

AVENGERS

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THE AVENGERS

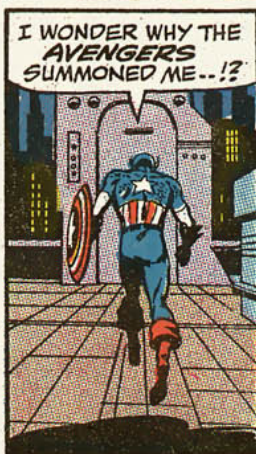
TWO AVENGERS
DOWN...
AND FOUR
TO GO!

THIS IS
THE DAY
OF THE
**MAN-
APE!**



Telegram-Marvel comics
(Avengers)

THE MIGHTY AVENGERS!®



**THE MAN-APE
ALWAYS STRIKES
TWICE!**



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-- OR ELSE YOU'D HAVE KNOWN YOU JUST KNOCKED THE *WIND* OUT OF ME-- AND THAT I WAS *PLAYING POSSUM!*

HUH? WHAT DOES IT TAKE TO MAKE YOU GO DOWN?

MORE FORCE THAN YOU CAN MUSTER, LITTLE MAN!



FOR, AS THE *TSETSE FLY* IS TO THE THICK-HIDED *ELEPHANT*--

SO ARE YOU TO THE MAN-*APE!*



AGAIN YOU DROP TO YOUR KNEES, MASKED ONE!

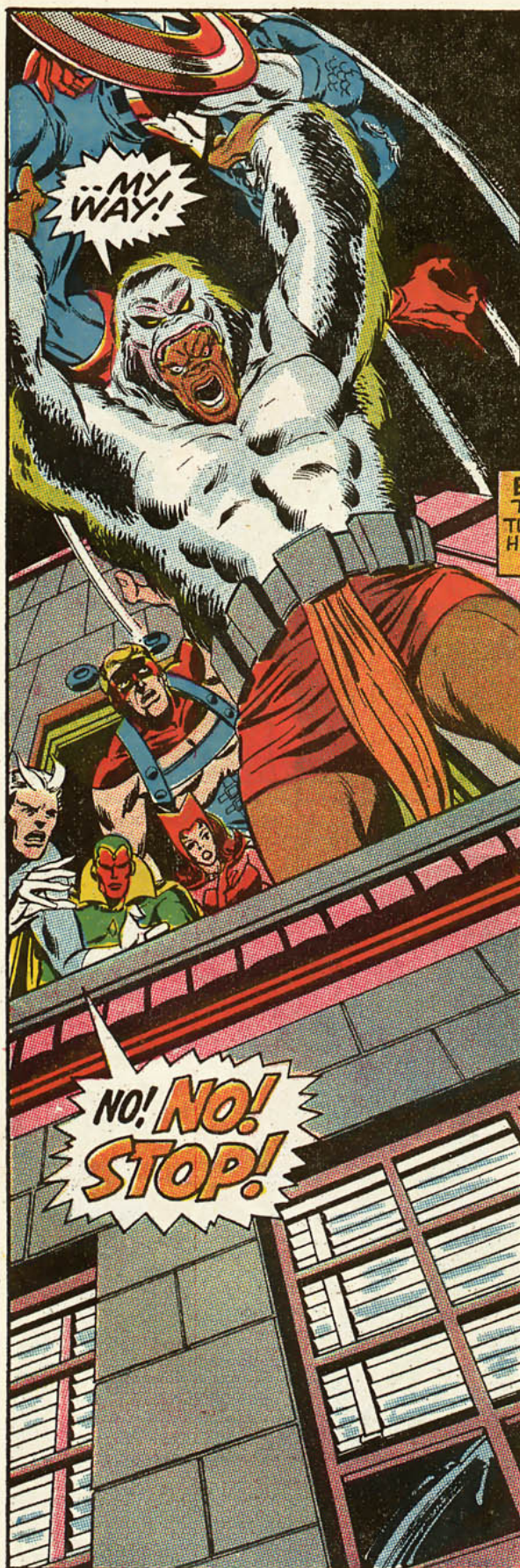
AND THIS TIME, YOU SHALL NEVER RISE AGAIN!



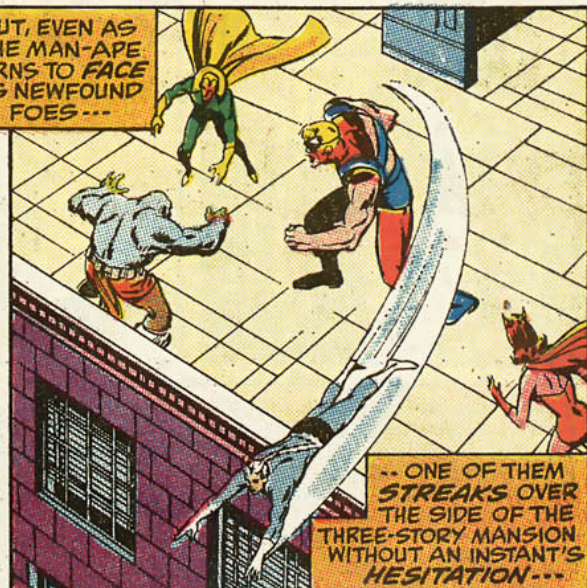
THIS TIME, YOU SHALL FEEL THE *FULL POWER* OF--

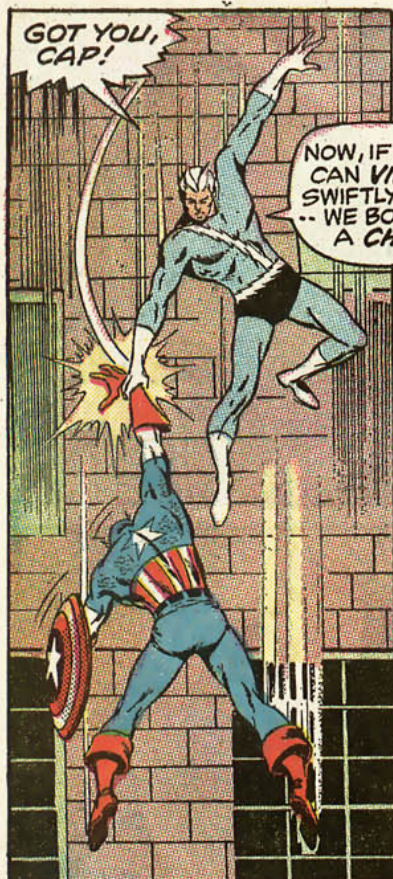
WHAT? YOU RAISED YOUR *SHIELD* BEFORE YOU-- WITH YOUR LAST OUNCE OF *STRENGTH!*

STILL, YOU ARE WEAK-- BARELY CONSCIOUS-- AND SO THE BATTLE SHALL END--



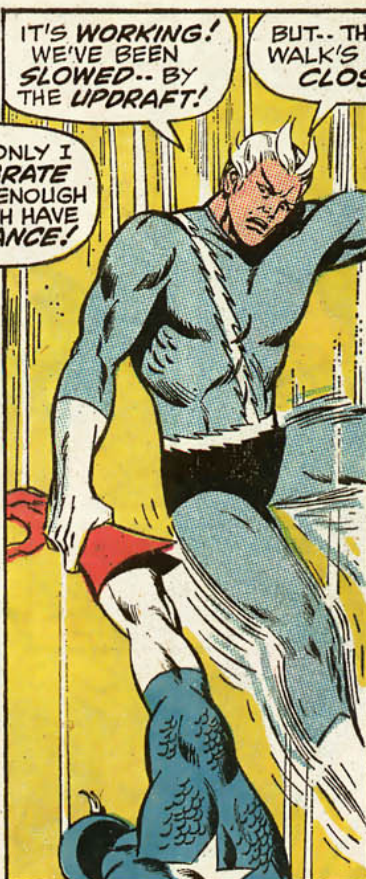
BUT, EVEN AS
THE MAN-APPE
TURNS TO FACE
HIS NEWFOUND
FOES ---





GOT YOU, CAP!

NOW, IF ONLY I CAN VIBRATE SWIFTLY ENOUGH -- WE BOTH HAVE A CHANCE!



IT'S WORKING! WE'VE BEEN SLOWED-- BY THE UPDRAFT!

BUT.. THE SIDE-WALK'S GETTING CLOSER...



CLOSER...!

THEN, ALL IN THE NEXT HEART-STOPPING MOMENT, THE TWO HURLING AVENGERS END THEIR FALL -- AS A *THIRD* FIGURE APPEARS SEEMINGLY OUT OF NOWHERE BENEATH THEM, HIS STRONG ANDROID ARMS BRACED FOR THE SHATTERING IMPACT--!



VISION!

HE DID IT, CAP! THE VISION SAVED US BOTH!

HE MUST HAVE GONE THRU THE HARD STONE OF THE MANSION LIKE A GHOST.. EVEN FASTER THAN WE COULD FALL!

THEN HE BECAME SOLID ENOUGH-- IN TIME TO CATCH US BOTH!

YOUR WORDS ARE SUPERFLUOUS, PIETRO-- AND THEY WASTE TIME!

WE MUST RETURN ABOVE AT ONCE--- WHERE WANDA AND GOLIATH STILL FACE THE MURDEROUS MAN-APe!

KRRUNNCH!

WHILE, A FEW STORIES ABOVE, BENEATH A SILVER MOON...

YOU'LL NEVER KNOW,
GRUESOME!

GOLIATH!
GET OUT OF
THE WAY!

I CAN'T AIM A HEX
SPHERE AT THE MAN-
APE... WITHOUT RISKING
HITTING YOU AS WELL!

HEX SPHERE?
WHAT FOOLERY
DO YOU SPEAK,
FEMALE?

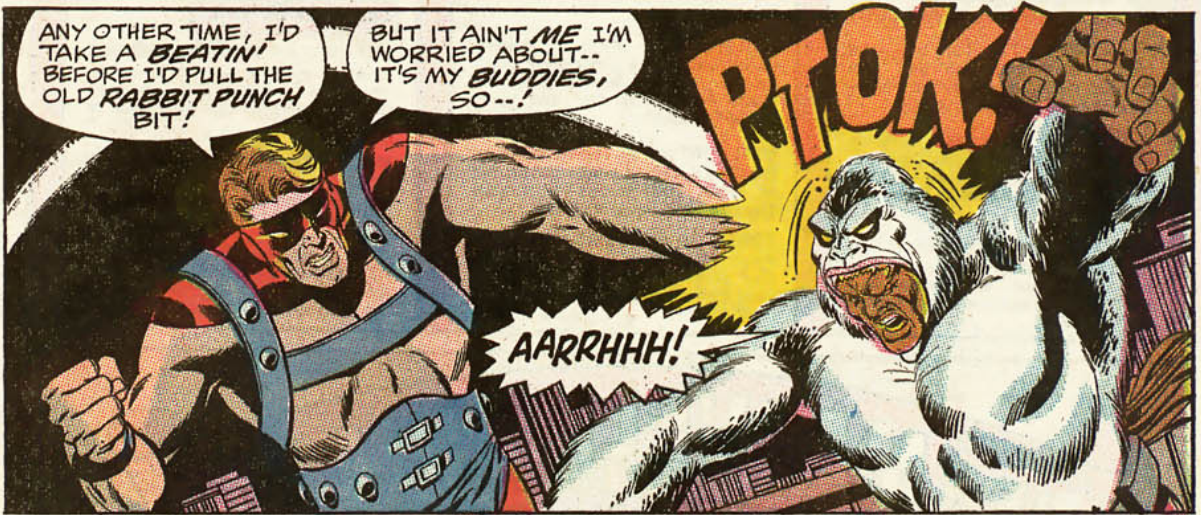


ANY OTHER TIME, I'D
TAKE A **BEATIN'**
BEFORE I'D PULL THE
OLD **RABBIT PUNCH**
BIT!

BUT IT AIN'T **ME** I'M
WORRIED ABOUT--
IT'S MY **BUDDIES**,
SO--!

PTOK!!

AARRHHH!



THE GIANT ONE
HAS **FELLED**
M'BAKU!

NO! MY CHIEF
MUST **NOT**
FALL INTO THE
HANDS OF
HIS ENEMIES!

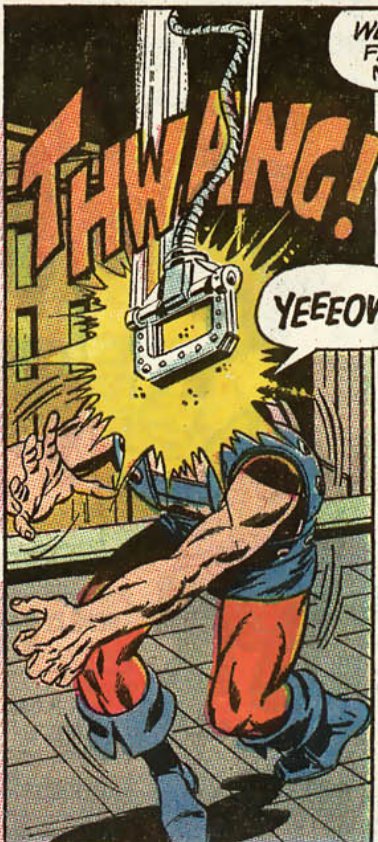
N'GAMO
MUST HELP--
AND **N'GAMO**
CAN HELP--!



WELL DONE,
FAITHFUL
N'GAMO!

AND NOW,
I SHALL
FINISH
WHAT THE
METAL
GRAPPLE
BEGAN!

YEEEOW!



BKOW!



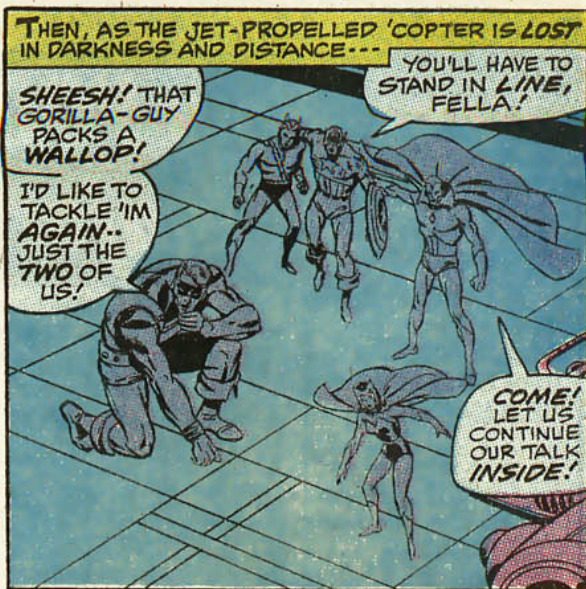
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BAH! THE OTHERS ARE RETURNING!

THERE ARE TOO MANY FOR EVEN THE MAN-**APE** TO FACE ALONE!

BUT I SHALL RETURN--AND CONQUER--AT AN HOUR OF MY OWN CHOOSING!



SHEESH! THAT GORILLA-GUY PACKS A WALLOP!

I'D LIKE TO TACKLE 'IM AGAIN--JUST THE TWO OF US!

YOU'LL HAVE TO STAND IN LINE, FELLA!

COME! LET US CONTINUE OUR TALK INSIDE!

THUS, BEFORE LONG, WITHIN THE GADGET-LADEN WALLS OF THE AVENGERS' PARK AVENUE DOMICILE--

--AND THAT BRINGS YOU UP TO DATE ON M'BAKU THE MAN-**APE**, CAP!

BIG MUSCLES, ALL RIGHT-- BUT JUST SMALL-POTATOES, AS SUPER-BADDIES GO!

LAST TIME OUT, HE ENDED UP MAKIN' A STATUE FALL ON HIMSELF!*

STRANGE-- HE'S FROM THE PANTHER'S AFRICAN HOME-**LAND**-- KNOWS YOU AND THE VISION AS WELL--

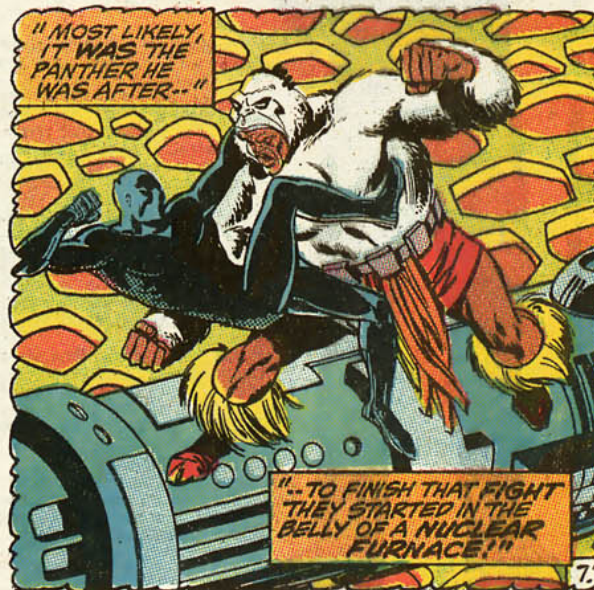
--YET HE PICKS ME AS THE TARGET FOR HIS REVENGE! WHY?

*AS SOMEWHAT MORE DRAMATICALLY DEPICTED IN ISSUE #62! --SMILEY



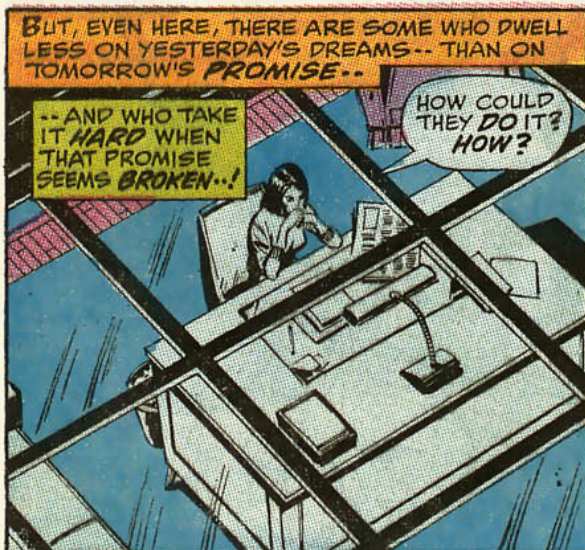
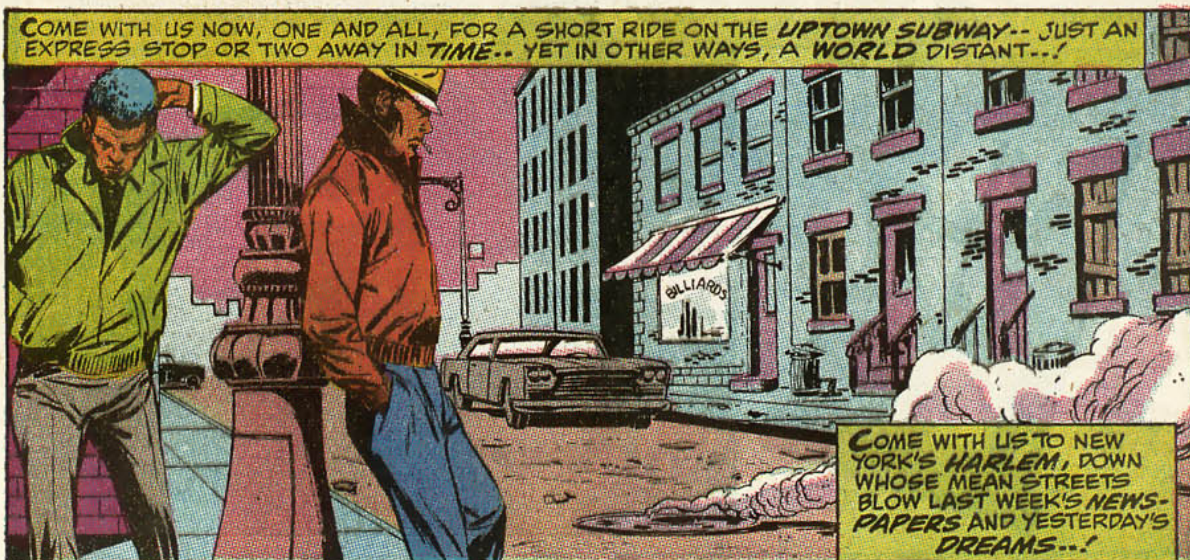
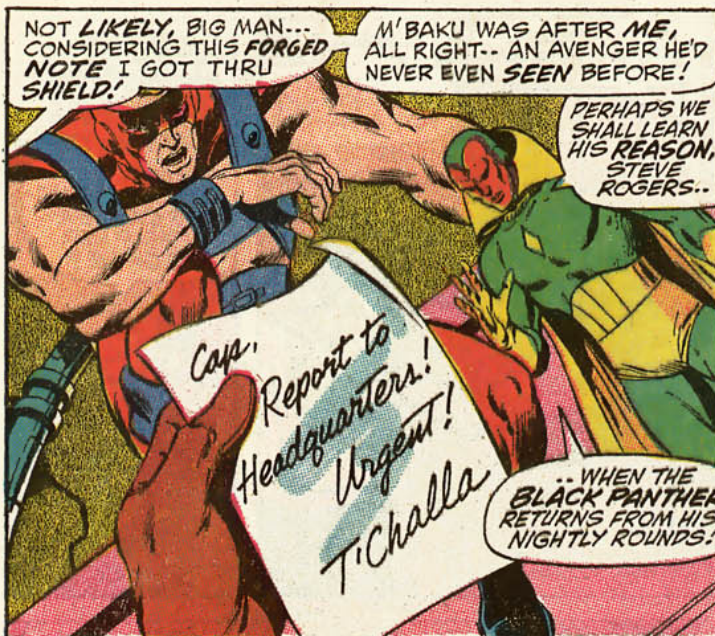
WHO SAYS HE PICKED YOU AT ALL, WINGHEAD?

HE PROBABLY JUST HAD US STAKED OUT--AND CLOBBERED THE FIRST GUY WHO SHOWED!



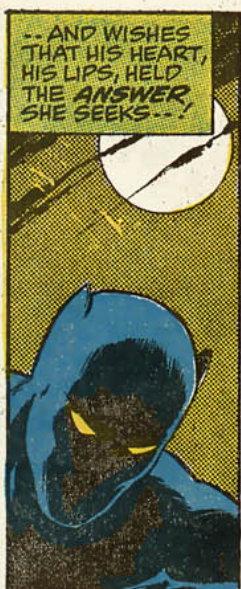
"MOST LIKELY, IT WAS THE PANTHER HE WAS AFTER--"

--TO FINISH THAT FIGHT THEY STARTED IN THE BELLY OF A NUCLEAR FURNACE!"





WHILE, ON THE MOONLIT ROOF ABOVE, A BLACK-CLAD FIGURE HEARS THE WORDS OF THE LOVELY SOCIAL WORKER...



-- AND WISHES THAT HIS HEART, HIS LIPS, HELD THE ANSWER SHE SEEKS--!



HELLO, MONICA! MAY I COME IN?

T'CHALLA!

I THOUGHT.. I'D NEVER SEE YOU AGAIN!*

*MONICA LYNNE MET THE PANTHER IN ISSUE #73! -- STAN



WHAT? THAT I'D FORGET THE GIRL WHO HELPED ME AGAINST THE SONS OF THE SERPENTS?

THE GIRL WHO GAVE UP A SING-ING CAREER.. TO HELP HER PEOPLE?



AND WHAT HAVE YOU GIVEN UP, T'CHALLA?

THERE ARE MANY WAYS TO SERVE A CAUSE, MONICA!

WHILE CHILDREN GO HUNGRY, YOU STAY A HIGH-AND-MIGHTY AVENGER!

MINE IS TO TEACH SCHOOL.. NOT A DOZEN BLOCKS FROM HERE!



WELL, THREE CHEERS FOR YOU!! YOU TOSS US A CRUMB...

-- WHILE YOU PAL AROUND WITH ONES WHO HOLD US DOWN.. WHO'D MAKE SLAVES OF US ALL OVER AGAIN!

YOU'RE TIRED! YOU DON'T MEAN THAT!

JUSTICE NEVER HAD A BETTER FRIEND THAN THE AVENGERS!



OH, I-- I KNOW, T'CHALLA-- I KNOW!

IT'S JUST THAT-- IT GETS SO HARD SOMETIMES-- JUST TO KEEP GOING!

BUT YOU DO KEEP GOING, GIRL-- THAT'S YOUR STRENGTH!

STILL, PERHAPS I SHOULD DO MORE-- MUST DO MORE--!

NO! I WAS UNFAIR-- I SPOKE IN ANGER!



ALL THE SAME, I WANT TO TALK SOME MORE WITH YOU!

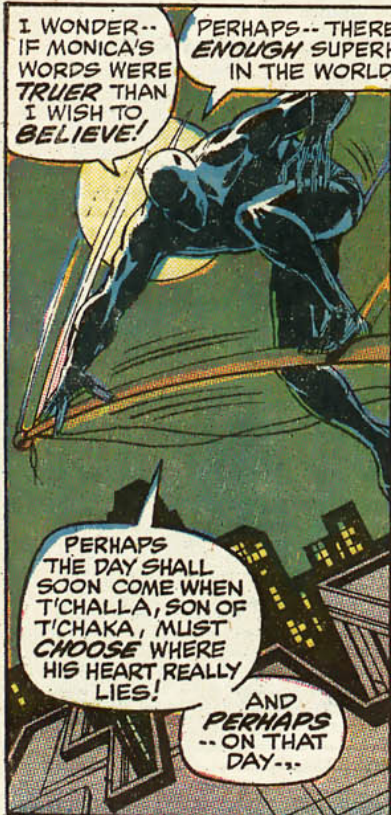
AND I SHALL-- AS SOON AS I'VE REPORTED IN TO THE AVENGERS!

THEN-- HURRY BACK!

I'LL BE HERE-- WAITING--!

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BUT SHE WON'T BE, PANTHER! FOR, NO SOONER ARE YOU OUT OF EARSHOT.. BEYOND THE SOUND OF HER TERRIFIED SCREAMS... THAN MONICA LYNNE RECEIVES A SUDDEN, HARSH REMINDER THAT EVIL KNOWS NO COLOR..!

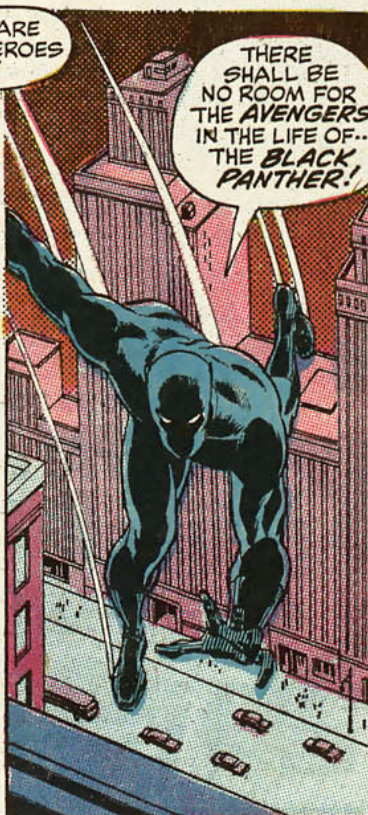


I WONDER-- IF MONICA'S WORDS WERE **TRUER** THAN I WISH TO **BELIEVE!**

PERHAPS-- THERE ARE **ENOUGH** SUPERHEROES IN THE WORLD!

PERHAPS THE DAY SHALL SOON COME WHEN T'CHALLA, SON OF T'CHAKA, MUST **CHOOSE** WHERE HIS HEART REALLY LIES!

AND **PERHAPS** -- ON THAT DAY--



THERE SHALL BE NO ROOM FOR THE **AVENGERS** IN THE LIFE OF.. THE **BLACK PANTHER!**

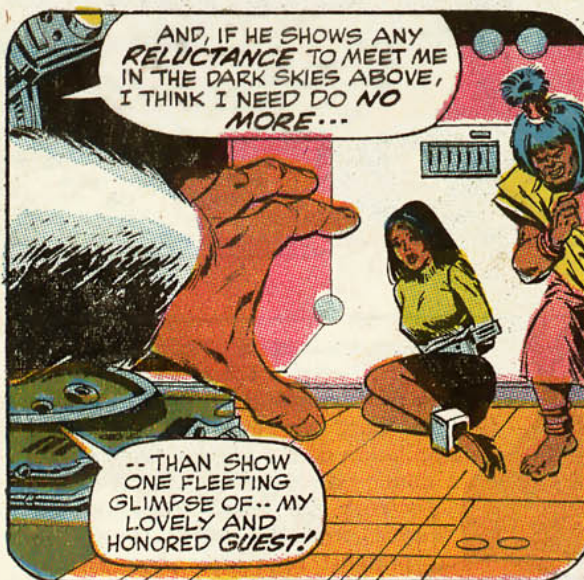


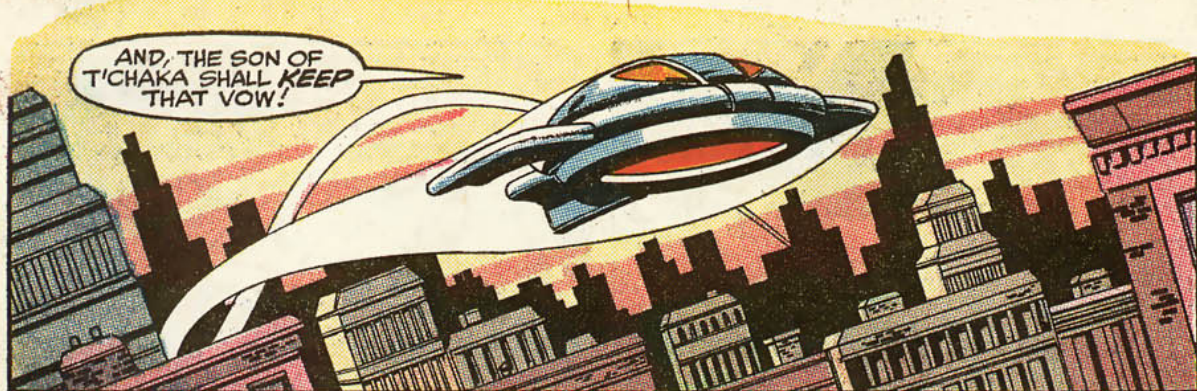
BUT, MERE MINUTES LATER, SUCH THOUGHTS ARE SHOVED RUDELY ASIDE....!

IT CAN'T BE! IT'S.. **IMPOSSIBLE!**

THE MAN-**APE**.. ALIVE!?

I'VE GOT THE **BRUISES** TO **PROVE** IT, FELLA!





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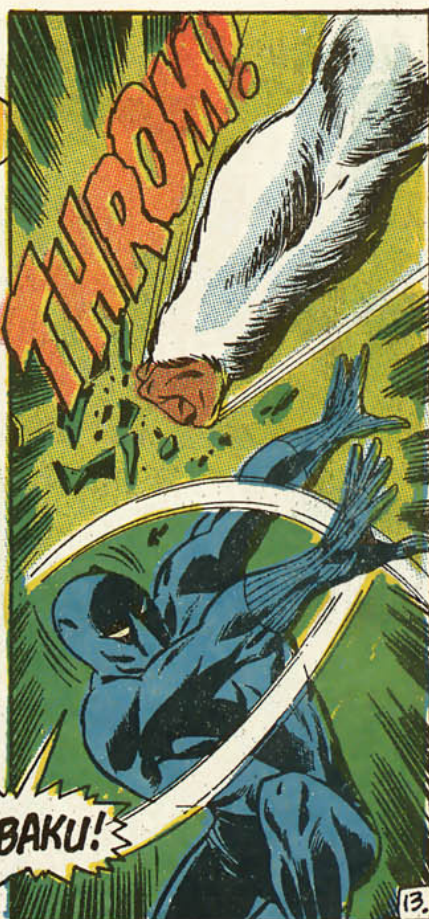
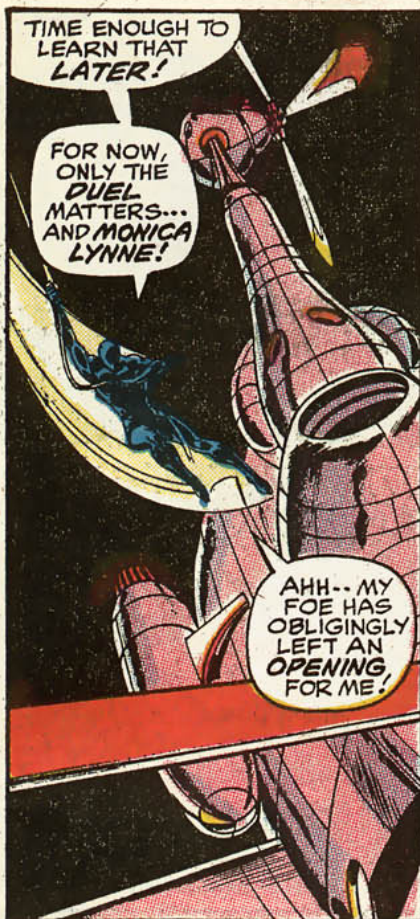
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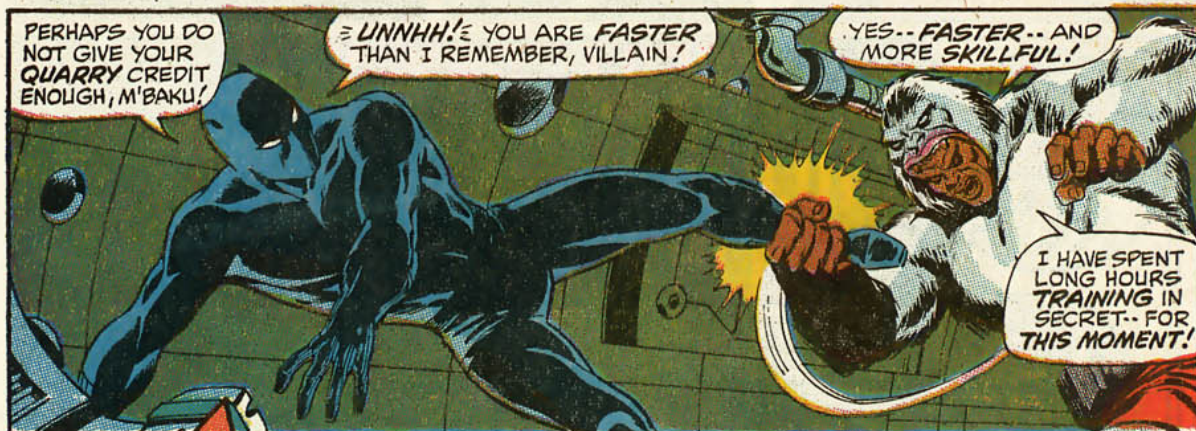
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YOU MAY
DEMAND
ANSWERS OF
M'BAKU, FOOL--

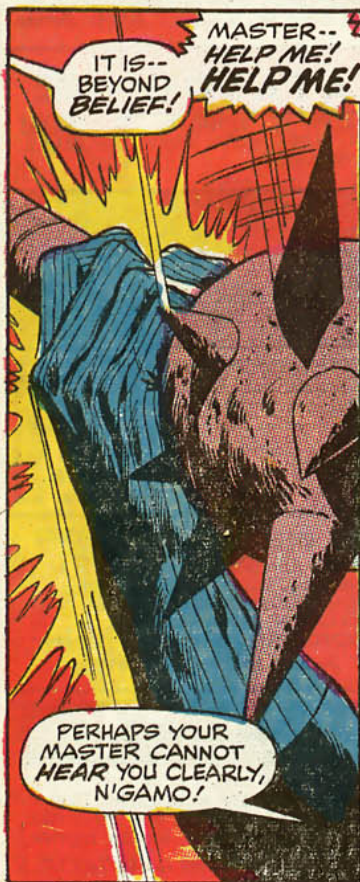
-- WHEN THE SLINKING
PANTHER POSSESSES
THE STRENGTH OF THE
SACRED WHITE GORILLA!

HE IS DOWN, GREAT
MASTER-- AND THIS
MACE SHALL END
HIS STRUGGLES!



N'GAMO--
BEHIND ME--
WITH A
WEAPON!

MUST ACT--
WITH THE SPEED
OF THE CHEETAH--
OR--



IT IS--
BEYOND
BELIEF!

MASTER--
HELP ME!
HELP ME!

PERHAPS YOUR
MASTER CANNOT
HEAR YOU CLEARLY,
N'GAMO!



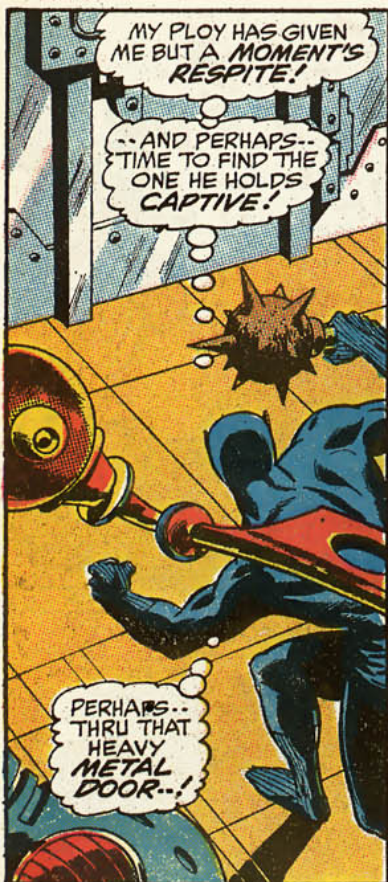
IT MAY BE
THAT HE
SHALL
HEAR YOU
BETTER...



-- WHEN TWO OF
YOU ARE-- FACE
TO FACE!

KLONK!

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MY PLOY HAS GIVEN ME BUT A MOMENT'S RESPITE!

--AND PERHAPS-- TIME TO FIND THE ONE HE HOLDS CAPTIVE!

PERHAPS-- THRU THAT HEAVY METAL DOOR--!



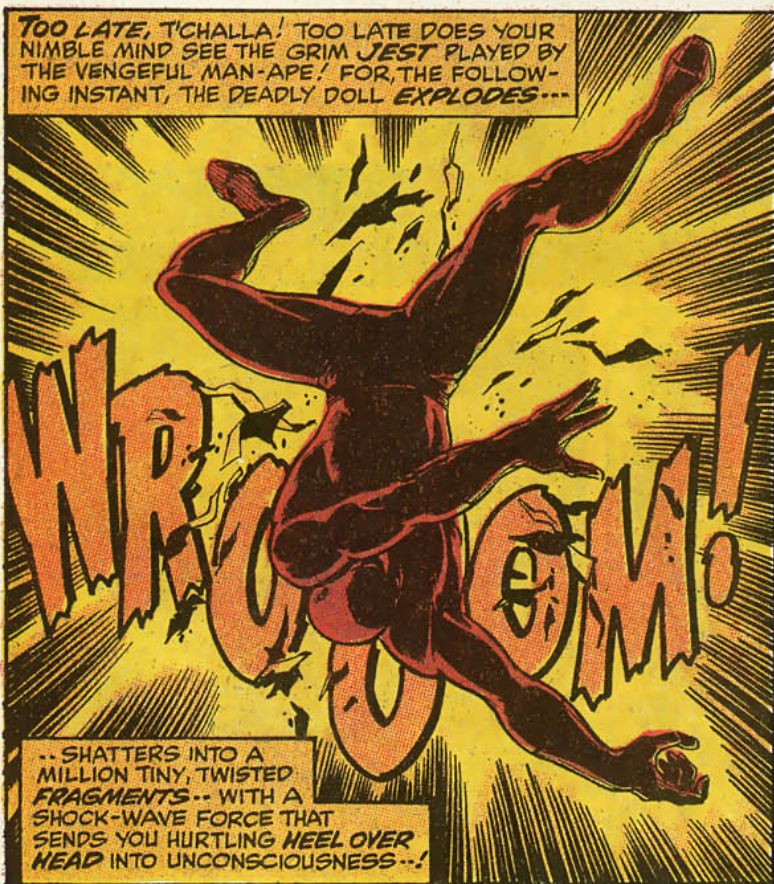
MONICA! MONICA LYNNE!



THEN, MOMENTARILY THROWING CAUTION TO THE WIND, THE PANTHER RUSHES TO THE UN-MOVING FORM, ONLY TO FIND--

IT'S NOTHING BUT-- A MANNEQUIN!

BUT-- WHY WOULD M'BAKU PLACE IT HERE --UN-LESS--?



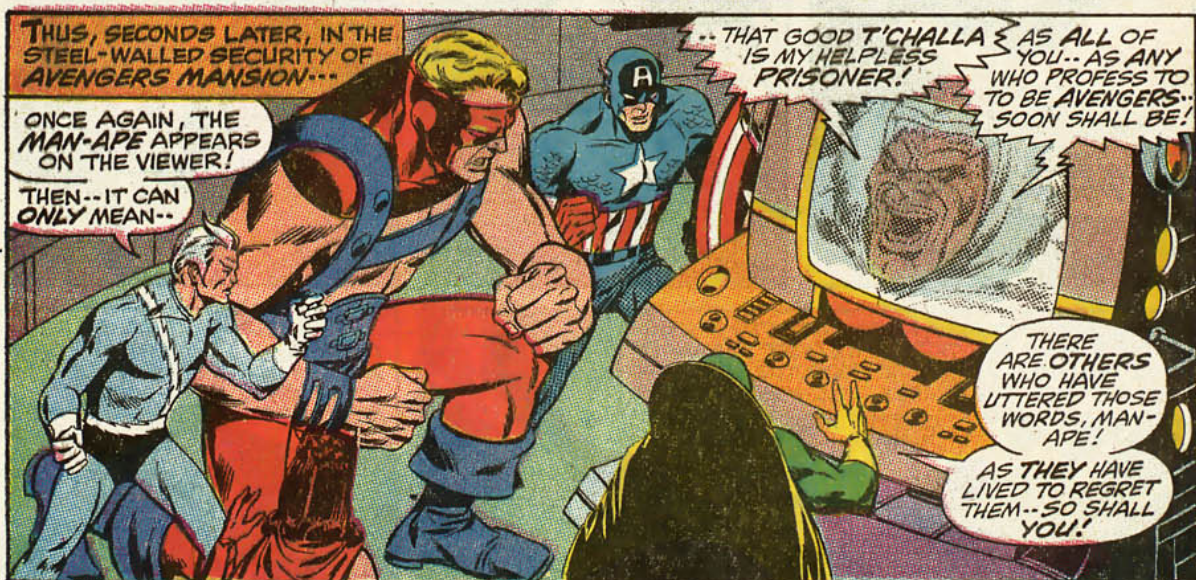
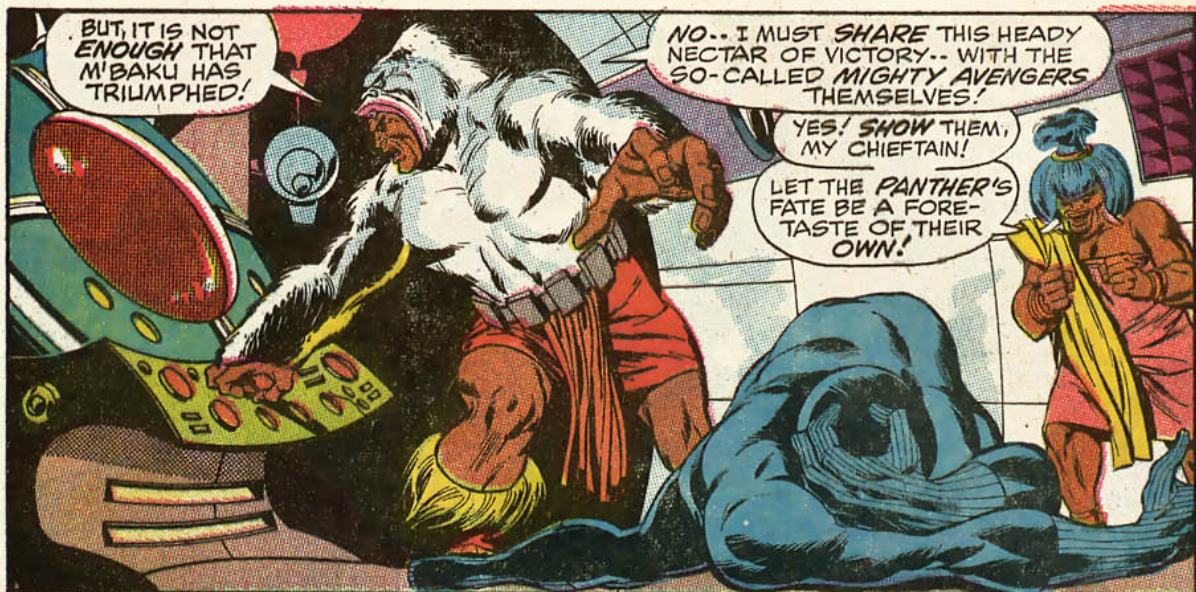
TOO LATE, T'CHALLA! TOO LATE DOES YOUR NIMBLE MIND SEE THE GRIM JEST PLAYED BY THE VENGEFUL MAN-APÉ! FOR, THE FOLLOWING INSTANT, THE DEADLY DOLL EXPLODES---

-- SHATTERS INTO A MILLION TINY, TWISTED FRAGMENTS-- WITH A SHOCK-WAVE FORCE THAT SENDS YOU HURTLING HEEL OVER HEAD INTO UNCONSCIOUSNESS--!



HE HAS FALLEN-- AND HE WILL NOT SOON RISE AGAIN!

THEN, THE FIRST ROUND--THE OPENING BATTLE--IS MINE!



MANY ARE THE DANK, FORGOTTEN TUNNELS WHICH RUN BENEATH MANHATTAN'S BUSTLING STREETS -- BUT NEVER HAVE THESE MUSTY CATACOMBS SEEN SUCH A SIGHT AS THE AWESOME APPARITION WHICH STALKS THRU COB-WEBBED HALLS THIS NIGHT---



AWAKEN, SCUM! YOU WHO CAN SEE SO WELL THRU THE DARKNESS AND THE GLOOM--



GAZE WITH DESPAIR UPON THESE DAMP, UN-YIELDING WALLS!

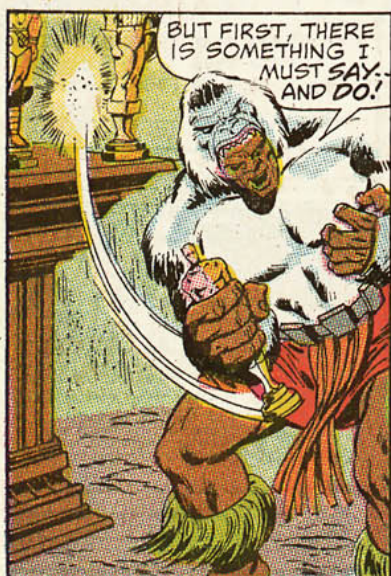
FOR, THEY SHALL BE YOUR WORLD -- YOUR UNI-VERSE-- FOR THE LITTLE TIME THAT YOU SHALL LIVE!



AT LEAST THE GIRL AND I ARE STILL ALIVE-- FOR WHATEVER PURPOSE!

AND, WHILE THERE IS LIFE-- THERE IS YET HOPE!

BUT.. THOSE FIGURINES-- OVER THERE ON THAT WALL--!



YOU'VE NEVER LAID EYES ON ME BEFORE,
CAT-MAN-- BUT YOU'RE AN AVENGER, SO
YOU'VE GOT TO DIE!

I'M SURE YOU'VE HEARD OF ME!
THEY CALL ME THE LIVING LASER!

AND I'M--
POWER
MAN!

SURELY
YOU NEED NO
INTRODUCTION TO--
THE SWORDS-
MAN!

NOT TO THE ONE WHO
CALLED THESE OTHERS
TOGETHER-- THE
GRIM REAPER!!

THESE, PANTHER, ARE
THE DEADLY PLAYERS
-- AND YOU ARE THE
FIRST PAWN TO FALL
IN MY MACABRE
GAME---

-- THE FINAL
OBJECT OF
WHICH IS--
THE TOTAL
ANNIHILATION
OF EACH AND
EVERY ONE OF
THE ACCURSED
AVENGERS!

AND YES--
WE HAVE GIVEN
OURSELVES A NAME
WHICH BEFITS OUR
LOFTY PURPOSE!

WE ARE--
**THE LETHAL
LEGION!**

CONCLUDED-- NEXT ISSUE

20.