THE MIGHTY
THOR
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
MARVEL COMICS GROUP
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143 AUG
BALDER THE BRAVE!
THE STUNNING SIF!
THE EVIL ENCHANTERS!
PANIC IN THE CITY!
THIS IS IT, TRUE BELIEVER!

THE MIGHTY THOR!

"AND, SOON SHALL COME: THE ENCHANTERS!"

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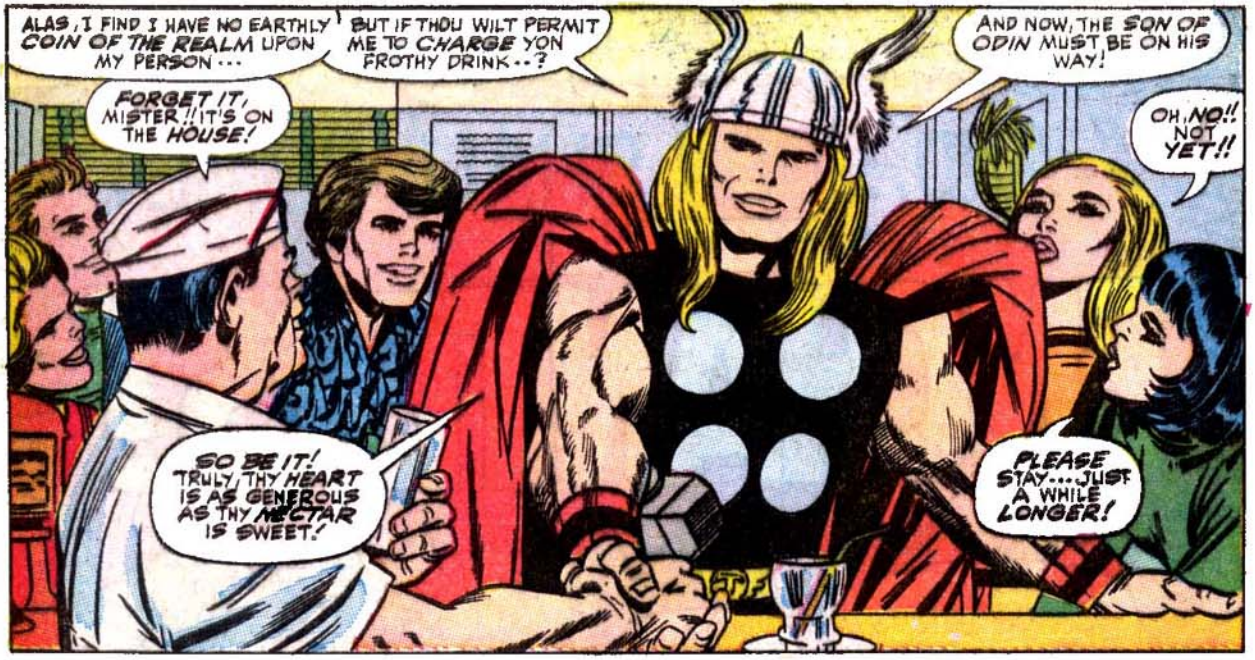
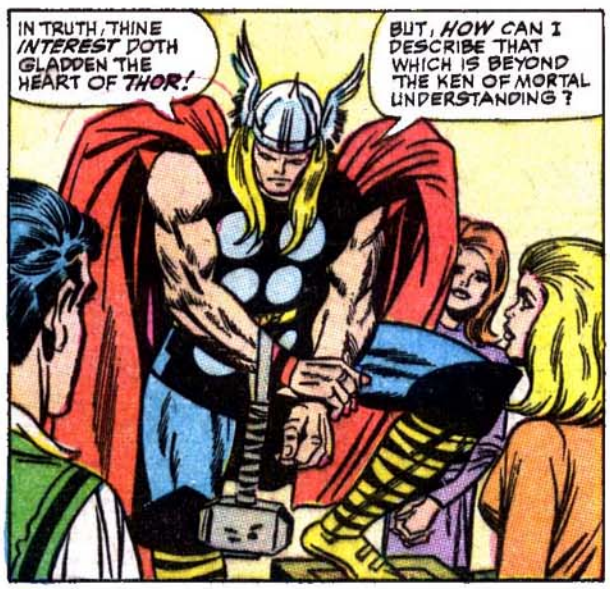
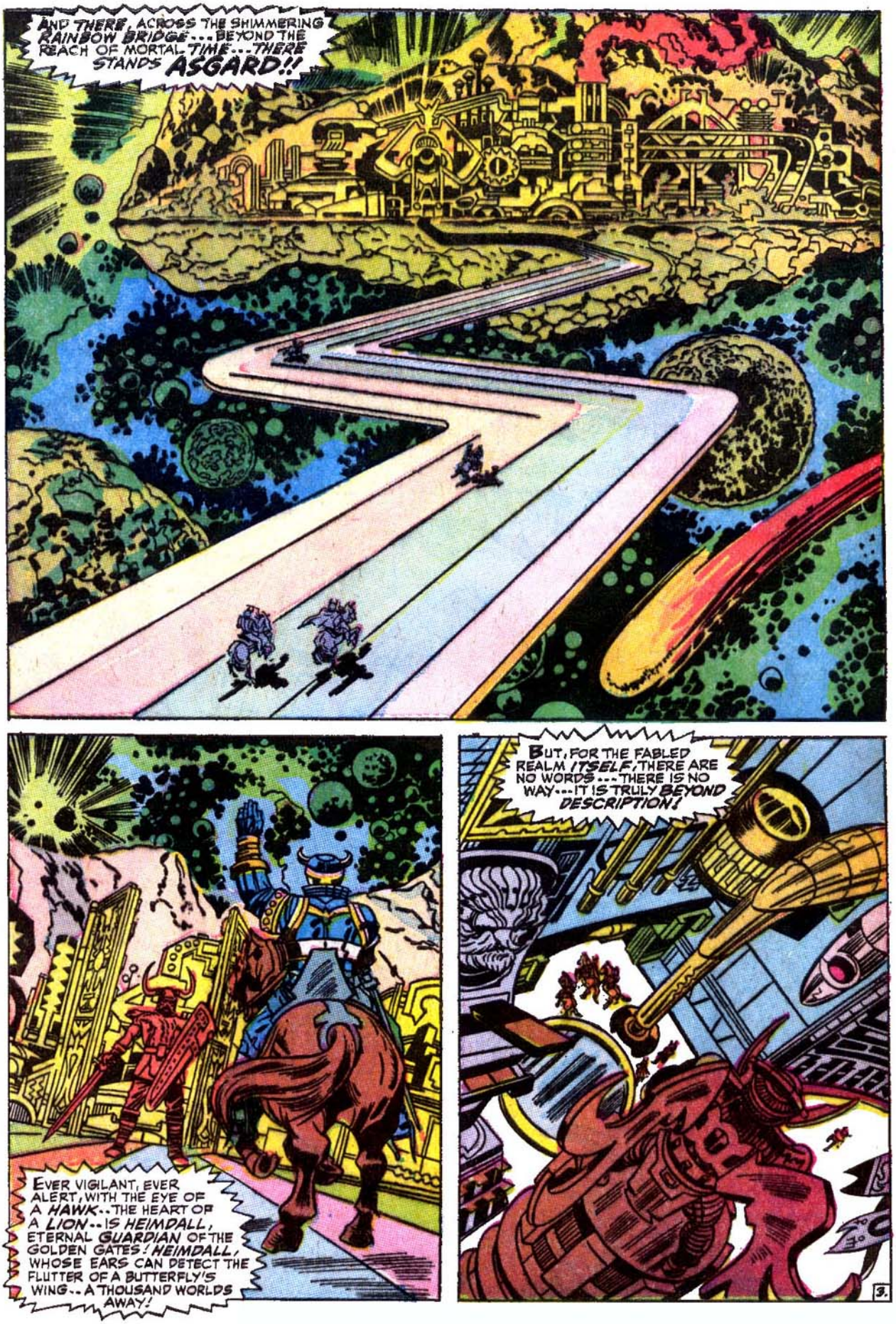

ALAS, I FIND I HAVE NO EARTHLY COIN OF THE REALM UPON MY PERSON ...
BUT IF THOU WILT PERMIT ME TO CHARGE YON FROTHY DRINK--?
AND NOW, THE SON OF ODIN MUST BE ON HIS WAY!
FORGET IT, MISTER!! IT'S ON THE HOUSE!
OH, NO!! NOT YET!!
SO BE IT! TRULY, THY HEART IS AS GENEROUS AS THY NECTAR IS SWEET!
PLEASE STAY... JUST A WHILE LONGER!

YOU CAN'T CUT OUT WITHOUT GIVIN' US THE LOW-DOWN ON YOUR PAD IN ASGARD!
THAT'S RIGHT! TELL US IF THE STORIES ABOUT YOU ARE REALLY TRUE!
DO YOU REALLY COME FROM A FABLED LAND... SOMEWHERE FAR BEYOND THE STARS??
CLUE US IN, MISTER! YOU CAN'T JUST EAT N' RUN!


IN TRUTH, THINE INTEREST DOTH GLADDEN THE HEART OF THOR!
BUT, HOW CAN I DESCRIBE THAT WHICH IS BEYOND THE KEN OF MORTAL UNDERSTANDING?

NONETHELESS, I SHALL ATTEMPT TO REVEAL... THE UNREVEALABLE!!
THOU MUST NOW ATTEND MY EVERY WORD!
EMPTY THY MINDS OF ALL EARTHLY THOUGHT... AS I LEAD THEE-- IN SPIRIT... FAR BEYOND THIS LONELY MORTAL VALE!

YEA, EVEN BEYOND THE MOST DISTANT STAR... THE FARTHEST GALAXY... THE FINAL UNIVERSE...
...TO THE VERY EDGE OF TIME-LESS INFINITY...!
2.

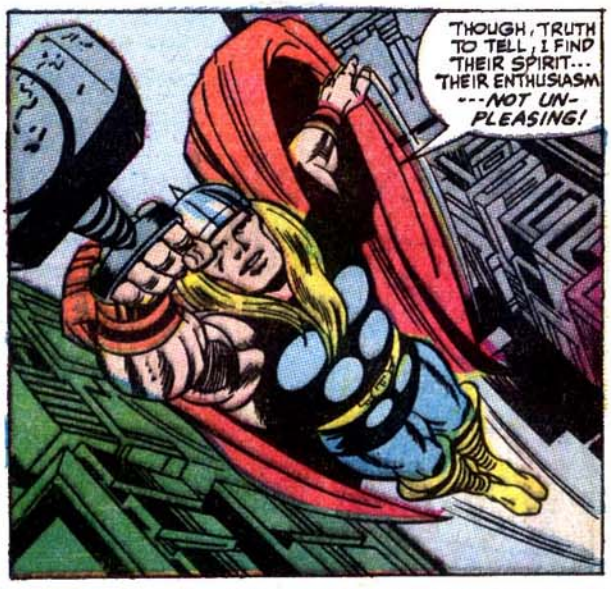

AND THERE, ACROSS THE SHIMMERING RAINBOW BRIDGE... BEYOND THE REACH OF MORTAL TIME... THERE STANDS ASGARD!!
EVER VIGILANT, EVER ALERT, WITH THE EYE OF A HAWK--THE HEART OF A LION--IS HEIMDALL, ETERNAL GUARDIAN OF THE GOLDEN GATES! HEIMDALL, WHOSE EARS CAN DETECT THE FLUTTER OF A BUTTERFLY'S WING--A THOUSAND WORLDS AWAY!
BUT, FOR THE FABLED REALM ITSELF, THERE ARE NO WORDS... THERE IS NO WAY--IT IS TRULY BEYOND DESCRIPTION!
3.

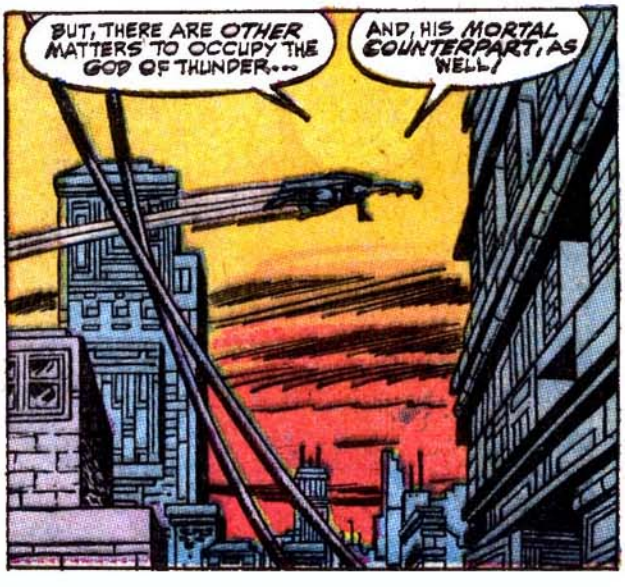
YEA, BEYOND DESCRIPTION.. EVEN AS HE WHO RULES THE FABLED REALM IS BEYOND DESCRIPTION---FOR HE DOTH SURPASS ALL UNDERSTANDING!
ODIN--- MAKER OF THE LAW--SPEAKER OF THE WORD KEEPER OF THE FAITH!!
LET IT SUFFICE TO KNOW THAT HE BE ODIN... THE ALL-WISE.. THE TRULY OMNIPOTENT!!
ODIN! THE LASTING POWER-- THE LIGHTNING WRATH--- THE LIVING JUDGMENT!!
VERILY, HE BE ASGARD INCARNATE!! AND, TO THE GOD OF THUNDER, HE BE ONE THING MORE--
HE BE FLESH OF MY FLESH--- BLOOD OF MY BLOOD!!
FOR, HIM DO I CALL--- FATHER!!
4.

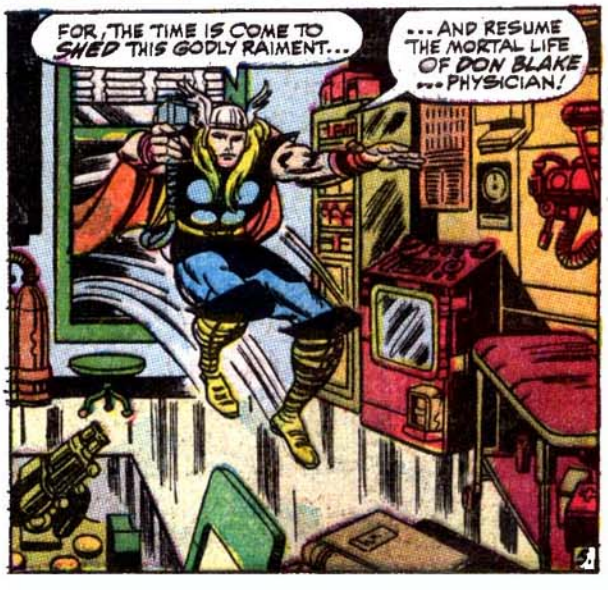
BUT, I HAVE SPOKEN ENOW!
THINGS THERE ARE WHICH BEST BE LEFT UNUTTERED!
AW, NO!! YOU CAN'T STOP NOW! NOT AFTER YOU GOT US ALL HOOKED!
'TIS TIME TO TAKE MY LEAVE! STAND YE ALL ASIDE!

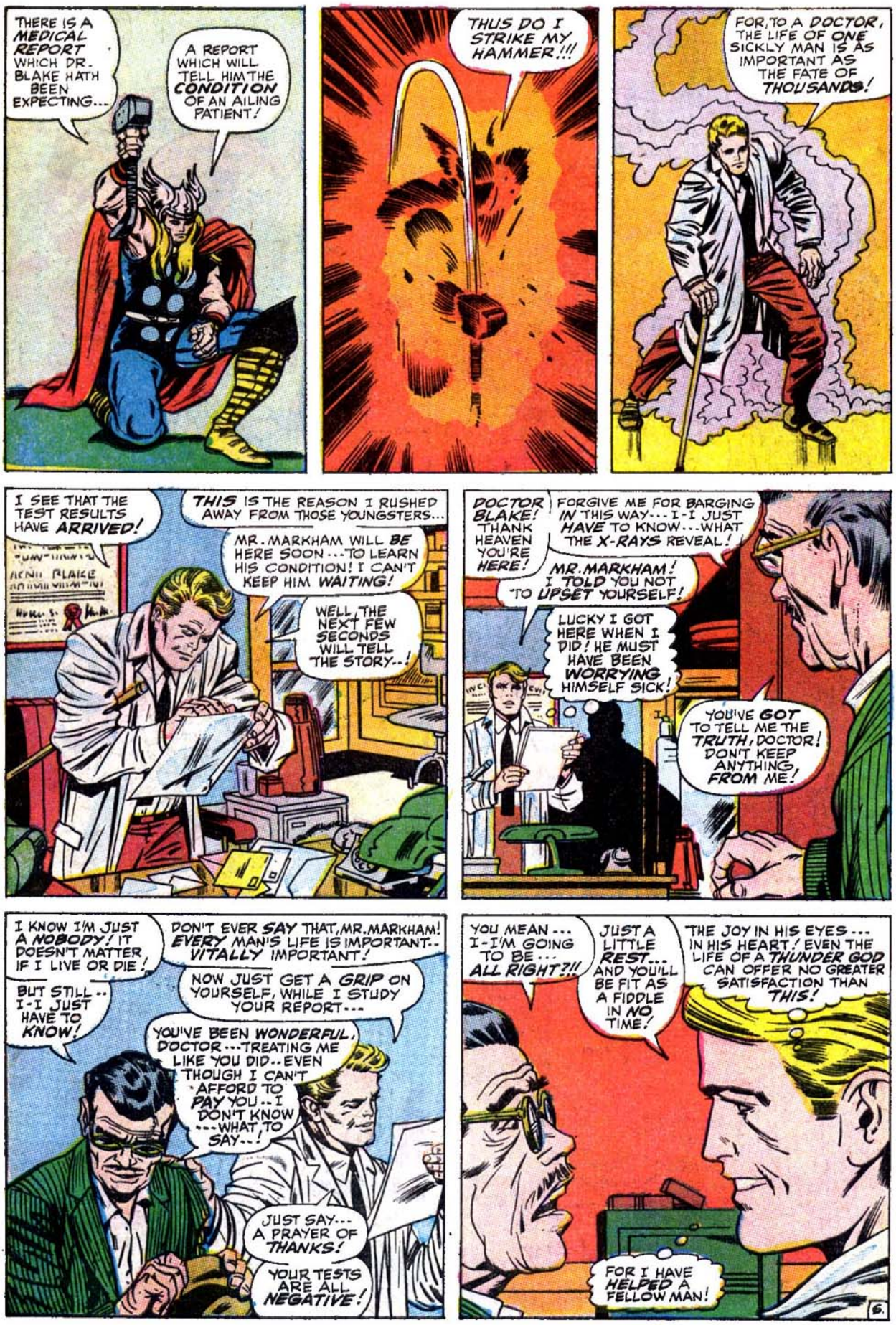
DIDST THOU NOT HEAR THE WORDS OF THOR?
THOU MUST NOT PURSUE ME AS THOUGH I BE A MORTAL SINGER OF SONGS!
STAND YE BACK, I SAY! I FIND THIS MOST UNSEEMLY!
PLEASE DON'T LEAVE SO SOON!
IF THEY'RE ALL LIKE YOU, WE WANT THE DIRECTIONS TO ASGARD!

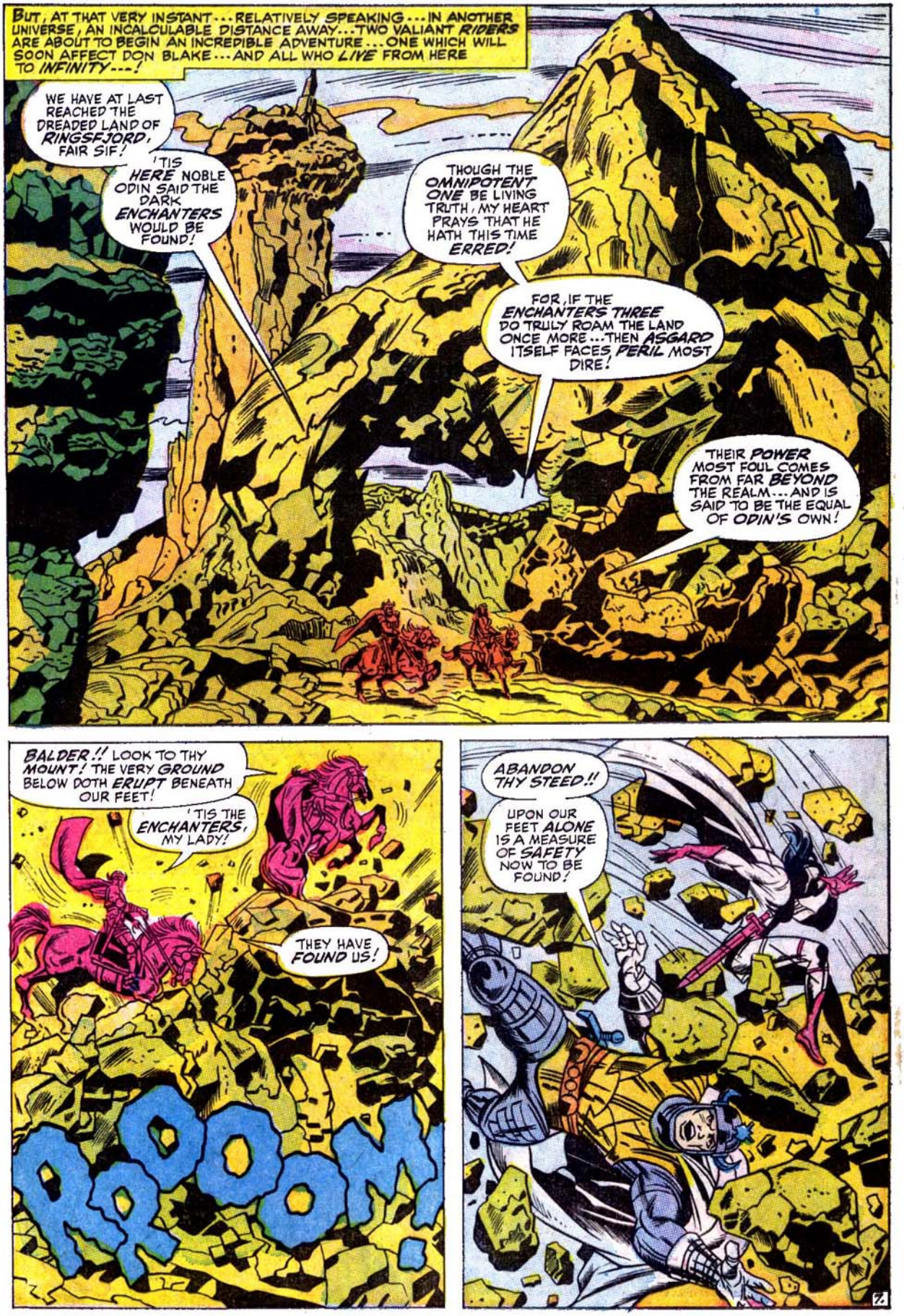
FIE UPON IT!
'TIS EASIER BY FAR TO FLEE SOME UNEARTHLY MENACE THAN SUCH AS THEY!


THOUGH, TRUTH TO TELL, I FIND THEIR SPIRIT... THEIR ENTHUSIASM ---NOT UNPLEASING!


BUT, THERE ARE OTHER MATTERS TO OCCUPY THE GOD OF THUNDER...
AND, HIS MORTAL COUNTERPART, AS WELL!


FOR, THE TIME IS COME TO SHED THIS GODLY RAIMENT...
...AND RESUME THE MORTAL LIFE OF DON BLAKE ...PHYSICIAN!


THERE IS A MEDICAL REPORT WHICH DR. BLAKE HATH BEEN EXPECTING...
A REPORT WHICH WILL TELL HIM THE CONDITION OF AN AILING PATIENT!
THUS DO I STRIKE MY HAMMER!!!
FOR, TO A DOCTOR, THE LIFE OF ONE SICKLY MAN IS AS IMPORTANT AS THE FATE OF THOUSANDS!
I SEE THAT THE TEST RESULTS HAVE ARRIVED!
THIS IS THE REASON I RUSHED AWAY FROM THOSE YOUNGSTERS...
MR. MARKHAM WILL BE HERE SOON...TO LEARN HIS CONDITION! I CAN'T KEEP HIM WAITING!
WELL, THE NEXT FEW SECONDS WILL TELL THE STORY--!
DOCTOR BLAKE! THANK HEAVEN YOU'RE HERE!
FORGIVE ME FOR BARGING IN THIS WAY--- I-I JUST HAVE TO KNOW---WHAT THE X-RAYS REVEAL!
MR. MARKHAM! I TOLD YOU NOT TO UPSET YOURSELF!
LUCKY I GOT HERE WHEN I DID! HE MUST HAVE BEEN WORRYING HIMSELF SICK!
YOU'VE GOT TO TELL ME THE TRUTH, DOCTOR! DON'T KEEP ANYTHING FROM ME!
I KNOW I'M JUST A NOBODY! IT DOESN'T MATTER IF I LIVE OR DIE!
BUT STILL-- I-I JUST HAVE TO KNOW!
DON'T EVER SAY THAT, MR. MARKHAM! EVERY MAN'S LIFE IS IMPORTANT-- VITALLY IMPORTANT!
NOW JUST GET A GRIP ON YOURSELF, WHILE I STUDY YOUR REPORT---
YOU'VE BEEN WONDERFUL, DOCTOR---TREATING ME LIKE YOU DID--EVEN THOUGH I CAN'T AFFORD TO PAY YOU--I DON'T KNOW ---WHAT TO SAY--!
JUST SAY... A PRAYER OF THANKS!
YOUR TESTS ARE ALL NEGATIVE!
YOU MEAN--- I-I'M GOING TO BE... ALL RIGHT?!!
JUST A LITTLE REST... AND YOU'LL BE FIT AS A FIDDLE IN NO TIME!
THE JOY IN HIS EYES--- IN HIS HEART! EVEN THE LIFE OF A THUNDER GOD CAN OFFER NO GREATER SATISFACTION THAN THIS!
FOR I HAVE HELPED A FELLOW MAN!
6.


BUT, AT THAT VERY INSTANT···RELATIVELY SPEAKING···IN ANOTHER UNIVERSE, AN INCALCULABLE DISTANCE AWAY···TWO VALIANT RIDERS ARE ABOUT TO BEGIN AN INCREDIBLE ADVENTURE···ONE WHICH WILL SOON AFFECT DON BLAKE···AND ALL WHO LIVE FROM HERE TO INFINITY---!
WE HAVE AT LAST REACHED THE DREADED LAND OF RINGSFJORD, FAIR SIF!
'TIS HERE NOBLE ODIN SAID THE DARK ENCHANTERS WOULD BE FOUND!
THOUGH THE OMNIPOTENT ONE BE LIVING TRUTH, MY HEART PRAYS THAT HE HATH THIS TIME ERRED!
FOR, IF THE ENCHANTERS THREE DO TRULY ROAM THE LAND ONCE MORE···THEN ASGARD ITSELF FACES PERIL MOST DIRE!
THEIR POWER MOST FOUL COMES FROM FAR BEYOND THE REALM···AND IS SAID TO BE THE EQUAL OF ODIN'S OWN!
BALDER!! LOOK TO THY MOUNT! THE VERY GROUND BELOW DOTH ERUPT BENEATH OUR FEET!
'TIS THE ENCHANTERS, MY LADY!
THEY HAVE FOUND US!
KROOM!
ABANDON THY STEED!!
UPON OUR FEET ALONE IS A MEASURE OF SAFETY NOW TO BE FOUND!

BEHIND ME, MY LADY! WHATE'ER MAY BEFALL... BALDER'S BLADE MUST MEET IT FIRST!
I SAY THEE NAY, MY LORD! THOUGH I BE WOMAN BORN, MY BLADE IS TRUE... MY ARM IS SWIFT!
WE EACH DO FIGHT FOR ASGARD.. AND SHALL DO SO SIDE-BY-SIDE!
IN TRUTH THOU ART GODDESS MOST FIT FOR THE MIGHTY SON OF ODIN!
HOW MY HEART DOTH WISH THE LIPS OF THOR WOULD MOUTH SUCH WORDS, MY LORD!
BUT NOW...'TIS TIME FOR OTHER MATTERS!
ENCHANTERS!! HEED THE CHALLENGE OF BALDER..STAND YE FORTH!!
AS THOUGH IN ANSWER TO THY WORDS...AN EXPLOSION MOST GIGANTIC HATH OCCURRED!
AND A CLOUD TAKES SHAPE ABOVE US...
A CLOUD OF EVIL.. GROWING DARKER THAN THE BLACKEST NIGHT!
BEHOLD!! WITHIN YON CLOUD-- A FACE IS FORMED!
I-AM-THE-SPIRIT-OF-THE-LIVING-TALISMEN-WHICH-DO-SERVE-THE-THREE-ENCHANTERS!
AND I AM BALDER... WARRIOR OF ASGARD!
BE THE ENCHANTERS SO COWARDLY THAT THEY SEND NAUGHT BUT AN EMPTY CLOUD TO OPPOSE US??
DO NOT SEEK TO ANGER HIM, MY LORD!
THE TALISMEN ARE POSSESSED OF POWER BEYOND OUR COMPREHENSION!
NO MATTER! THE GAUNTLET HATH BEEN FLUNG! NOW STAND WE FAST!
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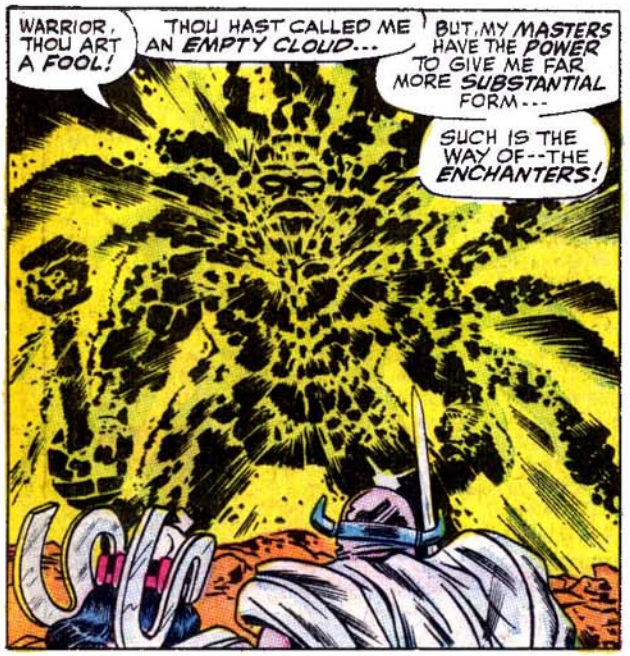
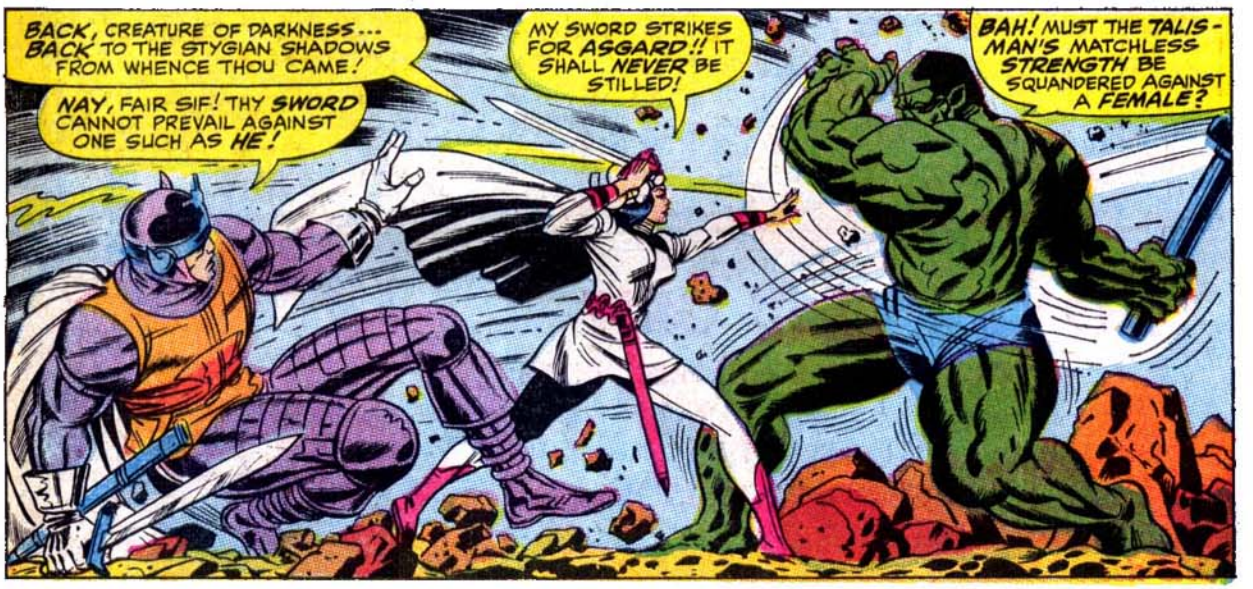
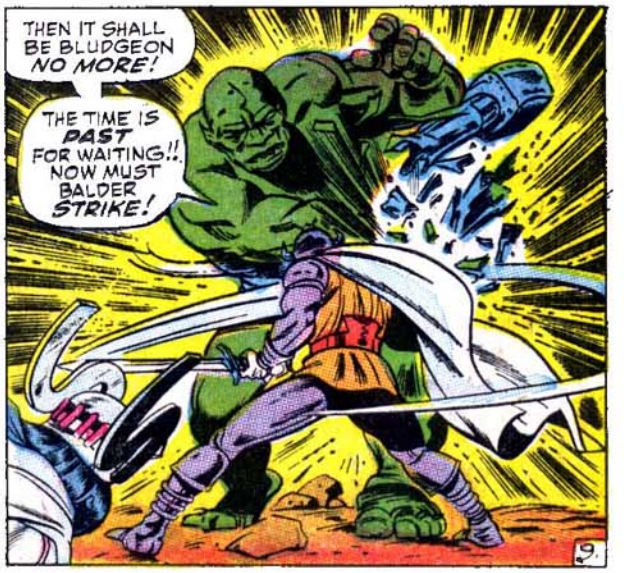
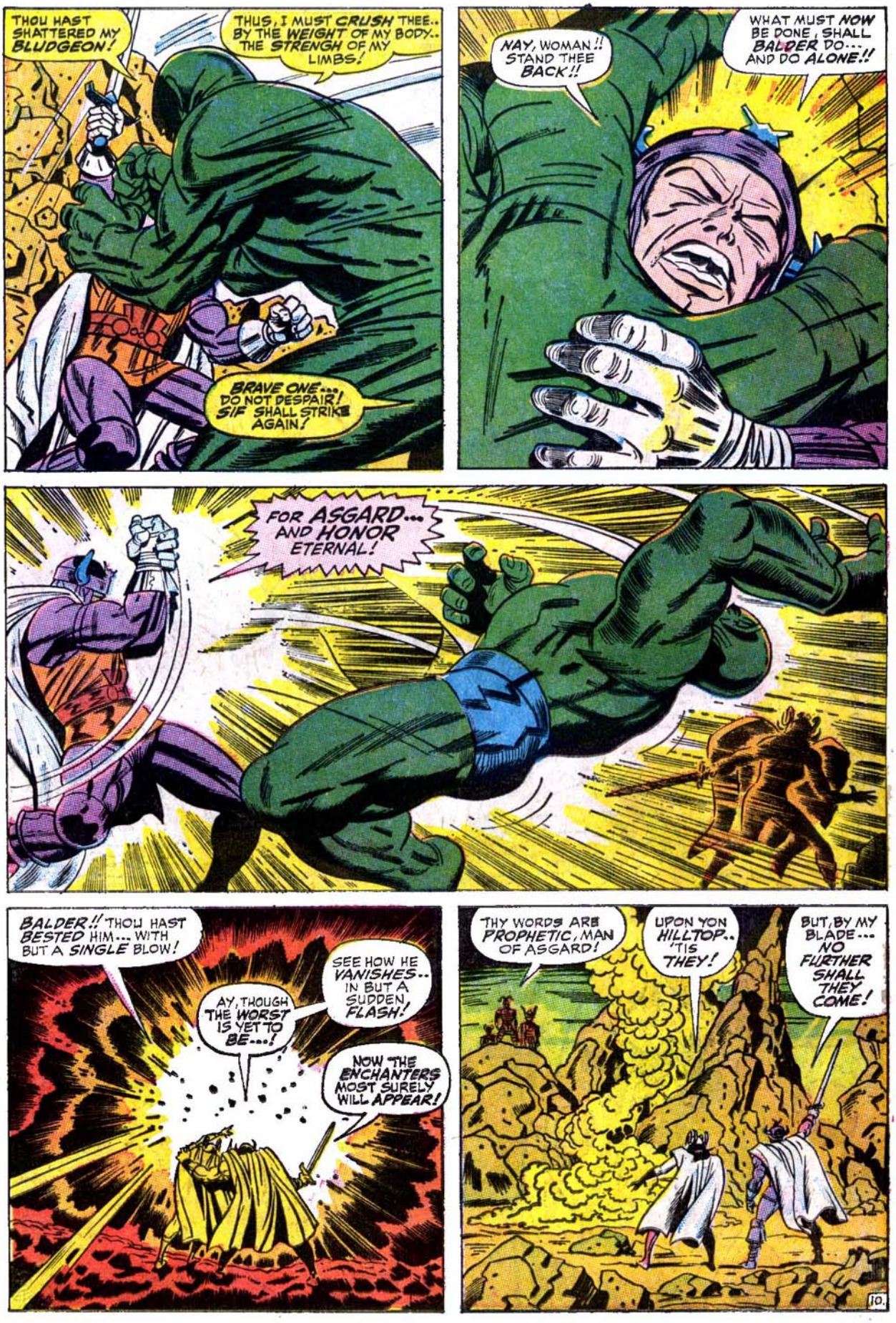

WARRIOR, THOU ART A FOOL!
THOU HAST CALLED ME AN EMPTY CLOUD...
BUT, MY MASTERS HAVE THE POWER TO GIVE ME FAR MORE SUBSTANTIAL FORM...
SUCH IS THE WAY OF--THE ENCHANTERS!

NOW THOU SHALT FEEL THE MIGHT OF THE TALISMAN!!
NOT WHILST BALDER POSSESSES THE SPEED TO EVADE THY BLOW!


BACK, CREATURE OF DARKNESS... BACK TO THE STYGIAN SHADOWS FROM WHENCE THOU CAME!
NAY, FAIR SIF! THY SWORD CANNOT PREVAIL AGAINST ONE SUCH AS HE!
MY SWORD STRIKES FOR ASGARD!! IT SHALL NEVER BE STILLED!
BAH! MUST THE TALISMAN'S MATCHLESS STRENGTH BE SQUANDERED AGAINST A FEMALE?

NEVER... WHILST BALDER LIVES!!
TRY THOUGH I MAY,... I CANNOT GET WITHIN STRIKING DISTANCE...I CANNOT REACH MY FOE!
HIS BLUDGEON IS TOO SWIFT... TOO LARGE!


THEN IT SHALL BE BLUDGEON NO MORE!
THE TIME IS PAST FOR WAITING!! NOW MUST BALDER STRIKE!


THOU HAST SHATTERED MY BLUDGEON!
THUS, I MUST CRUSH THEE.. BY THE WEIGHT OF MY BODY.. THE STRENGH OF MY LIMBS!
BRAVE ONE... DO NOT DESPAIR! SIF SHALL STRIKE AGAIN!
NAY, WOMAN!! STAND THEE BACK!!
WHAT MUST NOW BE DONE, SHALL BALDER DO... AND DO ALONE!!
FOR ASGARD... AND HONOR ETERNAL!
BALDER!! THOU HAST BESTED HIM... WITH BUT A SINGLE BLOW!
AY, THOUGH THE WORST IS YET TO BE...!
SEE HOW HE VANISHES.. IN BUT A SUDDEN FLASH!
NOW THE ENCHANTERS MOST SURELY WILL APPEAR!
THY WORDS ARE PROPHETIC, MAN OF ASGARD!
UPON YON HILLTOP.. 'TIS THEY!
BUT, BY MY BLADE... NO FURTHER SHALL THEY COME!

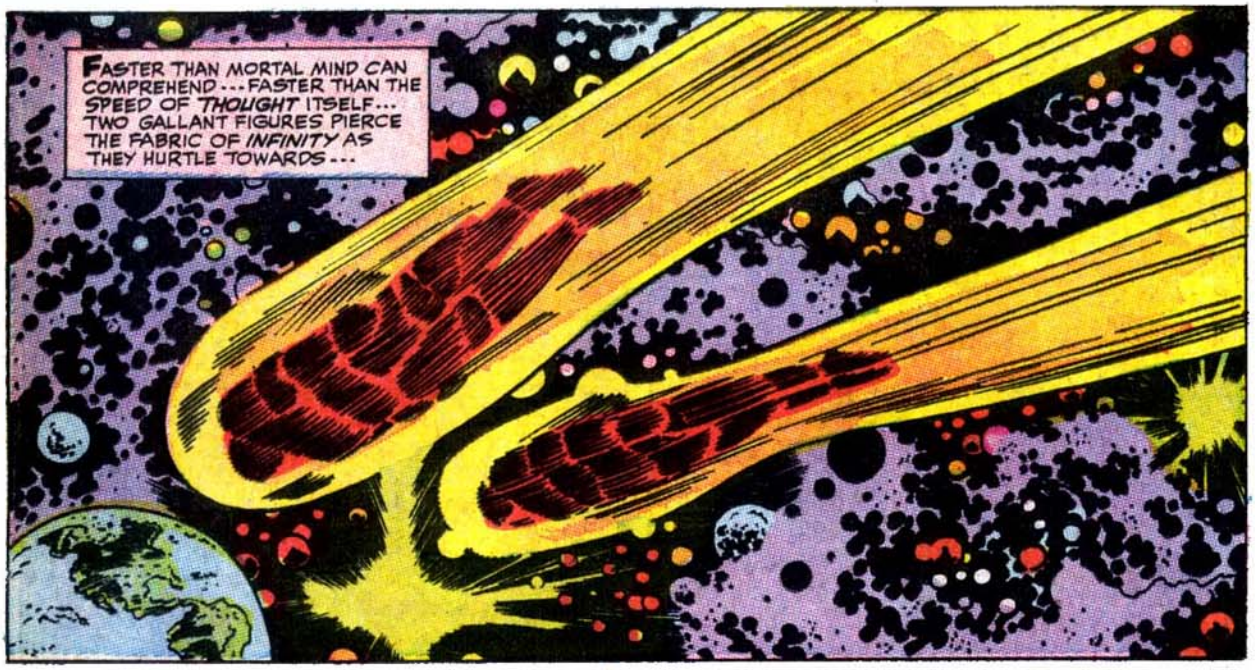
TWO SUCH AS THEE CANNOT STOP US... FOR WE DO WEAR THE LIVING TALISMEN!
KNOW YOU THAT I BE MAGNIR... IN COMPANY WITH MY FELLOWS, FORSUNG... AND BRONA!!
REMEMBER THOSE NAMES AND TREMBLE, ASGARDIAN... FOR WE ARE THE THREE WHO SOON SHALL HUMBLE ODIN HIMSELF!
FOR COUNTLESS AGES, WE HAVE BEEN CONTENT TO RULE OUR OWN DOMAIN.. BUT, WE BE CONTENT NO LONGER!
WE THREE, WHO WEAR THE LIVING TALISMEN, POSSESS POWER BEYOND MEASURE... POWER ENOW TO CONQUER ALL WHO LIVE!
FOR OURS IS THE LIMITLESS POWER OF..THE ENCHANTERS!
WHY WASTE WE WORDS ON SUCH AS THEY?
WE CAN DESTROY THEM WITH A WORD... WITH THE SLIGHTEST GLANCE..!

BRONA SPEAKS TRUE!
LET THERE BE AN END TO THIS!
IT WILL REQUIRE BUT THE MEREST FRACTION OF OUR POWER TO DO THE DEED!
LET IT THEN BE DONE!
BRONA WEARIES OF YON USELESS PRATTLE!
THOU HATH HEARD THY SENTENCE! NOW PERISH, ASGARDIANS!

THE GROUND UPON WHICH WE STAND--IT HATH TURNED TO THICKENING QUICKSAND!!
AT LAST HATH BALDER FOUND A FOE TO WHOM HIS BLADE DOTH HAVE NO MEANING!
IT DRAGS US HELPLESSLY TO OUR DOOM!
MAIDEN.. SEIZE MY SHOULDER! I SHALL SUPPORT THEE--TO THE END!
NAY, BRAVE ONE! 'TIS USELESS THUS!
DO MINE EARS DECEIVE ME?? HATH THE STEADFAST SIF ABANDONED HOPE??

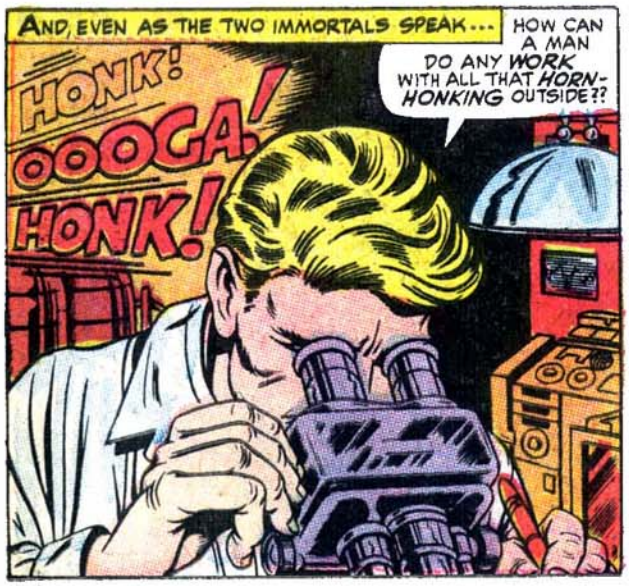
NAY, MOST LOYAL BALDER!!
I DO BUT PLAN FOR OUR ESCAPE.. THROUGH USE OF MINE OWN SPECIAL POWER!
OF COURSE!! THY DIVINE RIGHT, AS GODDESS BORN...
THE POWER TO BYPASS TIME AND SPACE!!*
NOW..WITH MY FINGERS TOUCHING THINE.. BENEATH THE THICKENING BOG...
*A POWER MOST AWESOMELY ILLUSTRATED AS RECENTLY AS IN THOR #139...DOST THOU WELL REMEMBER, O TRUE BELIEVER?
...STAN THE SCRIPTER...

WE SHALL BEGONE!!


FASTER THAN MORTAL MIND CAN COMPREHEND --- FASTER THAN THE SPEED OF THOUGHT ITSELF... TWO GALLANT FIGURES PIERCE THE FABRIC OF INFINITY AS THEY HURTLE TOWARDS ---

MIDGARD! KNOWN TO THE HUMANS AS PLANET EARTH!
HERE WE SHALL FIND SAFETY... FOR THE PRESENT!
THY COURAGE ... AND THY SKILL HAVE SAVED US, FAIR ONE!
AND THOU HAST BROUGHT US TO THE PLACE WHERE DWELLS MIGHTY THOR!

WE MUST FIND HIM, BALDER!
AY, MY LADY!
BUT, HERE AMONGST THE HUMANS, HE DOTH DWELL IN SECRET MORTAL GUISE!
FOR, WHILST THE ENCHANTERS LIVE... WE MOST SORELY NEED HIS STRENGTH, HIS WISDOM --- HIS KNOWLEDGE!
'TWILL BE EASIER BY FAR FOR HIM TO LOCATE US!


AND, EVEN AS THE TWO IMMORTALS SPEAK ---
HONK! OOOGA! HONK!
HOW CAN A MAN DO ANY WORK WITH ALL THAT HORN-HONKING OUTSIDE??

BEEP! HONK!
IT LOOKS LIKE SOME SORT OF MASSIVE TRAFFIC JAM!
BUT I CAN'T SEE WHAT'S CAUSING IT FROM HERE!
WELL, NO MATTER! I'LL JUST CLOSE THE WINDOW AND GET BACK TO MY MICROSCOPE!

BUT, HAD DON BLAKE THE VISION OF HEIMDALL, HE WOULD HAVE SEEN, IN THE STREET BELOW...
'TIS IMPERATIVE THAT THOU DIRECT US TO THOR, GOD OF THUNDER!
LOOK, MAC...FOR THE LAST TIME...I DON'T KNOW WHERE HE HANGS OUT!
AND YOU TWO CAN'T STAND AROUND HERE BLOCKIN' TRAFFIC THIS WAY!!
FORBUSH TRUCKING Co.
IF THOR BE NOT SOON FOUND, THOU SHALT HAVE WORSE THAN WE TO CONTEND WITH!
SAY! COME TO THINK OF IT, THERE IS A DR. BLAKE NEARBY!
HE'S MANAGED TO GET IN TOUCH WITH THAT LONG-HAIRED HAMMER-TOSSER FOR THE DEPARTMENT BEFORE!
THEN YOU MUST TAKE US TO HIM... WHILE THERE IS STILL TIME!
SURE, LADY.. SURE!
I'LL TAKE YOU ANYWHERE IF IT'LL GET THINGS BACK TO NORMAL ON MY BEAT AGAIN!
EVEN IF THE DOC CAN'T TELL YOU WHERE TO FIND THOR, MEBBE HE CAN RECOMMEND A GOOD HEAD-SHRINKER FOR THE TWO OF YA!
WHAT? DOST THOU THINK US MAD?
WALKIN' AROUND TOWN IN GET-UPS LIKE THAT?
PERISH FORBID!
WHILE, BACK AT THE SOMBER LAND OF RINGSFJORD...
THEY HAVE DONE AS THE LIVING TALISMEN PREDICTED!
THEY HAVE FLED...TO FIND THE THUNDER GOD...AND ENLIST HIS SUPPORT!
LET US THEN PROCEED, ACCORDING TO PLAN...!
BRONA AND I SHALL FOLLOW THEM...SO THAT ALL THREE MAY BE DESTROYED!
WHILST I SET FORTH FOR ASGARD... THERE TO VANQUISH ODIN!
HAVE A CARE, FORSUNG! THOU ART BUT ONE!
AY! BUT AM I NOT...AN ENCHANTER?!!
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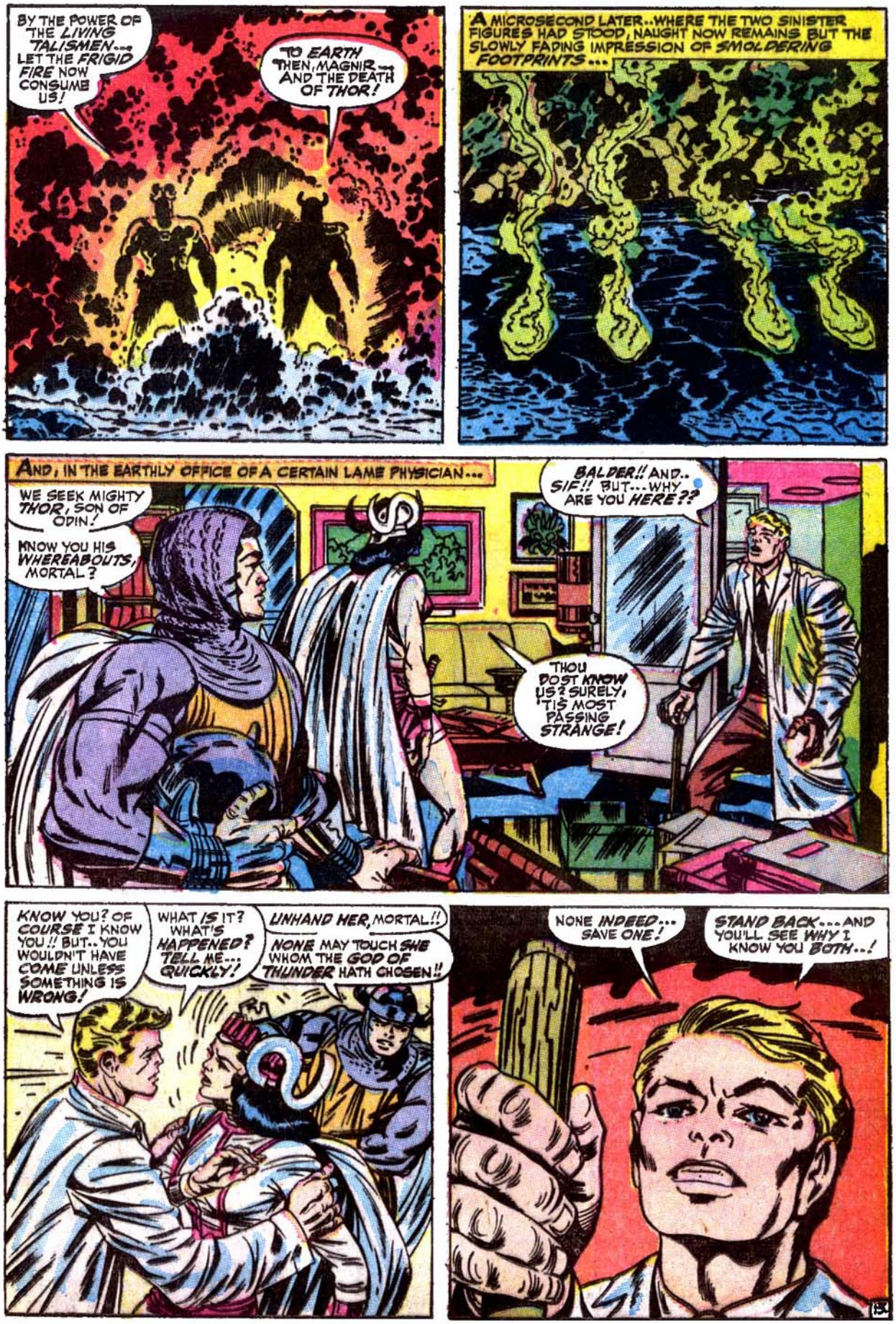
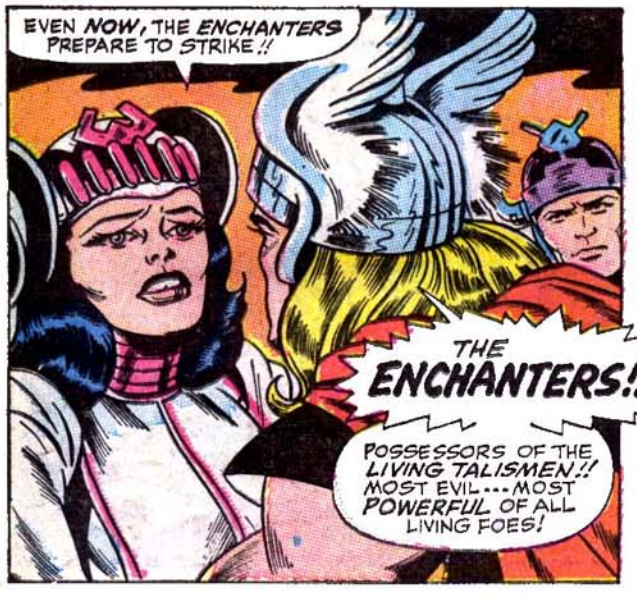

BY THE POWER OF THE LIVING TALISMEN... LET THE FRIGID FIRE NOW CONSUME US!
TO EARTH THEN, MAGNIR... AND THE DEATH OF THOR!
A MICROSECOND LATER..WHERE THE TWO SINISTER FIGURES HAD STOOD, NAUGHT NOW REMAINS BUT THE SLOWLY FADING IMPRESSION OF SMOLDERING FOOTPRINTS...
AND, IN THE EARTHLY OFFICE OF A CERTAIN LAME PHYSICIAN...
WE SEEK MIGHTY THOR, SON OF ODIN!
KNOW YOU HIS WHEREABOUTS, MORTAL?
BALDER!! AND.. SIF!! BUT... WHY ARE YOU HERE??
THOU DOST KNOW US? SURELY, 'TIS MOST PASSING STRANGE!
KNOW YOU? OF COURSE I KNOW YOU!! BUT.. YOU WOULDN'T HAVE COME UNLESS SOMETHING IS WRONG!
WHAT IS IT? WHAT'S HAPPENED? TELL ME... QUICKLY!
UNHAND HER, MORTAL!!
NONE MAY TOUCH SHE WHOM THE GOD OF THUNDER HATH CHOSEN!!
NONE INDEED... SAVE ONE!
STAND BACK... AND YOU'LL SEE WHY I KNOW YOU BOTH..!

KTOOM!

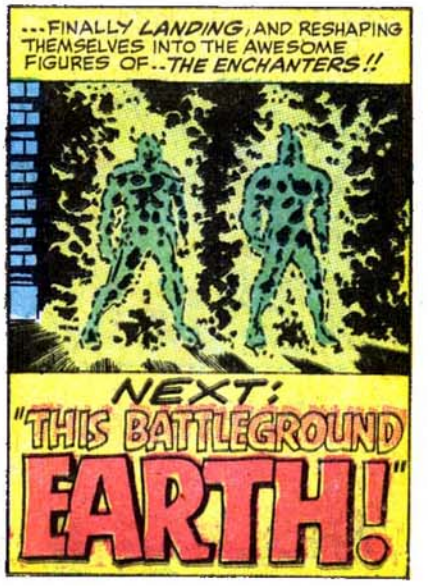
'TIS YOU, MY LORD! WE HAVE FOUND THE THUNDER GOD!
MY HEART IS GLADDENED AT THE VERY SIGHT OF THEE!
FOR THOU ART TWO WHOM I HOLD MOST DEAR!
TAKE HEED, MIGHTY ONE!
WE HAVE COME TO WARN THEE..OF DANGER MOST DEADLY!


EVEN NOW, THE ENCHANTERS PREPARE TO STRIKE!!
THE ENCHANTERS!!
POSSESSORS OF THE LIVING TALISMEN!! MOST EVIL---MOST POWERFUL OF ALL LIVING FOES!

BUT, THOUGH THEY BE A MATCH FOR ODIN HIMSELF---WE SHALL PREVAIL!
MY LORD!! ONLY NOW---STANDING IN THY PRESENCE--DO I FEEL VICTORY MAY YET BE OURS!
THUS SPEAKS THOR!!
TRULY, THOU ART NOBLEST.. THOU ART MIGHTIEST--- AND MOST GALLANT OF ALL WHO LIVE!
WHILST HUMBLE BALDER-- IS NOW-- FORGOT!

THOUGH THEY BE TOO GENEROUS BY FAR, THY WORDS DO SURELY WARM MY HEART!
BUT WHAT OF THEE, LOYAL BALDER? WHY STANDEST THOU SO SILENT?
HAST THOU NO RALLYING CRY UPON THIS EVE OF BATTLE?
NAY, THUNDER GOD! I HAVE MUCH TO THINK UPON!

AND, AS NOBLE BALDER GAZES SOMBERLY AHEAD, TWO FLASHING OBJECTS STREAK THROUGH THE SKY---

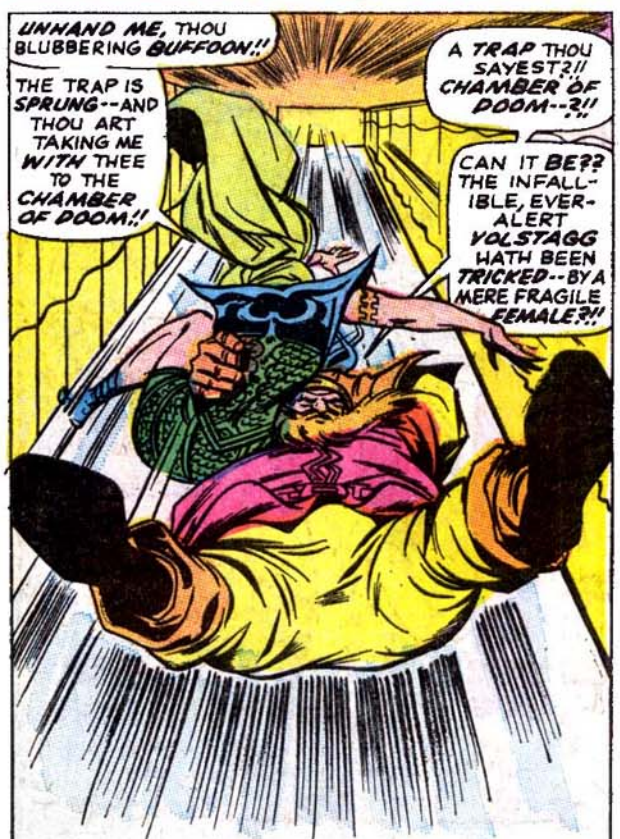

---FINALLY LANDING, AND RESHAPING THEMSELVES INTO THE AWESOME FIGURES OF--THE ENCHANTERS!!
NEXT!
"THIS BATTLEGROUND EARTH!"

TALES OF ASGARD, HOME OF THE MIGHTY NORSE GODS

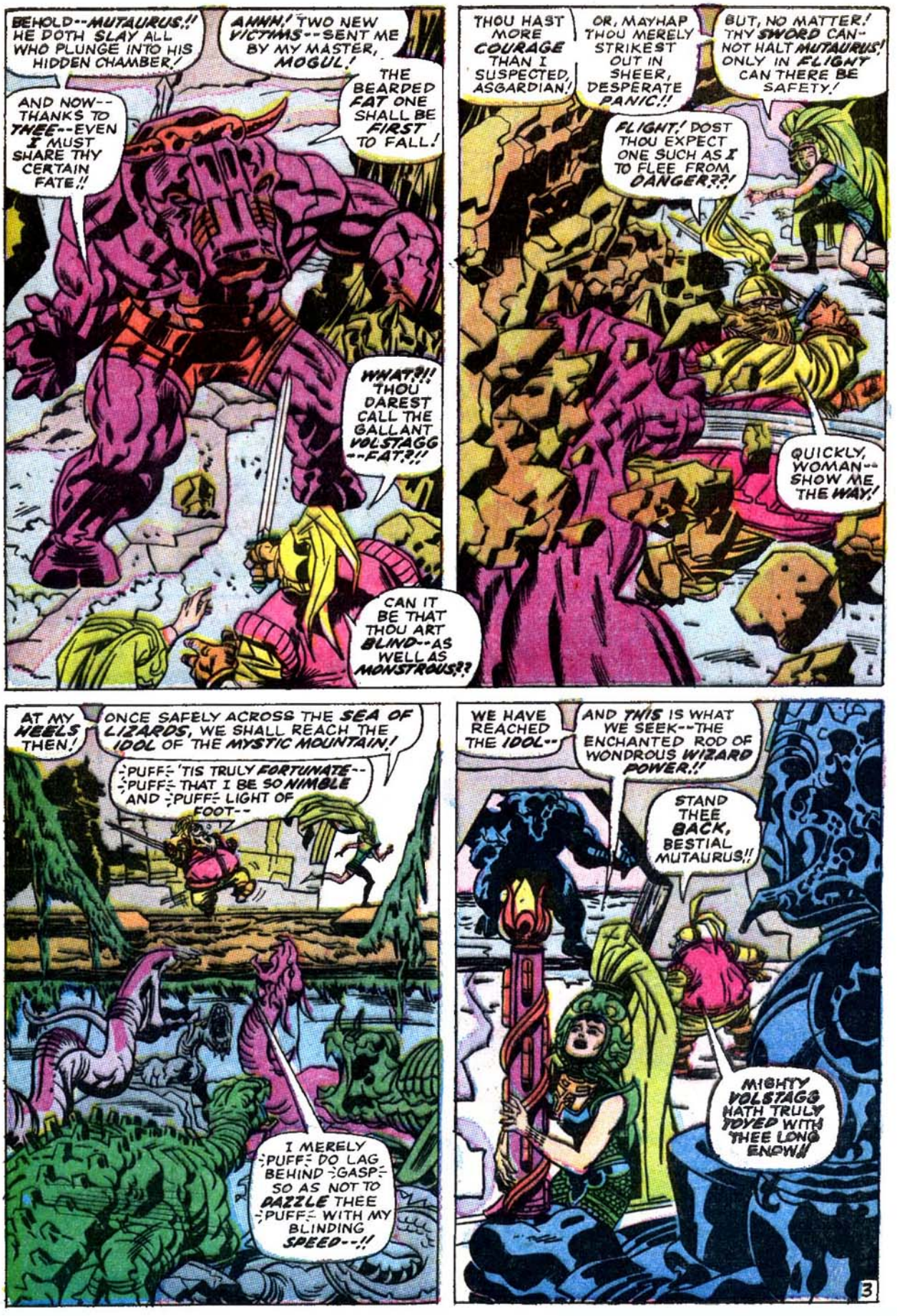
"TO THE DEATH!"

I FEAR I MUST LEAVE THEE NOW--
FOR, IF THOU SPEAKEST TOO LONG TO VOLSTAGG, THOU WILT HAVE EARS NO MORE FOR LESSER MEN!
ALL TOO TRUE, MY LORD!
WHAT OTHER MERE WARRIOR COULD COMPARE WITH THINE OWN COURAGE--THINE OWN WIT--THINE OWN CONSIDERABLE GIRTH!
TRULY NONE --SAVE MIGHTY MOGUL-- HE WHO IS BROTHER UNTO ME!
AH YES-- 'TIS MOGUL HIMSELF WHOM I WOULDST FAIN MEET!

IF 'TWOULD PLEASE THEE TO HAVE WORDS WITH MOGUL-- THEN THOU SHALT!
I NEED ONLY PULL THIS CORD, WHICH WILL SUMMON A SLAVE TO BRING YOU BEFORE HIM WHO RULES THIS LAND!
AH, VOLSTAGG-- VOLSTAGG-- WHAT CAN IT BE THAT MAKES THEE SO IRRESISTIBLE TO MAIDENS FAIR?
JUST STAND WHERE THOU ART, STOUT-HEARTED ONE-- AND THOU SHALT BE WELL-SERVED!
SHALL I GLADDEN HER SPIRIT BY PLACING A NOBLE ARM GRATEFULLY ABOUT HER WAIST?


UNHAND ME, THOU BLUBBERING BUFFOON!!
THE TRAP IS SPRUNG--AND THOU ART TAKING ME WITH THEE TO THE CHAMBER OF DOOM!!
A TRAP THOU SAYEST?!! CHAMBER OF DOOM--?!!
CAN IT BE?? THE INFALLIBLE, EVER-ALERT VOLSTAGG HATH BEEN TRICKED--BY A MERE FRAGILE FEMALE?!!

WHEN THOU DIDST PULL YON CORD-- 'TWAS NOT TO SUMMON A SLAVE--
BUT RATHER-- TO MAKE A SLAVE OF VOLSTAGG!! ADMIT IT, THOU WICKED WENCH!!
I SAY THEE NAY! NOT EVEN MOGUL COULDST FEED A SLAVE SUCH AS THEE!
WE DESIRED NAUGHT FOR THEE-- SAVE DEATH!
2

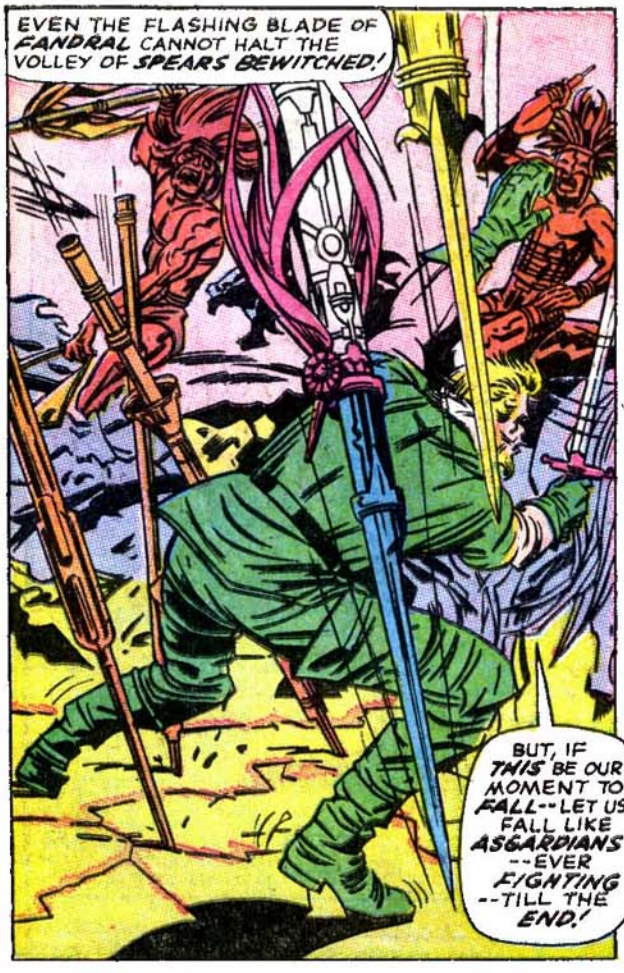

BEHOLD--MUTAURUS!! HE DOTH SLAY ALL WHO PLUNGE INTO HIS HIDDEN CHAMBER!
AHHH! TWO NEW VICTIMS--SENT ME BY MY MASTER, MOGUL!
THE BEARDED FAT ONE SHALL BE FIRST TO FALL!
AND NOW--THANKS TO THEE--EVEN I MUST SHARE THY CERTAIN FATE!!
WHAT?!! THOU DAREST CALL THE GALLANT VOLSTAGG --FAT?!!
CAN IT BE THAT THOU ART BLIND--AS WELL AS MONSTROUS??
THOU HAST MORE COURAGE THAN I SUSPECTED, ASGARDIAN!
OR, MAYHAP THOU MERELY STRIKEST OUT IN SHEER, DESPERATE PANIC!!
BUT, NO MATTER! THY SWORD CANNOT HALT MUTAURUS! ONLY IN FLIGHT CAN THERE BE SAFETY!
FLIGHT! DOST THOU EXPECT ONE SUCH AS I TO FLEE FROM DANGER??!
QUICKLY, WOMAN--SHOW ME THE WAY!
AT MY HEELS THEN!
ONCE SAFELY ACROSS THE SEA OF LIZAROS, WE SHALL REACH THE IDOL OF THE MYSTIC MOUNTAIN!
PUFF 'TIS TRULY FORTUNATE--PUFF THAT I BE SO NIMBLE AND PUFF LIGHT OF FOOT--
I MERELY PUFF DO LAG BEHIND GASP SO AS NOT TO DAZZLE THEE PUFF WITH MY BLINDING SPEED--!!
WE HAVE REACHED THE IDOL--
AND THIS IS WHAT WE SEEK--THE ENCHANTED ROD OF WONDROUS WIZARD POWER!!
STAND THEE BACK, BESTIAL MUTAURUS!!
MIGHTY VOLSTAGG HATH TRULY TOYED WITH THEE LONG ENOW!!
3

THE ENCHANTED ROD-- IT DOTH FIRE BOLTS OF WIZARD-FORCE WITH FURY ABSOLUTE!!
THE POWER IT CONTAINS IS OVERWHELMING!! I CAN HOLD IT NO LONGER!!
THEN STAND THEE ASIDE, WOMAN--
--AS HEROIC VOLSTAGG DOTH THUNDER TO THE RESCUE!

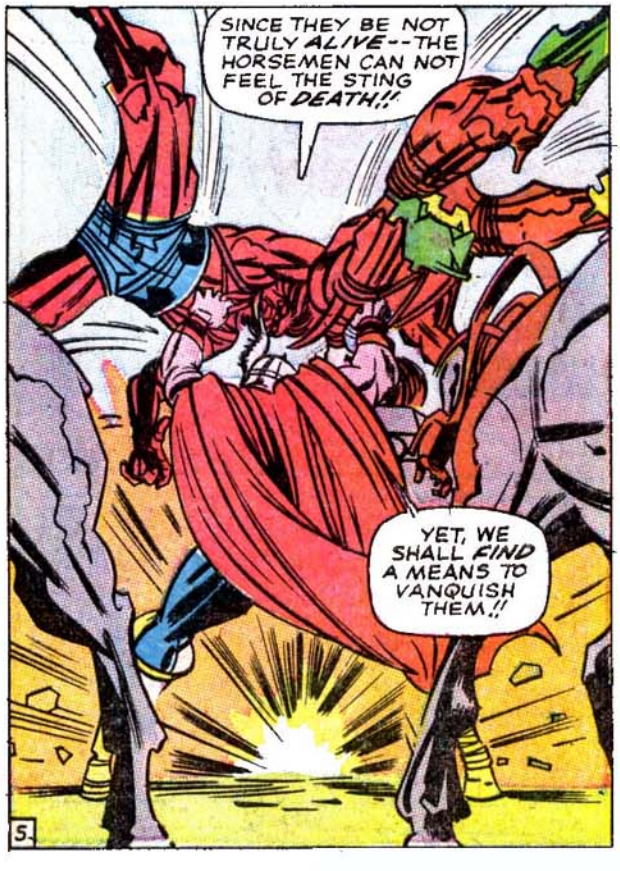
ODDS BLOOD!! NOT EVEN THE POWERFUL LIMBS OF VOLSTAGG CAN CONTROL THE ENCHANTED ROD!!
IT DOTH SPIN WILDLY IN MINE ARMS LIKE A MADDENED LIVING THING--!!

IT HATH STRUCK MUTAURUS!! HE FADES FROM SIGHT BEFORE OUR VERY EYES!
HAH! THE SAVAGE SKILL AND EAGLE EYE OF VOLSTAGG HAVE TRIUMPHED ONCE AGAIN!
BUT, EVEN AS OUR GELATINOUS GIANT PROUDLY PROCLAIMS HIS VICTORY, HIS THREE FELLOW WARRIORS ARE FACING THE DEADLY CHARGE OF SATAN'S FORTY HORSEMEN---!

WE ARE THE DEMON RIDERS, CONJURED INTO EXISTENCE BY THE MYSTIC SORCERY OF MOGUL!!
NOTHING THAT LIVES CAN STAND BEFORE US!! AND WE CAN NEVER DIE!
THOU SHALT BE STOPPED --SOMEHOW --SOME WAY --HOGUN DOTH NOT YIELD!!


EVEN THE FLASHING BLADE OF FANDRAL CANNOT HALT THE VOLLEY OF SPEARS BEWITCHED!
BUT, IF THIS BE OUR MOMENT TO FALL--LET US FALL LIKE ASGARDIANS --EVER FIGHTING --TILL THE END!

NAY!! WE MUST NOT FALL!! WE CANNOT FALL!! NOT TILL THE BATTLE STANDARD BE MINE AGAIN--!
NOT TILL THE MURDEROUS MOGUL HATH ANSWERED TO HOGUN FOR HIS DEEDS MOST DARK!!


SINCE THEY BE NOT TRULY ALIVE--THE HORSEMEN CAN NOT FEEL THE STING OF DEATH!!
YET, WE SHALL FIND A MEANS TO VANQUISH THEM!!
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THUS SPEAKS THE SON OF ODIN!!
THUS SHALL THE VERY FRUIT OF ASGARD
BATTLE UNTO DEATH!!
NEXT: THE BEGINNING OF THE END!