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# THE NEW AVENGERS

**RONIN  
PART 1**



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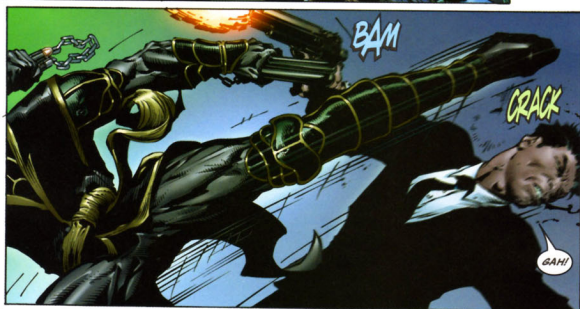
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DIRECT EDITION

FINCH

DANNY  
OLIVER  
fyd





NOW I ASK  
*AGAIN!*  
WHO WILL TELL  
ME WHAT I NEED  
TO KNOW?

And there came a day, a day unlike any other, when Earth's mightiest heroes found themselves united against a common threat! On that day, the Avengers were born—to fight the foes no single super hero could withstand! Stan Lee presents...

# THE NEW AVENGERS



When a breakout occurs at the high-tech maximum security prison known as the Raft, Captain America, Iron Man, Luke Cage, Spider-Man, Spider-Woman, and the mysterious powerhouse known as the Sentry gather together to battle the rioting criminals. Captain America convinces Iron Man that a new team of Avengers has been brought together by fate. Though the formation of the team has not been made public, the New Avengers, including the X-Man Wolverine, now operate out of Stark tower.

Only one member of the super hero community who was present the first night the New Avengers fought together refused to join the team—Matt Murdock, known throughout Hell's Kitchen as Daredevil.

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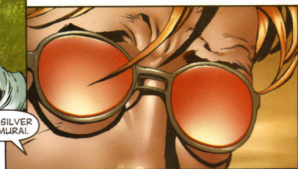
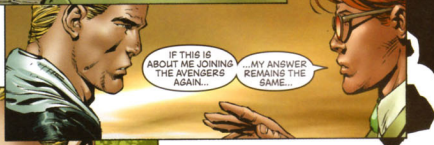
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# YESTERDAY NEW YORK CITY





HE WAS ONE OF THE FORTY-TWO POWERED CRIMINALS WHO ESCAPED FROM THAT MAXIMUM SECURITY PRISON RIOT WE FOUND OURSELVES INVOLVED IN LAST MONTH.

FORTY-TWO ESCAPED? OH MY GOD.

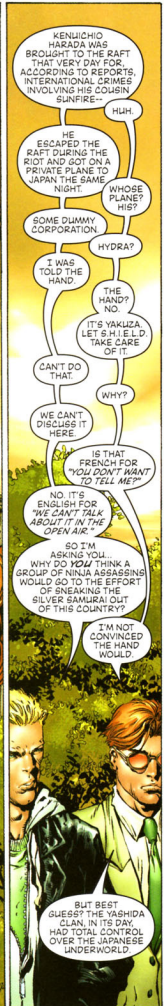
THAT'S WHAT I SAID.

UGH, IT NEVER ENDS.

THAT'S WHY WE HAVE A NEW AVENGERS.

CAP, I--

JUST LISTEN.



KENJIICHO HARADA WAS BROUGHT TO THE RAFT THAT VERY DAY FOR, ACCORDING TO REPORTS, INTERNATIONAL CRIMES INVOLVING HIS COUSIN SUNFIRE--

HLUH.

HE ESCAPED THE RAFT DURING THE RIOT AND GOT ON A PRIVATE PLANE TO JAPAN THE SAME NIGHT.

WHOSE PLANE? HIS?

SOME DUMMY CORPORATION.

HYDRA?

I WAS TOLD THE HAND.

THE HAND? NO.

IT'S YAKUZA. LET S.H.I.E.L.D. TAKE CARE OF IT.

CAN'T DO THAT.

WHY?

WE CAN'T DISCUSS IT HERE.

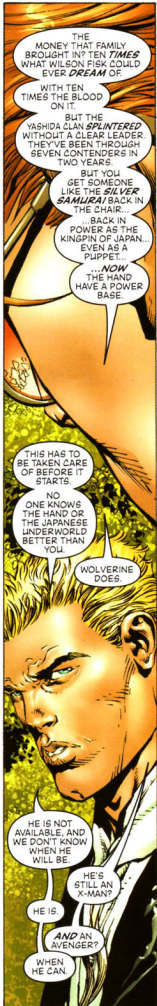
IS THAT FRENCH FOR "YOU DON'T WANT TO TELL ME?"

NO, IT'S ENGLISH FOR "WE CAN'T TALK ABOUT IT IN THE OPEN AIR."

SO I'M ASKING YOU... WHY DO *YOU* THINK A GROUP OF NINJA ASSASSINS WOULD GO TO THE EFFORT OF SNEAKING THE SILVER SAMURAI OUT OF THIS COUNTRY?

I'M NOT CONVINCED THE HAND WOULD.

BUT BEST GUESS? THE YASHIDA CLAN, IN ITS DAY, HAD TOTAL CONTROL OVER THE JAPANESE UNDERWORLD.



THE MONEY THAT FAMILY BROUGHT IN? TEN *TIMES* WHAT WILSON FISK COULD EVER *DREAM* OF

WITH TEN TIMES THE BLOOD ON IT.

BUT THE YASHIDA CLAN *SPLINTERED* WITHOUT A CLEAR LEADER. THEY'VE BEEN THROUGH SEVEN CONTENDERS IN TWO YEARS.

BUT YOU GET SOMEONE LIKE THE *SILVER SAMURAI* BACK IN THE CHAIR...

...BACK IN POWER AS THE KINGPIN OF JAPAN... EVEN AS A PUPPET...

...*NOW* THE HAND HAVE A POWER BASE.

THIS HAS TO BE TAKEN CARE OF BEFORE IT STARTS.

NO ONE KNOWS THE HAND OR THE JAPANESE UNDERWORLD BETTER THAN YOU.

WOLVERINE DOES.

HE IS NOT AVAILABLE, AND WE DON'T KNOW WHEN HE WILL BE

HE'S STILL AN X-MAN?

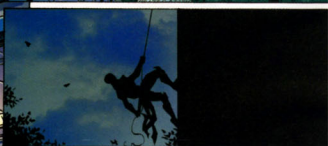
HE IS.

AND AN AVENGER?

WHEN HE CAN.



WE NEED DAREDEVIL





# YESTERDAY

I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU.  
YOU REALLY DON'T TAKE NO FOR AN--

THE WORLD'S ORGANIZED CRIME IS IN TOTAL DISARRAY.

THE YASHIDA CLAN, WILSON FISK, EVEN DOCTOR DOOM DEPENDING ON YOUR DEFINITION OF IT.

ALL OF THEIR EMPIRES IN DISARRAY, AND THAT'S JUST THREE.

FOR THE YASHIDA CLAN TO MAKE A MOVE, TO GET THEIR NAME BACK, THEY HAVE TO *DO* SOMETHING... MAJOR.

AND AS YOU SAID... THE SILVER SAMURAI BACK IN JAPAN WOULD BE A START.

I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU'RE GUILTING ME LIKE THIS.

DAREDEVIL CANNOT JOIN THE AVENGERS

WE NEED TO KNOW WHAT THEIR PLAN IS AND WHO IT'S WITH.

AND, OF COURSE, GETTING THE SILVER SAMURAI BACK BEHIND *BARS* WOULDN'T BE A BAD MOVE ON OUR PART EITHER.

WHAT *CAN* HE DO THEN?

WHAT *CAN* YOU DO?  
THERE *HAS* TO BE A WAY TO MAKE THIS WORK. THIS *HAS* TO BE TAKEN CARE OF.

WHAT?

DO YOU UNDERSTAND? I HAVE A TARGET ON MY BACK. I'VE BEEN OUTED IN THE TABLOIDS. *EVERYONE* KNOWS I'M DAREDEVIL.

I HAVE *SIX* FEDERAL TASK FORCES ASSIGNED TO BRING ME DOWN.

YOUR GOVERNMENT, THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT, IS ACTIVELY PURSUING ME WITH *EVERYTHING* THEY HAVE.

THEY WANT TO THROW ME IN JAIL!

EVEN IF IT MEANS RISKING HAVING TO LEGALLY LET EVERY CRIMINAL I'VE EVER *PUT* IN JAIL... *OUT* OF JAIL.

THEY WOULD RATHER HAVE *ME* IN JAIL THAN ACTUAL CRIMINALS.

WHY?

BECAUSE THE FED THAT THROWS ME IN JAIL WILL GET A FEDERAL JUDGESHIP.

*THIS* IS WHAT I AM DEALING WITH.





I TOLD  
YOU THEN, AND  
I'LL TELL YOU  
AGAIN NOW...

THERE IS NO  
WAY ON GOD'S GREEN  
PLANET EARTH I WILL PUT YOU,  
PETER PARKER, LUKE CAGE AND  
THE OTHERS IN MY LINE  
OF FIRE.

I WILL  
NOT DO IT.



BECAUSE EVEN  
IF WE SAVED THE  
WORLD FROM AN ALIEN  
INVASION...

...SAVED EVERY  
LIFE ON THE PLANET  
IN A FLURRY OF  
HEROISM NOT SEEN  
SINCE THE DAYS OF  
MYTHOLOGY...

...AND JESUS HIMSELF  
CAME BACK AND JOINED  
THE TEAM...

...THE NEXT  
DAY ALL OF YOU  
WOULD BE SUCKED  
UNDER A BUS...JUST  
FOR KNOWING  
ME.

I CAN'T  
DO IT.



I DON'T KNOW IF YOU KNOW THIS,  
BUT THERE WAS A TIME WHEN—WHEN  
THE UNIFORM OF CAPTAIN AMERICA  
WASN'T WORKING FOR ME.

I WAS HAVING  
A LOT OF TROUBLE  
REPRESENTING THIS  
FLAG AND THIS  
COUNTRY.

IT'S A  
LONG STORY,  
BUT I STOPPED  
BEING CAPTAIN  
AMERICA.

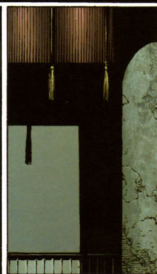
I PUT ON  
ANOTHER UNIFORM.  
**AND** I CALLED  
MYSELF NOMAD...AND  
I REPRESENTED  
**NO** COUNTRY.

JUST  
MYSELF.



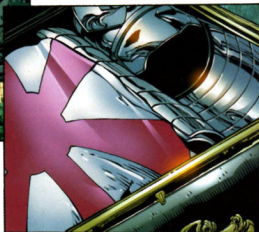
REALLY?

YES, SIR.



















# YESTERDAY, NEW YORK



I WOULD  
RATHER HAVE HAD  
THIS MEETING  
IN PRIVATE...

...BUT  
I UNDERSTAND  
YOUR  
CONCERNS.



IF I  
MAY BE  
BLUNT...

I  
WASN'T *THRILLED*  
WITH WHAT INTEL  
I COULD FIND  
ON YOU.

YOUR  
CONNECTIONS  
TO WILSON FISK AND  
HIS ASSOCIATES ARE,  
IN MY OPINION,  
QUESTIONABLE  
AT BEST.

BUT I'VE BEEN  
LEARNING MORE  
AND MORE THAT YOU  
CAN'T ALWAYS BE SO  
QUICK TO JUDGE  
PEOPLE.

IF  
MATT MURDOCK  
VOUCHES FOR  
YOU...

...WELL,  
THAT'S GOOD  
ENOUGH.



WE NEED YOU  
TO FIND HARADA,  
FIND OUT WHO HE'S  
IN BUSINESS WITH,  
AND FIND OUT WHAT  
THE PLAN IS.

WE'D LIKE  
YOU TO SLIP IN  
AND SLIP OUT  
UNDETECTED.

WE DON'T  
EXPECT YOU TO  
FIGHT THIS BY  
YOURSELF.

BUT NO ONE  
KNOWS MORE THAN  
I THAT A FIGHT CAN  
COME FROM ANY  
DIRECTION.



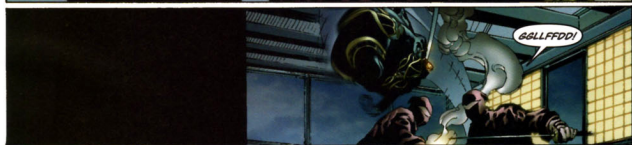
SO IF--  
*IF* YOU DO  
*HAVE* TO FIGHT  
YOUR WAY  
OUT...

PLEASE...

...IF AT ALL  
POSSIBLE...

...NO  
KILLING.















**TO BE CONTINUED...**