

After the events of **SECRET WARS**, the last remnants of various alternate worlds exist in **BATTLEREALM**, a broken reality at the edge of spacetime. In this place, two immortal beings, the Collector and the Grandmaster, pit the villains of those worlds - and the heroes of our own - against each other. The prize is Iso-8, a rare and powerful substance formed from the fires of universal rebirth.

This is no game. This is the...

# MARVEL CONTEST OF CHAMPIONS



THE COLLECTOR



MAESTRO

VS.



THE GRANDMASTER



PUNISHER 2099  
(JAKE GALLOWAY)



ARES



OUTLAW  
(NIGEL HIGGINS)



VENOM  
(EDDIE BROCK)



BULLSEYE  
(ELEKTRA NATCHIOS)



NIGHT THRASHER  
(DWAYNE TAYLOR)



GUILLOTINE  
(JEANNINE SAUVAGE)

## ELIMINATED



JOE FIXIT



SENTRY



STICK



GAMORA



HULK  
(RICK JONES)



IRON MAN



MOON BOY  
AGENT OF HYDRA



DEVIL  
HYDRASAUR

## "GOD MODE"

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**THE BATTLE REALM.  
AFTER THE SECRET WARS.  
BEFORE THE CONTEST.**

I REMEMBER...

THE GOOD GUYS WON.  
THE BAD GUYS LOST.  
AND EVERYONE HAD  
HOMES TO GO BACK TO.

THEY LEFT THE CRUMBLING  
BATTLEWORLD BEHIND THEM--  
LET IT BREAK APART, LIKE AN  
EGGSHELL NO LONGER NEEDED.

**THE MAESTRO.**

ALL EXCEPT  
ME.

PERHAPS THEY LEFT ME  
FOR DEAD. OR PERHAPS...  
SOMETHING ELSE LEFT  
ME CLINGING TO THIS  
LONELY ROCK. CLINGING  
TO LIFE.

MY  
DESTINY.

UNHHH...

THERE WAS STILL  
POWER IN THIS  
BROKEN PLACE,  
AFTER ALL.

WHY ELSE WOULD  
THE ELDERS COME  
HERE?

AH,  
YES. JUST AS WE  
THOUGHT.

**THE ELDERS OF THE UNIVERSE.**



**THE COLLECTOR.**

THE MULTIVERSE DID **INDEED** DIE. AND WAS BORN AGAIN.

LEAVING THIS DISCARDED **CHRYSALIS** DIMENSION...

**THE RUNNER.**

CUT TO THE **CHASE**, COLLECTOR--



**PATIENCE**, RUNNER. YOU SHOULD STOP AND SMELL THE **ROSES**.

**HARDLY!** THE CLOCK IS ALWAYS TICKING!

AND THERE ARE **RICHES** HERE TO BE CLAIMED...

**THE GARDENER.**

**FATHER TIME.**

**THE EXPLORER.**



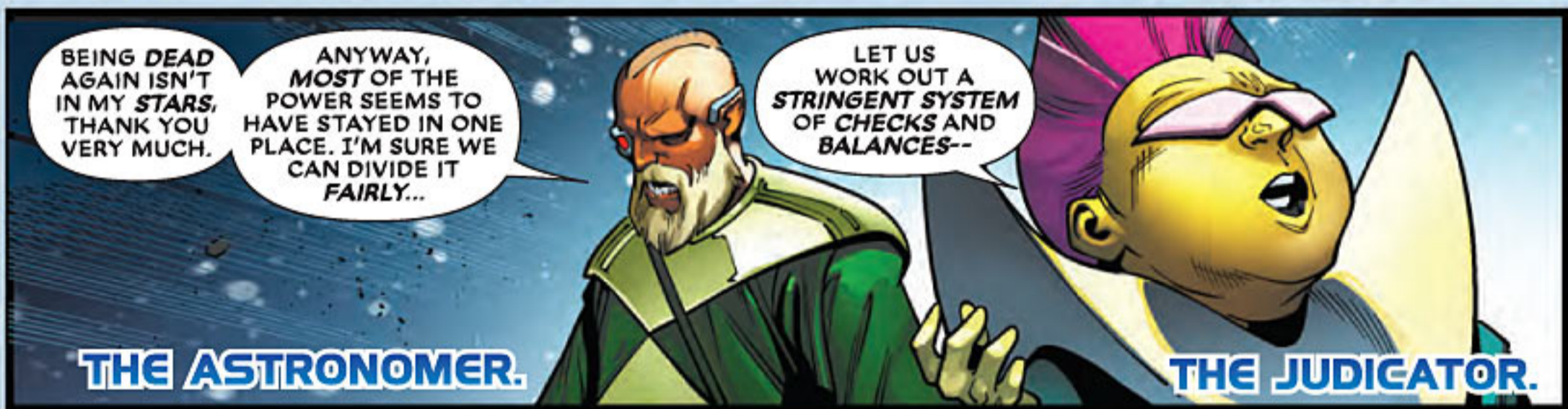
**INDEED**. A FRESH **OMNIVERSE** MEANS A FRESH SUPPLY OF THE **POWER PRIMORDIAL**--THE ENERGY OF **CREATION**. I CAN FEEL THE CALL OF THE **CRYSTAL**.

NATURALLY, I'M HAPPY TO **TRADE** FOR IT--

AND I'M HAPPY TO **KILL** FOR IT!

**THE TRADER.**

**THE OBLITERATOR.**



BEING **DEAD** AGAIN ISN'T IN MY **STARS**. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

ANYWAY, **MOST** OF THE **POWER** SEEMS TO HAVE STAYED IN ONE PLACE. I'M SURE WE CAN **DIVIDE** IT FAIRLY...

LET US WORK OUT A **STRINGENT** SYSTEM OF **CHECKS** AND **BALANCES**--

**THE ASTRONOMER.**

**THE JUDICATOR.**



ON AND ON, THEY **WITTERED**.

MY DREAMS WERE **DUST** IN THE **WIND**. I WAS **DYING**-- AND THESE **IMMORTAL** IDIOTS WOULD STEAL WEALTH **BEYOND MEASURE** FROM MY GRAVE.

IT MADE ME **MAD**.



AND THAT...MADE ME STRONG.

FORGET IT, JUDICATOR! I'M NOT SHARING!

THEN-- WE ALL FIGHT!

**FIGHT!**

**THE CHAMPION.**

**THE POSSESSOR.**

A FIGHT NO ONE OF US CAN WIN... UNLESS...



DON'T SAY IT. DON'T--

I PROPOSE... A GAME.

I HATE YOU.

THE OLDEST GAME.

A CONTEST OF CHAMPIONS.

**THE GRANDMASTER.**



EACH OF US WILL CHOOSE ONE CHAMPION FROM THE NEW MULTIVERSE, TO FIGHT *HERE*, FOR SECTIONS OF A SPHERE CONDENSED FROM--

N-NO.



I'LL...KUH-KILL YOU ALL... INSTEAD...

...AND TAKE IT... MYSELF...



...  
WELL.  
I'VE PICKED MY CHAMPION.

AND SO IT WAS.