

MARVEL

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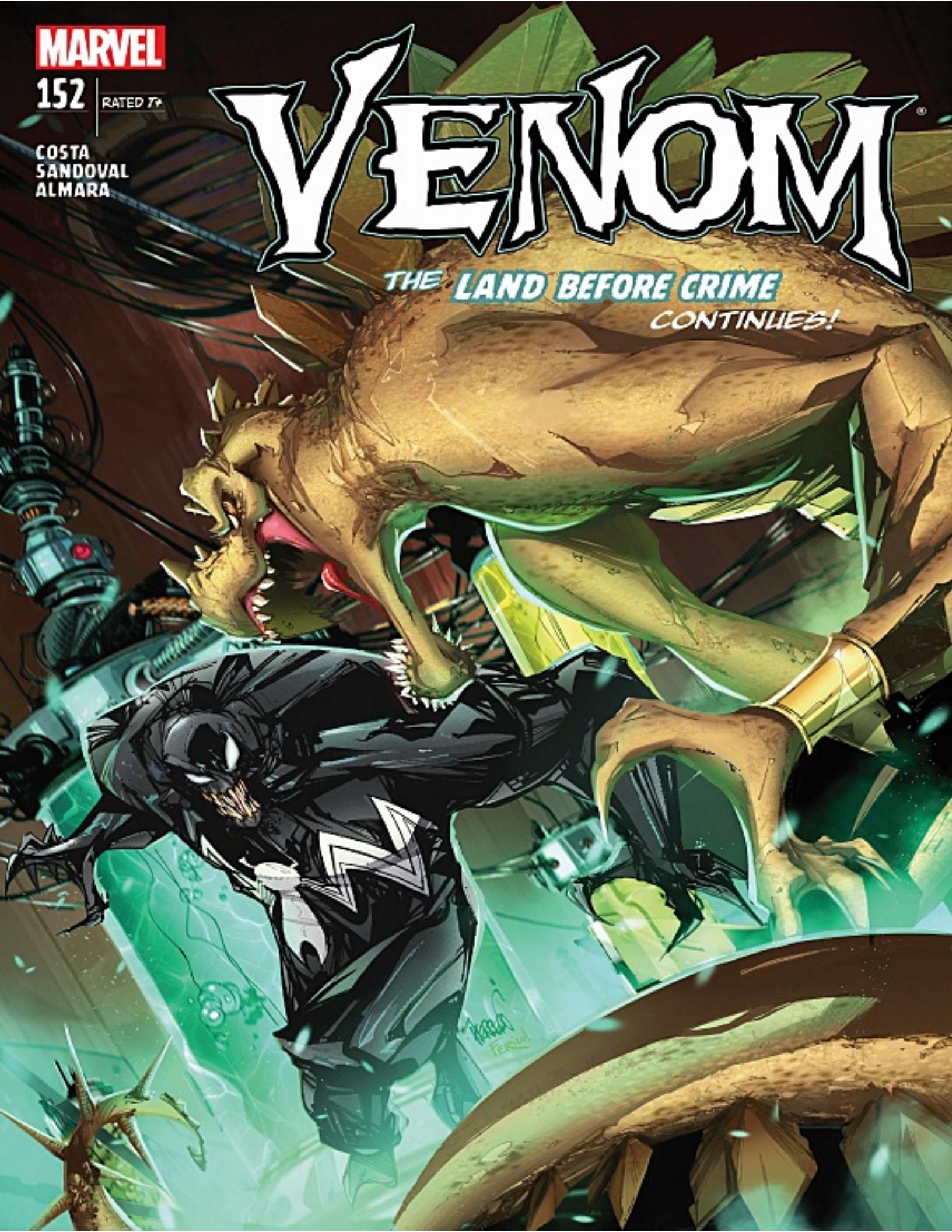
RATED T+

COSTA
SANDOVAL
ALMARA

VENOM

THE *LAND BEFORE CRIME*

CONTINUES!



YEARS AGO, PETER PARKER (A.K.A. THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN) ACCIDENTALLY BONDED WITH AN ALIEN BEING CALLED A SYMBIOTE. WHEN PETER REALIZED THE COSTUME WAS ACTUALLY AN AGGRESSIVE LIVING ORGANISM, HE REJECTED IT. BUT DURING THEIR TIME TOGETHER, THE SYMBIOTE HAD ACCESS TO SPIDER-MAN'S GENETIC CODE, AND NOW GRANTS WHOMEVER IT BONDS WITH SKILLS SIMILAR TO HIS: WALL-CRAWLING, THE POWER TO GENERATE BIOORGANIC WEBBING, AND UNIQUE ABILITIES TO SHAPE-SHIFT AND BECOME INVISIBLE, TURNING THEM INTO...

VENOM



EDDIE BROCK AND THE VENOM SYMBIOTE HAVE BEEN REUNITED, BUT BOTH OF THEM HAVE CHANGED SINCE THEY LAST WERE TOGETHER. VENOM STILL WANTS TO BE A HERO, BUT HAS FOUND IT DIFFICULT TO CONTAIN ITS MORE VIOLENT IMPULSES. IT HAS EVEN GONE SO FAR AS TO ATTACK PEOPLE IT PERCEIVES AS A THREAT WHILE EDDIE HAS BEEN SLEEPING.

WHEN EDDIE OVERHEARD ABOUT A SYMBIOTE-LIKE MONSTER ATTACK, HIS INVESTIGATION LED HIM TO THE SEWERS, WHERE HE FOUGHT A DINOSAUR BRANDIED WITH THE LOGO FOR ALCHEMAX. USING THIS DISCOVERY AS LEVERAGE, EDDIE APPEALED TO LIZ ALLAN, ALCHEMAX'S C.E.O., AND OFFERED TO BRING STEGRON AND HIS EXPERIMENTS BACK TO THE COMPANY IN EXCHANGE FOR A CURE FOR HIS AILING SYMBIOTE.

THE LAND BEFORE CRIME PART TWO

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YEARS AGO...



NOW.

BIG FIGHT WITH
DINOSAURS!







AH, MY FOOLISH, INDECISIVE CHILDREN. WHAT WOULD YOU DO WITHOUT STEGRON AS YOUR GOD?

BRING HIM TO MY FEET.



YOU'RE NOT JUST A MAN...YOU HAVE SOME CREATURE ATTACHED TO YOU.

IT REEK'S OF THE PRIMORDIAL.

YOU MUST BE STEGRON.



LOOK AT WHAT YOU'VE DONE TO THESE PEOPLE-- YOU'VE TURNED THEM INTO MONSTERS!



THESE AREN'T MONSTERS, MAMMAL.

THEY ARE MY FOLLOWERS, MY CHILDREN.

THESE WERE
MISERABLE WRETCHES--
MEY, WOMEN, DOGS, RATS--
IGNORED BY YOUR
SOCIETY, HOMELESS
AND SCORNED.

BUT I HAVE
CHANGED THEM,
SAVED THEM, AND IN
DINOSAUR SOCIETY,
ALL ARE EQUAL!

EXCEPT
YOU, WHO
GETS TO BE
THEIR GOD.

YOUR GOD
TOO, WHEN THE
CHANGE IS UPON
YOU.

I'M
INTERESTED
TO SEE WHAT IT
WILL DO TO YOUR
PASSENGER.

WE'LL
KNOW SOON
ENOUGH.





SHORE
UP THAT
RUPTURE IN THE
WALL, MY CHILDREN!
IT'LL SPOIL
EVERYTHING!



HRRR THEY
COME, EDDIE!



EDDIE
LOOK OUT!



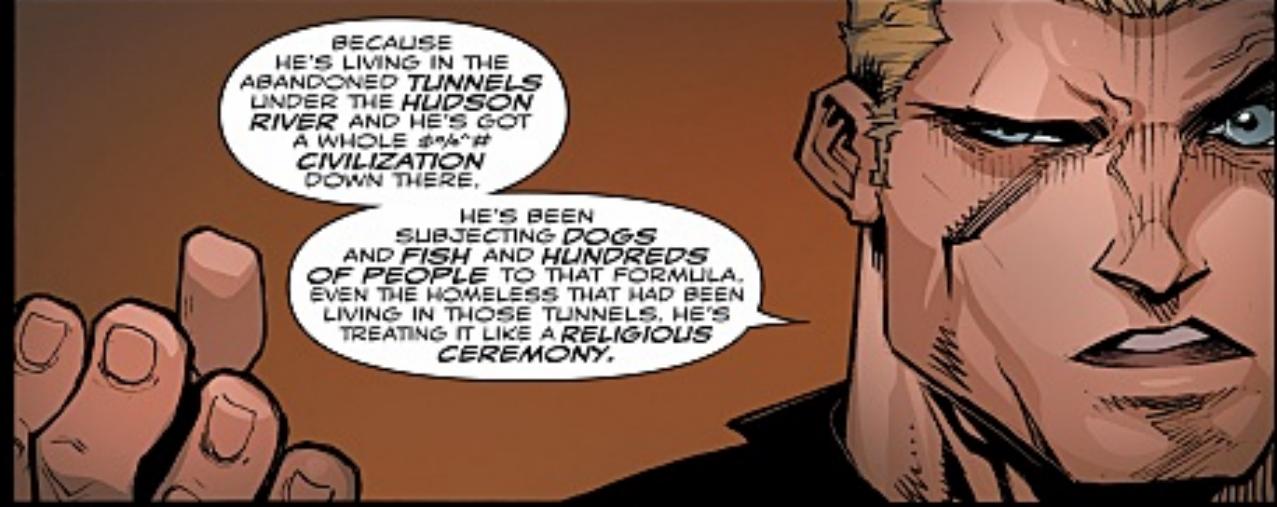


YEAH,
WE'RE MOON
GIRL AND DEVIL
DINOSAUR.

DOING
SCIENCE AND
CRUSHING BAD
GUYS.



LATER...



"...AND THEY
SEEM TO HAVE
MADE SOME
PROGRESS."

MR. BROCK, OUR UNDERSTANDING
OF THE PHYSIOLOGY OF YOUR...
"PASSENGER" IS IMPERFECT.
BUT IT SEEMS YOUR INSTINCTS
ARE CORRECT. THERE IS
SOMETHING
WRONG.

WH...WHAT
DID THIS TO
US?

NO! CAN'T BE
TRUE, EDDIE!
CAN'T BE TRUE!

THE ALIEN IS
IN A SLOWLY ADVANCING
PROCESS OF TOXIC SHOCK.
IT'S GRADUALLY LOSING PHYSICAL
COMPOSITION--SEEPPING OUT OF YOUR
PORES, LIKELY MORESO WHILE
YOU SLEEP--IT'S PROBABLE
THAT IT'S LOSING MENTAL
FACULTIES AS WELL.

THAT'S THE
MOST REMARKABLE
PART. IT SEEMS YOUR
OWN BODY IS
DOING THIS.

WE FOUND
TRACE ELEMENTS OF
EXOTIC COMPOUNDS IN YOUR
BLOODSTREAM THAT BEAR
STRIKING RESEMBLANCE TO
THE COCKTAILS DEVELOPED BY
THE U.S. GOVERNMENT TO
SUPPRESS SYMBIOTE
EXPRESSION.

FBI DID THIS TO US, EDDIE.

GAVE YOU DRUGS WHILE WE
WERE BONDED WITH OTHERS.

KNOW ABOUT TOXIN, EDDIE.

OUR THEORY
IS THAT YOU WERE
INOCULATED WITH THESE
CHEMICALS SO OFTEN WHEN
YOU WORKED FOR THE FBI THAT
YOUR BODY'S METABOLISM WAS
FUNDAMENTALLY ALTERED
TO BE inhospitable TO
THESE LIFE-FORMS.

IT
REALLY IS AN
INCREDIBLE EPIGENETIC
DEVELOPMENT,
AND--

I'M...AH...
NOT GREAT WITH
READING FACIAL
EXPRESSIONS.
THIS...
IS PROBABLY
UPSETTING.





NO!



YOU'RE LYING TO USSSS!



IF... IF WE HAD ACCESS TO THE U.S. GOVERNMENT'S DATA ON SYMBIOTES, WE COULD GIVE YOU A MORE DETAILED ANALYSIS, BUT--BUT--



EDDIE! THAT'S ENOUGH.
IF YOU KILL HIM, HE CAN'T SAVE YOUR LIFE!



I'M LISTENING.

STEVEN WAS ABLE TO SYNTHESIZE THIS. WE THINK IT'S THE FIRST STEP TOWARD A CURE.

IT SHOULD BALANCE OUT YOUR METABOLISM, STOP IT FROM ATTACKING THE SYMBIOTE AND ALLOW YOUR BODY TO HEAL.

THAT, OR IT'LL MELT YOUR INSIDES.



YOU MADE THIS... FOR US?

IT SOMEHOW SEEMED IN EVERYONE'S BEST INTEREST THAT YOU NOT TURN INTO A DEGENERATING, OUT-OF-CONTROL PSYCHOTIC.



TREATMENT ISN'T PERMANENT. YOU'LL HAVE TO REAPPLY EVERY 36 TO 48 HOURS.

YOU'LL GIVE ME A SUPPLY TO TAKE HOME?

WE WILL...

...AFTER YOU BRING IN STEGRON.



YOU WOULD HOLD A LIFE-SAVING MEDICINE HOSTAGE FROM US!



DON'T BE THAT WAY. WE HAVE AN ARRANGEMENT.

BESIDES, I ASSUME YOU WANT TO CONFIRM THAT IT WORKS BEFORE I SYNTHESIZE MORE. WHAT ELSE ARE YOU DOING UNTIL THEN?

HOW ABOUT "NOT GOING TO WAR WITH AN ARMY OF DINOSAUR MONSTERS."

PLEASE, "ARMY," STEGRON HAS SOME KIND OF PSIONIC CONTROL OVER CERTAIN STRUCTURES OF SAURIAN BRAINS.

ONCE YOU NEUTRALIZE HIM, WHATEVER "LOYALTY" THEY SHOW HIM WILL VANISH.



DON'T ACT LIKE THAT'S THE DUMBEST THING YOU'VE EVER HEARD. YOU'RE IN A CREEPY RELATIONSHIP WITH AN ALIEN THAT LIVES IN YOUR STOMACH.

SHE'S RIGHT, EDDIE. TAKE MEDICINE. SAVE OUR LIVES.

FIGHT STEGRON, SAVE INNOCENTS.

FINE, BUT I'M GOING ARMED THIS TIME.



LATER...

MY
BRIDES, COME AND
WITNESS!

YOU SEE
THIS FILTHY, REEKING
CREATURE THE FUR BRISTLING
FROM ITS TENDER FLESH?
THE AWFUL STINK OF ITS
HOT BLOOD?



WE OFFER
HIM THE BLESSING
OF THE WATER OF LIFE
THAT HE MIGHT BE
CHANGED...

HEAR THEM!
THE BIRTH CRIES
OF A CHILD FOR A NEW
AND GLORIOUS
AGE!

MEEEROOWWW!

HE SURE
DOES LIKE TO
TALK A LOT.

YOU
SHOULDN'T BE
HERE.

GAH!



WHY NOT?
BECAUSE YOU
LIED TO ME ABOUT
WHAT WAS DOWN
HERE?

I KNOW HOW
TO RECOGNIZE AN
ICHTHYOSAUR WHEN I SEE IT.
THERE'S OTHER DINOSAURS
DOWN HERE! THAT'S THE
SCENT DEVIL DINOSAUR
WAS FOLLOWING.

YOU
SHOULDN'T BE
HERE BECAUSE IT'S
DANGEROUS.

WHERE IS
YOUR DINOSAUR,
BY THE WAY?

OH, HE JUST
WENT AHEAD TO
SCOUT. HE'LL BE
HERE IN JUST A
MINUTE.



IT SEEMS
WE'VE BEEN
DELIVERED ANOTHER
BROTHER FOR THE
COMING WAR.

HOW LOYAL IS
HE TO
YOU?

WE'VE SAVED
EACH OTHER'S LIVES,
LIKE, A DOZEN TIMES.
WE BASICALLY SHARE
A BRAIN. WHY?





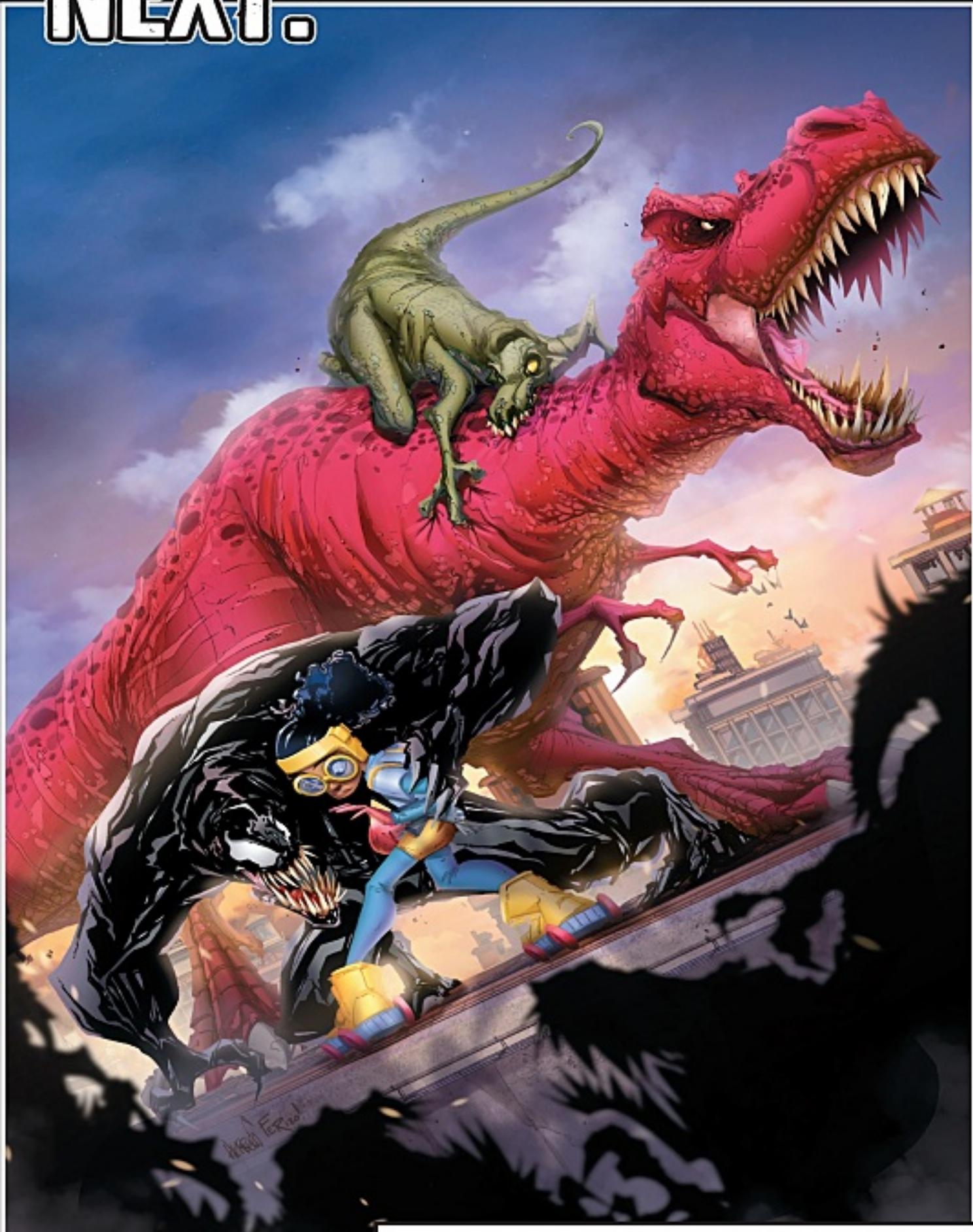
RRRRRR!
HAHA HA!

BECAUSE
IT LOOKS LIKE
DEVIL'S SHARING
IT WITH SOMEONE
ELSE NOW.

LHHH...

TO BE CONTINUED...

NEXT.



ON SALE IN AUGUST!



