

## CHECKMATE #13

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...KIND OF ON VACATION AT THE MOMENT!

WHAT?

THERE WAS SOME, UH, TROUBLE AT MY JOB, SO THE PEOPLE I WORK WITH, WE'RE ALL KIND OF TAKING SOME TIME OFF.

SEE, I'M HERE ON VACATION! I'M AN AMERICAN!



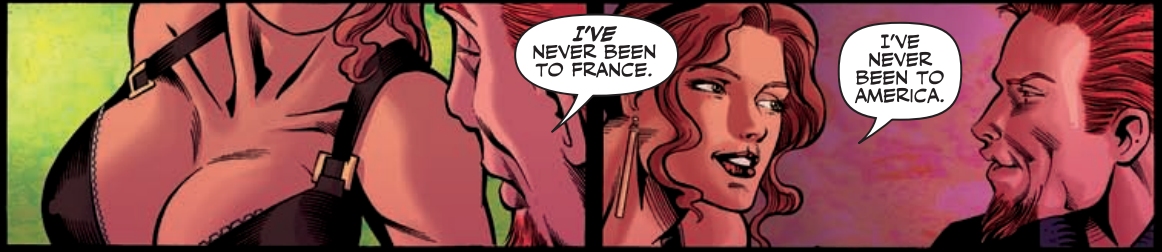
OH NO, I WAS BORN NEAR MARSEILLE.

WHAT?

MARSEILLE.

THAT'S IN FRANCE?

YES.



I'VE NEVER BEEN TO FRANCE.

I'VE NEVER BEEN TO AMERICA.



YOUR HOTEL OR MINE?

DON'T SUPPOSE YOU'D BE INTERESTED IN SOME CULTURAL EXCHANGE?



~Mmmhmk  
BED...

...TAKE  
ME TO THE  
BED!

LEMME  
~Mmmhmk GET  
MY KEY...

...GOT  
IT. HOLD  
ON...

...HEY,  
Y'KNOW WHAT?  
I DON'T THINK  
I GOT YOUR  
NAME.



IT'S JO.

JO, WHAT  
IS THAT? THAT  
SHORT FOR  
JOANNA?

NO...



...JOSEPHINE.

JOSEPHINE...



...THAT'S  
A PRETTY  
NAME...



CHOK



**WHITE KING:**  
MICHAEL HOLT--"MR. TERRIFIC"



**WHITE QUEEN:**  
AMANDA WALLER



**WHITE KING'S BISHOP:**  
THINKER



**WHITE QUEEN'S BISHOP:**  
KING FARADAY



**WHITE KING'S KNIGHT:**  
TOMMY JAGGER



**WHITE QUEEN'S KNIGHT:**  
WERNER VERTIGO--  
"COUNT VERTIGO"

**BLACK QUEEN'S KNIGHT TO BLACK QUEEN.**

**BLACK QUEEN, GO.**

**COLLIE HAS BEEN LEASHED.**

**CONFIRMED...**



**BLACK KING:**  
TALEB BENI KHALID



**BLACK QUEEN:**  
SASHA BORDEAUX



**BLACK KING'S BISHOP:**  
SHEN LI PO



**BLACK QUEEN'S BISHOP:**  
JESSICA MIDNIGHT



**BLACK KING'S KNIGHT:**  
BEATRIZ DACOSTA--  
"FIRE"



**BLACK QUEEN'S KNIGHT:**  
JOSEPHINE TAUTIN--  
"MADEMOISELLE MARIE"

**...RECOVERY TEAM BAKER EN ROUTE, E.T.A. TWO MINUTES.**

# CHECKOUT Part 1

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COLLIE IS IN THE BAG.

ONE DOWN...

# OPERATION: SHADOWBOX-- STATUS: RUNNING

Katana:  
Komondor

Metamorpho:  
Maltese

Nightwing:  
Newfoundland

Grace:  
Great Dane

Thunder:  
Tibetan

Captain  
Boomerang, Jr.:  
Collie

...FIVE TO GO.

WHITE KING'S KNIGHT REPORTS KOMONDOR HAS LEFT HER DOMICILE AND IS ON THE MOVE.

RECOVERY FOXTROT IS ON STANDBY, AWAITING THE GO-SIGNAL.

WHERE ARE WE WITH GREAT DANE AND TIBETAN?

MIDNIGHT AND FIRE ARE WITH THE BLACKHAWK ELEMENT NOW. THEY'RE STILL TRYING TO LOCATE THE TARGETS.

I'M THINKING WE SHOULD MOVE ON KOMONDOR WHILE WE HAVE THE OPENING.

HELL YEAH.

MIKE, YOU NEED TO AUTHORIZE TOMMY.

THERE WERE OTHER WAYS TO DO THIS.

WE'VE ALREADY DISCUSSED THIS. WE NEED THEM, AND THIS IS THE ONLY WAY TO BRING THEM IN.



YOU PUT TOGETHER THE BRIEFING, YOU DON'T NEED *ME* REMINDING YOU WHAT THEY DID IN MALI...

WE SHOULDN'T BE TREATING THEM LIKE *CRIMINALS*.

...HOW THEY TRADED *ONE* PSYCHO FOR *ANOTHER* BY PUTTING ALLON INTO POWER IN PLACE OF BENNIN.



AND LET'S NOT FORGET THEIR LITTLE PARTY AT *TELISTOCC*.

IT TOOK TWO GREEN LANTERNS AND SUPERMAN TO CONTAIN THE *FALLOUT!*

THAT WAS *SIVANA*, NOT--



IT WAS A DAMN *NUKE*, MICHAEL! ARE YOU TELLING ME THAT THE *JSA* WOULD HAVE LET THAT *SLIDE*?

THE *JSA* WOULD *NEVER* HAVE LET IT HAPPEN.

WHICH IS MY *POINT!* THE *OUTSIDERS* HAVE TO--



PARDON ME...



...MUCH AS I LOATHE INTERRUPTING THIS BOUT OF *SUBLIMATED LUST*, I HAVE AN UPDATE FOR MY KING.

LET'S HEAR IT.



ALL TARGETS WITH THE EXCEPTION OF NEWFOUNDLAND HAVE BEEN LOCATED.

CAPTURE TEAMS ARE AWAITING AUTHORIZATION TO COLLAR THE REST.



BLACK KING AUTHORIZES. *GRANTED*.

WHITE QUEEN AUTHORIZES.

AND I SAY AGAIN, *HELL* YEAH.



DO IT.

**NEW YORK CITY.**

I KNOW HE KNOWS, IT WAS ALL OVER THE NEWS--I JUST WANT TO KNOW HIS REACTION, ALFRED...



...I KNOW HE DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING, HE NEVER SAYS--STOP TALKING TO ME LIKE I'M OTHER PEOPLE...

...READ THE TEA LEAVES, THEN, AND TELL ME WHAT HE THOUGHT...YES, I'M AWARE YOU'RE NOT A MINDREADER, BUT DAMN IT, JUST...OH.

REALLY? HOW ANGRY?



REALLY. WELL...YEAH... THAT SOUNDS PRETTY PISSED. DO YOU THINK HE WAS ANGRY BECAUSE OF WHAT I DID...



...OR THAT I DIDN'T TELL HIM?

--IGHTWING!! IT'S REX! I'M MA-TZZT!!




GOTTA GO.

WIREWOK TO BLENDER. REPEAT.



WIREWORK TO BLENDER. REPEAT LAST COMMUNICATION.



THIS IS WIREWORK TO SHEATH. COME IN. SHEATH... THIS IS WIREWORK.

KATANA-- YOU THERE?



THIS IS WIREWORK TO BOOTHEEL. WIREWORK TO LEADFOOT. COME IN.

BOOTHEEL. LEADFOOT. COME IN.



**COME DOWN  
HERE AND FIGHT,  
MOTHER@#%@\$!!**

**"BLOODY  
BRILLIANT..."**