

EONS AGO, DURING A WAR BETWEEN THE ANGELS OF THE TENTH REALM KNOWN AS HEVEN AND THE GODS OF ASGARD, THE NEWBORN DAUGHTER OF ASGARD'S RULERS, ODIN AND FREYJA, WAS SEEMINGLY MURDERED BY THE QUEEN OF ANGELS. IN RESPONSE, ODIN BANISHED THE TENTH REALM TO ANOTHER DIMENSION. BUT UNBEKNOWNST TO NEARLY EVERYONE, THE CHILD WAS ACTUALLY SAVED BY ONE OF THE QUEEN'S HANDMAIDENS AND RAISED TO BELIEVE SHE TOO WAS AN ANGEL -- THAT ALDRIF OF ASGARD WAS ANGELA OF HEVEN.

RECENTLY, THOR AND LOKI LEARNED OF THE EXISTENCE OF THE TENTH REALM AND THEIR LOST SIBLING, RESULTING IN BOTH HEVEN'S RETURN TO OUR DIMENSION AND ANGELA'S TRUE IDENTITY BEING REVEALED TO ALL, INCLUDING HERSELF. WITH THE KNOWLEDGE OF HER TRUE HERITAGE NOW PUBLIC, ANGELA HAS BEEN CAST OUT OF THE TENTH REALM AND WANTS NOTHING TO DO WITH ASGARD...



...WHICH SEEMS STRANGE, CONSIDERING SHE'S CURRENTLY ON THE RUN WITH HER FRIEND, THE RECENTLY RETURNED-FROM-THE-DEAD SERA, AFTER STEALING ODIN AND FREYJA'S NEWBORN CHILD, THE NEXT HEIR TO ASGARD. A FURIOUS THOR (NOW GOING BY ODINSON) IS IN HOT PURSUIT, AND HE'S JUST CALLED IN REINFORCEMENTS: HELA'S MERCILESS VALKYRIE TRIBE KNOWN AS THE DISIR. FORTUNATELY, ANGELA HAS SOME BACKUP OF HER OWN: THE GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY WITH A NEW SET OF ARMOR AND HER FRIENDS BY HER SIDE, ANGELA MIGHT JUST STAND A CHANCE OF SUCCESSFULLY ENACTING HER PLANS FOR HER BABY SISTER -- THOUGH WHAT EXACTLY THOSE ARE REMAIN A MYSTERY...

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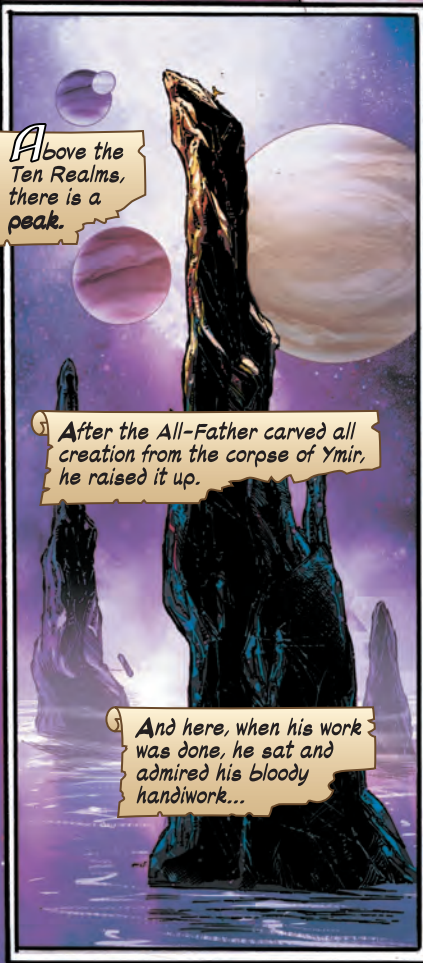
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ANGELA: ASGARD'S ASSASSIN No. 4, May 2015. Published Monthly by MARVEL WORLDWIDE, INC., a subsidiary of MARVEL ENTERTAINMENT, LLC. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 135 West 50th Street, New York, NY 10020. BULK MAIL POSTAGE PAID AT NEW YORK, NY AND AT ADDITIONAL MAILING OFFICES. © 2015 Marvel Characters, Inc. All rights reserved. All characters featured in this issue and the distinctive names and likenesses thereof, and all related indicia are trademarks of Marvel Characters, Inc. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. \$3.99 per copy in the U.S. (GST #R127032852) in the direct market; Canadian Agreement #40668637. Printed in the USA. Subscription rate (U.S. dollars) for 12 issues: U.S. \$26.99; Canada \$42.99; Foreign \$42.99. POSTMASTER: SEND ALL ADDRESS CHANGES TO ANGELA: ASGARD'S ASSASSIN, C/O MARVEL SUBSCRIPTION P.O. BOX 1527 LONG ISLAND CITY, NY 11101. TELEPHONE # (888) 511-5480. FAX # (347) 537-2649. subscriptions@marvel.com. ALAN FINE, EVP - Office of the President, Marvel Worldwide, Inc. and EVP & CMO Marvel Characters S.V.; DAN BUCKLEY, Publisher & President - Print, Animation & Digital Divisions; JOE QUESADA, Chief Creative Officer; TOM BREVOORT, SVP of Publishing; DAVID BOGART, SVP of Operations & Procurement, Publishing; CB CEBULSKI, SVP of Creator & Content Development; DAVID CABRIL, SVP of Print Sales & Marketing; JIM O'KEEFE, VP of Operations & Logistics; DAN CARR, Executive Director of Publishing Technology; SUSAN CRESPI, Editorial Operations Manager; ALEX MORALES, Publishing Operations Manager; STAN LEE, Chairman Emeritus. For information regarding advertising in Marvel Comics or on Marvel.com, please contact Niza Disla, Director of Marvel Partnerships, at ndisla@marvel.com. For Marvel subscription inquiries, please call 888-511-5480. Manufactured between 02/06/2015 and 02/17/2015 by R.R. DONNELLEY, INC., GLASGOW, KY, USA.



Above the Ten Realms, there is a peak.


After the All-Father carved all creation from the corpse of Ymir, he raised it up.

And here, when his work was done, he sat and admired his bloody handiwork...



Now, the son of Odin, he who was once worthy to be known as "Thor," has ascended it, hand by hand.

The lofty air is too thin even for goats, even the miraculous ones of the Odinson's stable.



But even if he could have ridden them here, he wouldn't have. He knows the journey is the point.

Something earned for free is worthless.


The sacrifice is the point.



He stands here, and catches his breath in lungs that can swallow oceans.


Now here, his voice will carry clearly, across all creation.

And any with Asgardian ears to hear it, will.



At the bottom of the peak, at the bottom of creation, in the Hel of the dead, wait his unlikely allies.

The Dread Sisterhood waits, with their hungry blades and their violent habits.



Now Odinson is ready. He raises hands that can span an ogre's neck and...

DISI--



DEEP SPACE.

CLUBS!
I CANNOT
BE DEFEATED BY
A MERE CLUB-
WIELDING
MOB!

I HAVE
A QUEEN
FIGHTING
WITH ME,
QUILL!



DOESN'T MATTER WHAT KIND OF
FLUSH IT IS, RED. IT STILL BEATS
A FACE CARD.

ROCKET.
SKOTTIE YOUNG'S
RETIREMENT FUND.

GAMORA.
ANGELA'S B.F.F.
(BEST FRIEND
FOR FIGHTING).

YOU
KNOW WHAT'S
NOT FAIR?

DRAX'S
FACE. DRAX
HAS A NATURAL
POKER FACE. I
CAN NEVER TELL
WHEN HE'S
BLUFFING.

STAR-LORD.
CALLS SELF THAT WITH
STRAIGHT FACE.

GROOT.
HE IS.

DRAX.
HOBBIES INCLUDE:
DESTROYING.



HE NEVER
BLUFFS.

SO YOU'RE
THE EXPERT,
SERAP?

I AM. I
MEAN, YOU
KNOW YOUR
OWN TELL,
ROCKET?



IF YOU
SPEAK,
YOU'RE
LYING.

HEH. WHAT'S
ANGELA'S?



NEVER
LOOK AT
HER FACE.

NEXT DEAL
SHE GETS
THREE ACES.
WATCH...



The Odinson's cry races to all the corners of creation, from the pits of fiery Muspelheim to the distant skies of Midgard...



OH, I GET IT.

AND I ALSO GET THAT I'M NOT PLAYING WITH YOU ANYMORE, MS. DEAL-THREE-ACES-WHENEVER-SHE-WANTS.

GOO-GOO



JUST BECAUSE I COULD CHEAT YOU DOESN'T MEAN I AM CHEATING YOU.

GAMORA'S THE MOST DEADLY WOMAN IN THE GALAXY, BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN SHE AUTOMATICALLY KILLS EVERYONE SHE MEETS.

DEFINITELY NOT.

NO MORE THAN 50%.



SHNK

JOKING!



And all with Asgardian ears can hear it. No matter how distant...

...no matter whether they consider themselves Asgardian or not...