



**VALIANT**

# X-O MANOWAR

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First Printing.

## The story so far..



Aric of Dacia—a Visigoth warrior from the fifth century – was kidnapped by a merciless, imperial alien race known as The Vine. For years he lived worlds away, a slave to their nefarious whims. But when Aric bonded with the Vine's sentient relic, the Manowar armor, he led a slave revolt and escaped to Earth...only to discover centuries had passed and the Earth he knew was now ancient history.

With nothing more than his suit of armor and a small group of his fellow slaves, Aric began life anew as Earth's unlikely hero,

a mix of machine and man, of great power and great conscience... X-O MANOWAR!

Recently, Aric defended the Earth from the Armor Hunters and his activities became the concern of the United Nations. The nefarious billionaire industrialist Phillip Zahn, backed by his Armorines, weaseled his way into becoming the UN's official observers. Under the guise of inspecting the armor, they lured Aric and his military handler, Colonel Capshaw, to a facility in Austria... where they prepared to execute him!



MANHATTAN.

ZAHN ENTERPRISES GLOBAL HEADQUARTERS.

B-100 B-100

OFFICE  
OF PHILLIP ZAHN,  
C.E.O. OF ZAHN  
ENTERPRISES.

QUICK,  
ROSEMARY!  
GUESS WHAT I'M  
WEARING!

IS  
IT GOLD? AND  
POWERFUL?

YOU  
KNOW  
IT!

CALL MY  
WIFE. TELL  
HER I WON'T BE  
HOME FOR A  
FEW DAYS.

THEN  
GET THE BED  
READY. YOUR  
KNIGHT IN *SHINING*  
*ARMOR* WILL BE  
SEEING YOU  
TONIGHT...



VIENNA, AUSTRIA.

...AND I'LL  
BE COMING  
IN HOT.

INSIDE THE INTERNATIONAL EXTRATERRESTRIAL TECHNOLOGY AUTHORITY.

# CHANGING OF THE GUARD

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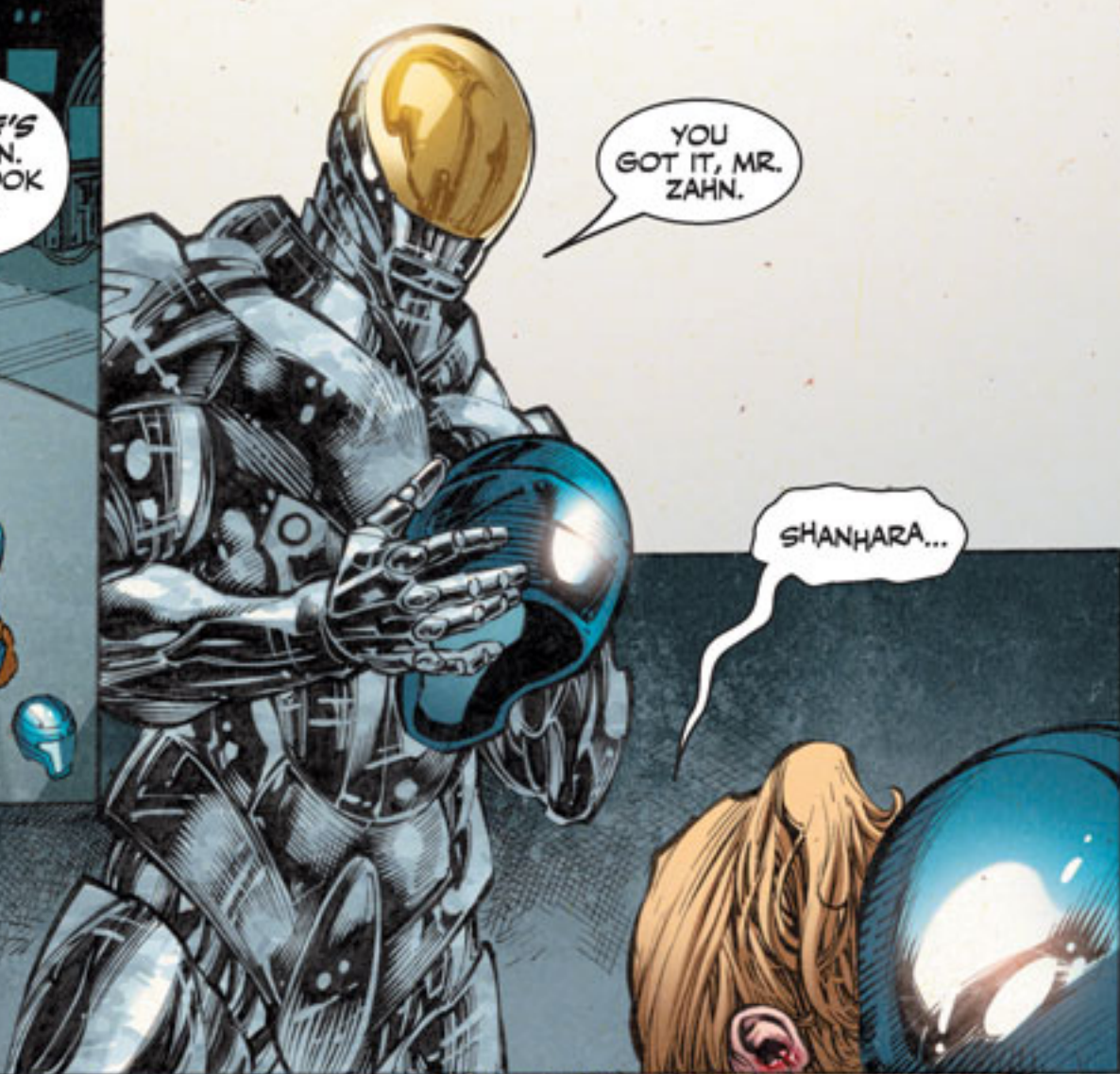


M-MY EAR...



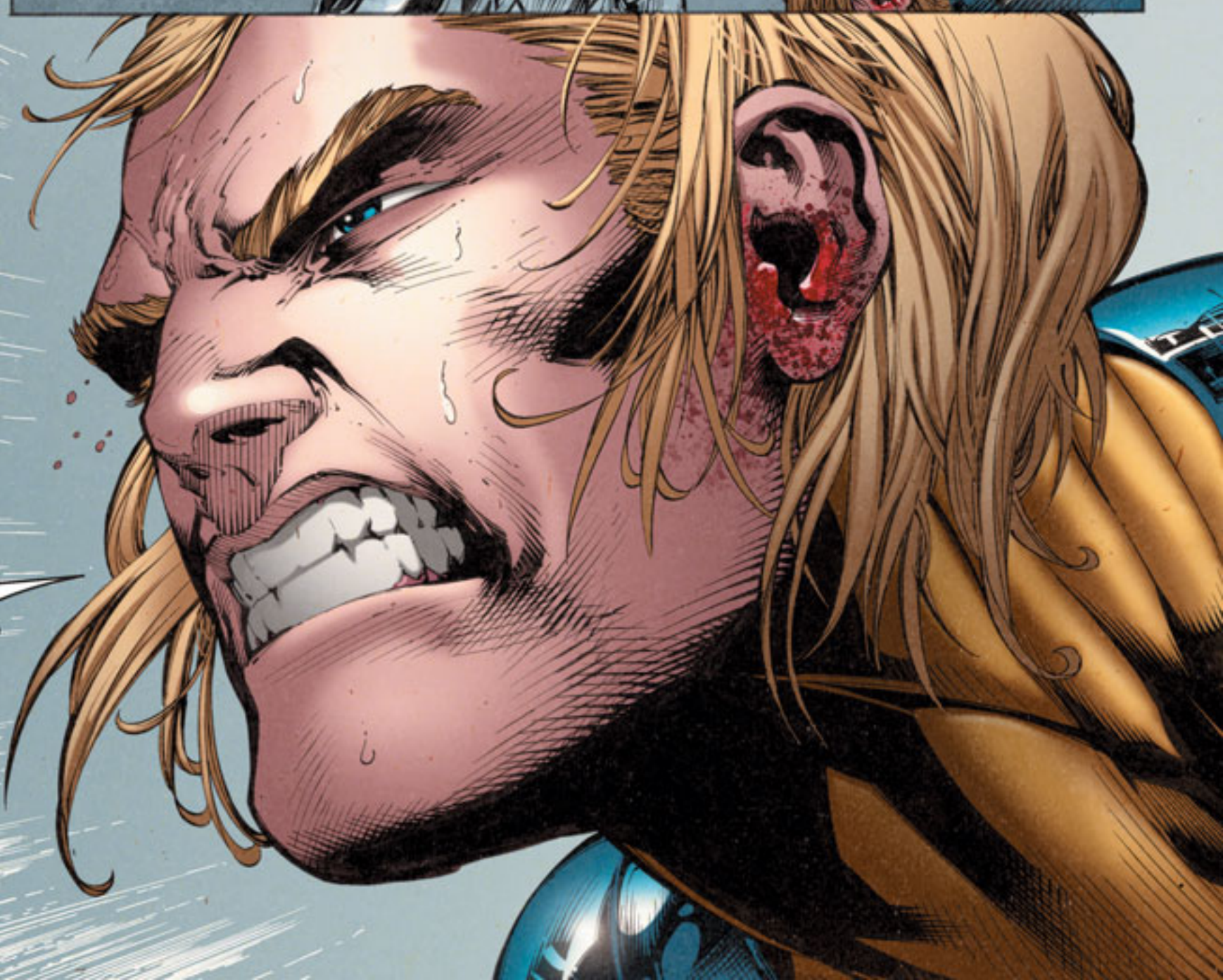
REMEMBER THE PLAN, ARMORINES. KEEP HIM OFF BALANCE, BUT THE KILL SHOT GOES TO ME.

THREE, PUT BARNEY RUBBLE'S HELMET BACK ON. THIS NEEDS TO LOOK RIGHT FOR THE CAMERAS.



YOU GOT IT, MR. ZAHN.

SHANHARA...



...COME TO MY AID!





**SHNNNKK**

**GYEARRRGH!**



**YAAIGH!**

**JESUS H.!**

**I'M LOSING JAMMING! WE'RE GOING LIVE!**



**RECALIBRATE THE ENCRYPTION! NO ONE GETS A LOOK INSIDE THIS ROOM UNTIL THE SITUATION IS MANAGED!**

**YOU MADE A GRAVE ERROR, ZAHN. THE ARMOR DOES NOT MERELY TALK TO ME.**

**ITS MIND AND MY OWN ARE JOINED.**



**YOU ARE ABOUT TO DISCOVER THE KIND OF WARRIOR THAT MAKES ME.**



