

--there's nobody I trust more.

I'M TELLING YOU, HARRY-- THAT SON OF A BITCH SET US UP!

PAUL, COME NOW...YOU REALLY THINK **CAPTAIN AMERICA--STEVE ROGERS, THE REAL CAPTAIN AMERICA--** IS OUT TO GET YOU?

OUT TO GET **US**. HOW ELSE DO YOU EXPLAIN IT?!

"HE NEEDED US--ME FOR MY AMERICOPS INITIATIVE, YOU FOR YOUR TV SHOW, TOM FOR HIS SENATE SEAT--"

"--AND **U.S. AGENT** TO DO HIS DIRTY WORK FOR HIM.

"BUT THEN THE PLAN CAME UP SHORT--AND EVER SINCE, IT SURE LOOKS LIKE HE'S TAKING CARE OF LOOSE ENDS. JOHN WALKER GOES MISSING IN ACTION A WEEK LATER--"

"--AND THEN TOM HERALD IS KILLED BY FLAG-SMASHER-- WITH ROGERS **RIGHT THERE IN THE DAMN ROOM!**"

HE'S NOT GONNA RISK ANYONE FINDING OUT **HE** WAS THE ONE TRYING TO TAKE SAM WILSON DOWN--SO HE'S GONNA BE COMING FOR **US** NEXT.

WELL, MR. KEANE--



--I WISH IT WAS THAT SIMPLE.

C-CAPTAIN AMERICA!



YOU SEE, THE TRUTH IS--I WANTED TO BELIEVE I MIGHT HAVE A GREATER USE FOR YOU.

THIS AMERICOPS PROGRAM YOU STARTED--IT IMPRESSED ME. BRINGING SOME LAW AND ORDER TO OUR STREETS, DOING WHAT WAS NECESSARY TO CLEAN UP THESE NEIGHBORHOODS.

AND I WAS INSPIRED THAT A MAN OF YOUR MANY BUSINESS ACHIEVEMENTS WOULD DEVOTE HIMSELF TO A CAUSE SO SELFLESS.



BUT THEN--IT WASN'T SELFLESS, WAS IT?

S-SORRY?

YOU'VE BUILT QUITE AN EMPIRE HERE, MR. KEANE, SO MANY CORPORATIONS AND ENDEAVORS WITH YOUR NAME ON THEM. BUT ONE REALLY STUCK OUT TO ME, ALTHOUGH I DON'T THINK YOU INTENDED FOR IT TO.



PARAGON PROPERTIES-- A REAL ESTATE HOLDING FIRM THAT YOU'RE LISTED AS THE PRESIDENT OF--HAS BEEN GRABBING UP VACANT PROPERTIES IN DISTRESSED AREAS AT A VERY FAST RATE--

--AREAS THAT SOON SEE THE AMERICOPS ON PATROL.



NOT A BAD PLAN, REALLY--BUY UP BUILDINGS, SEND IN THE AMERICOPS TO BRING UP THE VALLEYS, EVEN IF IT MEANS HARASSING THE PEOPLE WHO ALREADY LIVE THERE INTO LEAVING...

BEFORE YOU KNOW IT, YOU HAVE A GENTRIFIED DISTRICT AND A VERY TIDY PROFIT MARGIN.



UNFORTUNATELY, IT'S NOT HOW I LIKE TO DO BUSINESS.

BUT, CAPTAIN--WAIT--I CAN EXP--



--EXPL--
EHN--



I HAD MR. HALUSER HERE PUT A TOXIN IN YOUR DRINK WHILE YOU WERE IN THE BATHROOM.
IT WILL WORK **QUICKLY**, DON'T WORRY-- AND IT'LL LOOK LIKE A HEART ATTACK.



NO REASON TO SULLY YOUR GOOD NAME.



WOW, THAT WAS QUICK.

NOW, MR. HALUSER--I UNDERSTAND YOUR RATINGS HAVE RISEN CONSIDERABLY OVER THIS WHOLE DEBACLE. I ASSUME YOU'RE READY TO FULFILL THE DUTIES WE AGREED UPON?

WE'LL NEED YOU TO SPREAD OUR MESSAGE FAR AND WIDE.

OH, ABSOLUTELY--



HAIL HYDRA.