

The ultimate team has come together to solve the ultimate problems. Blue Marvel. Spectrum. Black Panther. Captain Marvel. America Chavez. They are...

# THE ULTIMATES<sup>2</sup>

I AM THE NEVER QUEEN. I AM WHAT MIGHT BE, FOREVER OUTSIDE WHAT IS. FROM HERE, I SEE ALL.

FIRST THERE WERE THE ULTIMATES--FORMED BY CAROL DANVERS TO SOLVE COSMIC PROBLEMS BEFORE THEY BECAME PROBLEMS.

THEY SOLVED THE PROBLEM OF GALACTUS, THE WORLDEATER, BY EVOLVING HIM INTO HIS TRUE ROLE AS LIFEBRINGER.

BUT ON A LATER MISSION, GALACTUS--AND THE ULTIMATES--DISCOVERED THAT ETERNITY, HE WHO IS THE MULTIVERSE, WAS IN CHAINS.

THE ULTIMATES DISBANDED--THEN REFORMED, AGAINST THE WISHES OF THEIR GOVERNMENT, TO SOLVE THIS NEW MYSTERY AS A SECRET TEAM.

HOWEVER, THEY WERE BEING MONITORED BY A SECOND GROUP--THE TROUBLESHOOTERS--WHO TRACKED THEM DOWN AND ENGAGED THEM IN COMBAT.

THE ULTIMATES WON THE BATTLE--BUT THE TROUBLESHOOTERS HAD BEEN INFILTRATED BY SOMETHING MONSTROUS... THE BEING NAMED RODSTVOW.

MEANWHILE, ON HEARING THE LIVING TRIBUNAL'S JUDGMENT THAT ALL THINGS WERE NOW POSSIBLE, CHAOS AND ORDER KILLED HIM--THEN MERGED INTO THEIR OWN LAW, SELF-NAMED LOGOS.

LOGOS EXECUTED THE GODLIKE CELESTIALS--THEN RESTORED GALACTUS' COSMIC HUNGER, MORE POTENT THAN EVER BEFORE. ALL THIS IS PART OF A PLAN.

SOMETHING WAS INFLUENCING LOGOS, CONTROLLING RODSTVOW...SOMETHING THAT HAS NOW REVEALED ITSELF...

...AS THE FIRST FIRMAMENT--THE VERY FIRST ITERATION OF THE COSMOS ITSELF!





IN THE BEGINNING,  
THERE WAS ONLY  
ONE UNIVERSE.

ONLY I.

MY UNIVERSE WAS  
PERFECT...AND YET,  
I WAS ONLY I. I  
WAS ALONE.

AND MOVED BY  
THAT UNLUTTERABLE  
LONELINESS, I  
MADE AN ERROR.

AT THE VERY  
DAWN OF ALL  
THAT IS OR WAS...

...I MADE  
LIFE.

THE FIRST FIRMAMENT.  
AEONS AGO.





CELESTIAL BEINGS,  
MY SERVANTS,  
MY TOYS.

SOON, THEY HAD  
MADE SERVANTS OF  
THEIR OWN. THEY  
WERE CLEVER  
LITTLE PETS...



BUT THERE  
WERE OTHERS,  
MULTICOLORED  
REBELS.

THEY WANTED THEIR  
CREATIONS TO EVOLVE--  
TO GAIN THE POWER OF  
UNIVERSES--

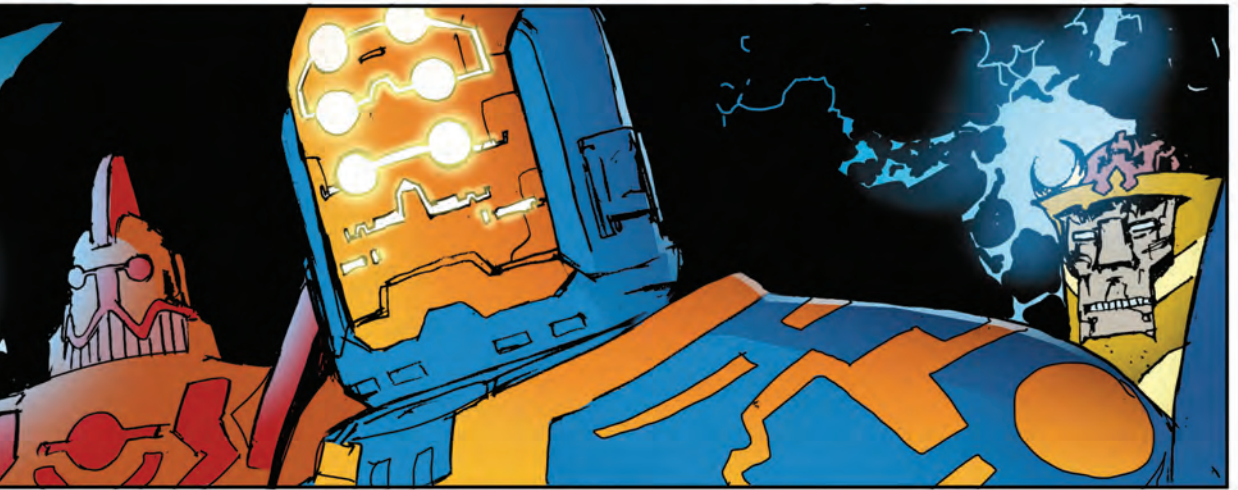
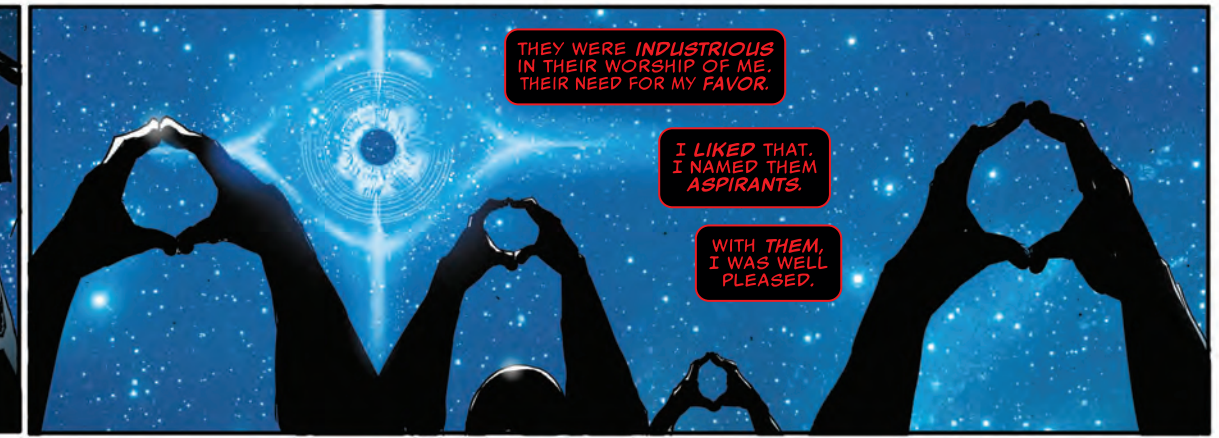
--AND FOR THE UNIVERSE  
TO EVOLVE WITH THEM.  
TO KNOW GROWTH AND  
CHANGE AND MORTALITY.



IT WAS MADNESS  
AND SACRILEGE.

IT WAS  
WAR.










A WAR THAT  
SHATTERED ME  
INTO PIECES.

IN THE FINAL  
CONFLAGRATION--  
AS THE REBELS  
DETONATED THEIR  
UNIMAGINABLE WEAPONS--

--HUNDREDS OF NEW  
UNIVERSES SPLIT  
OFF FROM MY PURE  
SUBSTANCE.



IN TERROR--TO  
PRESERVE MY  
UNIQUENESS,  
MY VERY SELF--



--I FLED TO THE FARTHEST  
EDGES OF BEING, MY  
REMAINING ASPIRANTS  
INSIDE ME.



AND BEHIND  
ME...



...THOSE NEW UNIVERSES  
COALESCED, FORMING A  
NEW, COLLECTIVE ENTITY.

A SECOND  
COSMOS--AND  
THE FIRST OF A  
NEW BREED,

THE FIRST  
MULTIVERSE.