THE END OF THE MODERN AGE

the beginning of the post-modern
RECONSTRUCTING HEROES

recovering from the deconstruction
THE AGE OF NOSTALGIA

- 1994 - *Marvels* (Kurt Busiek & Alex Ross)

- 4 issue limited series - retold many of the most famous events in Marvel chronology

- told from the perspective of an everyman - a newspaper photographer who followed the exploits of the heroes who inhabited the world

- Signaled a desire for a return to a less complicated continuity.
BUT A DANGEROUS KID, STILL WET BEHIND THE EARS --

FOR PEACE' BUNK?

ASK SENATOR TOBEY -- ONCE FDR FINISHES CHEWIN' HIM UP!
-- OUR FIRE WAS HOTTER, AND WE WERE READY TO PROVE IT.

THEY'RE GOING TO NEED GOOD PHOTOGRAPHERS OVER THERE -- AND I'M GOOD!

THE NAME PHIL SHELDON MAY MEAN NOTHING NOW --
I'd have scoffed, too -- but I was doing my job, thinking a picture might make the back pages somewhere...

...so I was the only one looking directly at the thing --

When

It -- moved --?
NAMOR!

IT WAS AS IF EVERYTHING THAT HAD BEEN BREWING SINCE WE FIRST SAW THE

THIS STOPS...
CONTINUITY:

ASTRO CITY

- 1995 - Kurt Buseik & Brent Anderson (with painted covers by Alex Ross)
- Featured characters created in the mold of classic (Golden Age) Marvel & DC characters
- The series is an anthology that focuses on different characters living within Astro City, using a wide range of viewpoints.
- Combination of Golden/Silver Age & Modern Age ideas
1963

- Alan Moore - 1993
- 6 Issue limited series published by Image
- Affectionate (though sometimes biting) homage to Silver Age Marvel comics (and Silver Age industry)
- Included text pieces (a la Marvel’s Bullpen Bulletins), fictional letter columns, and period advertisements
“WHEN WAKES THE WAR-BEAST!”

SILURIAN SCRIPT BY AFFABLE AL MOORE
PRIMORDIAL PENCILS BY STURDY STEVE BISSETTE
ICE-AGE INKS BY DASHIN’ DAVE GIBBONS
LATE CRETAEOUS LETTERING BY DANDY DON SIMPSON
CRYPTOZOIC COLORS BY MERRY MARVIN KILROY
SUPREME

- Originally created by Rob Leifeld - a violent, egotistical Superman archetype
- Rebooted by Alan Moore in 1996
- Moore used Supreme to celebrate the Silver Age
- Each issue contained commentary on storytelling, comics history in general, and the Superman mythos in particular
Alternate Supremes, my whole identity seems confused and insubstantial.

Now my world's become as undecided as myself. My micro-sight reveals the very water-molecules within these clouds are fluctuating between states!

"Micro-sight"? How long have I had micro-sight?

I can't remember. So much of my history is a complete and perfect blank.

I don't know if I'm one thing or another... just like that eastern seaboard that I see beneath me!

But, as the gilded Goliath circles in the land...

EVENING GLOBE NEWSPAPER
HEROES REBORN

- 1996 - ongoing titles for Fantastic Four, Captain America, Iron Man, and The Avengers were cancelled

- Restarted at issue #1 - complicated alternate reality story-line

- Characters' origins and histories were revised and updated circa mid-nineties for modern audiences

- After a year, titles were re-integrated into the main Marvel continuity
JOE QUESADA

marvel reborn
Joe Quesada - Editor-in-Chief of Marvel (2000)

Has been involved in the creation of three successful imprints:

- **Marvel Knights** - aimed at older readers
- **MAX** - aimed at adult readers
- **Ultimate** - aimed at teen readers

Placed a greater emphasis on the sale of trade paperbacks
THE ULTIMATE BIRTH

birth of the ultimate universe
Intended to attract and serve new readers beyond the existing Marvel fan base

Stories and characters have been adapted to reflect the differences between the present and past continuities

Characters are generally more youthful

Characters with fantastical origins are re-imagined to fit a more plausible (by comic-book standards) framework

Edgier and more relevant story-lines