



THIS IS HOW  
I REMEMBER IT.

THE LAST  
TIME I FOUGHT  
BARBARA MINERVA,  
THE CHEETAH.

IN HINDSIGHT  
I SEE IT MARKED  
THE END OF  
A CHAPTER.

IT WOULD ONLY  
BE LATER--AGAIN,  
IN HINDSIGHT...

... THAT I WOULD SEE  
HOW MY NEXT  
ENCOUNTER WITH MY  
TRAGIC FRIEND...

... WOULD MARK THE  
BEGINNING OF A  
NEW AND EVEN  
DARKER CHAPTER.

W Recently.

Empire Industries, Washington, D.C.

The office of Veronica Cale, Empire Industries' president and owner.



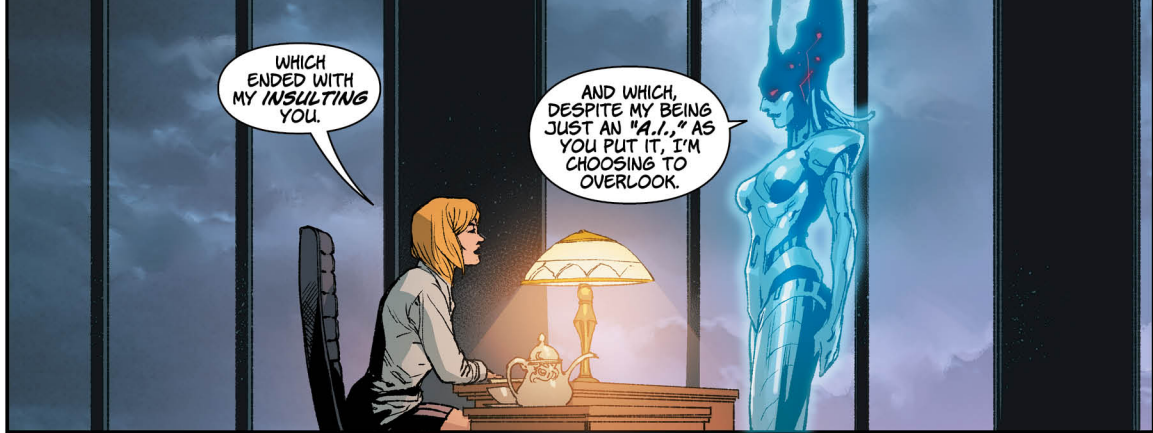
VERONICA.

ADRIANNA?  
THIS IS A SURPRISE,  
I ASSUMED WE  
WERE OVER AND  
DONE WITH.

YES,  
FROM THE NUMBER  
OF FIREWALLS I HAD  
TO BREAK DOWN IN  
ORDER TO GET TO YOU,  
THAT WAS QUITE  
APPARENT.

STILL, IN THE  
SPIRIT OF OUR PRIOR  
ASSOCIATION, WHEN I  
WAS YOUR "DOCTOR  
CYBER"--





WHICH ENDED WITH MY *INSULTING* YOU.

AND WHICH, DESPITE MY BEING JUST AN "A.I.," AS YOU PUT IT, I'M CHOOSING TO OVERLOOK.



I THOUGHT YOU'D BE INTERESTED IN DATA I'M PICKING UP ON THE DARK WEB.

INFORMATION? OF COURSE, POTENTIALLY.



IT CONCERNS OUR OLD FRIEND BARBARA MINERVA-- *CHEETAH*, AS SHE IS CURRENTLY.

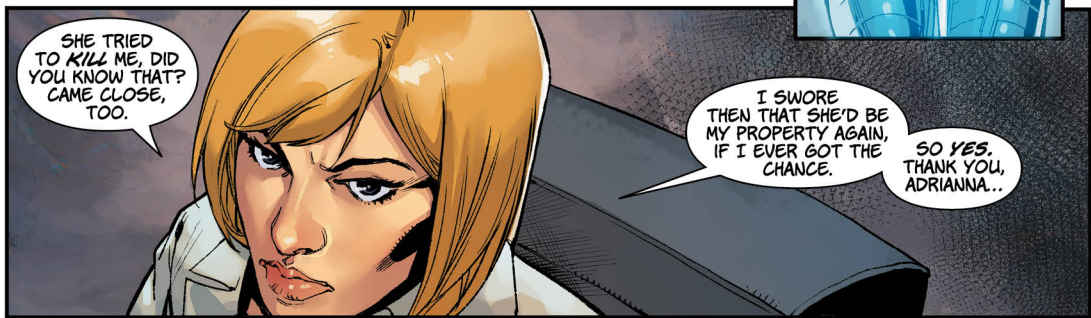
THANKS TO US.

BUT I THOUGHT WONDER WOMAN HAD HER UNDER LOCK AND KEY SOMEWHERE?



WELL, WHEREVER SHE WAS KEPT DIDN'T DO A VERY GOOD JOB OF IT. SHE'S *ESCAPED*.

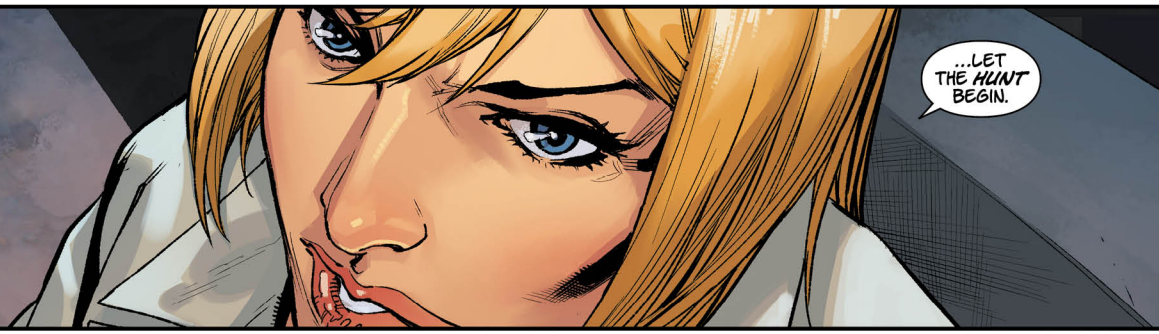
I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT ENJOY A HUNT.



SHE TRIED TO *KILL* ME, DID YOU KNOW THAT? CAME CLOSE, TOO.

I SWORE THEN THAT SHE'D BE MY PROPERTY AGAIN, IF I EVER GOT THE CHANCE.

SO YES, THANK YOU, ADRIANNA...



...LET THE *HUNT* BEGIN.



Empire Industries.

Now.



The sub-basement.

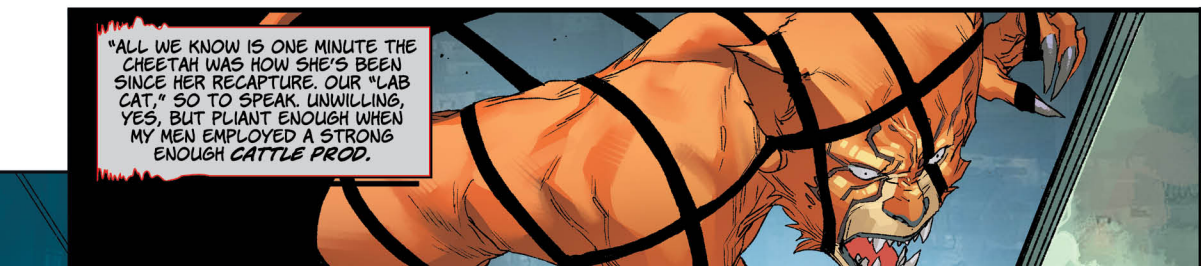
WE'RE STILL RUNNING TESTS ON HER, MS. CALE.

The world of Col. Marina Maru--"Dr. Poison."



NO. MY GUT ISN'T TELLING ME ANYTHING. AND BEING A SCIENTIST, I DON'T TRUST GUESSWORK, EVEN ON MY BEST DAY.

THE FACTS, THEN? AS I SAID, HOPEFULLY WE'LL KNOW MORE WHEN WE'RE THROUGH WITH OUR TESTS.



"ALL WE KNOW IS ONE MINUTE THE CHEETAH WAS HOW SHE'S BEEN SINCE HER RECAPTURE. OUR "LAB CAT," SO TO SPEAK. UNWILLING, YES, BUT PLIANT ENOUGH WHEN MY MEN EMPLOYED A STRONG ENOUGH CATTLE PROD.



"THEN TODAY--WITH NO WARNING--SHE SLIPPED INTO A COMA.

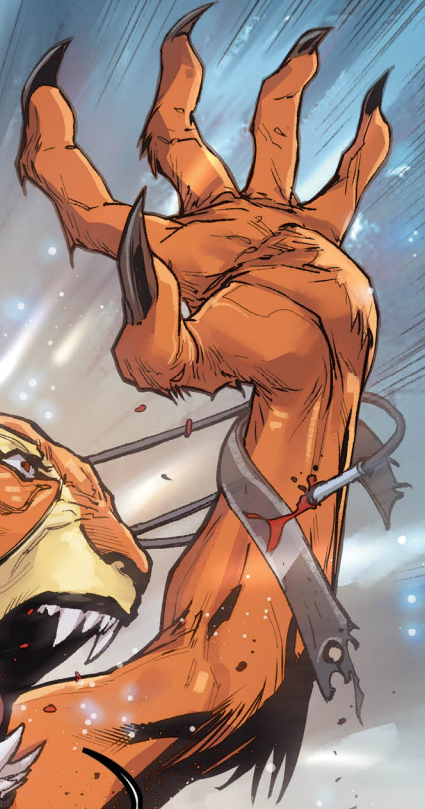
"NO, SHE'S COMPLETELY UNRESPONSIVE. MY TEAM IS ABOUT TO RE-SCAN HER BRAIN FOR ANY NEW SIGN OF ACTIVITY, BUT OUR INITIAL FINDINGS SHOW SHE'S ALMOST FLATLINED."

"NO, I SAID  
ALMOST."

"DON'T WORRY,  
THERE IS LIFE IN  
THERE SOMEWHERE..."

"...IT'S JUST GOT  
TO WAKE ITSELF."

U...UR...



...URZKARRTAGA!