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COMICS
GROUP

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DETAILS INSIDE

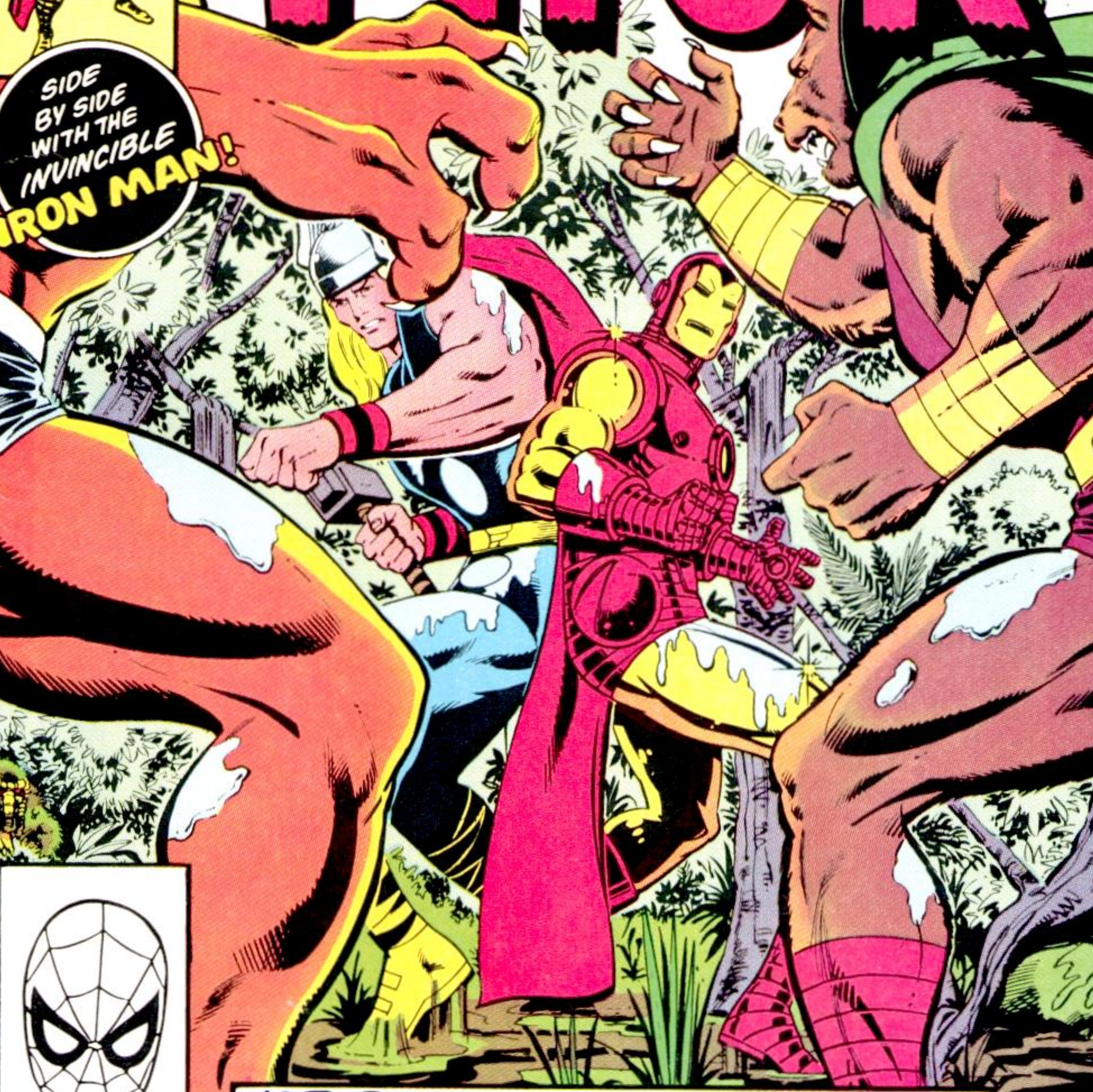
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FEB
60¢ UK 20p
#316

THE MIGHTY THOR



SIDE
BY SIDE
WITH THE
INVINCIBLE
IRON MAN!



"OF BEASTS AND THINGS...!"

When DR. DONALD BLAKE strikes his wooden waking-stick upon the ground, it becomes the mystic hammer MJOLNIR—and the lame physician is transformed into the Norse God of Thunder, Master of the Storm, Lord of the Living Lightning—and heir to the throne of eternal Asgard...

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

DOUG MOENCH and **KEITH POLLARD**
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JIM SHOOTER
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

OF BEASTS AND THINGS...

ROCKETING HIGH ABOVE THE FLORIDA COASTLINE, THE INVINCIBLE IRON MAN CYBERNETICALLY DECREASES THE SPEED OF HIS SOLAR-POWERED BOOT JETS...

INSIDE THE GLEAMING METAL MESH ARMOR OF HIS APPARENT BODYGUARD, MILLIONAIRE INDUSTRIALIST TONY STARK STARES AT THE CONFUSION BELOW IN DISBELIEF...

TH-THOSE INSANE REPORTS ARE TRUE! A FLYING DOMED CITY DID CRASH HERE!

I'M GLAD I DECIDED TO INVESTIGATE THIS MYSELF! STARK INTERNATIONAL'S LATEST DEVELOPMENT-- A HIGHLY SOPHISTICATED CARGO SHIP-- IS SAID TO BE INVOLVED IN THIS MESS!

SO IS MY FRIEND AND FELLOW AVENGER... THE MIGHTY THOR!

DON'T WORRY IF YOU'RE A BIT CONFUSED, TRUE BELIEVER! WE'LL FILL YOU IN ON LAST ISSUE'S ACTION AS WE MERELY THUNDER ALONG!

LOOKS LIKE OLD HOME WEEK, THOR! HERE COMES IRON MAN-- PROBABLY BECAUSE OF THE STARK FREIGHTER.



AYE.

HELLO, THOR-- I SEE YOU'VE GOT EVERYTHING UNDER CONTROL.

THEN, AS THE SMALL GROUP ENTERS THE DOMED CITY...

AS AN EMPLOYEE OF STARK INDUSTRIES, I'VE BEEN DELEGATED BY TONY STARK HIMSELF TO INVESTIGATE THE HIJACKING OF HIS EXPERIMENTAL FREIGHTER.



I UNDERSTAND YOUR LEG WAS BROKEN, CAPTAIN. PERHAPS YOU CAN TELL ME WHAT HAPPENED.

DO MY BEST, IRON MAN. WE WERE NO MORE'N A HALF-DAY FROM THE COAST OF SOUTH AMERICA WITH OUR CARGO OF JET-ENGINES WHEN THIS GIANT SEA MONSTER SURFACED NEXT TO US...

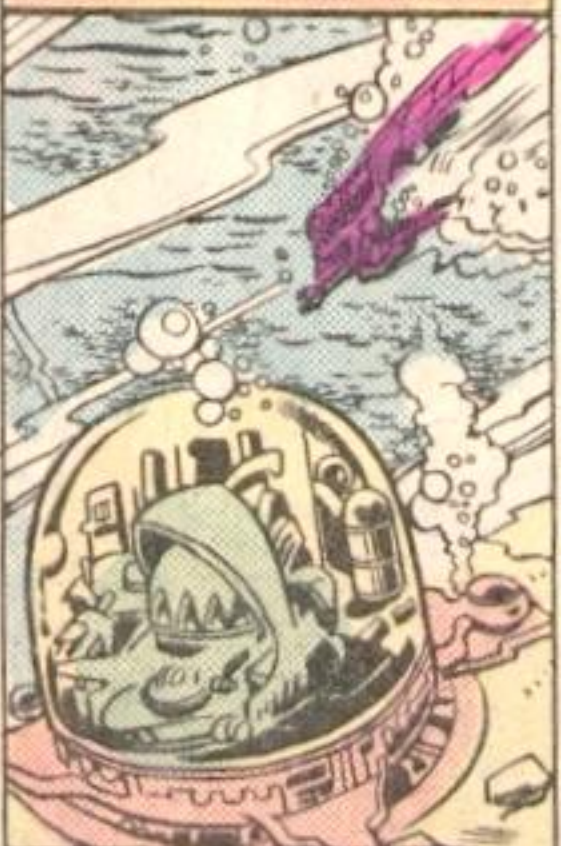


I SAY "MONSTER" BUT SHE WAS REALLY JUST A DISGUISED SHIP.

"MY LEG WAS BUSTED WHEN SHE SWALLOWED THE FREIGHTER WHOLE-- WORST EXPERIENCE OF MY CAREER... NO, MY LIFE.



"SHE SUBMERGED AND TOOK US TO THIS DOMED CITY ON THE OCEAN FLOOR.



"THAT EXPLAINED THE AREA'S EPIDEMIC OF LOST VESSELS.

"THE CITY WAS RUN BY THE BI-BEAST, AN ANDROID WITH TWO BRAINS--



"-- WHO WANTED TO DESTROY EARTH AS A WAY TO AVENGE HIS PAST DEFEAT BY THE HULK.

"THANKS TO OUR FREIGHT OF JET-ENGINES THE CITY WAS ABLE TO TAKE TO THE SKY.



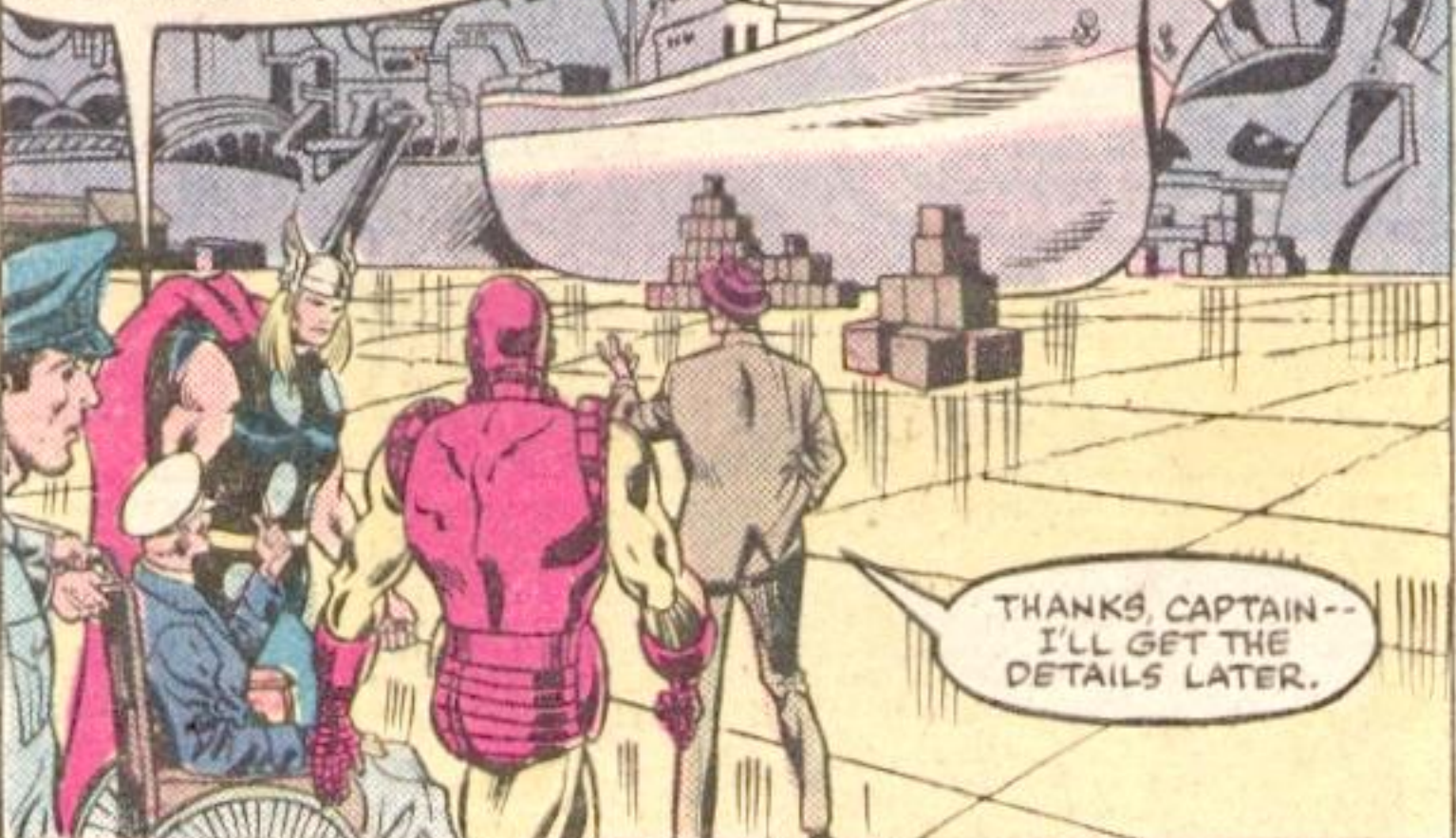
"FLORIDA WAS THE FIRST TARGET.

"LUCKILY, THOR WAS ABLE TO STOP THE BI-BEAST AND GUIDE THE CITY TO A CONTROLLED CRASH-LANDING ON THE BEACH."



*FOR THE FULL ACCOUNT, SEE LAST ISSUE. -- JIM.

AND THERE'S THE FREIGHTER, IRON MAN, STILL HERE INSIDE THE CITY. EXCEPT FOR A BROKEN SMOKESTACK AND DESPITE ALL SHE'S BEEN THROUGH, I'D GUESS SHE'S STILL SHIPSHAPE-- ALL THANKS TO THOR.



IRON MAN NODS, AND GESTURES TO THOR...

THANKS, CAPTAIN-- I'LL GET THE DETAILS LATER.

THEN, MOVING OUT OF SIGHT AND EARSHOT...

ALL THANKS TO THOR, EH--? AND A LITTLE HELP FROM DR. DON BLAKE AS WELL, NO DOUBT.



THOR SMILES FAINTLY.

SPEAKING OF WHOM, THOR, MAYBE YOU'D BETTER CHANGE BACK TO BLAKE-- THE POLICE WILL WANT A STATEMENT FROM HIM.



AYE, IRON MAN-- 'TWOULD NOT DO TO HAVE BLAKE LISTED AS MISSING.

NOW WE'VE GOT TO ARRANGE PLANS FOR REMOVING THE FREIGHTER FROM THIS DOMED CITY...



A TAP OF HIS MYSTIC HAMMER AND THOR DISAPPEARS--

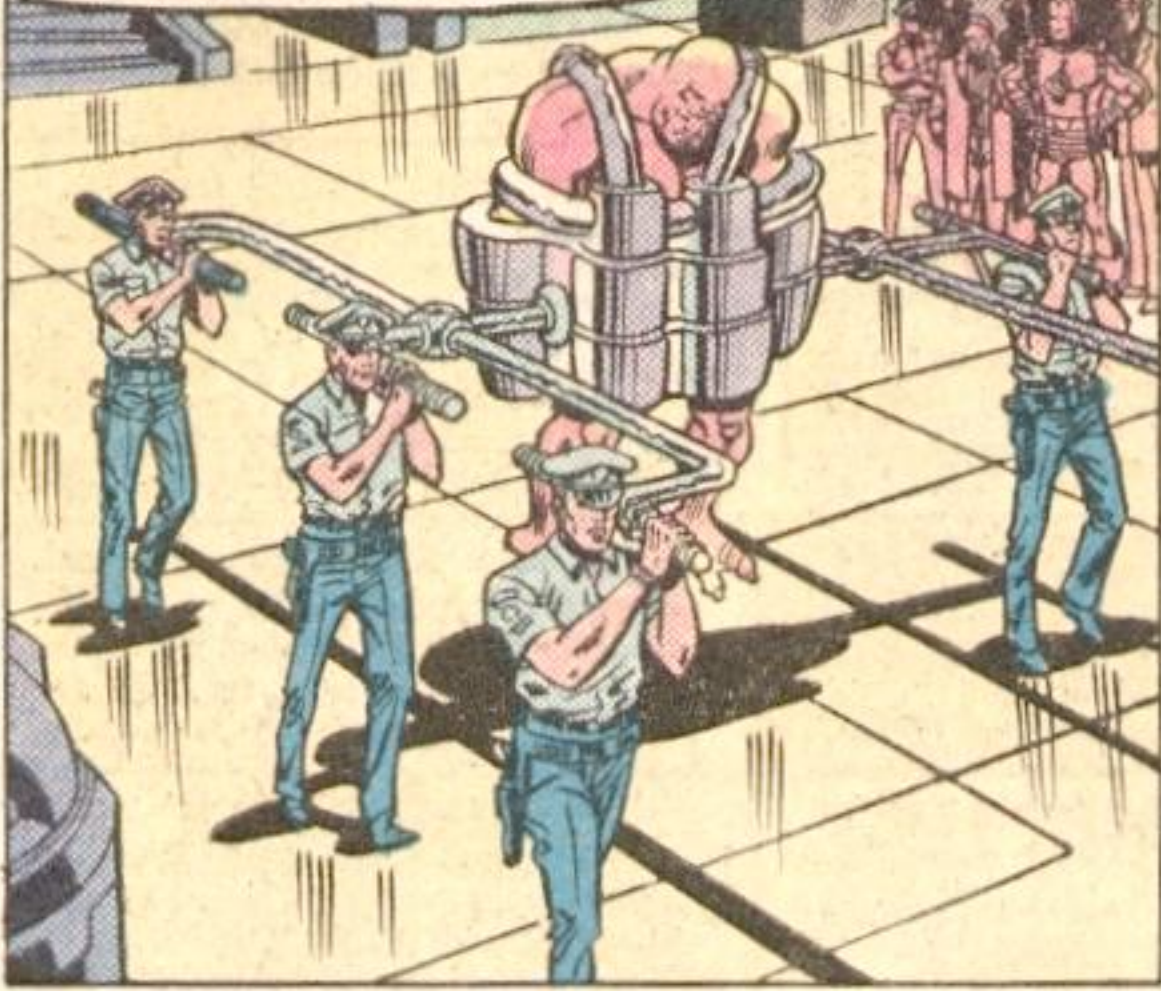
-- REPLACED BY DR. DONALD BLAKE, ERSTWHILE SHIP'S DOCTOR.

IF YOU ASK ME, IRON MAN--



-- WE OUGHTTA JUST LEAVE THIS WHOLE WEIRD SCENE THE WAY IT IS AND OPEN IT UP AS AN AMUSEMENT PARK.

SO THAT'S THE BI-BEAST-- HANDSOME FELLOW, ISN'T HE? I JUST HOPE THE POLICE CAN KEEP HIM UNDER--



LOOK! UP THERE! ON THE DOME CEILING!



VMMM

VMMM



SNAKT

ZHZZT



THE STRANGE BEAM BATHES BI-BEAST AND POLICE GUARDS ALIKE.

IT HAS TWO EFFECTS...

FIRST AND SHOCKINGLY, IT REVIVES THE BI-BEAST, SHATTERING HIS TITANIUM RESTRAINTS...



FOOLS! NO ONE TAKES THE BI-BEAST PRISONER!

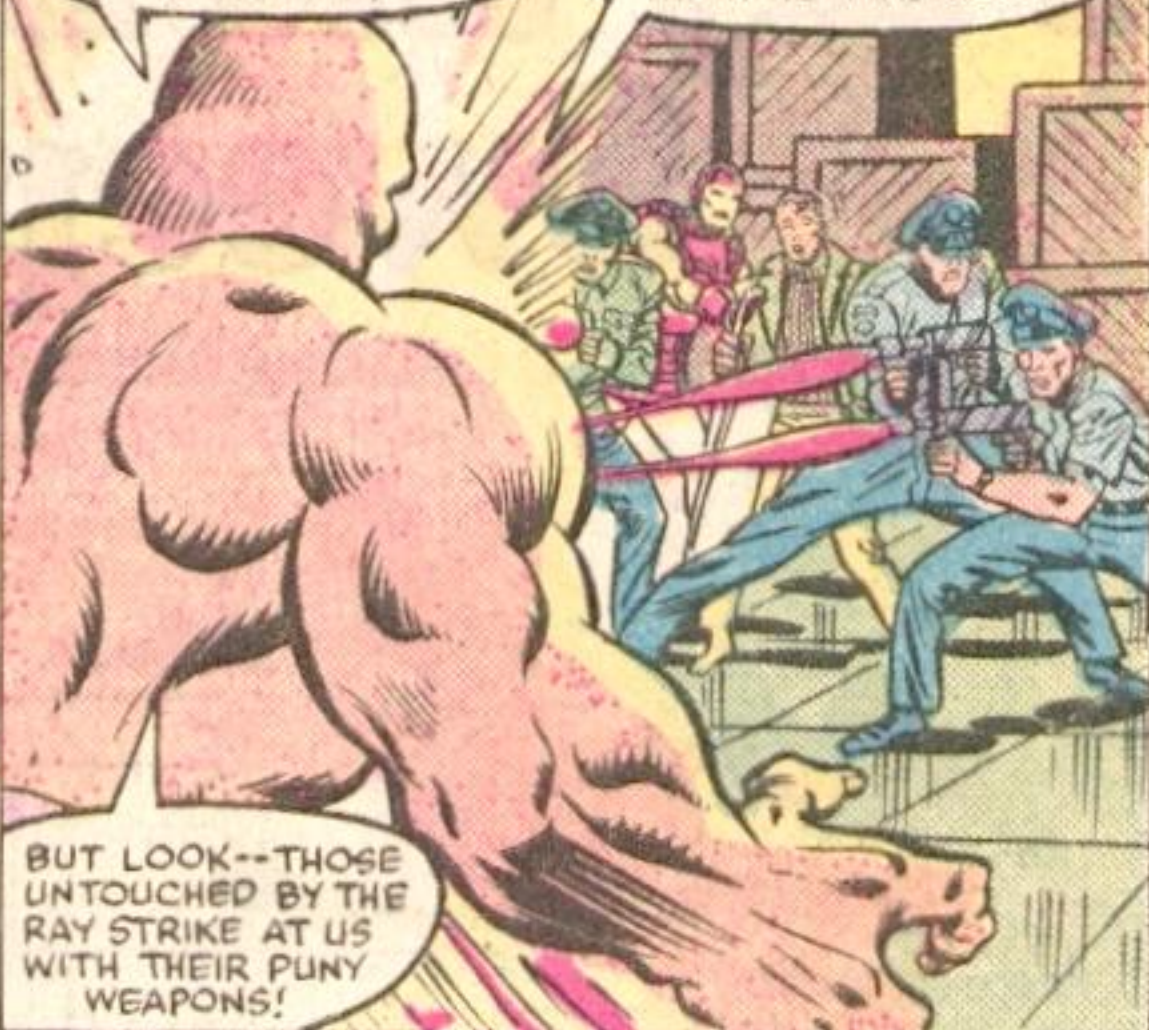
WE ARE INDOMITABLE!

AND SECOND, EVEN MORE SHOCKINGLY, IT TURNS THE POLICEMEN INTO BERSERKERS POSSESSED BY UNREASONING HATE...



YAHRRR!

IT SEEMS, SKULL-BROTHER, THAT OUR ALLY HAS COME TO OUR AID!



YES, SKULL-BROTHER, NO ONE ELSE COULD CAUSE THE HATE-MADNESS!

BUT LOOK--THOSE UNTOUCHED BY THE RAY STRIKE AT US WITH THEIR PUNY WEAPONS!

THEN, SKULL-BROTHER, IT IS TIME TO STRIKE BACK!



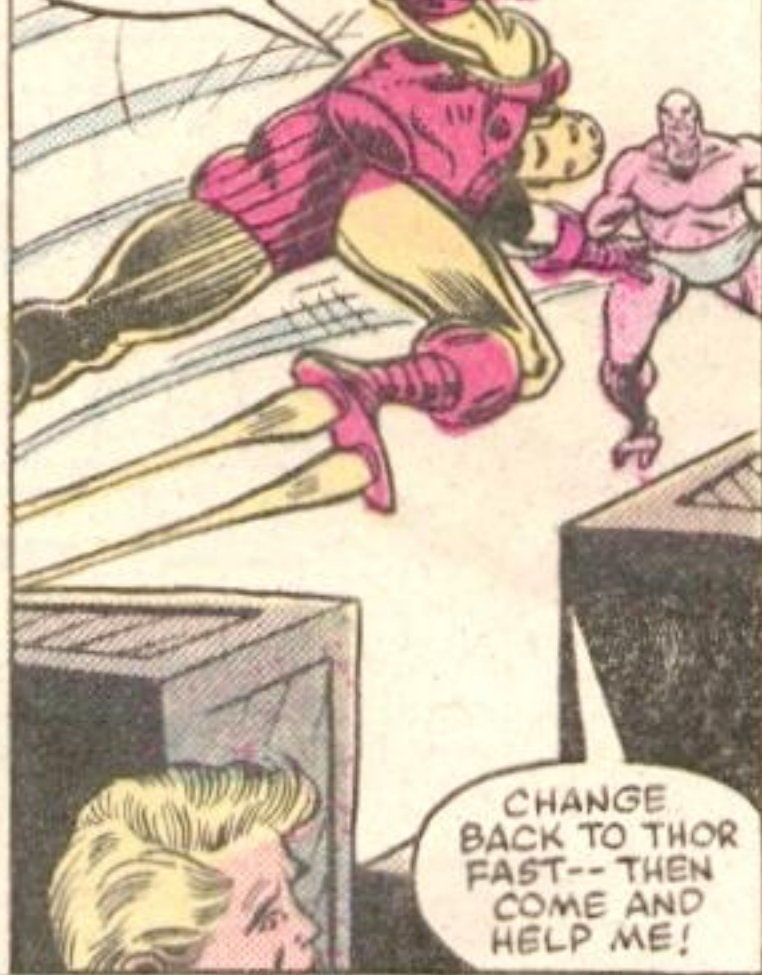
YES-- WITH ALL THE FURY OF OUR SKILL IN WAR-FARE!

THE SITUATION IS TOO MUCH FOR A SINGLE MAN-- EVEN A MAN OF IRON...

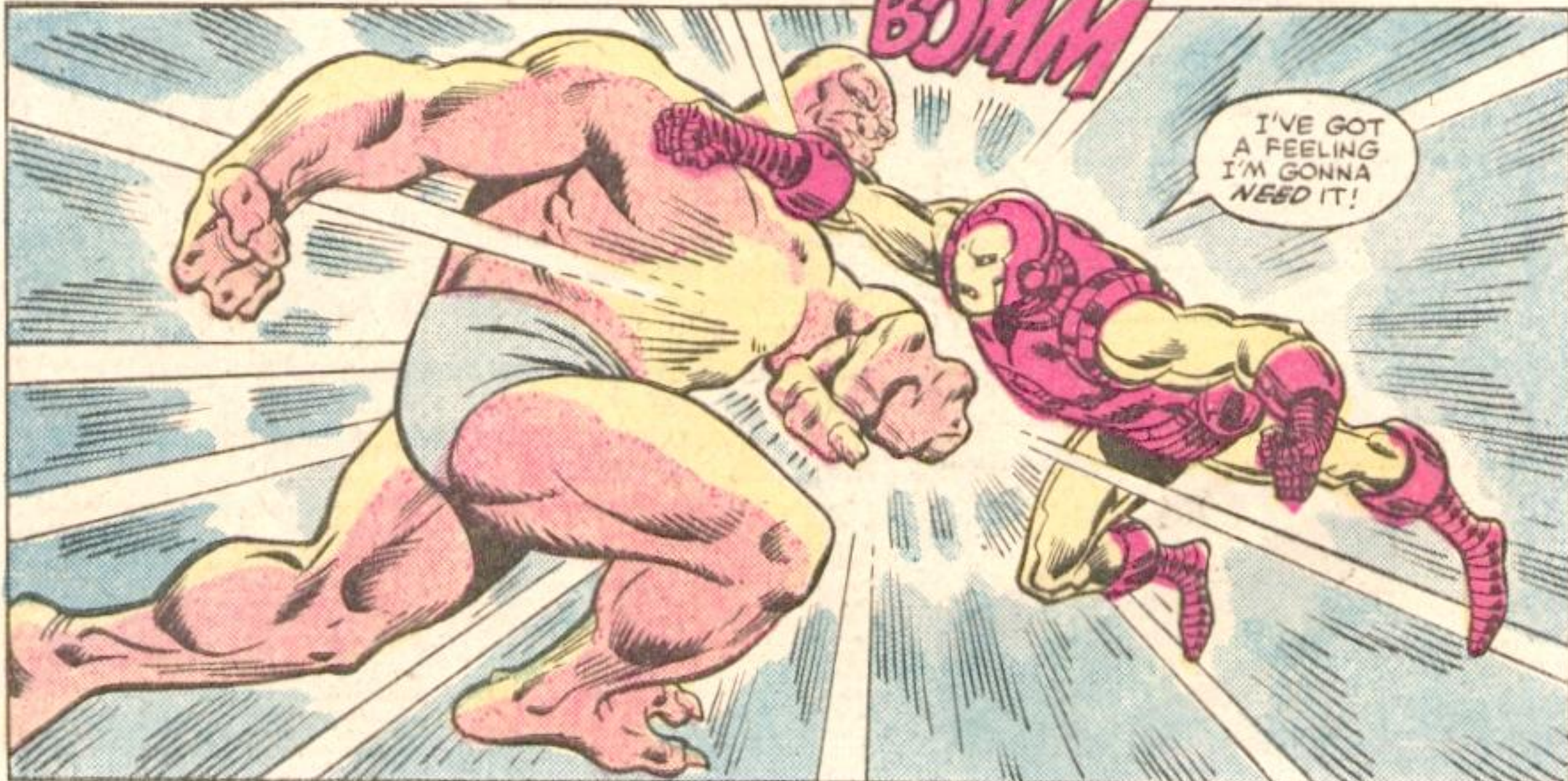


LOOKS LIKE I SPOKE TOO SOON, BLAKE!

NO ONE WILL SEE YOU THERE!



CHANGE BACK TO THOR FAST-- THEN COME AND HELP ME!



I'VE GOT A FEELING I'M GONNA NEED IT!



THAT'S FUNNY--I DON'T RECALL YOU EVER BEATING THOR OR THE HULK!

AND WHAT'S MORE, BI-BEAST, YOU'RE NOT GOING TO BEAT--



--ME?

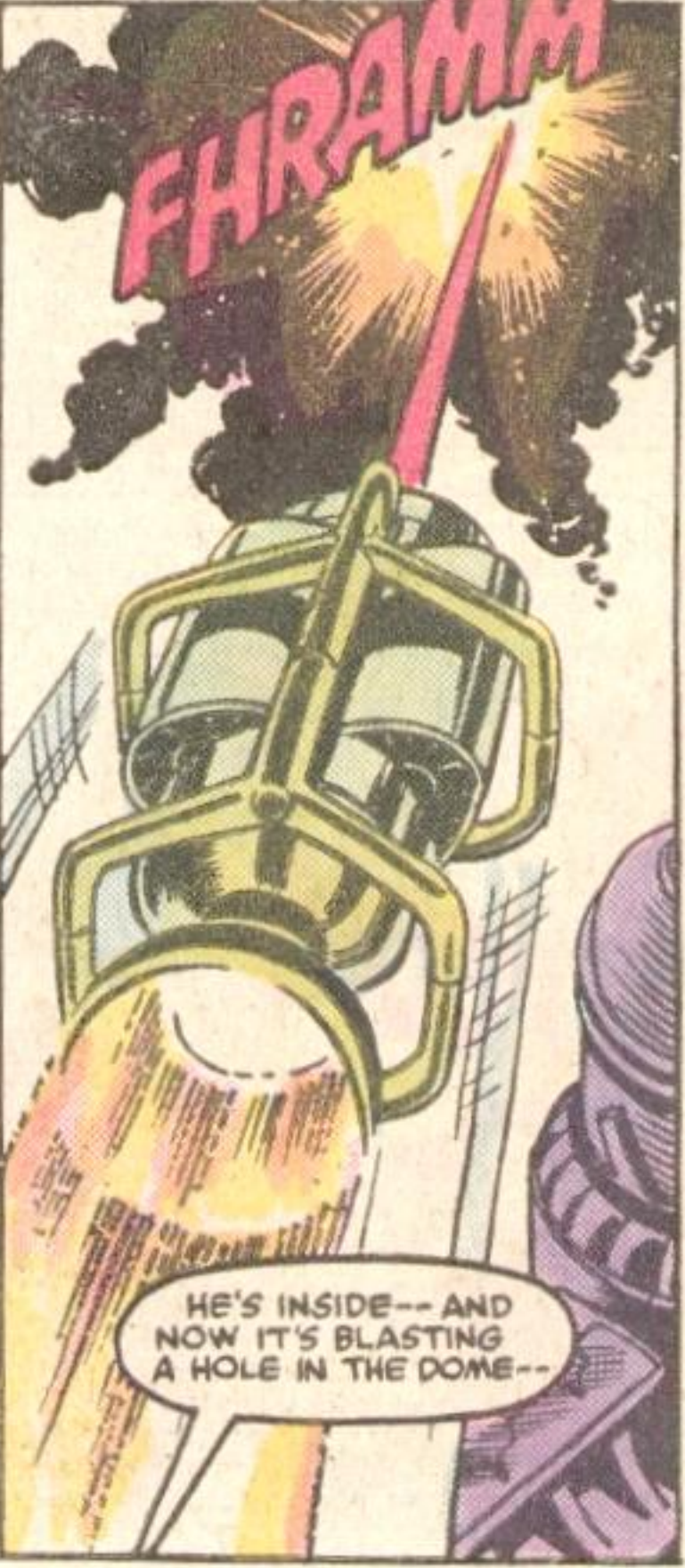
WHAT THE--?!



THE CRAFT THAT SNAPPED OFF THE CEILING-- IT'S USING A TRACTOR-BEAM TO PULL HIM UP!



FHRAAAA



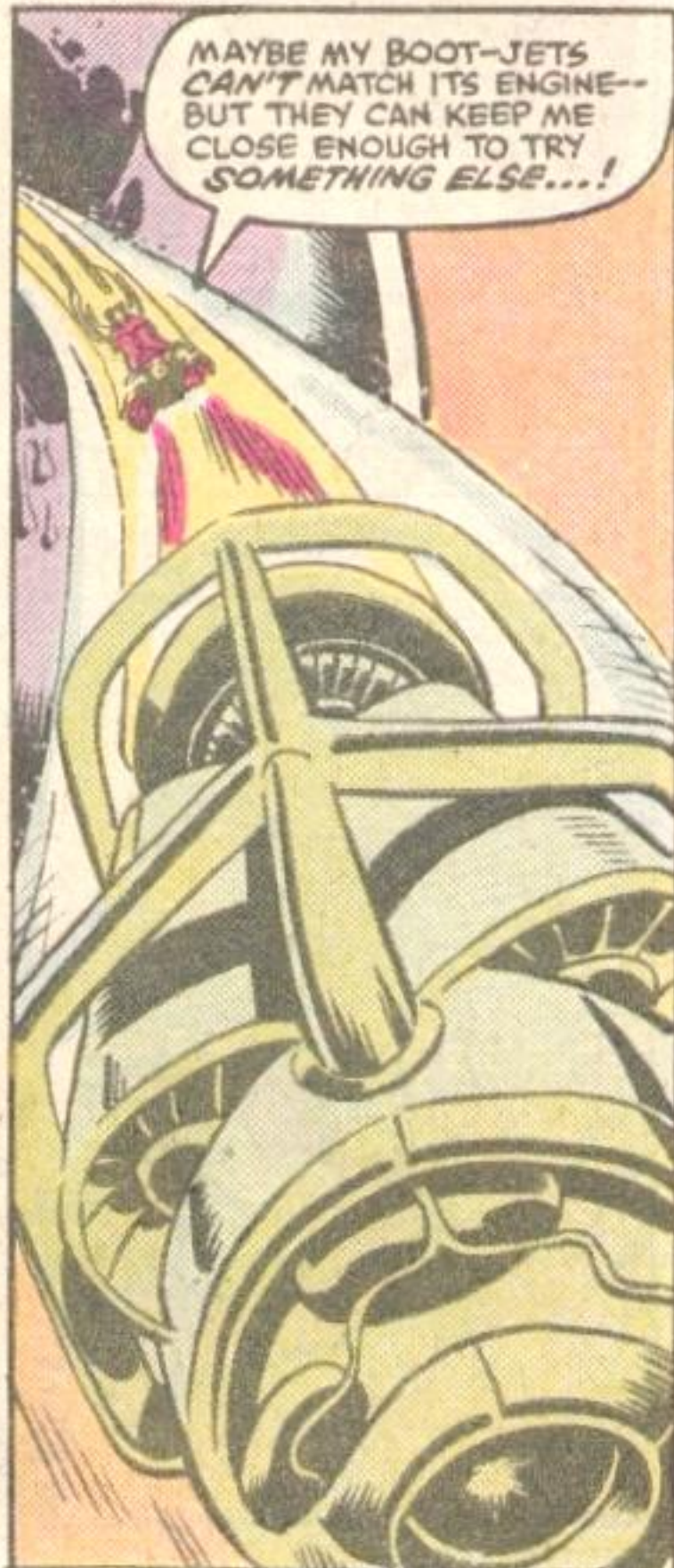
HE'S INSIDE-- AND NOW IT'S BLASTING A HOLE IN THE DOME--

-- TRYING TO ESCAPE...!

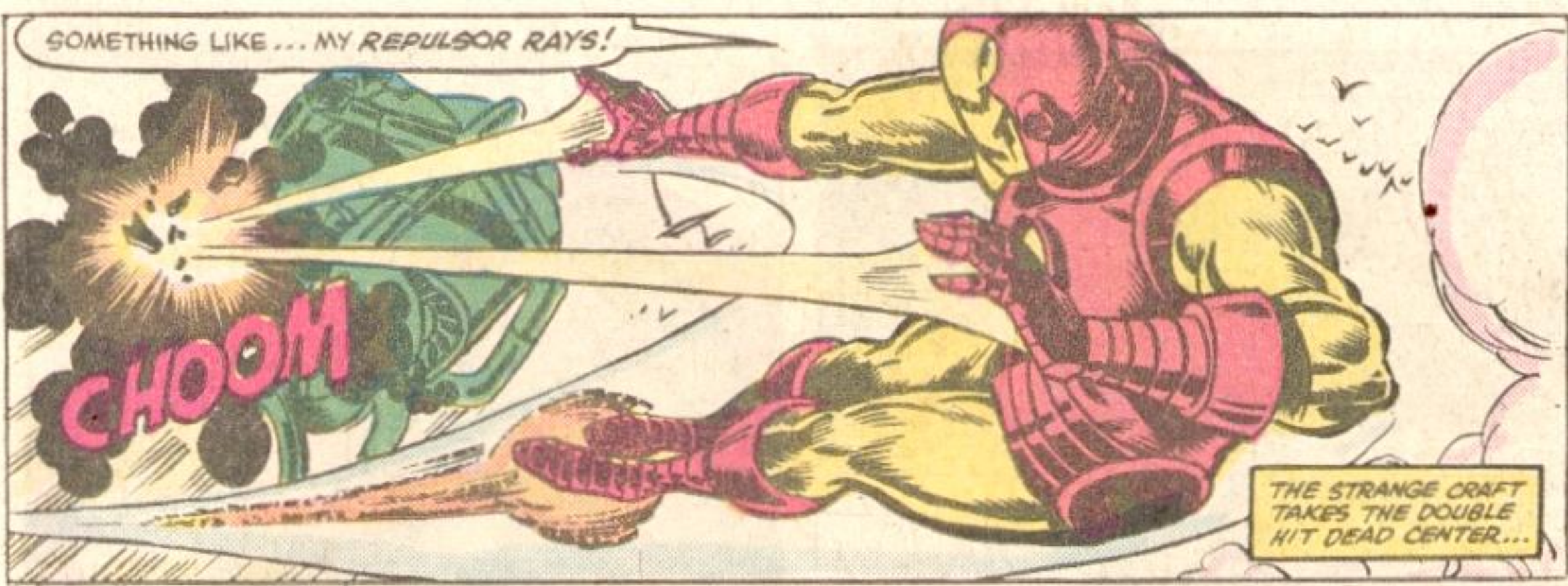


BUT NOT IF I CAN HELP IT!

MAYBE MY BOOT-JETS CAN'T MATCH ITS ENGINE-- BUT THEY CAN KEEP ME CLOSE ENOUGH TO TRY SOMETHING ELSE...!

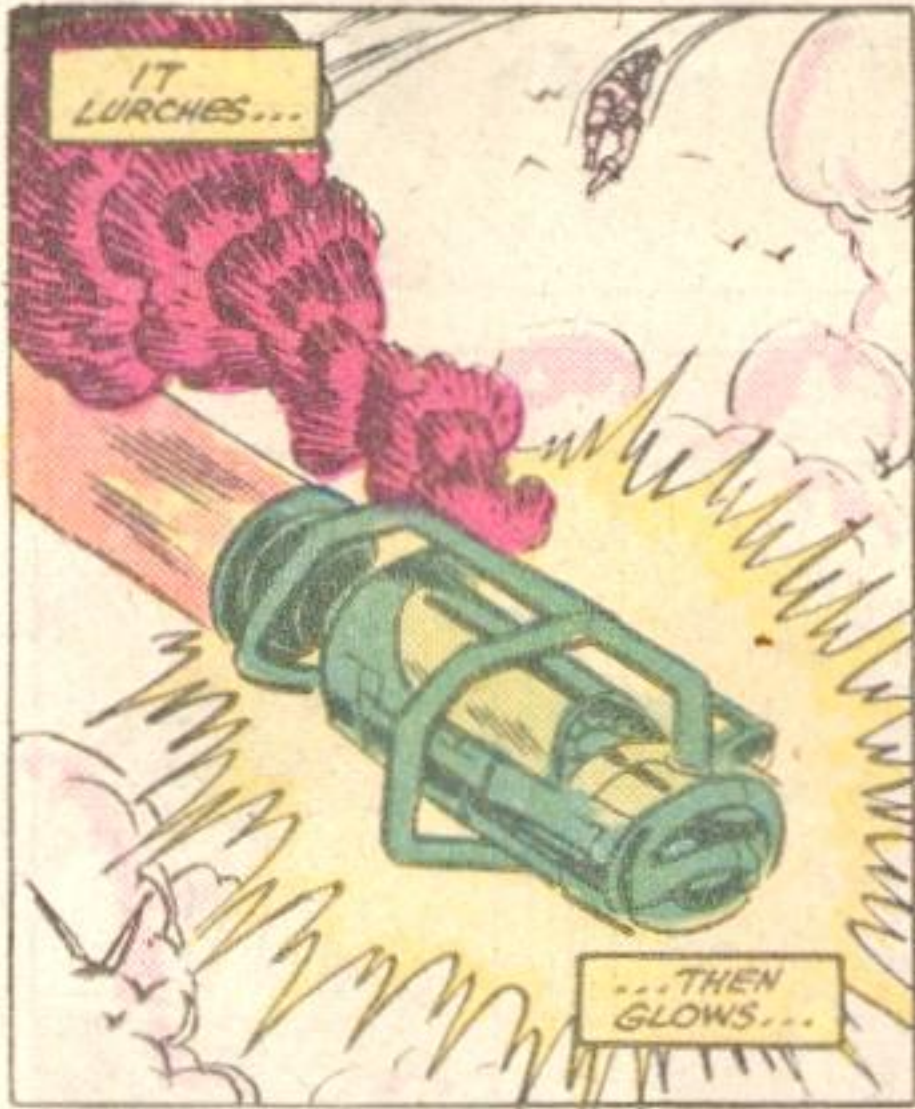


SOMETHING LIKE ... MY REPULSOR RAYS!



THE STRANGE CRAFT TAKES THE DOUBLE HIT DEAD CENTER...

IT LURCHES...



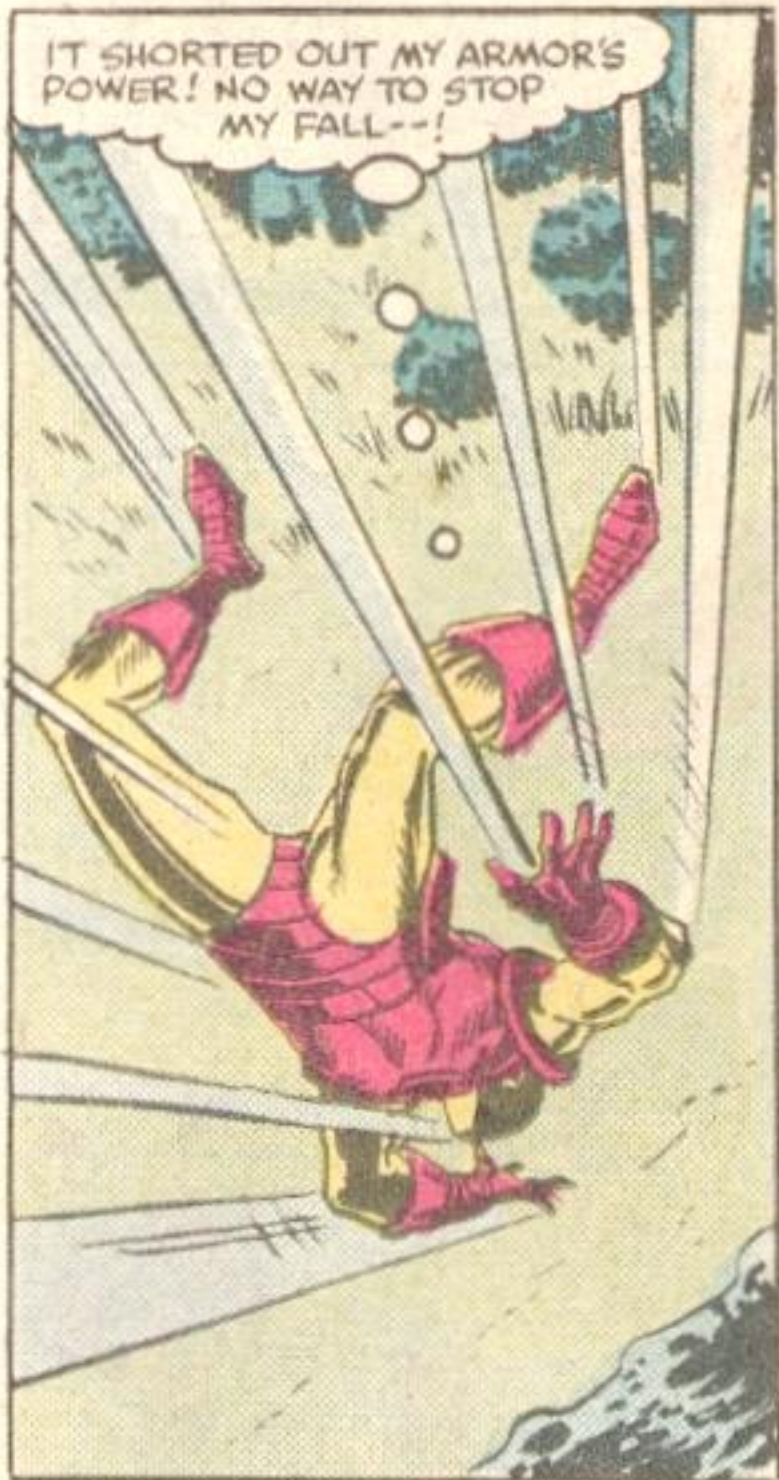
... THEN GLOWS...

... AND FEEDS BACK THE SAME ENERGY-- PLUS SOME-- TO ZAP IRON MAN IN MIDAIR HIGH ABOVE THE FLORIDA BEACH!



UHN!
THE FORCE IS TREMENDOUS--
I'M STALLING!

IT SHORTED OUT MY ARMOR'S POWER! NO WAY TO STOP MY FALL--!



UNLESS... YES, THERE'S A CHANCE! IF I CAN BYPASS THE SHORTED CIRCUITS-- RESTORE THE SUIT'S POWER BEFORE I GET TOO CLOSE TO THE GROUND...



AND IF I CAN'T...

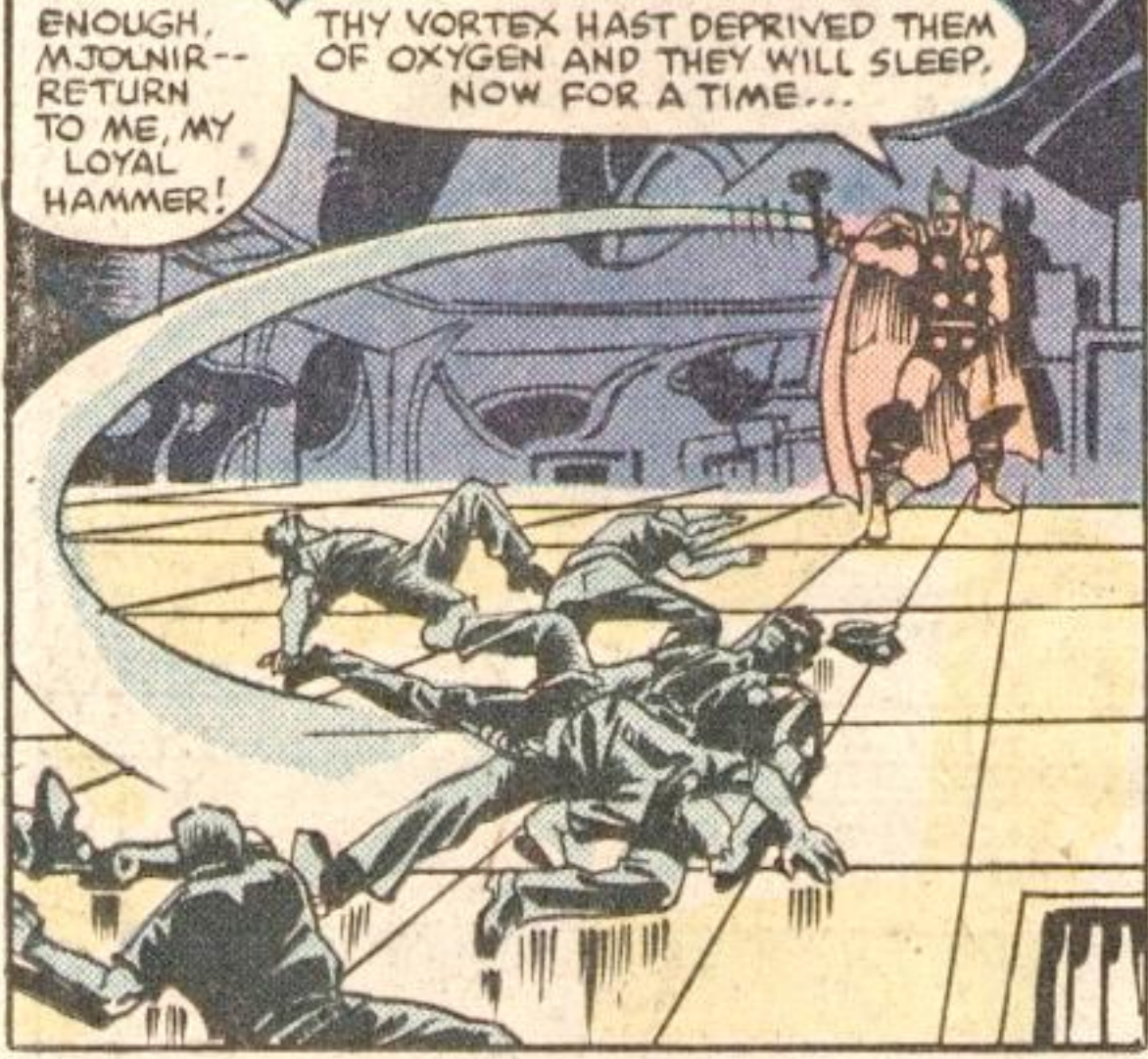


WELL, NOT EVEN MY ARMOR CAN CUSHION A FALL FROM THIS HEIGHT!

I CAN'T BELIEVE I'M SEEING THIS!

BUT YOU ARE!

BACK INSIDE THE DOMED CITY...



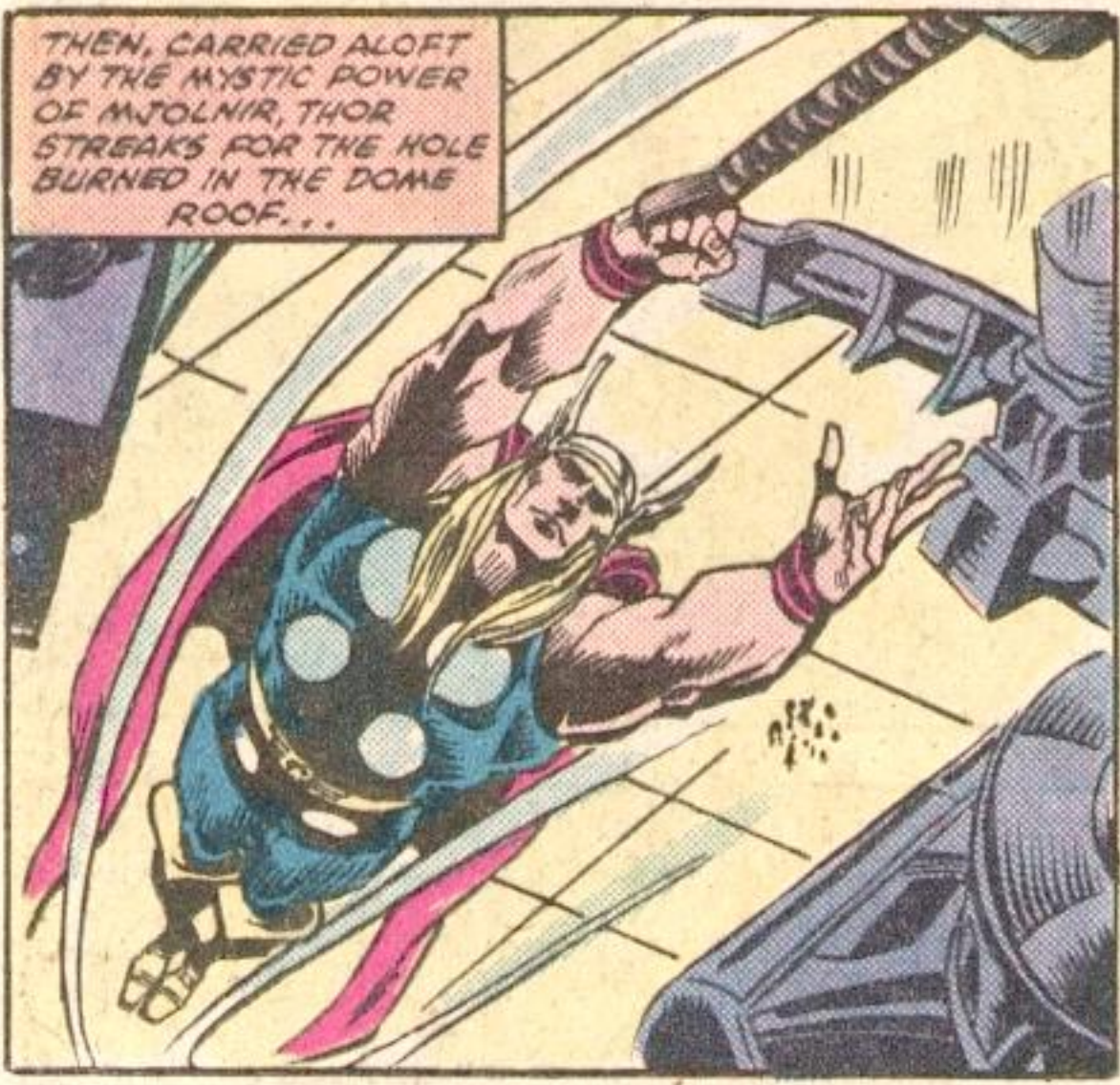
ENOUGH, MJOLNIR-- RETURN TO ME, MY LOYAL HAMMER!

THY VORTEX HAST DEPRIVED THEM OF OXYGEN AND THEY WILL SLEEP, NOW FOR A TIME...

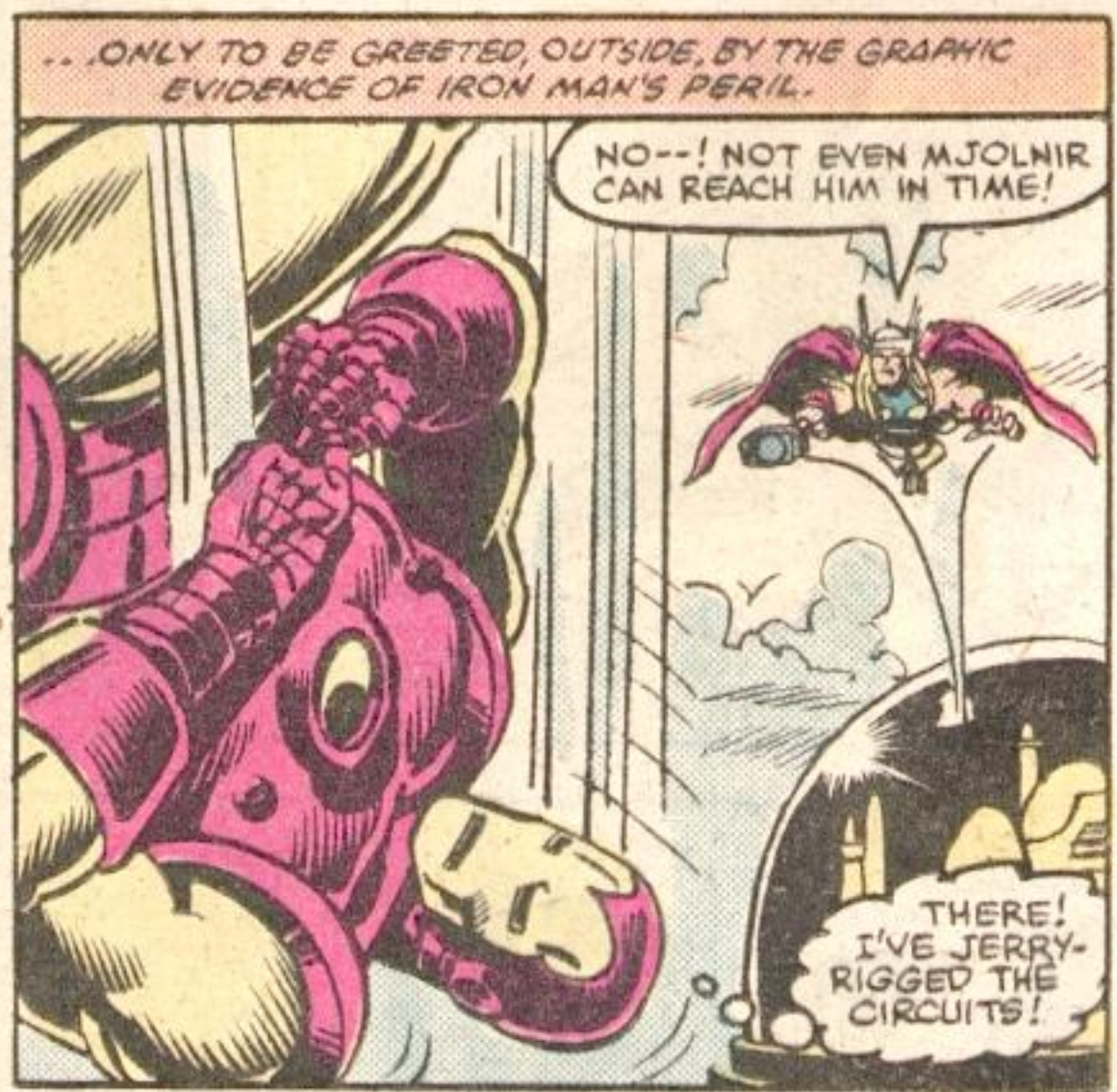


YE OTHERS-- RESTRAIN THEM BEFORE THEY WAKE UP.

SURE, THOR, WE'LL TAKE CARE OF THEM-- THEY'RE OUR FRIENDS.



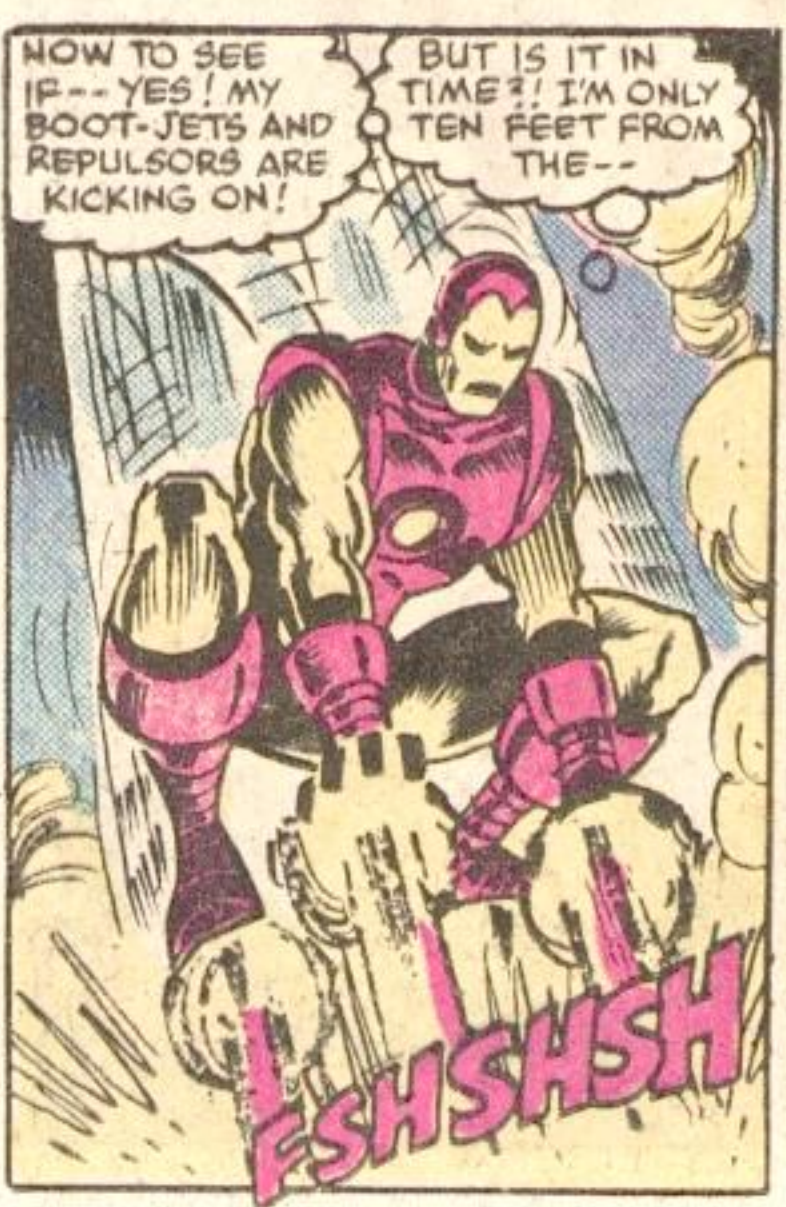
THEN, CARRIED ALOFT BY THE MYSTIC POWER OF MJOLNIR, THOR STREAKS FOR THE HOLE BURNED IN THE DOME ROOF...



... ONLY TO BE GREETED, OUTSIDE, BY THE GRAPHIC EVIDENCE OF IRON MAN'S PERIL.

NO--! NOT EVEN MJOLNIR CAN REACH HIM IN TIME!

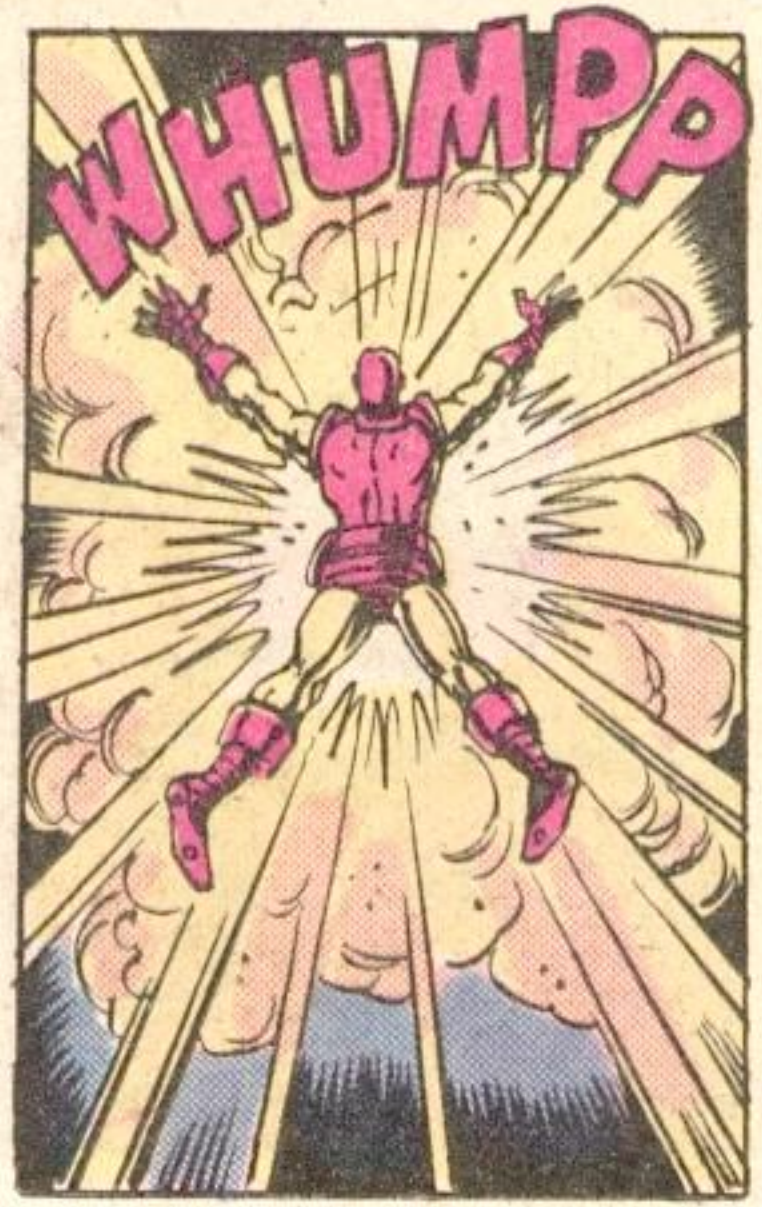
THERE! I'VE JERRY-RIGGED THE CIRCUITS!



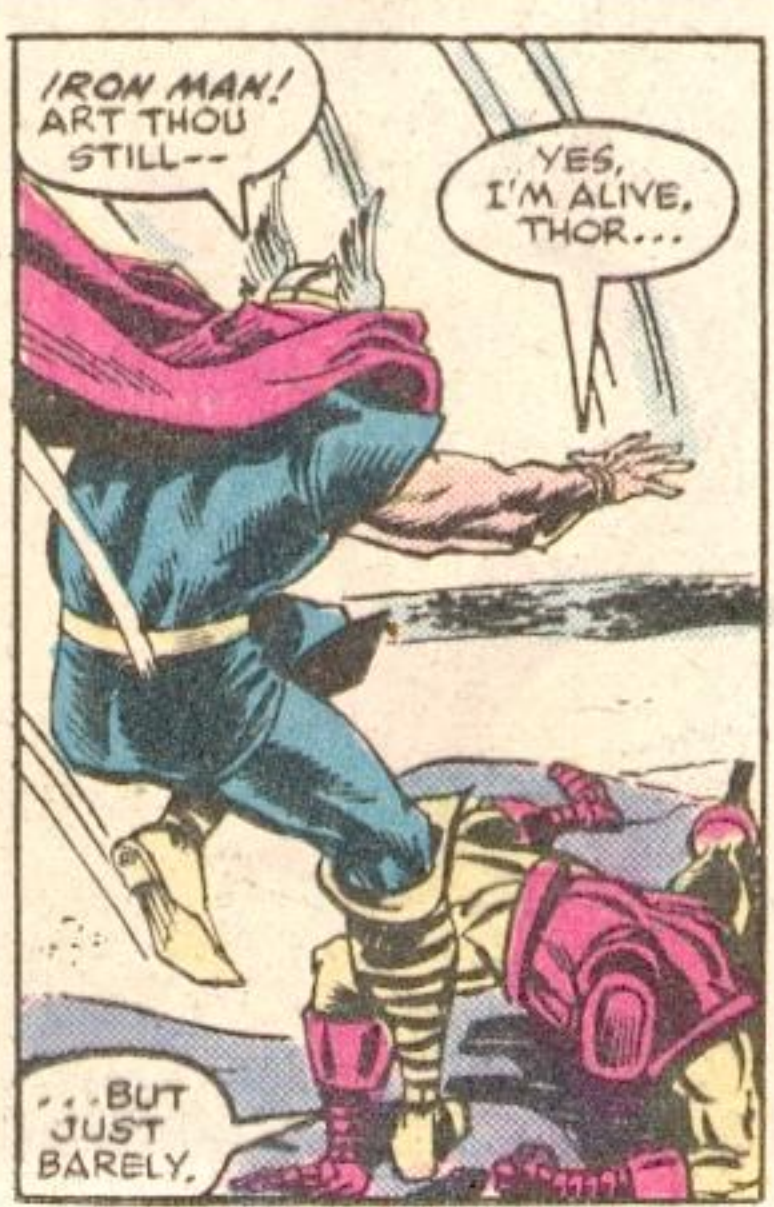
HOW TO SEE IF-- YES! MY BOOT-JETS AND REPULSORS ARE KICKING ON!

BUT IS IT IN TIME?! I'M ONLY TEN FEET FROM THE--

FISHSHISH



WHUMPP



IRON MAN! ART THOU STILL--

YES, I'M ALIVE, THOR...

... BUT JUST BARELY.

THAT CUSHION OF AIR I SET UP COULDN'T HAVE BEEN MUCH THINNER-- NOT IF I WANTED TO WALK AWAY FROM THE EXPERIENCE. SLOWED MY FALL JUST ENOUGH...

BUT THE CRAFT-- IT'S OUT OF SIGHT?

AYE.

THEN COME ON, THOR-- IF WE DON'T FIND IT FAST, THE BI-BEAST MAY MAKE HIS ESCAPE FOR GOOD!

STILL, HE PROBABLY WON'T GET TOO FAR-- I'M CERTAIN MY REPULSORS CRIPPLED THE CRAFT...



AND WITH THE TWO OF US SEARCHING WE OUGHT TO LOCATE IT BEFORE TOO MUCH TIME PASSES...

AYE, AND I CAN THINK OF NO BETTER MAN TO AID ME IN SUCH A SEARCH. BUT MAYHAP WE SHOULD BE ON GUARD FOR WHAT MAY AWAIT US AT THE END OF OUR SEARCH...



WHAT DO YOU MEAN, THOR?

THE BI-BEAST IS A FOE DANGEROUS ENOUGH ON HIS OWN, BUT NOW WE MUST NEEDS CONSIDER A SECOND OPPONENT...



...HE WHO DID PILOT THE CRAFT WHICH SECURED BI-BEAST'S RESCUE.



SOME PILOT OUR ALLY TURNED OUT TO BE, SKULL-BROTHER.

YES, SKULL-BROTHER, THE BEST HE COULD MANAGE WAS A CRASH-LANDING IN THIS CURSED SWAMP.

THE CRAFT WAS CRIPPLED, YOU FOOL-- BY IRON MAN'S RAYS! AT LEAST I BROUGHT US DOWN GENTLY ENOUGH TO SURVIVE-- AND WITH MINIMUM DAMAGE TO THE CRAFT!



PERHAPS OUR ALLY IS RIGHT, SKULL-BROTHER-- AFTER ALL, EVEN *WE* WERE DEFEATED BY THOR...

AND, BEFORE HIM, BY THE HULK-- DEFEATED TWICE BY THE HULK...



MAYBE, OUR ALLY, WE ARE DESTINED FOR NOTHING BUT DEFEAT.

YES, AS MY SKULL-BROTHER SAYS, MAYBE WE CAN NEVER WIN...



SHUT UP! MAYBE YOU WOULD HAVE FAILED, HAD I NOT BEEN HIDING IN YOUR CITY! BUT I OVERCAME THAT SETBACK AND I'LL OVERCOME THIS ONE!

THERE IS NOTHING MY HATE CANNOT DO!



I AM THE MAN-BEAST-- CREATED BY THE HIGH EVOLUTIONARY ON COUNTER-EARTH! * NOTHING CAN STOP ME!

*SEE MARVEL PREMIERE #1 & 2. -- JIM.



"EVEN HATE ITSELF CAN'T STOP ME! AFTER SPIDER-MAN HURLED ME INTO MY HATE-AMPLIFIER,* I LAY UNDER THE RUBBLE OF THAT EXPLOSION IN YONKERS STADIUM FOR THREE DAYS -- BUT BY THE THIRD NIGHT, THE INFUSION OF SUPREME HATE HAD ACTUALLY STRENGTHENED ME..."

"I WAS ABLE TO BURROW MY WAY FREE AND REJOIN YOU!"

*SEE PETER PARKER #15-- JIM.



YES, YOU HAVE MADE YOUR WAY BACK TO US MANY TIMES IN THE PAST...

... BUT WE ARE NOT ENTIRELY PLEASED WITH THE RESULTS OF OUR LONG ALLIANCE.



YOU MEAN THE BY-PRODUCT OF OUR EXPERIMENTS? BAH-- IT'S NOTHING! YOU'RE JUST AS STRONG AS YOU EVER WERE, AREN'T YOU?

AND THE MUTUAL BENEFITS OF OUR EXPERIMENTS FAR OUTWEIGH YOUR INSIGNIFICANT LOSS!



"FOR ME, I WAS ABLE TO ABSORB YOUR VAST ANDROID KNOWLEDGE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY! AND YOU-- WHILE AN ANDROID CAN FEEL NO EMOTION, AT LEAST YOUR WILL TO DESTROY EARTH WAS STRENGTHENED BY MY DRIVING FORCE OF HATE!"



YOUR LOSS IN MERE HEIGHT WAS SURELY WORTH THAT MUCH, WAS IT NOT?

YES, I THINK SO, BUT...

NO! I DISAGREE!

SHUT UP! WE NEED TOOLS AND MATERIALS TO REPAIR THE CRAFT!

NOW GO OUT AND GET THEM!

I SAY WE SHOULD OBEY, SKULL-BROTHER, AS RUTHLESS AND SAVAGE AS OUR ALLY MAY BE, HE SPEAKS WITH GOOD SENSE AND--

NO! I SAY WE SHOULD NOT--

SHOOM

BRATCH

THE ARGUMENT HAS JUST BEEN SETTLED!

NOW GO!

THIS TIME THERE IS NO FURTHER CONSULTATION.

AND WHEN THE BI-BEAST HAS MARCHED OFF INTO THE EVERGLADES...

THE SOULLESS ANDROID FOOL! A CURSE THAT I MUST HUMOR HIS FOLLY OF DESTROYING EARTH!

WHAT CARE I OF EARTH? MY VENGEANCE CONCERNS ONLY COUNTER-EARTH-- AND I SHALL NOT REST UNTIL I HAVE USED THE BI-BEAST TO GET ME THERE!

MEANWHILE...

EH--? CAUTION, SKULL-BROTHER-- ONE OF EARTH'S LOWLY LIFEFORMS-- AND IT IS HOSTILE TO US!

BAH! WE HAVE NO TIME, SKULL-BROTHER. SMASH IT!

FROOOM

UNKNOWN TO THE BI-BEAST, HIS WANTON ACT OF DESTRUCTION IS NOTED--

-- BY COLD, DISPASSIONATE EYES! ONCE THIS CREATURE WAS A MAN-- DR. TED SALLIS-- BUT THEN, A FREAK SCIENTIFIC ACCIDENT COMBINED WITH THE MYSTIC FORCES OF THE SWAMP TO TRANSFORM HIM INTO A GROTESQUE MONSTROSITY... THE MACABRE MAN-THING!

POSSESSING NO INTELLIGENCE, HE IS A PSYCHIC EMPATH-- WHO FEELS THE EMOTIONAL RESONANCE OF OTHERS!

YET, NOTHING SEEMS TO EMANATE FROM THIS STRANGE INTRUDER -- NO EMOTION OF ANY KIND.

PUZZLED, THE MAN-THING SHAMBLES FORWARD. WHAT MANNER OF BEING POSSESSES NO EMOTION, NO FEELINGS?



LOOK, SKULL-BROTHER -- ANOTHER EARTH DENIZEN!

WHY DOES THE INTRUDER MOVE? HOW? IF IT FEELS NOTHING, SURELY IT CANNOT BE ALIVE...?

YES, SKULL-BROTHER, BUT A DENIZEN WE HAVE NEVER ENCOUNTERED BEFORE...



WHAT COULD IT BE?

IT DOES NOT MATTER, SKULL-BROTHER. IT IS SIMPLY AN OBSTACLE IN THE PATH OF OUR TASK.



I AGREE -- IT MUST BE REMOVED.

PERHAPS HIS SENSES ARE WRONG. IF SO, THERE IS A TEST -- FOR WHOEVER KNOWS FEAR... BURNS AT THE MAN-THING'S TOUCH.



SO...



BAH! THE THING ATTACKS US, SKULL-BROTHER.

YES -- THE TIME HAS COME TO REMOVE IT.

NOTHING! THE INTRUDER DOES NOT BURN, NOR DOES HE FLEE. INDEED, HE EXHIBITS NOTHING BUT --



SPLAMM

-- CONTEMPT.

AND YET, EVEN THE CON-
TEMPT CARRIED NONE OF
THE FLAVOR OF EMOTION.
THE VIOLENCE WAS CASUAL.
ITS GOAL LESS THAN PAIN...



A STRANGE BEING.



HE MUST FOLLOW
IT... AND LEARN
MORE.

SAY, BILLIE-SUE, THAT BEER
ICED YET? IT'S BEEN--



WE ARE
TAKING OVER,
HUMANS!

HUH--?

GET INTO YOUR
VEHICLES AND
FOLLOW US!



WE...
WE'RE BEIN'
KIDNAPPED
BY A UFO-
MONSTER!



DON'T BE STUPID! IT'S JUST
SOME DUMB PUNK PULLIN'
A CHEAP STUNT!

AND AIN'T NO
PUNK TELLIN' ME
WHAT TO DO!

THEY
NEVER LEARN,
SKULL-BROTHER.



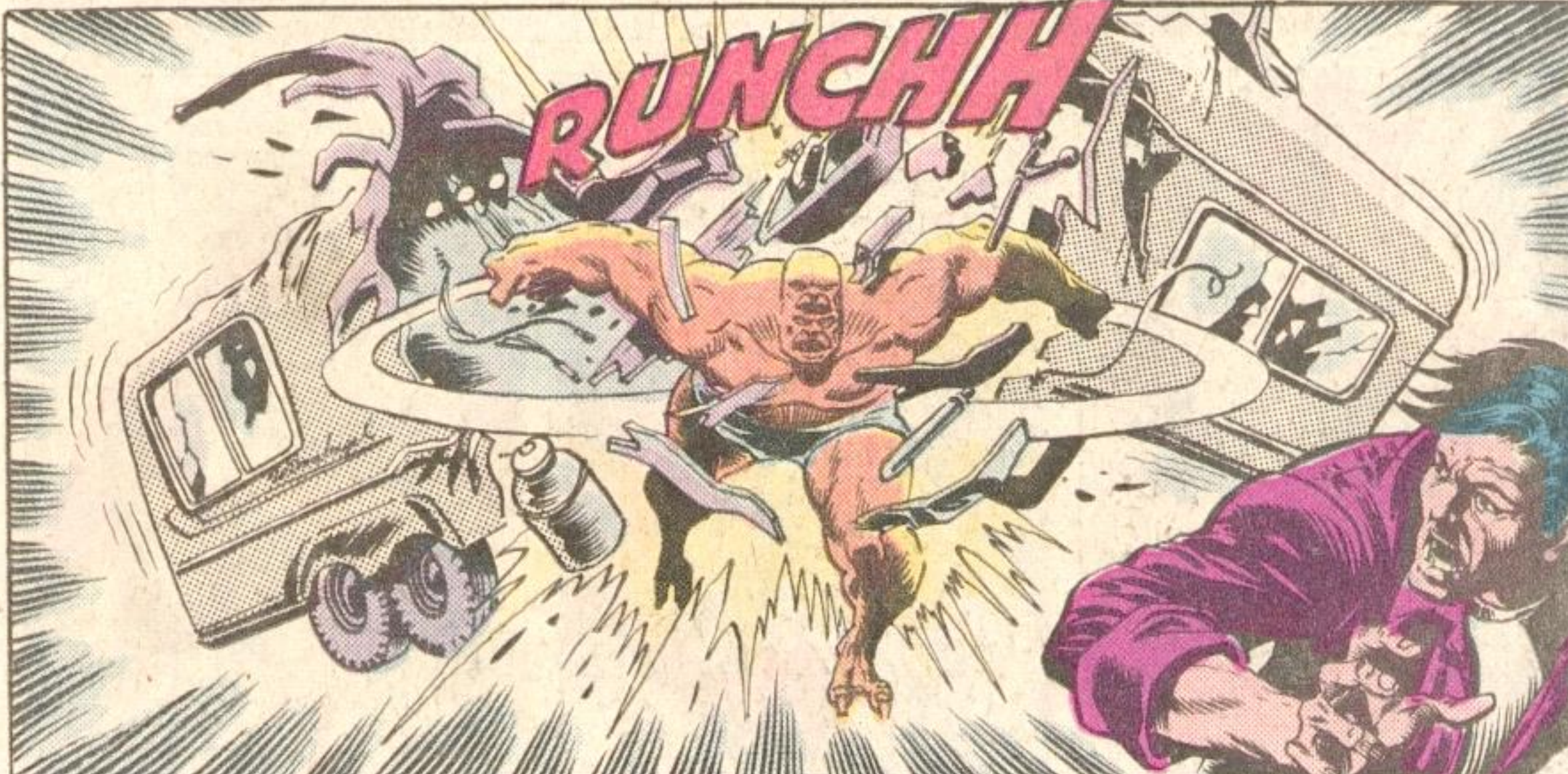
NO... NOT
WITHOUT
PAIN.

SWUDD



OH...MY...

SKRRRR



RUNCHH



THE ARGUMENT HAS JUST BEEN SETTLED! NOW GO-- INTO YOUR VEHICLES!

IF IT WORKED FOR THE MAN-BEAST... WHY NOT?

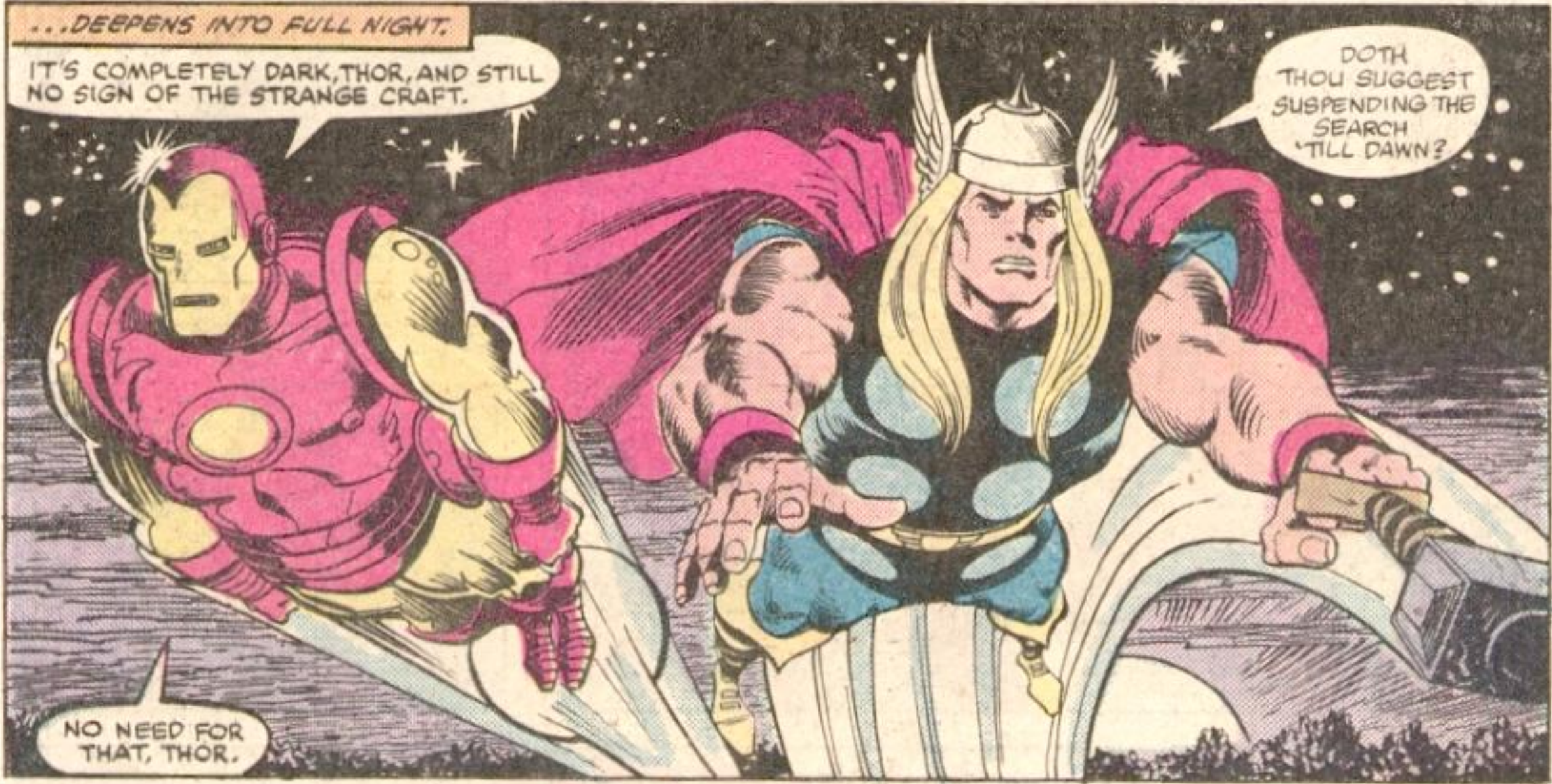


BETWEEN THEM, THEY HAVE PLENTY OF TOOLS, SKULL-BROTHER.

YES, AND WE CAN USE PARTS OF THE VEHICLES THEMSELVES FOR RAW MATERIAL.

KEEP GOING, HUMANS-- THAT WAY!

AND TWILIGHT IN THE EVERGLADES...



...DEEPENS INTO FULL NIGHT.

IT'S COMPLETELY DARK, THOR, AND STILL NO SIGN OF THE STRANGE CRAFT.

DOTH THOU SUGGEST SUSPENDING THE SEARCH 'TILL DAWN?

NO NEED FOR THAT, THOR.



OH?

HAST THY ARMOR SOME NEW TRACKING DEVICE?

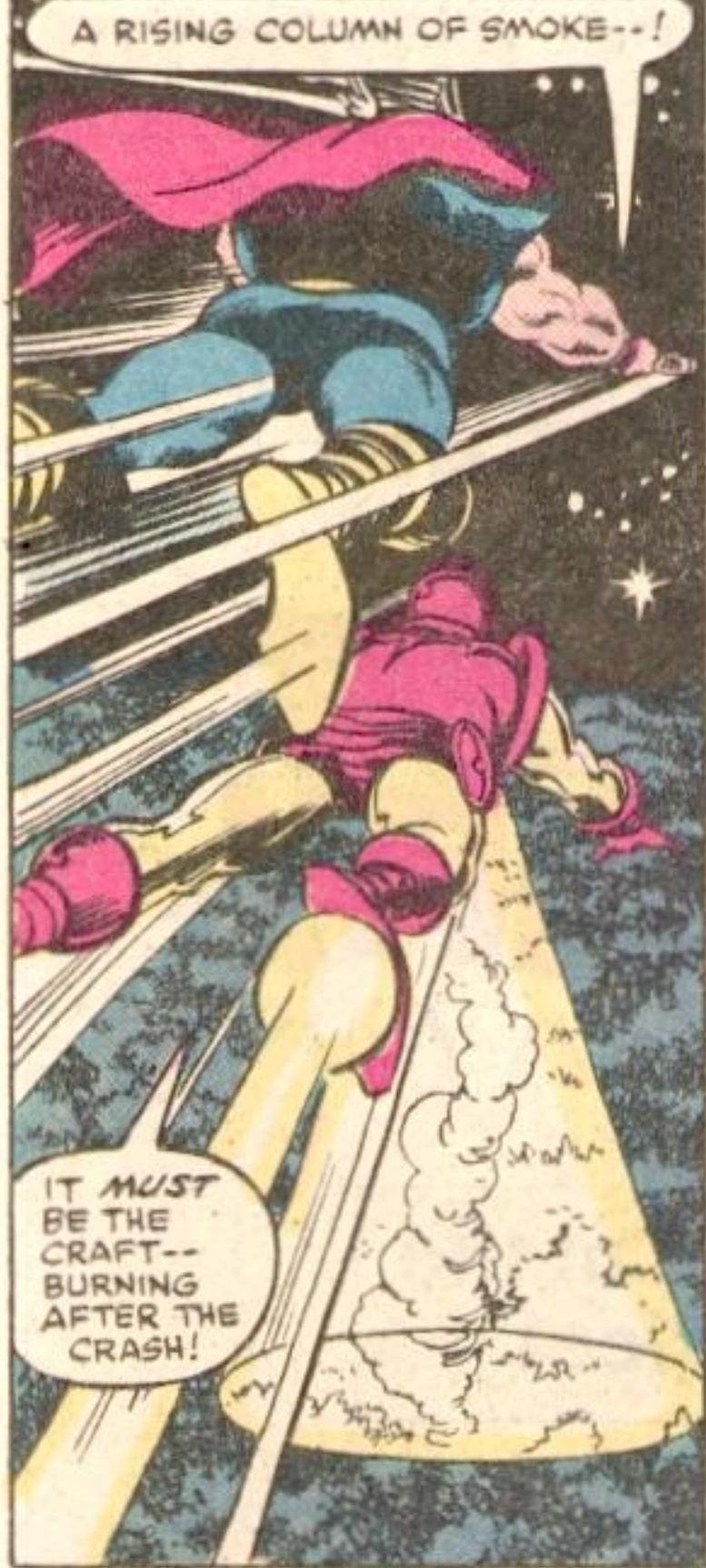


WELL, YOU MIGHT CALL IT A TRACKING DEVICE, BUT IT'S CERTAINLY NOT NEW...



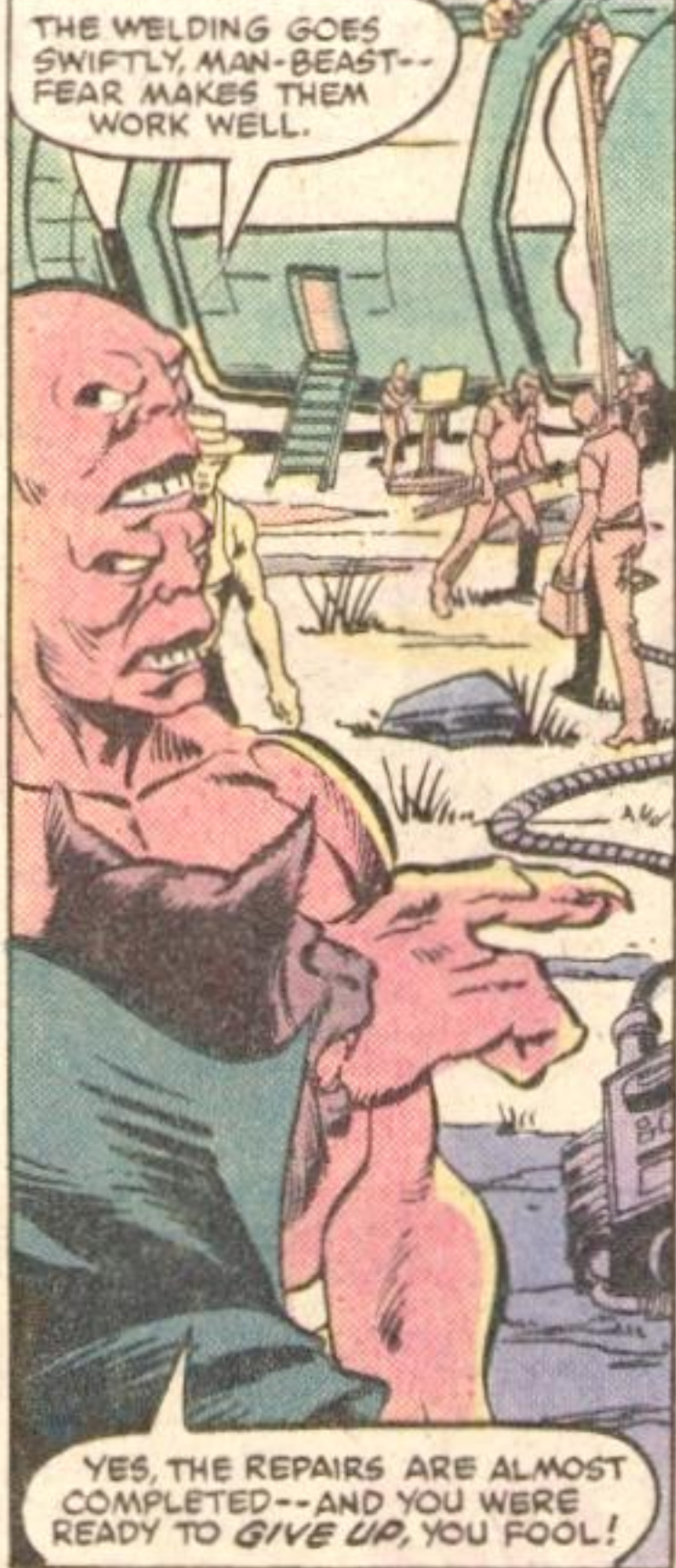
IT'S CALLED LIGHT-- FROM MY CHEST-BEACON.

AND LOOK WHAT IT'S PICKED UP DEAD AHEAD...



A RISING COLUMN OF SMOKE--!

IT MUST BE THE CRAFT-- BURNING AFTER THE CRASH!



THE WELDING GOES SWIFTLY, MAN-BEAST-- FEAR MAKES THEM WORK WELL.

YES, THE REPAIRS ARE ALMOST COMPLETED-- AND YOU WERE READY TO GIVE UP, YOU FOOL!



LOOKS LIKE THEY'VE TAKEN A WHOLE TRAILER CAMP HOSTAGE, THOR-- LOT OF INNOCENT PEOPLE COULD GET HURT...

AYE, WE NEED TWO THINGS-- LIGHT AND SURPRISE. ART THOU READY FOR BATTLE, IRON MAN?

READY.

THEN STAND THEE BACK WHILST I CALL UPON MY POWERS AS LORD OF STORMS!



A MOMENT EARLIER IT WAS A MUGGY BUT CLEAR NIGHT-- BUT NOW, THOUGH NO RAIN FALLS, THE HEAVENS RUMBLE AND FLARE...

MYSTICALLY ORCHESTRATED, JAGGED FORKS OF LIGHTNING LICK DOWN TO ERECT A WALL OF LIGHT AROUND THE ENCAMPMENT...



MAN-BEAST! WHAT COULD IT--

--MEAN?

SHUT UP, FOOL! I DON'T KNOW!



THY VILLAINOUS DEEDS ARE ENDED, BI-BEAST!

AND THOU, SUPER-BEAST-- THOU AND I DID ONCE BEFORE DO BATTLE! * PREPARE THYSELF FOR THE SAME!

THOR! IT'S THOR!!

* SEE THOR # 134. -- JIM.



I'M CALLED MAN-BEAST NOW, THUNDER GOD, AND THE RESULT OF OUR BATTLE WILL BE DIFFERENT THIS TIME! I HAVE THE BI-BEAST AT MY SIDE--

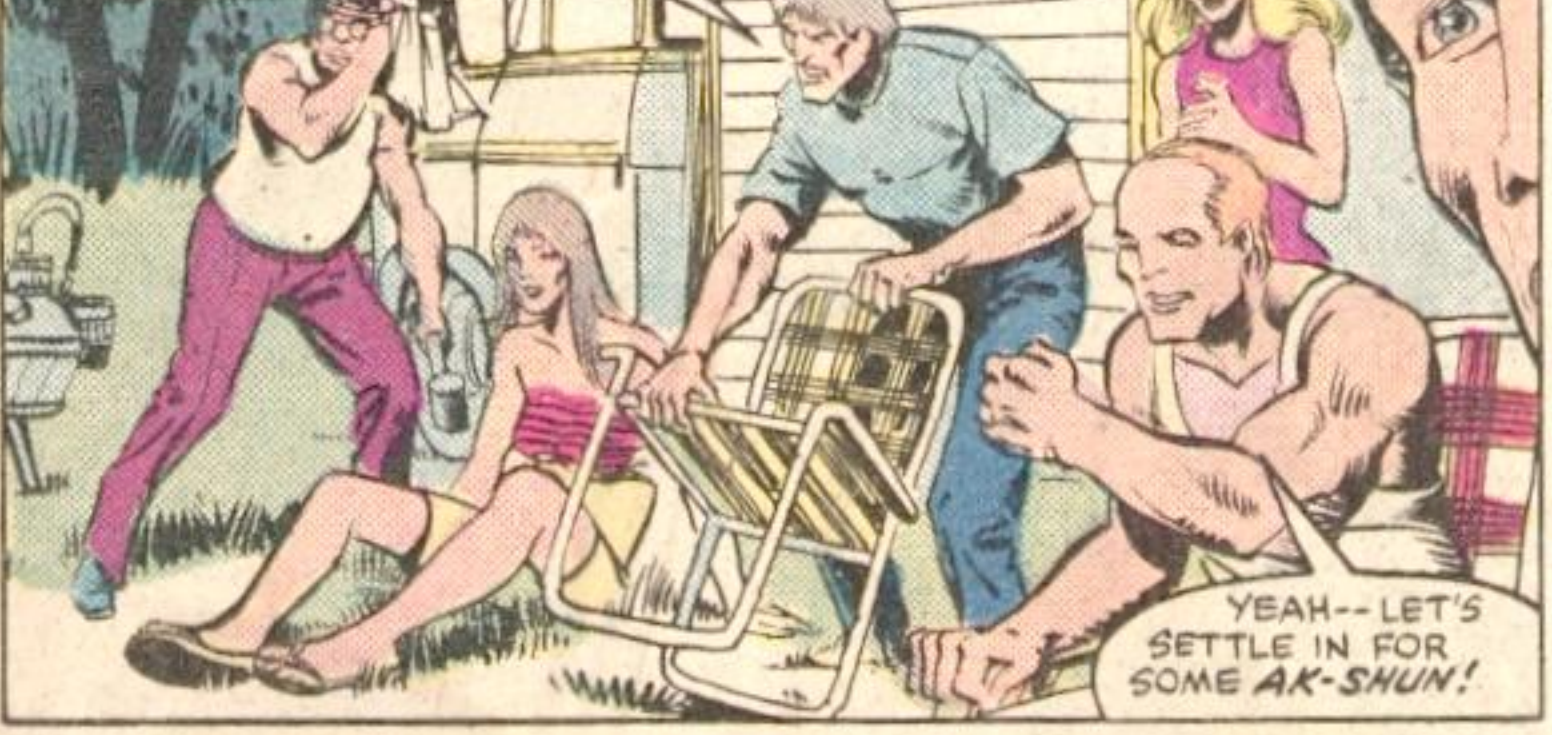
--AND THERE IS NO WAY YOU CAN DEFEAT US BOTH!

MAYBE NOT, BEASTIES-- BUT THERE'S NO WAY YOU CAN TAKE BOTH OF US EITHER!



WHAT?! THE OTHER ONE--!

ALL RIIIGHT! IRON MAN TOO-- THE HEE-ROES HAVE ARRIVED!



YEAH-- LET'S SETTLE IN FOR SOME AK-SHUN!

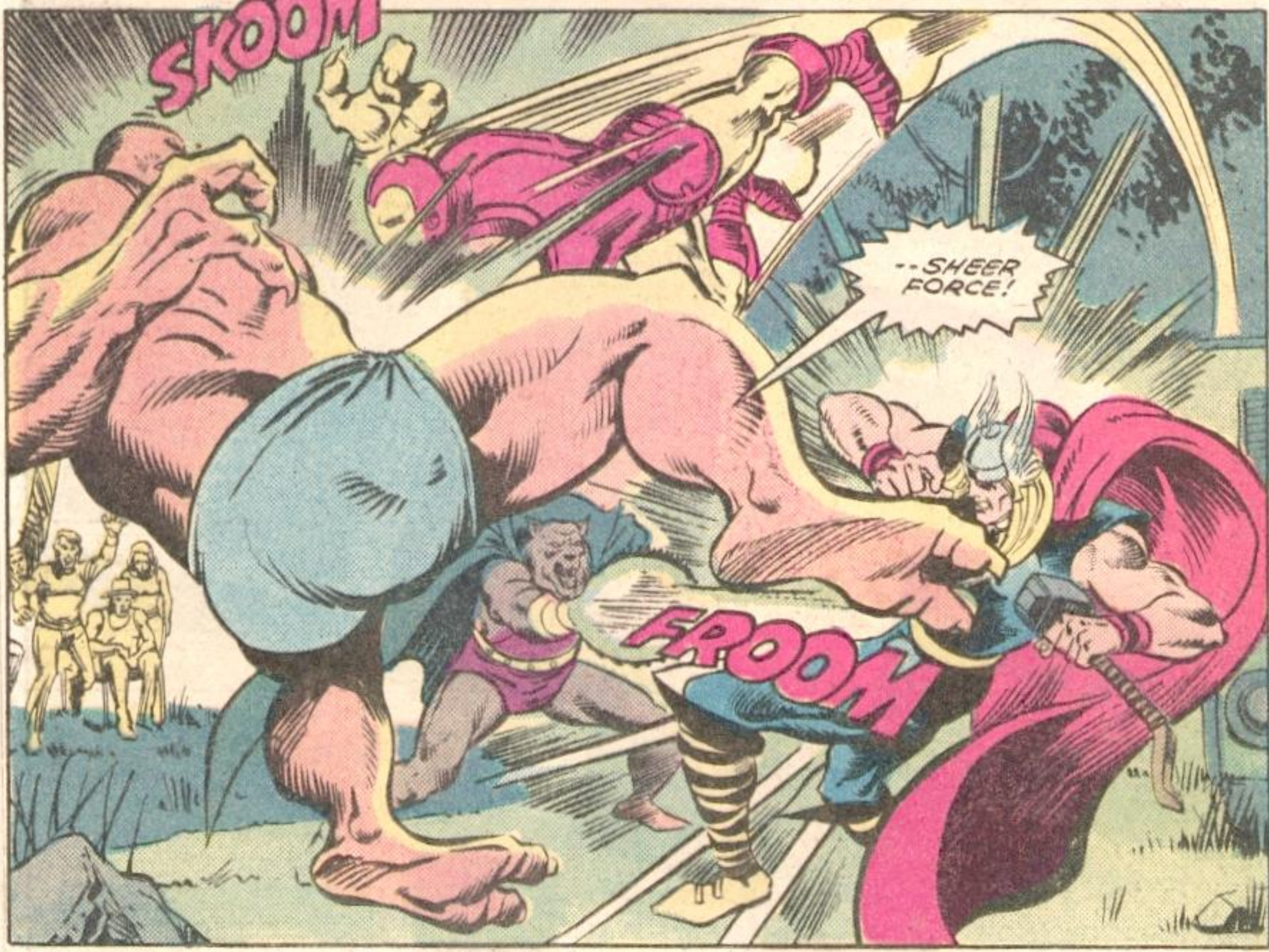
BLAST THEM WITH YOUR HATE-RAY, MAN-BEAST! LET THEM KILL EACH OTHER!



FOOL! THOR IS A GOD-- MY RAY WILL HAVE NO EFFECT ON HIM! AND THE OTHER ONE MAY BE PROTECTED BY HIS ARMOR!

THIS IS ONE BATTLE WE MUST WIN ON--

SKOOM



--SHEER FORCE!

FROON

HAH! YOU SEE, THUNDER GOD?! EVEN WITHOUT THE EFFECTS OF THE HATE MADNESS, MY BLASTS ARE MORE POWERFUL THAN YOU DREAMED!

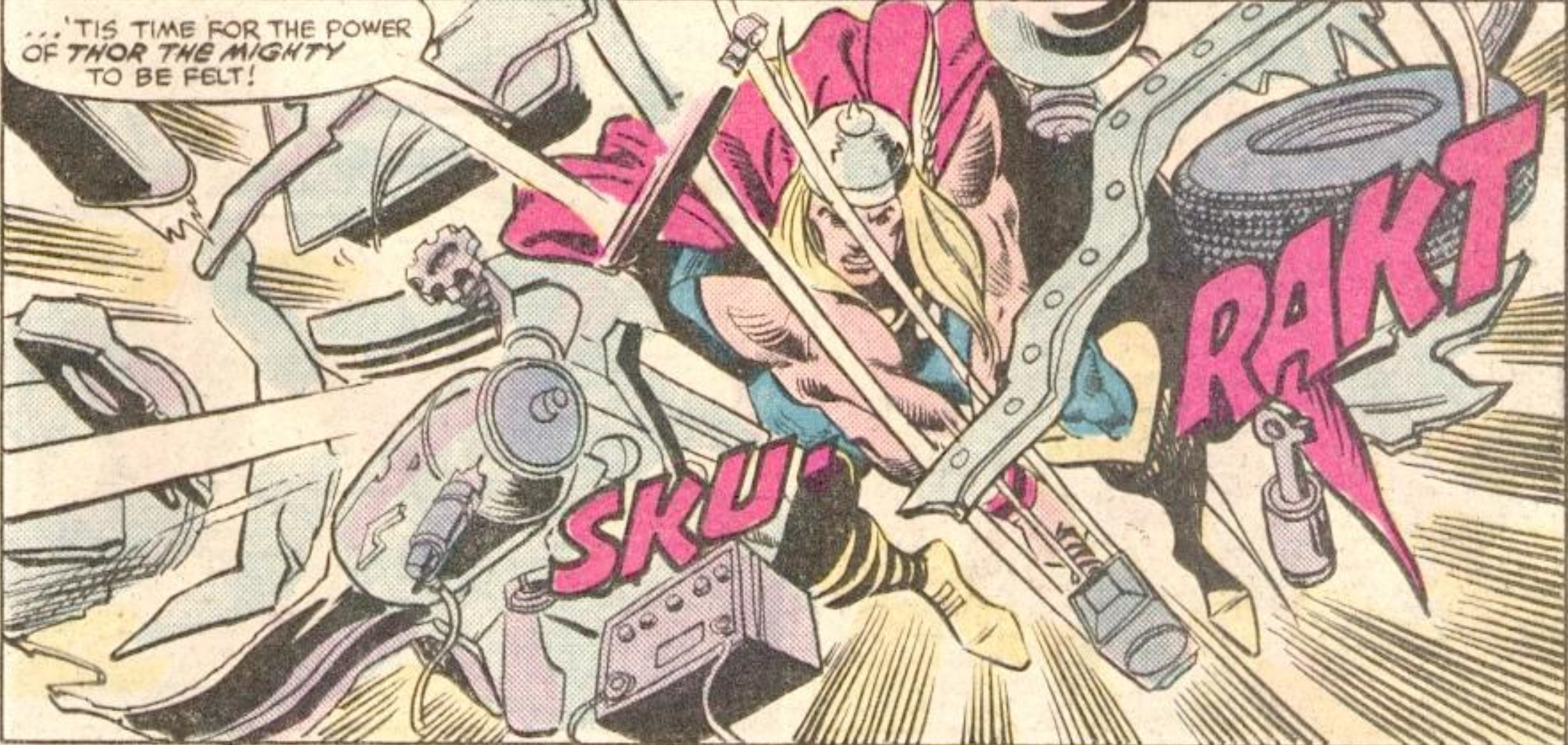


AND NOW--



AND NOW, VILLAIN...

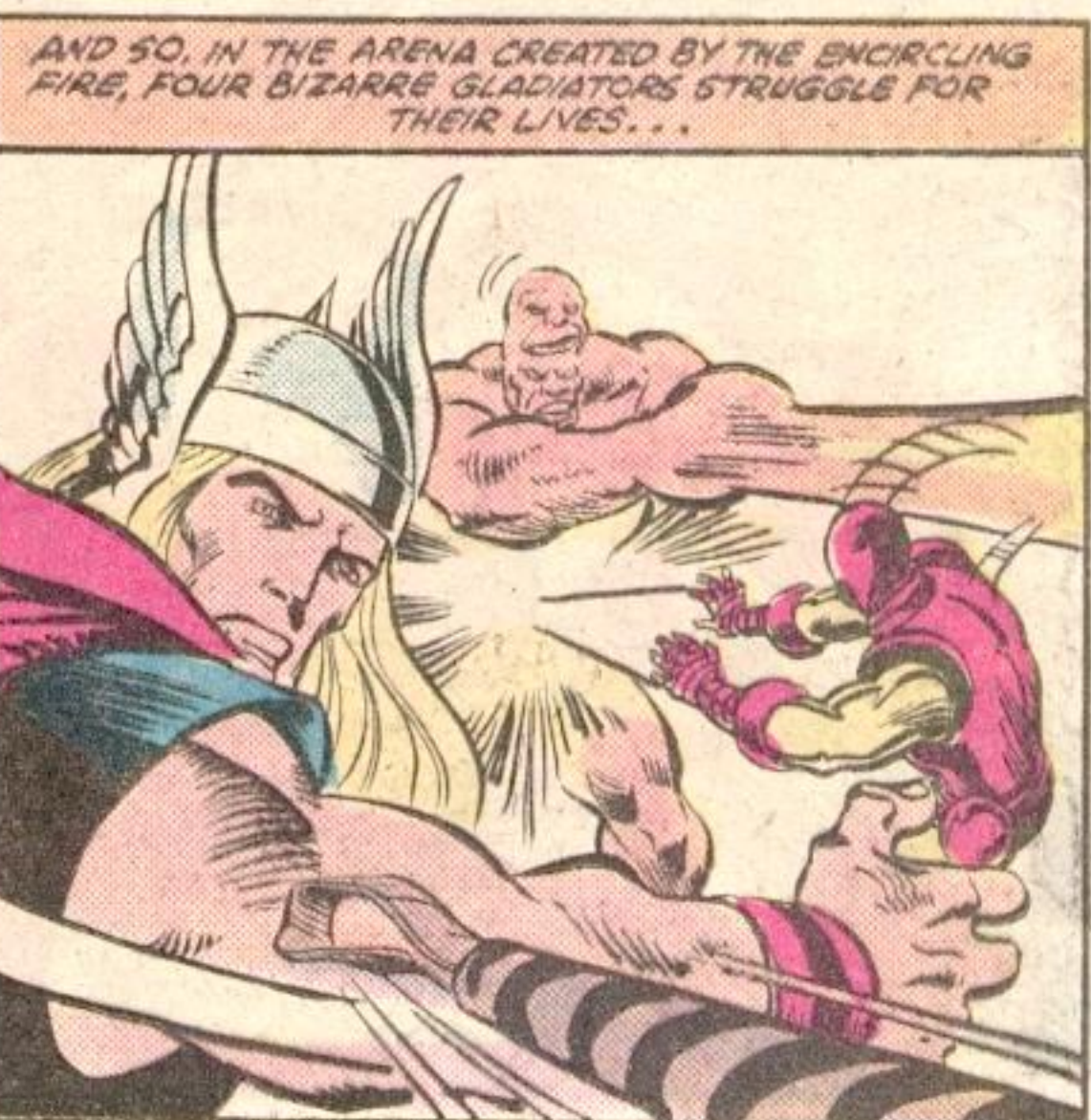
'TIS TIME FOR THE POWER OF THOR THE MIGHTY TO BE FELT!



SHOOT! NO SENSE IN BEIN' HOGGISH ABOUT RINGSIDE SEATS!



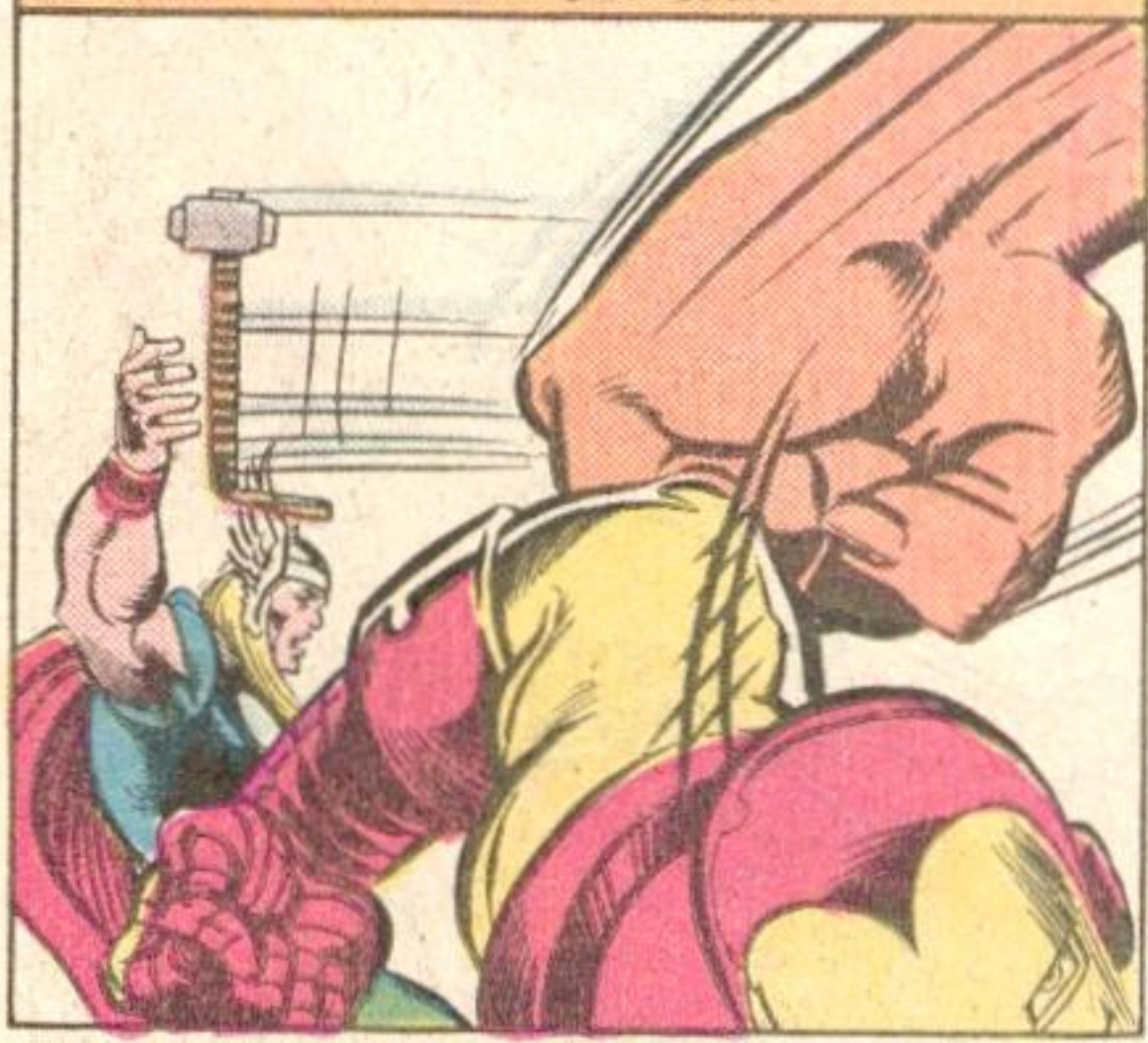
AND SO, IN THE ARENA CREATED BY THE ENCIRCLING FIRE, FOUR BIZARRE GLADIATORS STRUGGLE FOR THEIR LIVES...



AND NEVER HAS A STRUGGLE BEEN CONTESTED MORE HOTLY, NOR WITH GREATER FURY!



EVEN THE PERVASIVE WALL OF SOUND CREATED BY CRICKETS, NIGHTBIRDS, AND SWAMP-FROGS CRUMBLES INTO SILENCE...



... UNTIL THERE IS NOTHING BUT THE HARSH NOISE OF VIOLENCE.

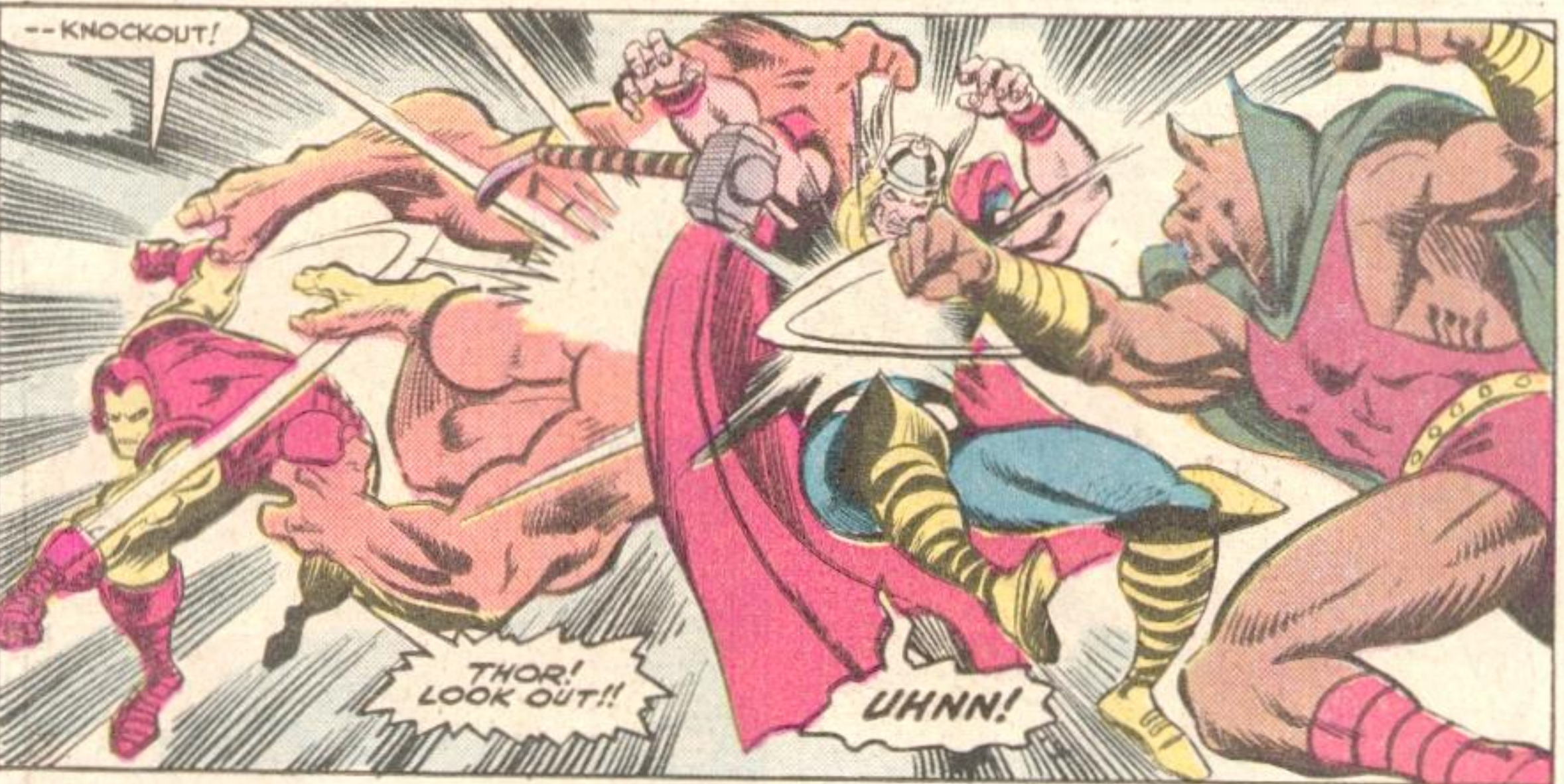
THROKK



SEEMS TO ME THIS IS WHERE WE LEFT OFF BEFORE, TWO-FACE...



-- KNOCKOUT!



THOR! LOOK OUT!!

UHNN!

C'MON-- LET'S CUT THROUGH THE 'GLADES THIS WAY!



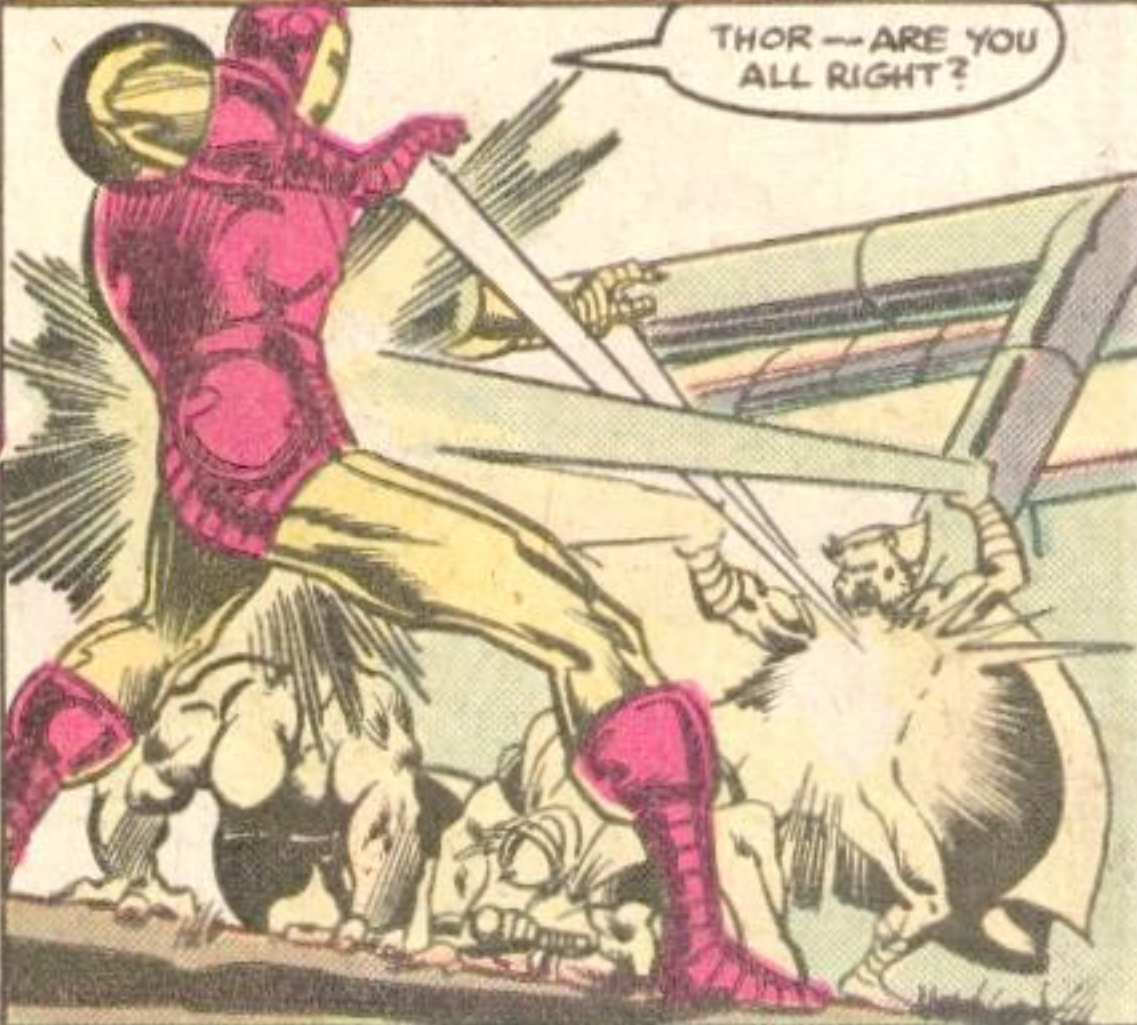
YEAH-- AFTER THOSE TWO BACK THERE, CAN'T BE ANY OTHER MONSTERS IN THIS SWAMP!

YES-- PROOF THAT HIS SENSES ARE INTACT, FOR THE FEAR IS RIFE ON THESE CREATURES...



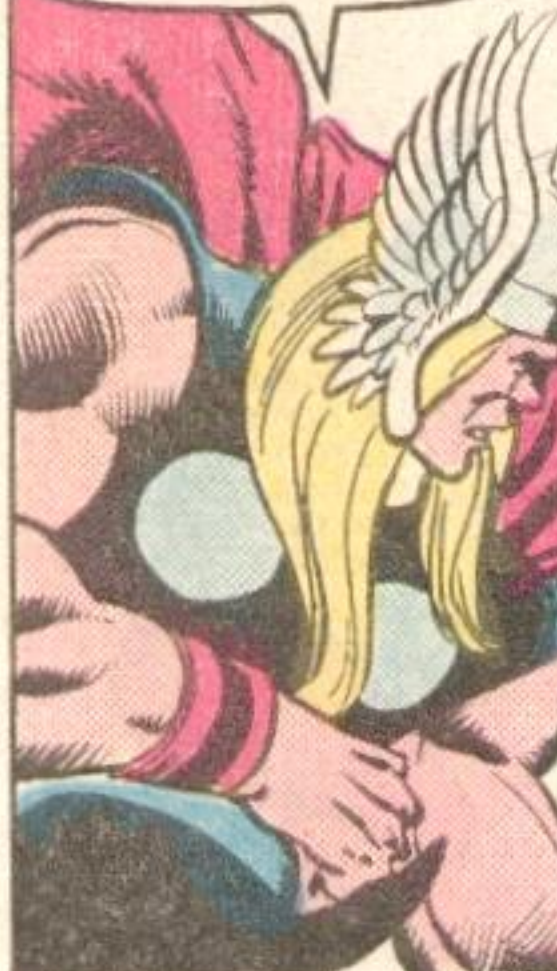
YAAAH

...UNLIKE THE FOUR STRANGE ONES WHO HAVE INVADDED HIS HOME, HE RECEIVES IMPRESSIONS OF EMOTION FROM THREE OF THEM... BUT STILL NO FEAR.



THOR -- ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

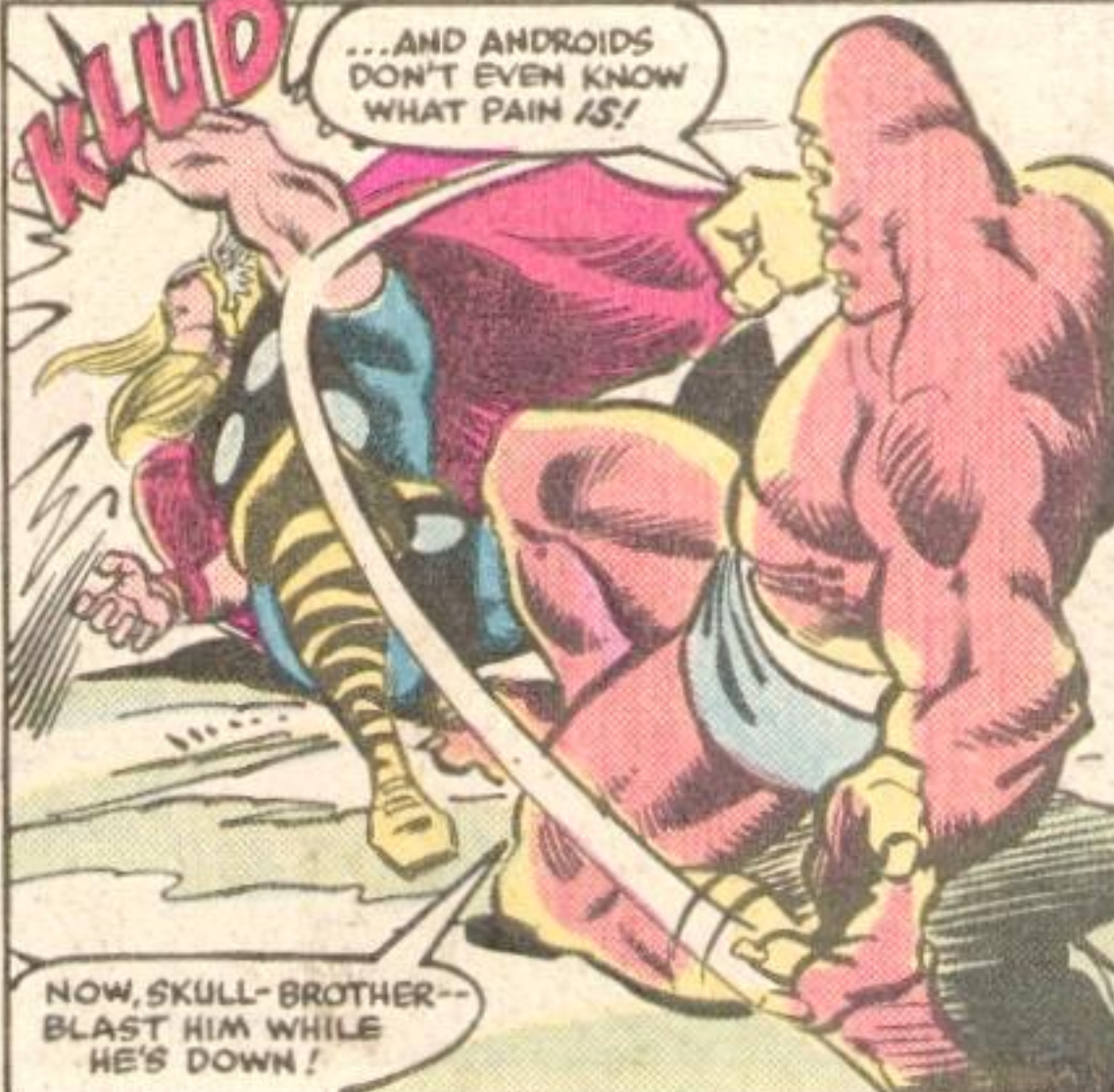
AYE, IRON MAN-- 'TWOULD TAKE FAR MORE TO FELL THE GOD OF THUNDER.



A GOD, ARE YOU?-- MEANING YOU PROBABLY FEEL LITTLE PAIN...



WELL, KNOW THIS, THUNDER GOD-- WE ARE AN ANDROID...



KLUD

...AND ANDROIDS DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT PAIN IS!

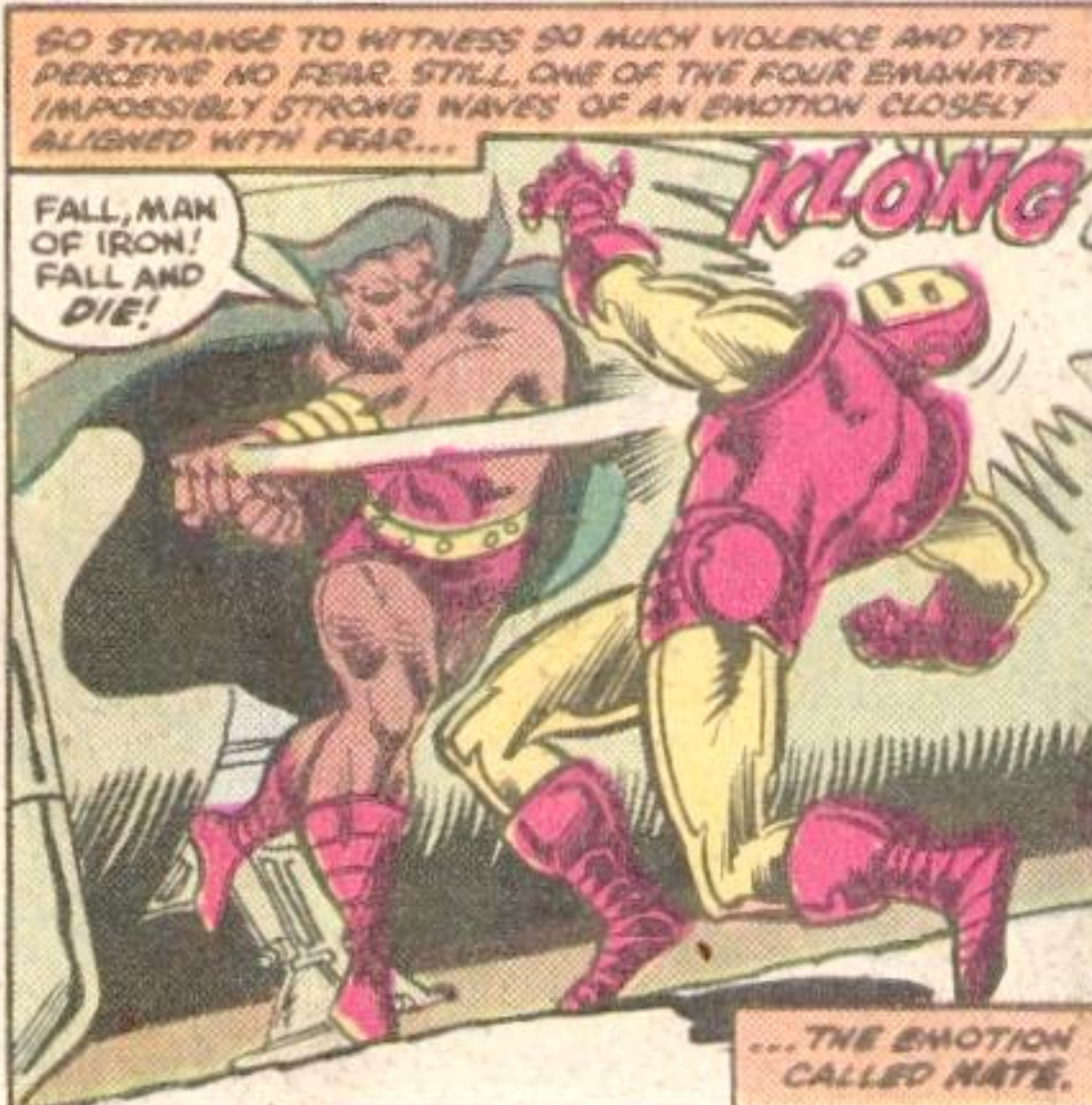
NOW, SKULL-BROTHER-- BLAST HIM WHILE HE'S DOWN!



TOO SLOW, SKULL-BROTHER-- HE'S ROLLED FREE!

YES... BUT SOONER OR LATER, SKULL-BROTHER, WE SHALL HAVE HIM!

WE MUST AVENGE HIS VICTORY OVER US IN THE DOMED CITY!



FALL, MAN OF IRON! FALL AND DIE!

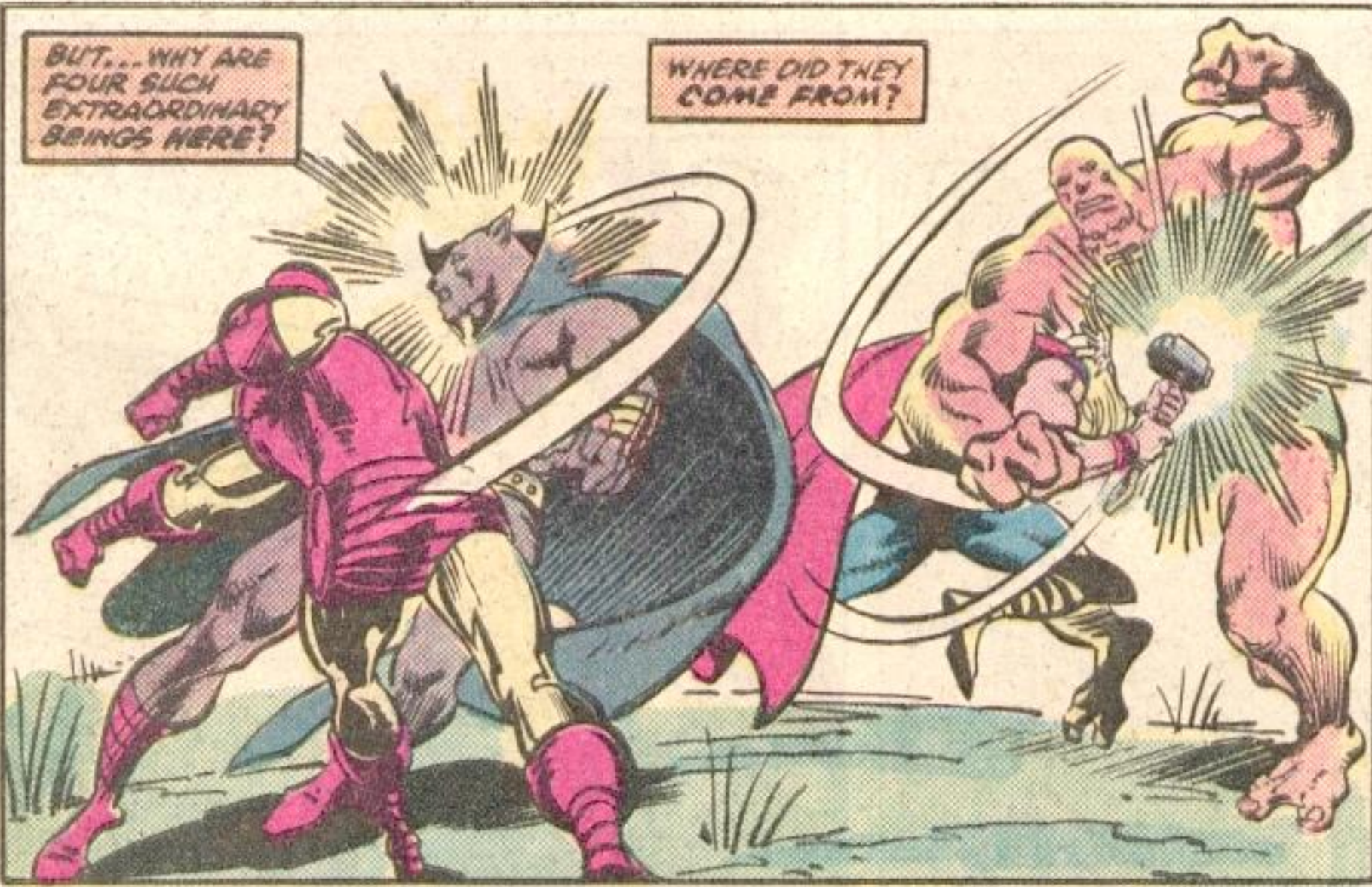
KLONG

...THE EMOTION CALLED HATE.

BUT... WHY ARE
FOUR SUCH
EXTRAORDINARY
BEINGS HERE?

WHERE DID THEY
COME FROM?

FROM THAT STRANGE
METALLIC CRAFT, PER-
HAPS? AND ARE THERE
MORE INSIDE?



PERHAPS, WHEN THE
RING OF FIRE DIES DOWN,
WE SHOULD INVESTIGATE...

ENOW, VILLAIN--
THOR SAYS ENOW!

IF THOU ART IN TRUTH
AN ANDROID, AND BEYOND
FEELINGS--

THROK

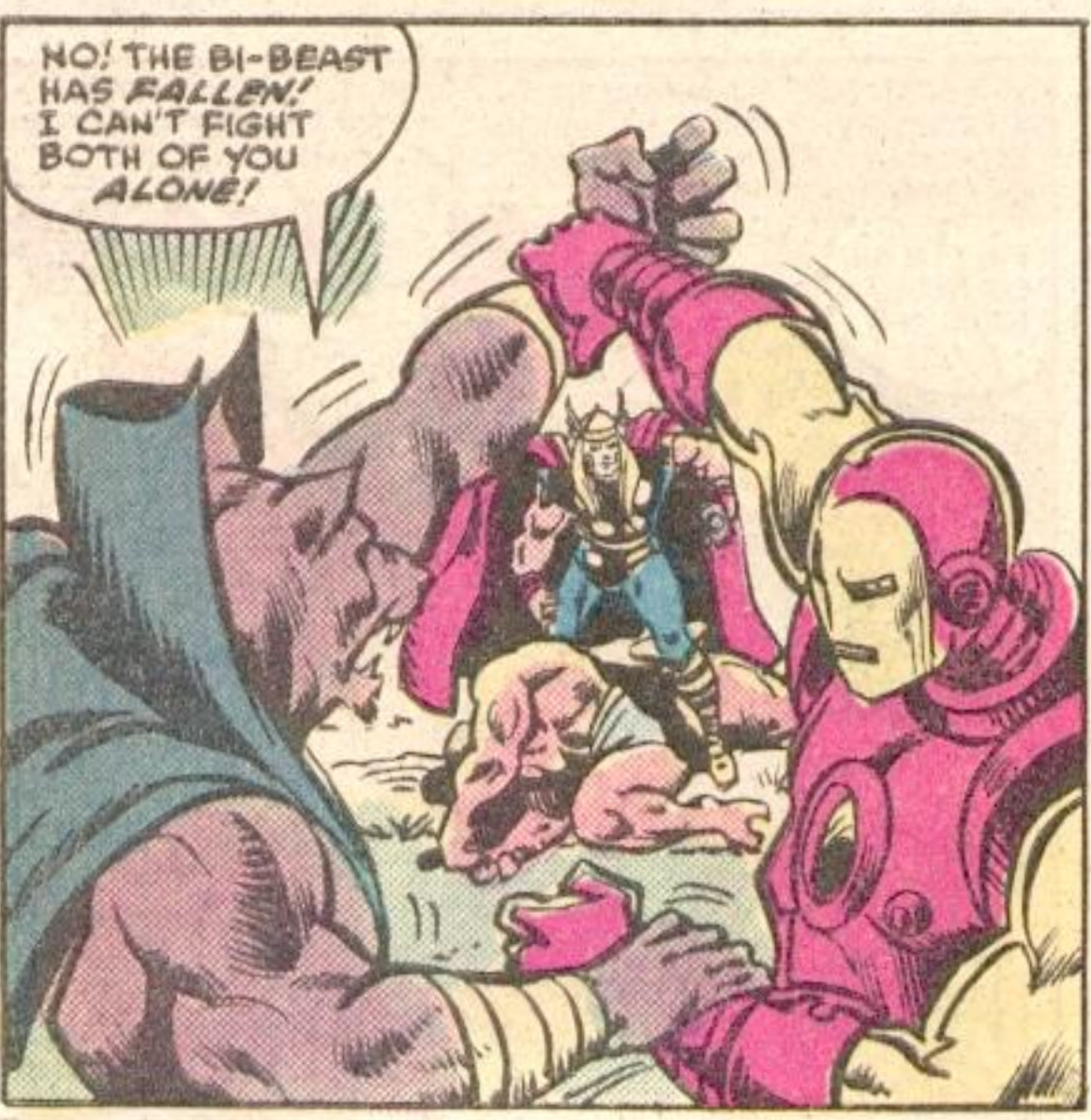
-- THEN THERE
IS NO FURTHER
NEED FOR THOR
TO BLUNT THE
FULL FURY OF
HIS BLOW!



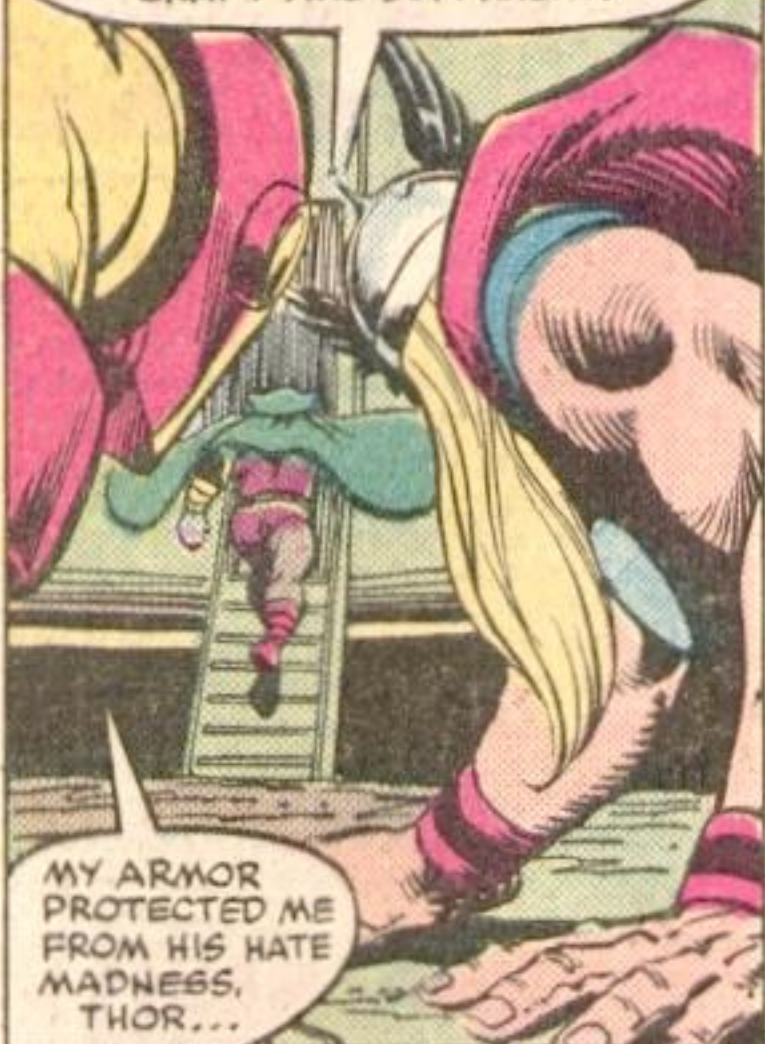
NO! THE BI-BEAST
HAS FALLEN!
I CAN'T FIGHT
BOTH OF YOU
ALONE!

I'VE GOT TO MAKE A BREAK FOR IT--

FROOM

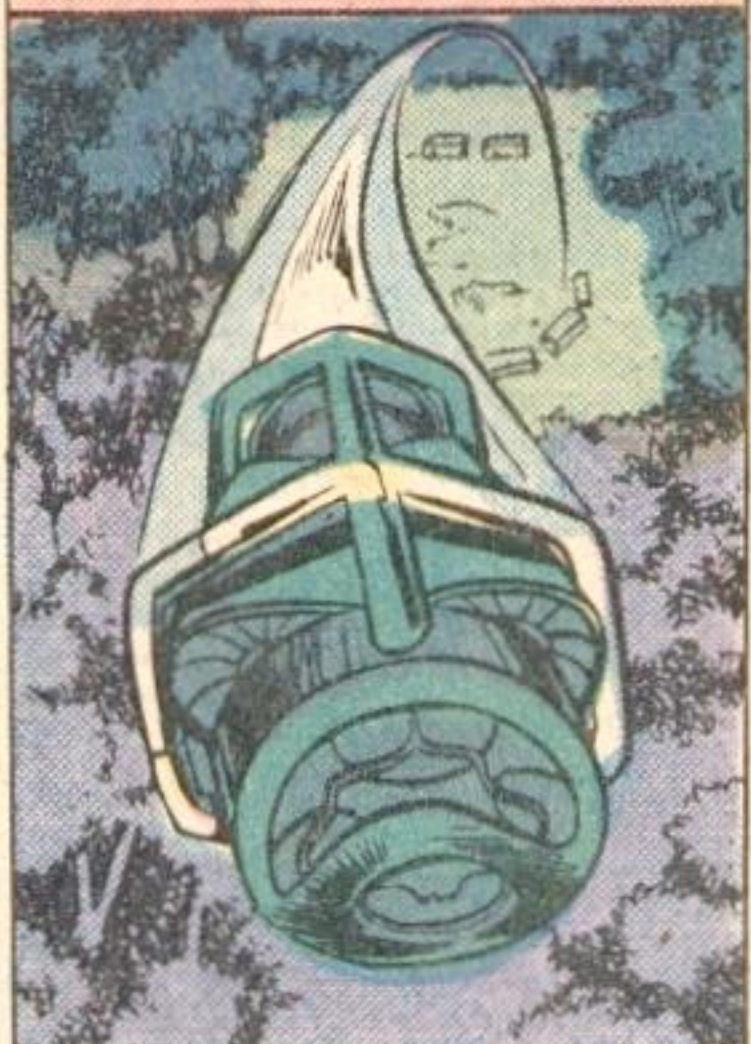


--AND HOPE THE REPAIRS TO THE CRAFT ARE SUFFICIENT!



MY ARMOR PROTECTED ME FROM HIS HATE MADNESS, THOR...

"... BUT THE BLAST STILL PREVENTED ME FROM STOPPING HIM!"



WE MAY YET STOP HIM, IRON MAN...

STRIKE THE CRAFT LONG DISTANCE, YOU MEAN? YES-- BUT AFTER THE LAST TIME, I'M NOT GOING TO MAKE THE SAME MISTAKE...



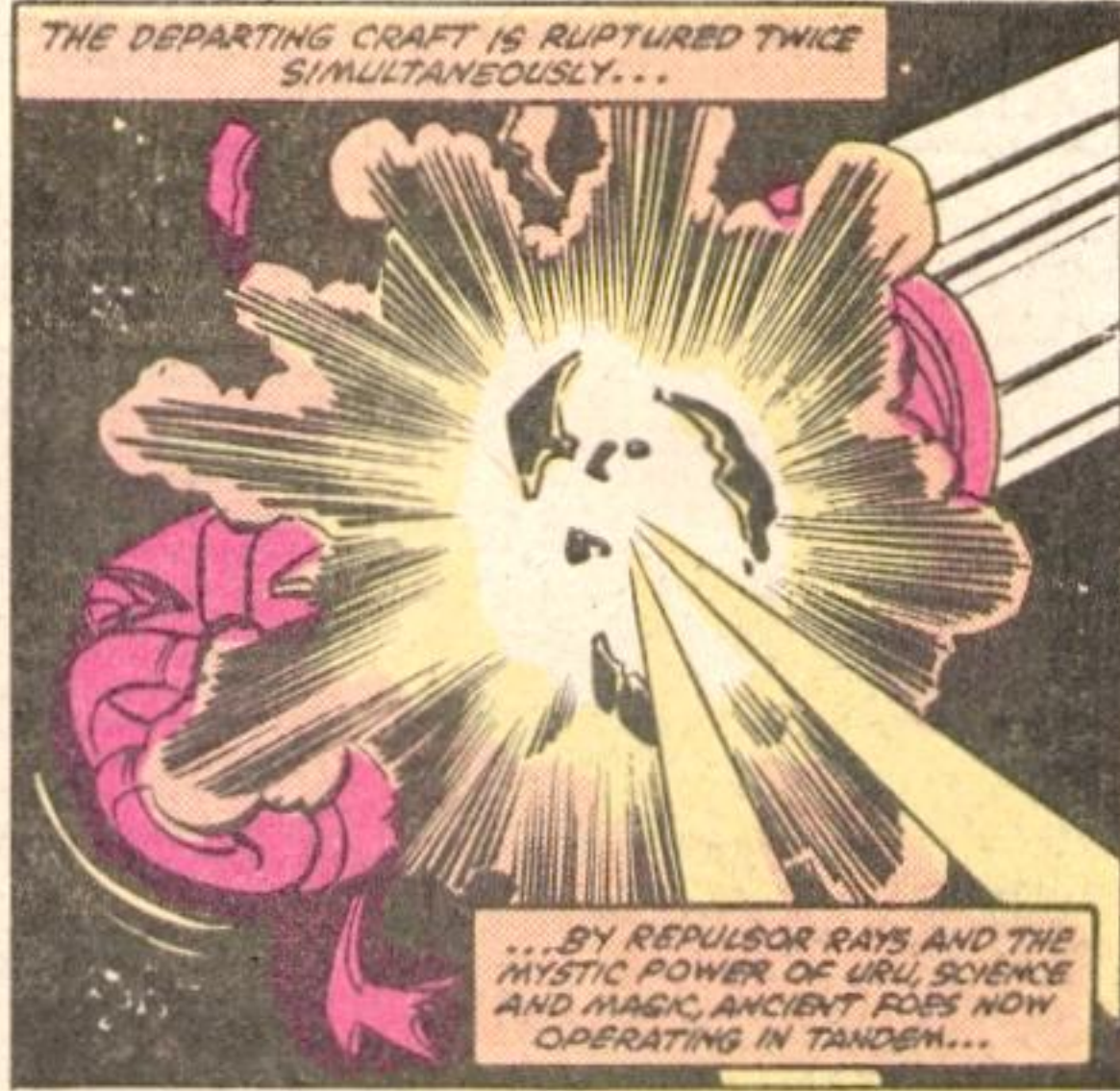
JUST LET ME FLIP ON MY ARMOR'S EXTRA INSULATION.



OKAY, THOR.

BETWEEN THE TWO OF US, I THINK WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO CLIP THAT BIRD'S WINGS FOR GOOD, DON'T YOU?

AYE.



THE DEPARTING CRAFT IS RUPTURED TWICE SIMULTANEOUSLY...

...BY REPULSOR RAYS AND THE MYSTIC POWER OF URU, SCIENCE AND MAGIC, ANCIENT FOES NOW OPERATING IN TANDEM...



...TOWARD A COMMON END.

NO!! I'M LOSING CONTROL! THE CRAFT IS GOING DOWN--



"-- STRAIGHT INTO THAT BOG OF QUICKSAND!!"

BLUPT

IT SINKS, SWALLOWED BY THE THICK BOG, LONG BEFORE THE TWO HEROES CAN REACH IT...



DO YOU SEE IT, THOR?

NAY...

LOOKS LIKE IT'S GONE FOR GOOD, THEN.

I GUESS THE MAN-BEAST'S HATE BOOMERANGED ON HIM...



AYE-- LIKE ALL HATE, IRON MAN.

NOW COME-- WE MUST RETURN THE BI-BEAST TO THE AUTHORITIES.

BUT WITHIN THE CRAFT DEEP UNDER THE OOZE, THOUGH THE MAN-BEAST LIES STIFF AND LIFELESS, THERE COMES THE SOUND OF MOIST SHUFFLING...



THE IMPRESSION OF HATE RECEIVED IN SUCH CLOSE QUARTERS WAS ALMOST OVERWHELMING--

--BUT IT HAS HALTED NOW, LEAVING A CURIOUS FEELING OF PEACE AND FREEDOM.

YET HE SEEMS TO BE TRAPPED IN THIS PLACE FILLING WITH MUD...



SHOULD HE TRY TO ESCAPE, OR SIMPLY TAKE COMFORT IN THE SURROUNDING OOZE? PERHAPS HE SHOULD WAIT AND SEE.



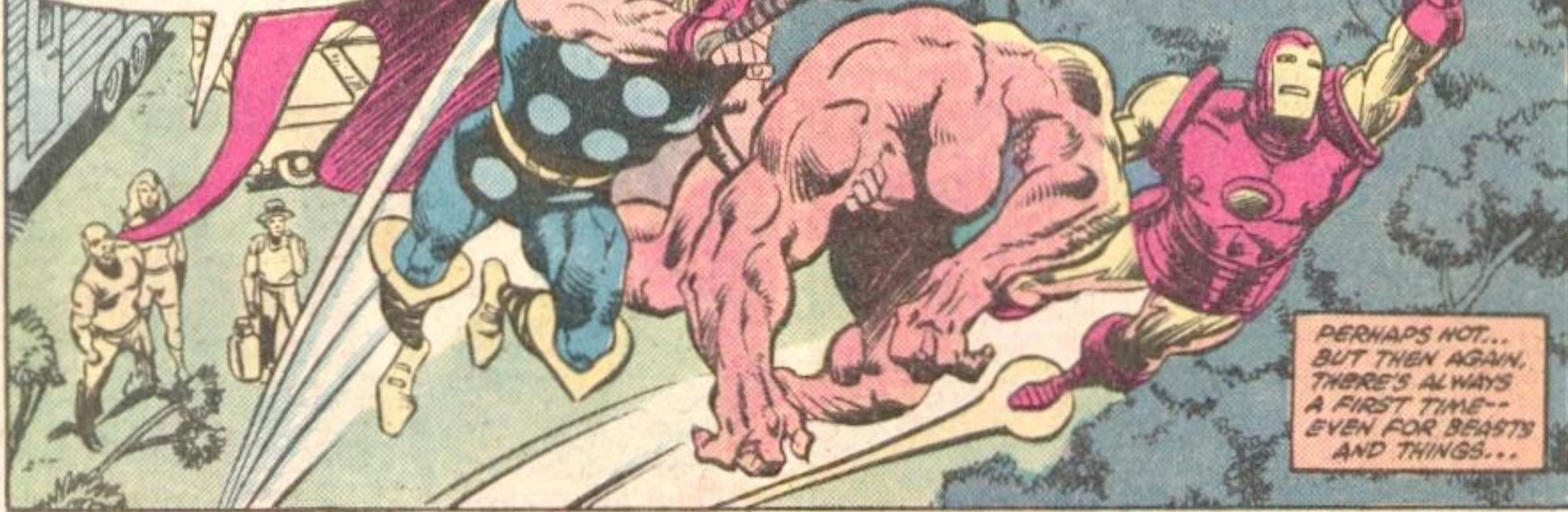
PERHAPS HE SHOULD MERELY WAIT FOREVER...

THY THANKS IS APPRECIATED, MORTALS-- BUT NO, WE CANNOT STAY FOR THY... AH, "COOKOUT!"



THAT'S OKAY, THOR-- WE UNDERSTAND, AND DON'T WORRY ABOUT THAT OTHER DANGED MONSTER...

ONCE A BODY GOES INTO A BOG LIKE THAT, HE DON'T NEVER COME OUT!



PERHAPS NOT... BUT THEN AGAIN, THERE'S ALWAYS A FIRST TIME-- EVEN FOR BEASTS AND THINGS...

NEXT ISSUE: CHAOS AT CANAVERAL!