

MARVEL
6
LGY#171

DONNY CATES • RYAN STEGMAN • JP MAYER • FRANK MARTIN

VENOM



RATED T+ | \$3.99US



BONUS DIGITAL EDITION — DETAILS INSIDE!

DISGRACED REPORTER **EDDIE BROCK** STUMBLED UPON AN AGGRESSIVE ALIEN ORGANISM, CALLED THE SYMBIOTE, DURING ONE OF THE LOWEST POINTS OF HIS LIFE. SHARING A SIMILAR NEED FOR JUSTICE IN THE FORM OF VENGEANCE, THE SYMBIOTE BONDED WITH EDDIE AND THEIR UNION GRANTED HIM POWERS SIMILAR TO THOSE OF SPIDER-MAN, AS WELL AS A NUMBER OF OTHER UNIQUE ABILITIES. TOGETHER, THEY NOW FIGHT CRIME AS THE WICKED WEB-SLINGER CALLED

VENOM

CENTURIES AGO, A SYMBIOTE DRAGON FROM THE COSMOS TERRORIZED ANCIENT MAN.

CREATED BY KNULL, GOD OF THE SYMBIOTES, THE CREATURE WAS BESTED, ENTOMBED IN ICE, AND EVENTUALLY UNEARTHED BY **S.H.I.E.L.D.**, WHO EXTRACTED SAMPLES OF IT TO CREATE A PLATOON OF SYMBIOTIC SOLDIERS.

WHEN THE ORGANIZATION COLLAPSED, THE DRAGON WAS RELEASED INTO AN UNSUSPECTING NEW YORK AND BEGAN SEARCHING FOR THE PIECES OF ITSELF S.H.I.E.L.D. EXTRACTED – AND IT FOUND THEM, SAVE FOR ONE.

STILL BONDED TO ITS INITIAL HOST, A MAN NAMED REX STRICKLAND, THE FINAL SYMBIOTIC SAMPLE IS ALL THE DRAGON NEEDS TO MAKE ITSELF WHOLE AND RETURN TO SPACE. PREPARED FOR SUCH AN EVENTUALITY, REX HAS BEEN STOCKPILING ANTI-SYMBIOTE WEAPONRY FOR YEARS.

BUT REX HAS A SECRET – HE IS NO LONGER HUMAN. HIS SYMBIOTE CONSUMED HIS PHYSICAL BODY YEARS AGO, AND WHAT'S LEFT OF HIS PSYCHE REMAINS TO BE SEEN.

WITH LITTLE CHOICE, **VENOM** ABSORBED THE STRICKLAND SYMBIOTE INTO HIS OWN, AND MADE HIMSELF READY FOR WAR...

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I KNOW WHAT
SCARES YOU,
EDDIE.




I'M INSIDE OF
YOUR MIND, AND
I KNOW NOW.




I KNOW WHO
EDDIE BROCK IS.

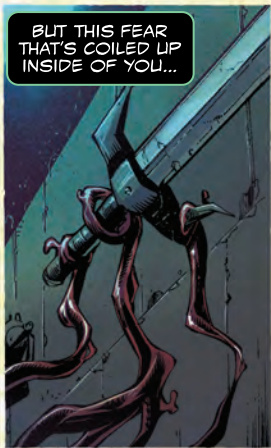
EDDIE BROCK, REX
STRICKLAND, VENOM.
WE ARE ONE.



I CAN HELP
YOU FIGHT THIS
MONSTER.



I CAN HELP
YOU BEAT
BACK THIS
DARKNESS
AND THE THING
THAT LIVES
INSIDE OF IT.



BUT THIS FEAR
THAT'S COILED UP
INSIDE OF YOU...



...THAT'S SOMETHING
YOU GOTTA FACE
ALONE.



AND HAND TO
GOD, SON...



...I CAN'T IMAGINE
HOW SCARED THAT
MUST MAKE YOU...

...BECAUSE BEING ALONE IS THE THING YOU FEAR THE MOST.



DO ME A FAVOR, REX.

LET'S KILL US A DRAGON CONTROLLED BY AN ELDER GOD BEFORE YOU START PLAYING THERAPIST, YEAH?

SORRY, KID. YOUR MIND IS AN OPEN WOUND.

MY SPECIES IS BUILT TO EXPAND INSIDE OF YOUR PSYCHE AND FIX ANY PROBLEMS WE CAN--

REX. SHUT UP.





WHAT HAPPENS NOW?

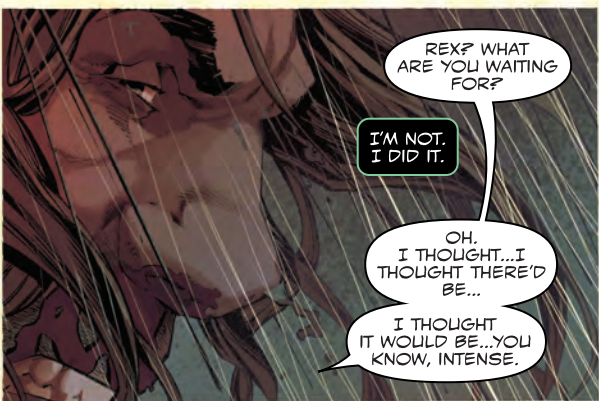
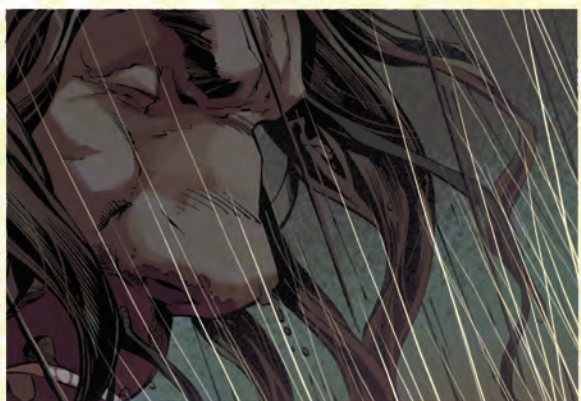
KNULL IS USING THE DRAGON TO LOOK FOR ME. AND YOU. I CAN FEEL HIM SOARING AROUND THE UPPER ATMOSPHERE, SNIFFING AROUND FOR US.

WHAT HAPPENS NOW IS I RECONNECT TO THE HIVE.

AND I CALL HIM.



... OKAY. LET'S DO IT.

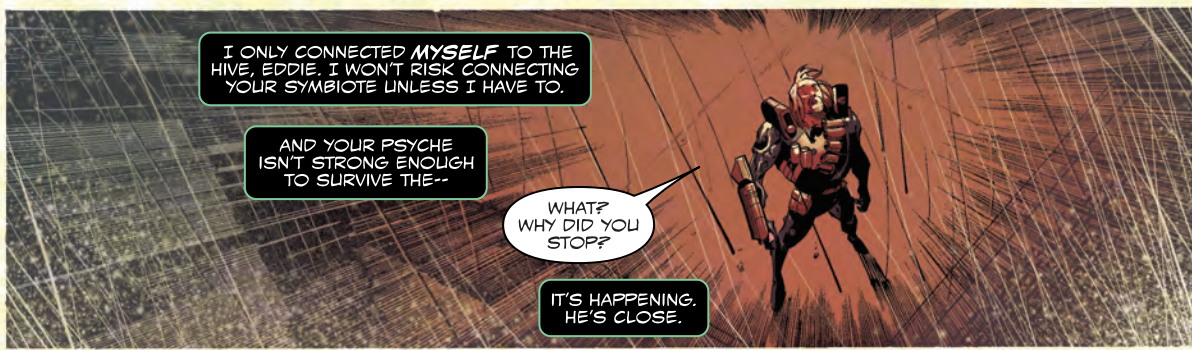


REX? WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?

I'M NOT. I DID IT.

OH. I THOUGHT... I THOUGHT THERE'D BE...

I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE... YOU KNOW, INTENSE.



I ONLY CONNECTED **MYSELF** TO THE HIVE, EDDIE. I WON'T RISK CONNECTING YOUR SYMBIOTE UNLESS I HAVE TO.

AND YOUR PSYCHE ISN'T STRONG ENOUGH TO SURVIVE THE--

WHAT? WHY DID YOU STOP?

IT'S HAPPENING. HE'S CLOSE.



GOD IS COMING.

NO...

GOD IS
HERE!



