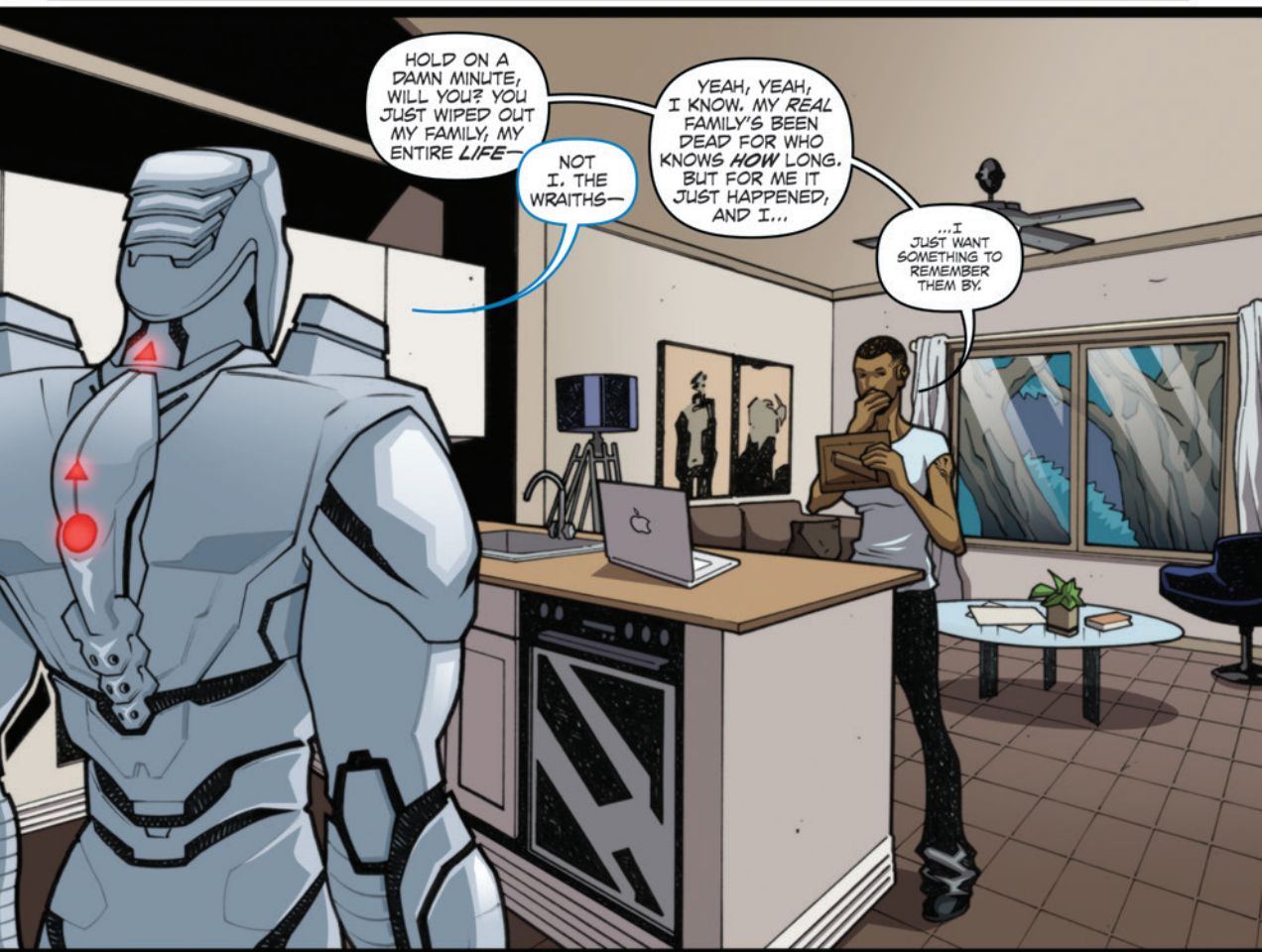


THE MASON HOMESTEAD
2:40 PM

DARBY MASON, IT IS DANGEROUS TO REMAIN IN THIS DWELLING.

THE DIRT WRAITHS WILL REGROUP. OUR RESPITE CANNOT LAST.



HOLD ON A DAMN MINUTE, WILL YOU? YOU JUST WIPED OUT MY FAMILY, MY ENTIRE LIFE—

NOT I. THE WRAITHS—

YEAH, YEAH, I KNOW. MY REAL FAMILY'S BEEN DEAD FOR WHO KNOWS HOW LONG. BUT FOR ME IT JUST HAPPENED, AND I...

...I JUST WANT SOMETHING TO REMEMBER THEM BY.



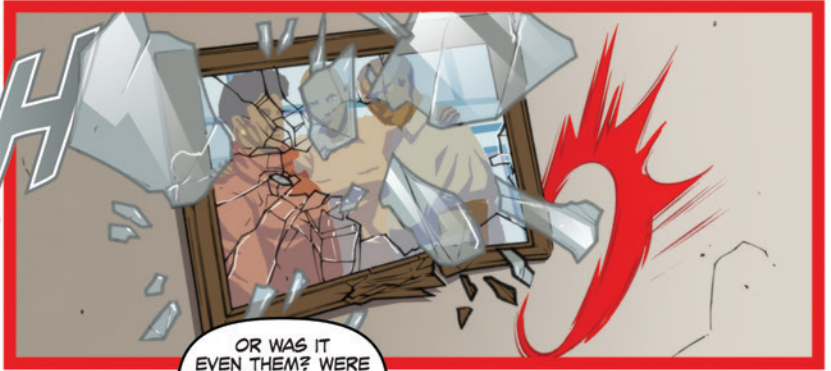
MY APOLOGIES.

I... UNDERSTAND.



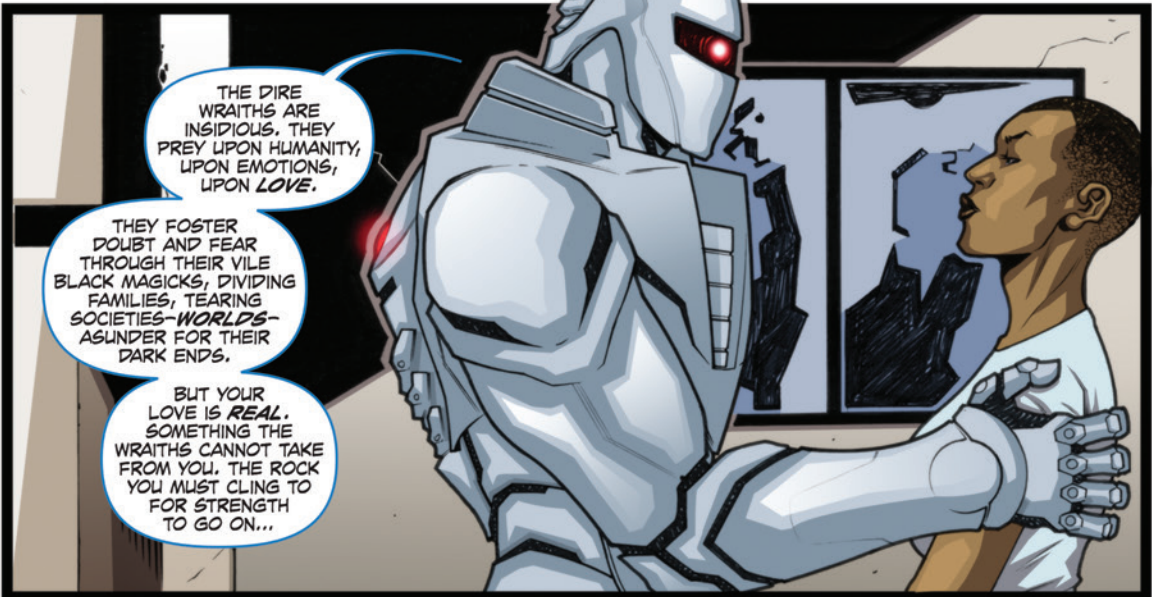
BOOT CAMP GRADUATION. THEY WERE SO PROUD...

KRESH



OR WAS IT
EVEN THEM? WERE
THEY *ALREADY*
MONSTERS, JUST
USING ME TO
INFILTRATE?

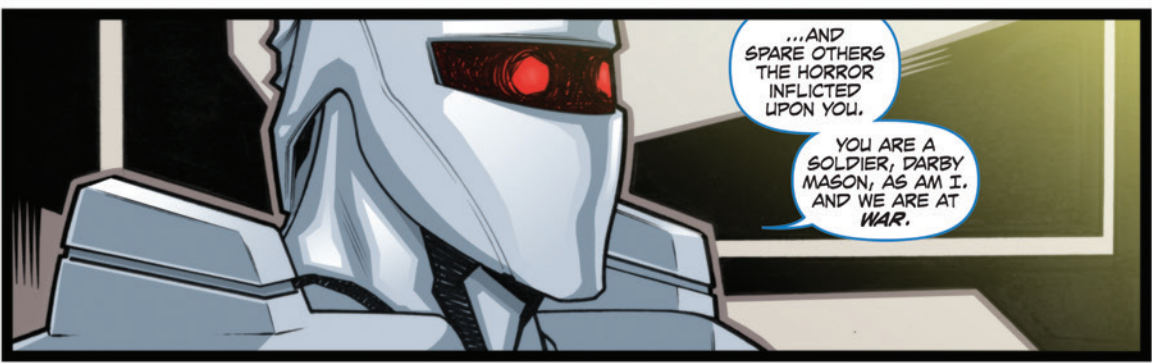
WAS ANY
OF IT REAL? *IS*
MY WHOLE
LIFE A LIE?



THE DIRE
WRAITHS ARE
INSIDIOUS. THEY
PREY UPON HUMANITY,
UPON EMOTIONS,
UPON *LOVE*.

THEY FOSTER
DOUBT AND FEAR
THROUGH THEIR VILE
BLACK MAGICKS, DIVIDING
FAMILIES, TEARING
SOCIETIES-*WORLDS*-
ASUNDER FOR THEIR
DARK ENDS.

BUT YOUR
LOVE IS *REAL*.
SOMETHING THE
WRAITHS CANNOT TAKE
FROM YOU. THE ROCK
YOU MUST CLING TO
FOR STRENGTH
TO GO ON...



...AND
SPARE OTHERS
THE HORROR
INFLECTED
UPON YOU.

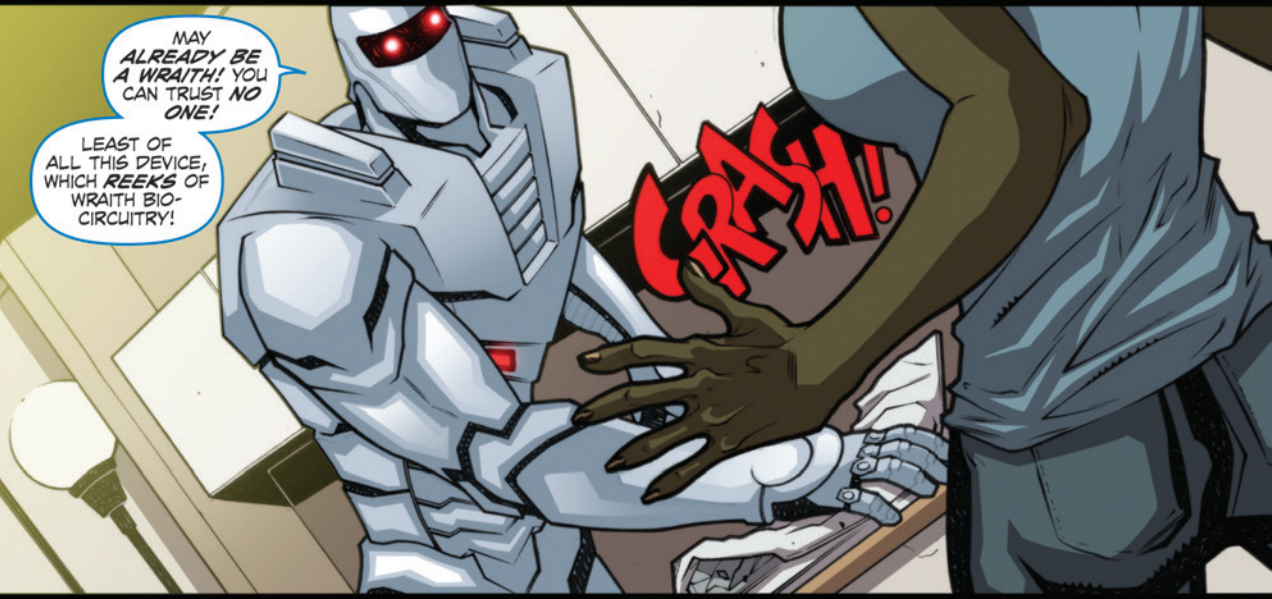
YOU ARE A
SOLDIER, DARBY
MASON, AS AM I.
AND WE ARE AT
WAR.



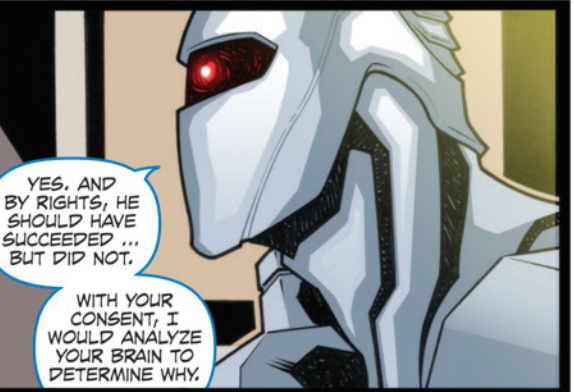
I'M NOT A SOLDIER. NOT ANY MORE. I... CAN'T.



I'LL PUT YOU IN TOUCH WITH PEOPLE WHO CAN HELP. MY OLD COMMANDING OFFICER—



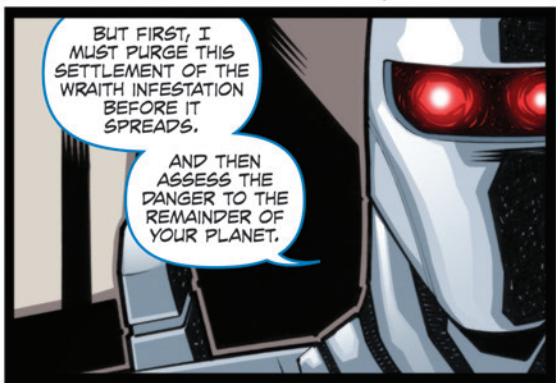
MAY ALREADY BE A WRAITH! YOU CAN TRUST NO ONE!
LEAST OF ALL THIS DEVICE, WHICH REEKS OF WRAITH BIO-CIRCUITRY!



YES, AND BY RIGHTS, HE SHOULD HAVE SUCCEEDED ... BUT DID NOT.
WITH YOUR CONSENT, I WOULD ANALYZE YOUR BRAIN TO DETERMINE WHY.



WAIT, THE WAY THE WRAITHS REPLACE US...
...IS THAT WHAT MY "FATHER" TRIED TO DO TO ME?



BUT FIRST, I MUST PURGE THIS SETTLEMENT OF THE WRAITH INFESTATION BEFORE IT SPREADS.
AND THEN ASSESS THE DANGER TO THE REMAINDER OF YOUR PLANET.



SOMETHING I CANNOT DO WITHOUT A NATIVE ALLY I MAY TRUST ABSOLUTELY.
YOU.

