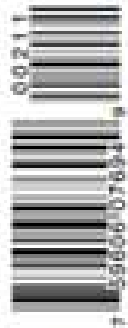


The Official Prequel to Disney's highly anticipated film JOHN CARTER

JOHN CARTER

MARVEL
LIMITED
SERIES
2 of 4

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WORLD OF MARS

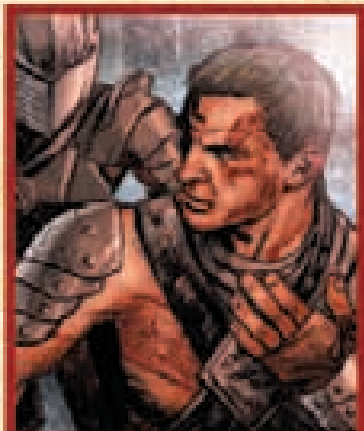
DAVID • ROSS • ARREOLA

John Carter was once a Captain in the United States military who has, through a series of unusual events, found himself on Mars. In his attempt to assimilate to the civilization of Mars—what natives call Barsoom—Carter recounts the stories of the planet, told to him by Dejah Thoris, Princess of Hellium, and Tars Tarkas of the Tharks.

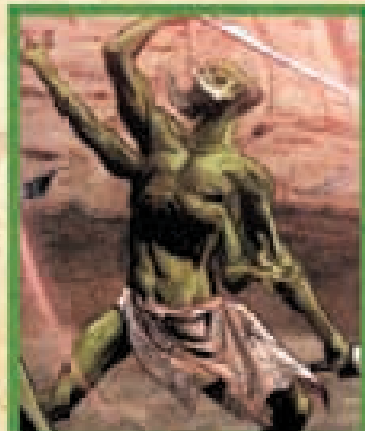
PREVIOUSLY...



Dejah Thoris
Princess of Hellium



Sab Than
Prince of Zodanga



Tars Tarkas
of the Tharks

On Mars there exists an ancient enmity between Hellium and its rival city, Zodanga. Zodanga, the aggressive city that walks the surface of Barsoom, has waged an unending war with Hellium, the "Jewel of Barsoom." Believing Hellium would be defeated if he were Jeddak (king), Sab Than, Prince of Zodanga, lashes out at his father, resulting in Sab Than's forced exile.

Meanwhile in the hinterlands, Taz Hajus of the Tharks—the Green Man of Barsoom—hatches a plan to defeat the great Warhock Gothan, enlisting his friend Tars Tarkas for help. If Taz Hajus is successful, he could become Jeddak of the Tharks and help liberate his people from their current Jeddak, a corrupt and faded warrior.

As Taz Hajus and Tars Tarkas set off on their mission, Sab Than hatches a secret plan of his own. By infiltrating the city of Hellium in the guise of a Hellumite soldier, Sab plots to kidnap the beautiful Princess Dejah of Hellium.

JOHN CARTER

WORLD OF MARS

PART TWO OF FOUR

BASED ON CHARACTERS CREATED BY EDGAR RICE BURROUGHS AND THE SCREENPLAY JOHN CARTER BY ANDREW STANTON & MARK ANDREWS AND MICHAEL CHABON

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SPECIAL THANKS TO LAURA SANDOVAL, LESLIE STERN, MATTHEW FRANK, KEVIN KURTZ AND IRENE LEE

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YOU'RE FROM ZODANGA. I'VE NO DOUBT OF THAT. WHAT DID YOU THINK TO ACCOMPLISH?



WHY TELL YOU, DEJAH THORIS, WHEN I CAN SHOW YOU?

ALL YOU'RE SHOWING ME IS YOUR INCOMPETENCE.



NOW SPEAK.

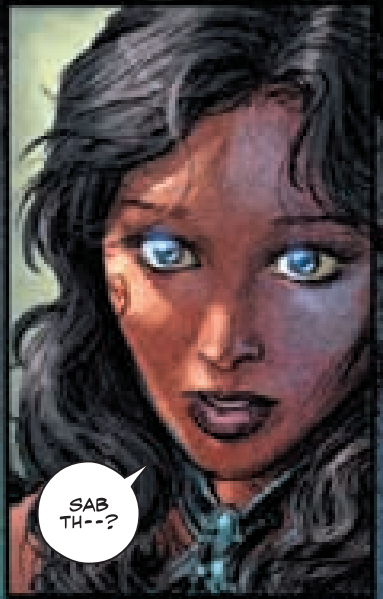


YOU HEARD ME: *SPEAK*, WHILE YOU STILL HAVE A TONGUE TO--



I AM SAB THAN, PRINCE OF ZODANGA.

AND YOU ARE MY PRISONER.



SAB TH--?



IT IS HARD TO SAY WHICH SURPRISED HER MORE: THAT A ZODANGAN NOBLE WAS IN HELIUM...

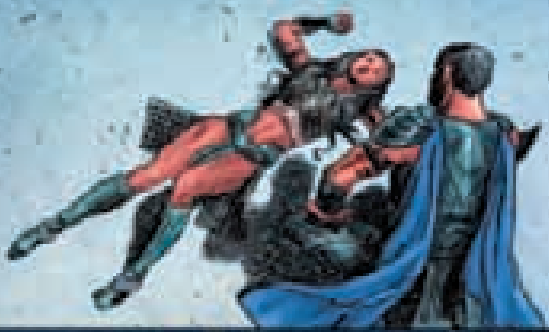
...OR THAT HE HAD THE GALL TO DESCRIBE HER AS HIS PRISONER.

EITHER WAY, IT CAUGHT HER OFF-GUARD FOR JUST A MOMENT...

...AND THAT WAS ALL THAT SAB THAN REQUIRED.

ORIGINALLY SAB THAN HAD HOPED MY PRINCESS WOULD BE FOOLED INTO ACCOMPANYING HIM WILLINGLY...

THAT WAS NO LONGER AN OPTION, AND AN UNCONSCIOUS DEJAH THORIS WAS HARDLY SOMETHING THAT WOULD ELUDE NOTICE.



SO, HE DECIDED THAT HE WOULD MAKE NO ATTEMPT TO DO SO.



MAKE WAY! THE PRINCESS HAS FALLEN ILL!

WHAT? OH, NO!

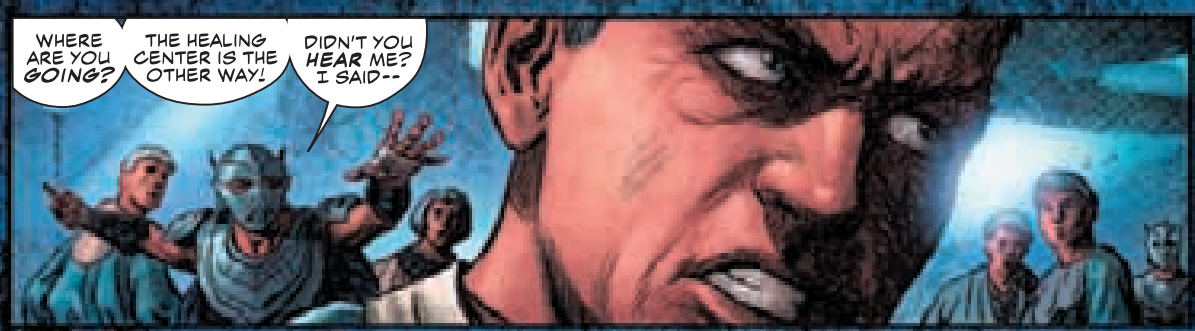
I MUST BRING HER TO THE HEALING CENTER AT ONCE!



WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

THE HEALING CENTER IS THE OTHER WAY!

DIDN'T YOU HEAR ME? I SAID--



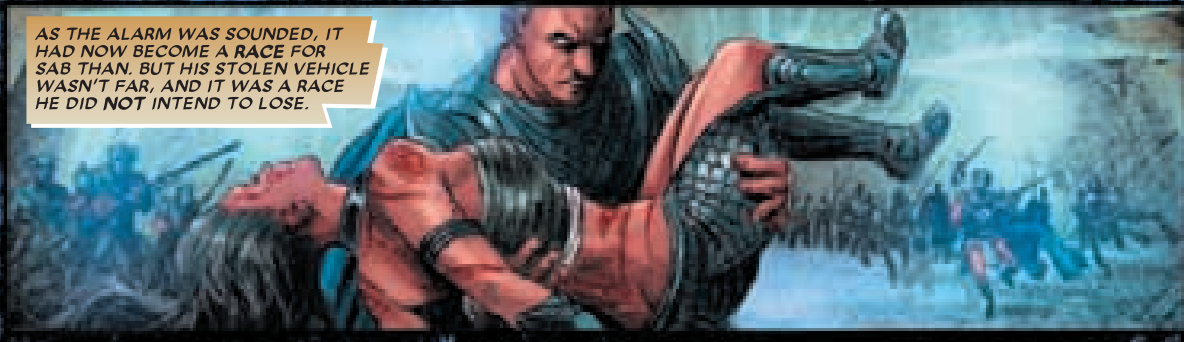
YES, YES, I HEARD YOU.

ZAKOWW

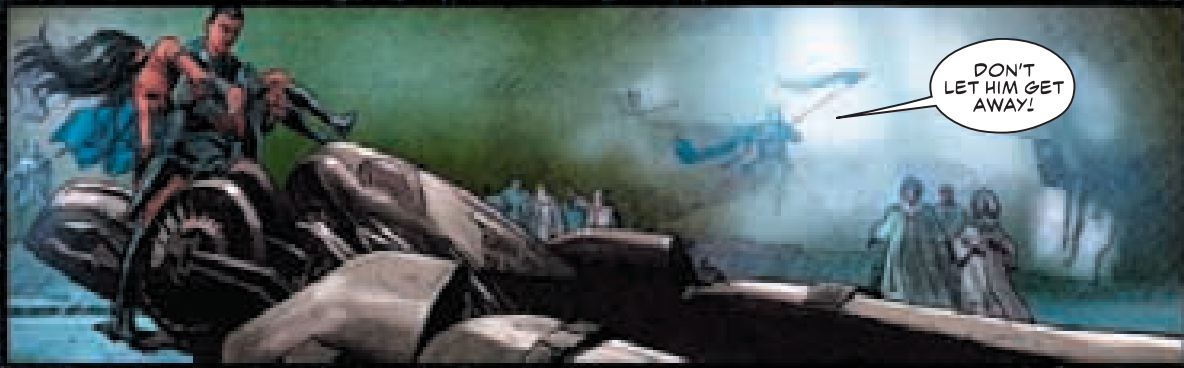
ARRGHHH!



AS THE ALARM WAS SOUNDED, IT HAD NOW BECOME A RACE FOR SAB THAN. BUT HIS STOLEN VEHICLE WASN'T FAR, AND IT WAS A RACE HE DID NOT INTEND TO LOSE.



DON'T LET HIM GET AWAY!



THIS WAS SUPPOSED TO GO MORE SMOOTHLY.




CAREFUL! DON'T HIT THE PRINCESS!

I'M TRYING NOT TO! HE'S MOVING SO QUICKLY THAT--



NO! THEY'LL NOT BRING ME DOWN THAT EASILY!

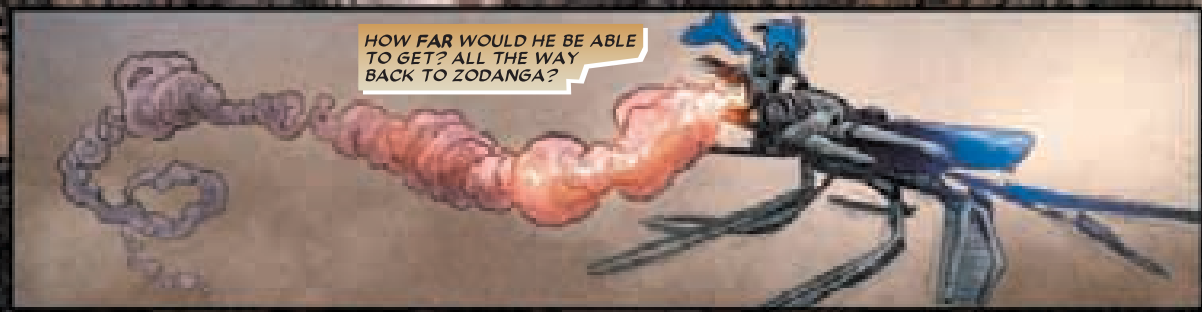




EVEN AS OTHER VESSELS
SCRAMBLED TO GO IN
PURSUIT, SAB THAN
HURTLIED AWAY FROM
HELIUM.

BUT THE DAMAGE
HAD BEEN DONE. HIS
VEHICLE WAS CRIPPLED.

THE ONLY
QUESTION
NOW WAS...



HOW FAR WOULD HE BE ABLE
TO GET? ALL THE WAY
BACK TO ZODANGA?



AS IT TURNED OUT,
THE ANSWER WAS...



...NOT QUITE
THAT FAR.