



4 A

# CYBER FORCE



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# CYBER FORCE®

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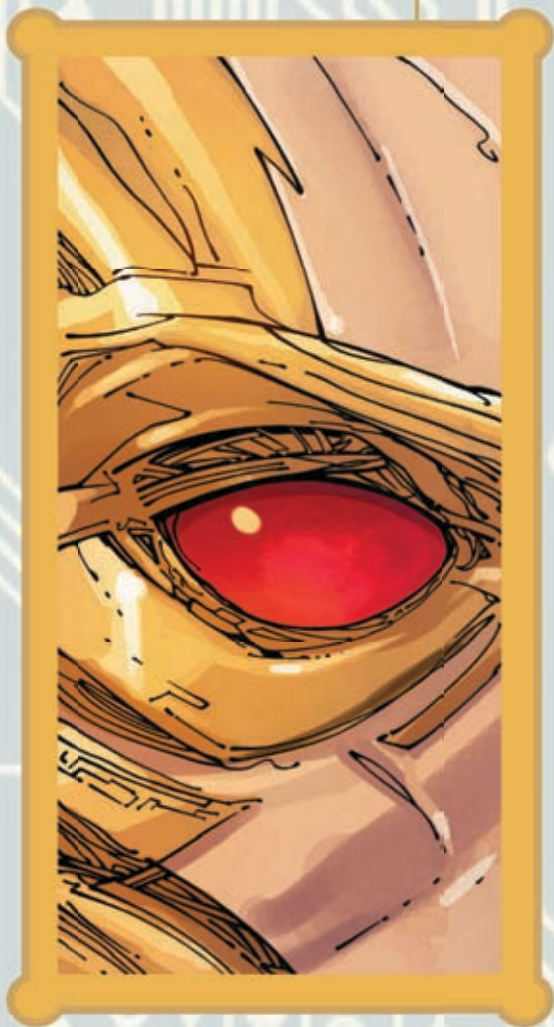
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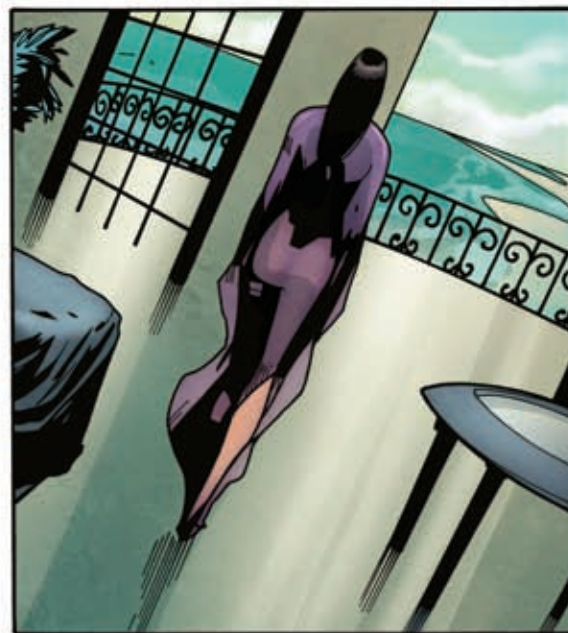
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*MANY YEARS AGO.*





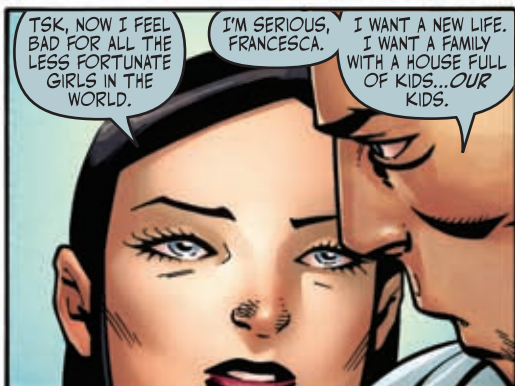
FRANCESCA, THERE'S NOT A MOMENT IN THE DAY WHEN YOU ARE ANYTHING LESS THAN ABSOLUTELY **BREATHTAKING...**

AND I DREAM OF THE DAY WHEN I CAN WAKE UP **EVERY** MORNING TO THAT BEAUTIFUL FACE OF YOURS... SPEAKING OF WHICH...



OH, HUSH. YOU SAY THAT TO ALL THE HOPELESSLY SMITTEN WOMEN IN YOUR LIFE.

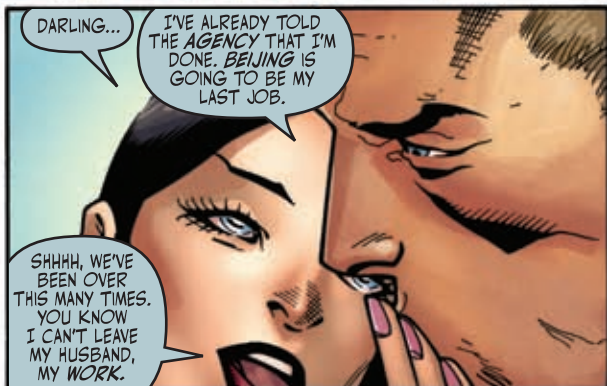
THERE WILL ALWAYS BE ONLY **YOU**.



TSK, NOW I FEEL BAD FOR ALL THE LESS FORTUNATE GIRLS IN THE WORLD.

I'M SERIOUS, FRANCESCA.

I WANT A NEW LIFE. I WANT A FAMILY WITH A HOUSE FULL OF KIDS... **OUR** KIDS.



DARLING...

I'VE ALREADY TOLD THE AGENCY THAT I'M DONE. **BEIJING** IS GOING TO BE MY LAST JOB.

SHHHH, WE'VE BEEN OVER THIS MANY TIMES. YOU KNOW I CAN'T LEAVE MY HUSBAND, MY WORK.



BUT I LOVE YOU.

YOU SAY THAT BUT IF YOU DID, YOU WOULDN'T **HURT** ME BY ASKING THE IMPOSSIBLE.



I...I'M SORRY--

GOOD. NOW TAKE ME BACK TO BED AND APOLOGIZE TO ME PROPERLY.



**TODAY.**

...WHAT?



YOU HEARD ME. I SAID YOU'RE NOT **LEAVING** ME AGAIN. AND THEN, AFTER A DRAMATIC PAUSE, I SAID "DAD."

WHAT I **MEANT** WAS, WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU **TALKING** ABOUT?



OKAY, I'LL GO NICE AND SLOW THIS TIME. YOU BANGED MY **MOTHER**, SHE GOT **PREGNANT**, AND HERE WE ARE.

THERE'S THE LONGER VERSION WHERE YOU LEAVE, BECOME A **TERRORIST**, TRY TO KILL MY FAMILY, AND GENERALLY EXCEL AT BEING AN **ASSHOLE**; BUT WE'RE IN A HURRY.



LOOK, I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOUR **GAME** IS OR WHAT YOU WANT FROM ME BUT THERE'S NOTHING HERE FOR YOU...

...OR YOUR **FRIENDS**.



NOW YOU'VE GOT ABOUT NINETY SECONDS BEFORE THAT SECOND SQUAD OF **SHOCS** GET HERE, AND SINCE NONE OF YOU LOOK UP TO A FIGHT, I SUGGEST YOU TAKE THE **SUPPLIES** I BROUGHT YOU AND **LEAVE**.

STRYKER...



...MANY PEOPLE HAVE DIED IN THE PAST FEW DAYS AND IT HAS SOMETHING TO DO WITH YOU...

I WOULD LIKE TO THINK THAT THEY DIED FOR A REASON.



I'M SORRY FOR YOUR LOSS ROBERT, BUT THEIR DEATHS HAVE *NOTHING* TO DO WITH ME. I SAVED YOUR LIVES; NOW TAKE THE GIRL AND GO.

F#%& YOU, STRYKER...



I DON'T CARE WHOSE DICK MADE THAT LITTLE BRAT, BUT IF YOU THINK NONE OF THIS WAS YOUR FAULT THEN YOU AND ME... WELL, WE GOT A PROBLEM.



NO OFFENSE, MARK, BUT RIGHT NOW YOU DON'T LOOK LIKE YOU'D BE MUCH OF A PROBLEM FOR ME.



BOTH OF YOU STOP IT. LOOK, DUDE, MAYBE THE *ONLY* THING YOU AND I WILL EVER HAVE IN COMMON IS MY MOTHER'S WOMB, AND THAT'S FINE...

...BUT WE REALLY DO NEED YOUR HELP.



...DAMMIT.



VNNN VNNN



COME ON THEN. THOSE BLINDERS HAVE A TWO HUNDRED METER RANGE BUT THEY DON'T LAST LONG SO WE GOTTA MOVE. TRY TO KEEP UP..



...I DON'T NEED ANY MORE BULLSHIT TODAY.

APHRODITE? APHRODITE, DO YOU COPY? COME IN.

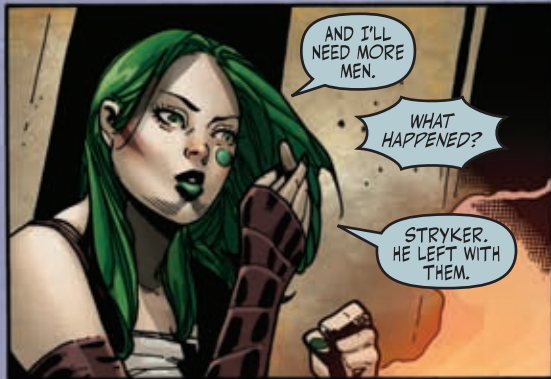
YES, I COPY.



WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON? YOU SAID YOU FOUND MY SISTER, AND THEN NOTHING.

SHE WAS WITH RIPCRAW AND ARES. LIKE WE FIGURED.

AND?



AND I'LL NEED MORE MEN.

WHAT HAPPENED?

STRYKER. HE LEFT WITH THEM.



JESUS, SO HE IS ALIVE. CAN YOU TRACK THEM?

THAT'S AFFIRMATIVE. STRYKER HAD "BLINDERS" THAT SOMEHOW NEUTRALIZED ALL OF MY INTERNAL FILTERS. BUT I KNOW WHAT TO LOOK FOR.



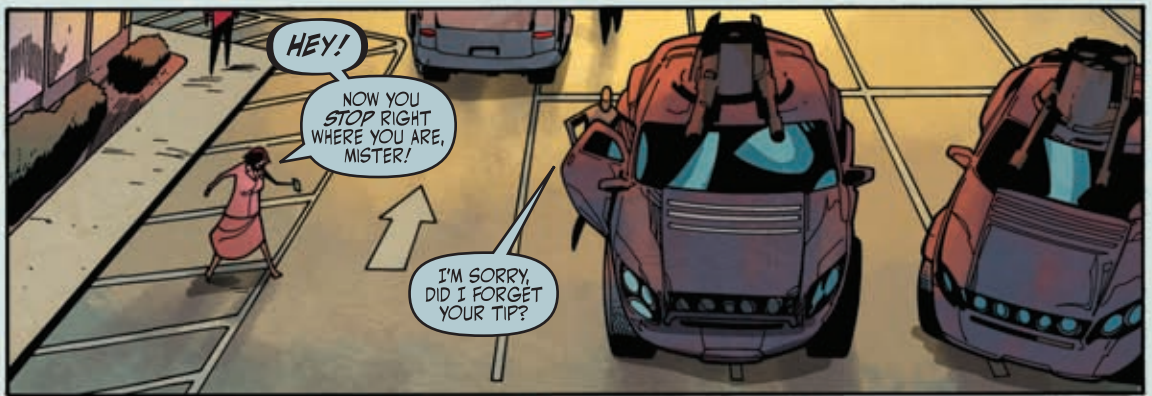
APHRODITE LISTEN, THIS IS IMPORTANT. IS MY SISTER SAFE WITH THEM?



I'D SAY YES, MA'AM, AS IT APPEARS THAT STRYKER IS HER "NATURAL FATHER."

?!









DAMN, THIS SHIT IS ALREADY KICKING MY ASS!

YO, DOESN'T SHE GET ANY SERUM? 'CAUSE I'LL TAKE IT IF SHE DOESN'T WANT IT. WHOOO!



I DIDN'T KNOW SHE NEEDED ANY.

WHAT'S "SERUM"?

YOU'RE KIDDING, RIGHT? HOW COULD YOU NOT KNOW WHAT SERUM IS?



YOU SAID YOU WERE LIKE US. OR WAS THAT JUST BULLSHIT?

I AM LIKE YOU. I CAN RUN FAST AND LEAP TALL BUILDINGS AND STUFF. BUT I DON'T KNOW WHAT THIS "SERUM" CRAP IS YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT.

THAT'S ENOUGH.



I DON'T CARE WHO GETS WHAT. YOU CAN FIGURE IT OUT ONCE YOU LEAVE.

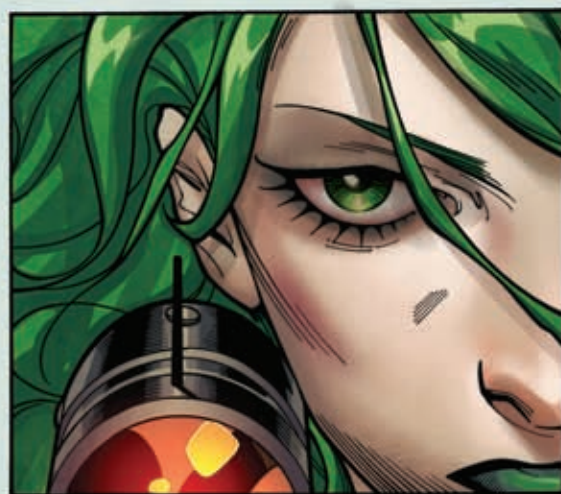
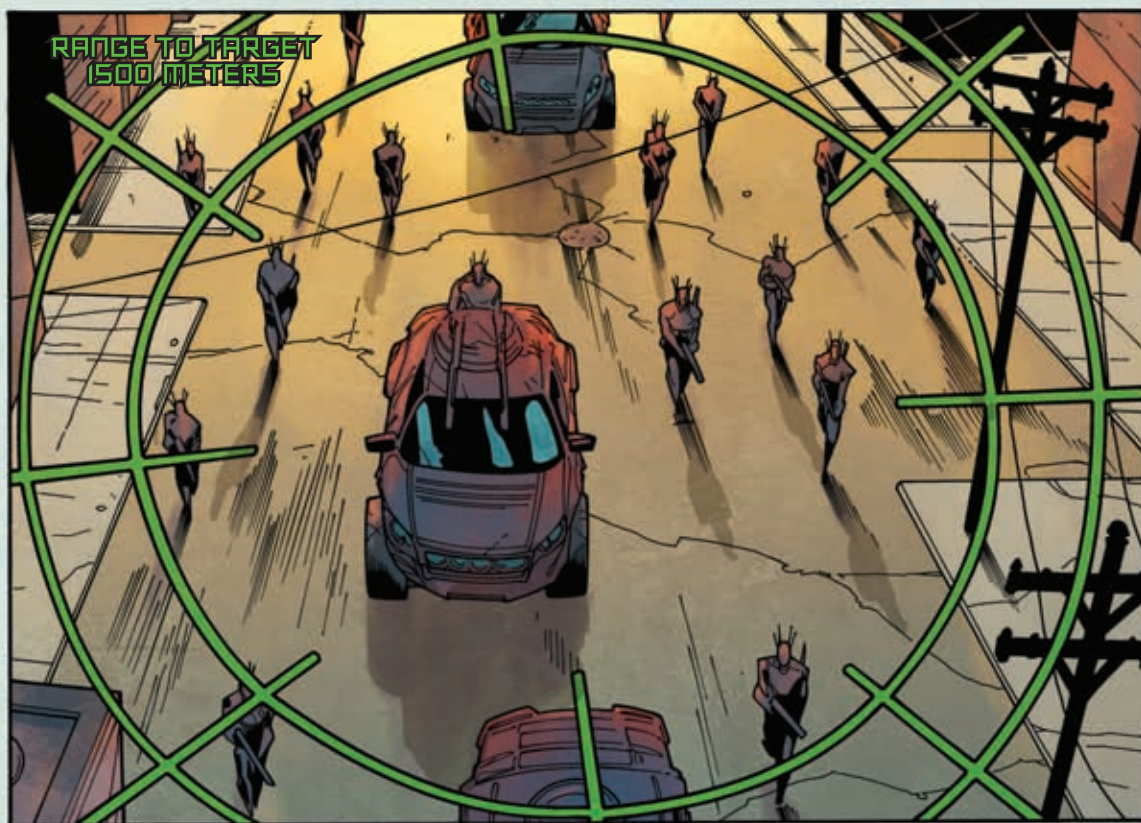
YOU CAN REST HERE TONIGHT. BUT THEN IN THE MORNING I WANT YOU OUT...



RANGE TO TARGET 500 METERS

...BEFORE ANYTHING ELSE HAPPENS.









SHIT...  
EVERYONE ALL  
RIGHT? ARES,  
RIPCLAW, ARE  
YOU HIT?

NOT  
LATELY.

YEAH, I'M NOT  
HIT EITHER...BUT  
THANKS FOR  
ASKING.



DUMBASSES DIDN'T HIT SHIT.  
WHAT'D YOU DO, STRYKER,  
PISS OFF A BUNCH OF IMPERIAL  
STORMTROOPERS?

UNPH,  
YOU CAN GET  
OFFA ME NOW.  
OH...

UM,  
GUYS?



WHOA.



YOU SAID  
YOU COULD  
RUN FAST?

YEAH.

HOW  
FAST?

LIEUTENANT, FAN YOUR  
MEN OUT. I WANT EVERY BUILDING SEARCHED,  
TOP TO BOTTOM. ARREST OR SHOOT ANY  
CIVILIAN THAT YOU DEEM UNCOOPERATIVE. WE'LL  
CLEAN ANY MESSSES LATER.

YES, SIR.  
POOLE, YOU AND  
THREE MEN TAKE  
THAT SIDE  
STREET...

HEAD  
WEST--

CHUT

CHUT

CHUT

CHUT

GET COVER...  
GRGH!

BAM  
BAM  
BAM  
BAM

HIGH VELOCITY .70 CALIBER  
TITANIUM ROUNDS TRAVELING  
3300 FEET PER SECOND...

BAROMETRIC PRESSURE  
NOMINAL, COMPENSATING FOR  
ECHO AND AMBIENT SOUND...

TIME BETWEEN MUZZLE BLAST AND  
IMPACT PUTS TARGET AT 1200  
YARDS. PRECISELY OVER...

THERE!

SARGENT, PUT  
EVERYTHING YOU'VE  
GOT ON THAT  
ROOFTOP!

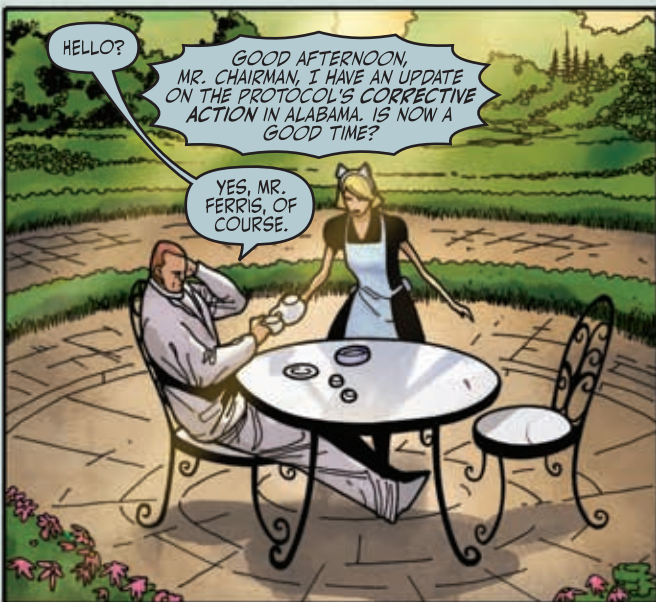


THANK YOU, MARIA.

OF COURSE, SIR. WOULD YOU CARE FOR MORE TEA?

PLEASE.

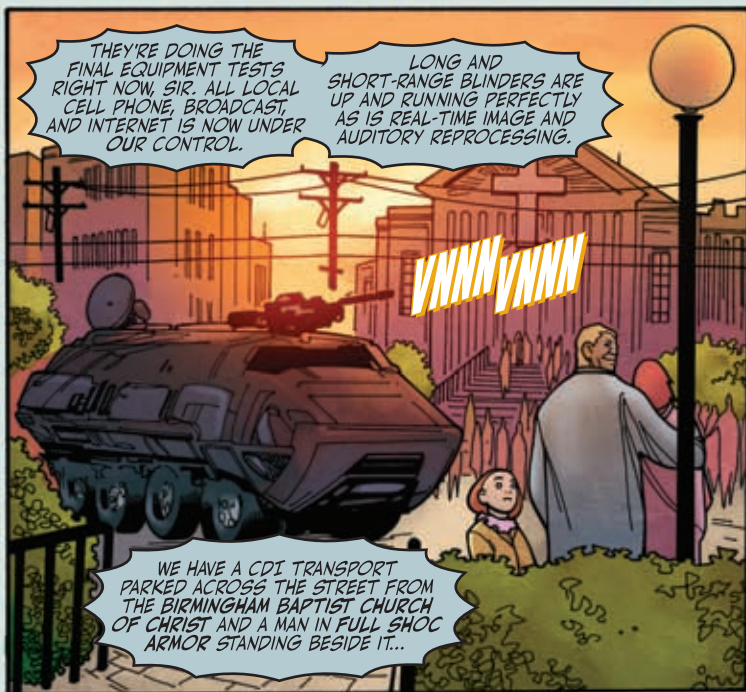
RING  
RING



HELLO?

GOOD AFTERNOON, MR. CHAIRMAN, I HAVE AN UPDATE ON THE PROTOCOL'S CORRECTIVE ACTION IN ALABAMA. IS NOW A GOOD TIME?

YES, MR. FERRIS, OF COURSE.



THEY'RE DOING THE FINAL EQUIPMENT TESTS RIGHT NOW, SIR. ALL LOCAL CELL PHONE, BROADCAST, AND INTERNET IS NOW UNDER OUR CONTROL.

LONG AND SHORT-RANGE BLINDERS ARE UP AND RUNNING PERFECTLY AS IS REAL-TIME IMAGE AND AUDITORY REPROCESSING.

VNNN VNNN

WE HAVE A CDI TRANSPORT PARKED ACROSS THE STREET FROM THE BIRMINGHAM BAPTIST CHURCH OF CHRIST AND A MAN IN FULL SHOC ARMOR STANDING BESIDE IT...



BUT AS FAR AS THE LOCALS ARE CONCERNED, IT IS JUST A BLACK MAN STANDING IN FRONT OF HIS CATERING TRUCK.

IN LESS THAN 24 HOURS THE WORLD WILL REACT IN STUNNED DISBELIEF WHEN SEVEN HEAVILY ARMED BLACK MILITANTS WALK INTO A PREDOMINANTLY WHITE CHURCH, AND OPEN FIRE...



OVER THE NEXT SEVERAL DAYS WE WILL LAUNCH THE PLANNED RETALIATORY ATTACKS THAT WILL BE "ENDORSED" BY KEY LEADERS OF BOTH THE BLACK AND THE WHITE COMMUNITIES. CONSERVATIVE ESTIMATES PUT US AT 10,000 DEAD WITHIN TWO WEEKS.

BY THIS TIME TOMORROW, MR. CHAIRMAN, BIRMINGHAM ALABAMA WILL BE THE FLASHPOINT THAT SENDS THE ENTIRE COUNTRY INTO ALL-OUT CIVIL WAR.

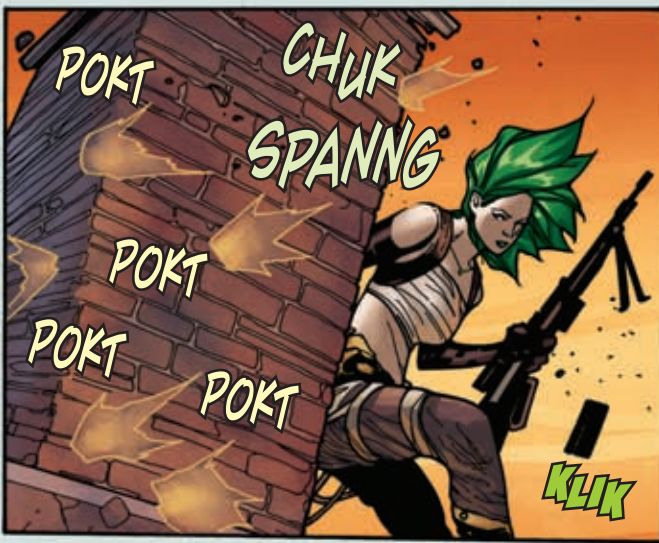


BY OUR CALCULATIONS, SUCH A DISTRACTION WILL BE SUFFICIENT TO BUY US AT LEAST ANOTHER YEAR WHICH SHOULD GET US BACK ON TRACK.

EXCELLENT WORK, MR. FERRIS. CARRY ON.

THANK YOU, SIR.

VNNN VNNN





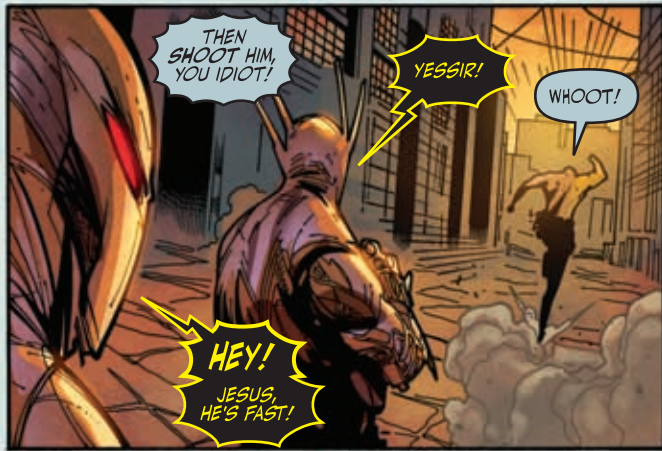
YESSIR,  
HE'S UM, STANDING  
RIGHT IN FRONT  
OF US.

DOES  
HE SEE  
YOU?



NYAA!

YES,  
SIR.



THEN  
SHOOT HIM,  
YOU IDIOT!

YESSIR!

WHOOT!

HEY!  
JESUS,  
HE'S FAST!

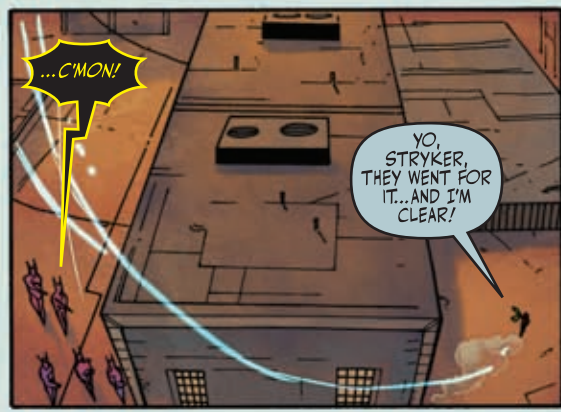


TAKE A SPIN  
ON THIS, YOU  
BOZOS...  
YOUR MAMAS  
DID! HA!

**SKEEEECH**



HE'S GONE  
INTO THE  
HOUSE...



...C'MON!

YO,  
STRYKER,  
THEY WENT FOR  
IT...AND I'M  
CLEAR!



BLINDERS  
OFF!

**VNNN  
VNNN**

BAZINGA,  
SUCKERS!



**BBBOOOOMMM**

AH, STRYKER, SO  
GOOD TO HAVE YOU  
BACK.

CAPTAIN,  
CALL IN MORE MEN  
AND CONTINUE YOUR  
SEARCH. I'M HEADING  
BACK TO BASE.

RIGHT  
AWAY, SIR.



...TO BOLDY GO...

OMG, CAN YOU BELIEVE ASHLEY DID THAT? I AM FREAKING...

к сожалению, я пока не говорю по-русски.

HURRICANE STELLA CONTINUES TO POUND THE EAST COAST AS...

THE SYRIAN GOVERNMENT TODAY ANNOUNCED...

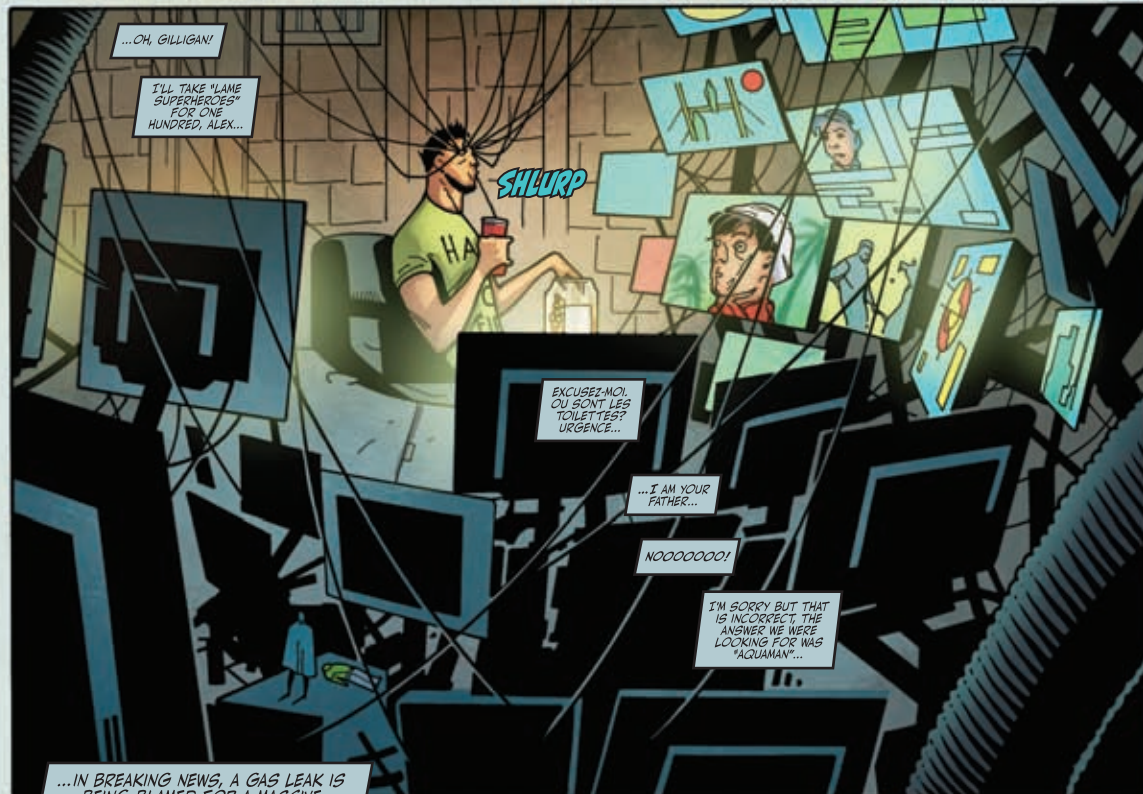


THUNDERCATS HOOOOO!

¿DONDE ESTA EL BARO?

...A SPOKESMAN FOR THE MILITANT POLITICAL ACTIVIST GROUP 'ONE BLACK NATION' ISSUED ANOTHER WARNING TODAY...

SHLURP



...OH, GILLIGAN!

I'LL TAKE 'LANE SUPERHEROES' FOR ONE HUNDRED, ALEX...

SHLURP

EXCUSEZ-MOI, OU SONT LES TOILETTES? URGENCE...

... I AM YOUR FATHER...

N0000000!

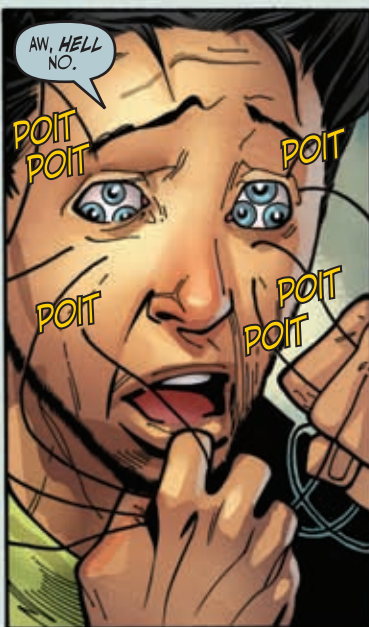
I'M SORRY BUT THAT IS INCORRECT; THE ANSWER WE WERE LOOKING FOR WAS "AQUAMAN"...

...IN BREAKING NEWS, A GAS LEAK IS BEING BLAMED FOR A MASSIVE EXPLOSION THAT ROCKED THE HOMEWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD OF OLD PITTSBURGH JUST MOMENTS AGO...



EH?

...MARIA VALDEZ IS ON THE SCENE...



AW, HELL NO.

POIT POIT

POIT

POIT

POIT POIT



THIS IS NOT HAPPENING.

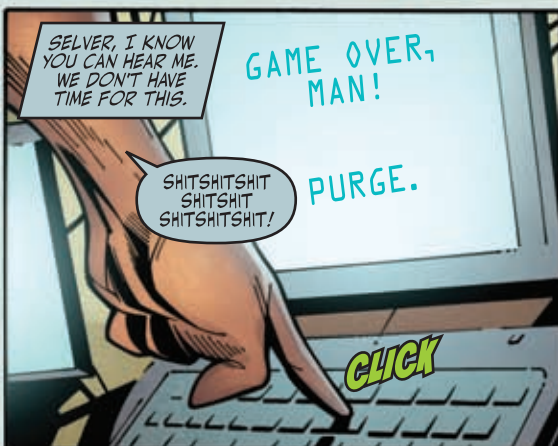
I DID PRETTY GOOD BACK THERE, HUH?

YES.

TOLD YOU I WAS FAST. SO WHO DO YOU THINK WARNED US?

DON'T KNOW.

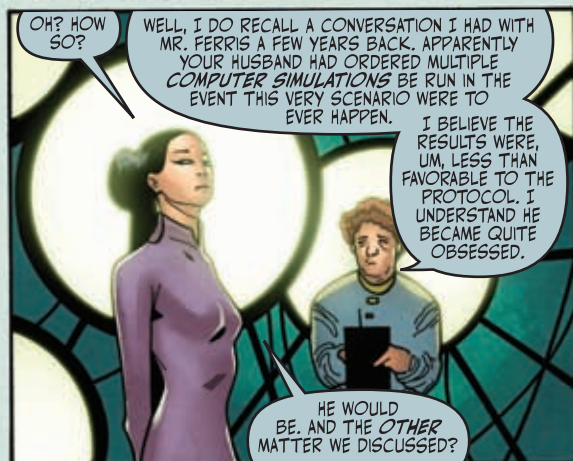
...HE'S DEAD, JIM.





DR. MURPHEY,  
YOU'VE HEARD THE  
*RUMORS* FLOATING  
ABOUT THAT MORGAN  
STRYKER MAY ACTUALLY  
BE *ALIVE*?

YES, I  
HAVE, MADAM  
CHAIRWOMAN...  
VERY *DISTURBING*  
NEWS.



OH? HOW  
SO?

WELL, I DO RECALL A CONVERSATION I HAD WITH  
MR. FERRIS A FEW YEARS BACK. APPARENTLY  
YOUR HUSBAND HAD ORDERED MULTIPLE  
*COMPUTER SIMULATIONS* BE RUN IN THE  
EVENT THIS VERY SCENARIO WERE TO  
EVER HAPPEN.

I BELIEVE THE  
RESULTS WERE,  
UM, LESS THAN  
FAVORABLE TO THE  
PROTOCOL. I  
UNDERSTAND HE  
BECAME QUITE  
OBSESSED.

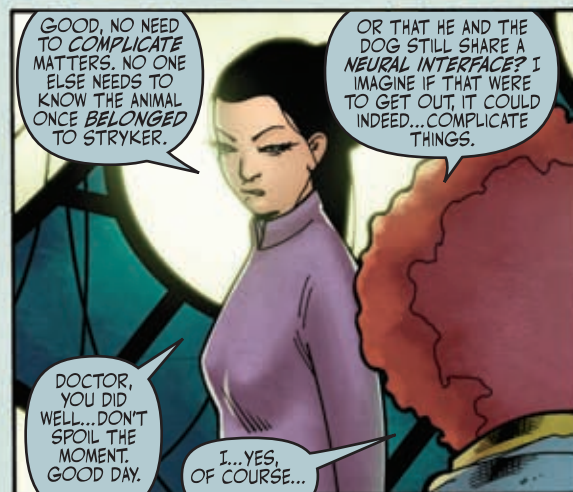
HE WOULD  
BE. AND THE *OTHER*  
MATTER WE DISCUSSED?



YOUR DAUGHTER'S DOG, YES,  
I ERASED THE "SENSITIVE"  
INFORMATION YOU HAD  
ASKED ABOUT.

AND NO  
ONE ELSE  
SAW IT?

NO  
ONE.



GOOD, NO NEED  
TO *COMPLICATE*  
MATTERS. NO ONE  
ELSE NEEDS TO  
KNOW THE ANIMAL  
ONCE *BELONGED*  
TO STRYKER.

OR THAT HE AND THE  
DOG STILL SHARE A  
*NEURAL INTERFACE*? I  
IMAGINE IF THAT WERE  
TO GET OUT, IT COULD  
INDEED...*COMPLICATE*  
THINGS.

DOCTOR,  
YOU DID  
WELL...DON'T  
SPOIL THE  
MOMENT.  
GOOD DAY.

I...YES,  
OF COURSE...



GOOD  
DOG.



WOW, LOOKS LIKE YOU AND MY MOM'S BOYFRIEND OVER HERE HAVE THE SAME DECORATOR.

YEAH, SORRY, I DON'T GET A LOT OF VISITORS.

CAN I GET YOU GUYS ANYTHING? I HAVE MORE DERMAL PLUGS AND TAPE DOWNSTAIRS IF YOU NEED 'EM.

GOT ANY BEER?



NO, JUST CREAM SODA AND VITAMIN WATER.

I'LL PASS. WHERE'D YOU GET ALL THIS STUFF?



I BORROWED SOME OFFICE SUPPLIES WHEN I USED TO WORK FOR CDI. PAPER CLIPS, NOTE PADS, QUANTUM MULTI-CORE PROCESSORS, ETC., YOU KNOW, TYPICAL STUFF.

CYBER DATA RECRUITED HIM INTO ITS BLACK LEVEL THINK TANK WHEN HE WAS NINE...



...IT WAS HIS THEORIES IN BIOLOGICAL COMPUTING THAT ALLOWED CDI TO LINK THE BRAINS OF A BILLION PEOPLE TO CREATE A MACHINE THAT COULD BASICALLY PREDICT THE FUTURE.

SMART DUDE, HUH?

SECOND ONLY TO YOUR MOTHER.

IN FACT, YOU CAN PRETTY MUCH PIN THE APHRODITE PROTOCOL ON "SMART DUDE" HERE.

SORRY ABOUT THAT.

SELVER..

YEAH?

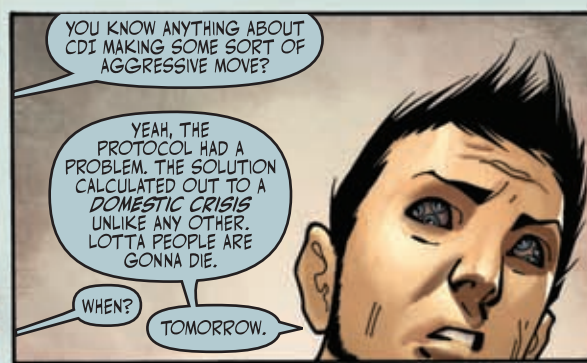


SHE MY KID?

...YEAH.

WE'LL TALK ABOUT WHY YOU NEVER TOLD ME LATER.

OKAY.



YOU KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT CDI MAKING SOME SORT OF AGGRESSIVE MOVE?

YEAH, THE PROTOCOL HAD A PROBLEM. THE SOLUTION CALCULATED OUT TO A DOMESTIC CRISIS UNLIKE ANY OTHER. LOTTA PEOPLE ARE GONNA DIE.

WHEN?

TOMORROW.



HOW MANY ARMED MEN DOES CDI HAVE GUARDING MILLENNIUM CITY?

4,127...MINUS HOWEVER MANY WERE IN YOUR HOUSE WHEN IT BLEW UP.

I WANT RIPCLAW AND ARES FIXED UP AND READY TO GO BY MORNING...

...THERE ARE PEOPLE AT CYBER DATA THAT I NEED TO HAVE SOME WORDS WITH.

TO BE CONTINUED!!

NEXT ISSUE: **CYBER  
FORCE**

Issue #5

