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A WORLD OF OUR OWN

PART 2

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JESSICA CRUZ AND REGENT ANTHENE VOK ARE CURRENTLY HITTING A RED TIDE STRONGHOLD.

THEIR LEADER, KESH CUR, MURDERED ONE OF VOK'S OFFICERS AND TRIED TO PIN THE CRIME ON REFUGEES.

A GREEN LANTERN AND THE SWORD-SWINGING PRESIDENT OF THE WHOLE PLANET OF UNGARA AGAINST HUNDREDS OF MILITANTS ON THEIR HOME TURF...

A WAR-DEVASTATED PREFECTURE OUTSIDE TOKOO.



RIGHT NOW THE LAST THING I'D WANT TO BE IS A WAVE TATTOO-WEARING, ISOLATIONIST-SUPREMACIST-TERRORIST DUMB ASS.



HIM.

BETWEEN THE TWO OF THEM, THEY'LL CLEAN UP THAT CELL LIKE THE TRASH THEY ARE.



KESH CUR. HE'S NOT HERE. WHERE IS HE?

SPEAK, SOLDIER.



RING, WE NEED TO DO SOMETHING. HE'S TERRIFIED.

YOU KNOW WE CAN'T IMPEDE AN INVESTIGATION UNLESS REQUESTED, JESS.

I--I DON'T KNOW.

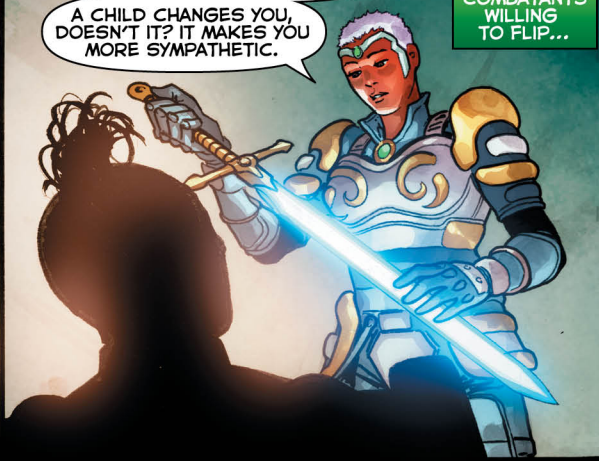
PLEASE... I HAVE A DAUGHTER.

AS DO I. HER NAME IS LISETH.

IT WAS BECAUSE OF HER THAT I DECIDED TO BECOME A DIPLOMAT AND TRY TO END THE WAR.

A CHILD CHANGES YOU, DOESN'T IT? IT MAKES YOU MORE SYMPATHETIC.

THEY'LL FIND SOMEONE AMONG THE COMBATANTS WILLING TO FLIP...

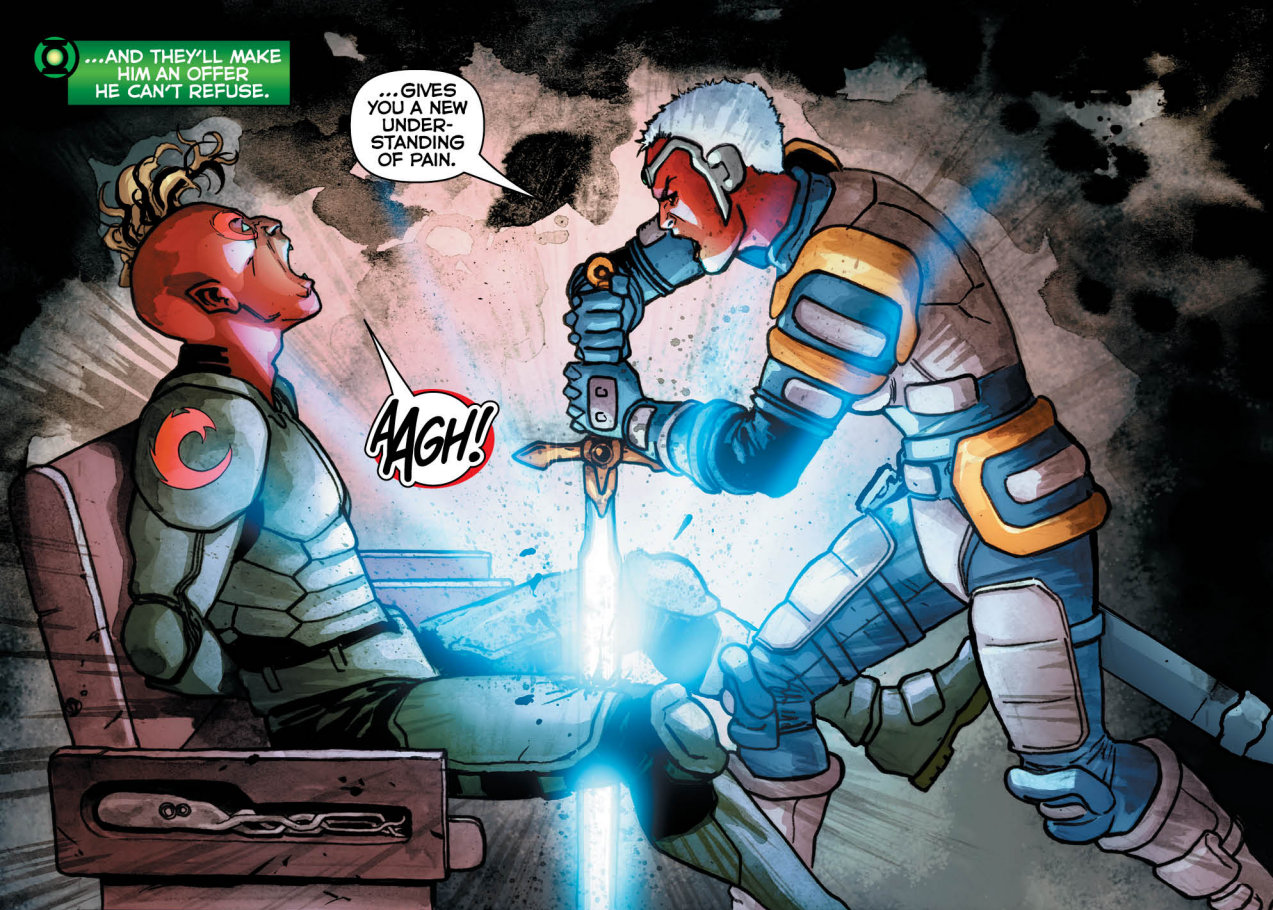




...AND THEY'LL MAKE HIM AN OFFER HE CAN'T REFUSE.

...GIVES YOU A NEW UNDERSTANDING OF PAIN.

AAGH!



YOU HAVE ONE GOOD LEG LEFT.

SPEAK AND YOU'LL BE ABLE TO LIMP WITH YOUR DAUGHTER DOWN THE WEDLOCK AISLE.

GOD.



THE LADIES WILL GET A NAME.

SHNH< THE SH-SHORE OF GULBRAY. THE S-SINGING, SINGING SENTINELS.

HE SAID... HE SAID THE SURGE WAS COMING.



WITH THAT, WE'LL HAVE WHAT WE NEED TO ARREST THE MAN RESPONSIBLE FOR THE MURDER OF COMMODORE EREKIL PSYT.

YOU... YOU COULD HAVE KILLED HIM.

DON'T FRET THESE DETAILS, JESSICA CRUZ. THIS WAS ONLY A BATTLE.




WE HAVE A WAR TO WIN.

AND I'LL ONLY HAVE ONE MORE QUESTION LEFT...





WHY DID YOU LIE, PODFATHER VOB?



IT'S FUNNY, *SIMON BAZ*. THIS PRISON CELL WITH ITS COLD STONE WALLS IS ACTUALLY MORE SIMILAR TO MY HOME-WORLD THAN THE REFUGEE CAMP.



OPEN THE DOOR.



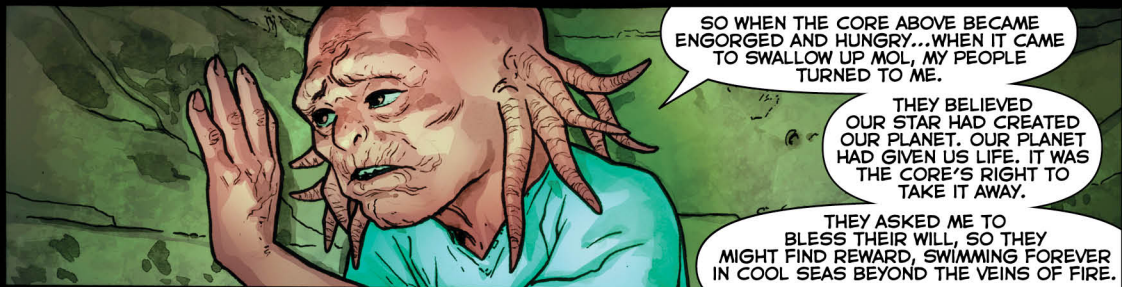
LISETH VOK TOLD US EVERYTHING.

ABOUT *KESH CUR*, THE CRIMINAL-SCIENCE BIOLOGIST. ABOUT THE **PLANTED DNA EVIDENCE**.

WHY DID YOU CONFESS TO MURDERING A MILITARY OFFICER WHEN YOU'RE INNOCENT?

I AM THE **PODFATHER**. WISE MAN OF MY PEOPLE. I AM SHAMAN, I AM KING. I AM...

...**WAS** THE MOST REVERED MAN ON ALL OF **MOL**, FOR **AKEDIN** SHINES HIS BURNING VEINS UPON ME. I AM CLOSEST TO THE **CORE** ABOVE.



SO WHEN THE CORE ABOVE BECAME ENGORGED AND HUNGRY...WHEN IT CAME TO SWALLOW UP MOL, MY PEOPLE TURNED TO ME.

THEY BELIEVED OUR STAR HAD CREATED OUR PLANET. OUR PLANET HAD GIVEN US LIFE. IT WAS THE CORE'S RIGHT TO TAKE IT AWAY.

THEY ASKED ME TO BLESS THEIR WILL, SO THEY MIGHT FIND REWARD, SWIMMING FOREVER IN COOL SEAS BEYOND THE VEINS OF FIRE.



BUT I DID NOT SHARE THEIR RESIGNATION TO DEATH. I DID NOT SHARE THEIR DIGNITY.

I LOOKED FOR ANY MEANS... ANY SIGN THAT OUR STAR WILLED US TO LIVE.

I FOUND IT IN THE GREEN LANTERNS. IN YOU. IN JESSICA CRUZ.



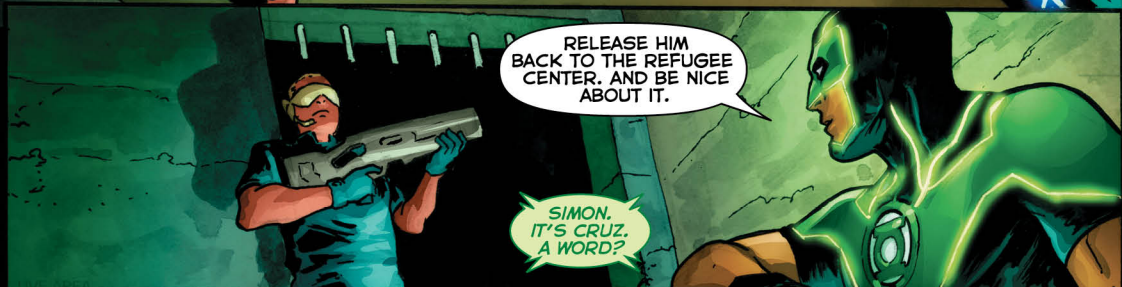
TO SAVE MY OWN FLESH, I TRADED MY PEOPLE'S QUICK, HONORABLE DEATH ON A WORLD THAT LOVED THEM...

...FOR A LONG, MISERABLE DECAY ON A WORLD THAT HATES THEM.



I DID NOT KILL COMMODORE PSYT, SIMON BAZ.

BUT I AM GUILTY.



RELEASE HIM BACK TO THE REFUGEE CENTER. AND BE NICE ABOUT IT.

SIMON. IT'S CRUZ. A WORD?