

THOR

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THE MIGHTY THOR

APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY



MARVEL COMICS GROUP



THE ANSWER AT LAST!

THE MIGHTY THOR!

WHO IS THE
REAL
DON BLAKE?

THE
ANSWER
AT
LAST!



THAT WAS
A FINE BIT
OF SURGERY,
DOCTOR
BLAKE!

YOUR HAND
IS AS SKILL-
FUL AS IT
EVER WAS!

IF ONLY
ALL MY
QUESTIONS...
ALL MY
DOUBTS...
COULD BE
ALSO
SOLVED WITH
A SURGEON'S
SCALPEL!

A STAN LEE JACK KIRBY
PRODUCTION
INKING: VINCE COLLETTA LETTERING: SAM ROSEN

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WE HAVEN'T SEEN YOU HERE FOR QUITE A WHILE, DOCTOR?

HAVE YOU BEEN AWAY ON VACATION?

EH, YES... YOU MIGHT SAY SO!

IF ONE CAN CALL LIFE-AND-DEATH BATTLE WITH MANGOG, IN FAR-OFF ASGARD ... IN ORDER TO PREVENT THE COMING OF RAGNAROK ... A VACATION!

YOU LOOK TIRED, BLAKE! IT TAKES A LOT OUT OF YOU TO PERFORM DELICATE SURGERY AFTER A LONG LAY-OFF!

I SUGGEST YOU TRY TO GET SOME REST BEFORE YOUR NEXT OPERATION!

HE'S RIGHT! I AM TIRED... MORE TIRED THAN HE CAN SUSPECT!

BUT NOT FROM WHAT I'VE DONE... HERE ON EARTH!



I'LL TAKE HIS ADVICE!

IT'LL GIVE ME THE CHANCE I NEED... TO THINK!

TO THINK OF ANSWERS ... TO QUESTIONS I'VE BEEN AFRAID TO ASK!



... SUCH AS THE HAUNTING QUESTION OF... WHO I REALLY AM?


MY LIFE AS THOR BEGAN A FEW SHORT YEARS AGO... WHEN I FOUND THE ENCHANTED HAMMER!

BUT THOR HAS LIVED FOR AGES!!



SO, WHO WAS THOR BEFORE I FOUND THE MYSTIC MALLET??

... AND, WHO WAS DR. BLAKE??

A dramatic comic book panel showing Thor in flight. He is wearing his iconic blue and red costume with a red cape and yellow-and-black striped leggings. He is flying over a futuristic landscape with a glowing yellow ring and a city. The background is a vibrant, colorful sky with a large yellow sun and various celestial bodies. Thor's right arm is raised, and he has a determined expression. In the foreground, a man with long white hair and a beard is lying face down, appearing unconscious or dead. The scene is filled with a sense of urgency and mystery.

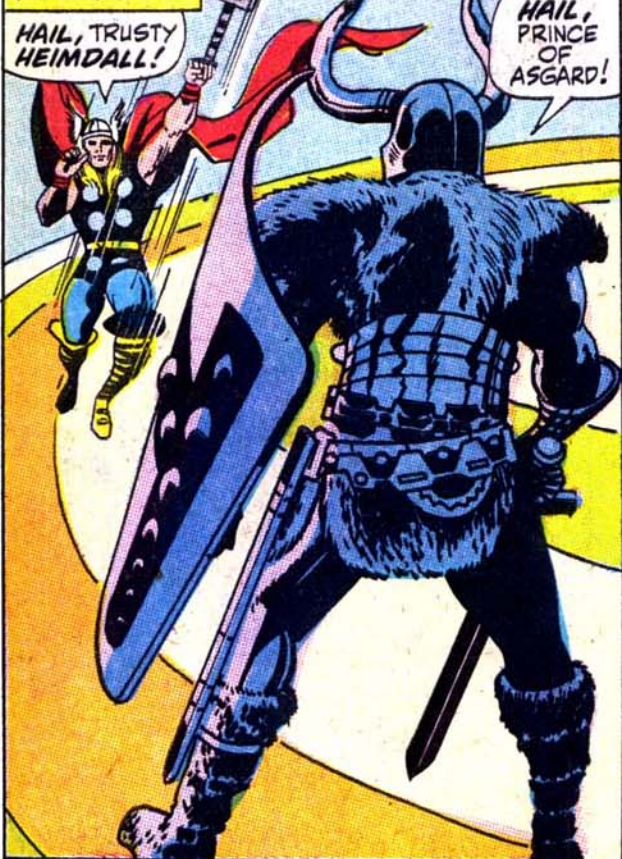
I'VE GOT
TO LEARN THE
ANSWER... NO
MATTER **WHAT**
IT MEANS!

THE ANSWER...
THAT CAN ONLY BE
FOUND... IN FAR-
OFF, FABLED
ASGARD!

I'LL LIE STILL
...AND SILENT...
STRIP MY MIND OF
EARTHLY THOUGHTS...

SO THAT THE MEMORY
OF **ODIN'S SON** CAN
NOW TAKE OVER...FOR
ONLY THE **GOD OF
THUNDER** CAN KNOW
THE **ANSWER**...!!

SLOWLY, ALL EARTHLY THOUGHTS DISSOLVE AND FADE, AS THE MIGHTY THOR APPEARS ON BIFROST, THE LEGENDARY RAINBOW BRIDGE TO FABLED ASGARD...



HAIL, TRUSTY HEIMDALL!

HAIL, PRINCE OF ASGARD!



HOW STANDS THE GOLDEN REALM?

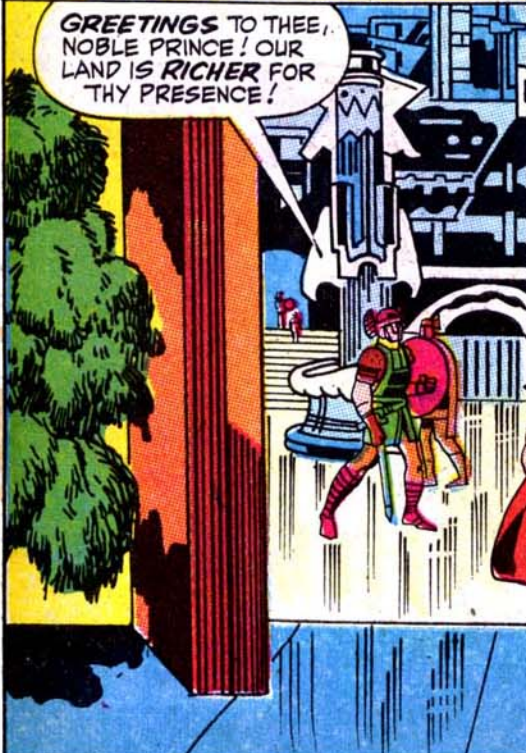
THE THRONE ENDURES!

THE SCEPTER GLEAMS!

THEN ALL IS WELL!

THUS SHALL IT EVER BE!

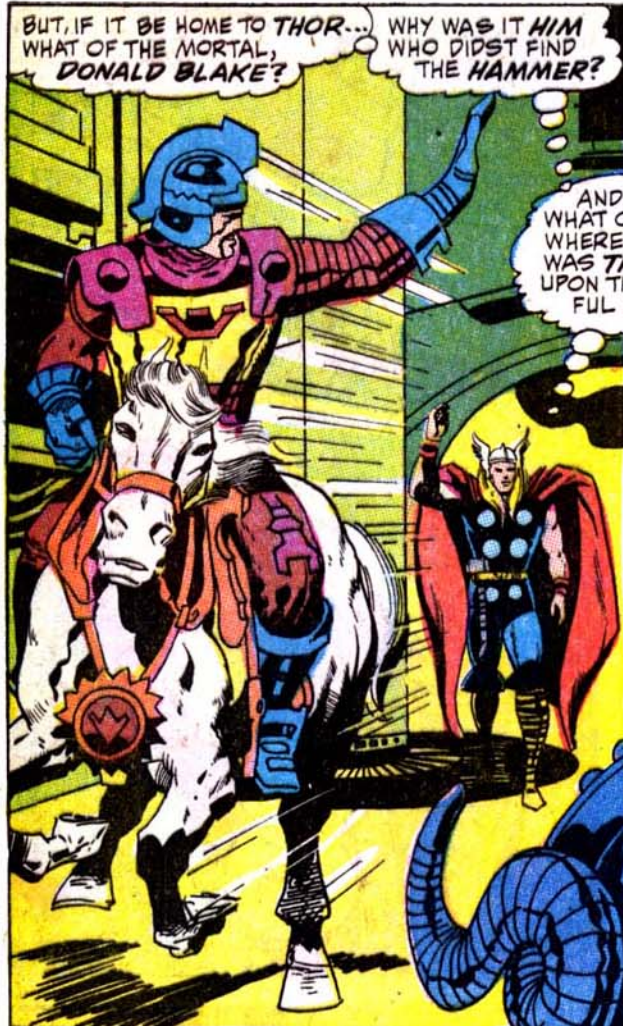
MOMENTS LATER, THE ROYAL WARRIOR ENTERS THE GREAT GOLDEN GATES, TO BEHOLD ONCE MORE THE WONDER AND THE MAJESTY OF THE REALM ETERNAL...



GREETINGS TO THEE, NOBLE PRINCE! OUR LAND IS RICHER FOR THY PRESENCE!

MY HEART IS GLADDENED BY THY WORDS!

OF ALL THE SIGHTS THE EYE BEHOLDS... NONE CAN MATCH THE SIGHT OF... HOME!



BUT, IF IT BE HOME TO **THOR**... WHAT OF THE MORTAL, **DONALD BLAKE**?

WHY WAS IT **HIM** WHO DIDST FIND THE **HAMMER**?

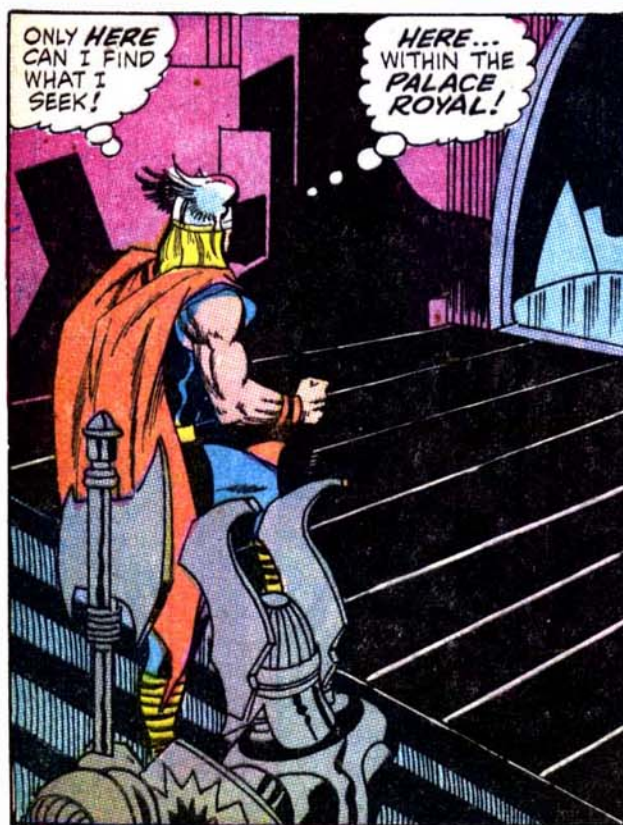
AND... WHAT OF **ME**? WHERE THEN WAS **THOR**... UPON THAT FATEFUL DAY??



EVEN **NOW**... I FEEL THE GAZE OF EVIL **LOKI**!

SURELY **HE** MUST KNOW THE SECRETS THAT I SEEK!

BUT, **JUST AS SURELY, NEVER** WOULD HE THEM REVEAL... TO THE ONE HE MOST DESPISES!



ONLY **HERE** CAN I FIND WHAT I SEEK!

HERE... WITHIN THE **PALACE ROYAL**!



HERE... WHERE EVEN **NOW** I FEEL THE AWESOME GLOW... THE MATCHLESS MAJESTY... OF **HIM** WHO RULES THE REALM!

BY THY LEAVE,
MOST NOBLE SIRE...

THY SON... EVER
DUTIFUL... REQUESTS
MOST URGENT
AUDIENCE!

THOU
MAYEST
APPROACH
THE
PRESENCE!

FOR, TRULY
THOU ART FLESH
OF ODIN'S
FLESH... BLOOD
OF ODIN'S
BLOOD!

TRULY, THY
DEVOTION... AND
THY VALOR, HAVE
EARNED THEE UN-
BOUNDED FAVOR
WITH THY LIEGE...
WHO ART FATHER,
TOO!



NO WORDS
OF THINE ARE
NEEDED!

IN MINE
AWESOME
OMNISCIENCE,
I DO PERCEIVE
THY THOUGHTS...

I SENSE
WHAT THOU
DESIREST!

'TIS
KNOWLEDGE
THOR DOTH
CRAVE!



AND 'TIS
KNOWLEDGE
THOU SHALT
HAVE!

I...I'M
AWAKE!
I'M DONALD
BLAKE
AGAIN!

BUT...THERE
STILL IS SOMETHING
DIFFERENT!

THIS
TIME...I'M
NOT
ALONE!

THERE'S
SOMEONE
IN MY ROOM!



HAVE
FAITH,
THOU
PUZZLED
MORTAL!

THE
VEIL SHALL
SOON BE
LIFTED!

THE
VOICE OF...
ODIN!!



THE SECRET THOU WOULDST LEARN IS BURIED IN THE PAST...IN FAR OFF NIFFEL-HEIM...WHERE THE STORM GIANTS DWELL!

'T WAS THERE... BEYOND THE KEN OF MORTAL MEMORY... THAT A ROYAL TRUCE WAS SIGNED!

A TRUCE... FORBIDDING ANY OF ASGARDIAN BLOOD ...FROM VENTURING FORTH INTO THE LAND THEY CALLED THEIR OWN!



BUT... WITH THE FOOLHARDNESS OF YOUTH... SOON AFTER THOU DIDST BECOME A MAN...

THOU DARED TO BREAK THE ROYAL TRUCE!!

AND NOW... I LIFT THE VEIL WHICH CLOUDS THY MEMORY... THAT THOU MAY SEE THE PAST...!!



THOUGH THE DEADLY BIRDBEAST HAS FLOWN INTO NIFFEL-HEIM... I SHALL NOT GIVE UP THE HUNT!

SO LONG AS HE DOTHS LIVE, THERE CAN BE NO SAFETY FOR ASGARDIAN... OR STORM GIANT ALIKE!



NOW SHALT THE HAMMER OF THOR END THY DAYS OF MURDER AND OF PILLAGE... FORE'ER!



THE DEED IS DONE!

THE THUNDER GOD TRIUMPHANT!



NEVERMORE SHALL ANY FALL PREY TO YONDER LIFELESS TALONS!

WHO DARES TO TREAD UPON FORBIDDEN LAND??



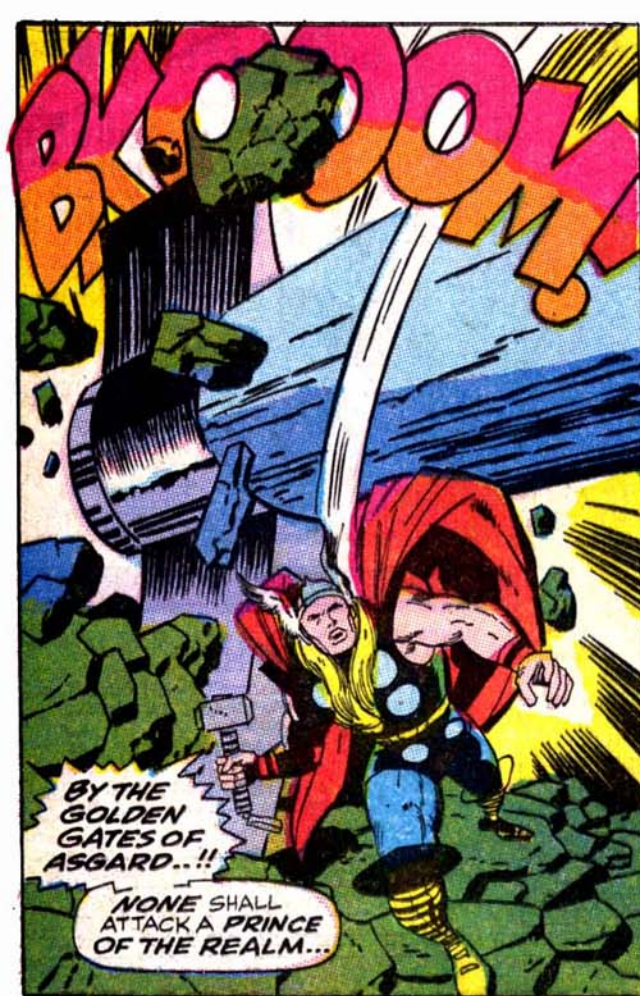
'TIS I, THE SON OF ODIN, WHO HAST DONE FOR THEE GREAT SERVICE!

SILENCE, BASE INTRUDER!

THOU HAST BROKEN THE ROYAL TRUCE!



AND FOR THAT, THE PRICE IS DEATH!



BY THE GOLDEN GATES OF ASGARD...!!

NONE SHALL ATTACK A PRINCE OF THE REALM...



... WITHOUT FEELING THE POWER OF ENCHANTED MJOLNIR!



WHAT?! A PUNY ASGARDIAN DARES CHALLENGE WE WHO BE GIANTS?!!

THOU MUST BE CRUSHED... LIKE THE INSECT THOU ART!

THOOM! THOOM! THOOM!

AVENGE ME, MY BRETHREN!

THE WARRIOR PRINCE MUST FALL!



THOR SHALL NOT FALTER!

FOR ASGARD AND HONOR... I STRIKE!

SO SAYS THE SON OF ODIN!

NOT E'EN
THY **SIZE**
CAN GIVE ME
PAUSE...

THOUGH THOU
BE TRULY
LIVING **GIANTS**...
THERE IS SOMETHING
BIGGER STILL...

THE
MOUNTAIN
'NEATH WHICH
THOU DO
CHARGE!

THE
MOUNTAIN
... WHICH MIGHTY
M**JOLNIR** NOW SHALL
SHATTER!



IT'S
DONE! NOW
ARE THEY
TRAPPED,
WITHIN... BUT
WAIT!



FROM THE
FAR HORIZON...
A **BALL OF FLAME**
DOETH LIGHT THE
SKY!!

THE
BATTLE
IS NOT YET
ENDED!



YOU HAVE SHOWN THAT THOR WAS **YOUNG**... **HEADSTRONG**... SUPREMELY **CONFIDENT** OF HIS OWN GODLIKE **POWER!**

BUT, WHAT HAS THAT TO DO WITH **ME?**

CANST THOU NOT **SEE?** THY FATE... AND HIS... ARE **ONE AND THE SAME!**



BUT **STILL** YOU SPEAK IN **RIDDLES!**

HOW DID I ENTER THE **PICTURE?** AND WHERE WAS **HE?** WHERE WAS THE **ORIGINAL** THOR, WHEN I CAME ON THE **SCENE??**

ONLY **YOU** CAN TELL ME... FOR I HAVE **NO MEMORY** OF THOSE **EVENTS!**



AYE! 'TIS AS **ODIN** PLANNED IT!

'T WAS NOT **SEEMLY** FOR THEE TO KNOW... TILL **NOW!**

THEREFORE, CLEAR THY **MIND** OF EVERY THOUGHT... AS I TAKE THEE TO THE **PAST** ONCE MORE...!

FOR THOU MUST **RETURN** TO **ASGARD**... TO THE MEMORY OF YON LUSTY, **BRAWLING** ERA..!



EVER DIDST THOU TEST THY **STRENGTH** IN **ENDLESS JOUSTING**... WITH NO MARK OF **FEAR** OR **FAVOR!**

THOUGH THOU ART THE **GOD OF THUNDER**, THE **MIGHTIEST ARM** OF ALL IS **MINE!**

THEN LET THE **STRENGTH** OF THY **LIMBS** PROVE THE **BOASTING** OF THY **LIPS!**

**NONE CAN
BREAK THE HOLD
OF GONDOLFF!**

**BAH! THE ARM
OF THOR DOTH
HAVE NO EQUAL!**

**BEHOLD
THE THUNDER
GOD! HE
WEAKENS!**

**NOT
SO, LOUD
CLOD!
HE DOTH
BUT HUMOR
HAPLESS
GONDOLFF!**

**TWO
SCORE HATH
THOR THIS DAY
DEFEATED!**

**AND STILL
HE TIRES
NOT!**

**SECRETLY
HATH GONDOLFF
PRACTICED...
MONTH AFTER
MONTH...!**

**BY MY
TROTTH...
HE'LL NOT
BE BESTED!**





THE WARRIOR'S HEART OF VALIANT VOLSTAGG NOW IS SORELY PAINED!

'TIS I WHO SHOULD BE WAGING COMBAT ... DEFEATING BOTH WITH BUT A SHRUG!

INSTEAD, I FILL MY CUP! THE NECTAR SHALL APPEASE MY BATTLE-HUNGRY BLOOD!

IF THOU WOULDST JOIN THE CONTEST... VOLSTAGG HAS BUT TO ASK!

NAY! 'TWOULD NOT BE FAIR TO THOSE OF SMALLER SIZE!

AHHH, IF THY BATTLE PROWESS COULD BUT MATCH THY FEARLESS WORDS!

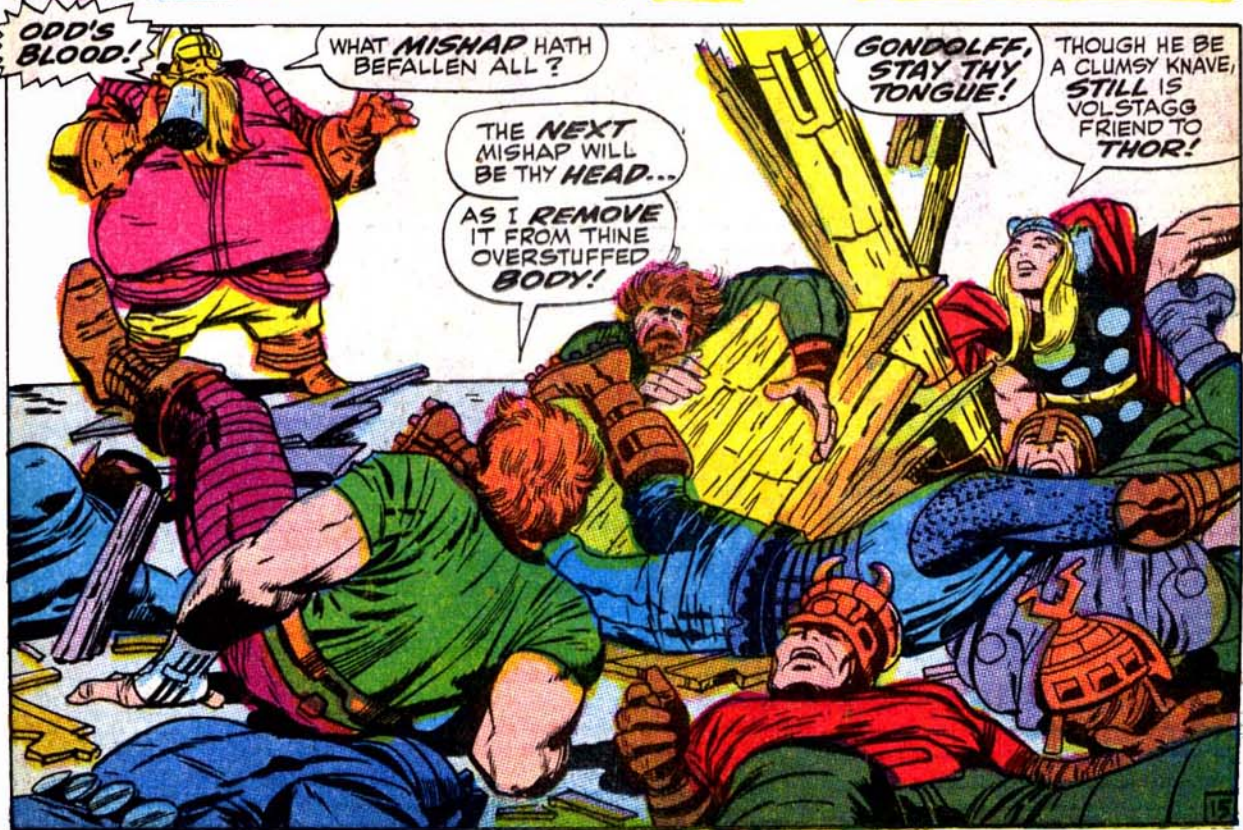


I THANK THEE FOR THY COMPLIMENT!

...IF SUCH IT IS!

MIND WHERE THOU ART, THOU BUMBLING OAF!

THY LUMBERING FRAME IS FAR TOO LARGE... THE CHAMBER FAR TOO CROWDED... FOR SUCH AS THEE TO BOW!



ODD'S BLOOD!

WHAT MISHAP HATH BEFALLEN ALL?

THE NEXT MISHAP WILL BE THY HEAD...

AS I REMOVE IT FROM THINE OVERSTUFFED BODY!

GONDOLFF, STAY THY TONGUE!

THOUGH HE BE A CLUMSY KNAVE, STILL IS VOLSTAGG FRIEND TO THOR!



THEN 'TIS AS I SUSPECTED!

WHEN THOU DIDST SEE THAT GONDOLFF HAD THEE BEATEN... THOU SIGNALLED VOLSTAGG, TO END THE CONTEST!

BUT NOW HATH THE GOD OF THUNDER O'ER-STEPPED HIMSELF!

BY LAW OF ASGARD... NOW MUST THOU ADMIT THY BASE DECEPTION!



I CALL THEE LIAR!

THE VICTORY WAS MINE! I DID BUT TOY WITH THEE!

THEN, LET OUR STEEL DECIDE!

I HAVE COMRADES A'PLENTY TO STRIKE FOR GONDOLFF!



THOR HATH BUT FEW...

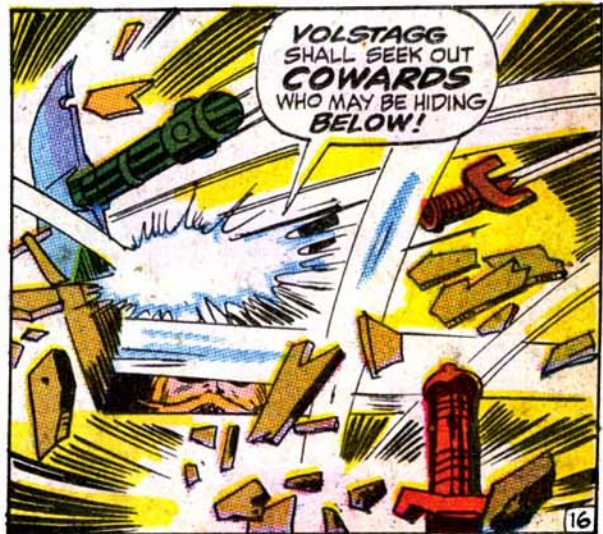
BUT WE BE MORE THAN ENOW! FOR, WE BE HOGUN THE GRIM...

AND FANDRAL THE DASHING...



...AND VOLUMINOUS VOLSTAGG, WHOSE VERY NAME MAKES ARMIES TREMBLE!

WHILST THOU DO BATTLE YONDER...



VOLSTAGG SHALL SEEK OUT COWARDS WHO MAY BE HIDING BELOW!



THUNDER GOD, LEAD ON!

SO! THOU WOULDST TRADE STEEL WITH ASGARD'S FINEST!

BETTER THOU HADST TENDED TO THINE ARM WRESTLING!

NOW, FOR CERTAIN, THOU ART FAIR OUT-CLASSED!



HOW IS IT POSSIBLE?

THERE ARE BUT THREE OF THEM... AGAINST A HORDE OF GONDOLFF'S ALLIES!

YET, 'TIS WE WHO ARE THE SMITTEN... 'TIS WE WHO NOW FALL BACK!

I SAY ENOW!

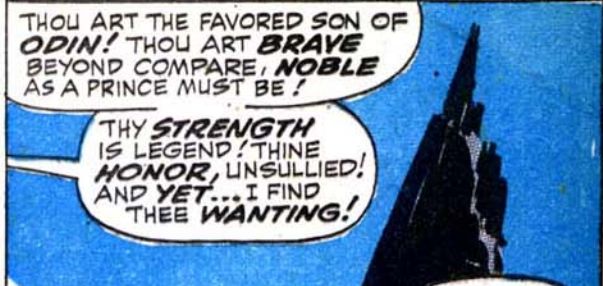
THE VOICE OF ODIN! HE BIDS ME HALT!



THOU, WHO ARE CALLED **BLAKE**... NOW **NEED MY WORDS!**

NOW SHALL COME THE **ANSWER**... WHICH THOU **SEEKEST..!**

LET THY MEMORY **RETURN** ... TO THAT FATEFUL MOMENT... WHEN I **SUMMONED** THEE ...

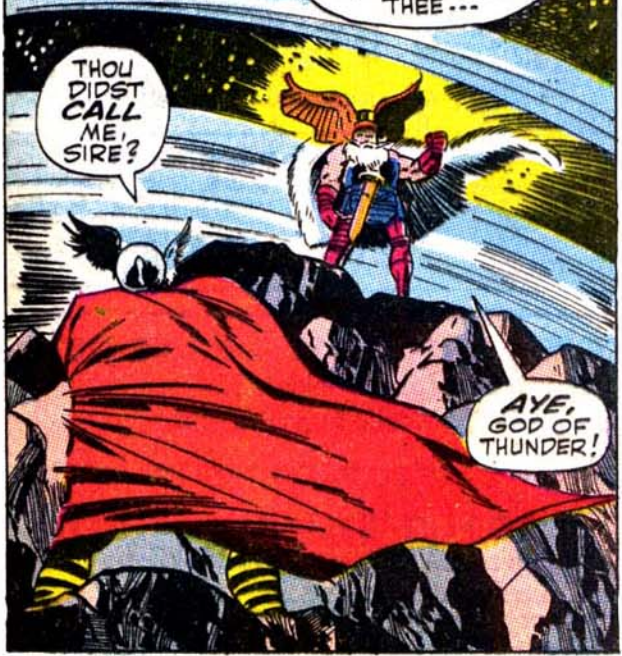


THOU ART THE FAVORED SON OF **ODIN!** THOU ART **BRAVE** BEYOND COMPARE, **NOBLE** AS A PRINCE MUST BE!

THY **STRENGTH** IS LEGEND! THINE **HONOR**, UNSULLIED! AND **YET...** I FIND THEE **WANTING!**

SORELY GRIEVED AM I, MY FATHER!

WHEREIN HAVE I **FAILED??**



THOU DIDST CALL ME, **SIRE?**

AYE, GOD OF THUNDER!



THOU ART LACKING IN... **HUMILITY!**



THOUGH THOU ART SUPREME IN THY **POWER**, AND THY **PRIDE**... THOU MUST KNOW **WEAKNESS**... THOU MUST FEEL **PAIN!**

THUS, THOU SHALT **LEAVE** THE GOLDEN REALM ... AND **SHED** THY GODLY TRAPPINGS!

BUT, SUCH LESSON CAN NE'ER BE LEARNED BY **THUNDER GOD!**

THOU HAST CONJURED UP A **VISION!**

WHAT **WORLD** IS THAT, MY LIEGE?



'TIS KNOWN AS **EARTH**... WHERE FRAGILE **MORTALS** DWELL!

AND **THERE** SHALT THOU RESIDE... AND **THERE** SHALT THOU LEARN THAT **NONE** CAN BE TRULY STRONG UNLESS THEY BE TRULY **HUMBLE!**



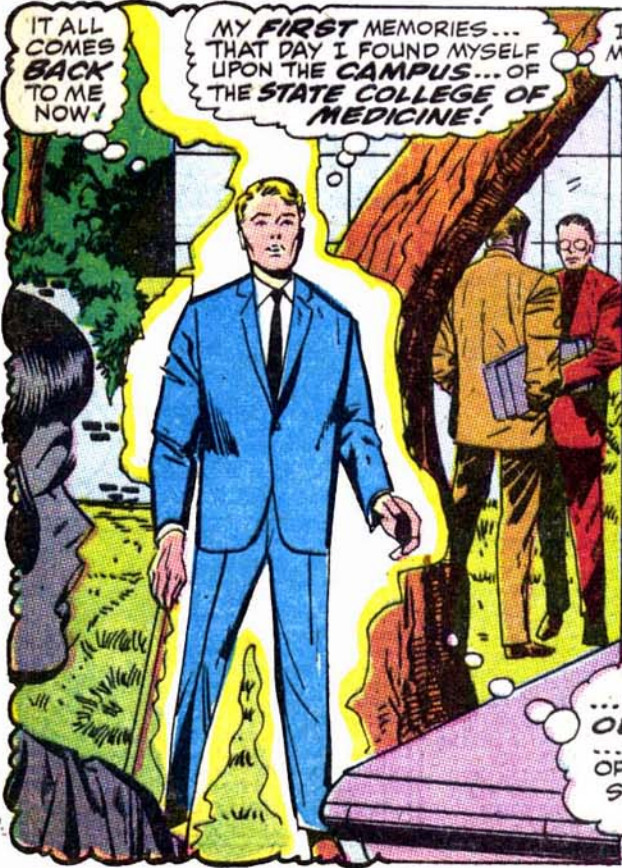
NO LONGER ART THOU GOD OF THUNDER!

NOR SHALL MJOLNIR SERVE THEE NOW!

THY MEMORY TOO SHALL I STRIP BARE!



THEN GO... FOR LIFE ANEW AWAITS THEE!



IT ALL COMES BACK TO ME NOW!

MY FIRST MEMORIES... THAT DAY I FOUND MYSELF UPON THE CAMPUS... OF THE STATE COLLEGE OF MEDICINE!

I INTRODUCED MYSELF... AS DONALD BLAKE!

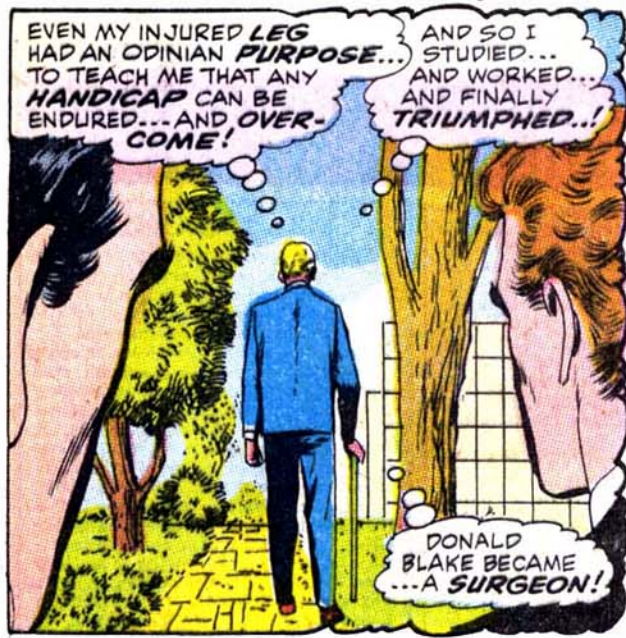
THE NAME SOUNDED SO RIGHT... SO PROPER... I WAS STRANGELY UNAWARE THAT I HAD NEVER KNOWN OF IT BEFORE!



THE REGISTRAR'S OFFICE IS IN BUILDING "A", SECOND FLOOR, BLAKE!

THANK YOU!

I REALIZE NOW... IT WAS BECAUSE OF ODIN'S ENCHANTMENT... THAT I NEVER THOUGHT OF YESTERDAY... NEVER SUSPECTED THAT BLAKE HAD NO PAST!



EVEN MY INJURED LEG HAD AN ODINIAN PURPOSE... TO TEACH ME THAT ANY HANDICAP CAN BE ENDURED... AND OVER-COME!

AND SO I STUDIED... AND WORKED... AND FINALLY TRIUMPHED..!

DONALD BLAKE BECAME ...A SURGEON!



THOU DIDST TREAT THE SICK, AND THE AFFLICTED!

THOU DIDST WALK AMONGST THE WEAK... AND GIVE THEM STRENGTH!

YET, EVER WERT THOU SON OF ODIN... THOUGH THOU KNEW IT NOT!



'T WAS I WHO PLACED THY HAMMER IN AN EARTHLY CAVE ... SO THOU WOULDST ONE DAY FIND IT!

AND FIND IT THOU DIDST... WHEN THY LESSON HAD BEEN LEARNED!

THE LESSON OF ... HUMILITY!



THEN THAT WAS WHY MY MARRIAGE TO JANE FOSTER COULD NEVER BE!

THAT WAS WHY I COULD NEVER RENOUNCE MY GODLY HERITAGE!



THOUGH IN SPIRIT I AM DONALD BLAKE...

'T IS THOR THAT I HAVE EVER BEEN!



GOD OF THUNDER ... NOW, AND FORE'ER!!

SO BE IT! 20.