

"EVEN 'USED'--  
SHE COST ME A  
FORTUNE.

"WELL INTO  
THE HIGH SIX  
FIGURES.

"THE MAN  
I PURCHASED  
HER FROM-- A MR.  
FENG-- BILLED HER  
AS AN 'EXECUTIVE  
ASSISTANT'.

"MORE THAN SIMPLY  
AN ASSASSIN WITHOUT  
PEER, SHE WAS IN MANY  
WAYS THE *PERFECT*  
WOMAN.

"SHE COULD COOK,  
CLEAN, BALANCE THE  
BOOKS AND KEEP THE  
SHEETS HOT ALL  
NIGHT LONG.

"WHEN SHE  
TURNED THIRTY,  
FENG HELD  
SOMETHING OF  
A FIRE SALE.

"HE ALLUDED  
TO AN INCIDENT  
IN HER PAST.  
SOMETHING THAT  
MADE HER LESS  
VALUABLE.

"IF SHE  
HAD A FLAW, I  
HONESTLY NEVER  
KNEW WHAT  
IT WAS.

"TRUST ME WHEN I  
SAY THAT AS TRAINED  
KILLERS GO..."





"...ORCHID IS WORTH EVERY PENNY."

"IF THAT IS SO, MR. CORDOVA--"

"--I HAVE TO ASK: WHY DID YOU GIVE HER TO YOUR SON?"

"I DIDN'T 'GIVE' HER TO ANYONE."

"I'VE ONLY TEMPORARILY REASSIGNED HER FOR NOW."

"MY SON NEEDS CONSTANT SUPERVISION."

"THAT'S WHY I SENT HIM ALONG WITH HER ON HER ASSIGNMENT IN AMERICA. FOR SOME MUCH NEEDED SEASONING."


"HE NEEDS TO UNDERSTAND FIRST-HAND WHAT RUNNING THE AFFAIRS OF THE FAMILY BUSINESS ENTAILS."

"UMBERTO WON'T GET A BETTER EDUCATION THAN WHAT ORCHID TEACHES HIM."

"AND I CAN REST ASSURED HE'LL BE PROTECTED. THAT NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS-- SHE CAN TAKE CARE OF THINGS."



"THAT'S THE  
THING ABOUT  
ORCHID.




"I DON'T THINK  
SHE EVEN KNOWS  
HOW TO FAIL.



"ONCE SHE  
SETS HER MIND TO  
SOMETHING...

"...THERE IS NO  
STOPPING HER.



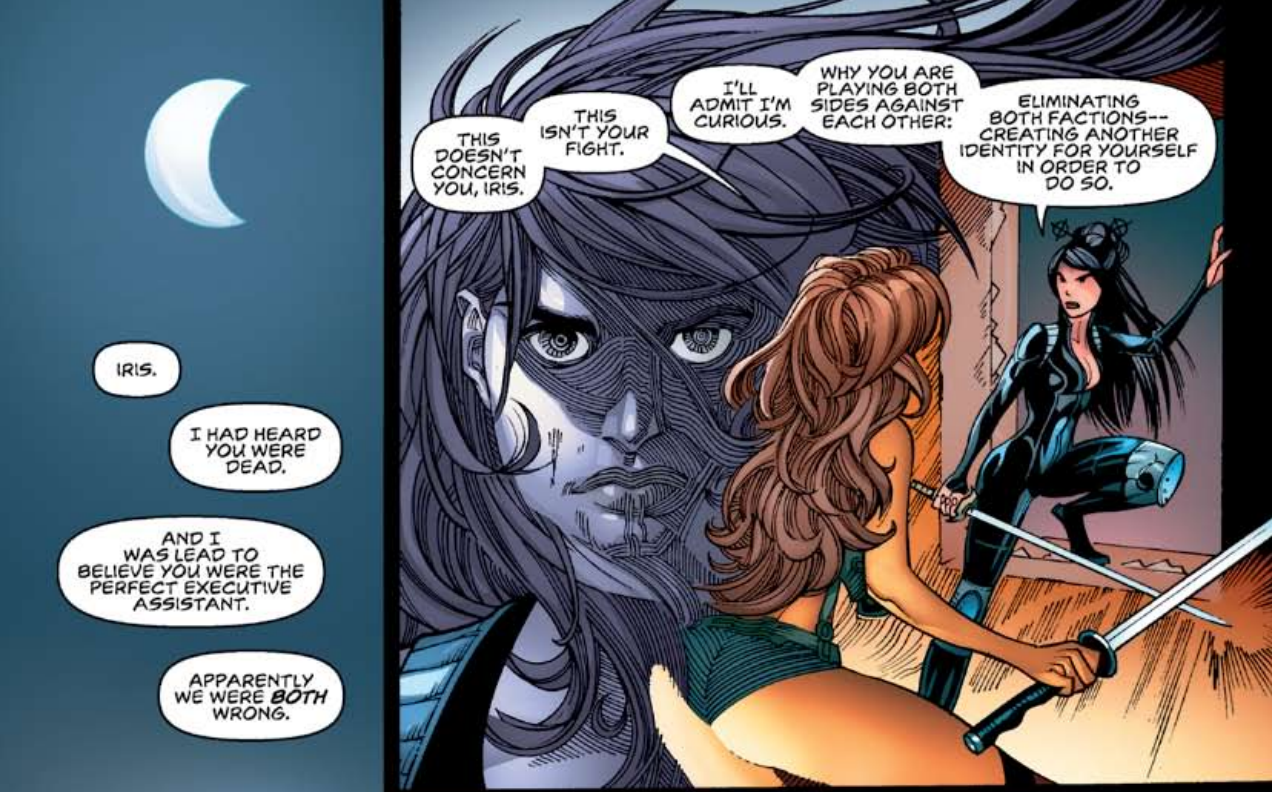
"YOU SAW THE  
DIGITAL PHOTO  
UMBERTO SENT.

"NO DOUBT SHE SET  
THE EXPLOSIONS TO  
CRIPPLE THE PIPELINES  
BEFORE SHE ARRIVED  
AT THE BOARDROOM.



"KNOWING  
HER LIKE I  
DO--

"--I'M SURE SHE  
AND MY SON ARE IN  
FIRST CLASS, WINGING  
THEIR WAY ACROSS  
THE BORDER RIGHT  
NOW."



THIS DOESN'T CONCERN YOU, IRIS.

THIS ISN'T YOUR FIGHT.

I'LL ADMIT I'M CURIOUS.

WHY YOU ARE PLAYING BOTH SIDES AGAINST EACH OTHER:

ELIMINATING BOTH FACTIONS-- CREATING ANOTHER IDENTITY FOR YOURSELF IN ORDER TO DO SO.

IRIS.

I HAD HEARD YOU WERE DEAD.

AND I WAS LEAD TO BELIEVE YOU WERE THE PERFECT EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT.

APPARENTLY WE WERE **BOTH** WRONG.



I SAID GO!

BUT...  
...YOU ARE CORRECT IN YOUR ASSERTION.



MY EMPLOYER ONLY SENT ME TO MAKE CERTAIN HIS OWN AFFAIRS WERE NOT BEING COMPLICATED BY YOUR ACTIONS.

THEY CLEARLY ARE NOT.

SO GO WITH YOUR GOD.



GO WITH  
YOUR GOD

SO GO  
WITH...

YOUR  
GOD



GOD



GOOOOOO



WHAT DO YOU  
KNOW-- THERE  
IS A GOD,  
FELLAS!

LOOK WHAT  
HE DONE AND  
DROPPED INTO  
OUR LAPS.

I CALL  
"SECONDS!"

WOOOOWEE.



THAT'S A MIGHTY BIG GUN FOR SUCH A SMALL LADY.

BUT HEY, I GOT A PRETTY BIG GUN MYSELF.

HAW, HAW! CAN'T BELIEVE HE SAID THAT!

ALWAYS JOKING.



DON'T WORRY, MISS.

THIS WON'T HURT THAT MUCH.



IT WILL.

BUT YOU'LL BE DEAD BEFORE IT REGISTERS IN WHAT'S LEFT OF YOUR BRAIN.



WHAT 'N HELL ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?



BLAM



FWHUUUMP

UHHHN...



I-I CAN'T BELIEVE SHE DONE THAT!

THAT WAS HOT! HELP MOVE HIM OUT OF THE WAY AND I'LL LET YOU GO SECOND.



WHAT THE--?!

RELAX, YOU'RE SAFE.



THOSE MEN?

NO LONGER A CONCERN.  
TO YOU OR ANYONE ELSE.



YOU FOLLOWED ME.

YOU'RE HELPING ME. WHY?



BY PLAYING THE TWO SIDES-- THE CORDOVA DRUG CARTEL AND VELCHEM INDUSTRIES-- AGAINST EACH OTHER...

...YOU HAVE UNWITTINGLY BENEFITED MY EMPLOYER'S LONG TERM GOALS.

IT IS ONLY GOOD BUSINESS THAT YOU BE COMPENSATED FOR YOUR EFFORTS.





KNOWING HER LIKE I DO--

--I'M SURE SHE AND MY SON ARE IN FIRST CLASS, WINGING THEIR WAY ACROSS THE BORDER RIGHT NOW.



**BREAKING NEWS:** THE TOP STORY OUT OF TEXAS IS THE DESTRUCTION OF SEVERAL MILES OF PIPELINE BELONGING TO VELCHEM INDUSTRIES.

WHILE THERE IS NO WORD AS TO WHETHER OR NOT THE EXPLOSION WAS CAUSED BY TERRORISTS-- ECO, FOREIGN OR DOMESTIC-- IT IS CLEAR THE DAMAGES WILL RUN INTO THE BILLIONS.

OH MY. I WONDER HOW THAT HAPPENED.

HEH HEH...

HEH HEH, INDEED.



FINALLY, MY SON HAS ACCOMPLISHED SOMETHING WITHOUT SCREWING IT UP.

CERTAINLY A CAUSE FOR CELEBRATION.

YOU MUST BE VERY PROUD.





THEIR PLANE SHOULD BE HERE IN THE NEXT TWO--

**CHIME**

MR. CORDOVA, SIR?

YOU NEED TO SEE THIS.



ORCHID???

WHERE'S UMBERTO?

GET HER INSIDE-- TO THE DOCTOR-- QUICKLY!

SPREAD OUT AND FIND MY SON!