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ACTIVE MISSION:
KINGSLAYER

STRATEGIC HOMELAND INTERVENTION ENFORCEMENT LOGISTICS DIVISION

S.H.I.E.L.D.

PAST MISSION:

S.H.I.E.L.D., the Strategic Homeland Intervention, Enforcement and Logistics Division, mitigates and confronts threats to the security of the earth and its people. Led by Director Maria Hill, its highly trained agents include superhuman specialist Phil Coulson, veteran agent Melinda "The Cavalry" May, Xenobiologist Jemma Simmons, "Gadgeteer" Leo Fitz and Inhuman agent Daisy "Quake" Johnson. Coulson and his fellow agents encounter mutants, monsters, villains, gods and the best and worst of humanity on a daily basis as they endeavor to carry out S.H.I.E.L.D.'s mission to detect and defend against any menace that might rear its head against our world.



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AS THE TWILIGHT OF THE GODS DIMMED TO NIGHT, LOSS FLOODED THE TEN WORLDS FROM EARTH TO HEL TO ASGARD. THE SCARLET CENTURION SAVORED THESE PLEASURES OF RAGNAROK--

--PLEASURES HE HAD TRAVELED EONS FOR. THE UNIQUE TASTE OF AN EMPTY FUTURE, AVAILABLE ONLY TO A TIME TRAVELER SUCH AS HIMSELF, WAS HIS AT LAST.

SO, TOO, WAS A UNIVERSE EMPTY OF POWER, HUMAN OR GODLY--A VACANCY UNKNOWN TO ANY SOUL UNTIL THIS MOMENT.



HE FELT A COMPULSION TO BE MORE THAN A MERE TOURIST. PRIDE URGED HIM TO BECOME THE CAUSE OF RAGNAROK.



TO ACCOMPLISH THIS VILLAINY AS ONLY TIME'S PREDATOR CAN.



RETROACTIVELY.

THE JADED GODS OF ODIN'S COURT WRONGLY THOUGHT THEMSELVES ABOVE SHOCK. ABOVE INJURY.

BUT NEVER ABOVE VENGEANCE.

ASSESSING THE SLAYER AS A CHILD OF MIDGARD--

--THEY ZEALOUSLY MADE ALL HUMANITY PAY FOR THE DECIDAL BUTCHERY OF AN ASSASSIN YET UNBORN.

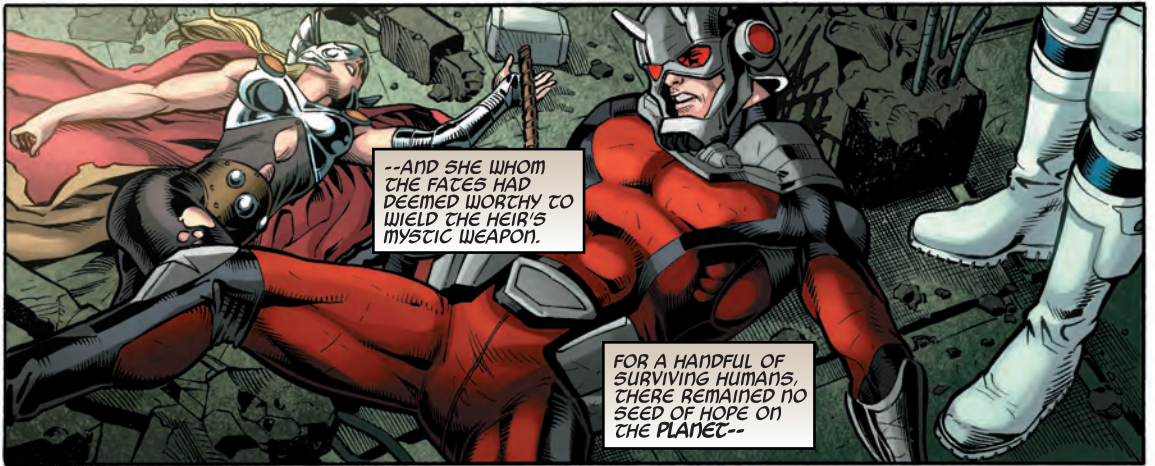
ASGARD DECLARED WAR UPON THE EARTH. A WAR WHICH CASCADED ACROSS THE TEN REALMS AND, IN TIME, WOULD DESTROY THEM ALL.

SUCH WAS ASGARD'S POWER THAT ITS FIRST RAID CLAIMED EACH AND EVERY ONE OF EARTH'S MIGHTIEST HEROES.



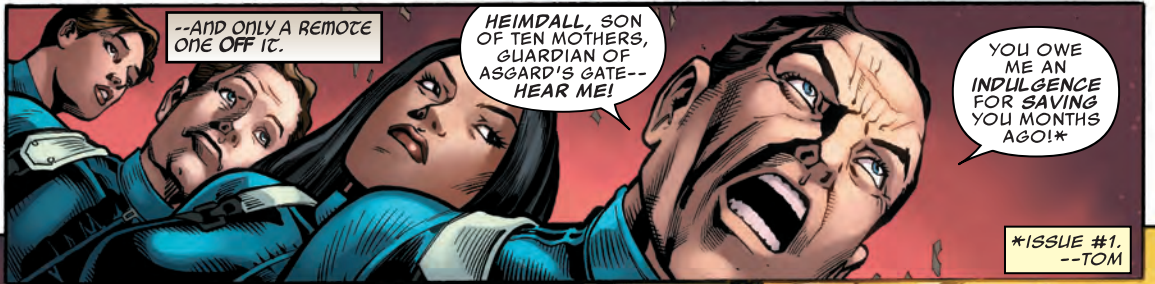


SUCH WAS THEIR RAGE THAT IT SMOTE BOTH THE SLAIN KING'S BELOVED SON AND HEIR, WHO TOOK UP SWORD TO DEFEND HIS ADOPTED WORLD--



--AND SHE WHOM THE FATES HAD DEEMED WORTHY TO WIELD THE HEIR'S MYSTIC WEAPON.

FOR A HANDFUL OF SURVIVING HUMANS, THERE REMAINED NO SEED OF HOPE ON THE PLANEC--



--AND ONLY A REMOTE ONE OFF IT.

HEIMPALL, SON OF TEN MOTHERS, GUARDIAN OF ASGARD'S GATE-- HEAR ME!

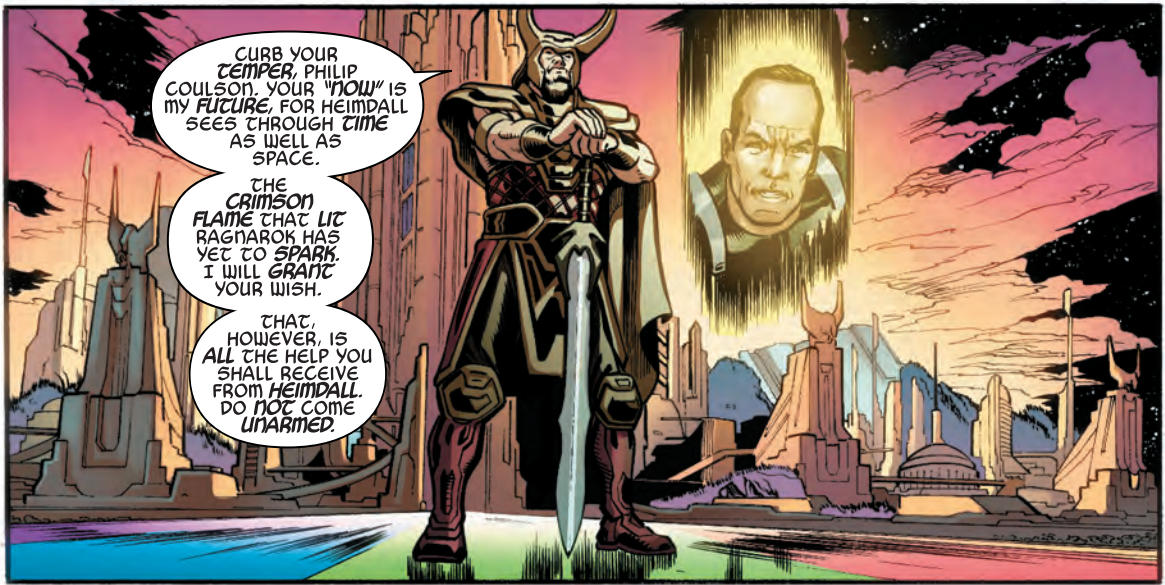
YOU OWE ME AN INDULGENCE FOR SAVING YOU MONTHS AGO!*

*ISSUE #1. --TOM



MORTAL! YOU DARE ASK THAT I BETRAY ASGARD BY ALLIING MYSELF WITH A MIDGARDIAN?

I DEMAND THAT YOU PAY YOUR DEBT TO ME! GRANT ME PASSAGE TO ASGARD SO THAT WE CAN SOMEHOW PUT AN END TO THIS MADNESS! NOW!



CURB YOUR TEMPER, PHILIP COULSON. YOUR "NOW" IS MY FUTURE, FOR HEIMDALL SEES THROUGH TIME AS WELL AS SPACE.

THE CRIMSON FLAME THAT LIT RAGNAROK HAS YET TO SPARK. I WILL GRANT YOUR WISH.

THAT, HOWEVER, IS ALL THE HELP YOU SHALL RECEIVE FROM HEIMDALL. DO NOT COME UNARMED.



A HEARTBEAT LATER, A RAINBOW MAELSTROM PLUCKED THE AGENTS OF S.H.I.E.L.D. FROM MIDGARD--



--THEN CAST THEM LIKE DICE AT HEIMDALL'S FEET.

ONE LAST BOON: CLOAKS TO DISGUISE YOU, FOR A HUMAN CAUGHT TRAMPING THE PURE SOIL OF ASGARD WOULD BE CAST OUT IN A BLINK. MAKE YOUR ATTACK.

WAIT. WAIT. ATTACK?



WE'RE NOT INTERESTED IN SETTLING SCORES, HEIMDALL. OUR DESIRE IS TO SUE FOR PEACE.