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EARTH'S MIGHTIEST HEROES

# THE AVENGERS



**MARVEL**

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LGY#696

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**BONUS DIGITAL EDITION — DETAILS INSIDE!**

Billions of years ago, a sick Alpha Celestial crash-landed at the North Pole and died, seeping cosmic rot into the planet that would make Earth a perfect breeding ground for superhumans.

Years later, Odin's prehistoric Avengers killed the Alpha Celestial's lover, Zgreb, but the Celestials that came to Earth seeking retribution quickly departed when they realized the world was infected. It did not save them--Loki recently freed an infected Zgreb and used the Celestial to kill its remaining brethren, or convert them into Dark Celestials.

Now Loki's army is marching on Earth, but to win the day, they'll have to go through the Giant-Sized Avengers!



Avengers created by Stan Lee & Jack Kirby

## "PLANET OF PATHOGENS"

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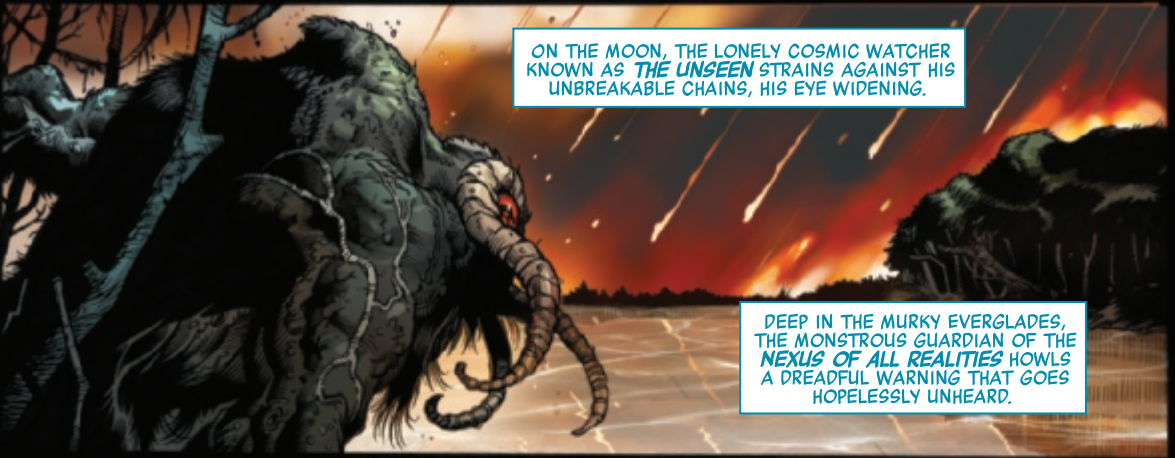
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ON THE MOON, THE LONELY COSMIC WATCHER KNOWN AS **THE UNSEEN** STRAINS AGAINST HIS UNBREAKABLE CHAINS, HIS EYE WIDENING.

DEEP IN THE MURKY EVERGLADES, THE MONSTROUS GUARDIAN OF THE **NEXUS OF ALL REALITIES** HOWLS A DREADFUL WARNING THAT GOES HOPELESSLY UNHEARD.



THE VESSEL-LESS **STARBRAND** ROARS THROUGH THE WHITE-HOT ETHER, SEARCHING FRANTICALLY FOR A NEW HOST BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE.

OUT IN THE DEPTHS OF SPACE, THE GREAT LORD OF THE **SHI'AR IMPERIUM** OBSERVES THE EARTH'S PERIL FROM AFAR AND WITH A HEAVY HEART...DOES NOTHING.



THE SKIES BURN. OCEANS BOIL AND ATLANTEANS SCREAM. THE MUTANT **JEAN GREY** FALLS TO HER KNEES, OVERCOME WITH FIERY VISIONS.

IN THE MYSTICAL CITY OF **K'UN-LUN**, A DRAGON BELLOWS AND AN **IRON FIST** FIGHTS A BATTLE HE'S FORESEEN IN HIS DREAMS.



IN **WAKANDA**, THEY PRAY TO THEIR PANTHER GOD. IN A SECRET TEMPLE IN EGYPT, A BLOODY OFFERING IS MADE TO THE **FIST OF KHONSHU**. IN HELL, THE GREATEST DEVIL IS CACKLING.

WHILE IN **ASGARD**, THERE IS ONLY DESPAIR. THE **ALL-FATHER** KNOWS THAT CELESTIAL JUDGMENT HAS BEEN LONG IN COMING. AND THAT NOTHING ON THE FACE OF THIS WORLD CAN POSSIBLY STOP IT.



BEHOLD THE FINAL HOURS OF THE GREAT COSMIC ACCIDENT KNOWN AS EARTH.

BEHOLD A DEFORMED WORLD'S LAST DESPERATE, TWITCHING ATTEMPTS TO CLING TO LIFE.

BEHOLD... THE MIGHTY AVENGERS.



REACTORS ONE AND TWO ARE DEPLETED. POWER LEVELS AT 75%.

CHARGE ALL REACTORS. HOLD NOTHING BACK.

WARNING, THE RISK OF THERMONUCLEAR MELTDOWN IS...

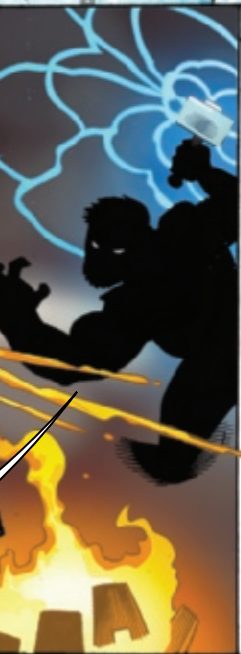
NOT AS SCARY AS THE FINAL HOST! POUR IT ON!

GAUGH, IT'S LIKE PUNCHING A MOON. THAT ALSO PUNCHES BACK.

MOONS CAN BE SHATTERED. RIDER OF GHOSTS. BELIEVE ME, I'VE SHATTERED MY SHARE.

JUST KEEP SMITING!

**SOMEWHERE IN RUSSIA.**



THIS DAY HAS BEEN SO CRAZY THAT GIANT HULK HAS ACTUALLY BECOME A CAUSE FOR CELEBRATION.

NO TALKING! ONLY SMASHING!





THIS IS ACTUALLY WORKING! WE'RE HURTING THEM!

THE HORDE ARE FRIGHTENED. YOU CAN SEE IT IN THE WAY THEIR MANDIBLES TWITCH.

THEN WE'VE GOT THEM WHERE WE WANT THEM. DOMINATE, AVENGERS! MAKE THEM NEVER WANT TO SET FOOT ON OUR PLANET AGAIN!



YOUR PLAN IS COMING APART AT THE SEAMS, LOKI. JUST LIKE WHEN YOU TRIED TO REPLACE ME AS **SORCERER SUPREME**.

FOR SOMEONE WITH AN ALL-SEEING EYE, YOU CAN STILL BE AWFULLY NEARSIGHTED, STEPHEN. WHY DO YOU THINK I WANTED YOUR PETTY MANTLE IN THE FIRST PLACE?

THE TRUTH HAD TO BE REVEALED! ABOUT YOU PEOPLE AND YOUR ENTIRE PERVERTED WORLD!

A TRUTH YOU'RE STILL NOT READY TO FACE!



"A TRUTH THAT WILL EAT YOU ALIVE!"



HRRRRRGHH!!!

