

Searnold Presents:
Brother-In-Law Of A Genius,
Uncle Johnny's Bedtime Adventures In Space,
Part 1

by
Searnold

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PAGE 1:

PANEL A:

Establishing shot of the Baxter Building. Exterior. Night. Coming from the top floor we hear...

SUE STORM
FRANKLIN!

PANEL B:

Interior. Baxter building. Fantastic Four's living quarters. Franklin is wreaking havoc, and H.E.R.B.I.E. is following him, frantically attempting to keep the mess under control. Sue Storm is a pillar in the midst of the chaos, arms crossed, glaring at her son.

SUE STORM
Franklin Richards. It is time for bed.

FRANKLIN
But Mom...

SUE STORM
No butts young man.

FRANKLIN
Can Uncle Johnny at least tell me a bedtime story first?

PANEL C:

Franklin gives his mom a hug. A smile spreads across her face. She can't resist her son's charm.

SUE STORM
Alright. One story. Then straight to bed.

FRANKLIN
Thanks mom.

PANEL D:

Human Torch winks at Franklin as they walk towards Franklin's room, leaving behind a huge mess for H.E.R.B.I.E. to clean up.

HUMAN TORCH
Don't worry, Sis. I'll make it a good one.

SUE STORM (OFF PANEL)

And short.

HUMAN TORCH

Absolutely. Twenty-two pages,
tops.

PANEL E:

Inside Franklin's bedroom. The Human Torch is tucking
Franklin into bed.

HUMAN TORCH

So little buddy, what story do you
want to hear?

FRANKLIN

I don't know. Something long
that'll let me stay up late.

HUMAN TORCH

Ha ha. Hrm... Alright.

PANEL F:

From The Human Torch's mind in the previous panel, we see
thought bubbles coming out and expanding to become this
panel. We are now framed inside of Torch's imagination. All
of the pages that take place inside Torch's imagination will
have this bubble frame around them to distinguish them from
the scenes that take place in the "real world."
This shot is taken straight out of Star Wars. Luke is
standing outside on a sand mound watching the twin suns of
Tatooine set beyond the horizon. We see his white dome of a
home in the background. His back is to us, so we cannot make
out his facial features. As The Human Torch narrates, his
caption is in the dark sky flying into the background (a la
the Star Wars intro.)

HUMAN TORCH (CAPTION)

This is the true story of how one
John Stormwalker became the savior
of the universe. John never knew
his parents. He was raised on a
moisture farm in the middle of a
vast desert by his uncle and aunt.
While he always hoped for
adventure, his uncle never let him
leave the farm. However, he was an
excellent mechanic. And might I
add, the best pilot in the outer-
rim territories.

TITLE

Searnold Presents:
Brother-In-Law Of A Genius, Uncle
Johnny's Bedtime Adventures In
Space, Part 1

CREDITS

Written By: Searnold
Illustrated By: Perhaps Marisa Lee?
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FRANKLIN

(If it's an easy stretch to have
Franklin's dialogue bubble reaching
over from the previous panel, that
would preferred. Otherwise, he can
speak in captions as well.)
Uncle Johnny, how come your stories
are always about you?

PAGE 2:

PANEL A:

John Stormwalker turns around to clearly reveal that he is modeled after Johnny Storm, The Human Torch. In fact, other than their clothes, the two are identical in appearance.

JOHN STORMWALKER

What? Nonsense. This story is set
a long time ago in a galaxy far far
away...
Besides, John Stormwalker doesn't
look anything like me.

FRANKLIN

I want to be in your story, too,
Uncle Stormwalker.

PANEL B:

The Human Torch's mind bubble is popped as we pull back to the "real world." The Human Torch is sitting at the foot of Franklin's bed. Franklin has gotten up and is standing on the bed, enthralled by his Uncle Johnny's tale.

HUMAN TORCH

Hrm. Alright. Well, one day, some
aliens showed up and sold John's
uncle some new droids...

FRANKLIN

They just showed up out of the blue?

HUMAN TORCH

Well, I might have skipped over some back story.

PANEL C:

Once again, from The Human Torch's mind come thought bubbles that swell up to become this panel where we see John leading two droids into his shop (a cross between the Human Torch's auto-shop and Luke Skywalker's garage). H.E.R.-B.PO is a cross between H.E.R.B.I.E. and C-3PO, perhaps as simple as a gold plated H.E.R.B.I.E. FRANK2-D2 is Franklin Richards in droid form. Franklin's legs are turned into R2's wheels, his neck and arms are gone, his face is drawn to resemble blue robotic parts, and his blonde hair creates a rounded dome shape where his head would be.

HUMAN TORCH (CAPTION)

Anyways, they bought these two new droids to help with the harvest: a H.E.R.-B.PO and a FRANK2-D2. And John was responsible for fixing them up.

PANEL D:

John is kneeling in his workshop, cleaning up FRANK2. H.E.R.-B.PO is in the background taking an oil bath.

H.E.R.-B.PO

It's a pleasure to meet you, sir Stormwalker. My name is H.E.R.-B.PO. Humanoid Experimental Robot, B type. This is my... Well, this is FRANK2-D2. Why I continue to look out for him is quite beyond my capacity.

FRANK2-D2

Beep beep do-weep.

JOHN STORMWALKER

Well you guys certainly look like you've been through some hard stuff.

H.E.R.-B.PO

Sometimes I'm surprised we're even still operational, what with the rebellion and all.

PAGE 3:

PANEL A:

Still kneeling in front of FRANK2, we see John's face light up at the mention of the rebellion. He pauses his work for a moment.

JOHN STORMWALKER

You've been involved with the rebellion against the evil galactic Empire?

H.E.R.-B.PO

No, I mean that this young fellow here has a bad habit of rebelling against whatever authority figure he comes across. I'm surprised we haven't been shut down for keeps.

PANEL B:

Disappointed, John goes back to work and accidentally triggers a recording. As per Star Wars, FRANK2 projects a bluish hologram of Sue Storm, with her hair up in Leia buns.

PRINCESS SUSAN

Help me Old Doc Strange Kenobi.
You're my only hope.

PANEL C:

John stops working entirely and his face lights up at the sight of Princess Susan.

JOHN STORMWALKER

Who is that? She's beautiful.

FRANKLIN (CAPTION)

Ewww.

HUMAN TORCH (CAPTION)

I know, right? But seriously, you have no idea just how much ewww that is.

FRANK2-D2

Beep. Do-weep. Doo.

PANEL D:

H.E.R.-B.PO gets out of the oil bath and comes to join in examining the message.

H.E.R.-B.PO

FRANK2 says that this is a private message for one Old Doc Strange Kenobi, a resident of this planet.

FRANK2-D2

Beep. Beep.

H.E.R.-B.PO

He suggests that if you take off his restraining bolt, he might be able to play back the entire message.

PANEL E:

John thinks about removing the restraining bolt, but maybe that isn't such a good idea.

JOHN STORMWALKER

Well if it's a private message, I don't really want to pry.

FRANK2-D2

Beep. Beep.

H.E.R.-B.PO

He further suggests that perhaps removing the restraining bolt will allow him to run after this Old Doc Strange Kenobi, forcing you to follow along and thrusting your life into a grand adventure.

PANEL F:

At this idea, John excitedly removes FRANK2's restraining bolt.

JOHN STORMWALKER

He said all that with two little beeps?

H.E.R.-B.PO

Well, I am paraphrasing.

PAGE 4:

PANEL A:

Exterior. Day. John has just ran out of his shop, trying to follow the tracks left by FRANK2-D2.

JOHN STORMWALKER
He's nowhere in sight. That
droid's gonna cause me a lot of
trouble.

H.E.R.-B.PO
He does excel at that, sir. But, I
thought that was the point?

PANEL B:
John shoots B.PO a look. Of course that's the point.

JOHN STORMWALKER
I... Nevermind. We'll have to go
after him.

PANEL C:
Angle down to the tracks in the sand that FRANK2 has left.

PANEL D:
We follow the tracks for an unknown amount of time until we
come to FRANK2, moving along as quickly as he can.

FRANK2-D2
Beep. Bo-weep. Do.

PANEL E:
Zoom out to see that FRANK2 is about 3 meters in front of
John who is watching him impatiently. B.PO stands at John's
side.

H.E.R.-B.PO
He says that he's going as fast as
he can, but suggests that perhaps
we wait until tomorrow to follow
after him.

PAGE 5:

PANEL A:
Out in the desert, John and B.PO have caught up to FRANK2.
They are surrounded by nothing but sand, their footprints,
and mountains.

HUMAN TORCH (CAPTION)
So the next day...

JOHN STORMWALKER
Hey, so, have you found Old Doc
Strange yet?

FRANK2-D2
Beep. Beep. Do-weet-do-weee.
Beep-do-beep. Beep-dweep. Doop.
Doop. Beep-do-weet-do. Beep.

H.E.R.-B.PO
He says, "No."

PANEL B:

Out of nowhere, one of Mole Man's creatures pops up from behind a nearby rock, raising a weapon above its head and roaring. John is taken aback, and looks as though he is going to be struck down.

MOLE MAN CREATURE
RRRARRRGH!

JOHN STORMWALKER
Woah!

PANEL C:

Unexpectedly, John regains his composure and plants a firm whallop on the creature.

SFX
WHAP! POW!

HUMAN TORCH (CAPTION)
Whap! Pow! The creature was no
match for John Stormwalker.

PANEL D:

The Mole Man creature runs off, followed by more of its kind, fleeing from the wrath of John Stormwalker.

JOHN STORMWALKER
That ought to show them.

OLD DOC STRANGE KENOBI (OFF PANEL)
Why hello there.

PANEL E:

We see Old Doc Strange Kenobi approaching from a nearby rock outcropping. He looks, for all intents and purposes, like Doctor Strange, but slightly older with a bit more rugged facial hair. Also, his cloak has a hood which he removes to

show his friendly intentions towards our travelers.

OLD DOC STRANGE KENOBI
What brings you all the way out
here?

JOHN STORMWALKER
Old Doc Strange Kenobi? Is that
you?

OLD DOC STRANGE KENOBI
Yes, I'm him.

JOHN STORMWALKER
This old droid was looking for you.

...

...

...

Okay - that's as far as I got before I discovered Platinum Studios' Comic Book Challenge. And since this isn't something I can actually publish - I never got back to it.

[P.S. If you're a Marvel editor and would like to hire me to write an official version of this for you, that would make me happier than any man has ever been.]