

LAS VEGAS, NEVADA.

AFTER THE BOMBS
STOPPED FALLING,
WE SEARCHED.



WE DUG THROUGH
THE RUBBLE AND
PULLED OUT WHATEVER
WE COULD FIND.



THE EMPIRE DIDN'T MIND.
THEY ALLOWED IT--



--BECAUSE THEY
KNEW WE WOULD
NEVER FIND WHAT WE
WERE LOOKING FOR.



A FEW SURVIVED.



BUT IT WASN'T ENOUGH.



AFTER ALL, WHAT WE WERE REALLY SEARCHING FOR WAS HOPE...



...AND THERE WAS NONE TO BE FOUND.

HE HAS TO DIE.

SECRET EMPIRE

A COSMIC CUBE TRANSFORMED STEVE ROGERS, CAPTAIN AMERICA, INTO THE ULTIMATE HYDRA SLEEPER AGENT--AND AFTER MONTHS OF SCHEMING AND MANIPULATION, THE COUNTRY IS NOW UNDER HYDRA'S CONTROL. INHUMANS ARE CLOSELY MONITORED, AND MUTANTS HAVE BEEN RELOCATED TO A HOMELAND IN NEW TIAN. EARTH'S MOST POWERFUL HEROES ARE STRANDED BEYOND EARTH'S PLANETARY DEFENSE SHIELD, AT THE MERCY OF A CHITAU RI INVASION--OR TRAPPED INSIDE THE DARKFORCE BUBBLE THAT ENVELOPS NEW YORK CITY.

THE HANDFUL OF HEROES THAT REMAIN ARE TRYING TO OPPOSE CAPTAIN AMERICA'S REGIME FROM A HIDDEN BASE JUST OUTSIDE LAS VEGAS. BUT AFTER THEY RESCUED A YOUNG MAN CARRYING CRUCIAL INTEL STOLEN BY RICK JONES, CAPTAIN AMERICA RETALIATED, SENDING HYDRA WARSHIPS TO ANNIHILATE THE CITY...
AND ORDERING RICK'S EXECUTION.

WRITER ■ NICK SPENCER

ARTISTS ■ ANDREA SORRENTINO WITH ROD REIS

LETTERER ■ VC'S TRAVIS LANHAM

RECAP PAGE ART ■ ANDREA SORRENTINO

COVER ■ MARK BROOKS

VARIANT COVERS ■ JOHN TYLER CHRISTOPHER; DAN MORA & EDGAR DELGADO; ANDREA SORRENTINO

PRODUCTION DESIGN ■ CARLOS LAO  **ASSISTANT EDITOR** ■ ALANNA SMITH

EDITOR ■ TOM BREVOORT  **EDITOR IN CHIEF** ■ AXEL ALONSO

CHIEF CREATIVE OFFICER ■ JOE QUESADA  **PRESIDENT** ■ DAN BUCKLEY

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER ■ ALAN FINE

HYDRA COMMAND



CAPTAIN AMERICA



BARON ZEMO



RICK JONES

DARKFORCE NEW YORK

DEFENDERS



LUKE CAGE



JESSICA JONES



IRON FIST



CLOAK



DAGGER



CLAIRE TEMPLE



KINGPIN

THE UNDERGROUND



BLACK WIDOW



HAWKEYE



TONY STARK (A.I.)



ANT-MAN



HULK (AMADEUS CHO)



WASP



SPIDER-MAN



VIV VISION



IRONHEART



FALCON



HERCULES



QUICKSILVER



MOCKINGBIRD

DID YOU FIND IT?

I'M **LOOKING**, GIVE ME A SECOND.

FINE, BUT HURRY--LIGHTS COME BACK ON, YOU AND ME GOTTA HAUL ASS OUTTA HERE.

I'M TRYING-- I BARELY GOT A LOOK THROUGH THE WINDOW.

THIS WOULD BE A LOT EASIER IF YOU COULD STILL MAKE ONE OF THOSE MAGIC FIREBALL THINGS--

WELL, WHAT CAN I SAY? MY CHI DOESN'T GET GREAT RECEPTION IN HERE.

WHOA, HOLD ON, I THINK I FOUND THE DOOR--

BETTER HAVE LIGHTS ARE GONNA BE BACK ON ANY...

NEW YORK CITY.

...MINUTE.



THAT'S NOT A DOOR.

YOU KNOW THIS IS ALL DOCTOR STRANGE'S FAULT, RIGHT?!

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT, LUKE?

IT'S WHAT THEY DO--MAGIC GUYS, I MEAN. GIANT DEMON SHOWS UP, THEY SAY "OOH, SEND IT TO THE DARKFORCE DIMENSION," THEY DO THEIR SPELLAMAJIG, AND THERE WE GO. PROBLEM SOLVED.

EXCEPT--

EXCEPT NOW WE GOTTA LIVE IN THE DARKFORCE DIMENSION, TOO.

MAYBE NOT FOR MUCH--MN--LONGER--

OH, FOR GOD'S SAKE...



YOU LOSERS REALIZE WE'RE ON A CLOCK, RIGHT?

COME ON--