



Sample file

ABC WARRIORS

ATOMIC ★ BACTERIAL ★ CHEMICAL

KRHONICLES OF KHAOS

ABC WARRIORS CREATED BY PAT MILLS, KEVIN O'NEILL, MIKE MCMAHON AND BRENDAN MCCARTHY

ABC Warriors

ATOMIC ★ BACTERIAL ★ CHEMICAL

KHRONICLES OF KHAOS

PAT MILLS ★ TONY SKINNER

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KEV WALKER

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INTRODUCTION

When I began writing the ABC Warriors many moons of Hekate ago, I referred to the robot Deadlock being involved with Khaos magic, although I didn't yet know what it really involved. But I prefer, whenever I can, to use real life rather than books for my research and so, as the serial developed, I invited my friend Tony Skinner to co-write *Chronicles of Khaos* with me. Because Tony not only understands chaos magic, but practices his own version of it happily, healthily and legally with his community in France. Tony is a successful musician and, in between gigs, he would give me his personal take on the subject as we wrote this story, often in austere and harsh working conditions like the middle of a bluebell wood or the back of a wine bar. Perfect conditions for Tony's brand of chaos. For his was not the chaos magic of gaming publications or the heavy books to be found in occult bookshops, but the real deal. And it has one major advantage over such tomes, it was fun! And it's our sense of fun and mockery of stuffy d-shirts of all persuasions that comes across in this volume as we explore the anomalies of reality, the absurdities of convention and the nature of magic.

However, it soon became clear to us that the chaotic theme of our futuristic 'romp', whilst highly regarded by the readers and selling well abroad, was not entirely understood or appreciated within the industry. Thus when Ro-Jaws signs off to his uncomprehending comrade Hammerstein with, "So welcome to the CBA Warriors", meaning everything is back to front, editorial assumed it was a typing error on my part and changed it to "ABC Warriors". We had to alter it later on the first book edition. Elsewhere I would hear rumblings of disapproval from fellow artists, writers and editors about the strange nature of this story and even more about the strangeness of my writing partner. I was finally told by one leading comic artist (sporting pink punk hair) that it was entirely wrong for me to even have as a *friend* anyone who had such a fun-loving, hedonistic, rock and roll lifestyle. Never mind a co-writer for comics. Tsk!

Tsk! Perhaps if I'd written with my accountant, it would have been so different. It became clear my chaos-loving friend's huge talent would never be taken up in a solo capacity – even though he was largely responsible for some of our most successful co-creations: the assassin Accident Man – the top serial in *Toxic!*; *Punisher 2099* for Marvel Comics (which sold a million copies on issue one) and *2000 AD's* own Finn which I was told by the editor was more popular than Sláine, just before he mysteriously axed it. So leaving the monastic, cloistered world of comics behind, Tony happily and successfully returned to his first love – rock and roll. But comics are the greyer and the less chaotic in his absence.

One character of special note is Joe Pineapples and his – er – transformation. It was something Tony and I both really wanted to happen, because of our own unfashionable views about overly-cool characters and big guns which I doubt we could express so passionately today. Judging by reactions to other subsequent 'unorthodox' deviations of mine, there would be a howl of disapproval from a small group of internet opinionators, probably made worse by my usual two fingered response. But this was back in the 1990's when Khaos could still have its say and Order had not quite triumphed. These days I haven't changed my views, but I do need to be a little more discreet in expressing them, so do enjoy Joe's extravagant 'coming out' for it marks the end of an era.

This was the first series of the ABC Warriors to appear in full colour and Kevin Walker's sumptuous artwork and excellent storytelling does full justice to the theme of chaos, not least his Joe Pineapples who is truly sublime.

So won't it be!

Pat Mills

February 2007



Sample file

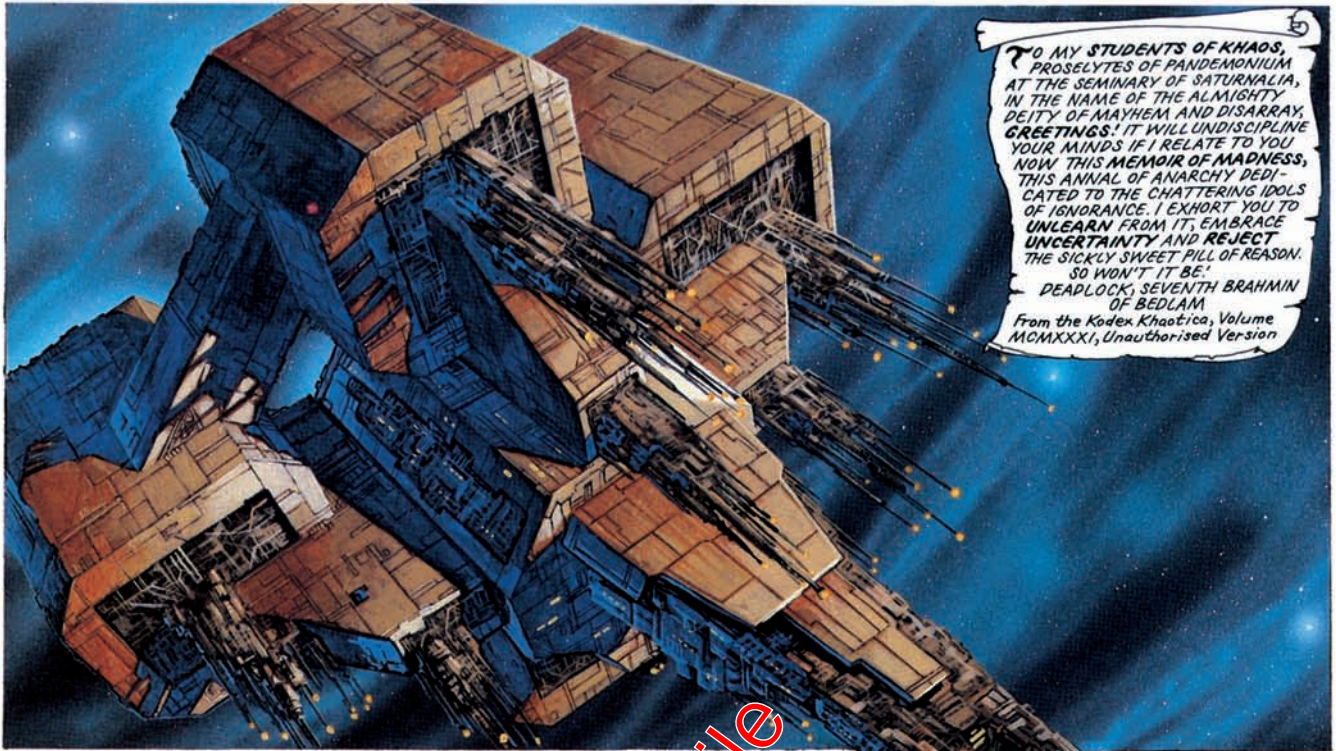
KHRONICLES OF KHAOS - BOOK 1

Script: Pat Mills & Tony Skinner

Art: Kev Walker

Letters: Steve Potter

Originally published in *2000 AD Progs* 750 - 758



TO MY STUDENTS OF KHAOS,
PROSELYTES OF PANDEMONIUM
AT THE SEMINARY OF SATURNALIA,
IN THE NAME OF THE ALMIGHTY
DEITY OF MAYHEM AND DISARRAY,
GREETINGS! IT WILL UNDISCIPLINE
YOUR MINDS IF I RELATE TO YOU
NOW THIS MEMOIR OF MADNESS,
THIS ANNUAL OF ANARCHY DEDICATED
TO THE CHATTERING IDOLS
OF IGNORANCE. I EXHORT YOU TO
UNLEARN FROM IT, EMBRACE
UNCERTAINTY AND REJECT
THE SICKLY SWEET PILL OF REASON.
SO WON'T IT BE!
DEAPLOCK, SEVENTH BRAHMIN
OF BEDLAM
From the Kodex Khaotica, Volume
MCMXXXI, Unauthorised Version



AS WE APPROACHED HEKATE,
PLANET OF THE NIGHT MARAS,
I COULD FEEL THE SURGE OF
DEMENTIA COURSIING THROUGH
MY CIRCUITS. THE OTHERS AS
YET HAVE NOTICED NOTHING—
NOR DO THEY KNOW MY REASON
FOR BRINGING THEM HERE... TO
THIS WORLD THAT IS THE VERY
WOMB OF DISCORD, THE
IMBROGLIO OF FOLLY AND
CONFUSION.

THEY WILL BE
CHANGED. THEY WILL
BE TRANSFORMED
INTO TRUE WARRIORS
OF KHAOS.



Sample file

AFTER ESCAPING FROM TERRA IN THE EMPEROR ZALIAN'S TOMBSHIP, WE HAD JOURNEYED FOR MANY MONTHS THROUGH THE FRINGE WORLDS TO REACH THIS HAVEN OF UTTER HOPELESSNESS...

I DON'T GET IT... IF WE WERE MEANT TO BE SPREADING KHAOS THROUGHOUT THE TERRAN EMPIRE, WHY HAVE WE LANDED ON THE PLANET OF KHAOS?

SO THAT YOU CAN BE BAPTISED IN A HOWLING SEA OF DELIRIUM, MY FRIEND.

SO THAT HAMMERSTEIN WILL STOP ASKING HIS BORING REGIMENTAL QUESTIONS.

H'AMM... LOOKS NORMAL ENOUGH TO ME... SKY'S UP... GROUND'S DOWN AND... UUUH?

GOOD MORNING, SIR.

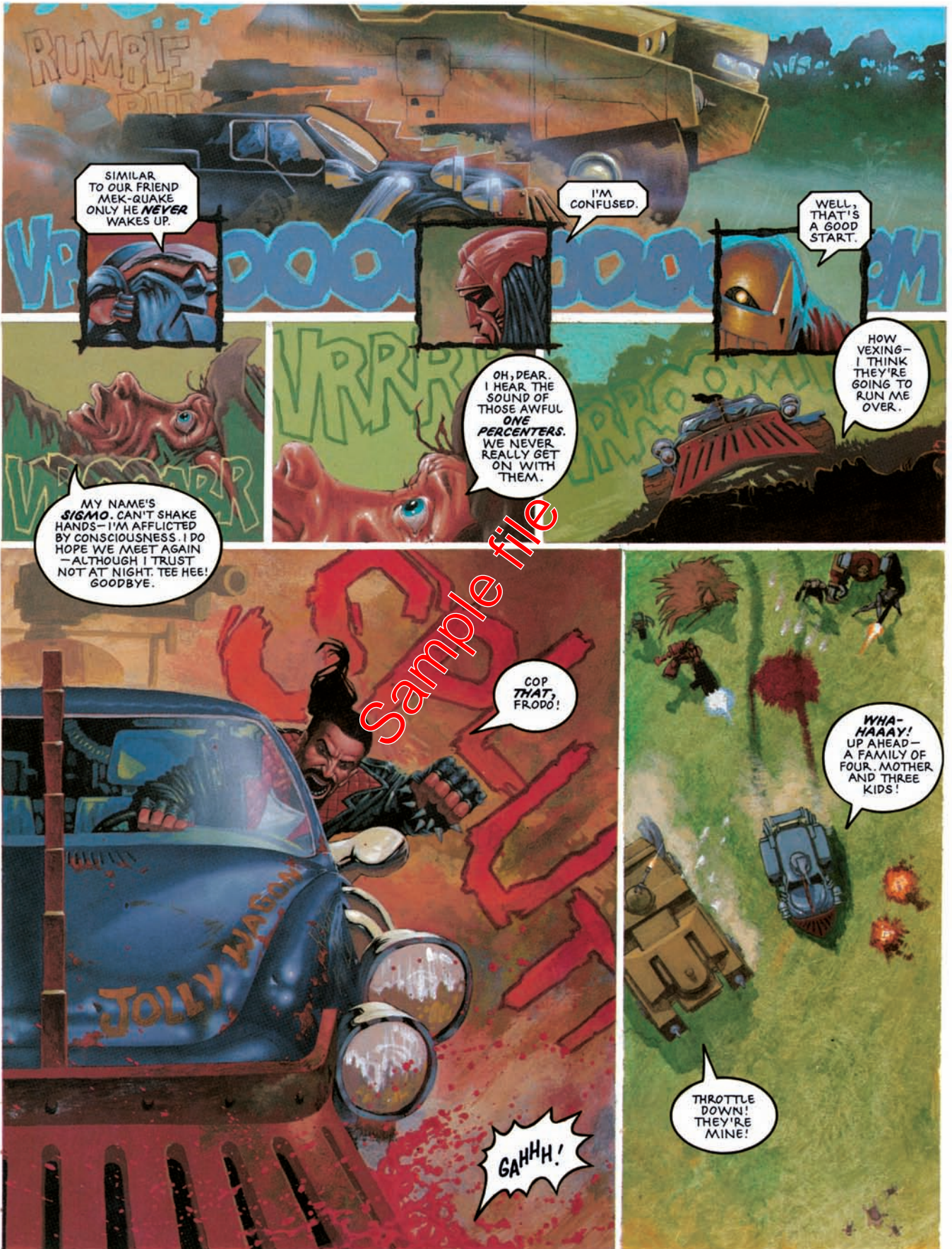
COME AGAIN, GUV?

SORRY IF I'M IN THE WAY, SIR, BUT YOU'VE CAUGHT ME AWAKE. HEKATE KNOWS HOW I GOT HERE. MUST'VE BEEN QUITE A NIGHT.

THESE ARE FROYDS. DURING THE DAY THEY'RE AWAKE, BUT THEIR BODIES ARE INERT. BUT AT NIGHT, WHILE THEY'RE ASLEEP, THEY ACT OUT THEIR DREAMS—WITH VIOLENCE AND PASSION.

I'M AFRAID YOUR FRIEND IS QUITE RIGHT, SIR. WHEN WE FROYDS ARE ASLEEP, WE'RE QUITE BRUTAL AND BESTIAL.

Sample file



SIMILAR TO OUR FRIEND MEK-QUAKE ONLY HE NEVER WAKES UP.

I'M CONFUSED.

WELL, THAT'S A GOOD START.

HOW VEXING- I THINK THEY'RE GOING TO RUN ME OVER.

OH, DEAR. I HEAR THE SOUND OF THOSE AWFUL ONE PERCENTERS. WE NEVER REALLY GET ON WITH THEM.

MY NAME'S SIGMO. CAN'T SHAKE HANDS- I'M AFFLICTED BY CONSCIOUSNESS. I DO HOPE WE MEET AGAIN - ALTHOUGH I TRUST NOT AT NIGHT. TEE HEE! GOODBYE.

COP THAT, FRODO!

WHA-HAAA! UP AHEAD- A FAMILY OF FOUR. MOTHER AND THREE KIDS!

THROTTLE DOWN! THEY'RE MINE!

GAHH!



YOU TAKE THOSE ROBOTS - BAR PROIDS OR WHATEVER THEY ARE!



I'M ON IT!



SAY GOODBYE, FUSE-FACE!

KODANG!



SO MUCH FOR HEAVY METAL POWER!



IS SMUSHING TIME AGAIN!

HERO