



MARVEL
COMICS
GROUP 12¢

the X-MEN

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

IND.

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NEVER HAVE THE X-MEN FOUGHT
A FOE AS UNSTOPPABLE AS UNUS!
NEVER HAVE THE X-MEN COME SO
CLOSE TO BEING SPLIT UP! (AND
NEVER HAVE YOU READ SUCH
A BOASTFUL
BLURB!)

The UNCANNY THREAT OF "UNUS, THE UNTOUCHABLE!"



X-MEN
THE MOST UNUSUAL
TEEN-AGERS OF ALL
TIME!

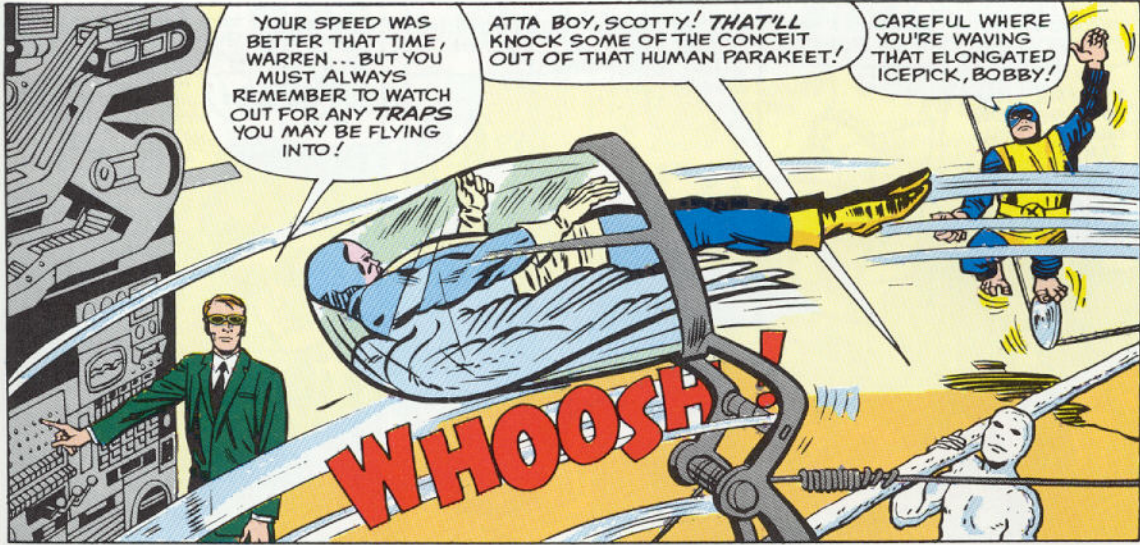
The UNCANNY THREAT OF... "UNUS, THE UNTOUCHABLE!"

TRY THAT
POWER GLIDE
AGAIN, ANGEL...
CONCENTRATING
ON INCREASED
SPEED! THE
BEAST COULD
HAVE GRABBED
YOU IF HE'D
WANTED TO!

ALTHOUGH THEY HAVE RECENTLY
GRADUATED AFTER COMPLETING
THEIR PRESCRIBED COURSE OF
TRAINING, THE EXTRAORDINARY
X-MEN STILL DO POST-GRADUATE
EXERCISES UNDER THE WATCHFUL
EYE OF **CYCLOPS**, THEIR NEW
INTERIM LEADER!

NOT ME, SCOTTY!
I WAS TOO
PREOCCUPIED
WATCHING JEAN
THREADING THOSE
LACES
TELEKINETICALLY!

PRODUCED BY MARVEL'S
FANTASTIC FOURSOME...
STAN LEE, WRITER
JACK KIRBY, ARTIST
CHIC STONE, INKER
S. ROSEN, LETTERER

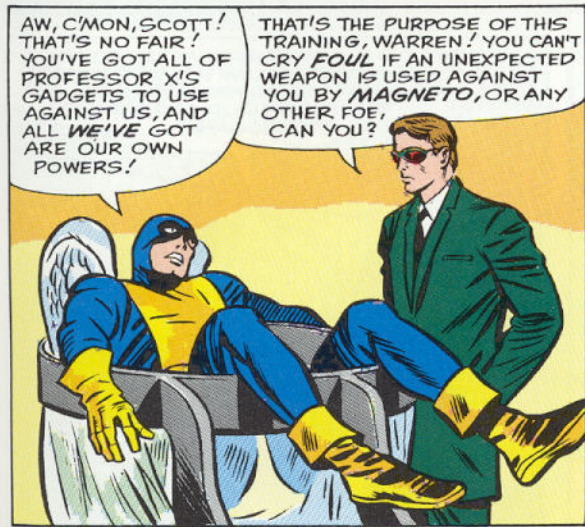


YOUR SPEED WAS BETTER THAT TIME, WARREN... BUT YOU MUST ALWAYS REMEMBER TO WATCH OUT FOR ANY TRAPS YOU MAY BE FLYING INTO!

ATTA BOY, SCOTTY! THAT'LL KNOCK SOME OF THE CONCEIT OUT OF THAT HUMAN PARAKEET!

CAREFUL WHERE YOU'RE WAVING THAT ELONGATED ICEPICK, BOBBY!

WHOOSH!



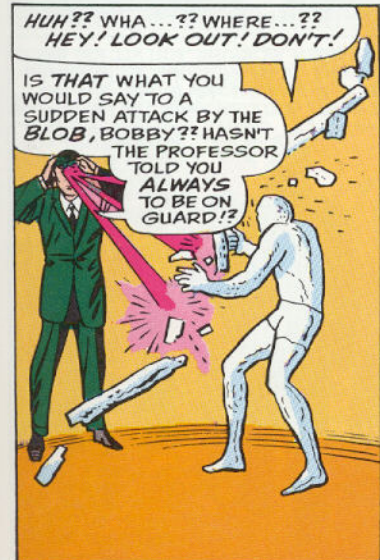
AW, C'MON, SCOTT! THAT'S NO FAIR! YOU'VE GOT ALL OF PROFESSOR X'S GADGETS TO USE AGAINST US, AND ALL WE'VE GOT ARE OUR OWN POWERS!

THAT'S THE PURPOSE OF THIS TRAINING, WARREN! YOU CAN'T CRY FOWL IF AN UNEXPECTED WEAPON IS USED AGAINST YOU BY MAGNETO, OR ANY OTHER FOE, CAN YOU?



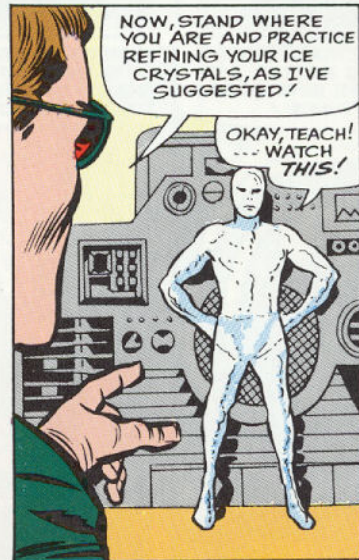
HAH! THAT'S TELLIN' HIM, CYKE, OL' BOY!

WHAT ARE YOU GLOATING ABOUT, ICEMAN? YOU'RE PART OF THIS TRAINING PROGRAM TOO, YOUNG FELLA! NOW QUICKLY... DEFEND YOURSELF!



HUH?? WHA...?? WHERE...?? HEY! LOOK OUT! DON'T!

IS THAT WHAT YOU WOULD SAY TO A SUDDEN ATTACK BY THE BLOB, BOBBY?? HASN'T THE PROFESSOR TOLD YOU ALWAYS TO BE ON GUARD??



NOW, STAND WHERE YOU ARE AND PRACTICE REFINING YOUR ICE CRYSTALS, AS I'VE SUGGESTED!

OKAY, TEACH! ... WATCH THIS!



EXCELLENT! BY INCREASING YOUR DEGREE OF COLD, YOUR BODY BECOMES EVEN MORE ICY, MAKING YOU ALMOST TRANSPARENT!

YOU'RE BECOMING A REGULAR SUE STORM, KIDDO!

AW, SHUDDUP, ANGEL!

JEAN, PROFESSOR X WOULD BE PROUD OF YOUR PROGRESS IN CONTROLLING YOUR TELEKINETIC POWER!

CAREFUL, NOW! LET'S SEE HOW QUICKLY YOU CAN RUN THE THREAD THROUGH THE PUNCH-BOARD IN A REGULAR PATTERN!



EXACTLY SIX SECONDS! THAT BEATS YOUR PREVIOUS TIME! NOW GET IT DOWN... LET'S EXAMINE IT!



EXCEPT FOR ONE STITCH WHICH YOU DROPPED, IT'S FLAWLESS! YOU CAN REST NOW!



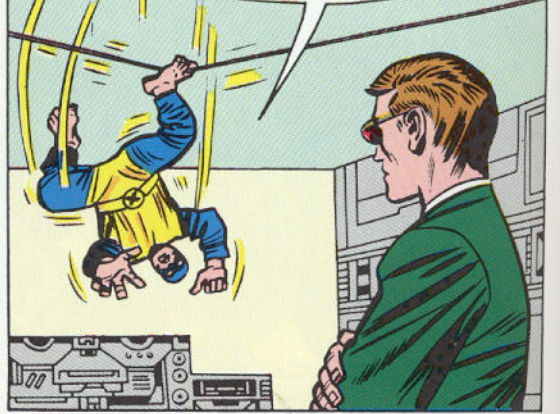
IF ONLY I COULD TELL HER THE WORDS I REALLY WANT TO SAY! HOW GORGEOUS HER LIPS ARE... HOW SILKEN HER HAIR IS... HOW I LOVE HER! BUT, I DARE NOT...

I HAVEN'T THE RIGHT! NOT NOW, WHEN I'M SUPPOSED TO BE THEIR LEADER! I CAN'T LISTEN TO MY OWN HEART! I MUST BE DETACHED... UNEMOTIONAL! I... I'D BETTER GET BACK TO MY JOB!

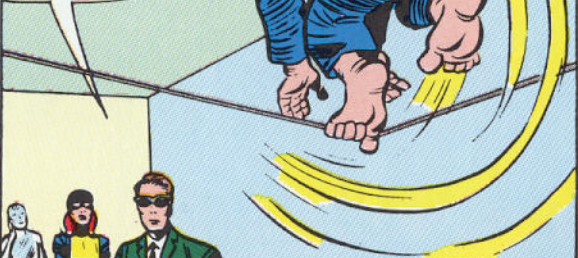


YOU WERE DAY-DREAMING, HANK! SEE HOW I TOOK YOU BY SURPRISE! I DIDN'T EXPECT THAT OF YOU!

NOR DID I EXPECT SUCH AN UNCALLED-FOR MANEUVER FROM YOU, CYCLOPS! I WAS UNDER THE IMPRESSION OUR TRAINING PERIOD HAD BEEN CONCLUDED!



OUR TRAINING CAN NEVER BE ENDED... AND YOU KNOW THAT, HANK! OUR ENEMIES GET STRONGER EACH DAY... AND WE MUST ALWAYS BE ABLE TO MATCH THEIR OWN EVIL PROGRESS!



YOU WIN, LEADER MAN! BUT, IF I DIDN'T KNOW YOU BETTER, I'D FEAR THAT YOU'RE BECOMING DRUNK WITH POWER!

PERHAPS I HAVE BEEN WORKING YOU ALL TOO HARD! IT'S JUST THAT I WANT TO BE WORTHY OF THE CONFIDENCE PROFESSOR X HAS SHOWN IN ME! ANYWAY, THAT'S ALL FOR NOW! YOU CAN HAVE THE AFTERNOON OFF!

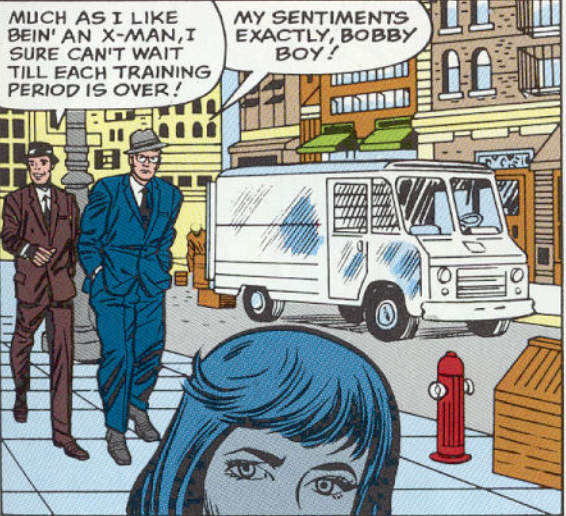


WHAT ABOUT YOU, SCOTT? WON'T YOU JOIN US?

I'M AFRAID I CAN'T, JEAN! I STILL HAVE MORE WORK TO DO!

OH, SCOTT... IF ONLY YOU FELT ABOUT ME AS I DO ABOUT YOU! BUT YOU DON'T... YOU JUST DON'T!

LATER, ON THEIR FREE TIME PERIOD, WE FIND THE BEAST AND ICEMAN HEADING FOR A LITTLE GREENWICH VILLAGE COFFEE SHOP...



MUCH AS I LIKE BEIN' AN X-MAN, I SURE CAN'T WAIT TILL EACH TRAINING PERIOD IS OVER!

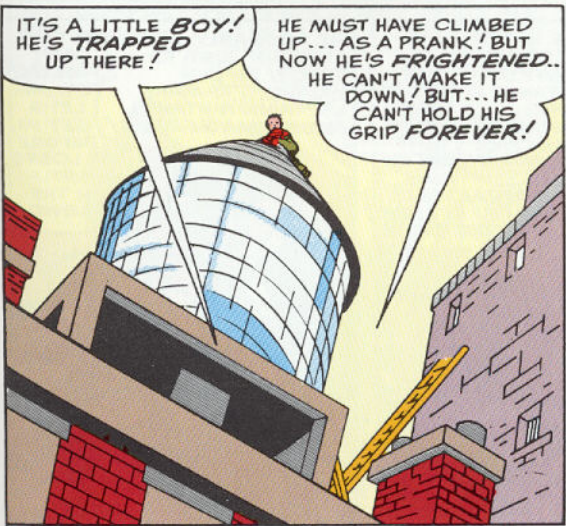
MY SENTIMENTS EXACTLY, BOBBY BOY!

BUT, TURNING A CORNER, THE TWO YOUNG MUTANTS SUDDENLY SEE...

HANK, LOOK! WHAT'S GOIN' ON?? WHAT'S EVERYONE SO EXCITED ABOUT???

I DON'T KNOW! BUT, JUDGING BY THE DEGREE OF THEIR APPREHENSION, I'D SAY...

WAIT! NOW I SEE! IT'S UP THERE! LOOK, BOBBY... ATOP THE WATER TOWER, ON THE ROOF OF THAT BUILDING..!



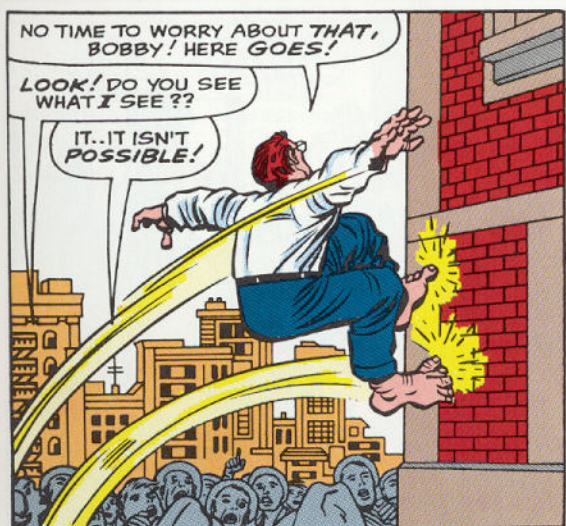
IT'S A LITTLE BOY! HE'S TRAPPED UP THERE!

HE MUST HAVE CLIMBED UP... AS A PRANK! BUT NOW HE'S FRIGHTENED... HE CAN'T MAKE IT DOWN, BUT... HE CAN'T HOLD HIS GRIP FOREVER!



PERHAPS I CAN REACH HIM IN TIME... BY RUNNING UP THE SIDE OF THE BUILDING!

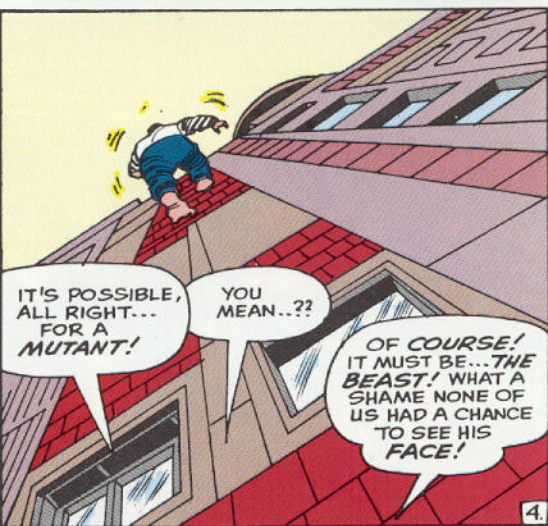
HANK... IF YOU DO, YOU'LL GIVE YOUR IDENTITY AWAY! THE CROWD WILL GUESS WHO YOU ARE!



NO TIME TO WORRY ABOUT THAT, BOBBY! HERE GOES!

LOOK! DO YOU SEE WHAT I SEE??

IT... IT ISN'T POSSIBLE!



IT'S POSSIBLE, ALL RIGHT... FOR A MUTANT!

YOU MEAN...??

OF COURSE! IT MUST BE... THE BEAST! WHAT A SHAME NONE OF US HAD A CHANCE TO SEE HIS FACE!

REACHING THE TOP OF THE WATER TOWER IN MERE SECONDS, THE POWERFUL, SOFT-SPOKEN **BEAST** GENTLY SOOTHES THE TERRIFIED YOUTH IN FRONT OF HIM ...

EASY... EASY... DON'T BE FRIGHTENED! I'LL GET YOU... JUST REACH OUT YOUR HAND... SLOWLY... SLOWLY...

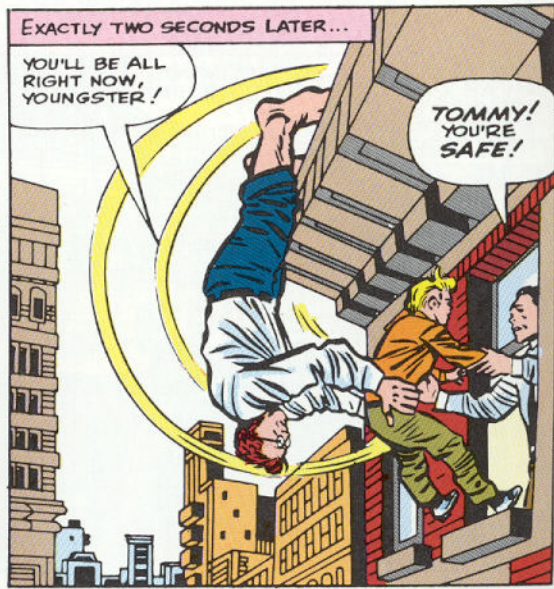
I... I'M AFRAID TO OPEN MY EYES... I GET DIZZY WHEN I DO! BUT... I'LL REACH OUT TOWARDS YOUR VOICE!



EXACTLY TWO SECONDS LATER...

YOU'LL BE ALL RIGHT NOW, YOUNGSTER!

TOMMY! YOU'RE SAFE!



NOW I'VE GOT TO MOVE TOO FAST FOR THEM TO GET A CLEAR VIEW OF MY FEATURES!



DID YOU SEE HOW HE RACED UP AND DOWN THAT BUILDING... LIKE A HUMAN GORILLA!

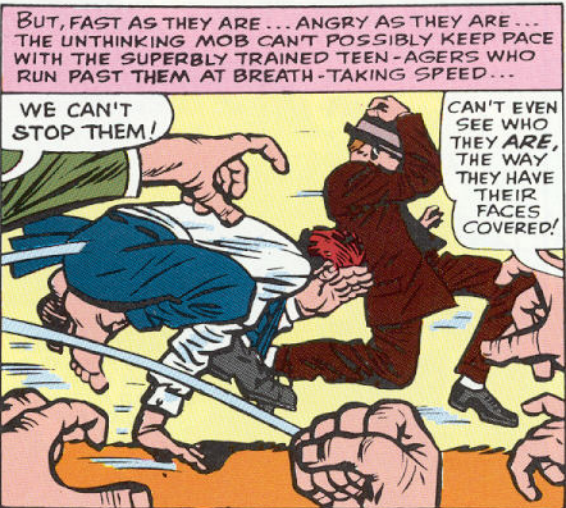
I'VE HEARD THERE ARE MANY SUCH MUTANTS IN HIDING... WAITING TO TAKE OVER THE WORLD!

DID YOU SEE HOW HE RAN PAST US?? LIKE HE WAS AFRAID OF US ... LIKE HE KNEW HE'S OUR ENEMY!



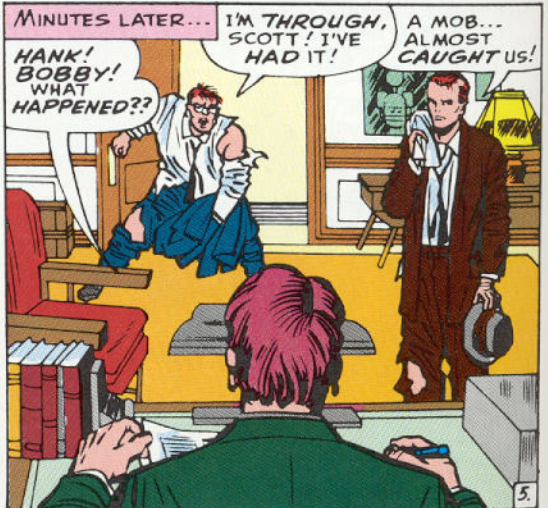
HE PROBABLY SAVED THAT KID JUST TO THROW US OFF GUARD... TO MAKE US THINK MUTANTS AREN'T DANGEROUS!

BUT HE CAN'T FOOL US! C'MON... LET'S GET IM, BEFORE HE LOSES HIMSELF IN THE CROWD!



WE CAN'T STOP THEM!

CAN'T EVEN SEE WHO THEY ARE, THE WAY THEY HAVE THEIR FACES COVERED!

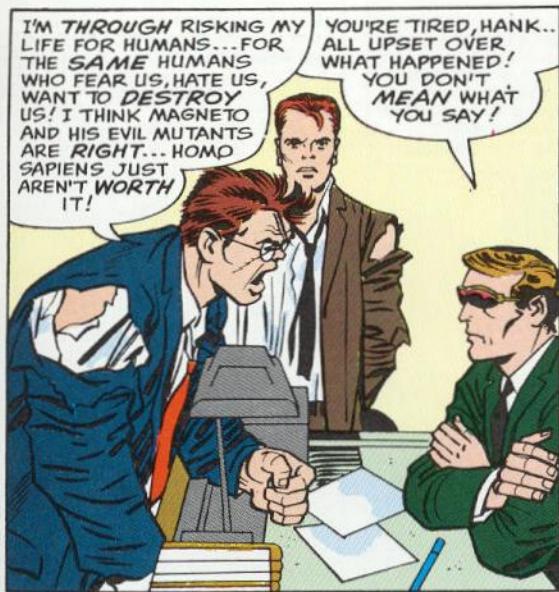


MINUTES LATER...

HANK! BOBBY! WHAT HAPPENED??

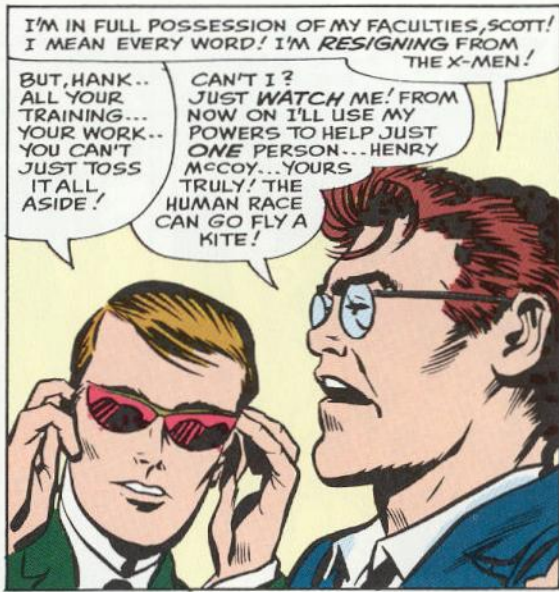
I'M THROUGH, SCOTT! I'VE HAD IT!

A MOB... ALMOST CAUGHT US!



I'M THROUGH RISKING MY LIFE FOR HUMANS...FOR THE SAME HUMANS WHO FEAR US, HATE US, WANT TO DESTROY US! I THINK MAGNETO AND HIS EVIL MUTANTS ARE RIGHT... HOMO SAPIENS JUST AREN'T WORTH IT!

YOU'RE TIRED, HANK.. ALL UPSET OVER WHAT HAPPENED! YOU DON'T MEAN WHAT YOU SAY!



BUT, HANK.. ALL YOUR TRAINING... YOUR WORK... YOU CAN'T JUST TOSS IT ALL ASIDE!

I'M IN FULL POSSESSION OF MY FACILITIES, SCOTT! I MEAN EVERY WORD! I'M RESIGNING FROM THE X-MEN!
CAN'T I? JUST WATCH ME! FROM NOW ON I'LL USE MY POWERS TO HELP JUST ONE PERSON... HENRY MCCOY... YOURS TRULY! THE HUMAN RACE CAN GO FLY A KITE!



BUT WHERE WILL YOU GO? WHAT WILL YOU DO??

DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME, FELLA! I'LL GET ALONG! IF THE HUMAN RACE IS GONNA BE MY ENEMY-FINE! BUT I'LL MAKE THE RULES FOR MY NEXT FIGHT!

HANK.. KEEP IN TOUCH WITH US! CALL IF YOU NEED ME! TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF, YOU BIG, BAD-TEMPERED LUG!



SECONDS LATER, AS SOON AS HE FINDS HIMSELF ALONE ONCE MORE, CYCLOPS ACTIVATES HIS SENSITIVE CERE BRO MACHINE ...

I COULDN'T PERSUADE HANK TO REMAIN! THAT MEANS... I'VE FAILED AS LEADER!

THIS IS OUR MOST SERIOUS SET-BACK! I'VE GOT TO CONTACT PROFESSOR X! THE LOSS OF AN X-MAN IS TOO IMPORTANT FOR ME TO TRY TO HANDLE ALONE!



SLOWLY, THE THOUGHT IMAGE OF PROFESSOR XAVIER IS CONVERTED INTO A VISUAL IMAGE ON THE GLOWING SCREEN, AND THEN...

I'VE MADE CONTACT!

PROFESSOR, THIS IS CYCLOPS! WHERE ARE YOU, SIR?



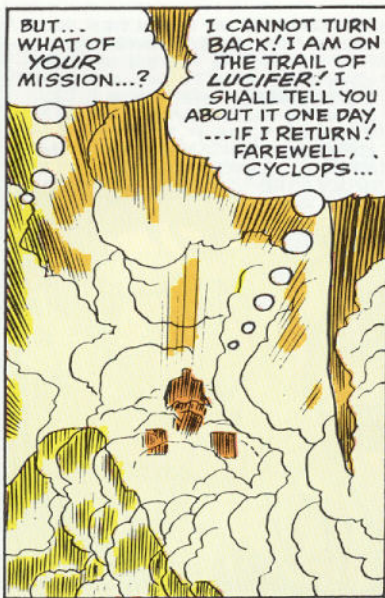
I AM IN THE HEART OF THE BALKANS, IN EUROPE... DESCENDING INTO AN ALMOST BOTTOMLESS CAVE!



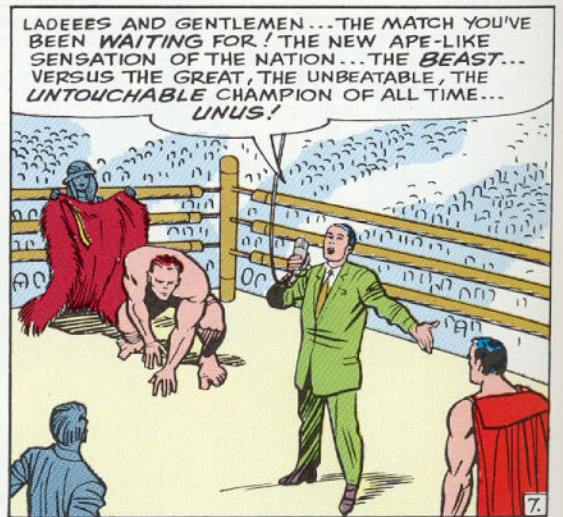
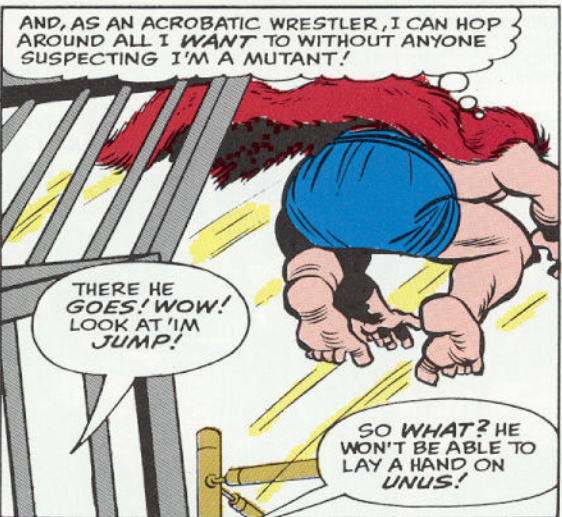
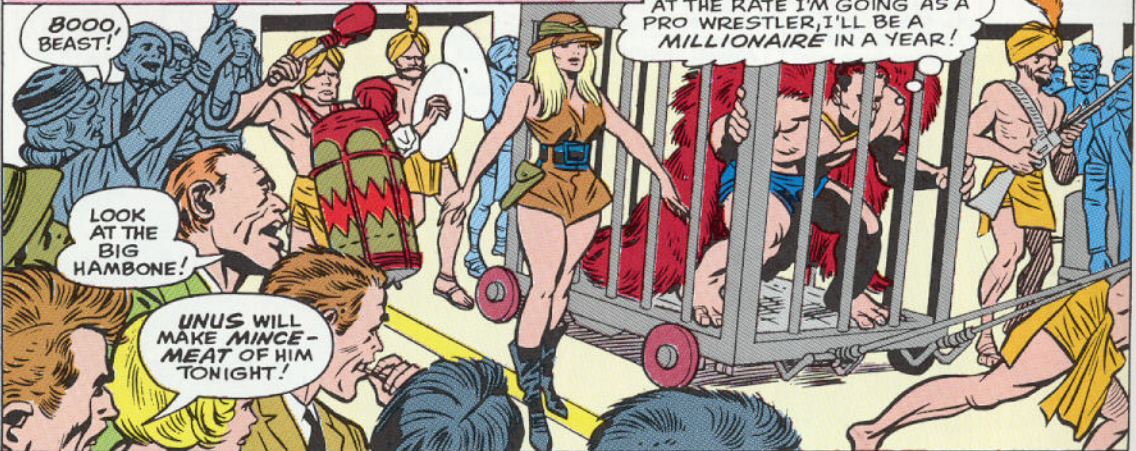
THEN, AFTER CYCLOPS HAS RELATED THE SITUATION, THROUGH MENTAL TRANSMISSION...

WHAT DO I DO, NOW, SIR?

NOTHING! HE WILL NOT JOIN MAGNETO'S EVIL MUTANTS! YOU DID ALL YOU COULD!



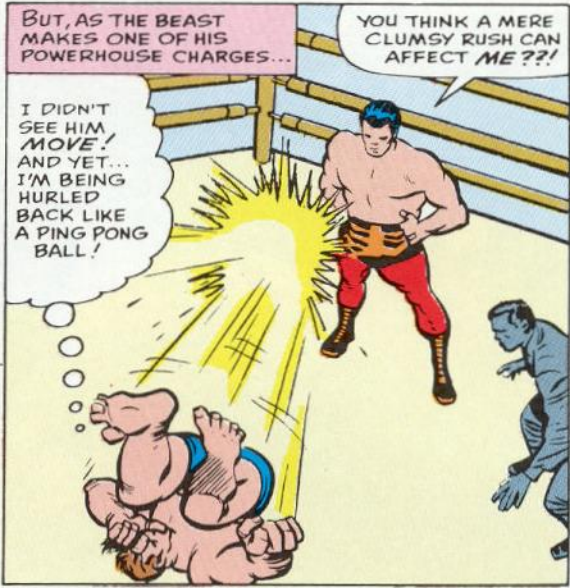
ONE WEEK LATER, A NEW WRESTLING PERSONALITY EXPLODES ON THE T.V. SCREENS THROUGHOUT THE NATION! CORNY AND COLORFUL, HE SOON BECOMES A TOP-DRAW WRESTLING VILLAIN, PLAYING THE HEAVY UNDER THE LOGICAL NAME OF...THE BEAST!





SO THAT'S UNUS, EH? HE LOOKS LIKE A FORMIDABLE FOE ... BUT I'M NO PUSHOVER MYSELF!

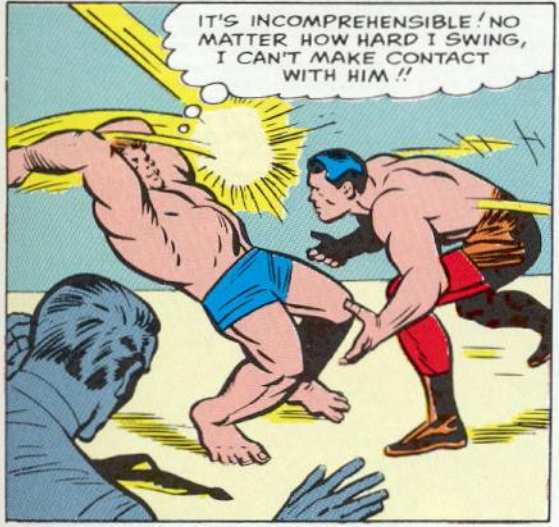
I'LL RUSH HIM QUICKLY, AND GET IT OVER WITH FAST SO THAT HE DOESN'T GET HURT!



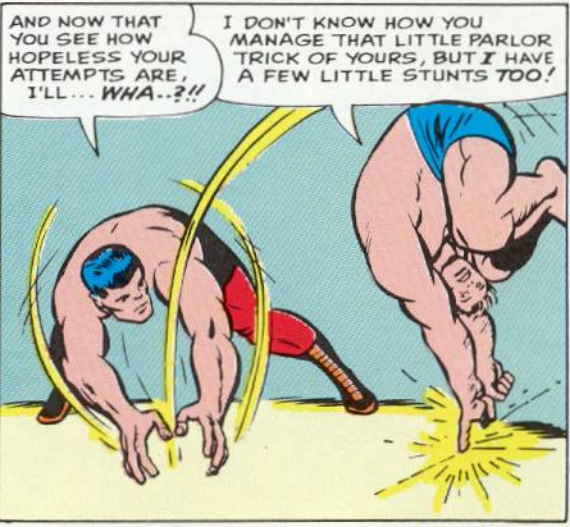
BUT, AS THE BEAST MAKES ONE OF HIS POWERHOUSE CHARGES...

YOU THINK A MERE CLUMSY RUSH CAN AFFECT ME??!

I DIDN'T SEE HIM MOVE! AND YET... I'M BEING HURLED BACK LIKE A PING PONG BALL!



IT'S INCOMPREHENSIBLE! NO MATTER HOW HARD I SWING, I CAN'T MAKE CONTACT WITH HIM!!

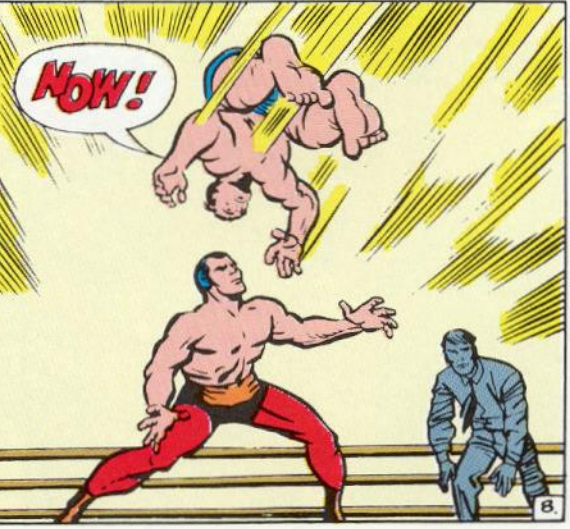


AND NOW THAT YOU SEE HOW HOPELESS YOUR ATTEMPTS ARE, I'LL... WHA...?!!

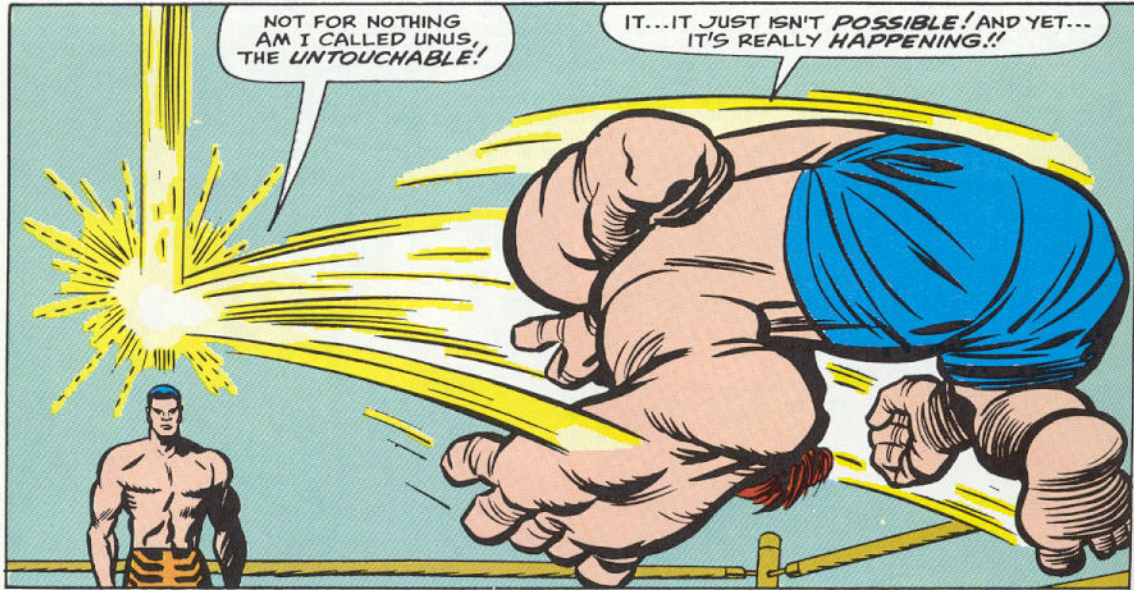
I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU MANAGE THAT LITTLE PARLOR TRICK OF YOURS, BUT I HAVE A FEW LITTLE STUNTS TOO!



I'LL KEEP SPRINGING UP TO GAIN MAXIMUM MOMENTUM, THEN I'LL DIVE DOWN AT HIM WHEN HE LEAST EXPECTS IT!

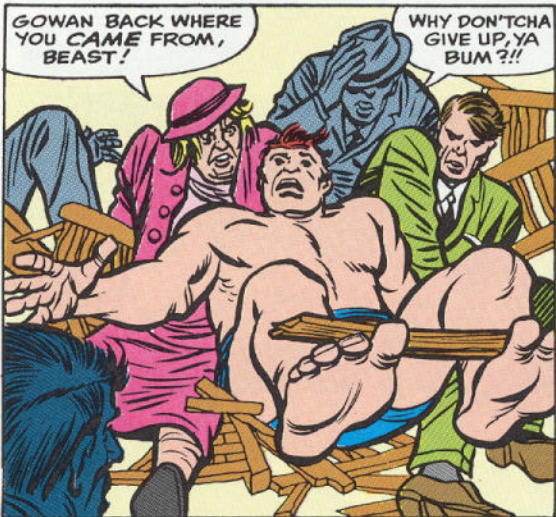


Now!



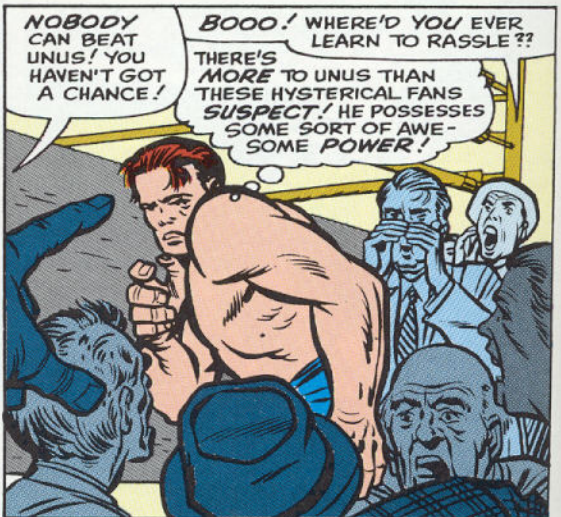
NOT FOR NOTHING AM I CALLED UNUS, THE UNTOUCHABLE!

IT...IT JUST ISN'T POSSIBLE! AND YET... IT'S REALLY HAPPENING!!



GOWAN BACK WHERE YOU CAME FROM, BEAST!

WHY DON'TCHA GIVE UP, YA BUM??!



NOBODY CAN BEAT UNUS! YOU HAVEN'T GOT A CHANCE!

BOOO! WHERE'D YOU EVER LEARN TO RASSLE??

THERE'S MORE TO UNUS THAN THESE HYSTERICAL FANS SUSPECT! HE POSSESSES SOME SORT OF AWESOME POWER!



IT'S TAKING YA SO LONG TO CLIMB BACK IN THE RING THAT THE REF'S COUNTING YOU OUT! UNUS WILL WIN AGAIN!

THAT FACE IN THE AUDIENCE! IT IS...IT HAS TO BE...MASTERMIND!! ONE OF MAGNETO'S EVIL MUTANTS!

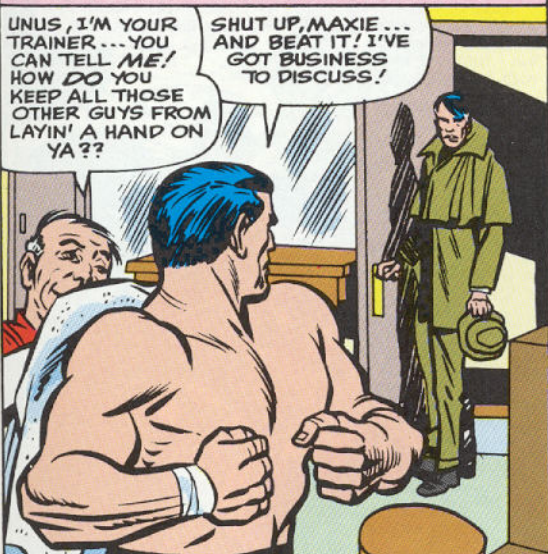


SO STARTLED IS THE BEAST AT SEEING ONE OF HIS EX-ARCH ENEMIES, THAT HE DELAYS HIS RETURN INTO THE RING AGAIN, THEREBY LOSING THE MATCH TO UNUS! BUT, HE HAS OTHER THINGS ON HIS MIND AT THAT MOMENT...

UNUS IS LOOKING STRAIGHT AT MASTERMIND... THEY SEEM TO KNOW EACH OTHER!

OF COURSE! UNUS MUST BE A MUTANT, TOO! HIS POWER IS TOO STRONG, TOO UNNATURAL, FOR ANY OTHER EXPLANATION! BUT, EVEN IF HE JOINS MAGNETO'S EVIL BAND, IT'S NO CONCERN OF MINE ANY MORE!

A SHORT TIME LATER, AFTER THE MATCH...



UNUS, I'M YOUR TRAINER... YOU CAN TELL ME! HOW DO YOU KEEP ALL THOSE OTHER GUYS FROM LAYIN' A HAND ON YA??

SHUT UP, MAXIE... AND BEAT IT! I'VE GOT BUSINESS TO DISCUSS!

WELL, MASTERMIND? WHAT'S MAGNETO'S VERDICT? CAN I JOIN YOUR GROUP OF MUTANTS?

NOT SO FAST, UNUS! MAGNETO HAS BEEN DISAPPOINTED BEFORE! * HE WANTS TO MAKE SURE HE CAN TRUST YOU!

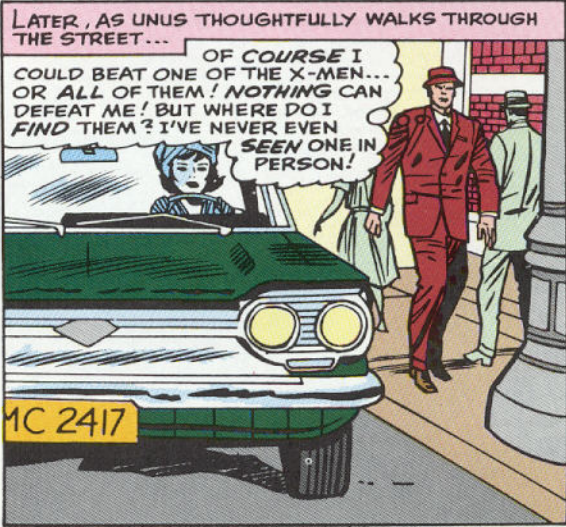


* SEE X-MEN #7 "RETURN OF THE BLOB!"... STAN



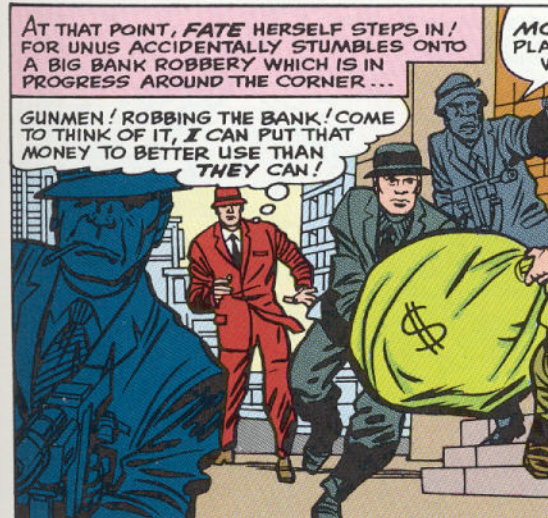
HE'S CONVINCED THAT YOU'RE A REAL MUTANT... AND HE FEELS YOU'VE GOT PLENTY ON THE BALL... BUT HE WANTS YOU TO PROVE YOURSELF!

HOW? WHAT CAN I DO? WELL, IF YOU WERE TO FIND THE X-MEN FOR US, FOR EXAMPLE... OR EVEN TO BEAT ONE OF THEM...!



LATER, AS UNUS THOUGHTFULLY WALKS THROUGH THE STREET...

OF COURSE I COULD BEAT ONE OF THE X-MEN... OR ALL OF THEM! NOTHING CAN DEFEAT ME! BUT WHERE DO I FIND THEM? I'VE NEVER EVEN SEEN ONE IN PERSON!



AT THAT POINT, FATE HERSELF STEPS IN! FOR UNUS ACCIDENTALLY STUMBLES ONTO A BIG BANK ROBBERY WHICH IS IN PROGRESS AROUND THE CORNER...

GUNMEN! ROBBING THE BANK! COME TO THINK OF IT, I CAN PUT THAT MONEY TO BETTER USE THAN THEY CAN!



MOVE... BEFORE THE PLACE IS SWARMIN' WITH COPS!!

ALL WE HAVETA DO IS MAKE IT TO THE GETAWAY CAR ACROSS THE STREET!

BUT, THE STARTLED CRIMINALS ARE NEVER DESTINED TO REACH THAT WAITING CAR! AT LEAST, NOT WITH ANY STOLEN MONEY!

I'LL TAKE THAT MONEY BAG!

IF MAGNETO DOESN'T ALLOW ME TO JOIN HIS BROTHERHOOD, AT LEAST THIS MONEY WILL HELP LAUNCH ME ON MY OWN CAREER OF CONQUEST!



HEY, LOOK, CHARLIE! MY BULLETS DON'T EVEN TOUCH 'IM! THEY JUST GO FLYIN' AWAY!

DON'T YA KNOW WHO THAT IS? IT'S UNUS, THE UNTOUCHABLE!



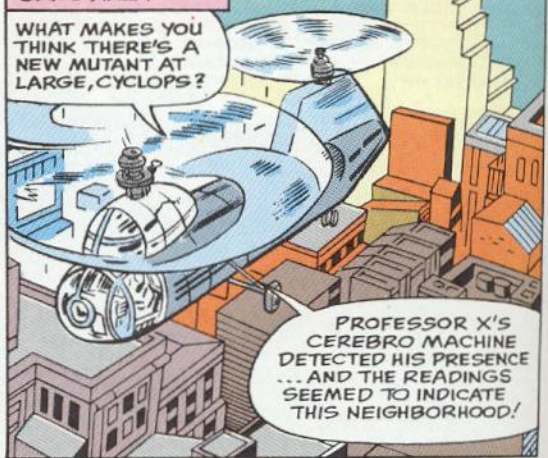
AND, AS THE BULLETS MISS THE UNCANNY UNUS, THEY RICOCHET BACK FROM THE NEARBY WALLS, CAUSING THE GUNMEN TO FLEE FOR THEIR LIVES!

LET'S GET OUTTA HERE, BEFORE WE'RE HIT BY OUR OWN SHELLS!!



MEANWHILE, A POWERFUL, PRIVATELY-OWNED HELICOPTER IS RAPIDLY APPROACHING THAT SAME AREA ...

WHAT MAKES YOU THINK THERE'S A NEW MUTANT AT LARGE, CYCLOPS?



IT JUST DOESN'T SEEM THE SAME TO BE HEADING INTO A NEW ADVENTURE WITHOUT THE BEAST!

WE ALL FEEL THE SAME WAY, WARREN ... BUT LET'S CONCENTRATE ON THE JOB AT HAND NOW!



THE BANK'S BEEN ROBBED! YOU LAND THE CHOPPER ... I'LL GLIDE DOWN UNDER MY OWN POWER AND LOOK AROUND!





THAT BIG FELLA WITH THE MONEY BAG...HE MUST BE ONE OF THE ROBBERS!

STAY WHERE YOU ARE, BUDDY! I WANNA TALK TO YOU!

WHAT A STROKE OF LUCK! NOW I WON'T HAVE TO FIND YOU BEFORE I CAN POLISH YOU OFF!



SO, YOU ARE ONE OF THE ROBBERS!! WELL, I'LL TEACH YOU NOT TO MAKE IDLE THREATS TO AN X-MAN!

STRANGE...HE DOESN'T SEEM THE LEAST BIT WORRIED! HE'S CALMLY FOLDING HIS OUTER CLOTHES!

IF I'M GOING TO BECOME ONE OF MAGNETO'S ALLIES, I MIGHT AS WELL DO MY FIGHTING IN A DISTINCTIVE COSTUME!



THUS, AS THE OTHER X-MEN LAND IN THEIR WHIRLYBIRD, ANGEL IS THE FIRST TO RECEIVE A SAMPLE OF UNUS' FEARSOME POWER!

THE WAY WARREN WAS HURLED FROM THAT MUSCLE MAN BEFORE HE COULD TOUCH HIM, TELLS ME ALL I NEED TO KNOW! WE'VE FOUND OUR MUTANT!!

STAY BACK, ALL OF YOU! I'LL TACKLE HIM WITH MY POWER BEAM!

UNNHH!



THIS IS USELESS! MY ENERGY BLASTS BOUNCE AWAY BEFORE HITTING HIM... AND THEY'LL HIT ONE OF US, IF I DON'T STOP!!

YOU SEEM TO BE THE LEADER...SO YOU SHALL BE MY VICTIM!



I DODGED HIS FIRST BLOW, BUT I CAN'T DODGE FOREVER! HOW DO WE BEAT A MAN WHO CANNOT BE TOUCHED BY ENEMY ATTACK ??! IF HE JOINS MAGNETO, WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO THE X-MEN???

IF I CAN'T USE MY POWER BEAM, PERHAPS MY FISTS WILL-- NO! NOTHING SEEMS ABLE TO TOUCH HIM!

NOW YOU SEE WHY I'M CALLED UNUS-- THE UNTOUCHABLE!!



BUT UNFORTUNATELY FOR YOU, I AM ABLE TO TOUCH WHOMEVER I CHOOSE!

DUCK, CYCLOPS! I'LL GET 'IM FOR YOU!

NO! WAIT-- STUDY HIM FIRST! WE NEED A PLAN! HE'S MORE DANGEROUS THAN I EXPECTED!

TOUCH WHOMEVER I CHOOSE!



THERE! BY THE TIME YOU LAND, THE FIGHT WILL BE KNOCKED OUT OF YOU, AND I'LL TAKE YOU TO MAGNETO!

JUST AS I FEARED! HE DOES WANT TO JOIN MAGNETO'S EVIL GROUP!

MARVEL GIRL! PLAN G-5! QUICKLY!



GOOD WORK! A PERFECT TELEKINETIC CATCH!

ALL OUR HOURS OF TRAINING AND PRACTICE CERTAINLY WEREN'T WASTED! WHAT NEXT, CYCLOPS?



KID STUFF! YOU HAVEN'T A CHANCE!

FIRST, PUT ME DOWN NEAR UNUS! GOOD!

AND NOW-- ICEMAN! TRY MANEUVER F-12-- QUICK-FREEZE INTENSITY!



WE HAVEN'T, EH? JUST WAIT'LL THIS "INSTANT IGLOO" FORMS AROUND YOU, LOUD-MOUTH! YOU'RE NOT TACKLIN' AMATEURS, BUB!

IS THERE NOTHING YOU FREAKS CAN'T DO??!



WHEN YOU TACKLE ONE X-MAN, YOU TACKLE ALL OF US! AND DON'T YOU FORGET IT!

NO TEEN-AGE BRAT OF A MUTANT CAN TALK TO UNUS THAT WAY! IT'LL TAKE MORE THAN AN ICY CAGE TO HOLD ME!!



THEN, MOVING LIKE THE POWERFUL, TRAINED ATHLETE HE IS, THE UNCANNY UNUS SHATTERS THE STILL-HARDENING ICE ENCLOSURE BEFORE IT CAN FREEZE TO ITS FULL STRENGTH!

I DON'T HAVE TO DEPEND UPON MY MUTANT POWERS ALONE!! I DIDN'T SPEND YEARS IN THE RING FOR NOTHING!

THIS LOOKS BAD! HE'S ALMOST AS STRONG AS THE BEAST!



THEN, BEFORE THE STARTLED ICEMAN CAN REGATHER HIS ENERGY FOR ANOTHER ATTACK...

WHAT ODDS WILL YOU GIVE, MUSCLE-BOUND??

AND NOW-- I'LL SHATTER YOU LIKE A PANE OF WINDOW GLASS--!!



ANOTHER ONE, EH? IT DOESN'T MATTER TO ME-- ANY ONE OF YOU WILL DO!

YOUR ONLY POWER IS IN YOUR WINGS-- AND THEY CAN'T DO YOU ANY GOOD AGAINST A BREAK-PROOF WRESTLING HOLD!



CAN'T LAND A BLOW! HAVE TO TRY SOMETHING ELSE!

SUDDENLY, THE GREAT BEATING WINGS SPREAD OUT, AND BOTH MUTANTS SOAR INTO THE SKY ABOVE...!



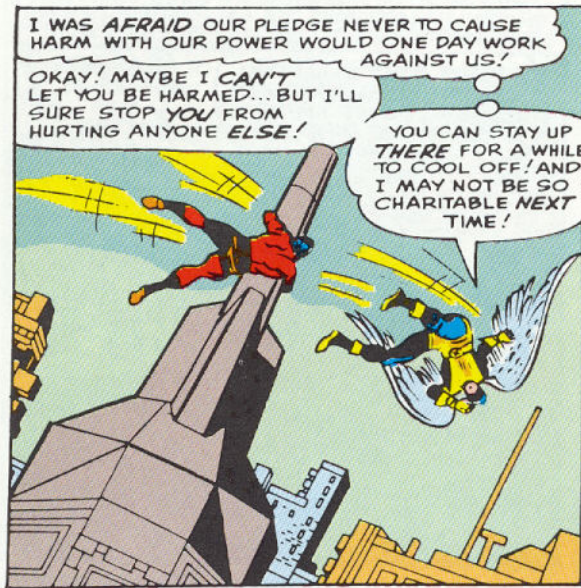
ANYONE CAN RASSLE, UNUS! BUT HERE'S A LITTLE FLYING LESSON FOR YOU!

YOU CAN'T HANG ON FOREVER!



WE'LL SEE HOW MUCH GOOD YOUR POWER DOES YOU-- WHEN YOU FALL!

YOU CAN'T BLUFF ME! YOU'RE NOT MURDERERS-- AND I KNOW IT!



I WAS AFRAID OUR PLEDGE NEVER TO CAUSE HARM WITH OUR POWER WOULD ONE DAY WORK AGAINST US!

OKAY! MAYBE I CAN'T LET YOU BE HARMED... BUT I'LL SURE STOP YOU FROM HURTING ANYONE ELSE!

YOU CAN STAY UP THERE FOR A WHILE TO COOL OFF! AND I MAY NOT BE SO CHARITABLE NEXT TIME!



NICE GOING, WARREN!

WE STOPPED HIM FOR NOW! BUT WHAT HAPPENS IF HE MENACES US AGAIN?

NEXT TIME HE'LL BE TOO SMART TO TRY TO GRAB YOU, ANGEL!



HIS POWER CERTAINLY IS A STRANGE ONE! ALTHOUGH HE CAN BE TOUCHED, IT SEEMS THAT ANY WEAPON, OR ANY BLOW THROWN FOR THE PURPOSE OF INJURING HIM, IS AUTOMATICALLY DEFLECTED IN SOME WAY!

IF HE EVER JOINS MAGNETO, HOW WOULD WE FIGHT HIM?

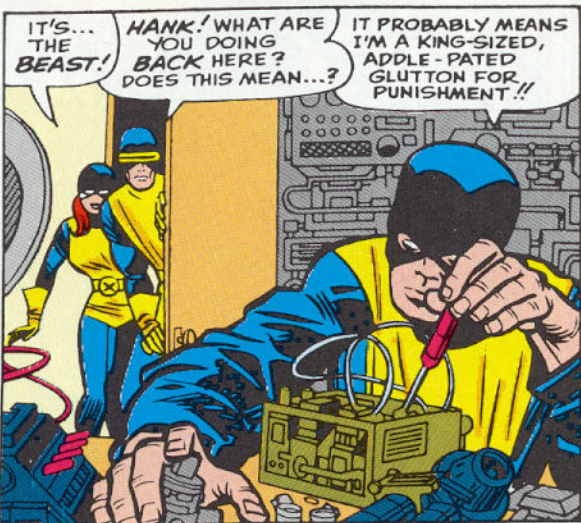
NOTHING MORE WE CAN DO NOW! LET'S GET BACK TO HQ AND THINK THIS OUT!



AND SO...

EVEN IF THE BEAST HADN'T QUIT, HIS STRENGTH COULDN'T HELP US! HE'D BE UNABLE TO LAND A BLOW!

HOLD IT! THERE'S SOMEONE IN THE LAB!!



IT'S... THE BEAST!

HANK! WHAT ARE YOU DOING BACK HERE? DOES THIS MEAN...?

IT PROBABLY MEANS I'M A KING-SIZED, ADDLE-PATED GLUTTON FOR PUNISHMENT!!



BUT, SINCE I'M APPARENTLY THE ONLY ONE WITH THE TECHNICAL SKILL AND INTELLECTUAL CAPACITY TO DEVISE A COUNTER-WEAPON TO UNUS' POWER, IT BEHOVES ME TO SAVE YOU FROM A POSSIBLE IGNOMINIOUS DEFEAT!

WHAT TYPE OF WEAPON IS THAT?

THE ONLY KIND THAT CAN ACHIEVE YOUR OBJECTIVE!
A RAY TO INCREASE UNUS' POWER!

TO INCREASE HIS
POWER?? HAVE YOU
GONE MAD??!

HOLD IT, BEAST!
I DON'T KNOW WHAT
YOUR GAME IS... BUT
YOU'D BETTER HAVE A
MIGHTY GOOD
EXPLANATION!

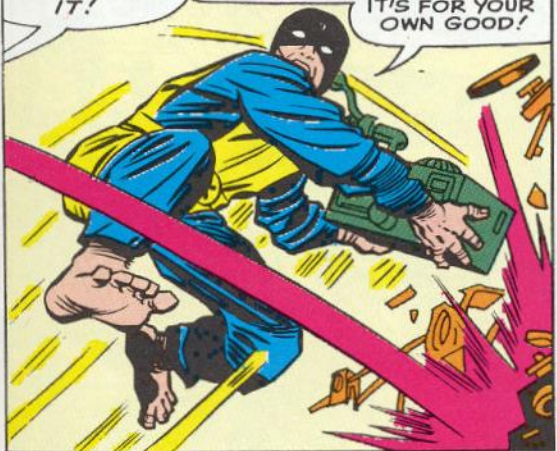
HE MUST HAVE ALREADY
JOINED MAGNETO! WE CAN'T
LET HIM LEAVE WITH THAT
RAY!!

EVEN THOUGH HE
QUIT, I NEVER
THOUGHT
HANK WOULD
REALLY TURN
AGAINST US
LIKE THIS!



DROP THAT
RAY, MCCOY!
I SAID DROP
IT!

CYCLOPS, DON'T! YOU
DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE
DOING! I MUST DO THIS...
IT'S FOR YOUR
OWN GOOD!



IN THE NEXT SPLIT-SECOND, THE BEAST LIVES UP TO HIS NAME BY MOVING WITH THE SPEED AND AGILITY OF A JUNGLE CAT...

CYCLOPS! WHY DIDN'T YOU
STOP HIM!?

I COULDN'T!
JUST COULDN'T
BRING MYSELF TO HIT
HIM WITH MY POWER
BEAM! BUT... WE'VE
GOT TO GO AFTER
HIM!



UNUS MUST BE BACK
AT THE GYM BY NOW!
THAT'S PROBABLY THE
BEAST'S DESTINATION!
LET'S MOVE!

HANG ON, JEAN! I'LL
TAKE YOU WITH US
LIKE THIS... IT'S
THE FASTEST WAY!



BE CAREFUL NOT TO
SLIP ON MY ICY PATH,
SCOTTY!

MINUTES LATER...

LOOK, MASTERMIND! TELL
MAGNETO TO GIVE ME
ANOTHER CHANCE! I
ALMOST HAD 'EM LICKED!
THEY WON'T ESCAPE ME
NEXT TIME!

THERE WON'T BE
A NEXT TIME,
UNUS! NOT FOR
YOU!





ANOTHER X-MAN! WELL, NO MATTER WHO YOU ARE, I'LL ... LINHHH!

YOU TALK TOO MUCH, MUSCLE MAN! PERHAPS THIS WILL SILENCE YOU...!



YOU FOOL! THAT DIDN'T AFFECT ME! I DIDN'T REALIZE... WAIT! IT DID! I CAN FEEL IT! IT MADE ME STRONGER THAN EVER! MY POWER HAS BEEN INCREASED!

YOU MUST BE ON MY SIDE! MAGNETO MUST HAVE SENT YOU!

THINK WHAT YOU WANT TO, UNUS!

AND NOW, LET'S PUT YOUR NEW POWER TO THE TEST!



I WAS RIGHT! I'M MORE UNTOUCHABLE THAN EVER! LOOK HOW FAST THAT THING BOUNCED AWAY FROM ME!

WE'RE TOO LATE! HE'S USED HIS RAY!

OH, NO! HOW COULD HE??

IT WAS EASY, I COULDN'T PERMIT YOU TO STOP ME!



THEN, AS THE SHOCKED X-MEN LEAVE THE GYM...

CYCLOPS... LET SOMEONE ELSE HANDLE HANK! I--

WASN'T IT ENOUGH TO DESERT US? DID YOU HAVE TO BETRAY US, AS WELL?!

I DID IT FOR YOUR OWN SAKE, SCOTT, YOU'LL SEE!



CYCLOPS! WHAT'S OUR NEXT MOVE?

NOTHING YET! STAY BACK! SEE WHAT UNUS TRIES TO DO!

I'LL RESTRAIN THEM, UNUS! YOU EXPERIMENT WITH YOUR NEW POWER... THEN WE'LL BE BACK!

YOU'LL MAKE A GOOD MEMBER FOR MAGNETO, TOO! ANYONE WHO'D BETRAY HIS OWN TEAM BY HELPING THE ENEMY...!

TAKE YOUR HAND OFF ME!

LATER, BACK INSIDE THE GYM, UNUS CROWS IN TRIUMPH ...!

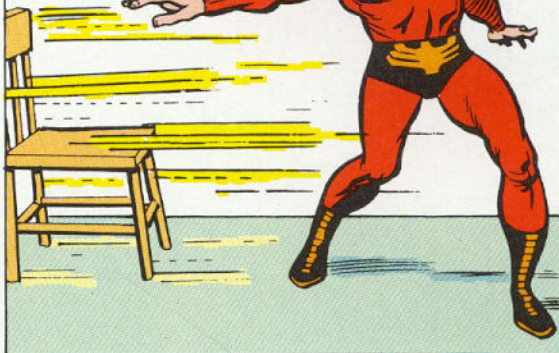
HE'LL HAVE TO LET ME JOIN HIS MUTANT BAND AFTER THAT!

WAIT! L'L MAGNETO HEARS THAT ONE OF THE X-MEN WAS SO FRIGHTENED OF ME THAT HE INCREASED MY POWER IN ORDER TO BECOME MY ALLY!



NOW, NOT ONLY ARE MENACING BLOWS AND WEAPONS UNABLE TO TOUCH ME, BUT I CAN MAKE ANYTHING SPIN AWAY FROM ME BY MERELY GETTING NEAR IT!

I'M COMPLETELY UNTOUCHABLE! I'M THE MOST INVULNERABLE MAN ALIVE! NOTHING CAN TOUCH ME... THEREFORE NOTHING CAN HARM ME!



I'LL GRAB A CIGARETTE WHILE I CALL MASTERMIND AND TELL HIM WHAT HAP... HEY!!

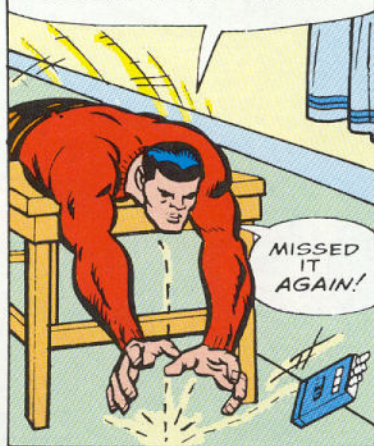


I CAN'T TOUCH THE BLAMED THING! IT KEEPS MOVING AWAY FROM ME!

BLAST IT! NO BLAMED CIGARETTE IS GONNA STOP ME FROM SMOKIN' IT!



I'LL THROW MYSELF ON TOP OF THE TABLE AND GRAB IT BEFORE IT CAN... WAIT!!



MISSED IT AGAIN!

THIS IS CRAZY! NOW EVEN THE TABLE IS SHOVIN' ITSELF AWAY FROM ME!



WHAT'S GOIN' ON HERE?? WHAT'S HAPPENING TO ME?? WHAT GOOD IS MY NEW POWER IF I CAN'T CONTROL IT??



DAZED, CONFUSED, THE ANGRY MUTANT WALKS INTO THE STREET, AS EVERY OBJECT HE PASSES RECOILS AS THOUGH IT HAS A WILL OF ITS OWN!



OUT OF MY WAY, FOOLS! I'M INVULNERABLE, CAN'T YOU SEE? I'M UNTOUCHABLE!

FINALLY, THE PANGS OF HUNGER BEGIN TO GNAW AT HIM, AND SO ... GIVE ME A STEAK... AND MAKE IT FAST... UNDERSTAND??



SURE, BIG FELLA! I'VE GOT ONE RIGHT HERE! I WAS GONNA GIVE IT TO SOMEONE ELSE, B-BUT HE'S NOT AS BIG AS YOU!

WHA...?? IT FLEW RIGHT OUT OF THE PLATE!

THEN GIVE ME ANOTHER! I'M HUNGRY, DO YOU HEAR... HUNGRY!

CYCLOPS! YOU'D BETTER CONTACT PROFESSOR X! HE'LL KNOW WHAT TO DO WITH THE BEAST!

NO, BOBBY! I WON'T DISTURB HIM YET! THE BEAST CAN DO NOTHING MORE WHILE HE'S WITH US!

I HAVE ANOTHER PLAN TO TRY NOW! ARE YOU READY, WARREN?

IT'S TOO LATE TO DO ANYTHING NOW! JUST WAIT... YOU'LL SEE!



READY, CYKE!

PERFECT! IF ALL ELSE FAILS, WE'LL DROP A PLASTIC BUBBLE LIKE THIS ONE OVER UNUS! HE WON'T BE ABLE TO TOUCH IT... IT WILL MOVE WITH HIM! IT WILL BE A FORM OF PORTABLE PRISON!

GET THE PHONE, JEAN! IT MUST BE ICEMAN! I SENT HIM TO THE CITY, TO KEEP WATCH ON UNUS!

I HOPE BOBBY DIDN'T GET INTO ANY TROUBLE! IF UNUS SHOULD CATCH HIM ALONE...!



BOBBY IS A FULL-FLEDGED GRADUATE X-MAN NOW! HE CAN HANDLE HIMSELF!

WHAT DOES HE SAY?

HE WANTS US TO COME TO THE CORNER OF BROADWAY AND 46TH STREET... ON THE DOUBLE!



EXACTLY TEN SECONDS LATER...

DON'T MAKE ANY SUDDEN MOVES, BEAST! WE'RE ALL WATCHING YOU!



I APPLAUD YOUR GOOD JUDGEMENT! YOU COULDN'T HAVE SELECTED A LOVELIER SPECIMEN FOR OBSERVATION!

FINALLY...
WHERE'S ICEMAN?
OH, THERE HE IS!
HE'S INCOGNITO!

NATURALLY! I DIDN'T WANT UNUS TO KNOW HE WAS BEING FOLLOWED!

HE'S ALL YOURS, CYKE! RIGHT INSIDE...

AH! JUST AS I ANTICIPATED!

I'VE GOT TO HAVE SOME FOOD! I'M STARVING! THERE MUST BE A WAY! I MUST EAT... I MUST!

THE ONLY THING THAT'LL SAVE YOU IS ANOTHER BLAST FROM MY RAY GUN, UNUS! BUT FIRST, THERE ARE A FEW CONDITIONS...!

ANYTHING! I'LL DO ANYTHING YOU SAY... I'LL MAKE ANY PROMISE...

VERY WELL! THIS WILL NULLIFY THE EFFECT OF THE LAST SHOT! YOU'LL BE AS YOU WERE BEFORE!

CYCLOPS! HE'S USING THAT BLAMED RAY AGAIN!

IT'S ALL RIGHT! HE KNOWS WHAT HE'S DOING!

I'M SAVED! I CAN TOUCH THINGS AGAIN! I CAN EAT...!

BUT REMEMBER THIS, UNUS...

WE'RE KEEPING OUR LITTLE RAY GUN! ANYTIME WE HEAR THAT YOU'VE GOTTEN OUT OF LINE, OR THAT YOU'VE TRIED TO CONTACT MAGNETO... YOU'LL GET ANOTHER TREATMENT... AND NEXT TIME, WE'LL THROW THE ANTIDOTE AWAY!

DON'T YOU GUYS WORRY! THERE WON'T BE A NEXT TIME! I'VE HAD IT!

I GUESS I WAS NEVER CUT OUT TO BE A FAMOUS SUPER-POWERED COSTUMED ADVENTURER! I'M GOIN' BACK TO THE RASSLIN' RING... WHERE I BELONG!

AND I'M BACK WHERE I BELONG, TOO... WITH THE X-MEN!

THANKS FOR NOT BLASTING ME TILL I COULD DO WHAT HAD TO BE DONE, SCOTT!

DEEP DOWN, I NEVER REALLY LOST FAITH IN YOU, HANK!

THAT'S WHAT MAKES YOU THE LEADER YOU ARE!

And so, THE ASTOUNDING X-MEN ARE TOGETHER AGAIN, LITTLE DREAMING THAT THEIR NEXT BATTLE WILL NOT BE AGAINST A MUTANT MENACE... BUT SOMETHING STILL MIGHTIER... STILL MORE DANGEROUS!!

The End.