



STEPHEN STRANGE was a preeminent surgeon until a car accident damaged the nerves in his hands. His ego drove him to scour the globe for a miracle cure, but instead he found a mysterious wizard called the ANCIENT ONE who taught him magic and that there are things in this world bigger than himself. These lessons led Stephen to become the Sorcerer Supreme, Earth's first defense against all manner of magical threats. His patients call him...

# DOCTOR STRANGE

Recently, an abnormal number of supernatural mishaps had the Sorcerer Supreme concerned that something was amiss in the realms of magic. And when several Sorcerers Supreme from other dimensions turned up dead, Strange knew the problem was worse than he'd imagined.

A mysterious force known as the EMPIRIKUL are seeking out masters of magic and mystical landmarks, and destroying them all. And now, they have launched a full assault on Earth...

## THE LAST DAYS OF MAGIC CHAPTER ONE

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SOUTH OF NEW ZEALAND LIES A TINY SUBANTARCTIC ISLAND CALLED ARINGOO THAT IS HOME TO LITTLE MORE THAN SEALS, AND SHIPWRECKS.

AND A DOZEN FLOATING STATUES.



THERE'S A DORMANT VOLCANO IN PERU THAT IS SUDDENLY ERUPTING, WITH BLOOD.

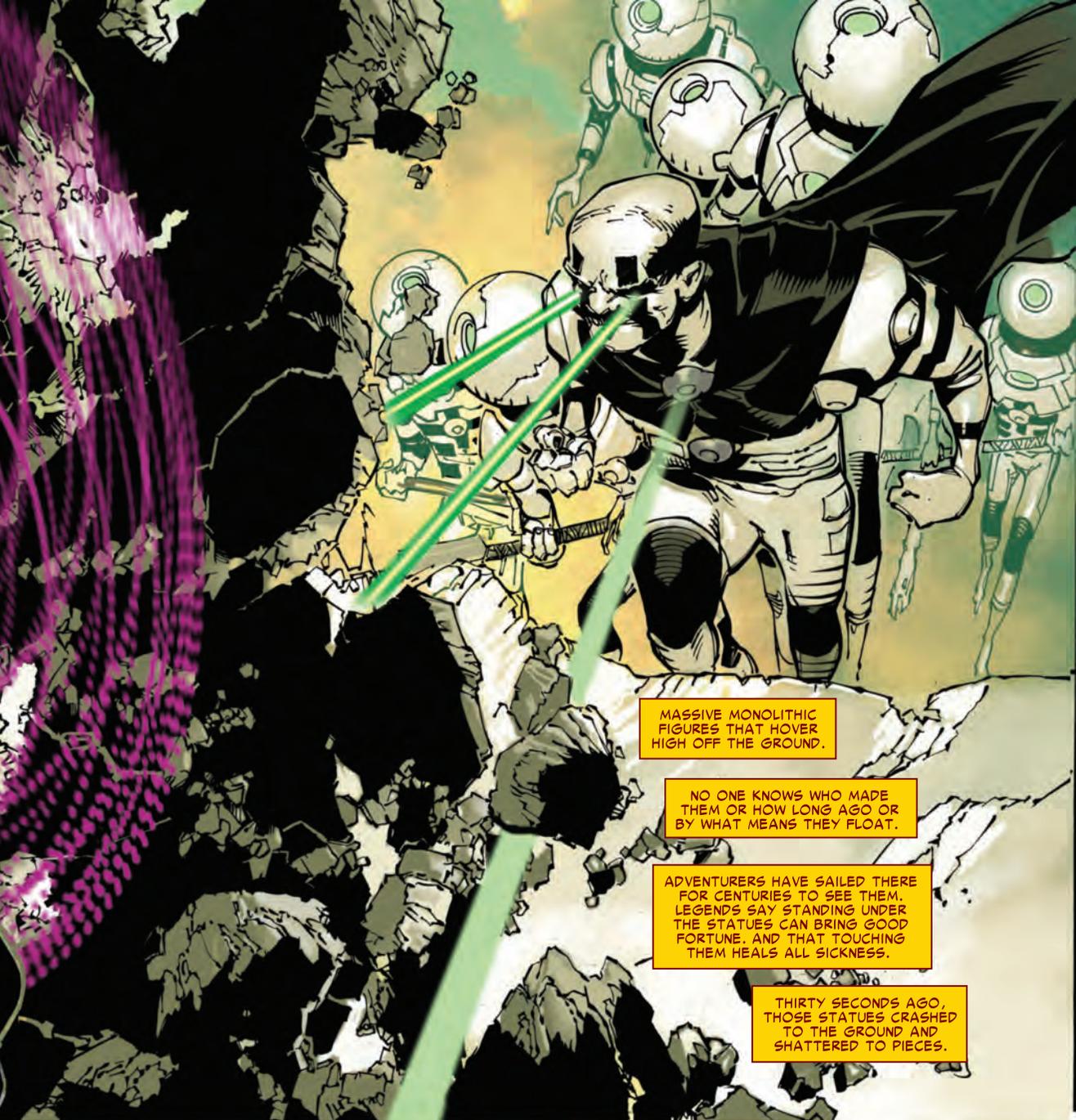
IN THE MYSTICAL HIDDEN CITY OF K'UN-LUN, THE TEMPLE OF SHOU-LAO THE DRAGON HAS JUST BURST INTO FLAMES.

THE ANCIENT STONE CIRCLE OF DARKMOOR, WHICH HAS STOOD FOR 5,000 YEARS IN THE NORTH OF ENGLAND, IS STANDING NO MORE.



SOMEWHERE A GHOST RIDER IS SCREAMING.

HIGH IN THE CLOUDS, THOR IS WEEPING AND DOESN'T KNOW WHY.



MASSIVE MONOLITHIC FIGURES THAT HOVER HIGH OFF THE GROUND.

NO ONE KNOWS WHO MADE THEM OR HOW LONG AGO OR BY WHAT MEANS THEY FLOAT.

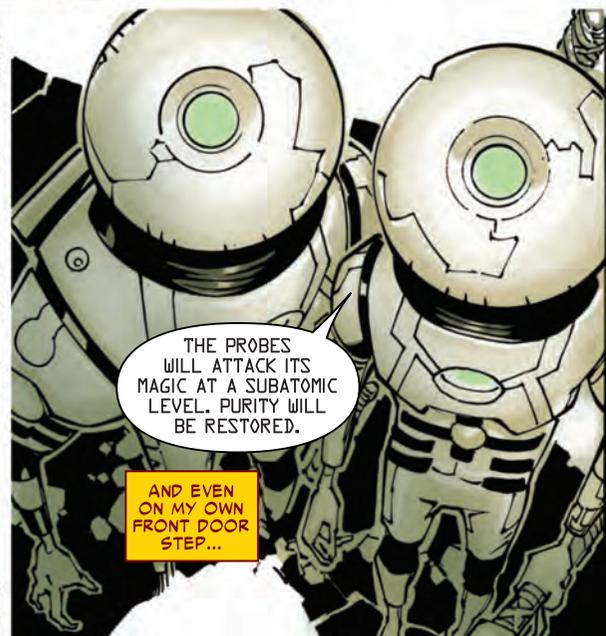
ADVENTURERS HAVE SAILED THERE FOR CENTURIES TO SEE THEM. LEGENDS SAY STANDING UNDER THE STATUES CAN BRING GOOD FORTUNE, AND THAT TOUCHING THEM HEALS ALL SICKNESS.

THIRTY SECONDS AGO, THOSE STATUES CRASHED TO THE GROUND AND SHATTERED TO PIECES.



THE INSTRUMENTS HAVE NEVER MEASURED AN INFESTATION SO SEVERE.

IT'S HAPPENING ALL OVER, FROM MACHU PICCHU TO THE MONSTER METROPOLIS, FROM THE OCCULT LIBRARIES OF THE HELLFIRE CLUB TO THE BLOODY TOMB OF DRACULA.



THE PROBES WILL ATTACK ITS MAGIC AT A SUBATOMIC LEVEL. PURITY WILL BE RESTORED.

AND EVEN ON MY OWN FRONT DOOR STEP...

**177A BLEECKER STREET,  
GREENWICH VILLAGE, NEW YORK.  
THE SANCTUM SANCTORUM  
OF DOCTOR STRANGE.**



MAGIC IS UNDER ASSAULT.

MAGIC IS DYING.

WHY DO I FEEL LIKE IT'S WATCHING US?



AAARRRGHH!!!

AND BY THE LOOKS OF THINGS, SO AM I.