

**MARVEL**

© 1985 MARVEL COMICS GROUP

TM

# the mighty THOR

65¢

356

U.K. 30p  
CAN. 75¢

JUNE

STAND ASIDE,  
THUNDER GOD--  
WALT SIMONSON  
IS ON VACATION  
AND SO ART  
THOU!

OH, HERKY--  
YOU'RE SO... SO  
GODLY!!!

FEATURING  
A THOR-  
HERCULES  
CLASH YOU'RE  
NOT GONNA  
BELIEVE!



BOB JACKSON



STAN LEE  
PRESENTS: **the MIGHTY THOR**

**THE POWER AND THE PRIDE!**



**BOB  
HARRAS**  
WRITER

**JACKSON  
GUICE**  
PENCILLER

**BOB  
LAYTON**  
INKER

**JOHN  
WORKMAN**  
LETTERER

**CHRISTIE  
SCHEELE**  
COLORIST

**MARK  
GRUENWALD**  
GUEST EDITOR

**JIM  
SHOOTER**  
EDITOR IN CHIEF

THOR® Vol. 1, No. 356, June, 1985. (ISSN 0274-533X) Published by MARVEL COMICS GROUP, James E. Galton, President. Stan Lee, Publisher. Michael Hobson, Vice-President, Publishing. Milton Schiffman, Vice-President, Production. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10018. SECOND CLASS POSTAGE PAID AT NEW YORK, NY AND AT ADDITIONAL MAILING OFFICES. Published monthly. Copyright ©1985 by Marvel Comics Group, a division of Cadence Industries Corporation. All rights reserved. Price 65¢ per copy in the U.S. and 75¢ in Canada. Subscription rate \$7.80 for 12 issues. Canada and Foreign, \$9.80. Printed in the U.S.A. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the conditions that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition. THOR (including all prominent characters featured in the issue), and the distinctive likenesses thereof, are trademarks of the MARVEL COMICS GROUP. POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO THOR, 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, 10TH FLOOR, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10018.



COME, COME, JARVIS!  
EASE YOUR DOOR  
COURTESY!

YOU TAKE YOUR ROLE AS THE  
AVENGERS' MAJORDOMO TOO  
SERIOUSLY! REMEMBER YOU ARE  
WITH HERCULES, THE PRINCE OF  
POWER, THE LION OF OLYMPUS,  
THE SON OF OMNIPOTENT ZEUS!  
TOGETHER WE SHALL SEARCH  
OUT ALL THE DELICACIES I  
REQUIRE. 'T'WILL BE A SPLEN-  
DID EXPEDITION!

I'M SURE I FIND  
THAT MOST RE-  
ASSURING, SIR.  
STILL, I TEND TO  
DOUBT THAT WE WILL  
BE ABLE TO FIND "A  
PITHOI OF THE FINEST  
MYCENAEAN WINE"  
ANYWHERE IN  
MANHATTAN.

YOU MORTALS CAN BE A DESPAIR-  
ING LOT AT TIMES! IF IT IS MYCEN-  
EAEAN WINE WE NEED, THEN, BY THE  
GODS, HAVE IT WE SHALL! FOR  
WHEN HERCULES PUTS HIS MIND  
TO SOMETHING, NOTHING CAN  
STAY HIM --

BONK

--eh?

WHAT IS THIS? A DISCUS OF SOME  
SORT! HAVE I EVER TOLD YOU OF  
THE TIME I COMPETED IN THE DIS-  
CUS THROW AT THE FIRST OLYM-  
PICS? 'T'WAS A

OH, I'M SO  
SORRY! ARE  
YOU HURT?

WONDERFUL  
EVENT! I WON,  
OF COURSE.

FEAR NOT, FAIR MAIDEN,  
YOU DID ONLY STRIKE ME  
IN MY HEAD!

OMIGOSH!  
Y--YOU'RE  
HERCULES!  
ONE OF THE  
AVENGERS!  
GIRLS!

I  
DON'T  
BELIEVE  
IT!

HERCULES!!!

ALAS, 'TIS MY CURSE  
TO BE IRRESISTIBLE  
TO MORTAL WOMEN.  
O WOE!

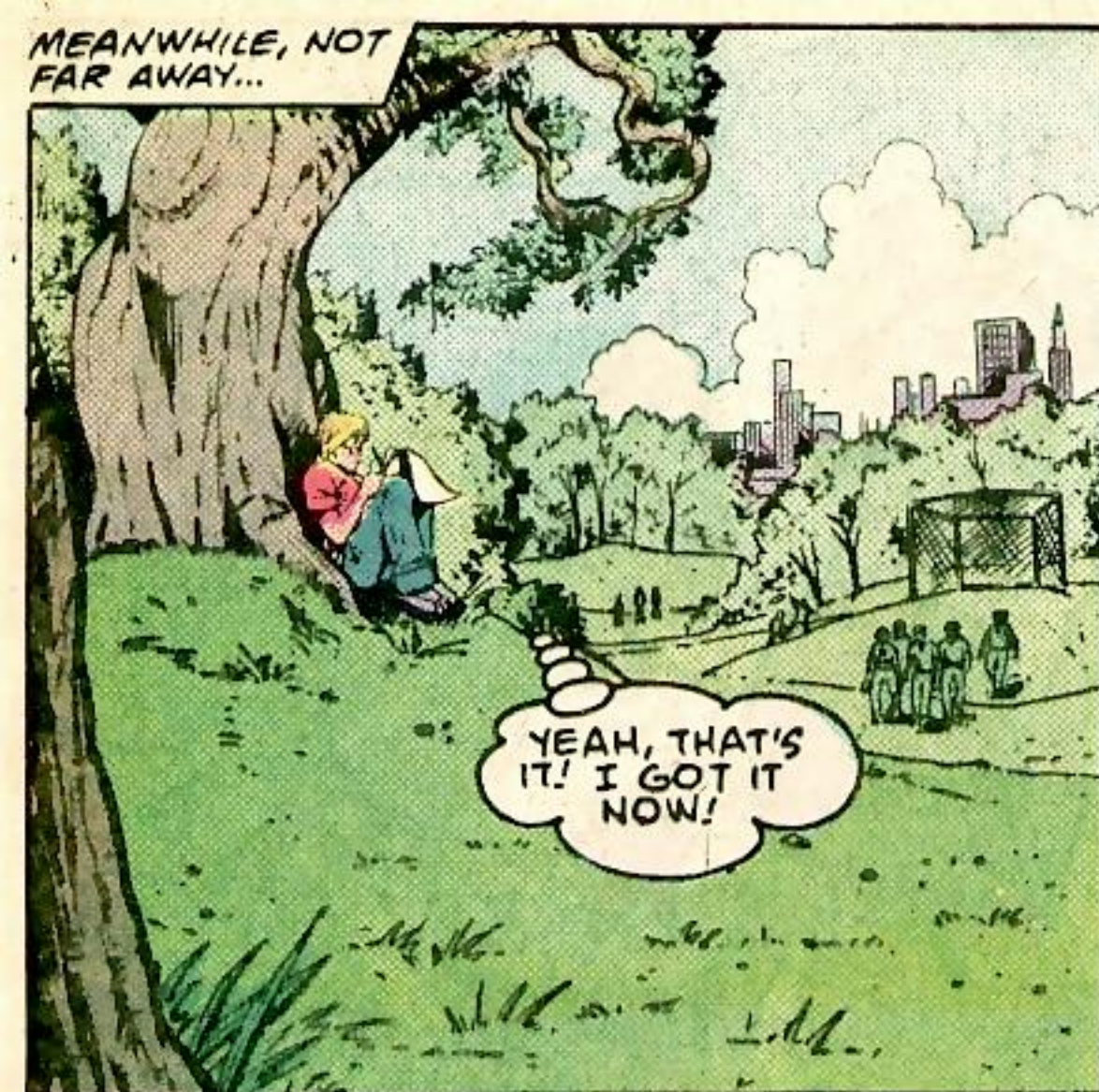
MASTER  
HERCULES?  
THE WINE?

ARE YOU  
ALL RIGHT?

ISN'T HE  
GORGEOUS?

Sigh! AND  
I THOUGHT  
MASTER STARFOX  
WAS A TRIAL!





YEAH, THAT'S IT! I GOT IT NOW!



THAT'S MY BEST PICTURE OF THOR YET! MOM KEEPS TELLIN' ME I'M GETTING BETTER ...SHE SAYS I GOTTA KEEP AT IT.

WHO KNOWS? MAYBE SOMEDAY I CAN MEET THE REAL THOR AND SHOW HIM MY SKETCHBOOK! I COULD TELL HIM WHAT A GREAT GUY I THINK HE IS AND--

HEY--HERE'S THE WIMP!



WELL, WELL, IF IT AIN'T MATTHEW LINDEN, THE NEIGHBORHOOD "ARTIST"!

H-HI, TONY.



WHATCHA GOT THERE, WIMP? IZZAT THAT SKETCHBOOK YOU'RE ALWAYS DRAWIN' IN? DON'CHA THINK YOU'RE A LITTLE WEIRD? DRAWIN' ALL THE TIME INSTEAD'A PLAYIN' BALL LIKE NORMAL KIDS?

I--I LIKE TO DRAW, THAT'S ALL.



YEAH? WELL, IF YOU LIKE IT SO MUCH, WHY DON'T YOU SHOW YOUR BUDDIES WHAT YOU'RE DRAWIN'?

HEY!  
GIVE THAT BACK TO ME!



WHAT? BEFORE WE HAVE A CHANCE TO LOOK AT IT? WHAT ARE YOU--AFRAID? OH, I FORGOT, WIMPS ARE ALWAYS AFRAID.

YEAH, WIMP. ARE YOU GONNA CRY FOR YOUR MOTHER?

"MOMMY! MOMMY! THEY TOOK MY BOOK! BOO HOO!"



LESSEE WHAT WE GOT HERE! HEY, ALL THIS IS IS A BUNCH A PICTURES OF THAT THOR SUPER-GUY. WHAT'S HE--YOUR IDEAL OR SOMETHIN'? FIGURES YOU'D LIKE A GUY LIKE THAT-- A REAL WEIRDO WHO TALKS FUNNY AND HAS LONG HAIR. WHATSAMATTER WITH REAL HEROES LIKE THE TORCH OR SPIDER-MAN? NOT GOOD ENOUGH FOR YOU?

HEY, TONY, I BET THE WIMP LIKES THOR CUZ THOR'S A TWERP JUST LIKE HE IS.



PLEASE, TONY, GIMME MY BOOK BACK. I WASN'T BOTHERIN' YOU OR NOTHIN'. I ONLY WANNA DRAW, SO CAN I HAVE IT BACK? PLEASE?

WHY? SO'S YOUR MOTHER CAN SHOW YOUR PICTURES AROUND LIKE YOU'RE SPECIAL OR SOMETHIN'? NO WAY!



BESIDES, WHO'D WANNA SEE PICTURES OF A LOSER LIKE THOR ANYWAY?

M-MY PICTURE!

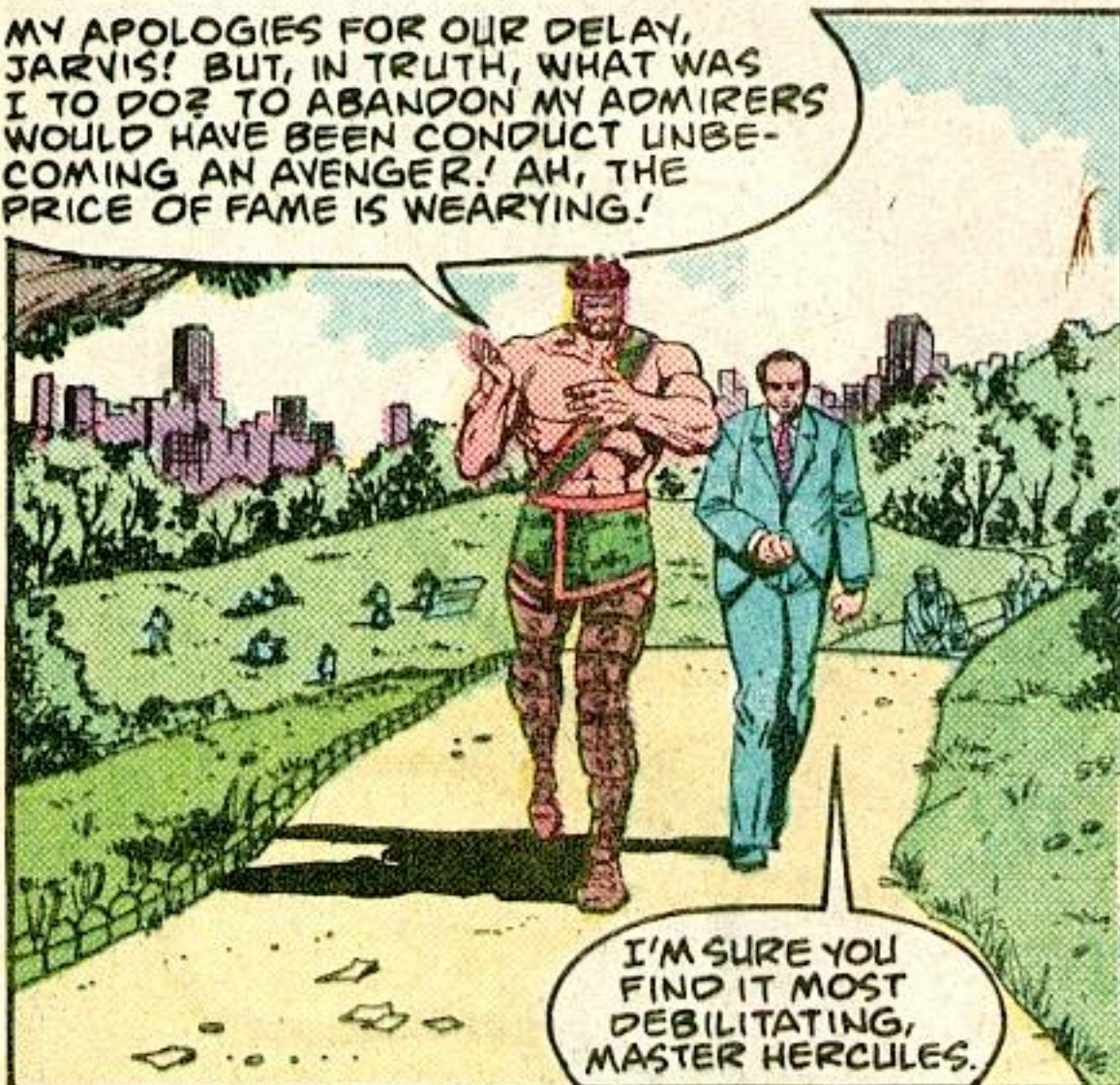
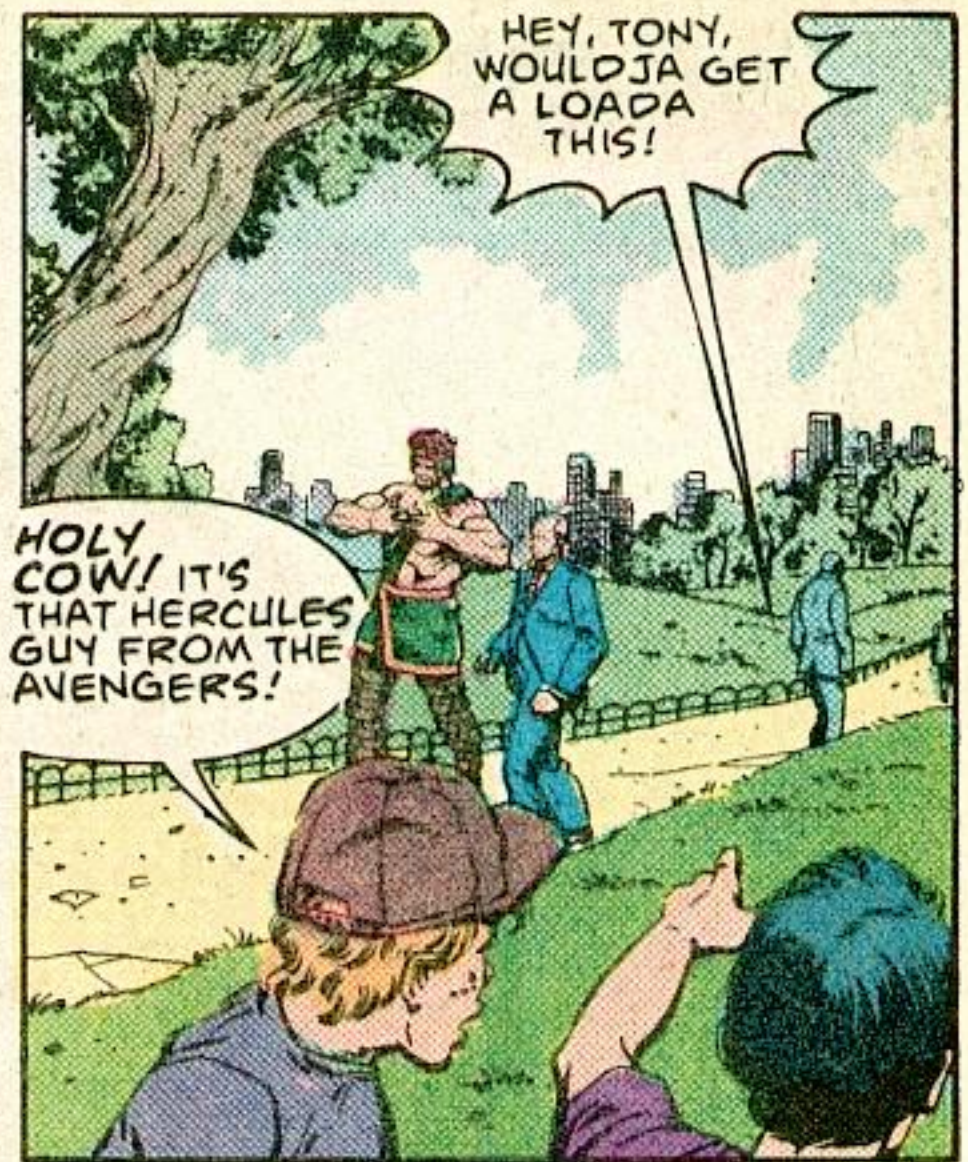


Y-YOU THINK YOU'RE HOT STUFF, TONY, 'CUZ YOU'RE BIGGER THAN ME AND YOU CAN BEAT ME UP-- BUT YOU CAN'T BEAT THOR UP! HE'S A HUNDRED TIMES BETTER THAN YOUR STUPID HEROES!



YOU THINK SO, RUNT? PROVE IT.



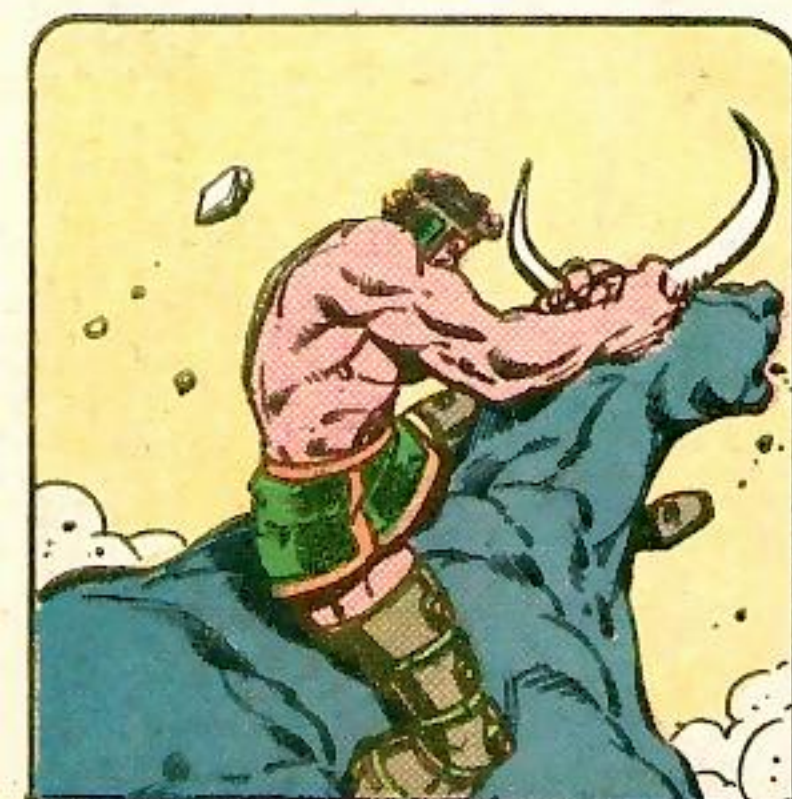




WHO IS STRONGER, THE  
GOD OF THUNDER OR  
HERCULES?



"NO, TO EARN THAT TITLE, I PERFORMED MANY LABORS, WON-  
DROUS AND FRAUGHT WITH  
DANGER. SURELY YOU HAVE  
HEARD OF MY BATTLE 'GAINST  
THE FEARSOME NINE-HEADED  
HYDRA. NO?"



"THEN, PERHAPS, YOU HAVE READ  
OF HOW I DID SUBDUCE THE  
SAVAGE BULL OF CRETE. NOW  
THERE WAS A MIGHTY STRUG-  
GLE! YOU HAVE NOT? TRULY,  
THE LITERACY AMONG MORTAL  
CHILDREN IS APPALLING,  
JARVIS!"



"SURELY, YOU HAVE HEARD  
TALES OF MY BATTLE WITH  
CERBERUS, THE GUARDIAN  
HOUND OF HADES, THE SHADOW-  
REALM OF MY UNCLE, PLUTO...  
BUT I SEE THAT TALE HAS  
ALSO EVADED YOUR EARS."

"Hmmm, WHAT ABOUT THE  
TIME I DID RELIEVE ATLAS  
OF HIS CELESTIAL BURDEN  
FOR A TIME. TRULY ALL RE-  
MEMBER THAT--Heh, heh--  
HERCULEAN TASK. BUT  
STILL I SEE THOU ART  
UNIMPRESSED!"

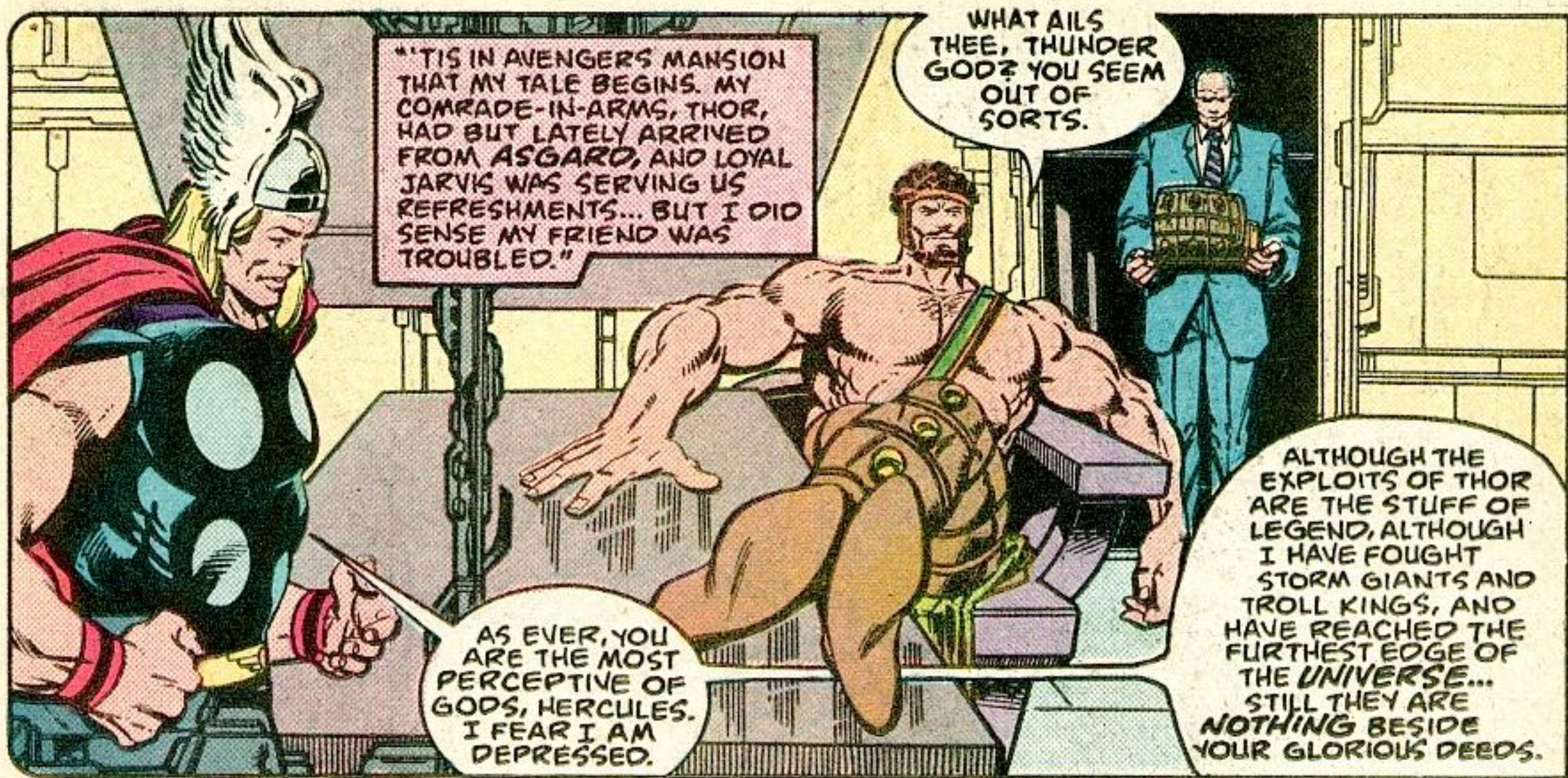


"I'M SORRY, MR. HERCU-  
LES. I'M SURE ALL THAT  
OLD STUFF IS REAL IM-  
PRESSNE, BUT I  
JUST GOTTA KNOW  
--WHO'S STRONG-  
ER, YOU OR  
THOR?"



"WELL, IF YOU  
INSIST, CHILD, I  
SUPPOSE I WILL HAVE  
TO TELL YOU OF THE  
LAST CONFRONTATION  
BETWEEN THE GOD  
OF THUNDER AND MY-  
SELF. TRULY, IT WAS AN  
EPIC BATTLE OF  
WHICH THE POETS  
SHALL LONG SING!"



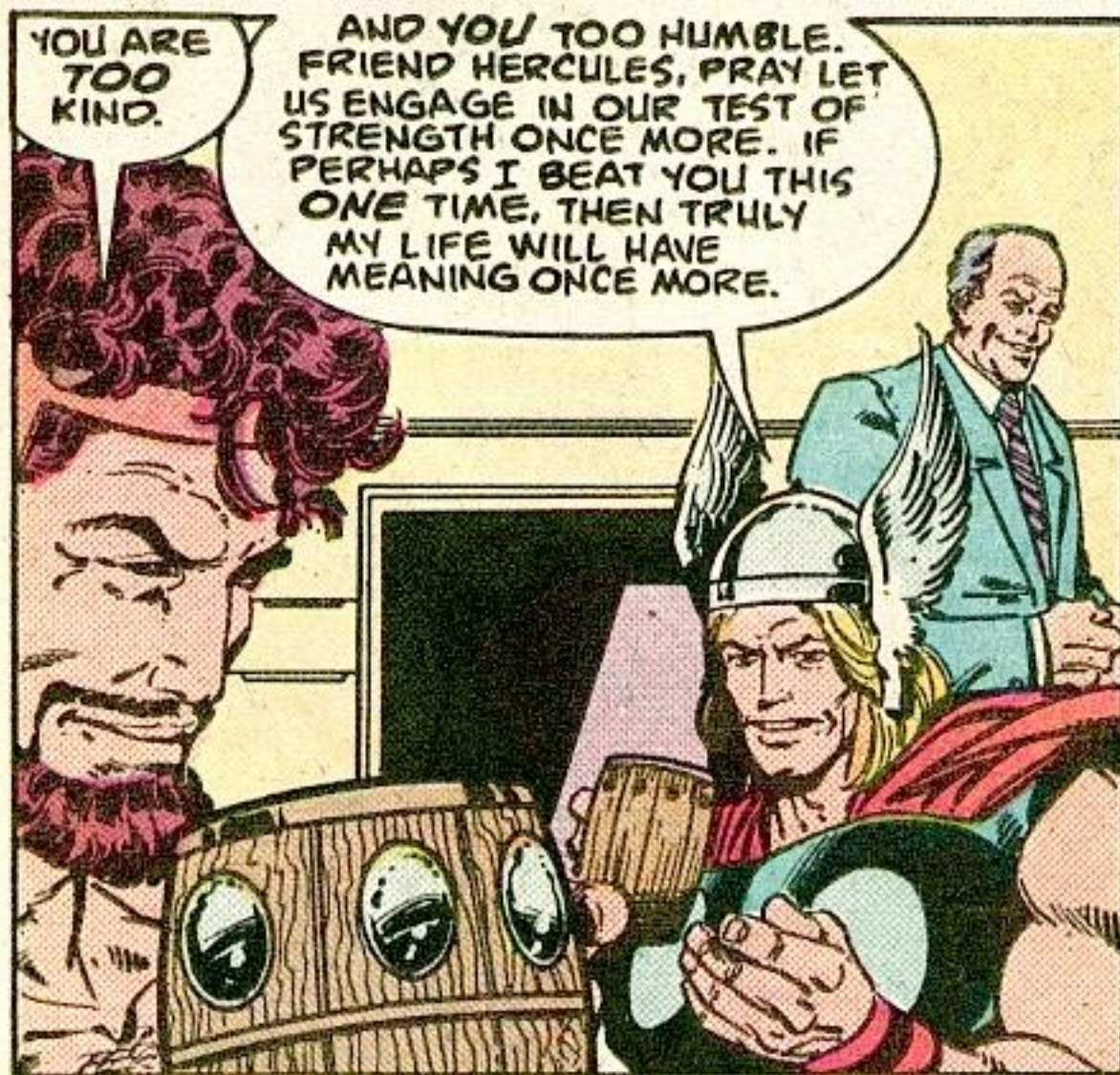


"TIS IN AVENGERS MANSION THAT MY TALE BEGINS. MY COMRADE-IN-ARMS, THOR, HAD BUT LATELY ARRIVED FROM ASGARD, AND LOYAL JARVIS WAS SERVING US REFRESHMENTS... BUT I DID SENSE MY FRIEND WAS TROUBLED."

WHAT AILS THEE, THUNDER GOD? YOU SEEM OUT OF SORTS.

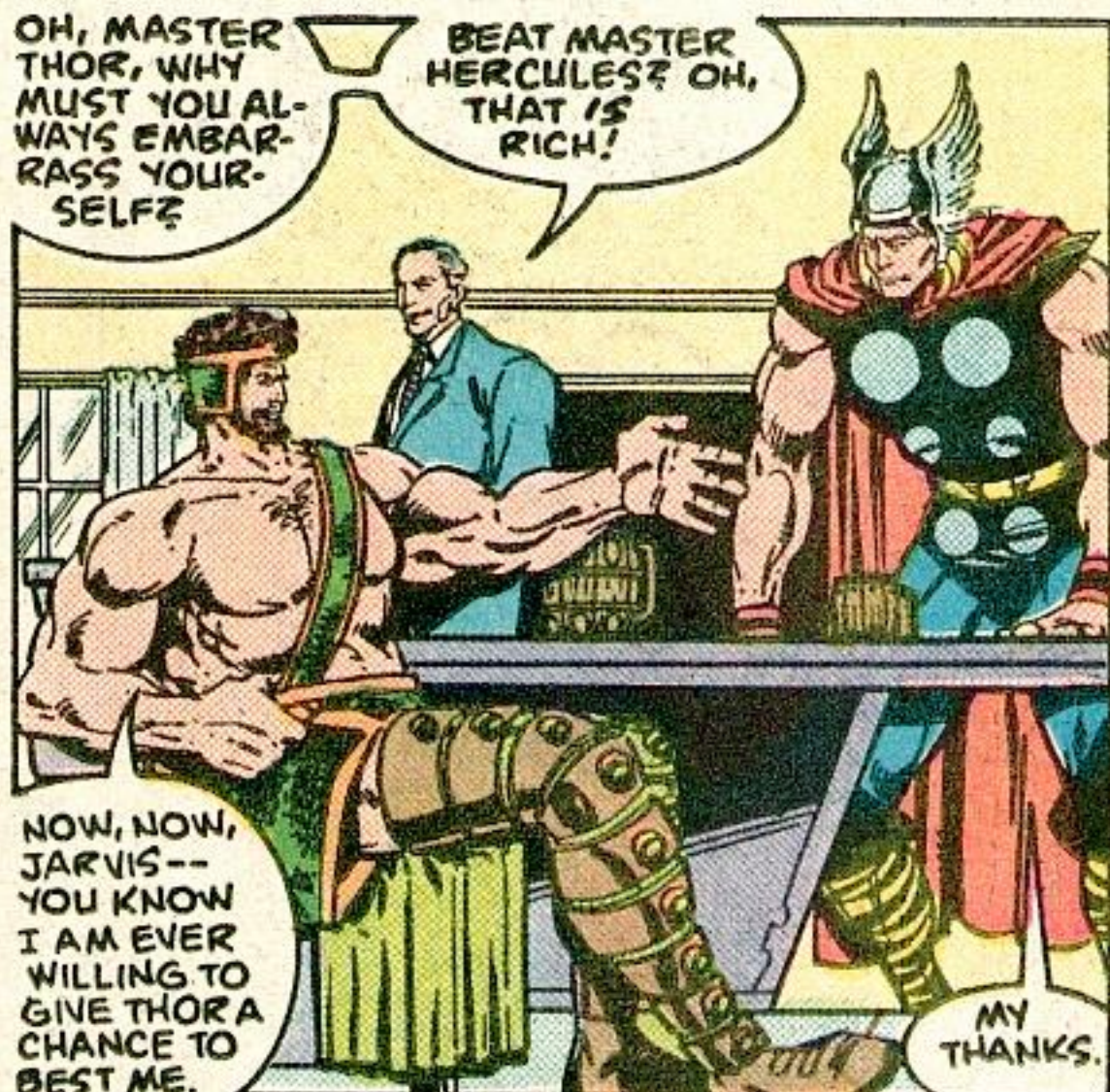
ALTHOUGH THE EXPLOITS OF THOR ARE THE STUFF OF LEGEND, ALTHOUGH I HAVE FOUGHT STORM GIANTS AND TROLL KINGS, AND HAVE REACHED THE FURTHEST EDGE OF THE UNIVERSE... STILL THEY ARE NOTHING BESIDE YOUR GLORIOUS DEEDS.

AS EVER, YOU ARE THE MOST PERCEPTIVE OF GODS, HERCULES. I FEAR I AM DEPRESSED.



YOU ARE TOO KIND.

AND YOU TOO HUMBLE. FRIEND HERCULES, PRAY LET US ENGAGE IN OUR TEST OF STRENGTH ONCE MORE. IF PERHAPS I BEAT YOU THIS ONE TIME, THEN TRULY MY LIFE WILL HAVE MEANING ONCE MORE.



OH, MASTER THOR, WHY MUST YOU ALWAYS EMBARRASS YOURSELF?

BEAT MASTER HERCULES? OH, THAT IS RICH!

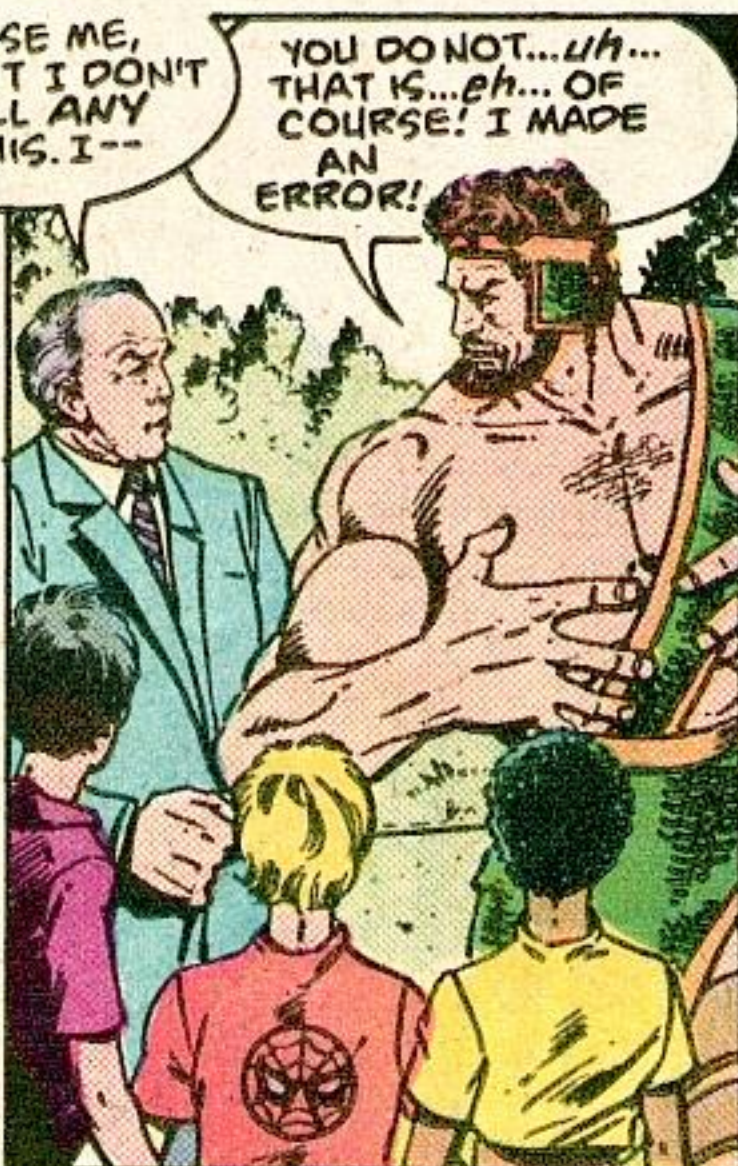
NOW, NOW, JARVIS-- YOU KNOW I AM EVER WILLING TO GIVE THOR A CHANCE TO BEST ME.

MY THANKS.



"AND THUS, OUR TITANIC STRUGGLE DID BEGIN. WE--"

EXCUSE ME, SIR, BUT I DON'T RECALL ANY OF THIS. I--



YOU DO NOT...uh... THAT IS...ph... OF COURSE! I MADE AN ERROR!



"THIS ALL HAPPENED WHILST YOU TOOK YOUR BE-LOVED MOTHER TO MIAMI BEACH ON VACATION, FAITHFUL JARVIS!"

POP!



"NOW, WHERE WAS I? OH, YES... NEEDLESS TO SAY, OUR CONTEST OF STRENGTH WAS OVER HERE IT TRULY BEGAN."

"THIS HAS BEEN MOST INTERESTING, THOR, BUT I MUST BE OFF, FOR I AM TO ESCORT A LOVELY MAIDEN TO DINNER!"

"AS ALWAYS, THERE WAS NO DOUBT AS TO ITS OUTCOME."

"THOR, ALAS, DID NOT TAKE THIS LAST DEFEAT WELL..."

AGAIN YOU WIN! AGAIN AND AGAIN YOU BEST ME! WHY, WHY?

WHAT CAN I SAY, ASGARDIAN? **SOMEONE** HAS TO BE SECOND BEST.

**BONK**

BUT WHY MUST IT BE ME!???

"NOW, CHILD, YOU MUST UNDERSTAND, NORMALLY I AM THE MOST EVEN-TEMPERED OF GODS, AND I **DETEST** MINDLESS VIOLENCE..."

WHAT DID I DO?

"... BUT TO BE SAVAGELY AND RUDELY HIT OVER THE HEAD WITH A WEAPON AS RIDICULOUS AS THE URU HAMMER OF ALL THINGS IS TOO MUCH TO ASK EVEN OF THE SON OF ZEUS!"

THOR! THOU HAST MADE ME MAD!

Whimper

Urke

**SMASH**



WHAT A PREDICAMENT!  
I HAVE MADE THE MOST  
GRIEVOUS OF ERRORS...  
I HAVE ANGERED HERCULES!



I MUST DEFEND MYSELF! BUT  
HOW? EASIER BY FAR IS IT TO DE-  
FEAT THE COMBINED MIGHT OF  
SURTUR THE FIRE DEMON AND FAF-  
NIR THE DRAGON THAN TO BATTLE  
THE PRINCE OF POWER! I THINK I  
AM GOING TO REGRET GETTING  
OUT OF BED THIS MORNING!



WHERE ARE YOU, SON  
OF ODIN? ARE YOU HID-  
ING, YOU MOST SORE OF  
SORE LOSERS? IT IS WELL  
YOU SHOULD, FOR YOU  
SHALL NOT ESCAPE THE  
WRATH OF HERCULES!!



OHO, THERE  
YOU ARE,  
BLACKGUARD!

STAND BACK, HERCU-  
LES! I KNOW HOW YOU  
GET WHEN THE BLOOD  
RAGE O'ERTAKES YOU.  
I WILL NOT BE RESPON-  
SIBLE IF I MUST TAKE  
ACTION AGAINST YOU!  
I WILL DEFEND MY-  
SELF!

CREAK



RRRIIPPP

DEFEND  
YOURSELF?  
FOOLISH  
THUNDER  
GOD--



WHAM

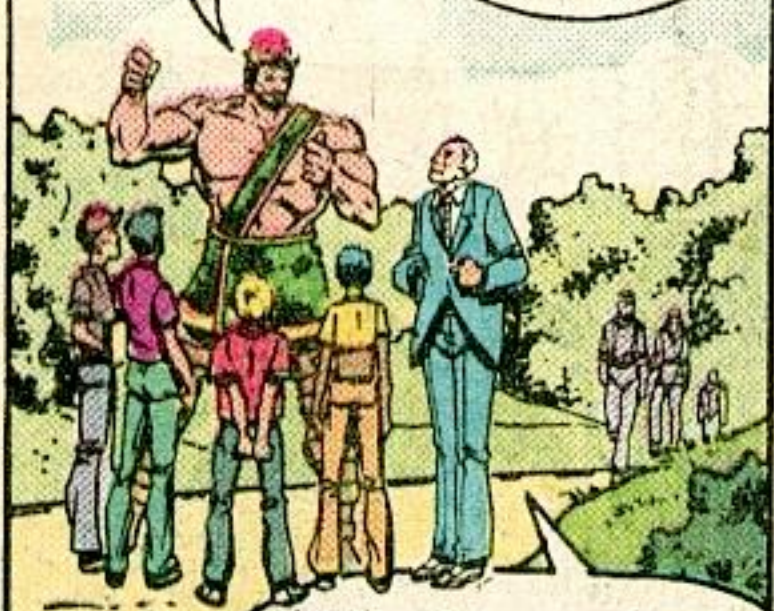
--YOU  
WILL HAVE  
TO DO MUCH  
BETTER  
THAN  
THIS!

OOFFF!



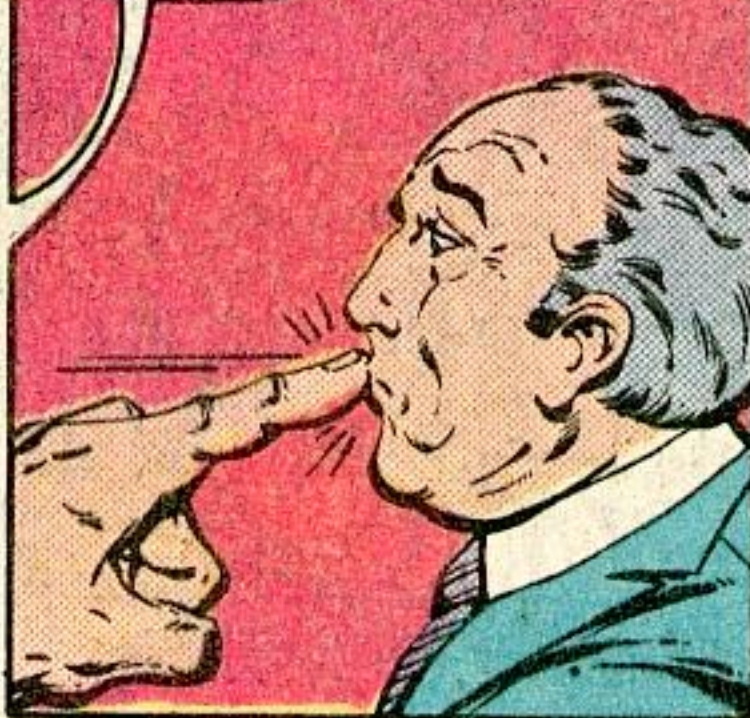
"T'WAS AN INGEN-  
IOUS PLAN TO  
USE MY OPPO-  
NENT'S WEAPON  
AGAINST HIM...

...BUT THEN  
THE SON OF  
ZEUS HAS AL-  
WAYS BEEN  
KNOWN FOR  
HIS QUICK  
THINKING.



NOW, MASTER HERCULES,  
**REALLY!** THOR ACTING  
LIKE A SPOILED CHILD?  
HITTING YOU OVER THE  
HEAD WITH HIS HAMMER?  
ARE YOU SURE YOU'RE  
NOT MAKING--

Heh, heh,  
JARVIS, TRULY  
YOU ARE A PRINCE  
AMONG BUTLERS,  
BUT YOU LEAVE  
SOMETHING TO BE  
DESIRED AS AN  
AUDIENCE!



NOW, NO MORE INTERRUPTIONS! IT IS  
QUITE DISTURBING TO THE CHILDREN-- ES-  
PECIALLY THIS YOUNG LAD, MATTHEW,  
WHO MOST OBVIOUSLY IS AN ADMIRER  
OF MINE!



BUT, SIR,  
NONE OF  
IT IS... OH,  
VERY  
WELL,  
IF YOU  
INSIST.

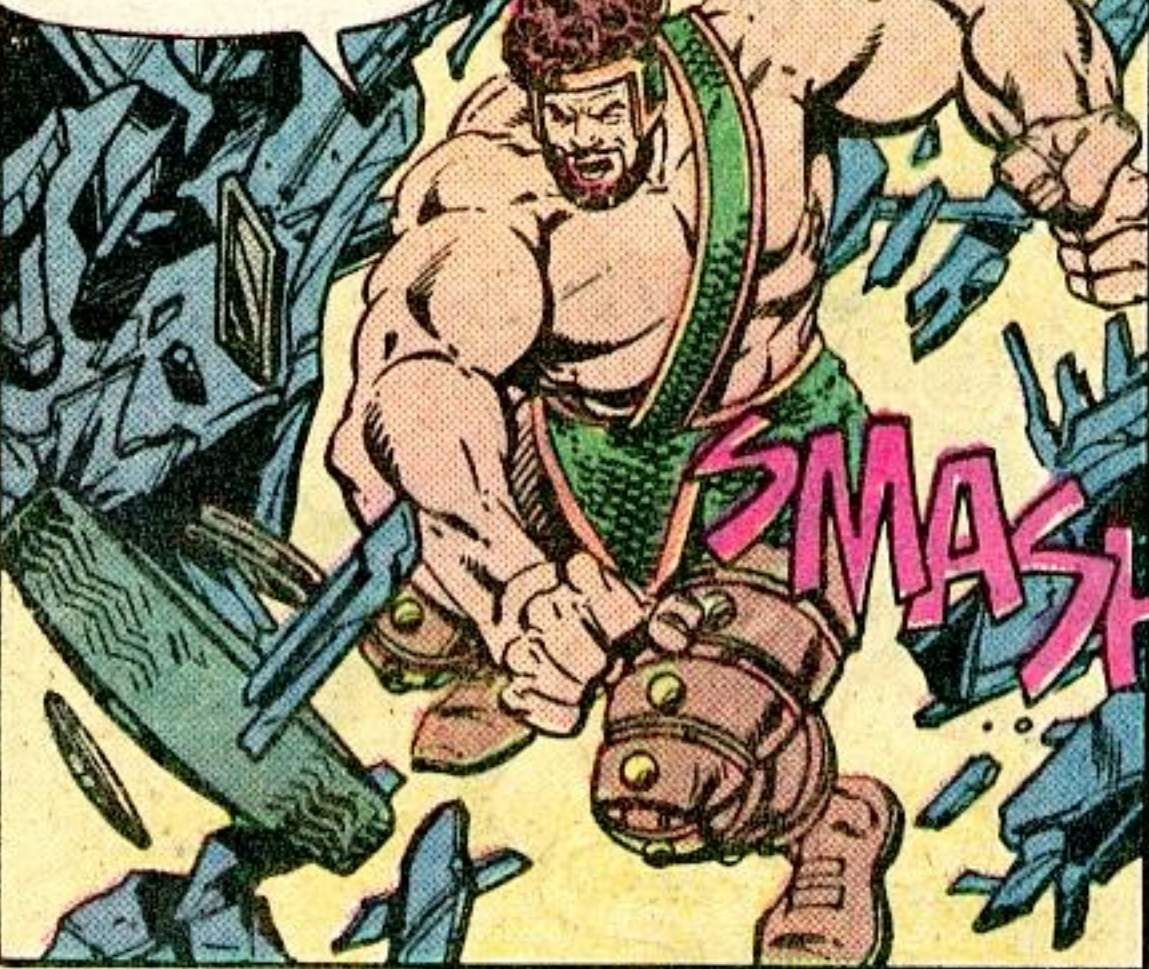
"I BEG YOUR PARDONS, YOUNG  
MORTALS, BUT MY COMPANION  
IS A MOST EXCITABLE MAN. NOW  
BACK TO MY TALE: THE BATTLE  
WAS NOW TRULY ENGAGED, AND  
THOR WAS FINALLY PROVIDING  
ME WITH SOME SPORT. NOT  
MUCH, OF COURSE, BUT SOME.

YOU MAY BE THE MOST POWERFUL  
BEING IN THE UNIVERSE, HERCULES,  
BUT DO NOT EXPECT THE SON OF  
ODIN TO GIVE UP WITHOUT A  
FIGHT!



A FIGHT?  
DO NOT MAKE  
ME LAUGH,  
ASGARDIAN!

THERE ARE **BABES**  
IN OLYMPUS WHO  
WOULD GIVE ME  
MORE TROUBLE TO  
SUBDUE THAN YOU!





BUT THEN, YOU BEHAVE  
MUCH LIKE A CHILD, DO  
YOU NOT, ASGARDIAN?



MORE INSULTS,  
OLYMPIAN? WAS IT  
NOT ENOUGH THAT I  
CAME TO YOU IN  
DESPAIR AND THAT  
YOU FOUND IT NEC-  
ESSARY TO HUM-  
BLE ME AGAIN?

I TELL YOU I AM WEARY  
OF HEARING OF THE  
GREATNESS OF HERCULES!



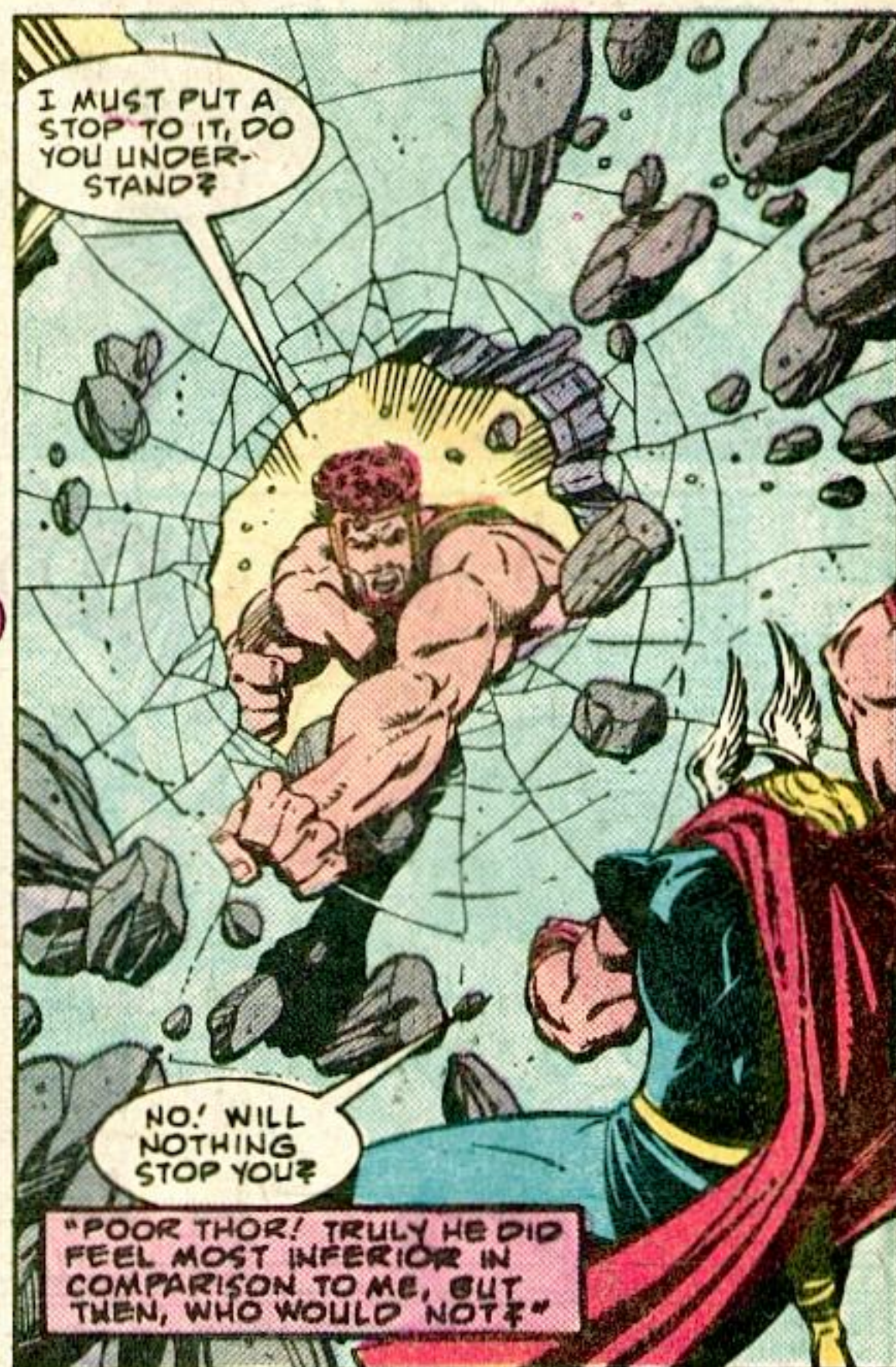
WHEN WILL THE POWER OF  
THOR BE RECOGNIZED? THE  
POWER THAT CAN DO--  
**THIS!**

387

THOR, YOUR  
DESTRUCTION  
OF CITY PROP-  
ERTY IS TRULY  
DISGRACEFUL.



I MUST PUT A  
STOP TO IT, DO  
YOU UNDER-  
STAND?



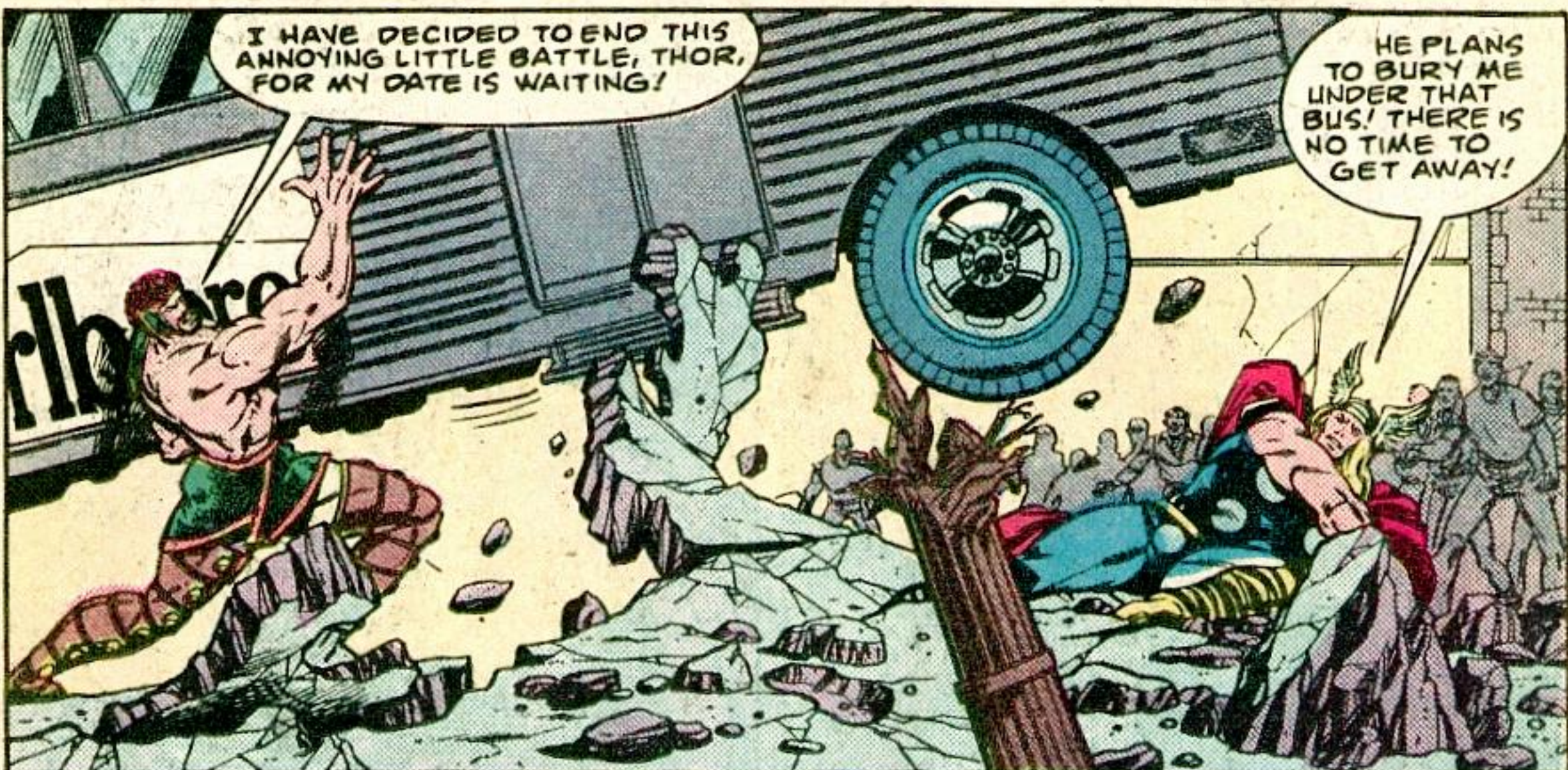
NO! WILL  
NOTHING  
STOP YOU?

"POOR THOR! TRULY HE DID  
FEEL MOST INFERIOR IN  
COMPARISON TO ME, BUT  
THEN, WHO WOULD NOT?"



I HAVE DECIDED TO END THIS ANNOYING LITTLE BATTLE, THOR, FOR MY DATE IS WAITING!

HE PLANS TO BURY ME UNDER THAT BUS! THERE IS NO TIME TO GET AWAY!



THUS, I MUST USE MIGHTY MJOLNIR TO DESTROY THE VEHICLE!

AND NOW, HERCULES WILL DISCOVER THAT TWO CAN PLAY AT HIS GAME!

SKRASH



OHO, THOR! SURELY YOU DO NOT INTEND TO STOP ME WITH THAT PUNY CAR!

OOOF! 'TIS NOT JUST A CAR, HERCULES--



CORRECTION, THUNDER GOD--

SUMPOOSH

--'TIS A VOLKS-WAGEN!



KER-RUNCH





-- 'T WAS A VOLKSWAGEN.



WOW! WAY TO GO, HERCULES! DID YOU REALLY TRASH THAT CAR LIKE THAT?

WOULD I LIE?



YOU REALLY LAID INTO THOR, DIDN'T YOU, HERKIE, OL' PAL? YOU MUST BE THE STRONGEST GUY ON EARTH. A LOT STRONGER THAN THOR, RIGHT? Heh, heh, heh.

THERE HAS NEVER BEEN A DOUBT IN MY MIND, YOUTH.

RRRIIPP

SO, WHA' HAPPENED NEXT?



"AS WAS TO BE EXPECTED, THOR DID NOT TAKE MY TREATMENT OF HIS 'VOLKSWAGEN' VERY WELL..."

THOU WERT ALWAYS AN ANNOYING BRAGGART, HERCULES!



THOR! YOUR INSULTS DO ME MORE HARM THAN YOUR FISTS!

THE FISTS OF THOR SHOULD NEVER BE UNDERESTIMATED.

POW

OOF

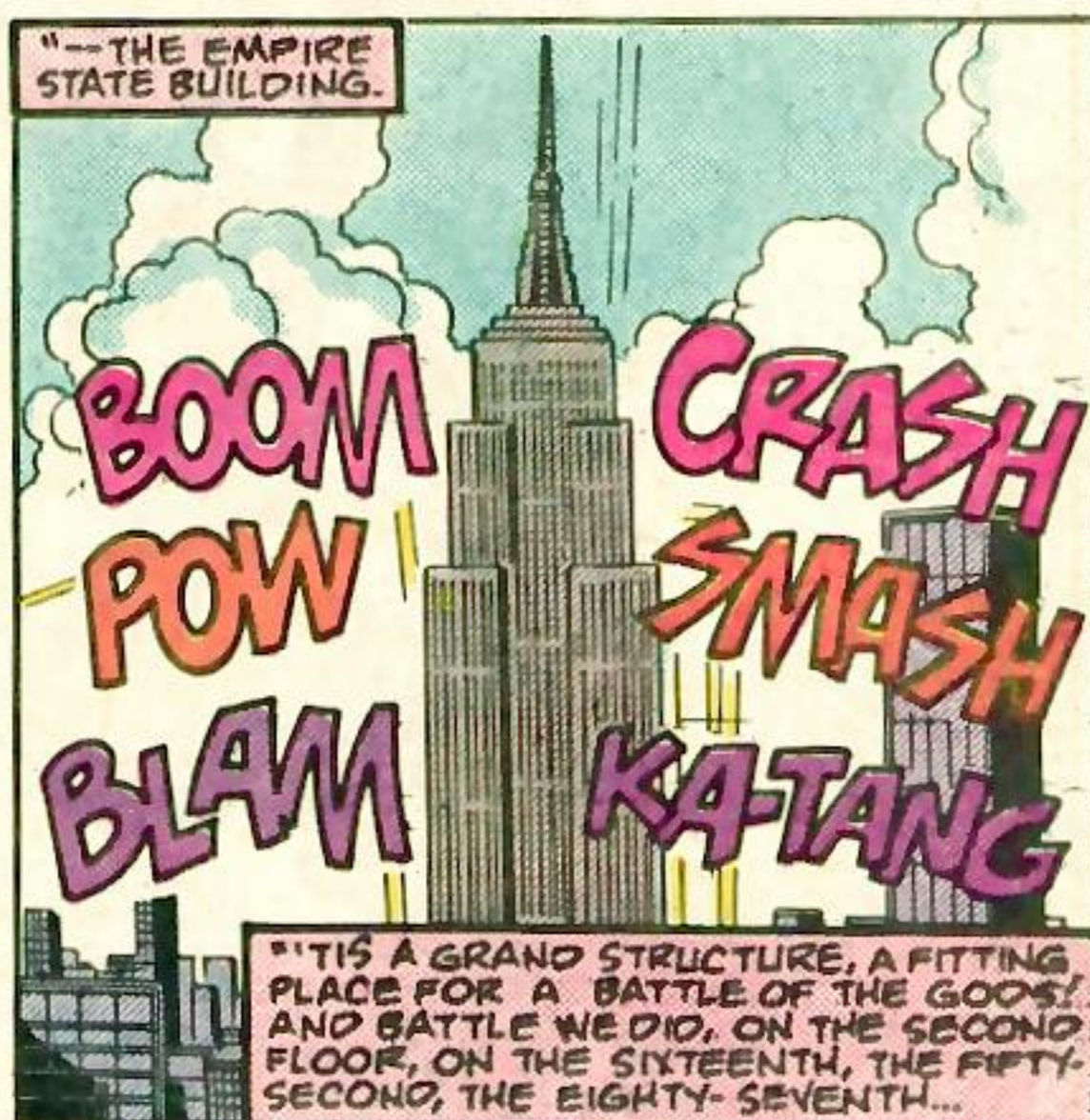


"'T WAS A MOST FORTUNATE BLOW, I WILL ADMIT, AND I WAS SENT HURTLING INTO THE LOBBY OF THE STRUCTURE YOU MORTALS DO CALL--

"--THE EMPIRE STATE BUILDING.

BOOM  
POW  
BLAM

CRASH  
SMASH  
KATANG

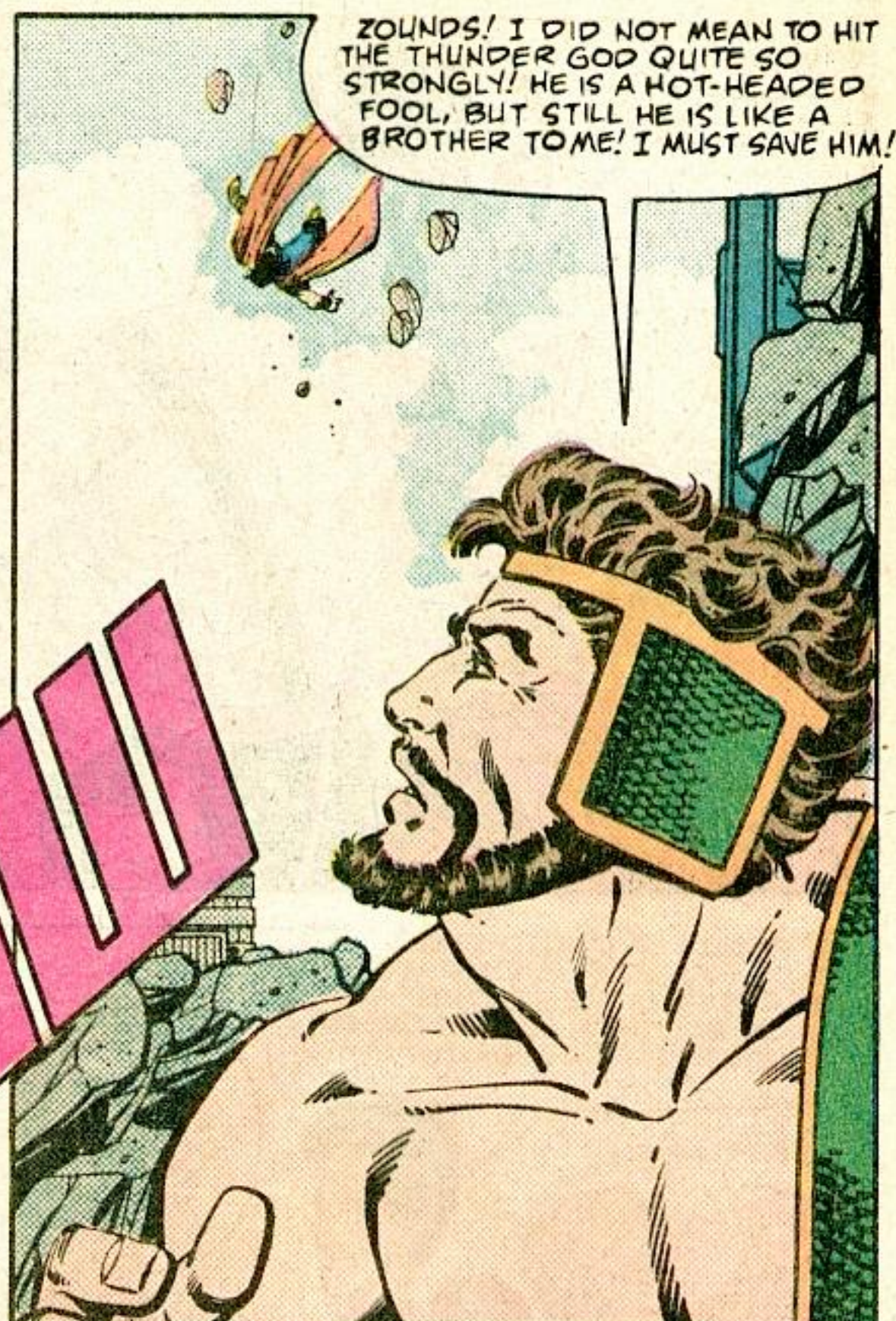


"'T IS A GRAND STRUCTURE, A FITTING PLACE FOR A BATTLE OF THE GOOS! AND BATTLE WE DID, ON THE SECOND FLOOR, ON THE SIXTEENTH, THE FIFTY-SECOND, THE EIGHTY-SEVENTH...

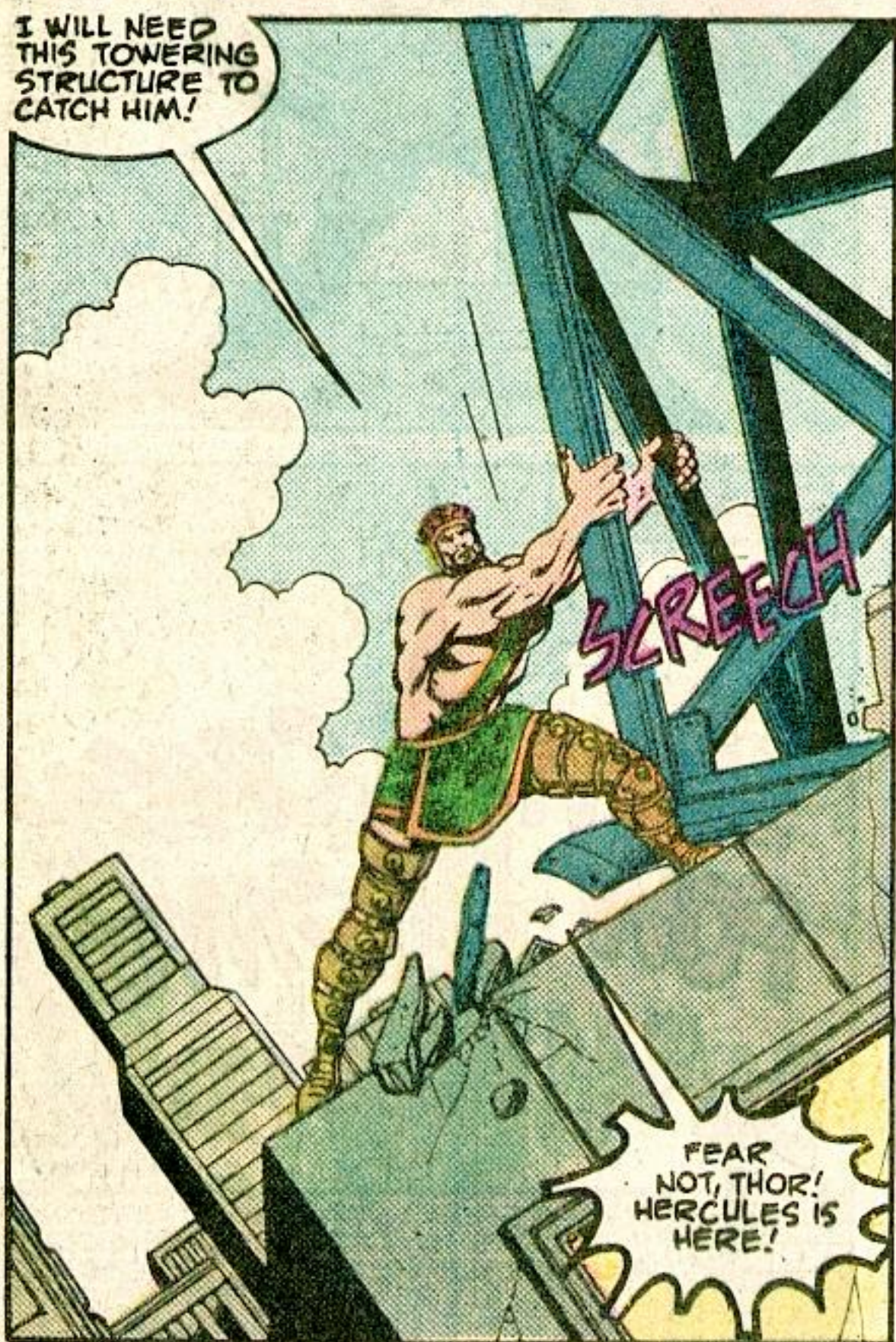




"BUT ON THE HUNDRED AND FIRST FLOOR, I REMEMBERED MY MAIDEN FAIR WAITING FOR ME, AND I DECIDED TO END OUR LITTLE TUSSE..."



ZOUNDS! I DID NOT MEAN TO HIT THE THUNDER GOD QUITE SO STRONGLY! HE IS A HOT-HEADED FOOL, BUT STILL HE IS LIKE A BROTHER TO ME! I MUST SAVE HIM!



I WILL NEED THIS TOWERING STRUCTURE TO CATCH HIM!

SCREECH

FEAR NOT, THOR! HERCULES IS HERE!



GOT HIM! Oooooopps!

"IN MY PLAN TO SAVE THOR, I MISCALCULATED THE SUDDEN ADDED WEIGHT OF THE THUNDER GOD TO MY MAKE-SHIFT CRANE, AND SO WE BOTH DID TOPPLE--"



"--TO THE GROUND."

**BAM**

"Uh, MR. HERCULES, HOWCUM I NEVER SAW NUTHIN' ABOUT THE RADIO TOWER FALLIN' OFF THE EMPIRE STATE BUILDING ON THE NEWS OR ANYTHIN'? I MEAN, SOMETHIN' LIKE THAT WOULD BE IN ALL THE PAPERS, WOULDN'T IT?"

"IT WOULD? WELL-- THERE WAS NOT TIME! FOR THE MIGHTY AVENGERS, OF WHOM I AM THE MIGHTIEST, DID REPAIR THE TOWER THE VERY NEXT DAY!"

"NOW, BACK TO MY STORY..."

IN TRUTH, I MUST ADMIT I HAVE NOT HAD THIS MUCH FUN SINCE I BATTLED THE QUEEN OF THE AMAZONS!

Oooooh!

THERE IS NOTHING LIKE A GOOD FIGHT TO CLEAR ONE'S HEAD! I AM MY EVEN-TEMPERED SELF AGAIN!

THOR, HOW FARE YOU?

I DO NOT BELIEVE IT! THERE IS NOT A SCRATCH ON YOU! OF ALL THE GODS, WHY ARE THE FATES SO GENEROUS TO YOU?

WOULD YOU BE SO KIND AS TO HELP A LITTLE OLD LADY ACROSS THE STREET?

HERCULES, I :Ooooooff!:

SILENCE, ASGARDIAN! I AM ABOUT TO PERFORM A GOOD DEED!

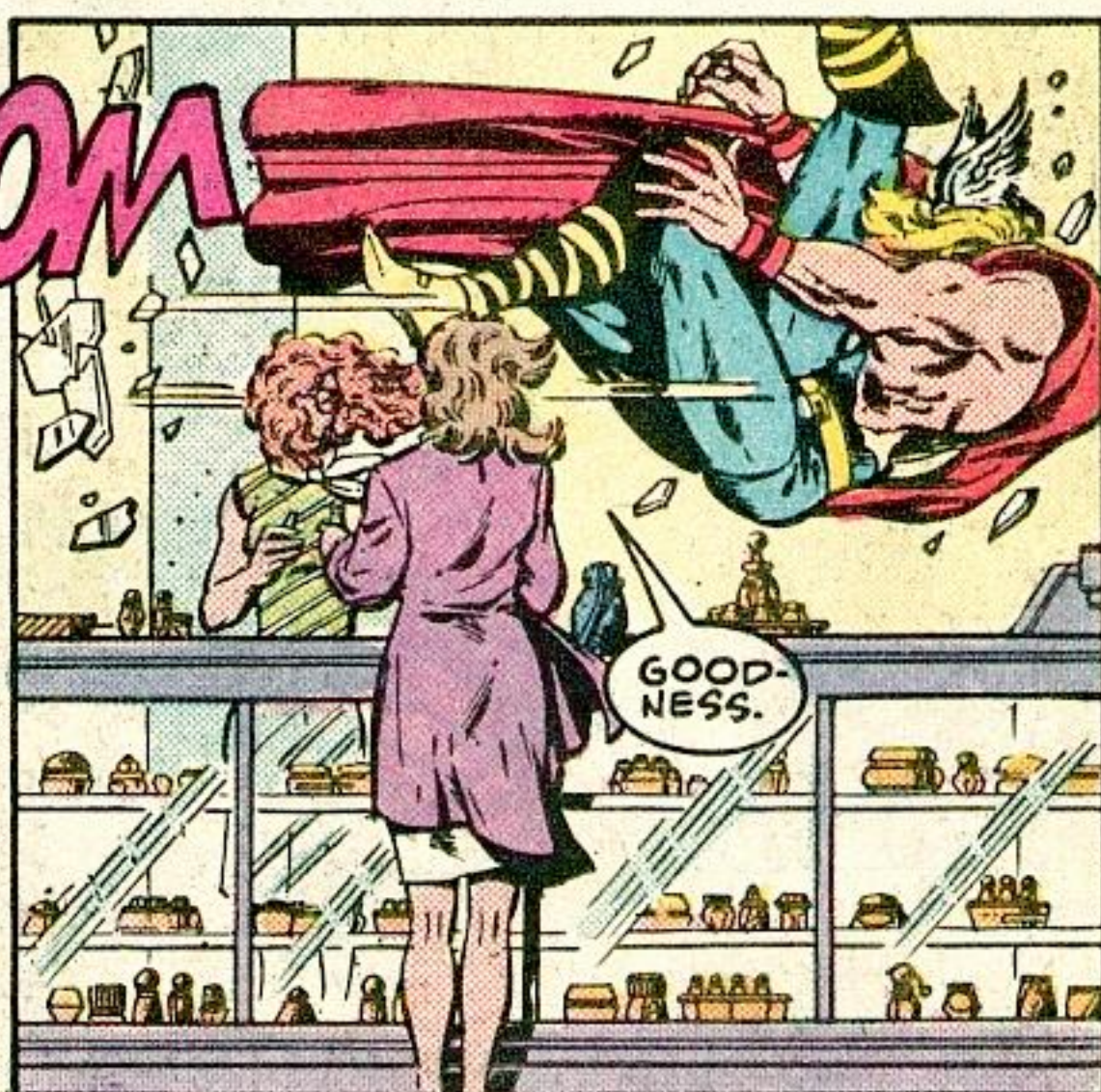
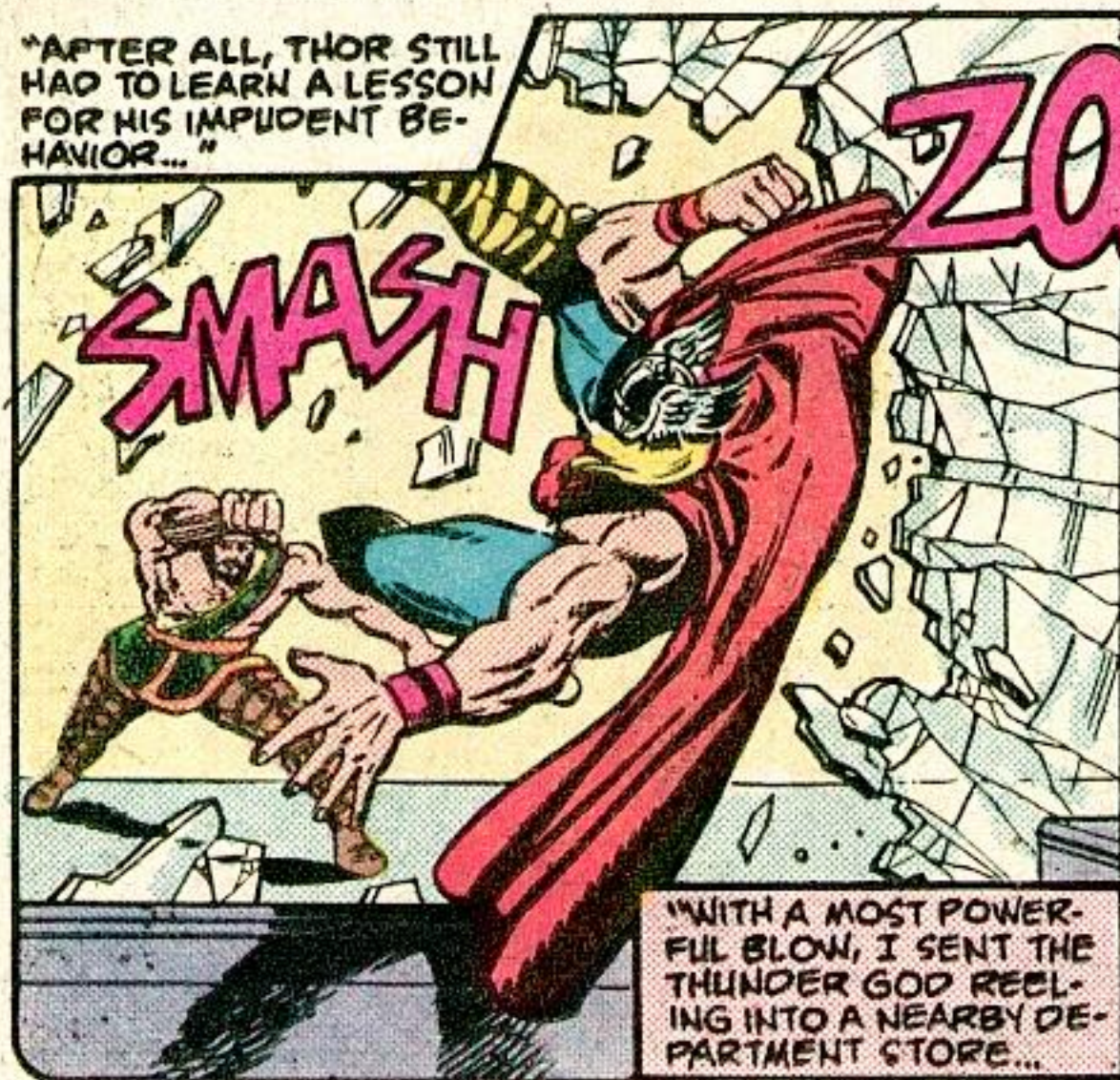
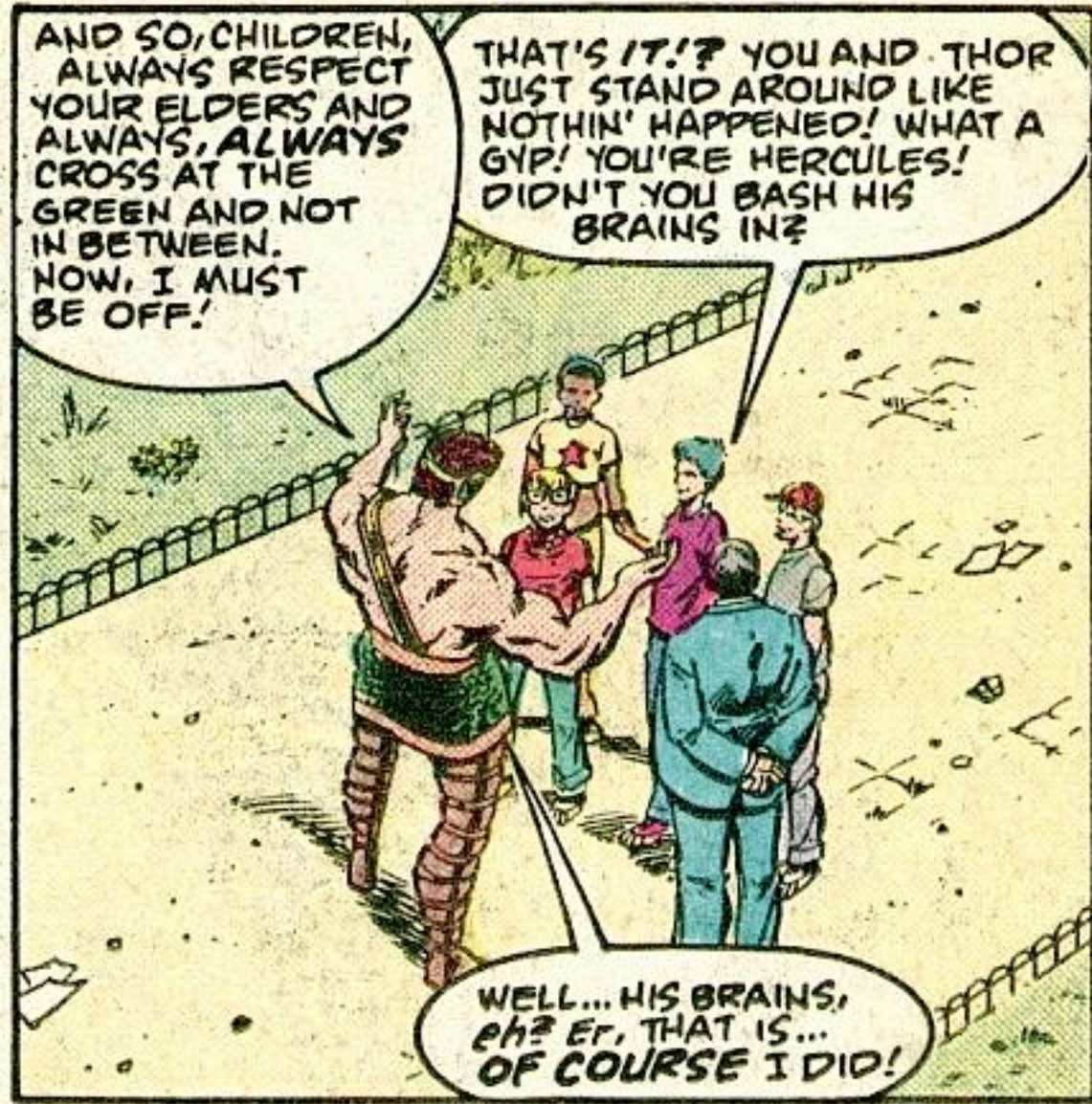
AS THE MORTALS SAY, JUST LUCKY I--eh?

OH, MR. HERCULES!

HOW GALLANT! YOU KNOW, I ALWAYS THOUGHT YOU WERE THE CUTEST ONE OF ALL THOSE SUPER HERO FELLAS.

AH, I SEE YOU ARE A MOST PERCEPTIVE WOMAN. WATCH YOUR STEP.



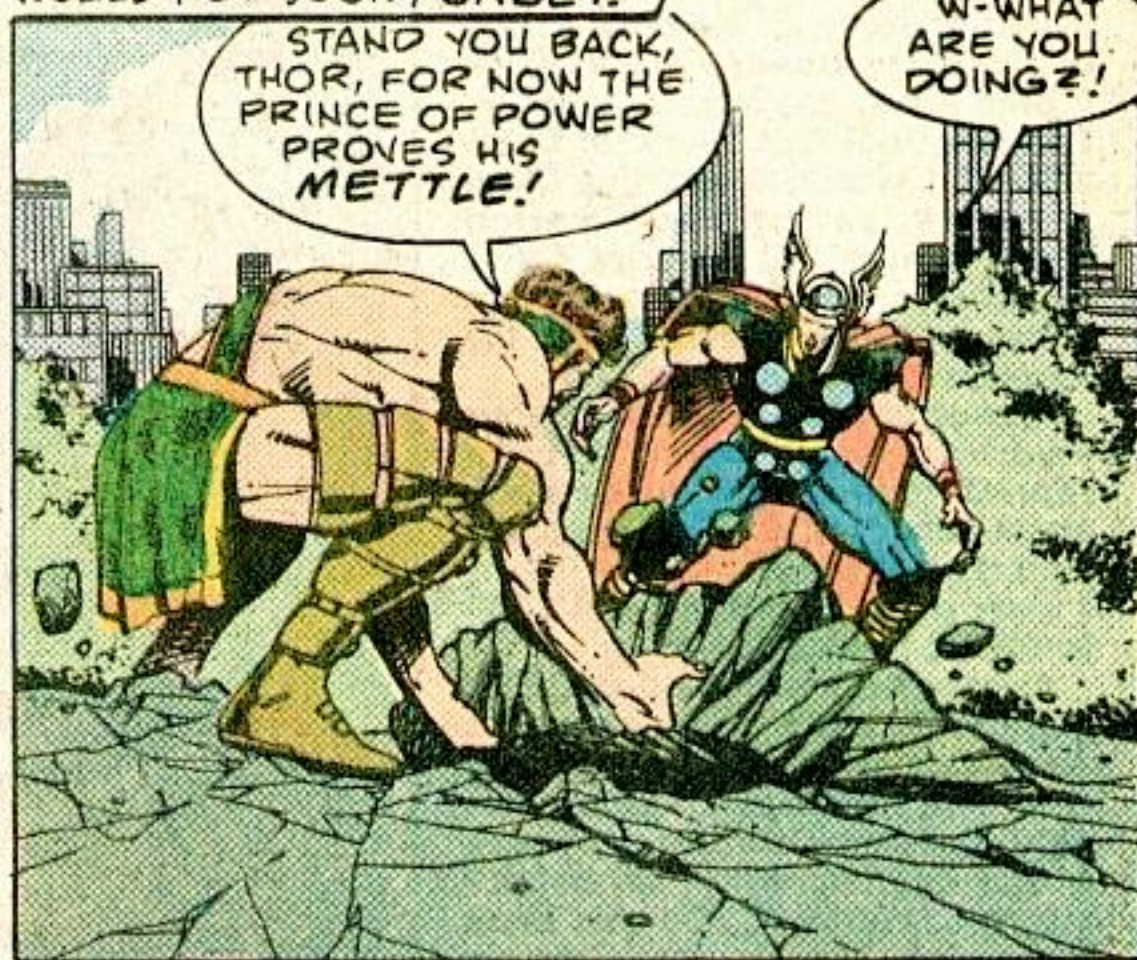




"THUS DID OUR EPIC BATTLE CONTINUE, AS THE IGNOBLE SON OF ODIN AND I COMBATED DOWN THE ENTIRE LENGTH OF THE ISLAND OF MANHATTAN..."



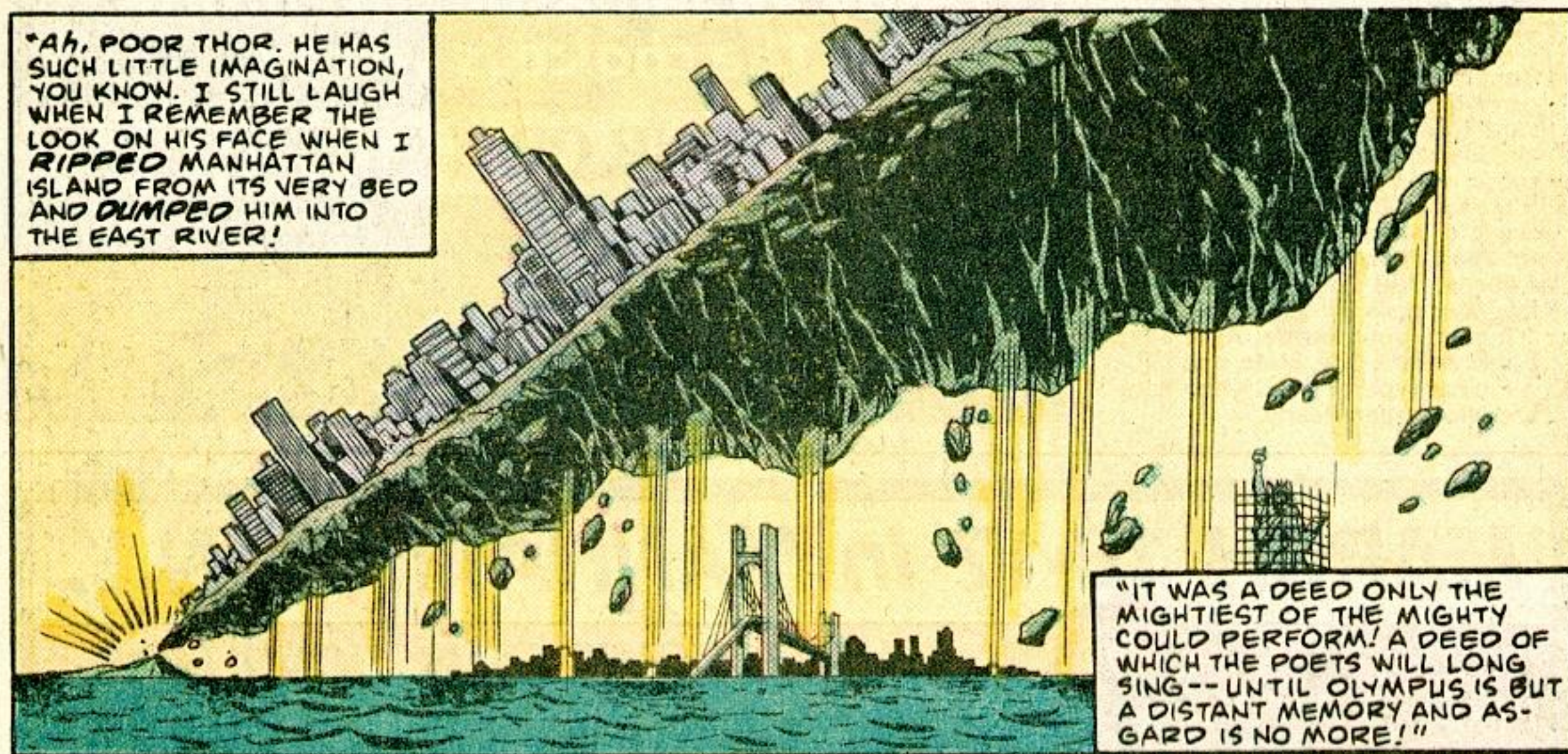
"...BUT I DID WEARY OF THIS THANKLESS TASK AND DECIDED TO TEACH THE INSUFFERABLE THUNDER GOD A LESSON HE WOULD NOT SOON FORGET!"



STAND YOU BACK, THOR, FOR NOW THE PRINCE OF POWER PROVES HIS METTLE!

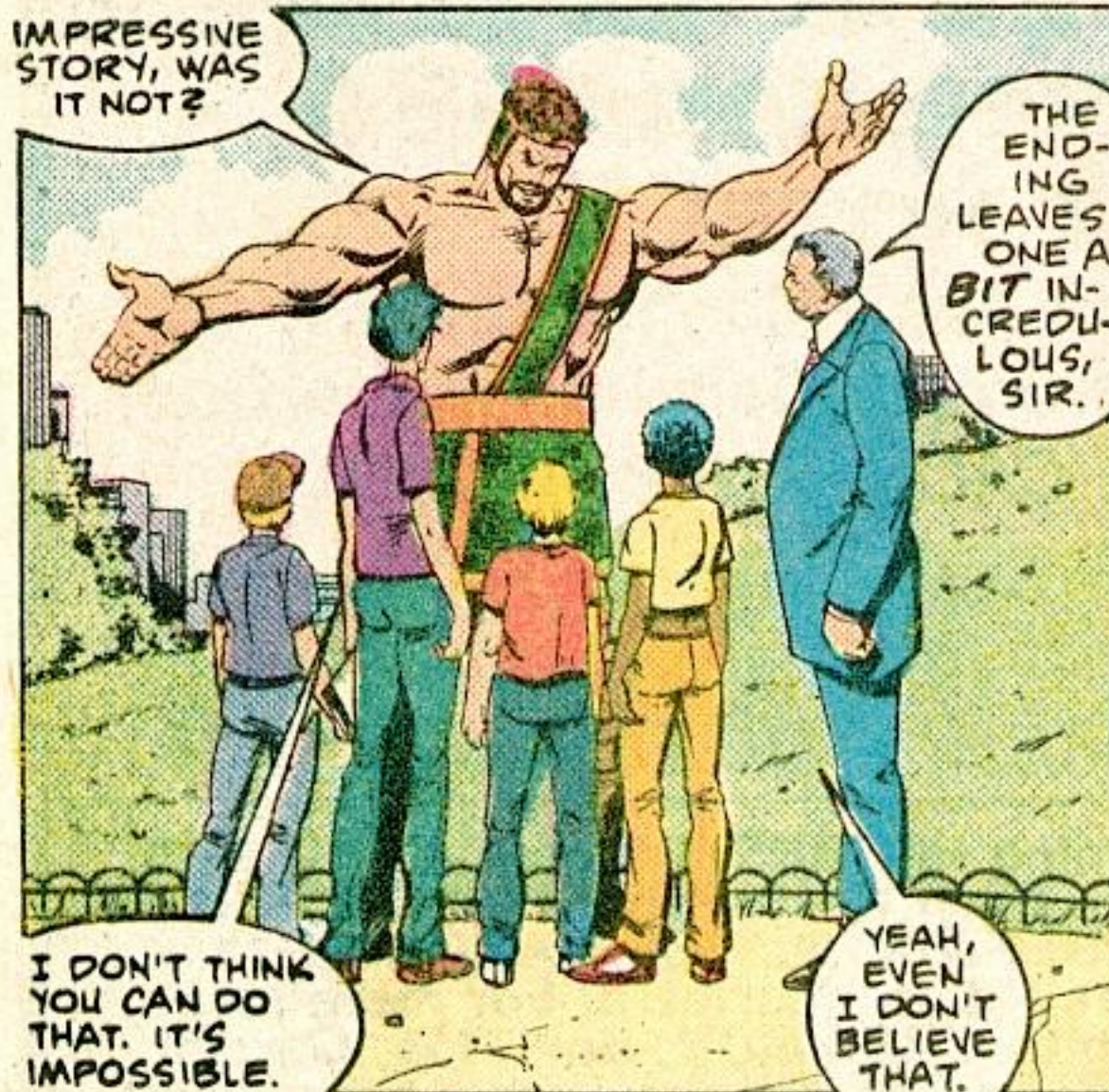
W-WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!

"AH, POOR THOR. HE HAS SUCH LITTLE IMAGINATION, YOU KNOW. I STILL LAUGH WHEN I REMEMBER THE LOOK ON HIS FACE WHEN I **RIPPED** MANHATTAN ISLAND FROM ITS VERY BED AND **DUMPED** HIM INTO THE EAST RIVER!"



"IT WAS A DEED ONLY THE MIGHTIEST OF THE MIGHTY COULD PERFORM! A DEED OF WHICH THE POETS WILL LONG SING--UNTIL OLYMPUS IS BUT A DISTANT MEMORY AND AS-GARD IS NO MORE!"

IMPRESSIVE STORY, WAS IT NOT?



THE ENDING LEAVES ONE A BIT INCREDULOUS, SIR.

I DON'T THINK YOU CAN DO THAT. IT'S IMPOSSIBLE.

YEAH, EVEN I DON'T BELIEVE THAT.

I SEE THAT THIS IS THE AGE OF CYNICISM, JARVIS. WELL, PERHAPS I DID EXAGGERATE A LITTLE BIT.



WELL, SIR, YOU HAVE BEEN KNOWN TO STRETCH THE TRUTH AT TIMES... IF I MAY BE SO BOLD.



"WELL, CHILDREN, WHAT I MEANT TO SAY WAS THAT I WAS ANGRY ENOUGH TO LIFT THE ISLAND FROM ITS ROOTS. IN REALITY, AHem, MY ANGER FOUND EXPRESSION IN A MORE MUNDANE MANNER.



GEE, THINGS DON'T LOOK GOOD FOR THOR, DO THEY, MATT, OL' BUDDY?

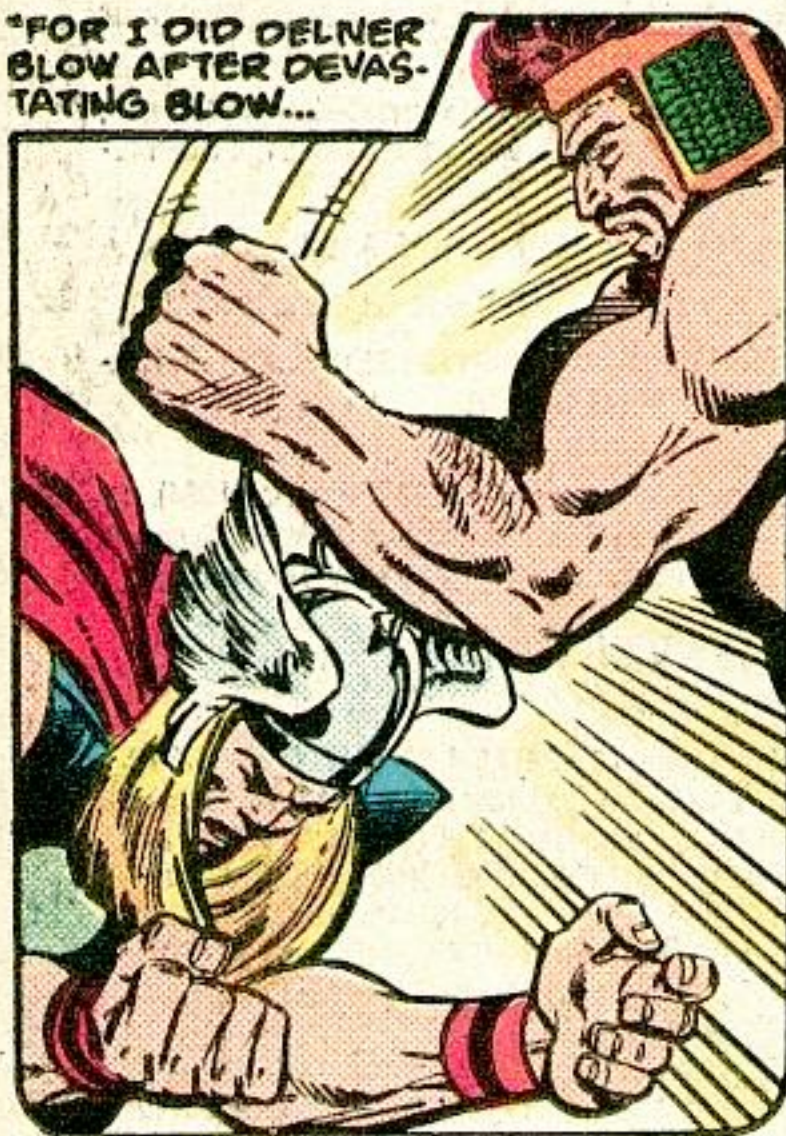
SOUNDS LIKE HE'S GETTIN' BEAT, BUT GOOD!



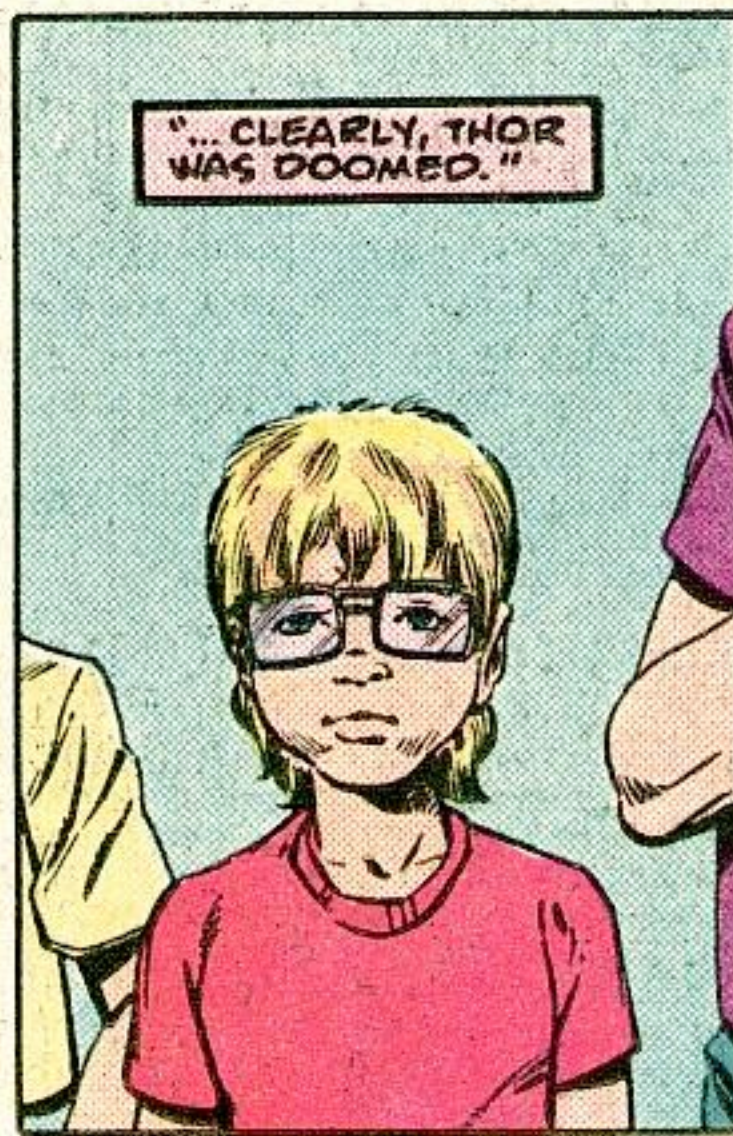
BEAT? CHILD, NEVER HAS ANY GOD MET SO SOUND A DEFEAT!



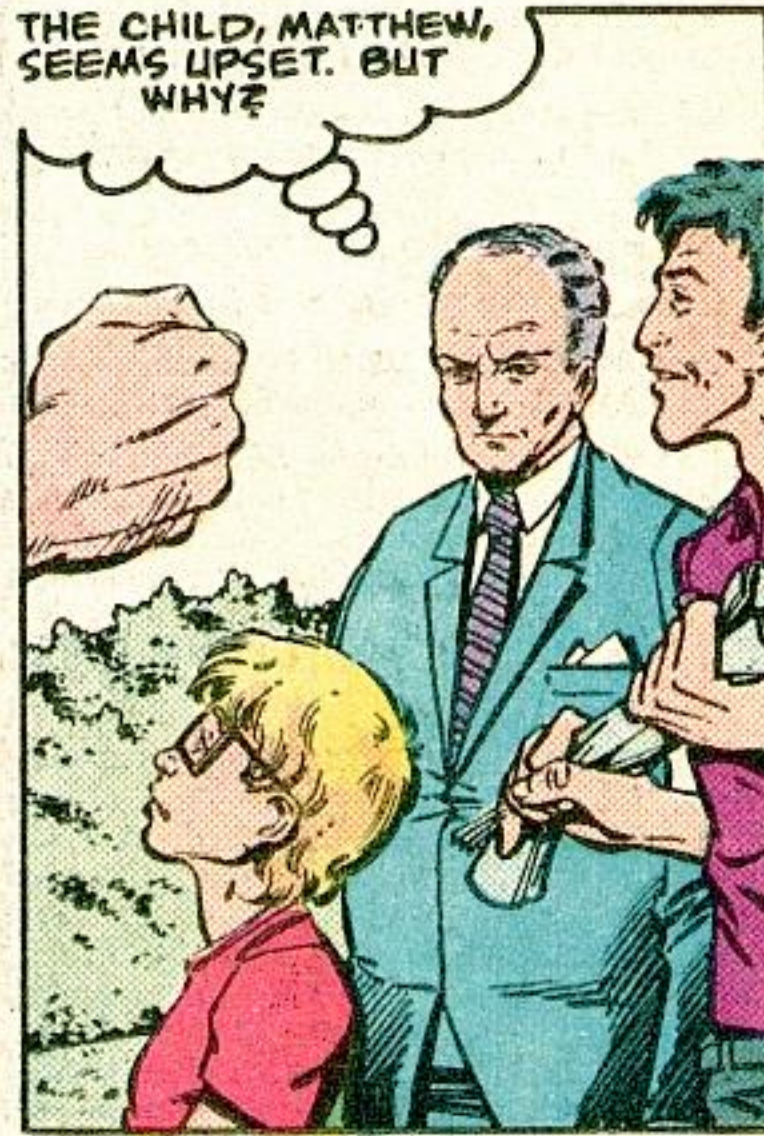
"FOR I DID DELIVER BLOW AFTER DEVASTATING BLOW..."



"... CLEARLY, THOR WAS DOOMED."



THE CHILD, MATTHEW, SEEMS UPSET. BUT WHY?



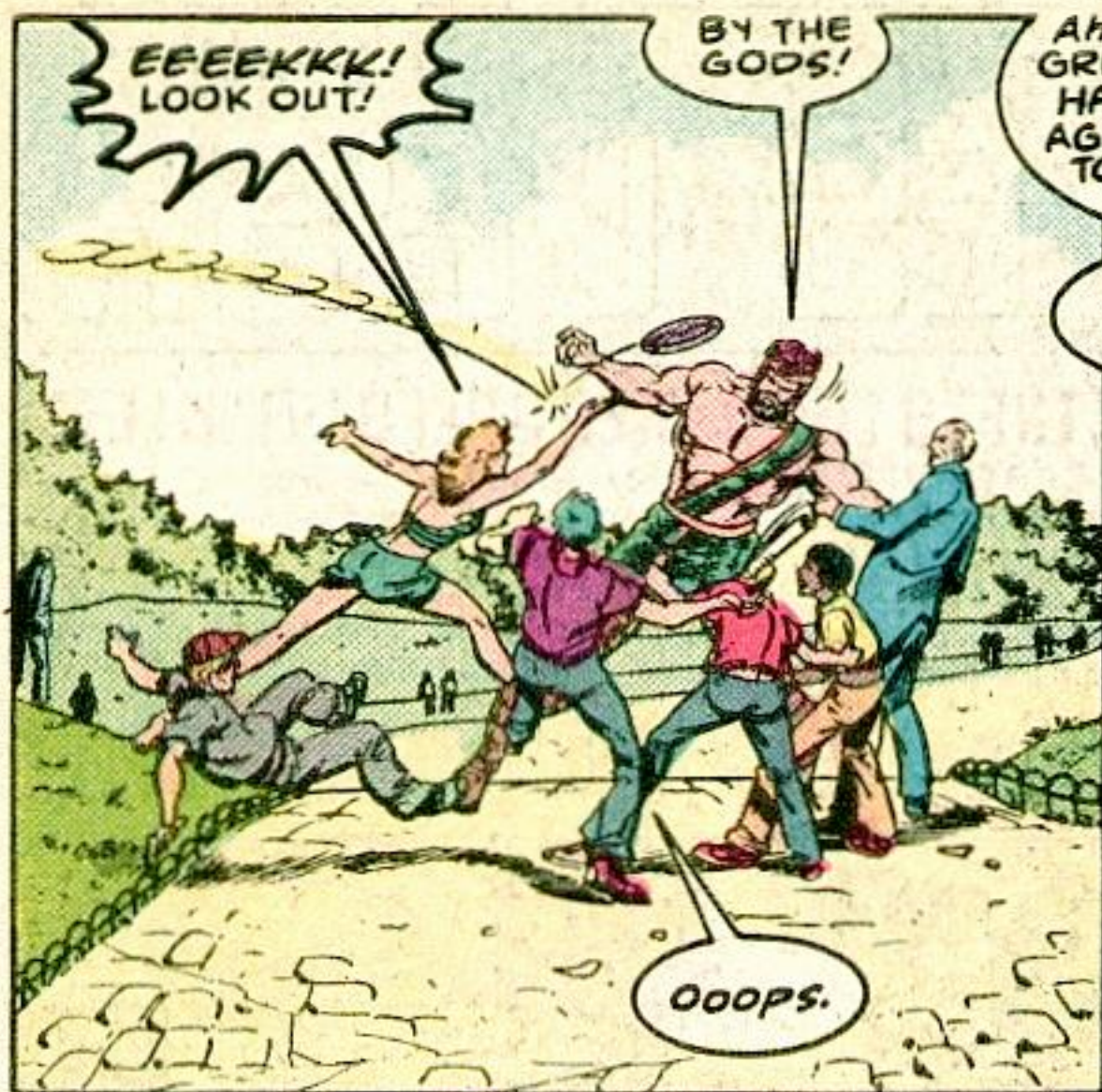
"THEN, CAME TIME FOR THE FINAL BLOW! NOTHING COULD SAVE THOR NOW!"



AND THIS OTHER UNRULY-LOOKING LAD SEEMS TO BE ENJOYING HIMSELF IMMENSELY.



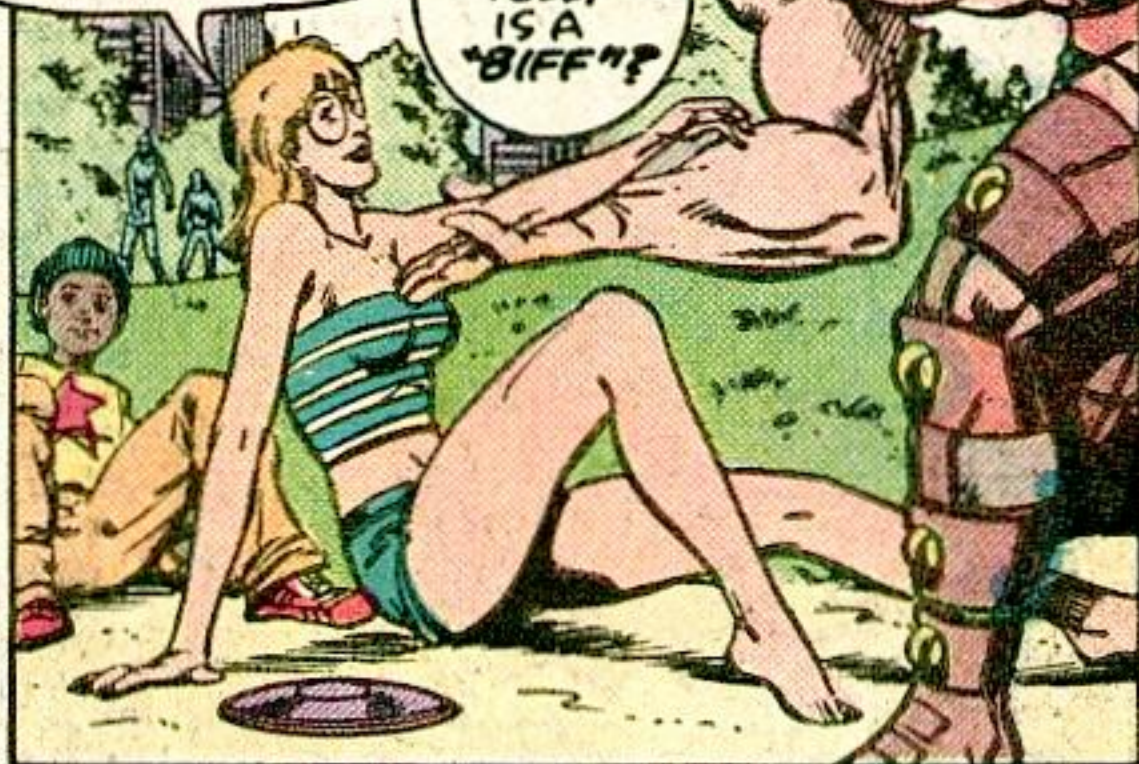




AH, 'TIS YOU. TRULY A POWER GREATER THAN EITHER OF US HAS BROUGHT US TOGETHER AGAIN. PERHAPS YOU'D CARE TO DINE WITH ME SOME-TIME?

SURE. BUT FIRST I GOTTA ASK MY BOYFRIEND BIFF.

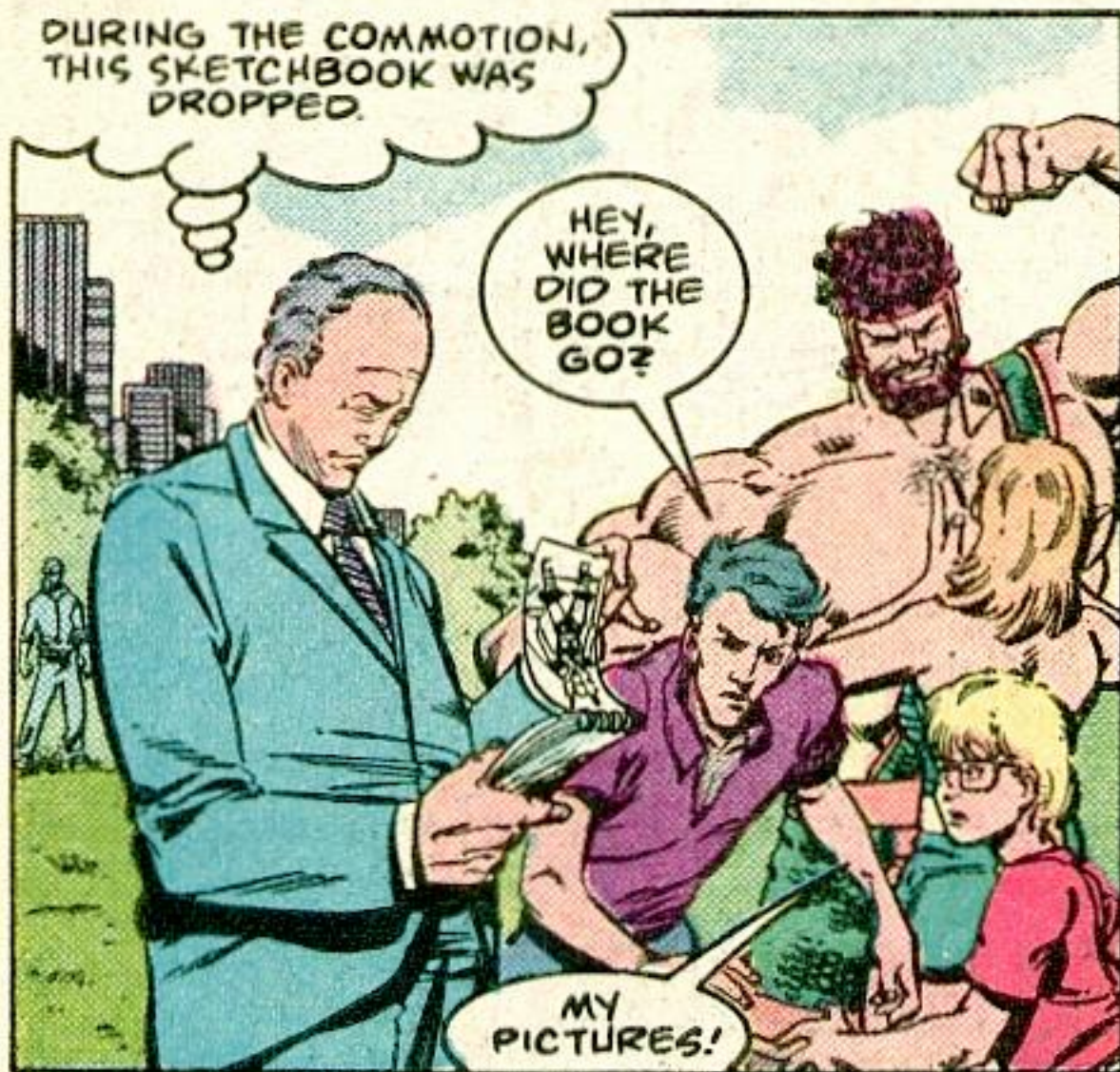
WHAT, PRAY TELL, IS A "BIFF"?



DURING THE COMMOTION, THIS SKETCHBOOK WAS DROPPED.

HEY, WHERE DID THE BOOK GO?

MY PICTURES!



HANDS OFF, POPS! DON'T YOU KNOW IT AIN'T POLITE TO GO THROUGH OTHER PEOPLE'S THINGS?

I WAS ONLY ADMIRING THE WORK...



THAT BOOK WAS FILLED WITH PICTURES OF MASTER THOR! MATTHEW'S FORLORN LOOK AND THE WAY THAT RUFFIAN RIPPED IT FROM MY HANDS... I THINK I SEE THINGS CLEARLY NOW.



NOW, WHERE WAS I? OH, YES, THE FINAL BLOW!

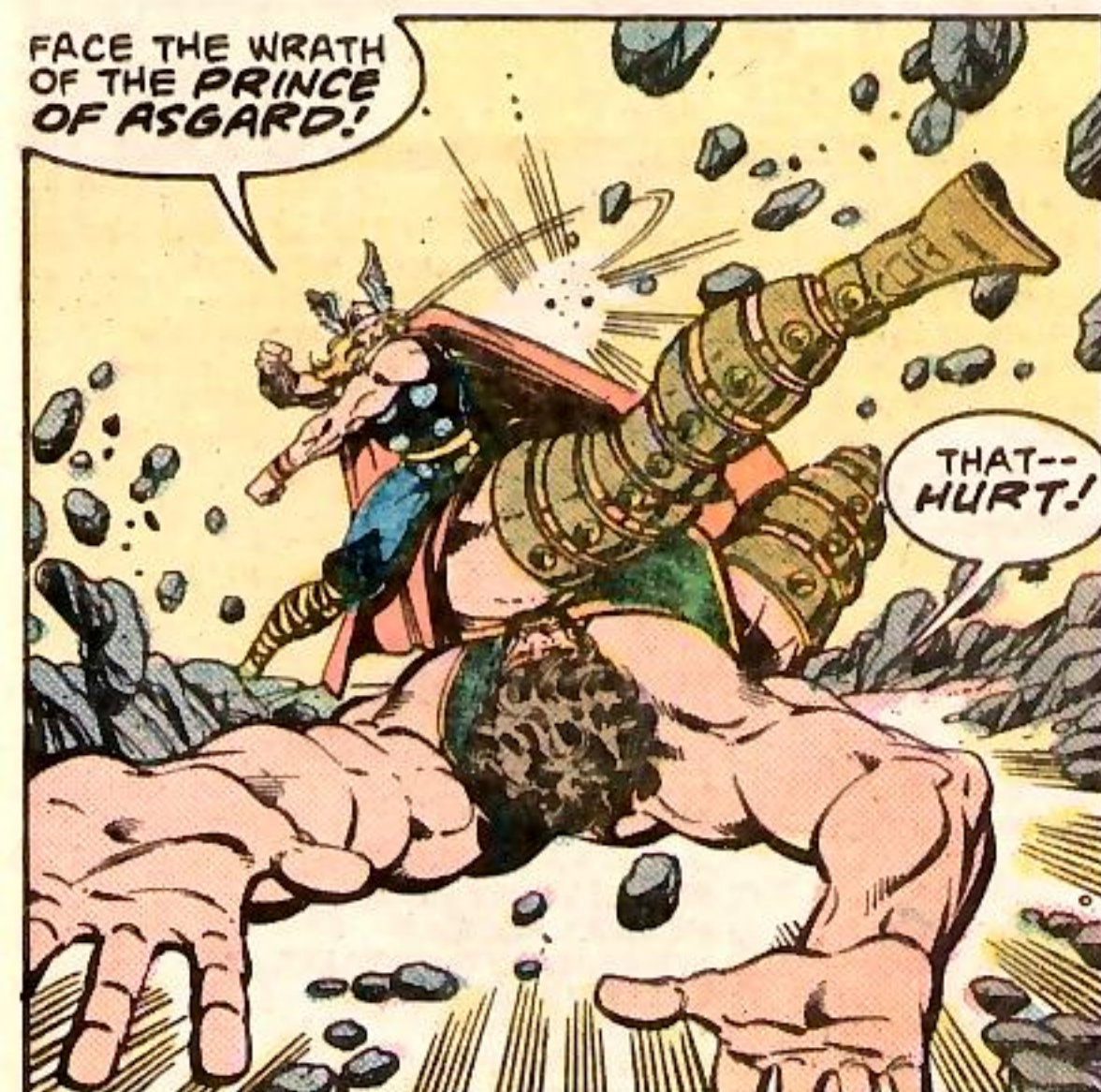
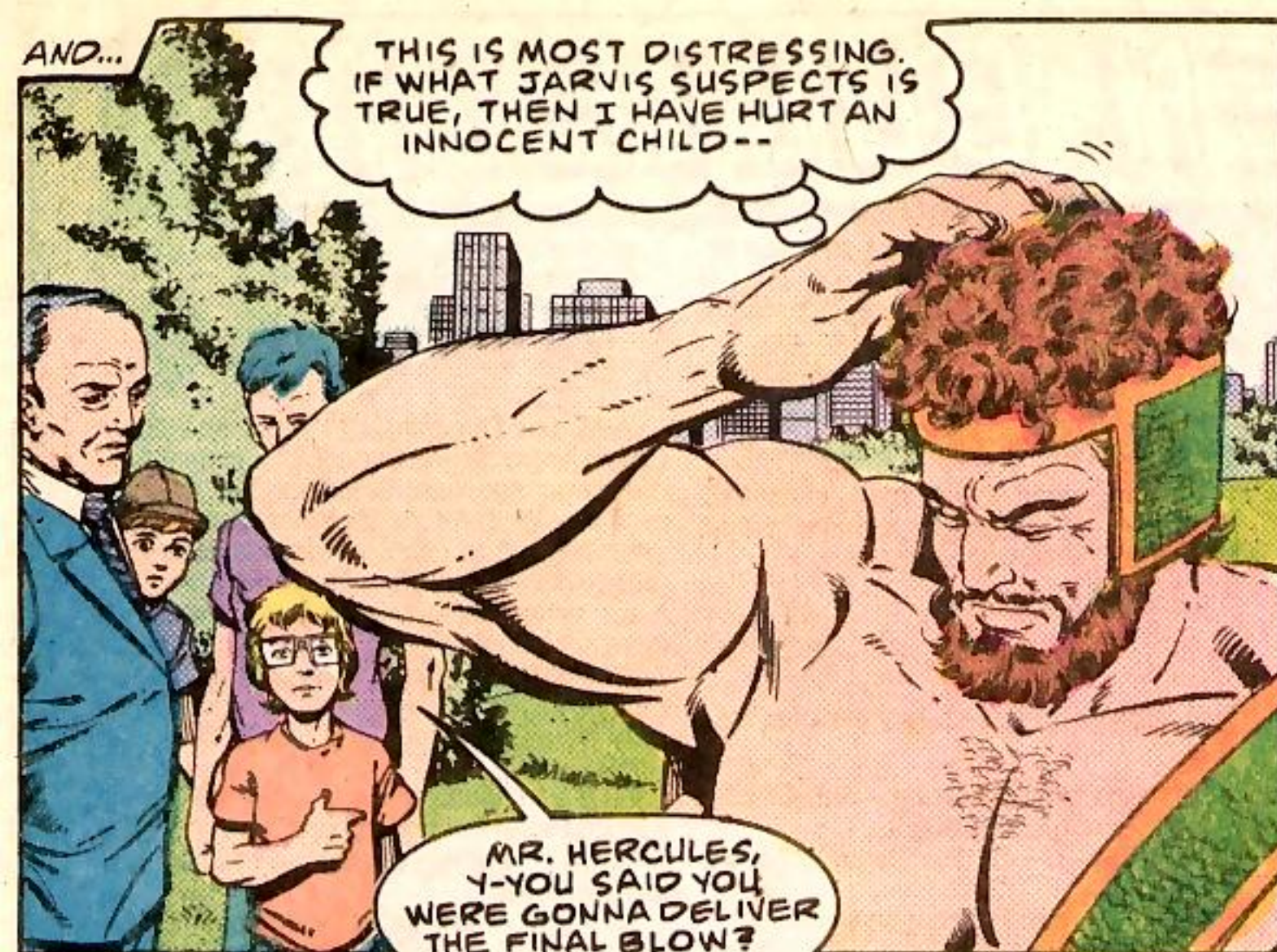


MASTER HERCULES, MAY I HAVE A WORD WITH YOU?

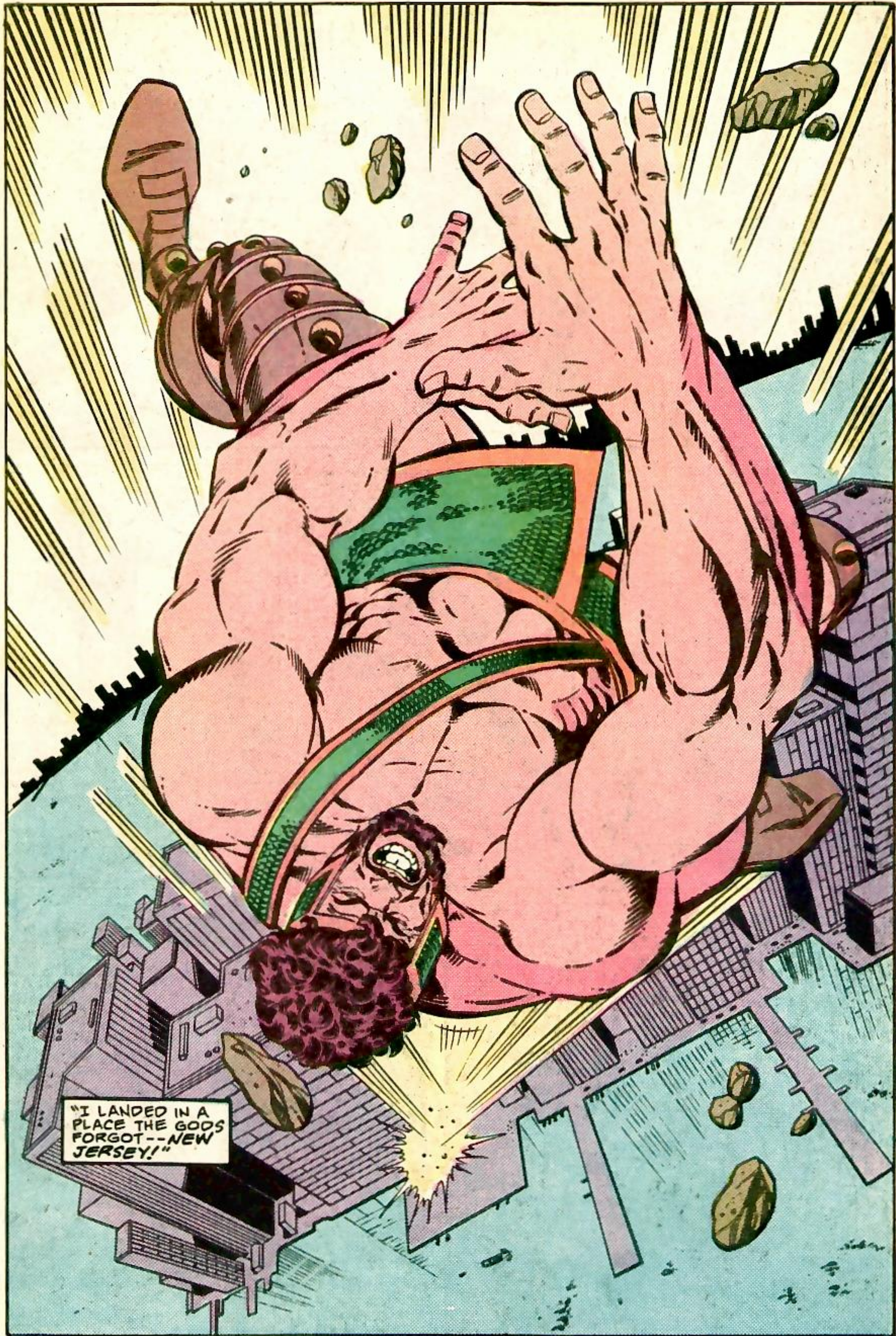
MY EAR IS THINE!





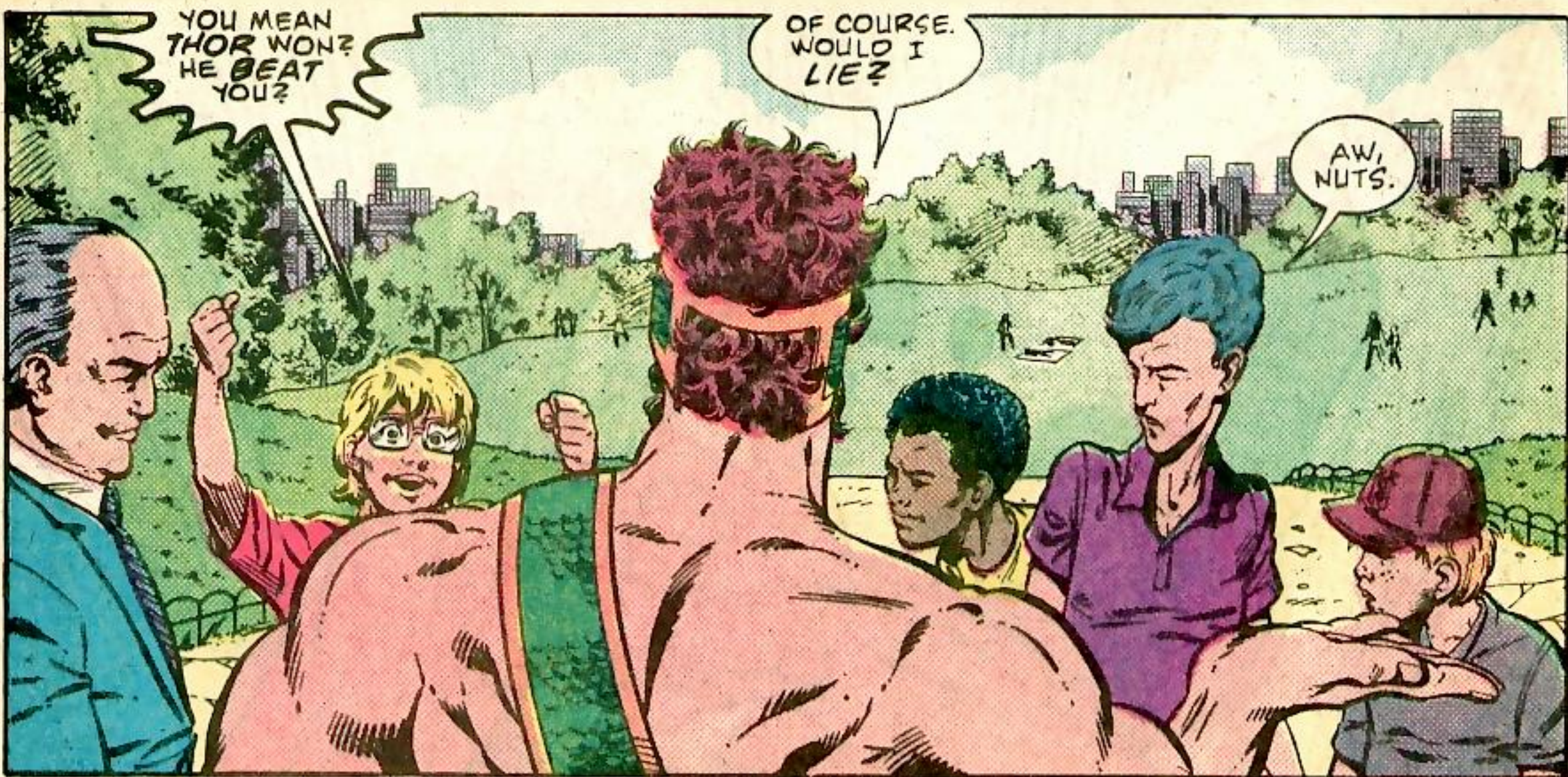






"I LANDED IN A  
PLACE THE GODS  
FORGOT--NEW  
JERSEY!"





YOU MEAN THOR WON? HE BEAT YOU?

OF COURSE. WOULD I LIE?

AW, NUTS.



HERE'S YOUR STUPID BOOK BACK, YOU LITTLE WORM. NOW GET OUTTA HERE.



HO THERE, YOUNG FELLOW, I WOULD NOT SPEAK TO A FRIEND OF HERCULES IN SUCH A MANNER, FOR I CANNOT ABIDE A BULLY-- IF YOU CAN UNDERSTAND MY MEANING.

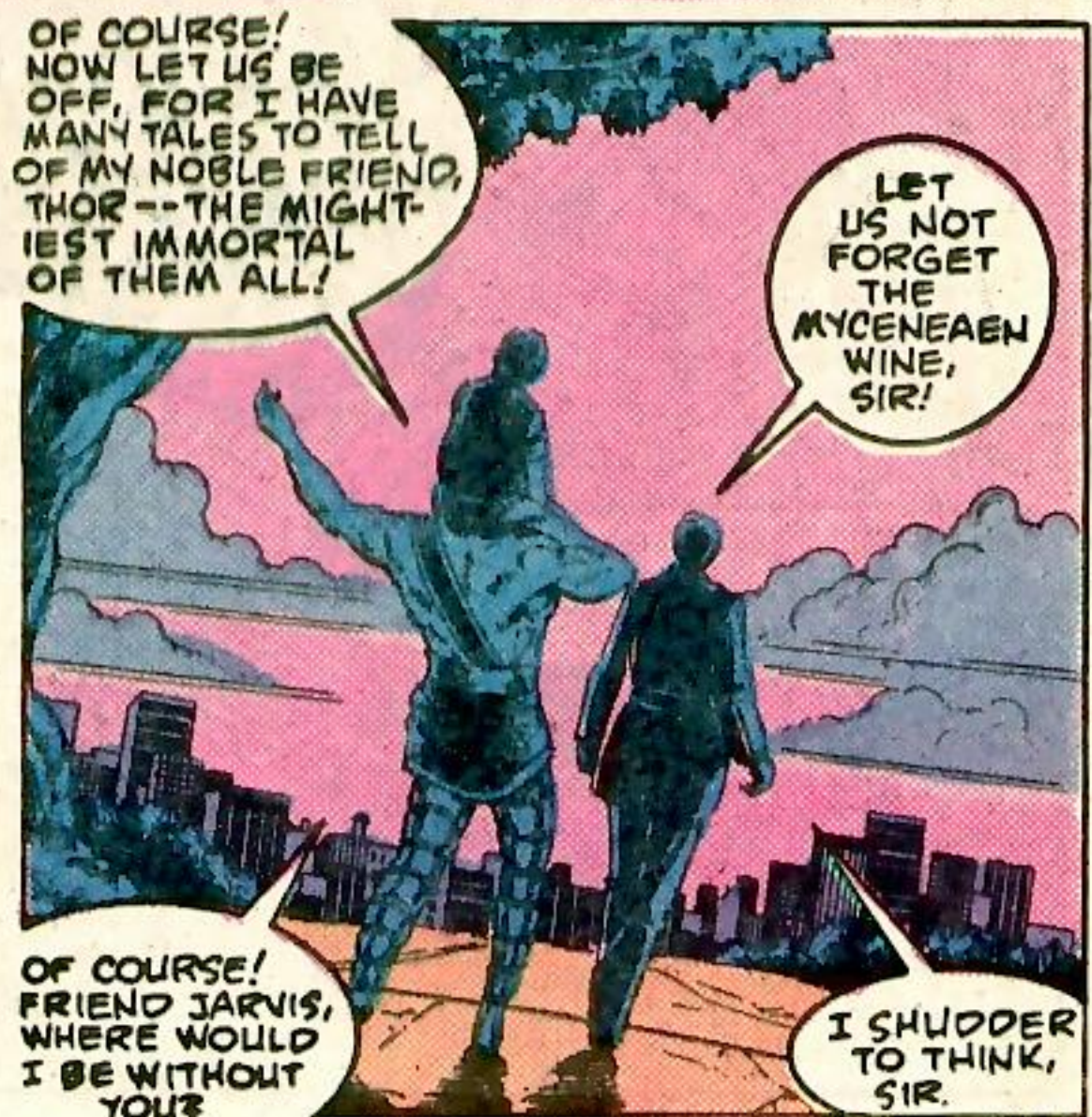


I-I UNDERSTAND. C'MON, GUYS, LET'S MOVE IT!



AND NOW, YOUNG MATTHEW, HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO DINE WITH THE MIGHTY AVENGERS FOR DINNER THIS EVE?

ME?? WOW!! CAN MY MOM COME, TOO?



OF COURSE! NOW LET US BE OFF, FOR I HAVE MANY TALES TO TELL OF MY NOBLE FRIEND, THOR--THE MIGHTIEST IMMORTAL OF THEM ALL!

LET US NOT FORGET THE MYCENAEAN WINE, SIR!

OF COURSE! FRIEND JARVIS, WHERE WOULD I BE WITHOUT YOU?

I SHUDDER TO THINK, SIR.

END.