under the can. The can falls into his palm.

Dr. Hawkins: Drop it.

Panel 5: Dr. Hawkins holds the can in his hand as he stands in front of Jane

Dr. Hawkins: Don't you see Jane; this is how we are going to revolutionize the world!

Panel 6: Focus on Jane. She looks very scared.

Jane: How- How is she able to do that?

Page 19

Panel 1: Side shot of Emilia. She continues to stare blankly forward. You can see the small inhibitor chip that is implanted into her head. It has a small purple light in it that glows.

Dr. Hawkins: I'm still not exactly sure, Jane. I used the chip on her head to expose her brain to Agruneseum. I never expected to get these results.

Panel 2: Jane looks at Dr. Hawkins with a very confused face.

Jane: Agrueneum?

Panel 3: Dr. Hawkins points and smiles at Jane.

Dr. Hawkins: I was very curious about the qualities of this rock you discovered. I began testing it with different substances to see what sort of reaction I could get. I never received any significant results until I applied Agrueneum to the human body.

Panel 4: Focus on Jane. She continues questioning him with anger.

Jane: So, you want to play god and make me some sort of superhuman?

Panel 5: Dr. Hawkins puts latex gloves on his hands.

Dr. Hawkins: No, Jane. I'm going to make you a **super soldier**. Together we will form an army of others who can finally make this world **right**!

Allegiance

Genesis: Chapter 4

Written by Ben Sunding

Art by

Lettering by

Created by Ben Sunding

Side Note for the Artist: Every time Jane uses her power to run, violet streaks of lightning follow her

Side Note for the Artist: Every time Emilia uses her powers, amber light emanates from her hands and whatever she is levitating

Previously, chaos unfolded at Kinesthetic Research Labs as a rock-like monster broke free from captivity. Amid the pandemonium, Michael found himself trapped in a gas-filled chamber where he underwent a fiery transformation. Michael and the monster discovered each other and joined forces to escape the lab, but found themselves at odds with none other than Air-Hawk. Meanwhile, Dr. Hawkins revealed his dark intentions to Jane as he used the powerful mineral Agrueneum to conduct experiments on human subjects. Tensions will escalate as all of the characters fight for their own survival.

Page 1

Panel 1: Picking up where the last issue left off, Air-Hawk, Michael and Amir find themselves in the middle of the road outside of Kinesthetic Research Labs. Having just broken out of the lab, Michael, still on fire, has engaged in a fight with Air-Hawk. Meanwhile Amir, still a rock monster, fends off the armored guards that have surrounded them. As Michael strikes blows upon Air-Hawk, the commanding officer tells all of the others to begin shooting. They open fire upon Michael and Amir.

SFX: POP POP POP

Guard: Open fire!

Caption (in light orange box): My name is **Michael Adams**, and I'm having the craziest day of my life.

Caption: It all started when I came to do a report on the annual showcase at **Kinesthetic Research Labs**.

Panel 2: Amir rips off a large chunk of the wall from behind him. Bullets bounce off his rocky skin.

SFX: CRUNCH

Caption: Before I knew it, I found myself trapped in an experimentation chamber.

Caption: I thought it would be the end of things, but somehow I made it through. Not only did I survive, but now I have these ridiculous powers.

Caption: I had always heard rumors and conspiracy theories about things like this happening, but I never thought they were true, or that it would happen to me.

Panel 3: Amir throws the large chunk in the general direction of the guards. It doesn't hurt anyone, but all of the guards in the area go running for cover.

SMASH

Amir: How do you like that!?

Caption: Now I'm working together with this rock guy so we can get out of here, but the cops think we're a threat.

Panel 4: Michael stands above Air-Hawk, his hands in fists. Air-Hawk sits back on the ground, still recovering.

Michael: Not so tough now, are you?

Caption: And on top of all of that, I picked a fight with Air-Hawk.

Caption: Not my smartest choice, but it feels good to teach the bumbling buzzard a lesson.

Panel 5: Air-Hawk wipes some blood from his lip. He looks up at Micheal with ferocity.

Air-Hawk: If that's the way it's gonna be, then I'll show you **tough**.

Panel 6: Air-Hawk flies forward and grabs Michael. They both crash into the wall of the building that Michael and Amir were initially escaping from. Michael's body takes most of the impact.

SFX: CRASH!

Page 2

Panel 1: Jane is still strapped onto her stand. Dr. Hawkins is next to her. Next to him is an electrical administration device with wires extending from it. At the end of the wires are sticky pads like on an AED. Dr. Hawkins applies the pads to various spots on Jane's body. Additionally, atop the device is a glass case connecting to the rest of the device. Inside the glass is a large chunk of Agrueneuseum.

Dr. Hawkins: I have tested Agrueneuseum with electricity and I have reasons to believe that the reaction could give a human special powers.

Panel 2: Dr. Hawkin's places his hand on a circular dial that is connected to the device from the last panel. The dial indicates how much voltage is being administered into the electrical system.

Dr. Hawkins: Jane, this is definitely going to hurt.

Panel 3: Jane stares back at Dr. Hawkins with loathing.

Jane: I'll kill you if I make it through this alive!

Panel 5: Dr. Hawkins activates the machine. He cranks the dial up to maximum voltage.

SFX: TICK TICK TICK

Dr. Hawkins: I guess we'll have to see if you do.

Panel 6: Jane screams in pain as electricity bolts around her. She is shaking. Violet sparks begin spewing from the sticky pads.

SFX: BBZZZZZZZZZZ

Jane: **AAAAHHH!!!**

Page 3

Panel 1: Michael is pinned against the wall by Air-Hawk. Air-Hawk continues dealing blows to Michael.

Caption: I grew up in South City, so I'm used to getting beat down.

Panel 2: Amir steps in and rips Air-Hawk away from Michael.

Caption: But the other thing about South City is that good friends have each other's back no matter what.

Amir: Not so fast!

Panel 3: Amir steps over towards Air-Hawk. He looks ready to strike.

Caption: I don't know a lot about this rock guy, but I'm sure that he's like me.

Amir: I grew up wanting to be like you. You're supposed to be a **superhero!** Now you're just beating up the people who need your help the most.

Panel 4: Air-Hawk backs away as Amir approaches. Air-Hawk is on guard and ready to strike.

Caption: I can tell through his pain and frustration that there's a human being in there.

Air-Hawk: If you need my help then why are you acting this way?

Panel 5: Amir throws his mighty fists into the pavement. Shards of road fly everywhere. Air-Hawk narrowly flies out of the way

SFX: BOOM!

Caption: Just like anyone else, I've felt those same things.

Amir: Because no one will leave me alone!

Page 4

Panel 1: Dr. Hawkins picks up an inhibitor chip similar to the one that was in Emilia's head. He looks at it thoughtfully. This chip too has a purple light in it.

Dr. Hawkins: I almost forgot the most important part, Jane.

Caption: I know the feeling of being trapped.

Panel 2: Dr. Hawkins walks over to Jane who is still convulsing. He continues holding the chip.

Dr. Hawkins: Just an obedience protocol. I'm sure you understand.

Caption: I know the feeling of being lost.

Panel 3: The glass case of Agrueneuseum glows brightly. Violet streams of lightning begin to spew from the Agrueneuseum itself.

SFX: BZZZZZZ

SFX: WHUMP WHUMP

Caption: I know what it's like to be scared and unsure of what's going to happen next.

Panel 4: Dr. Hawkins goes to place the chip in the side of Jane's head. It has a tiny needle at the bottom that can cut into her skin. As Dr. Hawkins gets closer to placing the chip onto Jane's head, a tiny stream of violet lightning begins to connect the needle of the chip and her skin.

Caption: I learned that you can't just **ignore** those feelings. You have to push **through** them.

Page 5

Panel 1: The Agrueneuseum glows even brighter. The streaks of lightning emitting from it continue to spew violently.

SFX: WHUMP WHUMP WHUMP

SFX: BBZZZZZZZZZZZZ

Caption: My parents always tried to get me to learn about patience, perseverance, resilience. I was always too stubborn to listen.

Panel 2: The glass containing the Agrueneuseum becomes so illuminated with violet light and streaks of lightning that you can't even see the rock any more.

SFX: WHUMPWHUMPWHUMPWHUMPWHUMP

SFX: BBBBZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZ

Caption: But life doesn't care if you're stubborn.

Panel 3: Focus on Jane's face as violet lightning dances around her. Her iris's become violet. She gasps for breath.

Caption: Because the fact of the matter is...

Panel 4: The chip in Dr. Hawkin's hand is completely destroyed by the lightning before he can place it on Jane's head.

SFX: SNAP!

Caption: Whether you're ready to...

Panel 5: The glass containing the Agrueneuseum shatters. There is a mini Agrueneuseum explosion. Lightning flies everywhere along with pieces of glass.

SFX: KAABOOOOM!

Caption: Or not...

Panel 6: Violet lightning scatters all throughout the lab. The violet lightning is bouncing off of Jane violently. The straps that initially contained Jane begin to shred apart from the lightning. Dr. Hawkins is launched away from Jane due to the sheer force of the electricity.

Caption: Life **makes** you listen.

Jane: **AAAAAAAAHHHHHHH!!!**

Page 6

Panel 1: Amir throws a mighty punch Air-Hawk's way. Air-Hawk swiftly dodges the giant rocky fist.

SFX: WHIFF

Panel 2: Air-Hawk uses the moment to his advantage. He gives Amir a hefty punch in the side of his ribs. Amir appears hurt.

Air-Hawk: I didn't want things to be this way, but if you guys won't stop then you leave me no choice.

Amir: Ugh!

Panel 3: Amir rages after the interaction. His body begins to grow bigger and taller, until he is the size of a three story building. One of his hands turns into a hammer, the other turns into mace.

Amir: **MMRRAAAAAAHHHH!!!!**

Panel 4: Air-Hawk looks up at Amir who over shadows him. His face only expresses blatant fear.

Air-Hawk: Oh boy.

Page 7

Panel 1: Sitting on the ground now, Dr. Hawkins is shown looking in awe. He holds his hand up to try to protect his face. Lightning bolts spatter in the surrounding area. His face reflects the violet hues of the room.

Dr. Hawkins: Dear god...

Panel 2: Jane falls down onto the ground. She is on her hands and knees. The amount of lightning begins to decrease.

Panel 3: Jane looks up at Dr. Hawkins in a rage. Her eyes turn fully violet as a bit of lightning sparks from her eyes. She stares him down with ferocity and anger.

Page 8

Panel 1: Amir finally connects a hit against Air-Hawk with his mace hand. Air-Hawk's body goes flying out of frame.

SFX: POW

Panel 2: Air-Hawk's back is smashed into a car making a significant dent in it. He cringes in pain.

SFX: BAM

Panel 3: Michael lies against the wall that Air-Hawk had been beating him against. He is fully naked, although rubble covers his private parts, and has returned to his human form. He appears greatly bruised and injured. Many guards begin swarming him.

Panel 4: The guards point their guns at Michael. The commanding guard shouts at him.

Guard #3: It's over, pal!

Panel 5: Amir sweeps all of the guards away from Michael with his hammer hand.

Amir: Get away from him!

Page 9

Panel 1: Jane zooms across the room, takes the computer that controlled Emilia, and throws it towards Dr. Hawkins, destroying it on impact. Pieces of the computer go flying everywhere. Behind her she leaves a trail of purple lightning.

SFX: ZOooooooooooooMMM

Panel 2: Emilia pulls off her implanted inhibitor chip. She looks at it in a dazed confusion.

Panel 3: Focus on Jane as she looks behind herself in shock. The floor is burnt from her speed.

Panel 4: Dr. Hawkins' fist knocks Jane out frame.

Panel 5: Dr. Hawkins has Jane pinned down on the ground. He gives her a menacing look as the two struggle.

Dr. Hawkins: You said you wanted freedom, Jane. The power to make your life your own. Look at what I've given you!

Panel 6: A wrench hits Dr. Hawkins in the head.

Dr. Hawkins: GAH!

Page 10

Panel 1: Dr. Hawkins looks back and sees a raging Emilia standing with several tools and items floating around her. She holds out her hands, an amber light circling around them, as she uses her powers.

Emilia: **You!** You thought that I was just a damaged little girl that you could mess with. Well, I'm not a little girl...

Panel 2: Emilia shouts in anger as all of the floating objects are hurled towards Dr. Hawkins. Dr. Hawkins holds his hands up in front of his face as hammers, screwdrivers, drills, and other tools come flying his way. Dr. Hawkins winces at the pain as they bounce off him.

Emilia: **AND I'M NOT DAMAGED!!**

Panel 3: With Dr. Hawkins collapsed, Jane stands by the staircase. She waves Emilia to come with her.

Jane: C'mon, let's go!

Panel 4: Dr. Hawkins rushes towards a counter and slams his hand on a button on the wall that is glowing bright blue.

Dr. Hawkins: You two just don't seem to learn, do you?

Panel 5: Before Jane and Emilia can exit the room, a steel barrier slams down from the door's head jamb. The girls look frightened.

Word Bubble: This is **my** story and **I'm** in control!

Panel 6: Wide. Dr. Hawkins stares at the girls, breathing heavily. He has a black robotic gauntlet on. A robotic gun comes from the top of the sleeve with a bright blue light glowing. (Sort of like Iron Man glove)

Dr. Hawkins: And You? You're not going **anywhere**.

Page 11

Panel 1: Off in the distance from the action, one of the guards holds a bazooka towards Amir. Amir is in a rage and doesn't notice the guard.

Guard: That's it! Time to pull out the big guns!

Panel 2: Air-Hawk looks towards the guard in shock

Air-Hawk: Are you crazy!?

Panel 3: The guard fires the bazooka missile.

SFX: THOOOM

Air-Hawk: Wait, stop!

Panel 4: Amir simply bats the missile away.

Panel 5: While the missile is redirected away from Amir, it explodes right in front of a building, setting it on fire.

SFX: BOOM POW

Page 12

Panel 1: Air-Hawk swoops in and takes away the bazooka, along with the other guns from the guards.

Air-Hawk: I'm taking these away for now. Mind calling the fire department for me?

Panel 2: Amir looks towards the destruction. He is in tears, ashamed of his own actions.

Amir: No! I- I didn't mean to. I n-never wanted to hurt anyone.

Panel 3: Air-Hawk perches on Amir's left shoulder. Amir looks at Air-Hawk.

Air-Hawk: They might be hurt, but we can still save them. It looks like you can shape shift. Why don't you bust open a few fire hydrants and redirect the water. Me and your pal will get everyone out.

Panel 4: Air-Hawk swoops in and out of a department store called NORTH CITY FASHION with great speed.

SFX: SWOOP

Panel 4: Air-Hawk flies over to Micheal. He extends his arm out to help Michael up.

Air-Hawk: You told me I need to be better. Now put some clothes on and show me how.

Panel 5: Micheal takes the clothes from Air-Hawk.

Air-Hawk: You're fire-proof, right?

Michael: Yeah, pretty sure.

Page 13

Panel 1: Still in the lab, Dr. Hawkins shoots the gun at the girls. Bright blue balls of light shoot all over the room, destroying everything in its path. Jane uses her powers to knock Emilia down and away from danger.

SFX: BAH BAH BAH BAH BAH BAH

Dr. Hawkins: This world is run by **fools** who sprint around in circles expecting something to change.

Panel 2: Emilia stands up and uses her powers to throw a metal table at Dr. Hawkins.

Panel 3: A very angry and bloody Dr. Hawkins aims his gun at Emilia.

Dr. Hawkins: Human's minds are **feeble**. Their body's **weak**. I simply aim to provide humans with the necessary improvements.

Panel 4: Jane uses her super speed to push Dr. Hawkins against the wall and repeatedly punch him

SFX: SHOOOM

SFX: BAMBAMBAMBAM

Page 14

Panel 1: Dr. Hawkins kicks Jane away, knocking her down.

Dr. Hawkins: I chose Emilia simply as a prototype, but you Jane, I saw how you're different. I wanted you to help lead my efforts.

Panel 2: Dr. Hawkins stands over Jane. He aims his gun at her. The blue light glows so bright that it looks like it's about to fire.

Dr. Hawkins: I guess I'll have to head back to the drawing board.

Panel 3: Suddenly a large metal table pushes Dr. Hawkins out of frame.

Panel 4: Emilia is shown using her powers to pin Dr. Hawkins to a wall with the table. His hand with the gauntlet sticks out from behind the bookcase.

Dr. Hawkins: Gnnh..

Emilia: Steal the gauntlet off his hand. Hurry, I don't know how much longer I can hold him off.

Panel 5: Jane pries the gauntlet off his hand. A broken Dr. Hawkins struggles to get some words out.

Dr. Hawkins (weakly): It.. doesn't matter...what you do. There are things... in motion... that can't be stopped.

Page 15

Panel 1: Jane uses the gauntlet to shoot at the sealed door. The blue balls of light completely destroy the door, allowing for an escape.

SFX: BAH BAH BAH BAH

Panel 2: Jane speeds to the door.

Jane: Let's go!

Panel 3: Jane and Emilia come running out of the house.

Panel 4: Jane picks Emilia up.

Jane: I'll hold you so we can run away quicker.

Panel 5: The two speed off into the distance

Page 16

Panel 1: Amir has busted open a fire hydrant and has reformed his hands into a type of shield that is redirecting water onto the burning building.

Panel 2: Air-Hawk swoops towards the top of the building while Michael rushes in towards the bottom. Amir is still spraying the building down with water. The fire begins to decrease.

Michael: You go high, I go low, we meet in the middle.

Air-Hawk: Sounds good!

Panel 3: Michael runs through the smoky halls, the flames cascading off of him like water. People are collapsing against the walls.

Person 1: Help! *cough* *cough* Help!

Person 2: You have to get us out of here.

Panel 4: Michael takes the hand of one of the people. He kindly smiles and reassures them.

Michael: It's going to be okay.

Panel 5: Michael uses his powers to burn a hole through a wall on the other side of the building.

SFX: FWOOSH

Panel 6: People rush out of the hole Michael made. Michael directs everyone towards the exit

Michael: Everyone, out this way!

Page 17

Panel 1: As Air-Hawk flies near the building, he sees a woman waving a white sheet at one of the top floors.

Woman: Help! Help us!

Panel 2: Air-Hawk comes near the window holding his hands out to the woman. She appears frantic.

Air-Hawk: Take my hand. I'll get you to safety.

Woman: Save the children first!

Panel 3: Air-Hawk climbs through the window. The room is glowing orange, although the fire has not spread here yet, yet there is smoke in the air. Focus on two small and scared children, a boy and a girl, sitting in the corner of the room.

Panel 4: The little boy looks at Air-Hawk with glee. Air-Hawk looks back at the boy and smiles. He extends his hand to help the boy up.

Boy: Air-Hawk! I knew you'd come!

Air-Hawk: There's no way I was missing this. Now who wants to go for a ride?

Panel 5: Air-Hawk holds the woman while she holds the children as he gently flies them to the ground and down to safety.

Page 18

Panel 1: In the foreground, people are being loaded into ambulances and/or being taken care of by medics. The fire department is also on scene, although the fire has been put out. Amir, Michael, and Air-Hawk stand in the background talking to one another. Air-Hawk stands to Amir's left while Michael stands to Amir's right. Air-Hawk places his hand on Amir's arm.

Amir: So, uhm, everyone made it out okay?

Air-Hawk: Yeah buddy, the building's all clear. The medics are treating some people who only have minor burns.

Panel 2: Amir begins to shrink in size. He begins to become his normal self again. He is still wearing his super suit.

Amir: I just- I can't believe I caused all of that.

Panel 3: Amir is finally back to his normal body. He is a young man, about the same age as the other two and of Middle Eastern Descent. He is clean shaven with short brown hair. Now Michael reassures Amir. Air-Hawk gestures to something happening to the right of the panel.

Michael: Don't blame yourself. If that stupid guard hadn't fired at you, none of this would've happened.

Air-Hawk: Speaking of, here they come.

Panel 4: A group of enraged guards approach the boys, led by the one who fired the bazooka. All of the boys look ready to fight. Michael, balls up his fist as it catches on fire. Meanwhile, an unseen character approaches from the left.

Guard: Air-Hawk, you've got a lot of explaining to do! I oughta wring your neck after the amount of laws you just broke!

Word Bubble: I'm the only one doing any neck-wrangling around here!

Page 19

Panel 1: Commissioner Nora Boniadi approaches the group. All of the guards look enraged.

Commissioner: From what I saw, these brave boys cleaned up **your** mess.

Guard: **Commissioner Boniadi**, you're just going to let them get away with this??

Panel 2: The Commissioner looks back at the guard, asserting her authority.

Commissioner: I'm not letting anyone get away with anything. I saw your little stunt. I'm issuing an investigation into your actions effective immediately.

Panel 3: The Commissioner approaches Air-Hawk, Michael, and Amir. The guard she's been speaking to stands back, enraged.

Air-Hawk: **Nora**, it's nice to see you again.

Commissioner: You too, Air-Hawk. Now, let's address your friends here. I'm sure I can't control any of you, but I also can't have you running mindlessly around the city. We need to find a solution, boys, and quickly.

Panel 4: Amir chimes into the conversation. He gestures towards Michael.

Amir: Commissioner, **Amir Cham** here. We can explain everything, but the reason all of this happened is that me and uh-

Michael: Michael

Amir: Right, me and Michael just want to get home.

Panel 5: The Commissioner ruminates all this for a second.

Commissioner: I see. Well if it's home you want then let's get you there. I'll meet you all at headquarters. We'll talk about ground rules and I'll see that you get back to your loved ones.

Page 20

Panel 1: Michael shows his parents what he can do. He is wearing a new orange and black super suit. His hands erupt into flames. His parents look on in amazement.

Word Bubble 1: So they're just roaming around free?

Word Bubble 2: No, they both have regularly scheduled appointments at the lab, but they don't have to be locked up there. They even got some cool suits out of it.

Panel 2: Amir joins his entire family in a group hug. It includes his parents and 4 little siblings.

Word Bubble 1: And these guys, they seem like good guys?

Word Bubble 2: I think so. We had a... disagreement at first, but that's why I like them. I need them to correct me when I'm wrong.

Panel 3: Emilia embraces her parents as well. She sobs in their arms.

Word Bubble 1: Do you think there's more out there like them?

Word Bubble 2: More people that think I'm wrong?

Panel 4: Jane arrives home and tightly embraces her parents. Tears stream down her face.

Word Bubble 1: Ha! I know there's plenty of people who think that. Do you think there's more people out there with powers?

Word Bubble 2: Heh, I hope so.

Panel 5: A young black man walks down the street listening to music on headphones. It is the same friend that Deo was looking at a picture of in Issue #1.

Word Bubble 1: Whatever happened to **Zay**? You always wanted them to work with you. Do you two still talk?

Word Bubble 2: Uhm, no. It's been a long time.

Panel 6: Deo is wearing regular clothes sitting next to his mom on the couch. She has short and curly blonde hair. She has her arm around him. Deo nuzzles onto her shoulder.

Mavis (Deo's Mom): Well, I'm sure you'll talk when you're both ready.

Deo: You're right. Thanks, Mom.

Allegiance

Genesis: Chapter 5

Written by Ben Sunding

Art by

Lettering by

Created by Ben Sunding

Side Note for the Artist: Every time Jane uses her power to run, violet streaks of lightning follow her

Side Note for the Artist: Every time Emilia uses her powers, amber light emanates from her hands and whatever she is levitating

The chaos continues as new super-powered beings Michael and Amir fight their way out of Kinesthetic Research Labs finding themselves at odds with Air-Hawk and a swarm of guards. But a nearly fatal event forced the trio to work together. Meanwhile, Dr. Hawkins subjects Jane to a harrowing experiment with Agrueneuseum, unleashing a volatile and electrifying transformation. But Jane and her new ally Emilia band together to overthrow Hawkins. However, his sinister plans seem far from over.

Page 1

Panel 1: A swarm of North City Police cars (NCPD) swarm Dr. Hawkins' house. Many stand out by their cars, guns aimed towards the house. Commissioner Boniadi speaks over an intercom.

News Caption: This just in: **Dr. Richard Hawkins**, renowned scientist and founder of the **Rebuild Initiative**, has been reportedly identified as the captor of two missing girls.

Commissioner: Dr. Hawkins, come out with your hands up!

Caption (in a light amber box): My name is **Emilia Robinson**.

Panel 2: Shown on a TV, Laura Lee stands in front of the action reporting on the incident. At the bottom of the screen is the logo of Channel 9 News as well as Laura Lee's name.

Laura Lee: **Emilia Robinson**, who had been noted as missing for months, went public alleging that Dr. Hawkins kidnapped and conducted experiments on her.

Caption: Right now my name is being blasted across every news network in America.

Panel 3: Dr. Hawkins stands before a futuristic-looking closet in his lab. As the glass door of the closet opens up, steam rolls out of the room, exposing a black mechanical suit.

News Caption: Emilia was accompanied by **Jane Carter**, who confirmed Emilia's story and stated she had the same experience with Dr. Hawkins.

Caption: Jane said that we should go public with our story to prove that we aren't **scared**...

Panel 4: Commissioner Boniadi continues speaking into the intercom. She shouts with rage.

News Caption: **Commissioner Nora Boniadi** and the North City PD are at the residence of Dr. Hawkins, prepared for his arrest.

Commissioner: If you can't come out peacefully, I will order my officers to go in by force!

Caption: But the fact of the matter is that I'm **terrified**.

Page 2

Panel 1: In his suit, Dr. Hawkins bursts out of the roof of his home, fists up in flight. Pieces of the roof fly everywhere from the impact. His suit uses a sort of jet propulsion on his backside to boost him into the air.

SFX: FWOOM!

Caption: I'm worried that I'll be under his control again. That I'm a ticking time bomb and he's waiting for the right time to set me off.

Panel 2: Still in the air, Dr. Hawkins points his gun at the officers down below with a grin on his face. The officers point their weapons at Dr. Hawkins.

Dr. Hawkins: No need for all of that Commissioner. Perhaps we can begin negotiations. You let me go, and no one has to get hurt.

Caption: Even if that's not true, I'm still learning how to use these powers. What if I hurt someone I care about?

Panel 3: The Commissioner stares Dr. Hawkins down with a fury in her eyes

Commissioner: You go to hell! I don't negotiate with twisted people like you.

Dr. Hawkins: Very well. You've made your choice...

Caption: But despite all of that, I'm putting on a brave face...

Panel 4: Still in the air, Dr. Hawkins begins blasting at the officers. They scatter away while cars explode. Laura Lee and her cameraman flee the scene as well. Fear consumes the area.

SFX: BAHBAHBAHBAHBAHBAH

Dr. Hawkins: And I've made **mine**.

Caption: Because I'm **never** letting this happen to **anyone** ever again.

Page 3

Panel 1: In an apartment building, Emilia's hand knocks on a door.

SFX: KNOCK KNOCK

Word Bubble: Who is it?

Word Bubble: It's Emilia.

Panel 2: Jane opens the door and invites Emilia in. She doesn't seem happy nor upset about seeing Emilia. She feels more neutral. The two are both just wearing normal clothes.

Jane: Hey, come on in.

Panel 3: They both step into Jane's apartment, first arriving in the main living room area. To their right is the kitchen, which is part of the same room as is the case with many apartments. To their left is a hallway to different bedrooms. The whole apartment has white walls and wood floors. The walls are filled with family photos. Everything seems organized and neat with minimal clutter.

Jane: Make yourself at home. I can get you water or something if you want.

Emilia: Yeah, I'll take some water.

Panel 4: Jane stands by the sink in the kitchen filling Emilia a glass of water. Jane just faces the sink, not making eye contact with Jane.

Jane: You said you wanted to talk?

Emilia: Well.. uhm.. yeah Jane.

Panel 5: Jane hands Emilia the glass of water. The two continue standing in the kitchen. Jane is right of frame and Emilia is left.

Emilia: I know you keep saying you're fine, but I... just wanted to check on you.

Jane: Yeah, and I'm **fine**. You didn't have to come here.

Page 4

Panel 1: The two continue speaking in the kitchen. Jane leans against the counter, arms crossed, looking at the floor.

Emilia: My parents spoke to yours. They said you never come out of your room. When they ask what you've been doing all day you say you've been doing nothing. I know you quit school too and it's just-

Panel 2: Jane cuts Emilia off, frustration in her voice. She continues to not make eye contact, looking down at the floor as she talks.

Jane: Listen, I don't need anyone checking on me. I don't want anyone to talk to me, or touch me, or- or-

Panel 3: Jane finally looks at Emilia, tears dripping from her eyes.

Jane: *sigh*

Jane: I just want to be left alone.

Panel 4: Emilia rests her hand on Jane's shoulder. Jane covers her face with her hand, trying to hide her tears.

Emilia: Jane, what we went through... there's really no way to describe it. The thing is, you're not in this alone. I was there with you. You have people who love you.

Jane: It's just... he took **everything** from us. No matter what we do, we'll always be a **creation** of his.

Emilia: Not if we make this our own.

Page 5

Panel 1: Emilia speaks passionately to Jane.

Emilia: He forced these powers on us, but it's up to us to take the power back. I know you've seen the news. He's running around loose in the city. We may be a creation of his, but we can be his **downfall**.

Panel 2: Jane heads left of frame. stepping past Emilia and waving her off.

Jane: **No**.

Panel 3: Emilia follows Jane into the living room. The two face each other as their conversation gets heated.

Jane: He's not our responsibility. In fact, I don't even care what happens to him. I just never want to see his face again!

Emilia: So you don't care if he just gets away with it? You don't want to see him go to prison?

Panel 4: The two continue arguing. Jane shouts her last line at Emilia.

Jane: You really think he'll make it that far? He'll find a fancy lawyer who will get him off with a slap on the wrist!

Emilia: Maybe you're right, but we have to at least try.

Jane: **I don't have to do anything!**

Page 6

Panel 1: Jane crosses her arms again and looks away from Emilia.

Jane: I'm sorry for shouting. Maybe you should go.

Panel 2: Emilia begins to walk away heading to the door she entered from. She looks at Jane as she does so.

Emilia: Air-Hawk and the cops won't stand a chance against him. Dr. Hawkins is too smart for them and you know that. But we actually managed to hurt him. With or without you, I'm going to go find him and stop him. Someone has to.

Panel 3: Emilia faces away and walks out of the room, waving goodbye. Jane turns away and begins crying.

Emilia: I'll see you later, Jane.

Page 7

Panel 1: Dr. Hawkins stands on top of the roof of a building with what appears to be a black assault rifle. Amongst him is the skyline of North City.

Caption: I really don't remember anything from being locked away by Dr. Hawkins.

Panel 2: Dr. Hawkins loads the gun with a magazine.

Caption: I remember being kidnapped, and then it's like I went to sleep.

SFX: KLIK!

Panel 3: Dr. Hawkins peeks into the scope and aims.

Caption: Those final moments before he sedated me were filled with **horror**.

Panel 4: Dr. Hawkins shoots the gun once.

SFX: BANG!

Caption: When I woke up, Jane was there fighting back.

Panel 5: Focus on the bullet as it flies through the air.

Caption: Making my first moments awake filled with **hope**.

Page 8

Panel 1: The bullet begins to disassemble itself.

Caption: It's that very hope that's inspiring me to fight back just like she did.

Panel 2: The bullet turns into a small computer chip. The same one he used to try to mind control Jane and Emilia.

Caption: I've been learning a lot about my powers.

Panel 3: The chip hits a man in the head, but there is no blood. The man suddenly falls down from the impact. People around him scream.

Caption: At first, I was able to use my mind to pick up small things...

Man: gghh..

Panel 4: Dr. Hawkins fires more bullets along the street.

Caption: But I've been practicing, slowly being able to manipulate larger objects.

SFX: BANG! BANG! BANG!

Panel 5: Dr. Hawkins taps an icon on a touchpad built into the wrist of his suit. The touchpad glows bright blue.

Caption: I'm not very good at using my powers yet, but I know that this is just the tip of the iceberg.

Dr. Hawkins: Rise...

Panel 6: Focus on the man's face. His eyes open up and his pupils dilate. His iris' turn purple. The chip is stuck to the side of his head. A purple light on the chip begins blinking.

Caption: It's hard to explain, but these powers don't feel new. They feel **familiar**.

Page 9

Panel 1: Dr. Hawkins is jerked out of frame.

Caption: I can feel a **strength** within myself that has always been there...

Dr. Hawkins: Nnn!

Panel 2: Emilia stands over Dr. Hawkins, using her powers to keep him on the floor. She holds out her hands, an amber light circling around them, as she uses her powers.

Caption: I just never had the **courage** to use it.

Emilia: This ends now!

Panel 3: Dr. Hawkins looks at Emilia and smirks. He shouts out a command.

Dr. Hawkins: **Soldiers**, attack her!

Panel 4: Several civilians jump onto the roof of the building and run towards Emilia. They all have the chips on their head and purple eyes.

Panel 5: Emilia uses her powers to quickly push and throw many of the hostiles away. She struggles to keep up with the number of people attacking her.

Panel 6: A large man grabs onto Emilia. She tries to wriggle free, but cannot get away from him.

Emilia: Get off of me!!

Panel 7: The large man holds Emilia tightly as others beat her down.

SFX: BOW! BAP! WHAM!

Emilia: Ugh!

Page 10

Panel 1: The area is suddenly flooded with purple lightning. All of the hostiles are beat up in the process.

SFX: ZOOOM

SFX: BAM! POP! WHACK!

Panel 2: Jane slides into frame, her lightning following her. Her feet are like brakes as comes to screeching halt

SFX: SSKKKKKRRRTT

Jane: Let her go!

Panel 3: A few of the people rush Jane. They all have menacing faces as they charge against her.

Panel 4: In an instant, Jane uses her powers to knock them all down.

SFX: WHOOOM

SFX: BAH! BAH! BAH!

Panel 5: Jane rushes Emilia's way. The man is still holding Emilia. Jane deals the man a healthy uppercut, resulting in him releasing Emilia.

SFX: KAPOW!

Man: Gah!

Panel 6: Jane helps up an injured Emilia. Emilia winces as she begins to stand.

Jane: You okay?

Emilia: I'll be fine. I can't believe you actually came.

Panel 7: Although heavily beaten, all of the defeated hostiles rise back up. They make a circle around the girls, glaring at them with a fury in their purple eyes. Jane and Emilia stand on guard.

Jane: Clearly someone had to save your ass. Ready for round two?

Emilia: Hell yeah.

Page 11

Panel 1: While the battle rages on behind him, Dr. Hawkins casually walks around the roof. He taps away at a touch pad on his wrist. Jane can be seen speeding around in the background, knocking people around. Others can be seen flying around as Emilia uses her powers to fling them away.

Caption: The fact that a man of Dr. Hawkins' status is actually a monster comes as no shock.

Panel 2: About ten drones are shown flying through a busy street.

Caption: This city has a habit of revealing that its greatest heroes are often its greatest villains.

Panel 3: One drone approaches the side of a building. It shoots a small mechanical device that sticks to the building.

Caption: The one constant has been Air-Hawk, but even he has his critics.

Panel 4: Another drone shoots the mechanical device onto another building. In the background, more drones can be seen doing the same thing on different sides of the street.

Page 12

Panel 1: Dr. Hawkins stands tall and makes an announcement to the people he is controlling. They all look at him.

Dr. Hawkins: Enough. It is time for us to go.

Panel 2: Dr. Hawkins begins to fly away. His soldiers can be seen leaping across buildings in order to follow him.

SFX: PWOOOM

Panel 3: Emilia jumps forward. Using her powers, she attempts to hold Dr. Hawkins back. Dr. Hawkins struggles to press on.

Emilia: I don't think so!

Panel 4: Dr. Hawkins looks back and shoots his blasters in a rage.

Dr. Hawkins: You're new tricks won't work on me, Emilia.

SFX: BAHBAHBAHBAH

Panel 5: Emilia and Jane are knocked down as blue blasts rain upon them.

SFX: BAHBOOM!

Page 13

Panel 1: Dr. Hawkins soars through the air in a great escape.

SFX: FWWOOOOOOM

Panel 2: As Dr. Hawkins is flying away, Air-Hawk flies into frame. He catches Dr. Hawkins and pulls him out of frame.

Caption: You can have faith that there will be people who offer you a lending hand.

SFX: SWOOOSH!

Dr. Hawkins: Ergh!

Panel 3: Air-Hawk and Dr. Hawkins land on the pavement of the road together. They both brace for impact.

SFX: CRASH!!

Panel 4: Air-Hawk pins Dr. Hawkins to the ground. He sits on top of him with a threatening face.

Air-Hawk: It's over Dr. Hawkins! You're coming with me!

Panel 5: Dr. Hawkins begins laughing as some of his soldiers come rushing their way.

Dr. Hawkins: Oh, not even **you** will stop me, young man.

Page 14

Panel 1: On a TV, aerial coverage from Channel 9 News displays the battle.

News Caption: And as you can see here, Dr. Hawkins has been sighted once again. It appears he has many accomplices who are working alongside him...

Caption: There have been times when I put all of my faith into others and it backfired.

Panel 2: Amir sits with his family watching the coverage. He sits on the edge of his seat, watching intently.

Caption: It always backfired...

Panel 3: Close up shot of Amir as he continues watching. He has a face of determination.

Caption: And I felt betrayed.

Panel 4: Air-Hawk is shown fighting off Dr. Hawkins' soldiers at once. He holds one back while he kicks the other one down.

SFX: POW!

Caption: But it was never because of what they did.

Panel 5: A soldier grabs Air-Hawk's arm. Air-Hawk repeatedly punches the soldier in the face until the soldier falls back.

SFX: BAM BAM BAM

Soldier: Nngg!

Caption: It was because of what I didn't do.

Panel 6: A blue beam knocks Air-Hawk back.

SFX: BAHBAHBAH

Caption: I was avoiding my problems, and forgetting to put faith in **myself**.

Panel 6: Air-Hawk leans against a wall while Dr. Hawkins aims his gun at him.

Dr. Hawkins: Just so you know Air-Hawk, this is all in the name of science, and **no one** will stand in my way.

Page 15

Panel 1: Suddenly a burst of flames shoots into Dr. Hawkins' direction. Dr. Hawkins cowers away from the flames in fear.

SFX: FWOOSH!

Dr. Hawkins: Grah!

Caption: I let other people make decisions for me and control my life.

Panel 2: Michael arrives on scene, completely engulfed in flames. He shoots his flames at Dr. Hawkins.

Caption: It was because I was always so scared of failing.

Panel 3: Dr. Hawkins shoots a beam up and hits Michael. Michael falls down to the ground.

SFX: BAHBAHBAHBAH

Michael: Ugh!

Caption: And I was scared I wouldn't be able to get back up if I did fail.

Panel 4: A giant stoney gray fist suddenly punches Dr. Hawkins.

SFX: SMACK

Dr. Hawkins: Ooff!

Caption: But I'm not scared of that anymore.

Panel 5: Amir is shown in his giant rock form fighting off some of Dr. Hawkins' soldiers who crawl and jump all over him. One of his hands has turned into a jackhammer that he uses to repeatedly beat a soldier in the face with.

SFX: RATATATATA

Panel 6: Jane is shown rushing forward while dragging a purple eyed woman.

Caption: I've faced the worst that life has to offer.

Page 16

Panel 1: Jane rushes past Dr. Hawkins and throws the woman onto him, knocking him down.

Dr. Hawkins: Ungh!

Caption: And I made it through to the other side.

Panel 2: Dr. Hawkins shoots into the air and screams. He shoots his beams into every direction.

SFX: BAHBAHBAHBAHBAHBAH

SFX: FWOOOOOOOOOM

Dr. Hawkins: AAAAAAAAAAAAAHHHHH!!!!

Caption: With or without my powers, I'm stronger than ever before.

Panel 3: A lamppost knocks Dr. Hawkins down onto the ground.

SFX: DONK!

Caption: And so for the first time ever...

Page 17

Full Page: Dr. Hawkins is shown using all his strength to push the lamppost up while Emilia uses her powers to push the lamppost down onto him. Meanwhile, Amir is still fighting off soldiers and has turned his hands into stoney pillars that he uses to crush his opponents, Air-Hawk is flying around with a screaming soldier in his hand, Michael is blasting someone with fire, and Jane is zipping along the street punching whoever she can.

SFX: WABAM

SFX: FWOOM

SFX: THOOOSH

SFX: SWOOOSH

Caption: I'm taking charge of my own life and helping to make a difference.

Page 18

Panel 1: Focus on Emilia. With a face of ferocity, she is trying very hard to keep Dr. Hawkins down. Behind Emilia, a soldier is leaping towards her for an attack.

Emilia: Try to escape all you want Hawkins, but I'm stronger than you!

Panel 2: Before the soldier can get to Emilia, Air-Hawk knocks him out of frame. Emilia looks back with surprise.

SFX: CRACK!

Panel 3: Dr. Hawkins takes advantage of Emilia's distraction. Still holding onto the lamp post with one arm, he blasts her with his other. Emilia falls back.

Dr. Hawkins: Is that so?

Emilia: Nuh...

Panel 4: Having gotten out from under the lamp post, Dr. Hawkins shoots off into the sky and shouts.

SFX: TWOOOOM!

Dr. Hawkins: Everybody out! Now!!

Panel 5: Jane zips over to Emilia, holding her in her arms. Emilia puts her hand to her own head. She is in pain, barely able to stay conscious.

Jane: Hey, stay with me!

Emilia: Nnnnn...

Jane: Emilia?

Page 19

Panel 1: All of Dr. Hawkins' soldiers begin running and jumping down the streets and across rooftops as they escape from the scene.

Panel 2: As Dr. Hawkins makes for an escape, Air-Hawk follows him.

Air-Hawk: You're not getting away with this!

Panel 3: Dr. Hawkins shoots Air-Hawk down.

SFX: BAH!BAH!

Dr. Hawkins: **Quiet, boy!**

Panel 4: As Air-Hawk falls to the ground, Michael flies up to chase Dr. Hawkins.

Michael: Heads up, down there Amir!

Panel 5: On the ground, Amir catches Air-Hawk.

Panel 6: Michael begins to drag Dr. Hawkins down.

Michael: Why do all this? People used to think you were a hero!

Page 20

Panel 1: Dr. Hawkins kicks Michael off of him.

Caption: All of this time, I haven't been able to understand what Hawkins is really up to

Dr. Hawkins: My plans are too big for your little minds.

Panel 2: Dr. Hawkins shoots Michael down while they are still flailing in the air.

SFX: BAH!BAH!BAH!

Panel 3: Amir jumps in the air to catch Michael this time.

Caption: I can't fathom his end goal.

Panel 4: Dr. Hawkins flies over the skyline.

SFX: SHWWWOOOM

Panel 5: Dr. Hawkins taps on his touchpad. The touchpad reads "DETONATION CONFIRMED".

Caption: Or even envision his next steps.

Page 21

Panel 1: One of the devices that was planted by a drone explodes. It destroys the entire building in the process.

Caption: Then I hear the explosions...

SFX: THOOOOM!

Panel 2: Focus on Emilia. Still in Jane's arms, she looks back in fear. Reflections of intense explosions appear in her eyes.

Caption: And I realize part of his scheme. That he **wanted** us all here together.

SFX: BOOM! POOSH!

Panel 3: The whole street becomes flooded with explosions. All of the heroes are centered together. They look around in shock, except for Emilia. Emilia levitates out of Jane's arms from the ground and up into the air, holding her arms out. Amber light emanates from her body and an amber dome begins to develop around the heroes.

Caption: All of the sudden, I feel something like an instinct kick in.

SFX: KATHOOM!

Panel 4: The dome has fully formed around the heroes. The explosions begin to surround the dome

Caption: I don't even realize what I'm doing as it happens.

SFX: POOOM!

Panel 5: The streets are completely filled with explosions and nothing else can be seen.

Caption: I just pray that everything will be okay...

SFX: POW! POW! POW!

Allegiance

Genesis: Chapter 6

Written by Ben Sunding

Art by

Lettering by

Created by Ben Sunding

Side Note for the Artist: Every time Jane uses her power to run, violet streaks of lightning follow her

Side Note for the Artist: Every time Emilia uses her powers, amber light emanates from her hands and whatever she is levitating

Previously, Dr. Hawkins began to unleash his master plan against the world, turning regular civilians into super soldiers. Jane and Emilia decided to join forces to take down Dr. Hawkins, with Michael, Amir, and Deo quickly joining their cause. For the first time, all of the heroes worked together in a valiant battle. However, Hawkins and his newly created super soldiers narrowly escaped after initiating a series of bombs. Now the heroes will have to pick up the pieces of a decimated city.

Page 1

Panel 1: Street view of the burnt ruins of buildings. Explosions have devastated the area. Buildings have crumbled. Homes are burnt to a crisp. Among the wreckage stand the heroes Amir (human form), Michael (human form and in a new orange suit), and Emilia, who are joined by fire trucks, ambulances, and police cars. Amir, Michael, and Emilia, help out as people are being loaded into ambulances and receive medical care. Rescue squads search through the rubble.

Panel 2: Jane speeds into frame to speak with Commissioner Boniadi. Jane is out of breath, breathing heavily, with her hands on her knees.

SFX: FWOOOM

Jane: *huff* Commissioner- *huff* I haven't- *huff* I can't find any more survivors.

Commissioner: It's okay. You've done so much. Why don't you go take a rest?

Panel 3: Jane looks at the Commissioner with anger and determination.

Jane: **No!** I'm not stopping until we find him!

Panel 4: The Commissioner looks at Jane reassuringly. She rests her hand on her shoulder to comfort her.

Jane: I **promise** you that Dr. Hawkins **will** pay for this.

Panel 5: Air-Hawk swoops into the scene. The Commissioner directs her attention to Air-Hawk.

Air-Hawk: Everyone at the hospital seems to be stabilizing. Is there anyone else I can carry over there?

Commissioner: I wish I could say so. Thank you for everything.

Page 2

Panel 1: On the verge of tears, Emilia digs through the rubble and finds a burnt family portrait in a shattered frame. Behind her are the other characters and the emergency officials.

Panel 2: Holding the portrait in her hand, Emilia collapses to her knees and begins sobbing.

Emilia: I know I could've saved them! I just- I didn't-

Panel 3: Jane rushes over to Emilia, wrapping her arms around her. Emilia sobs in Jane's arms.

Jane: No, don't you dare blame yourself for this. This is **not** your fault.

Panel 4: Michael and Amir approach Jane and Emilia. They both take a knee on different sides of the girls. Emilia wipes her tears.

Michael: I know we don't know each other yet, but we're going to get through this...

Amir: **Together.**

Panel 5: Air-Hawk continues speaking to the Commissioner who looks defeated.

Air-Hawk: Any leads on his whereabouts?

Commissioner: If I knew anything I'd be chasing after him. We've got **nothing**.

Panel 6: The Commissioner begins to walk away, waving goodbye to Air-Hawk.

Commissioner: I'm heading back to HQ. Let me know if you find anything.

Air-Hawk: Sure thing, Comish.

Page 3

Panel 1: Air-Hawk walks over to the rest of the heroes. They all look towards Air-Hawk. Amir stands up and looks at him with determination.

Amir: So, what's the plan?

Panel 2: Air-Hawk looks down with shame.

Air-Hawk: I- I don't know. I've never fought anything like this before.

Panel 3: Amir looks at Air-Hawk with confusion. The other heroes begin standing up as well.

Amir: What do you mean? You're Air-Hawk. You've fought all sorts of bad guys.

Panel 4: Air-Hawk begins crying. He takes his mask off.

Air-Hawk: No, that- that wasn't me. That was my **dad**.

Page 4

Panel 1: Michael cocks his head at Air-Hawk inquisitively. Air-Hawk explains the situation.

Michael: Your dad? I don't understand.

Air-Hawk: Michael, you wrote that piece about Air-Hawk losing his edge. That's because I'm not the **real** Air-Hawk. I've been flying around the past few years as a farce. My dad was the hero everyone knew and loved. He was **my** hero.

Panel 2: Emilia looks at Air-Hawk with concern and worry.

Emilia: What happened to your dad, then?

Panel 3: Flashback: A man marches through an area that has been completely decimated. He is large and buff, of South Asian/Indian descent, and has short, slicked back gray hair and a white beard. He wears a black and red armored suit with a red cape. This is Leviathan.

Air-Hawk Caption: A man named **Leviathan** arrived. He had plans to completely destroy the world and recreate it to fulfill his own vision.

Panel 4: Leviathan and Air-Hawk face off against one another in an epic battle.

Caption: My dad was the only one who could stop him, and he did.

Panel 5: A younger Deo along with his mother kneel down on the ground, holding the limp body of Ash Aurora, who is Deo's dad and the original Air-Hawk. Deo and his mother sob uncontrollably.

Caption: But it cost him his life.

Page 4

Panel 1: Air-Hawk looks away from the group as he continues telling the story. He starts crying again.

Air-Hawk: My dad sacrificed himself to save our world. I saw what Air-Hawk meant to people and I knew that I couldn't let his legacy die too.

Panel 2: Air-Hawk now begins to walk away from the others, a look of shame upon his face.

Air-Hawk: Everything every critic has ever said about me is true. I'm just someone pretending to be a superhero.

Panel 3: Emilia runs up to Air-Hawk as he walks away.

Emilia: People don't care if you're pretending.

Panel 4: Air-Hawk turns around. Emilia speaks to the group passionately.

Air-Hawk: What?

Emilia: It doesn't matter if you think you're pretending to be a superhero if people feel safe when you come around. Maybe we're all new to this, but people don't care about that. What matters is how we make people feel.

Panel 5: Amir stands next to Emilia and speaks passionately as well.

Amir: She's right. For the past few months I've been locked inside of the research lab, alone and scared. But when we were all fighting together, everything felt right for a moment. I still don't

know a lot about my powers, but because of you guys I know I'm not just some monster and that I can make a difference.

Page 5

Panel 1: Amir and Emilia shake hands and greet each other with a smile on their face.

Amir: I'm Amir, by the way.

Emilia: Emilia.

Panel 2: Michael stands next to Jane and awkwardly waves at her.

Michael: I'm Michael.

Jane: Jane. Nice to meet you.

Panel 3: Deo introduces himself, unable to hide the grin on his face.

Air-Hawk: I'm Deo. I've been doing this on my own for a while. It's nice to have some people by my side.

Panel 4: The heroes all stand in a circle. Amir looks on cheerfully.

Amir: So that's it, then? Moving forward, if we fight, we do so together.

Michael: Yeah, and not to be a buzzkill, but we still don't have a plan.

Jane: I have some ideas.

Page 6

Panel 1: Jane explains her idea to the group.

Jane: When Dr. Hawkins held Emilia and I captive, he put **inhibitor chips** on our heads to try to mind control us. It's the same inhibitors that his "soldiers" have.

Panel 2: Amir cuts in with a question.

Amir: He held you guys captive?

Jane: It's a long story for another time.

Panel 3: Jane continues explaining her plan.

Jane: When I got my powers, my inhibitor chip broke before it could activate. I noticed that Dr. Hawkins used a **control center** for the chips. I was able to **destroy** it and **deactivated** Emilia's chip. If we find the control center for all of these other chips we can do the same thing and stop his army.

Panel 4: Michael cuts in with a question and Deo rebuttals.

Michael: Wouldn't it be easier if we all just pulled the chips off their heads?

Deo: There's no way of telling what that could do to their brains. Even breaking this control center sounds like a risk, but it's at least a risk that paid off once before.

Page 7

Panel 1: Deo asks Jane a question.

Deo: So, where do you think this control center might be?

Jane: I'm not sure. He has a lab in his mansion, but that would be too obvious of a place.

Deo: Maybe so, but it's a good place to start looking for clues.

Panel 2: Amir, Emilia, and Jane all engage in the conversation. Jane gestures to her and Emilia.

Amir: But surely the police have already looked through his house at this point?

Emilia: Yeah, but he's smart. I'm sure he knows what they're looking for and how to cover his tracks.

Jane: But if **we** look around, well, Emilia and I will know the place better than anyone else. We can figure out what Hawkins is up to, find the control center, stop the soldiers, and end this once and for all!

Panel 3: Amir excitedly puts his hand in the middle of the group.

Amir: Everyone put your hands in the middle. **Heroes** on 3!

Panel 4: Amir continues to keep his hand in the middle while everyone looks at him awkwardly.

Panel 5: Amir still has hand in the middle. Michael puts his hand on Amir's shoulder and whispers in his ear.

Michael: Yeah, we're not doing that right now, buddy.

Page 8

Panel 1: Deo directs the four others. Amir asks Deo a question.

Deo: Why don't you four all go together. I'll meet you at Dr. Hawkins' later.

Amir: Where are you going?

Panel 2: Deo looks at the group reassuringly. Michael chimes in.

Deo: I think I know someone else who can help us.

Michael: I'm going to make a pit stop as well.

Panel 3: Jane gets the group back on track.

Jane: Well you guys better make it quick. Hawkins is still out there.

Deo: Sure thing, Jane. I'll see you guys soon.

Jane: Catch you later.

Panel 4: All of the heroes run and fly through the frame heroically. Jane speeds ahead of the group. Micheal and Deo fly through the sky. Amir turns into his rock formation and runs as fast as he can go, accompanied by Emilia.

Jane: Everyone else, let's go!

SFX: ZOoooooMM

SFX: SWooooOP

SFX: THWooosh

Page 9

Panel 1: Establishing shot of an apartment building amongst the city skyline. A fire escape goes up the brick wall of the building.

Panel 2: Inside of an apartment, a black man sits on the couch reading a book. It's the same man hinted at in issues #1 and #4. This is Xavier "Zay" Walters. The apartment has brick walls and wooden floors. It is filled with furniture, plants, books, records, and pictures on the wall.

Panel 3: Zay looks up from their book as they hear a rapping on the window right of frame.

SFX: TAP! TAP! TAP!

Panel 4: A shot from outside of the apartment. Zay opens the window and sees Air-Hawk sitting on the fire escape. The two talk to one another. Air-Hawk is right of frame on the fire escape and Zay is left of frame, standing inside the apartment having just opened the window.

Zay: Deo? What are you doing here?

Deo: It's been a while, **Zay**. I thought... we should talk.

Panel 5: Zay rubs the back of his head, seeming stand-offish. He gestures towards Deo's suit.

Zay: Yeah, uhm, it **has** been a while. Do you... wanna come in? Would you even fit in with all of that on?

Deo: Heh, I'm fine sitting out here if that's okay with you.

Page 10

Panel 1: Zay leans on the window sill as he and Deo speak.

Zay: Yeah, that's cool. I saw the news. You okay?

Deo: I'm a little rattled, but I'll be fine. How's **The North City Times** treating you these days?

Panel 2: The two continue speaking to one another. Their postures are tense and awkward.

Zay: It's going alright. I was writing a report on the deforestation of the Amazon, but this Hawkins stuff blew everything out of the water.

Deo: Sorry about that.

Zay: Pssh. It's not your fault.

Panel 3: The two begin to loosen up in their body language.

Zay: So, how are you liking your new friends?

Deo: They're great so far. They're a lot smarter than me.

Zay: Ha, that's a low bar.

Deo: Haha, yeah, it is.

Panel 4: Zay turns away, a scowl on their face, as Deo talks to them.

Deo: Zay, you know, it's great having the four of them, but... it's not enough.

Zay: Oh, c'mon, not this conversation again.

Panel 6: Deo continues pleading with Zay. Zay looks at Deo seriously and begins to shout.

Deo: I know you've said no before, but I've still got that spare suit and-

Zay: Deo, I've said it a thousand times, **the answer is no!**

Page 11

Panel 1: Zay continues leaning on the window sill. They look away from Deo.

Zay: Listen, I don't mean any offense, but I've got my own life now. A life I'm proud of. Why can't you respect that?

Panel 2: Deo gets closer to Zay as he tries to apologize. Zay continues looking away, a frown on their face.

Deo: Zay, I've got nothing but respect for you. That's why I always wanted you to do this with me.

Panel 3: Zay gets upset again, looking back at Deo.

Zay: **Do** you respect me, though? You said you came here to talk. Well, I want to talk too, but not like this. Not when you're wearing your get up. I don't want to talk to Air-Hawk. I want to talk to my friend Deo!

Panel 4: Deo grows speechless while Zay continues laying into him.

Deo: Zay, I- I-

Zay: Deo, I know how important all of this is to you, but ever since you became Air-Hawk you haven't made time for anything else. We never talk anymore because **you** never talk to **me!**

Page 12

Panel 1: Zay looks away again. Tears in their eyes.

Zay: I'm sorry. I just want my best friend back.

Panel 2: Deo begins rummaging around in one of the pockets on his utility belt that sits on his hips.

Deo: I should get going, but I also wanted to give you this.

Panel 3: Deo presents Zay with an ordinary looking analog watch. He points at one of the buttons on the watch.

Deo: It's a watch, but if you're in trouble, just press this button and I'll be there. Any time. Any place.

Panel 4: Zay takes the watch and smiles a bit

Zay: Thanks, man.

Deo: Don't mention it. My mom has one too.

Zay: Ha! You know your mom's never gonna press it. **Mavis Aurora** deals with her own problems.

Panel 5: Deo begins to step off the fire escape. He takes one last look at Zay before he flies away.

Deo: I miss hanging out with you and I'm gonna make time for us. No superhero stuff.

Panel 6: Deo flies away and Zay watches him as he goes.

SFX: SWOOOOOM

Page 13

Panel 1: An establishing shot of Dr. Hawkins high-dollar mansion. It has been wrecked from the battle before. There is a large hole in the roof and much of the landscape has been destroyed. Yellow police tape acts as a barrier around the house.

Panel 2: Jane, Emilia, and Amir are back in Hawkins' lab. It looks just the way it was left when Jane and Emilia broke out. Much of the lab has been wrecked. In the foreground, Amir digs around in the destruction looking for clues. In the background, Emilia looks around as well. Jane sits at a desk and messes around on a computer.

Amir: Are you guys seeing anything?

Emilia: Not in here. A lot of this place was wrecked when Jane and I broke out of here.

Jane: I'm trying to get on his computer but I can't figure out the password. Emilia, why don't you look in some other rooms and see if you can find anything that might make you think of a key?

Panel 3: Amir picks up the shattered glass box that used to hold the Agrueneseum. He inspects it. Jane continues trying to access the computer.

Amir: Seems like a lot happened down here. What exactly did he do to you two?

Jane: It doesn't matter. Just keep looking for clues.

Panel 4: Emilia is in another room looking at a grand trophy case in the house. Within it are a slew of awards and accolades for Hawkins, one of which is a Purple Heart. There are photographs of him shaking hands with important looking people.

Panel 5: Emilia picks up a framed picture of a younger Dr. Hawkins. He is in a camo army suit holding a gun. Emilia calls out to the two in the other room.

Emilia: Hey, did you two know he was in the army?

Page 14

Panel 1: Still sitting by the computer, Jane calls out to Emilia. Emilia responds from outside the room

Jane: Hmm. No. Any idea where he was stationed?

Emilia: It looks like maybe **Afghanistan**.

Panel 2: On the computer monitor, Jane is prompted to type in a password. She begins typing in "AFGHANISTAN".

SFX: CLICK CLACK CLACK

Jane: Afghanistan...

Panel 3: After typing in AFGHANISTAN, the monitor displays the following: "INCORRECT PASSWORD. TWO ATTEMPTS LEFT BEFORE LOCKOUT."

Jane: Hrm. What else can you tell me?

Panel 4: Emilia has opened a drawer and is going through some files. She holds a document up as she reads it.

Emilia: Oh no, his whole squad died in battle.

Jane: Who killed them?

Emilia: It seems like some people associated with **The Taliban** attacked their camp. Hawkins was the only survivor.

Panel 5: After typing in TALIBAN, the monitor displays the following: "INCORRECT PASSWORD. ONE ATTEMPT LEFT BEFORE LOCKOUT."

SFX: CLACK CLACK CLICK

Jane: Damn...

Jane: What was the name of his squad?

Panel 6: Amongst the files, Emilia finds a picture of Hawkins and nine other soldiers. The picture is titled ECHO SQUAD.

Emilia: **Echo Squad**.

Page 15

Panel 1: After typing in ECHOSQUAD, the monitor displays the following: "WELCOME BACK, DR. HAWKINS"

Jane: I'm in!

Panel 2: Jane, Amir, and Emilia all crowd around the display as they search for clues together on the computer. The desktop contains various folders.

Jane: Let's see what he's really up to.

Amir: Click on the folder titled **Rebuild Initiative**.

Panel 3: On the monitor, Jane sifts through items within the Rebuild Initiative folder. All she finds are blueprints for the construction and renovation of buildings.

Jane: There's nothing in here. It's just blueprints for renovations they did to the city years ago.

Emilia: Wait, what's that folder in there titled **Phase 2**?

Panel 4: Jane clicks on the folder titled Phase 2.

Panel 5: The three all look at the monitor in horror.

Jane: Oh my god...

Page 16

Panel 1: On the computer, a blueprint for the inhibitor chip is displayed.

Panel 2: On the computer, an architectural design for a tall building is displayed. It looks very similar to the Empire State Building. At the top of the building is a lightning rod. The design is titled "SOUTH EMPIRE TOWER"

Panel 3: On the computer, a map of the world is displayed titled "TARGETED AREAS". The targeted areas have red circles around them. The targeted areas include China, Russia, North Korea, and nearly all of the Middle East.

Panel 4: On the computer, a spreadsheet is displayed. The spreadsheet is titled "FLEET INVENTORY". The spreadsheet includes high numbers for soldiers, planes, guns, ammunition, and more.

Panel 5: Jane has her hands on her head in a sign of stress. She shouts in a panic. Emilia continues looking on in horror. Amir rubs his temples.

Jane: He's planning an **invasion!**

Emilia: He's going to use his soldiers to hit all of America's enemies.

Amir: Nnn...

Page 17

Panel 1: Amir collapses to the ground. He puts his hand to his head screaming in pain as if he has a terrible headache. Emilia and Jane both try to help him up.

Amir: AAHH!

Emilia: Amir!

Jane: Talk to us, Amir. What's going on?

Panel 2: Blurry. An unconscious Amir getting dragged down an alley.

Amir Caption: I think I'm remembering...

Panel 3: Blurry. From Amir's perspective. Faceless grey humanoid creatures peer over Amir as he lies on a table. Behind them is a bright white light.

Amir: There were creatures...faceless creatures...

Panel 4: Blurry. The creatures place their thin grey fingers on Amir's torso. Bright white light emanates from their hands.

Amir: They...did something to me...

Panel 5: Blurry. Amir screams and shouts in pain as his face slowly begins turning into stone. White light surrounds him.

Amir: They turned me into...what I am now.

Panel 6: Amir comes back to. He continues rubbing his head as he sits on the ground. Jane and Emilia sit next to him.

Jane: Hey, are you good?

Amir: Uhm, yeah.

Emilia: What just happened?

Amir: I had lost some memories, but they're starting to come back.

Page 18

Panel 1: Deo enters the lab in his Air-Hawk suit. Jane and Emilia help Amir back up.

Deo: Everything okay?

Amir: I'll be fine. We've got a lot of work to do.

Jane: Deo, you'll wanna take a look at that computer.

Panel 2: Deo looks at the computer in horror.

Deo: This is bad. Like really bad.

Jane: You don't have to tell us that.

Panel 3: Jane talks to the rest of the group.

Jane: I'm willing to bet Hawkins is using **South Empire Tower** as his control center. It's the tallest building in South City. From up there, cell service and radio waves can travel for thousands of miles.

Deo: What about this fleet of his. He's surely trying to ship his soldiers out ASAP. Any idea where the closest air base is?

Panel 4: Michael enters the room. In his hand he holds two super suits. One is black and purple and the other is black and amber.

Michael: That would be **Beach City**. We better get there fast, though. There's no telling how many soldiers Hawkins has at this point.

Page 19

Panel 1: Michael hands Jane and Emilia the super suits.

Michael: You might want these.

Jane: What am I looking at?

Michael: Some old prototypes they had at Kinesthetic Research Labs.

Panel 2: Emilia takes the amber suit and investigates it. Jane looks at the purple suit in disgust.

Jane: There's no way in hell I'm wearing this!

Emilia: C'mon Jane, it's better than ruining your own clothes.

Panel 3: Jane takes the suit with disdain.

Jane: It better be easy to take this thing off when I need to pee.

Panel 4: Michael speaks to Deo.

Michael: I never said I was sorry.

Deo: Sorry for what?

Michael: For writing that article. I was wrong about you.

Deo: No, I needed you to write that. Sometimes a guy needs a swift kick to remind him what really matters.

Panel 5: Jane and Emilia have their new suits on. Jane, Emilia, and Amir all look ready to go. Jane has her hands on her hips as she addresses Deo and Michael.

Jane: I hate to interrupt the social hour but...

Page 20

Full page: All of the heroes storm out of the mansion in their superhero forms, fully suited up. All of the heroes run and fly through the frame heroically. Jane speeds ahead of the group. Micheal and Deo fly through the sky. Emilia and Amir run as fast as they can.

SFX: ZOoooooMM

SFX: SWOOOOOP

SFX: THWOOOSH

Jane: **It's time to kick some billionaire ass!**

Allegiance

Genesis: Chapter 7

Written by Ben Sunding

Art by

Lettering by

Created by Ben Sunding

*Side Note for the Artist: The term “*airman*” in this script is used for all air force officials, not just men.*

Side Note for the Artist: Every time Jane uses her power to run, violet streaks of lightning follow her

Side Note for the Artist: Every time Emilia uses her powers, amber light emanates from her hands and whatever she is levitating

Previously, Deo, Jane, Micheal, Emilia, and Amir assisted with rescue efforts after Dr. Hawkins decimated part of North City. The five heroes officially introduced themselves to each other, with Deo revealing that he’s not the original Air-Hawk, but his late father’s successor. The group then made a plan to locate and disable Dr. Hawkins’ mind-control infrastructure. However, the heroes learn of Hawkins’ true plan, and will have to act fast if they want to stop a catastrophe of global proportions.

Page 1

Panel 1: An establishing shot of an air base along the coast. The area is filled with fighter jets, large cargo planes, terminals, and barracks.

Emilia Caption: Jane, Amir, and I will head to **Beach City** and stop Dr. Hawkins from shipping out his troops.

Panel 2: Inside the air base, one of Hawkins’ armed super soldiers pushes a uniformed airman to his knees. The airman winces in pain, joining a line of other air force officials who are also kneeling down. Behind them stand a squad of the supersoldiers who are armed with assault rifles.

Michael Caption: And Deo and I will head to **South Empire Tower** to take down the control center.

Airman: Nggh!

Panel 3: Dr. Hawkins stands before the line of the kneeled airmen. He wears his black armored suit and has a devious smirk on his face.

Deo Caption: All of you should take one of these. It’s an earpiece we can use to communicate with each other.

Airman: You can take our guns and override our systems, but the National Guard is on their way! You’ll be tried for treason, and that’s if they even let you live!

Dr. Hawkins: Oh, they’re already here. My super soldiers have been keeping them at bay.

Panel 4: Dr. Hawkins takes the airman by the collar and looks at him menacingly. Hawkins begins to attempt to place an inhibitor chip on the side of the man's head. The airman looks at him with anger and disgust.

Dr. Hawkins: Trust in the process. By the time I’m through with this you’ll be thanking me.

Amir Caption: Here we go then. Are you guys ready?

Panel 5: Jane speeds into frame, violet lightning following her. She deals Dr. Hawkins a blow to the head, knocking him off his feet and forcing him to drop the airman.

SFX: BOWWW!

SFX: SCHWOOOM

Jane: Oh, I've **been** ready!

Page 2

Panel 1: Dr. Hawkins picks himself back up, wiping blood from his chin. He looks up at Jane who stands above him. They speak to each other through gritted teeth.

Dr. Hawkins: Still alive are you, Jane? I'll have to change that.

Jane: I'd like to see you try.

Panel 2: Dr. Hawkins attempts to deliver a series of blasts to Jane with his blasters, but Jane speeds out of frame and avoids getting hit. Dr. Hawkins shouts at his soldiers as he shoots.

SFX: BAHBAHBAHBAH

SFX: ZIIPPP

Dr. Hawkins: What are you all doing? **Get her!**

Panel 3: Super soldiers begin shooting at Jane with guns, but miss. Others try to catch her, but they stumble upon one another as Jane is too fast.

SFX: BADADADADADADA

SFX: ZOOOM

SFX: WHIFF

Panel 4: The line of airmen remain in their original spot, but they duck for cover as shots are fired around them. Jane speeds over to an airman, picking them up. The airman holds onto Jane tightly, closing their eyes with fear.

SFX: FWWOOOSH

Jane: Don't worry. We're going to get you all out of here.

Airman: What do you mean **we**? There's only one of you!

Panel 5: Amir crashes through the wall in his giant rock formation. He grabs one of the super soldiers as he does so. The super soldier flails around in his fist. Beside Amir is Emilia. She deflects bullets heading her way with an amber force field emanating from her hands. Bullets bounce off of Amir's body, chipping away at his rocky skin.

SFX: CRASH!!

Jane Caption: Not exactly.

Page 3

Panel 1: An establishing shot of Deo and Michael flying towards South Empire Tower, the tallest skyscraper amongst a sea of buildings. It is very similar to the Empire State Building. Atop the tower is a lightning rod that is illuminated by a purple light. As Michael flies, his body is fully engulfed in flames.

SFX: SWOOOP

SFX: THWOOOSH

Panel 2: Michael and Deo arrive at the roof of the tower and are automatically attacked by a swarm of Hawkins' soldiers. Some of the soldiers are armed with assault rifles and begin firing at Deo and Michael. Others try to best the two in hand to hand combat. Deo and Michael talk to one another as they fight the soldiers off.

SFX: POW

SFX: BAM

Deo: If you can hold them off, I'll disable the tower.

Michael: No problem!

Panel 3: Deo arrives at the base of the lightning rod and discovers a tablet that Hawkins has connected to the lightning rod with a series of wires and electrical boxes. As Deo investigates the tablet, he holds a couple fingers to his ear and communicates through his ear piece. Jane speaks to Deo over the radio with a Purple Lined Word Bubble.

Deo: Team, I've got eyes on the control center.

Jane Radio Word Bubble: Don't waste time telling us. Go ahead and disable it.

Deo: On it.

Panel 4: One of the soldiers sneaks up behind Deo and smashes his head into the base of the lighting rod.

SFX: SLAM!

Deo: Gnnn!

Panel 5: As he fights off soldiers, Michael looks Deo's way. He shouts out his name in a panic.

Michael: Deo!

Panel 6: Michael rushes Deo's way and shoots flames at the offender. Deo holds his head in pain.

SFX: BOOOOSH!

Jane Radio Word Bubble: What's going on over there?

Michael: Don't worry about us! Just keep trying to take down Hawkins!

Page 4

Panel 1: Amir smashes the ground, sending pieces of concrete flying everywhere. Along with the concrete, super soldiers are lifted off their feet and knocked away

SFX: SMAASH!

Amir: GRAAAAAAHHH!

Panel 2: Emilia uses her powers to sweep Hawkins back into a wall.

SFX: BTAK

Dr. Hawkins: Gah!

Emilia: So what is it then, Hawkins? Do you really think if you wipe out all of America's enemies it will solve everything?

Panel 3: As Emilia continues holding Dr. Hawkins down, several other little guns extend from his gauntlet.

SFX: TK TK TK TK

Dr. Hawkins: Oh, Emilia...

Panel 4: Several tiny missiles are fired at Emilia from his gauntlet. Emilia is knocked back by the explosion and Hawkins escapes from his position.

SFX: KABLAM!

Dr. Hawkins: You're still thinking so **small**!

Page 5

Panel 1: Hawkins flies into the air and delivers a major blast to Emilia. Emilia shields herself from the blast using an amber construct, but is still lying on the ground.

SFX: BLAST!

Dr. Hawkins: Think of it, Emilia! Man's history has been plagued by **war** and **tragedy**. We see the same stories repeat themselves again and again!

Panel 2: Emilia continues deflecting the blast from Hawkins. She strains to maintain her shield construct as it begins cracking.

Emilia: Gggghhhh...

Dr. Hawkins: Everyone talks about wanting to see change in the world. But no one is willing to commit to what it takes to make it happen!

Panel 3: Emilia's construct shatters and Hawkins finally lands his blast on her.

SFX: KRAKOOM

Dr. Hawkins: And what it takes is an **iron fist**!

Emilia: AAHH!

Page 6

Panel 1: Amongst the chaos, Jane continues helping the airmen escape. One by one she helps them up, but it looks as if she is in many places at once.

Jane: C'mon now, up you go.

Jane: Don't get in too much of a rush.

Jane: It's not like an international threat is on the loose.

Panel 2: An aerial view as violet streaks continuously zip back and forth from the air base to a safe patch of the beach. At the beach there is a crowd of hundreds of air force officials who Jane has helped escape.

SFX: VROOM VROOM VROOM

Panel 3: Jane drops the last airman off at the beach with the rest of the airmen.

SFX: THWOOOOM

Jane: There we go. You're the last one.

Panel 4: One of the airmen steps forward and begins yelling at Jane.

Airman: I don't care who they are! You can't stop us from fighting for our country!

Panel 5: Jane looks back at the airman, questioning them.

Jane: You have no weapons and no defenses, and you want to fight against a superpowered army? Thank you for your service, but I think we've got this.

Panel 6: Jane rushes back to the action at the base, violet lightning following her.

SFX: ZZZZZZZZOOOOOMM

Page 7

Panel 1: Back at South Empire Tower, Michael fights off the super soldiers by shooting great loads of flames their way. Deo is behind him still trying to get back up on his feet.

SFX: HISSS

SFX: THOOOSH

Micheal: Deo, I know you took a pretty good blow to the head, but I could really use your help here.

Deo: Right...

Panel 2: Deo sets himself up in position. He leans forward on all fours, the same way a person does before beginning a track race. He cocks his head as he cracks his neck.

SFX: CRK

Deo: Let's have some fun then.

Panel 3: Deo flies past Michael and the soldiers in an instant. On Deo's way out, he grabs the same soldier that rammed his head into the pole. As he does all of this, he flies so fast that he breaks the sound barrier.

SFX: KRAKOW

Panel 4: In mid-flight, Deo delivers multiple punches to the super soldier's face.

SFX: THAK THAK THAK

SFX: **This** is for hitting my head into that pole!

Panel 5: Deo swoops back over to the tower and tosses his victim into the group of soldiers attacking Michael. The soldiers fall down like bowling pins.

SFX: SWOOSH

SFX: DKUSH

Deo: And **this** is just because you're ugly!

Soldier: Ungh!

Soldier: Guh!

Page 8

Panel 1: Michael and Deo stand back to back as they continue fighting against the super soldiers. Michael shoots red lasers out of his eyes, knocking down one of the super soldiers. Deo delivers a swift uppercut to a soldier.

SFX: SSKKZZZZNN

SFX: CHOK!

Panel 2: One scowling soldier fires an assault rifle continuously at Michael and Deo who scatter away.

SFX: BADADADADADA

Panel 3: Michael flies by and sweeps the same soldier off of their feet. As this happens, the soldier drops the rifle and it goes flying in mid-air.

SFX: WHIFF

Michael: Haven't I told you I don't like guns?

Panel 4: Deo swoops by and catches the rifle before it falls to the ground.

Deo: Me neither, Michael...

Panel 5: As he flies in the air, Deo aims the rifle at the tablet.

Deo: But I'm willing to make an exception.

Panel 6: The tablet shatters and sparks as bullets are continuously fired into it.

SFX: BADADADADADA

SFX: KSSSHHHHK

Page 9

Panel 1: The purple light on the lightning rod of the building begins powering down. The purple light descends from top to bottom like a thermometer.

Michael Radio Word Bubble: We did it! The control center is down!

SFX: BUZZZZ

Panel 2: The purple light descends to the halfway point.

Jane Radio Word Bubble: Nice job you two. We'll need you at the airbase, pronto.

SFX: ZZZZZZ

Panel 3: The purple light completely shuts off.

Jane Radio Word Bubble: Wait a minute...

SFX: TCK!

Panel 4: Deo and Michael have their back to the lightning rod and the center of the tower as the super soldiers continue to crowd around them. The soldiers with guns aim them at the heroes. Deo and Michael look on in fear and confusion.

Jane Radio Word Bubble: It doesn't seem to be working over here. Are the inhibitor chips on all of your soldiers deactivated?

Deo: I'm not sure what's going on here, Jane. The system should be shut down.

Page 10

Panel 1: A loud voice calls out to Deo and Michael from the top of the frame. Everyone, including the soldiers, look in the direction of the voice.

Valgore: HAHAAHAHAHAHA!

Deo: Oh you've got to be kidding me...

Panel 2: Valgore is hanging from the side of the lightning rod at the top of the building. He holds onto the rod with his meaty claws as he speaks down to the boys with a devious smile on his face.

Valgore: **VALGORE** ALWAYS GETS SUCH A KICK OUT OF HOW STUPID YOU LITTLE HUMANS ARE!

Panel 3: Valgore drops down to the roof with everyone else who is crowded around the center. Soldiers are blown away from the impact of his giant body landing on the roof.

Valgore: DID AIR-HAWK AND HIS SILLY PLAYMATES REALLY THINK YOU JUST HAD TO TAKE OUT **ONE** TOWER TO DEFEAT AN **ARMY**!?

Panel 4: Valgore grins at Deo and Michael with menace.

Valgore: THERE'S A LOT MORE TOWERS AIR-HAWK...

Panel 5: Valgore throws a punch towards the boys, but they both fly away, and he hits the center pole instead. Soldiers chase after and shoot after the boys.

SFX: BAM!

Valgore: BUT YOU AND YOUR FRIENDS WILL BE **DEAD** BEFORE YOU CAN GET TO THEM ALL!!!

Page 11

Panel 1: Back at the airbase, Amir is on one knee as soldiers crawl all over him and begin to overpower him. Some soldiers continue shooting at his rocky skin. Amir uses one of his fists as a sledgehammer and bashes it into the ground in an effort to knock the soldiers away, but it's no use.

SFX: BAM

Amir: I thought they shut the tower down! Why are the soldiers still swarming us?

Panel 2: Jane knocks down several soldiers as she uses her powers to rush through the air base.

SFX: THRAK THAK THONK

Jane: I don't know, Amir. We've just got to hang in there a little-

Panel 3: A blue blast is delivered towards Jane's legs. She is sent flying away as she trips over the blast.

SFX: FWAKOOM

Jane: AH!

Panel 4: Jane crashes into a wall, pain in her eyes.

SFX: BLAM

Panel 5: Jane looks at her legs with concern. Parts of her suit along her calves glow orange as they burn from the blast. Through the singed suit, a bit of her skin is revealed to be bloody and burned. Dr. Hawkins begins to walk into frame, looming over her.

Jane: Unf!

Dr. Hawkins: It didn't have to be like this, Jane.

Page 12

Panel 1: Dr. Hawkins lifts Jane up by her arm forcefully. Jane tries to fight him off, but is too weak after her injury.

Dr. Hawkins: Of all people, I never wanted to hurt you.

Jane: Get...off of me...

Panel 2: Emilia is swarmed by the soldiers who knock her down. She tries to fight them off, using her power to push many of them away and using her amber shield to deflect bullets that are shot at her, but there's simply too many of them.

Dr. Hawkins Caption: I thought it would be such a shame for a person of your talents and intellect to be wasted.

Panel 3: Other soldiers continue to attack Amir. He falls back, helpless, as they climb over him like rats.

Dr. Hawkins Caption: I've known many people like you. People with bright minds and noble hearts that would have made great change in the world.

Panel 4: Having picked Jane up and onto her feet, Dr. Hawkins slams her into the wall. He shouts in her face as she looks away from him, cringing in pain.

SFX: SLAM

Jane: Uugh!

Dr. Hawkins: But the world ripped those people away from me! That's what the world always does!

Panel 5: Still holding Jane to the wall, Dr. Hawkins aims his gauntlet gun right at her head. The gun glows bright blue as it prepares to blast her.

Dr. Hawkins: I suppose today shall be no different.

Page 13

Panel 1: Nearly drowning in super soldiers, Emilia's face sparks with a ferocity. Her eyes glow a bright amber color.

Panel 2: Emilia rises into the air, arms spread out, her whole body emanating an amber light. The soldiers around her are pushed away via her powers.

Emilia: **NO!**

Panel 3: Dr. Hawkins is ripped away from Jane just as he fires his blaster. The blast misses Jane, but hits the wall right next to Jane's head. Hawkins thrashes around as Emilia controls him..

SFX: KOOM

Emilia: You get your hands **off** of her!

Panel 4: Dr. Hawkins body is launched through a wall like a ragdoll. Rubble trails Hawkins' flailing body

SFX: SMASH!

Dr. Hawkins: Guh!

Panel 5: Now outside on the pavement of the airbase, Hawkins begins trying to fly away, igniting the jets on the back of his suit.

SFX: FWOOM

Panel 6: Emilia slams Hawkins' body right back down onto the pavement before he can get away. The pavement cracks on impact.

SFX: CRAK

Dr. Hawkins: Oof!

Page 14

Panel 1: Emilia uses her powers to rip off different pieces of Hawkins' suit as he is pinned to the ground. She steps closer to him.

SFX: KRNK TNK SHHNK

Emilia: You may be the smartest man in the world.

Panel 2: Close up shot of Dr. Hawkins as he continues to struggle to move. Emilia is using her powers to hold him down with great force. She continues to telekinetically rip off pieces of his armor.

SFX: SHHNK TNK KRNK

Emilia: You may have all of the money, power, and influence anyone could ever want.

Panel 3: With Hawkins stripped down and pinned to the ground, an amber domed force field begins to appear around him and Emilia. Emilia steps right up to Hawkins, looming over him.

Emilia: And you may have been able to get away with a lot of things...

Panel 4: The forcefield fully surrounds Emilia and Hawkins. A furious Emilia sticks her hands out as she uses her powers to unleash her wrath. Amber light continues emanating from her body. It can't be seen what is being done to Hawkins, but he cries and screams with terror.

SFX: TTCCHHCCKK

Emilia: But you will **never** hurt one of my friends again!

Dr. Hawkins: AAAAAAAHHHH!!!

Page 15

Panel 1: Over at South Empire Tower, Deo and Michael fly away from the building as Valgore and the soldiers chase after them. The adversaries leap off of the roof in an effort to catch the heroes. Michael shoots flames towards Valgore, but Valgore leaps over the flames as he relishes in the chase.

Valgore: YES! KEEP RUNNING! VALGORE LOVES THE THRILL OF THE HUNT!

Panel 2: In mid-air, Valgore catches Michael with his giant fist that covers Michael's arms and entire torso. Michael can't seem to wriggle free.

VALGORE: YOU THINK YOUR FLAMES CAN BEST ME? YOU LISTEN TO ME KNOW FLAME BOY!

Panel 3: Still falling in the sky, Valgore throws Michael down towards the buildings beneath them. The free falling soldiers continue heading down with Valgore.

VALGORE: I AM THE MIGHTIEST BEING THAT EVER LIVED!

Panel 4: Michael crashes into a building. Rubble from the impact flies everywhere.

SFX: WAKOW

VALGORE: BEINGS LIKE YOU SHALL KNEEL BEFORE AND CRY...

Panel 5: Valgore joins Michael in the building. Valgore also sends rubble and dust flying about as he lands and looms over Micheal. As Valgore beats his chest in a fury, civilians in the building scatter away. Michael lies on the ground greatly injured.

Valgore: **HAIL VALGORE!!!**

Page 16

Panel 1: Deo swoops in and forcefully punches Valgore in the face. Valgore spits up drool from the punch.

SFX: KRAK

Deo: How about we just tell you to shut up for once?

Panel 2: Valgore punches a hole in the wall as he tries to catch Deo. Deo continues to fly away. Other soldiers chase after Deo too.

SFX: POOM

Valgore: THAT FIRST ONE WAS FREE, AIR-HAWK!

Panel 3: Deo flies back Valgore's way with great speed.

Deo: Then this one must be on discount!

Panel 4: Deo delivers Valgore an uppercut with his boot. Valgore begins to fall back.

SFX: THRAK

Panel 5: Deo flies back behind Valgore as he continues to fall down.

Deo: And as for the rest of you...

Panel 6: Deo kicks Valgore towards a group of the soldiers. Valgore falls on top of them.

SFX: DKOOM

Deo: Let's call it even after this.

Page 17

Panel 1: At the airbase, all of the super soldiers within the airbase are pinned onto the ground trying to wriggle free.

Soldier: Hnnn..

Soldier: Gra!

Soldier: Ergh...

Panel 2: Amir rushes Jane's way, slowly morphing back into his human form. Jane is collapsed by the wall that Hawkins had her pinned to. She looks like she is in so much pain that she can't get back on her feet.

Amir: Jane!

Panel 3: Amir carefully helps Jane sit up against the wall. He looks at the wounds on her legs. Jane cringes in pain as she speaks to Amir.

Amir: C'mon, it's gonna be okay.

Jane: I...nnn...I have to get back out there.

Amir: No, just stay right here. I'll go find some bandages.

Panel 4: Back in the amber dome, Emilia uses her power to lift Hawkins up from the ground.

Panel 5: Emilia uses her powers to slam Hawkins back down onto the ground with great impact.

SFX: SHAKOOM

Page 18

Panel 1: Emilia slams Hawkins into the ground again.

SFX: THOOM

Panel 2: And again.

SFX: BOOM

Panel 3: *And again.*

SFX: WAKOOM

Panel 4: Inside the base, Amir has brought ace wrap bandages over to Jane. He uses a water bottle to pour cool water over the burns on her legs. Jane cries and squirms in pain.

Jane: OW, OW, OW! Amir, it really hurts!

Amir: It's going to hurt right now, but I promise this is going to help.

Jane: Nnnn...

Panel 5: Emilia is alerted to Jane's screams behind her. The amber light dissipates from Emilia's eyes.

Jane Word Bubble: OOOOOWWWW!!!

Emilia: Jane!

Panel 6: Emilia looks back at Dr. Hawkins who is nearly incapacitated. She looks at him with hesitation as she is unsure of what to do. If she helps her friend she lets Hawkins escape.

Panel 7: The amber dome begins to recede as Emilia flies back towards the base to help Amir and Jane. Dr. Hawkins remains heavily injured on the pavement.

Page 19

Panel 1: Emilia kneels next to Jane and holds her hand as Amir places bandages on one of Jane's legs.

Emilia: I'm here now, Jane. I've got you.

Jane: He's going to get away!

Emilia: I don't care about that right now. I care about **you**.

Panel 2: The super soldiers in the air base finally get off the ground. As many rise up, they join the swarm who flee the building.

Emilia Caption: It's like you said, guys like him always get off with a slap on the wrist.

Panel 3: The soldiers scatter around outside on the pavement. A few of them lift a damaged Dr. Hawkins up. Jet and cargo planes begin moving around on the base.

Emilia Caption: I wanted to do everything in my power to stop that...

Panel 4: The soldiers carefully carry Hawkins into a large cargo plane.

Emilia Caption: But I got so caught up in the fight that I forgot the most important part of all this.

Panel 5: Emilia uses both of her hands to hold onto Jane's hand. The two smile at each other with tears in their eyes. Amir put his hand on Jane's shoulder smiling at Emilia too.

Emilia: None of this matters if we don't have each other.

Panel 6: Jane's wounds begin miraculously healing.

Page 20

Panel 1: Jane looks at her wounds with astonishment to see that they are completely healed. Amir speaks to Emilia who looks at him with confusion.

Jane: I'm- I'm all better now!

Amir: I think you healed her, Emilia.

Emilia: Me? There's no way. I mean I-

Amir: It definitely wasn't my bottle of water that did that.

Panel 2: Jane stands up and begins to head towards the action. The other two begin to stand up with her.

Jane: Emilia, you've seen all of the other crazy stuff you can do and you want to start questioning things now?

Panel 3: The three begin to exit from the holes in the walls of the air base. Amir begins to turn into his rock formation.

Jane: C'mon you guys...

Panel 4: The three rush towards the action as jets and cargo planes prepare for take off. Jane speeds ahead, her usual purple streaks of lightning following her. Amir rushes forward now in his giant rock form. Emilia uses her powers to fly alongside the two.

Jane: This fight isn't over yet!

Allegiance

Genesis: Chapter 8

Written by Ben Sunding

Art by

Lettering by

Created by Ben Sunding

Side Note for the Artist: Every time Jane uses her power to run, violet streaks of lightning follow her

Side Note for the Artist: Every time Emilia uses her powers, amber light emanates from her hands and whatever she is levitating

Previously, the heroes attempted to stop Dr. Hawkins from executing his terrible scheme. Jane, Amir, and Emilia battled Hawkins and his super soldiers at an airbase, while Deo and Michael infiltrated South Empire Tower to disable Hawkins' mind control inhibitor chips. However, Deo and Michael were greeted by the monstrous Valgore, who revealed that there is not one, but several towers that the heroes will have to deactivate. The heroes struggled against overwhelming forces and Jane was severely injured by Hawkins. Emilia was able to heal Jane, but let Hawkins get away. Now the heroes will begin one final stand to stop Hawkins and his army once and for all.

Page 1

Panel 1: A helicopter with the Channel 9 news logo flies around the skyline of South City.

Laura Lee News Bubble: Coming to you live from **South City**.

Panel 2: Laura Lee sits in the back passenger seat of a helicopter with the doors open, facing the reader. She is wearing a helicopter headset and speaks into a microphone. In the background through the open doors, a city skyline can be seen. The super soldiers jump all over the skyline.

SFX: WHUP WHUP WHUP

Laura Lee News Bubble: I'm **Laura Lee** with Channel 9 News. The city is riddled with an army of superpowered villains who are accompanied by none other than the gray giant himself...

Panel 3: Valgore stands on top of a building, arms up to the sky as he shouts in a fury.

Laura Lee News Bubble: **Valgore**.

Valgore: RAAAAAAAAAHHHH!!!

Panel 4: A man sitting at the desk of a newsroom faces the reader. He is a white man with wispy gray hair. At the bottom of the panel is a banner titled **Beach City Broadcasting Network (BCBN)**.

News Bubble: And the sightings at **Beach City Airbase** have been confirmed; **Dr. Richard Hawkins** is flying out with ranks of superpowered troops.

Panel 5: Members of the National Guard shoot at the super soldiers who attack them. The National Guard wears camouflage military uniforms and helmets. A couple of National Guard troops stand on top of armored vehicles and use turrets to shoot at the super soldiers.

News Bubble: **The National Guard** is on the scene, but hasn't been able to get past a blockade of these so called super soldiers.

Page 2

Panel 1: Another shot of Laura in the helicopter speaking to the reader.

Laura Lee News Bubble: Air-Hawk and his teammates are responding to the crisis...

Panel 2: Valgore spots the Channel 9 helicopter flying above him and looks at it furiously.

Laura Lee News Bubble: But will their efforts be enough?

Panel 3: Valgore leaps towards the helicopter with menace. The helicopter tries to swerve away from Valgore as he inches closer. Laura Lee and her cameraman can be seen in the helicopter holding on for dear life.

Valgore: GRAH! VALGORE HATES CAMERAS!

Panel 4: Michael swoops in on fire and punches Valgore, slamming him back down to the ground

SFX: KRAKOW

Michael: Really? You seem like you were born for showbiz.

Panel 5: Michael looks back at the helicopter and winks.

Michael: Laura, you and your crew might want to find a safe place to land.

Panel 6: Laura looks back at Michael with a smirk on her face.

Laura Lee: And let you have all of the fun? I'm not going to miss a story like this.

Page 3

Panel 1: Back at the airbase, several jets and cargo planes prepare for take off as they line up on the tarmac in a triangle formation like a flight of geese. A large cargo plane acts as the head of the fleet.

SFX: NYEEEEERRRRRRHH

Panel 2: In the cockpit of one of the cargo planes, a damaged Dr. Hawkins stands and speaks to his soldiers who are flying the plane. He also speaks into an earpiece as he communicates with all of his soldiers in the area. Hawkins' black mechanical suit is still stripped down after his beating from Emilia last issue. He wears various bandages on his body. He also has an assault rifle strapped behind his chest and has two pistols strapped on both sides of his hips.

Dr. Hawkins: Everyone ready for takeoff in 3!

Panel 2: All of the turbines of the jet and plane engines begin officially starting up and preparing to fly out. Waves of heat shoot out of the turbines.

SFX: NYOOOOOMMM

Dr. Hawkins: 2!

Panel 3: Back in the cockpit, Dr. Hawkins and his soldiers are knocked forward as the lane suddenly seizes.

Dr. Hawkins: Guh!

Panel 4: The wheels of the cargo plane can be seen slowly moving backward despite its resistance.

Word Bubble: Dr. Hawkins, you said a while ago that this is **your** story.

Panel 5: Emilia uses her powers to hold back the entire fleet. She strains to keep the fleet still as the planes keep trying to move forward.

Emilia: Ergh!

Word Bubble: You talk as if **you're** the main character. That you're the **hero** that the world really needs.

Page 4

Panel 1: Amir rushes through the fleet in his giant rock formation. He grabs a wing of one of the planes, crushing it like paper in his giant rocky fists and rips it off of the plane, turbine and all.

SFX: SKREUNCH

Word Bubble: But this story isn't about you.

Panel 2: Amir tosses the wing far into the distance, away from anything else. It explodes as it makes an impact on the ground. A flash of violet light speeds forward from the panel as Amir does this.

SFX: BABOOOM

Word Bubble: It never was and never will be.

Panel 3: Jane speeds forward to the head of the fleet as Amir continues to rip off wings of planes and jets. Soldiers have come out of their planes as they begin trying to fight against the heroes.

SFX: SCHWWOOOOM

Jane: The world doesn't care about people like you as much as you think they do. You can make all the millions you want, but at some point you **will** be forgotten.

Panel 4: Jane stands powerfully on the window of the cockpit that Hawkins and part of his crew are in. She gears up her fist for a mighty punch. As she does this, lightning begins to warp around her arm. Hawkins and his crew look up at the window in fear.

Jane: As for my friends and I...

Panel 5: Jane punches through the window of the cockpit, completely shattering it. Purple lighting bursts through the cockpit from her punch. Hawkins and his crew are knocked down as Jane enters the cockpit.

SFX: KKSSSHHCKK

Jane: **We're unforgettable.**

Panel 6: Dr. Hawkins begins firing his pistol at Jane while still on the ground. The soldiers begin trying to attack Jane who speeds through the tight arena avoiding every shot and every soldier. She delivers a swift uppercut to a soldier.

SFX: POP POP POP

Dr. Hawkins: Get her!

Page 5

Panel 1: Back in South City, Michael and Deo are on the street fighting Valgore and his army. The street is already a mess filled with busted up vehicles, shattered pavement, and civilians running for their lives. In a patch of busted pavement, Valgore holds his head in pain, recovering from the fall he took earlier. Deo kicks a soldier into a wall. Michael uses his laser vision to zap a soldier down.

SFX: BTAK

SFX: SSSKKKKZZNNNN

Valgore: Gruh..

Deo: We've got to find those other control towers so we can deactivate the inhibitor chips!

Michael: I know, but we don't have any other leads on where the hell those towers are!

Panel 2: Valgore regains his strength and shouts in a rage. Soldiers storm past him as he does so.

Valgore: RAH! YOU ACTUALLY HURT VALGORE THAT TIME! IT IS VALGORE WHO IS SUPPOSED TO DELIVER THE BEATINGS!

Panel 3: Valgore snatches up a piece of pavement and prepares to throw it like a disc.

Valgore: YOU STUPID BOY!

Panel 4: Valgore throws the pavement Michael's way. It flies in the air like a frisbee until it hits Michael, slamming him back onto the ground.

Michael: Unf!

Panel 5: Valgore jumps over towards Michael who is on the ground. Valgore slams his fist on the ground, nearly hitting Michael, but Michael rolls out of the way at the last second.

Valgore: VALGORE SHALL PUMMEL YOU!

Page 6

Panel 1: Deo swoops into the scene and punches Valgore in the face before the beast can lay his fists into Micheal. Valgore is sent flying down the street.

SFX: KRAK

Deo: I don't think so!

Panel 2: Deo continues punching Valgore in the face as the two go flying down the street. With every punch from Deo, Valgore flies a little bit farther.

Deo: Why won't you-

Panel 3: Deo uses his momentum to swoop and lift Valgore up from their current position.

Deo: Just stay-

Panel 4: Deo brings both of his fists together to slam Valgore's body back into the pavement.

SFX: KRAKOW

Deo: **Down!**

Page 7

Panel 1: Back in the cockpit of the cargo plane, Jane speeds through the area and punches Dr. Hawkins through the door of the cockpit and back into the cabin. His soldiers fumble over one another trying to catch and shoot Jane.

SFX: ZZZZZKKOOM

Panel 2: Dr. Hawkins gets back on his feet and tries to continuously shoot Jane with his assault rifle. Jane zips around the cargo plane and is too fast for a bullet to land on her. Amongst the chaos soldiers continue trying to catch and shoot Jane as well.

Jane: Face it Dr. Hawkins...

Panel 3: Jane speeds toward Dr. Hawkins and punches him in the face again.

SFX: BWHAM

Jane: It's over!

Panel 4: Dr. Hawkins lies on the ground laughing.

Dr. Hawkins: Hahahaha! Oh Jane, you can try to take me down...

Panel 5: Dr. Hawkins touchpad on his gauntlet glows bright blue and reads "DETONATION CONFIRMED"

Dr. Hawkins: But I'll always bring you back down with me.

Panel 6: Jane looks at the gauntlet with fear in her eyes.

Jane: *gasp*

Page 8

Panel 1: In slow motion, small explosions begin to erupt within the fleet of the planes and jets that have been trying to take off. In an instant, Jane zips through the area as a violet blur. Amir stands in his rock form frozen still as he walks among the fleet trying to rip wings off of planes.

SFX: KABOOM

Panel 2: Emilia winces as jets begin to explode right in front of her face.

SFX: BOW

Panel 3: Jane pushes a group of the soldiers out of an exploding plane.

SFX: THOOM

Panel 4: Jane continues to speed around the area as a violet blur, getting all of the soldiers to safety. A great crowd of the soldiers have been gathered by Jane into a safe area. They are near some building on the tarmac far off from the explosions. The explosions continue to erupt, slowly growing.

SFX: BOW POOM BOOSH

SFX: FWOOSH

Panel 5: Jane pulls Emilia away from the further increasing explosions. Jane moves so fast that Emilia doesn't even have time to react to anything.

SFX: FOOOSH

Panel 6: Jane pushes Amir away from the explosions who also hasn't comprehended what is happening.

SFX: FOOOOOM

Page 9

Panel 1: Jane sweeps Dr. Hawkins away from the explosions as well. By this point the entire area is nearly nothing but explosions of fire and shrapnel.

SFX: CHOOOM

Panel 2: Jane speeds back to the safe area with Dr. Hawkins. The exploding planes and jets finally meet their crescendo. Everyone ducks for cover from the blasts. Jane speeds through the crowd over to a wall of one of the buildings

SFX: BOOM! POW! KRATHOOM!

Panel 3: A furious Jane speeds to a wall, slamming Hawkins into it.

SFX: KATHUD!

Panel 4: A bloody and bruised Hawkins begins laughing at Jane again. Jane stands over him scowling.

Dr. Hawkins: Hahaha, why out of all the outcomes, I never expected you to become my little savior.

Panel 5: Jane uses her superspeed to repeatedly punch Dr. Hawkins face into the wall. Hawkins cringes from the pain.

SFX: BAM! BAM! BAM!

Jane: You don't get to decide how this ends!

Panel 6: A damaged Dr. Hawkins smiles and points a frail finger to what is happening behind Jane. Jane looks behind her to see that the soldiers are rushing her way to attack her. Emilia and Amir try to fight off as many as they can, but there are hundreds of them.

Dr. Hawkins: But you may have a bigger problem Jane. I don't think that these people are very grateful for your heroics.

Page 10

Panel 1: Back on the streets of South City, Valgore kicks Deo down.

SFX: WHAM

Valgore: BAH! YOU CANNOT KEEP VALGORE DOWN!

Panel 2: Deo tries to fly away from the scene, but Valgore catches Deo's leg mid-flight,

Valgore: YOU CANNOT STOP HAWKINS!

Panel 3: Michael blasts Valgore with a heavy streak of flames, but it seems to have no effect on the great beast. Instead Valgore just slams Deo's limp body onto the pavement.

SFX: FWOOSH

SFX: KRAK

Valgore: TOGETHER, VALGORE AND HAWKINS...

Panel 4: Valgore throws Deo onto Michael and the two heroes clumsy fall onto the ground.

SFX: BAM

Valgore: SHALL RULE FOR ETERNITY!

Panel 5: Deo begins to get up again, holding his head in pain. Behind him, Michael also rises to his feet.

Deo: Wait a minute Val, you really want to rule the world with Dr. Hawkins?

Panel 6: Valgore roars at the two boys as they pause their fight.

Valgore: WHAT A STUPID QUESTION! VALGORE HAS ALWAYS WANTED TO RULE THE WORLD!

Deo: Yeah, but you always said you wanted to rule the world **alone**.

Page 11

Panel 1: Deo attempts to reason with Valgore, but is only met with a horrific scowl on Valgore's face.

Deo: After all, you're far more powerful than him. With impenetrable skin, he couldn't even tag an inhibitor chip on you.

Valgore: VALGORE AND HAWKINS CAME TO AN AGREEMENT!

Panel 2: Deo continues to explain things to Valgore. Valgore scratches his head as he thinks about Deo's words.

Deo: But Valgore, all you've ever wanted is to be the supreme ruler of the world. But how can you be a supreme ruler if Dr. Hawkins is sharing your throne?

Valgore: HRM...

Panel 3: Valgore raises his fists in pride and shouts out to the world.

Valgore: AIR-HAWK IS RIGHT! VALGORE SHALL SETTLE FOR NOTHING LESS THAN VALGORE'S DESTINY!

Panel 4: Valgore makes a great leap onto a building that has one of Hawkins' control centers.

Valgore: TO HELL WITH DR. HAWKINS!

Panel 5: In one go, Valgore rips out the infrastructure powering the tower. Sparks and rubble fly as he holds the broken pieces of the control center in his mighty fists.

SFX: CRUNCH

Valgore: TO HELL WITH HIS TOWERS!

Panel 6: Valgore leaps off of the building as he heads on to wipe out the rest of the control centers. As he soars through the air, he makes his declaration to the world:

Valgore: ONLY VALGORE SHALL REIGN SUPREME!

Page 12

Panel 1: The hoard of super soldiers continues racing towards Jane. Jane stands strong ready for whatever is about to happen. She holds onto Hawkins who remains against the wall behind her.

Dr. Hawkins: There's no stopping this Jane.

Panel 2: Dr. Hawkins looks up at Jane with a huge grin on his face.

Dr. Hawkins: I crunched the numbers well before initiating my plan, and in **every** scenario **I win**.

Panel 3: Jane looks on at the hoard with anger in her face. Behind her, Hawkins continues speaking.

Dr. Hawkins: Do what you will with me, but you stand no chance against my soldiers who will stop at **nothing** to ensure our mission is completed.

Panel 4: A soldier at the head of the pack rushes towards Jane with a face of fury and her fist cocked back, ready to strike.

Dr. Hawkins: You and your team may as well just **give up**.

Panel 5: The soldier pulls her fist back and looks around in confusion and fear.

Soldier #1: What? Where am I?

Page 13

Panel 1: The hoard of soldiers all stop running and fighting. Everyone looks around trying to figure out what's going on.

Soldier #2: Hey, what's going on here?

Soldier #3: How did we all get here?

Soldier #4: I need to get home! Where are we?

Panel 2: Dr. Hawkins looks on in shock.

Dr. Hawkins: That's not- but there's no way you could have taken out all of the control centers!

Panel 3: Dr. Hawkins stands up and attempts to attack Jane with his bare hands. Jane looks at Hawkins with ferocity in her eyes, practically daring him to lay a hand on her.

Dr. Hawkins: **I'll kill you for this!**

Panel 4: Before Hawkins can lay a finger on Jane, he is lifted up in the air and pulled away from Jane and the wall.

Dr. Hawkins: No!

Panel 5: Emilia and Amir approach Jane. Emilia levitates Hawkins towards herself. Amir, who then punches Hawkins down onto the ground.

Dr. Hawkins: Let go of me!

Panel 6: With Hawkins floating right in front of him, Amir punches Hawkins down onto the ground.

SFX: THUD!

Emilia: God, he's so pathetic.

Page 14

Panel 1: Deo and Michael swoop into the crowd of Hawkins' former soldiers.

Michael: Okay everyone, paramedics will be here shortly. Does anyone need anything in the meantime? Water? Some food from **Beach City Burgers**?

Panel 2: A man walks up to Deo and Michael as they stand in the middle of the crowd. Deo does his best to reassure the man.

Man: Air-Hawk, what's going on here?

Deo: It's a lot to explain, sir, but trust me when I say that it's going to be okay.

Panel 3: Deo points over to Dr. Hawkins who lies on the ground in pain. Everyone in the crowd looks over towards Hawkins.

Deo: Dr. Richard Hawkins tried to hurt you and a lot of other people, but we're going to make sure that never happens again.

Panel 4: Several police cars and armored military vehicles roll onto the scene.

SFX: WOOP WOOP

Panel 5: Some officers dressed in riot gear pin Hawkins down to the ground and put his hands behind his back to handcuff him. Hawkins winces in pain as his head is pressed into the pavement.

Officer: You're going away for a long time Hawkins. You'll be lucky if you make it on parole before you're 90.

Page 15

Panel 1: As Hawkins is walked away by the officers, Emilia shouts out to him.

Emilia: And by the way Dr. Hawkins....

Panel 2: Emilia continues speaking to Dr. Hawkins as he is walked to an armored car.

Emilia: You've got the world all wrong. I know your friends died in war, but that doesn't mean you need to start a larger one to put the violence to an end.

Panel 3: A group of protesters stand in front of a government building. They chant and hold picket signs.

Emilia Caption: There are people working to stop the wars.

Panel 4: A nurse tends to a child who lies in a bed in a hospital.

Emilia Caption: There are people making sure refugees are housed, fed, and given aid.

Panel 5: Valgore sits in his maximum security cell. His head is bowed down in disappointment. A security guard patrols the area.

Emilia Caption: Maybe it's a primal instinct that humans want to fight one another, but that doesn't mean that's the way things have to be.

Page 16

Panel 1: Two people stand outside of their cars. The hoods of both cars are up and jumper cables connect the batteries of the cars.

Emilia Caption: Compassion and kindness go a long way.

Panel 2: Two people stand amongst the wreckage of the street that was blown up by Hawkins. They embrace one another. One person sobs while the other person simply holds onto their friend to comfort them.

Emilia Caption: Sometimes all someone needs is an ear to listen, or a hug, or someone to hold onto them.

Panel 3: Hawkins is now fully loaded into the armored car. He stares at Emilia angrily.

Emilia Word Bubble: I used to think you were the smartest person in the world, but anyone with a brain can see that fighting violence with violence only creates a toxic cycle.

Panel 4: Emilia finishes speaking

Emilia: I hope I can help break that cycle.

Panel 5: The rest of the heroes stand side by side with Emilia. Jane smiles and looks at Emilia, holding her hand.

Jane: You won't have to break it alone.

Panel 6: Hawkins is hauled away in the car. Ambulances arrive on scene and begin tending to the people who were Hawkins' soldiers. News choppers fly into the area..

Page 17

Panel 1: A swarm of reporters rush the group of heroes and begin to berate Deo with questions.

Reporter 1: Air-Hawk, what exactly was Dr. Hawkins attempting?

Reporter 2: Air-Hawk, how were you able to save everyone?

Deo: Now wait a minute, I can't take full credit for any of this...

Panel 2: Deo gestures to the other heroes.

Deo: I couldn't have done it without my new friends.

Panel 3: As the reporters continue to ask questions to everyone else in the group, Laura Lee approaches Michael.

Reporter 3: What's it like to have super speed?

Reporter 4: How did you get your rock powers?

Laura Lee: I was wondering where you had run off to.

Michael: I suppose you'd like an interview?

Panel 4: Michael bashedly rubs his head as Laura talks to him.

Laura Lee: Ha, not this time, actually. I just wanted to check up on you. How are you after everything that happened in the lab?

Michael: Heh, it was scary at first, but I'm going to be okay.

Panel 5: As the two continue talking Michael begins to blush.

Laura: Good, cause I owe you dinner. There's a new Mediterranean place downtown. I'll see you Friday at 6?

Michael: Are you asking me out?

Panel 6: Laura begins to walk away from Michael and back into the crowd.. As she does so, she gives him a smile and a wink.

Laura: Maybe. Or maybe I just want an interview.

Page 18

Panel 1: An establishing shot of a warehouse along the harbor of South City. The warehouse is a long building built of brick. The roof is mostly metal except for several skylights. Behind the warehouse is the city skyline.

Panel 2: Deo stands inside the empty warehouse wearing regular street clothes. His arms are crossed as he looks at the warehouse proudly. He is accompanied by Amir, who too is dressed casually. Amir looks at the empty warehouse with confusion.

Amir: So what is this place, anyways?

Deo: I'll tell you when everyone else gets here.

Panel 3: Micheal, Jane, and Emilia all swoop through a large open garage door. Emilia levitates herself to fly, Jane speeds through using her powers, and Michael lands down in a burst of flames. All three of them are wearing normal clothes.

SFX: ZOOOM

SFX: FWOOSH

Jane: What's this all about Deo?

Panel 4: Deo gestures to the empty warehouse.

Deo: This is our blank canvas!

Emilia: I'm not following...

Panel 5: As Deo explains the purpose of the warehouse to everyone, he walks around with a smile on his face.

Deo: I figured if we're going to work as a team, then we need our own headquarters. I called in a few favors, busted open the piggy banks, and placed a down payment on this bad boy! I know it's not much right now, but we can fill it up with some giant computers, a big long table, or maybe none of that. This is our space to work together on. This is our-

Panel 6: Deo walks by Michael, tapping his shoulder and acknowledging his fire resistant clothes.

Michael: Blank canvas.

Deo: Exactly. Love the new fire-proof fit by the way.

Page 19

Panel 1: Deo looks at the other four with a glimmer in his eye.

Deo: So, what do you guys think?

Panel 2: Jane talks to Deo with uncertainty. Deo reassures her.

Jane: Deo, you know this isn't going to be easy, right?

Deo: I know that. This hero thing never has been, but it was a lot easier with you all by my side.

Panel 3: Emilia also isn't entirely convinced of what Deo is proposing. She looks at Deo with doubt.

Emilia I'm ready to take things to the next level, I just don't know where we even begin.

Panel 4: Deo looks back at the crew with determination.

Deo: Amir still has unanswered questions. I'd like to figure out what exactly happened to him and how many memories he's missing.

Panel 5: Amir joins in passionately.

Amir: The research lab has a lot of evidence from when they found me. Now that my memories are coming back, I can look at everything they have with a new perspective.

Panel 6: Micheal speaks with his arms crossed, but a smile on his face.

Michael: Sounds like a plan to me.

Page 20

Panel 1: Amir puts his hand in the middle of the group. He looks overjoyed.

Amir: Everyone put your hands in the middle. *Heroes* on 3!

Panel 2: Everyone else puts their hands in the middle except for Jane. Jane looks away, arms crossed and rolling her eyes.

Panel 3: Hand in the middle, Emilia beckons Jane to join.

Emilia: Jane, c'mon. You can't be the only one who doesn't do it.

Panel 4: Jane places her hand in reluctantly.

Jane: This is so cringey.

Panel 5: With everyone's hands in the middle, all of the characters count to 3.

All: 1! 2! 3!

Panel 7: They all raise their hands in the air and break from the circle.

All: **Heroes!!!**

