



THE MIGHTY

THOR

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MARVEL COMICS GROUP
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WHO IS...
REPLICUS?



THE MIGHTY THOR!

"THE WRATH OF REPLICUS"

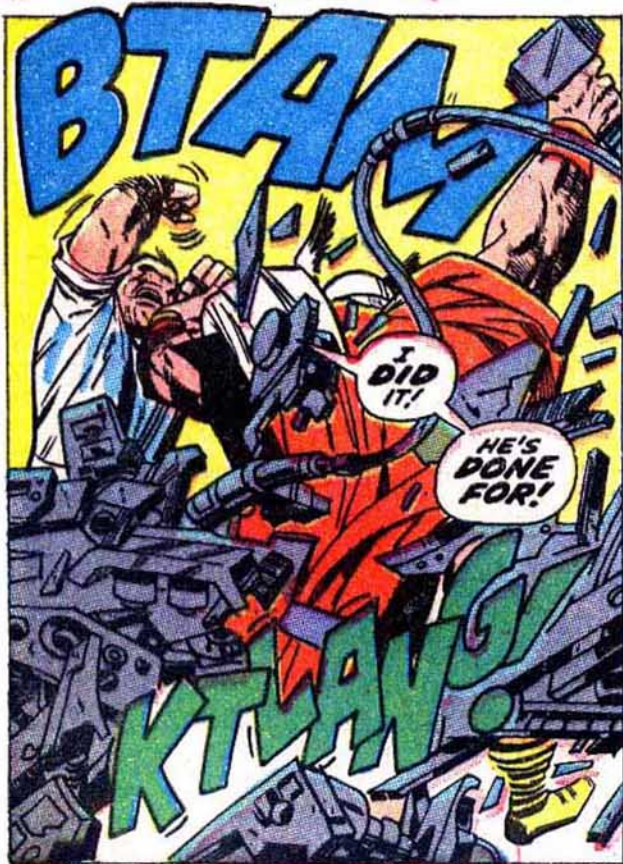
FEATURING:
THE MURDEROUS MENACE
OF MOB-LEADER
SLUGGER SYKES!



A DAZZLING
STAN LEE and JACK KIRBY
DRAMA-IN-DEPTH!

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KNOW SOMETHIN', MISTER? I GOT A HUNCH YOU'N ME
ARE GONNA GET ALONG JUST FINE!

WHAT OTHER LITTLE
SURPRISES HAVE YA
GOT UP YER SLEEVE,
CHUDA?

YOU SOON SHALL
SEE, SYKES--
AFTER I GET
OUR FALLEN
FRIEND BACK
ON HIS FEET!



MY CYBERNETIC
REPLICAS OF
REAL BEINGS ARE
FAR TOO VALUABLE
TO BE CARELESSLY
DISCARDED!

RISE, THOR!
YOU NOW
CAN RISE
AGAIN!

BOY! IF ONLY
WE COULD HANDLE
THE REAL THING
AS EASY AS THAT
ROBOT!



ROBOT? NO, MY
FRIEND--HE IS
FAR FAR MORE
THAN A MERE
ROBOT! HE IS AN
ACTUAL REPLICAI!

JUST AS ALL
THE CREATIONS
I CONSTRUCT
ARE REPLICAS!

GO, THOR--IT IS
TIME TO JOIN
YOUR FELLOW
REPLICAS IN THE
STORAGE
CHAMBER!



WAIT!
WHAT
ABOUT THE
ONE YOU
WERE
TELLIN'
ME ABOUT?

AN! YOU MEAN MY
SUPREME CREATION--
THE MOST POWERFUL
REPLICA OF ALL!

THE ONE WHICH I
PROMISED WOULD BE
YOUR GREATEST WEAPON
--WHICH WILL GIVE YOU
MASTERY OF ALL THE
UNDERWORLD--IN FACT--
MASTERY OVER ALL
MANKIND!

HE IS KEPT
IN A SPECIAL
PLACE--AS YOU
SHALL SEE.



OKAY! OKAY! YOU
MADE YER POINT!
YA DON'T HAVETA
HIT ME WITH ANY
MORE HARD SELL!
JUST TROT 'IM
OUT NOW!

AND HE BETTER BE AS
GOOD AS YA SAY HE IS!
'CAUSE IF THE REAL
THOR EVER TACKLES
ME, IT'LL TAKE MORE'N
FISTS TO BEAT 'IM!



WITHIN
A FEW
SECONDS
YOU CAN
JUDGE
FOR
YOUR-
SELF!

AND NOW--PREPARE TO WITNESS THE LIVING
EMBODIMENT OF PURE, UNLEASHED POWER--!



WHEN THIS
SPECIALLY-
CONSTRUCTED
CYBERNETIC
CASE SNAPS
OPEN--YOU
WILL SEE--

REPLICUS!

THERE IS **NO CRIME** HE CANNOT SUCCESSFULLY COMMIT--**NO ORDER** HE CANNOT FAITHFULLY EXECUTE--**NO GOAL** HE CANNOT EASILY ACHIEVE!

I AM REPLICAS MODEL X-3! I ANSWER TO THE NAME **REPLICUS!** I AM PRESENTLY EQUIPPED WITH A LIMITED **POWER PACK**, FOR THE PURPOSE OF **DEMONSTRATION!**

THE MOST POWERFUL **THINKING AUTOMATON** EVER CREATED!! THE MOST **INVINCIBLE WEAPON** OF ALL TIME!

IF MY DEMONSTRATION PROVES **SATISFACTORY**, MY MASTER, THE BEING NAMED **CHUDA**, WILL EQUIP ME FOR **PERMANENT OPERATION!**

HE LOOKS STRONG ENOUGH TO HANDLE A **DOZEN THORS!!**

SO WHAT'RE WE **WAITIN'** FOR? LET'S SEE WHAT HE CAN **DO!**

MY CIRCUITS ARE FULLY **ACTIVATED!** I AWAIT MY **FIRST COMMAND!**

SAY! WE JUST THOUGHT OF SOMETHING! THE **STAR** OF THIS MAG IS SUPPOSED TO BE A CAT NAMED **THOR!** SO, WHAT SAY WE SWITCH OUR SCENE FOR A WHILE AND ZERO IN ON THE **THUNDER GOD** AS HE MAKES A HOUSE-CALL IN HIS MORTAL IDENTITY OF **DR. DON BLAKE!**

MRS. GARDEN? OH, YOU MUST MEAN **GRANNY GARDENIA!**

THANK YOU, **SON!**

SHE'S NOT A REGULAR PATIENT OF MINE, BUT I **NEVER REFUSE A CALL** IF I CAN HELP IT!

SHE'S ON THE NEXT FLOOR--**APARTMENT 3B, DOC!**



THE **POOR OLD LADY** --LIVING ALONE IN A PLACE LIKE THIS--!

SHE MUST HAVE GOTTEN THE NICKNAME **GRANNY GARDENIA** BECAUSE SHE SELLS FLOWERS ON THE STREET CORNER!

GOOD AFTERNOON, **GRAN**-- EH, MRS. GARDEN, I'M **DR. BLAKE!**

I **KNEW** YOU WEREN'T **LAWRENCE WELK**, SONNY!

COME IN-- **COME IN**-- I'M JUST HAVIN' MESELF A WEE BIT O' **PORRIDGE!**



AHH, IT'S A **FOINE** LAD YE ARE TO COME AND LOOK AFTER A WEE OLD **LADY!**

SURE, IT'S MORE THAN ME OWN BROTH OF A **BOY** IS AFTER DOIN'!



YOUR BOY? YOU MEAN YOU HAVE A SON HERE IN THE CITY, MRS. GARDEN?

INDEED I DO, LAD! BUT YE'D NEVER KNOW IT IF YE HAD TO WAIT FOR THE SCALAWAG TO COME VISIT HIS AILIN' OL' MOTHER!

THERE SHE IS--!

THAT'S A SAWBONES VISITIN' HER! SO THAT'S WHY SHE AINT BEEN AROUND WITH HER FLOWERS LATELY!

VOICES-- BEHIND ME! THERE'S SOMEONE AT THE DOOR! CAN IT BE HER SON?



HIYA, GRANNY! SLUGGER ASKED US TO LOOK IN ON YA AND SEE IF YER OKAY!

HE DON'T LIKE IT WHEN YA AINT AROUND TO SELL 'IM A FRESH GARDENIA EVERY DAY!

BE SURE YA GET THE OL' LADY BACK ON HER FEET, DOC! THEM'S SLUGGER SYKES' ORDERS, SEEB?

AND JUST WHO IS SLUGGER SYKES??

HUSH, LADDIE! LET GRANNY DO THE TALKING!



SLUGGER IS MY BEST CUSTOMER! I SELL THE DEAR BOY A GARDENIA EVERY DAY!

YE'LL FIND HIS FLOWERS RIGHT THERE ON THE DRESSER! OL' GRANNY WOULDN'T LET HIM DOWN, BOYS!

SLUGGER SYKES! I'VE HEARD THAT NAME! ISN'T HE THE BIG UNDER-WORLD BOSS--?

AHH, TIS A FOINE SENSE OF HUMOR YOU HAVE, DOCTOR!



YOU BETTER GET THAT PILL PUSHER TO BUTTON HIS LIP, GRANNY-- IF HE WANTS A STAY HEALTHY!

IT'S OKAY, BLACKIE! IT AINT GRANNY'S FAULT! SHE'S BEEN SICK, AINT SHE?

JUST SO LONG AS HE GETS HIS FLOWER--!

HEY! THIS DON'T SMELL FRESH ENUFF FER SLUGGER!

YA KNOW HOW SUPER-STITIOUS HE IS ABOUT HAVIN A NEW ONE FROM HER EVERY DAY!



NOW REMEMBER, LITTLE MAN--TAKE GOOD CARE OF GRANNY--OR YA'LL BE HEARIN' FROM SLUGGER SYKES!

IF EVER HE COULDN'T BUY A GARDENIA FROM HER EVERY DAY, HE'D GET REAL MAD!

AND WE WOULDN'T EVER WANT THAT TO HAPPEN, WOULD WE, CHUM?

DON'T FORGET TO LEAVE ME MONEY ON THE TABLE! I'M NOT TOO SICK TO REMEMBER THAT, ME FOINE BUCKOS!

I GUESS WE CAN TAKE OFF NOW! I GOT A HUNCH THE DOC GITS THE MESSAGE!

Y'KNOW SOMETHIN', BLACKIE? THIS GUY'S SO SKINNY, HE COULD USE A SAWBONES HIMSELF!

NOW, OFF WITH YE, SO THE DARLIN' DOCTOR CAN MAKE OL' GRANNY GOOD AS NEW AGAIN!

Love Thy Neighbor



THEN, A FEW MINUTES LATER--

YOUR GARDENIAS MUST BE VERY IMPORTANT TO SLUGGER SYKES, MRS. GARDEN-- IF HE BOTHERS TO SEND THOSE TWO WOODS AFTER THEM!

SURE, AND MR. SYKES IS ME VERY BEST CUSTOMER, DOCTOR! NOT A DAY GOES BY WITHOUT HIM BUYIN' ONE OF ME FLOWERS!

THE DEAR BOY CALLS ME HIS GOOD LUCK CHARM!

THAT "DEAR BOY" IS ONE OF THE MOST DANGEROUS MOBSTERS IN THE ENTIRE NATION, MRS. GARDEN!

AWW, GO LONG WITH YE! MR. SYKES WOULDN'T HURT A FLY!

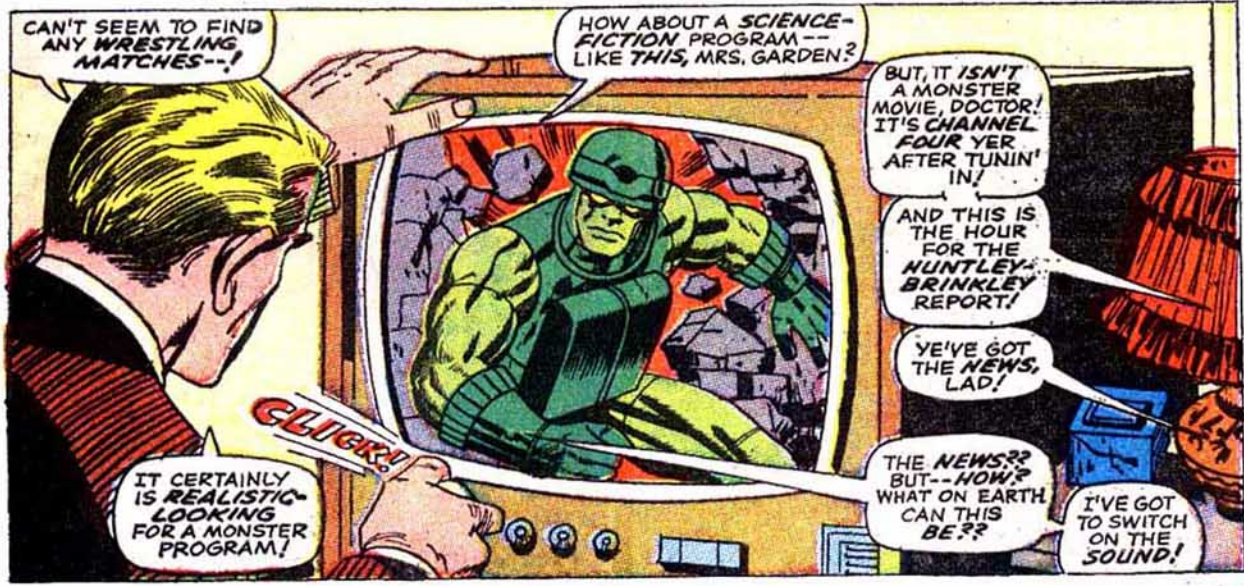


YE DON'T KNOW THE HEART OF THE MAN-- THE GENEROSITY OF HIM!

JUST LOOK AT THE COLOR TV HE BOUGHT ME LAST CHRISTMAS! TURN IT ON FOR AN OLD LADY, DOCTOR-- I LOVE TO WATCH THE RASSLIN' MATCHES!

ALL RIGHT-- YOU'RE WELL ENOUGH NOW!

NO NEED TO TELL THAT SWEET OLD LADY ANY MORE BAD THINGS ABOUT SYKES! AT LEAST HE MUST HAVE A TOUCH OF CHARITY IN THAT EVIL HEART OF HIS!



CAN'T SEEM TO FIND ANY WRESTLING MATCHES--!

HOW ABOUT A SCIENCE-FICTION PROGRAM-- LIKE THIS, MRS. GARDEN?

BUT, IT ISN'T A MONSTER MOVIE, DOCTOR! IT'S CHANNEL FOUR YER AFTER TUNIN' IN!

AND THIS IS THE HOUR FOR THE HUNTLEY-BRINKLEY REPORT!

YE'VE GOT THE NEWS, LAD!

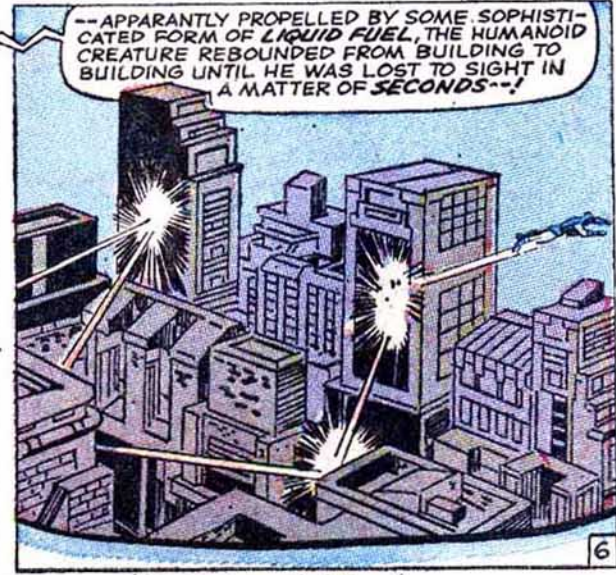
THE NEWS?? BUT--HOW? WHAT ON EARTH CAN THIS BE??

I'VE GOT TO SWITCH ON THE SOUND!

IT CERTAINLY IS REALISTIC-LOOKING FOR A MONSTER PROGRAM!



--THESE STARTLING PHOTOS WERE TAKEN BY A PART-TIME PHOTOGRAPHER NAMED DARKER WHO HAPPENED TO BE AT THE WINDOW OF THE DAILY BUGLE BUILDING WHEN THE SILENT MONSTER STRUCK--!



--APPARENTLY PROPELLED BY SOME SOPHISTICATED FORM OF LIQUID FUEL, THE HUMANOID CREATURE REBOUNDED FROM BUILDING TO BUILDING UNTIL HE WAS LOST TO SIGHT IN A MATTER OF SECONDS--!

BUT NOW, LET'S TAKE A LOOK AT WHAT THE TV SCREEN DOESN'T SHOW--

REPLICUS HAS RETURNED!

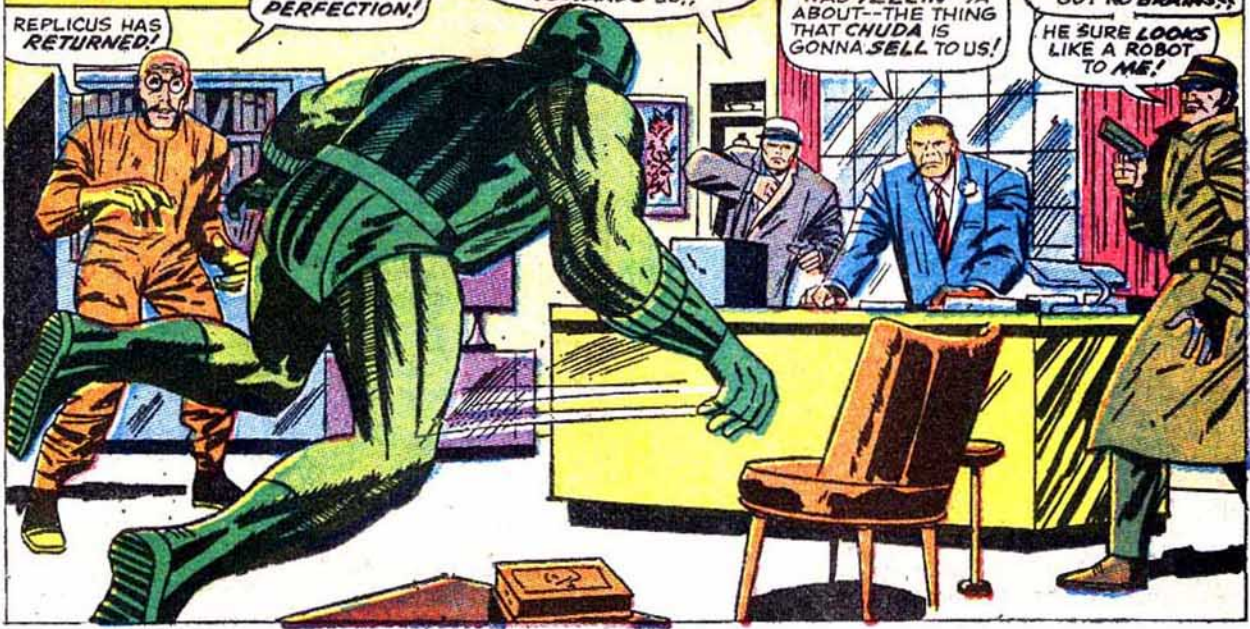
HE HAS COMPLETED HIS FIRST TEST TO PERFECTION!

THEY!- THAT-- THAT ROBOT JUST FLEW IN THRU THE WINDOW-- HE'S CHARGIN' TOWARDS US!!

PUT THOSE GUNS AWAY, YOU FOOLS! THAT'S THE ONE I WAS TELLIN' YA ABOUT-- THE THING THAT CHUDA IS GONNA SELL TO US!

AND HE AINT A ROBOT-- HE'S A REPLICA!! AINTCHA GOT NO BRAINS??

HE SURE LOOKS LIKE A ROBOT TO ME!



REPLICUS! DO YOU HAVE THE MONEY YOU WERE ORDERED TO OBTAIN?

HOLY COW!! DOES HE--?!!

JUST LOOK AT THAT--!!

AND IT-- IT DON'T MEAN A THING-- TO HIM!



WOW!- IT LOOKS LIKE GRANNY'S GARDENIAS ARE STILL BRINGIN' YA LUCK, HUH, BOSS?

YEAH! THAT LOOKS LIKE THE BIGGEST HAUL WE MADE SO FAR THIS YEAR, SLUGGER!

THEM GARDENIAS MUST BE GETTIN' LUCKIER THAN EVER!

YEAH, MY LUCK'S HOLDIN' OUT-- BUT YOURS SURE AINT!

HUH? WHAT DO YA MEAN?



I MEAN YER BOTH THRU! YER WASHED UP-- FINISHED! I'M KISSIN' YA OFF!

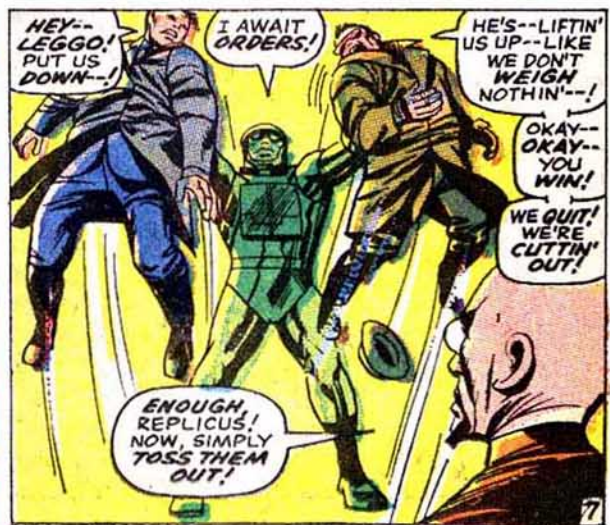
OH NO YA DON'T!! YOU CAN'T GIT RIDDA US THAT EASY!! NOBODY'S GONNA PUSH US AROUND, SEE?

NOW THAT I GOT REPLICUS, WHO NEEDS A COUPLE 'A SLOBS LIKE YOU HANGIN' AROUND??

NOW YOU ARE DISPLAYING NEW WISDOM, SYKES!

SO! YA THINK I CAN'T PUSH YA AROUND, HUH?

REPLICUS!!



HEY-- LEGGO! PUT US DOWN--!

I AWAIT ORDERS!

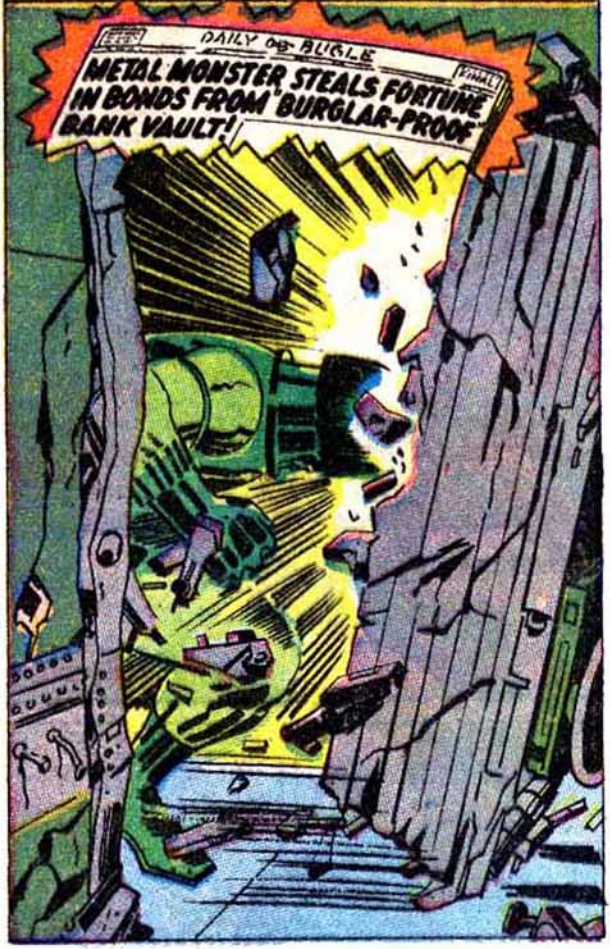
HE'S-- LIFTIN' US UP-- LIKE WE DON'T WEIGH NOTHIN'--!

OKAY-- OKAY-- YOU WIN!

WE QUIT! WE'RE CUTTIN' OUT!

ENOUGH, REPLICUS! NOW, SIMPLY TOSS THEM OUT!

AND, THROUOT THE CITY, IN THE STORMY DAYS THAT FOLLOW--



AND, BACK AT THE OFFICE OF DR. DON BLAKE -- MINUTES AFTER HIS LAST PATIENT HAS DEPARTED--

SO! THE METAL MENACE HAS A NAME!

AN EYE WITNESS CLAIMS TO HAVE HEARD IT SAY "NOTHING CAN STOP REPLICUS!"

REALICUS! THERE'S A STRANGELY GRIM AND SAVAGE SOUND TO THAT NAME!

SO FAR, NO ONE HAS BEEN ABLE TO LEARN WHO--OR WHAT HE IS--OR WHERE HE COMES FROM!

BUT, IF SOMEONE DOESN'T STOP HIM, HE'LL MAKE A SHAMBLES OF THE CITY

MONSTER CAN SPEAK!

WITNESS REPORTS IT CALLS ITSELF REPLICUS!

STORY ON P. 8.

IT SEEMS THE TIME HAS COME FOR DR. BLAKE TO ABANDON HIS MEDICINE FOR A WHILE--

THERE'S A FAR MORE POWERFUL REMEDY AVAILABLE TO MANKIND-- AND ONE TAP OF MY ENCHANTED WALKING STICK IS ALL THAT'S NEEDED!



IN ORDER TO SUMMON--

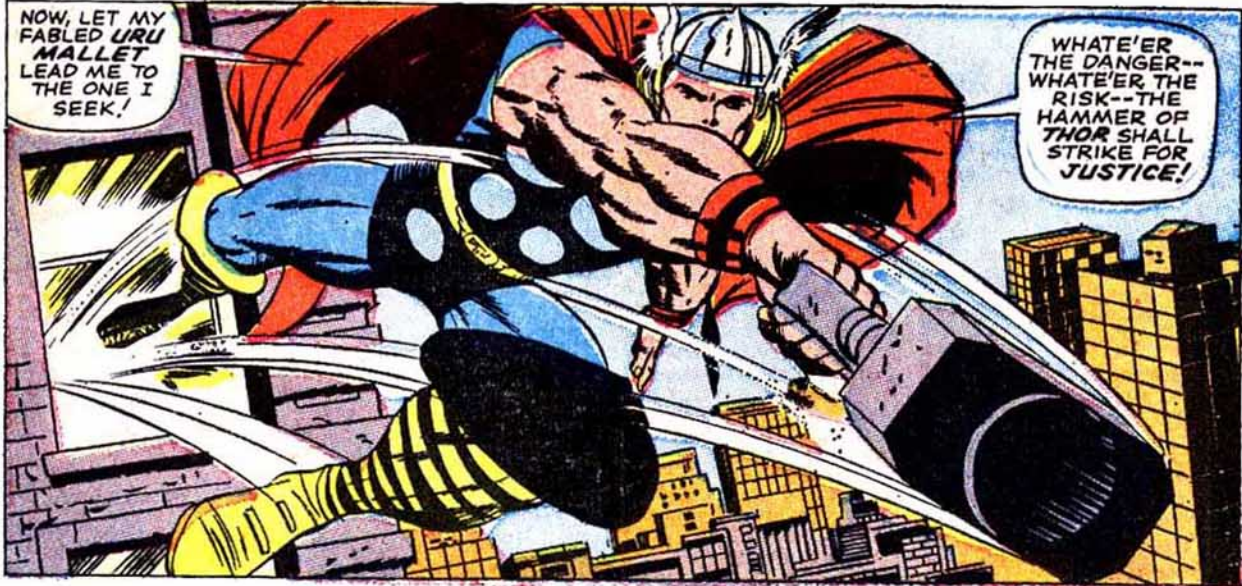


--THE MIGHTY THOR!

--SON OF ODIN-- GOD OF THUNDER-- IMMORTAL OF THE GOLDEN REALM!!



NOW, LET MY FABLED URU MALLET LEAD ME TO THE ONE I SEEK!



WHATE'ER THE DANGER-- WHATE'ER THE RISK-- THE HAMMER OF THOR SHALL STRIKE FOR JUSTICE!

THE LEATHER THONG WHICH I DO GRASP BEGINS TO TINGLE!

THUS, I NOW DRAW NEAR THE ONE I SEEK!!!



AND, ON ANOTHER ROOFTOP, DIRECTLY BELOW--

MY BUILT-IN SENSORS TELL ME AN ENEMY DRAWS NEAR!

WITH ONE MERE GRASP OF MY FORGED-STEEL FINGERS I WILL SEIZE A PORTION OF THIS SOLID BRICK LEDGE--

AND THEN... REPLICUS WILL STRIKE!



CRUNCH



WOOSH!

WHAT IS THIS?!!

A HEAVY SECTION OF BRICK CORNICE, HURLED UPWARD WITH THE FORCE AND FURY OF A METEOR!!

LET THE BATTLE THEN BEGIN!! THOR HAS FOUND THE ONE HE SEEKS!



BOOM!



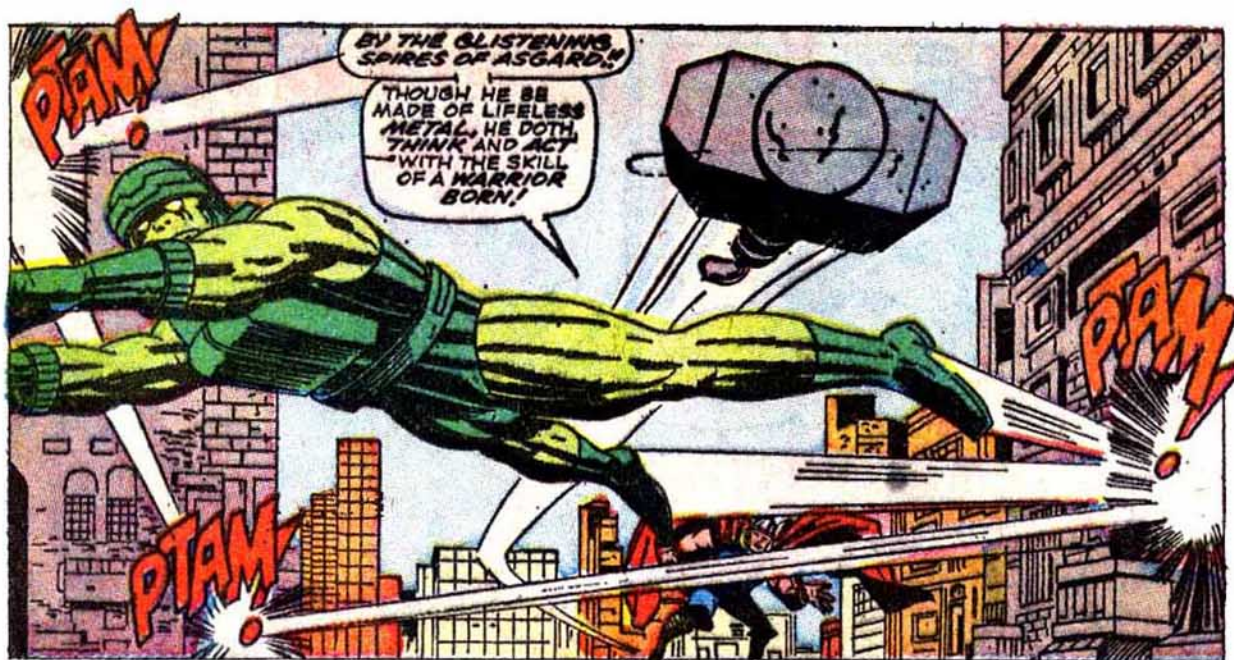
SPANNING!

ROBBER, MURDERER, AND WORSE-- BEGONE!

THERE IS NO PLACE ON EARTH FOR THE LIKES OF THEE!

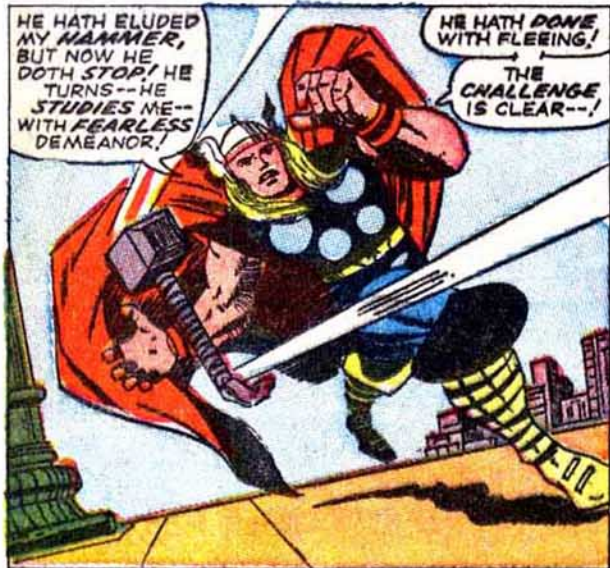


LET THE HAMMER OF THOR DRIVE THEE FROM THE SIGHT OF MEN, THOU BASE AND BLOODLESS MOCKERY OF ALL WHO LIVE!



BY THE GLISTENING SPIRES OF ASGARD!!

THOUGH HE BE MADE OF LIFELESS METAL, HE DOETH THINK AND ACT WITH THE SKILL OF A WARRIOR BORN!



HE HATH ELUDED MY HAMMER, BUT NOW HE DOETH STOP! HE TURNS-- HE STUDIES ME-- WITH FEARLESS D'EMEANOR!

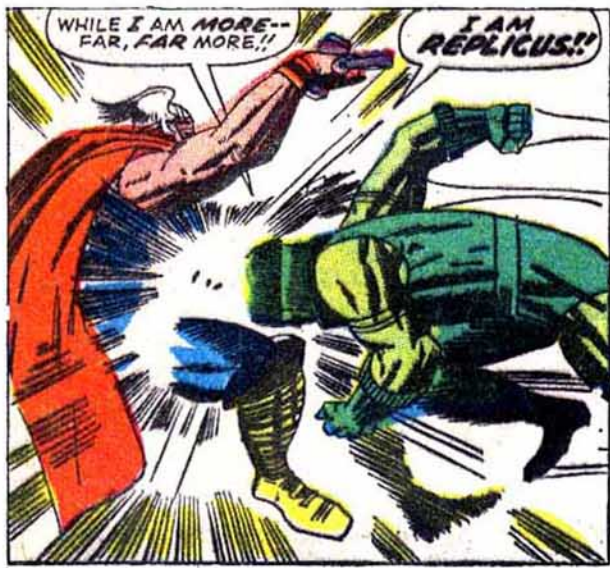
HE HATH DONE WITH FLEEING! THE CHALLENGE IS CLEAR--!



AND, AS ODIN BE MY JUDGE, THE CHALLENGE SHALL BE MET!!

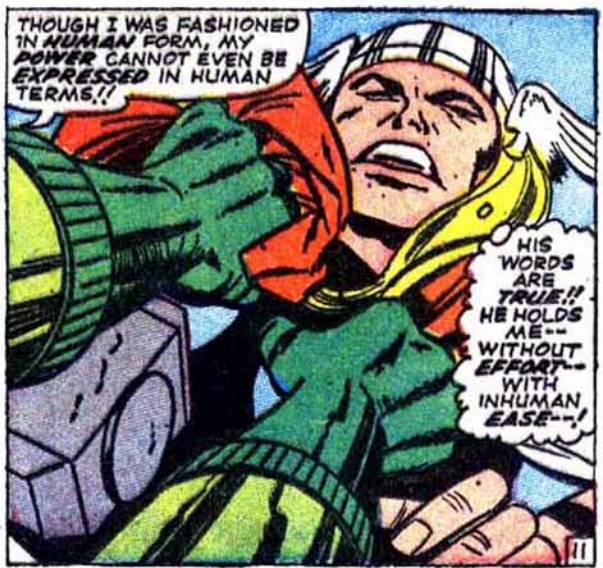
HAVE AT THEE, THING OF EVIL!! FOR HONOR!! FOR ASGARD!! FOR JUSTICE!!

I HAVE NEVER WITNESSED SUCH STRENGTH-- STILL, YOU ARE BUT FLESH AND BLOOD--



WHILE I AM MORE-- FAR, FAR MORE!!

I AM REPLICUS!!



THOUGH I WAS FASHIONED IN HUMAN FORM, MY POWER CANNOT EVEN BE EXPRESSED IN HUMAN TERMS!!

HIS WORDS ARE TRUE!! HE HOLDS ME-- WITHOUT EFFORT-- WITH INHUMAN EASE--!

SO MUCH NAKED STRENGTH DO TH HE EMPLOY-- THAT EVEN NOW, HIS FINGERS START TO GLOW-- TO SMOULDER LIKE BURNING COALS--!

SO MUST ALL WHO DARE OPPOSE REPLICUS SINK INTO THE ASHES OF ETERNAL DEFEAT!!



NOT SO THOR!! NOT SO THE WARRIOR SON OF OMNI-POTENT ODIN!!

I AM PROGRAMMED TO ACHIEVE NAUGHT BUT VICTORY!

I CANNOT BE WEARIED!! I CANNOT BE INJURED!! I CAN ONLY TRIUMPH!

NOW, MY SENSORS TELL ME-- THERE CAN BE NO TRIUMPH-- UNLESS--



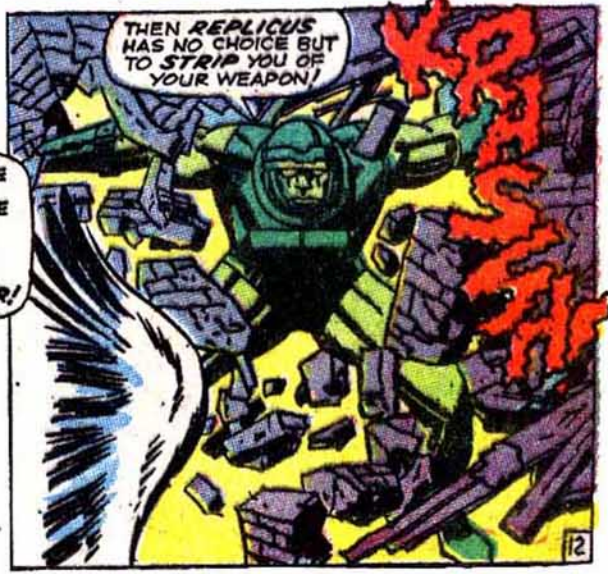
UNLESS THOR DIES!!

FLASSK!



NO FORCE CAN OVERCOME THE POWER OF MY URU HAMMER!

THEN REPLICUS HAS NO CHOICE BUT TO STRIP YOU OF YOUR WEAPON!



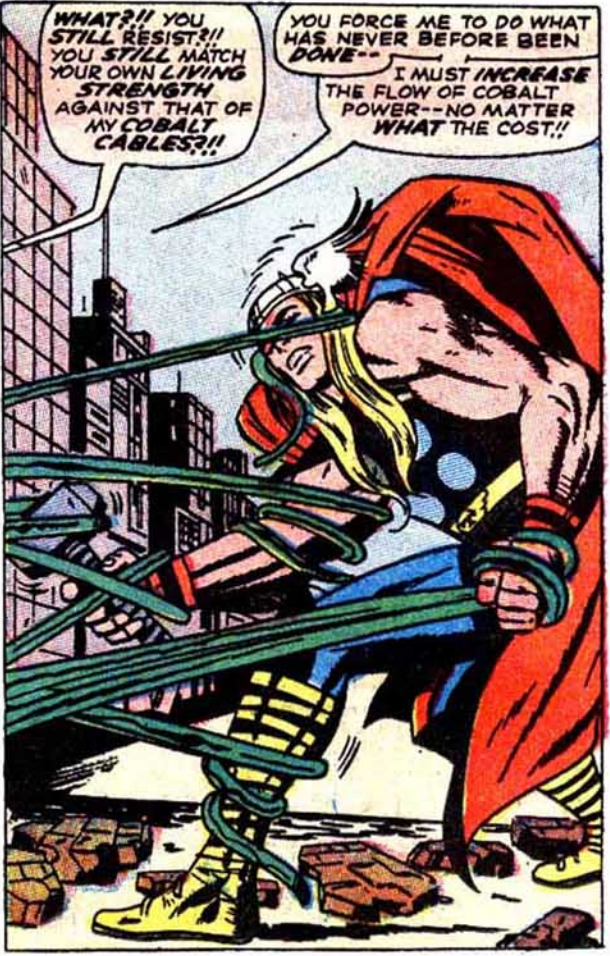


NOW FEEL THE CRUSHING POWER OF MY MATCHLESS RETRACTI-GRIP FINGERS--

FINGERS WHICH CAN PERFORM ANY TASK-- FINGERS WHOSE INVINCIBLE COBALT CABLES CAN BE SHATTERED BY NO FORCE IN ALL THE UNIVERSE!

AS TIGHT-- AND UN- YIELDING-- AS THE GRIP-- OF HERCULES!!

NO MATTER! THOR SHALL PREVAIL!



WHAT?! YOU STILL RESIST?! YOU STILL MATCH YOUR OWN LIVING STRENGTH AGAINST THAT OF MY COBALT CABLES?!!

YOU FORCE ME TO DO WHAT HAS NEVER BEFORE BEEN DONE-- I MUST INCREASE THE FLOW OF COBALT POWER--NO MATTER WHAT THE COST!!

MEANWHILE, SO TITANIC A TABLEAU CANNOT HOPE TO GO UNNOTICED! WITHIN A MATTER OF MINUTES, THE EYES OF THE WORLD ARE FOCUSED UPON THE CATACLYSMIC SCENE OF BATTLE--

--BRINGING YOU A SPECIAL TELECAST, DIRECTLY FROM THE SITE OF COMBAT--

WE HAVE JUST LEARNED THAT THE POLICE ARE PREPARING TO MOVE IN AND TAKE DIRECT ACTION IF THOR SHOULD FALL--!

IF MIGHTY THOR CAN STOP THAT ROBOT, WHAT CAN MERE MORTAL MEN DO AGAINST HIM?!!

I SAY WE SHOULDN'T WAIT ANY LONGER! WE OUGHTTA MOVE IN NOW!

THAT'S HOW WE ALL FEEL-- BUT, WE HAVE OUR ORDERS!



LOOK! OVER THERE --LOOK WHAT THEY'RE PREPARING TO USE!



GET THOSE RECOLLESS RIFLES LOADED WITH SHOCK MISSILES--AND DO IT FAST!!

--DOESN'T LOOK AS IF THOR CAN HOLD OUT MUCH LONGER!!

WHEN YOU FIRE, BE SURE IT'S POINT BLANK RANGE! YOU CAN'T AFFORD TO MISS!

THEN, AFTER FIRING, TAKE OFF! THOSE ARMORED SUITS WON'T HELP YOU MUCH IF REPLICUS GETS AHEAD OF YOU!

WE'RE ALL SET--BUT, IT LOOKS LIKE THERE'S STILL PLENTY OF FIGHT LEFT IN THOR!!

BUT, OTHER EYES ARE ALSO WATCHING THE STRANGE, BLOODGEONING BATTLE--

MAN! WHILE THOR WAS DISENGAGING THE CABLES FROM HIS ARM, REPLICUS SEIZED THE HAMMER!

THEY SAY NO HUMAN CAN EVER LIFT THAT HAMMER--!

BUT, REPLICUS HAS THE EDGE OVER ANY HUMAN! JUST LOOK AT 'IM!



I SEEN ENUFF! I'M SOLD ON THAT HUNKA TIN! I'LL BUY 'IM! NAME YER PRICE, CHUDA! HE'S GOTTA BE MINE!

MY PRICE WILL BE REASONABLE-- ON ONE CONDITION--

YOU MUST HELP ME SELL SIMILAR MODELS TO OTHER MOB LEADERS THROUTH THE NATION! IS IT AGREED??

HUH? YOU MEAN YOU WANNA SELL OTHER ONES?!!



I DON'T GET IT! WHY DO YOU WANNA DO THAT? I CAN PAY YA ENUFF JUST FOR REPLICUS TO MAKE YA RICH!

YOUR MONEY ALONE DOES NOT INTEREST ME! I HAVE OTHER AIMS--A FAR MORE IMPORTANT OBJECTIVE TO ACHIEVE--!

WHEN I AM DONE, THIS ENTIRE CITY, THIS ENTIRE LAND-- WILL BE OVERCOME BY CHAOS--AND BY FEAR!

I DON'T LIKE THE SOUND OF THAT, MISTER!



IT DOES NOT MATTER TO ME WHAT YOU LIKE!

YOU ARE NO MORE THAN A PAWN IN MY FAR-REACHING MASTER PLAN!

YOU PUNK-- I THOUGHT I SMELLED A RAT!

YOU'RE NOT OUT TO MAKE A FAST, CROOKED BUCK LIKE I AM-- YOU'RE PLAYIN' FOR DIFFERENT STAKES!!

YOU'RE JUST A ROTTEN, LOW-DOWN SPY!!



MEBBE I AINT NO FLAG-WAVIN' PATRIOT--AND NO ONE'S GONNA PIN ANY MEDALS FER GOOD CITIZENSHIP ON ME, EITHER-- BUT I'LL TELL YA ONE THING--

NO CRUMMY, TWO-FACED ENEMY AGENT IS GONNA MAKE A PATSY OUTTA SLUGGER SYKES!!

YOU BRAINGLESS, BABBLING FOOL!! YOU THINK ME A SPY FROM SOME OTHER WORTHLESS NATION ON THIS PRIMITIVE PLANET OF YOURS??

DO YOU THINK ANY POWER HERE ON EARTH COULD HAVE CREATED THE MAJESTY OF REPLICUS?!!



THOSE WHO SENT ME HERE ARE FAR GREATER, FAR WISER, FAR SUPERIOR TO ANY MERE EARTHLING!

HEY!-- WHAT'S THAT YER REACHIN' FOR--?!!

SOME KINDA NUTTY-LOOKIN' GUN! YOU AINT USIN' THAT AGAINST ME!!



ON THE CONTRARY, YOU CHAUVENISTIC SAVAGE-- THAT'S JUST WHAT I AM ABOUT TO DO!!

ONE BLAST OF THIS SUPERSONIC STUN GUN WILL REDUCE YOU TO ABJECT HELPLESSNESS--

THE SAME CONDITION TO WHICH YOUR ENTIRE PLANET WILL SHORTLY BE REDUCED!



ONCE I CONTACT MY SUPERIORS, TO INFORM THEM OF MY SUCCESS, NOTHING WILL BE ABLE TO SAVE THE HUMAN RACE FROM ULTIMATE CONQUEST!

PICTURE MAN-KIND--AT THE MERCY OF A THOUSAND EXACTLY LIKE REPLICUS!!



BUT YOU, ALAS, WILL NOT BE HERE TO SEE OUR FINAL VICTORY!

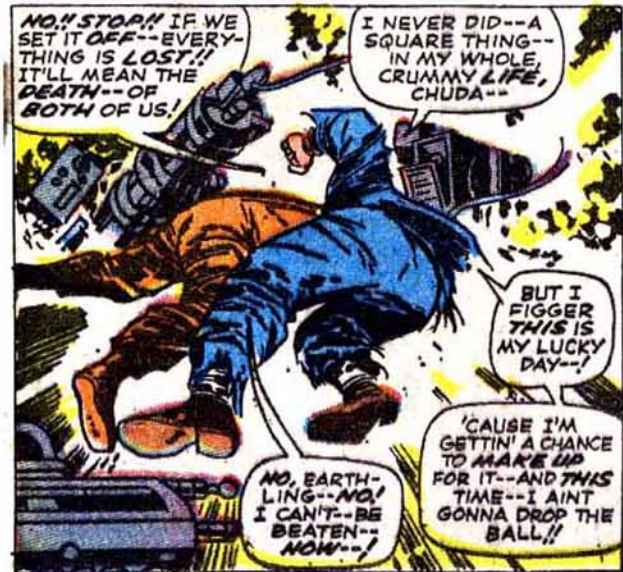
MEBEBE NOT, YOU CREEP--!



BUT I'M GONNA FIX IT SO YOU WON'T BE, EITHER!

LOOK OUT! YOU'RE FORCING ME TOWARDS THE POWER PILE --IT STILL IS ACTIVATED!!

NOW AINT THAT A SHAMER!!



NO!! STOP!! IF WE SET IT OFF--EVERYTHING IS LOST!! IT'LL MEAN THE DEATH--OF BOTH OF US!

I NEVER DID--A SQUARE THING--IN MY WHOLE CRUMMY LIFE, CHUDA--

BUT I FIGGER THIS IS MY LUCKY DAY--!

'CAUSE I'M GETTIN' A CHANCE TO MAKE UP FOR IT--AND THIS TIME--I AINT GONNA DROP THE BALL!!

NO, EARTH-LING--NO! I CAN'T--BE BEATEN--NOW--!





THEN, AT THAT VERY INSTANT--

REPLICUS SLUMPS TO THE GROUND--LIFELESS--POWERLESS--

UNHHHHHHH--

AND YET, I HAVE STILL TO HURL MY MOST POTENT BLOW!



I DON'T GET IT! HE CRUMPLED LIKE A PILE OF TIN CANS THAT SOMEONE SUDDENLY DROPPED!

LOOK HOW LIMP HE IS!! HE'S LIKE AN ELECTRIC MOTOR-- AFTER THE PLUG WAS PULLED OUT!

'TIS MOST PASSING STRANGE--

HE, WHO NEVER TRULY LIVED-- HAS TASTED THE BITTER DRAUGHT OF--DEATH!



THE CHARADE NOW IS ENDED!

HE, WHO ONCE WAS REPLICUS, SHALL NE'ER MENACE MANKIND AGAIN!



WE'LL TAKE HIM TO THE LAB, BOYS-- THEY'LL TRY'N FIGURE OUT WHAT MADE 'IM TICK!

I SUSPECT THEY WILL FIND A GREATER MYSTERY THAN MAN CAN NOW UNRAVEL!

MEBBE SO-- BUT WE'LL SURE GIVE IT A TRY!



SOME TIME LATER, WHEN DR. BLAKE RESUMES HIS CALLS--

I'M GLAD TO SEE YOU'RE LOOKING STRONGER, MRS. GARDEN!

I HOPE YOU'RE FEELING BETTER--?

MRS. GARDEN? DO YOU HEAR ME?

GRANNY--HEARS YOU--DOCTOR--

I DON'T FEEL--MUCH LIKE TALKING--



OH! YOU MUST HAVE READ OF THE DEATH OF SLUGGER SYKES!

THEY SAY HE WAS FOUND WITH A SMILE ON HIS FACE--AS THOUGH HE MET HIS END--WITH CONTENTMENT!

I HOPE SO, DOCTOR! I'VE GOT A FEELIN'--IN MY HEART--THAT YOU'RE RIGHT!



HE WAS MORE THAN JUST A CUSTOMER TO YOU-- WASN'T HE?

NO--DON'T ANSWER THAT! JUST LISTEN TO WHAT I SAY--!

FATE MOVES IN MYSTERIOUS WAYS, AND, IN THE CASE OF SLUGGER SYKES, SOMETHING TELLS ME THAT--WHEN THE END CAME--HE PROVED THERE CAN BE MORE GOOD IN A MAN THAN ANYONE SUSPECTS!

I HOPE--HIS MOTHER--WILL REMEMBER THAT--ALWAYS!

A SURPRISE GUEST STAR!

"ALIBAR AND THE FORTY DEMONS!"

INTO THE VERY HEART OF FABLED XANDU STRIDES MIGHTY THOR, IN COMPANY WITH FANDRAL, THE DASHING-- VOLSTAGG, THE VOCI-FEROUS--AND HOGUN, THE GRIM-- SEEKING TO BATTLE HOGUN'S SWORN ENEMY, THE MERCILESS MOGUL, OF THE MYSTIC MOUNTAIN!
(AND AWAAAAAY THOU GOEST--)

SEE HOW THE MASSES TREMBLE AT THE SIGHT OF VALIANT VOLSTAGG!

LEAD ON NOBLE HOGUN! THE FLASHING BLADE OF FANDRAL IS EVER AT THY SIDE!

WARRIORS OF ASGARD WITHIN THE HIDDEN REALM! VERILY, WE ARE UNDONE!

'TIS TRULY XANDU! WE HAVE REACHED OUR GOAL AT LAST!

SHOW THYSELF, MOGUL--THOU PRINCE OF INFAMY! HOGUN HATH COME TO ERASE THEE FROM THE MEMORY OF MAN!

HAIL YE ALL, THIS STAN JACK LEE and KIRBY COMMODIOUS CREATION!

INKING: VINCE COLLETTA
LETTERING: ART SIMEK

WE'RE WELL AWARE THAT THIS PAGE ALONE IS WORTH THE PRICE OF OUR MAG, BUT THERE'S STILL MORE TO COME, O THRICE BLESSED ONE--



THE PEASANTRY FLEE BEFORE US! IS THIS A SAMPLE OF MOGUL'S MIGHT?

PATIENCE, DASHING ONE! BE THOU EVER ON GUARD! METHINKS THE LORD OF VILLAINY WILL STRIKE WHEN WE DO LEAST EXPECT IT!

NEVER SHALL MOGUL FIND MOGUN OFF-GUARD! MY MACE DOETH FAIRLY CRY OUT FOR VENGEANCE!

HMMM--ONE AS EVIL AS MOGUL IS BOUND TO BE CRAFTY AS WELL!

WHAT IF HE DOETH HIDE FROM US-- IN SOME MOST UNLIKELY PLACE?



AND WHAT PLACE OF CONCEALMENT COULD BE MORE UNLIKELY THAN A LITTER CHAIR?

MY DUTY IS CLEAR!

HEEDLESS OF THE DANGERS--AS EVER-- I MUST FOLLOW YON CONTRIVENCE--NO MATTER WHERE THE PATH OF PERIL MAY LEAD!



NO MATTER THAT A BEAUTEOUS DAMSEL BE SEATED WITHIN!

SUCH FRIVOLOUS FACTS ARE BENEATH THE VERY NOTICE OF DAUNTLESS VOLSTAGG!

AND, AS THE VOLUMINOUS WARRIOR WADDLES BREATHLESSLY AFTER THE SWIFTLY DEPARTING CHAISE, HIS THREE COMPANIONS SUDDENLY FIND THEMSELVES CONFRONTED BY--



A CORPUS OF SWORD-WIELDING ELITE GUARDS!

TO ARMS ASGARDIANS! NO MATTER THE ODDS--HERE WE DO STAND!

HAVE AT THEE, VILLAINS--ONE AND ALL!

THE BLADE OF FANDRAL SHOWS NO FAVOR!

BACK, YE SCIONS OF EVIL--BACK!

LET THERE BE NO RETREAT SO LONG AS BREATH ENDURES!

NOT ALL THE LEGIONS ASSEMBLED SHALL KEEP ME FROM MY PREY!

CLANGGI!

THOU SHALT FIND THE ONE THOU SEEKEST, HOGUN!

THE ENCHANTED HAMMER OF THOR SHALL BLUDGEON A PATH FOR THEE, BOTH STRAIGHT AND EVER TRUE!

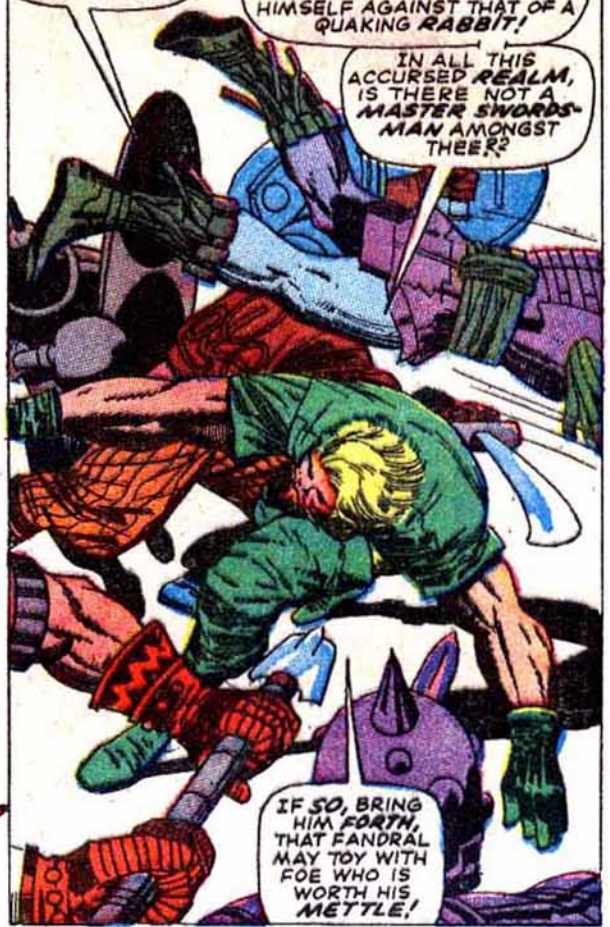
NOTHING SHALL KEEP ME FROM HIM WHO RAVAGED MY LAND-- HIM WHO ENSLAVED MY PEOPLE!



FIE UPON THEE ALL, THOU BASE AND BUMBLING KNAVES!

TO WASTE THE DAZZLING STEEL OF FANDRAL UPON OAFS SUCH AS THEE IS LIKE PITTING THE MIGHT OF ODIN HIMSELF AGAINST THAT OF A QUAKING RABBIT!

IN ALL THIS ACCURSED REALM, IS THERE NOT A MASTER SWORDSMAN AMONGST THEER?



IF SO, BRING HIM FORTH, THAT FANDRAL MAY TOY WITH FOE WHO IS WORTH HIS METTLE!

AT THAT VERY MOMENT, IN THE CASTLE OF THE MERCILESS MOGUL--

SO! ALIBAR, THE THIEF DARED INVADRE MY ROYAL KITCHEN, TO STEAL FOOD FOR THE POOR!

PUT HIM THEN TO DEATH!



NO! STAY THY HAND! THERE IS BETTER USE TO MAKE OF HIM!

EVEN NOW THE ASGARDIANS DRAW CLOSER TO MY PALACE-- SEEKING MY LIFE, AND THE ROYAL BATTLE STANDARD I NOW HOLD!

THOUSANDS PERISHED THAT I MIGHT POSSESS THIS STANDARD-- THOUSANDS OF HOGUN'S COUNTRYMEN WHO CHOSE DEATH IN PLACE OF SURRENDER!

AND NOW, THE LIFE OF MOGUL, TOO, IS THREATENED!



BUT, I HAVE CONCEIVED A PLAN-- MORE DEADLY THAN ANY BEFORE!



PRISONER, PERHAPS I DID JUDGE THEE TOO HASTILY! THOU MERELY DIDST WHAT THOU THOUGHT WAS RIGHT!

THEREFORE, RISE, ALIBAR! IN MY INFANATE MERCY, I DO GRANT THEE PARDON! THOU ART A FREE MAN ONCE AGAIN!

BUT WHY, PRINCE OF DARKNESS? TYRANT THOU HAST EVER BEEN! NE'ER HAVE I SEEN LEOPARD WHICH COULD CHANGE ITS SPOTS!



SILENCE! I SHALL PROVE HOW GENEROUS THY MONARCH CAN BE!

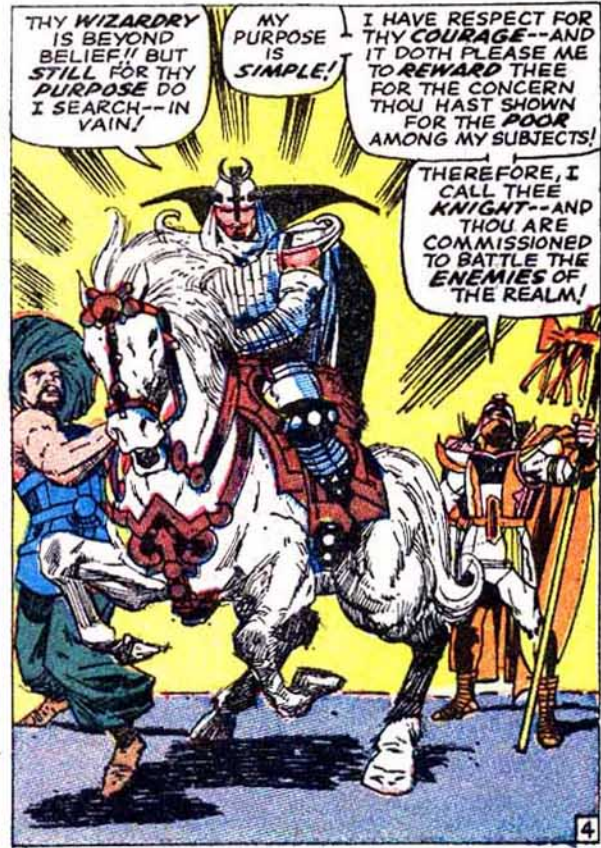
BY THE POWERS OF ENCHANTMENT, WHICH ARE MINE TO COMMAND--I DO GARB THEE NOW IN PRINCELY RAIMENT!



I DO NOT COMPREHEND! THOU HAST TRANSFORMED A PENNILESS THIEF INTO A ROYAL GLADIATOR!

PERHAPS 'TIS MERELY A KINGLY WHIM! BUT, IT MATTERS NOT!

WHAT DOES MATTER IS THAT A GALLANT WARRIOR MUST BE ASTRIDE A PROUD BATTLE STEED-- AND SO SHALL IT BE--!



THY WIZARDRY IS BEYOND BELIEF! BUT STILL FOR THY PURPOSE DO I SEARCH--IN VAIN!

MY PURPOSE IS SIMPLE!

I HAVE RESPECT FOR THY COURAGE--AND IT DOTH PLEASE ME TO REWARD THEE FOR THE CONCERN THOU HAST SHOWN FOR THE POOR AMONG MY SUBJECTS!

THEREFORE, I CALL THEE KNIGHT--AND THOU ARE COMMISSIONED TO BATTLE THE ENEMIES OF THE REALM!

METHINKS I DO BEGIN TO PERCEIVE THE TRUTH!

THINK WHAT THOU WILT!

THOU WOULDST MAKE OF ME A CAT'S PAW-- A SACRIFICE, CHOSEN TO FIGHT --MAYHAP TO DIE IN PLACE OF THEE!

I HAVE GIVEN THEE THY FREEDOM-- MADE OF THEE A NOBLEMAN! NOW, THERE IS NO TURNING BACK!

TAKE THEN THIS BATTLE STANDARD! THOU MUST GUARD IT, EVEN ONTO DEATH! LET NONE WHO LIVE WREST IT FROM THY HAND!

NOW, ON INTO BATTLE WITH THEE! THOU WERT BORN A SWINE-- BUT THOU SHALT DIE A PRINCE!

AND, I GIVE THEE AN ARMY TO LEAD!! AN ARMY SUCH AS NONE HAVE EVER FACED BEFORE!

BY THE DEMONS OF DARKNESS-- BY THE FURY OF THE THOUSAND WINGS-- BY THE WITCHERY OF THE ENDLESS NIGHT--

LET SATAN'S FORTY HORSEMEN THUNDER FORTH!

WE, THE EVER DEATHLESS ONES, CRY--

DEATH TO THE ASGARDIANS!! MOGUL SHALL BE TRIUMPHANT!

ALL WHO LIVE MUST FALL BENEATH OUR HOOVES!!

I THOUGHT MYSELF TRANSFORMED INTO A WARRIOR PRINCE!-- BUT, STILL AM I SLAVE!

I DO NOT LEAD THOSE WHO FOLLOW BEHIND ME-- I MERELY RIDE INTO THE HOLOCAUST-- FOR THERE IS NO STOPPING SATAN'S HORSEMEN FORTY!

IN HIS FINAL ACT OF DESPERATION, MOGUL HAS DOOMED ALL THOSE WHO LIVE!

TO BE CONTINUED!