I MIGHT BE SUPERMAN...

...BUT WHEN A MYSTERIOUS GHOST SOLDIER PHASES KNIVES THROUGH MY CHEST SECONDS AFTER WE RESCUE A BUNCH OF SUBTERRANEAN PRIMATES FROM THE SOUL-DRAINING MACHINERY OF THEIR IMPERIAL OPPRESSORS...

...IT'S NICE TO HAVE A FRIEND FROM HOME WATCHING MY BACK.

YAAAAAAAAAAAA!

THANKS, LANA.

DEEP FREEZE

WRITTEN BY GREG PAK
ART BY AARON KUDER AND JED DOUGHERTY
COLOR BY WIL QUINTANA
LETTERS BY DEZI SIENY
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ROBOT CHICKEN VARIANTS BY RC STOUDIOS
ASSISTANT EDITOR: ANTHONY MARQUES
GROUP EDITOR: EDDIE BERGANZA
SUPERMAN CREATED BY JERRY SIEGEL AND JOE SHUSTER
BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH THE JERRY SIEGEL FAMILY
IT'S ALL RIGHT, FELLA. I'M A FRIEND. THERE'S NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT. THEY'VE JUST BEEN EXPOSED TO THE SUN FOR THE FIRST TIME IN THEIR LIVES. OKAY, BIG TEETH. KHHHOOOM. KHREEEEEEE. EEEEEEEEEEE. KKKRRREEEEEEEEEEEEEEE.

IT'S TERRIFIED BY WHAT'S HAPPENING TO IT. IT NEEDS A LITTLE PROTECT LANA. AND FIGURE OUT WHAT'S GOING ON WITH THE LITTLE GUYS. I CAN KIND OF SYMPATHIZE. IT'S ALL RIGHT, FELLA. I'M A FRIEND.

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LANA.
WE’VE SOT YOUR BACK.
FUN.
SANCHEZ/FIRE/THESE AREN’T...

POWN...GOTTA HELP THE “LITTLE” NEEDLE TO THREAD...
BUT I’M SUPERMAN.
THIS IS WHAT I—
SINCE I BUMPED INTO CLARK AGAIN, I'VE Fought A LOT OF MONSTERS.

BUT I'VE ALSO STARTED TO LEARN...

...THAT A MONSTER...

...ISN'T ALWAYS WHAT IT APPEARS TO BE.

...BLAME SUPERMAN.

CLARK SAYS NOTHING.

BUT HIS KNuckles CRACK AND HIS EARS RING.

I SHOULD SAY SOMETHING...

YOU PUSHED YOURSELF INTO A SITUATION YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND, BIG MAN.

OR ARE YOU GOING TO TELL ME YOU WERE GOING TO SAVE EVERYONE?
WHO DO YOU WORK FOR?

I'M FIGHTING STUPID.

HE CAN DODGE MY HEAT VISION...

...AND PHASE THROUGH MY PUNCHES.

TELL ME!

SO AS I YELL AND FLAIL, HE ZOOMS IN TO CUT MY HEART OUT.

WHOOOSH

WHICH IS RIGHT WHERE I WANT HIM.

WHOOOSH

...WHICH IS RIGHT WHERE I WANT HIM.

WHOOOSH

WHOOOSH

WHOOOSH

WHOOOSH

TURNS OUT EVERYTHING ON THE PLANET IS MADE UP OF PARTICLES.

EVEN GHOSTS.

AND PARTICLES CAN FREEZE.
OF COURSE, SO CAN EVERYTHING ELSE.

KAAAW! KAAAW!

I'M SORRY.

I'M SORRY.

I'M SORRY...
...BUT I BLAME YOU.

YOU SAY YOU'RE A SOLDIER.
LIKE THAT EXCUSES EVERYTHING YOU DO.

WRONG.

EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBLE.
BOTH THOSE WHO CARRY OUT THE ORDERS...

...AND THE ONES WHO GIVE THEM.
HELLO, TOWER COMMAND.

BREACH! KILL THAT COMM!

IT'S—IT'S NOT RESPONDING! CONTROL CIRCUIT'S FROZEN!

AND LOOK AT GHOST SOLDIER! SUPERMAN ON-OFF ACTUALLY AFFECT US!

IDIOTS, PULL THE PLUG.

CODE BLACK! NOW! CODE BL—

SUPERMAN, WHAT IS IT?
WHAT DO YOU SEE?

HE DOESN'T ANSWER.

BUT I KNOW THAT STIFF BACK.
He looked just like this the day he found out what the O'Brien twins did to Pete Ross's new puppy.

I know where the Ghost Soldier's commanders are. And I'm going to shut them down.

It's all right, Baka likes you, right, Baka?

Wait... this is... this is too dangerous.

Yeeeh...

Don't worry, Mr. Chavez. He'll do what Lana says. I'll be back before...

Hold on one dang minute!

Okay... Just... Hang on for a minute...

I need you to watch out for Baka.

Wait, what?

Her voice cracks like a whip...

...and suddenly I'm twelve years old and Danny O'Brien's running down the street crying for his mother.

You... you're acting all...

Chavez is listening. She's trying not to say too much, but I get it.

Chavez is listening. She's trying not to say too much, but I get it.

You're acting all...

...are you all right?

She's thinking about a kid named Clark Kent... crying over a dead dog... problem is, Lana...

...I haven't changed at all.
WHOA!

THE CREATURES YOU FREED! IF SUNLIGHT HITS THEM—

HNNN... YOU KILLED THEM.

NO. WE TRIED TO HELP. IT WAS—

IT DOESN'T MATTER. IT JUST CONFIRMS WHAT I MUST TELL YOU.

I'VE COME FOR BAKA. HE DOESN'T BELONG UP HERE.

YOU KNOW IT AND SO DOES HE.

BAKA CRINGES, TRYING TO HIDE ALL SIX TONS OF HIMSELF BEHIND ME.

AND I'M SUDDENLY SO ANGRY I CAN'T SPEAK.

AND THEN I HEAR SOMETHING...
Lana, get Chavez’s men in their trucks and head west. You need to be two miles away in five minutes. Lana, you’ve got to go. He raises his voice. Come on, Lana! He’s Superman! We’re here to help. He actually raises his voice at me. She’s just worried. I should explain... but I can’t even begin to figure out how to tell her what I’m about to do. Unmarked military...
I HEAR MY VOICE CRACK, BUT I PLLOW ON...

BUT YOU... YOU’VE GOTTA GO WITH LIKUR.

I KNOW, I’M SORRY.

...TELLING HIM IT’S NOT SAFE...

...THAT NO MATTER WHERE HE GOES, PEOPLE UP HERE WILL HATE HIM AND HUNT HIM.

BUT HE DOESN’T SAY A THING.

HE JUST STARES AT ME...

...AND...
I'm talking. Don't even know what I'm saying.

He doesn't look into my eyes.

And why should he? I promised... I promised I'd always be there for him.

I will be back.

And if I find out that you've hurt him, in any way...

I swear...

Save your threats, Uplander. I would never raise a hand against the prince.

Ukur...

Prince?

Yes, Queen Lanalang. He is our treasure and our future.

I will protect him, as I always have, until our worlds are ready for him.

I'm talking. Don't even know what I'm saying.

Ukur...

Prince?

Yes, Queen Lanalang. He is our treasure and our future.

I will protect him, as I always have, until our worlds are ready for him.

The boy never looks back.

He just walks away, stiff-backed.

...and buries his face in his guardian's shoulder.
They're a half mile down before he finally starts to sob.

Ka-thoom

Clark...

They're two miles down now.

Turning down twisting granite passageways.

Closing ancient stone doors.

Safe.

Safe.

But I can still hear him crying.
...THIS BEAUTIFUL, SOUL-POWERED ARTIFACT THAT WAS GOING TO LIGHT THE WORLD WITH ITS ETERNAL ENERGY...

...IT CRACKED
THAT'S... THAT'S THE THIRD TIME YOU'VE SAID THAT TODAY.

THAT'S FIFTH.. HEH.

I'M SORRY.

ARE YOU... OKAY?

...WE JUST LOST EVERYTHING WE CAME HERE FOR. IT'S...

IT'S OKAY TO CRY.

...AND IT'S A BETTER IDEA.
GET READY.

HE'S MOVING...
...SO FAST, FASTER THAN WE'VE EVER...

HE KNOWS, MAMA!

HE'S COMING RIGHT AT US!

CALM YOURSELVES, KEEPFERS.

NO MATTER HOW STRONG HE IS...
He's still of this world.

And nothing he knows can prepare him for... Harrow.

Next month: The Secrets of the Tower!
WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR YOU? AND WHAT ABOUT THEIR NEWEST RECRUIT... SUPERGIRL!!!

...AND WHAT ARE THEY SO MAD ABOUT?

WORD HAS IT THAT THESE CRIMSON CRUSADERS ARE TAKING OVER FROM THE GREEN LANTERNS AS EARTH'S COSMIC POLICE FORCE!

THAT'S AN INTERESTING COSTUME CHANGE FOR SUPERGIRL! HOW WILL SHE TAKE TO ALL THE NAPALM AND FIRE-BREATHING THE RED LANTERNS ARE SO POND OFF CHANNEL 52 WANTS TO KNOW? UGH... I THINK I'M GOING TO BE SICK!

CHANNEL 52
INVESTIGATIVE REPORT!

WHO ARE THE RED LANTERNS...?
WHAT’S NEXT?

The first-ever meeting between Earth 2 refugees The Huntress and Power Girl and the Superman and Batman of The New 52! Continuing from last month’s explosive start – FIRST CONTACT continues in the pages of Batman/Superman #9 and Worlds’ Finest #2! Superman and Batman must confront the truth about Earth 2 while Huntress and Power Girl must finally accept their place in a world that is not their own. A story this big can’t be contained to one adventure, so be sure to check out FIRST CONTACT to see hints at what’s coming up the rest of the year in The New 52! Fans of Earth 2 will want to pay special attention to these issues!