

WORLD WAR HULK™

MARVEL®
14

WELLS
MANN
LEE
PALLOT
ANDERSON

HEROES FOR HIRE



RATED T+



DIRECT EDITION

\$2.99 US \$3.75 CAN

Burglars in your door?
Interdimensional portals open in your basement, spewing out unspeakable
and evil minions?

Call

HEROES FOR HIRE



MISTY KNIGHT



COLLEEN WING



BLACK CAT



SHANG-CHI



TARANTULA



HUMBUG



PALADIN

Moore
SCORPION
AGENT
OF
S.H.I.E.L.D.



Real quick: Humbug's

Psycho, cov

Helpful advice: When aliens come to take over the world, DON'T kill them. Instead, let them take over themselves in their own way. So, NO GOOD SON OF A BITCHING TALKING TO PALADIN ABOUT HUMBUG'S NOT ENOUGH THAT HE SOLD US OUT TO THE MAN WHO HATES HER BUT COLLEEN AND MARIA NOW HE'S SONNA GET KILLED. THAT'S GREAT

DEAD
PALADIN

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**NEW YORK CITY.
WORLD WAR HULK D-DAY +1.**



WE HAVE COME FAR, WE FOLLOW THE ONE CALLED THE HULK, ON A MISSION OF VENGEANCE.



BUT I HAVE OTHER REASONS TO COME TO EARTH.

I AM PREGNANT AND HERE I CAN START A NEW COLONY... TO START NEW FROM THE ASHES OF OUR OWN SCORCHED PLANET.



AND YOU, "HUMBUG"... YOU ARE THE KEY.



I CAN PRODUCE OFFSPRING WITH OTHER RACES.



I AM CARRYING MIEK'S CHILDREN, THOUGH HE DOESN'T KNOW THAT YET.



MY EGGS DON'T REQUIRE A HOST IN ORDER TO HATCH...

...BUT A UNIQUE EARTHBOB INCUBATOR CERTAINLY WOULDN'T HURT THEIR ACCLIMATION TO THIS WORLD...



WILL YOU BE THAT HOST?

YES.



I THOUGHT SO.



ZEB WELLS WRITER	ALVIN LEE & CLAY MANN PENCILS	TERRY PALLOT INKER	BRAD ANDERSON COLORIST	VC'S CORY PETT LETTERER	FRANCIS TSAI COVER	IRENE LEE PRODUCTION	NATHAN COSBY ASST. EDITOR	MARK PANICCIA EDITOR	JOE QUESADA EDITOR IN CHIEF	DAN BUCKLEY PUBLISHER
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LET THIS BE A LESSON TO YOU.



THE HULK'S WARBOUND ARE NOT UNJUSTLY VENGEFUL.



YOU ATTACKED OUR SHIP. YOU KILLED ONE OF OUR HIVEINGS... BUT A CHILD.



MIEK'S VENGEANCE WAS FED BY TWO OF YOUR NUMBER.



BUT WE LET THE REST OF YOU GO FREE.

WHOMP



**THE CATACOMBS.
LOCATION
UNKNOWN.**

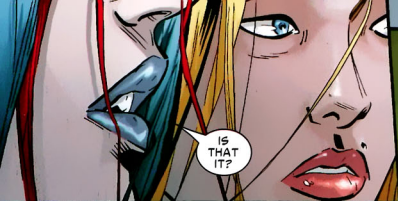
YOU PLOTTED +KIK+
AGAINST THE HIVE. YOU
HAVE MURDERED A
HIVELING AND HID
IN ITS BLOOD.

I SWORE
TO PROTECT THE
HIVELINGS. THEY
MADE ME
THEIR KING.

AND I MUST +KIK+
BE RESPONSIBLE FOR
YOUR PUNISHMENT.

A-ARE
YOU OKAY,
TARANTULA...

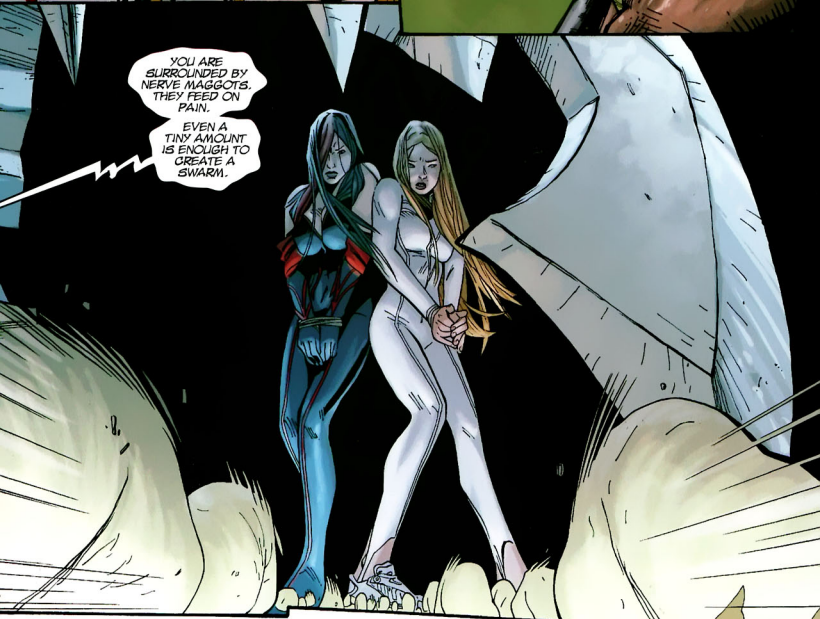
YEAH...IT
STUNG A LITTLE BIT,
BUT I'M NOT EVEN
BLEEDING.



IS THAT IT?

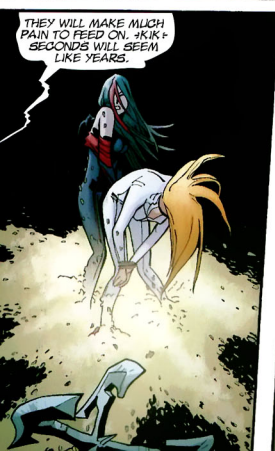


NO.



YOU ARE SURROUNDED BY NERVE MAGGOTS. THEY FEED ON PAIN.

EVEN A TINY AMOUNT IS ENOUGH TO CREATE A SWARM.

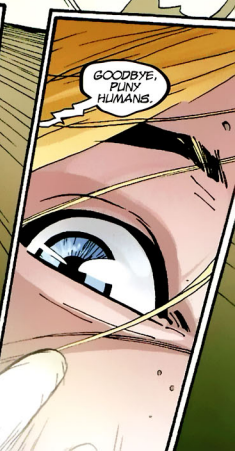


THEY WILL MAKE MUCH PAIN TO FEED ON. *KIK* SECONDS WILL SEEM LIKE YEARS.



YAAARRGH!

EEEEEEEEE!!!



GOODBYE, PUNY HUMANS.



MOVE MOVE MOVE!



GENERAL ROSS HAS BEEN DEFEATED. INITIATE PLAN D!

THEY'RE ON RED ALERT, MISTY. WHO DO WE ASK ABOUT THE "CATACOMBS."



THE MAN AT THE TOP.



AH, THE "HEROES FOR HIRE." IF YOU'RE TRYING TO GET PAID FOR AIDING IN THE EVACUATION, YOU PICKED A REALLY BAD TIME.

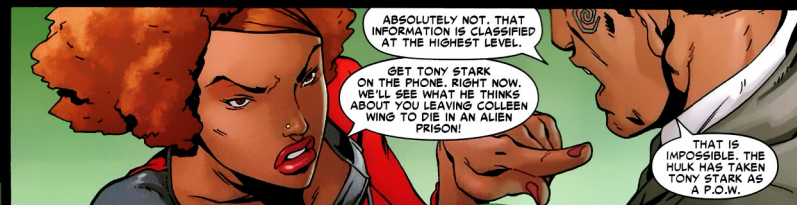
THAT'S NOT IT, KHANATA.

TWO OF OUR TEAMMATES WERE TAKEN PRISONER BY THE HULK'S ALIEN "WARBOUND." WE BELIEVE THEY WERE TAKEN TO A LAND BASE THEY'RE CALLING THE "CATACOMBS."



WE'RE AWARE OF THE LAND INVASION, MS. KNIGHT, AND I CAN ASSURE YOU WE'RE DEVELOPING A PLAN TO ADDRESS THE SITUATION...

OUR FRIENDS ARE CAPTIVES THERE. TELL US WHERE IT IS!



ABSOLUTELY NOT. THAT INFORMATION IS CLASSIFIED AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL.

GET TONY STARK ON THE PHONE. RIGHT NOW. WE'LL SEE WHAT HE THINKS ABOUT YOU LEAVING COLLEEN WING TO DIE IN AN ALIEN PRISON!

THAT IS IMPOSSIBLE. THE HULK HAS TAKEN TONY STARK AS A P.O.W.



YOU'RE NOT WELCOME HERE.

YOU HEARD THE MAN...

PLEASE, SCORPION, LET US BE REASONABLE. OUR FRIENDS COULD LOSE THEIR LIVES.

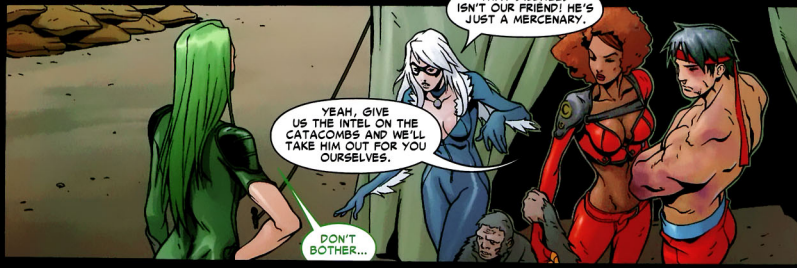


OH, YEAH? WELL, RIGHT NOW I DON'T HAVE A LOT OF SYMPATHY FOR YOUR "FRIENDS."

WHAT?

THAT "PALADIN" GUY YOU SHOWED UP WITH JUST TRIED TO KILL ME.*

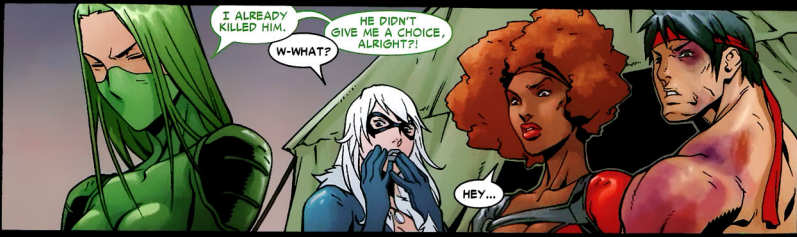
*HPFH #13



THAT DILLWEED ISN'T OUR FRIEND! HE'S JUST A MERCENARY.

YEAH, GIVE US THE INTEL ON THE CATACOMBS AND WE'LL TAKE HIM OUT FOR YOU OURSELVES.

DON'T BOTHER...



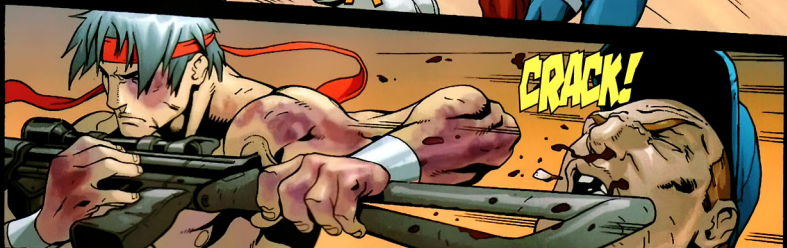
I ALREADY KILLED HIM.

W-WHAT?

HE DIDN'T GIVE ME A CHOICE, ALRIGHT?!

HEY...





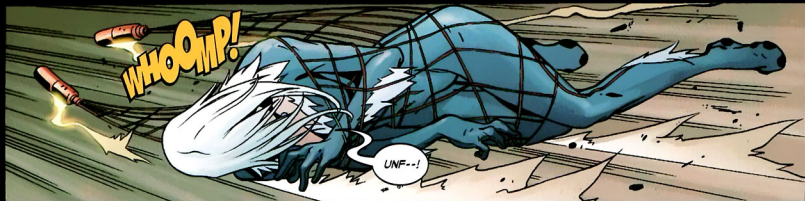


MURDERER!

IT WAS HIM OR ME, PSYCHO! YOU WANT ME TO TELL YOU I'M SORRY?!



NO...YOU CAN TELL HIM AFTER I--



WHOOMP!

UNF--!



THERE IS A CLASS OMEGA SITUATION GOING ON TWENTY BLOCKS FROM HERE.

I CANNOT CONVEY HOW MUCH I DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THIS.



YOU HAVE ONE MORE CHANCE TO LEAVE ALIVE. I SUGGEST YOU TAKE IT.





YOU ASSWIPE! THEY SAID YOU WERE DEAD!

I WAS, TECHNICALLY, AND IT KIND OF WORE ME OUT. SO TAKE IT EASY, WOULD YA?

I...I KNEW S.H.I.E.L.D. WAS LYING TO US. I TRIED TO BEAT THE TRUTH OUT OF THAT SCORPION @!@.

YOU KEEP TELLING YOURSELF THAT, SWEETIE. I WAS BACK THERE GETTING CHECKED OUT BY MEDICAL...I SAW THE WHOLE THING.



I KNOW EXACTLY WHY YOU WERE SO UPSET...

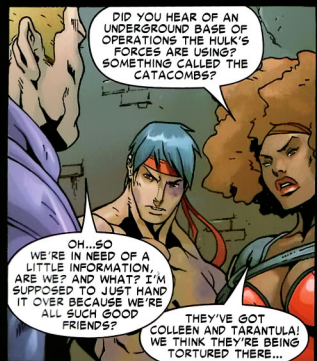
D-DON'T BE SILLY.



YOU WERE WORKING FOR S.H.I.E.L.D.? BUT ISN'T SCORPION A S.H.I.E.L.D. AGENT?

THAT'S RIGHT. THEY JUST CONTRACTED MY SERVICES TO GIVE HER A LITTLE FIELD TESTING...SEE IF SHE HAD A KILLER INSTINCT.

WHICH SHE DID. EVEN PRE-LOADED WITH AN ANTIDOTE, IT TOOK A WHOLE TEAM TO RESUSCITATE ME.



DID YOU HEAR OF AN UNDERGROUND BASE OF OPERATIONS THE HULK'S FORCES ARE USING? SOMETHING CALLED THE CATACOMBS?

OH...SO WE'RE IN NEED OF A LITTLE INFORMATION, ARE WE? AND WHAT? I'M SUPPOSED TO JUST HAND IT OVER BECAUSE WE'RE ALL SUCH GOOD FRIENDS?

THEY'VE GOT COLLEEN AND TARANTULA! WE THINK THEY'RE BEING TORTURED THERE...





WHAT NOW? YOU GONNA BEAT IT OUT OF ME? I'VE BEEN TORTURED BY THE BEST, MISTY. I DON'T THINK YOU'RE THAT COLD.

I JUST WANNA TALK.



Oh, YEAH? WHAT ABOUT?

MOON-BOY.



S.H.I.E.L.D.'S STILL GONNA WANT HIM AFTER THIS. THEY WERE WILLING TO PAY US A MILLION BUCKS EACH TO BRING HIM IN. BY MY COUNT THAT MAKES HIM WORTH SEVEN MILLION DOLLARS.

IT'S ACTUALLY CLOSER TO TEN. I WAS TRYING TO SCREW YOU.



YOU HELP US GET COLLEEN AND TARANTULA HOME. ALIVE.

AND THE MONKEY'S ALL YOURS.



I WAS WRONG ABOUT YOU. YOU ARE THAT COLD.



BROADWAY AND 12TH.
GIVE ME FIFTEEN MINUTES.

TWENTY MINUTES LATER.



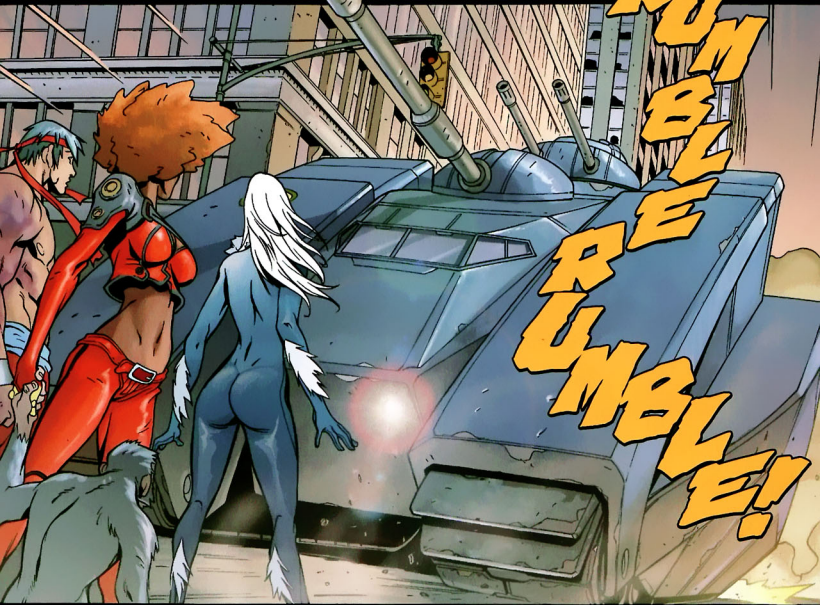
HE'S NOT COMING...I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU JUST LET HIM GO!

DON'T WORRY, HE'S COMING.



WHAT MAKES YOU SO SURE, MISTY?

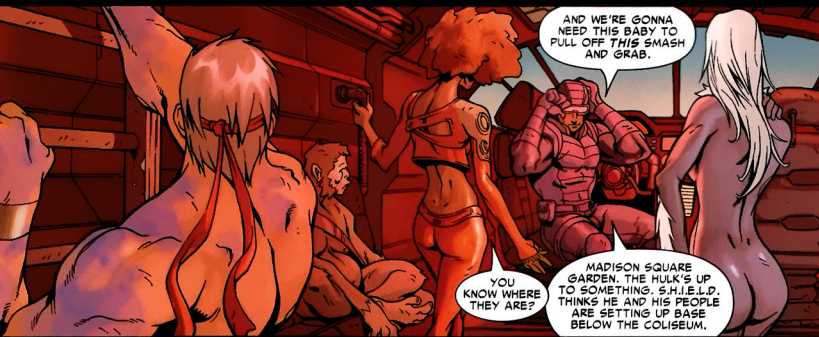
I DON'T WANT TO TALK ABOUT--



**RUMBLE
RUMBLE!**



SORRY I'M LATE. FORGOT HOW HARD S.H.I.E.L.D. TECH IS TO HOT-WIRE.



AND WE'RE GONNA NEED THIS BABY TO PULL OFF THIS SMASH AND GRAB.

YOU KNOW WHERE THEY ARE?

MADISON SQUARE GARDEN. THE HULK'S UP TO SOMETHING. S.H.I.E.L.D. THINKS HE AND HIS PEOPLE ARE SETTING UP BASE BELOW THE COLISEUM.



THE CATACOMBS!

EXACTLY.



I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU STOLE THIS THING FROM S.H.I.E.L.D.

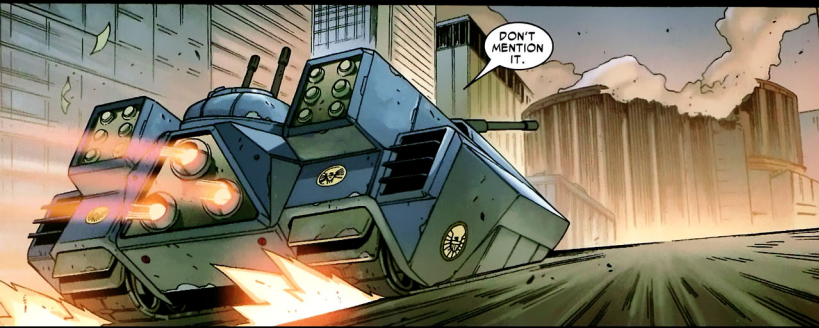
THANKS, PALADIN.

HEY, DON'T SWEAT IT. BEFORE I JACKED IT I PLANTED YOUR FINGERPRINTS ALL OVER THE PLACE.



THEY'RE TOTALLY GONNA THINK YOU GUYS DID IT.

Oh, GREAT. THANKS.



DON'T MENTION IT.

THE CATACOMBS.

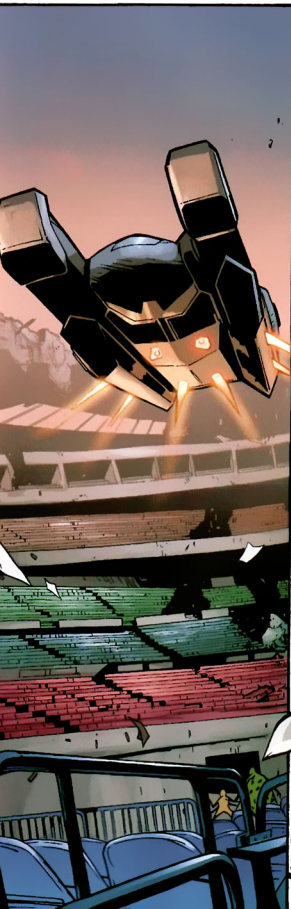
EEEEEEEEEE!!!

THE SOUND... SO HORRIBLE.

YES, THE NERVE-MAGGOTS FEAST. YOUR BROTHER WILL BE AVENGED.

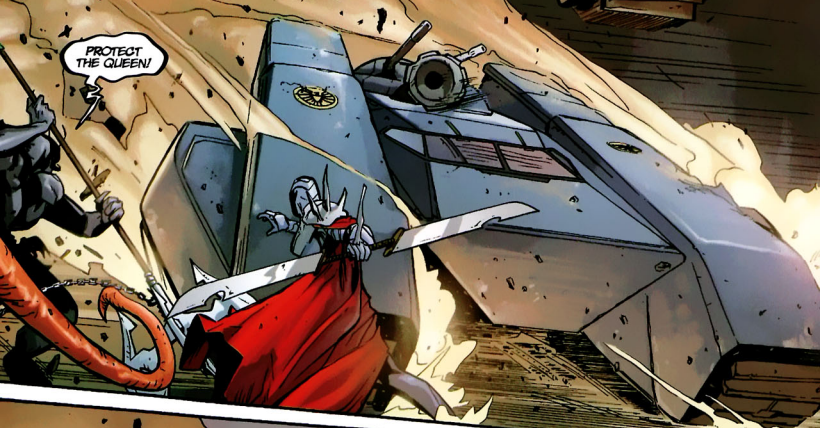
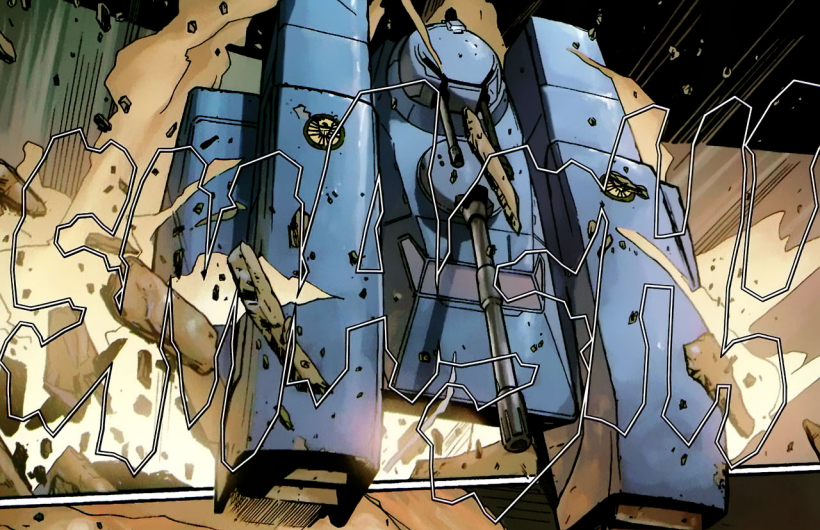
SO MUCH PAIN...

VIOLENCE AGAINST OUR KIND CANNOT BE TOLERATED...



+KIK+
+KIK+

+KIK+



PROTECT THE QUEEN!



THE QUEEN DOESN'T HAVE ANYTHING TO WORRY ABOUT JUST YET...

NOT UNTIL WE DEAL WITH THAT LOW-DOWN, TRAITOROUS COCKROACH WE USED TO CALL A FRIEND.



PROTECT THE QUEEN! LONG LIVE THE HIVE!

I DON'T THINK YOU WERE LISTENING, HUMBUG!



IT'S YOUR HEAD WE'RE AFTER!

CRACK!

CLANK!



OH, MY GOD, HUMBUG...





WHAT DID YOU DO?

+KIK+

TO BE CONTINUED...