It seemed like a simple enough idea at the time. Now that their arch-enemy, Doctor Doom, had seemingly perished, the Fantastic Four would journey into his nation of Latveria, disassemble its war machine and set its oppressed citizens free. But what appeared to be a black-and-white situation quickly turns a murky shade of grey, and Reed Richards and his family find themselves besieged on all sides - both by those they thought of as their allies, and by the very people they are trying to save. And in the awful aftermath of their authoritative action, three of the Four must contend with the defenses of the afterlife - and storm the gates of Heaven itself to rescue a fallen teammate. They've faced Galactus, the destroyer of everything; now, they face the creator of everything, as the FF are reunited in the hereafter. Plus: The Fantastic Four have a lot to answer for - and when you're trying to regain the trust of cynical New Yorkers, is associating with a certain misunderstood wall-crawler really a wise move? Collects Fantastic Four 503-513.

My Personal Review:
Well, where to begin? I went into 'Unthinkable' thinking that Mark Waid, whatevever he had planned, was going to do this one just right. I used to think Wieringo's art was too cartoonish, much like Ed McGuinness, but then I wised up. 'Unthinkable' was by and far, one of the most wonderfully crafted Marvel books I've yet read. I've only recently jumped on the Marvel bandwagon because I realized that DC still writes stories that are ordained and meant for children--despite the greats like Green Arrow's ward's drug addiction, the brutality of the Joker on killing Jason Todd and others. But Marvel's dogma is simply more adult.

Example: How many DC villains would voluntarily (much less inherently know how to) banish their nemesis' son to Hell?

But all comparisons and contrasts aside, Unthinkable gave the reader a wonderful insight into the mechanics of Reed Richards mind--his disdain
for magic, his analytical nature, his utter disgust at Doom. Waid himself said that 'Unthinkable' is one monumental character flaw--Reed Richards-wise.

Doom was, as always, impeccably well-written and drawn. Hard to believe his newest armor is made from his dead lover's skin!

The new spins on Susan, Ben, and especially Johnny were great. It's so nice to see Johnny and Ben just horsing around instead of actually fighting and ruining the good ol' Baxter Building. Plus, Ringo has a certain way of making Johnny look more...educated, yet adolescent...welcome additions all around.

Stephen Strange's presence was nice, and the segway by Grimm when the FF are on their way to Latveria is a good thing to establish character. All in all, the arc that effectively puts Doom on the shelf for the foreseeable future is a well-crafted piece of comic art. Mark Waid has done it again.

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