

CIVIL WAR III

POWER MAN & IRON FIST

DANIEL RAND IS IRON FIST, KUNG FU DEFENDER OF THE INNOCENT. LUKE CAGE, SOMETIMES CALLED POWER MAN, HAS SUPERHUMAN STRENGTH AND DURABILITY. HE'S BEEN AN AVENGER, AND IS NOW A HUSBAND AND FATHER. THEY ARE THE HEROES FOR HIRE.

EARTH'S HEROES PREVENTED A CATAclySMIC EVENT THANKS TO AN INHUMAN NAMED ULYSSES WHO CAN SEE THE FUTURE. ACTING ON HIS VISIONS, CAPTAIN MARVEL HAS SAVED LIVES, BUT NOT WITHOUT TERRIBLE COSTS. AS TENSIONS RISE, EARTH'S GREATEST CHAMPIONS MUST MAKE A CHOICE: PROTECT THE FUTURE...OR CHANGE IT?

THE BATTLE OVER PREDICTIVE JUSTICE CAME TO DANNY AND LUKE WHEN REFORMED CRIMINALS AND THEIR FAMILIES SOUGHT PROTECTION FROM PREEMPTIVE STRIKE, A GROUP OF VIGILANTES USING THE MYSTERIOUS SOFTWARE AGNITUS TO HUNT ANYONE WITH A CRIMINAL RECORD, AND SOME PEOPLE WITHOUT ONE. WHEN PREEMPTIVE STRIKE RAIDED H4H HEADQUARTERS, THE POLICE INTERVENED. IN THE CONFUSION, DANNY KICKED AN OFFICER WHO WAS PINNING A CLIENT, AND HE WAS TAKEN TO RYKER'S PRISON. NOW LUKE'S IN HIDING, GETTING FED UP WITH INACTION. AND ULYSSES JUST HAD A VISION OF A JAILBREAK.

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SEAGATE PRISON.

MANY YEARS AGO.

GOTTA BE HONEST...
MY PARENTS WERE
DISAPPOINTED IN ME.

I WAS NEVER THE SON
THEY WANTED ME TO
BE. ALWAYS FIGHTING.
GETTING INTO TOO
MUCH TROUBLE.

BY THE TIME I WENT TO PRISON,
EVEN THOUGH IT WAS FOR A CRIME
I DIDN'T COMMIT, THEY WERE DONE
WITH ME. THEY COULDN'T TAKE ANY
MORE DISAPPOINTMENT.

I DON'T
BLAME THEM.

TRUTH BE TOLD, I WASN'T
TOO HAPPY WITH HOW MY LIFE
HAD TURNED OUT, EITHER.

I WAS A **LOSER**.
A KID WHO'D MADE
TOO MANY BAD
DECISIONS.

I ALMOST DIED IN THAT
PRISON. THOUGHT ABOUT
PRAYING TO GOD, ASKING
HIM TO SAVE ME, PROMISING
TO TURN MY LIFE AROUND.

BUT I FIGURED
GOD HAD BETTER
THINGS TO DO THAN
TO LISTEN TO ME.

INSTEAD, I MADE
TWO PROMISES
TO MYSELF.

FIRST, IF I GOT OUT
OF THERE ALIVE, I
WOULD TURN MY LIFE
AROUND. DO SOMETHING
MEANINGFUL.
SOMETHING GOOD.

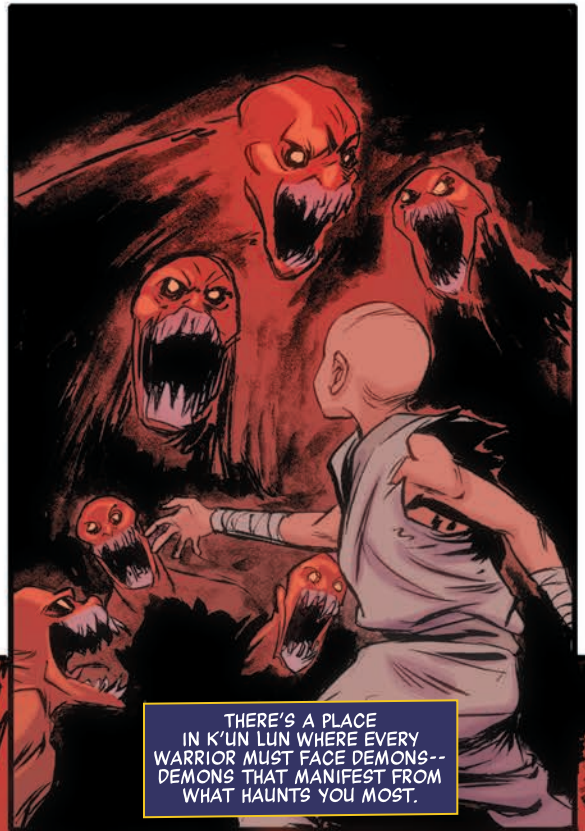
SECOND, IF
I GOT OUT,
I'D NEVER
GO BACK.

K'UN LUN.

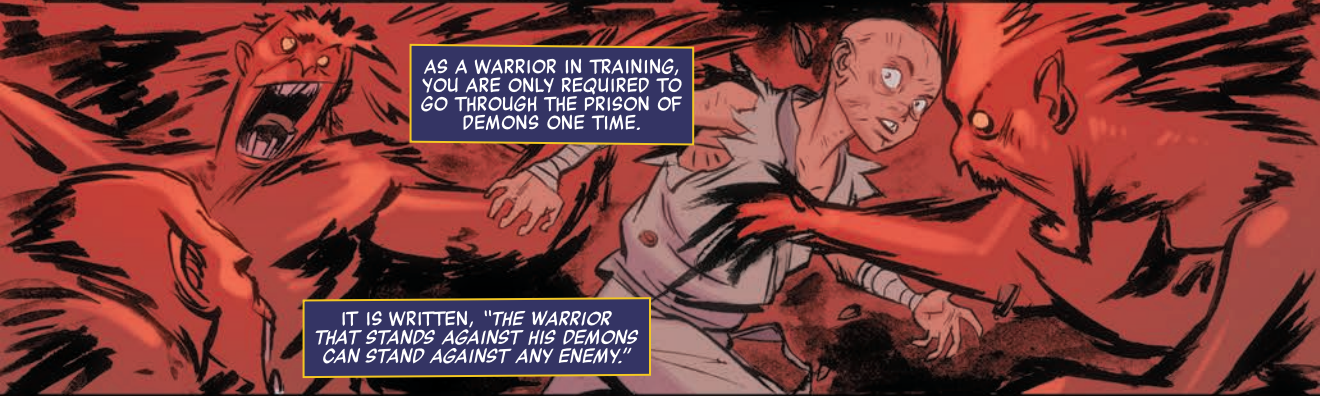
MANY YEARS AGO.

I NEVER FELT MORE ALONE THAN WHEN MY PARENTS DIED.

LONELINESS. ABANDONMENT. HELPLESSNESS. THESE BECAME MY CONSTANT COMPANIONS. MY DEMONS.



THERE'S A PLACE IN K'UN LUN WHERE EVERY WARRIOR MUST FACE DEMONS-- DEMONS THAT MANIFEST FROM WHAT HAUNTS YOU MOST.



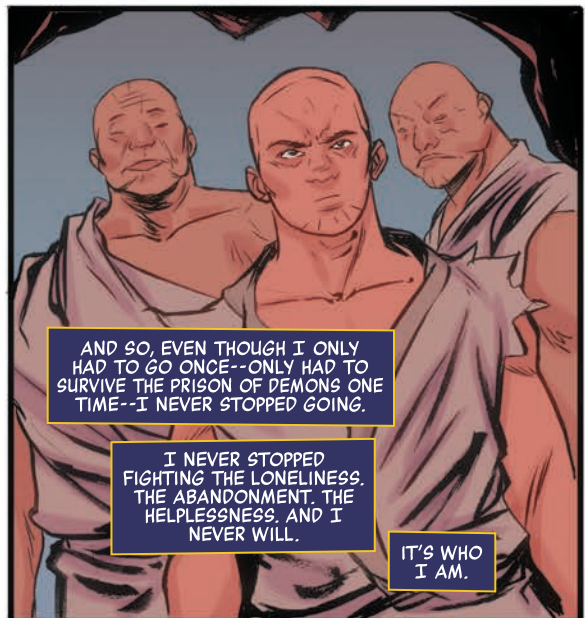
AS A WARRIOR IN TRAINING, YOU ARE ONLY REQUIRED TO GO THROUGH THE PRISON OF DEMONS ONE TIME.

IT IS WRITTEN, "THE WARRIOR THAT STANDS AGAINST HIS DEMONS CAN STAND AGAINST ANY ENEMY."



STANDING AGAINST MY DEMONS WAS NOT ENOUGH. FACING THEM WAS NOT ENOUGH.

I HAD TO DEFEAT THEM.



AND SO, EVEN THOUGH I ONLY HAD TO GO ONCE--ONLY HAD TO SURVIVE THE PRISON OF DEMONS ONE TIME--I NEVER STOPPED GOING.

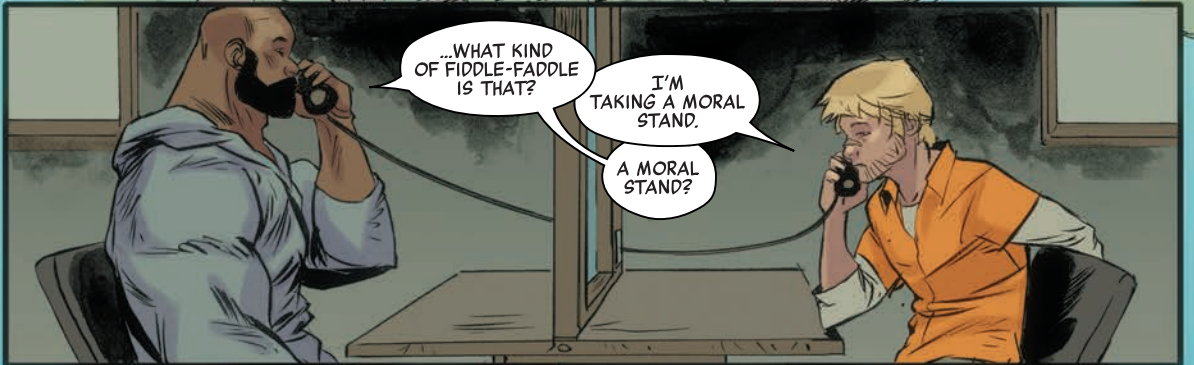
I NEVER STOPPED FIGHTING THE LONELINESS. THE ABANDONMENT. THE HELPLESSNESS. AND I NEVER WILL.

IT'S WHO I AM.



...I'M SORRY.
IT'S WHO I
AM.

IT'S
WHO YOU
ARE...



...WHAT KIND
OF FIDDLE-FADDLE
IS THAT?

I'M
TAKING A MORAL
STAND.

A MORAL
STAND?



YOU'RE RICH
AND WHITE. YOU
CAN AFFORD TO
TAKE A MORAL
STAND
OUTSIDE THE WALLS
OF THIS
PRISON.

I TALKED
TO FOGGY NELSON,
HE CAN GET YOU OUT
OF HERE ON A BOND
UNTIL YOU GO
TO TRIAL.

NOW QUIT
PLAYING THE ROLE
OF THE GOODY-GOODY
WHITE LIBERAL TRYING TO
MAKE A POINT THAT ONLY
OTHER WHITE LIBERALS
UNDERSTAND.



IT'S NOT
ABOUT THAT,
DAMN IT.

AND IT'S
NOT ABOUT ME
TAKING THE HEAT
FOR ASSAULTING
THAT COP--AT
LEAST, NOT
ANYMORE.

IT'S
ABOUT THOSE
GUYS...



"...THOSE GUYS
THAT ATTACKED
US.

"I'M STILL IN HERE
BECAUSE OF THEM--
BECAUSE OF WHAT
THEY DID, AND WHAT
THEY'RE DOING."

