




VALIANT

They are psiots - people born with the potential for incredible abilities of the mind. They were captured and trained by sinister corporate forces to become killing machines. They became one of the youngest strike forces on the planet. They broke free of their masters and, inspired by the heroism of their fellow psiots, struck out on their own to make the world a better place. They will help you - if your cause is just. They are....

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The story so far...



Keisha Thomas, a high school student in Rook, Michigan - a bankrupt midwest city that was saved by innovative tech and corporate interests - just had her first encounter with Generation Zero. They've come to help her investigate the death of her boyfriend, Stephen. During the investigation, they came to Keisha's aid when she was attacked in the woods by mysterious creatures known as Cornermen. Before the Zeroes and Keisha could plan their next move in the investigation, Keisha's father - the town sherriff - arrives to take her home and warn the Zeroes to watch themselves in Rook.

Gen Zero sends the Zygus twins, James and Katy, to go undercover into Keisha's school. They confront Adele Poole, leader of the Keys Club - the most popular club in school - and suspect that, since her father is the town emergency manager, she may know more about Rook's evil underbelly than she lets on.



Much to Keisha's dismay, the Zeroes kidnapped Adele to interrogate her. But their means of interrogation are... unconventional.



Adele IN: THESE KIDS TODAY!



KEYS CLUB BAKE SALE! RAISING MONEY FOR THE SURVIVORS OF MEXICO CITY!

C'MON, ROCK HIGH! HAVE A HEART...
...AND A BROWNIE!

BAKE SALE!

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COULD SOMEONE TELL ME HOW THE TEENAGE BRAIN IS FUNDAMENTALLY DIFFERENT THAN EITHER THE CHILD'S OR THE ADULT BRAIN...?

OOH! OOH! ME! ME!

SIGH!
SOMEONE OTHER THAN MS. POOLE, PLEASE?

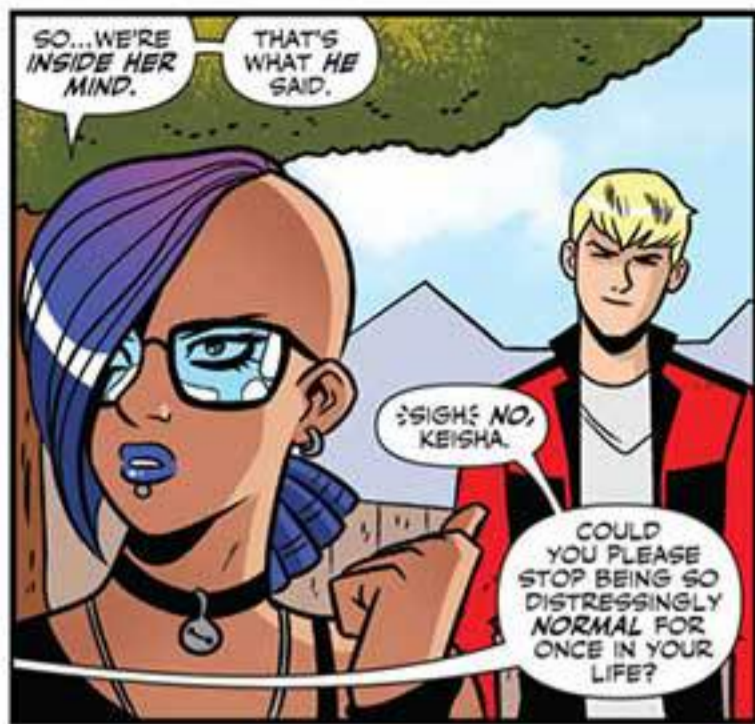


GIMME AN R!
GIMME AN O!
GIMME ANOTHER O--

PANT PANT!
GIMME A BREAK!









WAIT...AND NONE OF YOU HAVE AN ETHICAL ISSUE WITH THIS?

DEFINE ETHICS?

OKAY, ANIMALIA, WE NEED YOU TO *RECON* THIS HEROSCAPE AS QUICKLY AS YOU CAN.

SIR YES, SIR!



SINCE *EVERYTHING* AROUND US LOOKS LIKE BABY STUFF, I DON'T MIND TURNING INTO BABY STUFF FOR ONCE!

WHATEVER GETS YOU TO FOLLOW ORDERS, I'M ALL FOR.



WHAT IS THE ETHICAL ISSUE, EXACTLY?

SHE COULD HAVE INFORMATION VITAL TO OUR INVESTIGATION INTO *YOUR* BOYFRIEND'S DEATH, AND WE ARE EXTRACTING THAT INFORMATION WITHOUT HARMING HER PHYSICALLY.



BUT BY SCOOPING IT OUT OF HER MOST PRIVATE SPACES-- INVOLUNTARILY!

SHE'S THE *ENEMY*, KEISHA. A PRISONER OF WAR--

WHAT WAR? WHOSE WAR? SHE'S NOT "THE ENEMY," SHE'S A HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR--

THAT DOESN'T MAKE HER INNOCENT.



THAT DOESN'T MEAN WE NEED TO TREAT HER LIKE *BIN LADEN*, EITHER!

NOT EVERYTHING REQUIRES A MILITARY SOLUTION!

AGREE TO DISAGREE. IF WE HAD MORE MILITARY SOLUTIONS, THE WORLD WOULD BE A MORE PEACEFUL PLACE.

THAT... MAKES NO SENSE, YOU REALIZE?



WHY DON'T WE SEE WHAT ELSE ADELE'S HEROSCAPE HAS TO OFFER BEFORE YOU JUMP TO ANY CONCLUSIONS?

HEY! THE WIENER QUEEN! THAT'S WHERE I WORK, TOO!

I REMEMBER THIS DAY!