

THE SILVER SURFER

THE PLANET OF DR. MOREAU

(#1875-05)

WRITTEN BY

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REVISED PAGES *
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THE SILVER SURFER

"THE PLANET OF DR. MOREAU"

TEASER

FADE IN:

EXT. DEEP SPACE

Quiet and peaceful, the stars like jewels set against a black velvet backdrop. Suddenly, what looks like a new star appears as the SILVER SURFER WARPS IN.

SILVER SURFER (V.O.)

Nooo...!!!

It is mere moments since he learned the fate of Zenn-La, and the Surfer streaks TOWARD US, growing larger and larger, as, CRYING OUT:

SILVER SURFER (V.O.)

(continuing)

The universe has been torn asunder! Once again, am I betrayed!

ANOTHER ANGLE

Careening crazily with his board, the Surfer zigs and zags through the heavens.

SILVER SURFER (V.O.)

I am free now -- but where do I go? What do I do...?

AN ASTEROID BELT

A wide field of space rocks of various sizes. Some are like pebbles, others are the size of moons. The Surfer soars into it unheeding.

SILVER SURFER (V.O.)

No longer do I have a place in the cosmos! I have nothing, no one...!

An asteroid comes straight at him. The Surfer and his board fly right over it.

CLOSER ON THE SILVER SURFER

Filled with frustration and torment, he FIRES TWIN ENERGY BLASTS, one from each hand.

SILVER SURFER (V.O.)
Galactus has taken my world from
its rightful orbit! He has hidden
both my home and my beloved...!

A PAIR OF ASTEROIDS

The Surfer's BLASTS EXPLODE them into bits as:

SILVER SURFER (V.O.)
Galactus! Return Zenn-La...!

WIDER

Consumed by his feelings, the Silver Surfer continues
BLASTING away as:

SILVER SURFER (V.O.)
Give me my Shalla Bal!

Again he BLASTS, this time hitting:

A LARGE ASTEROID

The size of a small moon. It EXPLODES into jagged, flaming
fragments, and we ANGLE WITH the largest of them as they
hurtle toward:

THE LANDING

A space station cobbled together from old starships and other
connecting structures. We can SEE various small ships in the
docking bays.

THE SILVER SURFER

Sees what's going on. He stops BLASTING.

SILVER SURFER (V.O.)
What am I doing? I am a man of
peace, not anger...!

Veering off, he soars from the asteroid belt.

SILVER SURFER (V.O.)
(continuing)
Galactus, for all your great
power, never will you succeed in
making me a base creature of
destruction...!

Catching a COSMIC WAVE, the Surfer increases his speed, soaring toward:

THE LANDING

From within, O.S., EMERGENCY SIRENS SOUND, and we

CUT TO:

INT. THE LANDING - PROMENADE - DAY - OBSERVATION DOME

Through it, we SEE both the asteroid fragments and the Surfer, drawing nearer and nearer as:

ALIEN MAN (V.O.)	ALIEN WOMAN (V.O.)
It's the Silver Surfer! He	He's going to do the same
and Galactus wiped out my	thing to this Landing!
world!	

WIDER

The place is like a mall -- but on a universal scale, complete with businesses, shops, eating and sleeping places.

Its inhabitants are an exercise in intergalactic culture shock: Men, women, and who-knows-what-else of every race and species. Air-breathers...water-breathers...giant mobile crystals...tiny fairylike flyers...monstrous blobs of flesh -- and everything in between.

All of them are panicking now, running for dear life and crying out in terror:

SECOND ALIEN MAN	ALIEN MAN
Got to get to my ship!	Take me with you -- please!

The NOISE OF A HUNDRED DIFFERENT KINDS OF ALIEN COMMUNICATION BLENDS IN WITH THE CONTINUING SIRENS, everyone fleeing toward the docking bays, as we

CUT TO:

EXT. DEEP SPACE - THE ASTEROID FRAGMENTS

Barrelling toward the station. We WIDEN TO SEE the Surfer desperately trying to close in on them.

SILVER SURFER (V.O.)
I must stop what I so foolishly
began -- before it is too late!

And, as he continues through an area of COSMIC DUST, we HEAR:

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4.

ETERNITY (O.S.)
The Silver Surfer, my sister!
Mark him well! He could be the
one we seek!

The voice is spectral, ominous. We WIDEN as the dust expands into a shimmering translucent outline of stars, like a living constellation. This, we will learn, is ETERNITY, one of the most powerful of all intergalactic beings, his body the sum total of all matter and space.

Another translucent outline appears beside him, made up of streaking, spiralling patterns: Eternity's sister, INFINITY, her body comprising all of time.

INFINITY
I have grave doubts, my brother.

ETERNITY
But you know how highly the
Watcher regards him!

INFINITY
(snorting derisively)
How can we rely on the Silver
Surfer to protect the universe --
when even now his misplaced fury
is causing such tragedy?

THE LANDING AND THE ASTEROID FRAGMENTS

Mere instants away from what appears to be a deadly -- and inevitable -- impact as we

FADE OUT:

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

EXT. DEEP SPACE - THE LANDING

The flaming asteroid fragments are almost at the space station when, suddenly:

THE SILVER SURFER

Carves a course between the station and the fragments and FIRES TWIN ENERGY BLASTS at:

THE ASTEROID FRAGMENTS

EXPLODE into a huge ball of fire!

WIDER

As the EXPLOSION spreads, a tongue of flame engulfing first the Surfer, then the nearest docked ships.

CLOSER ON THE SHIPS

One after another they too EXPLODE in a devastating chain reaction! We WIDEN as the EXPLOSIONS FILL THE SCREEN. Then:

ANOTHER ANGLE

The EXPLOSION fades -- and we FIND the Surfer on his board, shaken. Behind him, parts of the surface of the space station have been charred, while others still glow like RED EMBERS. The Surfer's silver body is covered with soot.

SILVER SURFER (V.O.)

This is the use to which I put the
power cosmic? Violence?!
Destruction...?!

CLOSER ON THE SILVER SURFER

He looks down at himself, and his entire body GLOWS, the soot DISSOLVING so that the Surfer gleams once more.

SILVER SURFER (V.O.)

I must do all I can to make amends.

He swoops into the nearest docking bay, and we

CUT TO:

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6.

INT. THE LANDING - PROMENADE - DAY - A DECK

Still smouldering from the near-miss outside. EXTRA-TERRESTRIAL HUBBUB is OVER everything, and we WIDEN TO SEE everyone milling around. Suddenly, the NOISE STOPS as:

THE SILVER SURFER

Steps onto the Promenade, board in his hand. Any being unlucky to be near him stops in his or her tracks and slinks away. The Surfer looks out at:

THE SILVER SURFER'S POV - PROMENADE

In spite of all the different lifeforms present there are only two expressions for the Surfer to see: Fear and loathing.

A fishlike creature lets out a LOW WHISTLE of contempt. The THIRD ALIEN MAN turns to it.

ALIEN MAN

I didn't know you were acquainted
with his mother.

BACK TO THE SILVER SURFER

Reacting as though struck. Uncertain of what to do, he tries to call out:

SILVER SURFER

People of this station...I offer
my apologies --

From O.S., we hear a SHRIEK, and the Barlowe-like ALIEN WOMAN bursts from the crowd and runs toward him.

ALIEN WOMAN

You destroyed them all! You and
Galactus...!

Disheveled and blind, she finds the Surfer with her hands. Tears stream from her unseeing eyes.

ALIEN WOMAN

(continuing)

My family is gone!

The Surfer stares, dumbfounded. The crowd picks up the Woman's words:

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7.

ALIEN MAN
Get out of here! Go!

SECOND ALIEN MAN
You bring misery wherever
you go! You're a plague!

ANOTHER ANGLE

The Alien Woman clutches at the Surfer, and he regards her helplessly.

SILVER SURFER
You do not understand --

The NOISE GROWS LOUDER, and he breaks off. Then, realizing:

SILVER SURFER
(continuing)
You are blind. Perhaps I can
help...

He reaches out, touches her head. From the crowd:

SECOND ALIEN MAN
He's attacking her!

The crowd surges forward, then stops when the Surfer doesn't move. He concentrates, and we TIGHTEN ON his eyes. They GLOW with the power cosmic, a BEAM OF LIGHT SHINING from them to:

THE ALIEN WOMAN

Her face is BATHED IN THE LIGHT FROM THE SURFER'S EYES. The LIGHT STOPS, and she blinks -- and stares in wonder.

ALIEN WOMAN
I...can see -- !

WIDER

The crowd responds with LOUD HUBBUB, but then:

ALIEN WOMAN
But none of my loved ones is left
for me to look at -- and sight
won't bring them back!

She beats uselessly at the Surfer's chest, and we TIGHTEN ON his face as:

SMASH CUT TO:

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8.

INT. GALACTUS' SHIP - (FLASHBACK)

As Galactus looms over the Silver Surfer.

GALACTUS

You must go. And with you take
the power cosmic.
Not as my blessing, but as my
curse.

(beat)

Let us see if those for whom the
Silver Surfer has been so willing
to sacrifice can ever overcome
their fear and hatred of you.

The SOUND OF GALACTUS' LAUGHTER COMES OVER everything as we

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. THE LANDING - PROMENADE - DAY - (END OF FLASHBACK)

Exhausted, the Alien Woman collapses in a heap. The crowd surges forward to help her, and his mind reeling, the hapless Surfer backs away, to:

INT. THE LANDING - SPACE CAFE - DAY

The Silver Surfer finds himself in a small, crowded cafe. Most of the patrons stand near the entrance, where they've been watching what's happened in the Promenade.

Unlike those in the Promenade, though, these beings are a disreputable lot, heavily armed with blasters, laser swords, or neural whips. They regard the Surfer appraisingly, as though waiting for him to make his move.

ANOTHER ANGLE

The Surfer looks at the others uncertainly. Behind the bar-like counter, the Cotati BARTENDER, with his many branch-like arms, snatches up as many bottles as he can as, quickly:

BARTENDER

Please...no trouble. Drinks're on
the house.

SILVER SURFER
I need neither food nor drink.
(realizing)
However, I do require
information -- about the planet
named Zenn-La.

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9.

A NEARBY TABLE

Where RAZE, a mean-looking Skrull who we will later learn is a bounty hunter, sits at a holographic card game with three other equally nasty-looking compadres. He frowns angrily, and rises from the table.

RAZE
Zenn-La? What does the herald of
Galactus want with a world his
master has already decided is
inedible?

THE SILVER SURFER

Turns toward the big Skrull.

SILVER SURFER
No longer do I serve Galactus. I
merely seek to return to my
homeworld.

RAZE
(furious)
So that's why Galactus turned
away! Your planet bought him off
by providing you to take him to
other victims instead!

SILVER SURFER
That was never the intention --

RAZE

The Skrull takes a challenging step toward the Surfer.

RAZE
Intentions mean nothing, Surfer.
My nest brother foolishly believed
all the lies about Zenn-La...

As Raze speaks, we TIGHTEN ON his hand. Stealthily, it moves toward his belt -- and the blaster that's there.

RAZE (O.S.)
Husserl went to Zenn-La intending
to find peace --

WIDER

The Surfer is shocked to hear the name -- and pleased as well.

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10.

SILVER SURFER
Husserl! I knew him as an
honorable man --

RAZE
RAZE (ALTERNATE
LINE)
His honor got him killed -- His honor earned him an
! early end -- !

Raze's hand is at his blaster. Quickly, he draws it and
FIRES! The CHARGE hits the Surfer in the chest -- and
bounces right back into the Skrull!

NEW ANGLE

The Skrull goes flying back onto another table, the others
there collapsing on top of him. Furious, he throws them
off -- and SHAPE SHIFTS into a large, bear-like CREATURE.

ROARING, the Raze/Creature charges, swiping with extended
claws at:

THE SILVER SURFER

Not moving. He barely blinks as Raze's claws SHATTER on his
face, leaving absolutely no mark.

WIDER

Raze's ROAR TURNS INTO A HOWL OF PAIN, and he staggers away.

SILVER SURFER
I am sorry about your brother.
(beat)
But you are wrong about Zenn-La...

Raze SHAPE SHIFTS back into his normal form. Unrepentant:

RAZE
It's not over yet! You and your
cursed world betrayed the entire
universe to stay alive, and, by
the Hive Mother, I'll make you pay!

For a short beat, it looks as though the fight is going to start all over again. But:

BARTENDER (O.S.)
Silver Surfer...!

THE BAR

As the Bartender emerges, waddles nervously toward the Surfer.

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11.

BARTENDER
I heard a rumor that there's
someone from Zenn-La on a
backwater Kree planet called
Morovus, in the Iwanter Quadrant.

SILVER SURFER
You are certain of this?

BARTENDER
(quickly)
I swear!

The Bartender's many arms are busy -- ushering the Surfer to the door. The Surfer hesitates, and the Bartender tenses -- until, clasping the Bartender's hand gratefully, the Surfer leaps onto his board and soars out the door!

We HOLD ON the Bartender as he heaves a very heartfelt, very relieved, and very LOUD SIGH...

EXT. THE LANDING - THE SILVER SURFER

Soars from the main docking bay.

SILVER SURFER (V.O.)
Scarcely can my mind accept what
I have just heard...!

WIDER

As the Surfer's speed increases

SILVER SURFER (V.O.)
It is one thing for the Silver
Surfer to be reviled, but never
could I have imagined that Zenn-La
would be the object of such
detestation and scorn!
(beat)
Truly, it is as though the very

order of the cosmos is being
turned upside-down...

And as the Silver Surfer FORESHORTENS INTO WARP we

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. SOLAR SYSTEM OF MOROVUS - THE SILVER SURFER

WARPING IN just past a dense orange sun. He gazes around,
getting his bearings.

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12.

SILVER SURFER (V.O.)

So this is Morovus...

Continuing away from the sun, the Surfer looks out at:

THE SILVER SURFER'S POV - MOROVUS

A small, reddish world with deserts of crimson sand and
rugged scarlet mountains.

SILVER SURFER (V.O.)

The planet itself appears
primitive, with no sign of
civilization...

As the Surfer looks on, a Kree freighter takes off from the
surface of Morovus, flying toward:

EXT. MOROVUS' MOON - DAY

Site of a sprawling, advanced, industrial-military compound
that resembles a glorified refinery -- and which proudly
bears the KREE EMBLEM.

SILVER SURFER (V.O.)

The Kree, however, have dominated
most of the universe for millennia!

The freighter goes into orbit around the moon, and a host of
smaller ships dart up to it, connecting like hummingbirds
feeding from a flower. It's all very quick, very efficient,
with not a wasted move.

BACK TO THE SILVER SURFER

Flying closer to Morovus. A myriad of small, artificial
satellites move INTO VIEW as they circle the planet. From
each comes a BEAM OF LIGHT, sweeping through space like a
searchlight.

SILVER SURFER (V.O.)
I wonder what interest a race so
advanced can have in a world such
as this...

Without paying much attention, the Surfer flies through a
BEAM OF LIGHT from one of the satellites. As he passes the
satellite, we TIGHTEN ON it. A SHRILL SOUND EMERGES, and the
BEAM WIDENS.

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13.

SILVER SURFER (V.O.)
(continuing)
And whether it truly harbors a
visitor from Zenn-La --

WIDER

The Surfer breaks off his thought as, acting in unison, the
BEAMS from all the satellites WIDEN to form an ENERGY BARRIER
between the Surfer and the planetary system.

Unable to stop himself, he soars directly into the barrier.
SPARKS BURST all around the Surfer, and he is thrown back
into space! Wordlessly, he CRIES OUT from the impact.

ANOTHER ANGLE

As the Surfer struggles to stay upright on the board.

SILVER SURFER (V.O.)
The Kree are every bit as powerful
as their reputation...!

Regaining his balance, he surveys the situation determinedly.

SILVER SURFER (V.O.)
(continuing)
But if to find my home I must
first reach Morovus -- then reach
it I shall!

And, sweeping into a new COSMIC WAVE, he FIRES A COSMIC BLAST
at the barrier!

WIDER

As the BLAST STRIKES the barrier -- and BOUNCES OFF IN AN
EXPLOSION OF MORE SPARKS. The COSMIC BLAST slams back from
the barrier, heading directly at:

THE SILVER SURFER

Hardly able to believe what he sees.

SILVER SURFER (V.O.)
Can it be? Can these Kree
deflectors actually turn my own
power cosmic against me -- ?

He throws up his hands -- but it's too late. The reflected
COSMIC BLAST hits the Silver Surfer with its full force --

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14.

WIDER

And both the Surfer and his board are BLASTED backward,
toward --

ONE OF THE KREE SATELLITES

Flailing, the Surfer reaches out -- and grabs onto the
satellite.

SILVER SURFER (V.O.)
There must be a way I can
neutralize the barrier...

Using all his strength, the Surfer turns the satellite so
that its BEAM is out of sync with the others.

SILVER SURFER (V.O.)
(continuing)
It is a basic precept of Zenn-La
that even with the highest
technology, simplicity is best...

WIDER

SEEING that the Surfer has made a gap in the energy barrier!

SILVER SURFER (V.O.)
Ah...

Smiling with grim satisfaction, the Surfer guides the board
right through the gap in the barrier. Now there's nothing
between him and Morovus. Victoriously, he straightens on the
board --

SILVER SURFER (V.O.)
(continuing)
I am through! Soon will I find my

way back to Shalla Bal --

WIDER

The Surfer breaks off sharply as the energy barrier DISSOLVES and the satellites all turn their BEAMS at him, FIRING AN EXPLOSIVE BLAST!

ANOTHER ANGLE

SPARKS FLY THROUGH the Silver Surfer. Separately, he and his board plunge down, down, toward the planet below, and we

DISSOLVE TO:

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15.

EXT. PLANET OF MOROVUS - DAY - THE SILVER SURFER'S POV - BLACKNESS

We SEE nothing but darkness as:

KILI (O.S.)
See, Pip...?

THE SILVER SURFER

Eyes closed as he fights to gain consciousness, the Surfer lies sprawled on his back just this side of a thicket of scrawny desert vegetation.

KILI (O.S.)
Not using a chisel or mortar
teaches us how everything in
nature fits together in perfect
harmony...

GROANING, the Surfer opens his eyes as:

THE SILVER SURFER'S POV - A DESERT VILLAGE

The Surfer's peripheral vision is non-existent, and THE EDGES OF THE SHOT ARE FUZZY. But directly before him, two small humanoids, PIP and KILI, work together. They wear thin green-and-white collars of CONSTANTLY SHIFTING ENERGY, and are building a low stone wall with only their hands.

As Kili speaks, the Surfer sees her as RIPPLING INTO the MASTER, standing at a wall on Zenn-La, surrounded by NORRIN RADD, SHALLA BAL, and other students, both human and alien in appearance. Everything RIPPLES BACK as:

PIP
(with attitude)

Yeah, yeah, yeah...

BACK TO THE SILVER SURFER

Trying to focus.

PIP (O.S.)

If everything's so perfect, how
come we do all the sweating...

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16.

WIDER

As the Surfer shakes his head to clear it, we SEE that the village is the inhospitable-looking home of a group of beings like Pip and Kili, all wearing similar collars as they trudge about their daily business -- eyeing the Surfer curiously all the while.

PIP

And the Kree get all the goodies?

(NOTE: In the following sequence, we SEE the Surfer's face and various parts of his body, but we never SEE his throat or neck!)

The Surfer GROANS once more, and Pip and Kili turn, hurry to him as, weakly, he tries to pull himself to his feet. He slumps back to the ground, Pip catching him just in time.

PIP

(continuing)

Easy, pal, you took a tail-breaking fall.

(looking him over)

Between us, I was kinda hoping that if anything came fallin' outta the sky it'd be -- rain.

KILI

Pip, the universe has brought us a guest. We must make him welcome.

ANOTHER ANGLE

Again, the Surfer struggles to get up. Gently, both Pip and Kili help him. Still dazed, the Surfer looks at Kili.

SILVER SURFER

The way you speak...for an instant
I felt I was back in...Zenn-La.

PIP

Zenn-wha? Never heard of it.

KILI

This is Pip, and I'm Kili. You're
in Work Camp A.

PIP

Named by our wonderful employers.
Just can't help lovin' folks with
that kinda originality, can ya?

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17.

SILVER SURFER

I am the Silver Surfer...
(realizing)
You are -- trolls. The Kree slave
force --

PIP

Boy, nuthin' gets past you, does
it? Careful how ya talk, pal. Us
trolls ain't the only slaves here.

WIDER

Now, for the first time, we SEE that the Surfer wears a
similar collar around his neck. He looks down at himself.

SILVER SURFER

What...?

KILI

The men were ordered to "collar"
you while you were unconscious.
We're sorry, but they couldn't
refuse --

SILVER SURFER

No! I am free now! This
abomination cannot be borne!

The Surfer puts his hands to the collar. Pip reaches out to
stop him.

PIP

Don't do it -- !

THE SILVER SURFER

Too late. The collar GLOWS, GREEN-AND-WHITE ENERGY ZAPPING OUT of it and into the Surfer. Steeling himself, the Surfer pulls at the collar once more.

Once more, it ZAPS him, and the Surfer's body goes rigid. Falling backward, his body thrashes and he rolls on the ground, sending clouds of red earth flying.

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18.

The Silver Surfer's mouth opens, and he CRIES OUT WORDLESSLY, the slave collar CONTINUING TO ZAP him with punishing ENERGY as we

FADE OUT:

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

EXT. DEEP SPACE - A SWIRLING NEBULA

GLOWING space gas whirls, the various particles starting to coalesce. It's a real LIGHT SHOW...but on a cosmic scale!

NOVA (V.O.)

The Hubble telescope's got a pretty good view -- but now I know the meaning of awesome...!

ANOTHER ANGLE

The flaming form of NOVA literally stands in space, transfixed by what's happening before her.

NOVA (V.O.)

Wait'll I tell Amber that I was this close to a galaxy being born!

Something else catches her eye. Nova streaks toward:

A COMET

As she comes alongside its incandescent tail. Racing the comet, Nova starts to overtake the head, then stops abruptly. We HOLD ON her, frowning as the comet goes on by.

NOVA (V.O.)

Duh, Frankie, forget it.
Everything you knew and loved is
history. No more Amber, no more
beach...

Trailing off, Nova points at a chunk of space rock nearby,
and a STREAM OF FLAME FLOWS from her finger.

NOVA (V.O.)
(continuing)
Ah, so what? Galactus has give me
a lot more than I ever had...

ANOTHER ANGLE

The flame TORCHES the rock into NOTHINGNESS!

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20.

NOVA (V.O.)
On Earth I was an orphan, thanks
to the crash that took Mom and Dad.

Nova's frown deepens. Her flaming body grows DIMMER.

NOVA (V.O.)
(continuing)
Never could figure out how I ended
up outside the car that night --
with just a few bruises...and a
lot of tears --

She breaks off as before her appears:

AN ENERGY BUBBLE

Coming toward her. Nova touches it curiously, and the BUBBLE
EXPLODES, an IMAGE OF GALACTUS appearing. The IMAGE speaks
in a VOICE LIKE A THUNDERCLAP:

GALACTUS
My herald! The Great Hunger is
upon me! Where is the next world
upon which I can feed?

WIDER

Nova stares at the IMAGE with the same awe she feels at the
sight of Galactus himself.

NOVA

Oh, you know, it's -- just around
the corner -- I mean, up the
block --

GALACTUS

I trust I have not made a mistake
with you, my Nova. Use the power
that only you have. Galactus does
not take disappointment well!

Galactus LAUGHS sardonically, and the IMAGE vanishes.
Quickly, Nova as gets down to business, scanning the stars.

NOVA (V.O.)

Uh-oh, recess if over. Time to
find a fresh, nutritious planet...

NOVA'S POV - THE UNIVERSE AROUND HER

LOOKING for ENERGY SIGNALS, as:

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21.

NOVA (V.O.)

With all the vitamins and minerals
the big guy needs to stay jolly --

And there it is, a BLOB OF GLEAMING RED ENERGY in the center
of Nova's field of vision.

NOVA (V.O.)

(continuing)

Jackpot!

BACK TO NOVA

As her eyes snap open. She starts flying through space,
faster and faster.

NOVA (V.O.)

How's that old saying go? "No
rest for the weary...?"

Nova passes the comet -- looking much like a comet herself.

NOVA (V.O.)

(continuing)

No wonder the Silver Surfer took
early retirement. I've gotta work
myself down to the ember, but he
can just sit back and chill...

And, as she says it, Nova FORESHORTENS INTO WARP and we

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. PLANET OF MOROVUS - DESERT VILLAGE - DAY

The Silver Surfer's hand clutches at the energy collar around his neck, while the GREEN-AND-WHITE ENERGY ZAPS through him. Other trolls have gathered around, and Pip bends down beside the Surfer, shouting:

PIP
Let go'a yer collar -- !

The Surfer tries, but nothing happens. He GASPS:

SILVER SURFER
I cannot! It -- holds -- my --
hand -- in -- place -- !

PIP
You gotta let go!

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22.

Stubbornly, Pip grabs the Surfer's arm, pulls his hand away. A last ZAP OF ENERGY hits the troll, and Pip goes flying backward.

SILVER SURFER
Pip!

KILI
Oh no!

ANOTHER ANGLE

Both the Surfer and Kili rush to where Pip lies on the ground. Opening his eyes, the troll manages a wry smile.

PIP
Lighten up, guys. It'll take
more'n a little static to fry a
prime hunk'a manhood like me.

SILVER SURFER
I will not forget what you have
done for me, Pip.

PIP
Hey, don't worry -- neither'll I.

KILI
(to the Surfer)
You've got to be careful. The
collars have their own built-in
defense.
(beat)

As slaves, we're completely
governed by them and the voices
they put into our heads.

From O.S. COMES THE WAILING OF A SIREN, and the other trolls
start away. Still disoriented, the Surfer hesitates, looking
around.

PIP

Time for our shift -- 'less you
want another taste of Kree
"hospitality."

SILVER SURFER

I have lost something...
(starting to call out)
My board --

CLOSER ON THE SILVER SURFER AND THE OTHERS

He doesn't even get to finish, his COLLAR ZAPPING OUT once
again. The Surfer staggers, and the ZAPPING STOPS.

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23.

SILVER SURFER

Eons of war and subjugation have
made the Kree experts at causing
pain and suffering.

(beat)

It will be better to stay away
from their strengths -- for now.

And, as they continue from the village, we ANGLE TO:

THE OTHER EDGE OF THE VILLAGE

TIGHTENING ON the Surfer's board, almost completely buried in
the sand. The board twitches, just a bit, in the Surfer's
direction. Then it becomes still, and we

CUT TO:

EXT. PLANET OF MOROVUS - THE MINE - DAY - THE SUN

TILTING TO SEE that it is beating down on a craglike
mountain. The top of the mountain has been scooped into a
pit, and unmanned hovercraft carry large, ore containers up
and down the side.

The area THRUMS WITH POWER. Everything is automated, with no
sign of any beings but the trolls who move in and out of long
shafts bored into the sides of the pit.

PIP (O.S.)
So, Slurper, whaddaya think of the
business my dear old dad left me?

As he talks, we TIGHTEN ON a shaft leading to:

INT. MINE TUNNEL - DAY

Dark and narrow, like all mines, the only light coming from
DIMLY GLOWING COILS in the rock wall.

SILVER SURFER (O.S.)
Strange...I thought to find Kree
overseers here.

We ANGLE PAST various trolls hard at work with FIERY ENERGY
DIGGERS TO:

THE SILVER SURFER

With Pip and Kili, the three of them riding a moving floor
farther into the tunnel.

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24.

PIP
If you do, lemme know so I can
talk about my overtime.

KILI
We're nothing to the Kree. On all
the planets we've worked on, we've
never seen any beings but other
trolls...and now you.

ANOTHER ANGLE

Leaving the moving floor, they go to the rock wall. From
around them comes a RUMBLE, and the tunnel TREMBLES.

SILVER SURFER
The mountain is unstable.

PIP
Try the whole planet. This mining
really rips things up. Makes it
kinda hard ta keep yer friends.

SILVER SURFER
What do you mine for?

PIP
Same stuff every place the Kree

shlep us --

Pip's ENERGY DIGGER LASHES OUT, and he holds up what he's cut from the wall. We TIGHTEN ON a SMOOTH, SHINING, GREEN-AND-WHITE STONE.

PIP (O.S.)

Align a bunch of these jokers and, presto -- instant energy collar!

WIDER

As Pip tosses the stone into a nearby bin.

SILVER SURFER

You risk your lives to provide the very substance that keeps you enslaved?!

PIP

Hey, who says the Kree don't have a crazy little sense of humor -- ?

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25.

NEW ANGLE

Pip stops as another EARTH TREMOR HITS -- AND KEEPS HITTING. The entire tunnel sways, and the floor buckles, sending the trolls careening into the wall.

EXT. PLANET OF MOROVUS - THE MOUNTAINTOP - DAY

The mountain SHAKES VIOLENTLY, trolls running for safety. One whole section of mountainside sheers off, falling toward the ground below! We TIGHTEN ON the section and FIND:

THE MINE TUNNEL

Completely exposed to the day. Pip and the other trolls CRY OUT as they plunge downward -- along with tons of rock!

CLOSER ON THE SILVER SURFER

Slipping and sliding with the rest. Mindless of the collar, he holds out his arms for a COSMIC BLAST.

SILVER SURFER

Hold on -- !

We TIGHTEN ON the Surfer's hands as the ENERGY STARTS TO FLOW -- and STOPS as:

THE SURFER'S ENERGY COLLAR

GLOWS, GREEN-AND-WHITE ENERGY ZAPPING out!

WIDER

The Surfer lurches backward, continues sliding down with the rock. His face shows his anguish.

SILVER SURFER

Nooo!!!

Again he tries to POWER UP A COSMIC BLAST -- and again the collar ZAPS him! He CRIES OUT WORDLESSLY, and then:

SILVER SURFER (V.O.)

I cannot let the collar control
me. I will not let it -- !

We TIGHTEN ON the Surfer. His entire body SMOULDERS WITH THE POWER COSMIC. The collar ZAPS him again and again as:

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26.

SILVER SURFER (V.O.)

(continuing)

On Zenn-La -- the -- Master --
taught -- us -- the -- power --
of -- the mind...How it could
overcome -- the greatest pain...

His body tenses and strains. We TIGHTEN MORE, ON the collar, as from it comes a VOICE, faint and far away:

VOICE (O.S.)

The way of the universe is the way
of acceptance, not denial...

We WIDEN TO SEE the Surfer's face, as, astounded:

SILVER SURFER (V.O.)

That voice! It comes from the
collar, yet sounds so familiar --

THE SILVER SURFER'S POV - THE INTERIOR OF THE MOUNTAIN

Even as he and the trolls continue to fall, the rock before him RIPPLES INTO the Zenn-La garden wall we SAW earlier. Norrin Radd, Shalla Bal, and the other students look on as the Master places another stone.

THE MASTER

The truly strong are those who do
not resist but absorb...

SILVER SURFER (V.O.)

It is as though the Master himself
is speaking to me!

The SCENE RIPPLES AWAY as:

BACK TO THE SILVER SURFER

Filled with even more resolve.

SILVER SURFER (V.O.)

Of course! Fighting the slave
collar gives it more of my power
to use against me...

THE SILVER SURFER'S ENERGY COLLAR

As he raises his hands to the ZAPPING collar.

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27.

SILVER SURFER (V.O.)

I must show true strength by
accepting the collar -- and
absorbing it!

The POWER COSMIC in his hands unites with the collar's GREEN-
AND-WHITE ENERGY, and, first slowly, then faster, ENERGY from
the collar is STRETCHED AND PULLED into the Surfer's body!

NEW ANGLE ON THE COLLAR

The ZAPPING WEAKENS AND STOPS -- and the collar vanishes,
absorbed directly into the Surfer's silver-coated skin!

WIDER ON THE SILVER SURFER

Unhesitatingly, he unleashes a SERIES OF COSMIC BLASTS at:

THE ROCKSLIDE

EXPLODES! For a beat, all we can SEE are ENERGY AND
FRAGMENTS OF ROCK FILLING THE SCREEN, until:

WIDER ON THE MOUNTAIN

As the POWER COSMIC DISSIPATES and we SEE the Silver Surfer and the trolls, suspended halfway down the mountain -- within an ENERGY BUBBLE that lowers to the ground and VANISHES.

ANOTHER ANGLE

The trolls gape in astonishment, and Kili hugs Pip.

KILI

Pip! We're safe!

PIP

"Safe?" A starcruiser and a six-month headstart couldn't take us someplace safe --

(pointing to his collar)

Long as we wear these!

SILVER SURFER

There is a way to change that.

CLOSER ON THE SURFER

He holds out his palms, one toward Pip's collar, the other toward Kili's. The Surfer's palms GLOW, the POWER COSMIC shooting out from them. He concentrates intently as:

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28.

VOICE (O.S.)

Feel the energy, my son. Feel how it becomes a part of you...

It's the same, Master-like voice, coming from both Pip's and Kili's collars. Pip and Kili stare.

KILI

That gentle voice -- it's been speaking to us ever since we got to Morovus!

SILVER SURFER

It is the voice of -- the Master of Zenn-La --!

The Surfer breaks off as the ENERGY from both Pip's collar and Kili's is STRETCHED AND PULLED right into him -- until these collars too are gone! Pip's and Kili's hands go to their necks. They stare at the Surfer.

KILI

It can't be...!

PIP

We're free, babe! Really free!

WIDER

Pip races to the other trolls, gleefully points to his neck.

PIP

Look! We don't have to take all
that Kree baloney! We don't have
to be slaves!

The trolls see what's going on, pick up the cry:

TROLLS

We don't have to be slaves -- !

Immediately, their collars ZAP at them. The cry turns into
a HOWL, then resumes as the trolls fight desperately against
those who control them!

NEW ANGLE

Pip whirls back to the Surfer.

PIP

Ya gotta help 'em! Ya gotta take
off their collars!

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29.

SILVER SURFER

There are too many!
(beseechingly)
Master...! Where are you?

There's no response. Kili reaches up, tugs the Surfer's arm.

KILI

There's only one place he can
be -- up at the main base --
Morovus Prime.

That's all the Surfer needs to know. He holds up his hand.

SILVER SURFER

To me, my board!

And this time there's nothing to stop him as:

EXT. PLANET OF MOROVUS - DAY - THE EDGE OF THE VILLAGE -
CLOSE ON THE BOARD

The Surfer's call ECHOES through the desert. The board pulls

itself from the sand and takes to the sky --

EXT. PLANET OF MOROVUS - THE MINE - DAY

As his board sweeps down to the Silver Surfer, who leaps upon it, soaring upward! Pip watches it, not understanding as:

PIP

Hey! Where ya goin'? Don't leave
us --

CUT TO:

EXT. SOLAR SYSTEM OF MOROVUS - THE SILVER SURFER

Soaring out of the atmosphere of the planet.

SILVER SURFER (V.O.)

The Master, working with the Kree?
How can such a thing be...?

THE ARTIFICIAL SATELLITES

Move into VIEW around the Surfer. He watches them carefully.

SILVER SURFER (V.O.)

He and I must unite...

The satellites begin emitting their BEAMS OF LIGHT.

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30.

SILVER SURFER (V.O.)

(continuing)

Of course, that is possible only
if I can reach him!

WIDER

The BEAMS START TO WIDEN AND JOIN TOGETHER, but this time the Surfer knows what to expect. He bends lower on his board, and catching the curl of a COSMIC WAVE, he slaloms through them, weaving in and out like a skier, until:

THE LAST ENERGY BEAM

The Surfer whizzes past it -- just as it connects with all the others, and a new ENERGY BARRIER BLAZES INTO EXISTENCE -- behind him! But the Surfer's attention is already on:

EXT. MOROVUS' MOON - KREE MAIN BASE - DAY

As the Surfer approaches. He heads for the largest tower, which is topped by a big, transparent dome.

SILVER SURFER (V.O.)

This appears to be the center of operations. Here will I find the answers I seek!

INT. KREE MAIN BASE - DAY - THE SILVER SURFER

UPSHOT, as the Surfer hits the dome. It SPARKS WITH ENERGY, and before he can react the entire dome literally wraps itself around him, just like the original ENERGY BARRIER!

The Surfer and his board plummet down, the ENERGY COCOON stopping to hold them just above the floor. We WIDEN TO SEE that the Surfer is in an imposing circular room, gleaming and sterile.

At the top of the room are gliding catwalks and pumping compressors, moving automated life-support machines. In the center of the room, suspended within a large ENERGY WEB, are three GLOWING, brain-like shapes, connected to each other, and the rest of the base, by various LINES OF ENERGY.

ANOTHER ANGLE

From within the WEB, a HOLOGRAPHIC IMAGE ZOOMS at the Surfer from the center brain: A Kree woman military officer who we will call SHELLAINE.

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31.

SHELLAINE

I know of you, Silver Surfer. How dare you disturb a Kree Combined Intelligence?

The Surfer pushes at the COCOON.

SILVER SURFER

No civilization has the right to subjugate another. I demand that you free those who toil on Morovus!

Another HOLOGRAPHIC IMAGE ZOOMS from one of the other brains: A Kree scientist we can call VOTRICK.

VOTRICK

Correct me if I'm wrong, but you don't seem to be in a position to "demand" anything.

SHELLAINE

Would you free the board on which
you ride, or a lamp that lights
your way?

SILVER SURFER

Is that all the trolls are to you?
Implements? Tools?

VOTRICK

Certainly. That's precisely why
they were created. Now, however,
this group is useless.

NEW ANGLE

Lining the room are REPRESENTATIONS of eyes, ears, mouths.
The eyes and ears follow the Surfer's every move and word,
while from the mouths come the words of the various brains.

Votrick gestures to one of the eyes, and we TIGHTEN ON IT TO
SEE the surface of Morovus -- where more and more trolls are
taking up the CRY FOR FREEDOM, in spite of ZAPPING of their
collars!

SHELLAINE (O.S.)

You have shown our slaves that the
collars can be overcome. No
longer will they selflessly go
about their tasks.

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32.

VOTRICK (O.S.)

Their minds have been polluted by
the possibility of freedom!

WIDER

The IMAGE of Shellaine reaches out as though pushing a
button. The ENERGY WEB and LINES OF ENERGY FLASH BRIGHTLY.

SHELLAINE

Fortunately, they are expendable.
We have billions more to replace
them.

EXT. MOROVUS' MOON - KREE MAIN BASE - DAY

An incredible BLAST OF ENERGY EXPLODES out of the Kree emblem
emblazoned on the complex, and STABS OUT at space!

SILVER SURFER (O.S.)

What have you unleashed?

INT. KREE MAIN BASE - DAY

The third brain hasn't spoken. Now a HOLOGRAPHIC IMAGE ZOOMS from it: Not a Kree but -- THE MASTER!

SILVER SURFER

Master...! It is truly you! But how? Why -- ?

THE MASTER

There is no time, Norrin Radd. My fellow governors of Morovus have chosen to vaporize your friends...!

ANOTHER ANGLE

Now it's the IMAGE of the Master that reaches out, as though pushing a series of buttons. The ENERGY COCOON around the Surfer vanishes!

THE MASTER

You must go! While it is still possible to stop the carnage!

EXT. KREE MAIN BASE - DAY - THE SILVER SURFER

Soaring out of the open dome. Behind him, we HEAR:

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33.

SHELLAINE (O.S.)

The fool from Zenn-La has taken control of the system!

VOTRICK (O.S.)

Nothing's responding!

The Surfer shoots upward, toward:

EXT. SOLAR SYSTEM OF MOROVUS - THE ENERGY BLAST

EXPLODING through the ENERGY BARRIER as though it isn't even there!

THE SILVER SURFER

Following in its wake.

SILVER SURFER (V.O.)

I left the Master on Zenn-La, with
my beloved Shalla Bal...

He passes the de-activated satellites.

SILVER SURFER (V.O.)
(continuing)
Now I find him here -- part of a
Kree organic brain system...!

THE ENERGY BLAST

About halfway to the planet!

SILVER SURFER (V.O.)
Instead of answers, my questions
are compounded!

Suddenly, the Master's voice ECHOES.

THE MASTER (O.S.)
Have I not always counseled
patience, Norrin Radd? Even the
greatest enigma has a solution...

THE SILVER SURFER

Losing ground, not gaining. His set face shows his
dedication to what he's doing, as:

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34.

THE MASTER (O.S.)
Your sacrifice moved me as nothing
else ever has. Soon after, I
departed Zenn-La with a group of
visiting students, on a pilgrimage
to see if I could attain your
courage...

THE ENERGY BLAST

Closing in on Morovus!

THE MASTER (O.S.)
We were captured by the Kree...

A drone freighter flies into VIEW --

THE MASTER (O.S.)

(continuing)

When they discovered who I was,
they found great satisfaction in
teaching the Master of Zenn-La
their own dark ways...

And, punctuating the Master's words, the freighter is
destroyed by the BLAST, FLARING OUT OF EXISTENCE as:

WIDER

The ENERGY BLAST is just outside the atmosphere of Morovus.
Desperately, the Surfer slides into another COSMIC WAVE,
putting on a fresh burst of speed and nearing his target!

THE MASTER (O.S.)

Heed me, Norrin Radd. This blast
is too powerful for you to destroy
or absorb. But your mind tells me
you have the power to transmute --

SILVER SURFER

Transmute? But into what -- ?

The Surfer stops, finding the answer. His eyes GLOW, and we
ANGLE WITH THE BEAM OF THE POWER COSMIC THAT SHOOTS from them
directly into the ENERGY BLAST and

CUT TO:

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35.

EXT. PLANET OF MOROVUS - THE MINE - DAY

From O.S., we HEAR A SOUND LIKE THUNDER. Pip and Kili jerk
their heads up and start WHOOPING AND HOLLERING excitedly --
as a TORRENTIAL RAIN beats down on the grateful desert planet
from a cloudless sky!

CUT TO:

EXT. SOLAR SYSTEM OF MOROVUS - THE SILVER SURFER

Drained, exhausted, he looks up from the rain, and forces
himself to call out:

SILVER SURFER

Master! It is done!

THE MASTER (O.S.)
Norrin Radd, once again have you
proven your worth. It is time now
for me to do the same.

SILVER SURFER
I will come for you --

The Surfer starts to carve a course back toward the moon, but:

THE MASTER (O.S.)
No, Norrin Radd -- you must go
your own way...!

EXT. MOROVUS' MOON - KREE MAIN BASE - DAY

TIGHTENING ON the big complex as:

THE MASTER (O.S.)
As a member of the Combined
Intelligence, I have been forced
to participate in acts of
unspeakable evil!
(beat)
Now, in atonement, I must do all
I can to make certain that the
trolls go free. Goodbye, my son --

EXT. SOLAR SYSTEM OF MOROVUS - THE SILVER SURFER

Realizing what the Master means.

SILVER SURFER
Master, wait -- !

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36.

EXT. MOROVUS' MOON - KREE MAIN BASE - DAY

Too late. The entire base EXPLODES, BLAZING PARTICLES
filling the sky as:

EXT. SOLAR SYSTEM OF MOROVUS - THE SILVER SURFER

Illuminated in the moon's glare.

THE MASTER (O.S.)
Through you have I at last found
true courage. Give my good wishes
to Zenn-La!

The Master's voice fades away. We HOLD ON the Surfer, gazing
at the moon with great anguish. Then, quietly:

SILVER SURFER
But where is it, Master? Where...?

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. PLANET OF MOROVUS - DESERT VILLAGE - NIGHT -
MATCHING SHOT - THE SILVER SURFER

WIDENING TO SEE that he stands beside the unmortared wall with Pip and Kili, a light rain still falling. Pip's foot prods at one of the many discarded collars lying in the mud. He kicks it as far as he can.

SILVER SURFER
I admire your courage, little ones.

KILI
We're sorry about the one you called the Master.

SILVER SURFER
You have freedom -- and the thoughts he inspired. Never would such a man ask for more.
(beat)
I must go now. The Master left Zenn-La long before it was hidden by Galactus. I must continue my search for my home.

ANOTHER ANGLE

The Surfer leaps on his board. Pip hesitates, then races after him.

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37.

PIP
Slurper, wait! All my life I've gone from planet to planet -- and never learned a thing. Could I kinda hang out with you -- just for awhile?
(regarding Kili
nervously)
I mean -- if it's okay with you.

He waits as though for an execution. Instead, Kili smiles.

KILI
And why wouldn't it be? If you're going to lead the rest of our

people to freedom, you ought to
know a little something about how
it's done!

(beat)

Besides -- how else'll I ever get
a night's sleep?

The Surfer circles them for a beat, looking at Pip's eager
face. Then, with a nod:

SILVER SURFER

It has been a long time since
anyone treated me as a friend.

Grinning, Pip gives Kili a big squeeze and jumps atop the
Surfer's board, straddling it like a pony.

WIDER

The Surfer's EYES GLOW, and an ENERGY BUBBLE forms around
Pip, who hangs on for dear life. We ANGLE WITH the Silver
Surfer as he soars upward to:

THE SKY

Where the Surfer and Pip vanish into a field of stars. The
stars move, and we SEE the forms of Eternity and Infinity
once again. We HOLD ON the two great cosmic beings, watching
the Silver Surfer go, and we

FADE OUT:

THE END.

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