

MARVEL

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LGY#111

ZDARSKY
PÉREZ
BLEE

MARVEL

2

IN ONE

THE THING

AND

MR. FANTASTIC!



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BONUS DIGITAL EDITION — DETAILS INSIDE!

Reynolds
2018



JULIUS!
COME ON!



WE GOT
FOUR TEEVEES
TO GET THROUGH
BEFORE THE END
OF THE DAY!



PAST TENSE

CHIP
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THE **Fantastic Four** ARE BACK!

The Thing and the Human Torch have been traveling from dimension to dimension using 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.

They found themselves stranded in an apocalyptic world ruled by an evil version of Spider-Man, and their SOS messages reached the Mad Thinker, whom they defeated and left behind when they returned to Earth.

And they weren't the only ones who returned--Reed and Sue are back at last, and Marvel's First Family is reunited! But why did they split up in the first place?

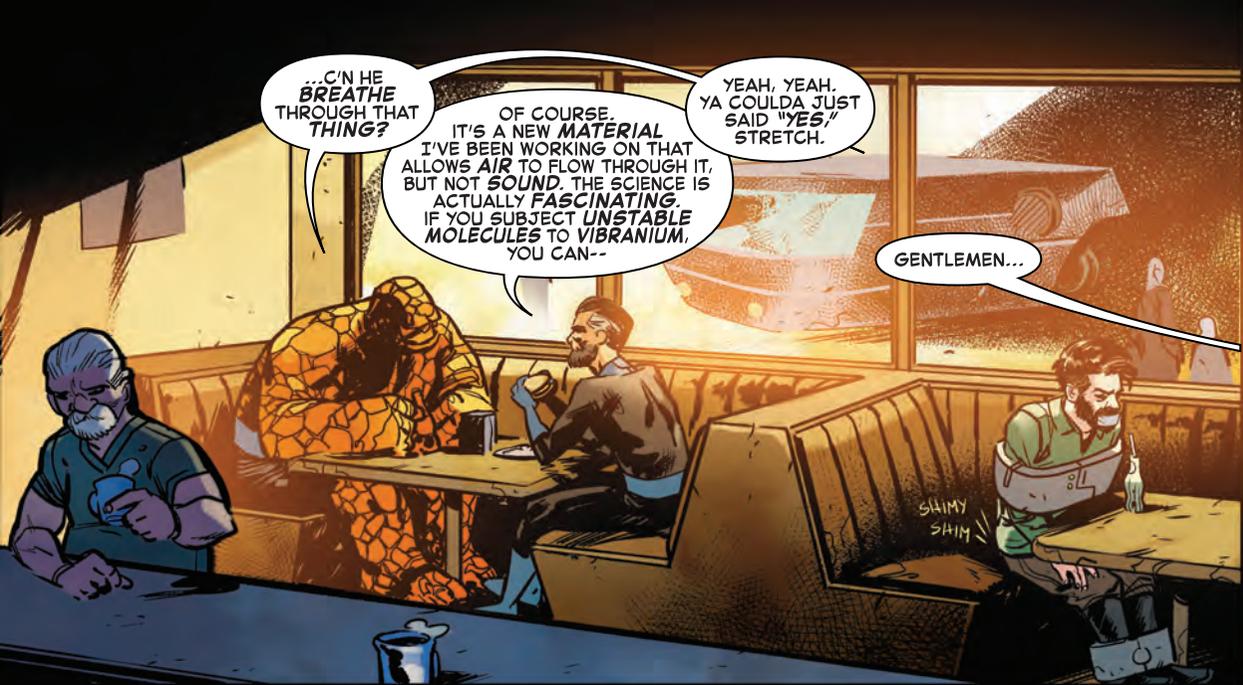
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FANTASTIC FOUR CREATED BY STAN LEE & JACK KIRBY



...C'N HE BREATHE THROUGH THAT THING?

YEAH, YEAH. YA COULDA JUST SAID "YES," STRETCH.

OF COURSE. IT'S A NEW MATERIAL I'VE BEEN WORKING ON THAT ALLOWS AIR TO FLOW THROUGH IT, BUT NOT SOUND. THE SCIENCE IS ACTUALLY FASCINATING. IF YOU SUBJECT UNSTABLE MOLECULES TO VIBRANIUM, YOU CAN--

GENTLEMEN...

SHIMY SHIM



...HOW ARE THE BURGERS?

BEN HERE WAS SPOT-ON WHEN HE SAID THESE WERE THE BEST IN THE MULTIVERSE, MS. WILKINS--

OH, PLEASE, IT'S MARGOT. BEN TOLD ME ALL ABOUT YOU, REED...I MEAN...



...BESIDES THE FACT THAT YOU WERE ALIVE AND HAVE SUPER-POWERS...

HEY! I DIDN'T KNOW!



I'M SURE IT PROBABLY FELT LIKE THE BEST MOVE AT THE TIME, TO LEAVE THE MAD THINKER HERE, BUT HE'D ONLY GROW TO TORTURE SOMEONE ELSE'S WORLD AFTER A WHILE.

BRINGING HIM BACK IS THE MOST ETHICAL THING TO DO.

YEAH...



...WISH YOU WOULD'VE BEEN HERE TO GUIDE US WITH YER GREAT ETHICS...





BEN, IF YOU'RE--

WE WERE HERE FOR WEEKS.

'CAUSE WE WERE LOOKIN' FER YOU.



JOHNNY WAS AT *ROCK BOTTOM*, AND I WASN'T FAR BEHIND. WE WERE STRANDED, POWERLESS, HOPELESS. JUST THINKIN' THIS WAS IT.

COULDN'T EVEN USE OUR *REAL NAMES* CAUSE'A THE DANGER WE WERE IN.



IF WE *DIED* HERE, WE WOULDN'T HAVE EVEN BEEN BURIED UNDER OUR *REAL NAMES*, REED.

"HERE LIES DAN WE-DIDN'T-CATCH-HIS-LAST-NAME. HE WORKED IN TH' MILL."



BEN...IF I'D *KNOWN* YOU WERE HERE, IN THAT *SITUATION*, I WOULD HAVE MOVED HEAVEN AND EARTH TO--

WHY?

WHAT DO YOU--

WHY...



...WHY DID YA LEAVE US BEHIND?

ME AND JOHNNY...



...LET'S... PAY UP AND GET BACK TO THE *MULTICAR*...

"...THERE'S SOMETHING ELSE THAT I WANT TO SHOW YOU..."

SO, WHAT'S THIS? YA TAKIN' ME TA SOME GALACTIC FLOWER STORE FER MILKY WAY PETUNIAS TA SAY YER SORRY?

THIS IS UNIVERSE F-266, A PLANET CALLED **HYZOR**. SUE AND I TOOK THE KIDS HERE TO RESEARCH THE **SYMQUA**.

THE WATER HERE, BELIEVE IT OR NOT, IS **SENTIENT**. WATER FEEDS THE PLANT LIFE, CREATING A **SYMBIOTIC** RELATIONSHIP.

THE QUESTION OF COURSE WAS, IS IT A **SINGULAR** SENTIENCE, OR **MULTIPLE**, AND HOW DO THE DIVISIONS AND MINGLINGS OF THE SOURCE LIQUID WORK IF THAT'S THE CASE?

BUT IT ENDED UP BEING MORE COMPLICATED AND **FASCINATING** THAN THAT...



PALEVSKY'S THEORY POSITS A FORM OF LIFE THAT IS A **SINGULAR SENTIENCE**, WHERE PARTS OF ITS **CONSCIOUSNESS** GROW--

--AND BECOME **INDIVIDUALISTIC** WITHIN THE ONE ORGANISM, IN THIS CASE: **WATER**.

NOW, WHEN THE **NEWLY DEVELOPED CONSCIOUSNESS** DEVELOPS ENOUGH, IT **BIFURCATES**, AND GOES TO **INHABIT PLANT LIFE**--

--SO THE **NEW QUESTION** WAS: IS THE **INHABITATION** **MUTUALISTIC**, **COMMENSALISTIC** OR **PARASITIC**?

PERHAPS THE **BLAH** AND THE **WHATEVER** WITH THE **THINGABOB** AND THE **WHATSACALLIT**--





--BEEP BOP SCIENCE I LOVE SCIENCE AND, UH, BEN?

BEN?
DID YOU HEAR ANY OF THAT?



UH, SOME?

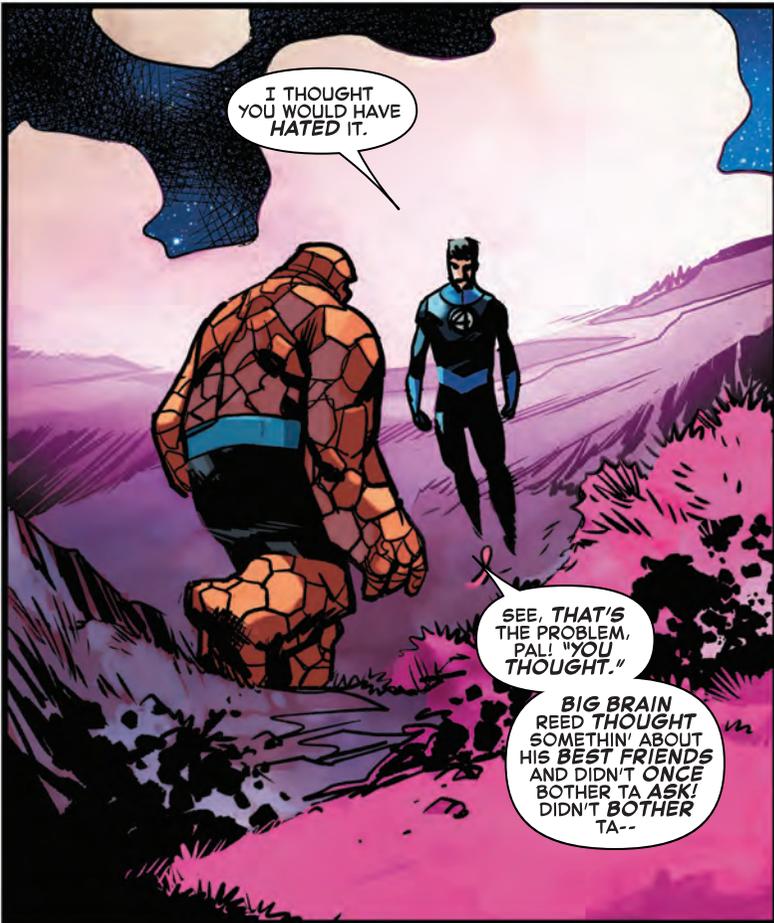
SORRY, STRETCH. I FORGOT HOW BORING YOU CAN BE...



THIS IS PART OF WHY SUE AND I JUST TOOK THE KIDS. I KNEW IT WOULD BORE YOU AND JOHNNY TO TEARS. AND WE WERE DONE WITH BEING... WELL, SUPER HEROES.

LIFE AS THE FANTASTIC FOUR WAS SUPPOSED TO BE ABOUT BEING EXPLORERS, BUT IT ENDED UP BEING ABOUT PUTTING OUT FIRES, HEADING INTO DANGER, READY TO SAVE EVERYTHING AND EVERYONE...

SUE AND I JUST... WE JUST WANTED TO SHOW THE KIDS THE MULTIVERSE, TO QUIETLY STUDY PLANETS LIKE THESE, TO WATCH EXPLODING STARS FROM SAFE DISTANCES. JUST THE SCIENCE OF EVERYTHING.



I THOUGHT YOU WOULD HAVE HATED IT.

SEE, THAT'S THE PROBLEM, PAL! "YOU THOUGHT."

BIG BRAIN REED THOUGHT SOMETHIN' ABOUT HIS BEST FRIENDS AND DIDN'T ONCE BOTHER TA ASK! DIDN'T BOTHER TA--



OOPS.

BEN...



...I THOUGHT IF IT WAS JUST US AND THE KIDS, EVERYTHING WOULD BE JUST SCIENCE, NO LIFE-THREATENING PREDICAMENTS...