



**Title:** *Ant-Man* (2020) #1-5

**Author:** Zeb Wells

**Illustrators:** Dylan Burnett & Eduard Petrovich

**Series:** Ant-Man Vol 2

**Publisher:** Marvel Comics

**Synopsis:**

Scott Lang (aka Ant-Man -- the new one) teams up with his daughter when giant bugs threaten humanity. Unfortunately for Scott, only he is aware of the threat and he desperately wants to look good and seem relevant to the other Avengers. His relationship with his daughter is also a work in progress, which gave the team an interesting dynamic. Scott is currently

unemployed and homeless, living in an ant hill (shrinking himself in order to fit) to be closer to his daughter, when he's asked by local beekeepers to look into why the bees are disappearing. When Scott starts investigating, he learns that his most obvious suspect is actually in need of his help. He might be the reason the bees are disappearing, but he actually has a good reason for summoning them. There are bigger, badder bugs looking to wipe out humanity with the help of a few unsavory allies.

I was pleasantly surprised by how accurate most of the insect depictions were, despite several occurrences that pulled at my heartstrings. A bug's-eye-view was presented at the start of several issues, and it was interesting to see how they were portrayed. Pam the ant mentions knowing the scent of every other ant in her colony and knowing when someone or something smells wrong. She also talked about her "scream smell" that would alert the others to danger. The authenticity of the characters (human and otherwise) really added to my overall enjoyment of the story. We learn a lot about insects and how they communicate (also how they behave in unusual circumstances), and we see humans interacting with them as well. I believe that Zeb Wells must have done a fair amount of research before taking on this installment of Ant-Man. It is clear that attempts were definitely made to create believable insect characters with some natural insect behaviors.

### **Discussion Questions:**

1. Is it really far-fetched to think that insects would want to erase humans from the equation? Would they be better off without our involvement? We depend on them, but would they get by without us?
2. Would you be able to ride on a bee that was enlarged but stayed true to scale?

3. Scott cared for the ants he was living with and felt enraged by their mistreatment, but ants can be stepped on all the time without a second thought. Would knowing them personally affect how you perceived them?
4. Scott and his daughter communicate with insects via a helmet. What type of technology would be needed to actually attempt something of that magnitude?
5. Pam the ant talked about “smells” when her colony was being invaded. Is there a way to replicate the scents ants put out in order to achieve specific results? What would those be?
6. Though the writer did a good job including realistic and accurate insect behaviors, what were some inaccuracies that you found? Did the inaccuracies contribute to the story in some way?