

BROTHERS...  
SISTERS...

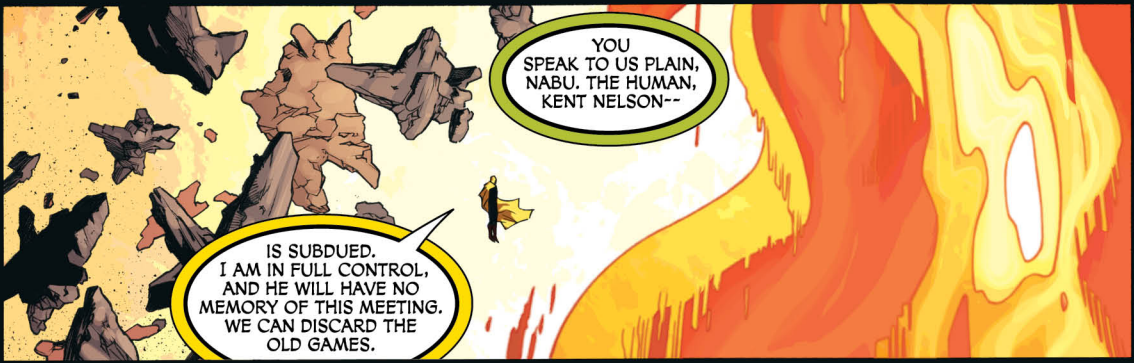
...MAGIC  
HAS RUN ITS  
COURSE.

IT IS  
**TIME** FOR US  
TO ACT.

# The LORDS of ORDER

CHAPTER  
**3**

**JAMES TYNION IV** WRITER • **ALVARO MARTÍNEZ BUENO** PENCILS  
**RAUL FERNANDEZ** INKS • **BRAD ANDERSON** COLORS • **ROB LEIGH** LETTERS  
**MARTÍNEZ BUENO, FERNANDEZ, ANDERSON** COVER  
**KELLEY JONES & MICHELLE MADSEN** VARIANT COVER  
**ANDREW MARINO** EDITOR • **MARIE JAVINS** GROUP EDITOR



YOU SPEAK TO US PLAIN, NABU. THE HUMAN, KENT NELSON--

IS SUBDUED. I AM IN FULL CONTROL, AND HE WILL HAVE NO MEMORY OF THIS MEETING. WE CAN DISCARD THE OLD GAMES.



GAMES...

DID HE SAY...

YOU Demean US, BROTHER NABU! THE LORDS OF ORDER HAVE REIGNED--



WHAT IS IT WE HAVE TOLD THE MORTALS OVER TIME?

WE ARE **GODS** OF ANOTHER WORLD? **ANGELS** OF JUSTICE? HAVE THE AGES ADDLED YOU SO THAT YOU BELIEVE THE PRETTY **BEDTIME STORY** OVER THE TRUTH?

WE **KNEW** THE POWER OF STORIES. WE **KNEW** WE COULD FORGE A FOOTHOLD IN THE SPHERE OF THE GODS WERE THAT BELIEF POWERFUL ENOUGH.

BUT WE ARE **NO** GODS.



NO. WE ARE **MEN**. WE ARE MEN WHO SAW A WORLD SUCCEMBING TO CHAOS, AND TOOK THE POWER TO MAKE IT RIGHT.

BUT IT DID NOT **WORK**. WE HAVE CHOSEN CHAMPIONS. WE HAVE BOUND MAGIC WITH LAWS AND IT HAS DONE **NOTHING** TO AVERT THIS...

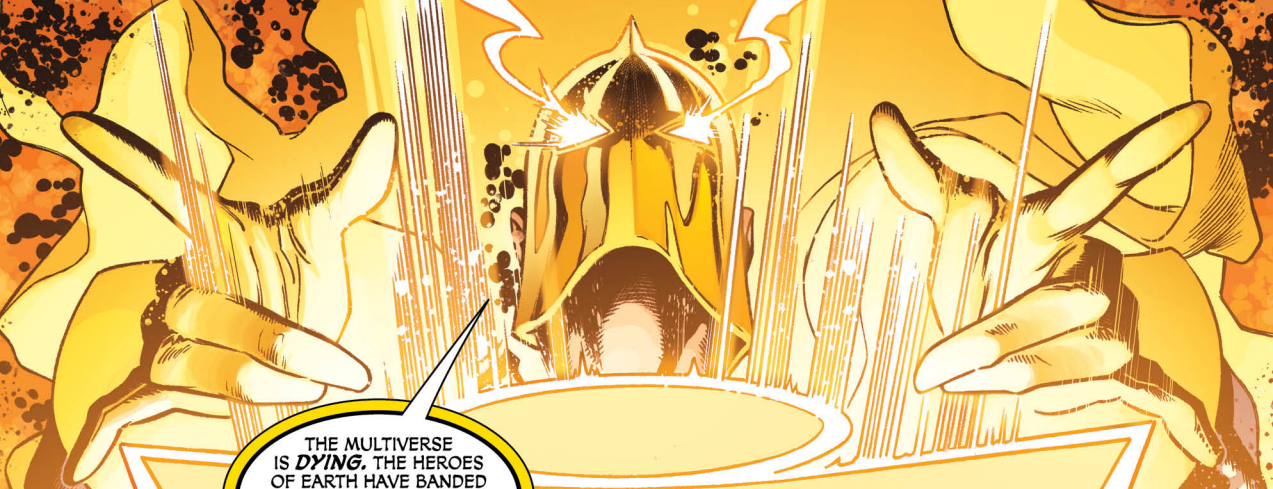


BROTHER...

BROTHER. WHAT HAVE YOU SEEN?



HORROR.



THE MULTIVERSE IS **DYING**. THE HEROES OF EARTH HAVE BANDED TOGETHER TO HEAD OFF THE **ORIGINAL CREATOR** AND THE **TOTALITY** OF HER POWER.

THE WALL SEPARATING US FROM THE SOURCE OF CREATION IS **BREAKING OPEN**.

**THE GREAT DARKNESS** AWAKENS IN THE SPHERE SURROUNDING THE DARK MULTIVERSE. THE EYES OF THE **OTHERKIND** HAVE TURNED UPON REALITY.

AND IN ALL OF THIS, THEY HAVE MISSED THE **THREAT** EMERGING FROM THE **DARK**.

THEY WANT THE POWER OF MAGIC THAT LIVES ON EARTH.

THE **TREE OF WONDER** HAS GROWN AT THE FOOT OF THE TOWER OF FATE. A **BEACON** OF MAGICAL POWER.

THEY **CRAVE** THE STABILITY OF BELIEF FROM BEINGS WHO DON'T **CRUMBLE** OUT OF EXISTENCE.

IF THEY SUCCEED, THEY WILL **TEAR DOWN** THE BARRIERS BETWEEN THE **DARK MULTIVERSE** AND OUR OWN.

THIS WILL SERVE AS THEIR BRIDGE. **AMPLIFYING** THEIR POWER. EVERY SPELL USED ON EARTH WILL DRAW THEM **CLOSER**.

THE FABRIC OF REALITY WILL **SHATTER** AND THE ROT WILL EAT THE COSMOS FROM WITHIN.

YOU SUGGEST WE RETURN TO EARTH. TO HELP YOU HOLD THE GATE SHUT...

NO.

NO. I HAVE...ANOTHER SUGGESTION.



FIRST, WE DRAW THE OTHERKIND INTO OUR WORLD. WE ALLOW THEM TO **DEVOUR** THE MOST POWERFUL **MAGICAL BEINGS** IN EXISTENCE.

AS THEY FEAST, I USE MY POWER TO RAISE THE **TOWERS OF ORDER** FOR THE FIRST TIME IN AN AEON.

YOU TAKE RESIDENCE IN YOUR OLD **AMULETS OF POWER**, AS I RESIDE IN THIS HELMET. WE THEN FIND YOU SUITABLE HOSTS.

AND AS THE OTHERKIND EAT THE MAGIC ON EARTH, WE **DESTROY** THE SPHERE OF THE GODS. THE SOURCE OF MAGIC'S **TRUE POWER**.

WITH MAGIC ON EARTH DESTROYED, THE OTHERKIND WILL BE STARVED OUT.

AND OUR FINAL ACT WILL BE TO USE OUR POWER TO **SEAL** THE GATE BETWEEN THE TWO MULTIVERSES.



YOU REALIZE WHAT THIS WILL MEAN. ALL BEINGS OF MAGIC WILL DIE.

WE WILL DIE.



A GREAT ACTION REQUIRES A GREAT SACRIFICE.

MAGIC WILL DIE, BUT THE MULTIVERSE WILL **LIVE**. THERE IS **ORDER** IN THAT.

MORE ORDER THAN THERE EVER HAS BEEN IN MAGIC...

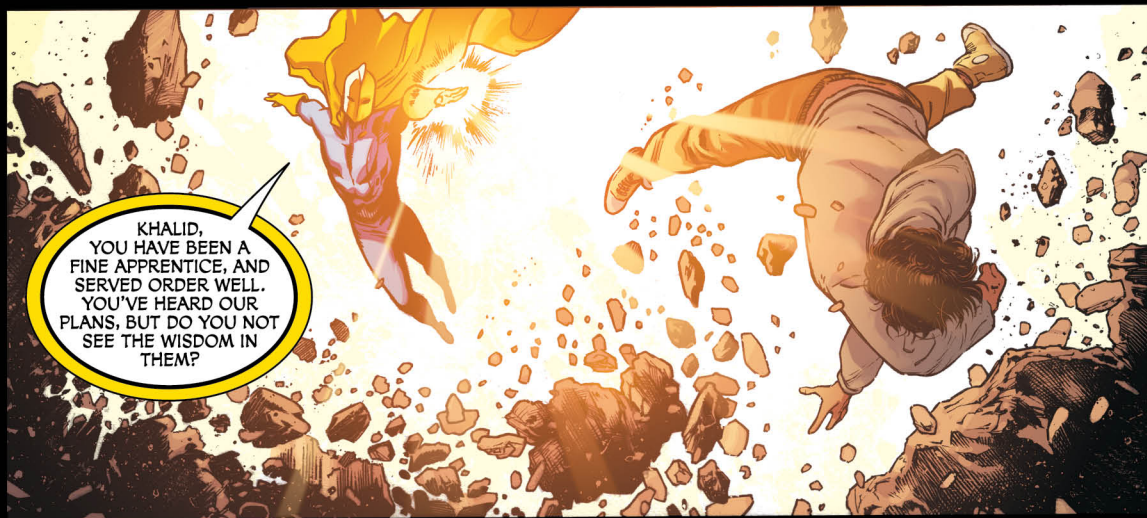


YOU...YOU CAN'T DO THIS...



YOU WERE FOLLOWED...

IT APPEARS SO.



KHALID,  
YOU HAVE BEEN A  
FINE APPRENTICE, AND  
SERVED ORDER WELL.  
YOU'VE HEARD OUR  
PLANS, BUT DO YOU NOT  
SEE THE WISDOM IN  
THEM?



WISDOM? ARE YOU  
KIDDING? YOU'D  
KILL ALL OF MAGIC  
BEFORE YOU'D GIVE  
IT A CHANCE TO  
FIGHT BACK...

LORDS OF ORDER,  
I BESECH YOU...  
MAGIC IS POSSIBILITY.  
IT IS BELIEF! WE HAVE  
TO FIGHT BACK.

WE HAVE  
TO BELIEVE WE  
CAN WIN!



POSSIBILITY...  
BEGETS  
CHAOS.

NABU.  
YOU KNOW  
WHAT MUST  
BE DONE.

AGREED.



HOW  
DISAPPOINTING.