

## O ZONE 1 : GATEWAY TO O ZONE

Archronia, a Time realm somewhere in space.

Creatures of several billion years' evolution, they have escaped the confines of matter, space and time. They are the Chronides, five of which, as the Circle of Guardians, keep watch over the universes; they hold the chronoliths, the keys of Time that must never be separated nor taken from Archronia.

One of them, Darkaos, Master of Chaos, never forgot the lust for power. He confronts the other Guardians in battle, and attempts to snatch the fifth chronolith from the Circle in order to master all Times. He is defeated, sentenced to the status of O Unit and banned from Archronia. But the chronolith is lost in space and; if the O Unit finds it again, ages of the past, present and future shall be endangered. Matrix of times to come, the Earth is now at stake in the struggle between Order and Chaos.

U.S.A. nowadays

New-York. Lomax, hit cop and hot head, hunts an international villain called Mandork, after a hold-up at an ancient art gallery. No one has ever traced his origins down: who knows what he is looking for? The hunt fails and Mandork escapes. Later on, Lomax is charged with the slaughter of witnesses in the offices of the NYPD and arrested by the FBI.

Lomax has reached a turning point in his life, after spending years in the unattainable quest for the murderer of his parents. Stanley Baxter, who heads ICARUS, a secret research facility, on behalf of the NORAD, helps him escape the FBI and strikes a bargain with him: either he works for them, either he returns in jail. There is strong hatred between them since Baxter sent Lomax on a suicide commando mission, years ago, but nevertheless he accepts. The reason is Nadia Romanov, now head of ICARUS' scientific staff, the woman he once loved and had to leave. Lomax resumes his quest for what has now been identified as a non human entity, but at the same time, it is a quest for his own identity: who is he? What is the actual meaning of the Indian talisman he wears since his childhood? Where does Mandork fit in?

ICARUS comes up with one first clue. Thanks to the Timescan, a recently developed high tech analyzer, they have detected a space-time anomaly near Eagle Nest Bluff, Mandork's hideout in Nevada; maybe the result of alien technology. And in some disconcerting way, the fact seems closely related to local Indian legends. Lomax carries his investigation out in Nevada, but the FBI hasn't given him up and a state-wide G-heat drives him close to quitting. He meets a young Indian scholar, David Two Moon, who provides him with further information; an ancient Lakota prediction mentions an object called the Thunderstone, linked to the Gate of the Dead and the revenge of Tee Waka Heena. Does this mean that an Alien is about to use unknown energy resources to destroy the Earth? Only one man, mortal yet immortal, can fight him: his name is Spirit of War.

Despite both Nadia's and Lomax's warnings, Baxter launches a spectacular commando operation against Mandork's stronghold. Notwithstanding orders, Lomax calls on his 'best foe' and boisterous partner in many adventures, Malcolm Archibald Eaks – a famous cat man with the looks of James Bond and the knack of Rambo – to help him break in the fortress and bust an eventual power source. What they run into is beyond imagination: a place where not only alien technology is at work, but also the terrific mental power of a highly developed creature which turns out to be the O Unit. Against all odds, they manage to blow part of its sophisticated equipment and hightail it to the mountains. Baxter's commando is wiped out after fierce battling against Mandork's creatures and a living substance called proteanite.

Back where they started ? Not quite. Lomax's talisman gives him the final clue to the prophecy. It doesn't concern the fortress but another mountain site named Bull Rock. And what the Alien has been looking for all these years is in fact the Thunderstone. Lomax and Eaks must absolutely find it and the site before him. What they come upon in the end is not only the Gate of the Dead and its Keeper, but also Lomax's mysterious fate. It is now up to him, with the help of his partner, to put up a final and heroic fight for the Thunderstone and overcome the O Unit. But is the alien villain defeated for good?

As long as this question remains without answer, Lomax cannot hope for a happy life with Nadia. And she is aware that the quest of the man she loves isn't yet achieved.

They both know that the Master of Chaos cannot be destroyed.

They both know that the legend says only one man can fight him.

And the fight is about to start...

## O ZONE 2 : MANHATTAN 2299

Archronia.

Space time anomalies rock the archronian empire since the loss of the fifth chronolith. The Kerenese, a Mentorg race allied to the Chronides, find out that these disturbances originate from uncontrolled scientific experiences on Earth, mainly from ICARUS' successors. They contact Nadia's present team and ask them to delete all their research programs. But no one can unravel the web of Time...

Manhattan: 1999 – 2299, time zero.

Since the events of the first episode, Lomax knows he has a mission to fulfill. He still hesitates, but his fate is now at hand. He happens to meet Eaks in New-York and something drives them through a space-time interface. They find themselves stranded in Manhattan 2299, a future made of ruins where Earth has become O Zone. They hopelessly attempt to return to their own time, but Lomax understands that this is where he must carry on whatever fight he has been destined to. Eaks isn't so hot about it but he has no choice: the chronolith or Thunderstone that Lomax wore in a Indian soul catcher vanishes. Meanwhile, something much like an ectoplasm comes to life within the ground: the O Unit is rematerializing after its defeat in the previous episode.

Lomax and Eaks find a message Nadia succeeded in putting through the interface: wherever they may be, they must absolutely find ICARUS II, destroy any research program undertaken by Nadia's successors and maybe cancel their timeline fall-outs.

Both men start on an action packed quest, escape incredible creatures and human beings from all earthly epochs, trapped in O Zone through the time warps. As they almost reach their goal, they are caught by strange flying men and are introduced to the Organization; a high tech elite entrenched in a restricted residential area, and headed by the Aerocontarch who rules this world stranded out of Time. Is he a dictator supporting eugenics and other unjustifiable theories or an efficient leader who has restored order and civilization in a world adrift? Whatever the issue, Lomax confronts him in order to achieve his goal, but soon finds out that the truth lies on neither side. For the same reason, he clashes with another character, the woman Instructor Silver who is in command of the Organization's strike squads and entirely devoted to its cause.

This so called Brave New World holds secrets that our two partners soon uncover: the Organization draws part of its power supplies from the brains of human prisoners, and the Aerocontarch is nothing more than a sophisticated cyborg manned by a scientist named Number One. His chief goal is to colonize O Zone for his own purpose.

Lomax and Eaks decide to escape and split. The time has come for each one of them to set out for his own quest. The former resumes his hunt for ICARUS II: Manhattan Guards are soon hot on his heels but he shakes them off and finds the lab. There is hardly anything left of it but he makes a puzzling discovery : the Brain Sanctuary, where lies the secret of O Zone's origin. Meanwhile, Eaks plows his way through the remains of a huge theme park, hunted down by hordes of Time Outcasts; after a wild chase, he barges in a regular battle between Outcast rebels and the Organization forces.

Each character will now be met with his own truth. The Aerocontarch –whom his creator has endowed with genuine human personality and feelings - finds out what is actually at stake in O Zone and who the real enemy is. The O Unit has retrieved his powers when the chronolith crossed the interface with Lomax, but it is too late to fight him back. The cyborg lays his own life down in a heroic attempt to destroy the Alien; he is defeated and his foe appropriates his body unbeknownst to the other members of the Organization.

Lomax now stands where O Zone's origins meet the legends and reveal his fate as Spirit of War. Eaks has learned to fight for other men's freedom, should he jeopardize his own life in the process.

More secrets lie in Silver's hands; no one knows she is the only survivor of ICARUS II's scientific team and she refuses to acknowledge what Lomax has discovered in the Sanctuary. Despite the changes in the Aerocontarch's attitude, she goes on serving him faithfully.

In the meantime, the rebel army is defeated, Lomax and Eaks taken prisoners again. The O Unit can now carry out his evil plans to retrieve the chronolith.

But two characters now stand in his way; the Indian shaman Spirit of the Earth, covert leader of the rebellion, who now detains the chronolith; Leuk'Lith, a telepath mutant who has no memory of his past and doesn't know who he is. The O Unit is aware that he will have to cope with them from now on. To trick them into showing their hand, he plans to put all the prisoners to death, including Lomax and Eaks, during the Organization's Great Games in the Battery Arena. But he has underestimated his opponents' resourcefulness. Our two heroes overcome the monster unleashed against them in the arena, and a fierce battle pits all the Rebels against the Organization, with the help of the Shaman's and Leuk'Lith's mental powers. The chronolith is –temporarily - saved, the O Unit loses the first battle, but not the war.

When the forces of the present meet those of the past and the future, they will engage him in final combat.

## O ZONE 3 : BEYOND THE O

### Archronia

Around the Chronides and their universe, the fate of Time remains unresolved. The Kerenese's attempt to check the future has failed, and the destiny of all worlds now depends on the forces who stand to clash in O Zone's matrix dimension.

O Zone; Manhattan, space-time zero.

Decimated after the battle in the Arena, the Outcast Rebels are now aware that they no longer fight the Organization, but the O Unit who aims to destroy O Zone and create a universe in his own image. He has concentrated his terrific powers in the Force Ring, that will become operational as soon as the chronolith is connected to it. Meanwhile, his plans are to eradicate all unwanted living beings in O Zone.

The Rebels' most urgent task is to destroy the Ring by all means. Rebel chiefs recruit all of O Zone's resources, a motley army of Vikings, pirates, twentieth century rockers, prehistoric ape-men, you name it. Leuk'Lith and a party of out of Time creatures, join in; their mental powers will help shield the Rebels from their foe.

During a dramatic meeting scene in Haze Island, under the Arch of Time, Lomax reveals himself as Spirit of the War. The Rebels set out with Spirit of the Earth at their head, but they all know that there is no hope to win the war as long as the third Spirit hasn't been found.

The O Unit unleashes his exterminators, the ABAD units. The Rebels move under heavy fire towards a huge breeder reactor in Harlem; if they can wreck it, the Force Ring will be temporarily out of order.

Silver is the first aware that the Aerocontarch is no longer himself and confronts the cyborg openly. She joins the Rebels, offering them both her knowledge of the Organization and her men. They take the ABAD headquarters over but the flying destroyers are already out and at work.

Lomax and Eaks try to break in Number One's lab, but the O Unit now controls the scientist's mind and the Ring. They are trapped in an ultra dimensional time snare and barely pull out of it with the help of Leuk'Lith. They meet the Rebels near the East River while the ABAD units pound the district.

The exterminators put O Zone to fire and sword. Eaks, Lomax and the mutant help the Rebels destroy the Citadel, an Organization mercenary stronghold, before setting out for Harlem where Spirit of the Earth's men are locked in hopeless battle against the ABAD units. The O Unit overcomes the Shaman and wrenches the chronolith from him.

Silver, in the mean time, breaks in the Sanctuary and finds out that the Brains – in fact, those of the former ICARUS II scientists - regulate part of the Ring's power. She blasts the Sanctuary, triggering power failures that enable the Rebels, over in Harlem, to lay the breeder plant waste. Eaks, Lomax and Leuk'Lith engage the O Unit in terrific man-to-alien tussle, bring him down and retrieve the chronolith. But their task isn't yet achieved.

Spirit of the Earth summons the forces of Nature, wind, rain, earth and fire, to take the ruins of O Zone over. The Rebel army sets out for the Force Ring. But Number One has checked the power failures and activated a countdown to lock the whole system out of human reach: in a matter of minutes, the Ring will carry its destruction task on. Back in Harlem, the O Unit slowly emerges from the wrecked plant; time grows awfully short for the Rebels who must protect the chronolith at all costs. Leaving the Shaman to care for the surviving Rebels, Eaks, Lomax, Silver and the mutant break in Number One's lab. The scientist is killed, they make a desperate attempt to tackle the alien technology that controls the Ring but it is already too late.

The chronolith has enabled the O Unit to change into Darkaos again and the time dimensions grind to a stop. All that lives in O Zone is stalled between life and death, existence and non existence. Without the third Spirit, Spirit of the Earth and Lomax as Spirit of War stand for a last, hopeless fight against the cosmic villain.

But Darkaos finds out too late that in claiming victory he meets his doom. Leuk'Lith is revealed as the missing third element, Spirit of Light, precisely when the villain strikes his opponents down. The three Spirits together lock in cosmic combat against the Master of Chaos throughout the Timelines. Meanwhile, Eaks and Silver, on Earth, finally deactivate the Ring. The fifth chronolith breaks out of its dimensional trap, the Chronides retrieve it, build a time shield around O Zone and isolate the battling Spirits and their foe in a space-time interface. Darkaos is overcome and Spirit of Light takes his place in Archronia as Guardian of the fifth chronolith.

The Times resume their course. Lomax has carried his task out, he can now return to his own time with Eaks. They leave many a friend from another age behind, but Nadia is waiting for Lomax in the 20<sup>th</sup> century and Eaks finds out life is definitely not worth it without Silver. What they all learned is that a man amounts to nothing without someone to live and fight for, and that the only cause worth standing up for is the others.

It is now up to Spirit of the Earth to see that they all return to their home time and ensure all potential futures...