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THE MIGHTY

THOR



IF I CANNOT DEFEAT THE **TIME-TWISTERS**, THE PLANET EARTH IS **DOOMED!**

BUT EVEN MY **MYSTIC MALLET** CANNOT STOP THEM!



BUCKLER & SINNOTT

AT LAST!
THE BATTLE THE THUNDER GOD CANNOT HOPE TO WIN!

THIS IS THE WAY THE **WORLD ENDS!**

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

LEN WEIN / JOHN BUSCEMA & JOE SINNOTT / GLYNIS WEIN / JOE ROSEN
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**THIS IS THE WAY
THE WORLD ENDS!**

IN THE MONITOR ROOM OF THE PALACE ROYAL OF THE VAST DECAYING CITY-STATE THAT RULES EARTH OF THE 50th CENTURY, FIVE FAMILIAR FIGURES STAND GRIMLY STUDYING THE SHIMMERING IMAGES PROJECTED UPON A BROAD VIEWSCREEN --

-- UNTIL, AT LENGTH, THE GOLDEN-HAIRED GOD OF THUNDER NARROWS HIS EYES, SETS HIS JAW FIRMLY, AND SPEAKS...

SO THESE BE THE TIME-TWISTERS!
BUT FOR THEIR GREAT SIZE, THEY
WOULD HARDLY SEEM A THREAT
AT ALL --

-- YET, AMONG
THEM, THEY DO
POSSESS THE
POWER TO
DESTROY THIS
VERY WORLD!

... AND THE ENTIRE
PLANET TREMBLES
AT HIS WORDS!

3V179

COME BROTHERS-- LET US
CONFRONT YON CREATURES
ERE THEY CAN ACCOMPLISH
THEIR MAYHEM MOST FOUL!

DARLING,
WAIT--!



YOU'D BE WISE TO
HEED YOUR JANE
FOSTER THUNDER
GOD.

AND IF I
DO NOT
CHOOSE
TO HEED
ZARKKO?

ASSARDIAN,
YOU WILL
DO AS MY
MASTER
COMMANDS!



NOY
SERVITOR!
THE SON OF
GODIN BOWS
TO THE WILL
OF NO MAN!

NOR MUST YOU,
THUNDER GOD, I
FULLY ACKNOWLEDGE
THAT YOU AND YOUR
COMRADES HAVE
COME TO THIS
CENTURY AS MY
ALLIES, NOT
MY SLAVES!

THEN ORDER THY
AUTOMATON TO
REMOVE HIS
PONDEROUS HAND
FROM ME ZARKKO--
ERE I REMOVE IT--



-- FROM ITS
WRIST!

YOUR PATIENCE SEEMS
TO BE WAXING, MY
FRIEND. UNFORTUNATE

A GENERAL WHO GOES
INTO BATTLE WITHOUT
KNOWING THE STRENGTH
OF HIS ENEMY MAY SOON
FIND HIMSELF LACKING
AN ARMY!



BUT HE WHO IS
ABSOLUTE MONARCH
OF THE 50TH CENTURY
HAS WAYS OF
DETERMINING
THE TIME-TWISTERS'
STRENGTHS... AND
THEIR WEAKNESSES!

IF YOU'LL
PERMIT ME A MOMENT
AT THE
PROJECTION
I'LL GLADLY
DEMONSTRATE!



BEFORE THE MIGHTY THOR CAN
EVEN REPLY THE MAD GENIUS
CALLED THE TOMORROW MAN
IS AT THE BIZARRE MACHINE,
HIS FINGERS FLYING ACROSS
THE CONTROLS--

-- UNTIL A PULSATING ARM
SPRINGS UP ABOUT HIS
GREEN-CLAD FORM --



-- AND HIS
HANDS ARE FLYING
OUT OVER THE
BUBBLE STEW
STREET!

CITIZENS OF EARTH,
ZARKKO COMES
BEFORE YOU TODAY
WITH A MOST
GENEROUS OFFER--

-- AND A
MOST
SERIOUS
WARNING!



WHAT
DOES THE
TYRANT
WANT
NOW?

HE'S ALREADY STOLEN ALL
OUR ENERGY SOURCES! WHAT
MORE CAN HE TAKE FROM US?



FELLOW CITIZENS, A DIABOLICAL MENACE HAS SPRUNG UP IN OUR MIST-- THREE BEINGS WHO THREATEN THE FUTURE OF OUR WORLD!

I OFFER ONE MONTH OF UNLIMITED ENERGY USAGE TO ANY AND ALL CITIZENS WHO CAN DESTROY THE THING-- TWISTERS-- BEFORE THEY DESTROY US!

IS HE SERIOUS? HAS HE GONE MAD?

EVEN IF HE HAS, WE'D BE FAR HAPPIER TO TURN HIS OFFER DOWN!



THY TACTICS SIT ILL WITH ME, ZARRKO. I LIKE NOT USING HELPLESS MORTALS AS PAWNS!

NOT PAWNS THOR-- WARRIORS!

MY SUBJECTS DESERVE THE RIGHT TO PROTECT THEIR OWN PLANET BEFORE WE DO BATTLE FOR THEM!

NONE OF THEM WILL RISK THEIR LIVES UNWILLINGLY AS GARDIAN. THE CHOICE IS THEIRS!



BUT IN SOME OF THE DIMLY-LIT HOLEYS IT IS A CHOICE NOT EASILY MADE.

I BEG YOU, DEREK-- DON'T DO THIS THING! IT'S TOO DANGEROUS!

NO MATTER WHAT THE DANGER, GAYLA-- I MUST GO!

DON'T YOU REALIZE WHAT THIS COULD MEAN TO US?



ONE FULL MONTH OF UNLIMITED ENERGY-- A CHANCE TO LIVE IN AN ELECTRIC WORLD AGAIN-- TO GET AWAY FROM THE FILTH AND SQUALOR WE LIVE IN NOW!

I CAN'T DENY YOU THAT OPPORTUNITY, GAYLA.

DEREK, DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND? NONE OF THAT MEANS ANYTHING TO ME!

ALL THAT MATTERS TO ME IS... YOU.



AND ALL THAT I CARE ABOUT IS YOU, GAYLA MY LOVE.

THAT'S WHY I HAVE TO GO--

--OR I'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO FACE MYSELF AGAIN!



AND IT SEEMS DEREK HAS MADE THE CHOICE OF THE MASSES--

--FOR THE AVENUES ARE FILLED WITH FRIGHTENED, DESPERATE FACES--

--WITH MEN ARMED ONLY WITH MAKESHIFT WEAPONS-- AND AN ALL-CONSUMING NEED!

THEIR OBJECTIVE IS SIMPLE!

TO OVERCOME THESE THREE STRANGE CREATURES WHO STAND DEEMINGLY UNCONCERNED THRU THE HEART OF THEIR DECLINING CITY--



-- TO DEFEAT THESE MONSTROSITIES HOWEVER THEY MUST-- AND THUS GAIN THE GIFT OF LIGHT!

THE ODDS ARE ALMOST EMBARRASSING-- DOZENS TO ONE--

--YET CONQUERING SUCH AS THE TIME-TWISTERS MAY NOT BE ALL THAT EASY A TASK!

BUT STILL THE RAGTAG ARMY BATTLES ON-- UNTIL, AT LAST THE TIME-TWISTERS CAUSE FOR A MOMENT TURN TO STUDY THESE INSIGNIFICANT ORGANISMS WHO SEEK TO BAR THEIR PATH--



CURSE IT! THESE MONSTERS ARE PROTECTED BY SOME UNGEEN FORCE-FIELD!

OUR WEAPONS CANNOT EVEN TOUCH THEM!

NOW-- WHILE THEY'RE JUST STANDING-- ATTACK!!



--AND, WITHOUT EVER UTTERING A WORD, ABRUPTLY RAISE THEIR MISSHAPEN HANDS--

-- ENERGIES THAT SWEEP THE INEFFECTUAL OPPOSITION SAVAGELY AWAY!



--AND SEND SEETHING ENERGIES BRUPTING FROM THEIR GLENDER FINGERS--



AARGCH!!



WITHIN MOMENTS, BOTH ARE GONE-- THEIR PASSING MARKED ONLY BY BITS OF TATTERED CLOTH AND EDDYING PILES OF GRAY-WHITE DUST--



--AND SOON EVEN THE DUST HAS BLOWN AWAY.



SO THIS IS HOW THOU DOST TEST THINE ENEMY ZARRKO-- BY SACRIFICING THY SUBJECTS LIKE SLAUGHTER-RIPE LAMBS?

STAND THEE ASIDE ZARRKO! NOW SHALL THE TIME-TWISTERS FEEL THE VENGEANCE OF WARRIORS BORN!

PERHAPS 'TIS THY WAY, TOMORROW MAN-- BUT 'TIS NOT THE WAY OF THOR!



ANGRILY, THE THUNDER GOD AND HIS COMPANIONS BOAT FROM THE CHAMBER, THEIR BATTLE CRY STRONG ON THEIR LIPS-- "FOR ODIN! FOR ASGARD!"



AND ON THAT MOST APPROPRIATE NOTE, LET US SPAN TIME, SPACE, AND THE RAINBOW BRIDGE BIFROST TO VISIT THE REALM ETHERNAL AND A DIFFERENT PALACE ROYAL--

--WHERE A VERY DIFFERENT MONARCH ATTENDS TO AFFAIRS OF STATE.



MILORD ODIN, EVEN NOW THY SON AND HIS FELLOWS HAVE JOURNEYED TO THE 50th CENTURY TO AVERT THE DESTRUCTION OF EARTH--

--YET STILL HAST THOU BANISHED HIM FROM ASGARD FOR LOVING THE MORTAL JANE FOSTER!

ONCE AGAIN I MOST HUMBLY BESEECH THEE, MILORD-- MUST THY JUDGMENT BE SO HARSH?

THOU HAST BEEN MY ADVISOR ALMOST LONGER THAN THOUGHT CAN RECALL, VIZIER--

--THUS THY WORDS TROUBLE ME MOST SORELY!



THOU HAST **HEARD** MY ROYAL DECREE--
THOU HAST **HEARD** ME STATE THAT I
WOULD **SPEAK** OF THE MATTER NOT
AGAIN--YET STILL DOST THOU
PERSIST IN THY TIREDSOME
PLEADING!

SILENCE! I CAN
DIVINE BUT **ONE**
REASON FOR THY
CONSTANT **DIS-**
OBEDIENCE!

THOU HAST
SERVED AT
MY SIDE
LOYALLY
AND **LONG,**
VIZIER--
MAYHAP
TOO LONG!

BUT MY
LIEGE...

METHINKS 'TIS TIME THOU
DIDST TAKE THY **REST**-- AND
RETIRED TO THE **TOWER OF SOLITUDE,**
THERE TO STUDY THE ANCIENT SCROLLS,
UNTIL SUCH TIME AS I DO **SUMMON**
THEE ANEW!



MY LIEGE, THY WORDS
DO **CUT** THRU ME LIKE
STEEL-- BUT AS EVER
SHALL I DO AS THOU
HAST COMMANDED
WITHOUT **QUESTION**--
WITHOUT **HESSITATION.**

I SHALL **GO** TO
YON TIMELESS
TOWER TO AWAIT
THY **SUMMONS**--
AND WHILE I WAIT,
I SHALL PRAY
THOU HAST CHOSEN
A'RIGHT!

FARETHEWELL,
MILORD--UNTIL WE
DO MEET AGAIN.



WELL, BRAVE **BALDER** THY LIEGE DOTH--
SEEM WITHOUT **COUNSEL.** THUS I
HAVE CHOSEN A **TASK** FOR THEE.

GO THEE TO THE
DUNGEONS 'NEATH
THE PALACE ROYAL--
AND BRING TO ME THE
ONE CALLED **IGRON,**
HE WHO WAS ONCE
ADVISOR TO THE
EVIL **LOKI!**

'TIS HE
WHO SHALL
STAND AT
MY **SIDE.**

ALL-FATHER, THY
WILL IS MY **LIFE**--
BUT **IGRON...?**



DOST **THOU** TOO DOUBT
MY **WISDOM,** BALDER?

METHINKS **SLY** IGRON HATH
SUFFERED PUNISHMENT
ENOUGH! 'TIS TIME HIS
REHABILITATION WAS
BEGUN!



AND WHERE **BETTER** TO
LEARN THE WORD AND THE
WAY, THAN AT THE FOOT OF
HE WHO IS IMMORTAL
ASGARD?

NOW GET THEE **GONE,**
BALDER-- AND DARE NOT
RETURN **WITHOUT** HIM
I DO **SEEK!**

BY THY
LEAVE
MY LIEGE--
I **GO.**

BUT, IN TRUTH,
I DO INDEED BEGIN
TO **DOUBT** THY
FABLED **WISDOM!**



DARLING, *MUST* YOU BATTLE THESE TIME-TWISTERS?

THOU CANST ASK SUCH A THING, BELOVED-- AFTER THOU HAST WITNESSED WHAT THEY HAVE DONE?

THEY WERE MET BY FORCE-- SO THEY RETURNED FORCE-- BUT BEINGS SUCH AS THEY CANNOT BE MONSTERS!



LOOK AT THEIR CLOTHING THEIR RACES-- LOOK INTO THEIR EYES, THOR! THESE ARE CREATURES OF VAST INTELLIGENCE!

SPEAK TO THEM, DARLING-- REASON WITH THEM-- TRY TO MAKE THEM UNDERSTAND WHAT THEY ARE DOING!

SUCH IS *NOT* THE WARRIOR'S WAY, MY LOVE--



-- BUT STILL THY WORDS HAVE WISDOM.

VERY WELL, MILADY-- FOR ONCE THE THUNDER GOD SHALL WITHHOLD HIS ANGRY HAMMER--

-- UNTIL ALL ELSE HATH FAILED!



ALIENS! THOU WHO DOST TREAD THE MYRIAD PATHWAYS OF TIME! IN THE NAME OF REASON-- IN THE NAME OF PEACE-- THE PRINCE OF GOLDEN ASGARD DOTH BID THEE HALT!

I SAY THEE, AGAIN, TIME-TWISTERS-- HALT!

BUT WITHOUT SO MUCH AS A GLANCE, THEY STRIDE ON.



AGAIN AND AGAIN, THE GOD OF THUNDER BECKONS TO NO AVAIL-- UNTIL, AT LAST, HE HAS HAD...

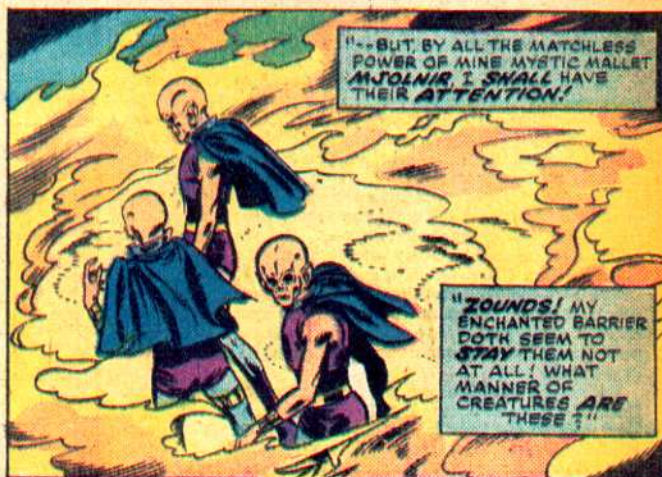
ENOUGH! THE SON OF ODIN WILL NOT BE SO CALLOUSLY IGNORED!

NO, DARLING-- YOU PROMISED--!



AND THOR'S PLEDGE DOTH BE HIS BOND, MY LOVE!

VERILY, UNTIL FIRST I HAVE SPOKEN TO THE TIME-TWISTERS, I SHALL NOT SEEK THEIR BLOOD--



"-- BUT, BY ALL THE MATCHLESS POWER OF MINE MYSTIC Mallet Mjolnir, I SHALL HAVE THEIR ATTENTION!

"ZOUNDS! MY ENCHANTED BARRIER DOTH SEEM TO STAY THEM NOT AT ALL! WHAT MANNER OF CREATURES ARE THESE?"



A QUESTION.

AT OUR INCERTION IT WAS
DECEDED ALL QUESTIONS
MUST BE ANSWERED--

--FOR IN ANSWERS ALONE
MAY THE QUEST FOR KNOWLEDGE
BE FULFILLED.



THIS SPEAK, WORLDLING,
VOICE YOUR QUESTION
ANEW.

WHAT KNOWLEDGE
DO YOU SEEK FROM
WE WHO ARE
**KNOWLEDGE
INCARNATE?**

KNOWLEDGE OF THY
PURPOSE...
THINE **ORIGINS**.
WHENCE DOST
THOU **COME?**
WHERE DOST
THOU **GO?**

WHY DOST THOU
SUNDER ENTIRE
PLANETS
IN THY WAKE?



WE ARE **PILGRIMS**--
ON A JOURNEY FROM THE
END OF TIME TO FIND
TIME'S **BEGINNINGS**.

OUR SEARCH
HAS CARRIED US
ACROSS A THOUSAND
THOUSAND **WORLDS**--
YET STILL WE SEEM
NO **CLOSER** TO OUR
GOAL.

THOU HAST LEFT
**ONE QUESTION
UNANSWERED**
TIME-TWISTER.



THOU WHO DOST CLAIM TO BE
THE **PERSONIFICATION**
OF WISDOM...

DOST THOU KNOW WHAT THY
RASSING HATH DONE TO
THOSE MYRIAD WORLDS?

ONE WOULD
ASSUME THEY
ARE SO MUCH
THE **BETTER**
FOR THE GIFT
OF **LEARNING**
WE HAV
GRANTED
THEM.



NAY, ALIEN--
THOU HAST
DESTROYED
THEM!

THE **ENERGIES**
UNLEASHED WHEN'ER THOU
DOST **AGND** THE VERY FABRIC
OF TIME DOTH CREATE **COSMIC**
UNRAVINGS WHICH HAVE
REDUCED EACH WORLD TO
A **BLACKENED CINDER!**

FOR THE
SAKE OF **THIS**
WORLD AND COUNTLESS
WORLDS **BEYOND**--
TIME-TWISTERS--
**THOU MUST
ABANDON
THY QUEST!**



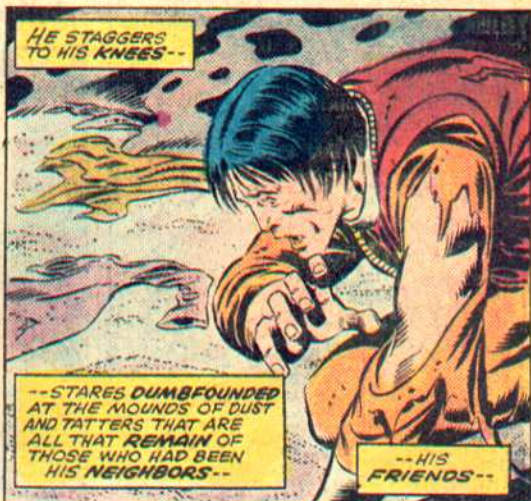
YOUR REQUEST IS
UNDERSTOOD,
WORLDLING-- BUT
WHAT YOU ASK IS
QUITE **IMPOSSIBLE!**

WHAT MATTERS
THE DESTRUCTION OF
A MERE **THOUSAND**
THOUSAND WORLDS
TO WE WHO WERE **BORN**
IN THE MIDST OF
CHAOS?

OUR FATHER WAS THE
ULTIMATE **NOVA**-- THE **DEATH**
OF THE **PRIMAL SUN**-- OUR
MOTHER WAS THE **UNIVERSE-**
SHATTERING HOLOCAUST
THAT FOLLOWED!

DESPITE WHAT
DEVASTATION
WE CAUSE IT IS OUR
DUTY TO JOURNEY
TO THE **DAWN** OF
ALL THAT IS--

--FOR ONLY
FROM **TIME'S**
BEGINNING MAY
WE CARRY OUT OUR
APPOINTED
TASK!





NEARBY A STRIDENT BATTLE CRY RINGS OUT!

FOR ODIN!

FOR ASSGARD!

AND FOUR GRIM-VISAGED GODS CHARGE FORTH--



-- STRAIGHT INTO A BARRAGE OF AWESOME POWER THAT LEAPS FROM THE TIME-TWISTERS' EYES!



SCINTILLATING ENERGY PLAYS AROUND THE MUSCULAR FORMS--

-- ENERGY THAT SHORTLY BEFORE HAD DESTROYED MANY OTHER BRAVE MEN--



-- BUT NOW LEAVES THE ASSGARDIANS REMARKABLY UNTOUCHED!

BY THY FATHER'S EYES THOR-- YON ALIENS' LIFE-DEVOURING RAYS HAVE CONSUMED US NOT AT ALL!

NOR SMALL THEY ERIND FANDRAL.

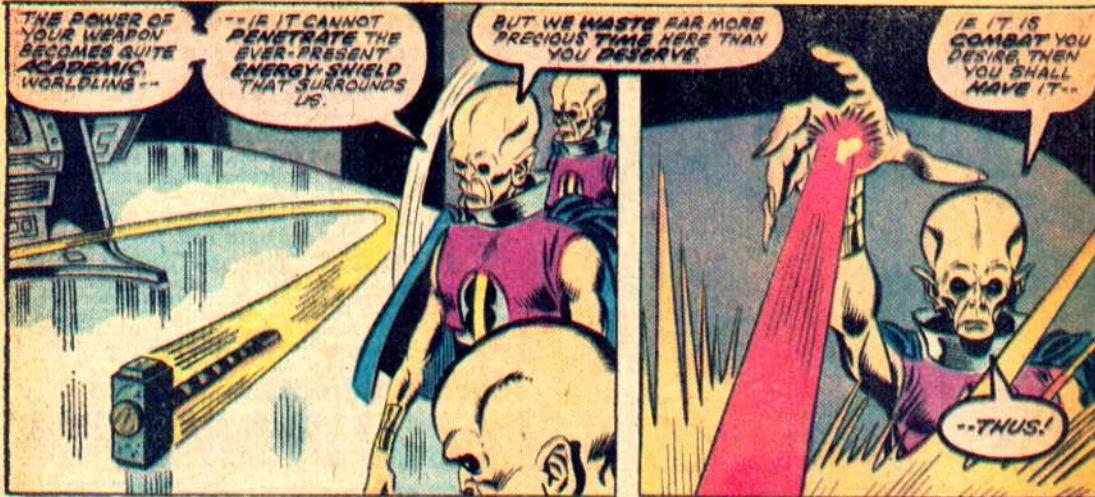
WHAT MATTER THE SAVAGES OF TIME-- TO WE WHO ARE IMMORTAL?



FASCINATING. NEVER BEFORE HAVE WORLTLINGS WITHSTOOD OUR CHRONAL CHARGES.

NEVER BEFORE HAST THOU FACED ASSGARDIANS BORN--

-- OR THE POWER OF THE MYSTIC Mallet Mjolnir!



THE POWER OF YOUR WEAPON BECOMES QUITE ACADEMIC, WORLDLING --

-- IF IT CANNOT PENETRATE THE EVER-PRESENT ENERGY SHIELD THAT SURROUNDS US.

BUT WE WASTE FAR MORE PRECIOUS TIME HERE THAN YOU DESERVE.

IF IT IS COMBAT YOU DESIRE THEN YOU SHALL HAVE IT --

--THUS!



THEY ERUPT FROM THE RAVAGED PAVEMENT LIKE SMOKE --

-- SAVAGE APPARITIONS TORN INSANELY FROM THE WINE-DARK DEPTHS OF TIME --

-- BATTLE, HUNGRY WARRIORS GIVEN SUBSTANCE BY CREATURES TO WHOM TIME IS BUT A PATHWAY TO A FAR GREATER GOAL.



THEY MINIONS WILL NOT LONG STAY UP, ALIENS.

IN MOMENTS, THEY SHALL FALL--

--AND THOU SHALT SWIFTLY FOLLOW!

ZOUNDS! THE BATTLE DOTH RAGE ABOUT ME.



STAND YE ASIDE WARRIORS!

HOW CAN VALIANT VOLSTAGG ESTABLISH A REAR DEFENSE IF THOU DOST CLUMSILY STAND IN HIS...

Ooops.

WHUMPPP!



I DUNNO WHAT'S GOIN' ON AROUND HERE, BUT I GOT ME MY ORDERS--

BHOOD-UD-UD-AR!

--AND THEM ORDERS SAY-- SHOOT TO KILL!



AND THOU WOULDST CARRY OUT THINE ORDERS MOST EFFICIENTLY--

--- COULD MY ENCHANTED HAMMER NOT DEFLECT THY BULLETS ---

SPANG! SPANG!



--- THEN FLY FORTH TO DISMISS THEE ENTIRE! ---

PWHAMN!



--AND AS LIGHTNING CRASHES SAVAGELY ABOUT THE SUDDENLY STORMSWEEP BATTLEFIELD, THE THUNDER GOD GLANCES AT JANE FOSTER-- AND FOR AN INSTANT SEES HER IN A WHOLLY DIFFERENT LIGHT--



BUT ZARKO ALREADY UNDERSTANDS THE SITUATION ALL TOO WELL!

I TRUSTED THOSE ASGARDIANS, SERVITOR -- AND THEY HAVE FAILED ME!

THERE IS ONLY ONE PATH OF ACTION LEFT OPEN TO US!

THEN LET US TAKE SAID PATH WITH WASTE MASTER -- BEFORE THIS PALACE BECOMES OUR TOMB!

AND ALL AROUND THE PALACE A CITY WHICH -- DEPRIVED OF ITS PROTECTOR -- HAD BEEN DYING BY DEGREES NOW PERISHES FAR MORE SWIFTLY --

-- WITH A DIGNITY THAT HAD LONG BEEN DENIED IT BY HE WHO WAS ITS ABSOLUTE RULER!

A RULER WHO, AT THE MOMENT IS CONCERNED SOLELY WITH HIMSELF!

SWIFTLY, SERVITOR -- TO THE TIME CUBE!

WE CAN STILL MAKE GOOD OUR ESCAPE!

WHILE IN THE MIST OF THE DEVASTATION...

THE PROTECTIVE SHIELD ENCHANTED MJOLNIR HATH WOVEN ABOUT US CANNOT ENDURE FOREVER!

OUR ONLY HOPE WAS TO HALT THE ACCURSED TIME TWISTERS --

-- BUT 'TIS FAR TOO LATE FOR THAT NOW!

"EVEN AS WE SPEAK YOU ALIENS RETURN TO THEIR TIME-TOSSED ALORIMAGE UNMINDFUL OF THE DESTRUCTION THEY HAVE BROUGHT!"

"AND THERE IS MIGHTY WE CAN DO TO STOP THEM!"



IS THERE THEN NO HOPE, MILORD?

NAY, DASHING FANDRAL--NONE!

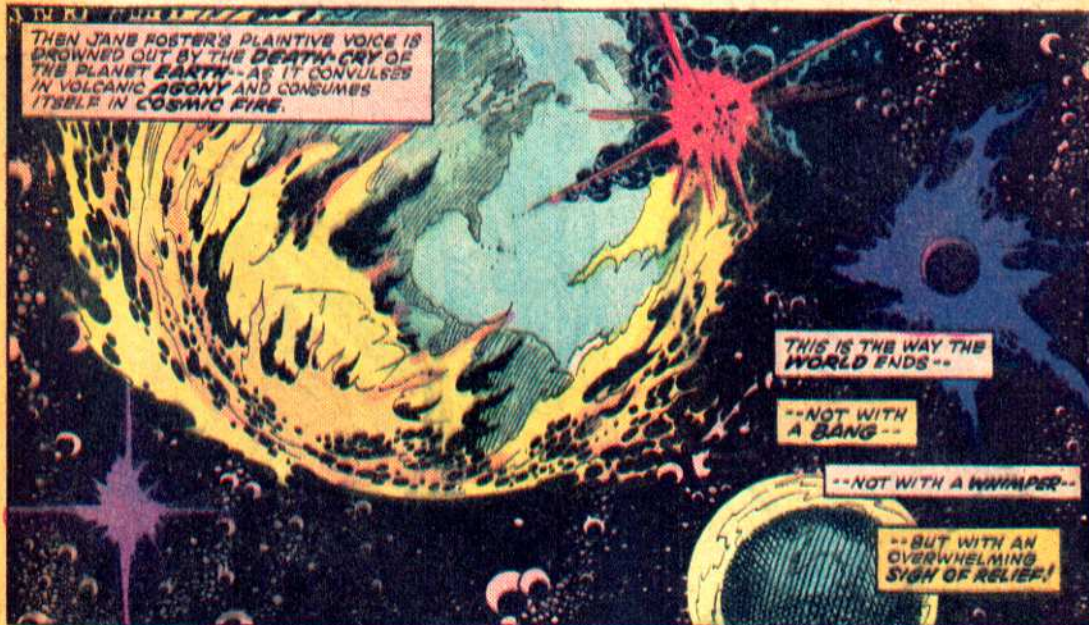
I FEAR 'TIS FAREWELL, MY BROTHERS--AT ARMS-- NO MAN NOR GOD COULD EVER KNOW FRIENDS MORE TRUE THAN YE.

AND FARE-THEE-WELL, MILADY JANE. KNOW THAT I HAVE LOVED THEE.



NO! IT CAN'T JUST ALL BE OVER-- IT CAN'T!!

I WON'T LET IT END LIKE THIS!!



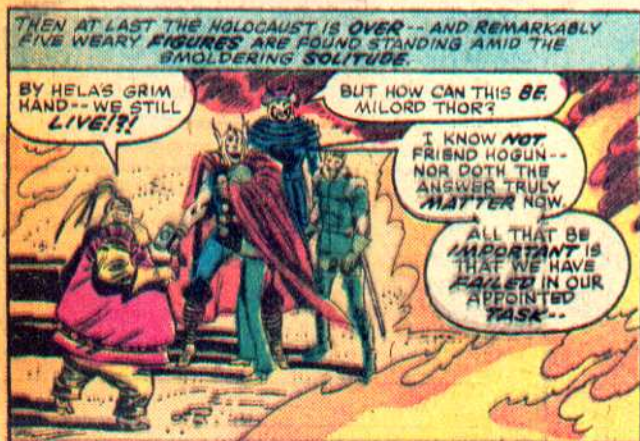
THEN JANE FOSTER'S PLAINITIVE VOICE IS DROWNED OUT BY THE DEATH-CRY OF THE PLANET EARTH--AS IT CONVULSES IN VOLCANIC AGONY AND CONSUMES ITSELF IN COSMIC FIRE.

THIS IS THE WAY THE WORLD ENDS--

--NOT WITH A BANG--

--NOT WITH A WHIMPER--

--BUT WITH AN OVERWHELMING SIGN OF RELIEF!



THEN AT LAST THE HOLOCAUST IS OVER-- AND REMARKABLY FIVE WEARY FIGURES ARE FOUND STANDING AMID THE SMOLDERING SOLITUDE.

BY HELAS GRIM HAND-- WE STILL LIVE!?

BUT HOW CAN THIS BE, MILORD THOR?

I KNOW NOT FRIEND HOGUN-- NOR DO TH THE ANSWER TRULY MATTER NOW.

ALL THAT BE IMPORTANT IS THAT WE HAVE FAILED IN OUR APPOINTED TASK--



--AND BECAUSE OF US--

--THE PLANET EARTH IS DEAD!!

NEXT ISSUE: **The TEMPLE AT THE END OF TIME!** NEED WE SAY... BE HERE!

THE HAMMER STRIKES



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

Dear Asgardian Chroniclers,

This is just a belated note to compliment you on the great 240th issue of THOR, and particularly on the reappearance of Fandral, Hogun, and Volstagg. Do you guys realize that these once-major characters had not appeared for some twenty-two issues?! As there has been hardly any response from letter writers on this subject, I was afraid that these old favorites were gone forever; but praise Odin they have returned and, hopefully will remain forever! It's good to see old Heimdall again also, along with the re-introduction of the Norse war-god Tyr. I'd like to see the latter developed into a regular character, and, eventually, confront his Olympian counterpart, Ares.

All in all, it's good to see Thor back in Asgard (it's been 17 issues guys!), and a greater use of mythological concepts. I refer to the use of the aforementioned characters, the head of Mimir, Bill Mantlo's assorted legendary references, and the introduction of the Egyptian gods. This is great stuff and I hope you keep it up.

Now, a few suggestions:

Delve deeper into the personalities, backgrounds, and non-fighting lives of your Asgardian characters: Fandral, Hogun, and Volstagg in particular. Bring back other forgotten folk such as Balder, Karnilla, Hela, Hildegards, Krista, the "God Squad," and, last but not least, Sif. I think most of your readers would agree that following these suggestions might bring a new glory to the Thor saga. Before I depart, let me assure you that Roy's plot, Bill's script, Sal's pencils, and Klaus' inks were all excellent. Definitely keep the latter stalwart as permanent inker.

I leave you with the rousing immortal call... For Asgard! For Odin! For Irving Forbush!

Alan Stewart
1267 Greenbriar St.
Jackson, MS 39211

Dear Sirs:

How about some decent treatment for Thor's Asgardian companions? Surely they do not deserve to be condemned to prolonged and unnecessary inactivity!

Leonard Phillip Zenna
271 Etha Street
Brooklyn, NY 11208

Dear Marvel Asgardians,

It's good to see the old Asgardian buddies of Thor gobble between themselves again! How about a continued feature?

Pete Peterson
641 Church Road
Ann Arbor, MI 48103

A continuing feature, Pete?

Decent treatment, Lenny?

The reappearance of Fandral, Volstagg, and Hogun, Alan?

We're working on fulfilling all those wishes, fellows. We can take care of two out of three by ourselves, but there's one you'll have to help us on.

Y'see, gang, even as these immortal words are being typed, a super-saga starring Fandral, Hogun, and Volstagg entitled WARRIORS THREE is being prepared for MARVEL SPOTLIGHT #281. This peerless production, springing from the creative well of Lively Len Wein and Big John Buscema, will be on sale in the merry month of February. Watch for it!

We can guarantee that characters will be here and that they will have "decent treatment."

But now it's your turn.

In order to make the adventures of Hogun, Fandral, Balder, and the voluminous Volstagg a permanent series, you'll have to make the issue of MARVEL SPOTLIGHT in which they're presented sell well!

We'd like nothing better than to fulfill your every reading wish—but in order to do that it must be demonstrated that the book has a large enough audience.

Think of that issue of MARVEL SPOTLIGHT as an experiment.

Be there.

Dear Stan,

In the ORIGINS OF MARVEL COMICS, in Thor's Origin story, you said that Dr. Don Blake found the cane in a cave while running from aliens and hit it against a rock to turn into Thor.

Please tell me how he can be related to Odin and any other person from Asgard if he is a human from earth.

James Caccese
11 West Germantown Avenue
Maple Glade, NJ

That's a question the answer to which had been bothering us for quite a while, which is why we answered it ourselves in THOR #'s 158 and 159, where Stan and Jack revealed that Thor is not really Don Blake who was gifted with god-like powers, but rather a brash young Thor of centuries past, who, when Odin desired to teach him humility, was stripped of his godly abilities and shaped in the form of Don Blake, where he was destined to eventually discover his cane/hammer and regain his powers. Whew!

Comprende?

Good. Now if we could only get a certain Len Wein to understand the theory...

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



CLIP 'EM AND COLLECT 'EM!