



image
320
DIGITAL
EDITION

SPAWN

TODD
MCFARLANE
CARLO
BARBERI

PART OF THE NEW SPAWN UNIVERSE TITLES!



SPAWN®

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SPAWN CREATED BY
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PREVIOUSLY IN SPAWN

Cy-Gor was taken prisoner by the enigmatic Jericho. Spawn, determined not to lose another ally in his war seeks to free him, only to be challenged by the mysterious Soul Crusher!

"IT FEELS LIKE I'VE BEEN AT WAR *MY ENTIRE LIFE*.
AS A KID, I LIVED WHERE YOUR SKIN COLOR
DETERMINED EVERYTHING ABOUT YOU...
YOUR EDUCATION, YOUR JOB--ANY HOPE TO
ADVANCE WAS CONSTANTLY BEING BLOCKED.

"THOSE DOING THE
BLOCKING WERE
ALWAYS BLIND TO
THEIR OWN ACTIONS.

"THE ONLY ESCAPE FROM IT,
AT LEAST THE ONLY THING
THAT MADE SENSE TO ME,
WAS JOINING THE MILITARY.
THOUGH I'VE OFTEN
WONDERED IF THINGS WOULD
HAVE BEEN DIFFERENT IF
I HADN'T DONE THAT.



"BUT IT'S FAR TOO
LATE FOR THAT.

"IN THE MILITARY...THE ARMY...I ACTUALLY WAS AT
WAR...LITERALLY. HELPING TO PROTECT OUR COUNTRY.
THEN THEY BROUGHT ME CLOSER INTO THEIR GAME.
MOST OF THE BLACK OPS WE WERE DOING WERE
BULLSHIT MISSIONS BASED ON SHIFTING LOYALTIES
AND PURE GREED."

"I HAD TO FIGHT MY OWN
COMMANDERS THEN. THAT'S
HOW I GOT KILLED. FIGHTING
FOR MY COUNTRY, THEN
FIGHTING THOSE WHO RAN IT.

"SO, I UNDERSTAND THE RAGE
RUNNING THROUGH CY-GOR AND
WHY SCREAMING AT THE TOP OF
YOUR LUNGS IS THE ONLY WAY
TO RELEASE THAT ANGER!

"HE'S BEEN HUNTED AND PERSECUTED, LIKE
ME, FOR MERELY EXISTING. THEY KILLED
HIM ONCE...AND MAYBE I SHOULD HAVE
LEFT HIM THAT WAY. IT MIGHT HAVE BEEN THE
ONLY TIME HE WAS EVER AT PEACE. BUT I
DIDN'T. I RESURRECTED HIM FOR MY NEEDS,
I NEVER GAVE HIM A CHOICE!

"WHY? WHY
WOULD I
DO THAT?"

**BRAKKA
BRAKKA
BRAKKA**



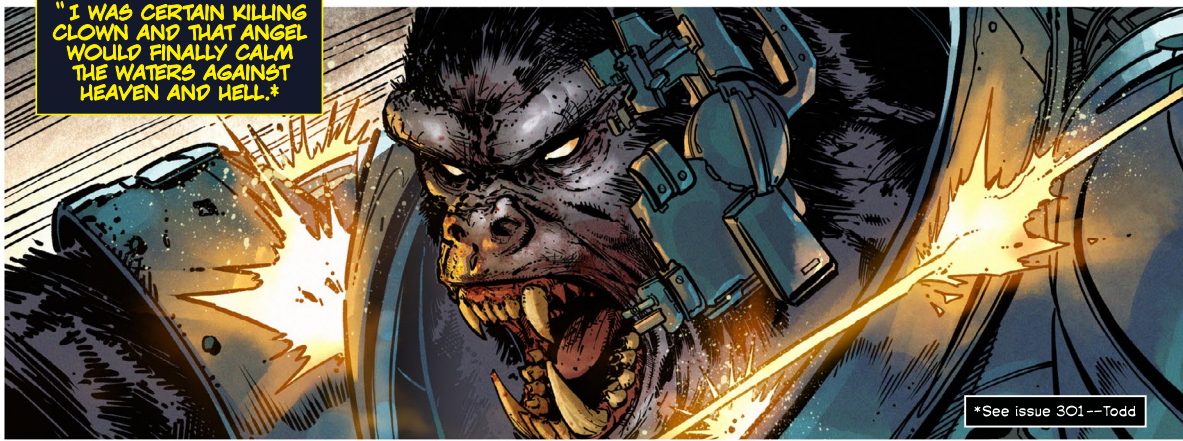


"BECAUSE OF
THE WARS I
NOW FIGHT AS
SPAWN.

"I THOUGHT
CY-GOR
COULD
HELP WITH
THAT...

"...INSTEAD,
HE KEEPS
PAYING
FOR THE
SINS OF MY
ACTIONS."

"I WAS CERTAIN KILLING CLOWN AND THAT ANGEL WOULD FINALLY CALM THE WATERS AGAINST HEAVEN AND HELL.*



*See issue 301---Todd

CRUNCH



BAM



"SHIT, DID I GET THAT WRONG. IT'S AN ALL-OUT **FREE-FOR-ALL** WITH HUNDREDS OF THEM COMING THROUGH **THE HOLE!**" EVERY ONE OF THEM WANTING TO SHOW THEY'RE THE TOUGHEST SON OF A BITCH OF THE BUNCH.

"THE WAY TO DO THAT IS TO KILL ME. SO NOW, EVERYTHING IN MY LIFE IS JUST BAIT!

"CY-GOR IS NO EXCEPTION."





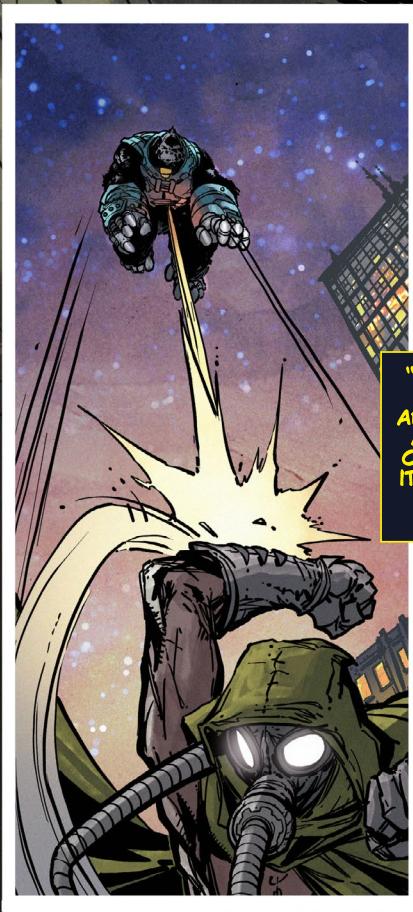
"AND THE WORST PART..?"

DELTA
BASE, THE
TARGET IS
FREE!
DO YOU
READ?!

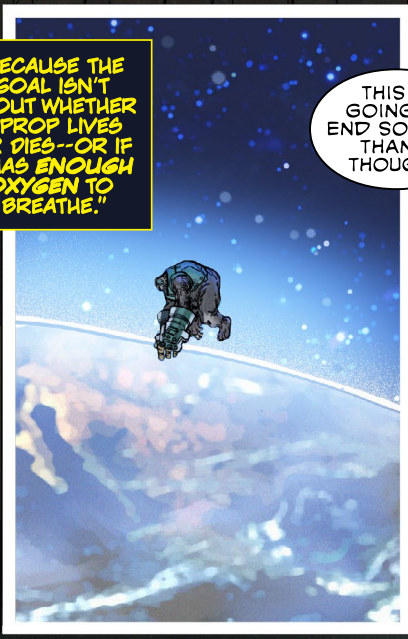


"WE HUMANS HAVE
JOINED THE FRAY!"

LET'S
SEE IF WE
CAN SEND A
FLARE SIGNAL
FOR YOUR
BOSS.



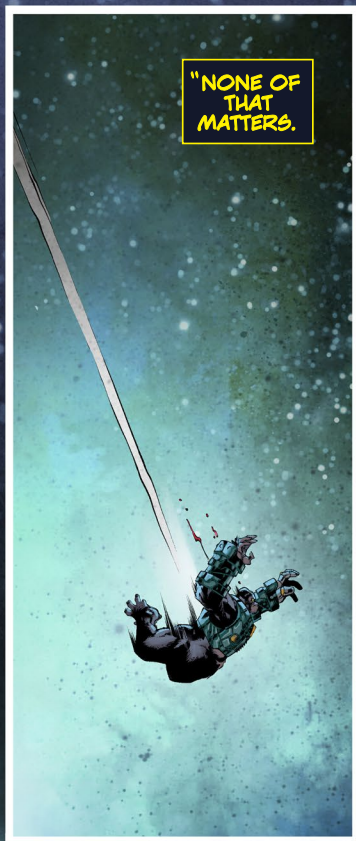
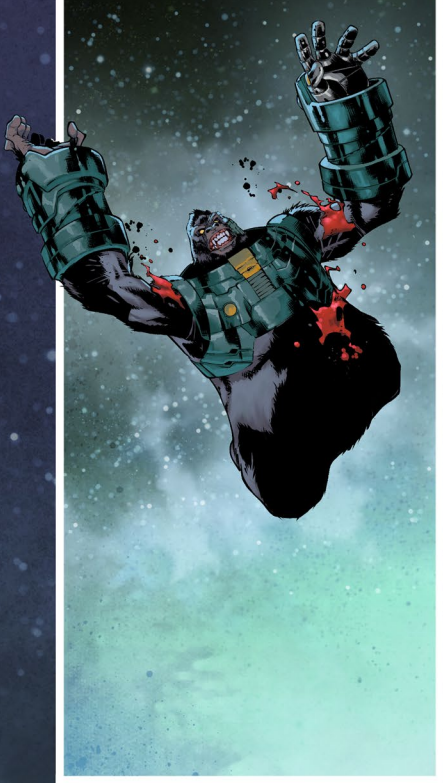
"BECAUSE THE
GOAL ISN'T
ABOUT WHETHER
A PROP LIVES
OR DIES--OR IF
IT HAS ENOUGH
OXYGEN TO
BREATHE."



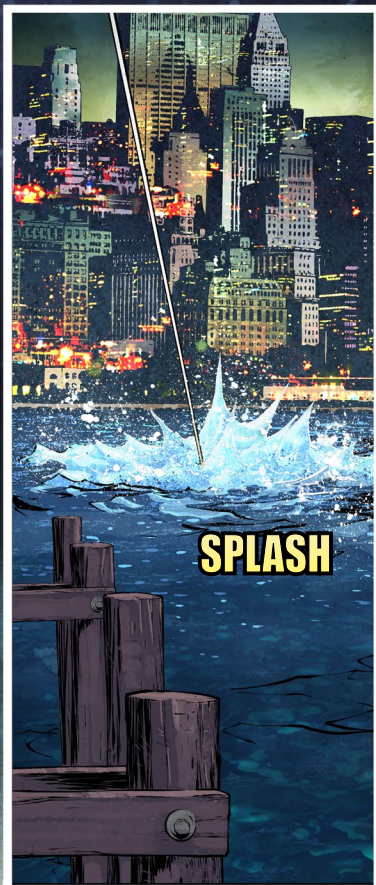
THIS IS
GOING TO
END SOONER
THAN I
THOUGHT.



"CY-GOR IS JUST A
PROP TO THIS TWISTED
MADMAN. HE DOESN'T
CARE HOW MUCH
DAMAGE HIS AUGMENTED
TECH-SUIT MIGHT CAUSE."



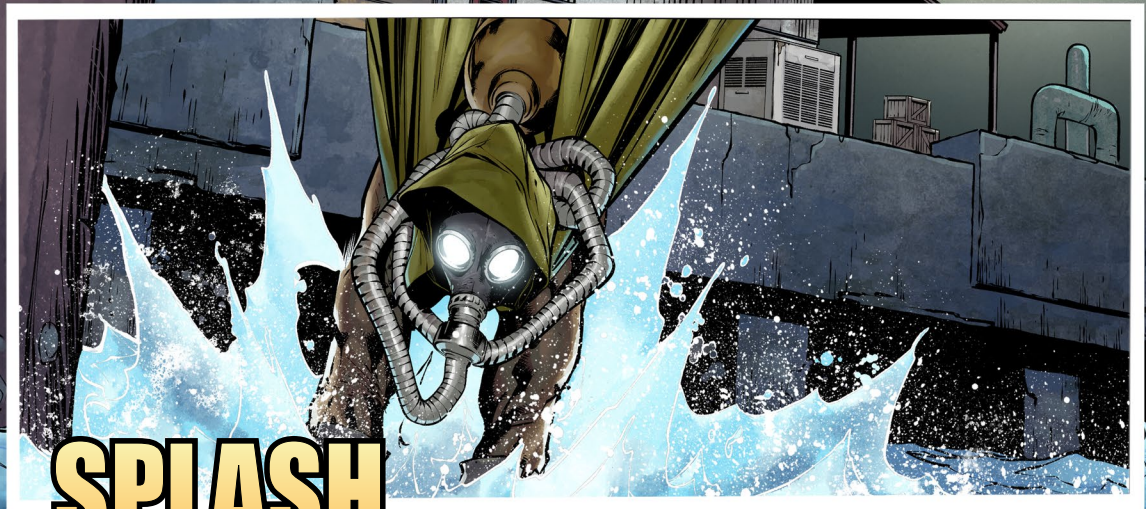
"NONE OF THAT MATTERS."



SPLASH



"THE GOAL IS TO GET MY ATTENTION. PURE AND SIMPLE."



SPLASH



"IT'S WHY SOUL CRUSHER
IS DIVING AFTER CY-GOR.
HE CAN'T AFFORD TO LOSE
HIS PROP--HIS MAGNET
TO PULL ME IN.



"BECAUSE IF HE DOES,
IF HE CAN'T DRAW
ME OUT, THEN EITHER
GOD'S WARRIORS WILL
KNOW HE'S A FRAUD
OR HELL'S DEMONS WILL
CONSIDER HIM WEAK.
AND ALL THE MILLIONS
SOUL CRUSHER INVESTED
IN THEIR AGENDA
WON'T MEAN A
DAMN THING!



"SO, IT'S
TIME..."

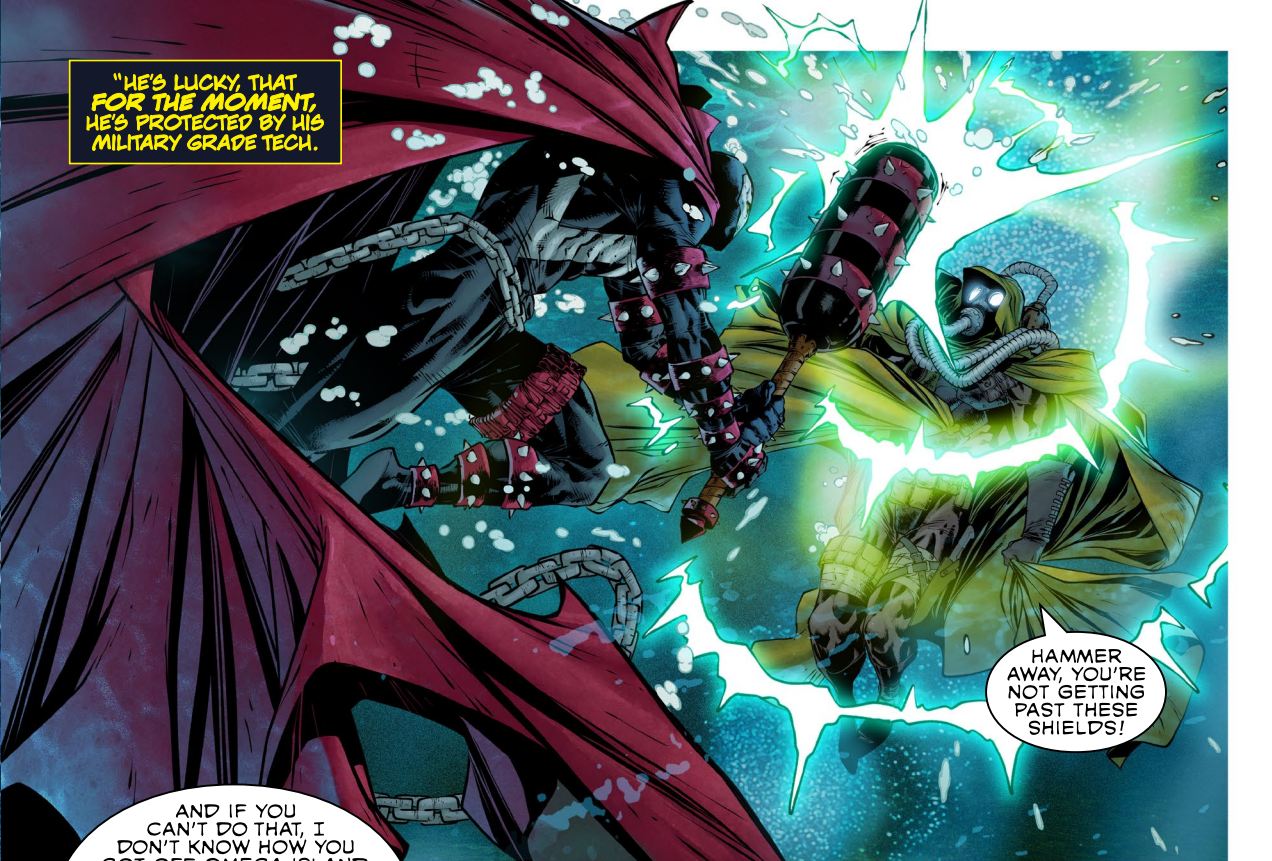


"...TIME TO
LET HIM
KNOW..."



"...THAT HE'S SUCCEEDED IN HIS GOAL,
FAR BEYOND
WHAT HE COULD HAVE
IMAGINED!

"AND I DON'T
GIVE A DAMN
ANYMORE THAT
THIS ENEMY
IS JUST
HUMAN!"



"HE'S LUCKY, THAT
FOR THE MOMENT,
HE'S PROTECTED BY HIS
MILITARY GRADE TECH.

A large panel showing Batman in his red and black suit, crouched and looking up at a mechanical enemy. The enemy is a complex, yellow and black machine with a large, segmented arm and a glowing blue light. The background is a dark blue, watery environment with white bubbles.

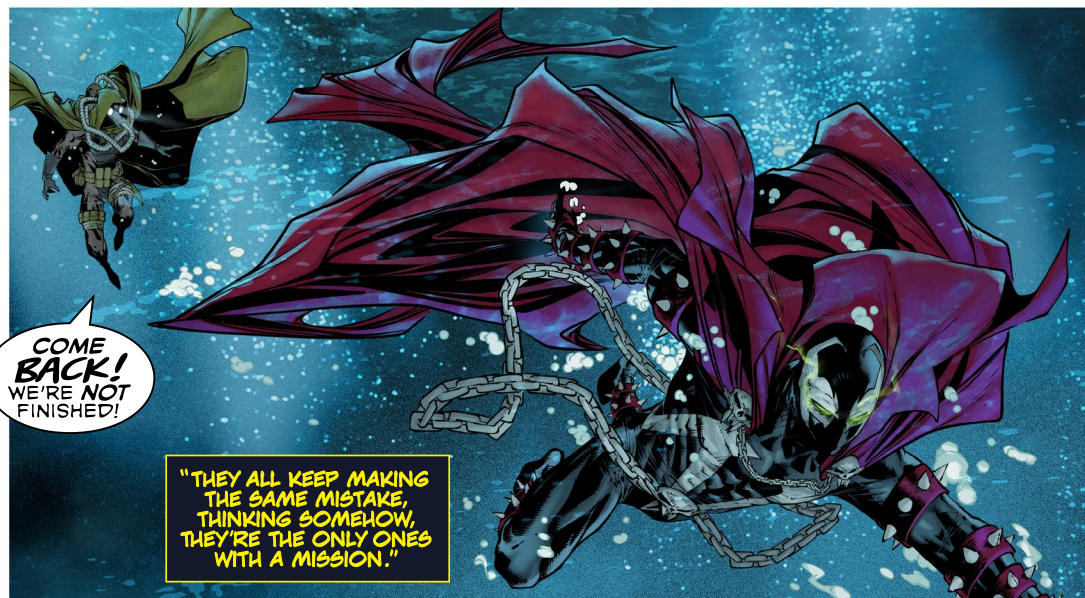
HAMMER
AWAY, YOU'RE
NOT GETTING
PAST THESE
SHIELDS!

AND IF YOU
CAN'T DO THAT, I
DON'T KNOW HOW YOU
GOT OFF OMEGA ISLAND.
I THOUGHT THE NON-HUMANS
WERE SUPPOSED TO BE
BETTER THAN US! BUT IF THEY
COULDN'T GET YOU TO UNLOCK
THE 'DEAD ZONES,'
I'LL SHOW THEM A HUMAN
IS SMARTER THAN
ALL OF THEM!

"HE WANTS INTO THE
'DEAD ZONE' TOO?"



A close-up panel of the mechanical enemy's face. It has two large, glowing blue eyes and a complex, segmented mouth. The background is dark blue with white bubbles.



COME
BACK!
WE'RE NOT
FINISHED!

"THEY ALL KEEP MAKING
THE SAME MISTAKE,
THINKING SOMEHOW,
THEY'RE THE ONLY ONES
WITH A MISSION."



"SOUL CRUSHER, HE'S AN ANNOYANCE AT BEST, ONE I'D LOVE TO WIPE OUT NOW, BUT IF I'M GOING TO FIGHT **EVERYONE** IN THIS WAR--AND I PLAN ON DOING THAT WITH A **VENGEANCE!**..."



"...I HAVE TO MAKE SURE MY ALLIES ARE KEPT ALIVE!"

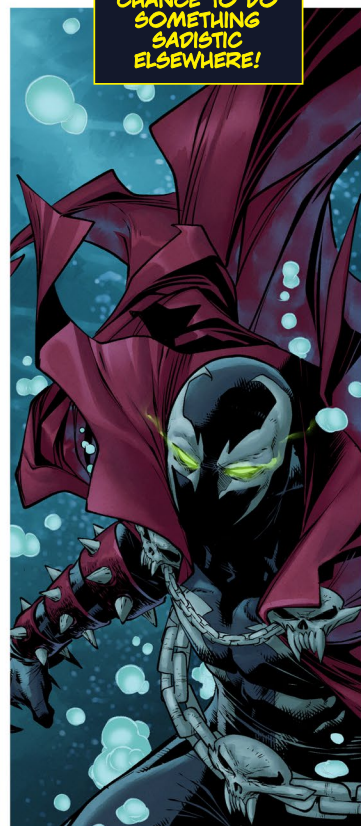


"I CAN'T BATTLE THEM ALL ALONE!"



"A FEW YEARS AGO, MAYBE I COULD. NOT NOW. THERE'S TOO MANY AND THEY'RE TOO UNPREDICTABLE. AND THE THING THAT SCARES ME, IS SOME DON'T GIVE A SHIT ABOUT HUMANS."

"SO, ME WASTING MY TIME HERE IS GIVING THEM A CHANCE TO DO SOMETHING SADISTIC ELSEWHERE!"



"I'LL DRAG CY-GOR OUT OF HERE ONCE I FIND A SHADOW TO TRANSPORT IN."





CY-GOR?!

CY-GOR,
ARE YOU
OKAY?

I'M SORRY,
I DIDN'T HAVE A
CHOICE, I DIDN'T KNOW
HOW LONG YOU
COULD BREATHE
UNDERWATER.

SPAWN
ROLLS HIM
TO HIS
BACK.



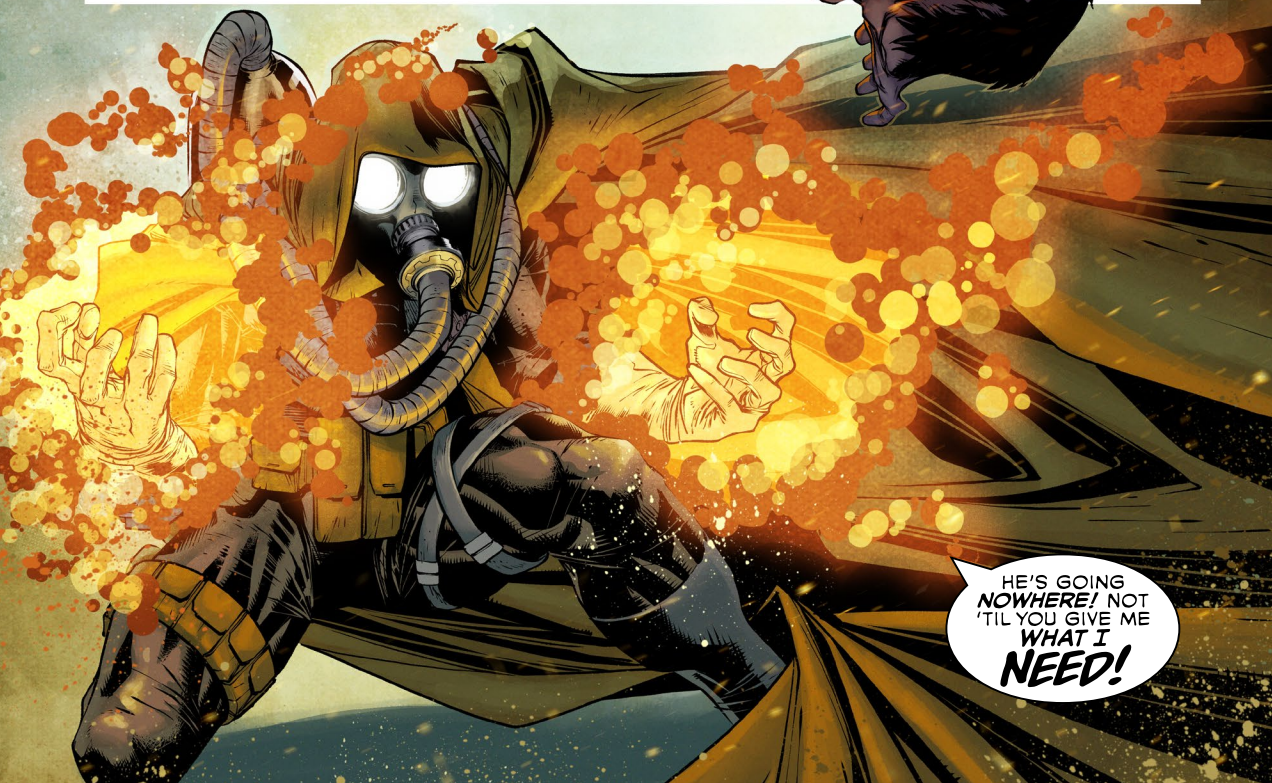
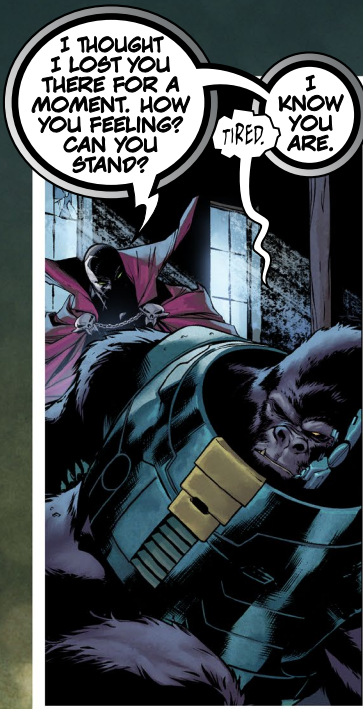
C'MON,
BIG GUY! YOU
CAN DO THIS...
WAKE UP! DON'T
LEAVE, FIGHT THIS!
YOU HEAR ME?!
FIGHT GOD
DAMN YOU!

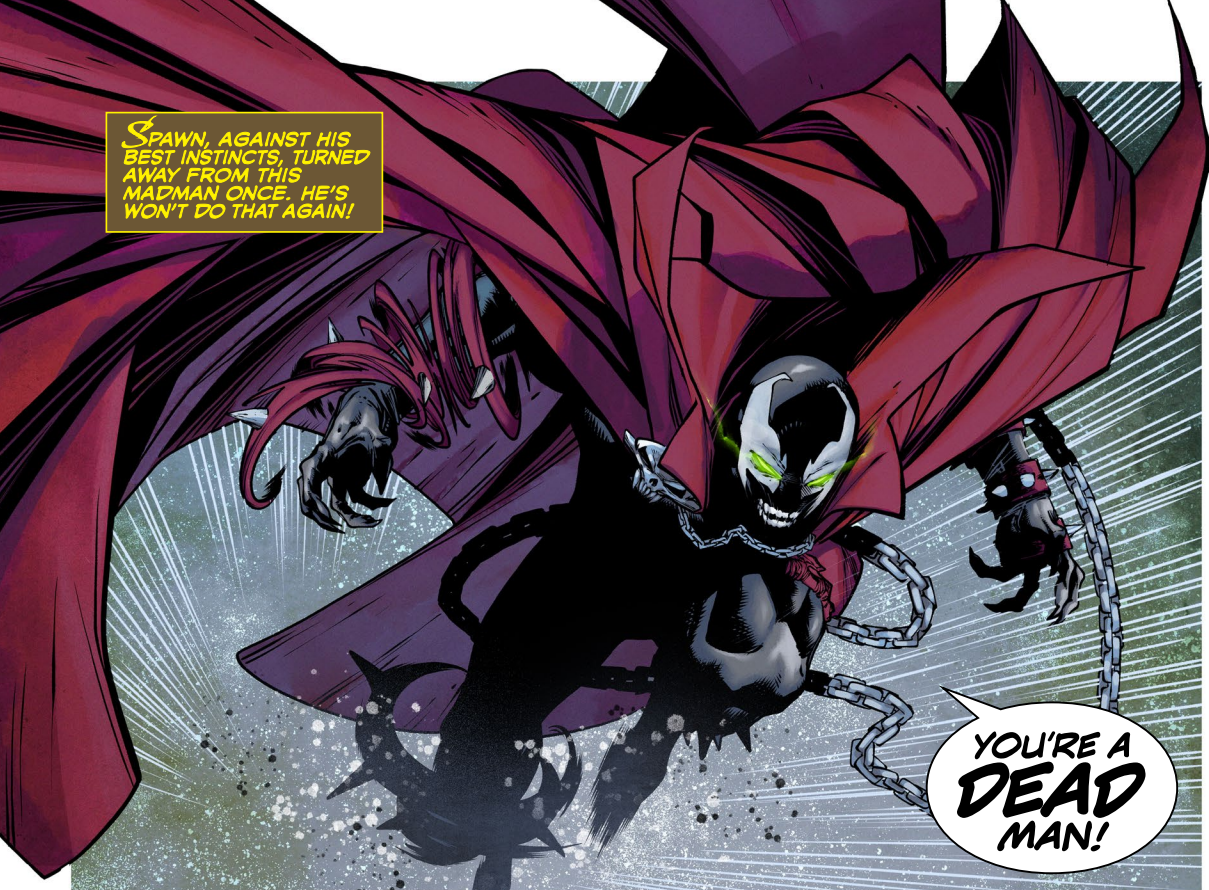


GOING BACK TO
HIS MILITARY DAYS,
EVERY SOLDIER IS
TAUGHT: IF POSSIBLE,
YOU NEVER LEAVE
A SOLDIER BEHIND.
SPAWN'S ALREADY
GUILT RIDDEN HE
DIDN'T FOLLOW
THAT CREED WITH
OVERT-KILL AND
MONOLITH.



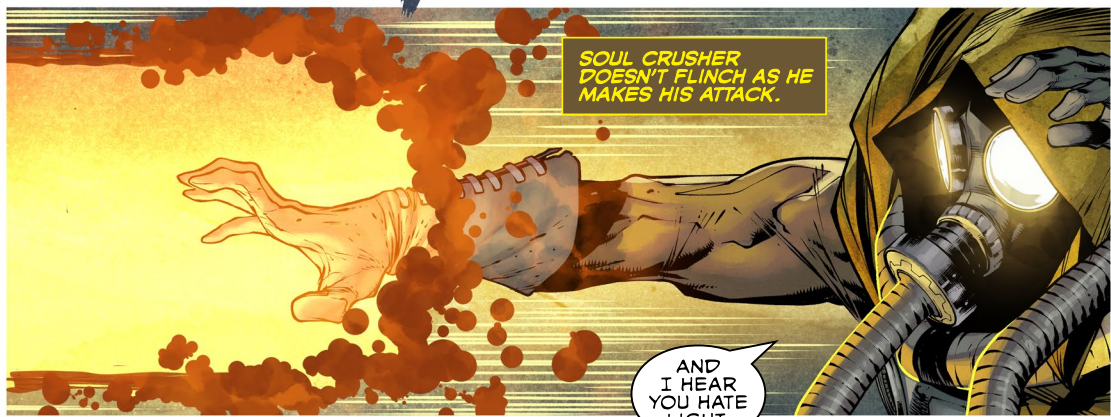
THE CYBERNETIC
GORILLA OPENS HIS
EYES...BARELY.





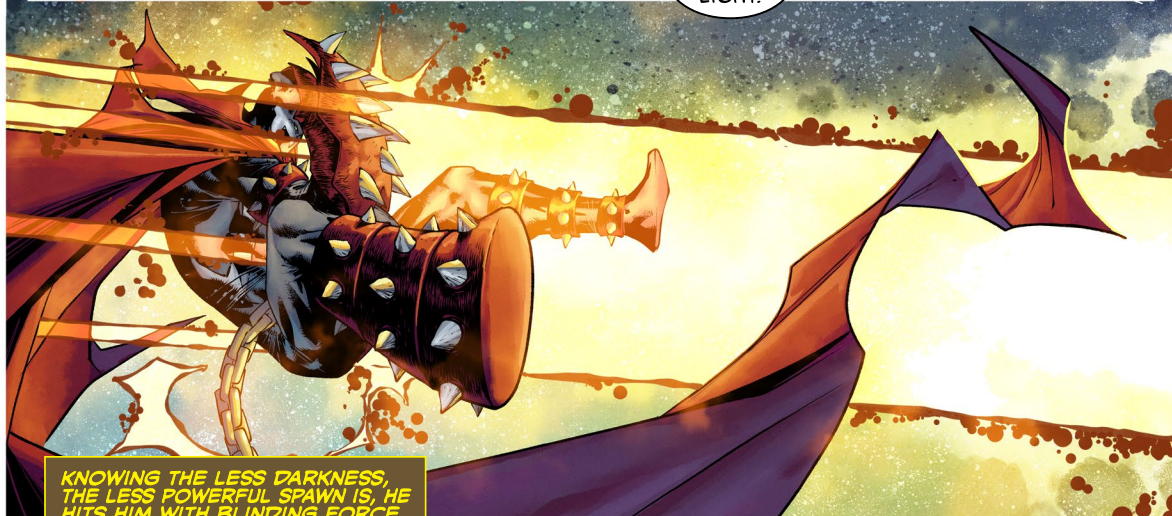
SPAWN, AGAINST HIS BEST INSTINCTS, TURNED AWAY FROM THIS MADMAN ONCE. HE'S WON'T DO THAT AGAIN!

YOU'RE A DEAD MAN!



SOUL CRUSHER DOESN'T FLINCH AS HE MAKES HIS ATTACK.

AND I HEAR YOU HATE LIGHT.



KNOWING THE LESS DARKNESS, THE LESS POWERFUL SPAWN IS, HE HITS HIM WITH BLINDING FORCE.



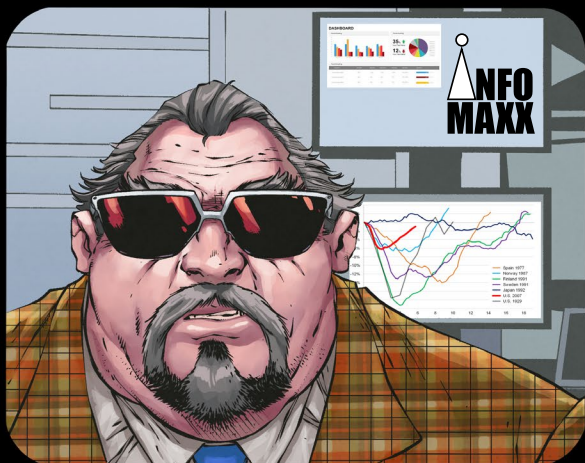
IN FINANCIAL NEWS, NEARLY THREE POINT SEVEN TRILLION DOLLARS HAS RECENTLY BEEN INVESTED INTO COUNTRIES BY OTHER COUNTRIES WHICH, UNTIL RECENTLY, HAD BEEN THEIR BITTER RIVALS. A GROWING NUMBER OF ECONOMISTS AND HEDGE FUND MANAGERS ARE VOICING CAUTIOUS OPTIMISM IN THIS SUDDEN SURGE IN GLOBAL RESTRUCTURING.

THE FINANCIAL STAGNATION BROUGHT ON BY THE PANDEMIC UNDERLINES THE IMPORTANCE OF THIS ACTION. "ECONOMIC GROWTH MAY BE HELD BACK FOR A GENERATION UNLESS SHORT-TERM TRUST CAN BE RECOGNIZED AS A GOOD INVESTMENT," SAID A SOURCE AT THE WORLD BANK, WHO SPOKE ON CONDITION OF ANONYMITY. "A UNITED FRONT CAN, FOR NOW, ACT AS A BACKBONE FOR INTERNATIONAL TREATIES AND COOPERATION."



IN *INTERNATIONAL FINANCE*, IT SEEMS AS THOUGH THERE'S NOW A DANGEROUS *SPLINTERING* TAKING EFFECT. SMALLER COUNTRIES ARE GOING BEHIND THE BACKS OF THEIR TRADITIONAL *ALLIES*, ACCEPTING FUNDS FROM THEIR TRADITIONAL *OPPRESSORS*, RISKING A LOSS OF THEIR HARD WON *AUTONOMY*. THIS COULD BEGIN A DOMINO EFFECT THAT COULD "SHAKE THE FOUNDATION OF THEIR GOVERNMENTS," ACCORDING TO A COMMENT FROM A *UNITED NATIONS OBSERVER*, WHO SPOKE TO US ON CONDITION OF *ANONYMITY*.

WHEN ASKED, *NOTED ECONOMISTS* ARE SAYING THAT THE DIVERSION OF SUCH HUGE AMOUNTS OF *MONEY* COULD SOON IMPACT STOCK MARKETS AROUND THE WORLD, HAVING GONE THROUGH A SCARE RECENTLY, MARKET CONDITION ARE STILL QUITE *FRAGILE*. ANY CRACKS COULD VERY POSSIBLY LEAD TO *CATASTROPHIC RESULTS*, THEY GO ON TO SAY.



REMEMBER *CHICKEN LITTLE...?* THE *SKY* WAS *ALWAYS* FALLING! AND THAT'S WHAT THESE *ELITIST* MONEY MANAGERS AND ECONOMISTS KEEP SHOUTING, TOO! WELL, IT'S NOT A SIN TO INVEST IN OTHER COMPANIES, OR OTHER BUSINESSES, OR... *OTHER COUNTRIES!!!* CONVINCE PEOPLE THAT YOU WANT 'EM AROUND AFTER ALL, AND THEY'LL BE GRATEFUL IN NO TIME. THEN, BEFORE YOU KNOW IT, THEY'LL *OPEN THEIR WALLETS* AND *BUY YOUR STUFF* WITH THE MONEY YOU *GAVE* 'EM! WE CALL THAT *CAPITALISM* AROUND HERE...THE THING THAT BUILT *NEARLY EVERY DEVELOPED COUNTRY* ON THE MAP!

SO WHAT IF SOME OF THOSE COUNTRIES USED TO *PISS ON EACH OTHER* FROM TIME TO TIME. WHO *HASN'T* HAD A BEEF WITH THE NEIGHBORS? IT'S NATURAL! *BUT*, THE *LAME-STREAM MEDIA* WANTS YOU TO THINK THAT BILLIONAIRES DON'T KNOW WHAT THEY'RE DOING. *REALLY?* THEY GIVE SOME POOR SLOB NATION A STACK OF MONEY AND HIT 'EM LATER FOR PENALTIES AND INTEREST!!! *SWEET!* HOW DO YOU THINK THEY BECAME BILLIONAIRES IN THE FIRST PLACE, *BY BEING FRIENDLY?*



THAT'S
IT, DO US
BOTH A
FAVOR AND
STAY
DOWN!

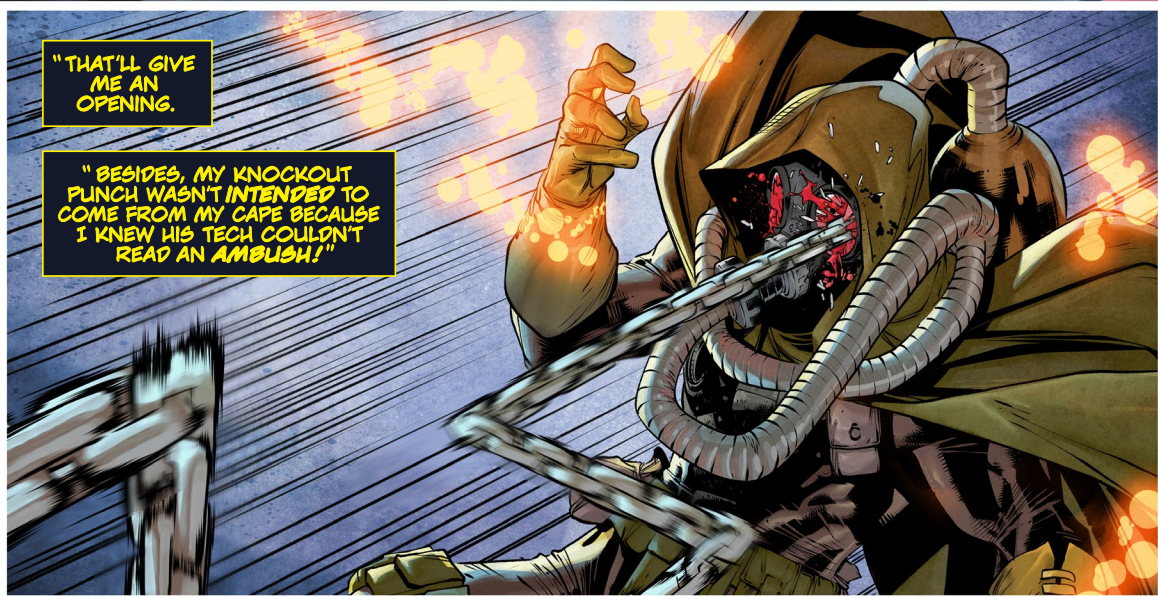
"HE'S GETTING
COCKY...THAT'S
GOOD."

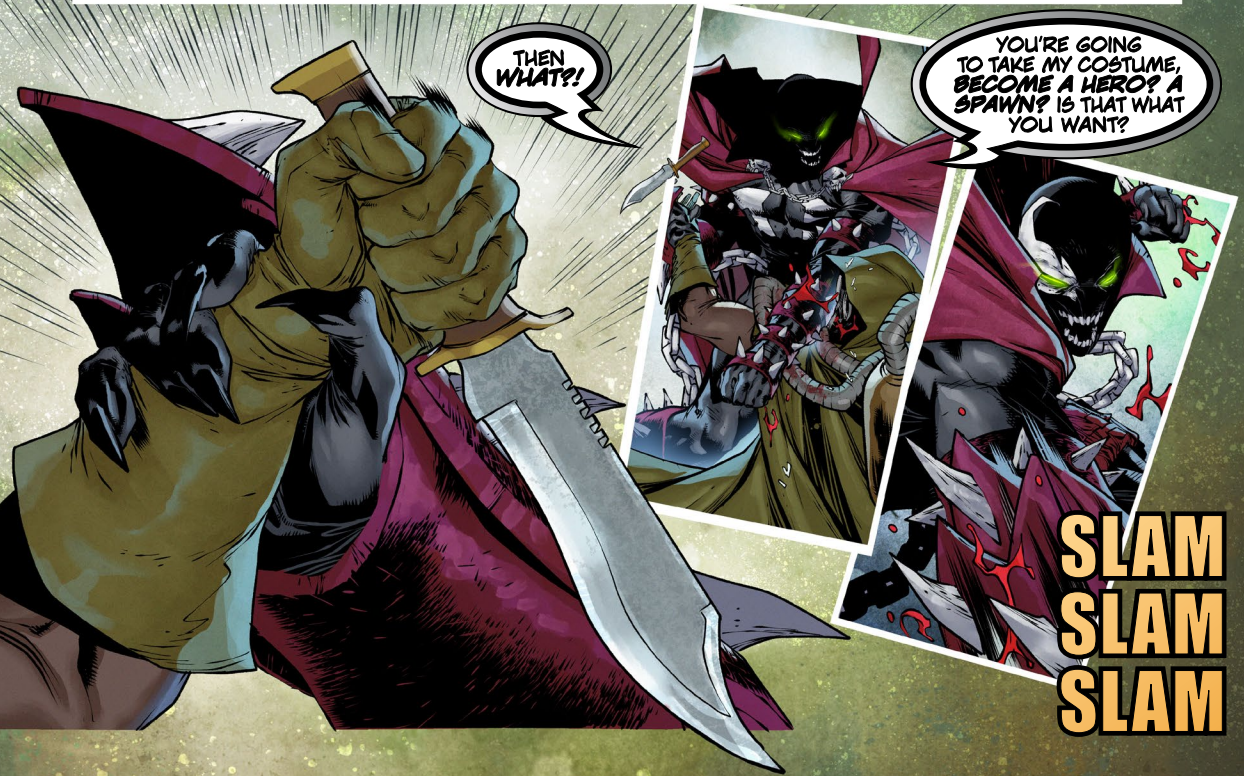
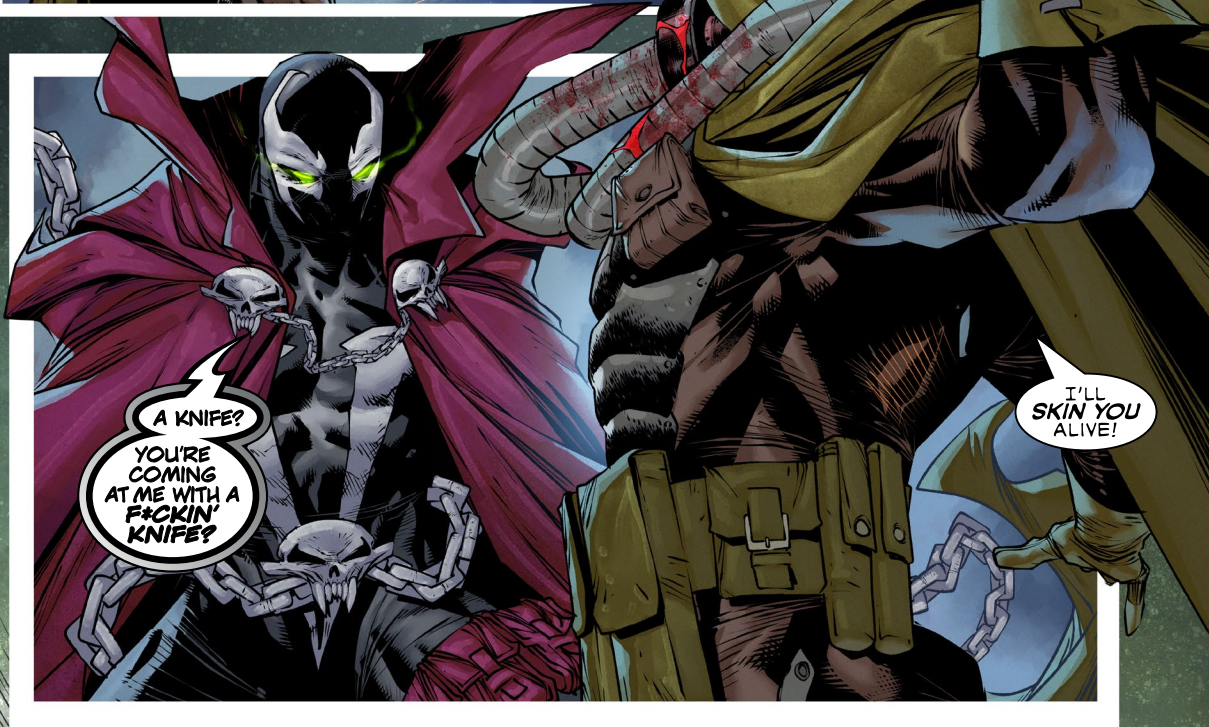
"HIS COSTUME MAY BE ABLE
TO BLOCK MY CAPE, BUT IF I
COME AT ENOUGH ANGLES, IT
WON'T BE ABLE TO KEEP UP."



"THAT'LL GIVE
ME AN
OPENING."

"BESIDES, MY KNOCKOUT
PUNCH WASN'T INTENDED TO
COME FROM MY CAPE BECAUSE
I KNEW HIS TECH COULDN'T
READ AN **AMBUSH!**"





THEN,
HERE..!
TAKE IT!

YOU WANT IT SO BAD--
TAKE ALL OF IT,
'TIL IT CHOKES YOU!
THEN UNLOCK THE
'DEAD ZONES'
AND DO YOUR WORST!
STOP TALKING
ABOUT IT, GOD
DAMN IT...

...JUST
DO IT!!

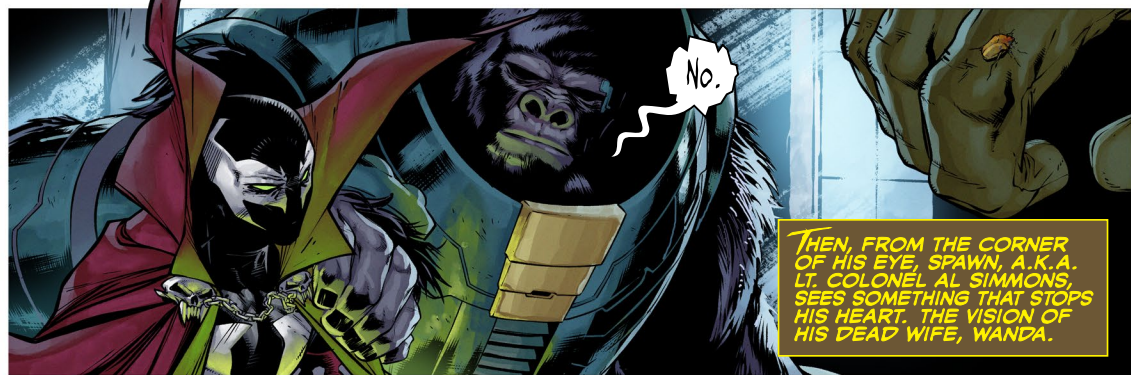


YOU WANT TO BE SOME MESSIAH, IS THAT IT? A GOD, BY PREYING ON AN ANIMAL THAT WANTS NO PIECE OF THIS! WELL, YOU CAN GO TO HELL! AND THAT'S EXACTLY WHERE I PLAN ON SENDING YOU!

CY-GOR DOESN'T BELONG TO YOU!

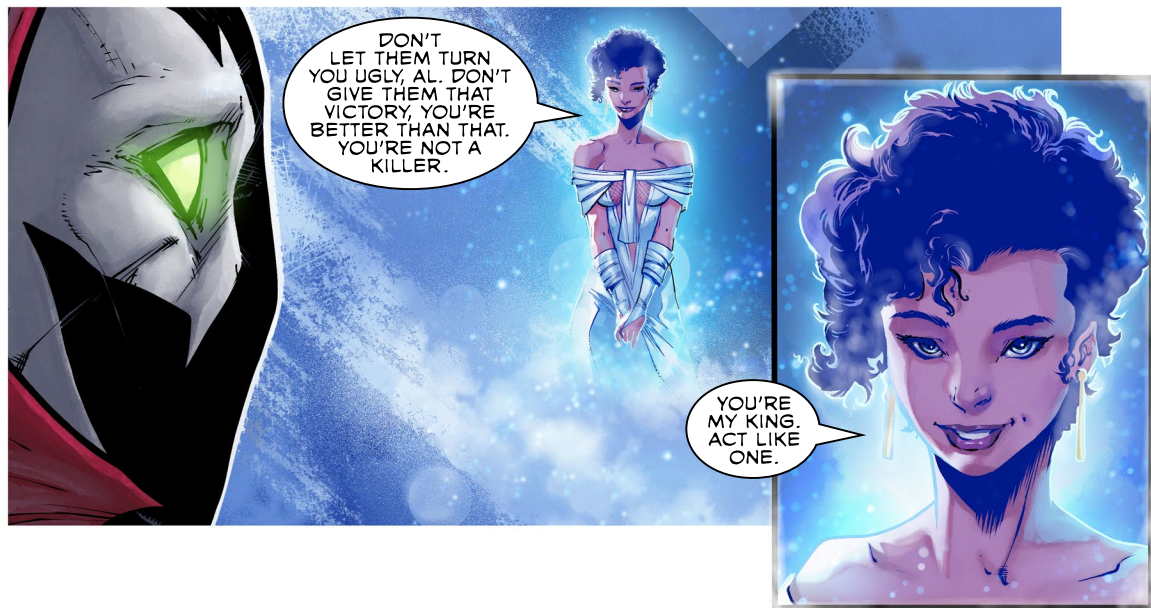


AS SPAWN'S COSTUME SQUEEZES THE LIFE OUT OF SOUL CRUSHER, A CALLOUSED HAND PULLS HIM BACK.



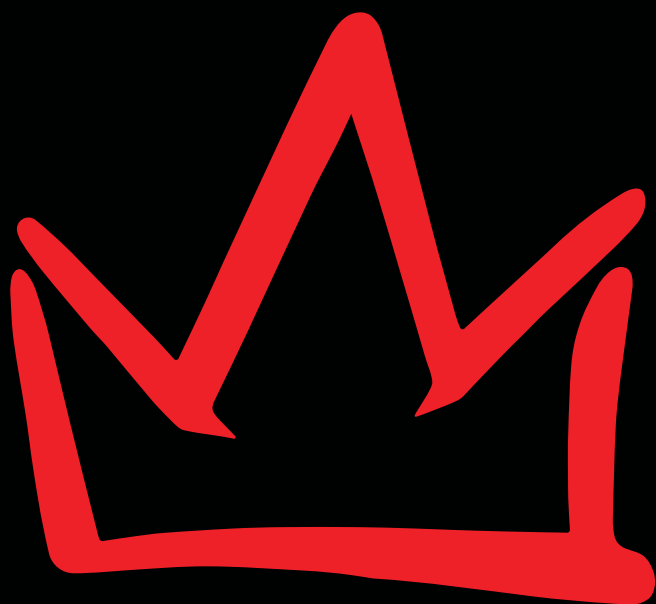
No.

THEN, FROM THE CORNER OF HIS EYE, SPAWN, A.K.A. LT. COLONEL AL SIMMONS, SEES SOMETHING THAT STOPS HIS HEART. THE VISION OF HIS DEAD WIFE, WANDA.



DON'T LET THEM TURN YOU UGLY, AL. DON'T GIVE THEM THAT VICTORY, YOU'RE BETTER THAN THAT. YOU'RE NOT A KILLER.

YOU'RE MY KING. ACT LIKE ONE.



THE KING IS COMING

ISSUE #1 AUGUST

SPAWNING GROUND

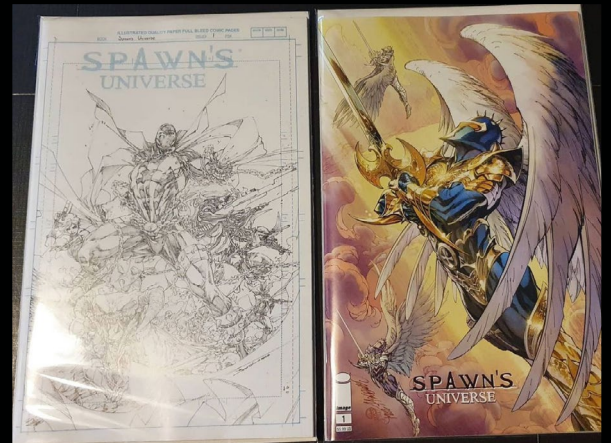
PRESENTS:

THE BREAKDOWN

SPAWN'S UNIVERSE WAS A HUGE SUCCESS THANKS TO YOU, THE FANS!

Here are some great shots of what people were picking up on Spawn's Universe #1's release day!





VELVET DEADLY CLASS *ROYAL CITY*
LAZARUS **EAST OF WEST** I KILL GIANTS
THE WALKING DEAD I HATE FAIRYLAND
KING CITY *SEX CRIMINALS*
KILL OR BE KILLED
CURSE WORDS *RATQUEENS*

SOUTHERN BASTARDS **SPAWN** THE WICKED + THE DIVINE **BLUE MONDAY**

MONSTRESS **CHEW** *KINGSMAN*
NOWHERE MEN

HOWTOONS THEY'RE NOT LIKE US **SUNSTONE** SEVEN TO ETERNITY

DESCENDER *PAPER GIRLS*

OCTOPUS PIE WYTCES *SHUTTER*

TOKYO GHOST THE BLACK MONDAY MURDERS **BITCH PLANET**

SAGA *MOTOR CRUSH* **WAYWARD** *TREES*
THE AUTUMNLANDS

PLUTONA *LOW*

REVIVAL **NAILBITER**

CAMP MIDNIGHT

SNOTGIRL **ODDLY NORMAL**

MAGE *HINGES*

BLACK SCIENCE

PRETTY DEADLY

THE FADE OUT

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WRITTEN BY SPAWN CREATOR:

**TODD
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AUGUST 2021



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after
Todd...
MATT