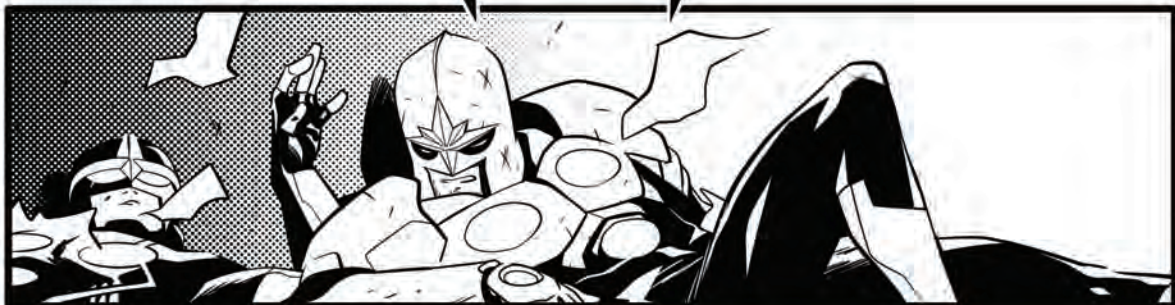


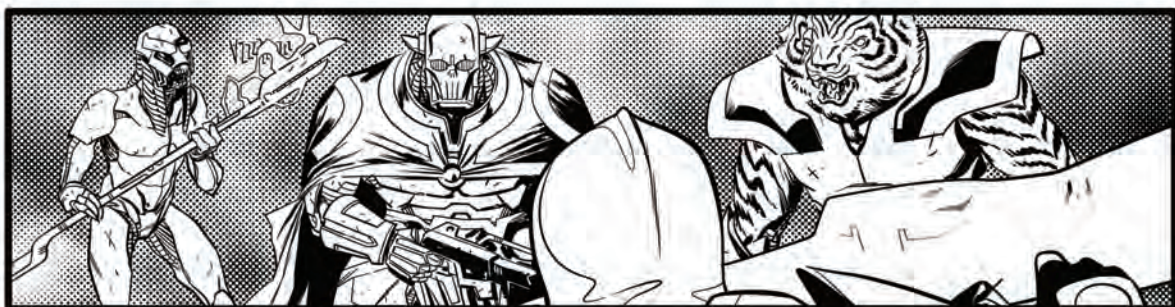
NOVA



SAM ALEXANDER'S FATHER WAS ONCE A MEMBER OF THE INTERGALACTIC PEACEKEEPING TASKFORCE CALLED THE NOVA CORPS. BUT AFTER HIS FATHER MYSTERIOUSLY DISAPPEARED, SAM TOOK UP THE NOVA MANTLE AND HAS SEARCHED THE COSMOS FOR HIM EVER SINCE.

WHEN A SIGNAL ANNOUNCED THE PRESENCE OF ANOTHER NOVA ON EARTH, SAM RACED TO ITS POINT OF ORIGIN. THERE, HE FOUND THE LONG-DEAD NOVA CORPS SOLDIER RICHARD RIDER, SOMEHOW ALIVE AND WELL, EMBROILED IN A BATTLE WITH A FACELESS, SEETHING EXTRATERRESTRIAL ORGANISM. THEY WERE ABLE TO DEFEAT THE MONSTER, BUT SAM REMAINS WARY OF RICHARD'S MYSTERIOUS RESURRECTION.

LOOKING TO GET BACK INTO THE SWING OF THINGS, RICH AND SAM VISITED THE SPACE STATION CALLED KNOWHERE. IT WASN'T ALL REST AND RELAXATION, THOUGH, AS A TRIO OF DEADLY BOUNTY HUNTERS GOT THE DROP ON THE NOVAS – WHO APPARENTLY HAVE HIGH-PAYING BOUNTIES ON THEIR HEADS!



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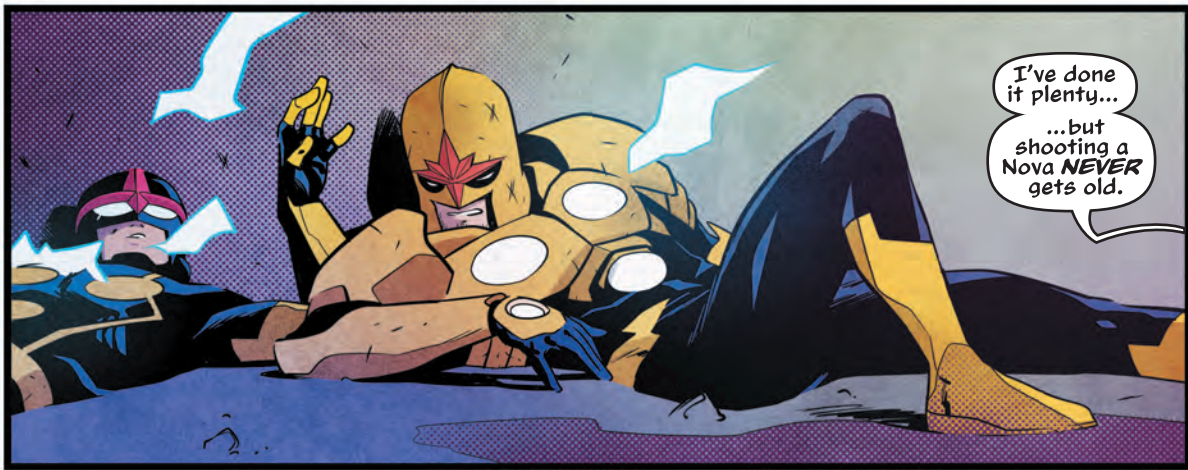
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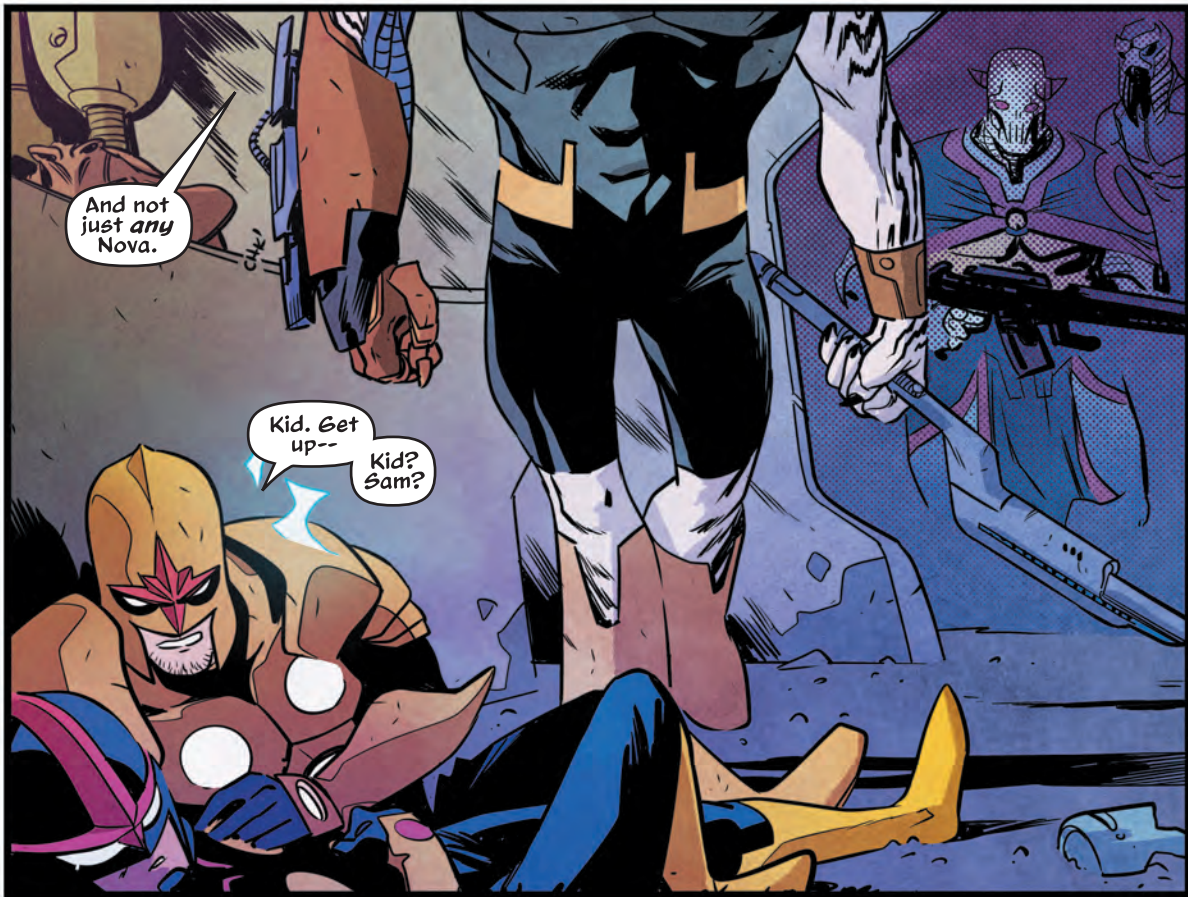
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I've done it plenty...
...but shooting a Nova **NEVER** gets old.



And not just *any* Nova.

Kid. Get up--
Kid? Sam?



Richard Rider.
The guy who made the rest of the Corps feel like nothing.



Titus, my ocular and sensory data are in conflict. Something is--

I know we're supposed to hand these helmets over...



...but I think I'm going to keep this one for myself.



...What happened?



Dobryj Vyechyer, gentlemen.



I am Cosmo.



I am in brain.



AUURGGH!
Psi-shields up!

Greetings, Cosmo. Non-organic brain has its benefits, yes?



Goodnight, canine friend--



You can shoot me as much as you want...



...but don't kick a good dog when he's down.
So... whose asses are we about to kick?



Our names are unimportant. Our employer requires only the Nova helms resting upon your heads. You are optional, dead or alive.



Whatever.

I don't know the over-chromed robot in the middle, but the guy on the right is Chitauri.

The tiger dude on the left is Titus. I thought I accidentally killed him, y'know, dead.

We know how well *that* sticks, kid.



How's your father, little Nova? Still lost in the stars?

Or maybe he just never cared enough to bother coming back.