



--MORE MISSILE TESTS, DISPUTED BY THE U.S. AND RUSSIA, BUT INCREASINGLY--

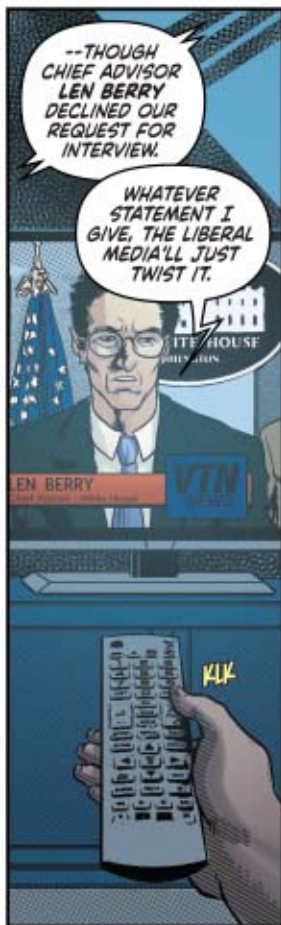


--VIOLENT ATTACKS BY GROUPS WEARING THE DISTINCTIVE BLACK AND RED OF--



--A MONSTER? NAH, JUST GOES TA SHOW YA CAN'T TRUST THE RATINGS.

EVERYONE I KNOW THINKS THE PRESIDENT'S DOING AN A+ JOB.



--THOUGH CHIEF ADVISOR LEN BERRY DECLINED OUR REQUEST FOR INTERVIEW.

WHATEVER STATEMENT I GIVE, THE LIBERAL MEDIA'LL JUST TWIST IT.



--NUH UH, HE'S NOT A RACIST. HE'S JUST A REAL PERSON--HE SAYS WHAT HE'S THINKING.

WHAT WE'RE ALL THINKING.



THIS LATEST ATTACK--THE FOURTH IN THIS NEIGHBORHOOD ON BLACK VICTIMS--IS PART OF A WAVE OF--



--VIGILANTISM, AND WHILE WE AT BLUECOL TV DON'T CONDONE UNLAWFUL ACTS--



--IT'S HARD TO CONDEMN THE PATRIOTIC INTENT OF THESE YOUNG, MASKED MEN--

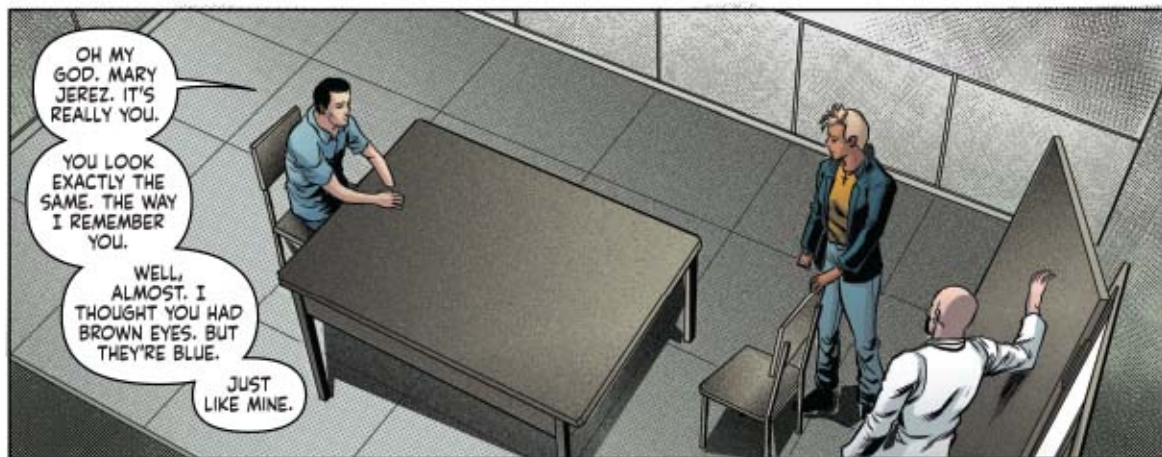
LUISA?

HOW ARE YOU FEELING?

BETTER. MOSTLY. HOW ARE THINGS WITH YOU?







OH MY GOD. MARY JEREZ. IT'S REALLY YOU.

YOU LOOK EXACTLY THE SAME. THE WAY I REMEMBER YOU.

WELL, ALMOST. I THOUGHT YOU HAD BROWN EYES. BUT THEY'RE BLUE.

JUST LIKE MINE.



OH MAN, MY THERAPIST WOULD CALL THAT DISSOCIATION. LIKE, I REMEMBER YOU BEING LESS LIKE ME, SO YOU SEEM LESS HUMAN. OH MAN.

I DON'T MEAN TO DO THAT. I DON'T WANT TO. I'M SORRY. SO SORRY...



I'M RAMBLING. I'M NERVOUS. IT'S NOT EVERY DAY THAT SOMEONE YOU NEARLY HURT...**KILLED**. I GOTTA FACE WHAT I DID.

IT'S NOT EVERY DAY THEY WALK INTO YOUR ROOM. **CELL**. I DON'T KNOW WHY YOU'D WANT TO BE HERE.



I GUESS I THOUGHT I'D RATHER SEE YOU **HERE**, THAN OVER MY SHOULDER ON THE STREET.

RIGHT. TH-THE **EARLY RELEASE**. YEAH. THAT MAKES SENSE.

THING IS, I LOOK IN YOUR EYES NOW, AND I'M NOT **AFRAID** OF YOU. NOT AT ALL. I'M A DOCTOR NOW-- YOU KNOW THAT? **ALMOST**.



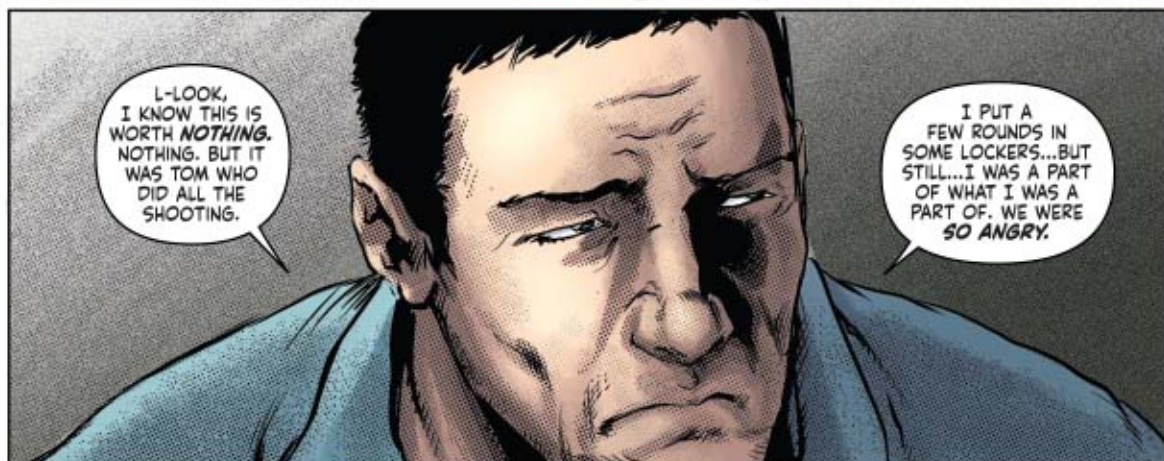
"SEE...LAST NIGHT, I SAW SOMETHING *WRONG* AND I FELT LIKE I KNEW HOW TO *CURE* IT.

"THAT'S WHAT DOCTORS ARE *MEANT* TO DO--RIGHT?"



BUT NOW I WONDER IF THERE'S SOMETHING ELSE I SHOULD BE DOING.

A DIFFERENT SORT OF CURE.



L-LOOK, I KNOW THIS IS WORTH *NOTHING*. NOTHING. BUT IT WAS TOM WHO DID ALL THE SHOOTING.

I PUT A FEW ROUNDS IN SOME LOCKERS...BUT STILL...I WAS A PART OF WHAT I WAS A PART OF. WE WERE *SO ANGRY*.



DID YOU HEAR WHAT HE SAID TO US? "*UNIMAGINATIVE FLOUNDERING*", "*HORMONAL PREDICTABILITY*."

COULDN'T HAVE BEEN MORE RIGHT, COULD HE? WE THOUGHT WE WERE SO SPECIAL.

THE SHADOW SHOWED YOU SOMETHING THAT DAY, DIDN'T HE? HIS *EYES*. WHAT WAS THAT?



OH MAN, I DON'T--

WHY WOULD YOU ASK ME THAT? D-DID HE SEND YOU?!

WHAT? NO, I--

ESSEING LEVIATHAN. ALWAYS TURNING IN MY HEAD. WITHERED LIMBS AND PUS-LEAKING PORES, STINKING IN MY MIND.