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THE AVENGERS

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"MINE IS THE POWER!"



THE MIGHTY AVENGERS!

"MINE IS THE POWER!"

CAPTAIN AMERICA HAS RESIGNED FROM THE AVENGERS! GOLIATH, THE WASP, AND HAWKEYE ARE SEARCHING FOR THE MISSING QUICKSILVER AND SCARLET WITCH, WHO HAVE BEEN CAPTURED BY THE EVIL MAGNETO!

AND, TO CONCLUDE OUR BARE-FACED NAME-DROPPING, LET'S SEE WHAT THE REDOUBT-ABLE HERCULES HAS BEEN UP TO--ON THE SOARING HEIGHTS OF MOUNT OLYMPUS ITSELF...

FROM THIS TOWERING PERCH, I CAN LOOK OVER THE VERY LENGTH AND BREADTH OF MINE ANCESTRAL HOME!

BUT, OLYMPUS IS TRULY DESERTED! NO SIGN OF LIFE REMAINS!

TRULY SOME DIRE MYSTERY IS HERE--AND ONLY HERCULES MAY HOPE TO RESOLVE IT!

HEAR YE, HEAR YE!

WHEN STAN AND ROY SAW THE PULSATING PENCILS FOR THIS ACTION-PACKED ISH, THEY INSISTED THAT NOBODY--BUT NOBODY--COULD DO JUSTICE IN INKING THEM BUT ARTIST BIG JOHN BUSCEMA HIMSELF! SO HANG ON, FRENZIED ONES--AVENGERDOM WILL NEVER BE THE SAME AGAIN!!

STAN LEE
TAKES PARTICULAR PRIDE IN
PRESENTING THIS
ROY THOMAS-JOHN BUSCEMA
CATACLYSMIC, CATAPHONIC CO-CREATION!
LETTERED BY WHAT'S-HIS-NAME--
ARTIE SIMEK!

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YET, MY MIND DWELLS
EVER UPON THE ANCIENT
**TEMPLE OF THE
PROMETHEAN FLAME--**
THE ONE EDIFICE IN ALL
OF OLYMPUS WHICH LIES
IN SMOULDERING RUINS!

'TIS THERE THAT
THE ANSWER MUST
LIE--AND THERE I
MUST RETURN TO
SEEK ANEW THE
**KEY TO THIS AWE-
SOME ENIGMA!**



THE NEXT EAR-SHATTERING INSTANT--

BY THE
SHATTERING
SHAFTS OF
APOLLO!

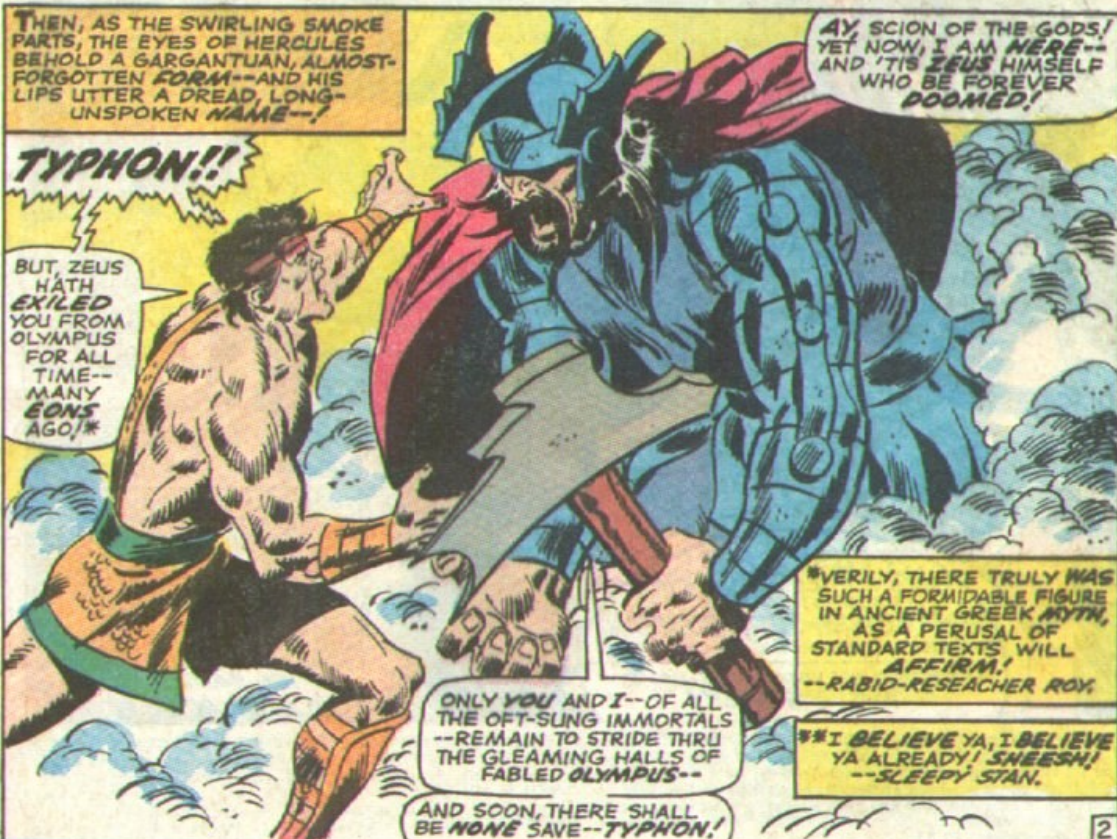


AN EARTH-SHAKING
EXPLOSION--DIRECTLY
IN MY PATH! WHAT
AWESOME EVIL DOOTH
THIS PORTENDS?

THEN, AS THE SWIRLING SMOKE
PARTS, THE EYES OF HERCULES
BEHOLD A GARGANTUAN, ALMOST-
FORGOTTEN FORM--AND HIS
LIPS UTTER A DREAD, LONG-
UNspoken NAME--!

TYPHON!!

BUT, ZEUS
HATH
EXILED
YOU FROM
OLYMPUS
FOR ALL
TIME--
MANY
EONS
AGO!*



AY, SCION OF THE GODS!
YET NOW, I AM HERE--
AND 'TIS ZEUS HIMSELF
WHO BE FOREVER
DOOMED!

*VERILY, THERE TRULY WAS
SUCH A FORMIDABLE FIGURE
IN ANCIENT GREEK MYTH,
AS A PERUSAL OF
STANDARD TEXTS WILL
AFFIRM!
--RABID-RESEACHER ROY,

**I BELIEVE YA, I BELIEVE
YA ALREADY! SHEESH!
--SLEEPY STAN.

ONLY YOU AND I--OF ALL
THE OFT-SUNG IMMORTALS
--REMAIN TO STRIDE THRU
THE GLEAMING HALLS OF
FABLED OLYMPUS--

AND SOON, THERE SHALL
BE NONE SAVE--TYPHON!

THEN, THOU IT WAS WHO DIDST SOME--HOW DEFEAT THE DEATHLESS GODS--

--THOU, WHOM THE MORTALS OF OLD DIDST BELIEVE TO HAVE THE HEADS OF A HUNDRED LOATHSOME DRAGONS!

MORTALS!? YOU DARE TO MENTION ME IN THE SAME BREATH WITH PUNY MORTALS?!

BEWARE, HERCULES --LEST YOU JOIN YOUR FELLOW GODS IN TIMELESS OBLIVION EVEN SOONER THAN I INTEND!

YET, 'TIS MY DESIRE THAT FIRST YOU HEAR THE TALE OF MY GLORIOUS TRIUMPH...

"FOR COUNTLESS MILLENNIA HAVE I DESIRED TO WREAK MY FEARSOME VENGEANCE UPON ACCURSED ZEUS--SINCE THAT DAY LONG PAST, WHEN--"

THOU, TYPHON, ART THE LAST OF THOSE TREACHEROUS TITANS WHO DID OPPOSE MINE ETERNAL RULE!

BUT, AS I HAVE BESTED THEE IN PERSONAL COMBAT, THOU MUST NOW NEED MY COMMAND!

HENCE, I HEREBY BANISH THEE FROM OLYMPUS--FOREVER-MORE!

YOU SHOULD HAVE EVER-LASTINGLY DESTROYED ME, O ZEUS!

ELSE, ONE DAY, I SHALL RETURN--TO MAKE MYSELF ETERNAL SOVEREIGN OF OLYMPUS!

"AND, ONLY DAYS AGO, I KEPT MY BITTER VOW--AND, IN THE DEAD OF NIGHT, STEALTHILY ENTERED OLYMPUS AND STOOD BEFORE--"

THE TEMPLE OF THE PROMETHEAN FLAME!

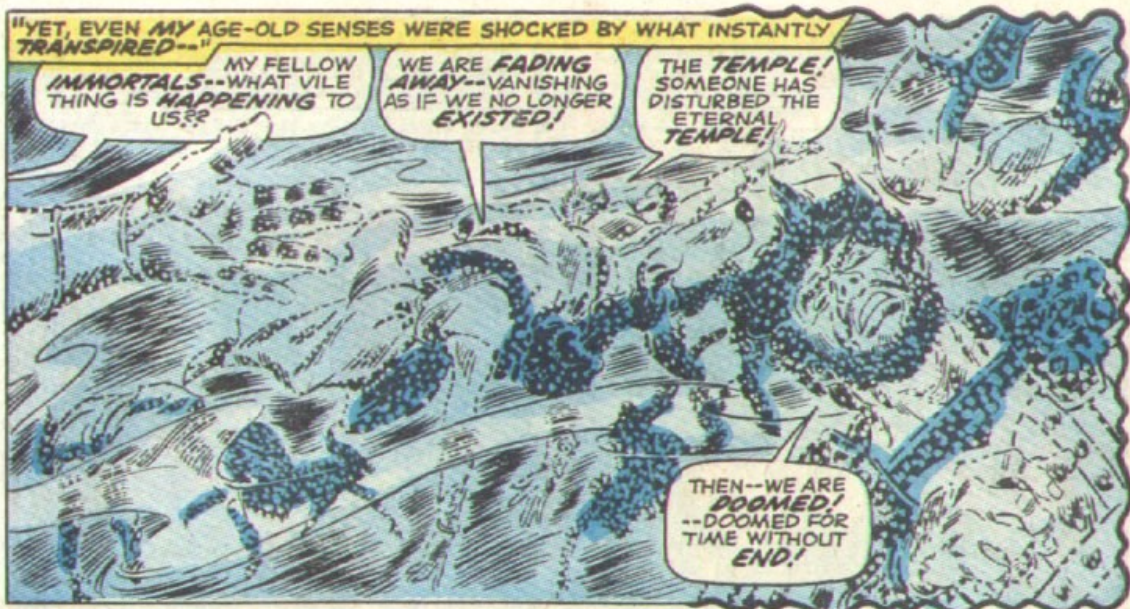
'TIS WRITTEN THAT, IF THIS PERPETUALLY-BURNING FIRE SHOULD PERISH, EVEN THE GODS COULD NOT SURVIVE!

HOWEVER, I AM NOT TRULY A GOD--BUT ONE OF THE ANCIENT TITANS--WHO WERE OLD WHEN THE EARTH WAS YOUNG!

THUS, NOW STRIKES TYPHON--AND LET ALL THE HEAVENS TREMBLE!!



"SO SPEAKING--AND BUT DIMLY SUSPECTING WHAT WOULD FOLLOW--I LAID WASTE THE SACRED TEMPLE WITH ONE SINGLE, SMASHING BLOW OF MY MIGHTY BATTLE-AXE--"



"YET, EVEN MY AGE-OLD SENSES WERE SHOCKED BY WHAT INSTANTLY TRANSPIRED--"

MY FELLOW IMMORTALS--WHAT VILE THING IS HAPPENING TO US??

WE ARE FADING AWAY--VANISHING AS IF WE NO LONGER EXISTED!

THE TEMPLE! SOMEONE HAS DISTURBED THE ETERNAL TEMPLE!

THEN--WE ARE DOOMED! --DOOMED FOR TIME WITHOUT END!

THE NEXT MOMENT, THEY WERE GONE--YEA, EVEN OVERBEARING ZEUS HIMSELF--AND ONLY TYPHON STOOD, ALONE AMONGST THE SPIRES OF OLYMPUS!

AND, HERE I SHALL E'ER REMAIN--SOLE SOVEREIGN OF ALL, THAT I SURVEY!

NOR IS THERE AUGHT THAT YOU CAN DO--EVEN WITH YOUR FAR-FAMED STRENGTH!

TYPHON'S BOAST RINGS TRUE!

WHAT MAY I HOPE TO ACCOMPLISH--THAT ALMIGHTY ZEUS COULD NOT?

STILL, LET WHATE'ER BEFALL ME THAT WILL--I SHALL FACE IT LIKE MINE OWN FATHER'S SON!

BUT NOW, BEFORE WE ALL FORGET THAT EVEN THE SORROWING HERCULES IS BUT ONE MEMBER OF THE FIGHTING TEAM THAT MEN CALL THE AVENGERS--LET'S SWITCH OUR SCENE TO THIS TEMPEST-TOSSED WORLD...

WHAT'S EATING YOU, HAWKEYE? YOU SIT THERE BROODING, WHEN YOU SHOULD BE HELPING ME THINK OF A PLAN TO FIND WANPA AND PIETRO!

WE'VE GOT TO DO DOUBLE WORK, SINCE HERCULES IS GONE AND CAP HAS RESIGNED!

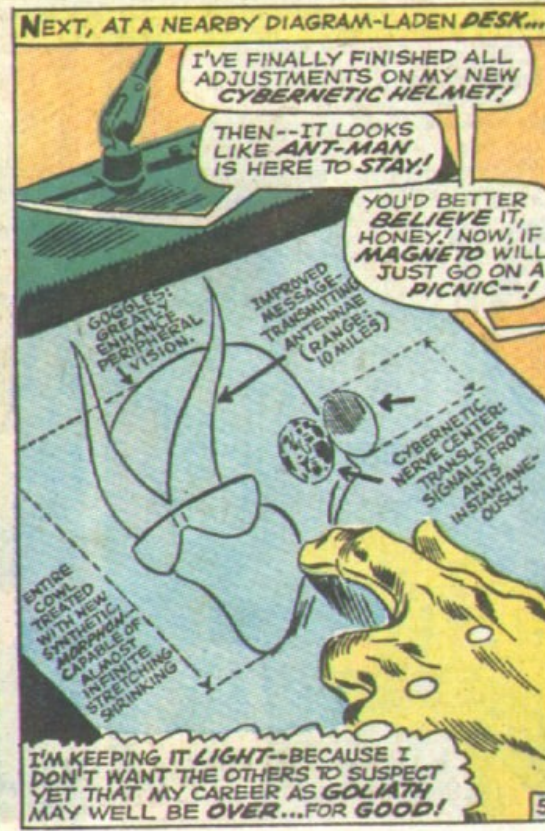
THAT'S JUST WHAT I WAS THINKIN' ABOUT, TWO-TON--THE FACT THAT CAP QUIT US!

WITH HIM GONE, MAYBE THERE AINT ANY MORE "AVENGERS"!

--JUST THREE WORN-OUT HAS BEENS, RUNNIN' AROUND IN NUTTY COSTUMES!

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BUT, ON THAT CRYPTIC NOTE, WE MUST TEMPORARILY TAKE OUR **LEAVE** OF THE EMBATTLED AVENGERS--AND SWITCH TO A SPOT SOMEWHERE IN THE TURBULENT **ATLANTIC**--

--WHERE A SWOOPING VEHICLE OF UNIQUE DESIGN NOISELESSLY CIRCLES A SMALL, ROCKBOUND ISLAND....!

THERE, PIETRO-- AND MY LOVELY WANDA--LIES THE FUTURE HQ OF THE **BROTHERHOOD OF EVIL MUTANTS!**

I RAISED IT FROM THE VERY **OCEAN DEPTHS**-- THAT IT MIGHT SERVE AS MY IMPREGNABLE **FORTRESS!**

THEN, HOWEVER, I MADE THE FATAL ERROR OF ATTACKING THE ACCURSED **X-MEN**--BEFORE I HAD GATHERED MY FELLOW **EVIL MUTANTS** ABOUT ME!

BUT, **NO MORE!** IN THE FUTURE, WE SHALL STRIKE **TOGETHER**--AND **NONE** MAY STAND AGAINST US!

WE DON'T NEED THEM, MASTER! WE NEED **NO** ONE, YOU AND I!

YOU MAY **SAVE** YOUR WITLESS BRAVADO, TOAD!

WANDA AND I SHALL NEVER AGAIN JOIN MAGNETO! **NEVER!**

WE SHALL SEE, PIETRO! WE SHALL **SEE**....!

MOMENTS LATER, AS THE MAGNETICALLY-POWERED SHIP COMES TO REST BEFORE A WINDING **STAIRWAY**...

INSIDE, ALL OF YOU-- AND **SWIFTLY!**

IN A FEW SECONDS, THIS PORTION OF THE ISLAND SHALL SINK BENEATH THE TOSsing WAVES!

LET THEM **DROWN**, MASTER!

YOU NEED NOT **SPEAK**, MY SISTER! I CAN **FEEL** YOUR QUESTIONS--AS THOUGH THEY WERE **LIVING THINGS!**

DESPAIR FILLS YOUR HEART--THAT I DO NOT **LASH OUT** ONCE MORE AGAINST MAGNETO!

YET, WE MUST LEARN ALL WE CAN OF HIS NEWEST SCHEME--SO THAT WE MAY FOREWARN THE **X-MEN**...AND THE **AVENGERS!**

THEN, AS THE SUPER-POWERED FOURSOME PASS THRU A SUDDENLY-OPENING PASSAGEWAY, THEY FIND THEMSELVES ON A GIGANTIC SYNTHETIC CONVEYOR BELT--

IT'S INCREDIBLE! MAMMOTH APPARATUS-- HUMMING DYNAMOS-- MAKING UP THE VERY ISLAND ITSELF!

WELCOME, MY SKEPTICAL EX-AVENGERS, TO THE WONDROUS WORLD--WITHIN-- A-WORLD OF...

MAGNETO!

YOU SEE BEFORE YOU A VAST, SPRAWLING MECHANICAL COMPLEX-- SET IN-MOTION OVER TWO YEARS AGO BY MY OWN INCOMPARABLE POWERS OF MAGNETISM!

LET THE PUNY HOMO SAPIENS TOY WITH PRIMITIVE ATOMIC ENERGY-- WITH IMPERFECT SOLAR BATTERIES!

IT IS I WHO HAVE UNLOCKED THE DOOR TO THE MOST VALUABLE ENERGY SOURCE OF ALL-- THE SECRET OF MAGNETICALLY-INDUCED PERPETUAL MOTION!

NEXT, AS MAGNETO TAKES HIS SOMEWHAT CAPTIVE AUDIENCE ON A CONVEYOR-BELT TOUR OF HIS UNUSUAL HEAD-QUARTERS...

WHAT SAY YOU? SHALL OUR **BROTHERHOOD** LIVE ONCE MORE--AND ASSUME ITS RIGHTFUL PLACE ON THIS PLANET?

DON'T LISTEN TO HIM, MY BROTHER!

I KNOW WELL OF YOUR BITTERNESS TOWARDS THE HOMO SAPIENS--BUT, REMEMBER OUR OATHS AS AVENGERS!

...AND NOW, YOU HAVE BOTH BEHELD MY POWER--WHICH **DWARFS** THAT OF THE HUMAN MULTITUDES!

THAT I CAN NEVER FORGET, WANDA! AND YET...

--NEITHER CAN I FORGET THE SCORN WITH WHICH THE HUMANS REGARD ANY WHO ARE DIFFERENT FROM THEMSELVES!

SO--MY RELUCTANT GUESTS HAVE THEMSELVES GIVEN ME THE ONE KEY WHICH MAY MAKE THEM MY LESS--THAN-EQUAL ALLIES!

FOR, IT IS SCARCELY FITTING THAT I SHOULD BE WITHOUT SUPER-POWERED MENIALS TO DO MY BIDDING!

BUT, MASTER--THEY ARE NO LONGER THE SAME QUICKSILVER AND SCARLET WITCH WHO ONCE SERVED YOU ALMOST AS FAITHFULLY AS I!

HOW CAN YOU HOPE TO WIN THEM TO YOUR SIDE NOW?

SILENCE, YOU FAWNING FOOL...AND OBSERVE!

I FEAR, MY DEAR FRIENDS, THAT YOU MIS-UNDERSTAND ME--AND BELIEVE THAT I STILL DESIRE TO DOMINATE THE HOMO SAPIENS!

WHAT NEW DECEIT IS MAGNETO PLANNING?

NO LONGER! NOW, I WISH MERELY THAT THIS ISLAND MAY BECOME A REFUGE--WHERE MUTANTS MAY COME TO PEACEFULLY PURSUE THEIR OWN INDIVIDUAL DESTINIES!

IF YOU MEAN WHAT YOU SAY, THEN PROVE IT!

THAT I SHALL, PIETRO--IF YOU'LL BUT ACCOMPANY ME TO...THE UNITED NATIONS!

THE UNITED NATIONS! YES, MASTER--YES!

LET THE ENTIRE PLANET KNOW THAT THE BROTHERHOOD OF EVIL MUTANTS IS BACK TO STAY!

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AND SO, A REMARKABLY SHORT TIME LATER, THE FLEET CRAFT OF MAGNETO ZOOMS LOW OVER THE EAST RIVER...

THERE IS OUR GOAL, MY FRIENDS--THE FAMOUS U. N. BUILDING!

LUCKILY, IT IS NOW IN SESSION--MEETING ON SOME NEW CRISIS IN THE INSANE AFFAIRS OF HUMANS!

I STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU HOPE TO PROVE BY BRINGING US HERE, MAGNETO!

YOU SHALL SEE SOON ENOUGH, BEAUTEIOUS WANDA!

THEN, I AM CERTAIN THAT YOU WILL REJOIN YOUR OWN KIND ONCE MORE--AND FORGET YOUR FOOLISH ALLEGIANCE TO HOMO SAPIENS!

A FEW MINUTES LATER, IN THE ANTEROOM JUST OUTSIDE THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, A MOST UNLIKELY, STARTLING SIGHT OCCURS...

IT'S MAGNETO--THE EVIL MUTANT WHO HAS VOWED TO ONE DAY RULE ALL THE WORLD!

BUT, WHY HAVE THE GUARDS ALLOWED HIM TO COME HERE?

DON'T YOU SEE? HE IS WITH QUICKSILVER--AND THE SCARLET WITCH!

THEY HAVE AN AVENGERS PRIORITY--AND HAVE SWORN RESPONSIBILITY FOR HIS BEHAVIOR!

IT REVOLTS ME TO ACT--EVEN FOR A MOMENT--AS IF THERE COULD EVER BE EQUALITY BETWEEN MUTANTS AND THEIR ACCURSED INFERIORS!

BUT, IT IS ONLY FOR A MOMENT--AND THEN WANDA AND PIETRO SHALL BE MINE ONCE MORE!

STAND ASIDE, HUMANS! MAGNETO COMES... IN PEACE!

YOU HEARD IT, FOLKS! THE COLD WAR BETWEEN THE HUMAN RACE AND THE EVIL MUTANTS MAY BE OVER!

AND YOU ARE THERE!

MAYBE... BUT I'LL BELIEVE IT WHEN I SEE IT!

LOGICALLY ENOUGH, THERE ARE MANY ACROSS THE CITY...AND THE NATION...WHO ARE SKEPTICAL AND APPREHENSIVE AS THEY SEE THE GRIM VISAGE OF MAGNETO ON THEIR TV SCREENS! AND, AMONG THESE ARE--THE MIGHTY AVENGERS!

NO, HUMAN--I HAVE NOTHING MORE TO SAY TO YOUR AUDIENCE!

MY WORDS ARE FOR THE ASSEMBLED NATIONS--AND I SHALL SPEAK THEM INSIDE!

LOOK--IT'S MAGNETO!

AND BEHIND HIM--THERE'S PIETRO AND WANDA!

BUT--HE SAYS HE'S COME IN PEACE--TO END HIS RUNNING BATTLE WITH HUMANITY!

SINCE WHEN DID YOU START TRUSTIN' A SUPER-POWERED CREEP LIKE HIM, MAN-MOUNTAIN?

WHO SAID I TRUSTED HIM, BOW-SLINGER? WHAT I WAS ABOUT TO SAY WAS--

AVENGERS ASSEMBLE!

THAT'S MORE LIKE IT!

IF ONLY WE KNEW WHAT HIS MOTIVE WAS, IN GOING TO THE U.N.!

MEANWHILE, IN THE HALLWAYS OF THAT HISTORIC BUILDING, MAGNETO'S ENIGMATIC PLANS HAVE HIT A SLIGHT SNAG...

I DON'T CARE WHO YOU ARE--OR WHAT KIND'A FANCY HELMET YOU STICK OVER THAT UGLY MUG OF YOURS!

OUT OF MY WAY, HUMAN--OR I SHALL CRUSH YOU LIKE THE PUNY INSECT YOU ARE!

MY ORDERS ARE THAT NOBODY BARGES INTO THE MIDDLE OF AN ASSEMBLY SESSION--AND THAT INCLUDES SO-CALLED EVIL MUTANTS!

UH OH! GET READY FOR TROUBLE, CHARLIE!

WITH ONE MOTION, I COULD DESTROY ALL THESE MEDDLE-SOME GUARDS!

BUT, THAT WOULD DEFEAT MY PURPOSE IN COMING HERE--

--SO, IT IS FAR MORE EFFECTIVE TO DO... THIS!!

HEY--WHAT IN BLUE BLAZES--?

PUT HIM DOWN, MAGNETO--AND FAST!

OR ELSE--I SHOOT!

ELIMINATE HIM, MASTER! DON'T WORRY ABOUT THE OTHER GUARD!

THE NIMBLE TOAD WILL FINISH HIM FOR YOU--!

BUT THEN, WITHOUT WARNING--

YOU SHALL DO NOTHING, YOU SNIVELING SYCOPHANT!

I SWORE THAT I CAME IN PEACE! AND, TO PROVE IT--!

OOOFF! HE--HE DROPPED ME!

HE COULD HAVE KILLED IF HE WANTED --BUT HE DROPPED ME!

WHOMP!

NEXT, TURNING IN DISDAIN FROM THE HOMO SAPIENS WHOM HE SO DESPISES--

AND NOW, FOOLS, OBSERVE HOW--WITH THE MEREST GESTURE--I GAIN ENTRANCE TO THAT WHICH YOU WOULD DENY ME!

WHERE MAGNETO DESIRES TO GO--LET NO MAN BAR HIS PATH!

WE'LL SHOW THEM, MASTER! WE'LL SHOW THEM ALL!



AND, INSIDE THE AUGUST CHAMBER...

IN CONCLUSION, MR. CHAIRMAN, I MUST STATE THAT MY COUNTRY VIEWS WITH GREAT ALARM ALL WESTERN IMPERIALIST ATTEMPTS TO--

THERE--AT THE BACK OF THE HALL--/ IT MUST BE-- IT CAN ONLY BE--

WHAT IS THAT NOISE? WHO DARES DISRUPT THESE PROCEEDINGS?



MAGNETO!! HE'S RETURNED!

MAGNETO? IF THIS IS SOME CHEAP BOURGEOIS TRICK TO INTERRUPT MY SPEECH--

YOUR WORDS ARE OF NO IMPORTANCE, HUMAN--COMPARED WITH THOSE THAT MAGNETO HAS COME TO UTTER!

FIRST, LET ME ASSUME THE PROPER PLACE OF A HOMO SUPERIOR--AT THE FRONT OF THE CHAMBER!

THEN, LET ALL KEEP SILENCE--AND LISTEN!



HE AND HIS COMPANIONS ARE FLOATING OVER OUR HEADS--ON THE VERY DOORS HE RIPPED ASUNDER!

WHAT CAN THAT EVIL MUTANT HAVE TO SAY TO US?

AND WHY DO TWO AVENGERS ACCOMPANY HIM??

MOMENTS LATER, A STRANGE HUSH FALLS OVER THE AWED ASSEMBLAGE, AS--

HEED MY WORDS, ALL OF YOU! TOO LONG HAS STRIFE BEEN THE ONLY WATCHWORD BETWEEN HOMO SAPIENS AND HOMO SUPERIOR!

TODAY, I COME BEFORE YOU TO PROPOSE THAT THE MUTANTS OF THE WORLD BE GIVEN A SEPARATE NATION OF THEIR OWN--WITH FULL VETO RIGHTS IN THE U.N. SECURITY COUNCIL!



THEN, AND ONLY THEN, MAY THERE BE PEACE BETWEEN HUMAN AND MUTANT!





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YET, EVEN AS GOLIATH AND THE WASP RUSH IN-- IT IS NOT HAWKEYE WHO ENGAGES THE ATTENTION OF THE EVIL MUTANT, BUT--

THOSE GUARDS-- AIMING THEIR PISTOLS TO FIRE AT ME!

I COULD ASK FOR NOTHING BETTER-- TO HELP ME EXECUTE THE FINAL PHASE OF MY MASTER PLAN!

MUST ACT-- NOW!

A FEW WELL-PLACED BULLETS OUGHT TO TAKE CARE OF--

HOLY HANNAH!

SOMETHING'S TUGGING AT MY GUN-- PULLING MY SHOT--!

KRAK!

KRAK!

MINE, TOO! I-- I DIDN'T EVEN PULL THE TRIGGER! WHAT IN--??

OHNNHH--! PUH-THANG

WANDA-- NO!!

SHE'S BEEN HIT! A BULLET-- GRAZED HER TEMPLE!

PIETRO-- I HAD TROUBLE GETTING THRU THE DELEGATES ON FOOT! IS WANDA--?

SHE STILL LIVES-- STILL BREATHES! BUT, IT WAS HUMANS WHO DID THIS TO HER--!

HUMANS!!

HE'S WILD-EYED-- ALMOST IN A STATE OF SHOCK! GOT TO REASON WITH HIM, BEFORE--

LOOK OUT, QUICK-- SILVER!

THE AVENGER CALLED GOLIATH-- HE'S LUNG-ING AT YOU FROM BEHIND!



BUT, WHAT MERE MORTAL WOULD DARE TO STEP INTO THE PATH OF THE SUPER-POWERED BEINGS WHO NOW STRIDE GRIMLY TOWARDS THE DOORWAY...?

"WAAH!" IN HIS GRIEF OVER HIS SISTER'S PLIGHT, PIETRO STRUCK OUT AT HIS OLD ALLIES-- AND HAS FOREVER ALIENATED HIMSELF FROM THE HOMO SAPIENS.

THE FOOL DOES NOT SUSPECT THAT I CAUSED THE PISTOLS TO FIRE--AND ONE SHOT TO GRAZE HER TEMPLE JUST SO!

LET THEM PASS! THEY WISH ONLY TO DEPART!

THE AMERICAN DELEGATE IS RIGHT! EVERYONE-- STAND ASIDE!

THEN, AS THE DYNAMIC QUARTET PASS THRU THE LOBBY OUTSIDE...

PIETRO--I KNOW MY POWERS CAN'T STOP YOU, BUT IF YOU'LL ONLY LISTEN TO ME--

I'M THRU LISTENING-- LISTENING TO NOTHING BUT ABUSE FROM THOSE I ONCE SWORE TO PROTECT-- BECAUSE I'M A MUTANT!

AND NOW, MY SISTER MAY BE DYING-- BROUGHT DOWN BY THE BULLET OF A HUMAN-- BECAUSE I DIDN'T LISTEN TO MAGNETO!

OUT OF MY WAY, JANET VAN DYNE, BEFORE I--

YOU NEED DO NOTHING, QUICKSILVER-- NOT WHILE THE PEERLESS POWER OF MAGNETO CAN TURN THE SMALLEST FOUNTAIN PEN INTO A HURLING PROJECTILE!

NOW, COME--WE HAVE NO MORE BUSINESS WITH THE HOMO SAPIENS-- FOR THE PRESENT!

MINUTES LATER, AS THE SLEEK MAGNO-SHIP STREAKS EASTWARD ACROSS THE ATLANTIC OCEAN...

MY PLAN WORKED! SMALL MATTER THAT WE DID NOT DARE REMAIN THERE ANY LONGER!

OHNN...PIETRO--I FEEL SO WEAK...SO STRANGE! WHAT HAPPENED...? CAN'T SEEM...TO REMEMBER...!

WHEN NEXT WE FACE THE ACCURSED HUMANS--IT SHALL BE AS THEIR CONQUERORS!

WANDA'S MEMORY-- THE BULLET WOUND MUST HAVE AFFECTED IT SOMEHOW--!

HAVE NO FEAR, PIETRO! WE SHALL FIND A WAY TO HELP HER!

AFTER ALL, YOU ARE NOW ONCE AGAIN A VALUED FRIEND OF... MAGNETO!

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AND SOON, AT THEIR LUXURIOUS MANSION, THE MIGHTY AVENGERS ARE PLUNGED INTO DEEPEST GLOOM...

CAN'T UNDERSTAND WHY QUICKSILVER SUDDENLY SIDED WITH MAGNETO!

STILL, I HOPE AND PRAY THAT WANDA RECOVERS--!

I HOPE NO ONE NOTICED IT YET, BUT I MADE A DISCOVERY BACK THERE--ONE WHICH MAY MEAN THE END OF MY CAREER!

YEARS OF FANTASTIC STRAIN ON MY VERY MOLECULES--PLUS THE RECENT OVERTAKING OF MY SIZE-CHANGING POWERS--HAVE FINALLY HAD THEIR EFFECT ON ME!

THOUGH I CAN STILL BECOME ANT-MAN... I CAN NO LONGER BECOME A TEN-FOOT GIANT!

IS GOLIATH DEAD... FOREVER?

AFTER TODAY'S DEFEAT, THE WHOLE WORLD'LL KNOW THAT CAPTAIN AMERICA'S NO LONGER ONE OF US!

WITH HIM GUITTING-- AND HERCULES OFF SOMEWHERE--WE MAY JUST BE THRU!

AND NOW, WHAT ABOUT THE MUCH-LAUDED PRINCE OF POWER--IN THE LAND WHICH MORTALS HAVE EVER CALLED OLYMPUS--?

I HAVE WATCHED YOUR GRIEF LONG ENOUGH, SON OF ZEUS!

IT HAS GIVEN ME PLEASURE WITHOUT EQUAL--BUT NOW 'TIS TIME TO DESTROY YOU--WHILE YOU ARE OFF GUARD IN YOUR GRIEF!

BY THE HAMMERING HOoves OF CHIRON! IN MY SORROW, MY REFLEXES WERE SLOWED--JUST AS HE ATTACKED!

THE MASSIVE COLUMN I HAVE BLINDLY GRASPED-- IS MY ONLY CHANCE!



YET, EVEN AS THE FINAL FRAGMENTS OF THE HUGE PILLAR FALL TO THE GROUND...

YOUR STRENGTH IS TRULY THE EQUAL OF MY OWN, HERCULES--THOUGH YOU BE MUCH SMALLER THAN I!

BUT, IT WILL TAKE MORE THAN MERE PHYSICAL PROWESS TO DEFEAT...TYPHON!

FOR, IN MY HANDS, I HOLD AN INVINCIBLE WEAPON--

--A WEAPON THAT CAN DO--THIS!

FROM HIS BATTLE-AXE--AN AWESOME, ELECTRIFYING BLAST!

IT MISSED ME--AND YET--

RAKKK!

THE FOLLOWING INSTANT, OUT OF THE SEARING BLAST, THERE APPEARS--

A DREAD DENIZEN OF THE WORLDS BEYOND--SUMMONED UP FROM THE SAME NAMELESS UNIVERSE WHERE NOW YOUR FELLOW OLYMPIANS ARE ENTRAPPED!

BY THE STYGIAN SHADES OF HADES!

ARRRRRRRR

KILL HIM, MONSTER! HERCULES MUST DIE!!

ITS POWER--IS BEYOND BELIEF!

RESIGN YOURSELF TO THOUGHTS OF DEATH, PRINCE OF POWER!

FOR, NO ONE HAS EVER ESCAPED THE BONE-CRUSHING GRIP OF...TARTARO!

ARRRRRRRR



BUT THEN, WITH AN INCREDIBLE SURGE OF HIS MIGHTY MUSCLES...

NO ONE SAVE...

HERCULES!!



NOW--WHILST THE LOATHSOME BEAST IS OFF-BALANCE --I STRIKE!

FOR OLYMPUS --AND FOR ZEUS!!

NEXT, WITH A SPEED WHICH BELIES HIS MASSIVE PHYSIQUE, THE PRINCE OF POWER LEAPS ONTO THE SHOULDER OF THE FALLEN MONSTER...

HAVE AT THEE, THOU BRAINLESS, BLUDGEONING BRUTE!

KNOW THEE THAT THINE OWN STRENGTH DOETH PALE BESIDE THAT OF THE SON OF ZEUS!



AH--'TIS DONE! TARTARO FALLS LIMP WITHIN MY VERY HANDS!

THEN, AS THE LIFELESS FORM OF THE MAMMOTH CREATURE TOPPLES FORWARD...

MY VICTORY OVER TARTARO MEANS NAUGHT!

'TIS TYPHON-- HE WHO HATH EXILED THE IMMORTALS TO SOME DREAD LIMBO-- WHO IS TRULY THE ENEMY!



HE HATH DEPARTED FOR THE SHIMMERING PALACE OF MY FATHER ZEUS-- THINKING I WAS TRULY DOOMED!

BUT, HE SHALL SOON LEARN HIS ERROR!

AND THE THOUGHTS OF THE TRIUMPHANT TITAN ARE, INDEED, UPON MATTERS BESIDES THE FATE OF THE LION OF OLYMPUS...

IN THE MYSTIC MIRROR OF DEFEATED ZEUS, I BEHOLD THE LAND OF MORTALS WHICH HE SO LONG AGO DID FAVOR!

HOW IT HAS CHANGED! 'TIS NOW A PRIZE WELL WORTH THE TAKING!

THEREFORE, TYPHON SHALL TAKE IT!

BY THE CYCLOPEAN THUNDERBOLTS! SOMETHING... IS HAPPENING... TO ME--!

A YE, SON OF ZEUS!

SHARE NOW THE FATE OF YOUR FELLOW OLYMPIANS -- WHICH IS FAR WORSE THAN THE SWIFT DEATH YOU DID ESCAPE!

SPTAKK!

THE NEXT INSTANT, AS A STARTLED HERCULES STARES IN TRANSFIXED UNBELIEF...

I HAVE BEEN TRANSPORTED TO ANOTHER WORLD--A LAND OF SHADOWY MISTS--OF SINISTER SHADOWS--!

--ONE FROM WHICH THERE IS TRULY... NO ESCAPE!

SUDDENLY...

THINE HOUR OF BRIEF GLORY IS ENDED, EVIL ONE!

HERCULES! YOU YET LIVE!

THEN, I MUST DO THAT WHICH I SHOULD HAVE DONE AT ONCE!

WHILE, IN THE GLEAMING PALACE OF ZEUS...

NOW, TRULY, DOES ONE WHO IS WORTHY SIT UPON THE THRONE OF TIMELESS OLYMPUS!

AND SOON, I SHALL ADD TO MY CONQUESTS THAT SPHERE WHICH IS CALLED...EARTH!

NEXT INCREDIBLE ISH:
"A TITAN STRIDES THE LAND"

NOTE: OUR LETTERS SECTION APPEARS AFTER NEXT PAGE...