



# Baby.

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**BFT2.0 Translator:** Brian Hioe

“If there truly is a God, then He must have left this place...”

December 1, 2043, marks the “Day of Extinction.” An influx of unknown life forms known as “Baby” begins to parasitize humans, transforming them into monstrous robots, leading to mass slaughter and pushing humanity to the brink of extinction. Eliza, who survived an attack by these mutated beings but had her left hand invaded by Baby, miraculously does not turn into a robot.

A year later, in search of answers, Eliza decides to leave the city. Meanwhile, a three-person rescue team, on a covert mission to bring the mysterious girl Alice back to the human shelter, unexpectedly discovers other survivors. To return safely, they venture underground, where they encounter the severely injured Eliza. As robots begin to gather around them, they must confront their dire situation. What is the origin of “Baby”? The truth behind it all—and the identity of the girl Alice—will soon be revealed.

As acclaimed sci-fi writer Isaac Hsu writes, “Blending elements from *I Am Legend*, *Ghost in the Shell*, and *Parasyte*, this story weaves a compelling post-apocalyptic sci-fi world.”



## Chang Sheng

Born in Taipei, Taiwan in 1968, Chang Sheng graduated from the Western Painting Department of Fuxing Commercial High School. After 15 years in advertising, he transitioned to comic creation in 2002. Notable works include *Dream Hotel*, *Baby*, *OLDMAN*, *The Hidden Level*, *Nine Lives Man: Time's Wheel*, and *Yan*. Chang Sheng was part of the Louvre Comics Project and contributed to Seven Dreams of the Louvre: Fantastic Journey of Taiwanese Comic Artists. His works have been licensed in Japanese, French, Korean, English, Italian, Turkish, and other languages.

In 2004, Stanley won the Best Comic Drama Award from the Government Information Office. The short story *Dream Hotel* received recognition from the National Academy for Educational Research in Taiwan. *OLDMAN* received an Honorable Mention at the 6th Japan International Manga Awards in 2013 and was licensed in French, Korean, English, and Turkish. It also won Best Youth Comic at the 5th Golden Comic Awards in 2014. *The Hidden Level* won the Gold Award at the 3rd Kyoto International Manga Awards and Best Youth Comic at the Golden Comic Awards in 2017. *Nine Lives Man: Time's Wheel* was nominated for Comic of the Year at the 11th Golden Comic Awards in 2020 and was licensed in French. *Yan* Vol. 1 was nominated for Comic of the Year at the 12th Golden Comic Awards in 2021, and *Yan* Vol. 2 was nominated at the Golden Comic Awards in 2022 and was licensed in Italian. He also won the 1st Original IP Top IP Award in the Comics category. *Yan* Vol. 3, the concluding volume of the series, was published in December 2022. In 2011, *Baby* won Best Youth Comic and Comic of the Year at the 2nd Golden Comic Awards and was licensed in Japanese e-book format.

# Chang Sheng's Visually Striking Post-Apocalyptic World

by Brian Hioe

Set in the near future, *Baby* follows former police officer Eliza in the aftermath of the “Day of Destruction,” a catastrophic event that nearly wipes out humanity. Following the emergence of parasitic bio-mechanical lifeforms known as “Baby,” most of the population is eradicated. Those who survive are either preyed upon by Baby or assimilated, transforming into bio-mechanical creatures themselves.

Eliza is one of the few who survived that fateful day, living in isolation ever since. Her only companion is DR-34, an outdated medical robot equipped with an advanced learning AI. Despite her survival, Eliza is haunted by loneliness and the fear of becoming one of the very things she dreads—Baby. During the initial outbreak, her hand was infected, yet her body hasn’t transformed in the year since. This uncertainty leaves her trapped in a cycle of nightmares, self-loathing, and mistrust of the world around her.

Running parallel to Eliza’s story is that of a group of government soldiers who believe they hold the key to humanity’s salvation. Led by the resolute and compassionate Ryan, they undertake a dangerous mission behind enemy lines, deep into an abandoned military base. There, they discover a mysterious young girl named Alice. To their surprise, she’s not alone; a small group of survivors has gathered around her, complicating the mission as they now face the daunting task of evacuating a larger group of refugees. As these two narratives edge closer to one another, the question looms: What is the connection between Eliza and Alice? And what will happen when their paths finally cross?

*Baby*, a five-volume series running from 2007 to 2012, draws heavily from the sci-fi influences of its time, including classics like *Ghost in the Shell* and *Ergo Proxy*, as well as survival horror games such as *Resident Evil*. Eliza, with her caustic wit

and hardened exterior, is reminiscent of iconic female protagonists like Motoko Kusanagi from *Ghost in the Shell*.

One of *Baby*’s greatest strengths lies in its artwork, which masterfully blends hand-drawn and digital techniques. The intricate designs of the bio-mechanical Baby lifeforms and the detailed character art make it visually striking. Even two decades later, in an age of advanced CGI and digital art, *Baby*’s aesthetic still holds up.

While the first volume only hints at the complex plot to come, it firmly establishes the core characters and the bleak, post-apocalyptic world they inhabit. Though not entirely hopeless, *Baby*’s setting is decidedly grim, and its tension-filled action scenes are where the story

shines brightest. Author Chang Sheng is particularly adept at conveying dynamic movement and escalating tension, making the action sequences some of the most compelling parts of the narrative.

The brisk pacing also keeps readers engaged, driving the plot forward at a steady clip.

Although *Baby* is primarily a plot-driven series, Chang Sheng skillfully sets the emotional tone and stakes for his

characters, particularly in the first volume. It provides just a glimpse of the journey ahead—one that promises to challenge both its characters and its readers.

*Brian Hioe is a writer, activist, and co-founder of New Bloom.*

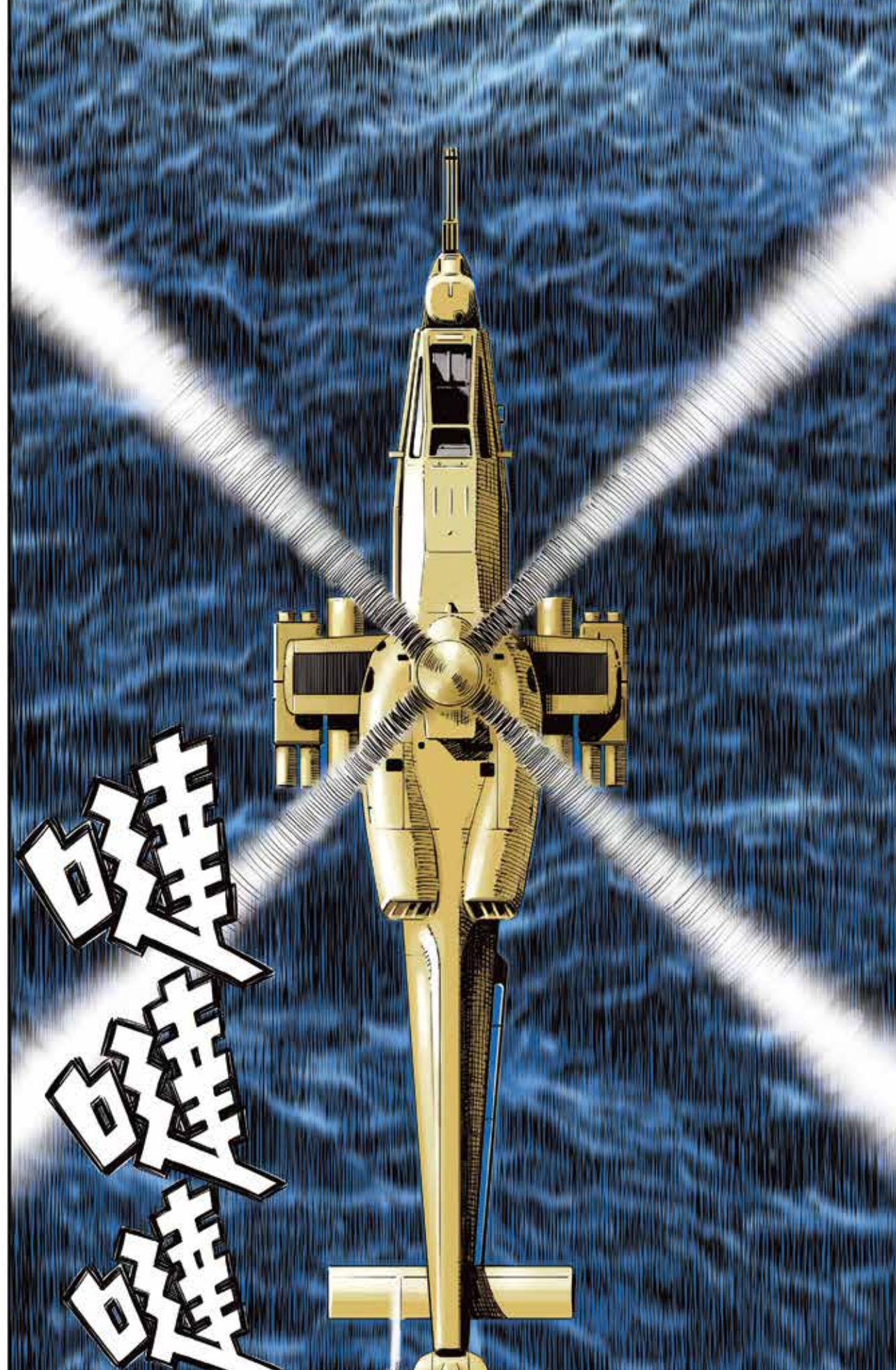
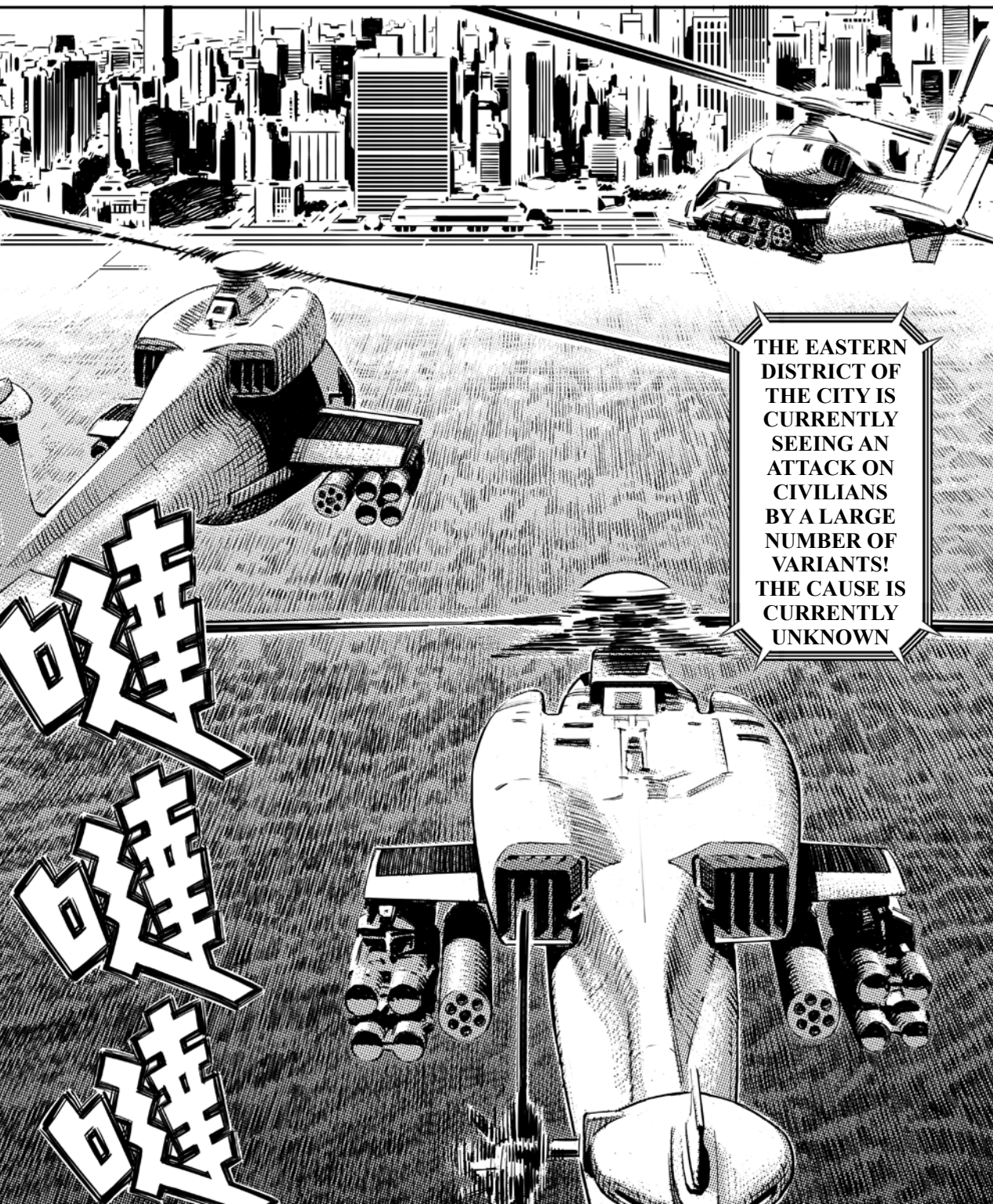
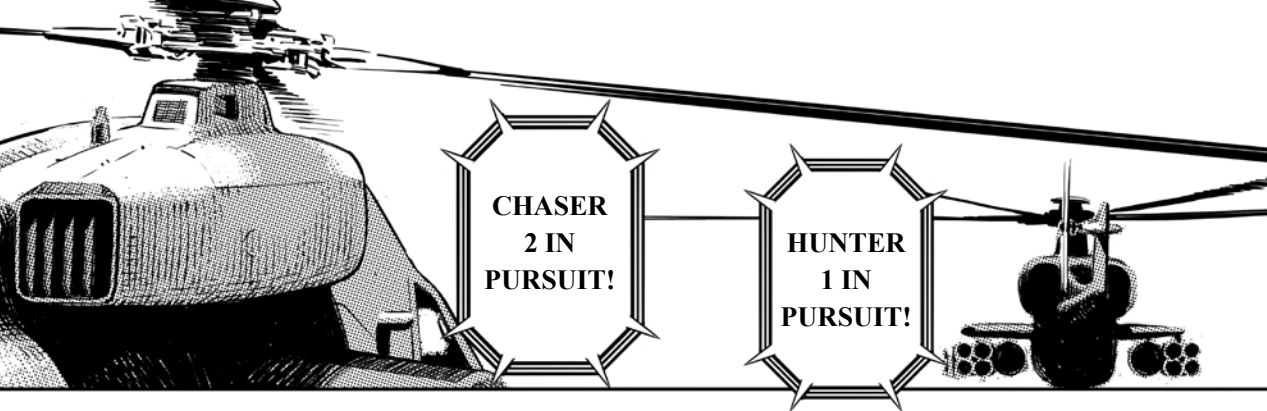
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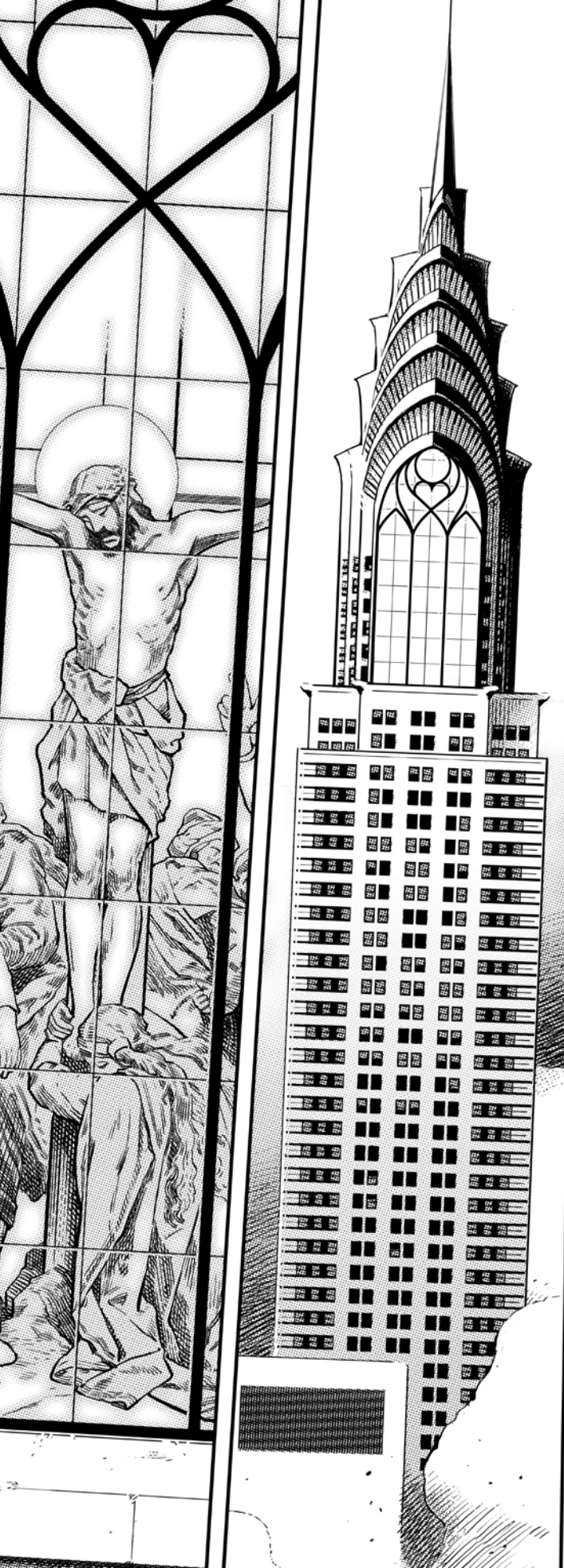
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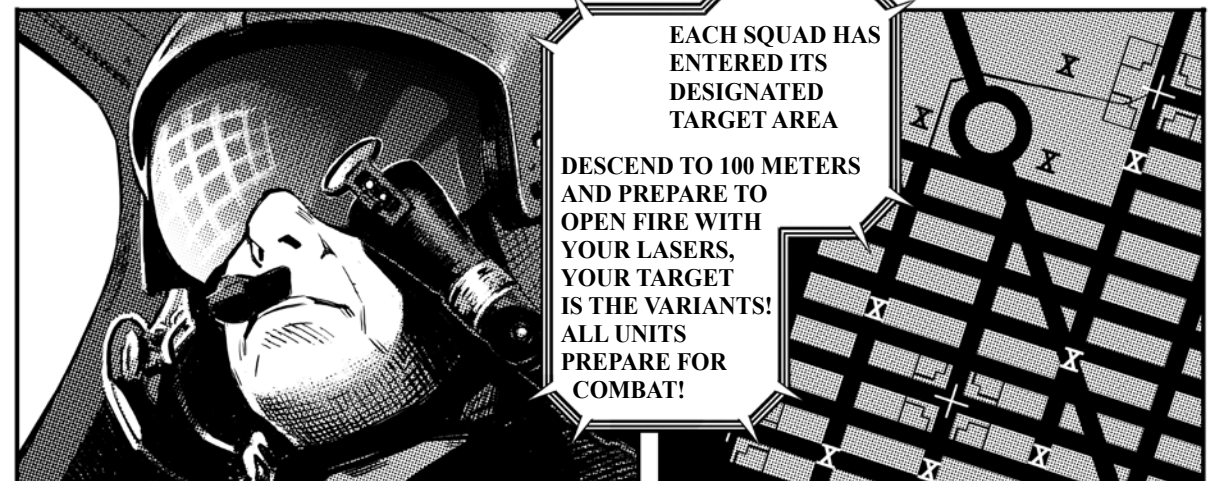








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YOUR TARGET  
IS THE VARIANTS!  
ALL UNITS  
PREPARE FOR  
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