

ANNIHILATION: SUPER-SKRULL *
ISSUE ONE (OF FOUR)
Written by Javier Grillo-Marxuach

PAGE ONE

PANEL ONE:

A gorgeous green planet - an emerald in a vast void - lolls in the depths of space, innocent and unaware.

NOTE: ALL OF SUPER-SKRULL'S NARRATION APPEARS AGAINST A GREEN BACKGROUND.

SUPER-SKRULL (narration) *
AKS'LO.

SUPER-SKRULL (narration - 2nd box) *
A JEWEL IN THE CROWN OF THE SKRULL
EMPIRE.

PANEL TWO:

The insectoid ships of the Annihilation Wave (several Dreds, spiny and menacing, escorted by sleek, dragonfly-like Skiffs) bear down on Aks'lo.

The ships are a hideous menace encroaching from the margins: framing this beautiful world with certain death.

SUPER-SKRULL (narration) *
ONCE, THIS REMOTE WORLD WAS A WILDLIFE
SANCTUARY - A GARDEN ON THE EDGE OF
SPACE FOR THE SKRULL EMPRESS AND HER
MOST TRUSTED ADVISORS TO ENJOY.

PANEL THREE:

Pull out from the previous panel to REVEAL the bridge of an as yet unseen ship in the Annihilus task force bearing down on Aks'lo.

Aks'lo is framed by a massive viewscreen - and like everything in the Annihilation Wave, the inside of this ship is all carapace - grown instead of built.

Before the viewscreen stands SALO: a high-ranking officer of the Annihilation Wave...his decorations and markings making it clear that he ranks extremely high in the hierarchy.

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SUPER-SKRULL (narration) *

TODAY, IT IS A BATTLE GROUND.

Everything about Salo - from the elegant striations on his carapace to the way he rests his elongated torso over multiple legs - and the slope of his brow over segmented eyes implies contempt for all living things:

SALO
LAND THE GROUND FORCES - I WANT ANY
ANTI-AIRCRAFT BATTERIES FOUND AND
DESTROYED BEFORE DEPLOYING THE WEAPON.

END OF PAGE ONE

PAGE TWO

PANEL ONE:

HUGE: a sprawling vista of this lush rainforest world - the trees laden with birds and small animals, the leaves bursting with color...

..And the Annihilation Wave landers touch down, spewing forth armies of drones. Where everything in the Annihilation Wave is hard and full of acute angles, this place is soft and leafy - though not for long.

A FIELD COMMANDER, standing on a command platform on top of a mosquito-like vehicle hovering over the ground troops, speaks into a wrist-mounted communications module on which stands a SMALL HOLOGRAPHIC PROJECTION OF A STERN-FACED SALO -

(By the way, Annihilation Wave communications don't look digital - the hologram should look strangely organic: as if it isn't a broadcast, but maybe some kind of a gloopy psionic projection - communication via telephatic insect life forms engineered for the purpose of intergalactic communication)

FIELD COMMANDER
THE PLANET APPEARS TO BE DESERTED.

SALO (hologram)
LOOK CLOSER, COMMANDER. CLOSER.

PANEL TWO:

The Commander turns to look at the vast expanse of wilderness before him...and the rainforest throbs with a DREAD RUMBLE that surrounds the Annihilation Wave soldiers as -

PANEL THREE:

- Every animal and plant in the forest MORPHS.

PANEL FOUR:

THE ANNIHILATION WAVE GROUND FORCE IS NOW SURROUNDED BY SKRULL WARRIORS.

PANEL FIVE:

CLOSE UP on the Annihilation Wave Field Commander -

FIELD COMMANDER
SKRULLS! DESTROY THEM!

END OF PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

PANEL ONE:

The SKRULL COMMANDER leading the defenders of Aks'lo into battle dominates the foreground -

SKRULL COMMANDER
FOR THE EMPIRE!

- As his troops rally behind - a great BATTLE CRY rising from them!

TROOPS
FOR THE EMPIRE!

PANEL TWO:

The battle is joined - and it's ugly from the get-go, as the Skrull warriors open fire on the Annihilation Wave -

SUPER-SKRULL (narration) *

IT WAS A BRILLIANT STRATEGY FOR A
PLANET OF SHAPE-SHIFTERS...

PANEL THREE:

- And the Annihilation Wave returns the favor: their firepower overwhelming as the front line of Skrulls die horribly!

SUPER-SKRULL (narration) *

...BUT EVEN THE ELEMENT OF SURPRISE
IS NO MATCH FOR THE VASTLY SUPERIOR
FIREPOWER OF THE ANNIHILATION WAVE.

PANELS FOUR, FIVE AND SIX:

ACROSS THE PAGE - intense CLOSE UPS of SKRULL WARRIORS falling under enemy fire.

PANEL SEVEN:

ON THE FOREGROUND - The back of Super-Skrull's head* only a little of his face visible as he looks down on the battle, in the BACKGROUND...

SUPER-SKRULL (narration) *

WHICH IS WHY I HAVE FOLLOWED THE
ANNIHILATION WAVE ACROSS THE GALAXY -
WHY I HAVE FOUGHT THEM ON SO MANY *
WORLDS... *

END OF PAGE THREE

PAGE FOUR

PANEL ONE

A glorious HERO SHOT of SUPER-SKRULL as he descends * feet-first - on the battle below, his robes billowing in the updraft as he lowers himself onto the battlefield on a blazing column of fire!

Super-Skrull's outstretched hands shower flames on the enemy soldiers below, and as the Harraks and Drones perish in the flames, their screams of agony echo through the battle...

SFX: AAARRRRRRGH!

SUPER-SKRULL (narration) *

I WAS ENGINEERED FOR BATTLE. DESIGNED FOR DESTRUCTION. I AM A WEAPON OF THE SKRULL EMPIRE.

SUPER-SKRULL (narration - 2nd box) *

MY GIVEN NAME IS K'LRT.

SUPER-SKRULL (narration - 3rd Box) *

BUT MOST KNOW ME AS...

BOTTOM FOURTH OF THE PAGE: LOGO/SERIES NAME -

SUPER-SKRULL *

- And CREDITS. *

END OF PAGE FOUR

PAGE FIVE

PANEL ONE:

AND WE'RE IN THE HEAT OF BATTLE HERE - THE CARNAGE IS EVERYWHERE EVEN THOUGH THE FOCUS IS ON SUPER-SKRULL.*

Super-Skrull lands on the scorched earth and extends* his arm toward an advancing pod of Annihilation Wave soldiers.

SUPER-SKRULL (narration) *
I WAS MADE TO FIGHT THE EARTH'S
MIGHTIEST CHAMPIONS - THE FANTASTIC
FOUR.

PANEL TWO:

Super-Skrull's arm keeps stretching around the perimeter of the advancing pod of Annihilation Wave Soldiers until it is wire-thin -

- And his hand grabs a tree in the foreground.

SUPER-SKRULL (narration) *
THE GREATEST SCIENTISTS OF THE SKRULL
EMPIRE GAVE ME THE COMBINED POWERS
OF MY ENEMIES.

PANEL THREE:

SUPER-SKRULL (narration) *
BUT UNLIKE THE FANTASTIC FOUR, I USE
MY POWERS A LITTLE MORE... CREATIVELY.

SFX: **SSSSSSNNNNNNNNNNAAAAAAAAPPPPPPPPPP!**

Super-Skrull WHIPLASHES his hyper-extended arm with *incredible force.

Like a razor-sharp filament, Super-Skrull's arm cuts* through some half-dozen Annihilus Drones...

PANEL FOUR:

...Who just stand there as Super-Skrull recoils his *arm...

PANEL FIVE:

Until gravity does its work and their bodies split in twos!

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PANEL SIX:

Annihilus drone torsos and heads tumble beside their still-standing legs while Super-Skrull - already moving on* - turns around to face another advancing battle group.

END OF PAGE FIVE

PAGE SIX

PANEL ONE:

Super-Skrull now faces a group of chiggas (the Annihilation Wave equivalent of two-ton trucks - only they have multiple legs instead of wheels) making their way through the battle -

- Super-Skrull unleashes a torrent of fire from his *
outstretched hand - incinerating the turret gunners and setting these large insect-shaped vehicles on fire!

SUPER-SKRULL (narration) *

BECAUSE OF THE WAY I WIELD MY POWER *

I AM CALLED A VILLAIN. *

PANEL TWO:

SUPER-SKRULL (narration) *

OTHERS CALL ME A HERO.

Super-Skrull continues his fiery onslaught as the chiggas open their wing-like doors to let out the burning soldiers inside - and as the drones pile out in a line -

PANEL THREE:

(SMALL - INSET ON PANEL #4) Super-Skrull's fist THINGS OUT -

PANEL FOUR:

- As he stretches it toward the drones piling out of one of the trucks -

- Driving it straight THROUGH their lined-up bodies with a sickening -

SFX: **SPLAP!**

SUPER-SKRULL (narration) *

FRANKLY I DON'T MUCH CARE FOR ANYONE'S
OPINION BUT MY OWN.

PANEL FIVE:

A large BADASS ANNIHILUS DRONE steps up behind Super-Skrull and FIRES IT'S WEAPON!

SFX: **SSSSWWWWHHHAAAAAAMMMMM!**

END OF PAGE SIX

PAGE SEVEN

PANEL ONE:

SFX: THUNK!

The force of the blast from the Annihilus Drone's weapon sends Super-Skrull flying into a massive tree trunk.*

SUPER-SKRULL *
AAAAAAAAAAAAAGH!

SUPER-SKRULL (narration) *
BUT THE SAD TRUTH IS THAT - MORE AND
MORE - MY OPINION OF MYSELF...

PANEL TWO:

A dozen Annihilus Drones pile onto Super-Skrull - their legs and mandibles working overtime to pound the now-groggy warrior into submission.

SUPER-SKRULL (narration) *
...IS THAT I AM AN OLD WARHORSE WHO
HAS ALREADY SEEN HIS PRIME.

PANEL THREE:

The Annihilation Wave Field Commander stands on his platform on the foreground - reporting to the holographic Salo -

- As Super-Skrull puts up a brave hand-to-hand fight* against more and more drones in the background, thumping several of them with his Thing hand while creating a force field to deflect plasma bolts from another drone's weapon with the other.

FIELD COMMANDER
WE HAVE ONLY ENCOUNTERED A TOKEN
DEFENSE - THERE ARE NO ANTI AIRCRAFT
BATTERIES HERE.

SALO *
THEN CLEAR OUT YOUR TROOPS. I AM
DEPLOYING THE WEAPON.

PANEL FOUR:

TIGHTER on the Field Commander as the Holographic Salo de-rezzes.

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FIELD COMMANDER
BUT - SIR - WE HAVE YET TO FEED ON *
THE BODIES OF THE FALLEN ENEMY. I *
NEED TIME TO - *

PANEL FIVE:

The now visibly-panicking Field Commander turns to his
minions:

FIELD COMMANDER
SOUND GENERAL RETREAT! RETREAT!

END OF PAGE SEVEN

PAGE EIGHT

PANEL ONE:

Super-Skrull tears a drone's arm off with his bare hands as he back-kicks another drone into several of his incoming compatriots -

PANEL TWO:

- Super-Skrull now stands alone... surrounded by fallen enemy soldiers: not knowing that they have all retreated from the field for reasons he does not yet know.

SUPER-SKRULL *
IS THAT ALL YOU GOT?

SFX: **RRRRUUUUUUUMMMMMMMMMMMMMBBBBBBBBBBBBLLLLLLEEE**

PANEL THREE: *

MASSIVE - TAKES UP MOST OF THE PAGE *

As a shadow covers his face, Super-Skrull looks up to see what's blocking Aks'lo's sun - and is stunned to see a massive weapon enter the atmosphere above him.

SFX: **RRRRUUUUUUUMMMMMMMMMMMMMBBBBBBBBBBBBLLLLLLEEE!**

The weapon looks like a beehive -

- a beehive the size of a city.

This is the Annihilation Wave's new weapon. This is the *Harvester of Sorrow.*

END OF PAGE EIGHT *

PAGE NINE

PANEL ONE:

BACK IN THE BRIDGE OF SALO'S SHIP. Salo turns from the
viewscreen - still dominated by Aks'lo and his retreating
ships.

SALO
BEGIN THE HARVEST.

PANEL TWO:

Super-Skrull - his body surrounded by a self-generated force
field - breaks through the atmosphere - *

PANEL THREE: *

Flying past the *Harvester of Sorrow* -

PANEL FOUR: *

- As it fires a massive blast that engulfs Aks'lo in what
appears to be a bubble of pure energy.

SUPER-SKRULL (narration) *
I SAW THE WEAPON AT WORK. AN ENERGY
BEAM THAT CAN BREAK DOWN AN ENTIRE
PLANET INTO ITS MOST BASIC ORGANIC
ELEMENTS.

PANEL FIVE: *

Aks'lo vaporizes inside the field generated by the massive
weapon! *

SFX: **PPPPFFFFWWWWWWWWOOOOOOOMMMMM!** *

SUPER-SKRULL (narration) *
AN ENTIRE WORLD TURNED TO FOOD FOR
THE ANNIHILATION WAVE - IT'S NOT
ENOUGH FOR THESE UNHOLY INSECTS TO
FEED ON THE BODIES OF THE FALLEN *
...NOW THEY VISIT THIS INDIGNITY *
UPON OUR VERY WORLDS.

END OF PAGE NINE

PAGE TEN

PANEL ONE:

REVEAL that Super-Skrull stands on the bridge of a Skrull Dreadnought - surrounded by Skrull Warriors as he reports to their leader - BARONESS S'BAK.

SUPER-SKRULL (narration) *

AFTER DAYS OF HARD FLIGHT, I FOUND MYSELF ON THE BRIDGE OF A SKRULL DREADNOUGHT. PLEADING MY CASE TO ONE OF THE MANY WARLORDS WHO NOW CONTROL THE SCATTERED REMNANTS OF WHAT WAS ONCE THE SKRULL EMPIRE.

Lithe and imperious, the Baroness is an impressive foil for Super-Skrull (imagine her as the kind of character that would be played by *Superman II*'s Sarah Douglas) -

- in her boots and cloak, Baroness S'Bak appears even taller than Super-Skrull. *

SUPER-SKRULL *

BARONESS S'BAK. THIS WEAPON IS CUTTING A SWATH TOWARD CORE SKRULL EMPIRE WORLDS. IT MUST BE STOPPED.

BARONESS S'BAK

SO NOTED.

PANEL TWO:

CLOSE ON Super-Skrull - incredulous. *

SUPER-SKRULL *

SO NOTED?

PANEL THREE:

Super-Skrull and the Baroness square off against one another - each in profile at either end of the panel.

BARONESS S'BAK

WHAT WOULD YOU HAVE ME SAY?

SUPER-SKRULL *

THAT YOU WILL MUSTER AN OFFENSIVE - TAKE THE BATTLE TO THIS WEAPON BEFORE MORE SKRULL WORLDS SUFFER THE SAME FATE AS AKS'LO.

BARONESS S'BAK
A SUPER WEAPON NO ONE KNOWS HOW TO
DESTROY? AND I'M TO WEAKEN MY OWN
FORCES IN SOME FOOL ATTACK? OPEN
THIS ENTIRE SECTOR TO INCURSION BY A
RIVAL SKRULL WARLORD?

PANEL FOUR:

CLOSE ON Super-Skrull - his frustration mounting: *

SUPER-SKRULL *

THE WEAPON WILL REACH THE CORE WORLDS
IN MERE WEEKS - EVEN ZARAGS'NA - OUR *

ANCIENT CAPITAL, THE JEWEL OF THE
SKRULL CROWN - WILL BE HARVESTED!

PANEL FIVE:

CLOSE ON Baroness S'Bak - face brimming with entitlement and
arrogance.

BARONESS S'BAK
IT TOOK TOO LONG TO CEMENT MY CONTROL
OVER THIS SECTOR TO SACRIFICE IT ON
A SUICIDE MISSION.

PANEL SIX:

WIDER to show Super-Skrull and the Baroness - their *words
escalating - the eyes of the Baroness burning with contempt
for the upstart in front of her.

SUPER-SKRULL *

I DON'T CARE ABOUT YOUR POLITICS -
IF YOU WON'T MOVE TO PROTECT WHAT'S
LEFT OF THE SKRULL EMPIRE THEN I
MUST -

BARONESS S'BAK
- WHAT MUST YOU DO PRECISELY?

END OF PAGE TEN

PAGE ELEVEN

PANEL ONE:

Super-Skrull bows his head - choking on his words - ~~his~~ expression making it clear that it is extremely difficult for him to react with anything other than raging violence.

SUPER-SKRULL *
I MUST HUMBLY ASK THAT YOU TRUST ME
TO LEAD A SMALL FORCE OF SKRULL
WARRIORS AGAINST THE WEAPON.

BARONESS S'BAK
LEAD?

PANEL TWO:

Super-Skrull looks around at the Skrull Warriors surrounding him - none of them meet his gaze.

BARONESS S'BAK *
DO YOU TRULY BELIEVE ANYONE HERE
WOULD FOLLOW YOU? AN OLD BATTLE AXE
WITH A SHAMEFUL RECORD OF DEFEAT?
FOR ALL OF YOUR POWER, YOU'VE BEEN
BLASTED FROM ONE END OF THE GALAXY
TO THE OTHER -

SUPER-SKRULL (narration) *
AS THE BARONESS SPOKE HER INSULTS,
ALL I WANTED TO DO WAS TEAR HER APART
WITH MY BARE HANDS... YET I DIDN'T.

PANEL THREE:

TWO SHOT to include Super-Skrull and the Baroness, who continues to berate him as he steers his gaze away.

BARONESS S'BAK *
- THE NAME "SUPER-SKRULL" IS AN INSULT
TO TRUE HEROES, K'LRT. YOUR EXPLOITS
ARE A CAUTIONARY TALE OF FAILURE.

SUPER-SKRULL (narration) *
BECAUSE, IN TRUTH, I WAS ALSO WORRIED
THAT MAYBE SHE WAS RIGHT...

PANEL FOUR:

Super-Skrull looks at the warriors around him: their* snickering faces make it clear that they hold him in utter and complete contempt.

For all of his powers - he is a joke - and it burns.

BARONESS S'BAK
EVEN THE HEROES OF A BACKWATER WORLD
LIKE EARTH HAVE DEFEATED YOU SO MANY
TIMES AS TO MAKE YOU A LAUGHING STOCK.

SUPER-SKRULL (narration) *

...AND THAT MAYBE, IF I GAVE FREE
REIN TO MY RAGE, I WOULDN'T HAVE THE
STRENGTH TO FIGHT MY WAY OUT OF THIS
SHIP.

BARONESS S'BAK
YOU ARE A JOKE.

PANEL FIVE: *

EXTREME CLOSE UP on Super-Skrull... *

PANEL SIX: *

... getting pissed! *

SUPER-SKRULL *

TO HELL WITH IT.

END OF PAGE ELEVEN

PAGE TWELVE

PANEL ONE:

WIDER on the bridge of the dreadnought, as Super-Skrull Stretches his hand across the gulf between himself and the Baroness...

SUPER-SKRULL

*

SILENCE!

...And SMASHES the Baroness's smug, self-satisfied face into a bulkhead.

SFX: **THUNK!**

PANEL TWO:

SMALL INSET - A CLOSE UP on the Baroness - shouting *through a mouthful of blood and teeth -

BARONESS S'BAK

KILL HIM!

PANEL THREE:

A wide shot of the entrance to the bridge - from the corridor outside. Two SKRULL GUARDS stand in attention at the entrance.

SUPER-SKRULL (narration)

*

IN MY DAYS AS A PROUD WARRIOR FOR WHAT ONCE WAS THE SKRULL EMPIRE, I WALKED THE CORRIDORS OF IMPERIAL SHIPS ON MANY AN OCCASION...

PANEL FOUR:

THE BLAST DOORS TO THE BRIDGE ERUPT IN SMOKE AND FIRE!

SFX: **KABOOM!**

PANEL FIVE:

Super-Skrull, now carrying rifles on either hand bursts through the blast doors - a platoon of Skrull Warriors firing on him!

SUPER-SKRULL (narration)

*

...I NEVER THOUGHT I'D BE TAKING THE LIVES OF MY FELLOW SKRULLS HERE...

END OF PAGE TWELVE

PAGE THIRTEEN

PANEL ONE:

HALF THE PAGE: A VIEW FROM ABOVE of the massive battle joined in this almost-too-narrow place - as Super-Skrull fires away as he runs down the corridor toward another set of blast doors - his pursuers blasting away at him.

SUPER-SKRULL *
...BUT THEY FOLLOWED THE WRONG
COMMANDER.

PANEL TWO:

The blast doors ahead SLAM open to reveal another platoon of soldiers - Super-Skrull is now trapped between large* groups of warriors!

PANEL THREE:

CLOSE on Super-Skrull - exasperated. *

SUPER-SKRULL *
...

PANEL FOUR:

Super-Skrull turns toward the bulkhead, dropping his* weapons as - with one hand - he casts a force field to protect himself from the incoming fire - and with the other -

SFX: **FFFFFWWWWWWOOOOOMMMMM!**

- Super-Skrull sends a great shock of flame right into the side of the ship -

END OF PAGE THIRTEEN

PAGE FOURTEEN

PANEL ONE:

OUTSIDE THE SKRULL DREADNOUGHT (the remainder of Baroness S'Bak's armada can be seen in the periphery) -

- A shaft of flame punches through the hull of the dreadnought!

PANEL TWO:

Super-Skrull erupts through the hole in the ship's hull - a trail of fire and screaming Skrull warriors blown out into space in his his wake!

PANEL THREE:

Baroness S'bak - her face tended to by a toadying MEDIC - looks at all of this in her viewscreen -

BARONESS S'BAK
SCRAMBLE THE FIGHTERS AND BLOW HIM
OUT OF THE STARS!

PANEL FOUR:

Super-Skrull races through space - looking back to see - A MASSIVE POD OF SKRULL FIGHTERS - racing toward him! *

PANEL FIVE:

INSET - CLOSE UP on Super-Skrull... exasperated. *

SUPER-SKRULL *

...

END OF PAGE FOURTEEN

PAGE FIFTEEN

PANEL ONE:

HUGE - Surrounded by fighters, Super-Skrull flames on with one hand to take one of them out -

- And uses his Thing-Fist on the other to PUNCH through one of the fighter cockpits, blasting the pilot into space!

SFX: **KERROOM!**

SUPER-SKRULL (narration) *

ONE WARRIOR AGAINST A SQUADRON OF FIGHTERS...

SUPER-SKRULL (narration - 2nd box) *

... IF THIS WAS TO BE THE END, AT LEAST I'D GIVE THEM A WOUND THEY'D NOT SOON FORGET.

PANEL TWO: *

A small shuttle shoots from out of nowhere - approaching at a completely foolish vector to position itself between Super-Skrull and the onslaught of fighters -

WHA? SUPER-SKRULL *

PANEL THREE: *

A grapnel torpedo - attached to the shuttle by a towing wire - fires out of the shuttle's ventral surface, hooking K'lrt with its claws -

PANEL FOUR: *

- And reeling him into an airlock before -

PANEL FIVE: *

- Engaging its stardrive and vanishing into the depths of space!

END OF PAGE FIFTEEN

PAGE SIXTEEN

PANEL ONE:

INSIDE THE AIRLOCK. Super-Skrull BUSTS out of the grapnel's claws -

SUPER-SKRULL (narration) *

SO MUCH FOR MY HERO'S DEATH. TIME

TO THANK MY KIND HOST.

PANEL TWO:

OVER-THE-SHOULDER on Super-Skrull as the door to the shuttle's cockpit opens to reveal R'KIN.

A young Skrull in a mechanic's smock - looking over from the control panel to match eyes with Super-Skrull. *

Imagine R'Kin as this miniseries's equivalent to "Incrediboy" from *The Incredibles*. Young, naive, with a seriously geeky edge.

R'KIN

SUPER-SKRULL! THIS IS AMAZING! *

PANEL THREE:

Super-Skrull stretches his arm out to close the distance between himself and R'Kin - grabbing him by the throat -

PANEL FOUR:

- And YANKING him off the seat into face-to-face territory. Needless to say, young R'kin is terrified... and totally geeked out at the same time.

R'KIN *

YOU'RE MY IDOL! *

SUPER-SKRULL *

WHO ARE YOU? *

PANEL FIVE: *

Super-Skrull shoots an extremely dubious look at this weird kid in front of him:

- And R'kin makes his case hurriedly - desperately - * not wanting his neck broken!

R'KIN
I'M A MECHANIC IN THE FLEET - I MEAN -
UNTIL NOW. MY FATHER FOUGHT BY YOUR *
SIDE AGAINST THE KREE IN THE BATTLE *
OF HARKOON! I GREW UP LISTENING TO *
STORIES ABOUT YOU! *

PANEL SIX:

Continued: as Super-Skrull goes to the anger place first
(it's really a natural one for him) -

SUPER-SKRULL *
THIS IS A JOKE. AN AMBUSH!

END OF PAGE SIXTEEN

PAGE SEVENTEEN

PANEL ONE:

CLOSE on R'kin - pleading:

R'KIN
NO! I PROMISE - ALL I EVER WANTED
WAS TO FIGHT BY YOUR SIDE LIKE MY
FATHER DID!

PANEL TWO:

On the two of them - facing off:

SUPER-SKRULL *

SO YOU - A MECHANIC - A CHILD - STOLE
A STAR-DRIVE SHUTTLE AND FLEW IT
INTO A HARD FIRE-FIGHT JUST TO RESCUE
ME?

PANEL THREE:

SMALL - as R'kin considers Super-Skrull's words, then:

R'KIN
I'D LIKE TO THROW UP NOW.

PANEL FOUR:

A red light lights up the shuttle's control panel:

R'KIN
THAT'S A FLEET-WIDE TRANSMISSION -
FROM THE BARONESS.

PANEL FIVE:

Super-Skrull stretches over to the control panel and hits a
switch - a HOLOGRAPHIC IMAGE appears over the console -

- It's Baroness S'bak - missing a few teeth and nursing a
rapidly spreading bruise -

HOLOGRAPHIC BARONESS S'BAK
NOW HEAR THIS. THE BEING KNOWN AS
K'LRT - THE SUPER-SKRULL - IS NOW AN *

ENEMY OF THE EMPIRE -

PANEL SIX:

CLOSE ON the Baroness's hateful face:

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HOLOGRAPHIC BARONESS S'BAK
- I AM PUTTING A PRICE OF THREE
MILLION GOLDEN Z'LAKS ON HIS HEAD... *
AND HE IS WANTED ALIVE!

END OF PAGE SEVENTEEN

PAGE EIGHTEEN

PANEL ONE:

Without taking his eyes off R'kin, Super-Skrull SMASHES the communications console - the hologram VANISHES.

 SUPER-SKRULL *
KID -

 R'KIN
MY NAME IS R'KIN.

 SUPER-SKRULL *
- WHATEVER. YOU SO MUCH AS LOOK AT
ME THE WRONG WAY AND THE LAST THING
YOU WILL EVER SEE WILL BE YOUR SPINAL
CORD IN MY CLUTCHED FIST - DO WE
UNDERSTAND EACH OTHER?

 R'KIN
UH... SURE THING. SO... WHAT'S OUR
NEXT MOVE?

PANEL TWO:

Super-Skrull turns to look at his young charge - apparently the only friend he has in the galaxy:

 SUPER-SKRULL *
WE TAKE OUT THE ANNIHILATION WAVE'S
NEW WEAPON BEFORE IT DESTROYS
ZARAGZ'NA.

 R'KIN
ZARAGZ'NA?

PANEL THREE:

CLOSE ON Super-Skrull - he has nothing to lose, he might as well say what's on his mind:

 SUPER-SKRULL *
IT IS WHERE MY SON LIVES.

PANEL FOUR:

R'kin is truly fuckstruck by this revelation, but Super-Skrull isn't about to go all Oprah Winfrey and let out his feelings...

R'KIN
(to himself)
SUPER-SKRULL HAS A SON? *

SUPER-SKRULL *

WE HAVE AN ARMADA TO RAISE. A BATTLE *

TO FIGHT. *

PANEL FIVE:

R'kin turns back to face Super-Skrull - catching up to his last speech:

R'KIN
YOU DO REALIZE THERE IS A MASSIVE
PRICE ON YOUR HEAD?

SUPER-SKRULL *

WE'RE NOT RECRUITING IN THIS GALAXY - *

TO FIGHT THIS BATTLE WE MUST MEET *

THE ENEMY OF OUR ENEMY... *

PANEL SIX:

FACING SUPER-SKRULL as he turns to look out the shuttle cockpit into the darkness of open space while R'kin stands in the background...

SUPER-SKRULL *

...WE MUST GO WHERE THE ANNIHILATION *

WAVE BEGAN - WHERE THEIR ONSLAUGHT *

BEGAN AND THE SEEDS OF REBELLION *

HAVE HAD TIME TO BEAR FRUIT. WE *

MUST GO TO THE NEGATIVE ZONE. *

...And if you look closely enough, you will notice the look on R'kin's face...

...Scared shitless.

END OF PAGE EIGHTEEN

PAGE NINETEEN

PANEL ONE:

Dominated by an incredibly incongruous sight: an ESTABLISHING SHOT of the Baxter Building in New York City: but what the hell are we doing in New York City in the middle of an Epic Space Opera?

SUPER-SKRULL (narration) *

THERE ARE ONLY TWO WAYS TO REACH THE
NEGATIVE ZONE...

SUPER-SKRULL (narration 2nd box) *

...ONE OF THEM IS TO TRAVERSE THE
ENTIRE SPAN OF THE GALAXY THROUGH
ENEMY CONTROLLED TERRITORY...

SUPER-SKRULL (narration) *

...THE SECOND - AND EASIER WAY - IS
CONTROLLED BY MY SWORN ENEMY.

PANEL TWO:

SMALL - CLOSE ON Super-Skrull: *

SUPER-SKRULL *

GOOD MORNING, DOCTOR RICHARDS.

PANEL THREE:

WIDER TO REVEAL - Super-Skrull, standing in the middle of Reed Richards's lab as a mega-stunned Richards stands at the door - not at all bothering to hide the what-the-fuck look on his face!

PANEL FOUR:

Reed Richards's arms stretch out - one them hitting a button labeled "EMERGENCY LOCKDOWN" -

COMPIUTER VOICE

EMERGENCY LOCKDOWN ENGAGED.

PANEL FIVE:

- And the other hitting another console -

COMPIUTER VOICE (from the console)

AUTOMATIC DEFENSES ENABLED.

"Super Skrull" - Javier Grillo-Marxuach - Phone: (323) 350-3422 28.

PANEL SIX:

CLOSE ON Super-Skrull - impatient:

*

SUPER-SKRULL

*

I TRUST YOU FEEL SAFE NOW?

END OF PAGE NINETEEN

PAGE TWENTY

PANEL ONE:

*

HUGE - to REVEAL a massive (and this is where we get to pay our respects to Kirby's flair for Byzantine technology) DISINTEGRATOR WEAPON deployed on an arm-mount from the lab ceiling -

- the barrel trained directly above Super-Skrull. *

SUPER-SKRULL
CLASS FOUR DISINTEGRATOR. COULD
TAKE OUT A SMALL MOON WITH THAT.
I'M FLATTERED.

*

REED RICHARDS
DON'T BE.

PANEL TWO:

*

CLOSE ON Richards, dubious:

REED RICHARDS
I CAN SEE THAT YOU CAME TO TALK,
THAT DOESN'T MEAN I TRUST YOU.

PANEL THREE:

*

CLOSE ON Super-Skrull - a malevolent grin on his face.

SUPER-SKRULL
I WOULDN'T RESPECT YOU IF YOU DID -
BUT I DO SUGGEST YOU TAKE A SEAT...
I HAVE A LONG STORY TO TELL.

*

END OF PAGE TWENTY

PAGE TWENTY-ONE

PANEL ONE:

An ESTABLISHING SHOT of the Baxter Building - denoting the passage of time...

SUPER-SKRULL (narration) *

IT TOOK A WHILE - BUT RICHARDS FINALLY
CAME TO SEE THE TRUTH IN MY PLAN.

REED RICHARDS

...AND YOU WANT ME TO OPEN A PORTAL
SO YOU CAN TRAVEL TO THE NEGATIVE
ZONE AND RECRUIT AN ARMY TO FIGHT
THIS SUPERWEAPON?

PANEL TWO:

WIDER to show Reed Richards and Super-Skrull - still* under the disintegrator:

REED RICHARDS

HAVE YOU DEVELOPED A DEATH WISH? *

SUPER-SKRULL *

I DIDN'T KNOW YOU CARED.

REED RICHARDS

I WOULDN'T CALL IT MY FIRST PRIORITY.

SUPER-SKRULL *

THEN YOU SHOULD HAVE NO PROBLEM
HELPING ME.

PANEL THREE:

CLOSE ON Super-Skrull - laying out his proposal: *

SUPER-SKRULL *

BECAUSE I'LL EITHER DIE IN THE *

NEGATIVE ZONE, OR RETURN TO OBLITERATE *

AN ENEMY THAT WOULD OTHERWISE FIND

ITS WAY TO EARTH. TO MY MIND, YOU *

WIN NO MATTER THE OUTCOME.

PANEL FOUR:

CLOSE ON Reed Richards - mulling it over...

PANEL FIVE:

WIDER ON Richards and Super-Skrull - sworn enemies, now tenuously allied...

REED RICHARDS
DON'T EXPECT ME TO SHAKE YOUR HAND.

PANEL SIX:

Favoring Super-Skrull - nodding as Richards turns away - uncertain of every single one of Super-Skrull's motives.

SUPER-SKRULL (narration) *

OF COURSE, HAD THE ROLES BEEN
REVERSED, I WOULD HAVE GLADLY FRIED
RICHARDS WITH THAT DISINTEGRATOR.

SUPER-SKRULL (narration - 2nd box) *

THANKFULLY, REED RICHARDS IS A GOOD
MAN.

END OF PAGE TWENTY-ONE

PAGE TWENTY-TWO

PANEL ONE:

Reed Richards mans a control panel on a balcony: *

REED RICHARDS (transmission) *
INITIATING NEGATIVE ZONE TRANSFER -

SUPER-SKRULL (narration) *
AND GOOD MEN HAVE A PITIABLE HABIT
OF KEEPING THEIR WORD.

PANEL TWO:

Super-Skrull and R'Kin stand before the portal. R'Kin now *
wears a space suit.

K'lrt looks up at Richards - standing above them:

SUPER-SKRULL *
YOU'RE A GOOD MAN, RICHARDS.

REED RICHARDS
HIGH PRAISE INDEED. SIGNING OFF.

PANEL THREE:

A NEGATIVE ZONE PORTAL opens before the two... *

...And the vastness before them is awesome. *

SUPER-SKRULL *
I HOPE YOU'RE READY TO BE A HERO *
R'KIN. BECAUSE WE WILL EITHER RETURN *
HEROES - OR NOT AT ALL. *

PANEL FOUR: *

INSET - a CLOSE UP on R'Kin... scared shitless! *

And off the moment, as this uncertain boy takes off on his
first adventure...

TO BE CONTINUED *