

MARVEL

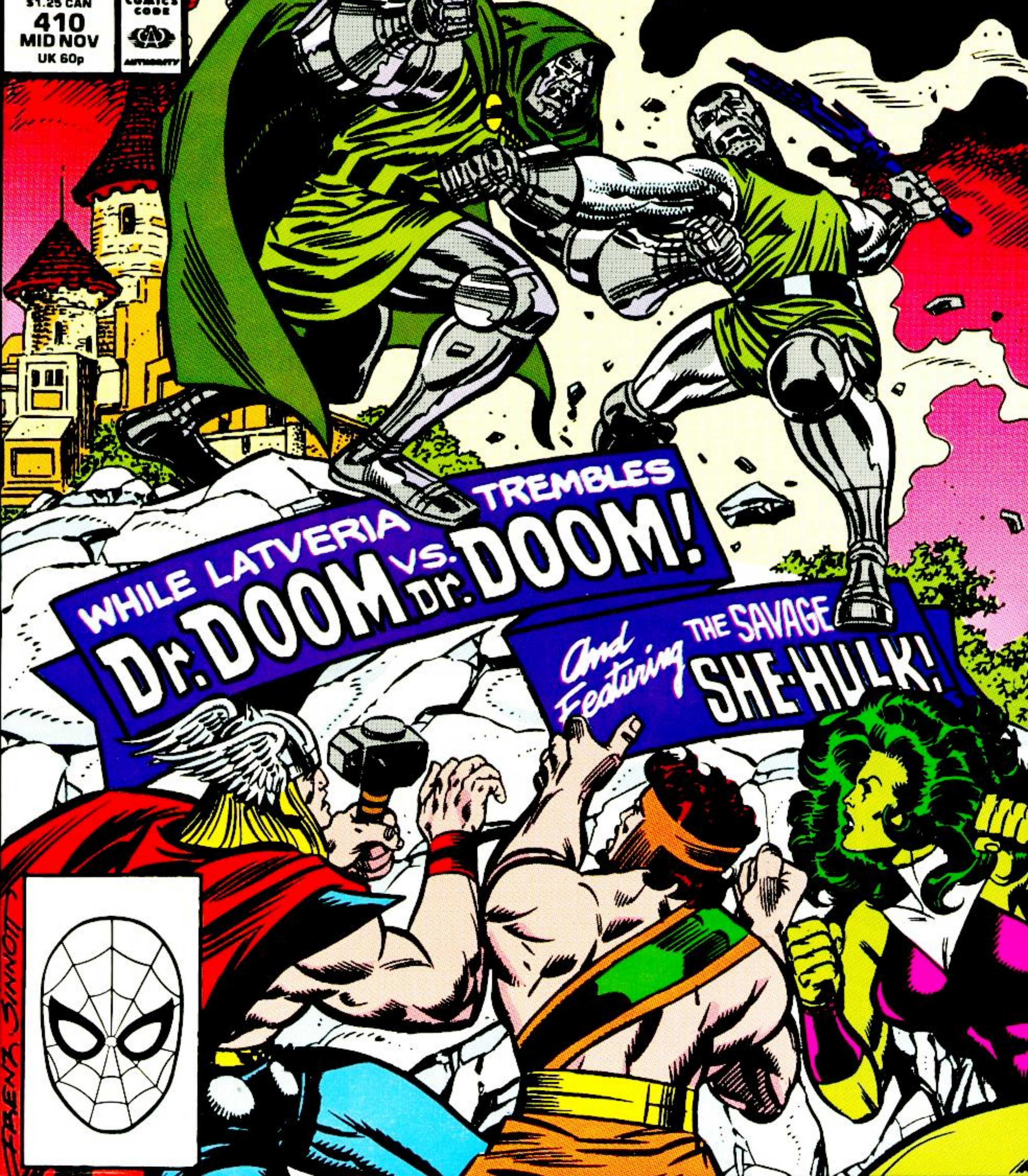


the mighty

TERROR

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MID NOV
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APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY



WHILE LATVERIA
DR. DOOM vs. **DR. DOOM!**
TREMbles

And Featuring THE SAVAGE
SHE-HULK!



STRENGTH SINNOR

STAN LEE PRESENTS **the MIGHTY THOR**

"TWO DOOMS TO DESTROY ME!"

GUEST-STARRING
HERCULES AND
THE SENSATIONAL
SHE-HULK!

C'MON, HERCULES, FILL ME IN ON WHAT'S REALLY GOING ON! ALL I KNOW IS THAT YOU AND YOUR NAMELESS BUDDY SUDDENLY APPEARED ON AVENGER'S ISLAND ... AND SOMEHOW MANAGED TO CON CAPTAIN AMERICA INTO LENDING YOU A QUINJET... FOR SOME SECRET MISSION!

THESE BABIES WERE DESIGNED SO THAT AN IDIOT COULD FLY THEM!

CAP MUST HAVE HAD A REASON FOR ASKING ME TO ACCOMPANY YOU! WHAT IS IT?

I AM AS BAFFLED AS THEE, SHE-HULK...

ANOTHER MIGHTY MARVEL MASTERPIECE PRODUCED BY:

TOM DEFALCO & RON FRENZ JOE SINNOTT MICHAEL HEISLER VINCENT/ROUSSOS RALPH MACCHIO
WORDS, PICTURES & PLOT FINISHED ART LETTERING COLORING EDITING

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NOT E'EN A GUESS COULD I FATHOM AS TO THE PURPOSE A MERE WOMAN COULD SERVE ON A QUEST WHICH ALREADY BOASTS THE POWER OF MY MATCHLESS STRENGTH!

WATCH THAT MERE STUFF, BUSTER... UNLESS YOU'RE ANXIOUS TO LEARN HOW TO EAT THROUGH A WIRED JAW!

HEY--!



LOOK OUT!

YOU'RE CUTTING IT MUCH TOO CLOSE TO THE BUILDINGS!

VROOM!



JUST SETTLE BACK... AND LEAVE THE DRIVING TO SOMEONE WHO KNOWS WHAT SHE'S DOING!

WHEN I SEE CAP...!

HUFF!



EVEN AS THE QUINJET SAFELY SOARS ABOVE THE MANHATTAN SKYLINE, ERIC MASTERSON SILENTLY PONDER'S THE UTTER FUTILITY OF THEIR MISSION...

IT'S CRAZY! WE DON'T HAVE A CHANCE!

THE THREE OF US ARE ABOUT TO INVADE A FOREIGN COUNTRY... AND TAKE ON ONE OF THE MOST DANGEROUS MENACES IN THE WORLD!

Frenz Petrol
Motor Fuel - Warrant

BUT, I GUESS THAT'S NO CRAZIER THAN THE REST OF MY LIFE HAS BEEN LATELY...



"I WAS STILL ADJUSTING TO THAT WHEN DOCTOR DOOM SHOWED UP... AND USED SOME KIND OF TIME-BOT TO STEAL THOR'S SACRED HAMMER!"



"...I'M ONLY AN AVERAGE GUY! AN ARCHITECT... NOT AN ADVENTURER! BUT, RECENTLY, DUE TO A TRAGIC TURN OF EVENTS, I BECAME MERGED WITH THE MIGHTY THOR!"



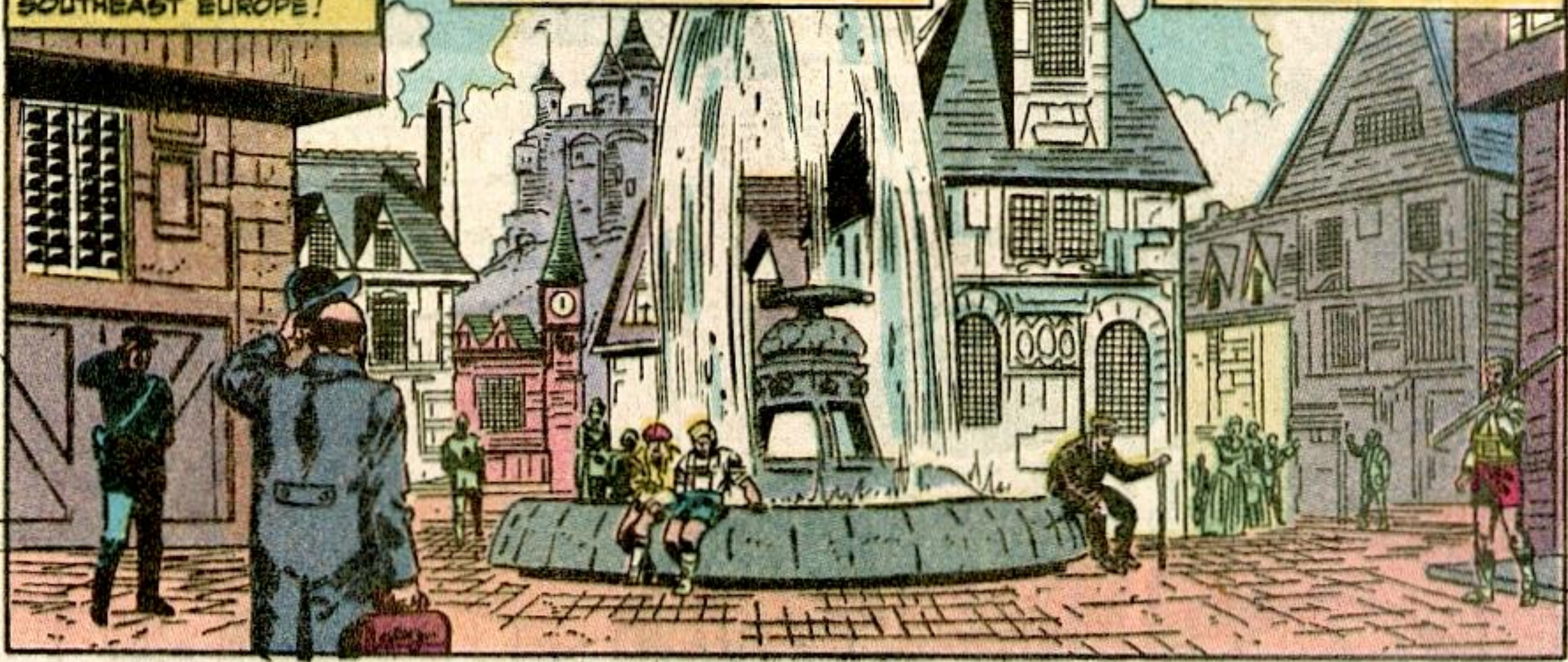
DOOM PLANS TO USE ITS MYSTIC PROPERTIES TO REGAIN CONTROL OF HIS HOMELAND!

WE'VE GOT TO STOP HIM... AND RECOVER THE HAMMER... EVEN IF IT MEANS FOLLOWING HIM ALL THE WAY TO...

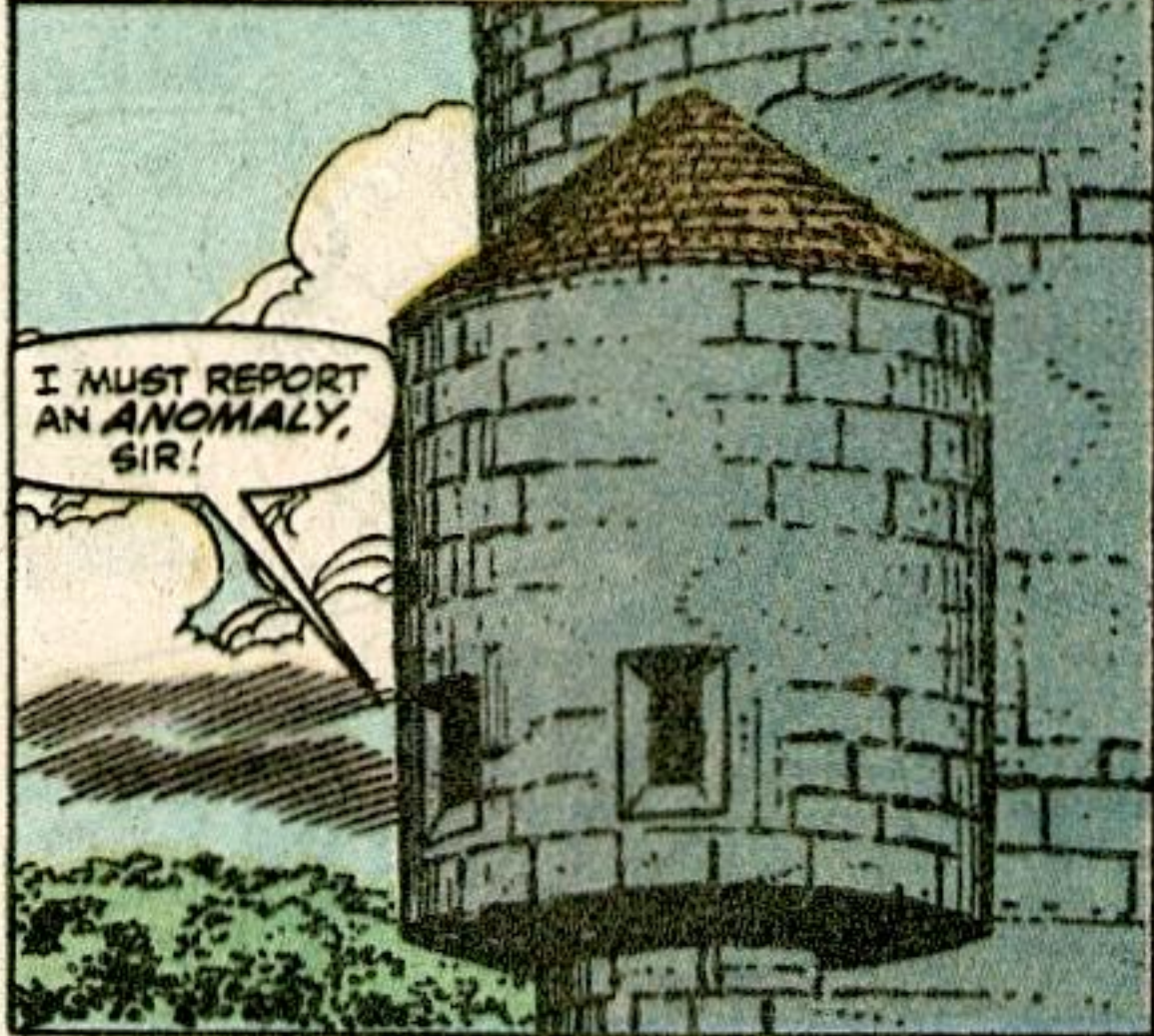
...LATVERIA, A SMALL, PEACEFUL NATION WHICH IS NESTLED ON THE BALKAN PENINSULA IN SOUTHEAST EUROPE!

IT IS A LAND WITHOUT CRIME, HUNGER, OR UNEMPLOYMENT! ITS PEOPLE ARE HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS...

...BECAUSE THEY HAVE BEEN ORDERED TO BE SO, AT THE COMMAND OF THEIR ABSOLUTE MONARCH!



AT THAT EXACT MOMENT, IN THE MASSIVE CASTLE WHICH OVERLOOKS THE LATVERIAN CAPITAL OF DOOMSTADT...



RADAR DETECTED A LARGE, UNIDENTIFIED CRAFT APPROACHING LATVERIAN AIRSPACE ... BUT IT SUDDENLY VANISHED FROM OUR SCREENS!

THE SUPREME MASTER MUST BE INFORMED IMMEDIATELY!



BUT... HE WILL NOT BE PLEASSED!

THIS IS THE MOMENT I HAVE ALWAYS DREADED! HE WILL PROBABLY DESTROY ME FOR DELIVERING SUCH NEWS!

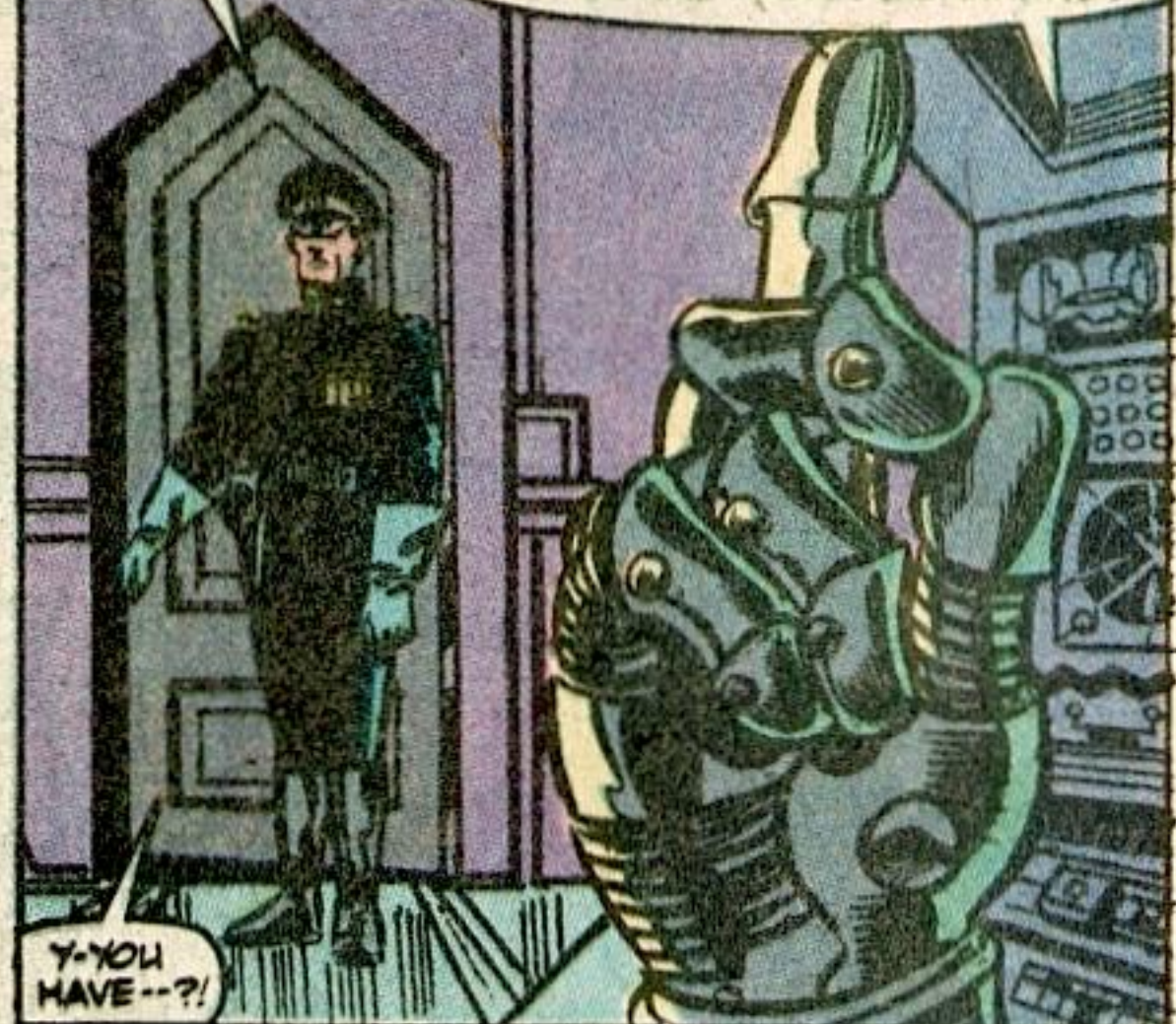
BUT, I DARE NOT KEEP IT FROM HIM!



THE LIVES OF EVERY MEMBER IN MY FAMILY WOULD BE ~~SAVED~~ IF HE EVER DISCOVERED MY TREACHERY!

MASTER, I FEAR THAT...

SILENCE! I HAVE ALREADY LOCATED THE INTRUDER WITH MY PERSONAL RADAR SCANNERS!



Y-YOU HAVE--?!

WHY DO YOU
SOUND SO
AMAZED,
FOOL?

DOCTOR DOOM
IS FULLY AWARE OF
ALL THAT OCCURS
WITHIN HIS
BORDERS!

* NEVER
FORGET THAT
IF YOU VALUE
YOUR LIFE!

BASED ON MY READINGS,
I HAVE EVEN DEDUCED
THE *IDENTITY* OF THE
INTRUDER!

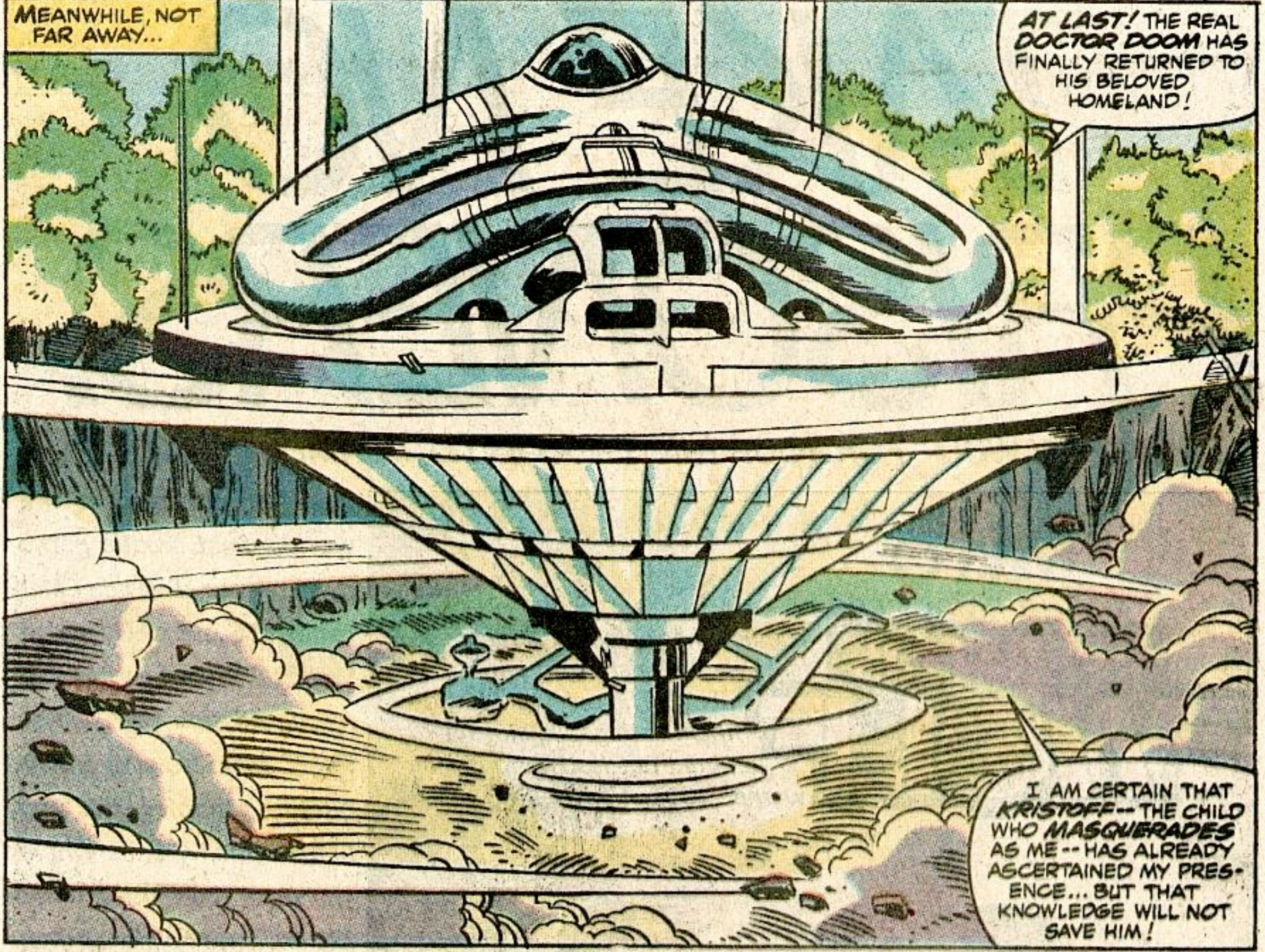
WE MUST PREPARE AN
APPROPRIATE RECEPTION!
AN OLD FRIEND HAS COME
HOME...



SERENZ SINNOT

MEANWHILE, NOT FAR AWAY...

AT LAST! THE REAL DOCTOR DOOM HAS FINALLY RETURNED TO HIS BELOVED HOMELAND!



I AM CERTAIN THAT KRISTOFF-- THE CHILD WHO MASQUERADES AS ME -- HAS ALREADY ASCERTAINED MY PRESENCE... BUT THAT KNOWLEDGE WILL NOT SAVE HIM!

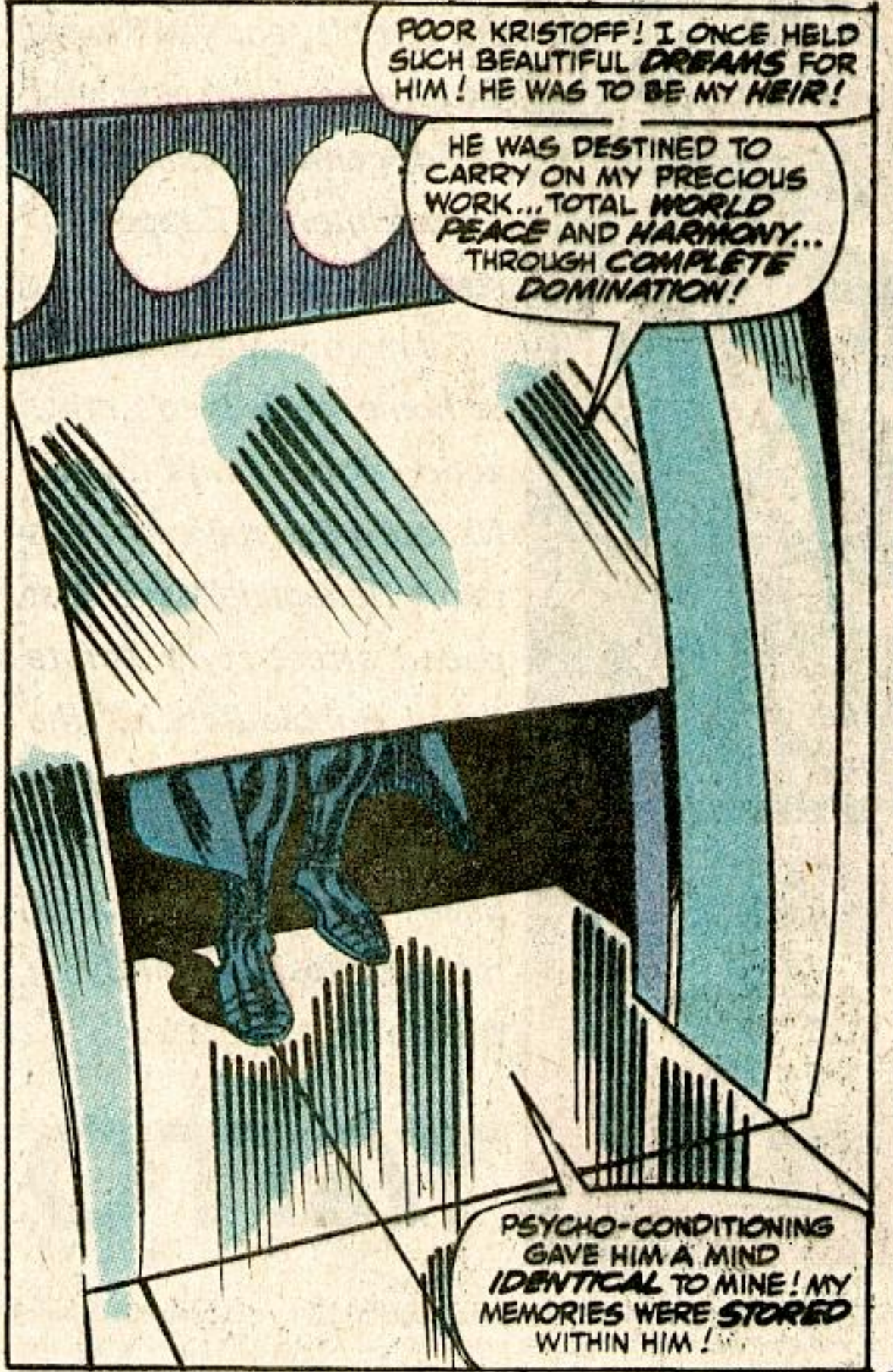
POOR KRISTOFF! I ONCE HELD SUCH BEAUTIFUL DREAMS FOR HIM! HE WAS TO BE MY HEIR!

HE WAS DESTINED TO CARRY ON MY PRECIOUS WORK... TOTAL WORLD PEACE AND HARMONY... THROUGH COMPLETE DOMINATION!

NO GREATER GIFT COULD I HAVE BEQUEATHED ANOTHER... THAN TO MAKE HIM A TRUE EXTENSION OF MYSELF!

BUT, SOMETHING WENT WRONG! HE WAS ACTIVATED TOO SOON!

HE NOW BELIEVES HIMSELF TO BE VICTOR VON DOOM... AND I THE IMPOSTOR!



PSYCHO-CONDITIONING GAVE HIM A MIND IDENTICAL TO MINE! MY MEMORIES WERE STORED WITHIN HIM!



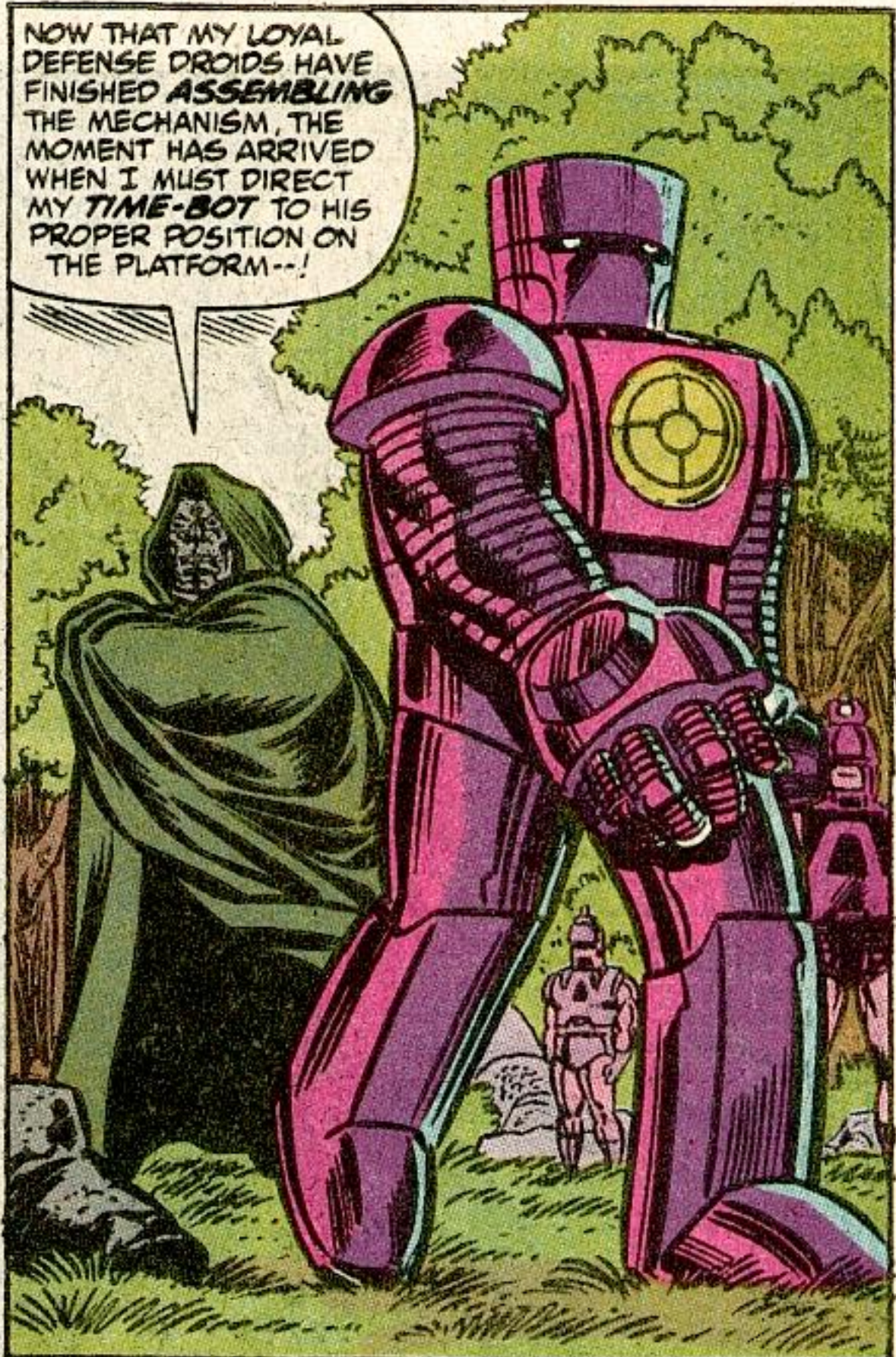
HE HAS USURPED MY KINGDOM... AND MUST NOW PAY THE ULTIMATE PRICE!

DOOM IS AN ENLIGHTENED MONARCH... AND HAS NO DESIRE TO ENDANGER THE LIVES OF HIS LOYAL CITIZENRY... WITH A BLOODY CIVIL WAR!

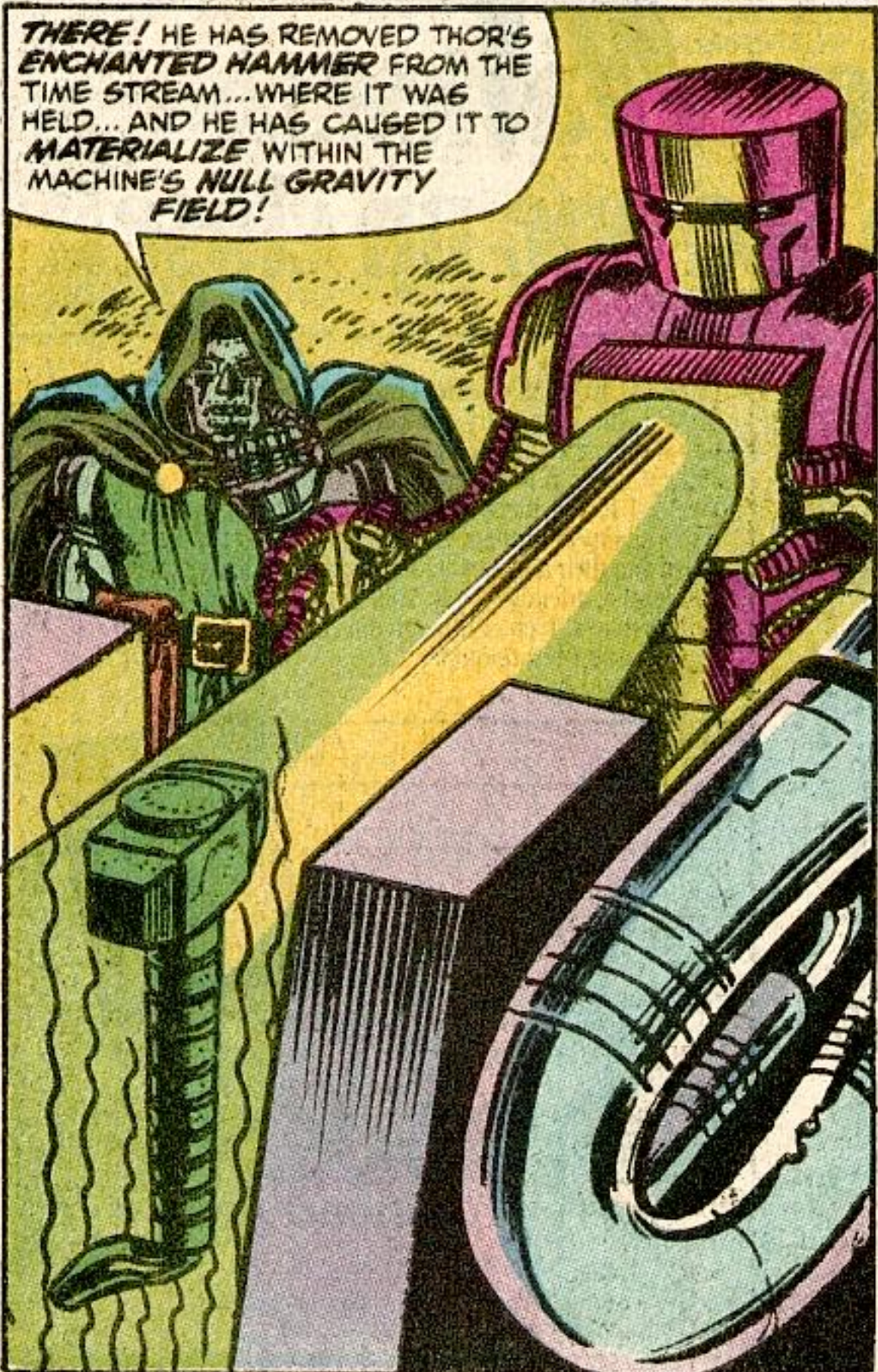
THUS, I HAVE DESIGNED THE **TIME DISPLACER**--!



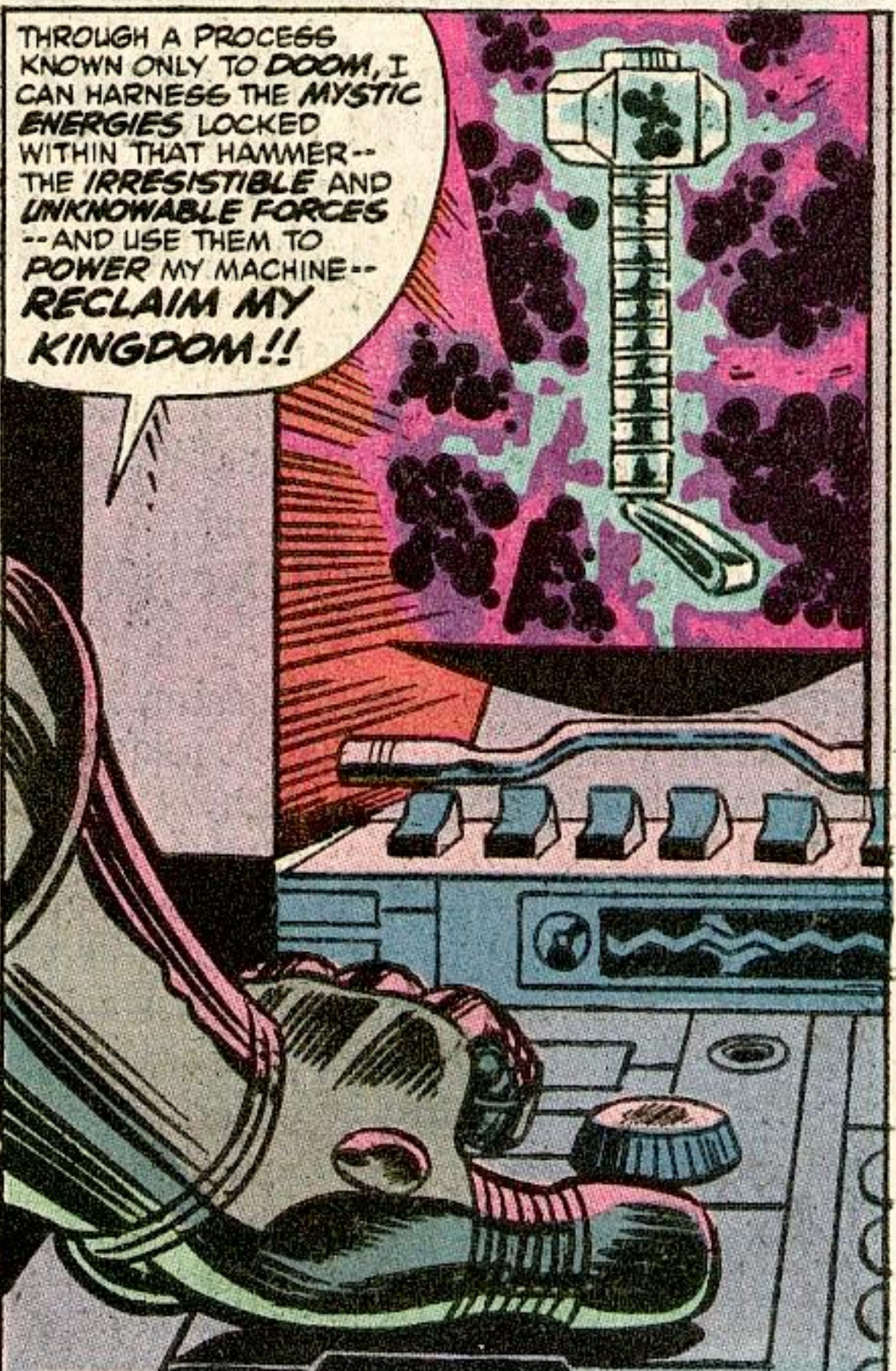
NOW THAT MY LOYAL DEFENSE DROIDS HAVE FINISHED **ASSEMBLING** THE MECHANISM, THE MOMENT HAS ARRIVED WHEN I MUST DIRECT MY **TIME-BOT** TO HIS PROPER POSITION ON THE PLATFORM--!



THERE! HE HAS REMOVED THOR'S ENCHANTED HAMMER FROM THE TIME STREAM... WHERE IT WAS HELD... AND HE HAS CAUSED IT TO **MATERIALIZED** WITHIN THE MACHINE'S NULL GRAVITY FIELD!



THROUGH A PROCESS KNOWN ONLY TO **DOOM**, I CAN HARNESS THE **MYSTIC ENERGIES** LOCKED WITHIN THAT HAMMER-- THE **IRRESISTIBLE** AND **UNKNOWABLE FORCES**-- AND USE THEM TO **POWER** MY MACHINE-- **RECLAIM MY KINGDOM!!**



ALL IS PEACEFUL IN DOOMSTADT... ALL IS WELL!



NO CHOCOLATE BEFORE DINNER!

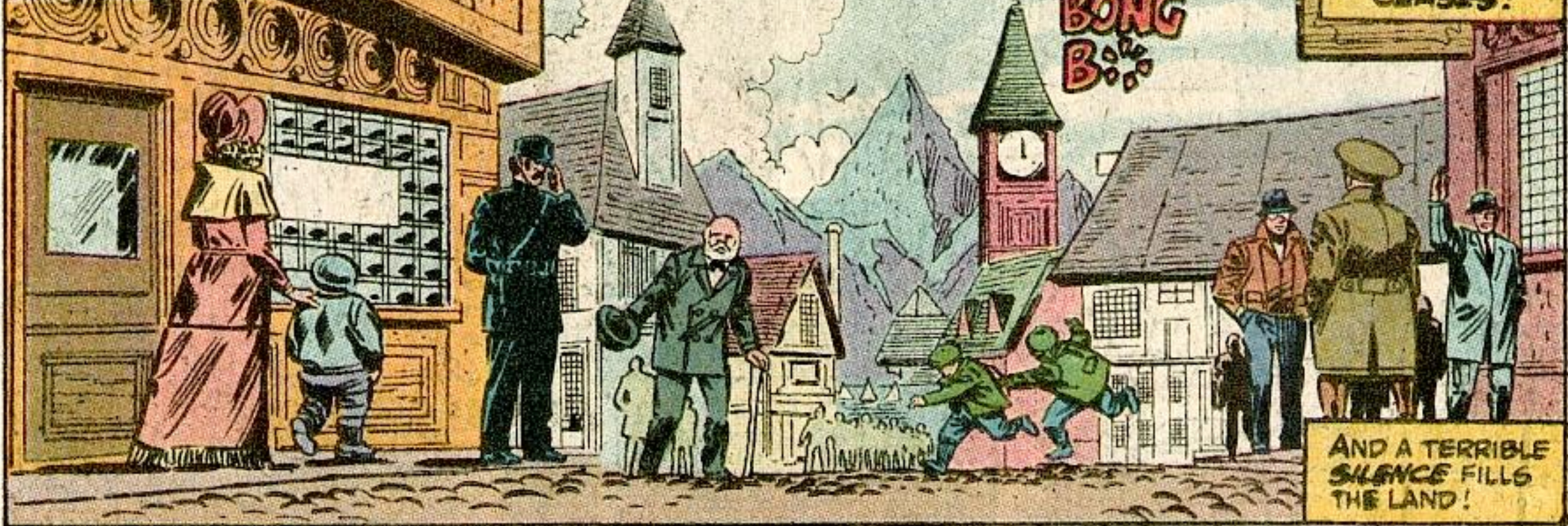
BUT, MAMA--!

GOOD HEALTH TO YOU, CONSTABLE!

YOU'LL NEVER CATCH ME, HANS!

BONG BONG BONG

THEN, SUDDENLY...



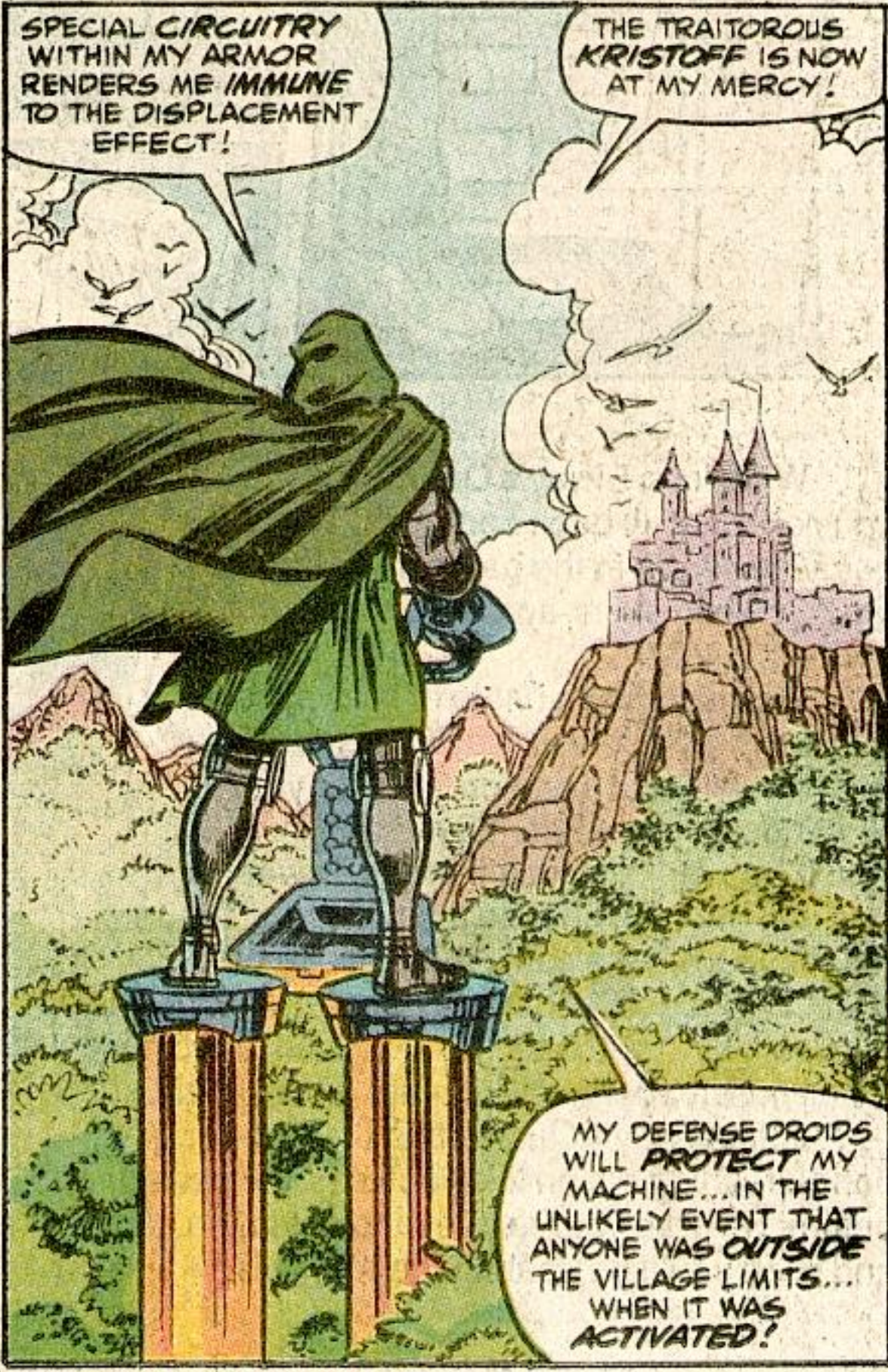
ALL MOVEMENT CEASES!

BONG BONG

AND A TERRIBLE SILENCE FILLS THE LAND!



MY EQUIPMENT HAS FUNCTIONED EXACTLY AS PLANNED! IT HAS COMPLETELY SURROUNDED THE VILLAGE OF DOOMSTADT IN A TIME DISPLACEMENT CONE... AND HAS FROZEN TIME FOR ALL OF ITS INHABITANTS!



SPECIAL CIRCUITRY WITHIN MY ARMOR RENDERS ME IMMUNE TO THE DISPLACEMENT EFFECT!

THE TRAITOROUS KRISTOFF IS NOW AT MY MERCY!

MY DEFENSE DROIDS WILL PROTECT MY MACHINE... IN THE UNLIKELY EVENT THAT ANYONE WAS OUTSIDE THE VILLAGE LIMITS... WHEN IT WAS ACTIVATED!



AND, JUST THEN...

I DON'T BELIEVE YOU GUYS!

LATVERIA?! CAP'S GONNA HAVE A CANARY WHEN HE FINDS OUT!

MAYHAPS, BUT OUR CAUSE IS JUST!



YEAH, SURE...

HEY! MY INSTRUMENTS JUST REGISTERED A STRANGE ELECTRICAL DISTURBANCE!

IT'S PROBABLY CONNECTED TO DOOM! CAN YOU LAND NEAR IT?

NO PROB...



AND SO...

IT SHOULD BE JUST AHEAD!

FEAR NOT, FAIR DAMSEL! THE PRINCE OF POWER WILL PROTECT THEE!



HELLO IN THERE, HERC! I'M THE SHE-HULK, REMEMBER? ALMOST AS STRONG AS THE INCREDIBLE ONE!

BAH! WHAT IS MERE MORTAL STRENGTH WHEN COMPARED TO THE MATCHLESS MIGHT OF THE SON OF ZEUS?!

DOOM HAS NO DOUBT LEARNED THAT HE HATH OFFENDED ME... AND HAS ALREADY FLED IN MINDLESS TERROR!



THE INTRUDERS HAVE CROSSED THE PERIMETER! ATTACK--!

HEY, HERC...

YOU EVER GET TIRED OF BEING WRONG?!



NICE ROBOTS!
BUT DOOM SHOULD
EQUIP 'EM WITH
AIR BRAKES!

THEY SEEM TO HAVE A
PROBLEM WITH SUDDEN
STOPS!

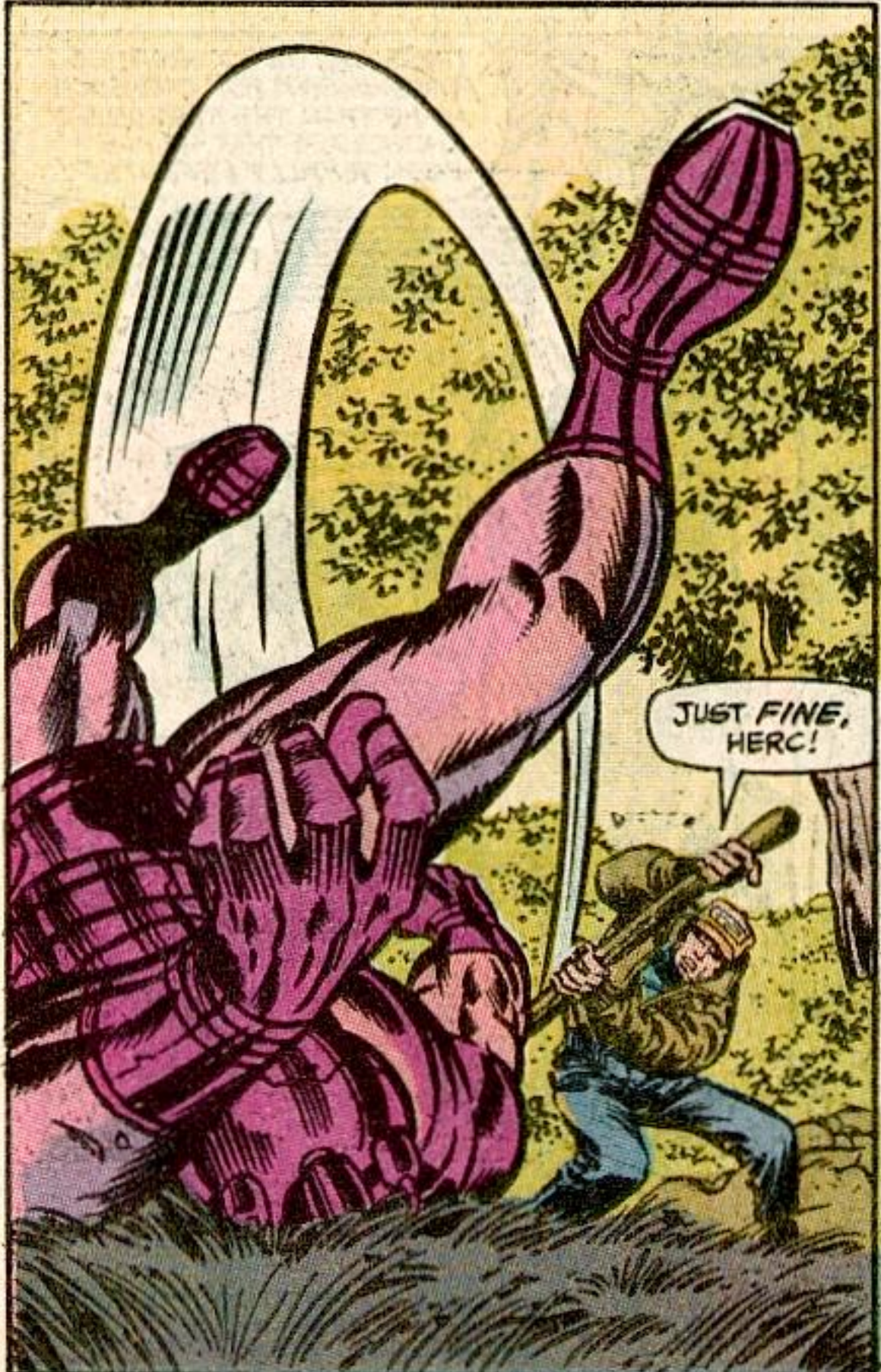


A SCORE OF THESE UNLIVING
FOES DO TH SURROUND ME...
BUT THE LION OF OLYMPUS
WILL SURELY CRUSH THEM ALL!

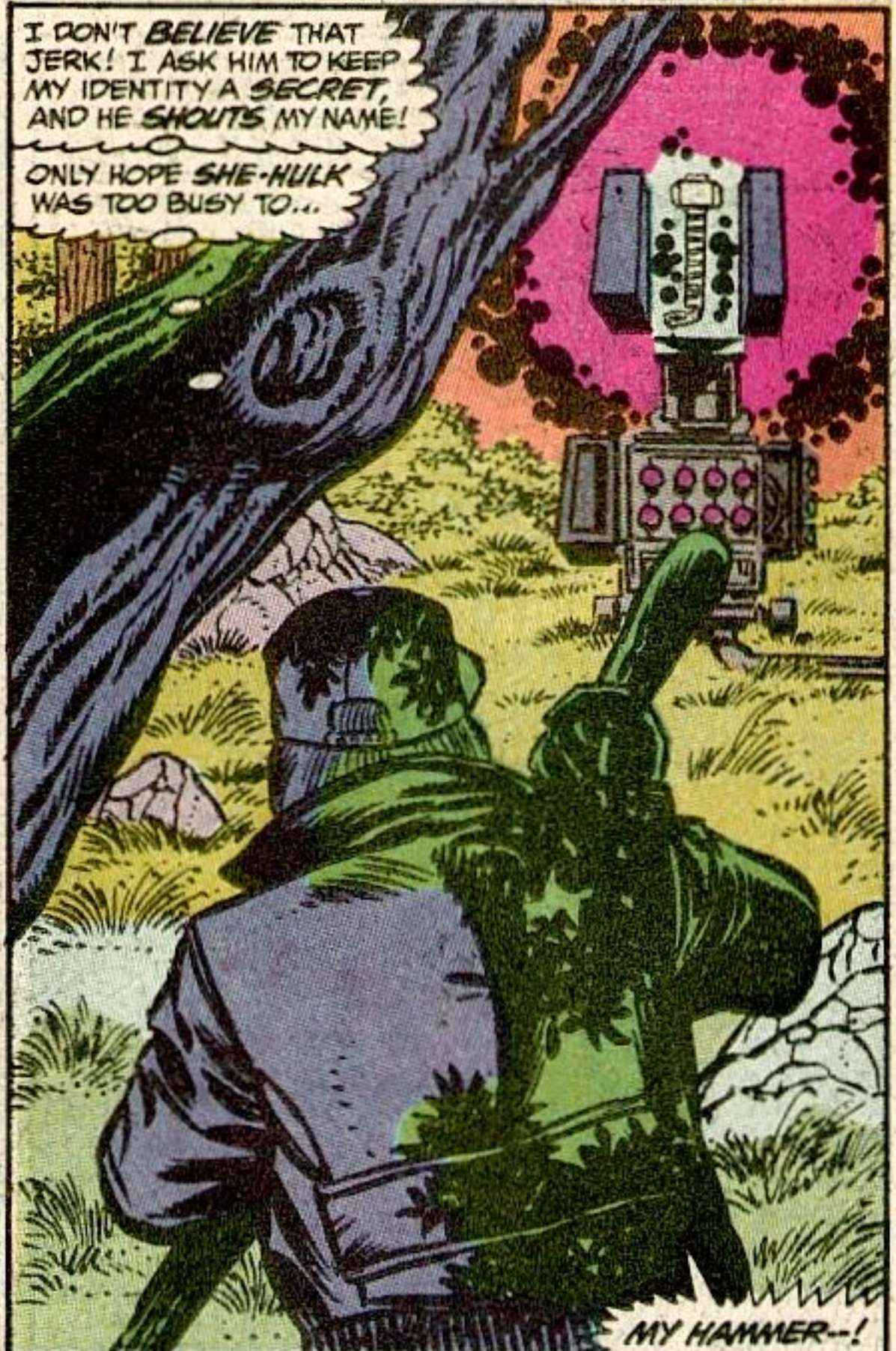
WOULD THAT MY HEART
WERE THE EQUAL OF MY
BOASTFUL WORDS... BUT
A SUDDEN FEAR
ASSAILS ME!

CAN IT BE? AFTER
ALL THESE CENTURIES,
HATH HERCULES BECOME
A COWARD?!

ERIC! HOW
DOST THOU FARE?



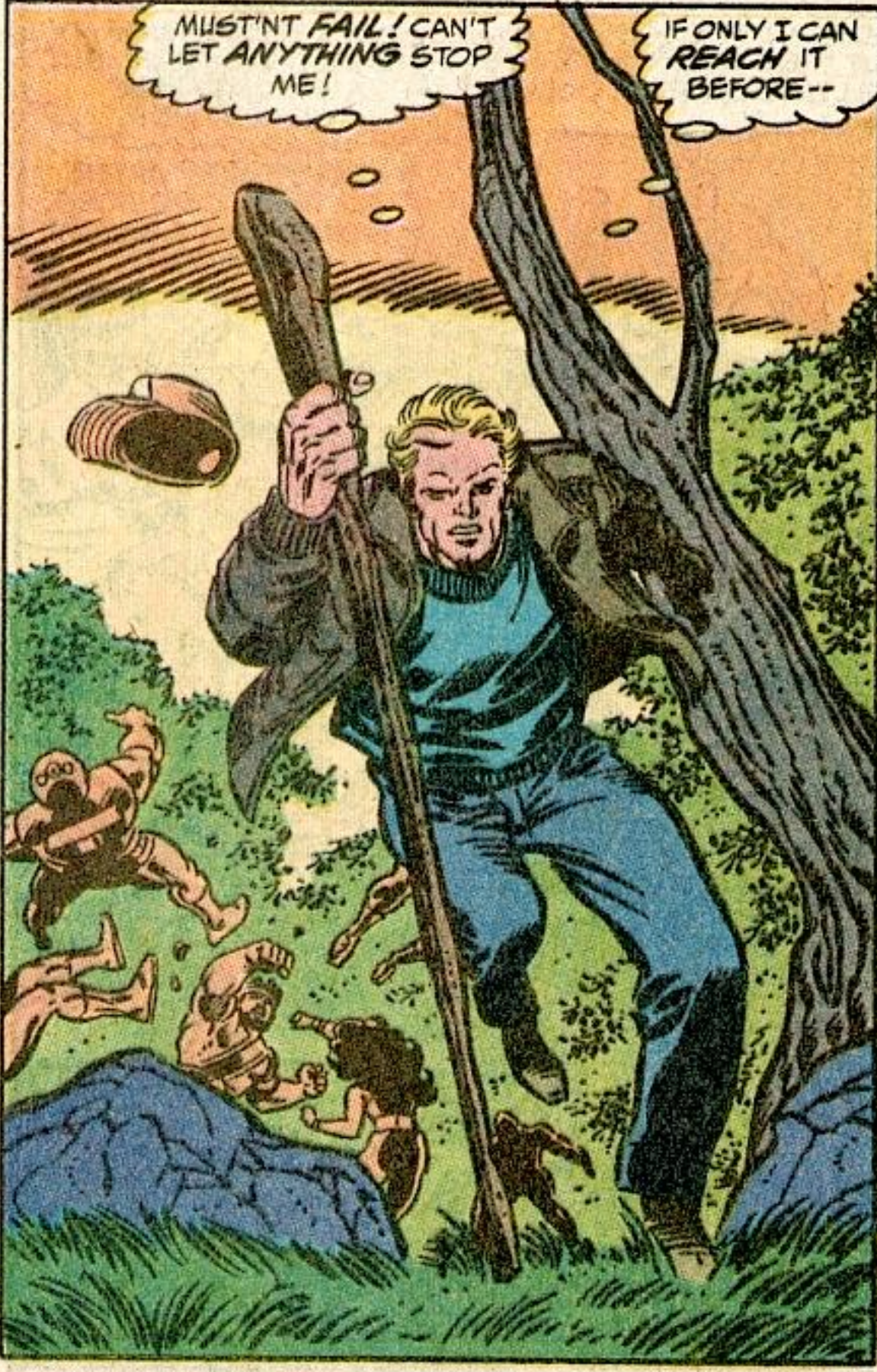
JUST FINE,
HERC!



I DON'T BELIEVE THAT
JERK! I ASK HIM TO KEEP
MY IDENTITY A SECRET,
AND HE SHOUTS MY NAME!

ONLY HOPE SHE-HULK
WAS TOO BUSY TO...

MY HAMMER--!



MUST'NT FAIL! CAN'T LET ANYTHING STOP ME!

IF ONLY I CAN REACH IT BEFORE--



SHA-BWOOM!

UGNN



MEANWHILE...

I AM PLEASSED TO SEE THAT MY FAITHFUL *RETAINERS* ARE APPARENTLY IN GOOD HEALTH!

IF ALL GOES ACCORDING TO PLAN, THEY WILL NOT SUFFER ANY ILL EFFECTS FROM THEIR TIME DISPLACEMENT!

A PITY THAT THE SAME CANNOT BE SAID OF *KRISTOFF*!



THERE CAN BE NO GREATER PUNISHMENT FOR ONE SUCH AS HE THAN THE TERRIBLE KNOWLEDGE THAT HE HAS BEEN *TOTALLY DEFEATED*!

I ALMOST FEEL *SORRY* FOR HIM!

BETTER YOU SHOULD SAVE YOUR *PITY* FOR YOURSELF!

GREETINGS, IMPOSTOR! I ALWAYS KNEW THAT YOUR MADNESS WOULD EVENTUALLY LEAD YOU HERE!

I APPLAUD YOUR FUTILE EFFORTS TO ENTRAP ME BY MEANS OF A TIME DISPLACEMENT FIELD!



A PITY THAT I HAD ALREADY ENVISIONED THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH AN ATTACK... AND HAD INSTALLED THE APPROPRIATE DEFENSES WITHIN MY ARMOR!

OF COURSE! I SHOULD HAVE FORESEEN SUCH AN ACTION ON YOUR PART!

DO NOT FLATTER YOURSELF! NONE CAN PREDICT THE MIND OF DOOM!

NONE SAVE THE TRUE VICTOR VON DOOM!

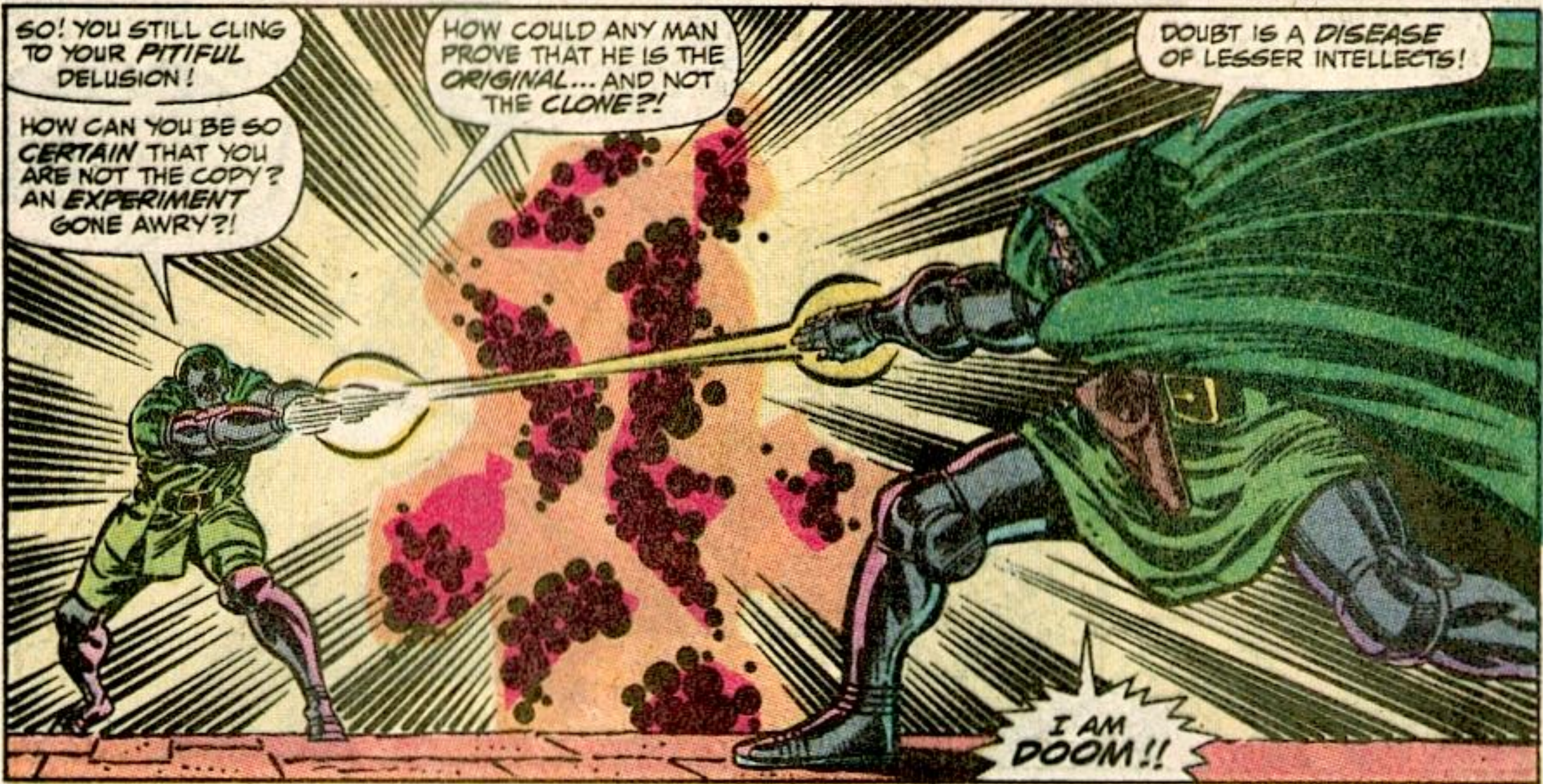


SO! YOU STILL CLING TO YOUR PITIFUL DELUSION!

HOW CAN YOU BE SO CERTAIN THAT YOU ARE NOT THE COPY? AN EXPERIMENT GONE AWRY?!

HOW COULD ANY MAN PROVE THAT HE IS THE ORIGINAL... AND NOT THE CLONE?!

DOUBT IS A DISEASE OF LESSER INTELLECTS!



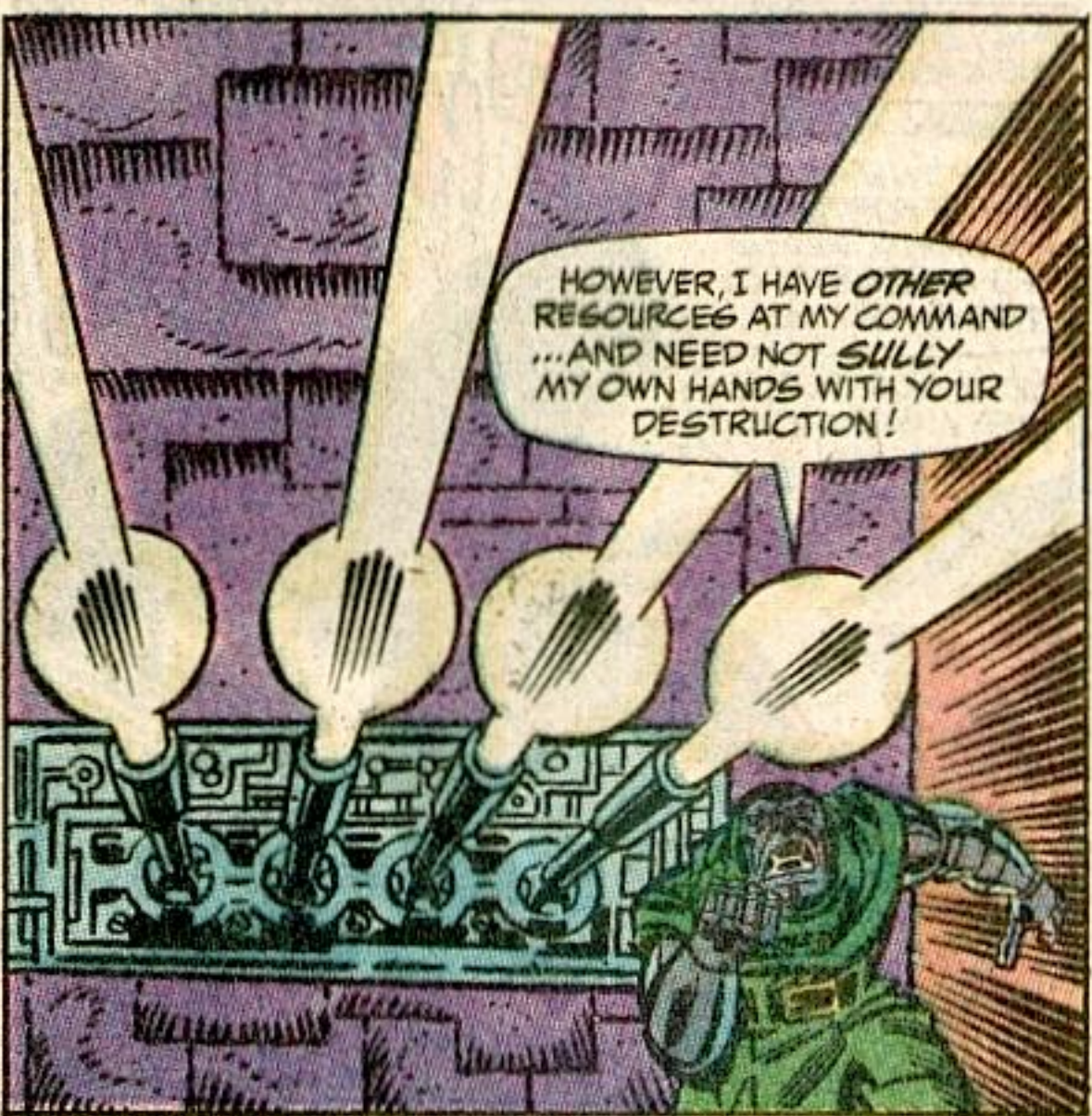
I AM DOOM!!

INTERESTING! I WOULD HAVE GIVEN A SIMILAR RESPONSE!

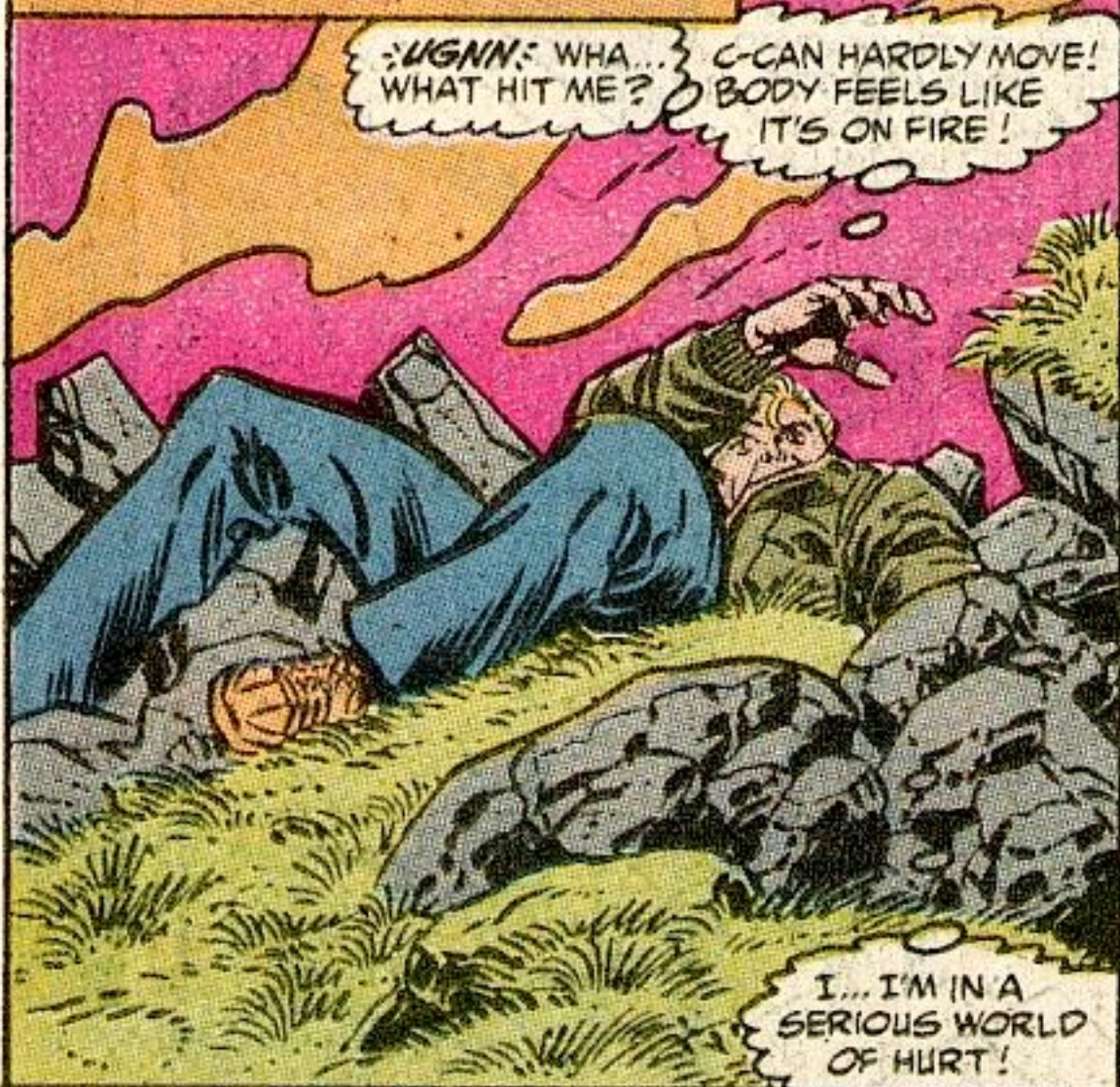
OUR ARMORS APPEAR TO BE EQUALLY MATCHED...



HOWEVER, I HAVE OTHER RESOURCES AT MY COMMAND ...AND NEED NOT SULLY MY OWN HANDS WITH YOUR DESTRUCTION!



MEANWHILE, IN THE NEARBY FOREST...



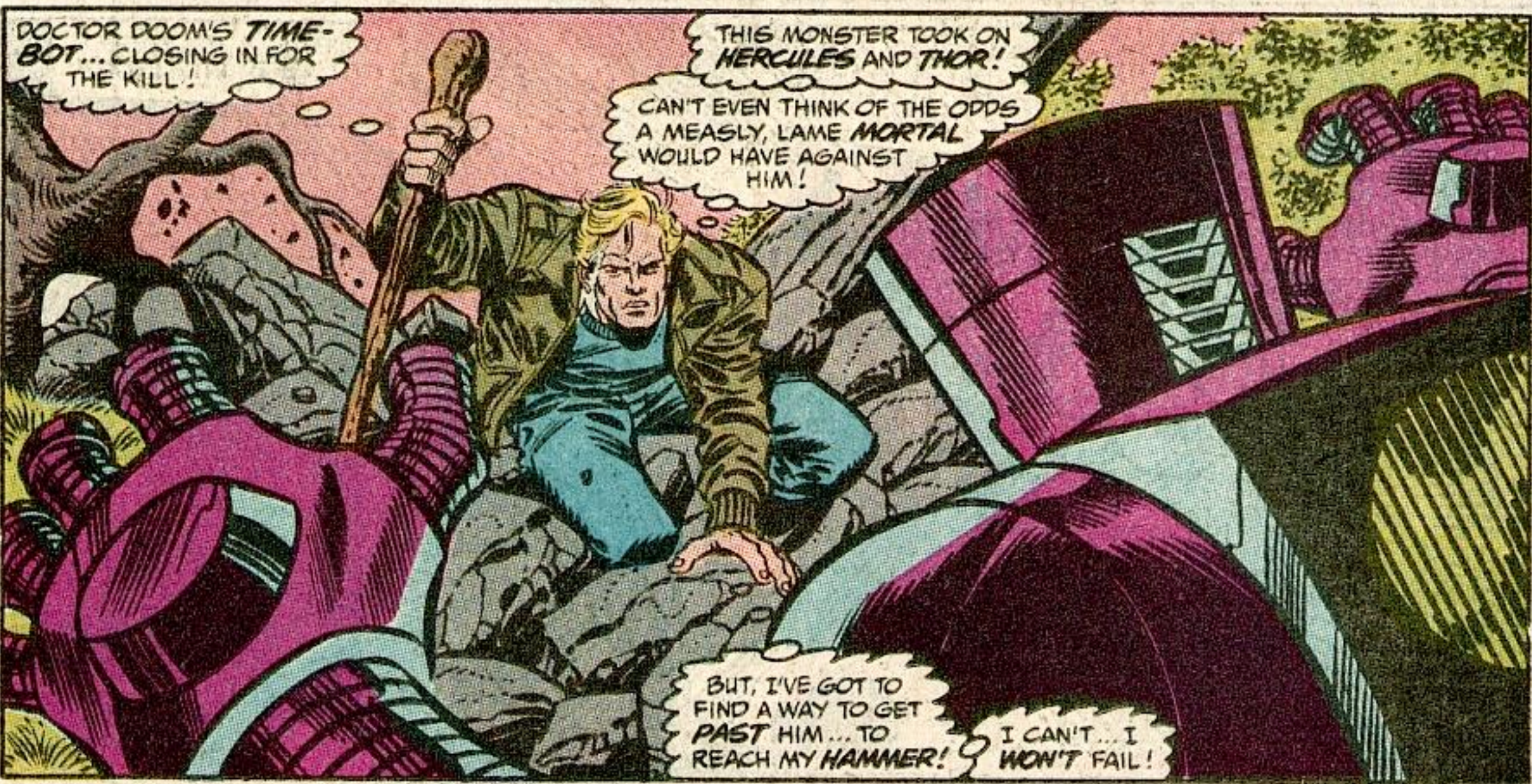
UGNN! WHA... I CAN HARDLY MOVE!
WHAT HIT ME? BODY FEELS LIKE
IT'S ON FIRE!

I... I'M IN A
SERIOUS WORLD
OF HURT!



WAIT! I CAN HEAR
SOMETHING STOMPING
TOWARD ME!

OH, NO...! IT
CAN'T BE!!



DOCTOR DOOM'S TIME-
BOT... CLOSING IN FOR
THE KILL!

THIS MONSTER TOOK ON
HERCULES AND THOR!

CAN'T EVEN THINK OF THE ODDS
A MEASLY, LAME MORTAL
WOULD HAVE AGAINST
HIM!

BUT, I'VE GOT TO
FIND A WAY TO GET
PAST HIM... TO
REACH MY HAMMER! I CAN'T... I
WON'T FAIL!



AND, BACK IN
THE CASTLE...

PWOOM!

SEE HOW EASILY--
HOW EFFORTLESSLY
--I CAN INCREASE
THE INTENSITY OF
THIS BARRAGE!

YOUR WORTHLESS
LIFE HANGS ON
MY WHIM!



TELL ME YOUR TRUE IDENTITY...
AND THE REAL REASONS BEHIND
YOUR USELESS MASQUERADE...
AND I MAY YET PROVE MERCIFUL!

WHO ARE
YOU?!

I HAVE TOLD YOU THE
TRUTH... TIME AND AGAIN
... BUT YOU REFUSE
TO ACCEPT IT!



I AM DOOM... AND I DID NOT COME HERE TO LOSE!

I KNOW EVERY INCH OF THIS CASTLE AS WELL AS I KNOW MY OWN GAUNTLET!



I AM INTIMATELY AWARE OF ALL OF ITS STRENGTHS... AND WEAKNESSES! I DESIGNED ITS DEFENSES! BUILT ITS ARMAMENTS!

I CREATED THEM ALL--

BKOOOM!



--JUST AS I CREATED YOU!!

KA TWAM!!



THE BATTLE IS OVER! VICTOR VON DOOM HAS TRIUMPHED!

I PITY YOU, KRISTOFF! YOU WERE TO BE MY HEIR!



I MADE YOU OVER IN MY IMAGE-- AND TRANSFORMED YOU INTO A TRUE EXTENSION OF MYSELF!

THE ENTIRE WORLD COULD HAVE BEEN YOURS!

IF WHAT YOU SAY IS TRUE... THEN I AM SURELY YOUR GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT!



TO DESTROY ME... IS TO ADMIT FAILURE... AND TO ABANDON YOUR DREAM... OF LIFE BEYOND DEATH!

THE REAL DOCTOR DOOM WOULD NEVER ACCEPT SUCH A TOTAL DEFEAT!



AND, JUST THEN...

GOT TO TIME THIS JUST RIGHT! I WON'T GET A SECOND CHANCE!

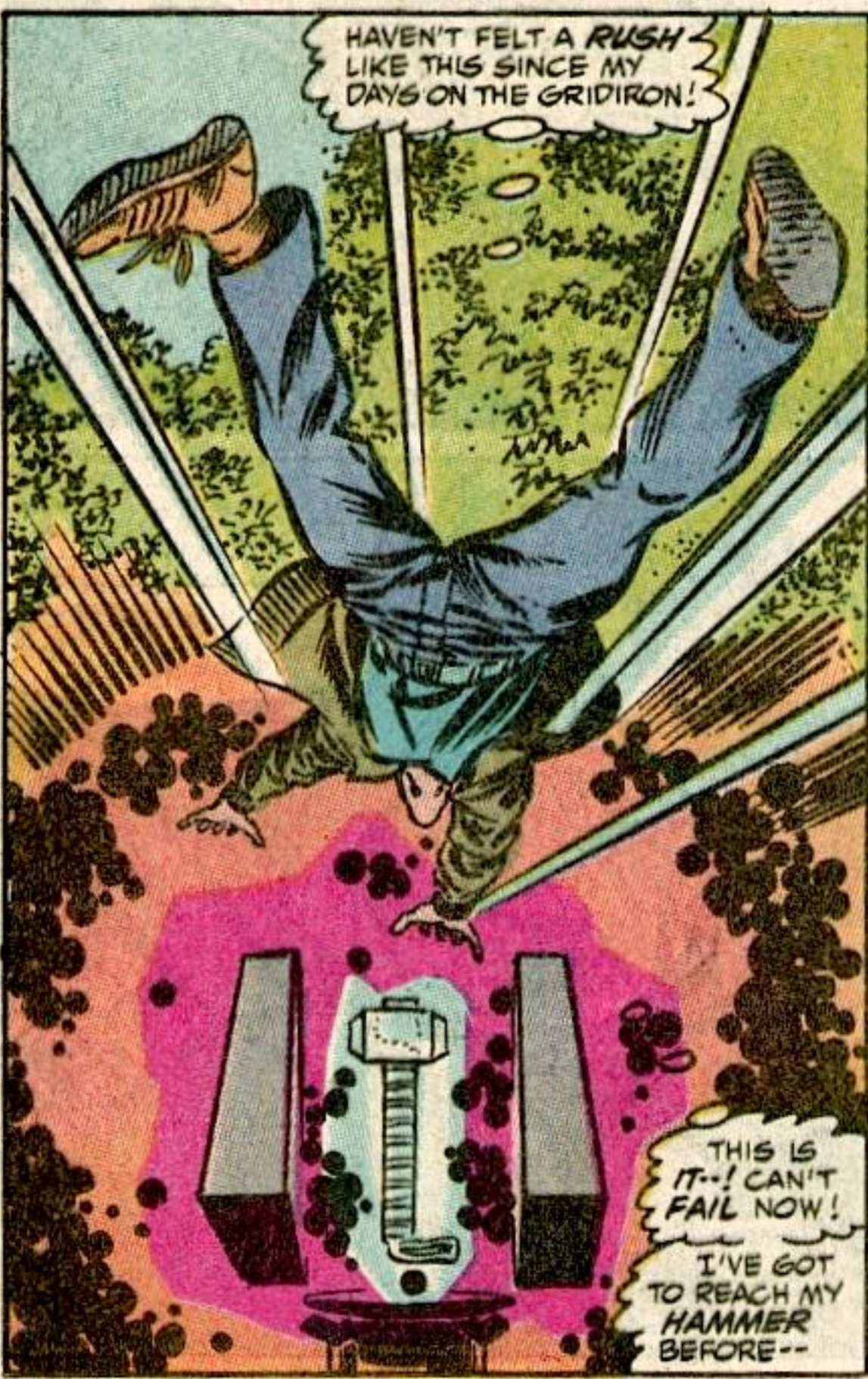
BACK! GET BACK YOU BOLT-BRAINED BOZO! I'M WARNING YOU--!

YOU MAY THINK I'M WEAK AND HELPLESS... BUT THE REDCOATS MADE THE SAME MISTAKE AGAINST THE AMERICAN COLONISTS!



YAHOO!!

MY PLAN WORKED! MANAGED TO CATAPULT OVER HIM BEFORE HE REALIZED WHAT I WAS DOING!



HAVEN'T FELT A RUSH LIKE THIS SINCE MY DAYS ON THE GRIDIRON!

THIS IS IT--! CAN'T FAIL NOW!
I'VE GOT TO REACH MY HAMMER BEFORE--

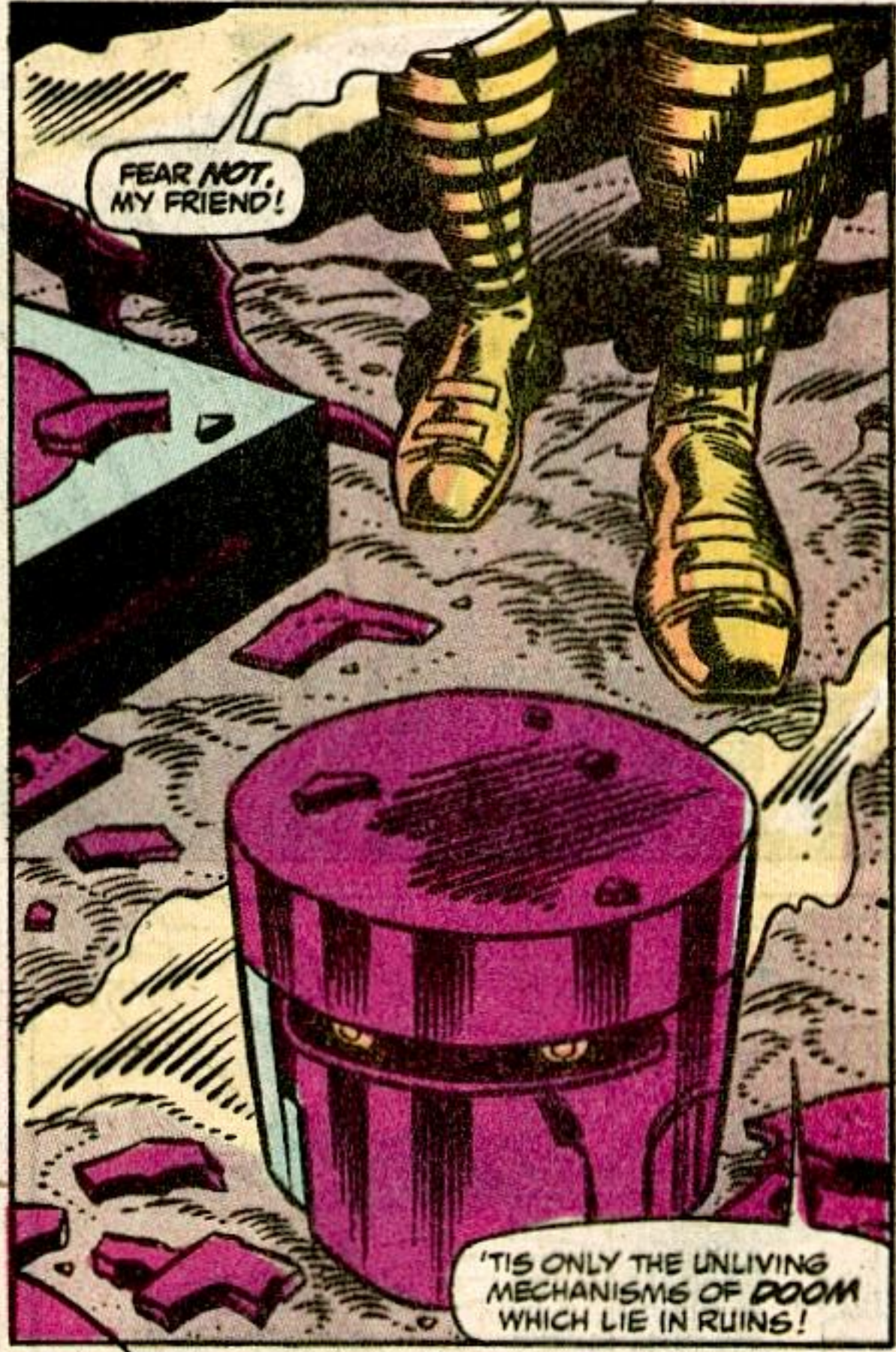


KRAKA-SHBOOM!!



ERIC--!!
BY MY BEARD!
HE WAS CAUGHT IN
THE DIRECT
CENTER OF YON
BLAST!

NO MERE HUMAN COULD
E'ER SURVIVE SUCH
WANTON DEVASTATION!



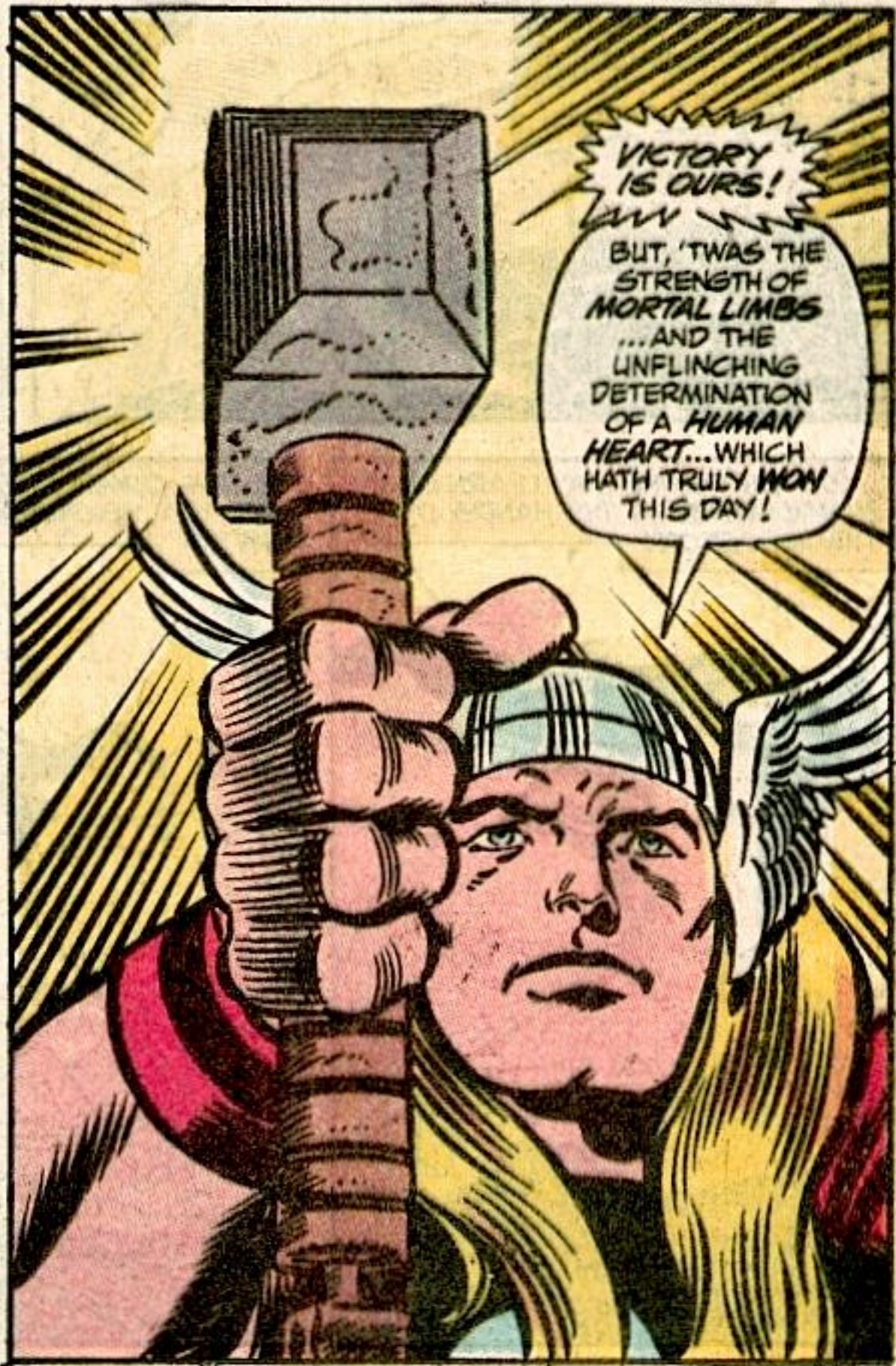
FEAR NOT,
MY FRIEND!

'TIS ONLY THE UNLIVING
MECHANISMS OF DOOM
WHICH LIE IN RUINS!

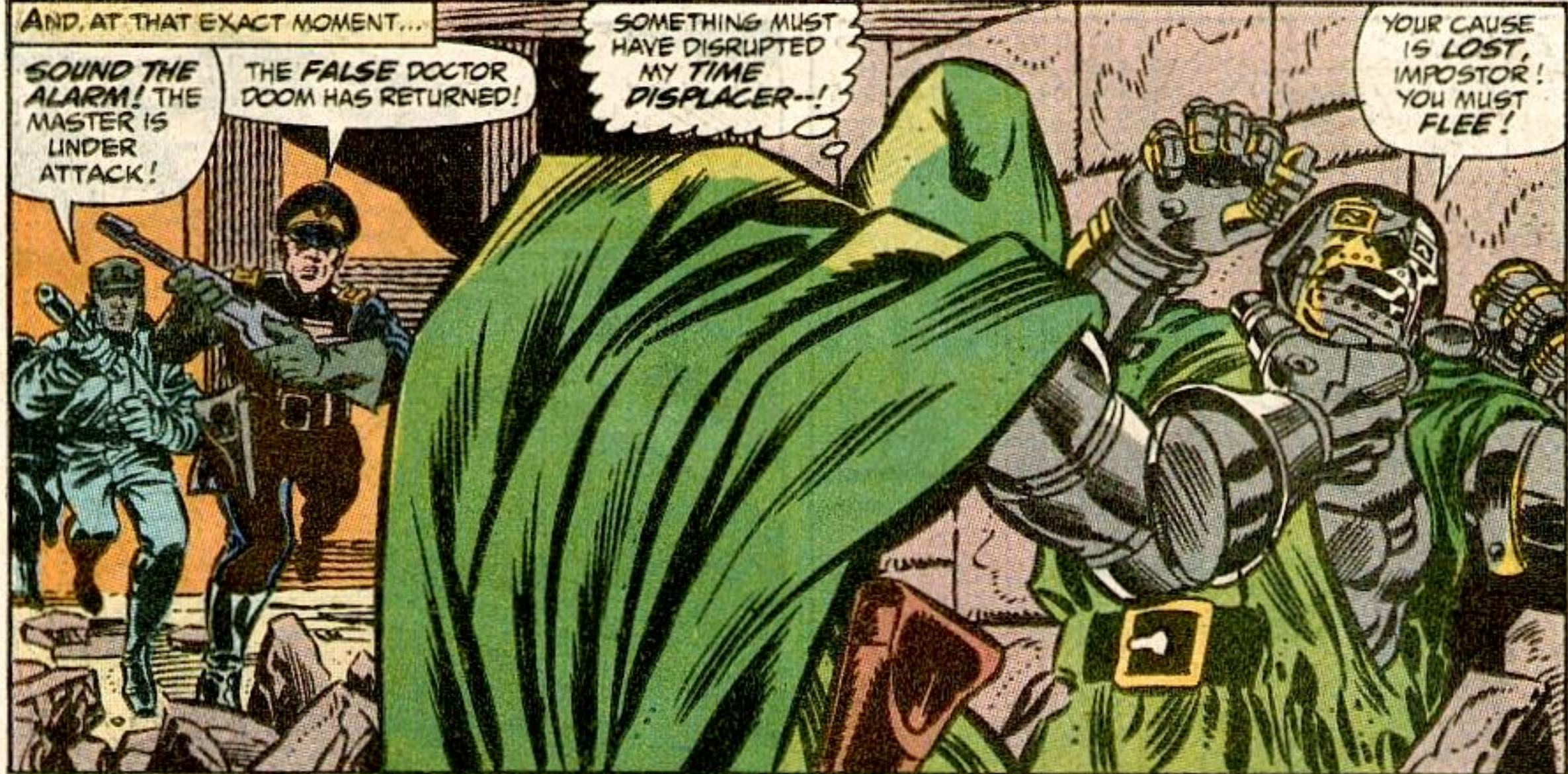


THE SON
OF ODIN
LIVES!

AND HE HATH BEEN
UNITED WITH THE
HAMMER SUPREME!



VICTORY
IS OURS!
BUT, 'T WAS THE
STRENGTH OF
MORTAL LIMBS
...AND THE
UNFLINCHING
DETERMINATION
OF A HUMAN
HEART... WHICH
HATH TRULY WON
THIS DAY!



AND, AT THAT EXACT MOMENT...

SOUND THE ALARM! THE MASTER IS UNDER ATTACK!

THE FALSE DOCTOR DOOM HAS RETURNED!

SOMETHING MUST HAVE DISRUPTED MY TIME DISPLACER--!

YOUR CAUSE IS LOST, IMPOSTOR! YOU MUST FLEE!



PERHAPS, BUT YOU MUST NOW LEARN TO LIVE WITH THE KNOWLEDGE OF YOUR COMPLETE AND UTTER DEFEAT...

...IF YOU CAN!!

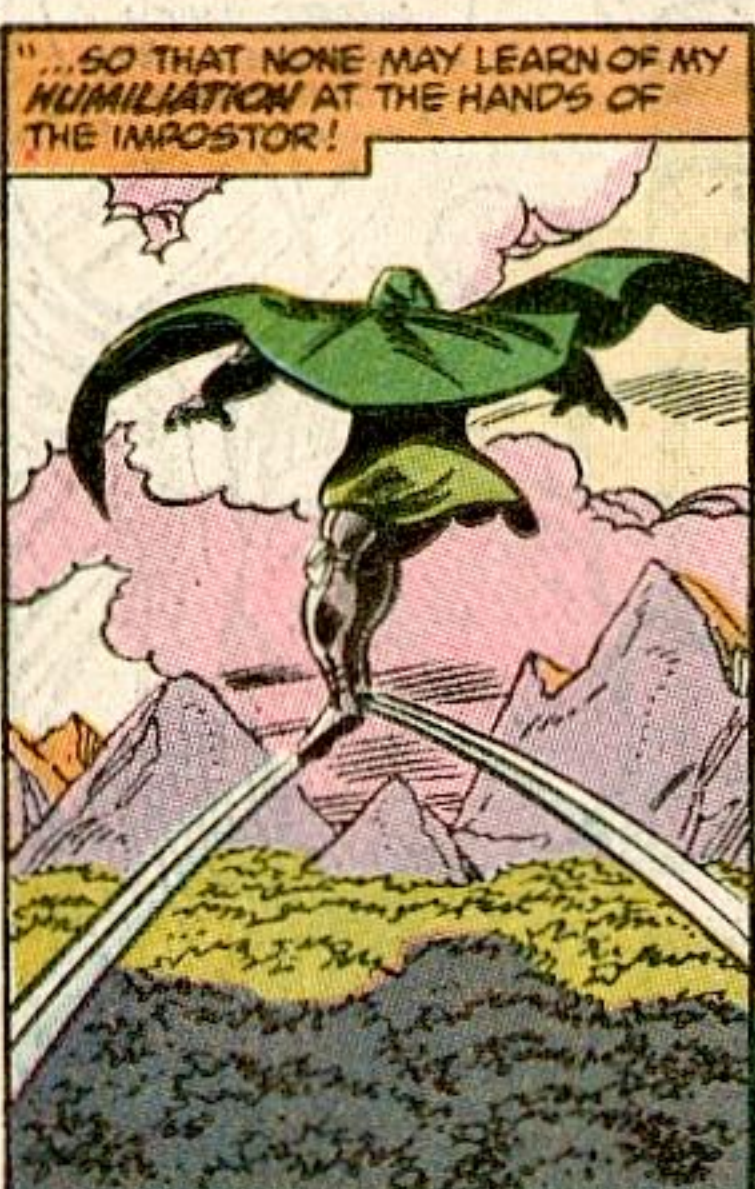


SHALL WE MOUNT A PURSUIT?

THERE IS NO NEED! HE SHALL RETURN! HE MUST RETURN!

THE GUARDS ARE AVERTING THEIR EYES! THEY DARE NOT FACE ME!

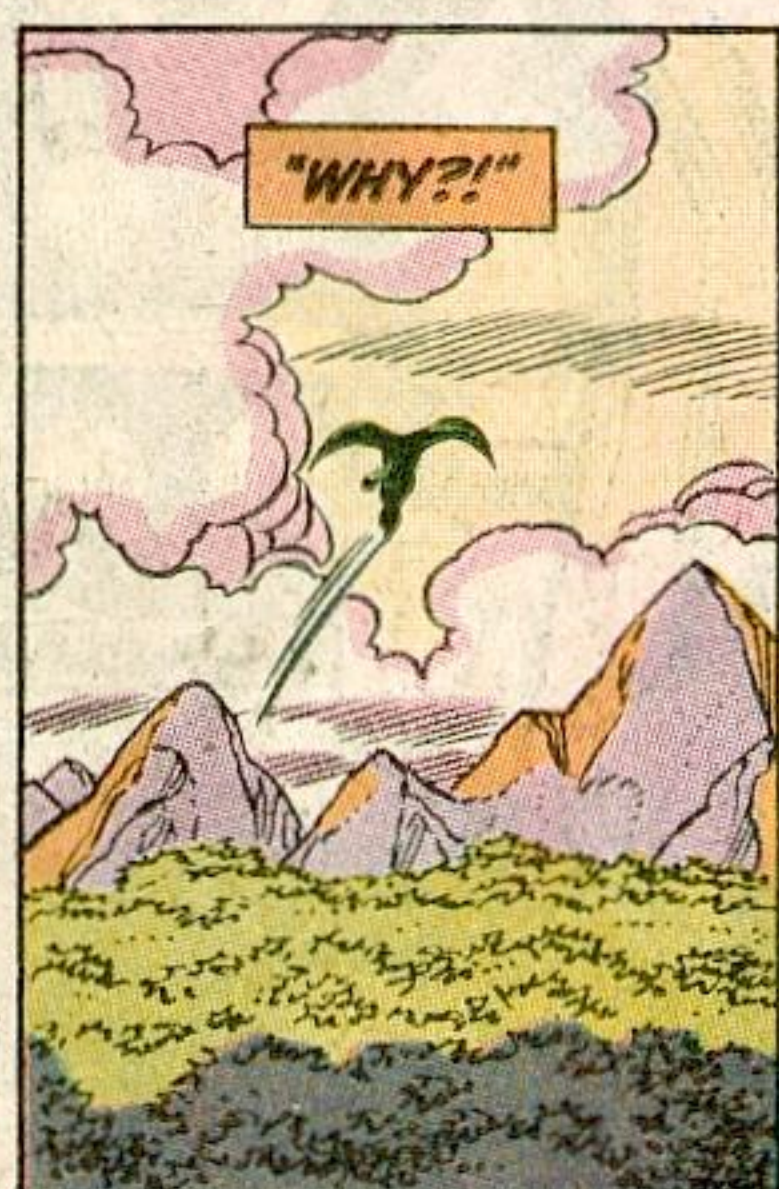
THEY MUST BE ELIMINATED...



...SO THAT NONE MAY LEARN OF MY HUMILIATION AT THE HANDS OF THE IMPOSTOR!



"I WAS COMPLETELY AT HIS MERCY! AND YET, HE CHOSE TO SPARE ME! WHY?"



"WHY?!"



BEHOLD! DOOM FLIES OVERHEAD! SHOULD WE GIVE CHASE?

NO! ONLY THE FOOL CONTINUES TO BATTLE AFTER THE WAR IS ALREADY WON!

WISH I KNEW WHAT WAS GOING ON! WHERE'D THOR COME FROM?

HEY, HE MUST BE ...AW, GEE! I NEVER EVEN GOT A GOOD LOOK AT HIS FACE!



COME! I AM ANXIOUS TO RETURN HOME...

...AND RESUME MY LIFE AS ERIC MASTERSON!

AYE, AND WE MUST CELEBRATE OUR VICTORY WITH A MONUMENTAL REVELRY!

WAS IT MY IMAGINATION, OR WAS HERC DOGGING IT THROUGH THE FIGHT? HE MAY BE A MACHO BLOCKHEAD ...BUT HE IS QUITE THE HUNK!



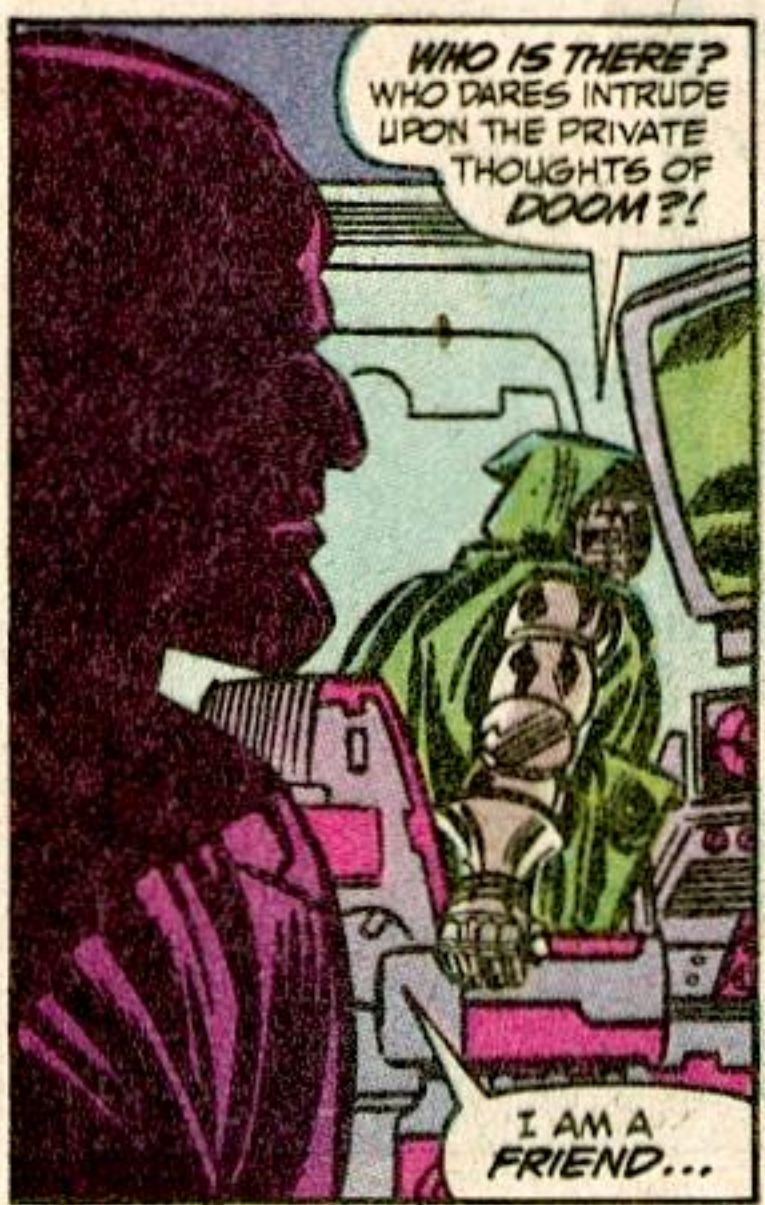
A FEW DAYS LATER IN NEW YORK CITY...

ALONE IN HIS CURRENT BASE OF OPERATIONS, DOCTOR DOOM PONDS THE SORRY COURSE OF RECENT EVENTS!



SUDDENLY, UNEXPECTEDLY, AN ICY SHARP VOICE PIERCES THE SILENCE...

YOUR PLAN WAS PERFECT! IT SHOULD ...WOULD HAVE WORKED ... IF NOT FOR THE ACCURSED THUNDER GOD!



WHO IS THERE? WHO DARES INTRUDE UPON THE PRIVATE THOUGHTS OF DOOM?!

I AM A FRIEND...



A FRIEND WHO CAN HELP YOU GAIN YOUR REVENGE ON THOR AND EVERY OTHER MISGUIDED FOOL WHO HAS EVER THWARTED YOU!

GO ON... I AM AMUSED.

ALL IT WILL TAKE IS A SIMPLE ACT...



AN ACT OF VENGEANCE!

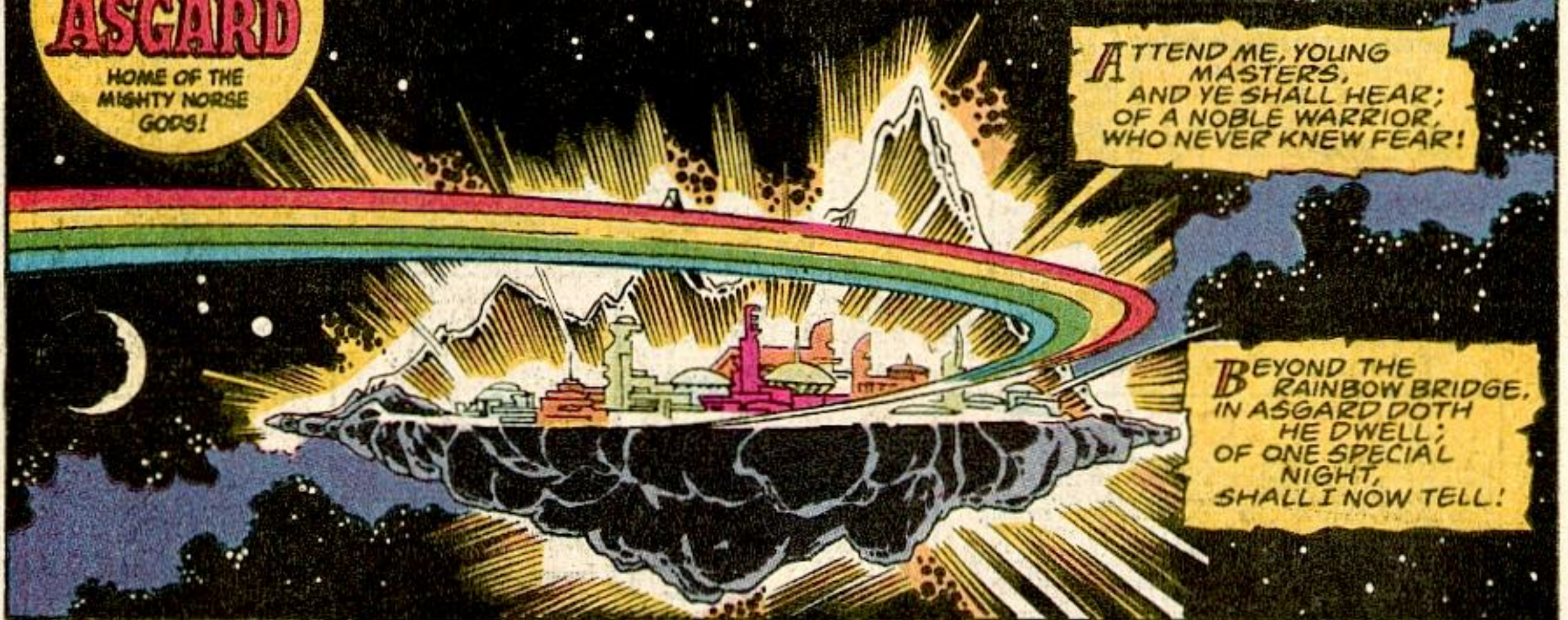
TO BE CONTINUED...

Stan Lee
PRESENTS
**TALES OF
ASGARD**
HOME OF THE
MIGHTY NORSE
GODS!

STARRING:

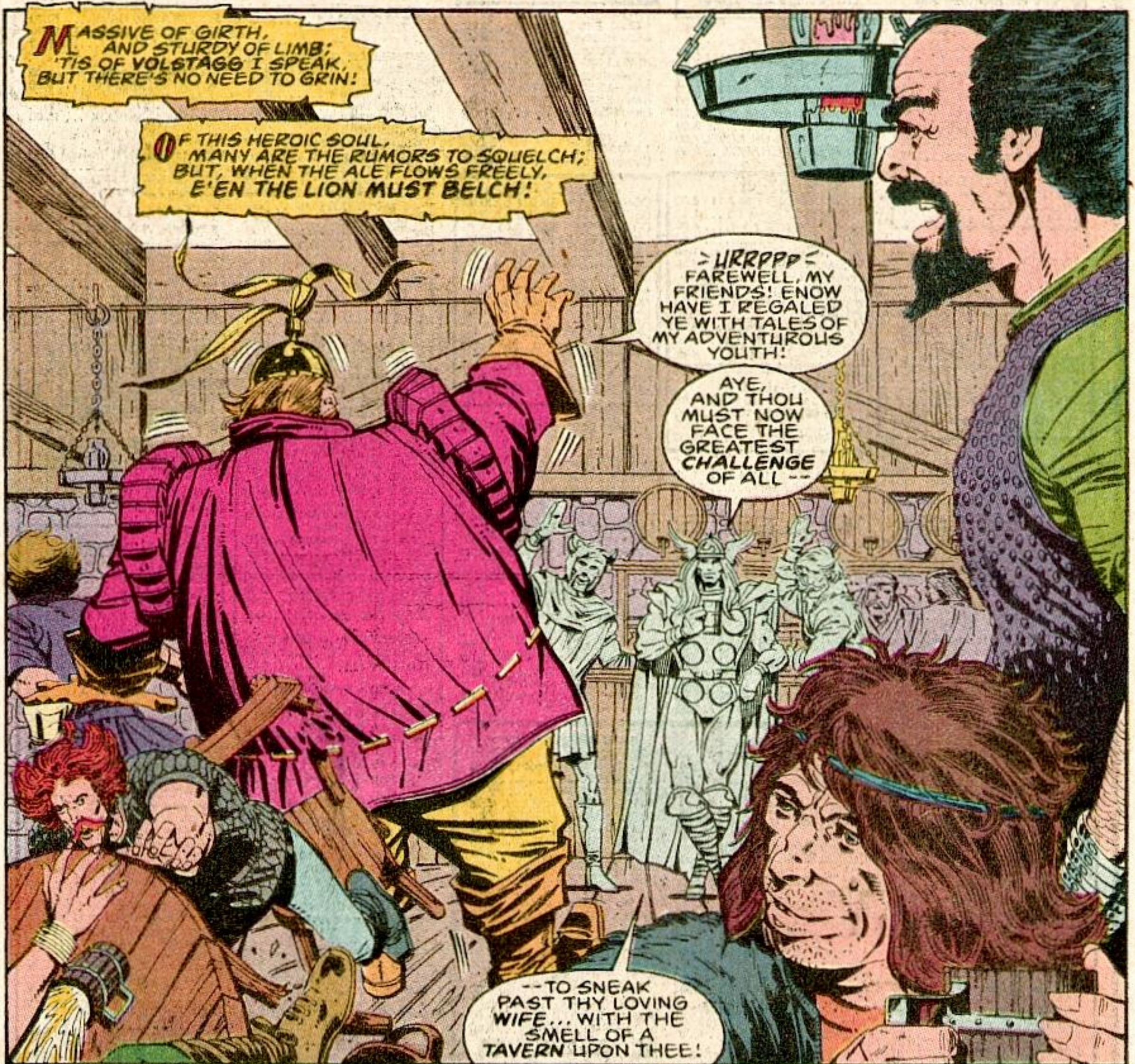
VOLSTAGG

THE LION
OF
ASGARD



ATTEND ME, YOUNG
MASTERS,
AND YE SHALL HEAR;
OF A NOBLE WARRIOR,
WHO NEVER KNEW FEAR!

BEYOND THE
RAINBOW BRIDGE,
IN ASGARD DOTH
HE DWELL;
OF ONE SPECIAL
NIGHT,
SHALL I NOW TELL!



MASSIVE OF GIRTH,
AND STURDY OF LIMB;
'TIS OF VOLSTAGG I SPEAK,
BUT THERE'S NO NEED TO GRIN!

OF THIS HEROIC SOUL,
MANY ARE THE RUMORS TO SQUELCH;
BUT, WHEN THE ALE FLOWS FREELY,
E'EN THE LION MUST BELCH!

>URRPPP<
FAREWELL, MY
FRIENDS! ENOW
HAVE I REGALED
YE WITH TALES OF
MY ADVENTUROUS
YOUTH!

AYE,
AND THOU
MUST NOW
FACE THE
GREATEST
CHALLENGE
OF ALL --

-- TO SNEAK
PAST THY LOVING
WIFE... WITH THE
SMELL OF A
TAVERN UPON THEE!

A
SPECTACULAR
STORY BY
TOM
DEFALCO

AN
ILLUSTRATED
EXTRAVAGANZA
BY HERB
TRIMPE

A
COLORING
CULMINATION
BY NEL
YOMTOV

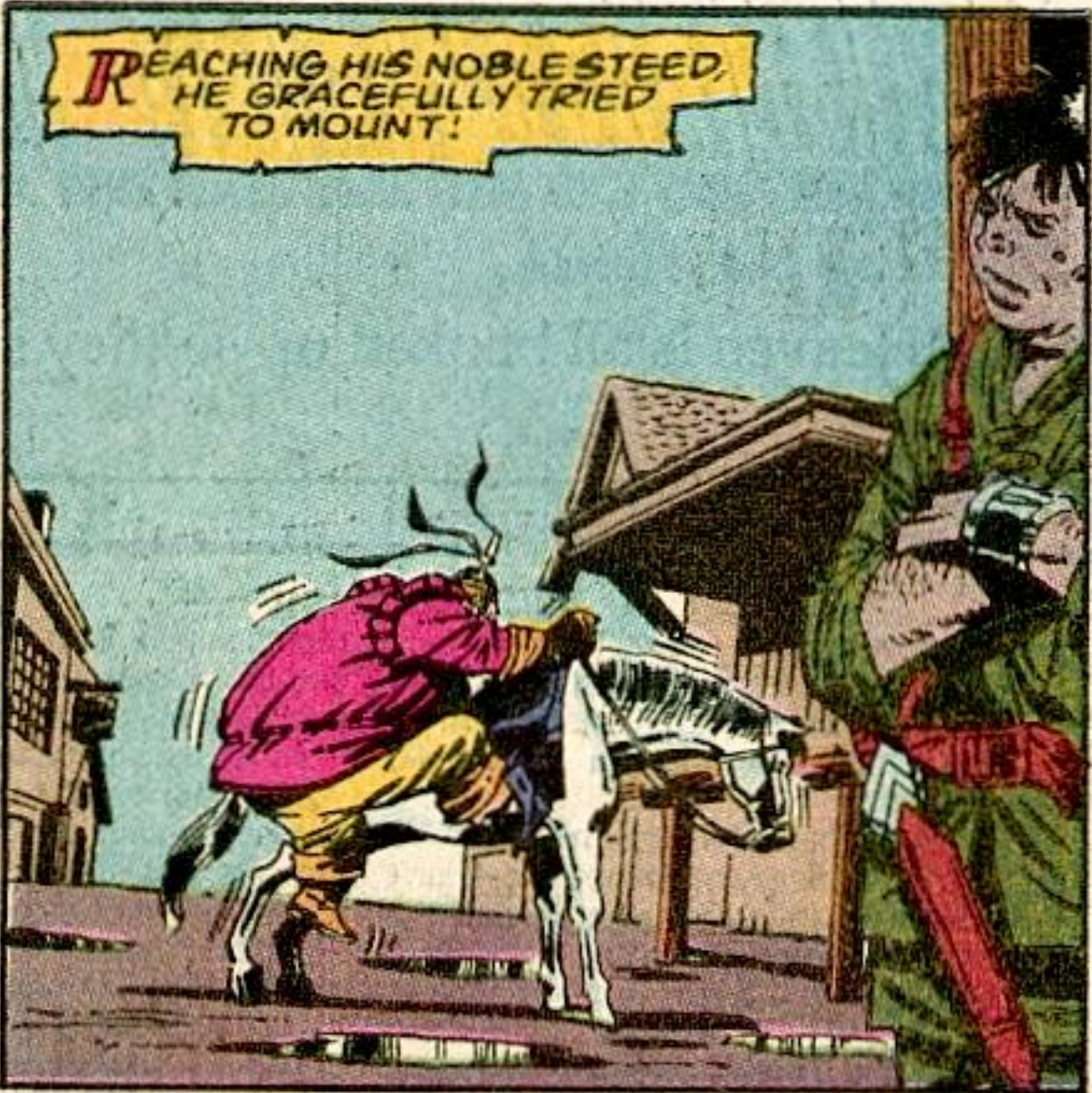
A
LETTERING
PINNACLE BY
RICHARD
STARKINGS

ANOTHER
BOTCHED
EDITING JOB BY
RALPH
MACCHIO



INTO THE NIGHT, HE STRODE LIKE A GOD!

WEAVING AND BOBBING, AND STARTING TO NOD!



REACHING HIS NOBLE STEED, HE GRACEFULLY TRIED TO MOUNT!



BUT, CONSIDERING HIS STATE, THAT FIRST ATTEMPT SHOULD NOT COUNT!



A SUDDEN WIND, A SORCEROUS SPELL!

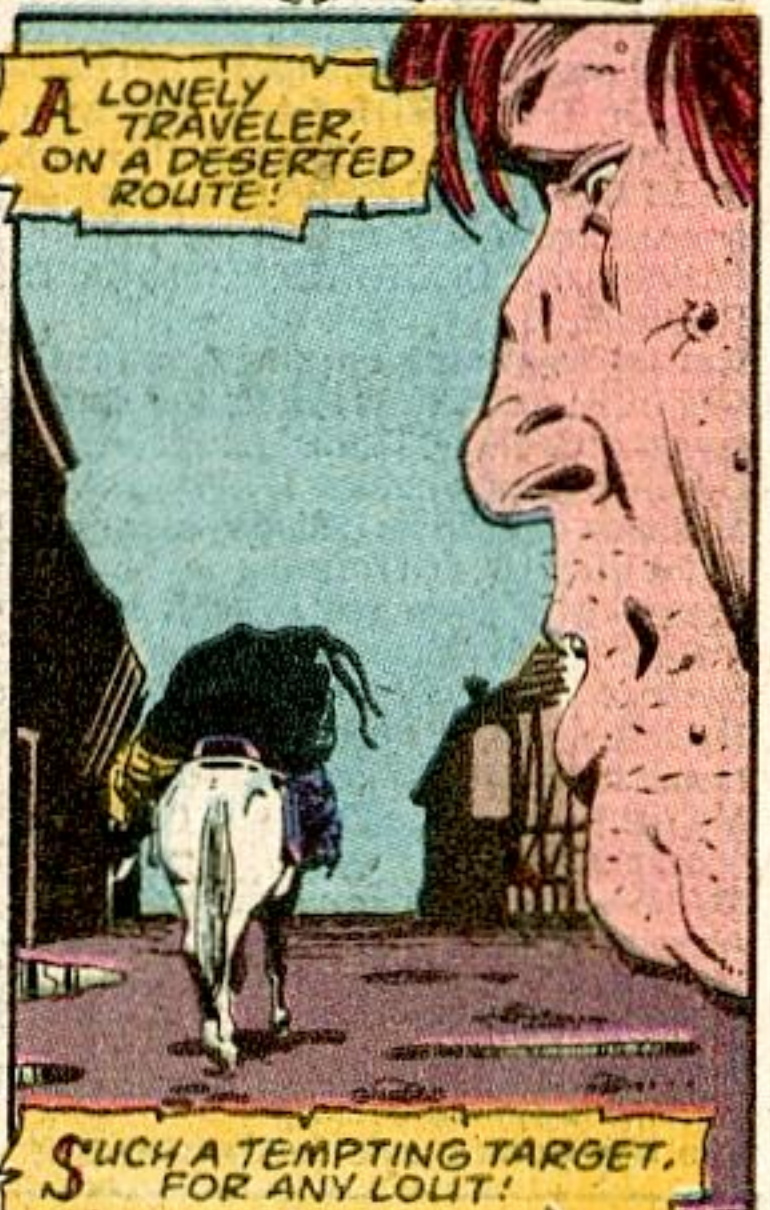
SUCH MUST BE THE REASON WHY, INTO THE PUDDLE HE FELL!



UNKNOWN TO OUR HERO, HIS CONDITION WAS NOTED...



BY A SHADY FIGURE, WHO SCHEMED AND GLOATED!



A LONELY TRAVELER, ON A DESERTED ROUTE!

SUCH A TEMPTING TARGET, FOR ANY LOU!!

A ALERT AS AN EAGLE,
HE GALLOPED THROUGH
THE NIGHT!

A TRUE WARRIOR-BORN,
AN AWE-INSPIRING SIGHT!



B BUT UP AHEAD,
ATOP A HILL...

NOW!



**SURRENDER THY
PURSE, GRAND-
FATHER!**

THY
FINE
BOOTS
AS
WELL!

QUICKLY
NOW, AND
THOU MAY
YET GREET
THE MORN!



B RIGANDS
AWAITED,
PREPARED
TO KILL!

THOUGH THEY NUMBERED
ONLY EIGHT,
THE ALE MADE HIM SEE
DOUBLE;
BUT, E'EN THOSE ODDS,
HE CONSIDERED NO TROUBLE!

UNSTEADY OF BALANCE,
OUR HERO ATTEMPTED
TO STAND;
USING A PURCHASE,
WHICH CRIPPLED ONE MAN!

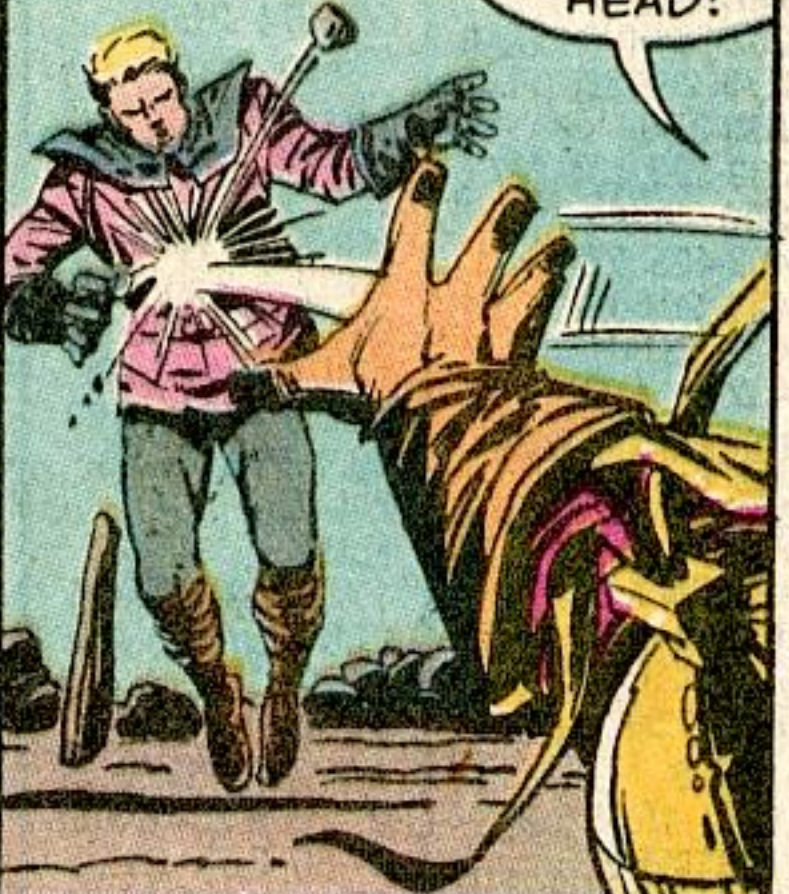
FROM BEHIND CAME ANOTHER,
AND A CLUB HE DID WIELD;
BUT A HASTILY THROWN STONE,
DID FORCE HIM TO YIELD!



DRUNKEN
OLD SOT! WE
WARNED
THEE, AND
UFF!

ATTACK IF
THOU WILT...
BUT DO SO
QUIETLY!

TERRIBLE
IS THE
POUNDING
WITHIN MY
HEAD!



**HAVE
THEM!**

STAND YE BACK,
PUNY SCOLINDRELS!
VOLSTAGG IS THE
HERO OF A
THOUSAND
BATTLES!

AYE, BUT THAT WAS WELL
BEFORE THOU DIDST TURN
THY ATTENTIONS FROM
FIGHTING TO
EATING!

AND, STUMBLING FORWARD,
A FOE HE DID MEET!

MAYHAPS MY
MASSIVE MUSCLES
HAVE GROWN SOFT
WITH THE PASSING
YEARS --

THUNK



SEIZING A STAFF,
OUR HERO
ROSE TO HIS FEET...

-- BUT SO
HATH THY HEAD!

WITH A SAVAGE BELLOW,
THE LION EXPRESSED
HIS WRATH!

WHOMP

URRRPP!

TOPPLING HALF HIS
ENEMIES,
MORE TO CLUMSINESS
THAN CRAFT!

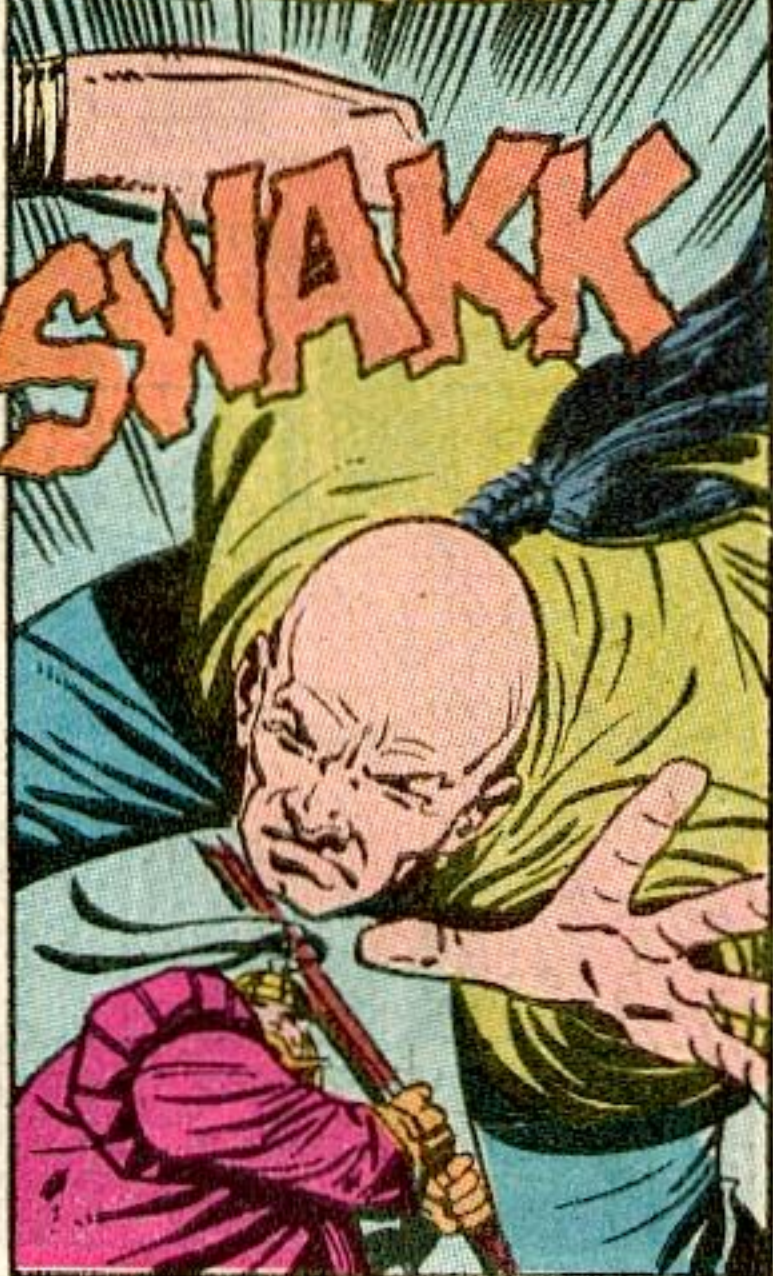
T-THE
FOOL
TRIPPED!



Dazed by his spin,
Volstagg swung blindly!
Treating another knave,
far from kindly!

EXHAUSTED BY HIS LABORS,
BACKWARD THE VALIANT
ONE LEANED!
DEFEATING A NEW RUFFIAN,
IN A MANNER UNFORESEEN!

HEARING THAT CRY,
OUR HERO SPUN ABOUT...
WITH WYLAR ON HIS STAFF,
'T WAS QUITE A CLOUT!





HOW CAN IT BE?! OUR COMRADES HAVE ALL BEEN LAID LOW BY THIS BLISTERING CLOWN!

RUSH HIM! PUT AN END TO HIS ACCURSED LUCK -- BEFORE WE, TOO, FALL VICTIM TO IT!

> URRPP < THE RUMBLING FROM DEEP WITHIN ME DOETH NOT BODE WELL!



FEARING THE NAUSEA, THAT WITHIN HIM LEAPT...

VOLSTAGG DREW A DEEP BREATH, AND TOOK A BACKWARD STEP!

BWOKK



> UNNN < LINEASY IS MY STOMACH! LINSTEDY ARE MY LEGS!

NO MORE TAVERN NIGHTS FOR THIS NOBLE WARRIOR! TOO OLD AM I FOR SUCH FOOLISHNESS!

NOT E'EN THIS MINOR DISTRACTION COULD CLEAR MY POUNDING HEAD!



RESUMING HIS JOURNEY, HE RODE TO HIS HOUSE; DREADING THE FURY OF GUDRUN, HIS SPOUSE!

WHERE HAST THOU BEEN?!



CAVORTING IN A TAVERN, BY THE STINK OF THEE!

IN TRUTH, I WAS BATTLING A HORDE OF BRIGANDS!

AYE, AND HOW MANY TANKARDS OF ALE DID IT TAKE TO DEFEAT THEM?

SUCH ARE THE INSULTS, E'EN A WARRIOR-BORN MUST BEAR, WHEN THE TEMPER OF HIS WIFE, HATH BEGUN TO FLARE!



BUT, EVERY WORD OF THIS TALE, IS TRUE AS TRUE CAN BE!

WOULD VOLSTAGG THE VALIANT, E'ER LIE TO THEE?