

RISE OF THE
BLACK PANTHER #5

COATES ● NARCISSE ● PINA ● PAITREAU

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RISE OF THE BLACK PANTHER

For centuries, generations of fierce warrior monarchs have held the title of Black Panther, a mantle of spiritual and political leadership in the African country of Wakanda. Thanks to the lineage of Black Panthers, the country has remained secluded and unconquered. Wakanda is home to secret technological advancements and contains the Great Sacred Mound of Vibranium, source of a rare, ultra-durable metal that absorbs energy and vibration.

After the death of his father T'Chaka, young T'Challa went on a journey that would lead him to becoming the new Black Panther. On that journey, he met and formed a connection with a young mutant named Ororo, who would one day go on to become Storm of the X-Men.

Now T'Challa is the new ruler of Wakanda. He made the controversial decision to reveal his country to the world, which drew the attention of Doctor Doom, tyrant ruler of Latveria. T'Challa and his sister Shuri drove off Doom's advances, but back home a recently returned Wakandan refugee named N'Jadaka (who had taken the name Erik while living in New York) is spreading unease about the kingdom's new status quo.

And before leaving Latveria, T'Challa was told that a man claiming to be his brother had worked with Doom to sow chaos in Wakanda. T'Challa's adoptive brother is Hunter, who--as the White Wolf--leads a secret military unit called the *Hatut Zeraze*. Could the White Wolf be a traitor to Wakanda?

"POWER SHOW"

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RISE OF THE BLACK PANTHER No. 5, July 2018. Published Monthly by MARVEL WORLDWIDE, INC., a subsidiary of MARVEL ENTERTAINMENT, LLC. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 135 West 50th Street, New York, NY 10020. **BULK MAIL POSTAGE PAID AT NEW YORK, NY AND AT ADDITIONAL MAILING OFFICES.** © 2018 MARVEL. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. \$3.99 per copy in the U.S. (GST #R127032852) in the direct market; Canadian Agreement #40668537. **Printed in the USA.** Subscription rate (U.S. dollars) for 12 issues: U.S. \$26.99; Canada \$42.99; Foreign \$42.99. **POSTMASTER: SEND ALL ADDRESS CHANGES TO RISE OF THE BLACK PANTHER, C/O MARVEL SUBSCRIPTIONS P.O. BOX 727 NEW HYDE PARK, NY 11040. TELEPHONE # (888) 511-5480. FAX # (347) 537-2649. subscriptions@marvel.com.** DAN BUCKLEY, President, Marvel Entertainment; JOHN NEE, Publisher; JOE QUESADA, Chief Creative Officer; TOM BREVOORT, SVP of Publishing; DAVID BOGART, SVP of Business Affairs & Operations, Publishing & Partnership; DAVID GABRIEL, SVP of Sales & Marketing, Publishing; JEFF YOUNGQUIST, VP of Production & Special Projects; DAN CARR, Executive Director of Publishing Technology; ALEX MORALES, Director of Publishing Operations; DAN EDINGTON, Managing Editor; SUSAN GRESPI, Production Manager; STAN LEE, Chairman Emeritus. For information regarding advertising in Marvel Comics or on Marvel.com, please contact Vit DeBellis, Custom Solutions & Integrated Advertising Manager, at vdellis@marvel.com. For Marvel subscription inquiries, please call 888-511-5480. **Manufactured between 04/06/2018 and 04/17/2018 by QUAD GRAPHICS SARATOGA, SARATOGA SPRINGS, NY, USA.**

BLACK PANTHER created by
STAN LEE & JACK KIRBY

HATUT ZERAZE HEADQUARTERS

ANSWER
ME, YOU DOGS
OF WAR!



WHERE IS
HUNTER?!

WHERE IS
THE WHITE
WOLF?





I AM NOT HIDING, KING T'CHALLA.

WHEN YOUR KING DEMANDS AN AUDIENCE, WHITE WOLF, IT IS YOUR DUTY TO GRANT HIM ONE.

OTHER DUTIES NEED TENDING TO, MY LIEGE. I ALWAYS INITIATE RADIO SILENCE BEFORE A MISSION. YOU KNOW THIS.

I'VE NOT SIGNED OFF ON ANY NEW HATUT ZERAZE* MISSIONS SINCE BECOMING BLACK PANTHER, HUNTER.

THIS IS OLD BUSINESS FROM BEFORE YOUR TIME, LITTLE BROTHER.

MY TIME IS NOW AND MY PATIENCE SHORT.

*HATUT ZERAZE: DOGS OF WAR, THE SECRET WAKANDAN SECURITY FORCE COMMANDED BY HUNTER.



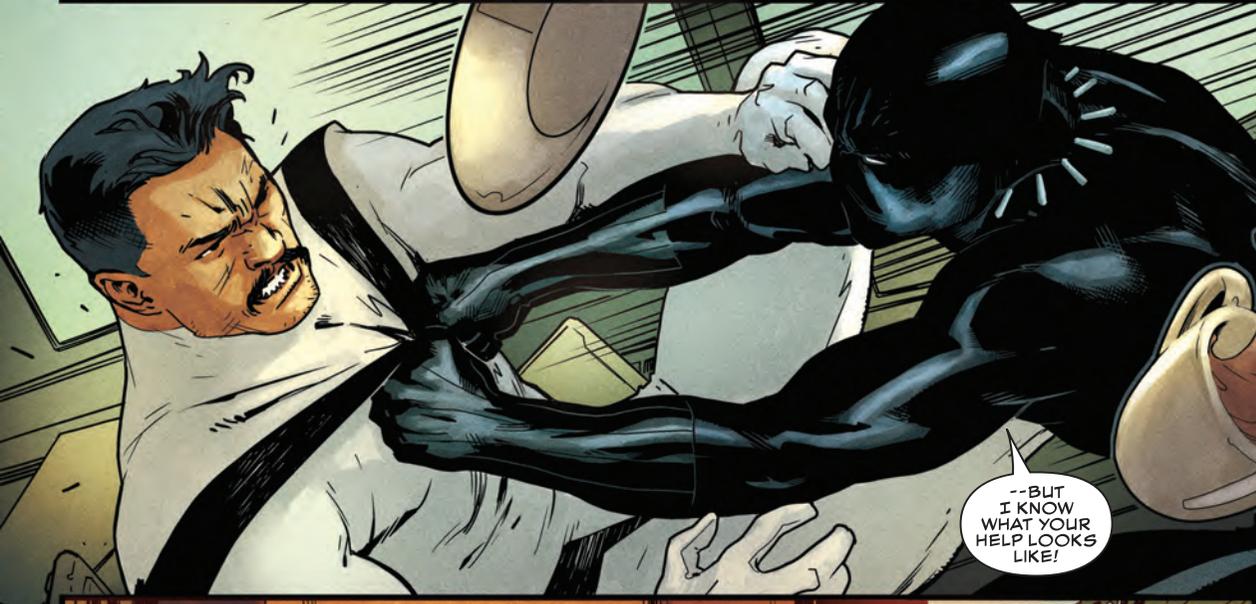
I'VE A PLANE WAITING ON ME. WE CAN--

YOU WILL EXPLAIN WITHOUT DELAY WHY VICTOR VON DOOM SAID A SON OF T'CHAKA GAVE HIM SECRET INTELLIGENCE ABOUT WAKANDA.



THAT IS UTTER NONSENSE, T'CHALLA. I'M ACTUALLY TRYING TO HELP YOU DEAL WITH PRESSING MATTERS CONCERNING THE REALM'S SECURITY.

THANK YOU, HUNTER--



--BUT I KNOW WHAT YOUR HELP LOOKS LIKE!

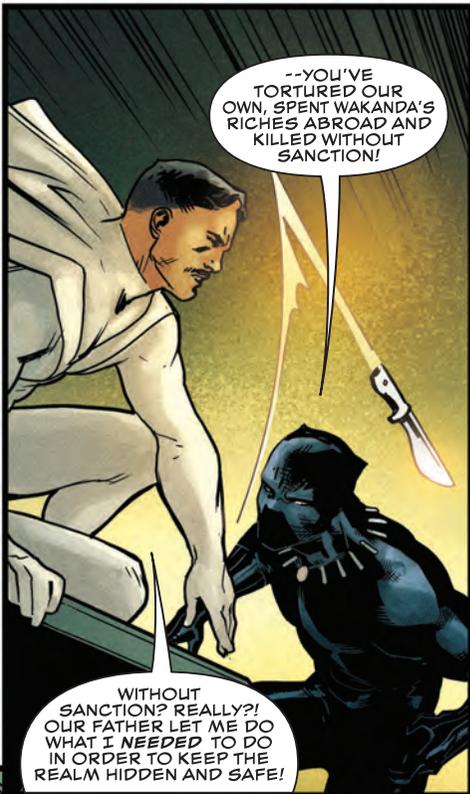


"AH, SO YOU REMEMBER THE 'BUSINESS TRIPS' THE GREAT KING T'CHAKA SENT ME ON..."

WHY DOES HUNTER GO AWAY SO MUCH, BABA?

HUNTER'S FACE CAN GO PLACES WHERE MINE CANNOT. MY SON. SO I SEND HIM ABROAD FOR THE SAKE OF THE REALM.

"OF COURSE I REMEMBER--



--YOU'VE TORTURED OUR OWN, SPENT WAKANDA'S RICHES ABROAD AND KILLED WITHOUT SANCTION!

WITHOUT SANCTION? REALLY?! OUR FATHER LET ME DO WHAT I NEEDED TO DO IN ORDER TO KEEP THE REALM HIDDEN AND SAFE!



NO MATTER THE REASON, I WILL NOT SEND ROVING BANDS OF KILLERS OUT IN THE WORLD IN WAKANDA'S NAME.

THIS FIGHT IS HARDLY FAIR, T'CHALLA--NOW THAT YOU'RE KING, I'M NOT PERMITTED TO STRIKE YOU.



I SEE NO PROBLEM WITH THAT, "SON OF T'CHAKA"--

ENOUGH, BOTH OF YOU!



MOTHER, WHY ARE YOU--

WE NEED TO TALK, ALL OF US--

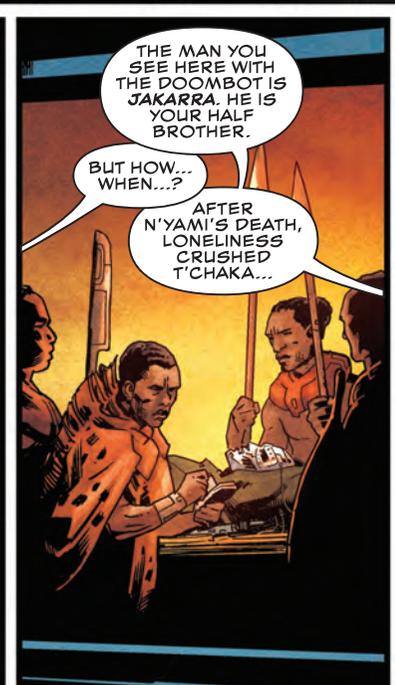


"--AS A FAMILY!"



WE THOUGHT WE HAD TIME TO TELL YOU...

BUT YOU DEFEATED ME AT CHALLENGE DAY YEARS BEFORE WE THOUGHT YOU WOULD ENTER.



THE MAN YOU SEE HERE WITH THE DOOMBOT IS JAKARRA. HE IS YOUR HALF BROTHER.

BUT HOW... WHEN...?

AFTER N'YAMI'S DEATH, LONELINESS CRUSHED T'CHAKA...

"BEFORE MY BROTHER MARRIED RAMONDA, THERE WAS... MATEENA, AN AGENT OF THE N'CHARU SILEMA*, WHO WORKED ACROSS THE GLOBE TO MAINTAIN OUR SECRETY.

*THE WAKANDAN SPY NETWORK.

"YOU FATHER SAID THAT THEY HAD WAS MORE NEED THAN LOVE.

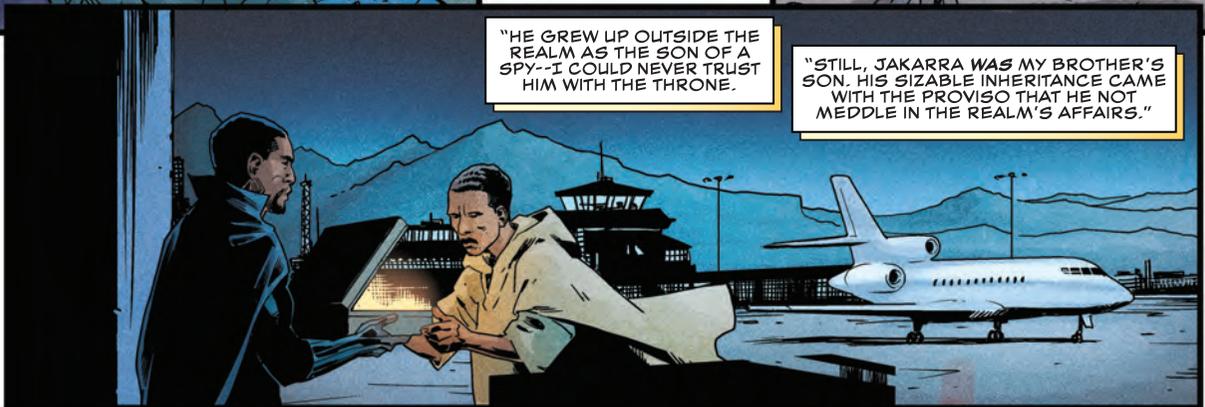
"SHE LATER DIED IN SERVICE OF THE REALM...LEAVING BEHIND THEIR SON.

"MATEENA HAD RAISED JAKARRA ABROAD. WHEN YOU WERE AWAY AT SCHOOL, THE PUNY RUNT CAME TO SEE ME ABOUT HIS SO-CALLED BIRTHRIGHT.



"HE GREW UP OUTSIDE THE REALM AS THE SON OF A SPY--I COULD NEVER TRUST HIM WITH THE THRONE.

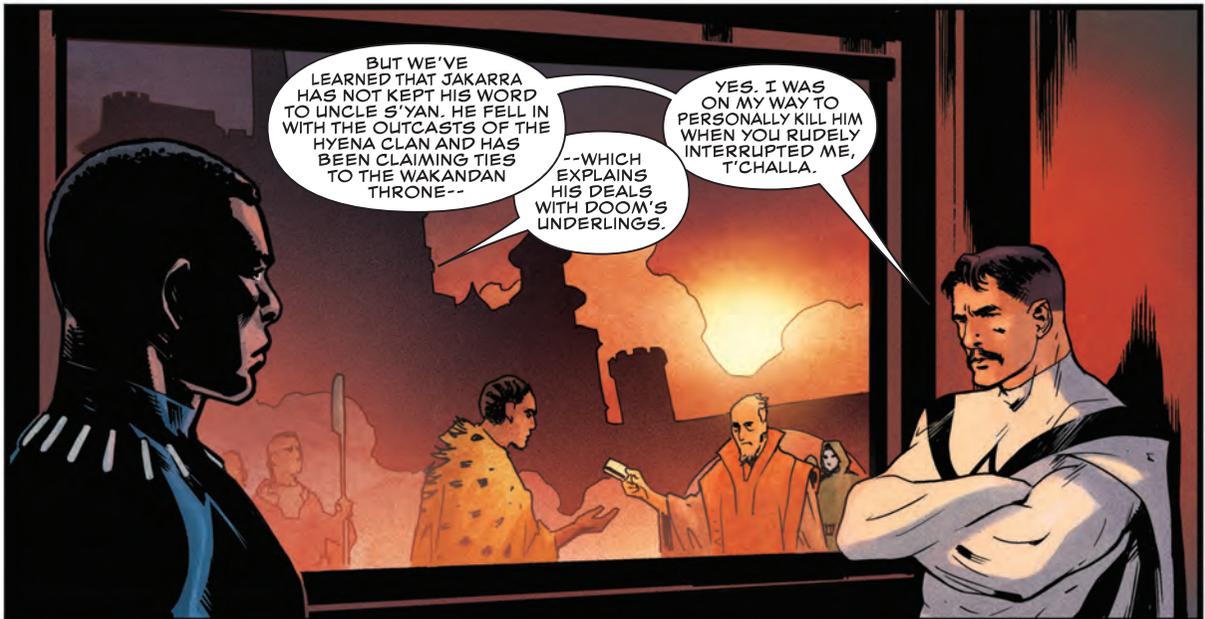
"STILL, JAKARRA WAS MY BROTHER'S SON. HIS SIZABLE INHERITANCE CAME WITH THE PROVISIO THAT HE NOT MEDDLE IN THE REALM'S AFFAIRS."



BUT WE'VE LEARNED THAT JAKARRA HAS NOT KEPT HIS WORD TO UNCLE S'YAN. HE FELL IN WITH THE OUTCASTS OF THE HYENA CLAN AND HAS BEEN CLAIMING TIES TO THE WAKANDAN THRONE--

--WHICH EXPLAINS HIS DEALS WITH DOOM'S UNDERLINGS.

YES. I WAS ON MY WAY TO PERSONALLY KILL HIM WHEN YOU RUDELY INTERRUPTED ME, T'CHALLA.





THE WORLD'S EYES ARE NOW ON THE REALM, HUNTER, SO THIS IS NOT THE TIME FOR SETTLING DISPUTES IN BLOOD.

HUNTER CAN DO THIS WORK IN SECRET, AS HE HAS FOR YEARS. NO ONE NEEDS TO KNOW.

I WOULD KNOW, UNCLE. MYWAKANDA WILL BE DIFFERENT. IT HAS TO BE.



I...THOUGHT I KNEW EVERYTHING ABOUT THIS FAMILY, THIS REALM.

MY SON, THE KING WHO STOPS LEARNING IS DESTINED TO GO DOWN IN HISTORY AS A FOOL.



I WILL RECKON WITH JAKARRA'S LIES MYSELF. HUNTER, GIVE ME A LIST OF THE LOCATIONS WHERE HE'S BEEN OPERATING.

WHEN DO WE LEAVE, BROTHER?

I HAVE TO DO THIS ALONE, SHURI.



HE'S MY BROTHER, TOO--

THE HYENA CLAN'S TELEPORTATION METHOD ORIGINATED IN THE REALM. I NEED YOU HERE TO GUARD THE BORDERS AGAINST THEM.



SON OF T'CHAKA OR NOT, I WON'T ALLOW JAKARRA OR THE HYENAS TO PROFIT FROM CHAOS SOWN IN WAKANDA'S NAME.

THE BLACK PANTHER IS ON THE HUNT.