

AVENGERS  
SPECIAL

TWICE  
AS MANY  
PAGES!



TWICE  
AS MANY  
THRILLS!

MARVEL  
COMICS  
GROUP

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KING-SIZE *SPECIAL!*



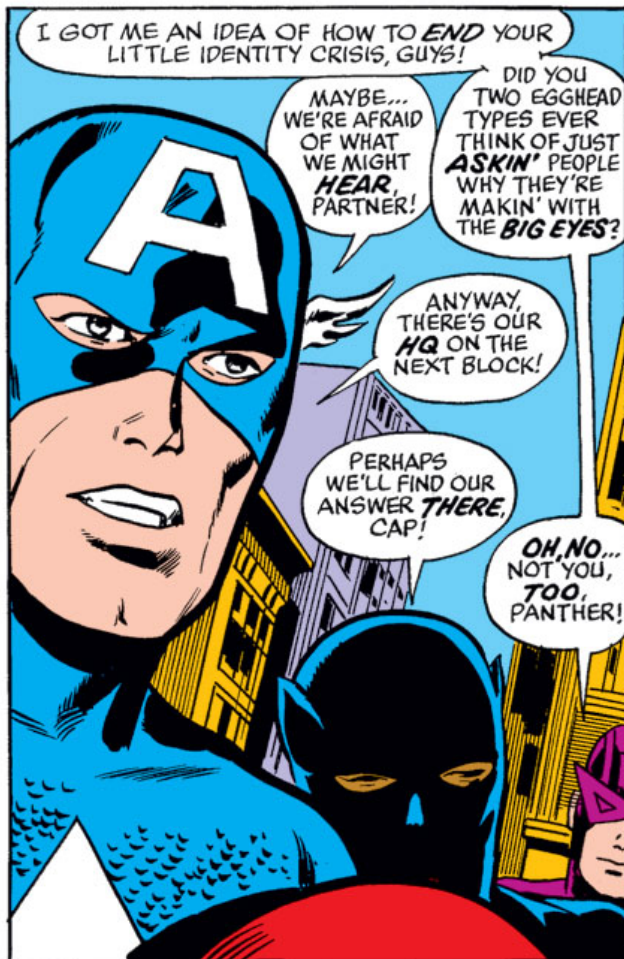
# THE AVENGERS

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THE NEW AVENGERS VS. THE OLD AVENGERS!







THEN, INSTINCTIVELY...AS IF DRAWN BY SOME IRRESISTIBLE INNER *COMPULSION*...THE FIVE FRENZIED FIGURES HURTLE DOWN A SPIRALING STAIRWAY--SUDDENLY ROUNDING A CORNER TO CONFRONT A ONCE-FAMED *TABLEAU*--!

IT CAN'T BE! IT ISN'T POSSIBLE--!

THERE--AROUND OUR MEETING-TABLE--THE FIVE ORIGINAL AVENGERS!

AND TWO OF THEM, JAN--ARE YOU AND I!!

BY THE BRISTLING BEARD OF ODIN!

WHAT INSOLENT INTRUDERS ARE THESE...WHO DARE BROOK THE MIGHTY AVENGERS IN THEIR VERY LAIR?

WHOEVER IT IS...THEY'LL BE SORRY THEY TANGLED WITH THE HULK!

EASY, MY GREEN-SKINNED FRIEND!

MAYBE THOSE COSTUMED CLOWNS HAVE AN EXPLANATION..

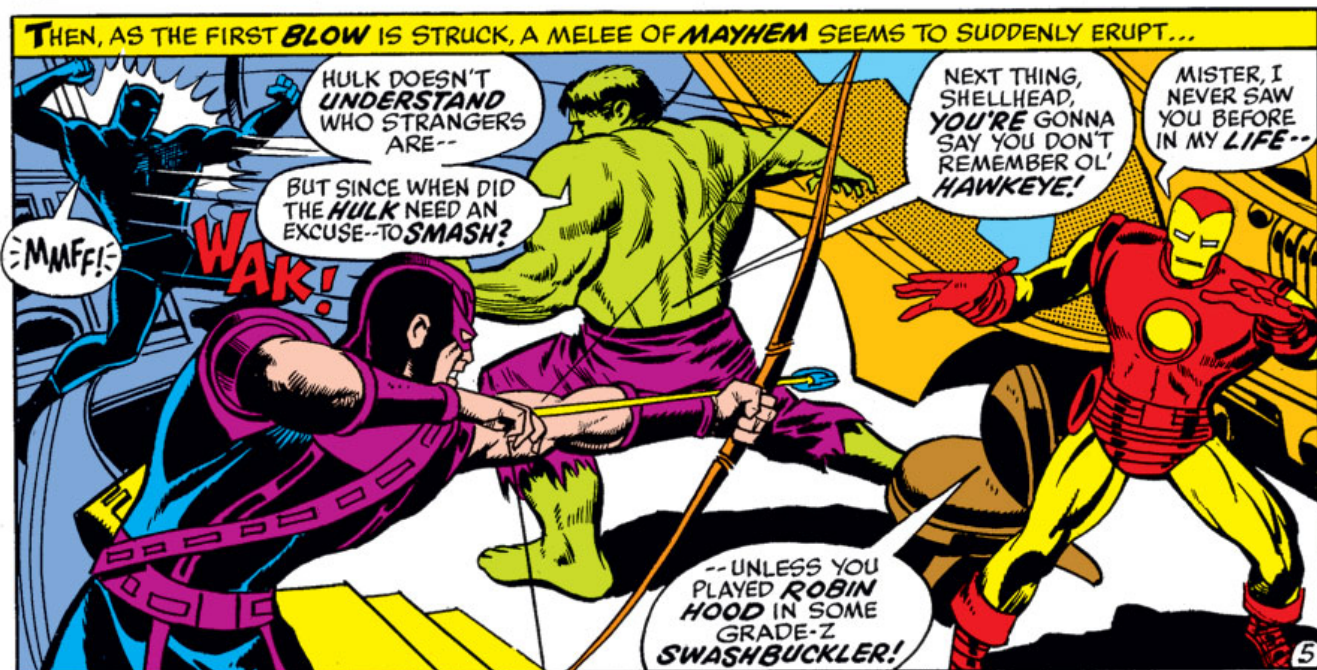
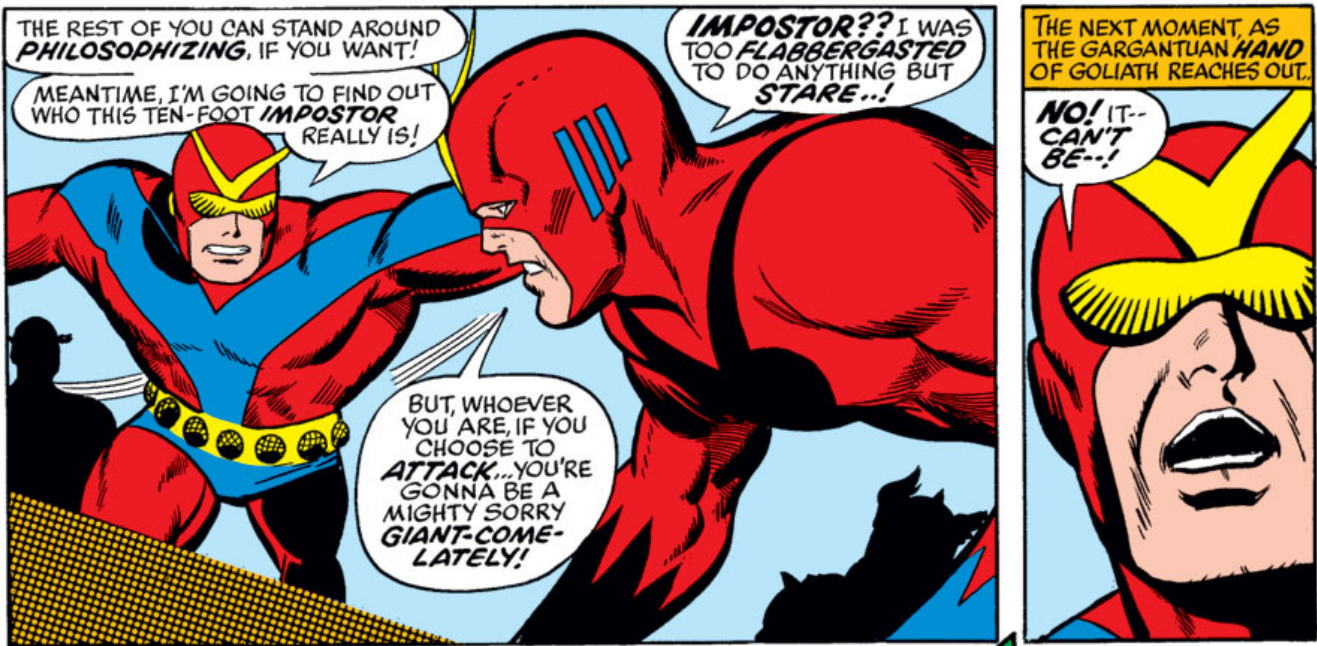
BUT, IT SURE BETTER BE A GOOD ONE!

CAP, WHAT IS THIS? WHY WOULD THOR AND THE OTHERS BE HERE?

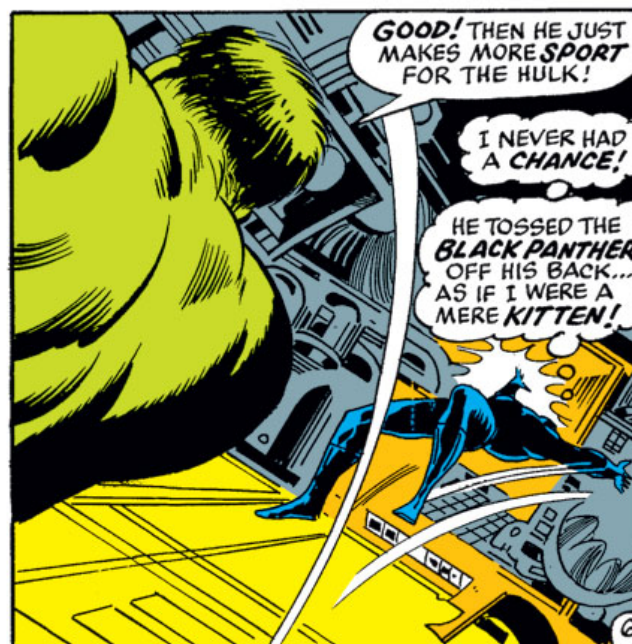
I--THINK I MAY BEGIN TO SUSPECT THE ANSWER, BOW-SLINGER...

AND, I DON'T LIKE IT...NOT ONE BIT!

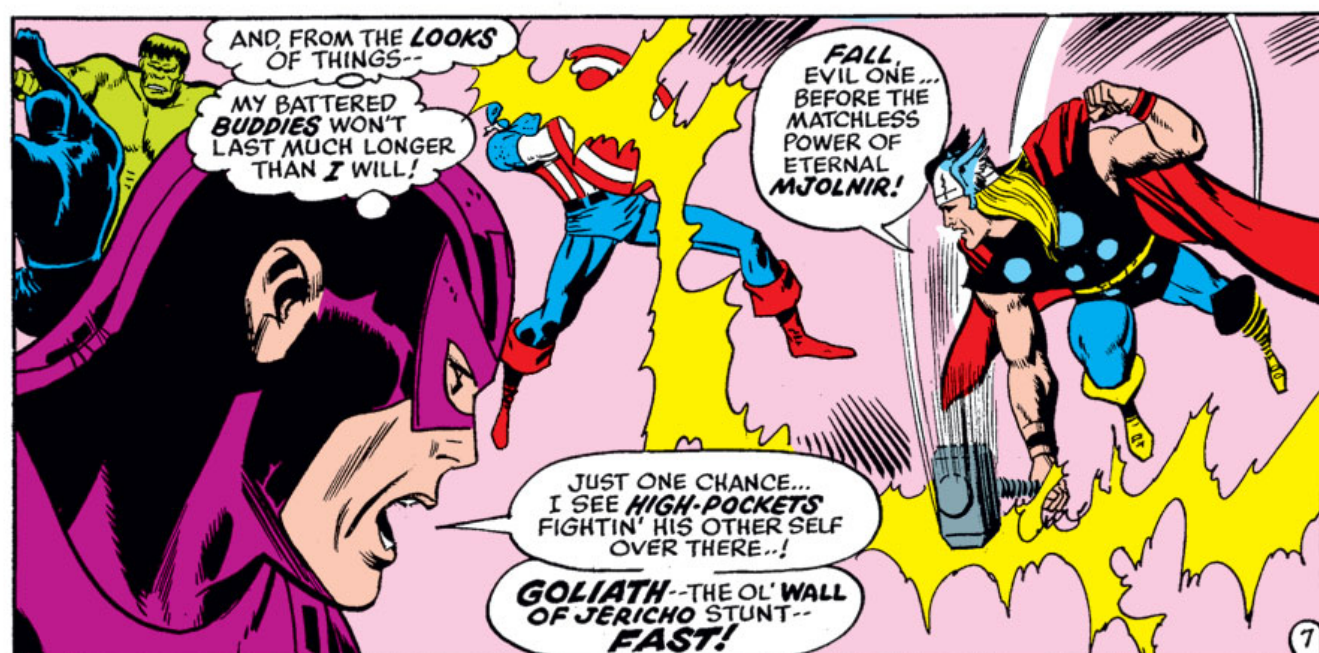
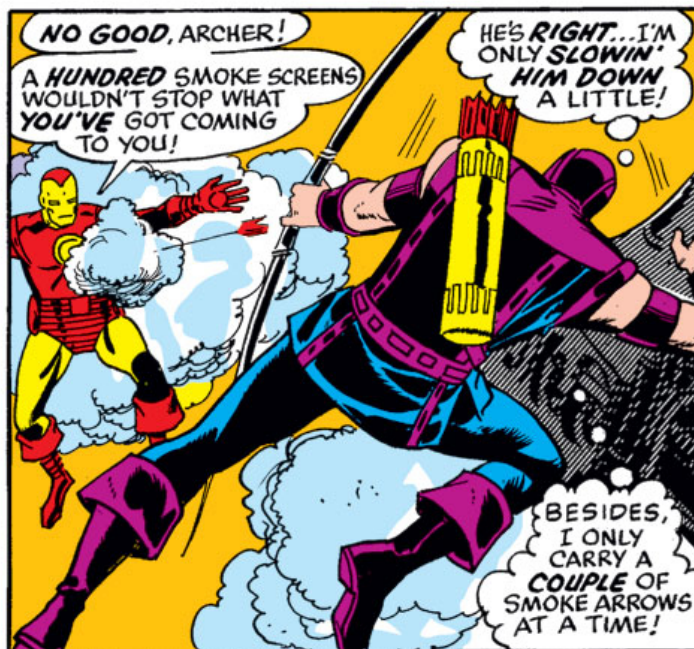
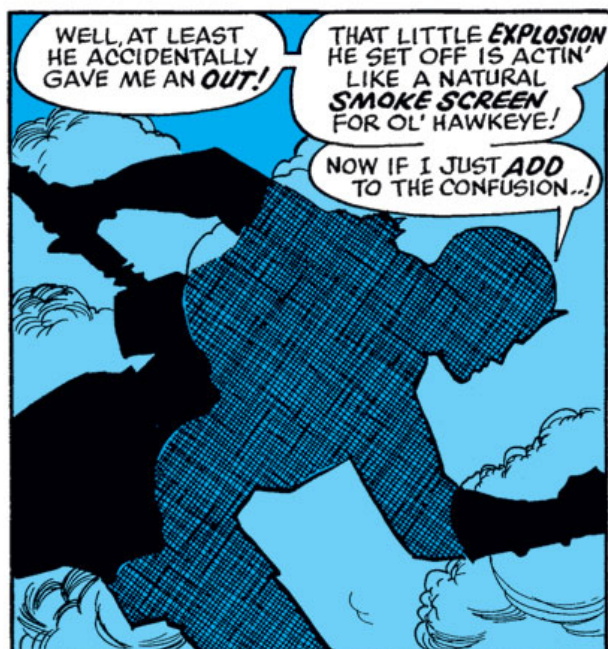
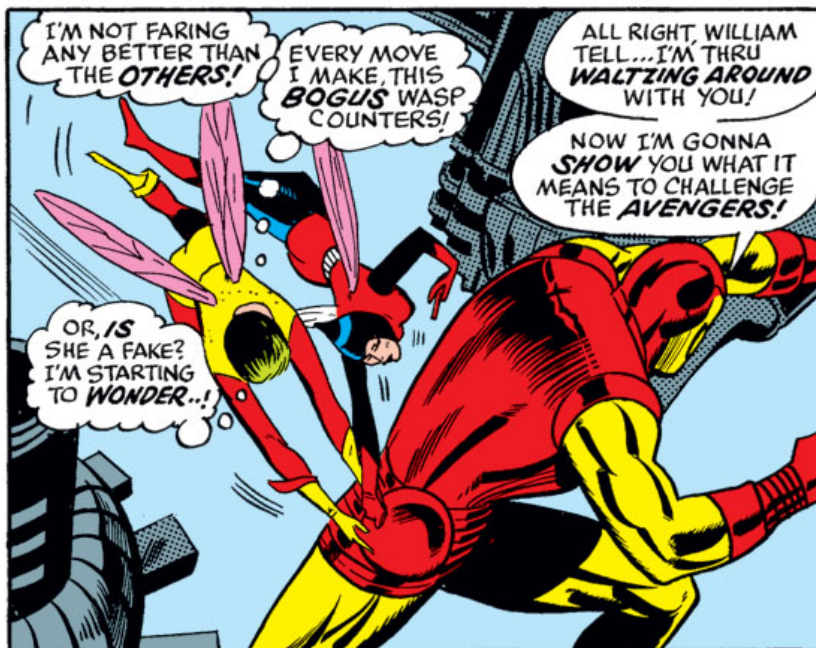




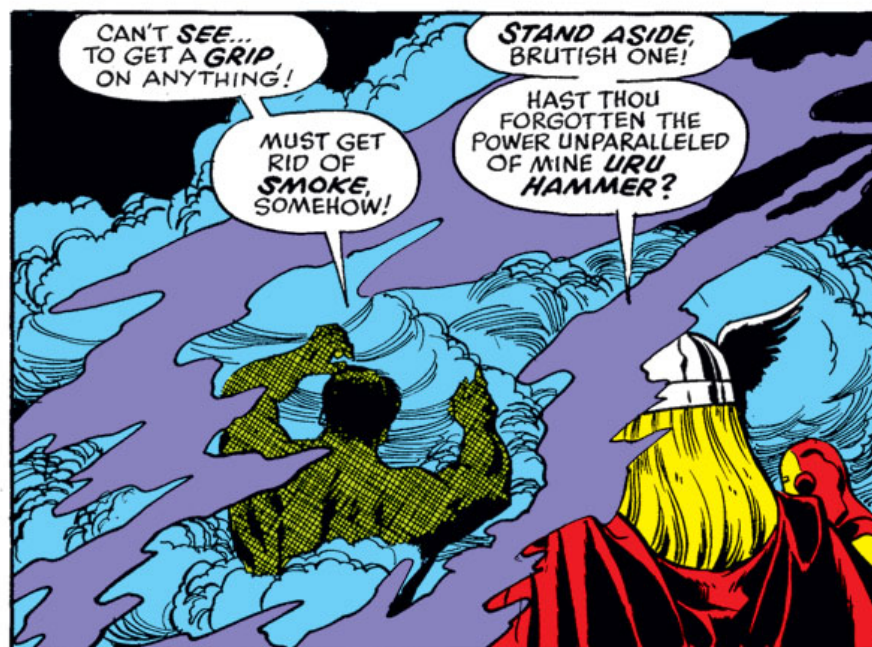
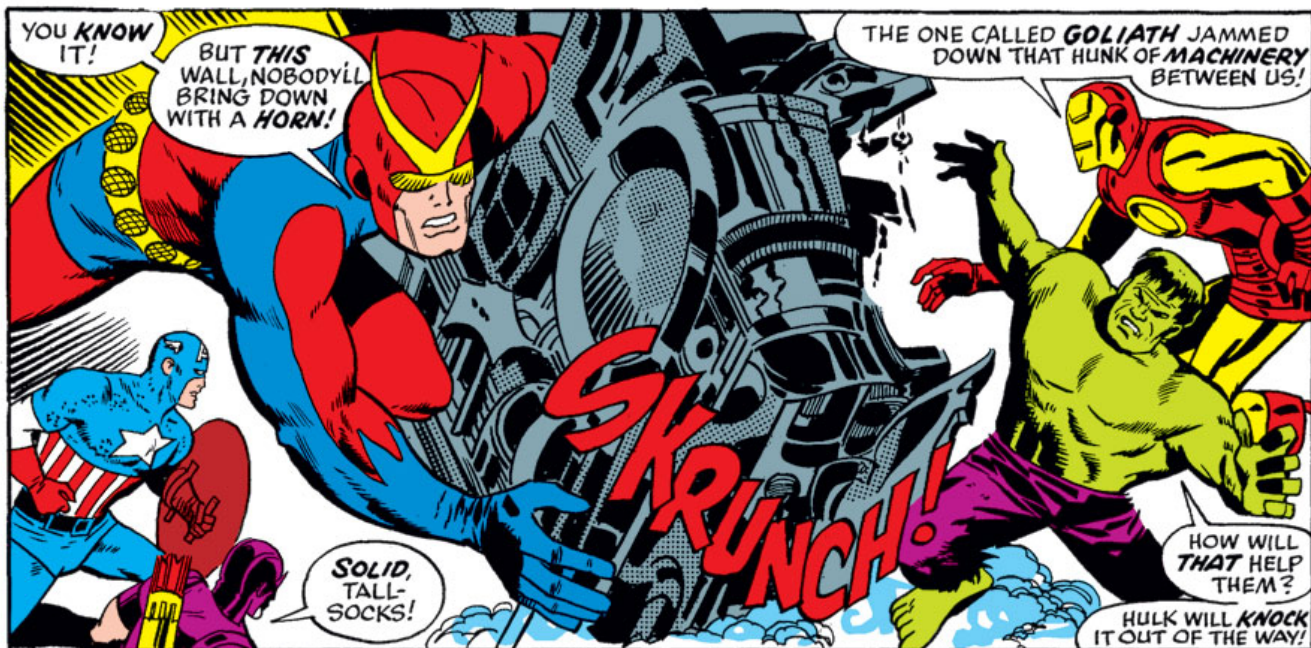














AND, EVEN AS THESE HARSH SYLLABLES FALL FROM THE LIPS OF THE SON OF ODIN, WE MUST SWITCH OUR SCENE TO A LONG-ABANDONED **SUBWAY TUNNEL**, ONLY A FEW BLOCKS AWAY...

NOW THAT WE **WENT THATAWAY**, CHUMS...

HOW ABOUT FILLING A POOR **FEMALE** IN ON WHAT THIS IS ALL ABOUT?

IF WE **KNEW**, HONEY, WOULD WE ALL LOOK LIKE WE'RE CAUGHT IN A LIVING **NIGHT MARE**?

AT LEAST, NO ONE **PURSUES** US FOR THE MOMENT!

AND **THAT** GIVES US TIME TO CHECK OUT MY **THEORY**!

YA MEAN YOU'VE GOT THIS ALL **DOPED OUT**, CAP?

FAR FROM IT, PARTNER!

BUT AT LEAST A **FEW** PIECES OF THE PUZZLE ARE FALLING INTO PLACE!

AS INCREDIBLE...AS UTTERLY **IMPOSSIBLE** AS IT SEEMS...I THINK THOSE **WERE** THE SO-CALLED **ORIGINAL AVENGERS** BACK THERE...

THE **AVENGERS**...AS THEY WOULD BE IF **YOU** AND **I** NEVER EXISTED!

HUH? YOU GOTTA BE PUTTIN' US ON, WING-HEAD!

I WISH I **WERE**!

WAIT A MINUTE...I'M BEGINNING TO FIGURE OUT WHAT CAP **MEANS**!

IT WOULD EXPLAIN THE FEARFUL ATTITUDE OF THE **CROWD**... THE ALTERED **MANSION** ITSELF..!

BUT THAT'S **INSANE**! NOTHING IN THE WORLD CAN **CHANGE** THE PAST...WIPE OUT **SEVERAL YEARS** OF EVENTS!

**NOTHING**, JAN... EXCEPT PERHAPS THE **ONE** DIABOLICAL CREATION WE OURSELVES **USED** ONLY HOURS AGO...

**DR. DOOM'S TIME MACHINE!**

AND NOW, IF YOU'LL PARDON YET **ANOTHER** CHANGE OF LOCALE, WHILE WE GET OUR **SCORE CARDS**...

AY, GIANT-MAN!

WE'VE GOT TO LEARN **WHO** THOSE CHARACTERS WERE... AND HOW TO **FIND** THEM!

AND, WITHIN MOMENTS, THE **ONE** BEING WHO MIGHT KNOW SHALL **APPEAR** UNTO US!

IF **HE** DOESN'T KNOW, WE MIGHT AS WELL TURN IN OUR **SUPERHERO UNION CARDS**!

**HUNNH!** YOU ALL PUT TOO MUCH **TRUST** IN THE ONE WHO COMES!

YOU SHOULD BE LIKE **HULK**...AND TRUST **NOBODY**!

**SILENCE...** HIS **IMAGE** IS STARTING TO FORM...!



THEN, AS IF ON COSMIC CUE, A TALL, MASSIVELY BROODING **FIGURE** APPEARS WITHIN THE GLOWING CIRCLE OF LIGHT OPPOSITE THE SEATED AVENGERS... AND A VOICE WHICH BESPEAKS BOTH IMMEASURABLE **AGE** AND STRIDENT **YOUTH** RINGS OUT...

WHY HAVE YOU **SUMMONED** ME... FROM THE VAPORLESS **VOID** BETWEEN TIME AND SPACE...

...FROM THE PLACE WHERE **EONS** ARE AS **MOMENTS**?

WHO **DARES** DISTURB THE SACRED SLUMBER OF...THE **SCARLET CENTURION?**

HE TALKS AS IF WE'RE **DIRT** BENEATH HIS FEET!

BUT, **HULK** COULD SHOW HIM DIFFERENT! THE **HULK** COULD...

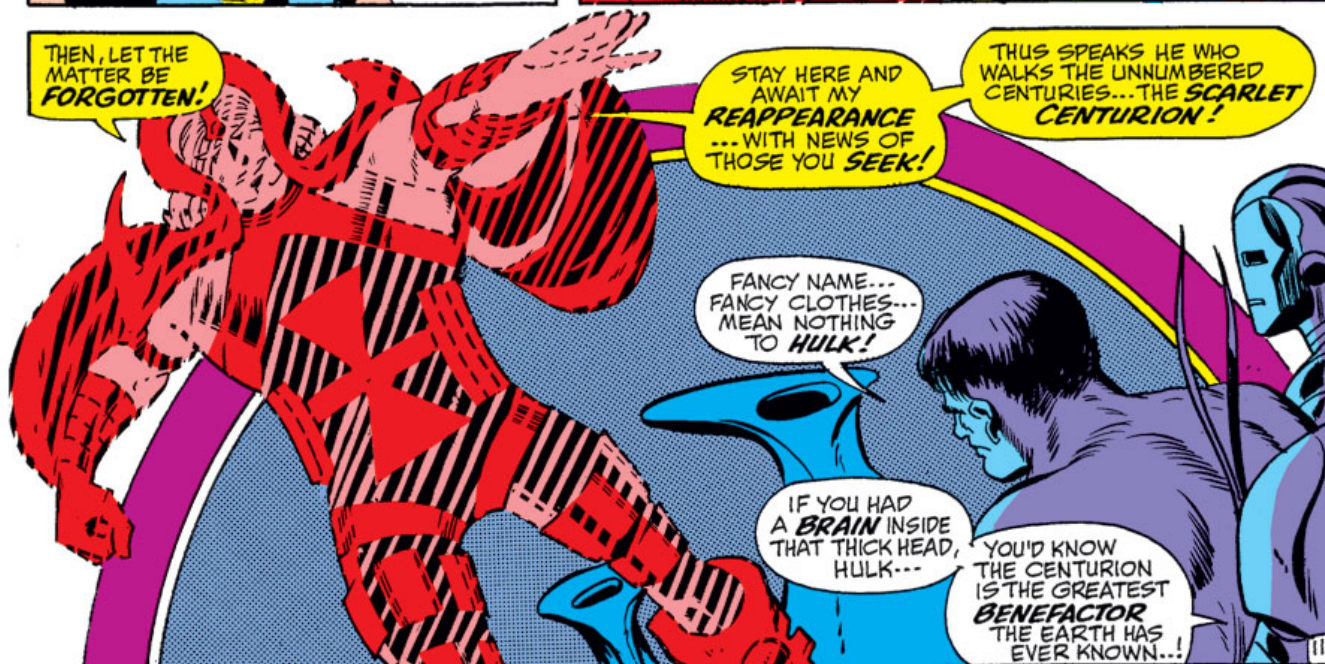
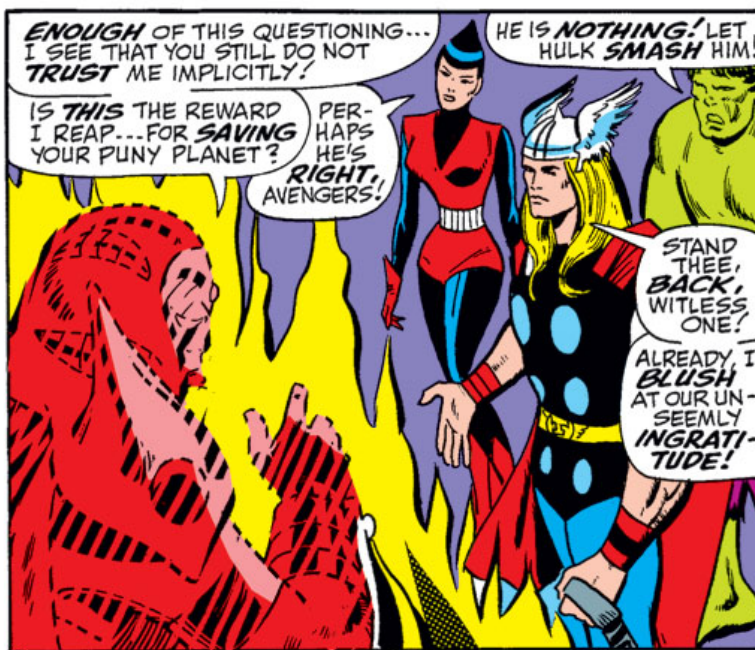
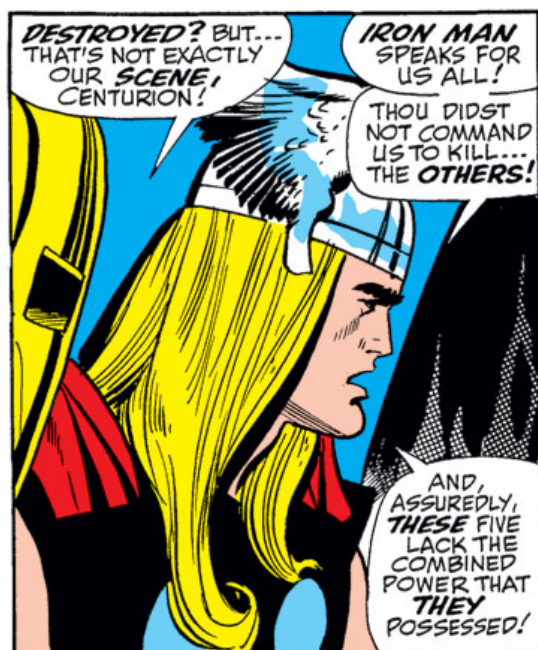
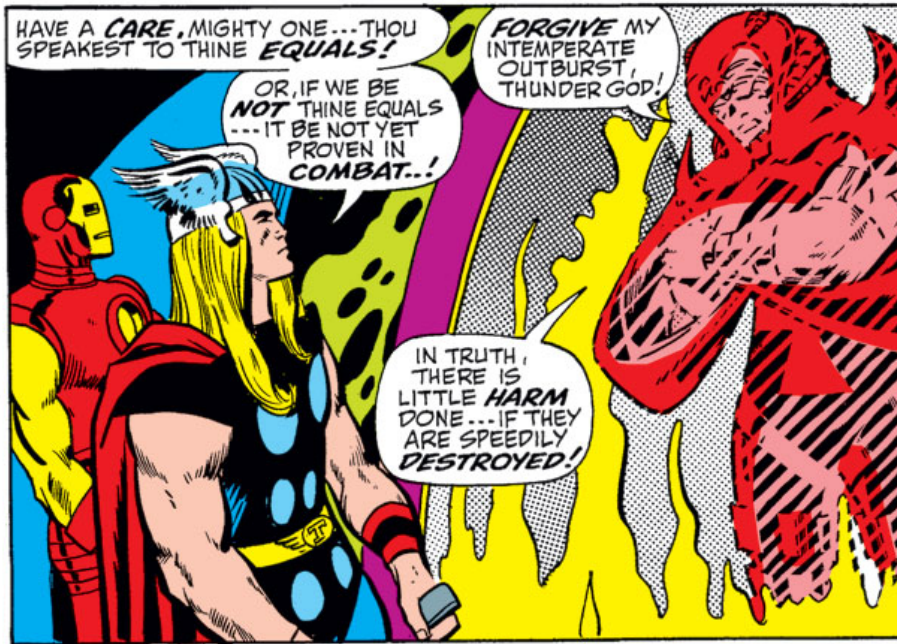
COULD YOU TRY BEING **QUIET**, GREEN SKIN?

WE HAVE SUMMONED THEE, SCARLET ONE, BECAUSE THE **APPOINTED HOUR** HAS COME!

THOSE WHOM THOU HAST **SAID** WOULD APPEAR...HAVE **DONE** SO!

THEY INVADED OUR OWN **CHAMBERS**... AND THEN **FLED!**







HOWEVER, AS IRONY FOLLOWS HARD UPON IRONY, WHAT SAY WE **END** OUR LITTLE PANEL-ART TENNIS GAME... BY REJOINING THE FIRST-WHILE "NEW AVENGERS" FOR THE NEXT FEW PAGES...

YEAH...DOC DOOM'S TIME GIZMO!

DON'T BE TOO TOUGH ON YOURSELF, BOW-SLINGER!

REMEMBER, IT'S ONLY THEORY...NOT PROVEN FACT!

THAT'S GOTTA BE OUR ANSWER!

EVEN I SHOULD'VE FIGURED IT OUT!

AND, IT STILL DOESN'T TELL US WHY THINGS ARE LIKE THEY ARE!

NOT ONLY THAT, HANK...BUT WE CAN ONLY GUESS HOW MUCH THE HISTORY OF EARTH MAY HAVE BEEN ALTERED!

WE JUST KNOW THAT OUR AERO-CAR VANISHED... AND THAT NOBODY'S HEARD OF THOSE OF US WHO'VE POPPED UP SINCE '63!

MAYBE WE CAN FILL IN THE GAPS ---WITH THE HERODOTRON!

THEN... SUCH A THING TRULY EXISTS?

LOOK...GO BACK FIVE A GIANT SPACES, WILL YA?

WHAT IN SAM HILL'S A HERODOTRON?

PUTER, HAWKEYE COMPLETED IN EARLY 1968!

I HELPED WORK ON IT A FEW MONTHS BACK!

IT WAS DEVELOPED TO RECORD ALL HISTORICAL DATA...

...THEN USE NARRATIVE FEEDBACK TO INSTILL SUCH KNOWLEDGE IN OTHERS!

BUT, WHY AM I RANTING ON LIKE SOME EDUCATED LUNATIC?

FOR ALL WE KNOW, THE COMPUTER DOESN'T EVEN EXIST IN THIS ERA!

SMASH!

IN FACT, HOW DO WE EVEN KNOW THAT WE EXIST? MAYBE--

EASY, AVENGER!

DON'T GO OFF THE DEEP END!

IT'S GONNA TAKE ALL OF US TO GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THIS!

YOU'RE RIGHT, CAP... AND THANKS!

IF I ACT UP AGAIN, JUST CLOBBER ME WITH YOUR SHIELD!

THIS TIME IT WAS HANK WHO STARTED TO BREAK, UNDER THE SHOCK OF REALIZATION!

NEXT TIME, IT COULD BE HAWKEYE... JAN...OR ANY OF US!

I MAY HOLD UP BEST, SINCE I'VE HAD TO COME TO GRIPS WITH THE IDEA OF BEING A LIVING RELIC OF AN EARLIER DAY!

YET, HOW LONG BEFORE EVEN I BEGIN TO DOUBT MY VERY SANITY!?

BUT, SHORTLY THEREAFTER, PHILOSOPHICAL CONSIDERATIONS ARE MOMENTARILY SHELVED, AS, SOMEWHERE ON LONG ISLAND...

THERE, CAP... THE UNIVERSITY BUILDING WHERE THE HERODOTRON WAS CREATED!

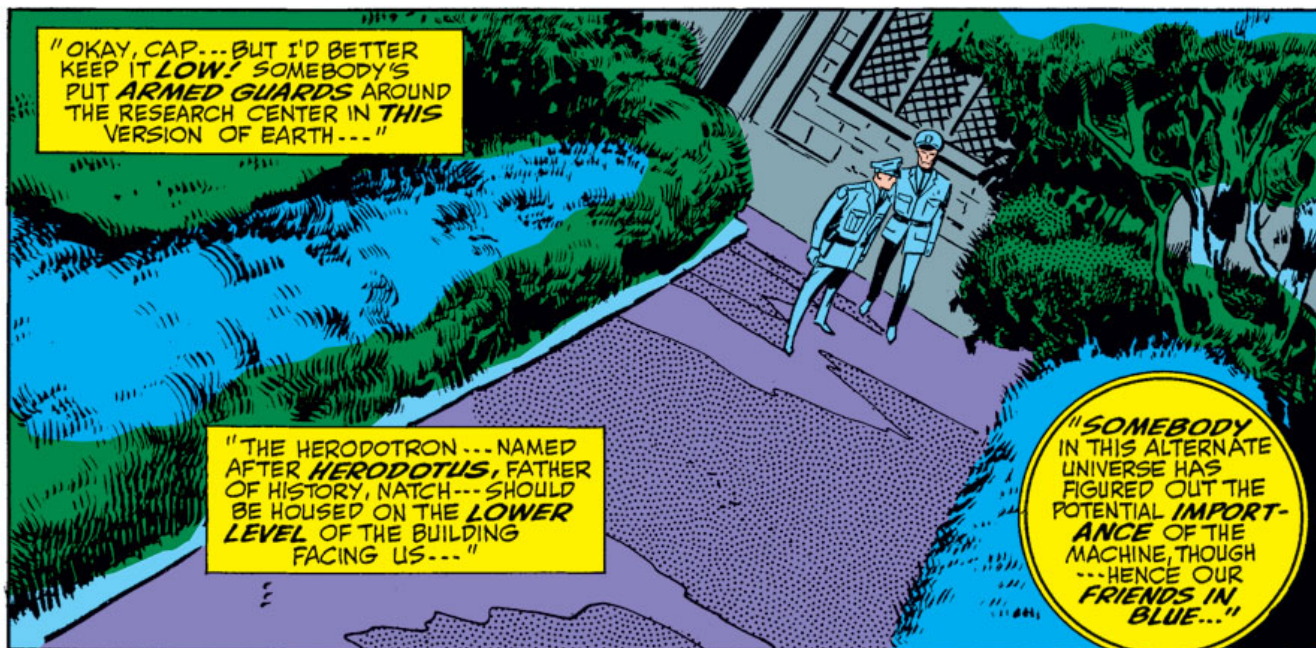
AT LEAST IT'S STILL AROUND!

SO, WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

YOU KNOW MORE ABOUT THAT COMPUTER THAN ANY OF US, BIG FELLA...

FILL US IN ON THE PROBABILITIES!





"OKAY, CAP... BUT I'D BETTER KEEP IT **LOW!** SOMEBODY'S PUT **ARMED GUARDS** AROUND THE RESEARCH CENTER IN **THIS** VERSION OF EARTH..."

"THE HERODOTRON ... NAMED AFTER **HERODOTUS**, FATHER OF HISTORY, NATCH--- SHOULD BE HOUSED ON THE **LOWER LEVEL** OF THE BUILDING FACING US..."

"SOMEBODY IN THIS ALTERNATE UNIVERSE HAS FIGURED OUT THE POTENTIAL **IMPORTANCE** OF THE MACHINE, THOUGH ... HENCE OUR **FRIENDS IN BLUE...**"

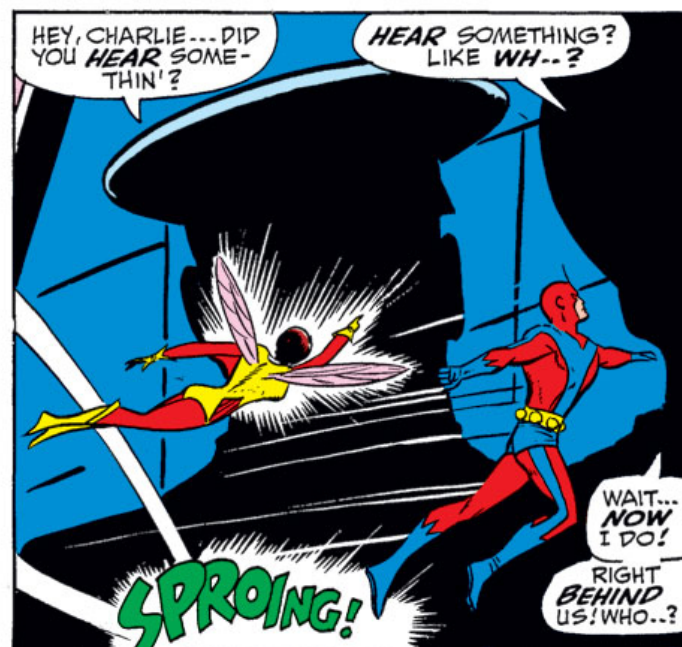


WELL, SINCE WHEN DID TWO GUYS WITH PISTOLS SCARE THE **AVENGERS**, HANK?

HANK...?

KEEP IT DOWN TO A **DULL ROAR**, BOY HERO!  
HE AND JAN ARE ALREADY **ON THEIR WAY!**

ALL WE CAN DO NOW IS **WAIT... AND PRAY!**



HEY, CHARLIE... DID YOU **HEAR** SOMETHIN'?

HEAR SOMETHING? LIKE **WH..?**

**SPROING!**

WAIT... **NOW** I DO!  
RIGHT **BEHIND** US! WHO..?



WE'D LOVE TO HEAR THE **END** OF YOUR FASCINATING REPARTEE, GENTS!

**ZAPT!**

**UNNNHHH**

**WOK!**

BUT, I'M AFRAID WE'VE GOT MORE **CRUCIAL** CONSIDERATIONS...

LIKE FOR INSTANCE, THE COURSE OF ALL FUTURE **HISTORY!**

**OHHH...!**



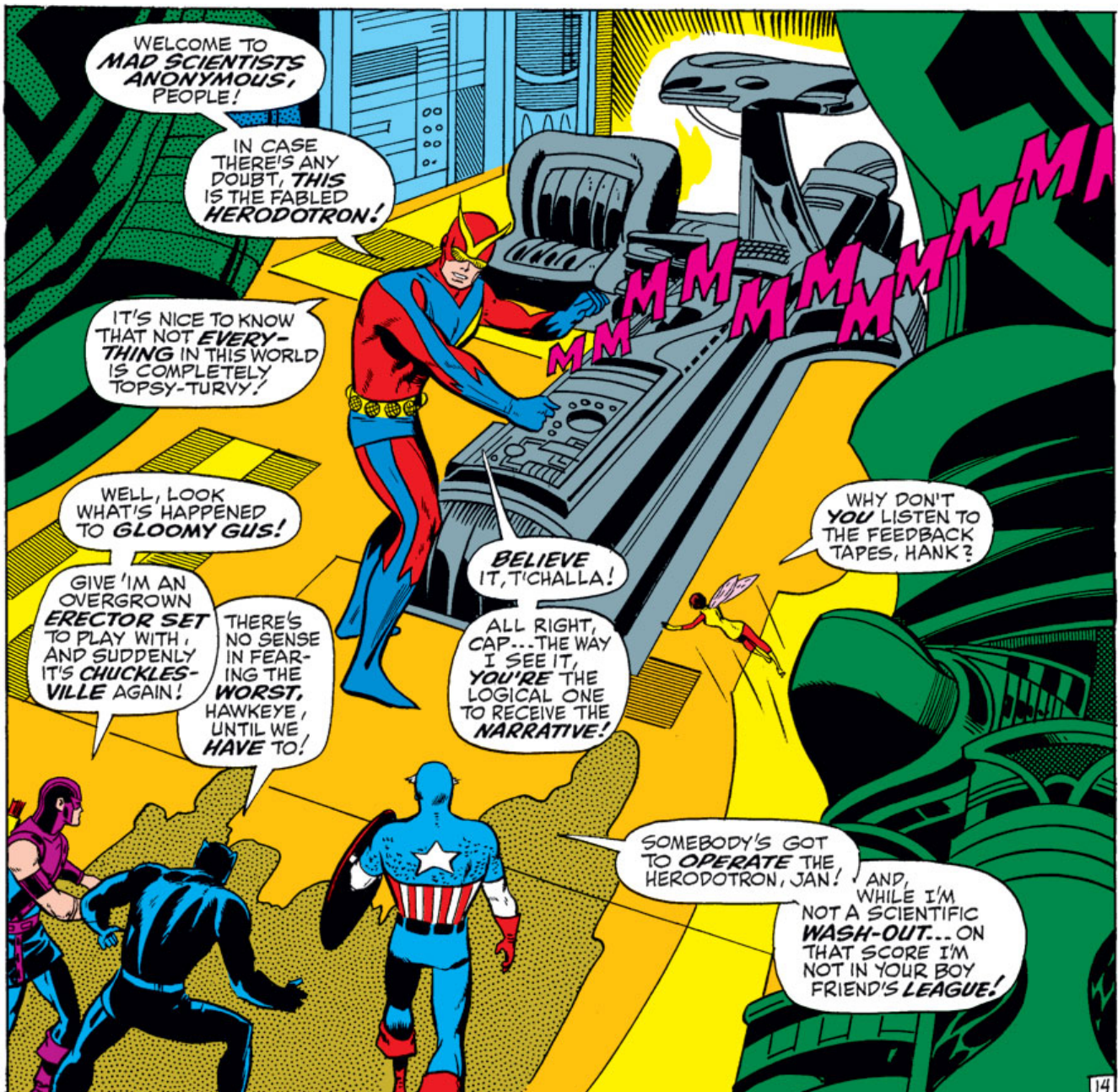
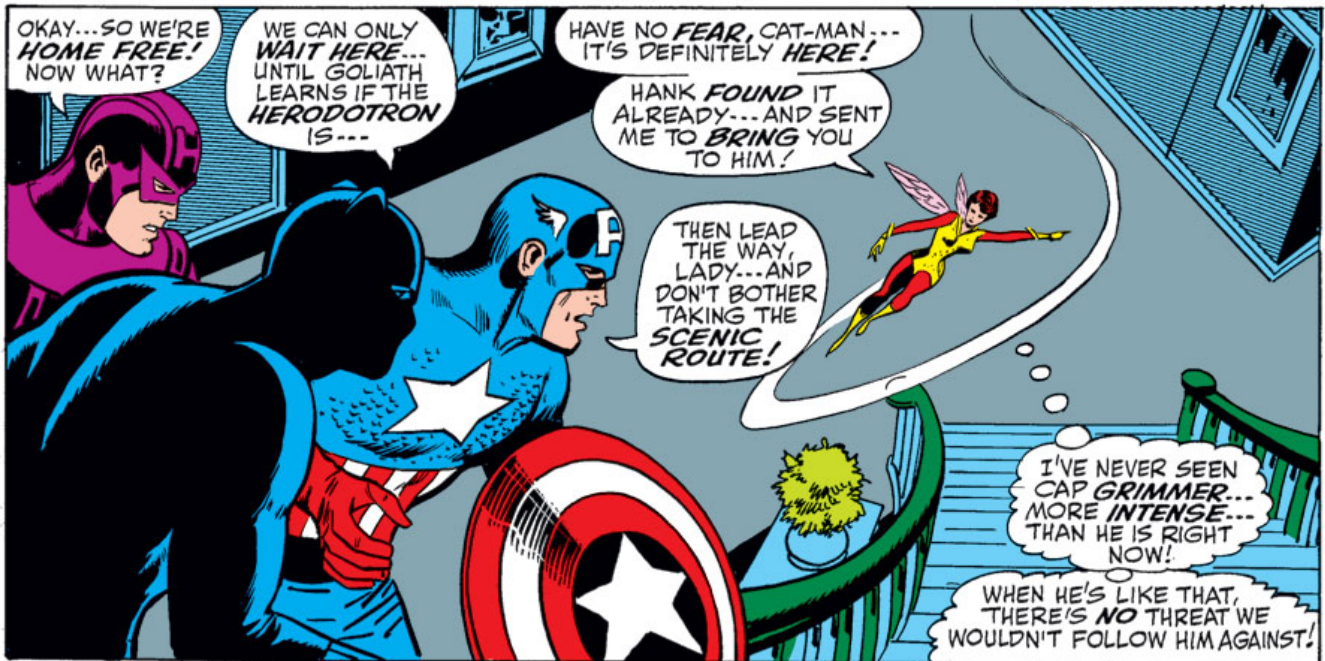
I STILL DON'T QUITE UNDERSTAND THE **SNEAK ATTACK**, LOVER!

YOU'D RATHER TAKE A CHANCE THAT THE OTHER **AVENGERS** BE INFORMED WHERE WE **ARE?**

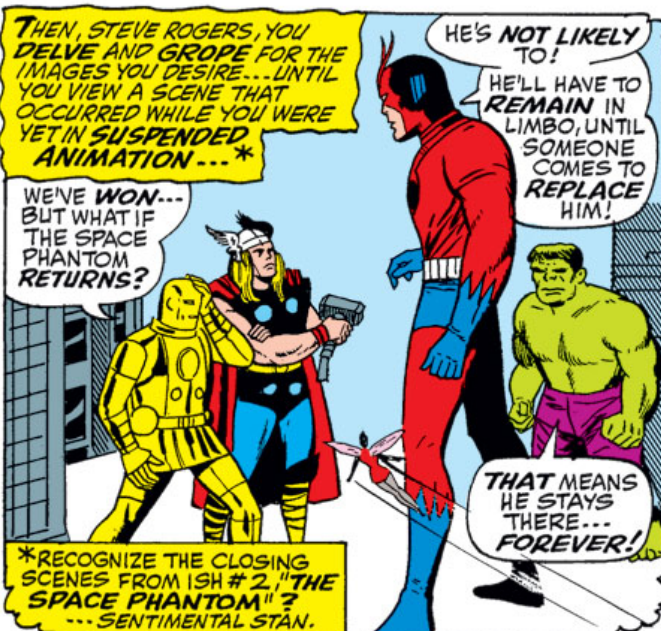
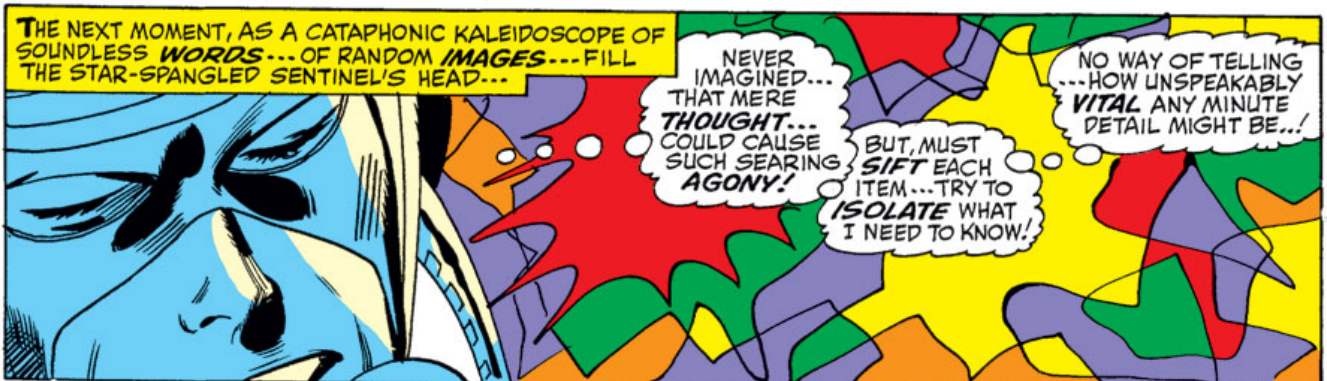
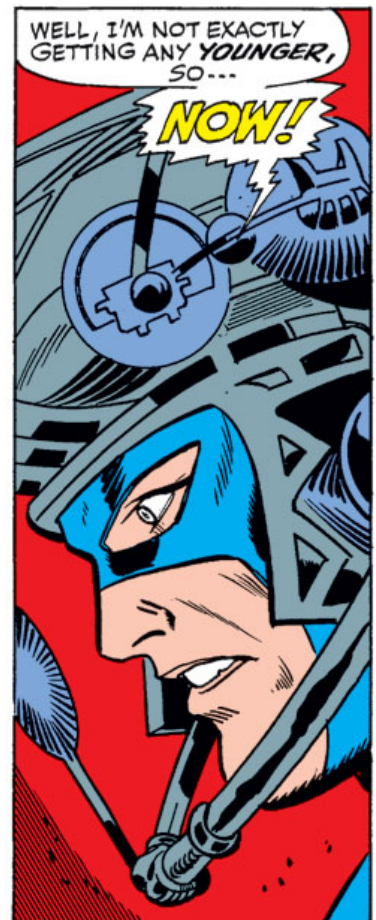
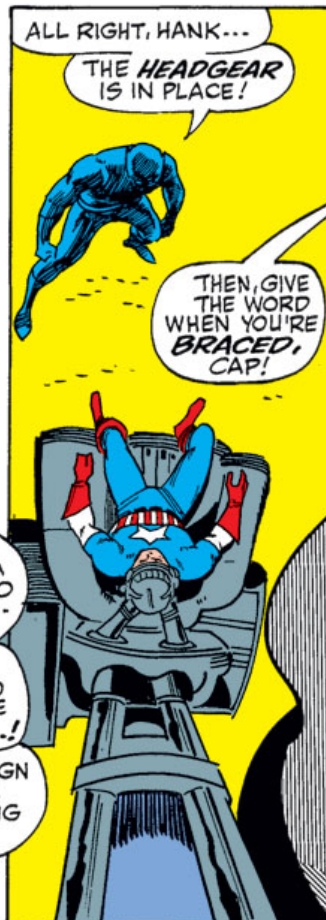
AND THIS IS **NO** TIME TO START THINKING ABOUT **ROMANCE!**

MISTER, THINGS'LL NEVER GET **THAT** DESPERATE!

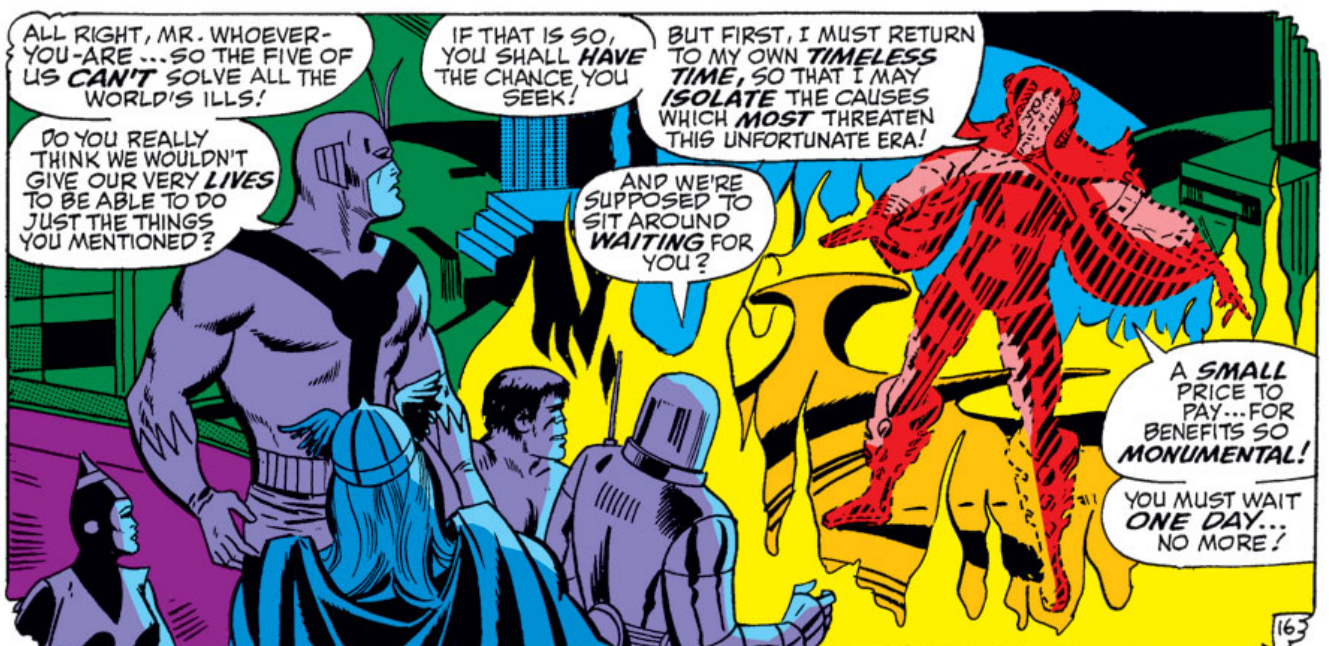
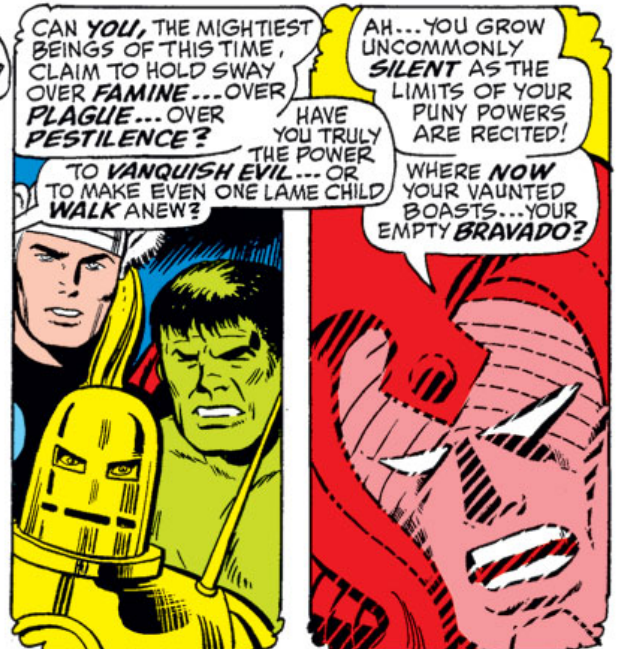
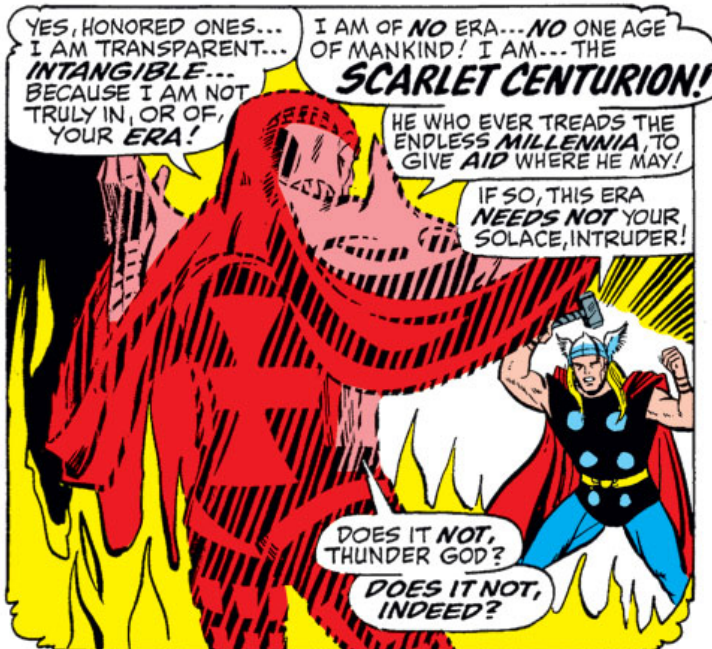
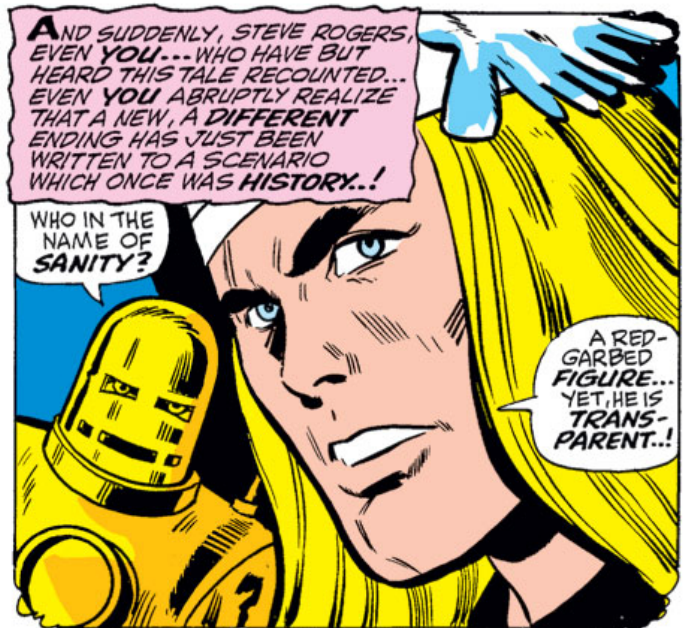




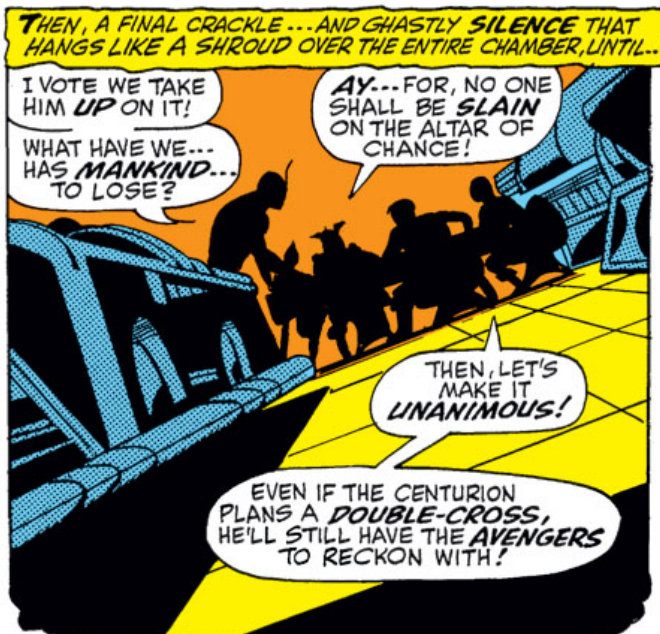
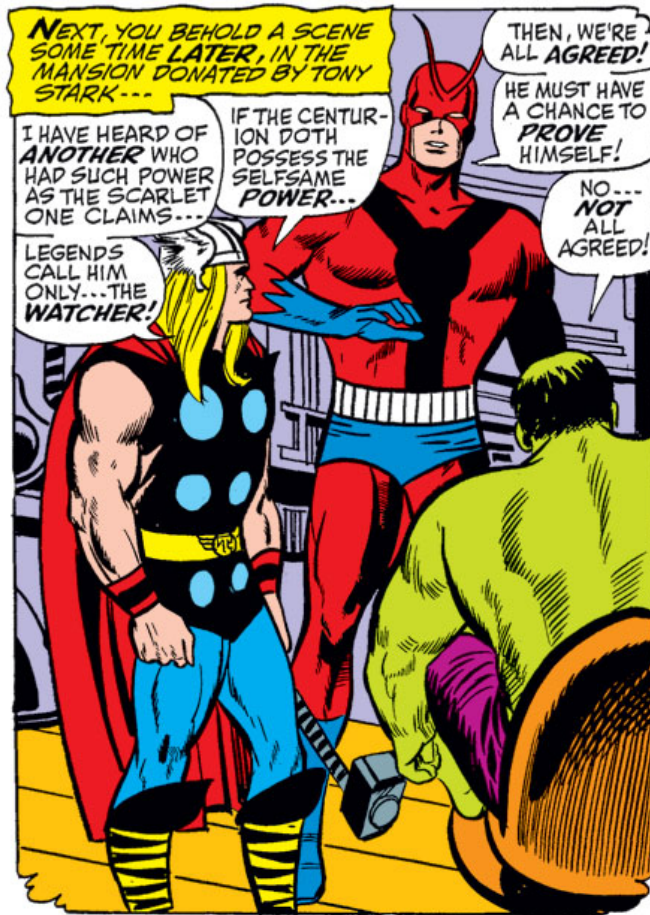




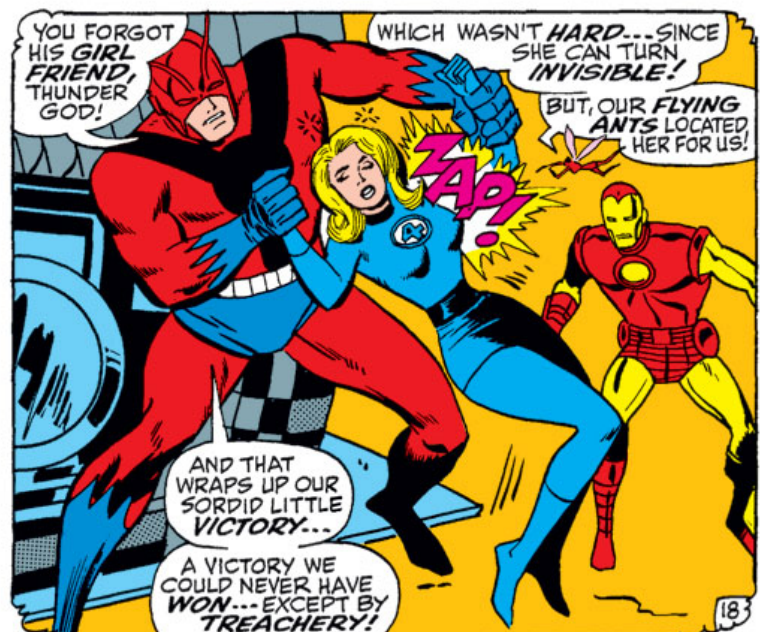
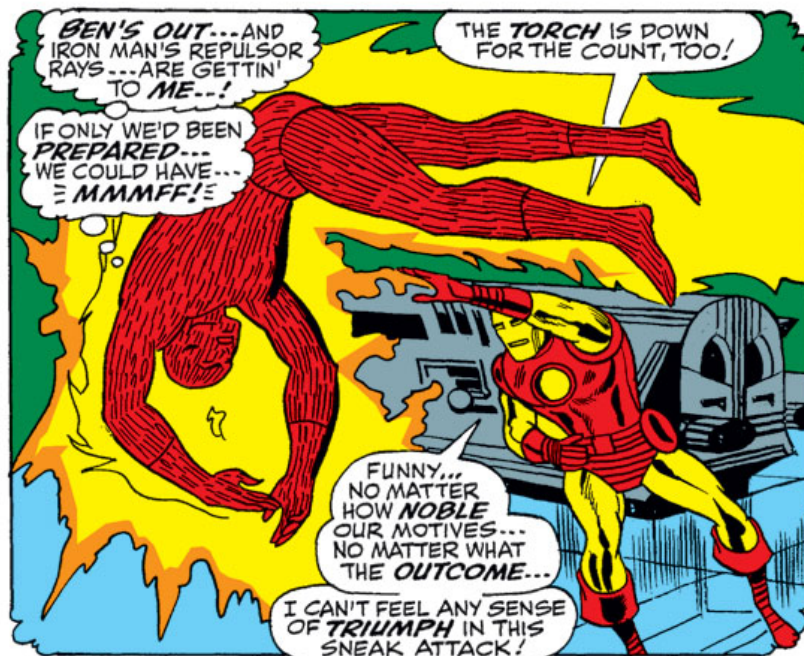
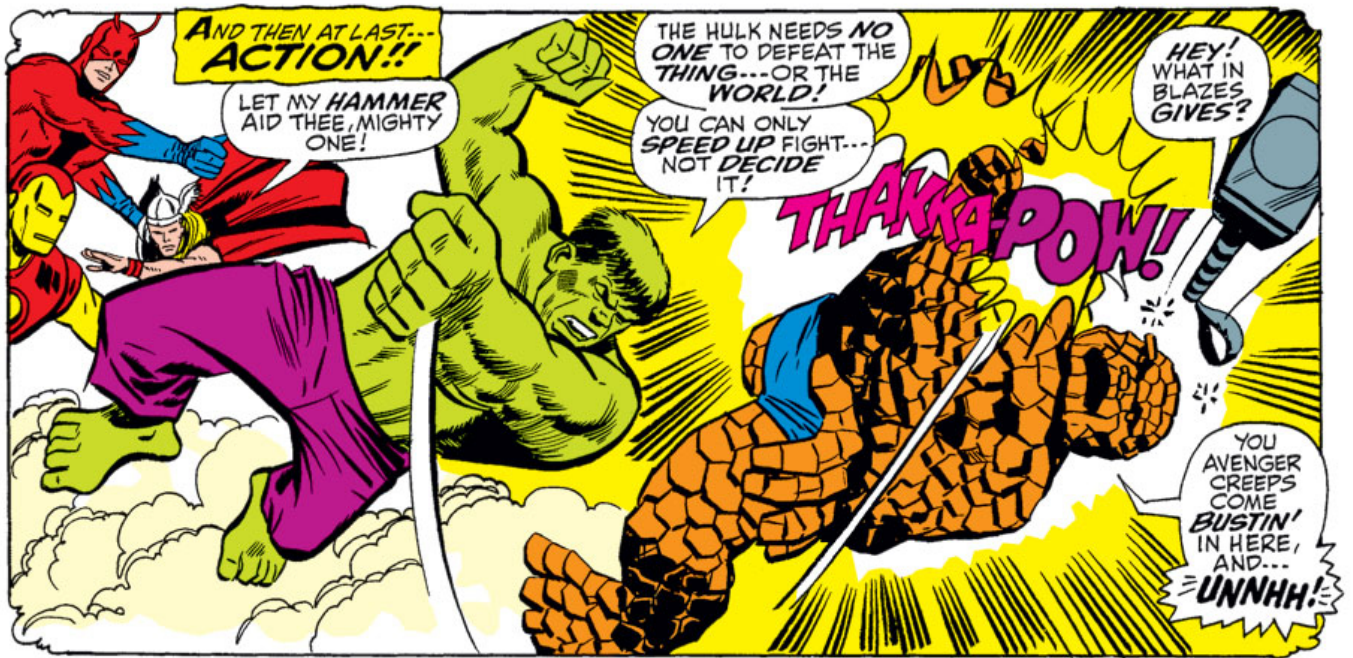




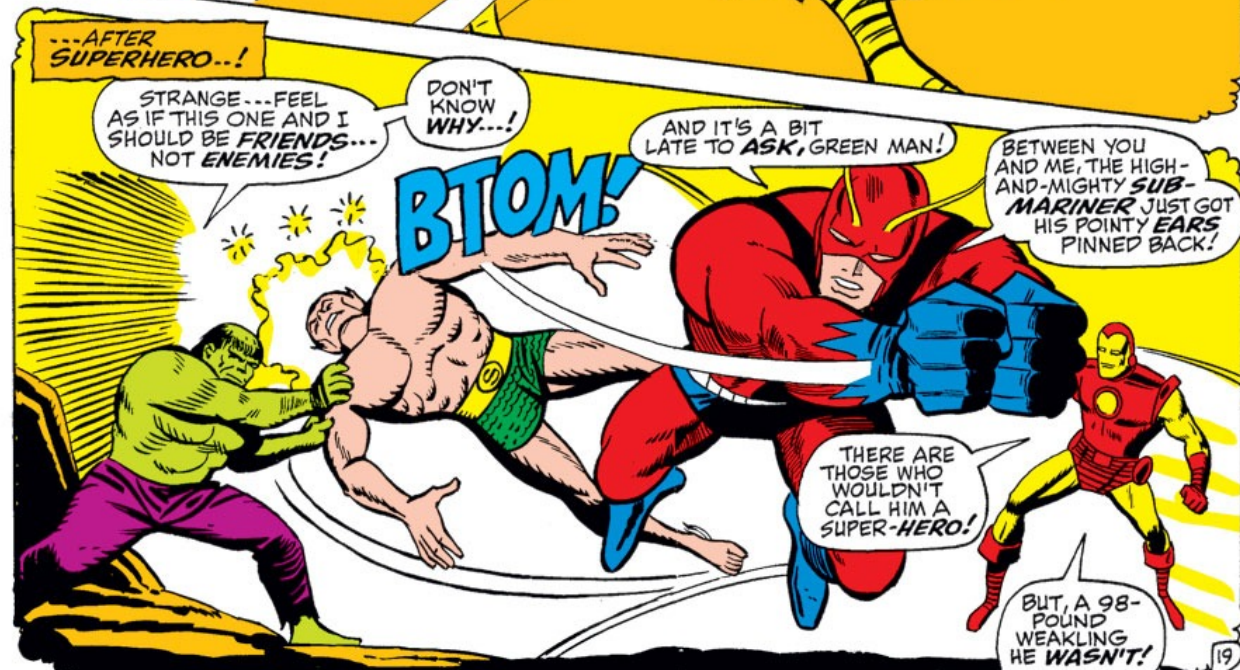




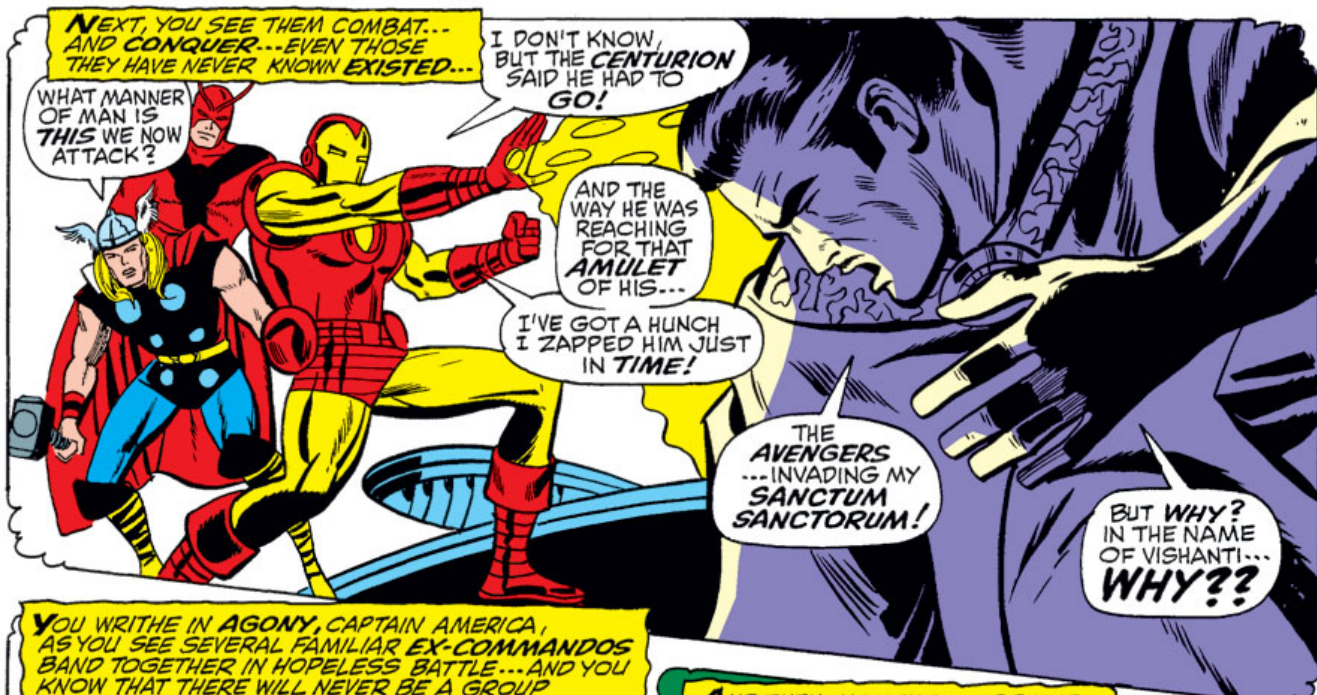












NEXT, YOU SEE THEM COMBAT... AND CONQUER... EVEN THOSE THEY HAVE NEVER KNOWN EXISTED...

WHAT MANNER OF MAN IS THIS WE NOW ATTACK?

I DON'T KNOW, BUT THE CENTURION SAID HE HAD TO GO!

AND THE WAY HE WAS REACHING FOR THAT AMULET OF HIS...

I'VE GOT A HUNCH I ZAPPED HIM JUST IN TIME!

THE AVENGERS... INVADING MY SANCTUM SANCTORUM!

BUT WHY? IN THE NAME OF VISHANTI... WHY??

YOU WRITHE IN AGONY, CAPTAIN AMERICA, AS YOU SEE SEVERAL FAMILIAR EX-COMMANDOS BAND TOGETHER IN HOPELESS BATTLE... AND YOU KNOW THAT THERE WILL NEVER BE A GROUP CALLED SHIELD...

THESE PUNY ONES HAVE NO SUPER-POWERS...

BUT, WHOEVER DARES THREATEN AVENGERS... MUST BE SMASHED!

CAREFUL, HULK! FOR THEY ARE MERELY HUMAN!

AND THEN, MOMENTS... OR IS IT MONTHS... LATER, YOU WITNESS THE FALL OF ONE BRAND-NEW COSTUMED FIGURE... AND THERE ARE NO MORE HEROES...!

FUNNY... HE CALLED HIMSELF DARE-DEVIL, AND HE PUT UP A GOOD FIGHT...

BUT, IF HE'S GOT A GENUINE SUPER-POWER, I SURE COULDN'T SEE IT!

AND MUCH DID IT AVAIL HIM, MY ARMORED FRIEND!

PERHAPS HE SHALL BE SAFER IN OUR PLACE OF FORCED SANCTUARY!



IF ONLY WE COULD'A ALL TACKLED 'EM AT ONCE... 'STEAD'A BEIN' PICKED OFF LIKE FLIES!

BUT, TOO LATE FOR THAT... NOW...!

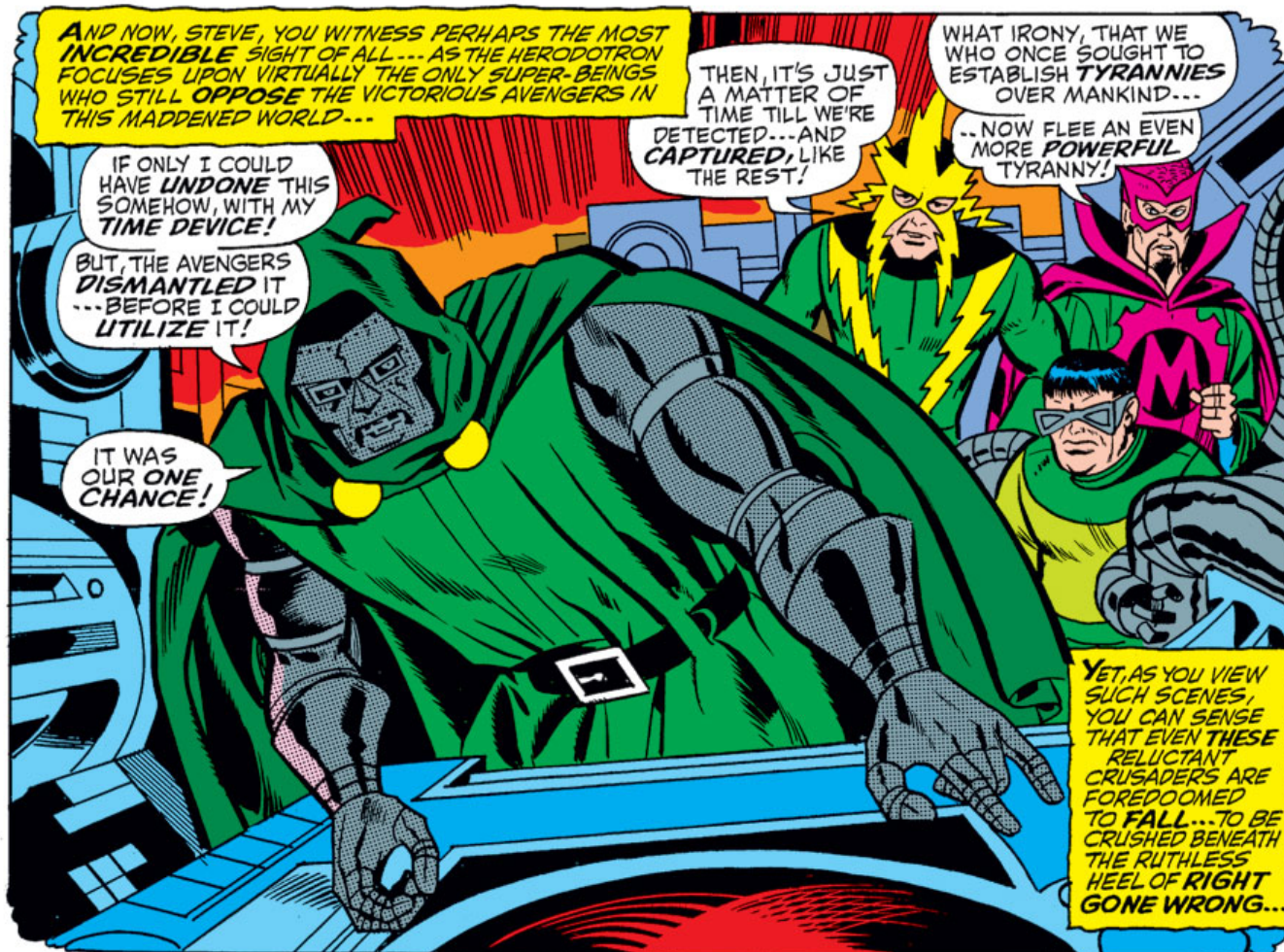


SPECIAL NOTE: MUCH AS WE HATE TO INTRUDE UPON SUCH A SOMBER SCENE, IT BEHOOVES US TO OFFER ONE UNTARNISHED NO-PRIZE TO THE FIRST FAITHFUL ONE WHO BEST EXPLAINS WHY THE SPACE-BORN CAPTAIN MARVEL DOES NOT APPEAR WITHIN THESE PULSATING PAGES!... STAN AND ROY.









AND NOW, STEVE, YOU WITNESS PERHAPS THE MOST **INCREDIBLE** SIGHT OF ALL... AS THE HERODOTRON FOCUSES UPON VIRTUALLY THE ONLY SUPER-BEINGS WHO STILL **OPPOSE** THE VICTORIOUS AVENGERS IN THIS MADDENED WORLD...

IF ONLY I COULD HAVE **UNDONE** THIS SOMEHOW, WITH MY **TIME DEVICE!**

BUT, THE AVENGERS **DISMANTLED** IT... BEFORE I COULD **UTILIZE** IT!

IT WAS OUR **ONE CHANCE!**

THEN, IT'S JUST A MATTER OF TIME TILL WE'RE **DETECTED...AND CAPTURED**, LIKE THE REST!

WHAT IRONY, THAT WE WHO ONCE SOUGHT TO ESTABLISH **TYRANNIES** OVER MANKIND...

...NOW FLEE AN EVEN MORE **POWERFUL** TYRANNY!

YET, AS YOU VIEW SUCH SCENES, YOU CAN SENSE THAT EVEN THESE **RELUCTANT** CRUSADERS ARE **FOREDOOMED** TO **FALL**... TO BE CRUSHED BENEATH THE RUTHLESS HEEL OF **RIGHT** GONE **WRONG**...



THEN, FINALLY, YOUR MIND'S EYE BEHOLDS THE VISION YOU **DREADED** MOST... YET KNEW MUST **INEVITABLY** **APPEAR**...

THUS SPEAKS **THOR**, FOR THE MIGHTY **AVENGERS!**

LET ALL **AMERICA**...AY, THE VERY **WORLD**...HEED MY WORDS!

--LEST ANY **OTHER** MORTAL GAIN **SUPER-POWERS**--AND FORCE US TO **VANQUISH** HIM!

**DISREGARD** THIS COMMAND ONLY AT THINE OWN **PERIL!**

THE **AVENGERS**... ACTING AS VIRTUAL **DICTATORS!**

I NEVER THOUGHT IT COULD **HAPPEN!!**

FROM THIS DAY FORTH, NO **ATOMIC TESTS**...NO **SCIENTIFIC INQUIRY**... SHALL BE ALLOWED UPON THIS **PLANET**--

**BUT** ALWAYS, THRU IT ALL, YOU SEE EVER THE **FEARSOME, INSCRUTABLE** VISAGE OF...THE **SCARLET CENTURION**...!

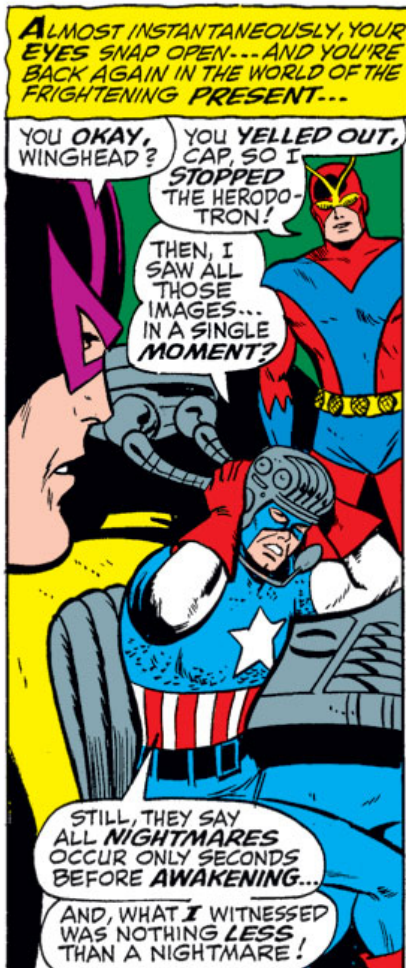
YOU HAVE DONE **WELL**, MEN OF THIS ERA!

WITH **YOURSELVES** AS THE ONLY **SUPER-POWERED** BEINGS NOT **SEALED AWAY**, THE **COSMIC** IMBALANCE IS NOW **NEARLY CORRECTED!**

WHEN BUT **FIVE MORE** ARE DEFEATED, WHAT LONG-AWAITED **KNOWLEDGE** SHALL I NOT UNVEIL TO YOUR EYES?

AND EVEN AS HE SPEAKS THOSE WORDS, CAPTAIN AMERICA, YOU REALIZE WITH A **NUMBING SHOCK** THAT HE MEANS **YOU**... YOU AND THE OTHER **TIME-DISPLACED** **AVENGERS**...!







PART  
2

**"THE AVENGERS  
MUST DIE!"**







I STILL DO NOT *LIKE* IT, HAWKEYE!

THESE TWO-MAN SHIPS WERE ALMOST *TOO* EASILY ACCESSIBLE!

I'LL BET YOU WOULD'A WANTED *MANHATTAN* FOR JUST 20 BUCKS WORTH'A BEADS, JUNGLE MAN!

THEY WERE *TEST MODELS*, JUST LIKE THE *HISTORY COMPUTER* --WHAT'S THE *MYSTERY*?

ME, I'M STILL TRYIN' TO DOPE OUT WHAT *CAP* SAID BACK THERE...

...ABOUT HIS THEORY OF *HOW* THE WORLD GOT STOOD ON ITS HEAD!



TO QUOTE YOUR OWN PHRASE, MY FRIEND...WHAT IS THE *MYSTERY*?

*TIME* IS LIKE A *RIVER*! DAM IT UP AT ANY *ONE* POINT...

...AND IT HAS NO CHOICE BUT TO FLOW *ELSEWHERE*... ALONG OTHER, *EASIER* ROUTES!



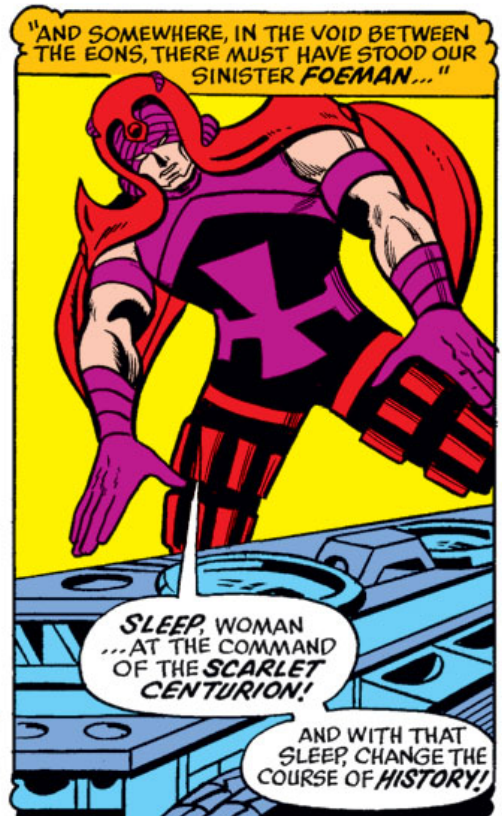
"DOES IT NOT MAKE SENSE THAT THE CRUCIAL, TIME-ALTERING MOMENT MUST HAVE OCCURRED WITH THE WASP'S UNACCUSTOMED *DROWSINESS*...?"\*

WHAT'S...*WRONG* WITH ME...?

CAN'T FIGHT OFF... THIS SUDDEN FEELING OF *DROWSINESS*!

YET, I *MUST*...I *MUST*! I...

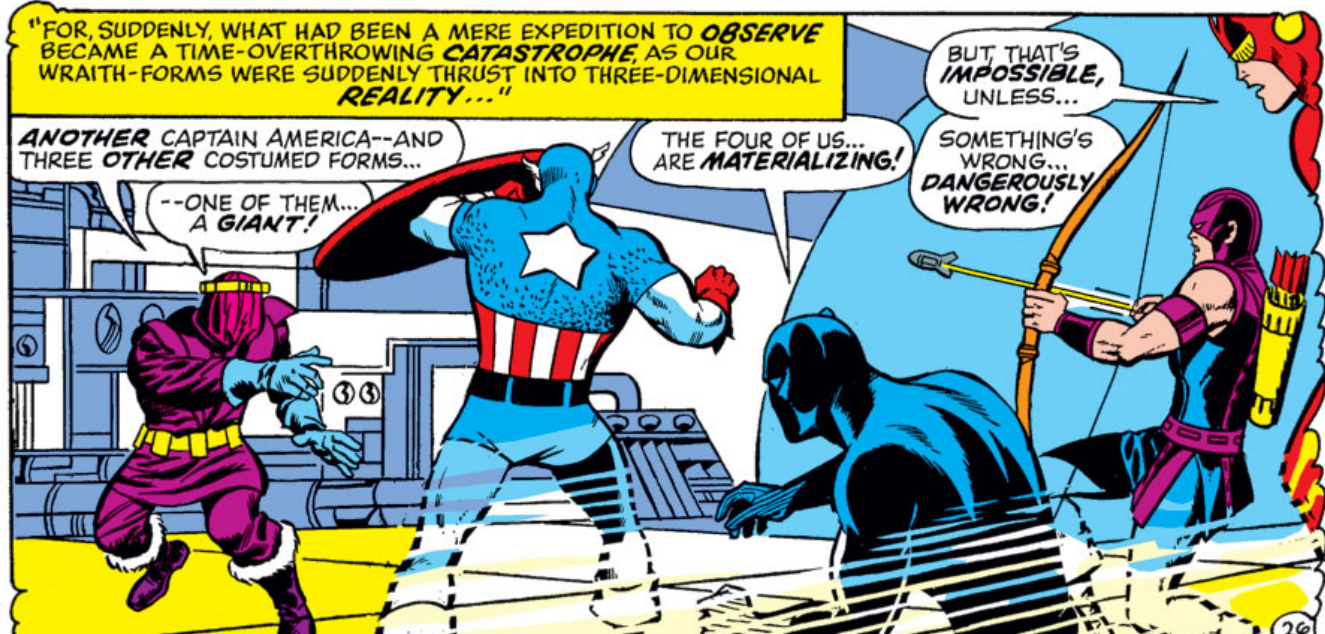
\*AS SEEN IN THE CURRENT *AVENGERS* #56!--STAN



"AND SOMEWHERE, IN THE VOID BETWEEN THE EONS, THERE MUST HAVE STOOD OUR SINISTER *FOEMAN*..."

*SLEEP*, WOMAN... AT THE COMMAND OF THE *SCARLET CENTURIAN*!

AND WITH THAT *SLEEP*, CHANGE THE COURSE OF *HISTORY*!



"FOR, SUDDENLY, WHAT HAD BEEN A MERE EXPEDITION TO *OBSERVE* BECAME A TIME-OVERTHROWING *CATASTROPHE*, AS OUR WRAITH-FORMS WERE SUDDENLY THRUST INTO THREE-DIMENSIONAL *REALITY*..."

*ANOTHER* CAPTAIN AMERICA--AND THREE *OTHER* COSTUMED FORMS...

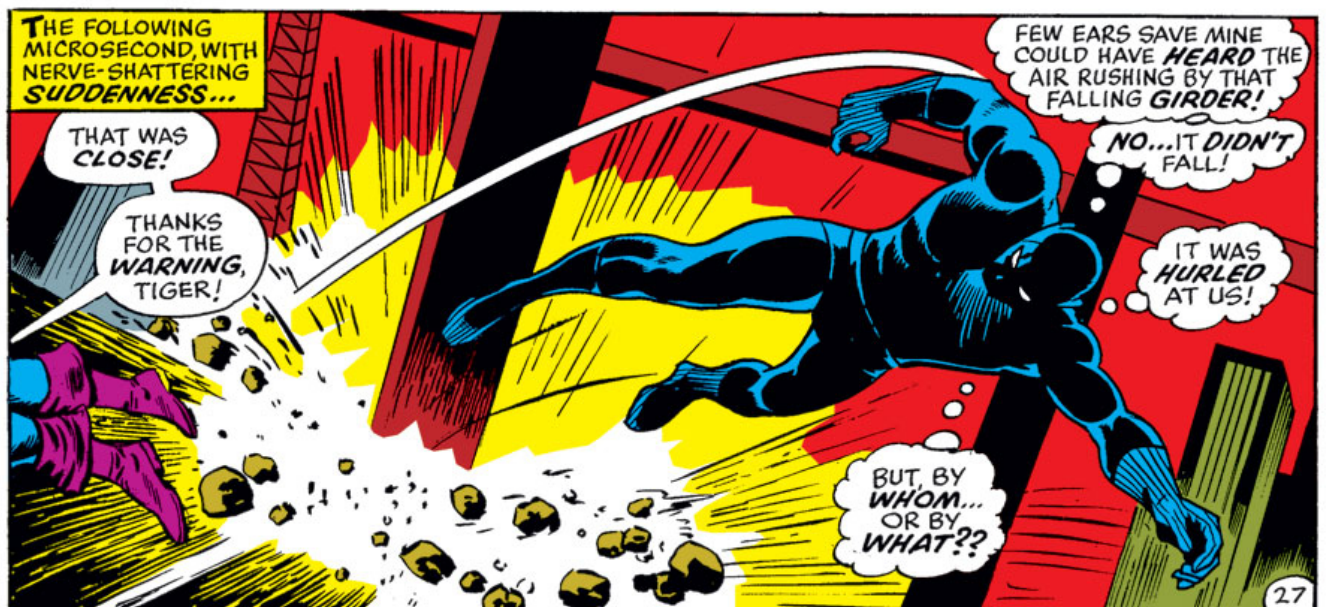
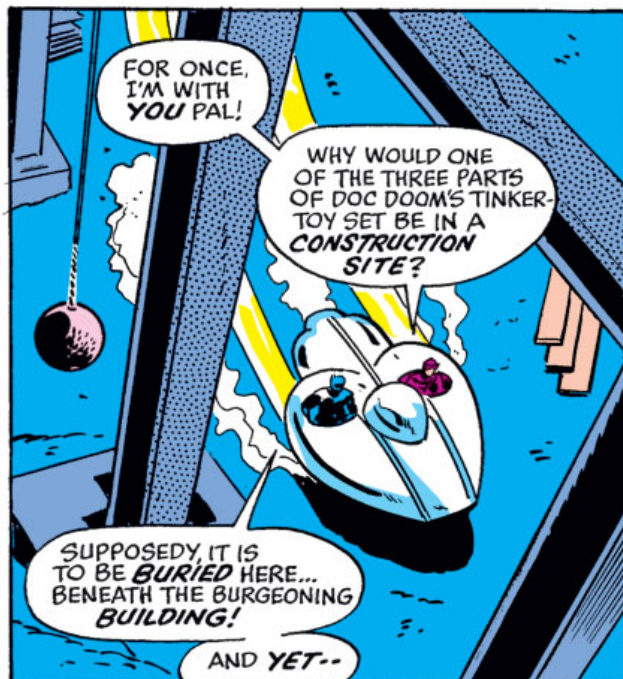
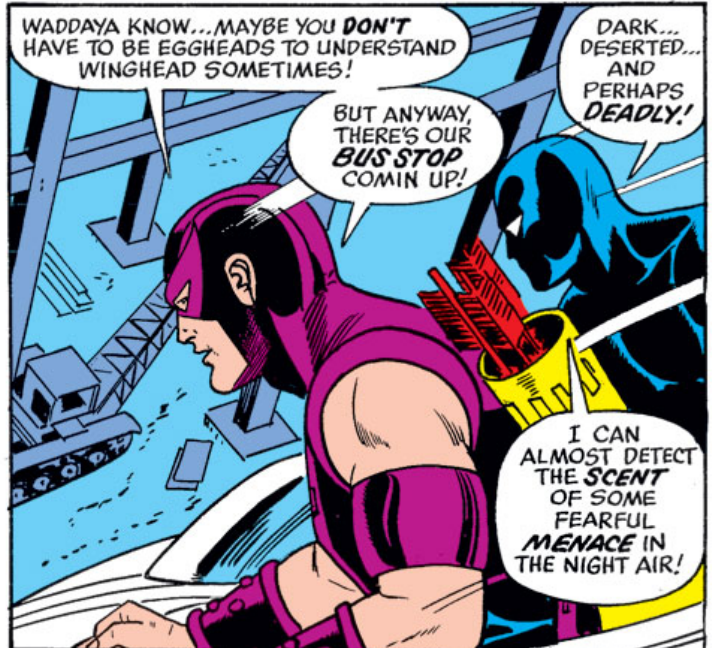
--ONE OF THEM... A *GIANT*!

THE FOUR OF US... ARE *MATERIALIZING*!

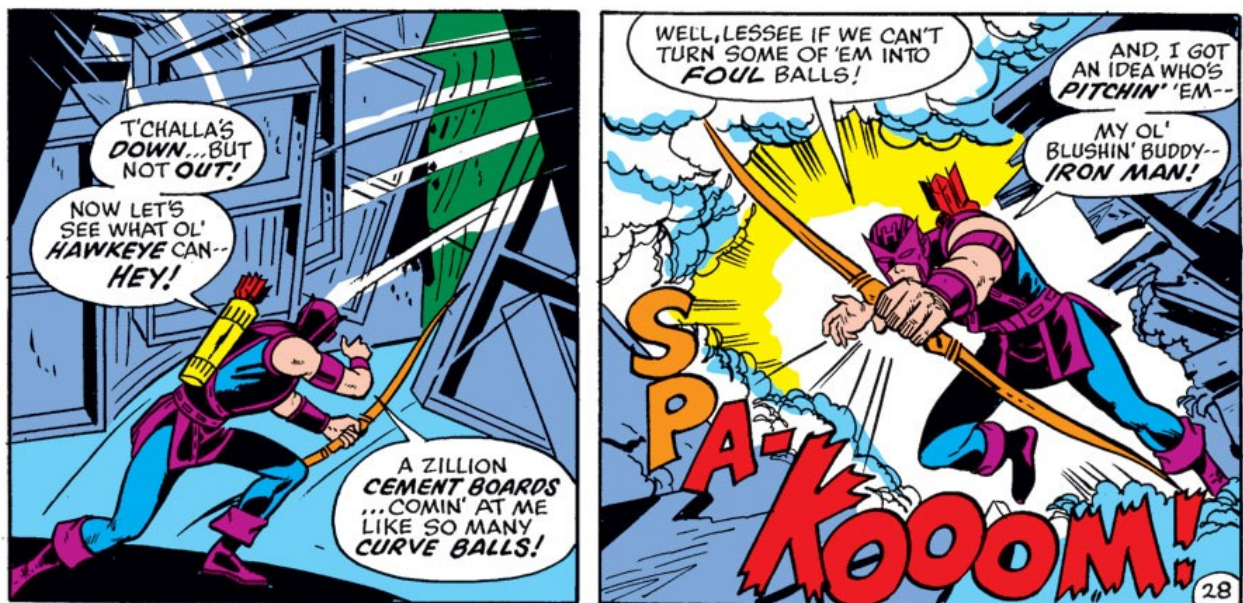
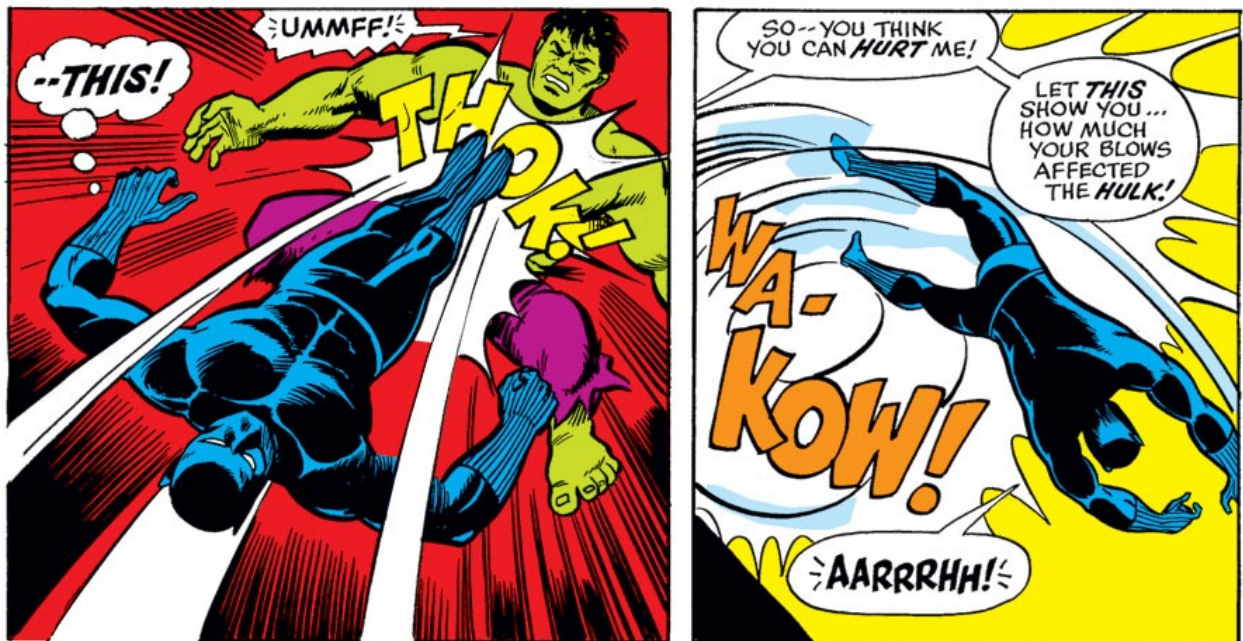
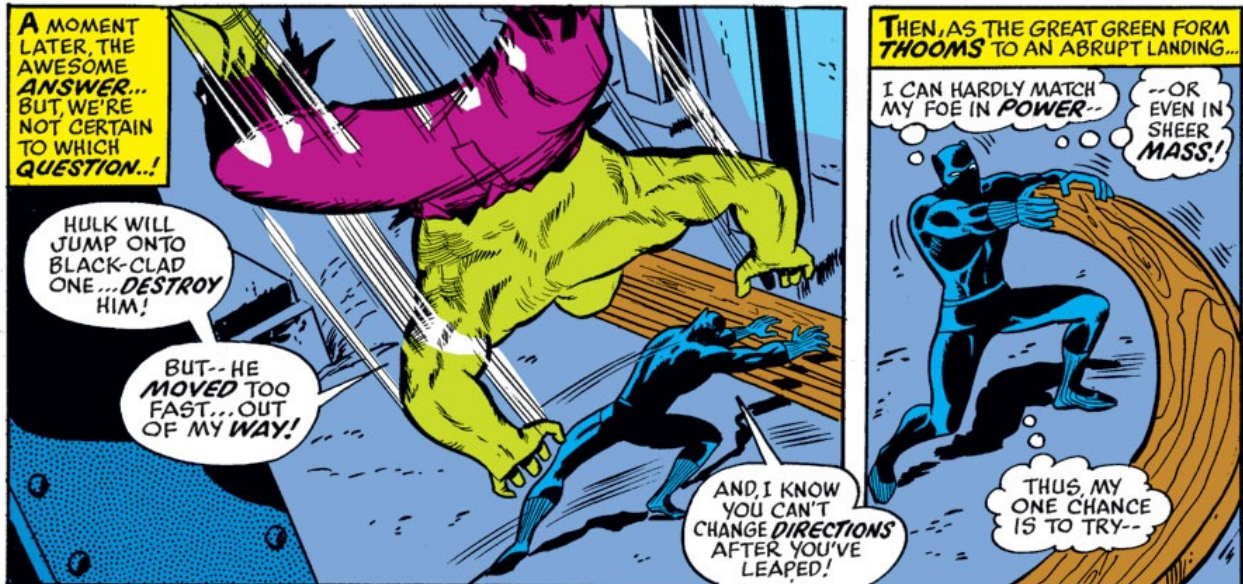
BUT, THAT'S *IMPOSSIBLE*, UNLESS...

SOMETHING'S *WRONG*... *DANGEROUSLY* *WRONG*!

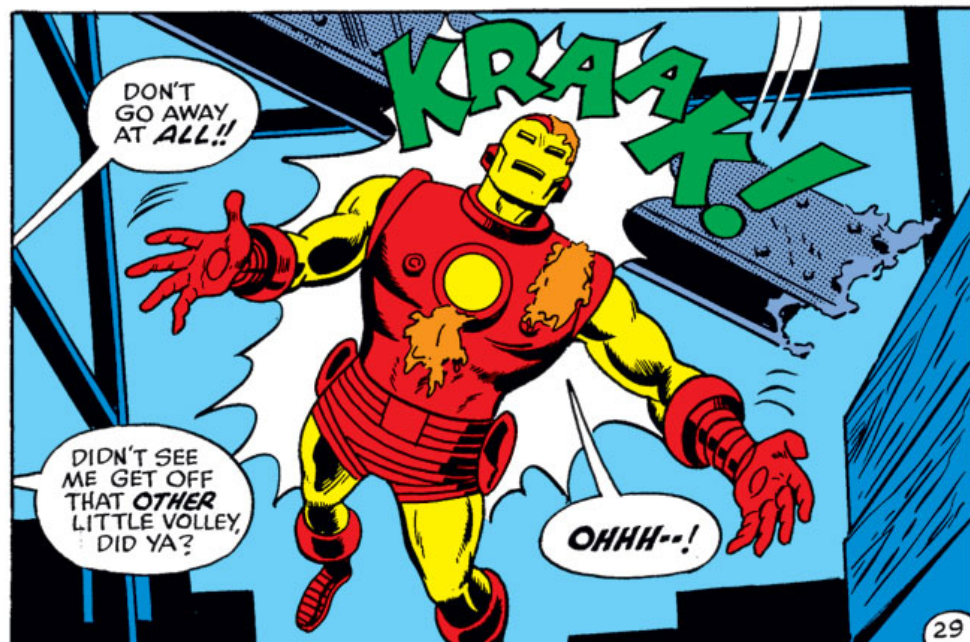








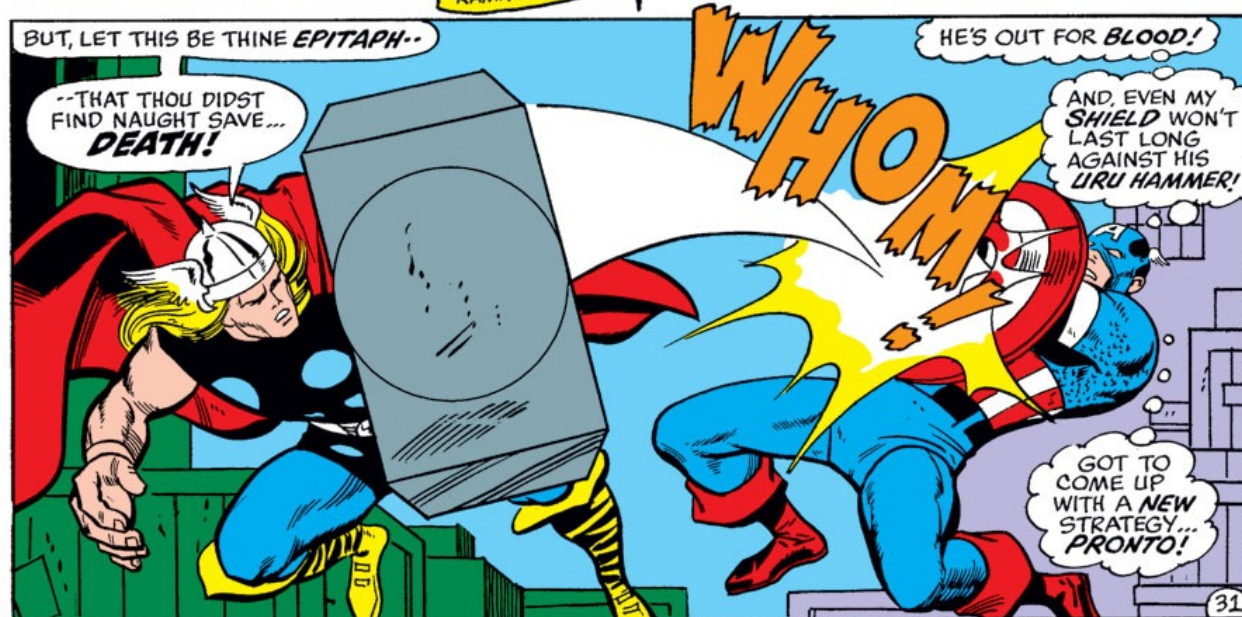
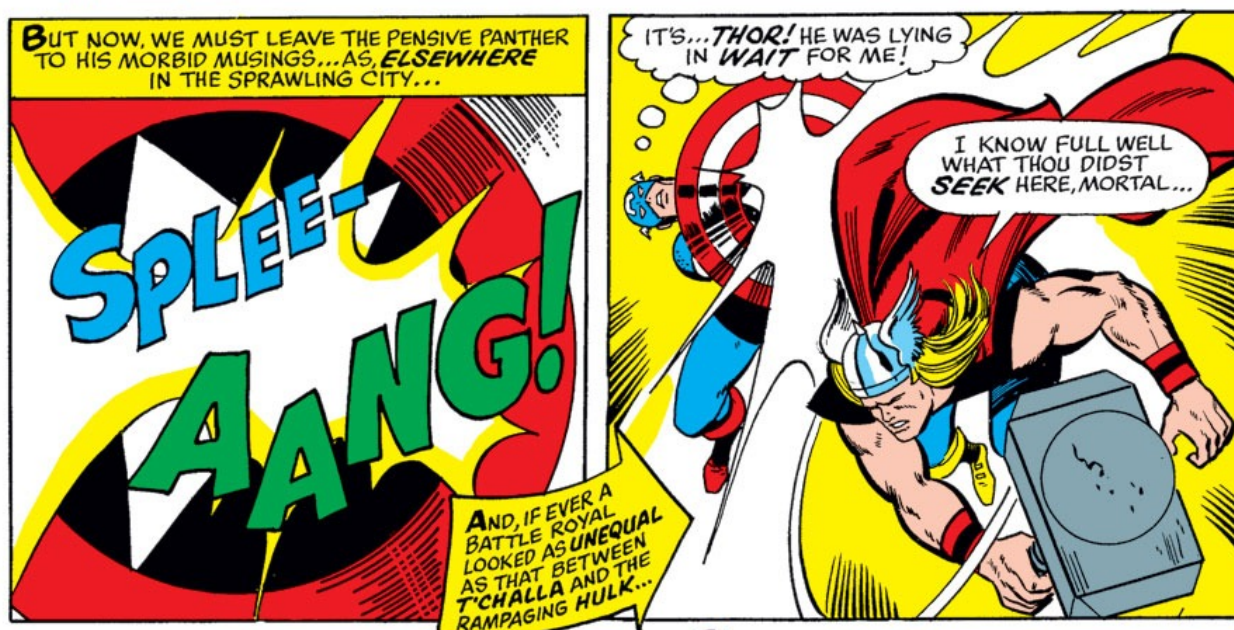
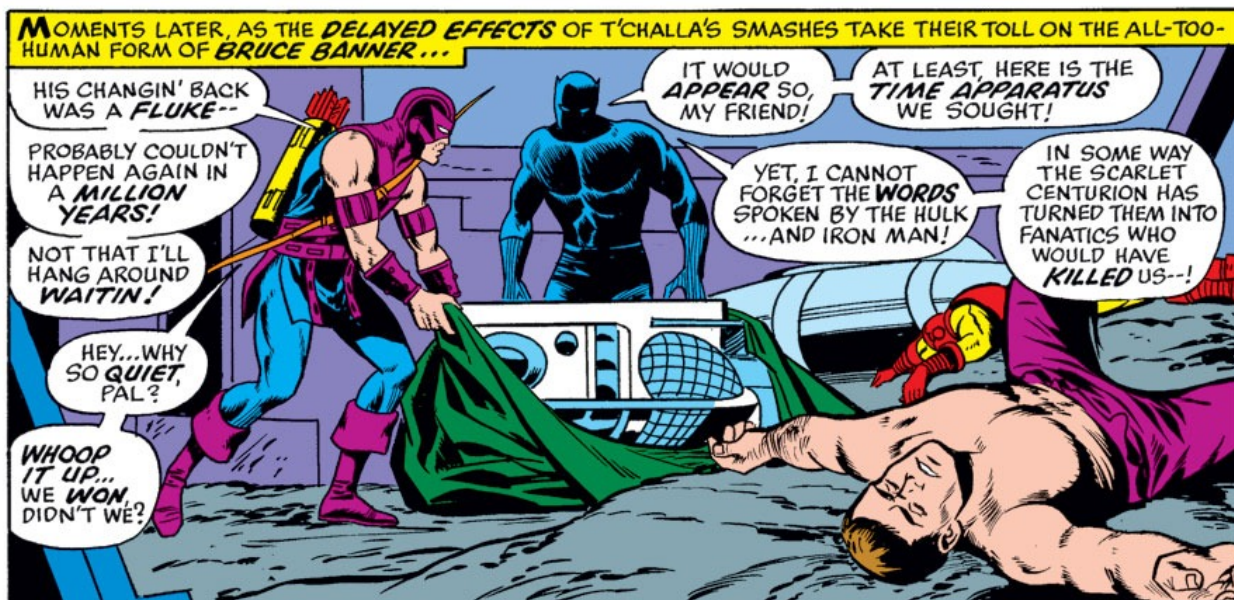




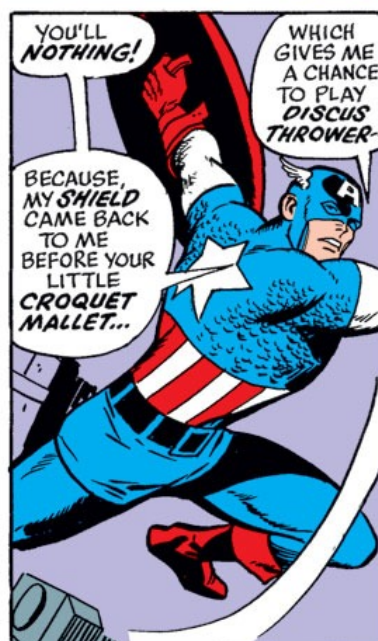








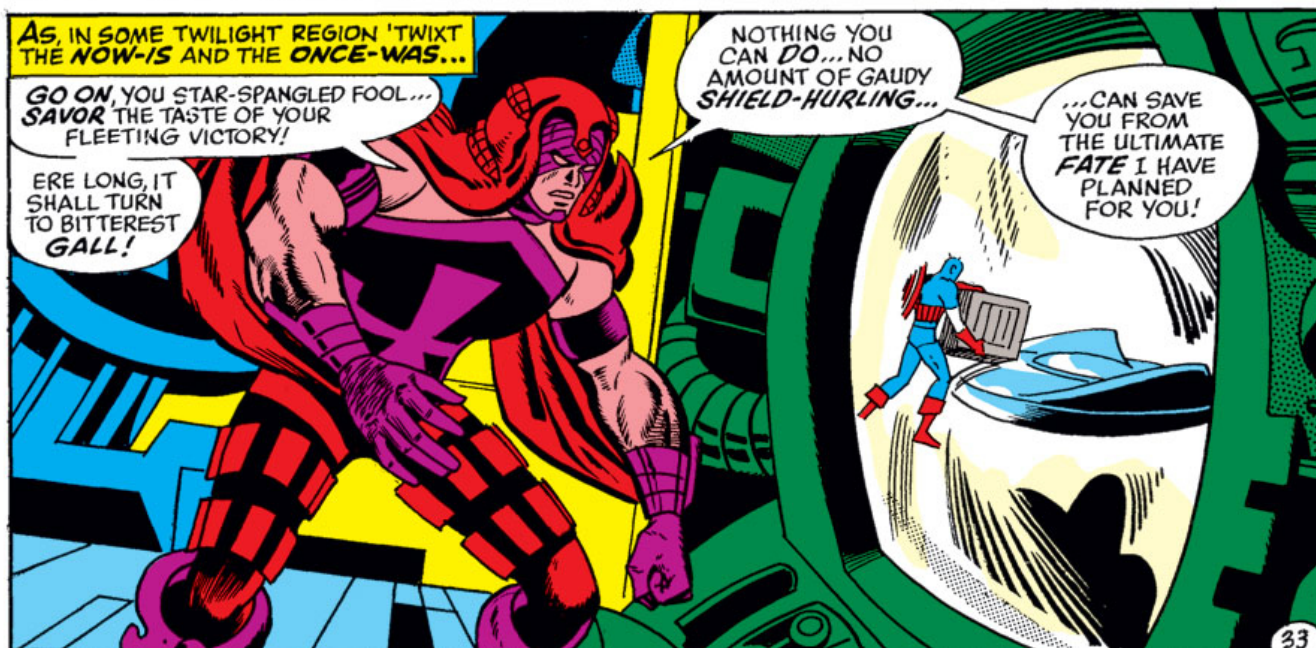
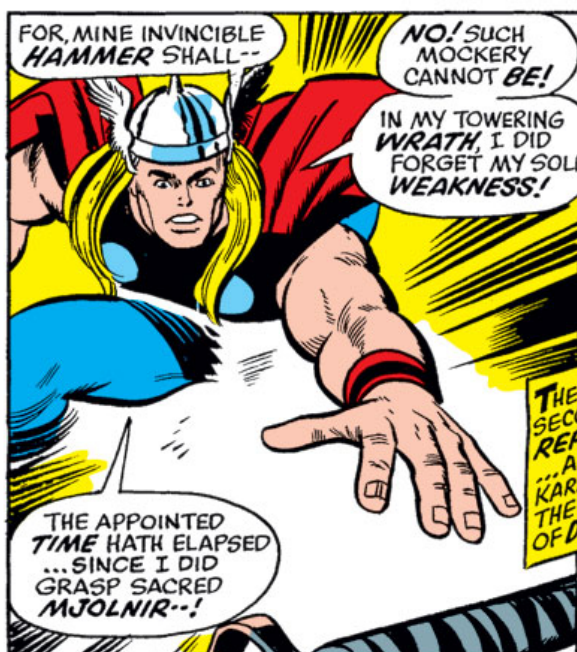
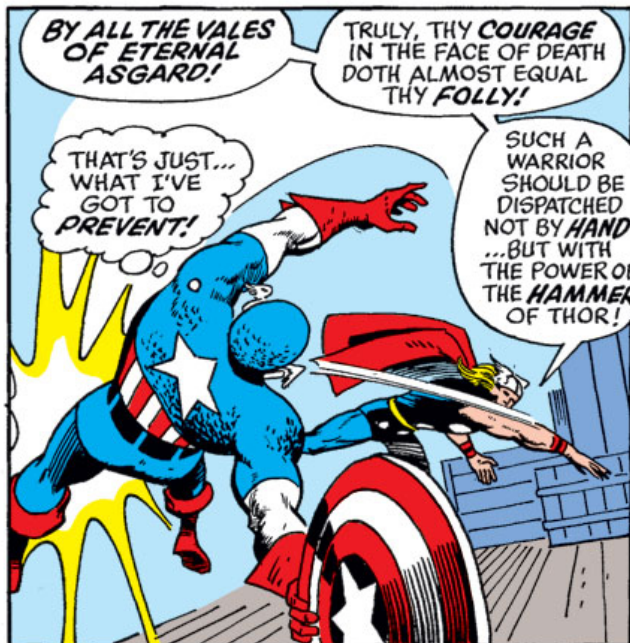




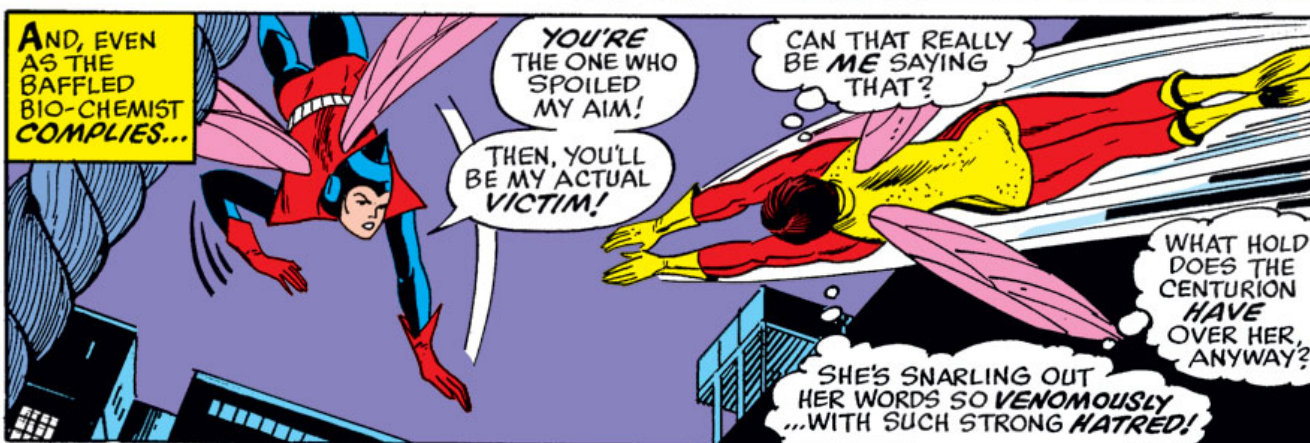
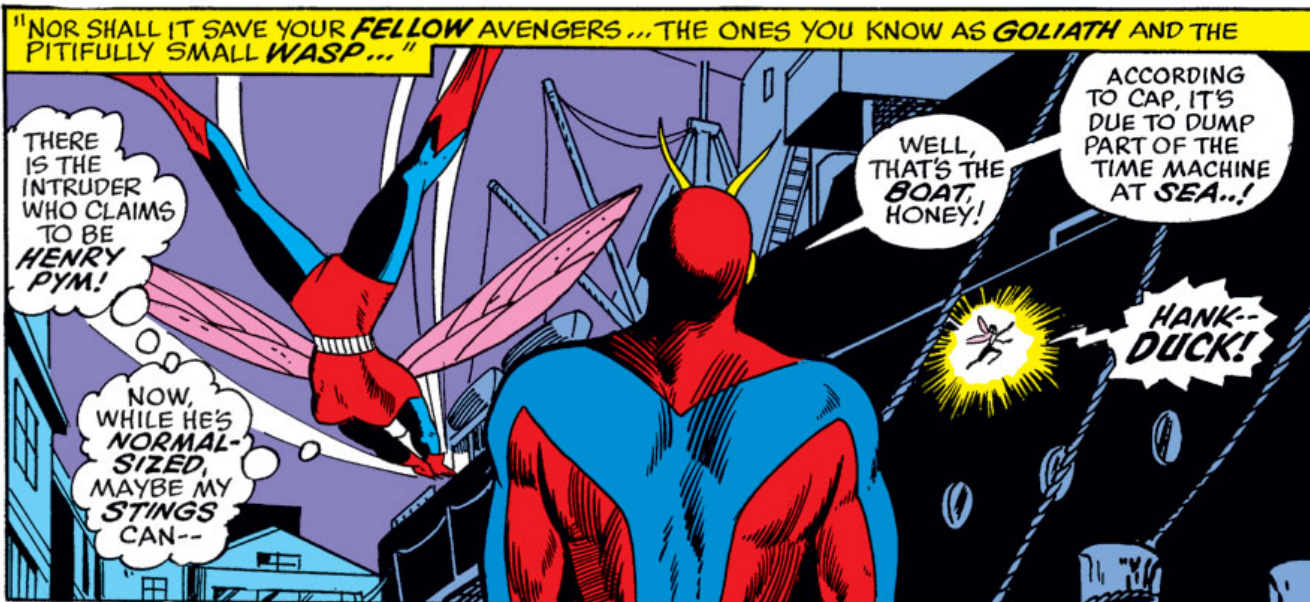
FOR LONG, ANXIOUS SECONDS, THE NOW ENRAGED SON OF ODIN PURSUES HIS RED-WHITE-AND-BLUE QUARRY ...WITH ONLY CAPTAIN AMERICA'S UNBELIEVABLE **AGILITY** ENABLING HIM TO SURVIVE, UNTIL--













JUST THEN, IN THE NEARBY SHADOWS, **ANOTHER** FAMILIAR FORM FROM THE PAST SEEMS DESTINED TO DO THE **SAME**...

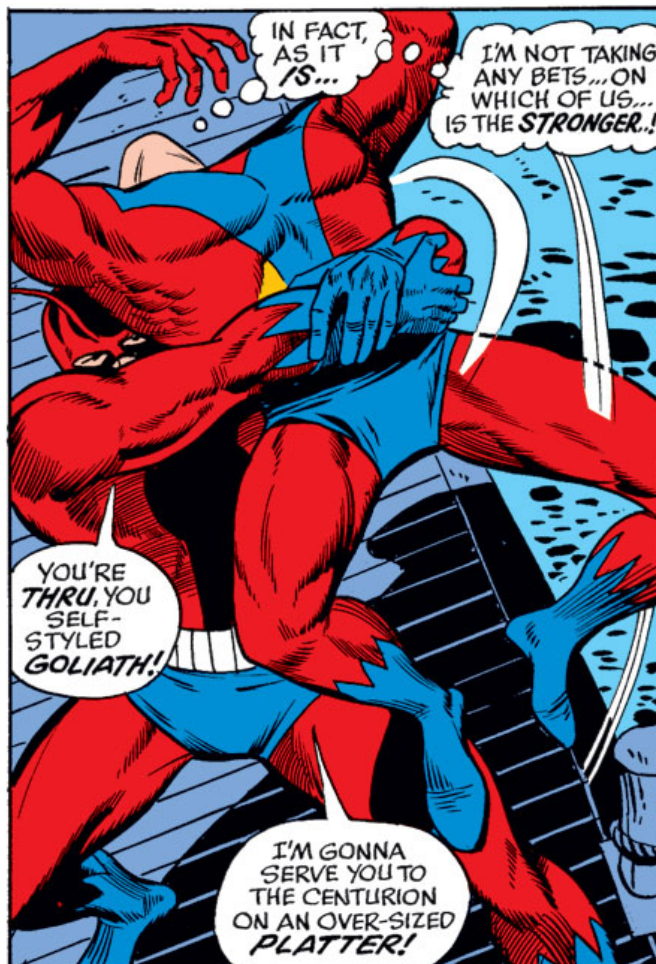
IF YOU HADN'T BEEN SO CONCERNED ABOUT THAT IMITATION **WASP**, YOU TEN-FOOT FAKE...

I WOULDN'T HAVE GOT CLOSE ENOUGH TO DO **THIS!!**

**THWOK!**

MMFF!  
**GIANT-MAN!**

LUCKY I **DID** SHOOT UP TO THIS SIZE...OR IT WOULD HAVE BEEN THE OLD **BALL GAME!**



IN FACT, AS IT **IS...**

I'M NOT TAKING ANY BETS...ON WHICH OF US... IS THE **STRONGER..!**

YOU'RE **THRU**, YOU SELF-STYLED **GOLIATH!**

I'M GONNA SERVE YOU TO THE CENTURION ON AN OVER-SIZED **PLATTER!**

THAT **DID** IT! I COULDN'T HELP **HOLDING BACK** BEFORE!

BUT, NOW THAT I KNOW YOU'RE A HARDENED, WOULD-BE **MURDERER...**

I **KNOW** HE BATTLED THOSE CHARACTERS... BECAUSE SO **DID I!**

THIS LITTLE FRACAS COULD GO ON FOR **HOURS...** TILL ONE OF US MAKES A FATAL **MISSTEP!**

BUT--**WAIT A SECOND!** HIS MENTION OF **NAMOR...**



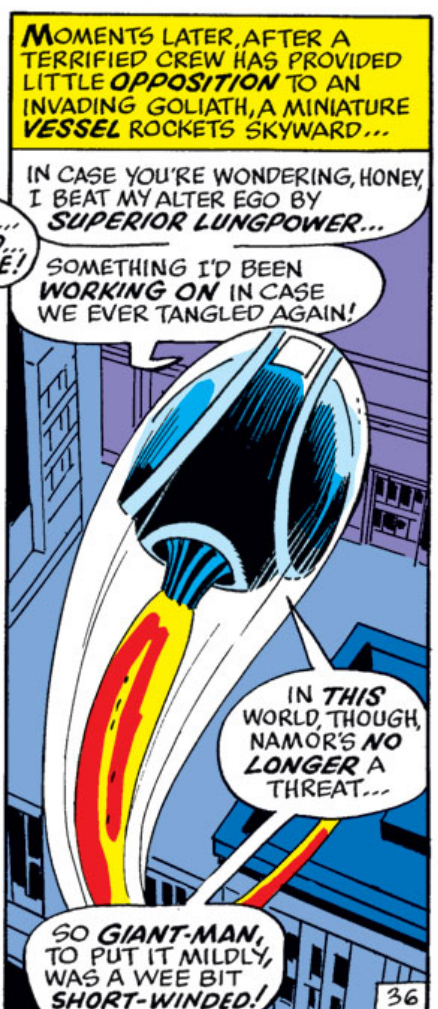
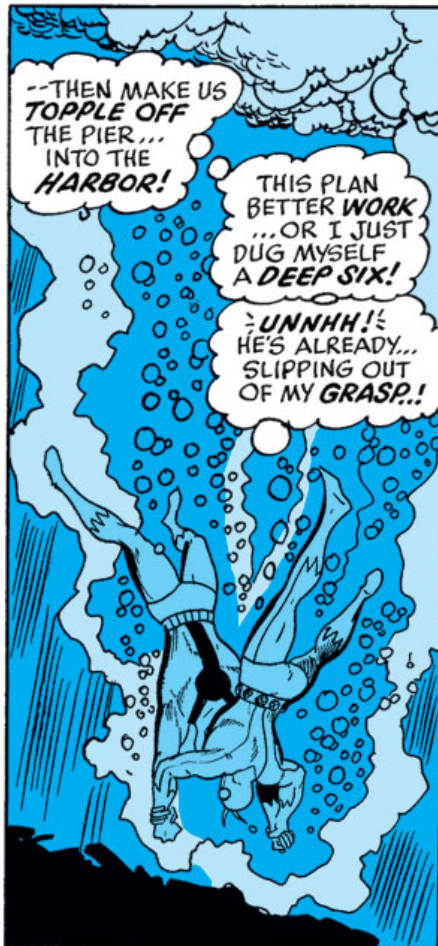
YOU'RE MORE POWERFUL THAN I'D **SUSPECTED**, STRONG MAN!

BUT, YOU'RE FIGHTING ONE WHO'S BATTLED THE **COLOSSUS...** THE **SUB-MARINER...**



I'LL LET MYSELF GO **LIMP...** MAKE HIM THINK HE'S **BEATING ME...**







A SHORT TIME LATER, IN A FORSAKEN SPOT SOMEWHERE IN THE *HINTERLANDS*...

PERSONALLY, JAN, I'M SURPRISED THAT THE *CENTURION*...OR THE *AVENGERS*...DIDN'T HAVE DOOM'S CASTLE DEMOLISHED!

I STILL CAN'T ESCAPE THE FEELING THAT *ONE* PIECE OF OUR LITTLE PUZZLE IS STILL *MISSING*...

AND *THAT'S* ASSUMING THAT CAP AND THE REST GOT WHAT *THEY* WENT AFTER!

MOMENTS AFTERWARD, HOWEVER--THAT *PARTICULAR* FEAR, AT LEAST, IS ALLAYED...

TIME MACHINE OPERATIONAL, CAP!

THEN, WE WERE *ALL* SUCCESSFUL... SO EASILY...ALMOST *TOO* EASILY!

AND YET, IT SEEMS *INCREDIBLE* THAT THE *CENTURION* WOULD *WANT* US TO OBTAIN THEM...UNLESS--

I HAVE THE *SAME* MISGIVINGS, WASP!

THESE COMPONENTS COULD HAVE BEEN *DESTROYED* YEARS AGO...NOT MERELY *DISASSEMBLED*!

OR AT LEAST IT *WILL* BE, AS SOON AS TCHALLA AND HAWKEYE PUT THE *FINAL* PARTS IN PLACE!

TALL-SOCKS, DID ANYBODY EVER TELL YA THAT YOU CAN BE A REAL BIG *DRAG*?

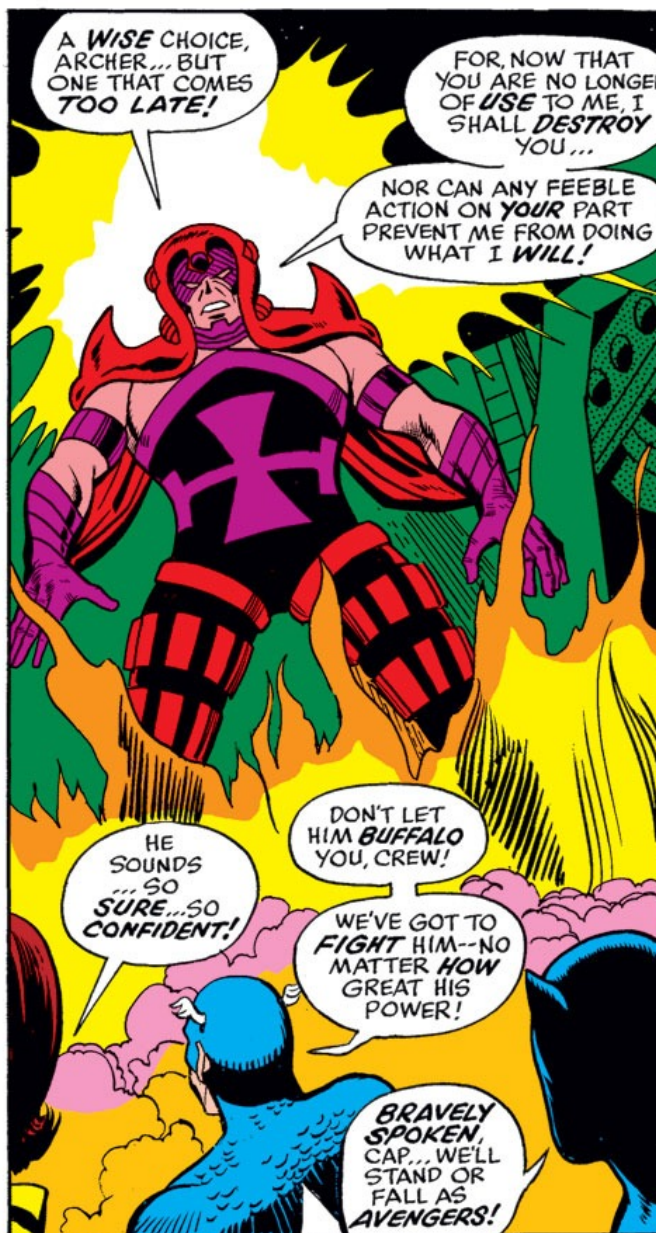
BUT, I GUESS *SOMEBODY'S* GOTTA RIDE HERD ON A GUY LIKE ME--

'SPECIALLY SINCE *TIME-TRAVELIN'* AIN'T ONE OF MY *STRONG* POINTS!

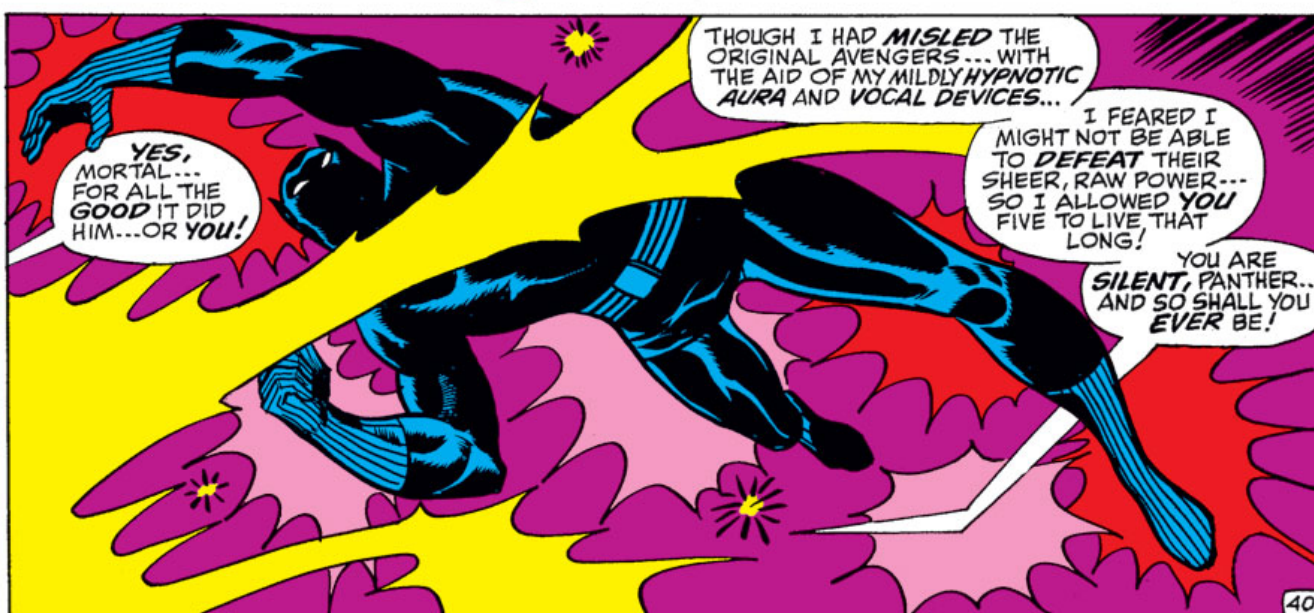
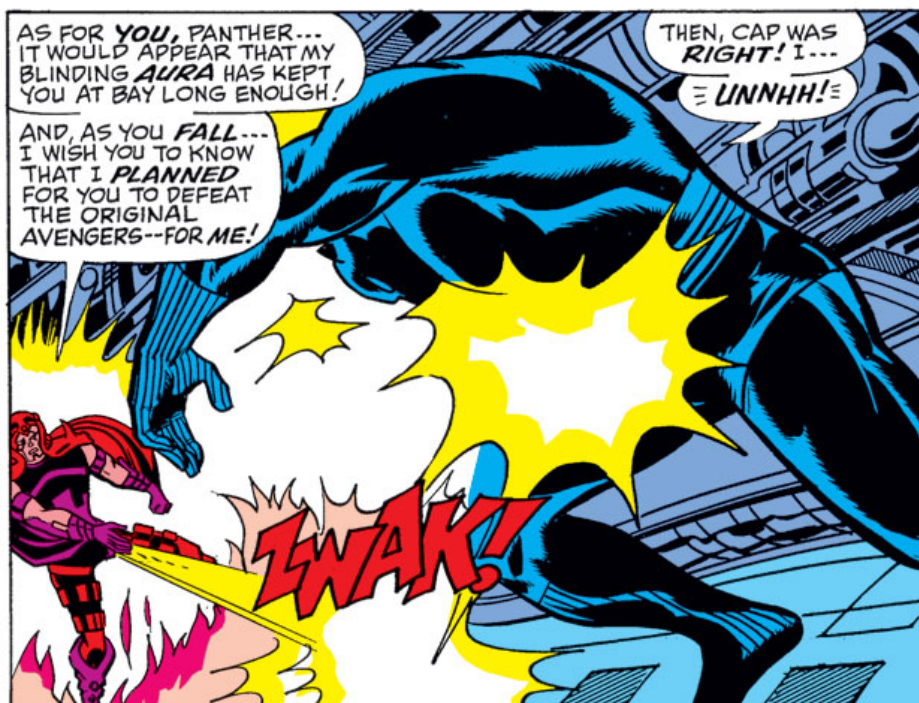
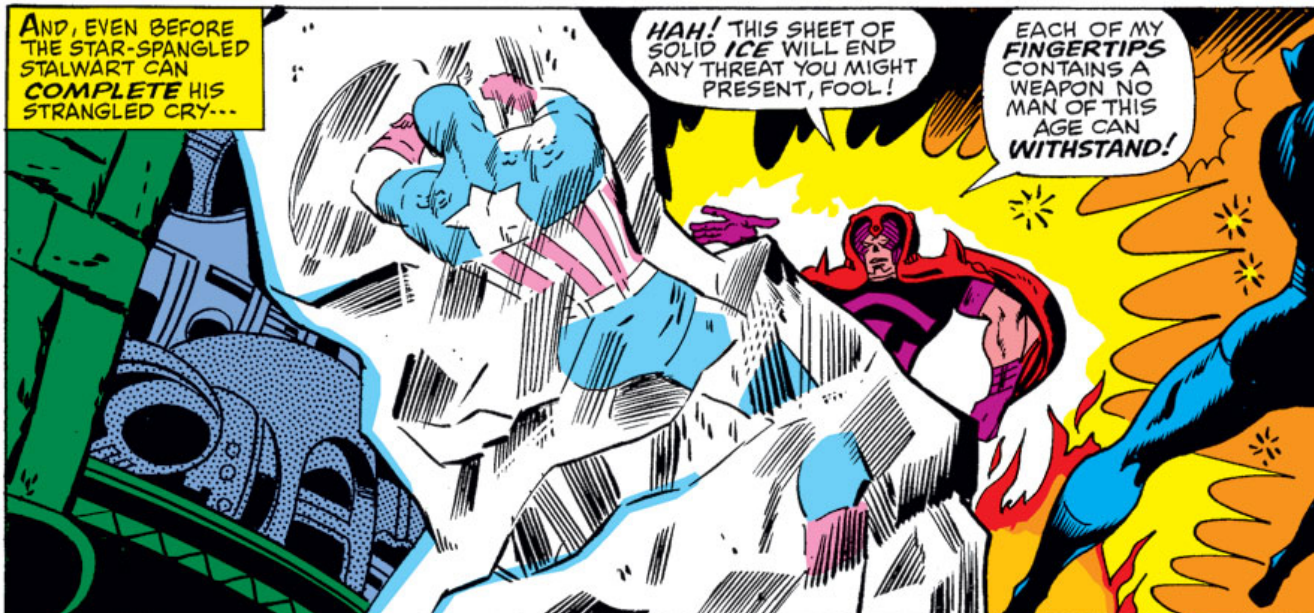




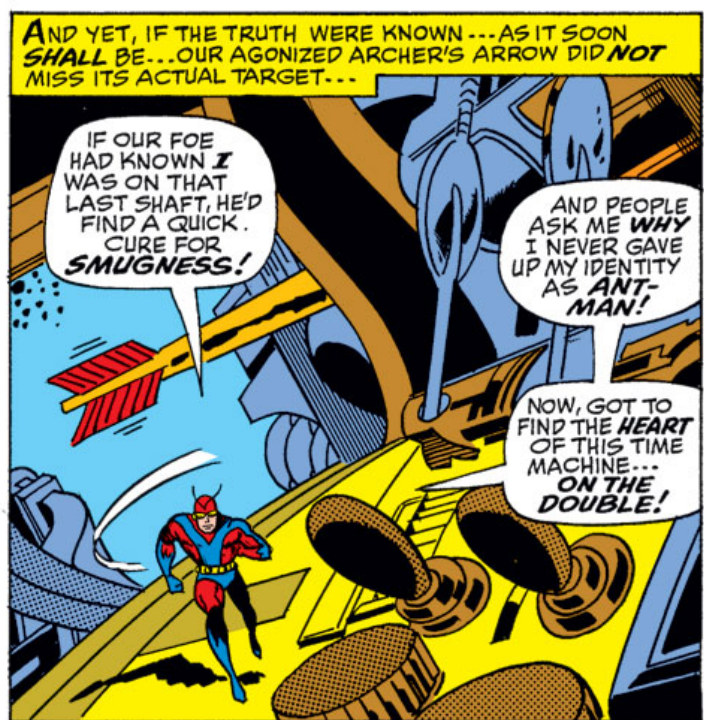
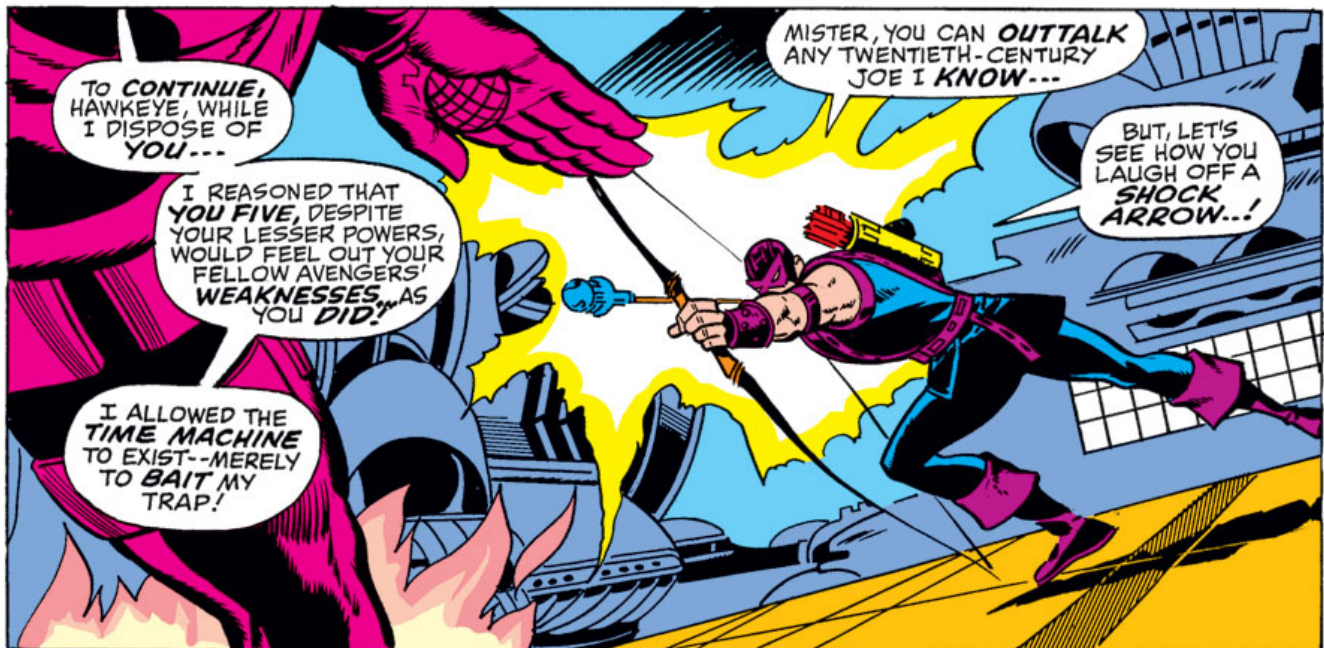




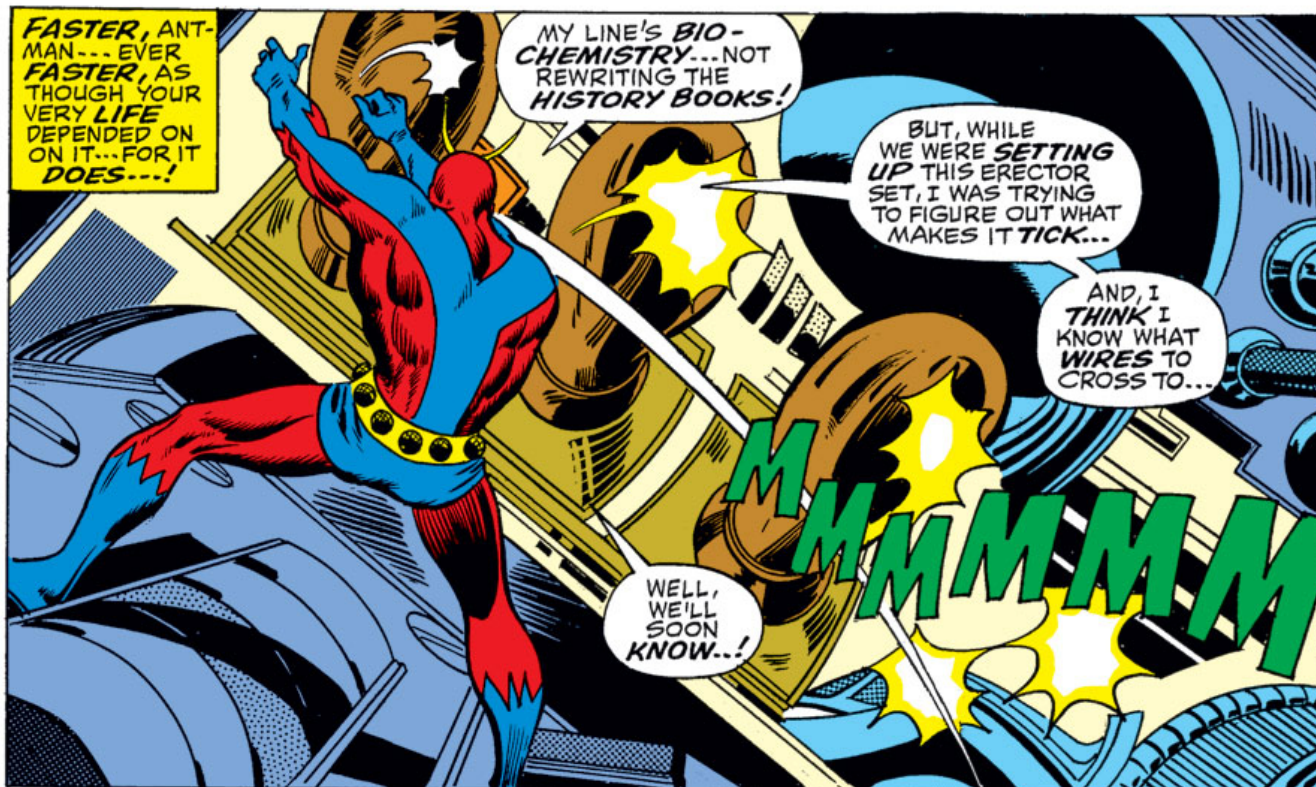














AND, IN THAT **SELF-SAME** MOMENT...

I DID IT...

...TURNED THE ENTIRE CHAMBER INTO ONE HUGE VERSION OF THE **CHRONO-SQUARE** WHICH ONCE SENT THE **F.F.** TO THE DAYS OF **BLACK-BEARD!**

BUT NOW...I'M **FADING AWAY**...LIKE A **WILL O'THE WISP!**

THEN, MY SCHEME MUST HAVE WORKED... TO **PERFECTION!**

WHILE, OUTSIDE THE MACHINE, AN IMMOBILIZED **CAPTAIN AMERICA** SEES...

WE'RE VANISHING... JUST LIKE THE **CENTURION!**

IF HANK DID WHAT I **SUSPECT**, WHAT A **STORY** WE'LL HAVE FOR OUR FILES...

THEN, SUDDENLY, CAP'S THOUGHTS ARE **INTRUDED UPON**... BY A VOICELESS VOICE WHICH IS **OLDER** THAN THE STARS, YET **YOUNGER** THAN AN UNBORN PLANET...

NO, STEVE ROGERS... THOUGH THE **FINAL TRIUMPH** IS **INDEED YOURS**, IT MUST NEVER BE **KNOWN!**

ALLOW ME TO **INTRODUCE MYSELF!**

MEN CALL ME...THE **WATCHER!!**

"BECAUSE YOU ARE NOW **VICTORIOUS**, I CAN TELL YOU WHAT I DARED NOT **BEFORE**... THAT THE FOE YOU SO VALOROUSLY FOUGHT AND BESTED WAS A VENGEFUL ENTITY WHO ONCE WAS KNOWN AS...THE **PHAROAH RAMA-TUT**...!"

"ON HIS WAY FROM THE **PAST** TO THE **FAR-FLUNG FUTURE**... DURING WHICH HE ENCOUNTERED **DR. DOOM** HIMSELF... HIS ERA-SPANNING SPHERE ENCOUNTERED **ELECTRO-STATIC DISTURBANCES** IN THE **RELATIVE TIME STREAM**...!"\*

"HE LANDED BY CHANCE IN **THIS CENTURY**...WHICH HE DECIDED TO MAKE HIS OWN, UNDER THE NAME OF...THE **SCARLET CENTURION**..."

\*AS RECOUNTED IN THE IMMORTAL PAGES OF **AVENGERS #8!**  
--SURPRISE-ENDING STAN



BUT, HIS SCHEME OF CONQUEST **FAILED**... AND NOW, HE HELP-  
LESSLY **CONTINUES** HIS  
JOURNEY, INTO THE YEAR  
**4,000!**

**MORE--'TIS WRITTEN**  
THAT HE **RETURNED** TO  
BATTLE THE AVENGERS  
ONCE MORE, UNDER HIS  
50TH-CENTURY NAME  
OF...**KANG THE**  
**CONQUEROR!**

BUT, NEITHER  
YOU NOR HE SHALL  
**REMEMBER**  
AUGHT THAT HAS  
HERE TRANSPIRED...

FOR, IT IS BEST THAT  
**NO MAN** KNOW HIS FATE  
...OR THE HOUR HE SHALL  
MEET HIS **MAKER!**

AND NOW,  
**FAREWELL!**

THEN, AS THE WATCHER'S RINGING WORDS FADE INTO THE  
SEPULCHRAL SILENCE, THE AVENGERS **AWAKEN**... IN THE VERY  
PLACE THEY STOOD BEFORE, BUT WITH AN INTANGIBLE **DIFFERENCE...**

WE'RE **BACK**... BACK FROM  
OUR MISSION INTO THE PAST  
OF **TWO DECADES**  
AGO!

AND, AS FAR  
AS I'M CONCERNED,  
FROM NOW ON, LET'S  
LEAVE TIME-HOPPIN'  
TO **ALLEY OOP!**

ABOUT  
**BUCKY,**  
PARTNER?

CAP, I JUST WANT  
YA TO KNOW... I'M  
**SORRY**...  
ABOUT...

THANKS...  
I **APPRECIATE**  
THAT!

BUT, AT LEAST OUR TRIP TO THE  
PAST PROVED THAT BUCKY  
TRULY **DIED** THEN...MAY HIS  
SOUL REST IN **PEACE!**

I'VE GOT TO LEARN TO  
**ACCEPT** THAT... 'CAUSE  
THAT'S THE WAY HE'D  
HAVE **WANTED** IT!

CAP...  
THERE'S  
SOMETHING  
I'VE GOT TO  
**TELL** YOU!

FOR A MOMENT  
...WHILE YOU  
WERE GONE...  
I FELT **ASLEEP**  
AT THE PANEL!  
I...

IT'S OKAY,  
JAN...NO HARM  
DONE!

I SUPPOSE  
YOU'RE  
**RIGHT,**  
CAP!

AND YET, I  
CAN'T ESCAPE  
THAT FEELING  
THAT IT WAS  
**MORE** THAN A  
MERE ACCIDENT...

NOR CAN  
**I**, HANK...  
THOUGH  
I CAN'T  
SUSPECT  
WHAT  
COULD  
HAVE  
**CAUSED**  
IT!

**FORGET**  
IT, BOTH OF  
YOU! AFTER  
ALL...

...HOW  
**IMPORTANT**  
CAN IT BE?

**Fin**



**NOSTALGIC NOTE:** WE INTERRUPT THIS MAG TO BRING YOU--FOR THE FIRST TIME ANYWHERE--A PANORAMIC **PIN-UP** OF EVERY SINGLE SUPERHERO WHO HAS EVER BEEN A FULL-FLEDGED AVENGER! ENJOY, PILGRIM!

**HANG LOOSE, HEROES!**

*...Stan and the Gang*





BEHIND THE SCENES WITH YOUR BRAIN-BUSTIN' B'LLPEN DEPT.: EVER WONDER HOW THE MILDLY MURKY MASTERMINDS AT MARVEL MANAGE TO COORDINATE ALL THE STORIES THAT FLOW FROM THEIR PROLIFIC PENS... LIKE, F'R INSTANCE, THE CURRENT ISH OF AVENGERS AND THE SCINTILLATIN' SPECIAL YOU HOLD IN YOUR HANDS? WELL, HANG LOOSE, HERO... 'CAUSE, READY OR NOT, YOU'RE ABOUT TO FIND OUT, AS A CORPUSCLE-CURDLING CRY ECHOES ACROSS THE WILDS OF LONG ISLAND... A CRY OF--

# "AVENJERKS ASSEMBLE!"

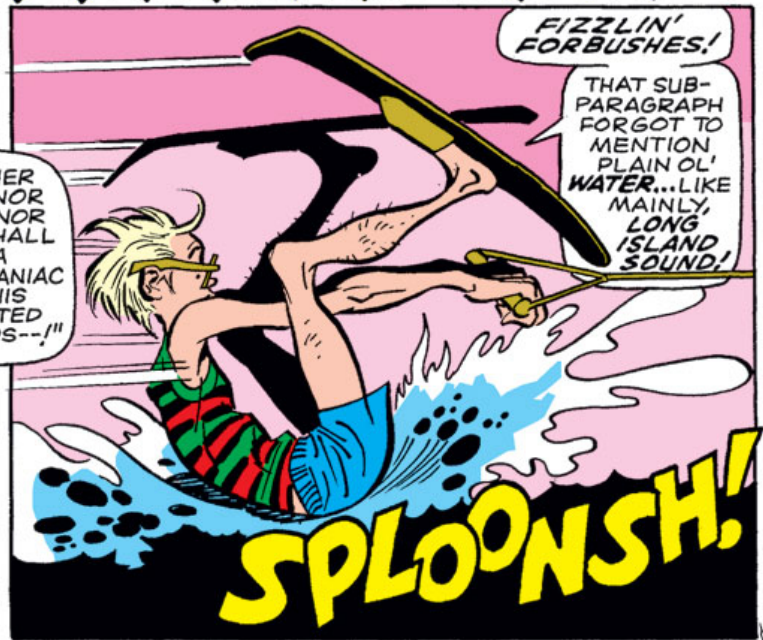
NOTHING STOPS RASCALLY ROY FROM DELIVERING THE SYNOPSIS FOR THE SECOND AVENGERS SPECIAL TO DASHIN' DONNIE HECK!

AS 'TIS RHAPSODICALLY WRITTEN IN THE MERRY MARVEL BY-LAWS, SECTION 12-A, SUB-PARAGRAPH 37, CATCH-22...

"NEITHER RAIN, NOR SLEET, NOR SNOW SHALL STAY A MARVELMANIAC FROM HIS APPOINTED ROUNDS--!"

FIZZLIN' FORBUSHES!

THAT SUB-PARAGRAPH FORGOT TO MENTION PLAIN OL' WATER... LIKE MAINLY, LONG ISLAND SOUND!



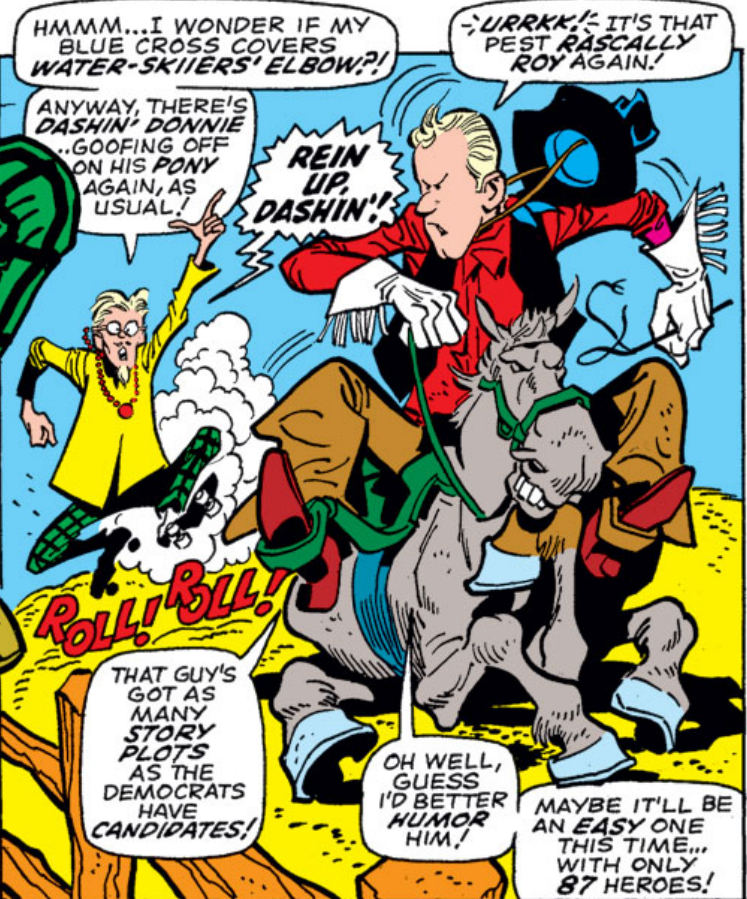
SPLOONSH!

HMMM... I WONDER IF MY BLUE CROSS COVERS WATER-SKIIERS' ELBOW?!

ANYWAY, THERE'S DASHIN' DONNIE... GOOFING OFF ON HIS PONY AGAIN, AS USUAL!

URRKK! IT'S THAT PEST RASCALLY ROY AGAIN!

REIN UP, DASHIN'!



ROLL! ROLL!

THAT GUY'S GOT AS MANY STORY PLOTS AS THE DEMOCRATS HAVE CANDIDATES!

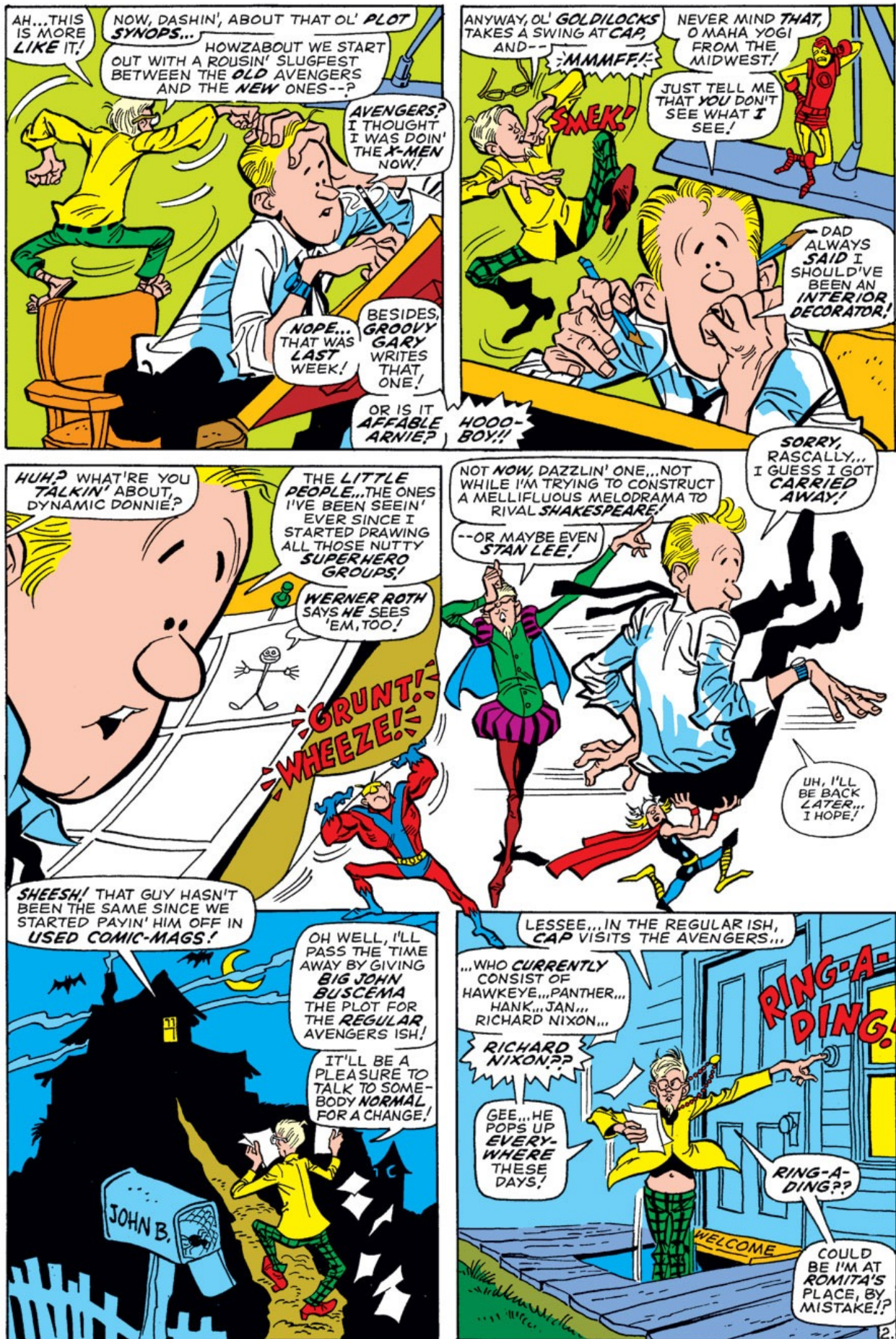
OH WELL, GUESS I'D BETTER HUMOR HIM!

MAYBE IT'LL BE AN EASY ONE THIS TIME... WITH ONLY 87 HEROES!

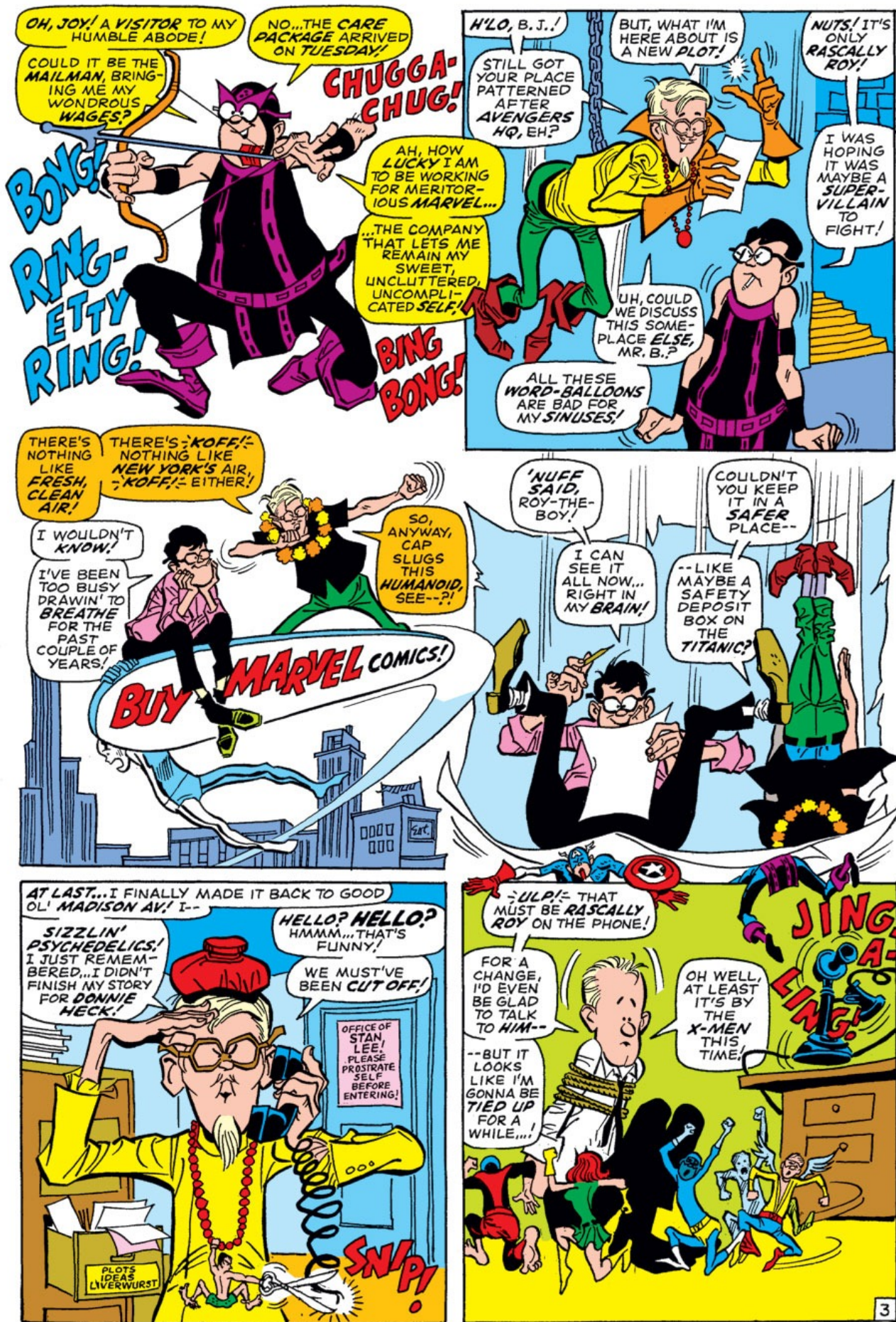
WE, THE UNDERSIGNED, HEREBY DECLAIN THAT ROY THOMAS, WRITER, JOHN BUSCEMA, ARTIST, FRANK GIACOIA, INKER, AND ARTIE SIMEK, LETTERER, ARE PURELY AND PALPABLY RESPONSIBLE FOR WHAT FOLLOWS./\*

\*YOU DIDN'T THINK THAT STAN LEE, EDITOR, WAS GONNA TAKE THE BLAME, DIDJA??











HI, DASHIN! I TOOK THE LIBERTY OF **DROPPING BY...**

'CAUSE I KNEW HOW **EAGER** YOU WERE FOR THE REST OF THE **PLOT!**

**CHARMED, I'M SURE!**

(EVEN **CAPTAIN MARVEL'S** GETTIN' INTO THE **ACT!**)

PROPERTY OF MARVEL

...NEXT, WE GET TO THE PART WHERE THE **WASP** STARES TENDERLY INTO THE EYES OF **HANK PYM...**

...AND **DISCOVERS** HE FORGOT TO TAKE HIS **GOGGLES** OFF!

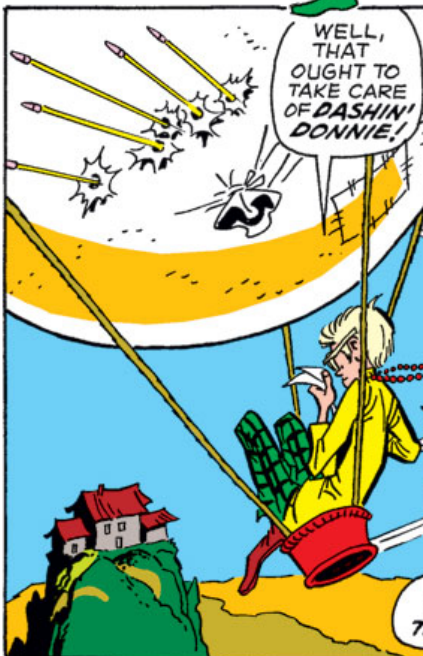
YOU **LISTENING, MR. H..?**

WITH **BATED BREATH**, RASCALLY ONE!

BUT **FIRST...** ENOUGH IS TOO MUCH, **ALREADY...**

**WHOMP!**

AND NEXT TIME, DON'T DRAW ME WITH A **RED-WHITE-AND-BLUE SHIELD...**



WELL, THAT OUGHT TO TAKE CARE OF **DASHIN' DONNIE!**

NOW TO FINISH UP WITH **BIG JOHN--**

SAY, FELLA, COULD YOU COOL IT WITH THE **POKKETTA POKKETTA BIT?**

THAT **PHANTOM EAGLE** NEVER KNOWS WHEN TO CALL IT **QUITS!**

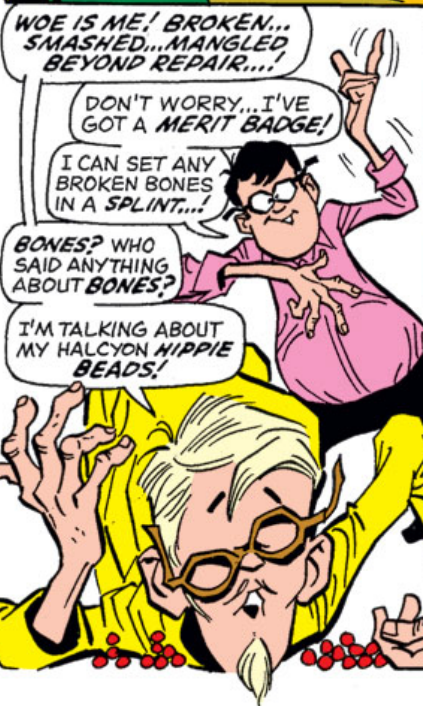
OR IS THAT **VON HAMMOCK, THE ENMITY ACE?**

I'LL JUST **TIPPY-TOE** IN THE **BACK WAY**, AND--

**YOWWP!**

**PSHAW!** IT'S JUST THE **FAKIR** FROM **FLATBUSH**, AGAIN!

THIS TIME I WAS **SURE** IT WAS THE **RED SKULL!**



**WOE IS ME! BROKEN... SMASHED... MANGLED BEYOND REPAIR...**

DON'T WORRY... I'VE GOT A **MERIT BADGE!**

I CAN SET ANY **BROKEN BONES** IN A **SPLINT...**

**BONES?** WHO SAID ANYTHING ABOUT **BONES?**

I'M TALKING ABOUT MY **HALCYON HIPPIE BEADS!**

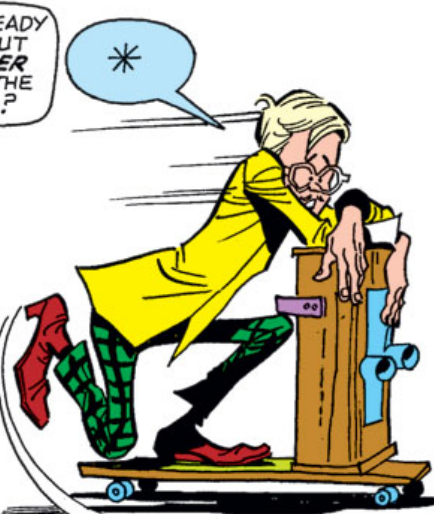
**WHEW!** NOW FINALLY, I CAN GET SOME **SHUT-EYE!** I--

**WHAZZAT, DASHIN' DONNIE?**

YOU'RE READY TO LAY OUT THE **OTHER HALF** OF THE **SPECIAL?**



I'LL BE RIGHT **PUFF!** OVER!



\*FOR ONCE, EVEN OUR **GREGARIOUS YOUNG GROOVER** IS TOO **POOPED** TO **PALAUER!** BUT DON'T WORRY... IT NEVER LASTS **LONG!**



