DARZAK'S CHOICE!!?
EDITORIAL

Welcome one and all to STARSLAYERS #5. The series is really moving along now and I hope that you’re enjoying it.

Here’s a rundown on the next couple issues:

#5 is by Bucher/Brooks/McCollum
#6 is by Bucher/Brooks/McCollum
#7 is by Bucher/Brooks/Anderson (or Meyer)
#8 is by Bucher/Heike/Heike (pencils and inks)
#9 is by Bucher/Anderson/Anderson (pencils and inks)

The “or” issue break will give Steve Brooks more time to catch up on his deadlines as a project such as this is no easy task. The Mark Heike issue should be a real treat to the readers as this is most work Mark has done for a fanzine in a long time. Meanwhile, Mark inked the front and back covers last issue and inked this issue’s cover.

This issue is the turning point where the real excitement starts. Next issue introduces another new character that plays a very important part in the STARSLAYERS saga, so don’t miss it!

FUTURE ISSUES:

#6: September 18
#7: October 9
#8: October 30
#9: November 20

Listen up, all you subscribers. This may not seem fair, but if the postal workers go on strike or raise the price of stamps, I’m going to have to ask for more money from subscribers and raise the single issue price to 35c. You’ve been warned, and look for more information next issue.

If I don’t raise the price, another alternative I’m thinking of is, instead of mailing out one issue every three weeks, mailing out two issues every six weeks. This way I could save a lot on postage. Which would you rather see, the first choice (above), or the one just mentioned (this paragraph)? I’ll take votes and then decide. Write me and tell me.

Work is resuming on STARSLAYERS SPECIAL featuring Lord Damien Blackstar. Current plans call for it to be released in September or October. Details will be in next issue.

And now, some of the comments I’ve received thus far on STARSLAYERS:

RICK MccCOLLUM: The story is unfolding nicely. I’m pretty interested in the characters, and would like to know more about the Great Cathedral. Blackstar reminds me a lot of a character from SABRE but it doesn’t bother me. I see Argon in a few Starlin-Warlock poses, it’s nice to see that Steve’s influenced by the right guys. Cute with Iron Man, Pip, and Harv-ell, but no Popeye’s please or I’ll have Karnevil pass judgment upon you!!!

BEN ADAMS: So far STARSLAYERS is awfully unoriginal. It has a feel similar to a DC sci-fi comic. I think you should strive to do things that have yet to be accomplished. Try to develop a feel within your publications that’s not directly similar to DC or Marvel.

CLAYTON PARK: I cannot praise the outstanding artwork in your STARSLAYERS series enough!! That goes to your inkers (Bill Anderson and Ken Meyer) as well as to Steve Brooks. I look forward to next issue and, yes, I agree that these are the best things you’ve ever written.

STARSLAYERS #5, Vol. 1, August 28 is published every three weeks by Matt Bucher/2550 Windgate Road/Bethel Park, PA 15102 at 25c an issue for future and past issues. All comments and criticisms are appreciated.
CHAPTER FIVE
A CHOICE OF DOOM!

ARGON! RONDO, DARZAK'S GONE! HE JUST TOOK OFF IN MY SMALL MINI-SHIP. SHOULD I GET HIM? I COULD EASILY...

ARGON, YOU KNOW WE JUST CAN'T LET HIM TAKE OFF LIKE THAT...

ARGON, YOU KNOW WE JUST CAN'T LET HIM TAKE OFF LIKE THAT...

THE SCENE IS A PRELUDE TO WAR. SIX QARRON WARSHEIPS PASSING THROUGH DIMENSION DO TOWARDS EARTH. THEIR COMMAND IS TO DESTROY THIS PLANET. THAT ARGON WANTS DEATH, AND THEY HAVE BEEN COMMANDED BY...

LORD KLARN!

MEANWHILE, AT THE GREAT CATHEDRAL—

BLACKSTAR'S SHIP SHOULD BE ABLE TO PASS THROUGH QO- AND GET US TO ORPARK.

GOOD, BUT I SENSE TROUBLE WITH DARZAK. HIS LOYALTIES TO BLACKSTAR AND LORD KLARN ARE EQUALLY DIVIDED.

HE'S UNSTABLE.

I KNOW OF HIS DILEMMA AND I MUST COME TO GRIPS WITH IT AND SOLVE IT MYSELF. I WILL HELP...

I KNOW, WHILE WE WAIT FOR DARZAK'S ANSWER, I WILL SEND A TELEPORTING BEA TO STARAAS TO ENLIST THE AID OF BLACK MERCY AS A STARSAYER.

WELL, ARE WE GONNA LEAVE OR WHAT? YOU HAVE THE MOST STARED OUT IN THIS WAY.
AND AFTER THE DUO HAS LEFT, ARGON BEGINS HIS PLEA...

BLACK MERCY... 
BLACK MERCY...
FRAGILE IMMEDIATE!
NEED HELP... 
JOIN STARSLAYER... 
ARGON 12!

AND SWIFTLY IT ARRIVES... AN IMAGE FROM A DREAM...

"I QUEEN MARY YOU FOOLISH ARGON? BETRAY HE WHO GAVE 
YOU A LIFE OF WEALTH AND ADVENTURE AND EXCITEMENT!!!
YOU DESERVE TO DIE, TRAITOR! TO DIE!

BUT, LORD BLACKSTAR...

HE'S MINE, BLACKSTAR! AS 
MINE I COME TO BE WITH ME... 
DARZANK! COME TO ME!

IF YOU DO DARZANK, YOU'LL 
BE JOINING A MAD KILLER!

FAITHFULLY! I
I SHOULD KILL YOU!!!

FAITHFULLY!

WHAT DO YOU KNOW OF LOYALTY?

WHAT NOW? HE THINKS... I'VE BEEN
LORD BLACKSTARS FEARED PIANO, 
NOW ABOUT LORD PLANAR?

WHAT NOW?
AND WHEN HIS EYES OPEN, THE DECISION HAS BEEN MADE.

KLARIN... GO TO HELL!

AND AS QUICKLY AS THEY CAME, THE IMAGES OF LORD DAMIEN BLACKSAD AND LORD KLARIN DISAPPEAR.

AND ALL THAT REMAINS IS THE MEMORY OF A MAD DREAM.

WE MAY NOT KNOW WHERE ARGON AND THAT SIMPLIFYING SON OF MINE ARE, BUT AN ATTACK ON EARTH SHOULD DRAW THEIR ATTENTION!

MEANWHILE ON A STARSHIP NEAR EARTH...

WE'RE CASUALLY FORMING A STRONG TEAM, THE NEW STARSLAYERS MAY NOT HAVE THE AIR POWER OR THE ORIGINALS, BUT...

HAVE RECEIVED WORD FROM VESPER, HE'S RETURNING. ALSO, THE VESPER WILL BE HERE SHORTLY.

I THOUGHT THAT STUFF ABOUT THE STARSLAYERS BEING TITANS IN THE AEA GALAXY WAS ALL LEGEND AND MYTH, BUT NOW WITH ABSOLUTELY NO FOUNDATION IN REALITY.

MAYBE THEIR SMALLEST GROUP PERFORMED MIRACLES. THAT'S ALL WE CAN DO THE SAME.

SUGGEST YOU TURN YOUR ATTENTION TO OUR RETURNING FRIENDS AND SAY THEY'RE LANDING OUTSIDE THE STATION NOW.

STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND ALL THIS WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM?

IT'S A PERSONAL APPRAISAL. PRESS IT.

ALRIGHT...

NOT YET. JUST SEND THE SHIPS TO EARTH AND TELL THEM TO CAUSE SOME EXCITEMENT UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. THE COMMOTION ALONE MAY BE TO DO OUR WORK FOR US AT ONCE, SIR!
A very important question is asked.

WHAT DO YOU SUGGEST?

WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT? LET'S GIVE THE HELL OUT OF KLARN-ER, NO OFFENCE TO YOU, ROONDO.

UHH?

GOOD. DANGERS WILL RIDE WITH ME AND ROONDO WITH YOU, ARGON.

I WILL, I MUST RIDE WITH ARGON.

ARGON'S PLOY WAS SUCCESSFUL.

NONE TAKEN AT ALL DAZAK—GOOD TO HAVE YOU BACK, I KNOW HOW MY FATHER'S MIND WORKS. THERE'S AN INNER MOTIVE HERE, IT'S PROBABLY SOME SORT OF TRAP?

YOU GUYS CHICKEN? C'MON, LET'S GO!

DAMN! WE OF THE STARSLAYERS HAVE TO WORK AS A UNIT—A TEAM! TO EARTH, THEN, STARSLAYERS!

NEXT ISSUE: EARTHWAR!
HE IS AN ANGEL. HE IS A VAMPIRE. HE IS THE TRUE LIVING WRATH OF GOD! HE IS KARNEVIL!

AND WHEN HE INCARNATES IN OUR TIME HE WILL DOOM REALITY AS WE KNOW IT.

THIS IS

SUPERHERO TERROR

THESE HEROES FIGHT GODS AND EACH OTHER TO SAVE OUR WORLD!

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