



TAKE A GOOD LOOK AT RUBY JOHNSON.

THIS IS HER STORY, AND IT'S A *GOOD* ONE.

FIRST *HUMAN* TO BECOME *CHAMPION* OF THE MARTIAN GLADIATOR GAMES ON MARTIAN-OCCUPIED EARTH.

FIRST HUMAN TO WIN IT A *SECOND* TIME, EVEN THOUGH *EVERY* OTHER GLADIATOR HAD BEEN *COMMANDED* TO KILL HER, INCLUDING A HIGHLY-LETHAL MARTIAN *KILLBOT*.

AND THE FIRST HUMAN TO *TAME* A MARTIAN KILLBOT, AND SHE DID IT IN FULL VIEW OF *EVERY* SPECTATOR ATTENDING THE GAMES, AS WELL AS THE HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF VIEWERS WATCHING ON THEIR TELEVISIONS AND HOLO-PROJECTORS.



SUPREME SECTOR OVERSEER ZAR HAD *NEVER* HATED A HUMAN MORE.

AND SO TWO DAYS AFTER
THE GLADIATOR GAMES,
ZAR ENACTED A *PLAN*--

--WHERE HIS AGENTS TOOK
RUBY IN THE DEAD OF NIGHT.



AND BROUGHT HER
TO HIM IN CHAINS.




FOR A *TRIAL*.



WHERE SUPREME SECTOR
OVERSEER ZAR WOULD
PRESIDE AS *JUDGE*.





ZAR OPENED THE TRIAL WITH A LIST OF ALL OF RUBY JOHNSON'S TRAITOROUS, TREACHEROUS, AND SEDITIOUS ACTS AGAINST THE MARTIAN EMPIRE.


(NONE OF WHICH WERE TRUE.)

HE NAMED HER A *SABOTEUR* AND A *SPY*, AND PRODUCED (FALSE) EVIDENCE THAT SHE WAS A MEMBER OF UNDERGROUND HUMAN REBEL GROUP KNOWN AS THE *NOVUS VIRI*.



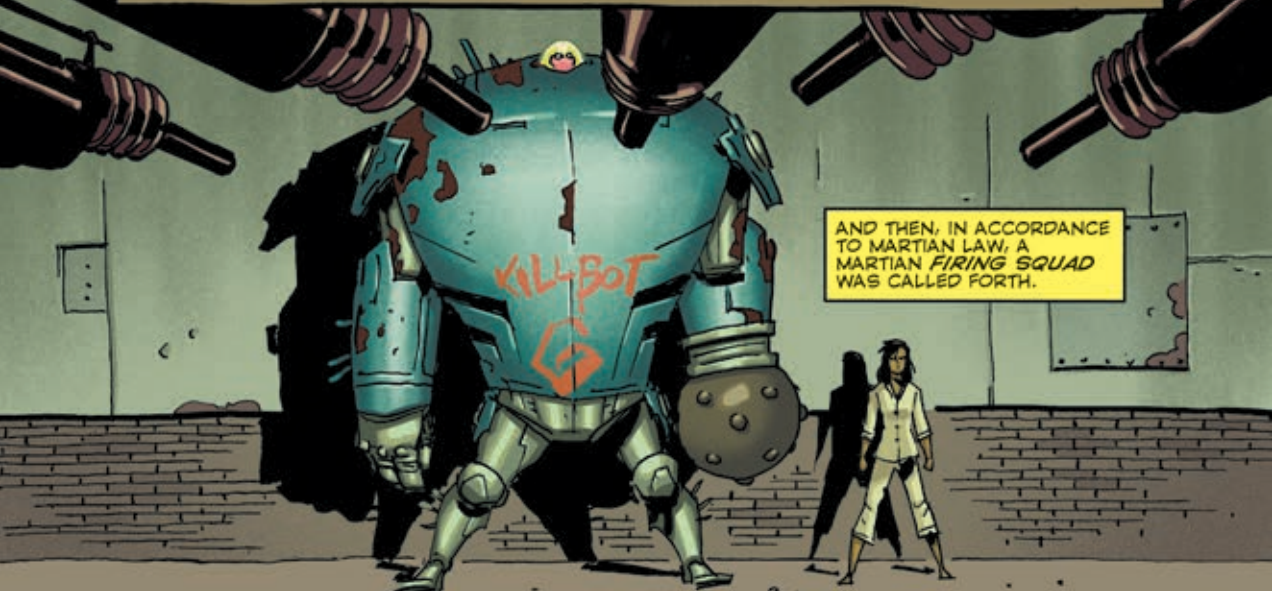
HE DECLARED HER *GUILTY*--

(WHICH, OF COURSE, HE WAS ALWAYS GOING TO DO.)



--AND HE MARCHED OUT THE KILLBOT WHO HAD FOUGHT BESIDE HER IN THE ARENA.

DADDY?



AND THEN, IN ACCORDANCE TO MARTIAN LAW, A MARTIAN FIRING SQUAD WAS CALLED FORTH.

AND RUBY JOHNSON'S
STORY CAME TO AN *END*.





THE FACE OF OUR FIGHT

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