# META 1: A Marvelous Puzzle

**ANSWER:** NEW YORK

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The first line of flavor text is a quote from *Avengers: Endgame*, which in conjunction with the title should hint you towards the MCU films. "Stan" also clues that the puzzle has something to do with Stan Lee. You should soon realize that each of the answers to the previous puzzle corresponds to a Stan Lee cameo in a specific MCU film:

**Veteran = *Avengers: Age of Ultron* (he plays a World War II veteran at the Avenger's victory party)**

**Barber = *Thor Ragnarok* (he appears as a servant to En Dwi Gast who cuts Thor's hair)**

**Hippie = *Avengers: Endgame* (he drives by the army base shouting, "Hey man, make love, not war!")**

**Watcher = *Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2* (he appears as one of The Watchers, a race of extraterrestrials who watch over the multiverse)**

**Actor = *Captain Marvel* (he is seen on a subway train practicing his lines from a screenplay)**

**King = *Iron Man 2* (he plays Larry King)**

**General = *Captain America: The First Avenger* (he plays a general in World War II, who mistakes another man for Captain America, commenting "I thought he'd be taller.")**

Once you figure out the movies, the phrase "both orders" clues to the fact that you need to sort the films into two different orders. The first is simply the release date of the movies:

*Iron Man 2* = 2010

*Captain America: The First Avenger* = 2011

*Avengers: Age of Ultron* = 2015

*Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2* = 2017

*Thor Ragnarok* = 2017

*Captain Marvel* = 2019

*Avengers: Endgame* = 2019

The second order is the date within the MCU where the cameo takes place. This is a little more complicated. It's important to keep in mind that you should just be looking at the date of the cameo and not the rest of the movie:

*Captain America: The First Avenger* = 1942

*Avengers: Endgame* = 1970

*Captain Marvel* = 1995

*Iron Man 2* = 2010

*Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2* = 2014

*Avengers: Age of Ultron* = 2015

*Thor Ragnarok* = 2017

Using the word search grid, you can now arrange the seven rows of letters into these two separate orders.  Upon doing this, you should be able to see that the diagonals going from the top left to bottom right corners in the grid spell out things that sort of resemble words:

**ITSHARE**

And

**SAMOTTO**

By putting these together and adding spaces, you reach the clue phrase:

**IT SHARES A MOTTO**

This entire puzzle centers around Stan Lee, who famously used the motto:

**EXCELSIOR**

With a little bit of research, you discover that another place shares this same exact motto, giving you the answer:

**NEW YORK**