

**"SHOP 'TIL YOU DROPKICK!"****PAGE 1**

PANEL 1 [big]: A frustrated Queenie, in her room, rifles through her closet &/or dresser. She tosses military-looking clothes everywhere: cargo pants, Kevlar leggings, combat boots, tank tops, bandoliers, a helmet, etc.

Queenie: I'm sick of this **paramilitary** look. Too much **olive drab!**

PANEL 2: Queenie holds up her old bra-style top (see *HB* miniseries) and grimaces at it.

Q: And if one more balls-for-brains guy yells "Fight me, soldier girl" at me, I'm gonna lose my cool.

PANEL 3 [small]: Suddenly, Queenie has a bright idea!

**PAGE 2**

PANEL 1: Delta's room. Queenie pops in, excited. Delta tinkers with an odd, high-tech piece of equipment and replies distractedly.

Q: Hey, Dee, let's go downtown! I need ta broaden my **wardrobe** horizons.

Delta: *Hmmm...?* Sorry, Queenie, I can't go anywhere until I've recalibrated this frammistat. Why don't you take **Tex** with you?

PANEL 2: Queenie rolls her eyes in exasperation.

Q: Duh! **Boys** hate shopping for clothes almost as much as **scientists** do.

Q: 'Sides, you could use some new togs yerself.

PANEL 3: Queenie looks in Delta's closet. It's filled with outfits identical to the one Delta is wearing (see *Superdigest* cover).

Q: Whoa Nelly! I didn't know you could clone **clothing!**

**PAGE 3**

PANEL 1: Delta, embarrassed, shuts the closet door. Queenie looks at her quizzically.

D: It worked for Einstein.

Q: **Einstein** was a **clone?!**

PANEL 2: Delta heads for the door, gesturing for Queenie to follow her.

D: **No**, he... oh, never mind.

D: You're right, a change of habit might do me good. Let's go shopping!

**PANEL 3** [big]: Four of the Heartbreakers suddenly ZIP into frame just outside the doorway, and Delta walks smack into them.

Acey: Did  
Pearl: someone  
Cleanhead: say  
Bolt: "**SHOPPING**"?!!  
SFX: ZIP!

#### **PAGE 4**

**PANEL 1** [big]: Cut to the downtown shopping district: either bustling, shop-filled streets, or an enclosed urban mall (emphasis on "urban"). Include signage--parody your favorite &/or most-hated businesses! Delta checks her watch while Queenie & HBs look around excitedly. Acey salutes Delta.

D: We'll reconvene here in three hours. That should give everyone sufficient time.

Acey: Seen, bean!

**PANEL 2**: The group disperses in pairs--Acey & Pearl, Bolt & Cleanhead, Delta & Queenie. Acey & Pearl converse in foreground.

A: Where d'you wanta go first, Pearl?

P: Let's hit **Urbane & Unfit**--I dig their "Shiny Sassy" line.

#### **PAGE 5**

**PANEL 1**: Acey & Pearl are in a futuristic version of Urban Outfitters. Pearl flips through a rack of cute, shiny clothes. Acey holds up a vinyl tank top w/buckled straps, looking at the price tag in disbelief. In background, an adolescent boy (Hogarth) plays on an inflatable couch. He wears hardware-laden clothes--a spiky retro-punk look, or cyberpunk, or techno-industrial, take your pick. The ceiling, if we see it, is a lattice of twisted metal beams.

A: A **hundred** creds for this little bit o' vinyl? That's **gonzo**!

P: Yeah, the synthetics industry is using eco-tarriffs as an excuse to **overinflate** their prices.

**PANEL 2** [big]: Reverse POV. In f.g., the couch suddenly explodes, shooting Hogarth up toward the ceiling beams. In b.g., Acey & Pearl react with surprise. If there's room, show a girl wearing a Heartbreakers shirt (fitted tee or tank w/broken-heart icon on front) reacting, too.

Hogarth: **Waaaaaaaaaaaaa!!**

A: ?

P: !

SFX: **FABOOOSH!**

**PAGE 6**

**PANEL 1:** Pearl is up in the beams, lowering Hogarth with a makeshift rope and harness made of funky belts, chains, etc. from the store. The dazed Hogarth is almost down to the floor, where Acey reaches up to steady him. The girl in the HB shirt looks on, awestruck, with a friend.

Caption: *In short order, Pearl and Acey rescue the hapless high-flyer.*

A: Now remember, Hogarth, blow-up furniture and hardware pants are a **bad combo!**

Hogarth: P-point taken.

Girl: Hey, they're really-real **Heartbreakers!** Coolacious!!

**PANEL 2:** Cut to Bolt & Cleanhead in Digiteria, a store hawking clothes & accessories with built-in phones, sound players, programmable display "screens," etc. Our heroes are in the midst of foiling a robbery: Cleanhead has just kicked the robber's legs out from under him, and he's falling to the floor. An EMP (electromagnetic pulse) bomb has been knocked out of his hand and flies through the air. Bolt runs toward the bomb, totally focused on it.

Caption: *Meanwhile, at the Digiteria outlet store--*

C: He's down! Bolt, snag that **E.M.P. bomb** before it blacks out the whole 'hood!

B: No worries, Cleanhead.

**PANEL 3:** Bolt leaps up at exactly the right moment and grabs the bomb like she's catching a fly ball.

**PAGE 7**

**PANEL 1:** Bolt holds the bomb aloft proudly as onlookers cheer.

Bolt: Snagged, bagged, and tagged!

Crowd: Woo-hoo!  
You go, girl!  
Heartbreakers **rock!**

**PANEL 2:** Cut to Delta, holding circuit boards in one hand and a wrench in the other. Close shot, with just some sparks and wiring visible behind her. She speaks to someone off-panel.

Caption: *And meanwhile--*

D: These new display bots are rather **buggy**--you'd be better off with a classic model.

PANEL 3 [big]: Pull back to show a large food court, with spilled meals and curious/nervous onlookers all around. A giant robot, covered with electronic ads, lies toppled on the floor. Delta stands on its head with a grateful mall official, who energetically shakes her hand &/or claps her on the back. Queenie stands heroically on its chest.

Q: Yer lucky **Delta's** such a tech whiz and **I'm** trained in *jin-batsu*\*

Official: I can't thank you enough!! We'll get you discounts, free passes to the holos, whatever! Just name it!

D: Now that you mention it, I've had my eye on a few items at **Geeks 'R' Us**....

Footnote: \**Jin-batsu*: Obscure Japanese martial art developed for fighting giant robots.

## PAGE 8

PANEL 1: Back at the rendezvous point (see p. 4, pnl. 1). Our gals reconvene, all brandishing shopping bags and talking excitedly in overlapping balloons.

Caption: *Finally, when our heroes rendezvous...*

Q: --shoulda seen that bot go **BOOM!**

B: --wanted our **autographs**--

A: --shot him sky-high, no lie!

C: --just **gave** us stuff--

P: --best part was this girl who said--

D: --foiled a **robbery**?!

PANEL 2: Close on Queenie rummaging through her bag.

Q: Say, did any of you gals have time ta **shop**? All's I got was one t-shirt...

PANEL 3 [big]: Queenie is shocked to see that she and the others are all holding slight variations on the same Heartbreakers broken-heart shirt (e.g., different colors and styling details).

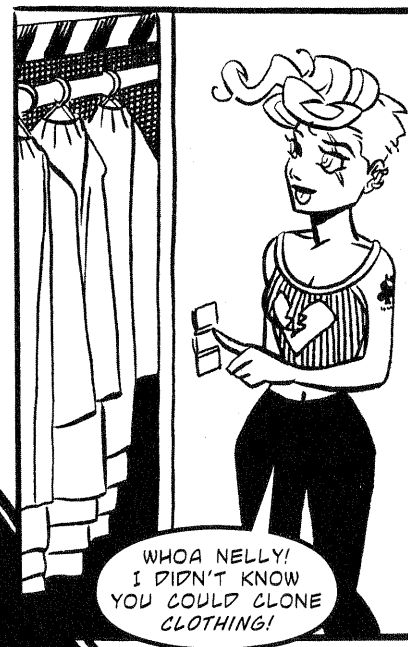
D, C, P, A, & B: **Me, too!**

Q: **!!**

Heart-shaped caption: *The ever-lovin' end!*

# # #





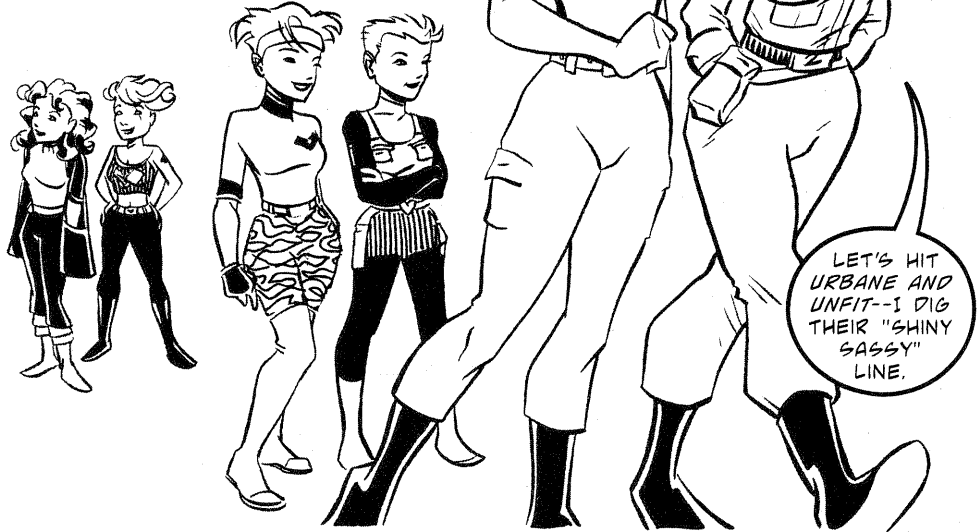




WE'LL RECONVENE HERE IN THREE HOURS. THAT SHOULD GIVE EVERYONE SUFFICIENT TIME.

SEEN, BEAN!

WHERE D'YOU WANTA GO FIRST, PEARL?



LET'S HIT URBANE AND UNFIT--I DIG THEIR "SHINY SASSY" LINE.



A HUNDRED CRED\$ FOR THIS LITTLE BIT O' VINYL? THAT'S GONZO!

ur ane & ur fit

YEAH, THE SYNTHETICS INDUSTRY IS USING ECO-TARRIFFS AS AN EXCUSE TO OVERINFLATE THEIR PRICES.

WAAAAA!!

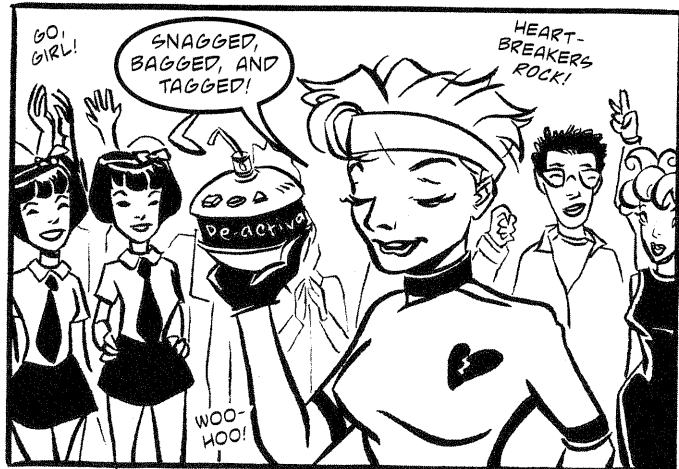
FAB BOOSH!

IN SHORT ORDER, PEARL AND ACEY RESCUE THE HAPLESS HIGH-FLYER.

NOW REMEMBER, HOGARTH, BLOW-UP FURNITURE AND HARDWARE CLOTHES ARE A BAD COMBO!

WOW, THEY'RE REALLY-REAL HEARTBREAKERS! COOLACIOUS!!

P-POINT TAKEN.





AND MEANWHILE--

THESE NEW DISPLAY BOTS ARE RATHER BUGGY--YOU'D BE BETTER OFF WITH A CLASSIC MODEL.

YER LUCKY DELTA'S SUCH A TECH WHIZ AND I'M TRAINED IN JIN-BOTSU.\*

I CAN'T THANK YOU ENOUGH!!

WE'LL GET YOU DISCOUNTS, FREE PASSES TO THE HOLOS, WHATEVER! JUST NAME IT!

NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT, I'VE HAD MY EYE ON A FEW ITEMS AT GEEKS "R" US...

\*JIN-BOTSU: OBSCURE JAPANESE MARTIAL ART DEVELOPED FOR FIGHTING GIANT ROBOTS.

