

SECRET EMPIRE



MARVEL

#5



BRUKS

NICK SPENCER, ANDREA SORRENTINO, ROD REIS, JOSHUA CASSARA

WASHINGTON, D.C.

AND SO, AS YOU CAN SEE, WE ARE PREPARED TO OFFER VERY GENEROUS TERMS MOVING FORWARD--

--PROVIDED YOU PLEDGE YOUR LOYALTY TO ME WITHOUT QUESTION. WITH THAT UNDERSTOOD--

AH, EXCUSE ME, MA'AM--

I SEE-- MY APOLOGIES, GENTLEMEN...

"...THERE IS SOME URGENT STATE BUSINESS I MUST ATTEND TO."

SHE WAS APPREHENDED JUST A FEW MILES AWAY. GOT INTO A FIREFIGHT WITH SOME OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES TRYING TO STEAL A HYDRA TRANSPORT SHIP--

WONDERFUL. IMAGINE HOW PLEASED THE SUPREME LEADER WILL BE--

--TO SEE THE BLACK WIDOW IN CHAINS.



VIPER. IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME.

HM, INDEED IT HAS, NATASHA. BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN THE MEMORY FADES. MY JAW STILL CLICKS. SHOULD I EXPECT THE SAME DEFIANCE THIS TIME?

NO--

--I'LL TELL YOU WHATEVER YOU WANT TO KNOW.



THIS THE PLACE, VIV?

THESE ARE THE COORDINATES.

IT IS HEAVILY FORTIFIED--THIS WILL NOT BE EASY.

IT NEVER IS, NADIA. BUT REMEMBER, EVERYBODY--



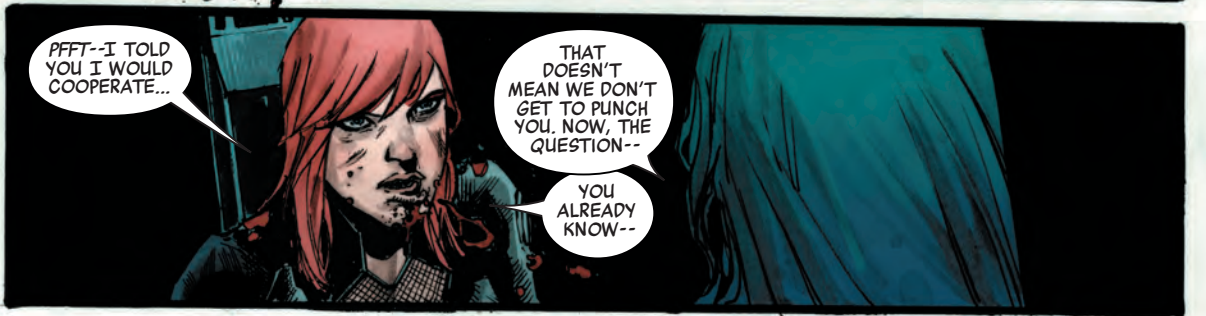
--THIS IS A RESCUE MISSION, NOT AN ATTACK. IN AND OUT. QUIETLY.

YEAH. DON'T FORGET TO MUTE YOUR PHONE, SPIDEY.

ONE TIME. THAT WAS ONE TIME.



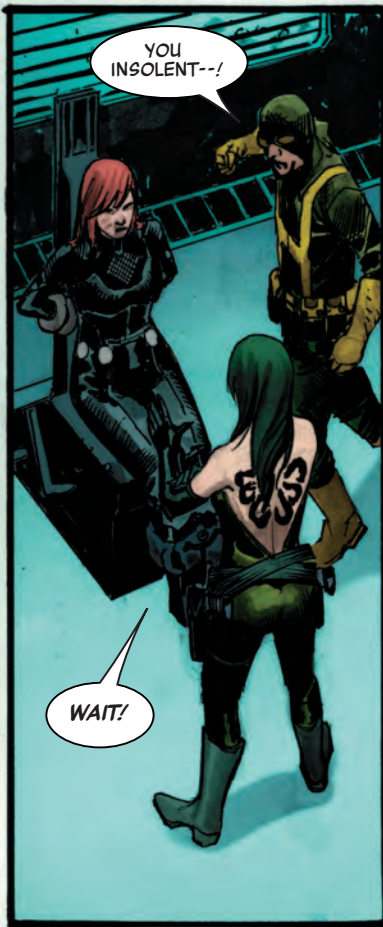
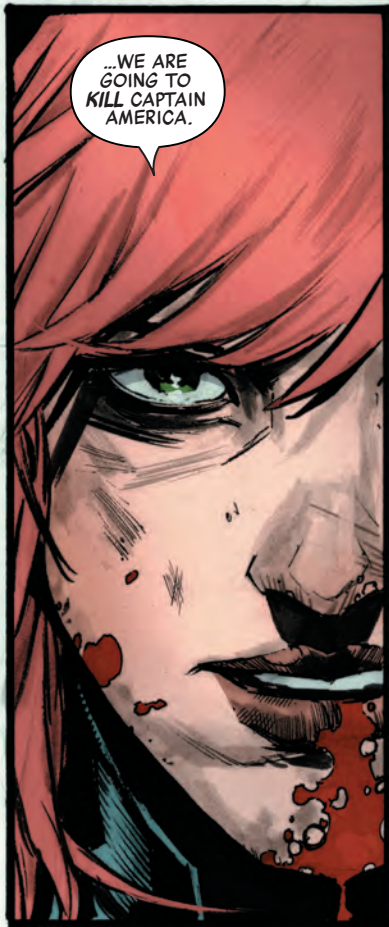
WHAT WERE YOU DOING WHEN WE CAUGHT YOU?!



PPFFT--I TOLD YOU I WOULD COOPERATE...

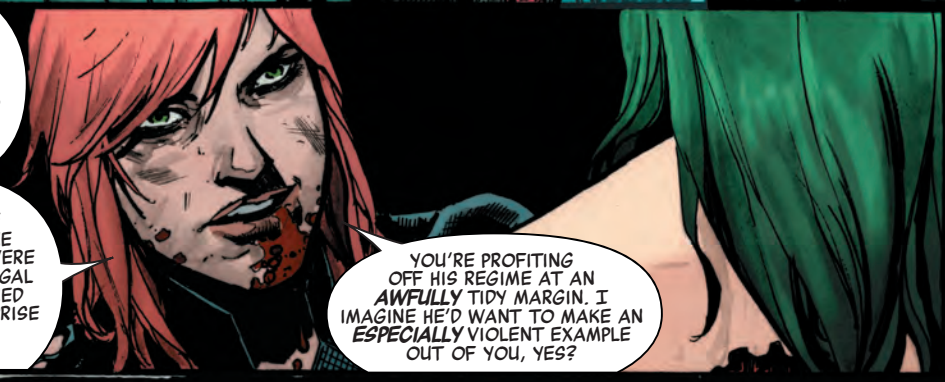
THAT DOESN'T MEAN WE DON'T GET TO PUNCH YOU. NOW, THE QUESTION--

YOU ALREADY KNOW--






"--WHAT I AM DOING
HERE SHOULD NOT
BE YOUR CONCERN."



IT'S WHAT *YOU*
ARE DOING HERE
THAT I'D WORRY
ABOUT, IF I WERE
YOU. WITH THE OLD
MEN IN SUITS AND
THEIR BRIEFCASES
OF MONEY.

WHAT WOULD
YOUR SUPREME
LEADER SAY IF HE
FOUND OUT YOU WERE
RUNNING THIS ILLEGAL
AND UNSANCTIONED
NARCOTICS ENTERPRISE
RIGHT UNDER
HIS NOSE?

YOU'RE PROFITING
OFF HIS REGIME AT AN
AWFULLY TIDY MARGIN. I
IMAGINE HE'D WANT TO MAKE AN
ESPECIALLY VIOLENT EXAMPLE
OUT OF YOU, YES?



I'VE
TAKEN CERTAIN
PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES,
WAYS TO ENSURE HE'LL
BE BROUGHT UP TO SPEED
IF SOMETHING HAPPENS TO
ME. OR, ALTERNATIVELY--



--YOU COULD **HELP** US. NOT ONLY WOULD YOU
BE SPARED STEVE ROGERS' WRATH, BUT
IF WE WERE TO SUCCEED...

...WELL, *SOMEONE*
WOULD HAVE TO
LEAD THIS REMARKABLY
RESURGENT HYDRA IN
THE EVENT OF HIS DEATH.
WHO BETTER THAN THE
TRUE MADAME HYDRA?

WHAT
DO YOU SAY,
OPHELIA?



ONE
MOMENT--



"--WHAT DO YOU NEED
ME FROM ME, THEN?"



JUST SENT YOU THE ACCESS CODE AND HAND SCAN, IRONHEART--

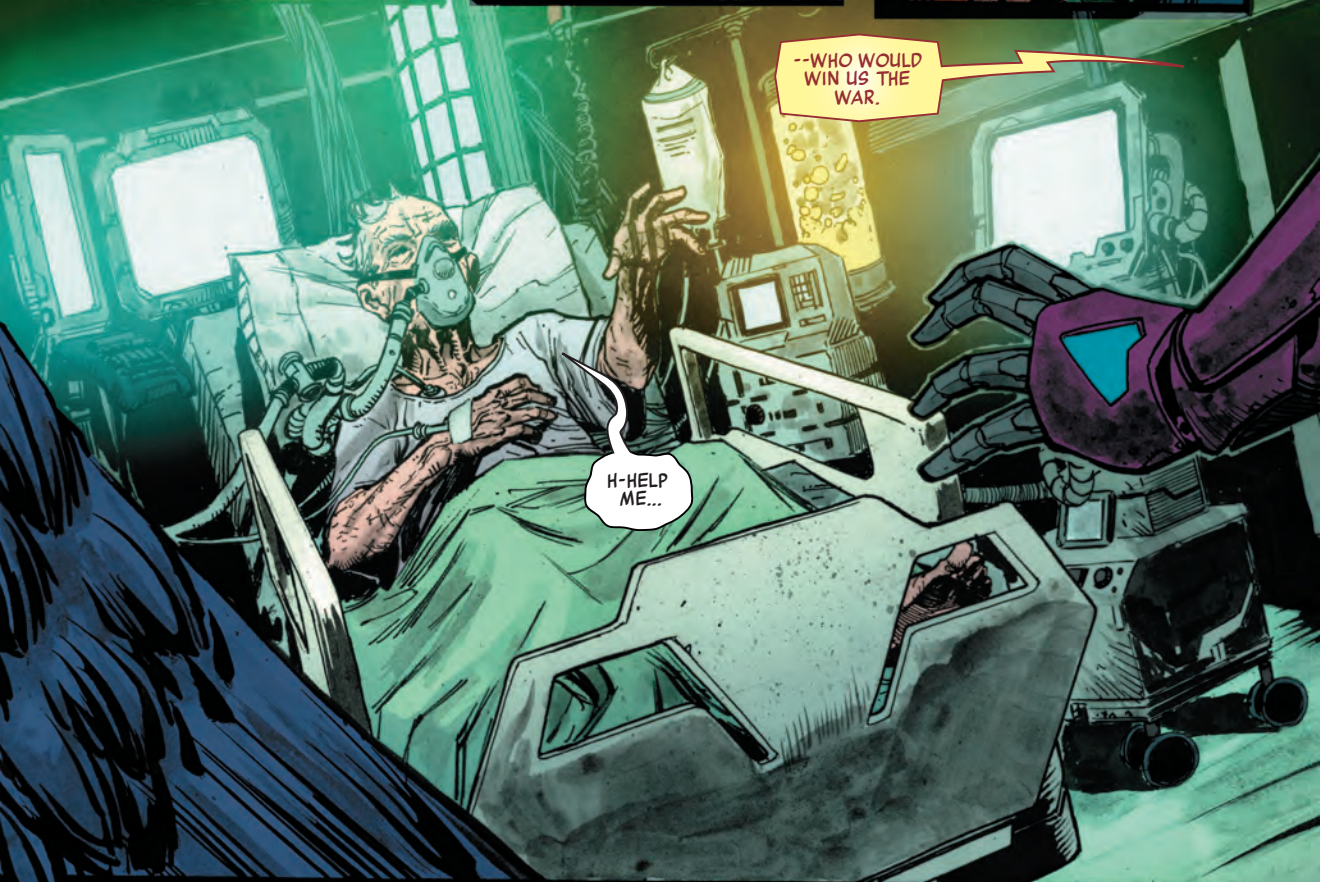
WAY AHEAD OF YOU NAT.



SHE TELL YOU WHO THIS DUDE IS?



NOPE, JUST SAID HE WAS IMPORTANT. THAT HE'D BE THE ONE--



--WHO WOULD WIN US THE WAR.

H-HELP ME...



UH, NAT-- I THINK WE GOT THE WRONG ROOM OR SOMETHING-- THIS AIN'T OUR GUY...

OH, IT'S HIM, FALCON. TRUST ME.

NOW-- ABOUT THAT TRANSPORT SHIP...




SECRET EMPIRE

STEVE ROGERS, A.K.A. CAPTAIN AMERICA, HAS CLAIMED THE UNITED STATES FOR HYDRA. THE HANDFUL OF HEROES WHO ESCAPED HIS INITIAL ATTACK DISCOVERED THAT A COSMIC CUBE WAS BEHIND ROGERS' SINISTER CHANGE OF HEART, AND MIGHT BE ABLE TO CHANGE HIM BACK--IF THE SCATTERED PIECES CAN BE REUNITED.

TONY STARK'S TEAM HAS NOW ACQUIRED TWO CUBE SHARDS USING A DETECTION DEVICE STARK INVENTED, BUT CAPTAIN AMERICA IS HOT ON THEIR TRAIL--AND INTENDS TO USE THE RESTORED CUBE TO REWRITE THE WORLD IN HYDRA'S IMAGE.

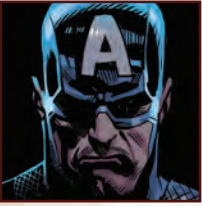
MEANWHILE, EMMA FROST IS USING HER OWN CUBE SHARD TO RULE THE MUTANT HOMETLAND OF NEW TIAN FROM THE SHADOWS--AND BLACK WIDOW AND HER TEAM OF YOUNG HEROES ARE CLOSING IN ON STEVE ROGERS.

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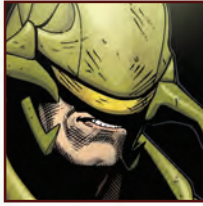
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HYDRA

HYDRA COMMAND



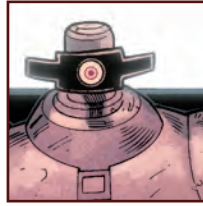
CAPTAIN AMERICA



KRAKEN



MADAME HYDRA



ARNIM ZOLA



VIPER



GORGON



HIVE



SCARLET WITCH



ODINSON



VISION

AVENGERS

THE UNDERGROUND



TONY STARK (A.I.)



ANT-MAN



HERCULES



QUICKSILVER



MOCKINGBIRD



SAM WILSON



RAYSHAUN LUCAS



GIANT-MAN



HAWKEYE

THE RED ROOM

WAKANDA



BLACK WIDOW



WASP



SPIDER-MAN



BLACK PANTHER



NEW TIAN



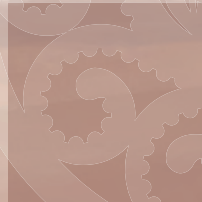
VIV VISION



IRONHEART



FALCON



BEAST