



MARIA HILL



NICK FURY



PHIL COULSON



M.O.D.O.K.



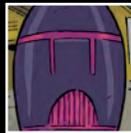
SPIDER-WOMAN



BLACK WIDOW



HAWKEYE



VLADIMIR

RUN THE MISSION. DON'T GET SEEN. SAVE THE WORLD.

S.H.I.E.L.D. DIRECTOR MARIA HILL HAS ASSEMBLED THE SECRET AVENGERS, A COVERT SQUAD OF HEROES—BLACK WIDOW, SPIDER-WOMAN, HAWKEYE, S.H.I.E.L.D. AGENTS NICK FURY AND PHIL COULSON, AND M.O.D.O.K., A (FORMER?) TERRORIST HILL HIRED TO CREATE NEW TECHNOLOGIES FOR S.H.I.E.L.D.

AND IT'S BEEN ONE HELLUVA RIDE.

BLACK HOLES, ACID ATTACKS, DEADPOOL—THE SECRET AVENGERS HAVE DEALT WITH A LAUNDRY LIST OF TROUBLES, AND IT TURNS OUT NONE OTHER THAN M.O.D.O.K.'S (EX-)ASSISTANT, SNAPPER, WAS BEHIND IT ALL. HE'S GOT SOME SERIOUS DAMAGE, AND PLANNED TO BRING AN OTHERWORLDLY REALM OF MONSTERS CALLED TLÓN TO EARTH TO DESTROY ALL OF THE SO-CALLED "BULLIES."

LUCKILY, M.O.D.O.K. HAD KINDA FALLEN IN LOVE WITH MARIA HILL (HE WAS AS SURPRISED AS ANYONE), SO HE STEPPED UP TO MASTERMIND THE "SECRET AVENGERS VS. TLÓN" SHOWDOWN. SNAPPER WAS USING HILL AS THE "ULTIMATE BULLY" IN THE COMMUNAL MINDSPACE IN ORDER TO BRING FORTH CTHULHUONIC MONSTERS THROUGH THE TLÓN PORTAL.

THE SECRET AVENGERS, HOWEVER, INFILTRATED THE MINDSPACE WITH THE MISSION OF IMAGINING THE BEST POSSIBLE UNIVERSE—HOPING THE FORCE OF THEIR POSITIVE THOUGHTS COULD REACH HILL AND OUTWEIGH THE NEGATIVE OF TLÓN. JUST AS IT ALL STARTED COMING APART AT THE SEAMS, THOUGH, A LITTLE BIT OF DEUS EX MACHINA ARRIVED: VLADIMIR, THE TEAM'S SENTIENT BOMB, CAME HURLING OUT OF THE SKY. ONE WAY OR ANOTHER, THE END HAS ARRIVED...

...AND WHAT DO YOU BELIEVE? PART FIVE OF FIVE

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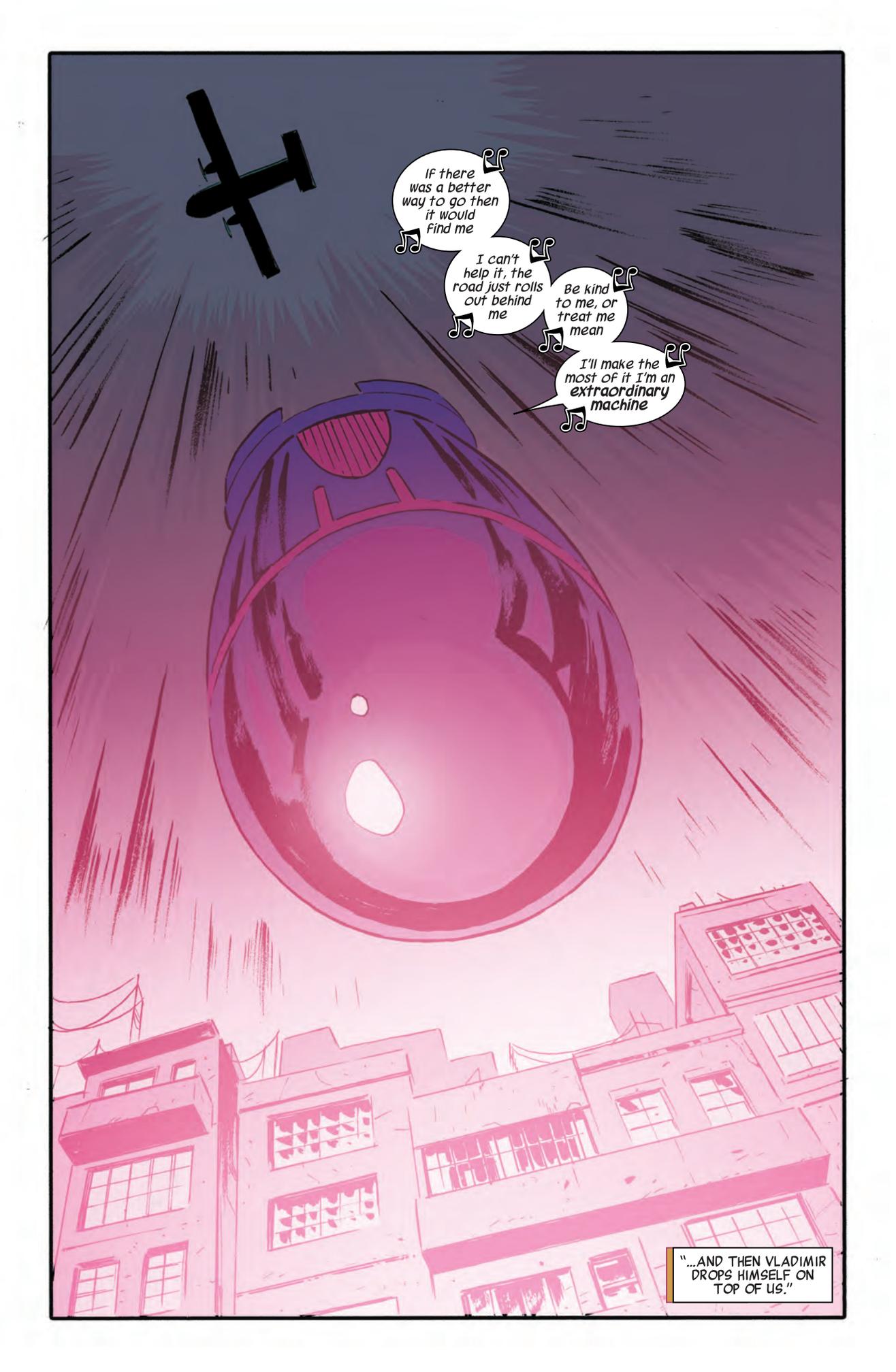
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If there
was a better
way to go then
it would
find me

I can't
help it, the
road just rolls
out behind
me

Be kind
to me, or
treat me
mean

I'll make the
most of it I'm an
extraordinary
machine

"...AND THEN VLADIMIR
DROPS HIMSELF ON
TOP OF US."

THEN,
S.H.I.E.L.D.
HELICARRIER
ILAD.



THE PLAN? WELL, IT INCLUDED US HAVING TO IMAGINE THE BEST POSSIBLE WORLD AFTER WE SLAPPED WEIRD MICROCHIPS ON OUR BODIES, AND THEN VLADIMIR THE LIVING BOMB DROPPED OUT OF THE SKY IN ORDER TO OPEN A BLACK HOLE THAT WOULD SOMEHOW REVERSE-SWALLOW EVERYTHING?

I MEAN, I'M NOT THAT SMART. WHAT DO I KNOW?

AFTER THE ACTION.

WELL, IF MARIA HILL DIDN'T APPROVE MY LEAVE, YOU WOULD HAVE A PAPER TRAIL, WOULDN'T YOU? AND YOU DON'T HAVE A PAPER TRAIL. I CAME BACK FROM MY APPROVED VACATION EARLIER THAN EXPECTED BECAUSE I WANTED TO HELP OUT.

I HAD A GREAT TIME. THANKS FOR ASKING.

S.H.I.E.L.D. HELICARRIER / IAD.

NO, I DON'T BELIEVE VLADIMIR DEFECTED. I BELIEVE HE SAVED US ALL.

THAT INCLUDES YOU.

INTERROGATION OF THE SECRET AVENGERS.

I HAVE NO IDEA WHERE *THE FURY* IS. WHY WOULD YOU EVEN ASK ME THAT? WE AIN'T RELATED.

DOES YOUR PAPERWORK SAY WE'RE RELATED? *BARTON* PUT YOU UP TO THIS?

