

GREEN LANTERN: HOSTAGE SITUATION

An 8-page ashcan script by William Brust

**Page 1 – Four Panels**

**Panel 1**

Green Lantern HAL JORDAN flies near the rings of a hot pink planet.

RING: Calling all units. We have a code 80 at the Last Stop Diner near the Vega system. All units, please respond.

Caption (Hal's thoughts): Code 80? That's a hostage situation. But so close to Darkstar territory...

**Panel 2**

Close-up, HAL grinning

HAL: Screw it. I'm close. Hal Jordan, Green Lantern of Sector 2814 en route!

RING: Confirmed. Good luck, Jordan.

HAL: Thanks, boss.

**Panel 3**

HAL accelerates to hyperspeed, the void around him shifting into a startling array of color and shape.

Caption (Hal's thoughts): Just hope I can get there before any of them show up...

**Panel 4**

HAL approaches a star being devoured by a black hole.

Caption (Hal's thoughts): There! Ergo-6. And there's the diner. Crap!

**Page 2 – Splash Page**

Hal Jordan in the foreground, mouth open in shock. The asteroid where the Last Stop Diner squats is in the mid-ground, numerous space cruisers and rockets parked in orbit. In the background, a red dwarf star is being devoured by a black hole, giving the Last Stop diner its name. Two Darkstars stand outside the diner. A third, DAN, is flying up to HAL JORDAN.

HAL: Looks like I'm not alone!

DAN: You're outta your jurisdiction Lantern. This is Darkstar territory.

HAL: Easy, buddy. We're all on the same side out here. What's the situation?

**Page 3 – Three Panels**

**Panel 1**

Mid-level shot. HAL and DAN talking. HAL stands with his arms crossed while DAN gestures toward the diner.

DAN: It's Bonnie and Clyde. Pair of bandits from out by the Fark Nebula. Nasty pair. They're demanding a hot red cruiser and a million credits before they'll let any of the patrons go.

HAL: Anyone hurt so far?

DAN: Just the owner, a robot.

**Panel 2**

DAN points toward the diner. HAL stands with his chin in his hand, thinking.

DAN: He's the one made the call. After they lit him up.

HAL: Hot red cruiser and a million credits, huh? Think I got an idea. But I'll need some help.

**Panel 3**

DAN watches as HAL rockets off into the distance, toward the black hole.

DAN: Anything we can do?

HAL: Just hold the fort! I gotta go make a call.

**Page 4 – Three Panels**

**Panel 1**

HAL floats near the black hole. Swirling bands of light make their way from the dying star into the yawning void. HAL has his ring pointing at the black hole, a beam of green light getting sucked down into it.

Caption (Hal's thoughts): Most people don't know black holes give off radiation. With the right sort of energy, the frequency can be adjusted to send a message.

HAL: Hal Jordan of Sector 2814, Green Lantern Corps calling Red Lantern Dex-Starr. I know you can hear me, fur-face.

**Panel 2**

Close-up of Hal's face.

HAL: Huh. Maybe I was wrong?

**Panel 3**

Giant construct of red light forming the head of an angry cat appears before HAL in the blink of an eye. But it's not just any cat. This is DEX-STARR of the Red Lantern Corps. HAL continues to float before the construct.

CONSTRUCT (DEX-STARR): Mrow! Weeeeeeyowww!

HAL: Sorry to bug you like this, little guy. But you're the only one who can help me.

**Page 5 – Five Panels**

**Panel 1**

View from behind HAL as he addresses the construct of DEX's head.

DEX: Rowr! Yeeow!

HAL: I know, I know. But I wouldn't have rung if it wasn't important. Listen! There are innocents who need our help.

**Panel 2**

Close up of DEX-STARR's construct, the head looking quizzically down at HAL. Eyebrow raised.

DEX: Rowr?

HAL: Here's the deal...

**Panel 3**

Two of the Darkstars – DON and DONNA -- are looking out toward the dying star and the black hole. They can't see HAL or DEX's construct. View is from the waist up as the Darkstars discuss what to do. DON is a canine alien; DONNA is a cyborg alien with a sphere of water for a head. Her entire fish-like body fits inside and swims around the sphere. The rest of her body is just cybernetics.

DONNA: What's he doing out there? Doesn't he know he's out of his jurisdiction?

DON: You know those GLs. Got their heads up their—

LIL SUSIE (off-panel): 'Scuse me, sirs? Darkstars?

**Panel 4**

LIL SUSIE is a cute little alien girl with just one giant eye. She's a bug alien, otherwise. View is from Darkstars' perspective, looking down at SUSIE.

LIL SUSIE: My daddy's inside that restaurant. He just wanted to use the bathroom. It's been a long time. When's he coming out?

**Panel 5**

View from the side. HAL lands behind the two Darkstars. DONNA has knelt down to comfort LIL SUSIE. DON faces and greets HAL as he lands.

DON: Well, how did...whatever that was go?

HAL: Need you to go over to the diner, tell BONNIE and CLYDE they can have what they want. Then back away. I'll handle the rest.

**Page 6 – Five Panels**

**Panel 1**

Close-up of DON's face, looking skeptical.

DON: You sure?

HAL (off-panel): Absolutely. Just waiting on a friend. Get ready to take the perps into custody on my signal.

**Panel 2**

Interior, diner. The patrons are huddled beneath the tables. BONNIE is gathering wallets from the patrons. CLYDE looks out the window, through the blinds.

CLYDE: Hey, Bonnie babe! Looks like the Darkstars are buggin'! There's just one there now.

BONNIE: X'raak?

**Panel 3**

Close-up of CLYDE's smiling face.

CLYDE: He's motioning toward somethin'...Hey! Lookit that!

**Panel 4**

Outside. A red cruiser sits in front of the diner with a pile of green credits pouring out the trunk. BONNIE and CLYDE are outside the diner. BONNIE is leaping for joy. CLYDE is walking toward the cruiser.

CLYDE: What'd I tell ya, babe? Piece o'cake!

BONNIE: Yariwonga! Utinni!

**Panel 5**

Interior. BONNIE and CLYDE sit inside the red cruiser. They can both tell that something is wrong. CLYDE moves his hands over the unresponsive controls.

CLYDE: What the--?! This hunka junk ain't workin'!

BONNIE: Xonktoo?

**Page 7 – Five Panels****Panel 1**

Pull back to reveal that the cruiser and the credits were solid light constructs from DEX and HAL. DEX and HAL stand to either side, beams of light extending from their rings. BONNIE and CLYDE are panicking in the cruiser. In the distance, the red dwarf continues its slow descent into the black hole.

CLYDE: Oh, you gotta be kidding me!

BONNIE: Xarg!

HAL: You have the right to remain silent. You have the right to an attorney-tron...

DEX: Rowr!

**Panel 2**

The cruiser and credits have morphed into separate red and green cells for BONNIE and CLYDE. They hand suspended in the background. DON marches up to DEX and HAL in the foreground.

DON: Hey! Those are still our perps!

HAL: We did all the leg work. We'll take these two in. You can impound their vehicle, if you like.

**Panel 3**

Closeup of Darkstar DONNA, whose come to argue the Darkstars' case.

DONNA: You're on thin ice, GL! This wasn't your call to begin with.

HAL (off-panel): I can call it in, see what the Guardians think.

**Panel 4**

DON and DONNA look at each other, grimacing. HAL smiles behind them, arms folded. DEX looks quizzical.

DON: Fine. Take'em in. We'll impound the vehicle.

DONNA: Probably won't get a hundred damn credits for it...

**Panel 5**

The patrons flee the diner. A three-eyed bug alien hugs LIL SUSIE, family reunited at last. Darkstar DAN approaches HAL as DEX bounds past, toward the diner.

DAN: Thanks for the assist, GL. How did you get that Red Lantern to help out?

HAL: Easy.

**Page 8 – One Panel**

**Panel 1**

Interior of the disheveled diner. A robot with scorch marks lies slumped over the counter. DEX is on his back in the foreground. A construct of red light shaped like a can-opener hovers above him, a can of tuna in DEX's paws. HAL and DAN stand in the doorway, toward the back.

HAL: Sometimes to catch a thief, you gotta think like a cat!

DAN: Now that's just silly.

DEX: Mrow!