

PLANET HULK™

ANARCHY
PART 2
OF 4

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97.com

THE INCREDIBLE

HULK®

PAK
LOPRESTI
MIKI
SOTOMAYOR



DIRECT EDITION

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THE INCREDIBLE HULK



Bruce Banner has long viewed his alter ego, the Incredible Hulk, as a monster. So when he saw the chance to use Hulk's strength for good, Banner accepted a mission from S.H.I.E.L.D. (Strategic Hazard Intervention Espionage Logistic Directorate) to destroy a dangerous rogue satellite. But when the mission was complete, a group of Marvel heroes including Reed Richards, Iron Man, Dr. Strange and Black Bolt (members of the mysterious Illuminati), exiled Hulk from the Earth, sending his shuttle towards an idyllic, uninhabited planet where he would pose no threat to himself or others.

But the shuttle flew off-course, passing through a wormhole that deposited Hulk on the savage planet of Sakaar. Weakened by his trip through the portal, Hulk was sold into slavery and sent to the Great Arena to die in gladiatorial battle. But he survived, along with a ragtag group of battle-tested survivors. Facing horrific monsters and enemies, Hulk and his crew took an oath — they became Warbound to each other, no matter what might come.

Having escaped their captors and on the run from the Empire's troops, the Hulk's team saved a small village from attacking Wildebots and settled in to regroup. But Hulk's sidekick Miek revealed that it was in this village that his father and hive were slaughtered years before. While other members of the Hulk's crew advised Miek to let the old crimes go in order to form new allies against the Empire, Miek demanded justice. Hulk concurred, telling Miek that in his position, "I'd never stop making them pay." Miek fought the village headman in a duel, cutting off one of his own arms to get the final upper hand. But he could not deliver the death blow. Shortly after, Hulk's team discovered that the villagers had hidden Miek's surviving brothers deep underground as slaves. The freed hivelings hailed Miek as their hero. And the Hulk and his crew destroyed the village in retribution.

Now, as rebellious slaves riot across the Empire, Hulk's squad is on the run again. And soon they may discover the rewards — and the costs — of their revenge.



HULK



KORG



BROOD



HIROIM



ELLOE



MIEK



LIEUTENANT

PLANET HULK

ANARCHY PART II

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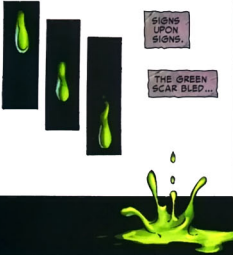
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SIGNS
UPON
SIGNS.

THE GREEN
SCAR BLEED...



AND THE
ELEHA'AL
VINES GREW.



AND THE
GREAT
STONES
CRUMBL'D.

THE GREEN
SCAR'S ON THE
MOVE! SMASHED AN
IMPERIAL VILLAGE,
FREED THEIR NATIVE
SLAVES!

YAAAA!

COME ON,
BROTHERS--
TO THE
PALACE!



MAY THE
PROPHET
PRESERVE
US...

WOOSH

THE PROPHET
CAN'T HELP YOU,
SLAVE.

AND FIRE
FELL FROM
THE SKIES.



YOU'D BE BETTER OFF PRAYING TO YOUR KING.

ARE YOU THE SAKAARSON?

DO WE LOVE YOU?

Vooosh!

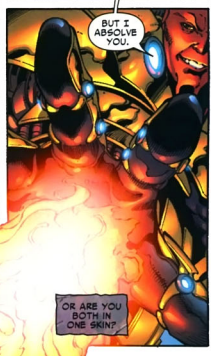


BLASPHEMER!

OR ARE YOU THE WORLD BREAKER?

AND DO WE FIGHT YOU?

#TSK+ TALKING BACK TO YOUR EMPEROR. THAT'S TREASON, YOU KNOW.



BUT I ABSOLVE YOU.

OR ARE YOU BOTH IN ONE SKIN?



Vooosh!

Vooosh!

AND DO WE MERELY BURN?

LIEUTENANT! FOR THE LOVE OF THE PROPHECY, SPEAK!



I'M
HERE.

YOU MUST
RETURN. THE
EMPEROR--
THE EMPEROR
NEEDS YOU.

YOU CAN'T
LEAVE US, LIEUTENANT.
THE GREEN SCAR BURNED
OUR VILLAGE, STOLE OUR
SLAVES. THE EMPIRE HAS
A RESPONSIBILITY.
YOU--



HOLD.

LIEUTENANT,
DO YOU--

HLIA

LIEUTENANT,
PLEASE--

SILENCE, HEADMAN.
SHE'S THE EMPEROR'S
SHADOW--IF HE CALLS,
SHE MUST GO.

BUT
DON'T WORRY.
YOUR GOVERNOR
STANDS WITH YOU.
WE'LL CATCH UP TO
YOUR MONSTER
TOMORROW, AND THEN--



DIE,
SLAVERS!

IN THE
NAME OF THE
GREEN SCAR--

-URK!

WHAA--



GUARDS!
STAND
READY!



THE GREEN SCAR
HIMSELF COMES
NEXT.

NO.
WAIT.

THESE
AREN'T OUR
SLAVES.

WHERE DID
YOU COME
FROM?

EVERY
FIELD, EVERY
FOREST, EVERY
VALLEY WHERE
HIS NAME IS
SPOKEN.

MAY THE
GREEN SCAR BREAK
YOUR WORLD. AND
EVERYTHING IN IT.

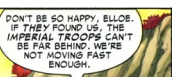


FIVE LEAGUES AWAY...

WE COME TO SERVE THE GREEN GOAT!



THEY CAME ALL THE WAY FROM MY FATHER'S PROVINCE--THEY'RE TALKING ABOUT US IN EVERY CORNER OF THE EMPIRE!



DON'T BE SO HAPPY, ELLOE. IF THEY FOUND US, THE IMPERIAL TROOPS CAN'T BE FAR BEHIND. WE'RE NOT MOVING FAST ENOUGH.



HOW GOES IT, MIEK?



FINE. KIKI! FINE!

COME ON, LITTLE BROTHER! THIS WAY, NOW!

THIS WAY, NOW!

BROTHER MIEK SAYS THIS WAY NOW!

BROTHER MIEK WHO SAVED US FROM THE PUNY PINKIES SAYS THIS WAY NOW!

YAAH! HERO BROTHER MIEK!



YAAH! HERO BROTHER MIEK!

HERO BROTHER MIEK!

HERO BROTHER MIEK!

HEH.



SO MANY YOUNGLINGS. THEY SLOW OUR PACE.

AND SOMEWHERE WE'LL NEED TO FIND MORE PROVISIONS TO FEED THEM, AND MORE WARRIORS TO PROTECT THEM...

I KNOW JUST THE PLACE.

I AM PRIMUS VAND. I SPENT FOUR UNDEFEATED SEASONS IN THE IMPERIAL ARENAS.

IF YOU DO AS I SAY, YOU MAY LEARN THE SKILLS TO SEIZE THE GLORY I HAVE TASTED.

BUT THIS IS THE MAW, THE EMPIRE'S MOST LETHAL GLADIATORIAL TRAINING SCHOOL.



...AND THE MAW MUST BE FED.

RRRRROOOOAAAAA!!!



OR NOT.

WHA--



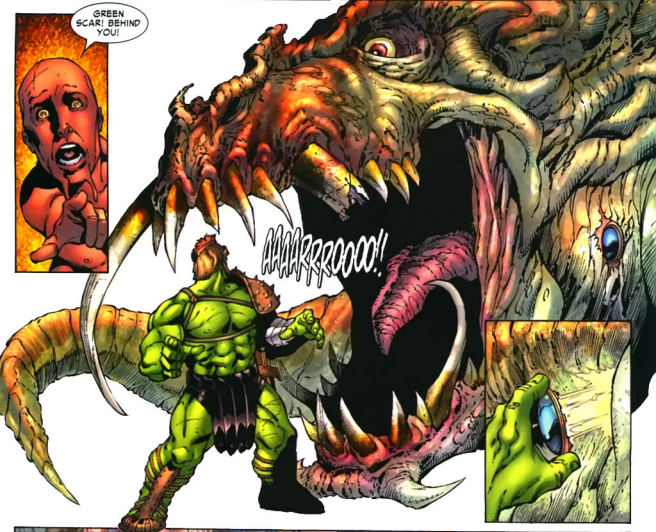
HEEL.

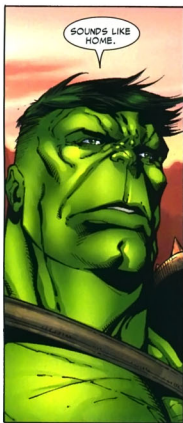
KILL HIM!

NNN -- NO! WE WILL NOT F -- FIGHT THE GREEN SCAR!

YOU'RE WEARING AN OBEDIENCE DISK, SLAVE. YOU'LL DO WHATEVER I SAY.









IT'S
GOVERNOR
DENEBO OF
WUKAR.

AND THAT
SCUMSUCK HEADMAN
FROM THE VILLAGE.
THE ONE WHO KILLED
MIEK'S HIVE AND SLAYED
HIS BROTHERS. NOW
LOOK AT HIM.



THAT'S WHAT
WE GET FOR
LETTING THESE
FRATZERS
LIVE.

WE WON'T
MAKE THAT
MISTAKE
AGAIN.

CALM YOURSELVES. IT'S
THE SAME TRAP AS BEFORE.
THEY'RE TRYING TO
ENRAGE US. GET US INTO
THAT BOX CANYON.

GREENSKIN?



THEY
CRYING,
BROTHER
MIEK...

CRYING...

CRYING,
BROTHER
MIEK!

CRYING...

HUSH.
NOW, NO
KIK+ CRYING,
NO MORE.



JUST
SMASHING.

WARBOUND,
TWO-HANDS.

WHATEVER
MAY COME.



SAKAARSON,
HEAR MY CRY.



NOW!

OUR ENEMIES
ARE STRONG.



THEY BURN
US WITH
THEIR FIRE.

THEY
BREAK US
WITH THEIR
STONES.

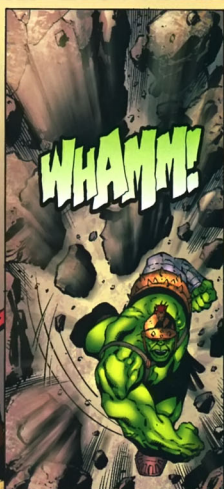
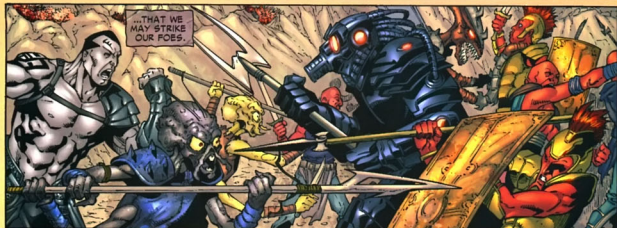
BOOM!

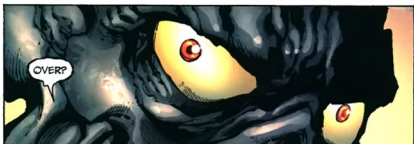
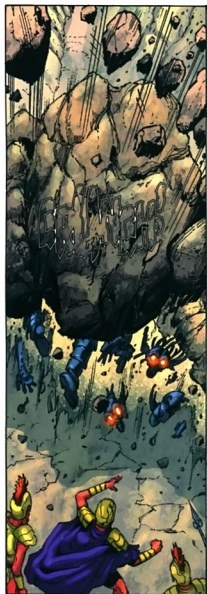


B-BOOM!

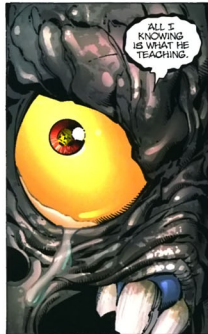


BUT THOUGH
THEY MOVE
EARTH AND SKY
AGAINST US...









STAND DOWN,
YOU BLOODSCUM
REBELS! YOU
CANNOT HOPE
TO PREVAIL
AGAINST--

GRRRAAAA!

--OH,
FRATZ.

WHERE'S
OUR BACKUP?
WHERE'S THE
LIEUTENANT!

RIGHT
HERE.

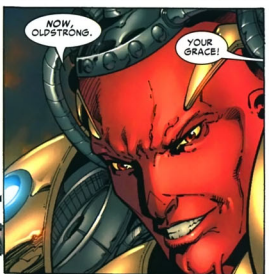
AND
HERE.

AND
HERE.

AND...









NEAR THE BORDER OF THE STEPPES.

WE FOUND PRIMUS AND THE OTHER PRISONERS DEAD. THROATS CUT.

NO ONE WILL SAY WHO DID IT.

ELLOE JUST LAUGHED WHEN I ASKED HER ABOUT IT.

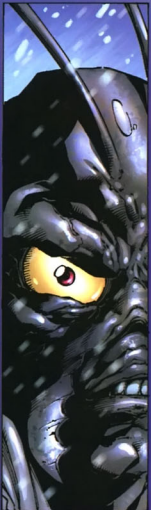
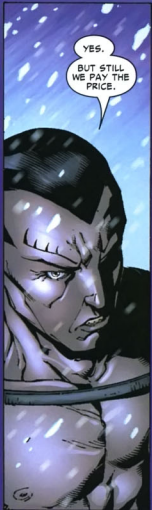
WHY NOT LAUGHING? THEY DESERVING IT.

THAT DOESN'T MATTER.

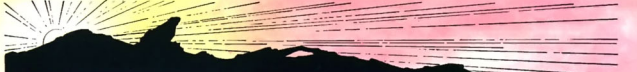
EVERY BLOW STRUCK IN ANGER TURNS BACK UPON US.

BUT THOSE PUNY PINKIES KILLING. KILLING. KILLING. KILLING AND KILLING!
WE HAVE TO STOPPING THEM, OR THEY KILLING EVERYONE FOREVER!

YES.
BUT STILL WE PAY THE PRICE.

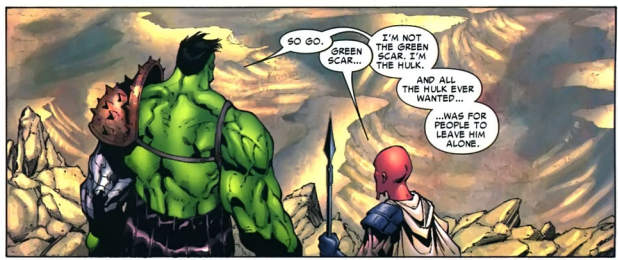






WE'VE GOTTEN TRANSMISSIONS FROM THE CROWN CITY. HUNDREDS OF SLAVES ARE RIOTING IN THE STREETS, IN YOUR NAME! SMASHING THE GUARDS, FIGHTING THE RED KING HIMSELF!

THE TIME IS NOW. WE MUST RETURN AND FIGHT.



SO GO, GREEN SCAR...

I'M NOT THE GREEN SCAR, I'M THE HULK.

AND ALL THE HULK EVER WANTED...

...WAS FOR PEOPLE TO LEAVE HIM ALONE.

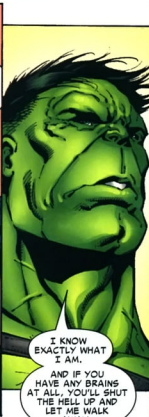


YOU CAN'T STOP NOW. WE FOUGHT FOR YOU.

YOU FOUGHT FOR YOURSELVES.

BECAUSE YOU BLED, AND THE GREEN VINES GREW, BECAUSE YOU HELP MOUNTAINS ON YOUR SHOULDERS.

WHY DO YOU DENY WHAT YOU ARE?



I KNOW EXACTLY WHAT I AM.

AND IF YOU HAVE ANY BRAINS AT ALL, YOU'LL SHUT THE HELL UP AND LET ME WALK AWAY...



... BEFORE I KILL YOUR WHOLE STUPID PLANET.

NO. TWO-HANDS.



YOU NOT GOING ANYWHERE.

NO, NOT JUST BROTHER HERO NO MORE.

BROTHER KING!

HERO KING!

KING MIEK!

BROTHER MIEK!

BROTHER HERO MIEK!

TO BE CONTINUED!

HULKING OUT

We're back! As you recall, last month, The Emperor of Sakaar, The Hero Protector, The Red King, took over our letters page. This issue, HULK scribe extraordinaire, Greg Pak, joins us. Take it away, Greg!

Dear HULKsters,

What can I say but FAR FREAKING OUT. I used to be a HULK fan but then I stopped picking it up. Recently, though, I happened to breeze through HULK 92 and I was blown away. You've finally done it, you've found the perfect place to put the HULK, a world where only the strong survive, no lousy Banner, no head trips about Betty, none of the X-Men, Avengers or Fantastic Four getting in the way. Plus, you made him just smart enough to acknowledge when someone is an ally or not.

PLANET HULK is the best read in a very long time. Please oh please, don't change a thing. Leave Banner in the past and leave HULK on a world that finally understands him.

Longtime Marvel fan,
Corrado Serrante

Thanks for the props, Corrado! Very happy to hear you're enjoying reading the books as much as we're enjoying making them. *Am not assured -- you'll be able to get your monthly fix of HULKapalooza on Planet Sakaar well into 2007. But beyond issue #105... Let's just say the Green Scar has some unfinished business in another solar system that might require his attention...*

HULK Team,

Great. Way to make me feel bad. "Did you ask?" No, I never asked, and now I feel as rotten as... well... something that's really rotten. The Carter/Clinton reference was pretty gosh darn witty -- Peter David really knows how to handle Marvel's silding timescale!

Poor HULK, I thought it was rather telling that Rick Jones wasn't one of the figures that he dreamed standing by him, even though Rick is the only person who has never truly turned his back on him. I had never really considered the fact that the HULK is Bruce Banner (as opposed to Bruce Banner being the HULK) and now I'm not only starting to feel sorry for the big green guy, I'm starting to resent Banner! Puny Banner! Someone should smash him...

The art was stunning in both of the new stories, especially the first. Santacruz and Fernandez managed to capture the look of the old CHAMPIONS series without making it look dated, which is a pretty impressive feat.

Today, HULK is better than ever, and I hope that stays true for a long time. Keep up the dazzling work!

Adrian J. Watts
Melbourne, Australia

Glad you enjoyed GIANT-SIZE HULK. Adrian, I'm a big Peter David fan myself and was thrilled to have my li'l "Banner War" tale in the same volume as PAD's new HULK/Champions tale and his classic HULK: THE END epic.

Also happy to hear you enjoyed the "Banner War" dip on the HULK/Banner relationship -- if you're interested in delving even deeper into that kind of story, I humbly (yet shamelessly!) recommend MARVEL 1602: NEW WORLD (written by yours truly with art by Greg Tocchini) which explores the notion of Banner as a wicked man who hates and fears the heroic HULK within. You can even read the first issue for free in the Digital Comics section at Marvel.com.

Let me preface this by saying that for the first time in about six years I can finally say in public that I'm a fan of the HULK.

The best HULK moment was in INCREDIBLE HULK #321 and #322 when HULK lays the best down on the ENTIRE Avengers team. That includes Wonder Man, Captain America, Iron Man, She-Hulk and Namor, Prince of Tuna. I mean the HULK beats these guys senseless. Namor, who is pretty buff himself, tries to tackle the HULK and instead gets launched by the mere action of HULK flexing. All HULK did was flex. Best moment.

Frank Mann

Sweet. I'm going to have to reread those issues. I've been

thinking a lot these days about the various ways the HULK can smash hordes of Marvel heroes...

Dear HULK team, Norway calling!

I was a HULK fan in the mid-70's and Sal Buscema's raging HULK was awesome! Then life happened and I forgot about the Big Green Guy.

30 years later - Bruce Jones brings me back! I love his run and the sad, sad ending in issue 78 really epitomized the pain of HULK for me. I started collecting HULK seriously, but did not read any of the back issues that were coming in at irregular intervals from the U.S. Then when the collection was almost complete... I'm still missing HULK 1 and 2 in the original run... I started from almost the beginning reading Stan Lee's TALES TO ASTONISH turning into THE HULK 2 series, the Herb Trimpe reign, the Sal Buscema stint, helio old friend... the Peter David era and Bruce Jones' run. All the way through all regular series, miniseries, specials and annuals... (Not defenders). And it was an incredible experience! Over 40 years of stories in a couple of months of reading. Not having to wait for the next issue! What an all-time HULK moment!

In all the different incarnations of THE HULK, there has been great stories... and the PLANET HULK run is up there with the best of them. My thanks to all writers and artists, letterers and colorists, editors and production workers from the beginning in TALES TO ASTONISH #21 (the Prototype HULK) until today and into the future!

HULK Smash!

Staalte P. Strandeng
Fluberg, Norway

Thanks for the kind words, Staalte! And I'm glad to hear you loved the Bruce Jones run -- just goes to show you that the HULK is an incredibly rich character who can be explored in many different ways by all kinds of great writers to reach an enormously diverse audience.

My favorite HULK moment is the cover of Secret Wars #4. Thanks for asking.

Sincerely,
John Steib



Nice reminder, John -- and timely! This very issue contains a little homage to that very scene. And fans of these kinds of mind-boggling HULK feats should definitely keep reading -- while the HULK's been temporarily weakened by his passage through the Great Portal, he's getting stronger and madder every day -- during PLANET HULK and beyond, you'll see ol' Greenskin embark upon trials and feats more emotionally shattering and physically astounding than any puny human could ever endure or perform.

Hi,

I wanted to congratulate everyone on the great work you guys have been doing on PLANET HULK. This is the one comic I look forward to picking up every month, even more than CIVIL WAR and 52. Greg Pak is an awesome writer who has really made me care about Hulk's gladiator crew in just a few issues.

A few of us on the message boards have been wondering about the details of the PLANET HULK GLADIATOR GUIDEBOOK. Does that still come out next week? Thanks for any info you can provide and keep up the great work on Hulk!!

Montego

Hey, Montego. Thanks much for the letter. I'm particularly gratified to read your kind words about the HULK's crew. I love each and every one of those characters as well -- they're all going to have major roles to play and big, surprising, emotional story arcs of their own as PLANET HULK progresses.

THE GLADIATOR GUIDEBOOK did indeed come out the week after your letter came in -- no doubt you picked it up at your local purveyor of comics and have been poking through the insanely detailed entries written by Anthony Flamini and myself which delve into every aspect of Planet Sakaar's history, culture, religion, inhabitants, heroes, and villains. The Guidebook's full of details that provide great background to our story and, perhaps, hints about the future -- I definitely recommend it to anyone who's enjoying the run thus far.

Greg Pak

Thanks, Greg! Fans, be sure to check out www.pakbuzz.com. It's a great place to find out the latest about PLANET HULK and Greg's other comics and film projects.

Be here next issue for a battle you've all been waiting to see: HULK faces off with the beautiful-but-lethal Lieutenant! See you in 30!

-Mark Paniccia

NEXT ISSUE:



HULK 98!
FACE-TO-FACE WITH
THE ENEMY!

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