



SO, MY NAME IS JOAQUIN TORRES. I'M SEVENTEEN YEARS OLD, I'M FROM TUCSON, ARIZONA--

--AND THIS IS THE STORY OF THAT TIME I SAVED CAPTAIN AMERICA'S LIFE.

WHICH SOUNDS LIKE A PRETTY BIG DEAL AND ALL, RIGHT? BUT TRUTH IS-- SAVING LIVES?

S'KINDA MY THING. NOT THAT I'M BRAGGING OR WHATEVER.

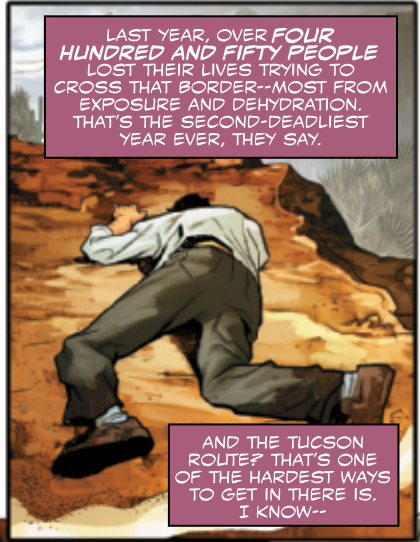


IT'S JUST, I'M A SAMARITAN-- WE HELP GET FOOD AND WATER AND MEDICINE TO BORDER CROSSERS, WHICH IS A LIFE AND DEATH THING, BELIEVE ME--



--THEY'RE DOING A LOT MORE BORDER PATROLS THESE DAYS--WHICH MEANS MIGRANTS TRYING TO AVOID THEM ARE BEING FORCED TO TAKE ROUGHER, MORE DANGEROUS ROUTES INTO THE U.S.

WHICH MEANS A LOT MORE PEOPLE ARE DYING ON THE WAY.



LAST YEAR, OVER FOUR HUNDRED AND FIFTY PEOPLE LOST THEIR LIVES TRYING TO CROSS THAT BORDER--MOST FROM EXPOSURE AND DEHYDRATION. THAT'S THE SECOND-DEADLIEST YEAR EVER, THEY SAY.

AND THE TUCSON ROUTE? THAT'S ONE OF THE HARDEST WAYS TO GET IN THERE IS. I KNOW--

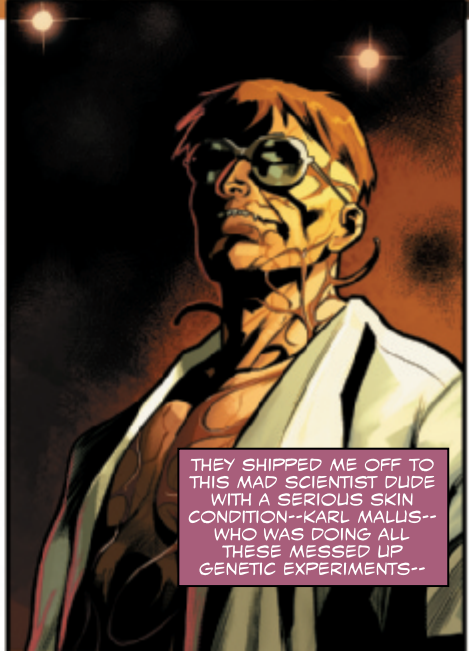


--BECAUSE THAT'S HOW I GOT HERE WHEN I WAS SIX, WITH MY MAMA AND MY ABUELA.

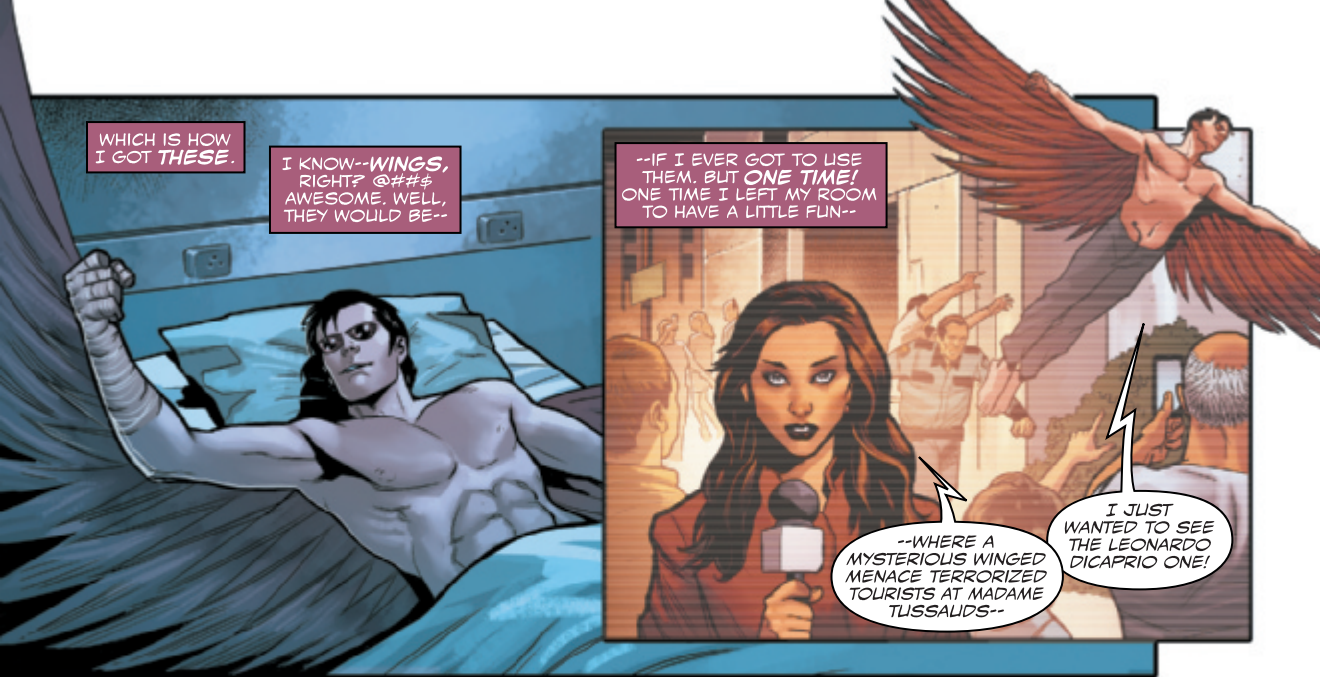


SO YEAH, THAT STRETCH OF DESERT HAS BEEN A PART OF MY LIFE FOR AS LONG AS I CAN REMEMBER--AND IT'S HOW I ENDED UP HERE, IN NEW YORK--

--WHEN SOME RACIST @###@# AND A SHIFTY COYOTE FOUND ME OUT THERE ON A WATER RUN AND KIDNAPPED ME.



THEY SHIPPED ME OFF TO THIS MAD SCIENTIST DUDE WITH A SERIOUS SKIN CONDITION--KARL MALUS-- WHO WAS DOING ALL THESE MESSED UP GENETIC EXPERIMENTS--



WHICH IS HOW I GOT THESE.

I KNOW--WINGS, RIGHT? @###\$ AWESOME. WELL, THEY WOULD BE--

--IF I EVER GOT TO USE THEM. BUT **ONE TIME!** ONE TIME I LEFT MY ROOM TO HAVE A LITTLE FUN--

--WHERE A MYSTERIOUS WINGED MENACE TERRORIZED TOURISTS AT MADAME TUSSAUDS--

I JUST WANTED TO SEE THE LEONARDO DICAPRIO ONE!



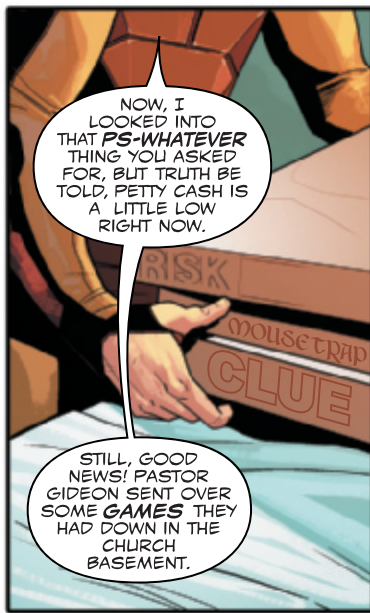
--AND NOW I'M A POLITICAL PRISONER. I'M TALKING RESTRAINTS, BAD FOOD--



--EVEN A BABYSITTER.

HEY! **BIG J!** WE ARE GONNA HAVE SOME FUN TONIGHT!

AW MAN, IT'S NOT EVEN THE **HOT DOCTOR** THIS TIME.



NOW, I LOOKED INTO THAT **PS-WHATEVER** THING YOU ASKED FOR, BUT TRUTH BE TOLD, PETTY CASH IS A LITTLE LOW RIGHT NOW.

STILL, GOOD NEWS! PASTOR GIDEON SENT OVER SOME **GAMES** THEY HAD DOWN IN THE CHURCH BASEMENT.



NOW TELL ME, HAVE YOU EVER PLAYED **RISK?** BECAUSE IT IS PRETTY DARN BORING. BUT WE DO HAVE **CLUE...**

AH, THANKS, DENNIS--BUT YOU KNOW WHAT? I'M ACTUALLY PRETTY BEAT. WAS THINKING I MIGHT JUST ZONE OUT FOR A WHILE.

I HEAR YA. A LITTLE **BOOB TUBE** TIME IT IS--



--WELL, NOT **BOOBS** EXACTLY SINCE WE BLOCKED THOSE CHANNELS ON ACCOUNT OF YOU BEING A MINOR AND ALL, BUT--OOH, LOOK! A **CHOPPED MARATHON!** MAN, THIS SHOW MAKES ME HUNGRY...

OKAY, MAYBE NOT THE MOST **EXCITING** WAY TO START A STORY--

--BUT AT LEAST IT'S NOT DEPRESSING AS HELL, RIGHT?



MAN, LOOKIT THAT GLY.

DANGEROUS! DEADLY!

I GOTTA GET BACK IN THE GYM.

FRANK, SWEETIE, I TOLD YOU, I LIKE THE GLT. IT'S THE BEST PILLOW IN THE HOUSE.



THAT AIN'T A COMPLIMENT. YOU TELLING ME YOU DON'T MISS IT? 'COURSE YOU DON'T, LOOK AT YOU--

I TOLD YOU YOU COULD COME TO YOGA WITH ME ANYTIME--

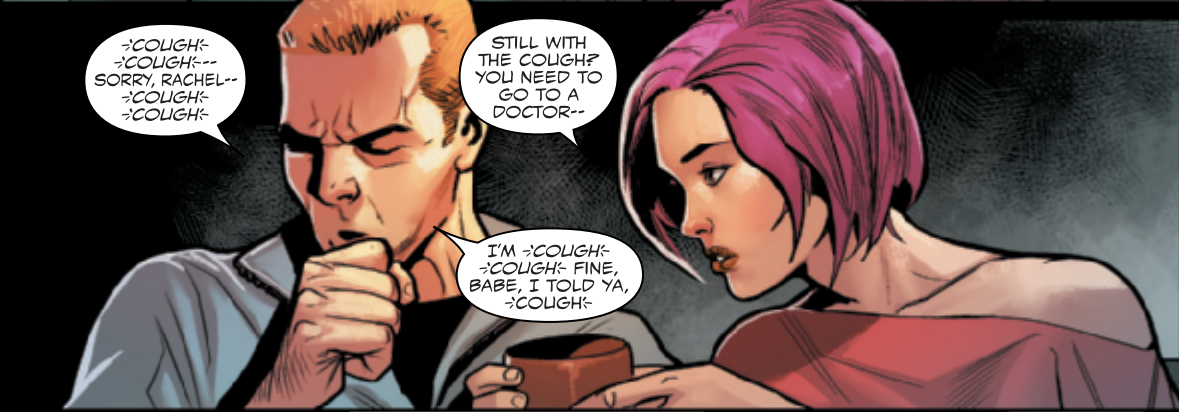
AW, SEE, NOW YOU START WITH THE THREATS--
-COUGH--



-COUGH-
-COUGH--
SORRY, RACHEL--
-COUGH-
-COUGH-

STILL WITH THE COUGH? YOU NEED TO GO TO A DOCTOR--

I'M -COUGH- FINE, BABE, I TOLD YA, -COUGH-

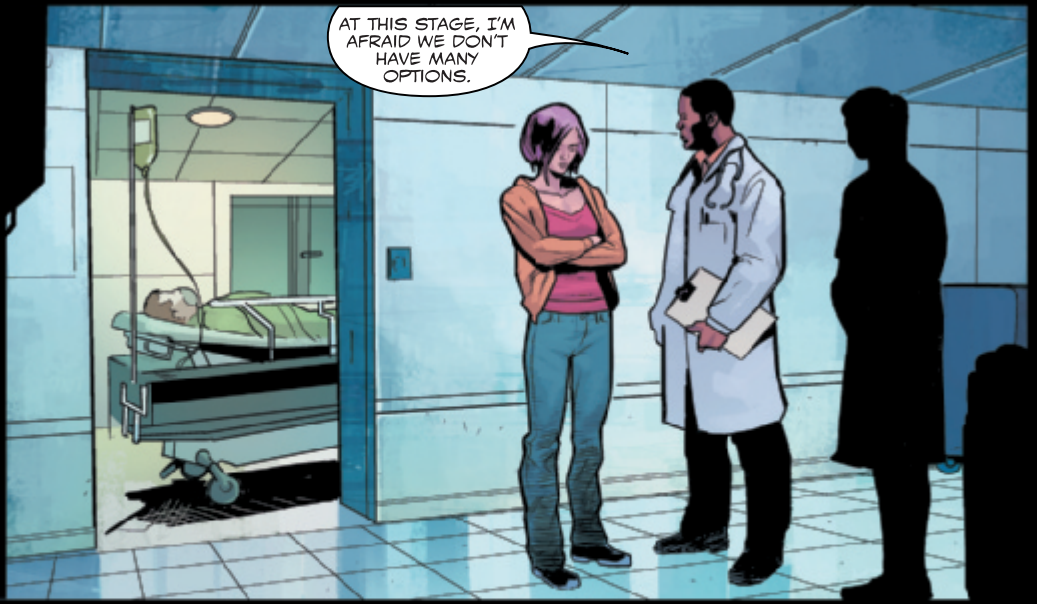


YEAH, BIG STRONG CONSTRICTOR. AFRAID OF SOME DIMETAPP. I'LL GO GET YOU SOME MORE COFFEE, KA-ZAR.

HEY, I WAS THINKING, I MIGHT RUN DOWN TO MONDO'S, GET US SOME--



FRANK...?



AT THIS STAGE, I'M AFRAID WE DON'T HAVE MANY OPTIONS.



DON'T YOU WORRY, BABE, I'M TOUGHER THAN I LOOK--

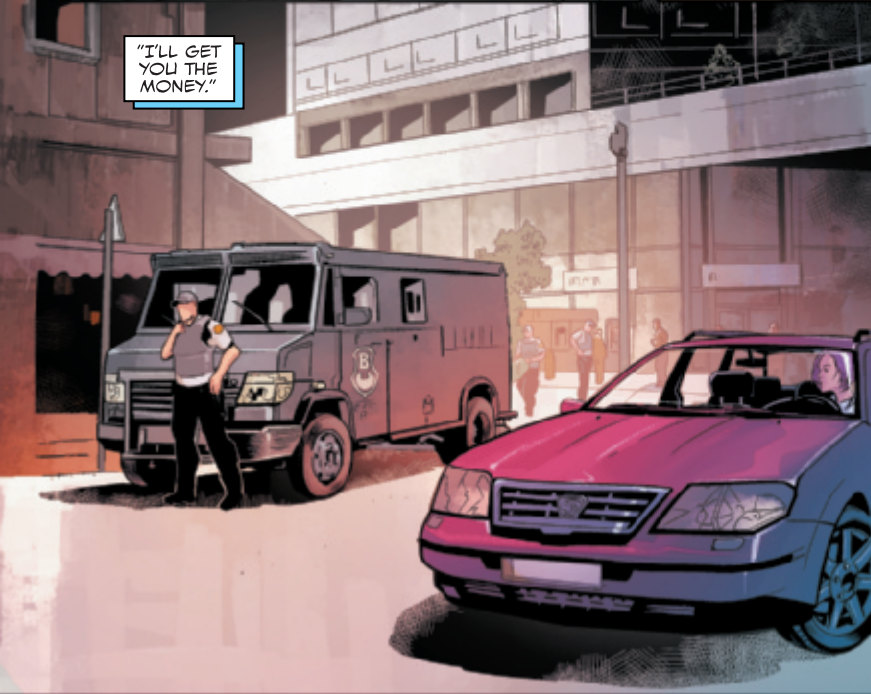


--AND THEY SAY THESE THERAPIES HAVE GOTTEN REAL RESULTS IN CASES LIKE HIS--

MS. LEIGHTON-- I APPRECIATE ALL THAT, BUT--THESE ARE **EXPERIMENTAL TRIALS**, CUTTING-EDGE STUFF. AND YOUR **BOYFRIEND--**

FIANCÉ.

FIANCÉ. SORRY, BUT FRANK--HE DOESN'T EVEN HAVE **INSURANCE.**



"I'LL GET YOU THE MONEY."



I'M SORRY, FRANK...I'M SO SORRY...