

GIFFEN

DIVITO

VILLARI

ANNIHILATION™

MARVEL
LIMITED SERIES
4 of 6



ANNIHILATION



ANNIHILATION DAY

A DESTRUCTIVE FORCE PUNCTURES THROUGH THE EDGE OF OUR UNIVERSE AND SLAUGHTERS MILLIONS OF WORLDS. THE MOMENT THIS ANNIHILATION WAVE TORE INTO OUR UNIVERSE IS MARKED AS ANNIHILATION DAY. DAYS LATER, ANNIHILUS, THE WAVE'S UNDISPUTED RULER, REVEALS HIMSELF, CLAIMING THAT OUR UNIVERSE IS EXPANDING INTO—AND THEREBY DESTROYING—HIS OWN UNIVERSE.

ANNIHILATION DAY, PLUS 11

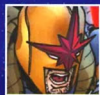
RICHARD RIDER, THE ONCE SUPER HERO CALLED NOVA, LINKS UP WITH DRAX THE DESTROYER AND CAMMI, AND THE TRIO ESCAPE THE ANNIHILATION WAVE.

ANNIHILATION DAY, PLUS 204

LED BY NOVA, WITH PETER QUILL, GAMORA, DRAX, AND RONAN SERVING UNDER HIM, THE UNITED FRONT IS LEARNING HOW TO DEFEAT THE WAVE. BUT THEY'RE NOT LEARNING FAST ENOUGH. NOVA'S SOLDIERS HOLD THE WAVE FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MONTHS—FINALLY, A VICTORY.

ANNIHILATION DAY, PLUS 212

THE VICTORY IS SHORT LIVED. JUST EIGHT DAYS LATER, THE UNITED FRONT FALLS. THE WAR IS LOST. NOVA HAS SUNDERED THE ALLIANCE AND ALL PARTIES GO THEIR SEPARATE WAYS. DRAX IS BELIEVED LOST DURING THE FINAL BATTLE. BUT DRAX IS A MACHINE BUILT TO SURVIVE AND TO DESTROY. HE HAS ONE PURPOSE. ONE MISSION. ONE DRIVING DESIRE. HE WILL KILL THANOS OR DIE TRYING...



NOVA



RONAN



DRAX



PETER QUILL



GAMORA



PHYLLA



ANNIHILUS



RAVENOUS



THANOS



GALACTUS



DELINQUENT



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FORMER SKRULL EMPIRE.
CAUL 7.
ANNIHILATION DAY, PLUS 216.

THE ANNIHILATION WAVE TENDS TO ACT AS ONE. THESE INSECTS SHARE A HIVE MIND. NO INDIVIDUAL INITIATIVE. NO ELEVENTH-HOUR HEROICS. MAKES THEM THAT MUCH EASIER TO KILL.

WHICH IS WHAT I'VE BEEN DOING SINCE GIVING CAMMI AND THE OTHERS THE SLIP AND STRIKING OUT ON MY OWN. KILLING. MORE TO THE POINT...

...KILLING MY WAY TO THANOS.

THANOS HAS BEEN MY DESTINY SINCE I WAS RESURRECTED BACK ON TITAN, GIVEN POWER BEYOND IMAGINATION, TURNED INTO DRAX THE DESTROYER, AND PROGRAMMED TO TAKE HIM OUT.

TO MY KNOWLEDGE, I AM THE ONLY THING THAT CAN ACTUALLY KILL HIM. SOMETHING THEY DID TO ME ALL THOSE YEARS AGO. I DON'T KNOW WHAT.

BUT EVEN IF I WASN'T TOLD, I CAN FEEL IT. I CAN KILL YOU, THANOS. AND I WILL.

I'D HOPED THE WAR WOULD PUT ME WITHIN STRIKING DISTANCE OF HIM. I WAS MORE THAN WILLING TO PLAY THE GOOD SOLDIER 'TIL THE RIGHT OPPORTUNITY AROSE.

THEN WE UP AND LOST THE WAR. NOW I'M ON MY OWN.



CAMMI WASN'T FOOLED.
CAMMI'S NEVER
FOOLED. SHE KNEW I
WAS BIDDING MY TIME.



I WON'T BE
COMING HOME.
BUT CAMMI
WILL LIVE ON.



NOT THAT SHE'D SEE IT THAT WAY.
ODDLY ENOUGH, I MISS HER, AND
THAT'S SOMETHING I THOUGHT I'D
NEVER FEEL AGAIN.



NEVER MUCH MISSED MY
DAUGHTER HEATHER.
THAT DISTURBS ME MORE
THAN I CAN TELL.

HEATHER'S MY BLOOD AND
THERE ARE MOMENTS WHEN
THE MEMORY OF HER CUTS
LIKE A KNIFE, BUT THOSE
ARE FEW AND FAR BETWEEN.



THANOS
TOOK HER. TOOK
HEATHER.

HE WILL
SUFFER
FOR THAT.



THANOS...

...MY
DESTINY.

KREE EMPIRE.
URUMIA MINOR.

ANNIHILATION DAY, PLUS 220.

"THE INITIAL SCOURING
OF THE PLANET CAUTERIZES
EVERY INCH OF THE SURFACE.

"ONCE CAUTERIZED, THE
PLANET ACTS AS AN INCUBATOR,
FOR LACK OF A BETTER TERM,
WHILE THE ENERGIES ABSORBED
DURING THE SCOURING PROCESS
BREAK DOWN THE PLANET'S
SUBATOMIC STRUCTURE.

"MATTER CONVERTS TO
ENERGY, MORE PRECISELY,
COSMIC ENERGY. WHEN THE
CONVERSION REACHES
CRITICAL MASS, THE COSMIC
ENERGY IS RELEASED--AND
THE PLANET IS DESTROYED.

"THE RELEASED COSMIC
ENERGY IS HARVESTED--
DRAWN INTO GALACTUS--
AND HE CONSUMES IT.

"A FASCINATING
PROCESS.

"ALL I'VE DONE IS DIVERT
THE FLOW OF COSMIC
ENERGY. EASILY ENOUGH
DONE, ONCE I HAD ACCESS TO
GALACTUS' OWN EQUIPMENT.

"GALACTUS IS AS MUCH A PART
OF THE PROCESS AS THE
TECHNOLOGY HE EMPLOYS. I'D
LONG SUSPECTED AS MUCH.

"I TOOK THE LIBERTY OF
CREATING A PLASMA SHUNT.
THE SHUNT FEEDS GALACTUS
A STEADY TRICKLE OF COSMIC
ENERGY, ENOUGH TO KEEP HIM
ALIVE, NOWHERE NEAR
ENOUGH TO KEEP HIM HEALTHY.

"IT APPEARS THERE
ARE CONSTANTS IN
THE UNIVERSE, NOW
MORE THAN EVER...

"...GALACTUS
MUST FEED."



IT WOULDN'T DO
TO HAVE HIM STARVE
TO DEATH BEFORE HE'D
SERVED HIS PURPOSE,
ANNIHILUS.

COSMIC
ENERGY IS
DIVERTED HERE?
ALL OF IT?!

ALL BUT THE
TRICKLE NEEDED TO
KEEP THE DEVOURER
ALIVE AND THE
SILVER SURFER
IN STASIS.

Revelation

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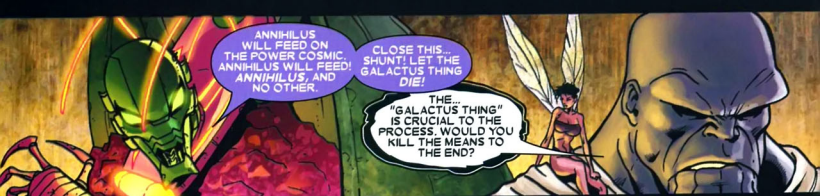
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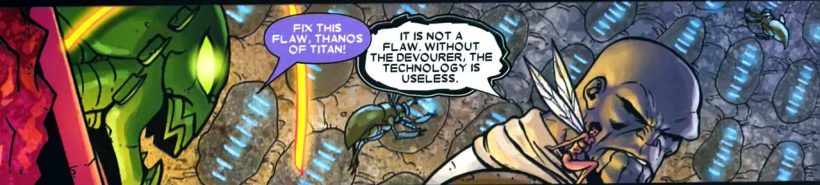
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ANNIHILUS WILL FEED ON THE POWER COSMIC. ANNIHILUS WILL FEED! ANNIHILUS, AND NO OTHER.

CLOSE THIS... SHUNT! LET THE GALACTUS THING DIE!

THE "GALACTUS THING" IS CRUCIAL TO THE PROCESS. WOULD YOU KILL THE MEANS TO THE END?



FIX THIS FLAW, THANOS OF TITAN!

IT IS NOT A FLAW. WITHOUT THE DEVOURER, THE TECHNOLOGY IS USELESS.



SEE THAT THIS... "PROCESS" CONTINUES UNIMPEDED UNTIL MY CHAMBER IS FILLED TO BRIMMING.

KNOW THAT I AM DISAPPOINTED BY THIS, TITAN. DO NOT TEST THE LIMITS OF MY PATIENCE.



DULY NOTED.



NOTHING TO ADD, MOONDRAGON?

I WILL SEE YOU DEAD, THANOS.

AH, MOONDRAGON... EVER THE OPTIMIST.

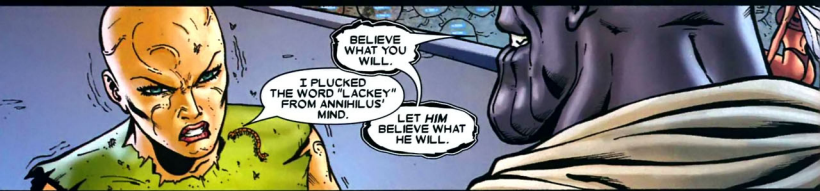


HATES HER! HATES THE BALDY MOON LADY! ALWAYS WITH HER NASTY PEEPERS ON, LOOKING BADNESS AND WOE AT US!

THERE, NOW YOU'VE UPSET SKREET.

WHEN DID IT HAPPEN, THANOS?

WHEN DID YOU TURN INTO A LACKEY?



BELIEVE WHAT YOU WILL.

I PLUCKED THE WORD "LACKEY" FROM ANNIHILUS' MIND.

LET HIM BELIEVE WHAT HE WILL.



WHAT'S IN THIS FOR YOU?

MUST THERE ALWAYS BE AN ULTIMOR MOTIVE?

FROM YOU? YES.

THE CONTROL BUGS ARE UNCOMFORTABLE, AREN'T THEY?



WHAT ARE Y--
H-NGHYAAAA!

THE INFESTATION. YOU NEVER REALLY GET USED TO THEM UNDER YOUR SKIN, DO YOU?



IT'S REALLY QUITE INGENUOUS. TECHNOLOGICALLY-BRED PARASITES THAT NEST WITHIN BIOLOGICAL FORMS AND, IN NESTING, COMPROMISE MUSCLE CONTROL.

HOW DOES IT FEEL TO BE A PRISONER IN YOUR OWN BODY?

**GYAA!
EEEEAH.**



IT COULD BE WORSE. MUCH WORSE. FORTUNATELY FOR YOUR COMFORT, SUCH AS IT IS, I FIND YOUR TELEPATHIC TALENTS USEFUL.

DRONES, SEE TO HER PHYSICAL PAIN AND BRING HER TO MY QUARTERS NOW.



I'VE FAITH IN YOUR TALENTS, MOONDRAGON. DAUGHTER OF DRAX. YOU WILL TELL ME WHAT YOU HAVE GLEANED FROM ANNIHILUS' MIND. THEN I WILL ACT.

MILKY WAY GALAXY, SOL SYSTEM.
EARTH.
ANNIHILATION DAY, PLUS 220.





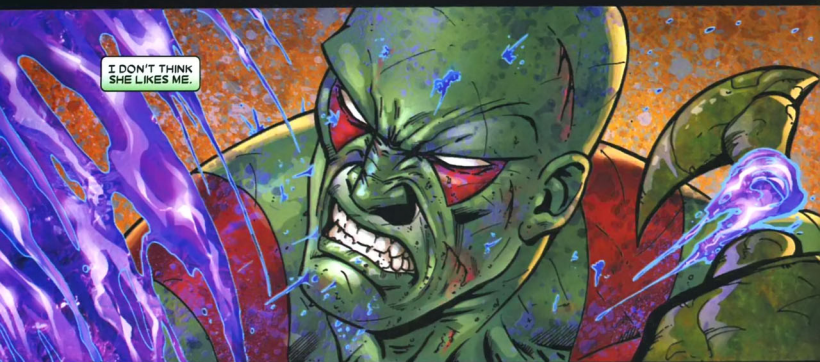


THE CLOSER I GET TO
THANOS, THE MORE HE
RESONATES IN MY HEAD.
UNPLEASANT DOESN'T
BEGIN TO DESCRIBE
THE FEELING.



I DRAW WHAT
COMFORT I CAN
FROM THE KILLING.
IT'S NOWHERE
NEAR ENOUGH.

KILL IT! IT
THREATENS ERADICA,
MOST BELOVED OF
THE LORD ANNIHILUS!
KILL IT OR KNOW
ANNIHILUS' RAGE!



I DON'T THINK
SHE LIKES ME.



WRETCHED
MEAT-THING! YOUR
WAR IS LOST! THE
LORD ANNIHILUS IS
THE BE-ALL AND
END-ALL!



NO! YOU
DON'T DARE! YOU
CANNOT! ERADICA
IS MOST BELOVED!
ERADICA IS--



DEAD.

CHKKT!

CHKKT!

GLK!

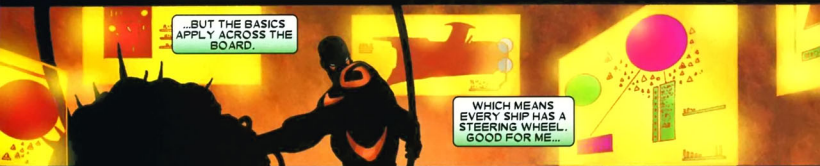
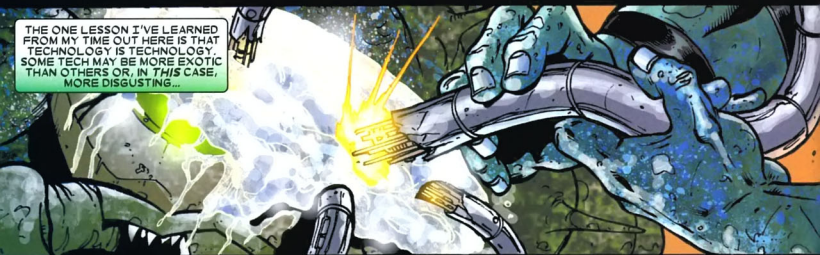


KKKKKKK--

SHKKLT-TK-KK



ERADICA IS--





REPEAT IT,
MOONDRAGON.
JUST AS YOU PLUCKED
IT FROM HIS MIND.

I'VE ALREADY
TOLD YOU, ANNIHILUS'
MIND... "BUZZES" BEST
DESCRIBES IT. PARSING
ANYTHING OF USE
FROM THE CHAOS--

REPEAT
IT!



IT'S NOT
TEXT! IT'S CLOSER
TO VISUAL SHORTHAND.
I CAN'T VERBALIZE...

ASK THREE
TELEPATHS TO SCAN
THE SAME MIND AND YOU'RE
LIKELY TO GET THREE
WILDLY DIVERGENT
RESPONSES.

WHAT
WAS YOUR
IMPRESSION?

THIS
ISN'T ABOUT
CONQUEST.



YOU
UNDERESTIMATED
HIM.



GIVEN THE
OPPORTUNITY...
WOULD YOU
KILL ME?

IN AN
INSTANT.



I AM ABOUT TO
GIVE YOU JUST THAT
OPPORTUNITY.

LET
ME SEE HIS
MIND.

"YOU WERE
RIGHT. IT
BUZZES..."

LIFE
THREATENS!

LET ALL KNOW
THAT ANNIHILUS
IS THE ONE TRUE
LIFE-FORM!

IT EXPANDS!
THE OTHERVERSE
EXPANDS INTO THE
NEGATIVE ZONE!

LIFE
THREATENS!

COSMIC ENERGY
SUSTAINS... PROLONGS
THE LIFE MOST DESERVING!
THIS OTHERVERSE... THE
FONT FROM WHICH THE
SUSTENANCE FLOWS!

HOARD
IT! DRINK OF
IT AND LIVE
FOREVER!

LIFE
THREATENS!

THE GALACTUS
BEING WILL BE MADE
THE CATALYST!

LIFE
THREATENS!

COSMIC ENERGY
BINDS ALL THINGS OF
THIS OTHERVERSE... LET
THE GALACTUS CREATURE
IGNITE A CONFLAGRATION,
LET THIS OTHERVERSE
BE CONSUMED!

ANNIHILUS
ALONE
SURVIVES!

THE
OTHERVERSE DIES,
SO TOO WILL THE
NEGATIVE ZONE. LET
THE OPPOSING
FORCE SWEEP IT
CLEAN!

THE
VOID IS OF
ANNIHILUS!

ALONE
SHALL ANNIHILUS
RULE THE VOID...

... AND KNOW
PEACE.





ENOUGH!



YOU IMPLANTED A FAIL-SAFE. ONLY YOU CAN FREE GALACTUS. OR WAS THAT JUST TO INSURE I DIDN'T HIT YOUR "OFF SWITCH" WHILE I WAS IN THERE?

I AM THANOS. I PLAN FOR EVERY EVENTUALITY, HOWEVER IMPROBABLE.

DID YOU FIND WHAT YOU WERE LOOKING FOR?

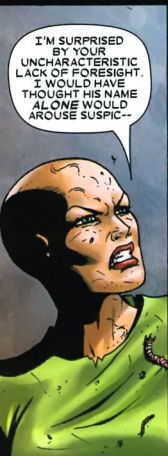
YOU KNEW WHAT I'D FIND, BUT TELLING ME WASN'T ENOUGH, WAS IT?



AND DENY YOU THE FULL IMPACT OF IT? YOU UNDERESTIMATED ANNIHILUS.

HE'S TURNED GALACTUS INTO A... A COSMIC BOMB!

A UNIVERSE-WIDE EXTINCTION EVENT...THE CREATURE IS MAD.



I'M SURPRISED BY YOUR UNCHARACTERISTIC LACK OF FORESIGHT. I WOULD HAVE THOUGHT HIS NAME ALONE WOULD AROUSE SUSPIC--



I WILL NOT BE DISRESPECTED BY THE LIKES OF YOU!

HNGH!



BOTH UNIVERSES PURGED OF ALL LIFE. THIS ONE AND THE NEGATIVE ZONE.

THIS ENTIRE WAR IS A SHAM!

ANNIHILUS HAS ALREADY WON.



THEN WE
ARE, ALL OF US,
FROM LOW-BRED
BADOON TO HIGH-
CASTE SHI'AR,
DOOMED.



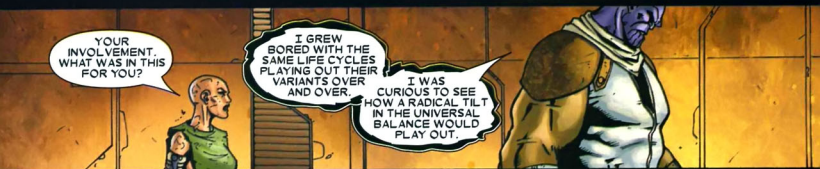
NO. I WILL
NOT ABIDE IT. WHAT
THANOS HAS WROUGHT,
THANOS CAN
SUNDER.

NO ONE
PLAYS THANOS
FOR A FOOL.
THERE WILL BE
A RECKONING...



YOU
NEVER ANSWERED
MY QUESTION.

OH? AND
WHICH QUESTION
WOULD THAT BE?



YOUR
INVOLVEMENT.
WHAT WAS IN THIS
FOR YOU?

I GREW
BORED WITH THE
SAME LIFE CYCLES
PLAYING OUT THEIR
VARIANT'S OVER
AND OVER.

I WAS
CURIOUS TO SEE
HOW A RADICAL TILT
IN THE UNIVERSAL
BALANCE WOULD
PLAY OUT.



THAT'S
IT!? YOU WERE
CURIOUS?



YOU MUST ADMIT,
EVEN GIVEN CURRENT
CIRCUMSTANCES, IT IS
FASCINATING.

VERGE SYSTEM 001.
HANDAR CLUSTER.
ANNIHILATION DAY, PLUS 220.

...JUST ABOUT
THE STUPIDEST
IDEA I'VE EVER
HEARD.

YOUR
POINT
BEING?

I WISH
I'D THOUGHT
OF IT.

ALWAYS
ROOM FOR ONE
MORE, GAMORA
DARLIN'.

YOU'VE
ALREADY
GOT ONE TOO
MANY.

YEAH,
PHYLA.

CAMMI,
I THINK SHE
MEANS YOU.

WELL,
DUH!

PLAY IT SMART
AND IT DOESN'T
HAVE TO BE A
SUICIDE MISSION.

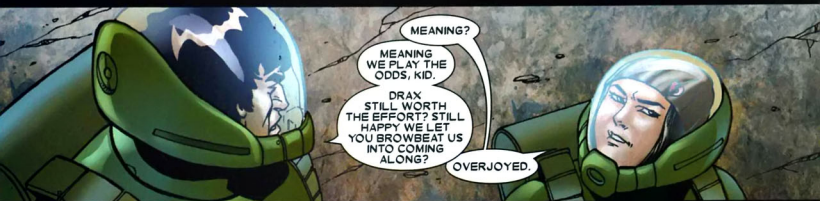
YOUR LIPS
TO OUR EARS,
SEXY LADY.

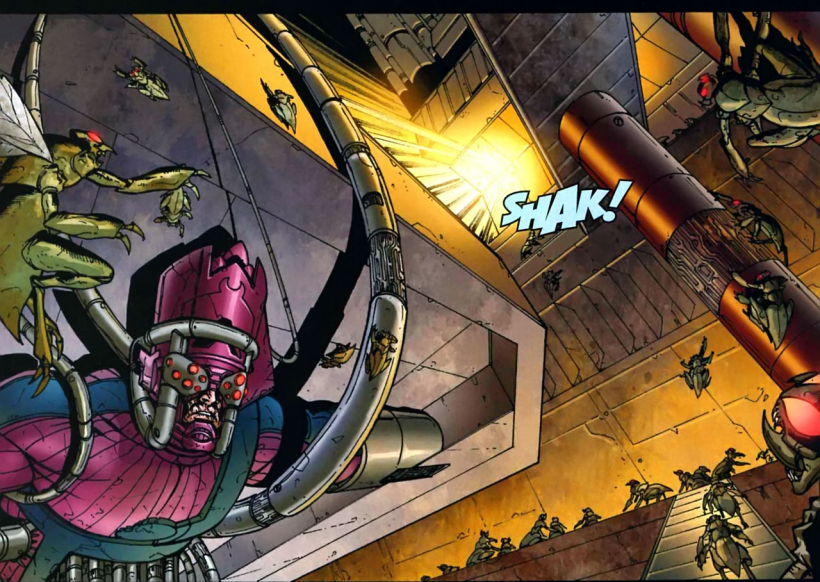
YOU DIDN'T
HAVE TO START
HERE, RICHIE.

WHERE ELSE,
PETER? THIS IS
WHERE IT BEGAN
FOR ME.

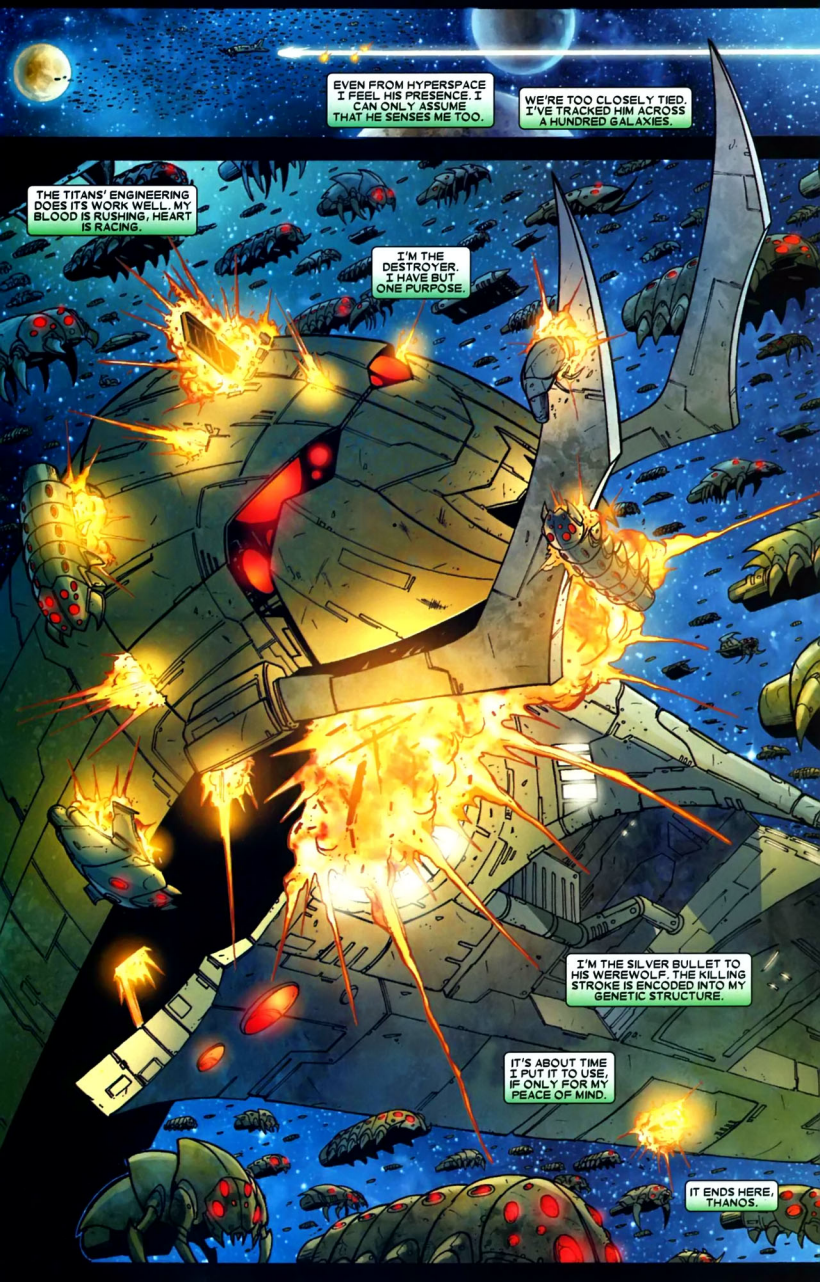
HATE TO BE THE
ONE TO BRING THIS
UP, BUT AREN'T WE
KINDA STRANDED
HERE?

LAST
TIME I CHECKED,
SPACESHIPS WERE IN
VOGUE WHEN IT CAME
TO... OH, I DUNNO...
TRAVELING IN
SPACE!?









EVEN FROM HYPERSPACE
I FEEL HIS PRESENCE. I
CAN ONLY ASSUME
THAT HE SENSES ME TOO.

WE'RE TOO CLOSELY TIED.
I'VE TRACKED HIM ACROSS
A HUNDRED GALAXIES.

THE TITANS' ENGINEERING
DOES ITS WORK WELL. MY
BLOOD IS RUSHING, HEART
IS RACING.

I'M THE
DESTROYER.
I HAVE BUT
ONE PURPOSE.

I'M THE SILVER BULLET TO
HIS WEREWOLF. THE KILLING
STROKE IS ENCODED INTO MY
GENETIC STRUCTURE.

IT'S ABOUT TIME
I PUT IT TO USE,
IF ONLY FOR MY
PEACE OF MIND.

IT ENDS HERE,
THANOS.





DRAX!
DON'T!

ALL THIS
TROUBLE JUST TO
GET TO ME, SHOULD
I BE FLATTERED?



FATHER!
LISTEN TO ME!
STOP FOR
JUST--

THIS CANNOT
BE RUSHED. KEEP
HIM FROM ME UNLESS
YOU WOULD SEE
TWO UNIVERSES
DESTROYED.



YOU
CANNOT!
YOU MUST
NOT!

ONLY
THANOS
CAN DEFEAT
ANNIHILUS!



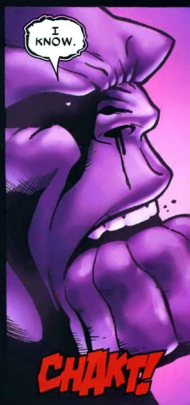
ONLY
THANOS
CAN--

WUNK!

WUNK!



GIVE
ME A DAMNED
MOMENT,
DESTRUCTOR!
I MUST FINISH
THIS.





INTERESTING.



NEXT ISSUE:

