

THOR

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THE MIGHTY

THOR



CAN EVEN THE GOD OF THUNDER STAND AGAINST THE LEGIONS OF TIME GONE MAD!



TURMOIL IN THE TIME-STREAM!

Stan Lee PRESENTS: **THE MIGHTY THOR!**™

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WHAT HATH GONE BEFORE:
THOR AND JANE FOSTER HAVE
RETURNED TO NEW YORK--
WHERE THEY WERE GREETED
BY THOSE BOLD ASGARDIANS
NAMED FANDRAL, HOGUN AND
VOLSTAGG--THEN ATTACKED
BY A LIVING MONOLITH CALLED
THE SERVITOR!

IN A BATTLE MOST BRUTAL, THE THUNDER
GOD AND HIS COMPANIONS HAVE DEFEATED
THE SERVITOR, BUT NOW FIND THEMSELVES
FACING THE MECHANOID'S MASTER--THE EVIL
GENIUS WHO CALLS HIMSELF ZARRKO THE
TOMORROW MAN!

IF THOU DOST
COME SEEKING
BATTLE,
ZARRKO-- WE
STAND
READY!

GOT ALL THAT, FAITHFUL
ONE? SWELL-- 'CAUSE
FROM HERE ON, YOU'RE
ON YOUR OWN!

NO,
ASGARDIAN--
I COME
BECAUSE I
NEED YOUR
HELP!

UNLESS YOU AGREE
TO AID ME--THE PLANET
EARTH IS DOOMED!

TURMOIL IN THE TIME-STREAM

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WAY EVIL ONE! THOU DOST SEEK TO GAIN OUR TRUST-- ONLY SO THOU MAY SLAY US UNSUSPECTING!

IF I WANTED YOU ALL DEAD, ASGARDIAN-- MY LASER-GUN WOULD NOT HAVE MISSED MERE MOMENTS AGO!

FRIEND FANDRAL, MAYKAP THOU DOST ACT TOO RASHLY! LET US HEAR ZARRKO OUT!

AS THOU WISH, MILORD-- BUT METHINKS THIS TOMORROW MAN DOTH SPEAK WITH THE TONGUE OF A TROLL!

NOW YOU MUST TRUST ME--OR THE DEATH OF COUNTLESS WORLDS WILL BE ON YOUR HEADS!

THE THUNDER GOD MIGHT HAVE REASON TO DISTRUST ME, ASGARDIAN-- BUT YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW ME--

--AND EVEN IF YOU DID-- YOU COULD NOT KNOW WHAT TRANSPIRED AFTER THOR AND I LAST CLASHED!*

*BACK IN MARVEL TEAM-UP #11-- LEN.

"LEFT TO WALLOW IN DEFEAT IN THE 23rd CENTURY-- THE ERA OF MY BIRTH-- I DWELLED FOR WEEKS UPON MY REPEATED FAILURES-- UNTIL, AT LAST, I HAD AN INSPIRATION!

"THE NEXT SEVERAL MONTHS WERE SPENT IN ALTERING ONE OF MY CENTURY'S INDESTRUCTIBLE MINING ROBOTS INTO A FITTING SERVITOR FOR ONE SUCH AS I INTENDED TO BECOME!

"THEN, FINALLY, MY SERVITOR AND I ENTERED THE TIME CUBE THAT WAS SO NECESSARY TO MY PLAN--

"--ACTIVATED THE CONTROLS--

"--AND LURCHED FORWARD INTO TIME!

"IN YOUR 20th CENTURY, I HAD BEEN CALLED THE TOMORROW MAN!

"NOW I HURTLIED THRU THE AGES TO FULFILL THAT UNWITTING PROPHECY!

"THE CENTURIES SPED BY ME-- AN INCOMPARABLE PANORAMA OF MANKIND'S GREATEST TRIUMPHS AND TRAGEDIES"--

"--THE GREAT SPIRES OF TOWERING CITIES THAT COULD ONLY BE CALLED PARADISE--

"--WAR-RAVAGED RUINS THAT ONLY PROVED ONCE MORE MY OWN CENTURY'S WISDOM IN OUTLIVING ALL WEAPONS!"

"ALL THIS I SAW AND MORE-- YET STILL I TRAVELED ON--

"--UNTIL, AT LENGTH, I REACHED EARTH'S 50TH CENTURY--

"--AND DISCOVERED A WORLD SUBLIMELY SUITED TO MY NEEDS!"

"WITH MY SERVITOR AT MY SIDE, IT DID NOT TAKE ME VERY LONG TO HAVE MYSELF PROCLAIMED KING AND MOST SOVEREIGN RULER OF THE ENTIRE PLANET!"

"I HAD FOUND THE TOMORROW I'D BEEN SEARCHING FOR!"



YOUR TIME MIGHT NEVER HAVE HEARD FROM ME AGAIN--

-- HAD I NOT LEARNED ABOUT THE MENACE OF-- THE TIME-TWISTERS!

TIME-TWISTERS. ZARRKO? WHAT MANNER OF BEINGS ARE THEY?

IF BEINGS THEY TRULY ARE!



THAT IS DIFFICULT TO EXPLAIN AT BEST, THUNDER GOD.

PERHAPS IT WOULD BE SIMPLER FOR ME TO ILLUSTRATE!

WE'RE DEALING WITH AN ABSTRACT CONCEPT HERE, ASGARDIANS -- SO PAY CLOSE ATTENTION!



IMAGINE THAT THE HUMAN RACE-- AS A RULE-- MOVES THRU TIME AS A STRAIGHT LINE IN ONE DIRECTION.

NOW IMAGINE THAT THE TIME-TWISTERS MOVE THRU TIME AS A SPIRAL IN THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION!

THE TIME-TWISTERS APPEAR UPON EARTH ONLY AT THOSE JUNCTURES WHERE THE TWO LINES INTERSECT!



THEIR STAY ON EARTH IS BRIEF--



-- BUT THEIR PASSING CREATES A COSMIC UPEHAVAL THAT REDUCES THIS WORLD TO A CINDER!



THRU A TIMESCOPE, I WATCHED THE DESTRUCTION OF EARTH IN THE 80TH CENTURY.

UNLESS YOU AGREE TO HELP ME, 50TH CENTURY EARTH WILL BE THE NEXT TO FALL!

THY CAUSE INDEED SEEMS NOBLE, ZARRKO-- BUT WHY HAST THOU TRAVELED THESE MANY CENTURIES TO SEEK OUR AID?



BECAUSE, FAT ONE, THE TIME-TWISTERS ONLY TOUCH THE EARTH EACH THIRTY CENTURIES!

IF THE 50TH CENTURY FALLS, THE 20TH CENTURY WILL FOLLOW--

-- AND BY THEN, THE TWISTERS WILL HAVE GROWN TOO STRONG TO BE DEFEATED!



ZOUNDS.



NOW I MUST HAVE YOUR **ANSWER**, ASGARDIANS!

WILL YOU **HELP** ME SAVE THE **WORLD**?



ZARKO, THOR DOTH SAY THEE... **AYE!**

THE GOD OF THUNDER SHALL STAND **BESIDE** THEE!



THEN SO SAY WE **ALL**, TOMORROW MAN!

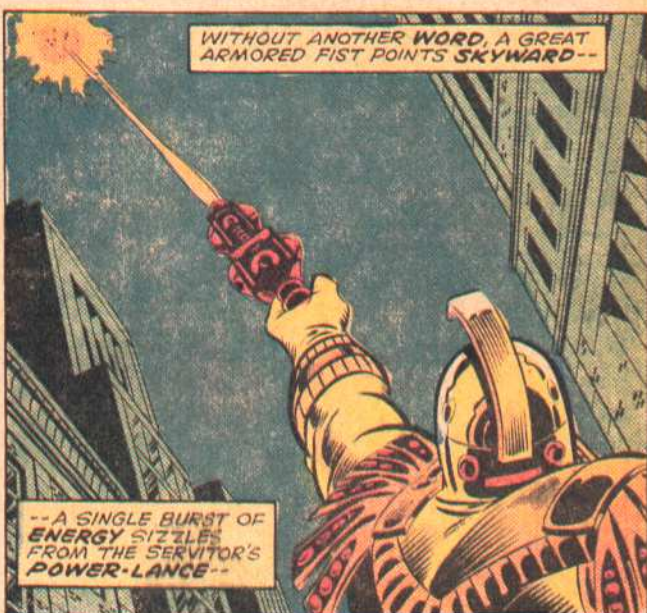
SO SAY WE **ALL!!**



SWIFTLY THEN, MY SERVITOR-- SUMMON THE **TIME CUBE!**

WE HAVE NO MORE TIME TO **WASTE!**

AS YOU **WISH**, MASTER... SO SHALL IT BE **DONE!**



WITHOUT ANOTHER WORD, A GREAT ARMORED FIST POINTS **SKYWARD--**

--A SINGLE BURST OF ENERGY SIZZLES FROM THE SERVITOR'S **POWER-LANCE--**



-- AND, FROM ITS CLOUD-SWEPT COVER, A GLEAMING GOLDEN OBJECT SWOOPS SAVAGELY DOWN TOWARDS THE ISLE OF **MANHATTAN--**



-- THEN WHISPERS TO A SUDDEN **STOP**, HOVERING SILENTLY ABOVE THE BENIGHTED CITY **STREETS.**

DON'T STAND ON **CEREMONY**, ASGARDIANS.

THE SOONER YOU **ENTER** THE CUBE, THE SOONER WE CAN BE **UNDERWAY!**



THEN FARE-THEE-WELL, JANE MY LOVE! I WILL RETURN TO THEE AS SWIFTLY AS...

NEVER MIND THE GOOD-BYES, DARLING. I'M COMING WITH YOU!

NAY, MILADY! 'TWOULD BE FOLLY TO...



FORGET THE EXCUSES, THOR-- I DON'T WANT TO HEAR THEM! I'M COMING-- AND THAT'S FINAL!

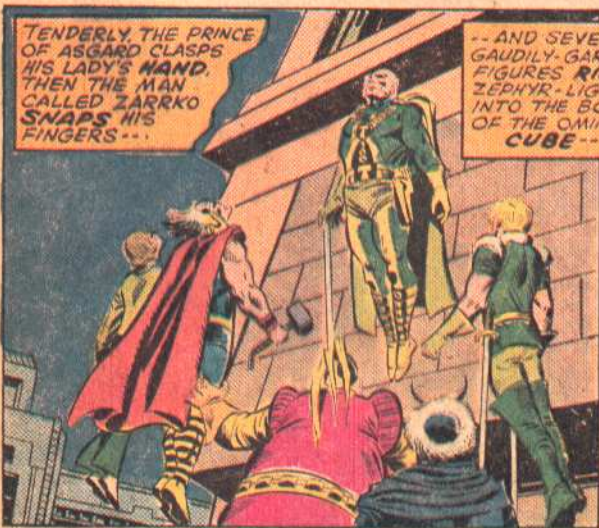
YOU'D NEVER HAVE LEFT BEHIND YOUR LADY SIF FOR FEAR OF HER SAFETY-- AND I NEED NOT REMIND YOU THAT WHATEVER THERE REMAINS OF HER NOW DWELLS WITHIN ME!



BY MY FATHER'S THRICE-BLESSED BEARD-- METHINKS PERHAPS THOU ART MORE A GODDESS THAN ANY COULD HAVE IMAGINED.

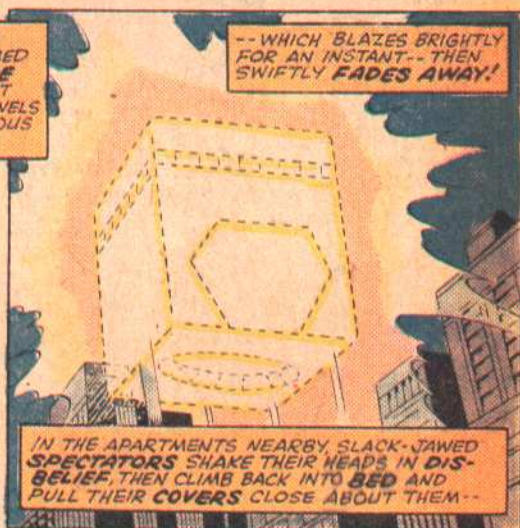
AYE JANE FOSTER, THOU MAY INDEED COME--

-- AND MAY ODIN PRESERVE US ALL!



TENDERLY, THE PRINCE OF ASGARD CLASPS HIS LADY'S HAND. THEN THE MAN CALLED ZARRKO SNAPS HIS FINGERS--

-- AND SEVEN GAUDILY-GARBED FIGURES RISE ZEPHYR-LIGHT INTO THE BOWELS OF THE OMINOUS CUBE--



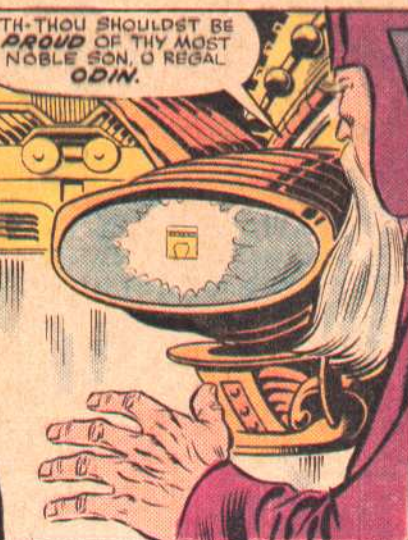
-- WHICH BLAZES BRIGHTLY FOR AN INSTANT-- THEN SWIFTLY FADES AWAY!

IN THE APARTMENTS NEARBY, SLACK-JAWED SPECTATORS SHAKE THEIR HEADS IN DISBELIEF, THEN CLIMB BACK INTO BED AND PULL THEIR COVERS CLOSE ABOUT THEM--



-- WHILE IN THE THRONE ROOM OF THE REALM ETHERAL, TWO OTHER SPECTATORS WATCH THE TIME CUBE'S DEPARTURE IN TERRIBLE SILENCE, UNTIL...

I HAVE NO SON, VIZIER-- AND THOU WOULDST DO WELL TO REMEMBER THAT!



TH--THOU SHOULDST BE PROUD OF THY MOST NOBLE SON, O REGAL ODIN.



THE FATE OF ALL MIDGARD* NOW RESTS IN HIS TWO HANDS!

*THAT'S EARTH FOR ALL YOU LAYMEN OUT THERE.-- LEARNED LEN.



SO LONG AS THOR DOTH DEIGN TO KEEP COMPANY WITH THE MORTAL **JANE FOSTER** AGAINST MY WISHES--

SO LONG AS HE DOTH DEFEY MY ROYAL COMMAND--

FOR SO LONG SHALL THE GOD OF THUNDER BE **NOT** MINE HEIR!

BUT, MY LIEGE--



DOTH NOT THE FACT THAT THE **SPRIT** OF THE GODDESS **SIF** NOW POSSESSES THE MORTAL MAID'S BODY **SOFTEN** THY RESOLVE IN THE LEAST?



NAY, VIZIER-- 'TIS THE **PRINCIPLE** OF THE THING THAT DOTH SIT SO **ILL** WITH ME!

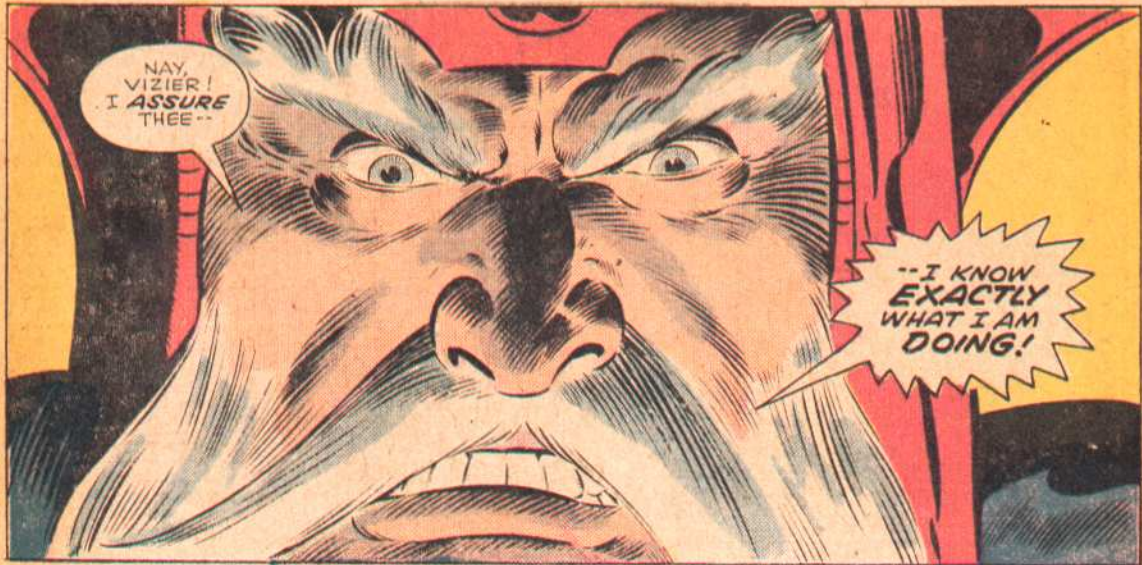
THOR WAS GIVEN A **COMMAND** MOST PLAIN--YET, OF HIS OWN ACCORD THE THUNDER GOD CHOSE TO **IGNORE** IT!

SUCH **TEMERITY** MUST NOT GO UNPUNISHED!



SO THOU HAST **BANISHED** THINE OWN FLESH-AND-BLOOD FROM THE REALM ETERNAL UNTIL SUCH TIME AS HE **SUBMITS** TO THY **WILL**!

MILORD, THOUGH THOU DOTST BE THE **WISEST** OF THE WISE-- STILL, AS THY MOST HUMBLE **ADVISOR** METHINKS PERHAPS THOU ART MAKING A **MISTAKE**!



NAY, VIZIER! I **ASSURE** THEE--

--I KNOW **EXACTLY** WHAT I AM **DOING**!

AND ON THAT GRIM NOTE, LET US RETURN TO THE OBJECT OF ODIN'S IRE...

THERE SEEMS TO BE TURBULENCE OF SOME SORT AHEAD IN THE TIME-STREAM, ASGARDIANS--

--BUT WE SHOULD REACH THE 50th CENTURY WITHOUT ANY PROBLEMS!

VERILY, I DO HOPE SO, ZARRKO!

NOT THAT THE LION OF ASGARD COULD'EER KNOW FEAR, MIND YE--

--BUT WHILST A WIZARD SUCH AS THEE MAY THRIVE IN THIS SWIRLING VOID--

--A WARRIOR SUCH AS I DO FEEL FAR MORE SECURE WITH BOTH FEET PLANTED FIRMLY PON THE...

ZOUNDS!!

THE VERY FLOOR BENEATH ME DOTH WRITHE--!

INDEED IT DOES, VAST ONE-- FOR THIS VESSEL HATH LURCHED TO A HALT!

WHAT BE THE MEANING OF THIS, ZARRKO?

I SWEAR TO YOU, ASGARDIANS-- THIS IS NONE OF MY DOING!

SOME UNKNOWN ELEMENT IN THE TIME-STREAM SOMEHOW IMPEDES OUR PROGRESS--

--AND EVEN MY MOST SENSITIVE SCANNERS CANNOT TELL ME WHAT IT IS!

THOOMP!
THOOMP!

WHATE'ER IT IS, ZARRKO-- IT DOTH SEEK TO GAIN ENTRANCE BY FORCE!

QUICKLY-- OPEN THE TIME CUBE'S PORTAL-- AND I WILL INVESTIGATE YON POUNDING'S SOURCE!

BY HEIMDALL'S EYES, IF THOU DOTH SEEK TO BETRAY US, VILLAIN--

MYSTIC Mjolnir clenched tightly in his fist, the God of Thunder steps boldly from the time-tossed cube--

-- INTO A WORLD THAT IS REALLY NOT A WORLD AT ALL, BUT A BILLOWING MIASMA OF STIFLING MISTS THAT SWIRL IN FROM OBLIVION AND SWIRL AWAY INTO DESPAIR.

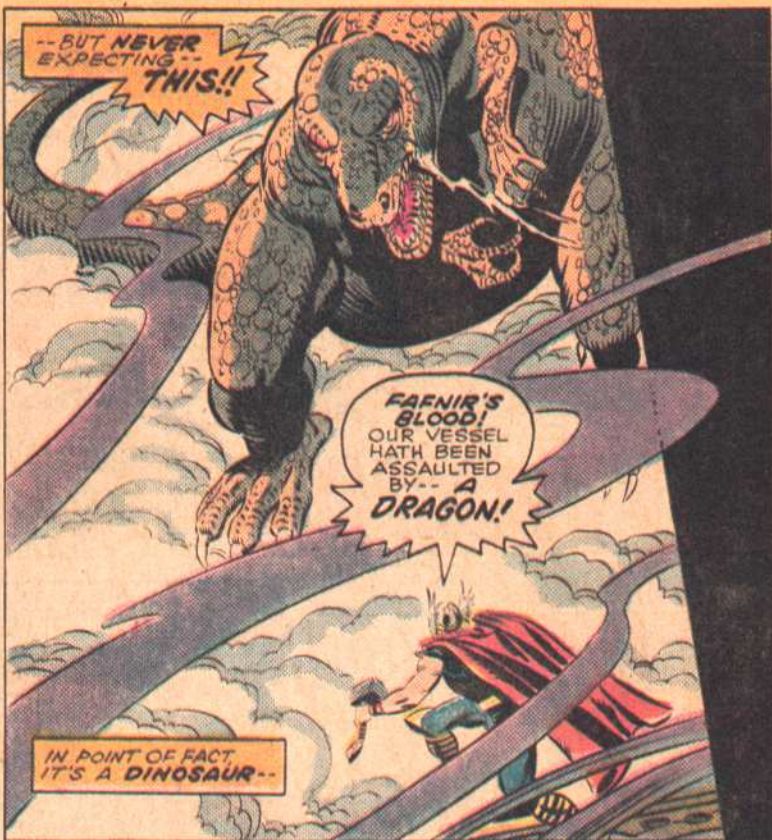


CAUTIOUSLY THE ODINSON STRIDES THRU THE SMOTHERING FOG, UNSURE OF EXACTLY WHAT TO EXPECT--

SPECIFICALLY, TYRANNOSAURUS REX--



-- THE THUNDER LIZARD --



-- BUT NEVER EXPECTING THIS!!

FAFNIR'S BLOOD! OUR VESSEL HATH BEEN ASSAULTED BY-- A DRAGON!

IN POINT OF FACT, IT'S A DINOSAUR--

-- BUT THAT LITTLE BIT OF IRONY IS, SOMEHOW LOST ON THE EMBATTLED ASSGARDIAN!



RELEASE MINE ARM, BEHEMOTH!

RELEASE ME I SAY--



-- OR KNOW THE WRATH OF THOR!!

THRANN!



FOR AN INSTANT, THE SLICK-SCALED MONSTROSITY TREMBLES FROM THE FORCE OF THE THUNDER GOD'S BLOW--

--THEN, BELLOWING ITS RAGE, IT FALLS--

THOOM!



--BUT ITS FURY DOES NOT DIMINISH!

SO, BEHEMOTH-- STILL DOST THOU SEEK TO DEVOUR ME--

--BUT MINE HAMMER'S NEXT BLOW SHALL SHUT THINE GAPING MAW!



UNFORTUNATELY, THE BATTLE'S NEXT BLOW IS NOT STRUCK BY THE GOD OF THUNDER!

THUD!



VERILY, THOU ART AS FEARSOME AS THY LEGENDS HATH CLAIMED THEE, MONSTER--

--BUT THERE ARE LEGENDS TOLD AS WELL OF THE SCION OF ODIN!



I HATH NO REAL WISH TO SLAY THEE, MONSTER-- THOU ART ALMOST NOBLE IN THY FASHION--

--BUT IF THOU DOST SEEK TO ATTACK ME ANEW, THOU SHALT LEAVE ME NO CHOICE!



FOR THINE OWN SAKE, TURN THEE BACK, BEHEMOTH! I BESEECH THEE--

TURN THEE BACK-- OR PERISH!

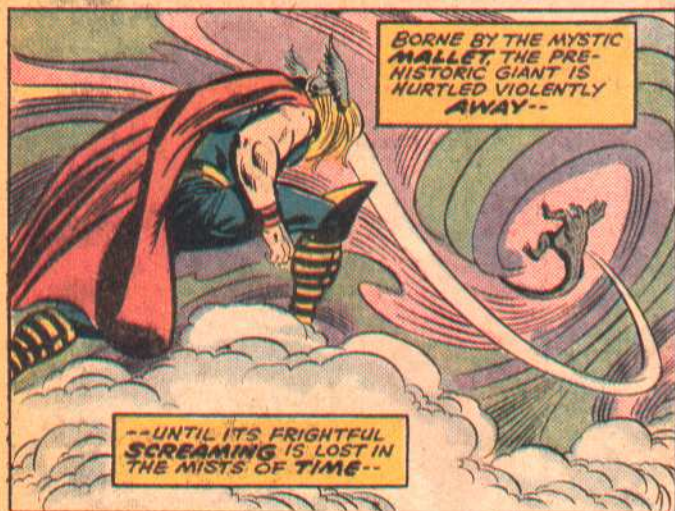


I HATH GIVEN THEE FAIR WARNING, MONSTER-- BUT STILL DOST THOU LUMBER MADLY TOWARD ME!

THEN SO BE IT! THOU HAST MADE MY DECISION FOR ME, BEHEMOTH--

WHOMM!

--AND THY FATE HATH BEEN SEALED!!



BORNE BY THE MYSTIC MALLET, THE PRE-HISTORIC GIANT IS HURTLED VIOLENTLY AWAY--

--UNTIL ITS FRIGHTFUL SCREAMING IS LOST IN THE MISTS OF TIME--



--AND ENCHANTED MJOLNIR RETURNS TO ITS MASTER--

--ALONE!



FRIEND THOR, WE COULD STAND IDLY BY NO LONGER!

SHOW US THE FOE-- AND IN ODIN'S NAME WE SHALL STRIKE!

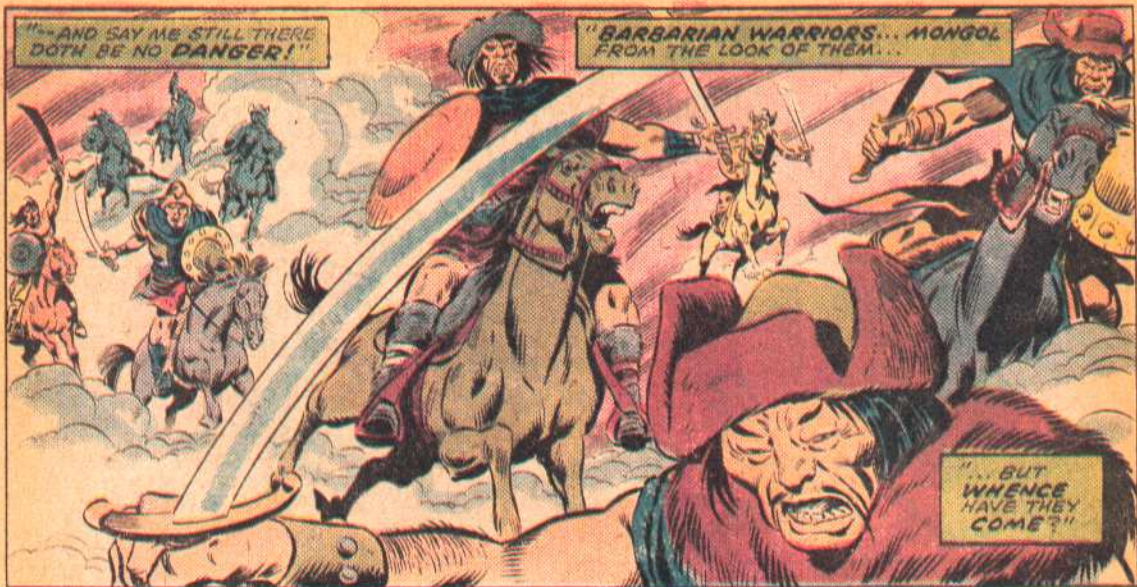
THINE AID IS WELCOME ... BUT UN-NECESSARY, FRIEND HOGUN.

THE DANGER HERE HATH PASSED!



HAS IT, THOR?

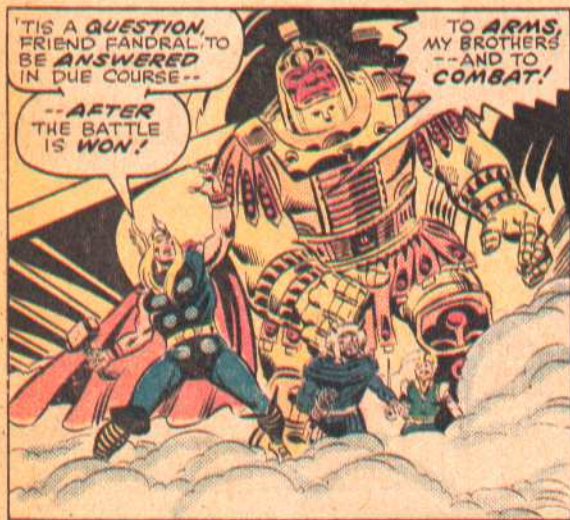
THEN LOOK THEE TO YONDER MISTS, MILORD--



"-- AND SAY ME STILL THERE
DOETH BE NO DANGER!"

"BARBARIAN WARRIORS... MONGOL
FROM THE LOOK OF THEM..."

"... BUT
WHENCE
HAVE THEY
COME?"



'TIS A QUESTION,
FRIEND FANDRAL, TO
BE ANSWERED
IN DUE COURSE--

-- AFTER
THE BATTLE
IS WON!

TO ARMS,
MY BROTHERS!
-- AND TO
COMBAT!



WE DID NOT
BEGIN THIS
CONFLICT--

-- BUT,
VERILY,
WE SHALL
END IT!

CRASH!



ONCE MORE, THE RAVENOUS MISTS
DEVOUR THE THUNDER GOD'S VICTIM--

-- SWALLOWING HORSE AND RIDER
ENTIRE, LEAVING LESS THAN A
WHISPER TO MARK THEIR PASSING!



HAVE A CARE, MY
COMRADES-- LEST THESE
HUNGRY MISTS CONSUME
YE TOO!

HAVE A
CARE--
BUT
STRIKE!

FOR
ODIN!

FOR
ASGARD!!



NO, ASGARDIAN...
FOR MY MASTER...



...AND FOR THE FUTURE
OF HIS
WORLD!



BY THY FATHER'S BEARD FRIEND
THOR--HOW CAN VALIANT VOLSTAGG
NOBLY DEFEND THE REAR IF THOU
PERSIST IN DRIVING
OUR ENEMIES TO ME?



AS EVER, VAST ONE, THY COURAGE
KNOWS NO END!

BROOK!

BACK,
THOU
CHURLS!!



IN TRUTH, MILORD--METHINKS 'TWOULD
BE HIGH IMPOSSIBLE TO FIND SUCH
VALOR'S BEGINNING.' 'TWOULD
REQUIRE A...

BY
ASGARD!
THAT
SOUND...
LIKE THE
GROWL
OF SOME
BEAST...



"...OR THE ROAR OF AN
ATTACKING PLANE!"



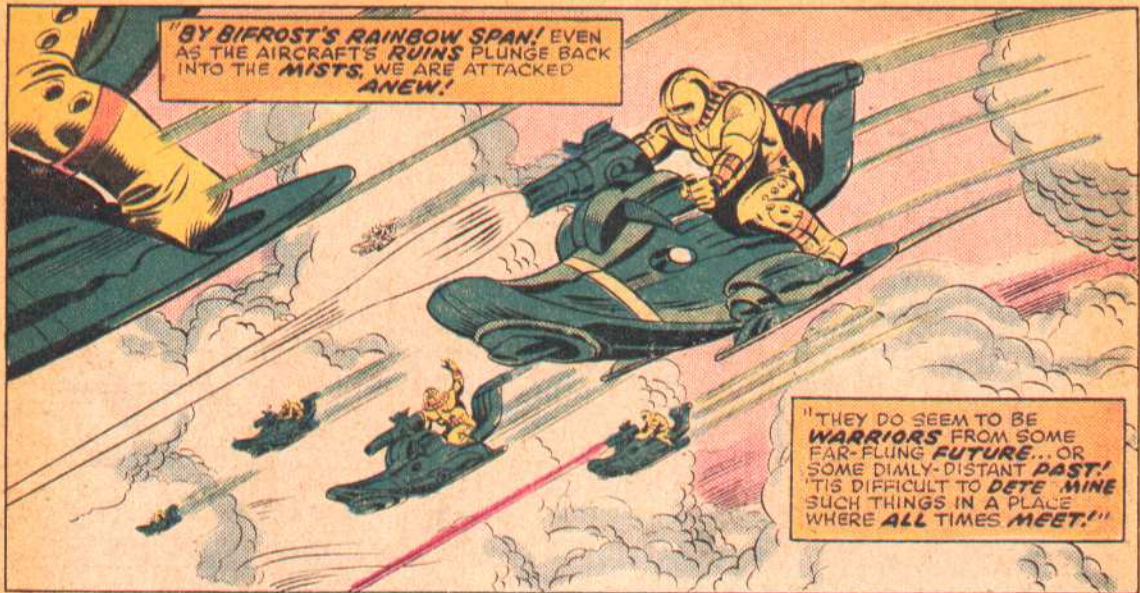
YON AIRCRAFT DOTTH SEEK TO
DESTROY US, BROTHERS!

BUT MERE MACHINE-
GUN BULLETS ARE
AS NOTHING--



--WHEN COMPARED TO THE
HAMMER OF THOR!

"BY BIFROST'S RAINBOW SPAN! EVEN AS THE AIRCRAFT'S RUINS PLUNGE BACK INTO THE MISTS, WE ARE ATTACKED ANEW!"



"THEY DO SEEM TO BE WARRIORS FROM SOME FAR-FLUNG FUTURE... OR SOME DIMLY-DISTANT PAST! 'TIS DIFFICULT TO DETE MINE SUCH THINGS IN A PLACE WHERE ALL TIMES MEET!"



BUT THERE CAN BE NO DOUBT AS TO THEIR EVIL INTENT!

THEY TOO DO SEEK TO SLAY US -- AND WELL THEY MIGHT--



-- WERE THOR NOT GOD OF THUNDER!

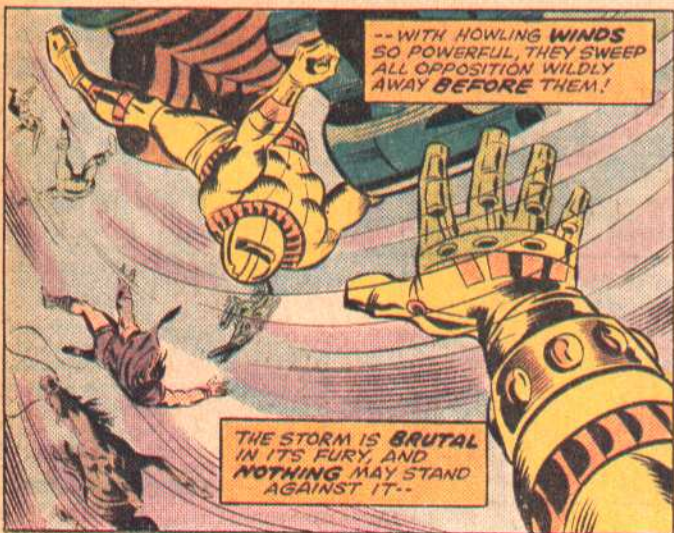
WERE THOR NOT MASTER OF THE WIND-- AND THE STORM!

TOOM!
TOOM!



TWICE THE MYSTIC MALLET IS STRUCK-- AND IN RESPONSE, THE TIMELESS MISTS ARE LACED WITH LIGHTNING--

-- WITH DARK, TORRENTIAL RAINS--



-- WITH HOWLING WINDS SO POWERFUL, THEY SWEEP ALL OPPOSITION WILDLY AWAY BEFORE THEM!

THE STORM IS BRUTAL IN ITS FURY, AND NOTHING MAY STAND AGAINST IT--



-- SAVE HE WHO HATH SUMMONED IT-- HE WHO ONCE GLORIED IN ITS MAJESTY, WITH THE LADY SIF STANDING STAUNCH AT HIS SIDE--

-- THE LADY SIF, WHO GAVE HER ALL THAT THOR'S BELOVED JANE FOSTER MIGHT LIVE--

-- THAT THE THUNDER GOD MIGHT BE REUNITED ONCE MORE WITH THE ONE HE...



MILORD THOR, I PRITHEE-- CEASE THY HAMMER-WROUGHT STORM--

-- LEST IT DOTH CARRY OFF THOSE IT WAS SUMMONED TO SAVE!

THY PARDON, FRIEND FANDRAL-- I GREW LOST IN THOUGHT!



AT ITS MASTER'S COMMAND THEN-- LET THE TEMPEST BEGONE!

IT HATH SERVED ITS PURPOSE WELL!

YOUR TALENTS ARE MOST IMPRESSIVE, ASGARDIAN! MY MASTER WAS WISE TO ENLIST YOU IN HIS SERVICE!

AS HE WAS WHEN HE CHOSE THEE, SERVITOR. THOU ART INDEED A MOST ABLE COMRADE-IN-ARMS!



I COULD BE NO LESS, THUNDER GOD... FOR AS SUCH WAS I DESIGNED!

COME, GIANT ONE-- LET US RETURN TO THE TIME-CUBE! THE BATTLE HERE BE DONE!

CONGRATULATIONS, THOR. I WITNESSED YOUR VICTORY ON MY VIEWSCREEN-- A CONFLICT NOBLY WON!



WE SEEK NOT FLATTERY, ZARRKO-- BUT ANSWERS!

WHENCE CAME THE FOES WE DEFEATED IN YON MISTS?

FROM TIME ITSELF, ASGARDIAN! THE SITUATION IS WORSE THAN I'D THOUGHT. EVEN NOW, THE TIME-TWISTERS APPROACH THE 50th CENTURY--



-- AND THEIR PRESENCE HAS CREATED TURMOIL IN THE TIME-STREAM!

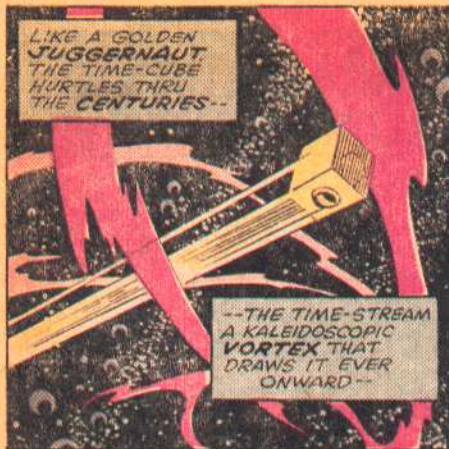
YOU'VE CLEARED THE PATH BEFORE US, THOR-- BUT WE MUST RETURN TO MY ERA WITHOUT DELAY!

THEN, ZARRKO, LET US PROCEED!

NODDING GRIMLY THE TOMORROW MAN RETURNS TO THE TIME-CUBE'S CONTROLS-- AND THE REST OF THE VOYAGE IS PASSED IN SILENCE--

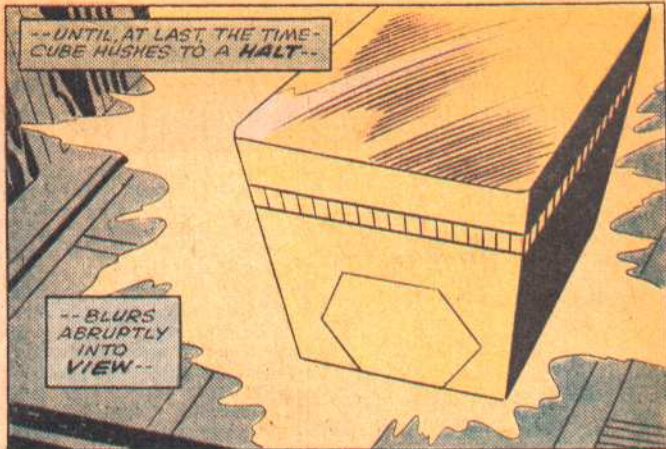


-- A THOUGHTFUL, FOREBODING SILENCE.



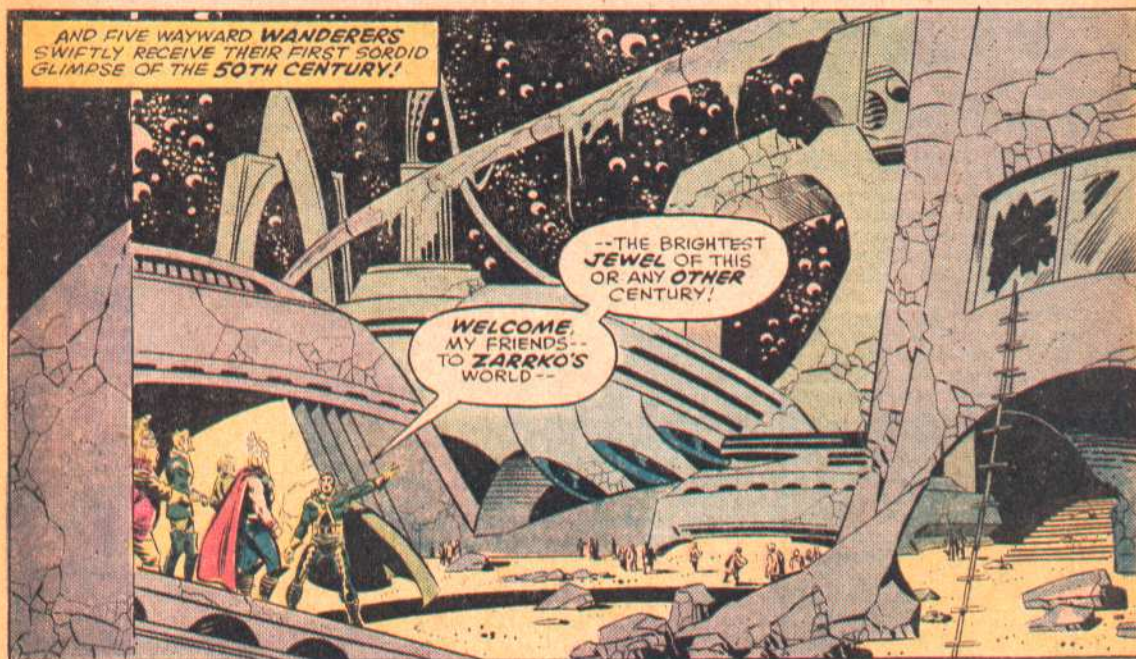
LIKE A GOLDEN
JUGGERNAUT,
THE TIME-CUBE
HURTTLES THRU
THE CENTURIES--

--THE TIME-STREAM
A KALEIDOSCOPIC
VORTEX THAT
DRAWS IT EVER
ONWARD--



--UNTIL, AT LAST THE TIME-
CUBE HUSHES TO A HALT--

--BLURS
ABRUPTLY
INTO
VIEW--



AND FIVE WAYWARD WANDERERS
SWIFTLY RECEIVE THEIR FIRST SORDID
GLIMPSE OF THE 50TH CENTURY!

--THE BRIGHTEST
JEWEL
OF THIS
OR ANY OTHER
CENTURY!

WELCOME,
MY FRIENDS--
TO ZARKKO'S
WORLD--



IN TRUTH,
THY WORLD
IS A GREAT
DEAL
DIFFERENT
THAN I HAD
IMAGINED
IT, ZARKKO.

WHERE I HAD EXPECTED TO
FIND A WORLD OF SCIENTIFIC
WONDER--



--INSTEAD I FIND ONLY SQUALOR,
DEPRIVATION--

"--A WORLD OF BEINGS
LIVING IN THE RUINED
MEMORY OF THAT
WHICH I'D THOUGHT
TO FIND!"



THAT'S NOT ENTIRELY TRUE ASGARDIAN.

MY OWN PALACE, AS YOU CAN SEE, IS A GLOWING TRIBUTE TO ALL THAT THE 50th CENTURY HAS TO OFFER!



THE MOST MODERN CONVENIENCES WILL BE YOURS TO ENJOY ONCE... EH?

LORD ZARRKO, WE BEG YOU-- A MOMENT OF YOUR TIME-- PLEASE!

MY TIME AT THE MOMENT IS MOST PRECIOUS, CITIZEN-- BUT YOU MAY SPEAK!



WE'VE A QUESTION TO ASK, LORD ZARRKO. HOW STAND THE ENER-GENERATORS?

WHEN YOU GAINED THE THRONE YOU PROMISED THEY'D SOON BE REPAIRED-- YET THUS FAR WE'VE SEEN NO RESULTS!

LORD ZARRKO-- HOW MUCH LONGER MUST WE WAIT?



AS LONG AS IS NECESSARY, FOOLS!

YOU WILL HAVE ENERGY WHEN YOUR MASTER DECREES IT! UNTIL THEN-- BEGONE!



ZARRKO, METHINKS THINE IS A MOST TARNISHED JEWEL INDEED!

COME-- LET US HIE TO THY PALACE-- ERE MY STOMACH DOTH TURN!



SHORTLY...

ZARRKO, THOU DIDST ASK US TO HELP THEE SAVE THY CENTURY-- BUT MAYHAP 'TWOULD BE BETTER OFF DEAD!

WHAT ARE THE ENER-GENERATORS OF WHICH THY PEOPLE DOTH SPEAK?

WHY HAST THOU LEFT THY SUBJECTS WITHOUT POWER?

IT IS A VERY SIMPLE EQUATION,
THUNDER GOD.

ENERGY PRODUCES MOBILITY...
MOBILITY PRODUCES COMMUNI-
CATION... COMMUNICATION
PRODUCES DISSENT... AND
DISSENT PRODUCES REBELLION!



BY WITH-
HOLDING ALL
SOURCES OF
ENERGY I
ELIMINATE
THAT
REBELLIOUS
TEMPTATION--
AND INSURE
MY SUBJECTS'
SAFETY!

ALL THAT
THREATENS
THEM NOW
IS-- THE
TIME-
TWISTERS!

IN SOOTH, ZARRKO--
I HATH BEGUN TO
WONDER IF SUCH
CREATURES TRULY
EXIST!



AND AS IF IN ANSWER TO THE
VAST ASGARDIAN'S CHALLENGE,
THE VERY SKIES ARE ABRUPTLY
SPLIT BY LIGHTNING--



--AND THE
OMINOUS
CLASH OF
THUNDER!

WONDER NO LONGER, FAT
ONE-- FOR THE PROOF
OF MY CLAIMS DRAWS
CLOSER EVEN NOW!



LOOK, ASGARDIANS-- DO
YOU SEE THE GHOSTLY
NIMBUS APPEARING ON
THE STREET BEFORE US?

"DO YOU SEE
THE MIS-
SHAPEN
FIGURES
THAT
MATERIALIZ
WITHIN?"



"THERE THEY ARE,
ASGARDIANS!

"THE TIME-
TWISTERS
WALK AMONG
US!"



AND UNLESS WE CAN SOMEHOW
DEFEAT THEM--

--THIS ENTIRE PLANET
IS DOOMED!



NEXT
ISSUE:

THE THRILLER OF
YOU NEVER
THOUGHT
YOU'D SEE...

THIS IS THE WAY THE WORLD ENDS!

THE HAMMER STRIKES

c/o MARVEL COMICS GROUP, 575 MADISON AVE. N.Y.C. 10022

Dear Marvel,

I went into my favorite comic mag store the other day and couldn't find any of my regulars from Marvel, so I decided to buy my first THOR.

I took it home rather skeptically but WOW, this is a great mag. If you people wanted to hook me on THOR then #239 was great bait...I'm hooked.

I would have liked to know a little more about the events leading up to #239 but I can't expect Good ol' Marvel to stop and tell me everything. Anyway, the art was superb and the story even better.

Steve Will
404 Pearl St.
Decorah, IN 52101

It's always great to find a new reader, Steve, and we're especially proud that you've already been enjoying other spectacular Marvel series. It couldn't have happened to a nicer guy! And if there are any more of our bombastic books that you haven't tried yet, or have somehow missed catching in the glut of newsstand nonsense, be sure to keep your eyes glued to the pages of any Marvel comic, 'cause in just a few months we'll be returning the Mighty Marvel Checklist to these hallowed pages Watch for it!

And if you don't really understand the shape of things at present, try to pick up past issues at comic cons throughout the country, or else just keep following THOR... and all shall be revealed.

Dear Messrs. Thomas, Buscema, et. al.,

It matters not; this letter is about THOR. I always liked THOR, but I had never really given much thought to collecting him. Every time I had looked at his book, it seemed he was fighting Loki again. I was sick of Loki, ever since I had tried to draw him, Thor, and Odin for a school project and he was the only lousy one. Then the THOR TREASURY EDITION came out, and I was interested again. But I didn't like the stories Gerry Conway was cranking out. But then I looked at THOR #239 when it came out and I bought it for two reasons—or maybe three:

(1) Sal Buscema. One of the best pencilers in the field, I had never seen him do THOR. That's because Brother John had been doing it, and his work on Conan, to my eyes, had spoiled him for the superhero biz. This was the first time EVER that it looked as though Sal's work surpassed John's, and the next reason I bought the issue tells why:

(2) Joe Sinnott inking Sal Buscema! Wow! I don't believe this had ever happened before, and it was about time! The art job was one of the best I've seen anywhere in years (except for Jane Foster), and though I love Jim Starlin, Rich Buckler, and Dave Cockrum, Sal and Joe equaled them in one swell foop (as the Human Torch has been known to say). That being the critique of the art, reason next is the biggest reason I bought the book:

(3) Roy Thomas. Roy is still my favorite fantasy writer, Steve Englehart having gone down a bit (sorry, Steve, but that's the way you is)—and I don't remember ever having seen Roy doing THOR. Boy, the changes that had been wrought since I last actively read an issue! Jane Foster is back (all right!!), Thor is speaking more normally every day, Odin in exile, and a lousy cover. (Sorry, Gil, but that's the way you is). Roy's script and plot were superb. I'm really sorry Roy has to leave the strip, but Bill Mantlo in ish #240 did an excellent job with dialogue.

Len Wein is coming on the strip! Okay! I guess if anybody

but Roy has to do it, Len's the man. HULK and THOR are now on my must buy list, and Roy, Len, Sal, Joe, etc., go to it!

Mark Zutkoff
2302 Chetwood Circle
Timonium, MD 21093

So you like our power-packed writer/penciller/inker combination, eh, Mark? We're sure Sal would be one of the first to thank you himself, if he wasn't off busy receiving his Irving Forbush Award as Best Penciller.

And Len Wein, who gets to work with Sal on both Hulk and Thor, is simply very, very happy.

Dear Marvel,

I really thought THOR #239 was terrific although I wished the battle between Thor and Ulrik had been a few pages longer! I liked it mainly because Jane Foster had really played a part in the story. She is one of my very favorite supporting characters and I hope you will be using her as a regular in THOR. I also hope that you'll be keeping Hercules and maybe Firelord as regulars.

Gee, I never really noticed that Sal Buscema drew this issue until I finished it. I really dig that artist! His style is so unique. I hope he'll be doing more of THOR and I do wish he would come back and draw Captain America.

Before I sign off I would like to ask these questions:

(1) In what issue of FOOM will the winners of the second Annual Irving Forbush Awards be announced?

(2) Will Xorr or the 4-D Man be returning?

(3) I would like to see Thor meet up with the Mad Viking who was featured in MAN-THING #16, #17 and #18. Is there any chance that they might?

Well, I guess that's about all I have to say. Until the Silver Surfer goes to a beach party, MAKE MINE MARVEL!!!!!!!

Dallas Young
Route #1
Dike, TX 75437

If you really like Hercules, Dallas, perhaps you should hurry down to your newsdealer to see if you can still pick up a copy of MARVEL PREMIERE #26, featuring Hercules, Prince of Power! But if you can't make it down to the store for awhile—relax! You'll still be able to catch Firelord in a try-out issue of MARVEL SPOTLIGHT. Who says Marvel doesn't aim to please!

We are glad you like Sal (for the same reason as those in the previous letter) because he's been named Best Penciller by FOOmdom Assembled. And the entire results for those awards will be printed (or already have been by the time you read this) in FOOM #11, the special Jack Kirby issue. Send for it!

As for your second and third questions, we'll have to answer with a definite "We're not sure." Neither of the events of which you speak have been planned for the near future, but who knows—we just may change our minds.

See ya in thirty!

THIS IS IT! YOUR
MARVEL VALUE STAMP
FOR THIS ISSUE!



CLIP 'EM AND COLLECT 'EM!