

MARVEL®



the mighty THOR

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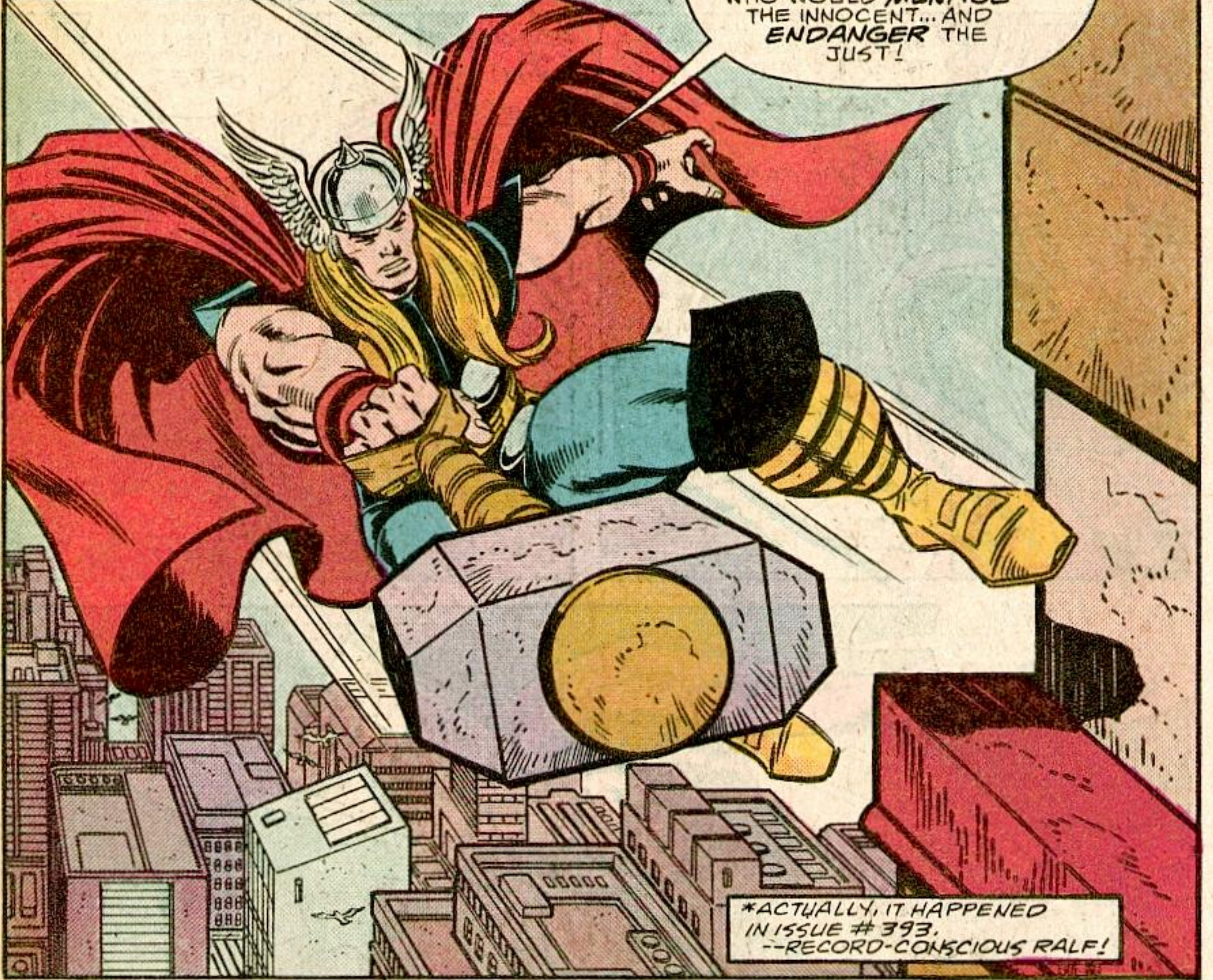
ENTER THE EARTH FORCE!

STAN LEE PRESENTS **the MIGHTY THOR**

ENTER THE EARTH FORCE!

BARELY SIXTY MINUTES* HAVE PASSED SINCE THE GOD OF THUNDER DEFEATED THE VILLAINOUS QUICKSAND AND HELPED AVERT A NUCLEAR DISASTER. AND NOW--!

THE CITY ENDURES...
...BUT THE SON OF ODIN MUST REMAIN EVER-VIGILANT...
...IF HE IS TO CONTINUE TO SAFEGUARD IT FROM THOSE WHO WOULD MENACE THE INNOCENT... AND ENDANGER THE JUST!



*ACTUALLY, IT HAPPENED IN ISSUE # 393.
--RECORD-CONSCIOUS RALF!

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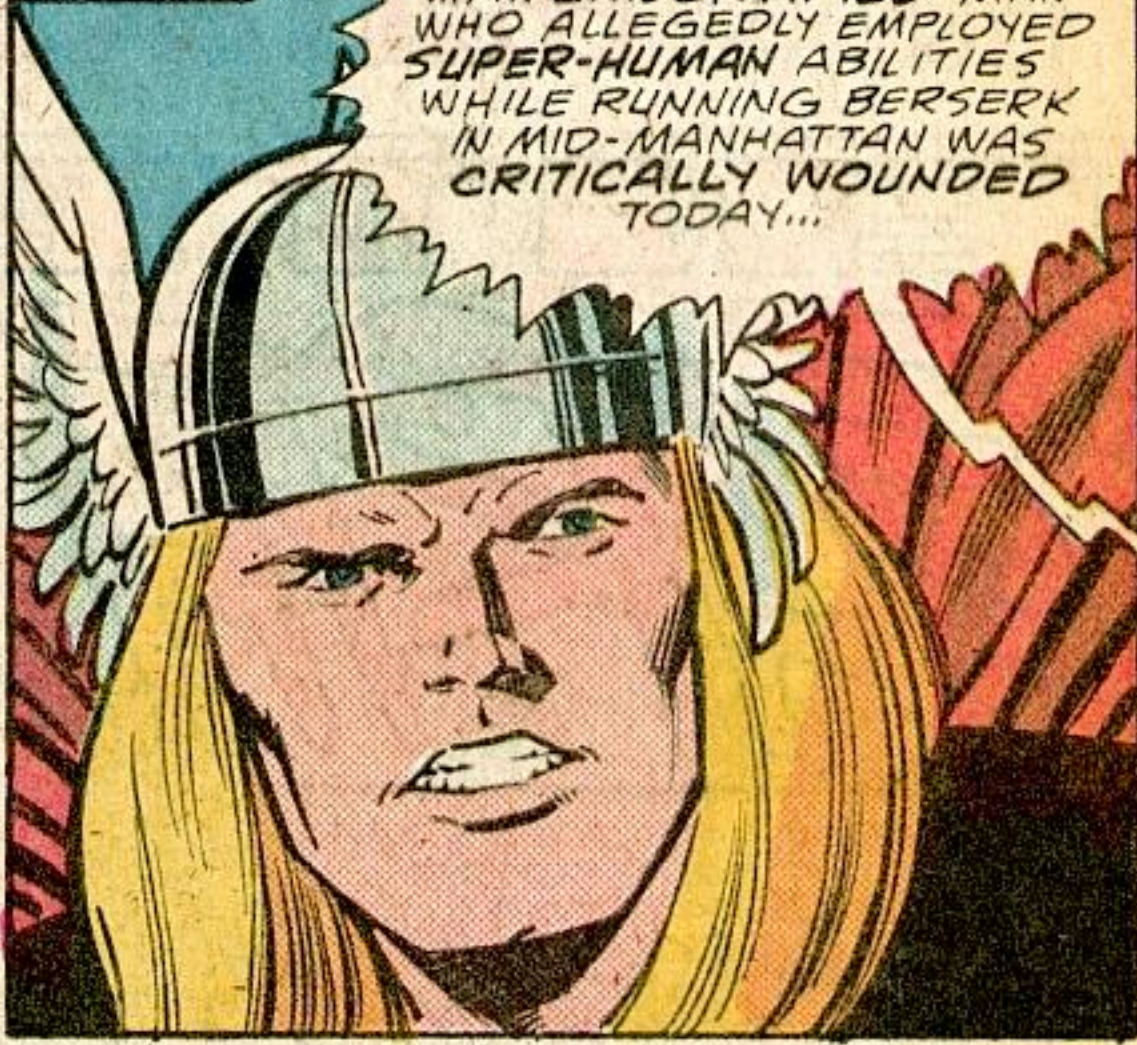
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THOUGH THE MORTALS WHO INHABIT THIS WORLD ARE FRAGILE AND FULL OF FAULTS, I AM PLEDGED TO PROTECT THEM!

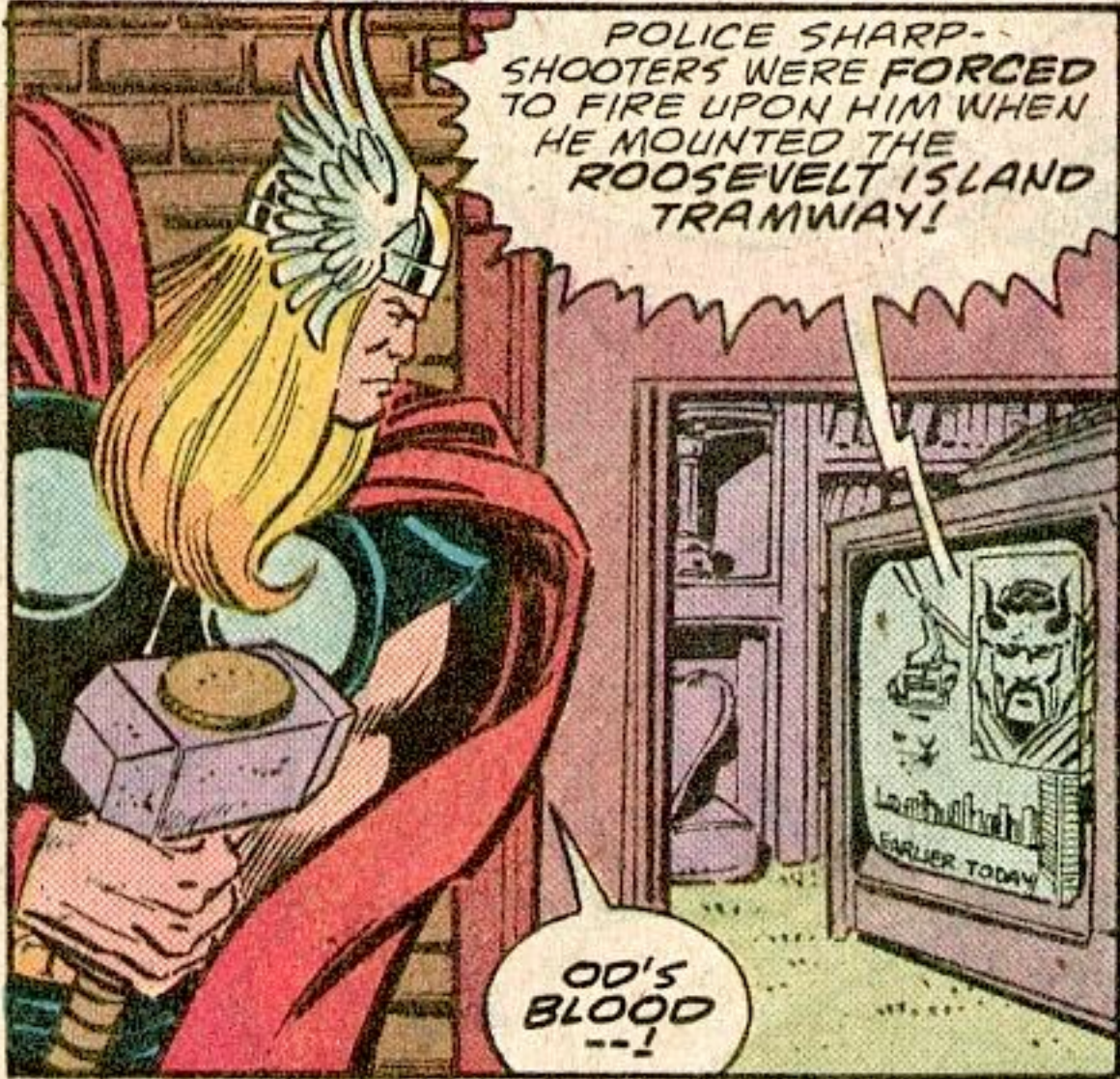


SUCH IS MY DUTY AND DESIRE!

SUDDENLY A PARTIALLY-OPENED WINDOW ALLOWS THOR TO HEAR A STARTLING NEWS REPORT...



...AN UNIDENTIFIED MAN WHO ALLEGEDLY EMPLOYED SUPER-HUMAN ABILITIES WHILE RUNNING BERSERK IN MID-MANHATTAN WAS CRITICALLY WOUNDED TODAY...



POLICE SHARP-SHOOTERS WERE FORCED TO FIRE UPON HIM WHEN HE MOUNTED THE ROOSEVELT ISLAND TRAMWAY!

OD'S BLOOD --!

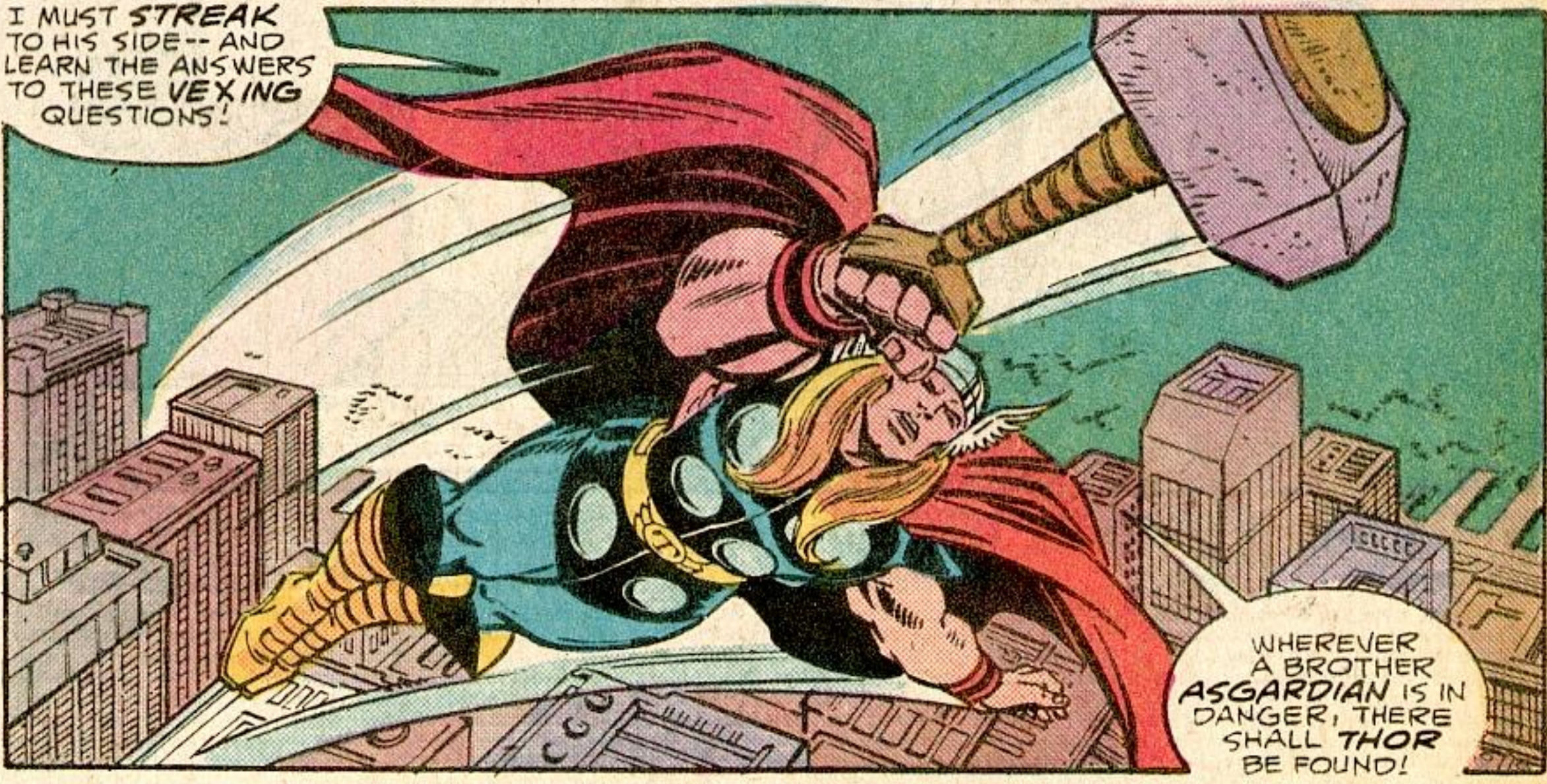


TIS HOGUN THE GRIM!

BUT WHAT IS MY FELLOW WARRIOR DOING HERE?

WHY WAS HE BATTLING THE POLICE?!

I MUST STREAK TO HIS SIDE-- AND LEARN THE ANSWERS TO THESE VEXING QUESTIONS!



WHEREVER A BROTHER ASGARDIAN IS IN DANGER, THERE SHALL THOR BE FOUND!

MEANWHILE, ACROSS TOWN...



MOVE IT!
THIS MAN NEEDS
IMMEDIATE
ATTENTION!

EVERY
SECOND
COUNTS!



OH, MY GOSH--!
Y-YOU'RE DARE-
DEVIL, THE MAN
WITHOUT
FEAR!

THAT'S WHAT
THE NEWS-
MEN CALL ME--
BUT THIS IS NO
TIME FOR FANCY
INTRODUCTIONS!

LISTEN
TO THE MAN,
NURSE--AND
STOP GAWKING
LIKE SOME
LOVE-STARVED
SCHOOL-
GIRL!



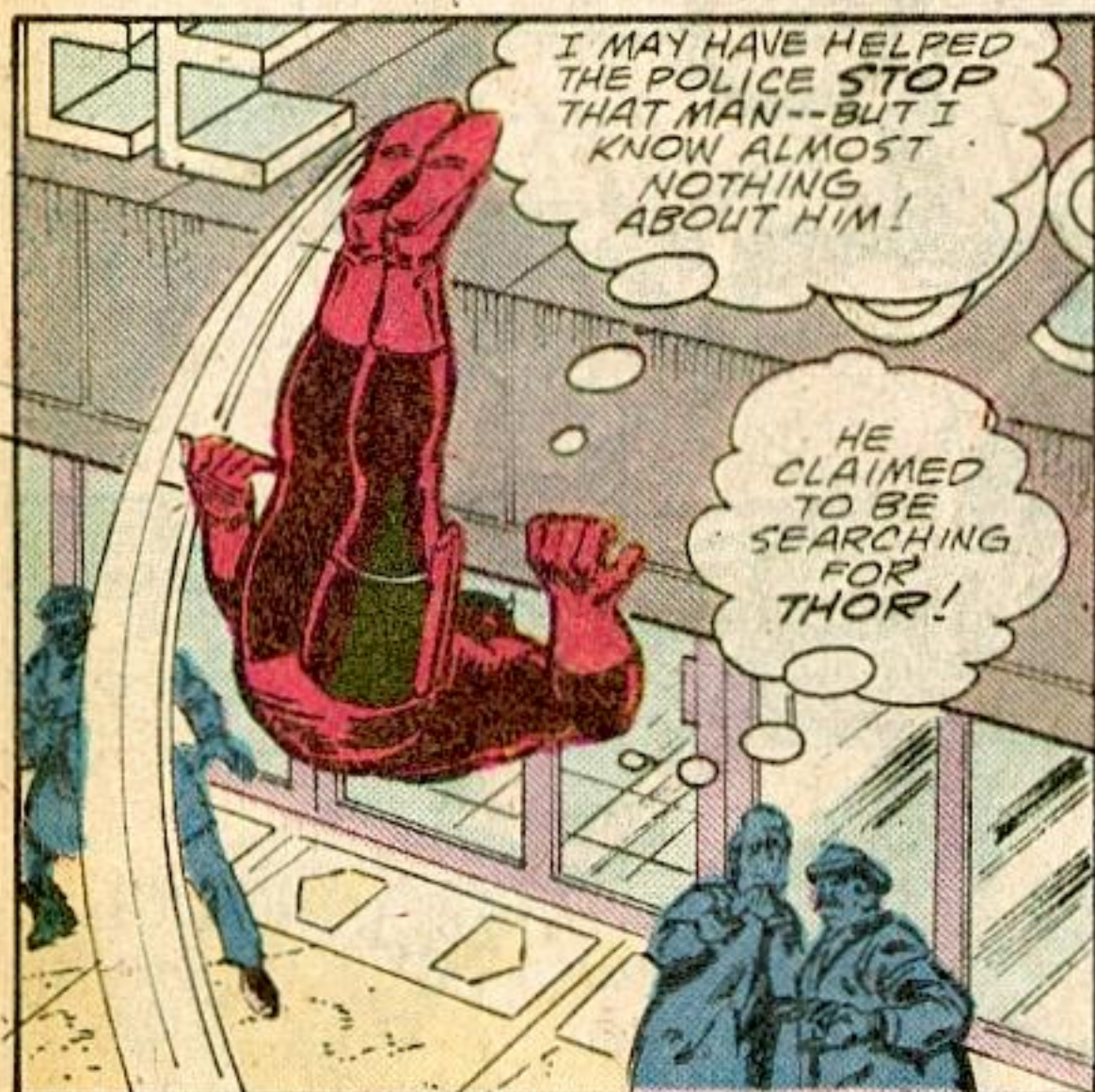
THE PATIENT MUST
BE PREPPED FOR
EMERGENCY
SURGERY!

Y-YES,
DOCTOR!

!SHEESH!-- IT TOOK TWENTY MEN IN RIOT
GEAR TO BRING 'IM DOWN-- AND LOOK AT
'EM TRYING TO SAVE 'IM! A COP WAS
SHOT YESTERDAY! I WONDER IF HE
GOT THE SAME SERVICE?

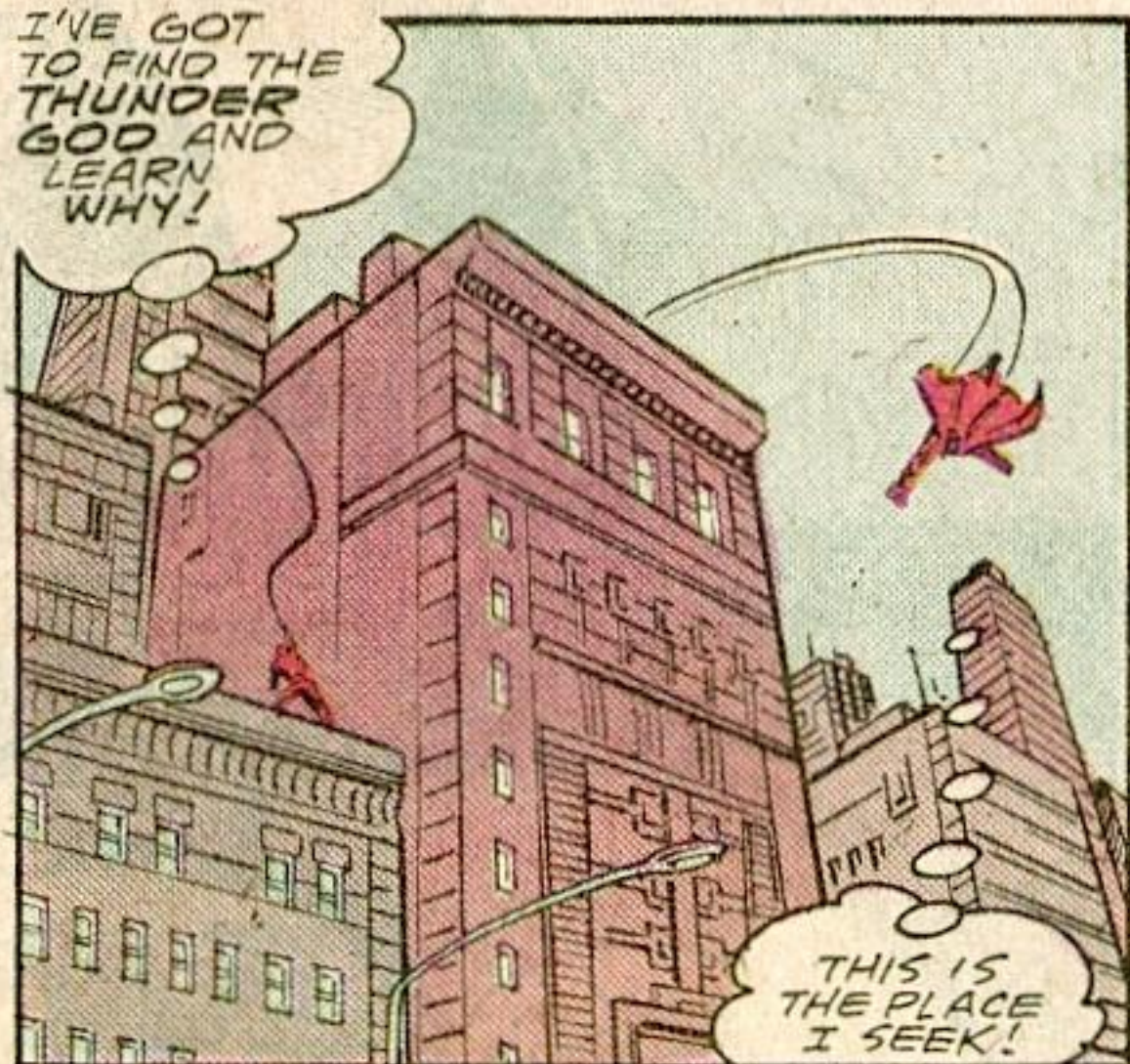


EASE UP,
OFFICER!
DOCTORS ARE
SUPPOSED TO SAVE
LIVES! ALL LIVES!



I MAY HAVE HELPED
THE POLICE STOP
THAT MAN--BUT I
KNOW ALMOST
NOTHING
ABOUT HIM!

HE
CLAIMED
TO BE
SEARCHING
FOR
THOR!

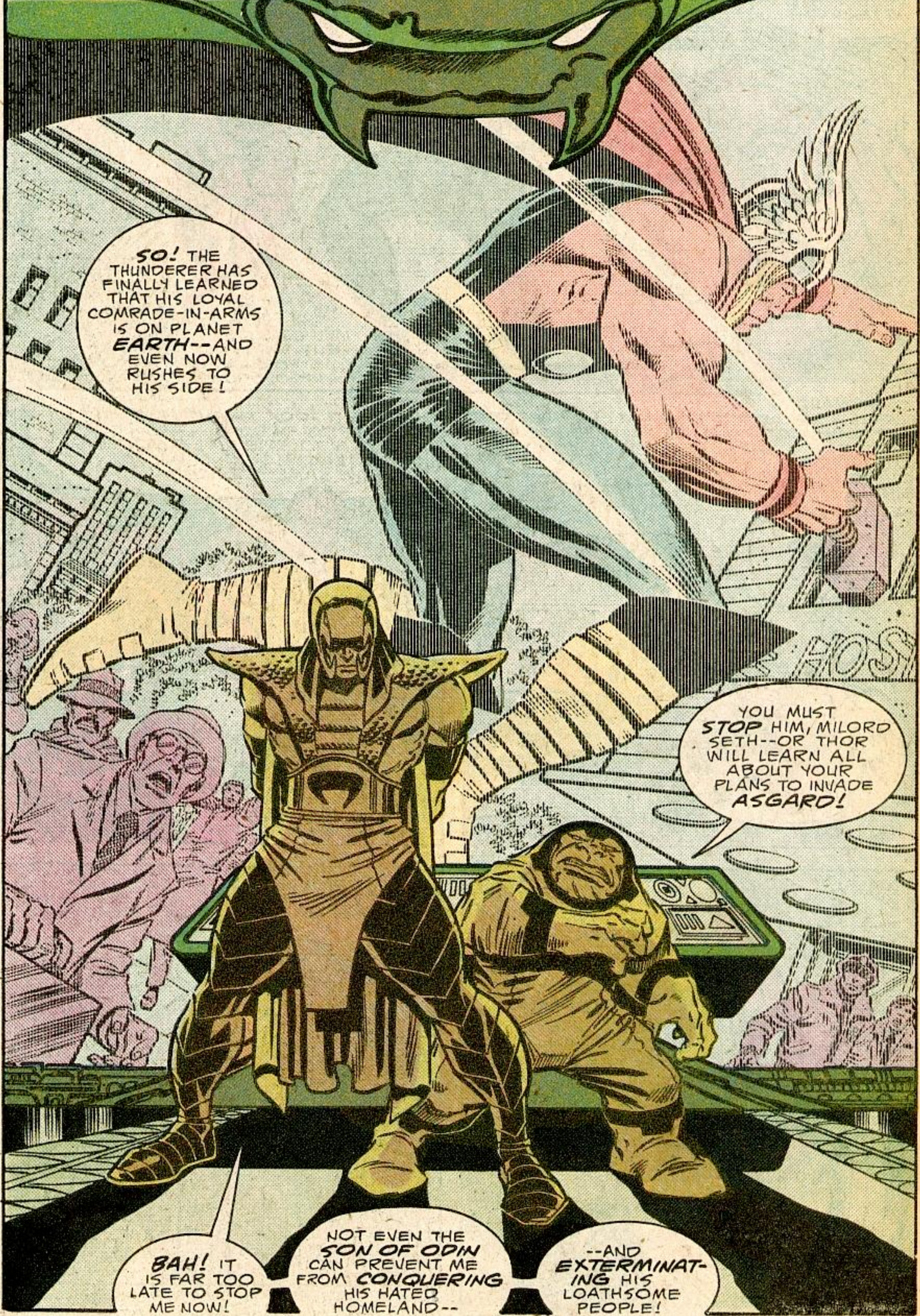


I'VE GOT
TO FIND THE
THUNDER
GOD AND
LEARN
WHY!

THIS IS
THE PLACE
I SEEK!

LIKE SHIPS PASSING ON A FOG-DARKENED
NIGHT, THOR AND DAREDEVIL MISS EACH OTHER...

AT THAT EXACT MOMENT, AN UNMENTIONABLE DISTANCE AWAY IN THE DARK AND NAMELESS DIMENSION OF SETH, THE SERPENT GOD OF DEATH...



SO! THE THUNDERER HAS FINALLY LEARNED THAT HIS LOYAL COMRADE-IN-ARMS IS ON PLANET EARTH--AND EVEN NOW RUSHES TO HIS SIDE!

YOU MUST STOP HIM, MILORD SETH--OR THOR WILL LEARN ALL ABOUT YOUR PLANS TO INVADE ASGARD!

BAH! IT IS FAR TOO LATE TO STOP ME NOW!

NOT EVEN THE SON OF ODIN CAN PREVENT ME FROM CONQUERING HIS HATED HOMELAND--

--AND EXTERMINATING HIS LOATHSOME PEOPLE!



ASGARD IS DESTINED TO FALL!

NOTHING CAN SAVE THOSE UPSTART IMMORTALS! THEY HAVE BEEN RIPE FOR INVASION EVER SINCE THEY LOST THEIR FORMER RULER --ODIN THE AL-MIGHTY!

MY SAVAGE STRIKEFORCE WILL SOON CRUSH THEM--AND EVERY OTHER PLANE OF REALITY!

DEATH WILL CONQUER ALL!



BUT WHAT ABOUT THOR?!

SILENCE! I HAVE ALREADY TOLD YOU THAT NOTHING CAN GO WRONG!

I HAVE PLANNED FOR EVERY CONTINGENCY!



THOR IS RACING TOWARD A HOSPITAL!

THERE ARE MANY WITHIN THOSE WALLS WHO ARE ON THE EDGE OF OBLIVION... AND ARE ABOUT TO ENTER MY REALM!

MANY WOULD GLADLY AID ME... IF I WERE TO OFFER TO PROLONG THEIR MISERABLE MORTAL LIVES!



MEANWHILE, AT THE HOSPITAL...

THERE MUST BE A LOT MORE TO THE PRISONER THAN WE FIRST THOUGHT... IF A HEAVY-HITTER LIKE THOR CARES ABOUT HIM!

WHERE IS THAT SURGEON? HAVE YOU NOT TOLD HIM THAT THE GOD OF THUNDER HAS DEMANDED AN AUDIENCE?!

STOP FANNING THE HALLS WITH YOUR CAPE, BLONDIE-- AND TRY TO RELAX!



THE DOC'S ON HIS WAY! IN FACT...

"...HERE HE COMES NOW!"

HOW IS THE PATIENT, DOCTOR? HOW FARES HOGUN THE GRIM?!

HIS CONDITION IS CRITICAL, SON! I CAN'T OFFER YOU A LOT OF HOPE... BUT I'LL DO MY VERY BEST TO SAVE HIM!

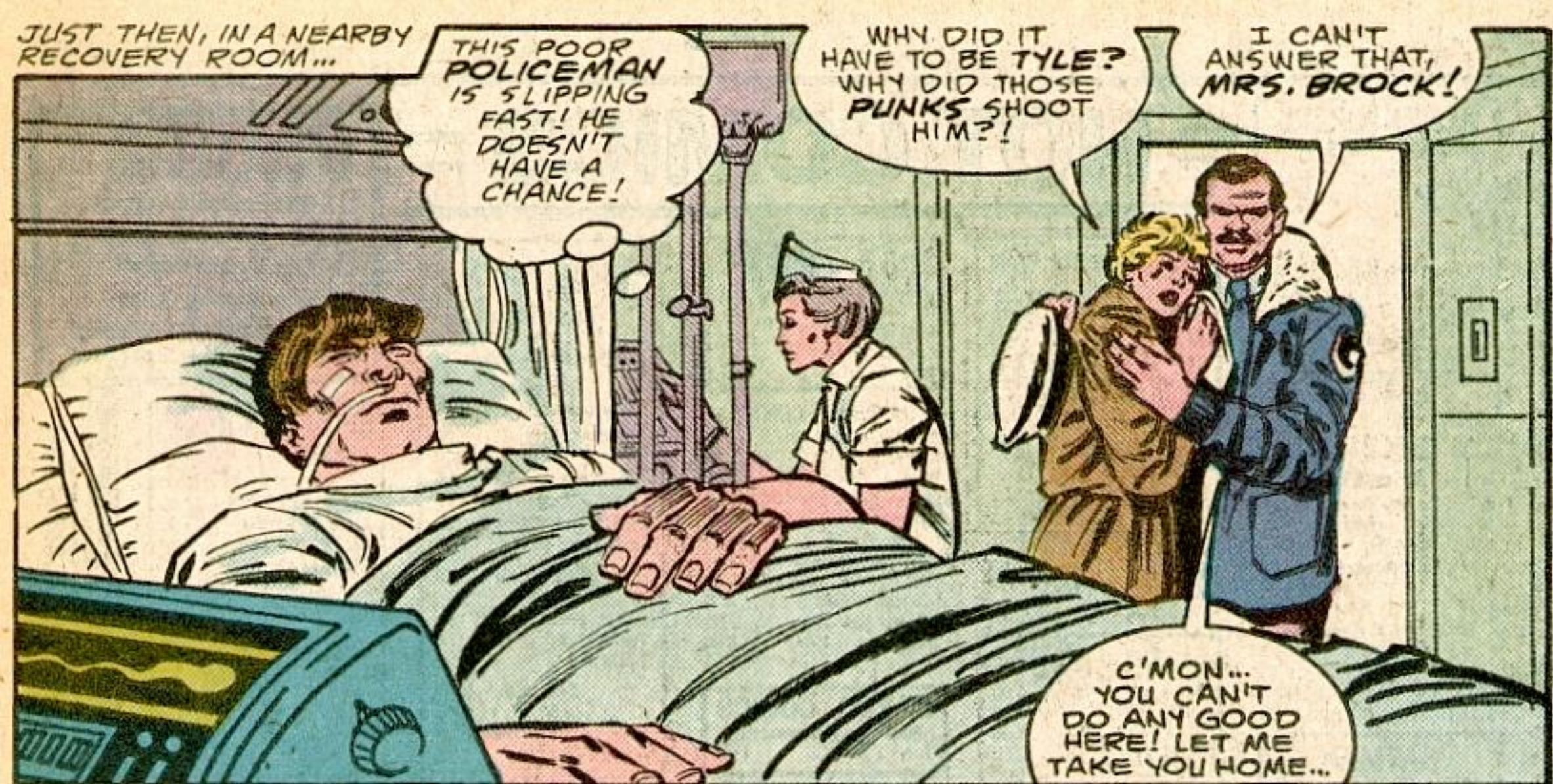


IS THERE ANYTHING I CAN DO?

YES...



YOU CAN PRAY!



JUST THEN, IN A NEARBY RECOVERY ROOM...

THIS POOR POLICEMAN IS SLIPPING FAST! HE DOESN'T HAVE A CHANCE!

WHY DID IT HAVE TO BE TYLE? WHY DID THOSE PUNKS SHOOT HIM?!

I CAN'T ANSWER THAT, MRS. BROCK!

C'MON... YOU CAN'T DO ANY GOOD HERE! LET ME TAKE YOU HOME...

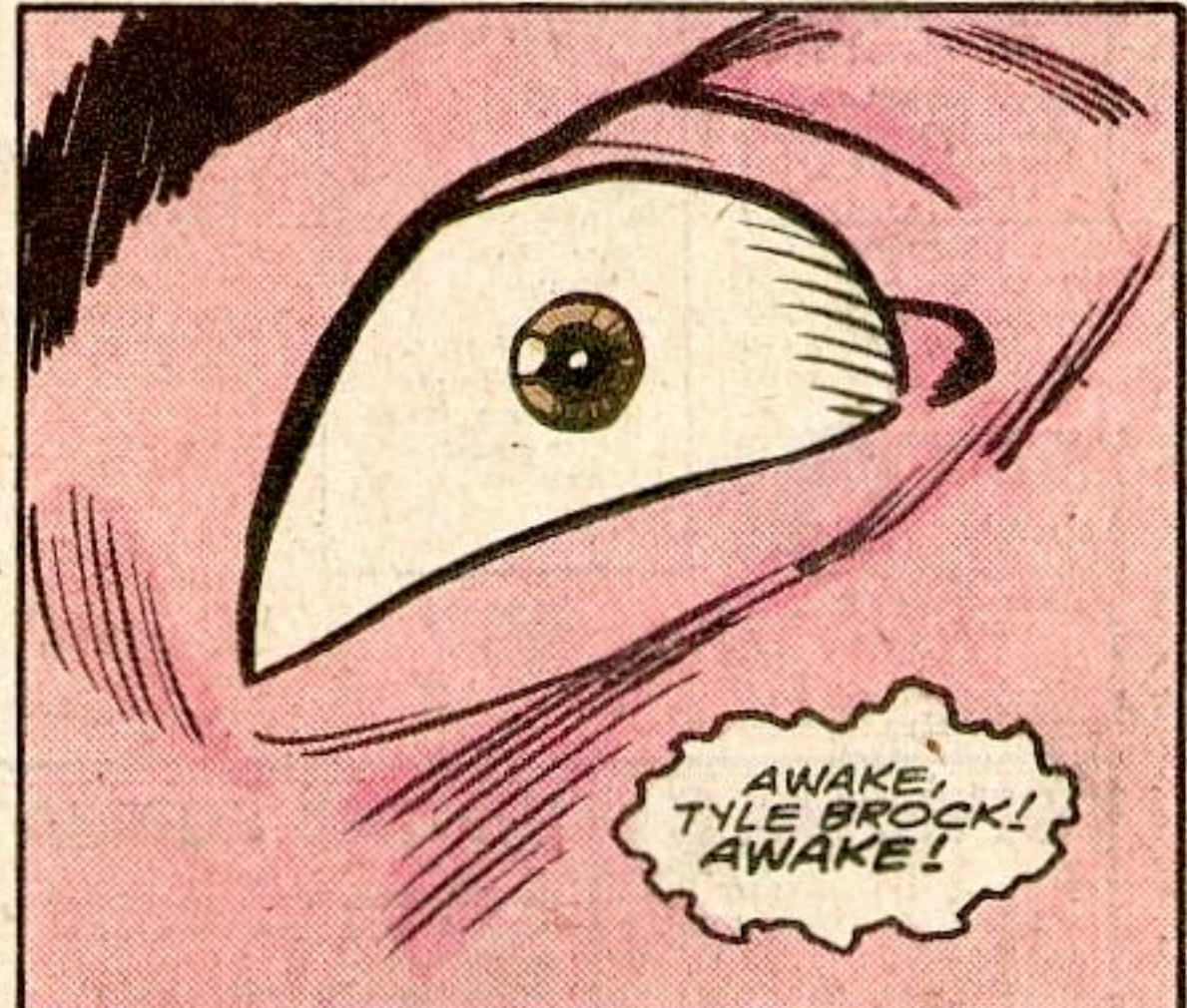


... YOU SHOULD BE WITH YOUR KIDS AT A TIME LIKE THIS!

YES, TYLE WOULD WANT IT THAT WAY!

KISSING HIM ON THE FOREHEAD FOR THE LAST TIME, MARGE BROCK ALLOWS HERSELF TO BE USHERED FROM HER HUSBAND'S ROOM...

ALONE IN THE DARKNESS, TYLE BROCK SINKS DEEPER INTO HIS COMA, DRIFTING FURTHER AND FURTHER AWAY FROM THIS MORTAL PLANE OF REALITY, AND THEN...



AWAKE, TYLE BROCK! AWAKE!



WHAT THE --?!

H-HOW'D I GET HERE?!

WH-WHERE THE HECK AM I?!

AM I... DEAD?!

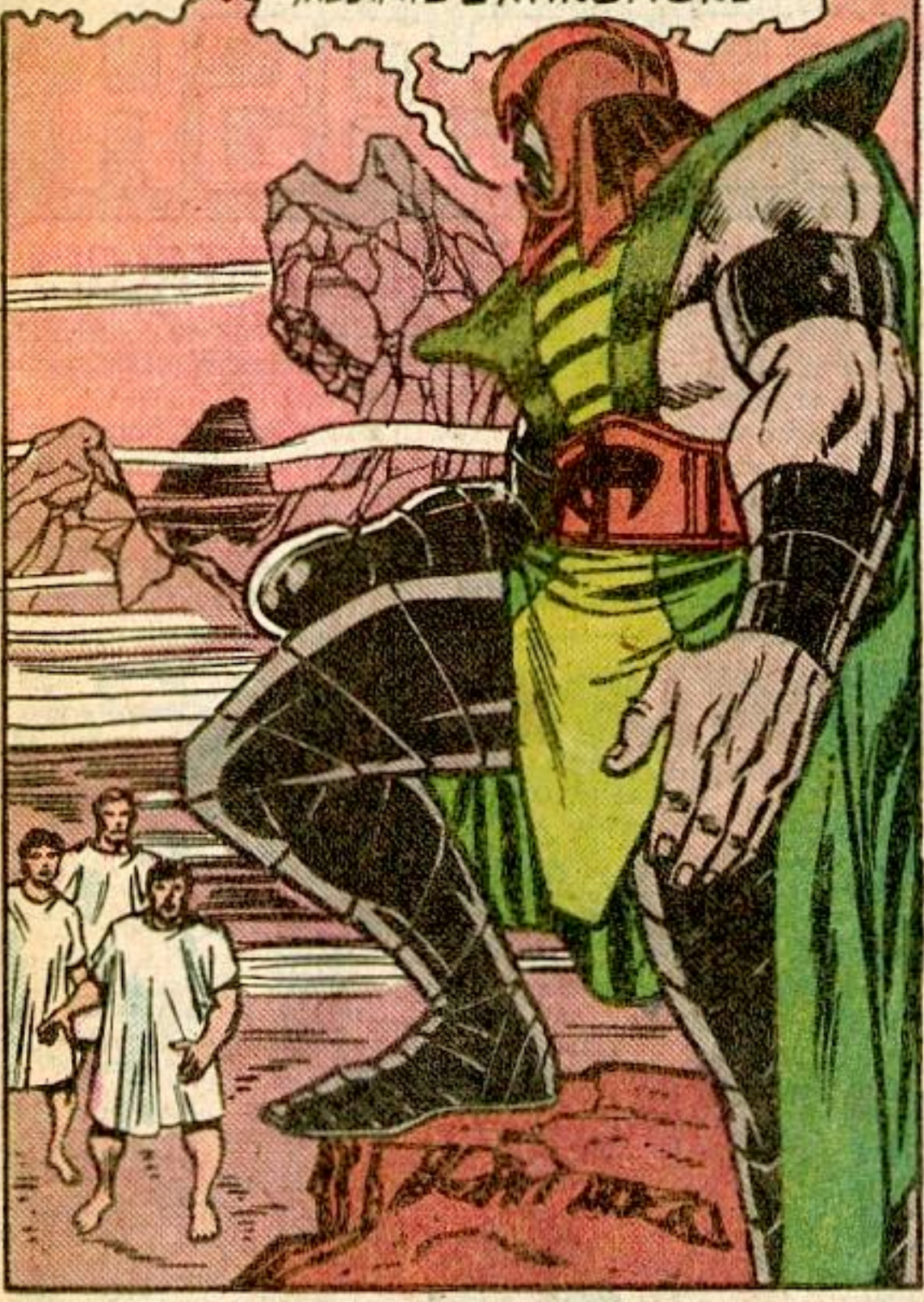


NO... NOT YET!

COME FORWARD... JOIN THE OTHERS... AND ALL OF YOUR QUESTIONS WILL BE ANSWERED!

YOUR WORLD IS IN GRAVE DANGER!

EVERYTHING YOU CARE ABOUT! EVERYONE YOU HAVE EVER LOVED IS THREATENED WITH IMMEDIATE EXTINCTION!



WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? WHO ARE YOU?!

I AM THE ONE WHO WILL GIVE YOU THE POWER TO SAVE YOUR PLANET!



TYLE BROCK, A GUARDIAN OF LAW AND ORDER WHO WAS SHOT DOWN IN THE STREETS LIKE A DOG...

WINSTON MANCHESTER, A BUSINESSMAN WHO LIVED ONLY TO WORK... AND WORKED HIMSELF INTO AN EARLY GRAVE...

AND... PAMELA SHAW, A BEAUTIFUL FLOWER THAT WAS PLUCKED MUCH TOO SOON... BY HER OWN HAND!



WHAT DID I HAVE TO LIVE FOR? MY BABY DIED, AND MY HUSBAND LEFT ME! I HAD... NOTHING!

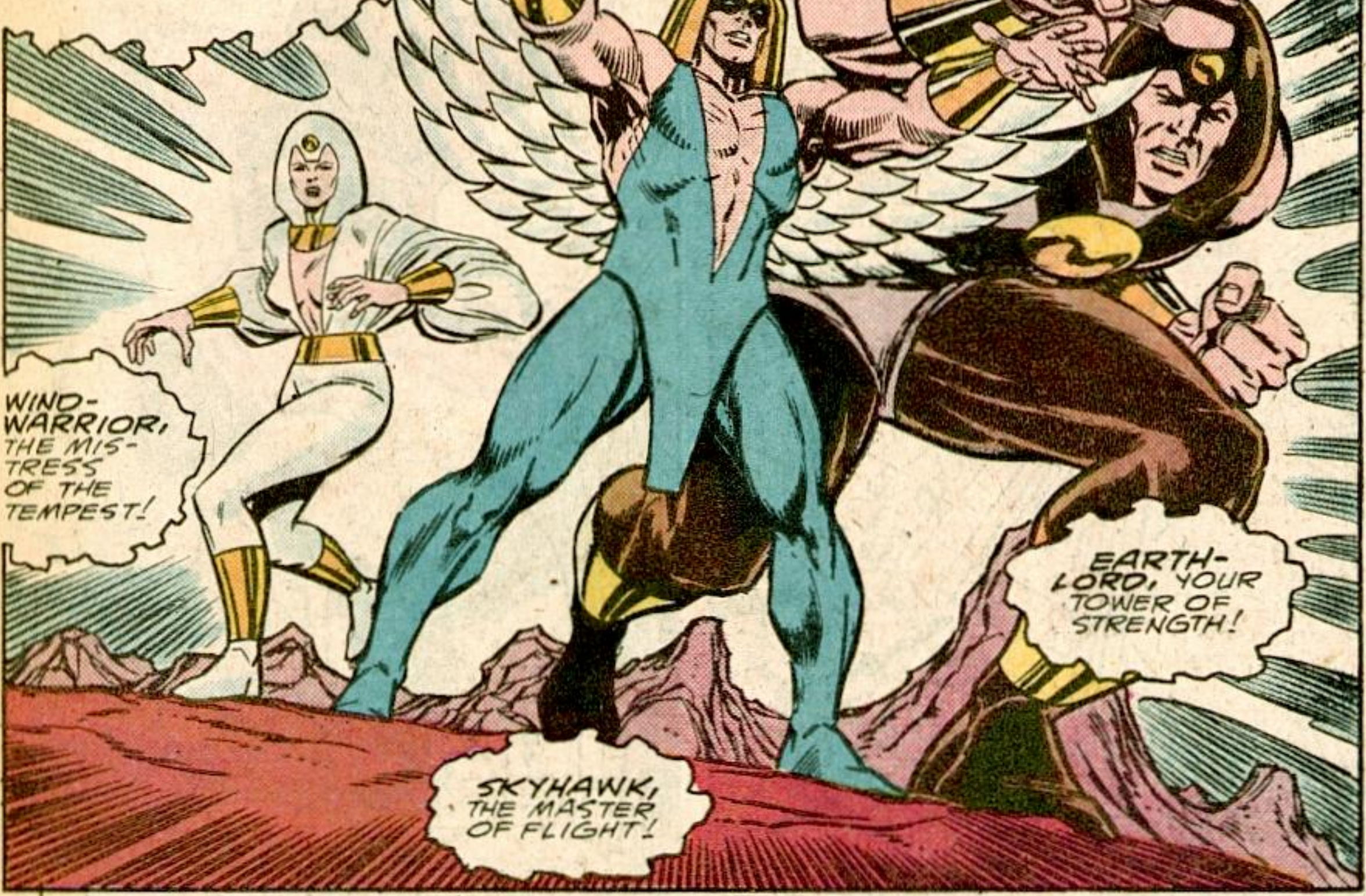
I HAVE RESCUED YOU ALL FROM THE BRINK OF DEATH!

YOU NOW POSSESS NEW LIFE! NEW POWER!



BEHOLD THE SIGN OF ATON, THE GLOWING DISC OF THE SUN--

--AND BE TRANSFORMED INTO A FORCE OF INCALCULABLE, INCREDIBLE POWER... A FORCE TO PRESERVE AND PROTECT THE PLANET EARTH!



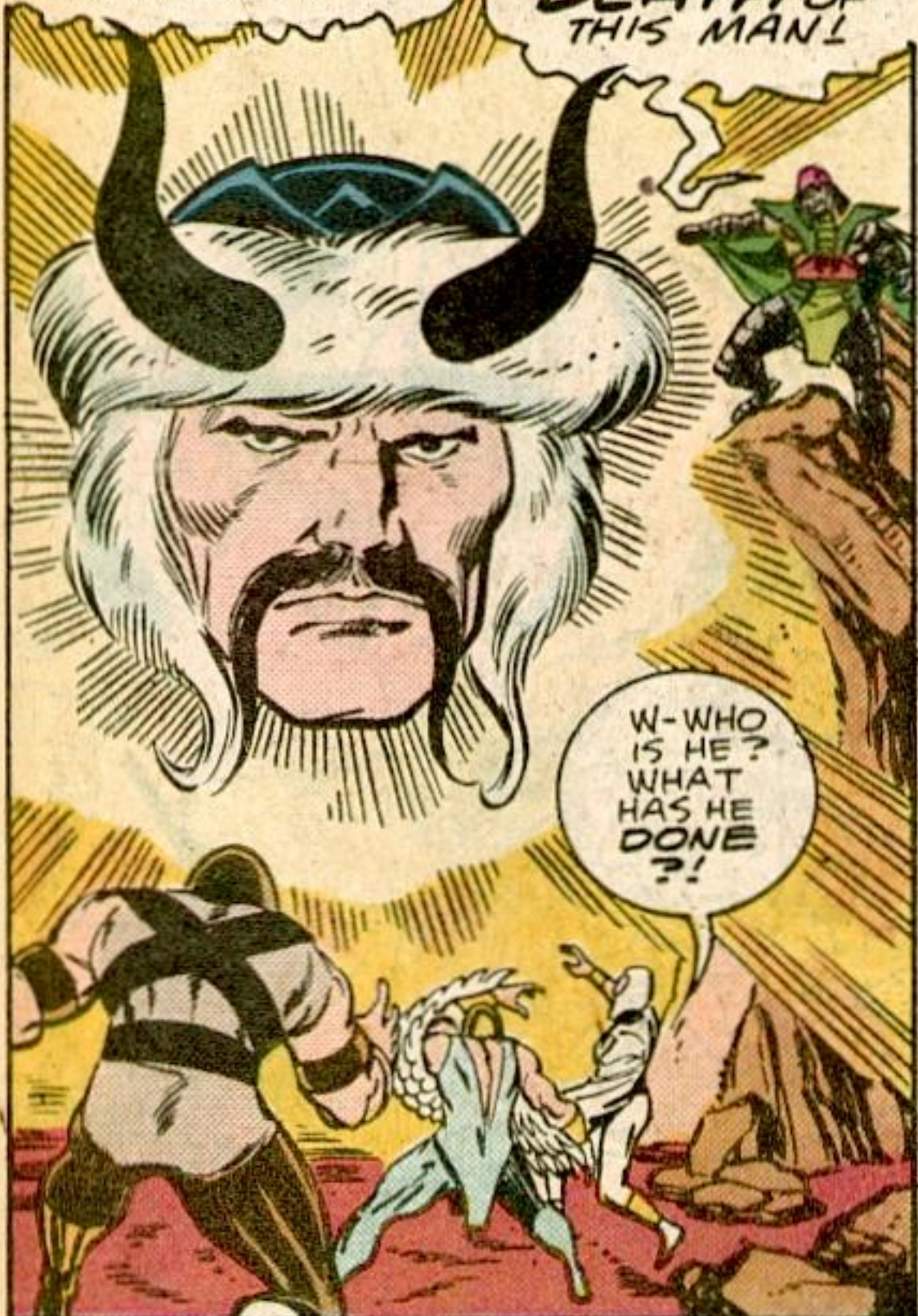
WIND-WARRIOR, THE MISTRESS OF THE TEMPEST!

EARTH-LORD, YOUR TOWER OF STRENGTH!

SKYHAWK, THE MASTER OF FLIGHT!

I HAVE GIVEN YOU MUCH, AND ASK FOR ONLY ONE THING IN RETURN...

...THE DEATH OF THIS MAN!



W-WHO IS HE? WHAT HAS HE DONE?!

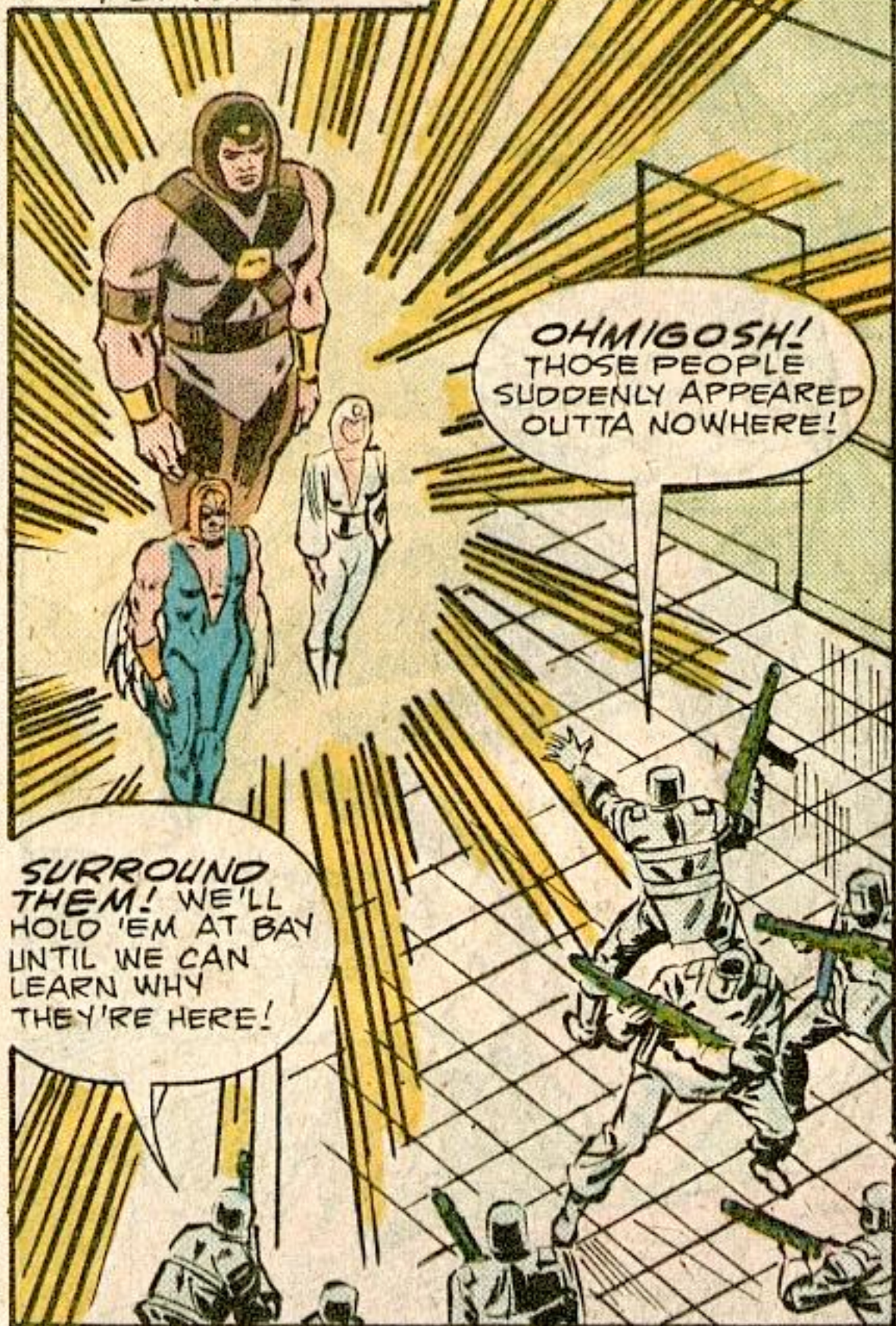
THAT NEED NOT CONCERN YOU!

SUCCEED IN YOUR MISSION, AND YOU SHALL CONTINUE TO LIVE!



FAIL ME, AND...

"-- YOUR ENTIRE WORLD WILL PERISH!!!"



OHMIGOSH!
THOSE PEOPLE
SUDDENLY APPEARED
OUTTA NOWHERE!

SURROUND
THEM! WE'LL
HOLD 'EM AT BAY
UNTIL WE CAN
LEARN WHY
THEY'RE HERE!

WE HAVE A
MISSION TO
ACCOMPLISH!
A JOB
TO DO!

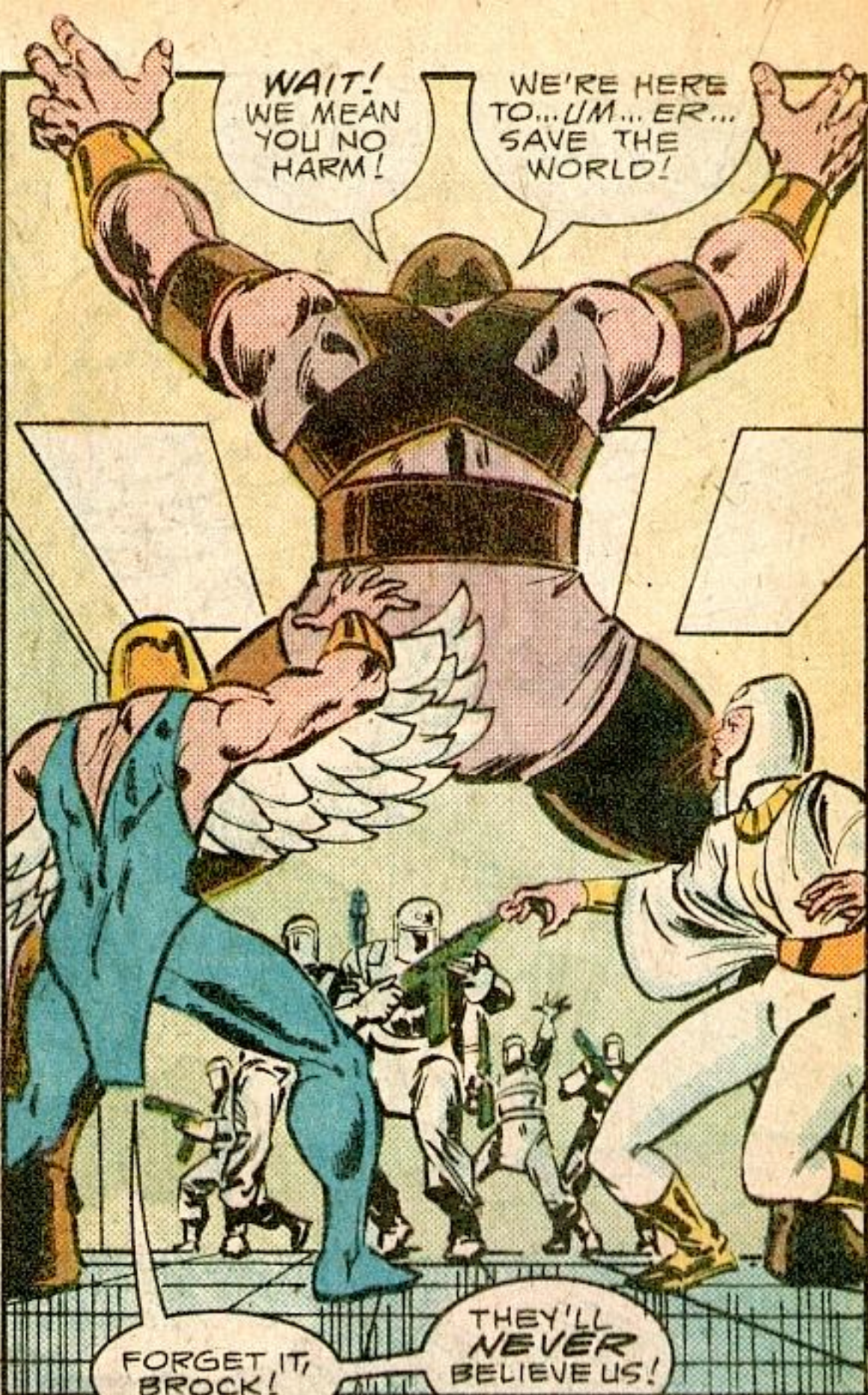


LET'S
DO IT!

LOOK OUT!
THEY'RE
ATTACKING--!

WAIT!
WE MEAN
YOU NO
HARM!

WE'RE HERE
TO...UM... ER...
SAVE THE
WORLD!



FORGET IT,
BROCK!

THEY'LL
NEVER
BELIEVE US!

BLAST YOU,
SKYHAWK!
I WAS HOPING
WE COULD AVOID
A FIGHT--

-- BUT THERE'S
NO TURNING BACK
NOW!



DON'T WORRY,
EARTH-LORD!
I CAN WHIP UP
A SMALL TEMPEST--

--AND PUT A SWIFT END TO THIS BATTLE BEFORE ANYONE GETS SERIOUSLY HURT!



NICE WORK, LADY, BUT WHAT ARE WE GONNA DO ABOUT OUR MISSION?

I'M A COP! THERE'S NO WAY I'M GONNA KILL A GUY IN COLD BLOOD!

WE HAVE NO CHOICE! IT'S HIS LIFE--OR OURS!!

THE MAN KNOWN AS HOGUN THE GRIM MUST DIE!!



NO, VILLAIN!

ANY WHO WOULD STRIKE AT MY NOBLE ASGARDIAN FRIEND MUST FIRST ANSWER TO--

--THE MIGHTY THOR!!



YOU CAN'T STOP US!

NOTHING CAN!

THE FATE OF OUR WORLD IS AT STAKE!

SKY-HAWK, WAIT --!



OH, NO --!

AS IF WE DIDN'T HAVE ENOUGH PROBLEMS, THE S.W.A.T. TEAM IS FINALLY REGAINING CONSCIOUSNESS!

I'VE GOT TO PREVENT THEM FROM ATTACKING US!

MY ONLY HOPE IS TO GENERATE A TORNADO--

"--WITH ENOUGH FORCE--

"--TO WHISK THEM AWAY FROM THE AREA BEFORE THEY CAN RE-GROUP!"

THERE! I MANAGED TO GET THEM ALL OUT OF HARM'S WAY WITHOUT ACCIDENTALLY INJURING ANYONE!

I WONDER HOW THE OTHERS ARE FARING WITH THOR?

FLATTEN HIM, YOU CLUMSY OAF!

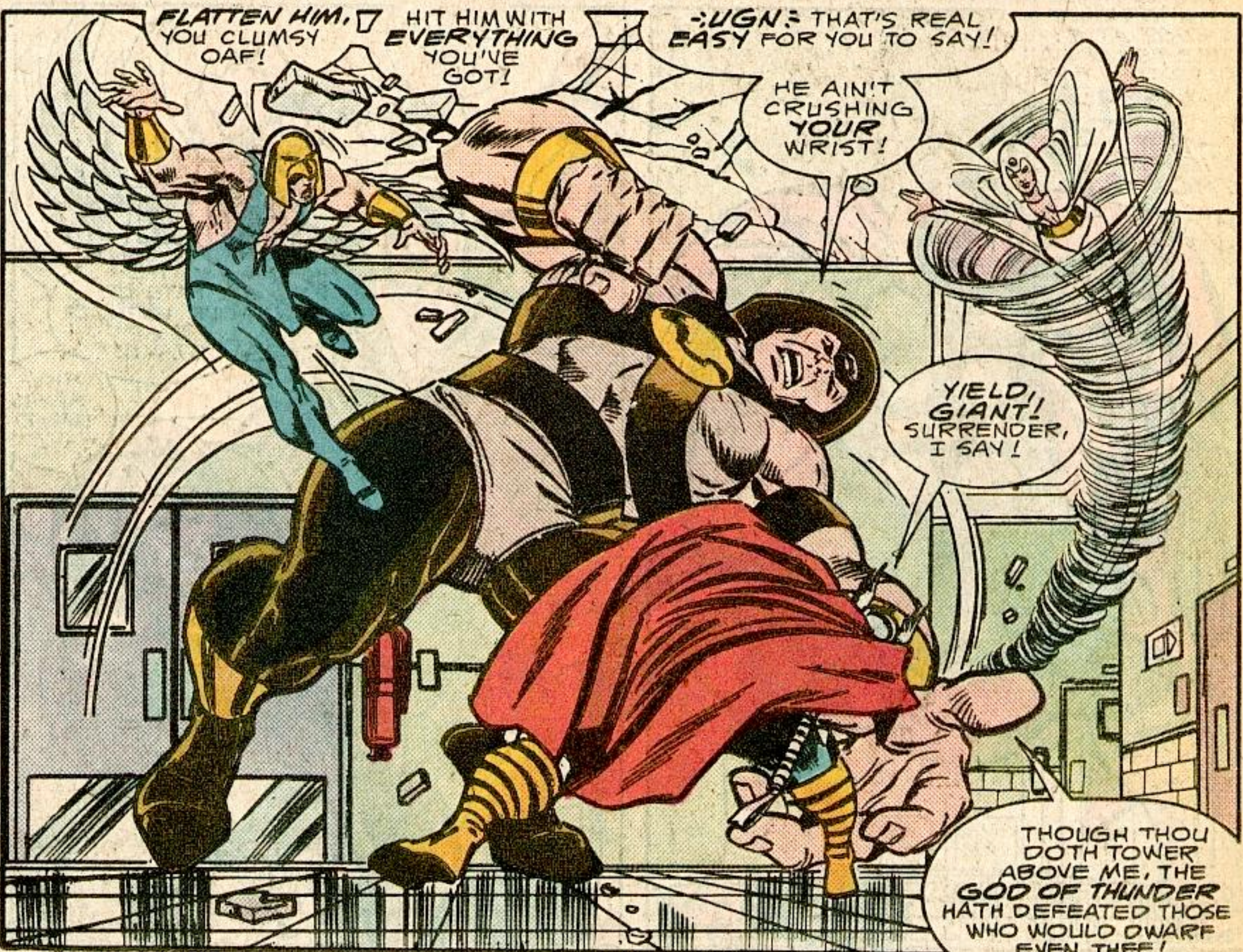
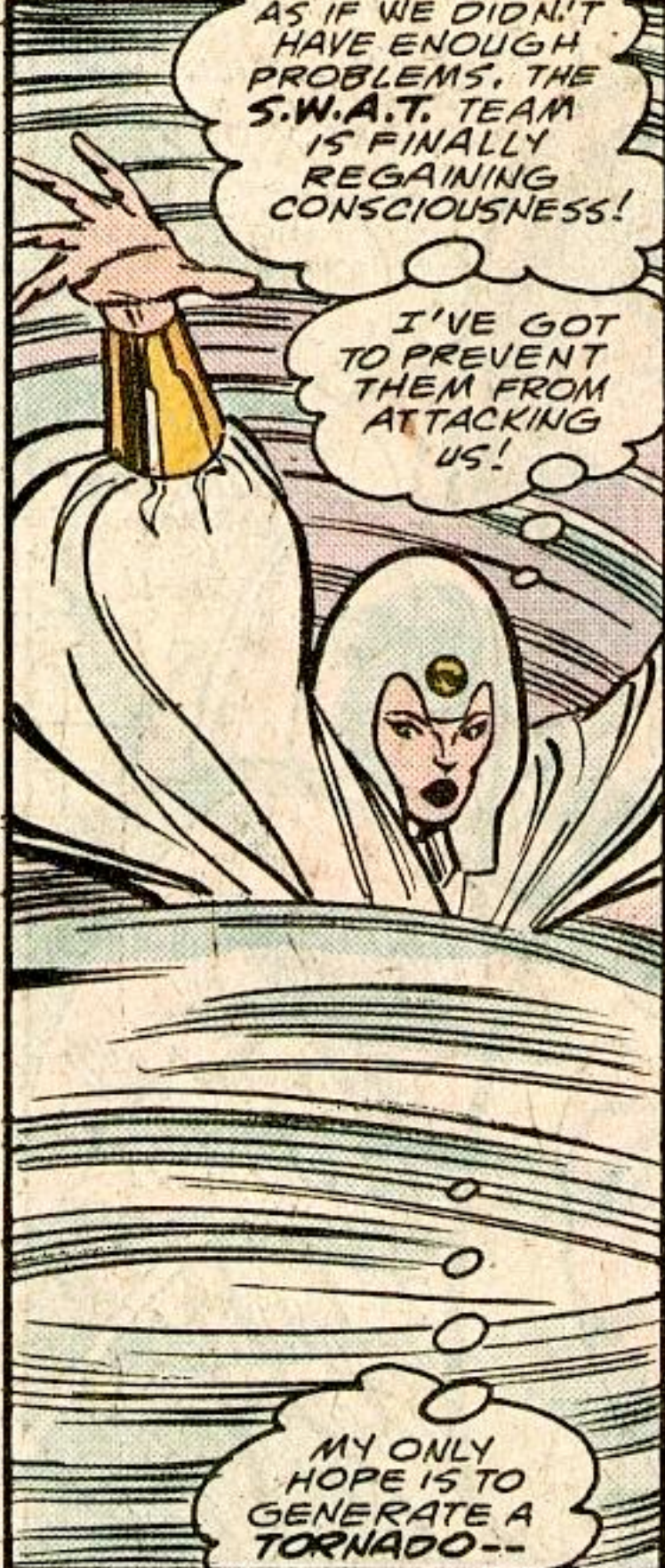
HIT HIM WITH EVERYTHING YOU'VE GOT!

UGH! THAT'S REAL EASY FOR YOU TO SAY!

HE AIN'T CRUSHING YOUR WRIST!

YIELD, GIANT! SURRENDER, I SAY!

THOUGH THOU DOTH TOWER ABOVE ME, THE GOD OF THUNDER HATH DEFEATED THOSE WHO WOULD DWARF EVEN THEE!



**BIG DEAL!
I AIN'T GIVING
UP! NOT NOW--
NOT EVER!!**

KAA-

WUINK!

**DOCTOR!
THEY'RE
TEARING
THE PLACE
APART!**

**WE'VE
GOT TO
GET OUT
OF HERE!**

**NO! WE
CAN'T DESERT
OUR PATIENT!**

**STAY AT YOUR
POSTS! WE MUST
COMPLETE THE
OPERATION! A
MAN'S LIFE
HANGS IN THE
BALANCE!**

**THERE ARE FEW
WHO COULD EQUAL THE
RAW COURAGE AND
SELFLESS NOBILITY OF
YON MORTAL SURGEON!**

**SUCH HEROISM
CANNOT GO UN-
REWARDED! MY
ROTATING URU
HAMMER WILL
ATTRACT SUFFI-
CIENT QUANTITIES
OF INTERDIMEN-
SIONAL COSMIC
MATRIX
ENERGY--**

**--TO FORM AN
INDESTRUCT-
IBLE SHIELD
AROUND THE
ENTIRE
OPERATING TEAM!**



STAND YE BACK!

HOGUN IS NOW SAFELY BEYOND YOUR REACH!

THAT'S WHAT YOU THINK!

EARTH-LORD WILL EASILY CRACK THAT DOME!



GO TO IT, KID!

WHAT AM I GOING TO DO? IF I DON'T ACE THIS GUY, MY WIFE... MY KIDS... MY ENTIRE WORLD... WILL DIE!!

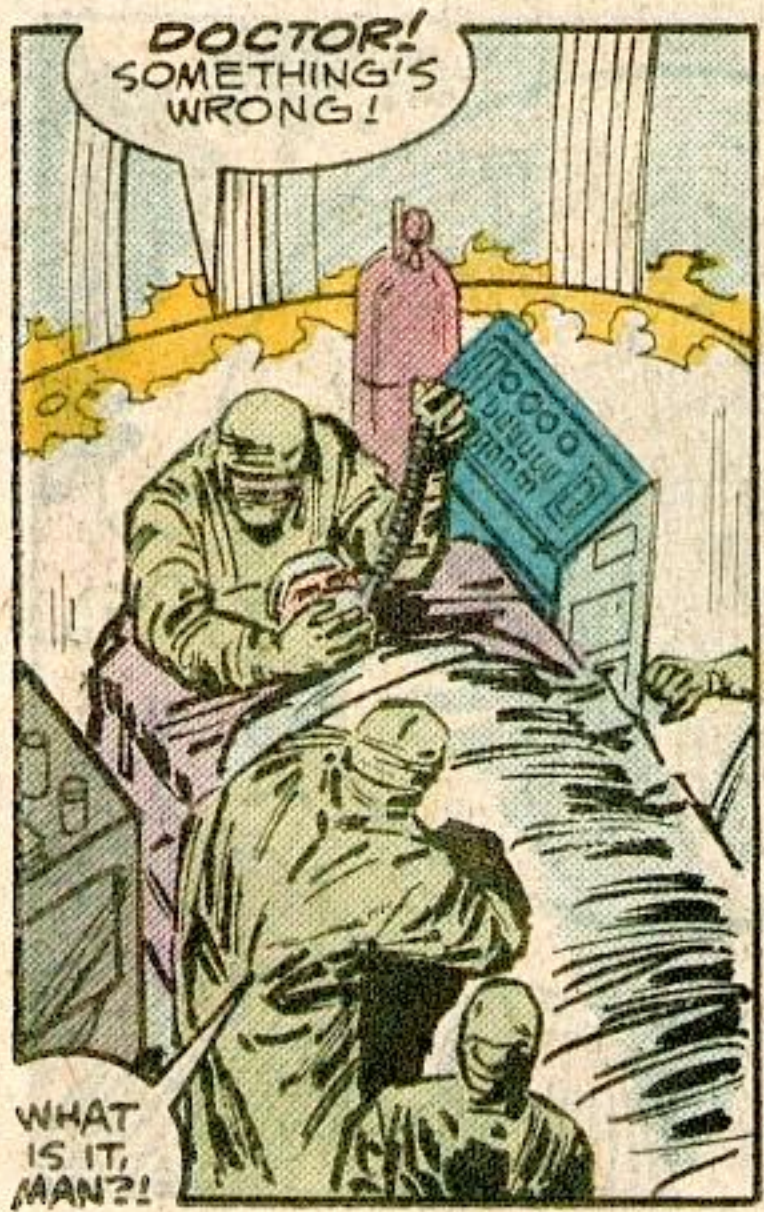
PWA
KKA

BUT I WAS TRAINED TO PROTECT LIVES... NOT TAKE THEM!



CEASE THY FUTILE EFFORTS, GIANT!

THY SHATTERING FORCE IS NOTHING WHEN COMPARED WITH THE POWER AND WONDER OF MJOLNIR, THE SACRED MALLETT!



DOCTOR! SOMETHING'S WRONG!

WHAT IS IT, MAN?!

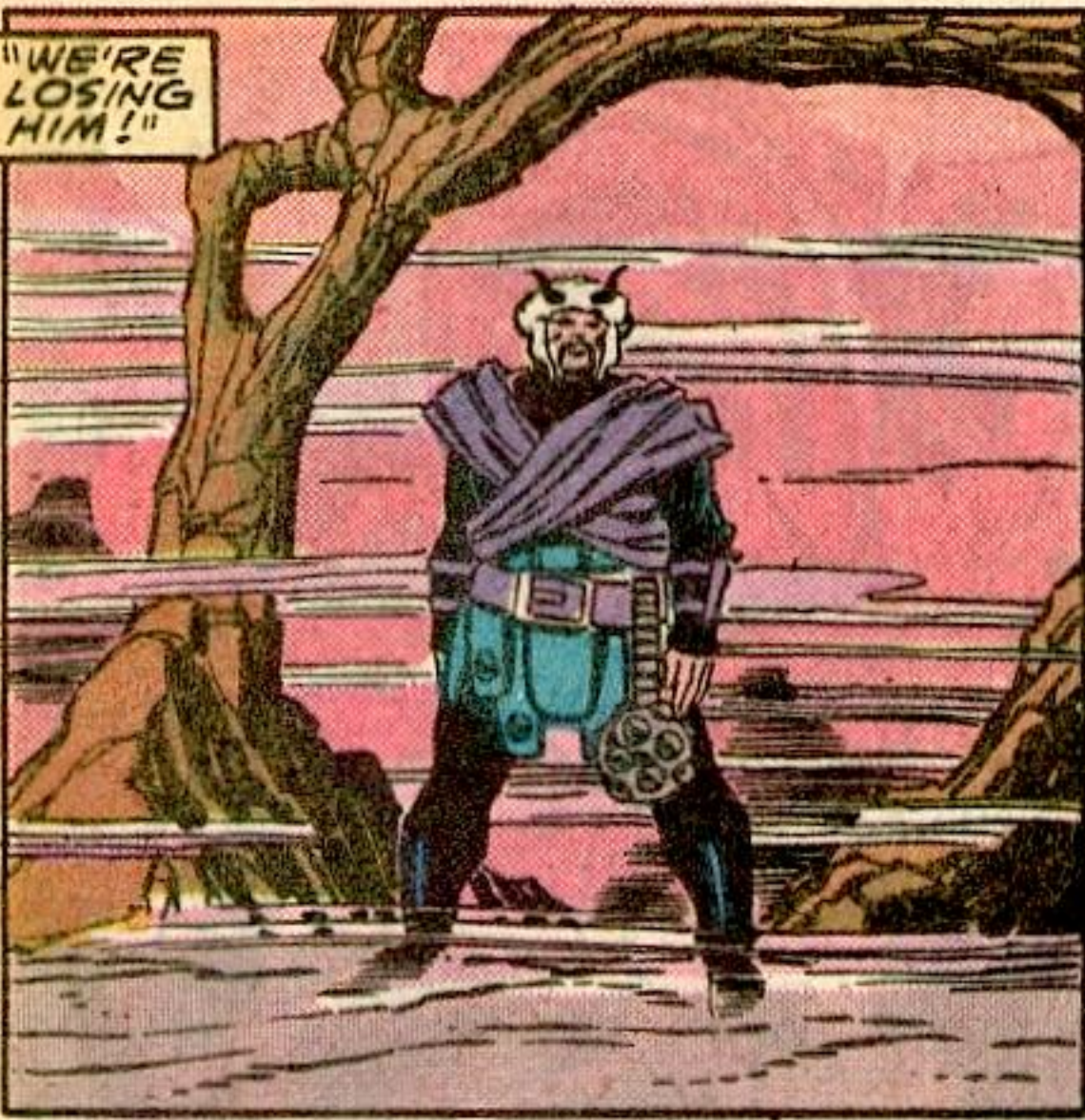


THE PATIENT IS SLIPPING INTO A DEEP COMA!

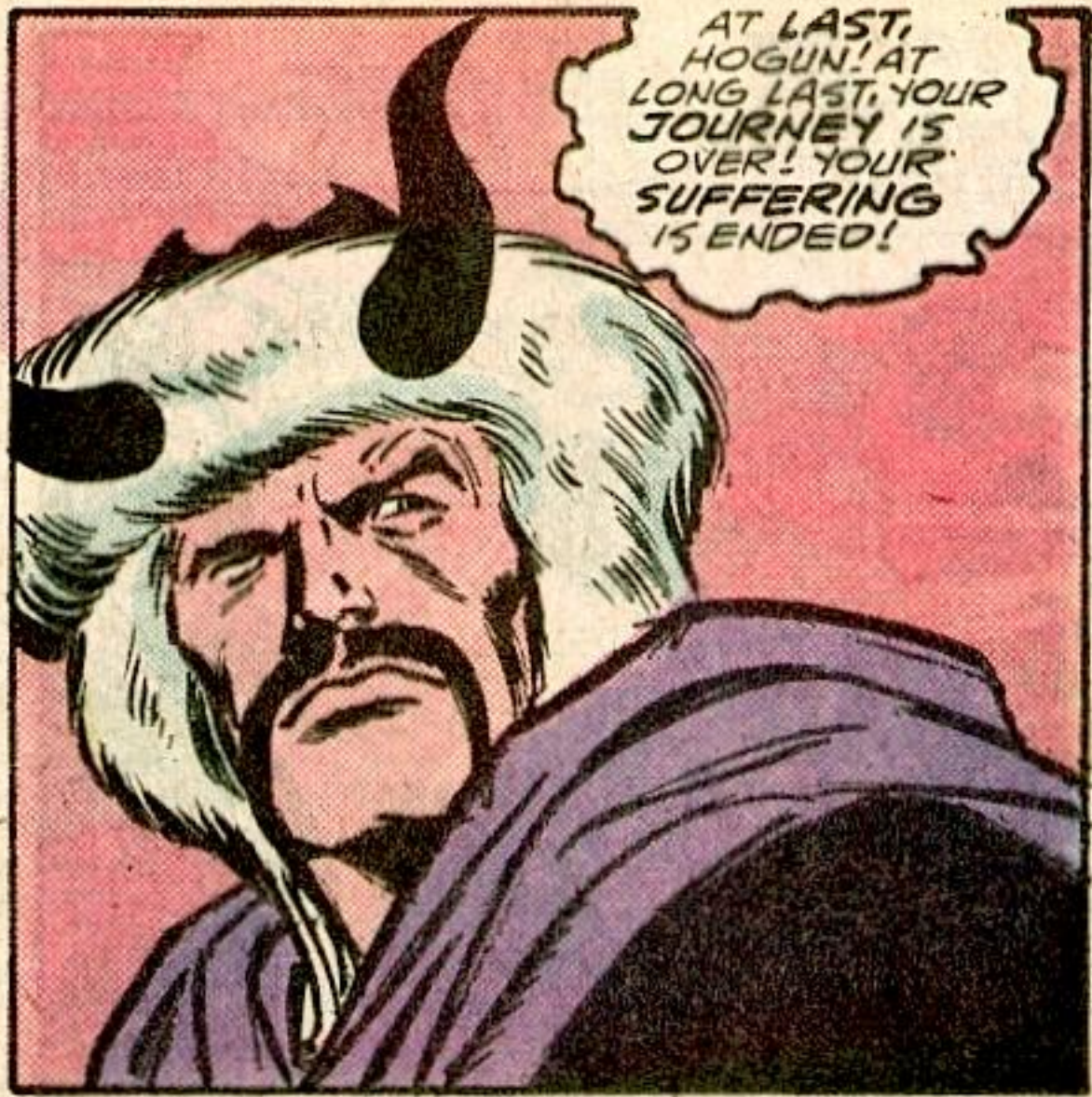


WE'RE LOSING HIM!

"WE'RE LOSING HIM!"

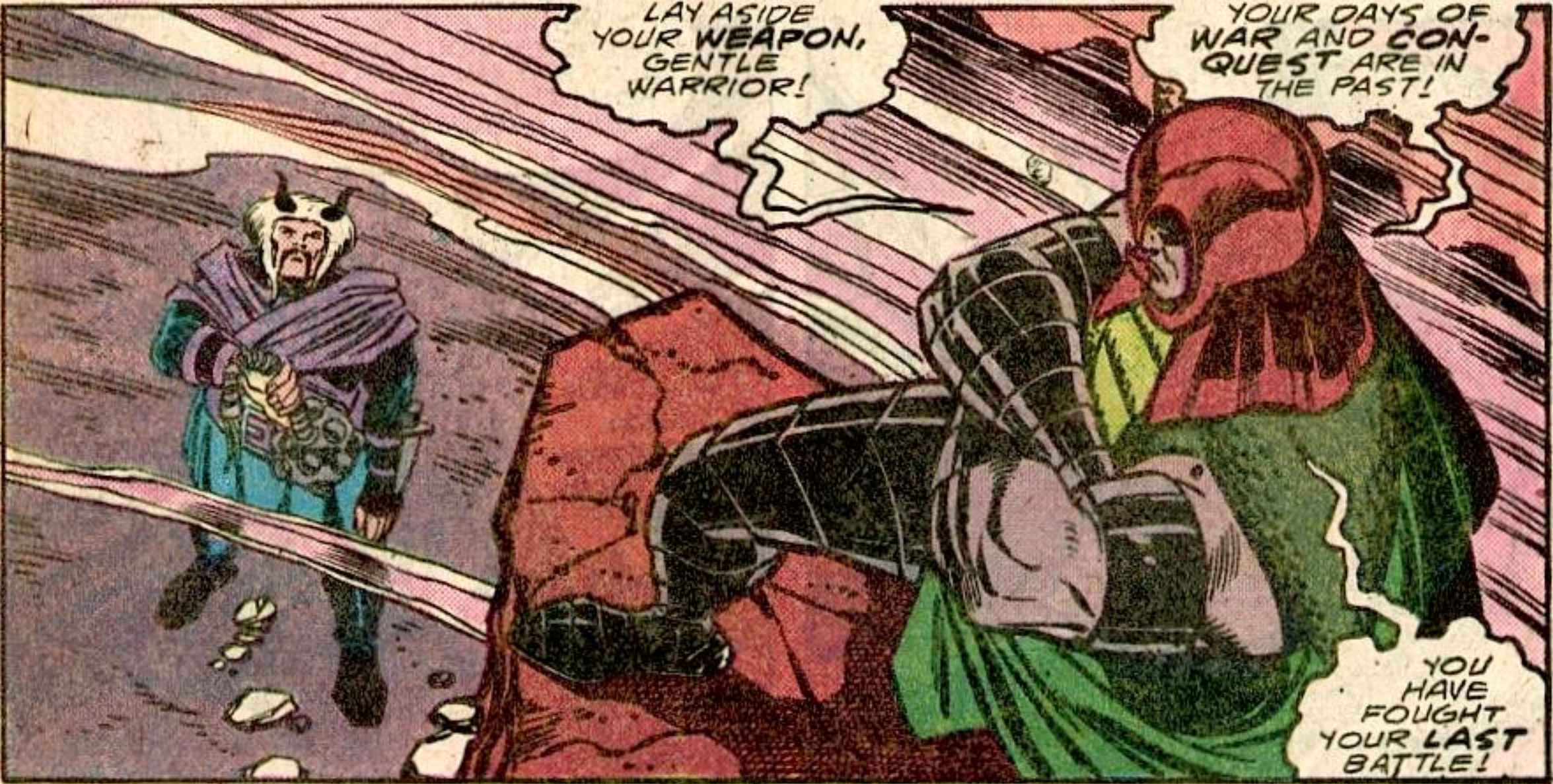


AT LAST, HOGUN! AT LONG LAST, YOUR JOURNEY IS OVER! YOUR SUFFERING IS ENDED!



LAY ASIDE YOUR WEAPON, GENTLE WARRIOR!

YOUR DAYS OF WAR AND CONQUEST ARE IN THE PAST!

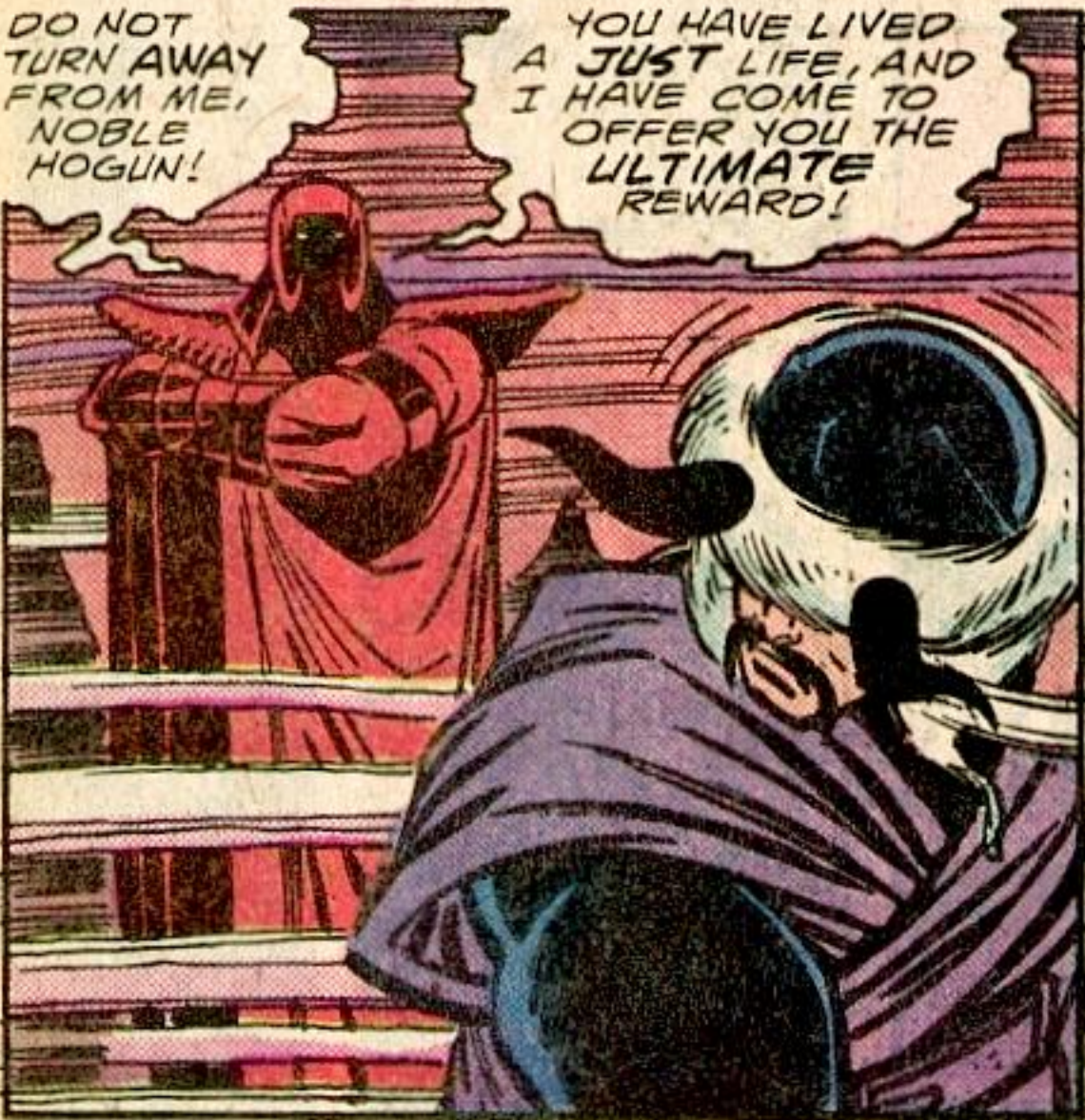


YOU HAVE FOUGHT YOUR LAST BATTLE!

DO NOT TURN AWAY FROM ME, NOBLE HOGUN!

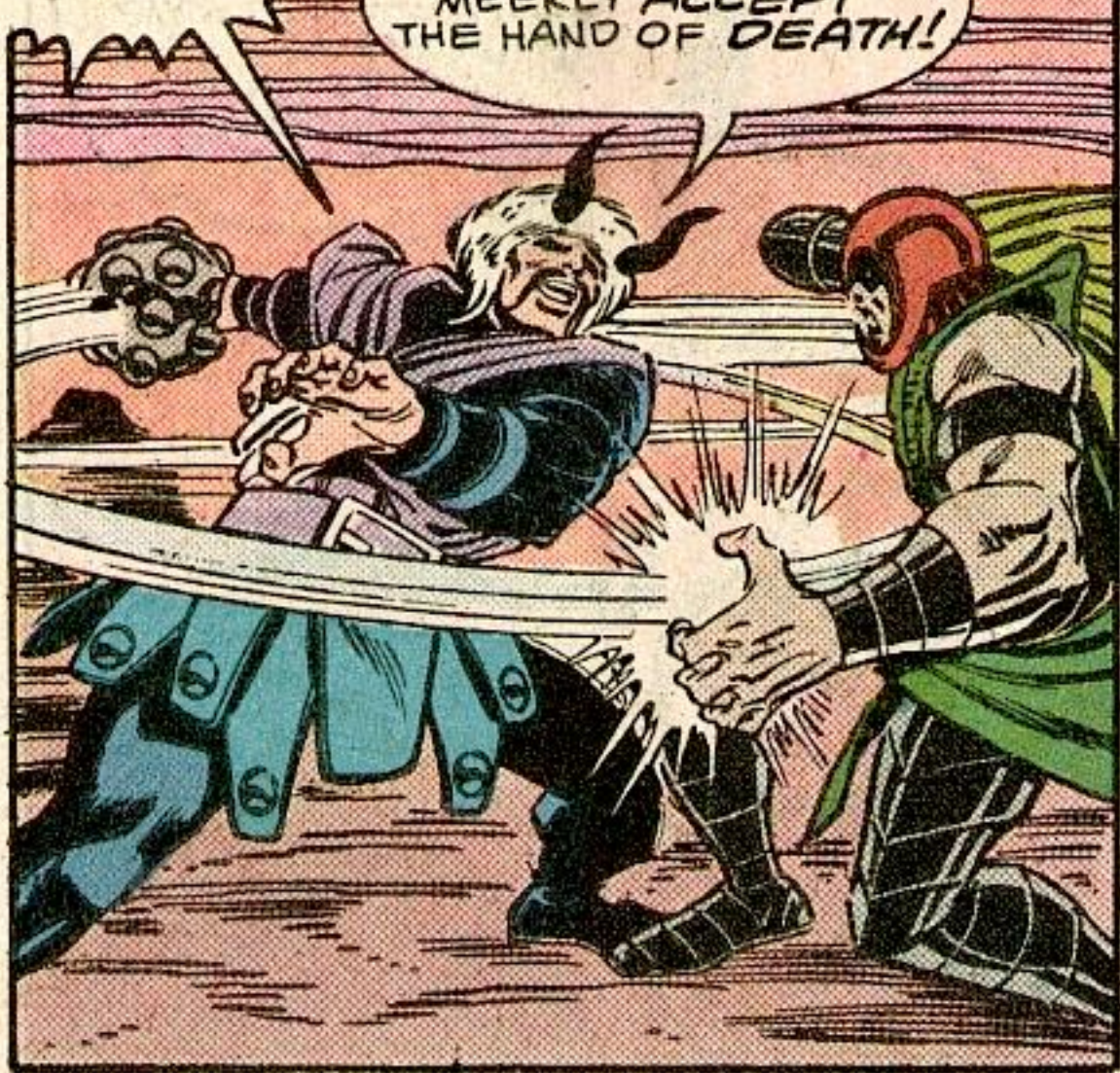
YOU HAVE LIVED A JUST LIFE, AND I HAVE COME TO OFFER YOU THE ULTIMATE REWARD!

TAKE MY HAND, AND YOU WILL FINALLY KNOW THE EXQUISITE JOY OF ETERNAL PEACE --AND THE UNENDING ECSTASY OF SWEET OBLIVION!



NEVER!!

NEVER WILL I
MEEKLY ACCEPT
THE HAND OF DEATH!



ARROGANT
FOOL!

NONE MAY
REFUSE
MY MOST
GENEROUS
OFFER!



YOU ARE AN INSIG-
NIFICANT LITTLE INSECT!
A FLEA TO BE CRUSHED
AND DISCARDED!

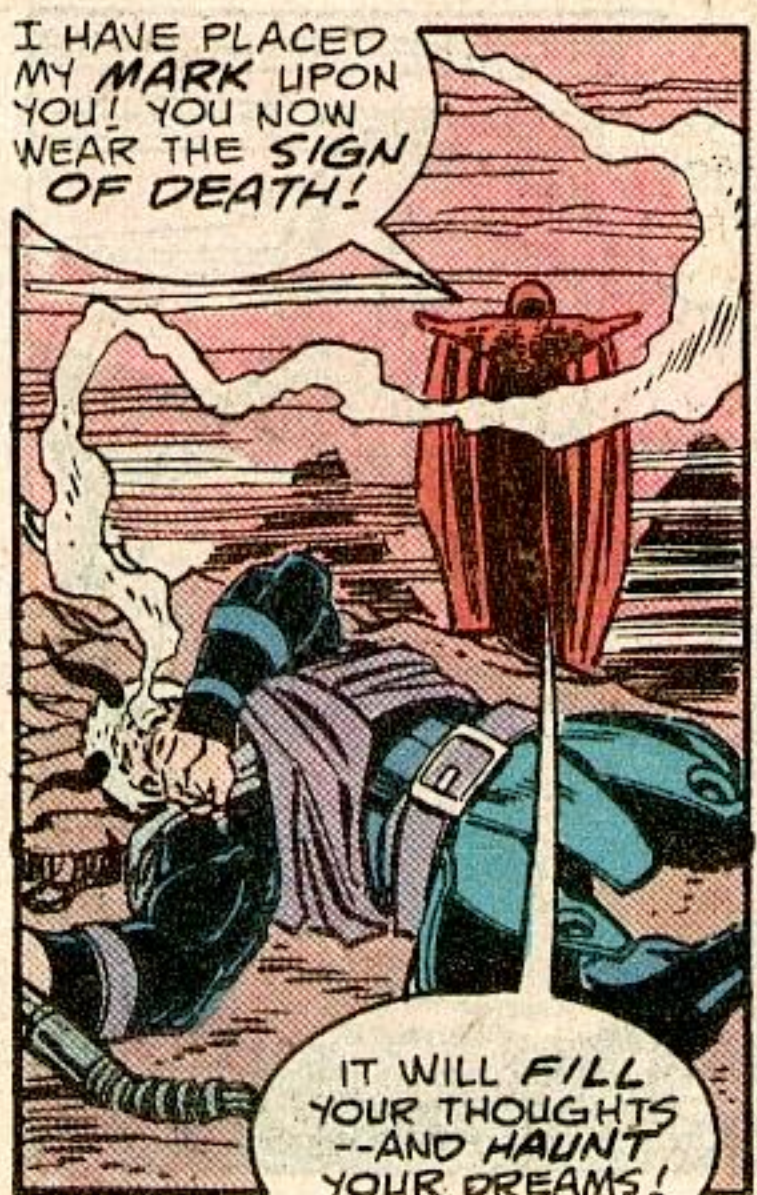


I COULD EASILY
DESTROY YOU NOW--
BUT YOU MUST PAY
FOR YOUR INSUFFER-
ABLE INSOLENCE!



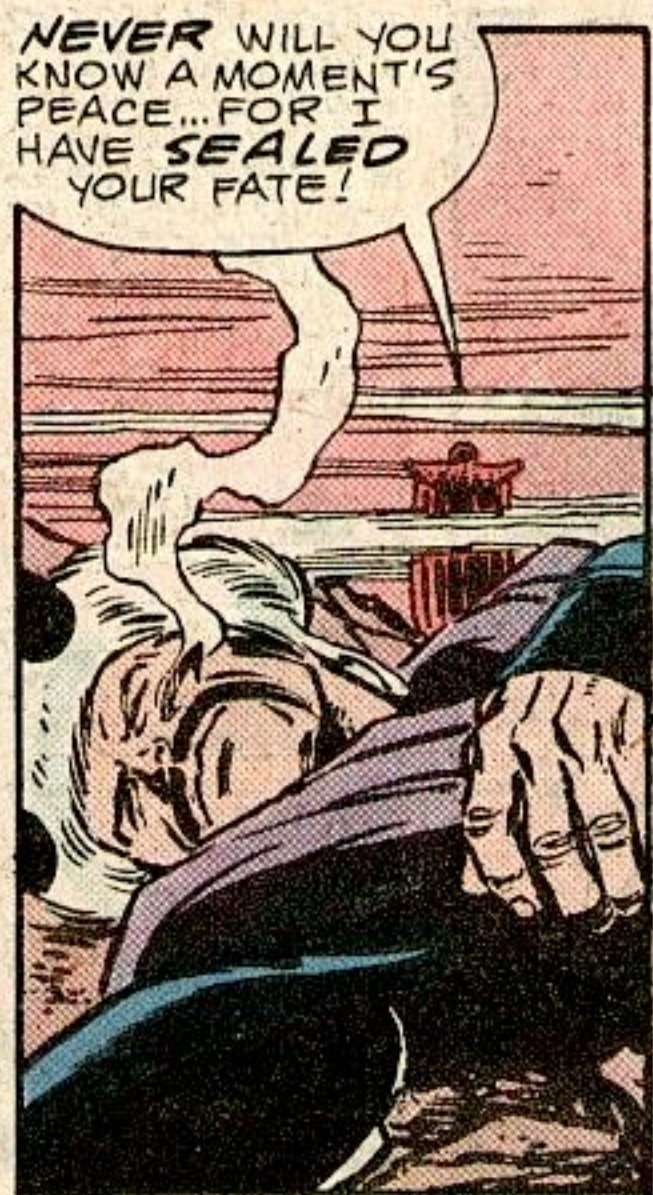
PAY
WITH FEAR
AND DREAD!

I HAVE PLACED
MY MARK UPON
YOU! YOU NOW
WEAR THE SIGN
OF DEATH!



IT WILL FILL
YOUR THOUGHTS
--AND HAUNT
YOUR DREAMS!

NEVER WILL YOU
KNOW A MOMENT'S
PEACE... FOR I
HAVE SEALED
YOUR FATE!



YOU ARE
DESTINED
TO DIE... WHEN
NEXT WE
MEET!



AND
NOTHING
CAN
SAVE
YOU!



MEANWHILE, BACK ON THE MORTAL PLANE, THE MIGHTY THOR UNLEASHES HIS GODLY WRATH IN THE FORM OF A BONE-JARRING LEFT HOOK AND--

KRASH!

ITAL

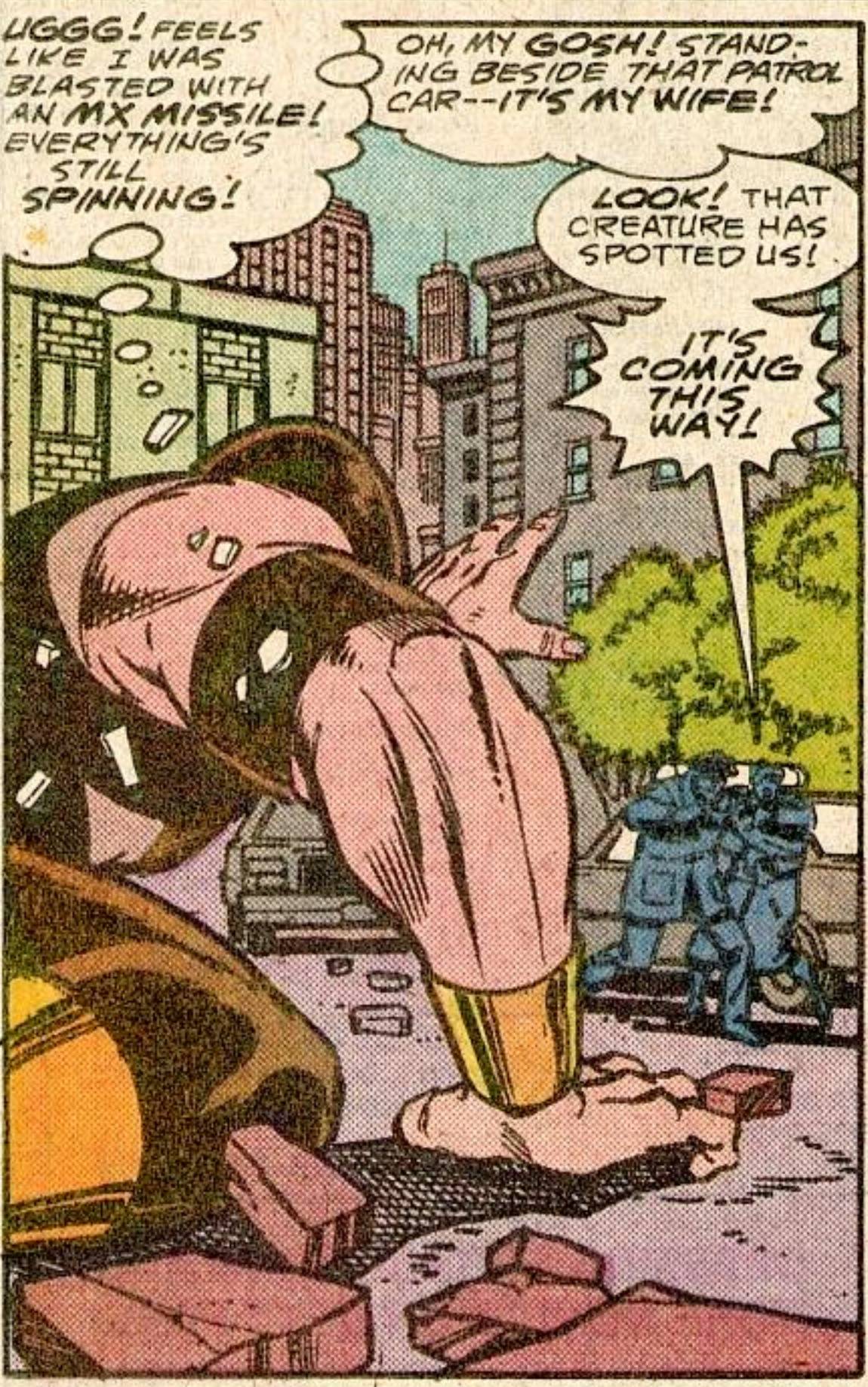
CLEAR OUT! THEY'VE REACHED THE PARKING LOT!



MY CAR--! THAT BIG GUY JUST CRUSHED IT!

FORGET IT, MAN! I'D MUCH RATHER LOSE MY WHEELS... THAN MY LIFE!

GOOD POINT!



UGGG! FEELS LIKE I WAS BLASTED WITH AN MX MISSILE! EVERYTHING'S STILL SPINNING!

OH, MY GOSH! STANDING BESIDE THAT PATROL CAR--IT'S MY WIFE!

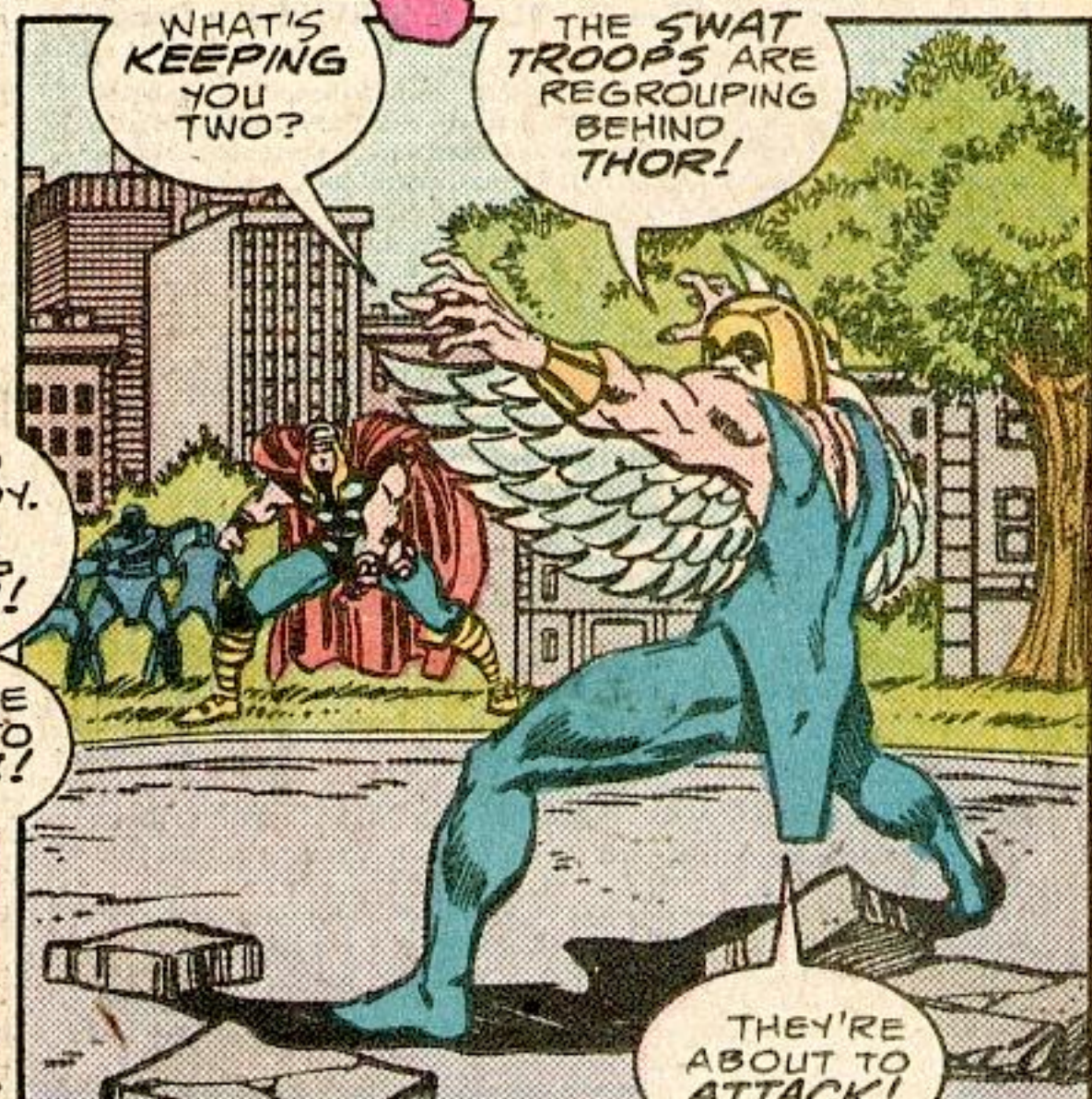
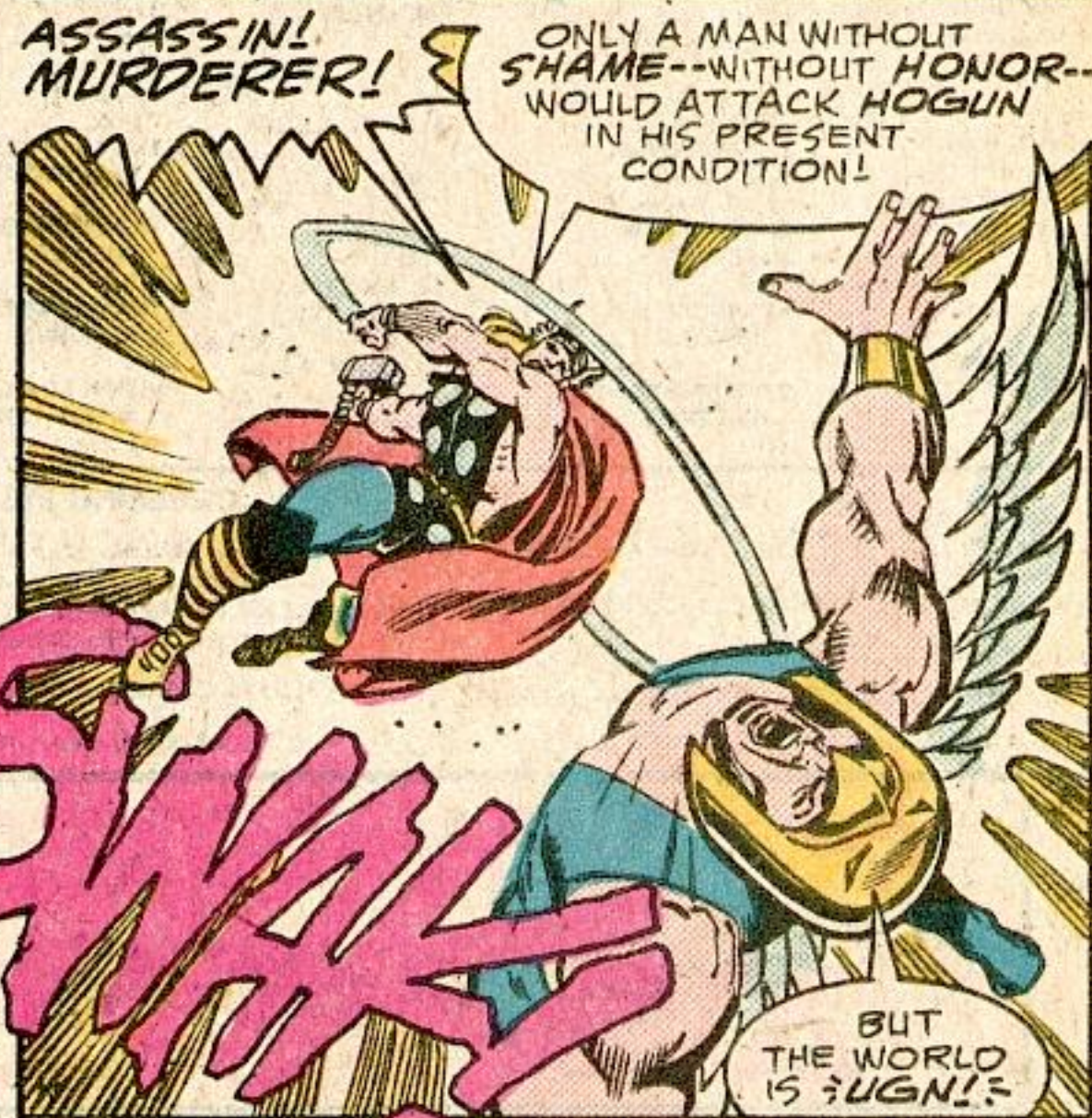
LOOK! THAT CREATURE HAS SPOTTED US!

IT'S COMING THIS WAY!



GET IN THE CAR, MARGE-- NOW! I'LL DO MY BEST TO HOLD IT OFF!

WAIT! IT'S ME! IT'S--



BUT EVEN BEFORE THE THUNDER GOD CAN LEAP FORWARD, HIS ATTENTION IS SUDDENLY RIVETED BY A SCREAM OF ABSOLUTE HORROR...

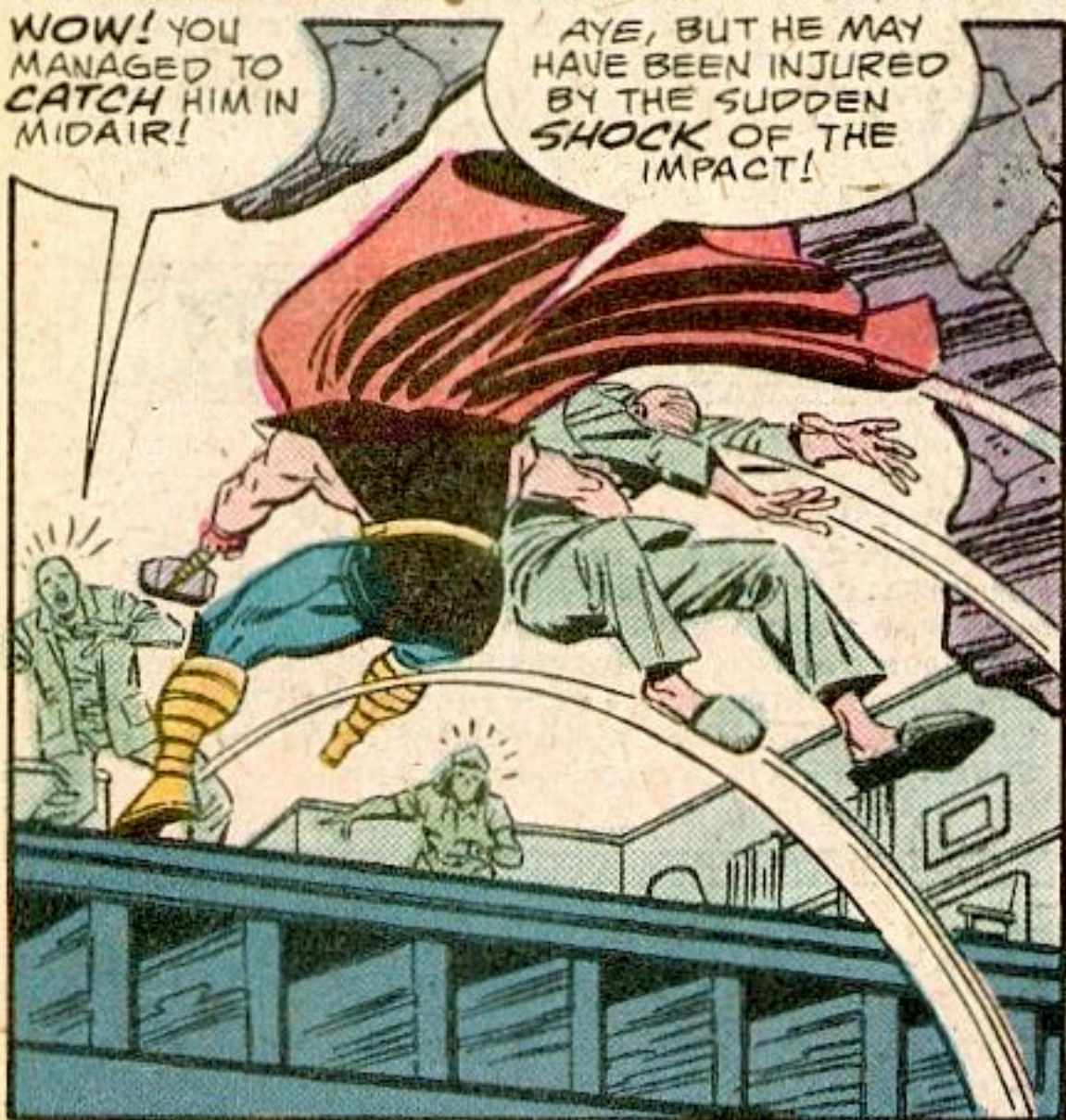


EEYII!!!

OD'S BLOOD!
THAT PATIENT MUST HAVE WANDERED TOO CLOSE TO THE EDGE OF THE BUILDING!



MY ENCHANTED HAMMER WILL CARRY ME TO HIM BEFORE HE CAN FALL TO HIS DEATH!



WOW! YOU MANAGED TO CATCH HIM IN MIDAIR!

AYE, BUT HE MAY HAVE BEEN INJURED BY THE SUDDEN SHOCK OF THE IMPACT!



THOU WOULDST DO WELL TO EXAMINE HIS RIBS!

THOR'S FORGOTTEN US FOR THE MOMENT! NOW'S OUR CHANCE ---!

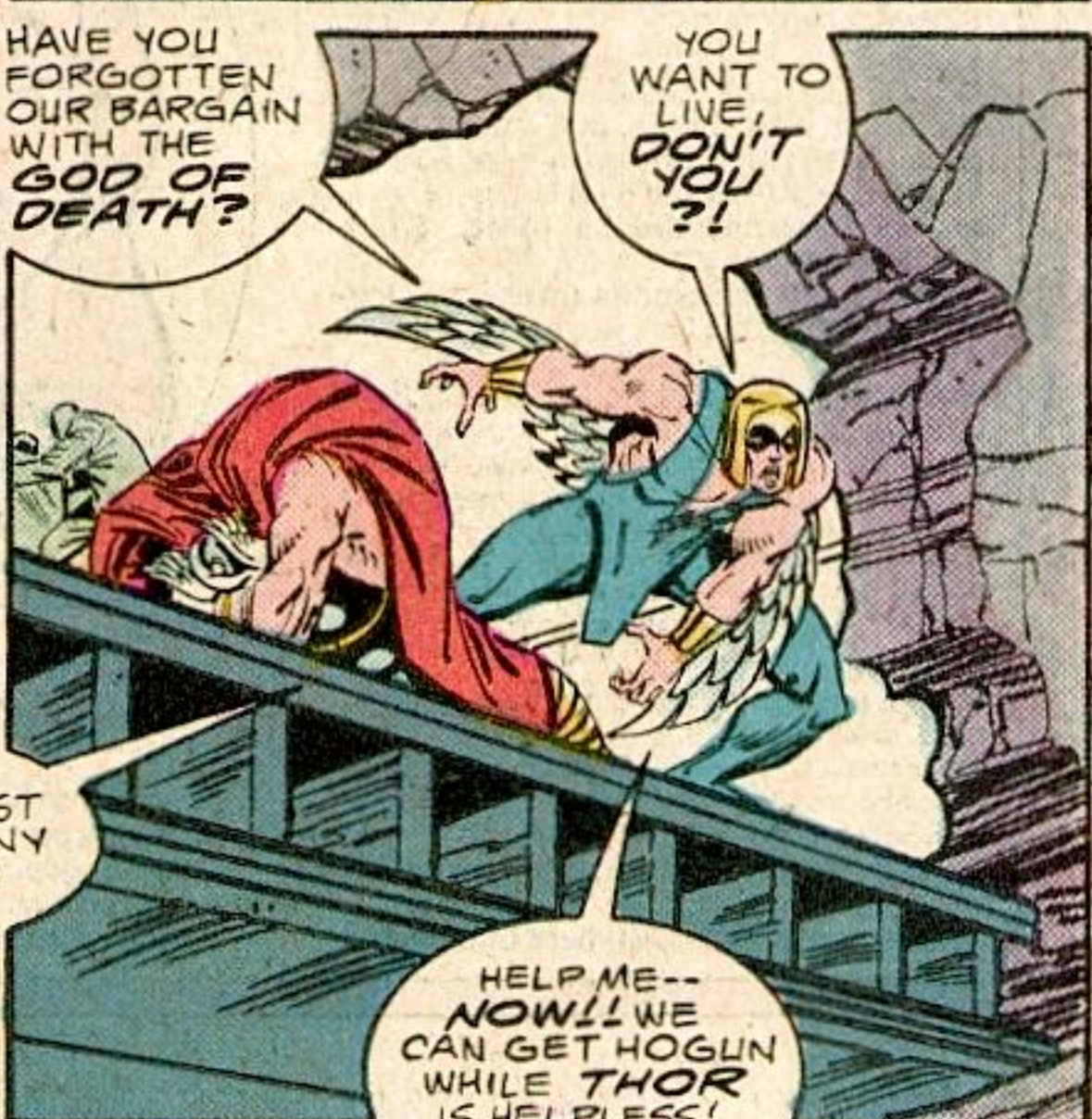
SKYHAWK, NO---!



WHUK!

WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU, EARTH-LORD?

WE MUST WIN AT ANY COST!



HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN OUR BARGAIN WITH THE GOD OF DEATH?

YOU WANT TO LIVE, DON'T YOU?!

HELP ME-- NOW!! WE CAN GET HOGUN WHILE THOR IS HELPLESS!

FOR A SEEMINGLY ETERNAL MOMENT, EARTH-LORD STANDS FROZEN, UNMOVING, AND THEN...



WHAT'S IT GOING TO BE, PAM? YOUR REAL NAME IS PAM, ISN'T IT?

DO WE REALLY WANT OUR LIVES BACK ON THESE TERMS? ENOUGH TO COMMIT MURDER?!

I... I'M AFRAID TO DIE... BUT IT'S WRONG TO TAKE ANOTHER'S LIFE! WRONG!!



WE HAVE NO CHOICE! WE MADE A DEAL!

WE CAN'T BACK OUT NOW!

THIS IS ALL HAPPENING TOO FAST! IT'S TOTALLY OUT OF CONTROL!

WE CAN'T ALLOW OURSELVES TO BE FORCED INTO DOING SOMETHING THAT WE'LL ALWAYS REGRET!



WE'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE! WE NEED TIME TO THINK-- TO PLAN-- TO FIGURE OUT WHAT IS GOING ON-- AND WHY!

LET ME GO!

SORRY, FELLA, BUT MAJORITY RULES!

YOU'RE COMING WITH US UNTIL WE SORT THINGS OUT!



BUT DON'T WORRY, WE'LL BE BACK!

MERE MOMENTS LATER, A DAZED AND DIS-ORIENTED THUNDER GOD SLOWLY REGAINS HIS FEET...



WHERE HAVE MY ENEMIES GONE?

WHY DID THEY LEAVE WHEN THEY WERE SO CLOSE TO VICTORY?

YOU ALL RIGHT, THOR?

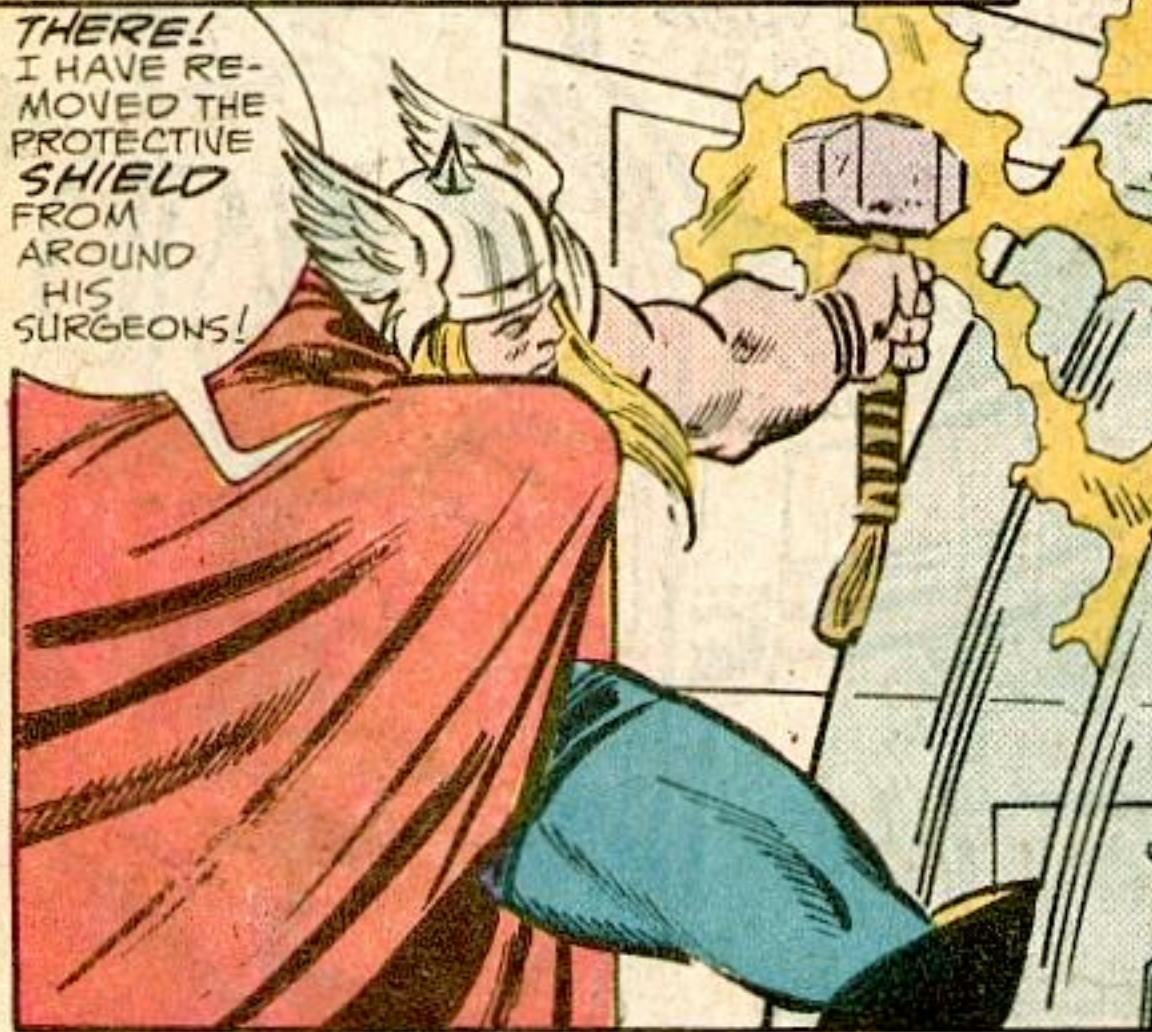


YOU TOOK A NASTY HIT IN THE BACK! MAYBE WE SHOULD SHOOT A FEW X-RAYS!

NO! THERE IS NO TIME!

I AM NEEDED ELSE-WHERE!

WITHOUT ANOTHER WORD, THE SON OF ODIN STREAKS THROUGH THE HOSPITAL, RACING TO THE OPERATING ROOM WHICH CONTAINS HOGUN THE GRIM AND THEN...



THERE! I HAVE REMOVED THE PROTECTIVE SHIELD FROM AROUND HIS SURGEONS!

IT'S ABOUT TIME! WE THOUGHT YOU HAD FORGOTTEN ALL ABOUT US-- AND THE AIR WAS STARTING TO GET A LITTLE THIN!



HOW FARES HOGUN THE GRIM?

I'VE GOT GOOD NEWS FOR YOU! THE OPERATION WAS A COMPLETE SUCCESS!



IT WAS TOUGH AND GO FOR A FEW MOMENTS THERE, BUT YOUR FRIEND IS A REAL FIGHTER!

HE'LL BE JUST FINE--

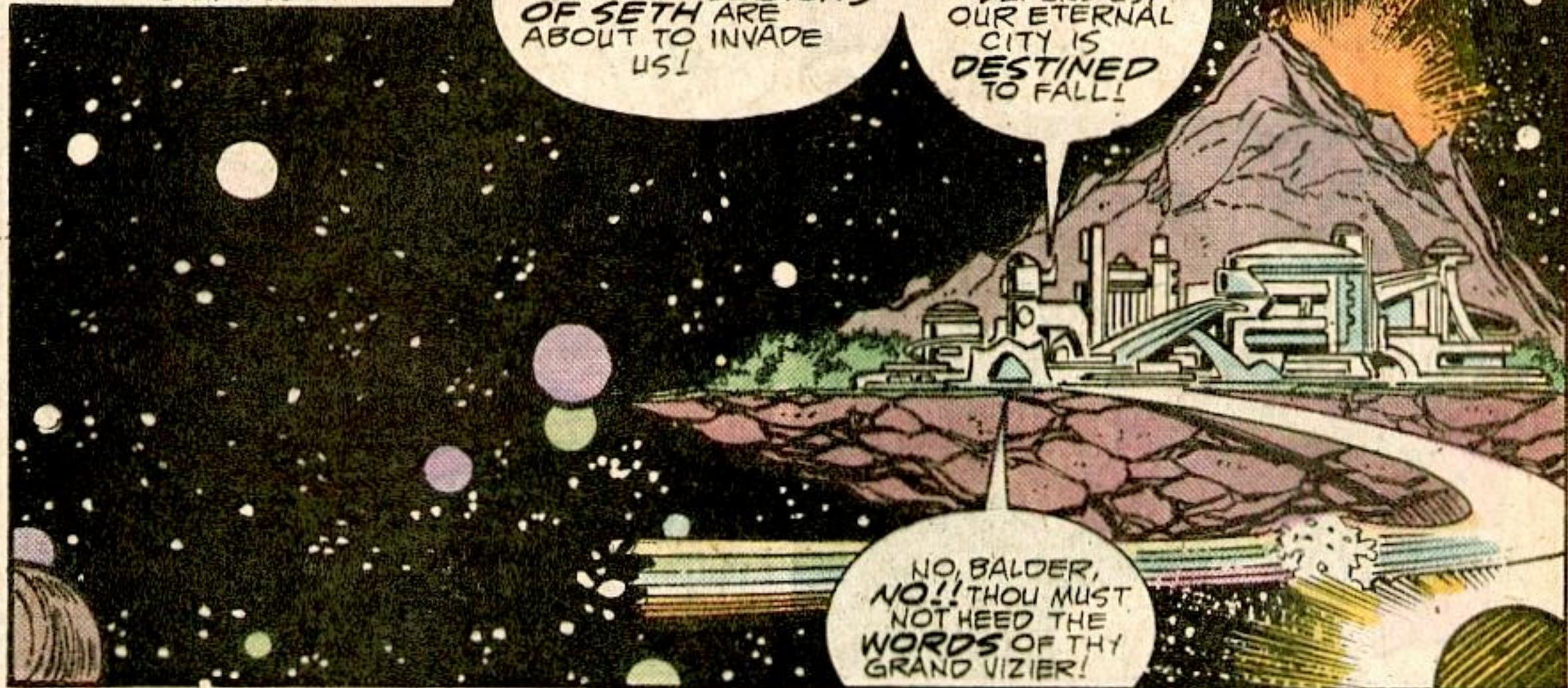


--AS LONG AS THERE ARE NO UNEXPECTED COMPLICATIONS!

AT THAT PRECISE MOMENT AN INDEFINABLE DISTANCE AWAY IN THE FABLED CITY OF ASGARD...

YOU MUST ACT NOW, MY LORD! TIME IS SHORT! THE LEGIONS OF SETH ARE ABOUT TO INVADE US!

WITHOUT THE POWER OF THOR TO DEFEND US, OUR ETERNAL CITY IS DESTINED TO FALL!



NO, BALDER, NO!! THOU MUST NOT HEED THE WORDS OF THY GRAND VIZIER!

EMBARK NOT ON THIS PERILOUS COURSE OF ACTION!

SEND US TO EARTH, MY LIEGE! ALLOW FANDRAL THE DASHING AND THE VALIANT VOLSTAGG...

...TO SEEK THE MISSING THOR!

THE GRAND VIZIER IS RIGHT! WE HAVE NO CHOICE! WE MUST CALL BACK THE POWER OF THOR SO THAT IT CAN BE USED TO PRESERVE OUR GOLDEN REALM!

EVEN THOUGH IT WILL MEAN LEAVING THE THUNDER GOD...
DEFENSELESS!



NO! WE HAVE ALREADY WASTED ONE NOBLE LIFE ON THAT FUTILE QUEST!

EVER SINCE THE RAINBOW BRIDGE WAS SHATTERED, WE HAVE LOST ALL CONTACT WITH THE MORTAL PLANE!



NEXT ISSUE: THE WAR OF THE GODS BEGINS AS SETH INVADES ASGARD! THE EARTH-FORCE RETURNS! THE BLACK KNIGHT GUEST-STARS! AND THOR AND HOGUN JOURNEY...

INTO THE REALM OF DEATH!