

A VISION OF THE FUTURE FORCED CLINT BARTON, A.K.A. HAWKEYE, TO KILL HIS LONGTIME FRIEND AND ALLY, THE HULK. HE WENT TO TRIAL AND WAS ACQUITTED OF ALL CHARGES. THE PUBLIC SEES HIM AS A SAVIOR. THE SUPER HERO COMMUNITY SEES HIM AS A PARIAH.

BUT HOW DOES HE SEE HIMSELF?

# OCCUPY AVENGERS



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**OCCUPY AVENGERS No. 1, January 2017.** Published Monthly by MARVEL WORLDWIDE, INC., a subsidiary of MARVEL ENTERTAINMENT, LLC. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 135 West 50th Street, New York, NY 10020. **BULK MAIL POSTAGE PAID AT NEW YORK, NY AND AT ADDITIONAL MAILING OFFICES.** © 2016 MARVEL. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. \$3.99 per copy in the U.S. (GST #R127032852) in the direct market; Canadian Agreement #40688537. Printed in the USA. Subscription rate (U.S. dollars) for 12 issues: U.S. \$26.99; Canada \$42.99; Foreign \$42.99. **POSTMASTER: SEND ALL ADDRESS CHANGES TO OCCUPY AVENGERS, C/O MARVEL SUBSCRIPTIONS P.O. BOX 727 NEW HYDE PARK, NY 11040. TELEPHONE # (888) 511-5480. FAX # (347) 537-2649. subscriptions@marvel.com.** ALAN FINE, President, Marvel Entertainment; DAN BUCKLEY, President, TV, Publishing & Brand Management; JOE QUESADA, Chief Creative Officer; TOM BREVOORT, SVP of Publishing; DAVID BOGART, SVP of Business Affairs & Operations, Publishing & Partnership; C.B. CEBULSKI, VP of Brand Management & Development, Asia; DAVID GABRIEL, SVP of Sales & Marketing, Publishing; JEFF YOUNGQUIST, VP of Production & Special Projects; DAN CARR, Executive Director of Publishing Technology; ALEX MORALES, Director of Publishing Operations; SUSAN CRESPI, Production Manager; STAN LEE, Chairman Emeritus. For information regarding advertising in Marvel Comics or on Marvel.com, please contact Viti DeBellis, Integrated Sales Manager, at vdebellis@marvel.com. For Marvel subscription inquiries, please call 888-511-5480. **Manufactured between 10/07/2016 and 10/18/2016 by LSC COMMUNICATIONS INC., GLASGOW, KY, USA.**

**SANTA ROSA,  
NEW MEXICO.**

THERE ARE SO MANY PROBLEMS WITH WEARING MASKS--YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW.

THEY MESS WITH YOUR PERIPHERAL VISION. THE FULL FACE MASKS ALWAYS SMELL LIKE YOUR BAD BREATH AT ITS WORST. AND NO MATTER WHAT--YOU LOOK KINDA RIDICULOUS.

STILL, I NEVER SHOULD'VE STOPPED WEARING A MASK...

...BECAUSE WITHOUT A MASK, EVERYONE KNOWS WHO YOU ARE.

...THANK YOU SO MUCH, MR. BARTON. I CAN'T TELL YOU WHAT AN HONOR IT IS TO MEET A TRUE HERO.

THANKS.

THEY THINK THEY KNOW YOU...

...THINK THEY CAN SAY ANYTHING.

A FEW YEARS BACK, OUTSIDE TULSA, THE HULK WENT ON A RAMPAGE--DESTROYED MY BROTHER'S HOME, BROKE BOTH HIS LEGS. HE SPENT NEARLY A YEAR IN REHAB...

YOU DID A GOOD THING. THE WORLD IS BETTER WITHOUT THE HULK. SAFER. GOD BLESS YOU, MR. BARTON.

IT'S BEEN THIS WAY FOR... OH, HELL, I DON'T KNOW HOW LONG. HOW LONG HAS IT BEEN SINCE I KILLED BRUCE BANNER?

...YOU AREN'T LIKE THOSE OTHERS, RUNNING AROUND IN THEIR SILLY COSTUMES, SHOOTING LASER BEAMS OUT OF THEIR EYES OR TURNING INTO A GIANT BUG. NO, SIR...

SEEMS LIKE A LIFETIME.

CAN'T GO ANYWHERE WITHOUT BEING RECOGNIZED.

CAN'T GO ANYWHERE WITHOUT BEING PRAISED FOR KILLING MY FRIEND-- WITHOUT HEARING THE DAVID AND GOLIATH COMPARISONS.

FACT OF THE MATTER IS THAT BRUCE ASKED ME TO DO IT. HE BEGGED ME TO TAKE HIS LIFE.

I DON'T SEE HOW THAT MAKES ME A HERO.

SO CLINT BARTON IS A MEMBER OF THE AVENGERS?

DON'T BE IMPRESSED-- THE AVENGERS HAVE A LOW ENTRY THRESHOLD.

HE'S DRAWN AN IMPRESSIVE CROWD, SHERIFF.

YEAH, WELL, I ONCE STOOD IN LINE TO MEET THE BACKSTREET BOYS, WHICH PROVES... WELL... I DON'T KNOW.

LET'S JUST SEE WHAT HE'S DOING IN OUR TOWN, DEPUTY.



OKAY, EVERYONE, BREAK IT UP!

SHOW'S OVER. TIME TO GO HOME.



C'MON, RUDY-- GET A MOVE ON. GIVE THIS GUY A CHANCE TO EAT IN PEACE.

NO BUTS, RUDY.

BUT SHERIFF...



THANKS, SHERIFF...

THANK YOU BOTH.

ORTIZ THIS IS MY DEPUTY, RED WOLF.



NOT A PROBLEM, MR. BARTON. HEARD YOU WERE IN TOWN, AND THOUGHT I'D PAY YOU A VISIT...

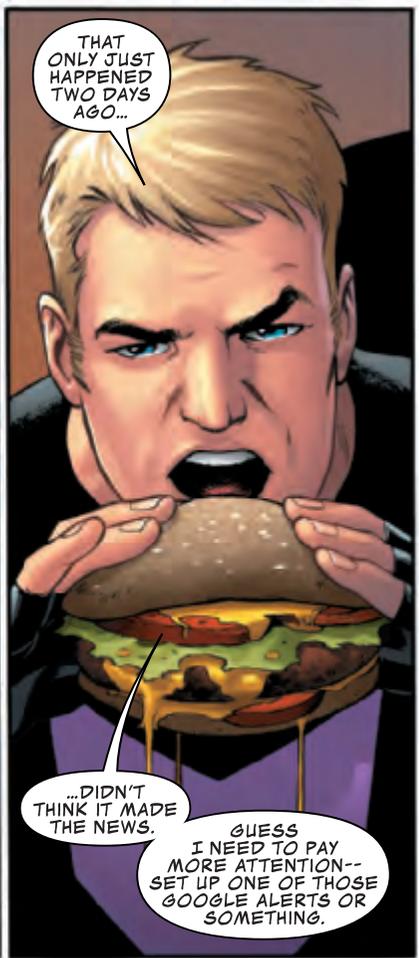
...SEE IF THERE IS ANYTHING THE SANTA ROSA POLICE DEPARTMENT COULD DO FOR YOU.



HEARD ABOUT WHAT YOU DID IN ILLINOIS AND KANSAS...

...AND COLORADO.

YOU HEARD ABOUT COLORADO?



THAT ONLY JUST HAPPENED TWO DAYS AGO...

...DIDN'T THINK IT MADE THE NEWS.

GUESS I NEED TO PAY MORE ATTENTION-- SET UP ONE OF THOSE GOOGLE ALERTS OR SOMETHING.



WORD OF CERTAIN THINGS HAS A WAY OF TRAVELING IN LAW ENFORCEMENT CIRCLES.

I'M SURE IT'S THE SAME WAY WITH YOU SUPER HEROES--YOU TALK. COMPARE NOTES.

WHICH BRINGS US TO YOUR VISIT...



JUST PASSING THROUGH TOWN--STOPPED TO GET A BITE TO EAT AND A COLD GLASS OF WATER...

...ONLY IT SEEMS YOU CAN'T GET A GLASS OF WATER AROUND HERE--JUST BOTTLES.



YOU HAVE COME TO INVESTIGATE THE CONTAMINATED WATER?

HOLD ON, DEPUTY--I'M DOING THE TALKING.

MR. BARTON WAS JUST ABOUT TO TELL US WHY HE'S COME TO OUR FAIR TOWN.

I WAS?

HOW ABOUT I SAVE US ALL SOME TIME...



...THE LOCAL WATER SUPPLY BECAME CONTAMINATED ABOUT FIVE YEARS AGO. THE ENTIRE REGION GOT ITS WATER FROM AN UNDERGROUND SPRING ON THE SWEET MEDICINE RESERVATION.

THE CONTAMINATION COMES FROM HAZARDOUS WASTE ILLEGALLY DUMPED ON THE REZ DECADES AGO--CONTAINERS STARTED LEAKING.

TRAGIC AND INFURIATING AND, SAD TO SAY, END OF STORY.



I JUST WANT TO LOOK AROUND--SEE IF I CAN HELP.

SPOKEN LIKE EVERY WELL-MEANING ACTIVIST THAT PASSES THROUGH TOWN.

HERE'S THE DEAL: YOU WANT TO GO OUT TO THE REZ AND LOOK AROUND...



"...DEPUTY RED WOLF GOES WITH YOU. GRANNY FIREHEART AND HER GRANDSONS DON'T TAKE TOO KINDLY TO STRANGERS OUT THERE."

OH, MY GOD...

GOD IS BUSY. SHE HAS FORGOTTEN SWEET MEDICINE.

# THE SWEET MEDICINE INDIAN RESERVATION.

THIS PLACE...

...IT'S NOT SUPPOSED TO BE LIKE THIS IN AMERICA.

LIKE MANY AMERICANS, YOU ARE BLINDED BY IDEALISM, OR WILLFUL IGNORANCE.

I PREFER "IDEALISTICALLY MISINFORMED," THAT HAS LESS STING TO IT.

LOOK, DEPUTY RED WOLF, I DON'T WANT TO SOUND LIKE ONE OF THOSE PEOPLE WHO THINK THEY CAN SOLVE THE WORLD'S PROBLEMS...

...BUT THERE HAS TO BE A WAY TO HELP THIS COMMUNITY.

BEFORE THE SUPPLY BECAME CONTAMINATED, THE TRIBE EARNED MONEY BY PROVIDING WATER TO THE SURROUNDING REGION.

NOW THEY MUST BUY THEIR WATER IN BOTTLES.

HEY! CAN WE HELP YOU WITH SOMETHING, DEPUTY RED WOLF?

GREETINGS, GRANNY FIREHEART. I HAVE BROUGHT A COMPANION-- HE WANTS TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE RESERVATION.

GRANNY WANTS TO KNOW WHY YOU'RE HERE.

ARE YOU SOME KIND OF INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALIST...

...OR A BLEEDING-HEART ENVIRONMENTALIST COME TO SAVE--

HEY. HELLO.

HEY!

I KNOW WHO THIS GUY IS! HE'S AN AVENGER!

C'MON, FRANK! YOU DON'T RECOGNIZE HAWKEYE?!

HE SHOOTS ARROWS AND HE USED TO WEAR A PURPLE MASK AND HE KILLED THE HULK!

THIS GUY? HE KILLED THE HULK?

ONE SHOT.

SO, WHAT'RE YOU DOING HERE, MR. AVENGER?