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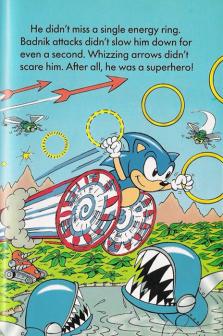


ROBOTNIK'S



Ladybird







Suddenly the hero hedgehog screeched to a halt. Smoke and sparks flew from his feet, and his heels dug deep tracks into the ground. His path was blocked by a forest of machinery. "Totally baffled!" said a confused Sonic. "What's with the oil drilling gear?"

It was like being in Texas!

The hedgehog set off again and became a blue blur as he raced around the machines, checking each and every one. "Ah," grinned Sonic, reading a sign on the last machine, "property of Ivo Robotnik. I knew old Eggy would be behind this somewhere."

At that very moment, Robotnik himself appeared and charged straight towards Sonic.



"Hi, Doc," said an unworried superhero.
"Time for you to take a spin." Sonic ran
round Robotnik at maximum mega-speed,
setting the bad guy spinning helplessly.

"NUUULLHH!" moaned Robotnik. "BLUUUBBB!" he groaned.

"What's that, Eggy?" chuckled Sonic.
"You trying to say something?"





At last Sonic decided that Robotnik had spun enough. The hedgehog stood still, tapping his foot impatiently as he waited for the egg-like one to stop spinning.

When he finally stopped, Robotnik was pretty dazed.

"Want to go for another spin?" asked Sonic, "or will you tell me your plan?"

"N-No!" gasped the distressed Doc.
"I'll tell you *everything*!"

Recovering rapidly, Robotnik produced a map from somewhere on his egg-shaped body. "See this eggs-cellent map," said the dodgy Doctor proudly. "The cross marks the position of the Aquatic Ruins Zone."



Sonic looked worried. "Then that big, oily blob must be a hidden oil field," he said grimly.



"Yes," declared Robotnik. "And that oil will be all mine. I've even built a mini oil rig in case the oil is underwater."

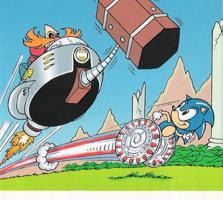
Sonic the Hedgehog didn't like the sound of that. "Think what will happen to this zone," he warned. "The whole place will be ruined by oil pollution."

"Who cares?" sneered Robotnik.
"I certainly don't!"

"This superhero cares enough to try and stop your polluting plans, Eggy," called Sonic setting off yet again at super stunning speed.

The Doc was furious. "I must catch that hedgehog before he wrecks *everything*," snarled the most horrible being on the whole of Planet Mobius.





As superspeedy Sonic hurtled towards the oil machines, he heard a strange noise behind him. Whirling round, the hedgehog saw Robotnik giving chase and about to launch an attack.

"Prepare to become eggs-tinct!" threatened the flying bad guy.

"We'll see about that," said the cunning Sonic.