



Trees #1

Warren Ellis , Jason Howard (illustrator)

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Ten years after they landed. All over the world. And they did nothing, standing on the surface of the Earth like trees, exerting their silent pressure on the world, as if there were no-one here and nothing under foot. Ten years since we learned that there is intelligent life in the universe, but that they did not recognize us as intelligent or alive.

Trees #1 Details

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From Reader Review Trees #1 for online ebook

Margaret Topel says

I'm intrigued by the concept but turned off by the scattered feeling of issue 1. Several unconnected plot lines were introduced, leaving me feeling like there was a lack of plot progression or information. Disappointed (as I always am) by the lack of female protagonists. However, I truly love the art in this. Character design, landscape, everything. The outlines have a scribbly feeling which I find really compelling. Will stick around for more issues, trusting that non-intro issues will find more focus and feel less scattered. I want to know more about the Trees!

Joseph says

A beautiful book, the art is gorgeous, and it is a very interesting world being set up here. I like the idea behind this, an alien invasion where we are completely ignored...I can not imagine a deeper horror for us as a species, and such a blow to how we see ourselves...I will be very interested to see where Ellis will go with this...

Amber says

As a fan of sci fi this was a series I just couldn't resist picking up.

They appeared 10 years ago but no one knows exactly what they are. Alien life forms? Space ships? They can be seen in major cities but aside from randomly dropping their (toxic?) waste on unassuming civilians they haven't done anything. So mankind called them Trees and life moved on around them.

Intelligent life forms that don't recognize or acknowledge humans in any recognizable way.

This first issue shifts attention between three different places. All of them affected by the Trees.

Not the most action packed series you'll ever read but definitely an intriguing one.

Omkar Bhatt says

The plot feels really interesting, an alien race who doesn't consider the humans as intelligent. Characters seem good for now, really liked the New York dude. The Narrative through Chenglei makes you feel the same excitement and fear about the trees that he feels. The plot around Marsh seems quite interesting too.

The art looks really well done, and is perfect for depicting motion in frames.

Nicolo Yu says

It is every telling how the issue description stated that this is "Beginning a new science fiction graphic novel..." Aside from the fact that literate comicbooks would only describe themselves as "graphic novels", the description pretty much explains the lack of the first issue satisfaction I normally associate with first issues.

Still, I really like the concept by the creators here: remember as children we would poke anthills with sticks? It seems that there is an extraterrestrial intelligence that sees us as less than insects and has proceeded to poke our planet with multiple sticks that humanity has come to call as "Trees." Pretty smart stuff which is par for the course for an Ellis book.

Anie says

Clearly, of course, this is the very first issue of a new series; I don't have a good handle on the series yet. That being said, it looks to be promising: There's a very inventive form of alien, which I'm praying remains non-humanoid; there's a few characters that have been introduced that seem interesting; the art is really nice (I like the pencilling and inking a lot).

Sam Quixote says

"Ten years since we learned that there is intelligent life in the universe but that they did not recognise us as intelligent or alive"

Giant alien tubes, or "trees", have been planted across the globe. They spew noxious green ooze, poisoning cities and melting people, and the presence of this extraterrestrial tech has changed the world. New York City has flooded, while in China, a cultural city has sprouted up around one of the trees. Humanity has been brought to its knees by an unseen alien race who didn't even bother fighting us, but seems to have used our planet as a giant septic tank! How do we fight back against this impossible force?!

Warren Ellis' new Image series is an interesting take on the alien invasion storyline and the first issue introduces readers to this strange scenario, asking more questions than it answers, as is its wont. To mirror the global effect these trees have had on the planet, the story takes place around the world with a storyline in Brazil, America, China and Norway, all underlining the chaos the trees have brought about.

You can tell this is a Warren Ellis comic because of the misanthropic angle the aliens take and it's easy to imagine Ellis' grin at imagining Earth being used as a dumping ground for alien waste. That and the dialogue of course: "You would be young Chenglei, from Pigshit Village in scenic Incest Province, yes?" and the deadpan humour "Are you trying to sing again, Marsh? You've been warned about that."

It's a decent first issue that doesn't do much more than set up the series going forward. We're barely introduced to the characters and it's unclear exactly what the story is - we've been conditioned by numerous books/movies to think that if aliens attack, then humanity must fight back and prevail, which I assume is the story here; though it's Ellis, so expect the unexpected. I wouldn't be surprised if he wipes out humanity and lets the aliens win! But the number of intriguing questions it raises, plus the author, means I'll definitely be

back to see where it's headed.

3.5 stars

Daniel says

This is not a graphic novel, but the first issue of a new comic series. Set in the not-too-distant future when an alien race arrived, made no direct contact, and planted some extremely large pillars, or trees, across the globe. Some were struck through the middle of cities, spewing a toxic waste, initially. Now...they just seem to be 'there,' with people living and working around them. But of course things have changed. Life has changed, government has changed, all because of the trees. It's an intriguing concept and I look forward to more.

Tim Nowotny says

I read all eight of the comics in one sitting. Partly as I have not read a comic for far too long but also because the story is interesting. Now I am excited in which direction this will go. I have to admit that this can go awry in a number of ways. But so far I enjoyed everything by Ellis very much. I have confidence.

Leah says

Ooo, ahhh - it's a comic about the world after aliens have come to Earth. And I want more.

This first issue really does create this new, crazy world ten years after aliens have landed here. Well, alien trees. No alien being, in the tradition sense that we think we'll be invaded have shown up. Just the Trees. This is almost creepier, and I'm very much looking forward to what these Trees are doing to Momma Earth, what *they* want, who *they* are, and why *they* are here. I'm just very interested.

*Ten years since we learned
that there is intelligent life in the universe
but that did not recognize u
as intelligent
or alive.*

We briefly meet some of the (assuming) main characters. In NYC, we have Vince, a man wanting to run for mayor. Since the Trees have come to Earth, there's been corruption, mass chaos, you know the normal apocalyptic issues, and Vince wants to change NYC. Becoming the mayor is his way of doing so.

We also meet Tian Chenglei. He's an adolescent looking to enter and live in the "Special Cultural Zone" in the City of Shu. He's an artist from a small village and he wants more to life, and boy does it seem like he's

going to live it.

Finally, we meet scientists in north west Spitzbergen, Marsh and Dr. Siva. They are researching the Trees, so I'm really hoping to get a chance to see more of their story in **Trees #2**.

Overall, I'm very much interested in continuing this comic series. I enjoyed the writing and the story that Warren Ellis is creating, and Jason Howard's artwork is bringing the words to life magnificently. Very awesome first issue, and I can't wait to dig into the second one.

Daken Howlett says

La premessa di questa nuova serie sci-fi del veterano dell'industria dei comics Warren Ellis è estremamente interessante e inusuale ...

Il racconto inizia con un'invasione aliena...il che suona piuttosto banale,ma la parte interessante è che le forme di vita aliena in questo caso sono completamente vegetali,dei giganteschi alberi che non intervengono in alcun modo nella vita degli esseri umani,si limitano a rimanere lì,nel terreno dove sono atterrati,apparentemente inerti...

La narrazione riprende anni dopo,con una serie di panoramiche che mostrano come diversi paesi(principalmente USA e Cina)hanno reagito alla presenza degli alberi e come la vita sia ripresa a scorrere intorno a questi giganteschi e misteriosi esseri,con la popolazione che ormai inizia ad abituarsi alla loro presenza...ma qualcosa sembra sul punto di cambiare...

Non so esattamente come questa storia possa evolvere,ma il primo numero è estremamente interessante e soprattutto innovativa,e,nel panorama di un genere che sempre più spesso si limita a riproporre trame e stereotipi già visti,non è affatto poco...

'kris Pung says

Great start by a great writer, can't wait to see where this one goes. Also Image is giving this away for free digitally until Tuesday 6/24/14 so go get your copy.

<http://www.comicvine.com/articles/ima...>

Laura says

Solid introduction to the world and general feeling of global society in the wake of the "trees" taking root, as it were. It appears like the trees are the foundational pillars of an alien race settling earth (with no clue/care people even exist). It sounds like green polluted/toxic chemicals spew from the bottoms, as if it were a drainage pipe but it kind of sounds like now, ten years later, that they are just passively there. This first issue gives glimpses of the trees impact at different points on the earth.

Kind of had a feeling of- humanity fighting back after apocalyptic devastation. So yeah, issue one is pretty bleak. From my experience with Ellis' storytelling, it will get bleaker and darkly humorous. Can't wait to see

where it goes.

Brent says

Big fun, and a great set up for more great storytelling. The trees are enormous alien invaders, taking root and influencing humanity.

Ask for this premiere and subsequent issues, published by Image Comics, at your comics shop.
Highly recommended.

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