

ZION NATIONAL PARK, UTAH
6:52 A.M.



IT'S JUST UP THIS WAY!



ASSUMING JASCO BROUGHT GEAR HE DIDN'T DIG OUT OF A CEREAL BOX, I MEAN.

BEEPT BOOP BEEP

SLOW DOWN ON THE ANEURYSM, TAYLOR. AT THIS ALTITUDE, YOU'LL NEED ALL THE OXYGEN YOUR BRAIN CAN HANDLE.

BEHOLD THE MASTER TRACKER AT WORK.



ERR... IF THE PING WASN'T SO FAINT, I MEAN!

BUT YOU STILL HAVE IT, RIGHT?



IF WE CAN PICK UP EVEN A TENUOUS LOCK, THAT MEANS OTHERS MIGHT BE TRACKING IT, TOO.

BUT WHO ELSE WOULD BE-?

HE'S TALKING ABOUT SECRET GOVERNMENT FORCES, JASCO...

BEEPT BRPT



... SHADY OPERATIVES OF THE SURVEILLANCE STATE... MYTHOLOGICAL MEN 'N BLACK AND THE LIKE.

AM I RIGHT ABOUT THAT...?

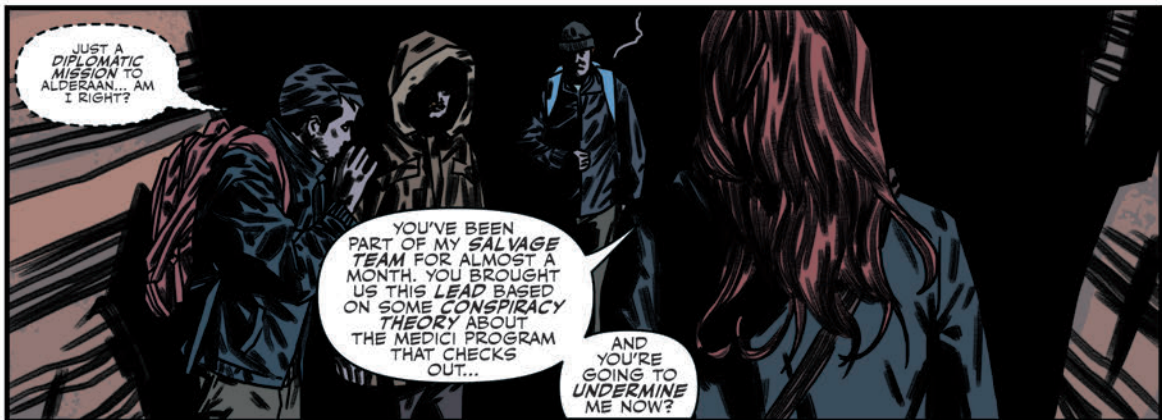
ALL I KNOW IS, IF CRACKERJACK HERE CAN EVEN PICK UP A FLEETING SIGNAL, WE NEED TO ASSUME ANYBODY WHO WANTS THIS SALVAGE BADLY ENOUGH IS ALREADY DOING THE SAME.



OKAY, EVERYBODY, LISTEN UP!

TWENTY-SIX DAYS AGO, THE PENTAGON LOST TRACK OF A HIGHLY SOPHISTICATED SPY SATELLITE. HACKED INFO FROM THE AIR FORCE COMMAND CONFIRMS THIS SPACECRAFT WAS DESTROYED FIVE DAYS LATER WHEN IT BURNED UP UPON REENTRY TO THE EARTH'S ATMOSPHERE.

BUT EVERYTHING THAT WAS PUBLICALLY KNOWN ABOUT THE MEDICI 3 PROGRAM IS THAT IT WAS A RADIO TELESCOPE LAUNCHED TO SEE DEEP INTO THE COSMOS.



JUST A DIPLOMATIC MISSION TO ALGERIA... AM I RIGHT?

YOU'VE BEEN PART OF MY SALVAGE TEAM FOR ALMOST A MONTH. YOU BROUGHT US THIS LEAD BASED ON SOME CONSPIRACY THEORY ABOUT THE MEDICI PROGRAM THAT CHECKS OUT...

AND YOU'RE GOING TO UNDERMINE ME NOW?



IT'S JUST THAT WHEN I'M ORDINARILY FACED WITH THE PROSPECT OF THINGS FROM OUTER SPACE... I NEED A CHECK.

A HEALTHY DOSE OF SKEPTICISM TO MAKE ME A BETTER TRUE BELIEVER.

AND HERE I JUST THOUGHT YOU WERE ATTRACTED TO REDHEADS, MR. BLAKE.



DUDE, YOU'VE GOT THE WORST CODENAME I'VE EVER HEARD!

ANTHONY BLAKE.



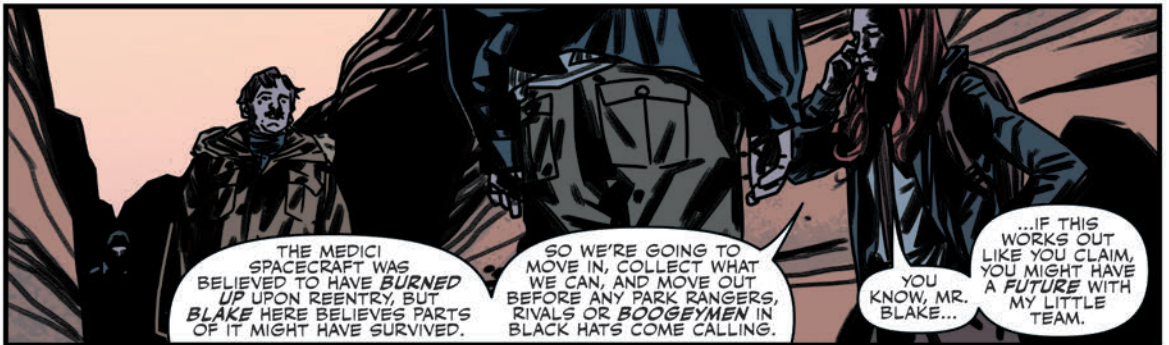
YOU SOUND LIKE SOME OLD TV CHARACTER UNDER THERE!



YOU'RE THINKING OF BILL BIXBY IN THE MAGICIAN, JASCO.

A DASHING MAN OF BOTH MYSTERY AND MEASURE, WOULDN'T YOU SAY?

AH, I DON'T WATCH THE OLDIES...



THE MEDICI SPACECRAFT WAS BELIEVED TO HAVE BURNED UP UPON REENTRY, BUT BLAKE HERE BELIEVES PARTS OF IT MIGHT HAVE SURVIVED.

SO WE'RE GOING TO MOVE IN, COLLECT WHAT WE CAN, AND MOVE OUT BEFORE ANY PARK RANGERS, RIVALS OR BOOGEYMEN IN BLACK HATS COME CALLING.

YOU KNOW, MR. BLAKE...

...IF THIS WORKS OUT LIKE YOU CLAIM, YOU MIGHT HAVE A FUTURE WITH MY LITTLE TEAM.



UNFORTUNATELY, THE PRESENT HAS ME MORE CONCERNED.

AH, JUST KISS ALREADY AND WORK OUT THE TENSION, WILL YOU?

BEEEEEP BEEEEEP

I'VE GOT A LOCK!



THE X FILES™

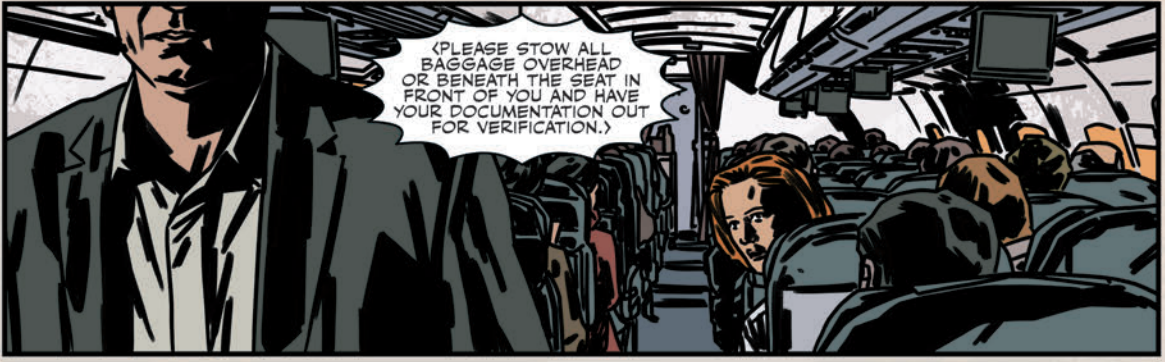
"CANTUS"

JOSE MARTI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
HAVANA, CUBA
TWO MONTHS AGO



(ALL PASSENGERS, PLEASE HAVE YOUR TRAVEL CREDENTIALS AND GOVERNMENTAL CLEARANCE AVAILABLE AT THE GATE.)

(BOARDING WILL BEGIN MOMENTARILY.)



(PLEASE STOW ALL BAGGAGE OVERHEAD OR BENEATH THE SEAT IN FRONT OF YOU AND HAVE YOUR DOCUMENTATION OUT FOR VERIFICATION.)

