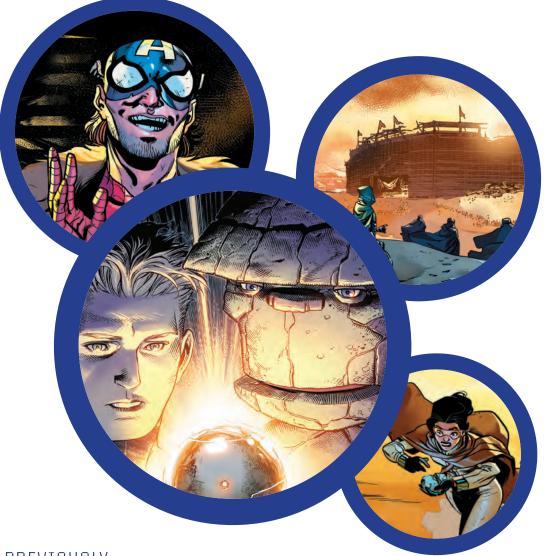


A brilliant scientist--his best friend--the woman he loved--and her fiery-tempered kid brother! Together, they braved the unknown terrors of outer space, and were changed by cosmic rays into something more than merely human! They became the FANTASTIC FOUR...but now that Reed and Sue Richards are gone, the world--and the family they left behind--may never be the same again!



PREVIOUSLY...

Doctor Doom alerted Ben Grimm, A.K.A. the Thing, to the existence of the Multisect, a device that Reed Richards left behind so the remaining members of the Fantastic Four could explore the wonders of the Multiverse together. Ben lied to a grief-stricken Human Torch about the Multisect's purpose, claiming that they could use it to find Reed and Sue, who Ben knows to be dead.

Together, they located the Multisect and recruited scientist Rachna Koul to help with their powers, which are failing in the absence of their beloved teammates. But Rachna was only using their dimensional trips to search for a new body for her comatose sister, and upon being found out, she teleported away, stranding Ben and Johnny in an apocalyptic world ruled by an evil version of Spider-Man.

