

THOR

178  
JULY

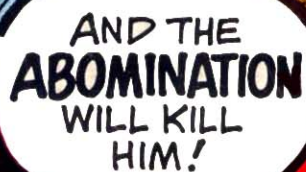
THE MIGHTY

# THOR

APPROVED  
BY THE  
COMICS  
CODE  
AUTHORITY



THOR HAS  
DARED INVADE  
THE REALM OF  
**THE STRANGER!**  
THEREFORE HE MUST  
**DIE!**



AND THE  
**ABOMINATION**  
WILL KILL  
HIM!



**DEATH**  
**IS A STRANGER!**



# THE MIGHTY THOR!

# DEATH IS A STRANGER

CO-FEATURING:  
**THE AWESOME ABOMINATION**

LET ALL HEADS  
BOW!  
LET ALL KNEES  
BEND!

OMNIPOTENT  
ODIN,  
ALL-FATHER  
ETERNAL,  
DO THY NOW  
APPEAR!

SO KNOW  
YE ALL--  
WE BE  
IN THE  
PRESENCE!

LAST ISSUE WE SAW A  
BATTLE WON! AND NOW,  
WE BEG THEE TO JOIN THE  
HOSTS OF ASGARD, IN  
TRIBUTE TO THE  
VICTORS!

STORY -- STAN LEE

DRAWING -- JOHN BUSCEMA

INKING -- VINCE COLLETTA

LETTERING -- ARTIE SIMEK

299 Z





HAIL, LORDLY ODIN! THOU ART THE POWER AND THE WAY!

TO THEE DO WE PLEDGE BOTH OUR HEARTS AND OUR LIVES!

THOU ART NOBLEST OF THE NOBLE! THOU ART WISEST OF THE WISE!

AND I AM BLESSED ABOVE ALL OTHERS--

THY LIPS DO SPEAK-- MINE EARS DO HEAR--

AND I BE TRULY PLEASD!

--FOR I DO CALL THEE FATHER!



MY LORDS AND LADIES, SIT THEE DOWN! LET THE REVELRY BEGIN!

'TIS A TIME FOR MERRY-MAKING! SO SPEAKS ODIN!



BELOVED, METHINKS THOU HAST A TROUBLED LOOK!

I SENSE GREAT DANGER, FAIR ONE!



BUT ALL IS WELL! THE VICTORY WON! WHAT CAN THERE BE TO CAUSE THEE SUCH CONCERN?

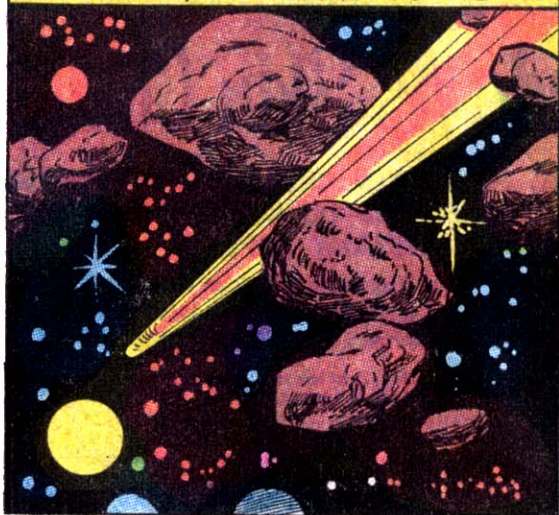
I SAY THEE MAY, MY LADY! 'TIS NOT MY VILLAINOUS BROTHER WHO DOTH GIVE ME PAUSE--

'TIS A DANGER FAR MORE STRANGE THAT I DO FEEL A'BORNING!

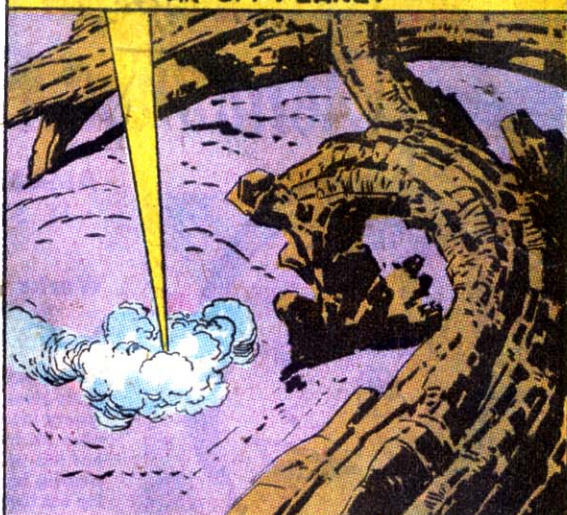
OR, DOST THOU BROOD UPON THE MISSING LOKI? SINCE HE BE GONE, NONE MAY KNOW WHEN NEXT THE EVIL ONE WILL STRIKE!



**A**ND, EVEN AS THE GOD OF THUNDER  
BROODS; SOMEWHERE IN SPACE--



**A** FIGURE LANDS UPON A FEARFUL,  
FAR-OFF PLANET--



**A** FIGURE WE HAVE MET BEFORE, IN  
OTHER TALES--AT OTHER TIMES--



**T**HE DREADED, DEADLY ABOMINATION!

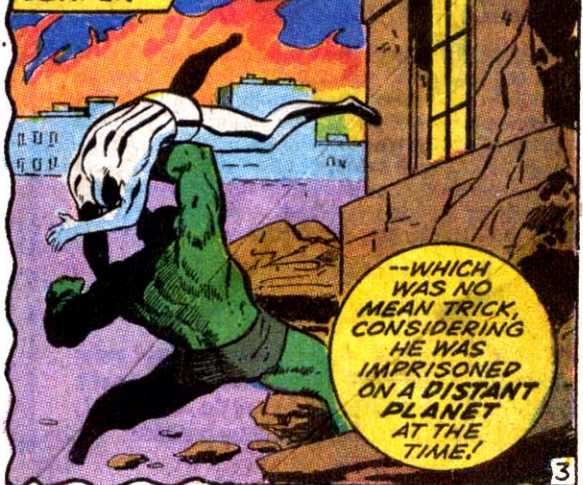


IT WAS THE DOING OF THE  
SILVER SURFER!

HE MADE  
THE  
WITCHES  
SEND ME  
BACK!\*



**U**SING AN ANCIENT MYSTIC SPELL, A  
WITCHES COVEN HAD SUMMONED THE  
ABOMINATION TO BATTLE THE SILVER  
SURFER--

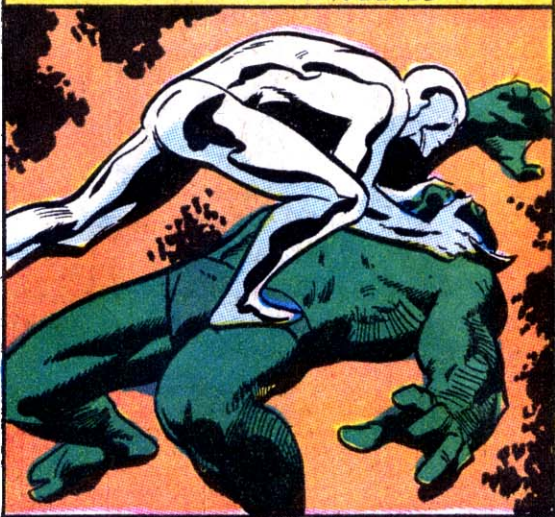


--WHICH  
WAS NO  
MEAN TRICK,  
CONSIDERING  
HE WAS  
IMPRISONED  
ON A DISTANT  
PLANET  
AT THE  
TIME!

\*FROM SILVER SURFER #12! IF YOU  
MISSED IT, STAY COOL--WE'LL CLUE YOU  
IN ON THE WHOLE SHMEAR IN THE NEXT  
THREE PANELS! --SOLICITOUS STAN.



**T**HE BATTLE WAS A GREAT ONE, EVEN IF WE SAY SO OURSELVES--



**B**UT IT ENDED WITH ANOTHER MAGIC SPELL SENDING THE ABOMINATION BACK FROM WHENCE HE HAD COME--



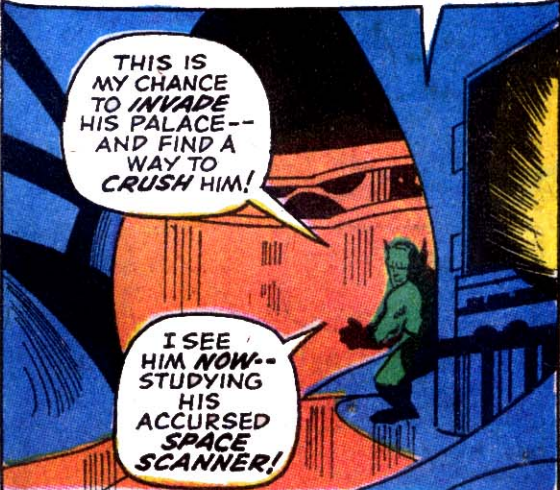
**N**AMELY, TO THE PRISON PLANET OF-- THE STRANGER; THAT MYSTERIOUS, SUPREMELY-POWERFUL BEING WHO TRAVELS THE UNIVERSE IN SEARCH OF LIVING SPECIMENS--



EVEN THOUGH I'VE BEEN RETURNED, I'M NO LONGER LOCKED BEHIND THE WALL!

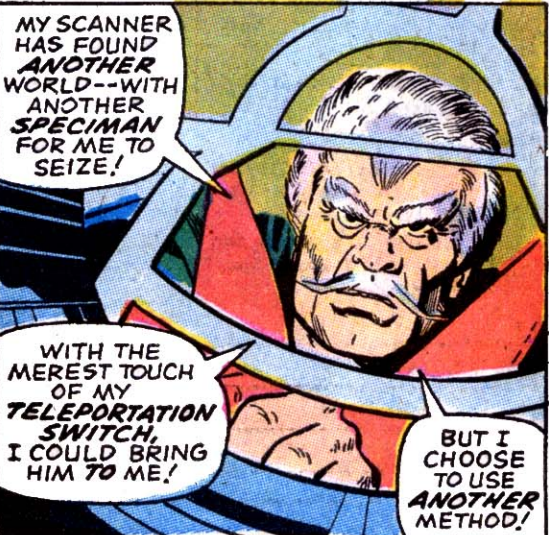
THE ABOMINATION IS FREE-- AND THAT'S THE WAY I'LL STAY!

THE STRANGER HAS SO MANY CAPTIVES-- FROM SO MANY WORLDS-- HE PROBABLY DOESN'T EVEN KNOW I'VE BEEN MISSING!



THIS IS MY CHANCE TO INVAD-- HIS PALACE-- AND FIND A WAY TO CRUSH HIM!

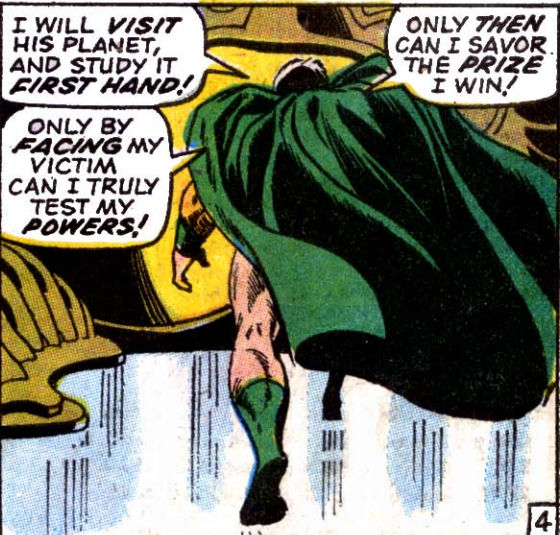
I SEE HIM NOW-- STUDYING HIS ACCURSED SPACE SCANNER!



MY SCANNER HAS FOUND ANOTHER WORLD-- WITH ANOTHER SPECIMAN FOR ME TO SEIZE!

WITH THE MEREST TOUCH OF MY TELEPORTATION SWITCH, I COULD BRING HIM TO ME!

BUT I CHOOSE TO USE ANOTHER METHOD!



I WILL VISIT HIS PLANET, AND STUDY IT FIRST HAND!

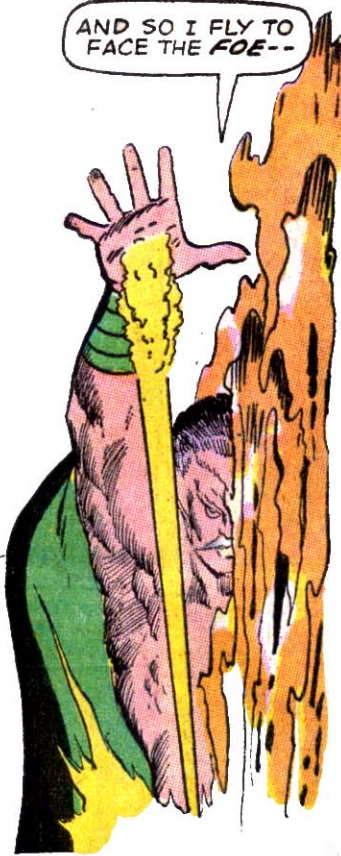
ONLY THEN CAN I SAVOR THE PRIZE I WIN!

ONLY BY FACING MY VICTIM CAN I TRULY TEST MY POWERS!





TIME AND AGAIN I MUST PROVE THAT THE STRANGER IS MASTER OF ALL!



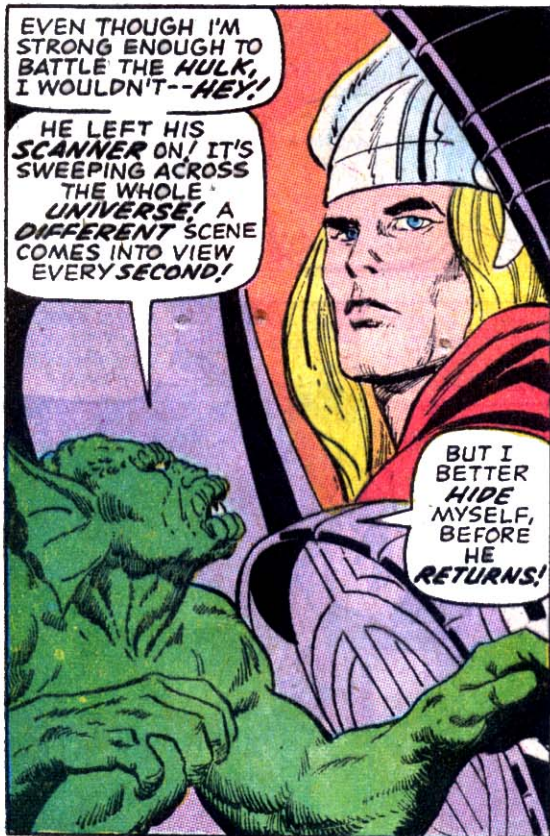
AND SO I FLY TO FACE THE FOE--



HE'S GONE!

SO THAT'S HOW HE TRAVELS! HE JUST WISHES HIMSELF ANYWHERE!

HOW CAN ANYONE BEAT HIM-- WHEN HE'S GOT POWER LIKE THAT?



EVEN THOUGH I'M STRONG ENOUGH TO BATTLE THE HULK, I WOULDN'T--HEY!

HE LEFT HIS SCANNER ON! IT'S SWEEPING ACROSS THE WHOLE UNIVERSE! A DIFFERENT SCENE COMES INTO VIEW EVERY SECOND!

BUT I BETTER HIDE MYSELF, BEFORE HE RETURNS!



THAT SWITCH! I DIDN'T MEAN TO HIT IT!

HOPE IT DOESN'T DO ANYTHING IMPORTANT!



OH NO! NO! IT'S--THE TELEPORTATION SWITCH!

WHATEVER WAS ON THE SCREEN WHEN THE SWITCH WAS THROWN-- GETS BROUGHT HERE--JUST LIKE I WAS!

BY THE BEARD OF ODIN! WHAT HATH BEFALLEN THE THUNDER GOD?

IT'S THOR-- THE GOD OF THUNDER!

IF I COULD TRICK HIM INTO SIDING WITH ME--!

IT WAS THE STRANGER! HE BROUGHT YOU HERE--LIKE HE BROUGHT ME!

THE STRANGER? WHAT MANNER OF BEING IS HE?

I'M A PRISONER HERE-- JUST LIKE YOU!

THE STRANGER CAPTURES PEOPLE--FROM OTHER PLANETS--TO STUDY AND ENSLAVE THEM!

AND WHO ART THOU?

HOW DO I KNOW THY LIPS SPEAK THE TRUTH?

DON'T TAKE MY WORD FOR IT! FOLLOW ME-- I'LL SHOW YOU HIS CAPTIVES!

IT'S WORKING! NOW, IF I JUST PLAY MY CARDS RIGHT--!

A MIGHTY WALL! WHAT DOETH LIE BEYOND?

SEE FOR YOURSELF, THUNDER GOD! LOOK THRU THE RECESSED OPENING--!





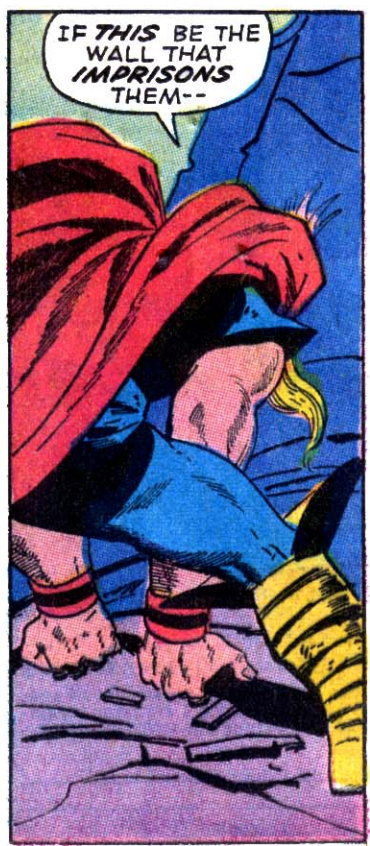
MINE EYES PERCEIVE A MULTITUDE OF LIVING BEINGS --FROM THE FAR-FLUNG REACHES OF THE GALAXIES!



AND, E'EN AS THOU DIDST WARRENT-- THEY ARE CAPTIVES ALL!

I SAY THEE NOW--THEY MUST BE FREE!

BUT SUCH ENSLAVEMENT DOTH INFLAME THE HEART OF THOR!



IF THIS BE THE WALL THAT IMPRISONS THEM--



THEN, BY THE GOLDEN GATES OF ASGARD--



--THE WALL SHALL STAND NO MORE!



THE DEED IS DONE! BUT, WHY LOOKEST THOU YONDER-- IN ANGUISH AND FEAR?

THE ALARM! IF ANYTHING SHATTERS THE WALL, IT TRIGGERS AN ALARM--

AND THE STRANGER WILL HEAR IT-- AND RETURN-- FROM ANYWHERE IN THE UNIVERSE!

EVEN AS THE FEARFUL WORDS ARE SPOKEN, A WRATHFUL FIGURE SUDDENLY TAKES SHAPE-- WITH BLAZING EYES-- AND A HEART CONSUMED WITH INHUMAN RAGE--

WHO HAS PARED TO TAMPER WITH THE STRANGER'S PRIVATE COMPOUND?

WHO HAS DARED TO SET THE STRANGER'S CAPTIVES FREE?

FLEE! FLEE! FLEE FROM THE WRATH OF THE STRANGER!

WE MUST HIDE-- BEFORE HE DESTROYS US ALL!

SO THOU ART THE STRANGER! THOU ART THE ONE WHO DOTH PLUNDER THE PLANETS FOR HIS LIVING PREY!

BUT HOW DIDST THOU ACCOMPLISH SUCH UNTHINKABLE FEATS?

THAT YOU WILL SEE--

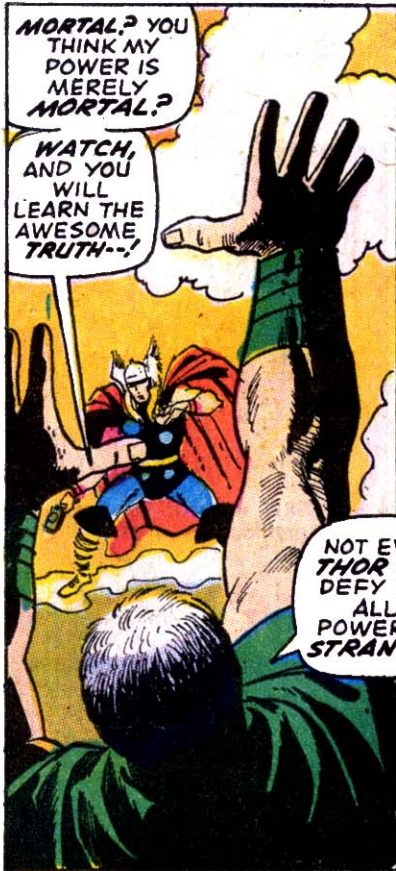
--TO YOUR ETERNAL REGRET!





KNOW YOU THAT I BE **THOR**, THE **GOD OF THUNDER!**

THOU CAN'T NOT PIT **THY** MORTAL POWER AGAINST THE SON OF **ODIN!**



MORTAL? YOU THINK MY POWER IS MERELY MORTAL?

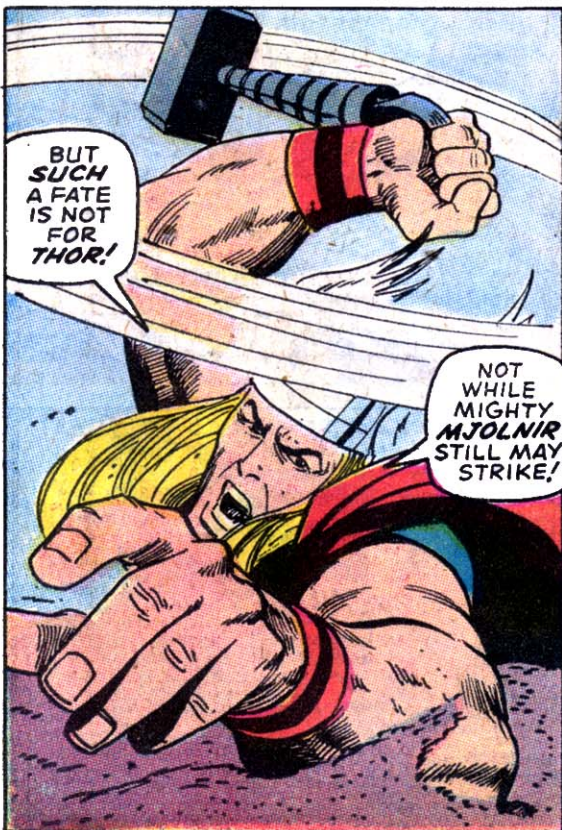
WATCH, AND YOU WILL LEARN THE AWESOME **TRUTH--!**

NOT EVEN **THOR** CAN DEFY THE ALL-POWERFUL **STRANGER!**



WITH BUT A **GESTURE**, HE HATH CREATED **QUICKSAND** BENEATH MY FEET!

EVEN AS I WATCH, MY LIMBS DO **SINK** INTO THE HUNGRY **QUAGMIRE!**



BUT **SUCH** A FATE IS NOT FOR **THOR!**

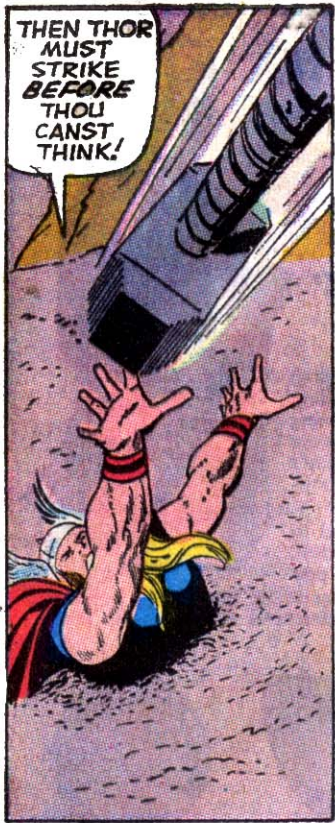
NOT WHILE MIGHTY **MJOLNIR** STILL MAY STRIKE!



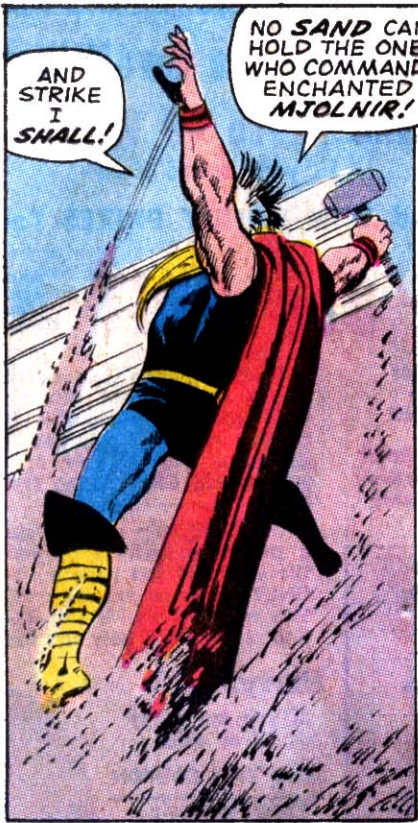
HOW CAN YOU FIGHT **ME--?**

ALMOST ANYTHING I **THINK--** I CAN INSTANTLY **DO!**





THEN THOR MUST STRIKE BEFORE THOU CANST THINK!



AND STRIKE I SHALL!

NO SAND CAN HOLD THE ONE WHO COMMANDS ENCHANTED MJOLNIR!



SO! I HAVE FINALLY FOUND A FOE WHO IS WORTHY OF MY METTLE!

YOU WILL BE MY GREATEST PRIZE OF ALL!



THOR SAYS THEE NOW-- SURRENDER!

I HAVE NO WISH TO INFLECT INJURY-- THOUGH THOU ART SURE DESERVING!

FOOL! IN ORDER TO INJURE THE STRANGER--



--YOU FIRST MUST FIND ME!

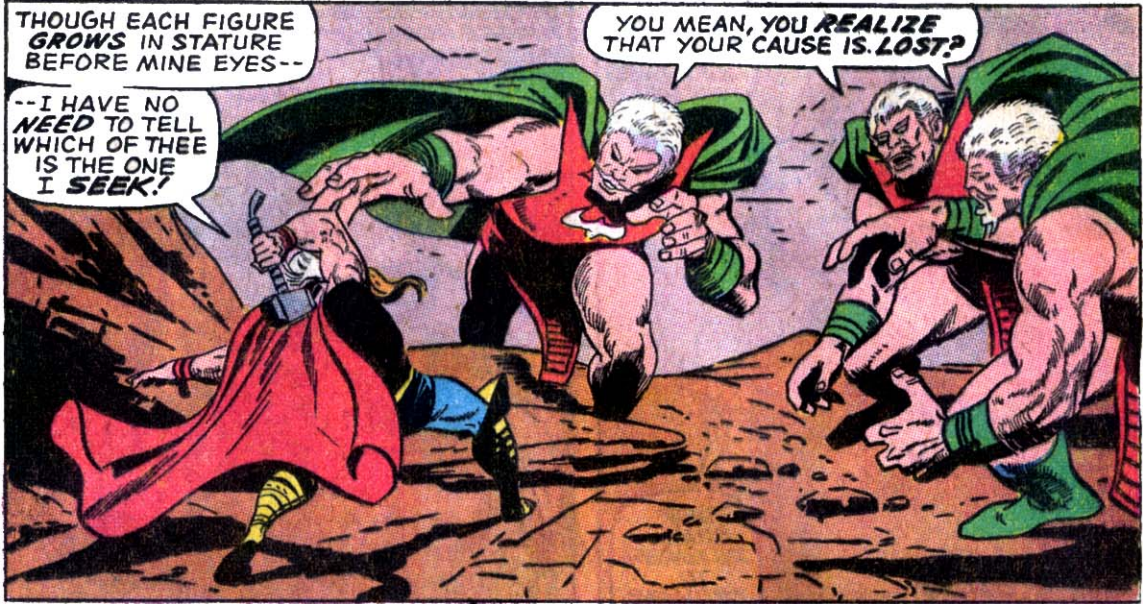
HOW CAN YOU TELL THE REAL FROM THE REPLICA?



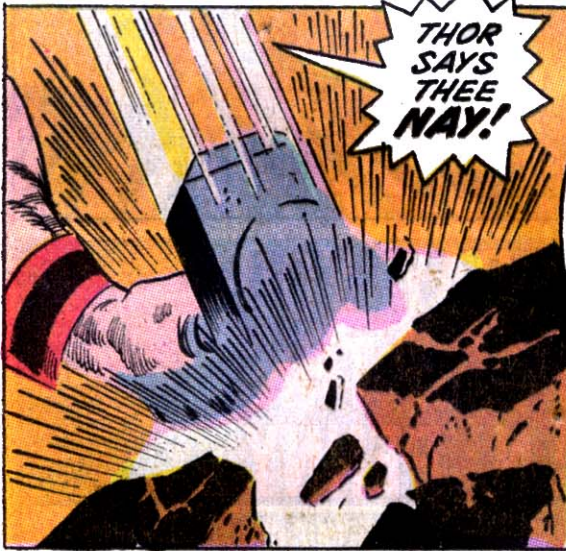
THOUGH EACH FIGURE  
GROWS IN STATURE  
BEFORE MINE EYES--

YOU MEAN, YOU *REALIZE*  
THAT YOUR CAUSE IS LOST?

--I HAVE NO  
NEED TO TELL  
WHICH OF THEE  
IS THE ONE  
I SEEK?



THOR SAYS  
THEE  
NAY!



--FELLING  
THOSE WHO  
BE NOT  
REAL!

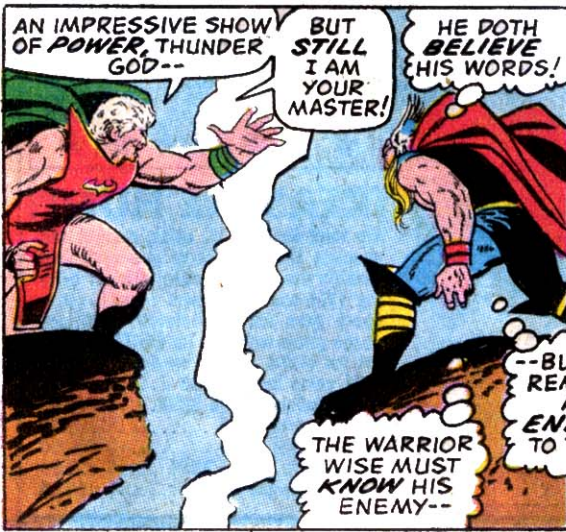
ONE  
HAMMER  
BLOW HATH  
CAUSED THE  
GROUND  
TO  
CRUMBLE--



AN IMPRESSIVE SHOW  
OF POWER, THUNDER  
GOD--

BUT  
STILL  
I AM  
YOUR  
MASTER!

HE DOETH  
BELIEVE  
HIS WORDS!

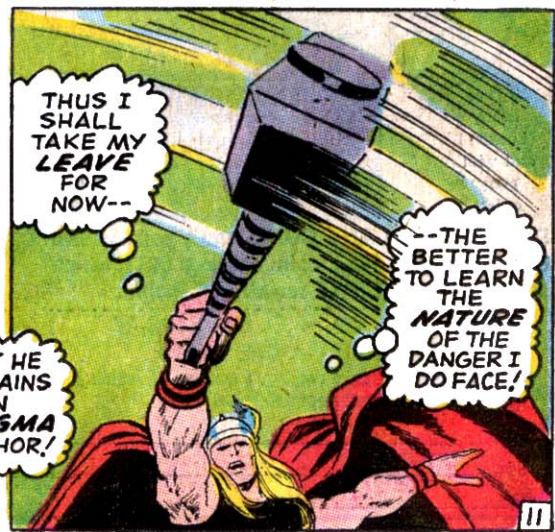


THUS I  
SHALL  
TAKE MY  
LEAVE  
FOR  
NOW--

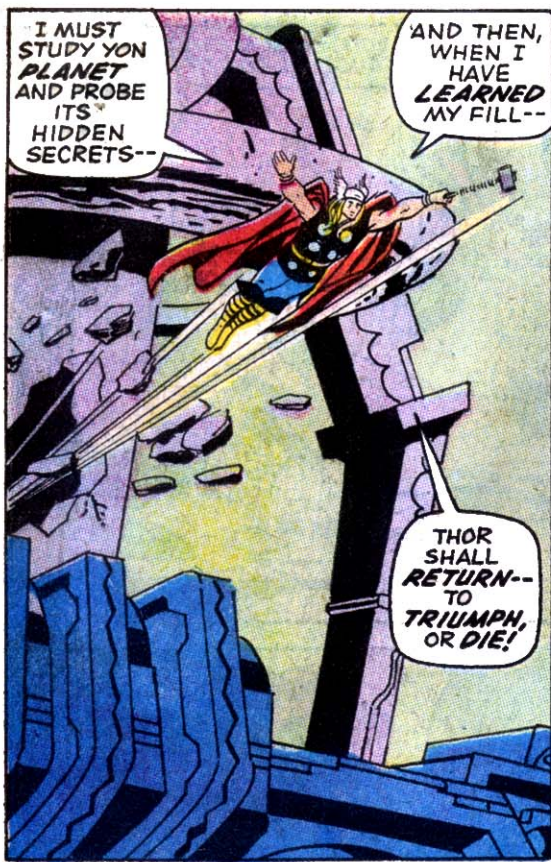
--THE  
BETTER  
TO LEARN  
THE  
NATURE  
OF THE  
DANGER I  
DO FACE!

--BUT HE  
REMAINS  
AN  
ENIGMA  
TO THOR!

THE WARRIOR  
WISE MUST  
KNOW HIS  
ENEMY--



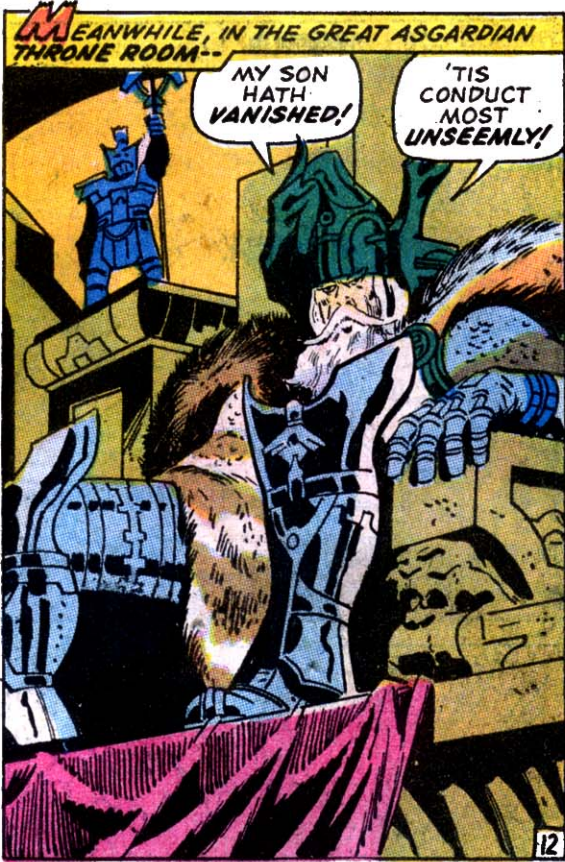




I MUST STUDY YON PLANET AND PROBE ITS HIDDEN SECRETS--

AND THEN, WHEN I HAVE LEARNED MY FILL--

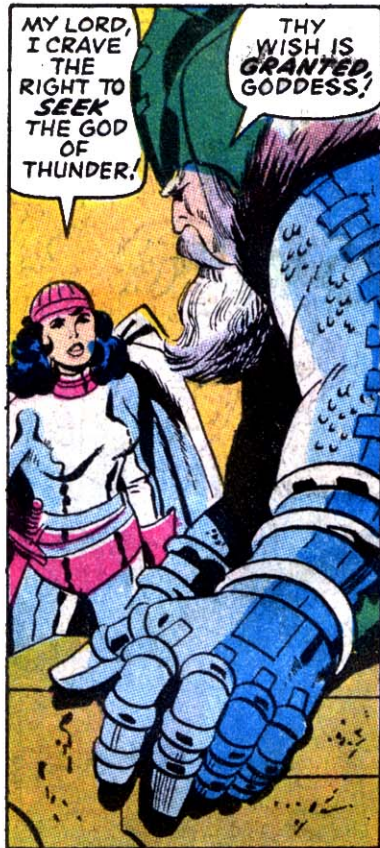
THOR SHALL RETURN-- TO TRIUMPH, OR DIE!



MEANWHILE, IN THE GREAT ASGARDIAN THRONE ROOM--

MY SON HATH VANISHED!

'TIS CONDUCT MOST UNSEEMLY!

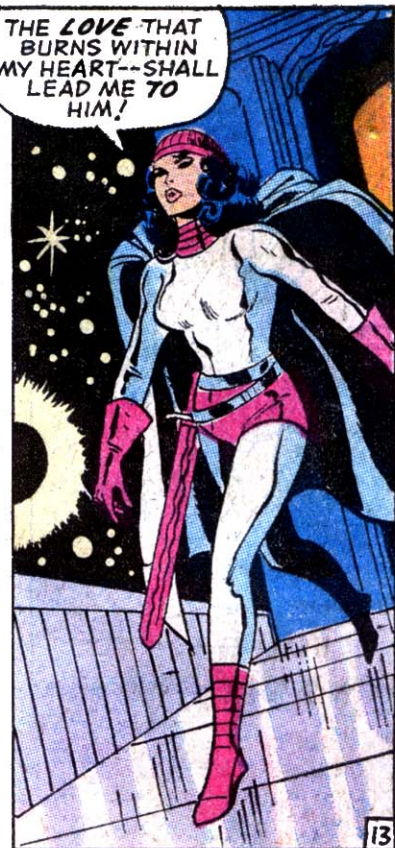


MY LORD, I CRAVE THE RIGHT TO SEEK THE GOD OF THUNDER!

THY WISH IS GRANTED, GODDESS!

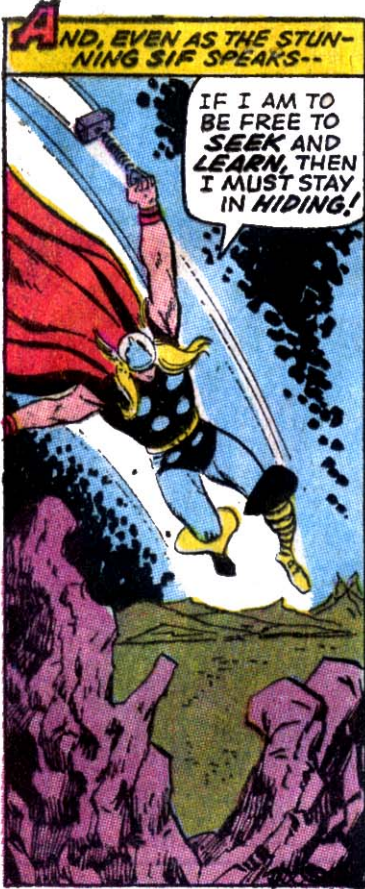


THOUGH THE UNIVERSE BE VAST AND ENDLESS-- WHERE'ER THY SON MAY BE--



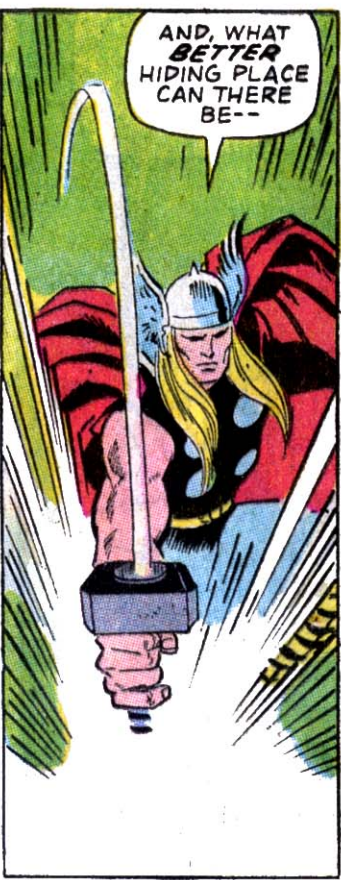
THE LOVE THAT BURNS WITHIN MY HEART-- SHALL LEAD ME TO HIM!





**A**ND, EVEN AS THE STUNNING SIF SPEAKS--

IF I AM TO BE FREE TO SEEK AND LEARN, THEN I MUST STAY IN HIDING!



AND, WHAT **BETTER** HIDING PLACE CAN THERE BE--



--THEN THE BODY OF THE HUMAN **DONALD BLAKE!**



EVEN IF THE STRANGER FINDS ME, HE'D HAVE NO REASON TO **SUSPECT** THAT MY FRAIL FORM CAN BE TRANSFORMED INTO MIGHTY **THOR**--WITH A TAP OF MY ENCHANTED **CANE!**



AND NOW TO **SEARCH** THIS WORLD, AND SEE WHAT THE **THUNDER GOD** IS REALLY UP AGAINST!

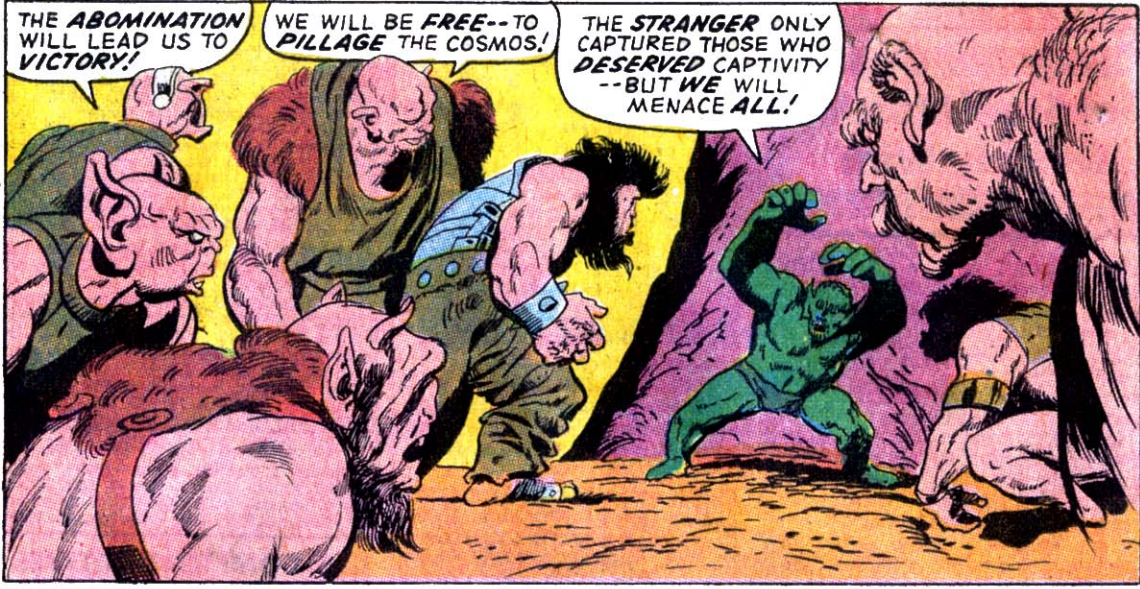
BEHIND THAT **ROCK**-- I HEAR THE **BABBLE** OF ALIEN VOICES--



**EASY, BLAKE!** IT'S TOO LATE TO TURN AND RUN!

YOU'VE GOT TO **APPROACH** THEM--NO MATTER **WHAT!**





THE **ABOMINATION** WILL LEAD US TO **VICTORY!**

WE WILL BE **FREE--** TO **PILLAG** THE **COSMOS!**

THE **STRANGER** ONLY CAPTURED THOSE WHO **DESERVED** CAPTIVITY -- BUT WE WILL **MENACE** ALL!



NONE WHO **LIVE** WILL BE **SAFE** FROM OUR **ATTACK!**

**NO!** YOU ARE **FOOLS!** THERE ARE **FORCES** IN THE **UNIVERSE** TO **STOP** YOU!



**SILENCE** HIM!

**SILENCE** THE **STRANGER'S** **PUNY** **LACKEY!**

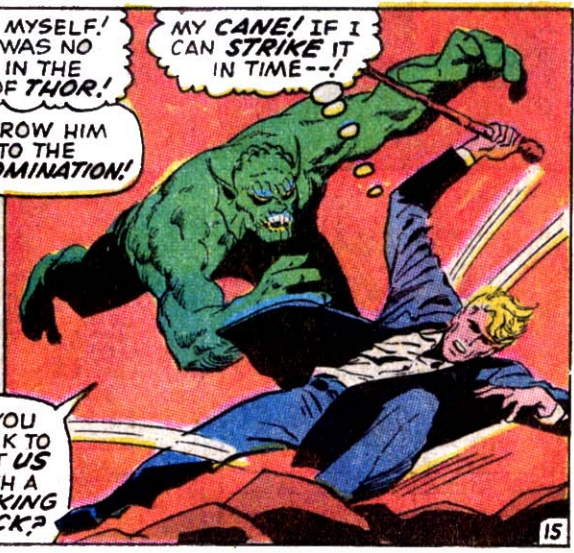
WHOEVER HE **IS**, HE IS OUR **ENEMY!**



**NO! NO!**

I **FORGOT** MYSELF! I **FORGOT** I WAS NO **LONGER** IN THE **BODY** OF **THOR!**

**THROW** HIM TO THE **ABOMINATION!**



MY **CANE!** IF I CAN **STRIKE** IT IN **TIME--!**

DO YOU **THINK** TO **FIGHT** US WITH A **WALKING** **STICK?**





**BAH!**  
YOU ARE  
NOT EVEN  
WORTH  
THE  
EFFORT!

THE  
CANE!  
HE  
SEIZED  
IT!



**LET HIM GO! HE  
CAN ONLY STARVE--  
AND DIE!**

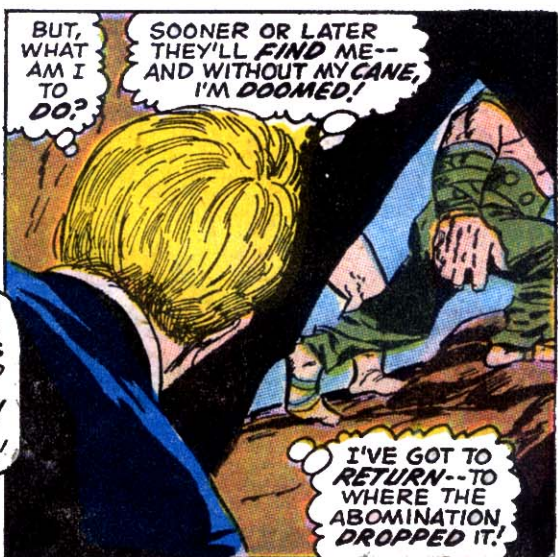
**WITHOUT  
MY CANE--  
I'M HELP-  
LESS!  
BUT I  
DARE NOT  
REMAIN!**



THEY'RE **MERCILESS**--  
**UNCONTROLLABLE!**  
THEY'RE **KILLERS** ALL!

IT'S **THEY** WHO ARE  
THE **THREAT**--AND  
**NOT THE STRANGER!**

HE ONLY  
CAPTURED  
SPECIMENS  
WHO WOULD  
NOT BE  
**MISSED!**  
I **KNOW**  
THAT NOW!



BUT,  
WHAT  
AM I  
TO  
**DO?**

**SOONER OR LATER  
THEY'LL FIND ME--  
AND WITHOUT MY CANE,  
I'M DOOMED!**

I'VE GOT TO  
**RETURN--**TO  
WHERE THE  
ABOMINATION  
DROPPED IT!



BUT, **LAME** AS  
I AM--HOW  
COULD I **REACH**  
IT--BEFORE I'M  
**SEEN--** AND  
**CRUSHED?**

I'D GIVE  
ANYTHING--  
**ANYTHING--**  
TO BE **THOR**  
AGAIN--FOR  
JUST A **MINUTE!**



THOU  
SHALT  
HAVE  
THY  
WISH!

**YOU!**



TAKE THOU THY STICK--

--AND BECOME MY BELOVED ONCE AGAIN!



THIS TIME NOTHING WILL STOP ME--



--FROM BECOMING--



THE MIGHTY THOR!

HOW DIDST THOU FIND ME, MY LADY!



TORGER, THY FATHER'S MYSTIC SAGE, DID CAST A GUIDING SPELL!

BEHOLD! MORE INTRUDERS!



SLAY THEM! SLAY THEM!

LET NONE REMAIN ALIVE!

GET THEE BACK TO ASGARD, SIF!



THOR NOW MUST FIGHT ALONE!

BUT THOU ART ONE, AND THEY BE MANY!

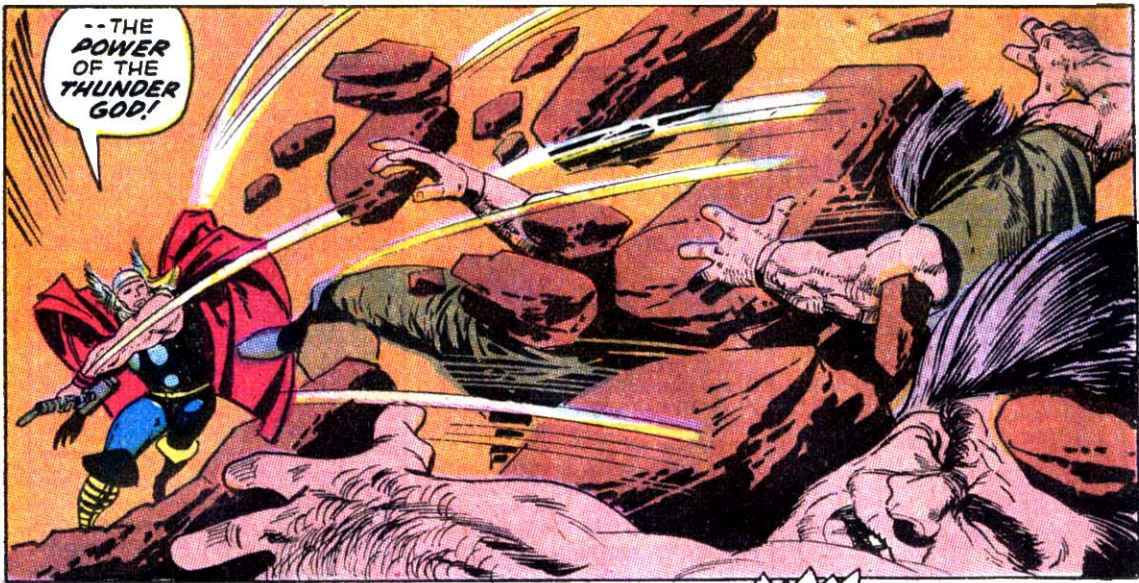
BUT I AM THOR! AND I HAVE SPOKE!

BEGONE, MY LADY! I WILL JOIN THEE IN THE GOLDEN REALM! THAT DO I SWEAR!

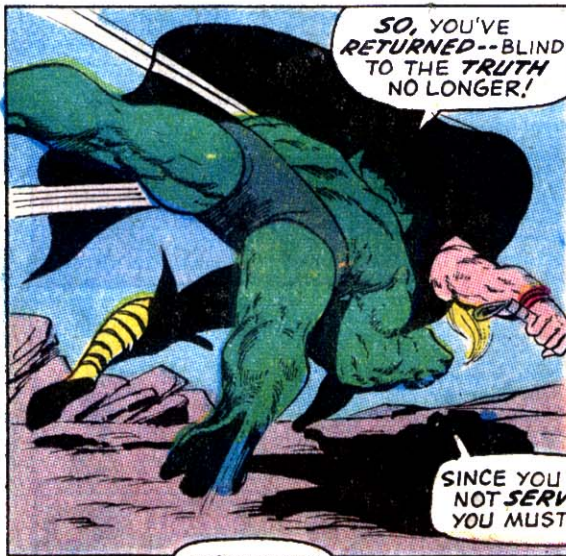


BUT NOW-- 'TIS TIME FOR POWER--!!





--THE POWER OF THE THUNDER GOD!



SO, YOU'VE RETURNED--BLIND TO THE TRUTH NO LONGER!

SINCE YOU WILL NOT SERVE US-- YOU MUST DIE!



KILL HIM! KILL!



YOU--WHO THOUGHT YOURSELVES VICTIMIZED--

NOW SEEK TO VICTIMIZE ANOTHER!

BUT, BY THE BRISTLING BEARD OF ODIN--



IT SHALL NOT COME TO PASS!



ALL ARE FELLED--  
SAVE THE  
ABOMINATION!

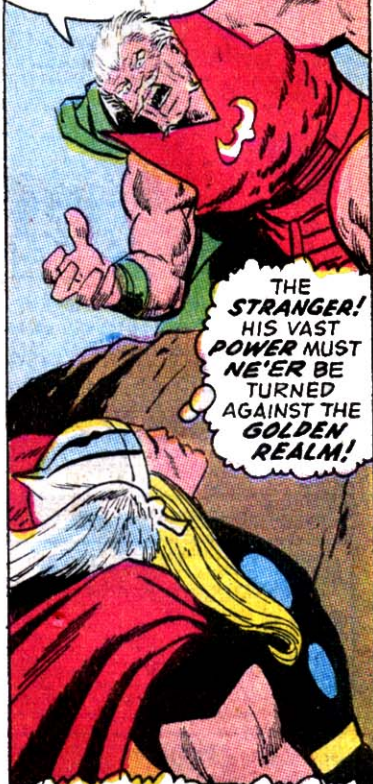
AND NOW--  
HE FLEES  
IN FEAR--  
BUT WHY?



BECAUSE THE  
STRANGER HAS  
FOUND YOU--



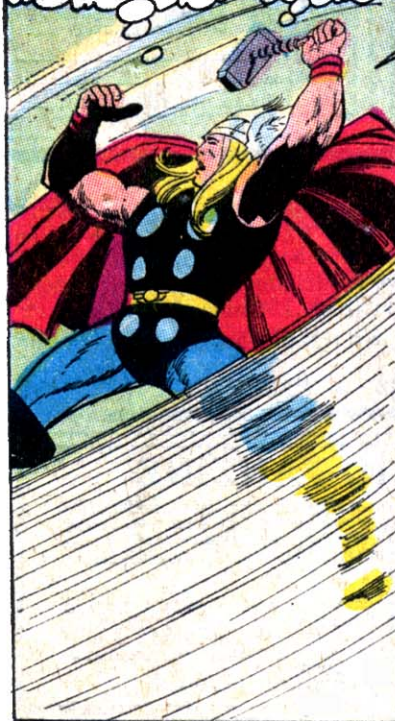
--AND HE KNOWS  
THE FURY OF MY  
WRATH!



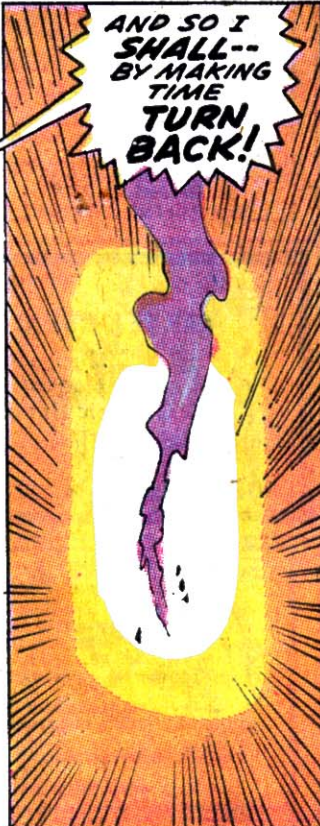
THE  
STRANGER!  
HIS VAST  
POWER MUST  
NE'ER BE  
TURNED  
AGAINST THE  
GOLDEN  
REALM!

SINCE HE KNOWS  
THOR DOTH EXIST  
--HE MAY FOLLOW  
ME TO ASGARD--

UNLESS--  
I CAUSE  
HIM TO  
FORGET!



AND SO I  
SHALL--  
BY MAKING  
TIME  
TURN  
BACK!



IT'S THOR--  
THE GOD OF  
THUNDER!

IF I COULD  
TRICK HIM  
INTO SIDING  
WITH ME--!



'TIS DONE!  
MIGHTY  
MJOLNIR  
HATH REVERSED  
TIME  
ITSELF!



