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# BLACK PANTHER

#17



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*Handwritten signature and date: 2/2007*

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017 | VARIANT EDITION



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Just as Wakanda is transitioning into a constitutional monarchy and moving toward the future, something from its ancient past now threatens to upend everything.

King T'Challa has discovered that the gods of Wakanda--The Orisha--have gone missing. And in their absence, mystical portals have been unleashing deadly creatures upon the populace, while torrential rain threatens to flood the country. For help, T'Challa turned to an expert on both: Ororo, his ex-wife. But some Wakandans seem to be turning to a new god, one named Sefako, whose origin is unknown.

And those are not all of T'Challa's problems. A group of villains--Zenzi, Fenris, Zeke Stane and Doctor Faustus among them--are moving against him from behind the scenes. Fenris kidnapped Asira, a friend of T'Challa's from his New York days. T'Challa tracked the Fenris twins and defeated them, but they had already handed off Asira to Wakanda's neighboring--and hostile--country of Azania.

# AVENGERS OF THE NEW WORLD

part 5

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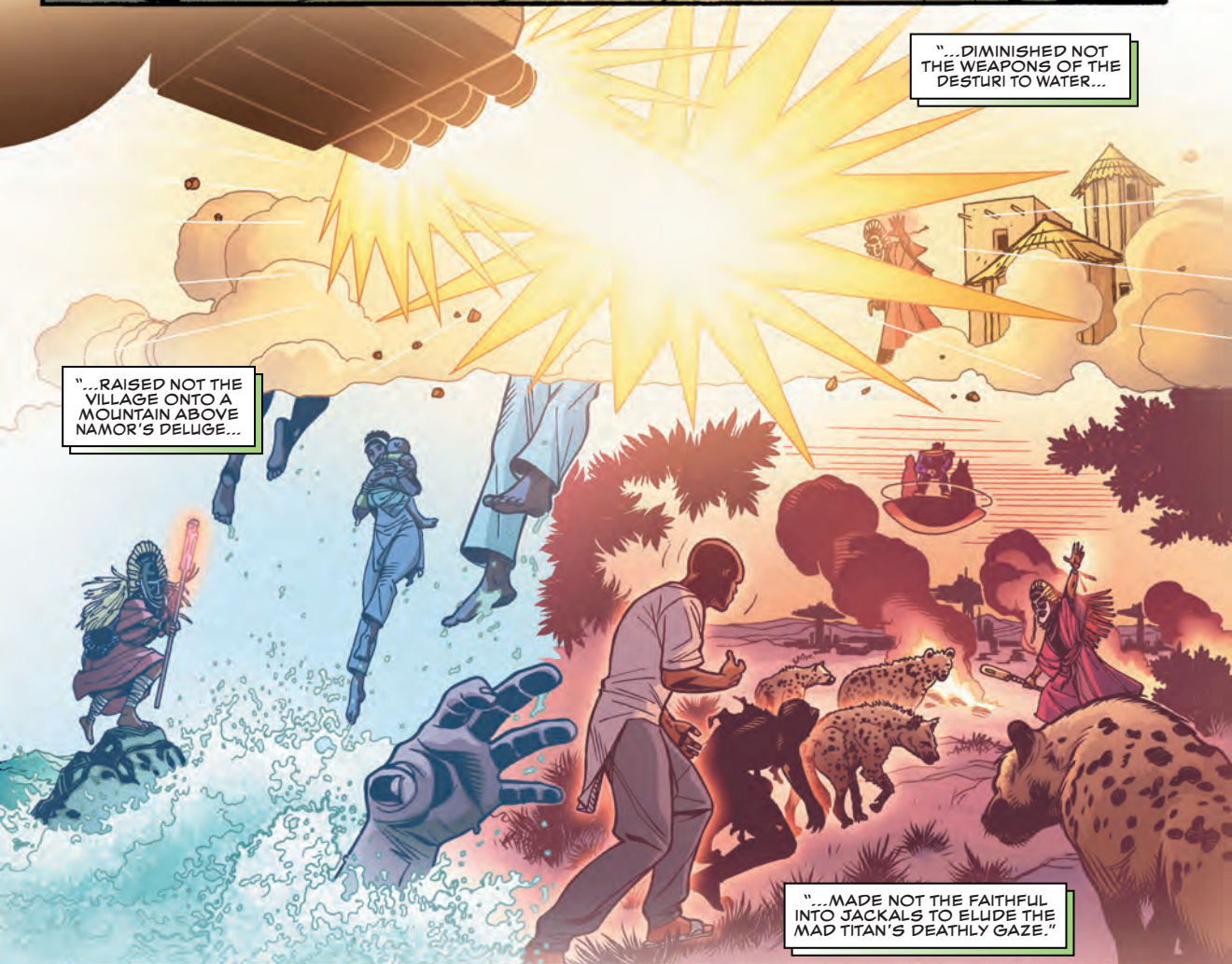
**BLACK  
PANTHER** created by  
**STAN LEE &  
JACK KIRBY**



THIS MODEST ONE IS BUT A SUPPLICANT, A HUMBLE SERVANT OF A TWICE-RISEN GOD.

THIS WRETCHED ONE MADE NO MIRACLES...

**BIRNIN BENHAZIN,  
THE KINAMASI REGION,  
NEAR THE BORDER OF AZANIA**



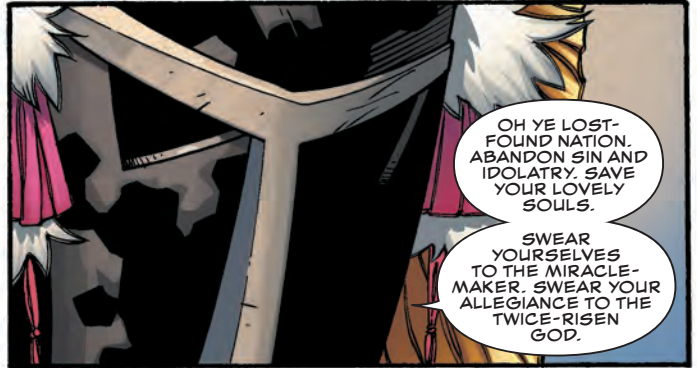
"...DIMINISHED NOT THE WEAPONS OF THE DESTURI TO WATER..."

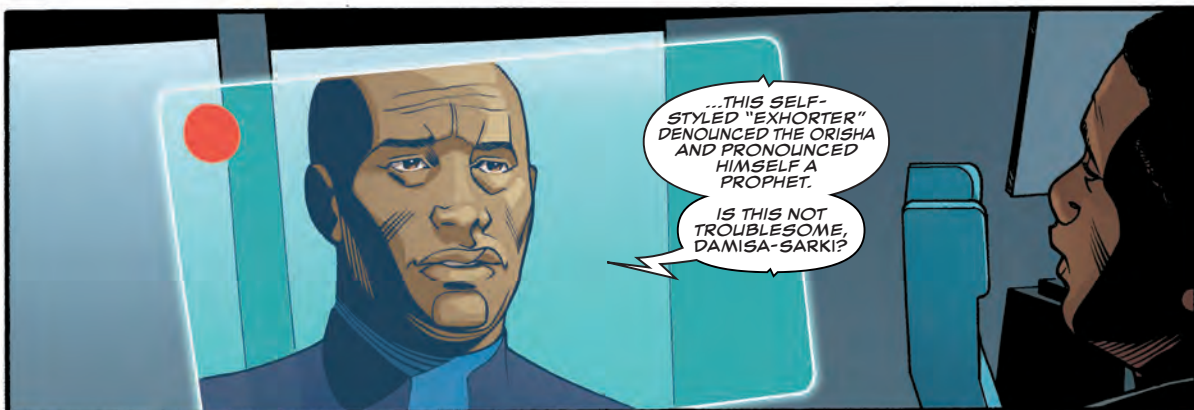
"...RAISED NOT THE VILLAGE ONTO A MOUNTAIN ABOVE NAMOR'S DELUGE..."

"...MADE NOT THE FAITHFUL INTO JACKALS TO ELUDE THE MAD TITAN'S DEATHLY GAZE."



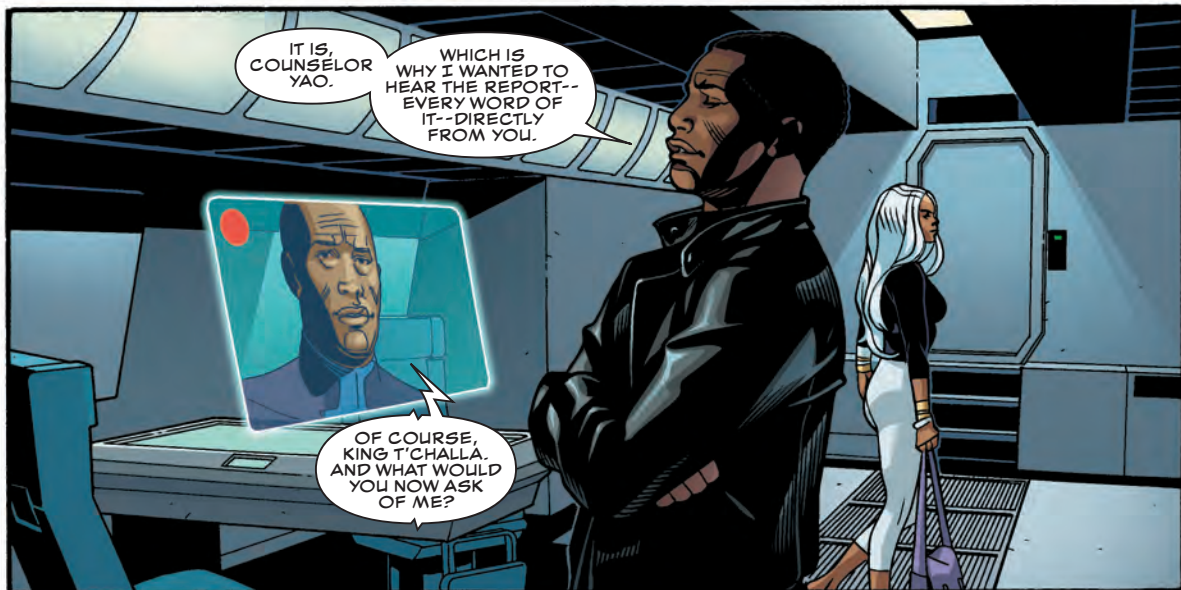
NO, THIS WRETCHED ONE IS BUT A VESSEL, A SERVANT OF SEFAKO-- THE TWICE-RISEN GOD.





...THIS SELF-STYLED "EXHORTER" DENOUNCED THE ORISHA AND PRONOUNCED HIMSELF A PROPHET.

IS THIS NOT TROUBLESOME, DAMISA-SARKI?



IT IS, COUNSELOR YAO.

WHICH IS WHY I WANTED TO HEAR THE REPORT-- EVERY WORD OF IT-- DIRECTLY FROM YOU.

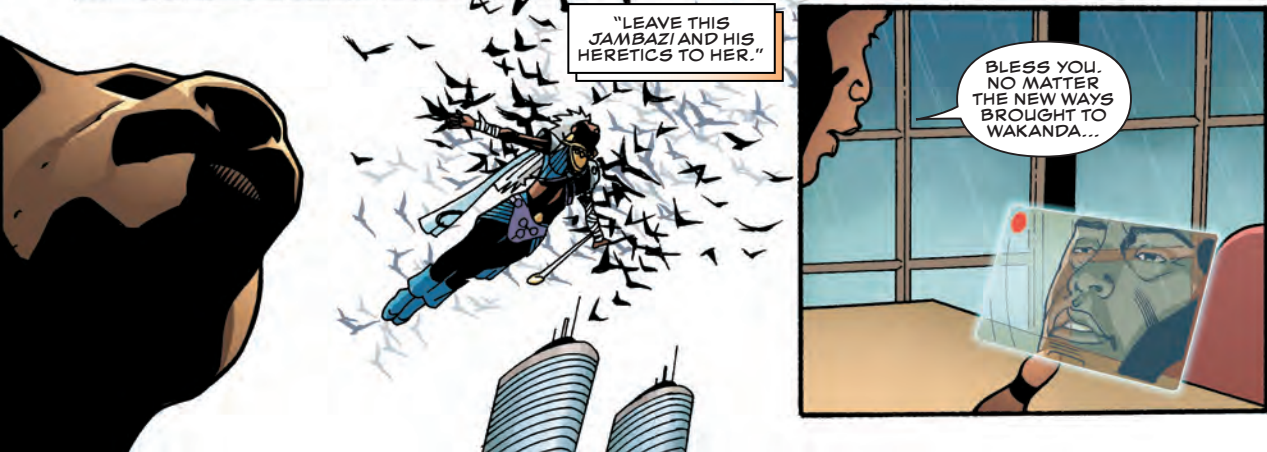
OF COURSE, KING T'CHALLA. AND WHAT WOULD YOU NOW ASK OF ME?



THE PEOPLE OF KINMASI ARE LOYAL, BUT AFRAID. AND MY OWN VILLAGE, MY DEAR MAKEDA... I FEAR EACH DAY...

I WOULD ASK YOU TO FEAR NOT, COUNSELOR.

I HAVE INFORMED THE AJA-ADANNA. SHE WILL REACH MAKEDA MOMENTARILY.



"LEAVE THIS JAMBAZI AND HIS HERETICS TO HER."

BLESS YOU. NO MATTER THE NEW WAYS BROUGHT TO WAKANDA...

