

MARVEL

10

LGV#700

AARON • MCGUINNESS • MARQUEZ • IRVING • KUBERT • SORRENTINO

EARTH'S MIGHTIEST HEROES

THE AVENGERS

HEROIC
700TH
ISSUE!



RATED T+
\$5.99 US



BONUS DIGITAL EDITION — DETAILS INSIDE!

On a day unlike any other, a Dark Celestial invasion led Iron Man, Thor and Captain America to re-form the Avengers, adding Black Panther, Captain Marvel, She-Hulk and Ghost Rider to their ranks. Now they protect the world as the Mighty Avengers!

But global tensions are skyrocketing. Not everyone is happy that the Avengers answer to a new chairman, King T'Challa of Wakanda, rather than the government of the United States--and Namor of Atlantis is even less happy that the Avengers don't agree with his visions of aquatic supremacy. The world is a powder keg about to explode--the only question that remains is who will light the fuse?

EARTH'S MIGHTIEST HEROES THE AVENGERS #700



**"THE BATTLE FOR THE RIGHT TO BE CALLED... EARTH'S MIGHTIEST"
By Jason Aaron, David Marquez & Ed McGuinness**

Avengers created by Stan Lee & Jack Kirby

GUEST ARTISTS

Frazer Irving; Adam Kubert; Andrea Sorrentino

COLOR ARTISTS

Justin Ponsor; Erick Arciniega; Frazer Irving; Matthew Wilson; Giada Marchisio

LETTERER

VC's Cory Petit

COVER

**Ed McGuinness
& Marte Gracia**

VARIANT COVERS

Alex Ross; Arthur Adams & Paul Mounts; Alan Davis, Mark Farmer & Jim Campbell; David Finch & Peter Steigerwald; Ron Lim & Paul Mounts; David Marquez & Romulo Fajardo Jr.; Ed McGuinness & Marte Gracia; George Pérez & Jason Keith; Skottie Young

GRAPHIC DESIGNER

Carlos Lao

ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Alanna Smith

EDITOR

Tom Brevoort

EDITOR IN CHIEF

C.B. Cebulski

CHIEF CREATIVE OFFICER

Joe Quesada

PRESIDENT

Dan Buckley

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

Alan Fine

SIBERIA.
SECRET SOVIET-ERA
CORRECTIVE LABOR CAMP.
THE LAST GULAG.

<SIR, I
HAVE HERE A LETTER
OF PARDON, SIGNED BY
THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE
AND THE PRESIDENT
HIMSELF.>*

*TRANSLATED FROM RUSSIAN -TOM

<IT IS A **FULL**
PARDON. OF EVERY
CRIME ON YOUR RECORD,
EVEN GOING BACK
YEARS TO-->

<**CRIMES?!**
NOBODY CALLED THEM
CRIMES WHEN WE WERE
DOING THEM. MORE LIKE
"VALIANT MISSIONS TO
PROTECT THE
MOTHERLAND.">

<WHAT ARE
THESE SUPPOSED
CRIMES, BOY?>

<AH, SIR, WELL,
AMONG OTHER THINGS,
IT SAYS HERE THAT YOU, AH...
MURDERED **FOUR** OF YOUR
COMMANDING OFFICERS.
AND... **CONSUMED**
THEIR REMAINS.>

<**LIES!**
SLANDEROUS
LIES! IT WAS **FIVE**
OFFICERS!>

<BUT I NEVER
ATE THE BASTARDS.
JUST TORE THEM
APART WITH MY MOUTH
WAS ALL.>

<YES,
SIR.>

<A PARDON
ISN'T GOOD ENOUGH.
I WANT ALL THESE
RIDICULOUS CHARGES
COMPLETELY EXPUNGED
FROM MY RECORD.>

<OF
COURSE,
SIR.>

<EXCEPT FOR THE DEAD
OFFICERS. LEAVE THOSE IN.
GOOD FOR MY REP. THERE
VODKA ON THAT
HELICOPTER YOU
CAME IN?>

<YES, SIR.
I WAS TOLD
TO BRING A...
VERY LARGE
SUPPLY.>

<FOR YOUR
SAKE, I HOPE IT'S
GOOD STUFF, AND NOT
THE TOILET BREW
THEY'VE BEEN GIVING ME
HERE FOR YEARS. SO
WHERE WE HEADED,
SOLDIER?>



<DIRECTLY TO THE **KREMLIN**, SIR. THE OTHERS WILL BE WAITING.>

<HEH. IT'S ABOUT DAMN TIME.>

<TELL ME, PRIVATE, THEY GONNA LET US DO IT RIGHT THIS TIME? AND KEEP THE POLITICIANS OUT OF OUR FUR FOR A CHANGE?>

<I'M TOLD HIS EXCELLENCY HAS TAKEN A GREAT PERSONAL INTEREST IN THIS PROJECT.>

<YEAH, I JUST BET HE HAS. SO WHO THE HELL **ELSE** HAS MOSCOW SUDDENLY REMEMBERED IS STILL ALIVE?>

MAJOR MIKHAIL URSUS.
CODENAME: **URSA MAJOR.**





<I UNDERSTAND YOUR RELUCTANCE, DMITRI, BUT THEY'VE ASSURED US THIS TIME WILL BE DIFFERENT.>

<THE FACES OF THE PUPPET MASTERS ARE ALWAYS DIFFERENT. BUT THAT DOESN'T CHANGE MATTERS MUCH FOR THE PUPPET, DOES IT?>

<TELL THEM I SAID NO.>

DMITRI BUKHARIN.
FORMER KGB OPERATIVE.



<NO, I TAKE THAT BACK, LAYNIA. TELL THEM I SAID HELL NO.>

<LIKELY NOT. NOT SINCE I RESIGNED. LET THEM COME ARREST ME IF THEY WANT. I'M EASY ENOUGH TO FIND.>

WESTERN RUSSIA.
THE URAL MOUNTAINS.

<YOU CALL THIS EASY TO FIND?>

<I DON'T IMAGINE THE EXECUTIVE SECURITY COMMITTEE IS USED TO BEING SPOKEN TO IN SUCH A MANNER.>

DARKSTAR AND VANGUARD.
LAYNIA PETROVNA AND NIKOLAI KRYLENKO.
SUPERSIBLINGS.



<THIS ISN'T THE OLD DAYS OF THE SOVIET SUPER-SOLDIERS, DMITRI. MOSCOW ISN'T LOOKING FOR A PUPPET. THEY WANT YOU TO LEAD THE ENTIRE OPERATION.>

<THEY'D MAKE A NEW CABINET POSITION FOR YOU. MINISTER OF SUPERHUMAN DEFENSE.>

<HEH. RUSSIAN SUPER-MINISTER. THEY REALLY MUST BE DESPERATE.>

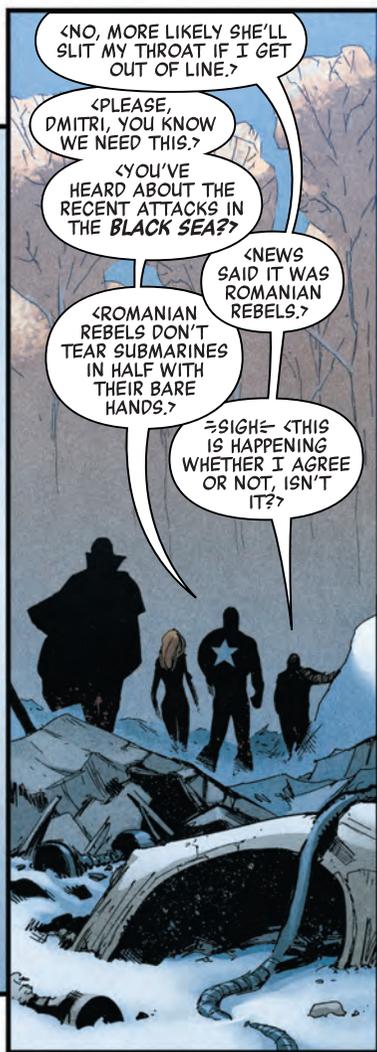
<AND WHAT DOES OUR QUIET GUEST BACK THERE FROM THE RED ROOM HAVE TO SAY ABOUT ALL THIS?>



<IN MY EXPERIENCE, THE RED WIDOW DOESN'T SAY MUCH OF ANYTHING AT ALL.>

<HER PRESENCE IS A REQUIREMENT OF THE COMMITTEE. BUT SHE WILL FOLLOW YOUR ORDERS.>

RED WIDOW.
NEWEST PRODUCT OF THE RED ROOM ASSASSIN TRAINING PROGRAM. NAME UNKNOWN.



<NO, MORE LIKELY SHE'LL SLIT MY THROAT IF I GET OUT OF LINE.>

<PLEASE, DMITRI, YOU KNOW WE NEED THIS.>

<YOU'VE HEARD ABOUT THE RECENT ATTACKS IN THE BLACK SEA??>

<NEWS SAID IT WAS ROMANIAN REBELS.>

<ROMANIAN REBELS DON'T TEAR SUBMARINES IN HALF WITH THEIR BARE HANDS.>

<SIGH=> <THIS IS HAPPENING WHETHER I AGREE OR NOT, ISN'T IT??>



<THE WORLD IS A MORE DANGEROUS PLACE THAN EVER. RUSSIA NEEDS HER GREATEST HEROES.>

<AND THE WINTER GUARD NEEDS YOU, DMITRI.>

<NO, MY FRIENDS, YOU DON'T NEED DMITRI BUKHARIN.>



<YOU NEED THE CRIMSON DYNAMO.>

<LET'S JUST HOPE I REMEMBER WHERE I LEFT THE DAMN KEY.>

<AND TELL ME STRAIGHT. EXACTLY WHO ARE WE GOING AFTER THIS TIME AROUND??>