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# the mighty THOR

**ODIN  
LIVES!**



...AND  
ASGARD™ **DIES!**

FRENZ & VILLAGRAN

STAN LEE  
PRESENTS: *the* **MIGHTY THOR**

# "WHEN ASGARD DIES"

A SUDDEN BURST OF LIGHTNING SCARS  
THE HEAVENS ABOVE NEW YORK CITY,  
AND ALL EYES ABRUPTLY TURN UPWARD...

LOOK!  
UP IN THE  
SKY--!

NO! I-IT'S  
NOT  
POSSIBLE--!

WHAT IS IT,  
DAD? WHAT'S  
GOING ON UP  
THERE?

I... I'M  
NOT SURE,  
KEVIN!

**TOM DeFALCO**  
WRITER

**RON FRENZ**  
PENCILER

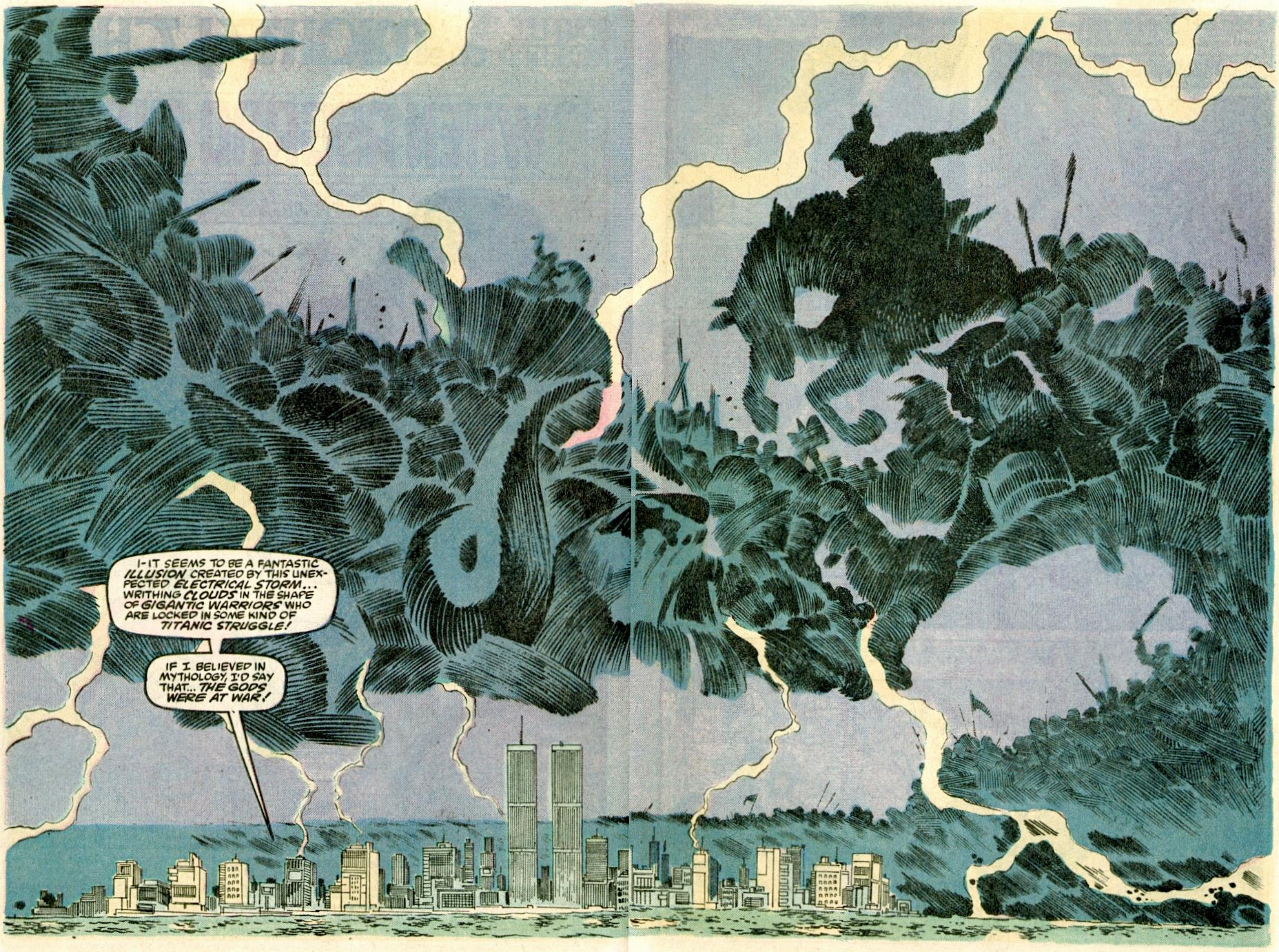
**ROMEO TANGHAL**  
INKER

**RICK PARKER**  
LETTERS

**MAX SCHEELE**  
COLOR


**RALF MACCHIO**  
EDITOR

THOR Vol. 1, No. 399, January, 1989. (ISSN 0274-533X) Published by MARVEL COMICS, A NEW WORLD COMPANY, James E. Gailton, 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 © 1988 by Marvel Entertainment Group, Inc. All rights reserved. Price 75c per copy in the U.S. and 95c in Canada. Subscription rate \$9.00 for 12 issues. Canada and Foreign, \$41.00. 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. MARVEL and THOR (including all prominent characters featured in this issue and the distinctive likenesses thereof) are trademarks of the MARVEL ENTERTAINMENT GROUP, INC. **POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO SUBSCRIPTION DEPARTMENT, 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, 9TH FLOOR, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016.**



I-IT SEEMS TO BE A FANTASTIC  
ILLUSION CREATED BY THIS UNEX-  
PECTED ELECTRICAL STORM...  
WRITHING CLOUDS IN THE SHAPE  
OF GIGANTIC WARRIORS WHO  
ARE LOCKED IN SOME KIND OF  
TITANIC STRUGGLE!

IF I BELIEVED IN  
MYTHOLOGY, I'D SAY  
THAT... *THE GODS*  
WERE AT WAR!



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ILLUSION CREATED BY THIS UNEX-  
PECTED ELECTRICAL STORM...  
WRITHING CLOUDS IN THE SHAPE  
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IF I BELIEVED IN  
MYTHOLOGY, I'D SAY  
THAT... THE GODS  
WERE AT WAR!





I DON'T WANT TO **ALARM** KEVIN... BUT I'M CONVINCED THOSE CLOUDS ARE A LOT MORE THAN SOME FREAK MANIFESTATION!

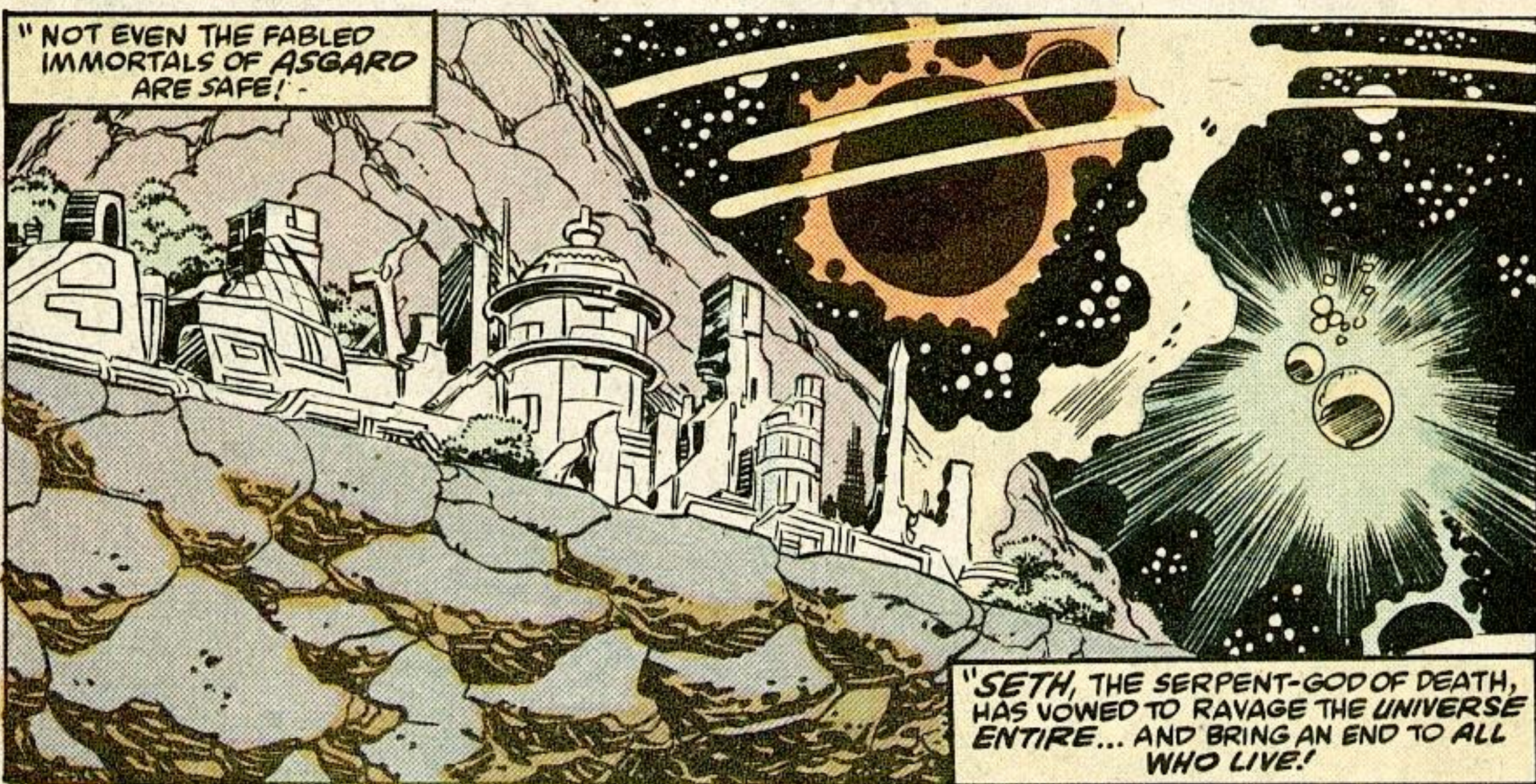
C'MON, SON! LET'S FIND **COVER** BEFORE WE'RE CAUGHT IN A DOWNPOUR!

**RUN, MORTAL...**



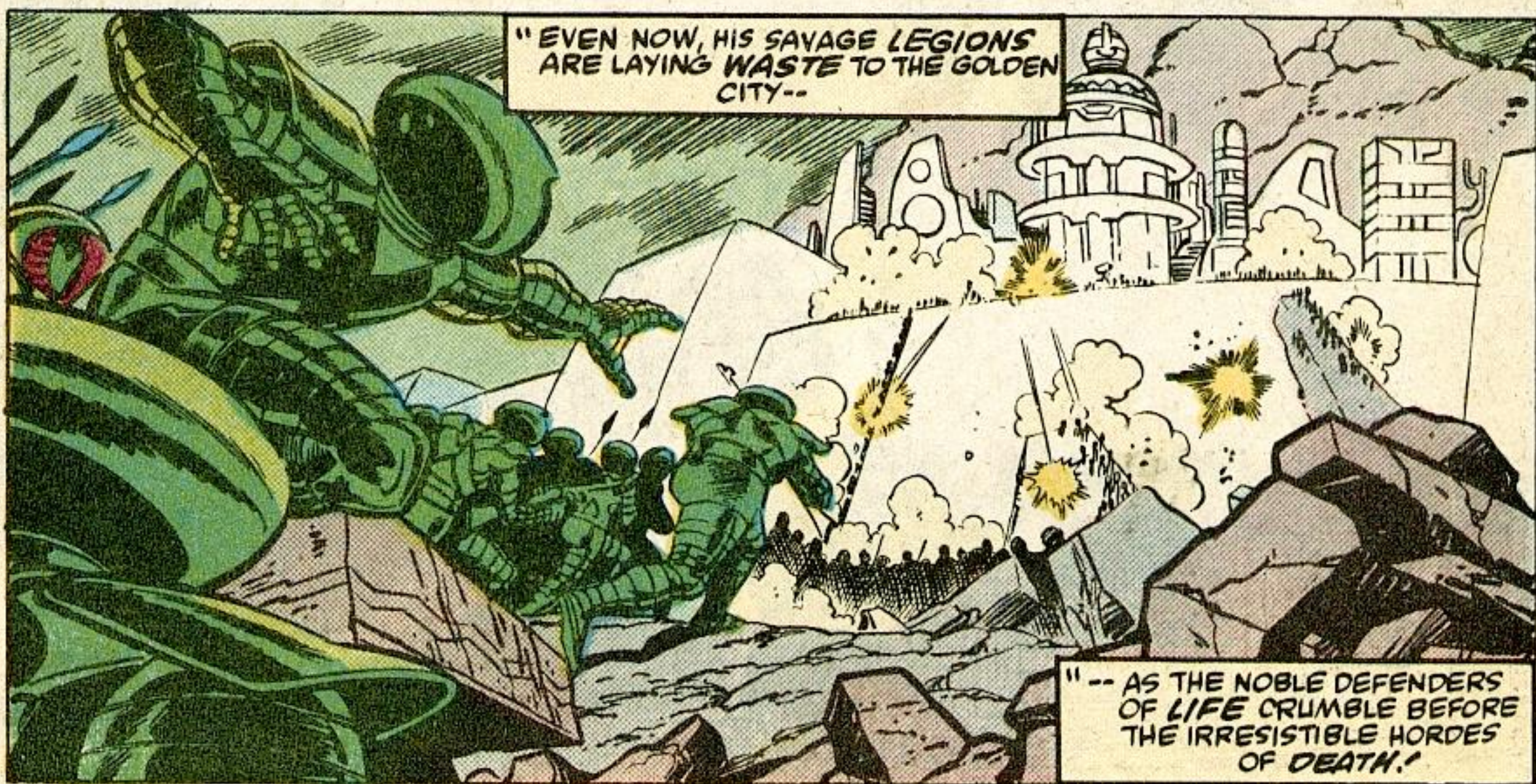
... BUT NO **SHELTER** SHALT THOU FIND THIS EVE!

NONE CAN **HIDE** FROM THE BRUTAL **CONFLAGRATION** WHICH NOW **THREATENS** TO CONSUME THE **LIGHT OF LIFE!**



"NOT EVEN THE FABLED IMMORTALS OF **ASGARD** ARE SAFE!"

"**SETH**, THE SERPENT-GOD OF DEATH, HAS VOWED TO RAVAGE THE **UNIVERSE** ENTIRE... AND BRING AN END TO ALL WHO LIVE!"



"EVEN NOW, HIS SAVAGE **LEGIONS** ARE LAYING **WASTE** TO THE **GOLDEN CITY**--

"-- AS THE NOBLE DEFENDERS OF **LIFE** CRUMBLE BEFORE THE IRRESISTIBLE HORDES OF **DEATH!**

"IF THEY HAD ANY **SENSE**, MY ASGARDIAN BRETHREN WOULD **FLEE** IN STARK TERROR... BUT, WITH NAUGHT BUT MERE **STRENGTH** AND **COURAGE**, THEY SEEK TO **DEFEAT** THE SINISTER SERPENT-GOD!"

STAND YE  
READY!

OUR ENEMIES  
ATTACK--!

THE **CELTIC GODS OF  
AVALON** ARE EVER  
PREPARED FOR BATTLE,  
NORSEMAN!

LEIR KNOWS NOT THAT I PRESENTLY  
POSSESS THE **POWER OF THOR**--  
WHICH OF UTMOST NECESSITY I BORROWED  
TO **PROTECT** ASGARD-- THOUGH IT LEFT  
THE THUNDERER'S MIGHT HALVED!

MY NAME IS **BALDER**,  
CELT... BALDER THE  
BRAVE, THE **SOVEREIGN  
SUPREME** OF ASGARD!

BY **DANU**--! HE HURLED  
THAT **MASSIVE CHUNK** OF  
DEBRIS AS IF IT WERE A  
CHILD'S PLAYTHING!

YOU HAVE DONE **WELL**,  
BALDER! NOW, **STAND  
BACK-BACK--!**

WATCH IN WONDERMENT  
AS THE SACRED SPEAR OF  
**LEIR, THE LORD OF  
LIGHTNING**, SHATTERS  
YOUR MISSILE--

-- SO THAT THE SKIES RAIN **MOLTEN  
SHARDS** OF STONE AND METAL  
UPON OUR **ADVANCING FOEMEN**!

ALL ALONG THE CASTLE WALLS WHICH SURROUND THE INNER CITY, THE DEFENDERS OF ASGARD COURAGEOUSLY STAND THEIR GROUND!

LEIR AND BALDER HAVE DONE THEIR PART, TYR!

AND WE SHALL DO OURS, LADY SIF!



FOR A TIMELESS TIME THE BATTLE RAGES, FAST AND FURIOUS, AND THEN...

BEHOLD!! THE ENEMY FALLS BACK--!

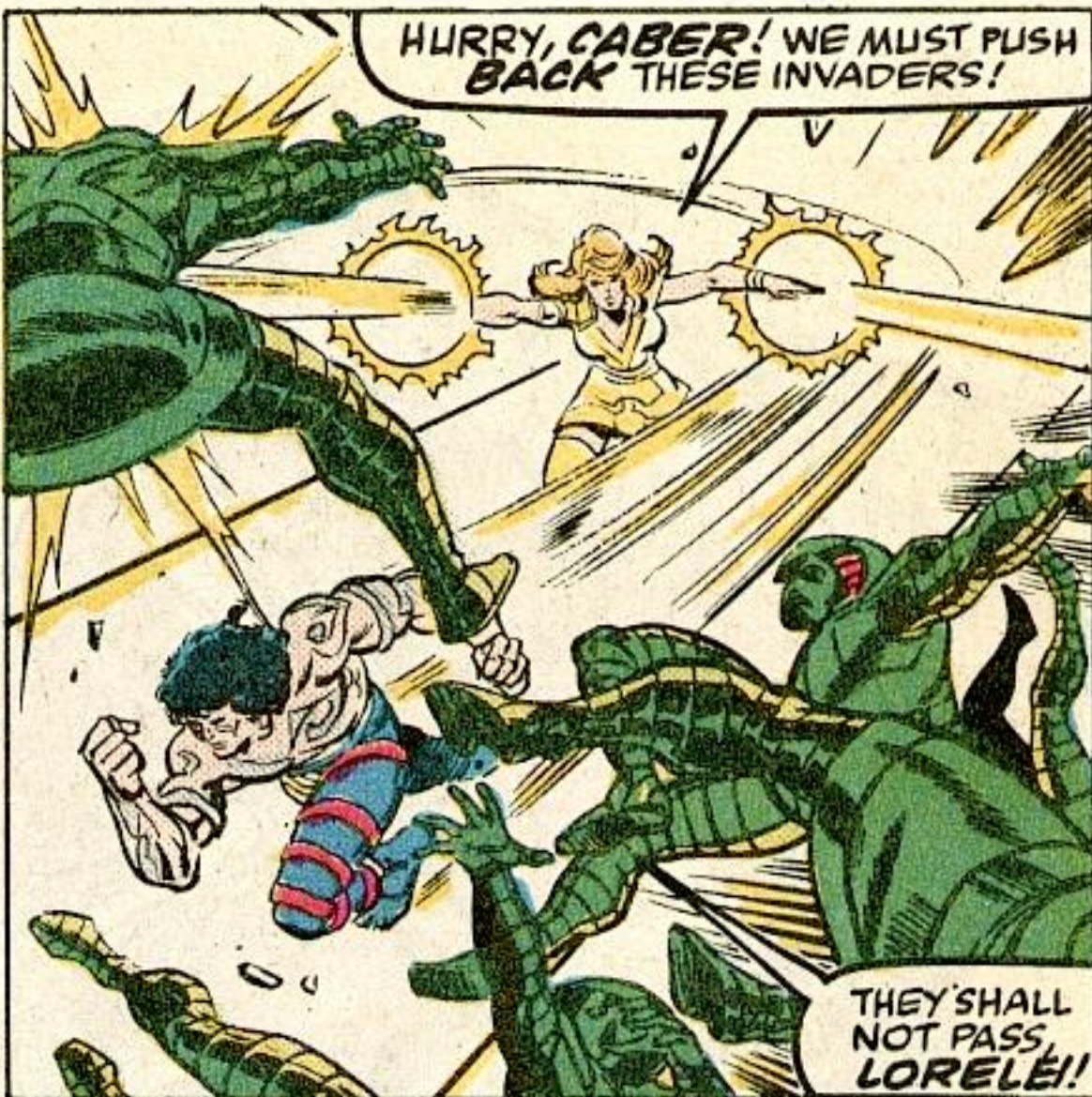
NOW IS OUR CHANCE TO CRUSH THEM!

NO! THEY MAY WANT US TO FOLLOW THEM!



HURRY, CABER! WE MUST PUSH BACK THESE INVADERS!

THEY SHALL NOT PASS, LORELEI!



BAH! I'M NOT AFRAID! ONLY A COWARD WOULD STAY BEHIND AND MEEKLY AWAIT THEIR NEXT ATTACK!

AND ONLY A BOISTEROUS FOOL WOULD RACE INTO SUCH AN OBVIOUS TRAP!

CEASE THIS PETTY BICKERING AT ONCE!!

ENOUGH--!



FOR COUNTLESS GENERATIONS, CELTS AND ASGARDIANS HAVE BEEN HEREDITARY ENEMIES... BUT WE NOW FIGHT IN COMMON CAUSE--

FOR THE PRESERVATION OF LIFE ITSELF!!



POOR BALDER! METHERINKS HE COULD USE A HELPING HAND!

AND, EVEN AS DAGDA, THE CELTIC DRUID, STEPS FORWARD... OTHER EYES OBSERVE THE LORD OF ASGARD WITH INTENSE INTEREST!

BEHOLD, MY LADY, BALDER STILL LIVES--

-- BUT NOT FOR LONG! HEH-HEH-HEH!



IN THE CAVERN KINGDOM OF THE **NORNS**, THE WITCH QUEEN **KARNILLA** PONDER'S THE FATE OF THE GOD SHE PRIZES ABOVE ALL OTHERS...

BE SILENT,  
YOU OLD HAG!

SHE'S RIGHT! ASGARD IS  
DESTINED TO **FALL** BENEATH  
THE FANGS OF SETH... BUT,  
WHAT OF **BALDER**?!

ALL OF MY **MAGICKS**  
ARE NEEDED TO PROTECT  
MY OWN KINGDOM... AND  
TO KEEP MY PEOPLE **IN-  
VISIBLE** AND **UNDE-  
TECTABLE** TO THE  
INVADING HORDES!

I CANNOT RISK  
**REVEALING** OUR  
PRESENCE TO SETH...  
AND, YET, MY HEART  
**DEMANDS** THAT I  
AID MY LOVE! BUT,  
**HOW? HOW?!**

WHERE DO MY **TRUE**  
LOYALTIES LIE? AM I  
NOT A **QUEEN** ABOVE  
ALL ELSE... OR, ONLY A  
**WOMAN** IN LOVE?!

MEANWHILE, AN INCOMPUTABLE DISTANCE AWAY... THE TOP LEVEL OF THE **BLACK PYRAMID**, WHICH STANDS AT THE VERY CENTER OF SETH'S **DIMENSION OF DEATH**, IS THE SCENE OF AN **UNEXPECTED, BUT NO LESS POIGNANT, REUNION** BETWEEN FATHER AND SON...

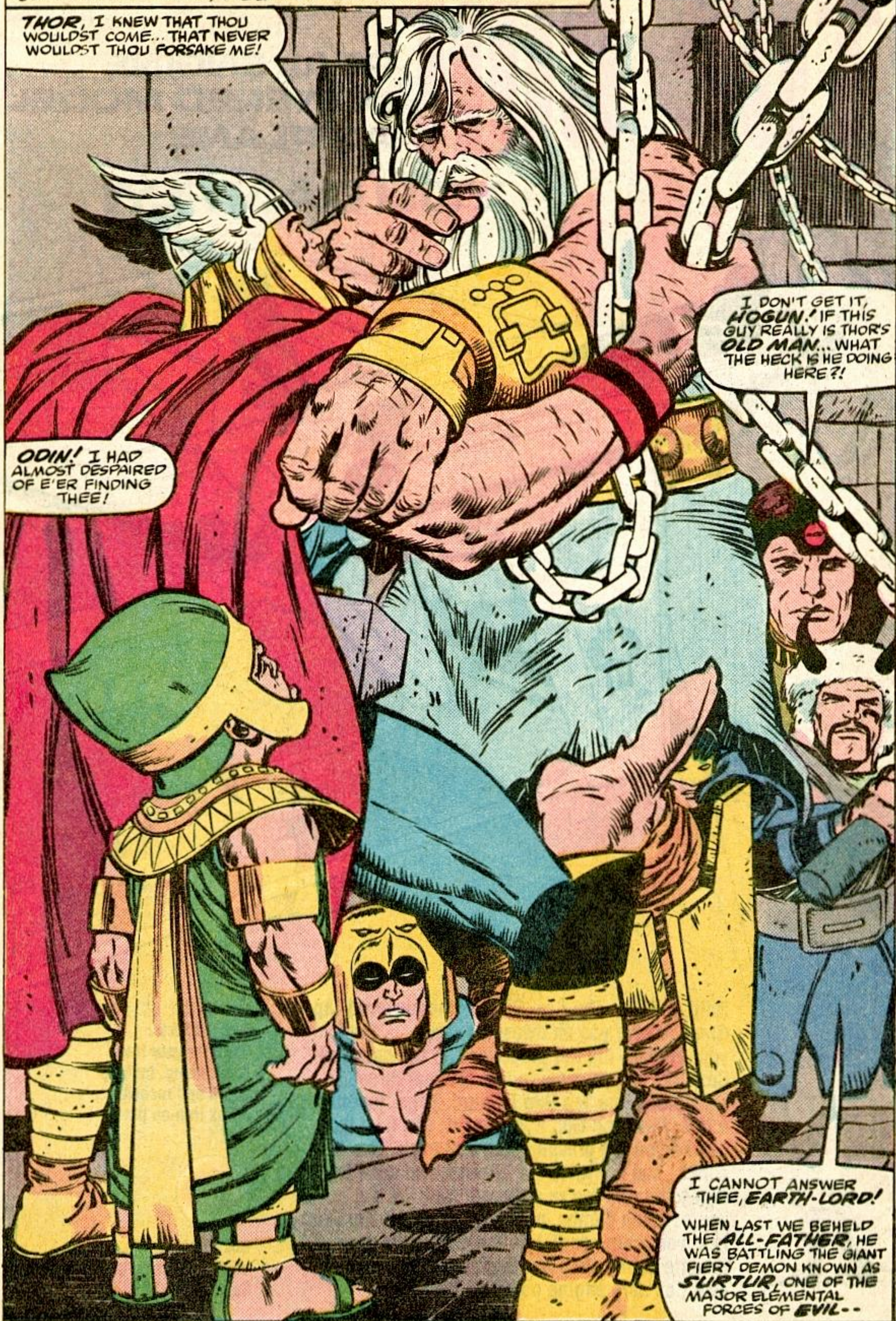
THOR, I KNEW THAT THOU WOULDST COME... THAT NEVER WOULDST THOU FORSAKE ME!

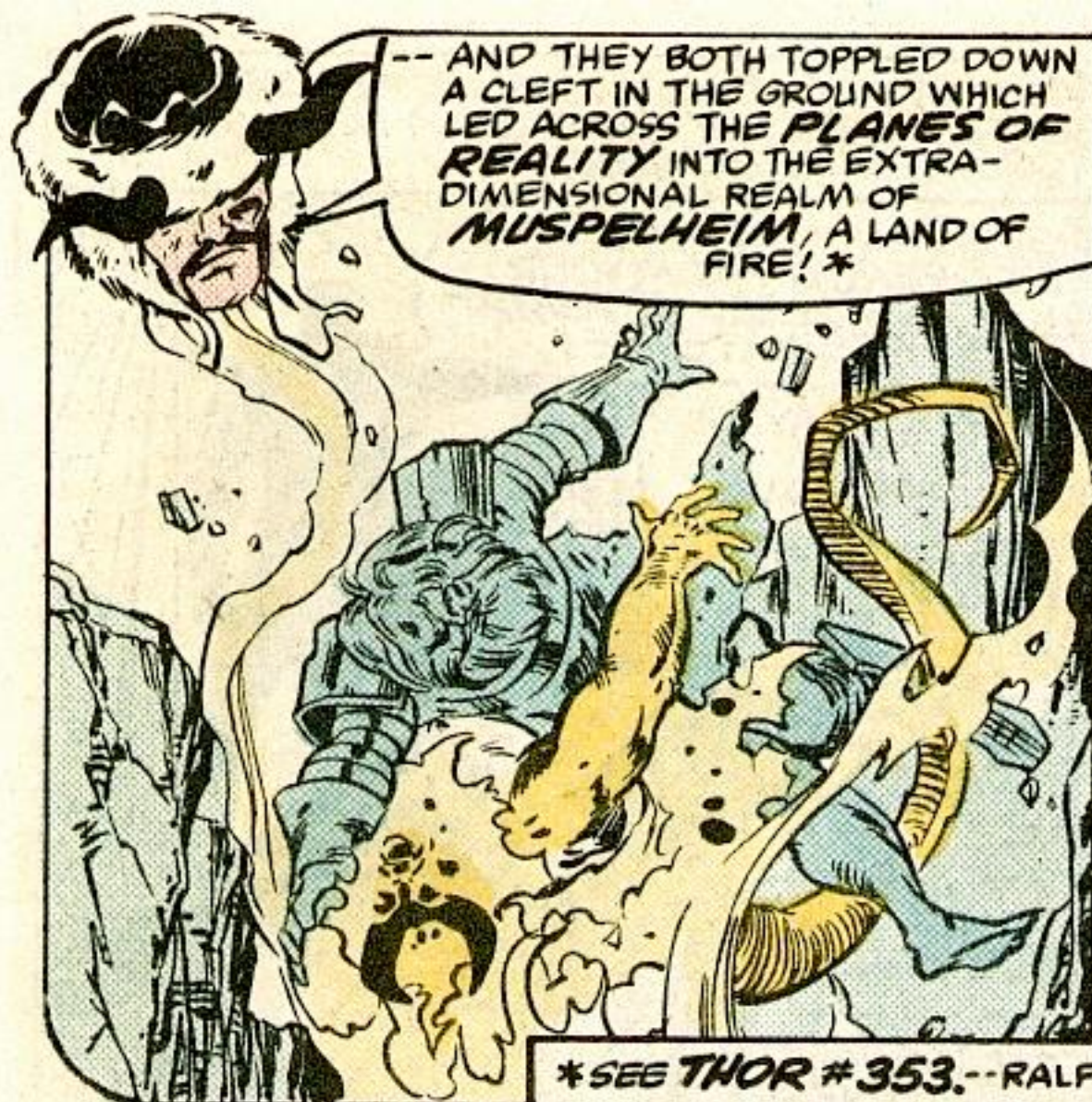
I DON'T GET IT, **HOGUN**! IF THIS GUY REALLY IS THOR'S **OLD MAN**... WHAT THE HECK IS HE DOING HERE?!

ODIN! I HAD ALMOST DESPAIRED OF E'ER FINDING THEE!

I CANNOT ANSWER THEE, **EARTH-LORD**!

WHEN LAST WE BEHELD THE **ALL-FATHER**, HE WAS BATTLING THE GIANT FIERY DEMON KNOWN AS **SURTUR**, ONE OF THE MAJOR ELEMENTAL FORCES OF **EVIL**...





-- AND THEY BOTH TOPPLED DOWN A CLEFT IN THE GROUND WHICH LED ACROSS THE **PLANES OF REALITY** INTO THE EXTRA-DIMENSIONAL REALM OF **MUSPELHEIM**, A LAND OF FIRE! \*

\*SEE THOR #353.--RALF



THIS IS ALL **VERY TOUCHING**... BUT LET'S NOT **FORGET** THAT SETH'S PEOPLE ARE STILL **SEARCHING** FOR US!

AYE, WE MUST **ESCAPE** THIS DIMENSION... AND RETURN TO **ASGARD**!



THEN, SHALL THERE COME AN **ENDING** TO THE ACCURSED ABOMINATION THAT IS **SETH**!!

FATHER, LET ME REMOVE THOSE **BINDINGS** FROM THY WRISTS!

**NO!** THERE IS STILL MUCH THOU MUST LEARN MY SON, BUT--**WAIT!!**



**BWAMM BWAMM**

I FEAR THAT OUR ENEMIES HAVE **FOUND US**!



**S**UDDENLY, THE WALLS OF THE CHAMBER IMplode...

IT'S **GROG**... AND AN ARMY OF **MONSTERS**!

THIS ONE DOth **GRIP** MY HAMMER LIKE AN **IRON VISE**!

STRUGGLE IS USELESS, THUNDER GOD! FOR YOU NOW FACE--

-- THE **DEMONS OF DESPAIR!!**

AT THAT PRECISE SECOND, MANY DIMENSIONS DISTANT, ON A HILL OVERLOOKING THE BESIEGED CITY OF ASGARD...

THE ASGARD-  
IANS HAVE  
BEATEN BACK  
ANOTHER  
ATTACK!

THIS CAMPAIGN MAY LAST  
WEEKS... MAYBE MONTHS!

SETH IS THE MOST  
PATIENT OF GODS! ALL  
ADVERSARIES EVENTU-  
ALLY SUCCUMB TO  
DEATH!

BUT I AM  
ANXIOUS  
TO SEE  
ASGARD  
FALL!



MOMENTS LATER, THE SINISTER SERPENT-  
GOD ENTERS THE TENT OF A NEWLY-  
ACQUIRED PRISONER...

I SEE THAT YOU HAVE  
RECOVERED FROM YOUR  
ILL-CONSIDERED ATTEMPT  
TO ASSASSINATE ME!

SETH! I PRAYED  
THAT THOU  
WOULDEST COME...

...SO THAT I  
COULD BEG THY  
FORGIVENESS!



LET ME LIVE! SPARE MY  
LIFE... AND AMORA THE  
ENCHANTRESS WILL BE  
THY OBEDIENT SLAVE  
FOREVERMORE!!



THINK OF THE DARK PASSIONS  
THAT ONLY I CAN UNLEASH! THE  
SECRET LUSTS THAT ONLY I  
CAN SATISFY!

COME, FEEL THE  
GENTLE CARESS OF MY  
BURNING LIPS--



--AND THE  
LETHAL  
THRUST OF  
MY HUNGRY  
DAGGER!



FOOLISH GODDESS! EVEN IF YOU HAD SUC-  
CEED IN STRIKING  
ME DOWN... DEATH  
CANNOT DIE!!



I WILL ALWAYS  
RETURN... GROWING  
MORE AND MORE  
POWERFUL WITH  
EACH INCARNATION!

I COULD EASILY  
OBLITERATE YOU  
WITH A CASUAL  
GESTURE!

BUT, I HAVE  
OTHER  
PLANS...



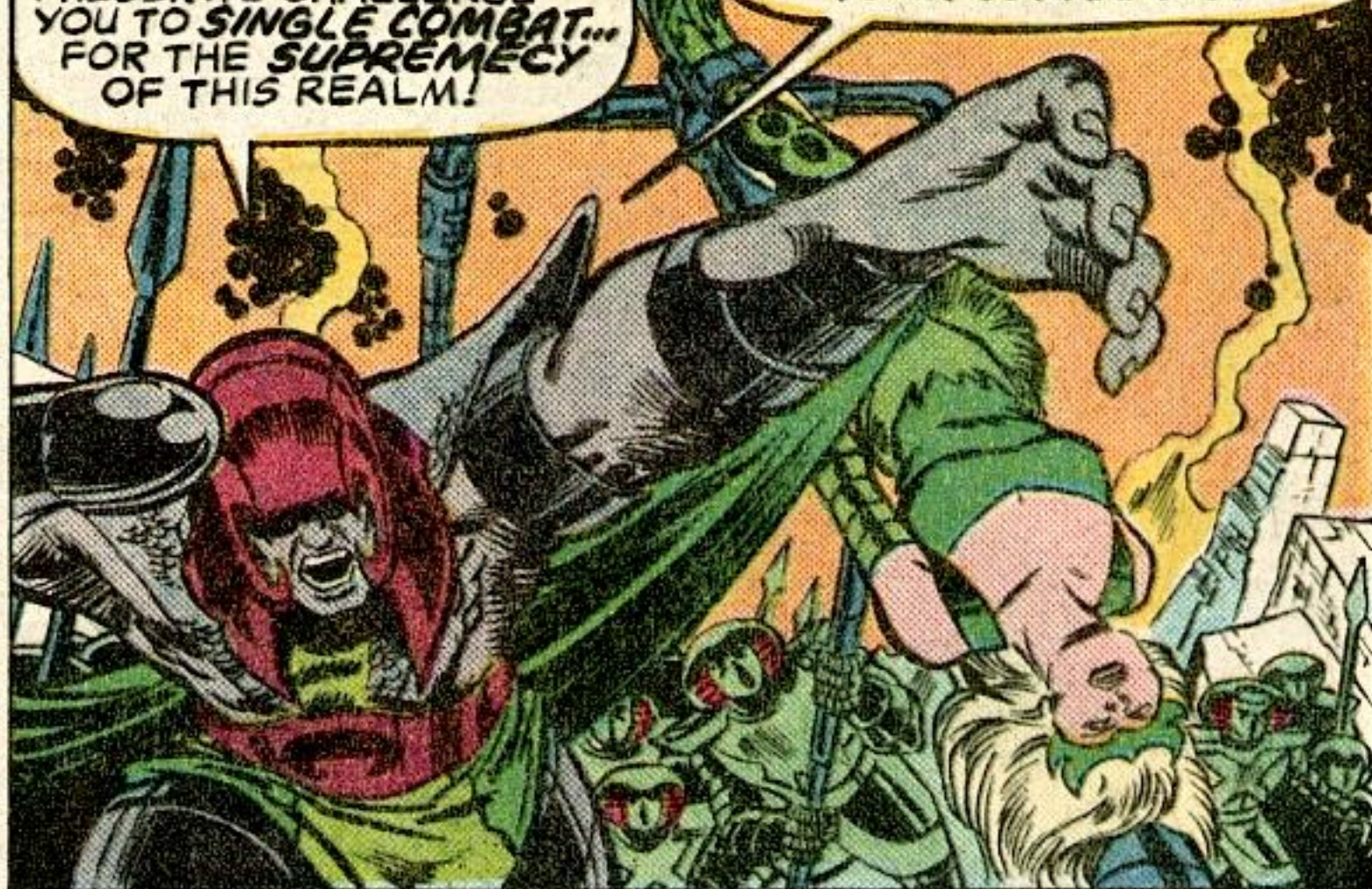
AND SO, MINUTES LATER...

BALDER! I OFFER  
YOU A CHANCE TO  
END THIS SIEGE...  
AND SAVE YOUR  
PEOPLE!



IN PUBLIC ASSEMBLY,  
BEFORE ALL THOSE  
PRESENT, I CHALLENGE  
YOU TO **SINGLE COMBAT**...  
FOR THE **SUPREMACY**  
OF THIS REALM!

REFUSE ME...AND THIS INNOCENT  
HOSTAGE WILL **SUFFER** FOR  
YOUR COWARDICE!



MY LORD, THOU  
**CANNOT--** THOU  
**MUST NOT!**  
THE **RISK** IS  
TOO GREAT!

AYE, BUT **HONOR**  
DEMANDS THAT  
YOU **ACCEPT!**

EVEN IF YOU SHOULD  
PROVE **VICTORIOUS**,  
SETH IS **NOT** TO  
BE TRUSTED!

MY SISTER'S **LIFE** IS AT STAKE!  
WHY DOES THOU **DELAY?**!

'TIS A TRAP **MOST**  
OBVIOUS! A SERPENT  
LIKE SETH WOULD  
NE'ER AGREE TO  
A **FAIR FIGHT!**



BE **SILENT** ALL! THE  
DECISION IS MINE...  
AND **MINE ALONE!**

AS THE **RULER** OF ASGARD,  
THE **SAFETY** OF MY LOYAL  
SUBJECTS MUST COME  
BEFORE ALL ELSE!

I HAVE **NO**  
**CHOICE--!**



NEVER **FEAR**,  
BALDER!

THE MAGICKS OF **LORELEI!**  
WILL SECRETLY AID THEE...  
FOR THE SAKE OF MY SISTER!



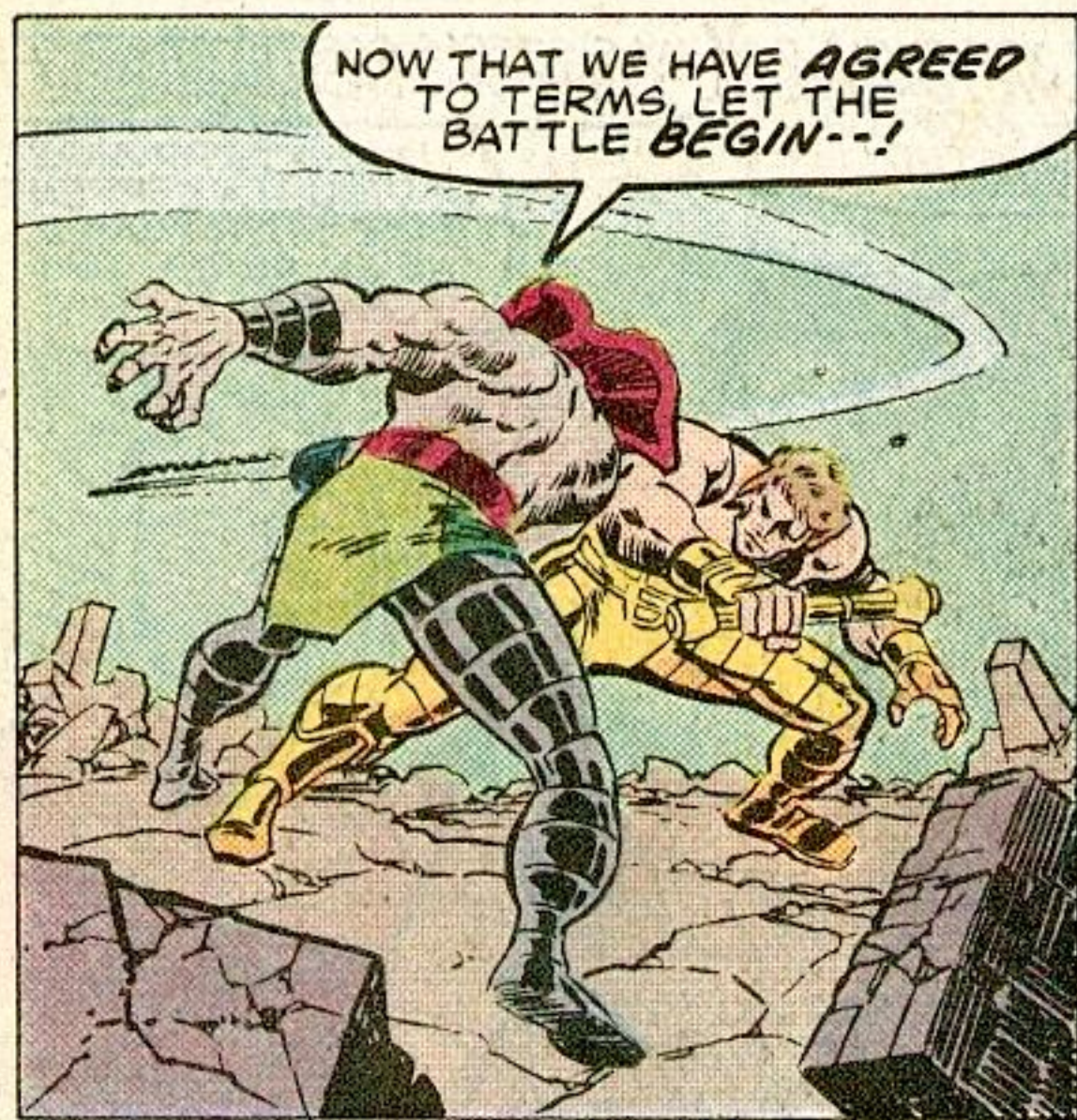


THUS,  
MOMENTS  
LATER...

SO! YOU HAVE FINALLY  
FOUND THE **COURAGE**  
TO FACE ME!

WE SHALL FIGHT UNDER  
THE SACRED RULES OF **FAIR**  
SINGLE **COMBAT**... USING  
BUT **SIMPLE WEAPONS** AND  
**STRENGTH OF LIMB**...  
UNTIL ONLY ONE OF US  
REMAINS ALIVE!

SO BE IT!  
WE SHALL NOT  
EMPLOY ANY OF  
OUR **GODLY**  
**POWERS!**



NOW THAT WE HAVE **AGREED**  
TO TERMS, LET THE  
BATTLE **BEGIN--!**



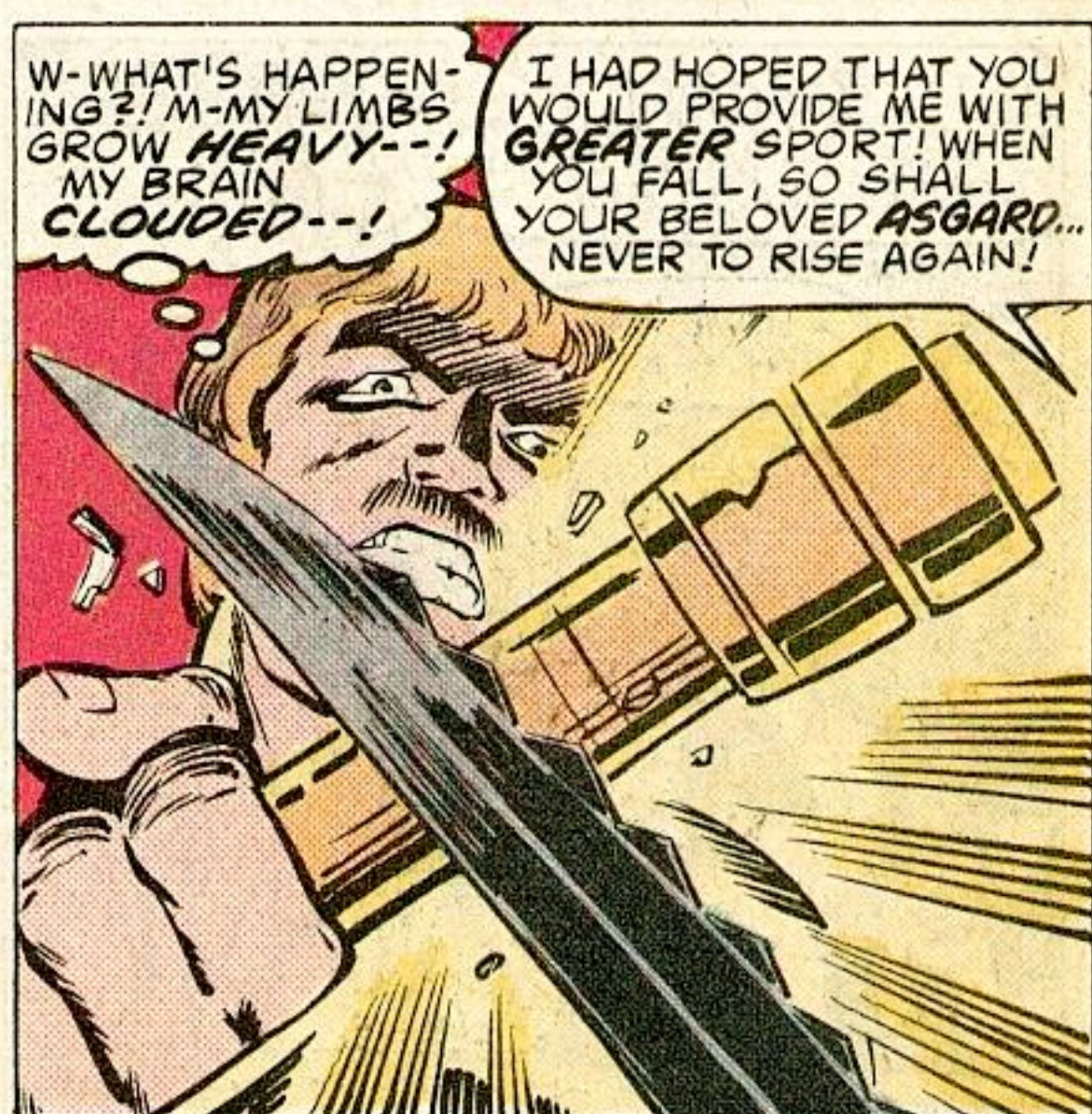
BUT EVEN AS THE SERPENT-GOD LASHES  
OUT... WARRIORS, WHO HAVE BEEN  
SECRETLY HIDDEN FROM VIEW, SUDDENLY  
TAKE AIM WITH SPECIAL **BLOW GUNS**, AND...

PHHTT PHHTT  
PHHTT



UGN!  
I AM  
STRUCK  
FROM  
BEHIND--!

PREPARE TO  
**DIE, BALDER!**



W-WHAT'S HAPPEN-  
ING?! M-MY LIMBS  
GROW **HEAVY--!**  
MY BRAIN  
**CLOUDED--!**

I HAD HOPED THAT YOU  
WOULD PROVIDE ME WITH  
**GREATER SPORT!** WHEN  
YOU FALL, SO SHALL  
YOUR BELOVED **ASGARD**...  
NEVER TO RISE AGAIN!



NAY! I SAY THEE NAY!  
ASGARD MUST ENDURE!

ASGARD SHALL ENDURE!



BUT, YOU SHALL NOT!

YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE PUSHED ME **BEHIND** THIS WALL... WHERE THE SPECTATORS **CANNOT** SEE ME!

NOW, NO ONE WILL KNOW THAT I **DISCARDED** THE RULES OF FAIR COMBAT TO **DESTROY** YOU!



THOUGH THOU HAST BROKEN **FAITH**, I AM STILL **BOUND** BY HONOR!

WITH NAUGHT BUT THE **STRENGTH** OF MY GOOD RIGHT ARM, I CAN USE MY **SCEPTER** TO DEFLECT THY INFERNAL BLAST--



-- AND RETURN IT TO THEE!

**ARRGHHH!**



WITH MOUNTING TENSION, THE EYES OF ALL **ASGARD** ARE TRAINED UPON THE RAGING BATTLE...



BUT, AT THAT MOMENT, DEEP WITHIN THE CITY ITSELF...

SETH HAS LEFT **NOTHING** TO CHANCE!

WHILE THE ASGARDIANS ARE DISTRACTED, WE SHALL **SECRETLY** ENTER THEIR CITY... AND INSURE ITS **DOWNFALL!**

MEANWHILE, IN THE DIMENSION OF DEATH, THE EARTH WOMAN KNOWN AS WIND WARRIOR HAS LED A BAND OF FORMER EGYPTIAN GODS TO THE BASE OF THE BLACK PYRAMID...

SETH STRIPPED US OF OUR GODLY POWERS... AND LAID WASTE TO OUR LANDS!

NOW SHALL WE STRIKE BACK--!

GET READY FOR ACTION, HORUS--

--WHILE I BLAST OUR WAY INSIDE BY GENERATING A HIGH PRESSURE WIND VORTEX!

EVEN THOUGH SHE CLAIMS TO BE NOTHING MORE THAN A MERE MORTAL HOUSEWIFE, WIND WARRIOR POSSESSES THE COURAGE AND DETERMINATION OF A GODDESS BORN!

LET'S MOVE IT!

MY FRIENDS, EARTHLORD, SKYHAWK AND THE OTHERS, ARE IN HERE SOMEWHERE... IF THEY'RE STILL ALIVE!

MANY MINUTES RUSH PAST AS THE DARING BAND SEARCHES THE PYRAMID, AND THEN...

THWAK!  
PWOOM!

LISTEN--! SOUNDS LIKE A MAJOR SLUGGEST UP AHEAD!

COULD IT BE YOUR COMRADES?

BWA-THAKK!!

YEAH, I'D SAY THAT'S A SAFE GUESS!



PAM! PAM!  
YOU'RE ALIVE--!!

IT'S GOOD TO SEE YOU,  
TYLE...**REAL GOOD!!**

YOU, TOO,  
**SKYHAWK!**

SAVE THE  
PLEASANTRIES,  
LADY--



-- WE'VE GOT A  
WAR TO WIN!

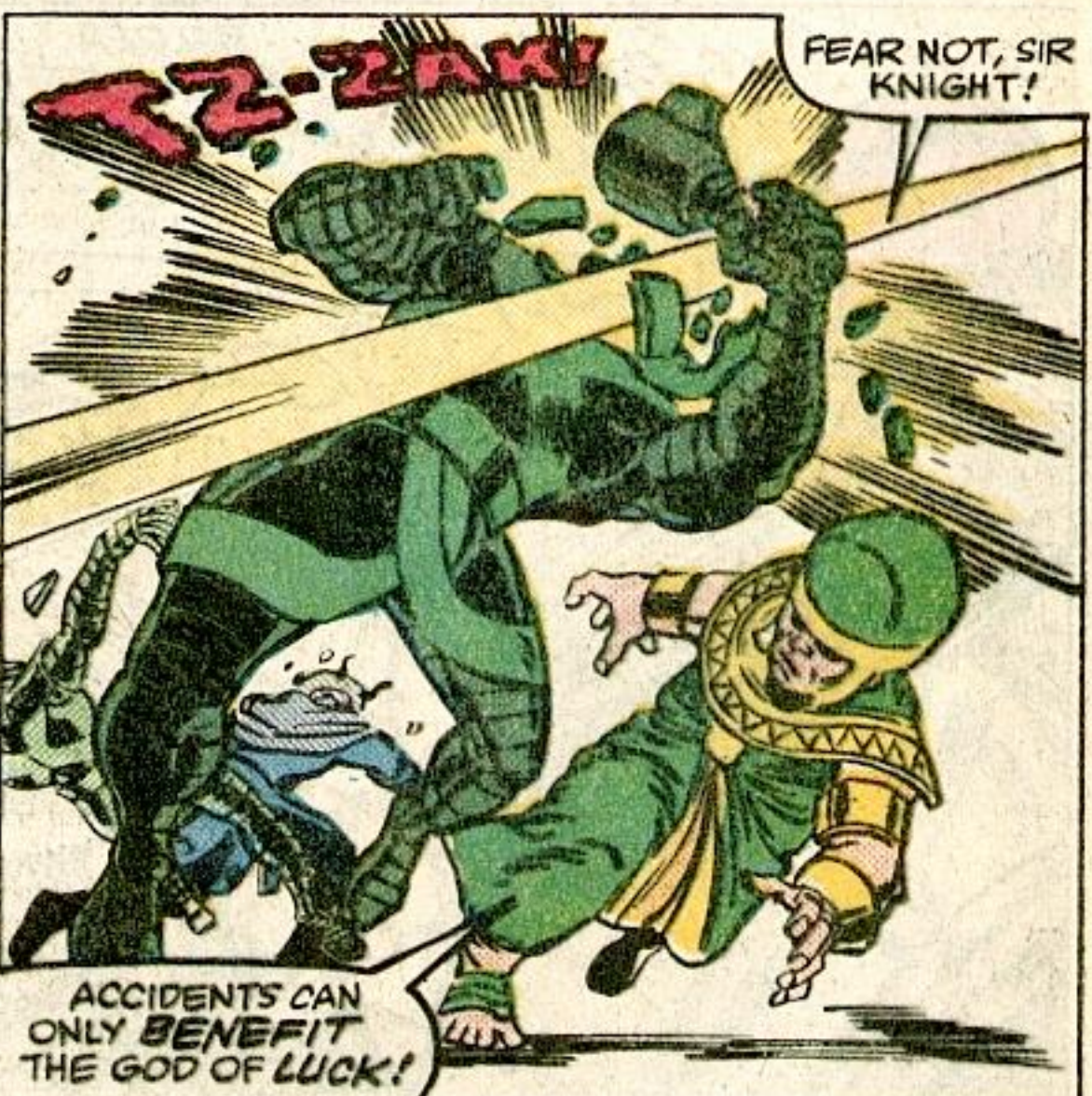
LET'S GO!  
**EARTH  
FORCE!**

DARE I SAY...  
**WAN-HOO!**



UGNN! THE ANCIENT **BLOOD CURSE** WHICH IS  
SLOWLY FUSING ME TO MY ARMOR... IS ALSO MAKING  
IT DIFFICULT FOR ME TO USE MY **EBONY SWORD**  
TO DEFLECT THESE BEAMS AND-- OH, NO!!

LOOK OUT, BES--!!  
I ACCIDENTALLY SENT  
ONE FLYING AT YOU!



**KZ-ZAK!**

FEAR NOT, SIR  
KNIGHT!

ACCIDENTS CAN  
ONLY **BENEFIT**  
THE GOD OF **LUCK!**



BEREFT OF HIS  
GODLY POWERS,  
MY SON IS IN **MOR-  
TAL DANGER!**

TO MY **SIDE**, THOR!  
DO NOT FACE SUCH  
FOES **ALONE!**



'TIS **TOO LATE**, FATHER!  
ALREADY THEY SEEK TO  
**OVERWHELM** ME!

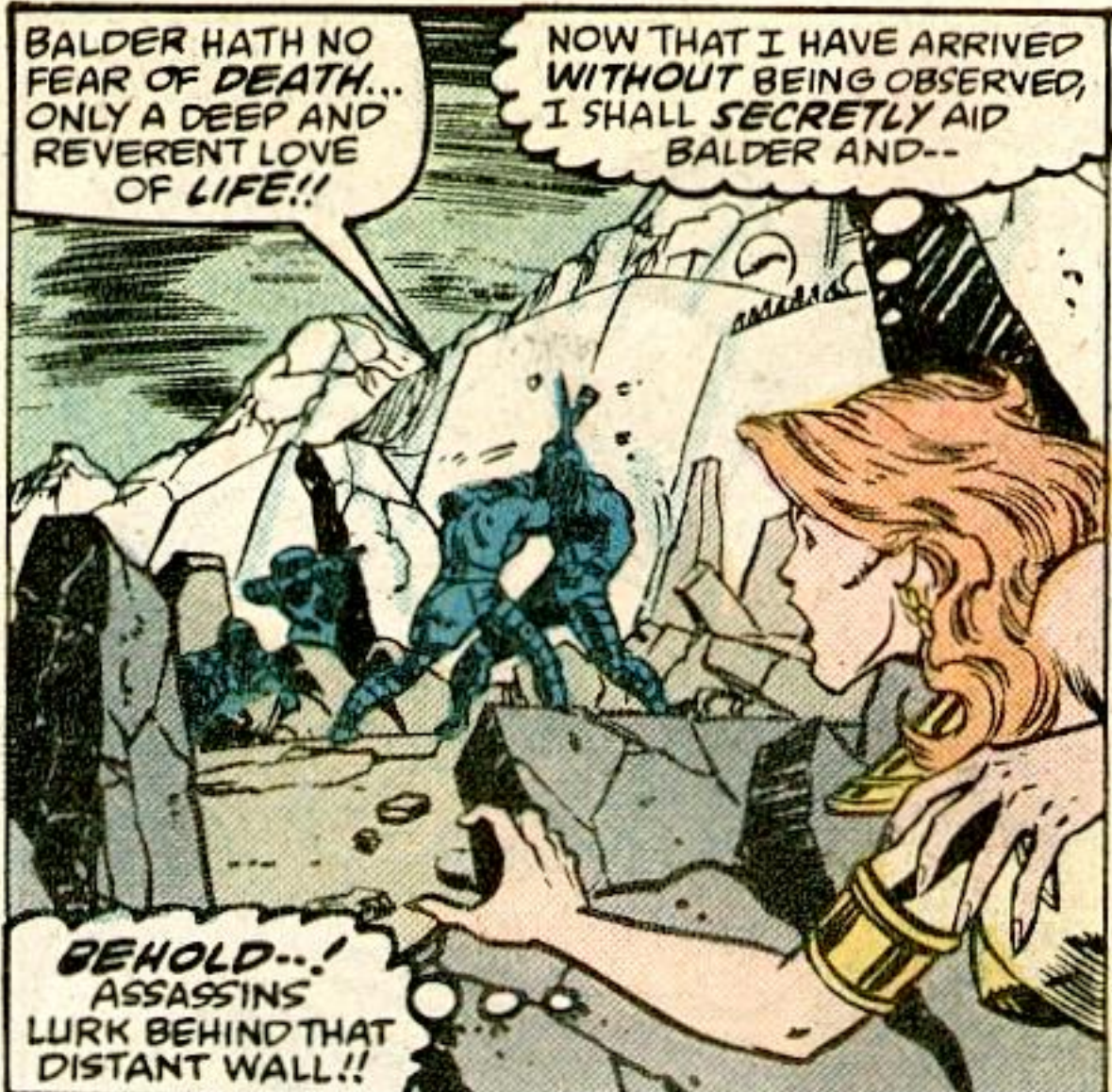
BUT, THOUGH THOR  
DOETH LACK HIS  
**IMMORTAL  
STRENGTH**, HE  
SHALL FIND A WAY  
TO TRIUMPH!!



MEANWHILE, BACK ON ASGARD...

DEATH IS INEVITABLE! WHY DO YOU CONTINUE TO STRUGGLE AGAINST IT?

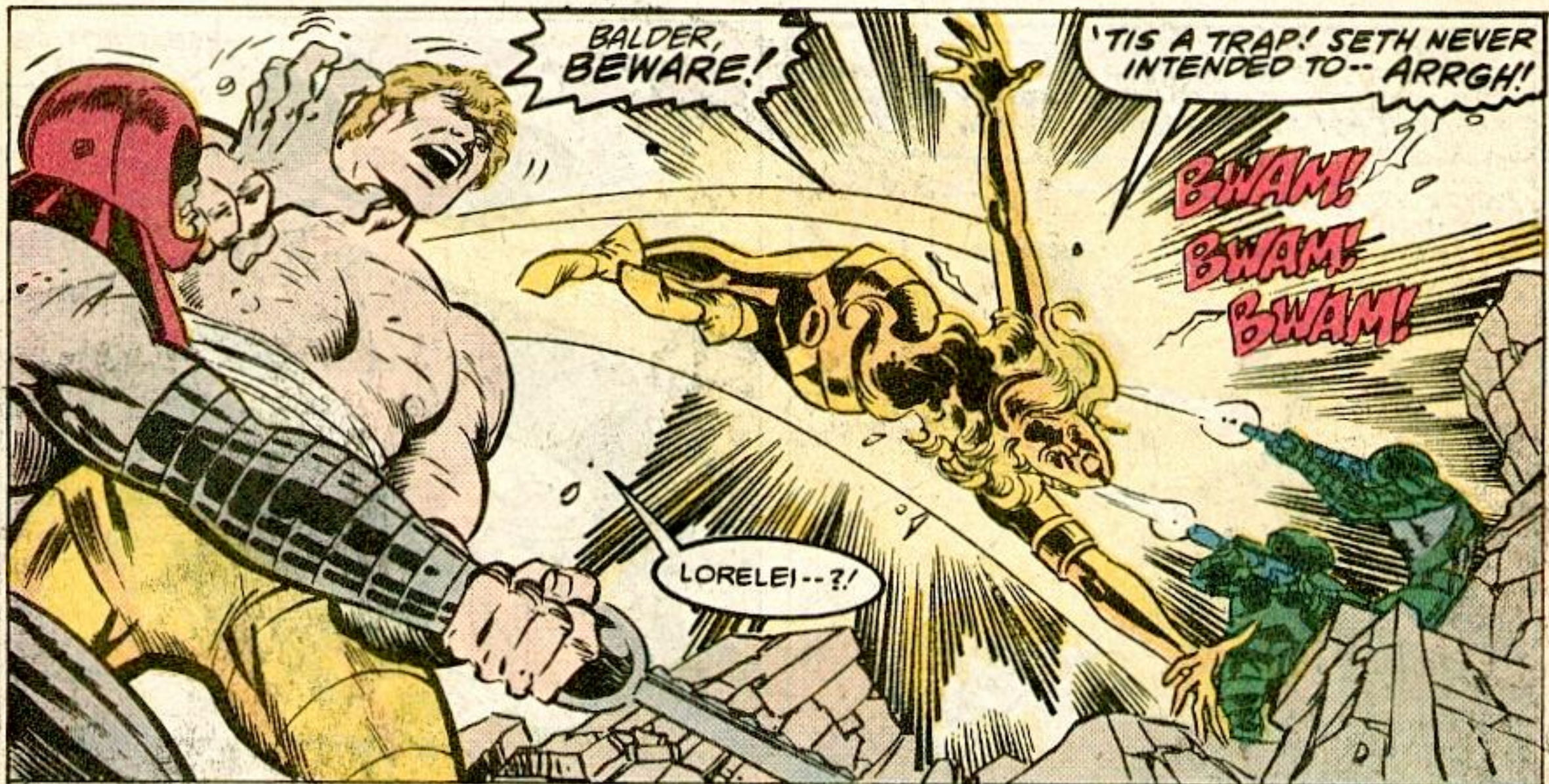
WHAT DO YOU FEAR?!



BALDER HATH NO FEAR OF DEATH... ONLY A DEEP AND REVERENT LOVE OF LIFE!!

NOW THAT I HAVE ARRIVED WITHOUT BEING OBSERVED, I SHALL SECRETLY AID BALDER AND--

BEHOLD--! ASSASSINS LURK BEHIND THAT DISTANT WALL!!

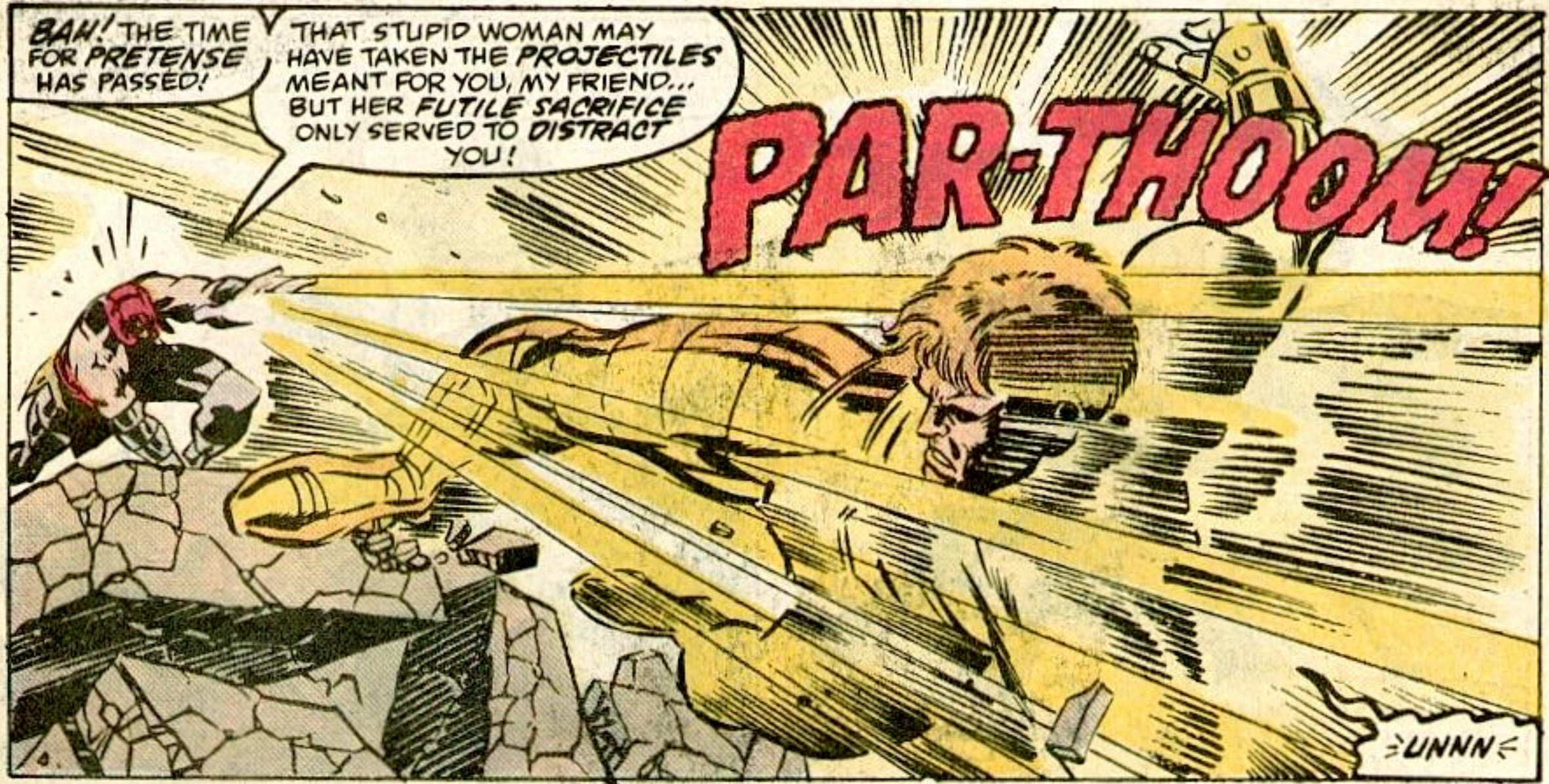


BALDER, BEWARE!

LORELEI--?!

'TIS A TRAP! SETH NEVER INTENDED TO-- ARRGH!

BWAM! BWAM! BWAM!



BAH! THE TIME FOR PRETENSE HAS PASSED!

THAT STUPID WOMAN MAY HAVE TAKEN THE PROJECTILES MEANT FOR YOU, MY FRIEND... BUT HER FUTILE SACRIFICE ONLY SERVED TO DISTRACT YOU!

PAR-THOOM!

UNNN

BALDER IS UNDONE!

SETH... CHEATED!

AYE, HE HAS DISGRACED THE WARRIOR'S CODE!

HURRY! WE MUST QUICKLY GATHER A STRIKEFORCE, AND--




BUT, EVEN BEFORE THE WARRIOR-GODDESS CAN UTTER ANOTHER SYLLABLE...

**BAR-TOOM**



THE INVADERS HAVE BREACHED THE WALLS OF THE INNER CITY!

THEIR WAR MACHINES ARE ALREADY BUTCHERING OUR ~~UNN~~!



SETH HAS TRULY CAUGHT US UNPREPARED!

AYE, HIS SAVAGE LEGIONS ARE ALREADY FLOODING INTO THE CITY!

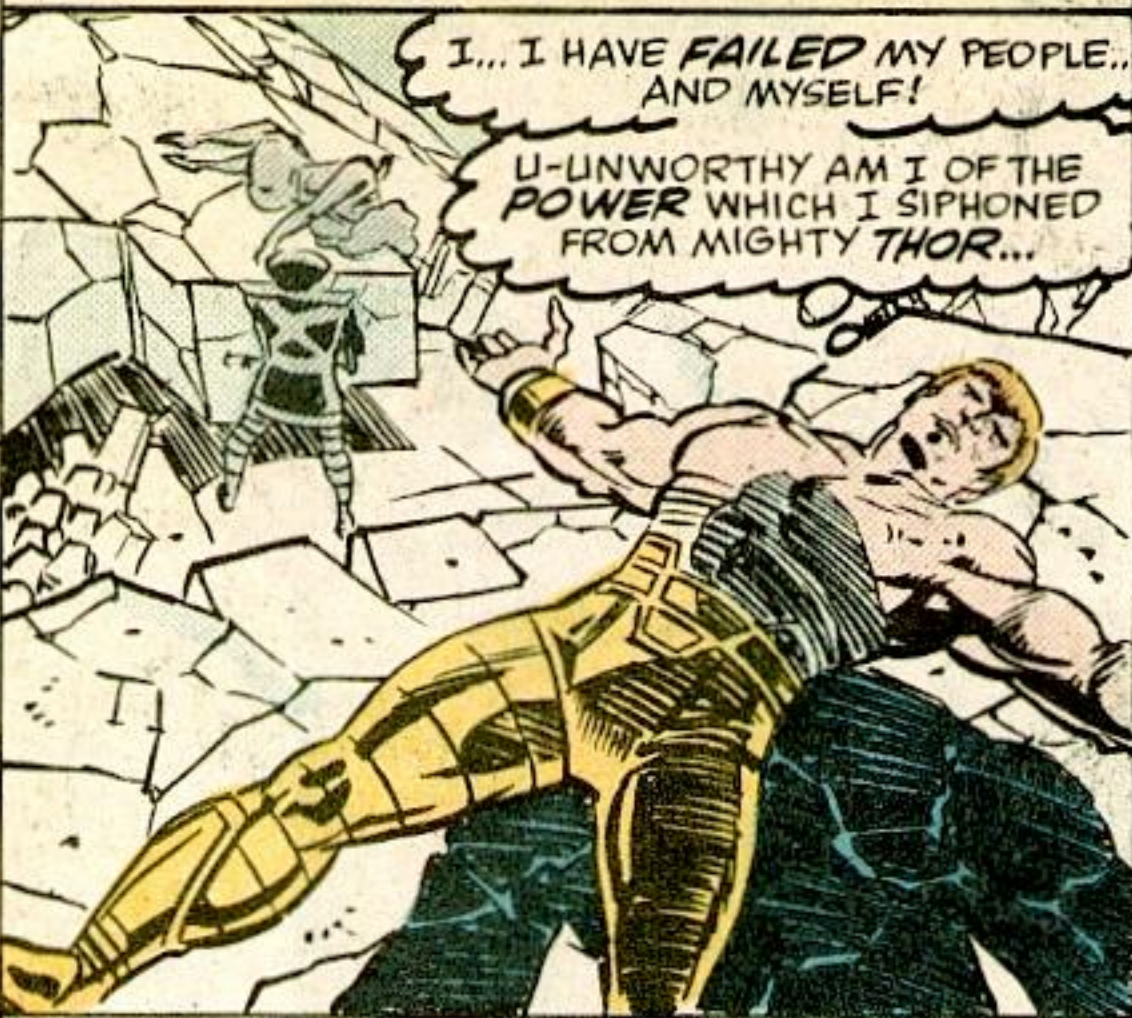


THOUGH MY BRAIN REELS AT THE THOUGHT, I FEAR THAT THE SERPENT-GOD HAS FINALLY BESTED US!

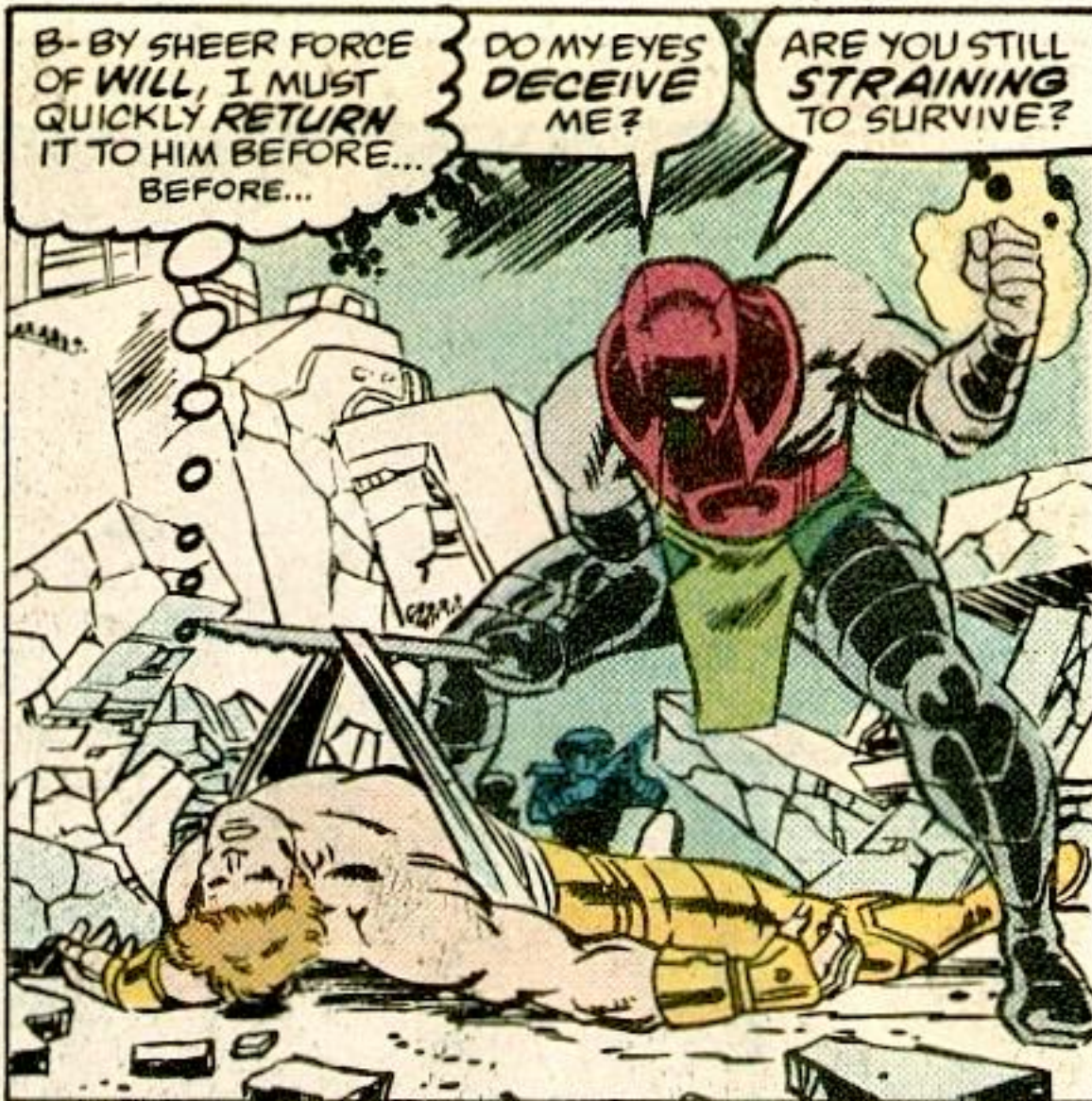
ASGARD HAS FALLEN!!



EVEN AS THE LADY SIF PONDERES THE SORRY FATE OF HER BELOVED CITY, **BALDER** AND **LORELEI** HOVER BETWEEN LIFE AND DEATH...



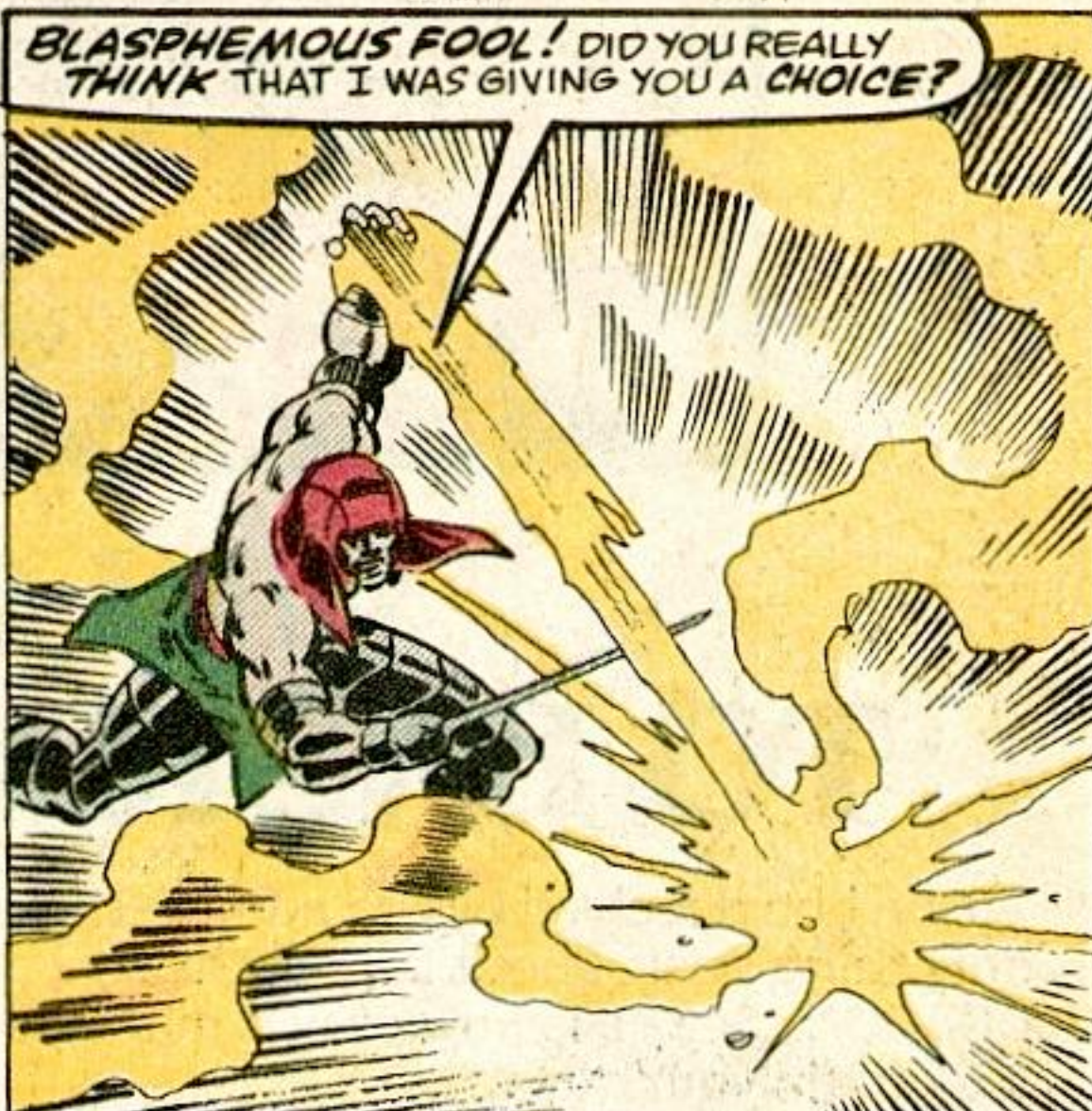
I... I HAVE **FAILED** MY PEOPLE... AND MYSELF!  
U-UNWORTHY AM I OF THE **POWER** WHICH I SIPHONED FROM MIGHTY **THOR**...



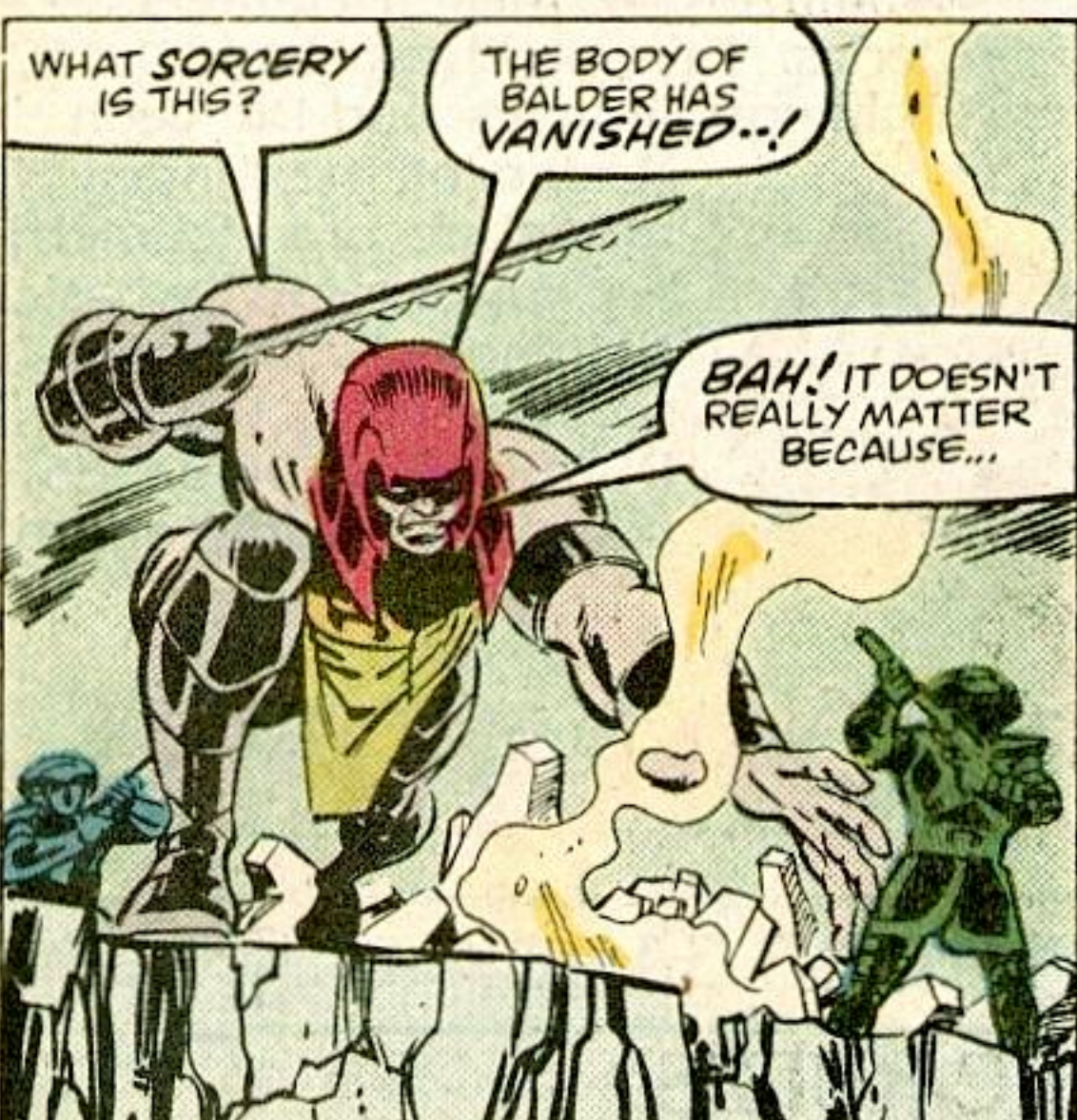
B-BY SHEER FORCE OF **WILL**, I MUST QUICKLY **RETURN** IT TO HIM BEFORE... BEFORE...  
DO MY EYES **DECEIVE** ME?  
ARE YOU STILL **STRAINING** TO SURVIVE?



LET ME ALLEVIATE YOUR **SUFFERINGS** AND **SORROW**...AND GRANT YOU THE **ETERNAL BLISS** OF OBLIVION'S EMBRACE!  
NO... NO... I SHALL NOT GO **GENTLY** INTO YOUR DARK PIT...



**BLASPHEMOUS FOOL!** DID YOU REALLY **THINK** THAT I WAS GIVING YOU A **CHOICE**?



WHAT **SORCERY** IS THIS?  
THE BODY OF **BALDER** HAS **VANISHED**...!  
**BAH!** IT DOESN'T REALLY MATTER BECAUSE...



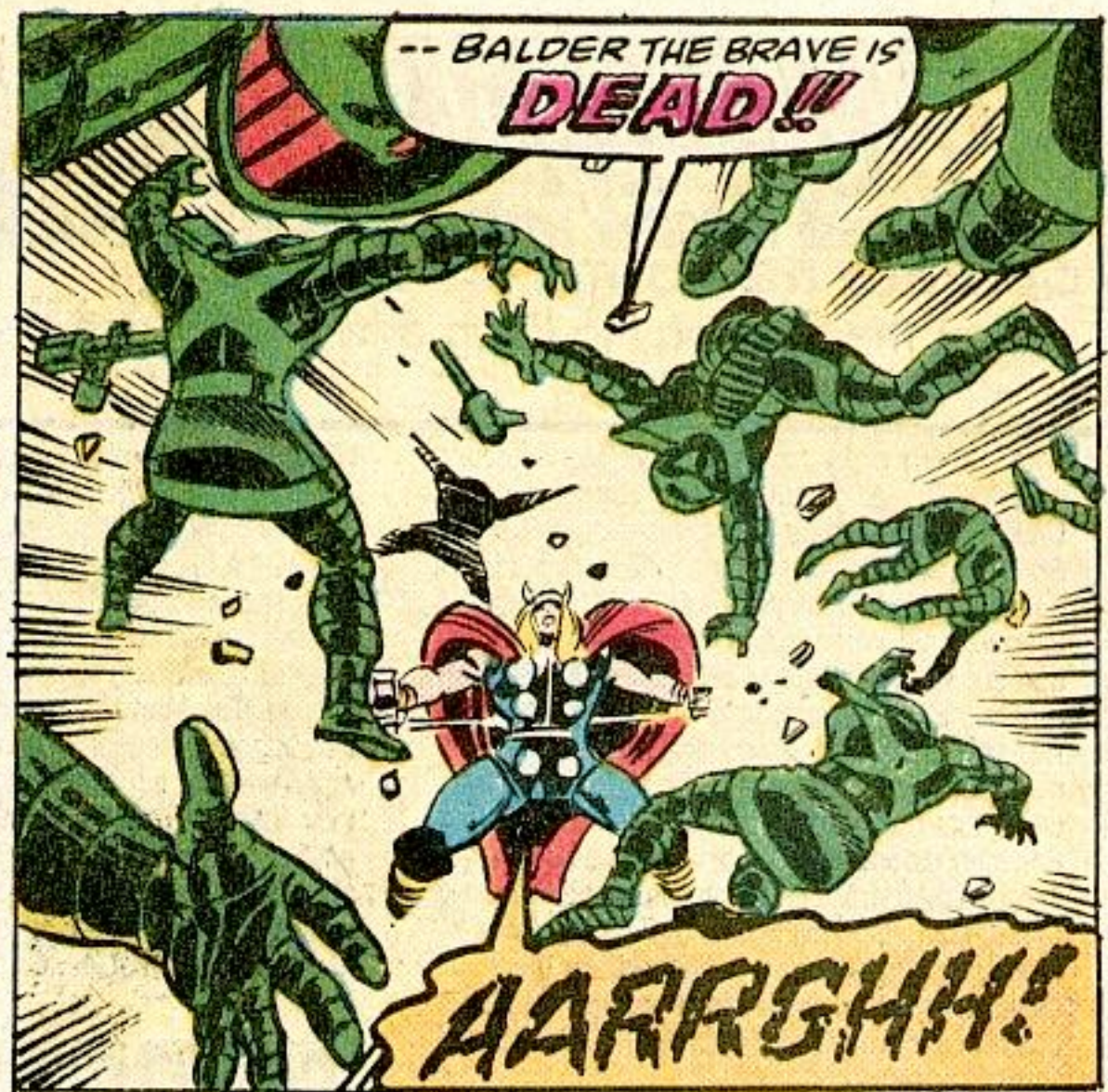
AT LONG LAST, ASGARD IS...  
**WINE!!**



AND, AT THAT  
SELFSAME  
INSTANT...

I SUDDENLY FEEL NEW  
STRENGTH... NEW  
POWER... SURGING  
THROUGH MY LIMBS!

NO! NO! THAT CAN ONLY  
MEAN THAT MY GODLY  
POWERS ARE RETURNING,  
AND--



-- BALDER THE BRAVE IS  
**DEAD!!**

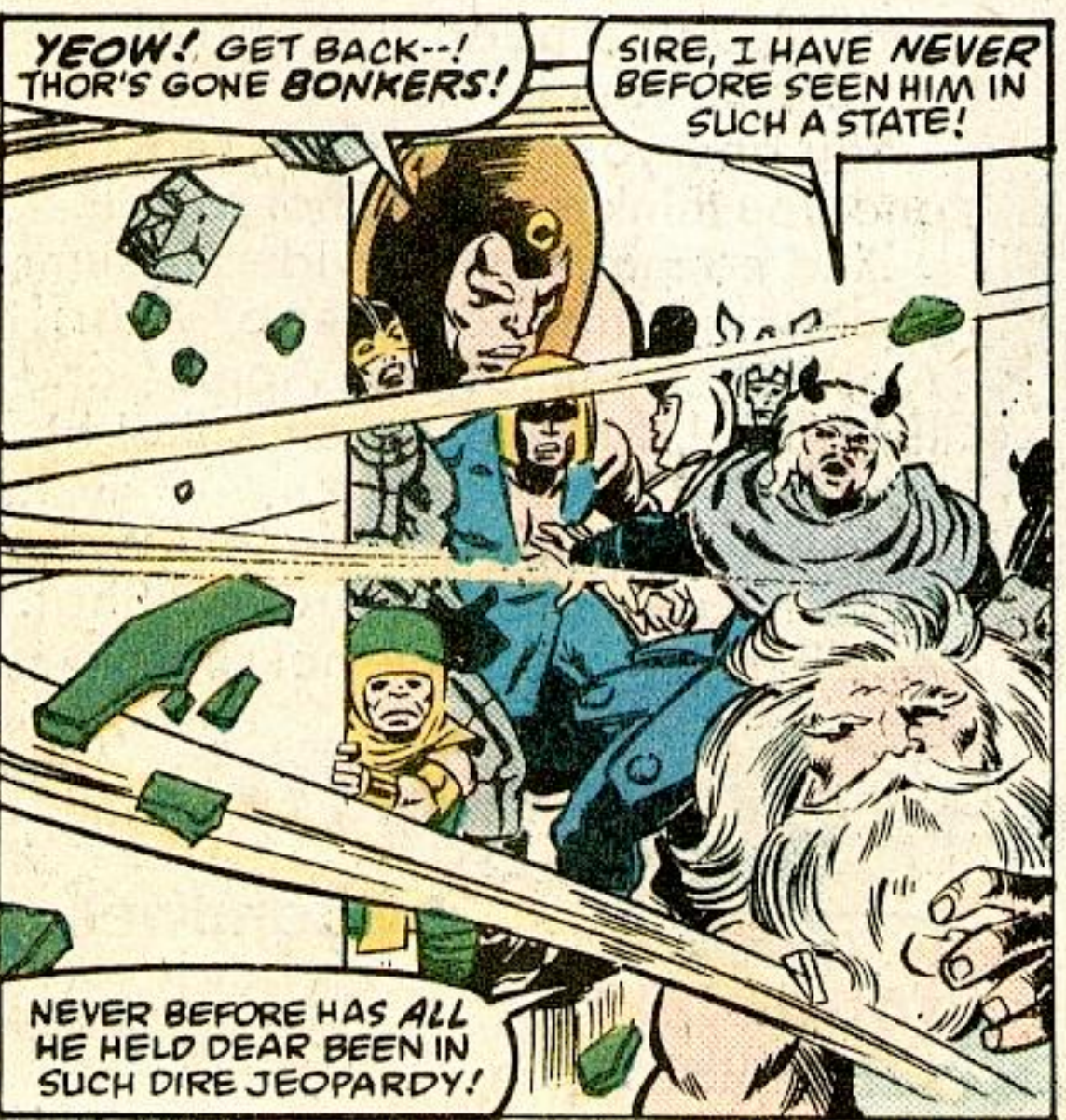
**AARRGH!!**



HE WAS THE  
NOBLEST  
ASGARDIAN  
OF ALL!

DEATH TO THOSE  
WHO WOULD SLAY  
HIM!!

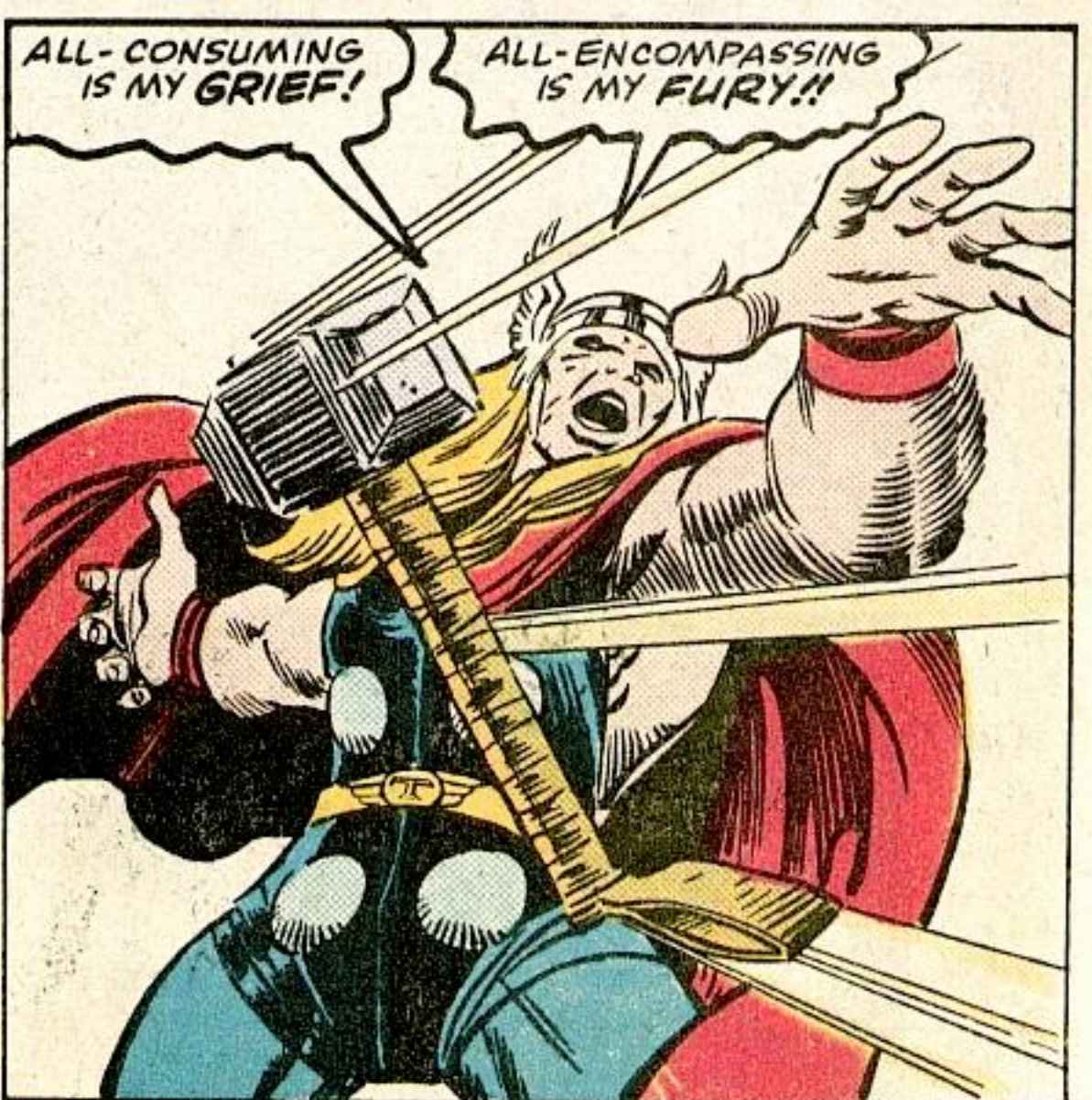
DEATH AND  
DESTRUCTION!



YEOW! GET BACK--!  
THOR'S GONE BONKERS!

SIRE, I HAVE NEVER  
BEFORE SEEN HIM IN  
SUCH A STATE!

NEVER BEFORE HAS ALL  
HE HELD DEAR BEEN IN  
SUCH DIRE JEOPARDY!

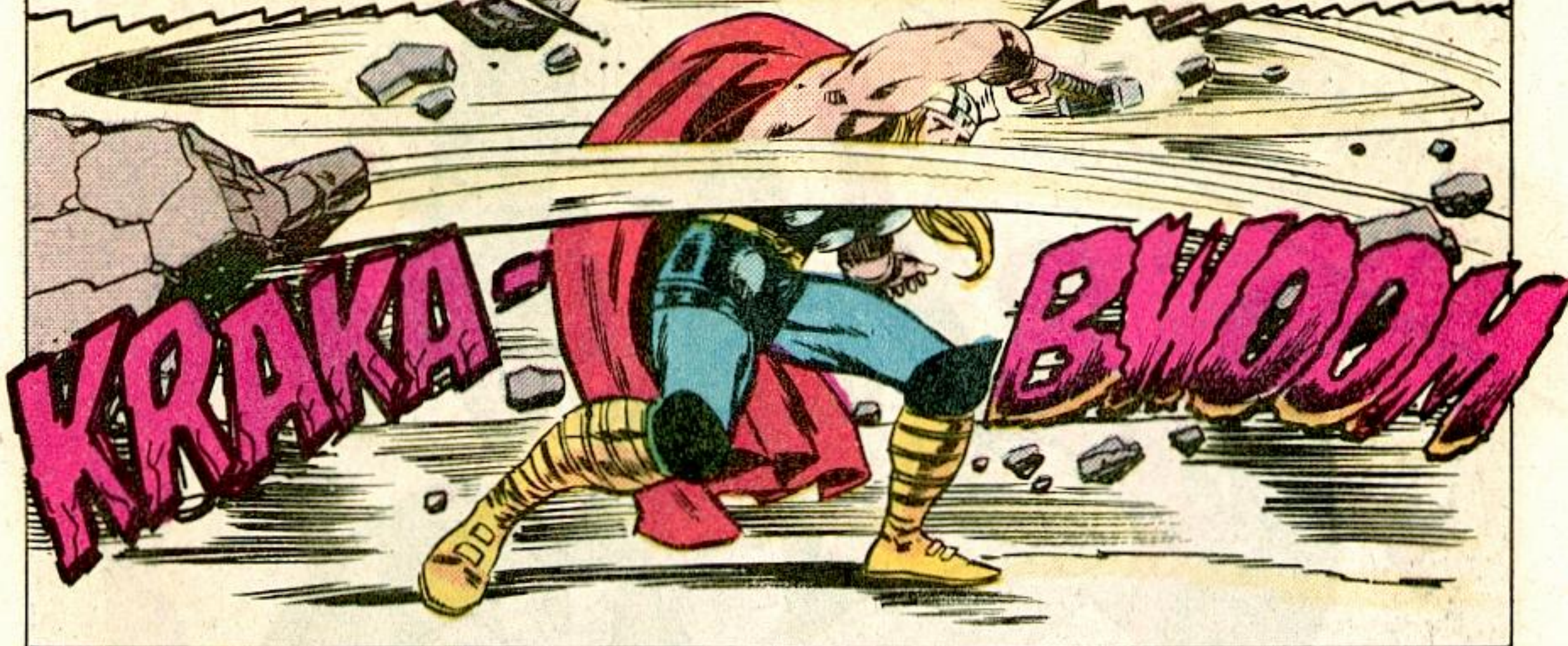


ALL-CONSUMING  
IS MY GRIEF!

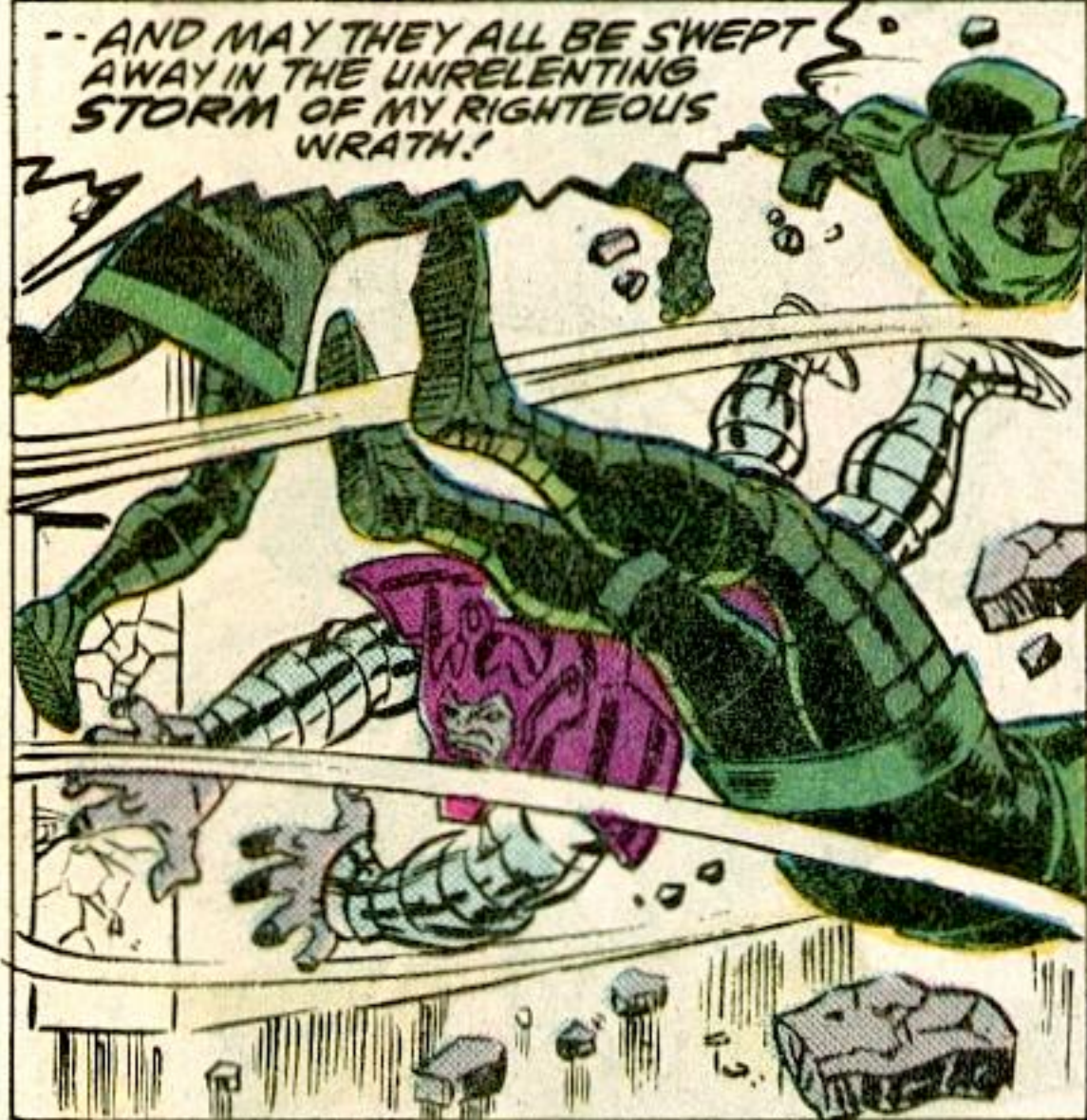
ALL-ENCOMPASSING  
IS MY FURY!!

I AM THE MIGHTY THOR, GOD OF THUNDER AND WARRIOR-PRINCE OF THE GOLDEN REALM!

MAY THE ENEMIES OF ASGARD GAZE IN HORROR AT MY AWESOME POWER..



--AND MAY THEY ALL BE SWEEP AWAY IN THE UNRELENTING STORM OF MY RIGHTEOUS WRATH!



FOR I NOW STRIKE IN THE HONORED MEMORY OF...

Balder the Brave!!



MY SON HAS PROVEN VICTORIOUS, BUT MY HEART--!

IT SUDDENLY FEELS AS IF I WERE TRAPPED WITHIN A COLD AND CRUSHING GRASP!

'TIS SURELY A SIGN THAT ASGARD IS... DYING!



HOGUN! WE MUST SUMMON A DIMENSIONAL WARP... AT ONCE!

IT HAS BEEN DONE, SIRE!

FATHER, I AM READY TO RETURN TO OUR HOMELAND AND WREAK A TERRIBLE VENGEANCE!

NO, MY SON! THE OTHERS SHALL GO... BUT THOU MUST NEEDS REMAIN BEHIND!



WHAT--?!

WHY FATHER, WHY?!

SETH MANAGED TO JOURNEY TO MUSPELHEIM... AND IMPRISON ME... BEFORE I HAD COMPLETED MY BATTLE WITH SURTUR!

IN TRUTH, THE BINDERS ON MY WRISTS WERE POWER DAMPERS... WHICH HID ME FROM THE FIERY DEMON!

NOW THAT THEY ARE GONE, SURTUR CAN FIND ME!

THUS, MY SON, I MUST IMPART ALL OF MY ODIN POWER TO THEE... AND CHARGE THEE WITH THY GREATEST MISSION...

I UNDERSTAND, FATHER!

FARE THEE WELL, FLESH OF MY FLESH! WE MAY NE'ER MEET AGAIN...

AND, EVEN AS ODIN VANISHES FROM THE DIMENSION OF DEATH...

A DISTANT PILLAR OF MENACING FLAME DOETH SUDDENLY CRACK THE SCARRED SURFACE OF THIS CURSED LAND--

-- AND THE BILLOWING STENCH OF BRIMSTONE DOETH NOW ASSAIL MY NOSTRILS!

'TIS SURELY THE MARK OF THE Foe MY NOBLE SIRE DIDST FORETELL! 'TIS SURELY THE MARK OF --

-- SURTUR, THE  
FLAME DEMON! "

WHERE IS THE  
COWARDLY LORD  
OF ASGARD?

WHERE IS  
ODIN?

I HAVE COME TO  
CONCLUDE OUR  
CENTURIES-OLD  
BATTLE!

HE IS *GONE*,  
MONSTER... GONE  
TO FIGHT IN THE  
DEFENSE OF LIFE  
ITSELF!

IN HIS STEAD STANDS  
THE *MIGHTY THOR*...  
TO ACCEPT THY CHALLENGE...  
AND BATTLE THEE UNTO  
**DEATH!**

NEXT ISSUE: THE DRAMATIC CONCLUSION TO  
**THE WAR OF THE GODS...**  
AS THOR TAKES ON SURTUR... ODIN  
CHALLENGES SETH... AND MUCH, MUCH MORE!  
DON'T DARE MISS...

**"Lest The Heavens Perish!"**