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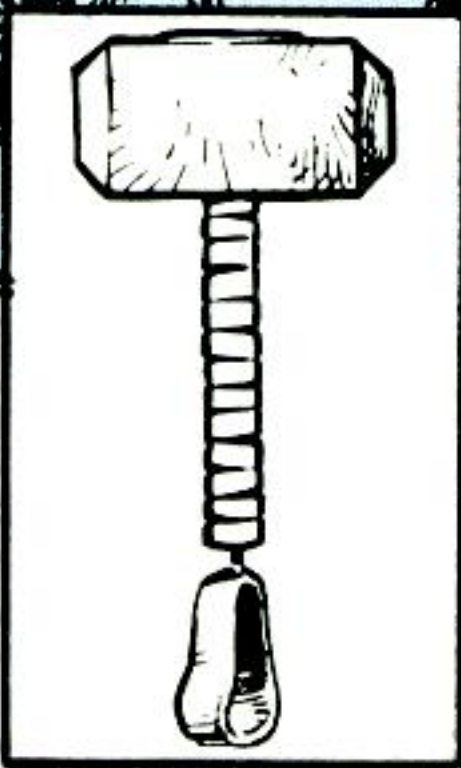
75¢
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365
MAR

the mighty

THOR

THIS ISSUE--THOR
LEAPS INTO A NEW
SECRET IDENTITY!



STAN LEE PRESENTS **the MIGHTY THOR**

GUESS WHO'S COMING TO DINNER

FAR BENEATH THE STREETS OF NEW YORK CITY EXISTS A SERIES OF MYSTERIOUS TUNNELS WHERE THINGS ARE NOT ALWAYS WHAT THEY SEEM.

THIS FROG, FOR INSTANCE, IS OUR HERO, THE MIGHTY THOR!

OR IT'S NOT EASY BEING GREEN!

EVERYTHING ELSE YOU NEED TO KNOW, WE'LL FILL IN AS WE GO ALONG.

I CAME SEEKING AID THAT WOULD HELP THE FROGS OF THE CENTRAL PARK RESERVOIR SURVIVE A CONCERTED ATTACK BY THE RATS WHO SEEK TO DESTROY THEM*!

INSTEAD I FIND A BEING WHOSE MUSIC HATH CHARMED THESE SAVAGE BEASTS.

... AND IT HATH CHARMED ME IN THIS FORM AS WELL UNTIL ALL I CAN DO IS HOP MADLY TOWARD THE PIPER**!

**ALL ANIMAL DIALOGUE HAS BEEN RENDERED IN ENGLISH FOR THE BENEFIT OF OUR READERS --RM

#THOR 364--RM

WALTER SIMONSON ART & STORY JOHN WORKMAN LETTERING MAX SCHEELE COLORS RALPH MACCHIO EDITING JIM SHOOTER EDITOR IN CHIEF

THOR® Vol. 1, No. 365, March, 1986. (ISSN 0274-533X) Published by MARVEL COMICS GROUP, James E. Galton, President. Stan Lee, Publisher. Michael Hobson, Group Vice-President. Milton Schiffman, Vice-President, Production. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016. SECOND CLASS POSTAGE PAID AT NEW YORK, NY AND AT ADDITIONAL MAILING OFFICES. Published monthly. Copyright ©1985 by Marvel Comics Group, a division of Cadence Industries Corporation. All rights reserved. Price 75¢ per copy in the U.S. and 95¢ in Canada. Subscription rate \$7.80 for 12 issues. Canada and Foreign, \$9.80. Printed in the U.S.A. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the conditions that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition. THOR (including all prominent characters featured in the issue), and the distinctive likenesses thereof, are trademarks of the MARVEL COMICS GROUP. POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO THOR, 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, 10TH FLOOR, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016.

THAT FROG IS THE SIZE OF A FOOTBALL...

...AND WHEN HE FIRST ENTERED THE ALLEY, HE WAS DRAGGING A PAIR OF DEAD RATS BEHIND HIM!

COME ALONG, FROGGY, AND HOP INTO THE LIGHT WHERE WE CAN FIND OUT WHAT SORT OF FELLOW YOU ARE!

MY ALLIGATORS WON'T EAT YOU...YET.

IF I DO NOT ESCAPE THE THRALL OF THIS UNEARTHLY MUSIC, MY FRIENDS ABOVE WILL DIE!

LOKI'S MAGIC HAS TRANSFORMED ME INTO A FROG, BUT EVEN LOKI! COULD NOT MAKE ME INTO AN ORDINARY AMPHIBIAN!

AND SINCE I AM JUMPING IN THE PIPER'S DIRECTION ALREADY...

...I MUST TAKE THE INITIATIVE AS A TRUE FROG NEVER COULD.

WHAT THE--!

SPLAPP!

THE STRENGTH OF THOR IS MY BIRTHRIGHT WHICH NO MAGIC CAN COMPLETELY SUPPRESS!

OBVIOUSLY, THE PIPER'S STRANGE POWER RESIDES WITHIN HIS INSTRUMENT.

... AND THOUGH I CANNOT USE THE FLUTE MYSELF...

WITHOUT IT, HIS GIFT IS NULLIFIED...

NABB!

...I CAN INSURE THAT HE WILL USE IT NO MORE!

KLOP!

HEY!



COME BACK HERE, THIEF! I'LL GET YOU FOR THIS!

WITHOUT MY FLUTE, I CAN'T CONTROL THE ALLIGATORS!

SPROING!

SPROING!

SPROING!

SPROING!

EXCELLENT!

SPROING!



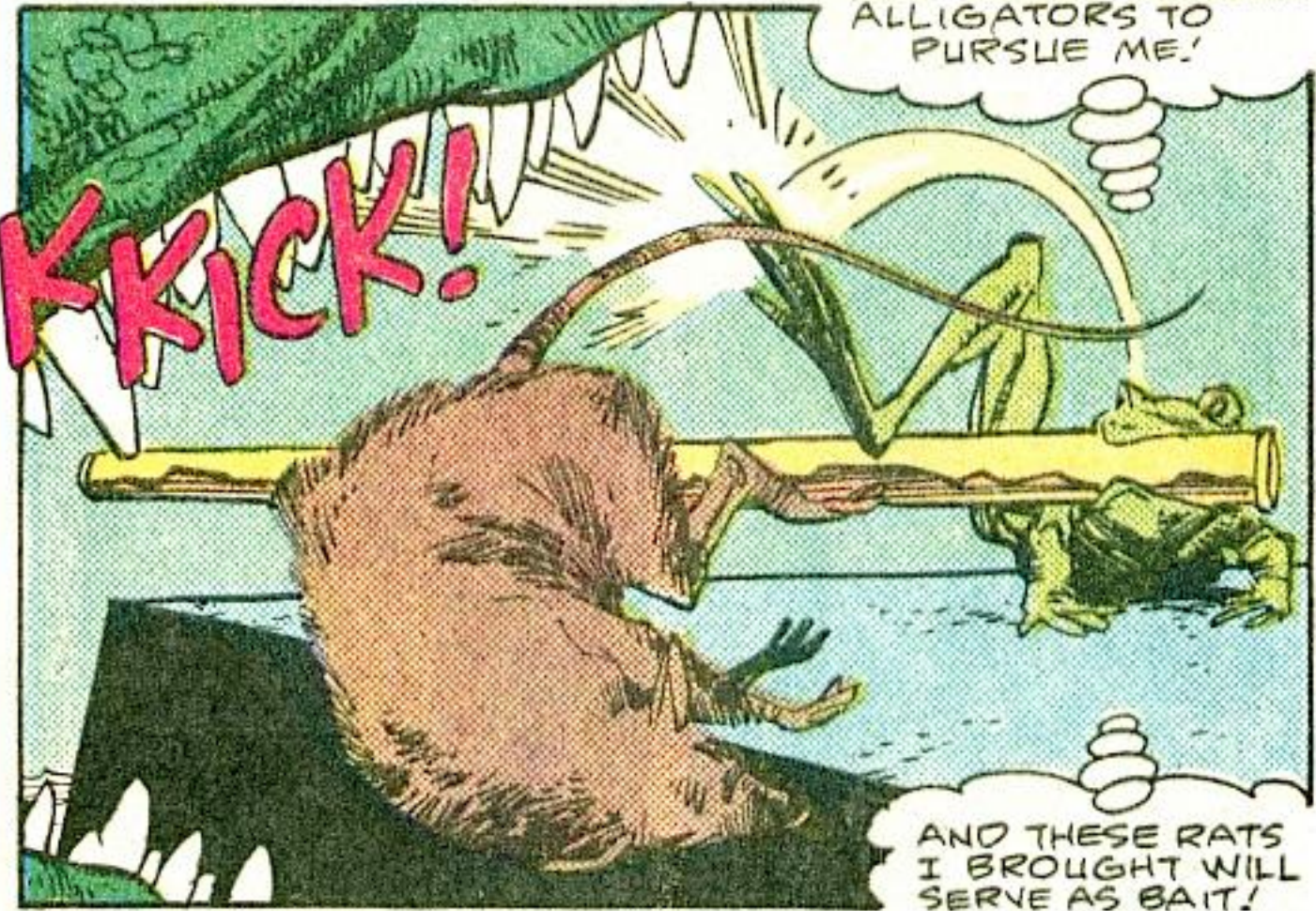
ON SECOND THOUGHT, MAYBE I'D BETTER BREAK THE RECORD IN THE STANDING HIGH JUMP ...RIGHT NOW!

SNAP! CHAMPP!



ONE LAST HOP AND I WILL HAVE GAINED THE ACCESS TUNNEL THROUGH WHICH I ENTERED!

SUCCESS! BUT I MUST CONVINCE THE NOW UNCONTROLLED ALLIGATORS TO PURSUE ME!



KKICK!

AND THESE RATS I BROUGHT WILL SERVE AS BAIT!



NOT THAT THEY SEEM TO NEED PERSUADING!

PERHAPS ALLIGATORS PREFER A DIET OF FROG!

MEANWHILE, FAR ABOVE THOR, NEAR THE CENTRAL PARK RESERVOIR...

... AN ARMY OF RATS SLINKS THROUGH THE BRUSH WITH HATRED IN THEIR EYES AND MURDER IN THEIR HEARTS!

KEEP IT DOWN BACK THERE!

WE DON'T WANT TO LET THEM FROGS KNOW WE'RE COMING!

THEN WHY DON'T YOU TRY SHOVING A GARBAGE BAG FILLED WITH RAT POISON ACROSS THESE ROOTS?

YOU THINK IT'S EASY?

YEAH?

WELL, MAYBE YOU SHOULD'VE DIED WITH THE OTHERS WHO BROKE INTO THE PARK RANGER WAREHOUSE AND SWIPE THE STUFF TO BEGIN WITH!

SHUT UP, ALL OF YA!

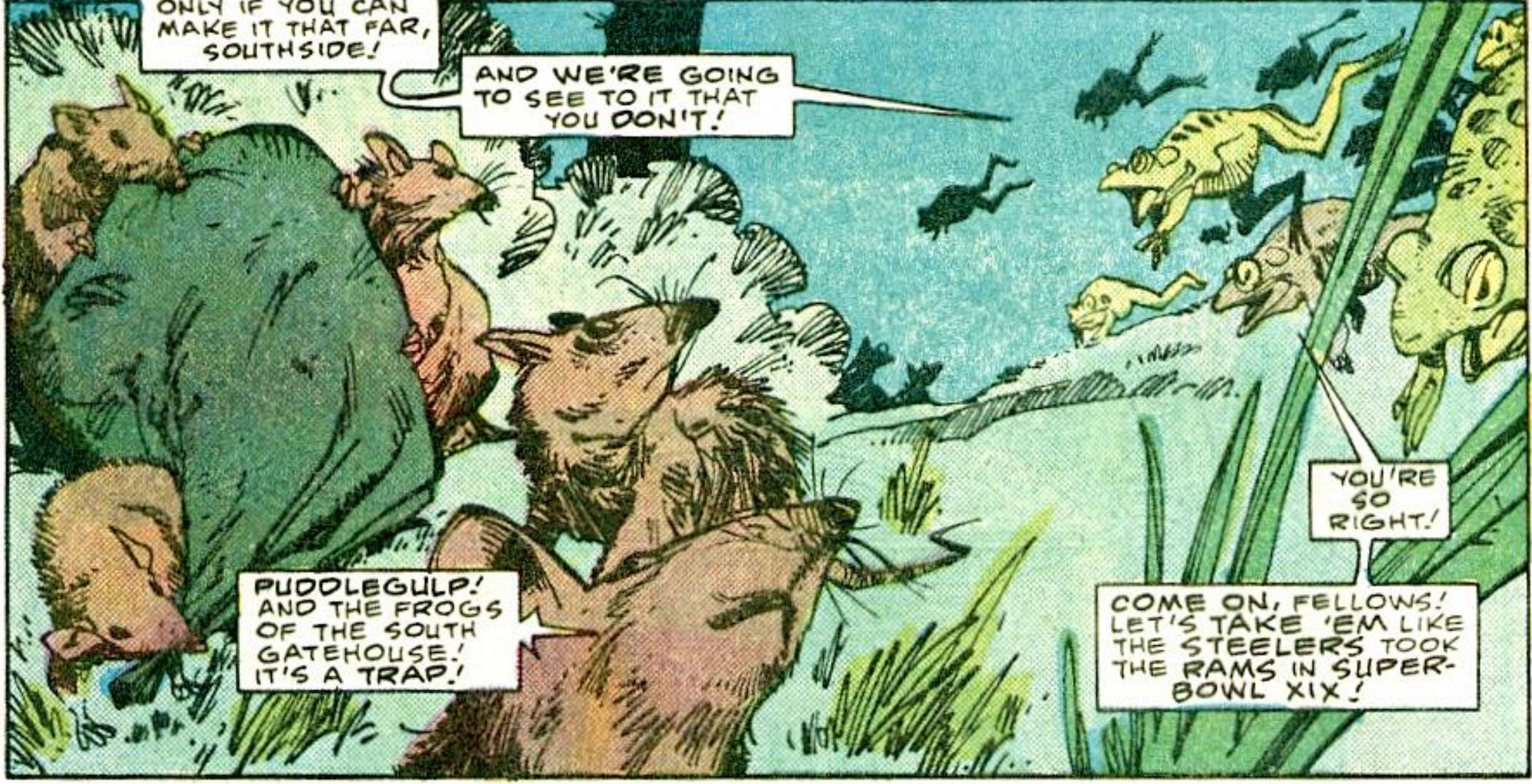
CAN'T YA SMELL 'EM!

UP THERE ON THE JOGGING PATH! A BUNCH OF FROGS LEAVING THE RESERVOIR! THEY'RE TRYING TO ESCAPE.

RATSO, TAKE HALF THE BOYS AND HIT 'EM!

THE REST OF YOU COME WITH ME.

WE GONNA DUMP THIS STUFF IN THE RESERVOIR, AND IT'LL BE BYE-BYE, FROGS!



ONLY IF YOU CAN MAKE IT THAT FAR, SOUTHSIDE!

AND WE'RE GOING TO SEE TO IT THAT YOU DON'T!

PUDDLEGULP! AND THE FROGS OF THE SOUTH GATEHOUSE! IT'S A TRAP!

YOU'RE SO RIGHT!

COME ON, FELLOWS! LET'S TAKE 'EM LIKE THE STEELERS TOOK THE RAMS IN SUPER-BOWL XIX!



HIT THE BAGS AND BREAK 'EM! WE'RE GOING TO SCATTER THAT POISON AND SAVE OUR RESERVOIR!

SHRIPPI!



RATSO, LOOK! BEHIND US! ANOTHER BUNCH OF FROGS ARE ATTACKING SOUTHSIDE AND THE REST OF THE GUYS!

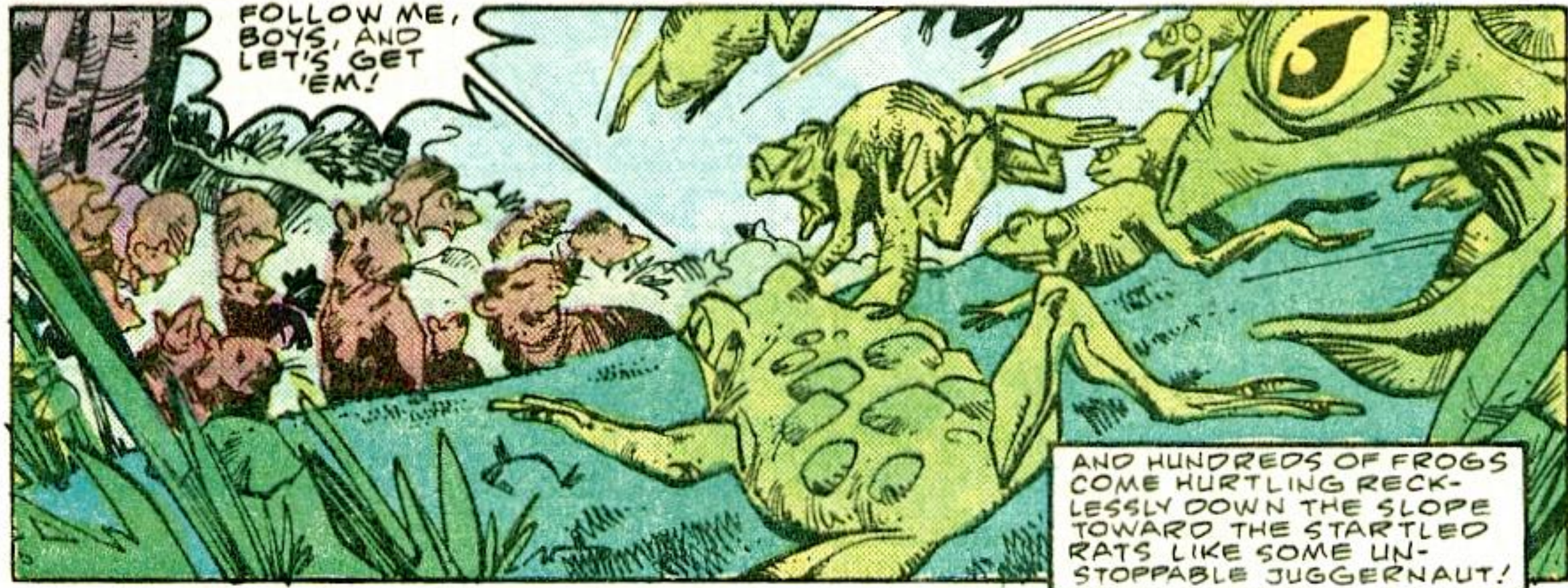
WE GOTTA HELP 'EM!

BUT AS THE RATS TURN TO AID THEIR FELLOWS, THEY FAIL TO SEE THE FROGS ALONG THE RIDGE SUDDENLY HALT IN THEIR TRACKS.



NOW, BUG-EYEZ

YOU BET! NOW WE SHOW THOSE DIRTY RATS SOME REAL ACTION!



FOLLOW ME, BOYS, AND LET'S GET 'EM!

AND HUNDREDS OF FROGS COME HURTLING RECKLESSLY DOWN THE SLOPE TOWARD THE STARTLED RATS LIKE SOME UNSTOPPABLE JUGGERNAUT!

MEANWHILE, IN ASGARD, HOME OF THE MIGHTY NORSE GODS, THE GREAT ALTHING IS UNDERWAY...

...AS THE CITIZENS OF THE GOLDEN REALM HAVE GATHERED TO SELECT A NEW RULER TO GOVERN IN ODIN'S STEAD...

...AND THE FINAL PLAYER IN THE DRAMA HAS JUST MADE HIS ENTRANCE!

THOR!!

WELCOME, ODINSON, YOU HAVE ANSWERED THE THIRD AND FINAL CALL OF THE ALTHING.

YOUR PARDON, LANGIVER, FOR MY LATENESS.

AS MANY HERE ALREADY KNOW, I RECENTLY RETURNED FROM HEL WHERE I SUFFERED GRIEVOUS WOUNDS AT HELA'S HANDS*.

*CHRONICLED IN THORS 360-362 --RM

THEY CONTINUE TO REQUIRE ATTENTION FROM TIME TO TIME.

AND HOW FARE YOU NOW? THE WOUNDS OF HELA ARE DEEP AND SLOW TO HEAL.

I AM SURE MY STEP-BROTHER SUFFERS MORE THAN WE COULD IMAGINE.

THOUGH I AM AS ANXIOUS AS ANY FOR US TO PROCEED WITH THE BUSINESS AT HAND...

...MIGHT I SUGGEST A RECESS OF A FEW DAYS, TO GIVE THE MIGHTY THOR TIME TO RECOVER FROM HIS ORDEAL?

COMPASSION SHOULD SURELY BE THE HALLMARK OF THE ALTHING WHERE WE HONOR OUR HEROES AND PREPARE A NEW FUTURE.

YOU SPEAK WISELY, LOKI.

FREE PEOPLES OF ASGARD, HEAR ME.

I DECLARE THIS ALTHING ADJOURNED FOR ONE WEEK.

MY THANKS, LOKI.

THINK NOTHING OF IT, THOR. SURELY, YOU WOULD DO AS MUCH FOR ME.

AT THE RISING OF THE SUN ON THE EIGHTH DAY, WE WILL BEGIN OUR BUSINESS ANEW, HEALED IN BODY AND SPIRIT.

I STILL CANNOT UNDERSTAND HOW MY MAGIC COULD HAVE FAILED TO AFFECT THOR!

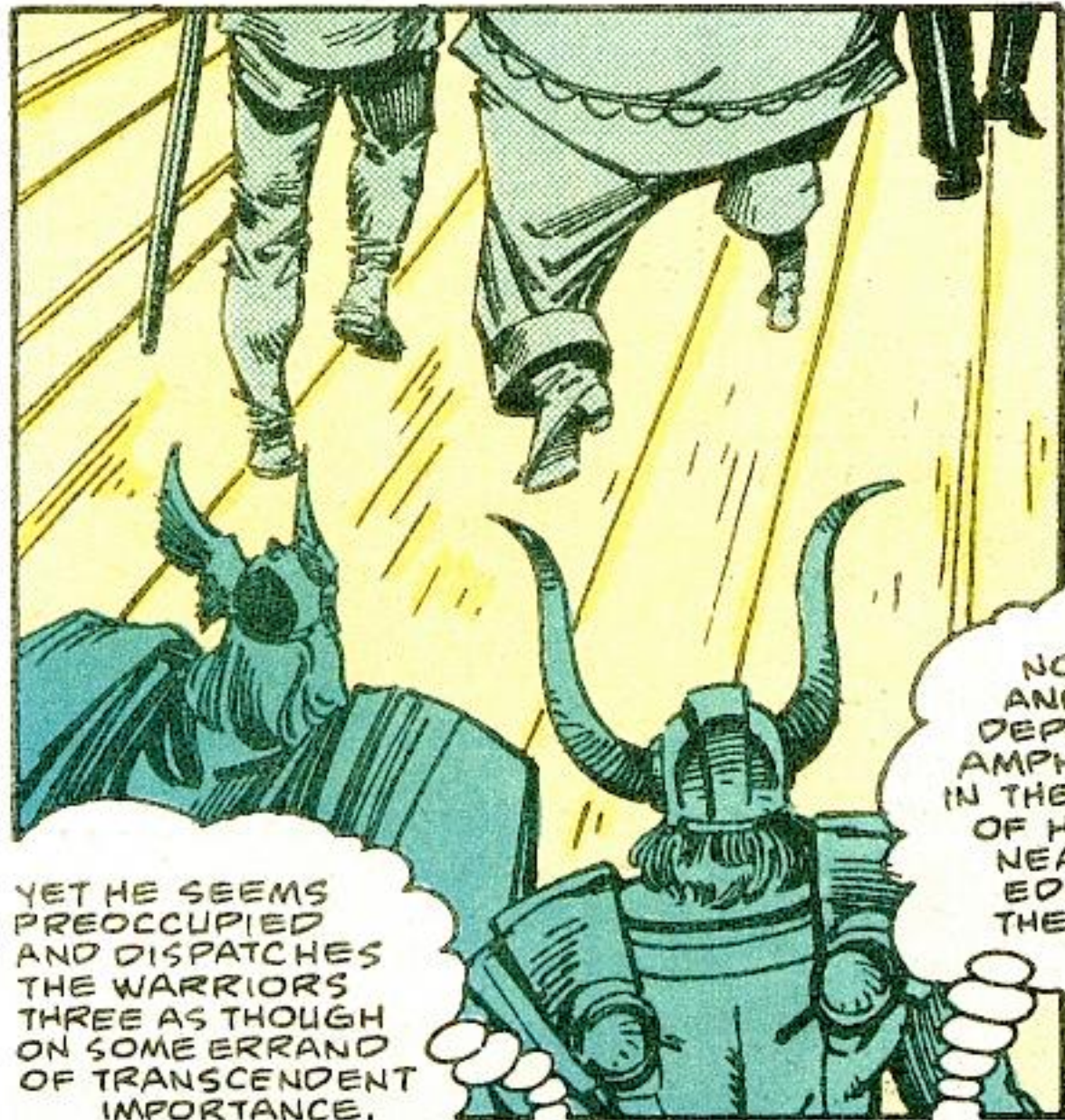
I SAW THE TRANSFORMATION MYSELF IN THE CRYSTAL OF VISION!



AND NOW THOR GOES TO JOIN HEIMDALL AND THE WARRIORS THREE, MY BITTEREST ENEMIES IN THIS STRUGGLE FOR POWER!

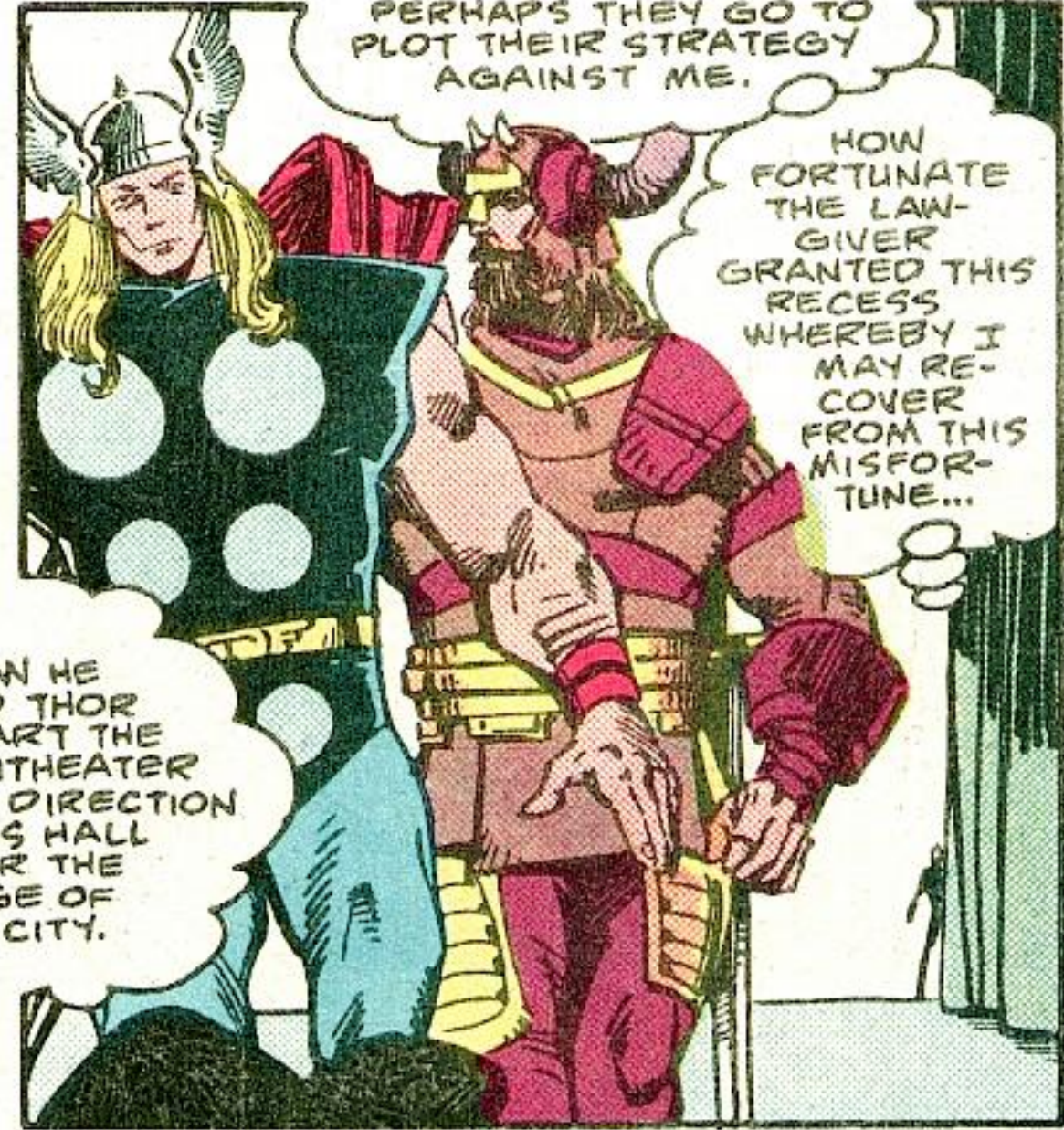


I MUST BE ABSOLUTELY SILENT, FOR THE SLIGHTEST SOUND WILL BE OVERHEARD BY THE ACCURSED HEIMDALL, WHOSE EYES AND EARS SEE AND HEAR EVERYTHING.



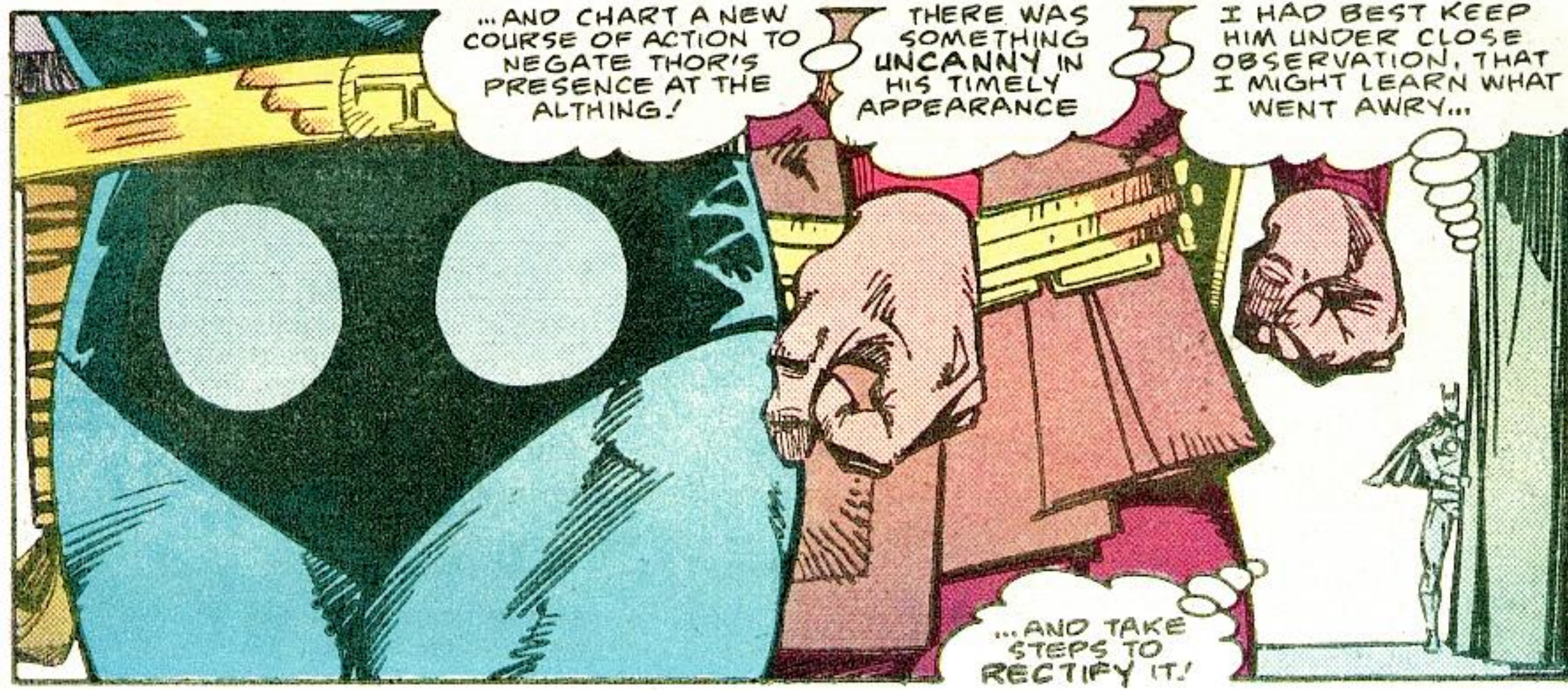
YET HE SEEMS PREOCCUPIED AND DISPATCHES THE WARRIORS THREE AS THOUGH ON SOME ERRAND OF TRANSCENDENT IMPORTANCE.

NOW HE AND THOR DEPART THE AMPHITHEATER IN THE DIRECTION OF HIS HALL NEAR THE EDGE OF THE CITY.



PERHAPS THEY GO TO PLOT THEIR STRATEGY AGAINST ME.

HOW FORTUNATE THE LAW-GIVER GRANTED THIS RECESS WHEREBY I MAY RECOVER FROM THIS MISFORTUNE...

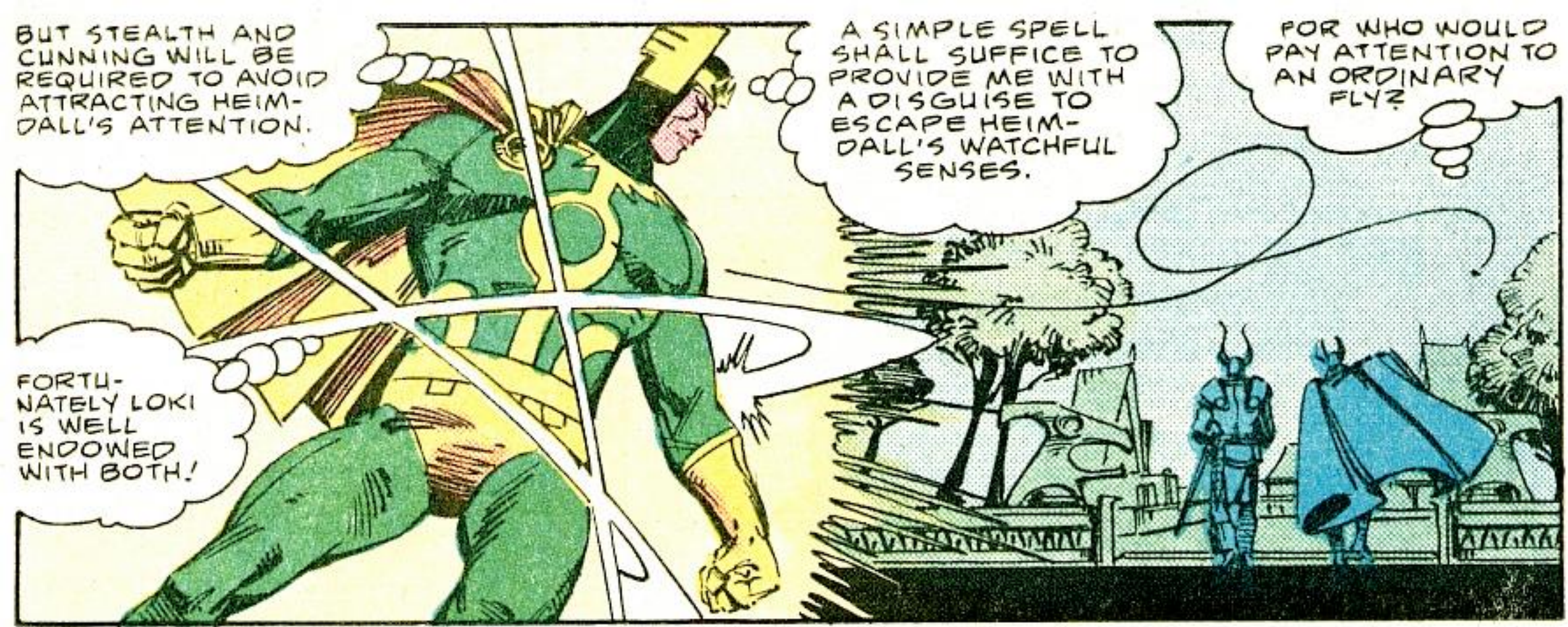


...AND CHART A NEW COURSE OF ACTION TO NEGATE THOR'S PRESENCE AT THE ALTHING!

THERE WAS SOMETHING UNCANNY IN HIS TIMELY APPEARANCE

I HAD BEST KEEP HIM UNDER CLOSE OBSERVATION, THAT I MIGHT LEARN WHAT WENT AWRY...

...AND TAKE STEPS TO RECTIFY IT!

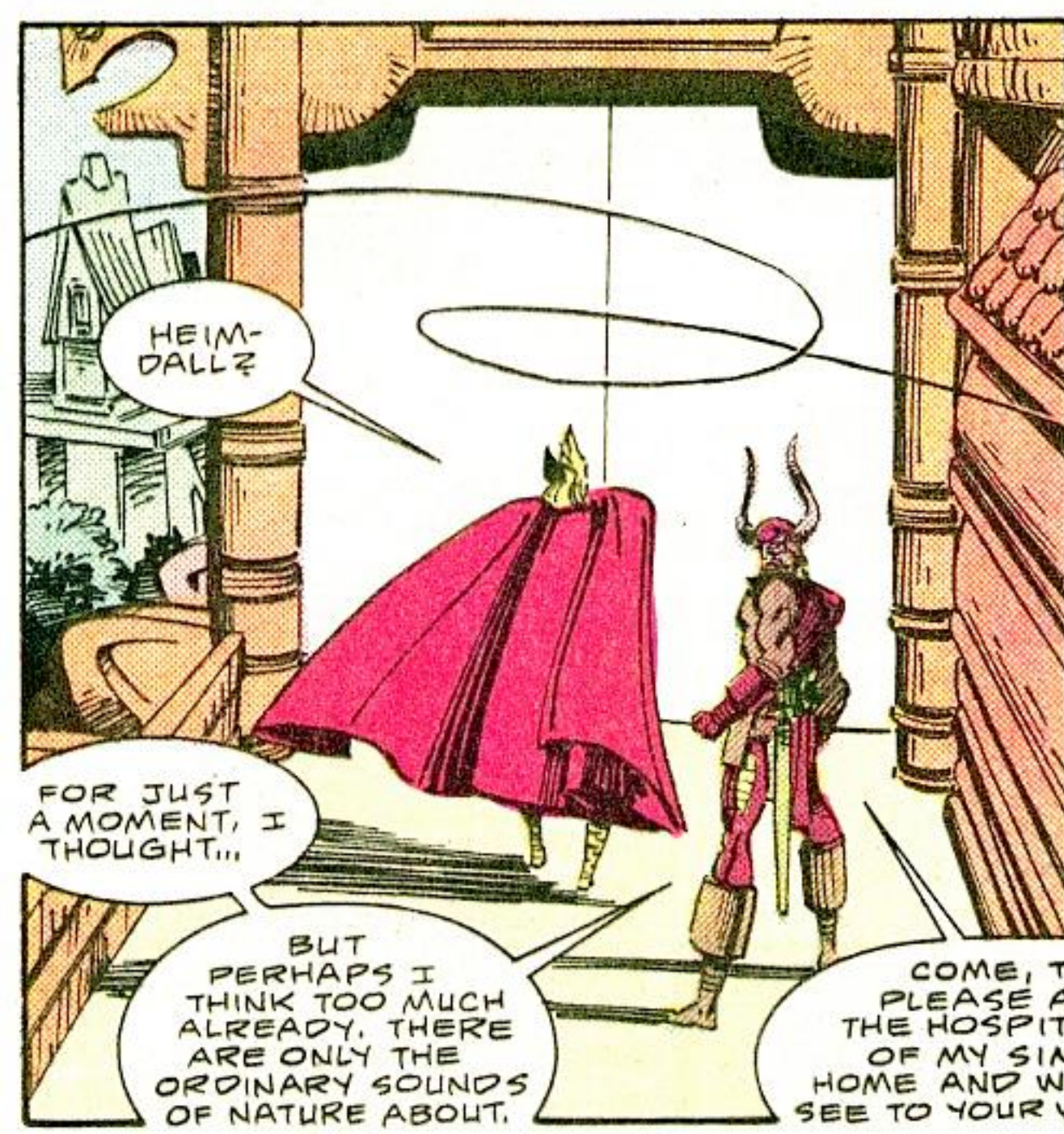


BUT STEALTH AND CUNNING WILL BE REQUIRED TO AVOID ATTRACTING HEIMDALL'S ATTENTION.

A SIMPLE SPELL SHALL SUFFICE TO PROVIDE ME WITH A DISGUISE TO ESCAPE HEIMDALL'S WATCHFUL SENSES.

FOR WHO WOULD PAY ATTENTION TO AN ORDINARY FLY?

FORTUNATELY LOKI IS WELL ENDOWED WITH BOTH!



HEIMDALL?

FOR JUST A MOMENT, I THOUGHT...

BUT PERHAPS I THINK TOO MUCH ALREADY. THERE ARE ONLY THE ORDINARY SOUNDS OF NATURE ABOUT.

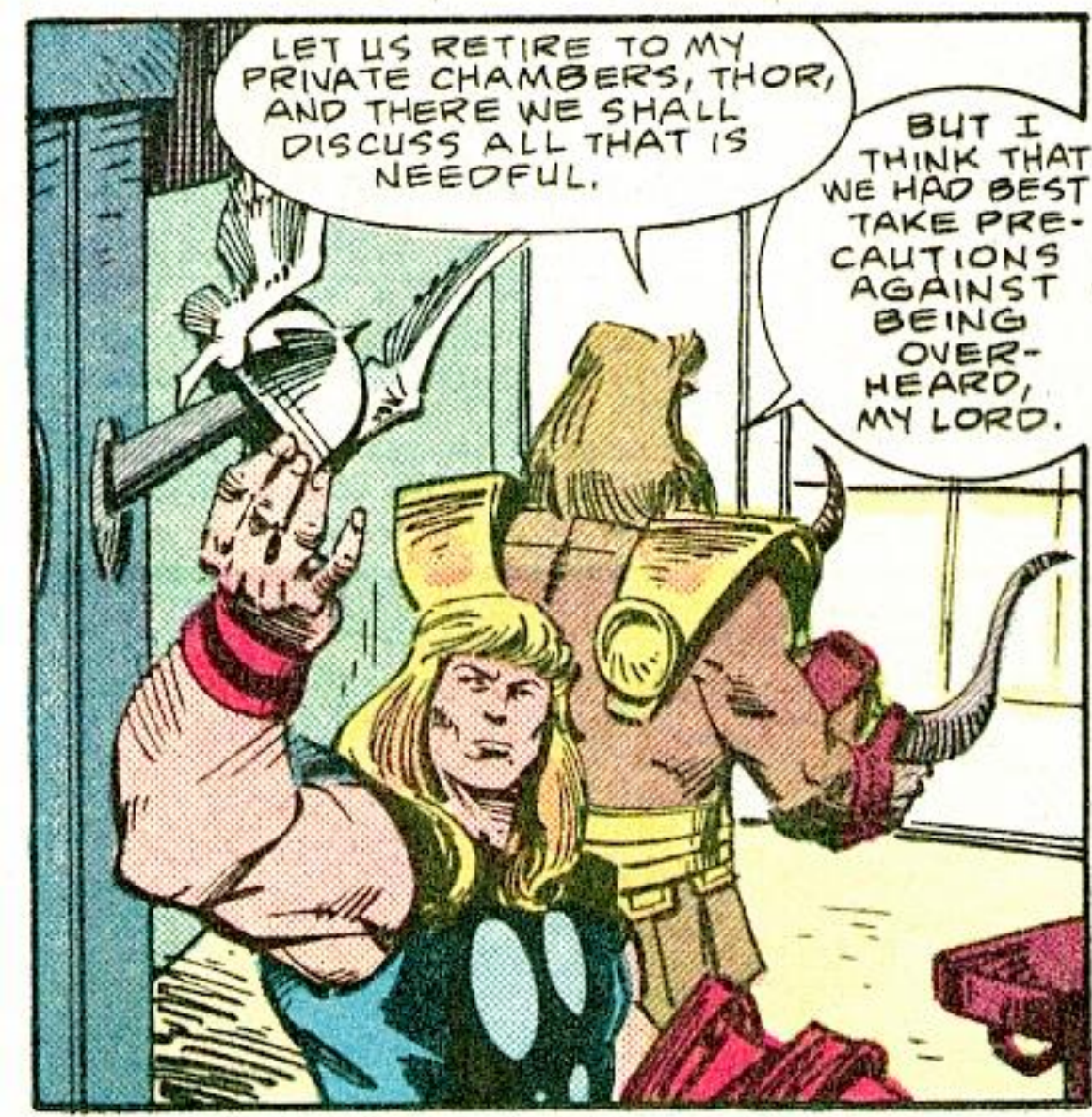
COME, THOR. PLEASE ACCEPT THE HOSPITALITY OF MY SIMPLE HOME AND WE SHALL SEE TO YOUR WOUNDS.



THANK YOU. I AM GRATEFUL.

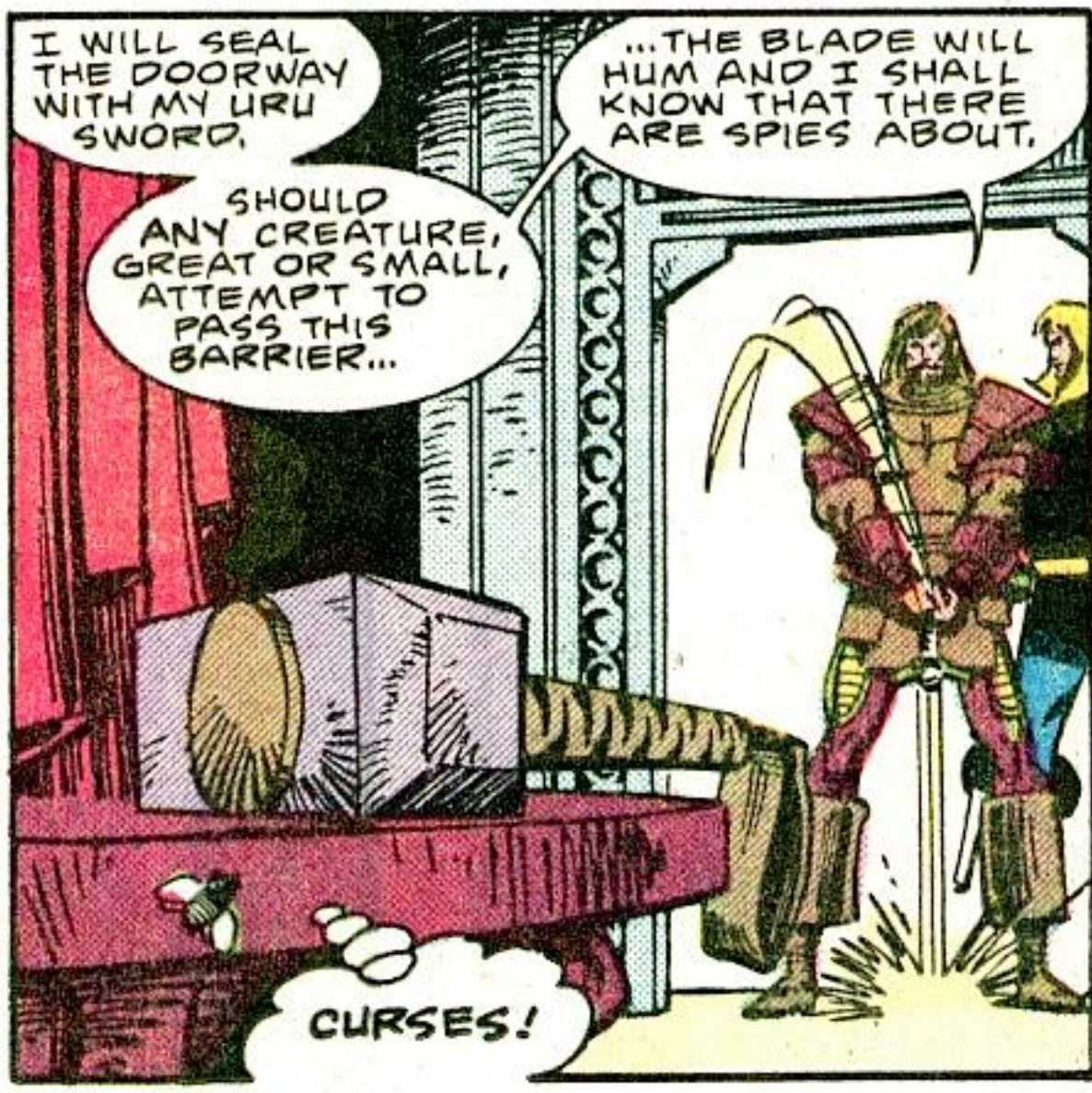
I, TOO, AM GRATEFUL, HEIMDALL.

I VISIT YOU SO RARELY I FEARED YOU WOULD SHUT ME OUT, BUT FEW DOORS ARE QUICK ENOUGH TO FORESTALL CLEVER LOKI LAUFNEYSON!



LET US RETIRE TO MY PRIVATE CHAMBERS, THOR, AND THERE WE SHALL DISCUSS ALL THAT IS NEEDFUL.

BUT I THINK THAT WE HAD BEST TAKE PRECAUTIONS AGAINST BEING OVERHEARD, MY LORD.

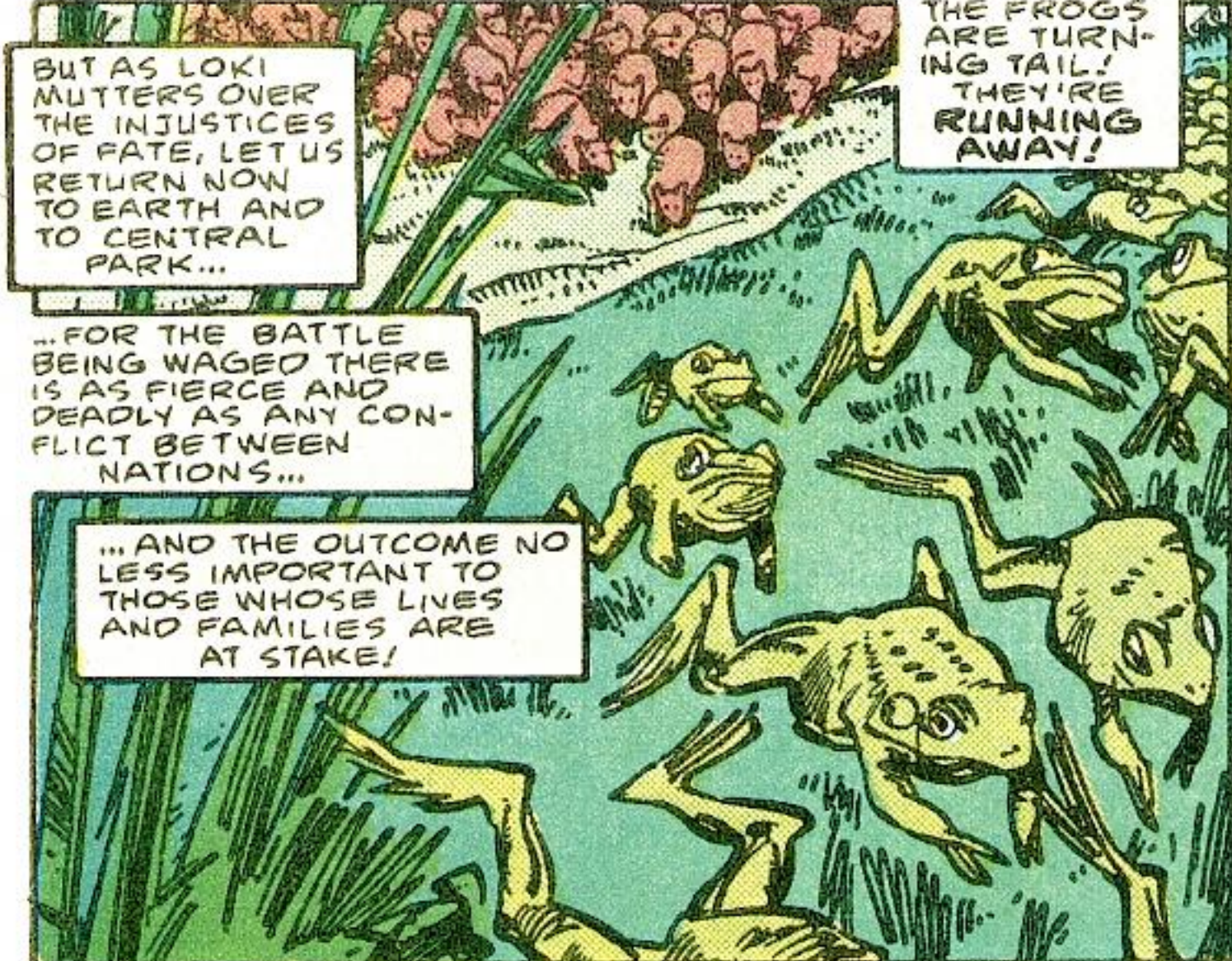


I WILL SEAL THE DOORWAY WITH MY URU SWORD.

SHOULD ANY CREATURE, GREAT OR SMALL, ATTEMPT TO PASS THIS BARRIER...

...THE BLADE WILL HUM AND I SHALL KNOW THAT THERE ARE SPIES ABOUT.

CURSES!



BUT AS LOKI MUTTERS OVER THE INJUSTICES OF FATE, LET US RETURN NOW TO EARTH AND TO CENTRAL PARK...

...FOR THE BATTLE BEING WAGED THERE IS AS FIERCE AND DEADLY AS ANY CONFLICT BETWEEN NATIONS...

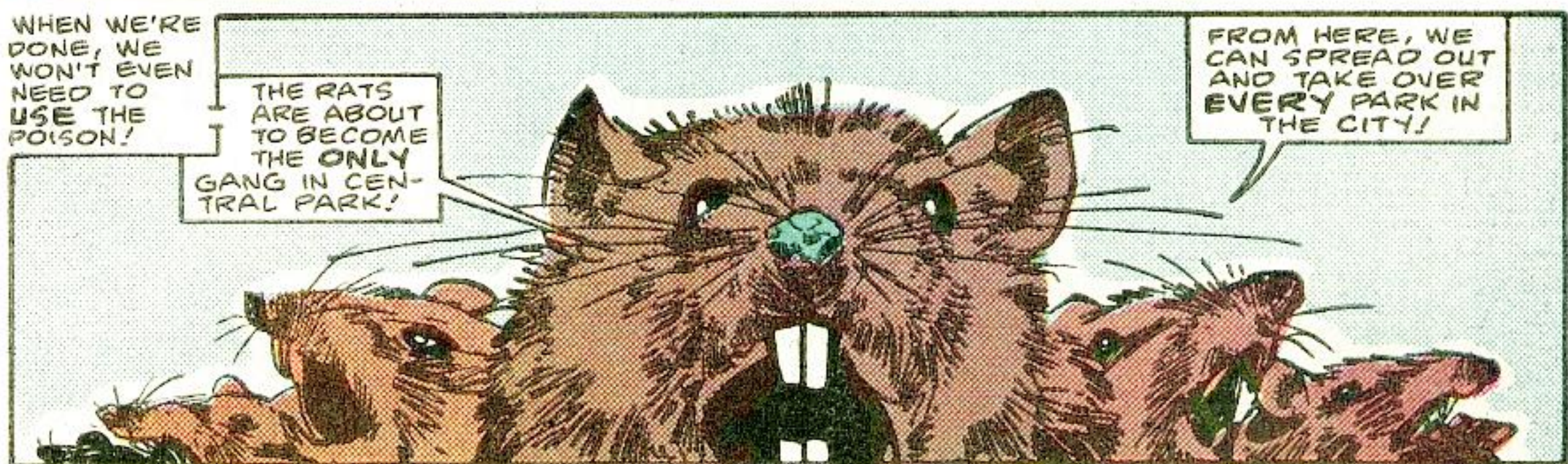
...AND THE OUTCOME NO LESS IMPORTANT TO THOSE WHOSE LIVES AND FAMILIES ARE AT STAKE!

THE FROGS ARE TURNING TAIL! THEY'RE RUNNING AWAY!

RIZZO, KEEP THE RATS OF WOLLMAN RINK HERE TO GUARD THE BAGS OF POISON!



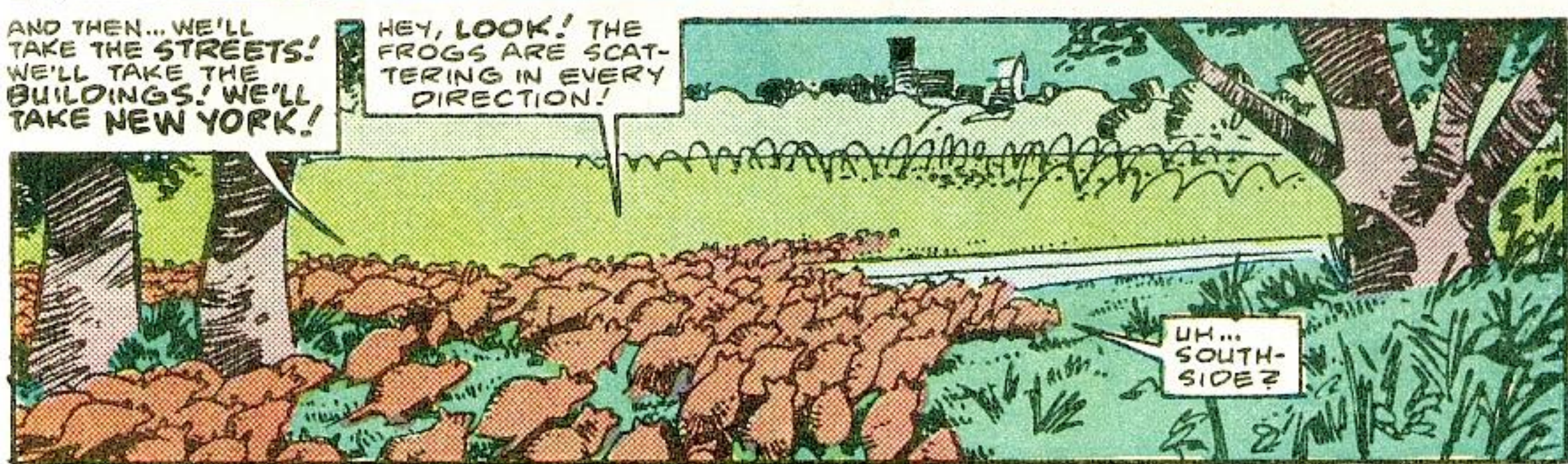
EVERYONE ELSE FOLLOW ME! WE'LL DRIVE 'EM AWAY FROM THE RESERVOIR AND SLAUGHTER 'EM ON THE GREAT LAWN!



WHEN WE'RE DONE, WE WON'T EVEN NEED TO USE THE POISON!

THE RATS ARE ABOUT TO BECOME THE ONLY GANG IN CENTRAL PARK!

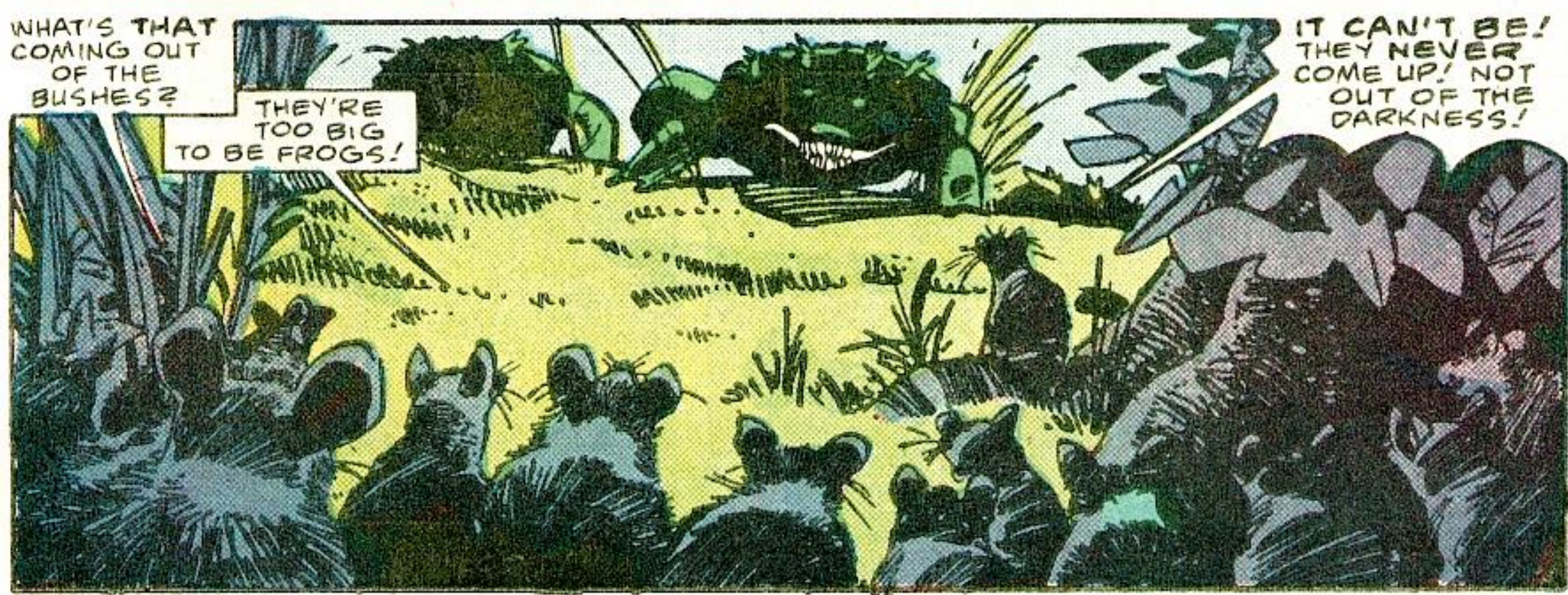
FROM HERE, WE CAN SPREAD OUT AND TAKE OVER EVERY PARK IN THE CITY!



AND THEN... WE'LL TAKE THE STREETS! WE'LL TAKE THE BUILDINGS! WE'LL TAKE NEW YORK!

HEY, LOOK! THE FROGS ARE SCATTERING IN EVERY DIRECTION!

UH... SOUTH-SIDE?



WHAT'S THAT COMING OUT OF THE BUSHES?

THEY'RE TOO BIG TO BE FROGS!

IT CAN'T BE! THEY NEVER COME UP! NOT OUT OF THE DARKNESS!

RUN! RUN FOR YOUR LIVES!

IT'S THE DRAGONS!

MOVING WITH SURPRISING SPEED, THE ALLIGATORS GLIDE ACROSS THE GRASS LIKE ARMORED SHADOWS...

... AND BEFORE THE THOUSANDS OF RATS HAVE EVEN BEGUN TO SCATTER, THE DEADLY DRAGONS OF THE ALLEY ARE AMONG THEM.

THE SOUNDS THAT FILL THE NIGHT AIR ARE BETTER LEFT UNHEARD...

... AND EVEN IN NEW YORK WHERE CURIOSITY KILLS A LOT OF CATS...

... THE JOGGERS BEYOND THE PARK WHO HEAR THE DISTANT ECHOES ARE NOT TEMPTED TO INVESTIGATE...

... BUT TURN THEIR COLLARS TO THE WIND AND RUN A LITTLE FASTER,

AND ON A SMALL RIDGE OVERLOOKING THE GREAT LAWN...

... A LARGE FROG WATCHES THE SCENE BELOW HIM IMPASSIVELY...

... AS HE SEES THE FRUITS OF HIS LABORS RIPEN BEFORE HIS EYES,

ROARR!
RIP!
SNARRL!

NOT ALL THE RATS WILL BE SLAIN BY THE ALLIGATORS...

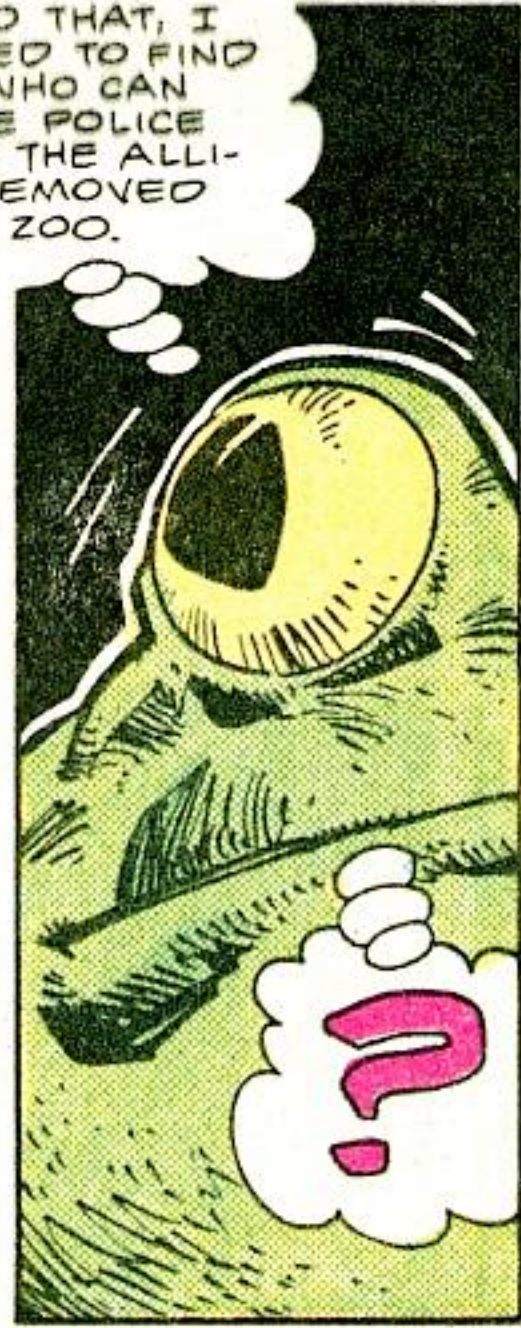
... BUT THE POPULATION SHOULD BE DIMINISHED SUFFICIENTLY TO KEEP THE FROGS FROM HARM FOR THE PRESENT.

I WONDER IF THERE MIGHT NOT BE A WAY TO SAFEGUARD THEIR FUTURE IN SOME MORE SECURE FASHION.



HOWEVER, MY TASK NOW IS TO SEE THAT THE ALLIGATORS ARE REMOVED BEFORE THEY CAN INCONVENIENCE THE HUMANS OF THE CITY.

AND TO DO THAT, I SHALL NEED TO FIND A HUMAN WHO CAN NOTIFY THE POLICE AND HAVE THE ALLIGATORS REMOVED TO THE ZOO.



HAH!

WHAT WONDERFUL REFLEXES!

AND NOW, MY FINE FELLOW, THE SHOE IS MARCHING TO A DIFFERENT DRUMMER!



I COULDN'T VERY WELL REMAIN HIDDEN BELOW IN THE ALLEY...

... WHILE MY FLUTE AND MY ALLIGATORS WERE BEING CARRIED OFF TO THE SURFACE WORLD, COULD I?

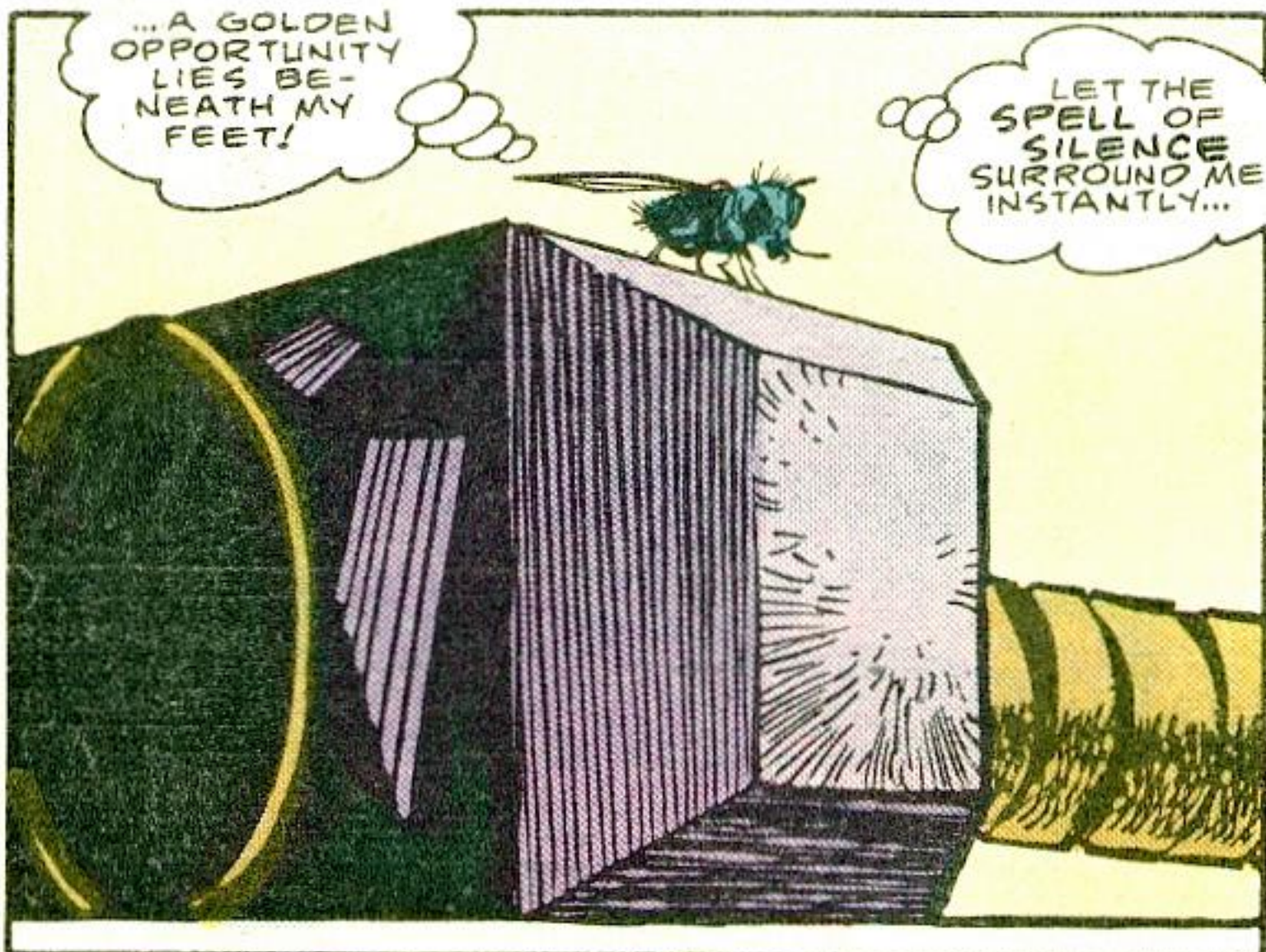
THE PIPER!

OR AM I MIXING MY METAPHORS?

MEANWHILE, IN THE HALL OF HEIMDALL IN ASGARD...



THOUGH I HAVE BEEN PREVENTED FROM OVERHEARING THE CONVERSATION BETWEEN HEIMDALL AND THOR...



...A GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY LIES BENEATH MY FEET!

LET THE SPELL OF SILENCE SURROUND ME INSTANTLY...

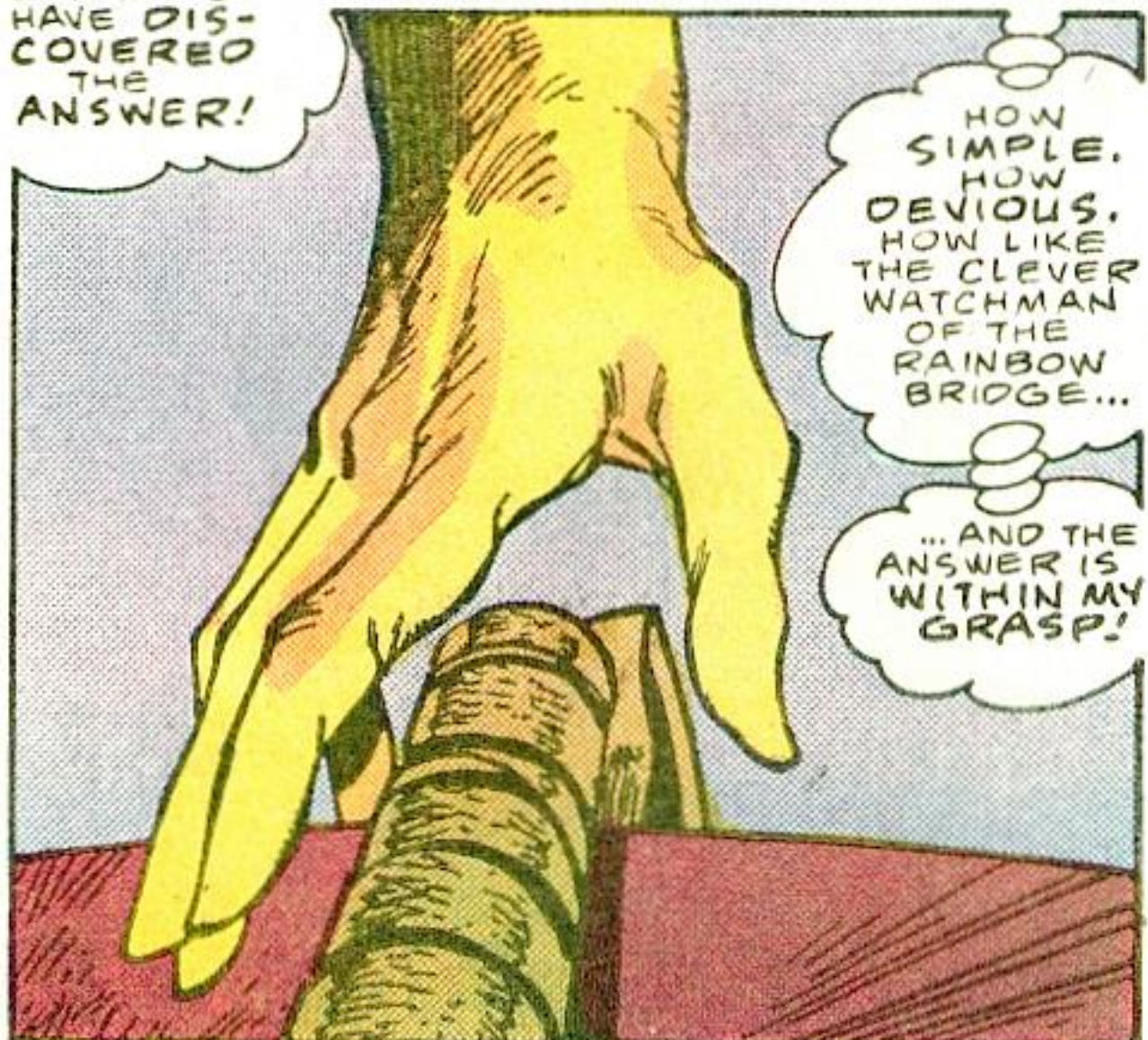


...THAT HEIMDALL AND HIS GUEST MAY NOT SUSPECT THE PRESENCE OF LOKI.



EXCELLENT. NO SOUND COMES FROM HEIMDALL'S CHAMBERS.

FOR OF A SUDDEN, I THINK I HAVE DISCOVERED THE ANSWER!



HOW SIMPLE. HOW DEVIOUS. HOW LIKE THE CLEVER WATCHMAN OF THE RAINBOW BRIDGE...

...AND THE ANSWER IS WITHIN MY GRASP!

A SPURIOUS HAMMER! A SPURIOUS THOR! AND I, LOKI THE CRAFTY, WAS NEARLY UNDONE BY IT!

AH, HEIMDALL, IF ONLY YOU HAD TURNED YOUR TALENTS IN ANOTHER DIRECTION, WE COULD HAVE CONQUERED THE NINE WORLDS TOGETHER!



BUT INSTEAD, YOU HAVE DELIVERED ASGARD INTO MY VERY HANDS.

AND THIS CAREFULLY WROUGHT REPLICA OF THOR'S MJOLNIR IS THE KEY!



A VIRTUALLY UNDETECTABLE SPELL WILL MAKE THE KINGDOM MINE!

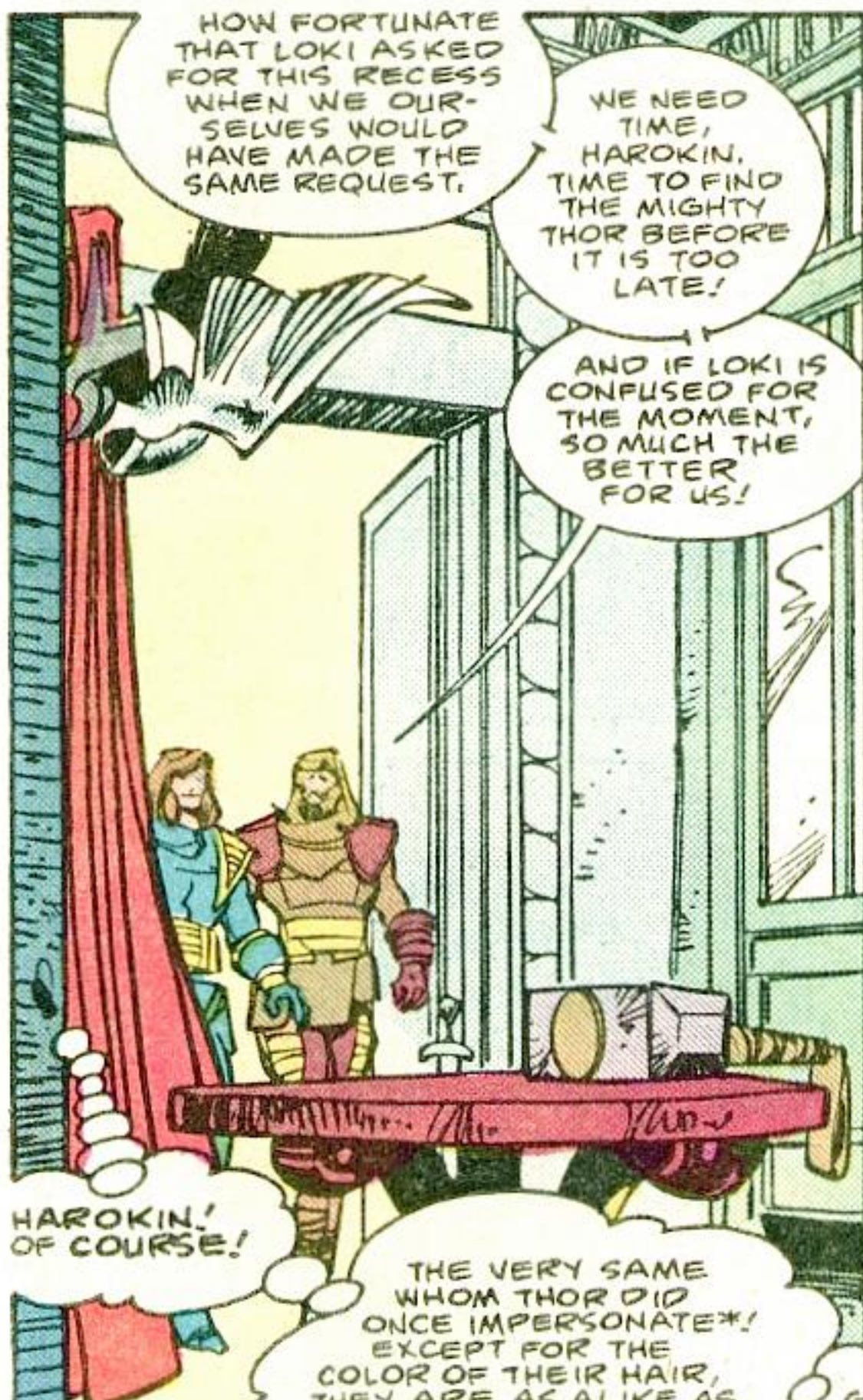
FOOTSTEPS BEHIND ME, THEY RETURN!



HOW FORTUNATE THAT LOKI ASKED FOR THIS RECESS WHEN WE OURSELVES WOULD HAVE MADE THE SAME REQUEST.

WE NEED TIME, HAROKIN. TIME TO FIND THE MIGHTY THOR BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE!

AND IF LOKI IS CONFUSED FOR THE MOMENT, SO MUCH THE BETTER FOR US!

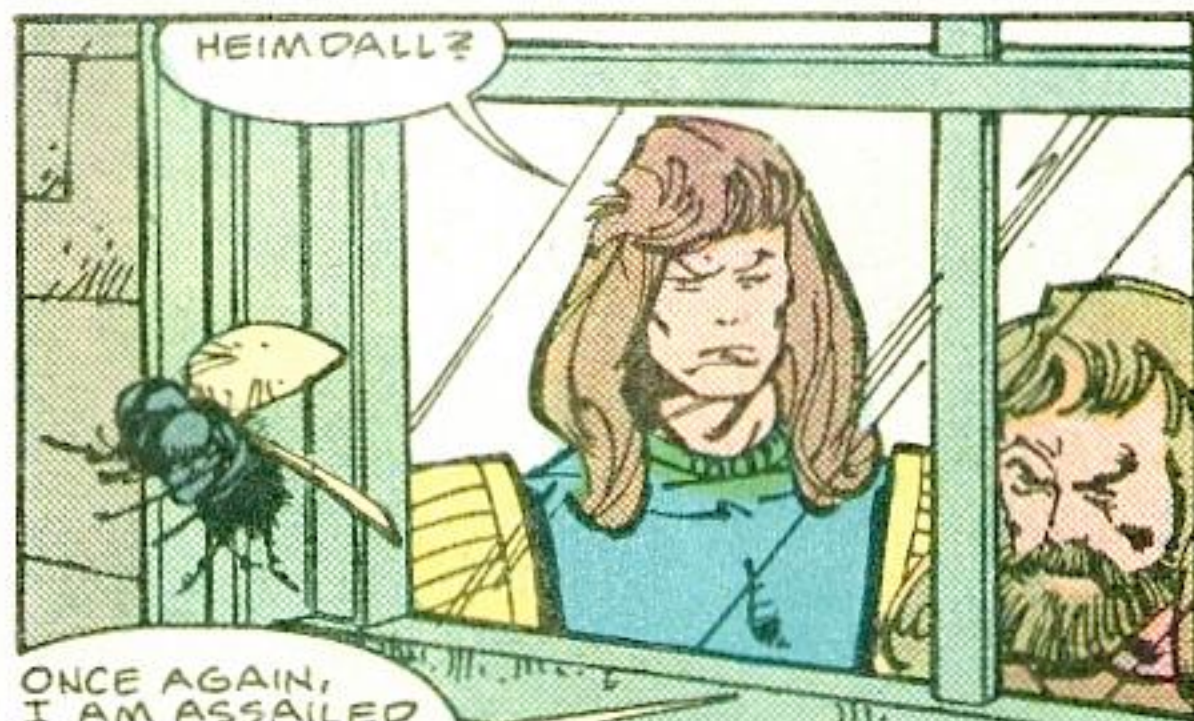


HAROKIN! OF COURSE!

THE VERY SAME WHOM THOR DID ONCE IMPERSONATE*! EXCEPT FOR THE COLOR OF THEIR HAIR, THEY ARE AS ALIKE AS TWO PEAS IN A POD!

THE GAME IS MINE!

HEIMDALL?



ONCE AGAIN, I AM ASSAILED BY A SENSE OF MENACE IN THE AIR.

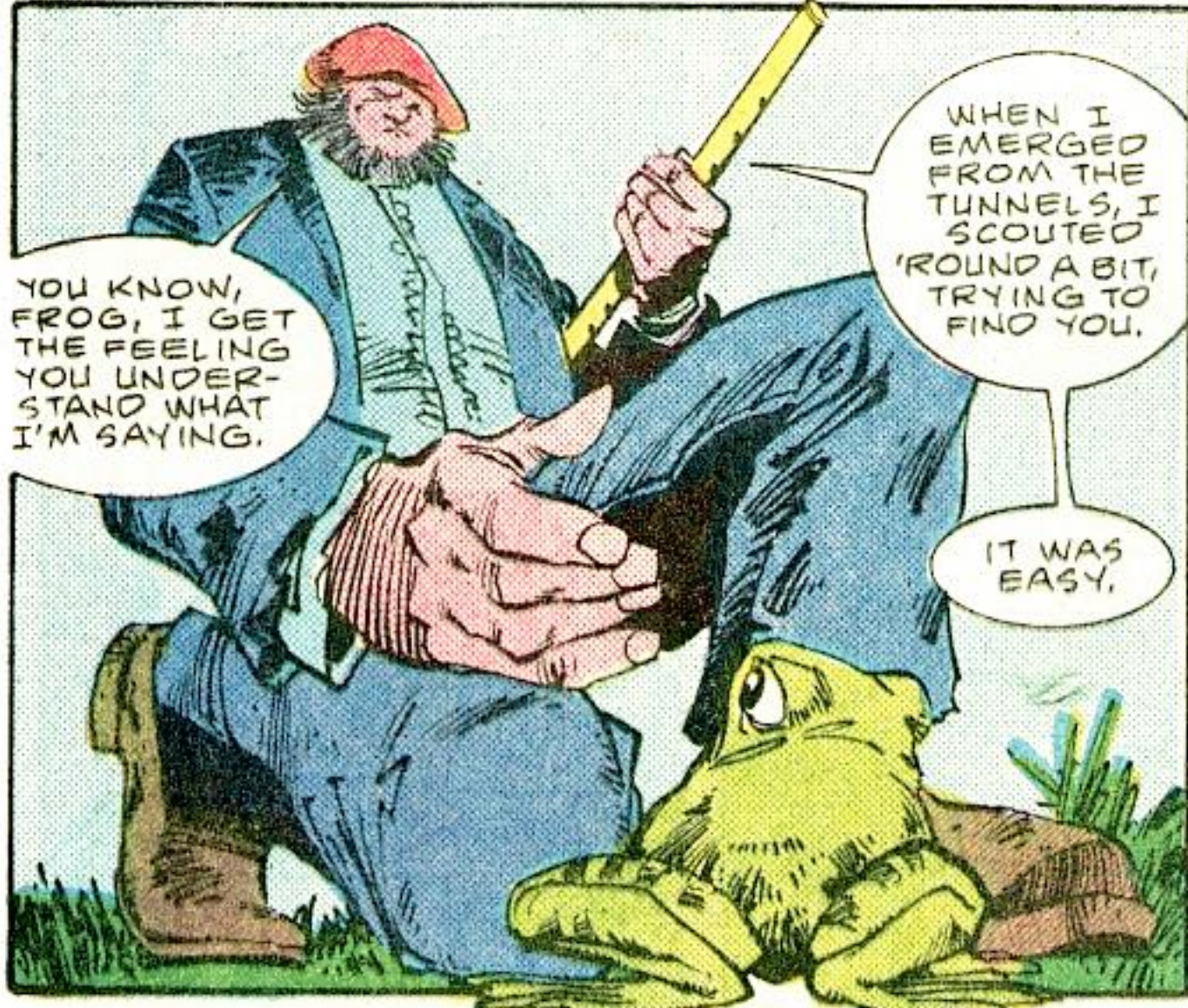
BUT I CAN SEE AND HEAR NOTHING THAT IS FALSE.

LET US CLOSE THESE WINDOWS AND CONSIDER OUR NEXT STRATAGEM.

BUT AS THE TWO CONSPIRATORS PUT THEIR HEADS TOGETHER...

* MANY MOONS AGO, DEAR READERS -- HISTORICALLY-MINDED RALPH

... LET US RETURN TO EARTH AND CENTRAL PARK TO FIND A ONE-SIDED CONVERSATION IN PROGRESS...



YOU KNOW, FROG, I GET THE FEELING YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT I'M SAYING.

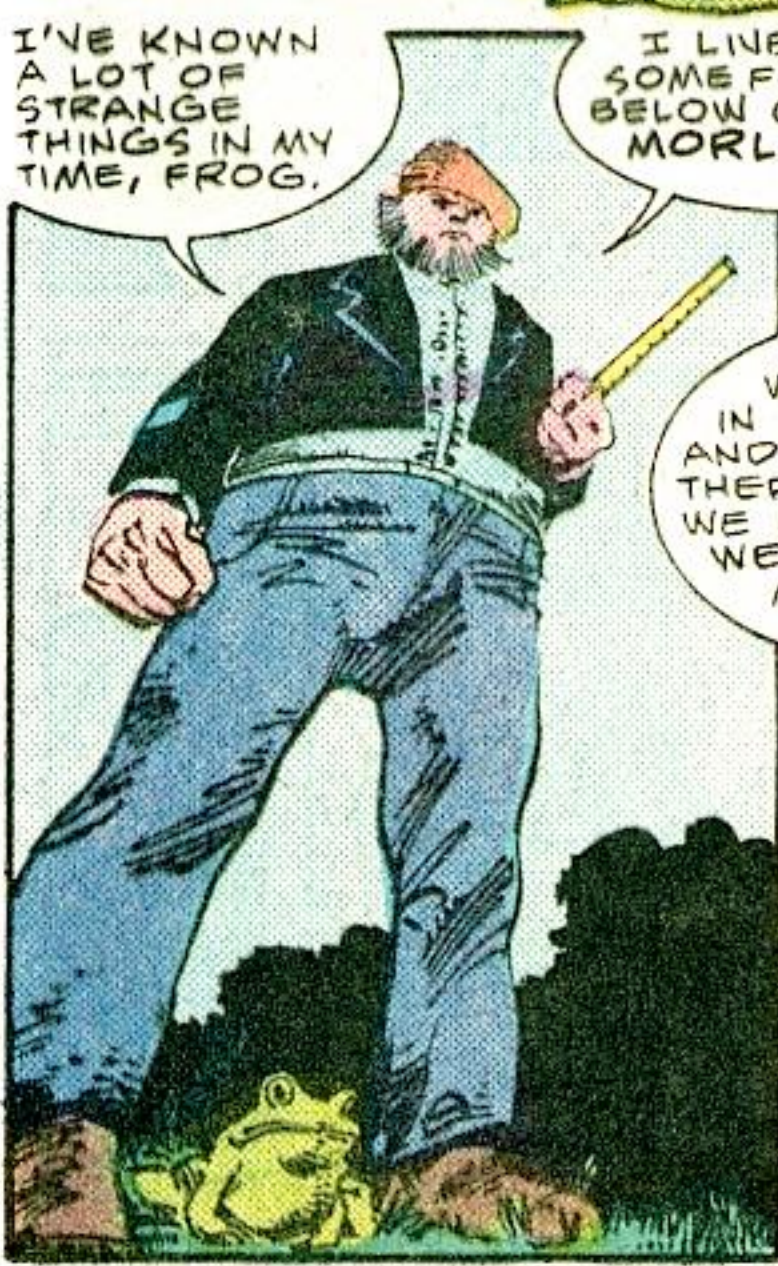
WHEN I EMERGED FROM THE TUNNELS, I SCOUTED 'ROUND A BIT, TRYING TO FIND YOU.

IT WAS EASY.



A FELLOW YOUR SIZE IS HARD TO MISS, PARTICULARLY WHEN HE'S CARRYING A FLUTE.

AND I'VE HAD A CHANCE TO SEE WHAT'S GOING ON.



I'VE KNOWN A LOT OF STRANGE THINGS IN MY TIME, FROG.

I LIVE WITH SOME FOLKS DOWN BELOW CALLED THE MORLOCKS.

WE COME IN ALL SIZES AND SHAPES AND THERE ISN'T MUCH WE CAN'T DO IF WE SET OUR MINDS TO IT.

BUT I GUESS I'VE NEVER SEEN A FROG BEFORE WHO RISKED HIS LIFE TO SAVE HIS BROTHERS AND SISTERS.



RIP

ROAR
ARGHH

RIP
SNARL

RIP
ROAR
BELLOW
GROWL!



WELL, DOWN THERE IN THE TUNNELS, I'VE SEEN FROGS AND I'VE SEEN RATS...

... AND I KNOW WHERE MY SYMPATHIES LIE.



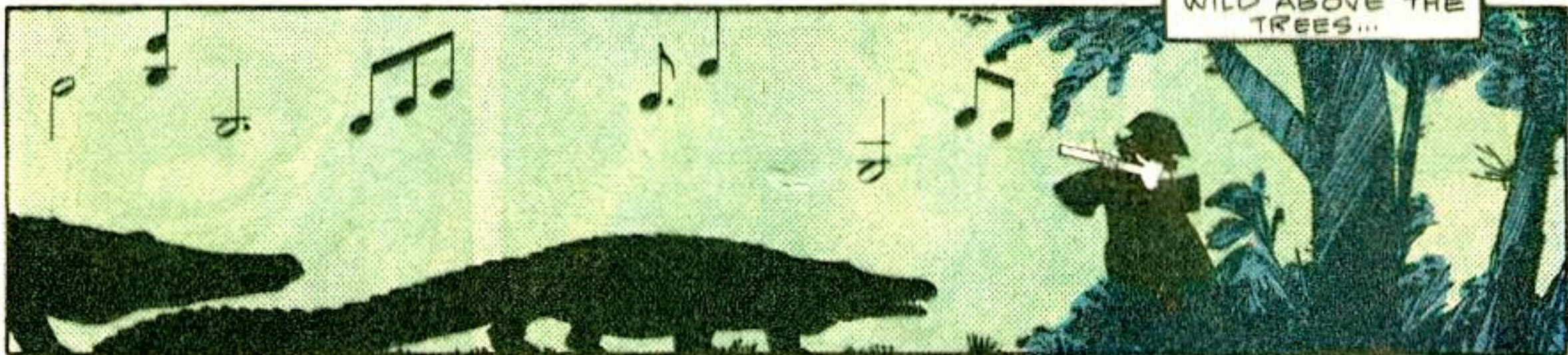
YOU EVER NEED ANY HELP AGAIN, YOU JUST COME DOWN AND ASK FOR IT. I'LL BE THERE.

AND SO SAYING, THE PIPER PUTS THE FLUTE TO HIS LIPS...

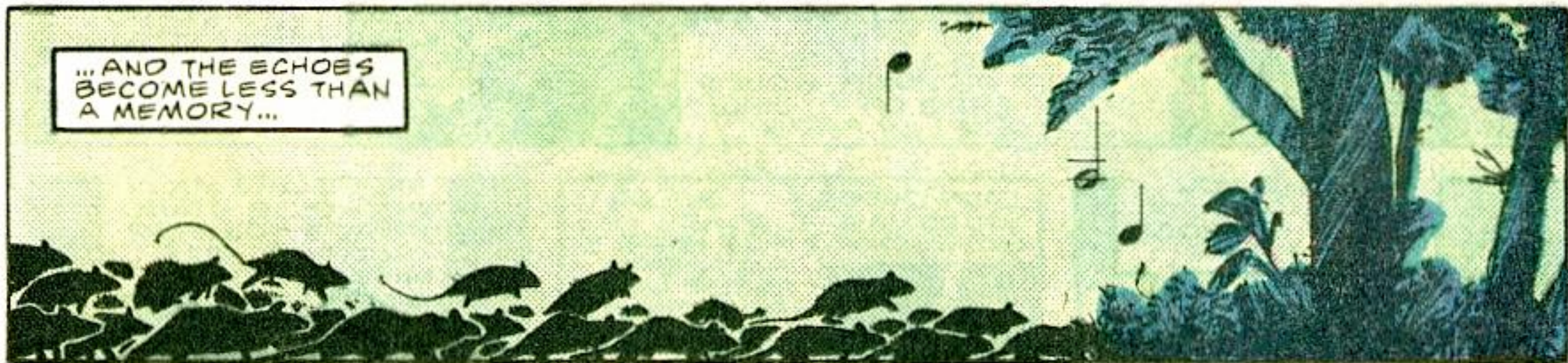
... AND THE GOLDEN MELODIES BEGIN TO POUR INTO THE NIGHT AIR.



THE HARMONIES SOAR HIGH AND WILD ABOVE THE TREES...



... AND WHEN THE LAST NOTE HAS FADED...



... AND THE ECHOES BECOME LESS THAN A MEMORY...



... THOR SHAKES HIS HEAD...

... AND LOOKS OUT ACROSS A SILENT... AND EMPTY... CENTRAL PARK.

THOR! THOR! ARE YOU OKAY?

NEARLY EVERYBODY ELSE MADE IT BACK TO THE RESERVOIR AND SAFETY.

I THOUGHT I'D BETTER COME AND TRY TO FIND YOU.

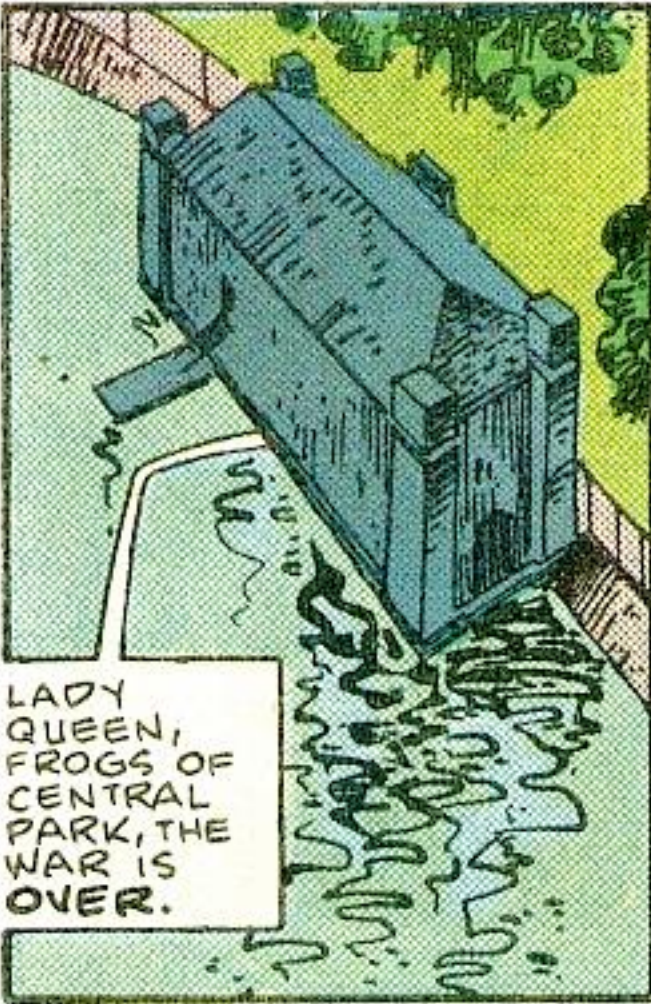
THOR?

I AM FINE, PUDDLEGULP. I AM SIMPLY LISTENING FOR A SONG THAT I MAY NEVER HEAR AGAIN.

LET US RETURN TO THE OTHERS. I MUST SPEAK WITH THE PRINCESS.



A SHORT WHILE LATER,
BENEATH THE GATEHOUSE
ON THE SOUTHERN
SHORE OF THE RESER-
VOIR...



LADY
QUEEN,
FROGS OF
CENTRAL
PARK, THE
WAR IS
OVER.

THE RATS HAVE
BEEN CONQUERED
AND LONG WILL IT
BE TILL THEY RISE
TO REGAIN THEIR
FORMER POWER.

ONCE
AGAIN,
THE FREE-
DOM OF THE
WATERS IS
YOURS.



THEN THE
TIME HAS COME
FOR US TO
CHOOSE A NEW
KING TO RULE
BESIDE OUR
QUEEN!

AND
BUGEYE
SAYS
THERE'S
ONLY ONE
CHOICE!



WE ALL
FOUGHT
AND WE
ALL FOUGHT
HARD...



I SAY THAT
THOR'S THE
FROG FOR
US...

...BUT WITH-
OUT THOR'S
LEADERSHIP, OUR
DAYS WOULD BE
NUMBERED.

WE'D BE DYING
IN POISONED WATER
AND OUR TADPOLES WOULD
NEVER GROW UP TO SING
ON THEIR LILY PADS!

...AND
I'M WILLING
TO STAND
HERE AND LICK
ANY FROG
IN THE PLACE
WHO THINKS
OTHERWISE!



WOULD YOU
STAY, THOR, AND
RULE THE FROGS
WITH ME?

I... I,
WOULD
LIKE IT...
VERY
MUCH.



LADY QUEEN,
YOU DO ME A
GREAT HONOR.

BUT MY
PLACE IS
NOT HERE. I
AM A WAY-
FARER WHO
HAS ALREADY
TARRIED
OVERLONG
AMONGST
YOU...

...AND I
MUST BE
GONE.



THERE ARE MANY
WHO WOULD STAND
BESIDE YOU AND
HELP YOU RULE
WISELY AND WELL.

GIVE THEM
YOUR TRUST
AS YOU GAVE
IT TO ME,

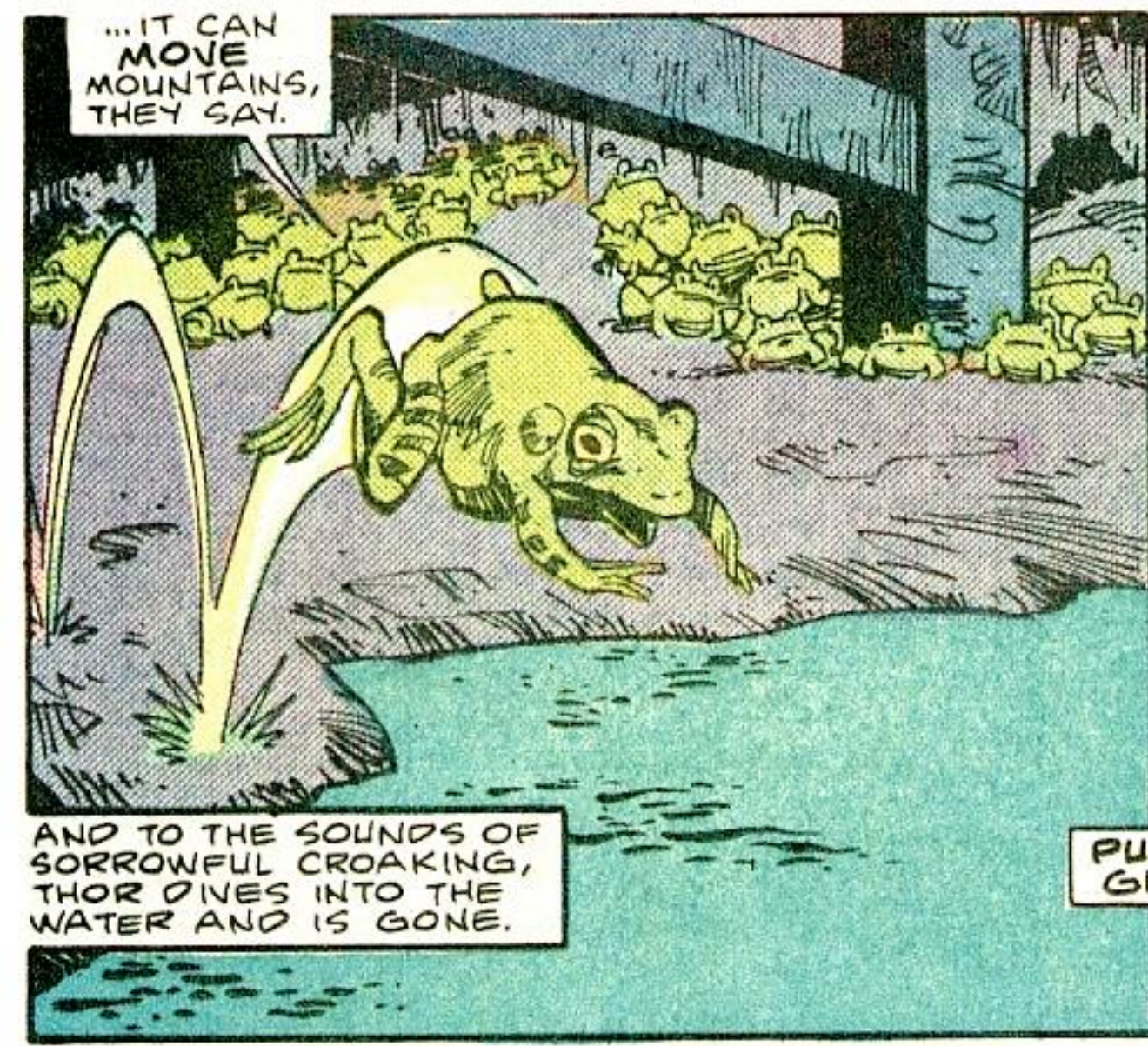
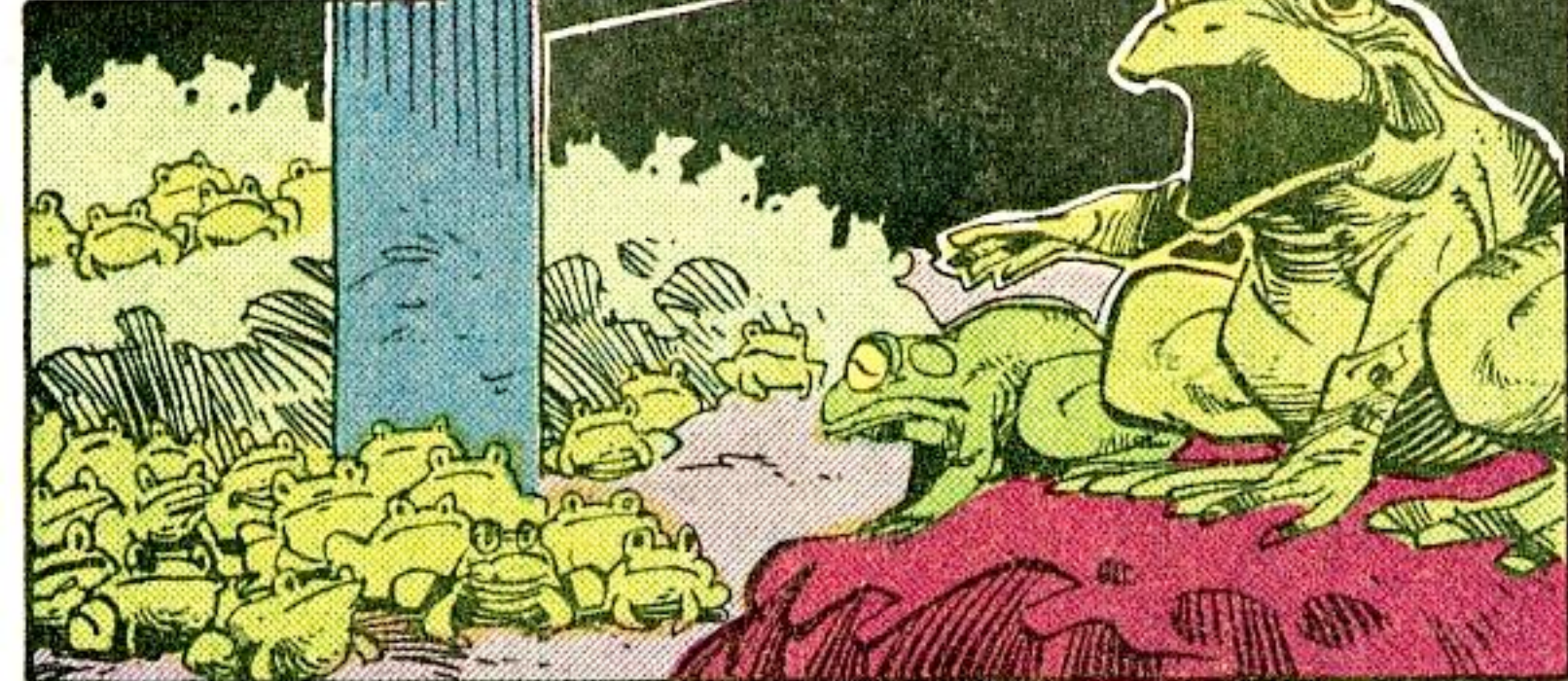
MY FRIENDS AND COMPANIONS, SOMEDAY I HOPE TO RETURN TO THE RESERVOIR.

BUT I WILL KNOW YOU AND REMEMBER HOW WE FOUGHT TOGETHER AND WON AGAINST ENORMOUS ODDS.

AND MY HEART SHALL BE GLAD TO THINK OF THE FAITH YOU HAD IN THE STRANGER WHO CAME TO YOUR AID.

GIVE THAT FAITH TO YOUR QUEEN AND REMEMBER...

AND WHEN I DO, MAYHAP I SHALL BE SO CHANGED THAT YOU WILL NOT RECOGNIZE ME.



...IT CAN MOVE MOUNTAINS, THEY SAY.

AND TO THE SOUNDS OF SORROWFUL CROAKING, THOR DIVES INTO THE WATER AND IS GONE.



I'M SORRY TO SEE YOU GO, THOR, YOU'D MAKE A HECK OF A QUARTERBACK.

BUT YOU DO NOT WISH TO PERSUADE ME TO STAY?

DOUBT IF I COULD. I'VE A PRETTY GOOD IDEA OF WHO YOU REALLY ARE AND I'D SAY YOU HAD PROBLEMS OF YOUR OWN.

PUDDE-GULP!

BUT THANKS FOR HELPING US WITH OURS.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN? WHAT DO FROGS KNOW OF--

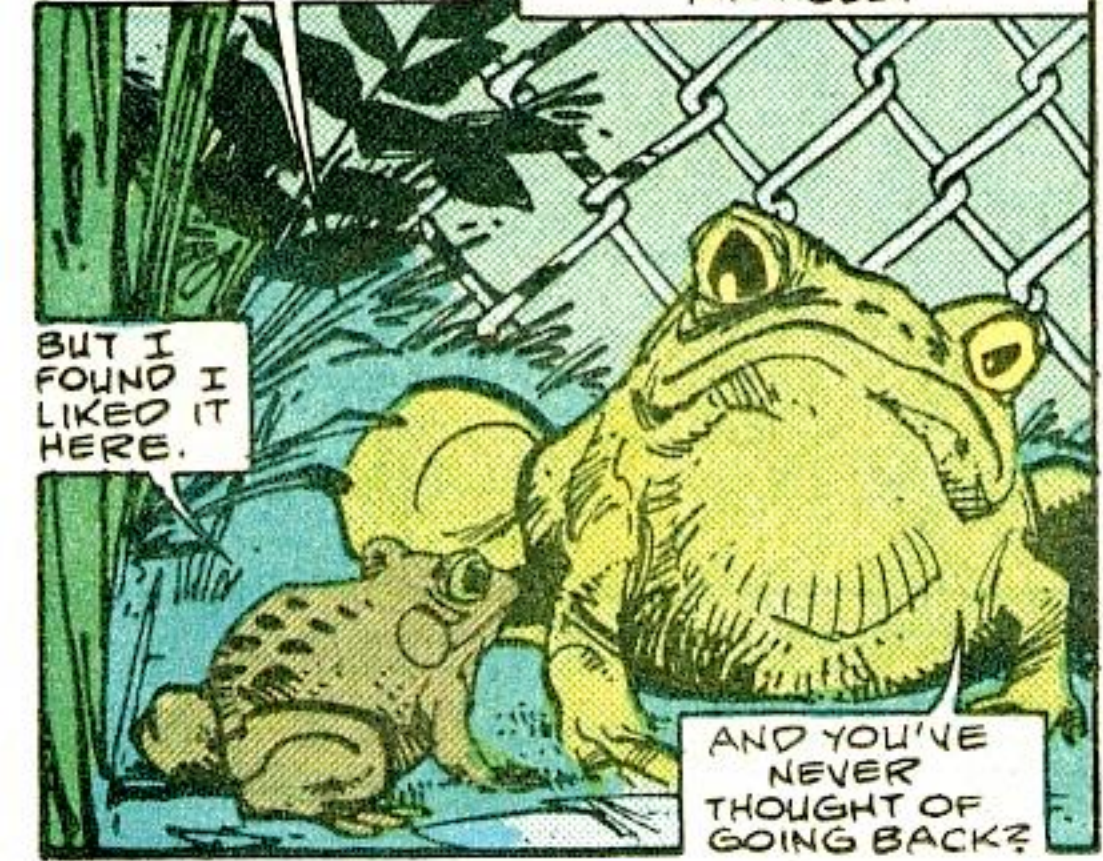
GODS? NOT MUCH, MOSTLY. BUT I'M A LITTLE LIKE YOU. I USED TO BE SOMETHING ELSE, ONLY IN MY CASE, I WAS A MAN.

GOT ON THE WRONG SIDE OF A FORTUNE-TELLER IN THE VILLAGE AND SHE TURNED OUT TO BE MORE GENUINE THAN THE USUAL ARTICLE.

TO WHAT? INCOME TAXES? MUGGERS? TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH, ALL I REALLY MISS IS FOOTBALL.

NOW I JUST MAKE SURE I DON'T KISS ANY PRETTY GIRLS.

BUT MAYBE YOU OUGHT TO GIVE IT A TRY WHEN YOU GET HOME.



BUT I FOUND I LIKED IT HERE.

AND YOU'VE NEVER THOUGHT OF GOING BACK?



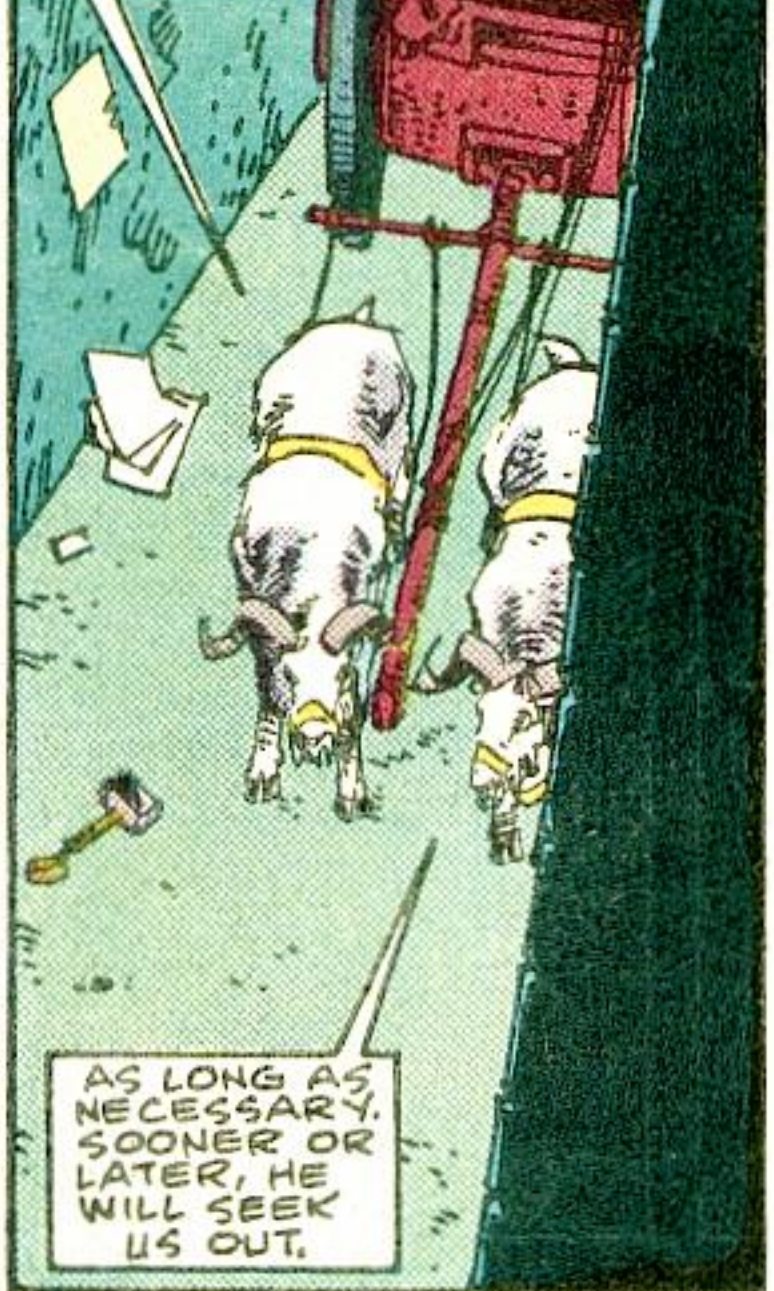
I MIGHT, PUDDEGULP. AND IF I MAKE IT BACK, I'LL COME LOOKING FOR YOU.

YOU DO THAT. SO LONG, THOR. GOOD LUCK.

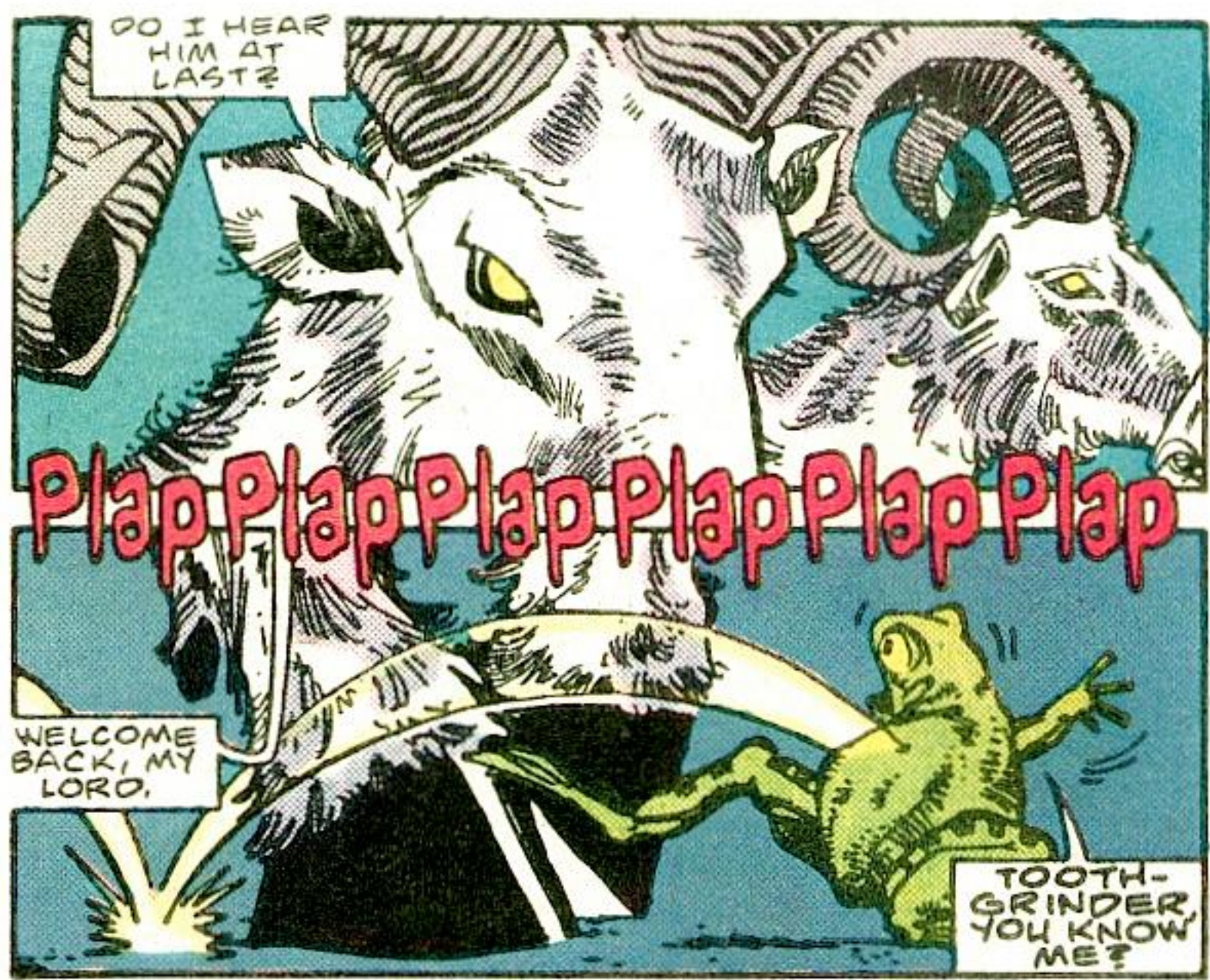
IN AN ALLEYWAY NOT FAR FROM THE AVENGERS' MANSION ON FIFTH AVENUE SITS THOR'S GREAT WAGON...

... AND HIS GOATS TOOTHGNASHER AND TOOTHGRINDER WAIT PATIENTLY FOR THEIR MASTER'S RETURN.

HOW MUCH LONGER SHALL WE WAIT FOR THE FROG?



AS LONG AS NECESSARY. SOONER OR LATER, HE WILL SEEK US OUT.



DO I HEAR HIM AT LAST?

Plap Plap Plap Plap Plap Plap

WELCOME BACK, MY LORD.

TOOTHGRINDER, YOU KNOW ME?

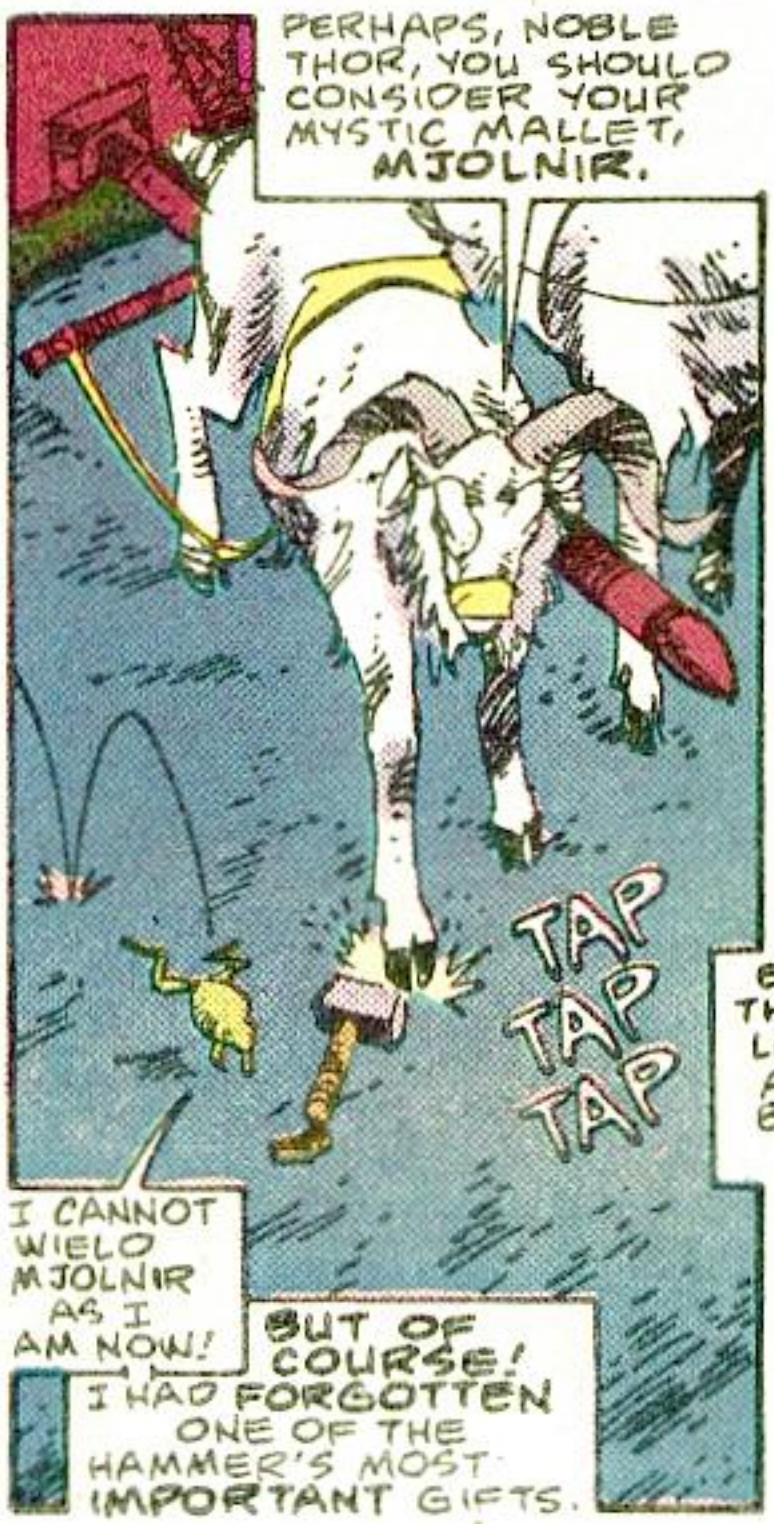


OF COURSE, LORD THOR.

EVEN WITHOUT AN AMERICAN EXPRESS CARD, ONE COULD HARDLY FAIL TO RECOGNIZE THOR, HOWEVER HIS EXTERIOR WAS DISGUISED.

HOW MAY WE SERVE YOU?

I MUST RETURN AT ONCE TO ASGARD, TOOTHGNASHER. ONLY THERE CAN I OBTAIN A REMEDY FOR THIS CONDITION.



PERHAPS, NOBLE THOR, YOU SHOULD CONSIDER YOUR MYSTIC MALLET, MJOLNIR.

TAP TAP TAP

I CANNOT WIELD MJOLNIR AS I AM NOW!

BUT OF COURSE! I HAD FORGOTTEN ONE OF THE HAMMER'S MOST IMPORTANT GIFTS.



AND IN THE DARKNESS, THE WORDS SEEM TO GLOW.

WHOEVER HOLDS THIS HAMMER IF HE BE WORTHY SHALL POSSESS THE POWER OF THOR

EVEN NOW, THE MYSTIC LETTERS APPEAR BEFORE ME!



BUT AS THOR READS AGAIN THE INSCRIPTION HE KNOWS SO WELL...

THERE HE IS WITH THOSE GOATS! I TOLD YOU RIZZO SAW HIM LEAVE THE PARK!

IF WE HADN'T BEEN SO FAR AWAY FROM THAT BLASTED PIPER, WE'D HAVE GONE TO BLAZES WITH THE REST OF OUR PALS!

NOW LET'S SEE TO IT THAT THAT FROG DOESN'T LEAVE HERE ALIVE!

UNAWARE OF THE IMPENDING DANGER, THOR TURNS THE WORDS HE HAS READ OVER AND OVER IN HIS MIND AND CONSIDERS...



THE WEIGHT OF MJOLNIR IS BEYOND THE ABILITY OF MORTAL MEANS TO MEASURE.

AND POWERFUL THOUGH I AM IN THIS FORM, I AM STILL ONLY A FROG.



BUT THE INSCRIPTION AND THE MAGIC IT PROCLAIMS...



... WERE MADE IN THE DEEPS OF TIME BY LORD ODIN HIMSELF!

AND THAT MEANS THERE MAY YET BE HOPE FOR ME!



I MUST LIFT THE HAMMER OF THOR, NO MATTER HOW IMPOSSIBLE IT SEEMS!

WITHIN MY BODY IS THE STRENGTH OF MANY FROGS...

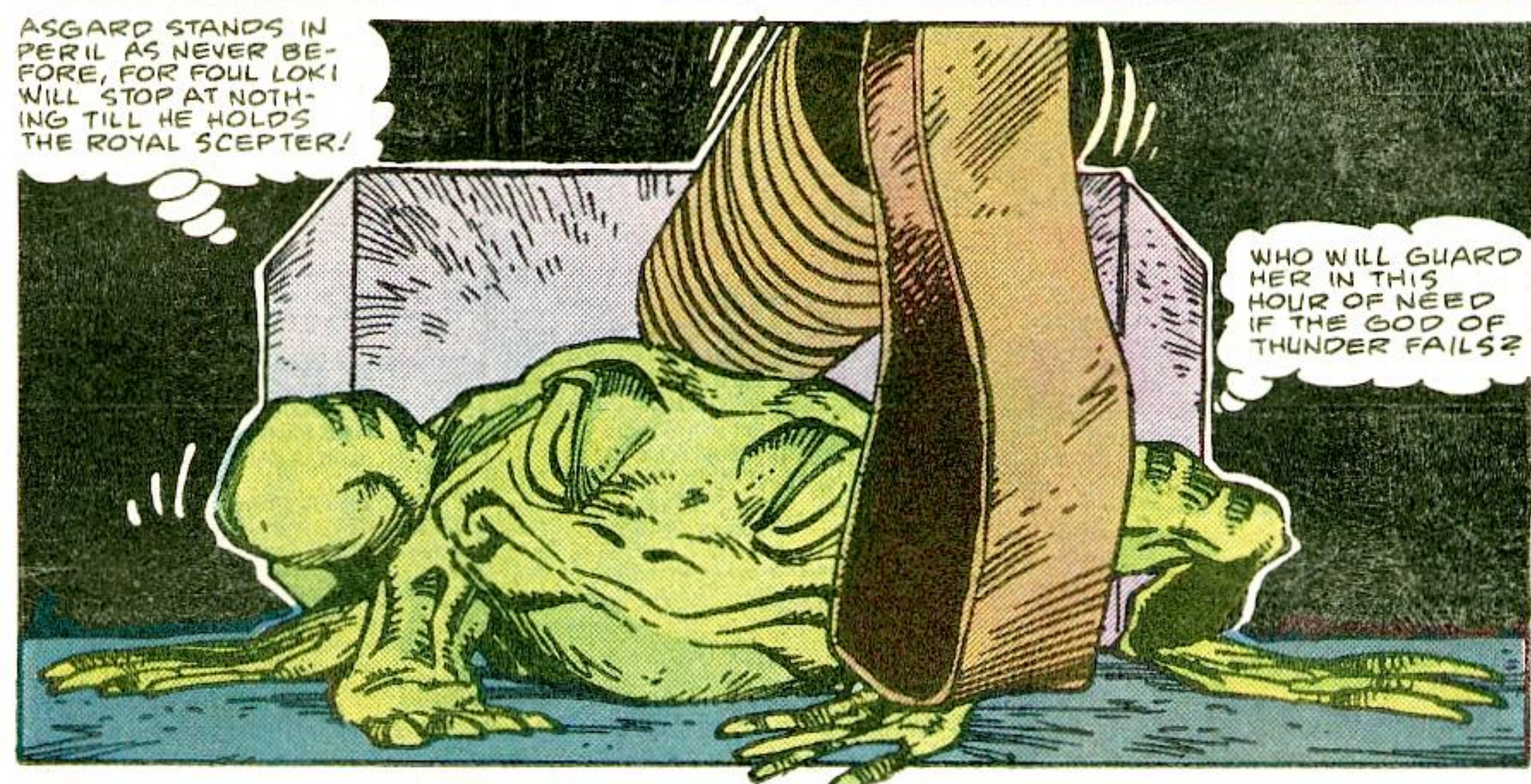
... AND I MUST CALL UPON ALL THAT STRENGTH TO AID ME NOW!



WHAT DO I SEE AT THE END OF THE ALLEYWAY? RATS!



'TIS SOUTHSIDE! COME TO CLAIM HIS REVENGE, NO DOUBT! BUT I CANNOT LET THEM STOP ME NOW!



ASGARD STANDS IN PERIL AS NEVER BEFORE, FOR FOUL LOKI WILL STOP AT NOTHING TILL HE HOLDS THE ROYAL SCEPTER!

WHO WILL GUARD HER IN THIS HOUR OF NEED IF THE GOD OF THUNDER FAILS?

MY BACK FEELS AS THOUGH IT IS BEGINNING TO BREAK!



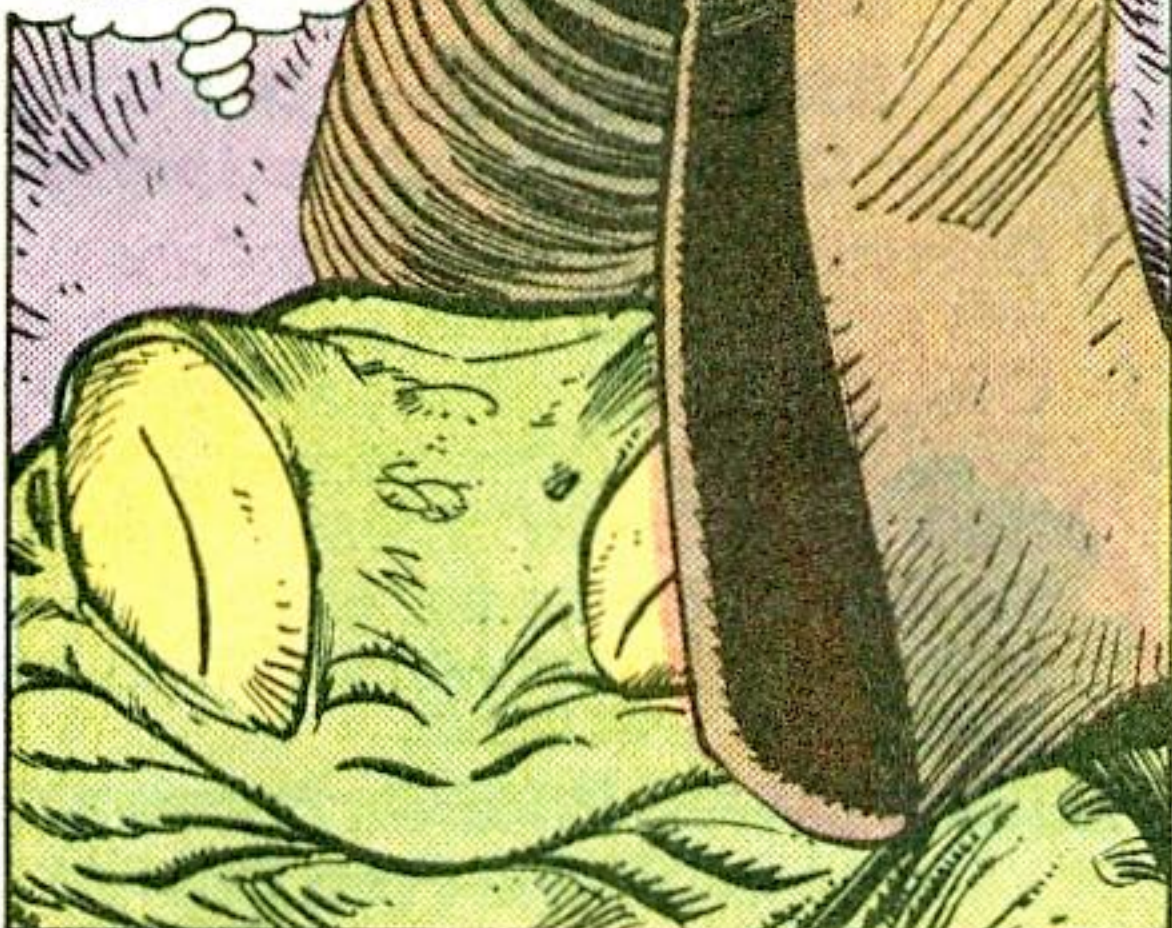
BUT I DARE NOT GIVE UP!

MY HEAD SPINS. EVERYTHING IS BEGINNING TO WHIRL AROUND! I CANNOT HOLD ON!



RISE UP, YOU SLUGGARD, THOUGH THE AGONY BE UNBEARABLE!

YOU SPOKE GLIBLY OF THE FAITH THAT MOVES MOUNTAINS WHEN THERE WERE NO MOUNTAINS TO BE MOVED!



WHERE NOW IS THAT VAUNTED COURAGE AS YOU STRUGGLE BENEATH THE HAMMER YOU ONCE HELD IN COUNTLESS BATTLES?

SHALL LOKI AT LONG LAST HAVE THE FINAL LAUGH?



IT RISES! THE HAMMER RISES!!



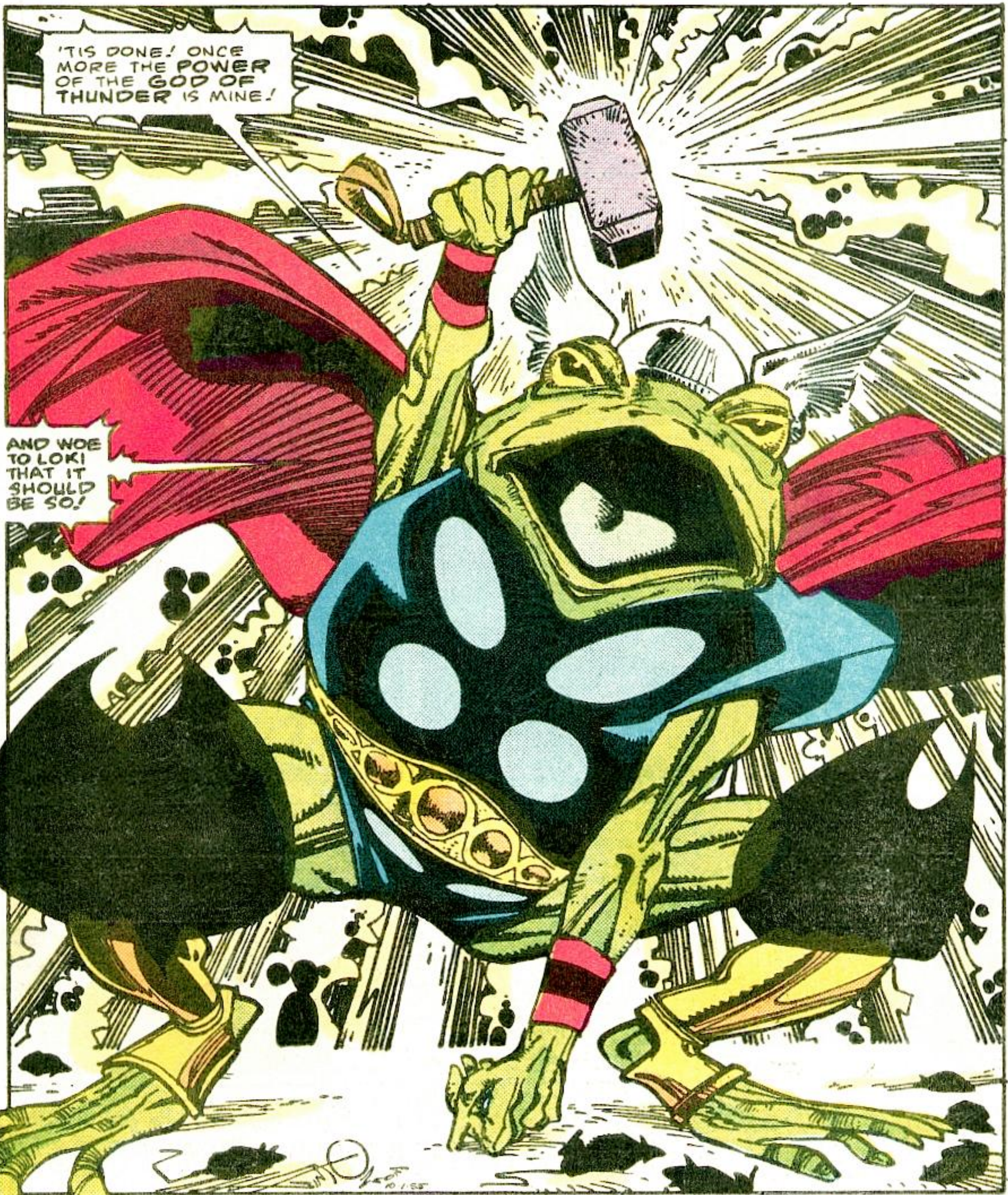
NOW IS THE MOMENT WHEN I MUST GRASP MJOLNIR'S HANDLE!



FATHER ODIN! WHEREVER YOU ARE, HEAR A WARRIOR'S PLEA!

AND GRANT THY SON HIS BIRTHRIGHT!

KRAKADOOOUM!

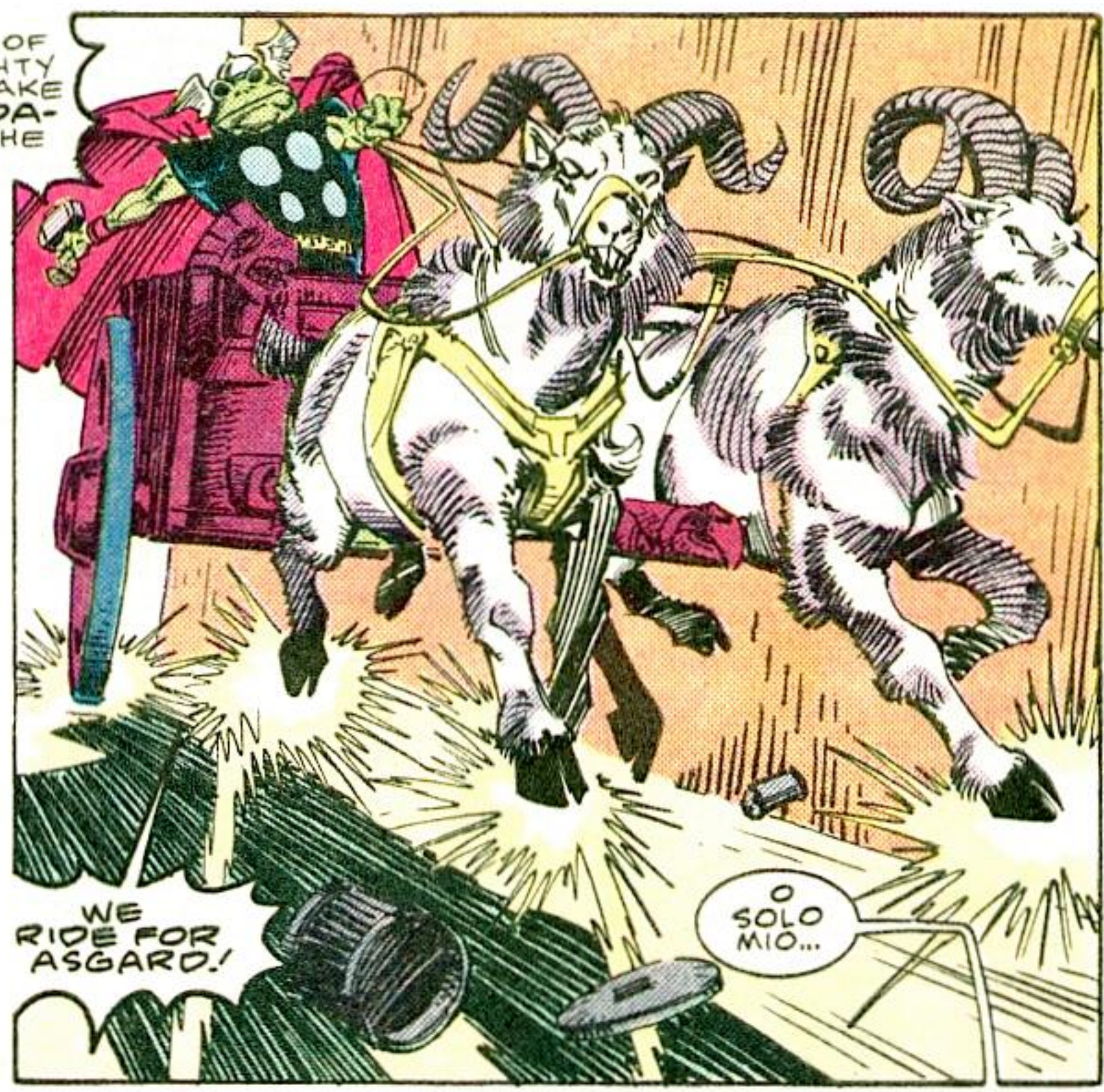


'TIS DONE! ONCE MORE THE POWER OF THE GOD OF THUNDER IS MINE!

AND WOE TO LOKI THAT IT SHOULD BE SO!

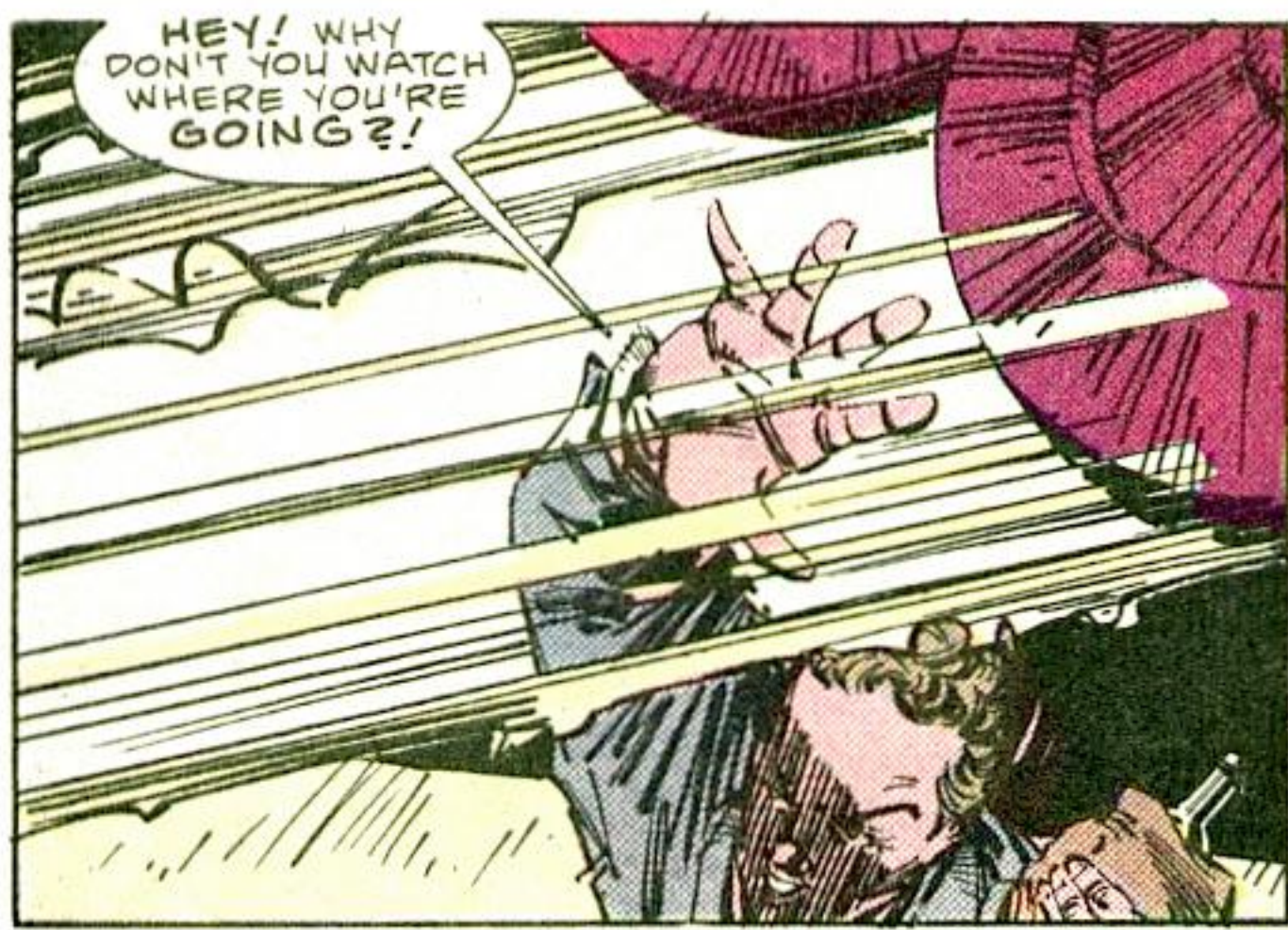
UP, TOOTH-
GNASHER!
UP, TOOTH-
GRINDER!

LET THE
THUNDER OF
YOUR MIGHTY
HOOVES SHAKE
THE FOUNDA-
TIONS OF THE
WORLD!

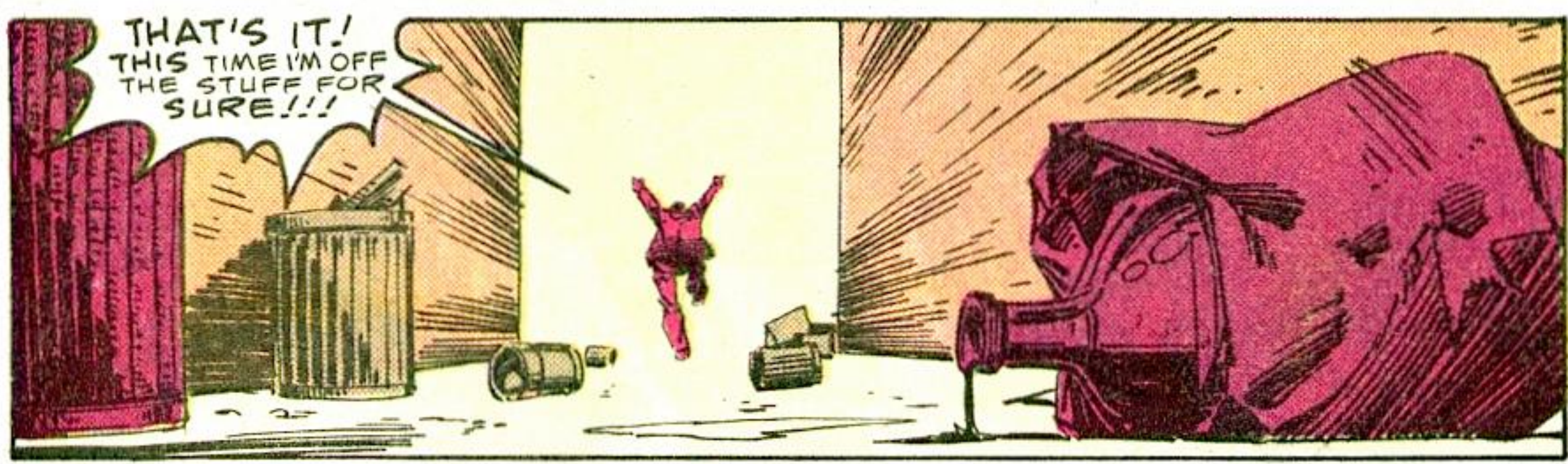


WE
RIDE FOR
ASGARD!

O
SOLO
MIO...



HEY! WHY
DON'T YOU WATCH
WHERE YOU'RE
GOING?!



THAT'S IT!
THIS TIME I'M OFF
THE STUFF FOR
SURE!!!

YOU WON'T BELIEVE OUR NEXT
ISSUE, SO WHY NOT TRY TO BE
HERE IN THIRTY. AND DON'T
BOTHR TO TELL YOUR FRIENDS.
THEY WON'T BELIEVE IT, EITHER!!!

**NEXT: WHAT DO YOU CALL A 6'6"
FIGHTING-MAD BULL FROG?
YOU'RE DARN RIGHT!**