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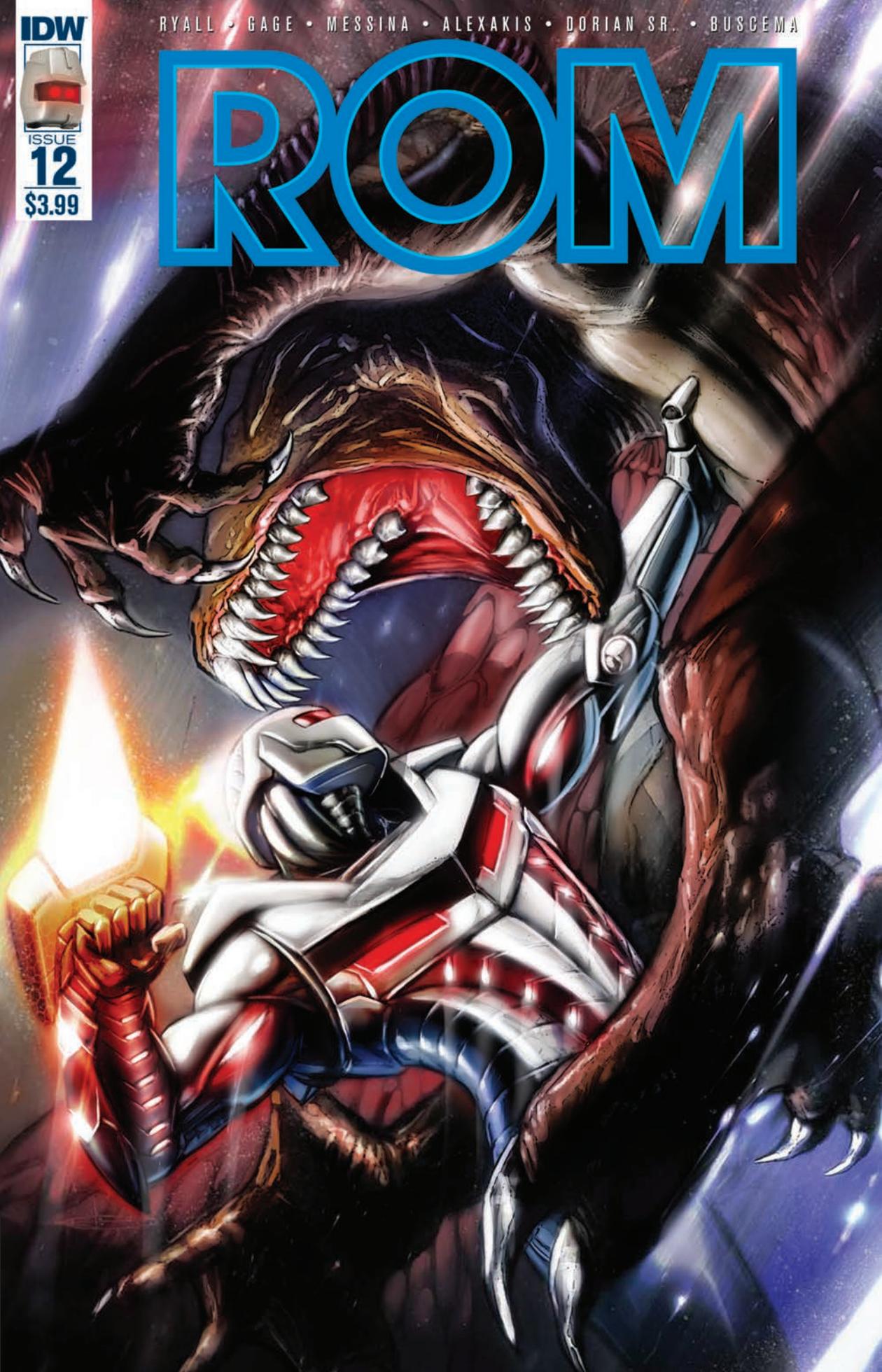
ISSUE

12

\$3.99

RYALL • GAGE • MESSINA • ALEXAKIS • DORIAN SR. • BUSCEMA

# ROM



Far, far away, in another galaxy, the knights of the Solstar Order, defenders of justice and truth, have been ambushed by the evil magicians, the Dire Wraiths. The Solstar Order has prevailed and is now seeking out their scattered enemies.

One of these knights has followed the trail of the Dire Wraiths all the way to Earth. This one, the Dire Wraiths fear more than all others. This one has hounded them and kept them underground for centuries. This one alone could wipe them off the face of creation.

*He is ROM,  
Lord of the Solstar Order.  
Rom, the Wraithslayer.*

# ROM

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“LONG ROADS TO RUIN,” PART 2

Art by **David Messina**

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Inks by **Michele Pasta**

Colors by **Alessandra Alexakis**

Editorial Assist by **David Mariotte**

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“TALES OF THE SOLSTAR ORDER:  
BATTLE SCARS, PART 2”

Pencils by **Guy Dorian, Sr.**

Inks by **Sal Buscema**

Letters by **Shawn Lee**

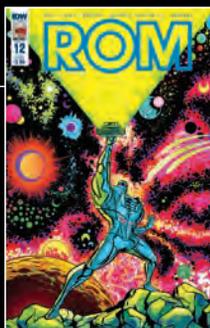
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Publisher **Ted Adams**



**REGULAR COVER**  
Art by Leonardo Manco



**SUBSCRIPTION COVER A**  
Art by Nathan Greno  
Colors by Len O'Grady



**SUBSCRIPTION COVER B**  
Art by David Lafuente  
Colors by Lovern Kindzierski



**SUBSCRIPTION COVER C**  
Art by Nick Roche  
Colors by Josh Burcham



**RETAILER INCENTIVE COVER**  
Art by Raffaele Ienco

Guy dedicates this issue to Herb Trimpe. You are always missed but never forgotten.

Special Thanks to Derryl Depriest, Mark Weber, Ed Lane, Beth Artale, and Michael Kelly

Guiding Lights: Bill-n-Sal

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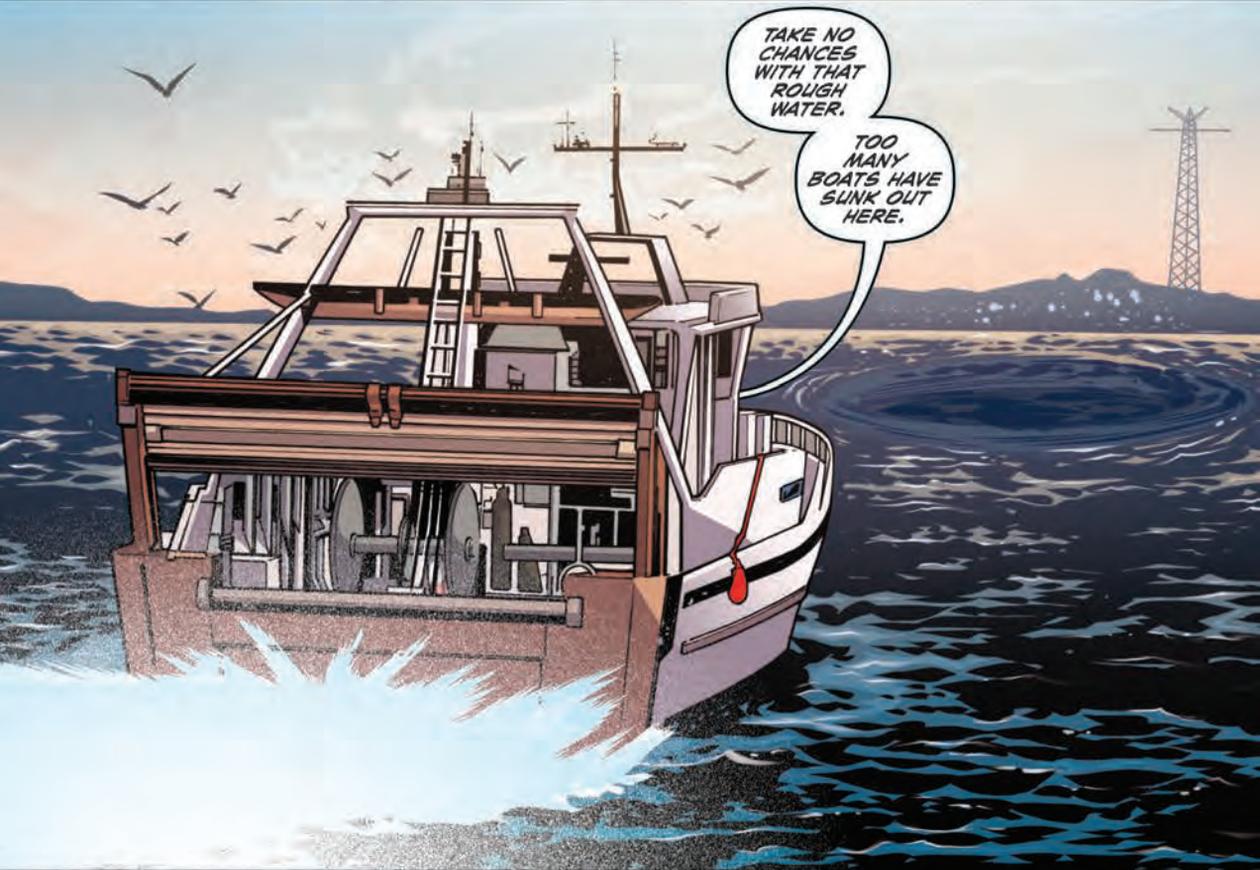


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GO HARD TO PORT!

ITALY. THE STRAIT OF MESSINA BETWEEN THE TYRRHENIAN AND IONIAN SEA.



TAKE NO CHANCES WITH THAT ROUGH WATER.

TOO MANY BOATS HAVE SUNK OUT HERE.



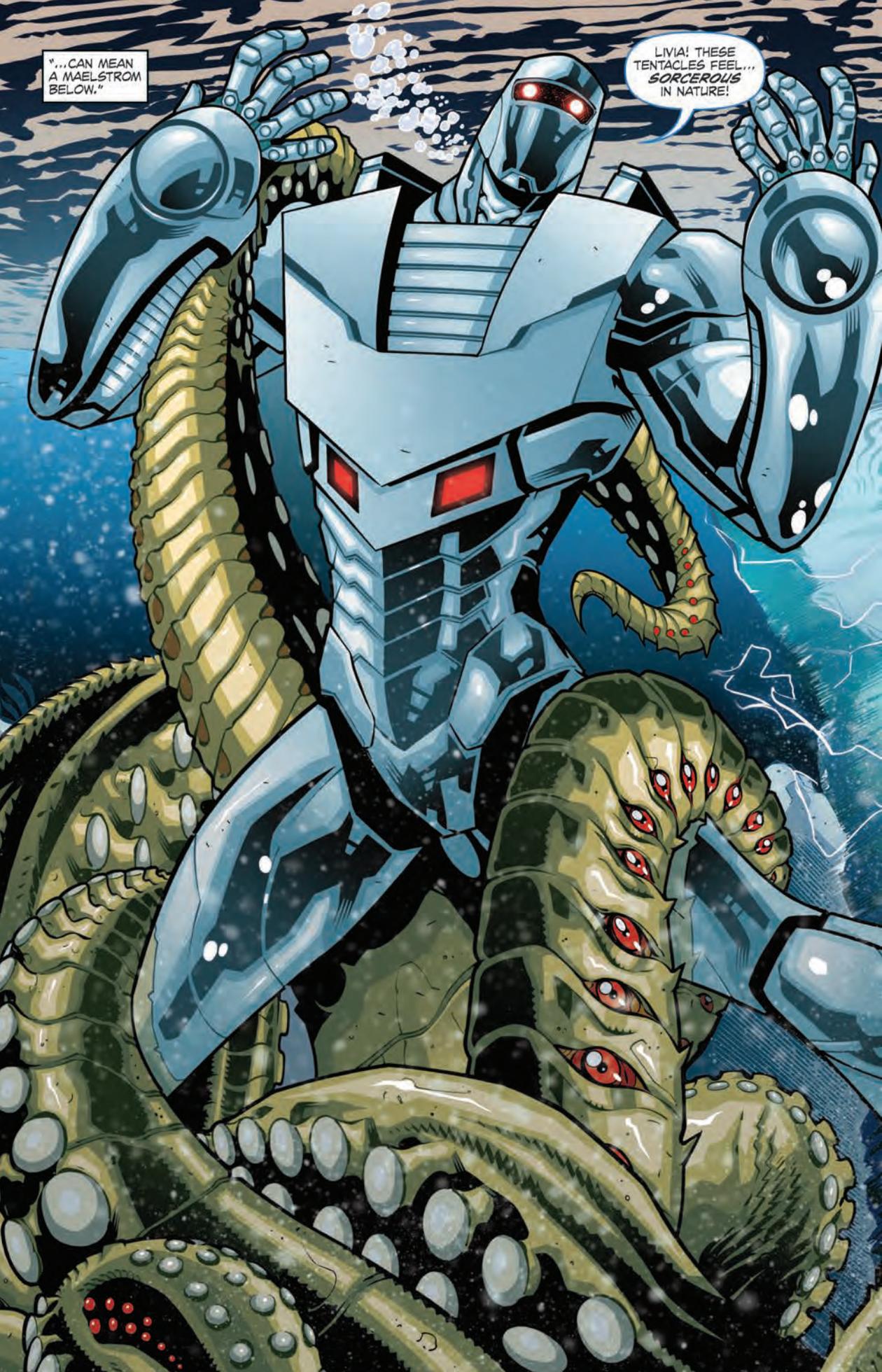
YOU HEARD MY FATHER! MOVE WHERE IT'S CALMER!

I KNOW YOU THINK ME AN OLD FOOL.

BUT ALWAYS REMEMBER, DAVIDE, A RIPPLE ON THE SURFACE...

"...CAN MEAN  
A MAELSTROM  
BELOW."

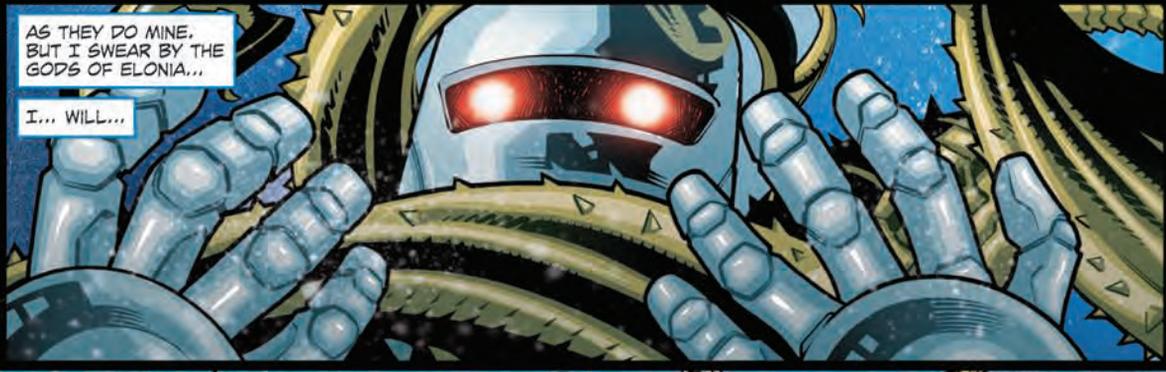
LIVIA! THESE  
TENTACLES FEEL...  
*SORCEROUS*  
IN NATURE!





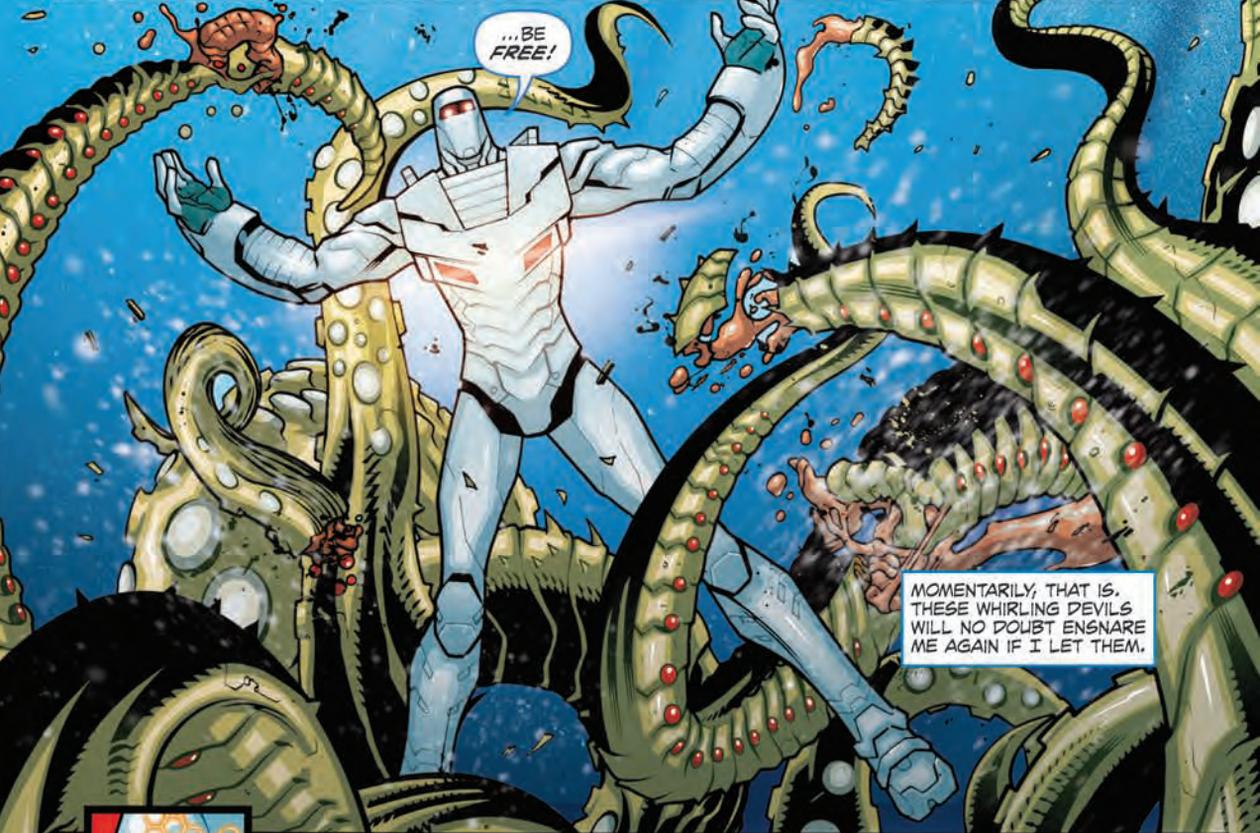
CALL IT WHAT IT IS, ROM—WRAITH MAGIC! THEY EVEN INFECT THE DEPTHS OF THIS PLANET.

AND WORSE, THEY SEEK TO DRAIN MY ARMOR'S ENERGY...



AS THEY DO MINE,  
BUT I SWEAR BY THE  
GODS OF ELONIA...

I... WILL...

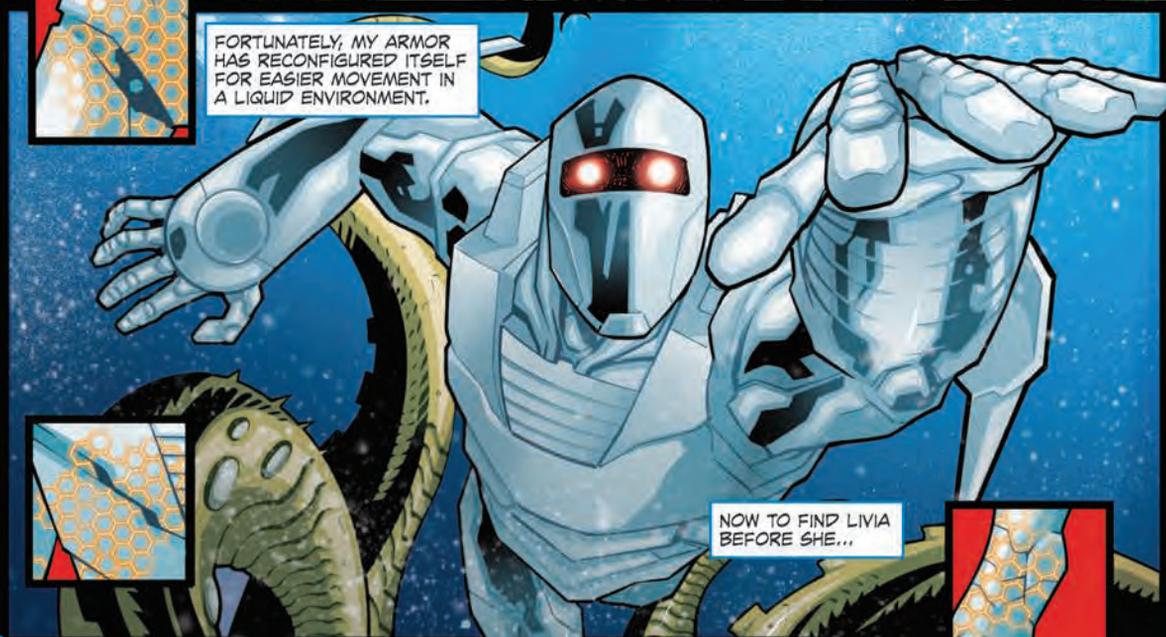


...BE  
FREE!

MOMENTARILY, THAT IS.  
THESE WHIRLING DEVILS  
WILL NO DOUBT ENSNARE  
ME AGAIN IF I LET THEM.



FORTUNATELY, MY ARMOR  
HAS RECONFIGURED ITSELF  
FOR EASIER MOVEMENT IN  
A LIQUID ENVIRONMENT.



NOW TO FIND LIVIA  
BEFORE SHE...



...AH. I SEE I  
WORRY NEEDLESSLY.

AWAY, YOU  
GRASPING  
MONSTROSITIES!

THERE EXISTS  
NO WRAITH-OR  
WRAITH-MADE  
CREATURE-THAT CAN  
WITHSTAND A TRUE  
KNIGHT OF THE  
SOLSTAR ORDER!

EASILY  
DEALT WITH.  
COME, ROM. LET  
US TAKE THE  
FIGHT TO THE  
SOURCE!

NOW THAT  
WE HAVE OUR  
BEARINGS, AND  
CAN PINPOINT  
THE SOURCE OF  
THESE FILTHY  
CREATURES...