

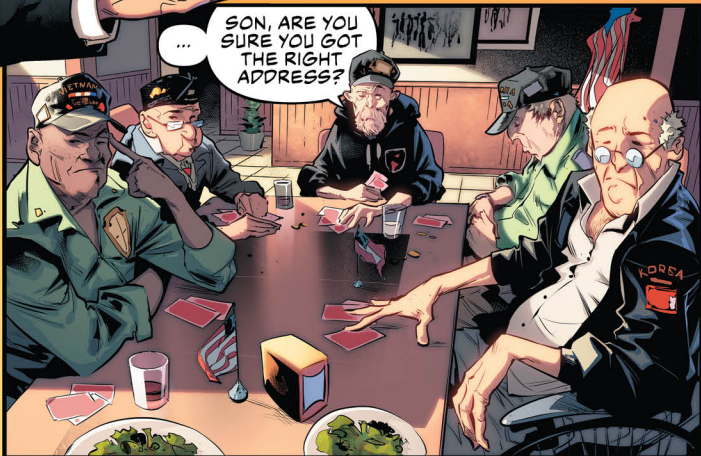
LEX LUTHOR WAS NOT A MAN TO PUT MUCH STOCK IN THE TRUTH. IT HAD NEVER GOTTEN HIM VERY FAR, WAS HOW HE SAW IT. BUT THREE MONTHS AGO IN A TOWN HALL IN KANSAS, ALL OF THAT CHANGED...

I'M IN AWE. TRUE AWE.

JUST... THANK YOU ALL SO MUCH FOR INVITING ME HERE! I'VE BEEN TO LOTS OF PLACES AROUND THE WORLD--HELL, AROUND THE UNIVERSE! BUT OF ALL THOSE, THIS PLACE...

...THIS... MIGHT BE MY FAVORITE. IN FACT... IT'S THE ONE I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR MY WHOLE LIFE.

SON, ARE YOU SURE YOU GOT THE RIGHT ADDRESS?



KANSAS WEST LEG--

KANSAS WEST LEGIONNAIRE'S CLUB! CHAPTER 3675. OH, I'M SURE...

...SEE, MY FATHER, LIONEL, THIS CLUB WAS HIS FAVORITE PASTIME, BESIDES DRINKING I MEAN.

AS A CHILD I ALWAYS YEARNED TO COME HERE AND FIND OUT WHAT, EXACTLY, HE WAS PASSING US UP FOR...

SO WHEN THE INVITATION TO YOUR REUNION WAS REROUTED TO ME, GIVEN THAT MY FATHER IS LONG DEAD, I TOOK IT UPON MYSELF TO COME AND HONOR HIM...

...BY BUYING THE BUILDING!

BUYING THE BUILDING? BUT--

AND LOADING IT WITH EXPLOSIVES.



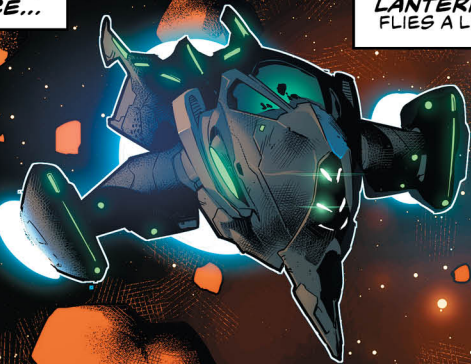
AND SO IN THAT HUMBLE TOWN HALL BEGAN LEX LUTHOR'S NEW PASSION FOR THE EXPLOSIVE POWER OF TRUTH...

BOOM



...A PASSION THAT WOULD TAKE HIM FROM KANSAS TO THE VERY CORNERS OF DEEP SPACE...

...WHERE, RIGHT NOW, AT ONE SUCH CORNER, GREEN LANTERN JOHN STEWART FLIES A LONELY MISSION...



GUARDIANS, COME IN. I HAVE GREELOK. HE WAS TRYING TO BREACH THE STARFIELD LIKE THE OTHERS.

GOOD WORK, JOHN STEWART OF EARTH. WE WILL READY HIS CELL AND ALERT YOU WHEN YOU MAY TELEPORT HIM TO US.



BUT IF I MAY, THE COSMIC MEMBRANE... THE READINGS I'M GETTING...

THE MEMBRANE IS GETTING WEAKER, ISN'T IT, JOHNNY?

YOU AND YOUR FRIENDS... WHEN YOU BROKE THE SOURCE WALL, FORCES WERE UNLEASHED. ANCIENT, DARK FORCES...

THE ONLY DARK FORCE AROUND HERE IS THAT BREATH, GREELOK. DON'T MAKE ME MUZZLE YOU.



OKAY THEN. PRETEND YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT, ALONE WITH YOUR LITTLE FLOWER.

IT'S A BLUE MOEBIUS, ISN'T IT? FROM XANSHI. SUPPOSED TO TAKE AWAY ANY BAD THOUGHTS...

...WHAT THOUGHTS ARE YOU TRYING TO KEEP AT BAY OUT HERE, JOHNNY?

GUARDIANS, TELL ME I CAN POSTMARK THIS PACKAGE AND SEND IT YOUR WAY?

THE CELL IS NEARLY PREPARED. BE PATIENT, JOHN STEWART.



WE'LL COME FOR WHAT'S ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THIS STARFIELD, JOHNNY BOY! WE KNOW WHAT'S HERE! YOU CAN'T HIDE IT FOREVER! AND THEN WHAT?!

YOU THINK YOUR LITTLE PLANT WILL SAVE YOU?! HAHA! YOU THINK IT'LL FIGHT FOR YOU? GROW A BIG RIGHT HOOK AND--

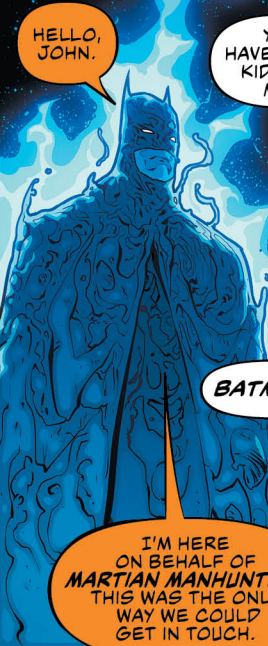




IT IS A FACT THAT MOST PLANTS ACTUALLY PREFER THEIR LEFT HOOK.

SWAMP THING?
WHAT ARE YOU--

I AM ONLY HERE...TO BRING A MESSAGE.

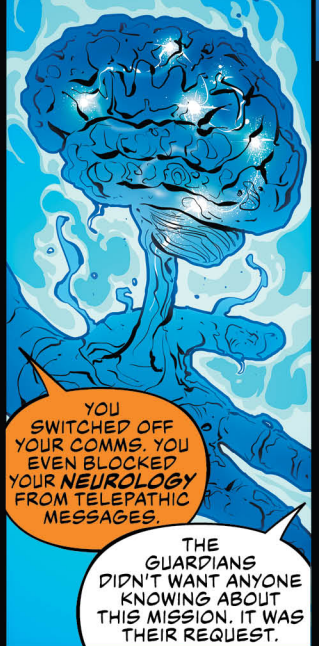


HELLO, JOHN.

YOU HAVE TO BE KIDDING ME.

BATMAN?

I'M HERE ON BEHALF OF **MARTIAN MANHUNTER**. THIS WAS THE ONLY WAY WE COULD GET IN TOUCH.



YOU SWITCHED OFF YOUR COMMS. YOU EVEN BLOCKED YOUR **NEUROLOGY** FROM TELEPATHIC MESSAGES.

THE GUARDIANS DIDN'T WANT ANYONE KNOWING ABOUT THIS MISSION. IT WAS THEIR REQUEST.



I HAVE A **BIGGER REQUEST**. JOIN US ON THE **JUSTICE LEAGUE**. TODAY. NOW.

SLOW DOWN. WHAT'S GOING ON?

AS YOU KNOW, A WEEK AGO, AN ENERGY SOURCE CONTAINING ALL THE POWER OF THE SOURCE WALL LANDED IN THE NEVADA DESERT.

WE'RE CALLING IT THE **TOTALITY**.

IT CREATED A **PROTECTIVE SHELL AROUND ITSELF...** SHAPED ALMOST LIKE A... HEAD. DEEP IN THIS SHELL LIES THE TOTALITY ITSELF. IT'S BEEN SENDING OUT A CODE.

AS THE LANTERNS LEARNED, THE MULTIVERSE IS DYING AND WE THINK THIS MIGHT BE THE KEY TO **FIXING** IT. BUT WE NEED YOUR HELP.

WHY **MY** HELP? HAL COULD--

HAL IS DEALING WITH THE WALL. BUT EVEN IF HE WEREN'T, YOU'VE LED THE CORPS FOR YEARS.

IF ANYONE KNOWS WHAT WE'RE UP AGAINST HERE, IT'S **YOU**.

YOU'RE SAYING YOU WANT ME TO JOIN THE TEAM BECAUSE YOU THINK I KNOW SOMETHING.

I'M SAYING I **KNOW** YOU KNOW SOMETHING... BUT THAT'S NOT WHY WE WANT YOU ON THE TEAM.

BATMAN, I'M SORRY, I HAVE A JOB OUT HERE. I NEED TO--

WE'RE RUNNING OUT OF TIME, JOHN. THE **JUSTICE LEAGUE DARK** HAS HIDDEN THE TOTALITY FROM PUBLIC DETECTION, BEHIND A **MYSTIC VEIL**, BUT WORD IS GETTING OUT.

THE OTHER DAY, **KILLER CROC** OF THE **SUICIDE SQUAD**-- **WAYLON JONES**--

--WENT INTO ITS ENERGY SHELL.

MINUTES AGO, HE RE-MATERIALIZED NEAR BELLE REVE PRISON, BUT HE'D BEEN CHANGED...

ROAR!!

HE'D BEEN **UNHUMAN**... **TRANSFORMED**...

WAYLON HAD BECOME SOMETHING--

BATMAN, LOOK OUT!

SKULLGORN

AAAAH! WHERE THE HELL ARE YOU CALLING FROM? AND WHAT'S THAT **NOISE** IN THE BACKGROUND?!

THAT...