

GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY & X-MEN

THE BLACK VORTEX

CHAPTER 9

Previously in the Black Vortex...

Billions of years ago, an ancient race named the Viscardi were gifted an object of immense cosmic power by a Celestial. This artifact, known as the Black Vortex, transformed the user, imbuing them with cosmic energy. However, the power of this object caused the Viscardi to turn on each other, annihilating their own race from within.

When Mister Knife, a.k.a. J'Son, Peter Quill's father, obtained the Black Vortex, Peter and Kitty Pryde stole the artifact and recruited the Guardians of the Galaxy and the X-Men for help. Gamora, the elder Beast, and Angel chose to submit to the Vortex and the three cosmically enhanced heroes took the artifact and left, intending to reshape the universe in their image. Hala, the homeworld of the Kree empire, was destroyed by Knife after an altercation between a cosmically enhanced Ronan the Accuser and Knife's vanguard, The Slaughter Lords. In the confusion, Nova took the Vortex and fled, but the Slaughter Lords quickly overpowered Nova, and reclaimed the Black Vortex for their own, allowing Thane, Son of Thanos, to submit and accept his own enhanced cosmic powers.

At the same time, Dr. Hank McCoy, filled with the knowledge of the cosmos, still could not find a way to correct the damage he had done to space-time. Horrified by this, and by the destruction of Hala, Beast, Gamora, Angel, Rocket, and Magic decided to seek out their friends on Spartax in order to join forces against their common enemy—Mister Knife.

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"THANE,
SON OF
THANOS."

SOON, THEY
WILL CALL HIM
"THANOS, FATHER OF
THANE," AND YOU WILL
BE "THANE THE
SUPREME."

I PROMISED
YOU POWER,
THANE.

NOW--
UPHOLD YOUR
PROMISE TO ME.
UNLEASH THE POWER OF
THE BLACK VORTEX
I GAVE YOU--

WHERE?

THERE.
SPARTAX.

A WHOLE
PLANET,
KNIFE?

VERY
WELL.



WARRIOR



