

ONLY ONE EARTH

A GATCHAMAN MINISERIES, written by Tommy Lee Edwards

Issue #1

PAGE 1

PANEL ONE

Gripping a whiskey on the rocks, Duke Jimena paces angrily across the marble floor in his opulent office. Jimena is a well-manicured man of about 50 years old, wearing a tailored suit, bowtie, fancy cufflinks, and matching pinky-ring. A VOICE-OVER from Princess Gema resonates from an antique radio on the nearby desk.

- **GEMA (electronic radio):** My father, our *king*, loved you. He loved all of *Atrena*. He loved our plentiful forests, our glorious seashore, and our thriving farmlands.
- **GEMA (electronic radio):** Until the very moment of his tragic death, our king was Atrena's guardian. He was a custodian of nature...

PANEL TWO

Duke Jimena sulks past framed photos of family members, most notably one of himself with his brother the king and a 10-year-old Princess Gema. We also might see historical photos, regional landscape paintings, and various brass busts of past Atrena royal family members.

- **GEMA (electronic radio):** It's been a long and dark five years, my friends.
- **GEMA (electronic radio):** I appreciate that *Duke Jimena* had very large boots to fill, but my affluent uncle was more concerned with power than he was principal. His unholy alliance with foreign oligarchs and dark corporations has ravaged our nation and poisoned our communities...

PANEL THREE

The Duke flings his whiskey glass at the radio and it shatters...

- **GEMA (electronic radio):** It's time to finally put a stop to the *madness!*
- **SFX:** SPASSHHH!

PANEL FOUR

Princess Gema's voice-over declares today a holiday. The Duke flings the office double-doors open, and storms outside onto the sunlit balcony. He's furious.

- **GEMA (electronic radio):** I stand here before you, on my eighteenth birthday, a princess no more...

PAGES 2 & 3

PANEL ONE

INSET PANEL, TOP LEFT: Focus on the radio, atop Duke Jimena's desk-- Dripping wet with whiskey, ice, and a few shards of glass. Princess Gema's VO connects into the word balloons on panel 2.

- **GEMA (electronic radio):** As your *new queen*, I vow to return Atrena back to its former glory. Together, we shall restore forgotten and discarded traditions.

PANEL TWO

MAIN DOUBLE-PAGE IMAGE: We look down past the Duke, who's leaning on the balcony railing, to witness the source of his intense anger. We see massive crowds of Atrena citizens celebrating and congregating in the main old city center. Gema stands on a small platform, surrounded by bodyguards & loyal advisors, addressing the people from a podium loaded with microphones and decorated with beautiful flowers. The press is there with tv cameras. We can also include stuff like a brass band, folk dancers, flags, concessions, etc. It's a massive street fair-meets-racing event-meets-royal coronation. Ten or so race cars are lined up in grid formation on the closed-off street, ready to start. Drivers climbing into their cockpits. Race-crews hustle back and forth within the city's makeshift pit-lane, carrying supplies and fueling the cars, etc..

This entire location has a very tropical South American vibe. Although fictitious, Atrena should feel similar in age and architecture to 1960s Buenos Aires.

- **GEMA (normal balloons now):** Together, we shall work to purify our air, mend our lands, and return to a bountiful harvest.
- **GEMA:** We must also eliminate the vile decay that has too freely poisoned our children's futures, starting with the *banishment* of Duke Jimena and his corporate *puppet-masters!*

PANEL THREE

INSET PANEL: Closer on Gema, surrounded by bodyguards, waving and smiling proudly to the crowd. Her long black hair is tied up neatly with a scarf. Her makeup is impeccable. Around her neck and wrists are beautiful family jewels. Her clothing is very 60's Grace Kelly meets Audrey Hepburn, sporting a stylish blouse and tailored capris pants.

- **GEMA:** Today is a new beginning! My father loved a good celebration, and today marks the triumphant return of his favorite annual tradition...
- **GEMA:** The *King's GRAND PRIX!*

PAGE 4

PANEL ONE

Down in PIT LANE, we see Joe (*wearing racing gear*) and Ken (*wearing grease-covered pit-crew coveralls*) looking on from their designated spot on the starting grid. Ken is fueling Joe's grand-prix race-car. One foot up on the front wheel, Joe's helmet rests on the lifted knee. He's getting ready to race, and seemingly lost in thought. He casually taps on the face of his G-Bracelet, which is emitting a couple very tiny spark FX.

- **GEMA (off):** I look forward to honoring the race-winner as my special guest during the post-race feast, after placing the king's medal upon their chest!
- **KEN:** That's it.
- **JOE:** That's what?

PANEL TWO

Focus on Ken. He's finished fueling Joe's race-car, and seals the cap on the engine's gas tank.

- **KEN:** That's how the assassin will get close to her.

PANEL THREE

Tight on Joe, looking off towards Gema's position off-camera. He's captivated in silence. The wind gently blows his hair.

PANEL FOUR

Joe's long-lens POV on Gema, finishing her speech. Another silent panel, with time slowing down.

PANEL FIVE

WIDE: We move to the other side of Ken and Joe. Ken's making some last-minute adjustments to the carburetor. Joe faces away from us, buckling his helmet and gazing towards Queen Gema waving to the crowd. As much as possible, we see other drivers getting ready, race crews, and cars on the street's starting grid. Race-Start lights would also be good to establish. Filling the distant background is a giant dormant volcano.

- **KEN:** Dr. Nambu is convinced that *Galactor* is targeting Princess Gema--
- **JOE:** *Queen* Gema...
- **KEN:** Either way, I doubt if the Duke and *Spektral Corporation* would be too disappointed if her majesty's reign was cut short.

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PANEL ONE

Joe climbs into the cockpit of his 1970's grand-prix rally-car. A couple tiny sparks are popping-off from the face of Joe's G-Bracelet. Ken looks annoyed while wiping his grease-covered hands with a dirty rag.

- **JOE:** You know *Spektral* is a front for *Galactor*, right?
- **KEN:** Yes, Joe. Everyone knows that.
- **KEN:** Even *Jinpei* knows that.

PANEL TWO

Joe is settling-into the car's cockpit. He's close to the camera, staring directly at us, putting his goggles on. Behind him, on either side, we see the other racers entering their cars, buckling, and getting ready. At least two of the drivers in this race should be sponsored by Spektral Corporation, so we should see their brand on a couple cars, some flags, signage throughout, etc.

- **JOE:** It'll be *me* in that winner's circle, Ken, so don't worry your greasy little head.

PANEL THREE

Gema climbs into her royal limo, escorted by security, surrounded by her adoring public. We see the royal residence building in the background, with annoyed Duke Jimena watching from his office balcony.

- **KEN (off):** Don't *you* worry. I'll be stuck here playing *pit-crew*, trying to undo the latest devastation you've inflicted upon this car's gearbox.
- **JOE (off):** Oh Ken.... I promise you can hold my gold medal while I'm protecting her royal highness during the post-race feast.

PANEL FOUR

A low, tight angle on Duke Jimena. A tiny sinister smile contradicts his furious eyes. He knows something.

PAGE 6

PANEL ONE

Tight on Joe's tailpipes roaring to life with a tiny burst of flame.

- **SFX:** KA- KA-BRRRUUUUUM!!!!

PANEL TWO

On Ken, stepping back towards the makeshift garage area on the edge of the street. He's placing a mic-earphone set on his head.

- **KEN:** Check... check...
- **KEN:** I'm getting a *lot* of comms interference from your G-Bracelet, Joe.

PANEL THREE

WIDE on the starting grid. All crew have moved aside, and the drivers start their engines.

- **ASSORTED SFX:** VROOOOM! VRUM! KA-BRUUUM! BRUMBLE!

PANEL FOUR

Close on Joe. He's looking straight ahead towards the starting lights, grips the steering wheel, and shoots a little side-eye off towards Ken's unseen location. Radio transmission from Ken is coming from the G-bracelet on Joe's left wrist, and we see a couple more of those tiny electrical spark FX.

- **KEN (radio/off):** Can you hear me?
- **JOE:** My bracelet has been on the fritz lately, but **yes** I can hear you. Even over the roar of all these engines...

PANEL FIVE

Joe's hand grips the shifter on the floor. He's in first gear, ready for launch.

- **JOE:** Yes, Ken...
- **JOE:** ...I can *still* hear you.

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PANEL ONE

We see past Joe to get a glimpse of the start lights, three rows fully-lit RED. The dormant volcano looming in the distance.

- **JOE:** The *more* you talk, the *slower* I go. Haven't you figured that out by now?

PANEL TWO

Tight on Joe. A tiny drip of sweat trickles down his brow. Mere slits, his eyes dark over towards his other side.

- **KEN (radio/off):** Just keeping you *on-mission*, G2.
- **JOE:** You wanna stop playing *grease-monkey*? You gotta let me go fast.

PANEL THREE

On the start lights, All rows are fully-lit GREEN!.

- **JOE (off):** You wanna get outta this *grubby city*? You gotta shut the hell up and let me *win*.

PANEL FOUR

Joe's left foot releases the clutch & his right slams down on the gas pedal.

- **SFX:** SKAAAREEEEEEE---

PANEL FIVE

RACE START! Low and behind Joe's car. Tires squeal. Competitors' cars are lurching forward around him.

- **SFX:** ---EEEEEEEEEECCHHH!!

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PANEL ONE

WIDE high angle on the cars racing out of the city center and towards Atrena's dormant volcano on the horizon. Joe's car is at around 3rd or 4th place. Crowds of cheering fans line the sidewalks.

PANEL TWO

CUT TO: Tight on Leader X's sinister glare.

- **LEADER X:** Now, Katse...

PANEL THREE

REVEAL that we are Inside Berg Katse's private office within the Galactor headquarters.

Leader X is projected on a giant monitor along the back wall. Katse is close to the camera, sitting almost completely silhouetted in profile. He casually reaches towards a warm cup of tea sitting on a saucer on a nearby control panel. It's right next to a unique-looking launch button.

- **KATSE:** I've been looking forward to this all day.

PANEL FOUR

CLOSE on Katse's gloved hand pressing the now-activated glowing-red button next to his tea. Inside the cup's dark water should be a floating tea-bag and tiny spoon.

- **SFX (small):** blip!

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PANEL ONE

A catastrophic chain-reaction of events begins, narrated by Katse, explaining how Galactor's plan is finally about to finally bear fruit. A SPEKTRAL CORP water-treatment plant is nestled next to a river, deep in the jungle. We see three large sewage pipes releasing poisonous toxins into the gently flowing water. Glowing red lamps atop the pipes indicate that this has just been "activated".

- **KATSE (voiceover):** Like any good tea, it all starts with infrastructure...

PANEL TWO

A FARM near the edge of the forest. Most of the crop looks pretty gray and limp. SPEKTRAL CORP irrigation pipes line sections of soil within the planted fields of corn. One of the pipes has a glowing red lamp. We can see subtle charges emitting small electrical crackles from under the dirt.

- **KATSE (voiceover):** Rich soil helps, along with access to quality water at high-elevation...

PANEL THREE

Now we cut to a SPEKTRAL CORP mining operation near a small village. Trucks and giant drills surround the underground mine's entrance. Massive pipes and cables disappear into the mouth of this giant excavation project. We see another glowing-red light.

- **KATSE (voiceover):** Once the ideal temperature is reached, you must allow adequate measure for the various ingredients to combine...

PANEL FOUR

Deep underground, at the lowest point of the mine, we see a couple of those same pipes and cables terminate into a sinister-looking machine (with a red lamp on top)! This thing is emitting giant bolts of electricity, which are arcing into nearby volcanic rock and bits of exposed MAGMA. Some of this magma is boiling, and spilling out of fresh cracks.

- **KATSE (voiceover):** The longer the brew-time, the stronger the flavor...

CONT:

PANEL FIVE

A paved-road suddenly begins to split open. Steam emerges from beneath the earth's surface. Birds flutter away from the trees. It's an earthquake!

- **KATSE (voiceover):** Remember not to overdo it, though...

PANEL SIX

The river starts to boil beneath a highway bridge at the city outskirts. Joe and several other cars are speeding over it...

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PANEL ONE

Katse uses a tiny spoon to squeeze the tea-bag against his cup's inner wall.

- **KATSE:** When finishing, be sure to gently squeeze the bag only once...

PANEL TWO

Katse's mouth takes a sip of his richly deserved hot tea.

- **KATSE:** If you get too aggressive, things could get quite bitter...

PANEL THREE

Wider on Katse. His head arcs backward, cackling maniacally. Leader X's projected image fills the background.

- **KATSE:** HA-HA-HAHAHAHAHA!

PANEL FOUR

Atrena's volcano suddenly erupts and blows its top!

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PANEL ONE

Back to the race! Focus on Joe in his open-air cockpit, reacting in astonishment to the off-camera eruption. Maybe we see the volcano reflected in his windscreen.

- **JOE:** Oh no...!

PANEL TWO

Back at the now-familiar starting grid at the city's center. We're behind raceway spectators & crew, who look on in horror at the erupting volcano. Ken turns towards the camera, crouching and screaming into his headset microphone.

- **KEN:** Joe! Are you alright? Give me a *status report!*

PANEL THREE

Cut back to Joe, who's plenty busy dodging falling volcanic rocks, magma boulders, and burning embers. Our view is over the shoulder, with Joe's face reflected in the mirror.

- **JOE:** My status is a little *busy* right now, Ken.

PANEL FOUR

Joe's car swerves to dodge falling volcanic rocks landing all around the roadway and surrounding landscape.. A nearby racecar is crushed by a huge magma boulder.

- **SFX:** WUMP!
- **SFX:** WUMP!
- **SFX:** BASSH!

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PANEL ONE

Earthquake! Low angle on Joe's car. The ground is violently splitting-open near his rear wheel.

- **SFX:** SKLLLLTTTT
- **KEN (radio/electronic):** You need to *find the queen*, Joe!

PANEL TWO

WIDER on the scene. The racers drive towards us, having entered a more rural part of Atrena. Stone walls, farm houses, wineries, pubs, etc. Joe evades falling lampposts. Debris continues to fall. The nearby farmland is splitting open. His closest competitor loses control on the buckling road and flips over. A Spektral-Team car is speeding up fast behind Joe.

- **KEN (radio/electronic):** What are your *precise coordinates*?

PANEL THREE

The Spektral-Team car slams into a bit of upended pavement.

- **SFX:** WRUNCH!

PANEL FOUR

We look past Joe's car at the road ahead. Hot lava has begun to flow down the tree-lined hills and towards us!.

- **KEN (radio/electronic):** The queen's limo was headed **east** towards the **coast**.
- **KEN (radio/electronic):** Joe, do you *read me*?!

PANEL FIVE

Joe reacts in anger at Ken's pestering, while urgently turning his steering wheel in the opposite direction of the off-camera lava hazard. **A couple tiny sparks pop-out from Joe's G-Bracelet.**

- **JOE:** My god, Ken! Could you please *shut the hell up..!*

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PANEL ONE

Joe's car swerves around the lava as more of the street bends and cracks. Ken and Joe continue to let their frustrations during this tense moment emerge as anger towards each other. Something they'll regret in the next issue.

- **KEN (radio/electronic):** Joe!

PANEL TWO

Joe is gritting his teeth and gripping the steering wheel with stiff sweaty arms. In the background, we can see a couple rural buildings getting swallowed-up by the fracturing earth. Ken's voice radios over from Joe's bracelet comm link.

- **KEN (radio/electronic):** G2 report!!

PANEL THREE

Joe screams in rage at Ken, and lifts his left arm as though about to transform into bird-form.

- **JOE: *Dammit Ken, that's ENOUGH!***

PANEL FOUR

Instead, Joe foolishly SLAMS his wrist into his car's door panel, smashing his G-Bracelt's face..

- **SFX:** WHAKK!

PANEL FIVE

Closeup on Joe's bracelet, obviously broken/cracked and shorting-out.

PANEL SIX

WIDE bird's-eye view, looking down on Joe's car turning to avoid an oncoming sea of flowing lava, angling its way up onto an angled piece of busted-up road.

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PANEL ONE

Joe's car uses the quake-bent angled-road as a ramp to JUMP over the lava.

- **SFX:** VROOOM!

PANEL TWO

Joe's car lands hard, but he's made it!

PANEL THREE

WIDE on Joe speeding along the shoreline cliffs. He's been joined by two more cars. One ahead, and one behind. They're the only 3 surviving racers.

PANEL FOUR

WIDER: We're out near a small sailboat on the rocky waves. We can see a piece of a small metal bridge in the foreground (which we'll revisit later). Joe and the other two race-cars are dashing along the high shoreline road. The car ahead of Joe is tumbling off towards the sea, as chunks of terrain crumble off the cliff face.

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PANEL ONE

Back in pit lane, KEN has pulled a portable tv-video communication device from the race gear near their makeshift garage. Dr. Nambu appears on the video screen, transmitting from ISO headquarters. Ken's lost contact with Joe.

- **NAMBU (radio/electronic):** You need to evacuate immediately!
- **KEN:** But I still don't have a fix on Joe's location! All comms are down--

PANEL TWO

On Nambu's concerned video-face.

- **NAMBU (radio/electronic):** Scans indicate a complete environmental *catastrophe*, Ken. The entire region is *bursting apart* from the inside.

PANEL THREE

Tight on Ken, pleading. He doesn't like to run away, and his concern for Joe is growing.

- **KEN:** But the queen! The *mission!!*
- **NAMBU (radio/electronic):** All you can do at this moment is get to your plane and hope for the best--

PANEL FOUR

Suddenly the room shakes violently, and a chunk of ceiling comes tumbling down! Gear and pit-crew tools collapse down onto the video comm device. Ken tumbles to his side and hits the floor.

- **SFX:** WHUMPP
- **KEN:** OOF!

PANEL FIVE

Ken is now just outside the garage area. He's caught his balance, crouches and gazes towards the city center in horror. The earthquake is wreaking havoc and toppling a couple nearby buildings. Civilians flee for their lives. Volcanic ash blackens the sky. A couple small fires have flared-up at the base of the fracturing royal residence building!

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PANEL ONE

Cut to inside the royal residence building-- Duke Jimena's ornate office is coming apart. His antique radio lays busted on the floor, with rubble, statues and paintings cascading all around the room. Jimena has opened an antique armoire to reveal a Galactor communication console. Berg Katse's sinister face is on-screen. Jimena pleads with him...

- **JIMENA:** What good is Atrena to me if you completely *annihilate* it, Berg Katse?!
- **KATSE (radio/electronic):** Your bratty niece is surely dead. Isn't that what you wanted?

PANEL TWO

Tight on Katse's smirking video-face.

- **KATSE (radio/electronic):** You shall be forever known as your country's *final monarch!* The last of an *extraordinary bloodline!*
- **JIMENA (off):** I thought Spektral Corp needed the city... Our *country...*

PANEL THREE

REVERSE angle, looking up at Jimena. He's terrified and confused and losing his balance. We get a peek out the double doors behind Jimena- The horizon is skewed and our perspective suggests that the building is tipping over.

- **JIMENA:** The *mining operation!* I thought you *needed* me--
- **KATSE (radio/electronic/off):** You've been *evicted*, Duke Jimena.

PANEL FOUR

The room is coming apart. The floor is at a 45 degree angle, and Duke Jimena tumbles backwards as the ceiling caves in.

- **KATSE (radio/electronic/off):** *Galactor* is moving in.

PANEL FIVE

EXTERIOR on the devastated city center. The royal residence building tips over and crumbles.

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PANEL ONE

CUT TO the crumbling coastline. Joe drives downhill and glances out down towards the sea. Only one other race car survives, speeding along behind Joe's car. Soot and steam and embers fill the air.

PANEL TWO

Tight closeup on intense Joe, noticing something down below...

- **JOE:** There...

PANEL THREE

REVERSE angle, looking past Joe's car down at Queen Gema's LIMOUSINE. It's trapped on a partially-destroyed section of bridge stretching out towards an island just along the coast.

- **JOE:** The queen's limousine!

PANEL FOUR

Suddenly, a volcanic fissure erupts, bursting through the cracked pavement near the front of Joe's car!

- **SFX:** PFFFFSSSS!!

PANEL FIVE

Joe's car maneuvers around a second fissure burst. A third one erupts underneath the final race car trailing Joe, sending it spinning into the air.

- **SFX:** PFFFFS!
- **SFX:** POOMFFS!

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PANEL ONE

WIDE. The ground under Joe's car and the entire cliff-face are collapsing into the ocean.

PANEL TWO

Joe's car speeds & jumps from one falling rocky clump of earth to another.

- SFX: VRRRUMMM

PANEL THREE

The entire cliff disintegrates below Joe's wheels as he barely navigates downward.

PANEL FOUR

Another shot of Joe's car racing along and seemingly defying gravity. He jumps from a chunk of falling roadway towards a section of the damaged bridge. Closer and closer to Queen Gema!

PANEL FIVE

High angle: Gema emerges from her limo's backdoor to gaze up towards Joe's approaching airborne car (off camera). Waves crash.

PANEL SIX

Low and behind Gema, looking up towards Joe while struggling to keep her balance. We see Joe's car jumping off a piece of twisted wrecked bridge straight towards us. Utter devastation fills the background.

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PANEL ONE

CUT TO Interior ISO headquarters. In profile, we see Dr. Nambu sitting at a control panel against the wall. Jinpei, Jun, and Ryu stand nearby, in their bird-form uniforms, watching satellite imagery of the South American continent on a giant video screen.

- **NAMBU:** We've synced to the ISO satellite feed. Pulling it up *now...*

PANEL TWO

REVERSE angle from the screen's POV: Nambu stands in disbelief and takes a step back. Everyone is affected by what they see on-screen off-camera. Jinpei looks like he's about to cry. Jun looks shocked. Ryu seems furious.

- **JUN:** No--
- **JINPEI:** This can't be *real*, can it?
- **RYU:** This is live footage?

PANEL THREE

We're now behind the group. Nambu, Ryu, Jinpei, and Jun are silhouetted by a wide and high-angle satellite image of Atrena's city on the giant screen. It's mass-carnage. Few buildings are left standing. It's like Godzilla came to visit. Giant cracks in the earth. Flowing lava. Fires. A toxic plume of smoke emanates from the giant volcano.

- **NAMBU:** Y-Yes. This is...
- **NAMBU:** ...Unimaginable *devastation*.

PANEL FOUR

A view of the screen, which has moved to a similar-angle of Atrena's ravaged coastline.

- **NAMBU (off):** Zooming in to sector 371-802.

CONT:

PANEL FIVE

The satellite has ZOOMED IN to focus on Joe's final coordinates. The damaged section of bridge has completely toppled into the water. A section of Gema's flooded limousine is smashed against the rocks and partially submerged. No sign of Joe or his car.

- **NAMBU (off)**: These are Joe's last coordinates.

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PANEL ONE

Another angle on Dr. Nambu and his three Science Ninja Teammates. Nambu's attention turns to a control panel with a speaker and mounted radio microphone.

- **KEN (radio/electronic):** ZZTT-ZZ-- ThisZZ- G1-- TTZ-RRRead me..?
- **KEN:** Ken?

PANEL TWO

Dr. Nambu has rushed over to the control panel, turns a knob, and pulls the microphone to his mouth. Jun, Ryu, and Jinpei crowd around, looking worried but hopeful.

- **NAMBU: *Ken!*** Yes, we read you!

PANEL THREE

CUT TO a small airfield outside Atrena's city center. Ken has somehow made it to his (civilian style) prop plane. He's propped himself up in the cockpit doorway and is speaking into his CB radio. His other hand clutches the top of his head. He's in pain, and winded. We can see some blood on his temple. The runway is surrounded by devastation. Control tower smashed. A few random people run or stagger in the background, and we even see a couple dead bodies. Volcanic smoke and fire seemingly everywhere. Although undamaged, Ken's plane sits at a slightly skewed angle due to the earthquake damage and buckled runway tarmac.

- **NAMBU (radio/electronic):** I'm here with Jun, Ryu, and Jinpei. Are you alright?
- **KEN:** Any word from Joe?
- **NAMBU (radio/electronic):** No! We were hoping you knew--
- **KEN:** The race had barely started. He was headed towards the coast when we lost contact.

PANEL FOUR

Tight on Dr. Nambu speaking into the comm mic.

- **NAMBU:** You have to get *out* of there. Can you *take off?*
- **KEN (radio/electronic):** Yeah the plane seems alright. The *runway* is pretty smashed-up...

CONT:

PANEL FIVE

Back with Ken. He's climbed into his cockpit and begins to get buckled-in, squinting past the pain and worry. Soot and poisonous ash drift down.

- **KEN:** ...But yeah, Dr. Nambu. I can take off.
- **KEN:** Gotta get up there and search for Joe.

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PANEL ONE

Back at the ISO HQ. WIDE on the group crowding around the communication terminal.

- **NAMBU:** Ken, no. You *need* to get out. **Now.**
- **KEN (radio/electronic):** No way. Gotta find Joe--
- **JINPEI:** The doctor is *right*, big brother!
- **JUN:** ISO is reporting some terrifying toxicity levels, Ken. The volcanic eruption has rendered the entire region completely poisonous!

PANEL TWO

On Ken's airplane landing gear, speeding over the buckled tarmac, building-up momentum.

PANEL THREE

Back at ISO HQ. Ryu moves closer to the mic and pleads with Ken.

- **RYU:** We've seen aerial images, Ken. The entire coastline has slid into the sea.
- **RYU:** Ken?

PANEL FOUR

Back to Ken. He's pulling up on the stick and giving it full-throttle. Still looking ultra-grim.

PANEL FIVE

Back at ISO HQ. Tight on Jun, taking her turn at the mic..

- **JUN:** Joe is gone, Ken. Please...
- **JUN:** We can't lose you, too.

PANEL SIX

Seen from the devastated ground level, Ken's plane lifts-off into the sky.

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PANEL ONE

Galactor HQ: Berg Katse stands before Leader X.

- **KATSE:** Phase one has been a *resounding success*, my lord.
- **KATSE:** Anyone left alive in the city will be, well, *not* alive for much longer. Atrena's venomous atmosphere has not only strengthened our security, but also undoubtedly awakened the *organism*.

PANEL TWO

Close on Leader X.

- **LEADER X:** Excellent work, Berg Katse.
- **LEADER X:** Ready the troops for *phase two*.

PANEL THREE

REVERSE angle on Berg Katse, posing in his signature theatrical bow. Behind him, we can see giant monitors, control panels, and screens that give us some visual cues on what's to come:

- A giant map of the Jetol Plateau (location from episode 47)
 - Satellite photography of a nuclear power plant
 - Schematics for giant mechanized robots
 - Blueprints for rockets and laser-guns
- **KATSE:** By your command.
 - **CAPTION:** To be continued