



**MARVEL**  
COMICS  
GROUP

# THE AVENGERS

APPROVED  
BY THE  
COMICS  
CODE  
AUTHORITY

HOLD IT,  
PSYKLOP!  
**RELEASE THE  
HULK!**

SHRINK HIM  
DOWN ANY  
FURTHER--  
AND YOU'RE  
ONE DEAD  
ALIEN!



YOU ARE  
TOO LATE  
TO HELP  
THE MAN-  
MONSTER,  
AVENGERS!

**TOO  
LATE!**

**THE SUMMONS OF  
PSYKLOP!**  
A MARVEL MASTERWORK BY  
HARLAN ELLISON!



# THE MIGHTY AVENGERS! AND THE INCREDIBLE HULK!

## THE SUMMONS OF

# PSYKLOP

AARRHH!

"THE MOST MERCIFUL THING IN THE WORLD... IS THE INABILITY OF THE HUMAN MIND TO CORRELATE ALL ITS CONTENTS."

--H.P. LOVECRAFT (1890-1937).

**STAN LEE**

PRESENTS ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME WONDERMENT!

STORY BY:

**HARLAN**

**ELLISON**

(THAT MEANS:  
HE CONCEIVED  
THE PLOT!)

ADAPTATION BY:

**ROY**

**THOMAS**

(THAT MEANS:  
HE WROTE THE  
DIALOGUE!)

ART BY:

**SAL**

**BUSCEMA**

(THAT MEANS:  
HE DREW  
THE THING!)

INKED BY:

**JIM MOONEY**

LETTERED BY:

**SHELLY LEFERMAN**



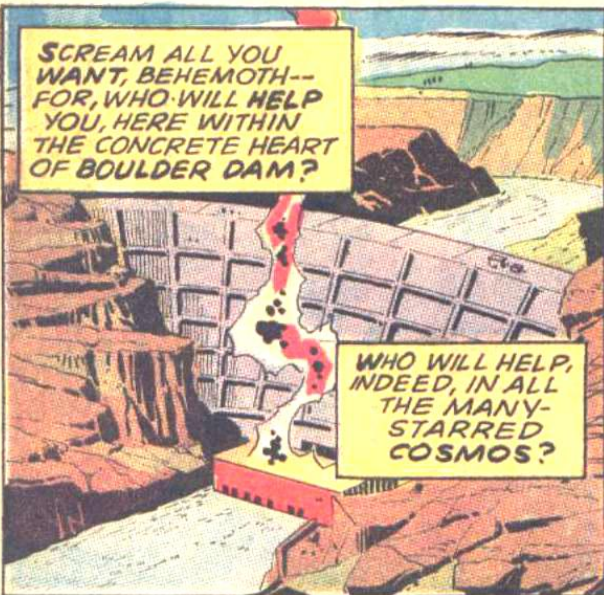
YOU HAVE A MOUTH--AND YOU MUST SCREAM!  
SO CREAM, HULK, IN IMPOTENT RAGE, AS  
MILLIONS OF VOLTS OF CRACKLING ELEC-  
TRICITY BOMBARD YOUR STEEL-THEWED  
FRAME--



SCREAM WITH FUTILE FURY AT THE PUNY,  
BLUE-CLAD CREATURES WHO STARE DOWN  
AT YOU WITH PITY YOU DO NOT WANT--AND  
FEAR YOU WOULD LIKE TO EARN--



SCREAM ALL YOU  
WANT, BEHEMOTH--  
FOR, WHO WILL HELP  
YOU, HERE WITHIN  
THE CONCRETE HEART  
OF BOULDER DAM?



WHO WILL HELP,  
INDEED, IN ALL  
THE MANY-  
STARRED  
COSMOS?

OR--IS IT POSSIBLE THAT HELP COMES IN  
UNEXPECTED PACKAGES?

I--THINK HE'S  
BEGINNING TO  
WEAKEN,  
PROFESSOR  
XAVIER.

STILL, I'D FEEL BETTER  
IF YOU WITHDREW TO A  
PLACE OF GREATER SAFETY.

WE HAVE LABORED  
TOGETHER UNTIL  
NOW, MR.  
RICHARDS.



I WILL  
SEE IT  
THRU TO  
THE END.

THE MAGNETO-POWERED  
POLES WHICH NOW HOLD  
AND BUFFET THE MONSTER--

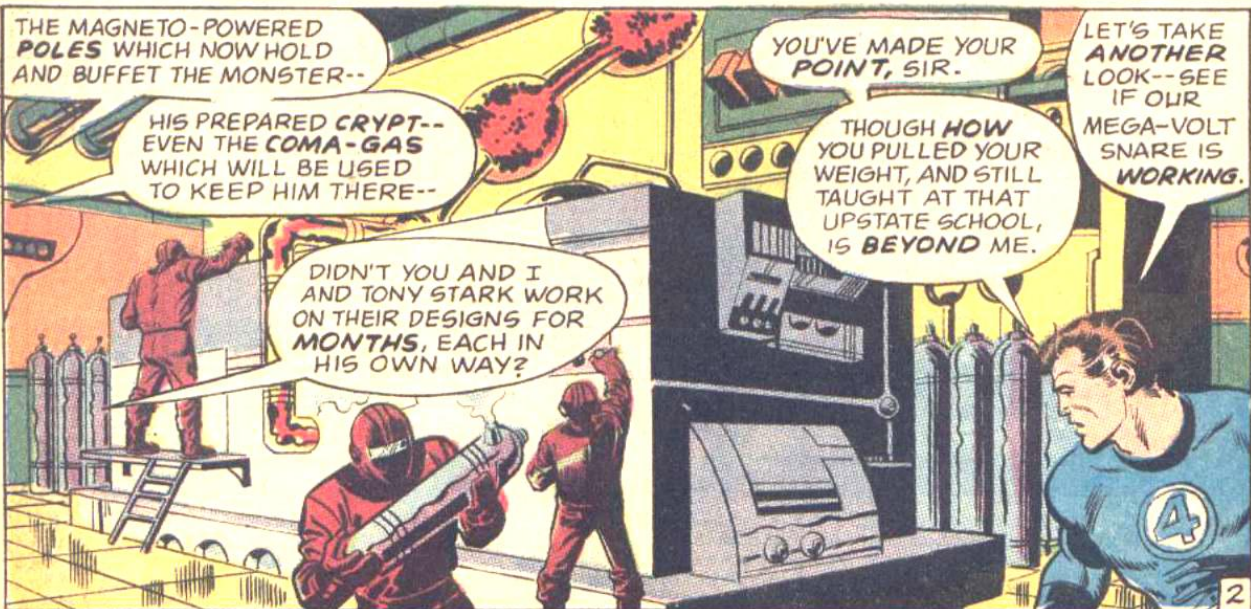
HIS PREPARED CRYPT--  
EVEN THE COMA-GAS  
WHICH WILL BE USED  
TO KEEP HIM THERE--

DIDN'T YOU AND I  
AND TONY STARK WORK  
ON THEIR DESIGNS FOR  
MONTHS, EACH IN  
HIS OWN WAY?

YOU'VE MADE YOUR  
POINT, SIR.

THOUGH HOW  
YOU PULLED YOUR  
WEIGHT, AND STILL  
TAUGHT AT THAT  
UPSTATE SCHOOL,  
IS BEYOND ME.

LET'S TAKE  
ANOTHER  
LOOK--SEE  
IF OUR  
MEGA-VOLT  
SNARE IS  
WORKING.





OH, IT'S **WORKING**, ALL  
RIGHT--ISN'T IT, HULK?

THEY LURED YOU HERE--  
AND NOW THEY HAVE  
YOU--

--A BIG GREEN  
BUTTERFLY, WRITHING  
CONVULSIVELY--

--PINNED, LIVING, BY A  
SKEWER OF LIGHTNING--!



HE'S  
**DOWN!**

CUT OFF THE  
**POWER**, MAN--  
BEFORE YOU  
**ROAST**  
HIM  
ALIVE!

THAT  
CURRENT  
WOULD'VE  
SLAUGHTERED  
AN ARMY OF  
RAMPAGING  
VISIGOTHS.

IF I  
HADN'T  
SEEN IT  
WITH MY  
OWN  
EYES--

ALL RIGHT,  
RICHARDS--  
**YOU WIN.**  
YOUR PLAN  
SOUNDED LIKE  
SOMETHING  
OUT OF AN  
OLD HOWARD  
HAWKES  
MOVIE--

BUT, BY THUNDER,  
IT **WORKED!**



NOW IT'S **YOUR**  
SHOW--YOURS,  
AND **XAVIER'S.**

THANK  
YOU,  
GENERAL  
ROSS...

AT LAST WE CAN  
**CONTAIN** THE HULK--  
PERHAPS EVEN RESCUE  
**BRUCE BANNER** ONE  
DAY FROM HIS LIVING  
COFFIN OF FLESH.

BUT, THIS IS **TONY**  
**STARK'S TRIUMPH,**  
AS MUCH AS ANY-  
**ONE'S!**

YES, HE HAD  
HOPED TO  
BE HERE  
TODAY.

I WONDER  
IF ANYTHING  
HAS COME  
UP...?



CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE



YES, CHARLES XAVIER...YOU WHO ARE SECRET MENTOR TO THE MUTANT X-MEN...SOMETHING MOST DEFINITELY HAS COME UP. FOR, YOU SEE, INDUSTRIALIST TONY STARK IS ALSO IRON MAN... AND IRON MAN IS AN AVENGER... AND THEY, TOO, ARE A VERY SPECIAL BREED....!





--THAT THE WHOLE THING WAS JUST ONE RUNG UP THE LADDER FROM A JOKE-- A LIGHT-HEARTED STAB AT HUMORING AN UPTIGHT BUDDY--?

LOOK, SAM, IT'S NO BIG DEAL.

YOU'RE WORRIED 'CAUSE AN OLD RAP FROM NEW ORLEANS HASN'T SHOWN FOR A VISIT HE PROMISED...

SO WE FLY DOWN THERE IN AN AVENGERS QUINJET.

SIMPLE AS THAT.

OKAY. I KNOW I'M PROB'LY MAKIN' A MOUNTAIN OUT OF A MANHOLE COVER,...

...BUT NOBODY'S GOT SO MANY FRIENDS THAT HE CAN AFFORD TO START LOSIN' 'EM.



WHEN DID IT ALL START GETTING SINISTER, AVENGER? WAS IT WHEN YOU WALKED INTO THAT RAMSHACKLE HOTEL OFF THE FRENCH QUARTER--

--AND LEARNED THAT THE "OLD RAP" HAD LAST BEEN SEEN MARCHING OFF, AS IF IN A TRANCE, TOWARDS BAYOU COUNTRY--?



HEY, STEVE-- SNEAK A PEAK OVER HERE.

LOOKS LIKE WE'VE SCARED UP SOMETHIN', ANYHOW.

VOODOO! THEY SAY THE WORD SOFT IN THE LOUISIANA BACKWOODS... BUT EVERYONE KNOWS THAT IT SURFACES NOW AND THEN, FROM THE RAGING SEA OF THE HUMAN UNCONSCIOUS...

...AND IT KNOWS NO RACE, NO CREED, NO SEX... ONLY ITSELF...



...ITSELF, AND THE SOULLESS, UNNAMEABLE POWERS WHICH ARE INVOKED IN ITS UNHOLY NAME!

O DARK GODS --YOU WHO STAND ASTRIDE TIME AND TEMPEST--

WE SEEK AN ANSWER --A RECKONING-- BUT FOR THAT ANSWER, YOU HAVE DEMANDED-- A HUMAN LIFE!

BUT WHOSE, MIGHTY ONES? WHOSE?







ONE OF OUR OWN  
BROTHERS--OR  
SHALL WE  
SEEK OUT  
STRANGERS?

GIVE US A **SIGN**, O  
MIGHTY ONES--GIVE  
US A **SIGN!**

YES! A  
SIGN!  
A  
SIGN!



**WAIT! DON'T YOU HEAR, BROTHERS? DON'T YOU FEEL?**

SOMEONE IS  
WATCHING  
US! TWO  
BLASPHEMERS!

**THERE  
IS OUR  
SIGN--  
AND OUR  
SACRIFICE!**



UH OH. LOOKS LIKE THE FAT'S IN THE FIRE, FALC.

FORGOT TO ASK--  
DO YOU SEE YOUR OLD  
CRONY IN THAT MOB?

**NOPE. WE  
USEDTA HANG OUT  
HEREABOUTS  
AS KIDS--**

BUT I'LL  
HAVETA  
SCOUT  
HIM UP  
LATER.



RIGHT NOW, WE EITHER  
MAKE **TRACKS**--OR  
WE'RE UP TO OUR ARM-  
PITS IN **MACHETES!**



Y'KNOW, MR. WILSON--  
I NEVER WAS MUCH  
ON RUNNING AWAY.

SO, LIKE WE  
USED TO SAY  
BACK IN  
'44--

NOW THAT  
YA MENTION  
IT, MR.  
ROGERS--  
IT **DOES**  
HAVE KIND  
OF A RING.





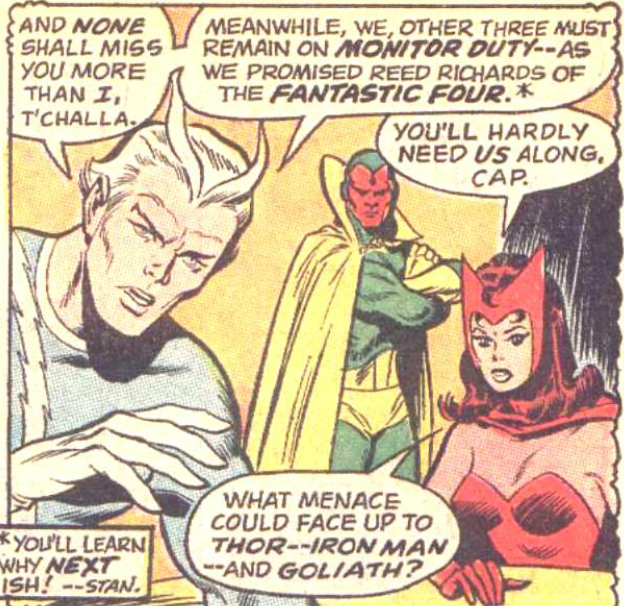




GOOD. FOR, AS MOST OF YOU KNOW, THE OLD MAN WHO RULED THE WAKANDAS IN MY STEAD HAS DIED.

BY MORNING, I SHALL BE READY TO DEPART FOR MY HIDDEN AFRICAN KINGDOM--

--TO RETURN IN A DAY AND HOUR THAT EVEN I CANNOT GUESS.



AND NONE SHALL MISS YOU MORE THAN I, T'CHALLA.

MEANWHILE, WE, OTHER THREE MUST REMAIN ON MONITOR DUTY--AS WE PROMISED REED RICHARDS OF THE FANTASTIC FOUR.\*

YOU'LL HARDLY NEED US ALONG, CAP.

WHAT MENACE COULD FACE UP TO THOR--IRON MAN--AND GOLIATH?

\*YOU'LL LEARN WHY NEXT ISH! --STAN.



NOW, AS THE STEAMING PRESENT WRAPS ITS MISTY ARMS ABOUT YOU ONCE MORE, CAPTAIN AMERICA...

YOU ASK YOURSELF THE SAME QUESTION-- AND SHUDDER AT THE POSSIBLE ANSWER--



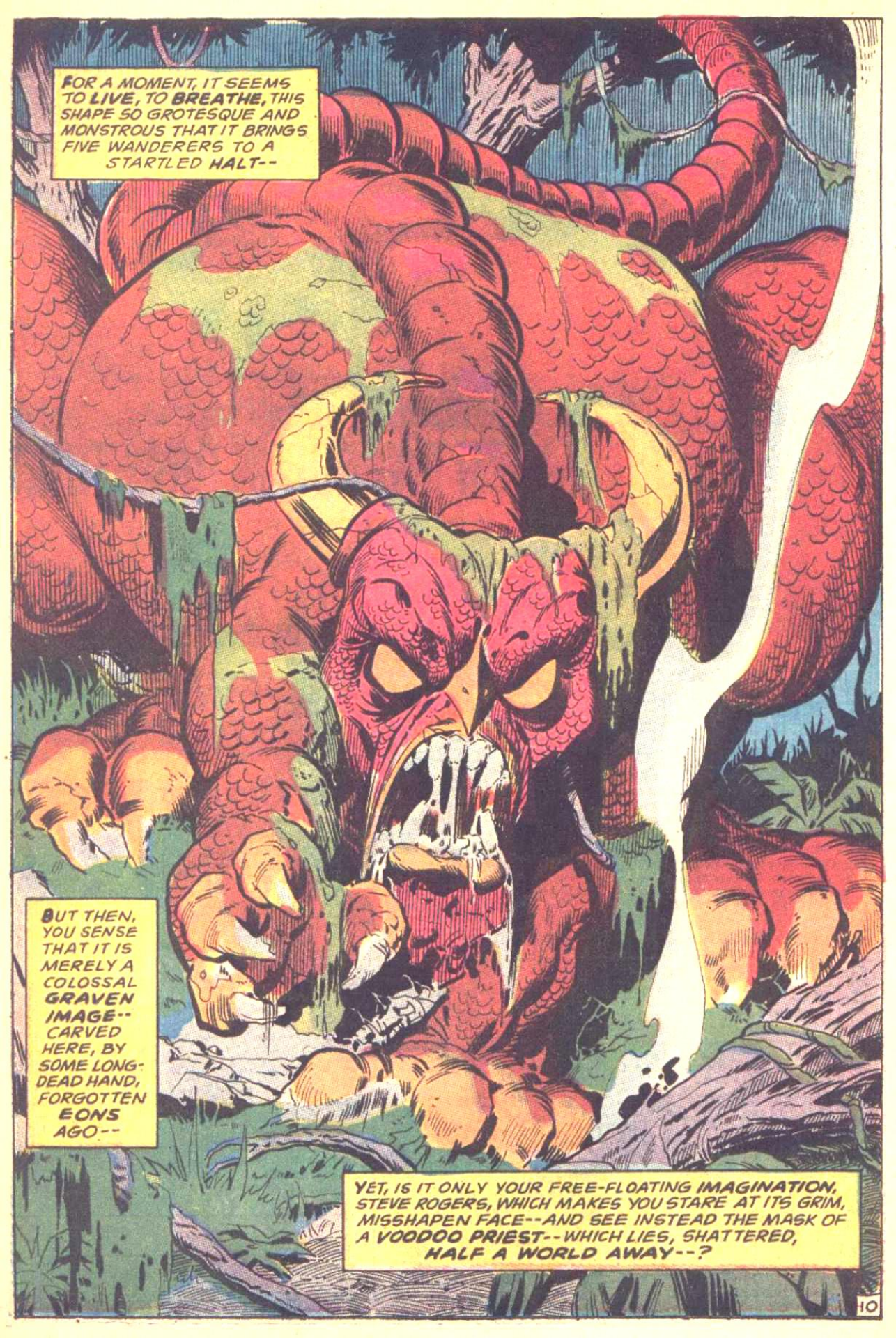
HEY! I THINK I CAUGHT A GLIMPSE OF SOMETHIN' --THRU HERE.

THEN, STAND YE READY, AVENGERS.

THE GOD OF THUNDER SHALL--







FOR A MOMENT, IT SEEMS  
TO LIVE, TO BREATHE, THIS  
SHAPE SO GROTESQUE AND  
MONSTROUS THAT IT BRINGS  
FIVE WANDERERS TO A  
STARTLED HALT--

BUT THEN,  
YOU SENSE  
THAT IT IS  
MERELY A  
COLOSSAL  
GRAVEN  
IMAGE--  
CARVED  
HERE, BY  
SOME LONG-  
DEAD HAND,  
FORGOTTEN  
EONS  
AGO--

YET, IS IT ONLY YOUR FREE-FLOATING IMAGINATION,  
STEVE ROGERS, WHICH MAKES YOU STARE AT ITS GRIM,  
MISSHAPEN FACE--AND SEE INSTEAD THE MASK OF  
A VOODOO PRIEST--WHICH LIES, SHATTERED,  
HALF A WORLD AWAY--?



WHILE, ONLY  
SLIGHTLY  
LESS FAR  
AWAY...

THE HULK'S  
STILL **SMOL-  
DERING**--  
TOO HOT  
EVEN FOR  
THE BOYS IN  
ASBESTOS.

BUT, THIS  
SPECIAL  
**CRANE**  
SHOULD  
HANDLE  
HIM  
NICELY.

EASY ON THE  
PICK-UP,  
SOLDIER.

THAT'S HALF-A-  
TON OF MUTATED  
HUMAN BEING  
DOWN THERE.

BUT, IF WE CAN  
ONLY STEER  
HIM TO THAT  
**COMA-CRYPT**...

...MAYBE WE  
CAN STILL  
**SAVE HIM**  
FROM...

**HOLY  
HANNAH!**

AN ALL-BUT-  
MEANINGLESS  
EPITHET! BUT,  
WHAT ELSE CAN  
REED RICHARDS SAY,  
HULK, WHEN YOU  
SUDDENLY BECOME  
TRANSPARENT...

...THEN **WAVER**  
IN HIS SIGHT...

...AND  
FINALLY  
**WINK**  
OUT OF  
EXISTENCE..?





BUT ONLY FOR AN INSTANT...FOR YOU SWIFTLY WINK BACK IN AGAIN...



YET, THINGS ARE DIFFERENT NOW...FOR, YOU FLEX YOUR MIGHTY MUSCLES...



...AND FIND THAT THEY ARE NO LONGER YOURS TO MOVE...!

YOU ARE FORTUNATE, HULK...FAR MORE FORTUNATE THAN YOUR DIM BRAIN CAN SUSPECT.

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FOR, HAD I NOT SUCCEEDED  
IN REASSEMBLING YOU  
HERE IN MY UNDERGROUND  
EYRIE...

YOUR SCATTERED ATOMS  
MIGHT FOREVER HAVE  
DRIFTED THRU SPACE,  
LIKE THE SOUL OF  
ONE DOOMED.

BUT, PERHAPS  
YOU WOULD  
PREFER... AN  
INTRODUCTION.

I AM...  
PSYKLOP!

MY RACE LIVED HERE;  
BENEATH THE EARTH,  
EONS BEFORE EVEN  
YOUR APISH  
ANCESTORS WALKED  
THE LAND ABOVE.

BUT WE  
FELL INTO  
DISREPUTE  
WITH THE  
DARK GODS  
WE WORSHIPPED  
...AND SO  
WERE PUT TO  
ETERNAL  
SLEEP.

CAN YOUR  
BRUTISH  
BRAIN  
COMPREHEND  
THAT, YOU  
WHO ARE  
CALLED THE  
HULK?

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ey.



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FOR MILLENNIA UNTOLD,  
WE DWELT IN THAT  
STARLESS NIGHT OF  
EMPTY DREAMS...

...UNTIL I ALONE WAS  
CALLED UP FROM SLUMBER  
BY THOSE SAME DARK  
GODS, WHO--

BUT WAIT! I  
SENSE OTHERS  
DRAWING NEAR...  
OTHERS NOT SO  
WELCOME HERE  
AS YOU, MY  
FRIEND.

AND SO, YOU WILL  
PARDON ME IF I  
TAKE BUT A  
MOMENT...



"...TO PREPARE A PLEASANT  
RECEPTION FOR THEM ALL!"

WELL? ARE WE GONNA  
STAND AROUND HERE  
ALL DAY?

THERE'S... SOMETHING  
ABOUT THIS  
STATUE...  
SOMETHING  
OMINOUS...

AY,  
AVENGER.  
SOMETHING  
WHICH DOTHS  
CHILL THOR'S  
HEART, AS  
WELL.



OKAY, SO IT AIN'T  
GONNA WIN ANY  
BEAUTY  
PRIZES.  
JUST THE  
SAME,  
I--

HEY-- LISTEN!  
THERE'S SOMETHIN'  
COMIN' THIS WAY--

SOMETHIN'  
HUGE--  
SOMETHIN'  
THAT--



THOR-- LOOK  
OUT!

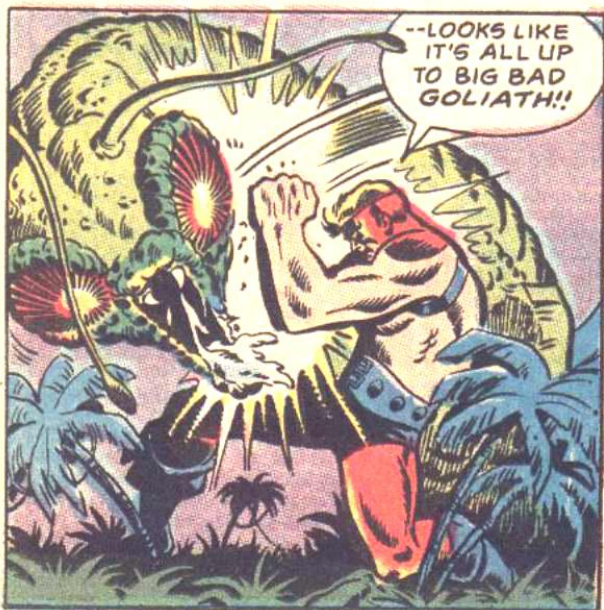
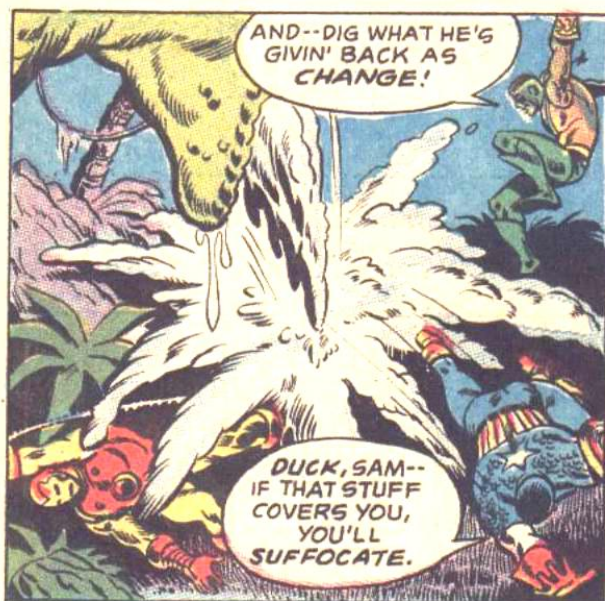
SOME SORT OF  
SLIMY LIQUID--  
HARDENING  
AROUND HIM--  
IN AN INSTANT!



AND-- THAT AIN'T THE  
HALF OF IT, SHIELD-  
SLINGER.

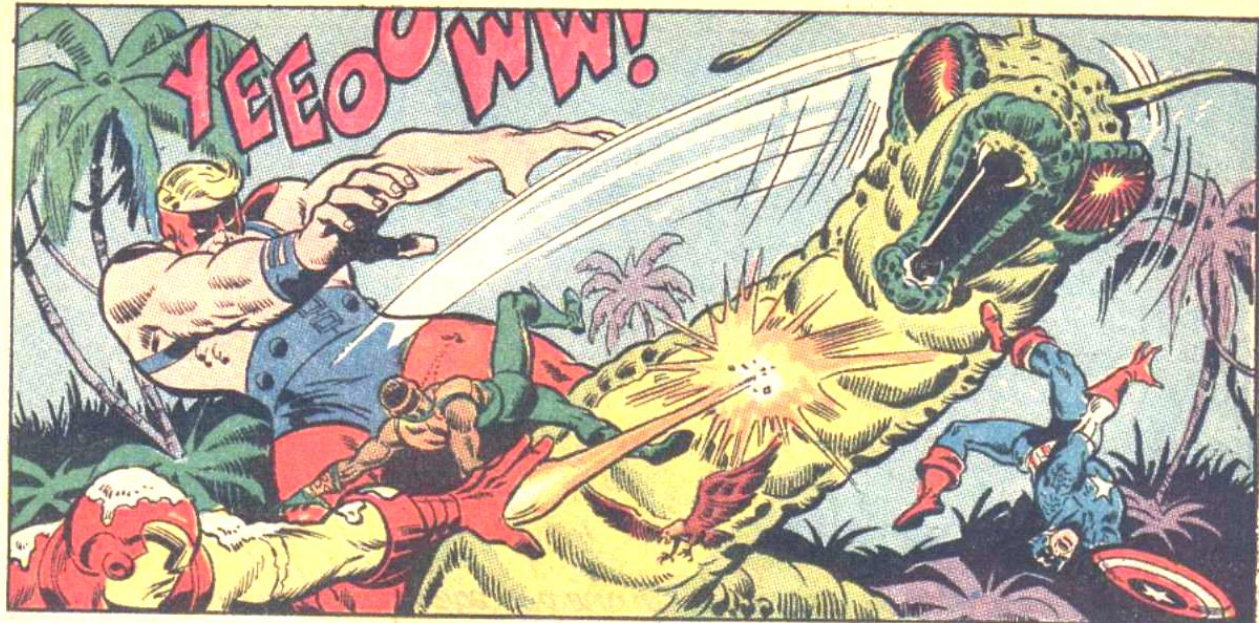
GET A LOAD OF  
WHERE IT'S  
COMIN' FROM!





CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE





BLAST AWAY WITH YOUR MAN-  
FORGED WEAPONS, IRON MAN  
-- SEE HOW FAR THEY GET YOU  
AGAINST AN ENEMY THAT  
ONCE PROWLED THE SWAMPS  
OF TIME-LOST LEMURIA!

BUT, WHERE HUMAN TECH-  
NOLOGY MAY FALTER--



--MAY NOT A GOD  
HOPE TO PREVAIL?



STAND YE BACK,  
AVENGERS!

THUS SPEAKS  
THOR--GOD  
OF THUNDER  
--SON OF ODIN--



--AND MASTER  
OF MIGHTY  
MJOLNIR!!

YOU DID IT,  
ASGARDIAN. THE  
SLUG IS--GONE.

BUT STILL THE MENACE  
BEHIND IT DOTH  
LIE HIDDEN.

COME!  
WE BE-  
GIN THE  
SEARCH  
ANEW.





SAVE THE **EYESTRAIN**,  
AVENGER.

THAT **ZAP** OF  
YOURS DUG A CRATER  
ROUGHLY THE SIZE  
OF THE **SEA OF**  
**TRANQUILITY**.

HEY! THERE'S  
SOME KIND'A  
**CAVERN**  
DOWN THERE.

THEN--FOLLOW  
THE **LEADER**,  
CREW!

WHOA, FELLA--THIS IS  
NO TIME FOR **GRAND-**  
**STANDING**.

WE KNOW  
NOT WHAT  
**FOES** MAY  
LURK  
BENEATH--

LOOK, I  
DON'T CARE  
IF THE  
**WHITE**  
**RABBIT'S**  
WAITING TO  
BELT ME  
WITH HIS  
**STOP-**  
**WATCH**.

I OWE  
SOMEBODY  
FOR THAT  
**CEMENT**  
**BATH--AND**  
I **ALWAYS**  
PAY MY  
**BILLS**.

--THOUGH, COULD JUST BE I  
GOT MY **BOOKS** SWITCHED  
AROUND.

LAST TIME I SAW A  
LAYOUT LIKE **THIS**, WAS  
IN A **COMIC-MAG--**

--AT THE END OF  
AN **ABANDONED**  
**SUBWAY**  
**TUNNEL**,  
NO LESS.

NOW, WHILE THE **UNDER-20's** ARE  
PUZZLING THAT ONE OUT--

DO YOU NOT  
FEEL **HONORED**,  
MAN-MONSTER?

YOU ALONE  
OF MORTAL  
CREATURES  
POSSESS THE  
**RAMPANT POWER**  
I NEED--

--POWER THAT  
SOON SHALL  
BECOME AN  
**ENERGY SOURCE**  
--A FOOD, AS  
IT WERE--FOR  
THE **DARK**  
GODS I SERVE.

AND, WHEN I  
HAVE... **FED**  
THE **BLACK**  
ONES WHO  
DWELL IN  
TIME'S  
**ABYSS--**

THEY WILL  
AWAKEN MY  
PEOPLE, WHO  
SLUMBER DEEP,  
DEEP IN THE  
EARTH--

--SO THAT WE  
MAY **INHERIT**  
YOUR WORLD.

BUT NOW, IN ORDER TO  
**STUDY YOU--LEARN HOW**  
**BEST TO UTILIZE YOUR**  
**UNTAPPED MIGHT--**

I MUST **SHRINK YOU**  
**DOWN**, AT A **CAREFULLY-**  
**CONTROLLED RATE--**

--TO A SIZE  
AT WHICH YOUR  
**MOLECULAR**  
**STRUCTURE**  
MAY BE MORE  
CLOSELY  
**SCRUTINIZED**.

**HOLD**  
**IT!**



WE CAME IN ON THE  
TAIL-END OF THAT  
LITTLE SERMON,  
CREEP.

BUT WE GOT  
A READY-MADE  
ANSWER  
FOR YA--

# AVENGERS

NO!

IT--IS NOT  
POSSIBLE!

# ASSEMBLE!

SOME OF THE  
MOST POWERFUL  
EARTHLINGS OF ALL  
--HERE--IN MY  
SANCTUM  
SANCTORUM!!







DON'T KNOW WHO YOU ARE, ONE-EYE--OR WHAT THE HULK'S DOING HERE--

BUT YOU DON'T LOOK IN A MOOD TO PALAVER, SO--



AWAY, SLIGHT MORTAL!

THROK!

DID YOU THINK A PUNY ONE SUCH AS YOURSELF--



--COULD CHALLENGE IMMORTAL PSYKLOP??

UNNNH! WELL, AT LEAST NOW WE'RE ON A FIRST-NAME BASIS.

THANKS, FALC.

ANYTIME, CAP.



WHY THIS MEXICAN STANDOFF, THUNDER GOD?

WITH YOUR STRENGTH--MY ARMOR--WHY DON'T WE JUST WADE INTO HIM?

'TIS BETTER THUS.

WHO KNOWS WHAT POWERS MAY BELONG TO ONE SO OBVIOUSLY--INHUMAN?



AW, HE DON'T LOOK SO TOUGH TO ME, BLONDIE.

CLINT-- DON'T! HE MAY--

JUST ONE MORE RAT FOR ME TO SHAKE LIKE A TERRIER.

WHAT CAN HE DO, UNLESS HE'S--



--DOUBLE-JOINTED?

MMFF!

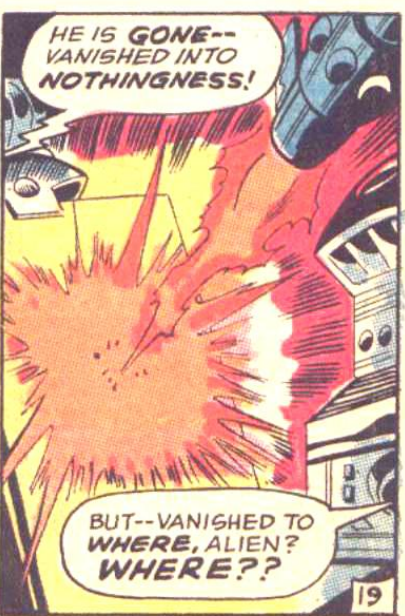
WHICH I AM, FOOL-- LIKE THE INSECTS FROM WHICH MY ANCIENT RACE EVOLVED.



NEVER MIND PSYKLOP! GET THE HULK!

YES-- THE BRUTISH HULK.

FOR, IT IS HE WHO-- NO!



HE IS GONE-- VANISHED INTO NOTHINGNESS!

BUT--VANISHED TO WHERE, ALIEN? WHERE??





NOW THAT, DEAR AVENGERS,  
IS PRECISELY WHAT A  
CATACLYSMICALLY-  
CONFUSED GREEN  
BEHEMOTH WOULD  
LIKE TO KNOW--!



LOOK OUT! THAT  
TWO-LEGGED BEM  
IS GETTIN' AWAY!

LET HIM GO!  
ONLY HE CAN  
SAVE THE  
HULK NOW.



WHICH IS EXACTLY  
WHAT I SHALL  
DO -- BUT NOT  
UNTIL --

HUH? HE  
AIN'T  
HEADIN' FOR  
THAT SHRINK-  
RAY GADGET  
AT ALL--!

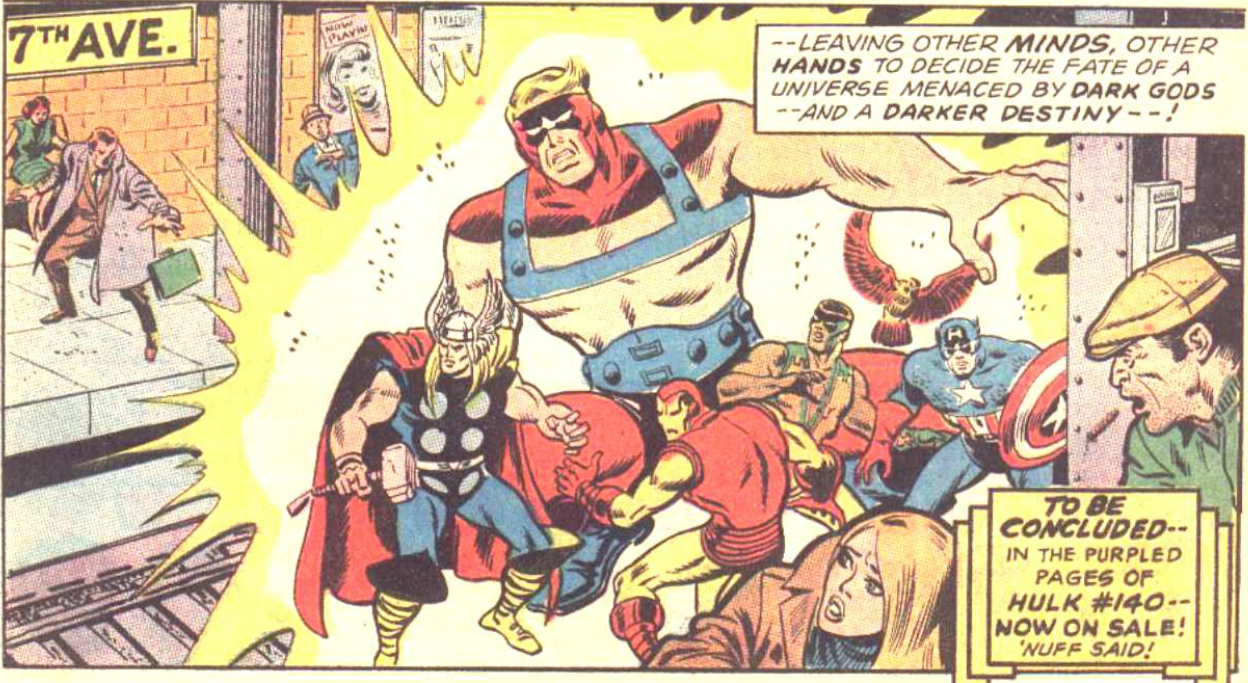


WHY SHOULD  
I, DOLTS--

--WHEN MY FIRST TASK  
MUST BE TO RID MYSELF  
OF YOU--IN THE SWIFTEST  
WAY OPEN TO ME!

AND SO IT ENDS FOR THE MIGHTY AVENGERS --AS  
ABRUPTLY, AS UNEXPECTEDLY AS IT **BEGAN** --

--AS FIVE EMBATTLED FORMS **BLINK OUT OF EXISTENCE** ON A NAMELESS ATOLL -- TO RE-  
APPEAR WITH FRIGHTENING SUDDENNESS ON A DINGY **SUBWAY PLATFORM** IN NEW YORK  
--THEIR MEMORY-SLATES **WIPE CLEAN** OF ALL THAT HAS BEEN, AND ALL THAT **YET** MAY BE--



7TH AVE.

--LEAVING OTHER MINDS, OTHER  
HANDS TO DECIDE THE FATE OF A  
UNIVERSE MENACED BY DARK GODS  
--AND A DARKER DESTINY--!

TO BE  
CONCLUDED--  
IN THE PURPLED  
PAGES OF  
HULK #140--  
NOW ON SALE!  
'NUFF SAID!