

IDW



ISSUE

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GAGE • RYALL • VILLANELLI • ALEXAKIS

ROM



TONY SHARTEEN

Far, far away, in another galaxy, the knights of the Solstar Order, defenders of justice and truth, have been ambushed by the evil magicians, the Dire Wraiths. The Solstar Order has prevailed and is now seeking out their scattered enemies.

One of these knights has followed the trail of the Dire Wraiths all the way to Earth. This one, the Dire Wraiths fear more than all others. This one has hounded them and kept them underground for centuries. This one alone could wipe them off the face of creation.

*He is ROM,
Lord of the Solstar Order.
Rom, the Wraithslayer.*

ROM

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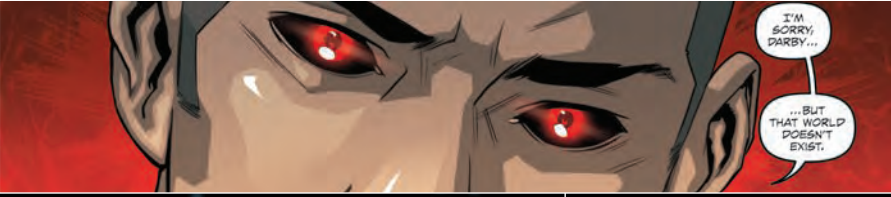
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I HAVE TAKEN CARE TO LEAVE IT INTACT. IT IS A FINE CONDUIT TO THIS PLANET'S CORE...

...THROUGH WHICH TO CHANNEL THE NEUTRALIZING ENERGIES THAT WILL TEAR EARTH ASUNDER.

THE STORY SO FAR:



I'M SORRY, DARBY...

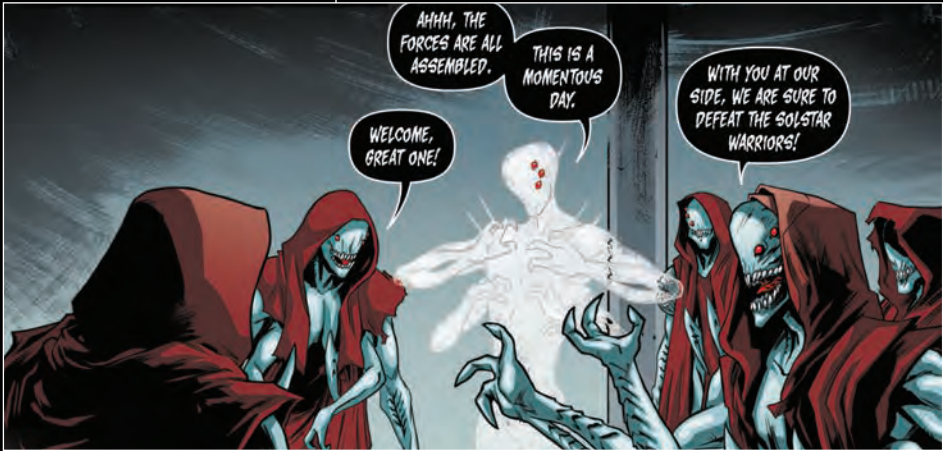
...BUT THAT WORLD DOESN'T EXIST.



AAAGGH!

I AM ROM, SPACEKNIGHT!

IT WAS I WHO FIRST ABSORBED WEAPONRY INTO MY ARMOR... AS I NOW DO WITH YOURS!



AHHH, THE FORCES ARE ALL ASSEMBLED.

THIS IS A MOMENTOUS DAY.

WELCOME, GREAT ONE!

WITH YOU AT OUR SIDE, WE ARE SURE TO DEFEAT THE SOL-STAR WARRIORS!

BELOW.

GREAT ONE! I
SENSE OUR FELLOWS
HAVE FALLEN... THERE
IS NOTHING TO HOLD
BACK THE SOL-STAR
KNIGHTS!

AND
WE AREN'T
READY-

CALM YOURSELF,
ACOLYTE, AND PROCEED
WITH THE RITUAL. THERE IS
NO FEAR IN THIS PLACE...
ONLY ITS ABSENCE.

ALL IS WELL, FOR
WE HAVE A MOST
UNEXPECTED ALLY...

"...ROM, THE SPACEKNIGHT."

ABOVE.

ABSORBING MY WEAPON WAS FRUITLESS, ROM.

I NEED ONLY TOUCH THE DRILL TO SEND MY NEUTRALIZING ENERGY INTO THIS PLANET'S CORE...

...AND DESTROY EARTH, ALONG WITH EVERY FOUL WRAITH THAT CRAWLS UPON IT!

SHHRRZZ

L-LIVIA... PLEASE, STOP COMMANDER ORPHION WHILE THERE IS YET TIME.

HE MAKES AN UNFORGIVABLE MISTAKE.

ROM, I...

...I'M SORRY, ORPHION IS OUR COMMANDING OFFICER.

HE FOLLOWS PROCEDURE.

YOU HAVE BECOME TOO EMOTIONAL ABOUT THESE EARTHINGS, THAT WAS ALWAYS YOUR GREATEST WEAKNESS.

WEAKNESS?

COMPASSION IS NOT WEAKNESS.



IT GIVES ME STRENGTH!

HOW-?

IMPOSSIBLE!

WHACKAAMMM



OUR POWER COMES FROM WITHIN, COMMANDER. PERHAPS I DO THE IMPOSSIBLE BECAUSE MY CAUSE IS JUST.



IS THAT SO?

KRANG

UHH!



THEN WHY ARE YOUR BLOWS SO WEAK?

TINGKCH!



CAN IT BE YOU ARE JUST A MISGUIDED IDEALIST WHO LACKS THE SENSE TO KNOW WHEN HE IS BEATEN?

STAND DOWN. THIS IS YOUR LAST WARNING.

NEVER!



ROM, I BEG YOU, STOP! BEFORE HE'S FORCED TO KILL YOU!

IF-IF YOU EVER CARED FOR ME...