

HOWARD the DUCK



HEY, YOU LOOK LOST, IS EVERYTHING ALL RIGHT? THIS IS **HOWARD THE DUCK #5**. NO, **GWENPOOL** IS NOT IN THIS ONE...WE HAVE **THE GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY** THOUGH! REMEMBER? THEY WERE THE LAST-PAGE REVEAL OF ISSUE #3?

THEY SHOWED UP WITH **TARA, SHOCKET,** AND **LINDA** TO RESCUE HOWARD FROM **THE COLLECTOR**. SHOCKET AND LINDA ARE THE TIME-DISPLACED CLONES OF HOWARD AND **ROCKET RACCOON**. ANY OF THIS RINGING A BELL YET?

THE COLLECTOR WANTS HOWARD BACK IN HIS COLLECTION. GALACTUS' BIGGEST FAN, **SCOUT**, WANTS HOWARD BECAUSE HE'S RECENTLY BECOME A **"LIVING NEXUS"** (TRANSDIMENSIONAL GATEWAY TYPE THING). IF YOU WANT TO START LOOKING FOR BACK ISSUES, FEEL FREE, BUT JUST FORGING AHEAD IS FINE, TOO.

SO IS THIS CONCUSSION-RELATED OR WHAT? YOU'RE JUST BAD WITH NAMES? I KNEW A GUY WITH LEGIT FACE BLINDNESS ONCE. HE WAS COOL.

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HIGH OVER COLLECTON.



Whatta revoltin' development.

"Sure, let *Thing* join your group! You won't get sick of his catchphrases *immediately!*"

PSHEW PEW



Hey! What am I *supposed* to call a development this revoltin', ya dumb raccoon??

Flash! You holding up back there?

BEERBEEP BEEP
AROOGA AROOGA



Y-yeah...=nnnh=... just a normal day... plugging a hole in a spaceship...left by a silver duck...



Well, the good news is you won't have to do it for long! Bad news?--



--It's 'cause we're about to crash-land on *Collecton*, a planet filled with creatures who are *already shooting at us*.

I am Groot.

Oh man... Howard? I hope you're holding your own down there against The Collector...



...waugh...

Howard.

Or should I say...

...Artifact G5-18-2E18?

CHIP & JOE & STAN LEE & PRESIDENT OBAMA PRESENT...
COLLECT CALL TO ARMS!



My life is collecting. And my collection--this *world* containing my collection--trumps all.

You were a part of that collection, and I swore you would be part of it again.

And yet, even with your uniqueness--your *usefulness*--currently at an all-time high as a *Living Nexus*...



...I'm *still* strongly considering killing you...

gkk...Well, between you and me...and the year I've been having...

...I'm gkk strongly considering letting you...



...but not--just--yet!

FZWOONN



Ngh!

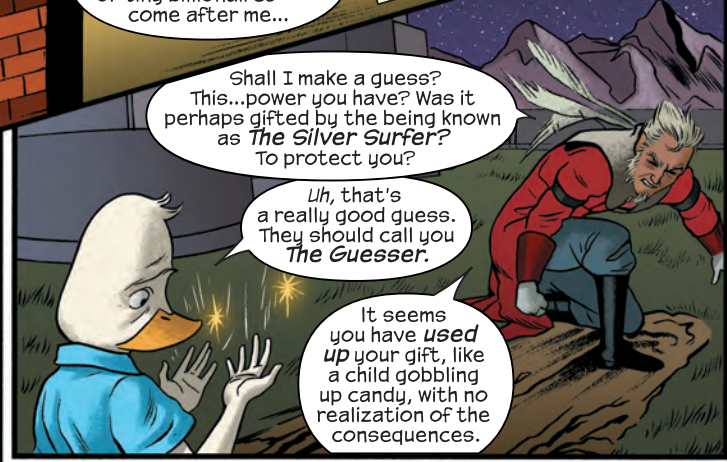
Tszchamm

Ha! No matter how many cosmic weirdos* or daytime werewolves** or tiny billionaires*** come after me...

*Every issue. **Not sure. ***Next issue!



...I'm still standing, pal! Still...uh...still...



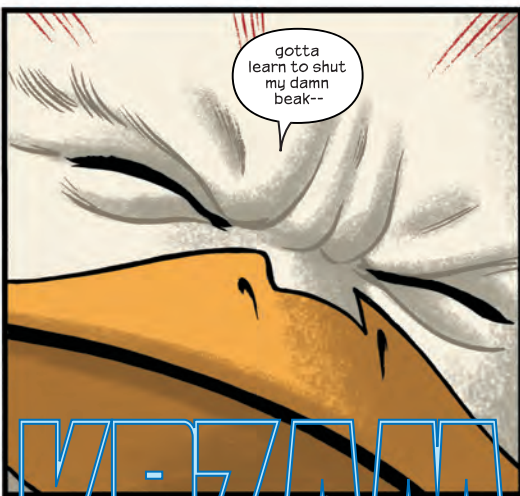
Shall I make a guess? This...power you have? Was it perhaps gifted by the being known as *The Silver Surfer*? To protect you?

Uh, that's a really good guess. They should call you *The Guesser*.

It seems you have *used up* your gift, like a child gobbling up candy, with no realization of the consequences.



Shame.



gotta learn to shut my damn beak--

WAAAAA
WAAAAA



...uhhhhh...

Hm. I see...



...my board has taken a liking to you, little one.

What did we miss?



Norrin Radd.

And Scout, pal! Herald to Galac--

You dare come to my home? To meddle in my affairs?

That I do, Taneleer Tivan. Your unconscionable "prison planet" has been excused and ignored for far too long!

Your newfound conscience is a nuisance, Radd. The universe can do without it...



...and you!