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THE INCREDIBLE

HULK

APPROVED
BY THE
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1
MAY

**THE STRANGEST MAN
OF ALL TIME!!**

**FANTASY
AS YOU
LIKE
IT!**

IS HE
MAN
OR
MONSTER

OR...

IS HE
BOTH



THE HULK

By
Stan Lee + J. KIRBY

HALF-MAN,
HALF-MONSTER,
THE MIGHTY
HULK
THUNDERS OUT
OF THE NIGHT
TO TAKE HIS
PLACE AMONG
THE MOST
AMAZING
CHARACTERS
OF ALL TIME!



PART
1
"THE
COMING
OF
THE
HULK"

Steven Levin

V-709

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ALONE IN THE DESERT STANDS THE MOST AWESOME WEAPON EVER CREATED BY MAN--THE INCREDIBLE G-BOMB!



MILES AWAY, BEHIND SOLID CONCRETE BUNKERS, A NERVOUS SCIENTIFIC TASK FORCE WAITS FOR THE GAMMA-BOMB'S FIRST AWESOME TEST FIRING!



AND NONE IS MORE TENSE, MORE WORRIED, THAN DR. BRUCE BANNER, THE MAN WHOSE GENIUS CREATED THE G-BOMB!



A FEW SECONDS MORE AND WE'LL KNOW WHETHER WE HAVE SUCCEEDED OR NOT!

I WAS AGAINST FROM THE STAR BANNER, AND STILL AM! IT IS TOO DANGEROUS!

I STILL SAY YOU SHOULD HAVE CONFIDED IN US, YOUR FELLOW SCIENTISTS! YOU SHOULD HAVE TOLD US THE SECRET OF THE GAMMA RAY...

QUIET, IGOR! HERE COMES GENERAL ROSS!

WHY THE DELAY, BANNER? WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?



MY MEN HAVE BEEN STATIONED HERE FOR WEEKS, WASTING TIME BECAUSE OF YOUR INFERNAL DELAYS! ARE YOU GOING TO TEST THAT BLAMED BOMB OR NOT?

OF COURSE, GENERAL! IT'S JUST THAT I MUST BE SURE EVERY PRECAUTION HAS BEEN TAKEN! WE ARE TANKERING WITH POWERFUL FORCES!



POWERFUL FORCES! BAH!! A BOMB IS A BOMB! THE TROUBLE WITH YOU IS YOU'RE A MILKSOP! YOU'VE GOT NO GUTS!

THEY SHOULD HAVE PUT ME IN CHARGE OF THIS TEST! BY THUNDER, IT WOULD HAVE BEEN DONE BY NOW!



OH DADDY, DON'T BE SO UNFAIR! DR. BRUCE BANNER IS ONE OF OUR MOST FAMOUS SCIENTISTS! I'M SURE HE KNOWS WHAT HE'S DOING!

YOU KEEP OUT OF THIS, BETTY! THIS IS MAN TALK!



DON'T MIND DAD, DR. BANNER! EVER SINCE HE WAS NICKNAMED "THUNDERBOLT" ROSS, HE'S TRIED TO LIVE UP TO IT!

HRMMPH!

THANK YOU, MISS ROSS!



AND NOW, IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME, IT'S TIME FOR THE FINAL COUNTDOWN!

GOOD LUCK, DR. BANNER!

IT'S DING-DONG WELL ABOUT TIME!

LISTEN, BANNER, THIS IS YOUR LAST CHANCE TO TELL ME THE SECRET OF HARNESSING THE GAMMA RAYS! IT ISN'T RIGHT FOR YOU TO BE THE ONLY ONE WHO KNOWS!

SORRY, IGOR! THE FORMULAS ARE LOCKED IN MY ROOM, AND THEY WILL STAY THERE!



YOU FOOL! NOBODY HAS CHECKED YOUR WORK! IF YOU'VE MADE AN ERROR, YOU MIGHT BLOW UP HALF THE CONTINENT!! I OUGHTTA--

I DON'T MAKE ERRORS, IGOR!

DR. BANNER! THE COUNT-DOWN HAS BEGUN!

I'LL TALK TO YOU LATER, IGOR! YOU KNOW HOW I DETEST MEN WHO THINK WITH THEIR FISTS!

IN A FEW SECONDS WE WILL FINALLY LEARN WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THE POWERFUL GAMMA RAYS ARE RELEASED!

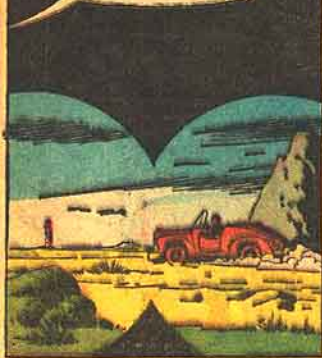


WAIT! WHAT'S THAT? GOOD LORD! IT'S A BOY! - A TEEN-AGER! HE'S DRIVING INTO THE TEST AREA!

IGOR! DELAY THE COUNTDOWN UNTIL I CAN GET TO THAT BOY! ~~WAAAAA!~~ MAN! EVERY SECOND COUNTS!

SURE...

WHAT A STROKE OF LUCK! ALL I HAVE TO DO IS KEEP MY FINGER OFF THE "HOLD" BUTTON, AND IT'LL BE THE END OF BRUCE BANNER!



YOU! GET OUT OF THERE! YOU'RE IN A FORBIDDEN TEST AREA!

COOL IT, MAN! THE KIDS BET ME I WOULDN'T HAVE NERVE ENOUGH TO SNEAK PAST THE GUARDS...



HEY! WHAT ARE YA TRYIN' TO DO? MAKE THEM THINK I'M CHICKEN?

COME ON, YOU FOOL! WE'VE GOT TO REACH THE PROTECTIVE TRENCH BEFORE THE BOMB GOES OFF!

BOMB??



MEANWHILE, AT THE BUNKER, NOT HAVING BEEN TOLD TO DELAY THE FIRING, A FINGER TOUCHES THE FATAL BUTTON!



THERE! YOU'RE SAFE!

AND NOW I'LL...

AHHH



ALTHO' MANY MILES FROM BOMB ZERO, DR. BRUCE BANNER IS BATHED IN THE FULL FORCE OF THE MYSTERIOUS GAMMA RAYS!



THE WORLD SEEMS TO STAND STILL, TREMBLING ON THE BRINK OF INFINITY, AS HIS EAR-SPLITTING SCREAM FILLS THE AIR...



AND HE IS STILL SCREAMING, HOURS LATER, WHEN---

HE'S COMING OUT OF IT NOW!

THANK HEAVEN!



BANNER, IT'S A MIRACLE THAT YOU'RE STILL ALIVE! -- YOU ABSORBED THE FULL IMPACT OF THE GAMMA RAYS!

HOW-- HOW DID I GET HERE?

MY NAME IS RICK JONES... I BROUGHT YOU!



YOU SAVED MY DUMB LIFE... I FIGGERED IT WAS THE LEAST I COULD DO FOR YOU... Y'KNOW, IT'S A FUNNY THING... I'M AN ORPHAN, AND NO ONE EVER DID ANYTHING FOR ME BEFORE--CEPT YOU, A STRANGER!



IT'S GETTIN' DARK OUT! HOW LONG THEY GONNA KEEP US HERE, DOC?

I DON'T KNOW! I DON'T KNOW!! THEY MUST BE WAITING-- FOR ME TO DIE! IT ISN'T POSSIBLE TO TAKE SO MUCH GAMMA RADIATION, AND NOT HAVE SOMETHING HAPPEN!



I--I'M BEGINNING TO FEEL STRANGE! MY HEAD IS THROBBING! THIS MUST BE--THE END...

THE WHOLE WORLD'S GOING BATTY! EVEN THIS KOOKIE RADIO-- IT WON'T PLAY! ALL IT GIVES OUT WITH IS STATIC!



THAT'S NO RADIO! IT'S A GEIGER COUNTER!

IT MEASURES RADIATION! LISTEN TO IT! IT--IT'S GOING WILD!

IT'S GETTING LOUDER--AND LOUDER!!--FASTER AND FASTER!! WHAT'S HAPPENING??

WHAT IS HAPPENING ??? ARGHH



HEY! LOOK AT YOU! YOU--CHANGED!



GET OUT OF MY WAY, INSECT!



CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE..

PART
2

THE HULK STRIKES!

LIKE A SILENT DREADNAUGHT, THE HULKING THING THAT WAS ONCE BRUCE BANNER CROUCHES IN THE SHADOWS, AS THE PURSUING TROOPS RUSH BY...

MUSTN'T LET THEM
FIND ME...



FAN OUT,
MEN! WE'VE
GOT TO FIND
THAT-- THAT
HULK!!

AND THIS, A NAME IS
GIVEN TO BRUCE BANNER'S
OTHER SELF, A NAME WHICH
IS DESTINED TO BECOME--
IMMORTAL!

LOOK SHARP THERE!
DON'T LET THE HULK
GET HIS HANDS ON YOU!



WHILE, BACK AT THE BASE HOSPITAL...

IT'S **IMPOSSIBLE!**
NOTHING HUMAN
COULD HAVE
SMASHED A TWO
FOOT THICK CON-
CRETE WALL!

BUT
HE
DID!
THE
HULK
DID
IT!

BRUCE BANNER
AND THE BOY! WHAT
BECAME OF THEM?
COULD THE HULK
HAVE--???



BUT WHO COULD EVER GUESS THE
INCREDIBLE TRUTH? WHO COULD
SUSPECT THAT BRUCE BANNER
IS... THE HULK!!!

... HAVE TO REACH HOME!
FORMULA INSIDE HOME!
MUST GET FORMULA!!

DRIVEN BY SHEER INSTINCT, THE PART
OF THE HULK WHICH IS STILL BRUCE
BANNER HEADS FOR A SMALL
COTTAGE, SMASHING ALL
OBSTACLES IN HIS PATH!

WH-WHERE
IS HE HEADED
FOR??

HAVE TO KEEP
MOVING...



MOVING WITH UNBELIEVABLE
STEALTH FOR ONE SO
PONDEROUS, HE STORMS
CLOSER AND CLOSER TO
HIS DESTINATION...

UNTIL, AT LAST, A DIM MEMORY FROM THE BRAIN
OF BRUCE BANNER TELLS HIM...

THE THIRD
CABIN!
THAT IS
WHERE I
MUST GO!



BUT, WITHIN THE CABIN, THE MAN CALLED IGOR IS SO INTENT UPON A SECRET TASK, THAT HE DOESN'T HEAR THE MUFFLED FOOTSTEPS DRAWING NEARER AND NEARER...

THE GAMMA RAY FORMULA MUST BE HERE SOMEWHERE!



AND THEN ...

AN INTRUDER!
WELL, YOU WILL NOT LIVE TO REPORT IGOR TO THE SECURITY POLICE!



WHA--WHAT ARE YOU?? I HAVE PUT A .38 SLUG IN YOUR SHOULDER, AND STILL YOU ADVANCE!!

YOU-- YOU DID NOT EVEN FEEL THE SHOT!



NO! STAY BACK!! DON'T-- DON'T!!

YOU WILL SHOOT ME NO MORE!



GO! THIS IS WHAT THE PUNY HUMANS FEAR!



AND NOW---

NO! IT'S IMPOSSIBLE!
YOU-- YOU AREN'T HUMAN!



HUMAN?? WHY SHOULD I WANT TO BE HUMAN?!!





STOP IT!
DON'T!
YOU'LL
KILL
HIM!

HELP!!

DOWN?
I WILL
PUT
HIM
DOWN!

PUT
'IM
DOWN!



SO!!

WHAM!!



GOSH! LOOK!! THERE'S
SOMETHING TAPED TO THE
BOTTOM OF THAT GLASS
BEAKER! IT MUST BE
WHAT HE WAS SEARCHING
FOR!



IT LOOKS IMPORTANT!
WE BETTER GET IT TO
THE ARMY! I'LL BET
YOU WROTE IT WHILE
YOU WERE BRUCE
BANNER!

BRUCE BANNER!
WHY DO THOSE WORDS
STAY IN MY HEAD??
WHAT IS THAT
NAME TO ME??



THAT FACE!
I-- I KNOW
THAT FACE!!



BUT IT IS WEAK--SOFT!!
I HATE IT! TAKE IT
AWAY!

YOU
CAN'T
HATE IT!



DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND?
THIS GUY IN THE PICTURE--
BEFORE YOU CHANGED,
HE WAS ---YOU!!

I-- I SEEM TO REMEMBER NOW! IT WAS THE BOMB! THE GAMMA RAYS! THEY TURNED ME INTO-- THIS-- WHEN DARKNESS FELL!

IT WOULD HAVE HAPPENED TO ME IF YOU HADN'T SAVED ME! THAT'S WHY I'M STAYIN' WITH YOU!

FOOL! I AM GLAD IT HAPPENED!! I'D RATHER BE ME, THAN THAT PUNY WEAKLING IN THE PICTURE!

I DON'T WANT YOU WITH ME! I DON'T NEED YOU! I DON'T NEED ANYBODY! WITH MY STRENGTH-- MY POWER-- THE WORLD IS MINE!



AS FOR YOU-- YOU ARE THE ONLY ONE WHO KNOWS WHO I REALLY AM!

BUT, AT THAT VERY INSTANT, THE FIRST RAYS OF DAWN APPEAR! AND WITH THEM--

MY BRAIN-- IT'S ON FIRE!

WHAT IS HAPPENING TO ME? I-- I'M CHANGING!!



CHANGING-- IT-- IT FEELS AS THOUGH A VEIL HAS LIFTED-- I CAN THINK AGAIN!

IT'S OVER! THE NIGHTMARE IS OVER!

GOSH! YOU-- YOU'RE DOCTOR BRUCE BANNER AGAIN!

BUT, ALAS, THE NIGHTMARE OF BRUCE BANNER IS NOT OVER! IT MAY NEVER BE OVER AGAIN!

OPEN UP IN THERE!



**PART
3**

THE SEARCH FOR THE HULK

Stan Lee & J. Kirby





WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU, DOCTOR BANNER? WHY DID YOU LEAVE THE HOSPITAL? HOW DID YOU GET THAT SHOULDER WOUND?

HOW DO WE KNOW YOU'RE NOT MIXED UP IN THIS?

ARE YOU KIDDIN'?! WHAT DO YOU THINK HE IS... THE HULK?!

CAPTAIN, WE WERE IN THE JEEP WHICH HIT THE HULK! WE GOT A GOOD LOOK AT HIM!

HE WAS NOTHING LIKE DR. BANNER!



HE WAS HUGE, POWERFUL! IN FACT, I WOULDN'T BE SURPRISED IF HE WAS A GIANT GORILLA THAT ESCAPED FROM SOME ZOO!



NO, HE WAS MORE LIKE A BIG BEAR, DRESSED IN TATTERS! PROBABLY ESCAPED FROM A CIRCUS SOMEWHERE!



PERSONALLY, I THINK YOU JOKERS WERE SEEIN' THINGS! HE WAS JUST A LITTLE CUB SCOUT ON PATROL!

IT'S FORTUNATE THAT IGOR DID NOT GET YOUR GAMMA BOMB FORMULA! I'LL TAKE IT FOR SAFE-KEEPING!



MINUTES LATER, AFTER THE TROOPS HAVE LEFT TO CONTINUE THEIR VAIN SEARCH FOR THE HULK...

DOCTOR BANNER, I RETURNED TO APOLOGIZE FOR MY FATHER'S REMARKS TO YOU! BUT I NEVER EXPECTED TO FIND...

TO FIND ME IN THE MIDDLE OF A SEARCH FOR A-- MONSTER?



NEITHER DID I! NEITHER SOB DID I!

YOU'RE ILL! YOU NEED MEDICAL CARE!

NO HE DOESN'T LADY! HE JUST NEEDS A LITTLE PEACE AND QUIET, THAT'S ALL!



THE HULK

"ENTER...
THE
GARGOYLE!"

PART
4

LET US LEAVE BRUCE BANNER AND HIS YOUNG FRIEND RICK FOR A MOMENT, AND TURN OUR ATTENTION TO THE RED SPY KNOWN AS IGOR AS HE BROODS DARKLY IN HIS CELL...

THE AMERICAN FOOLS THINK I AM DEFEATED, BUT NOT YET!! NO--THEY SHALL SOON LEARN THAT EVEN IN A CELL, IGOR CAN BE DANGEROUS!

FOR THEY DO NOT SUSPECT THAT PASTED ONTO MY THUMB-NAIL IS A SUB-MINIATURE TRANSISTOR SHORT WAVE SENDING SET!

A SET WITH WHICH I SHALL NOW SEND A SECRET MESSAGE TO BEHIND THE IRON CURTAIN!

AND, THOUSANDS OF MILES AWAY...

COMRADE!! I AM RECEIVING A CODE MESSAGE FROM IGOR!

QUICK! LET ME HAVE IT!

HMMMM! THIS IS HIGH-PRIORITY! I MUST GIVE IT TO... **THE GARGOYLE!**

BUT I DARE NOT FACE THE TERRIFYING ONE!! AH!! I HAVE THE ANSWER!



WAIT! WHY DO YOU GIVE ME THIS MESSAGE?? WHY DO YOU NOT BRING IT TO THE GARGOYLE??

YOU ARE MY SUPERIOR, COMRADE! IT IS FOR YOU TO BRING IT!



I CANNOT BEAR TO FACE THE GARGOYLE! THERE IS BUT ONE THING TO DO!

COMRADE! DO NOT ASK ME TO DO THIS! I BEG YOU--

DO IT!! IT IS AN ORDER!



THE GARGOYLE! THE MOST FEARED MAN IN ALL OF AGIA!!

WHO IS OUTSIDE MY DOOR?? **SPEAK!!** OR FACE THE GARGOYLE'S WRATH!!



I--I HAVE A MESSAGE FOR YOU, COMRADE GARGOYLE! THAT IS ALL!

THE COWARDLY WEAKLINGS DARE NOT FACE ME! BUT THAT IS HOW I WANT IT!!

LET THEM FEAR ME! SOME DAY ALL THE WORLD WILL TREMBLE BEFORE THE GARGOYLE!



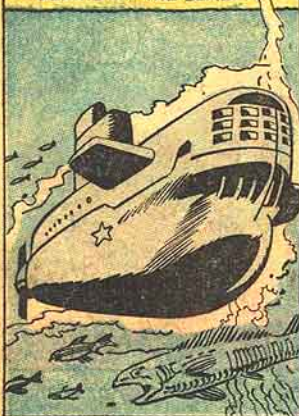
THIS MESSAGE! IT IS UNBELIEVABLE! IN AMERICA, THERE EXISTS A CREATURE CALLED **THE HULK**, WHOSE POWER ALMOST MATCHES MINE!

I MUST FIND THIS HULK!! I MUST EITHER SLAY HIM, OR BRING HIM BACK AS MY PRISONER, AS A SYMBOL OF MY MIGHT!

ATTENTION! THIS IS THE GARGOYLE! PREPARE A ROCKET-FIRING SUB FOR IMMEDIATE DEPARTURE! THAT IS ALL!



BRIEF HOURS LATER, THE VERY LATEST MODEL RED SUB CUTS THRU THE MURKY DEPTHS OF THE SEA...



UNTIL, REACHING A PRE-ARRANGED AREA, IT UNLEASHES AN EXPERIMENTAL MAN-CARRYING ROCKET!



WHAT'S THAT?? OUR RADAR HAS TRACKED AN UNIDENTIFIED MISSILE HEADING THIS WAY??!

UNLEASH OUR HUNTER MISSILES!



WITHIN SECONDS, AMERICA'S MIGHTY DEFENSE STRUCTURE UNLEASHES ITS FANTASTIC ARSENAL, AND...



THE MISSILE IS DESTROYED! BUT I HAVE LANDED AT MY DESTINATION SAFELY!



AND NOW... IT IS TIME FOR THE GARGOYLE TO MEET... THE HULK!



AND SO, FATE TWISTS THE THREADS OF OUR TALE TIGHTER AND TIGHTER, UNTIL...

WHERE ARE YOU GOING, DOC? IT'LL BE EVENING SOON! SHOULDN'T WE BE AT HOME, WAITING TO SEE--?

NO, RICK! IF I AM DESTINED TO BECOME THAT INHUMAN CREATURE AGAIN, LET IT HAPPEN OUT IN THE OPEN THIS TIME!



IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE, DOC! YOU'RE THE MOST FAMOUS MISSILE EXPERT IN THE WORLD! YOU'RE BRAINY AND CULTURED, AND ALL THAT JAZZ! AND YET...

AND YET, DUE TO THE FORCES UNLEASHED BY THE GAMMA RAY, I TURN INTO A MARAUDING, SAVAGE BRUTE AT NIGHTFALL!



THAT'S WHY I GOTTA STAY WITH YOU, DOC! WITHOUT ME AROUND, YOU MIGHT DO SOMETHING AWFUL! YOU MIGHT EVEN KILL SOMEONE DR.-- DOC!! YOUR HANDS!!



THEY'RE CHANGING! YOU'RE BECOMING THE HULK AGAIN!

JUST AS I FEARED! I CANNOT STOP IT!! IT--IT WILL HAPPEN EVERY EVENING!



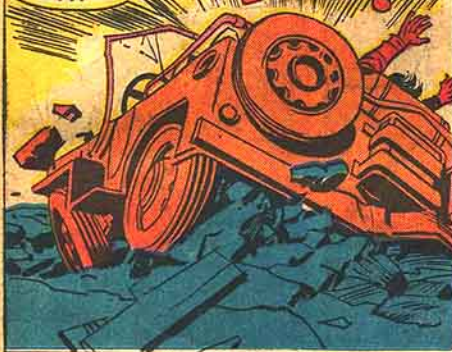
DOC!! KEEP YOUR HANDS ON THE WHEEL!! LOOK OUT!!

WHEEL? WHO CARES ABOUT THE WHEEL??



WHO CARES ABOUT... ANYTHING ?!!

THUD!



SLOWLY, PONDEROUSLY, FROM OUT OF THE WRECKAGE, A HEAD EMERGES! BUT, NOT THE SENSITIVE, CLEAN-CUT HEAD OF DR. BRUCE BANNER! NO-- THIS IS THE BRUTISH, MENACING HEAD OF-- THE HULK!!



WHAT AM I DOING HERE? GOT TO GO! GO--WHERE??

OHH... MY HEAD! WE--WE'RE LUCKY TO BE ALIVE!



I KNOW THIS COUNTRYSIDE! NEAR GENERAL ROSS'S HOUSE! BETTY LIVES THERE--BETTY!!

NO! WAIT! YOU CAN'T SEE BETTY! NOT LIKE THIS! STOP!



MY QUEST IS ENDED! IT IS HE! THE ONE I SEEK... THE HULK!



MEANWHILE, JUST A SHORT DISTANCE AWAY, BETTY ROSS IS LOST IN HER OWN DISTURBED MUSINGS...

I CAN'T GET BRUCE BANNER OUT OF MY MIND!!



SOMEHOW, I FEEL HE-- NEEDS ME!

WHAT IS IT, GIRL? YOU'VE SEEMED TROUBLED ALL DAY!

OH, DAD... IF ONLY THINGS WERE AS SIMPLE AS IN YOUR DAY, WHEN A CAVALRY CHARGE, OR A SQUAD OF INFANTRYMEN COULD SOLVE ANYTHING!



BUT TODAY, WITH THE STRANGE, ALMOST SUPERNATURAL FORCES ALL AROUND US, I FEEL AS THOUGH WE'RE ON THE BRINK OF SOME FANTASTIC UNIMAGINABLE ADVENTURE!

HONEY, YOU JUST NEED A LITTLE FRESH AIR!



DAD'S RIGHT! PERHAPS A WALK IN THE CRISP NIGHT AIR WILL CLEAR MY HEAD-- WILL DRIVE THE TROUBLED FACE OF BRUCE BANNER FROM MY THOUGHTS!



AND PERHAPS I CAN TELL MYSELF IT WAS ALL A DREAM-- THERE IS NO HULK!



BUT THERE IS A HULK!! AND DON'T YOU EVER FORGET IT!!



OH-- NO!

AND SO... TALK LIKE ALL HELPLESS CREATURES! WHERE YOU GO, DOC BE EAT SO SHOULD BE W...

HULK-- LET GO OF HER!



YOU'VE GOT TO LEAVE HERE, IF YOU'RE FOUND THIS TIME, THEY'LL--

SHUT UP! NOBODY TELLS THE HULK!



YOU ARE WRONG, MONSTER! TURN AROUND! TURN AND FACE-- THE GARGOYLE!



**PART
5**

THE HULK TRIUMPHANT!

HOLY HANNAH! WHO'S THAT? HEY, LOOK OUT, HULK! HE'S GOT A GUN!

BAH! NO PUNY PISTOL CAN KILL THE HULK!

THE GARGOYLE DID NOT JOURNEY THESE MANY MILES JUST TO KILL YOU, FOOL! THIS IS A DIFFERENT KIND OF GUN!



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Stam Lee + J. Kirby

THIS WEAPON SHOOTS A PELLET OF MY OWN INVENTION!
OBSERVE!

THE INSTANT IT STRIKES YOU, IT SAPS YOUR WILL-- MAKING YOU MY SLAVE!

THE HULK IS **NO** MAN'S SLAVE!



HAH! THE GARGOYLE IS NEVER WRONG!

AND THOUGH YOU SEEM TOO UNIMPORTANT TO WASTE ANOTHER PELLET ON, I BELIEVE IN TAKING NO CHANCES!



IT IS DONE! BOTH OF YOU... RISE, AND FOLLOW ME!

RISE...



FORTUNATELY, IN THE EXCITEMENT OF THE MOMENT, THE GARGOYLE DOES NOT NOTICE THE UNCONSCIOUS GIRL LYING IN THE SHADOWS BEHIND HIS TWO HELPLESS PRISONERS!

HOW EASY IT IS FOR THE GARGOYLE TO BE VICTORIOUS!



AND MOMENTS LATER...

BETTY!
BETTY!

DAD... IT--
IT WAS HORRIBLE!



IT WAS THE HULK! HE CAME FROM OUT OF THE DARKNESS! HE-- HE WAS TERRIFYING!

THERE, THERE, MY DEAR! YOU'RE SAFE NOW!



BUT WHERE DID HE GO? WHAT DID HE WANT? OR--OR DID I IMAGINE THE WHOLE THING?

I'LL FIND HIM, BETTY! I SWEAR TO YOU, MY CHILD, I'LL FIND HIM AND DESTROY HIM!



AND YET, IN SPITE OF EVERYTHING, THERE WAS SOMETHING... SOMETHING SAD ABOUT HIM!! ALMOST AS THOUGH HE WAS SEEKING... HELP!

I'LL FIND HIM! IF IT TAKES AN ETERNITY, I'LL FIND THAT MONSTER!



AND, IN A SPEEDING TRUCK, DRIVEN BY A DRIVER WHOSE WILL HAS ALSO BEEN SAPPED, THE GARGOYLE AND HIS PRISONERS SPEED TOWARD THE COAST... RACING TO REACH THEIR DESTINATION BEFORE THE DAWN!

FASTER!
FASTER!



WHAT A PRIZE THE HULK WILL BE!! WHAT A FANTASTIC SPECIMAN FOR OUR SCIENTISTS TO STUDY! IF WE COULD CREATE AN ARMY OF SUCH POWERFUL CREATURES, WE COULD RULE THE EARTH!



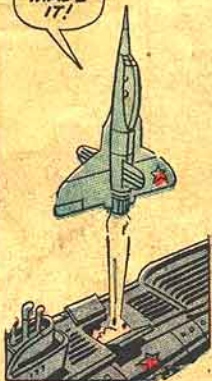
FINALLY, IN THE EARLY HOURS BEFORE DAWNBREAK, THE RENDEZVOUS IS REACHED!

HURRY! ROW FASTER, YOU DOLTS! NOTHING MUST STOP ME NOW!



AND NOTHING DOES STOP THE GARGOYLE! FOR, MINUTES LATER...

MADE IT!



AH, WE HAVE REACHED THE EDGE OF SPACE! NOW WE SHALL LEVEL OFF AND GLIDE BEHIND THE IRON CURTAIN!



BUT THEN, THE FIRST FAINT RAYS OF DAWN TOUCH THE HULK, AS HE SITS IN THE CABIN OF THE PLANE WHICH THE REDS HAVE COPIED FROM OUR OWN AMAZING X-15!



AND, AS DAYLIGHT BATHES HIS BRUTAL FEATURES, ONCE AGAIN A STARTLING, INCREDIBLE CHANGE TAKES PLACE!



WHERE ONCE THE MIGHTY HULK HAD BEEN, THE LIGHT OF THE SUN NOW REVEALS DR. BRUCE BANNER, AMERICAN SCIENTIST! THE CHANGE IS NOW COMPLETE!



HOURS LATER, AS THE RED SHIP GLIDES TO A LANDING ON COMMUNIST SOIL, THE GARGOYLE RECEIVES A STARTLING SURPRISE!

WHEW! I'M GLAD THE EFFECT OF THAT GUN WORE OFF!

THE HULK!! WHAT HAPPENED TO THE HULK??!



GOT ANY IDEA WHAT THIS JOKER IS TALKIN' ABOUT, DOC?

NOT THE SLIGHTEST, RICK!



"DOC"? WAIT! I KNOW YOU!! OF COURSE! YOU'RE AMERICA'S FOREMOST ATOMIC SCIENTIST... DR. BRUCE BANNER!! THAT MEANS YOU... AND THE HULK-- OH NO!! IT'S--IT'S TOO UNBELIEVABLE!



UNDER CLOSE GUARD, THE GARGOYLE RUSHES HIS PRISONERS TO HIS SECRET STRONGHOLD, AND THEN...

YOUR SECRET IS A SECRET NO LONGER, BANNER!

DOC! WHAT DO WE DO NOW?

EASY, RICK! IT'S HIS PLAY SO FAR!

I KNOW THAT YOU AND THE HULK ARE THE SAME!!



BUT WHY? WHY WOULD YOU WANT TO BE A MONSTER? YOU MUST BE INSANE! IT--IT'S THE MOST HORRIBLE THING IN THE WORLD TO BE A FREAK-- A GARGOYLE, LIKE ME!

DOC! HE'S CRYING!



I'D GIVE ANYTHING TO BE NORMAL! ANYTHING!

SO WOULD I-- BUT I-- BUT I AM AS HELPLESS AS YOU!



WAIT! LISTEN TO ME! I CANNOT STOP MYSELF FROM TURNING INTO THE HULK-- BUT YOUR CASE IS DIFFERENT!

I'VE SEEN CASES LIKE YOURS! I KNOW HOW TO CURE YOU... BY RADIATION! BUT ALTHOUGH YOUR FEATURES WOULD BECOME NORMAL, YOUR BRAIN WOULD SUFFER! YOU WOULD NO LONGER BE A BRILLIANT SCIENTIST!



DOC! YOU AIN'T GONNA HELP THAT CREEP ARE YOU??!

NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS TO ME... EVEN IF I DIE... SO LONG AS I COULD DIE AS-- A MAN!

QUIET, RICK!



THEN, AT A COMMAND FROM THE GARGOYLE, ALL IS MADE READY...



NOW!

AND, WHERE A GARGOYLE HAD BEEN LYING...

DOC! IT'S WORKING!



...A MAN ARISES!

YOU DID IT!

YOU DID IT!



IGNORING THE TWO OTHERS IN THE SILENT LAB, THE LONE FIGURE WALKS TO A PORTRAIT ON THE WALL, AND THEN, IN QUIVERING TONES, HE SPEAKS...

IT WAS BECAUSE OF YOU THAT I BECAME WHAT I WAS, BECAUSE I WORKED ON YOUR SECRET BOMB TESTS!

BUT IT TOOK AN AMERICAN TO CURE ME! AND NOW--NOW THAT I AM NO LONGER A GARGOYLE, I CAN DEFY YOU, AND ALL YOU STAND FOR, LIKE A MAN!





YES, BRUCE BANNER AND RICK ARE SAFE, FOR NOW! BUT, IN A FEW HOURS IT WILL BE NIGHTFALL AGAIN, AND THE WALK WILL AGAIN APPEAR! SO DON'T MISS THE NEXT GREAT, SURPRISE-FILLED ISSUE!

NOTE

STARTING NEXT ISSUE, WE WILL FEATURE A "LETTERS TO THE EDITOR" PAGE! MAIL YOUR KNOCKS OR BOOSTS TO "EDITORS," THE HULK, THIRD FLOOR, 655 MADISON AVE., NEW YORK 21, N.Y.