

# MARVELS

IN A WORLD THAT WILL COME TO BE KNOWN AS EARTH X, A MYSTERIOUS PLAGUE HAS GIVEN EVERYONE SUPER-POWERS, AND CHAOS RUNS RAMPANT. A YOUNG BOY NAMED DAVID IS THE LAST ORDINARY HUMAN ON EARTH, AND HIS ONLY HOPE OF SURVIVAL IS TRACKING DOWN WHAT REMAINS OF EARTH'S SUPER HEROES. HE'S MANAGED TO FIND SPIDER-MAN AND DAREDEVIL, BUT IT SEEMS SOMETHING IN THE CITY IS HUNTING HIM...

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I CAME ALL THE WAY TO NEW YORK, TO THE PLACE WHERE THE HEROES WERE, TO FIND THAT THINGS MIGHT EVEN BE WORSE HERE.

NOW THAT EVERYONE EXCEPT ME HAS SUPER-POWERS, WHAT DO THE HEROES EVEN DO ANYMORE?

AT LEAST THEY CAN STILL PROTECT ME.

THE ATTACKS ON THE BAXTER BUILDING CONTINUE AS THOSE BLAMING REED RICHARDS FOR THE GLOBAL PANDEMIC GATHER AT THE BASE OF THE FANTASTIC FOUR'S OPERATIONS HERE IN NEW YORK CITY.

SO FAR, NO ONE HAS BEEN ABLE TO GET BEYOND THE BUILDING'S DEFENSE MECHANISMS, AND THE FANTASTIC FOUR SEEM TO HAVE GONE INTO HIDING.

I CAN'T BELIEVE WHAT I'M SEEING. WHY ARE THE FF HIDING?

THEY'RE NOT.

THEY'RE NOT AT ALL. THEY'RE TRYING TO FIND A WAY TO END THIS MADNESS.

THAT'S WHY YOU ARE HERE, DAVID. I THINK YOU CAN HELP THEM.

WHAT?



BUT I... HOW COULD I HELP THEM, DAREDEVIL? THEY HELP EVERYONE... I'M JUST... I'M JUST... DAVID.

I'LL NEVER BE A HELP TO ANYONE.



YOU KNOW, KID, I CAN PRETTY MUCH ALWAYS TELL WHEN SOMEONE IS LYING.

EXCEPT, OF COURSE, WHEN THEY'RE LYING TO THEMSELVES.



LISTEN, DAVID, WE'RE GOING TO GET YOU TO THE BAXTER BUILDING, AND REED WILL BE ABLE TO FIGURE SOMETHING OUT. THAT'S FOR CERTAIN. HE ALWAYS DOES.



AND MR. FANTASTIC ALWAYS KEEPS HIS PROMISES, RIGHT?

I WATCH PETER... I CAN'T BELIEVE I GET TO CALL HIM PETER... PULL DOWN HIS MASK.

IT'S ONE OF THE MOST AMAZING THINGS I NEVER EXPECTED TO SEE.



HE DOES.



SEE YOU LATER, MAY.

YEAH. LATER, DAVID.

I THINK I'M GOING TO BE REALLY GOOD FRIENDS WITH SPIDER-MAN'S DAUGHTER. ESPECIALLY AFTER I TALK TO MR. FANTASTIC.



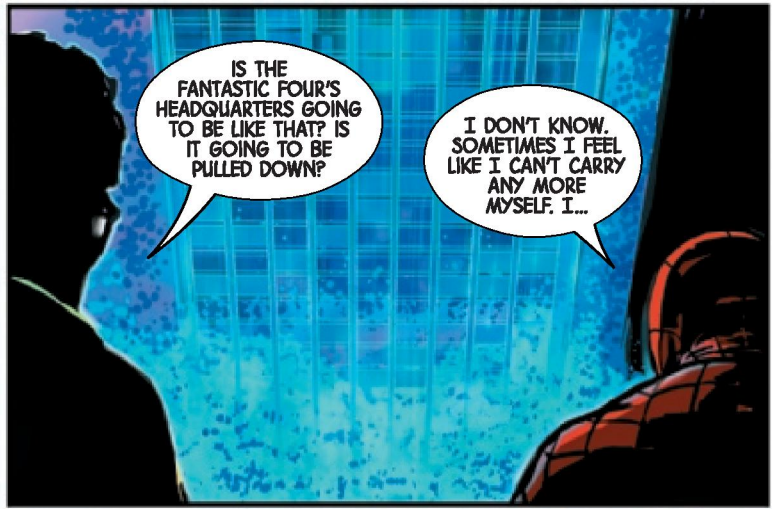
I DON'T KNOW WHY EVERYONE'S SO UPSET. YOU ALL LOOK LIKE ME NOW. WELCOME TO THE PARTY.

THAT WAS THE LAST WORD FROM THE FANTASTIC FOUR, RECORDED ALMOST A MONTH AGO.



WHEN I FIRST GOT HERE, I SAW A STONE GUY AS TALL AS A BUILDING ATTACKED BY A BUNCH OF PEOPLE WITH POWERS. I DIDN'T THINK ANYONE COULD STOP HIM.

AND THEN EVEN MORE MUTANTS ATTACKED. AND MORE AFTER THAT. FINALLY, I COULDN'T EVEN SEE HIM. AND THEY PULLED HIM DOWN.



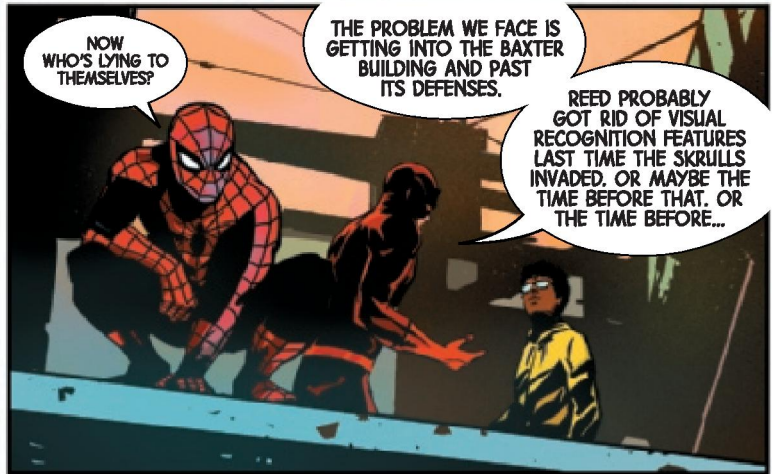
IS THE FANTASTIC FOUR'S HEADQUARTERS GOING TO BE LIKE THAT? IS IT GOING TO BE PULLED DOWN?

I DON'T KNOW. SOMETIMES I FEEL LIKE I CAN'T CARRY ANY MORE MYSELF. I...



THAT'S ENOUGH, PETER.

THIS IS REED RICHARDS WE ARE TALKING ABOUT, DAVID. HE SAVED US ALL FROM GALACTUS. PRETTY SURE HE CAN SAVE US FROM OURSELVES.



NOW WHO'S LYING TO THEMSELVES?

THE PROBLEM WE FACE IS GETTING INTO THE BAXTER BUILDING AND PAST ITS DEFENSES.

REED PROBABLY GOT RID OF VISUAL RECOGNITION FEATURES LAST TIME THE SKRULLS INVADED. OR MAYBE THE TIME BEFORE THAT. OR THE TIME BEFORE...



WHY DON'T YOU GUYS JUST FIGHT THAT MOB? BEAT 'EM UP?



BECAUSE THEY'RE OUR FRIENDS. THEY'RE PEOPLE WE USED TO FIGHT FOR. THAT HASN'T CHANGED.

WE HAVEN'T CHANGED.

RIGHT, PETER?

PETER IGNORES THE QUESTION, OR AT LEAST PRETENDS HE DIDN'T HEAR IT.



SPIDER-MAN EXPLAINS THAT REED USED TO HAVE ENTRANCES AT CERTAIN LEVELS ALONG THE BUILDING...

...EXITS AND ENTRANCES FOR THE FF HELI-CARS AND ROCKETS. PROBABLY FOR THE HUMAN TORCH TOO. HE CAN FLY.

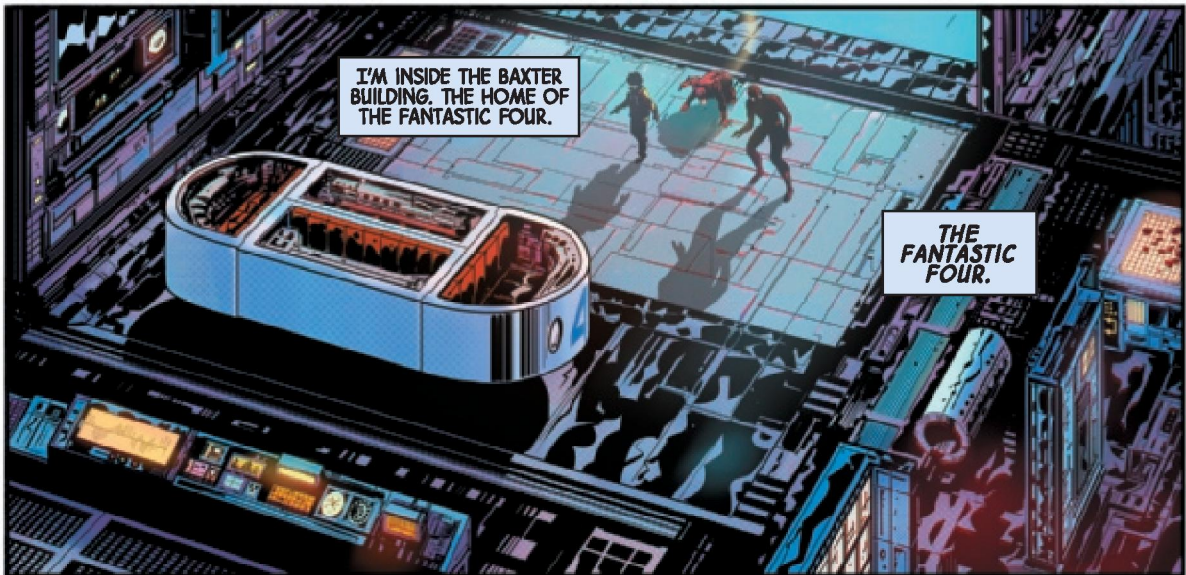


SWINGING WAS AWFUL THE FIRST TIME. THIS WAS EVEN WORSE.

ESPECIALLY THE LANDING PART.



DONT WORRY, DAVID.



I'M INSIDE THE BAXTER BUILDING. THE HOME OF THE FANTASTIC FOUR.

THE FANTASTIC FOUR.