



THE MIGHTY

THOR

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**MARVEL
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IND. FEB

**"THE
THUNDER
GOD AND THE
TROLL!"**

**AT LAST! THE IMMORTAL
AVENGER BATTLES A FOE
AS POWERFUL AS THOR
HIMSELF! INTRODUCING:**

ULIK!



THE MIGHTY THOR!

"The THUNDER GOD And The TROLL!"

CAN YON VISION OF LOVELINESS TRULY BE SIF... THE SAME RAVEN-HAIRED SISTER OF HEIMDALL WHOM I ONCE DID BOUNCE UPON MY KNEE WHEN SHE WAS BUT A CHILD?

FOR NOW, AFTER LO, THOSE MANY LONG-FORGOTTEN YEARS, SHE IS VERILY FAIREST OF ALL!

IN ALL THE UNMEASURABLE UNIVERSE, SURELY THERE BE NONE, SAVE

Stan LEE and Jack KIRBY

WHO COULDST CREATE SUCH WONDERMENT!

AND, NE'ER AGAIN SHALL WE SEE THE LIKE OF
VINCE COLLETTA AND SAM ROSEN
INKER AND LETTERER

BRACE THYSELF, MORTAL, FOR THE UNENDING MIRACLES THINE EYES SHALT SOON BEHOLD...

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BEHOLD, GOD OF THUNDER, HOW SKILLED THE ONCE-TIMID SIF HATH BECOME IN THE WAYS OF WEAPONRY!

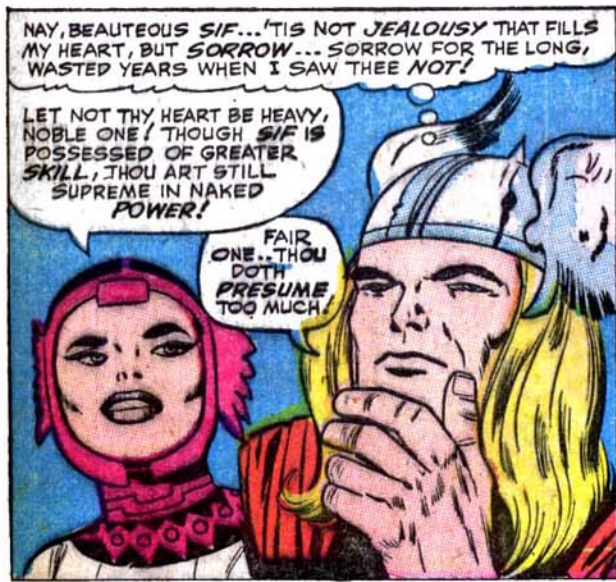
LONG HAVE I PRACTICED, HOPING TO WIN THE APPROVAL OF THE SON OF ODIN!



YET NOW, THOU STANDEST SILENT!

CAN IT BE THOU ART DISPLEASED?

OR, CAN A MIGHTY WARRIOR BE JEALOUS OF A FEMALE'S PROWESS?



NAY, BEAUTEOUS SIF... 'TIS NOT JEALOUSY THAT FILLS MY HEART, BUT SORROW... SORROW FOR THE LONG, WASTED YEARS WHEN I SAW THEE NOT!

LET NOT THY HEART BE HEAVY, NOBLE ONE! THOUGH SIF IS POSSESSED OF GREATER SKILL, THOU ART STILL SUPREME IN NAKED POWER!

FAIR ONE... THOU DOTH PRESUME TOO MUCH!



TRUE, I AM LACKING NOT IN THUNDEROUS FORCE...

...AS THOU SHALT NOW SEE MOST VIVIDLY!

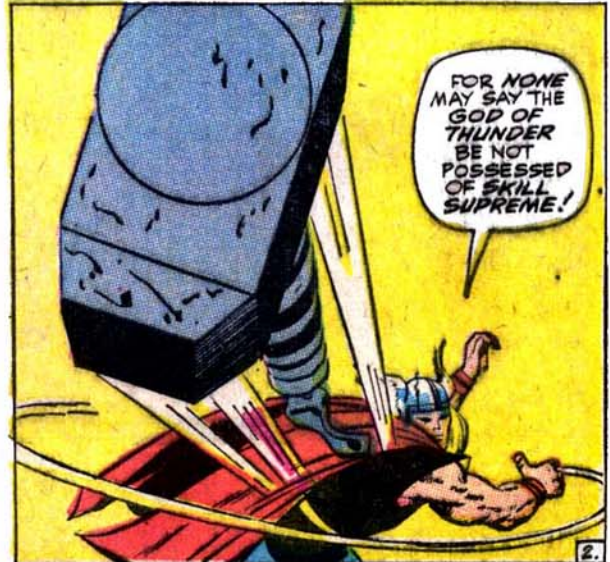
THOOOOM!



THE POWER OF THY BLOW HATH DISLODGED MY SPEARS!

BTTAK!

AY! BUT BEHOLD... THERE IS MORE TO COME...

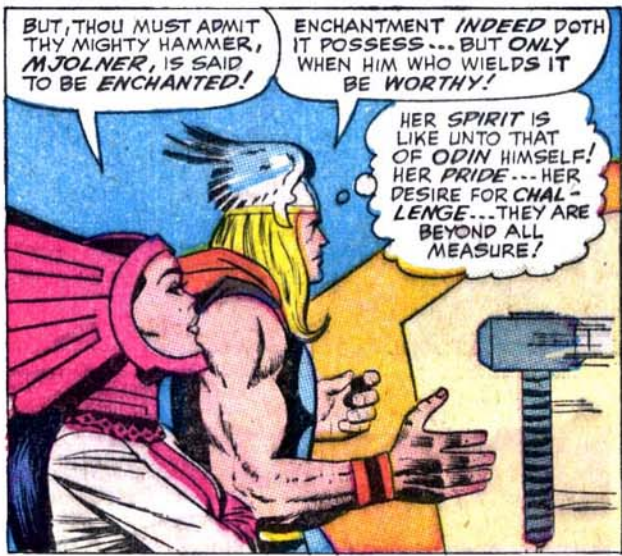


FOR NONE MAY SAY THE GOD OF THUNDER BE NOT POSSESSED OF SKILL SUPREME!



EACH SPEEDING LANCE HAST THOU SEVERED WITH BUT A SINGLE THRUST!

FOR, IF POWER BE MY BIRTHRIGHT... SO, TOO, IS SKILL MY HERITAGE!



BUT, THOU MUST ADMIT THY MIGHTY HAMMER, MJOLNER, IS SAID TO BE ENCHANTED!

ENCHANTMENT INDEED DOTHTH IT POSSESS... BUT ONLY WHEN HIM WHO WIELDS IT BE WORTHY!

HER SPIRIT IS LIKE UNTO THAT OF ODIN HIMSELF! HER PRIDE... HER DESIRE FOR CHALLENGE... THEY ARE BEYOND ALL MEASURE!



THOUGH THOU HAST NO EQUAL WITH HAMMER IN HAND, SIF WOULDST FAIN TEST THY PROWESS WITH WARRIOR'S SWORD!

THERE SHALL BE TIME ENOW FOR SUCH SPORT IN DAYS TO COME! FIRST, THOR WOULDST SPEAK WITH THEE OF GENTLER MATTERS...



BUT, EVEN AS THE TWO LIGHT-HEARTED IMMORTALS SLOWLY TURN TO EACH OTHER... EVIL, HATE-FILLED EYES OBSERVE THEIR EVERY MOVE...

THE FOOLS! HAVE THEY SO SOON FORGOTTEN THAT ASGARD IS AT WAR WITH THE NATION OF THE TROLLS?

NEVER BEFORE HAS SUCH A PRIZE BEEN SO NEAR AT HAND! A PRIZE THAT MUST BE OURS!



DISPERSE!! SURROUND THE TWO ASGARDIANS! WE MUST CAPTURE THE ALL-POWERFUL HAMMER OF THOR!

THEY HEAR US! HE TURNS... THEY PREPARE FOR OUR ATTACK!

NO MATTER! THEY ARE TOO LATE! WE CANNOT BE STOPPED NOW!

REMEMBER THE HAMMER! ONCE IT IS OURS, ASGARD WILL FALL! THE ROCK TROLLS WILL BE MASTERS OF THE COSMOS!

HIS ARM! HOLD HIS ARM
SO HE CANNOT USE HIS
HAMMER!

DEATH TO THE THUNDER
GOD... IN THE NAME OF
THE UNBEATABLE TROLLS!

NAY, MIGHTY THOR! AN
IMMORTAL DOES NOT
FLEE!

WHILST THE BATTLE DOETH
RAGE, THE BLADE OF SIF
SHALL STRIKE... SO
LONG AS LIFE ENDURES!

RUN, SIF...
SAVE THYSELF!
THOR SHALL
KEEP THEM
FROM THEE!

HIS
HAMMER!
SEIZE YE HIS
HAMMER!

BUT THEN, BRACING HIS MIGHTY MUSCLES AGAINST THE
TITANIC POWER OF THE TROLLS, THE THUNDER GOD
HURLS THEM FROM HIM IN A PAROXYSM OF SURGING
RAGE..!

BEGONE,
YE CREATURES
OF EVIL!

COURAGE, FAIR SIF!
TO THY SIDE RACES THOR!

FOR
ASGARD...
AND
JUSTICE!

THOUGH THY WEAPONS BE
FASHIONED IN THE GREATEST
FORGES OF ALL....

NONE MAY STAND
AGAINST THE MAJESTIC
MALLET OF THOR!

HE SHATTERS OUR
MACES AS THOUGH
THEY BE TINDER!

BUT OUR SUPREME
WEAPON SHALL
PROVE HIS UNDOING!



BRRAK!



QUICK! WHILE
HE IS IN POSITION...
RELEASE THE GIANT
BLUDGEON-BOW

ALL STAND
CLEAR! THE
COMMAND IS
... FIRE!

THUS DIES
THE GOD OF
THUNDER!

NAY!
NOT WHILST
SIF BE
STILL IN
JEOPARDY!



BY THE GLITTER OF THE
GOLDEN SPIRES... SO
STRIKES THOR!



THUNDER!



WE HAVE FAILED! NOTHING CAN STAND AGAINST THE ACCURSED URU HAMMER!

BUT, ALL IS NOT YET LOST! THE FEMALE NOW IS OURS!

INTO THE TUNNELS... QUICK! WE MUST LEAVE HIM TO... ULIK!

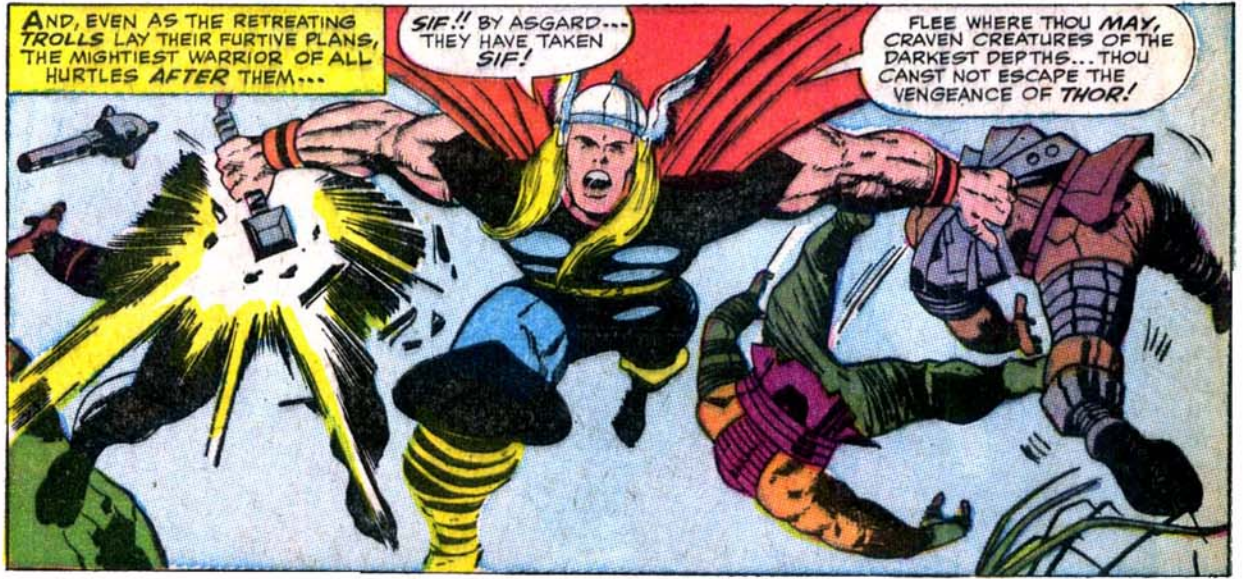
ONLY THE DREADED ULIK HAS THE POWER TO CRUSH THE THUNDER GOD!



ULIK! MIGHTY ULIK! HE IS OUR ONLY HOPE! NOTHING CAN STAND AGAINST THE MIGHT OF ULIK!

FASTER! WE MUST LEAD THE SON OF ODIN DEEP INTO THE CAVES ... FROM WHICH THERE WILL BE NO ESCAPE!

FOR ULIK WILL BE WAITING!



AND, EVEN AS THE RETREATING TROLLS LAY THEIR FURTIVE PLANS, THE MIGHTIEST WARRIOR OF ALL HURTTLES AFTER THEM...

SIF!! BY ASGARD... THEY HAVE TAKEN SIF!

FLEE WHERE THOU MAY, CRAVEN CREATURES OF THE DARKEST DEPTHS... THOU CANST NOT ESCAPE THE VENGEANCE OF THOR!



MOMENTS LATER, FAR BELOW THE SUNLIT SURFACE, THE SOUNDS OF BATTLE ARE STILLED... AS A SILENCE, DEEPER THAN DEATH, SEEMS TO SHROUD THE STYGIAN GLOOM...

I STAND WHERE NO ASGARDIAN HAS EVER STOOD...

... AT THE THRESHOLD OF THE FORBIDDEN UNDER-KINGDOM OF THE TROLLS!



'TIS A STRANGE, FOREBODING WORLD... WITH MORE WINDING TUNNELS THAN MAN CAN COUNT!

BUT, THROUGH ONE SUCH TUNNEL WAS TAKEN THE LOVELY SIF...

AND, FIND IT I SHALL... NO MATTER... I WAIT!!

WHAT UNFLINCHING APPARITION APPEARS BEFORE ME?

I AM CALLED...
ULIK! I AM
MIGHTIEST
OF ALL ROCK
TROLLS! I AM
MIGHTIEST OF
ALL WHO LIVE!
I AM **ULIK!**

LONG HAVE I
WAITED FOR
THIS MOMENT...FOR
THE APPEARANCE OF
THOR... WHO IS
DESTINED TO BE MY
NEXT...MY NEWEST
VICTIM!

ULIK! FOR A LIFETIME HAVE I HEARD THY
NAME SPOKEN IN HUSHED, FEARFUL WHISPERS!
BUT, EVER THOUGHT I 'T WAS MERELY
LEGEND... TO FRIGHTEN YOUNG
ASSGARDIANS INTO SLUMBER!

NO MERE LEGEND
AM I! BUT KNOW YOU,
THUNDER GOD... TO
STAND BEFORE ME IS
TO DIE!

SO SAYING, THE DEADLY
ULIK LUMBERS FORTH...
CLOSER, EVER CLOSER
TO THE STARTLED
IMMORTAL... HIS BESTIAL
HANDS GRIPPING TWO
METAL POUNDERS WITH
WHICH HE CAN SHATTER
A MOUNTAIN AT WILL...

MEANWHILE, IN ANOTHER OF THE CRAZILY-WINDING SUBTERRANEAN TUNNELS, THE CAPTIVE SIF IS BROUGHT BEFORE GEIRRODUR, MERCILESS KING OF THE DEADLY ROCK TROLLS...

THOUGH THE THUNDER GOD BE STILL FREE... WE DID SEIZE THIS FEMALE ASGARDIAN!

BUT SHE IS OF LITTLE WORTH! SHE STRUGGLES EVER! SHE CANNOT BE TAMED!

SHE DID SEEM TO BE A FRIEND... OF THOR!

GOOD! GOOD!

TO THE MINES WITH HER! LET HER LABOR IN THE GLOOM TILL THE BREATH LEAVES HER BODY! THUS DIE ASGARDIANS!

SILENCE, FOOL! THERE IS FAR BETTER USE TO MAKE OF HER...!

SHE SHALL BE THE MEANS BY WHICH WE CAPTURE THE HAMMER OF THOR! ATTEND MY WORDS... ALL!

HERE, IN THE LAND WHERE IMMORTALS DWELL, THE POWER OF THE THUNDER GOD IS TOO GREAT! SO, WE SHALL USE THE FEMALE TO LURE HIM TO EARTH...!

BUT, EVEN ON THE PLANET OF MORTALS, HIS THUNDEROUS POWER... HIS ENCHANTED MALLET STILL REMAIN!

AY... BUT I KNOW SOMETHING ELSE... SOMETHING KNOWN TO NO OTHER TROLL...

ON EARTH, HE ASSUMES THE POWERLESS IDENTITY OF A DR. BLAKE!..

AND, IT IS AT THAT MOMENT WHEN WE SHALL STRIKE!

BLIST!

QUICKLY! THERE IS NO TIME TO LOSE!

SHE HAS ABSORBED THE VAPORS OF QUIETUDE! SHE WILL NOT RESIST!

BRING HER TO GRAK, WHO STANDS GUARD AT OUR BASE BENEATH BIFROST, THE RAINBOW BRIDGE!

AT LAST THE TROLLS SHALL BE TRIUMPHANT!

INTO THE TUNNEL OF WIND CURRENTS WITH HER!

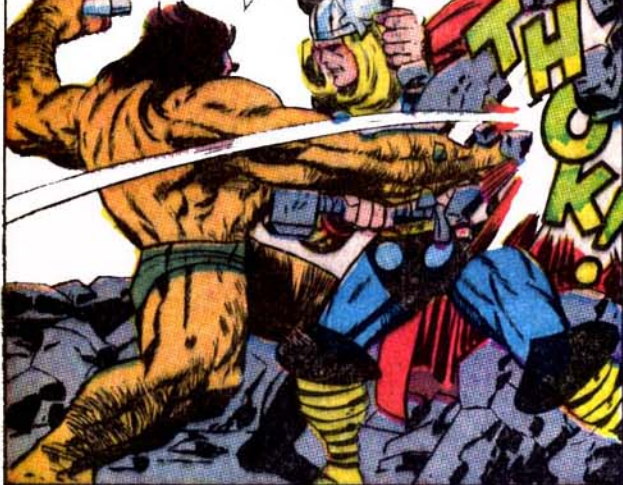
THERE! IT IS DONE!

SHE WILL REACH THE WAITING GRAK WITHIN MERE MINUTES!

MEANWHILE, THE MOST POWERFUL TROLL OF ALL ATTACKS THE STARTLED THUNDER GOD WITH A BLINDING SPEED WHICH BELIES HIS MASSIVE SIZE...

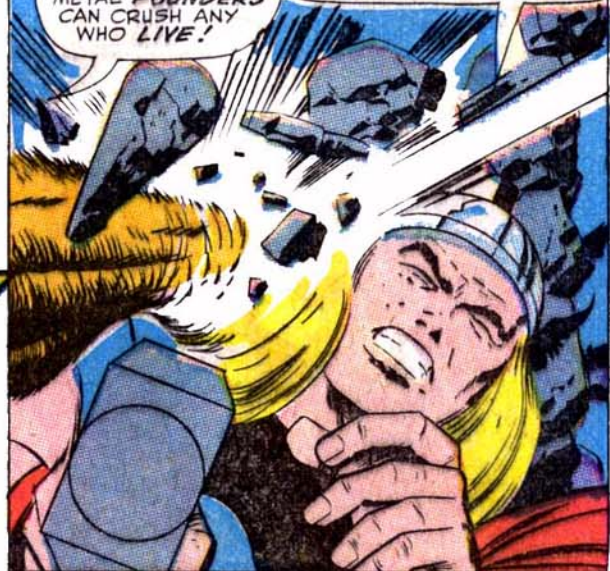
ONCE YOU HAVE BEEN DESTROYED, ULIK WILL BE ACCLAIMED MIGHTIEST OF ALL!

NEVER WILT THOU KNOW SUCH A MOMENT!



HAVE YOU SO SOON FORGOTTEN? A BLOW FROM ULIK'S METAL POUNDERS CAN CRUSH ANY WHO LIVE!

BUT A GOD OF THUNDER STANDS NOT IDLY BY TO RECEIVE SUCH BLOWS!



INSTEAD, HE DOTH DART AND WEAVE!

...UNTIL HE SNARES HIS FOE IN HIS OWN STEEL-SINUED HAND!



AND THEN... HE SHOWS WHAT IT DOTH MEAN TO CHALLENGE THE SON OF ODIN!



ARRGGHHH! ASGARDIANS DO NAUGHT BUT TALK! NONE MAY VANQUISH A TROLL... WE BATTLE ON UNTIL THE DEATH!!

AND ULIK IS THE MIGHTIEST TROLL OF ALL!

TO THE DEATH, THEN LET IT BE!

THOUGH THY STRENGTH BE THAT OF A THOUSAND... STILL ART THOU MERELY TROLL... WHILE STILL IS THOR... GOD OF THUNDER!



GRROWWRRR!
--THE Madder a
TROLL BECOMES...
THE MORE POWER-
FUL GROW HIS
LIMBS!

IN MY BURNING RAGE, THE
METAL POUNDERS OF ULIK
WILL GRIND YOU TO NOTHING-
NESS!



KNOW YOU
THIS...THOUGH
THY RAGE MAY
SHAKE THE VERY
STARS--

--THE ANGER OF
THOR SURPASSETH
ALL DESCRIPTION!

SPRAK!



HE HATH
STUMBLER!

YET, MY STRONGEST BLOW DID
INJURE HIM NOT!

NOW DO I PERCEIVE
WHY WARRIORS
SHUDDER AT HIS
VERY NAME!

FOR THAT, YOU
DIE A THOUSANDFOLD!



NEVER HAVE I BEHELD SUCH
NAKED FURY WITHIN A LIVING
BEING!

THE MORE HE BE
BATTERED, THE
MORE DEADLY
HE BECOMES!

HE IS IMPERVIOUS
TO PAIN...A STRANGER
TO REASON OR
MERCY...

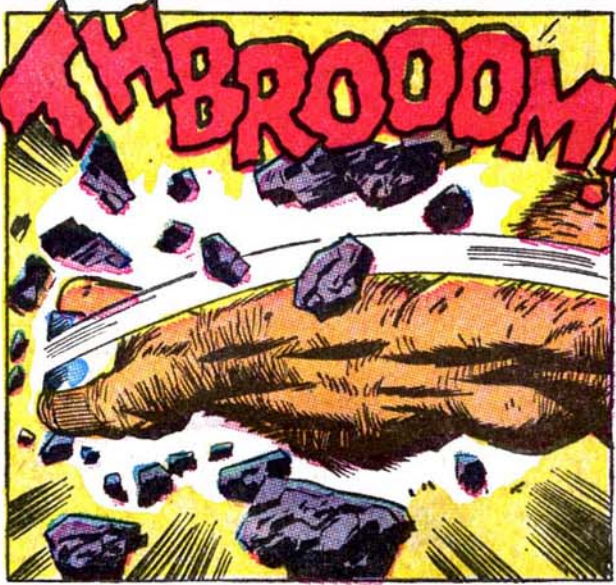
HOW THEN
CAN ONE SUCH
AS HE
VANQUISHED...
EVEN BY THE SON
OF ODIN?



HE DOTH SWING WIDE HIS ARM... PREPARING TO STRIKE A **LETHAL BLOW!**

EVEN WITHOUT HIS METAL **POUNDER**, HIS STRENGTH SEEMS VIRTUALLY THE EQUAL OF MINE OWN!..!

BUT, WITH **POUNDER** IN HAND, HE DOTH POSSESS POWER ENOW TO LEVEL A **PLANET!**



THBROOOM!

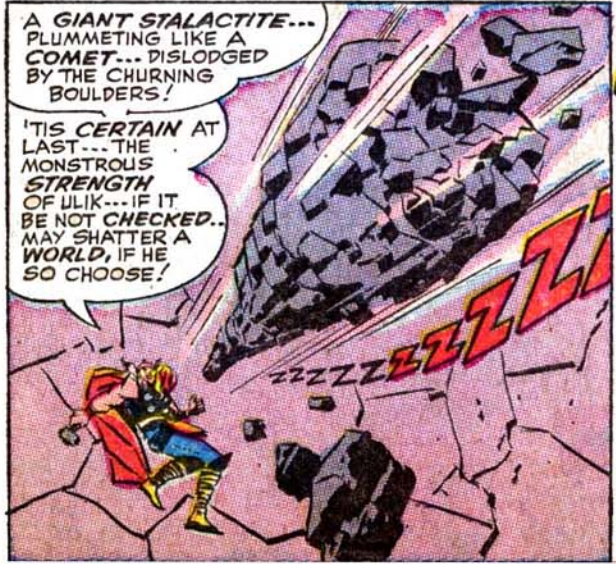


NOT ALL THE POWER OF **THOR** COULD STOP HIM IN TIME!

HE HATH RENT ASUNDER THE VERY WALL OF YON CAVERN...

A **LETHAL SHOCK WAVE** HATH HE CREATED... AS THE ENTIRE **MOUNTAIN** QUAKES AND CRUMBLES!

PROOOOMMM!



A **GIANT STALACTITE**... PLUMMETING LIKE A **COMET**... DISLODGED BY THE CHURNING BOULDERS!

'TIS CERTAIN AT LAST... THE MONSTROUS **STRENGTH** OF ULIK... IF IT BE NOT CHECKED... MAY SHATTER A **WORLD**, IF HE SO CHOOSE!

ZZZZZZZZZZ



SPK LAKK!

BUT, CHECKED IT SHALL **BE**... WHILST **THOR** DOTH **LIVE!**

NOW... ONE CRUSHING BLOW WITH MY METAL POUNDER... AND THE MIGHTY THOR WILL NEVER RISE AGAIN!

I DID NOT DREAM HE WAS SO NEAR! HE DOETH PREPARE TO STRIKE!

MOVING WITH THE SMOOTH, FLAWLESS SPEED WHICH ONLY A THUNDER GOD CAN ATTAIN, THE IMMORTAL AVENGER ROLLS OUT OF HARM'S WAY IN TIME TO DODGE A BLOW THAT NO LIMB OF FLESH AND BLOOD COULD SURVIVE...

BLOOW!

... BUT, SO INDESCRIBABLY EARTH-SHATTERING IS THE POWER OF ULIK'S ARM... SO DESTRUCTIVE AND DEADLY IS HIS METAL POUNDER... THAT EVEN A NEAR MISS IS ENOUGH TO NUMB THE LEG OF THOR...!

AND, AS THE GOLDEN-HAIRED CHAMPION IS MOMENTARILY LINABLE TO RISE... ULIK POUNCES... WITH THE SAVAGERY AND HATE THAT ONLY A TROLL CAN MUSTER...

DEATH TO THE THUNDER GOD!! NOTHING CAN SAVE YOU NOW! ULIK WILL SHOW NO MERCY!

'TIS THE MOMENT I HAVE FEARED! HE IS UPON ME!

THE LIFE DOTH
RETURN TO MY LEG
ONCE MORE...

BUT, ALAS...
'TIS TOO
LATE!

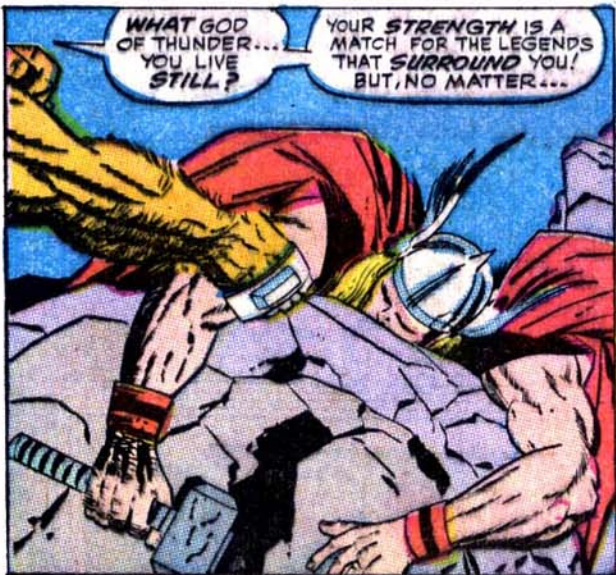


PTHUM!



WHAT GOD
OF THUNDER...
YOU LIVE
STILL?

YOUR **STRENGTH** IS A
MATCH FOR THE LEGENDS
THAT **SURROUND** YOU!
BUT, NO MATTER...



...IT WILL **NOT** BE ENOUGH
TO SAVE YOU FROM THE FINAL,
FATAL, ALL-POWERFUL **BODY-
CRUSHER BLOW** OF ULIK!!

LET ME THEN
GIRD MYSELF..
FOR THE **TEST
SUPREME** IS
NOW AT HAND!



**BUT, BEFORE THE UNIVERSALLY-DREADED, SUPREMELY-
POTENT BLOW OF ULIK CAN BE DELIVERED...**

A **SUDDEN BEAM
OF LIGHT...** AS
THOUGH FROM OUT
OF NOWHERE...

IT DOTH **ENVELOP** THE
MURDEROUS TROLL...
AND CAUSES HIM TO
FADE FROM SIGHT!!



CAN THIS BE...
THE HANDIWORK
OF ODIN??

BUT, 'TIS MOST **UNSEEMLY...**
FOR, AS THE **BATTLE** WAS
MINE... SO TOO MUST THE
VICTORY BE CLAIMED BY
**THOR... AND BY NONE
OTHER!**

REST EASY,
THUNDER GOD!
THAT WHICH YOU
HAVE BEHELD IS
**NOT THE DOING
OF THE LORD
OF ASGARD!**



A **VOICE!** BUT
ONLY THE THROAT
OF A **TROLL** COULD
ISSUE FORTH SUCH
SOUND!



YOU HAVE GUESSED RIGHTLY, ASGARDIAN! I AM GEIRRODUR... KING OF THE TROLLS!

AND YOU, SON OF ODIN... WITH ALL YOUR POWER... ALL YOUR MIGHT... HAVE FALLEN INTO MY GREATEST TRAP!

TRAP! WHO DARES SPEAK TO THOR OF TRAPS?!!

I DARE... FOR YOU CAN NEVER ESCAPE!!



WITH YOU DEFENDING YOUR FATHER'S REALM, I CANNOT WIN A CLEAR-CUT VICTORY!

THUS, BY MEANS OF A RAY, KNOWN ONLY TO THE KING OF THE TROLLS, HAVE I SENT ULIK TO THE PLANET EARTH... WHERE HE SHALL HOLD THE HELPLESS SIF AS HOSTAGE!

NOW, THUNDER GOD... THE CHOICE IS YOURS! REMAIN HERE, AND THE FEMALE DIES!

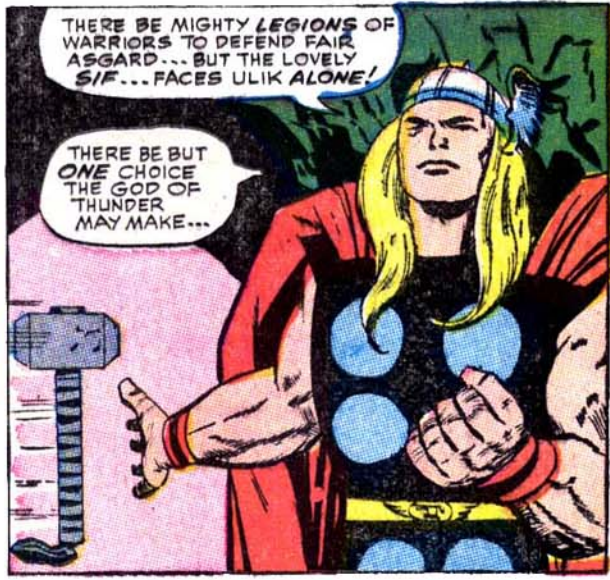
OR GET THEE TO EARTH... TO SAVE HER... AND ASGARD FALLS BENEATH THE HEEL OF GEIRRODUR!



VILLAIN MOST FOUL!! NO MATTER WHAT FATE AWAITS ALL OTHERS... THOU SHALT PERISH BY THE HAMMER OF...
= WAIT!! =

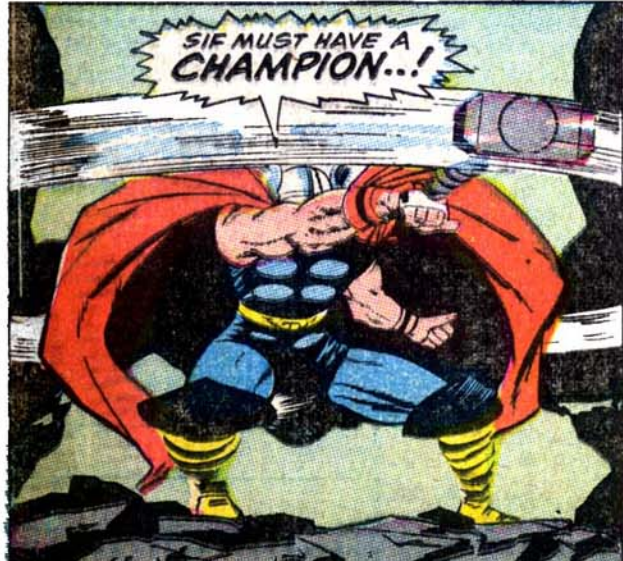
I HAVE BEEN DECEIVED! 'T WAS BUT A SHADOWY IMAGE MINE EYES DID BEHOLD...

WHICH FADES INTO NOTHINGNESS EVEN AS I DO STRIKE!



THERE BE MIGHTY LEGIONS OF WARRIORS TO DEFEND FAIR ASGARD... BUT THE LOVELY SIF... FACES ULIK ALONE!

THERE BE BUT ONE CHOICE THE GOD OF THUNDER MAY MAKE...



SIF MUST HAVE A CHAMPION...!



... AND ULIK MUST PERISH!!

BY THE TOWERING SPIRES OF ASGARD... IT SHALL COME TO PASS!



YOU WERE RIGHT, WISE GEIRRODUR! THE THUNDER GOD DID SNAP AT THE BAIT!

NOW... WITH THOR AND HIS HAMMER ON THE WAY TO EARTH, WE CAN STRIKE AT ASGARD... AND NONE HAVE THE POWER TO STOP US!

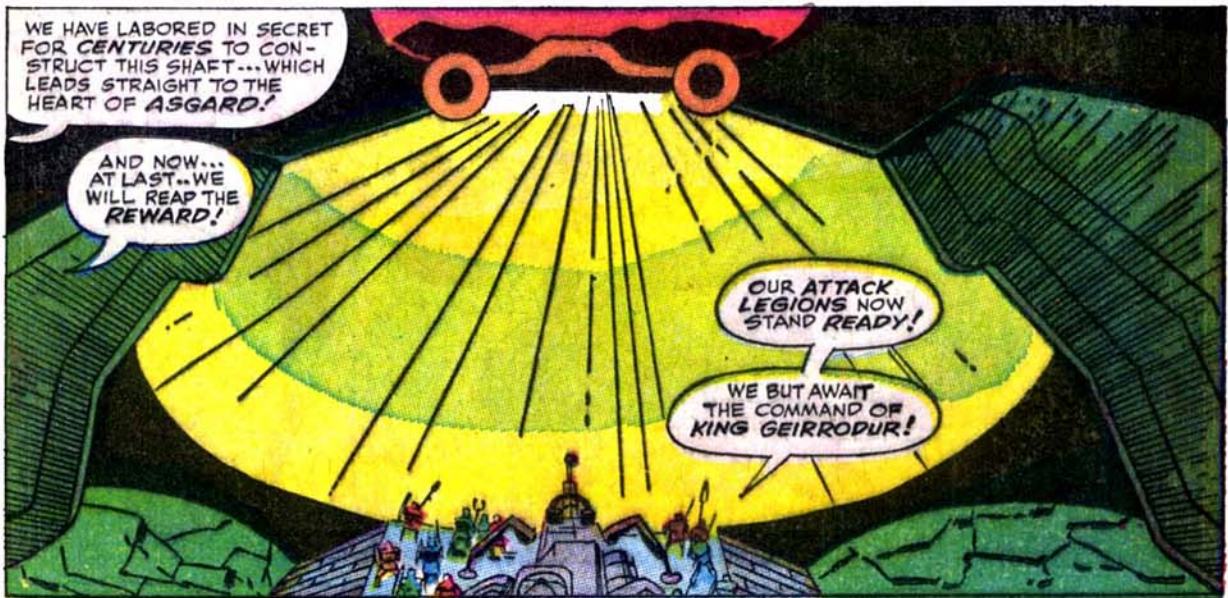
PREPARE FOR INVASION!



THROW OPEN THE DOORS OF... THE INVASION SHAFT!!

SKASK!

GRAK HEARS... AND OBEYS!



WE HAVE LABORED IN SECRET FOR CENTURIES TO CONSTRUCT THIS SHAFT... WHICH LEADS STRAIGHT TO THE HEART OF ASGARD!

AND NOW... AT LAST... WE WILL REAP THE REWARD!

OUR ATTACK LEGIONS NOW STAND READY!

WE BUT AWAIT THE COMMAND OF KING GEIRRODUR!



THEN BE SILENT, ALL! THESE ARE THE ORDERS OF THE KING OF THE TROLLS!

ASGARD MUST FALL!

YOU WILL FIGHT TO THE DEATH! THERE WILL BE NO RETREAT... NO SURRENDER! DEATH TO OUR ENEMIES!



ULIK... THE MIGHTIEST WARRIOR OF ALL... WILL SOON SLAY THOR, AND CAPTURE HIS ENCHANTED HAMMER!

WHILE YOU... THE LARGEST, MOST POWERFUL ARMY OF TROLLS EVER ASSEMBLED... WILL CONQUER ASGARD... AND SLAY ALL WHO DWELL WITHIN THE GOLDEN GATES...

EVEN LORDLY ODIN WILL NOT ESCAPE!! A TROLL SHOWS NO MERCY! AND... YOU ALL ARE TROLLS!

OUR WORKSHOPS HAVE PROVIDED YOU WITH THE DEADLIEST WEAPONS EVER MADE... BUT THE GREATEST WEAPON OF ALL IS YOUR OWN TROLL SAVAGERY!

NOW STRIKE! THE INVASION IS BEGUN! ASGARD MUST FALL!

ASGARD MUST FALL!



SHOOM!

RRRRRRRRRR

WHILE, AN INDESCRIBABLE DISTANCE AWAY... AT THAT VERY MICRO-SECOND... A SPINNING VORTEX APPEARS ON A NEW YORK ROOF-TOP...

BY THE BRISTLING BEARD OF ODIN... I AM HERE!

THE JOURNEY THEN IS ENDED!



BUT, THE BATTLE IS NOT YET BEGUN!

SOMEWHERE... IN YON VAST, TEEMING METROPOLIS, THE LOVELY SIF IS CAPTIVE!

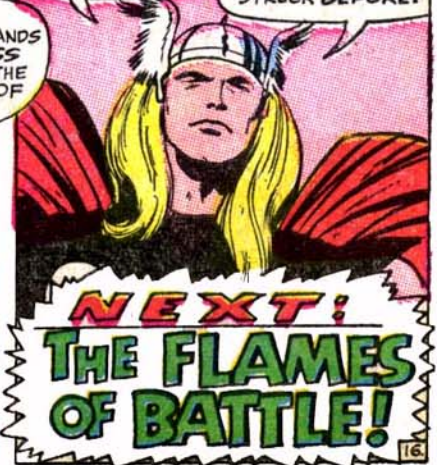
AND SHE STANDS HELPLESS BEFORE THE THREAT OF ULIK!



ULIK... MIGHTIEST, MOST BESTIAL, MOST DEADLY TROLL OF ALL!

BUT, WHERE'ER THEY BE... THE THUNDER GOD SHALL FIND THEM!

AND THEN SHALL MY HAMMER STRIKE... AS IT HATH NEVER, STRUCK BEFORE!



NEXT:
THE FLAMES OF BATTLE!

BEGINNING!

THE TRAGEDY OF HOGUN!

ON THE TRAIL TO ASGARD, MIGHTY THOR AND HIS COMRADES--AT--ARMS-- HOGUN THE GRIM-- FANDRAL THE DASHING-- FOLLOWED BY THE VORACIOUS VOLSTAGG--FIND A GRIM SIGHT ALONG THE TRAIL--

'TIS SAGUTA-- A WARRIOR FROM MY OWN HOMELAND!

CUT ME DOWN-- I PRAY-- ELSE SLAY ME-- ON THE SPOT--!

COURAGE, STRANGER! THE FLASHING BLADE OF FANDRAL SHALL FREE THEE IN A TRICE!

SPEAK COUNTRYMAN!! WHO HATH DONE A DEED SO FOUL TO THEE?

FABULOUSLY PRESENTED AT ITS FULL FLAVOR PEAK BY: **STAN LEE and JACK KIRBY**

INKED BY: **VINCE COLLETTA**

LETTERED BY: **ARTIE SIMEK**



WE HAVE FOUND THEE, SAGUTA, BUT WE HAVE FOUND THEE TOO LATE!

BEFORE THE BREATH DOTH LEAVE THY BODY--SPEAK ME THE NAME OF HIM WHO HATH SLAIN THEE!

A VILLAINY SUCH AS THIS--ON ASGARD SOIL-- MUST BE SUMMARILY AVENGED!



THEN-- HEAR ME-- HOGUN--

LONG HAVE OUR PEOPLE--THOUGHT THEE DEAD! BUT--NOW I SEE--THOU DIDST BUT FLEE--THE DREADED TYRANNY OF--MOGUL!

I, TOO, HAVE DARED--! I, TOO, HAVE FLED-- BUT--HE FOUND ME--!

I WAS LEFT-- TO PERISH-- SO THAT OTHERS MIGHT KNOW--NONE MAY FLEE--FROM-- MOGUL--!

WHAT?! DIDST MINE EARS HEAR RIGHTLY?? DIDST THOU UTTER THE VILE NAME OF--MOGUL?!!



WHERE IS HE?? SAGUTA-- THOU CANST NOT DIE TILL I DO KNOW!!

TELL ME, COUNTRYMAN-- WHERE IS MOGUL??



THOU ART TOO LATE, GRIM HOGUN!! HE HATH BEEN SILENCED-- BY DEATH!

NO! IT CANNOT BE! I MUST FIND HIM! I MUST FIND MOGUL!

THOR! VOLSTAGG! TO MY SIDE! I CANNOT RESTRAIN HIM ALONE!

HE HEARS US NOT! TRULY, HE BE LIKE A MAN POSSESSED!

TAKE HEART, FANRAL-- VALOROUS VOLSTAGG DOTH HEAR THEE!

'TIS NOT THINE EARS I NEED-- BUT THY GIRTH!

SHOW THYSELF, MOGUL!! 'TIS HOGUN WHO CALLS! HOGUN WHO CHALLENGES THEE!



SUPPENLY, BEFORE ANOTHER WORD CAN BE
UTTERED--

POOF!

BEHOLD!!
A BLINDING,
BLAZING
SURGE OF
SHADOW
AND
SMOKE--!

STAND BACK,
ALL! SOMETHING
TAKES SHAPE
WITHIN THE
SWIRLING
MIST!!

KNOW YOU, HOGUN--
THY RASH CHALLENGE
HATH BEEN HEARD--
HEARD BY MOGUL--
OF THE MYSTIC
MOUNTAIN!

BUT, BETTER FOR
THEE, DOOMED ONE
-- IF THY WITLESS
CRY HAD NOT
FALLEN UPON MINE
EARS!



HOLD, ENCHANTED ONE! 'TIS THOR WHO COMMANDS YON PARTY!
'TIS THOR TO WHOM THOU FIRST MUST ANSWER! SO BE IT!

NO, THUNDER GOD!!! I SAY THEE MAY! THE CHALLENGE
IS MINE! IT MUST BE HOGUN WHO WRESTS FROM HIM
THE MISSING BATTLE STANDARD--THOUGH A THOUSAND
DEATHS AWAIT ME--IT MUST BE HOGUN!

HAVE A CARE,
THUNDER GOD!
AT LAST THOU
HAST MET ONE
WHOSE SWORD
IS MIGHTIER BY
FAR THAN THINE
OWN HAMMER!

STAND THEE
BACK, SON OF
ODIN--BACK--
AND BEHOLD
THE POWER
OF MOGUL!

STAND THEE ASIDE FANDRAL!
HOW CAN VOLSTAGG BRING HIS
MAGNIFICENT GIRTH TO BEAR
IF THOU DOEST NOT AFFORD
HIM ROOM?

THOU HAST
ROOM
ENOW FOR
TWENTY--
AND
EXCUSES
ENOW, AS
WELL!

LET THY
LIMBS DO
THE TASK,
VOLUBLE
ONE--THY
MOUTH
HATH
EARNED
A REST!





FASTER THAN A SERPENT DO TH IT STRIKE--

AND, SMALL WONDER--FOR IN TRUTH IT HATH LIFE OF ITS OWN--A SERPENT'S LIFE!!

NAY, NONE MAY CHALLENGE MOGUL --OF THE MYSTIC MOUNTAIN!

THINKEST THOU A MERE SORCERER'S TRICK CAN STAY THE WRATH OF THOR?

THOU HAST COMMITTED MURDER MOST FOUL UPON THE HALLOWED SOIL OF ASSGARD-- AND FOR SUCH OFFENSE, THERE MUST BE RETALIATION MOST SWIFT!

THUNDER GOD!! TAKE WARNING! HOGUN WILL NOT BE CHEATED OF HIS VENGEANCE --NOT EVEN BY THEE!

LET US ATTACK IN UNISON! MY BLADE FAIR THIRSTS TO TEST ITS METTLE AGAINST YON SERPENTINE SWORD!



VALIANT VOLSTAGG WOULDST FIGHT ALONE--BUT WILL NOT DEPRIVE THEE OF THY PLEASURES!

WHY STANDEST THOU THUS, MOGUL? DEFEND THYSELF--OR DIE!



NONE MAY THREATEN MOGUL!

BY THE BEARD OF ODIN--!!

LOOK YOU SKYWARD, THUNDER GOD--

SEE WHY MOGUL SHALL NOT PERISH!

BASE COWARD!! THOU HAST SUMMONED THY JINNI DEVIL!!

BUT, THOUGH ALL THE DEMONS OF THE NETHERWORLD ARE AT THY SIDE--HOGUN SHALL DESTROY THEE!



TOO LONG HAVE I TARRIED HERE! I HAVE MATTERS OF GREATER MOMENT TO OVERSEE!

BUT, IF BATTLE BE TO YOUR LIKING, FIND YE THE MYSTIC MOUNTAIN, AND 'TIS THERE THY DOOM AWAITS THEE!

THOR!! HURL NOT THY HAMMER! NONE BUT HOGUN MUST BRING HIM TO HIS KNEES! THE CAUSE IS MINE!

MOGUL HAS EVER SERVED BY HIS GIANT JINNI SLAVE--THE LAST OF A SPECIES WHOSE ORIGIN IS UNKNOWN, BUT WHO POSSESSES POWERS WHICH DEFY THE IMAGINATION!

'TWAS MOGUL WHO ENSLAVED MY PEOPLE--WHO HOLDS THEM STILL IN BONDAGE!' TWAS HE WHO DROVE ME FROM MY LAND!

AND, THOUGH I SEARCHED 20, THESE MANY YEARS, I COULD NE'ER FIND THE MYSTIC MOUNTAIN ON WHICH HE DWELLS!

FASTER, MY INVINCIBLE SLAVE--FASTER! ONCE WE REACH THE MYSTIC MOUNTAIN, THEN MOGUL IS TRULY MASTER OF ALL!

NOT EVEN THE AWESOME MIGHT OF ASGARD ASSEMBLED CAN STAND AGAINST ME!



THOU MUST NEEDS LEAVE ME NOW--AS I CONTINUE UPON MY QUEST ALONE!

NO MATTER THE TIME IT TAKES--NO MATTER THE PRICE I MUST PAY--I SHALL FIND THE MYSTIC MOUNTAIN--I SHALL DESTROY MOGUL!

NAY, MY FRIEND--THOU SHALT NOT GO ALONE! AT LAST WE KNOW WHY A SMILE DOETH NEVER CROSS THY LIPS--WHY THOU HAS EVER BEEN HOGUN--THE GRIM!

WE SHALL NOT DESERT THEE --FOR THOU ART BROTHER TO US ALL--NOW AND FOREVER!



BUT, MINE OWN FATHER--MY BROTHERS, YOUNG AND OLD--ALL PERISHED--SEEKING THE ACCURSED MOUNTAIN! SUCH A FATE--IS NOT--FOR THEE TO SHARE!

BY THE SWORD I CLUTCH-- BY THE NAME I BEAR--I SWEAR THAT HOGUN'S FATE SHALL BE THE FATE OF FANDRAL!

SO SPEAKS VOLSTAGG --THE FEAR-LESS FLOWER OF CHIVALRY!

IN THE NAME OF ODIN--SO SAY WE ALL!



NEXT:
TO FIND THE MYSTIC MOUNTAIN!