AVENGERS A.I.
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By Sam Humphries -

"Change can be accommodated by any system depending on it's rate," Crake used to say. "Touch your head to a wall, nothing happens, but if the same head hits the wall at ninety miles an hour it's red paint. We're in a speed tunnel, Jimmy."
           -- Oryx and Crake by Margaret Atwood

*"**The Collingridge dilemma** is a methodological quandary in which efforts to control technology development face a double-bind problem:*
           *-- **an information problem:** impacts cannot be easily predicted until the technology is extensively developed and widely used.*
           *-- **a power problem:** control or change is difficult when the technology has become entrenched."*

HARDER. BETTER. FASTER. STRONGER. When a brave new world threatens the Marvel Universe, Earth's Mightiest Heroes rise up to protect the future. AVENGERS A.I.

MISSION STATEMENT
The Singularity has hit the Marvel Universe -- a technological Pandora's Box that can never be closed. A new generation of A.I. is multiplying, evolving...reaching out to the real world. The future is here, and it is moving too fast. It is threatening our security, and our notion of what it means to be human.

AVENGERS A.I. are centrists, struggling with an information problem and a power problem. Neither futurists nor luddites, their mission is to foster a middle ground between evolution and stability -- to prevent both from becoming "red paint." Their goal is to maintain peace between the two worlds. But what if both worlds want war?

HANK PYM
Redefined after Age of Ultron as a "Real Genius" type figure. One of the top five geniuses in the Marvel Universe. Will defend his children -- the post-Singularity A.I. He achieved one of the most A bit of a smart ass. (Sketchy pending discussion with Mark tomorrow at Emerald City.)

THE VISION
The Android Avenger makes his return to the spotlight "a changed man." Right off the bat, he's got a new look and a new agenda -- and he's holding secrets about where he's been, why he's changed, and how he did it.

On a technological level, the Vision has been upgraded. Gone is the previous android body. The Vision's physical body is now in the form of a nano-swarm. To the naked eye, most of the time, he looks like a solid, humanoid android body. But he actually consists of a flock of tiny robots controlled and coordinated by

Vision's host intelligence. This gives Vision new abilities while mimicking the old -- he is now quite literally manipulating his density on a near-atomic level to pass through objects and increase his mass. He can also morph his physical form and split into multiple bodies.

But it comes at a cost. His processor speed is proportional to his nano-density. It's a Hulk-like effect. The more he divides himself, the more he spreads himself thin, the stupider he gets. Conversely, he can increase his density to increase his brain power -- but he also increase his vulnerability by becoming smaller, stiffer, and near-immobile.

At the end of the first arc of AVENGERS AI, the Vision has a new status quo and role in the Marvel Universe. He is a voice of reason in the physical world, speaking out against a tide of reactionary ignorance. Despite the hostile views of humanity against A.I.s, he still protects them, and his heroic deeds earns him some goodwill in the realm of public opinion. Within the Medium, he is also a heroic figure to his fellow A.I.s, offering a different path to Dimitrious' extremism.

MONICA CHANG

Head of S.H.I.E.L.D. Artificial Intelligence department. With a computer engineering degree from Stanford, Monica could have created a chain of startups in Silicon Valley. But as second generation S.H.I.E.L.D., she wanted to protect global security. For three years she has toiled in the A.I. department without recognition, tracking seemingly unconnected incidents with relentless intensity. She has been sounding the alarm bells warning of the coming singularity and A.I. crisis, only to be ignored by her superior. When the singularity hits, Maria Hill fires her superior, and puts Monica in charge of the department.

S.H.I.E.L.D.'s A.I. department is understaffed, underfunded, and suddenly at the center of one of the biggest security catastrophes in the world. Monica is smart enough to keep up, dedicated enough to never quit, and pragmatic enough to make the tough choices. Global security is her priority. Her job -- her responsibility -- is to track down and stop the post-singularity A.I., at any cost. She's a hawk who is sometimes blind to the costs of security. When the Avengers back Hank and the Vision, it sets up an uneasy power dynamic between her and them -- sometimes allies, sometimes antagonists.

VICTOR MANCHA

The cyborg offspring of Ultron, thus part of the Hank Pym family tree. Still a teenager, he is programmed to continuously evolve, surprising himself and others. Of the AIs on the team, he is the most comfortable adapting and improvising. He's a smart ass, a bit of a rebel, and a scrapper who jumps in feet first. His character is a "street-level" grounded counterpoint to his more brainy/ inhuman teammates. (He's also a bit of an in-universe superhero fanboy, which will be convenient for exposition.)

A version of Gertrude Stein from the future pegged a "Victorious"