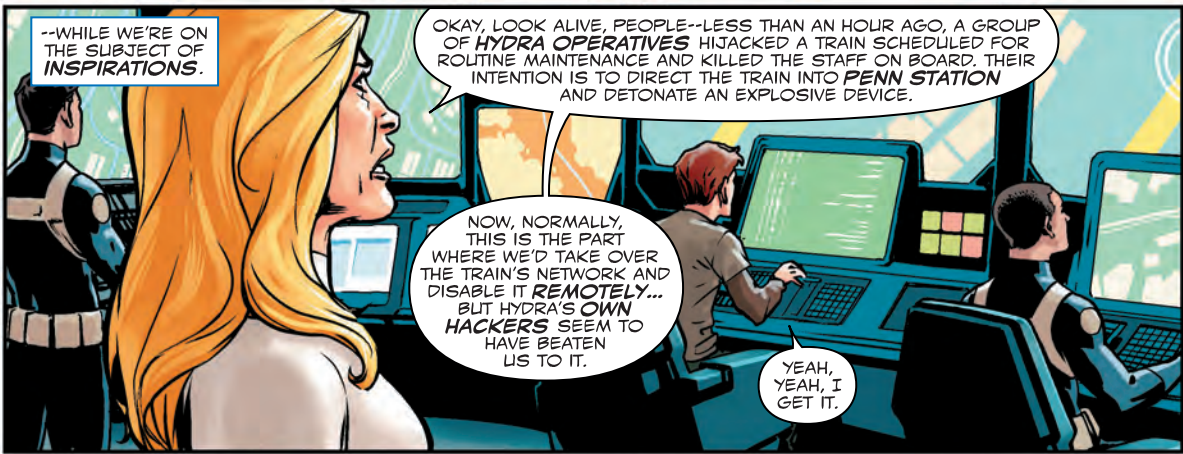




--AND I DO WHAT I CAN TO FOLLOW IN THEIR FOOTSTEPS.

WE'RE IN-- PATRIOT HAS LANDED. MISSION GO.

THE WOMAN ON COMMS IS SHARON CARTER--S.H.I.E.L.D. COMMANDER AND CONGRESSIONAL LIAISON. NOT TO MENTION THE LOVE OF MY LIFE--



--WHILE WE'RE ON THE SUBJECT OF INSPIRATIONS.

OKAY, LOOK ALIVE, PEOPLE--LESS THAN AN HOUR AGO, A GROUP OF HYDRA OPERATIVES HIJACKED A TRAIN SCHEDULED FOR ROUTINE MAINTENANCE AND KILLED THE STAFF ON BOARD. THEIR INTENTION IS TO DIRECT THE TRAIN INTO PENN STATION AND DETONATE AN EXPLOSIVE DEVICE.

NOW, NORMALLY, THIS IS THE PART WHERE WE'D TAKE OVER THE TRAIN'S NETWORK AND DISABLE IT REMOTELY... BUT HYDRA'S OWN HACKERS SEEM TO HAVE BEATEN US TO IT.

YEAH, YEAH, I GET IT.



I'M THE WORST.

RICK JONES. MY FORMER SIDEKICK AND MORE RECENTLY THE WHISPERER-- THE HACKER ACTIVIST THAT BROUGHT S.H.I.E.L.D. TO ITS KNEES BY LEAKING DETAILS OF AN ILLEGAL WEAPONS PROGRAM. HE'S SERVING OUT HIS SENTENCE FOR THAT BY HELPING THIS OPERATION--

--OR TRYING TO, AT LEAST.

JUST HOLD TIGHT, CAP--I'M CURRENTLY LOCKED IN AN INTENSE BATTLE WITH SOME GUY NAMED BATTLESTAR JOHNGALTICA--



BUT JUST IN CASE I CAN'T GET THROUGH-I MAY NEED TO WALK YOU THROUGH THE TRAIN CONTROLS, FLESH-AND-BLOOD STYLE.

NOT TO WORRY, RICK--

--THAT'S GENERALLY WHAT I SPECIALIZE IN.



STEVE, IT'S SHARON AGAIN.

YOU KNOW, I KINDA RECOGNIZE YOUR VOICE.

RICK'S DOING WHAT HE CAN, BUT OBVIOUSLY THERE'S A CLOCK HERE, SO WE ALL NEED TO KNOW--

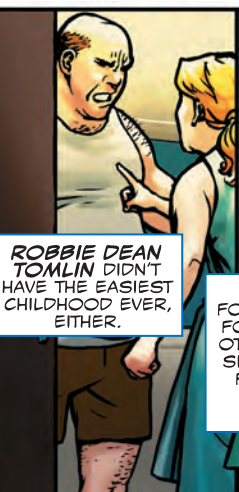


--DO YOU SEE THE BOMB?

WELL-- UNFF--QUITE A BIT IN MY WAY, BUT, YEAH--



--I SEE HIM.



ROBBIE DEAN TOMLIN DIDN'T HAVE THE EASIEST CHILDHOOD EVER, EITHER.

WHILE HIS PARENTS FOUGHT AND THE EVICTIONS FOLLOWED ONE AFTER THE OTHER, HE SPENT HIS FIRST SIXTEEN YEARS PLANTED IN FRONT OF A TELEVISION SET, DREAMING OF SOMETHING BETTER.



HIS GRADES HAD BEEN POOR AND HIS FAMILY EVEN **POORER**, SO COLLEGE WAS NEVER AN OPTION.

INSTEAD, HE STARTED STEALING CARS TO MAKE HIS RENT.

HE WASN'T GOOD AT IT.



HE'D NEVER HAD A PROBLEM WITH MINORITIES, HAD NEVER BEEN POLITICAL, BUT IN JAIL YOU NEED SOMEONE TO WATCH YOUR BACK--

SO HE FELL IN WITH A BAD CROWD OF WHITE SUPREMACISTS.



ONCE HE GOT OUT, HIS PROBATION OFFICER FOUND HIM A JOB STOCKING SHELVES AT SOME BIG-BOX RETAILER.

THE TATTOOS WERE A PROBLEM, BUT NOT FOR LONG. THE FINANCIAL CRISIS HIT, AND HE WAS ONE OF THE FIRST TO BE LAID OFF.



FROM THERE, THINGS **SPIRALED**. YEARS LOST TO A HAZE OF POVERTY AND ADDICTION.

FOUND SOMEONE FOR A LITTLE WHILE, BUT THEN ADDICTION TOOK **HER**, TOO.



WHEN THAT HAPPENED, HE SWORE HE'D GET CLEAN. STARTED LIVING A LIFE OF 12-STEP PROGRAMS AND MEETINGS IN CHURCH BASEMENTS.

UNTIL HIS OLD CELLMATE CALLED, EXCITED ABOUT SOME MEETING HE'D GONE TO AND INVITING HIM OUT FOR THE NEXT ONE.



I'M TELLING YOU--THIS GUY IS THE **REAL DEAL**. HE'S TALKING ABOUT ALL THE STUFF WE USED TO--TAKING OUR COUNTRY BACK, GETTING RID OF ALL THIS POLITICAL-CORRECTNESS BULL--

I KNOW IT SOUNDS CRAZY, BUT--JUST COME WITH ME. LISTEN TO HIM. HE'LL MAKE YOU A BELIEVER.



SO ROBBIE **DID GO**.

BECAUSE EVEN AFTER ALL HE'D BEEN THROUGH, HE NEVER STOPPED **DREAMING** OF SOMETHING **BETTER**.

AND THAT'S THE FUNNY THING ABOUT HOPE...

WHAT AN AUDIENCE--



...SOMETIMES IT COMES FROM THE **STRANGEST** PLACES.

--WE GROW IN NUMBER EACH TIME I VISIT. THANK YOU, MY FRIENDS, FOR YOUR COURAGE AND DEDICATION TO OUR CAUSE. I HAVE JUST COME FROM **EUROPE**--

--MY **HOMELAND**, IN FACT. AND DO YOU KNOW WHAT I SAW THERE?

IT WAS AN **INVADING** ARMY.

THESE SO-CALLED "**REFUGEES**"-- MILLIONS OF THEM-- MARCHING ACROSS THE CONTINENT, BRINGING THEIR FANATICAL BELIEFS AND THEIR CRIME WITH THEM.

THEY ATTACK OUR WOMEN, AND BOMB OUR CITIES.



AND HOW DO OUR LEADERS RESPOND? DO THEY PUSH THEM BACK AND ENFORCE THE BORDERS, AS IS OUR SOVEREIGN DUTY?

OF COURSE NOT. THEY SAY, "HERE, TAKE OUR FOOD. TAKE OUR SHELTER. TAKE OUR WAY OF LIFE, AND THEN TAKE OUR **LIVES**."

DESPICABLE.



SO IT IS GOOD TO BE HERE, WHERE SOME MEN STILL KNOW HOW TO **FIGHT**.

WHEN I WAS A YOUNG MAN, THERE WAS A **GREAT WAR**. AND OUR TWO COUNTRIES DID NOT SEE EYE TO EYE. BUT ALL THE SIDES--

--THEY ALL AGREED ON CERTAIN THINGS. THE FUNDAMENTAL RESPONSIBILITIES OF A NATION--



--PROTECTING THE LAND THROUGH **STRENGTH**. PRESERVING THE HERITAGE AND CULTURE OF THE PEOPLE. OFFERING THEM **OPPORTUNITY**.

NOW LOOK AT THE WORLD TODAY. LOOK HERE-- AT THE DEAD HUSK THAT WAS THESE "UNITED STATES." HOW THE MIGHTY HAVE FALLEN.

WHO IS **PROTECTED**, I ASK YOU?

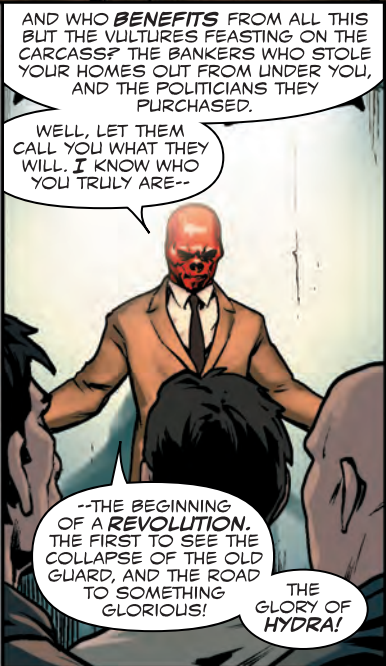


ON MY FLIGHT, I WAS BRIEFED ABOUT THESE BRAVE PATRIOTS FIGHTING THE GOVERNMENT'S ILLEGAL CLAIMS TO THEIR LAND--WHO DOES THE LAND BELONG TO IF NOT THE **PEOPLE**?!
THIS IS WHO YOUR GOVERNMENT SEES AS THE **TRANSGRESSORS**?! WHAT ABOUT THE CRIMINAL TRESPASSERS WHO MAKE A MOCKERY OF YOUR BORDERS? NO, THEY ARE **PROTECTED**, OF COURSE!



BUT THAT IS ONLY THE BEGINNING--YOUR ENTIRE CULTURE IS UNDER **SIEGE**. THE PRINCIPLES YOUR COUNTRY WAS FOUNDED UPON LOST IN THE NAME OF "**TOLERANCE**."

YOUR RELIGION, YOUR BELIEFS, YOUR SENSE OF COMMUNITY--ALL TOSSED ASIDE LIKE **TRASH**. AND YOU CANNOT EVEN SPEAK OUT AGAINST IT, LEST YOU BE CALLED A **BIGOT**!



AND WHO **BENEFITS** FROM ALL THIS BUT THE VULTURES FEASTING ON THE CARCASS? THE BANKERS WHO STOLE YOUR HOMES OUT FROM UNDER YOU, AND THE POLITICIANS THEY PURCHASED.

WELL, LET THEM CALL YOU WHAT THEY WILL. I KNOW WHO YOU TRULY ARE--

--THE BEGINNING OF A **REVOLUTION**. THE FIRST TO SEE THE COLLAPSE OF THE OLD GUARD, AND THE ROAD TO SOMETHING **GLORIOUS**!

THE **GLORY** OF **HYDRA**!



BY THE TIME THE **RED SKULL** WAS GETTING TO THE END OF HIS SPEECH, ROBBIE'S HEART FELT LIKE IT WAS IN HIS THROAT.

HE'D NEVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE THIS. AND THE FEELING--IT WAS **INTOXICATING**.



WHEN THE TIME CAME AND THE CALL WENT OUT, ROBBIE FLUNG HIS ARMS INTO THE AIR, JUST LIKE EVERY OTHER MAN IN THE ROOM. HE SCREAMED THE CHANT AS LOUD AS HE COULD, OVER AND OVER AGAIN.

THIS WAS HIS CHANCE TO **BE** SOMETHING, AFTER ALL.



TO BELONG TO SOMETHING.

AND SO HE SAID **YES** WHEN THEY ASKED HIM TO TAKE THE MARK. THAT PART WAS EASY--



BUT DOING NOTHING WHILE THEY BEAT A MAN TO DEATH FOR NO REASON, OTHER THAN THE COLOR OF HIS SKIN?

THAT WAS **HARD**.



AFTER THAT NIGHT, IT WAS ALMOST A **RELIEF** WHEN THEY CAME AND TOLD HIM IT WAS TIME TO GIVE UP HIS OWN LIFE AS WELL.

HE THOUGHT ABOUT **TELEVISION** WHILE THEY STRAPPED THE BOMB TO HIS CHEST.