

AVENGERS

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MARVEL  
COMICS  
GROUP

# THE AVENGERS

APPROVED  
BY THE  
COMICS  
CODE  
AUTHORITY

GUEST-STARRING:  
BLACK WIDOW  
AND THE MAGNIFICENT  
**MEDUSA!**

**ALL RIGHT, GIRLS--  
THAT FINISHES OFF THESE  
MALE CHAUVINIST  
PIGS!**

FROM NOW ON,  
IT'S THE  
**VALKYRIE**  
AND HER LADY  
**LIBERATORS!**



# MONSTER

## S-I-Z-E MONSTERS

**7 FEET TALL**

In Authentic Colors With GLOW in the DARK EYES

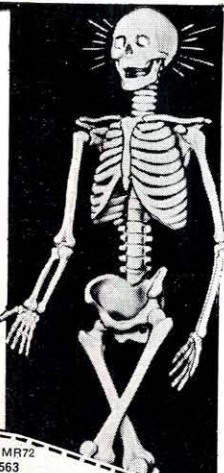
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Just imagine your friends shock when they walk into your room and see the "Monster" reaching out—bigger than life-Frankenstein, the original man-made monster, that creation of evil genius that terrorized the world. A giant 7 feet tall, his eyes glow eerily as his hand reaches out—as aweful and sinister as the wildest nightmare. Yes—Frankenstein is 7 feet tall, in authentic colors on durable polyethylene, and so lifelike you'll probably find yourself talking to him. Won't you be surprised if he answers? Comes complete with eyes that glow even in the pitch dark for a special thrilling chill.

**Boney the Skeleton.** And then there is Boney—stark scary with nothing left but his bare bones. A 7 foot monster out of the grave—his bones white, his eyes staring—even glowing in the dark.

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ONLY Complete

**FREE**  
NEW THRILLING SENSATION!

ADDS 3-D STEREO EFFECT

Makes People Look So Full and Real, You'll Feel You Can Reach Out and Touch Them! Just put on the "Miracle Specs" and you achieve a thrilling new experience. You see—not the old flat pictures you've seen for years—but life-like round images so real you "know" you could reach out to touch and feel them. One pair comes with each projector. Additional pairs are \$2.98 each.

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Here is a projector which, though precision-engineered and sturdily built for long use, is so reasonably-priced that everyone can now enjoy the thrills of showing home movies or standard 8 mm commercial movies. And it's so easy to operate that even a child can learn to use it quickly. Its double lens system and smooth operation give amazing performance. And—because it's so compact, you can take it with you anywhere and show your home movies to friends or relatives. (It comes in its own carrying case with handle. Closes completely for easy portability.) No need to unwind electric cord and hunt for an outlet either—because it has no cord. The batteries (available anywhere) are completely stowed in the base—and they're ready at the flip of a switch. This quick-focusing automatic projector shows 8mm color or black-and-white film. If you wish to stop at a particular frame, you can do so. Speed control lets you speed up film or slow down the action for enjoyment of every detail. (Batteries not included.)

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# THE MIGHTY AVENGERS!

A FLUTTER OF GOSSAMER  
AGAINST THE MOON...

A TINY FORM THAT FLITS  
EARTHWARD WITH STYLISH  
GRACE...

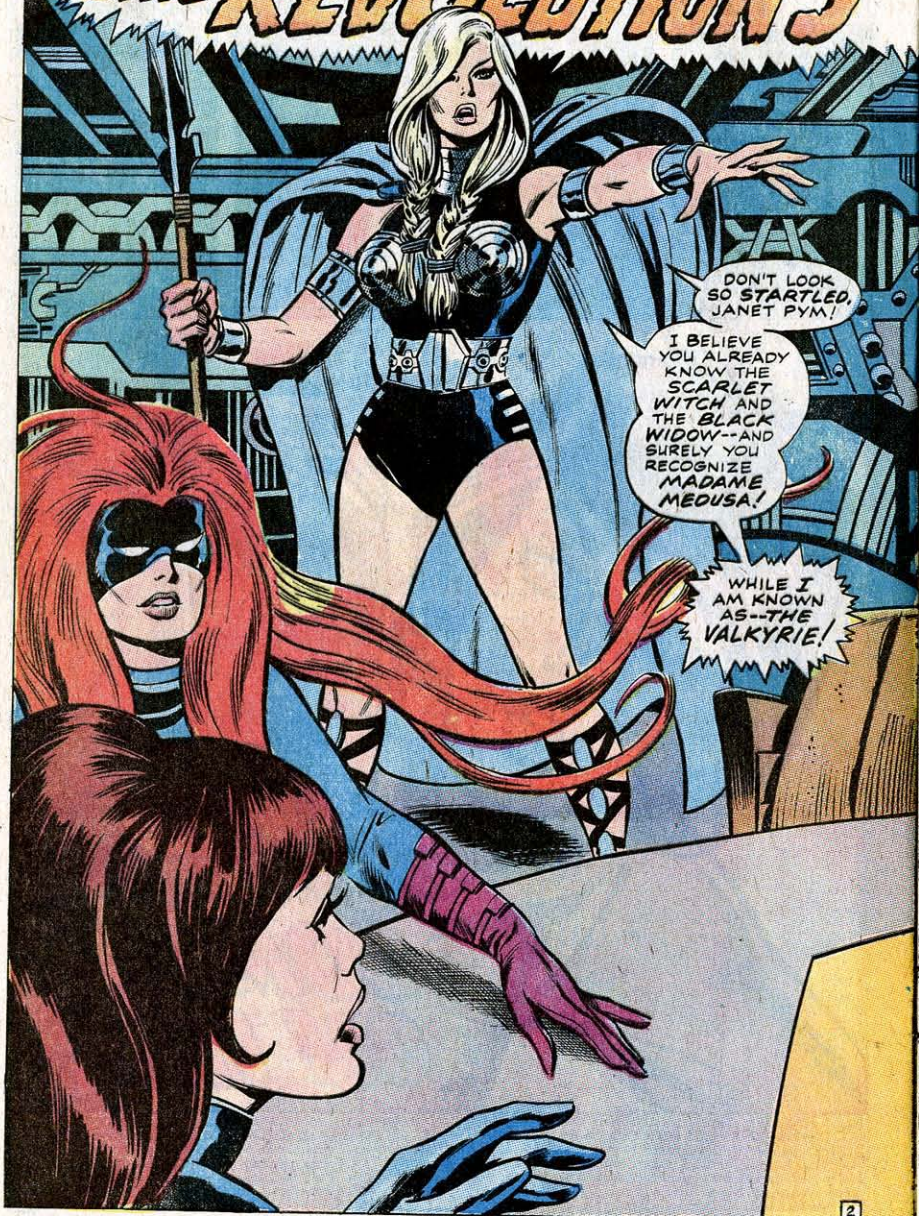
A SECRET PANE, KNOWN  
TO NONE BUT HER...

...AND THE WONDROUS  
WASP IS HOME ONCE  
MORE!



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# THE REVOLUTION'S



DON'T LOOK SO STARTLED, JANET PYM!

I BELIEVE YOU ALREADY KNOW THE SCARLET WITCH AND THE BLACK WIDOW--AND SURELY YOU RECOGNIZE MADAME MEDUSA!

WHILE I AM KNOWN AS--THE VALKYRIE!

**FINE!!**

BUT--WHY  
ARE YOU ALL  
GATHERED HERE  
--IN AVENGERS  
MANSION?

AVENGERS  
MANSION NO  
LONGER, JAN!  
FROM NOW  
ON--

--THIS IS OUR  
MANSION, OUR  
HEADQUARTERS  
FOR WE ARE--**THE  
LIBERATORS!**

STAN LEE \* ROY THOMAS \* JOHN  
EDITOR WRITER ARTIST  
TOM PALMER-INKER  
HERB COOPER-LETTERER

TAKE A MONEY MAKING PSYCHEDELIC LIFT!

Make it Yourself! SAVE MONEY! EARN MONEY!

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psychedelic lamp



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WOW!  
MUSIC!  
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TALL

**EXCITING LIGHT SHOW**—Imagine! You assemble from parts we send you, And you wind up with a FERRIFICAL psychedelic lamp that flashes, fades, fluctuates, pulsates, in multicolors 'in time' to music you play!

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TAKE A MONEY MAKING PSYCHEDELIC LIFT!

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Psycho-delicious THRILLS Guaranteed or my \$\$ Back.  
Ship postpaid . . . RUSH!

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**VALKYRIE? THE LIBERATORS? LOOKS LIKE I FLEW IN FROM ALASKA TO VISIT AN AILING AUNT--\***

**--AND WOUND UP BARGING IN ON A POWDERPLUFF PROTEST MEETING!**

**VERY GOOD WASP! AHH... I SEE YOU LOSE THE TINY WINGS ON YOUR BACK WHEN YOU GROW!**

**WELL, SOON YOU SHALL LOSE SOMETHING ELSE, AS WELL...THE INVISIBLE SHACKLES WHICH MEN HAVE PLACED ON YOU!**

**WHY NOT BECOME NORMAL SIZE, JAN, AND HEAR US OUT?**

**I'LL JUST DO THAT LITTLE THING, NATASHA!**

**\*HANK AND JAN PYM WENT NORTH ON A GOVERNMENT ASSIGNMENT IN ISSUE #75!  
--STAN.**

**WE HAD ONLY JUST BEGUN OUR FIRST SESSION WHEN YOU WANDERED IN, WASP!**

**BUT PERHAPS I SHOULD BRIEFLY REPEAT THE TALE OF MY ORIGIN...**

**"MY STORY IS NOT UNIQUE...AT LEAST, NOT UP TO A CERTAIN POINT...!"**

**DR. ERWIN...I'D LIKE TO ASK YOUR OPINION ON...**

**I'M BUSY, YOUNG LADY VERY BUSY!**

**SO YOU WILL KNOW WHO THE VALKYRIE IS...AND WHY I HAVE DEDICATED MY LIFE TO THE DOWNFALL OF MALE SUPREMACY**

**IF I FIND I NEED A SECRETARY, I SHALL CONTACT YOU!**

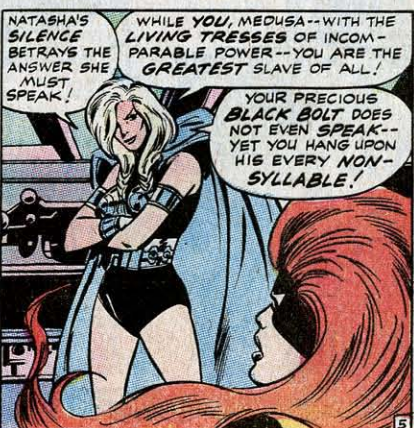
**THE OLD FOOL-- THE OLD MALE FOOL!**

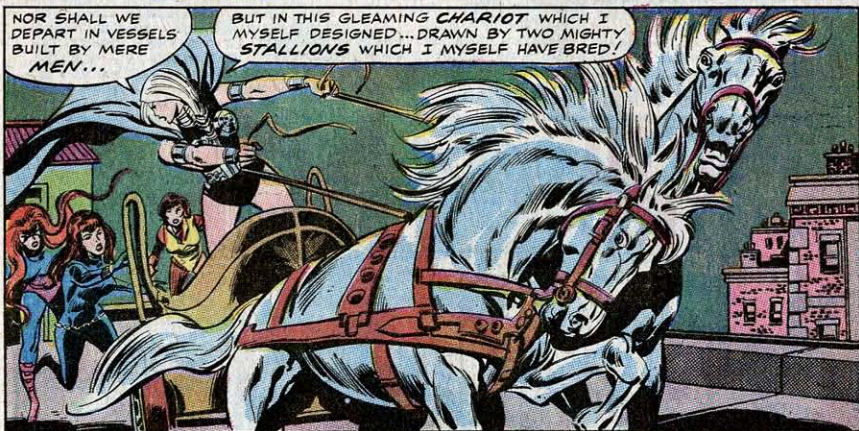
**HE LIVES IN A DREAM-WORLD, WHERE MEN HAVE ALL THE BRAINS... AND WOMEN DO ALL THE WORK!**

**WELL, I'LL SHOW HIM... SHOW THEM ALL...NO MATTER HOW LATE I HAVE TO WORK...!**

**"HOWEVER, LONG HOURS AND FATIGUE FINALLY TOOK THEIR TOLL..."**

**"...AND ONE NIGHT, I COLLAPSED... A SMOKING VIAL STILL CLUTCHED IN MY OUTSTRETCHED HAND..."**





CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

**THE MIGHTY MARVEL CHECKLIST**

Now on Sale

**FANTASTIC FOUR #106:** The monster's secret — exposed! Reed's dread decision — who shall die — his wife, or his best friend? A shocker all the way!

**SPIDER-MAN #92:** Suddenly, the whole world wants Spidey destroyed — even the girl he loves! How can the web-slinger survive the deadliest crisis of all?

**AVENGERS #83:** Step aside, guys — "Acas" when a quartet of super-powered jewelers are led by the vengeful Valkyrie — you can bet the Avengers are in for trouble!

**THOR #183:** The Thunder God locked in battle against the powers of Dr. Doom! And, wait! You read the most unexpected ending of the month!

**CAPTAIN AMERICA #133:** The team-up of the century — Cap and the Falcon battling the mysterious Bulldozer! Plus the long-awaited origin of Modok!

**HULK #135:** Once again, Kang strikes from the far future — and this time his weapon is the Hulk himself! With the most unexpected guest star yet!

**DAREDEVIL #71:** "If An Eye Offend Thee..."! The most sinister trial of all time — as the revenge-mad Tribune plays judge — and jury — and executioner!

**IRON MAN #33:** The target is Stark Enterprises — and the enemy is the villainous Spy-Master and his Espionage Elite! Face it — this is Shellhead's darkest hour!

**SUB-MARINER #33:** The return of Byrrah — ruthless pretender to the crown of Atlantis! Plus a last-page development that'll knock you off your throne!

**AMAZING ADVENTURES #4:** "With these rings — I thee kill!" So says the Mandarin — and the Inhumans better believe it! Plus the finale of the Black Widow's greatest caper!

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**KA-ZAR #3:** The way-out wrap-up of the jungle master's duel with the Plunderer! More action in the Savage Land — the world that time forgot!

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**AND, OF COURSE—**

**WHERE MONSTERS DWELL #7—WHERE CREATURES ROAM #4 — NICK FURY #17 — FEAR #2 — KID COLT OUTLAW #151 — RAWHIDE KID #83 — RINGO KID #7 — TWO-GUN KID #96 — MAD ABOUT MILLIE #17 — MIGHTY MARVEL WESTERN #12 — MY LOVE #9.**

**AND, STILL ON SALE—**

**ASTONISHING TALES #3:** Ka-Zar returns to his hidden jungle — and to a battle which may decide earth's fate! Plus — Dr. Doom's showdown with the dreaded Doomsman!

**CONAN THE BARBARIAN #2:** Conan in chains — but still Conan! Yet, can any man — even the battling Cimmerian — prevail against the brutish Beast-Men? **CHAMBER OF DARKNESS #8:** The Beast That Walks Like a Man! And — two more dead-of-night shockers in the macabre Marvel tradition!

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NEVER MIND, DEAD-BEATS! JUDGING BY THE GLOVED HAND THAT JUST REACHED THRU AND UNLOCKED THE DOOR...

I THINK IT'S SAFE TO SAY -- THE AVENGERS HAVE LANDED!

OR, TO PUT IT ANOTHER WAY-- BREAK OUT THE DR. PEPPER!



GREETINGS, PEOPLE! I'M YOUR HOODED HOST, TOM FAGAN--OR AT LEAST I WILL BE, SOON AS I PUT ON MY SPECS!

GOOD EVENING, MR. FAGAN... BUT WHY IS YOUR COSTUME THAT OF NIGHTHAWK...

...A SUPER VILLAIN?

WELL, HE'S A CREATURE OF THE NIGHT! THAT'S WHAT HALLOWEEN'S ALL ABOUT, RIGHT?

AND THE NAME IS TOM!



OH, BY THE WAY-- THE OUT-OF-TOWNERS DRESSED AS SPIDER-MAN AND MRS. FANTASTIC ARE ROY AND JEANIE THOMAS!

THEY CAME ALL THE WAY FROM FROM THE BIG BAD CITY FOR RUTLAND'S ELEVENTH HALLOWEEN PARADE!

THE AVENGERS! OH WOW!

WHICH ONE OF YOU IS MRS. PEEL?

COOL IT, KID!



I'M ONLY SORRY, TOM, THAT WE'RE NOT HERE FOR PURELY SOCIAL REASONS!

STILL, I HOPE THE RUMORS WE HEARD CONCERNING A KIDNAP PLOT WERE UNFOUNDED!

I'LL DRINK TO THAT! NOW WE'D BETTER GET CRACKING..!



INCIDENTALLY, THE SCARLET WITCH ASKED US TO TENDER HER REGRETS!

A TELEGRAM SEEMS TO HAVE REMINDED HER, AT THE LAST MOMENT OF A PREVIOUS OBLIGATION!

WELL, WE'LL TRY TO SCRAPE BY WITH ONLY FOUR AVENGERS ON YOUR FLOAT!

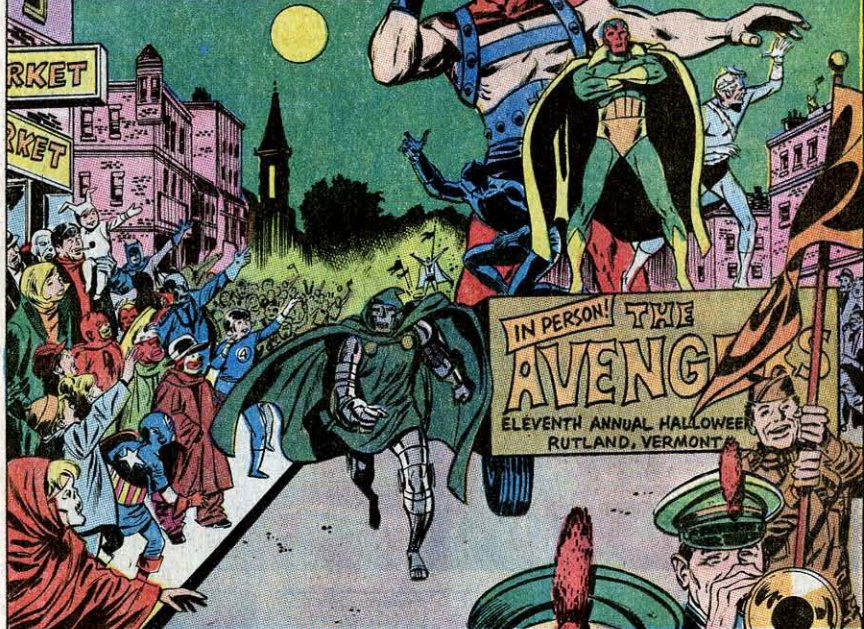
UHH--GOLIATH --WOULD YOU MIND TOO MUCH IF YOU WALKED IN THE PARADE? I MEAN--

I DIG, PAL! NO HALF-TON TRACTOR WANTS TO PUSH ME AROUND ALL NIGHT!

I ONLY HOPE, MY FRIEND, THAT IS THE GREATEST OF OUR WORRIES THIS EVENING!

RUTLAND, VERMONT!--SECOND LARGEST CITY IN THE GREEN-MOUNTAIN STATE--YET STILL RETAINING A SERENE, RUSTIC CHARM LONG MISSING IN THE HURLY-BURLY OF BIG CITY LIFE!

RUTLAND, VERMONT!--SURROUNDED BY RICH MARBLE QUARRIES--  
VERDANT, HIGH-PEAKED HILL-SIDES  
--AND FAR-FAMED SKI RESORTS--



--AND HARDLY THE PLACE WHERE ONE WOULD EXPECT TO FIND--THE MASTERS OF EVIL!

KEEP BACK--UNTIL THE FLOAT JUST BEHIND OUR TARGET PASSES BY!



IF THE AVENGERS SIGHT US BEFORE WE HAVE A HOSTAGE--OUR LONG-LAID PLANS WILL FAIL!

WHO APPOINTED YOU OUR DEN MOTHER, KLAW?

SOMEONE HAS TO DO THE THINKING FOR THIS TEAM, MELTER! AND WASN'T IT I WHO ENGINEERED OUR ESCAPE FROM PRISON!\*

LOOK! HERE COMES OUR PREY NOW--!

\*ALL THE MALEVOLENT MASTERS SAVE WHIRLWIND WERE CAPTURED IN ISSUE #55!

"--DR. T. W. ERWIN, EMINENT MATHEMATICIAN--NOW BRINGING FAME TO NEARBY MISKATONIC UNIVERSITY WITH HIS THEORIES AND RESEARCH ON PARALLEL TIME! AND THAT INNOCENT-LOOKING APPARATUS WHICH NEVER LEAVES HIS SIGHT--!"



GOOD EVENING, COHORT-IN-CRIME!

WELL, ACTUALLY...THERE ISN'T ALL THAT MUCH ROOM ON THIS FLOAT, AND--

I TRUST YOU WON'T MIND IF A FEW MORE SUPER-VILLAINS CLIMBS ABOARD FOR THE RIDE!



OF COURSE, I COULD ALWAYS GET OVER!

LOOK, AVENGERS! THERE--ON FAGAN'S FLOAT--MEN ATTIRED AS THE MASTERS OF EVIL!

PERHAPS THEY ARE THE REAL ONES--COME TO CAPTURE DR. ERWIN!

WHAT YOU'RE SAYIN' IS, WE CAN'T TAKE ANY CHANCES, SO--  
**AVENGERS ASSEMBLE!**



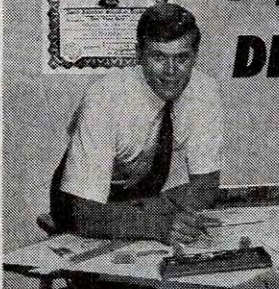
WE ARE FOUND OUT!

STAND BACK! LET KLAW HANDLE THIS!!

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE



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- 4 Sample Lesson—a "sneak preview" of things to come.

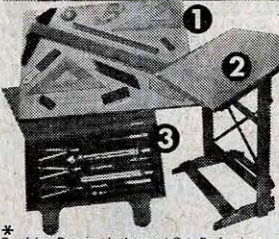
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AND HANDLE IT THE SULTAN OF SOUND DOES-- AS, THE NEXT INSTANT, A POWERFUL SONIC BOOM EMANATES FROM HIS ARTIFICIAL HAND--AND SCATTERS THE AVENGERS LIKE TENPINS!



--SCATTERS-- BUT DOES NOT DEFEAT !!





--WHICH I JUST TURNED INTO HOT, STICKY TAR!

I WAS-- CARELESS! AND NOW-- I AM TRAPPED!

NOW, WHILE YOU TRY TO DECIPHER THAT--!

SO, KLAW-- WE MEET AGAIN AS THEY SAY!

IF I TRY TO BECOME ETHEREAL-- THE BOILING HOT TAR MAY DESTROY MY ARTIFICIAL BODY IN THE MIDST OF THE TRANSFORMATION!

YES, PANTHER! BUT I SHALL SEE TO IT--



-- THAT THIS IS THE LAST TIME!

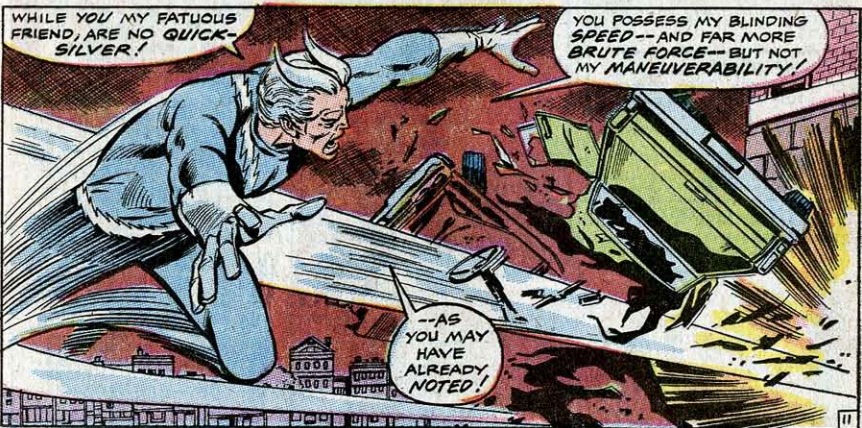


SHORT AND SWEET! AS ELSEWHERE--

BATROC AND PORCUPINE CRAMPED MY STYLE WHEN WE RAN UP AGAINST CAPTAIN AMERICA!\*

BUT NOW I'M ON MY OWN-- AND YOU ARE NO CAPTAIN AMERICA!

\* IN 15H\*130 -- STAN.



WHILE YOU, MY FATUOUS FRIEND, ARE NO QUICK-SILVER!

YOU POSSESS MY BLINDING SPEED-- AND FAR MORE BRUTE FORCE-- BUT NOT MY MANEUVERABILITY!

--AS YOU MAY HAVE ALREADY NOTED!



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PERHAPS, FOOL! BUT YOU'VE FORGOTTEN-- MY CEMENT GUN!

MMFF! I KNEW-- THERE WAS A FLAW IN MY REASONIN'--SOME-PLACE!

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EXCELLENT! NOW DOES EACH OF YOU KNOW WHAT SHE MUST DO?

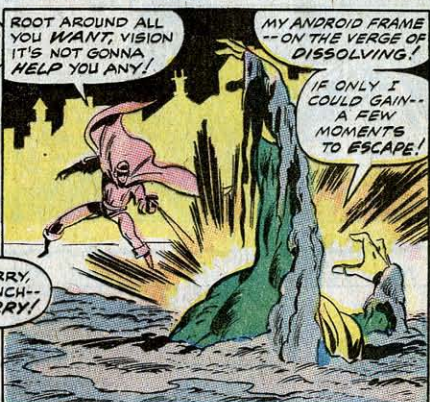
YES! BUT--I SEE SOME SORT OF BATTLE GOING ON IN THE STREETS--AND THE AVENGERS ARE INVOLVED!



WHAT? THEN-- SOMEONE ELSE-- NO! WE MUST NOT BE ROBBED OF OUR CHANCE!

I'LL ZOOM AHEAD--SEE IF I CAN SLOW THINGS DOWN A BIT!

HURRY, WENCH-- HURRY!



ROOT AROUND ALL YOU WANT, VISION IT'S NOT GONNA HELP YOU ANY!

MY ANDROID FRAME --ON THE VERGE OF DISSOLVING!

(IF ONLY I COULD GAIN-- A FEW MOMENTS TO ESCAPE!



YOU'VE GOT 'EM AVENGER! MY STING WILL SEE TO THAT!

THE WASP!

CAN'T-- SEE! HELP ME, KLAW-- I CAN'T SEE!!



STOP YOUR WHIMPERING, MELTER! IF YOU CANNOT HANDLE A GIRL THE SIZE OF A BUMBLEBEE--

WHAT? WHO'S THAT --RUNNING TOWARD ME--?



WHY ASK THE PANTHER WHO I AM?

I SPEAK ENGLISH, YOU KNOW!



JUST CALL ME--THE BLACK WIDOW!

THANKS FOR THE ASSIST, NATASHA!



ASSIST? YOU'LL SING A DIFFERENT TUNE ERE LONG, T'CHALLA-- BUT ELSEWHERE ALONG MERCHANTS ROW--

WHY NOT GIVE IT UP, MUTANT!

YOU CAN'T ELUDE ME MUCH LONGER!



I'LL CATCH YOU SOON, AND WHEN I-- SURRKKK!?

THAT'S THE TROUBLE WITH DEPENDING UPON SPEED AS YOUR ONLY SUPER-POWER, WHIRL-WIND...



WHAT DO YOU DO WHEN SOMEONE SNEAKS UP BEHIND YOU?

WANDA! JUST--GET DR. ERWIN OUTTA HARN'S WAY!

THERE'S NUTHIN'-- YOU CAN DO-- TO HELP ME--!



AS USUAL, YOU UNDERESTIMATE THE POWER OF A WOMAN, GOLIATH--

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

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ESPECIALLY ONE WHO WITH A MERE GESTURE--

--CAN CAUSE A PRECARIOUSLY LEANING TREE-TRUNK TO DESCEND UPON A TOUSLED GREEN HEAD!



BRAVO, WANDA! IN FACT--YOU'VE ALL DONE WONDERFULLY!

BUT I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU'RE DOING HERE! THAT TELEGRAM YOU RECEIVED--



--WAS THE MESSAGE WHICH SPELLED YOUR DOWNFALL, WRETCHED MALE!

WELL DONE, INHUMAN!

YOU SHALL FARE AGAINST ME NO BETTER THAN WHIRL-WIND!

WHAT?!



COME ON, WIDOW! LET'S TAKE THE PANTHER TOGETHER!

STAY BACK! I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON HERE--

BUT I DON'T FIGHT WOMEN--EVEN SUPER-POWERED ONES!

THEN YOU HAD BETTER LEARN TO AVENGER--



--IF YOU WISH TO SURVIVE!

MY WASP'S STING--AND YOUR WIDOW'S BITE!

I ALWAYS THOUGHT THEY'D MAKE A WINNING COMBO, TASHA!



YEAH? WELL, DON'T HAND OUT THE PURPLE HEARTS YET, LADY!

YOU STILL GOT THE TWO TOUGHEST AVENGERS TO TACKLE, AND WE--

GOLIATH--LOOK!

THERE--STEPPING OUT OF THAT ALLEY--





YET, WHY HAVE YOU BROUGHT US ALL HERE? WHAT DO YOU WANT, GIRL?

THIS, FOOL! THIS IS WHAT I DESIRE!

YOUR PARALLEL-TIME DEVICE ITSELF!



BUT--WHY, VALKYRIE? WHEN WE FOUR AGREED TO HELP YOU--

VALKYRIE? VALKYRIE?

DO NOT CALL ME THAT--NOT ANY LONGER!



THE TIME FOR PRETENSE IS PAST!

SOMETHING'S-- HAPPENING! SHE'S BEGINNING TO CHANGE FORM!



PRECISELY! AND NOW, WHILE A SIMPLE SPELL HOLDS YOU MOTIONLESS...

YOU SHALL LEARN AT LAST THAT THERE IS NO VALKYRIE...



... BUT ONLY... THE ENCHANTRESS!

FANTASTIC! THAT IMMORTAL IS ONE OF THE AVENGERS' OLDEST, FIERCEST FOES!

HANG IN THERE, BOY HEROES!

I GOT A HUNCH SHE'S WARMIN' UP TO LAY THAT ON US!



BUT WHY THE DECEPTION? WHY THE USE OF WANDA AND THE OTHERS?

AND WHERE IS HER FORMER ALLY, THE EXECUTIONER?

18 CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

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...AND WHY I BECAME THE VALKYRIE...EVEN CREATED A FALSE ORIGIN!

"WHEN LAST THE EXECUTIONER AND I FAILED TO CONQUER ETERNAL ASGARD,\* ALL-FATHER ODIN DID LAY UPON US BOTH A BANISHMENT MOST BANEFUL....!"

GO YONDER, INTO THE MOST BARREN OF NETHER WORLDS!

AND, IF'EER THOU DOST FLEE THEE TO SPHERES BEYOND, THY POWERS SHALL THERE BE HALVED!

I HAVE SPOKEN!

\* AS SEEN IN HULK # 102. --STAN.



"PERHAPS WE HAVE THRIVED, FOR AT LEAST WE STILL HAD EACH OTHER! BUT THEN, ONE DAY...

THERE... FROM OUT YON MISTS... A WOMAN!

NOT SIMPLY A WOMAN, ASGARDIAN...



...BUT SHE WHO RULES THESE REGIONS, AND HATH LONG ESPIED THEE FROM AFAR!

COME REIGN WITH ME, AND BE MY SOVEREIGN!

HOLD! WHAT OF ME, IMMORTAL?

YOU ONCE PINED FOR HERCULES! NOW DO LIKEWISE--FOR THE EX-ECUTIONER!



"THEN THEY WERE GONE... AND I WAS LEFT IN DARKNESS AND DESPAIR..."

IN THAT HOUR, THAT MOMENT... I VOWED ALL MALES SHOULD ONE DAY FEEL MY WRATH SUPREME!

AT LENGTH, I REACHED THIS WORLD, BUT WITH MY POWERS HALVED BY ODIN'S CURSE!

I LEARNED OF YON DEVICE, WHICH WILL RESTORE ME TO ASGARD...AND TO MY FULL POWERS!

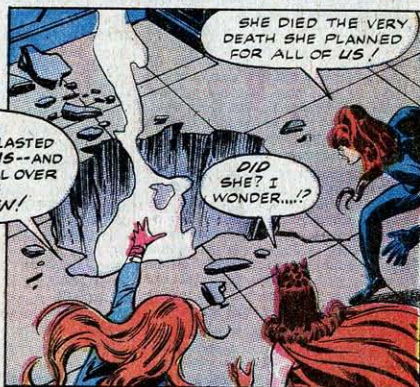
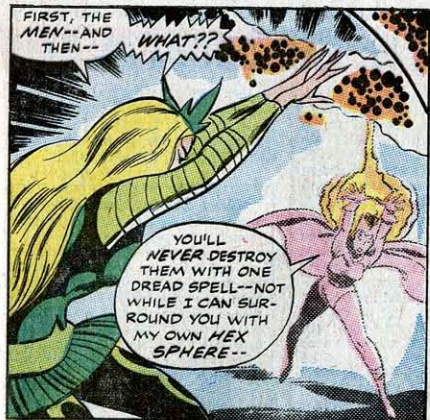
TO GAIN ALL MY ENDS, I DISGUISED MYSELF...AND USED SUBTLE, SECRET SPELLS TO WIN YOU FOUR TO MY CAUSE!



I DIVINED ALSO THAT THE MASTERS OF EVIL SOUGHT MY PRIZE...AND USED THE AVENGERS AGAINST THEM, THEN YOU AGAINST THE MEN!

BUT NOW, ALL OF YOU HAVE SERVED YOUR PURPOSE...AND SO MUST DIE...





**"TELLIN' IT LIKE IT WAS, IS, AND OUGHTTA BE!"**

**ITEM!** Just thought you'd like to know — the outspoken young fan who gave us the idea for the Ranks of Marveldom a few years ago (R.F.O.'s, F.F.F.'s, etc.) is now a full-fledged editor, turning out possibly the greatest fan mag of all for our own MARVELMANIA INTERNATIONAL! His name's MARK EVANIER, and he and his assistant editor, STURDY STEVEY SHERMAN, came to visit us the other day from sunny California where Marvelmania has its headquarters. They're a couple of young, zingy, with-it guys, and after yakkin' it up with 'em for a while it's easy to see why MARVELMANIA has become the toast of fandom! They were in town to attend the famous ComiCon '70, and speaking of conventions—

**ITEM!** We just have to tell you that our first open meeting of the ACADEMY OF COMIC-BOOK ARTS, held during the summer, was really something else! One of the cleverest entertainers of our time, none other than WILL JORDAN, the great monologist and impressionist (you've seen him break up the Ed Sullivan show a zillion times), provided some of the most hilarious routines we've ever howled at. Our most heart-felt thanks to Will, and to all the panelists and guests who made it such a memorable and meaningful affair.

**ITEM!** We hate to say it, but by the time you read these rueful words, JOLLY SOLLY BRODSKY will have left the wacky world of Marveldom Unmiltigated to strike out on his own as an independent publisher. We just wanna take a minute now to bid ol' Sol a fond farewell, and to wish this loyal and talented guy all the best — on sorrowful Stan and the whole batty Bullpen.

**ITEM!** We'll end the suspense right here and now! Replacing our departing Production Chief will be none other than JUMBO JOHNNY VERPOORTEN, Marvel's many-faceted Jack-Of-All-Arts! Jovial J. V. will be forsaking his inking chores on the FANTASTIC FOUR as well as his cataclysmic coloring of our capricious covers in order to concentrate

on our back-breaking production schedule. And, since everything that happens in this biz is like a game of falling dominoes, JOLLY JOE SINNOTT will once again return to the fabulous F. F., as permanent embellisher and resident kibitzer! Now, if we can only find a job for IRVING FORBUSH! Oh well . . .

**ITEM!** How about RASCALLY ROY and his beautiful bride, JEANIE? They've been attending the Halloween Parade each fall in Rutland, Vermont, where the revelers feature a flock of floats carrying superheroes on parade! In fact, last year Jeanie and Roy went as the INVISIBLE GIRL and SPIDER-MAN! (Of course, it can't be too hard to go as the Invisible Gal — all you've gotta do is — don't show up!) Anyway, don't miss the current ish of AVENGERS, because it features that same Rutland Parade, with our awesome assemblers themselves taking part in the whole magilla!

**ITEM!** How about another name-dropping session, gang? (Remember last month?) We're bustin' to mention the roster of famous names who really dig our newest sales sensation, CONAN THE BARBARIAN. So here's a grateful Marvel Mention to top science-fiction and screen writer HARLAN ELLISON — the prominent newspaper journalist DON THOMPSON and his talented wife MAGGIE — writer and ERBburroughs expert DICK LUPOFF — literary agent for the R. E. Howard estate GLENN LORD — s-f author and editor TED WHITE — and H. P. Lovecraft's old friend and fellow writer, AUGUST DERLETH! The list is almost endless, but the available copies of CONAN aren't — so don't wait too long till you grab ish #2, which is still on sale! (Unbashed plug!)

**JTEM!** Another couple of young, promising newcomers have just joined our riotous ranks! So say "hi" to BASHFUL BERNI WRIGHTSON who's been doing our mystery covers lately, as well as penciling, inking, coloring, and co-authoring a yarn in TOWER OF SHADOWS #8! Also, let's welcome

ROARIN' RICH BUCKLER, who's presently penciling a brand-new thriller for us. We wanna keep you in suspense a while longer, but we think the title, MAN-WOLF, is sure to grab ya!

**STAN LEE'S SOAPBOX**

Here's one for the book, Believer! Remember a year or so ago when I mentioned that we were discontinuing our policy of presenting continued stories? We intended to make each yarn complete in itself, right? Well, a strange thing happened. We learned that we have far less control over our stories than we thought. Even though we think of ourselves as their authors, each plot has a way of determining its own direction, its own length! We soon realized our little program just wasn't working out the way we expected. Try as we might, we ended up stretching our story lines over two, and sometimes even three issues again, just as we had been doing in the past. But, here's the kicker. Even though we've long since thrown in the sponge — even though we've been running as many continued stories as ever for the past few months — we STILL get hundreds of letters a week demanding that we abandon our one-plot-per-issue policy and return to continued stories! In other words, a whole kaboodle of mixed-up Marvelites are asking us to what we've BEEN doing all along! So let's hear it from some of the psychology majors among you. Can we formulate a new yarn? Perhaps something like: "The statement of intent may, under certain circumstances, carry more weight than the deed itself." Perhaps the whole furslungifier concept can be sold to Congress — although I suspect that they've been applying that same little principle since before we were born!

Onward!

Stan



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# AVENGERS ASSEMBLE!

SEND YOUR LETTERS TO: THE MARVEL COMICS GROUP, SECOND FLOOR, 625 MADISON AVE., NEW YORK, N.Y. 10022

Dear Stan and Roy,

Mr. Philip Mallory Jones' so-called "brief criticism" of AVENGERS #74 was nothing more than a drawn-out condemnation of our White Establishment here in the United States. He applauded your efforts so long as they pictured whites as being in the wrong and blacks as being in the right, but he sang a different tune whenever he found picky little statements or illustrations that showed things in a somewhat different light. Also he conveniently left out major parts of the book that could be used against his opinions and theories. Let me point out a few of the ideas that are hidden in his critic and being forth a few of my own:

1) No one, but no one, is going to look down on T'Challa because he is black... not the Avengers, and not the readers. Mr. Jones writes, "...only if there is a chance that he is white can he be judged as a man."

2) Mr. Jones says, "...pulling a fast one on blind, justice-utter garbage." Is he kidding? There is plenty of wrong-doing in this country that is getting past the "eyes" of blind justice.

3) In my opinion, the Panther should be drawn in "animalistic poses" due to the fact that his powers are patterned after his namesake.

4) Note Mr. Jones use of the words "white" and "whiteness" in a sarcastic way.

5) A chained Black Panther to Mr. Jones is a "noble savage" probably because the Panther's bondage connotes the idea that the white man is holding the black man in a different kind of bondage.

6) "...is both black and a marauder?" does not imply that "blackness is criminal." Nor does it imply that whiteness is good. The Panther is simply stating that this is one of simplest ways for the Supreme Serpent to arouse the anger of the white public against the Negro.

7) "...carefully-selected program..." was vastly misinterpreted by Mr. Jones. In the first place it is a clue as to the "leaders of the serpents. In the second, the "controllers of information" are only involved in the Serpent conspiracy in an indirect way, that is, they only want a cut of the profits that come from such a popular show.

8) Mr. Jones admires your statement "...and other lost causes!" because it supports his feelings that Black America is the voice of so many worthwhile endeavors that go unheeded by so many whites. But he ignores the fact that there are many endeavors that are not quite so worthwhile.

9) The top frame on page 5 does not assume anything about WHITE America that it does not assume about Black America, i.e., each person would side with the member of his own race (in this particular panel).

10) Mr. Jones says that Hale "thinks like a white man would imagine he would think if he were black." Well, then, exactly how does a black man think?

11) "Whatever our own feelings, we must capture T'Challa!" Of course the Avengers equal Platonic Justice. They can't let their emotions interfere with their duty when one of the Avengers commits criminal acts, no matter what color he (or she) is. They must bring to justice anyone who violates the law. Just because it happens that black T'Challa is being pursued by the other white Avengers does not mean that black is bad or that white is good. In addition, Goliath states, "Or the crumb that's

givin' him a bum rap!" This implies that the Avengers do not necessarily believe that the Black Panther is guilty of breaking the law.

12) "Whose side are you on, baby?" Mr. Jones says that this "conforms to the power establishment's program for maintaining its white supremacy regime throughout the world by genocide." Yet it is a Negro who makes the statement, Whose side are you on, Mr. Jones?

13) "I prefer not to walk among them." Establishes not only the Vision's alienation but the Negro alienation, as far as Mr. Jones seems concerned.

14) Mr. Jones enjoys the piece where the child says, "For two of yours, I can get one of Captain America!" This supposedly places YJ in the relative position of the Negro, lower than another man.

15) I detect more sarcasm from Mr. Jones concerning the 4th panel on page 10. He is spouting criticism at America's value system because the Panther is shown stealing some jewelry, and this pictures him as bad. Well, I can pity a man who steals food or some other such necessity (and forgive him), but jewelry?

16) The idea of the Panther at the bottom of page 10 being "a cringing black man in the face of white virginity" is absurd. He was merely closing the bag of stolen jewels. AS A MATTER OF FACT, he attacked her in the next few panels.

17) Undoubtedly, the center left panel on page 11 appealed to Mr. Jones because it pictured a black man struggling against white supremacy amid the "ruins" of the Establishment.

18) "You made me do it." Uh, uh... no excuses now that the fake Panther is shown to be a white man.

19) Top left frame, page 20. A good illustration to Mr. Jones, probably because it places evil Dunn in the foreground with a much more terrifying look on his face.

20) "A cause may be right, though a leader or two be wrong!" I agree that this is one statement which cannot be argued, but must be interpreted by each person individually.

21) "Power to the people!" Two governments uphold this statement, the communist government and the democratic government. But there is a difference, isn't there?

I am sorry to have made this letter so long, but there was no alternative when offering such a rebuttal to Mr. Jones' critic. Thank you for listening.

John Whitten, 1429 Taekell St.  
Bossier City, La. 71010

While we were somewhat more kindly disposed to many of reader Mallory's points than you (and many other Marvelites) obviously were, we appreciate your defense. We plead guilty of perhaps occasionally fouling up in our use of minority characters—the same way we've goofed up our major ones from time to time—but we feel our heart, at least, is in the right place—and, quite frankly, we didn't feel we were quite as wrong-headed in as many areas as Philip Mallory seemed to feel. Marvel was, after all, featuring minority characters in important roles before it was the fashion in the pages of our competitors' mags. And, if we can allow ourselves a mild prediction, we feel we'll still be doing it when they've gone back to other pursuits. Not because it will sell books—because, so far as we know, it never affected sales one way or the other significantly—but simply because we feel it should be done.

## KNOW YE THESE, THE HALLOWED RANKS OF MARVELDOM:

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**F.F.F.** (Fearless Front-Facer)—An honorary title bestowed for devotion to Marvel above and beyond the call of duty.

Dear Stan and Roy,

The AVENGERS is my favorite Marvel comic. #74 was great plot-wise but poor in the artwork. John Buscema's artwork is great on the SILVER SURFER, but seeing his brother Sal's drawing them, the AVENGERS were the greatest. Bring back Sal Buscema & Sam Grainger's work to the AVENGERS. They produced the best X-MEN in the latest and, unfortunately, last issue. J. B. & Tom Palmer just can't compare to them. So, please PLEASE-bring them back!!

Another thing I want to see in the AVENGERS is more appearances by the Black Knight. I think he's the best Avenger there is. Don't let his staying in England stop him from fighting in America more often. Try and get him in as often as possible.

By the way, what ever happened to the logo "THE MIGHTY AVENGERS" on the cover? The old one's getting a little drab.

I notice word bubbles are appearing more and more on Marvel covers. What happened to your idea of no word bubbles?

Another thing I want to complain about. In #73, Monica Lynne shouts to the officers "For God's sake!" More and more, your heroes have been spouting such phrases as "Good Lord!" and "Oh my God!" Don't you think this has an impression on the younger readers? Breaking one of the Ten Commandments is one thing I thought Marvel would never do. Wouldn't a simple "Good grief!" or "Great Scott!!" do? Funny, I always had the impression the people who worked at Marvel went to church. C'mon, you guys. Just cause you say that junk doesn't mean you have to teach other people to say it. Resist! Resist! If you don't, many parents are going to say that—only about buying Marvel books.

Other than those things I've mentioned, Marvel is still great. Just think—it might even be perfect if you take constructive criticism.

Wayne Hall, 220 West Taylor St.  
Taylor, Pa. 18517

We've thought long and hard about your cogent remarks on the occasional "Good Lord!" and related expletives we've used in the books, Wayne, and we've decided that you've got a good point—up to a point. Therefore, we hereby vow that—although we don't consider the expression "Good Lord!" to be strong swearing in the sense that you seem to, we will tone down on our use of it—and we'll try to omit totally any expression stronger than that, especially one which uses the word "God." It's never been our aim to offend anyone's religious sensibilities, and any dramatic value which the expressions may have is

more than negated if a sizable number of readers object to them. You've got our word on it, Wayne—and we'll try our darned-est not to foul up!

By the way, the battling Black Knight—as well as Arkon the Magnificent will be back within the next couple of issues. How's that for service, pal?

Dear Stan, Roy, and John,

I greatly enjoyed AVENGERS #79, until I got to the end. At that time a cold shudder racked my body. The Vision announced his resignation! His reason was because he felt out of place in a world of flesh and blood humans.

I am not blaming any one person or one super-hero organization, but the Vision's fellow Avengers, his "best" friends, were partly to blame for this piece of startling news! How many times has an Avenger addressed the Vision as "android"? In issue #61 he clearly expressed his dislike of being referred to as something less than human. T'Challa was explaining to Goliath (then Hawkeye) how he was recharging the Vision's powers. He said, "Though the Vision may look much like a man, his body is still that of an android... a synthetic human, who absorbs solar rays thru the tear-shaped jewel in his forehead." To which the Vision replied, "An admirable, if oversimplified explanation, Panther. But, I hardly need to be reminded that I'm not truly human."

Despite this, time and time again his friends kept right on. "Good job, android!", "Give 'em one for me android!", and so on.

Have the Avengers mend their ways and beg forgiveness and the return of the Vision. I started reading the Avengers at the time the Vision entered the picture. Since then, the Vision has made AVENGERS #1 on my "must get" list.

Please heed my plea, return the Vision to his status of Avenger.

Jeff Williams, 1115 Pennsylvania Ave.  
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho 83814

He's back, Jeff, he's back! With a vengeance!

And, in the pages of THE AVENGERS in the pulsating months to come, we guarantee that we have plans in store for our awesome android that will move you and shake you—and which may well make him the most talked-about superhero on the comics scene! Doubt our word, friend? Then keep tuned—and see if you can outguess Big John B. and our award-winning associate editor!

NOW THAT YOU  
HAVE SEEN ME--WITHOUT  
MY MASK--YOU CANNOT  
LEAVE HERE ALIVE!



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says Norman Rockwell

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### Some of the people the Famous Artists have helped

Donald Ward enrolled at FAS when he was a teenager and today works in the largest advertising agency in Akron, Ohio. His portfolio of work was enough to get him a job on a staff of 6 artists.

Homer Collins, of Albany, Ga., left a job in an insurance company to work as an artist for a local printer. Now he owns his own studio and makes good money while doing something he enjoys.

Paul Sullivan enrolled at 14. His Famous Artists training helped him work his way through college.

Kathleen Gironda of Indiana, Pennsylvania, was an 18-year-old salesgirl in a department store. She still works for a department store, but now it's as an advertising artist and fashion illustrator.

Robert Rouge, of Port Jefferson, N. Y., was 18 when he started as a paste-up boy in a small ad agency. In 10 months he doubled his salary and was put in charge of one of the accounts.

Oregon housewife Helen Tryk lives 150 miles from the nearest big city. But she does fashion illustration, has her own studio, runs an art work shop, does portraits.

### A plan to help others

It started over 18 years ago when a group of America's most successful artists—men like Albert Dorne, Norman Rockwell, Jon Whitcomb, Al Parker and Stevan Dohanos—met in New York City. They knew that all over America there were people who liked to draw who could be turned into good artists. Albert Dorne asked, "Why can't we give these people the

training they need—including all the trade secrets and know-how we've learned over the years?"

He suggested a new kind of art school—a home study art school—that would give talented people the best professional art training, no matter where they live.

The famous artists agreed. Taking time from their busy careers, they created a remarkable series of art lessons covering every aspect of drawing and painting. They illustrated their lessons with over 5,000 "here's-how" illustrations. The lessons start from scratch and cover every skill a top artist needs. Finally, they developed a wonderful way to give each student personal correction and advice all through his training.

The famous artists with the School are not surprised at the success of their students. The opportunities open to successful artists today are enormous. The School continually gets calls from all over the country asking for practical well-trained students—not geniuses—who can step into full-time or part-time art jobs. And practical, thorough training is what the School offers.

### Famous Artists Talent Test

To find others with art talent worth developing, the Famous Artists created a 12-page Talent Test. Thousands paid to take this test, but now the School offers and grades it free. Men and women who do well on the test—or offer other sufficient evidence of art talent—may enroll in the School. But there's no obligation. Simply mail the coupon below.

**Famous Artists School**  
Studio A-6495  
Westport, Conn. 06880

I would like to find out whether I have art talent worth developing. Please send me, without obligation, your Famous Artists Talent Test and information about your courses.

Mr. }  
Mrs. } ← Circle one and please print  
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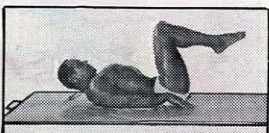
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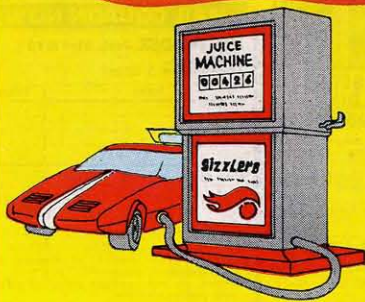
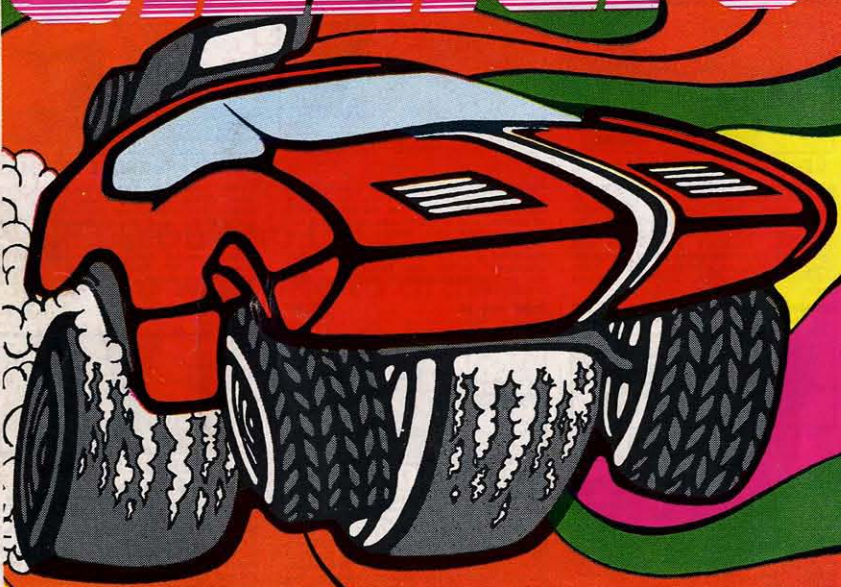
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