

JONATHAN HICKMAN

MARVEL
NOW!

JEROME OPENA



JOIN THE
REVOLUTION

001

PREVIOUSLY IN AVENGERS

THERE WAS
NOTHING.

FOLLOWED BY
EVERYTHING.

SWIRLING, BURNING
SPECKS OF CREATION
THAT CIRCLED
LIFE-GIVING SUNS.

AND
THEN...

WE RACED
TO THE
LIGHT.



EARTH'S MIGHTIEST HEROES

CAPTAIN AMERICA
(Steve Rogers)

IRON MAN
(Tony Stark)

HAWKEYE
(Clint Barton)

BLACK WIDOW
(Natasha Romanova)

THE HULK
(Dr. Bruce Banner)

THOR
(Odinson)



IT WAS THE SPARK THAT
STARTED THE FIRE--
A LEGEND THAT GREW
IN THE TELLING.

SOME BELIEVE IT BEGAN
THE MOMENT HYPERION
WAS RESCUED FROM
A DYING UNIVERSE.



OTHERS SAID IT WAS WHEN
THE GUARD WERE BROKEN
ON THE DEAD MOON.



MANY MORE THINK IT
WAS WHEN EX NIHILO
TERRAFORMED MARS,
TURNING THE RED
PLANET GREEN.

THEY WERE ALL
WRONG.

AS IT HAPPENED
BEFORE THE
LIGHT.

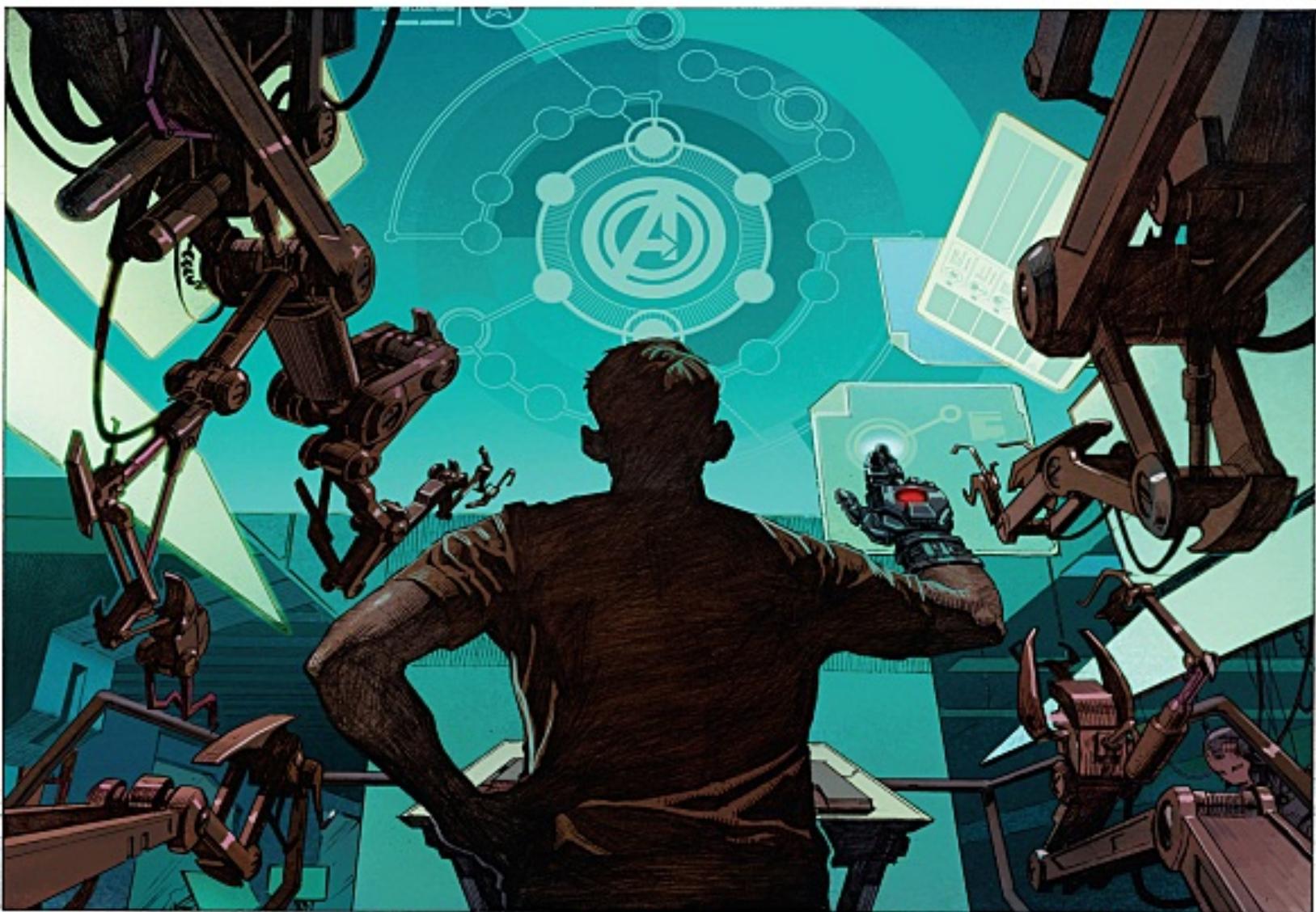


BEFORE
THE
WAR.

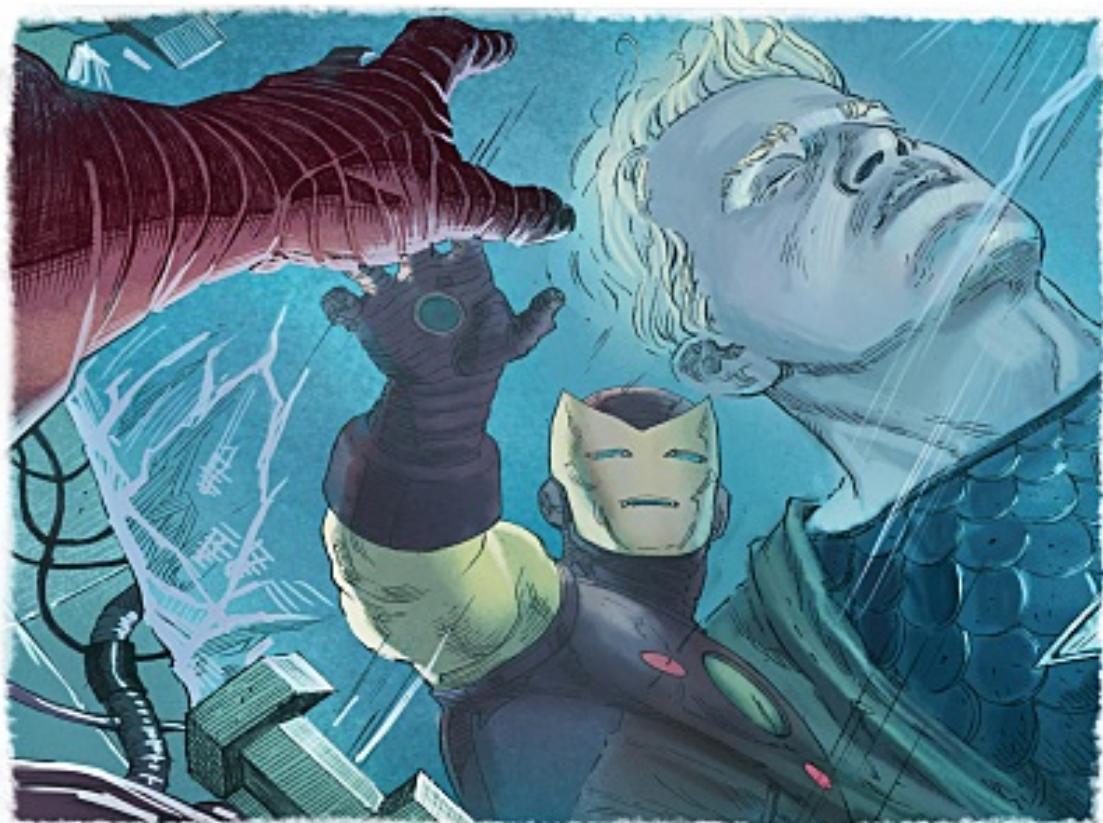


AND BEFORE
THE FALL.









THE AVENGERS: AVENGER AVENGE

SWORD

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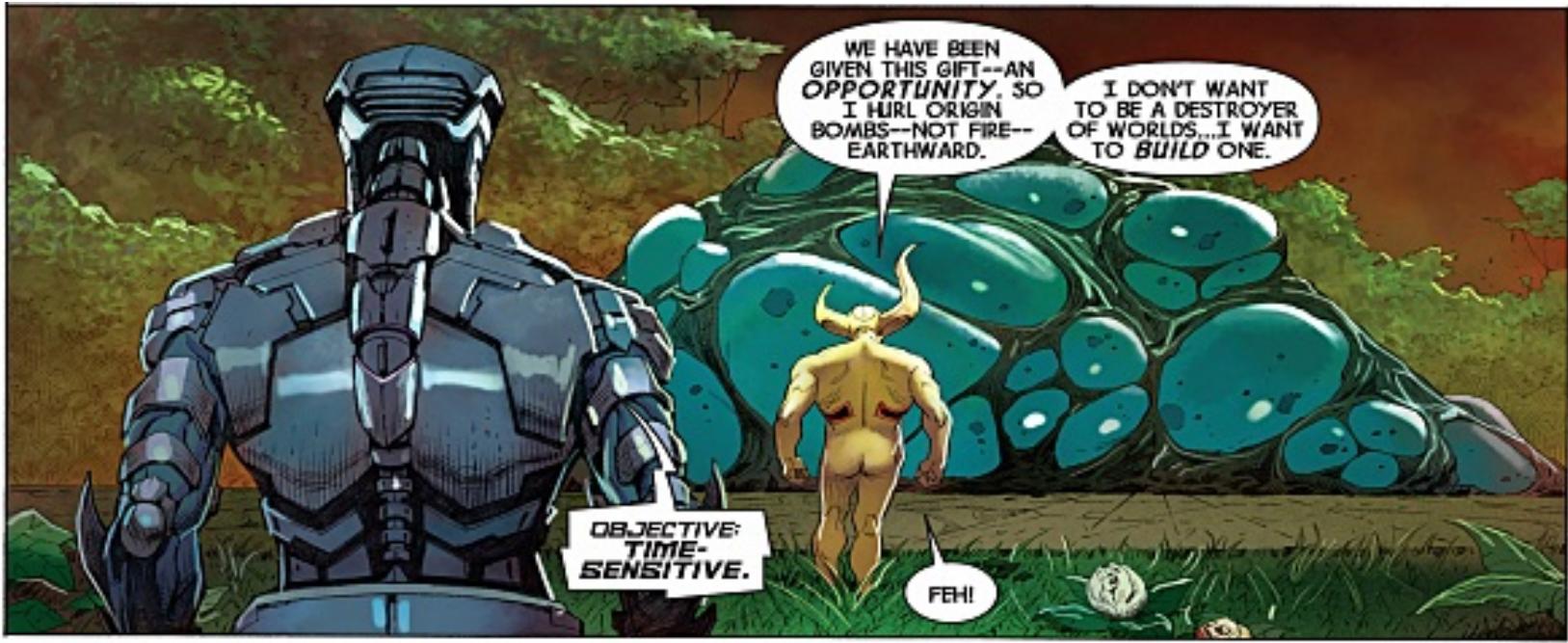
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A MARS.
ONE MONTH LATER.







"PROJECTILE DESTROYED, CAP."



I MARKED, AND RECORDED, THE TRAJECTORY. BLACK WIDOW SHOULD BE ABLE TO FOLLOW--

GOT IT, PLOTTED, AND WE'RE LOCKED ON, SETTING A COURSE TO SLIP US IN ALONG THE HORIZON.

THEY WON'T SEE US COMING,

NICELY DONE, CLINT.

I DON'T KNOW WHY IT WOULDN'T BE...

THERE IT IS!

PREPARE FOR LANDING,

IT'S...IT'S GREEN.

VEGETATION? IS THAT EVEN POSSIBLE.

"THE FIRST TWO BOMBS THAT HIT EARTH COMPLETELY CHANGED THE BIOSPHERES OF THE IMPACT ZONES."

"WHOEVER THESE PEOPLE ARE, THEY'VE ALTERED BILLIONS OF YEARS OF EVOLUTION IN MINUTES."

AND THEY DID IT BY REMOTE, FROM OVER TWO HUNDRED MILLION KILOMETERS AWAY. AN IMPRESSIVE FEAT...

GODLIKE EVEN.

PFFC!

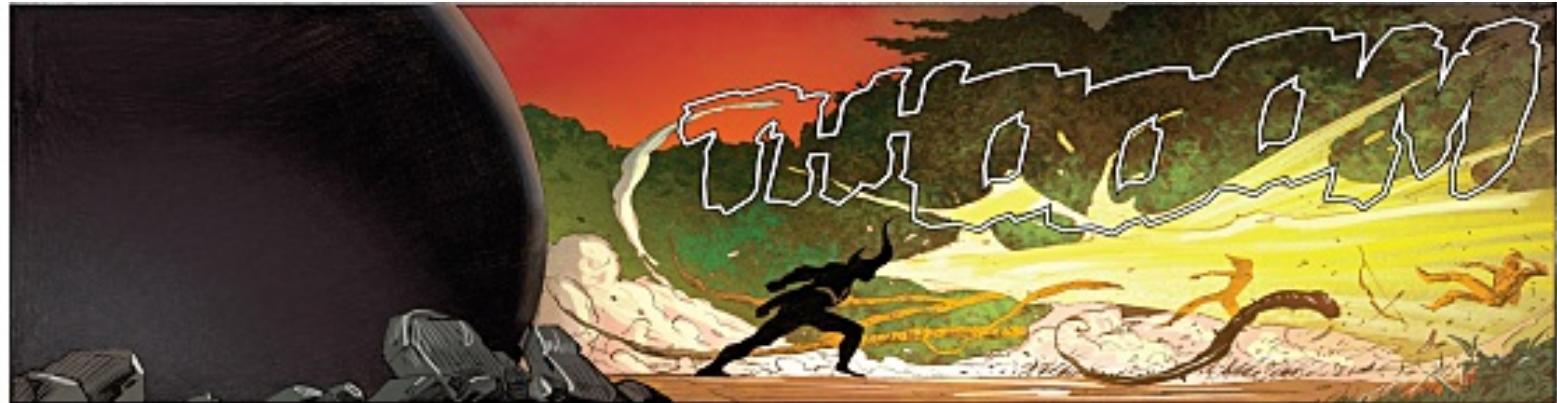
BRUCE, YOU'RE BETTER AT THIS STUFF THAN I AM. ANYTHING ELSE THAT NEEDS TO BE SAID?

"THE FIRST
TWO BOMBS
HIT PERTH AND
REGINA. THAT'S
ALMOST
TWO MILLION
PEOPLE..."











YIELD

CLINK!

YOU'RE A
BIG ONE,
AREN'T
YOU?

YIELD.

NOT A
CHANCE.

THUNK!

NO.

YIELD.

NH...
NH...

ENOUGH,
ALEPH.

WE ARE THE
GARDEN, AND
OF THIS GARDEN,
I CHOOSE NOT
TO WASTE
LIFE...

I CHOOSE TO
TRANSFORM IT.

"TO CHANGE
IT AND GIVE
IT PURPOSE."



"WE WILL USE
HIM TO SEND
A MESSAGE."

"WE'LL SEND
HIM HOME TO
WRITE A WARNING
IN THE HEAVENS."



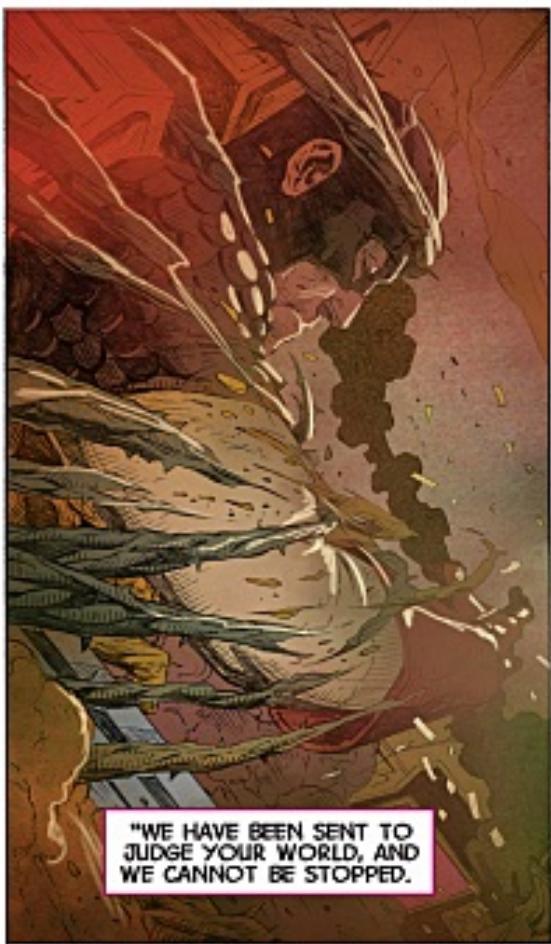
"HERE, EARTH.
HERE IS YOUR
CHAMPION."

"WATCH
HIM BURN RED
THROUGH
THE SKY."



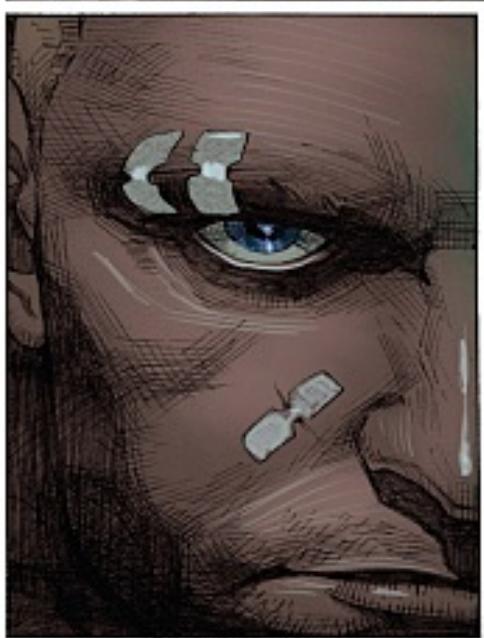
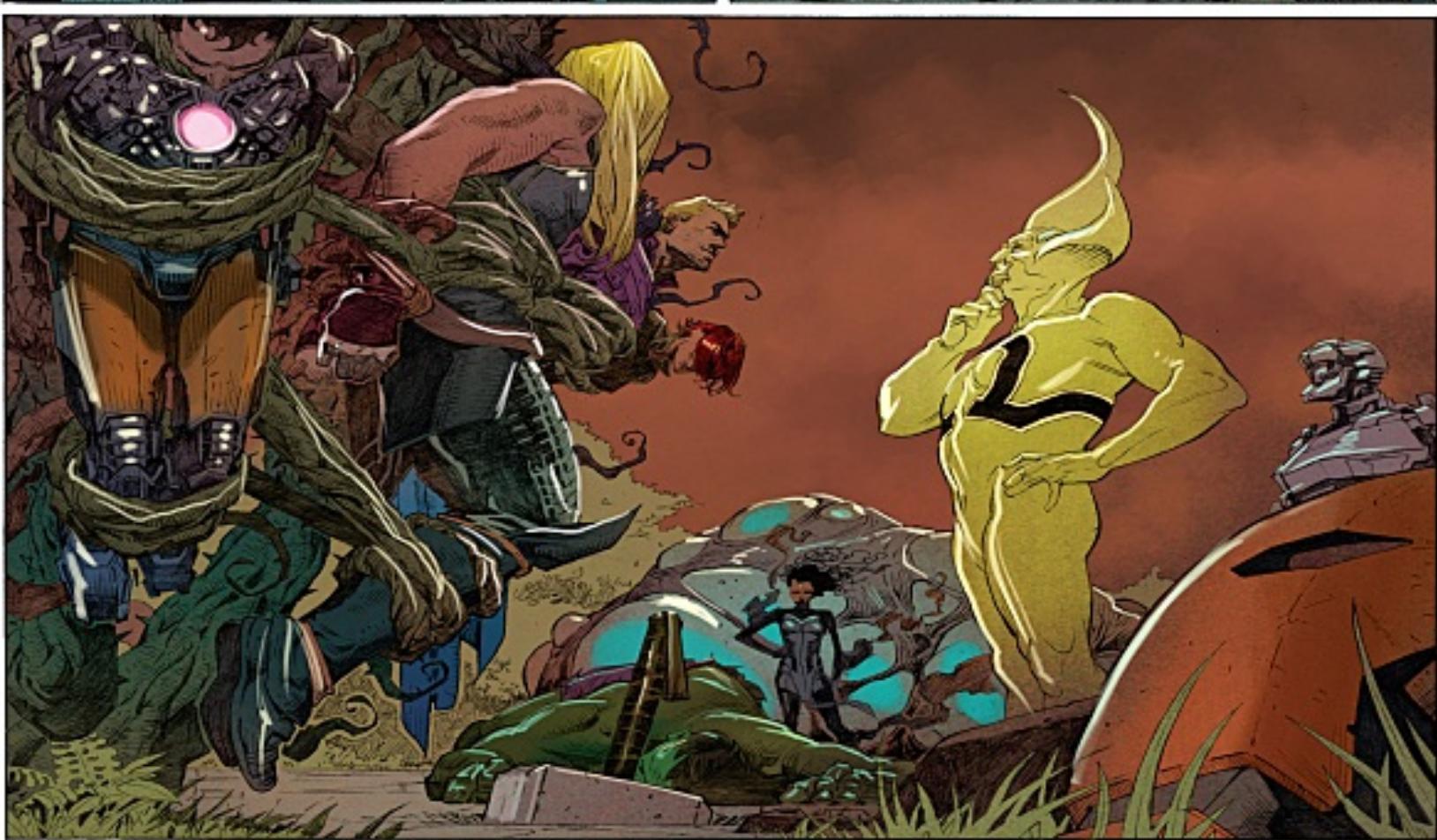
"THESE HEROES
WERE THE BEST YOU
HAD TO OFFER."

"AND THEY
WERE FOUND...
WANTING."

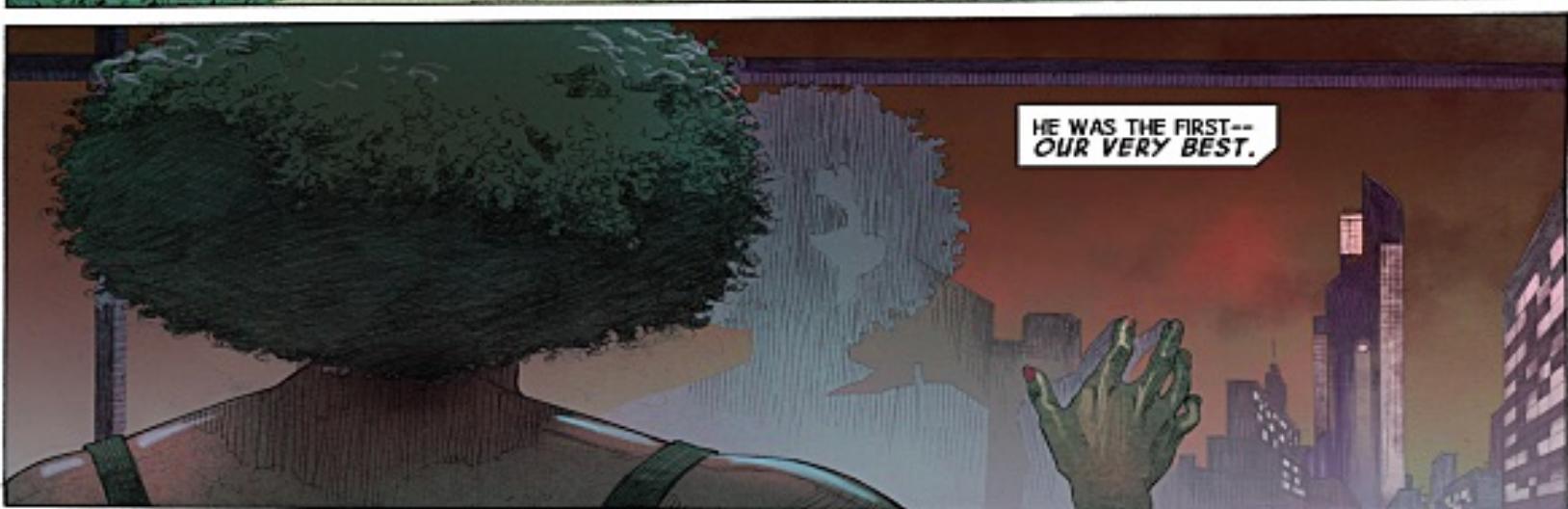


"WE HAVE BEEN SENT TO
JUDGE YOUR WORLD, AND
WE CANNOT BE STOPPED."

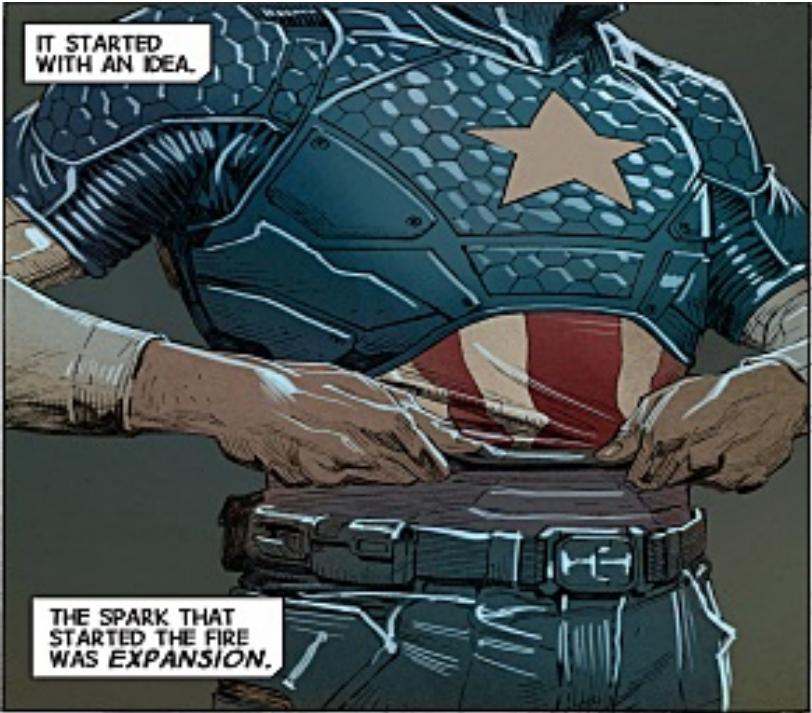
AVENGERS TOWER.
THREE DAYS LATER.



"WE HAVE TO
GET BIGGER."



IT STARTED
WITH AN IDEA.



OUR CAPTAIN SPOKE,
AND GAVE THE IDEA
FORM.



THE SPARK THAT
STARTED THE FIRE
WAS EXPANSION.



HE SAID THE
WORDS, AND
MADE IT
REAL.

HE
SAID...

ASSEMBLE
AT DAWN.



ASSEMBLE
AT DAWN.

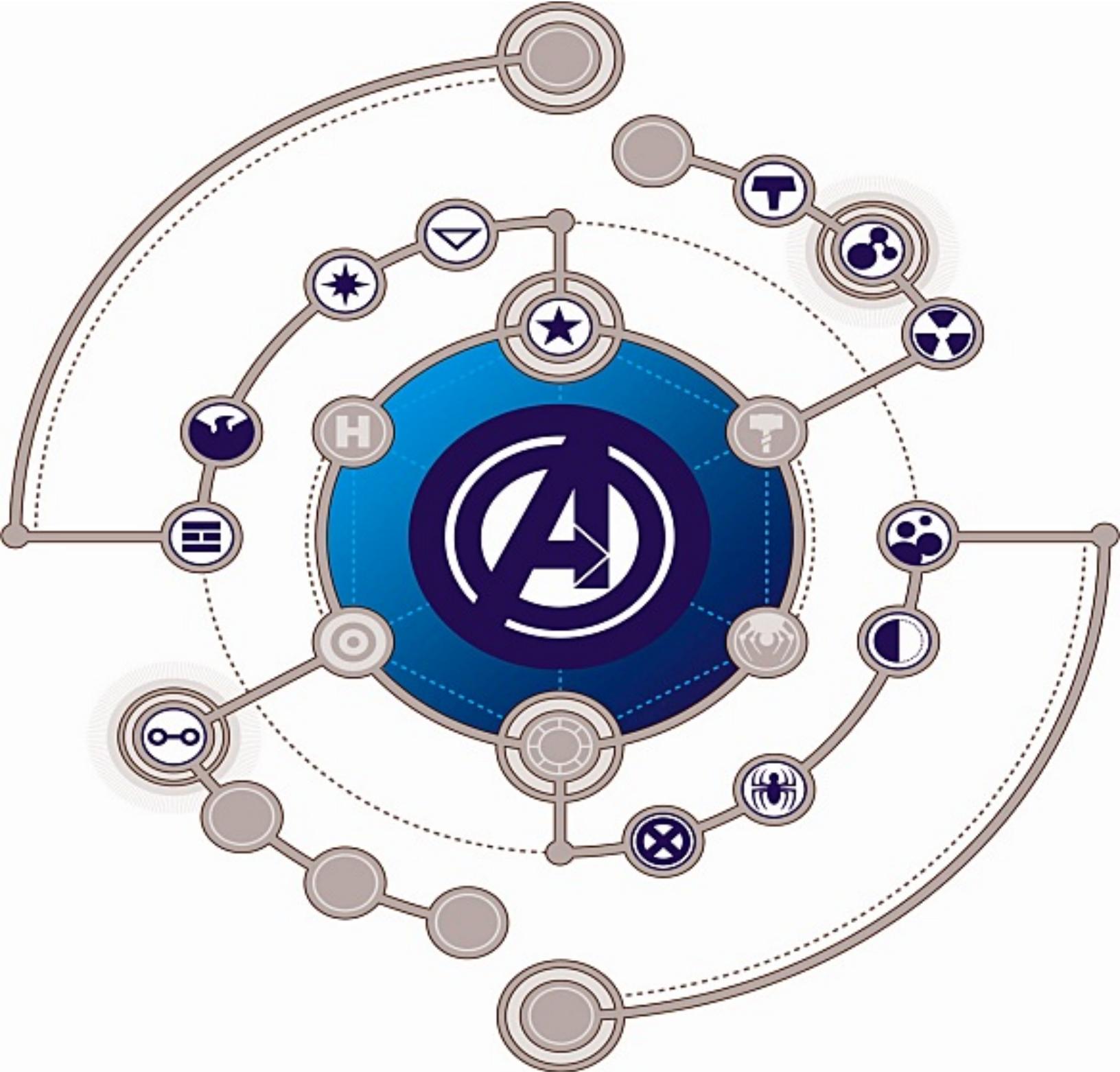


AND HOW
COULD WE
NOT?



WE WERE
AVENGERS.





**WAKE THE
WORLD**

THE ASSEMBLY!

YOUR ONE-STOP NEWS SOURCE FOR ALL THINGS AVENGERS!

It's time for the Big One: **AVENGERS #1**, kicking off the era of Jonathan Hickman as Earth's Mightiest Author! Coming your way two times a month from now on, this new iteration will feature bigger threats, a bigger cast, and big ideas and idealism! And the artwork by kickoff men Jerome Opena and Dean White is enough to make strong men weep! (And if that isn't enough for you, waiting in the wings for future twice-monthly installments are Adam Kubert, Dustin Weaver and Mike Deodato—no slouches to be found!) It's an Avengers World, baby!



Also making its debut this month is **AVENGERS ARENA #1**! For those fans who complain that Marvel has too many young heroes in our stable, Arena is out to do something about it—by imprisoning sixteen of them on Murderworld Island and forcing them all to fight to the death! The referees are writer Dennis Hopeless and artist Kev Walker, all under the watchful eye of **AVENGERS ACADEMY** Dean of Students Bill Rosemann! So if you're a fan of Hazmat, Darkhawk, the Runaways, Mettle, Cammi and Nico—or if you can't stand the sight of 'em—AVENGERS ARENA's got something you won't want to miss!

Introducing a new recurring feature here in the Assembly, it's time for the **AVENGERS COSPLAY OF THE MONTH**! This first entry was taken at this year's Dragon Con in Atlanta, renowned for the complexity and intensity of its cosplayers, where close to three-dozen (!!!) Avengers assembled for a series of group pictures! One thing's for certain: the efforts of these talented and dedicated fans puts Tom's old Ben Cooper Spider-Man outfit to shame!



Photo by Judy Stephens for Marvel.com

You know us, we've been on pins and needles wondering what your reaction to the debut of **UNCANNY AVENGERS** (not to mention the start of **MARVEL NOW!**) would be like! And then, we received this letter:

MARVEL's Uncanny
Avengers
Really is
Very
Exciting!
Loved the ending!

Reed Beebe
Kansas City, MO

Thanks for writing, Reed! Issue #3 will hit the stands before you know it later this month! And hey, everybody else: we'd love to hear from you! Let us know what's on your mind at the email address below!

Finally, we thought that you guys might like to read this follow-up on the letter we printed last month:

Dear Lauren, Tom, Arune and the rest of the Marvel Universe,

Wow! This is Spectacular/Amazing/Ultimate! First of all, thank you so much—your kindness & generosity is touching. As my wife has relayed, I've been having a tough go as of late, but today, if I shed any tears, they are of joy & exuberance. Your magnanimity & generosity speak volumes of your incredible characters & provide further evidence that the Marvel Universe is full of marvelous people! Seriously, thank you!

Through this difficult ordeal, Marvel comics have been a constant source of entertainment & inspiration. When you are stuck in bed for months at a time, a good story provides some much needed relief. So, again, thank you! The wonderful mountain of books you have sent me will help me further stock my Sanctum Sanctorum (which is actually my old bedroom at my mom's place)—every comic I read, poster and picture I tack on my wall, action figure I pose on my desk, and DVD and video game I cue up, help make this experience a little better and keep me resolved to get better and get back to doing what I enjoy most—helping people overcome injustice. So, per your communication with my lovely wife, I'd love to hear from other Marvelites! Well wishes and words of encouragement are always welcome—I can be reached at Mr.Joseph.V.Snee@gmail.com. And if anyone wants to send me more comics (or anything else for that matter) they are more than welcome!

The generous gift and your kind words will keep me busy reading and happy for a long time to come already, though!

Before I conclude, I'd just like to publicly thank my amazing wife.

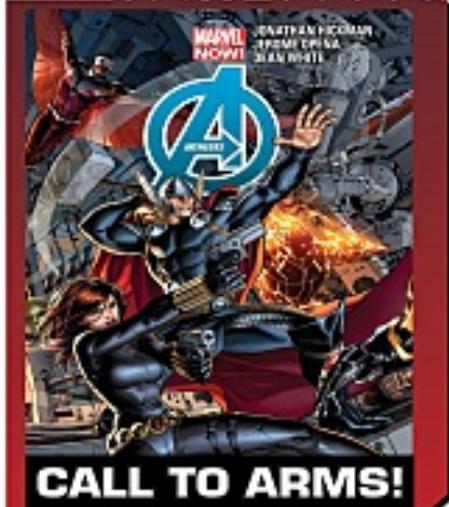
She is too kind. I really had no idea she was doing this, and I am amazed and humbled. What a touching letter. It's hard to believe it's about me. You know, I feel like I'm a Peter Parker type guy, and to know that she sees my inner Spider-Man—well, I think I'll just bask in that for a while. I am very grateful she reached out to you guys and gals. I am very pleased to make your acquaintance and very grateful of your kindness. I've been a Marvel fan since I figured out how to read, and I will continue forever more. Some folks pass their love of baseball or politics on to their kids, I'll be passing down my love of the Marvel Universe! Once again, thanks so much!

Respectfully yours,
Joe Snee

Seems like the least we could do, Joe, for somebody who's kept the faith as devoutly

as you have! Get better, now, hear? We're all pulling for you!

NEXT ISSUE:



CALL TO ARMS!

AVENGERS TITLES ON SALE:

UNCANNY AVENGERS #3
THE RED SKULL MAKES HIS MOVE!

AVENGERS ASSEMBLE #10
WHAT BEGAN AS A GAME BECOMES A LIFE-OR-DEATH STRUGGLE!

AVENGERS #1
A NEW ERA BEGINS!

AVENGERS #2
WHAT LURKS WITHIN THE GARDEN ON MARS?

SECRET AVENGERS #35
ONLY THE SECRET AVENGERS REMAIN TO OPPOSE THE ROBOTIC REVOLUTION!

AVENGERS ARENA #1
SIXTEEN SUPERHUMAN YOUNG ADULTS MUST FIGHT TO SURVIVE!

AVENGERS ARENA #2
WHO OR WHAT IS DEATHLOCKET?

DARK AVENGERS #184
WHAT FORCE CAN TURN EARTH'S DEADLIEST VILLAINS INTO HEROES?

A + X #3
SPIDEY TEAMS UP WITH THE BEAST! THEY AREN'T THEY BOTH AVENGERS?! AND HAWKEYE AND GAMBIT SAVE LIVES!

ALSO ON SALE!
MARVEL UNIVERSE VS THE AVENGERS #3

MARVEL UNIVERSE AVENGERS: EARTH'S MIGHTIEST HEROES #9





ME