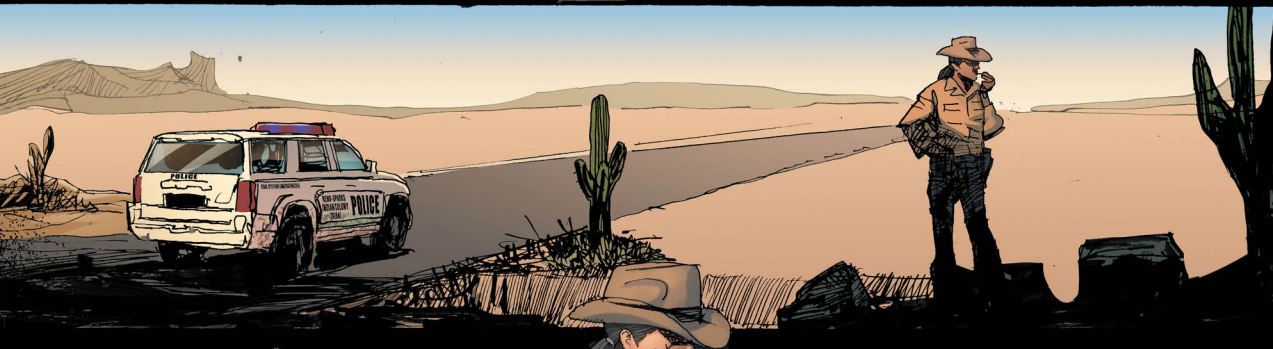




"The Valley"  
HUNGRY VALLEY, NEVADA







AREN'T YOU GOING TO TELL ME?

TELL YOU WHAT?

ABOUT YOUR WIFE... PHOTOS OF YOUR KIDS.



THE INDIAN HARD LIFE. POVERTY, BOOZE, DRUGS, GANGS.

WOULD IT MAKE A DIFFERENCE?



NOPE.

THEN WHAT SAY WE SKIP IT.

I'VE OBVIOUSLY WANDERED INTO SOMETHING I WASN'T SUPPOSED TO SEE.





DON'T EVEN KNOW IF I SAW IT.

BUT YOU CAN'T TAKE THAT CHANCE, CAN YOU?



NOPE. SO YOU'LL ORPHAN MY KIDS ON SPEC.

THAT'S THE DISCIPLINE.



-- --IT'S BEEN A TOUGH FEW DAYS...



CAN ANYONE READ MY COMM CHANNEL---?! IT'S---

# POWER GIRL

I'M TRAPPED BETWEEN WORLDS!

SOMEONE... PLEASE HELP ME MAKE IT BACK--!!







# "The Replacement"

DEFIANCE HQ  
THE BRONX







--OH, HEY, TANYA. SHHH-- JOSEPH'S FINALLY ASLEEP. STILL REFUSING PAIN MEDS.\*

I'M TERRENCE, JOSEPH'S FRIEND.

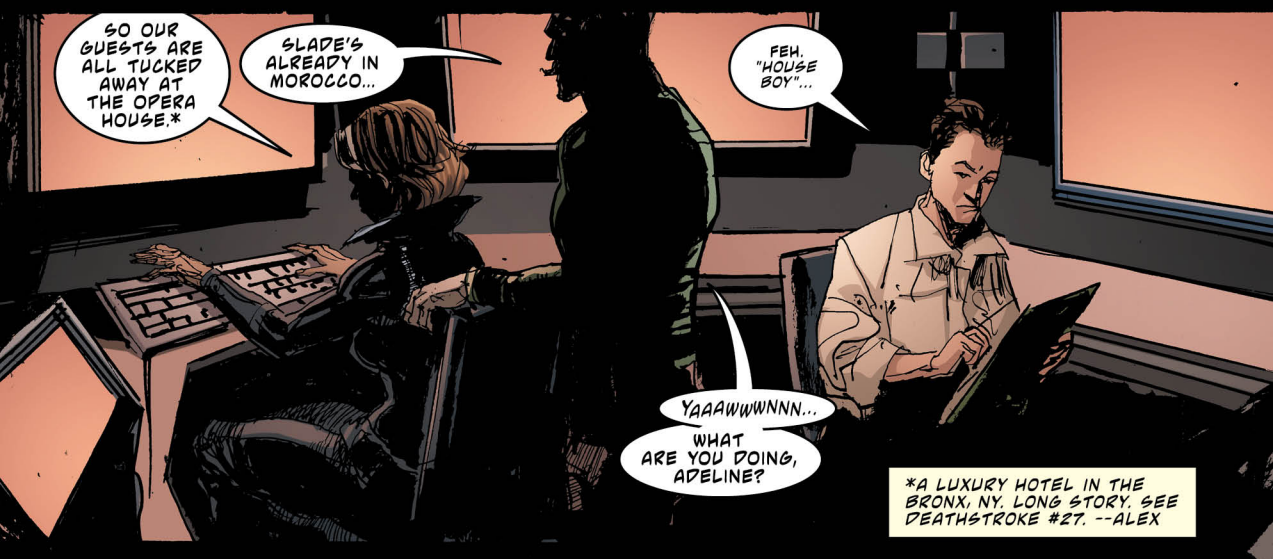
I-- UH-- THAT IS--

--AS REGARDING... I SUPPOSE...



CATCH YOU LATER.

\*JOSEPH (JERICHO) WILSON IS A RECOVERING ADDICT INJURED WHEN HIS FLIGHT SUIT MALFUNCTIONED IN DEATHSTROKE #27. --ALEX



SO OUR GUESTS ARE ALL TUCKED AWAY AT THE OPERA HOUSE.\*

SLADE'S ALREADY IN MOROCCO...

FEH, "HOUSE BOY"...

YAAAWWWNNN...  
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, ADELINE?

\*A LUXURY HOTEL IN THE BRONX, NY. LONG STORY. SEE DEATHSTROKE #27. --ALEX



QUARTERBACKING PROJECT DEFIANCE IS MY SPECIAL OPS GROUP, WINTER-GREEN--

--DESPITE WHAT SLADE THINKS.

OF COURSE, WHICH IS WHY WE'RE CONSPIRING BEHIND HIS BACK.



OH, BOLLIX--

--JUST JUMP THE MAN ALREADY. YOU KNOW YOU WANT TO.

YOU'RE INSANE.

YOU TRAINED DEATHSTROKE, ADELINE. YOU WERE MARRIED TO HIM.



WE ALL MAKE MISTAKES.

YES.

MINE WAS SIGNING ON TO A TEAM YOU CREATED JUST SO YOU COULD STAY CLOSE TO A MAN YOU ALLEGEDLY DESPISE...

EXCUSE ME--





--THERE WAS NO NEW ORLEANS MISSION.

WHAT?!?

BACK WHEN DEATHSTROKE WAS KIDNAPPED, WE WANTED TO GO AFTER HIM--

--YOU TRIED TO SEND US TO NEW ORLEANS.\*

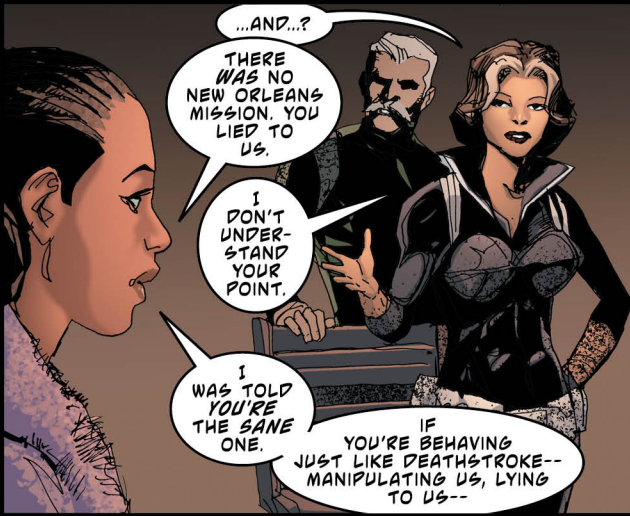
\*ISSUE #26. --ALEX



--MAYBE YOU SHOULDN'T BE HERE.

YOU OWN THIS COMPLEX, POWER GIRL. BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN YOU SET THE RULES.

DOESN'T IT? ONE MORE THING--I'M A CHRISTIAN.



...AND...?

THERE WAS NO NEW ORLEANS MISSION. YOU LIED TO US.

I DON'T UNDERSTAND YOUR POINT.

I WAS TOLD YOU'RE THE SAME ONE.

IF YOU'RE BEHAVING JUST LIKE DEATHSTROKE-- MANIPULATING US, LYING TO US--



I'M REALLY NOT COMFORTABLE WITH JOSEPH HAVING HOOKUPS HERE.

ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT JERICO? MY SON--?!

WHOA, WHOAAAAH.

I... I...



WAIT... A MAN JUST TO INVENT A CRISIS FOR YOU KIDS--

APELINE-- STOP TALKING.

--BUT MY SON'S ORIENTATION IS WHAT GETS YOUR RIGHTEOUS INDIGNATION GOING?!

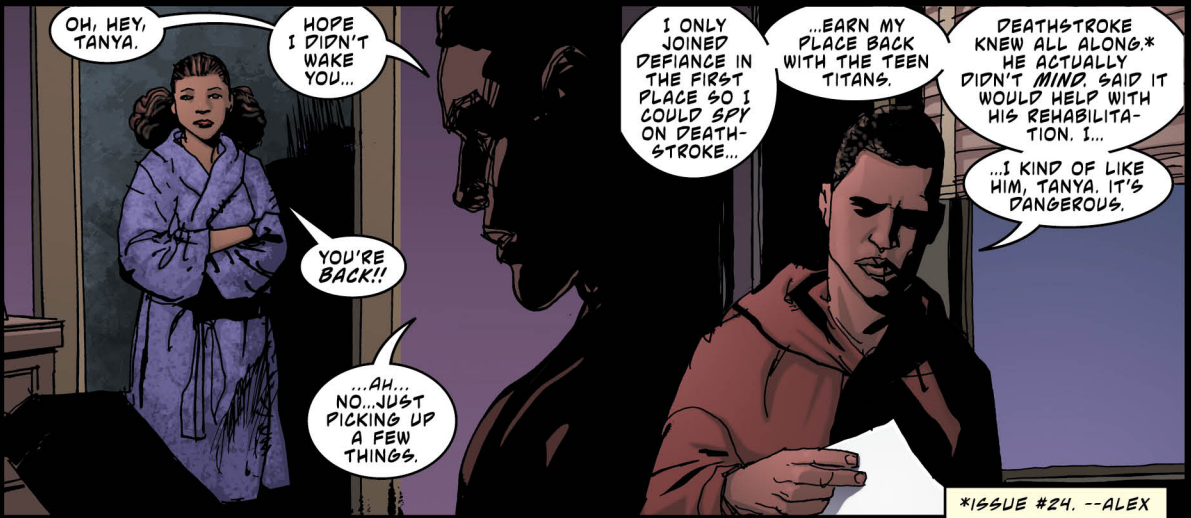








WALLY--!



OH, HEY, TANYA.

HOPE I DIDN'T WAKE YOU...

YOU'RE BACK!!

...AH... NO...JUST PICKING UP A FEW THINGS.

I ONLY JOINED DEFIANCE IN THE FIRST PLACE SO I COULD SPY ON DEATH-STROKE...

...EARN MY PLACE BACK WITH THE TEEN TITANS.

DEATHSTROKE KNEW ALL ALONG.\* HE ACTUALLY DIDN'T MIND SAID IT WOULD HELP WITH HIS REHABILITATION. I...

...I KIND OF LIKE HIM, TANYA. IT'S DANGEROUS.

\*ISSUE #24. --ALEX



THAT'S WHY I HAVE TO GO.

MY DAD WAS A SUPER-VILLAIN. MY MENTOR IS A SUPER-VILLAIN.

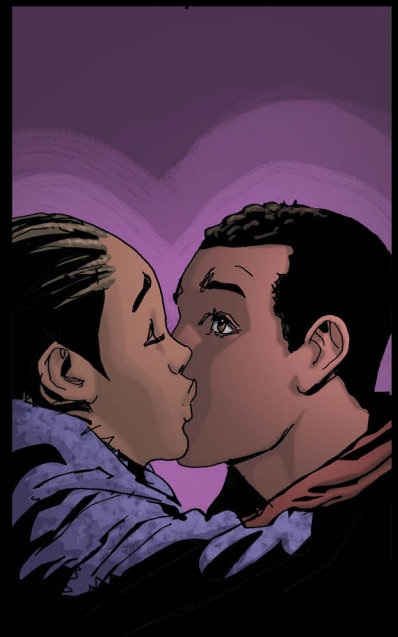
I DON'T WANT TO BECOME A SUPER-VILLAIN.

THEN DON'T, WALLY...



...PLEASE DON'T LEAVE ME.

YOU'RE MY BEST FRIEND.







WHAT ARE YOU DOING--?!

...I MEAN...

TANYA-- I LOVE YOU... BUT... NOT...



...I'M NOT READY FOR THAT. AND...

...I REALLY DON'T THINK THIS IS ACTUALLY ABOUT US.

MY MENTOR WAS KAREN STARR... THE ORIGINAL POWER GIRL.



SHE TRANSFERRED HER FORTUNE AND HER POWERS TO ME WHEN SHE RETURNED TO HER EARTH.\*

I THINK SHE'S COMING BACK.

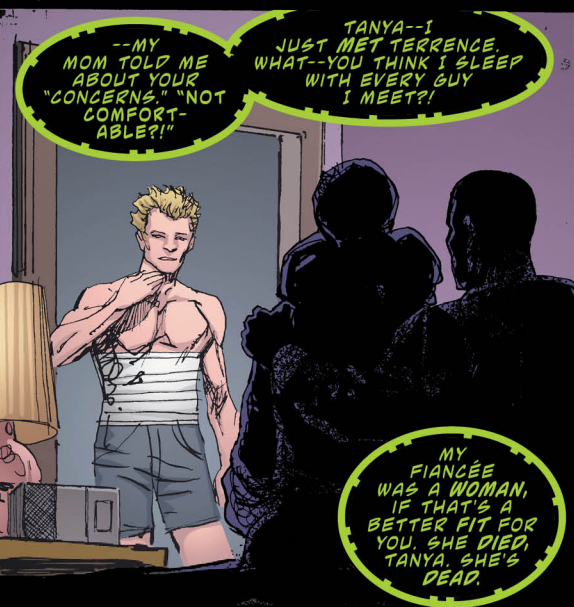
AND...IF SHE DOES... I LOSE EVERYTHING...

\*WORLD'S FINEST #1. --ALEX



HEY, TANYA--!

I'M TRANSMITTING ON BLUETOOTH--



--MY MOM TOLD ME ABOUT YOUR "CONCERNS." "NOT COMFORTABLE?!"

TANYA--I JUST MET TERRENCE. WHAT--YOU THINK I SLEEP WITH EVERY GUY I MEET?!

MY FIANCÉE WAS A WOMAN, IF THAT'S A BETTER FIT FOR YOU. SHE DIED. TANYA. SHE'S DEAD.





IF I'VE FOUND A NEW FRIEND, YOU SHOULD BE HAPPY FOR ME AND NOT CLUB ME OVER THE HEAD WITH YOUR RELIGION--

JOSEPH... I...I...

--WHICH SEEMS AWFULLY HYPOCRITICAL CONSIDERING WHAT-EVER THE HELL IS GOING ON IN HERE. I QUIT, TANYA--



--MOVING BACK TO L.A. SOON AS MY RIBS HEAL. I ONLY JOINED THIS "TEAM" TO FIND MY FIANCEE'S KILLER.

LOOKS LIKE THAT'S NEVER GONNA HAPPEN. WHATEVER...

...YOU WON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT IT ANYMORE.



WHAT DID I JUST DO? TANYA...

WHAT DID I JUST DO--?!

DID I JUST...IN TWO MINUTES... BLOW UP EVERYTHING? LOSE EVERYTHING?

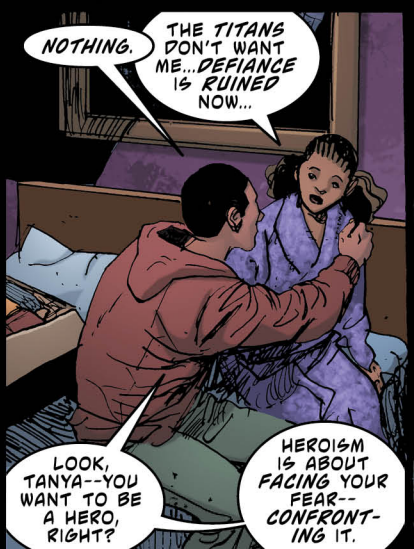


DEATHSTROKE... KILLED A MAN...JUST TO...KICKSTART THIS TEAM--?!

TANYA-- NO. STOP.

JUST TO PLEASE ME?!

GOD... WHAT IS WRONG WITH ME?!



NOTHING.

THE TITANS DON'T WANT ME...DEFIANCE IS RUINED NOW...

LOOK, TANYA--YOU WANT TO BE A HERO, RIGHT?

HEROISM IS ABOUT FACING YOUR FEAR-- CONFRONTING IT.



OH, MAN.

I'M ACTUALLY QUOTING DEATH-STROKE...

GOTTA BOUNCE.



MEET ME AT ZEE'S FOR EGGS IN THE MORNING. I PROMISE YOU, KID--

--EVERYTHING WILL WORK OUT.