

# THE SYNDICATE STRIKES BACK

ISSUE #4/5



**They Wanted a War. They Found Her.**

# SPACE SENTINEL

ISSUE #1: **METEOR STRIKE!**



# SYNDICATE KICKS BACK

## THE SPIRIT CONSPIRACY

VOLUME 2



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## THE TITAN RISES



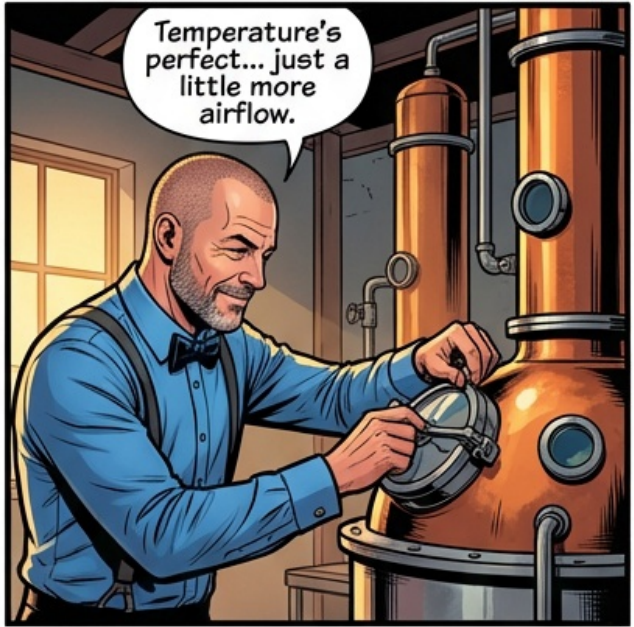
EVOLUTION HAS A NEW ENEMY.

They Wanted a War. They F

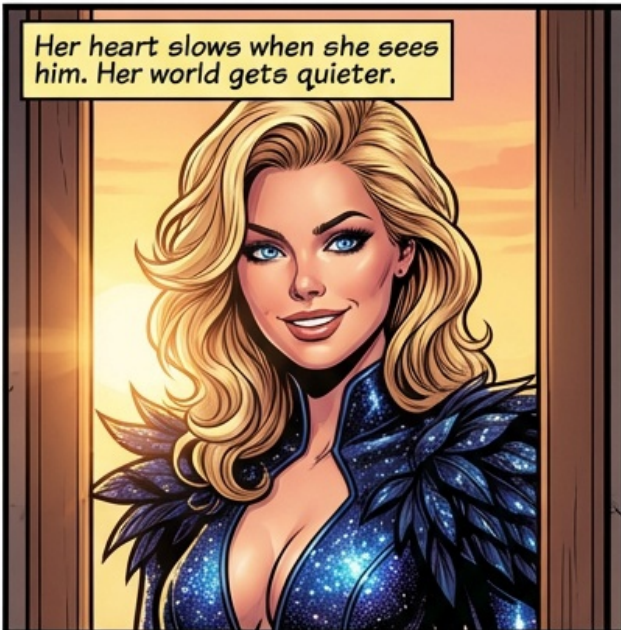
Long Grove, Illinois.  
The safest place Lisa knows.



Temperature's perfect... just a little more airflow.



Her heart slows when she sees him. Her world gets quieter.



You're up early.

I like watching you work.



tik...  
tik...  
tik...



...what is that?





The moment her world ends begins with fire.

**KRAAAAAA-THOOM!**









Her mind screams to move.  
Her heart refuses to beat.



Ma'am, you need medical attention—

I need...  
Tim...



Please.  
Let us help  
you.



Don't take  
him away...



Easy! Easy—  
she's going  
into shock!

THUD



The strongest woman on Earth...  
broken by a single moment.



The world moves around her.  
She moves through it like a ghost.



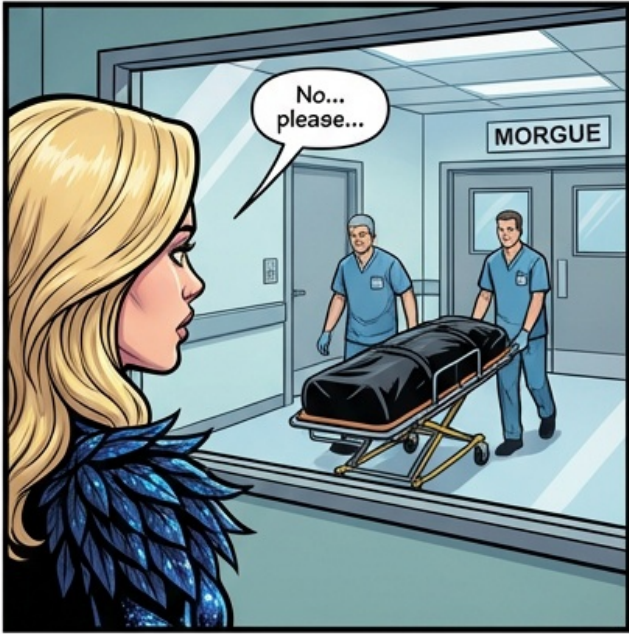
NURSE:  
Pupils reactive...  
vitale unstable...

LISA  
Where... where  
is he...?



Her body is steel.  
Her heart is not.

Her body is steel.  
Her heart is not.



No...  
please...

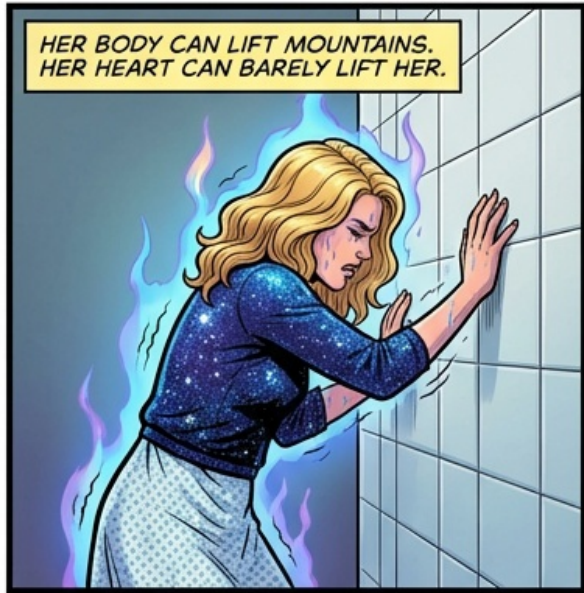


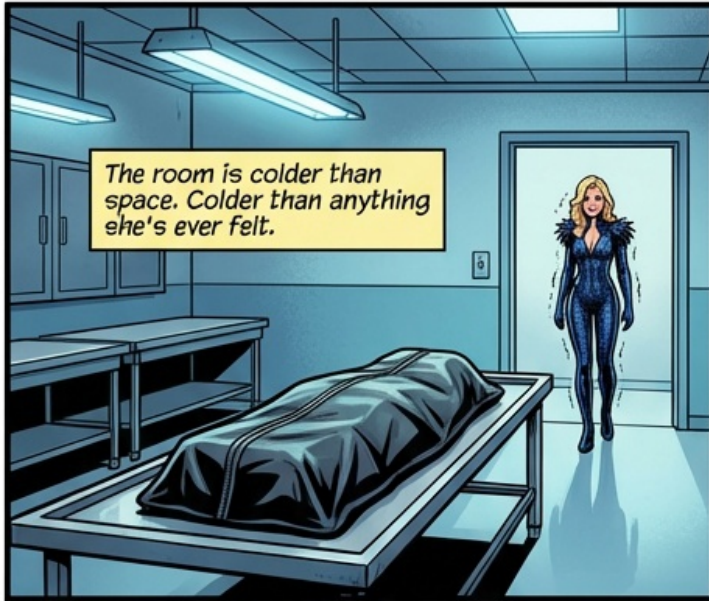
DOCTOR:  
Ma'am, you're in  
shock. You need  
to lie down.

I need to  
see him.



Her powers answer her heart.  
And her heart is breaking.







Her mind screams that this isn't real.  
Her trembling.

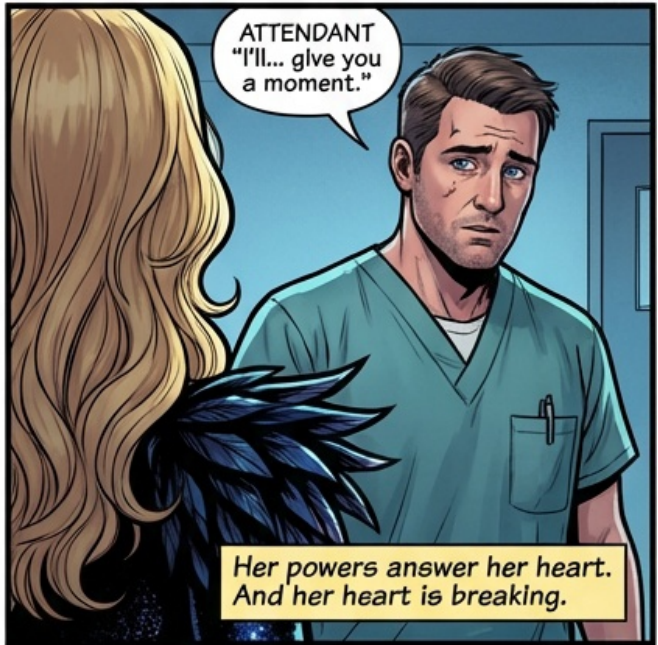
Her heart believes  
every second of it.



LISA  
(whisper):  
"Tim... I'm so  
sorry..."



She has never cried like this.  
Not once in her life.



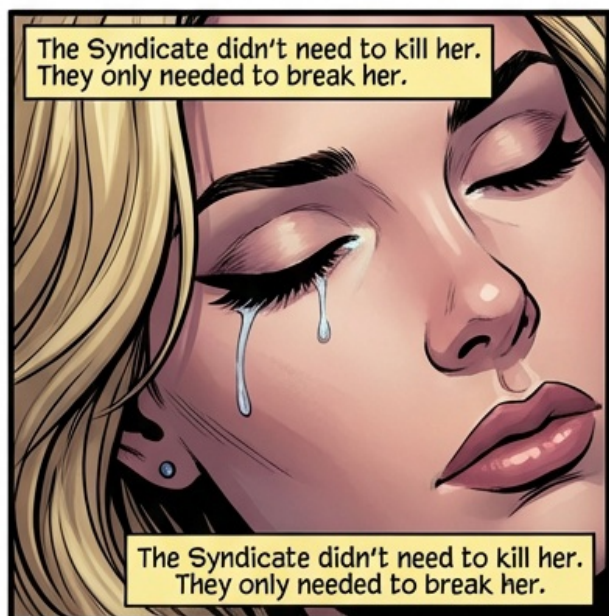
ATTENDANT  
"I'll... give you  
a moment."

Her powers answer her heart.  
And her heart is breaking.



This is the moment the Syndicate  
has been waiting for. The moment  
the unbreakable finally breaks.







Lisa... can I get you anything? Water? A blanket?



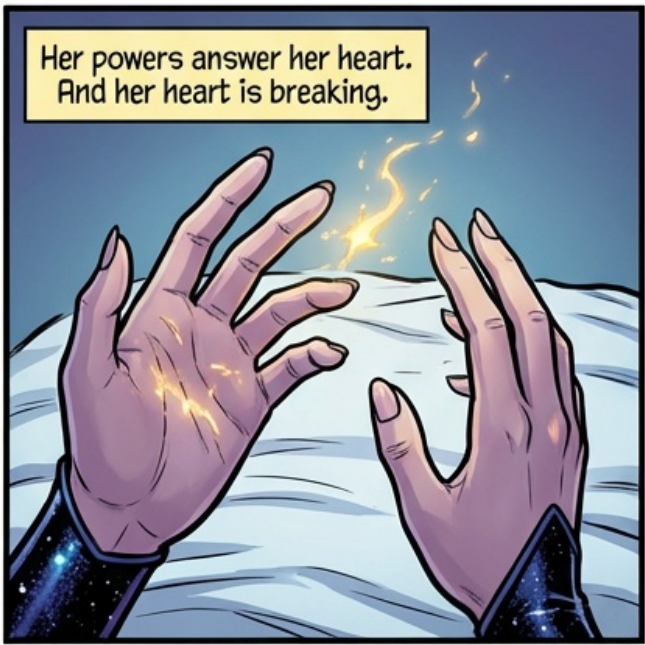
She hears the words. But they don't reach her.



He was right there... in my arms...



You're not alone. We're here with you.



Her powers answer her heart. And her heart is breaking.



The strongest woman alive... reduced to a whisper of herself.



DOCTOR:  
"Lisa... may I  
sit with you?"



LISA (flat, hollow):  
"Is it him."



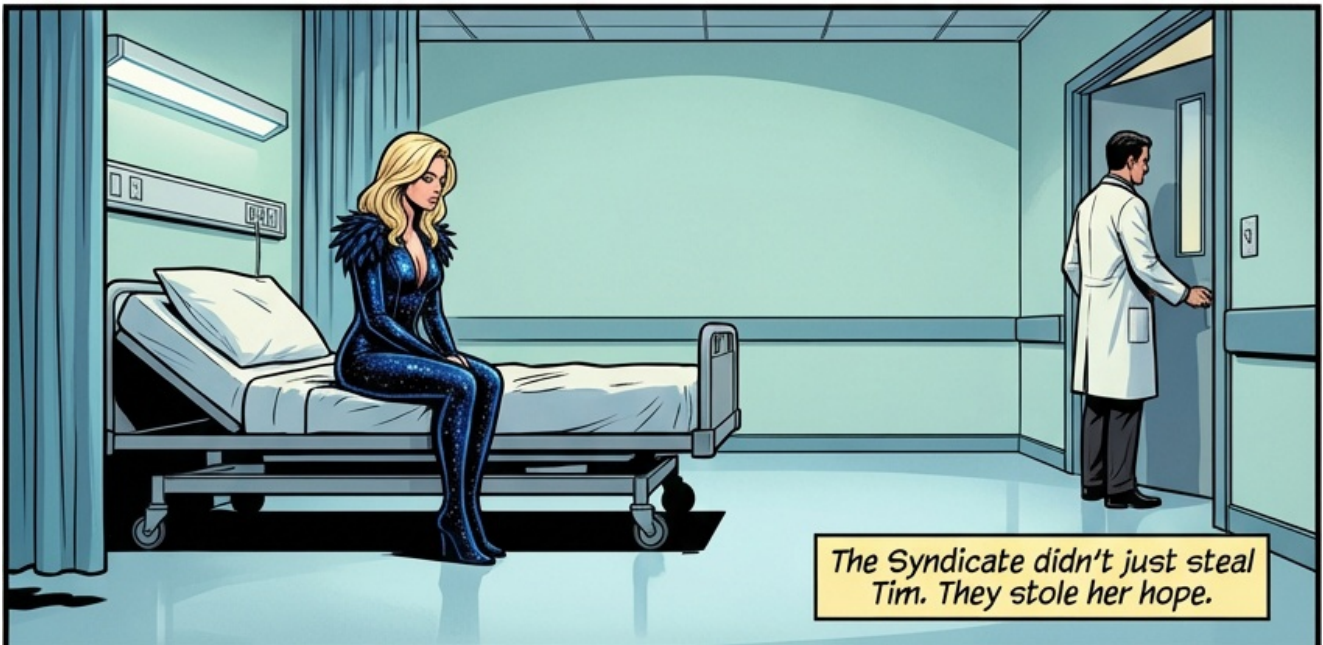
DOCTOR: We  
compared dental records.  
The remains match  
Tim's file."



*Shock is not silence.  
Shock is the absence of  
a world to scream in.*

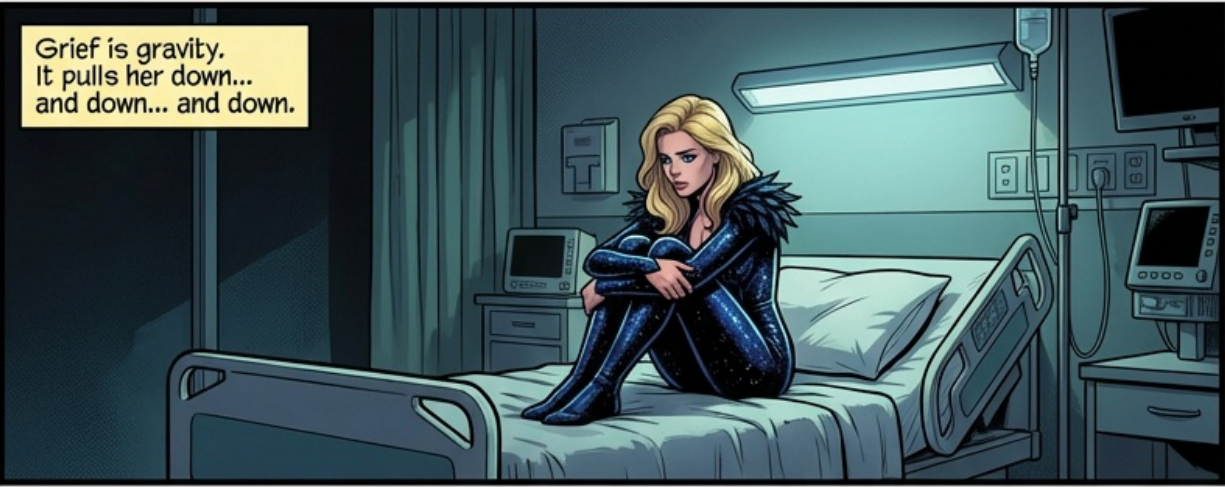


DOCTOR (softly):  
"I'm so sorry."



*The Syndicate didn't just steal  
Tim. They stole her hope.*





Grief is gravity. It pulls her down... and down... and down.



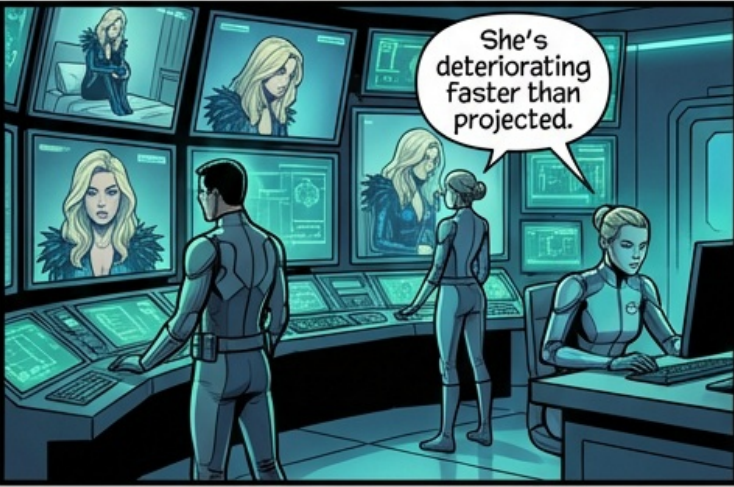
I should've saved him... I should've...



Her powers answer her heart. And her heart is breaking.



She is alone. But not unobserved.



She's deteriorating faster than projected.



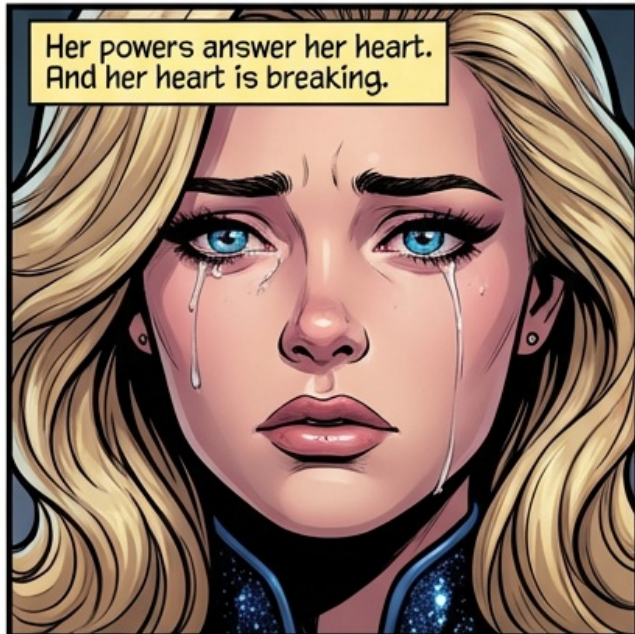
Good. Initiate Phase Four.



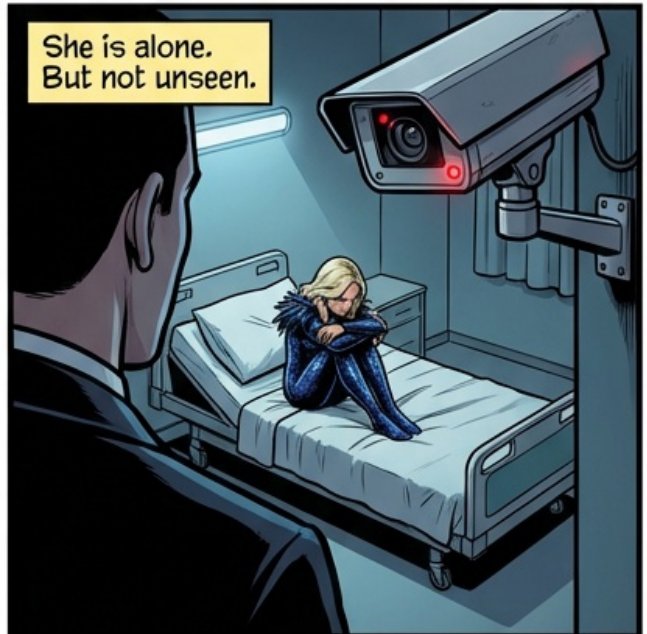
Grief is not a wave. It is a tide that never recedes.



LISA (whisper):  
I can't... I can't do this...



Her powers answer her heart.  
And her heart is breaking.



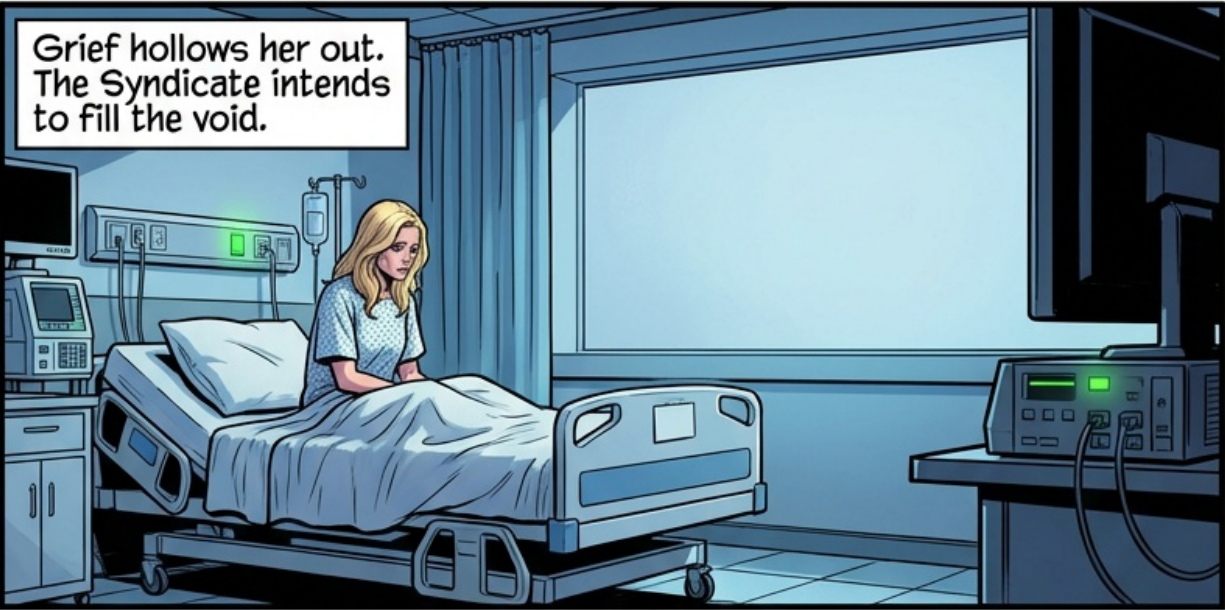
She is alone.  
But not unseen.



OPERATIVE:  
She's almost at emotional zero.



COMMANDER:  
Perfect. Prepare the trigger.



Grief hollows her out. The Syndicate intends to fill the void.



I can't... I can't do this without you...

whisper...

TREMBLING

TWITCHING



Her powers answer her heart. And her heart is breaking.



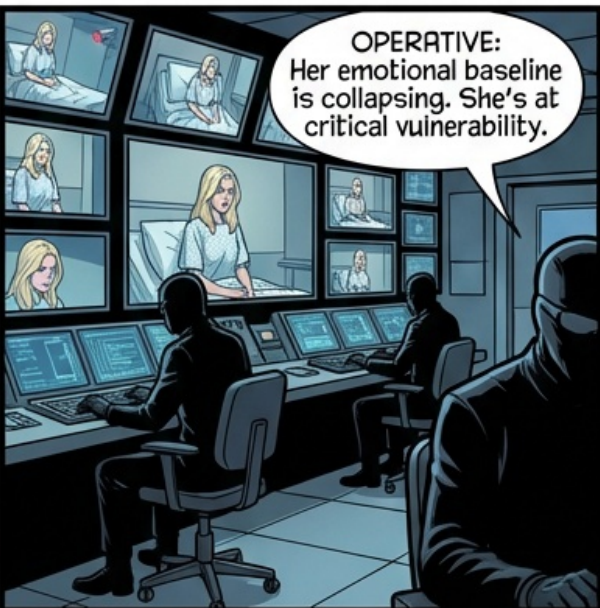
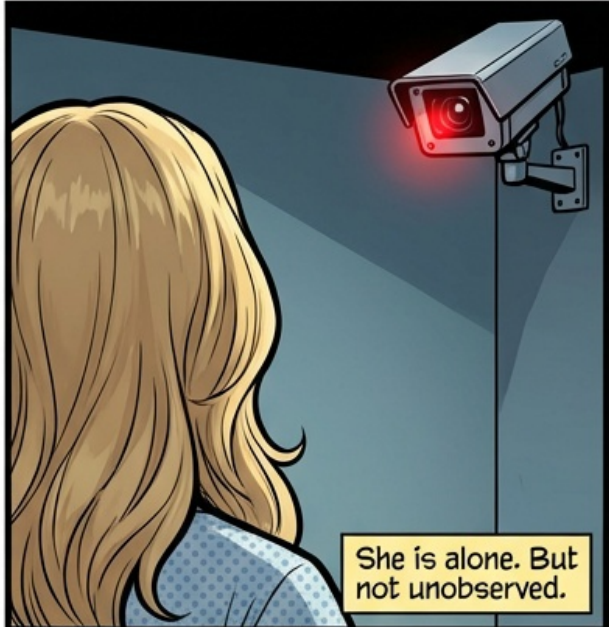
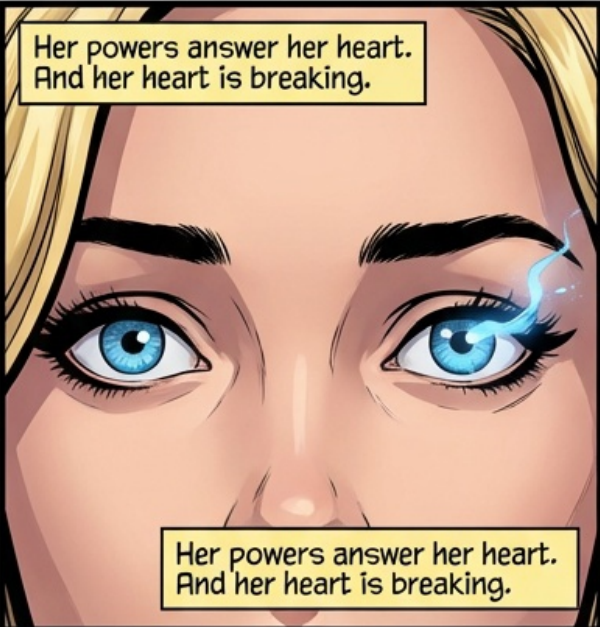
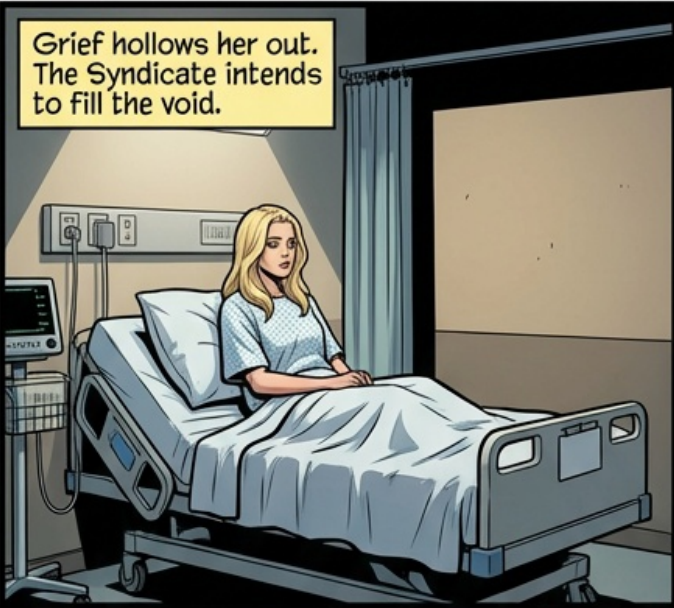
She is alone. But not unobserved.

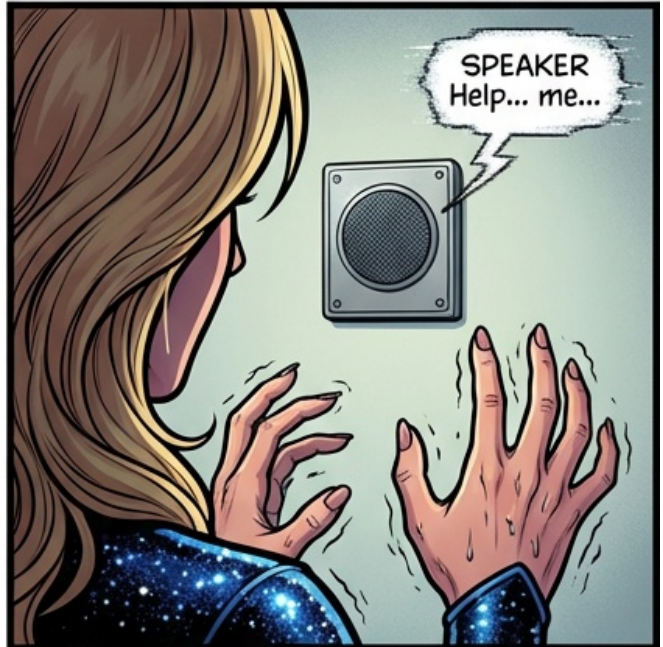
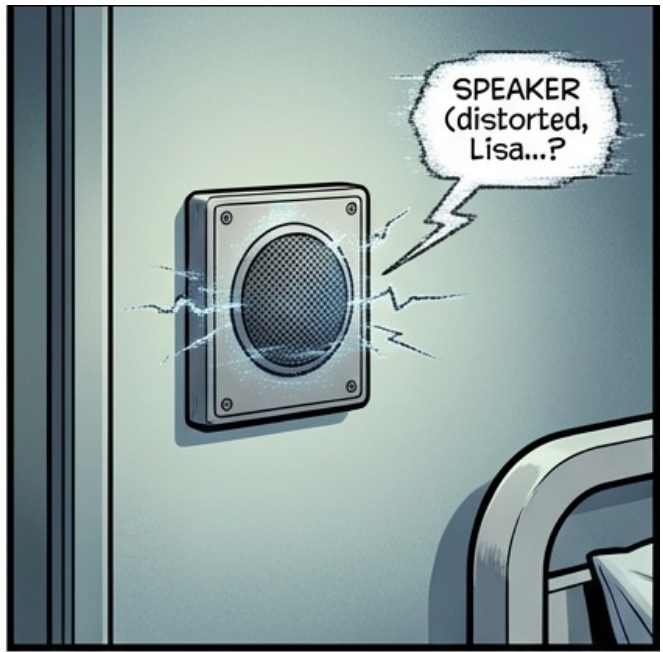


Her emotional baseline is collapsing. She's at critical vulnerability.



Good. Activate the trigger. Let's see what a broken god can do.







SPEAKER  
(distorted, faint):  
"Lisa... help..."



LISA  
(broken whisper):  
"Tim... I'm  
coming..."



WHOOOM-

Grief becomes power.  
Power becomes instability.



OPERATIVE: "Sir—her levels  
are surging! This is beyond  
predicted parameters!"

COMMANDER  
(cold): "Let her  
burn."



The world feels  
her heartbreak.

THRAAAAAAAM-



LISA  
(shouting):  
"TIM!"

Next Issue: A God Unleashed.

# THE UNCONTROLLED STORM



**CRACK!**

**FZZT!**

**BOOM!**

**VILLAIN VARIANT**

IMPOSSIBLE...  
HER ENERGY  
SIGNATURE IS OFF  
THE CHARTS!

POWER SPIKE DETECTED: **LEVEL CRITICAL!**



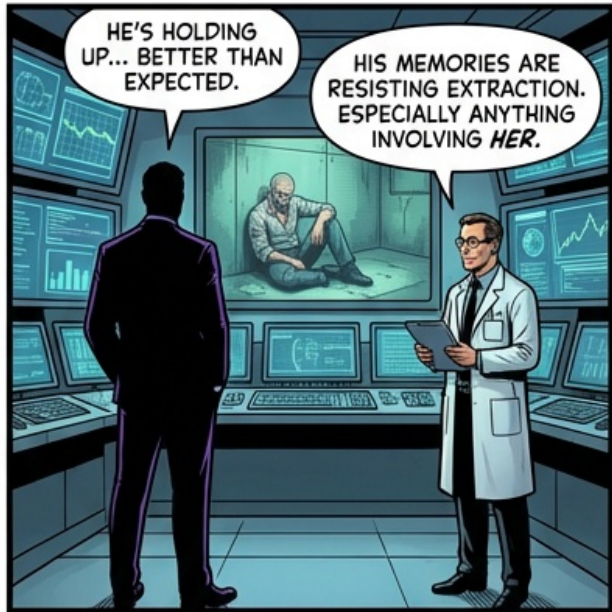
SUBJECT: 'LISA' — VARIANT ACTIVE.



# THE **CAPTIVE HEART**



*CAPTION: He never stopped believing she would come.*





She has one purpose now.  
One truth. One target.



**ALARMS  
BLARE!**



Operative:  
She's breaching  
every level—

Let her.  
She'll never  
reach him.



Lisa...?



**WHAM!**

Tim... I'm  
close...

# THE SYNDICATE'S SHADOW



UNLEASH  
IT, LISA.  
BECOME THE  
SHADOW.