





AWAKE NOW? THAT'S GOOD. WE NEED TO *TALK*.

THERE ARE SOME THINGS YOU NEED TO UNDERSTAND. PAY ATTENTION, I ONLY HAVE TIME TO GO THROUGH THIS *ONCE*.  
THE WORLD OUT THERE, THE WORLD YOU *THINK* YOU KNOW...

EDITOR'S NOTE: THIS ISSUE TAKES PLACE AFTER ARTIFACTS #13





"...THAT'S **NOT** THE WORLD. NOT THE WORLD AS IT'S SUPPOSED TO BE.

"THERE ARE THIRTEEN **ARTIFACTS**, THIRTEEN OBJECTS OF SUPERNATURAL POWER, EACH IN THE HANDS OF A BEARER. *I* HAVE ONE OF THEM.



"THERE WAS A MAN WHO **WANTED** TO DESTROY THE WORLD, THE ENTIRE UNIVERSE, SO HE COULD BRING BACK A UNIVERSE HE'D LOST.

"THE **KEY** TO THAT UNIVERSE WAS INSIDE HIM. WE TRIED TO STOP HIM..."



...BUT WE DIDN'T. NOT REALLY.





"THE THIRTEEN ARTIFACTS CONTROL THE FATE OF THE WORLD. IF THEY'RE BROUGHT TOGETHER, THEY CAN DESTROY THE WORLD."

"THEY WERE."

"AND THEY DID."

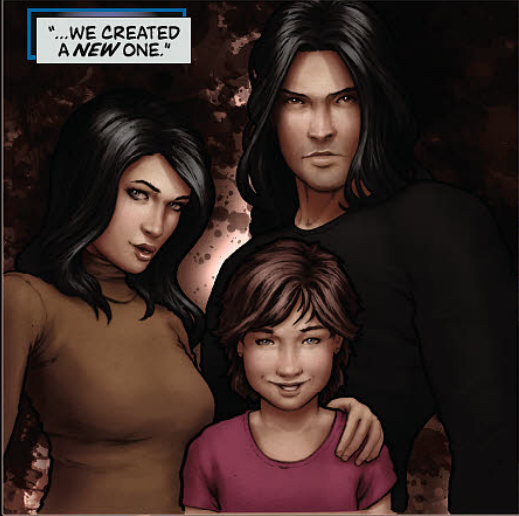


TURNED OUT THAT MY DAUGHTER, MY CHILD WITH ONE OF THE OTHER BEARERS... A COP, IF YOU CAN IMAGINE...



"... CONTAINED THE KEY TO OUR UNIVERSE."





IT'S  
CLOSE ...  
BUT IT'S NOT  
QUITE THE  
SAME.

THE  
DIFFERENCE IS,  
*THIS TIME* I GOT  
EVERYTHING I  
WANTED. I GOT  
A *FAMILY*.

AND  
ALL I HAD  
TO DO WAS  
DESTROY THE  
WORLD. THE  
THING IS,  
THOUGH...





...I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO KNOWS IT.

YOU BEEN SAMPLING YOUR OWN PRODUCT, ESTACADO? THIS IS *CRAZY TALK*.

WHAT DOES *ANY* OF THIS HAVE TO DO WITH THE TERRITORY BEEF BETWEEN YOUR PEOPLE AND MINE?



WHY ARE YOU EVEN *TELLING* ME THIS?



I HAD TO TELL *SOMEONE*...



...AND YOU WON'T LIVE LONG ENOUGH TO REPEAT ANY OF IT.



# Reborn

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