



VALIANT

インピリアム IMPERIUM™

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The story so far..



Toyo Harada is the world's most powerful psiot—humans gifted with mental abilities that unlock tremendous powers. Harada sought out and trained other psiotics, to bring about world peace, cure disease, and end poverty...by any means necessary. But because Harada was willing to manipulate and kill in pursuit of his singular vision, a group of psiotic renegades exposed him and brought down his global empire.

Now, with nothing to hide and nothing to lose, Harada has waged open war to save the world. With his super-powered acolytes, he took a portion of Somalia from the militant radicals who controlled it, and started building his utopian Foundation Zone—the first step on Harada's road to a post-scarcity society, with food, employment, education, and health care for all. But the Foundation Zone has a long way to go. And Project Rising Spirit, a covert military contractor led by C.E.O. Morris Kozol, will be there to fight Harada—and make money doing it.

To fight his battle for utopia, Harada collected a team of monsters—the disenfranchised mercenary Gravedog, the compassionate robot Mech Major (a.k.a. Sunlight on Snow), the genetically engineered alien assassin Lord Vine-99, and Angela Peace Baingana, once a crusading Rising Spirit scientist, whose body was possessed by an amoral higher-dimensional intelligence. It was Baingana, with her extra-dimensional abilities of perception, who first detected Harada's attempts at espionage aboard the Leviathan, P.R.S.'s temporary submarine headquarters off the coast of Somalia. She engineered a plan to draw Harada aboard, and offered her services to his cause...in exchange for a freer hand in her ruthless research into human biology, and because his unattainable goals seemed more interesting to her than Rising Spirit's.

But during the escape from Leviathan, Harada encountered the inexplicable—a momentary vision of Divinity, the Soviet cosmonaut who returned from decades in deep space imbued with god-like power. Unsure what he had seen, Harada and his team battled onward...until an uncontrolled burst of Harada's power blew a massive breach in the hull of the submarine...



TRACKING FIVE INDIVIDUALS DESCENDING THE TUNNEL, SIR.

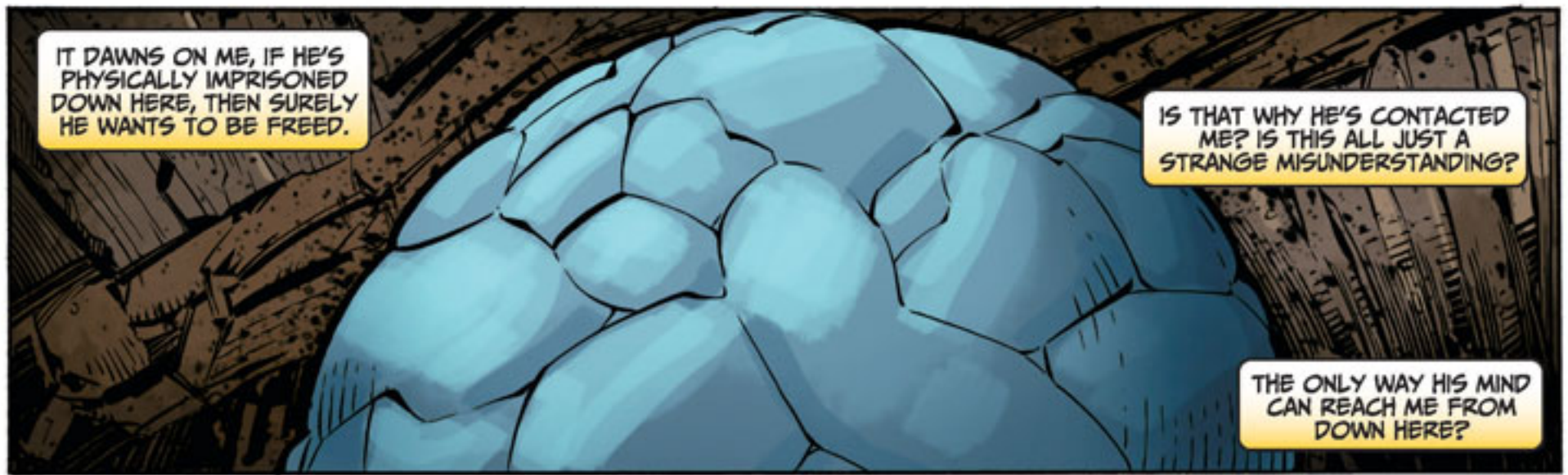
ALL RIGHT, LET'S GET THOSE COMBAT DRONES IN THE HOLE!



EVENTUALLY THE TUNNEL DEAD-ENDS.



THERE'S TWENTY MORE FEET OF CONCRETE AND ROCK LAYER BETWEEN MYSELF AND THE SUNKEN CONTAINMENT POD THAT HOLDS DIVINITY.



IT DAWNS ON ME, IF HE'S PHYSICALLY IMPRISONED DOWN HERE, THEN SURELY HE WANTS TO BE FREED.

IS THAT WHY HE'S CONTACTED ME? IS THIS ALL JUST A STRANGE MISUNDERSTANDING?

THE ONLY WAY HIS MIND CAN REACH ME FROM DOWN HERE?



OF COURSE. HE'S BEEN WAITING FOR MY ARRIVAL...

HE WANTS ME TO SAVE HIM.



GO AWAY.



I'M JUST A MAN RETURNED FROM A FARTHER PLACE... I WISH TO BE LEFT ALONE.



"BUT YOU KEEP COMING AFTER ME."



I THINK WE'RE GOING TO BE DEFENDING OUR RATHER COMPROMISED POSITION HERE ANY MINUTE NOW, HARRADA.



HE KNOCKS ME AROUND IN TIME, LECTURES ME, AND NOW EXPECTS ME TO LEAVE. WITHOUT EVEN BEING SHOWN A MEASURE OF MY OWN POWER.

I'M GOING IN AFTER DIVINITY. I CAN GET THROUGH THIS ROCK, BUT I'LL NEED TO PUT IT SOMEWHERE, SO GIVE ME SOME ROOM OUT HERE.

DEFEND OUR REAR. TARGET ANY ANTI-PSIOT TECH YOU SEE THEM BRINGING DOWN.



ONCE I'VE GOT THE DIVINITY ENTITY, WE WALTZ OUT.

I WILL NOT BE TURNED BACK THIS TIME.

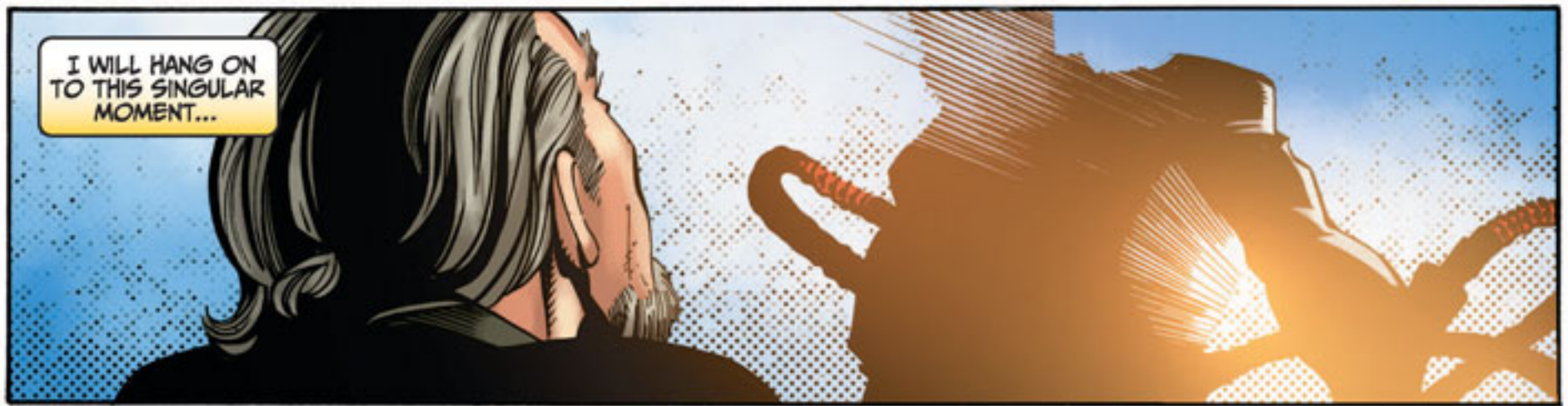


HERE THEY COME!

I WILL NOT BE DISPLACED AGAIN.



I WILL NOT BE TOYED WITH.



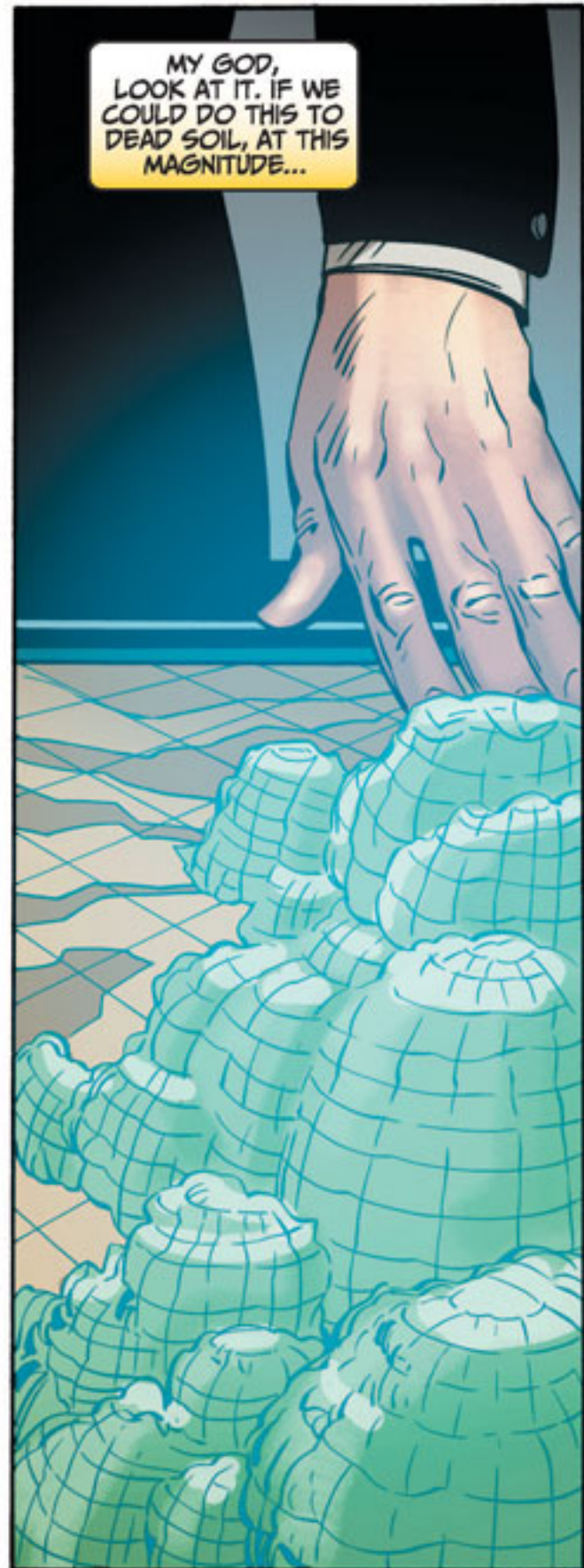
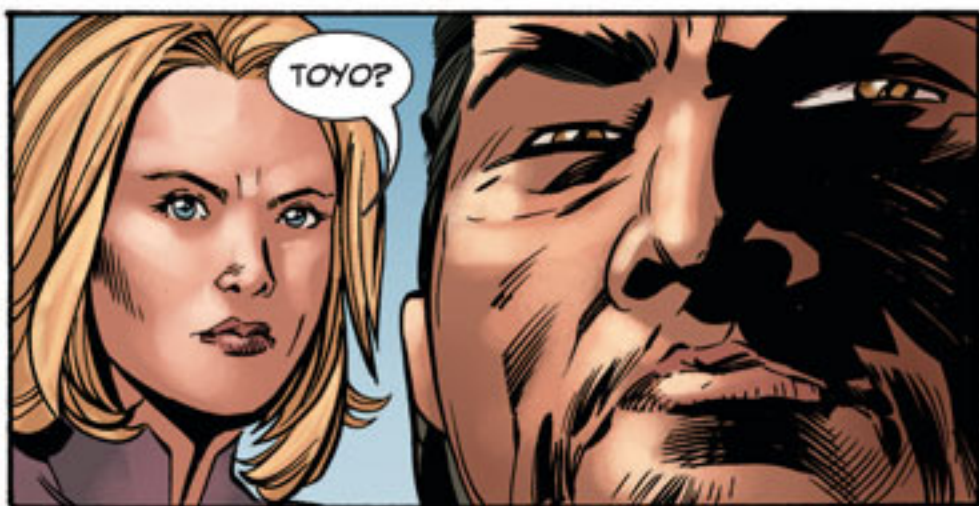
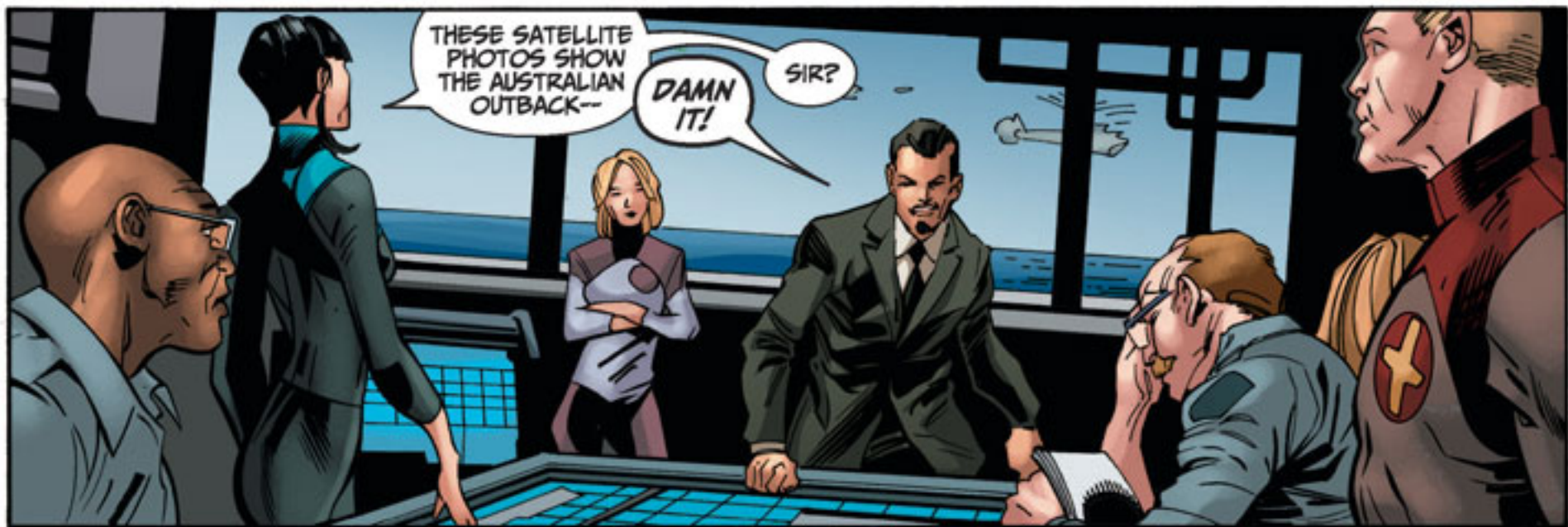
I WILL HANG ON TO THIS SINGULAR MOMENT...



... WITH EVERY IOTA...



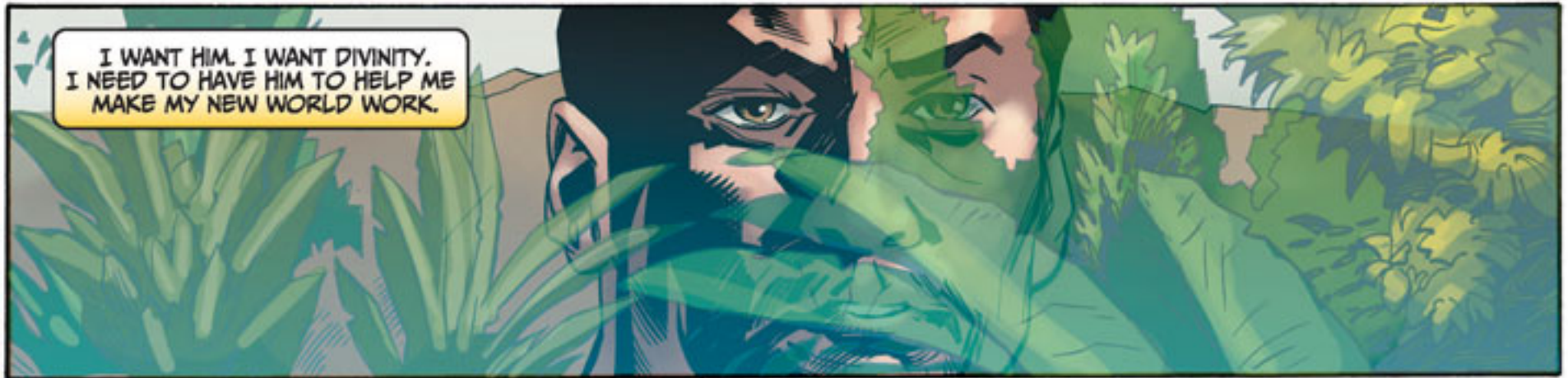
... OF MY POWER.





...WE COULD ACHIEVE GLOBAL FOOD SECURITY, REVERSE DROUGHTS, REPLENISH RAIN FORESTS, PROFOUNDLY SLOW CLIMATE CHANGE.

CHANGE EVERYTHING.



I WANT HIM. I WANT DIVINITY. I NEED TO HAVE HIM TO HELP ME MAKE MY NEW WORLD WORK.



OUR HYPER-PSYCHIC EMBEDDED IN MI-6 HAS DISCOVERED DIVINITY'S LOCATION. HE'S BEING HELD HERE...

...DEEP BENEATH THE EARTH IN A CONTAINMENT POD. THERE'S AN INCLINED ACCESS TUNNEL THAT TERMINATES NEAR THE POD.

THEN A PIECE OF THE PUZZLE CLICKS INTO PLACE.

TACTICALLY IT'S NOT PERFECT. BUT IT SEEMS TO BE OUR ONLY POINT FOR RETRIEVING THE ENTITY, SIR.



DIVINITY DIDN'T COME AFTER ME FIRST...

...I CAME AFTER DIVINITY.