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#1

Digital Edition

CYBER FORCE HUNTER KILLER



Mark Waid • Kenneth Rocafort

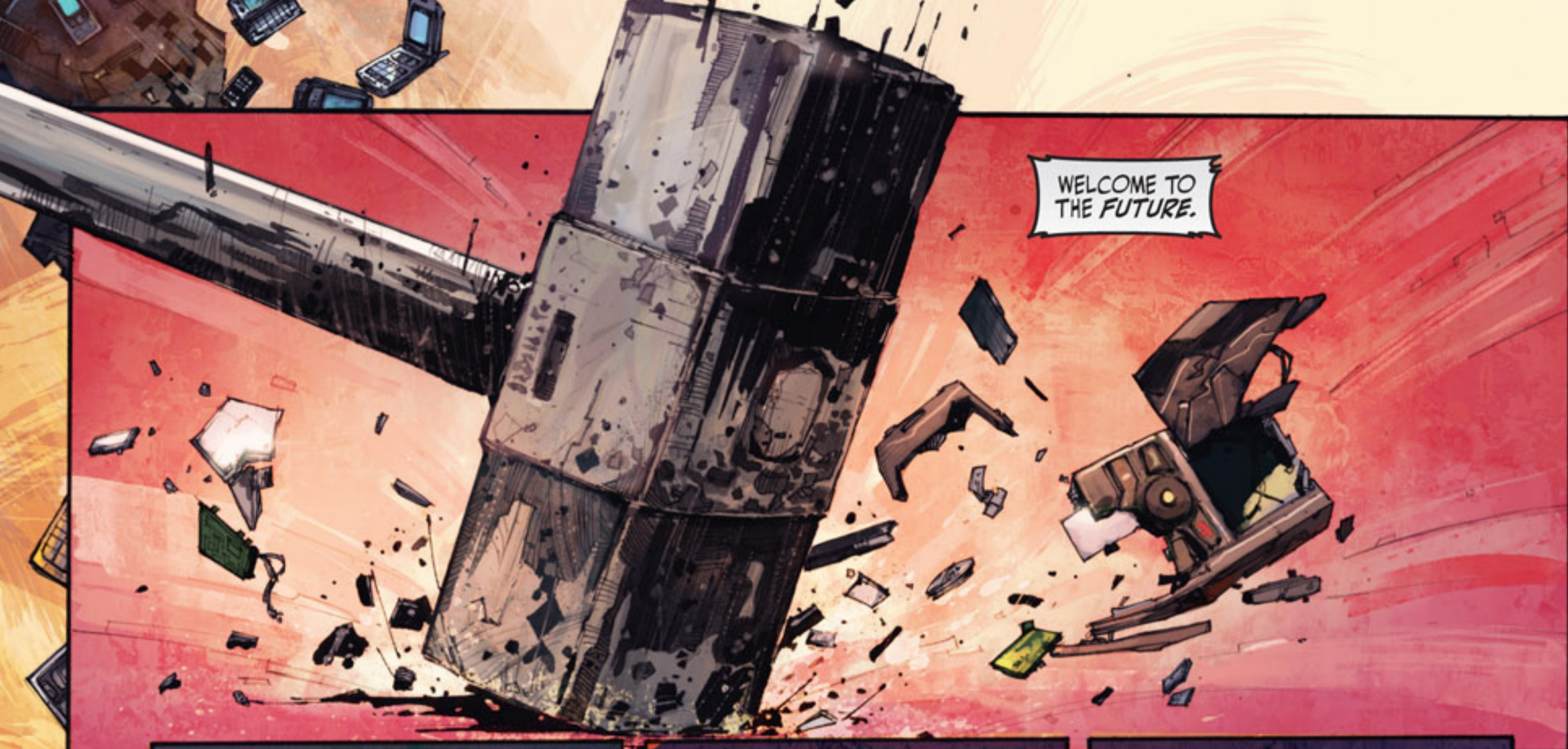




CYBER FORCE[®] HUNTER KILLER[®]

issue #1





WELCOME TO THE FUTURE.

CELLPHONES WERE GREAT-- BUT INCONVENIENT. THE CHARGING, THE SYNCING, THE UPLOADING...

...AND, WORST OF ALL, THE BULK.

IMAGINE YOUR PHONE HELD A PERMANENT CHARGE AND AUTOMATICALLY UPDATED ALL THE INFORMATION YOU COULD POSSIBLY WANT.

THEN IMAGINE YOUR PHONE WERE NO BIGGER THAN THIS.



THAT PHONE IS HERE.



THE JETT. A VOICE-ACTIVATED PHONE-EARPIECE LIGHTER THAN AN EARRING.



JETT, CALL MOM.

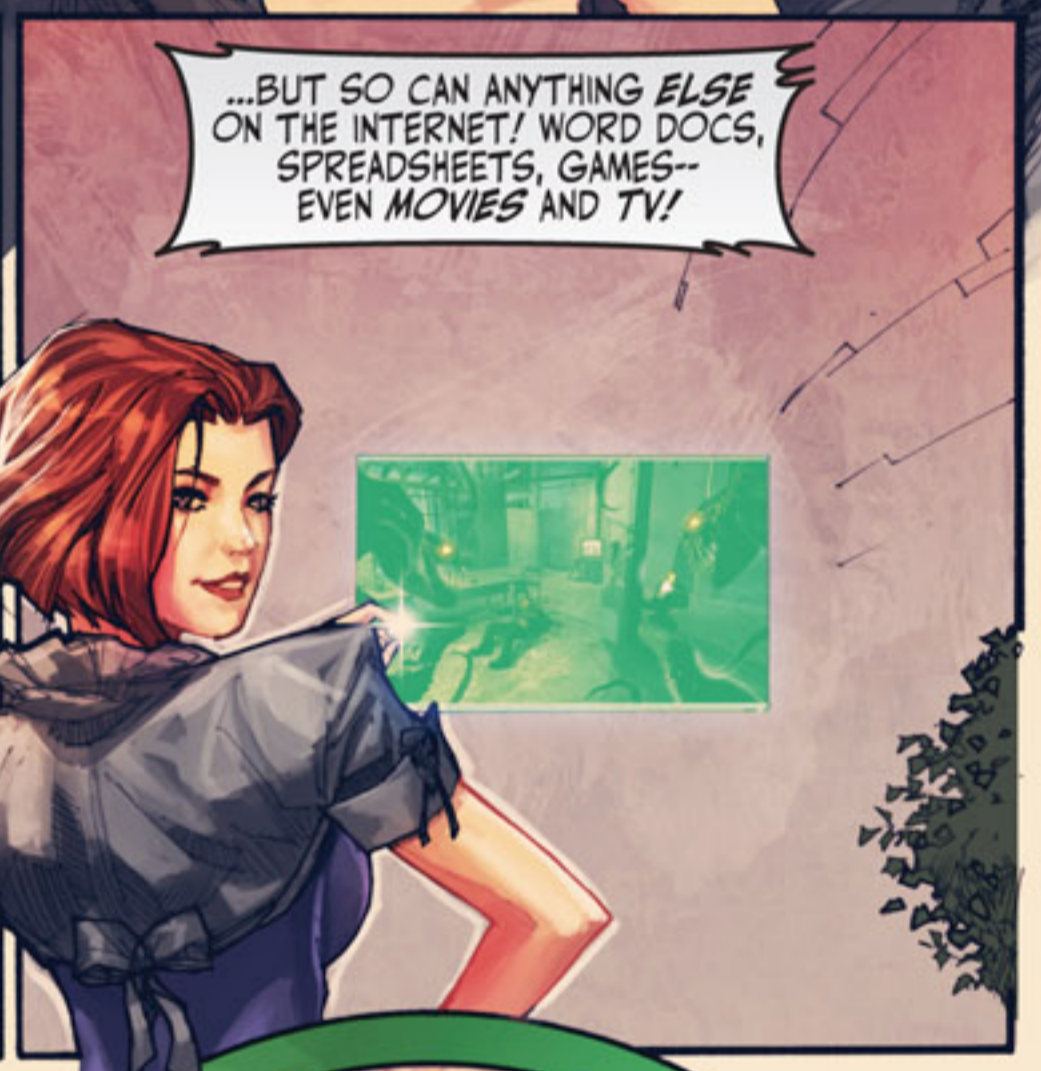
Dialing...



THE JETT DRAWS ITS POWER FROM YOUR OWN BODY HEAT, SO IT NEVER RUNS OUT OF JUICE...

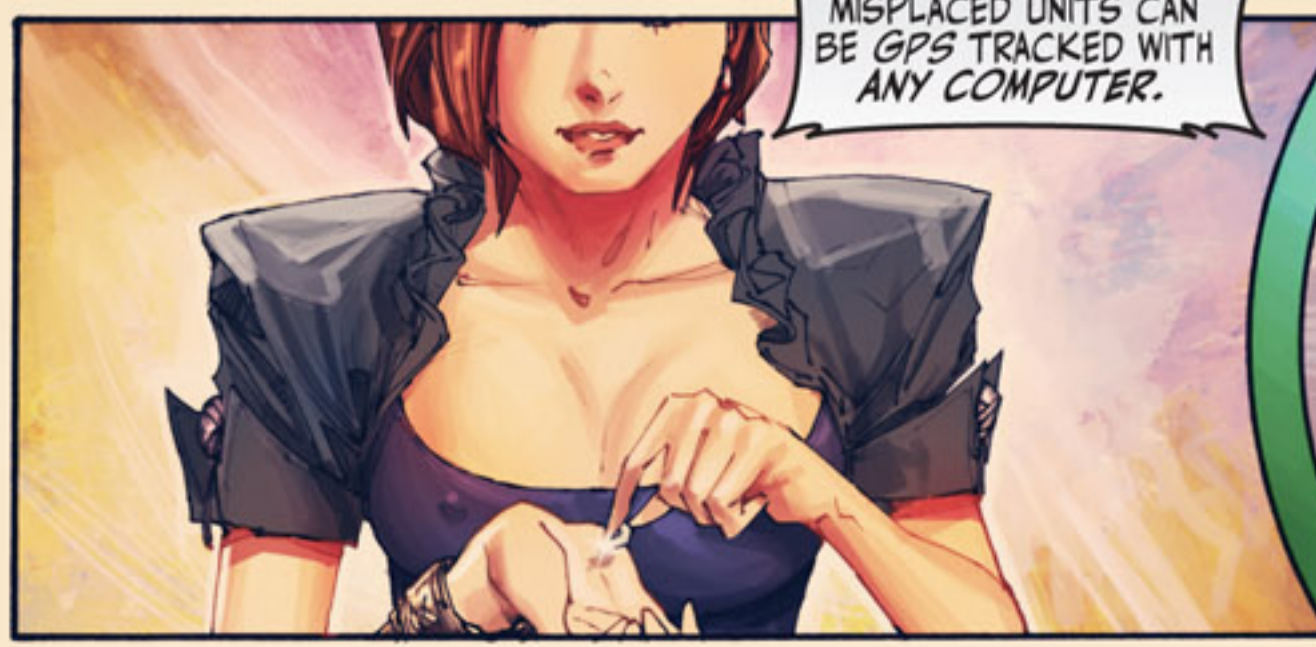


...AND IT STAYS TIED TO THE WEB, SO NOT ONLY CAN THE CONTACTS YOU'VE STORED THERE BE INSTANTLY ACCESSED AT YOUR COMMAND...

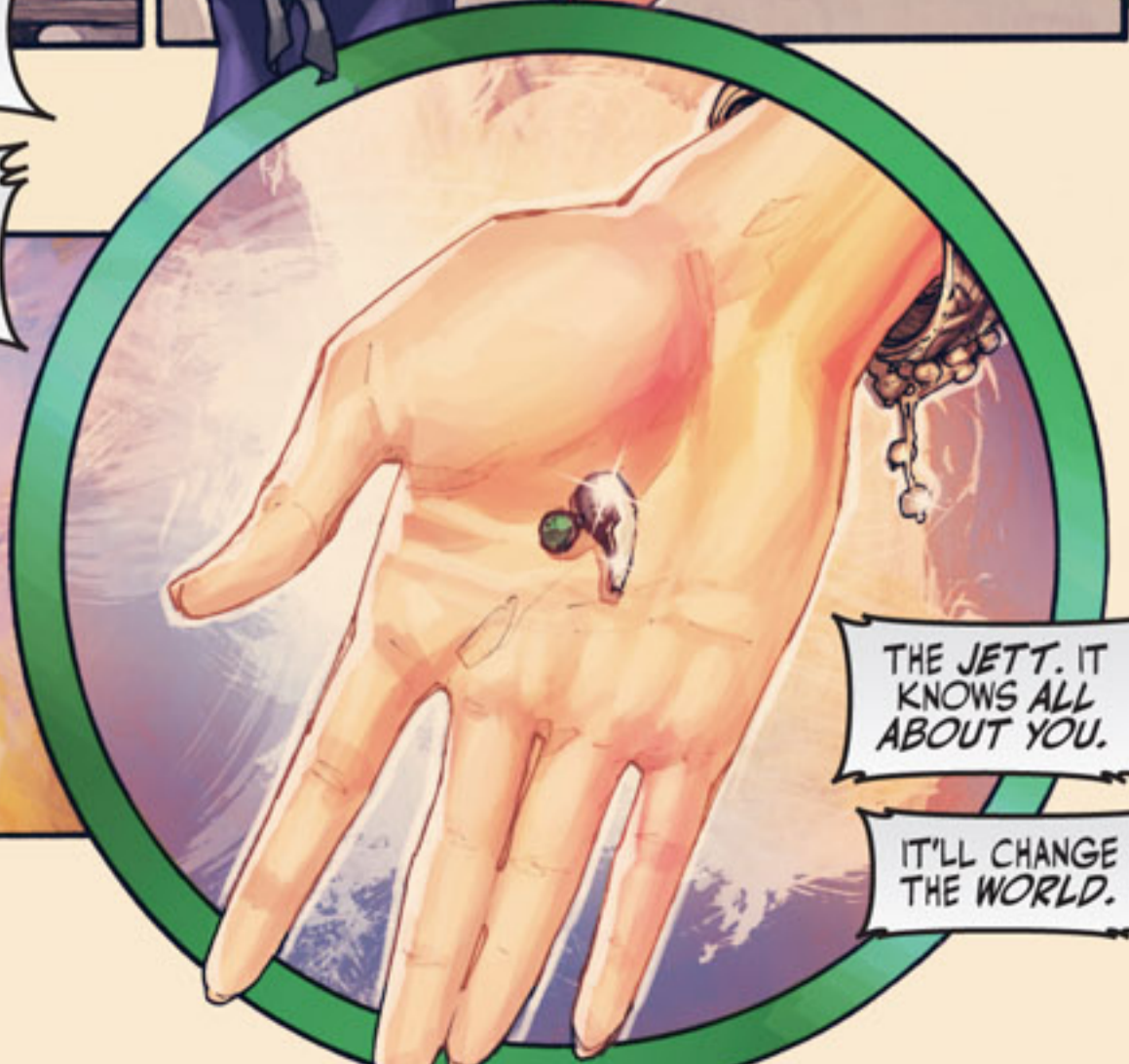


...BUT SO CAN ANYTHING ELSE ON THE INTERNET! WORD DOCS, SPREADSHEETS, GAMES-- EVEN MOVIES AND TV!

BEST OF ALL, THE JETT AND ITS DATA CAN NEVER BE *STOLEN*. THANKS TO *DNA SAMPLING*, IT WORKS ONLY WHEN IN CONTACT WITH ITS OWNER...



...AND LOST OR MISPLACED UNITS CAN BE *GPS TRACKED* WITH ANY COMPUTER.



THE JETT. IT KNOWS ALL ABOUT YOU.

IT'LL CHANGE THE WORLD.

ELSEWHERE.

TELL ME ABOUT THE HUNTER-KILLER PROGRAM, DAMPER.

PUH...
PUH...PLEASE...
I C-CAN'T...

ALL RIGHT! ALL RIGHT!
I'M SO SORRY, SAMANTHA, I'M SO SORRY...





WHO IS SAMANTHA?

SHE'S OUR FUH-FUH-FIELD LEADER. WE WORK FOR A MAN NAMED MUH...MUH...

...MORNINGSTAR. THAT'S ALL I KNOW, I SWEAR!



I DOUBT THAT, MR. DAMPER.



P-POWERS... WHY WON'T MY POWERS WUH-WORK...?

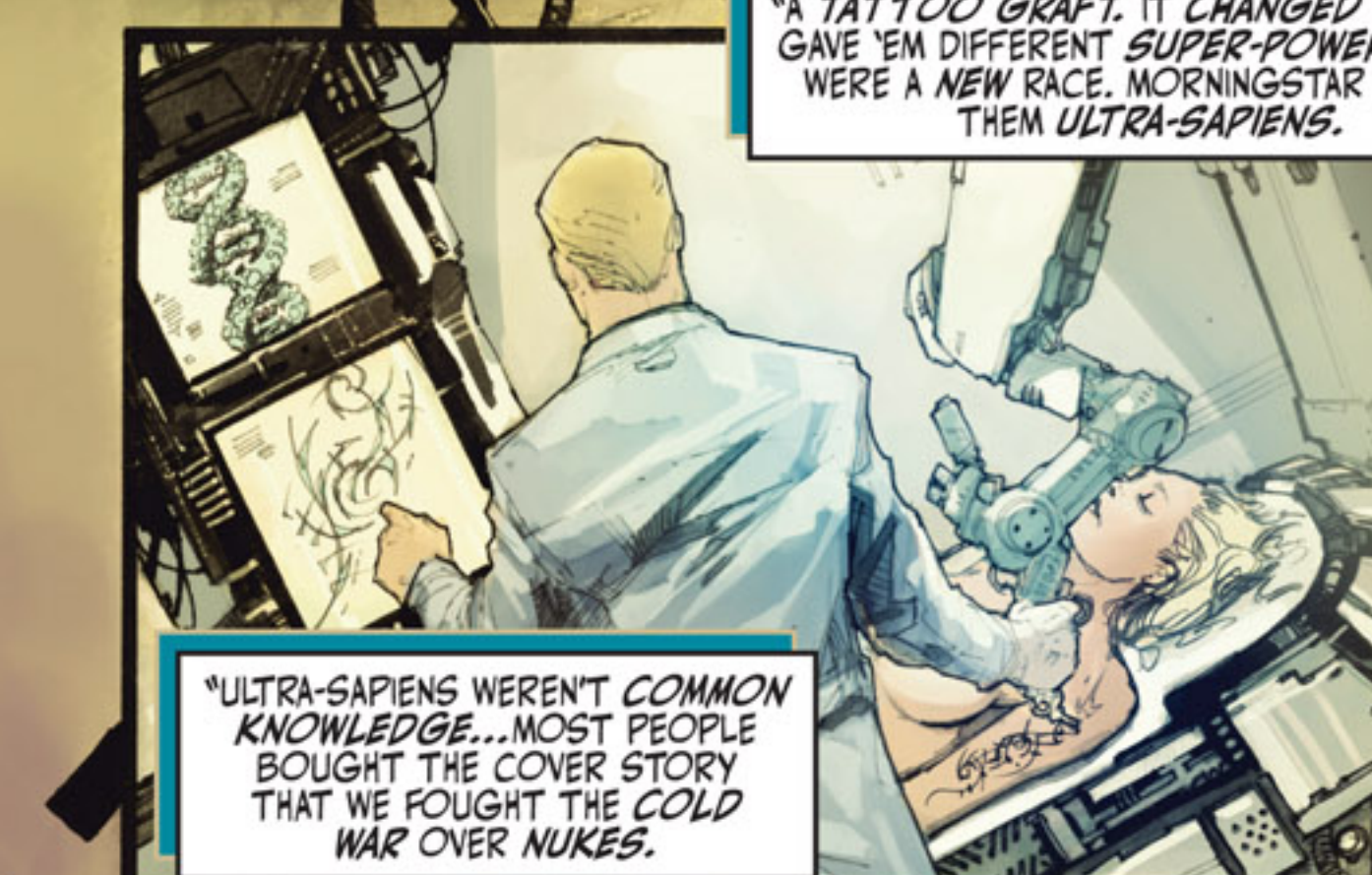
START AT THE BEGINNING. TELL US ABOUT MORNINGSTAR. TELL US EVERYTHING.




FOR YOUR OWN SAKE.



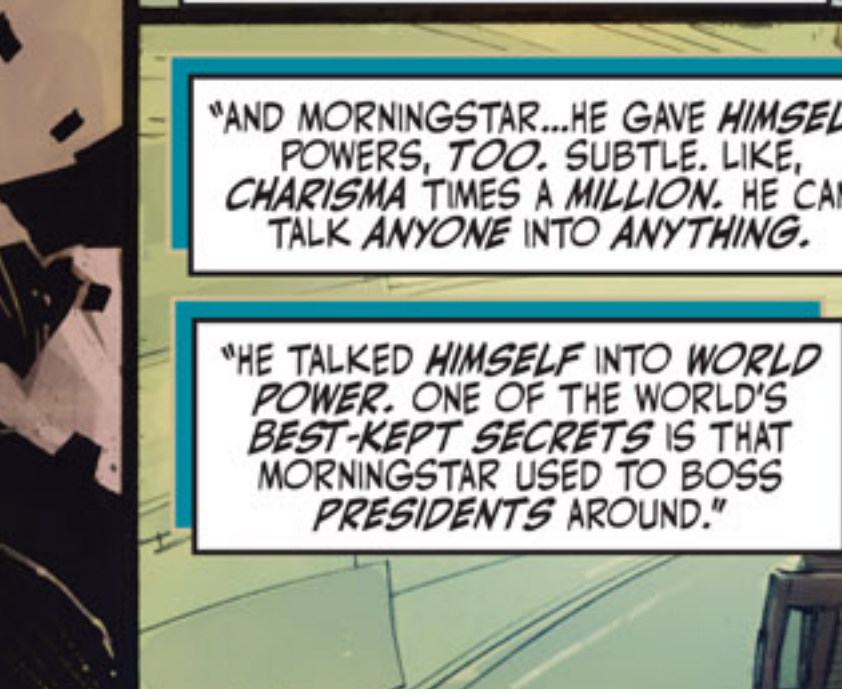
"OKAY! OKAY! MORNINGSTAR... HE WAS A *SCIENTIST*. *GENETICS* GUY. LONG TIME AGO, HE CREATED THIS STUFF CALLED *TECHNODERM*."




"A *TATTOO GRAFT*. IT CHANGED PEOPLE... GAVE 'EM DIFFERENT *SUPER-POWERS*. THEY WERE A *NEW RACE*. MORNINGSTAR CALLED THEM *ULTRA-SAPIENS*."



"THEY WERE *LIVING WEAPONS*. THE USA KEPT SOME, THEY TRADED SOME TO OUR *ALLIES*, SOME GOT CAPTURED BY *ENEMIES*... AND ALL THE *WHILE*, THEY KEPT OUT OF *SIGHT*."



"ULTRA-SAPIENS WEREN'T *COMMON KNOWLEDGE*... MOST PEOPLE BOUGHT THE COVER STORY THAT WE FOUGHT THE *COLD WAR* OVER *NUKES*."



"AND MORNINGSTAR... HE GAVE *HIMSELF* POWERS, *TOO*. *SUBTLE*. LIKE, *CHARISMA* TIMES A *MILLION*. HE CAN TALK *ANYONE* INTO *ANYTHING*."



"HE TALKED *HIMSELF* INTO *WORLD POWER*. ONE OF THE *WORLD'S BEST-KEPT SECRETS* IS THAT MORNINGSTAR USED TO BOSS *PRESIDENTS* AROUND."



PRESIDENTS?
OF THE UNITED
STATES?

LIKE I SAID, HE'S A *MANIPULATOR*. PLUS, HE HELD ALL THE *CARDS* 'CAUSE HE WAS THE *ONLY* ONE WHO COULD TRACE ALL THE *ULTRA-SAPIENS*...

...UNTIL...

UNTIL
WHAT?

"UNTIL THE ULTRA-SAPIENS REBELLED. THEY DESTROYED ALL THEIR GENETIC RECORDS AND WENT INTO HIDING A GENERATION AGO."

"A FEW YEARS BACK, MORNINGSTAR STARTED LOOKING FOR THEM AGAIN, LOOKING HARD, 'CAUSE SOME OF THEM WERE BEING USED AS WEAPONS. HE RECRUITED YOUNGER ULTRA-SAPIENS HE COULD TRUST, LIKE ME, TO DO THE SEARCHING."

"THE HUNTER-KILLER TEAM. THERE'S A BUNCH OF US."

"SAMANTHA ARGENT. ENERGY THAT COULD PUNCH THROUGH A BATTLESHIP."

"WOLF. BADASS FIGHTER INVISIBLE TO DETECTION."

"CLOAKER, WHO PROJECTS ILLUSIONS. ME, I CAN DIAL DOWN SOMEONE'S POWERS."

"AND ELLIS. I LIKED ELLIS."

"HE WAS A TWINNER. HE WAS HOW WE WERE SO GOOD AT TRACKING."

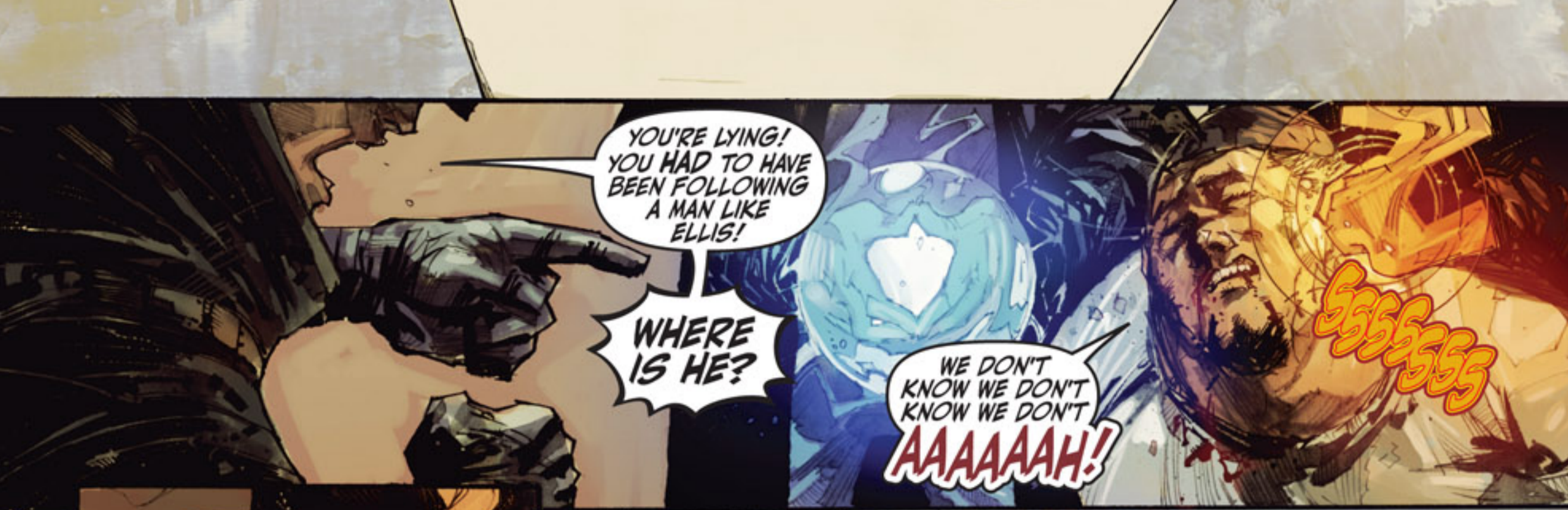
"ANYTIME ELLIS GOT CLOSE ENOUGH TO A TARGET ULTRA-SAPIEN, HE'D AUTOMATICALLY MIRROR THEIR POWERS. LIKE A DIVINING ROD, THAT GUY."

"YOU SAID 'HE WAS HOW.' NOT 'IS HOW.' WHERE'S ELLIS NOW?"

"HELL IF WE KNOW. SWEAR TO GOD! HE RAN OUT A COUPLE YEARS BACK! HE HATED MORNINGSTAR'S WHOLE PUPPET-MASTER THING!"

"ME, I DIG THE PAYCHECK! DON'T!"



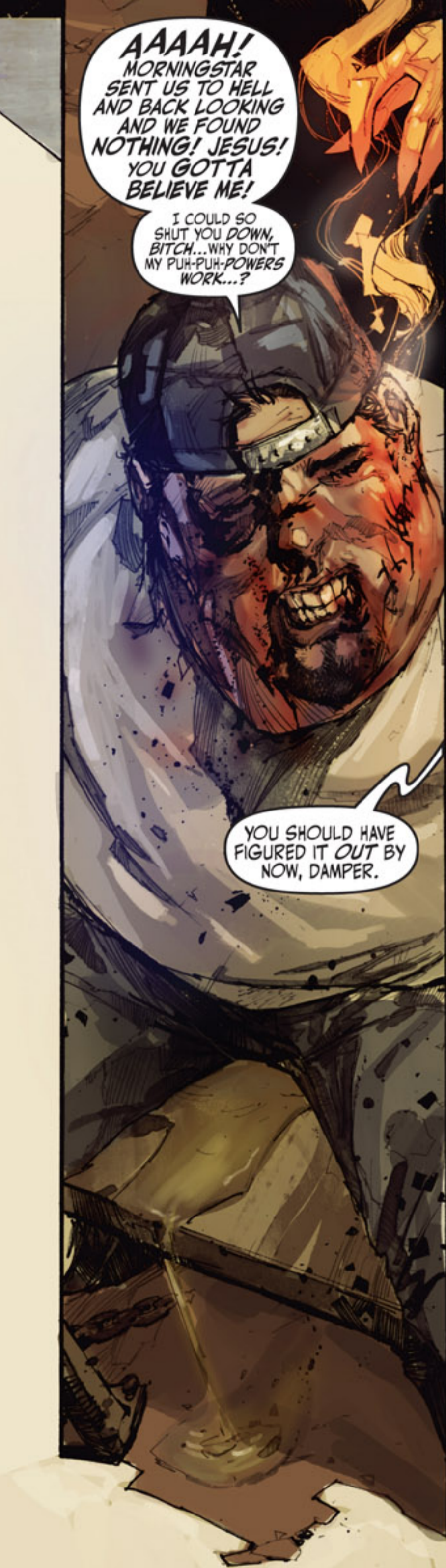


YOU'RE LYING!
YOU HAD TO HAVE
BEEN FOLLOWING
A MAN LIKE
ELLIS!

WHERE
IS HE?

WE DON'T
KNOW WE DON'T
KNOW WE DON'T
AAAAAAH!

SSSSSSSS



AAAAH!
MORNINGSTAR
SENT US TO HELL
AND BACK LOOKING
AND WE FOUND
NOTHING! JESUS!
YOU GOTTA
BELIEVE ME!

I COULD SO
SHUT YOU DOWN,
BITCH... WHY DON'T
MY PUH-PUH-POWERS
WORK...?

YOU SHOULD HAVE
FIGURED IT OUT BY
NOW, DAMPER.



I COPIED
THEM AND
TURNED THEM
ON YOU.



ELLIS...?



LET HIM GO.

OH, MY GOD, ELLIS, WHAT THE HELL? WHAT THE HELL, MAN?

DAMPER, I'M SORRY. BUT I HAD TO KNOW FOR ABSOLUTE CERTAIN IF I WAS STILL ON MORNINGSTAR'S RADAR.



CYNDER, ARC... THAT'LL BE ALL.

GET AWAY FROM...

WH-WHERE HAVE YOU B-BEEN--?



LEARNING ABOUT THE WORLD. MAKING SOME NEW FRIENDS. AND I'M GOING TO NEED SOME HELP TO STOP SOME VERY BAD PEOPLE.

THE HUNTER-KILLER TEAM...IT'S STILL IN OPERATION?

OH, YEAH.



BUT MINUS MY GIFT FOR TARGETING ULTRA-SAPIENS.

YEAH.

SO... WITHOUT ME AS YOUR COMPASS, HOW EXACTLY HAVE YOU BEEN TRACKING THEM DOWN?

UMMM...

"...A LOT OF GUESSWORK."



WOLF, THIS IS SAM. STILL NO WORD FROM A.W.O.L. DAMPER-- BUT WE CAN'T WAIT.

INTEL SAYS OUR TARGETS JUST GOT BACK HOME, AND WE DON'T WANT THEM RESTED.



ROGER THAT, SAM. I'M GOING DOWN THROUGH THE VENT SYSTEM.



I'LL BE THERE WHEN YOU NEED ME.

THEN GO! GO! GO!



BDEEET BDEEET
BDEEET BDEEET



BDEEET BDEEET
BDEEET BDEEET

DID YOU
HEAR SOMETHING
UPSTAIRS...?







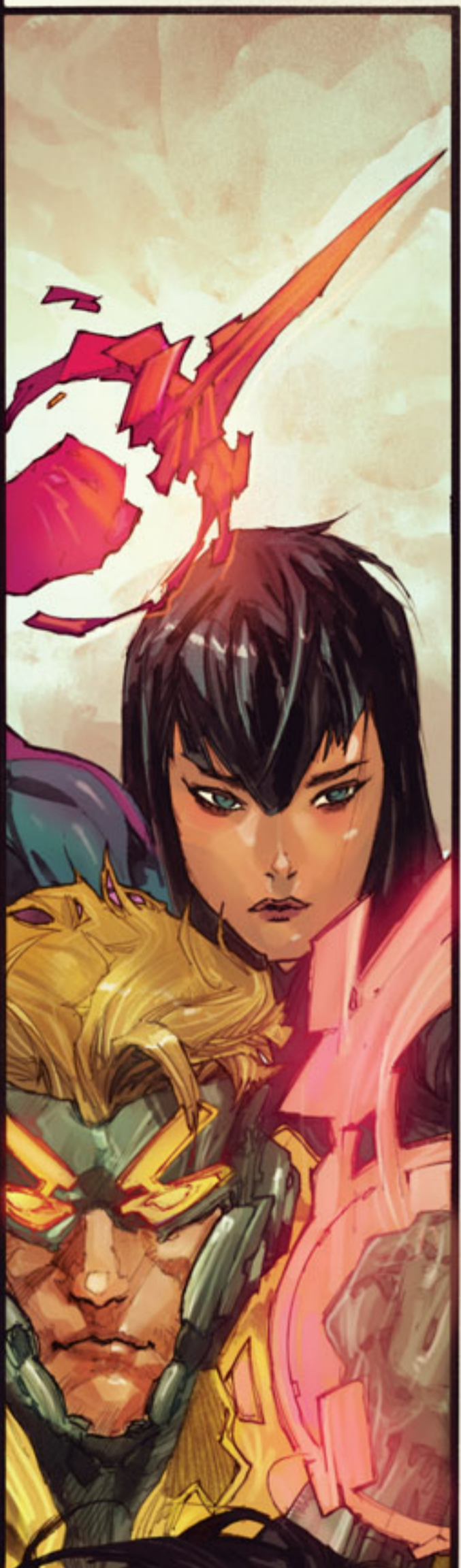
HHHHULIH



CARIN?
ARE YOU UP
THERE?

I DIDN'T
EVEN SEE HER
MOVE! CASS, WHY
DOES YOUR
SISTER ALWAYS
HAVE TO TAKE
POINT?

IMPATIENT.



->MMMPPH!<-

YOU
STAY WITH ME.
DIVIDE AND
CONQUER...



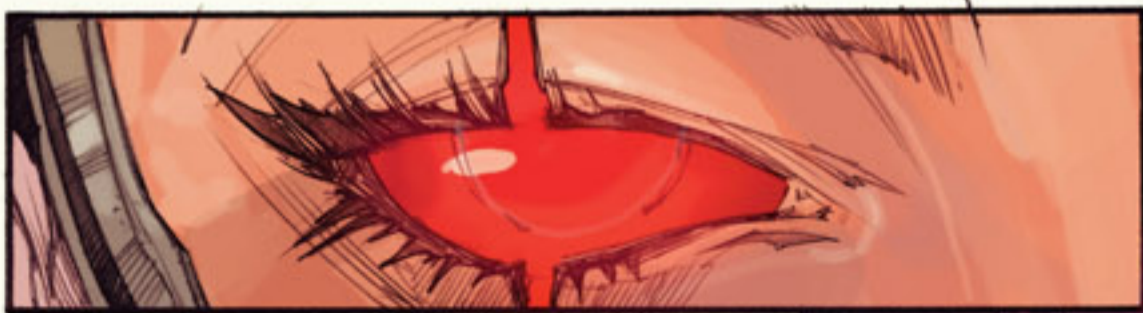
CLOAKER,
I READ FOUR
MORE-- NO,
THREE-- ON
THEIR WAY
UP!

COVERED.



DYLAN, BE
READY TO FRY
ANYTHING THAT
MOVES--

?



BLAM!

GNNNGH!

I DON'T KNOW WHO YOU ARE, JERKASS, BUT YOU PICKED THE WRONG PEOPLE TO AMBUSH.

KCHAX

MY NAME'S BALLISTIC. I CAN SHOOT THE TICKS OFF A DOG AND NOT MAKE HIM FLINCH.

VELOCITY MOVES AT MACH THREE.

"RIPCLAW HITS LIKE A TORNADO FULL OF RAZORS."

"HEATWAVE MELTS STEEL."

FIRE TRANQS!
FIRE!

AAAAAAH!

"AND
CYBLADE--"

"--CYBLADE CAN
KNIFE YOU JUST
BY THINKING
ABOUT IT."

I
WOULDN'T,
BITCH.

SO IF
YOU DON'T THINK
WE CAN'T LAY YOU
FLAT IN THE BLINK
OF AN EYE--



"...YOU'RE
DELUDED."





OH, MY GOD, HE'S NOT BREATHING!

DYLAN!



"THIS WAS NOT THE PLAN."



HOW BAD IS IT?

I MAY LIVE. NO PROMISES.



BUT WE ARE IN WAY OVER OUR HEADS. HOW THE HELL ARE WE SUPPOSED TO BEAT THESE GUYS?



YOU'RE NOT.



WE CAN'T SAVE THE WORLD WITHOUT THEM.

ELLIS...?

