

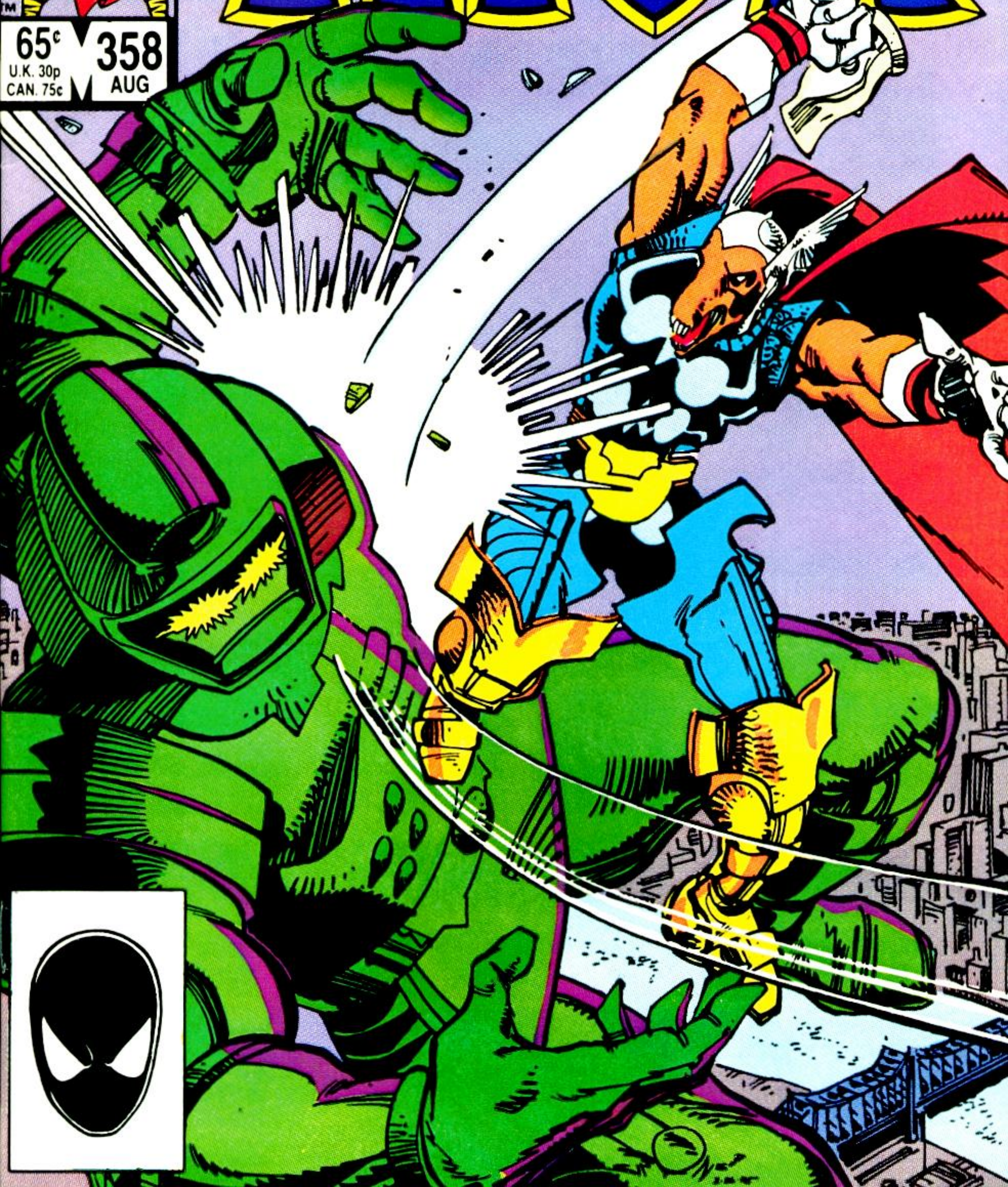


MARVEL®

65¢
U.K. 30p
CAN. 75c

358
AUG

the mighty THOR



STAN LEE PRESENTS **the MIGHTY THOR**

ART AND STORY--WALTER SIMONSON. LETTERING--JOHN WORKMAN, JR. COLORING--CHRISTIE SCHEELE.
EDITING--RALPH MACCHIO. EDITOR-IN-CHIEF--JIM SHOOTER.

WHEN DALLIANCE WAS IN FLOWER

OR TAKE THE CASH AND LET THE CREDIT GO*

IN ASGARD, HOME OF THE NORSE GODS, IN THE DWELLING OF THE MIGHTY GOD OF THUNDER...

...SORCEROUS VAPORS THAT SEEM ALMOST ALIVE SWIRL SENSUOUSLY THROUGH THE AIR...

...AS THOR STARES AT THE UN-INVITED GUEST BEFORE HIM!

MELODI!

BEFORE THE NIGHT IS OUT, MIGHTY THOR, WE SHALL HAVE NO SECRETS BETWEEN US.

CALL ME BY MY TRUE NAME.

CALL ME LORELEI!

*FROM THE RUBAIYAT OF OMAR KHAYYAM

THOR® Vol. 1, No. 358, August, 1985. (ISSN 0274-533X) Published by MARVEL COMICS GROUP, James E. Galton, President. Stan Lee, Publisher. Michael Hobson, Group Vice-President. Milton Schiffman, Vice-President, Production. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016. SECOND CLASS POSTAGE PAID AT NEW YORK, NY AND AT ADDITIONAL MAILING OFFICES. Published monthly. Copyright ©1985 by Marvel Comics Group, a division of Cadence Industries Corporation. All rights reserved. Price 65¢ per copy in the U.S. and 75¢ in Canada. Subscription rate \$7.80 for 12 issues. Canada and Foreign, \$9.80. Printed in the U.S.A. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the conditions that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition. THOR (including all prominent characters featured in the issue), and the distinctive likenesses thereof, are trademarks of the MARVEL COMICS GROUP. POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO THOR, 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, 10TH FLOOR, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016.

LOKI WAS RIGHT!
THE MAGICAL VAPORS
HAVE ALREADY BEGUN
TO ENTHRALL HIM.

HE CAN
NO LONGER
LOOK AWAY
FROM ME OF
HIS OWN FREE
WILL.

LORELEIF, BUT THAT
WAS THE NAME OF THE
ENCHANTRESS' YOUNGER
SISTER WHO WAS BUT A
CHILD WHEN I LAST
SAW HER.

HAVE I NOT GROWN
SINCE THEN, LORD THOR?

WHY DOES MY
HEAD SWIM
SO?

I...I
CANNOT
SEE THE
ROOM.

AND IS A ROOM
MORE INTEREST-
ING THAN I?

GAZE AT ME, THOR. DRINK
WITH THINE EYES ALL THAT
YOU SEE BEFORE YOU.

WHAT IS HAPPEN-
ING TO ME?

AM I NOT BEAUTI-
FUL, THOR?

YES, YOU ARE.

DO I NOT
PLEASE THEE?

YOU ARE DE-
SIRABLE BE-
YOND WORDS.

THEN I AM
YOURS...

...AND
YOU...

...ARE MINE!

BUT EVEN AS THOR FALLS DEEPER AND DEEPER BENEATH THE SEDUCTIVE SPELLS BEING WOUND ABOUT HIM...



...WE TURN TO THE TOP OF THE WORLD TRADE CENTER IN NEW YORK CITY WHERE WE FIND BETA RAY BILL AND THE LADY SIF...



I CAN FIND NO SIGN OF OUR ERSTWHILE FOEMAN, MILADY.

IT WOULD SEEM THAT THEY HAVE NOT DECIDED TO RENEW THEIR ATTACKS UPON THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY.

IT MAY BE SOME TIME BEFORE THEY APPEAR AGAIN.

TIME, BILL, IS SOMETHING THAT AN IMMORTAL HAS APLENTY.

PERHAPS TOO MUCH.



MILADY?



WHEN THERE IS ALWAYS TIME, BILL, THE PASSION OF LIFE DIMINISHES.

I HAVE LOVED THOR, BILL. I LOVE HIM STILL. AND YET, I STAND HERE, DIVIDED IN TWO.

ONCE SAID, SOME WORDS MAY NOT EASILY BE TAKEN BACK AGAIN. HAVE A CARE, MILADY, WHAT YOU SHOULD SAY.

I HAVE HAD TOO MANY CARES, BILL. SO MANY THAT I CAN HARDLY SAY WHAT I MEAN ANY LONGER.

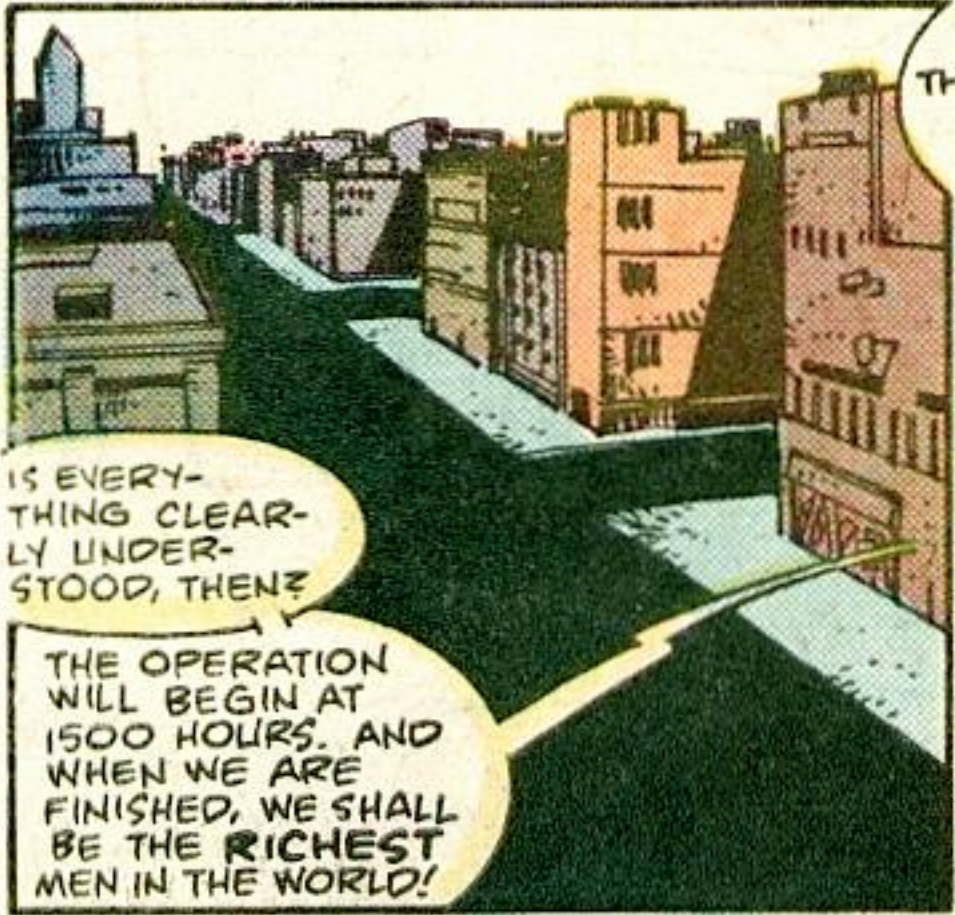


SURELY THERE IS MORE TO LOVING THAN THAT!

THE LONGER I AM ON EARTH, THE MORE CERTAIN I AM THAT I HAVE YET TO DRINK FULLY FROM LIFE'S CUP...

...REGARDLESS OF THE YEARS I HAVE LIVED ALREADY!

AT THAT MOMENT IN AN OLD WAREHOUSE
IN THE REDHOOK SECTION OF BROOKLYN...



IS EVERY-
THING CLEAR-
LY UNDER-
STOOD, THEN?

THE OPERATION
WILL BEGIN AT
1500 HOURS. AND
WHEN WE ARE
FINISHED, WE SHALL
BE THE RICHEST
MEN IN THE WORLD!

ARE
YOU SURE
THAT THING'S
GOING TO
DO THE
JOB?

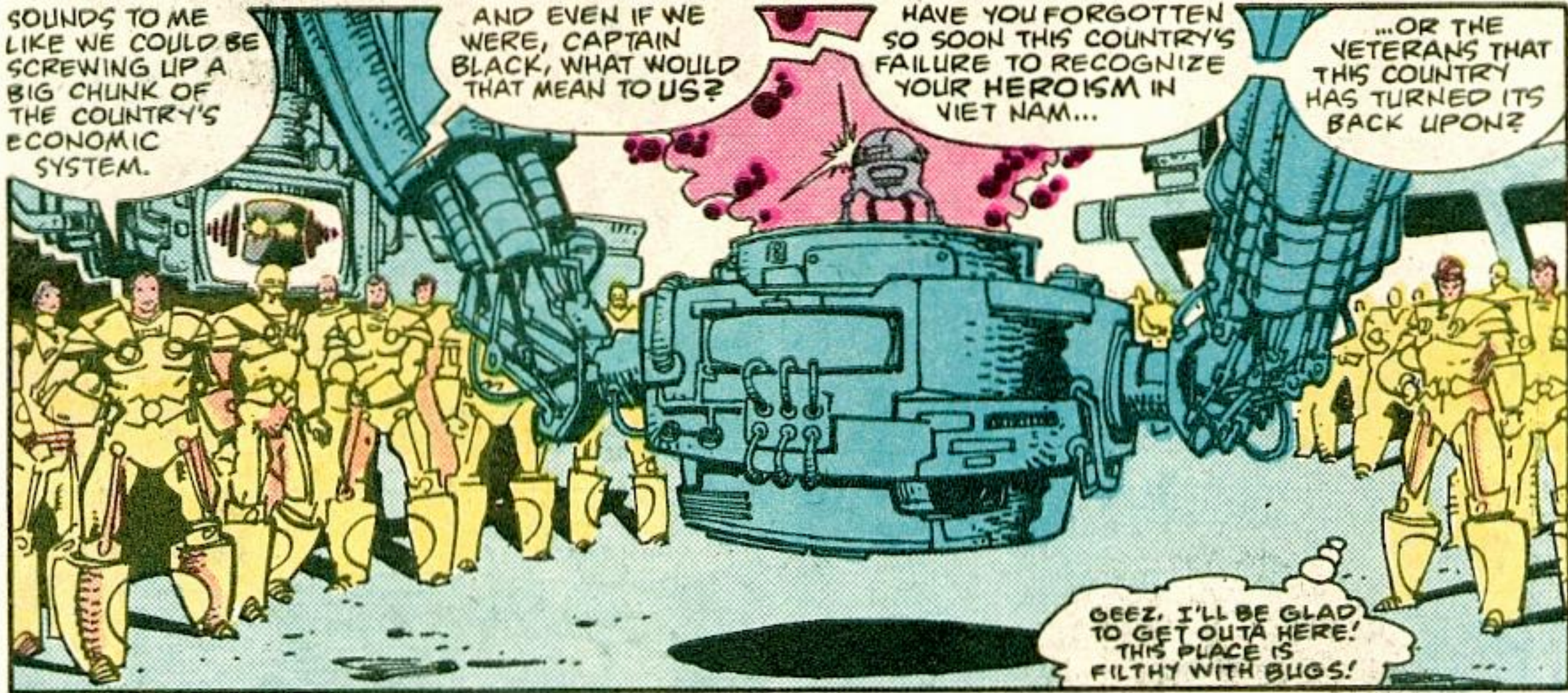


WITHOUT FAIL. ONCE
DETONATED, THE
IMPULSER WILL
DESTROY EVERY
COMPUTER RECORD
IN THE BUILDING.

NO ONE
WILL EVER
BE ABLE TO
TRACE WHAT
WE HAVE
STOLEN.

IS THAT
REALLY A
GOOD IDEA
IN THE FED?

SOUNDS TO ME
LIKE WE COULD BE
SCREWING UP A
BIG CHUNK OF
THE COUNTRY'S
ECONOMIC
SYSTEM.



AND EVEN IF WE
WERE, CAPTAIN
BLACK, WHAT WOULD
THAT MEAN TO US?

HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN
SO SOON THIS COUNTRY'S
FAILURE TO RECOGNIZE
YOUR HEROISM IN
VIET NAM...

...OR THE
VETERANS THAT
THIS COUNTRY
HAS TURNED ITS
BACK UPON?

GEEZ, I'LL BE GLAD
TO GET OUTA HERE!
THIS PLACE IS
FILTHY WITH BUGS!

YOU DON'T HAVE
TO REMIND ME WHAT
I DID, COMMANDER
...OR HOW WE'VE
ALL BEEN TREATED
SINCE.



GOOD.



WE ARE
MERELY SETTING
THE SCALE TO
RIGHTS, TAKING
THAT WHICH SHOULD
HAVE BEEN GIVEN
TO US WITH A FREE
HAND.

BUT THE
DEVICE
WILL DESTROY
ONLY THE
LOCAL COM-
PUTER REC-
ORDS AS THE
PROTOTYPE
DEVICE DID
AT THE NEW
FEDERAL
BANK.*

THE
BUSINESS
OF THE
COUNTRY
WILL REMAIN
SOUND

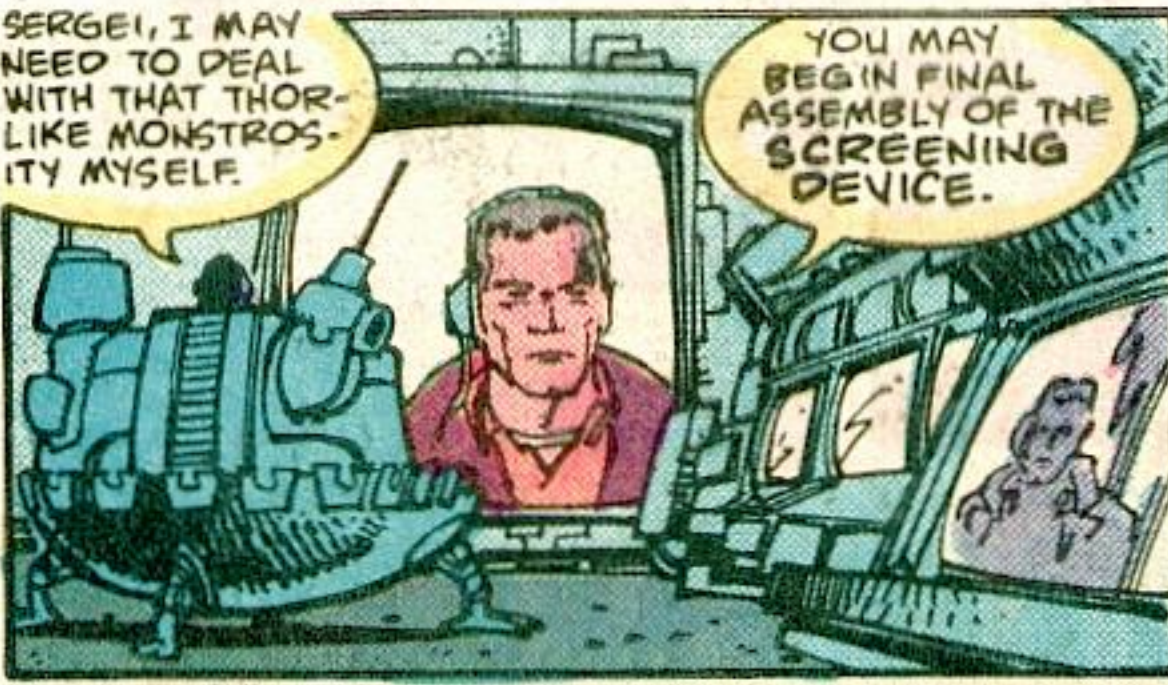
*LAST ISSUE.

SOUNDS LIKE A
REPUBLICAN SENTIMENT
TO ME, BUSTER. WHO
ARE YOU ANYWAY?
A DISAPPOINTED
OFFICE
SEEKER?



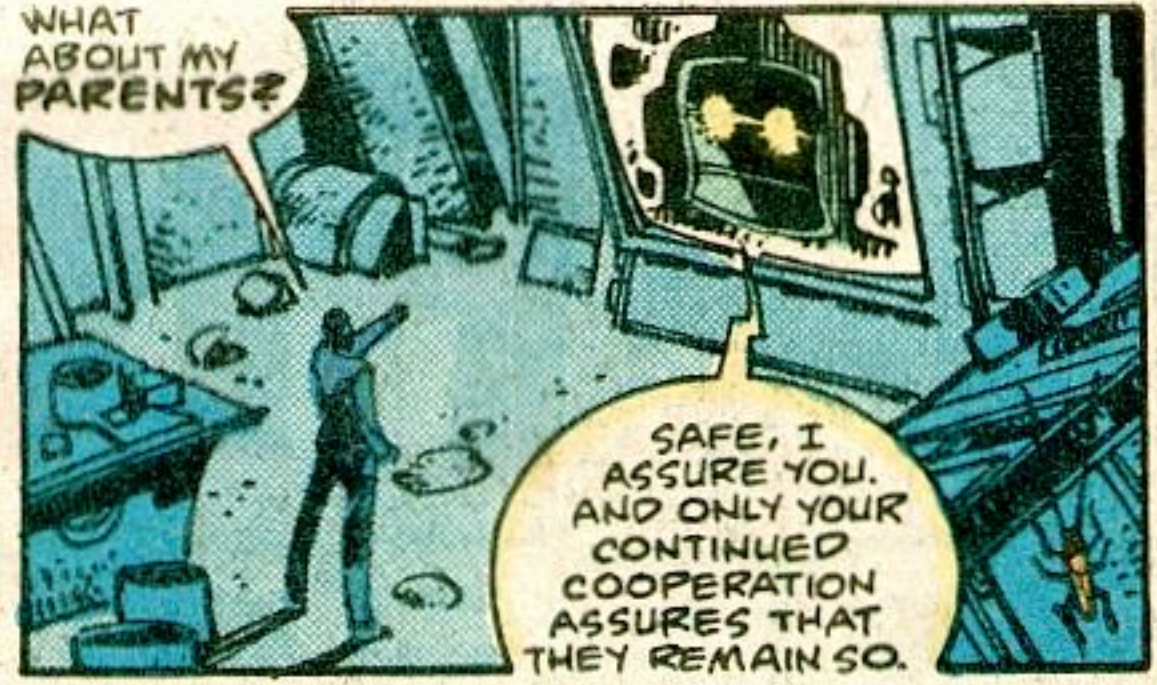
HARDLY,
CAPTAIN. NOW
GATHER THE MEN
TOGETHER IN THE
READY ROOM. IT
IS NEARLY
TIME.

SERGEI, I MAY NEED TO DEAL WITH THAT THOR-LIKE MONSTROSITY MYSELF.



YOU MAY BEGIN FINAL ASSEMBLY OF THE SCREENING DEVICE.

WHAT ABOUT MY PARENTS?



SAFE, I ASSURE YOU. AND ONLY YOUR CONTINUED COOPERATION ASSURES THAT THEY REMAIN SO.

THE COMMUNICATIONS ALERT! A CODED SIGNAL IS BEING SENT FROM HOME.



GREETINGS, COMRADE. I HAVE GOOD NEWS CONCERNING THE IMPENDING SUCCESS OF OUR PROJECT.

THE TEST AT THE NEW FEDERAL BANK WAS SUCCESSFUL. THE FULL-SCALE COMPUTER FEEDBACK IMPULSER WILL BE ACTIVATED SHORTLY.

AND WITHIN SECONDS, EVERY COMPUTER IN THE UNITED STATES CONNECTED TO THE INTERFACE WILL BE OVERLOADED AND BURNED OUT!



COMPUTER RECORDS IN BANKS EVERYWHERE WILL BE DESTROYED. AND THE COMPUTERS RENDERED USELESS.



AND THE GLF?

THE UNITED STATES ECONOMY, WITHOUT ACCURATE FINANCIAL RECORDS, WILL BE SHATTERED. AND WE SHALL PICK UP THE PIECES.

DISAFFECTED VETERANS OF VIETNAM WHO FEEL THEY HAVE BEEN IGNORED BY THEIR COUNTRY. THEY SUSPECT NOTHING!



EXCELLENT, COMRADE BORIS.

BUT THERE IS BAD NEWS CONCERNING SERGEI'S PARENTS. THEY HAVE BOTH DIED. WE CAN NO LONGER USE THEM AS A HOLD OVER HIM.

CREK!



WHATZ

AN UNFORTUNATE OCCURRENCE THAT WAS NONE OF OUR DOING, I ASSURE YOU, COMRADE.

WE MUST KEEP THE NEWS FROM SERGEI FOR A LITTLE LONGER.



ONCE THIS EPISODE IS FINISHED, IT MAY EVEN WORK TO OUR ADVANTAGE.

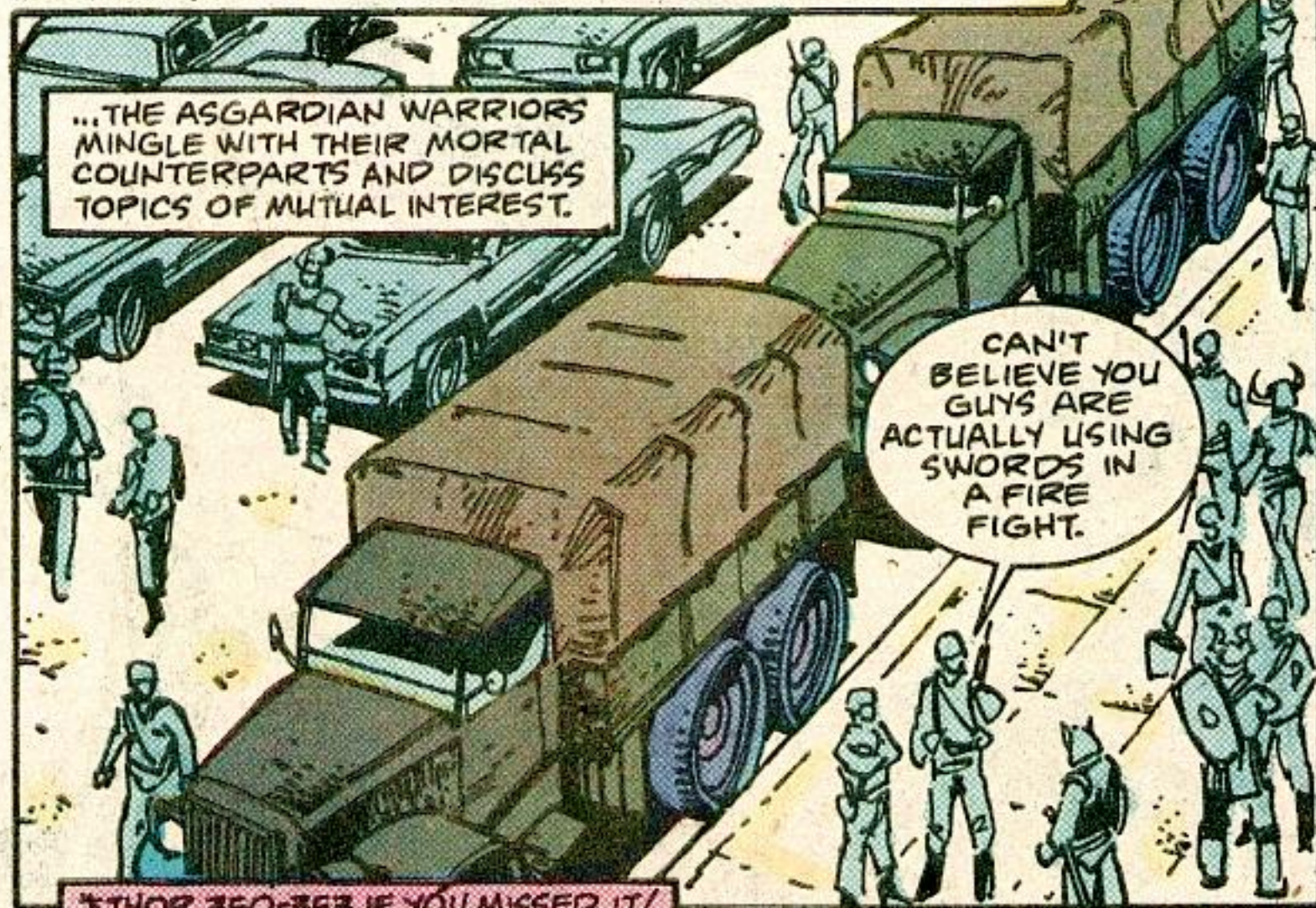


IF WE DEMONSTRATE TO THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT THAT HE KNEW OF HIS PARENTS' DEATHS BEFORE THE IMPULSER WAS ACTIVATED...

...WE MAY BE ABLE TO PERSUADE THEM THAT SERGEI IS A TRAITOR AND DRIVE HIM EVEN DEEPER INTO OUR ARMS!

WE CAN USE HIS GENIUS!

ELSEWHERE, NEAR CENTRAL PARK, AS SOME OF THE TROOPS INVOLVED IN THE RECENT FIGHTING* PREPARE TO DEPART...



...THE ASGARDIAN WARRIORS MINGLE WITH THEIR MORTAL COUNTERPARTS AND DISCUSS TOPICS OF MUTUAL INTEREST.

CAN'T BELIEVE YOU GUYS ARE ACTUALLY USING SWORDS IN A FIRE FIGHT.

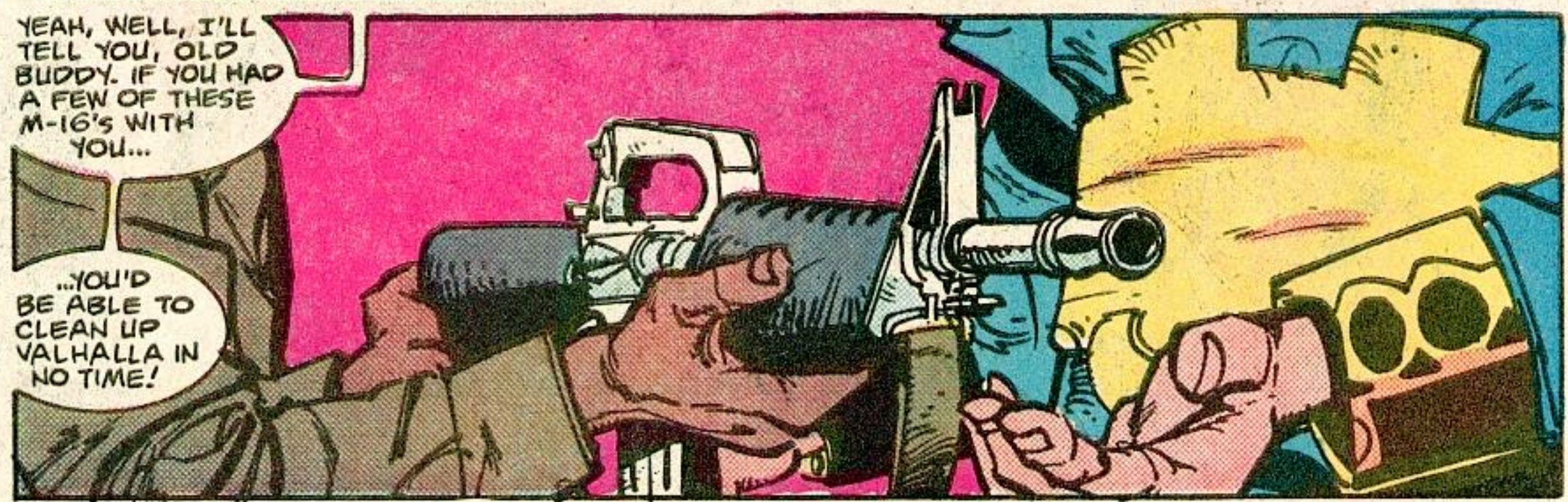
*THOR 350-353 IF YOU MISSED IT!

BUT I'LL SAY THIS, HAROKIN. YOU SURE KNOW HOW TO SWING 'EM.

MY DEEPEST THANKS, PETER.



YET I WOULD LEARN MORE OF YOUR OWN DEADLY WEAPON, FOR WE HAVE NONE LIKE IT IN VALHALLA.



YEAH, WELL, I'LL TELL YOU, OLD BUDDY. IF YOU HAD A FEW OF THESE M-16'S WITH YOU...

...YOU'D BE ABLE TO CLEAN UP VALHALLA IN NO TIME!



MEANWHILE, IN ASGARD...

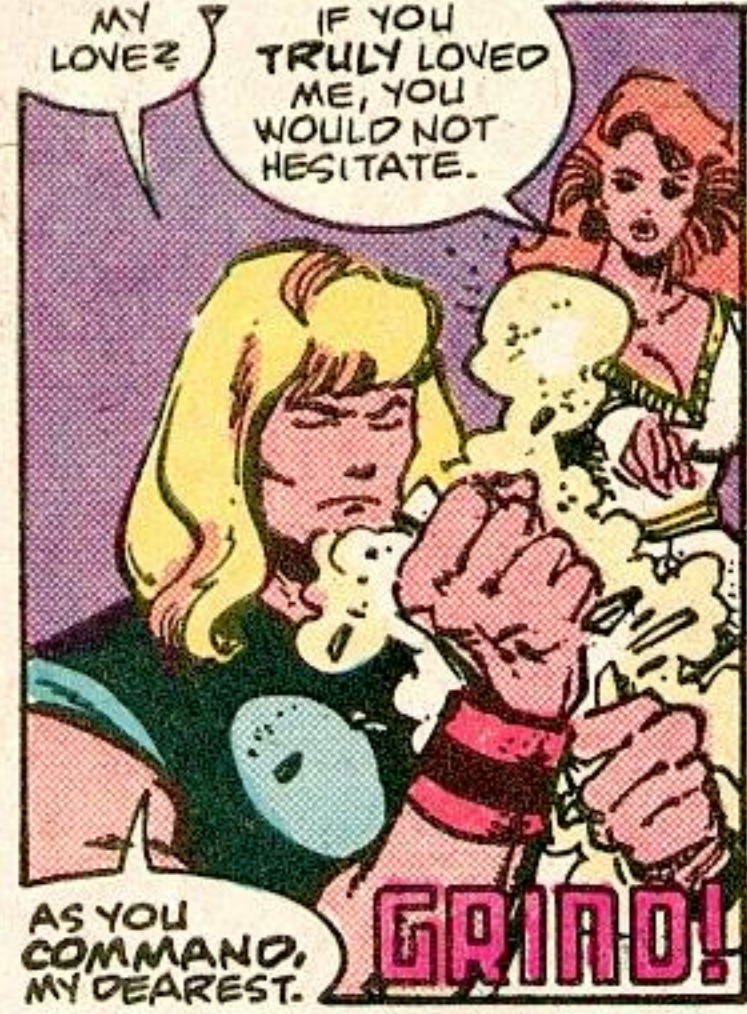
LORELEI, MY DARLING, I HAVE NEVER LOVED ANYONE AS I LOVE THEE NOW!

I KNOW, THOR. NOW TELL ME, WHAT ARE THESE THINGS?



A GIFT FROM MY FATHER, ODIN. HE AWARDED ME THE TUSKS OF THE FIRST GREAT BOAR I SLEW.

BREAK THEM.



MY LOVE?

IF YOU TRULY LOVED ME, YOU WOULD NOT HESITATE.

AS YOU COMMAND, MY DEAREST.

GRIND!



NOW THOU ART TRULY MINE! GIVE HEED TO WHAT I SAY, MY THOR!

WHO WILL RULE IN ASGARD NOW THAT YOUR FATHER IS GONE?

'TIS NOT FOR ME TO SAY. THE MATTER WILL BE DECIDED IN A MEETING OF ALL TRUE ASGARDIANS.

AND WILT THOU BE CHOSEN?

'TIS LIKELY. I DO NOT THINK MY FELLOWS WILL CHOOSE LOKI FOR HE HAS EVER PROVEN HIMSELF UNTRUE.

AND YET, MY THOR, IT IS LOKI WHO SHOULD RULE!

MY DARLING, LISTEN TO ME.

WHAT SAYEST THOU?

THINK OF MIDGARD.* IF YOU REMAIN HERE, YOU MUST GIVE UP THE GUARDIANSHIP OF EARTH!

BUT--

AND WHAT OF ME? IF YOU BECOME THE RULER OF THE GOLDEN REALM, YOU WILL FORSAKE ME AND I CAN HARDLY BEAR THE THOUGHT.

WHAT? NEVER!

LOKI HELPED TO SAVE THE REALM! DID HE NOT FIGHT SURTUR ALONE WHEN ALL OTHERS, INCLUDING YOURSELF AND LORD ODIN HAD FALLEN.*

YES, BUT--

*THOR 353

*EARTH

YOU SHALL HAVE NO CHOICE, MY LOVE.

THE DUTIES OF STATE WOULD EVER CALL YOU FROM MY SIDE. HOW LONELY I WOULD BE.

BUT-- LOKI???

THINK OF US, MY DARLING.

MY LOVE.

NO! IT CANNOT BE! ON THE SCEPTER OF MY DEPARTED FATHER, I COULD NOT GRANT FOUL LOKI KINGSHIP!

THEN STAY HERE, STUBBORN THOR!

STAY AND BREATHE THE PERFUMED AIR UNTIL EVERY LAST VESTIGE OF YOUR SOUL IS MINE! DO NOT STIR TILL I RETURN!

LORELEI!

BUT AS LORELEI STORMS ANGRILY
OUT OF THOR'S HALLS...

...WE FIND ON LIBERTY STREET AT
THE FOOT OF MANHATTAN, THE FED-
ERAL RESERVE BANK OF NEW
YORK PREPARING TO CLOSE ITS
DOORS ON ANOTHER DAY OF HEC-
TIC ACTIVITY.

EIGHTY FEET BELOW STREET
LEVEL LIES THE LARGEST KNOWN
ACCUMULATION OF PRECIOUS
METAL IN THE WORLD-- THE
GOLD RESERVES OF THE
NONCOMMUNIST NATIONS...

TODAY, BANKER'S HOURS
ARE BEING EXTENDED.

THAT COMPLETES
OUR TOUR OF THE FED,
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.
PLEASE EXIT
THIS WAY.

CLANG!

CLIK

BARRAQUUM!

MOVE IT,
BOYS. THE
GLF STRIKES
AGAIN!

CORPORAL
BLUE, SET THE
IMPULSER!!

GREEN AND
YELLOW SQUADS
KEEP EVERY-
ONE PINNED
DOWN

THE REST OF
YOU FOLLOW
ME INTO THE
VAULTS!

PUM!
PUM!
PUM!

FTZAPP!

swick!

tic tic tic tic tic

OUTSIDE, AS RUSH HOUR GETS WELL UNDER WAY...



...THE PASSERSBY ON THE BUSY STREETS ARE UNAWARE OF THE DRAMA UNFOLDING ONLY A FEW FEET AWAY FROM THEM...

... WHEN SUDDENLY...



THAT'S ALL, BOYS! NOW FOLLOW ME!

KARASSH!



EASY STREET, HERE WE COME!

BOWHAM!

UGH!



MY HAMMER HAS TRACED YOUR ENERGY CONFIGURATIONS, VIL-LAINS!

SUR-RENDER! THIS TIME, THERE SHALL BE NO ESCAPE!

YEAH? YOU AND WHAT ARMY, BUTT--



SPRANGG!

OWW!



AGAIN, THAT CREATURE ATTACKS THE FORCES OF THE GLF!

BUT WILL EVEN HIS POWER BE SUFFICIENT FOR THE TEST THAT IS TO COME?

GIVE IT UP, MISTER.
EVEN YOU CAN'T
FIGHT ALL OF US!



THAT,
MY ARMORED
FRIEND, RE-
MAINS TO BE
SEEN!



BUT EVEN AS THE COM-
BATANTS ENGAGE EACH
OTHER AT CLOSE
QUARTERS...

HOLY
COW!
CAPTAIN
BLACK!
LOOK!



IT MUST
BE THE COM-
MANDER!



QUITE
RIGHT, CORPORAL.
THE LEADER OF
THE GLF HAS
ARRIVED!

MEANWHILE, IN A SLIGHTLY SHABBY SECTION OF MANHATTAN...

METHINKS, FRIEND VOLSTAGG, THAT WE HAVE LOST THE PARK WHEREIN OUR FELLOW ASGARDIANS ARE BIVOUQUED.

AND OUR MORTAL GUIDE SEEMS SINGULARLY UNWILLING TO DIRECT US FURTHER.

PERHAPS IF YOU HAD NOT BROKEN THE REAR AXLE OF HIS CONVEYANCE, HE WOULD HAVE PROVEN FRIENDLIER.

FAGH! THESE METAL CHARIOTS ARE NOT FIT TO BEAR SO NOBLE A WEIGHT AS MINE!

COME, LET US DROWN OUR SORROWS WITH SOME LIQUID REFRESHMENT IN THIS WORTHY ESTABLISHMENT.

HEY, GUYS, LOOK WHAT JUST WALKED IN.

DO MY EYES DECEIVE ME...

...OR IS THAT THE GOODYEAR BLIMP?

THOUGH THY WORDS ARE STRANGE, THE CHALLENGE IS UNMISTAKABLE.

UH, LISTEN, FELLAS, MAYBE YOU BETTER LEAVE.

WE DON'T WANT ANY TROUBLE.

NOR SHALL THERE BE ANY, MINE HOST!

TAKE THIS GOLD AND FURNISH ME WITH GOOD BREWED ALE.

ALL YOU HAVE!

MOMENTS LATER...

HERE, MY VOLUBLE FRIEND. ALLOW ME TO PURCHASE YOU A DRINK!

YER KIDDIN' ME.

AND GATHER YOUR FRIENDS AS WELL.

FOR WE HAVE MUCH TO DISCUSS, YOU AND I.

THE TIME HAS COME, THE WALRUS SAID, TO TALK OF MANY THINGS...

...OF SHOES AND SHIPS AND SEALING WAX, AND GOODYEAR BLIMPS AND THINGS!

KA-THUNK!

I HAVE ALWAYS THOUGHT LEWIS CARROLL WAS AN EXCELLENT POET, HAVEN'T YOU?

WHILE FURTHER DOWNTOWN...

CAPTAIN BLACK,
COLLECT THE GOLD
AND PREPARE TO
DEPART.

I SHALL
CRUSH THIS
LACKEY OF
CAPITALISM
MYSELF!

BRAASSH!

LACKEY OF
CAPITALISM?

THESE ENHANCED
LASER BEAMS CAN
BURN THROUGH EVEN
THE STRONGEST
METAL!

NO
BEING,
ALIEN OR
OTHERWISE,
CAN RESIST
THEIR DE-
STRUCTIVE
FURY!

FATRAK!

YOUR POWER IS TRULY
IMPRESSIVE! BUT ONLY
AGAINST A STATIONARY
TARGET!

WHAT
IS YOUR
MIGHT COM-
PARED WITH THAT
OF STORM-
BREAKER, THE
GIFT OF NOBLE
ODIN HIM-
SELF!

KARRANGGE!

LACKEY OF
CAPITAL-
ISM?

I DON'T
REMEMBER
CONDEMN-
ING THE
SYSTEM.

I THOUGHT WE WERE
JUST GONNA REDISTRIBUTE
THE WEALTH
A LITTLE.

SURE. THE
GREEN LIB-
ERATION
FRONT
STRIKES FOR
TRUTH,
JUSTICE,
AND A FEW
BUCKS.

BUT AS THE FIGHT RAGES ABOVE, HIDDEN IN THE SHADOW OF THE STOCK EXCHANGE BELOW, WE FIND...

I THINK THE TIME HAS COME TO STRIP THE GUISE FROM THESE PROCEEDINGS...

...AND LET EVERYONE KNOW JUST WHO THE PLAYERS ARE.



schrikk!

FOR WHAT I HAVE CREATED, I CAN ALSO DESTROY!



MY OPPONENT! HE BEGINS TO GLOW LIKE A NOVA!

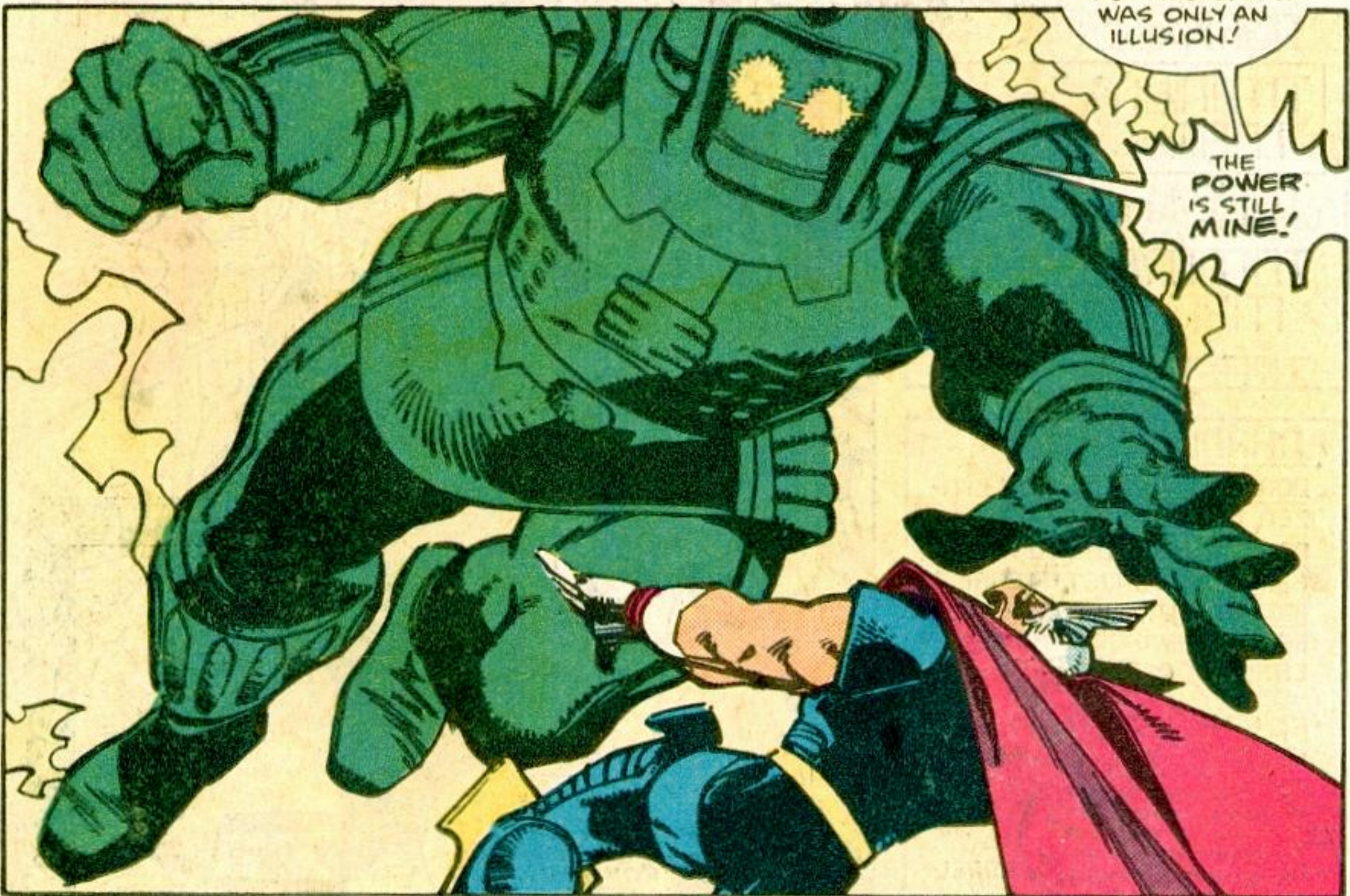
IS THIS SOME NEW WEAPON OR--



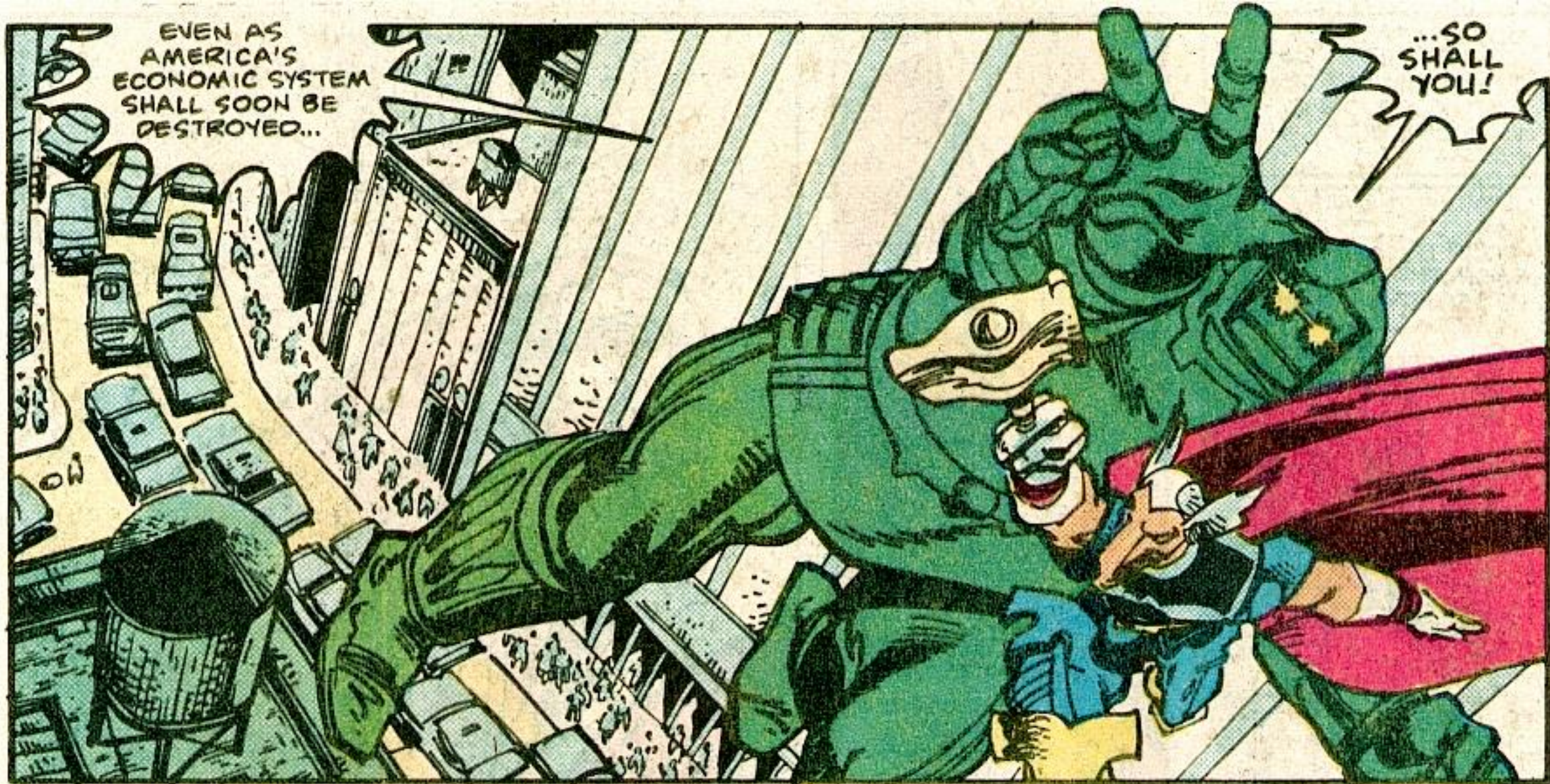
MY SCREENING CLOAK! IT'S SHORTING OUT! MY DISGUISE IS DISINTEGRATING!

SCHHROOSH

BUT NO MATTER! FOR THE CLOAK WAS ONLY AN ILLUSION!



THE POWER IS STILL MINE!



EVEN AS AMERICA'S ECONOMIC SYSTEM SHALL SOON BE DESTROYED...

...SO SHALL YOU!



WHILE BELOW...

THAT GUY SPEAKS FLUENT POLEMIC! CAPTAIN, WHAT'S GOING ON?

IT'S THE COMMANDER!

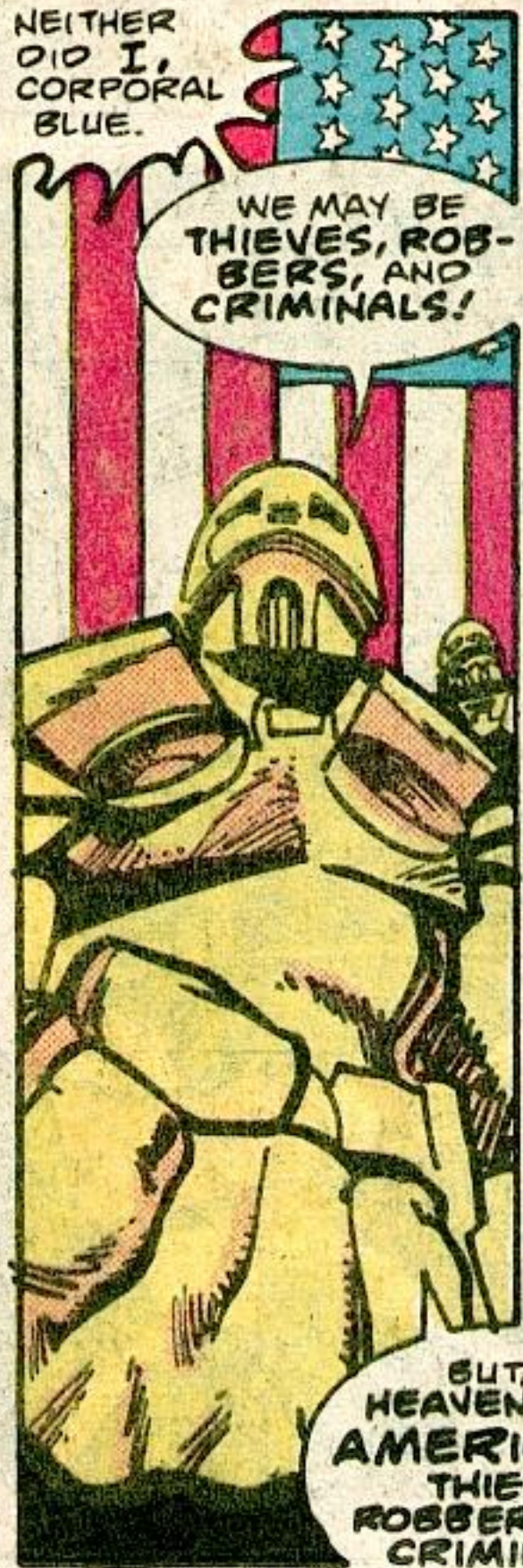
HE MUST HAVE BEEN WEARING SOME SORT OF ILLUSION CASTING DEVICE.

YEAH, BUT WHY? WHO IS HE?

ACTIVATE YOUR ARMOR'S IDENTIFICATION SCANNER!

- TIGER SHARK
- TIGRA
- TITANIUM MAN
- TORAD
- TOMORROW MAN
- TRAPSTER

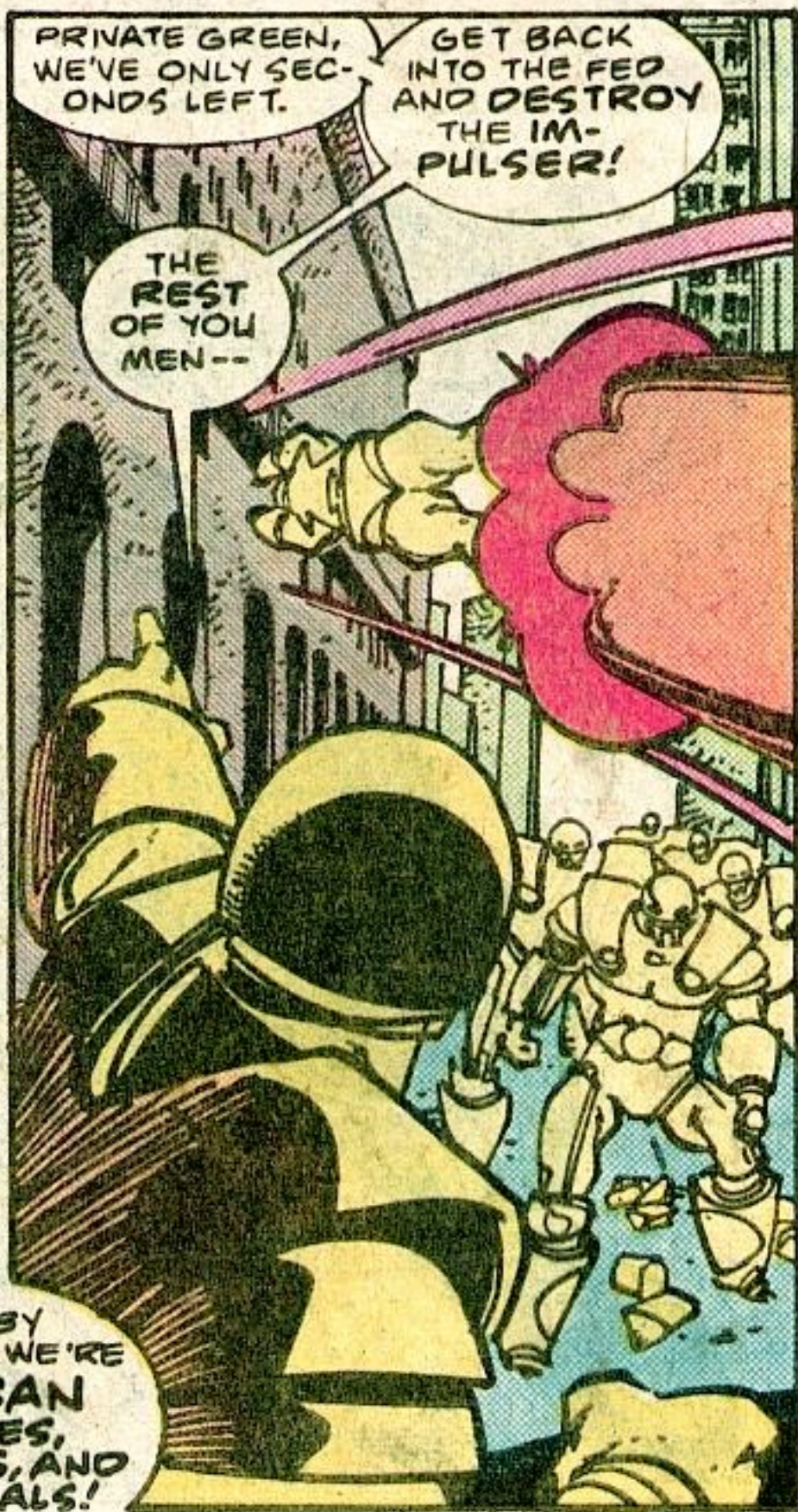
ENHANCEMENT:
BORIS BULLSKI, SOVIET CITIZEN, COMMUNIST PARTY MEMBER. KNOWN TO HAVE A PERSONAL VENDETTA AGAINST IRON MAN. FOUGHT AND DEFEATED BY IRON MAN SEVERAL TIMES.
 HE HAS A PERSONAL VENDETTA AGAINST IRON MAN.
 CAPTAIN, I DIDN'T FIGHT IN NAM FOR THREE YEARS TO HELP SOME COMMIE SHAPT MY OWN COUNTRY!



NEITHER DID I, CORPORAL BLUE.

WE MAY BE THIEVES, ROBBERS, AND CRIMINALS!

BUT, BY HEAVEN, WE'RE AMERICAN THIEVES, ROBBERS, AND CRIMINALS!



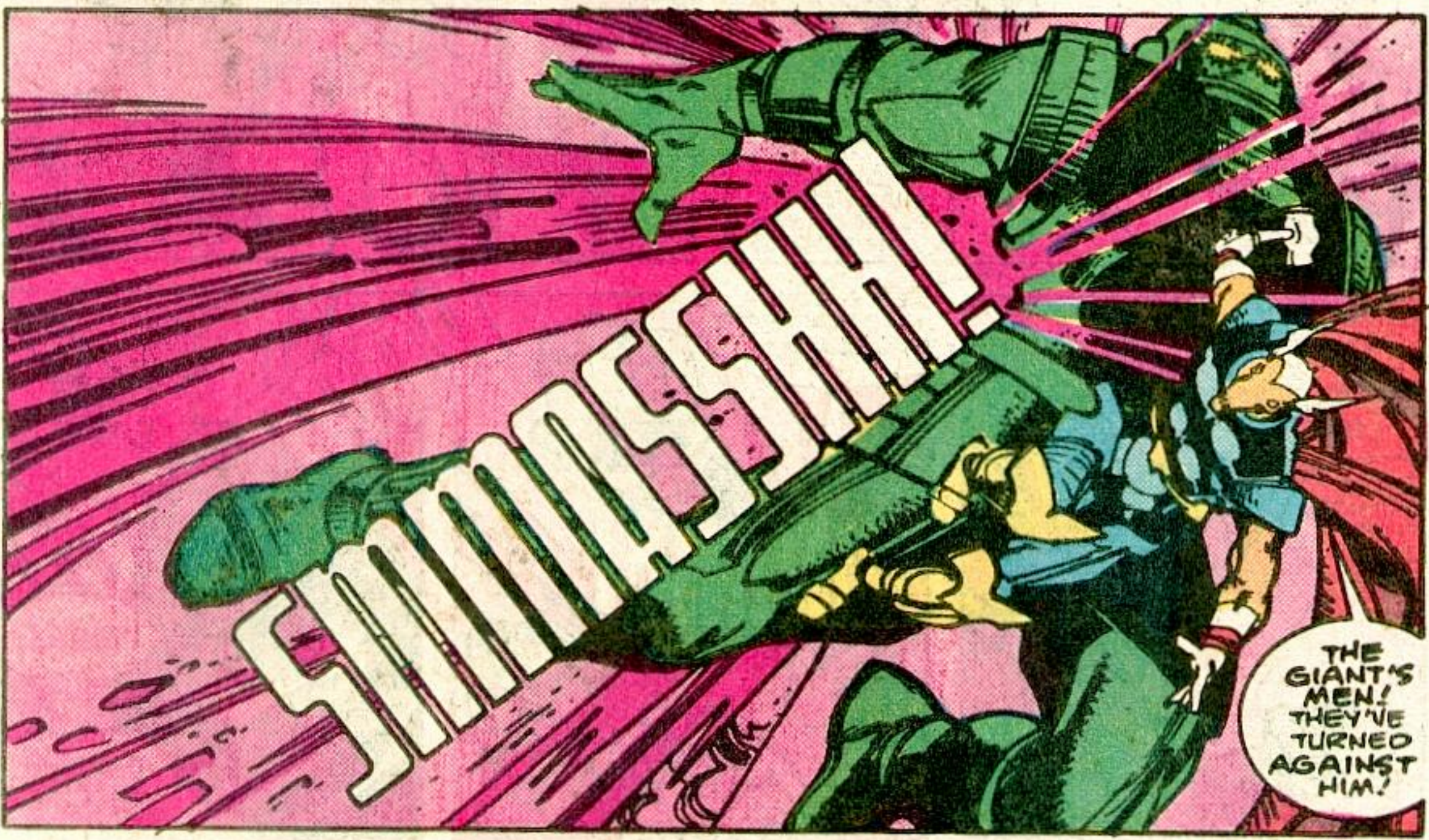
PRIVATE GREEN, WE'VE ONLY SECONDS LEFT.

GET BACK INTO THE FED AND DESTROY THE IMPULSER!

THE REST OF YOU MEN--

--FOLLOW ME!

WE'RE GOING TO SHOW THIS CREEP A LITTLE AMERICAN SOLIDARITY!



THE GIANT'S MEN! THEY'VE TURNED AGAINST HIM!



GET LOST, HORSE FACE.

THIS IS OUR FIGHT NOW! WE'VE GOT A SCORE TO SETTLE!

FTSAPP!



BWANNGG!

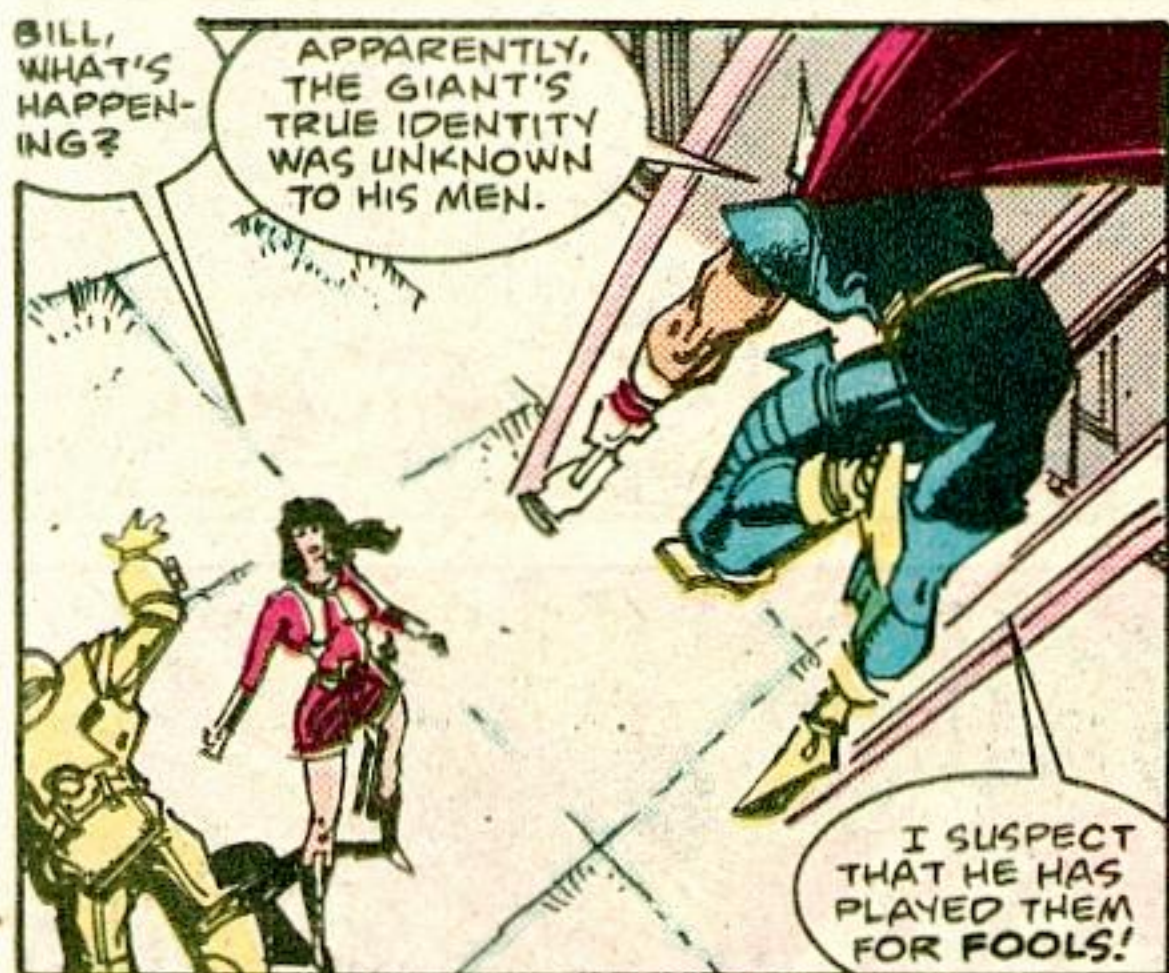
WE BEEN WAITIN' FOR A CHANCE LIKE THIS EVER SINCE WE LEFT SAIGON!



AND THIS TIME WE AREN'T GONNA BLOW IT!



WHRANNGE



BILL, WHAT'S HAPPENING?

APPARENTLY, THE GIANT'S TRUE IDENTITY WAS UNKNOWN TO HIS MEN.

I SUSPECT THAT HE HAS PLAYED THEM FOR FOOLS!



PSST! HEY, YOU FOLKS. YOU SEEM TO BE FIGHTING ON THE SIDE OF THE ANGELS.

I'VE GOT SOMETHING TO TELL YOU.



WHILE ABOVE...

TRAITORS. I SHALL TEAR YOU LIMB FROM LIMB!

NOT A CHANCE, FOUR-EYES!

THERE ARE TOO MANY OF US AND THE ARMOR YOU GAVE US IS TOO GOOD!



WE'RE GONNA TAKE YOU APART PIECE BY---

SHRAKK!



RAAAA!

UGHH!!

CAPTAIN BLACK IS RIGHT! SERGEI HAS DONE HIS WORK TOO WELL. THEIR ARMOR IS SUPERB!



THOUGH INDIVIDUALLY I COULD DESTROY ANY OF THEM, THEY SWARM ABOUT ME LIKE FLIES!

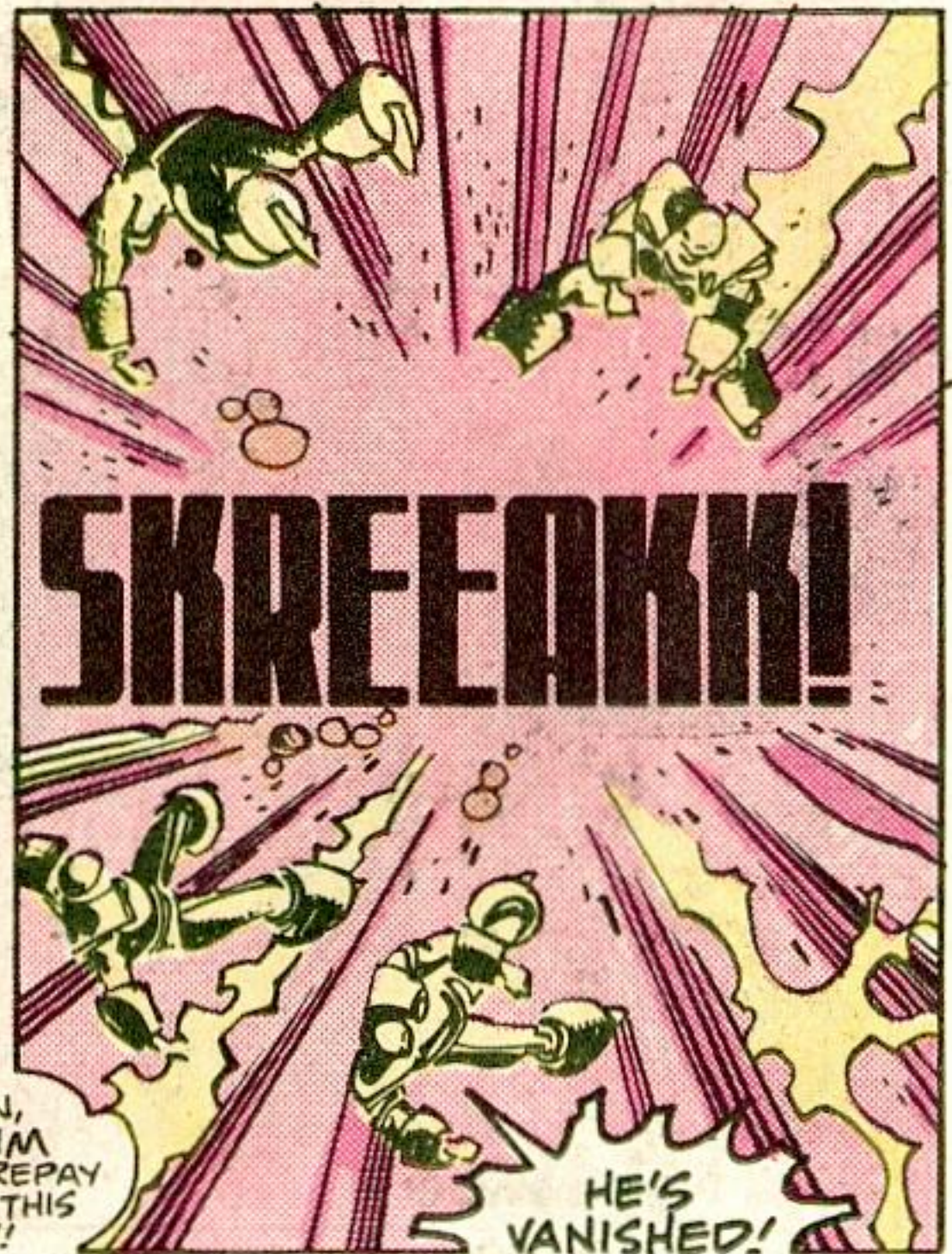
AND SHOULD THEY BREACH MY SUIT'S PROTECTIVE ARMOR, THEY MIGHT EVEN SUCCEED IN DESTROYING ME.



BUT I HAVE ONE LAST TRICK THAT EVEN THEY ARE UNAWARE OF!

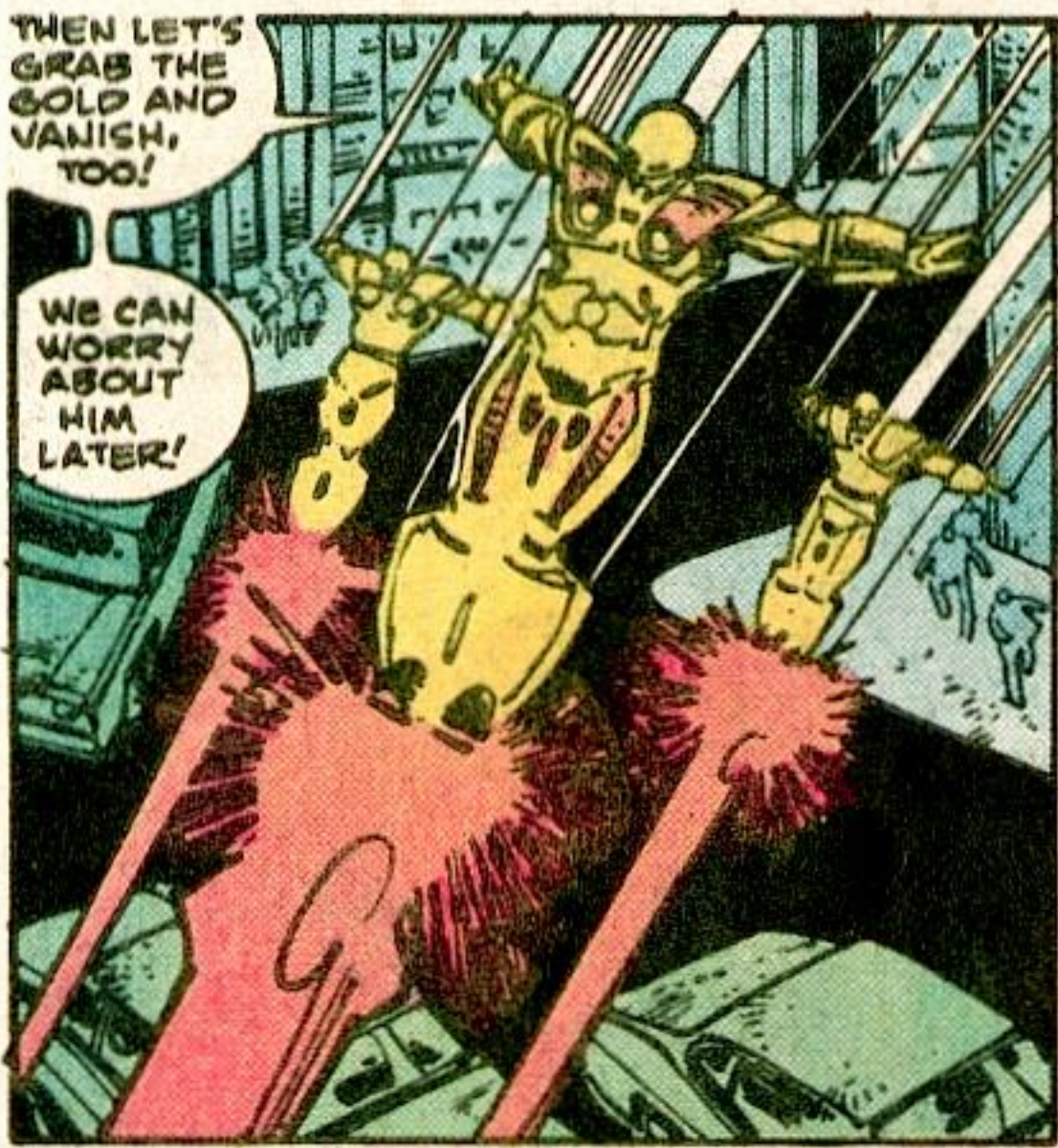
click!

AND SOON, THE TITANIUM MAN SHALL REPAY THEM FOR THIS INDIGNITY!



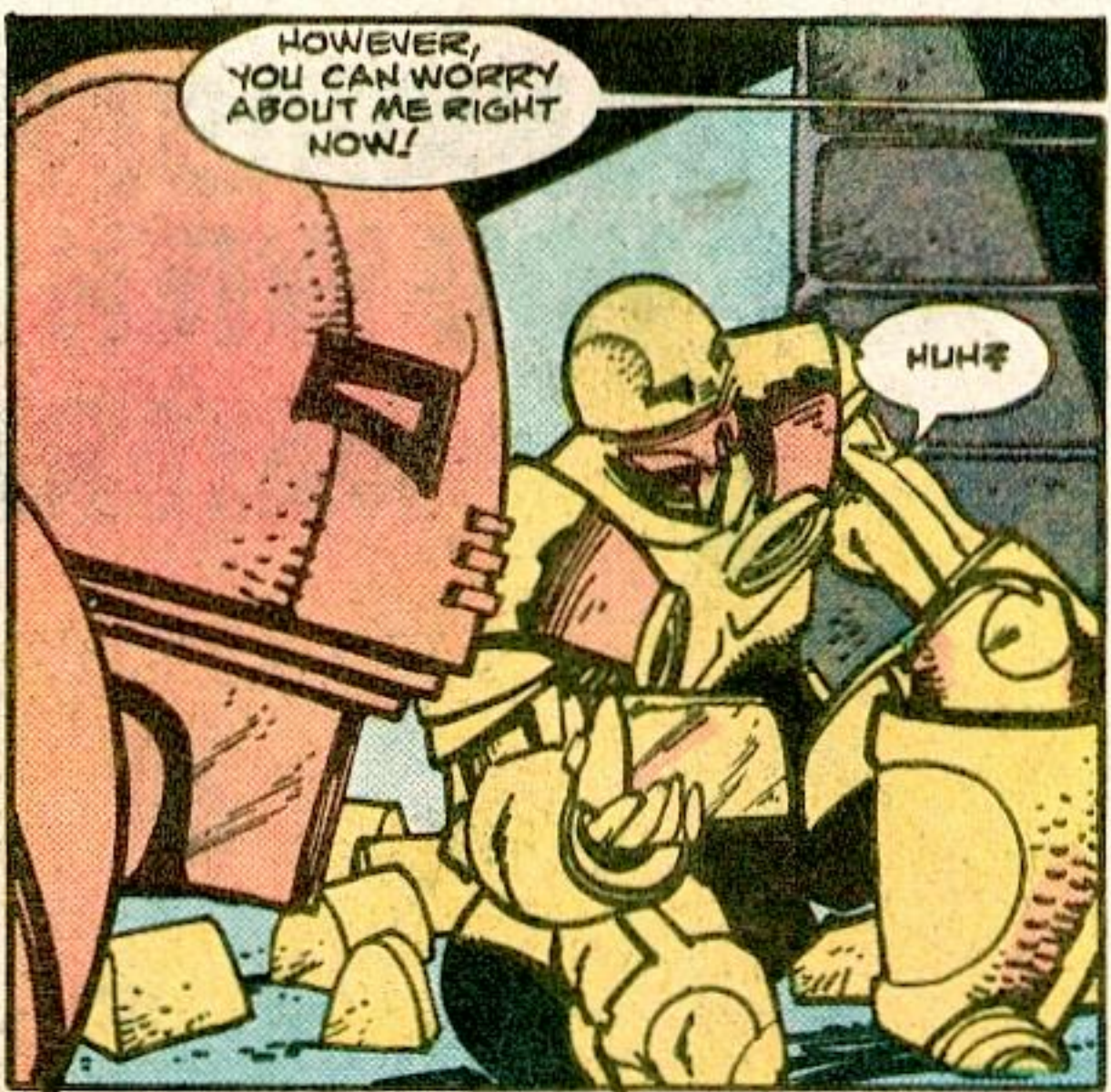
SKREEEAAA!

HE'S VANISHED!



THEN LET'S GRAB THE GOLD AND VANISH, TOO!

WE CAN WORRY ABOUT HIM LATER!



HOWEVER, YOU CAN WORRY ABOUT ME RIGHT NOW!

HUH?



DON'T KID YOURSELF, HORSE FACE!

YOU CAN'T STOP US ALL. YOU SAW WHAT HAPPENED TO THE LAST GUY WHO TRIED.

INDEED I DID. BUT I KNOW YOUR SECRET NOW AND I HAVE A WEAPON HE DID NOT POSSESS.

DO YOU RECOGNIZE IT?

THE CONTROL MODULE!



PRECISELY! THE DEVICE THAT ACTIVATES YOUR TRANSFORMATION FROM ARMORED FIGHTING MEN TO TINY CARDS SPRINKLED ABOUT THE GROUND.

BUT I AM A FIGHTING MAN MYSELF AND I DEEM THAT YOU HAVE DONE AN HONORABLE DEED THIS DAY.

I AM LOATHE TO TAKE YOU PRISONERS.



STILL, I CANNOT PERMIT YOU TO KEEP THE SUITS. IN YOUR HANDS, THEY ARE TOO DANGEROUS.

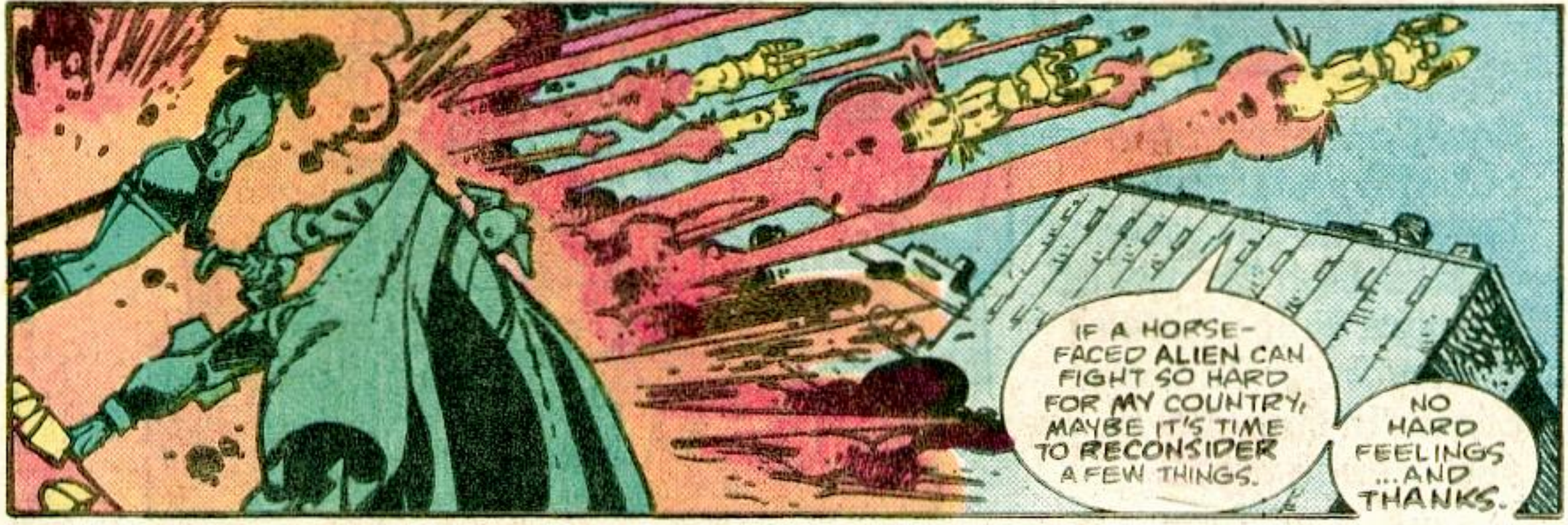
SO IN FIVE MINUTES, I WILL ACTIVATE THE CONTROLS AND THE SUITS WILL ONCE AGAIN BE REDUCED TO MERE CARDS.

AS WILL YOU BE IF YOU ARE STILL INSIDE THEM.

USE THE FIVE MINUTES WISELY, GENTLEMEN.

YOU CALLED IT, MISTER.

IT DOES MAKE A MAN WONDER, THOUGH.



IF A HORSE-FACED ALIEN CAN FIGHT SO HARD FOR MY COUNTRY, MAYBE IT'S TIME TO RECONSIDER A FEW THINGS.

NO HARD FEELINGS ... AND THANKS.

WHILE AMONG THE ONLOOKERS...

LOOKS LIKE THE WRAP UP.



I THINK THE STREETS ARE GONNA BE A LITTLE SAFER FOR A WHILE.

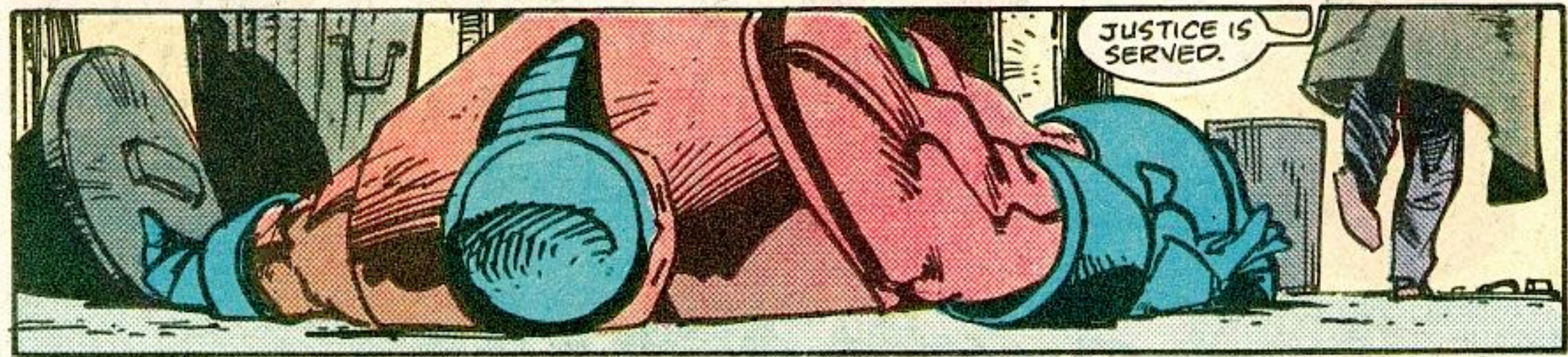
JUST KEEP DREAMING, BUD, 'CAUSE MEGAT-TAK'S BACK! AND ABOUT TO HIT TOWN AGAIN!



OUTA MY WAY, GRAMPS.



PUM!



JUSTICE IS SERVED.

BUT THESE EVENTS PASS UN- NOTICED AS ON THE STREET...

OUR ERSTWHILE FOES SHOWED GREAT COURAGE.

STRANGE HOW NOBILITY WALKS HAND IN HAND WITH BASER INSTINCTS IN MEN.

AND YET, THEY DID NOT HESITATE TO ACT AT THE MOMENT OF DECISION.

SUCH IS THE MORTAL WAY, BILL.

THEIR LIFESPAN IS SO SHORT THAT THEY HAVE LEARNED TO THINK AND ACT IN A SINGLE INSTANT!

AND I HAVE LEARNED MUCH FROM THEM IN OUR FEW DAYS HERE, BILL. MORE THAN I CAN SAY.



OUR OWN TIME NOW GROWS SHORT TILL YOU MUST RETURN TO YOUR WAITING PEOPLE...

...AND I TO ASSGARD AND THOR.



SO LET US NOT COUNT THE MINUTES TILL WE MUST PART...



... BUT SPEND THEM RECKLESSLY LIKE MORTALS AS THOUGH WE HAD ALL THE TIME IN THE WORLD.

THE RED HOOK DISTRICT, BROOKLYN...

HE'S HERE!

THE INDICATOR LIGHTS SHOW THAT THE MATTER TRANSMITTER HAS FUNCTIONED PERFECTLY...

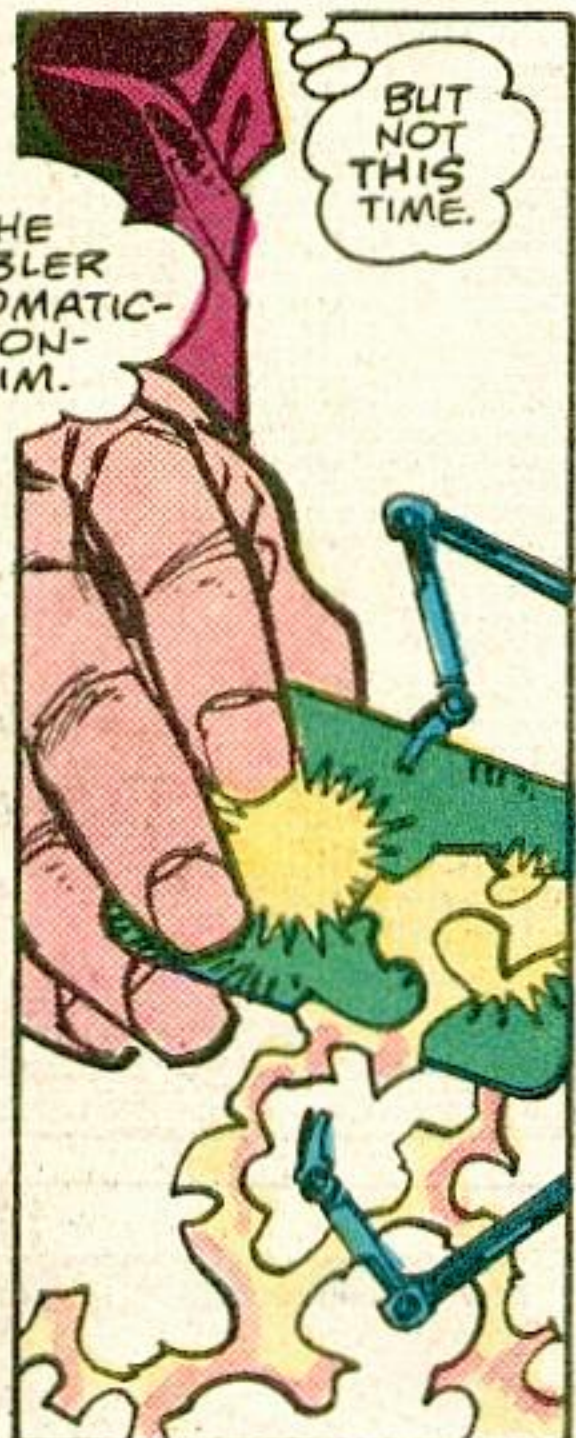
... READY TO RELEASE THIS MENACE UPON THE WORLD AGAIN.

BUT NOT THIS TIME.

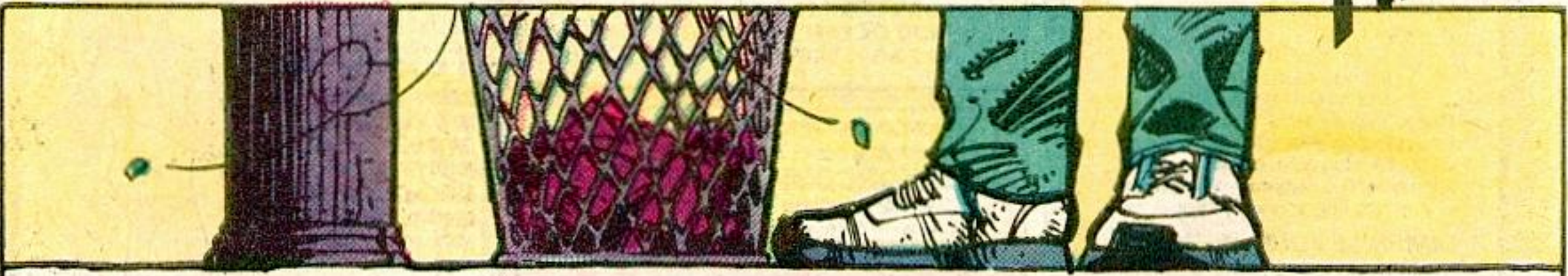
IN SIX HOURS, THE DESCRAMBLER WILL AUTOMATICALLY RECONSTRUCT HIM.

...AND BROUGHT HIM BACK.

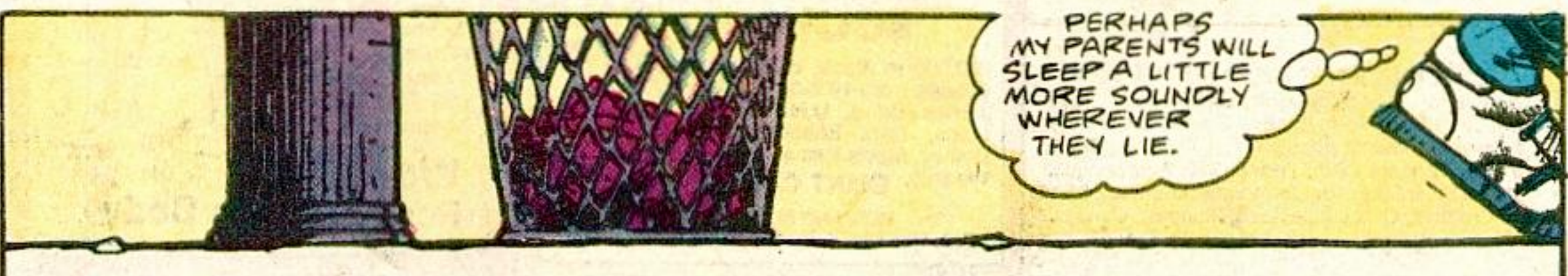
ALL THE EQUIPMENT I DESIGNED, ALL THE LABOR I WAS FORCED TO DO...

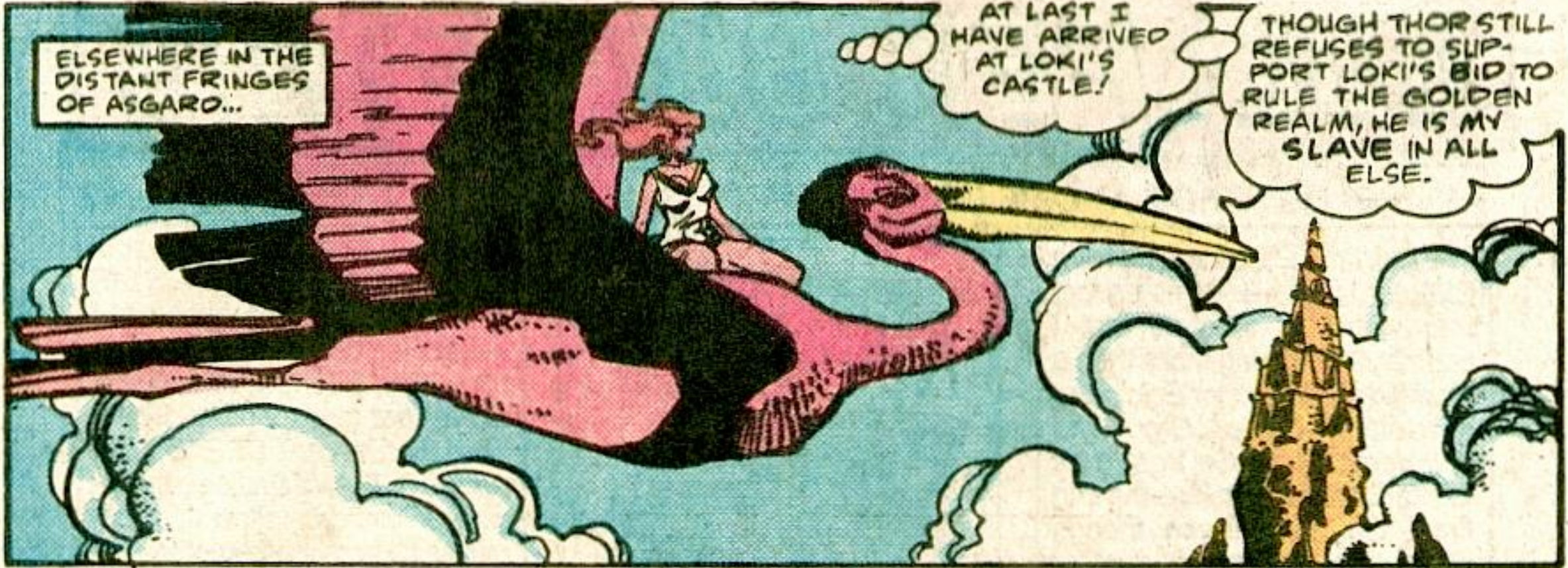


RIPP!



PERHAPS MY PARENTS WILL SLEEP A LITTLE MORE SOUNDLY WHEREVER THEY LIE.





ELSEWHERE IN THE DISTANT FRINGES OF ASGARD...

AT LAST I HAVE ARRIVED AT LOKI'S CASTLE!

THOUGH THOR STILL REFUSES TO SUPPORT LOKI'S BID TO RULE THE GOLDEN REALM, HE IS MY SLAVE IN ALL ELSE.



AND THE MAGICGED AIR HE BREATHEES SHALL EVENTUALLY MAKE HIM MINE EVEN IN THAT!

IN THE MEANTIME, I THINK LOKI AND I SHOULD TALK.



FOR HE HAD BEST TREAT ME AS I DESERVE IF HE WISHES TO REMAIN MY FRIEND!

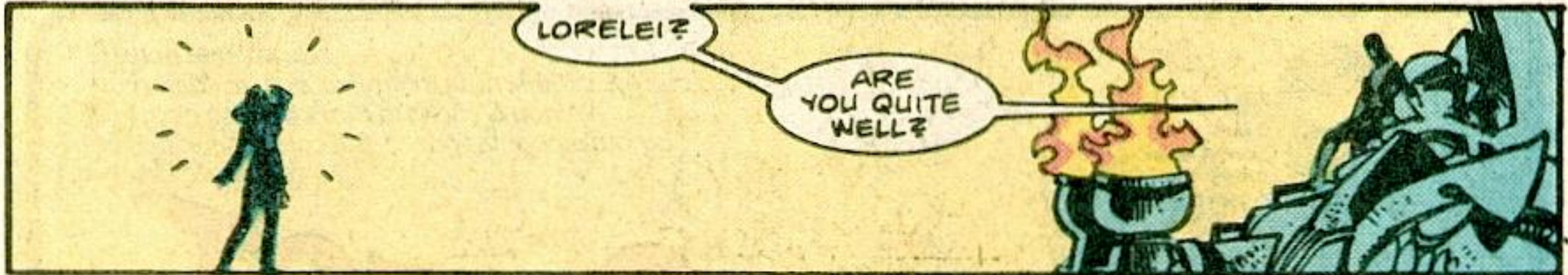
SHOULD I DECIDE TO BECOME THE QUEEN OF ASGARD, THOR WILL NOT SAY ME NAY!



LORELEI!

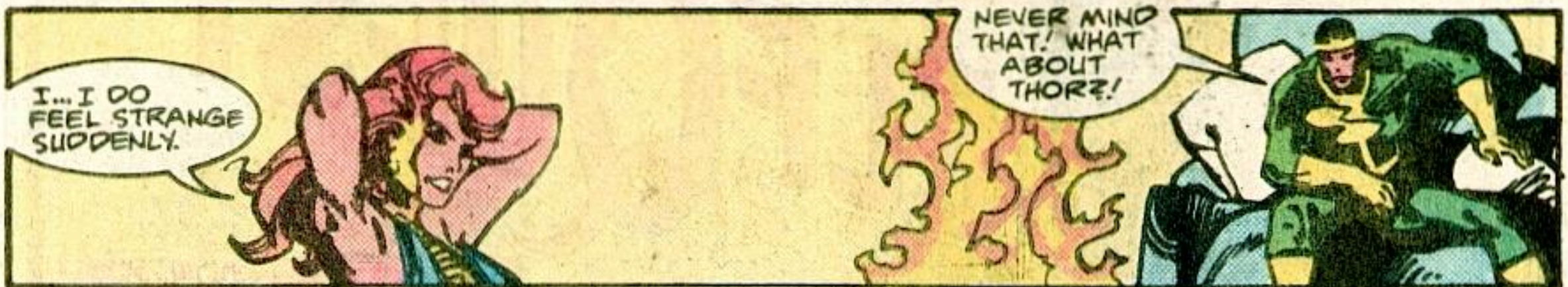
GREETINGS, LOKI! I HAVE COME TO TELL YOU THAT...

...THAT...



LORELEI?

ARE YOU QUITE WELL?



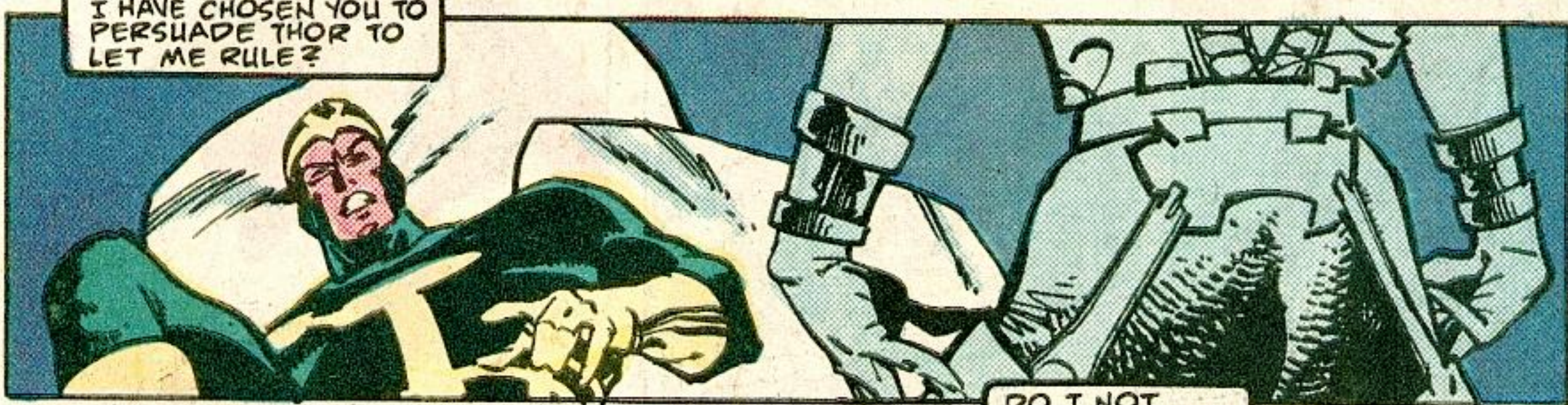
I... I DO FEEL STRANGE SUDDENLY.

NEVER MIND THAT! WHAT ABOUT THOR?

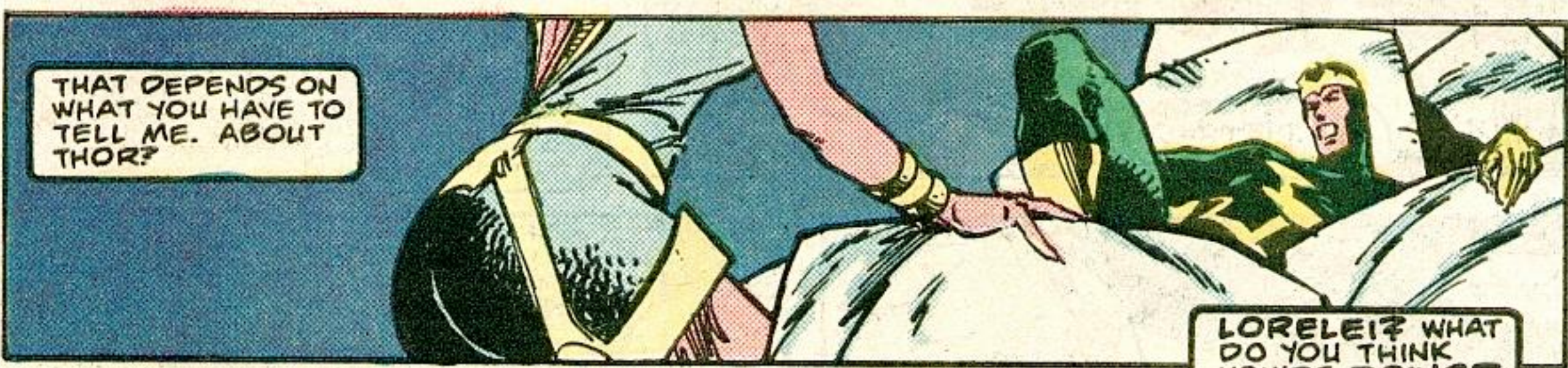


AM I NOT BEAUTIFUL, LOKI?

YES, OF COURSE YOU ARE. WHY ELSE WOULD I HAVE CHOSEN YOU TO PERSUADE THOR TO LET ME RULE?



DO I NOT PLEASE THEE?



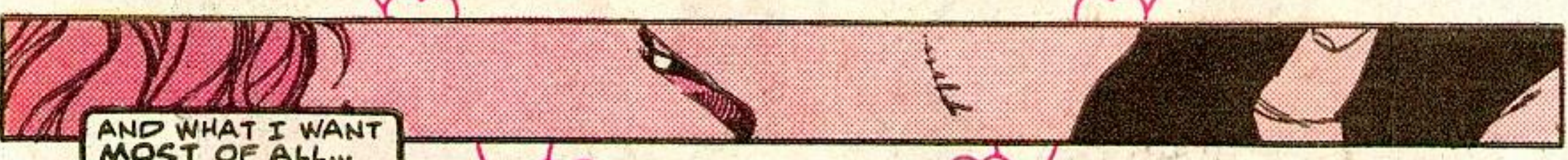
THAT DEPENDS ON WHAT YOU HAVE TO TELL ME. ABOUT THOR?

LORELEI? WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?



I ALWAYS GET WHAT I WANT, LOKI.

LORELEI!



AND WHAT I WANT MOST OF ALL...

LORELEI?

...IS YOU!

MEANWHILE, IN THE GOLDEN CITY ITSELF...

THOR, ART THOU WITHIN?

...HEIMDALL, ONE-TIME GUARDIAN OF THE RAINBOW BRIDGE, APPROACHES THE ENTRANCE TO THE HALLS OF...

STRANGE. THE AIR HATH JUST A TRACE OF A HEAVY, PERFUMED SCENT ABOUT IT, SOMETHING ALMOST PALPABLE...

THOR, I HAVE NEWS!
I HAVE BEEN EXPLORING THE RUINS OF THE CITY, MY LORD.

I FEAR I BRING ILL TIDINGS. THE DUNGEON OF NO-ESCAPE HATH BEEN DESTROYED IN THE BATTLE WITH SURTUR.*
AND MALEKITH THE ACCURSED IS NOWHERE TO BE FOUND!!

...WHICH EVEN NOW IS WAFED AWAY BY THE FRESH AIR FROM WITHOUT.

*THOR 351-353

THOR?
SHE IS RIGHT, HEIMDALL!

I AM FINALLY RESOLVED ON THE COURSE OF ACTION I MUST TAKE!
AND I WILL ASSIST MY STEP-BROTHER, WHATEVER THE COST!
MY LORD?
THE THRONE OF ASGARD MUST BE LOKI'S!!

I CAN SEE CLEARLY NOW, PERHAPS FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MY LIFE!

DEXE THE GRAND ALLIANCE!

THE STORY YOU NEVER THOUGHT YOU'D SEE - BUT CAN'T WAIT TO READ! (TAKE OUR WORD FOR IT!)