

MARVEL

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STRACZYNSKI ★ MAGNO ★ GRUNDETJERN

# CAPTAIN AMERICA



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AS THE WORLD TEETERED ON THE BRINK OF GLOBAL WAR, FRAIL STEVE ROGERS ENTERED A SECRET LABORATORY AND WAS TRANSFORMED INTO THE AMERICAN SUPER-SOLDIER! FOR FIVE THRILLING YEARS, HE FOUGHT THE AXIS POWERS--UNTIL A FREAK STROKE OF FATE THREW HIM INTO SUSPENDED ANIMATION. WHEN HE AWOKE, HE WAS A MAN DECADES OUT OF HIS TIME! SINCE THAT FATEFUL DAY, STEVE ROGERS HAS SOUGHT HIS DESTINY IN THIS BRAVE NEW WORLD!

# CAPTAIN AMERICA

## INTERMEZZO, PART ONE OF TWO

Steve's investigation into a supernatural murder led him to a battle with the demon Asmoday, who was targeting Captain America and other change agents in order to alter the course of human history. Captain America managed to defend a peace conference against Asmoday's Emissary, a serial killer named Henry Cavanaugh, and even seemed to successfully destroy Asmoday himself. But the threat against change agents runs deeper than one king of Hell...

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WELL,  
IT'S DONE.



EVERY NAIL HAS BEEN NAILED,  
EVERY SCREW HAS BEEN  
SCREWED, EVERY LOOSE  
BOARD HAS BEEN HAMMERED  
DOWN AND EVERY BIT OF  
CHROME OR BRASS HAS BEEN  
POLISHED OR REPLACED.

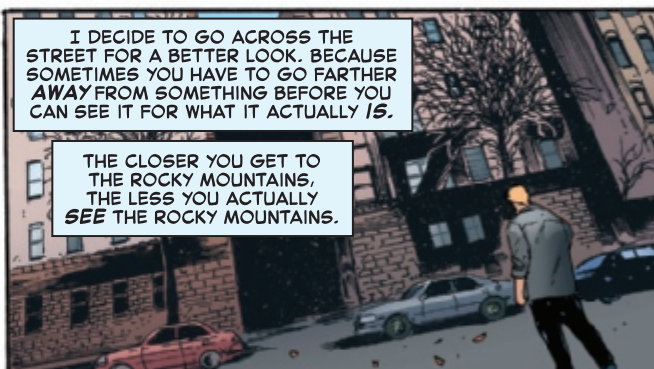
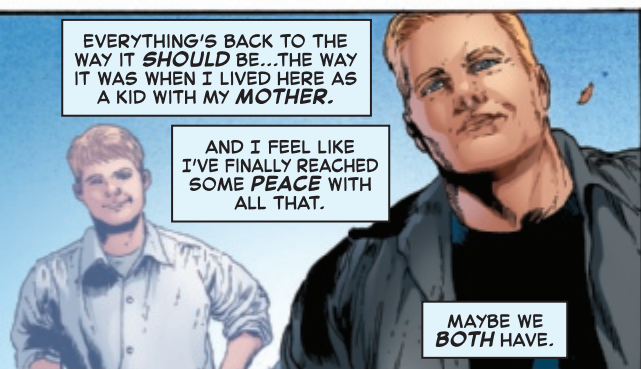
EVERYTHING'S BACK TO THE  
WAY IT *SHOULD* BE...THE WAY  
IT WAS WHEN I LIVED HERE AS  
A KID WITH MY *MOTHER*.

AND I FEEL LIKE  
I'VE FINALLY REACHED  
SOME *PEACE* WITH  
ALL THAT.

MAYBE WE  
*BOTH* HAVE.

I DECIDE TO GO ACROSS THE  
STREET FOR A BETTER LOOK. BECAUSE  
SOMETIMES YOU HAVE TO GO FARTHER  
AWAY FROM SOMETHING BEFORE YOU  
CAN SEE IT FOR WHAT IT ACTUALLY *IS*.

THE CLOSER YOU GET TO  
THE ROCKY MOUNTAINS,  
THE LESS YOU ACTUALLY  
*SEE* THE ROCKY MOUNTAINS.



BETTER.  
PERFECT.

THEN SOMETHING  
HAPPENS.  
SOMETHING THAT  
*SHOULDN'T*  
HAPPEN...THAT  
CAN'T *POSSIBLY*  
HAPPEN.




THE WINDOW  
ON THE SECOND  
FLOOR... THAT'S  
WHERE SHE WATCHED  
YOU GO TO SCHOOL  
EVERY MORNING,  
ISN'T IT?


BUT IT  
HAPPENS  
ANYWAY.








I DON'T TURN AROUND.  
NOT YET. PROCESSING.  
SEE, THERE ARE TWO  
REASONS WHY THIS IS  
IMPOSSIBLE.



FIRST, BECAUSE I'VE ONLY EVER  
TOLD THAT STORY *ONCE* IN MY  
ENTIRE LIFE, AND THE MAN I  
TOLD IT TO HAS BEEN DEAD FOR  
OVER THIRTY YEARS.

AND  
SECOND--



--THE BREEZEWAY  
I'M STANDING IN WAS *EMPTY*  
WHEN I GOT HERE, THERE'S  
NO OTHER WAY IN, AND NO WAY  
ANYONE, AND I MEAN *ANYONE*,  
COULD HAVE GOTTEN PAST  
ME WITHOUT BEING SEEN.

SO WHO'S AT THE  
OTHER END OF THE VOICE  
THAT JUST ASKED THAT  
QUESTION, AND HOW DID  
SHE GET THERE?



HOW DO  
YOU KNOW  
THAT?

I WAS  
THERE.

HIGHLY  
DOUBTFUL.

SHE  
LOVED YOU, YOU  
KNOW. MORE  
THAN--

--WELL,  
LIFE  
ITSELF.



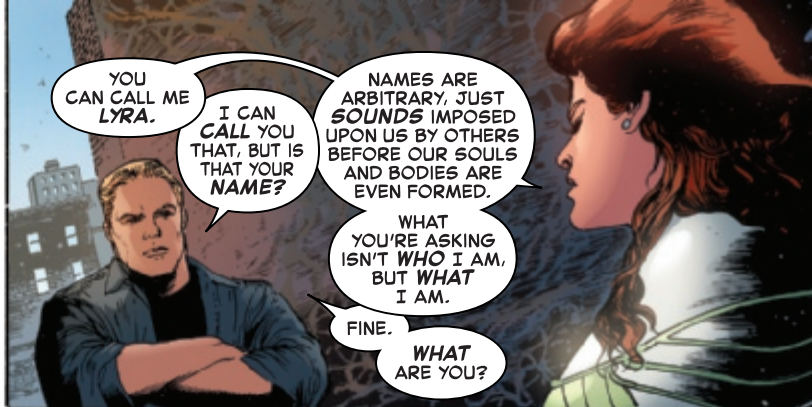


UH-HUH.

AND WHO ARE YOU?

NOT REALLY PAYING ATTENTION, ARE YOU?

A NAME.



YOU CAN CALL ME LYRA.

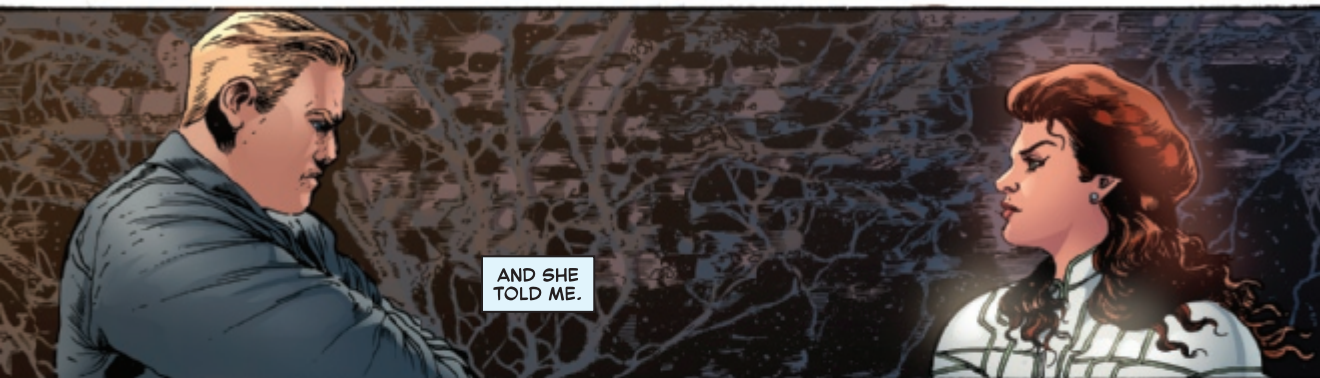
I CAN CALL YOU THAT, BUT IS THAT YOUR NAME?

NAMES ARE ARBITRARY, JUST **SOUNDS** IMPOSED UPON US BY OTHERS BEFORE OUR SOULS AND BODIES ARE EVEN FORMED.

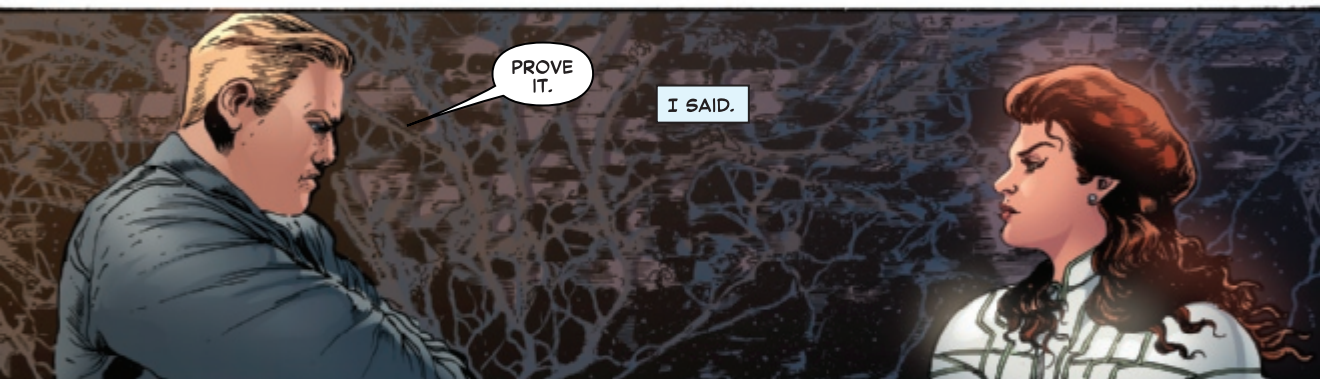
WHAT YOU'RE ASKING ISN'T **WHO** I AM, BUT **WHAT** I AM.

FINE.

WHAT ARE YOU?



AND SHE TOLD ME.



PROVE IT.

I SAID.



AND SHE DID.





SO,  
WHAT DO YOU  
WANT?

YOUR  
HELP.

WHY ME?

BECAUSE  
OF WHO YOU  
WERE. WHO YOU  
ARE. AND WHO  
YOU WILL  
**BECOME.**



SHE HANDS  
ME A SHEET OF  
PAPER SHE WASN'T  
HOLDING A SECOND  
EARLIER.

COME TO THIS  
ADDRESS TONIGHT.  
MIDNIGHT. YOU'LL  
UNDERSTAND.



AND IF  
YOU **ARE**  
WHO YOU **SAY**  
YOU ARE, WHY  
DO YOU NEED  
HELP?

COME  
TO THE  
**FRONT DOOR**  
TONIGHT AND  
FIND OUT.



AFTER ALL,  
YOU WON'T HAVE ANY  
OTHER PLANS FOR  
MIDNIGHT.



HMPH.

"SO, ANYTHING  
INTERESTING  
GOING ON?"