



THREE WEEKS LATER



CASTLE DOOM.

I'LL BE HONEST, DAD...

I DON'T HAVE VERY GOOD NEWS.

MY WORLD IS IN DISARRAY, VALERIA. RECENT DISORDER HAS ESCALATED INTO OPEN REBELLION IN SEVERAL KINGDOMS.

IN THAT CHAOS MY THORS GROW WEARY, AND AN ILL WIND PORTENDS EVEN WORSE TO COME...NEVERTHELESS, I WOULD HAVE THE TRUTH FROM YOU, DAUGHTER...

AND I WOULD HAVE IT NOW.

OKAY, IF YOU SAY SO...

BASICALLY, THE SEARCH FOR THE REBELS WHO KILLED STEPHEN STRANGE HAS BEEN A FAILURE. EVEN IF WE'RE SUPER PATIENT, EXTRAPOLATING OUT THE LITTLE SUCCESS WE'VE HAD OVER A LONGER PERIOD OF TIME--

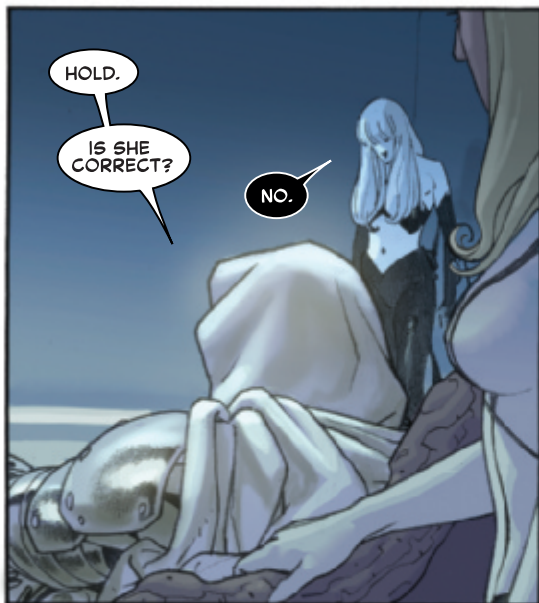
HONESTLY, DAD, OUR CHANCES PRETTY MUCH SUCK...

THE ONLY LUCK WE'VE HAD WAS APOCALYPSE STUMBLING ONTO THESE TWO SEVERAL DAYS AGO.

THE BARON AND HIS HORSEMEN DID QUITE A NUMBER ON THEM, BUT THEY WERE STILL INTACT ENOUGH FOR US TO GET A LOOK INSIDE THEIR HEADS.

FIRST WE FOUND OUT THAT THE BEAST MAN IS CALLED CORBIS. THE OTHER IS, APPARENTLY, HIS PROXY. THEN WE--





HOLD.

IS SHE CORRECT?

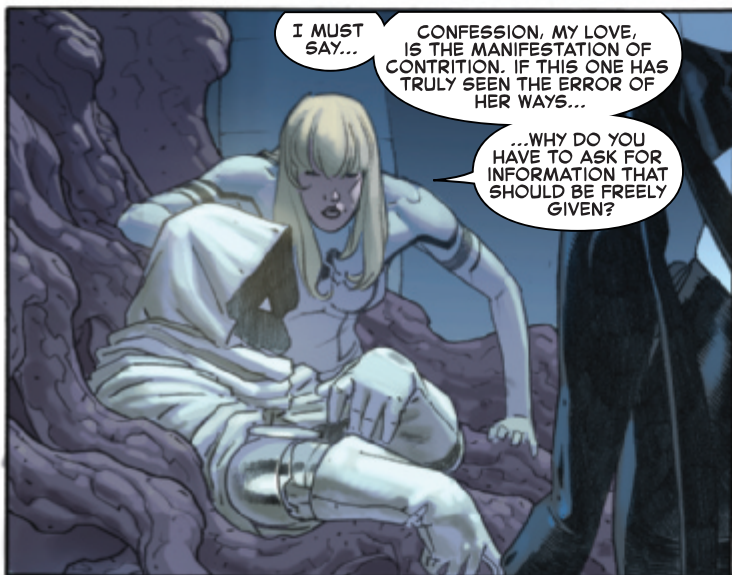
NO.



THEY ARE NOT COMPANIONS, THEY ARE HUSBAND AND WIFE. THE MALE IS **CORVUS GLAIVE**. SHE IS **PROXIMA MIDNIGHT**.

THEY ARE THE SURVIVING MEMBERS OF **THE BLACK ORDER**, THE GENERALS OF THE TYRANT **THANOS**.

AR



I MUST SAY...

CONFESSION, MY LOVE, IS THE MANIFESTATION OF CONTRITION. IF THIS ONE HAS TRULY SEEN THE ERROR OF HER WAYS...

...WHY DO YOU HAVE TO ASK FOR INFORMATION THAT SHOULD BE FREELY GIVEN?



SHE WAS LOST, SUSAN.

THIS **BLACK SWAN** IS FROM ANOTHER WORLD. IT WILL TAKE HER TIME TO FIND HER WAY.

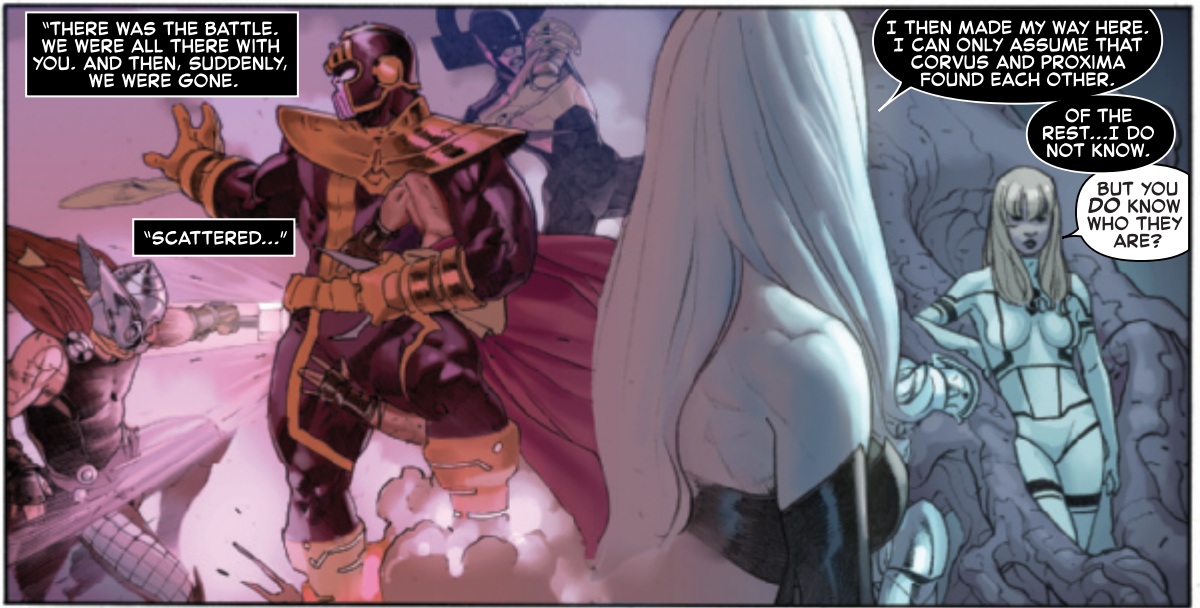
BUT YOU WILL FIND IT, WON'T YOU, CHILD?



I AM HOME, MY LORD.

ANNU ERSETU DAMIQ.

GOOD. AND IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE YOU THINK WE SHOULD HEAR AT THIS TIME?



"THERE WAS THE BATTLE. WE WERE ALL THERE WITH YOU. AND THEN, SUDDENLY, WE WERE GONE.

"SCATTERED..."

I THEN MADE MY WAY HERE. I CAN ONLY ASSUME THAT CORVUS AND PROXIMA FOUND EACH OTHER.

OF THE REST... I DO NOT KNOW.

BUT YOU DO KNOW WHO THEY ARE?



SOME.

NOT ALL.



THEN TELL US WHAT YOU DO KNOW. TELL US WHO YOU--

FORGIVE ME, SUSAN, BUT THAT IS SECONDARY TO MY PRIMARY CONCERN. AT THE MOMENT, I ONLY CARE WHERE THESE REBELS ARE NOW AND THAT THEY ARE BROUGHT BEFORE ME.

TELL US, VALERIA...



DEEP IN THE RECESSES OF OUR CAPTIVES' MINDS, WAS THERE A KERNEL--SOME SLIVER--OF INFORMATION TELLING US WHERE THE OTHERS ARE?

DO WE KNOW ANYTHING OF THEIR PLANS?

I'M SORRY, FATHER...

NO.

WE HAVE NO IDEA WHERE THEY ARE. WE HAVE NO IDEA WHAT THEY'RE DOING.

