

Thousands of years ago aliens experimented on cavemen, supercharging their evolution, and then mysteriously left their experiments behind. These men and women built the city of Attilan and discovered a chemical called Terrigen that unlocked secret super-powers in their modified DNA, making them...

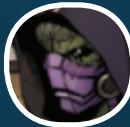
THE UNCANNY INHUMANS



LINEAGE



MAXIMUS



TRITON



THE UNSPOKEN



BANYAN

Some time ago, desperate to protect his people from an oncoming threat, Black Bolt, the Inhuman king, with the help of his brother, the Mad Prince Maximus, detonated a bomb and dispersed massive clouds of Terrigen into Earth's atmosphere.

The Terrigen's release ushered in a new age for the Inhumans—dormant Inhumans across the planet have manifested powers and learned of their heritage. But the catalyst has also had deadly effects on mutantkind. Both the X-Men and the Inhumans have exhausted resources to protect mutants from Terrigen sickness, but their efforts have been futile.

As the X-Men seek to destroy the remaining Terrigen Cloud, Maximus—and his motley crew of Inhuman outcasts (one of whom Maximus betrothed to a sea monstress)—have been working in stealth on a plan to recreate more stable and less lethal Terrigen crystals!

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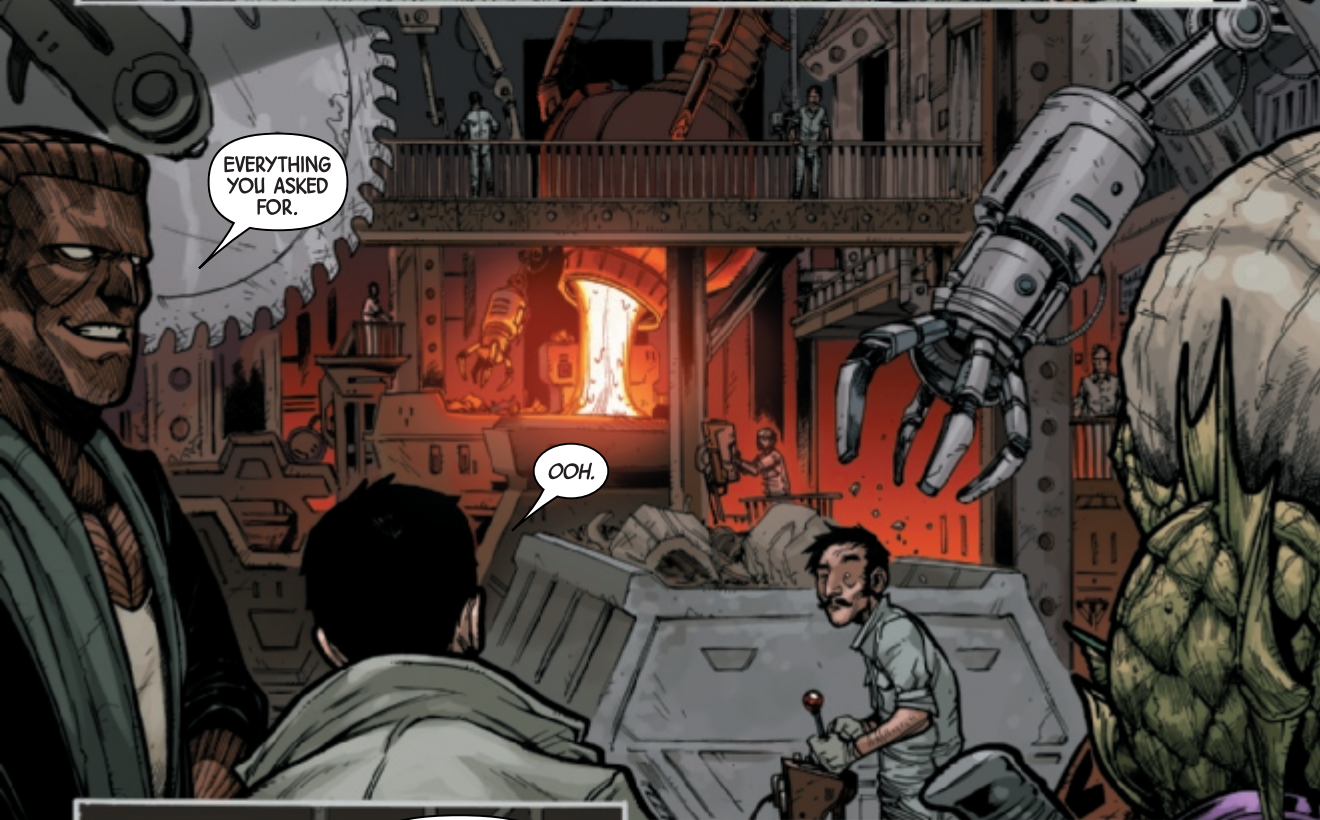
INDIA.





LET ME SHOW YOU THE SETUP.

THANK YOU, BANYAN, THAT WOULD BE LOVELY.



EVERYTHING YOU ASKED FOR.

OOH.



GIVING YOU SOME OF MY BEST WORKERS, TOO.

EXCELLENT! THIS JOB INVOLVES A GREAT DEAL OF UGLY, DANGEROUS, HANDS-ON WORK.

THESE GENTLEMEN LOOK PERFECT.



AND WHO IS THIS LOVELY YOUNG MAN?

THIS IS KLUDGE. HE'S INHUMAN--THE TERRIGEN CLOUD MADE HIM AN INCREDIBLE ENGINEER.

I WAS THINKING HE COULD BE YOUR ASSISTANT. HE CAN BUILD *ANYTHING*, BUT TERRIGENESIS LEFT HIM A LITTLE BIT...

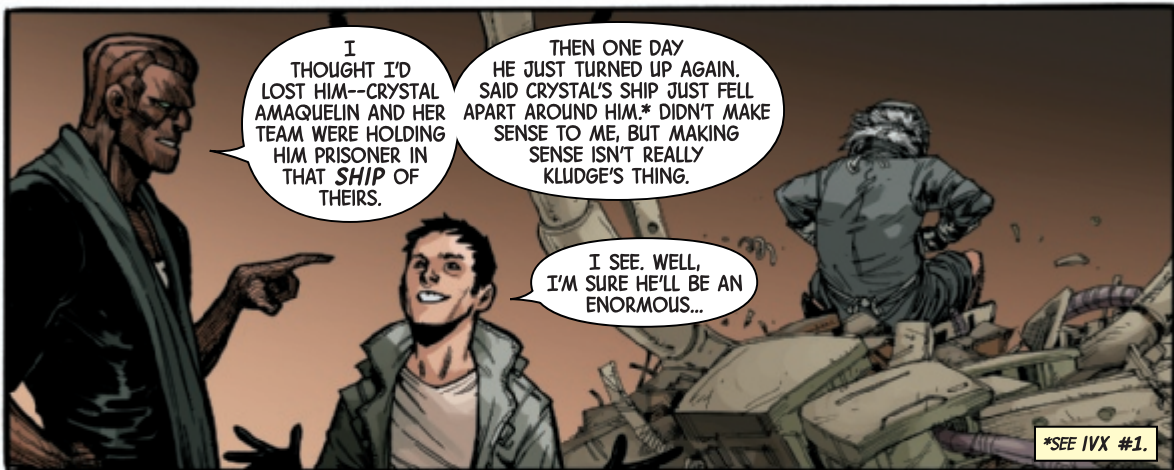


MAD? YES. I CAN SEE THAT.

WON'T BE A PROBLEM. IN FACT, I SUSPECT KLUDGE AND I MAY BE KINDRED SPIRITS.

DREAD SPIRITS? NOOOO!

CAN WE PLEASE MAKE SOMETHING? I WANT TO MAKE SOMETHING.



I THOUGHT I'D LOST HIM--CRYSTAL AMAQUELIN AND HER TEAM WERE HOLDING HIM PRISONER IN THAT SHIP OF THEIRS.

THEN ONE DAY HE JUST TURNED UP AGAIN. SAID CRYSTAL'S SHIP JUST FELL APART AROUND HIM.* DIDN'T MAKE SENSE TO ME, BUT MAKING SENSE ISN'T REALLY KLUDGE'S THING.

I SEE. WELL, I'M SURE HE'LL BE AN ENORMOUS...

*SEE IVX #1.



I MADE SOMETHING.

OH, MY GOODNESS. I MIGHT JUST LOVE THIS PERSON.



ALL RIGHT, OUT WITH YOU. I NEED TO WORK.

WAIT A SECOND, MAXIMUS. PULLING ALL OF THIS TOGETHER FOR YOU COST ME A FORTUNE. I NEED TO RECOUP MY INVESTMENT.

HOW LONG UNTIL YOU'RE PRODUCING TERRIGEN CRYSTALS IN HERE? HOW LONG BEFORE I CAN SELL THEM?

SOON ENOUGH, MY FRIEND! BUT MUCH LESS SOON IF YOU DISTURB ME WHILE I'M WORKING!



ALL RIGHT, YOU CRAZY OLD COOT. LET'S MAKE SOME MAGIC.