

APPROVED  
BY THE  
COMICS  
CODE  
AUTHORITY

# THE MIGHTY THOR

THOR  
15¢ 173  
FEB



MARVEL  
COMICS  
GROUP

KIRBY/VERPOORT/EX



## ULIK UNLEASHED!



# THE MIGHTY THOR!

## ULIK UNLEASHED!

FEATURING:  
THE RETURN OF  
THE  
RINGMASTER  
AND HIS  
DEADLY  
CIRCUS  
OF  
CRIME!

FEELING  
BETTER  
NOW,  
THOR?

YES,  
DOCTOR  
BLAKE!

MY  
BACK  
NO  
LONGER  
PAINS  
ME!

PRODUCED  
BY:

STAN and JACK  
LEE and KIRBY

INKING:  
BILL EVERETT  
LETTERING:  
ARTIE SIMEK



IT WAS A VERY SEVERE STRAIN! YOU MUST HAVE LIFTED SOMETHING FANTASTICALLY HEAVY!

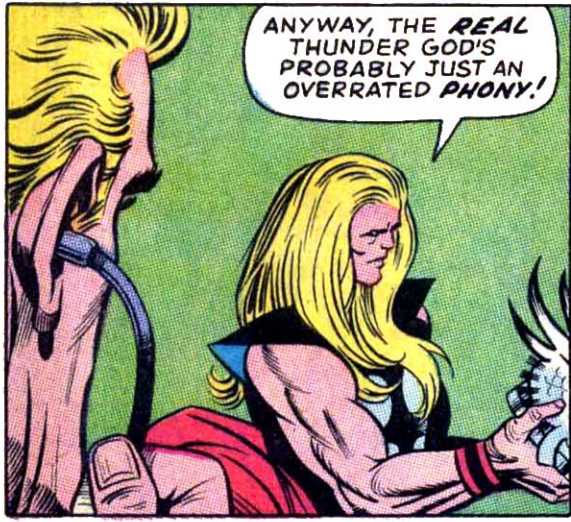
YOU ARE RIGHT!

AM I NOT MIGHTY THOR-- MOST POWERFUL OF ALL MEN?



AT LEAST, THAT'S HOW THE BILLING READS!

SEE THE MIGHTY THOR DEMONSTRATE HIS GREAT POWERS!

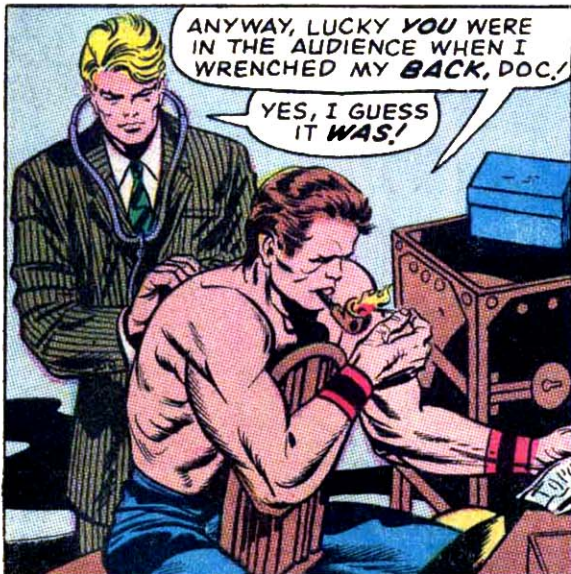


ANYWAY, THE REAL THUNDER GOD'S PROBABLY JUST AN OVERRATED PHONY!



ME, I BEEN DOIN' MY WEIGHT-LIFTING ACT FOR YEARS!

THAT'S WHY I GOT THIS JOB! EVERYONE KNOWS HOW STRONG I AM!



ANYWAY, LUCKY YOU WERE IN THE AUDIENCE WHEN I WRENCHED MY BACK, DOC.!

YES, I GUESS IT WAS!



BUT IT WASN'T BY CHANCE THAT I CAME HERE TODAY!

HOW IS HE? CAN HE GO ON TONIGHT?

YES-- IF HE TAKES IT EASY!

I WON'T LETCHA DOWN, RING-MASTER!





WHATEVER STRAINED HIS BACK LIKE THAT MUST HAVE WEIGHED OVER A TON!

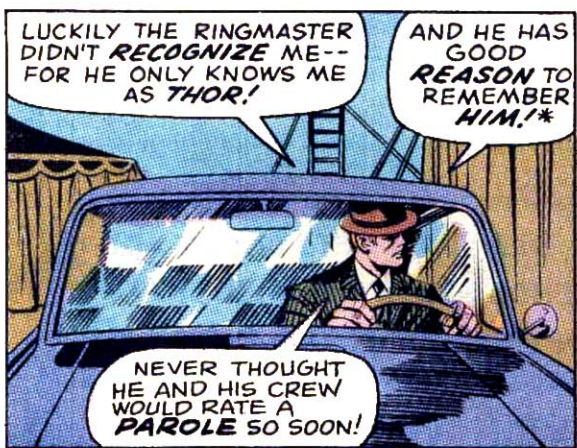
THAT'S NO BUSINESS OF YOURS, DOCTOR!



SINCE YOUR WORK HERE IS FINISHED, I SUGGEST YOU LEAVE!

I KNEW IT! THERE'S SOMETHING STRANGE GOING ON--

SOMETHING THEY DON'T WANT EXPOSED!

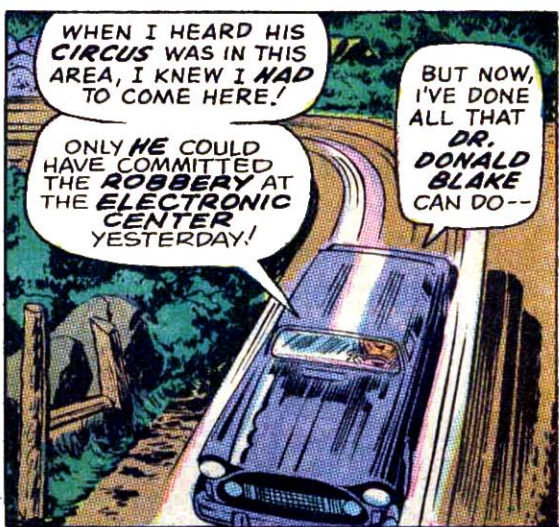


LUCKILY THE RINGMASTER DIDN'T RECOGNIZE ME-- FOR HE ONLY KNOWS ME AS THOR!

AND HE HAS GOOD REASON TO REMEMBER HIM!\*

NEVER THOUGHT HE AND HIS CREW WOULD RATE A PAROLE SO SOON!

\*EVEN WE ALMOST FORGOT--SINCE IT HAPPENED 'WAY BACK IN ISSUES 145 AND 146--STAN.



WHEN I HEARD HIS CIRCUS WAS IN THIS AREA, I KNEW I HAD TO COME HERE!

ONLY HE COULD HAVE COMMITTED THE ROBBERY AT THE ELECTRONIC CENTER YESTERDAY!

BUT NOW, I'VE DONE ALL THAT DR. DONALD BLAKE CAN DO--



SINCE I GAVE THE PHONY THOR A SEDATIVE, TO MAKE HIM SLEEP ALL NIGHT--



IT'S TIME FOR THE GENUINE GOD OF THUNDER TO APPEAR!



AND BY ASGARD'S GOLDEN GATES, APPEAR I SHALL!

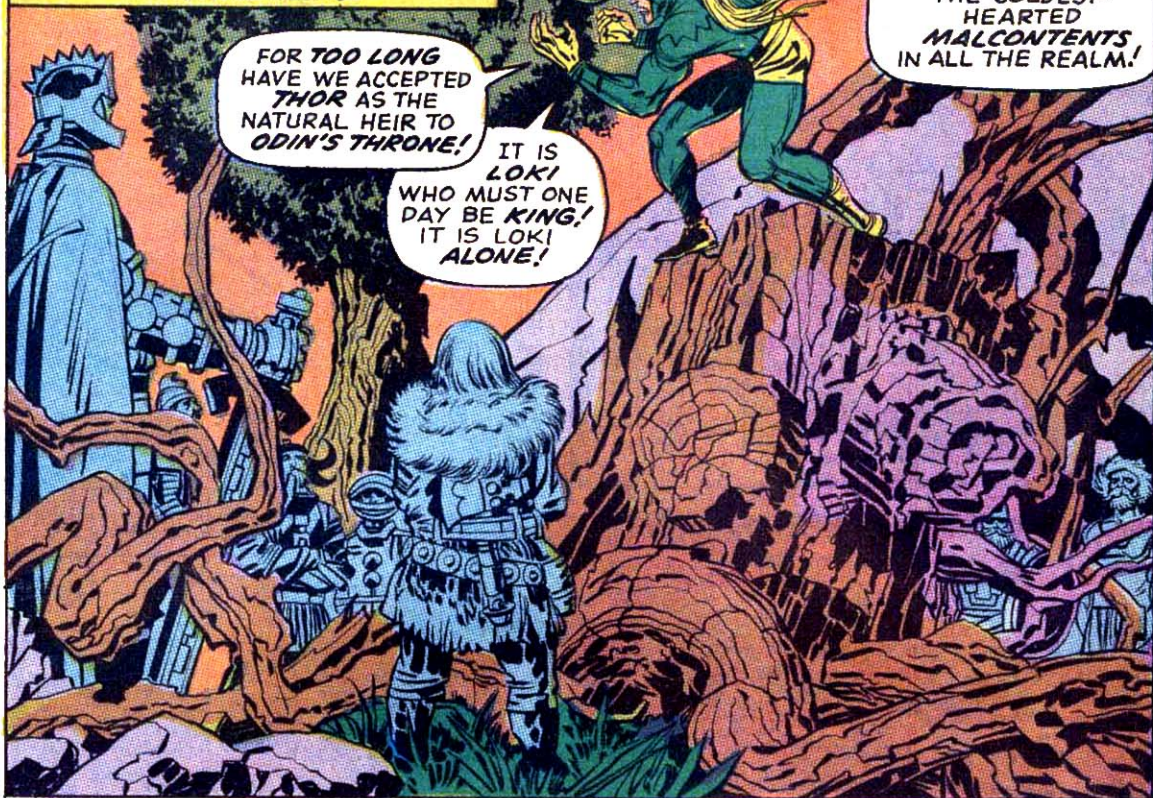


**M**EANWHILE, IN A HIDDEN GLEN IN FAR OFF ASGARD, THE MERCILESS PRINCE OF EVIL ADDRESSES A SILENT, GRIM ASSEMBLAGE--

FOR TOO LONG HAVE WE ACCEPTED THOR AS THE NATURAL HEIR TO ODIN'S THRONE!

IT IS LOKI WHO MUST ONE DAY BE KING! IT IS LOKI ALONE!

THAT IS WHY I HAVE BROUGHT THEE ALL TOGETHER--THOU, THE COLDEST-HEARTED MALCONTENTS IN ALL THE REALM!



FOR YOU TO BE PRINCE APPARENT, THE THUNDER GOD MUST DIE!

AND ONLY ULIK, MIGHTIEST OF THE TROLLS, HAS THE POWER TO SLAY HIM!

ULIK HAS NO USE FOR TALK! SEND ME TO THE SON OF ODIN!

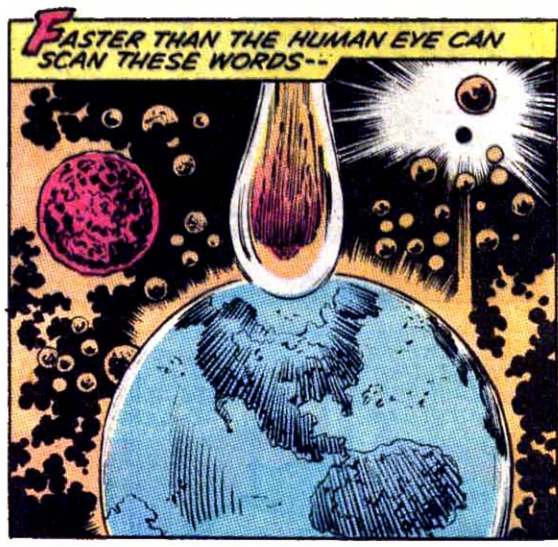
WHEN THOR IS SLAIN, THEN WE WILL BE THE MASTERS!



AY! 'TIS WHY I SUMMONED THEE!









TREMBLING MORTALS--  
HEAR THE WORDS OF ULIK!

**TAKE ME TO THE THUNDER GOD!!**

**HEY RUBE!! THERE'S TROUBLE! COME A'RUNNIN'!!**

WHO IS THAT NUT?

WHERE'D HE COME FROM?



**WHAT?? YOU DARE ATTACK THE GREATEST TROLL OF ALL??!**

**LOOK OUT! HE AINT EVEN HUMAN!!**



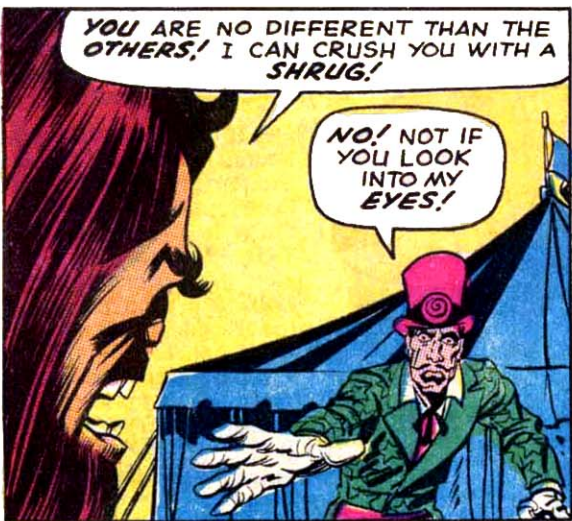
**RUN! HE'LL KILL US ALL!!**

**HE'S TOSSIN' US AROUND --LIKE PEBBLES!**



STAND AWAY FROM HIM-- ALL OF YOU!

THE RINGMASTER IS HERE!



YOU ARE NO DIFFERENT THAN THE OTHERS! I CAN CRUSH YOU WITH A SHRUG!

NO! NOT IF YOU LOOK INTO MY EYES!



LOOK DEEPER-- DEEPER! THE RINGMASTER COMMANDS!

AHHH-- YOUR MIND IS TRAPPED --WITHIN THE MOVING CIRCLE!



IT IS DONE! HE IS UNDER MY CONTROL!

IS HE TRULY AS STRONG AS IT SEEMED?

STRONGER! WE NEVER SAW ANYTHING LIKE IT!



THEN CAGE HIM! IF MY PHONY THOR IS INJURED AGAIN, ULIK WILL TAKE HIS PLACE!





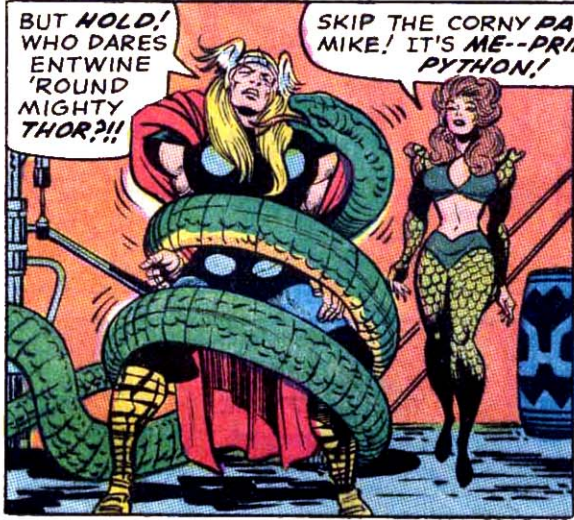
PERHAPS HE CAN LIFT THE GIANT BAR-BELL TONIGHT!

IN YONDER CAGE-- THE MURDEROUS ULIK!

'TIS MORE DARK VILLAINY AFOOT THAN I DID DREAM!

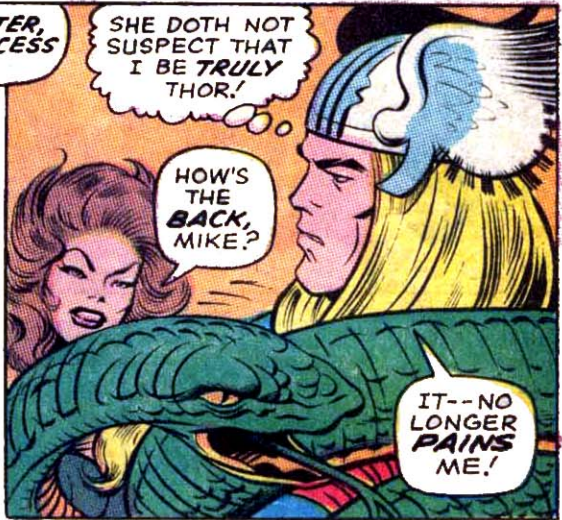


THE MORTAL KNOWS NOT WHAT HE DOETH! ULIK IS TOO DANGEROUS FOR SUCH AS HE!



BUT HOLD! WHO DARES ENTWINE 'ROUND MIGHTY THOR?!!

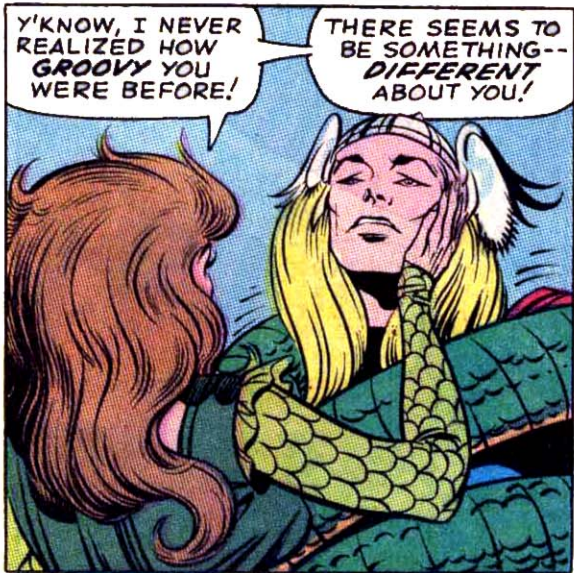
SKIP THE CORNY PATTEN, MIKE! IT'S ME--PRINCESS PYTHON!



SHE DOETH NOT SUSPECT THAT I BE TRULY THOR!

HOW'S THE BACK, MIKE?

IT--NO LONGER PAINS ME!



Y'KNOW, I NEVER REALIZED HOW GROOVY YOU WERE BEFORE!

THERE SEEMS TO BE SOMETHING-- DIFFERENT ABOUT YOU!



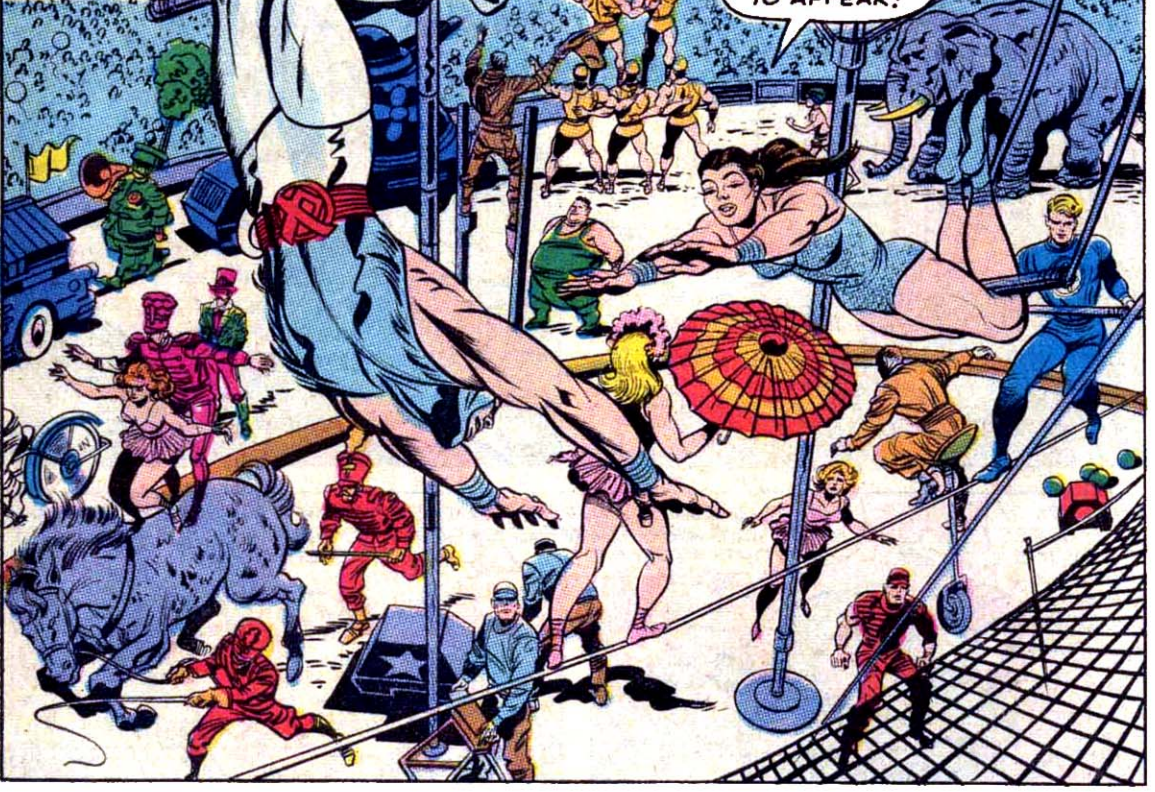
WELL, WE CAN TALK ABOUT IT LATER!

IT'S TIME FOR THE SHOW TO START NOW!

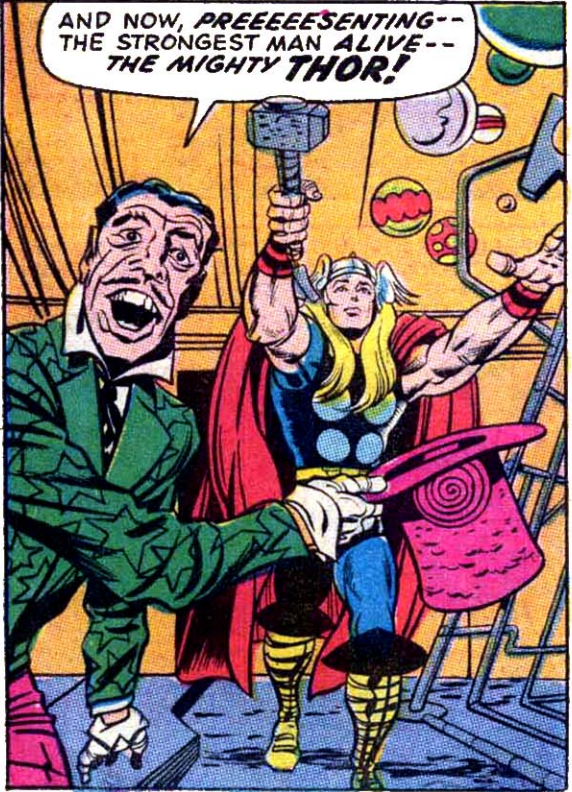
THEN 'TIS TIME FOR THOR TO PERFORM!



**MINUTES  
LATER,  
UNDER THE  
BIG TENT--**



ONE MORE  
DOUBLE FLIP,  
AND THEN IT'S  
TIME FOR THOR  
TO APPEAR!



AND NOW, PREEEESENTING--  
THE STRONGEST MAN ALIVE--  
THE MIGHTY **THOR!**



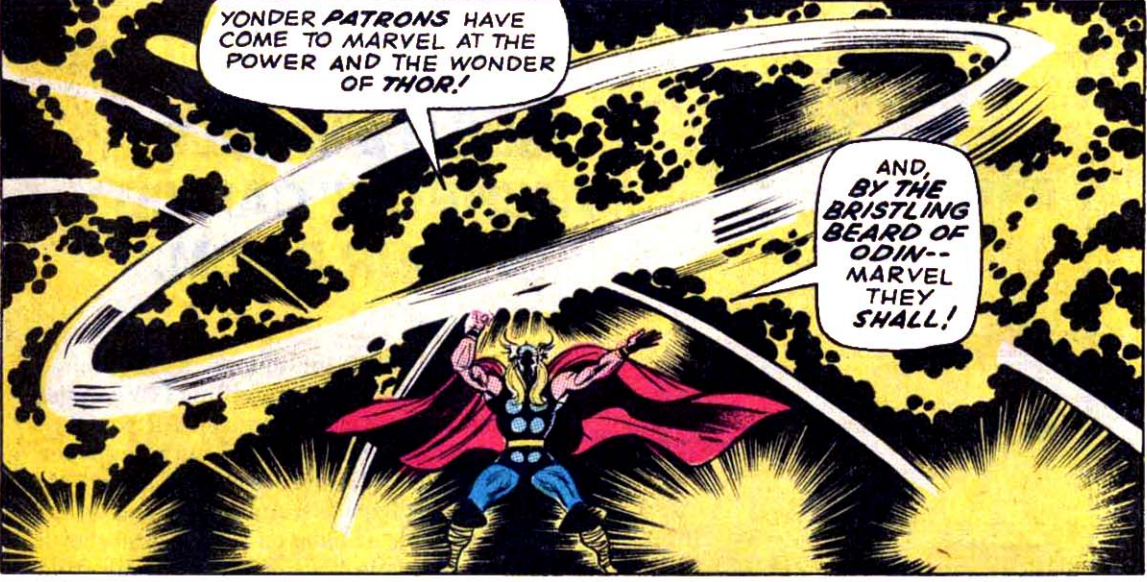
TAKE IT EASY WITH THE  
HAMMER, MIKE! DON'T  
BUST IT LIKE YOU DID  
THE LAST ONE!

OF THAT,  
THOU NEEDST  
HAVE NO  
FEAR!



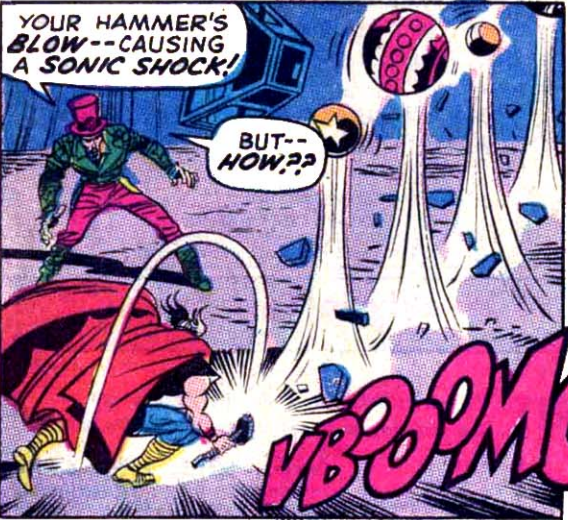
YONDER PATRONS HAVE COME TO MARVEL AT THE POWER AND THE WONDER OF THOR!

AND, BY THE BRISTLING BEARD OF ODIN-- MARVEL THEY SHALL!



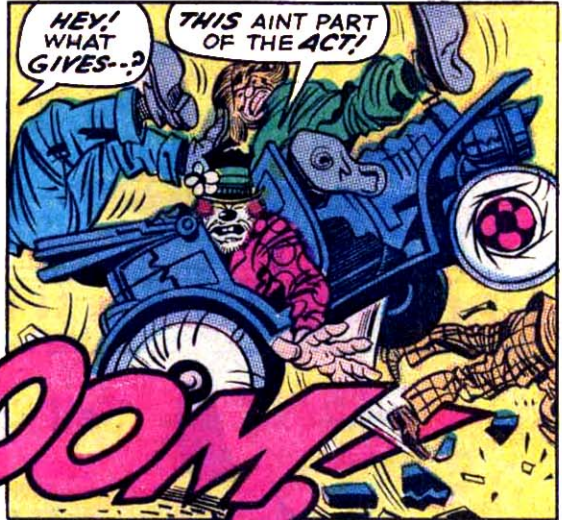
YOUR HAMMER'S BLOW--CAUSING A SONIC SHOCK!

BUT-- HOW??



HEY! WHAT GIVES--?

THIS AINT PART OF THE ACT!



**B**UT, LITTLE DREAMING THAT THE PERFORMANCE IS TOTALLY IMPROMPTU, THE DELIGHTED AUDIENCE EATS IT UP--

I DON'T KNOW HOW HE DOES IT, BUT--

HE'S EVEN BETTER THAN HIS NAME-SAKE COULD BE!

YAY, THUNDER GOD!!



CLAP CLAP MORE MORE 'RAY THOR THOR

OKAY, OKAY! DON'T HAM IT UP SO MUCH!







I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU RIGGED THOSE STUNTS--BUT I'VE GOT A *NEW* GUY WHO CAN STILL *TOP* YOU!

JUST WATCH THIS--



YOU SAW THE MIGHTY THUNDER GOD--

AND NOW YOU WILL SEE--THE MIGHTIER GIANT TROLL!



**PREEEESENTING-- ULIK!**

SEE HIM LIFT THE WORLD'S ONLY 5,000 POUND BAR-BELL!

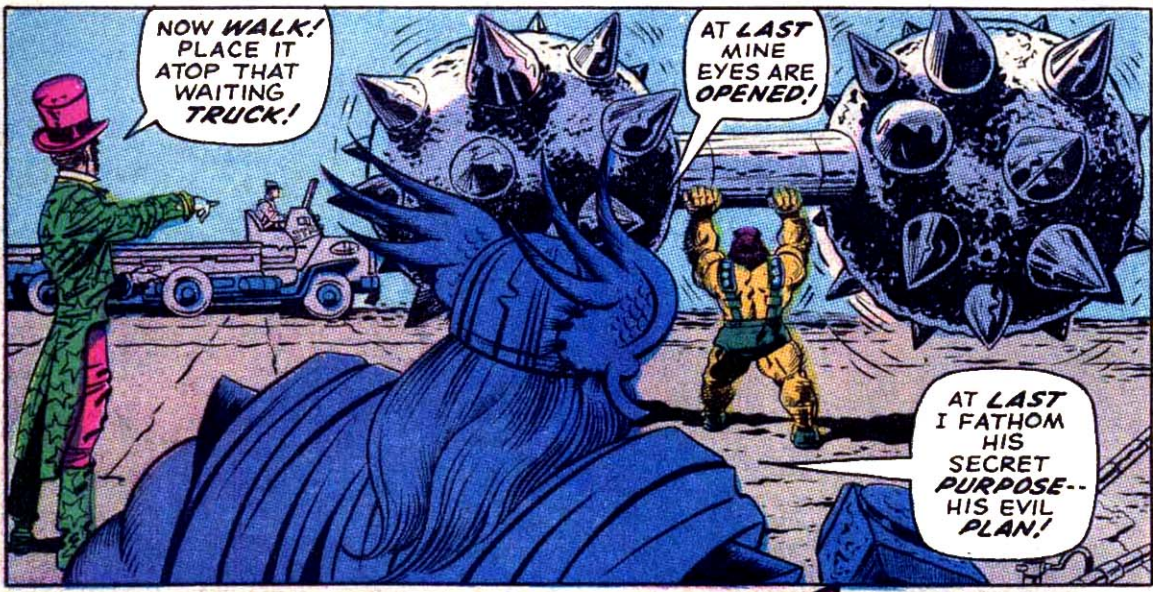


OVER YOUR HEAD WITH IT--I COMMAND YOU!



HE DID IT!! JUST LIKE IT'S ONLY A TOY!





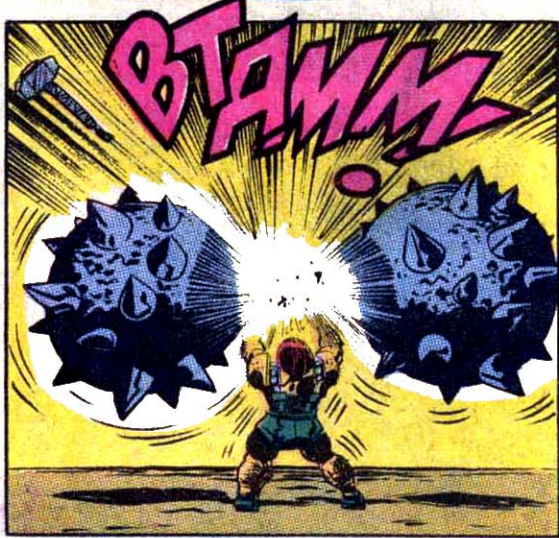
NOW WALK!  
PLACE IT  
ATOP THAT  
WAITING  
TRUCK!

AT LAST  
MINE  
EYES ARE  
OPENED!

AT LAST  
I FATHOM  
HIS  
SECRET  
PURPOSE--  
HIS EVIL  
PLAN!



ULIK-- AWAKEN!  
'TIS THOR  
WHO COMMANDS!



BTAMM!

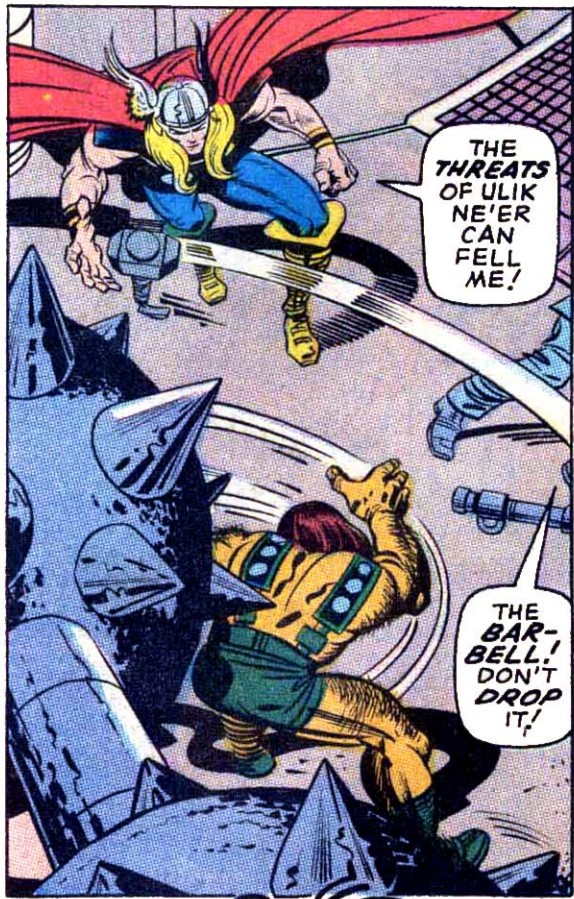


I AM ROUSED--  
BY THE HAND  
OF MY ENEMY!



THE  
ENEMY  
WHO IS  
NOW TO  
DIE!





THE THREATS OF ULIK NE'ER CAN FELL ME!

THE BAR-BELL! DON'T DROP IT!



SPEAK TO ME NOT OF PLAYTHINGS SUCH AS *BARBELLS* --WHEN THE *BLOOD LUST* IS UPON ME!

HAVE AT THEE, THEN-- THING OF EVIL!



NEVER AGAIN WILL ULIK BOW TO THE MIGHT OF *ASGARD!*



EVER MUST  
EVIL BOW  
TO THE  
MIGHT--TO  
THE POWER  
OF GOOD!



AND  
TRULY--  
THOU  
ART  
EVIL!



ON THY FEET, TROLL!  
THE GOD OF THUNDER  
HATH NOT YET DONE  
WITH THEE!



YOU THINK ONE  
LUCKY BLOW HAS  
SAVED YOU??!

THEN,  
ASGARDIAN  
--THINK  
AGAIN!



'TIS GOOD THAT HIS BESTIAL  
WRATH IS DIRECTED ONLY AT  
THE SON OF ODIN!

--LEST, IN HIS SAVAGE  
RAGE, SOME  
HARM  
BEFALL A  
HAPLESS  
MORTAL!



THOU DAREST  
CHARGE TOWARDS  
WHIRLING MJOLNIR?

YOUR  
HAMMER  
CAN'T  
HARM ME!



IN ORDER TO GAIN THE MOST POWER, YOU MUST SPIN IT--FASTER AND FASTER!

BUT WHAT IF YOU CAN'T SPIN IT FAST ENOUGH?

WHAT IF THE ATTACK OF ULIK KEEPS YOU OFF-BALANCE...UNTIL--

**POW!**

ULIK HIMSELF CAN STRIKE FIRST!

**NEVER, MERCILESS ONE!**

NOT WHILST THOR HATH THE MIGHT TO CONFOUND THEE!

BACK, THOU MINDLESS VILLAIN! BACK TO THE STYGIAN REALM THAT SPAWNED THEE!

**SO SPEAKS THE GOD OF THUNDER!**





HE'S GONE!  
ULIK  
VANISHED--  
RIGHT  
BEFORE OUR  
EYES!

THOU DOST BEHOLD THE  
TRUE SON OF ODIN!

IT ISN'T MIKE!  
IT'S HIM!  
IT'S REALLY  
THE THUNDER  
GOD!

YEA,  
I BE  
THE ONE  
--THE  
MIGHTY  
THOR!



MY HAT! YOU  
MUST STARE  
AT THE  
CIRCLES--  
UPON MY  
HAT!



MORTAL,  
I SAY  
THEE  
NAY!



THY SECRET NOW  
IS KNOWN TO ME!  
'TIS THEE WHO  
HAVE DONE THE  
UNPARDON-  
ABLE!



--AND 'TIS THOR  
WHO HATH SET  
THE STAGE FOR  
THY FINAL  
ACT!

DON'T MAKE  
A MOVE,  
RING-  
MASTER!  
YOU'VE  
HAD IT!

ROUND  
UP THE  
REST  
OF 'EM,  
BOYS!





'TWAS THINE ACROBATS WHO RAIDED THY GOVERNMENT'S ELECTRONICS CENTER--



--ATOP EACH OTHER'S SHOULDERS THEY REACHED THE UNGUARDED THIRD FLOOR WINDOW!

HE'S WISE TO US! HE KNOWS!



AND THANKS TO HIM, WE ALL KNOW NOW!

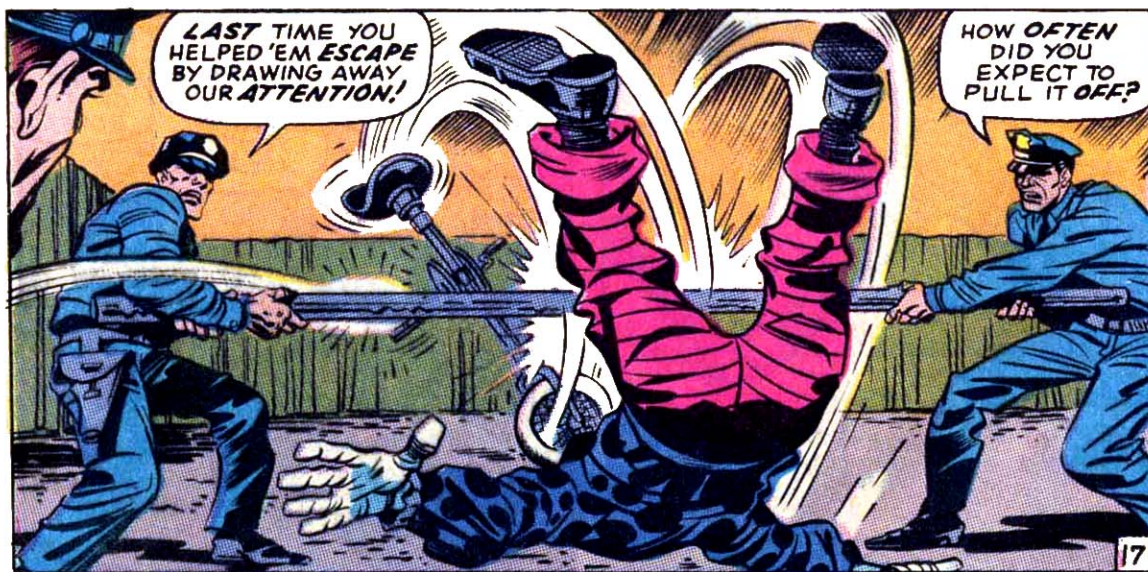
HE SENT FOR US JUST IN TIME

AND NOW THE LAW'S READY FOR YOU, STUNTMAN!



AND WE'RE READY FOR YOU TOO, CLOWN!

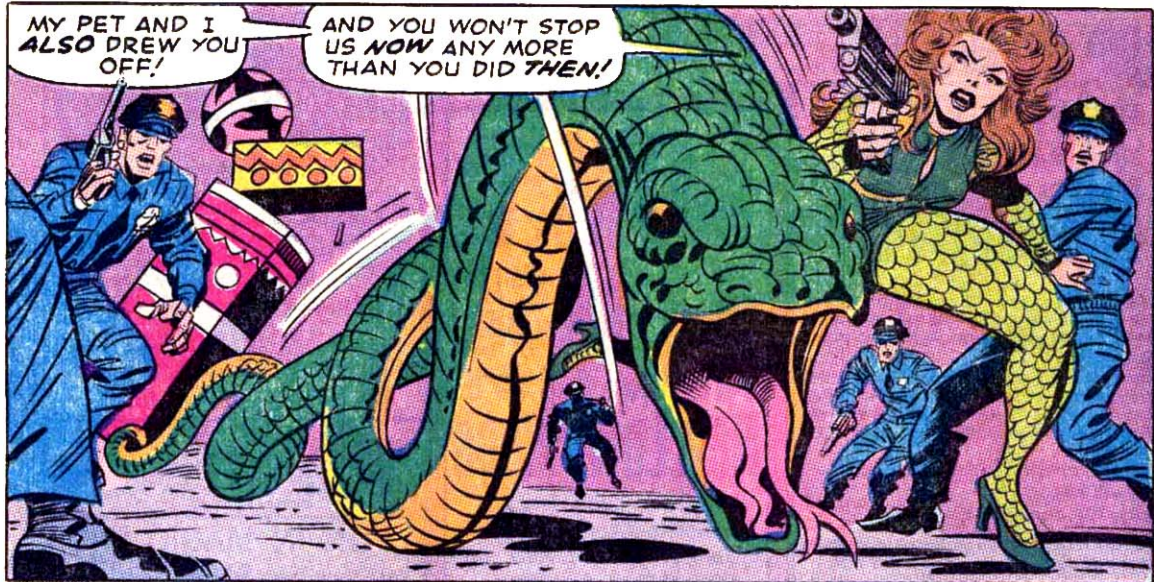
HARRY! JOE! GET THE PROP STICK!



LAST TIME YOU HELPED 'EM ESCAPE BY DRAWING AWAY OUR ATTENTION!

HOW OFTEN DID YOU EXPECT TO PULL IT OFF?





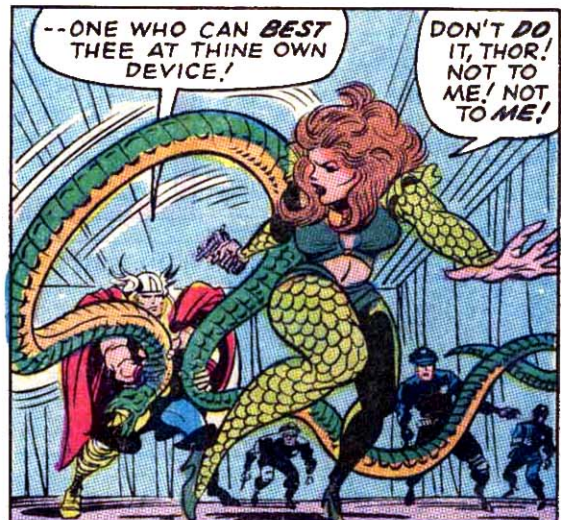
MY PET AND I ALSO DREW YOU OFF!

AND YOU WON'T STOP US NOW ANY MORE THAN YOU DID THEN!



NOT SO, DECEITFUL ONE!

NOT WHILST THERE BE ONE STRONGER THAN THY GIANT SERPENT!



--ONE WHO CAN BEST THEE AT THINE OWN DEVICE!

DON'T DO IT, THOR! NOT TO ME! NOT TO ME!



EACH MAN DOTH WHAT HE MUST!

DROP THE IRON, LADY! YOU'VE HAD IT!



YOU FOOL! I COULD HAVE GIVEN YOU--MY HEART!

BUT TO WHAT AVAIL--IF THY SOUL BE A SERPENT'S?





YOU CAN'T HOLD ME--NOT JUST ON THE WORD OF THAT MUSCLE-BOUND, LONG-HAIRED FREAK!

YOU'VE NO EVIDENCE-- NO PROOF THAT I DID ANYTHING WRONG!!

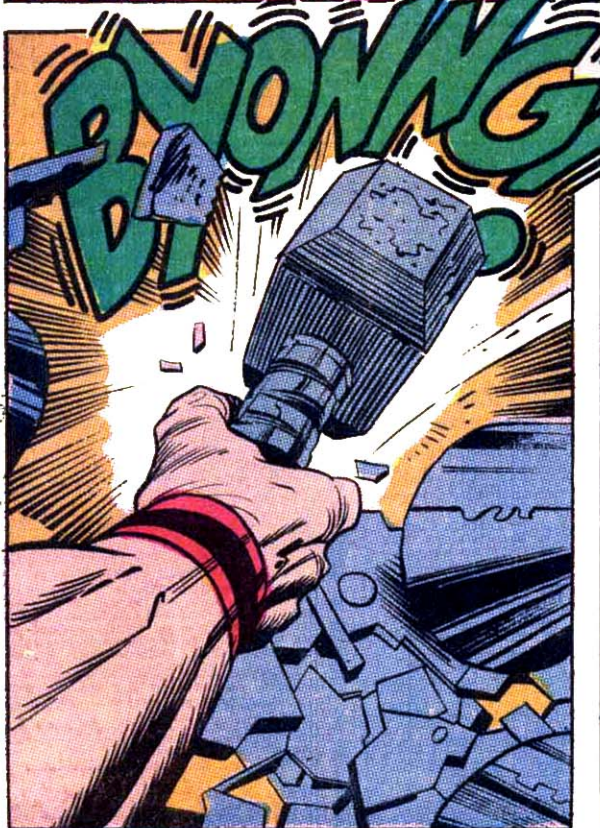


ONCE AGAIN, INSIDIOUS ONE, THOU LIEST IN THY TEETH!

WHAT'S THOR DOIN' NOW?

BEATS ME! LOOKS LIKE HE'S HEADIN' FOR THAT OVERSIZED BAR-BELL!

NO! NO! STAY AWAY FROM THERE!



**BONK!**



'T WAS THIS THAT CAUSED THE FALSE THOR TO INJURE HIS BACK--WHEN HE HELPED LIFT IT AFTER YON THEFT--!

LOOK WHAT'S INSIDE THAT THING!!



THY GOVERNMENT'S OWN  
SECRET DUAL COMPUTER--  
TO BE USED FOR  
NATIONAL DEFENSE!

TAKE  
'EM  
AWAY!

AND THOSE  
JOKERS  
ALMOST  
GOT AWAY  
WITH--  
THAT!!

WHY DID  
YOU DO IT,  
THUNDER  
GOD?

WE'D HAVE PAID  
YOU A FORTUNE  
--TO KEEP HANDS  
OFF!

WHAT'S  
IN IT  
FOR YOU--  
NOW?

SO LONG AS THOU CANST  
ONLY THINK IN TERMS OF  
MONETARY GAIN--

--THEN  
VERILY I  
SAY--NEVER  
CANST THOU  
UNDER-  
STAND!

MAYHAP, THE DAY WILL  
COME WHEN MEN THINK  
OF TRUTH--OF RIGHT--  
OF LOVE FOR ALL  
THEIR FELLOWS!

I PRAY  
THAT 'Twill  
COME  
SOON!

FOR NOT TILL  
THEN WILL  
HUMANITY  
FULFILL ITS  
PROMISE--

NAY, NOT  
TILL THEN--

--WILL  
MAN AND  
GOD--BE  
ONE!

**NEXT**  
THE COMING OF  
THE  
**CRYPTO-MAN!**