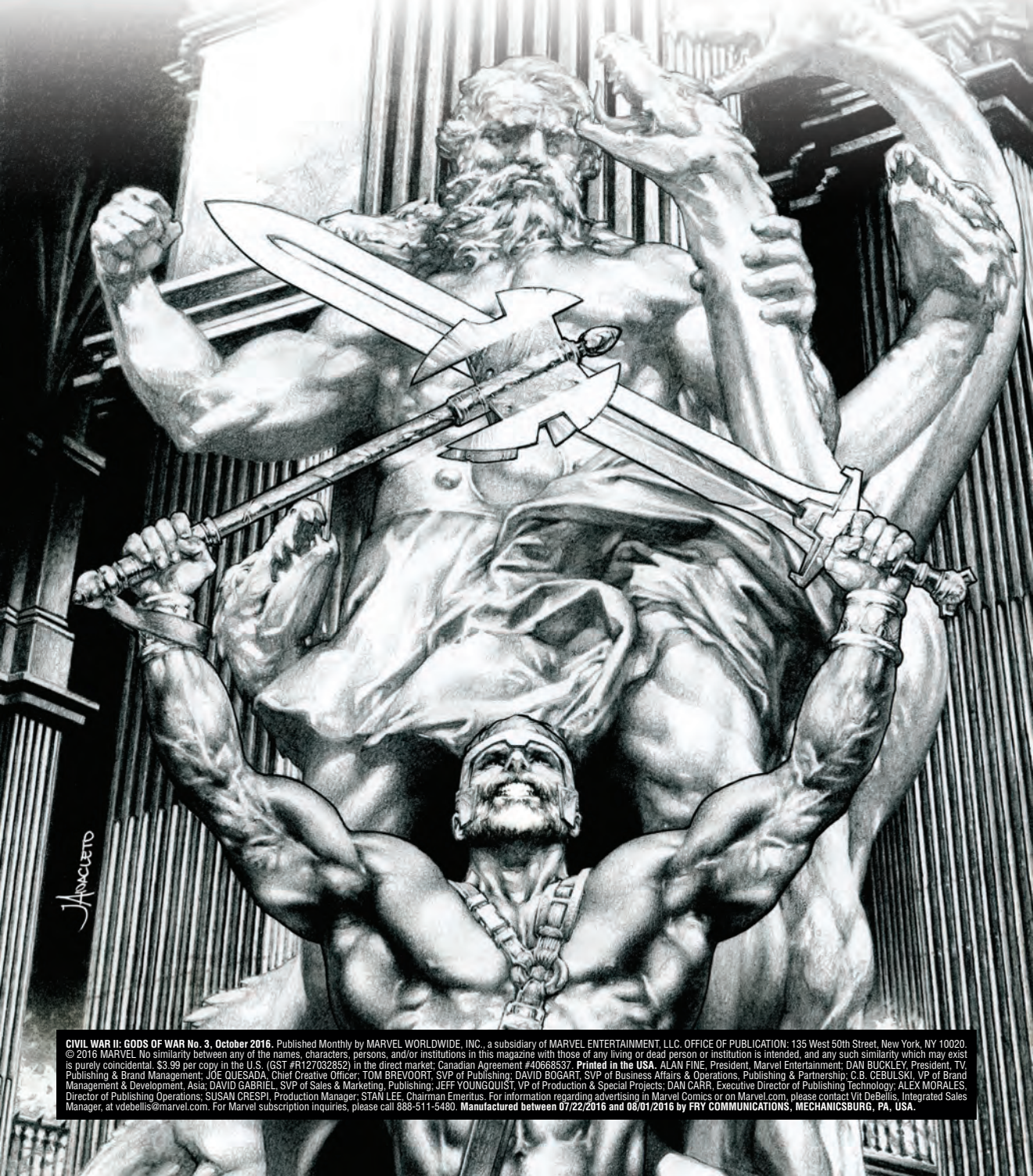


IN ANCIENT DAYS, HERCULES WAS THE GREATEST HERO OF ALL. THROUGH HIS DEEDS AND COURAGE, HE BECAME FAMOUS AND BELOVED ACROSS THE KNOWN WORLD. HE WAS THE WORLD'S FIRST SUPER HERO AND SET THE STANDARD FOR ALL HEROES THAT CAME AFTER HIM.

BUT IN THE MODERN WORLD, IMMORTAL HERCULES HAS DONE LITTLE BUT ENJOY HIS FAME AND CELEBRITY. HE HAS BECOME NOTORIOUS FOR HIS DRUNKEN ANTICS, HIS UNRULY BEHAVIOR AND HIS DEBAUCHED LIFESTYLE. THE SUBJECT OF GOSSIP AND SCANDAL, HE HAS BECOME AN IRRELEVANCE.

HERCULES HAS BEGUN TO CLEAN UP HIS ACT AND RESTORE HIS REPUTATION, BUT A MYSTERIOUS THREAT CALLED THE UPRISING STORM HAS DESCENDED ON HIS CITY. WITH THE HEROES OF THE WORLD LOCKED IN A CIVIL WAR, HERCULES FINDS HIMSELF FACING THE STORM ALONE. RECRUITING OTHER HEROES OF OLD, HE TAKES THE FIGHT TO THE STORM. BUT THE STORM HAS CURSED HERCULES WITH THEIR BRAND. BERSERK, HE HAS FINALLY BECOME THEIR GOD OF CHAOS AND DESTRUCTION...



JANACLETO

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ASTORIA,  
QUEENS.  
RIGHT NOW...

RRRRRAAGGHHHHH!

THE CURSE,  
HERCULES! IT  
IS THE STORM'S  
CURSE DOING  
THIS TO YOU!

GRAB  
HIS ARMS,  
GILGAMESH!

EASIER  
SAID THAN  
DONE,  
SIGURD!

HERAK!  
ENOUGH!

STOP  
IT!

BEOWULF!  
HELP US!

BLEEDIN'  
OLYMPIANS...  
ALWAYS ACTING  
UP...









I'VE GOT TO HAND IT TO YOU, CRYPTOMNESIA...

...YOU JUST TURNED JOKE-ULES INTO A BERSERK ENGINE OF DESTRUCTION.

UNH!

OH, HE ALWAYS WAS. I JUST GOT HIM TO TURN HIS FIREWALL OFF.

LOOK AT THAT... THE STORM'S NEW GOD OF CHAOS...



...AT THIS RATE, HORRORSCOPE, HE'LL LEVEL THE BOROUGH IN LESS THAN AN HOUR.

AND IT'S ABOUT TO GET REALLY CRAY-CRAY.

WHY?

JUST WATCH...



BOOM

RRAAAAAGHHHH!

COME ON, HERC! YOU KNOW THE UPPER FLOOR OF THAT BUILDING IS A TOW AWAY ZONE.

YOU CAN'T LEAVE YOUR CAR THERE.



GRRRNHHH?

FWWWWPPP

AND SPEAKING OF TOWED...



ZZZZZZPPP



A dynamic comic book illustration of Hercules in a battle scene. He is shown from the waist up, wearing his signature orange and brown tunic with a yellow sash. He has long, dark hair and a beard, and is looking down with a determined, slightly pained expression. He is holding a large, broken piece of armor or a shield. The background is filled with debris, including a large, broken piece of a shield with a white star on a blue background. The overall color palette is dominated by oranges, browns, and greys, with a bright yellow glow at the bottom.

**GNAAAAA** **AAAAHHH!**

# FRIENDS AND FOES

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**HERCULES** CREATED BY STAN LEE AND JACK KIRBY



...TOE  
THE LINE  
ALREADY.

BE  
CAREFUL,  
SPIDER-MAN.  
HE'S STILL  
ANGRY.

HEY, I'D  
BE ANGRY, TOO,  
IF I'D BEEN ROCKING  
A MAN-BUN IN PUBLIC  
AND NONE OF YOU  
HAD TAKEN ME  
ASIDE FOR A  
QUICK WORD.

SPIDEY,  
QUIT IT.

HERC, WHAT  
THE HECK ARE  
YOU DOING?