

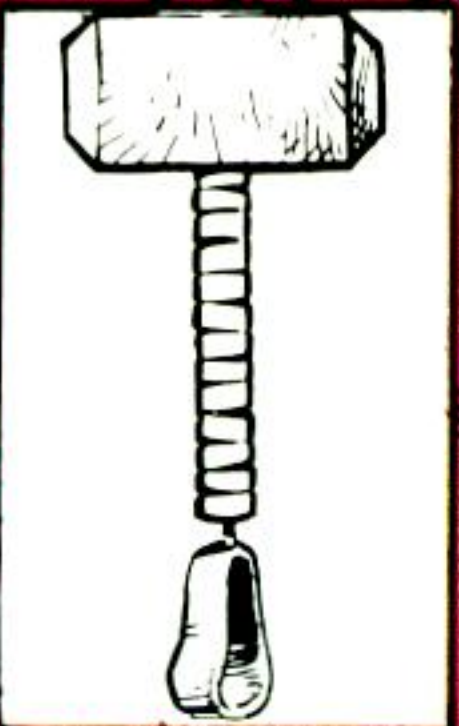
MARVEL®



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361
NOV

the mighty THOR



62675

STAN LEE PRESENTS: **the MIGHTY THOR**

"GARM BAYS LOUDLY BEFORE GNIPA CAVE; HIS CHAIN WILL BREAK AND HE WILL RUN FREE."*

IN THE SHADOW OF THE BEAST STANDS THE ENTRANCE TO HEL...

... AND 'TIS THROUGH THAT DOLEFUL GATEWAY THOR MUST RIDE WITH HIS COMPANIONS!

HO, GARM! FIERCEST OF HOUNDS! THE SON OF ODIN GREET'S THEE!

HAIL, MIGHTY THOR. HELA, MY MISTRESS, WARNED ME THAT YOU MIGHT WISH TO USE THE HELWAY.

WOULD YOU SEEK THE KINGDOM OF THE DEAD AS A LIVING MAN?

BEWARE. THOSE WHO ENTER HERE DO NOT COME OUT AGAIN.

THE QUICK AND THE DEAD!

*THE SIBYL'S PROPHECY

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THE BLOOD OF THOR SHALL NOT EASILY STAIN YOUR BREAST, GARM...



...LIKE THE BLOOD OF SO MANY OTHERS WHO SOUGHT TO LEAVE HELA'S REALM.

WITH YOUR PERMISSION, WE WOULD ENTER HER DOMAIN.

I SHALL MAKE THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR OUR DEPARTURE.

I AM CALLED THE DOOM OF TYR, MIGHTY THOR, PERHAPS SOMEDAY, I SHALL BE CALLED THE DOOM OF THOR AS WELL.



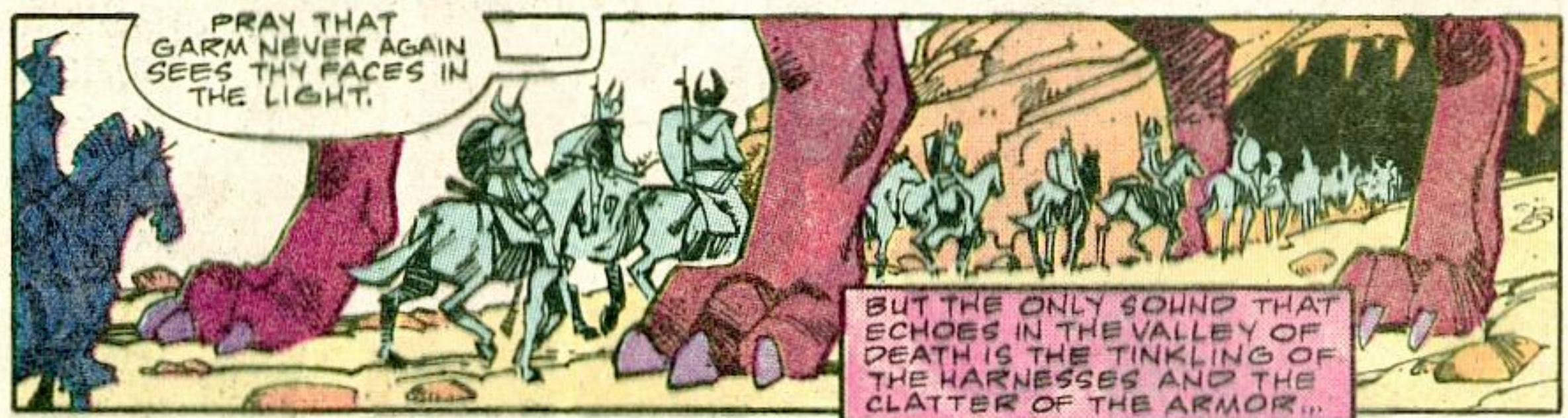
YOU AND YOUR COMPANIONS MAY ENTER FREELY AND OF YOUR OWN WILL.



HAROKIN, ORDER THE WARRIORS AND FOLLOW ME INTO THE CAVE OF DARKNESS.

EXECUTIONER, BRING UP THE REAR AND GUARD IT WELL.

FAREWELL, YOU BIN-HERJAR, BOLD HEROES OF VALHALLA.



PRAY THAT GARM NEVER AGAIN SEES THY FACES IN THE LIGHT.

BUT THE ONLY SOUND THAT ECHOES IN THE VALLEY OF DEATH IS THE TINKLING OF THE HARNESSSES AND THE CLATTER OF THE ARMOR...

...UNTIL AT LAST, THE EXECUTIONER ENTERS THE DARKNESS AND THE SILENCE OF THE VALLEY IS AGAIN UNBROKEN.



THE ROAD TO HEL, MIGHTY THOR, MAY BE PAVED WITH GOOD INTENTIONS...

...BUT THE DARKNESS OF THE HELWAY IS HARDLY A MATCH FOR THE BLACKNESS IN MY HEART.

CAST OFF BY THE EN-
CHANTRESS FOR HEIM-
DALL, I SEEK SOLACE
IN BATTLE.

FOR IF I
CANNOT BE A
LOVER, THEN I
WILL BE A
WARRIOR.

AND YOU YOUR-
SELF MAY HAVE LOST
THE BEAUTIFUL SIF
FOREVER.

DO YOU SEEK ONLY
TO RESCUE THE
LOST SOULS OF
THE MORTALS THAT
HELA HAS STOLEN
FROM EARTH*...



...OR DO YOU,
TOO, RIDE INTO
HEL CURSING THE
FAITHLESS ARMS
OF A WOMAN!

*THOR 345-348 REVEALED
THE AWFUL DETAILS!

THE
DARKNESS
IS SO COMPLETE,
NO TORCH
WILL SHINE
HERE.

ARE
THOSE
STARS
ABOVE
US?

SURELY
WE ARE STILL
WITHIN
THE CAVES
OF THE
HELWAY!

MY
STEED
DOES NOT
FEEL THE
ROAD!

THEN FOLLOW
THE BRIGHTEST
STAR YOU SEE,
YOU HEROES!
FOLLOW THE
HAMMER OF
THOR!

THE
LIGHTNING
OF THE SKY
SHALL BE OUR
GUIDE BE-
NEATH THE
EARTH!



FOR NINE DAYS AND NIGHTS, THE
TROOP RODE SLOWLY DOWN THE
SLOPING PATH...

...CAMPING WHEN THEY
DEEMED IT TIME, AND
RISING WHEN THEY
WERE READY...



...UNTIL AT LAST...

THOR!

I SEE IT,
BALDER!
GJALLER-
BRU!



THE BRIDGE
ACROSS THE RIVER
GJOLL THAT MARKS
THE BOUNDARY
OF HEL
ITSELF.



AND THERE BEFORE THE BRIDGE IS ITS GUARDIAN, MODGLUD, WHOSE SILENCE IS THAT OF THE GRAVE MOUND!

HAIL, MODGLUD. THE SON OF ODIN AND HIS COMPANIONS GREET THEE.



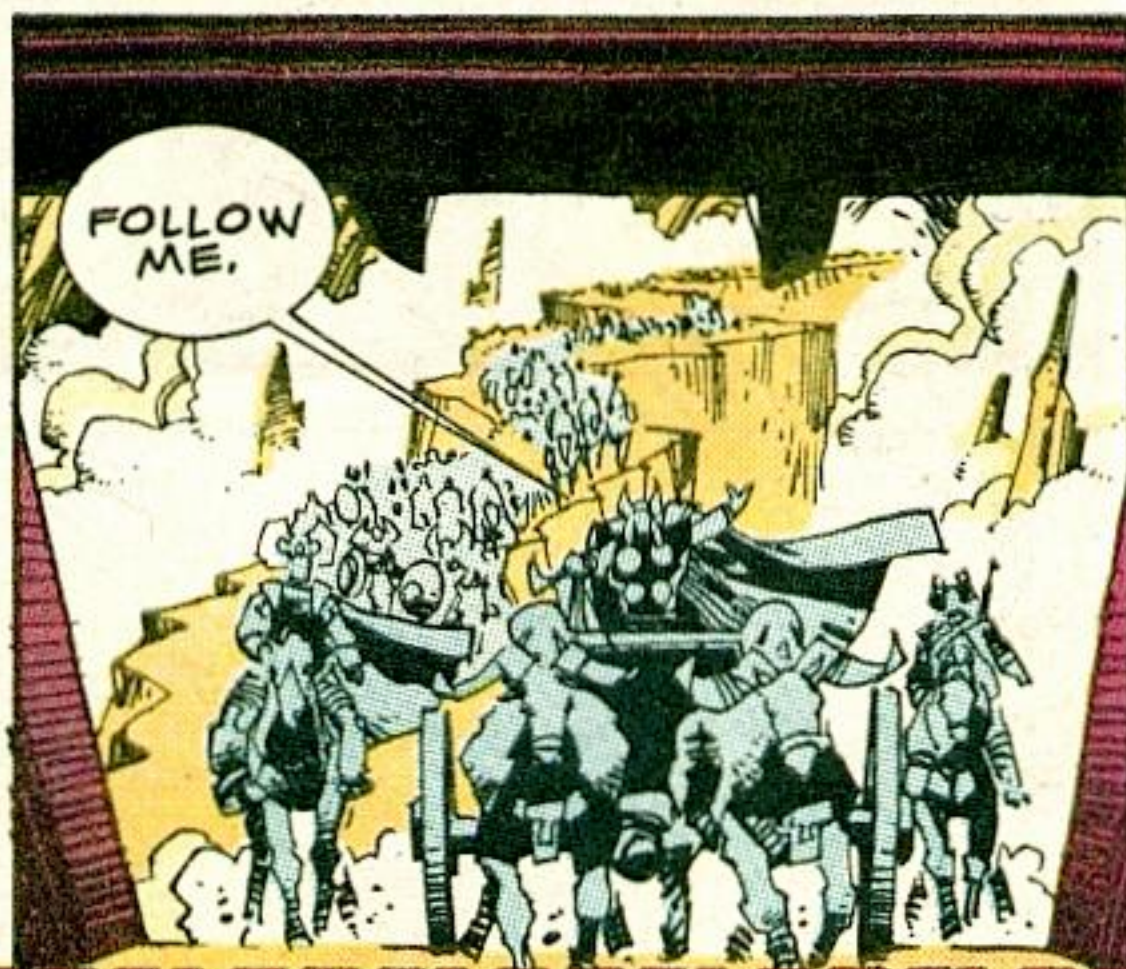
SHE SPEAKS NOT A WORD...

...BUT GESTURES TOWARD THE BRIDGE.

THE WAY IS MADE OPEN TO US.



FOLLOW ME.



CLOP CLOP CLOP CLOP CLOP

I HAVE PASSED THE WORD TO THE EINHERJAR TO KEEP THEIR WEAPONS AT THE READY...

...FOR WE ARE NEARLY THERE AND HELA DOUBTLESS AWAITS US.

I SEE THE LIGHT BEYOND THE BRIDGE...

...BUT I DO NOT RECOGNIZE THE COUNTRY!!

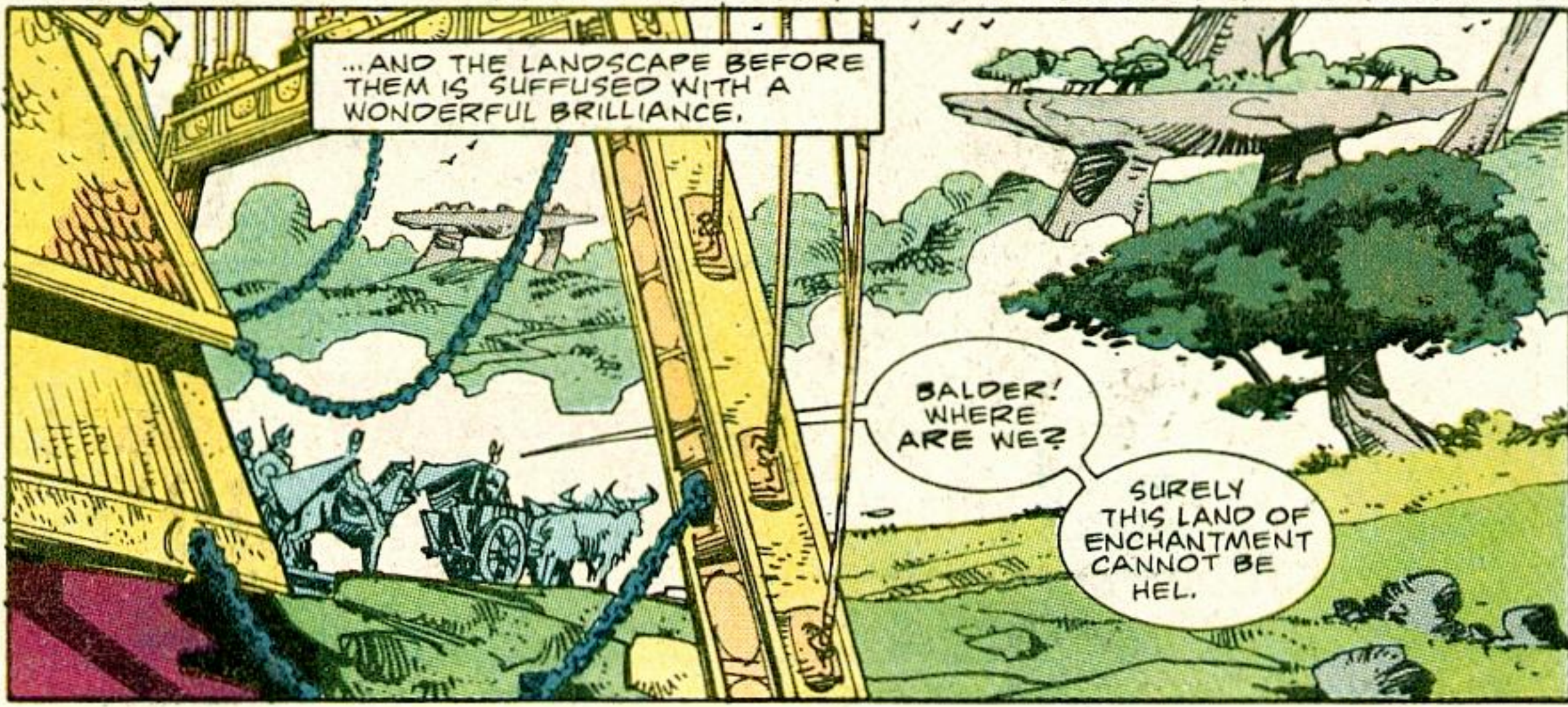


THE SWEET MELODIES OF SONG BIRDS FILL THE AIR, THE SWEET BREEZES CARESS THE CHEEKS...

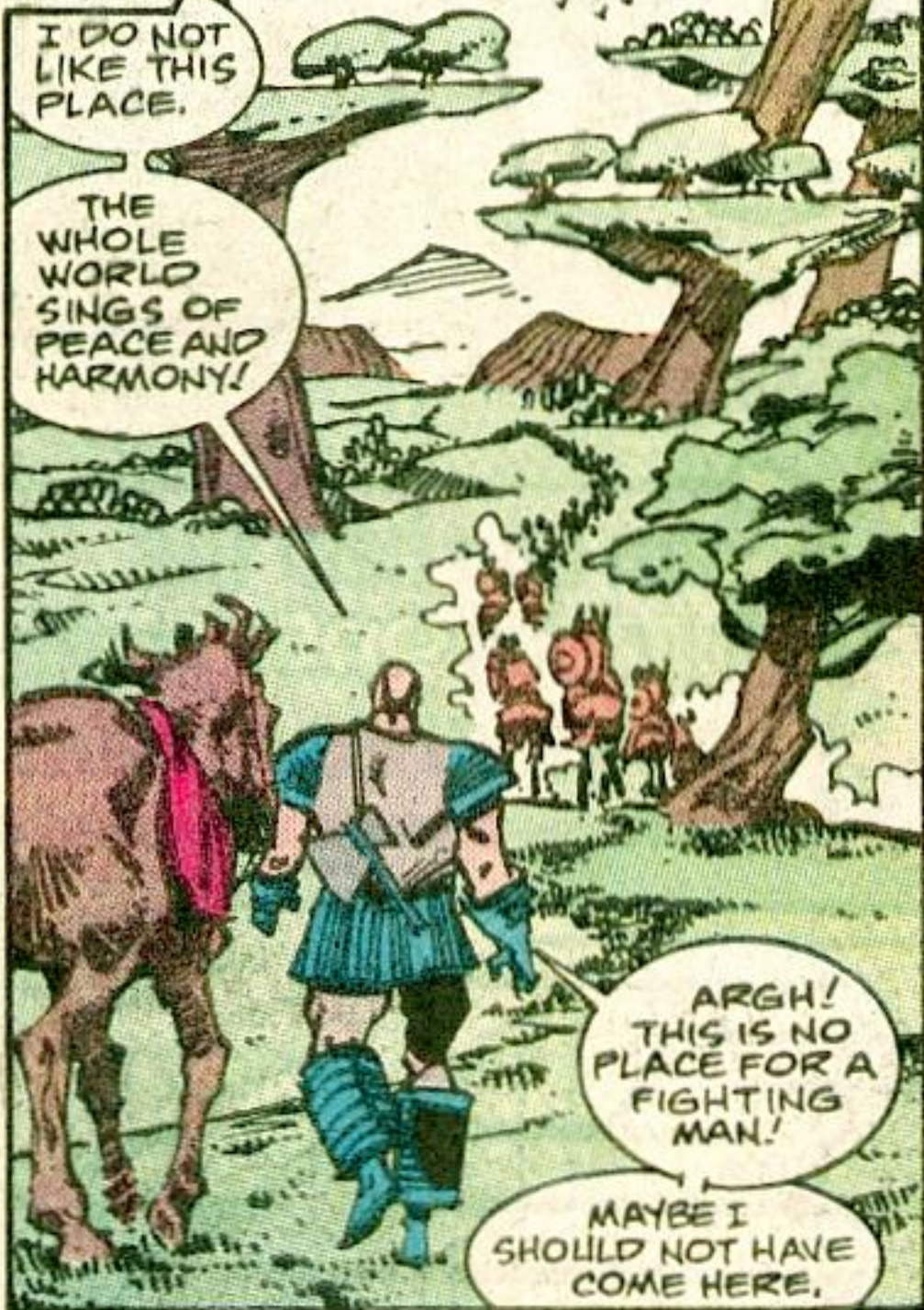
...AND THE LANDSCAPE BEFORE THEM IS SUFFUSED WITH A WONDERFUL BRILLIANCE.

BALDER! WHERE ARE WE?

SURELY THIS LAND OF ENCHANTMENT CANNOT BE HEL.



BUT EVEN AS THE COMPANY ADVANCES FURTHER INTO THE RADIANT VISION BEFORE THEM...



I DO NOT LIKE THIS PLACE.

THE WHOLE WORLD SINGS OF PEACE AND HARMONY!

ARGH! THIS IS NO PLACE FOR A FIGHTING MAN!

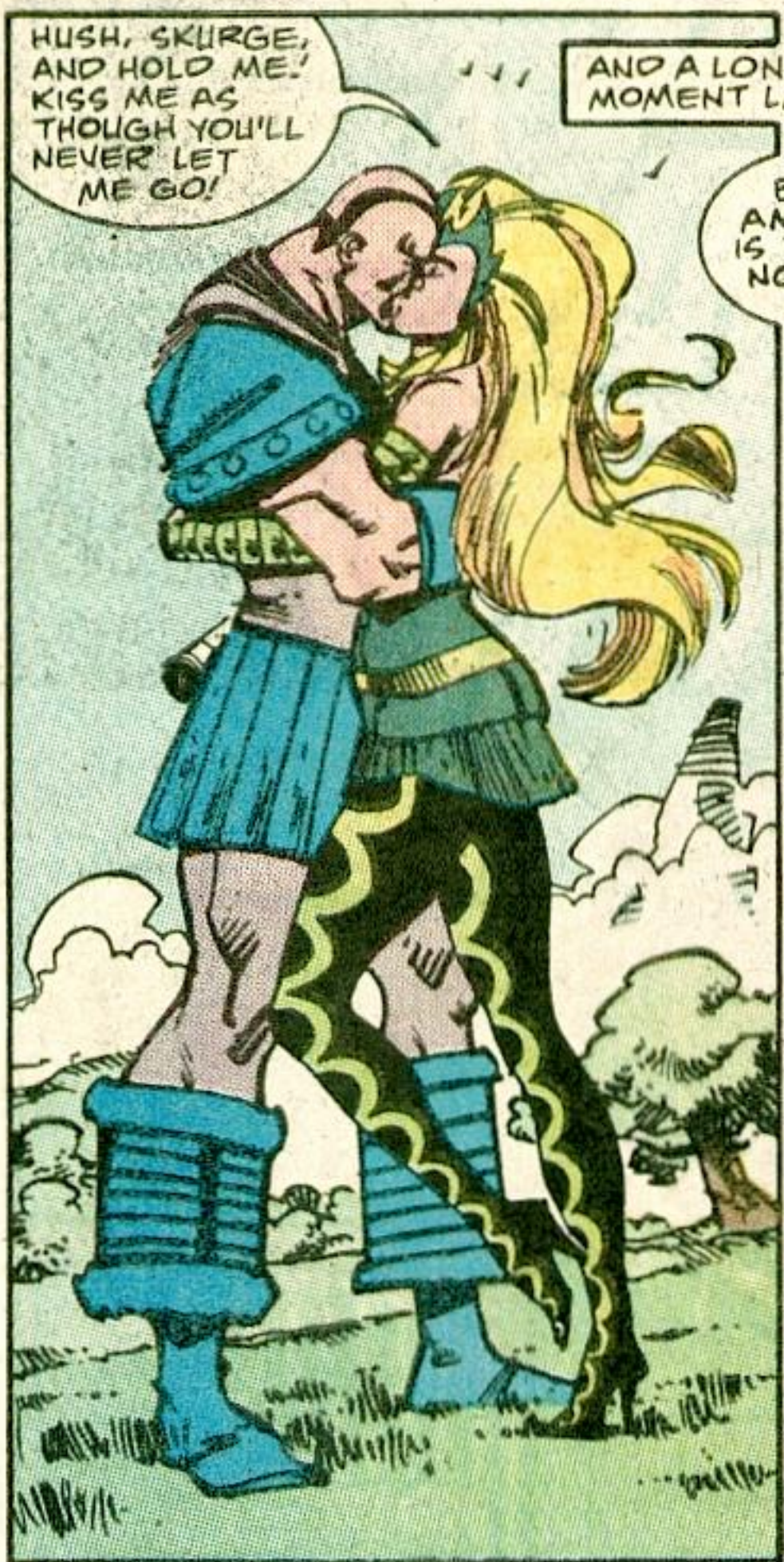
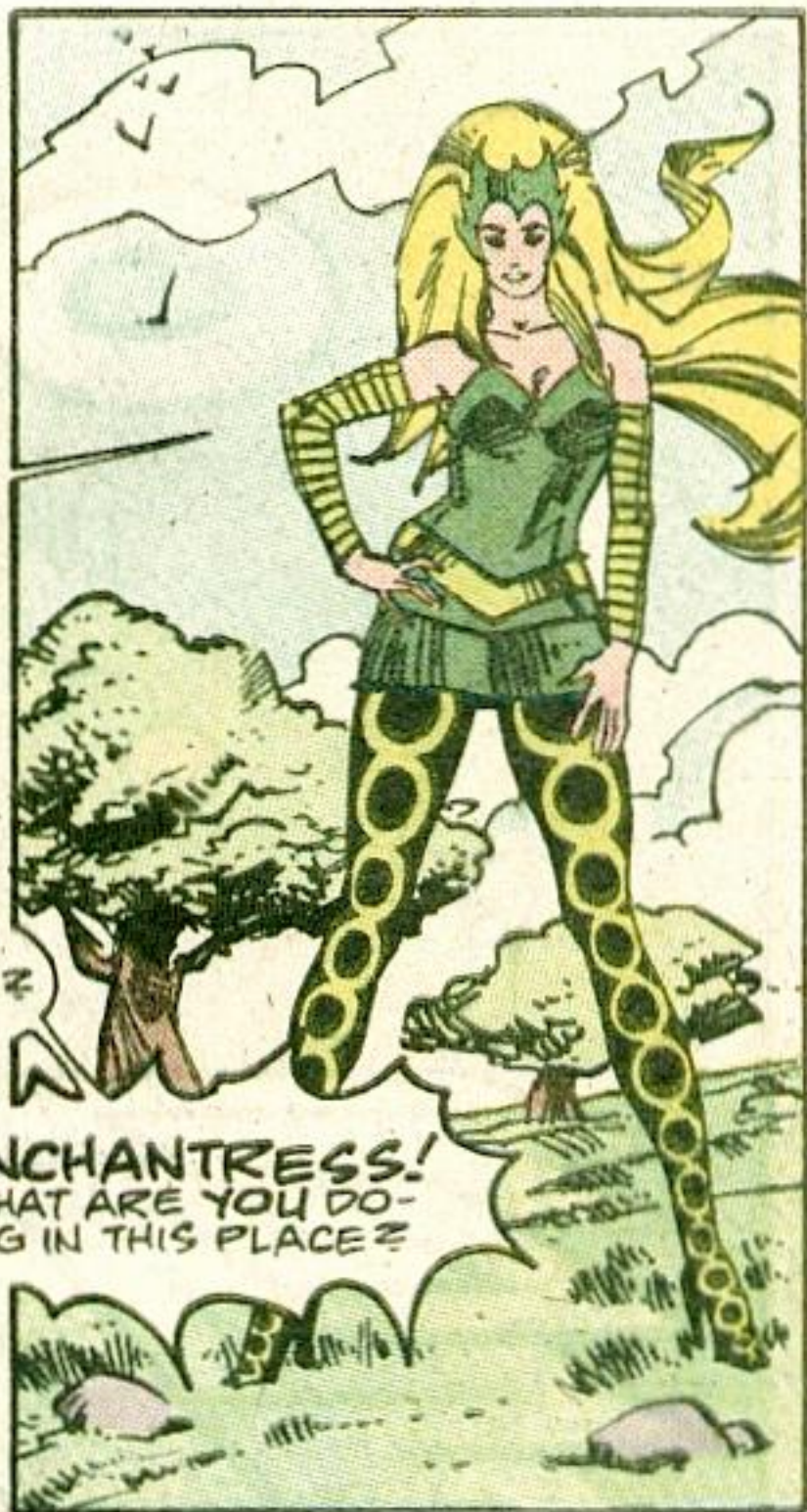
MAYBE I SHOULD NOT HAVE COME HERE.



BUT THEN, SKURGE, YOU WOULD NOT HAVE FOUND ME AGAIN.

HUH?

ENCHANTRESS! WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN THIS PLACE?



HUSH, SKURGE, AND HOLD ME! KISS ME AS THOUGH YOU'LL NEVER LET ME GO!

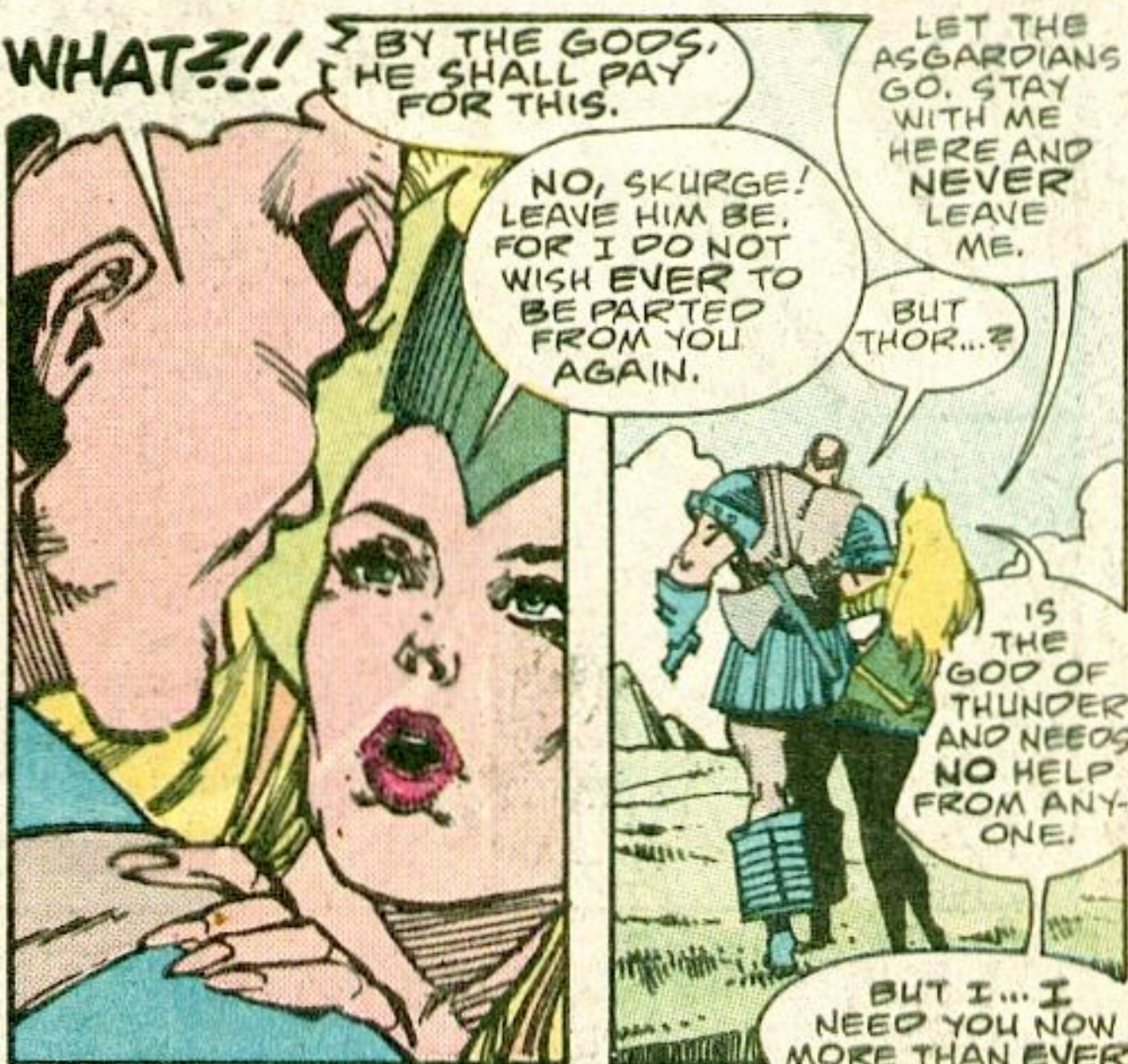
AND A LONG MOMENT LATER...

BUT AMORA! IS THIS NOT...?



YES, SKURGE, IT IS THE LAND OF THE DEAD, AND I BELONG HERE NOW.

FOR JEALOUS HEIMDALL SLEW ME WHEN HE FOUND THAT I WOULD REMAIN TRUE TO YOU.



WHAT?!! BY THE GODS, HE SHALL PAY FOR THIS.

NO, SKURGE! LEAVE HIM BE, FOR I DO NOT WISH EVER TO BE PARTED FROM YOU AGAIN.

LET THE ASGARDIANS GO. STAY WITH ME HERE AND NEVER LEAVE ME.

BUT THOR...?

IS THE GOD OF THUNDER AND NEEDS NO HELP FROM ANYONE.

BUT I... I NEED YOU NOW MORE THAN EVER.

MEANWHILE, UP AHEAD AS THE EINHERJAR RIDE DEEPER AND DEEPER INTO THE WONDROUS LAND...

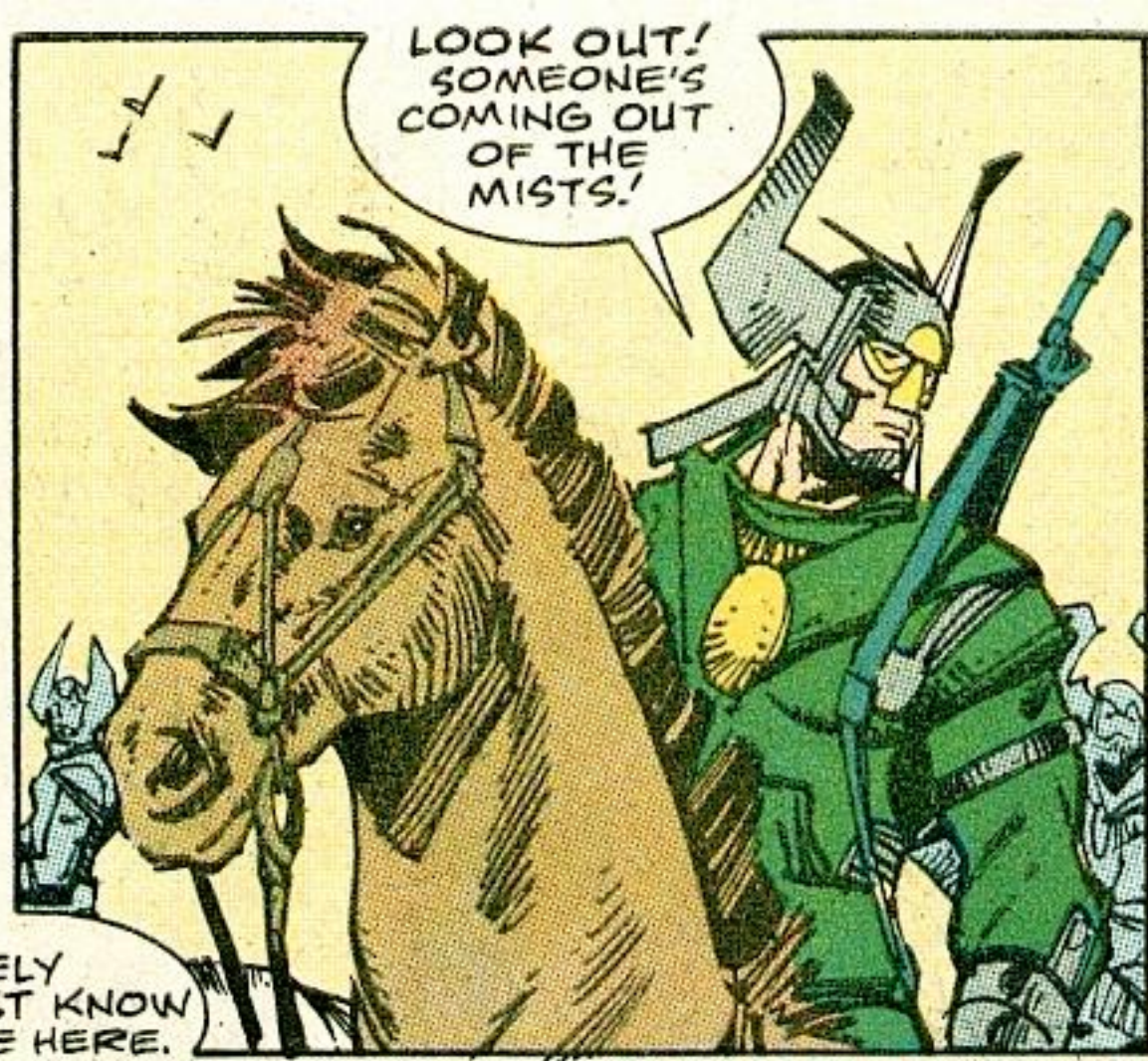


I AM BAFLED, THOR,

THIS DOES NOT LOOK AT ALL LIKE THE PLACE WHERE I FOUND HELA AND THE WARRIORS OF DEATH*

*LAST ISSUE

SURELY SHE MUST KNOW WE ARE HERE.



LOOK OUT! SOMEONE'S COMING OUT OF THE MISTS!



I CAN'T QUITE SEE THEM CLEARLY!

READY YOUR WEAPONS!

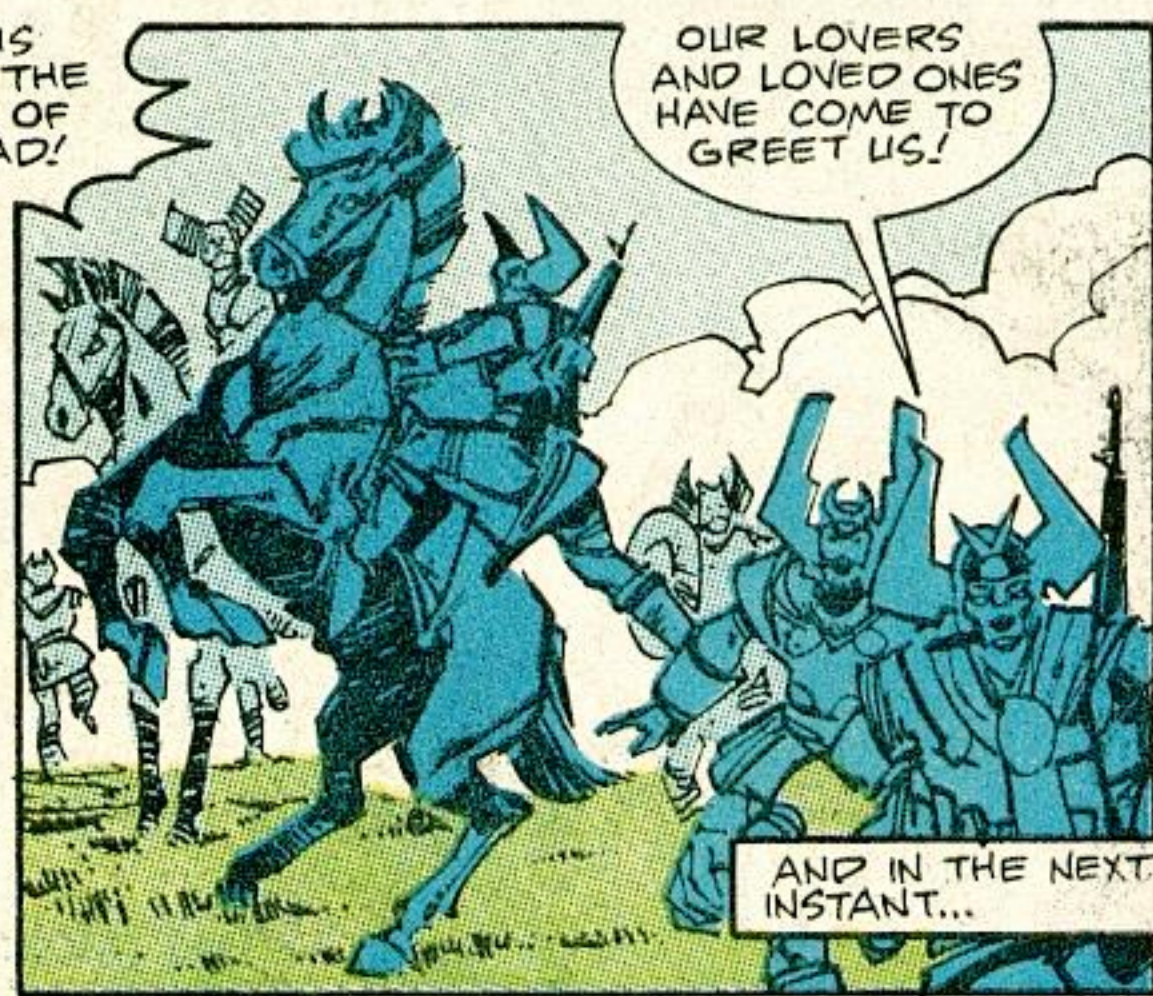
WAIT! HOLD YOUR FIRE!



IT'S MY SON WHO DIED IN THE BURNING OF NJAL!

AND THERE'S MY WIFE!

THIS IS TRULY THE REALM OF THE DEAD!



OUR LOVERS AND LOVED ONES HAVE COME TO GREET US!

AND IN THE NEXT INSTANT...

...FAMILIES LONG SUNDERED BY DEATH ARE JOINED TOGETHER AMID GREAT REJOICING FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE THEIR PARTING.



ELSEWHERE, IN ASGARD, IN THE CITY OF THE GODS...



THE RE-BUILDING OF THE GOLDEN REALM CONTINUES APACE, FRIGGA.

SOME-DAY, THE DESTRUCTION WROUGHT BY SURTUR WILL BE ONLY A MEMORY, SIF.

HOW CAN YOU OF ALL PEOPLE SAY THAT TIME WILL HEAL OUR WOUNDS, YOU WHO HAVE LOST ODIN?

HIS LOSS, SIF, WAS WORTH THE PRICE.

FOR THE NINE WORLDS STILL ENDURE AND THAT WAS EVER ODIN'S FIRST CONCERN.



WHEN THOR RETURNS, WE WILL HOLD THE ALTHING AND A NEW RULER WILL BE CHOSEN IN ASGARD.

THE ORDER WILL CONTINUE.



I HAVE ONLY MEMORIES TO CONSOLE ME AND THE NIGHTS WILL BE LONG.

YET I WOULD NOT BELITTLE ODIN'S SACRIFICE BY WISHING HIM BACK.



I WAS HIS WIFE, NOW I AM HIS WIDOW, I AM CONTENT.

SHOULD I BE BITTER?

FORGIVE MY RASH WORDS, FRIGGA.

WE ARE A PROUD RACE AND THOR AND I PERHAPS MOST OF ALL.

WHO WOULD HAVE THOUGHT THAT SUCH PRIDE COULD BE HUMBLD BY A SINGLE BLOW?



I RETURNED TO ASGARD, FRIGGA, FULL OF HOPE, FULL OF LIFE.

AND ALL SEEMS TURNED TO ASHES BEHIND ME.

I LONG TO BE GONE.

WHEN THE ALTHING IS DONE AND THE NEW RULER CROWNED, I SHALL LEAVE THE GOLDEN REALM AGAIN, PERHAPS FOREVER.

MEANWHILE, IN HEL...

OUR WARRIORS ARE DISPERSING WITH THEIR LONG LOST FAMILIES, THOR.

LOOK! THOUGH THE LANDSCAPE LIES CLEARLY BEFORE US, THE EINHERJAR ARE VANISHING AS IF THEY WERE WALKING INTO A MIST.

CALL THEM BACK UNTIL WE CAN DECIDE OUR BEST COURSE.

WE MUST FIND HELA.



DO YOU NOT THINK, DEAR BALDER, THAT HELA CAN WAIT?

AFTER ALL, IT WAS SHE WHO HAS PERMITTED US TO BE REUNITED WITH OUR LOVED ONES.

WHO--?

BALDER, MY BELOVED, HAVE YOU SO SOON FORGOTTEN ME? I AM SHE WHO GAVE HER LIFE FOR YOURS.



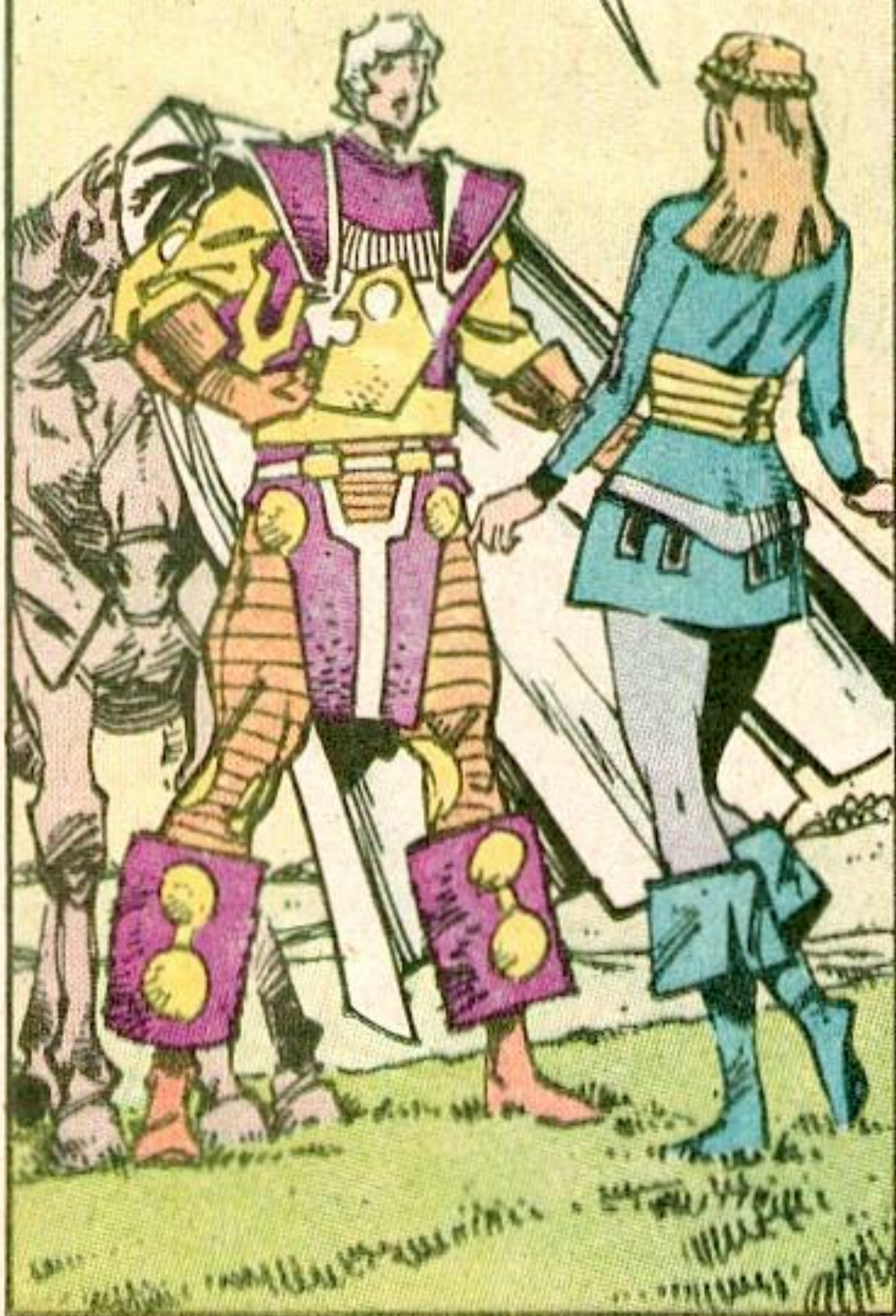
NANNA!!

TO SEE YOU AGAIN IS TO SEE THE SUN SHINING IN HEL AS IT HAS NOT DONE SINCE THE BEGINNING OF TIME.

TOUCH ME. AM I NOT REAL? HOW I HAVE AWAITED THIS MOMENT.

COME, WALK WITH ME A LITTLE.

I SHALL NOT KEEP THEE LONG FROM THY DUTY.

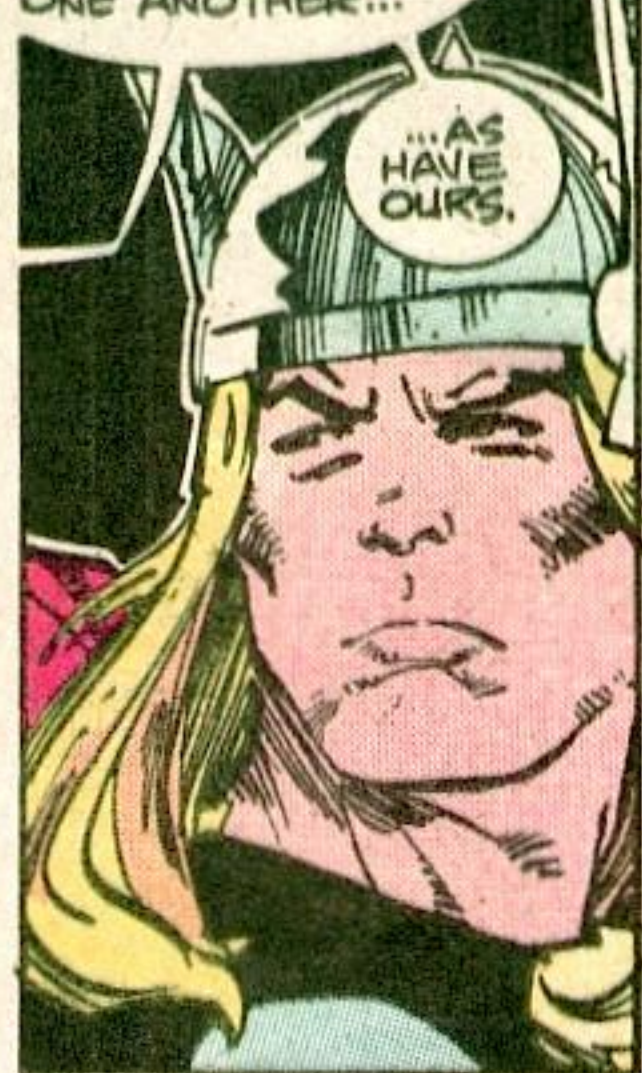
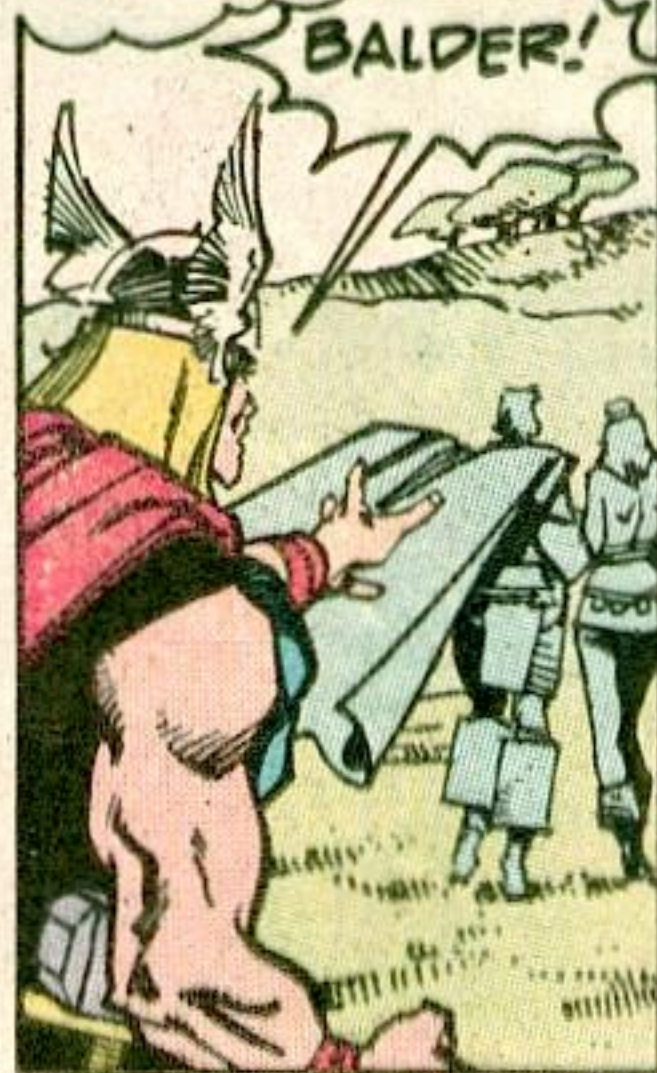


THEY, TOO, BEGIN TO VANISH INTO THE MIST.

BALDER!

LET THEM GO, MIGHTY THOR. FOR THEIR HEARTS HAVE MUCH TO SAY TO ONE ANOTHER...

...AS HAVE OURS.





SIF!! SURELY YOU ARE NOT---

NAY, THOR. I AM NOT DEAD.

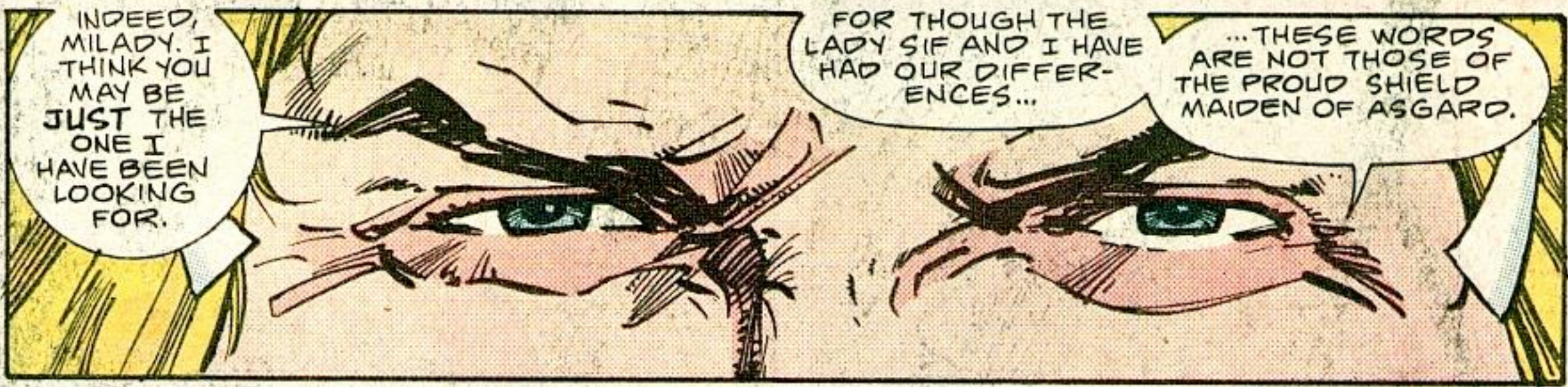
BUT I COULD NOT LET MATTERS REST BETWEEN US AS THEY WERE AND RODE AFTER YOU INTO THE LOWER DEPTHS.



I HAVE COME TO ASK YOUR FORGIVENESS FOR TREATING YOU SO BADLY...

...AND WHAT BETTER PLACE TO FIND YOU THAN IN THIS HAPPY LAND OF RECONCILIATION AND LOVE?

I AM READY TO DO THY EVERY BIDDING.



INDEED, MILADY. I THINK YOU MAY BE JUST THE ONE I HAVE BEEN LOOKING FOR.

FOR THOUGH THE LADY SIF AND I HAVE HAD OUR DIFFERENCES...

...THESE WORDS ARE NOT THOSE OF THE PROUD SHIELD MAIDEN OF ASGARD.



THOR?

SHE WOULD NEVER LOVE ME IN SUCH A FASHION...

SNAP!



...NOR WOULD I WISH HER TO.

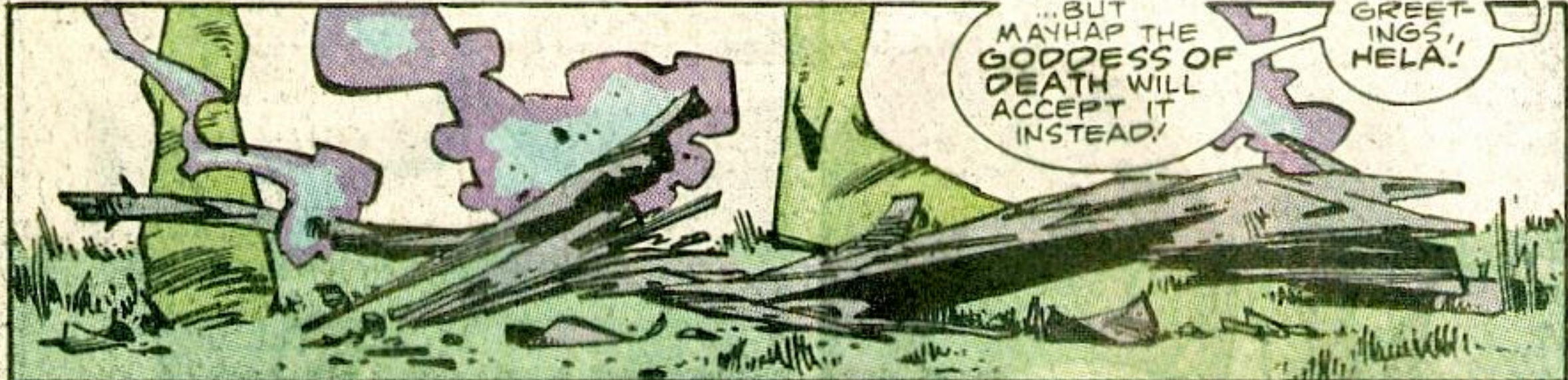
THOR! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!

MERELY TAKING A PRE-CAUTION, MY LADY!



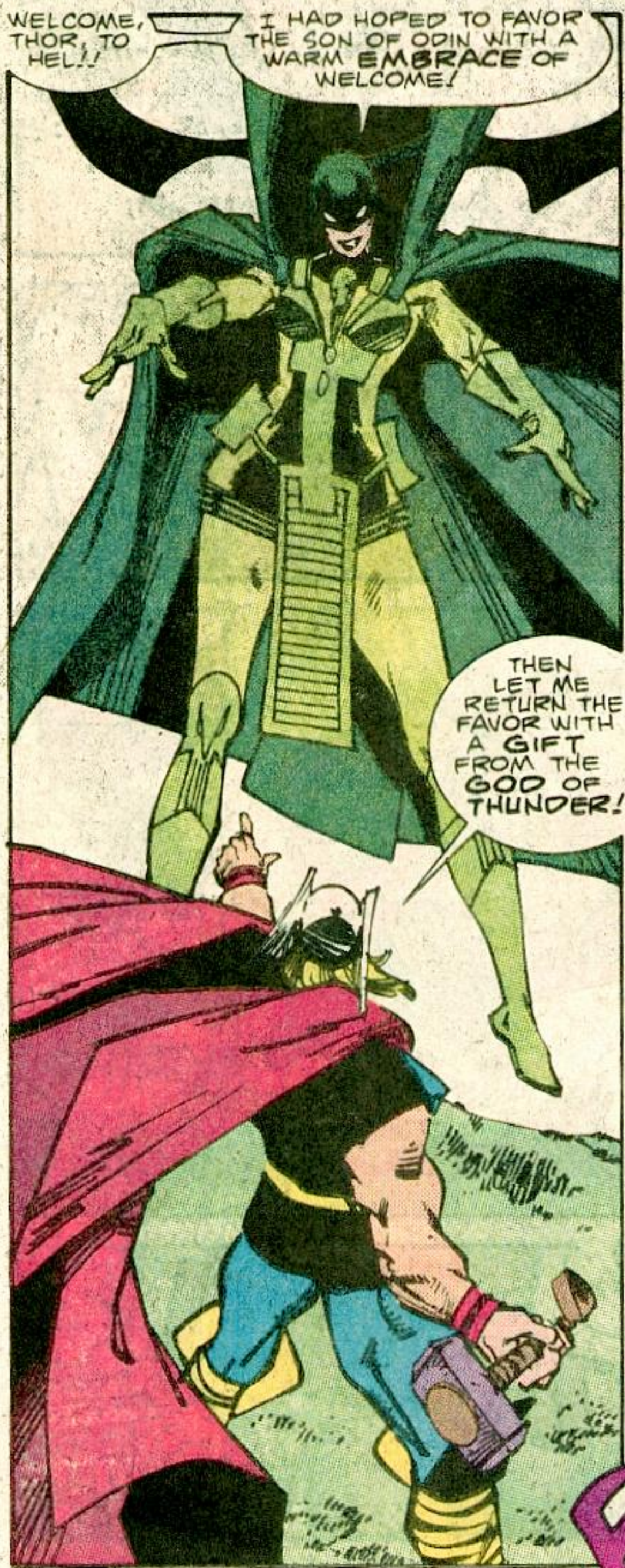
I THOUGHT TO MAKE AN OFFERING TO THE LADY OF THE HARVEST...

FZZZZZZT!



...BUT MAYHAP THE GODDESS OF DEATH WILL ACCEPT IT INSTEAD!

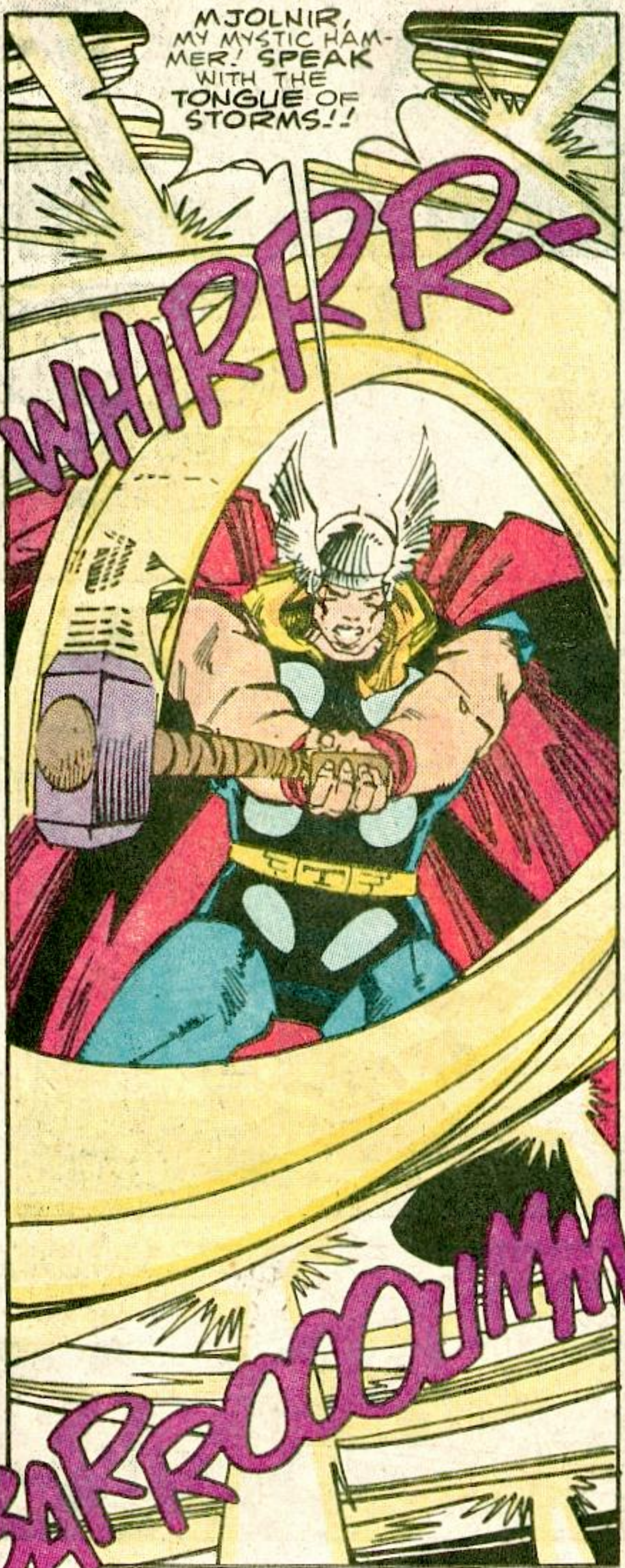
GREETINGS, HELA!



WELCOME, THOR, TO HEL!!

I HAD HOPED TO FAVOR THE SON OF ODIN WITH A WARM EMBRACE OF WELCOME!

THEN LET ME RETURN THE FAVOR WITH A GIFT FROM THE GOD OF THUNDER!

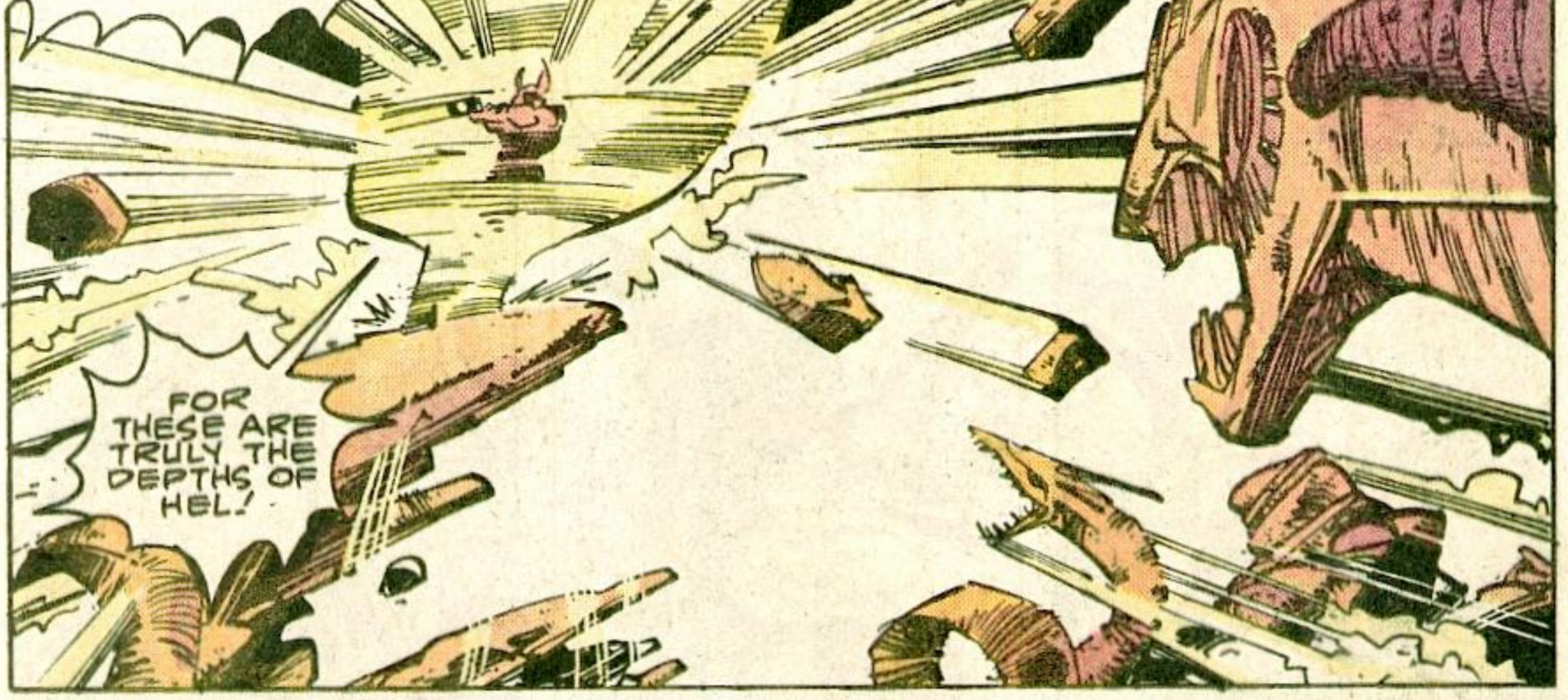


MJOLNIR, MY MYSTIC HAMMER! SPEAK WITH THE TONGUE OF STORMS!!

WHIRRRR-

BARROOUMM!

...AND REVEAL TO ALL THE FACE OF THE LAND THROUGH WHICH WE WALK!



FOR THESE ARE TRULY THE DEPTHS OF HEL!



BALDER, BEWARE! THE CLIFFS OF DEATH LIE AT THY VERY FEET!

ALREADY SOME OF OUR COMRADES HAVE FALLEN TO THEIR DOOM!

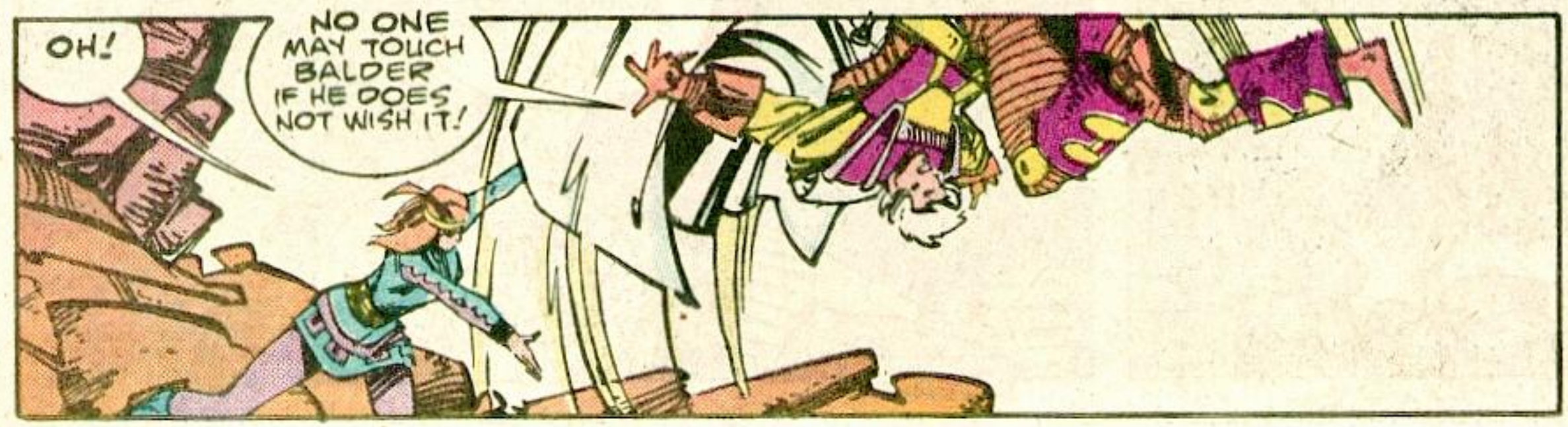


WHAT?

ONE MORE STEP, BALDER MY LOVE! JUST ONE MORE STEP AND YOU WILL JOIN ME FOREVER!



NANNA!!



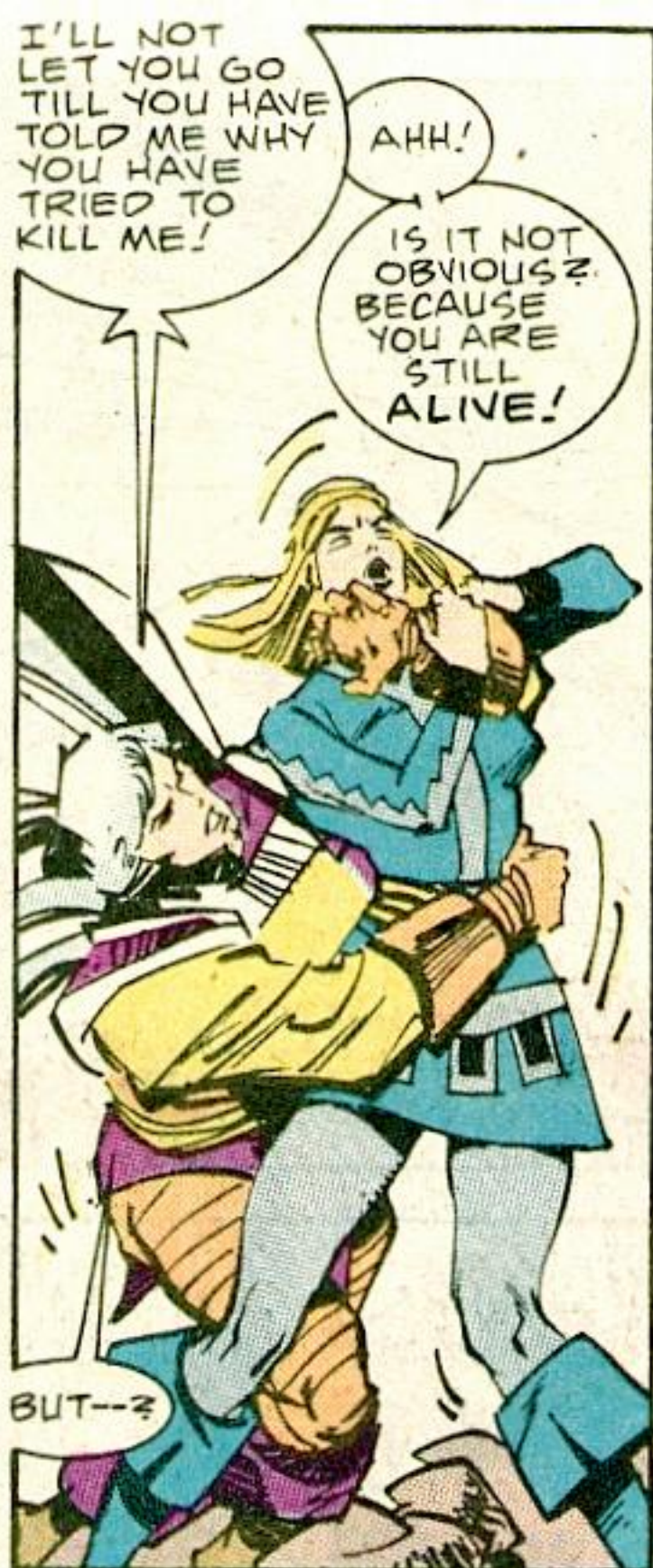
OH!

NO ONE MAY TOUCH BALDER IF HE DOES NOT WISH IT!



I HAVE FAILED!

NANNA!
WAIT!



I'LL NOT LET YOU GO TILL YOU HAVE TOLD ME WHY YOU HAVE TRIED TO KILL ME!

AHH!
IS IT NOT OBVIOUS?
BECAUSE YOU ARE STILL ALIVE!

BUT--?



I KILLED MYSELF BECAUSE I WAS TIRED OF LIVING, BALDER!

I NEVER LOVED YOU!

NOW, I AM DEAD AND I HAVE TRIED MY BEST TO MAKE YOU THE SAME!



ENOUGH, NANNA.

THE SECRETS OF HEL BELONG TO THE DEAD, NOT THE LIVING!



WE DO NOT WISH TO KNOW YOUR SECRETS, HELA, FOR EVERYMAN LEARNS THEM IN TIME.

WE HAVE COME FOR THE MORTAL SOULS YOU STOLE FROM MIDGARD*...

...THE SOULS OF MEN AND WOMEN WHO DO NOT DESERVE THE FATE YOU HAVE CHOSEN FOR THEM.

BY CHALLENGE. IN THE PAST, YOU HAVE SOUGHT TO ENSNARE THE SOUL OF THOR.

WRESTLE ME FOR THE SOULS OF THE MORTALS. IF I WIN, THEY GO WITH US TO THE LAND OF THE LIVING.

*EARTH



AND HOW DO YOU PROPOSE TO TAKE THEM?

AND IF YOU LOSE, YOUR SOUL WILL BE MINE FOREVER. A FAIR WAGER, MIGHTY THOR.

BUT WHY SHOULD I AGREE TO FIGHT WHEN YOU ALREADY STAND WITHIN MY KINGDOM WHERE THE POWER IS MINE?



I ACCEPT, LET US WRESTLE, THOR, IF ONLY TO SHOW YOU WHAT YOU HAVE APPARENTLY FORGOTTEN.

VANITY, THERE IS NOT ONE WARRIOR IN HEL I CANNOT DEFEAT.

ONLY HELA HERSELF MIGHT WITHSTAND THE STRENGTH OF THOR.

AND IF YOU DO NOT TEST ME, YOU SHALL NEVER KNOW.



HOW WILL YOU GRAPPLE WITH ONE WHOSE VERY TOUCH MEANS AGING AND DEATH?

I HAVE NOT COME UNPREPARED, DEATH, FOR IN MY CHARIOT, I HAVE BROUGHT THE IRON GAUNTLETS OF THOR.

AND MY CAPE SHALL PROTECT MY FACE.

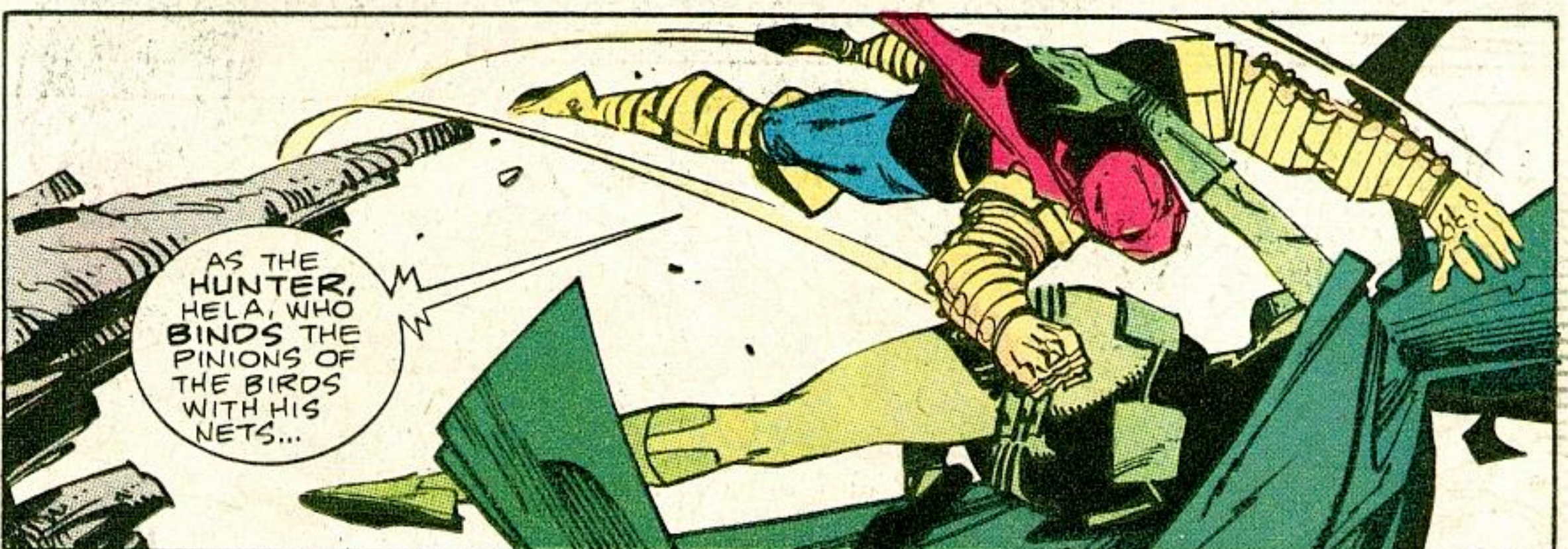


INGENIOUS, AND WILL YOU ALSO GROW WINGS AND FLY FOR HELA IS NO EARTHBOUND GODDESS.

AND THOUGH YOU MAY BE THE GOD OF STORMY SKIES, YOU ARE AS EARTHBOUND AS A--!



AS THE HUNTER, HELA, WHO BINDS THE PINIONS OF THE BIRDS WITH HIS NETS...





...AND BRINGS THEM TO EARTH!

KERAASHH!

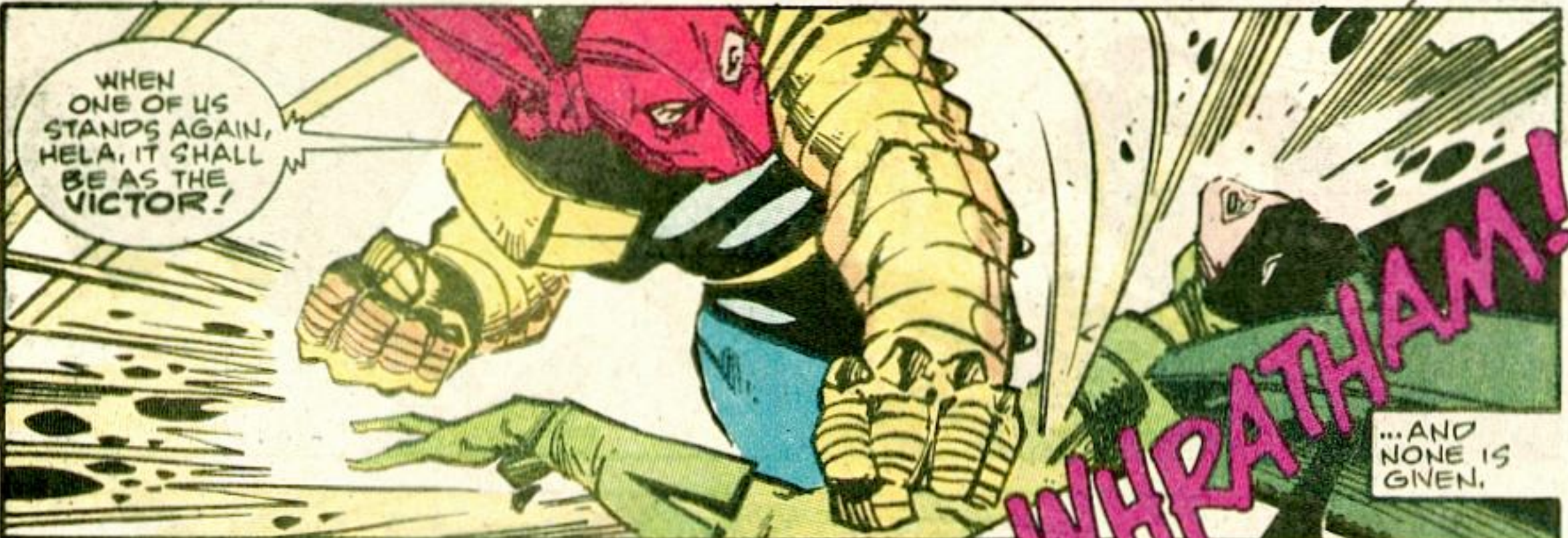


AND IN THE DEPTHS OF HEL...



...NO QUARTER IS ASKED...

SCHRAKK!



WHEN ONE OF US STANDS AGAIN, HELA, IT SHALL BE AS THE VICTOR!

WHRATHAM!

...AND NONE IS GIVEN.



BALDER, LOOK! THE DEAD! THEY'RE VANISHING INTO THE MIST.

HELA NO LONGER HAS ANY NEED FOR THEM, HAROKIN.

GATHER THE EINHERJAR TOGETHER AND STAND READY.

WILL HELA HONOR HER BARGAIN IF SHE LOSES?

PROBABLY. BUT DEATH HAS EVER HELD HER BARGAINS TO THE LETTER AND BROKEN THEIR SPIRIT.

WE MUST BE READY FOR ANYTHING.

BUT AS THE THUNDER IN THE UNDERWORLD CONTINUES UNABATED...

... IN ASGARD AT THE EDGE OF THE GOLDEN CITY WE FIND...

HEY, HILDY! HOW COME YOU AREN'T PLAYING?

I DON'T FEEL LIKE IT. I'M WAITING FOR DAD TO COME HOME.

HE OUGHT TO BE HERE ANY MINUTE, MOM SAID.

CAN'T FOOL ME. YOU'RE WAITING FOR HOGUN. HILDY'S GOT A CRUSH ON HOGUN THE GRIM!

YOU TAKE THAT BACK, ROLFE!

HILDY'S GOT A BOYFRIEND!
HILDY'S GOT A BOYFRIEND!
HILDY'S GOT A

POW!!

HEY, LOOK! IT'S FATHER! AND HE'S BRINGING HOME COMPANY!

DOES HE HAVE ANY PRESENTS FOR US?

HALLOO, THE HOUSE! WHERE ARE THE STALWART GUARDIANS OF ASGARD WHO PROTECTED THE REALM ETERNAL IN OUR ABSENCE?

WHERE ARE THE CHILDREN OF VOL-STAGG THE ENORMOUS?

FATHER!

DADDY!



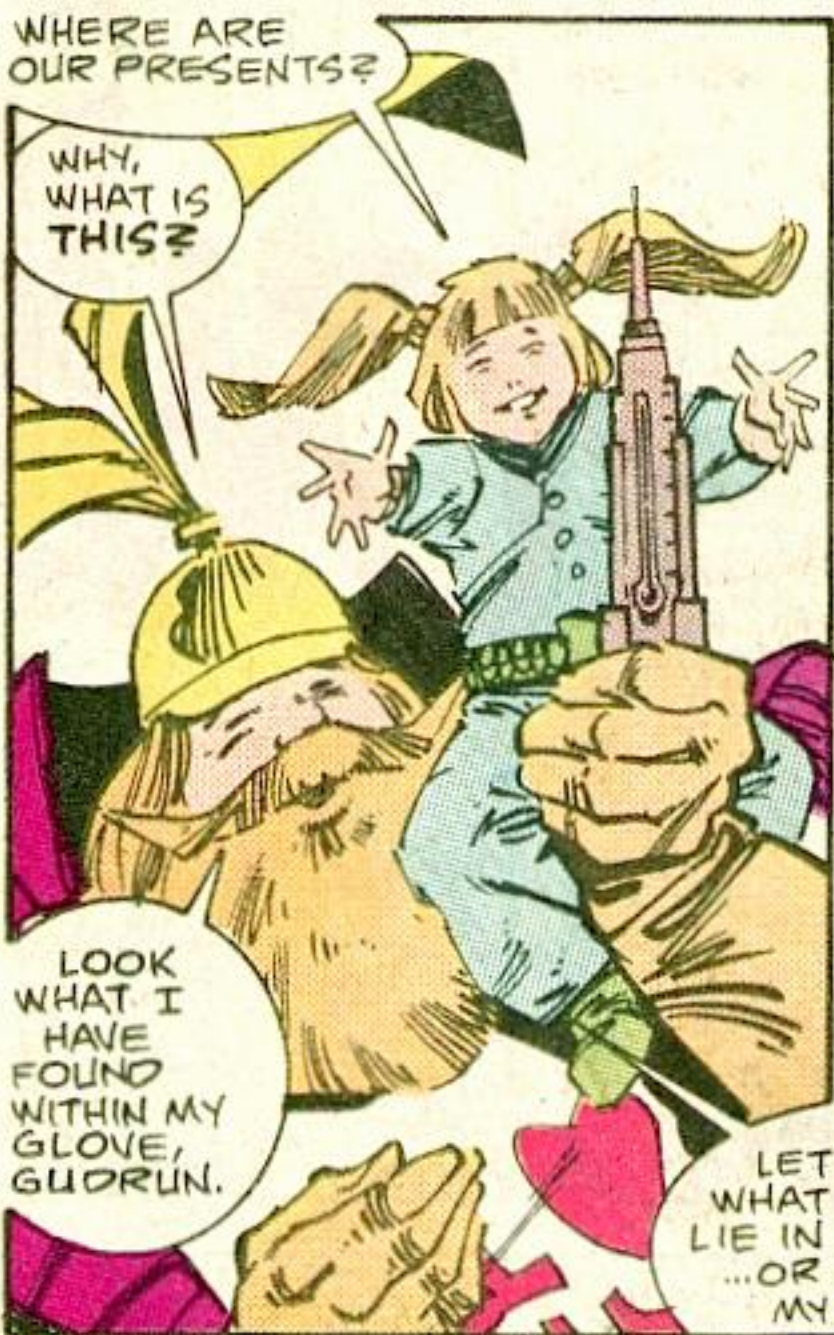
COME, LITTLE ONES!

GATHER 'ROUND THAT I MAY SEE THY SMILING FACES ONCE AGAIN!

TOO LONG HAVE WE TARRIED ON MIDGARD.

WELL MET, MY POP-PETS!

HI, FANDRAL!



WHERE ARE OUR PRESENTS?

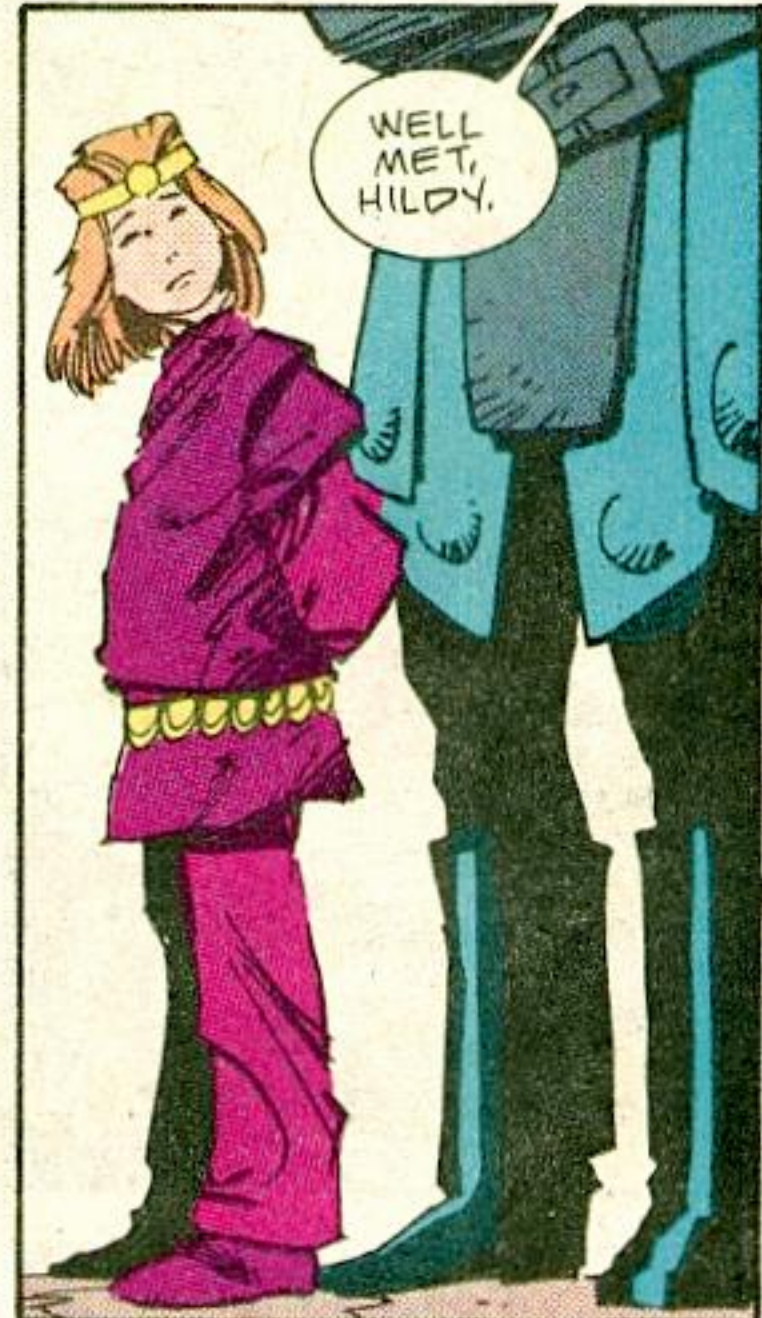
WHY, WHAT IS THIS?

LOOK WHAT I HAVE FOUND WITHIN MY GLOVE, GUORUN.

LET US SEE WHAT ELSE MAY LIE IN MY GLOVES ...OR BENEATH MY TUNIC!



FLOSI! NO TICKLING NOW!

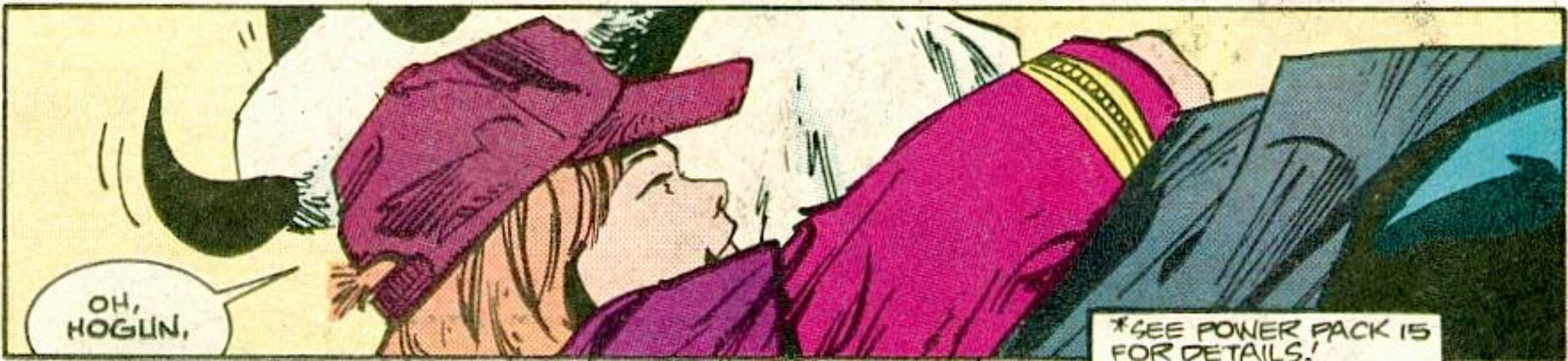


WELL MET, HILDY.



I HAVE BROUGHT YOU A PRESENT FROM A CHILD OF MIDGARD.

IT WILL SUIT YOU, I THINK.



OH, HOGUN,

*SEE POWER PACK 15 FOR DETAILS!

MEANWHILE, IN HEL...



AT LAST I AM FREE OF THOR'S GRIP OF IRON!

IF SHE ATTAINS THE AIR AGAIN, I AM LOST!



THUS, SHE SHALL NOT GAIN IT!



THRAANN!



YOU WERE RIGHT, THOR. THERE IS NO WARRIOR IN ALL OF HEL WHO COULD BEST YOU!

NEVER HAS DEATH BEEN SO NEAR DEFEAT!

BUT HELA IS NO ORDINARY WARRIOR...



... AND MINE ARE NOT A WARRIOR'S WEAPONS!

YOU FORCE ME TO DO WHAT EVEN I CANNOT UNDO!

RAISE YOUR EYES, THOR...



... AND SEE THE HAND OF GLORY!

SLASHSSHHH!

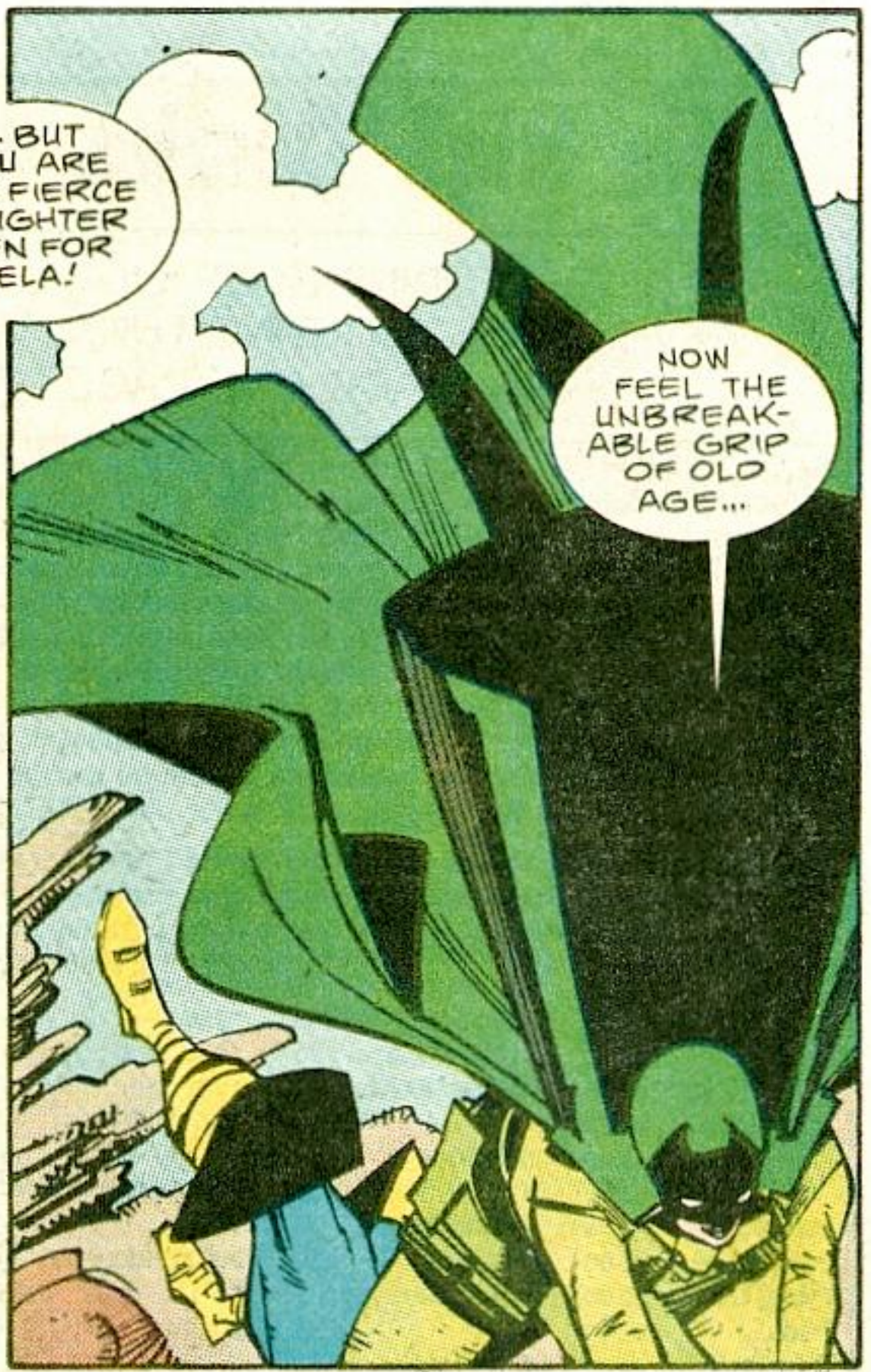
GAGGGH!

I HAD HOPED TO WIN YOU UNMARRIED, THOR...

MY FACE!!

... BUT YOU ARE TOO FIERCE A FIGHTER EVEN FOR HELA!

NOW FEEL THE UNBREAKABLE GRIP OF OLD AGE...



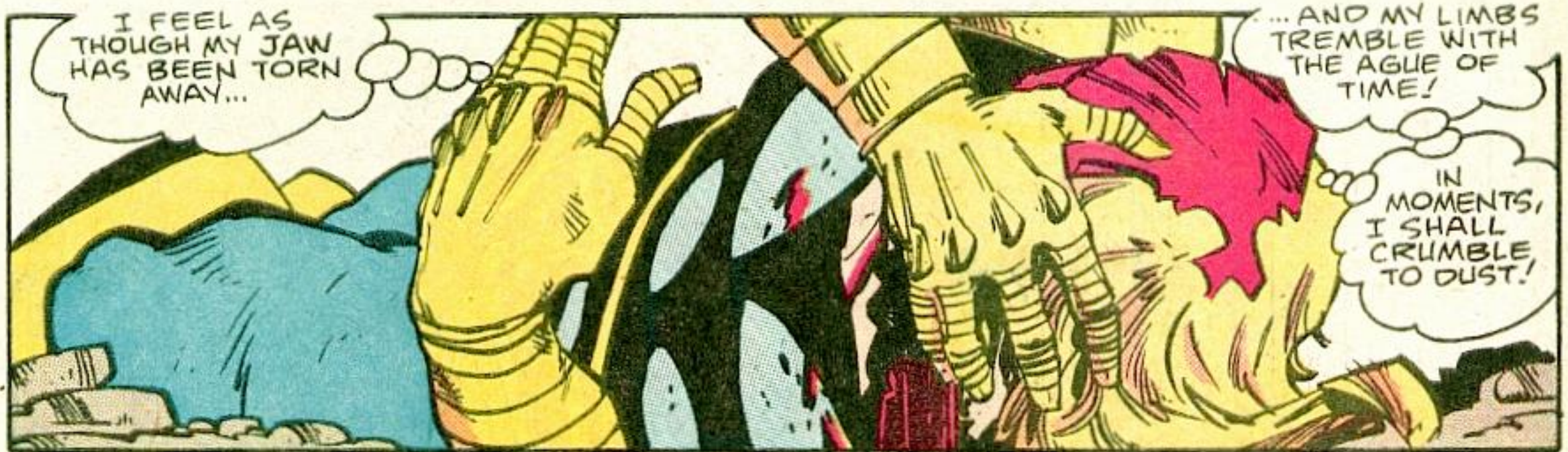
...AND DESPAIR!

FSSSSSSSTH!!



AS YOU SAID, THOR, THE NEXT ONE WHO STOOD WOULD BE THE VICTOR.

MY FACE! THE AGONY IS BEYOND BELIEF!



I FEEL AS THOUGH MY JAW HAS BEEN TORN AWAY...

...AND MY LIMBS TREMBLE WITH THE AGUE OF TIME!

IN MOMENTS, I SHALL CRUMBLE TO DUST!



I AM PLEASED, THOR. NO WHIMPERING FOR MERCY, NO BEGGING FOR PITY.

I MAY NOT HAVE THE FATHER, BUT THE SON IS MINE!



KISS THE HEM OF MY CAPE, THOR...

...AND I MAY GRANT YOU THE PRIVILEGE OF BEING MY SERVANT...

...THE SLAVE OF MY EVERY WHIM, BODY AND SOUL.



NEVER!

FOR I HAVE BEEN THE SLAVE OF ANOTHER AND HURT THE ONE I LOVE BITTERLY!

IN THE NAME OF MY FATHER, NEVER AGAIN SHALL THOR BE SLAVE TO ANY CREATURE!

SOONER WOULD I DIE A THOUSAND DEATHS!



ARRGHH!

YOU WRETCH!

MY CLOAK! GIVE ME BACK MY CLOAK!

HELA! HER...HER FORM IS SHIFTING!

HALF HER BODY IS DYING! IT IS DEAD ALREADY!





WELL SAID. ALREADY, I FEEL MY YOUTH RETURNING.

HAVE YOUR SERVANTS PREPARE THE MORTAL SOULS FOR THEIR DEPARTURE FROM THIS DESOLATE REALM.

BALDER, SEE TO IT.

AT ONCE, THOR.



BUT THOUGH WE HAVE SAVED THE MORTALS, I AM HEART-SICK.

I HAVE NOT FOUND MY FATHER.

THOR?

HIS FACE!! HELA HAS DESTROYED IT!

WHAT DO YOU WANT, NANNA? YOU HAVE BETRAYED THE GOD WHO ONCE LOVED YOU.



WE... WE ARE ALL HELA'S SLAVES, THOR, AND MUST DO HER BIDDING.

I WOULD NOT HAVE SHOWN MYSELF TO BALDER HAD SHE NOT COMMANDED IT.

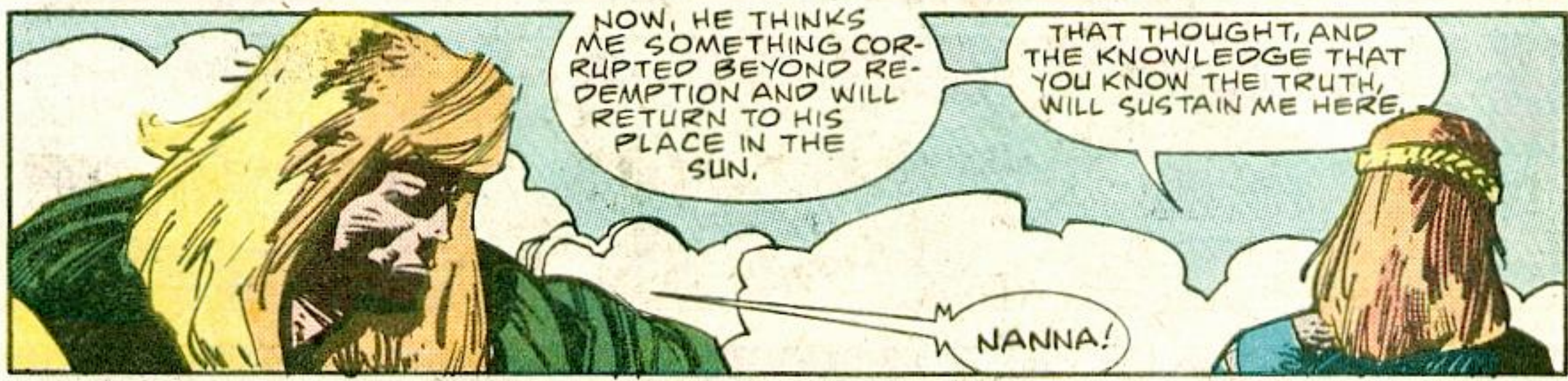
FOR WELL I KNOW THAT IF HE THOUGHT I STILL LOVED HIM...



...HE WOULD NOT LEAVE ME HERE BUT DIE THE REAL DEATH TO REMAIN BESIDE ME.

I COULD NOT FORGIVE MYSELF WERE I TO ROB THE WORLD OF HIS LIGHT.

AND I CANNOT LEAVE HERE.



NOW, HE THINKS ME SOMETHING CORRUPTED BEYOND REDEMPTION AND WILL RETURN TO HIS PLACE IN THE SUN.

THAT THOUGHT, AND THE KNOWLEDGE THAT YOU KNOW THE TRUTH, WILL SUSTAIN ME HERE.

NANNA!



LEAVE ME, THOR, WHILE I AM STILL RESOLVED. BUT PROMISE ME NEVER TO TELL ANOTHER WHAT I HAVE TOLD YOU.

PROMISE.

YOU HAVE MY WORD.

SO THIS IS HOW IT ENDS.

SIF, IF WE LIVE TO SEE AGAIN THE WALLS OF ASGARD, I WILL BEG THY FORGIVENESS...



FOR IN MY PRIDE, I WOULD HAVE TAKEN IT ONLY ON MY OWN TERMS.

BUT NOW, WHETHER YOU WILL FORGIVE ME OR NOT...

... I WILL WALK WITH A LIGHTER HEART KNOWING THAT A LOVE LIKE THIS CAN EXIST BEYOND DEATH.

PERHAPS IN TIME, I, TOO, MIGHT BE WORTHY OF SUCH A PERFECT LOVE.

THOR, DID YOU HEAR ME?

WE ARE READY TO DEPART.

BY THE EYE OF ODIN!! THOR'S FACE!!

WHAT... OF YOUR WOUNDS?

THEY ARE AS NOTHING COMPARED TO THOSE THAT OTHERS MUST BEAR.

I WILL BIND THEM IN THE REMNANTS OF MY CAPE FOR NOW.

LEAD ON, BRAVE BALDER.

LET THE BARGAIN BE COMPLETE.

THE CLOAK IS HELA'S ONCE MORE.

AND THIS VICTORY IS THINE, THOR.

BUT THINK NOT TO TELL THE TALE OF YOUR TRIUMPH IN THE MEAD HALLS OF THE GOLDEN REALM...

... FOR THE ROAD FROM HEL IS MORE DANGEROUS THAN YOU COULD KNOW...

... AND IN THE END...

... HELA SHALL HOLD EVERYTHING IN HER HANDS!

NEXT:

DAY OF WRATH!

IN WHICH SOME OF THOSE WHO RODE TO HEL DO NOT RIDE OUT AGAIN!