



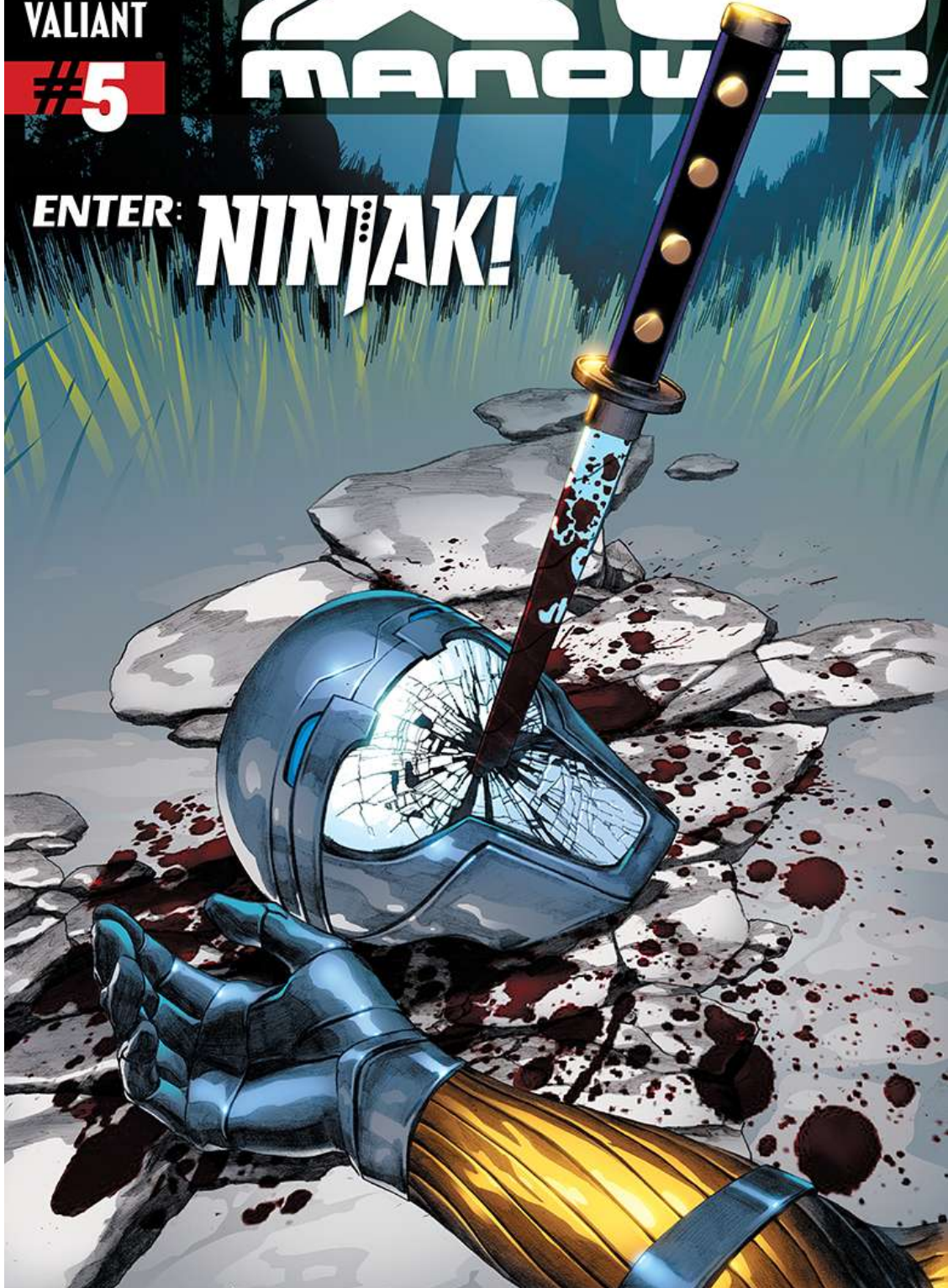
VALIANT

#5

ROBERT VENDITTI | LEE GARBETT | STEFANO GAUDIANO | MOOSE BAUMANN

X-O MANOUAR

ENTER: **NINJAK!**





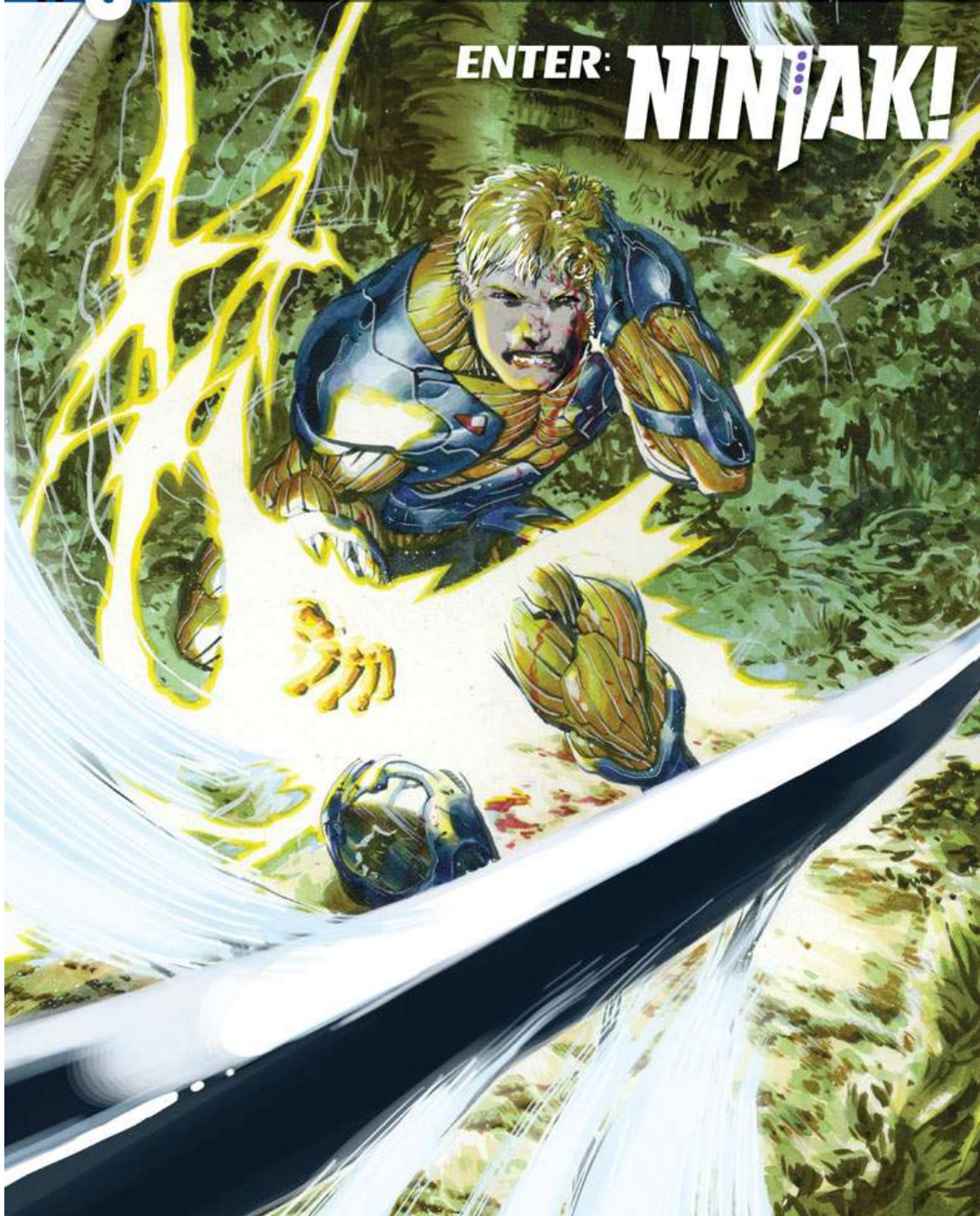
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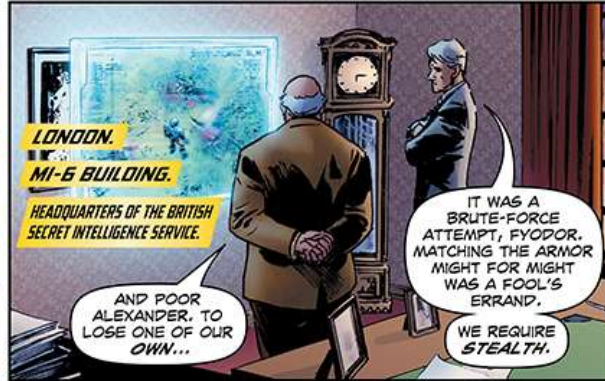
X-O MANOWAR







DID THE STRIKE TEAM EVER STAND A CHANCE?



LONDON.
MI-6 BUILDING.
HEADQUARTERS OF THE BRITISH SECRET INTELLIGENCE SERVICE.

AND POOR ALEXANDER, TO LOSE ONE OF OUR OWN...

IT WAS A BRUTE-FORCE ATTEMPT, FYODOR. MATCHING THE ARMOR MIGHT FOR MIGHT WAS A FOOL'S ERRAND.

WE REQUIRE **STEALTH.**



WHO DO WE SEND? NO *VINE* WILL GO UP AGAINST SHANHARA. NOT NOW.

ALEXANDER WAS THE ONLY ONE BOLD ENOUGH TO VOLUNTEER AND LOOK WHERE THAT GOT HIM.

I SEE ONLY ONE OPTION:
WE BRING IN **THE SPECIALIST.**



CYRIL, THE X-O MANOWAR ARMOR IS IN THE HANDS OF A VISIGOTH SIXTEEN HUNDRED YEARS REMOVED FROM HIS OWN TIME.

IN HIS **PRIMITIVE MIND**, THE MOST TECHNOLOGICALLY ADVANCED WEAPON ON THIS PLANET IS STILL THE **ONAGER.**

BUT THE HUMAN YOU SPEAK OF? NO ONE UNDERSTANDS WEAPONRY BETTER. IF **HE** WERE TO CONTROL THE ARMOR, WHO CAN IMAGINE THE HAVOC HE WOULD WREAK?



HE'S PROFESSIONAL. IT'S THE REASON HE'S SO SOUGHT AFTER. HE DOES WHAT HE'S PAID TO DO-- NO MORE, NO LESS.

THE COUNCIL OF STEMS EXPECTS US TO REACQUIRE THE ARMOR BEFORE THE INVASION FLEET ARRIVES. WE'RE ON A SHORT CLOCK HERE.

THEN IT COMES TO THIS.



BUT REST ASSURED, IF THIS FAILS, IT WON'T BE ME EXPLAINING HIMSELF TO THE COUNCIL.

WE'VE DONE ALL WE CAN.

IF THE SPECIALIST FAILS, IT WILL BE UP TO THE INVASION FLEET TO FACE THE ARMOR.





