

M-HURTS... PROFESSOR...

...HEAD... FEELS T-TOO FULL...

...WE C-CAN'T... KEEP IT INSIDE...

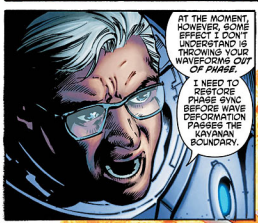
WHAT YOU AND JASON ARE EXPERIENCING--

I THINK IT'S A FEEDBACK EFFECT, RONALD.

YOU EACH PRODUCE A QUANTUM WAVE, DUE TO YOUR EXPOSURE TO THE FIRESTORM MATRIX.



NORMALLY THOSE WAVES ARE IN SYNC, LETTING YOU SHARE THE MATRIX--WITH RONALD IN PHYSICAL CONTROL.



AT THE MOMENT, HOWEVER, SOME EFFECT I DON'T UNDERSTAND IS THROWING YOUR WAVEFORMS OUT OF PHASE.

I NEED TO RESTORE PHASE SYNC BEFORE WAVE DEFORMATION PASSES THE KAYANAN BOUNDARY.

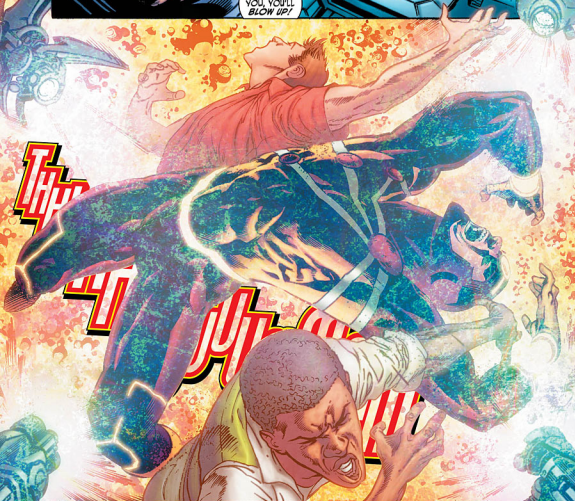


ENGLISH, PROFESSOR!

ENGLISH, PROFESSOR!



IF I CAN'T SPLIT YOU, YOU'LL BLOW UP!



"SPLIT," OF COURSE, IS AN IMPRECISE TERM.

A MORE ACCURATE EXPLANATION WOULD BE COLLAPSING THE PROBABILITY VECTOR OF THE POTENTIAL WAVE-FORM INTO DISCRETE NON-QUANTUM COMPONENTS.

BUT FOR PRACTICAL PURPOSES, "SPLIT" WILL SERVE.

OWWWW.

OOOFF.



RONNIE?
PROFESSOR
STEIN?

WHAT'S
GOING
ON?
WHERE
DID--?

HOW DID
WE GET TO THE
PROFESSOR'S
LAB?
YOU DON'T
REMEMBER?

WHAT'S
THE LAST THING
YOU DO RECALL,
SON?

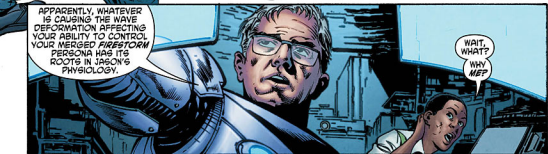


WAITING IN
MRS. RAYMOND'S
OFFICE TO MEET
THE GLO-TECH REP
ABOUT THE
INTERNSHIP--

FASCINATING.

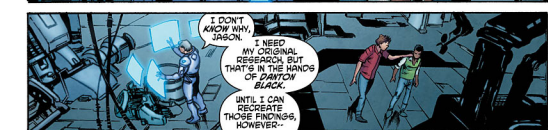
OH NO.
AGAIN?

LAST ISSUE
--JESSICA



APPARENTLY, WHATEVER
IS CAUSING THE WAVE
DEFORMATION AFFECTING
YOUR ABILITY TO CONTROL
YOUR MERGED FIRESTORM
PERSONA HAS ITS
ROOTS IN JASON'S
PHYSIOLOGY.

WAIT,
WHAT?
WHY
ME?



I DON'T
KNOW WHY,
JASON.

I NEED
MY ORIGINAL
RESEARCH, BUT
THAT'S IN THE HANDS
OF DANTON
BLACK.

UNTIL I CAN
RECREATE
THOSE FINDINGS,
HOWEVER--



--YOU DON'T
DARE FUGE INTO
FIRESTORM.

DOING
SO COULD PROVE
CATASTROPHIC.

NOT JUST
FOR YOURSELVES,
BUT EVERYONE
YOU KNOW.

ALASKA, 7:02 P.M.



SORRY, PAL.
SITE SECURITY RULES,
NO DELIVERIES
AFTER 6 P.M.

COME BACK
TOMORROW.

WE'RE
AFRAID
THERE'S BEEN A
MISUNDER-
STANDING,
CORPORAL.



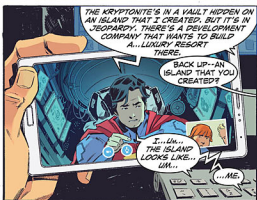
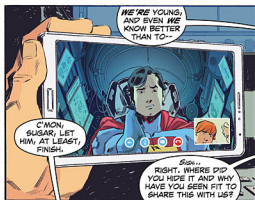
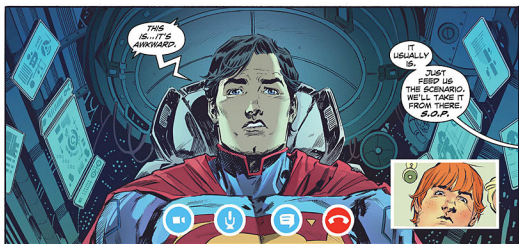
OUR
NAME IS
DANTON
BLACK.

BE SURE
YOU GET THAT
RIGHT IN YOUR
REPORT.

AND WE'RE
NOT HERE
TO MAKE A
DELIVERY.



THIS IS MORE
IN THE NATURE
OF WHAT YOU'D
CALL A PICK-
UP.



MUST YOU KEEP STARING AT THAT?

IT'S FASCINATING.

IT'S NOT FASCINATING, IT'S STUPID.

OR IT WOULD BE, IF IT WAS ANYONE ELSE BUT SUPERMAN.

WHAT? HE'S SUPERMAN SO HE GETS A PASS?

WELL... YEAH.

Sigh...

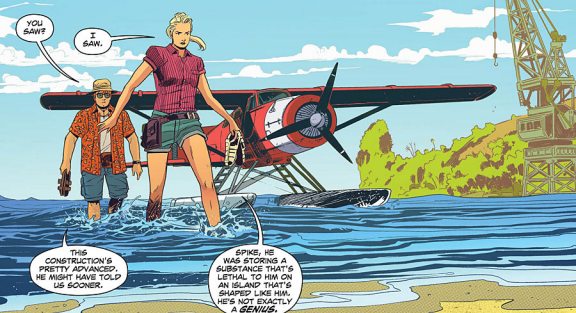
The problem with having a past is that it eventually catches up with you. Especially if you're a superhero. And who do you call when a past indiscretion threatens to become a present day debacle? Who do you call when yesterday's questionable decision threatens to become today's humiliating headline?

SUGAR & SPIKE

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METAHUMANS A SPECIALTY
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THE ISLAND

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SUPERMAN created by JERRY SEIGEL and JOE SHUSTER.
By special arrangement with THE JERRY SEIGEL FAMILY.



YOU SAW?

I SAW.

THIS CONSTRUCTION'S PRETTY ADVANCED. HE MIGHT HAVE TOLD US SOONER.

SPIKE, HE WAS STORING A SUBSTANCE THAT'S LETHAL TO HIM ON AN ISLAND THAT'S SHAPED LIKE HIM. HE'S NOT EXACTLY A GENIUS.

C'MON. HE WAS OBVIOUSLY EMBARRASSED BY--

MARDI GRAS BAT-SUITS AND NOW THIS. NO WONDER THEY WEAR MASKS.

SUPERMAN DOESN'T WEAR A--

REALLY? YOU REALLY WANT TO GO THERE?



YOU'VE GOT YOUR NOSE OUT OF JOINT ALREADY? THAT'S GOT TO BE A WORLD RECORD.

GRAN... I HATE THE BEACH.

HATE THE BEACH? WHAT'S TO HATE?

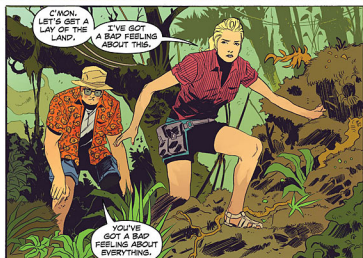
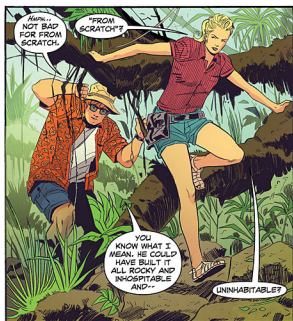


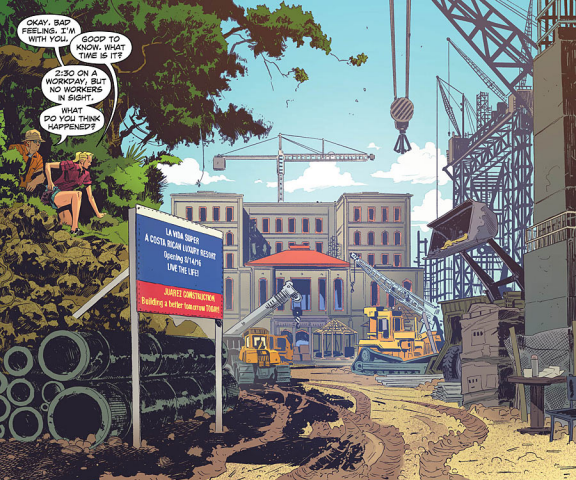
SAND IN PLACES IT'S NOT SUPPOSED TO BE, FRONTING THE WORLD'S LARGEST URINAL... WHAT'S TO LIKE?



MAN... NEVER THOUGHT ABOUT IT THAT WAY.

FIGURED AS MUCH.





OKAY. BAD FEELING. I'M WITH YOU.

GOOD TO KNOW. WHAT TIME IS IT?

2:30 ON A WORKDAY, BUT NO WORKERS IN SIGHT.

WHAT DO YOU THINK HAPPENED?

NOT OUR BUSINESS.

Hum?

NO PEOPLE, NO HASSLE. LET'S CHECK ON THE VAULT AND GET OUT OF HERE.

BUT...IF SOMETHING'S HAPPENED--

WHICH I'M CERTAIN IT HAS.

--THEN THEY MIGHT NEED HELP!