

MARVEL
PSR 32

WINICK
CALAFIORE
MCKENNA

EXILES™



DIRECT EDITION



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**AVENGERS
FOREVER™**

2 OF 2

They have become unhinged from time. They are heroes from different realities who must travel together from one alternate reality to another, completing missions to repair broken links in the chain of time. They are the EXILES and this is their fate.

Stan Lee presents...

EXILES

Avengers Forever Part 2 of 2



PREVIOUSLY



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MIMIC
Calvin Rankin
Mimics the Powers
of Five Mutants



NOCTURNE
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Hex Bolts, Possession



MORPH
Shape-Shifting



SUNFIRE
Mariko Yashida
Flame Control/Flight



SASQUATCH
Dr. Heather Hudson
Super-strength
and Senses



MAGIK
Illyana Rasputin
Teleportation and
Magic Sword

They are the EXILES, reality-hopping nomads forced to repair the broken chain of time. In each new universe, they must complete a mission before progressing. Their only help is a mysterious bracelet talisman known as the Talisman, which provides information, though sometimes oblique, as to what they must rectify. If they fail to repair their own fractured timelines, they may never return home.

On the heels of the team's strangest adventure yet—a chance encounter with the prime reality's UNCANNY X-MEN—the Exiles entered a reality terrorized by a legendary heroic figure now twisted by evil—CAPTAIN AMERICA.

Years ago, Captain America was turned into a vampire by the monstrous villain BRON BLOOD. But Cap has long since surpassed his maker's evil by transforming the entire Avengers team into undead creatures, as well. Now, he plans to release an ancient enchantment that will convert all the inhabitants of San Francisco into mindless slaves.

Along with their newest member—the unpredictable, sword-wielding sorceress MAGIK—the EXILES attacked the Avengers in the midst of their devilish ceremony. As the battle ensued, the vampire Hawkeye struck down and bit Sunfire, while Mimic defeated Captain America by beheading the vampire leader.

But to the Exiles' dismay, Captain America reanimated himself right in front of them, reattaching his head while cackling with laughter.

Clearly, the battle has just begun.

SAN FRANCISCO

Surprised, Rankin?!

Decapitation can't destroy me! Or fire! Or sunlight! Or a stake through my heart!

I'M INDESTRUCTIBLE!

There are very few sights that can surprise Mimic.

Seeing Captain America as a vampire is definitely one of them.



Not to mention witnessing him re-attach his recently severed head.

Eh--? What idiocy is this?!



This is Sasquatch, Captain.

After kicking the butts of several of your Avengers...







I shall drink from your skulls.



But not tonight. This isn't over. After the enchantment is complete, this city will be mine!



And you will all serve your master!



My, my...he's certainly gotten into the spirit of this Vampire King thing, hasn't he?

He's always been strong-willed, Ilyana. I suppose he still is, just with a slightly...different agenda.

"A slightly different agenda"? You're big on understatements aren't you, Calvin?

Hey, Cal! Hurry, boss! Hurry!



Hawkeye just bit Sunfire! I think she's in shock!

I don't know if it's shock, Morph-- she got bitten by a vampire! I don't know what's happening to her!



Keep pressure on the wound, TJ!

Let's get her to a hospital.

Wait--we can't risk that much exposure. Let's try and contact the X-Men or someone--



Luhhhh...

Oh God--Mimic, she's changing into a vampire already!



Are you sure? Isn't it too soon? Shouldn't she have to be buried until the next sunrise or something?

This isn't Buffy the Vampire Slayer, Morph! This is real!



We need to get her to an expert. Teleport us to Lord Crichton's estate in England, Iillyana.

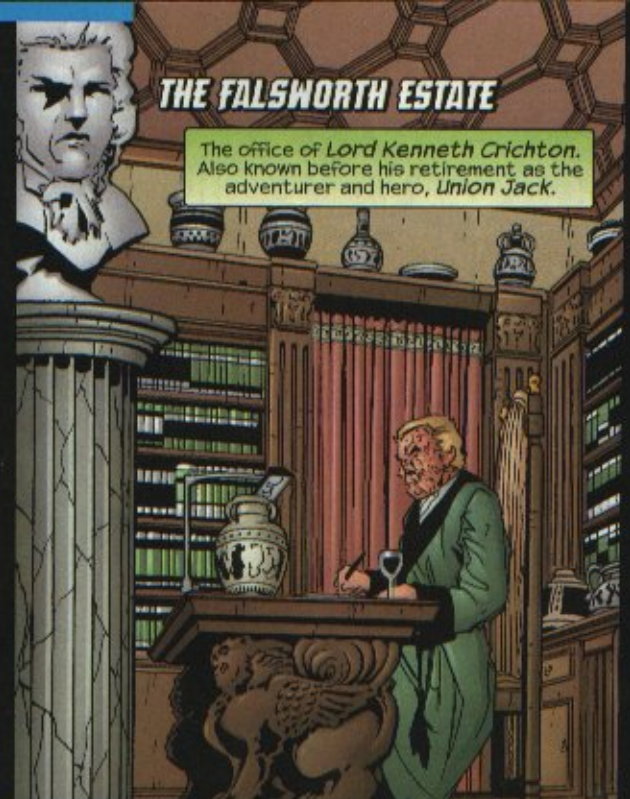
What?

Crichton was once Union Jack. His family has fought vampires for three generations--we need him.



I understand that, but--all the way to England? I can't teleport us all that far!

Just normal teleportation robs me of my strength! I'll be nearly defenseless if anything should--



THE FALSWORTH ESTATE

The office of Lord Kenneth Crichton. Also known before his retirement as the adventurer and hero, *Union Jack*.

Pip pip, cheerio. We're going to England.




Lord Crichton! We have need of your vast knowledge!

Oh, for God's sake, Calvin...

Crichton-- our teammate's been bitten by a vampire!

That's the way *normal* people say it.




Hmm. I gathered that, but the transformation is occurring *far* too rapidly.

See?!


I assume she was bitten by one of Captain America's *cursed Avengers*?

Quickly-- stake her through the *heart* before the beast takes her over!



Okay--u'see, the thing is--we don't *want* to kill our teammate.

Calvin, see if Mariko's oka--



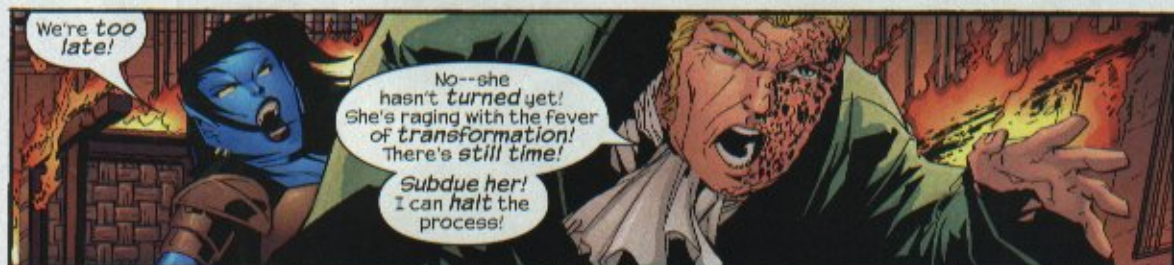
They've all been made by the *Vampire King* himself and are *very* potent.

Right, right, we get the lesson! The question is, what do we *do*?



AAAAARRGH!

BROODING



We're too late!

No--she hasn't turned yet! She's raging with the fever of transformation! There's still time!

Subdue her! I can halt the process!



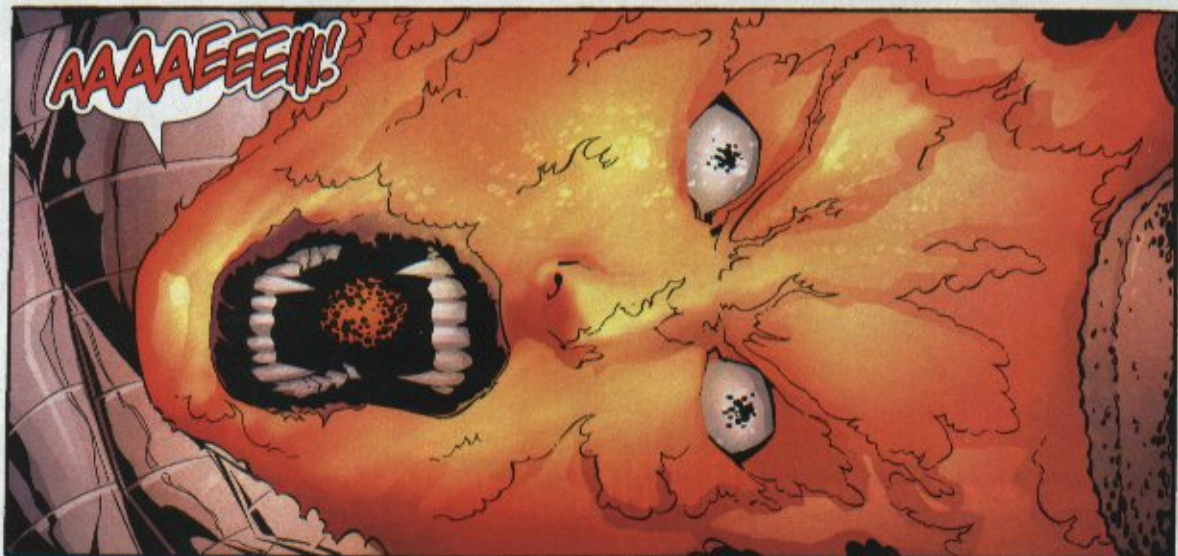
We'll do what we can!

WHUMP!



Hurry up, Morph! She can set blaze to a hundred-acre forest if she sets her mind to it!

Hey, I'm not doing her hair, Mimic-- I'm trying to give her a nerve pinch! I don't want--



AAAAEEEE!!!



Lord Crichton, are you all right?

I'm fine, damn it. But the east wing of the Estate has seen better days.



Stop her quickly--before the sunlight does her harm.



Sorry, kiddo.

WHUMP

LATER...

I've administered several anti-toxins that will *slow* the process of Mariko's full immersion into the *Nosferatu*.

The *Amulet of Quiox* will also temper its strength.



Unfortunately, the only way to ensure that she doesn't become a vampire is to sever the *bloodline* of her maker.

You must *Kill* Captain America...but this appears to be *impossible*.

Why?



Because from what you have told me, he has already begun the *Macodibe Enchantment*.

Not only will it *enslave* the entire city of San Francisco, but it will render him nearly *invincible*, as well.



Nearly?

Yes, nearly. He can only be struck down by one *rare* item--the *Soul Sword of Bata's Circle*.

But unfortunately, there are *very* few of them in existence, and they can only be found in the *deepest* reaches of Hades. I don't--



You mean one of these?



This pig-sticker of mine is one of them... *right?*



... Yes. That would be one of them.

Very good. I'll don my costume once again.

To San Francisco we go.



THREE HOURS LATER...

Golden Park, San Francisco.


The site of the de-consecrated tombs of the High Lord Kolock.

Speak to me, O great ones... here on the bones of your departed servant...


...bestow upon me--your faithful disciple-- the power of the mighty ones who came before us.

Lend me your great gift! Let me rule over them all!






Let me--the unchallenged champion of the *Walkers of the Damned*--let me rule over them *all*...




Give to me what is *mine!*


COOM!
COOM!
COOM!



"Make them *bend* to my *Will!* Let them heed my *every command!*"



Give me my *army* and let them know their *master!*



Hey, if I take this away, will you *please* shut up?



If *that* was the enchantment, then these old dark-god types could use a good copy editor.

But if you were just *spit-balling* that garbage, Cap, then you've got to get over yourself.

NO! You will not rob me of this, mutant!



No--she won't.



U-Union Jack--? Crichton?!

But I will.

Indeed, Rogers. It seems that your day of reckoning has arrived.



Stop them! The enchantment wasn't completed! We won't get another chance at this for a *century!*



A whole century? Sucks for you, huh? I get antsy between *Star Wars* sequels!

Sasquatch-- could you keep an eye on Sunfire while we beat the living hell out of these losers?

Yeah, I got her, Mimic. Go have fun.

You should have *never* come back, Crichton! You should have stayed in your dark little cave and licked your wounds!

You will regret ever daring to face me!

Hardly, Captain! Despite appearances, I have *always* had the upper hand! For I possess one character trait you so *desperately* lack--

--patience!





You've never been anything but bull-headed! Greedy!

I have waited for this moment for years!

Look at me now, Captain!

CRACK!



Feel it now!

BAM!

For this is the moment--







...The
**VAMPIRE
KING!!**



I was the
rightful heir after
my Great-Uncle
John, **Baron
Blood!**

Rogers
had *stolen* my
sovereignty! But
thanks to all of
you--I have
reclaimed
it!



And I can
think of *no* greater
way of *repaying* you
than by bringing you
into the *fold*!



BROOAP



HELLLOO!
Hey, gang!
HEY!

You can yell
all you like, Morph.
They aren't around.
It's just you and
me.

Crap. The last time this
happened we landed in the
Mojoverse. I hope the Timebroker
hurries the hell up this time before
I have to do some cheeseball
television show again...



Y'know...I
think we're in
Canada...

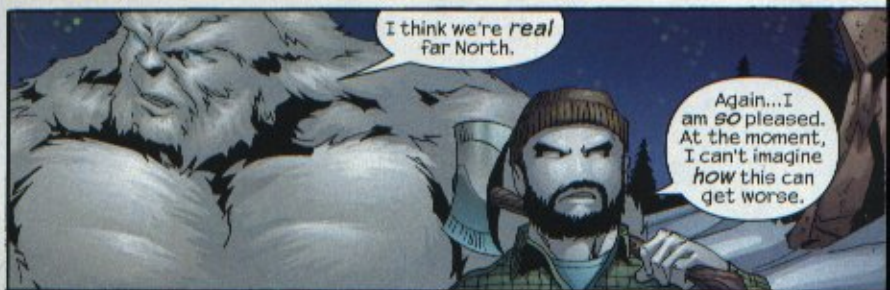
Great. We've
been derailed without
the Tallus, separated from
the team, and we're stuck in an
alternate reality--in Canada.

Maybe
we can go visit that
giant mail you guys have.



I think we're *real*
far North.

Again...I
am *so* pleased.
At the moment,
I can't imagine
how this can
get worse.



ROOOOOOOWWWRR!



Well...
I guess
I had that
coming.

Oh,
no...





It's
WOLVERINE!

Y'think he's
friendly?

Sure. He's
naked, drooling
and screaming. He's
probably going to
invite us out for
Chinese food.

**TO BE
CONTINUED!**