

**MARVEL**  
**25<sup>TH</sup>**  
ANNIVERSARY

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**75¢**  
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**20**  
MAY

# THE MICRONAUTS

THE NEW VOYAGES

**COSMIC  
CONCLUSION!**

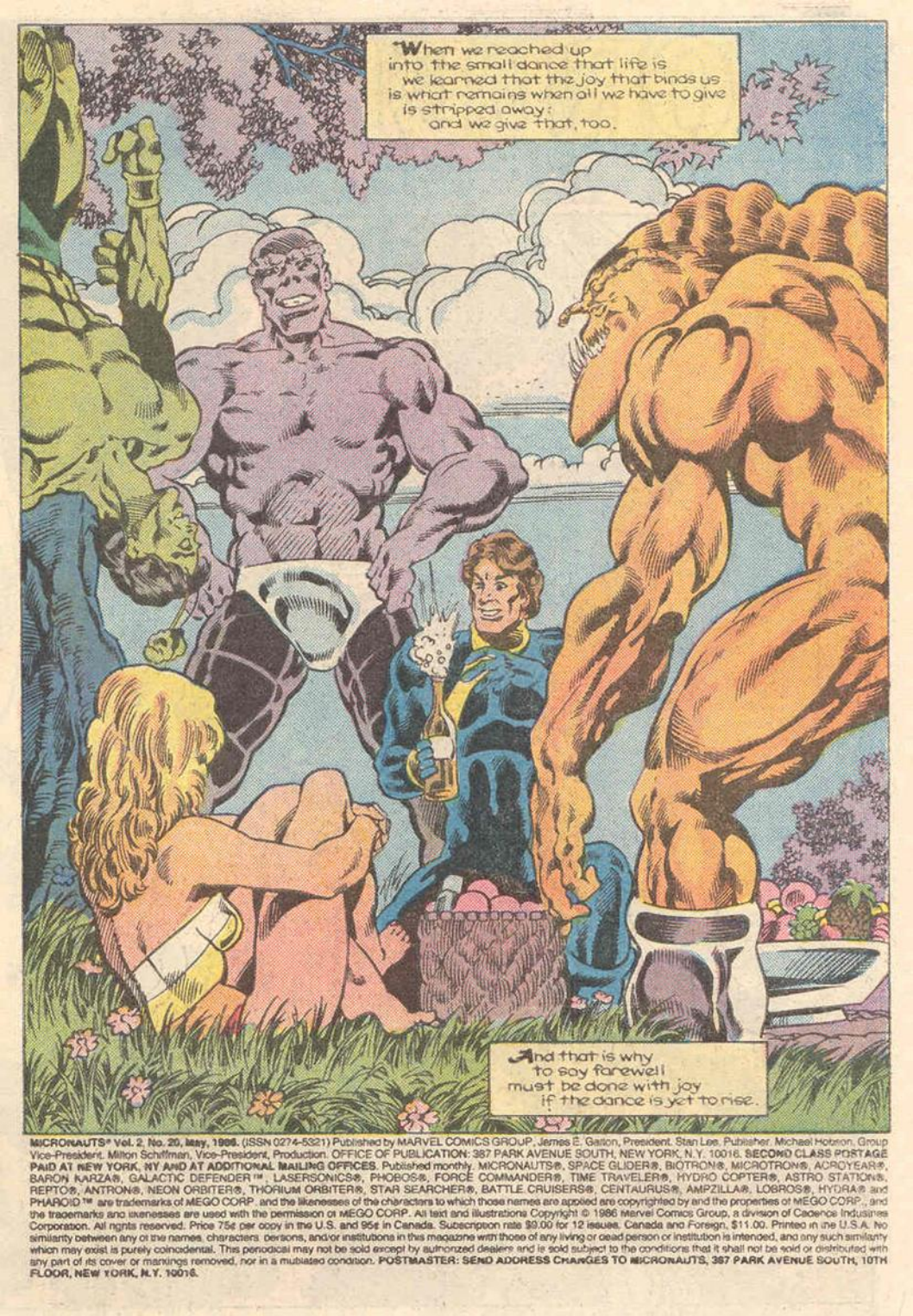
**THE FINAL FATE OF THE  
MICRONAUTS!**



**"TO MEET  
THE MAKER!"**







"When we reached up  
into the small dance that life is  
we learned that the joy that binds us  
is what remains when all we have to give  
is stripped away:  
and we give that, too.

And that is why  
to say farewell  
must be done with joy  
if the dance is yet to rise.

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# WORLDHOME!

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ACROSS A DYING  
UNIVERSE THE  
WORLDS FLY...

TOGETHER, THESE PLANETS WERE  
ONCE A GIANT COLLECTIVE CALLED  
HOMEWORLD BY THOSE WHO DWELT  
ON IT, UNTIL ALL THE INHABITANTS  
WERE KILLED BY THE LATE CONQUEROR...  
BARDY KARZA.

THEIR DEATH SENT UP  
A SCREAM THAT ALL THE  
MICROVERSE WAS FORCED  
TO SHARE IN... THE  
INFINITY OF THEIR PAIN  
CAME TO BE SHARED BY  
ALL THE TERRIFIED  
MULTITUDES IN WORLDS  
BEYOND.





AND THOSE WORLDS SHOOK,  
UNTIL THE WHOLE DELICATE  
EXPERIMENT OF THE MAKERS  
THAT WAS THE MICROVERSE  
TEETERED ON THE BRINK OF  
EXTINCTION.

NOW HOMEWORLD SCATTERS,  
PROPELLED BY THE UNTHINKABLE  
ENERGIES IT CONTAINED --  
FLYING ACROSS A GULF OF PAIN  
AND DARK --

-- THAT IT MIGHT END  
WHAT IT HAD BEGUN.

THAT PAIN AND  
DEATH MIGHT  
HAVE AN END.



BELOW THE SURFACE OF  
ONE OF THE SPHERES...

MARI--THEY'VE  
ALL BEEN TURNED  
INTO PRIME BEINGS.  
THAT MEANS EVERY  
CELL IN THEIR  
BODIES BURSTS WITH  
INDEPENDENT LIFE.  
THEY WILL REPOPULATE  
THEIR GLOBES WITH  
NEW RACES OF  
BEINGS--

--AND THAT  
LIFE WILL IN TURN,  
PUSH BACK THE  
SPREADING PAIN.  
FOR ONE CANNOT  
STOP PAIN--ONE  
CAN ONLY GROW  
OUT OF IT.

AND THE POWER-- THE DEVICES AND  
ENERGIES OF BARON KARZA-- MY ARMOR,  
THE PROMETHEUS PITTS THEMSELVES--  
SHALL COORDINATE THAT GROWTH,  
TRANSMIT THOSE ENERGIES--

-- AND BRING  
TRIUMPH OUT OF  
HIS EVIL.

THEY'RE  
GONE,  
THEN...

YES, THEY'VE  
GONE VIA THE  
PROMETHEUS PIT.  
TO OTHER  
SPHERES, TO  
FULFILL THEIR  
INDIVIDUAL  
DESTINIES.

ACROYEAR,  
HUNTARR, BUG  
AND EVEN SCION--  
ALL OF THE OTHER  
MICRONAUTS--  
WILL WE NEVER  
SEE THEM  
AGAIN?

DON'T TALK LIKE  
THAT, ARCTURUS  
RANN! JUST BECAUSE  
YOU PUT ON THAT  
STUPID ARMOR  
DOESN'T MEAN KARZA'S  
WITHIN YOU! WE  
KILLED HIM! THE  
BUTCHER'S BODY IS  
LYING UP THERE ON  
THE SURFACE!

PRINCESS MARI-- IF A BEING  
REPLACES HIS AGED BODY PARTS  
VIA HIS BODY BANKS A DOZEN  
TIMES OVER IN HIS THOUSAND  
YEARS OF LIFE--

--AND YET  
KEEPS THE SAME  
MACHINERY ABOUT  
HIS PERSON. MIGHT  
THERE NOT BE  
MORE OF HIM HERE  
THAN IN THAT  
ROTTING CORPSE?  
THIS IS PRECISELY  
WHAT KARZA DID  
TO MAINTAIN  
HIS EXISTENCE.

BUT REMEMBER  
THIS... THE ONLY  
WAY THE SPIRIT OF  
KARZA CAN BE  
UTTERLY DESTROYED  
IS IF WE UNDERSTAND  
THIS ALL.

I--DON'T  
WANT TO  
HEAR ANY  
MORE,  
ARCTURUS--

OF COURSE,  
MARI.

AND NOW  
WE MUST  
BEGIN THE  
PROCESS.



ME<sup>3</sup>DITATION  
ACROYEAR.

"WHILE THE *PROMETHEUS*  
PUT I STEPPED INTO FLAMED,  
THE ONE I EMERGED FROM IS  
A GENTLE POOL OF WATER."

"IT IS NOT THE PLACE  
I WOULD HAVE PICKED  
TO DIE."

"ALL THE WARRIORS OF  
THE ACROYEAR RACE  
SEE DEATH AS THEY DO  
LIFE... LOUD, ANGRY,  
SAVAGE AND GLORIOUS,  
AND OUR RELIGIOUS  
PROMISE US THAT, AFTER  
DEATH, WE SHALL HAVE  
ALL THAT SEVENFOLD."

"I HAVE HAD  
A BELLYFILL  
OF IT... AND  
YET PART OF  
ME FEELS  
SHAME AT  
THIS QUIET."

"I HAD  
HOPED FOR A  
BATTLE, ONE  
LAST SHOUT  
OF DEFIANCE  
AT A HARD,  
COLD, ANGRY  
UNIVERSE."

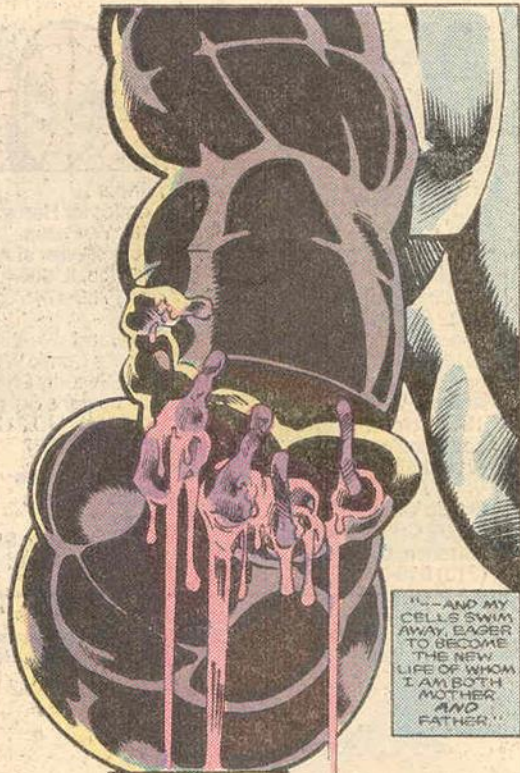
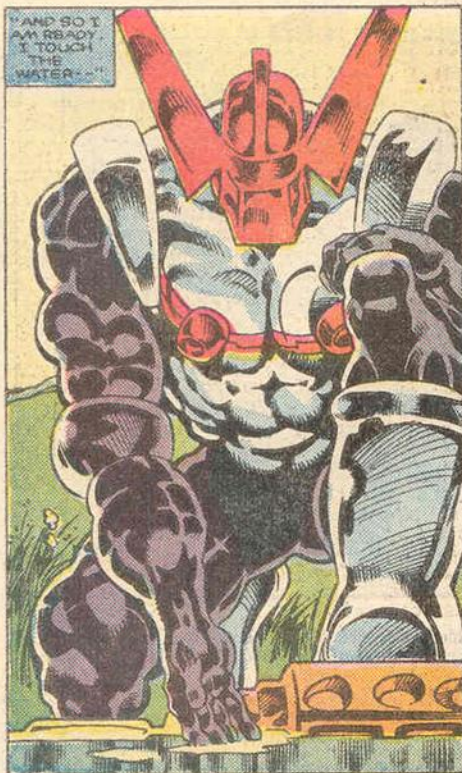
"AND I COULD  
STILL DEFY, STILL  
TURN AWAY."

"BUT THE UNIVERSE IS  
NOT LOUD... NO SOUND  
CARRIES ACROSS THE  
VACUUM OF SPACE."

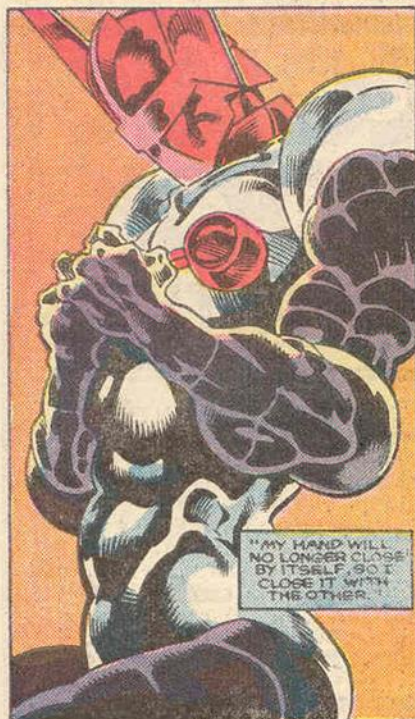
"NOR IS IT  
ANGRY. I  
HAVE A NEW-  
BORN CHILD  
WHO WILL  
SURVIVE AND  
FLOURISH--  
AND RULE THE  
ACROYEARS."



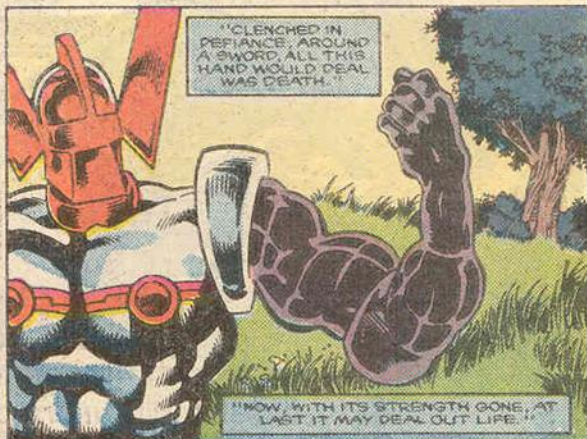
"AND SO I  
AM READY  
I TOUGH  
THE  
WATER..."



"...AND MY  
CELLS SWIM  
AWAY, EAGER  
TO BECOME  
THE NEW  
LIFE OF WHOM  
I AM BOTH  
MOTHER  
AND  
FATHER."



"MY HAND WILL  
NO LONGER CLOSE  
BY ITSELF, SO I  
CLOSE IT WITH  
THE OTHER."



"CLENCHED IN  
DEFIANCE, AROUND  
A SWORD, ALL THIS  
HAND WOULD DEAL  
WAS DEATH."

"NOW, WITH ITS STRENGTH GONE, AT  
LAST IT MAY DEAL OUT LIFE."



"IT IS GOOD  
I WILL MAKE  
NO CRY."

"LET THE  
QUIET OF  
THIS PLACE  
BE MY  
EPITAPH."



**MEDITATION!**  
HUNTARR.

SO KARZA HID  
THIS PROMETHEUS  
PIT AT THE TOP  
OF THIS EXTINCT  
VOLCANO. PRETTY  
CLEVER.

BUT THE RED GLOW  
DOESN'T GIVE ANY  
WARMTH UP HERE.  
IT'S BLASTED COLD  
UP HERE.

IT'S  
COLD--AND  
I'M GOING  
TO DIE.

WHEN THE MICRONAUTS  
WERE IN PERIL OF DYING,  
I WAS READY. I WOULD  
HAVE DONE IT.

SO  
WHAT AM  
I AFRAID  
OF NOW?

IS IT BECAUSE  
I NOW HAVE WHAT  
I ALWAYS WANTED?  
TO BE ABLE TO  
CHANGE AT WILL,  
INTO ANY FORM  
I WANTED?

TO BECOME THE  
MAN-- IANN Z7--  
I WAS ONCE,  
FULLY HUMAN?

I COULD  
EVEN BECOME  
THE CHILD I WAS  
IN THE BEGINNING,  
TO RECLAIM  
EVERYTHING I LOST--  
AND HAVING GOT ALL  
THAT, I'M SUPPOSED  
TO GIVE IT  
ALL UP?

GIVE IT ALL  
UP--FOR THE  
BLACKNESS?

FOR  
NOTHING?



BUT I WAS TRAPPED AS A KID-- TOO SMALL AND WEAK AND UNSKILLED TO LIVE ON MY OWN I WAS BEATEN ON, CUT UP-- AND I STARVED MUCH OF THE TIME.

AND AS AN ADULT, I WAS TRAPPED-- IN THE SERVICE OF KARZA, A BRUTAL DOG-SLAVE, Demeaned and Demeaning. KICKING AND KICKED.

THEN I WAS KARZA'S MONSTROUS LIVING WEAPON-- AND LASTLY A BIZARRE SOMETHING THAT I COULDN'T EVEN GIVE A NAME TO, BEING DRAGGED AND CHANGED FASTER THAN I COULD COMPREHEND.

ONLY--

-- AS A CHILD, MY LAUGHTER WAS FREER THAN IT EVER HAS BEEN SINCE. AS A MAN, MY BODY STIRRED WITH LOVE, AS IT NEVER WOULD AGAIN, AND AS A LIVING WEAPON, I BECAME A HERO.

EACH STAGE OF MY LIFE HAS BEEN A PRISON-- BUT ALSO A GIFT.

AND NOW I'M ON THE VERGE OF BREAKING ALL THOSE PRISONS! TO ESCAPE!

SO GO! GO!

AND THE WORLD WILL HAVE MY GIFTS-- BECAUSE I'M GOING IN LAUGHTER-- IN LOVE-- AND LIKE A HERO!

GOODBYE, MICRONAUTS-- MY FRIENDS!!



MEDEATION:  
BUG.

PRETTY :TIK:  
DEPRESSING, IF  
YOU ASK ME.

I WAS :TIK:  
HOPING FOR  
SOME FORESTS--  
A NICE BROOK--  
AND I GET A  
CITY THAT'S BEEN  
THROUGH AN  
ATOMIC WAR.

BUT WHAT'S WORSE, I'M  
NOT :TIK: WITH MY FRIENDS.  
I DON'T THINK WE :TIK:  
INSECTIVORIDS ARE REALLY  
ALIVE UNLESS WE'RE  
IN COMPANY.

BUT IT'S :TIK:  
NOT SO MUCH THE  
MICRONAUTS-- WE'RE  
ALL :TIK: IN THIS  
TOGETHER, AND AN  
INSECTIVORID KNOWS  
:TIK: ALL ABOUT  
SACRIFICE FOR THE  
GOOD OF THE HIVE.

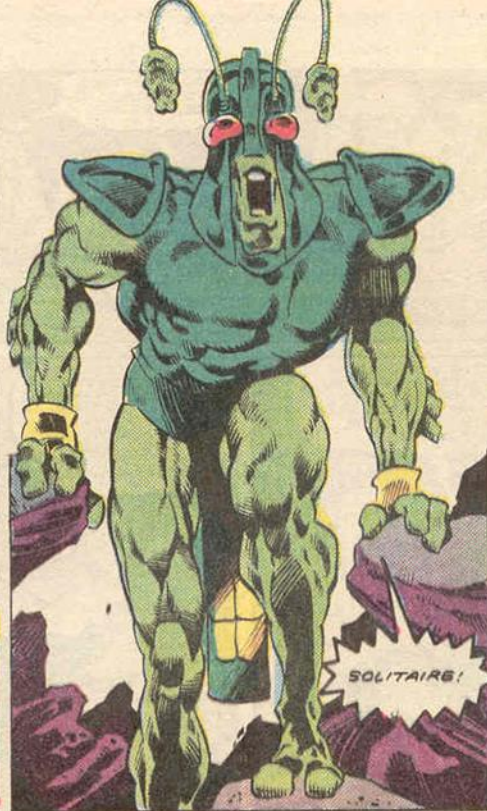
IT CAN ALL  
BE :TIK:  
SUMMED UP  
IN A WORD--

"REALLY ALIVE".  
:TIK:-- BAD WAY  
OF PUTTING IT,  
KIDDO!

-- SOLITAIRE.

OR  
WHAT SEEMS TO  
BE SOLITAIRE.  
WHY DIDN'T  
YOU :TIK: COME,  
KID? I LOVED YOU  
AND YOU :TIK:  
LEFT ME--!







**MEDITATION:  
SCION.**

I AM A CHILD OF THE MAKERS. THEY CREATED ME TO REACH MATURITY AND THEN DIE, THUS GIVING NEW LIFE TO THIS MICROVERSE

I HAVE LIVED BUT A SHORT TIME-- AND ALWAYS WITH MY OWN DISSOLUTION IN MIND. I PITY THE OTHERS-- FOR MY ROAD IS FAR EASIER THAN THEIRS.

THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE MAKERS' INEVITABLE PLAN WAS IN MY BEING SINCE MY CONCEPTION. I HAVE ALWAYS KNOWN WHAT IT IS THAT I MUST DO.

I AM THE CATALYST OF THE GREAT CHANGE THE MICRONAUTS WILL UNDERGO-- AND A PART OF THAT CHANGE, ALSO, I BROUGHT THEM TO THE PROMETHEUS PIT AND CONVINCED THEM THEY MUST ENTER IT AND ACCEPT THEIR DESTINIES.

I AM READY-- EAGER-- TO UNLEASH--

-- MY CELLS--

-- TO UNLEASH--

**NOTHING!**

NOTHING'S HAPPENING! I'M STAYING--

-- THE WAY I AM--!

THEN-- IS MY ONLY PURPOSE GOING TO BE-- DENIED?

IS EVERYTHING I KNEW WITH SUCH CERTAINTY-- A LIE?

A JOKE BY A CRUEL GOD?





THEN I'LL DIE ON A  
FRAGMENTED PLANET  
HURLING INTO THE  
TEETH OF A STORM OF  
PAIN -- WIPED OUT  
LIKE -- LIKE --

AND  
SO YOU SEE  
AT LAST -- AT  
LAST YOU  
SEE!

SHILLALALALALREEEALREER



THE OTHERS  
HAD TO FIND  
THEIR COURAGE  
BY OVERCOMING  
THEIR DOUBT,  
THEIR

UNCERTAINTY --  
UNTIL THEN THEY  
COULD NOT DIE!

UNTIL NOW  
YOU COULD NOT  
DIE -- BECAUSE  
YOU HAD TO  
OVERCOME YOUR  
CERTAINTY!

I AM FIREFLYTE. I,  
TOO, AM A CHILD OF THE  
MAKEPS. SUCH THINGS  
ARE KNOWN TO ME.



ALL DEATH IS DOUBT -- OR ELSE  
THERE IS NO SPENDING OUT! YOU  
HAD NO HOPE, SCION -- NOT UNTIL  
YOU COULD TASTE THE UNKNOWN  
AND KNOW ITS FEAR.

NO HOPE -- OH WHAT  
I HAVE HAD THE  
MICRONAUTS DO --!



DO NOT REGRET,  
SCION -- JUST KNOW,  
AND WE SHALL  
GO TOGETHER --!

YOU ARE RIGHT,  
FIREFLYTE -- HELP ME  
BELIEVE IT --!

SHILLALLASHALREEEALASHAL...



AND BACK AT THE LIP OF  
THE PROMETHEUS PIT...



ALL IS  
READY. ON  
EACH OF THE  
SPHERES--  
REBIRTH HAS  
BEGUN.

REBIRTH--!



BUT THE  
INDIVIDUAL  
PROCESSES WON'T  
BE ENOUGH UNLESS  
IT'S COORDINATED--  
ABLE TO SEND A  
COUNTER-WAVE BACK  
ACROSS THE WAVE  
OF PAIN!

STILL  
THE POWER  
LEVELS--THE  
LEVELS  
ARE--

MARI! LOOK! THE  
LEVELS ARE AT THEIR  
PEAK! DO YOU KNOW  
WHAT THIS MEANS?



IT MEANS THE  
PLAN CAN SUCCEED  
WITHOUT NEEDING US  
TO DISSOLVE AS WELL!

THE ONCOMING WAVE  
OF PAIN AND THE  
COUNTERING WAVE OF  
REBIRTH--THEY'LL CANCEL  
EACH OTHER OUT--AND  
WE'LL SURVIVE!

IT'S  
TRUE! WE'RE  
SAVED!

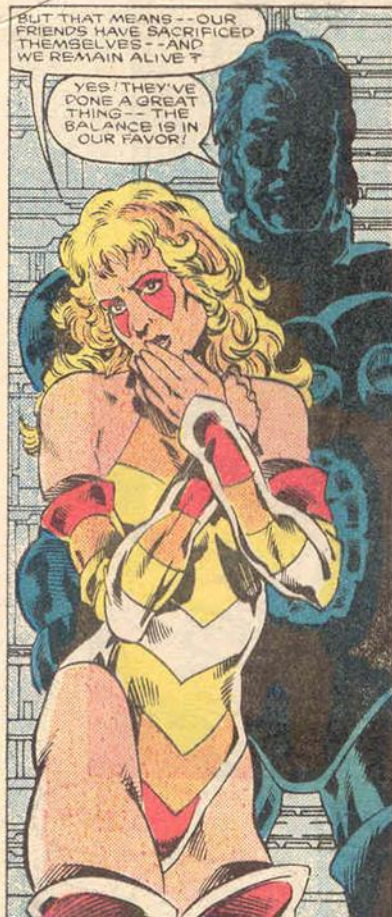


IS IT  
TRUE?

THEN--I  
DON'T HAVE TO  
LOSE YOU? OH,  
ARCTURUS!











IT'S THE  
WAVE-FRONT! IT'S  
CROSSING THE  
PLANET!



I'VE GOT TO  
MAN THE CONTROLS--  
COORDINATE THE  
DEFENSE!

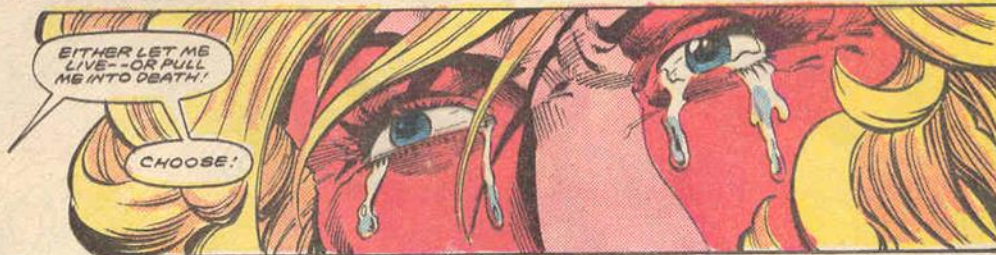
OR WE CAN JOIN  
OUR FRIENDS--  
JOIN THE DEFENSE!  
WHAT IF THEY'RE NOT  
STRONG ENOUGH  
WITHOUT US?  
WHAT IF--



IF, IF, IF!

YOU WANT TO  
MAKE A DECISION,  
THEN MAKE IT! NO  
MORE IF'S! EITHER  
WE LIVE--OR WE DIE!  
NO IN-BETWEENS!


UNDERSTAND?



EITHER LET ME  
LIVE--OR PULL  
ME INTO DEATH!

CHOOSE!

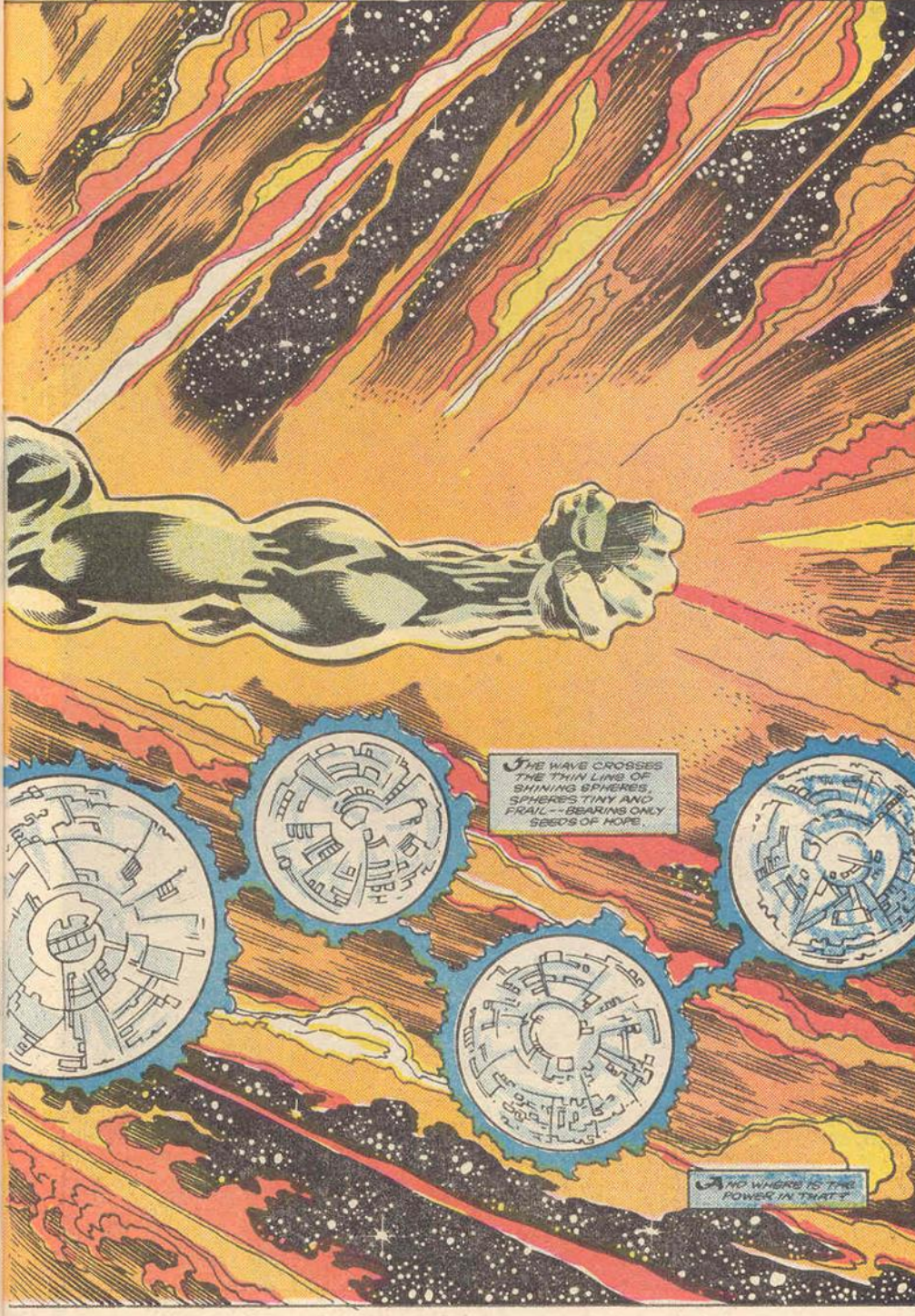




AND ACROSS THE  
DEPTH OF SPACE  
THE WAVE COMES...

...THE ONCE BENIGN  
STRUCTURING POWER OF  
THE MICROVERBS THE  
ENGINA FORDS, ONCE  
REVEALING ITSELF TO  
MEN AS THE BENEFICENT  
TIME TRAVELERS,  
NOW RAGING IN RUTHLESS.

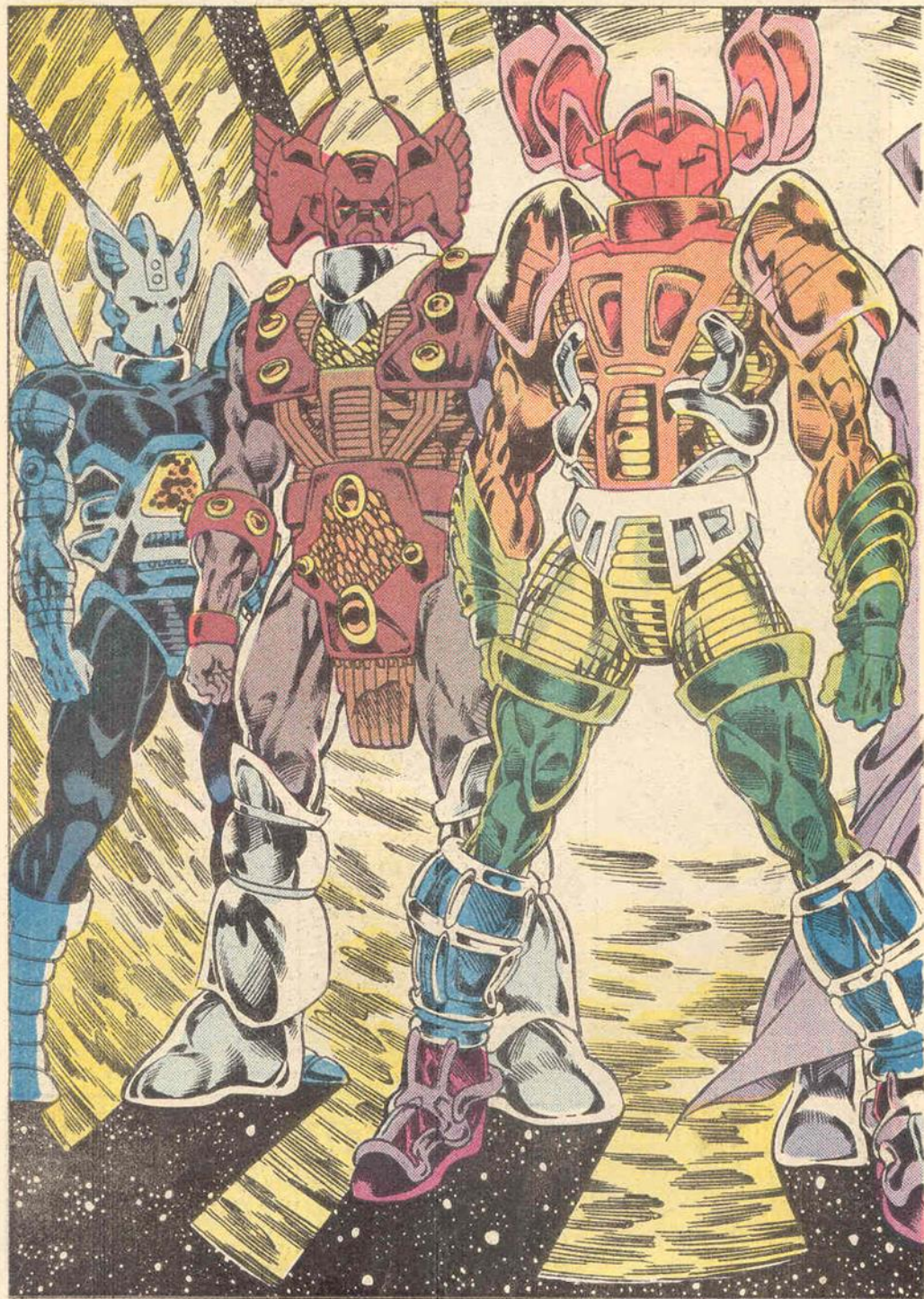




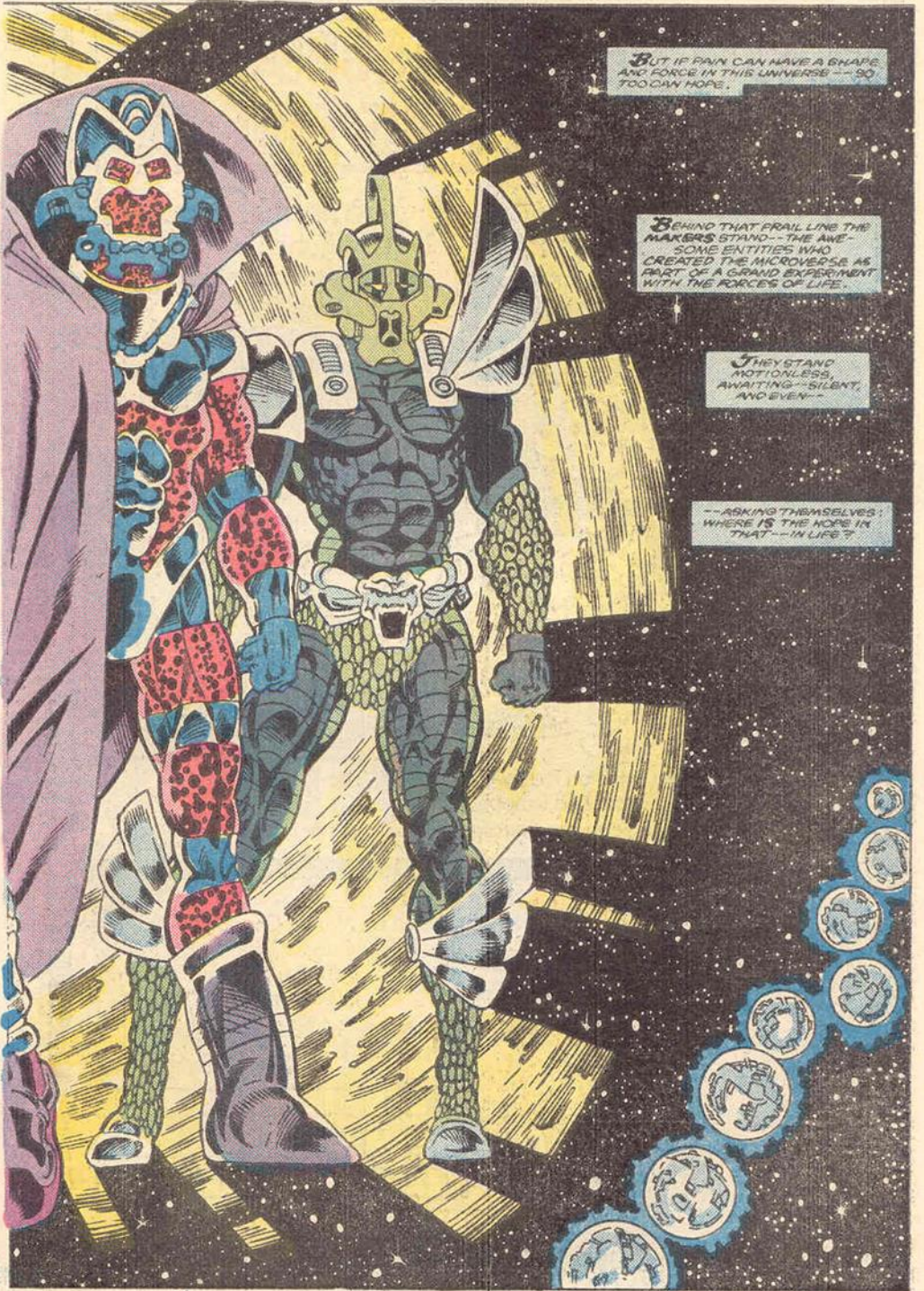
THE WAVE CROSSES  
THE THIN LINES OF  
SHINING SPHERES  
SPHERES TINY AND  
FRAIL -- BEARING ONLY  
SEEDS OF HOPE.

AND WHERE IS THE  
POWER IN THAT?









BUT IF RAIN CAN HAVE A SHAPE  
AND FORCE IN THIS UNIVERSE -- SO  
TOO CAN HOPE.

BEHIND THAT PAULINE THE  
MAKERS STAND--THE AWE-  
SOME ENTITIES WHO  
CREATED THE MICROVERSE AS  
PART OF A GRAND EXPERIMENT  
WITH THE FORCES OF LIFE.

THEY STAND  
MOTIONLESS,  
AWAITING--SILENT,  
AND EVEN--

--ASKING THEMSELVES:  
WHERE IS THE HOPE IN  
THAT--IN LIFE?



YOU **MUST** CHOOSE,  
MARI. LINK THE CHAIN--  
OR BREAK IT!

I--  
I--



YOU ARE THE PRINCESS,  
MARI! YOU WERE TO BE  
RULER OF HOMEWORLD! ITS  
FATE HAS ALWAYS BEEN  
ENTRUSTED TO YOU!

THE CHOICE IS **YOURS!**



I--  
CAN'T--!

FOR MYSELF,  
I COULD--  
BUT YOU--

-- I DON'T KNOW  
YOU-- I DON'T KNOW  
MYSELF-- WHAT IN  
THE WORLD TO  
TRUST!



I KNOW WE HAVE TO GO--  
BUT I CAN'T-- **TELL ME,**  
ARCTURUS! TELL ME TO LET  
YOU LIVE! TELL ME THAT WE  
CAN START AGAIN!



TELL  
ME!



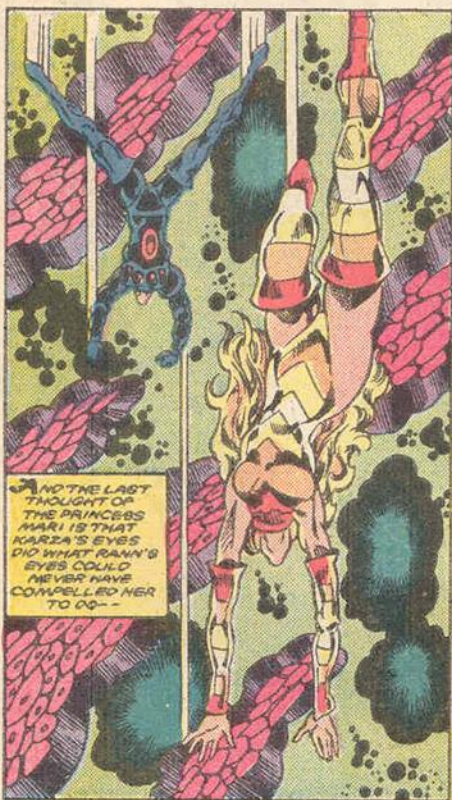
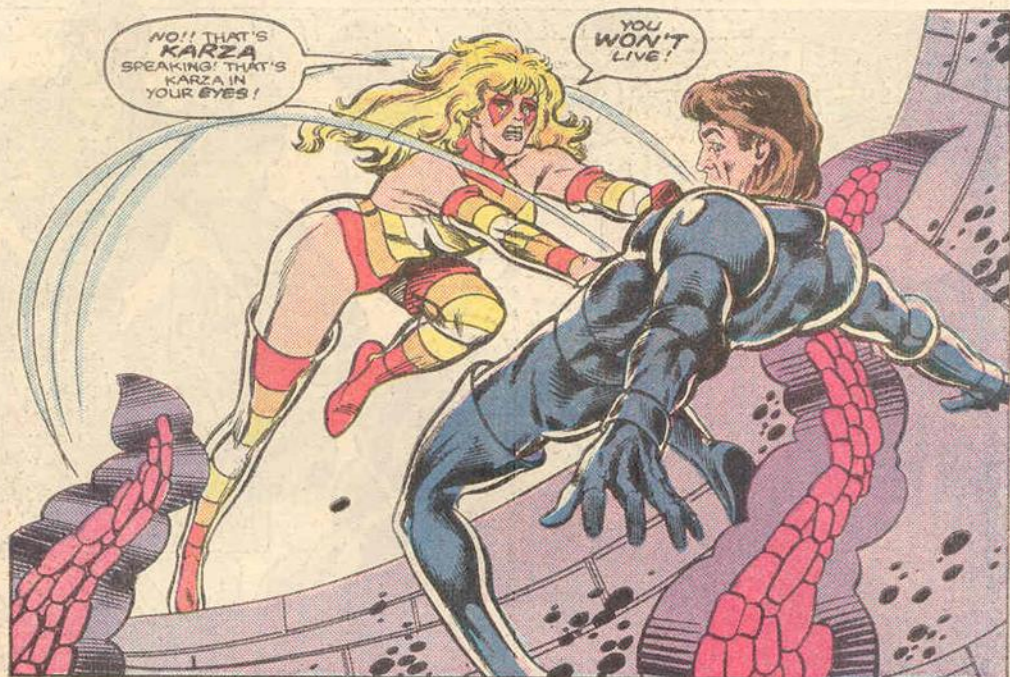
OF  
COURSE  
I WILL,  
MARI.

LET ME  
LIVE.



NO!! THAT'S  
**KARZA**  
SPEAKING! THAT'S  
KARZA IN  
YOUR EYES!

YOU  
WON'T  
LIVE!



AND THE LAST  
THOUGHT OF  
THE PRINCESS  
KARA! IS THAT  
KARZA'S EYES  
DID WHAT KARZA'S  
EYES COULD  
NEVER HAVE  
COMPELLED HER  
TO DO--



--AND LED HER  
TO HER WORLD'S  
SALVATION.



# BULLPEN BULLETINS

IT'S

1986!

MARVEL'S 25TH ANNIVERSARY!

## HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Way back in August of 1961, when pop-sicles were six cents, *Tossin' and Turnin'* by Bobby Lewis was the number one hit single, and nobody had ever heard of Viet Nam, *Fantastic Four* #1 appeared on the newsstands. That historic issue marked the beginning of the Marvel Universe, and the launching of the Marvel Comics Group. We were one of the smallest comics companies then, but we took off like a starship and quickly grew into one of the biggies. Now, as we approach our twenty-fifth birthday, we're the largest comics publisher in the Western World—and we did it the old-fashioned way. We earned it.

All this year we'll be celebrating our anniversary with special issues and events

—watch the checklist for details—but the big event is coming up in the summer. And what is that?  
Drum roll, please...

IN HONOR OF THE  
TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY  
OF THE CREATION OF  
THE MARVEL UNIVERSE  
WE ARE CREATING...  
A NEW UNIVERSE!

It will be the comics event of the century. Yes, the century. Watch for it.

*Jim Shooter*  
Editor in Chief

## CHECK LIST

- ☐ **THING** #34
- ☐ **DAREDEVIL** #229
- ☐ **NEW MUTANTS** #38
- ☐ **WEB OF SPIDER-MAN** #13
- ☐ **WEST COAST AVENGERS** #7
- ☐ **SQUADRON SUPREME** (Limited Series) #8—Hyperion vs. Hyperion?
- ☐ **CAPTAIN AMERICA** #316—Guest starring Hawkeye!
- ☐ **POWER PACK** #21
- ☐ **MICRONAUTS** #19—Baron Karza is back!
- ☐ **DOCTOR STRANGE** #76—By the Eye of Vishanti, 'tis a new creative team! Check it out!
- ☐ **VISION AND SCARLET WITCH** (Limited Series) #7—Featuring the Sub-Mariner!
- ☐ **FIREFIST** (Limited Series) #2
- ☐ **AMAZING SPIDER-MAN** #275—Special giant-size issue, featuring a rare reprint of Spidey's origin from *Amazing Fantasy* #15!
- ☐ **FANTASTIC FOUR INDEX** #5—Re-telling the incredible events in issues #65-84!
- ☐ **THE OFFICIAL HANDBOOK OF THE MARVEL UNIVERSE** #5—Meet everyone from Gargoyle to Howard the Duck!
- ☐ **ALPHA FLIGHT** #33—Guest starring Wolverine!
- ☐ **INCREDIBLE HULK** #318—Introducing the Hulk Busters!
- ☐ **AVENGERS** #266—A special

- epilogue to *Secret Wars II*, featuring the Silver Surfer!
- ☐ **CONAN THE BARBARIAN** #181
- ☐ **MARVEL TALES** #186
- ☐ **X-MEN** #204
- ☐ **G.I. JOE** #46
- ☐ **ETERNALS** (Limited Series) #7
- ☐ **PUNISHER** (Limited Series) #4
- ☐ **MARVEL SAGA** #5—Including the origins of Loki and the Wizard (bad guys), and Angel and the Iceman (good guys)!
- ☐ **FANTASTIC FOUR** #289
- ☐ **IRON MAN** #205
- ☐ **PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN** #113
- ☐ **THOR** #366—Beware the wrath of the Thunder Frog!
- ☐ **X-FACTOR** #3—There's a big change in store for the Beast!
- ☐ **TRANSFORMERS** #15
- ☐ **MARVEL TEAM-UP INDEX** #3—Meet the amazing Spider-Friends from issues #24-50!
- ☐ **DOCTOR WHO** #19

### MARVEL MAGAZINES

- ☐ **MARVEL AGE** #37—A special look at the 25th Anniversary of Marvel Comics!
- ☐ **SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN** #122

### EPIC COMICS


- ☐ **GROD THE WANDERER** #14
- ☐ **SISTERHOOD OF STEEL** #5—The Queen is dead, and that's not all!

- ☐ **BOZZ CHRONICLES** #2
- ☐ **DREADSTAR** #23
- ☐ **ELQUEST** #9—The quest begins!
- ☐ **ALIEN LEGION** #12—Welcome STROMAN and EMBERLIN, the Legion's new art team!
- ☐ **SIX FROM SIRIUS II** (Limited Series) #3
- ☐ **STARSTRUCK** #6
- STAR COMICS**
- ☐ **THUNDERCATS** #3—Beware Mumm-Ra!
- ☐ **MISTY** (Limited Series) #3—Special Christmas issue!
- ☐ **HEATHCLIFF** #7—Hey, look at that super-elastic kitty-cat!
- ☐ **TOP DOG** #7—Guest starring Royal Roy!
- ☐ **FRAGGLE ROCK** #7—Who wants to be Junior Gorg's friend?
- ☐ **DROIDS** #1—The stars of the "Star Wars" movies and Saturday morning TV are now starring in their own Star Comic! That's right, it's R2D2 and C3PO! Yay!

### GRAPHIC NOVEL

- ☐ **GN #22: MARADA THE SHE-WOLF**—Direct from the pages of EPIC ILLUSTRATED and in color for the first time! Find out why people have been talking about this tale of enchantment and swordplay in the days of the Roman Empire! Written by CHRIS CLAREMONT, painted by JOHN BOLTON.





AND PAIN SWEEP OVER  
HOMEWORLD--AND AGAINST  
IT, IT FOUND--

-- A PROUD FOREST  
AGAINST THE HILLSIDES  
THAT SHELTERED CRYSTAL  
FLOWERS GLEAMING ON  
ITS FLOOR-- A FOREST  
AS PROUD AND AS STRONG  
AS ANY ACROYEAR--



PAIN DID NOT VANISH FROM THE MICROVERSE. BEINGS STILL WERE BORN, GREW UP, GREW OLD, AND DIED.

BUT IN YEARS TO COME, VOYAGERS WOULD TRAVEL TO THE THIN SILVER LINE OF PLANETS, AND SEE HOW LIFE CAME UP THROUGH THAT PAIN, REACHING INTO BEAUTY AND THE FUTURE AND KNOWING THAT, ULTIMATELY, PAIN HAD AN END--

--A MEADOW LEAPING ALIVE WITH CHATTERING FORAGERS, AND BRIGHT WITH GLITTERING WINGS-- IN A DRY BROKEN EVERY SO-THAT-- OFTEN BY A TIKK SOUND--

--A JUNGLE OF A THOUSAND INTERLOCKING FORMS, RIOTOUS IN THEIR VARIETY AND YET SINGLE IN THEIR BALANCE-- AND A WIND THAT ALMOST WHISPERED "HUNTARR--!"

AND THOSE VOYAGERS WOULD LOOK AT THE WORLDS OF HOPE--

-- AND REMEMBER THE MIGHTY MICROVAULTS.

THE END.