

AVENGERS

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©

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APR

# THE AVENGERS

APPROVED  
BY THE  
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GROUP

**GRAB QUICKSILVER!**  
HE'S THE ONLY ONE WHO  
CAN STOP THE WORLD  
FROM **BLOWING UP!!**

HOW DO  
YOU CATCH  
THE WORLD'S  
FASTEST  
MAN?



Telegram-Marvel comics  
(Avengers)

**AT LAST!! THEY'RE BACK!!**  
**QUICKSILVER** AND THE  
**SCARLET WITCH!**





# THE MIGHTY AVENGERS!

# THE WARLORD

# AND THE WITCH!

IT IS A PROUD AND LONELY THING TO BE **BUTLER** OF THE AVENGERS' FIFTH-AVENUE DIGS... BUT SOMETIMES, A MAN NAMED **JARVIS** WISHES IT WERE EVEN **LONELIER**...!

**RREEEEEEEEEEEE**

AN ALARM!!  
SOMEONE HAS  
BROKEN INTO  
THE AERO-  
CRAFT  
SECTOR!



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**SAM ROSEN**, LETTERER

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IF THE INTRUDER HAS SOMEHOW SLIPPED PAST THE MASTERS' OUTER DEFENSES, IT'S MY DUTY TO STOP HIM!

BUT... THE RADAR-SCANNERS SHOW HE'S ALREADY PASSING THRU THE BIO-CHEMISTRY LAB...



-- AND ROCKETING CLOSER... WITH THE SPEED OF AN EXPRESS TRAIN!



"PERHAPS THE DIVISORY PANEL NEAR THE RADIO ROOM WILL... AHH! HE STRUCK IT HEAD-ON!"

**SPLAT!**

"YET... HE MERELY RICOCHETED OFF IT... AND SPED UNDER IT!"

**KTANG!**



**THUK!**

"NOW HE'S DODGING THE AUXILIARY PILEDRIERS... GETTING CLOSER... CLOSER..."

**BRUUM!**



"NOT EVEN THE HEAT-ACTIVATED METAL RODS IN THE ADJOINING CHAMBER CAN SLOW HIM DOWN!"

"AND NOW... AT LAST... I CAN SEE WHO HE IS!"



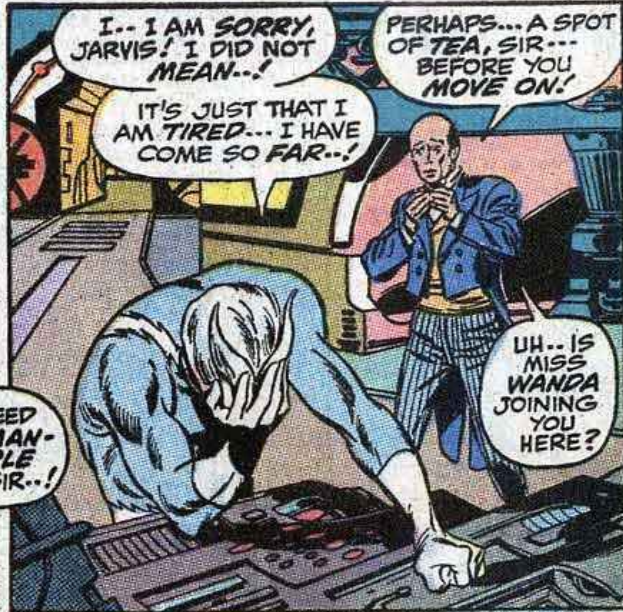
IT'S... MASTER QUICKSILVER!

WE MEET AGAIN, JARVIS... MUCH SOONER THAN EITHER OF US EXPECTED! \*

AND, ONCE AGAIN... I HAVE NO TIME TO WASTE ON GREETINGS!

\*THE LAST TIME WAS IN SPIDER-MAN #71, OF ALL PLACES!... STAN 2







WHILE, AT THE SEA-SPLASHED PIER WHICH IS THE YOUNG MUTANT'S DESTINATION, A SOMEWHAT UNUSUAL PRESS CONFERENCE IS UNDER WAY...!

JUST ONE MORE, BOYS! MY KNEE-CAPS ARE GETTING CHILLY!

DOES THIS TRIP MEAN THAT HANK AND JAN PYM ARE RESIGNING AS AVENGERS?

ASK HANK THE QUESTIONS, NEWSHAWK! THIS IS HIS SHINING HOUR!



IS IT TRUE, MR. PYM, THAT YOU'RE DITCHING YOUR YELLOWJACKET ROLE TO BECOME A MERE BIO-CHEMIST AGAIN?

THERE'S NOTHING "MERE" ABOUT STUDYING THE EFFECTS OF THE NEW OIL FIELDS ON ALASKAN WILDLIFE, CHARLIE!

OH, WAIT... THERE IS ONE MORE ITEM!

I'LL BE ACCOMPANIED ON THIS LITTLE JAUNT BY MY WASPISH WIFE JAN!

...AND BY MY FRIEND BILL FOSTER, CURRENTLY ON LEAVE FROM TONY STARK'S LABS!

WILD HORSES AND ALL THAT, MR. P.

AND THAT IS ALL, GUYS!



WASHINGTON ASKED ME TO TAKE THIS ASSIGNMENT... AND I AGREED!

END OF STATEMENT!



COULDN'T WAIT FOR 'EM TO CLEAR OFF SO YOU COULD HAVE A GOOD CRY, HUH, LADY?

SEE YOU, PARTNERS! AN ANT-SIZED AVENGER WASN'T MUCH OF AN ASSET!

AND THEY'RE OFF!

THEY HAVE SERVED LONG... AND FAITHFULLY... AND WELL!

JUST... A SPECK IN MY EYE!

BUT AS A SCIENTIST.. WELL, UNCLE SAM NEEDS ME, SO...

BUT, I WONDER HOW LONG BEFORE WE SHALL SEE THEM AGAIN?!







AW, OL' ANTS-PANTS WILL PROBABLY BE BACK BY...

HEY! AIN'T THAT KIND-OF-A STIFF BREEZE, EVEN FOR GROUND-HOG DAY?

THAT'S NO ORDINARY BREEZE, CLINT!

SOMETHING MOVING... AND FAST!



I SHOULD HAVE GUESSED! PIETRO!

AH! I HAVE HEARD OF THAT FORMER AVENGER'S MATCHLESS SPEED!

NOW YOU'LL DO MORE THAN HEAR OF IT, FRIEND!



IF THAT WAS SUPPOSED TO BE A THREAT, PAL...

YER GONNA WISH YOU'D STAYED IN LOWER SLOBOVIA--!

GOLIATH... WAIT! WE SHOULD HEAR HIM OUT BEFORE...



SURE WE'LL LISTEN TO 'IM... SOON AS I LOWER THE BOOM ON 'IM!

HUH? MISSED!!

SWAT!!



NOW YOU'VE DONE IT, AVENGER!

HE'S DODGING ABOUT SO FURIOUSLY, WE'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO...

MMMFFF!!



NEVER SAY NEVER, PANTHER.

'CAUSE WHEN THAT SPEED-DEMON TOOK ON ONE AVENGER...





HE TOOK ON ALL OF THEM!



YOUR FIRST ERROR, CAPTAIN AMERICA!

FOR, AT THE RATE AT WHICH I AM TRAVELING---



... MY VERY SPEED SETS UP A WALL OF WIND... WITH SOMEWHAT SURPRISING RESULTS!



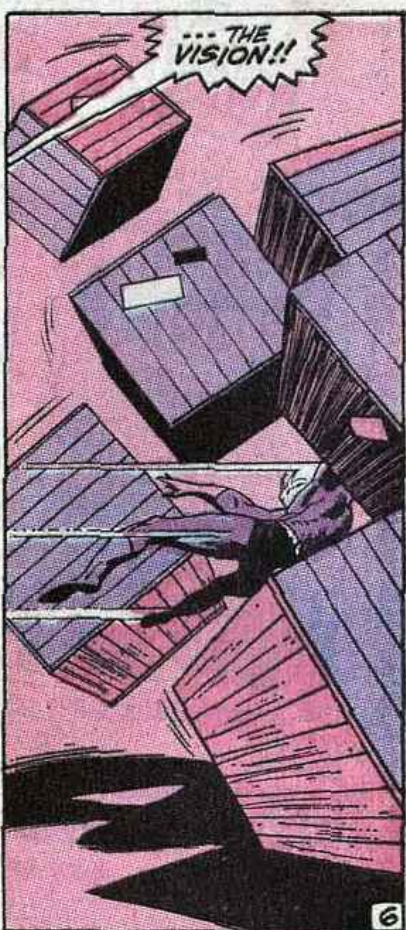
NOW ONLY YOU REMAIN IN MY PATH, NEWCOMER!

ANOTHER MOMENT... AND I'LL BOWL YOU OVER LIKE A SINGLE TENPIN!

YOUR WORDS, PIETRO, PROVE THAT I KNOW MORE ABOUT YOUR POWERS...



... THAN YOU KNOW ABOUT THOSE OF...



... THE VISION!!





THAT TOOK THE WIND OUTTA HIS SAILS, ANDROID!

NOW, BEFORE HE CAN MAKE LIKE **SPEEDY GONZALES** AGAIN, I'M GONNA...



HOLD IT, BIG MAN!

LET'S HEAR WHAT PIETRO'S GOT TO SAY!

OKAY, CAP... BUT I NEVER LIKED HIM MUCH ANYWAY!



ALL RIGHT, SWIFTY... NOW, WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA OF CHARGIN' IN HERE LIKE A **HOUSE ON FIRE**?

**FORGIVE ME, AVENGERS**... BUT IT WAS MY CONCERN FOR MY **SISTER** WHICH MADE ME SO RECKLESS... SO QUICK-TEMPERED!

YOU MEAN... THE **SCARLET WITCH** IS IN SOME KIND'A **TROUBLE**!?



MORE GRAVE THAN YOU **IMAGINE**, GIANT!

BUT... YOU GRASP ME SO **TIGHTLY**... I CAN HARDLY **BREATHE**!

IF YOU'LL ONLY PUT ME **DOWN**...!

YOU GOT IT, JUNIOR!

STILL, IF THIS IS ONE OF YOUR **TRICKS**...!



I'M HANGED IF I COULD SAY **HOW**, GOLIATH...

BUT, I'M SURE HE'S TELLING THE **TRUTH**!

I WOULDN'T BLAME YOU IF YOU **DIDN'T** BELIEVE ME, CAP!

AFTER ALL, I **FLED** FROM THE SCENE... WHEN THE AVENGERS LAST OPPOSED **MAGNETO**!



YET, I DON'T KNOW WHERE TO **TURN**... IF YOU CANNOT **HELP** ME!

THEN START FROM THE **BEGINNING**, PIETRO... AND DON'T LEAVE ANYTHING **OUT**!

YES... THE **BEGINNING**...!



"AS YOU KNOW, MY SISTER LOST HER MYSTERIOUS HEX POWER MONTHS AGO! WHAT YOU DO NOT KNOW IS THAT WE HAVE COMBED THE LIBRARIES OF EUROPE IN A VAIN EFFORT TO RESTORE IT...!"



IT'S NO USE! WE HAVE FAILED AGAIN!

NO, FAIR ONE... NOT FAILED!

WE SHALL SUCCEED... WITH TIME!



THE TOAD IS A BLITHERING FOOL, WANDA!

YOUR VANISHED POWER WAS YOURS BECAUSE YOU WERE BORN A MUTANT!

WHAT MUSTY BOOK CAN BRING BACK A BIRTH-RIGHT?

I... I'M NOT CERTAIN MYSELF, MY BROTHER!

AND YET... SOMEHOW... I FEEL THAT WE ARE SO VERY CLOSE...!



IF YOU TRULY FEEL SO, THEN PERHAPS THE FOOLISH TOAD CAN HELP, AFTER ALL!

THERE IS AN OLD CLOISTER NEAR HERE... ONE I HAD FORGOTTEN TILL NOW!

BUT, IF YOU WISH ME TO LEAD YOU THERE...!

GO, TOAD! WE SHALL FOLLOW!



... YOU WISH TO PORE OVER MY ANCIENT MYSTIC VOLUMES?

YES... YOU ARE FREE TO DO SO... IF YOU DARE!



HIS SEPULCHRAL TONES CHILL ME TO THE MARROW, PIETRO! PERHAPS...

WE ARE HERE, MY SISTER! THERE CAN BE NO BACKING OUT NOW!

THIS WAY, MY CHILDREN!



IN THOSE WITHERED PAGES LIE THE SECRETS OF THE AGES!

IF YOU FIND WHAT YOU SEEK, CALL ME... AND WE SHALL CONSULT THE UNKNOWN POWERS TOGETHER!

DO NOT TRY TO CHALLENGE THEM ALONE!

WE... SHALL REMEMBER YOUR WORDS, OLD MAN!



"YET, AFTER LONG,  
WEARISOME HOURS..."

THERE IS NOTHING  
... NO SLIGHTEST  
CLUE!

HOW  
COULD  
YOU FIND  
ANYTHING  
... WHEN YOU  
DON'T KNOW  
WHAT YOU  
SEEK?

IGNORE HIM,  
WANDA! WE'LL GO  
ON LOOKING... JUST  
YOU AND I!

NO, YOU WILL NOT,  
TOAD... BECAUSE WE  
ARE LEAVING... NOW!

WHAT..?

THUK!

IN YOUR HASTE,  
YOU STRUCK A  
JUTTING STONE,  
PIETRO!

BUT... NOT JUST ANY  
STONE, IT WOULD APPEAR!

LOOK! THE  
STONE RISES  
IN PLACE, TO  
REVEAL... A  
BOOK!

IT THROBS AND  
GLOWS IN MY  
HANDS... LIKE A  
LIVING, LETHAL  
THING!

SOMEONE, SOMEWHERE,  
WANTED ME TO FIND THIS  
VOLUME... DIRECTED MY  
HANDS TO IT!

I SHALL PUT IT  
BACK... SEAL IT  
AWAY, BEFORE...

NO,  
PIETRO!

THAT IS THE  
BOOK I'VE BEEN LOOK-  
ING FOR... I KNOW IT!

I FEEL THE SAME, WANDA... AND PERHAPS  
THAT IS WHY I WISHED TO RETURN IT!

YET... DO WHAT YOU  
WILL WITH IT!

BUT... IT IS  
BEWITCHED!  
SEE HOW THE  
PAGES ALMOST  
TURN THEM-  
SELVES...!?

YES... I SEE...!

THEY TURN... TO  
A CERTAIN NAME-  
LESS SPELL...

... A SPELL...  
WHICH I MUST  
READ!

"LET THE TIME-WINDS WHIP  
FROM WORLD TO WORLD..."

"LET  
THEM  
BATTER  
DOWN ALL  
COSMIC  
WALLS...!"





"LET THE BOLD, BRAVE BANNER BE UNFURLED... AND, AT LAST, GREAT ARKON WALK THESE HALLS!"

SOMETHING'S HAPPENING HERE, WITCH... BUT I DON'T KNOW WHAT IT IS!



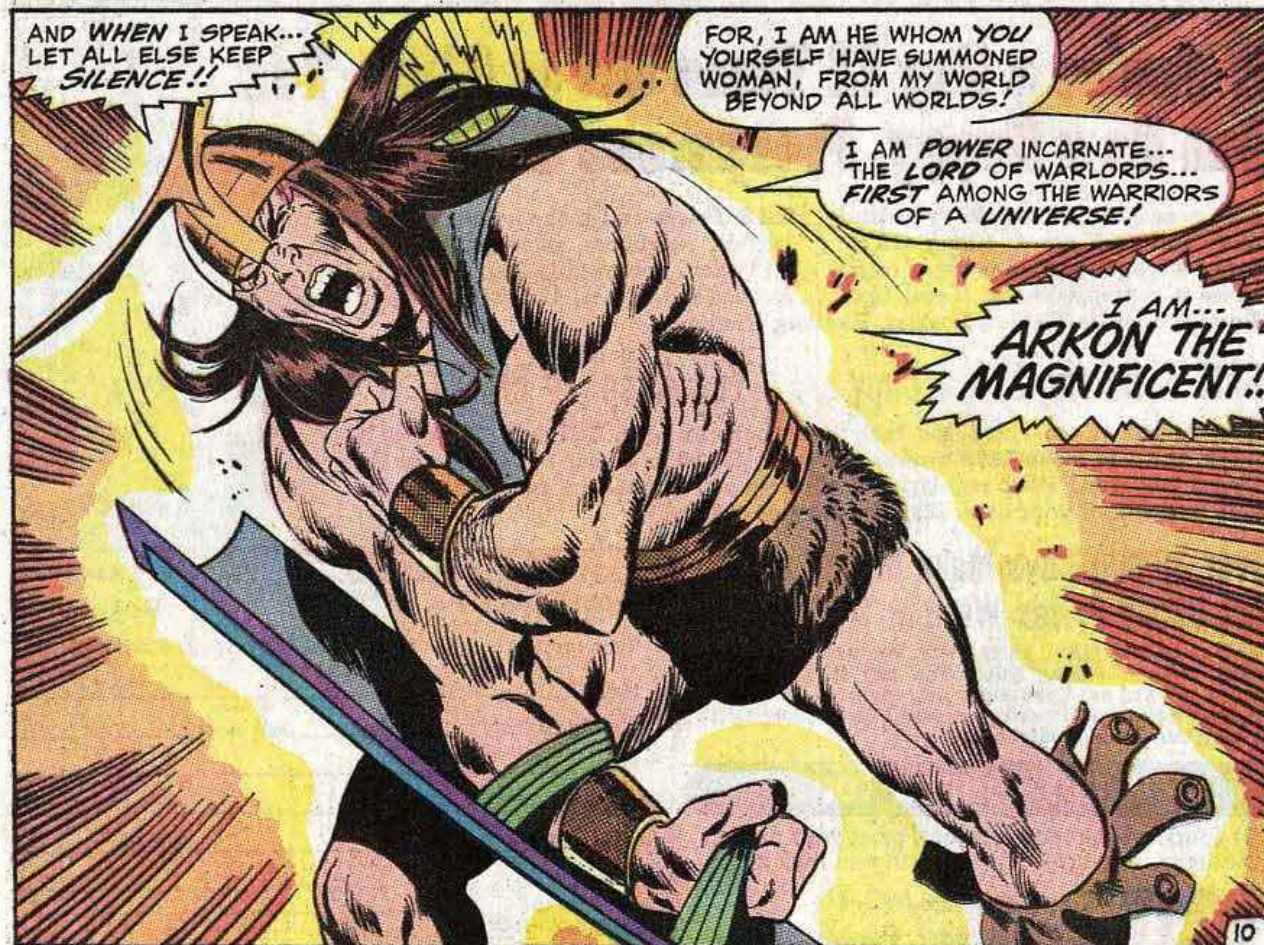
IT'S LIKE... A HOLE IN SPACE... AND SOMEONE COMING THRU IT...!



QUIET, TOAD... UNTIL WE LEARN WHO HE IS... AND WHERE HE CAME FROM!

FOR, ONE THING IS CERTAIN... HE IS NOT OF OUR WORLD!

LISTEN! HE BEGINS TO SPEAK...



AND WHEN I SPEAK... LET ALL ELSE KEEP SILENCE!!

FOR, I AM HE WHOM YOU YOURSELF HAVE SUMMONED WOMAN, FROM MY WORLD BEYOND ALL WORLDS!

I AM POWER INCARNATE... THE LORD OF WARLORDS... FIRST AMONG THE WARRIORS OF A UNIVERSE!

I AM... ARKON THE MAGNIFICENT!!



THEN YOU ARE ALSO **ARKON THE FOOL**... IF YOU THINK A MERE **ENTRANCE** AND A FEW HIGH-FLOWN WORDS WILL COW US INTO SILENCE!

I KNOW YOU **CAUSED PIETRO** TO FIND THAT VOLUME... **CAUSED ME** TO READ THAT SPELL...

...AND I MEAN TO KNOW **WHY!**

**HAH!** EVER HAVE I DESIRED A MATE WITH **SPIRIT**... AND AT LAST I HAVE **FOUND HER!**

**I... YOUR MATE??**

THAT IS **ONE** REASON I HAVE **CROSSED THE GREAT BARRIER**... THOUGH NOT THE **SOLE** ONE!

AND I FIND YOU **EVEN LOVELIER** IN **PERSON** THAN IN THOSE **IMAGES** I VIEWED FROM AFAR!

BUT, TIME GROWS **SHORT**... SO LET US GO, **BEAUTY**, AND WE...

**WHAT IN THE NAME OF THE NAMELESS?**

YOU WON'T TAKE THE **SCARLET WITCH** AWAY!

THE **TOAD** WON'T LET YOU!!

YOU ARE MORE **GALLANT** THAN YOUR **FREAKISH FORM** **SUGGESTS**, PUNY ONE!

YET, YOU ARE NO MATCH FOR **ARKON!**

THEN, LET US **SEE**, **BRAGGART**...

..IF **QUICK-SILVER** IS MORE TO YOUR **TASTES!**

I AM WELL **ACQUAINTED** WITH THE **HURRICANE SPEEDS** YOU CAN ATTAIN, **GOOD PIETRO**...

...WITH THE **CYCLONIC WINDS** WHICH WOULD FELL A **LESSER BEING!**

BUT, I AM... **ARKON!!**

**KTAN!**

**UNNNH!**

**STRUCK ME**... MORE **SWIFTLY** THAN I HAD **DREAMED**...!





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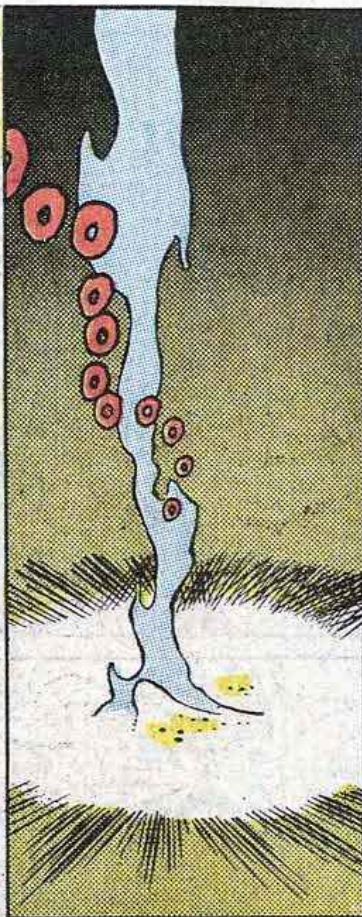
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THAT GOLDEN BOLT MERELY  
TRANSPORTED HIM TO MY  
WORLD... WHERE YOU AND  
I SHALL NOW FOLLOW  
HIM, MY WEAKENED WITCH!

WAIT!

COME!!

YOU CALLED  
US MUTANTS  
BEFORE...  
AND YOU KNOW  
I'VE LOST MY  
POWERS!

HOW DID YOU  
LEARN THOSE  
THINGS... AND  
WHY ARE YOU  
HERE?

I KNOW YOU ONLY  
STALL FOR TIME,  
WOMAN... TILL  
YOUR BROTHER  
CAN REGAIN HIS  
BREATH!

STILL, BECAUSE  
YOU SHALL BE MY  
QUEEN, I SHALL  
TELL YOU!

KNOW YOU  
THIS, THEN...  
THAT I AM  
ARKON THE  
MAGNIFICENT...

...IMPERION,  
OR RULER, OF A  
WORLD THAT EXISTS  
ONLY A HEARTBEAT  
AWAY FROM YOUR  
OWN!

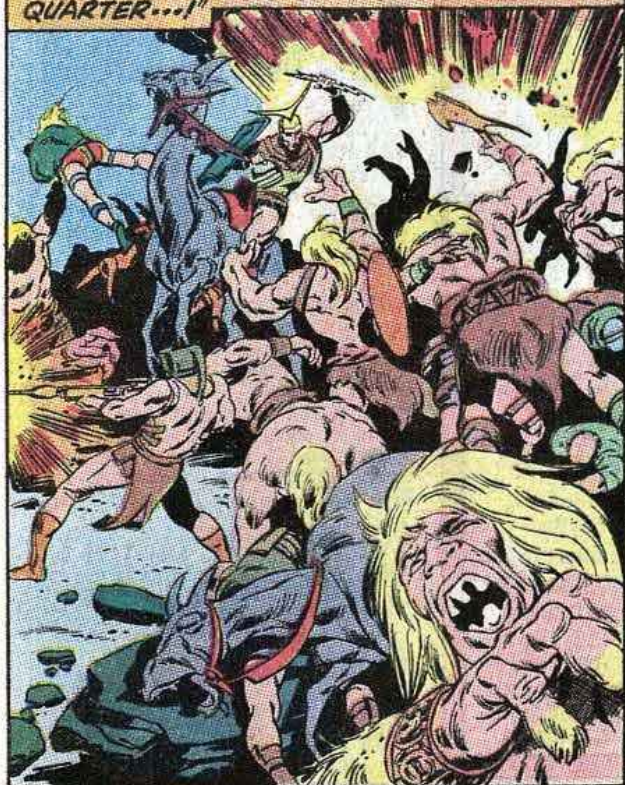
"MINE IS A UNIVERSE  
WHICH HAS EVER KNOWN  
BUT ONE WAY OF LIFE...  
ONE REASON FOR  
EXISTENCE... AND THAT  
IS WAR!!"

"WAR... AND THE RIVERS OF RICH TRIBUTE WHICH FLOW THEREFROM!"

"YET, EVEN WHEN TRIBUTE  
FLOWS LIKE WATER THRU  
A BURSTING DAM, IT IS  
STILL THE BATTLE WHICH  
IS OUR CHIEF  
DELIGHT!"



"YOU HUMAN BEINGS... YOU PLAY AT WAR, LIKE SOME GAME WITH RULES AND REGULATIONS... BUT OURS IS A RACE OF TRUE WARRIORS... OF THOSE WHO EXPECT NO MERCY, AND GRANT NO QUARTER...!"



"AND, FOREMOST BY FAR OF ALL THOSE WHO WORSHIP THE WAR-GOD IN MY WORLD IS ARKON... HE WHO IS CALLED THE MAGNIFICENT... HE WHOM ALL HAIL AS IMPERION!"



"STILL, THERE CAME OF LATE A DAY THAT EVEN I HAD DREADED..."

YOU ASKED AN AUDIENCE, OLD ONE!

WHAT FAVOR DO YOU WANT OF ARKON?

LIFE, WARLORD... FOR AN ENTIRE COSMOS!

LIFE? YOU SPEAK IN RIDDLES, GREYBEARD!



ALWAYS YOU MOCK THOSE GROWN TOO OLD FOR COMBAT... WHEN YOU SHOULD HEED THEIR WISDOM!

THUS, I SHALL NOT SPEAK WORDS WHICH WOULD ONLY FALL UPON DEAF EARS...

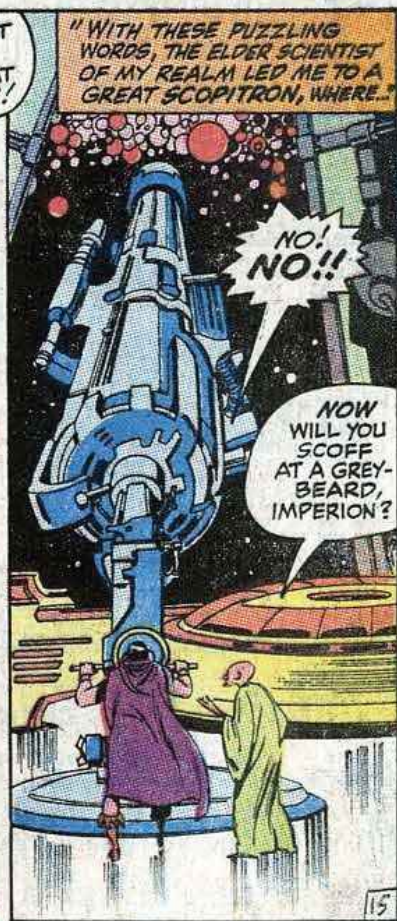
...BUT SHALL LET YOUR EYES PREJUDGE WHAT I HAVE TO SAY!



"WITH THESE PUZZLING WORDS, THE ELDER SCIENTIST OF MY REALM LED ME TO A GREAT SCOPITRON, WHERE..."

NO!  
NO!!

NOW WILL YOU SCOFF AT A GREY-BEARD, IMPERION?



CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE



"AND I DID NOT SCOFF... FOR WHAT MY STARTLED EYES BEHELD WAS A SIGHT WHICH PROPHETS HAD FORETOLD... AND ALL MEN HAD LONG FEARED...!"

THE ENERGY RING WHICH ORBITS OUR PLANET... IS DIS-INTEGRATING!

YOU NEED NOT SAY MORE, OLD MAN... BECAUSE I KNOW TOO WELL WHAT THIS MEANS!

FIRES FROM WITHIN OUR WORLD GIVE US THE WARMTH WE NEED... BUT ONLY THOSE RINGS GAVE US... LIGHT!

IS THERE NOTHING WE CAN DO ABOUT THEIR DESTRUCTION?

NOTHING, MY LORD... EXCEPT TO DIE IN DARKNESS...

"FOR SOME TIME, THE UNSTABLE RINGS WHICH HAD ALWAYS ILLUMINED OUR GLOBE GREW DIMMER... DIMMER... UNTIL AT LAST..."

THE LAST, LINGERING SPARK... IS GONE!

WHAT... WHAT WILL BECOME OF US NOW?

"ALAS, MY WARRIOR RACE KNEW THE ANSWER EVEN AS THEY SPOKE!"

"WITHOUT LIGHT, THE VEGETATION OF OUR WORLD WITHERED ON THE VINE... AND THE SPECTRE OF STARVATION REARED ITS HEAD!"

"THERE ARE ALSO DISEASES ON MY WORLD WHICH THRIVE ON DARKNESS..."

"...SO WE COULD ONLY ASK OURSELVES IF WE WOULD DIE FIRST THE VICTIMS OF HUNGER... OR OF DEADLY MICROBES!"

"AND, FOR THE FIRST TIME IN ALL MY CENTURY-LONG LIFE, I, ARKON, WAS UTTERLY HELPLESS..."

I CAN FACE ANY FOE... DEFEAT ANY OPPONENT IN PITCHED COMBAT!

BUT... NOT THIS! NOT THIS!!



"THEN, WITHOUT AN INSTANT'S WARNING..."

**LIGHT!**  
NATURAL LIGHT,  
FILLING THE  
HEAVENS!

NOT MERE  
TORCHES  
AND BON-  
FIRES...BUT  
NATURAL  
LIGHT!

BUT...  
WHY NOW?  
AND FROM  
WHERE?

"THE PEOPLE DID NOT QUESTION  
THE NATURE OF THE PROVIDENCE  
WHICH SEEMED DESTINED TO  
SAVE US..."

"... BUT ARKON WAS NEVER ONE  
OF THE COMMON HERD!"

TELL ME, OLD  
MAN, THE **SOURCE**  
OF THE LIGHT WHICH  
GLOWS IN THE  
ONCE-DARK  
SKY!

WILL IT LAST  
FOR EONS  
AS DID THE  
ENERGY-  
RINGS, OR  
WILL OUR HOPES  
SOON BE **DOUBLY**  
DASHED?

YOUR FEARS  
ARE WELL  
**FOUNDED**,  
WARLORD!

**RELEASE ME,**  
AND I SHALL  
**SHOW YOU!**

MY SCIENCE HAS  
DISCOVERED A  
WORLD WHICH  
EXISTS ALONG-  
SIDE OUR OWN...  
A WORLD ITS  
PEOPLE CALL  
**EARTH!**

SOME OF ITS WARRING NATIONS  
HAVE JUST HARNESSSED THE  
POWER OF THE **ATOM**...A  
POWER WHICH **WE** HAVE NEVER  
MASTERED...

...AND EACH  
**BLAST** THEY  
UNLEASH  
SOMEHOW GIVES  
**US** LIGHT FOR  
THE SPAN OF  
A YEAR!

THEN-- WE  
ARE SAVED...  
AND CAN  
RETURN  
SOON TO  
OUR OLD  
WARRING  
WAYS!

**PERHAPS,**  
GREAT ARKON...  
AND PERHAPS  
**NOT!**

FOR, EVEN MY **BRIEF**  
OBSERVATIONS OF EARTH  
REVEAL THAT THEIR VALUES  
ARE NOT **OURS!**

THEY MAKE **WAR** WITH  
THE POWER OF THE **ATOM**  
...BUT THEY YEARN  
AFTER **PEACE!**

AND IF THEY  
**CEASE** THEIR  
ATOMIC  
BLASTS...OUR  
WORLD **DIES!**

MUST WE,  
THEN, BE AT  
THEIR UN-  
SUSPECTING  
**MERCY**  
FOREVER?



I FORESAW YOUR QUESTION, SIRE, AND THE ANSWER IS YES!

...UNLESS THERE WERE ONE MAMMOTH EXPLOSION, AT THE PROPER SITE ON EARTH.

A BLAST OF SUFFICIENT MAGNITUDE THERE WOULD UNLEASH ENERGY ENOUGH TO LIGHT OUR WORLD FOR UNTOLD AGES!

BUT, THE EARTH-MEN MAY NEVER COMMIT SUCH A GHASTLY FORM OF SUICIDE!

AND, THOUGH WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO SEND AN UNLIVING OBJECT TO THEIR DIMENSION...

WE LACK THE KNOWLEDGE TO BUILD SUCH A WEAPON OF DESTRUCTION!

BAH! YOUR MIND IS STRONG, OLD ONE, BUT YOUR WILL IS WEAK!

I WILL FIND SOME WAY TO CROSS THE BARRIER TO EARTH MYSELF!

AND THEN ITS OWN MEN OF SCIENCE WILL DESTROY IT FOR US!

...AND SO, MAIDEN, I WATCHED YOUR WORLD FOR TWO DECADES AND MORE...

...LEARNED OF WORDS AND PHRASES THAT MIGHT BRIDGE THE GREAT BARRIER...

...IF THEY WERE SPOKEN BY MUTANTS...CREATURES BORN OF THE ATOM'S RAMPANT POWER!

THEN...YOU SOMEHOW MADE THAT BOOK APPEAR HERE!

BUT I COULD NOT TRANSPORT MY LIVING SELF...WITHOUT YOUR UNWITTING HELP!

ARKON'S KINGDOM MUST BE SAVED...AT WHATEVER COST TO OTHERS!

AND YOU'LL WISH YOU'D NEVER DONE SO, VILLAIN, WHEN QUICK-SILVER STRIKES AGAIN!

BUT YOU SHALL NOT STRIKE, STRIPLING!





FOR, FIRST I SHALL  
SEND MY CHOSEN  
BRIDE BACK TO MY  
WORLD---

OH HH...!!



THEN...!

HE DRAWS ANOTHER  
BOLT...NO DOUBT TO  
HURL AT ME!

I MUST NOT  
EVADE IT...  
IF I WISH TO  
REJOIN MY  
SISTER!



FOOL!  
DID YOU  
THINK TO  
TRICK  
ARKON?

WHAT??

HE LEAVES  
ME HERE...  
BUT VANISHED  
HIMSELF INTO  
THIN AIR!

"THEN, I STOOD ALONE  
IN THE CASTLE...AND  
KNEW I HAD NO ONE TO  
TURN TO EXCEPT...  
THE AVENGERS!"



... AND THAT'S  
THE COCK'N'BULL  
STORY YOU EXPECT  
US TO FALL FOR?

THERE'S HOLES IN THAT  
YARN EVEN I COULD  
WALK THRU, WHITEY!

BUT IT IS  
TRUE, GOLIATH...  
EVERY  
TORTURED  
WORD!



YET, THERE ARE  
INCONSISTENCIES,  
PIETRO ---!

YEAH! IF THIS ARKON  
CAT WAS SO KEEN ON  
BLOWIN' UP OUR WORLD...

HOW COME WE  
HAVEN'T HEARD  
FROM HIM WHILE  
YOU WERE HOT-  
FOOTIN' IT  
HERE?

I DON'T  
KNOW, GIANT  
... BUT YOU MUST  
BELIEVE ME! I...



...WE INTERRUPT THIS  
PROGRAM FOR A SPECIAL  
BULLETIN!

A MAN ARMED WITH  
STRANGE LIGHTNING  
BOLTS HAS JUST INVADED  
A MEETING OF THE WORLD'S  
FOREMOST SCIENTISTS...

VISION &

Sale  
\$499.99

LIGHTNING  
BOLTS?

LOOKS LIKE YOU  
JUST GOT YOUR ANSWER,  
CLINT! LISTEN...!





IT WAS *HERE* THAT IT HAPPENED... HERE AT THE FIRST MAJOR CONFERENCE OF THE WORLD'S TOP NUCLEAR PHYSICISTS!

THE FOLLOWING VIDEO TAPE WILL REPLAY THE SCENE WHICH TRANSPIRED HERE ONLY MOMENTS AGO!



"THE COUNCIL HAD SCARCELY BEGUN... WHEN, WITHOUT WARNING..."

WHAT IN HEAVEN...?

SMOKE... BILLowing UP FROM NOWHERE! BUT WHY...?



"THEN, FROM OUT OF THE SINISTER SWIRLS APPEARED --- A MAN!"

YOU I HAVE NEED OF... AND YOU... AND YOU!!



THIS IS THE MOMENT I HAVE WAITED FOR... THE HOUR OF ARKON THE MAGNIFICENT!

THE HOUR WHEN I SHALL SEAL THE DOOM OF YOUR PUNY WORLD!



THEN, IN A BLINDING FLASH, THE MYSTERIOUS FIGURE WAS GONE WITH HIS CAPTIVES!

THE REMAINING SCIENTISTS ARE IN TURMOIL... EACH ACCUSING THE OTHERS OF TREACHERY!

BUT, WHAT *REALLY* MATTERS IS THAT THE MAN ARKON... WHOEVER HE IS, WHEREVER HE IS... NOW HAS IN HIS POWER MEN OF SCIENTIFIC GENIUS...

MEN WHOSE COMBINED KNOWLEDGE COULD BE USED... TO DESTROY THE VERY EARTH ITSELF!!

NEXT:  
**ZERO-HOUR!**