

One thing I love about comicbooks is the sheer sense of scale that can be created with nothing more than printed ink on a page. If you can draw it, it can happen. Last issue, we had the Silver Surfer "surf" a moon smack into Galactus' head. This issue, it's not perhaps quite so unique but it still is as impressive and epic as ever-- Galactus consuming an entire planet and the scores of refugees forced to flee in their makeshift armada. I hope I never become too jaded a comic reader to not be impressed by Galactus the mother-#@%#!\$ World Eater. (That last sentence is more impressive if you read it in Samuel Jackson-voice.) The art helps not only because of its imagination, but also because of its vibrancy in color and staging. The colors pop, of course, in signature Allred style, but there's a crazy amount of different panel angles. A particularly effective one is the growing momentum of the people calling out to Galactus, then focusing on Galactus' mouth (certainly a key feature for the Devourer) for the single "no." The emotional beats are rung with the extreme emotions painted on people's faces, none the least of which is the Surfer's important realization/declaration and Dawn's emotional wringer. In other words, we don't just have action happening on the large scale, but also melodrama. The Surfer, a person always concerned about his "humanity" is thrust to confronting his responsibility as Herald and its consequences, without the support from his human anchor, Dawn. It's at that point that he realizes what's essentially missing. Is this suggesting that love is a key ingredient to humanity? And is it selfish for the Surfer to want this love, to allow Dawn to not make the choice he himself made years ago? It's a bit plot-convenient that Galactus would be so petty as to want revenge on Earth by taking Dawn as a Herald for no reason but Earth was the "one that got away." This seems to imply that Galactus gets ... something out the relationship of his Herald, as if there is something "distinctive" to the Herald him/herself that Galactus would desire. This starts to enter the realm of "magic" in a way and usually we readers want a bit more, for lack of a better term, rules to explain why this particular action could play out. It doesn't fit, really, with the depictions we have had of Heralds before, and perhaps humanizes Galactus in a way that also doesn't fit with his portrayal as a truly alien being. And overall, while I certainly want to read on to see the ramifications of all of this, I'm a bit worried that this will drag out for too long. If, for example, the series has to take a few months as the Surfer seeks out new worlds for the refugees, that's not necessarily the way this series was growing to become, nor might it a book I would want read. Let's wait and see. The post Silver Surfer #10 appeared first on Weekly Comic Book Review.

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