

LAS VEGAS.

OHGODOHGODOHGOD



HALT, SUSPECT!

HYDRA COMMANDS IT!

RESISTANCE EQUALS DEATH!



IS THAT HIM?



YOU MEAN THE KID GETTING CHASED BY, LIKE, A BAZILLION HYDRA AGENTS? YEAH, I'M PRETTY SURE THAT'S HIM.

HE LOOKS FREAKED OUT.

I CAN CONFIRM. STRESS LEVELS, BLOOD PRESSURE, HEART RATE, ALL FAR ABOVE NORMAL.



HEH. S'FUNNY.

A., YOU SHOULD PROBABLY MOVE OUT--

NO, COME ON, ONE MORE BLOCK--HE ALMOST FACE-PLANTED IN FRONT OF THOSE TRASH CANS--

A....

=SIGH= FINE--



HEY! HEY, DUDE! OVER HERE!







YOU--YOU'RE THE HULK. THAT'S GOOD.

WHY "GOOD"?

BECAUSE IF ANYONE HAS A SPARE SET OF PANTS--

POOR YOU. THAT MUST HAVE BEEN VERY UPSETTING--



--BUT CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR RESCUE!

@#! WERE YOU THERE THE WHOLE TIME?

YOUR SURPRISE DOES NOT COMPUTE. YOU REQUESTED A MEETING WITH THE UNDERGROUND--



WE'RE THE UNDERGROUND.

WOW. OKAY. OKAY. THIS IS REALLY HAPPENING.

YOU'RE PATRIOT398? FROM THE WEBSITE?



Y-YEAH. MY REAL NAME'S RAYSHAUN. RAYSHAUN LUCAS. I'M FROM NEW YORK--

AND YOU HAVE IT? YOU BROUGHT IT WITH YOU? YOU BETTER NOT HAVE BEEN BLUFFING--

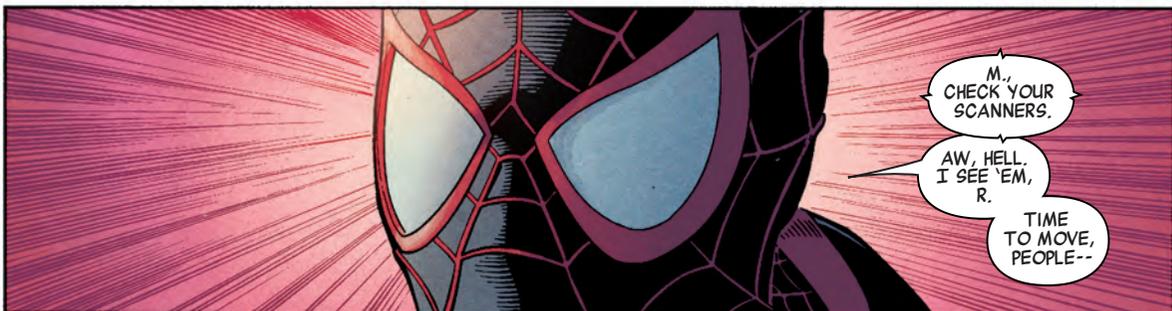
WHAT? NO.



NO, I GOT IT RIGHT HERE...

THEN NOW WOULD BE A GOOD TIME--

ACTUALLY, IT WOULDN'T BE.



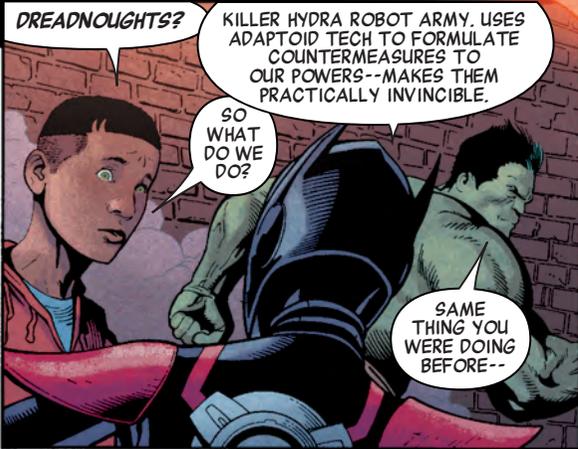
M., CHECK YOUR SCANNERS.

AW, HELL. I SEE 'EM, R.

TIME TO MOVE, PEOPLE--



"--DREADNOUGHTS  
INCOMING."



DREADNOUGHTS?

KILLER HYDRA ROBOT ARMY. USES  
ADAPTOID TECH TO FORMULATE  
COUNTERMEASURES TO  
OUR POWERS--MAKES THEM  
PRACTICALLY INVINCIBLE.

SO  
WHAT  
DO WE  
DO?

SAME  
THING YOU  
WERE DOING  
BEFORE--



WE  
RUN.

EXCEPT  
THIS TIME,  
YOU MOVE  
FASTER.



GET  
IN THE CAR,  
LOSERS!!!



DENVER.

COME  
OUT, COME  
OUT, LITTLE  
HUMANS!  
THERE IS NO  
NEED TO BE  
AFRAID!

KRIGORRATH ONLY HUNGERS. THERE IS NO NEED FOR PAIN, OR SUFFERING. ONLY THE EMBRACE OF THE NATURAL ORDER.

YOUR FOREFATHERS WERE KIND ENOUGH TO SATE MY APPETITE WHEN I LAST AWOKE, AND LOOK, STILL YOU BUILD YOUR SILLY LITTLE HOUSES. SO IN THE END, WE ALL BENEFIT!

EXCUSE ME--



ARE YOU DONE? I'M LATE FOR A MEETING.

AH, YOU. YOU ARE THE RULER OF THESE PEOPLE, I PRESUME?

THEY FALL UNDER MY PROTECTION, YES.



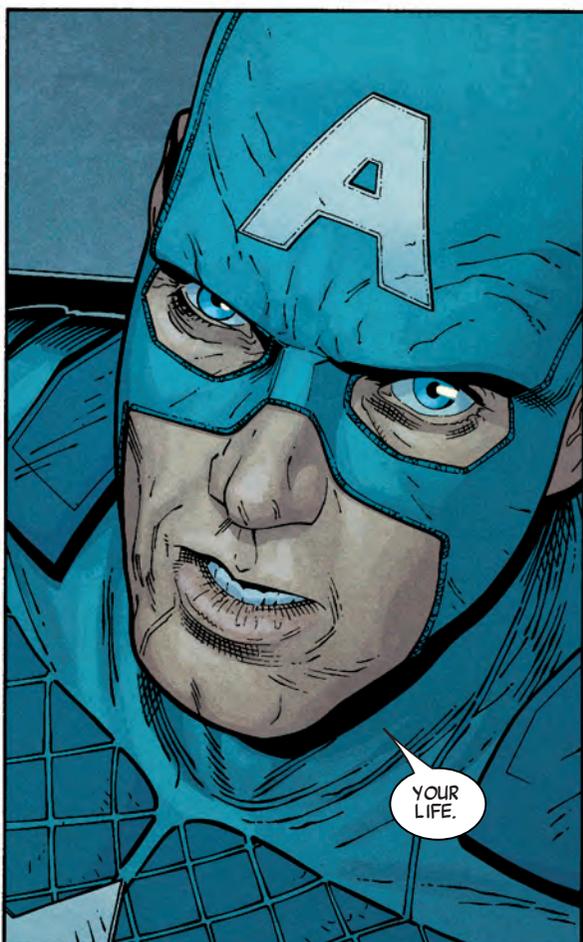
GOOD. THEN YOU WILL BE MY FIRST MORSEL...

I EXPECT SO. BUT BEFORE YOU GET TO THAT-- I'D LIKE TO MAKE YOU AN OFFER.

OFFER? WHAT COULD YOU POSSIBLY HAVE TO OFFER ME, LITTLE SKINLING?



YOUR LIFE.





LEAVE THIS CITY. CRAWL BACK INTO WHATEVER HOLE YOU CAME FROM.

DO THAT, AND I WILL FORGIVE THIS TRESPASS YOU'VE COMMITTED AGAINST US.



I UNDERSTAND WHO YOU *THINK* WE ARE-- AND WHY YOU THINK YOU CAN COME HERE AND THREATEN THE PEOPLE WHO LIVE IN THIS CITY. IT'S HARD TO BLAME YOU, REALLY.

FOR YEARS, THIS WAS TREATED LIKE SOME KIND OF *GAME*. MEN AND WOMEN IN GARISH COSTUMES WOULD COME AND CHASE YOU AWAY, MAYBE TRY TO LOCK YOU IN SOME *CAGE* UNTIL YOU INEVITABLY ESCAPED.

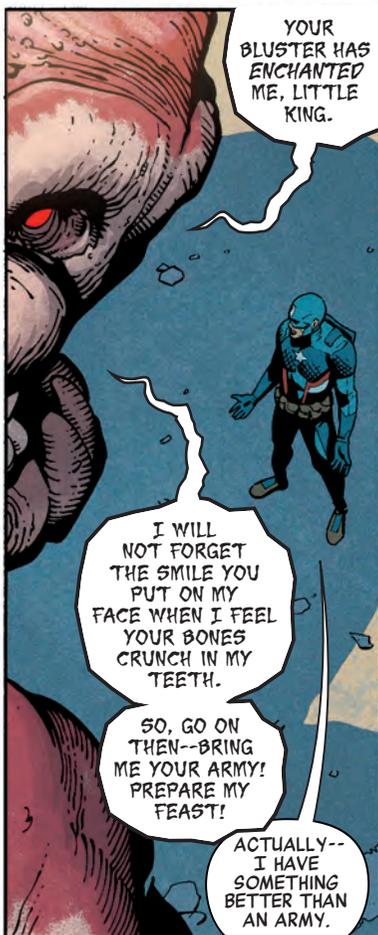


SO I NEED TO ASSURE YOU THAT THAT IS NO LONGER THE CASE. THAT I SPEAK FOR THE *GLORY OF HYDRA* NOW, AND IN HYDRA, WE VALUE STRENGTH AND ORDER ABOVE EVERYTHING ELSE. THERE IS *NO ORDER* IN THIS.

WHICH MEANS, IF YOU DON'T TAKE MY OFFER, YOU WILL NEVER LEAVE THIS STREET AS ANYTHING BESIDES A TROPHY.



HA HA HA HA HA!

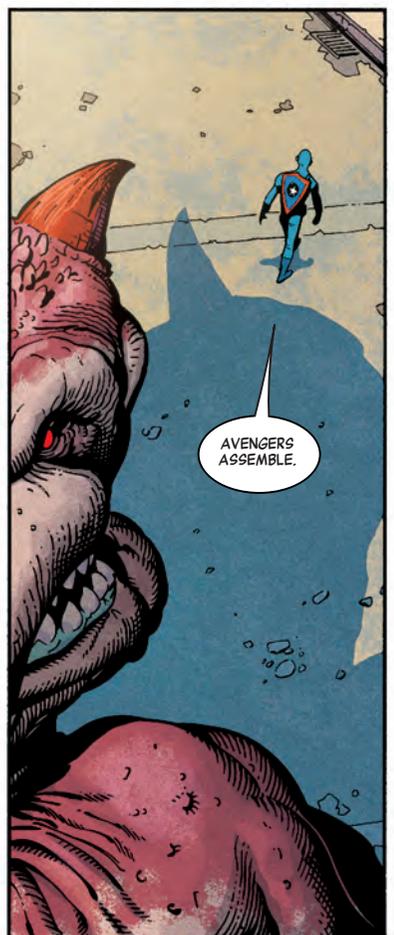


YOUR BLUSTER HAS ENCHANTED ME, LITTLE KING.

I WILL NOT FORGET THE SMILE YOU PUT ON MY FACE WHEN I FEEL YOUR BONES CRUNCH IN MY TEETH.

SO, GO ON THEN--BRING ME YOUR ARMY! PREPARE MY FEAST!

ACTUALLY-- I HAVE SOMETHING BETTER THAN AN ARMY.



AVENGERS ASSEMBLE.