

THE NETHER REALMS.

GALACTUS THE **WORLD-EATER** HAS BEEN IMPRISONED **OUTSIDE** OUR UNIVERSE. **ZOLOZ**, A MISGUIDED SORCERER, **BANISHED** HIM TO THE **MYSTIC REALMS** BELIEVING IT WILL SAVE HIS PLANET.

HE IS
MISTAKEN.

TO UNLEASH A PRESENCE SO **DEFINED** BY SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY INTO A MAGICAL PLANE UTTERLY **DEVOID** OF THOSE CHARACTERISTICS TIPS THE BALANCE OF ALL **EXISTENCE**.

THE MULTIVERSE IS SAFE ONLY SO LONG AS I CAN RETURN GALACTUS BEFORE SCIENCE AND MAGIC **COLLIDE...**

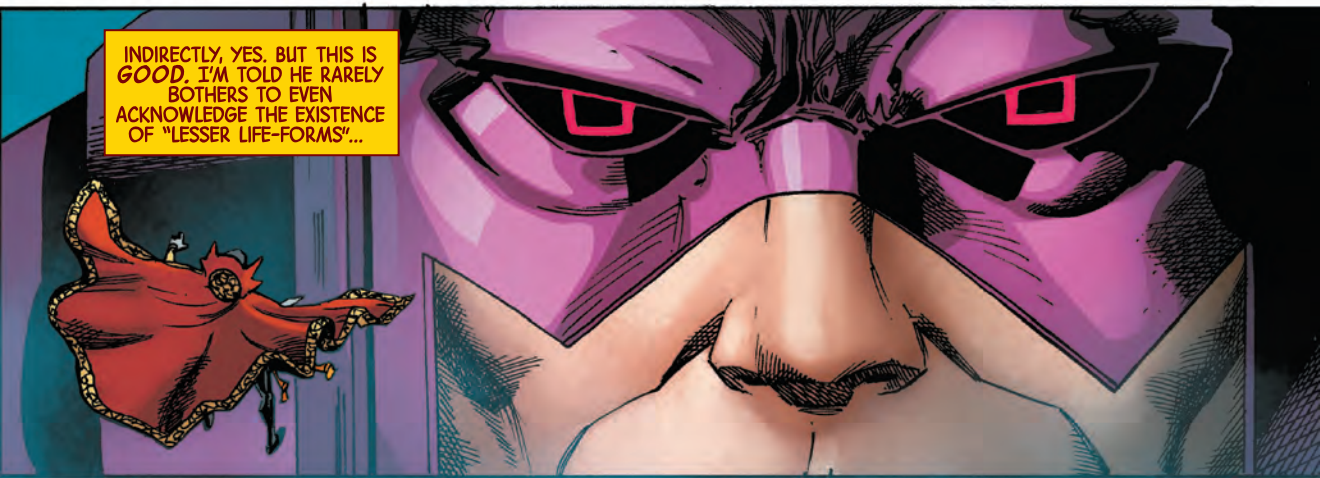
...AND I'M NOT SURE I CAN.





GALACTUS!
HEAR ME! I AM
STEPHEN STRANGE
OF THE PLANET
EARTH! I--

WAS IT YOU
WHO SENT ME TO
THIS PLACE?



INDIRECTLY, YES, BUT THIS IS
GOOD. I'M TOLD HE RARELY
BOTHERS TO EVEN
ACKNOWLEDGE THE EXISTENCE
OF "LESSER LIFE-FORMS"...



...WHICH, I PRESUME, IS WHY
HE'S CONFUSING ME WITH
ZOLOZ. HE DOESN'T BOTHER
TO DIFFERENTIATE BETWEEN
HUMANOIDS ANY MORE THAN
I DO INDIVIDUAL ANTS.

ANOTHER DID
THIS. A FOOL. AND
HIS ACTIONS HAVE PUT
YOU AND ME BOTH IN
A PRECARIOUS
POSITION.

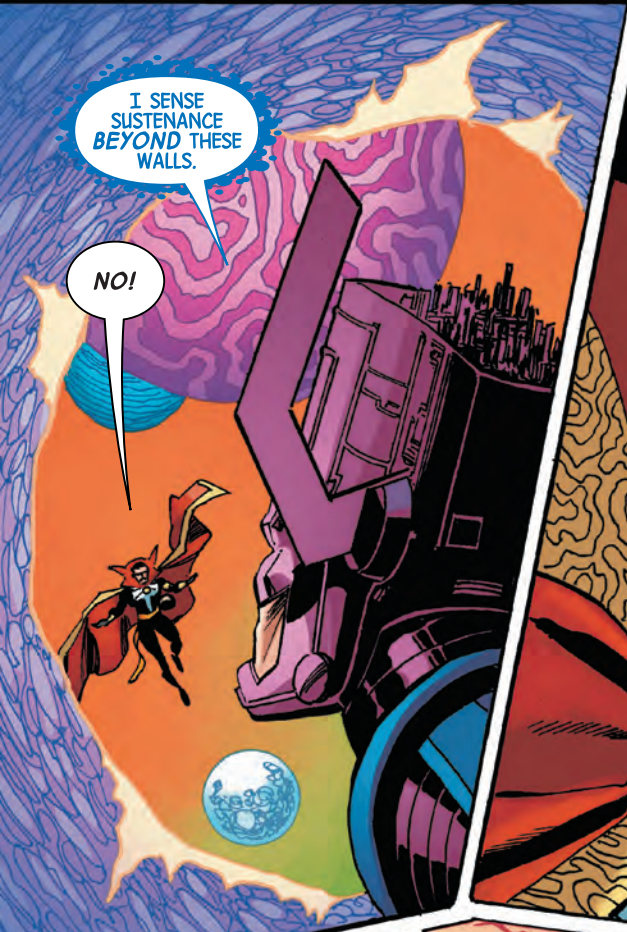


GALACTUS
HUNGERS. THE
PITIFUL MORSELS IN
THIS PRISON WILL
NOT SUSTAIN
ME.

NO, BUT THEY
WILL POISON YOU.
YOU MUST STAY
HERE UNTIL I SECURE
PASSAGE HOME.

YOU DO
NOT SEEM TO
UNDERSTAND.

GALACTUS.
HUNGERS.



I SENSE
SUSTENANCE
BEYOND THESE
WALLS.

NO!



YOU'VE NO
IDEA WHAT YOU'RE
STEPPING INTO!

FOR THE
GOOD OF ALL
CREATION, I CANNOT
ALLOW YOU TO MOVE
FREELY THROUGH THE
MYSTIC DIMENSIONS!



AWAY.



AAGGHHH!

SPEAKING OF
HOW WE
TREAT ANTS...

STRANGER!
WHOEVER YOU BE,
YOU ARE NOT WELCOME
IN MY KINGDOM!

MISAN-HA-
GORATH.

I DIDN'T REALIZE
WE WERE ON THE
EDGE OF HIS
TERRITORY, BUT
THIS IS A LUCKY
BREAK.

IF ANYONE CAN PUT
GALACTUS IN HIS PLACE,
IT'S
THE BEAST OF PAIN.



WHAT...?



YOU HAVE
ERRED.

YOU HAVE
GIVEN ME A TASTE
OF THE VAST
ENERGIES THAT LIE
INSIDE YOU.



YEEAARGGH!

I WOULD
HAVE THEM
ALL.



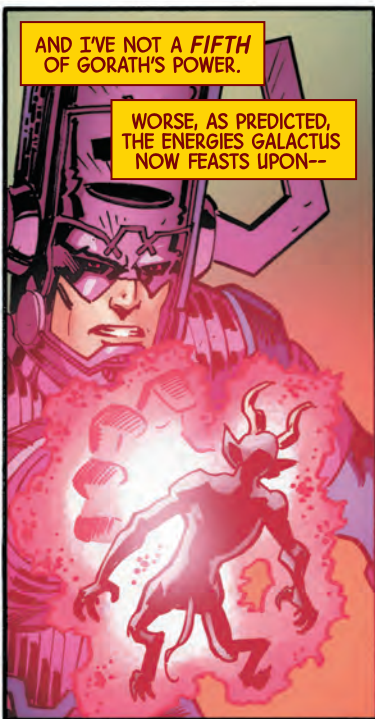
NUUH--

STORIES EXIST OF GORATH HOLDING HIS OWN AGAINST THE *LIVING TRIBUNAL* AND THE *OTHER COSMIC ABSTRACTS*.



--NNGGH!

GALACTUS BREAKS HIS BONES LIKE KINDLING.

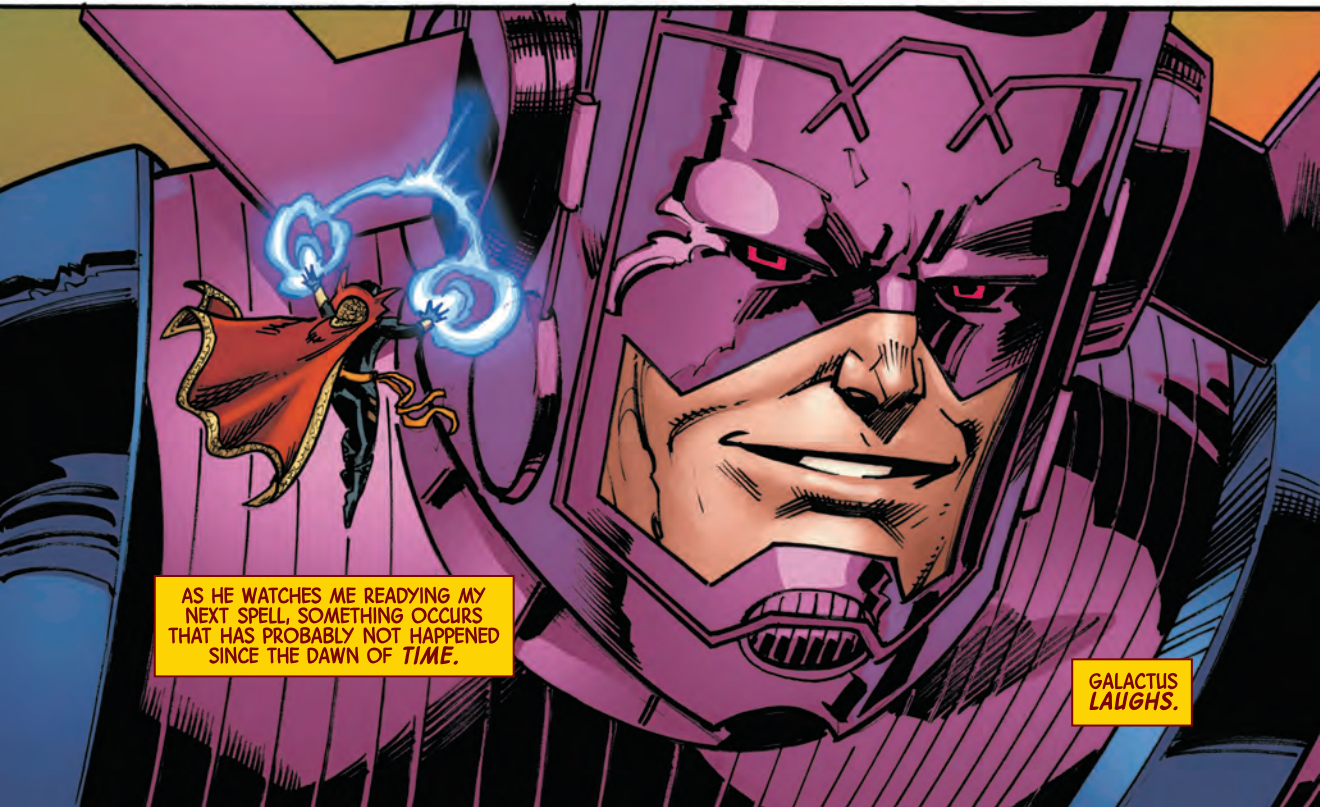


AND I'VE NOT A *FIFTH* OF GORATH'S POWER.

WORSE, AS PREDICTED, THE ENERGIES GALACTUS NOW FEASTS UPON--



--THEY'RE STARTING TO *UNBALANCE* HIM. *CHANGE* HIM.



AS HE WATCHES ME READINGY MY NEXT SPELL, SOMETHING OCCURS THAT HAS PROBABLY NOT HAPPENED SINCE THE DAWN OF *TIME*.

GALACTUS LAUGHS.