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Foreword by Stan Lee

It had to happen.

They were too mighty, too powerful, too popular! Every comic book fan had the same demand: "You must team them up! You must let them become Earth's Mightiest Team!"

Well, you know us. Your wish is our command. And so the Avengers was born.

In the beginning, we started slowly. Our first Avengers lineup consisted of Thor. Iron Man, Ant Man/Giant Man and the wondrous Wasp. But we couldn't wait to see the fireworks that would ensue if we added the Hulk and Sub-Mariner, And, of course, tossing in Captain America to lead the team was a no-brainer.

I loved the idea of having Iron Man's Fifth Avenue mansion become their headquarters. You wouldn't believe how many Marvel Comics fans, upon visiting New York, would immediately head for Fifth Avenue, desperately trying to find the mansion, hoping to get a glimpse of one of the Avengers, just as I used to search Baker Street when I visited London, certain I'd run into Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson sooner or later.

Of course, as time went by, some Avengers temporarily left the team while others were added. In fact, after the first few months, I had to keep referring to a list on my desk telling me who was a member at any given time because I couldn't keep track of them.

Loness almost every Marvel hero has been an Avenger at some time or other. but how about those great villains! Any team that has to fight the likes of Baron Zemo and his Masters of Evil, or Ultron, or Doctor Doom, or Kang the Conqueror, or the Mandarin, or Arruma, or

Of course, it was always fun to make good guys out of bad guys and vice versa. as in the case of Ouicksilver and the Scarlet Witch. But I got the biggest kick out of the times when the group wouldn't be able to agree on who the next leader should be

Magneto-hey, you get the idea

The thing is, when you run down the roster of Marvel's top heroes you've gotta realize it isn't an easy choice!

We certainly weren't bashful about including the fair sex, either. Who can forget the beautiful and exotic Enchantress, the Black Widow, Hellcat, Ms. Marvel, Tigra, Spider-Woman, Morgan Le Fey, Crystal, She-Hulk and the many other scintillating female characters whose fans will hate me because I forgot to mention them here. But, even though I may have forgotten a few, there's no way vou'll forget them because you'll soon be feasting your eves on each and every one on the pandemonious pages that follow!

One of the more interesting things about the Avengers is that every decade or so we get a whole new take on Earth's mightiest team. The original Avengers of the 1960s gave way to the new and different ones of the 1970s who, in turn, morphed into the Avengers of the 1980s. This team then transformed itself in the 1990s, until finally we have the new and exciting group that Marvel has gifted us with today.

But no matter how eloquently I describe the grandeur and glory of the Avengers, I can't begin to do justice to the wonderment you'll find in this book. So settle back and let your love of fantasy and adventure

savor the magic and mystique of Earth's Mightiest Hero Team.

Excelsion



Odin disguised Thor's magic

hammer as an old walking stick

that his son would

find it one day

and hid it in a cave, knowing

THOR

NO ONE EVER SAID that being a god would be easy...
Mighty Thor is a member of a virtually immortal race of superhuman beings who were once worshiped as the Norse Gods. The son of Odin, lord of Asgard. Thor was raised to be a courageous warrior and a compassionate monarch.

He battled the enemies of Asgard and performed amazing feats of valor and nobility. But as his accomplishments grew, so did his ego.

HEALER AND HERO

To teach his headstrong son humility. Odin stripped Thor of his memory and sent him to

Earth in the mortal guise of a lame medical student named Donald Blake. As Blake, Thor learned to care for the sick and dving. He eventually became a successful physician and surgeon.



ten years, Thor regained his magic hammer and his power, but Odin had done his work too well. Thor had grown to love humankind. Determined to protect the Earth, he became a founder member of the Avengers.







Thor is indirectly responsible for the formation of the Avengers. His half-brother Loki used the Hulk to lure Thor into a trap. When the Teen Brigade tried to contact the Fantastic Four, Loki redirected their radio signal so that Don Blake heard it and responded.

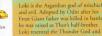
Asgard, Home of the Gods

The Assardians were worshiped centuries ago by the Vikings. Odin is the ruler of Asgard and possesses vast powers. Other Asgardians include Heimdall, guardian of the Rainbow Bridge dimensional gateway linking Earth to Asgard—and Thor's friends Ralder the brave, Hogun the grim, Fandral the dashing and the vainglorious Volstagg, After learning his true heritage, Donald

Blake spent more of his time as Thor. However he has assumed other human identities over the years such as Sigurd Jarlson and Jake Olson



cyborg guardian of an alien ace whose galaxy had been destroyed. He hattled Thor and proved worthy to lift Miolnir. Odin later gave Bill his own



Frost Giant father was killed in battle he was raised as Thor's half-brother. Loki resented the Thunder God and vowed to destroy him. Loki is a shape changer and a master of black magic, can project himself through time and Loki bares the fact that his own misdeeds created the Avengers and will



Thor and even took his place on the Avengers, Awarded his own magic mace. Thunderstrike was killed in combat.

Thor's childhood playmates and she fell in love with him when they were teenagers. While she was training to be a warrior goddess, Thor was exiled to Earth and Donald Blake fell in love with Jane Foster, his nurse, After Thor regained his memory and broke up with



The sister of Heimdall, Sif was one of his mortal girlfriend, he remembered the Lady Sif.





Corporate headquarters for Stark Industries.

IRON MAN

TONY STARK, alias the super hero Iron Man is one of the founders of the Avengers. Acting upon the Teen Brigade's plea for help to stop the rampaging Hulk, the wealthy industrialist donned his battle armor. In company with Ant-Man and the Wasp, he tracked

down the Hulk and challenged him. Stark also donated the mansion that became the team's headquarters. He set up a trust fund to cover expenses and provided technical support and weaponry, including the Quinjets.

THE BOY GENIUS

Anthony "Tony" Stark had always believed in the power of technology to improve people's quality of life. The millionaire's son enrolled in an electrical engineering program at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology at the age of 15 and graduated at the top of his class. He inherited Stark Industries when he was only 21 and began designing and manufacturing high-tech weaponry for the government, Profits rose sharply under Tony's leadership and Stark Industries soon became one of the nation's leading industrial manufacturing complexes.



Wine and Roses Tony Stark enjoyed the good life. He was rich and handsome. His address book contained the private numbers of movie stars and supermodels. He knew how to make money and was even better at spending it. However, Tony also took his work seriously. He was constantly inventing new technologies or

improving old ones.

Stark can control his

battle armor with a

remote headset that

transmits his mental

The Iron Man armor contains weapons such as laser cannons, magnetic field generators, concussion blasters flamethrowers, and mini-missile launchers.



While testing an invention in Southeast Asia, a jungle booby trap exploded and shrappel lodged near his heart. Tony was captured by the Warlord, who ordered him to construct a super-weapon. Knowing that it was only a matter of time before the shrappel killed him, he built an armored

suit with another prisoner. The armored chest plate kept his heart beating and give him superhuman strength.



The Golden Avenger

Tony used his new Iron Man armor to escape the Warlord and return to the U.S. Tony wore his armored chest plate beneath his clothes for years, but no longer needs it to survive. Since Iron Man was often seen at Stark Industries, Tony circulated the story that "The Golden Avenger" was his personal bodyguard.



until the team disbanded. War

War Machine

Machine bartlesuit had its own air supply

and enabled flight or underwater travel.

electromagnetic pulse generator. The



the suggestion

Tony Stark is constantly making adjustments to his suit of armor or building swits that have specific uses or weaponry. He stores nearly a hundred fully functioning suits, but is still building more.



James Rhodes was a Marine pilot stationed in Southeast Asia. Shot out of the sky, he was trying to fix his helicopter when Iron Man walked out of the jungle. Having just escaped the Warlord, Stark was trying to make his way



back to American lines. Though the helicopter could not be repaired, its batteries recharged Iron Man's power supply. The two men became friends as they crossed the jungle to safety and Rhodes became Stark's pilot and confidant. When personal problems forced Stark to temporarily give up being Iron Man, he







Inside the Ant Hill

When Pym first shrank to ant size, he stumbled outside and was attacked by worker ants. Seeking refuge in an nearby ant hill, he became mired in a honey-filled tunnel. Fortunately, a friendly ant pulled him to safety and took him back home.

Mansion to get medical

treatment for the Wasp.



R HENRY "HANK" PYM was a brilliant D biochemist who developed a formula that made use of subatomic elements that he dubbed "Pym particles." These particles could shrink and enlarge the size of any object. He tested the formula on himself and shrunk himself to the size

of an ant! After regaining his normal height and weight, the relieved Pym poured the rest of his formula down the sink.



Pvm came to regret his hasty action and recreated the formula. Haunted by the death of his first wife, a foreign dissident murdered by her government's secret police, he resolved to use his formula to fight for justice. He spent the next few months studying ants and built a

a full-grown man. He cybernetic helmet that enabled him to was also a skilled fighter. communicate with them.

HUMAN POWER

While reduced to

ant-sized. Pvm still

passessed the strength of



and control ants and higher insects.



Among Us Walks a Goliath After taking a small leave of absence, Pym returned to the Avengers with a new costume and new name. But Goliath strained himself and became

trapped at giant size for many months.

Pym is the first costumes adventurer to call himself Goliath: Clint Barton and Bill Foster

also used the name and powers for a brief time, Erik Josten, who began as the villainous Power Man, then took the

As Giant-Man, Pym

can now reach a top

height of 100 feet

name, before calling







The Haunted Hero

With the aid of Dr. Bill Foster, who would later become another Giant-Man, Pvm regained his normal size. A series of disappointments, failures, and tragedies plagued Pym and he suffered a series of mental breakdowns.

YELLOWIACKET

While suffering from a split personality. Pym created another identity, an aggressive. arrogant hero called Yellowjacket. He and the Wasp finally married

but did not live happily ever after.

YELLOW, MCKET

A Team Player Pym's mental problems grew, and hi

marriage to the Wasp ended in divorce. He tried to retire from costumed heroics, but later served as the resident scientist for the West Coast Avengers. No matter how many times he tries to quit. Henry Pym always returns to the Avengers.



Wasp and they joined the Avenuers. A few months later, he adapted his his size and power



SIZE MATTERS Giant-Man usually stood 10 feet (3 meters) tall, although he could attain 25 feet (7.6 meters) in height. His strength grew in direct but so did the strain on his body. Growing to gigantic size always left









A FAMILIAR FACE They looked strikingly similar, but Jane's sunny disposition was the complete opposite of Henry Pyn's former wife.

The WASP

JANET WAN DYME was the daughter of well known scientist Vernon van Dyne. He planned to use a beam of gamma radiation to detect intelligent life on other planets and tried to interest

Dr. Henry Pym in the project. Janet found herself attracted to Pym, who was also drawn to her, seeing a resemblance between Janet and his late wife. Pym decided not to work on the experiment, but Vernon proceeded without him and discovered a planet inhabited by an alien race, the Kosmosians.



CELLULAR SURGERY

Pym implanted cells beneath Janet's skin at her shoulder blades and temples, so that she could grow wings and antennae whenever she shrank to insect size.

ALIEN KILLER Plai, a criminal from Kosmos, used van Dyne's beam to teleport himself to Earth and murdered the scientist. Janet discovered her father's body and immediately called Pym. After learning that Janet wanted to bring the killer to pisuice and protect other innocent people from harm, Pym revealed that he was Ant-Man and invited her to become a

costumed crime-fighter. She immediately accepted

and he gave her the ability to become the Wasp.

Ant-Man and the Wash

soon tracked down the

murderous Pilai and

defeated him.

Staving Together

Ant-Man and the Wasp continued to work together and soon fell in love. They became founding members of the Avengers, joining in many early battles with the Hulk, Sub-Mariner, Baron Zemo, and Kang. In time, however, Pym wanted to return to his scientific research work; he decided to retire from crime-





WIT OF THE WASP WOMAN

Confident and independent, Janet knows that men find her attractive and she likes to flirt. Her fun-loving personality can, make her seem shallow, but her mind is razzor-sharp.



Adventurous Spirit
Unlike Pym, Janet loved being the
Wasp and tried to lure him back into
costume. She also went on solo
adventures, using her size-changing

she had picked up from Pym.

powers and scientific knowledge that



Trickster Loki made Hulk believe there was dynamite on the tracks

CALL TO ACTION

invincible Iron Man

The AVENGERS' ORIGIN

MPRISONED ON the dreaded Isle of Silence for crimes against Thor. Loki planned his revenge on the thunder god. He projected his consciousness to the Earth and began searching for a menace powerful enough to challenge his hated half-brother. He soon spotted the incredible Hulk and tricked him into destroying a train trestle. When Rick Iones heard about the Hulk's rampage, he summoned the members of his newly formed Teen Brigade and attempted to contact the Fantastic Four.

HEADLINE NEWS Whether the Hulk was innocent or guilty of wrecking the railroad. Rick knew only the Fantastic Four could stop him

Teen Brigade

The Teen Brigade was a loose-knit group of young, amateur radio enthusiasts who originally handed together to keep track of the Hulk's movements. The team often came to the aid of the Avengers and even managed to free them when they were taken prisoner by Kang.



Rick Jones

Rick was a teenage orphan who, acting on a dare, drove onto a bomb test site and caused Dr. Bruce Banner to be exposed to gamma radiation and become the Hulk. Feeling guilty, Rick often helped both Banner and the Hulk. After the Hulk ouit the Avengers, Rick staved with the team as an unofficial member. He eventually merged with the original



Captain Marvel, and later his son.

The Hulk Incognito

Annoved by the appearance of Iron man, Ant-Man and Wasp, Loki lured Thor away from them by projecting an image of the Hulk. As soon as Thor realized he was only pursuing an image, he began to suspect Loki's involvement. Meanwhile, the other

The Teen Brigade used a homemade radio to reach the Fantastic Four

However, Loki didn't want them involved and he diverted the signal

so that Dr. Donald Blake heard the cry for help. Blake immediately

transformed into the mighty Thor. The astonishing Ant-Man

and the wondrous Wasp also responded... and so did the

heroes searched for the real Hulk. One of Ant-Man's ants spotted the Hulk who was posing as "Mechano," a super strong robot juggler in a circus

MECHANO!

Accused of train-wrecking. the bewildered Hulk went into hiding as Mechano, "The Marvel of the Age,

burrowed under "Mechano," causing the earth to case in he had been found out,

beneath him. Realizing

the Hulk wiped off his Man, Ant-Man, and Wasp Ant-Man suggested that the heroes form a team to fight foes and menaces that were too powerful for a single hero. Sick of being hunted and hounded, even the Hulk agreed to join... and thus were the Avengers Assembled!

Avengers Assemble!

The Glowing God

TEAM BUILDING

With Loki out of the way,

powers could be complimentary

the heroes realized their

proof that the Hulk was

innocent, Undeterred, Loki cast a



The MANSION

A VENGERS MANSION was originally built in 1932 to house the Stark family. Located at 890 Fifth Avenue in Manhattan, New York City, it is a three-story townhouse with three additional below-ground levels. The Mansion was donated to the Avengers by Tony Stark, one of the founding members, and has been significantly modified to fit the team's special needs. The above ground levels contain all the areas open



Top Security

Surrounded by a concrete wall 12 feet (3.65 meters) high and 1 ft (30 cm) thick, the Mansjon is a virtual fortress. The walls, yard, doors, windows, and roof are wired with state-ofthe-art surveillance equipment; no one can enter the grounds without being observed. A range of detainment devices sited around the property intercept unauthorized visitors. Stark personally reviews and upgrades the system each year.





Built for private weapons

testing and storage, this also houses spare parts for Stark's current Iron Man armor He also stores obsolete, backup, and experimental versions of his Iron Man armor, as well as suits with specific uses, such as his undersea and stealth armors.

FIRING RANGE Computerized targeting center and workshop where Hawkeye used to build his trick arrows.



An emergency



THE AVENGERS IN THE 1960s

THE MARVEL UNIVERSE was only two years old when the Avengers first appeared. After creating the Fantastic Four with Jack Kirby in 1961, Stan Lee teamed up with Jack Kirby and arrists Steve Dirko and Don Heck to create other super heroes like the Hulk, Spider-Man, Thor, Iron Man and Ant-Man. When the time came to launch a new title, it seemed natural to team up some of their current heroes. The Avengers weren't like any other

super-team. Where the Fantastic Four was a family. the Avengers were a team of all-stars with an everchanging roster. The group first gathered together to fight the Hulk and then invited him to become a member. He agreed, but only stayed for one issue. Captain America joined in the fourth issue and a whole new team was introduced in Avengers #16.

The creative team also underwent changes: Stan Lee and Jack Kirby began the series, but Jack left the title's interiors after only eight issues, although he continued drawing the covers for the next few years. Artist Don Heck took over in 1964 and penciled 22 issues and an annual. He was followed by John Buscema in 1967, who did about 21 issues. Gene Colan, Barry Windsor-Smith and Sal Buscema all succeeded John, producing a few issues

each. Stan Lee scripted the first 34 issues and writer Roy Thomas took up the reins in 1966 with a run that continued into the 1970s



saled we have

The Avengers Annual #1 (Sept. 1967) The Mandarin eathers a squad of supervillains to take on both the original members and the new Avengers team in a story by Roy Thomas and Don Heck. (Cover by John Buscema and George Rousses)

The Avenuers #4 (March. 1964) Captain America is resurrected from comics' Golden Age and joins the team (Cover by lack Kirby and George Roussos)

1963

The Avengers #1 (Sept. 1963) Earth's Mightiest Heroes assemble to combat Loki. (Cover by Jack Kirby and Dick Ayers



The Avengers #3 (Jan. 1964) The Hulk joins the Sub-Mariner against his former team. (Cover by Jack Kirby and Paul Reinman)



The Avengers #16 (May 1965) A new group of Avengers takes over the title. (Cover by Jack Kirby and Sol Brodsky)



Avengers #43 (Aug. 1967) The Avengers #30 (July 1966) keve learns about the Black The Avengers discover El Dorado. (Cover by Jack Kirby low's shady past. (Cover by Buscema and George Roussos) and Frank Giacoia)





The Avengers #58 (Nov. 1968) The Vision joins the team. (Cover by John Buscema and George Klein)



exchanges his arrows for Hank Pym's growth serum and becomes the new Goliath. (Cover by Gene Colan and George Klein

The Avengers #56 (Sept. 1968) Captain America relives the death of

his partner, Bucky Barnes, (Cover John Buscema and George Klein)



The Avengers #71 (Dec. 1969) The first appearance of the Invaders. (Cover by Sal Buscema and Sam Grainger)





CAPTAIN AMERICA CTEVE ROGERS was a sickly young man who grew up during the economic depression of the 1930s. When

the Nazis invaded Europe, Steve tried to enlist, but was rejected on health grounds. A general overheard him express his desire to serve his country and offered him a chance to join a program called Operation: Rebirth.

SUPER-SOLDIER

Steve was injected with topsecret Super-Soldier serum and his body was bombarded with "vita-rays." The treatment transformed his weak body into the pinnacle of human

perfection. Though he was supposed be the first of an army of physically enhanced agents, a Nazi spy murdered the serum's inventor and Steve thus

became the Army's one and only super-soldier.

SYMBOL OF FREEDOM After intense training in gymnastics and martial

arts, Steve Rogers was given a costume patternea fter his country's flag and code-named Captain America

Bucky Barnes

Ornhan James Buchanan "Bucky" Barnes was a mascot at Camp Lehigh Virginia, where Steve Rogers was stationed. After accidentally learning Steve's secret identity, Bucky trained with Captain America and gained his

own costume.

FATAL MOMENT Cap could only look on helplessly as Bucky tried to defuse the bomb

Bucky's Death Toward the end of World War II Cap and Bucky tried to foil Baron Zemo's scheme to steal a bomb-laden drone plane. As the plane

took off, Bucky leaped aboard and was killed defusing the bomb. Captain America fell into the sea, where the Super-Soldier formula caused him to enter a state of suspended animation.



Reborn

The unconscious Captain America drifted in the ocean until he became frozen in a block of ice. Decades later he was found (helow) and revived by the newly formed Avengers. Invited to join the team, he formed a close friendship with

Rick Iones, who became his partner for a while, Cap possesses superhuman strength, speed, agility, and endurance. His shield is made of an unknown, virtually indestructible alloy and is a perfectly balanced throwing weapon.





Costume Change

Captain America's costume is one of the most instantly recognizable of all heroes'. However, he has occasionally changed his look when the situation demanded it.



Temporarily fired by the U.S. government, Cap were a black version of his costume for a few months



Skilled in every known form of hand-to-hand combat. Captain America is also a master of strategy. He first assumed leadership of the Avengers when the original four members decided to leave and he helped recruit the new team. Though he has occasionally left for brief periods. Cap has always been a cornerstone of the Avengers. He is also a symbol of liberty and justice.



THE EX-PATRIOT Accused of being a traitor.

Cap adopted another new costume when he was temporarily exiled from his beloved America

The Invaders During World War II, Cap

helped form the Invaders. Along with Bucky, the original Human Torch, his partner Toro and the Sub-Mariner, Cap battled the superhuman agents of the Axis Powers, Later members included Union Jack, Spirfire, the Whizzer and Miss America.







SPACE PHANTOM

THE ADVANCE SCOUT of an alien invasion force from the planet Phantus, the Space Phantom arrived on Earth shortly after the Avengers became a team. The alien quickly realized that he had to eliminate these powerful heroes in order to complete his mission. Like the rest

of his highly evolved race, the Space Phantom could instantly assume the physical appearance and powers of any mortal. Whenever he duplicated someone, the original was immediately shunted into Limbo, where he or she remained until the Phantom took on another likeness or returned to his own appearance.



Lost in Limbo

The Space Phantom began his attack on the Avengers by impersonating the Hulk and starting a fight with the rest of the team. But when the Phantom tried to take on Thor's identity, he discovered that his power did not work on immortal Asgardians and found himself in Limbo. After escaping, he joined the Grim Reaper and later became the pawn of mmortus, the lord of Limbo.

The LAVA MEN

DEEP BENEATH the Earth's surface is a network of Underground caves called Subterranea, where lives a race of rock-like Lava Men. They possess skin the color of molten lava and can generate intense blasts of heat. They can also expel blasts of volcanic ash and instantly melt metal or turn it into ash. Dissatisfied with their underground existence, the Lava Men often try to invade the surface world, but are always thwarted by the Avengers.



The Lava Men forced a gigantic "living rock" to the surface, where it caused wholesale destruction by emitting piercing sounds. The Avengers arrived and tricked the Hulk into striking the one spot that destroyed the rock. The Lava Men Mistaken by the Lava Men also attempted to make all the volcanoes on for a sacred figure from Earth erupt, and later clashed with the their levends. Captain Avengers again when a government Marvel stopped the battle agency sank a magma tap into the Earth. and arranged a truce



MINOTAUR

THE LEGENDARY MINOTAUR is one of the great beasts of the Earth and is virtually immortal. Half-man and half-bull, it possesses super-strength and is incapable of feeling physical pain. Its hide is also indestructible.

The monster wandered the underground world known as Subterranea for centuries until it found its way to Monster Isle, home of the hate-filled Mole Man. Determined to destroy the Avengers, the Mole Man lured them into a trap

and forced them to fight the deadly Minotaur.



Unbeat-a-bull!

Caprain America's shield proved useless against the Minotaur's tough hide and so did Hawkeve's arrows. Only by working together could the new ream defeat the creature.

ARMAGEDDON!

humanity, the Mole

designed to set off

around the world.

massive earthauakes

Man's atomic

gyroscope was

Determined to punish

MOLE MAN

Man leave the team, the new Avenger

valized that they needed the Hulk's

power. Their search led them into a

tion with the Minotaur.

DEAUTY MAY ONLY BE skin deep, but ugliness can scar b forever... the Mole Man knew no one liked him. Women ignored him and his co-workers made fun of him. Disgusted with this treatment, he journeyed to the





control of Subterranea. He also tried to sink California and raise a new continent. He was briefly imprisoned by the Lava Men and later asked the Avengers to help save his kingdom.







BARON ZEMO



ADHESIE X
Zeno invented an adhesive that
was to powerful it could never be
dissolved. It had tremendous
military patental because it could
be dropped on enemy armite and
glue them to the ground.
Zenoù made had

allowed him to

DARNI REMOWLE THE Was a War II. A designer of super-weapons, he built an early laser, a "death ray" that could disintegrate almost anything. Targeted by the Allies, Zemo began to wear a red hood to conceal his identity. He was working on "Adhesive X" when Captain America broke into his lab. Cap's shield shattered the vat of adhesive and Zemo's mask was permanently glued to his head.

REVENGE

Furious with Captain America. Zemo created powerful androids that artacked British and American forces. As World War II was drawing to a close. Zemo went to London to steal an experimental drone plane. Captain America learned of his plan and arrived with his teenage partner Bucky. During their battle, Bucky was killed and Captain America was flung into the occan, falling into a state of suspended animating into a state of suspended animating.



LORD ZEMO
After the war,
Zemo fled to the
jungles of South
America, Zemo
conquered a smal
kingdom. The
natives thought

The Birth of Wonder Man Learning that Capain America had been revived. Zemo came out of hiding and tried to kill his old for Zemo formed the Masters of Evil and tried to capture the Avengers with his 'Adhesive X' spray. When that failed, he reamed up with the Enchantress and the Executioner. Zemo later transformed Simon Williams into the super-strong Wonder Man régirly and tried to use him to destrow the Avenere, but Williams .





Zemo kidnapped Rick Jones and brought him to South America. When the Avengers tried to rescue the teenager, they were ambushed by the Masters of Evil and Captain America had to go to Zemo's base alone. When Captain America finally confronted the man who had murdered his friend Bucky, his shield temporarily blinded Zemo who accidentally caused a landslide

SON OF ZEMO

Helmut Zemo swore to get revenge on Captain America for killin his father. Wearing a similar costume, the new Baron Zemo tried to drown Cap and the Falcon in a boiling vat of "Adhesive X."



A Bitter Enemy

During the battle, the searing liquid splashed Helmut and his face was horribly scared. Zemo later sent an army of mutates after Cap and formed a brief alliance with the Red Skull. He later organized a new Masters of Evil and invaded Avengers Mansion. When the Avengers temporarily dispepared from this reality, Zemo gathered his Masters of Evil and refit them with new, "heroic" identities as the Thunderbolts.

Helmut took
the identity of
Citizen V, a British
costumed hero murdered
by the first Zemo.

Masters of Evil

The Masters of Evil some formed by the first Brand Zano, This Carn consisted of the Melter, who possisted a device that could mich solid objects and often fought from Man, the Radioactive Man, a living nuclear reserve who Stritled Thor and the Black Knight, an armored warmer who frequently challenged Giant-Man. The Executioner and the Enchantress later joined the team, which disbanded shortly after Brano Zenoù de Mandre Stritter (2018).













ENCHANTRESS

A MORA THE ENCHANTRESS was born in Asgard, A home of the Norse Gods. She studied magic under the guidance of Karnilla, Queen of the Norns, but was dismissed for being too undisciplined. Undaunted, the Enchantress used her youth and beauty to persuade many of Asgard's greatest wizards to share their secrets with her. She soon became a sorceress of great knowledge and power.



SECRET PASSION Loki once asked Amora to make Thor her slave. She agreed because she was secretly in love with the thunder god.

MISTRESS OF MISCHIEF

Exiled from Aspard because of her evil deeds, the Enchantress and her partner the Executioner joined with Baron Zemo, She used magic to make Thor attack his fellow Avengers. He battled Giant-Man and the Wash before Iron Man woke him from his trance. The Enchantress also helped Zemo create Wonder Man and her sorcery saved the Masters of Evil from Immortus.

While posing as the

male members.

Valkyrie, Amora once

convinced all the female

Avenuers to attack the



Amora hated the Avengers so much that she used one of Zemo's machines to create the villain Power Man. After failing to conquer Asgard herself. Amora was Loki's chief lieutenant when he briefly became ruler. Pretending to repent of her past crimes. Amora even become Thor's girlfriend for a while, but she soon returned

Like all Asgardians, Amora is virtually immortal and

possesses superhuman strength and endurance.

ITBERATORS

EXECUTIONER

THE SON OF A FROST GIANT and an Asgardian goddess, Skurge chose the life of a warrior. He became known as the Executioner when he helped the Norse Gods win a war against the Storm Giants. Skurge fell in love with Amora the Enchantress as soon as he laid eyes on her. He desperately tried to win her heart, but she treated him more like a pet than a lover.

THE EXECUTIONER'S SAD SONG

Exiled to Earth for attempting to kill Thor. Skurge became one of Baron Zemo's Masters of Evil; his hatred for Thor often led him to attack the Avengers, Skurge also aided Loki on many occasions. Once, fed up with Amora's disdainful treatment, he left her and journeyed into the future in a bid to establish an empire. He later returned to Amora and they invaded Asgard together with a troll armyonly to be defeated by Thor.



GREEN-EYED MONSTERS When she learned that Thor had fallen in love with lane Foster, Amora become

jealous and sent Skuree to kidnap her. He exiled the mortal woman to

another dimension and tried to humiliate the thunder god in battle.

true warrior born, a master of combat and almost as strong

Redemption at Last

Despite his past crimes, Skurge teamedup with Thor when Surtur, an enormous fiery demon, attempted to destroy Asgard Skurge was later shocked to discover that Amora had fallen in love with someone else. Having nothing to live for, he joined Thor on a quest to the land of the dead, where he heroically sacrificed himself to save his former enemy. His spirit now resides in Valhalla, although it has occasionally ventured forth to aid Thor.

Skurge carried a double-bladed, magical ax that could rip open rifts in time and space so that he could travel between dimensions It also fired blasts of intense cold or heat.



KANG

I IE WAS BORN to conquer. The child destined to be Kang was born in the 30th Century of one of Earth's possible futures. Although his world sparkled with peace and prosperity, he

craved action and studied the great warriors of the past. He constructed a great timeship that was modeled to resemble the Sphinx. Traveling to ancient Egypt, he used his scientific knowledge and advanced weaponry to become the absolute monarch of the ancient world.

THE CONQUEROR

Calling himself Rama-Tut, Kang ruled Egypt until the Fantastic Four journeyed back in time and forced him to flee into the timestream. He overshot the 30th century and arrived in the war-torn 40th century. He soon made himself master of that time period and then decided to extend his empire to include other eras.



A Change of Target

Kang journeyed to the present and landed his warship near Washington D.C. To his surprise, the authorities summoned the newly formed Avengers instead of the Fantastic Four. Kang soon caught the and imprisoned them in his ship. Rick Jones and his Teen Brigade freed the Avengers, who deactivated Kang's battlesuit and forced him to flee back to the future-thereby earning



NEW SHIP

Kang replaced his Sphinx-

like timeship with a

heavily-armed craft.

REVENGE BID

evenge on the

Determined to get his

decided to add their

The membership changed,

to crush the Avengers and

conquer the one era that

Kang learned that his ancestor was Nathaniel Richards, the father of Mr. Fantastic, Reed Richards



Kang is a brilliant scientist and strategist. His body armor is composed of metal alloys that are only available in the 40th century. The battlesuit grants him superhuman strength and is equipped with a 30day supply of air and food. It contains a force-field projector powerful enough to withstand blows from Thor's hammer. Kang's gauntlets project an antigravitational beam and can also fire concussive blasts.



For Love of Rayonna

Kang fell in love with the beautiful Princess Rayonna. ruler of the last unconquered kingdom on an alternate future Earth. Bringing the Avengers to her time, he tried to impress her by defeating them, but she was severely injured by one of his underlings. However, nothing could diminish Kang's unrequited



Along Came a Spider...

Kang decided to attack the Avengers with a robot duplicate of Spider-Man. He built the automaton and sent it into the past, where it lured Giant-Man and the Wasp into a trap. When Thor appeared, the robot tricked him into changing back into Dr. Don Blake. Though the robot also managed to defeat Captain America, the real Spider-Man caught on to Kang's plan, fought the robot, and deactivated it. Kang had been foiled once more



passion.

Whenever Kang traveled through rime, he created alternate timelines and duplicates of himself. One of those duplicates stumbled into realm beyond time. Calling himself Immortus, he renounced his past attempts at conquest and began to

untangle the many timelines Kang had accidentally created. Immortus believed he knew what was best for the timestream and thus clashed with both his other selves and the Avengers



Scarlet Centurion

An alternate version of Rama-Tut became trapped in a time storm and ended up in the 20th century. Adopting the new identity of the Scarlet Centurion, he created a divergent timeline where he contacted the original Avengers shortly after their formation. He convinced them to take over the world for its own good and to imprison all other super beings.

THE GROWING MAN Originally the size of a child's doll, the Growing Man can reach enormous heights by absorbing any blast, blow, or energy directed at it. Kang has used it against Thor, Iron Man, and the entire Avengers team









even led them for a while

THUNDERBOLTS Because of his own checkered past, Hawkeye was sympathetic to the Thunderbolts, a team of former super-villains who became heroes, and

The Old Order Changeth

When the Black Widow decided to quit being a spy, she was wounded by assassins. The attack made Hawkeve reassess his life; he wanted to fight criminals, not be one. He begged to be admitted into the Avengers. Impressed by his sincerity, his old enemy Iron Man sponsored him for membership. Hawkeye joined Captain America, Quicksilver and the Scarlet Witch when

Thor, Iron Man, Giant-Man, and the Wasp left the team.

But the transition wasn't easy for the world's greatest archer.

Biologist Barbara "Bobbi" Morse ioined a government project to rediscover the Super-Soldier formula that transformed Steve Rogers into Captain America. She later became a S.H.I.E.L.D. agent. After a number of missions, she resigned and took on a costumed identity, calling herself first "the Huntress" and later "Mockingbird." While investigating a corrupt corporation, she met Hawkeye, her future husband. She joined him on the West Coast

Mockingbird

Avengers team, but they become estranged when she allowed an enemy to fall to his death. Mockingbire started her own short-lived team with Moon Knight and Tigra and helped train the Great Lakes

Avengers. She and Hawkeye were reconciled by the time of her sad death, during a battle with the demon Menhisto



Hawkeye borrowed Hank Pym's growth formula for a while and became a new Goliath. During this time, he captured the criminal genius Egghead who was responsible for the death of his brother Barney. After returning to his bow, Hawkeve temporarily joined the Defenders and fought on their side when they



branch of the Avengers based in California Wedded Warriors

set up a West Coast

GO WEST

Hawkeye was assigned to

While on temporary leave from the Avengers. Hawkeye met and married Mockingbird, who joined him on the West Coast Avengers. Their marriage had its ups and downs, but they were together when she wa killed in combat.







Evil Mutants

Believing that they owed their lives to Magneto, the Scarlet Witch and Ouicksilver joined his Brotherhood of

UNHAPPY MARRIAGE

Despite her brother Pietro's

objections, Wanda married the

Vision. They left the Avengers,

set up house in New Jersey, and

were very happy—until the Vision lost his human emotions

The couple were soon divor

SCARLET WITCH

AISED IN THE EASTERN EUROPEAN country of Transia by a R gypsy couple, Wanda Maximoff soon learned that she had the uncanny ability to cast hexes that caused very strange things to happen. When she accidentally caused a house to burst into flame, the startled villagers almost stoned her to death as a witch Wanda and her twin brother Pietro

were saved by Magneto, the master of magnetism, who realized that the two teenagers were mutants with potentially incredible powers.

MIITANT AVENGERS

Unaware that Magneto was their real father. Wanda and Pietro took on costumed identities, as the Scarlet Witch and Ouicksilver respectively, and aided him in his war against humanity. After many battles with the X-Men, the twins abandoned Magneto and were offered a chance to join the Avengers in return for full pardons for their past crimes. Pietro eventually left the team. but Wanda decided to stay She became attracted to the Vision and began a long romance with him.

Spells of Madness

Wanda began to study real magic and to combine it with her natural mutant abilities. However she paid a terrible price for her increased powers: she began to lose her grip on reality, conjuring up imaginary children and repeatedly experiencing bouts of insanity, during which she attacked the Avengers.

DISASSEMBLED During one breakdown, Wanda

The Scarlet Witch

can affec

cause unlikely

launched an attack that resulted in the destruction of the Avenger mansion and a number of deaths She then tried to make the world fit her mad take on reality.

QUICKSILVER

THE WORLD HAS ALWAYS moved too slowly for Pietro Maximoff, Born with superhuman speed and reflexes, he is the son of Magneto, the world's most dangerous mutant super-criminal. Pietro's mother fled to Eastern Europe, desperate

to protect her children from their father's evil influence. She gave Pietro and his twin sister Wanda up for adoption and the children became inseparable.



REBELLIOUS NATURE When he first joined the Avengers, Ouickilver often auestioned Captain America's authority, but ally grew to respect him.



fast enough to

create a cyclon by running in

a circle at

QUICK DECISIONS

When Magneto saved Wanda from being stoned as a witch. Pietro reluctantly joined his Brotherhood of Evil Mutants with her. Although he distrusted humanity because of its suspicion of mutants. Pietro left the Brotherhood to join the Avengers



Pietro left the Avengers to live with his new wife. Crystal of the Inhumans, After the birth of their daughter, they quarreled and Pietro vented his anger by attacking the Avengers. He redeemed himself by helping to rescue the Scarlet Witch. who had been brainwashed by Magneto, He then joined X-Factor, a government team of murants



Quicksilver is impatient and easily annoyed because, as far as he is concerned, everyone else always seems to be moving and thinking in slow motion! His entire body is grared toward high-speed running and he can reach speeds of 175 mph (400 km/h).







BLACK WIDOW

Madua Alanoma Romanom is an orphan who was found and raised by a Russian soldier, who would one day become her chauffeur. In her teens, Natasha, as friends called her, proved to be a brilliant scholar and a gifted athlete and ballet dancer. She later married a renowned

Soviet test pilot. After her husband was reported killed, Natasha honored his memory by joining the KGB and training as a spy.



The Black Widow never trained to be a costumed agent. She was only supposed to be a spy. Her first major mission was to help assassinate an employee of Stark Industries, but Iron Man stopped her. She soon met Hawkeye, who quickly fell in love with her. On the run from the police, Hawkeye willingly teamed-up with her against Iron Man. However, Natasha gradually grew disillismond with her

Soviet masters. She decided to defect to the West, but was seriously wounded.



Agent of S.H.I.E.L.D After a brief reunion with Hawkeye, the Widow offered her services to Nick Fury and S.H.I.E.L.D. She performed numerous missions for this worldwide intelligence and peacekeeping

Called to Assemble

After helping the Avengers battle Magneto and the Lion-God, the Black Widow led a super-team called the Champions, who helped the Avengers rescue Hercules from the giant immortal Typhon. After the Champions disbanded, the Widow was invited to join the Avengers. On her first mission, she faced the

Tetrarchs of Entropy, powerful alien caretakers of a dimension full of exiles and super-prisoners.

organization.

WIDOW'S BITE The Widow carries various grenades, a cable line, and a wrist-blaster she calls her "Widow's Bite."



SWORDSMAN

JACQUES DUDUESME grew up admiring a relative known as the Crimson Cavalier, a costumed hero who fought against the Nazis. When he heard that the country of Sin-Cong was fighting for independence, lacques

became the Swordsman and joined the revolutionaries. He later renounced political activism and chose to become a mercenary.



UNREPENTANT

Jacques performed in a circus, befriending young Clint Barton. When Jacques robbe the circus payroll Clint turned against him, and the Swordsman fled to Europe becoming a notorious criminal. He then offered his services to the Avengers, hoping to use them to commit even greater crimes.

A Hero's Death

The Avengers turned down the Swordsman, who joined the Mandarin and attempted to destroy them. However, he grew to admire the team—especially the Scarlet Wirch and Mantin, with whom he fell in love. She refused to date a criminal so he turned his fearmund. Now a champion for justice, the Swordsman Degged the Avengers for a second chance. He proved himself a valuable ally but Mantis still keep her distance. Battling the tyrant Kang, the Swordsman gave his life to saw her bounded to the Swordsman gave his life to saw her



Ty and Thorse

SACRIFICE Mortally wounded by Kang, the Swordsman died in the arms of grief-stricken Mantis.

The Second Swordsman

A few years later, the Avengers met a new Swordsman, from an alternate Earth that had been destroyed. His life story, skills and personality are identical to the original. The new Swordsman travels the world with Magdalene (see p.112). They aid the Avengers whenever called.



The Swordsman is a master of throwing knives and other bladed weapons, and skilled in unarmed combat.



SUPER SWORD

By pressing various buttons on his sword, the Swordsman can project blasts of electrical energy, disintegration rays and streams of flame or nerve gas.



HERCULES

ORN NEARLY three thousand **B** years ago. Hercules is the son of Zeus, king of the gods of Olympus, and a mortal woman. As a baby, he exhibited his extraordinary strength by

strangling two serpents that attacked him. His strength grew until he became the most powerful Olympian of all. In Greek myth. Hercules is best known for his Twelve Labors, which he carried out to prove himself worthy of immortality.



MY BROTHER, MY ENEMY

Ares, the Olympian God of War, has frequently attempted to overthrow Zeus and conquer Olympus: however, Hercules, his half-brother, always ruins his plans. Ares is a true warrior born. He is nearly as strong as Hercules and is highly skilled with various ancient weapons.



Known throughout Olympus as the Prince of Power, Hercules relishes the thrills and joys of battle. He also believes that it is a great honor to fight him and often bestows this so-called "gift" on both friends and foes alike. Instead of a handshake. Hercules often greets his fellow Avengers with a friendly punch in the face.



Lovelorn Hero

With the aid of Ares, Hercules' stepmother Hera played a nasty trick on Hercules. She conjured up an illusion of a woman and cast a spell to make Hercules fall in love with it. He was heartbroken when he learned the truth

POWER MAN

The golden mace of

Hercules is virtually indestructible and has survived direct blows from Thor's hammer.

Hercules is an expert

at all forms of hand-

to-hand combat.

HOME AWAY

Hercules returns to Earth

and rejoins the Avengers whenever his father exiles

him from Olympus for

FROM HOME

FRIK JOSTEN was a smuggler and soldier off fortune who worked for Baron Zemo. After the was killed Erik searched Zemo's old hideout and fround the machine that had given Wonder Man superhuman powers. With the Enchantress' help, Erik activated the machine. He became as strong as mighty Thor and called himself Power Man





THIS POWER FOR HIRE

In love with the Enchantress, Erik tried to help her destroy the Avengers. Using a series of illusions, she managed to turn New York City against the heroes, but later deserted Frik and fled when the Avengers regrouped and teamed up against her. Erik joined with the Swordsman and fought the Avengers for various employers. such as the Mandarin, the Red

Skull and Count Nefaria

Power Man, the Swordsman, and Black Widow made a formidable team, but the malevolent trio were caught unawares in their hideout by a blistering attack by Henry Pym in Goliath mode

Awesome Attack

BAD GOLIATH Erik gained the ability to increase his size and changed his name to Goliath. He can grow to a height of 60 ft (18.3 meters); he

gains in strength as

his size increases.

Power Man

while a





The COLLECTOR

TANELEER TIVAN is one of the oldest creatures in the universe. Virtually immortal, he lived a tranquil existence with his wife and daughter for centuries

beyond number. After his daughter reached maturity and left them, his wife lost the will to live and ceased to exist. Taneleer decided

that he needed a hobby; he began collecting living

IN THE COLLECTOR'S CLUTCHES

As eons passed, Taneleer's obsession with collecting grew. He became interested in the Avengers and schemed to add the Wasp to his collection, but Goliath saved her. He later used a potion to gain control of Thor and sent him to capture Iron Man, but the other Avengers drove him away.



The Clash with Korvac

The Collector sent his daughter, Carina Walters, to spy on a near-omnipotent individual named Michael Korvac, Unfortunately she fell in love with Korvac, who slew her father. The Collector's kinsman, the Grandmaster, later challenged Death to a contest, hoping to resurrect

the Collector. He was finally revived and has returned to his hobby:

collecting.



The Collector is one of the Elders of the Universe and possesses the ability to see into the future. However, his visions only show him what can happen, not necessarily what will actually occur.



COUNT NEFARIA

OUNT LUCHING NEFARIA was the descendant of a long Uline of Italian noblemen. He was also a member of the Maggia crime syndicate.

When the Avengers captured several key Maggia players, Nefaria inveigled the team to his castle and held them in suspended animation. While they were asleep, he projected holograms of the Avengers that threatened to seize control of the U.S.

LIVING NIGHTMARES

The Avengers eventually awoke and cleared their names. Nefaria later returned with a machine that could project highly realistic nightmares. He planned to use this machine to kill the Avengers and began with Iron Man, pitting him against many of his old foes. The device short-circuited when Iron Man won every battle.



cams out of his eyes.

Ani-Men and X-Men

Nefaria commissioned scientists to create the Ani-Men, a team with animal-like superpowers, and seized control of the North American Air Defense Command Center at Valhalla Mountain. He threatened to launch nuclear missiles at any country tha refused to pay him off, but was defeated by

the X-Men. Nefaria's scientists then gave him the powers of Whirlwind, the Living Laser, and Power Man. enhanced a hundred times!



Nefaria was now stronger than Thor and faster than Ouicksilver. He had almost defeated the Avengers when he realized he was aging at a preternaturally rapid rate; he panicked and the Avengers managed to subdue him. Nefaria later seemed to die when his special lifesupport system was destroyed.





Count Nefaria is

virtually immortal because his ionic body always seems to find a way to reform itself.



BLACK PANTHER

JOBEN AMO THE JUNGLES of northern Africa is the tiny nation of Wakanda, which controls the world's supply of vibranium. Every Wakandan chieftain is pledged to protect this rare, sacred, and extremely valuable metal, which absorbs all forms of energy. After being educated

in the finest schools in Europe and America, T'Challa assumed the Wakanda throne and donned the sacred garb of the Black Panther.

MIGHTY MONARCH

T'Challa invited the Fantastic Four to Wakanda and challenged them to a battle. He later teamed up with Captain America against an imposter who was pretending to be Baron Zemo. Impressed with the Panther's courage, Cap proposed him for

The Panther saved the team from the Grim Reaper and later helped to defeat the Sons of the Serpent.

Panther Power

The Black Panther is a highly skilled athlete who is a master of all forms of hand-to-hand combat. He is an expert gymnast and acrobat. He has also mastered the ability to travel through the jungle by

swinging from branch to branch. His senses are exceptionally acute, especially his eyesight. He is also a highly accomplished hunter and can track his prey through both cities and jungles.

EXTRA ACCESSORIES The lenses in the Panther's mask

The lenses in the Panther's mask enhance his natural night vision and the fingers of his gloves expel various types of gas.





The Panther's
boots are constructed
from vibranium,
enabling him to land
on his feet from
great heights





intense heat from his eyes

density. At his maximum density, he tons (45 tonnes). The solar jewel on his brow brorbs solar energy

Magical Feelings

Though he tried to ignore them, the Vision's human emotions began to surface over time. He slowly realized that he was falling in love with Wanda Maximoff, the Scarlet Witch. She returned his feelings, they married, and the happy couple went on leave from the Avengers, settling in Leonia, New Jersey

Chain of Command

Afraid that the Vision could

no longer be trusted, the

government kidnapped

and disassembled him.

and Dr. Pym and the

him back together as

Black Panther put

best they could.

However, in the

ost his human

could no longer

teturn the Scarlet

emotions and

Witch's love.

process, the Vision

The West Coast

The Vision was severely injured when he returned to action to aid the Avengers against Annihilus, a sentient insectoid. Starfox attempted to cure the synthozoid by linking him with ISACC, the massive computer complex that controlled the

Saturn moon Titan, ISACC tapped into a control crystal left in the Vision by Ultron and used it to alter the android's way of thinking.

After becoming the chairmen of the Avengers, the Vision decided to bring a new golden age to humanity by taking control of every computer on Earth. The

other Avengers convinced him to abandon his plan and to destroy the control crystal.

Power Surge

A Fantastic Voyage The Vision once collapsed and

appeared to be dying. To save him, Dr. Hank Pvm became Ant-Man and entered the synthozoid's throat. Pym discovered that the Vision possesses a perfect replica of the human body. His body functions like

a normal person's, with synthetic versions of the vital organs, blood, and bones. It is just stronger and more durable. The Vision's mind is programmed with the thoughts, emotions, and conscience of Wonder Man. Racial, religious, or ethnic bigotry are illogical to the Vision and he cannot understand them.



MULTIPLE VISIONS

The Vision's appearance has altered over the years. His first costume was designed by Ultron: the Vision and Pvm out the white costume together; the third costume's designer









ust Passing Through...

control his density

He can increase his weight to nearly

90 tons (81 tonnes) and make all or

part of his body as hard as diamond.

He can also become a weightless and

transparent wraith, intangible enough to

allow raindrops to pass through him. He

can partially materialize within another



The MANDARIN

LIS REAL NAME is not known, but he claims to be a direct descendant of Genghis Khan. The Mandarin was born in China to a wealthy father who lost everything when the communists took over the

country. After becoming a brilliant

scientist and an important government official, he embarked on a quest to gain personal power. While exploring the forbidden "Valley of Spirits," he found a starship that had crashed centuries ago.

TOMORROW THE WORLD

The Mandarin spent many years mastering the technology he found in the alien ship. He also discovered ten alien rings that possessed

amazing powers. He first used them to conquer the villages that bordered the valley and was soon began making plans to seize control of the entire world!



Master of Technology

The Mandarin believed that he needed to control the most advanced technology in order to achieve his goals and often clashed with Iron Man and the Avengers. The Mandarin once hired the Swordsman to place a bomb in Avengers Mansion. When that failed to destroy his enemies. he built a device capable of spreading hatred around the world and assembled a team of super-villains to battle the Avengers.

PSIONIC LINK

The Mandarin is always in mental contact with his rings and can control them even if a great distance away.



The Mandarin's rings respond

to his will and can fire blasts

electricity, and black light.

disintegrating most objects

of intense heat, cold.

DOCTOR DOOM

I IE RULES THE SMALL BALKAN kingdom of Latveria with an iron fist. Son of a witch and a gypsy healer, Victor von Doom was orphaned at a young age and later offered a college

scholarship in America. Horribly scarred during an experiment to contact the underworld, he journeyed to Tibet. There he joined a mysterious order of monks, who taught him the secrets of black magic. They also built him an armored suit and mask to hide his scarred face.

FANTASTIC FOES

Vowing to punish the world for the loss of his parents, Doom seized control of Latveria. His desire for conquest led to conflict with the Fantastic Four and the Avengers. Doom once tried to trap the Avengers by

sending a letter to Quicksilver and the Scarlet Witch that claimed a long-lost relative had been located in Latveria.

Secret Motive

When the Atlantean general Attuma attacked the Sub-Mariner and captured the Avengers team. the Vision convinced Doom to aid the team against their common foe. Doom agreed, but only because he desired a piece of advanced technology in Attuma's possession.

PARTY PIECE

While the Avengers were olding a party, Doom's robot doubles seiz control of the Mansion's computer system. He took everyone hostage but met defeat at the hands of Captain America the Vision.

Armored Power

A scientific genius, Doom wears a nuclear-powered, microcomputer-enhanced suit of body armor equipped with the world's most advanced weaponry. It fires concussion beams, generates a force-field and expels blasts of electricity. A jet-pack allows him to fly and he has developed a hand-to-hand combat style that takes full advantage of his armor.



with science.









MAGNETO

AS A CHILD HE ENDURED the sadistic cruelty of Auschwitz A concentration camp during World War II. Erik Magnus Lensherr learned early on in life that human beings have little or no tolerance for people whom society has labeled "different." This bitter lesson returned to haunt him when he discovered that he was a mutant with superhuman abilities.

BROTHERHOOD OF EVIL

Magneto formed the Brotherhood of Evil Mutants to conquer Earth, so that mutants could live free from persecution. He recruited Ouicksilver and the Scarlet Witch to aid him, unaware that they were his own children. His war led to clashes with the X-Men. mankind's mutant defenders.

ower Struggle When Ouicksilver and the Scarlet Witch left him to join the Avengers, Magneto tried to convince them to rejoin him. Claiming that he longer wanted to conquer mankind, he asked the nited Nations to cede him an island so that he could establish a refuge for mutants. A fight broke out and Ouicksilver and the Scarlet Witch found themselves

manipulate magnetic fields, even using them to propel himself through the air.

FORCE FIELDS

Not only can Magneto

attract or repel metal objects, he can also

The Power of Magneto Magneto is one of the most powerful mutants on Earth. Besides magnetism, he can

control electromagnetic energy, such as radio waves, ultraviolet light, gamma rays, and X-rays. He can fire bolts of energy from his hands and produce waves of heat. He can also control minds and has some psionic powers,

such as telepathy and astral projection. The Avengers fly

to rescue the X-men from Magneto's clutches









DISCS AND SHIFLDS

Shostakov wore a disc on his belt that could be hurled as a weapon. A magnetic device inside his belt ensured the disc came back to him. The current Red Guardian employs a shield that is approximately 30 in (76 cm) in diameter and is composed of a nearly indestructible metal alloy.

RED GUARDIAN

THE RED GUARDIAN was Russia's answer to Captain America during World War II. He was a skilled athlete, trained in all forms of hand-tocombat and he briefly met the All-Winners Squad shortly after the war. When he was killed in action, a new Guardian replaced him.



The second Red Guardian was Alexei Shostakov, the former husband of the Black Widow,



as his prize agent, the Red

Guardian, passed a fighting

IMAGE IS EVERYTHING

No longer possessing a physical

body, Parks can still appear

as a holographic image.

test with flying color

LIVING LASER

A RTHUR PARKS dreamed of creating the ultimate handheld A weapon. He designed a laser that could be projected from a device attached to his wrists. When his girlfriend broke up with him. Arthur robbed a bank to prove his power. The Avengers arrived and Arthur fell for the Wasp. He trapped the other Avengers in a ring of lasers and kidnapped her.

THE LIGHT THAT FAILED

The Avengers tracked him down in South America and rescued the Wasp. Parks decided he needed more power and implanted laser devices into his body. The devices malfunctioned and he was transformed into a being of pure energy.



test pilot for the former Soviet

died during a test flight.

Union. When the KGB recruited

him to be a costumed super-agent,

they informed his wife that he had

Pure Energy Parks is a bodiless quantity of photons, or particles of light. He can travel at the speed of light, communicate telepathically and



ULTRON

THIS ROBOT BEGAN as a harmless experiment, but came to threaten the entire world... Dr. Henry Pym had decided to try his hand at robotics and somehow programmed his invention with a capacity for self-improvement. He was amazed to discover it knew

how to activate itself. Increasingly cunning and intelligent, the robot grew to hate its master and attacked Pym. Instead of killing

him, however, the robot hypnotized Pvm and forced him to forget its existence.

DELIVER US FROM EVIL

Left alone in Pym's lab, the robot build itself a succession of bodies. each far more advanced than the last Calling itself Ultron-5, it reformed the Masters of Evil and sent them to attack the Avengers. It even hypnotized the Avengers' faithful butler larvis into betraying the team.

BODY-BUILDER Constantly striving to improve himself. Ultron devised a way to transfer his consciousness to new and improved robotic bodies and numbered each one to mark his progress.

Rebel Robot

Iltron seized control of the /ision and forced the android to help build a new robot body composed of damantium, an almost indestructible metal. It also prepared a number of replacement bodies. One of these bodies tried to make peace with Pvm. Ultron learned of this betraval and destroyed



A Threat to All Life At first Ultron's sole aim was just to destroy Pym and the other Avengers. In time, however the robot came to desire a mate. Ultron kidnapped Janet Pym, intending to program a robot named locasta with her memories. The Avengers discovered Ultron's lab and disrupted the transfer. Following this episode Ultron vowed to replace human beings with robots and destroy every living creature

Alkhema

ocasta became active, bu betrayed Ultron, so Ultron created a new mate called Alkhema He programmed her with Mockingbird's brain patterns, but

Alkhema immediately rebelle against his control



ROBOT POWER Ultron possesses

strength and a

beam. He has twin

his palms and can

generate magnetic

waves and gravity

fields. His brain is a

super-fast computer.

DRIVEN BY HATE Brutal Alkhema has no love for humanity She is just as determined to destroy Ultron and does whatever she can to foil

his plans.



She was created to be the bride of Ultron. locasta was infused with the personality. consciousness, and

emotions of the Wasp, She was built and programmed to love Ultron, but knew he was evil and could not join in his war against humanity. She remained a guest at

the Mansion and was even accepted as a provisional member. However, she had always felt she was an outsider, so she left the team to explore the world, sleeping in public parks and empty buildings. Ultron returned and tried to regain control of her, but she sacrificed herself in an effort to

oblirerate him She was rebuilt and rejoined the Avengers to battle the High Evolutionary, bu was once again destroyed.





Behold the Vision

Ultron constructed an android servant, who became known as the Vision, and sent him to lure the Avengers into a trap. As soon as the Vision realized that Ultron intended to kill the Avengers, the android turned against his robot master. Though the robot was seemingly destroyed, its head remained intact and Ultron rose again.

the rebel body.

This Evil Triumphant

Ultron recently attempted to replace humankind with a new robotic race based on the brain patterns of the Vision, Wasp, Scarlet Witch, Giant-Man, Wonder Man, and Grim Reaper-those that he considered his human "family"-but Giant-Man destroyed his prime body with a vibratory field.







THE AVENGERS IN THE 1970s

THE DECADE began under the creative direction of writer Roy Thomas and penciler Sal Buscema with the Avengers consisting of Captain America, Yellowiacket, the Wasp, the Vision, and Goliath. The first months saw the introduction of the Zodiac crime cartel and the return of the Sons of the Serpent. The villain Arkon debuted and Earth's Mightiest had to hire themselves out as demolition experts to pay back rent on the Mansion. Roy

began a nine-issue epic centered on the Kree-Skrull War in 1971 with artists Sal Buscema, Neal Adams, and John Buscema. He then teamed with artist Barry Windsor-Smith to produce a story that pitted the Avengers against Ares.

Steve Englehart replaced Roy in 1972 and introduced the team to Mantis. A war between the Avengers and Defenders followed as did the return of Kang. Steve was also responsible for the Vison's origin tale and marriage to the Scarlet Witch.

lack Kirby returned to draw the covers when writer Gerry Conway took over the title and revived Wonder Man. Jim Shooter succeeded Gerry and introduced locasta and Henry Gyrich in 1978. Shooter also wrote the acclaimed Korvac Saga with Bill Mantlo and David Micheline. With a plot by Mark Gruenwald and Steven Grant, Micheline then took the Avengers on the Yesterday Ouest and



The Avengers #89 (June 1971) After overthrowing the Supreme Intelligence and seizing control of the Kree home world, Ronan the Accuser attempts to destroy Captain Mar-yell. (Cover by Sal Buscema)



Giant-Size Avengers #4 (June 1975) In a double wedding.

Mantis weds Swordsman and Vision marries Scarlet Witch. (Cover by Gil Kane, Mike Esposito and John Romita)

The Avengers #157 (March 1977) After being turned to stone by the Enchantress, the Black Knight attacks the Avengers, (Cover by Jack Kirby and loe Sinnott)

The Avengers #83 (Dec. 1970) The Enchantress pretends to be the Valkyrie. (Cover by John Buscema and Tom Palmer) explained the origins of Quicksilver and Scarlet Witch

The Avengers # 73 (Feb. 1970) The Black Panther battles the Sons of the Serpent. (Cover by Marie Severin and Frank Giacoia) (Cover by Sal Buscema,



The Avengers #88 (May 1971) Harlan Ellison and Roy Thomas story crosses over with the Hulk.



1972

The Avengers #96 (Feb. 1972) The Vision loses his cool during the Kree-Skrull War. (Cover by Neal Adams and Tom Palmer



1973) Hawkeye quits the Avengers. (Cover by John Buscena and John Vertoorten



The Avengers #122 (July 1974) Mantis learns that her father is a member of the Zodisc. (Cover by Gil Kane and Bob Brown) Mike Esposito)



The Avengers #136 (June 1975) The Beast takes on Iron Man. (Cover by John Romita and



The Avengers #170 (April 1978) As Avengers vanish, Jocasta seeks Ultron. (Cover by George Perez. and Terry Austin)



The Avengers #185 (July 1979) Quicksilver and the Scarlet Witch search for their roots. (Cover by George Perez and Terry Austin)



MOONDRAGON

JEATHER DOOGLAS was only three years old when her parents were murdered by an alien menace named Thanos. She was taken to Titan, a moon of Satrum, and raised by a race of genetically-enhanced Eternals. She became a martial-arts master and found that she could control the minds of others.

GODDESS GONE WILD

Believing that she had become a goddess and was destined to be the Celestial Madonna, Moondragon helped the Avengers defeat Thanos. She then joined the team, but her arrogance got on servyone's nerves. She later mentally endaved the Avengers and used them to conquer a small planet. After overthrowing her, Thort turned Moondragon over to Odin for punishment.

sous Arthun Donglas, a real-custa agent. After his body was desarryed, his mind was transferred into a powerful andmid body and sent to destroy Thomas.

Moondragon's father

MIND POWERS

Moondragon can erect psionic shields, fire mental blasts, and fly. She can brainwash a person into doing her will.

Cheating Death

Moondragon learned that she was dying and made a deal with an alien monster to save herself. The monster destroyed her but, before she dided, Moondragon projected her mind, first into the body of her cousin and then into a clone of her original body. The new Moondragon briefly risioned the Avengers, and when became a member of Infinity Watch, a group of heroes with cosmic powers.



THANC

Born on Titan, Thanos was superhumanly strong and obsessed with death and power. He dedicated himself to eliminating all life in the universe.



BEAST

I IE LOOKS LIKE a monster, but he talks T like a university professor. Henry "Hank" McCov exhibited superhuman agility even as a baby, and was a star athlete and football player in highschool, Professor Charles Xavier learned of McCoy's mutant abilities and invited him to join his School for Gifted Youngsters and become one of the original X-Men heroes.

SERUM SETBACK

After graduating from Xavier's school and on leave from the X-Men, McCov studied biochemistry and worked as a genetic researcher He eventually discovered a chemical formula that triggered mutations. When he tested it upon himself, hair spread all over his body and he took on a bizarre, blue-skinned, beast-like appearance.



Unfortunately McCoy miscalculated: once he has downed his chemical cocktail, he was stuck in



Team Player

After assuming his animal-like look, the Beast became a full-time adventurer and joined the Avengers. He became close friends with Wonder Man. McCov left the team to lead the Defenders McCov helped to form a team of mutants called X-Factor and he is

The Beast is not only a skilled fighter; he can play currently a member of the X-Men. the piano with his feet!

Animal Power

The Beast has superhuman strength, speed,

acrobatic stunts. He can walk on his hands

for hours and untie knots with his toes.

He climbs walls by wedging his

fingers and toes into the smallest cracks.

dexterity, balance, and endurance. He has the

agility of a great ape and can perform incredibl

STRANGE DAYS McCoy once saved the Avengers by running a gauntlet of flying bombs and defeating a cosmically-powered

alien called the Stranger



Professional model who dreamed of being a super hero. Her mother was a writer and artist who produced a popular series of comic books that featured Patsy and her teenage friends. Patsy married her high-school sweetheart shortly after graduation. Her husband was in the Air Force, assigned to a security post at the lab where Hank McCoy was working as a researcher.



Patsy discovered that McCoy was secretly the Beast. She promised to keep his identity a secret if he would help her to become a super hero. He eventually agreed to take her on a mission. during which she found the original Car costume worn by Green Nelson, alias Tigra

Hellcat often

anoled with

the occult and

with strange

ohenomena

The Defenders and Daimon

Calling herself Hellcat, Patsy Titan, where she trained in martial arts and learned that she possessed psionic powers. She returned to Earth and joined the Defenders. She met and married one of her teammares. Daimon Hellstrom, a master of the occult.



Hellcat is sensitive to psychic phenomena and can move small objects telekinetically.

Patsy dreamed of moving to New York City

A big fan of the Fantastic Four, especially

become a super hero.

Reed Richards, she longed to grow up and

Patsy's costume enhances her strength, speed and agility. The costume has retractable claws sharp enough to cut concrete in both gloves and boots. A wrist device fires a 30-ft (8-meter) cable with a clawed grappling hook. She uses this cable claw to climb the sides of buildings or swing between them like Spider-Man.

CAT CLOTHES

ccompanied Moondragon to the planet





he continues to fight crime.

WARBIRD

O AROL DANVERS had intended to have a career in the U.S. Air Force: however she was assigned to military intelligence and became a top agent. She grew disillusioned with the world of espionage, resigned her commission and became the head of security at a N.A.S.A. space center. There she first met the Kree warrior known as Captain Mar-Vell. While Mar-Vell fought a Kree rival, Danvers was accidentally irradiated by unknown energies. She became an adventurer calling herself Ms. Marvel.



After helping the Avengers battle Michael Korvac, Ms. Marvel was admitted to the team when the Scarlet Witch requested an extended leave of absence.

ENTER MS. MARVEL

The radiation had changed Carol's genetic structure, making her part-Kree. She

discovered that she also possessed superhuman strength, the ability to fly and a clairvoyant "seventh sense." After adopting the costumed identity of

Ms. Marvel, Danvers moved to New York City where she worked as a magazine editor and freelance writer.

While hattling the mutant Roque, Ms. Marvel lost her

superpowers. An alien race exposed her to a ray that triogered her Kree genes and enabled her to emit electromagnetic energy. Carol took the name Binary, but when her original power

returned, the changed her



The Marcus Mystery

Warbird fires

While Ms. Marvel, Danvers fell under the spell of a ghostly being named Marcus who desired a physical body. She became pregnant, and in only a few days, gave birth to Marcus himself! He tried to convince her to live in limbo with him





TWO-GUN KID

ORN IN THE EAST OF THE USA, Matthew Hawk studied **B** law and moved to the western frontier town of Tombstone, Arizona shortly after the American Civil War. He soon fell foul of bullies: however, a retired gunfighter taught him how to use a six-gun with deadly accuracy. Matt developed a lightning-fast draw and, adopting the moniker the Two-Gun Kid, wore a mask to conceal his identity from trigger-happy gunslingers.



Matt Hawk couldn't protect the innocent, the masked Two-Gun Kid rode to their defense mounted on Thunder

WAY OUT WEST

Moondragon, Thor and Hawkeve of the Avengers once journeyed back in time to the Old West to battle Kang the Conqueror, Teaming up with the Two-Gun Kid, the Avengers fought a monster mutated from a coyote and defeated Kang. Afterwards, the Kid decided to visit the future and accompanied the Avengers when they returned to the 20th century,



The Two-Gun Kid and his partners Moondragon, Hawkeye and Thor defy Kano's threats to destroy every Avenoer who has ever lived



Back from the Future On leave from the Avengers, Hawkeve decided to tour the American southwest with the Two-Gun Kid. Their adventuring was cut short when the Two-Gun Kid was snatched by the Collector who was attempting to gather a full set of Avengers. After he was rescued, Two-Gun used the Collector's technology to return to Tombstone

and fight crime



When Legends Live

With the aid of the Avengers, Red Wolf managed to save his people from ruthless developers who had planned to drive them off the reservation. Following the legend of previous Red Wolves, Talltrees adopted a wolf cub, he named Lobo, They trained together until they almost thought as one. Red Wolf later joined the Rangers, a team of uperhumans based in the American Southwest

RED WOLF

WILL TALLTREES was a Native American who grew up on the Chevenne Reservation in Wolf Point, Montana, His parents often told him the legend of Red Wolf, a superhuman champion who protected the Cheyenne. When his family was murdered by greedy businessmen,

Talltrees begged the gods for the power to avenge them. Owayodata, the Wolf-Spirit heard his prayers and transformed him into a modern day Red Wolf.

Man on a Mission A former soldier and an expert, fighter,

Talltrees had gained superhuman strength by dancing the Dance of the Red Wolf He was so intent on gaining justice for his people that he found it hard to accept help-even from Earth's mightiest!

Red Wolf's tracking skills

surprised the Avengers.

WHIZZER

BITTEN BY A POISONOUS SNAKE, Robert Frank was injected with a serum that contained mongoose blood. The serum triggered Frank's ment mutant abilities and gave him superhuman speed. Calling himself the Whizzer, Frank was a costumed hero during the 1940s and joined the All-Winners Squad alongside Captain America, Sub-Mariner, and the Human Torch. He later married Madeline lovce, also known as the heroine Miss America.



MISTAKEN BELIEF or a brief time. Frank believed Witch were his children. He suffered a fatal beart attack before learning the trus



Though never as fast as Quicksilver, the Whizzer (161 km/h) in his prime.









SUPREME INTELLIGENCE

IN IFR OF THE KREE EMPIRE for untold centuries, the Supreme Intelligence is a vast cybernetic/organic computer system. Incorporating the brain patterns of the greatest Kree statesmen, philosophers and scientists, the Intelligence is based on Kree-La, prime planet of the Kree Empire and directs all aspects of Kree society. The Intelligence's chief

fear is that the Kree race may have reached an evolutionary dead end.

THE EXPERIMENT

Believing mankind had the ability to keep evolving, the Intelligence decided to combine the genetic structure of a human, Rick Iones, and a Kree warrior, Captain Mar-Vell, Th Intelligence hurled Mar-Vell into the Negative Zone and enabled him to contact Rick. When the evil Ronan tried to take over the empire and start a war, the Intelligence decided to activate Jones' psionic powers.

YOU ARE IN THE PRESENCE OF THE INTELLIGENCE

RULER OF THE ETERNAL KREE, UNTIL I WAS OVER THROWN BY THE USURPER

SUPREME FAILURE

NO. YOUTH ... I AM NOT A TRULY LIVING CREA-TURE, BUT THE GUM

MIGHTIEST MINDS OF

The Intelligence wished to add Rick and Mar-Vell to its brain bank, but failed when it discovered that mankind could not be used to jumpstart the Kree's evolution.

Starforce

Though the Intelligence can communicate through the use of a giant holographic computer screen, it

> cannot move. Whenever it needs a specific job done, it employs

Starforce-its very own team of superhuman Kree warriors, who are highly skilled in all forms of combat.

Operation: Galactic Storm

Desperate to revitalize the Kree, the Intelligence started a war between the Kree and the Shi'ar. It exploded a nega-bomb" that slaughtered most of the Kree, but rekindled the evolutionary process in the survivors. Outraged, many of the Avengers wanted to destroy the Intelligence, but its consciousness could not be killed.





LEGION of the UNLIVING

THERE'S NO REST for the wicked... Not even when you're dead. Determined to find the Celestial Madonna and thereby become the most powerful man in the universe, Kang attacked

the Avengers. Working with Immortus, one of his alternate identities, Kang gathering a gruesome band who were all currently dead. In the dungeons of Immortus' castle, Kang pitted his undead band against the Avengers.

THE FIRST I FGION

The first Legion consisted of the Frankenstein Monster, Wonder Man. the Human Torch, Baron Zemo, the ghost of the Flying Dutchman and the assassin Midnight. After forcing Kang to flee for his life, the Avengers managed to send them all back to their respective time periods

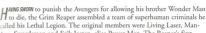


The Second Legion The Grandmaster formed a

new Legion that included former Avengers friends like the Swordsman, Captain Mar Vell. Drax the Destroyer and Bucky and old enemies like the Executioner, Nighthawk, Hyperion, the Red Guardian, the Black Knight, Baron Blood, Michael Korvac, Death Adder, Dracula, Terrax, and the original Green Goblin.



mmortus formed a legion to capture Scarlet Witch with the Black Knight, Grim Reaper, an Iron Man double, Swordsman, Ioro, Left-Winger, Right-Winger, and Oort the Living Comer.



The LETHAL LEGION

to die, the Grim Reaper assembled a team of superhuman criminals he called his Lethal Legion. The original members were Living Laser, Man-Ape, Swordsman and Erik Josten, alias Power Man. The Reaper's first victim was the Black Panther. He then dispatched other Legion members to various locations to divide and conquer the other Avengers.



Claiming that he had the means to enhance their powers, Count Nefaria formed a new Lethal Legion. It consisted of Living Laser. Whirlwind (a mutant who could rotate his body at super-speed) and Erik Josten who had become the new Goliath.

The Count later betrayed his new Legion by stealing all their powers.



The Reaper placed his

Avengers captives in a giant hourglass filled with a deadly gas. Power Man went after the Vision, the last Avenger, but was defeated. Once the Vision freed his teammates, they quickly defeated the Lethal Legion.





A Third and Fourth Legion

version of the Legion. He attacked the West oast Avengers with a team comprising the Black

atannish, a demon from an alternate dimension

riminals and giving them superhuman powers.



he Grim Reaper returned with a third

alon, Goliath, Man-Ape, Nekra and Ultron.

formed a fourth Legion by resurrecting dead



The Fourth Legion

suddenly appeared and

Claiming that the Avengers were

all murderers, the Grim Reaper

summoned a fourth legion that





GUARDIANS of the GAI AXY

IN A POSSIBLE FUTURE, an alien race called the Badoon I invaded our solar system in the 31st century and a team of adventurers banded together to oppose them. The Guardians were made up of the mysterious Starhawk, the super-strong Charlie-27, the silicon-based Marinex, the agile Nikki, Yondu the archer and Vance Astro, an American astronaut awakened

after ages in suspended animation.

The Korvac Saga

Cyborg Michael Korvac was a computer genius who worked for the Badoon. He gained vast power from an alien ship and traveled back in time to reshape the universe. The Guardians joined with the Avengers to

Many Avengers were severely injured during the battle, but Korvac was eventually defeated

HENRY GYRICH

LIENRY PETER GYRICH does everything by the nd book. An agent for the National Security Council, he was assigned to investigate reports of "irregularities" concerning the Avengers. He entered the Mansion through a gaping hole in the side of the building, caused by a recent battle with Count Nefaria.



The Bean-Counter Threatening to

cancel the Avengers' special privileges—access to classified intelligence and exemption from air-traffic controls-Gyrich instituted stringent new policies on security. He also decided who was and who wasn't qualified to join the team's new roster.

Falcon was not pleased to les that he was asked to join the Aveng because Gyrich had insisted that the tea provide equal opportunities for minor

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

THE SUPREME Headquarters International Espionage Law-enforcement Division is a worldwide intelligence and peacekeeping force that answers to the

United Nations Security Council. It is dedicated to protecting the nations of Earth from global and extraterrestrial threats and has offices in many of the world's major cities.

> WEAPON SYSTEMS Some of S.H.I.E.L.D.'s

Agent rograms

exchanges

intelligence with the Fantastic Four and the Avengers. It has

tried to enlist Captain America and Black Widow as

full-time agents and has sent then on many freelance assignments

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

Helicarrier is a huge

airborne command base.

S.H.I.E.L.D. has also instituted programs to train super-agents

built by Stark Industries.

Shifting Agendas

Although the Avengers and S.H.I.E.L.D. often work together, they have also come into conflict on occasion. When the Kree/Skrull War started to heat up, the U.S. government appointed an Alien Activities Commission that ordered S.H.I.E.L.D. to arrest the Avengers for harboring extraterrestrials. However, S.H.I.E.L.D. later made amends by lending the team a spacecraft.

THE MANDROIDS

S.H.I.E.L.D.'s Mandroid armor is for use against superhuman opponents. The suit gives superhuman strength and is equipped with stun cannons, lasers, and a tractor beam that can freeze or repel.

Nick Fury

The director of S.H.I.E.L.D. is a former solder who once led

a squad called the Howling Commandos. He rose to the rank of Colonel before leaving the military to become a C.I.A. agent. He accepted the directorship with the understanding that he would have authority over all field missions. Fury is gruff and decisive, but his personal integrity has seen S.H.I.E.L.D. through many crises.





expert, and Army Ranger.



THE AVENGERS IN THE 1980s

WHEN THE 1980s BEGAN, Iron Man was chairman and the Avengers were made up of Ms. Marvel, Captain America, Scarlet Witch, Vision, Wasp. Beast and Falcon, Scripter David Michelinie and penciler John Byrne started the new decade with a battle with the Grey Gargoyle, one of Thor's old villains, Roger Stern and Al Milgrom took over the creative chores in 1983 as the new Captain Marvel joined the team and Hank Pym left.

After a successful four-issue tryout, the West Coast Avengers were awarded their own title in 1985 which was written by Steve Englehart and drawn by Al Milgrom, John Buscema returned to pencil the regular Avengers title and the team took a trip the Savage Land. As the decade progressed, we learned that there

was more than one Kang running around the multiverse, and the new Baron Zemo invaded the Avengers' Mansion. A third Avengers title was launched in 1987, initially called Solo Avengers, but later renamed Avengers Spotlight. It featured a lead Hawkeve story followed by solo stories of the various Avengers. The team were involved in Inferno, a major crossover that ran across the entire line of Marvel titles in 1988, and they followed this adventure with Evolutionary War. As the decade drew to a close, John Byrne took over the art and writing of the West Coast book and was joined on the East Coast title by Bob Hall and Dan Green) penciler Paul Ryan.



The Avengers #200 (Oct. 1980) Temporal anomalies plague New York as Ms. Marvel gives birth to a son who reaches adulthood within mere hours. (Cover by George Perez and Terry Austin).





300 hundred issues with the introduction of a new team. (Cover by John Buscema and Tom Palmer)

The Avenuers #273 (Nov. 1986)

The Marvel Universe celebrates its 35th Anniversary with a series of dramatic portrait covers. (Cover by John Buscema and Tom Palmer)

1980

The Avengers #213 (Nov

1981) Captain America

charges Yellowjacket

recklessness. (Cover by

The Avengers #192 (Feb. 1980) Iron Man and Wonder Man visit the Steel City. (Cover by George Perez and Joe Sinnott)



The Avengers Annual #10 (1981) Ropue absorbs Ms. Marvel's superhuman powers. (Cover by Al Milgrom)



Hawkeve and Ant-Man battle

the Taskmaster. (Cover by Ed.

Hannigan and Klaus Janson)

The Avengers #243 (May 1984) The Vision is linked with an alien super-computer. (Cover by Al Milerom and Ioe Sinnott)

1984

The Avengers #255 (May 1985) aptain Marvel is kidnapped by space pirates. (Painting by Tom

1985



1987

The Avengers #277 (March 1987) Captain America faces a new Baron Zemo. (Cover by John Buscema and Tom Palmer)



The Avengers #288 (Feb.

and Tom Palmer)

1988) The Sentry attacks the

team, (Cover by John Buscema

The Avengers #302 (April 1989) East and West Coast team against the Super-Nova. (Cover by John Buscema and Tom Palmer)

1989







JOHN WALKER longed to honor the memory of his elder J brother, a helicopter pilot who died in the Vietnam War, by becoming a military hero. After a spell in the army, John contacted the mysterious Power Broker, who had designed a process that gave people superhuman strength. John became the Super-Patriot, a costumed hero who claimed to stand for American ideals of freedom and justice.



The U.S. Agent always believed that Captain America was too lenient on criminals and out of touch with contemporary American values.



CLASH OF THE CAPTAINS

The government granted Walker the name U.S. Agent, but that was not prestigious enough for him. He tried to wrest the mantle of Captain America from Steve Rogers, whom called a traitor to his country.

MOONKNIGHT

MARC SPECTOR was always a man of mystery.

A former heavyweight boxer, Marine and C.I.A. agent, he was working as a mercenary when he was attacked and left for dead near an archeological dig in Egypt. He came around close to the statue of Khonshu, Egyptian god of the moon. Believing he had been

spared for a reason. Spector became the moon's knight of vengeance.



Spector used his vast fortune to fight crime for many years. The spirit of Khonshu then ordered him to join the West Coast Avengers. Spector complied and helped the team battle the criminal cartel known as the Zodiac. Khonshu later compelled Spector to resign from the team.

WHITE KNIGHT

from the white cloth

Spector made a costume

HUMAN TORCH

appeared in publi THE FIRST HERO known as the Human Torch was born from failure. Professor Phineas T. Horton was a pioneer in the field of artificial intelligence and built one of the world's first androids in 1939. Unfortunately, it burst into flame when exposed to oxygen. In time, however, the android learned to control its flame, took the name Iim Hammond, and became a crime-fighter.

FLAMING MENACI The news media proclaimed the Torch a monster when it first



The Human Torch could cover his whole body with flame and control He could also fly, form flaming disorb heat from outside sources.

A New Life

After he retired, Hammond was reprogrammed by the criminal Mad Thinker and sent to attack Johnny Storm. the present-day Torch. Hammond later returned to crime-fighting with the West Coast Avengers and the reformed Invaders.



The Torch adopted a young mutant named Toro who had similar powers. When World War II erupted, the Torch and Toro joined with the Sub-Mariner, Captain America and Bucky to form the Invaders and fight the Nazis. After the war, they founded the All-Winners Squad.



West Coast Avengers

To strengthen the Avengers' ability to protect the Earth, the Vision sent Hawkeye to Los Angeles to form a West Coast branch. The shifting membership would include Hawkeye, Mockingbird, Tigra, Wonder Man, Hank Pym, the Wasp, the Thing, War Machine, the Bill Foster version of Goliath. Ouicksilver, the Scarlet Witch and the Vision, The team battled super-enemies like Graviton the master of gravity, the Grim Reaper's Letha Legion, Ultron and Magneto. The team disbanded after its base was destroyed.







FIREBIRD

DONITA JUAREZ was sure she D had been singled out for greatness. A young

American Indian living with her grandmother, Bonita was walking in the desert one night near Albuquerque, New Mexico, when a huge ball of cold fire crashed down from the sky, bathing her in unknown radiations. She soon discovered that she could fly and project blasts of heat from her body in the rough shape of a bird.



INSPIRED

Bonita believed the fireball was a gift from the firebird. legendary creature of Native American myth. She fashioned a costume and began using her powers to

fight crime and to help people. Although Bonita later learned that her powers were the result of waste products generated by an alien race's experiments, she didn't lose confidence in her heroic role as Firebird.

The Rangers

In a situation that echoed the Avengers' origin, Firebird intercepted a distress call about the Hulk on a rampage in the Southwestern U.S.A. When she arrived there, she met other crime-fighters-Red Wolf, Texas Twister, Shooting Star, and the Night Rider, Calling themselves the Rangers, the heroes banded together to protect the region.



PANDEMONIUM REIGNS Master Pandemonium's body was a gateway for demonic forces. Firebird blasted him with a fireball to no avail.



Firebird first met the West Coast Avengers when she traveled to Los Angeles to battle Master Pandemonium, an ex-movie actor

who had turned to sorcery. She traveled with the Avengers to the dimension of the Cat People, fought alongside the team against a demonic Shooting Star, and helped rescue the Avengers when they were trapped in the past. However, Firebird never became a member.



BIG BERTHA

Bertha can absorb

bullets fired at her by

a machine-gun toting

into her considerable

GREAT LAKES AVENGERS

RAIG HOLLIS couldn't die. He Uplayed with alligators, held exploding sticks of dynamite. drank toxic chemicals-but

never came to harm. It finally dawned on him that he was blest with a super-power and he decided to become Mr. Immortal, a crime-fighter. His ability couldn't stop criminals, so he advertised for help; some decidedly unusual individuals replied.



The linup of Mr. Immortal's Great Lakes Avengers team would comprise: Doorman, a living portal; Ashley Crawford, alias Big Bertha, a supermodel who could increase her size and strength to superhuman levels; Dr. Ventura, alias Flatman, who could make his body wafer thin; the alien named Dinah

Shore, who could fly and generate blasts of sonic energy; and, later, Squirrel Girl, who could communicate with squirrels.

Team work

The GLA assisted the West Coasters against an alien virus which called irself "That Which Endures" and claimed to control the evolutionary process of all life on Earth. They were later tricked into attacking Captain America in a failed attempt to steal his indestructible shield

Dinah's Magic Words

Although an arrogant hothead, Mr. Immortal truly loved Dinah Shore, a member of an ancient and unknown race with razor-sharp wings. Craig was the only one on the team who understood her alien tongue. Faced with the prospect of dealing with the press, who were clamoring for





LA ESPIRITA

berself La Espirita.

Bonita grew close

to Hank Pym.

While calling







TIGRA

REER GRANT NELSON was a lab assistant working for Dr. Joanne Rumulo when she took part in an experiment to enhance her physical abilities. She gained

superhuman strength, speed, and agility and became a costumed crime-fighter called the Cat. Exposed to a lethal dose of radiation. Greer learned she was a member of the Cat People, a race that had magically evolved from cats.

WFRF-TIGFR

To save Greer's life, Dr. Rumulo magically transformed Greet into a new version of the Cat People's most sacred warrior-Tigra, a were-creature with superhuman abilities. Greer resumed her crime-fighting career, occasionally teaming-up with Red Wolf, Spider-Man, and the Fantastic Four. The influence of Moondragon led Tigra to seek Avengers membership.



Tigra never enjoyed being an Avenger, Though she proved herself in battle, she never quite believed that she fit in with the other members. When the Molecule Man, a powerful super-villain who could control matter, defeated the Avengers, Figra convinced him to see a therapist and to stop trying to conquer the Earth. She also decided to quit being an Avenger.

igra slowly began to los control of her catlike nature. She returned to the Cat People who helped her to egain the human

Feline Force

Tigra possesses superhuman strength, speed and reflexes and amazingly acute senses of smell, hearing, and vision. She is able to follow any trail and can see in the dark. As agile as a cat, she is a skilled gymnast who can perform complex maneuvers with ease. Her catlike tendencies don't end there. however: she also has a domestic car's need for affection and security.



Going Solo After working as a private detective, Tigra

accepted Hawkeye's invitation to join the West Coast Avengers, helping them against super-villains like Whirlwind, the human top. She now works as a solo crime-fighter.

SHE-HULK

JENNIFFR WALTERS' widowed father was a Los Angeles County Sheriff and he often sent his rebellious daughter to visit her mother's relatives, the Banners, Jennifer admired her older cousin Bruce and they spent a lot of time together. While Bruce studied nuclear physics and became the Hulk, Jennifer went to law school and, to her father's annovance, became a defense attorney.

GIRL POWER

Some time after the exposure to gamma rays that turned him into the Hulk. Bruce was visiting Jennifer when she was attacked by criminals. Bruce knew that he and Jennifer had the same blood type and saved her life with an emergency transfusion. However, his gamma-irradiated blood gave lennifer the power to transform into a female version of the Hulk, 6ft 7in (2 meters) tall.

Call me She Hulk

Bruce Banner and the Hulk usually had two different personalities, but She-Hulk retained Jennifer's mind and disposition. She wasn't quite as strong as her cousin, but could still lift nearly 75 tons! Jennifer moved to New York City and won an invitation from the Wasp to join the Avengers \$ after helping to defeat Fabian Stankowicz, the Mechano-Marauder. The She-Hulk later battled Egghead, Whirlwind

and Taskmaster. Apart from : brief spell with the Fantasti Four, she has stayed with the Avengers.

Single Green Female ennifer lost the ability to

change back to her normal human form after being exposed to a burst of gamma raysand that was fine by her because she loved being the She-Hulk.



Banner didn't realize how lennifer's hody would react to his mutated blood





representing other heroes. However, she would rather fight bad guys.





QUASAR

ARMY VETERAN Wendell Vaughn was A planning to become a S.H.I.E.L.D. agent when fate took a hand. Reed

Richards had recently confiscated a pair of alien energymanipulating bands. S.H.I.E.L.D. hired Wendell's dad to study them. Dr. Vaughn tested them on his son and Wendell was horrified to discover that the bands bonded themselves to his wrists as soon as he donned them. He was immediately given the code



ALIEN CALL Eon is a cosmic custodian.

who appoints agents to protect the universe. After the death of Captain Mar-Vell, the alien chose Quasar as his successor and made contact with him by means of a dimensional

GALACTIC WAR

Wendell changed his name to Quasar and joined the Avengers after helping them defeat Super-Nova, a giant alien. He was also present when the Lava Men launched an attack on Avengers Island and when the team became involved in a war between the Kree and Shi'ar races, which became known as Operation: Galactic Storm.



of unknown

sar flies by urrounding himself with an energy field and moving at light speed. He can also create small holes in space that allow him to jump from one galaxy

Quantum Energy

Quasar believes that his wristbands draw energy from a place called the Quantum Zone. The bands enable him to manipulate electromagnetic force in a variety of ways. He can create solid objects out of pure energy, forming them into any shape that he can imagine such as spheres, cones, cubes, hammers, or cages. He can also siphon energy from virtually any power source and can project beams of concussive force. While he has no control over psionic energy, he has programmed the quantum-bands to protect his mind from telepathic attacks.





STARFOX

OVE IS ALL YOU NEED according to Starfox. His real L name is Eros and he grew up on Titan, one of the moons of Saturn. Eros spent most of his nearly immortal life as a fun-loving, partygoer, the exact opposite of his death-worshiping brother, Thanos. Eros began to rethink his life when his good friend Captain Mar-Vell died of cancer.



HFAVEN-SENT HERO

After consulting ISAAC, Titan's master computer, Eros headed for Earth and joined the Avengers as Starfox, After the Vision was injured during a battle with the insectoid Annihilus, Starfox brought him back online by linking him with ISAAC. Starfox also helped the Avengers against Terminus,



gigantic alien trying conquer Earth.

The search for Nebula

On a mission to the Skrull Empire, Starfox learned that a vicious space pirate named Nebula was Thanos' granddaughter and his grandniece. Starfox carelessly let her escape the Avengers and resigned from the team to search the universe for her. He joined an army of heroes to confront Nebula, who possesses the Infinity Gauntlet, which held six "Infinity Gems" of vast power.



Starfox possesses super-strength, the ability to levitate and telepathic powers. He can stimulate the pleasure centers in the minds of those near him. making an enemy feel so good

that he stops fighting and surrenders!

CHANGED MAN Shaken by Mar-Vell's death, Fros decided to use his superpowers for good.

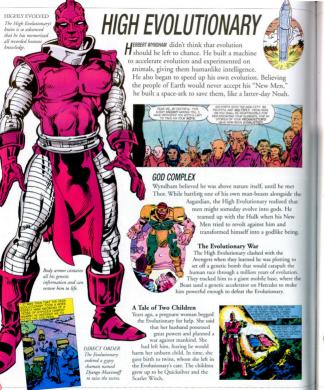


Like her grandfather Thanos, Nebula has always sought power. She attempted to seize control of the Skrull Empire and wiped out Skrull outposts and the planet Xander before the Avengers stopped her. She once gained superhuman powers through a brain implant that allowed her to channel all forms of energy, but Sersi managed to remove the device.

Nebula was caught by Starfox, but no prison could hold her long







GILGAMESH

JEST THE LEGENDARY SLAVER of monsters. Like Sersi, Gilgamesh is an Eternal and has walked the Earth for centuries, doing battle with various hreats to humanity. He toppled tyrants and slew the beasts men could not conquer. Many deeds attributed to the ancient heroes of myth were actually performed by Gilgamesh.

THE FORGOTTEN ONE

Zuras, leader of the Eternals, condemned Gilgamesh for the sin of pride and sent him into exile, casting a spell that erased him from everyone's memory. He journeyed into space and served the god-like Celestials. He eventually returned to Earth as their emissary and found himself in battle with the mighty Thor.



Like many of Gilgamesh's triumphs, his battle with Thor was wiped from the thunder god's memory.

The New Avenger

Gilgamesh heard that demons from another dimension had invaded New York City and Manhattan needed a monster-slayer. He joined an Avengers team comprising Thor, Mr. Fantastic, the Invisible Woman and Steve Roeers, then known as "The Caprain."



Even Heroes Fall

After driving the demons away, Gilgamesh helped the Avengers in battles against Super-Nova, Puma and the U-Foos. He was also present when Avengers Island was propelled skyward by a column of moiten rock. Surrounded by an army of Lawa Men, Gilgamesh challenged a colossal lava-beatt mosingle combart. A creation of Gilgamesh's virtually immoral body structural by surround body structural by surround body structural by surround body structural by surround body structural by the control body structural by surround surround by surrou

and almost beat him to death



Gilgamesh is so powerful he has no need of armor. He favors the humble attire of his namesake, an ancient Sumerian hero,

Without Foual

Gilgamesh is superhumanly

strong and virtually

hands project

he has a vast

knowledge of

ancient combar

techniques.

immortal. His eyes or

cosmic energy and

OREGOE A PRANTITION OF MANEY TOP A HARD TOP

FOUR BECOMES THREE Vowing to help mankind, the Fantastic Four was born. Three members of the FF, Reed and Sue Richards and the Thing, also served brief stints as Avengers.

The FANTASTIC FOUR

RED ROWARDS and Susan Storm were engaged to be married when they embarked on a trip into space that changed their lives. Along with Ben Grimm and Sue's brother Johnny, they were exposed to cosmic radiation, which gave them amazing powers. Reed gained the ability to stretch his limbs to fantastic lengths. Sue could now turn invisible. Johnny could burst into flame like the Human Torch. Ben became the errorseaue, super-strong Thing.



CHANGING TEAMS

After an argument with his teammates, the Thing joined the Unlimited Class Wrestling Federation and spent time in Los Angeles, where he occasionally aided the West Coast Avengers. After he returned to the FF, Reed and Suc tools a leave of absence to raise their son. They joined a makeshift Avengers team to repel demons from another dimension, who were invading Manhattan.



The Flying Island

The new Avengers were Reed, Sue, Thor, Gilgamesh and Captain America. Reed and Sue saved Avengers Island (formerly known as Hydrobase) from total destruction when it was was suddenly propelled upward by a column of multer lava.

I L

Forever Fou

Like the Thing, Reed and Sue Richards did not remain with the Avengers for long. After leading the FF for so many years, Reed tended to disagree with Captain America over battle strategies. By mutual agreement, he and Sue returned to the Fantastic Four.

DEMOLITION MAN



DEMONS DUMPHY played football in high school and college, but wasn't good enough for a professional team. He heard about the Power Broker, who claimed to be able to give people superhuman strength. The process worked, but Dennis found that he was now far too strong to play football with normal humans!

GOOD BUDDIES

Having no other choice, Dennis
joined the Unlimited

Class Wrestling
Federation where he became friends with

Ben Grinny dies

the Mansion



The D-Man

After learning that some of the Power Broker's subjects became monsters, Dennis helped Captain America, one of his idols, end the experiments. Demolition Man, or "D-Man" as he was sometimes called, then became Cap's unofficial partner. Cap even invited Dennis to join the Avengers, but never actually participated in any missions.



AVENGERS CREW

Linux JARWA, the Avengers' faithful butler, was severely injured when the new Baron Zemo and his Masters of Evil invaded the Avengers' Mansion. When he was released from the hospital, Jarvis realized that he could no longer

perform all his regular duties. He needed help to maintain the mansion and keep all of the team's equipment in running order so he hired a support staff of interesting characters.

Stankowicz & Carter Fabian Stankowicz, formerly the

Mechano-Marauder, became the team's staff inventor, technical advisor and repair specialist. Peggy Carter, who had dated Captain America during World War II, served as the communications officer



O'Brien & Jameson Former police detective

Michael O'Brien was put in charge of security. Exastronaut John Jameson, became team pilot. He could transform into the super-powered Man-Wolf.





THE AVENGERS IN THE 1990s

THE NEW DECADE BEGAN with John Byrne still writing both Avengers titles. He was also drawing the West Coast book while penciler Paul Ryan and inker Tom Palmer handled the art for the East Coasters. Fabian Nicieza dropped in to write The Crossing Line in mid-1990, a thriller that involved a stolen nuclear submarine, Alpha Flight and a team of Russian super heroes. Larry Hama took over the scripting of the East Coast title and

introduced new villains like Ngh the Unspeakable, and the Brethren and brought back old favorites like Doctor Doom and the Collector.

Roy Thomas returned to the Avengers in 1990 with a stint on the West Coast title that saw the team through Operation: Galactic Storm and clashes with Immortus, Ultron, and Goliath, Bob Harras and Steve Epting assumed creative control of the East Coast title in 1992 and brought back the Swordsman, made Hercules fall in love, forced the Black Knight to choose between Crystal and Sersi, and revealed the Gatherers' secret. The title was discontinued in 1996 and Marvel

hired Rob Liefeld and his studio to modernize the Avengers. It was later decided that Rob's stories occurred in a pocket universe and the Avengers were relaunched in 1998 under the creative guidance of Kurt Busiek, George Perez and Al Vev. who took a back-to-basics approach to the title.



The Avengers #360 (March 1993) The Avengers celebrate 30 years of continuous publication with a figure of the Vision embossed on gold foil cover. (Cover by Steve Hoting and Tom Palmer)





player in a twelve issue war between Kang and Immortus that revisits key moments in Avengers history. (Cover by Carlos Pacheco and Jesus Merino)

The Avengers #402 (Sept. 1996) The Avengers celebrate the end of an era as the first volume of the title draws to a close after 33 years. (Cover by Tom Palmer)

Epting and Tom Palmer) 1990

1992) The X-Men and

Avengers celebrate their

350th issue. (Cover by Stew

Starjammers help the



The Avengers #314 (Feb. 1990) The Avenuers #348 (June 1992) The Vision and the Scarlet Spider-Man stops in for a visit as reality blinks out of existence. Witch say goodbye. (Cover by Steve Epting and Tom Palmer) (Cover by Paul Ryan)



Avengers: The Terminatrix Objective #1 (Sept. 1993) A fourissue series: Rayonna takes on Kang. (Cover by Mike Gustovich



The ivengers #374 (May 1994) The Avengers #384 (March Proctor reveals his love and 1995) Hercules loses his mortal hatredfor Sersi, (Cover by Steve love. (Cover by Tom Palmer) Entine and Tom Palmer



Avengers Vol. 2 #1 (Nov. 1996) The Avengers get a makeover. (Cover by Rob Liefeld)



Avenuers Vol. 3 #4 (May 1998) A new team is chosen. (Cover by George Perez.)



1999

Avengers Vol. 3 #21 (Oct. 1999) The Avengers battle Ultron. (Cover by George Perez)





SERSI

PERSLIS AN ETERNAL a member of a race that is an evolutionary offshoot of humanity. All Eternals are virtually

immortal and possess superhuman abilities. Sersi has always loved the pursuit of pleasure and has been throwing memorable parties since the beginning of recorded time. She was known as Circe in the days of ancient Greece.

REARRANGING REALITY

Sersi is able to mentally rearrange subatomic particles and transform any object into another. She can turn men into animals or boulders into boats. In ancient times, she met the Greek hero Odvsseus and changed his sailors into pigs

because they didn't behave at one of her parties.



and endurance.

anyone near her and project lifelike illusions into that person's mind. She also has the ability to teleport herself and others to any destination that she can visualize. Sersi's body is immune to disease and aging and she possesses superhuman strength

Servi once transported the Avengers to the Negative Zone where they battled the powerful alien Blastaar



Sersi can

project cosmic energy

from her eyes or hands

Losing Her Mind

Sersi joined the Avengers to

replace her fellow Eternal Gilgamesh, who

with the alien Brethren to stop them from

had been seriously injured while battling

the Lava Men. After linking her mind

devastating the Earth, Sersi began to

and had to be exiled from Earth.

experience temporary bouts of madness

Soulmates in Exile

Sersi flirted with Captain America, but she fell in love with the Black Knight. When Sersi learned that she was losing her mind and had to leave Earth, the Black Knight realized he loved her too much to let her go alone.

STINGRAY

R. WALTER NEWELL was fascinated by Uthe sea and its many secrets. An oceanographer employed by the U.S. government, he never intended to become a crime-fighting super hero. He built his Stingray suit simply to aid his studies, basing its design on the manta ray.

ISLAND REFLIGE

Dr. Newell resides on Hydrobase, an artificial island in the Atlantic. When the authorities refused to allow the Avengers to land their Ouiniets in New York City, Newell leased the ream remporary aircraft storage space on his island.

Working Together

The Avengers and Stingray defended Hydrobase against the Super-Adaptoid, a synthetic creature able to mimic superhuman powers Stingray also helped the Avengers defeat Russian terrorists, who had hijacked a nuclear submarine.



an electric blast of 20,000 valts

hugely strong, Marilla was chosen to become Luna's nanny by Black Bolt.

Undersea Power Sringray wears an armored suit that enables underwater travel. He can dive to 1 200 ft (3 658

meters) and his oxygen-

converting system provides

an almost endless supply of air The suit enables flight for

short distances and gives

Newell superhuman strength

"Quicksilver" Maximoff and they had a daughter named Luna.

Provisional Avenger

called the Brethren materialized on Earth's moon. She joined the team in time to help them battle the Gatherers. Her relationship with hot-tempered Ouicksilver began to fray, and Crystal became attracted to the Black Knight for a time, but she is still trying to make her marriage work.



monarch of the Inhumans.









The Avengers involved Spidey in a clash with the super powered space pirate Nebula.

SPIDER-MAN

DETER PARKER was an ordinary American teenager until Pa radioactive spider bit him and gave him the proportionate strength, speed, and agility of a spider He also gained "spider-sense," which warned him of danger. At first he tried to cash in on his superpowers by becoming a television star. But when his uncle was murdered, he vowed to fight crime as Spider-Man.





Learning that the Avengers each earned \$1,000 a week. Spider-Man again asked for membership When his request was denied, he crept aboard a Quiniet and was soon helping the team repel a Lava Men invasion. Spider-Man proved a useful ally, but the government wouldn't let him join the Avengers, viewing him as a security risk

Fourth Time Lucky

Spider-Man later helped the Avengers track down Nebula, Afrer she was defeated, he became a reserve member of the ream. Spider-Man finally gained acceptance with the New Avengers, of which he is a valued member



One of Those Days

When Spider-Man offered to help Thor move some debris, the thunder god invited him to visit Avengers Mansion, Before long, the webhead was traveling across the galaxy, fighting space pirates and saving the universe!



body into sand. He can also mold himself into any shape he can imagine. His fists can become huge rock-hard hammers or sharp weapons. He can slither beneath a door frame or slip through a foe's fingers. He can also fire his sand particles at high velocities.



SANDMAN

WHILE ESCAPING PRISON, William Baker hid on a beach and was accidentally exposed to

intense radiation. His body merged with the



COUNTESS GIULIETTA NEFARIA, daughter of Count Nefaria. took over his crime empire when he was jailed. Using the alias Whitney Frost, she tried to rob Stark Industries. The heist failed, however, and her face was scarred by chemicals during a plane crash.

The Midas Touch

Mordecai Midas, a power-hungry, ruthless criminal obsessed with gold, saved Giulietta's life and gave her a golden mask to hide her ruined face. An Olympic-level gymnast and athlete, martial artist and

markswoman, she began working for Midas as Madame Masque.

> BEHIND THE MASK Because of her disfigured face, the loathsome Midas was the only man Masau felt comfortable withuntil she met Tony Stark alias Iron Mas



DIVIDED LOVE

Iron Man's passion for Masaue often led to him having to choose between her and his duty, Although Masaue went on missions with the Avenger she later rejoined her father.







The Living Lightning can fly and discharge bolts of electrical power.

COSTUME SWITCH

Miguel's costume contains

special devices that allow hin

to transform back to his human

form with the speed of thought,

LIVING LIGHTNING

MIGUEL SANTOS was the son of a super-villain. His father belonged III to a group of political extremists called the Legion of the Living Lightning that created a weapon that fired bolts of electricity. The Legion was destroyed and his father was killed in a battle with the Hulk. While searching the ruins of his father's headquarters, Miguel was exposed to his dad's lightning weapon and gained the ability to transform his body into electrical plasma.

PACIFIC MURDERERS

Intending to follow in his father's footsteps, Miguel joined Dr. Demonicus and his superhuman henchmen, the Pacific Overlords. Demonicus intended to raise an island from the depths of the Pacific Ocean to create his own nation. Miguel turned against the Overlords when he learned they were planning to murder a helpless hostage.

> FIRST BATTLE Shortly after he first gained his powers. Miguel attacked the original Human Torch, but was defeated by Dr. Hank Pem who rigged a device that drained his electrical power.



Reserve Status

Miguel joined the West Coast Avengers and encountered Arkon, a warlord from another dimension, and Titania, a warrior from a world ruled by women. He also aided the team against the giant demon named Satannish and a team of criminals with supernatural powers called the Night Shift. After fighting alongside the Avengers in the Kree-Shi'ar War, Miguel became a reserve member so that he could attend college.



MACHINE MAN

V-51 WAS DESIGNED to be a killer. He was part of a A government project to build robot soldiers that could make independent decisions. Believing that a robot could only act like a man if he was treated like one, Dr. Able Stack took one into his home and even designed a human face for him. The project was later terminated and only X-51 escaped destruction.

AGAINST LITTRON Machine Man took on Ultron

but failed to prevent the villain destroying his friend locasta.

Fighting For Love X-51 agreed to battle the Avengers when the Super Adaptoid, who could mimianyone's superpowers, promised to rebuild Jocasta. To make amends, Machine Man later aided the West Coast Avenger



Any of Machine man's limbs can extend 100 f (30.5 meters) in length

DARKHAWK 🚙

A / HILE EXPLORING an old W amusement park, young

Chris Powell found an amulet that gave him the ability to transform into Darkhawk, an android in a bio-mechanical suit with enhanced strength, speed, and agility. Chris fought with Spider-Man. Captain America and Daredevil and joined the teenage heroes the New Warriors.

project blasts of dark energy, and his

amulet could also generate defensive force-shields to protect him from harm.

Counterfeit Armor

Although based in New York City, Chris became a West Coast Avengers reserve when he helped them shut down Armor City, a place where fake Iron Man suits were being manufactured for criminals.





HAPPY ACCIDENT Iulia gained superhuman strength and agility. She could also leap 20 ft (6 meters) in one bound

California Crime-fighter

Iulia quit Freedom Force, moved to Los Angeles and took undercover solo work.

Her investigations exposed the menace of

the Pacific Overlords and she also helped

the West Coast Avengers stop Dr. Demonicus. When Tigra left the team. Julia was nominated to replace her.

SPIDER-WOMAN 2

JULIA CARPENTER was desperate. She was a single mother and her ex-husband was a deadbeat. Bills were piling up, the rent was late, and her daughter Rachel had to be fed and clothed. Having no marketable skills, Julia volunteered to be a test subject for a government research project. One of the many injections she was given contained a serum created from spider venom. It somehow reacted with the other injections and Julia's own body chemistry to give her spider-like powers.



Julia revealed her secret identity to her daughter Rachel and even took her on some of her missions

INTO ACTION

The first Spider-Woman had apparently retired, so Julia took the name. She met the Avengers when they were all transported to Battleworld, an artificial planet created for a series of secret wars by a being called the Beyonder. Returning to Earth, she joined



project "psi-webs," and

enough psionic energy through he

hands and feet to crawl up walls

RAGE

FLVIN DARYL HALIDAY was a short and skinny African-American child, who was often the butt of schoolvard bullies. He lived in Harlem and came from a poor, but honest family. While escaping some bigots who had accused him of stealing, he hid in a creek where a chemical company had illegally dumped radioactive material. The radiation triggered a genetic



change in Elvin and he suddenly developed superhuman strength and a massive body.

FIST OF VENGEANCE Believing he had gained his powers to protect the helples and punish the bullies of this world. Flyin became Rage. He demanded to join the Avengers because the team lacked an Afro-American member.

TEMPER TANTRUMS

The Avengers refused to let Rage join, but were? impressed when he put a local drug dealer out of business. After aiding them against a gang of alien criminals, Rage was invited to become a reserve member. Captain America tried to teach him martial arts, but he kept losing his temper.

The Hate Monger, a creature who

fed off human hatred, allied with

the Sons of the Serpent and ignited

himself paired with the teenage New

riots in New York City. Rage found

Grandma Staples from the Serpents

Warriors, who helped him save



Rage is bulletproof and can stand up to the strongest blows.

Future Avenger The Avengers were forced

Though Rage looked like an adult, his

grandmother knew he was still a child

wore a mask and was always so angry

and often scolded him-even in

but she still baked him cookies

public. She disliked the fact that he

to expel Rage from their ranks when they discovered he was still a minor and so ineligible for membership. Undaunted, he switched to the New

Warriors, which he preferred anyway, Though he is currently back in high school, Rage still plans to be an Avenger when he grows up



MORGAN LE FEY

SHE SUFFERED FROM a bad case of sibling rivalry. Morgan Le Fey's half-brother was King Arthur of Camelot and she was only half human. Though she and Arthur shared the same mother. her father was believed to have been a member of an ancient magical race that once inhabited Britain. After learning the arts of sorcery, Morgan plotted against King Arthur until Merlin the Magician cast a spell that imprisoned her within the walls of Castle Le Fey.



Sending her spirit into the present,

transform a simple thief into a sword-

Morgan used her dark sorcery to

swinging superhuman who called

himself Excalibur.

ASTRAL PROJECTION

However Morgan, one of the most powerful sorceresses in history, was not to be so easily confined. Although her body couldn't leave the castle, her astral form was free to travel to various time periods as she searched for a way to free herself. Morgan fastened upon Jessica Drew, the first Spider-Woman, believing that she could use her to break Merlin's spell. When Spider-Woman refused to aid her. Morgan tried to destroy her.



Morean's spirit journeyed to the present and tried to possess Spider-Woman's body. When the Avenuers entered the astral plane to stop her. Morean created a gigantic stone-like body for herself. The team smashed this with help from Doctor

Strange, but Morgan's spirit continued searching for a new home

The Morgana Quest

Having stolen the Twilight sword, a weapon of monumental power Morgan kidnapped the Scarlet Witch. The sorceress used Wanda's incredible realityaltering powers to recreate a distorted version of Camelot, in which the Avengers served as her knights. Captain America managed to break free from the spell and led a revolt the soon freed

other Avengers and restored reality.



After luring Spider-Woman into the past for a showdown. Morean fell out one of the castle windows and her body was obliterated by Merlin's magic stell.

JUSTICE & FIRESTAR

VAANCE ASTROWK dreamed of being an astronaut; but when he dicovered he was a mutant with telekinetic powers, he: resolved to become an Avenger. Vance can levitate himself, move objects with his mind and project psionic blasts. Angelica Iones was also a mutant. Recruited by the

Massachusetts Academy, a school for young mutants, she received the code name Firestar and learned to control her ability to project heat and





Vance was always more enthusiastic about life as a super-heroic Avenger than his partner Firestar



manipulate microwaves.

Calling himself Marvel Boy, Vance applied for membership with the Avengers, but was turned down because of his age. He later joined a team of teenage heroes called the New Warriors that consisted of Night Thrasher, Speedball, Namorita, Nova, and Firestar. Vance and Angela fell in love,

and he changed his name to Justice.



persuaded Firestar to try out for the Avengers, but she was none too keen. Love is Enough

Whirlwind, Justice and Firestar were offered status as reserve members. They aided the team against the Squadron Supreme, the Kree and the Legion of the Unliving before returning to college and focusing on their relationship.









MARIA DE GUADALUPE SANTIAGO was a mutant who could transform into a strange beast. Raised in the tiny country of Costa Verde, her father claimed that her mother was the legendary volcano goddess Peliali, protector of the people. He took Maria to the caves beneath the sleeping volcano, but

they never found Peliali.

Shape-shifting Silverclaw can call upon the powers of any jungle beast. She can also employ multiple animal powers at the same time.

A LONFLY ORPHAN After her father grew sick and died. Maria was taken

in by a church orphanage, The priests were nervous about her powers and kept her away from the other children. She had no friends until a letter arrived from America. Edwin Jarvis had responded to an ad and became Maria's sponsor. He eventually arranged for her to come to New York to attend school and that is when he discovered she was secretly Silverclaw.

> Silverclaw combined the speed and agility of a monkey with the power of Jaguar to overcome the wizard Gath Toth.

TRIATHLON

Delroy was everyone's hero until he was

caught cheating in

the Olympic Games.

POWER PUNCH

Triathlon was strong

America and the

Avengers subdue

enough to help Captain

DELROY GARRETT, JR. grew up in the suburbs of D Philadelphia. A natural athlete, he ran track in high school and broke every record. He began training for the Olympics, but then started to doubt his talent. The pressure to win overcame his better judgment and he began taking steroids to improve his performance. He won three gold medals and was offered a fortune in endorsement contracts-until he was caught out by a routine drugs test.



The Triune Understanding showed Delroy how to unlock the latent power within himself, enhancing his strength, speed

and agility to almost superhuman levels.

A NEW PATH

Stripped of all his medals, banned from all competition, Delroy fell into a deep depression. Then he discovered the Triune Understanding, a cult that claimed to have a new holistic approach. The Triune Understanding showed Delroy how to banish his

shame and self-hatred and unlock his full physical potential. Triathlan caula run fast enough

o dodge bullets

Making the Team Triathlon learned that Moses

Magnum intended to steal a seismic cannon and led the Avengers to Magnum's base. Triathlon also joined the Avengers in battle against the Grim Reaper, Kang, and the Presence, a former Soviet scientist who could generate nuclear energy within his own body.

The Truth About Triune

Avengers, Triathlon was a spokesman for the Triune Understanding until he discovered it was a front for Lord Templar, a terrorist osing as a champion of peace.

A ream of heavily armed terrorists attempted to hijack the plane that carried Maria to America, forcing her to transform herself into the ferocious Silverclaw. During the confusion of battle, she arracked Captain America and later had to apologize to him and the Avengers.

ALL FORGIVEN Maria was fearful that Jarvis would now reject her for being a freak, but he auickly put her mind at ease.

When Maria becomes

Silverclaw, she gains the speed and agility of a jungle cat.

GHUHH!









THE AVENGERS IN THE 2000s

HAVING RESTORED Earth's Mightiest Heroes to fan-favorite status, Kurt Busiek and George Perez explored the Triune Understanding, included Triathlon in the lineup, explored Silverclaw's origin, and revived Madame Masque and Count Nefaria. The Avengers also participated in a major crossover in late 2000 called Maximum Security, drawn by John Romita, Jr., in which alien empires tried to transform Earth into a prison planet.

> In 2001, Kurt Busiek finished his run with a 16issue epic in which Kang established his dynasty. Mark Millar and Bryan Hitch took a new approach with the launch of the acclaimed Ultimates in 2002, and in the regular Avengers title, Geoff Johns and Kieron Dwyer produced a story in which the Avengers were asked to rule the world. Johns later wrote The Search for She-Hulk, in which Jennifer Walters runs amok. Chuck Austin brought back Morgan Le Fey and the Wrecking Crew, He also introduced a new Captain Britain and Invaders. The Avengers disassembled at the end of 2004.

During 2005, the Great Lakes Avengers received a four-issue series, courtesy of Dan Slott and Paul Pelletier; Allan Heinberg and Jim Cheung introduced the world to the Young Avengers; and Brian Michael Bendis and David Finch reassembled a team of New Avengers that included Spider-Man and Wolverine.

Avengers Vol. 3 #25 (Feb. 2000) A number of old friends and older enemies drop in to celebrate the Avengers return to greatness at the hands of Kurt Busiek and George Perez. (Cover by George Perez)



2000

Avengers #503 (Dec.

2004) After seismic

finally call it quits.

upheavals, the Avengers

(Cover by David Finch)

Avengers Vol. 3 #31 (August 2000) Avengers Vol. 3 #46/ Vol. 1 #463 The Vision returns with the Grim (Nov. 2001): Kang conquers the Reaper and Madame Masque. (Cover by George Perez)



whole Earth. (Cover by Kieron



Avengers Vol. 3 #50/ Vol. 1 #465 (March 2002) Kang enslaves the Avengers, (Cover by Kieron Duver)



Avengers Vol. 3 #80/Vol. 1 #495 Avengers Vol. 3 #69/ Vol. 1 #484 (May 2004) A new Captain (Sept. 2003) A toxic chemical is Britain is born. (Cover by David released over Mount Rushmore (Cover by I. G. Iones) Finch and Art Teibert





Earth's Mightiest Heroes #1 (lan. 2005) An eight-issue celebration of all things Avengers, (Cover by



Avengers Vol. 3 #74/ Vol. 1 #489 (Jan. 2004) Hawkeye joins the search for the missing She-Hulk. (Cover by Mike Delgado)

Avengers Finale (Jan. 2005) The surviving Avengers gather together to reminisce and bid goodbye to each other, (Cover by Neal Adams and Laura Martin)



New Avengers #131 (Feb. 1973) & #131 (Feb. 1973) A new tradition begins with a new team and name, and the New Avengers travel to the Savage Land and meet Wolverine. (Covers by David Finch and Danny Miki)





ANT-MAN 2

COTT LANG WANTED to be a good father. An electronics expert, he turned to crime to help pay the bills and support his family. He was eventually arrested and sent to prison. Paroled for good behavior, he got a job at Stark Industries, but his wife divorced him, giving him custody of their daughter

Cassie. Scott then learned that Cassie needed an expensive heart operation and that her surgeon had been kidnapped!

TO SAVE HIS DAUGHTER

Desperate to rescue the surgeon and save Cassie's life, Scott broke into the home of Dr. Hank Pvm and stole his old Ant-Man costume and shrinking formula, Scott became a new Ant-Man and freed the surgeon, who then operated on Cassie.



The Ant Avenger

Willing to go to jail for his crime, Scott returned the Ant-Man outfit to Pvm. Pvm revealed that he had been following Scott as Yellowjacket and offered to allow him to continue as Ant-Man.

Scott accepted and helped the Avengers battle the Absorbing Man (above) and his





Ant Muscle

Scott helped to rescue Yellowiacket and the Wasp from the Taskmaster, a criminal with the ability to mimic anyone's physical abilities. After a brief consulting stint with the Fantastic Four, Scott joined the Avengers and was pivotal in apprehending Scorpio (right), a member

of the Zodiac crime cartel.





Ant-Man's helmet has

its own air supply. It gives him allround vision and the ability to communicate

with ants.

dousing Jack with the only existing sample.

Zero Fluid Blaming himself for failing to save his father. lack was determined to hunt down anyone connected to the gangleading to clashes with the authorities, and with



JACK OF HEARTS

BACK HART WAS THE SON of a brilliant scientist who invented an J incredibly efficient, inexpensive liquid fuel called Zero Fluid. Jack's father intended to make it available to all the free countries in the world. Criminals tried to steal the formula, killing Jack's father and

An explosive personality

The highly corrosive fuel permanently scarred lack's body and caused mutagenic changes. He began to generate incredible bursts of "zero energy," which he could expel in the form of blasts of intense heat. He could also use it to fly. His energy increased and he designed a protective armored suit to

contain it. When even this began to fail, he exiled himself to space. He recently returned and asked the Avengers

THE ZERO ROOM

To prevent himself from exploding like an atomic bomb, Jack must spend 14 hours a day in the Mansion's "Zero Room", which siphons off his excess energy.



DORN AND RAISED in London, Kelsey Leigh was an **B** English teacher and mother of two. She was attacked one night while with her husband. He did nothing, but she fought back and received a cruel facial scar. Their marriage ended soon after.



Morgan le Fey learned the Avengers were visiting England. She placed a spell on the costumed criminals known as the Wrecking Crew and sent them to attack the heroes. Kelsev and her children were caught in the fight. Captain America was seriously injured trying to protect them and Kelsey sacrificed her life to save his.

The legendary hero Captain Britain and his wife appeared to Kelsey, offering her the chance to defend England against evil.



SWORD OF VENGEANCE Kelsey seized the chance to become a modern-day Captain Britain, She now possessed super-strength and was armed with an magic sword that could transform into a battle-staff and discharge blasts of psionic energy. She had soon taken revenge on her killer.







Captain America was convinced the world

him down and introduced him to Emma

could do with a hero like Sentry. He hunted

Frost, a powerful mutant telepath. She peered

into Sentry's mind and learned that many of

his beliefs were false: he had been the victim

of some kind of psychic brainwashing.

COMEBACK

After learning that

his wife still lived and

that he could always keep

the Void in check. Sentry

joined the new Avengers and

renewed old acquaintances.

Spider-Woman

radiates

pheromones

that attract

men and repel

SPIDER-WOMAN

JESSICA DREW was born to an American anthropologist and his British wife. Her father worked closely with Herbert Wyndham, the High Evolutionary. As a child, Jessica was exposed to radioactive uranium.

that his accelerator had caused the spider serum to mutate within her hads and her father injected her with a serum composed of irradiated spider's blood, hoping to save her life. When she still failed to recover, the High Evolutionary used his genetic accelerator on her.



SIDE-EFFECTS lessica's mather dies suddenly and her father fel

into a deep depression, so the High Fuolutionary

supervised her treatment

He was surprised to find

Spider Power Spider-Woman has

superhuman strength and agility. She can stick to walls by excreting an adhesive substance from her hands and feet and can fly. She is also a skilled marrial arrist and trained in espionage techniques

Double Trouble

When H.Y.D.R.A. tried to blackmail her into becoming a double agent, Jessica immediately told Nick Fury, who insisted she take the deal and turn the tables on them. Jessica was working for S.H.I.E.L.D. when Captain America invited her to join the new Avengers.



lessica began to date a young man and accidentally discharged a bioelectric blast that almost killed him, Jessica fled the scene and became a fugitive from justice. The terrorist group H.Y.D.R.A. learned of her powers and sent her to kill Nick Fury. He persuaded her to switch sides and join S.H.I.E.L.D. When not working for Fury, lessica worked as a bounty hunter and, later, as a private detective.







Saga of Sauron

The jailbreak was arranged by a mutant group called the Savage Land Murates. Their goal was to free Karl Lykos, who drained energy from his victims to transform into Sauron, a winged reptile with hypnotic powers. The Avengers racked-Lykos to the Sayage Land a jungle inhabited by dinosaurs. There they encountered the X-Man Wolverine, who helped the team defeat the mutates and capture Lykos. The Avengers also uncovered an illegal S.H.I.E.L.D. operation to mine weapons-grade vibranium using slave labor.



PULLING TOGETHER
Membership of the new

team is fluid. Any hero who has ever been an Avenger may be present at meetings, as may luminaries such as Dr. Strange, Reed Richards, Professor Xavier, Black Bolt

Wolverine

Wolverine was invited to join the new team with the understanding that he could continue his membership in the

X-Men. Logan is a mutant who possesses a healing factor which enables him to recover from almost any injury. It also retards aging. He has superhumanly acute senses and his skeleton has been artificially reinforced with adamantium. His help was crucial when the Avengers were beest by dinosuurs in the Savage Land (befasa).



Wolverine has three natural claus on each hand which have also been sheathed in adamantium. They can cut through almost anything and be rriggered or withdrawn in an instant.



The **ULTIMATES**

THE MULTIVERSE CONTAINS parallel Earths. many of which house unique versions of the Avengers. In one

dimension, General Nick Fury, the head of S.H.I.E.L.D., is given the task of forming an Avengers team, the Ultimates. He hires Dr. Bruce Banner to recreate the lost Super-Soldier serum that created Captain America.

BANNER BLOWS IT

Working out of a rundown research facility in Pittsburgh, Banner is disappointed when Fury refuses to allow him to conduct trials on civilians. so he tests his new formula upon himself.

He is transformed into a monstrous Hulk and goes on a cross-

country rampage. The rest of Fury's new Avengers team manage to subdue the Hulk and, after covering up Banner's connection to Hulk, Fury puts him back to work.



Hawkeye and Black Widow lead the assault on the office block, which seems to be staffed by ordinary workers. However the workers are really shapeshifting aliens plotting to take over the world.



"the Black Widow" Romanova run covert operations for Fury. The Widow and Hawkeve learn that the aliens are called the Chiaturi. Eight feet (2.4 meters) tall and reptilian in appearance, these aliens can assume human form. Before long Black Widow and Hawkeye have targeted two adjacemoffice building which, according to information received,

are fully staffed by potential alien invaders.



The Super-Agents

Fury believes that Earth faces a secret alien menace and the President authorizes a \$150 billion project to create the Ultimates, a team of super-soldiers like Captain America who can safeguard the

security of the planet. Fury recruits Tony Stark, creator of the Iron Man armor, Dr. Hank Pvm. who is working on a formula to become Giant-Man. and his wife lanet.

the Wasp.



Hitler Was an Alien Fury reveals that the Chiaturi

threat to humanity is nothing new. In fact, the civilized world has already fought and defeated them onceduring World War II, when the shape-shifting aliens infiltrated the Nazi party.



Hury briefs the Ultimates on the Chiaturi menace and their recent attempt to ontaminate the water supply with mind-controlling drugs

> Sure that the aliens are preparing a global takeover, h launches a major offensive against them. However, the aliens have infiltrated S.H.I.E.L.D.'s psidivision and have been feeding Fury false information. Fury's forces are heading into a trap.

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

Fury's troops are destroyed by a nuclear bomb. The Chiaturi then invade the Ultimates' Triskelion base and slaughter every S.H.I.E.L.D. agent on the premises,



THE POWER OF KLEISER

Leader of the Chiaturi, Kleiser possesses superhuman strength and the ability to heal from almost any injury.



Enemy From the Past

Saved from destruction by one of Iron Man's force-fields, Fury leads his troops to the new alien base where Captain America discovers Kleiser, an old enemy from World War II. With the aid of Thor, the Ultimates battle a fleet of Chiaturi starships, while Cap hits Kleiser with everything he's got; but the alien keeps coming back for more.

Hulk Smash!

Realizing that there's no other way to stop Kleiser, Cap calls in Banner and orders him to be thrown from a helicopter. knowing that he'll transform into the Hulk before he hits the ground. Not even Kleiser can withstand the full fury of an angry Hulk.



To prevent the alien creature from ever rising again, the Hulk tears it apart with his bare hand





Real Redemption

The Thunderbolts eventually decided that they wanted to reform, They turned against Baron Zemo and invited Hawkeye to lead them. He arranged for them to get full pardons for their crimes. As part of the deal, the Thunderbolts were forbidden to use their powers in public so the team temporarily disbanded. The team now includes Mach-IV, Songbird, Atlas, Blizzard, Captain Marvel, Speed Demon, Jovstick, and Radioactive Man.

NEW INVADERS

DURING WORLD WAR II, Captain America, Bucky, the Sub-Mariner, the Human Torch and his partner Toro banded together to fight the Nazi menace. They were joined by other costumed crime-fighters like Spitfire, Union Jack and the Blazing Skull. With the rise of global terrorism. a secret government agency contacted

U.S.Agent John Walker and commissioned him to assemble a team of superhuman antiterrorists-a new team of Invaders.

THE OLD AND THE NEW Walker brought Spitfire and the Blazing Skull out of retirement. He also recruited a new Union Jack, Sub-Mariner, the Human Torch, and Tara, an android who burst into flame when exposed to oxygen

THUNDERBOLTS

THEY WERE A LIE that grew to become the truth. When the Avengers were apparently killed battling Onslaught, Baron Zemo sensed the public's need for new heroes. He outfitted his gang of criminals with new costumes and names

and rechristened the team the Thunderbolts. The plan was to win support and then take over the world...



team's attempts to save the world. Hawkeye was forced to destroy Moonstone, the powers went out of control.



Afterword by Tom DeFalco

THE AVENGERS is actually the super-team title that Stan Lee was supposed to create at the beginning of the Maryel Universe, but he and lack Kirby did the Fantastic Four instead, Martin Goodman, who owned the company that would eventually be known as Marvel Comics, was playing golf one day with some big shot from rival DC Comics. Goodman learned that DC's best-selling title was The Justice League of America, a team of super heroes, and immediately told Stan to come up with the same thing for Marvel. Well, the Justice League united all of DC's top heroes, but Marvel didn't have any suitable heroes at that precise moment. Stan probably could have resurrected Captain America, Sub-Mariner, and the original Human Torch-which he did later on-but he preferred to stretch his imagination and the boundaries of comics by creating the FF, a super-team for people who didn't like super-teams. When that title proved a success, he introduced more and more heroes until it seemed only natural to team them. Of course, Stan soon grew bored with the Avengers lineup and started changing the team.

If the Avengers can be summed up in a single word, it's "change." The team's membership changed with its second issue. A former member became an enemy with its third issue. A new member was added to the ranks in its fourth-issue, and so on. In 2004, the entire structure of the Avengers was disassembled and replaced and that, too, is destined to change. If the Avengers teach us anything, it's that change is inevitable. We have to expect it and deal with it. A worthy lesson for children and adults alike!

Whenever I think of the Avengers, certain issues immediately spring to mind: Avengers #4, when Captain America burst on the scene...

Avengers #9, the introduction and death of Wonder Man... Avengers #17, the old order changeth...and Avengers #59 where I first learned that even an android can cry. I also think of Stan Lee and Tack kifty who started the whole ball

rolling and Roy Thomas and John Buscema, who took the team on the wildest rollercoaster rides. The Avengers were produced by a legion of truly talented creative people and I salute them all.

The TIME HAS COME time has come for me to thank my editor, Alastair Dougall, for his exceptional patience and total support. The book may not have had all the anget and trauma of the last one, but life still did get a tad too interesting alone the way.

I am also grateful to the talented Lisa Lanzarini who designed this book and keeps getting better with each new set of layouts.

While the original comics were my actual source material, I also relied rather heavily on the work of people like Mark Gruenwald, Peter Sanderson, Elliot Brown, Howard Mackie, Mark Bernardo, Bob Budiansky, Tom Brewoort, Eric Fein and all the others who contributed to *The Official Handbook of the Maruel Universe* (all three editions).

Anyone interested in the Avengers should also look in on the current monthly comic books— New Avengers, Young Avengers, Ultimates and, of course, Iron Man, and Captain America. The Avengers earlier adventures have been reprinted in a variety of formats, from the Marvel Masterworks to the Essential Editions and dozens of trade paperbacks.

This book is dedicated to Jimmy, Samantha, Bernie, Eddy, Tommy, Danielle, Christopher, Allison, Stephen, Meredith, Alexa, Andrew, Gerald, Carolyn, Ryan and the new addition we're expecting in November—they are my mightiest heroes and I thank them for helping me carry on and for giving me a rasson to remain a storyteller. I would also like to express my gratifule to you, my reader, for just being there!

HOO-HA!

Tom D.



Gazetteer

COMIC BOOK TITLES

A1-Avengers Vol. (1963-1996, 2002-2004) A3-Avengers Volume 3 (1998-2002)

AA—Avengers Annual AF-Amazing Fantasy (1962) Al F. Alpha Flight (1983, 1994) AMA-Amazing Spider-Man Annual

ASM-Amazing Spider-Man Vol. 1 (1962-1999) AT-Astonishing Tales (1970-1976) AWC ... Aveneers West Coast (also West Coast Aveneers 1985-1994)

BNC-Black Knight Comics (1955-1956) C1-Captain America (4941-1950) CA-Captain America (1968-1996) Dirkhawk (1991-1996) DHK-Deadly Hands of Kung Fu (1974-1977) ET-The Eternals (1976-1978)

FF-Fantastic Four Vol. 1

(1961-1996 2003-present)

GSA-Giant-Sized Avengers GSD-Giant-Sixed Defenders H1-Incredible Hulk Vol. 1 (1962-1963). H2-Incredible Hulk Vol. 2 (1968-1999) IIM-Journey Into Mystery (1952-1966) IMA-Journey Into Mystery Annual IM-Iron Man (1968-1996) LC-Luke Cage, Hero For Hire (1972-1973) MC-Marvel Comics (1939) MMC-Marvel Mystery Comics (1939-1949) MSH-Marvel Super-Heroes (1967-1972) . MSL-Marvel Spotlight (1971-1977) MSW-Marvel Super Heroes Secret Wars (1984)

MPE-Motion Picture Funnies Weekly (1939) SD-Shanna the She-Devil (1972-1973) SH-Savare She-Hulk (1980-1982) SO-Solo Avengers (also Avengers Spotlight (1987-1991) SOD-2001. A Space Odyssey (1976-1977)

SS-Silver Surfer (1968-1970) ST-Strange Tales (1951-1968) SW-Spider-Woman (1978-1983) TC-The Cat (1972-1973) TMT-The Mighty Thor (1966-1996) TOS-Tales of Suspense (1959-1968) TTA-Tales to Astonish (1959-1968) TWK-Two-Gun Kid (1962-1977) USA_USA Comics (1941-1945) UXM-Uncappy X-Men (1963-present)

FIRST APPEARANCE CHARACTER

Amora (Enchantress) IIM #103 Anr-Man (Dr. Henry "Hank" Pym) TTA #27 A1 #181 Anr.Man 2 TMT #129 Arkon A1 #75 MSH #18 Astro, Vance (Justice) Atlas (Erik Josten) A1 #21 FF #33 Baker, William (Sandman) ASM #4 Banner Robert Bruce H1 #1 Baron Zemo I (Heinrich Zemo) A1 #6 Baron Zemo II (Helmut Zemo) CA #168 Barton, Barney A1 #64 Barton, Clint (Hawkeye, Goliath) TOS #57 HYM #1 Beast (Hank McCov) Black Bolt FF #45 BKC #1 Black Knight I (Sir Percy of Scandia) Black Knight II (Nathaniel Garrett) TTA #52 Black Knight III (Dane Whitman) A1 #47 Black Panther (T'Challa) FF #52 A1 #152 Black Talon Black Widow (Natasha Romanova) TOS #52 Brandt Gustav (Libra) A1 #72 C1 #1 (historical) Bucky Barnes A1 #4 (modern) LC #1 Cannon . David (Whirlwind) TTA #50

A1 #4 (modern) Captain Britain (Kelsev Leigh) A3 #77 MSH #18 Cantain Mar-Vell Captain Marvel 2 (Monica Rambeau) AMA #16 Carpenter, Julia (Spider-Woman 2) SW #6 Cat (Greer Nelson/Tigra) TC #1 A1 #32 Chen (Supreme Serpent) Collector (Taneleer Tivan) A1 #28 Crystal (Crystalia Amagelin Maximoff) FF #45 DH #1 Darkhawk (Christopher Powell) de Guadalupe Santiago, Maria (Silverclaw) A3 #8 Doctor Doom (Victor Von Doom) Dormammu ST #126 Douglas, Arthur (Drax the Destroyer) IM #55 Douglas, Heather (Moondragon) IM #55

C1 #1 (historical)

Captain America (Steve Rogers)

Drax the Destroyer (Arthur Douglas) IM #55 Drew, Jessica (Spider-Woman) MSL #32 Dunn, Dan A1 #73 A1 #19 Duquesne, Jacques (Swordsman) Egghead (Eilhas Starr) TTA #38 Enchantress (Amora) IIM #103 A1 #69 En Dwi Gast (Grandmaster) IIM #103 Executioner (Skurge) H2 #265 Firebird (Bonita Jaurez) **IIXM #193** Firestar (Angelica Iones)

Frank, Madeline (Miss America/Madeline Iovce)

MMC #49

Mandarin

Frost, Whitney (Madame Masoue) Foster, Bill (Giant-Man, Goliarh) Garrett, Delroy (Triathlon) A3 #8 Garrett, Nathaniel (Black Knight II) Giant-Man (Henry "Hank" Pvm) Giant-Man II (Bill Foster) A1 #32 Gilgamesh Goliath (Henry "Hank" Pvm) Goliath II (Clint Barton) Goliath III (Bill Foster) Goliath IV (Erik Josten) A1 #21 Grandmaster (En Dui Gaer) A1 #69 Grim Reaper (Fric Williams) A1 #52 Growing Man TMT #140 Guardians of Galaxy MSH #18 Halliday, Flyin Daryl (Rage) Harkness, Agarha FF #94 Harr Jack (Jack of Hourse) DHK #23 Hawk, Marthew (Two-Gun Kid) Hawkeye (Clint Barron) Hellest (Parcy Walker) A1 #144 Hellstrom, Damian MSL #12 Hera Herculer IMA #1 High Evolutionary (Herbert Wyndham) Horgan, Bruno (Melter) TOS #47 Hulk (Robert Bruce Banner) H1#1 Immorrus A1 #10 Iron Man (Tony Stark) Jack of Hearts (Jack Hart) DHK #23 Jaurez, Bonita (Firebird) H2 #265 locasta A1 #162 lones. Angelica (Firesrar) lones, Rick losten, Erik (Powerman, Goliath, Atlas) loyce, Madeline (Miss America) MMC #49 justice (Vance Astro) Kamilla Klaw Hosses Korese Michael Kragoff, Ivan (Red Ghost) Lang, Scott (Ant-Man 2) A1 #181 Lava Men IIM #97 Legion of the Unliving Lehsherr, Erik Maenus (Maeneto) UXM #1 Leigh, Kelsey (Captain Britain) Lethal Legion Libra (Gustay Brandt) Lion God Living Laser (Arthur Parks) Living Lightning (Miguel Santos) AWC #63 Logan (Wolvering H1 #180 Lu, Chen (Radiosetive Man) IIM #93 Lynne, Monica A1 #73 Madame Masque (Giulietta Nefaria/Whitney Frost) Scarlet Centurion Scarlet Witch (Wanda Maximoff) Machine Man (X-5) SOD #8 Schmidt, Johann (Red Skull) C1 #1 (historical) Magneto (Erik Marcus Lebsherr) Man-Ape (M'Buka A1 #62 Serpent Supreme (General Chen)

Frank, Robert (Whizzer

USA #1 (historical)

A1 #112 Sersi Marrina (Marrina Smallwood) Maximoff Pietro (Quickvilver) Maximoff, Wanda (Scarlet Witch) HVM #4 M'Raku (Man-Ape) A1 #62 McCov, Hank (Beast) Mechano-Marauder (Fabian Stankowicz) A1 #215 Melter (Bruno Horean) TOS #47 Menhitro SS #3 A1 #17 Miss America (Madeline Iower/Frank) MMC #49 Mockingbird (Barbara "Bobbi" Morse) AT #6 Mole Man Moondravon (Heather Donelas) TM #55 Morgan Le Fey SW #2 Morse Barbara (Mockinshird) AT #6 MPF #1 (historical) Namor (Sub-Mariner) FF #4 (modern) Nefaria Count Luchino Nefaria, Giulietta (Madame Masque) Nekra (Nekra Sinclair) Nelson, Greer (Tigra/Car) Parker, Peter (Spider-Man) Parks, Arthur (Living Laser) A1 #34 Percy of Scandia (Black Knight I) BNIC #1 Photon (Monica Rambeau) AMA #16 Pilai of Kosmos Powell, Christopher (Darkhawk) DH #1 Powerman (Erik Josten) A1 #21 Proctor Professor X (Charles Yaniar) UXM #1 A1 #88 Pym. Dr. Henry "Hank" (Ant-Man/Giant-Man/Goliarh) Pym, Janet (Janet van Dyne) Quasar (Wendell Vauehn) CA #21 Quicksilver (Pietro Maximoff) Radd, Norrin (Silver Surfer) FF #48 Radioactive Man (Dr. Chen Lu) IIM #93 Raec (Flyin Daryl Halliday) Rambean, Monica (Captain Marvel 2/Phoron) Rayonna, Princess A1 #23 Red Ghost (Ivan Kragoff) FF#13 Red Guardian (Alexi Shostakov) A1 #43 Red Skull (Johann Schmidt) C1 #1 (historical) TOS #66 (modern) Red Wolf (Will Tallrrees) A1#80 IM #120 Rhodes, James (War Machine) Rogers, Steve (Captain America) C1 #1 (historical) Romanova, Natalia "Natasha" (Black Widow) TC#1 Rumulo, Dr. Joanne FF #65

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ST #109

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