

MARVEL

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LGY#726

AARON
KEOWN
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KEITH
RAMOS

EARTH'S MIGHTIEST HEROES
THE AVENGERS



RATED T+ | \$3.99 US



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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. Since the dawn of time, the planetary defense mechanism known as the Starbrand has been wielded by a variety of people, granting them virtually infinite power. Over the years, the Starbrand manifested in several hosts, and the first walked the Earth over one million years ago...



"AS STRONG AS THE STARS"
By Jason Aaron and Dale Keown with Andrea Sorrentino

INKERS

Joe Weems, Cam Smith and Craig Yeung with Andrea Sorrentino

COLOR ARTISTS

Jason Keith with Erick Arciniega and Jay David Ramos

LETTERER

VC's Cory Petit

COVER

Dale Keown & Jason Keith

VARIANT COVER

Alex Ross

GRAPHIC DESIGNER

Carlos Lao

ASSISTANT EDITOR

Shannon Andrews Ballesteros

ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Alanna Smith

EDITOR

Tom Brevoort

EDITOR IN CHIEF
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SIXTY-SIX MILLION YEARS AGO.

THE **ASTEROID** OPENED A CRATER THREE TIMES DEEPER THAN THE WORLD'S TALLEST MOUNTAIN.

MOLTEN ROCK EXPLODED ACROSS THE HEAVENS, SPATTERING EVERY PLANET IN THE SOLAR SYSTEM, BURNING HOTTER THAN THE SURFACE OF THE SUN.

A SHOCKWAVE OF FIRE SPREAD ACROSS THE GLOBE, OBLITERATING EVERYTHING IN ITS PATH.

MOST OF THE WORLD'S FORESTS TURNED TO ASH. TIDAL WAVES TORE THE COASTLINES ASUNDER.

NEARLY **EVERY** LIVING ORGANISM UPON THE FACE OF THE EARTH... WOULD SOON BE **DEAD**.

IF NOT FROM THE EXPLOSION, THEN FROM THE SMOTHERING **GLOOM** THAT FOLLOWED IT.

WITH SOOT BLOCKING OUT THE SUN AND ACID RAIN WEEPING FROM THE SKY, THE EARTH BECAME DARK AND TOXIC AND SO VERY, VERY **COLD**.

IT WAS THE BEGINNING OF A LONG NIGHT AND A GREAT **ICE AGE**, OR IN OTHER WORDS...



...IT WAS THE DAWN
OF THE FIRST
WHITE EVENT.



THE ASTEROID HAD BEEN
NO ACCIDENT. THE
PLANET HAD DRAWN IT
FROM THE DEPTHS OF
SPACE. USED IT TO CRACK
OPEN THE SUPERFLOW.

A MASS SACRIFICE
TO AWAKEN THE
EARTH'S POWER TO
PROTECT ITSELF.



AGAINST ITS ENEMIES
FROM BEYOND THE
STARS. AGAINST THE
PLANET'S OWN
CELESTIAL INFECTION.

ALL THIS WEAPON FROM
BEYOND THE STARS
WOULD REQUIRE...WAS
A **HOST.**



THUS WAS BORN THE
EARTH'S FIRST COSMICALLY
EMPOWERED PROTECTOR.

THE MIGHTIEST
HERO OF THE
ANCIENT AGE.



THE
STARBRAND.

