



ALL OF A SUDDEN...THE INTERNET CAFÉS AND THE JUICE BARS AND THE WHITE NOISE OF THE NEW FALL TELEVISION SEASON WERE RENDERED MEANINGLESS.

THIS WAS THE END OF THE WORLD...AND IT WAS EVERYTHING OUR COLLECTIVE NIGHTMARES PROMISED US IT WOULD BE! AND MORE!

IN A LOT OF WAYS...IT WAS RAPTUREOUS (IF YOU'RE INTO THAT SORTA THING). BUT MOST OF US HAD FALLEN HARD FOR THE BIG LIE AND NOW WE WERE PAYING FOR IT THROUGH OUR NOSES...

LUCKILY, SOMEONE HAD THE BIG BALLS TO STAND UP TO TOTAL ANNIHILATION...

...AND HIS NAME WAS FRANK WELLS.

I DON'T...  
...WANT TO DIE AGAIN.

**12.21.12**  
**THIS IS WHAT WENT DOWN**



IT WAS WAY DIFFERENT  
WHEN THE WORLD  
CALLED HIM "TITAN"---



HALF OF  
MANHATTAN  
IS ALREADY  
GONE---



--CAN'T LET  
THIS MONSTER  
GET ITS  
MEAT HOOKS IN  
THE REST OF  
THE WORLD!

FRANK WELLS IS A GUY  
WITH A LOT OF THINGS  
GOING FOR HIM.



--BUT IF  
THERE'S ONE  
THING THE END  
OF THE WORLD  
PROVIDES, IT'S  
CLARITY.



MOST IMPORTANTLY---



--POWER!





BUT CLARITY DOESNT  
AUTOMATICALLY EQUATE TO  
INTELLIGENCE, DOES IT...?



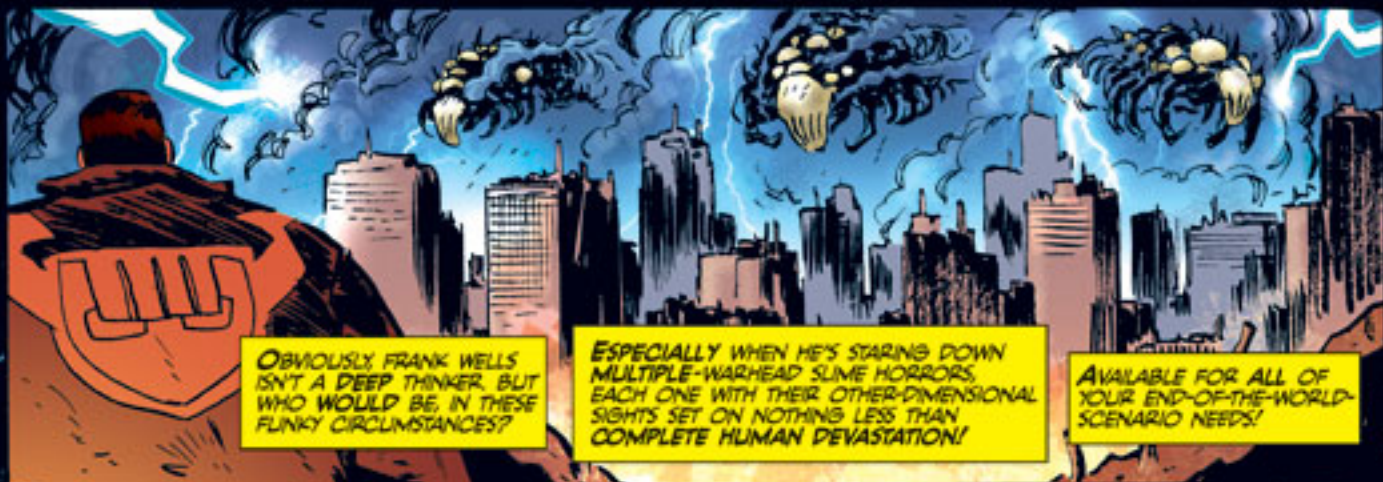
DAMN.

SOME KIND  
OF FEEDBACK,  
AND THE SOUND  
IT MADE...

MAYBE I  
ACTUALLY  
DID MORE  
DAMAGE  
THAN I...



...THOUGHT...?



OBVIOUSLY FRANK WELLS ISN'T A DEEP THINKER, BUT WHO WOULD BE, IN THESE FUNKY CIRCUMSTANCES?

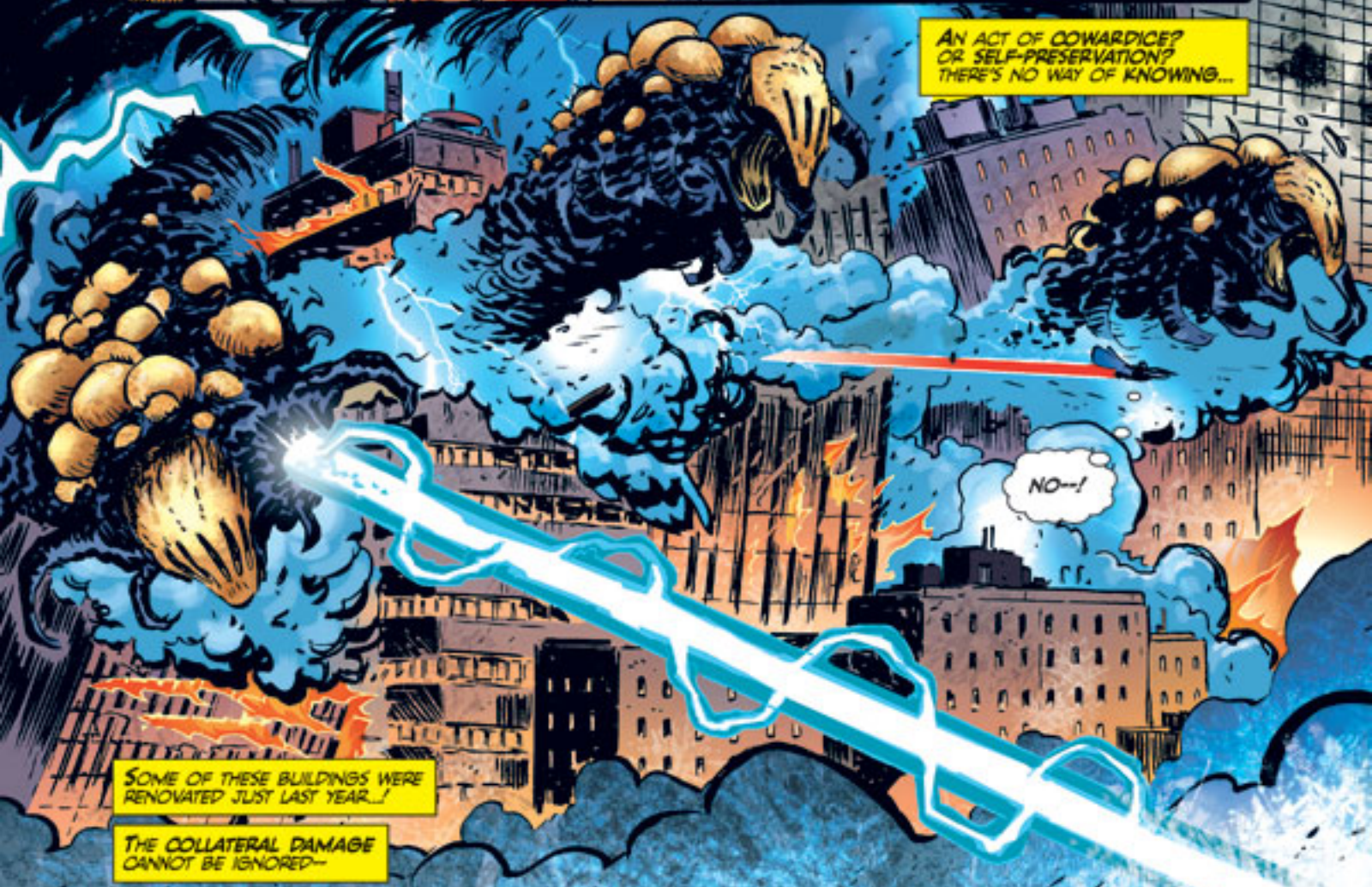
ESPECIALLY WHEN HE'S STARING DOWN MULTIPLE-WARHEAD SLIME HORRORS, EACH ONE WITH THEIR OTHER-DIMENSIONAL SIGHTS SET ON NOTHING LESS THAN COMPLETE HUMAN DEVASTATION!

AVAILABLE FOR ALL OF YOUR END-OF-THE-WORLD-SCENARIO NEEDS!



AT A TIME LIKE THIS, EVEN HIS OWN FLAUNTED HUMANITY IS GOING TO REAR ITS UGLY HEAD.

ARE...THEY COMING FOR ME...?



AN ACT OF COWARDICE? OR SELF-PRESERVATION? THERE'S NO WAY OF KNOWING...

NO--!

SOME OF THESE BUILDINGS WERE RENOVATED JUST LAST YEAR...

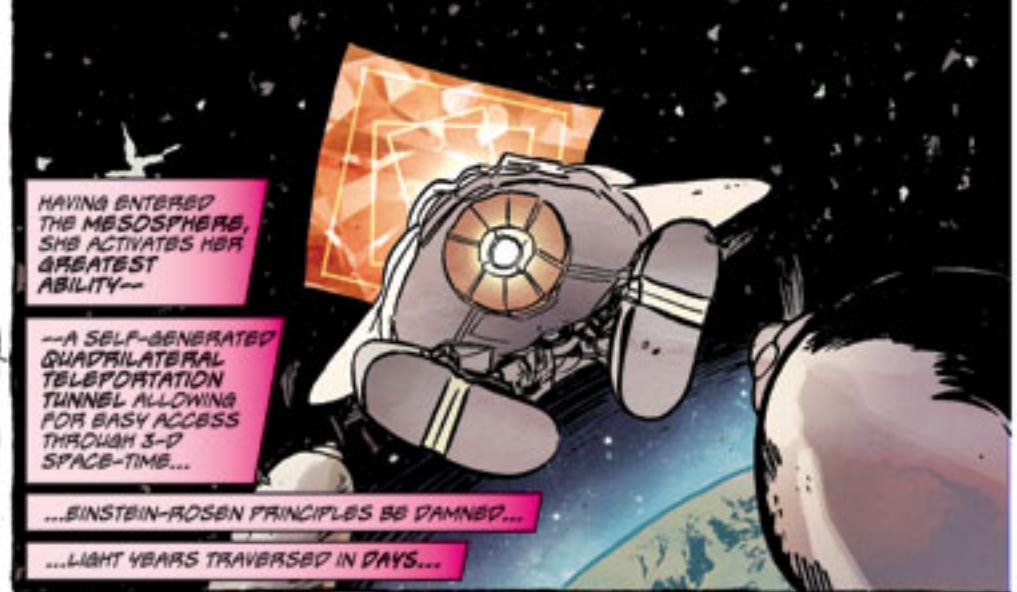
THE COLLATERAL DAMAGE CANNOT BE IGNORED--





...A LOW-LEVEL FREQUENCY PULSE WAS ENOUGH TO SCRAMBLE THE GOVERNMENT SPY SATS AND MASK HER LAUNCH. NO TIME TO PETITION FOR AIRSPACE CLEARANCE.

AMAZING GRACE--  
BACK IN ACTION!



HAVING ENTERED THE MBSOSPHERE, SHE ACTIVATES HER GREATEST ABILITY--

--A SELF-GENERATED QUADRILATERAL TELEPORTATION TUNNEL ALLOWING FOR EASY ACCESS THROUGH 3-D SPACE-TIME...

...EINSTEIN-ROSEN PRINCIPLES BE DAMNED...

...LIGHT YEARS TRAVERSED IN DAYS...



...BRINGING HER TO THE EDGE OF SOMETHING MORE THAN JUST A GALACTIC EVENT.

SENSOR ALERT!!!!  
DETECTING SENTIENT PSYCHOTROPIC ACTIVITY--

HOLD ON...



...SENTIENT...



WHAT...?

HER BRAIN FEELS THE CREEPING ATTACK ALONG THE CAUDATE, HEADING STRAIGHT FOR HER AMYGDALA--



--HOWEVER--



--HERS IS NO ORDINARY BRAIN!

PHOTONIC CLUSTER PACK.

TIMED RELEASE. SELF-REPLICATING  
UPON DELIVERY AND DETONATION.

ANOTHER ONE OF HER DAYDREAMS  
MADE REAL BY THE SCIENTIFIC MINDS  
OF GOLDEN CITY.

FOR NOW, A MOMENTARY DISTRACTION...  
THE ONLY KIND THAT WOULD POSSIBLY  
WORK ON THE DEEPEST DARKNESS.

CLUSTER PACK IS  
ACTIVE////UNABLE TO  
INCREASE SHIELDING////  
RADIATION LEVELS RISING////  
RECOMMENDATION:  
INCREASE PERSONAL  
PROTECTION LAYERS—

NO NEED  
FOR THAT.  
I'M FINE.      BBSIDBS...

...WE'RE NOT  
GOING TO BE  
HERE MUCH  
LONGER.

AND WITH A THOUGHT, ANOTHER  
QUADRILATERAL TELEPORTATION  
TUNNEL IS TRIGGERED.

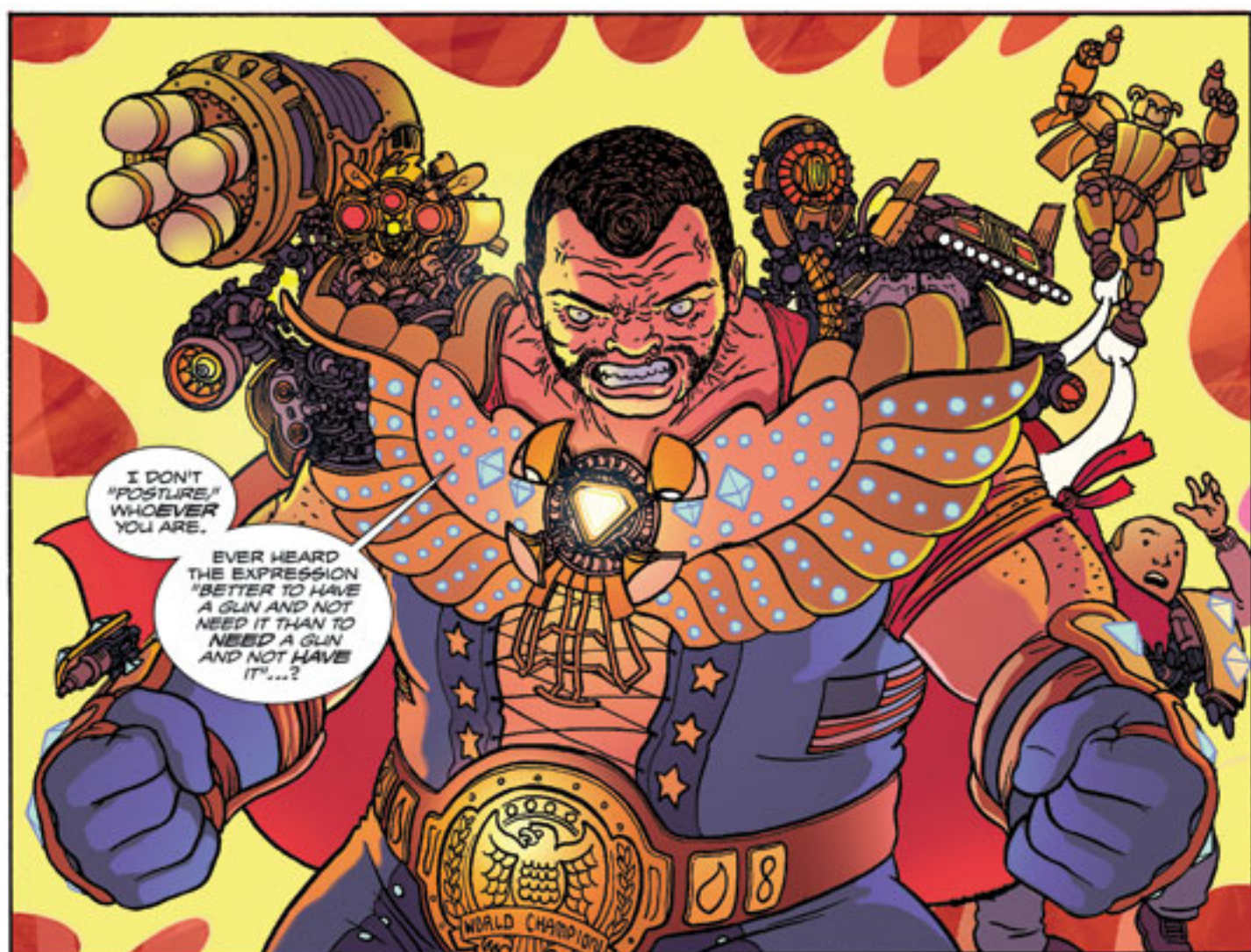
THIS ONE, AS MASSIVE AS  
SHE'S EVER ATTEMPTED...

...SUDDEN GRAVITATIONAL  
DISPLACEMENT IS THE FIRST,  
MOST IMMEDIATE EFFECT.

THE STRUGGLE TO MAINTAIN  
SANITY IS THE NEXT.

EXOTIC MATTER CASCADES ACROSS  
THE SHIP'S HULL LIKE WATER ON A  
WINDSHIELD...NEGATIVE ENERGY  
DENSITY HELPING TO STABILIZE THIS  
HOLE AS IT SLIDES THROUGH AT  
SUPERLUMINAL SPEEDS...

...THE WILDEST RIDE  
SHE HAS EVER KNOWN.



I DON'T "POSTURE," WHOEVER YOU ARE.

EVER HEARD THE EXPRESSION "BETTER TO HAVE A GUN AND NOT NEED IT THAN TO NEED A GUN AND NOT HAVE IT"...?



YOU'RE GODDAMN RIGHT I HAVE...!

YOU TWO PUT YOUR PISTOLS IN YOUR POCKETS AND GET YOUR MINDS IN THE HERE AND NOW!

SWORDS INTO PLOWSHARES, FOR CHRISSAKES...!



HOW DOES WHAT FEEL?

YOU NEED TO ASK YOURSELF, ONCE AND FOR ALL... IS THIS THE LIFE YOU WANTED?!

YOU FELL OFF THE GRID IN A BIG, BAD WAY... SO HOW DOES IT FEEL?

AND WHO THE HELL ARE YOU, ANYWAY?!



ME? I'M THE MAN IN THE SHADOWS. THE GUY BEHIND THE GUY, THE MASTER PLANNER...

AND YOU'VE CLEARLY TURNED INTO A WALKING, TALKING ANACHRONISM.

ARMOR-PLATED IRRELEVANCE.

PATHETIC.



RIGHT.

NICE TRY WITH THE REVERSE PSYCHOLOGY. BUT, JUST FOR GIGGLES...



...LET ME SHOW YOU HOW "IRRELEVANT" I CAN BE.

OH NO...!

CIMON, MAN! DON'T--





A SYMPHONY OF HOT LEAD SPRAYS OUT OF AN INNOCENT STOREFRONT!

AN ORGY OF ORDNANCE ON FULL DISPLAY!



AND WARMAKER STANDS VICTORIOUS!

WELL, YOU SHOWED THAT WINDOW WHO'S BOSS...!

YOUR GUNS MAY HAVE PLENTY OF GIRTH--



--BUT I JUST GET THAT FEELING YOU'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR SOMEWHERE TO AIM THEM... SOMEWHERE THAT'LL ACTUALLY DO SOME GOOD...

"GOOD" IS A RELATIVE TERM.

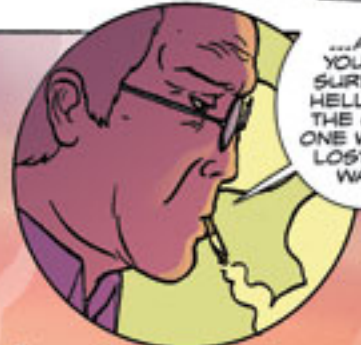
BESIDES, I'M NOT THAT GUY ANYMORE.



FLUNNY.

I'M PRETTY SURE THAT'S WHAT YOU ALL THINK.

YOU'RE NOT THE ONLY ONE I'VE TRACKED DOWN...

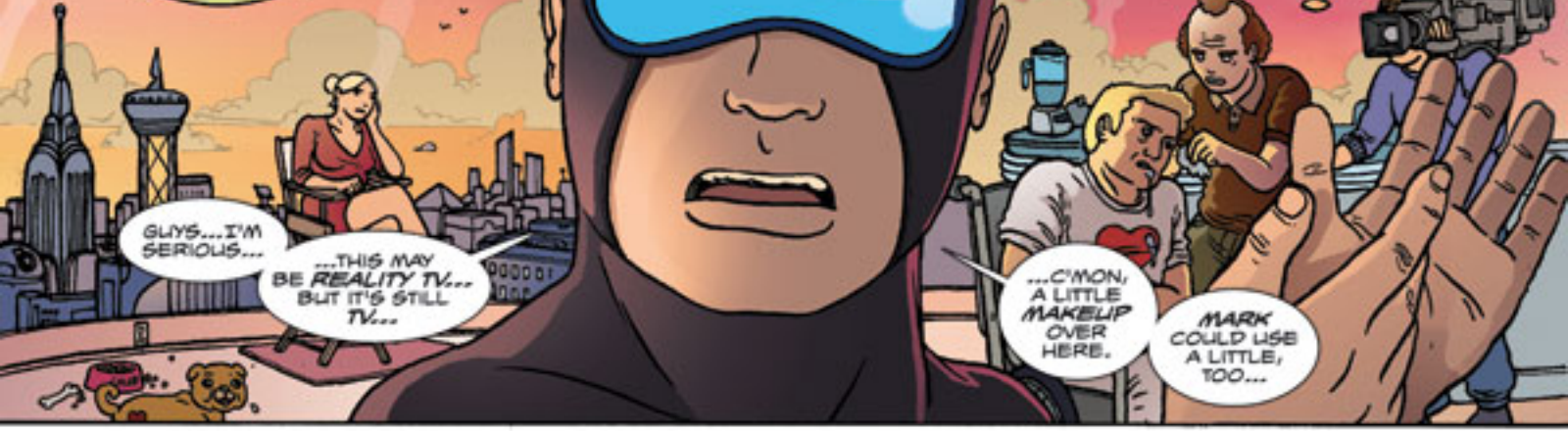


...AND YOU'RE SURE AS HELL NOT THE ONLY WHO'S LOST HIS WAY.

CONSIDER YOUR FORMER COLLEAGUE... THE ONE CALLED REBEL. SURE, HE CAN STILL ABSORB ENERGY IN ALL FORMS... HE STILL FLIES... STILL GLOWS WHEN APPROPRIATE... HE JUST CAN'T GET ARRESTED THESE DAYS.

APPARENTLY THERE'S ONLY ONE THING LEFT TO DO WHEN YOUR PRETTY-BOY POP-STAR-SUPERHERO MOMENT HAS COME AND GONE... MATTHEW AND MARK AREN'T THE KIND OF BROTHERS WHO TURN DOWN AN OPPORTUNITY TO GET BACK IN THE SPOTLIGHT, EVEN IF IT'S REALITY TELEVISION...!

THE FACT THAT WHICHEVER ONE OF THEM ISN'T ENJOYING THE PLEASURES OF BEING REBEL-- REMEMBER, THEY TAKE SHARING THAT POWER--HAS TO SUFFER EXTREME PHYSICAL DEBILITATION ONLY MAKES FOR BETTER TV...



GUYS... I'M SERIOUS...

...THIS MAY BE REALITY TV... BUT IT'S STILL TV...

...C'MON, A LITTLE MAKEUP OVER HERE.

MARK COULD USE A LITTLE, TOO...