



I GET SO BUSY.

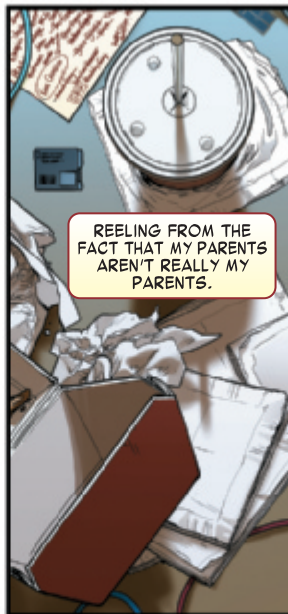


SAVING THE WORLD.

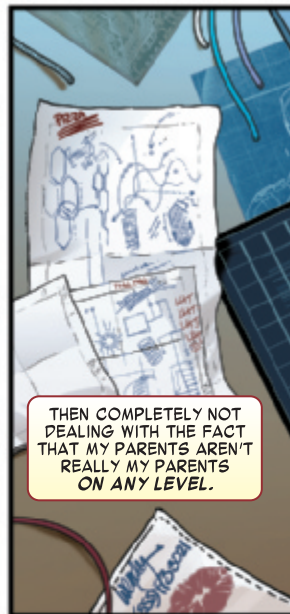
AVENGING. GUARDING.

PUTTING OUT FIRES.

(METAPHORICAL AND REAL ACTUAL FIRES.)



REELING FROM THE FACT THAT MY PARENTS AREN'T REALLY MY PARENTS.



THEN COMPLETELY NOT DEALING WITH THE FACT THAT MY PARENTS AREN'T REALLY MY PARENTS ON ANY LEVEL.



SOME 15-YEAR-OLD AT M.I.T. REVERSE ENGINEERS IT ON A DARE AND POSTS IT ONLINE.

(PICK.)



I'M SUPPOSED TO BE SO AHEAD OF THE CURVE NO ONE ELSE CAN EVEN SEE THE CURVE.



BUT IT'S MY FAULT.



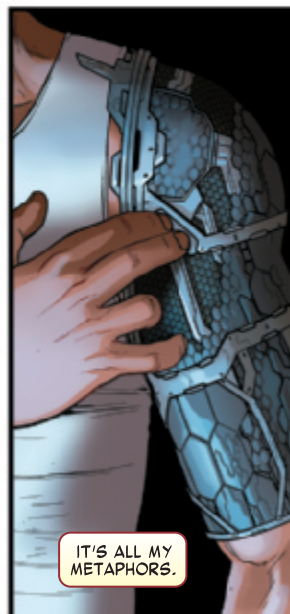
I PROMISED MYSELF I WOULD SPEND SOME SHOP TIME EVERY WEEK.



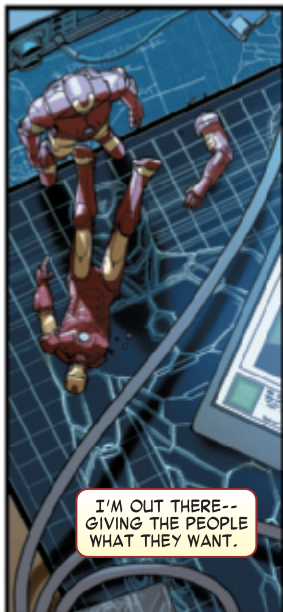
BUT I NEED THIS TIME FOR ME AND I NEED IT FOR HIM.



MY ARMOR NEEDS TO GROW AND EVOLVE. IT NEEDS TO SURPRISE EVERYONE AND AT THE SAME TIME BE THAT THING EVERYONE CAN COUNT ON.



IT'S ALL MY METAPHORS.



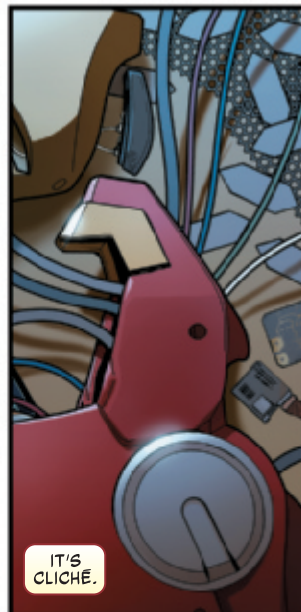
I'M OUT THERE--
GIVING THE PEOPLE
WHAT THEY WANT.



(OR WHAT
THEY THINK
THEY WANT...)



SAVING THE WORLD,
PUNCHING THE BAD GUY...
AND BEFORE I KNOW IT THIS
ONCE-GROUND-BREAKING-
PIECE-OF-TECH SUIT THAT
DEFINES ME IS OLD HAT.



IT'S
CLICHÉ.



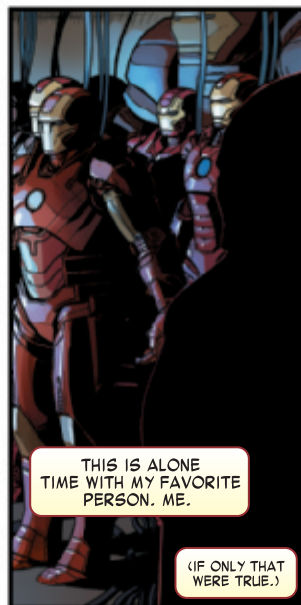
I
PROMISED.



FIRST OF ALL, I'M A
BETTER PERSON TO
BE AROUND WHEN I
SPEND A LITTLE TIME
IN MY CHURCH.

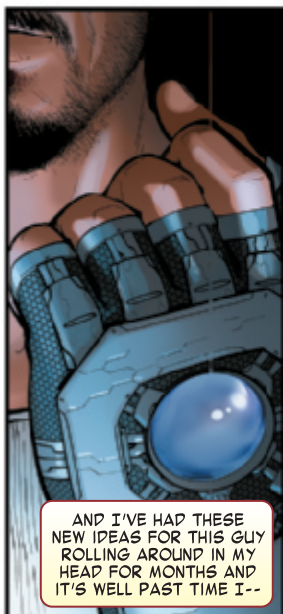


THIS IS MY
MEDITATION.



THIS IS ALONE
TIME WITH MY FAVORITE
PERSON. ME.

(IF ONLY THAT
WERE TRUE.)



AND I'VE HAD THESE
NEW IDEAS FOR THIS GUY
ROLLING AROUND IN MY
HEAD FOR MONTHS AND
IT'S WELL PAST TIME I--



OH...



I--I THINK
I DID IT.

THIS--THIS
WILL WORK,
WON'T IT?



DAMN.

I WOULD TOTALLY KISS
ME RIGHT NOW IF NOT FOR
MY FEAR OF BEARD BURN.

MY NEW
ARMOR.

I FINALLY FOUND A
WAY TO MERGE ALL
MY DIFFERENT ARMOR
MODES INTO ONE.

ARMOR THAT CAN CHANGE
SHAPE AND COLOR SCHEME
BASED ON MISSION STATS.

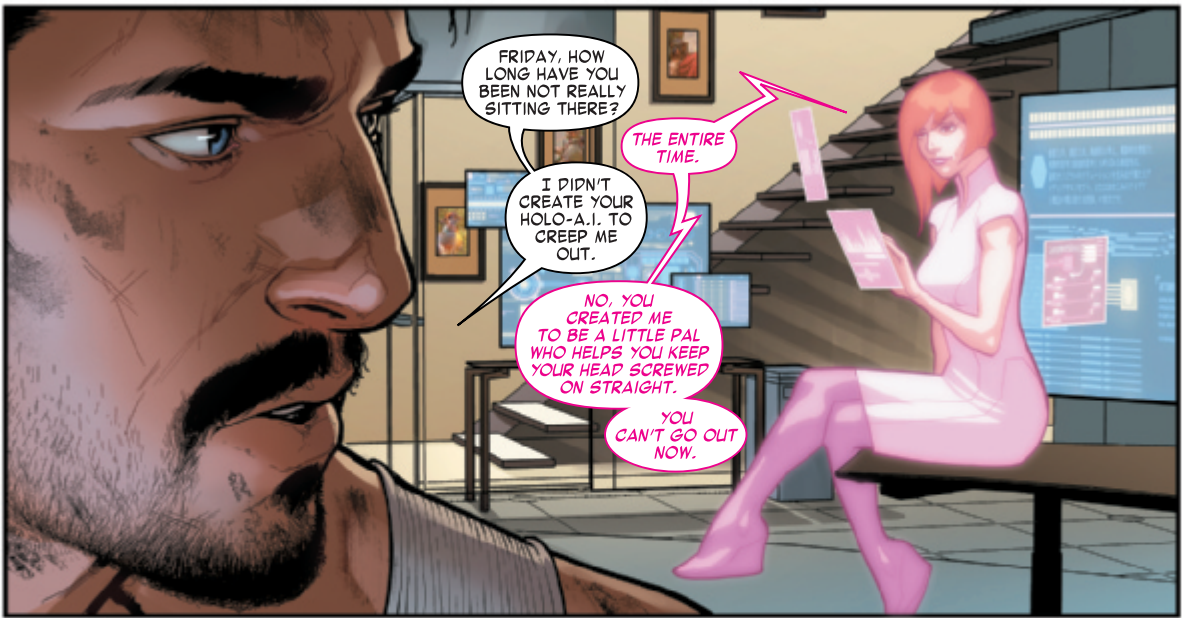
ARMOR NOT ATTACHED
TO MY BIOLOGY IN THAT
WAY THAT FREAKS JUST
ABOUT EVERYBODY OUT BUT
IS COMPLETELY ATTACHED
TO MY BRAIN SYNAPSES.

I HAVE TO
TAKE THIS
OUT.

I'M
GOING TO
TAKE THIS
OUT.

NO,
YOU'RE
NOT.





FRIDAY, HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN NOT REALLY SITTING THERE?

THE ENTIRE TIME.

I DIDN'T CREATE YOUR HOLO-A.I. TO CREEP ME OUT.

NO, YOU CREATED ME TO BE A LITTLE PAL WHO HELPS YOU KEEP YOUR HEAD SCREWED ON STRAIGHT.

YOU CAN'T GO OUT NOW.



I CAN. I HAVE FREE WILL AND EVERYTHING.

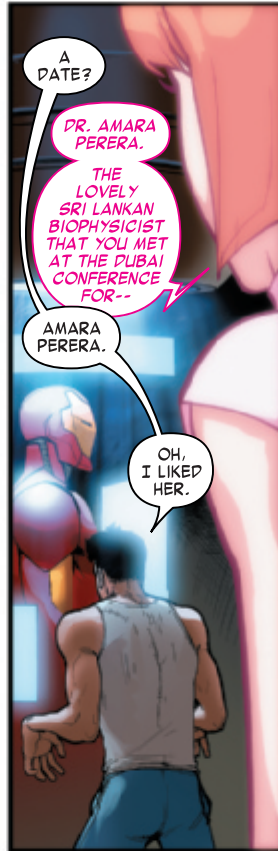
YOU HAVE TO CHARGE THE ARMOR FROM SCRATCH.

THAT WILL TAKE AT LEAST THREE HOURS.

UGH!



AND YOU HAVE A DATE IN AN HOUR.



A DATE?

DR. AMARA PERERA.

THE LOVELY SRI LANKAN BIOPHYSICIST THAT YOU MET AT THE DUBAI CONFERENCE FOR--

AMARA PERERA.

OH, I LIKED HER.



YES. YOU'LL BE LATE SOON.

DON'T BE LATE. WOMEN DO NOT FIND IT CUTE.

OH, LIKE YOU KNOW.



NO WOMAN ON THE PLANET EARTH HAS EVER FOUND IT CHARMING.

THEY CALL IT STRIKE ONE.