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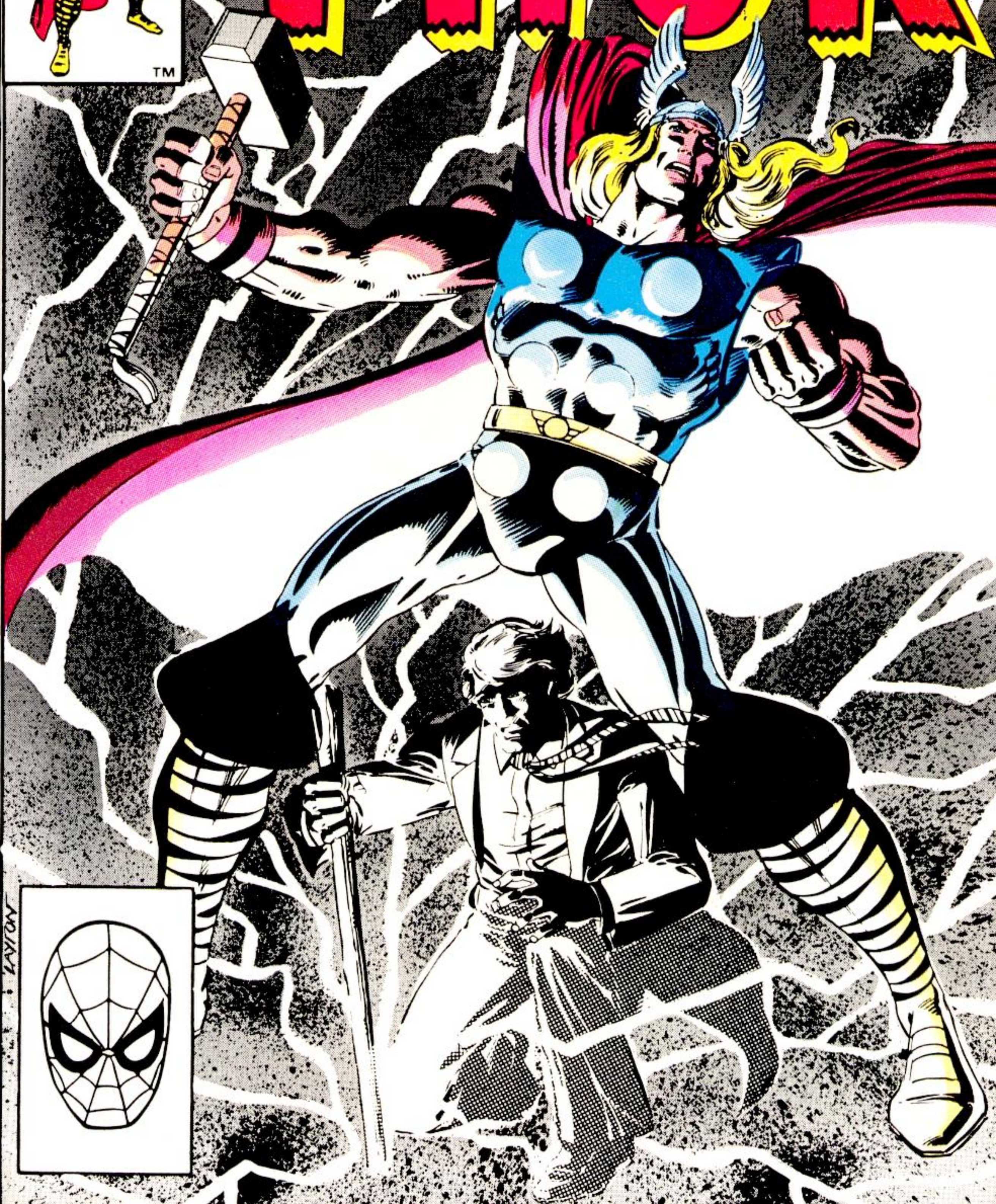
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TM

THE  
MIGHTY

# THOR



NO. 147

STAN LEE PRESENTS THE MIGHTY THOR IN...

# THOR

OFTEN HAS THOR, THE MIGHTY GOD OF THUNDER, SOUGHT RESPIRE FROM THE PRESSING RESPONSIBILITIES OF A HERO BY TRANSFORMING INTO THE MORE PLACID GUISE OF MORTAL DONALD BLAKE, M.D.

BUT DONALD BLAKE'S LIFE HAS SUDDENLY RUN ONTO THE ROCKS THESE LAST FEW DAYS...

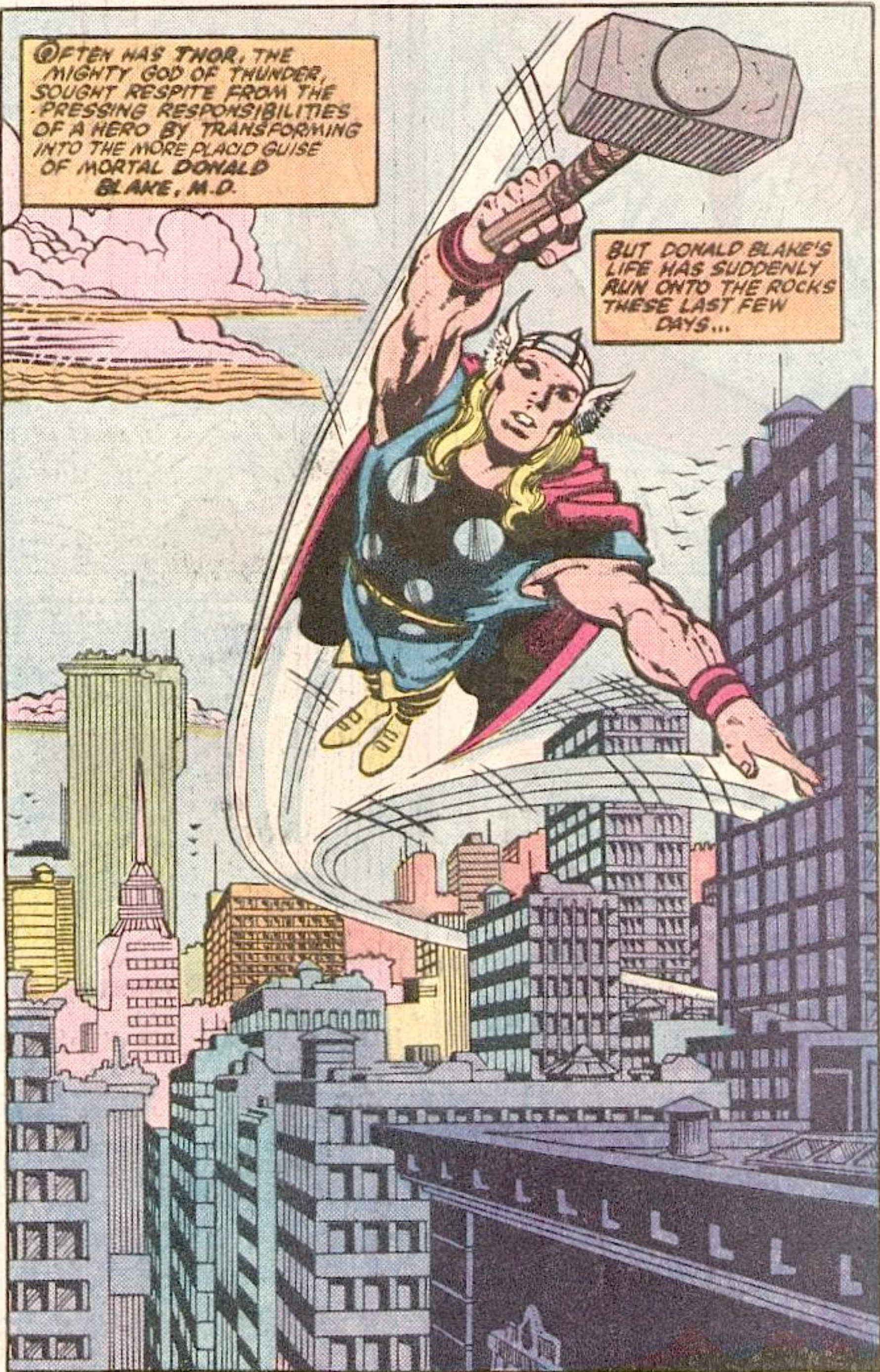
... AND THIS MORNING ...



... IT IS JUST AN OVER-RIDING SENSE OF DUTY TO THE LAME PHYSICIAN'S PATIENTS...



... THAT PROMPTS THE THUNDER GOD'S TRANSFORMATION AT ALL.



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MOMENTS LATER, ON THE FIFTEENTH FLOOR OF CHICAGO COMMUNITY HOSPITAL...

NO! DON'T YOU LAY A FINGER ON ME, DOCTOR BLAKE!

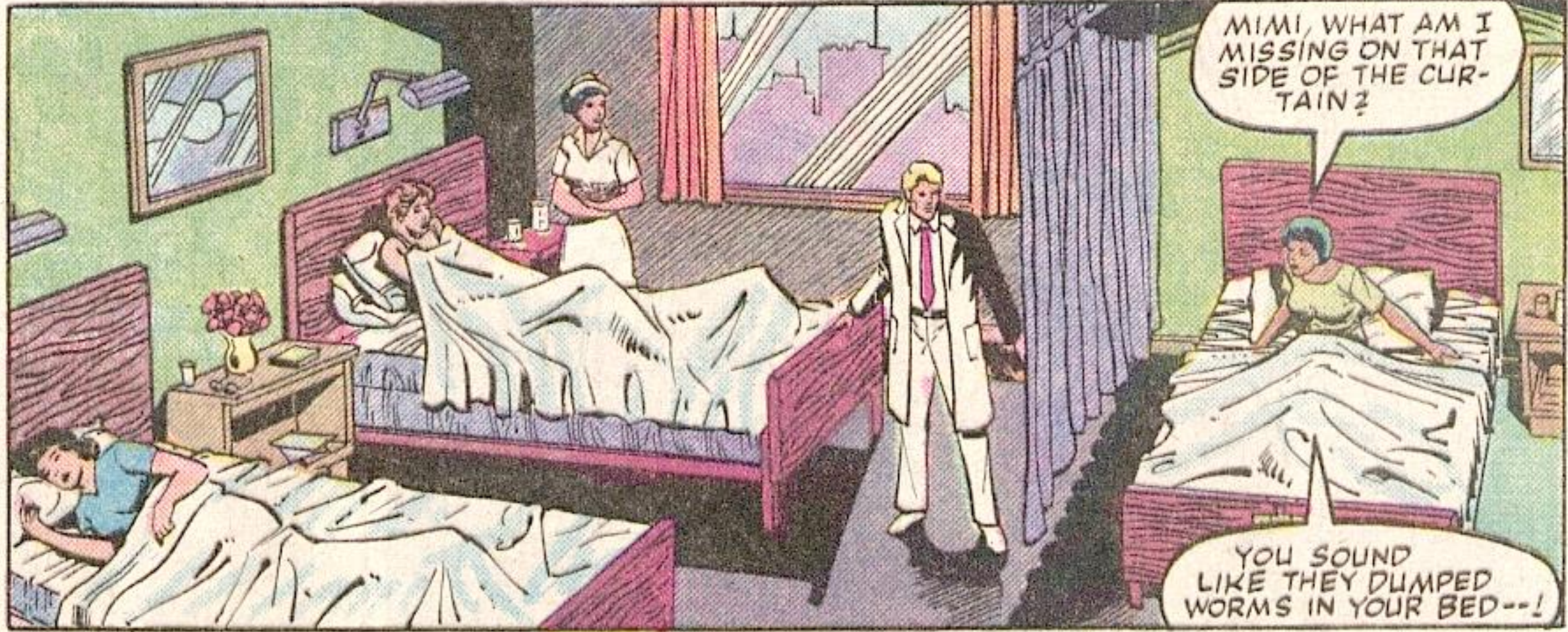


I SAW ON THE NEWS WHAT YOU DID TO THAT NURSE... YOU...



PLEASE CALM DOWN, MRS. OGOREK--

... YOU MURDERER!

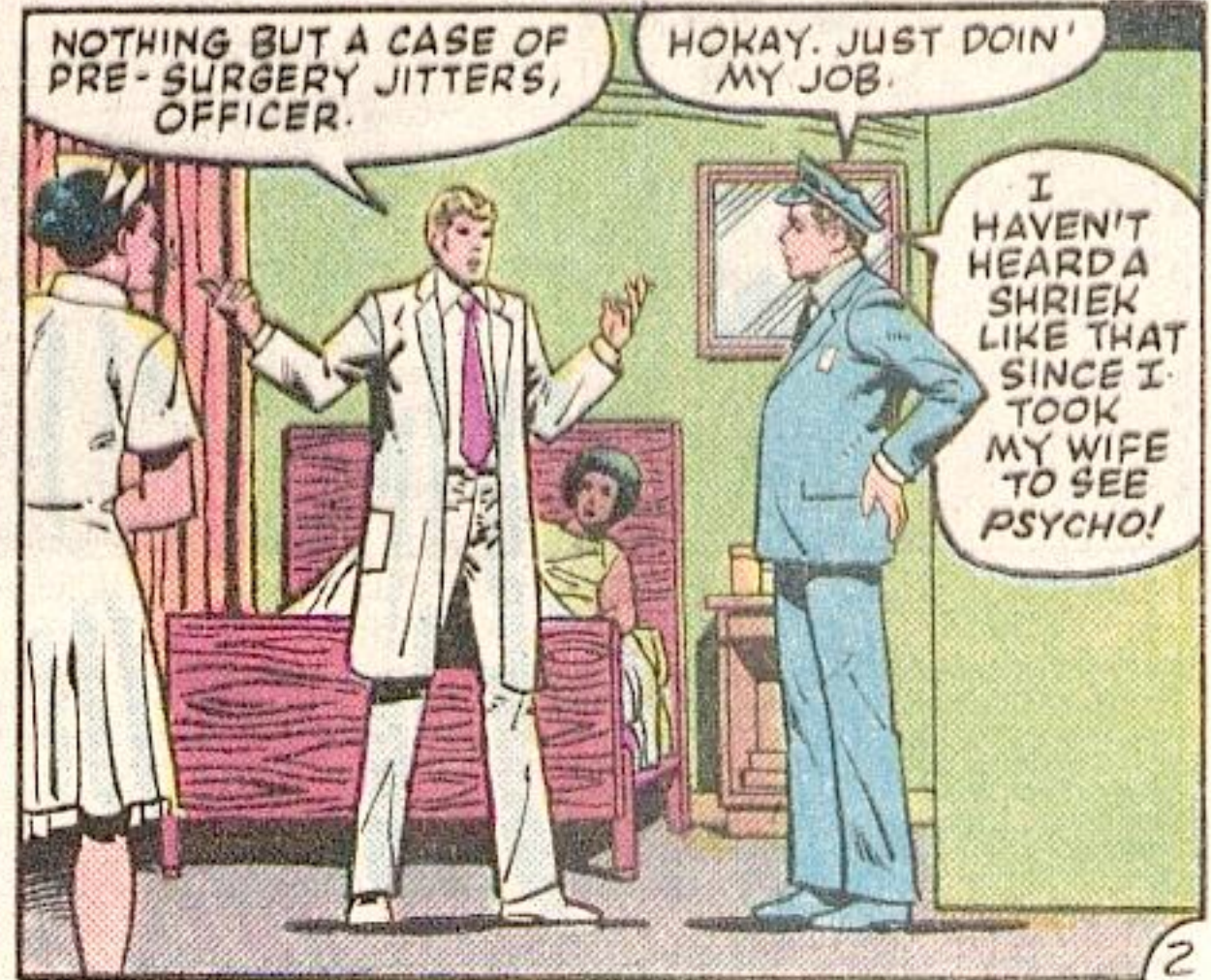


MIMI, WHAT AM I MISSING ON THAT SIDE OF THE CURTAIN?

YOU SOUND LIKE THEY DUMPED WORMS IN YOUR BED--!



SECURITY! EVERYTHING OKAY IN HERE?



NOTHING BUT A CASE OF PRE-SURGERY JITTERS, OFFICER.

HOKAY. JUST DOIN' MY JOB.

I HAVEN'T HEARD A SHRIEK LIKE THAT SINCE I TOOK MY WIFE TO SEE PSYCHO!



I'M SORRY, DR. BLAKE. I COULDN'T PREVENT--

IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT, FRAN. THESE LAST FIVE DAYS HAVE BEEN LIKE A BAD DREAM.

I MEAN, THE MEDIA'S REALLY GOING FOR MY JUGULAR WITH THEIR "BACHELOR DOCTOR SLAYS NURSE" ROUTINE.

I'VE SHIED AWAY FROM SLAPPING A COUPLE OF THOSE AMATEUR PERRY MASON'S WITH A LIBEL SUIT, BUT IF THIS CONTINUES...!

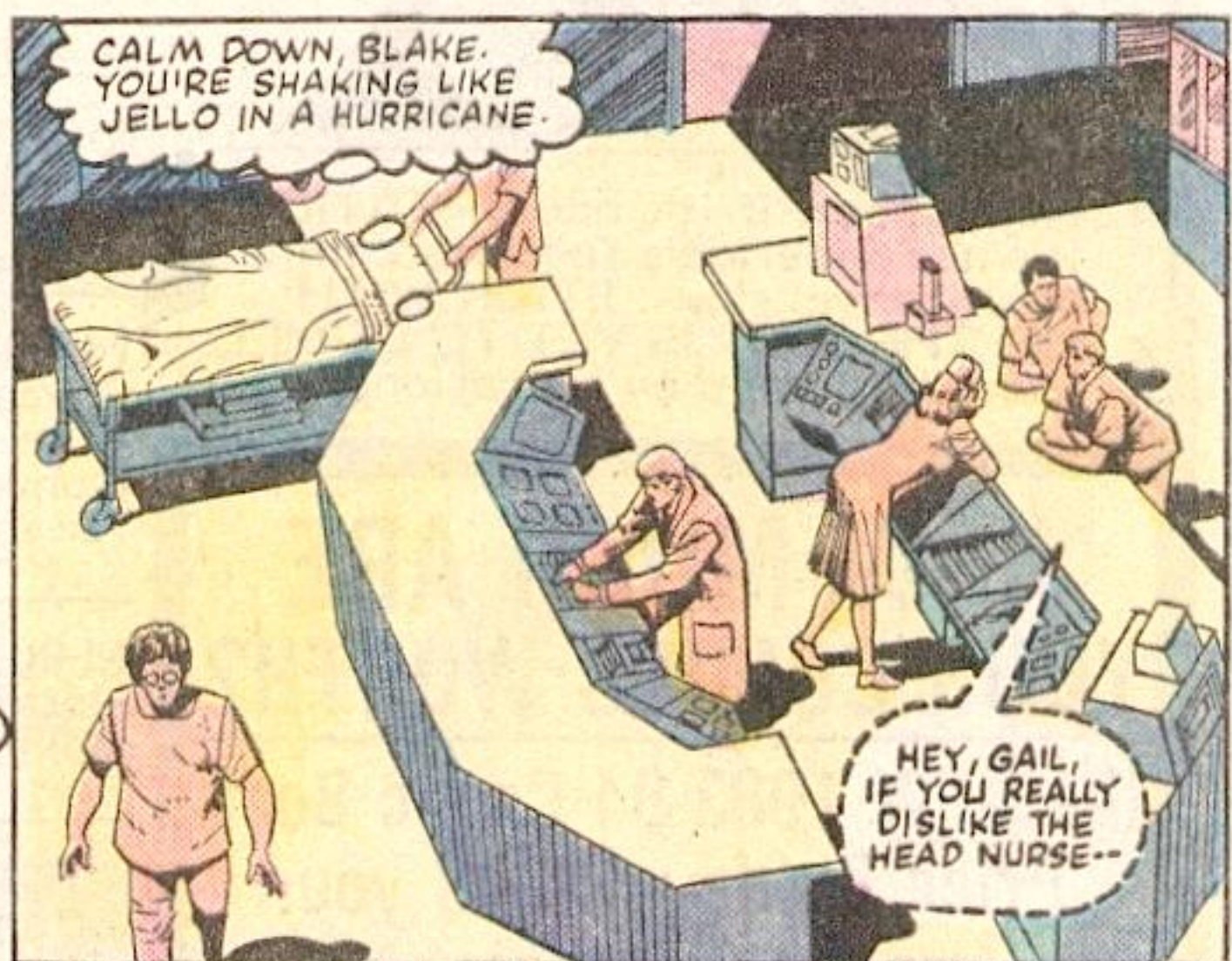


DO ME A FAVOR, FRAN, AND CALL JERRY WEINBERG TO TAKE OVER THE OGOREK CASE, WILL YOU?

TELL HIM I ASKED.

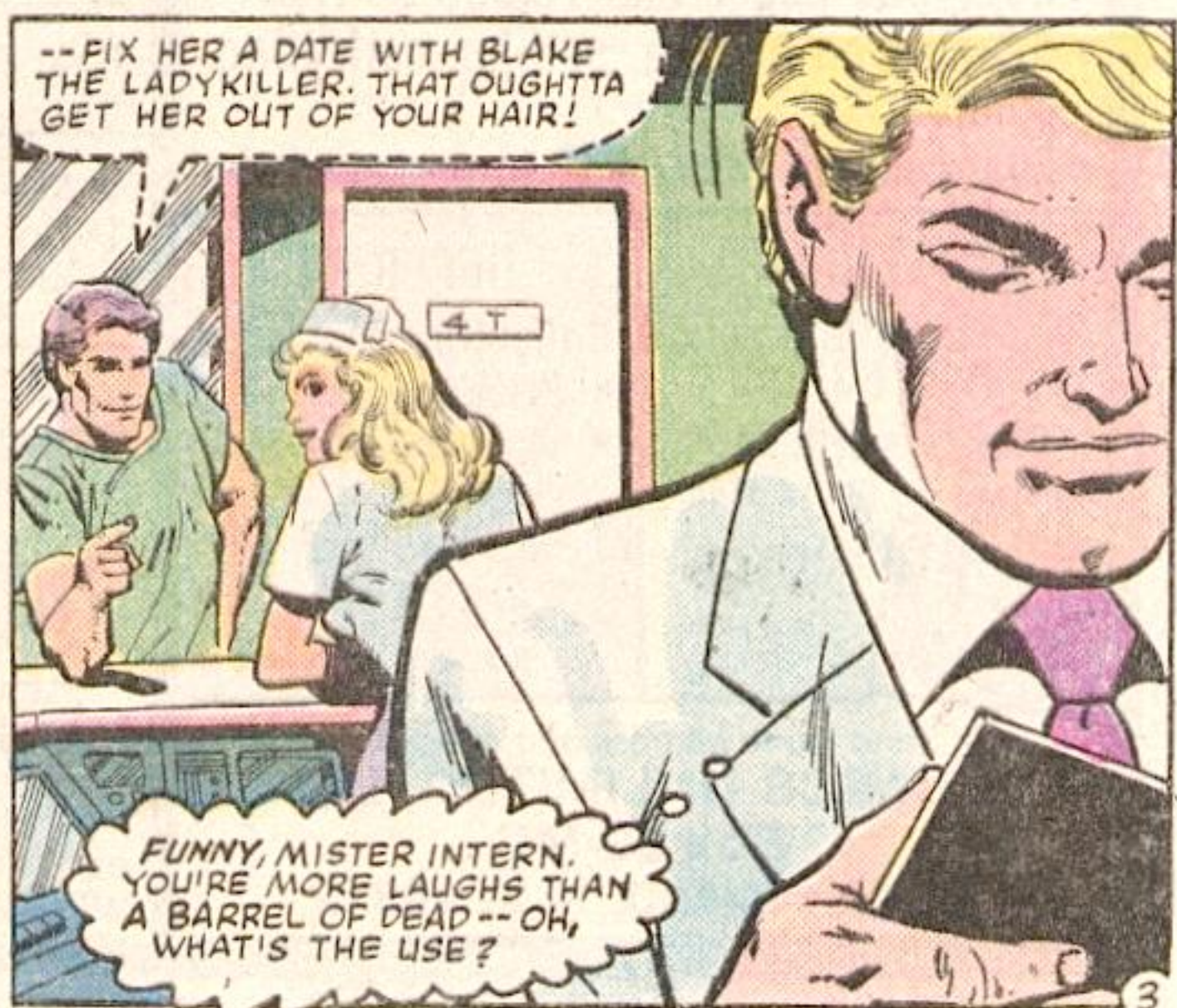
RIGHT AWAY, DOCTOR.

THANKS.



CALM DOWN, BLAKE. YOU'RE SHAKING LIKE JELLO IN A HURRICANE.

HEY, GAIL, IF YOU REALLY DISLIKE THE HEAD NURSE--



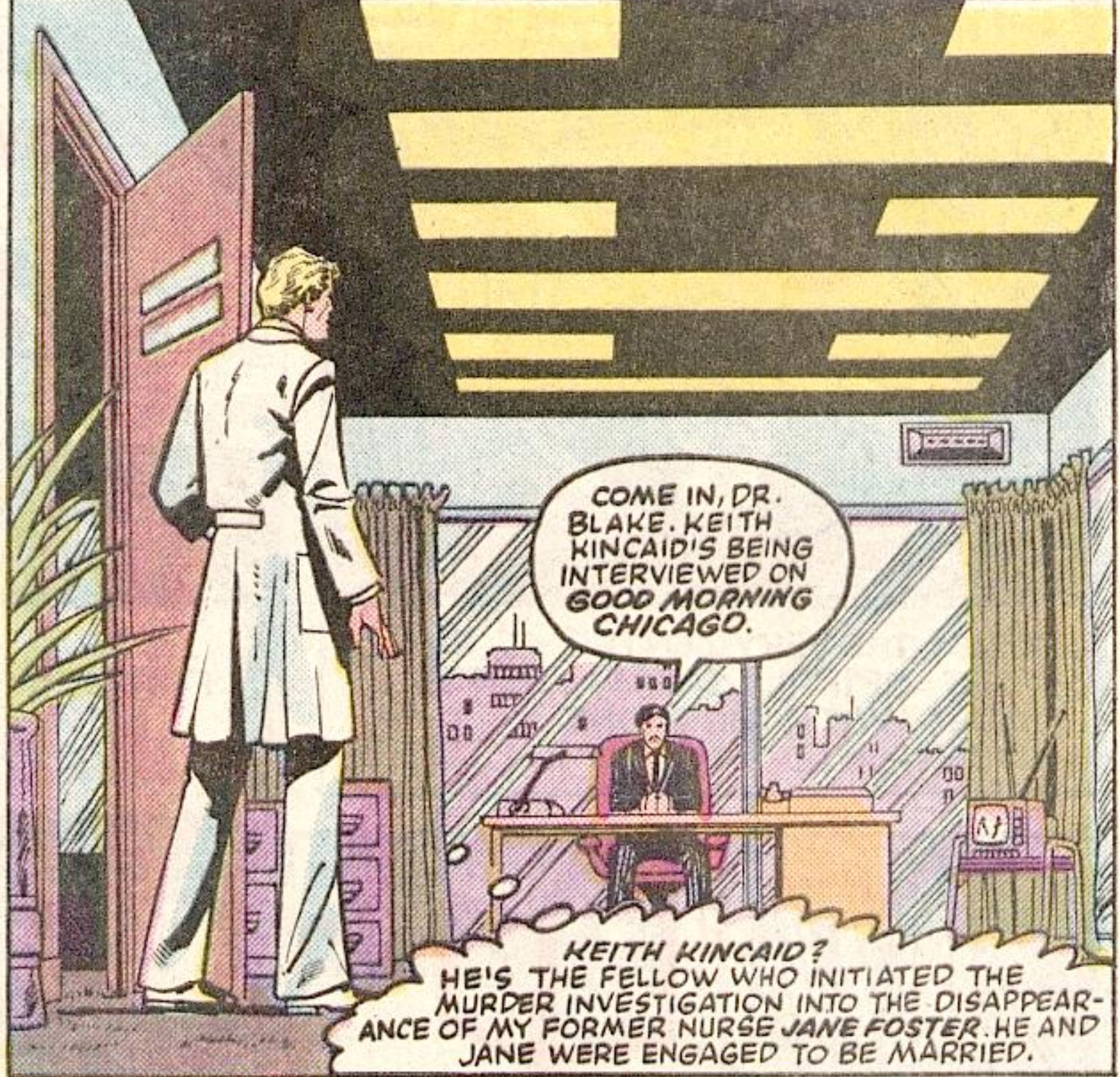
-- FIX HER A DATE WITH BLAKE THE LADYKILLER. THAT OUGHTTA GET HER OUT OF YOUR HAIR!

FUNNY, MISTER INTERN. YOU'RE MORE LAUGHS THAN A BARREL OF DEAD -- OH, WHAT'S THE USE?



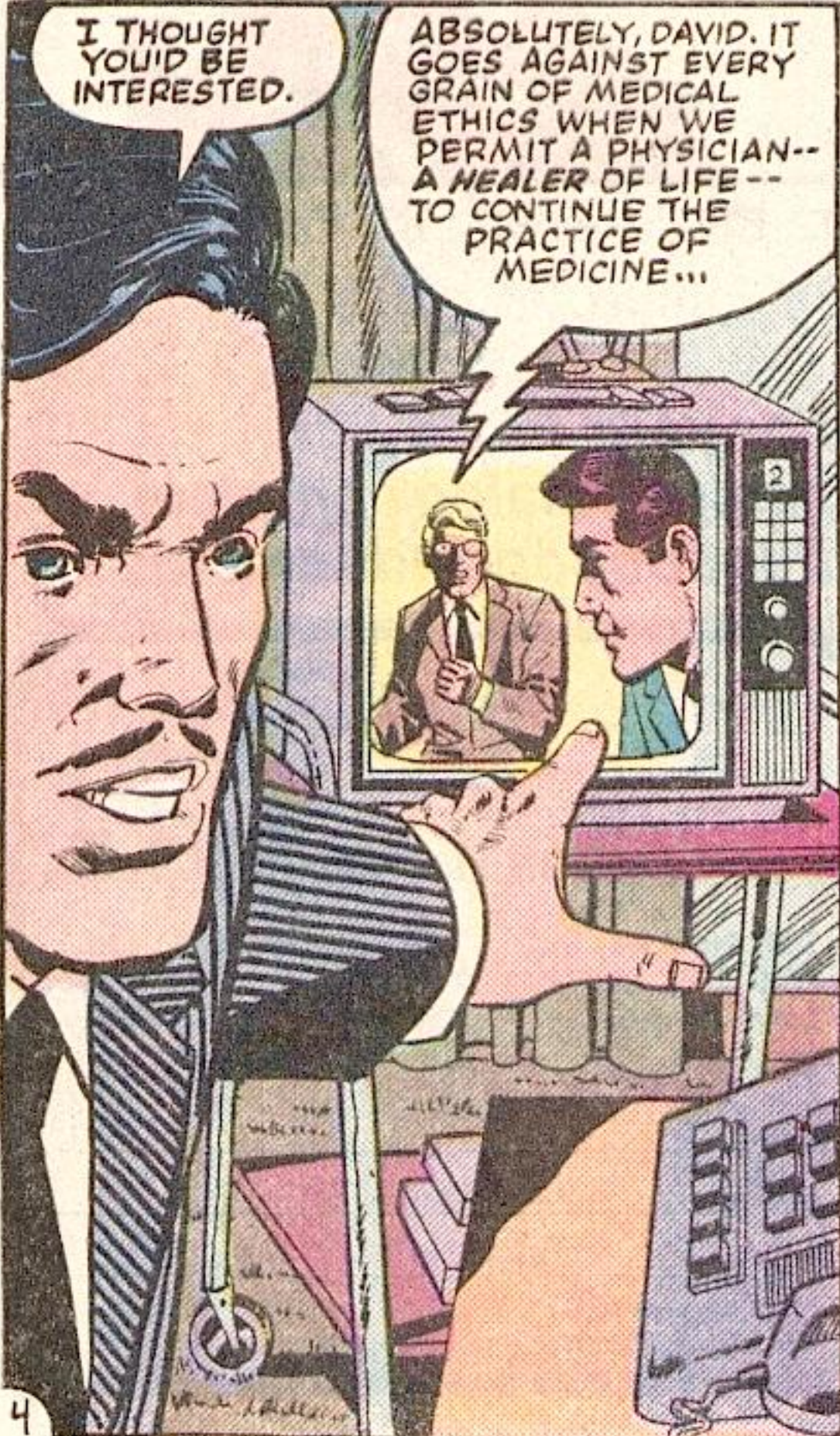
DOCTOR BLAKE WANTED IN 514.

514? THAT'S ADMINISTRATION. WHAT DO THEY WANT FIRST THING IN THE MORNING?



COME IN, DR. BLAKE. KEITH KINCAID'S BEING INTERVIEWED ON GOOD MORNING CHICAGO.

KEITH KINCAID? HE'S THE FELLOW WHO INITIATED THE MURDER INVESTIGATION INTO THE DISAPPEARANCE OF MY FORMER NURSE JANE FOSTER. HE AND JANE WERE ENGAGED TO BE MARRIED.



I THOUGHT YOU'D BE INTERESTED.

ABSOLUTELY, DAVID. IT GOES AGAINST EVERY GRAIN OF MEDICAL ETHICS WHEN WE PERMIT A PHYSICIAN-- A HEALER OF LIFE-- TO CONTINUE THE PRACTICE OF MEDICINE...



...WHILE HE IS UNDER SUSPICION FOR TAKING A LIFE!

WE'LL BE RIGHT BACK WITH DR. KEITH KINCAID AFTER THIS MESSAGE...



I DON'T HAVE TO TELL YOU THAT KINCAID'S GOT CLOUT, DO I, BLAKE? TEN YEARS ON THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE A.M.A.--

--NOT EXACTLY THE FELLOW I'D WANT ACCUSING ME OF MUR... AH... ANYTHING!

TO BE PERFECTLY  
UP FRONT WITH YOU...

...OUR OWN BOARD  
MEMBERS AREN'T EXACTLY  
TICKLED PINK WITH THE  
WAVE OF PUBLICITY  
THIS IS BRINGING US.

MIND YOU,  
NO ONE'S  
PREJUDGING  
YOU--

PREJUDGING?!  
MR. GLASS, I'M  
NOT UNDER  
INDICTMENT!

WHAT YOU'VE  
GOT HERE IS A  
CLASSIC CASE  
OF RUMOR GONE  
WILD, AND--

LOOK, I THINK I'LL  
PUT IN FOR AN IMMEDIATE  
WEEK'S VACATION. IT'S  
DUE ME, AND IT MIGHT  
HELP SIMMER THINGS  
DOWN.

AND SOON...

GOODBYE, OFFICE.  
CAN'T SAY I'LL MISS  
YOU THIS WEEK.

BRRRING

NOW WHO--?

DR. BLAKE'S  
OFFICE.

DON, IT'S SHAWNA  
LYNDE. BOY, YOU'RE  
HARDER TO REACH  
THAN THE  
PRESIDENT.

SHAWNA,  
YOU'VE REALLY  
CAUGHT ME AT  
A BAD TIME.  
I'VE ONE FOOT  
OUT THE  
DOOR...

DON, JUST  
WHAT IN HEAVEN'S  
NAME IS GOING ON  
WITH THESE NEWSPAPER  
STORIES ABOUT YOU?



YOU'RE A REAL CARD, DR. BLAKE.

YOU KNOW, I'D ALMOST FORGIVEN YOU YOUR NOT CALLING ME FOR EIGHT DAYS, BUT THERE'S ONLY SO MUCH PRIDE I CAN SWALLOW WITHOUT CHOKING.

WHEN IT'S A GOOD TIME FOR YOU, TRY ME. I MIGHT LET MY SECRETARY PUT YOU THROUGH. *CLICK*



NOW ALL I NEED IS GENGHIS KHAN AND HIS MONGOL HORDES TO TRAMPLE ME AND THIS DAY WILL BE A COMPLETE SUCCESS.



WAIT, I HAVE IT. I'LL SWITCH TO THOR.

PERHAPS IF THE GOD OF THUNDER MEETS KINCAID AND VOUCHES FOR DONALD BLAKE'S HONESTY AND INTEGRITY--

--HE'LL DROP HIS SMEAR CAMPAIGN AGAINST ME!



NOW TO RAP MY CANE AND--



**SNAP FLASH**

WHAT?!

I GOT HIM, AL.

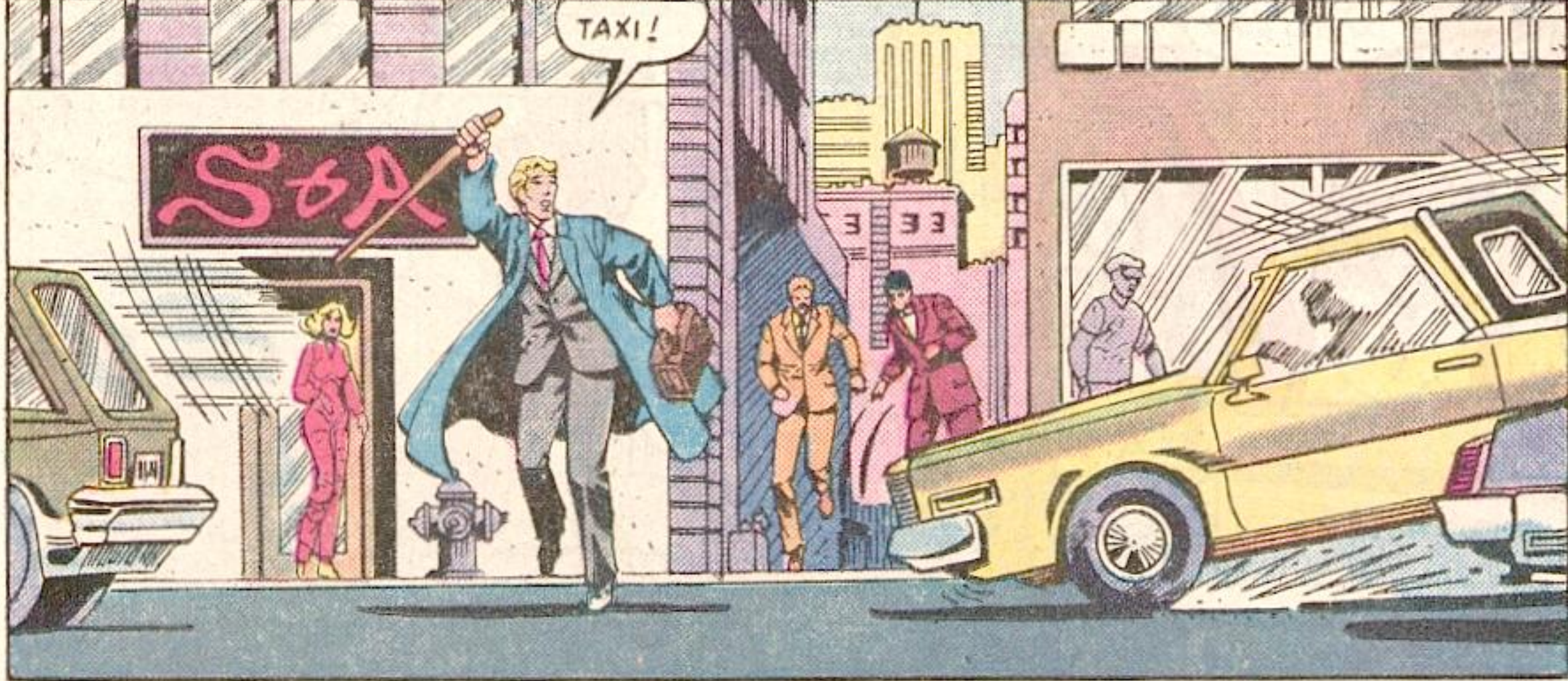
DR. BLAKE, I'M A.J. SHAPIRO, CHICAGO SUN-TIMES.



I'D LIKE TO ASK YOU SOME QUESTIONS ABOUT JANE FOSTER.

ABSOLUTELY NOT!

HEY!

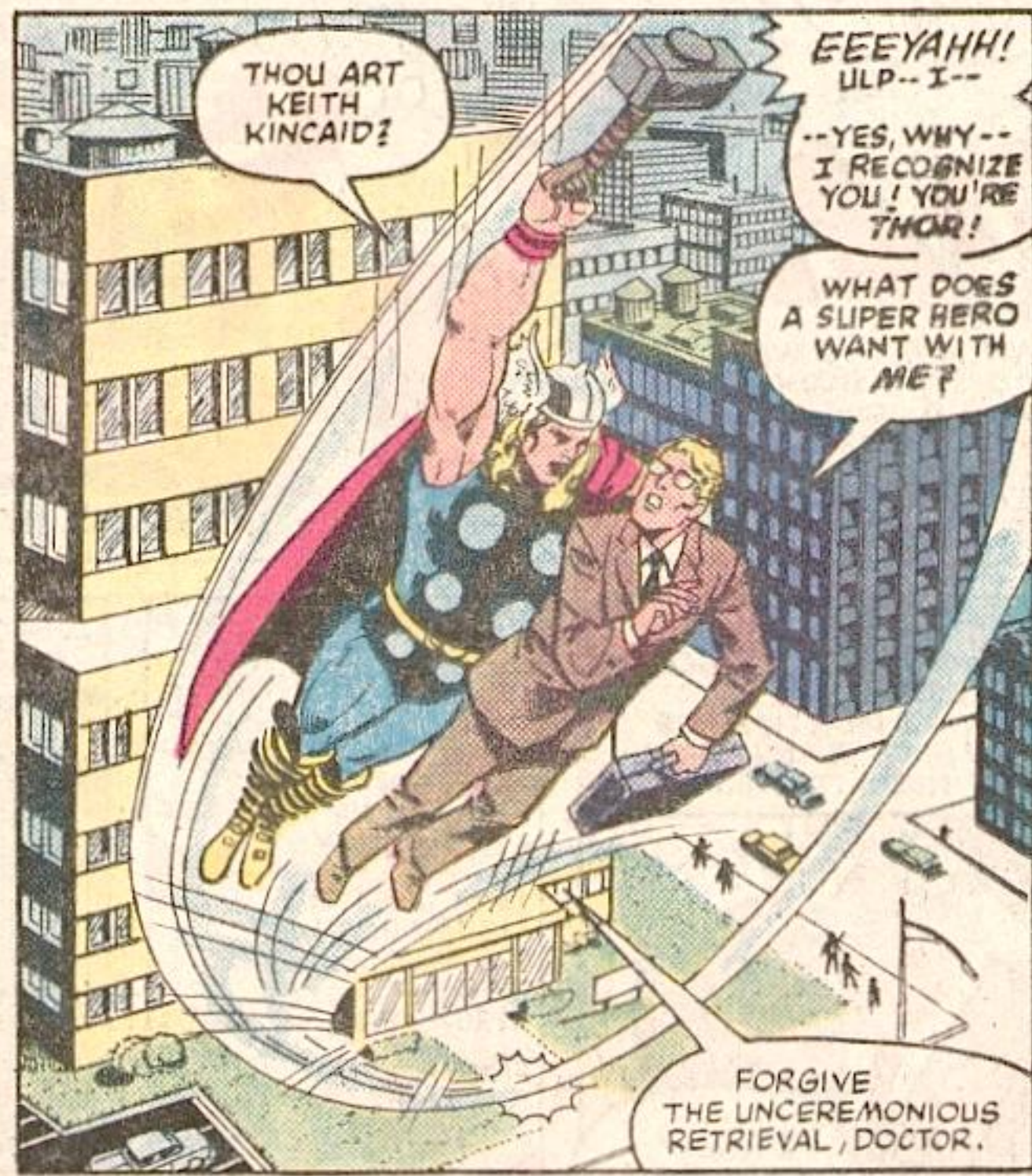


TAXI!



A SHORT TIME LATER, AFTER BLAKE HAS BEEN LET OFF...

THERE HE IS, LEAVING THE TELEVISION STUDIO.



THOU ART KEITH KINCAID?

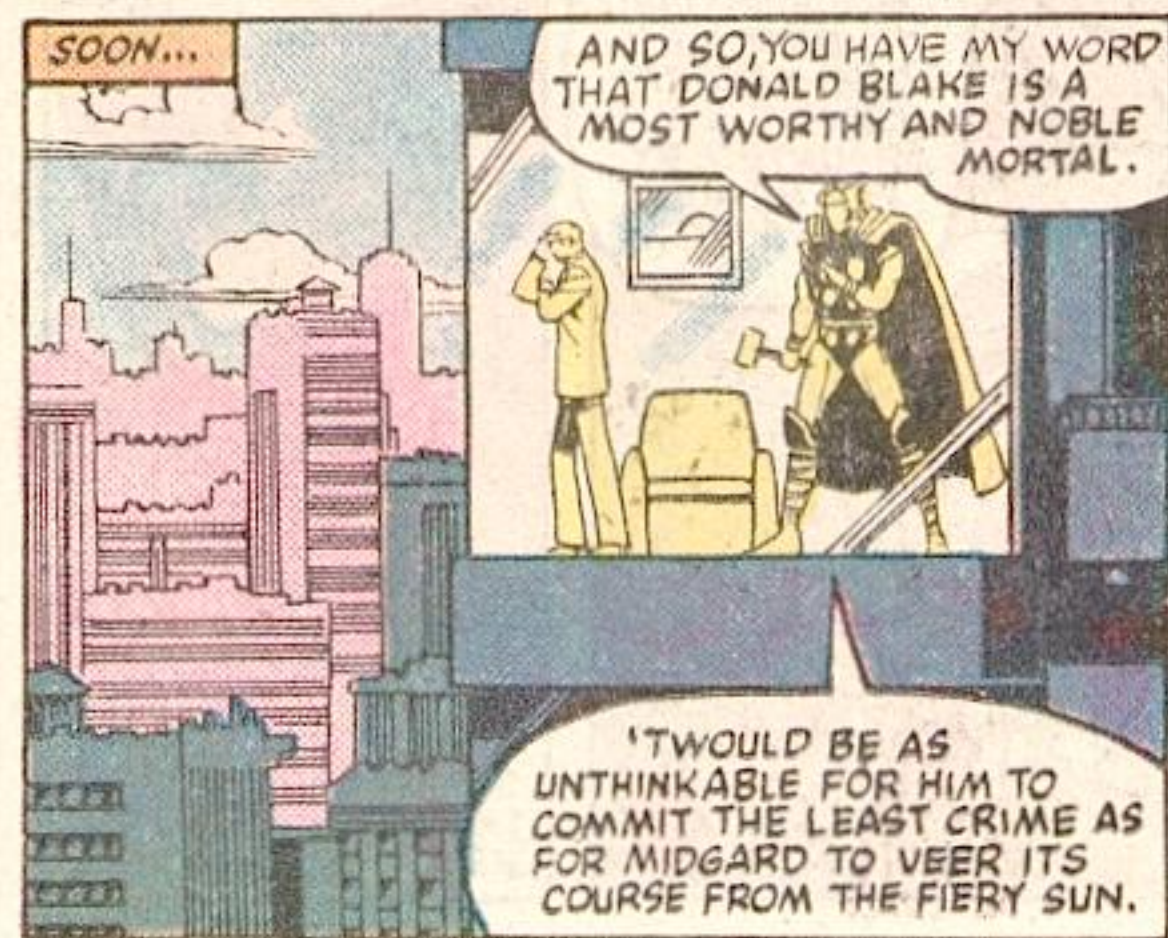
EEYAAH! ULP-- I-- --YES, WHY-- I RECOGNIZE YOU! YOU'RE THOR!

WHAT DOES A SUPER HERO WANT WITH ME?

FORGIVE THE UNCEREMONIOUS RETRIEVAL, DOCTOR.



LET US HASTEN TO YOUR HOTEL, AND THERE I SHALL EXPLAIN.



SOON...

AND SO, YOU HAVE MY WORD THAT DONALD BLAKE IS A MOST WORTHY AND NOBLE MORTAL.

'TWOULD BE AS UNTHINKABLE FOR HIM TO COMMIT THE LEAST CRIME AS FOR MIDGARD TO VEER ITS COURSE FROM THE FIERY SUN.





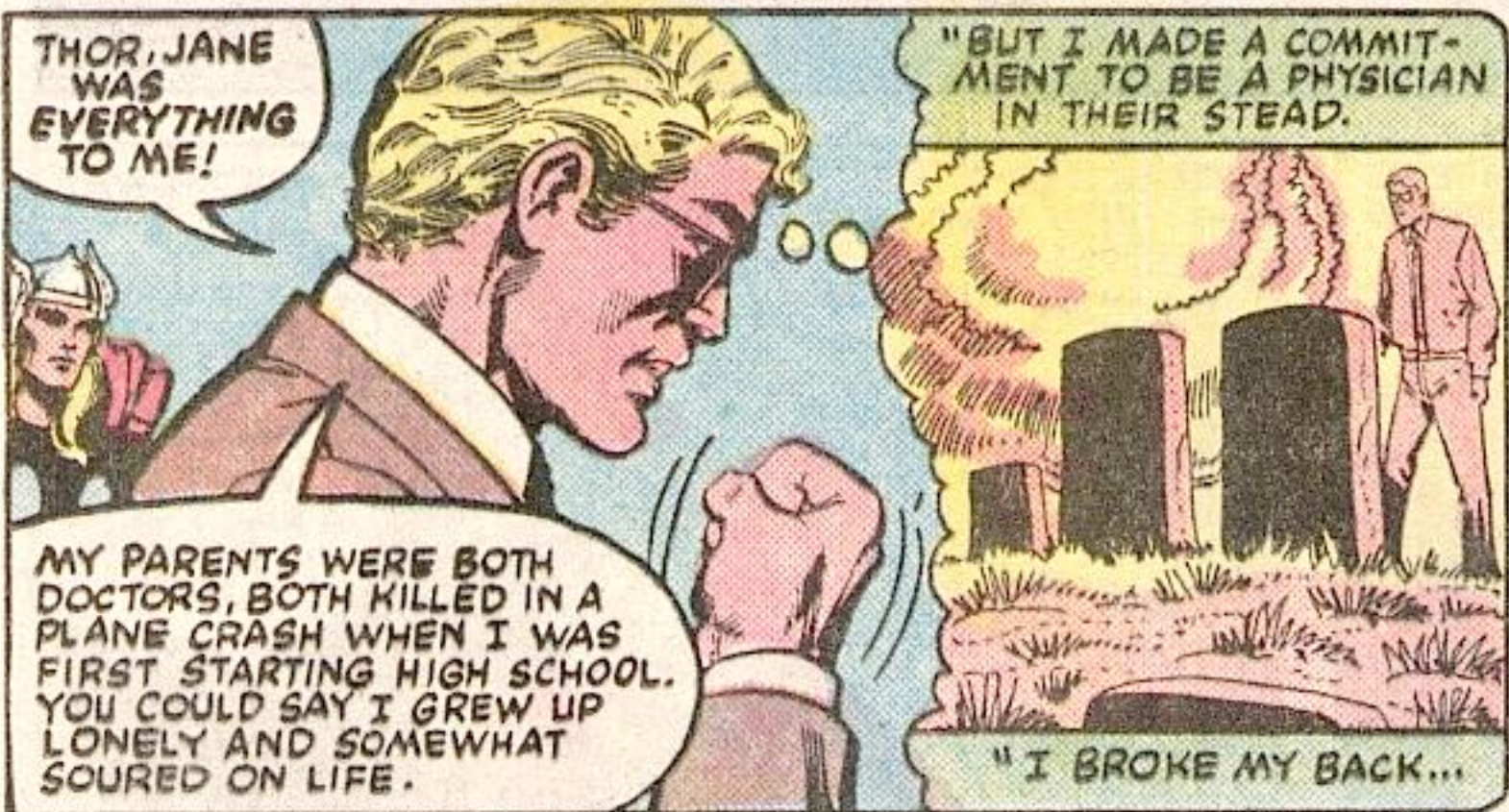
NOW WHAT DO YOU SAY?

I HOPE YOU TAKE THIS IN THE RIGHT SPIRIT, THOR, BUT YOU DON'T SEEM TO KNOW THE WHOLE STORY.

I'VE SINCE LEARNED THAT JANE WAS LAST SEEN WITH DONALD BLAKE, AND IT APPEARS HE AND SHE WERE VERY CLOSE BEFORE I'D MET HER.

BLAKE REFUSES TO TALK, BUT I WON'T REST UNTIL I KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENED TO HER!

SEVERAL YEARS AGO MY FIANCEE JANE FOSTER FELL ILL AND WAS HOSPITALIZED. I RUSHED HOME FROM OUT OF TOWN, BUT BY THE TIME I GOT TO THE HOSPITAL, SHE WAS GONE WITH NO TRACE.



THOR, JANE WAS EVERYTHING TO ME!

"BUT I MADE A COMMITMENT TO BE A PHYSICIAN IN THEIR STEAD.

MY PARENTS WERE BOTH DOCTORS, BOTH KILLED IN A PLANE CRASH WHEN I WAS FIRST STARTING HIGH SCHOOL. YOU COULD SAY I GREW UP LONELY AND SOMEWHAT SOURED ON LIFE.

"I BROKE MY BACK..."



...AND WORKED MY WAY THROUGH MEDICAL SCHOOL -- RIGHT TO THE TOP OF THE CLASS.

"HA! BIG DEAL. I HAD NO ONE IN THE WORLD TO SHARE MY SUCCESS WITH..."



"BUT THEN, JANE CAME TO WORK FOR ME SOON AFTER I'D SET UP PRIVATE PRACTICE. WE HAD SUCH PLANS, THOR, AND THEN... THEN..."

I KNOW DOCTORS ARE SUPPOSED TO BECOME CASE-HARDENED, YET I'M HAUNTED BY HER MEMORY, OBSESSED...



THE MORTAL'S ANGUISH HAS THE RING OF TRUTH TO IT.

HAVE I NOT MYSELF KNOWN AT TIMES THE AGONY WHEREOF HE SPEAKS?

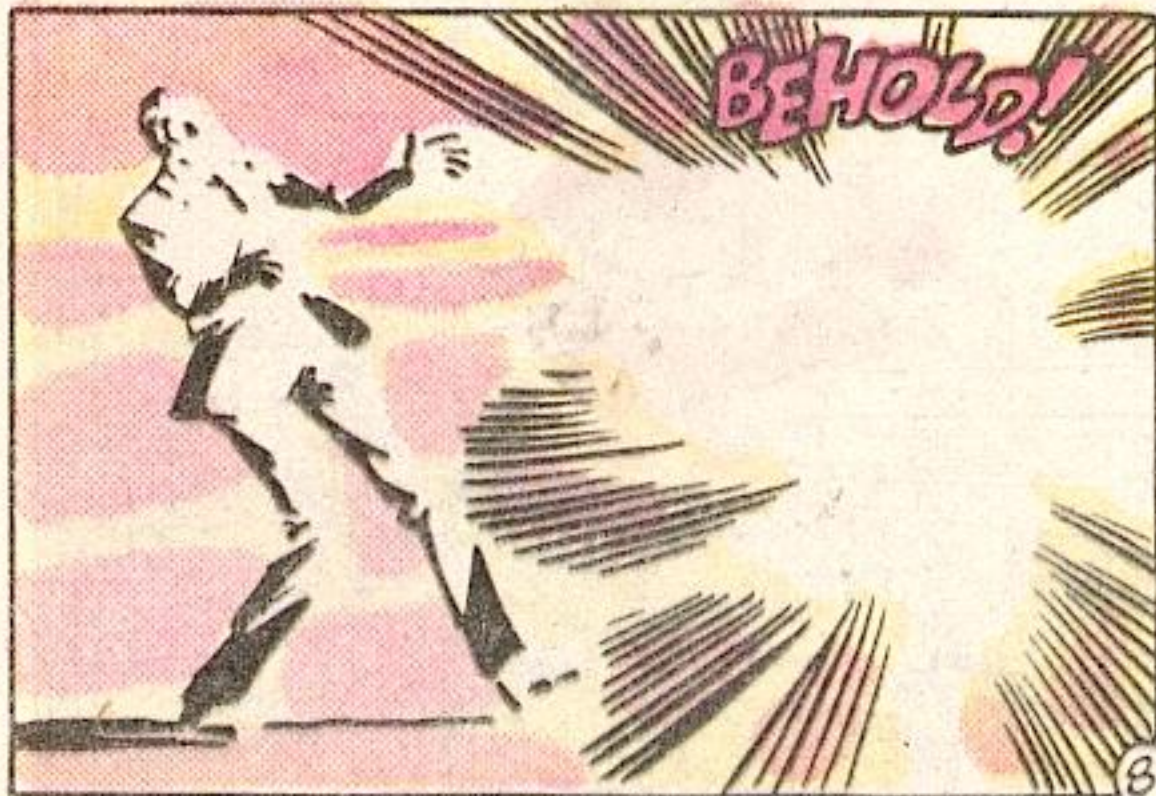
IS IT JUST OR MERCIFUL THAT HIS MORTAL HEART BE RENT ASUNDER...

...WHEN MAYHAP I POSSESS THE VERY ANSWER HE DOTHT SEEK?



...IF I ONLY KNEW FOR CERTAIN...

KEITH KINCAID, THOU HAST TOUCHED MY GODLY SOUL...



BEHOLD!

DONALD BLAKE?!  
WHAT KIND OF  
ILLUSION  
IS THIS?!

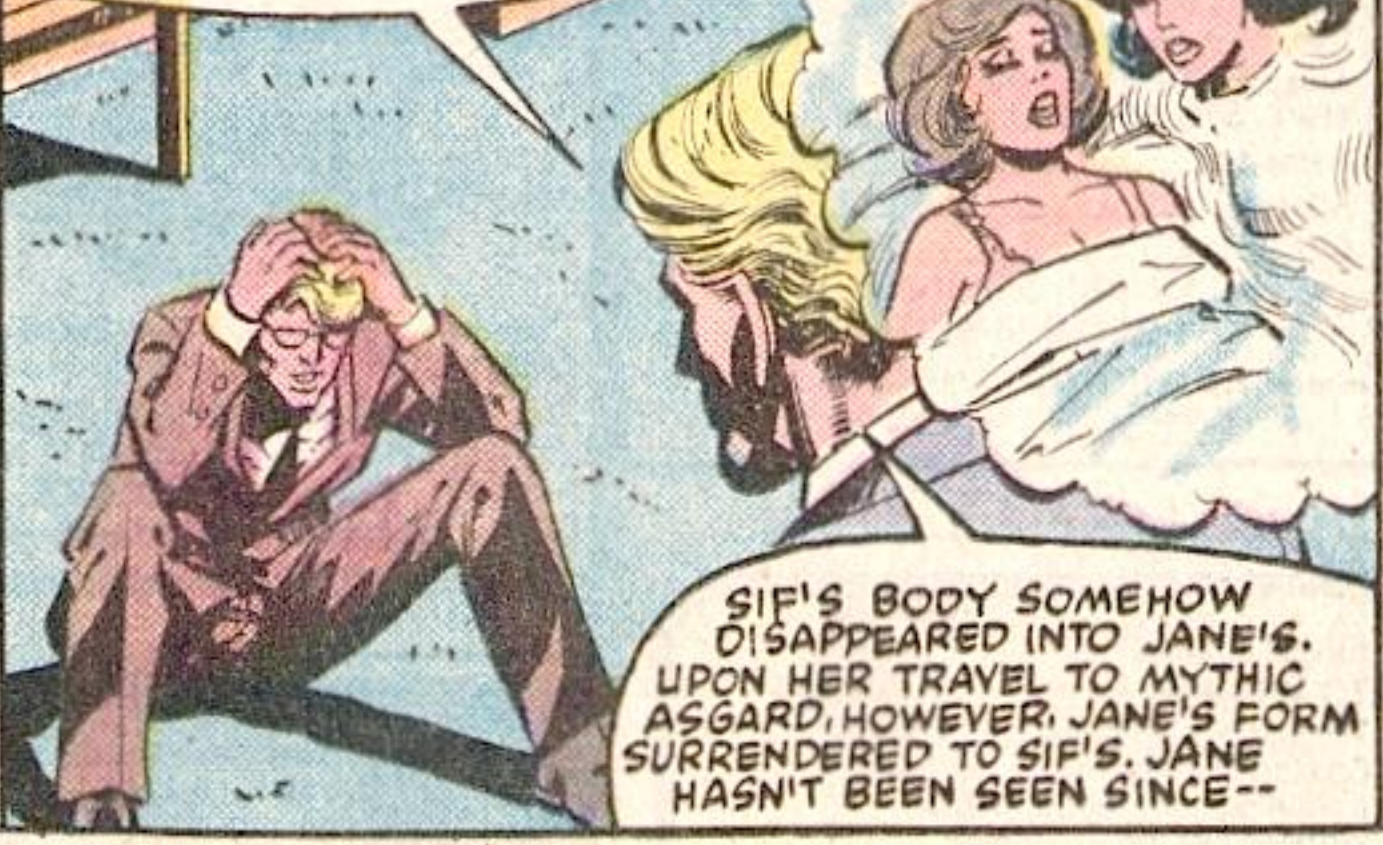
NO ILLUSION,  
DR. KINCAID. DON  
BLAKE IS THOR.

I'M TRUSTING YOU  
WITH MY MOST  
PRECIOUS SECRET  
IN THE HOPE THAT  
YOU'LL TRUST ME  
AND WHAT I'M  
ABOUT TO TELL YOU.



INDEED, JANE  
AND I WERE ONCE  
IN LOVE, SO MUCH  
SO THAT I REVEAL-  
ED TO HER MY  
IDENTITY, JUST AS  
I DID TO YOU.

WHEN JANE WAS HOSPITALIZED,  
THE GODDESS SIF OF ASGARD  
CAME TO EARTH AND GAVE UP  
HER LIFE ESSENCE TO SAVE  
JANE, BY MEANS OF THE  
RUNESTAFF.



SIF'S BODY SOMEHOW  
DISAPPEARED INTO JANE'S.  
UPON HER TRAVEL TO MYTHIC  
ASGARD, HOWEVER, JANE'S FORM  
SURRENDERED TO SIF'S. JANE  
HASN'T BEEN SEEN SINCE--

--NOT  
EVEN  
WHEN  
SIF  
JOURN-  
EYED  
BACK TO  
EARTH.

HOWEVER, I BELIEVE I HAVE LEARNED  
WHERE JANE MAY BE --



THOR, I'M  
PLEADING  
WITH  
YOU--

IF JANE'S  
STILL ALIVE,  
TAKE ME TO HER.

'TIS NO SIMPLE  
MATTER. WE MUST  
TRAVEL TO A DISTANT,  
DANGEROUS PLANET  
FOR THAT RUNESTAFF.



I KNOW NOT  
IF A MORTAL--

AFTER SO MANY  
YEARS OF LONELINESS  
AND ANXIETY, I  
WON'T BE LEFT  
BEHIND!

VERY WELL,  
COME. I MUST  
FETCH SIF  
FIRST.

AND SOON...

WE ARE RETURNED  
TO THE CITY OF  
NEW YORK,  
SWEET SIF.  
AVENGERS  
MANSION  
IS BELOW.



WITH THE AID OF  
MY COMRADES,  
WE SHALL SOON  
DEPART IN  
QUEST OF KAMO  
THARNN.

AT LAST WE  
DEPART MIDGARD'S  
CONFINES, MY  
PRINCE. MY SOUL  
THRILLS TO THE  
THOUGHT OF  
PRESENT DEEDS  
WORTHY OF A  
GODDESS!

I-I CAN'T  
BELIEVE THIS!  
FLYING ACROSS  
THE COUNTRY  
IN A GODDESS'S  
HAND!

IMAGINE I'M GOING INTO AVENGERS MANSION, AND ALL I CAN THINK OF IS FINDING JANE.

MASTER THOR... LADY SIF--MS. VAN DYNE'S BEEN EXPECTING YOU.

MUCH THANKS FOR CONVEYING OUR MESSAGE, FRIEND JARVIS.



SOON, IN THE BASEMENT OF AVENGERS MANSION...



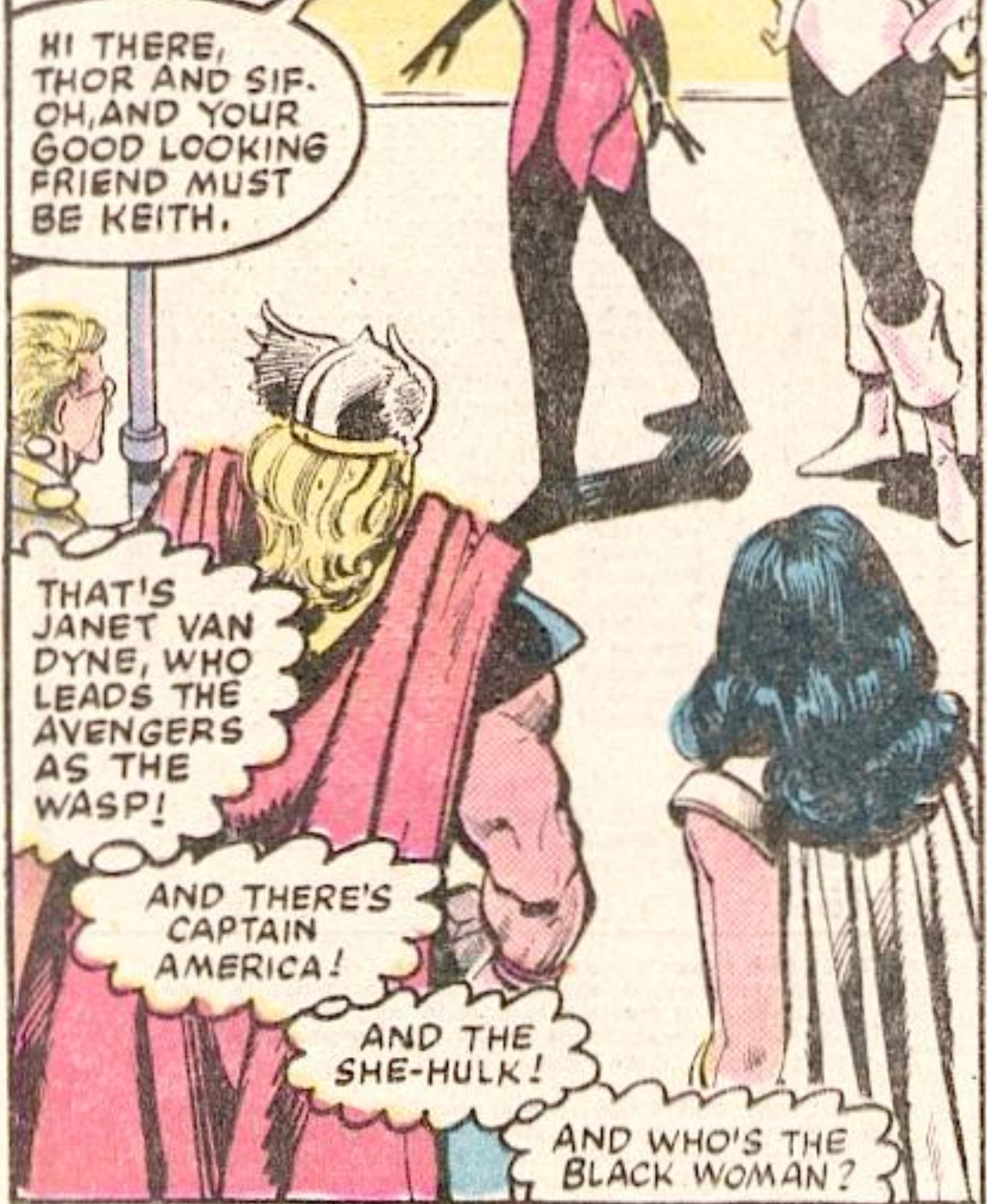
HI THERE, THOR AND SIF. OH, AND YOUR GOOD LOOKING FRIEND MUST BE KEITH.

THAT'S JANET VAN DYNE, WHO LEADS THE AVENGERS AS THE WASP!

AND THERE'S CAPTAIN AMERICA!

AND THE SHE-HULK!

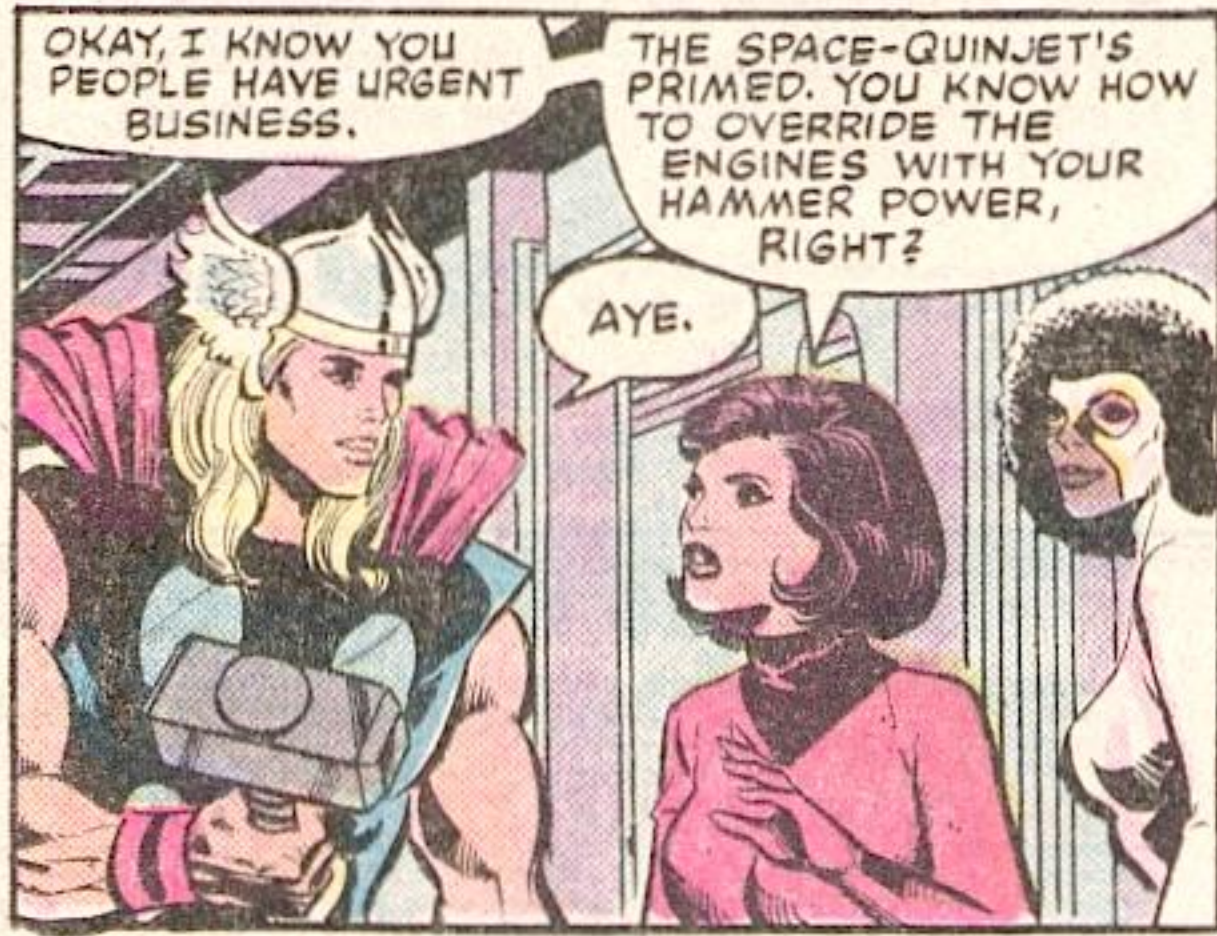
AND WHO'S THE BLACK WOMAN?



OKAY, I KNOW YOU PEOPLE HAVE URGENT BUSINESS.

THE SPACE-QUINJET'S PRIMED. YOU KNOW HOW TO OVERRIDE THE ENGINES WITH YOUR HAMMER POWER, RIGHT?

AYE.

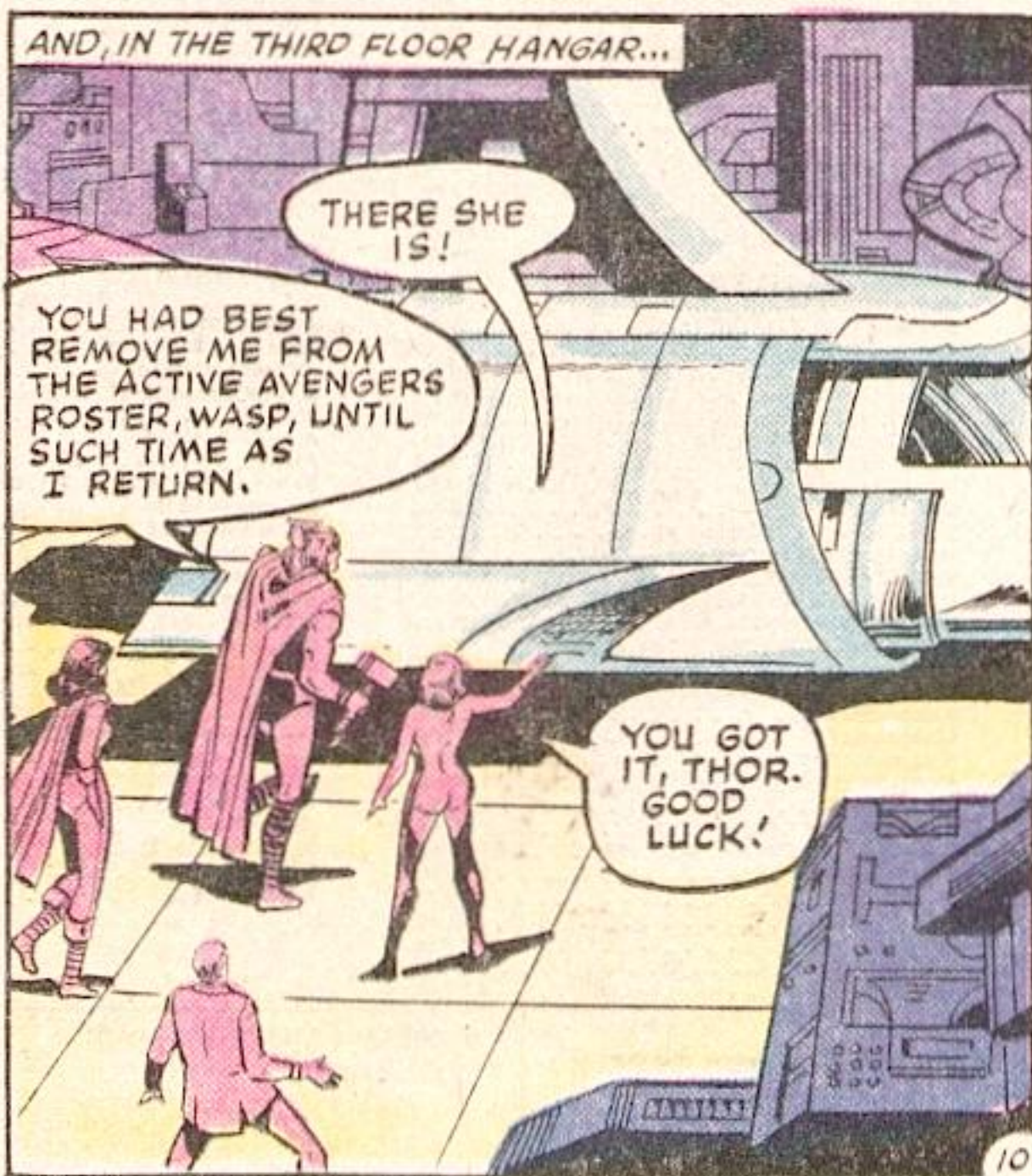


AND, IN THE THIRD FLOOR HANGAR...

THERE SHE IS!

YOU HAD BEST REMOVE ME FROM THE ACTIVE AVENGERS ROSTER, WASP, UNTIL SUCH TIME AS I RETURN.

YOU GOT IT, THOR. GOOD LUCK!





AND SOON...

AYE, KEITH KINCAID, THE WARP FACTOR PROVIDED BY MY HAMMER'S ENCHANTED URU METAL WILL ASSURE THAT THE JOURNEY BE SWIET AND SMOOTH.

IF YOU'LL PERMIT THIS AWED MORTAL A WEAK PUN--



--I'LL WISH US GODSPEED. TO THE SUCCESS OF OUR JOURNEY!

AND SO, WITH A MIGHTY THRUST, THE QUEST BEGINS!



AT THAT MOMENT, IN HEAVENLY ASGARD...

SO, THE MYSTIC WATERS REVEAL THAT THOR, SON OF MY FLESH, DOETH YET ENTANGLE HIMSELF FURTHER IN THE AFFAIRS OF HIS MIDGARDIAN COUNTERPART, DONALD BLAKE.



WHEN WILL THOR BE ABLE TO LEAVE HIS MORTAL LIFE BEHIND? HE HATH LONG SINCE LEARNED THE LESSON OF HUMILITY FOR WHICH I DEVIKED HIS MORTAL FORM. YET, HE PERSISTS IN RETAINING IT.

WHY?

MEANWHILE, THE  
QUINJET SAILS THE  
SEA OF SPACE  
LIKE A GLEAMING  
SHARK ...

... WHILE, WITHIN, THREE  
SILENT VOYAGERS ARE  
OCCUPIED EACH WITH  
PRIVATE REVERIES.

MY PRINCE ONCE DID CHERISH  
JANE FOSTER'S LOVE MORE  
THAN MY OWN. CAN HE STILL  
HARBOR SUCH FEELINGS?  
NAY, 'TIS A FOOLISH THOUGHT--

-- OUR LOVE  
IS DIVINE, IMMORTAL,  
ENDURING.

IS THIS REALLY HAPPENING,  
OR IS IT JUST A DESPERATE  
ILLUSION BORN OF MY  
LONELINESS?

A GOD AND A GODDESS  
ESCORTING ME ACROSS  
SPACE TO FIND A LOST  
LOVE I'D GIVEN UP  
FOR DEAD?

AM I DREAM-  
ING?

BY ODIN'S BEARD! 'TIS A  
PUZZLE WHO JANE FOSTER WILL  
REMEMBER AS HER LOVER-- THOR OR  
DONALD BLAKE OR KEITH KINCAID?

I PRAY THAT  
SIF NOT BE TROUBLED  
IF JANE STILL RETAIN  
HER PASSION FOR ME.

AND SO IT GOES FOR  
COUNTLESS HOURS UNTIL ...

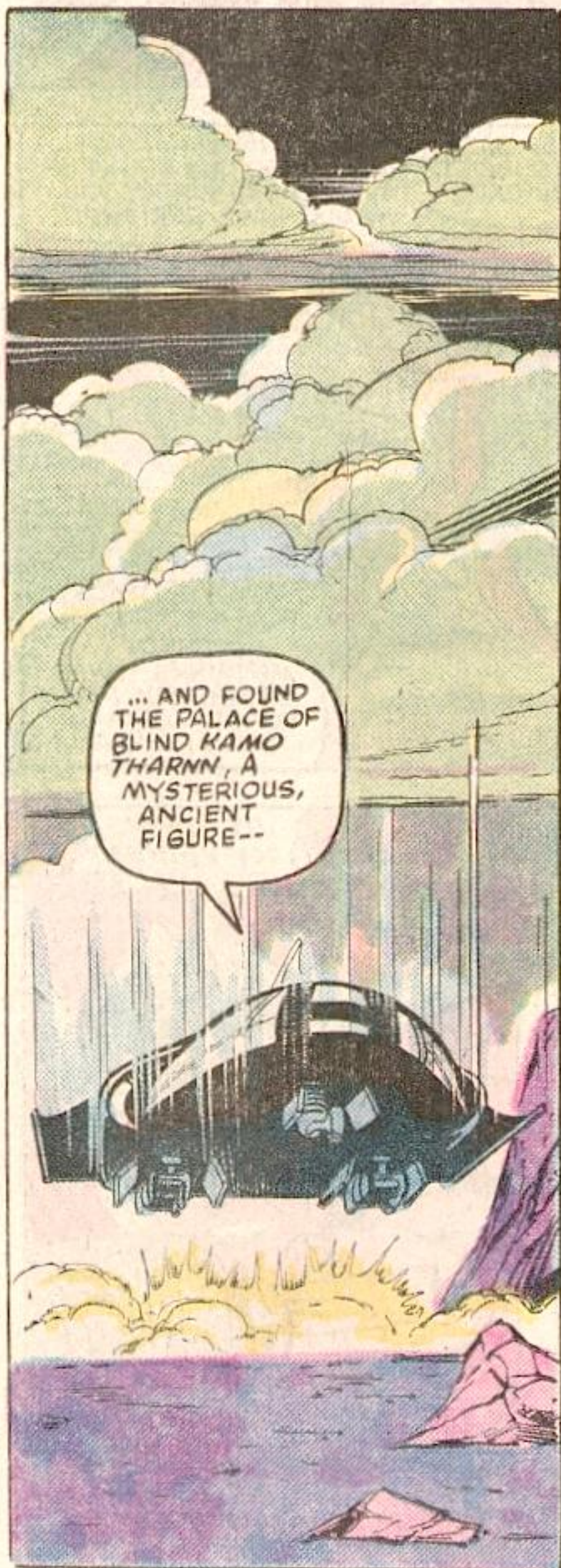
THE SORCERER  
DR. STRANGE MYSTICALLY  
IMPLANTED THE LOCATION  
OF THE RUNESTAFF IN MY  
MIND\*. IT'S ON YON  
PLANET BELOW US.

\*LAST ISSUE.



WELL DO I REMEMBER THIS STRANGE AND PERPLEXING PLANET.

FOR HERCULES AND I TRAVERSED THIS BARREN AND DESERTED LAND...



... AND FOUND THE PALACE OF BLIND KAMO THARNN, A MYSTERIOUS, ANCIENT FIGURE--

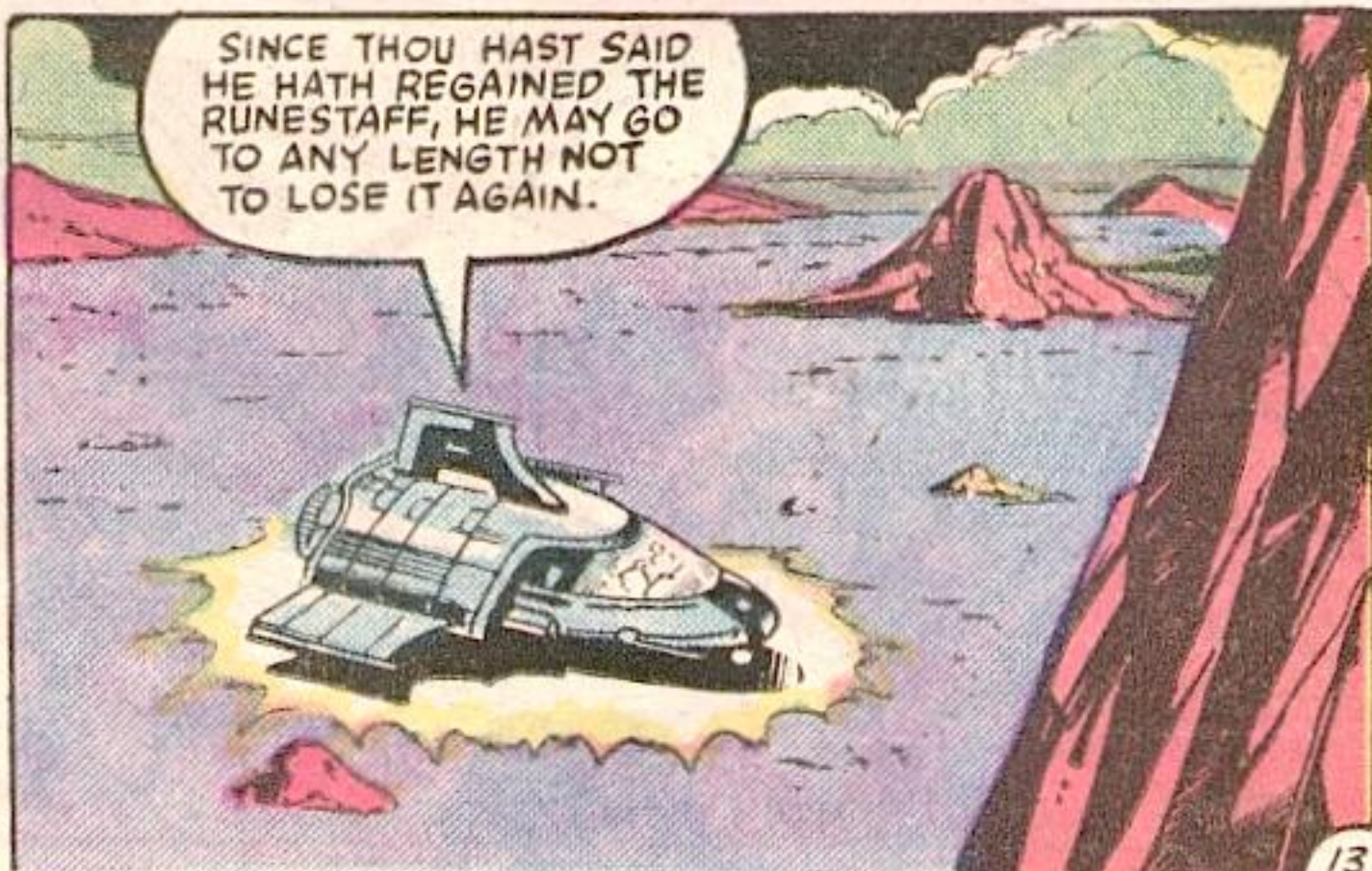


-WHO POSSESSED THE MYSTIC RUNESTAFF, AN OBJECT OF UNFATHOMABLE POWER WHICH I DID EMPLOY TO SAVE JANE FOSTER'S LIFE.



"T'WAS NOT AN EASY TASK TO TAKE THE STAFF FROM HIM--

"--FOR KAMO THARNN DID WIELD THE STAFF, HURLING EXPLOSIVE BLASTS OF WANTON ENERGY AGAINST US."



SINCE THOU HAST SAID HE HATH REGAINED THE RUNESTAFF, HE MAY GO TO ANY LENGTH NOT TO LOSE IT AGAIN.



YOU'RE CERTAIN THIS PLANET'S ATMOSPHERE IS SIMILAR TO EARTH'S, SIF?

AYE, THOU CANST BREATHE MOST EASILY.



BLZARRR!

ZZIIP!



'TIS AS I FOREWARNED!

KAMO THARNN STRIKES FROM HIDDEN RAMPARTS!

GET THEE BACK IN THE QUINJET, KEITH KINCAID!

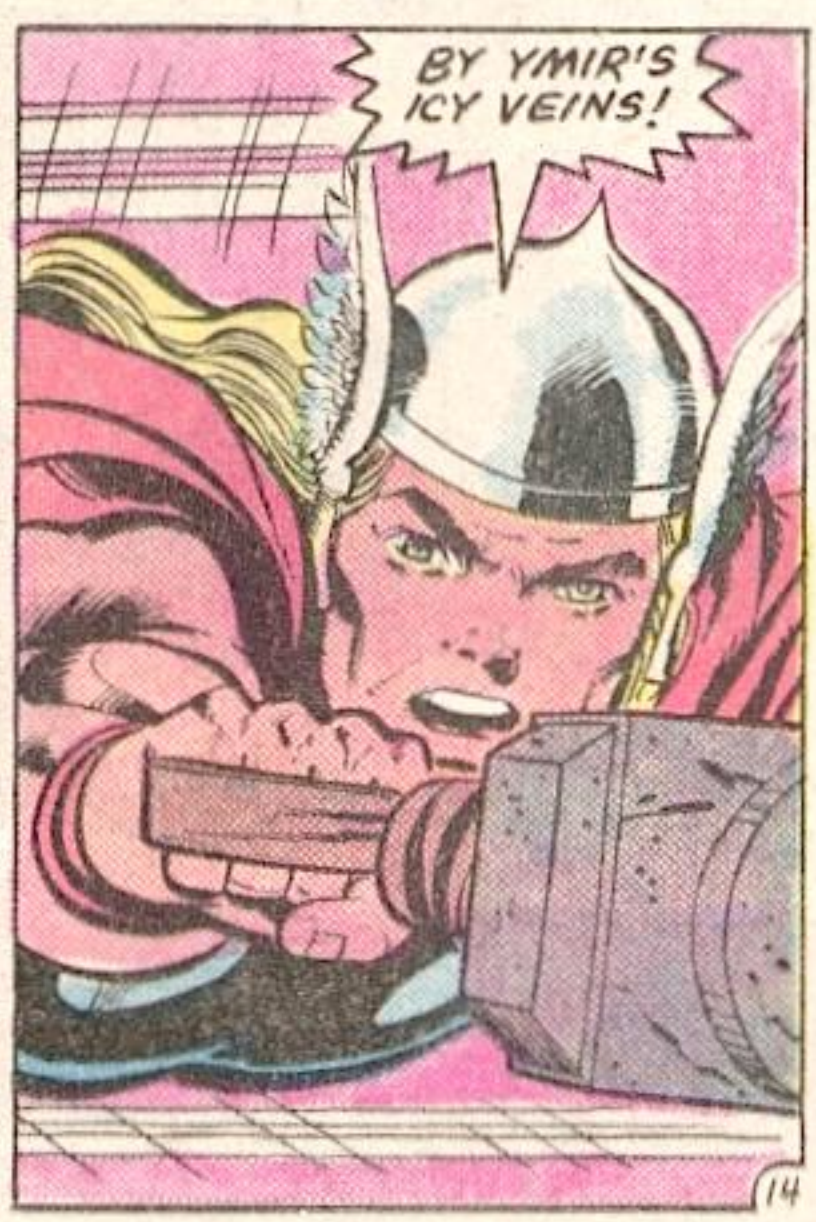
HAD MY HAMMER NOT ABSORBED THE BRUNT OF THE BLAST, SURELY YOU WOULD HAVE PERISHED!

INDEED, METHINKS 'T WAS DANGEROUS FOLLY TO HAVE BROUGHT YOU AFTER ALL!



ZZIIP!

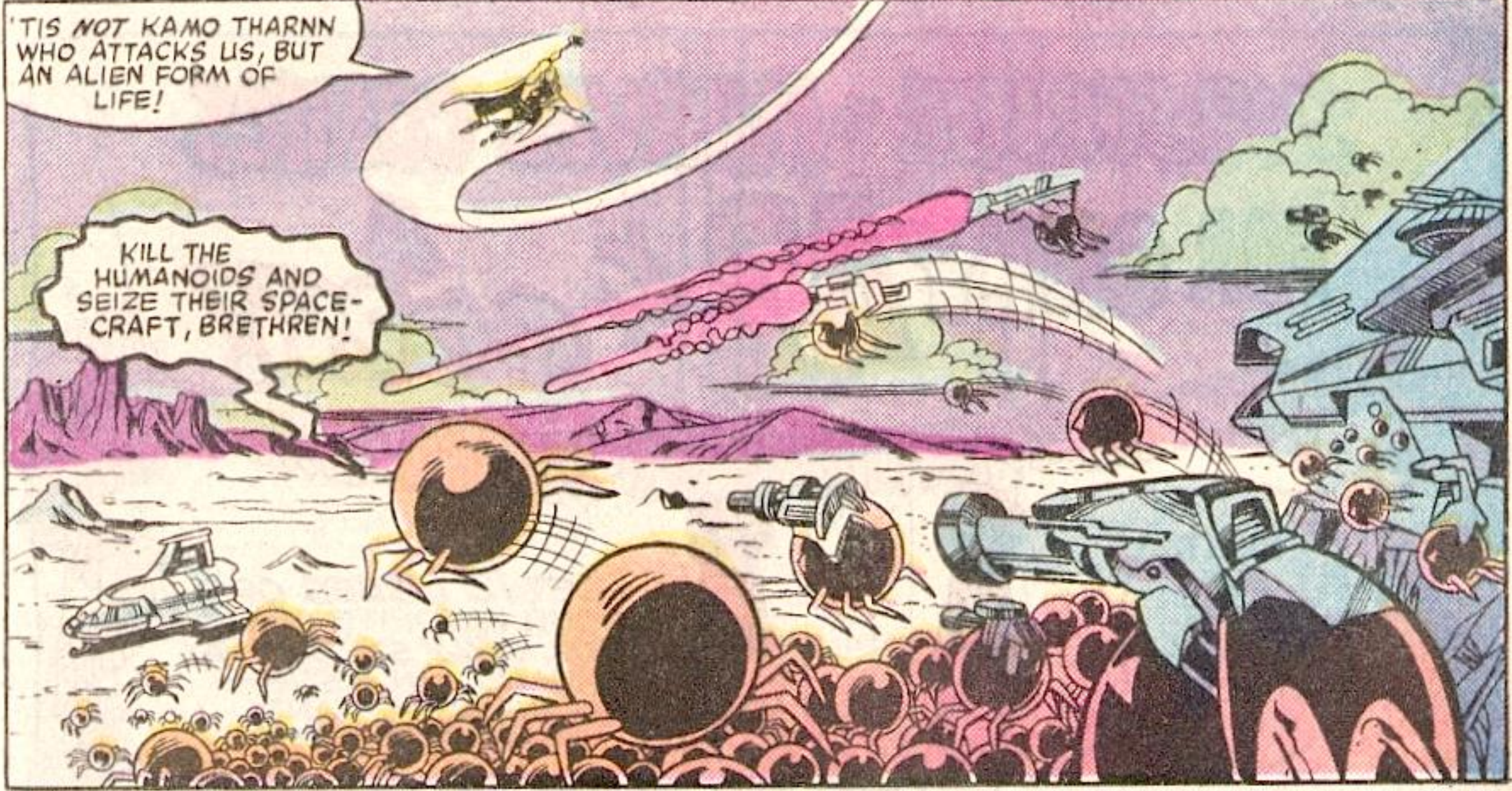
FROM ALOFT I SHALL SIGHT THE MAD KAMO THARNN--



BY YMIR'S ICY VEINS!

'TIS NOT KAMO THARNN WHO ATTACKS US, BUT AN ALIEN FORM OF LIFE!

KILL THE HUMANIDS AND SEIZE THEIR SPACE-CRAFT, BRETHREN!



I SAY NAY!

THE GOD OF THUNDER HAS NOT TRAVELLED ACROSS THE STARRY REACHES OF THE COSMOS TO BE THWARTED IN HIS QUEST BY HOSTILE BEINGS!

FOOL! FOR WEEKS WE HAVE LANGUISHED WITHOUT HOPE UPON THIS DESOLATE PLAIN SINCE OUR PRISON TRANSPORT CRASHED AND WE KILLED OUR CAPTOR GUARDS!

NOW THAT WE HAVE MEANS OF ESCAPE, WE WILL RETURN TO OUR HOME WORLD TO CARRY ON OUR TERRORIST CAMPAIGNS!



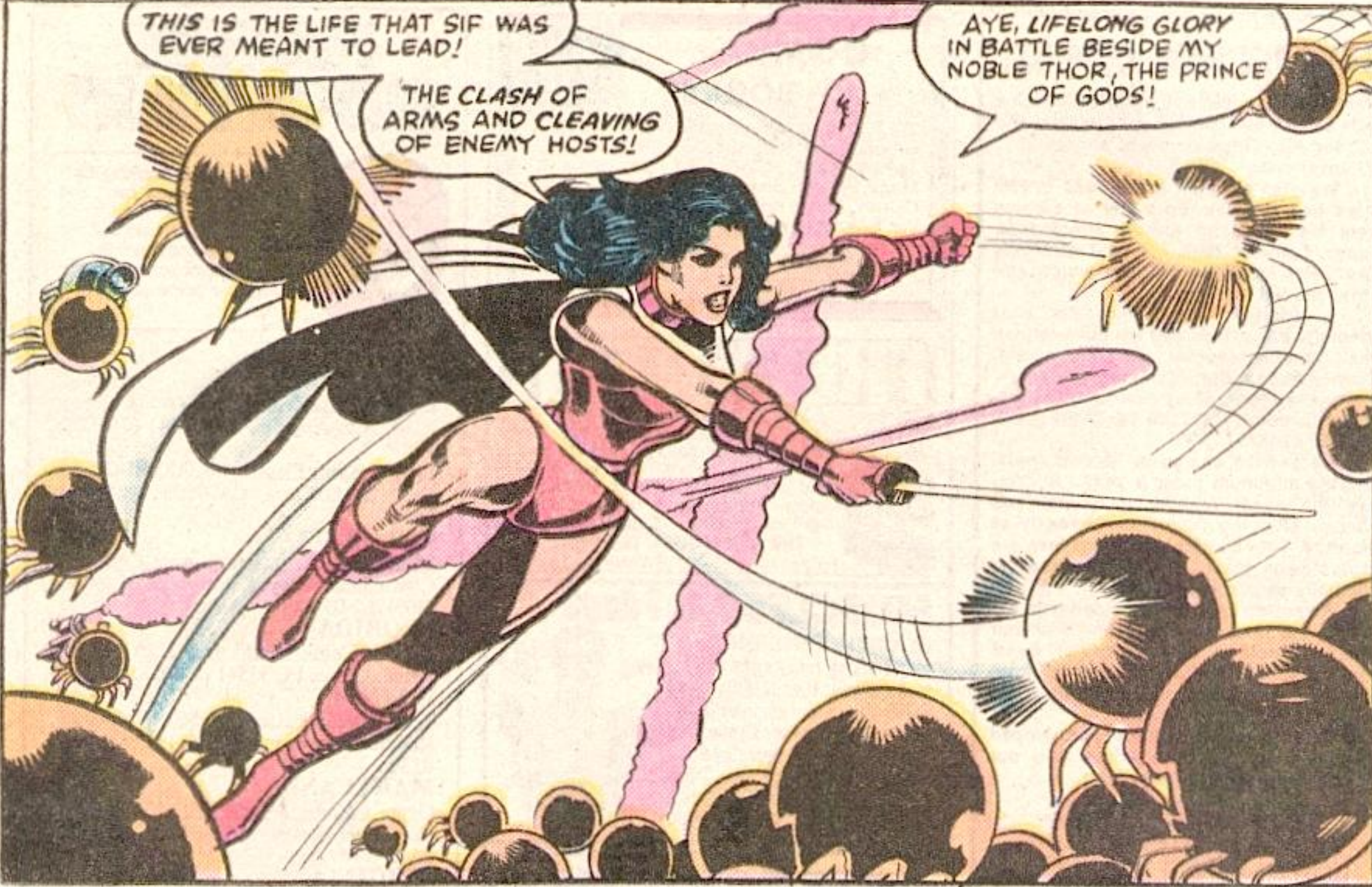
HA! THE WARRIOR GODDESS SIF HATH NOT SEEN TRUE BATTLE FOR MANY A DAY!

HOW I HAVE LONGED FOR SUCH A MOMENT!



'TIS GLORY SECOND TO NONE TO WIELD ASGARD'S GLITTERING BLADE AGAINST A RELENTLESS FOE!





THIS IS THE LIFE THAT SIF WAS EVER MEANT TO LEAD!

THE CLASH OF ARMS AND CLEAVING OF ENEMY HOSTS!

AYE, LIFELONG GLORY IN BATTLE BESIDE MY NOBLE THOR, THE PRINCE OF GODS!



WHAT FOLLY POSSESSED ME TO THINK THAT I COULD FIND FULFILMENT IN MIDGARD'S REALM!?

NAY... AFTER THIS DAY'S QUEST IS OVER, I DO NOT THINK I CAN BEAR TO RETURN TO EARTH..

...WHERE MORTALS PLOD THEIR ENDLESSLY DULL EXISTENCE.



BUT FIRST, SWEET VICTORY MUST BE MINE!



DARE YOU BOAST OF VICTORY, HUMANOID?! YOU ARE BUT ONE AGAINST SO MANY!

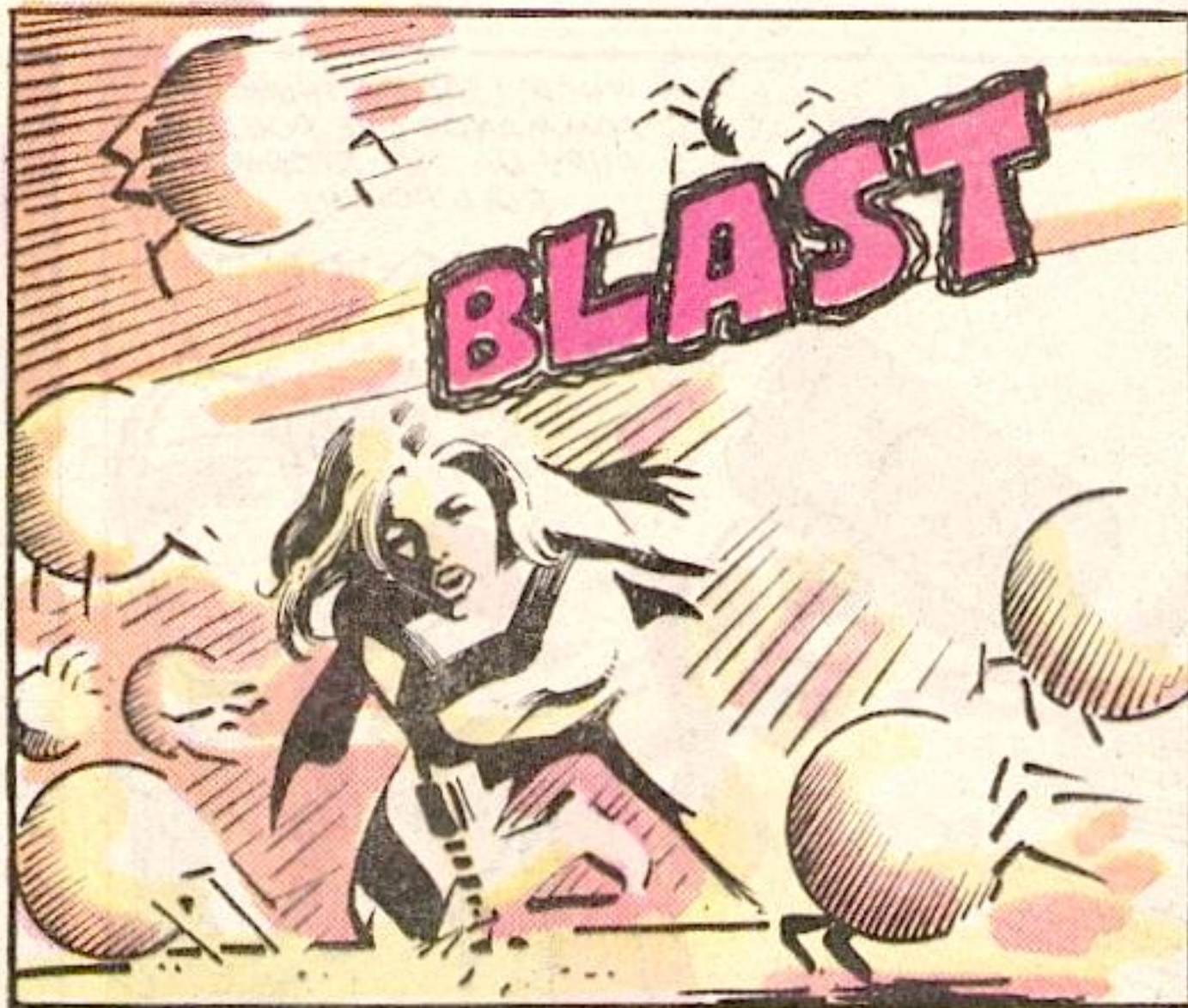
NO! THEY OVERRUN ME!



NOW OUR POISON WILL DESTROY YOUR CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM!

THOR BATTLES IN THE AIR-- HE DOES NOT SEE ME!

NO!



BLAST



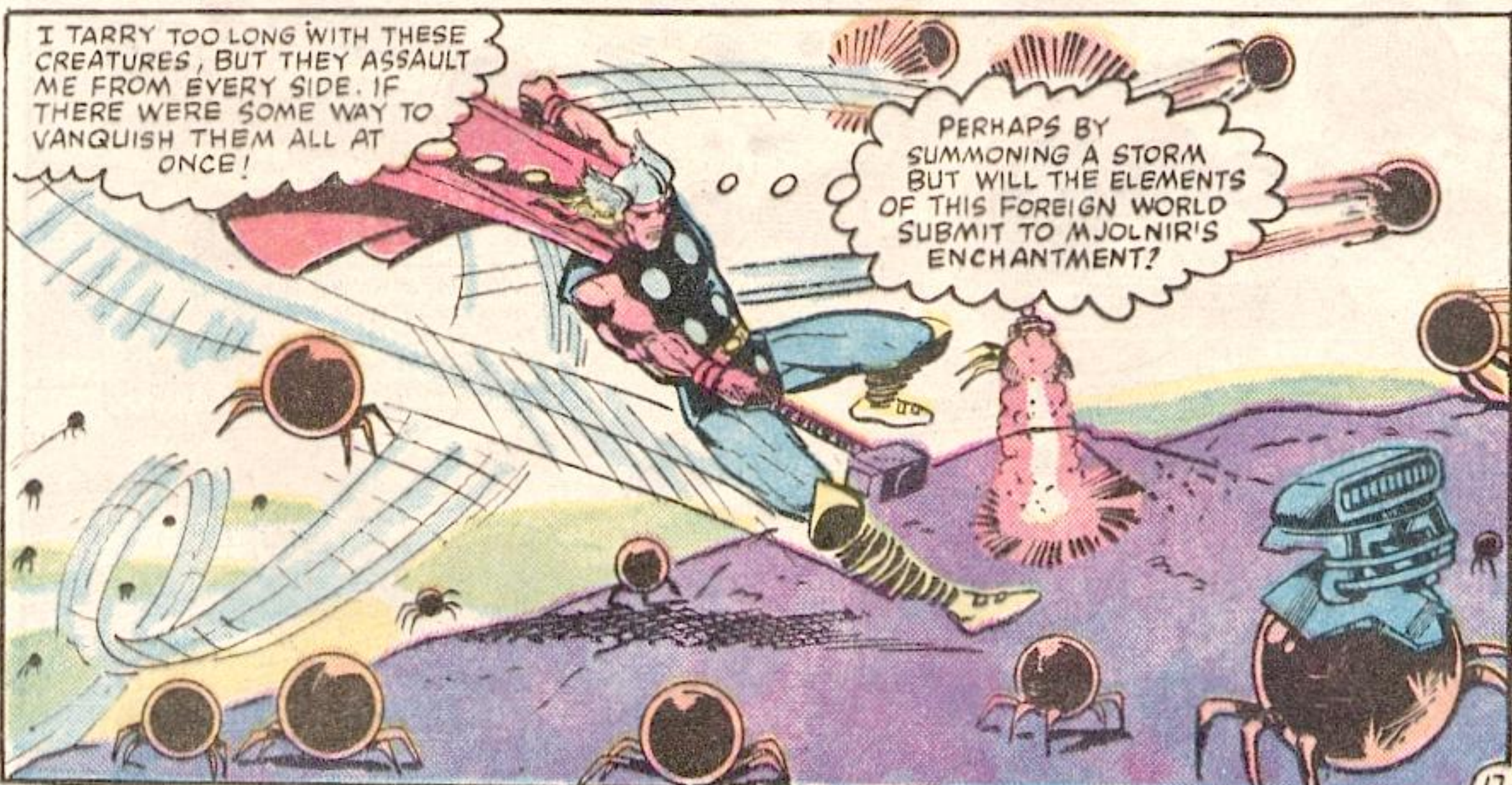
RETREAT, BRETHREN! WE MUST REGROUP!

KEITH KINCAID--?!

GOD BLESS THE AVENGERS, SIF-- THAT QUINJET'S GOT MORE GADGETS ABOARD THAN A HARDWARE STORE!

BUT QUICK, LET'S TAKE COVER BEFORE THE EFFECT OF THAT LASER BLAST WEARS OFF THESE... THINGS!

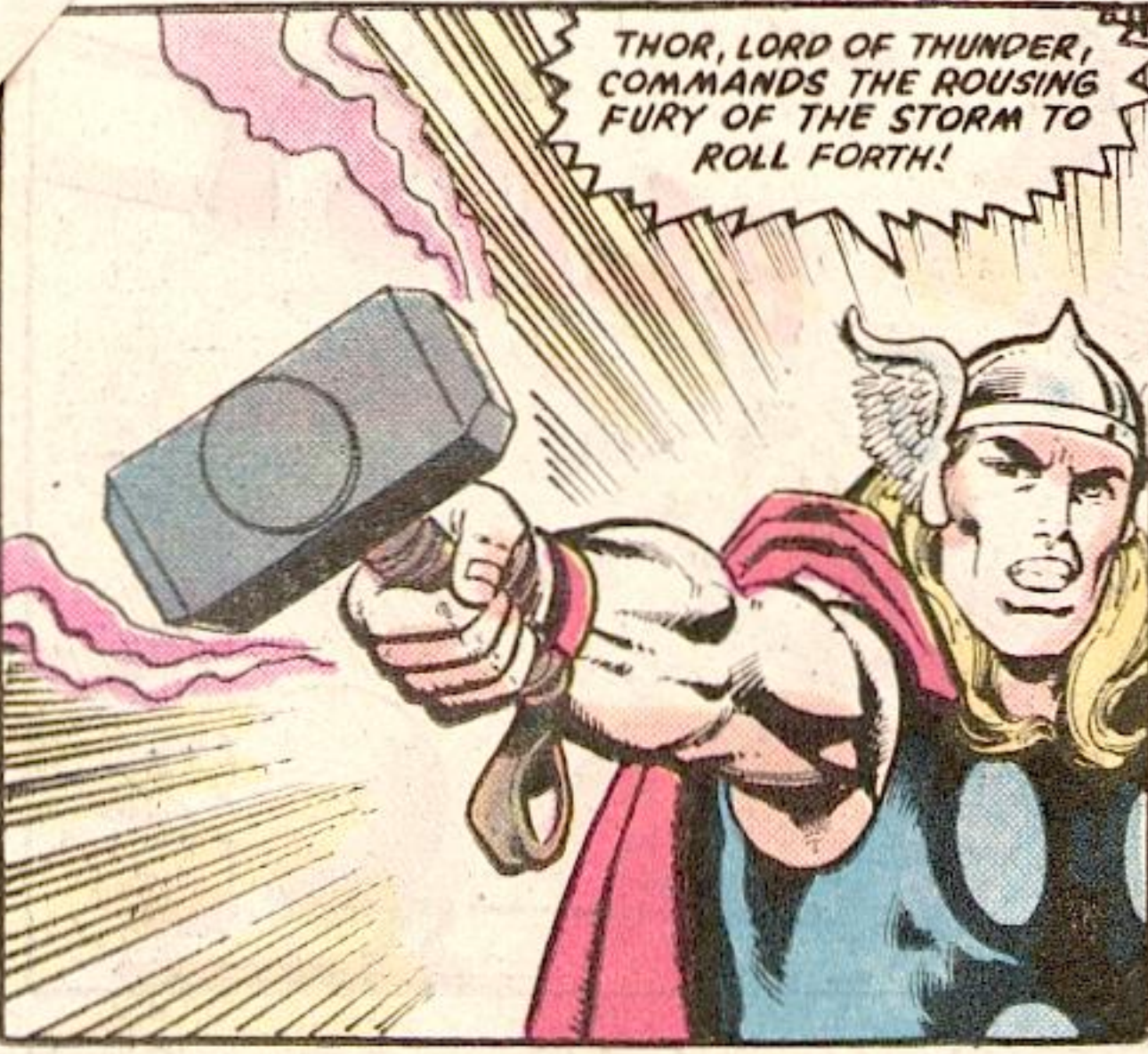
MEANWHILE, NEARBY...



I TARRY TOO LONG WITH THESE CREATURES, BUT THEY ASSAULT ME FROM EVERY SIDE. IF THERE WERE SOME WAY TO VANQUISH THEM ALL AT ONCE!

PERHAPS BY SUMMONING A STORM BUT WILL THE ELEMENTS OF THIS FOREIGN WORLD SUBMIT TO MJOLNIR'S ENCHANTMENT?

THOR, LORD OF THUNDER,  
COMMANDS THE ROUSING  
FURY OF THE STORM TO  
ROLL FORTH!



'TIS AS I FEARED--  
THESE HEAVENS HARKEN  
NOT.



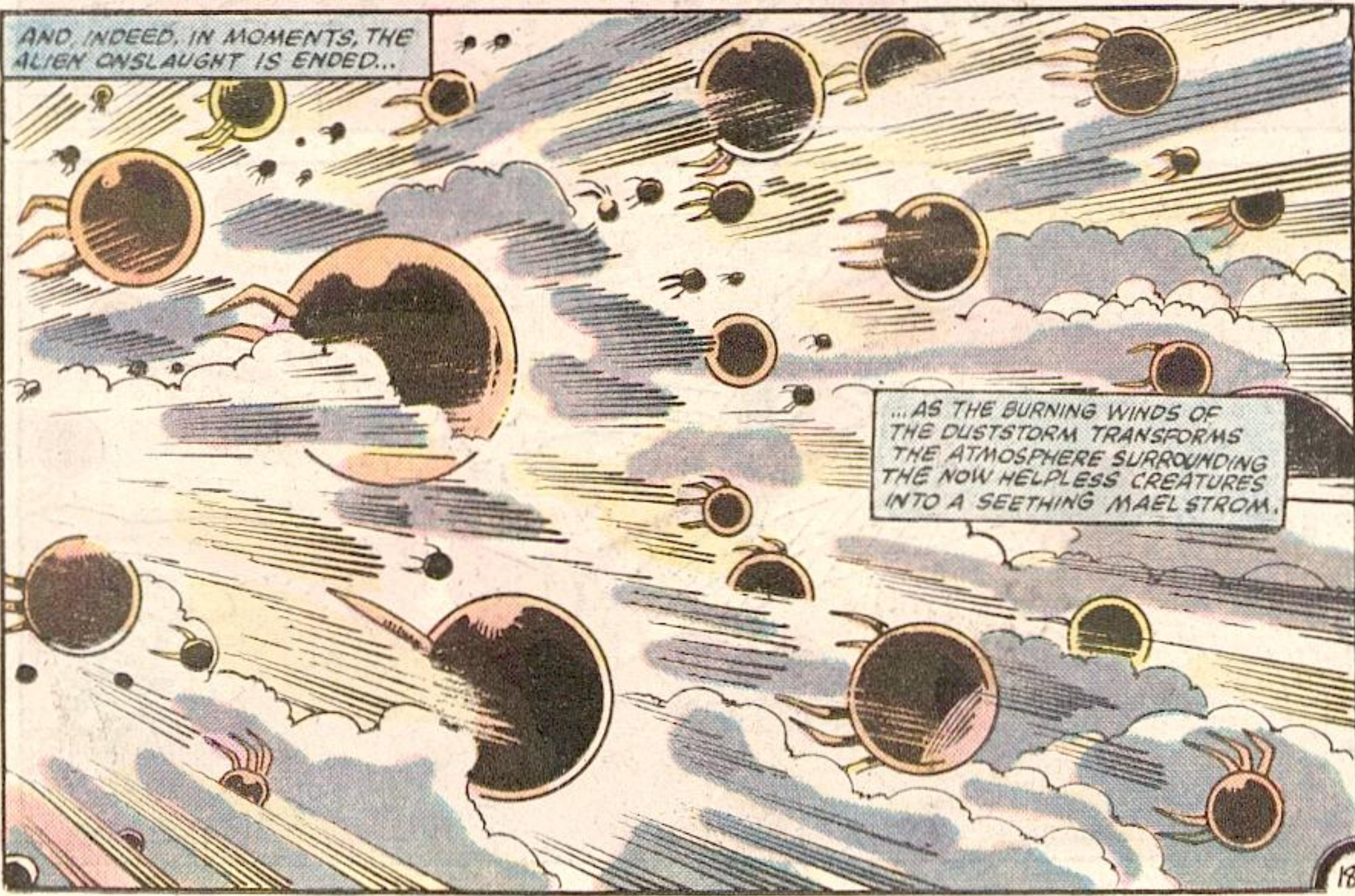
BUT THEN...

NO, I HAVE ERRED--  
FOR THE RAGING DUST-  
STORM RISING FROM THE  
GROUND IS NATIVE TO  
THIS PLANET!



AND, INDEED, IN MOMENTS, THE  
ALIEN ONSLAUGHT IS ENDED...

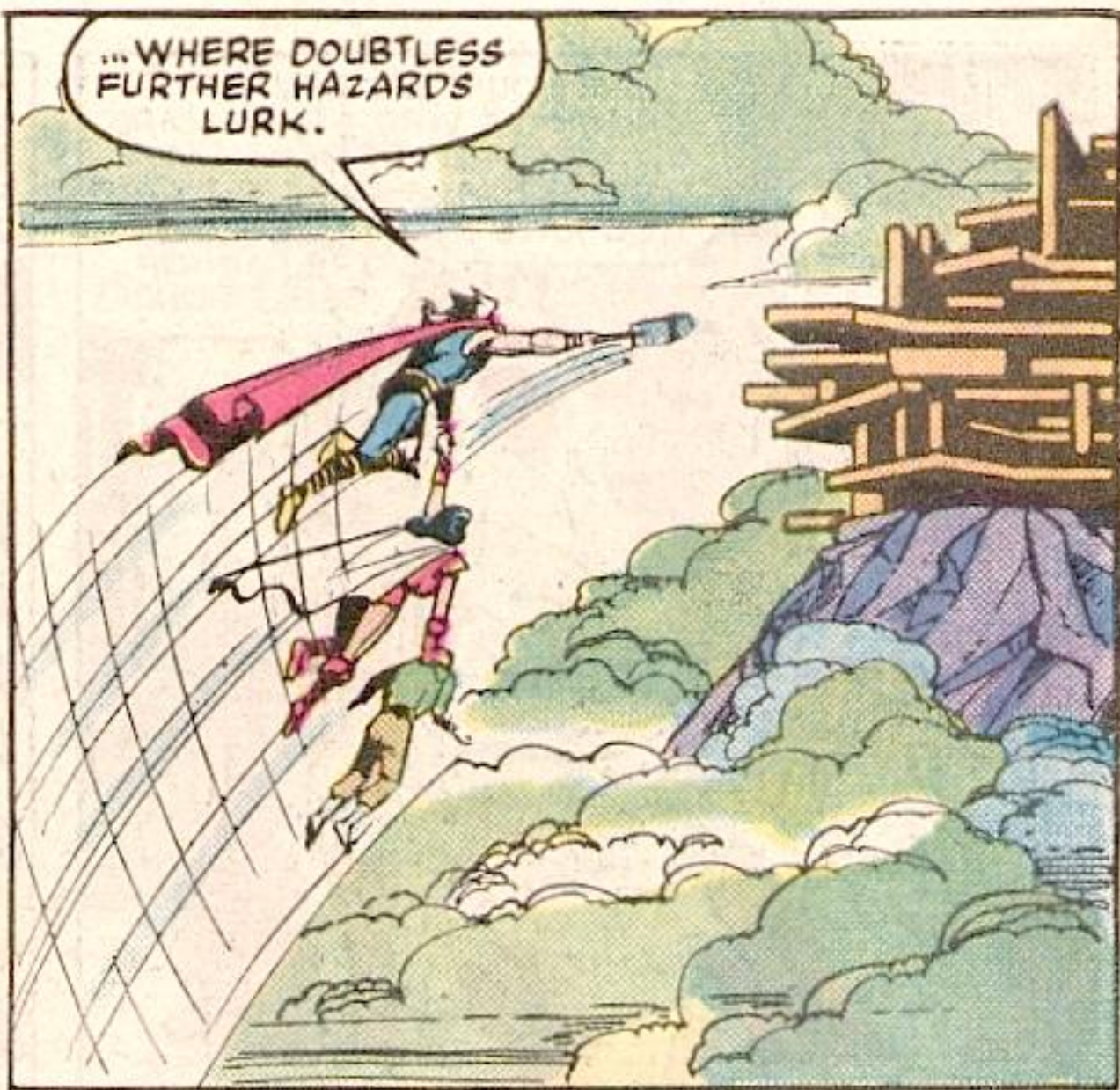
...AS THE BURNING WINDS OF  
THE DUSTSTORM TRANSFORMS  
THE ATMOSPHERE SURROUNDING  
THE NOW HELPLESS CREATURES  
INTO A SEETHING MAELSTROM.



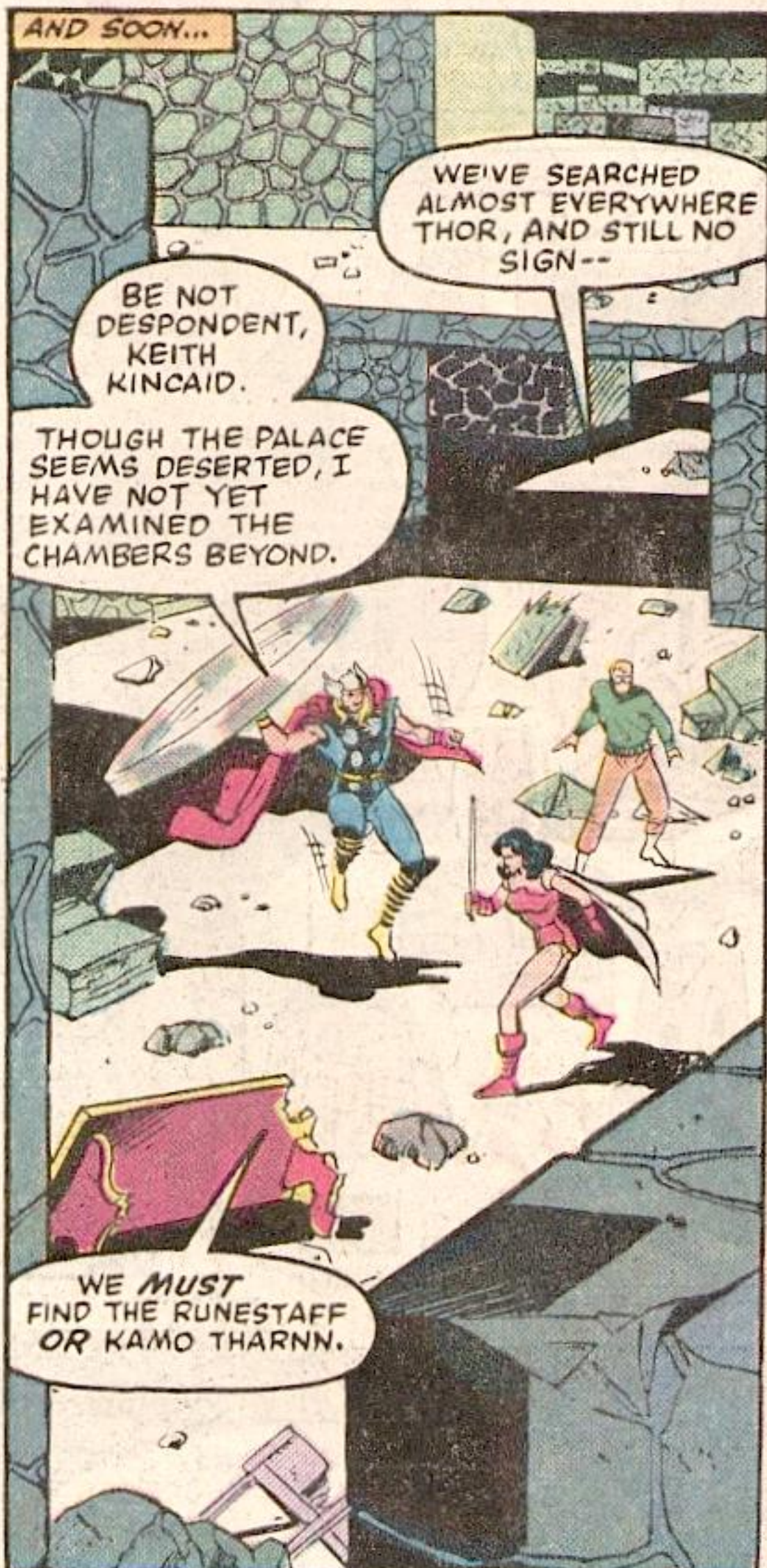


ONE DANGER IS PAST.

BUT COME, I SHALL CARRY YOU ABOVE THE STORM TO THE PALACE OF KAMO THARNN...



...WHERE DOUBTLESS FURTHER HAZARDS LURK.



AND SOON...

WE'VE SEARCHED ALMOST EVERYWHERE THOR, AND STILL NO SIGN--

BE NOT DESPONDENT, KEITH KINCAID.

THOUGH THE PALACE SEEMS DESERTED, I HAVE NOT YET EXAMINED THE CHAMBERS BEYOND.

WE MUST FIND THE RUNESTAFF OR KAMO THARNN.



SIF, STAND BACK AND GUARD OUR MORTAL COMPANION. THE PORTAL IS UNLOCKED.



WHO ENTERS? FRIEND OR FOE OR FOE OR FRIEND? HA! HA! DO I KNOW YOU? OH! I AM IN PAIN!

'TIS KAMO THARNN-- I RECOGNIZE HIM FROM SIF'S DESCRIPTION. BUT HE IS BOUND!



ARE YOU ONE OF THOSE CRIMINALS WHO SEEK ESCAPE TO THEIR HOME? HA! HA! MY ANSWER'S THE SAME, THOUGH YOU HAVE BOUND ME -- OH! THE PAIN OF THESE BONDS!

KAMO THARNN, I AM THOR OF ASGARD. I WILL RELEASE YOU FROM YOUR SUFFERING.

ONLY, GIVE YOUR WORD YOU'LL YIELD TO ME THE RUNESTAFF, WHEREVER IT BE HIDDEN.



HA! HA! BUT WILL YOU GIVE IT BACK OR CARRY IT AWAY TO WORLDS UNKNOWN, FORCING ME TO MYSTICALLY RETRIEVE IT YET AGAIN?

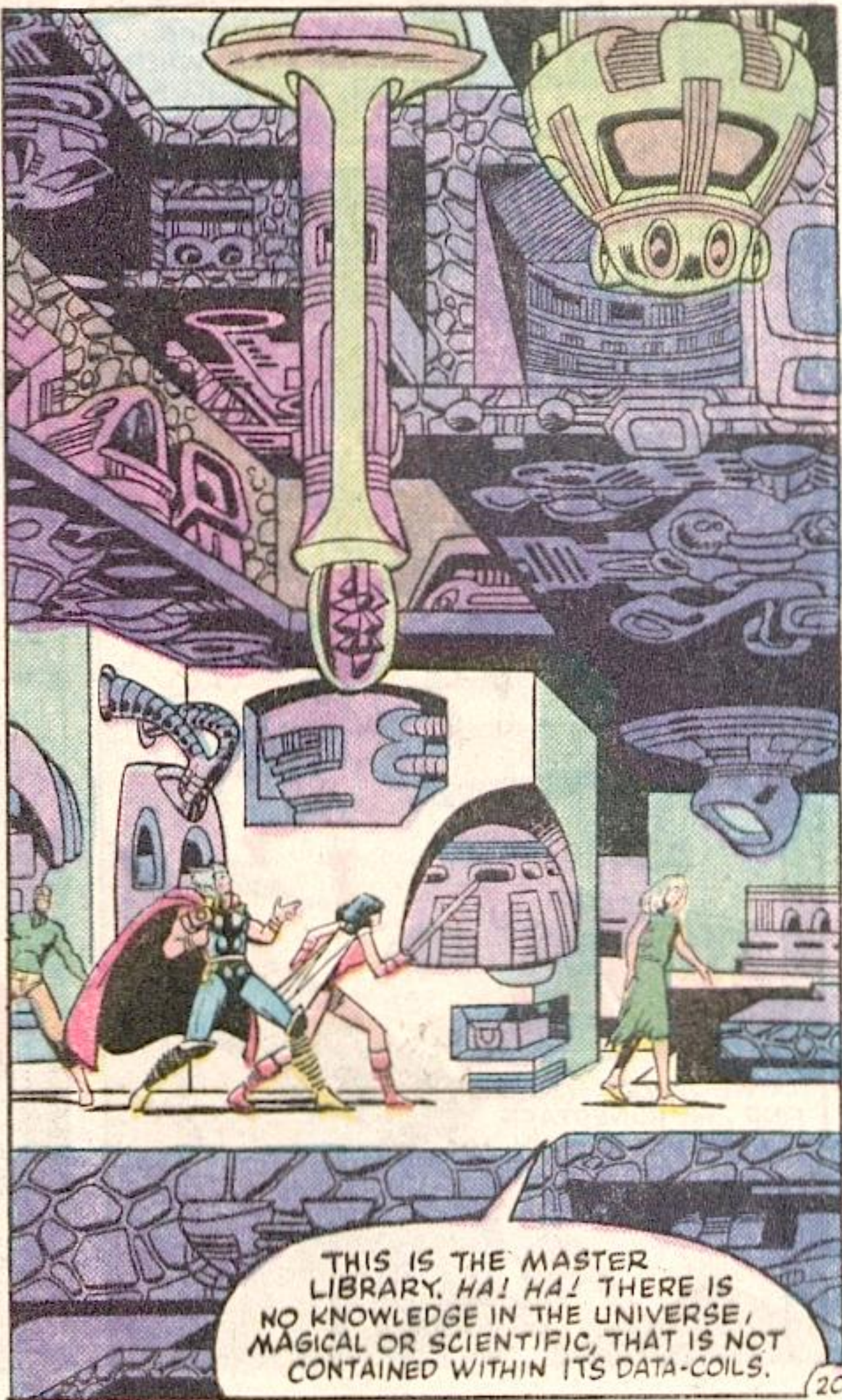
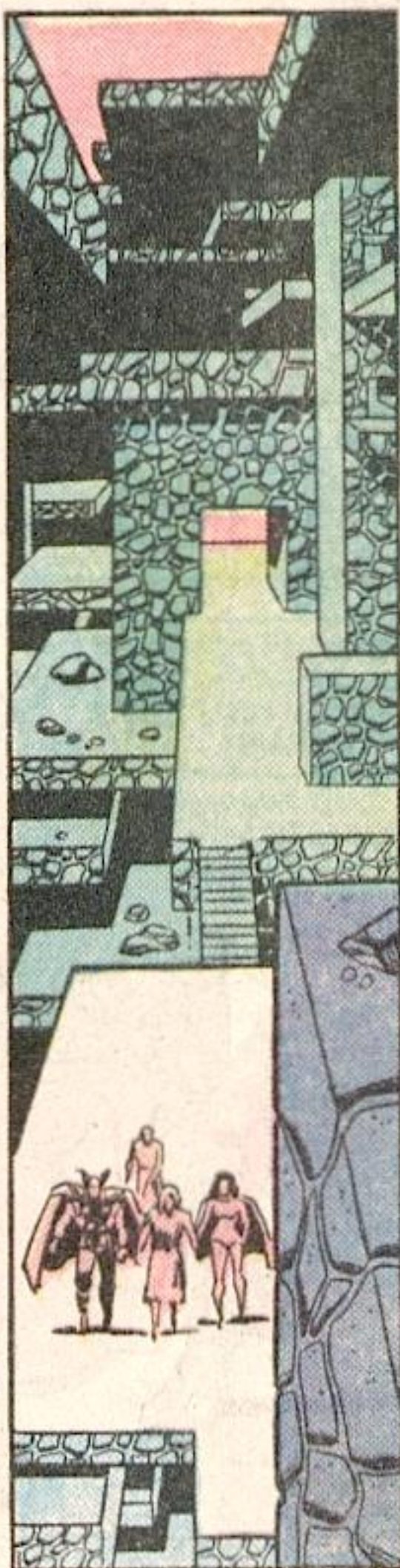
OH! THE PAIN! MY WORD! YOU HAVE MY WORD!



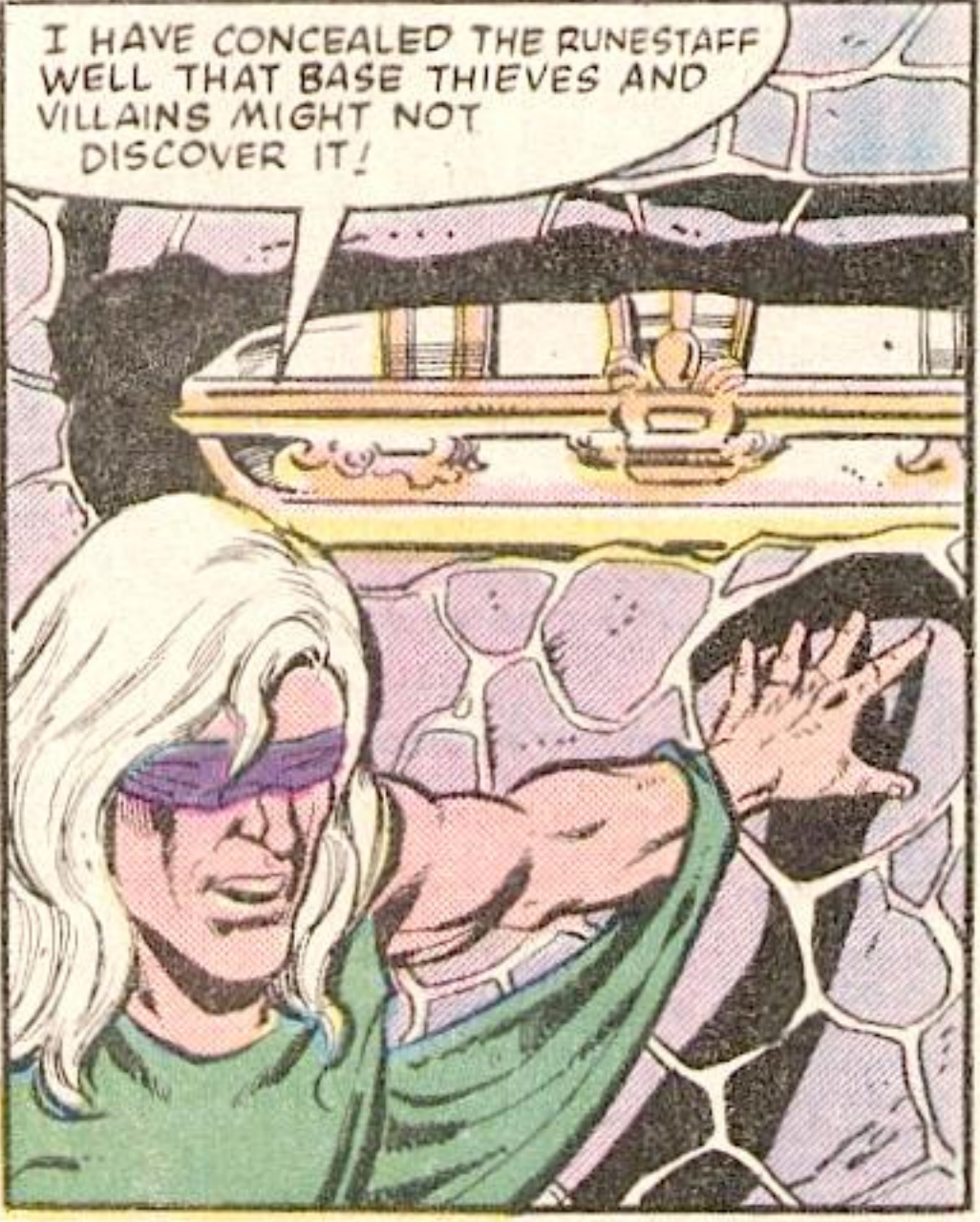
QUICKLY THEN, WHERE IS THY STAFF?

FOLLOW, BUT I SENSE OTHERS.

THEY ARE MY COMPANIONS. WE SEEK NO HARM.



THIS IS THE MASTER LIBRARY. HA! HA! THERE IS NO KNOWLEDGE IN THE UNIVERSE, MAGICAL OR SCIENTIFIC, THAT IS NOT CONTAINED WITHIN ITS DATA-COILS.



I HAVE CONCEALED THE RUNESTAFF WELL THAT BASE THIEVES AND VILLAINS MIGHT NOT DISCOVER IT!



HA! HA! STAND BACK NOW-- THE RUNESTAFF'S FORCES ARE MYSTERIOUS AND GREAT, AND THEY ARE MINE!



BUT HERE, I HAVE GIVEN MY WORD!



SIF.



THE GODDESS DRAWS HER BREATH AND BEGINS A RITUAL AS OLD AS THE CELESTIAL DARKNESS.

THE AIR IS CHARGED WITH EMERALD FIRE.



AT LAST JANE FOSTER SHALL BE RESTORED TO THE PHYSICAL PLANE, AND I SHALL HAVE MADE UP FOR MY NEGLECT TO HER PLIGHT THESE MONTHS PAST.



AND THEN...



MY PRINCE -- THE RITUAL HAS FAILED! I TRIED TO SUMMON JANE FOSTER'S ESSENCE FROM WITHIN ME -- BUT IT WAS NOT THERE.

I FEAR SHE MAY BE LOST TO US FOREVER!



WHAT?!

BUT-- THOR?!



**NEXT INTO THE RUNESTAFF!**