

THE SHOWDOWN OF THE CENTURY!

APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY

MARVEL COMICS **VERSUS** DC




#2
MAR 96



DAVID • CASTELLINI • JURGENS • NEARY • RUBINSTEIN

01

 0 71486 03463 6
\$3.95 US \$5.35 CAN  03463



WHEN AXEL ASHER WAS SEVEN YEARS OLD, HE WANDERED INTO HIS PARENTS' BEDROOM AND FOUND HIS KID SISTER PLAYING WITH DAD'S GUN.

HE SCOLDED HER, GRABBED IT AWAY...

... AND THEN HEARD A LOUD NOISE.

HE WAS VERY SURPRISED WHEN HE LOOKED DOWN AT HIS PANTS LEG AND SAW IT SOAKED WITH HIS BLOOD.

AS HE COLLAPSED, THE GRAVITY OF HIS SITUATION ELUDED HIM. INSTEAD HE WAS GLARING AT HIS SISTER FOR HAVING GOTTEN HIM INTO TROUBLE...

... AND SHE AT HIM FOR TAKING AWAY THE "TOY."

THAT WAS A LONG TIME AGO. THE ONLY OUTWARD REMINDER IS AXEL'S SLIGHT LIMP. BUT HE CARRIES THE ANGER AND PAIN WITHIN HIM.

IT WAS THE MOST TRAUMATIC THING THAT EVER HAPPENED TO HIM...

... UNTIL THEY APPEARED IN HIS CONSCIOUSNESS... WITH AN ENMITY THAT MADE HIS SISTER'S AND HIS PALE IN COMPARISON...

... AND WITH ENOUGH PAIN BETWEEN THEM TO LEVEL A UNIVERSE.



unhhh...



SIR! EXCUSE ME, SIR!

YOU GOT A PROBLEM OVER THERE?



N... NO, OFFICER. I'LL JUST...

...I'LL JUST BE MOVING ALONG, OKAY?



ACTUALLY, PERHAPS IT WOULD BE BETTER IF YOU STEPPED BACK OUT OF YOUR VEHICLE, SIR.

GREAT... HE THINKS I'M ON DRUGS OR SOMETHING...

"NO, NO, OFFICER, THERE'S JUST THESE TWO... THINGS... FIGHTING IN MY HEAD. NO DRUGS AT ALL!"



SIR, I'M ASKING YOU TO STEP OUT OF YOUR VEHICLE.

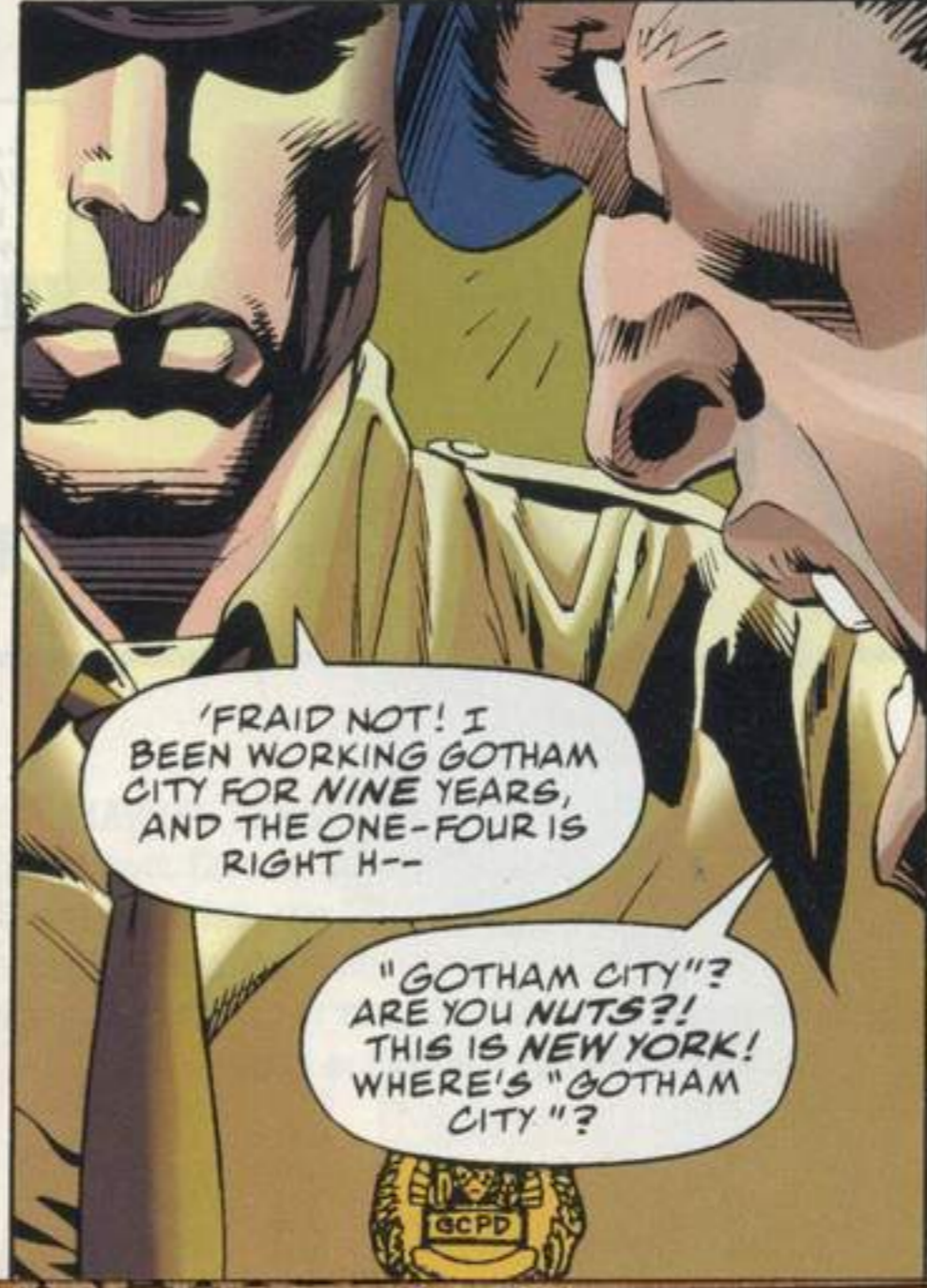
MAY I ASK WHAT I'VE DONE?

FOR STARTERS, YOU'VE IGNORED A DIRECT REQUEST FROM A POLICE OFFICER.



A "POLICE OFFICER"? EXCUSE ME, FELLA... BUT I DIDN'T SEE YOU AT ROLL CALL AT THE ONE-FOUR THIS MORNING!

THE ONE-FOUR? THAT PRECINCT IS ACROSS TOWN!



'FRAID NOT! I BEEN WORKING GOTHAM CITY FOR NINE YEARS, AND THE ONE-FOUR IS RIGHT H--

"GOTHAM CITY"? ARE YOU NUTS?! THIS IS NEW YORK! WHERE'S "GOTHAM CITY"?



BURSTS OF LIGHT... FAKE COPS... IT'S LIKE THE WHOLE CITY IS GOING DOWN THE SEWER...



AIM THOSE PIG-STICKERS SOMEWHERE ELSE, LITTLE MAN... OR I'LL PICK YOUR TEETH WITH THEM FROM THE INSIDE OUT!

FWOOOM!

Unh!

NOW I... KNOW WHY YOU CALL YOURSELF "KILLER CROC."

BECAUSE YOU'RE NOTHING BUT A CROCK OF--



SHOOT!

OH, LOOK! AN AUDIENCE TO WATCH ME TEAR YOU TO BITS!

GOOD. THEY CAN APPLAUD YOUR FINAL CURTAIN.

HAVE TO CHANGE TO MY COSTUME...

... IF ONLY I CAN DITCH THIS GUY WITHOUT HIS GETTING SUSPICIOUS...

THERE HAVE BEEN ANY NUMBER OF TIMES WHEN AXEL ASHER HAS FELT THE NEED TO MOVE ON... TO ROAM...

...TO CONTINUE HIS SEARCH FOR THAT GOAL WHICH HE CANNOT EVEN NAME.

IN THE PAST, IT'S ALWAYS BEEN A MORE SUBTLE FEELING. BUT FEWER THINGS ARE LESS SUBTLE THAN HAVING A MANHOLE COVER ALMOST DECAPITATE YOU.

AXEL'S READY TO MAX THE CASH FROM HIS CHECKING ACCOUNT AND BLOW TOWN.

UNFORTUNATELY... THE AUTOMATIC TELLER MACHINE IS DISINCLINED TO COOPERATE.

"ACCOUNT NOT RECOGNIZED"?! WHAT IS THIS?!?

STOP SPITTING OUT MY CARD, YOU STUPID...!

BUT WHY DOES THAT ALLEYWAY SEEM AWFULLY FAMILIAR?

WAAAAIT A MINUTE... I DON'T KNOW THIS AREA OF TOWN...

FINALLY, YOU GOT YOUR TAIL BACK HERE! TOOK LONG ENOUGH!

WHAT... IS THAT?

AW, FER CRYIN' OUT LOUD!

WHEN THERE'S A UNIVERSE TO SAVE, YOU CAN'T STOP FOR EXPOSITION!

ELSE-
WHERE...

...THANOS,
CONSORT OF
DEATH,
WATCHES THE
POTENTIALLY
CATACLYSMIC
FLUCTUA-
TIONS OF THE
UNIVERSE...

...AND
SMILES.

A SMILE THAT
IS ONLY DIMMED
BY THE LIGHT...

BOOM!

...OF A
SWIFTLY
FADING
BOOM
TUBE.

WHILE ON
EARTH...
SOME
EARTH...

DON'T
FORCE ME
TO HAVE TO
HURT YOU,
BANE!

THE
WARNINGS OF THE
SHIELD-SLINGER ARE
MUCH APPRECI-
ATED...

...ALMOST
AS MUCH AS
HIS ABYSMAL
AIM.



EXCUSE ME... SIR? I DON'T UNDERSTAND...

I WAS IN THIS STORE YESTERDAY AND NONE OF THIS STUFF WAS HERE.



WHAT HAPPENED TO THE DISPLAY OF X-MEN STUFF?

WHAT'S... "X--"



--MEN"?!

KERASH!



THIS IS NUTS! I KNOW CROC IS BAD NEWS...

...BUT THE GUY HE'S SLUGGING WITH MIGHT BE JUST AS BAD!



I'LL HAVE TO TAKE 'EM BOTH DOWN...

...BEFORE ANYTHING ELSE HAPPENS!



GODDESS!

NO... AMAZON.

ELSEWHERE...

YOU HAVE
THROWN AWAY WHAT
SLIGHT ADVANTAGE
YOUR WEAPON
MIGHT HAVE
PROVIDED...

... EXPOSING
YOURSELF TO A
BACK-BREAKING
ATTACK THAT WILL
LEAVE YOU
CRIPPLED AND
USELESS.

I WONDER,
STRANGER, WHAT
SORT OF PATHETIC
STRATEGY YOU
WOULD CALL
THAT.

THE
KIND
THAT
WORKS.

NOW...
NO MORE
BACK TALK
FROM YOU.

BLAANNNG!




A large comic book panel showing Batman on a rooftop at night. He is looking towards the Lizard, who is perched on a ledge. The city skyline is visible in the background. Batman's cape is spread out behind him. The Lizard is a green, reptilian creature with a long tail and sharp claws.

HE'S BEEN TRACKING THE LIZARDLIKE INDIVIDUAL FOR SOME BLOCKS NOW.

THE LIZARD, FOR THE MOMENT, SEEMS CONTENT TO SURVEY HIS NEW SURROUNDINGS RATHER THAN ACT UPON THEM.

THE BATMAN DOES NOT EXPECT THAT TO LAST.

A close-up panel of Batman's face. He has a serious, determined expression. His eyes are visible through the mask's eye slits. The background is a dark, stylized cityscape.

BUT THEN SOMETHING ELSE DRAWS HIS ATTENTION...

... AND IN MAKING A DECISION AS TO WHERE HIS PRIORITIES MUST LIE ...

... HE'LL ERR ON THE SIDE OF FORMER PARTNERS.

FOR ONE ROBIN HAS ALREADY VANISHED THIS DAY, AND HE'LL NOT LOSE ANOTHER...

A panel showing Batman in flight, moving towards the right. He is in a dynamic, forward-leaning pose. In the background, Nightwing is visible, looking towards Batman. Nightwing is wearing his signature brown and purple costume with a white arrow on his chest. The scene is set on a rooftop with a cityscape in the distance.

... EVEN IF THAT ROBIN IS NOW CALLING HIMSELF NIGHTWING.

NEW YORK...
GOTHAM...

...WHEREVER...

SO! YOU CAME
BACK!

SHOULD'VE RECOGNIZED YOU WHEN YOU
CAME POKING AROUND
BEFORE! MUST BE
GETTING SENILE!

SO, YOU GONNA
HELP OR NOT?

WHAT... WHAT
IS THAT?!

DUCT TAPE!
FIRST LAW OF THE
UNIVERSE: CAN NEVER
HAVE TOO MUCH
DUCT TAPE!

NO, I
MEAN THAT
LIGHT...
WHAT'S...

AW,
CRIPES!
GET BACK!
IT'S--

IT'S
TOO

LATE!

THE CAJUN TAGGED
ME PRETTY GOOD...
BUT WHEN I CAME
AROUND, THEY'D
RUN OFF.

THEY'RE PROBABLY
MILES FROM
HERE BY NOW...

THINK SO,
NIGHTWING?

huh?

VROOM!



HEY!
THOSE
DIRTY--!

AW, MAN, I TOLD
YOU TO BUY THE CLUB,
BUT NOOO...!



NICE SET OF WHEELS.
THEY'LL GET US BACK
TO WESTCHESTER IN
NO TIME...



...AND MAYBE
CHARLIE CAN
HELP US FIGURE
OUT WHAT'S
GOING ON.



PERFECT.
JUST PERFECT.
IT JUST MAKES
YOU WONDER...



"...WHAT ELSE
CAN GO WRONG
TODAY?"

"CALM DOWN, DICK I
FELT THE BEST WAY TO
SEE WHERE THEY
CAME FROM..."

... IS TO SEE WHERE
THEY GO. WE'LL TRACK
THEM EASILY.
WITH ANY LUCK,
WE'LL EVEN GET A CLUE
TO ROBIN'S
WHEREABOUTS.




"GOD ONLY KNOWS
WHAT SORT OF DANGER
HE'S IN."

WOW...



"THIS IS IT, KID!"





IN THE BEGINNING...
THERE WERE TWO
ENTITIES... "BROTHERS"
ALTHOUGH THEY WERE
ALSO SISTERS, SEXLESS,
AND EVERYTHING IN
BETWEEN.

THEY WERE YIN AND
YANG, GOOD AND
EVIL, THE MAINYU...

THEY ENCOMPASSED THE
WHOLE OF EVERYTHING...
EXCEPT EACH OTHER...
EACH WAS SIMPLY... "ME."

ONCE BEFORE THEY
CAME TOGETHER IN
BATTLE, UNLEASHING
FORCES THAT ENDED
AND THEN BEGAN ALL
CREATION OVER AGAIN.

IN THE EXPLOSION OF
DEATH AND REBIRTH,
THE BROTHERS WERE
BLASTED APART. THEIR
SHATTERED ESSENCE
FRACTURED THE NEW-
BORN UNIVERSE INTO
A MULTIVERSE.

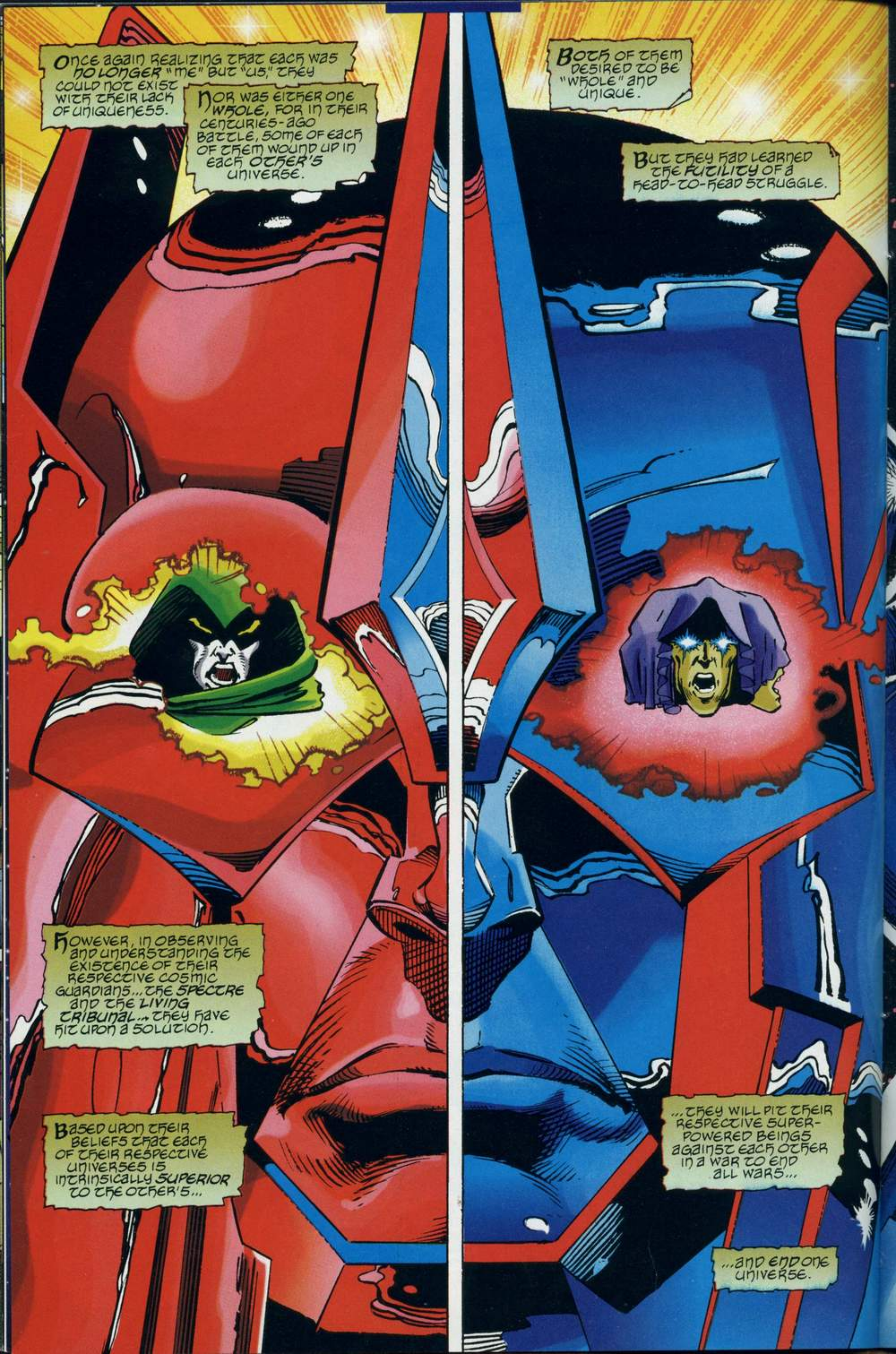
FRAGMENTS OF THEIR
ESSENCE BLEW IN ALL
DIRECTIONS. AND AS
THE UNIVERSE SPREAD
EVER OUTWARD, SO DID
THE BROTHERS.

IT TOOK THEM EONS
JUST TO REMEMBER
THEY HAD CONSCIOUS-
NESS. THEY HAD TO
THINK... BEFORE THEY
COULD BE.

AND IN ALL THAT
TIME, THEIR
MEMORY OF
EACH OTHER HAD
VANISHED.

BUT NOW, DUE
TO RECENT
COSMOS-SHAKING
EVENTS THAT
TORE THE FABRIC
OF THE UNIVERSE
AND REDEFINED
REALITY...

...THE BROTHERS
HAVE BECOME
AWARE OF EACH
OTHER ONCE
MORE.



ONCE AGAIN REALIZING THAT EACH WAS NO LONGER "ME" BUT "US," THEY COULD NOT EXIST WITH THEIR LACK OF UNIQUENESS.

NOR WAS EITHER ONE WHOLE, FOR IN THEIR CENTURIES-AGO BATTLE, SOME OF EACH OF THEM WOUND UP IN EACH OTHER'S UNIVERSE.

BOTH OF THEM DESIRED TO BE "WHOLE" AND UNIQUE.

BUT THEY HAD LEARNED THE FUTILITY OF A HEAD-TO-HEAD STRUGGLE.

HOWEVER, IN OBSERVING AND UNDERSTANDING THE EXISTENCE OF THEIR RESPECTIVE COSMIC GUARDIANS... THE SPECTRE AND THE LIVING TRIBUNAL... THEY HAVE HIT UPON A SOLUTION.

BASED UPON THEIR BELIEFS THAT EACH OF THEIR RESPECTIVE UNIVERSES IS INTRINSICALLY SUPERIOR TO THE OTHER'S...

...THEY WILL PIT THEIR RESPECTIVE SUPER-POWERED BEINGS AGAINST EACH OTHER IN A WAR TO END ALL WARS...

...AND END ONE UNIVERSE.

THE PROBLEM IS THAT SOME OF THESE CHAMPIONS ARE SO POWERFUL, A BATTLE COULD CONTINUE FOREVER WITH NO TRUE CONCLUSION.

SO THE RULES ARE SIMPLE:



WHOEVER IMMOBILIZES THE OTHER FIRST, IN EACH INSTANCE, WINS. THE EQUIVALENT IN EARTH WRESTLING OF PINNING ONE'S OPPONENT.

WHICHEVER SIDE LOSES THE MOST MATCHES...

...VANISHES FOREVER.

EACH PAIR OF HEROES WILL BE SUMMONED, WHEN IT IS THEIR TIME, TO A PLACE OF BATTLE, AND BATTLE THEY MUST, FOR IF THEY REFUSE...

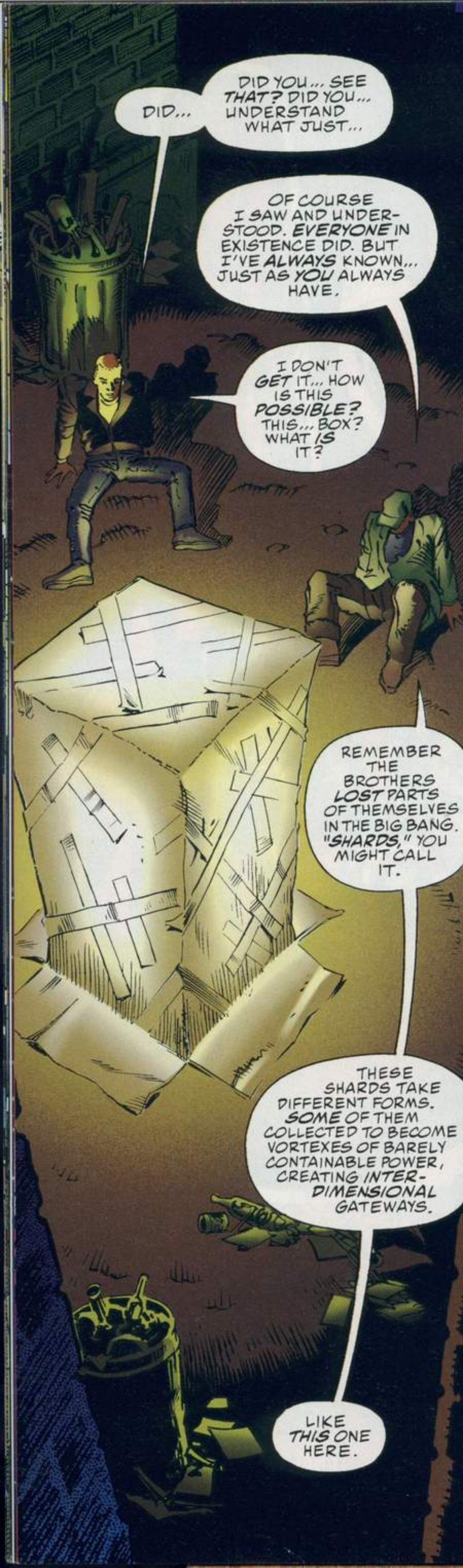
...THEN NOTHING CAN STOP THE BROTHERS FROM GOING TO WAR THEMSELVES... AND IF THAT HAPPENS...

...IT MEANS THE END OF EVERYTHING.



...THEN NOTHING CAN STOP THE BROTHERS FROM GOING TO WAR THEMSELVES... AND IF THAT HAPPENS...

...IT MEANS THE END OF EVERYTHING.



DID...

DID YOU... SEE THAT? DID YOU... UNDERSTAND WHAT JUST...


OF COURSE I SAW AND UNDERSTOOD. EVERYONE IN EXISTENCE DID. BUT I'VE ALWAYS KNOWN... JUST AS YOU ALWAYS HAVE.

I DON'T GET IT... HOW IS THIS POSSIBLE? THIS... BOX? WHAT IS IT?

REMEMBER THE BROTHERS LOST PARTS OF THEMSELVES IN THE BIG BANG. "SHARDS," YOU MIGHT CALL IT.


THESE SHARDS TAKE DIFFERENT FORMS. SOME OF THEM COLLECTED TO BECOME VORTEXES OF BARELY CONTAINABLE POWER, CREATING INTER-DIMENSIONAL GATEWAYS.

LIKE THIS ONE HERE.




OTHER SHARDS BECAME PARTS OF LIVING BEINGS... SOULS, IF YOU WILL. BEINGS IN VARIOUS STATES OF SELF-KNOWLEDGE...

...ALWAYS SEEKING PURPOSE IN LIFE, NEVER HAPPY, ALWAYS WANDERING... CERTAIN THEY'RE PART OF A GREATER WHOLE, BUT NEVER KNOWING WHAT PART OR WHAT WHOLE.



MANY GO NUTS OR DESTROY THEMSELVES. A FEW SPEND THEIR LIVES WANDERING AND UNFULFILLED.

AND EVERY SO OFTEN, ONE OR TWO BECOME AWARE, LIKE ME.



AND YOU.



SO. SO.

WE UNDERSTAND THE STAKES FOR WHICH WE FIGHT. I WOULD WISH IT OTHERWISE.

ME, TOO. IF I MIGHT ASK... WHO ARE YOU?

THOR. SON OF ODIN. GOD OF THUNDER. AND YOU--?

CAPTAIN MARVEL, WITH THE STRENGTH OF HERCULES, THE POWER OF ZEUS, THE SPEED OF MERCURY...



I SEE. WELL, CAPTAIN... AT A MOMENT LIKE THIS... THERE IS ONLY ONE APPROPRIATE THING FOR THOSE POSSESSING THE POWER OF GODS TO DO.



AND THEY DO.

THEY PRAY.



STILL ELSEWHERE...

A DISCIPLE OF DEATH... VERSUS A LORD OF DESTRUCTION.

TELL ME THEN, DARKSEID... WOULD YOU CARE TO MAKE A WAGER ON THE OUTCOME?

I WAGER, YOU PALE IMITATION OF ME...

...THAT YOU WILL LOSE.

HEY, IT'S YOUR MONEY. YOU WANT TO LOSE IT BETTING AGAINST SUPERMAN, YOU GO RIGHT AHEAD.

INCREDIBLE. THE FATE OF THE UNIVERSE IS HANGING IN THE BALANCE... AND PEOPLE ARE ACTUALLY PLACING BETS ON IT!



huhhnnn!

TRUST ME, SCARECROW! SHE MAY NOT LOOK LIKE MUCH... BUT SHE'S A VALUABLE HOSTAGE!



I'M NOT SURE ABOUT THAT, SCARECROW!



HEY-- IF I CAN GIVE AN OPINION HERE...

... WHY DON'T YOU GUYS GO OFF AND LOOK FOR BRAINS OR MRS. KING OR SOMETHING?



YOU OKAY?

I... I'M FINE, PETER. LET'S GET BACK TO THE PLANET... WHILE THERE STILL IS ONE.



FINALLY MANAGED TO DITCH KENT AND WAS ABOUT TO SWITCH TO SPIDEY...

... BUT WITH LOIS IN TROUBLE, I DIDN'T DARE TAKE THE TIME TO CHANGE.

TO SAY NOTHING OF THERE STILL BEING A UNIVERSE.



WELL, WELL... LOOKS LIKE LOIS IS ATTENDED TO.

I WONDER IF I SHOULD BE JEALOUS.



PLACE YOUR BETS! YOUR BETS RIGHT HERE ON CAPTAIN MARVEL KICKING BUTT! RIGHT, RICK?

FORGET IT, SNAPPER. NO WAY THOR GOES DOWN!

THIS IS NUTS! INSTEAD OF FIGHTING, WE SHOULD BE FINDING A WAY TO MAKE THOSE COSMIC BABIES WORK AND PLAY NICE TOGETHER!

BA-KOW!

I AGREE!

BUT IF WE REFUSE TO DO BATTLE, WE WILL NEVER HAVE THE TIME TO SEARCH FOR THAT SOLUTION.

OOO OFF!

HOW NOW?
I WOULD
WELCOME
THE OFFER OF
YOUR SURREN-
DER, CAPTAIN,
SO YOU CAN
BE SPARED
FURTHER
HARM.

THANKS!
BUT I THOUGHT
IT'D BE MORE CON-
STRUCTIVE IF I USED
THE POWER OF ZEUS
AND HERCULES...

... BECAUSE
THOSE GREEKS
COULD BE PRETTY
FIERCE WITH A
DISCUS!

INDEED.



OOOOHH, THIS IS GONNA HURT...



CAN'T BE IMMOBILIZED, EVEN FOR A SECOND!

SHAZAM!!



PERFECT! WHERE CAPTAIN MARVEL MIGHT HAVE BEEN TRAPPED... MOMENTARILY...

...BILLY BATSON WAS ABLE TO SLIP THROUGH WITH NO PROBLEM!



SO... YOU HAVE A SMALLER, WEAKER, ALTER EGO.


AT LEAST YOUR MORTAL IDENTITY IS NOT LAME OF LEG.




REMIND ME TO INTRODUCE YOU TO A KID NAMED FREDDIE.

BACK TO BUSINESS!

SHAZAM!



SO!
LIGHTNING
HOLDS THE
KEY TO YOUR
POWER!




THEN IT IS
ONLY THROUGH MY
GOOD GRACES THAT YOUR
POWER WOULD REACH YOU
... AND I AM NOT FEELING
ESPECIALLY GRACI--

UNNNHHH!

SHAZZARAK!

FOR A LONG MOMENT HE LIES
THERE, STUNNED, AND THEN...



WELL... IT
WOULD SEEM THE
TRIUMPH IS MINE...
ALTHOUGH I MISLIKE
THE NATURE OF THE
VICTORY.

BUT WHERE
IS MIGHTY MJOLNIR?
DID THE OTHERWORLDLY
LIGHTNING SOMEHOW
"SHORT CIRCUIT" MY
HAMMER?

THAT BEING
THE CASE,
WHERE COULD
IT HAVE
LANDED?



WHAT IN THE WORLD?

IT LOOKS LIKE AN ANCIENT NORSE BATTLE HAMMER.



AND THIS INSCRIPTION...

"...IF HE BE WORTHY...?"

"WHOEVER HOLDS THIS HAMMER, IF HE BE WORTHY, SHALL POSSESS THE POWER OF...
THOR"

I DON'T UNDERSTAND. "WORTHY" IS AN AWFULLY SUBJECTIVE WORD. HOW DOES ONE DETERMINE WORTHINESS TO POSSESS THE POWER OF...



ARRRHH!

ELSEWHERE...

STAY STILL, FOOL, SO I CAN END THIS QUICKLY AND SPARE YOU SERIOUS HARM.

I WOULD LOVE TO... BUT YOU'RE SO MUSCLEBOUND AND SLOW THAT I JUST CAN'T HELP DODGING!

HOW LOST YOU THE HAND, PRAY TELL? DID IT SNAP OFF FROM YOUR HAVING PATTED YOURSELF ON THE BACK TOO OFTEN?

AT THIS RATE, NEITHER OF US WILL EVER LAND A...

FACE FACTS, POINTY EARS... WE'RE TOO EVENLY MATCHED.



I BELIEVE THE WORD HE SOUGHT WAS "PUNCH."





D... DAD? THAT WHOLE WEIRD THING WITH THOSE... THOSE...

...GODS... DID YOU...?

YEAH, KID, I DID. IT WAS LIKE DREAMING WHILE I WAS AWAKE.

IN ALL MY YEARS, I NEVER SEEN NOTHING LIKE--!



THAT! DAD... DO YOU SEE THAT?!

JEEZ! A TORNADO!!



OOOOOFF!! THE FLASH--?!

YOU'RE FAST, QUICKSILVER, I'LL GIVE YOU THAT!

IN YOUR UNIVERSE, YOU MIGHT EVEN BE THE FASTEST MAN ALIVE!

BUT THE FASTEST CAR IN THE WORLD STILL LOOKS LIKE A SNAIL NEXT TO AN SST!





DAD!
WE'RE NOT
GONNA
MAKE--



--!!!!!!TTT!



ahhhukk!
hukkk!
'S... 'SCUSE
ME... TOOK IN
SOME ahukk!
SMOKE...

HEY!
LOOK
OU--



UNHHH!

WHAT A
WONDERFUL
TRIUMPH
THIS WILL
BE...

...TAKING DOWN AN
OPPONENT AFTER HE
RISKED LIFE AND LIMB TO
SAVE OTHERS.

EVEN TAKING
JOY IN IT
BECAUSE I WAS
ANGRY TO FIND
SOMEONE
FASTER
THAN I.

SOME
"FRIEND"
I WOULD
HAVE BEEN,
EVEN IF
THINGS
HAD
WORKED
OUT...

ALMOST HAD ME
THERE, FELLA!

BUT HE WHO
HESITATES...
IS LOST.



unhhh!



STILL ELSEWHERE...

SPLASH!



LOOK OUT, swimmer!

YOU PURPORT TO BE AN ATLANTEAN KING, eh, "AQUAMAN"?

I AM NEITHER AMUSED NOR IMPRESSED BY YOU!

YOU KNOW, AT MY WORST, I WAS MOROSE. BUT YOU'RE REALLY INSUFFERABLE, NAMOR. MUST BE THE JOB.



WHAT? IS THE MARINER--?

SURRENDER, ATLANTEAN IMPOSTOR. SAVE US TIME, SO WE CAN RETURN TO OUR RESPECTIVE PEERS AND DEVELOP AN ALTERNATIVE PLAN.

AS IT STANDS, YOUR STRENGTH IS NO MATCH FOR MINE.



Ah, BUT FORTUNATELY I'M LOADED WITH CHARM.

THE BAD NEWS IS, THE CORD IS UNBREAKABLE. THE GOOD NEWS IS, I'M DAZZLED BY YOUR COIFFURE.

BLOND BUFFOON! UNBREAKABLE TO YOU, PERHAPS, BUT NOT TO A TRUE SCION OF ATLANTIS!

PLENTY OF...?

WHAT ARE YOU? AN IDIOT?!

WELL, I'VE DONE PLENTY OF SIGHIN' IN ATLANTIS, TOO.

HAVE YOU NO RESPECT FOR THE STAKES FOR WHICH WE BATTLE?

"RESPECT"? NAMOR, IF I DWELL ON IT TOO MUCH, I'LL CURL UP INTO A BALL UNTIL IT'S OVER.

AND PARDON ME IF I FINISH THIS FARCE. FOR YOU ARE HELPLESS, AND I AM HARDLY IMMOBI...



SO YOU'LL PARDON ME IF I KEEP MY SANITY AND FOCUS MY OWN WAY.



...LIZED?



NOW YOU'RE IMMOBILIZED.



THAT'S YOUR WEAKNESS, NAMOR. YOU'RE TOO NOBLE TO CHEAT.



AND...
I'M FINE, PETER, REALLY. YOU DON'T HAVE TO FUSS OVER ME...

...ALTHOUGH I APPRECIATE THE THOUGHT.
MY HERO.

BATTLE ODDS
SUB-MARINER VS. AQUAMAN 9 TO 1
FLASH VS. QUICKSILVER 6 TO 3
THOR VS. CAPTAIN MARVEL EVEN

JEEZ... I THINK SHE WANTS ME!

NICE GUY. NO CLARK, OF COURSE.



WHAT IS THIS?
MY EMPLOYEES LOLLYGAGGING ABOUT? I DO NOT APPROVE.

EM... EMPLOYEES? WHO ARE YOU?!



THAT'S THE KINGPIN!



MY NAME, SIR, IS WILSON FISK. AND I HAVE PURCHASED THIS FACILITY.

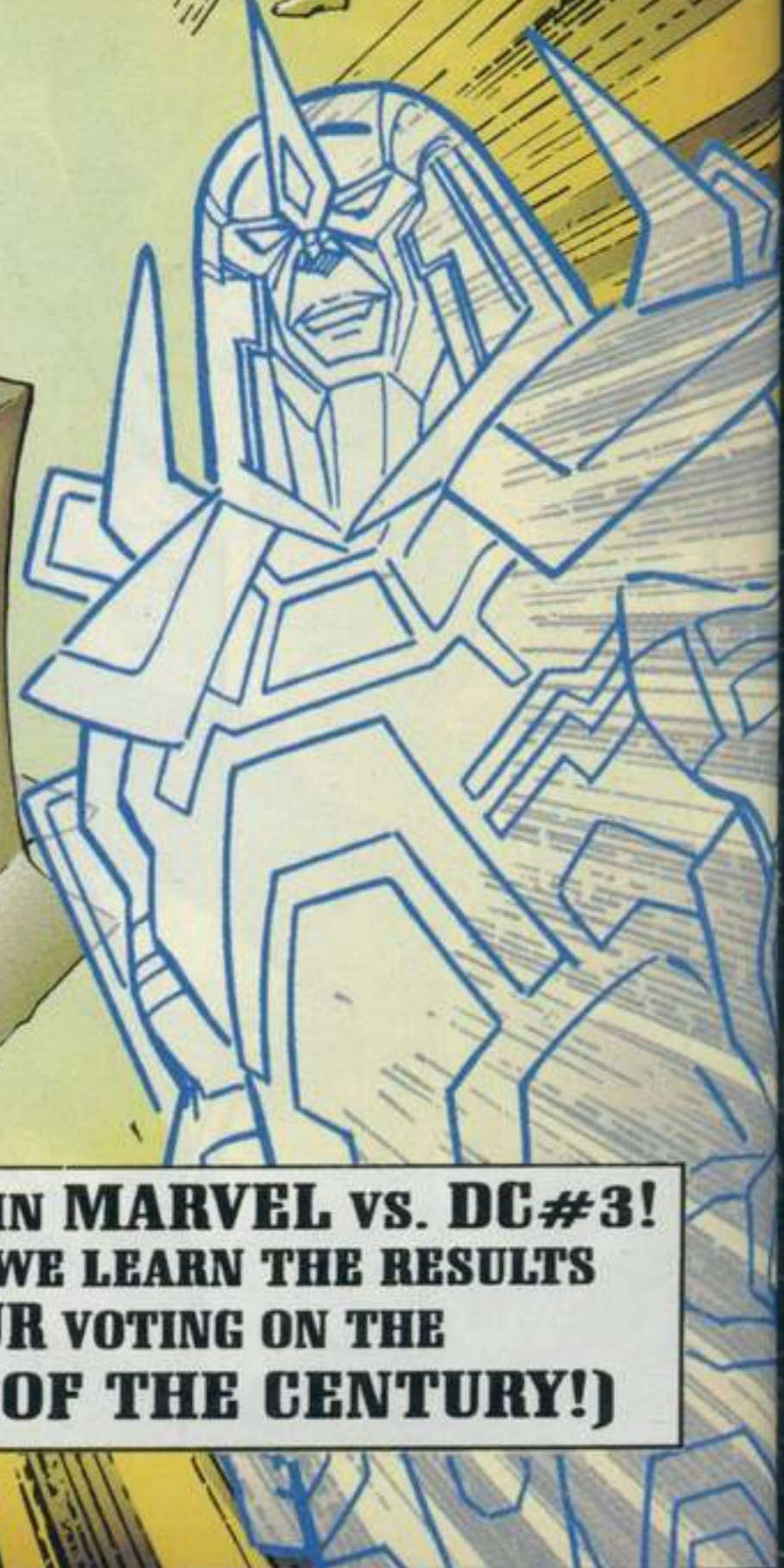
SO MIND YOUR MANNERS.
FOR YOU DO NOT WISH TO ANGER ME.



"ANGER, AFTER ALL, IS THE FIRST STEP TO FULL-SCALE WAR."



"AND FULL-SCALE WAR CAN BE SUCH AN UNPLEASANT BUSINESS."



**CONTINUED IN MARVEL VS. DC #3!
(WHEREIN WE LEARN THE RESULTS
OF YOUR VOTING ON THE
BATTLES OF THE CENTURY!)**

MARVEL
COMICS

VERSUS



SCOREBOARD

The tally so far . . .

MARVEL

DC

HULK ___ SUPERMAN

CAPTAIN AMERICA ___ BATMAN

STORM ___ WONDER WOMAN

SPIDER-MAN ___ SUPERBOY

WOLVERINE ___ LOBO

QUICKSILVER ___ **X** FLASH

JUBILEE ___ ROBIN

SUB-MARINER ___ **X** AQUAMAN

ELEKTRA ___ CATWOMAN

THOR **X** ___ CAPTAIN MARVEL

SILVER SURFER ___ GREEN LANTERN

That's the score right now—DC leads by 1! But this game's not finished yet! There're 8 more battles to go, and the combatants are closely matched in power, skill, and intelligence. What will be the fate of comics' two greatest universes? That's up to 16 superhuman beings and YOU! Your votes are all in and being tallied—look for the results NEXT ISSUE!



JUBILEE

REAL NAME: Jubilation Lee

OTHER CURRENT ALIASES: None

DUAL IDENTITY: Publicly known

CURRENT OCCUPATION: Adventurer

FORMER OCCUPATIONS: High school student

PLACE OF BIRTH: Beverly Hills, California, Marvel-Earth

MARITAL STATUS: Single

USUAL BASE OF OPERATIONS: Professor Xavier's School for Gifted Youngsters, Massachusetts Academy, Marvel-Earth

CURRENT GROUP MEMBERSHIP: Generation X

HEIGHT: 5' 5" **WEIGHT:** 105 lbs.

EYES: Blue **HAIR:** Black

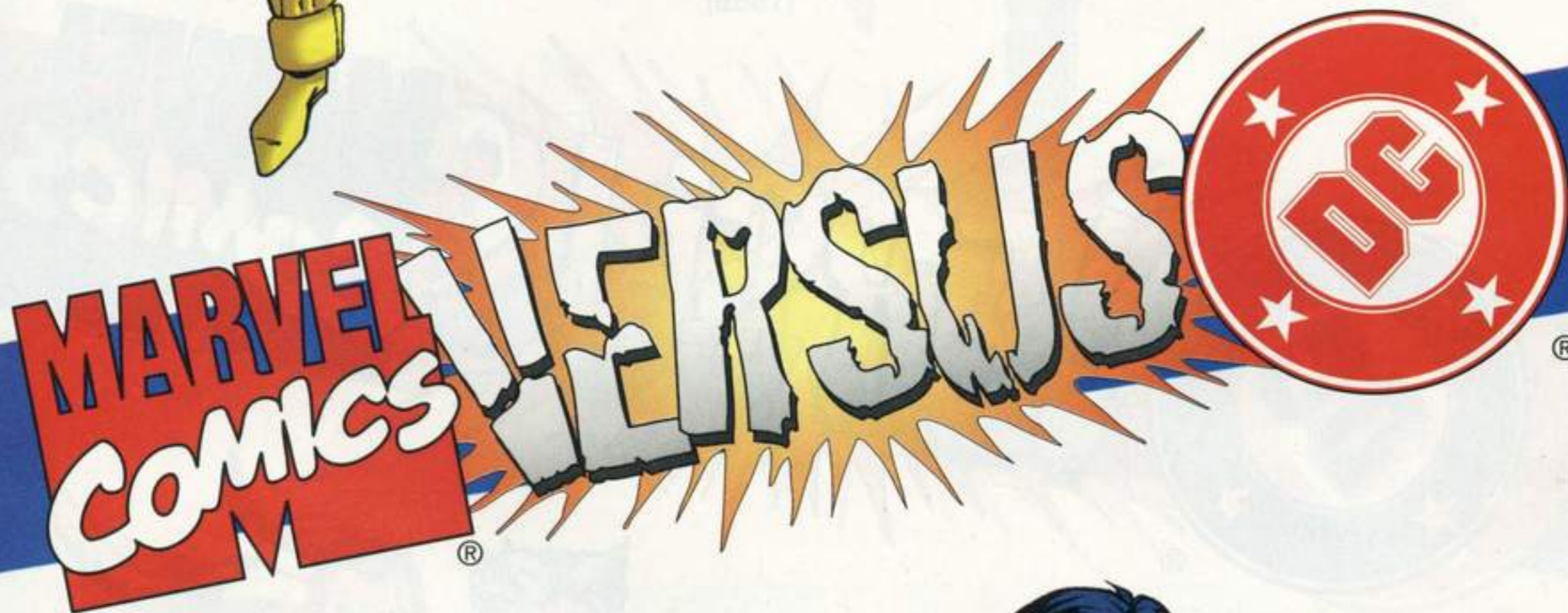
SUPERHUMAN POWERS: Superhuman ability to generate energy globules called "fireworks," capable of various effects including dazzling light and explosive concussions

SOURCE OF POWERS: Benevolent mutation

SPECIAL SKILLS: Better-than-average unarmed combatant

WEAPONS: None

FIRST APPEARANCE: UNCANNY X-MEN #244 (1989)



ROBIN

REAL NAME: Tim Drake

OTHER CURRENT ALIASES: Alvin Draper

DUAL IDENTITY: Secret

CURRENT OCCUPATION: High school student

FORMER OCCUPATIONS: None

PLACE OF BIRTH: Gotham City, U.S.A.—DC-Earth

MARITAL STATUS: Single

USUAL BASE OF OPERATIONS: Gotham City

CURRENT GROUP MEMBERSHIP: None

HEIGHT: 5' 3" **WEIGHT:** 120 lbs.

EYES: Blue **HAIR:** Black

SUPERHUMAN POWERS: None

SOURCE OF POWERS: Not applicable

SPECIAL SKILLS: A superb martial artist and acrobat, incredibly well-versed in detection and computer science

WEAPONS: Robin's costume is virtually fireproof and bulletproof and contains numerous devices such as gas pellets, lasers, and throwing darts. He also carries a sling and a collapsible bo staff.

FIRST APPEARANCE: BATMAN #457 (1990)



THE FLASH



REAL NAME: Wallace West
OTHER CURRENT ALIASES: None
DUAL IDENTITY: Generally known
CURRENT OCCUPATION: Super hero
FORMER OCCUPATIONS: Student, I.R.S. agent, overnight courier
PLACE OF BIRTH: Blue Valley, Nebraska, USA, DC-Earth
MARITAL STATUS: Single
USUAL BASE OF OPERATIONS: Keystone City
CURRENT GROUP MEMBERSHIP: The Justice League
HEIGHT: 6' 0" **WEIGHT:** 175 lbs.
EYES: Green **HAIR:** Red
SUPERHUMAN POWERS: The fastest man alive, he can propel himself at speeds approaching the speed of light; can "lend" speed to already moving objects and people; vibrate through barriers, leaving an explosive, kinetic charge in his wake; using speed can generate heat and destructive vibration
SOURCE OF POWERS: Directly channels power from an extra dimensional energy source known as the "speed field"
SPECIAL SKILLS: (see Superhuman Powers)
WEAPONS: None
FIRST APPEARANCE: As teen hero, Kid Flash—FLASH #110 (1959). As Flash—CRISIS ON INFINITE EARTHS #12 (1986)



VERSUS MARVEL COMICS

QUICKSILVER

REAL NAME: Pietro Maximoff
OTHER CURRENT ALIASES: None
DUAL IDENTITY: Publicly known
CURRENT OCCUPATION: Adventurer
FORMER OCCUPATIONS: Terrorist, government operative
PLACE OF BIRTH: Wundagore Mountain, Transia, Marvel-Earth
MARITAL STATUS: Married (wife: Crystal)
USUAL BASE OF OPERATIONS: Avengers Mansion, New York City
CURRENT GROUP MEMBERSHIP: The Avengers
HEIGHT: 6' 0" **WEIGHT:** 175 lbs.
EYES: Blue **HAIR:** Silver
SUPERHUMAN POWERS: Superhuman speed (upper limit: speed of sound), reaction time, endurance
SOURCE OF POWERS: Benevolent mutation
SPECIAL SKILLS: Mastery of fighting at high velocity
WEAPONS: None
FIRST APPEARANCE: X-MEN #4 (1964)



THOR

REAL NAME: Thor

OTHER CURRENT ALIASES: None

FORMER ALIASES: Dr. Donald Blake, Sigurd Jarlson

DUAL IDENTITY: Inapplicable

CURRENT OCCUPATION: Adventurer

FORMER OCCUPATIONS: Warrior, prince of Asgard

PLACE OF BIRTH: A cave in Norway, Marvel-Earth

MARITAL STATUS: Single

USUAL BASE OF OPERATIONS: Avengers Mansion, New York City

CURRENT GROUP MEMBERSHIP: The Avengers

HEIGHT: 6' 6" **WEIGHT:** 640 lbs.

EYES: Blue **HAIR:** Blond

SUPERHUMAN POWERS: Superhuman strength, stamina, and resistance to injury

SOURCE OF POWERS: Asgardian heritage

SPECIAL SKILLS: Expert at hand-to-hand combat and wielding a hammer in battle

WEAPONS: The enchanted hammer Mjolnir, virtually indestructible, and capable of summoning storms and vortex-spatial/dimensional transport

FIRST APPEARANCE: JOURNEY INTO MYSTERY #83 (1962)



MARVEL Comics VERSUS DC



CAPTAIN MARVEL (DC)

REAL NAME: Billy Batson

OTHER CURRENT ALIASES: None

DUAL IDENTITY: Secret

CURRENT OCCUPATION: Student, radio announcer

FORMER OCCUPATIONS: None

PLACE OF BIRTH: Fawcett City, U.S.A., DC-Earth

MARITAL STATUS: Single

USUAL BASE OF OPERATIONS: Fawcett City

CURRENT GROUP MEMBERSHIP: None

HEIGHT: 6' 2" **WEIGHT:** 220 lbs.

EYES: Blue **HAIR:** Black

SUPERHUMAN POWERS: Wields the Power of Shazam—able to draw upon the Wisdom of Solomon, the Strength of Hercules, the Stamina of Atlas, the Power of Zeus, the Courage of Achilles, and the Speed of Mercury

SOURCE OF POWERS: Granted by ancient wizard Shazam via covenant with the gods

SPECIAL SKILLS: None

WEAPONS: None

FIRST APPEARANCE: WHIZ COMICS #1 (1940)

CATWOMAN



REAL NAME: Selina Kyle

OTHER CURRENT ALIASES: None

DUAL IDENTITY: Secret

CURRENT OCCUPATION: Professional criminal

FORMER OCCUPATIONS: None

PLACE OF BIRTH: Gotham City, U.S.A.—DC-Earth

MARITAL STATUS: Single

USUAL BASE OF OPERATIONS: Gotham City

CURRENT GROUP MEMBERSHIP: None

HEIGHT: 5' 11" **WEIGHT:** 140 lbs.

EYES: Green **HAIR:** Black

SUPERHUMAN POWERS: None

SOURCE OF POWERS: Not applicable

SPECIAL SKILLS: Olympic-level athlete, superb martial artist, expert thief

WEAPONS: Whip, retractable boot & glove claws, Catspaw grappling hook, as well as an array of high-tech burglary tools

FIRST APPEARANCE: BATMAN #1 (1940)



VERSUS

MARVEL COMICS

ELEKTRA

REAL NAME: Elektra Natchios

OTHER CURRENT ALIASES: None

DUAL IDENTITY: Publicly known

CURRENT OCCUPATION: Adventurer

FORMER OCCUPATIONS: Assassin, bounty hunter

PLACE OF BIRTH: Near the Aegean Islands, Marvel-Earth

MARITAL STATUS: Single

USUAL BASE OF OPERATIONS: Mobile

CURRENT GROUP MEMBERSHIP: None

HEIGHT: 5' 9" **WEIGHT:** 130 lbs.

EYES: Blue **HAIR:** Black

SUPERHUMAN POWERS: Limited psychic powers including illusion-casting and creating psychic bonds enabling mental communication

SOURCE OF POWERS: Training

SPECIAL SKILLS: Olympic-level athlete, expert at hand-to-hand combat and Japanese ninja techniques

WEAPONS: Sai (three-pronged dagger)

FIRST APPEARANCE: DAREDEVIL #168 (1981)



SILVER SURFER

REAL NAME: Norrin Radd

OTHER CURRENT ALIASES: None

DUAL IDENTITY: Inapplicable

CURRENT OCCUPATION: Interstellar adventurer

FORMER OCCUPATIONS: Herald of Galactus

PLACE OF BIRTH: Zenn-La, Deneb System, Milky Way Galaxy, Marvel-Universe

MARITAL STATUS: Single

USUAL BASE OF OPERATIONS: Known space

CURRENT GROUP MEMBERSHIP: Star Masters

HEIGHT: 6' 4" **WEIGHT:** Unrevealed

EYES: Silver (pupil-less) **HAIR:** None

SUPERHUMAN POWERS: Superhuman strength, stamina, and resistance to injury, ability to survive without food or oxygen, heightened senses, ability to project cosmic energy for a variety of effects

SOURCE OF POWERS: Imbued by Galactus's power cosmic

SPECIAL SKILLS: Expert surfer, skilled at molecular rearrangement

WEAPONS: None

PARAPHERNALIA: A surfboard responsive to his mental commands

FIRST APPEARANCE: FANTASTIC FOUR #48 (1966)



MARVEL COMICS UNIVERSE



GREEN LANTERN

REAL NAME: Kyle Rayner

OTHER CURRENT ALIASES: None

DUAL IDENTITY: Secret

CURRENT OCCUPATION: Freelance artist

FORMER OCCUPATIONS: Member of the New Titans

PLACE OF BIRTH: Los Angeles, California, DC-Earth

MARITAL STATUS: Single

USUAL BASE OF OPERATIONS: New York City

CURRENT GROUP MEMBERSHIP: None

HEIGHT: 5' 11" **WEIGHT:** 162 lbs

EYES: Brown **HAIR:** Black

SUPERHUMAN POWERS: (see Weapons)

SOURCE OF POWERS: The last Green Lantern power ring (see Weapons)

SPECIAL SKILLS: Artist

WEAPONS: The most powerful weapon in the universe, Kyle's power ring can create virtually anything or any effect he can imagine—a ring-generated exoskeleton, any kind of armament, gun or shield. It can protect him from almost any attack and enable him to travel at incredible speeds. Requires recharge occasionally when power is used up.

FIRST APPEARANCE: As Kyle Rayner: GREEN LANTERN #48 (2nd series-1993). As Green Lantern: GREEN LANTERN #50 (2nd series-1993)

AQUAMAN

REAL NAME: Orin

OTHER CURRENT ALIASES: Arthur Curry

DUAL IDENTITY: Publicly known

CURRENT OCCUPATION: Protector of the Seas and Oceans

FORMER OCCUPATIONS: Crime-fighter, King of Poseidonis, Justice League member

PLACE OF BIRTH: Atlantis, DC-Earth

MARITAL STATUS: Separated

USUAL BASE OF OPERATIONS: Mobile

CURRENT GROUP MEMBERSHIP: None

HEIGHT: 6' 1" **WEIGHT:** 325 lbs.

EYES: Aqua-blue **HAIR:** Blond

SUPERHUMAN POWERS: Ability to communicate directly with sea life, ability to sense the primal emotions of aquatic creatures, can swim underwater at rates up to 100 mph, can withstand extremes of temperature and pressure

SOURCE OF POWERS: Son of wizard and Atlantean queen

SPECIAL SKILLS: Excels at hand-to-hand combat

WEAPONS: Hook that has replaced his left hand is able to shoot a thin cord to ensnare an enemy or can be used as a rope for climbing or swinging. Hook is also able to drill through objects.

FIRST APPEARANCE: MORE FUN COMICS #73 (1941)



VERSUS

MARVEL COMICS

SUB-MARINER

REAL NAME: Namor McKenzie

OTHER CURRENT ALIASES: None

DUAL IDENTITY: Publicly known

CURRENT OCCUPATION: Chief executive officer of Oracle, Ltd.

FORMER OCCUPATIONS: Monarch of Atlantis

PLACE OF BIRTH: Capital city of the Atlantean Empire, Marvel-Earth

MARITAL STATUS: Widowed

USUAL BASE OF OPERATIONS: The Atlantic Ocean

CURRENT GROUP MEMBERSHIP: None

HEIGHT: 6' 2" **WEIGHT:** 310 lbs.

EYES: Green **HAIR:** Blue-grey

SUPERHUMAN POWERS: Superhuman strength, stamina, and resistance to injury, ability to breathe underwater and survive ocean bottom pressure, ability to fly

SOURCE OF POWERS: Born a human-merman hybrid

SPECIAL SKILLS: Expert swordsman, experienced tactician

WEAPONS: None

FIRST APPEARANCE: MARVEL COMICS #1 (1939)

