

INVINCIBLE IRON MAN

MARVEL

#600



**BONUS
DIGITAL
CONTENT**

see inside for details



CELEBRATING THE ARMORED
AVENGER'S 600th ISSUE!

FEATURING THE TALENTS OF

BENDIS
CASELLI
MALEEV
MARQUEZ
ACUÑA

YU
DEODATO
BAGLEY
SORRENTINO
GRACIA

and MORE!

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Belgado

HEY!

I AM THE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE MATRIX BUILT BY TONY STARK TO SIMULATE, WITH SURPRISING ACCURACY, THE EXPERIENCE OF BEING WITH TONY STARK.

I WAS CREATED TO HELP THE FABULOUS RIRI WILLIAMS LEARN, TRAIN AND ADJUST TO BEING IRONHEART--THE NEW ARMORED SUPER HERO.

BUT ISN'T THAT SO TONY BEING TONY? HERE'S THE GIFT...OF ME!

BUT IT IS THE PERFECT GIFT BECAUSE I'M ACTUALLY EXACTLY WHAT SHE NEEDED.

IT'S SO FUNNY, AT FIRST I REALLY STRUGGLED WITH MY--MY OWN EXISTENCE.

SEE? I AM THE EMBODIMENT OF TONY STARK'S INTELLECT AND HIS EGO.

OH, YOU TOTALLY LIKE EVERYTHING ABOUT YOUR BODY?

AND I AM THAT EGO WITHOUT ALL THE FRAGILE HUMANITY OF THE HUMAN BODY TO KEEP IT IN CHECK.

SPOILERS! TONY STARK DOES HAVE QUITE THE EGO.

I DON'T HAVE THAT. I HAVE NOTHING HOLDING MY EGO BACK.

CONGRATULATIONS, THEN! IT'S YOU AND THE RED HULK. EVERYONE ELSE HAS PROBLEMS WITH SOMETHING ABOUT THEM AND THAT TENDS TO KEEP THE EGO IN CHECK.

I'M PRETTY GREAT.

IT'S THE REST OF YOU THAT ARE HIGHLY PROBLEMATIC.

BUT OKAY, ALL YOU WANT TO KNOW IS: WHERE IS THE REAL TONY STARK?

EVERYONE DOES.

BECAUSE HE'S HIDING.

BUT I KNOW WHERE HE IS BECAUSE I AM, AS I SAID, AWESOME.

AND I AM ALSO, IN THIS CASE, AN EXPERT IN THE FIELD OF WHAT WOULD TONY STARK DO...

THE SEARCH FOR TONY STARK FINALE

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IRON MAN CREATED BY STAN LEE, LARRY LIEBER, DON HECK & JACK KIRBY

"TONY HAS HIS HANDS FULL."

"NOT TOO LONG AGO, TONY LOST A BIG BATTLE THAT SHOULD HAVE KILLED HIM. BUT IT DIDN'T."


"SEE, IT SEEMS, SECRETLY, TONY HAS BEEN GENTLY POKING AT HIS OWN DNA. JUST LITTLE ADJUSTMENTS HERE AND THERE, NOW AND THEN, ALL IN FAVOR OF THE NEW ARMORS AND NEW DISCOVERIES AND NEW TECHNOLOGIES."

"WELL, TO BE FRANK, IT'S ALL UNTESTED, UNPROVEN, UNDOCUMENTED SCIENCE. VERY FROWNED UPON. BUT, IT SEEMS, JUST THIS ONE TIME..."

"...IT SAVED HIS LIFE."

"HIS BODY REBOOTED INSTEAD OF FAILING, HENCE THE MOMENTARY LACK OF HAIR, AND NOW HE IS ON THE MEND."





"BUT IT OCCURRED TO HIM THAT IF HE SURVIVED A FATAL ATTACK THAT REBOOTED HIS BIOLOGICAL SYSTEMS...

"...THEN MAYBE HIS BEST FRIEND JAMES "RHODEY" RHODES, THE AMAZING WAR MACHINE, WHO RECENTLY DIED IN BATTLE (AT THE HANDS OF THANOS, NO LESS), MIGHT HAVE SURVIVED, TOO.

"MAYBE HE ISN'T SO MUCH DEAD AS...DEAD-ISH.

"BUT TONY MUST GO IT ALONE BECAUSE WHAT TONY HAS ACTUALLY DONE IS DUG UP HIS DEAD FRIEND'S DEAD CORPSE IN THE DEAD OF NIGHT.

"IT'S WEIRD. IT'S CREEPY.

"AND NOW HE HYPER-THINKS ABOUT HOW TO BRING RHOPEY BACK TO LIFE WITHOUT, YOU KNOW, ZOMBIE.

"TONY REALLY WANTS TO AVOID CREATING A ZOMBIE OF HIS BEST FRIEND THAT HE WAS TRYING TO SAVE BECAUSE OF THE, WELL, DEEP GUILT AND REGRET.

"RHODEY'S PATH AS A SUPER HERO WAS INSPIRED AND FUNDED BY TONY, AND NOW HE'S GONE.

"BUT TONY CAN EASILY TELL HIMSELF THAT JAMES RHODES WAS A DECORATED WAR HERO AND SOLDIER WHO LIVED WITH WAR AND BATTLE EVERY DAY OF HIS ADULT LIFE, BY CHOICE.

"NO ONE BLAMES TONY FOR RHODEY'S DEATH BUT TONY.

"DEEP DOWN, HE KNOWS THIS.

"ESPECIALLY BECAUSE TONY WASN'T EVEN THERE WHEN RHODEY DIED.

"IT WAS THANOS WHO KILLED HIM, DID I TELL YOU THAT?



"I JUST MENTION IT BECAUSE IT WASN'T A PUNK-ASS DEATH."



"IT WAS HEROIC."



"ONE THAT RHOPEY WOULD HAVE BEEN SATISFIED WITH."



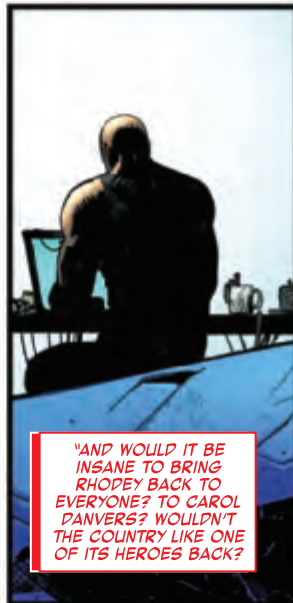
"BUT TONY IS STILL, LIKE...IF THERE IS EVEN A SMALL CHANCE RHOPEY COULD LIVE, THEN SHOULDN'T RHOPEY LIVE?"



"WOULD RHOPEY APPROVE OF WHAT TONY IS DOING, OR WOULD HE BE...PISSED?"



"TONY THINKS ABOUT HOW MUCH RHOPEY LOVED LIFE AND LOVED BEING A SOLDIER AND A SUPER HERO AND LOVED THE AVENGERS AND CAROL DANVERS..."



"AND WOULD IT BE INSANE TO BRING RHOPEY BACK TO EVERYONE? TO CAROL DANVERS? WOULDN'T THE COUNTRY LIKE ONE OF ITS HEROES BACK?"



"TONY DOES QUICK GIBBERISH MATH ON HOW MANY LIVES RHOPEY HAS SAVED IN JUST THE LAST COUPLE OF YEARS, AND THAT'S ALL IT TAKES."



"HUMANS! RIGHT?"



"WELL, YOU KNOW. YOU'RE PROBABLY ONE OF THEM."



"YOU KNOW YOU'RE A HOT GARBAGE FIRE OF A SPECIES."



"THIS IS WHY YOU CONSTANTLY FIND YOURSELVES IN THESE SITUATIONS!"



"TONY THINKS ABOUT THIS. A LOT. A LOT, A LOT."



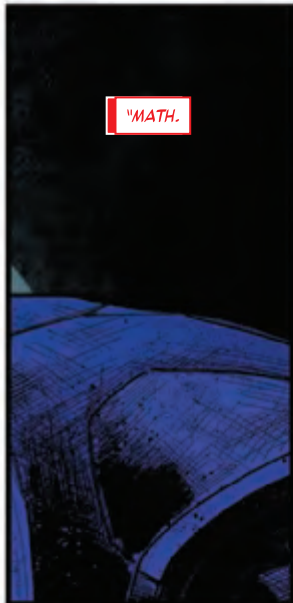
"HE DOES. WOULD RHODEY WANT TO BE BROUGHT BACK?"



"SURE, WHO WOULDN'T? BUT WHERE IS RHODEY'S LINE IN THE SAND ON THIS?"



"TONY CLEARLY HAS NO LINE, BUT RHODEY SURE DOES."



"MATH."



"I GET WHERE TONY IS COMING FROM IN ALL THIS...BUT I WAS PROGRAMMED TO."



"ALSO, GETTING BACK TO ME...AS A DISEMBODED A.I., I CAN REALLY STRUGGLE WITH HOW THE WORLD WORKS."



"HOW CRAZY THE WORLD IS. HOW HUMANS, REALLY, NO OFFENSE, RUIN ALMOST EVERYTHING."



"YOU CREATED A WORLD OF QUESTIONABLE MORALITY AND THEN YOU FIND YOURSELF SHOCKED--SHOCKED!--"



"--TO BE CONSTANTLY STUCK IN MORAL QUANDARIES IN THIS WORLD OF QUESTIONABLE MORALITY THAT YOU HELPED MAKE!"



"YOU FORCE YOURSELF TO GAMBLE WITH THINGS NO ONE SHOULD EVER GAMBLE WITH."