

HOW IRONIC. IF ONLY COLONEL KANDINSKI COULD SEE ME NOW.

ANSWER, DAMN YOU, OR I'M FINISHED!

KANDINSKI ALWAYS SAID I WAS MARKED FOR DEATH.

THEY'VE GONE FOR NOW, BUT THEY'LL BE BACK, DAMMIT, SO SOMEONE PICK UP THIS SIGNAL!!

URNS OUT I'M THE LAST ONE ALIVE.

HALIUS CALLING BY THE EMPEROR, SOMEONE RESPOND!

NOTHING, JUST STATIC.

LOOKS LIKE KANDINSKI WAS RIGHT AFTER ALL.

GRSSHHHH!!

ZZZT... KANDIN... ASSISTA... SHORTLY... SZZT... HOLD YOUR GROUND!

GRAARSHHH!

ZZZZT... TAND AND FIGH... SZZT... REINFORCE... FIFTEEN MINUTES... SZZT... MPEROR!

THANKS FOR THE OFFER... DON'T THINK I'VE GOT...

ZZZAKOOOM!

FIFTEEN SECONDS!

ZZZZZSSSS

WHAT THE-!?

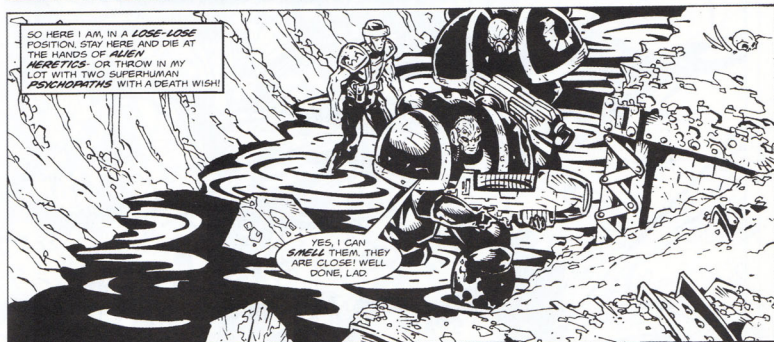


GET OFF
YOUR KNEES,
BOY!

ARE YOU THE
REINFORCEMENTS? COME
TO SAVE US?

• THE DEAD STILL SERVE •

SCRIPT: ANDY JONES • ART: JEFF REBNER • LETTERS: FIONA STEPHENSON





YOU DEPRAVED
SCUM COULD
NEVER RESIST
SUCH TEMPTING
BAIT!!

ZZAKOM!!

SPACE
MARINES!!

AIEEEE!

URRGH!



**BRAKKATA-
BRAKKATA-
BRAKKATA!!!!**

AAAAARGH!



IT MUST ONLY HAVE LASTED A FEW SECONDS

AAARGH!

KILL-MAIM-SLAY!

AIEEEE!

BRAKKATA-BRAKKATA-BRAKKATA-ZZAKKOOM!!



BUT THEY WERE BLOODIER THAN ALL THE MONTHS OF CAMPAIGNING ON GOLDERON V SO FAR.

BRAKKATA-BRAKKATA-BRAKKATA-ZAAKOOM!!

URRGH!

AIEEEE!



JUST A FEW BLOODY SECONDS WAS ALL IT TOOK.

NO LIFE SIGNS. COOLANT LEVEL STABLE. MAINTAIN OVERWATCH.

AFFIRMATIVE, BROTHER-CAPTAIN.



I HAD HEARD THE STORIES OF SPACE MARINES, BUT I'D NEVER SEEN *ANYTHING* LIKE THIS BEFORE.



BROTHER-CAPTAIN INVICTUS, DO YOU CONFIRM ENEMY READINGS ON BEARING SEVEN-FIVE-NINE?

INDEED I DO, BROTHER, INDEED I DO.

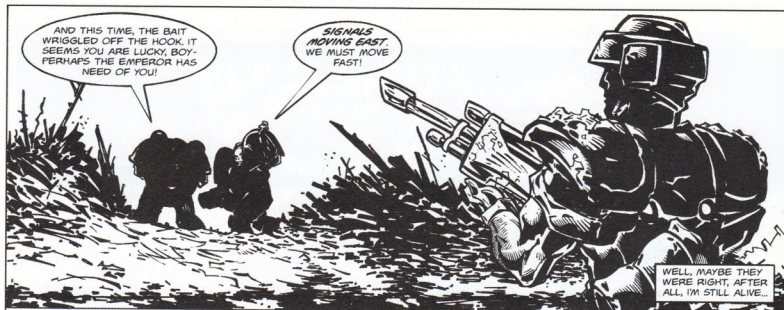
YOU USED ME AS *BAIT!*



YOU'D GIVEN UP, BOY. YOU WERE ALREADY DEAD, BUT EVEN THE DEAD CAN SERVE!



AS *BAIT!*



AND THIS TIME, THE BAIT WRIGGLED OFF THE HOOK. IT SEEMS YOU ARE LUCKY, BOY—PERHAPS THE EMPEROR HAS NEED OF YOU!

SIGNALS MOVING EAST. WE MUST MOVE FAST!

WELL, MAYBE THEY WERE RIGHT, AFTER ALL, I'M STILL ALIVE.



SO LET'S SEE IF I CAN STAND MY GROUND, FIGHT AND DIE ALONE IF NEED BE!



SEEMED LIKE THE EMPEROR HAD OTHER PLANS.

TROOPER HALVUS! AS I LIVE AND BREATHE!

JUST IN TIME, COLONEL I, ER, COULDN'T HOLD MUCH LONGER!



INDEED, SOLDIER, IT SEEMS YOU HAVE DONE WELL TODAY!



I HAD YOU MARKED AS A LIE-DOWN-AND-DIE BOY!



WELL, SIR, I'LL FIGHT, ALRIGHT, FIGHT AND DIE IF I MUST. BUT I WON'T DIE ON MY KNEES LIKE A DDS. I'VE A FEELING THE EMPEROR NEEDS ME A WHILE LONGER YET!

THE END.