

THIS MAN... THIS DEMON!

HOW'S THIS FOR
A LILTIN' LINEUP?

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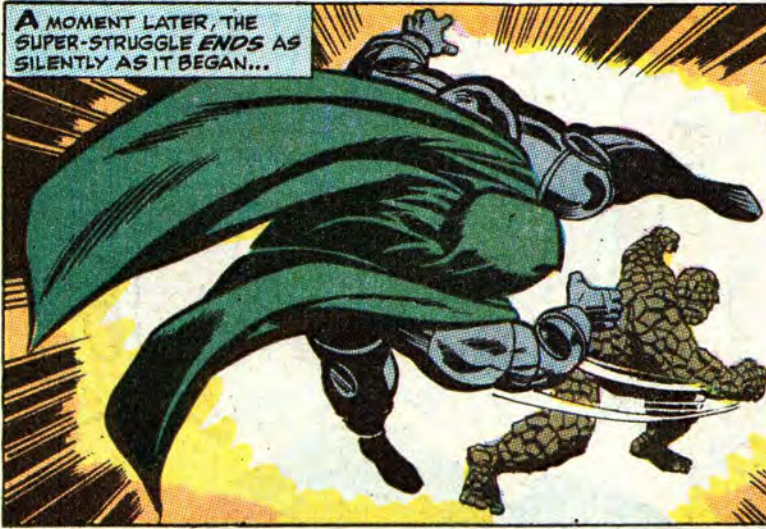
YOU ARE WITNESSING
A **UNIQUE** TABLEAU--
UNIQUE BECAUSE THIS
BATTLE OF TITANS IS
RAGING **WITHOUT** THE
SLIGHTEST **SOUND**
OR **UTTERANCE!**

And THAT'S ONLY THE
BEGINNING...

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A MOMENT LATER, THE SUPER-STRUGGLE ENDS AS SILENTLY AS IT BEGAN...

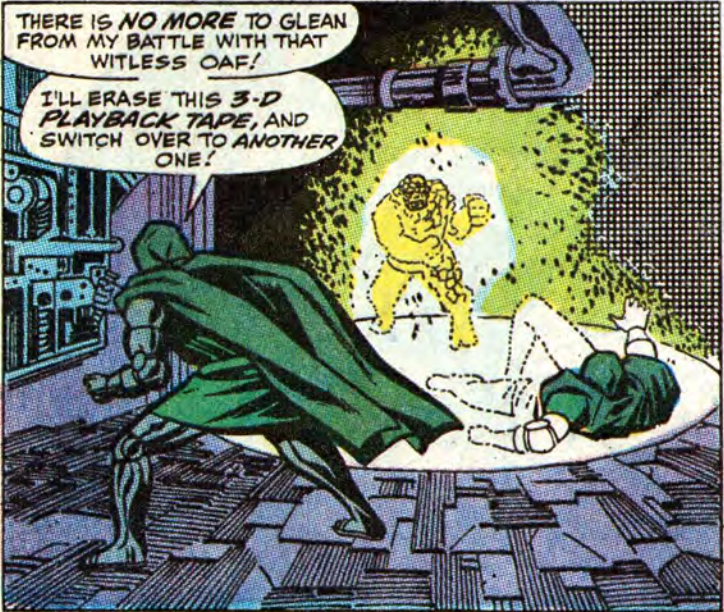


BAH! FOR SHEER, BRUTE STRENGTH, NONE CAN EQUAL THE MUSCULAR POWER OF THAT LIVING MONSTROSITY...THE **THING!**

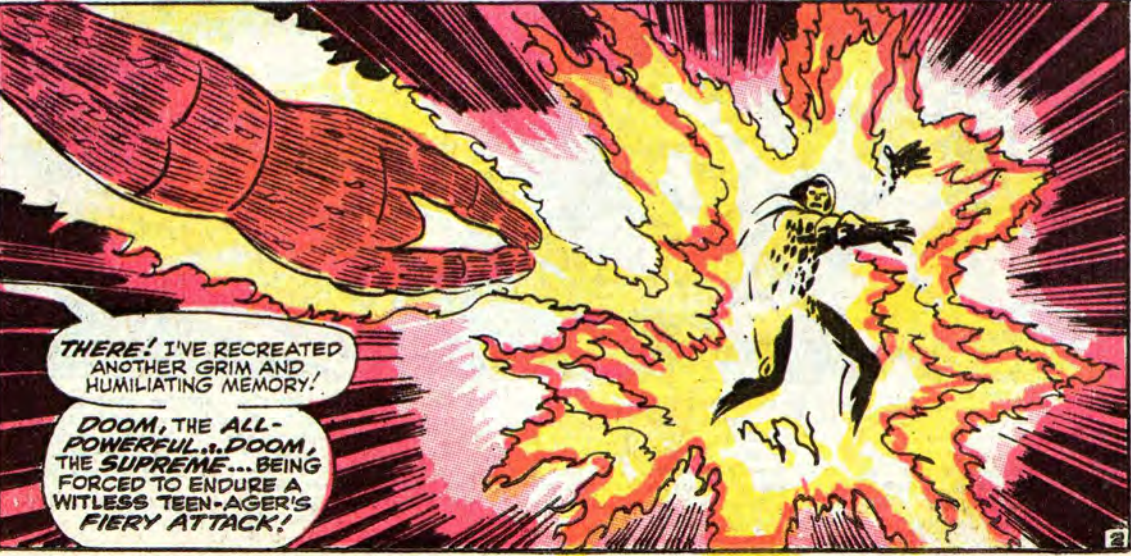


THERE IS **NO MORE** TO GLEAN FROM MY BATTLE WITH THAT WITLESS OAF!

I'LL ERASE THIS 3-D PLAYBACK TAPE, AND SWITCH OVER TO ANOTHER ONE!



SOONER OR LATER, BY CAREFULLY OBSERVING AND ANALYZING MY PAST DEFEATS, I'LL CONCEIVE THE MEANS...THE **ULTIMATE PLAN...** TO CONQUER THE ACCURSED **FANTASTIC FOUR!**

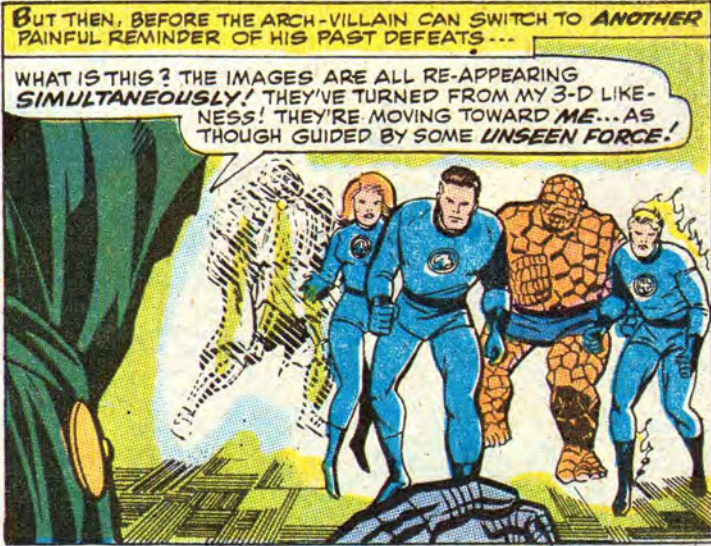


THERE! I'VE RECREATED ANOTHER GRIM AND HUMILIATING MEMORY!

DOOM, THE ALL-POWERFUL...DOOM, THE SUPREME... BEING FORCED TO ENDURE A WITLESS TEEN-AGER'S FIERY ATTACK!

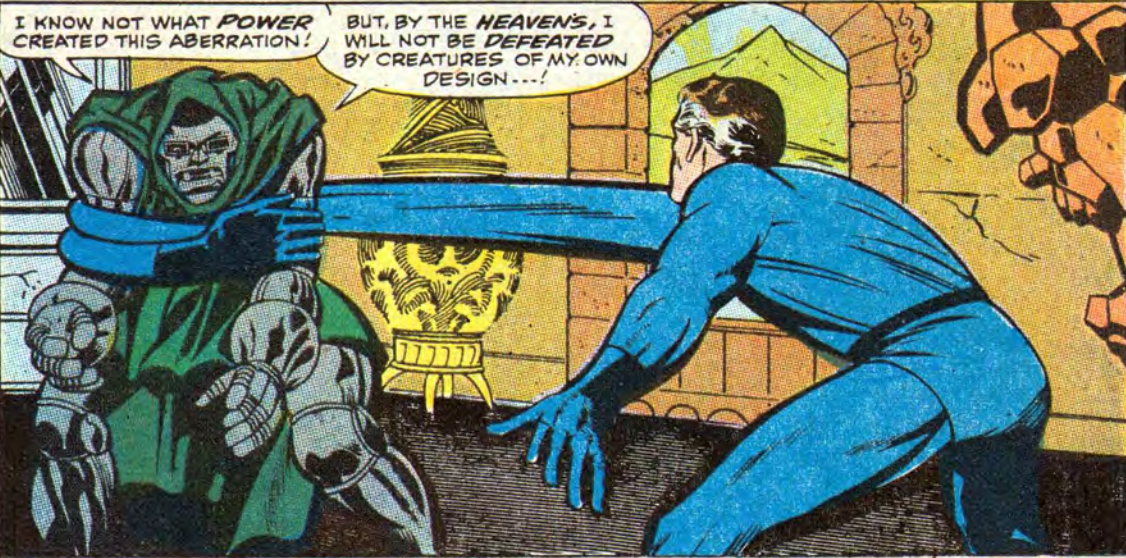


ONLY THE **COSMIC POWER** I HAD STOLEN FROM THE SILVER SURFER, SAVED ME FROM THAT HOLOCAUST!



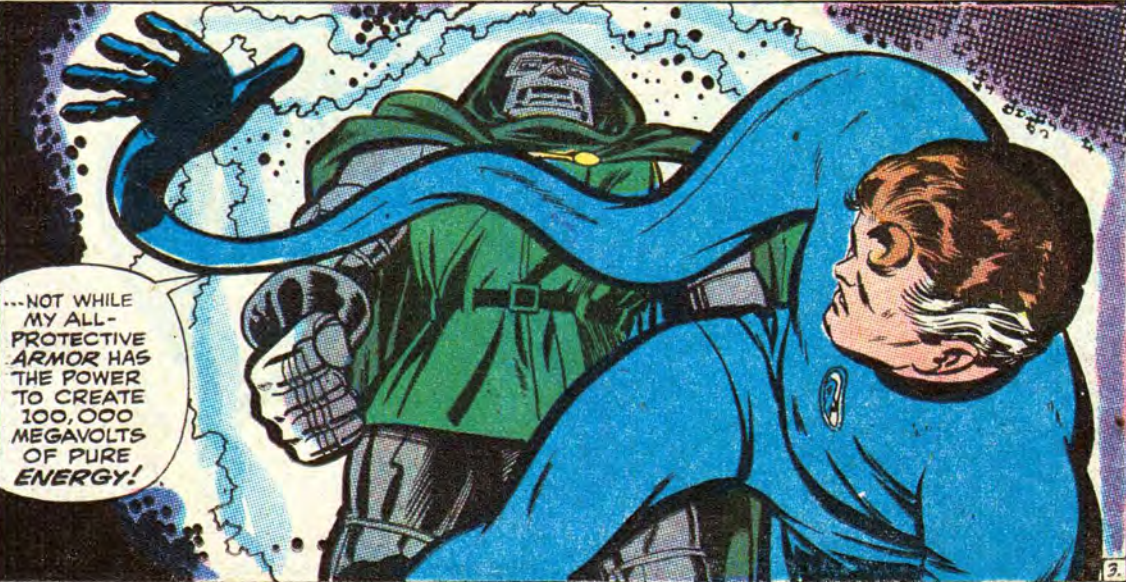
BUT THEN, BEFORE THE ARCH-VILLAIN CAN SWITCH TO **ANOTHER PAINFUL REMINDER** OF HIS PAST DEFEATS...

WHAT IS THIS? THE IMAGES ARE ALL RE-APPEARING **SIMULTANEOUSLY!** THEY'VE TURNED FROM MY 3-D LIKE-NESS! THEY'RE MOVING TOWARD **ME...** AS THOUGH GUIDED BY SOME **UNSEEN FORCE!**



I KNOW NOT WHAT **POWER** CREATED THIS ABERRATION!

BUT, BY THE **HEAVENS**, I WILL NOT BE DEFEATED BY CREATURES OF MY OWN DESIGN....!

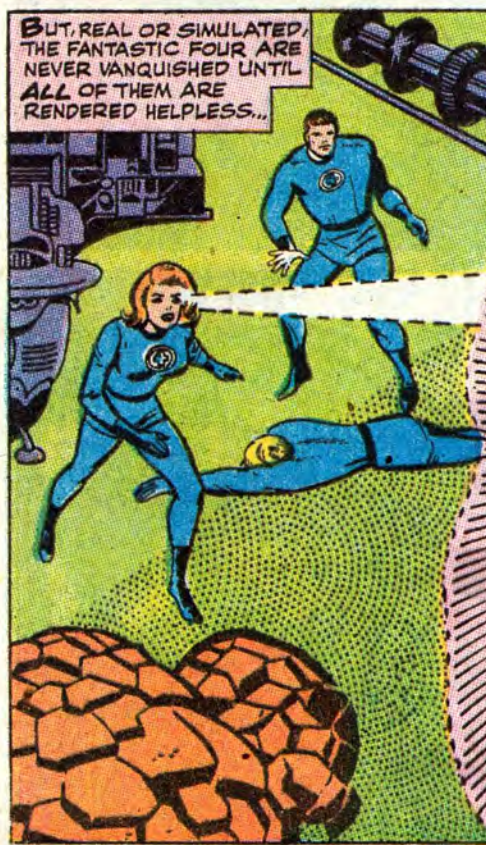
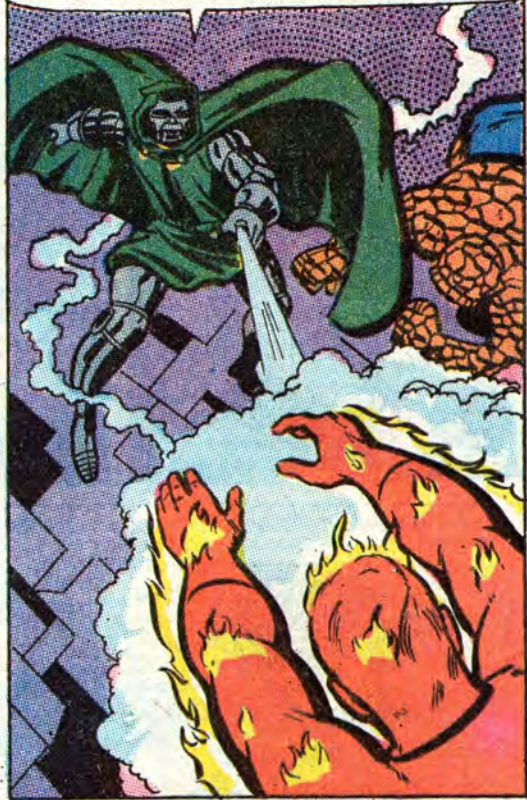


...NOT WHILE MY ALL-PROTECTIVE **ARMOR** HAS THE POWER TO CREATE 100,000 MEGAVOLTS OF PURE **ENERGY!**



AS FOR THIS SIMULATED THING, ONE WELL-PLACED **ELECTRO-BLAST** WILL REPULSE HIS ONSLAUGHT!

AND, BY FIRING **DE-OXYGENIZING FOAM** AT THE TORCH, I REMOVE FROM THE AIR THE ONE ELEMENT **NECESSARY** TO KEEP HIM AFLAME!



BUT, REAL OR SIMULATED, THE FANTASTIC FOUR ARE NEVER VANQUISHED UNTIL ALL OF THEM ARE RENDERED HELPLESS...

THE INVISIBLE GIRL IS ATTEMPTING TO ENGLUF ME IN A **FORCE FIELD!**

BUT SHE WON'T SUCCEED... FOR I HAVE THE POWER TO GENERATE MY OWN PROTECTIVE **ELECTRO-MAGNETIC SCREEN!**



AND THEN, AS MYSTERIOUSLY AS THE BATTLE HAD BEGUN, IT SUDDENLY ENDS--!

THE 3-D IMAGES ARE ALL FADING AWAY... AGAIN, BY SOME UNKNOWN POWER BEYOND MY CONTROL!



BUT WAIT... VAPOROUS FUMES! THEY'RE RISING--SPREADING--GIVING FORM TO AN APPARITION!

AGAIN YOUR THREATS! THEY ARE MEANINGLESS TO ME! FOR I AM...

WHO ARE YOU? SPEAK! SPEAK, OR FACE THE WRATH OF DOCTOR DOOM!



...DIABLO!! MASTER OF ALCHEMY-- CREATOR OF CHEMICAL WONDERS!

THEN IT WAS YOU WHO TURNED MY MEMORY TAPES AGAINST ME!

PRECISELY! A MERE DEMONSTRATION OF THE POWER I BRING TO OUR ALLIANCE!



ALLIANCE??

YES, MY DEAR DOCTOR! DIABLO SEEKS TO JOIN FORCES WITH YOU... TO COMBINE HIS SUPREME KNOWLEDGE OF CHEMISTRY WITH YOUR SCIENTIFIC GENIUS... IN THE CONQUEST OF ALL MANKIND!

NO! NEVER! MY AMBITIONS... MY DESTINY... ARE MINE ALONE! THE STAR THAT DOOM FOLLOWS, BECKONS ONLY TO HIM... AND NONE OTHER!





STARS? **BAH!**
NOTHING GUIDES
YOU BUT YOUR
OWN INSUFFER-
ABLE VANITY!

WHAT!! YOU
DARE SPEAK
THUS TO
DOOM??

BEGONE,
TRICKSTER--
OR I'LL
SILENCE
YOUR
TAUNTING
TONGUE
FOREVER!



WORDS!
IDLE WORDS!

THEN, HAVE
MORE THAN
WORDS! HAVE
INTENSIFIED
MOLECULES
THAT **INCREASE**
WHEN EXPOSED
TO THE AIR...
TO THE SIZE OF
BOULDERS!

FOOL!
WHEN BATHED
IN AN ANCIENT
CHEMICAL
COMPOUND...



... MOLECULES CAN BE REARRANGED, AND
BOULDERS TRANSFORMED INTO HARMLESS
OBJECTS!

YOU... YOU TURNED
THE STONES INTO
FEATHERS!

NO ALCHEMY
IS BEYOND THE
POWER OF
DIABLO!



WELL, ARE YOU READY TO
ACKNOWLEDGE YOUR
NEED OF ME?

INSOLENT FOOL!
YOU THINK THE
MIGHTY DOOM
IS SO EASILY
BESTED?



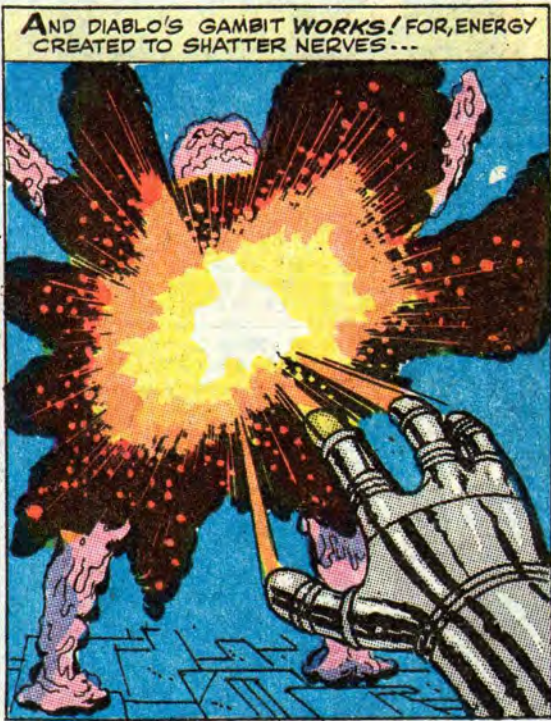
ONE BLAST OF NERVE-DESTROYING ENERGY WILL FINISH THIS FARCE... FOREVER!

BEHOLD THE CAPSULE I SWALLOW, WITHIN SECONDS...

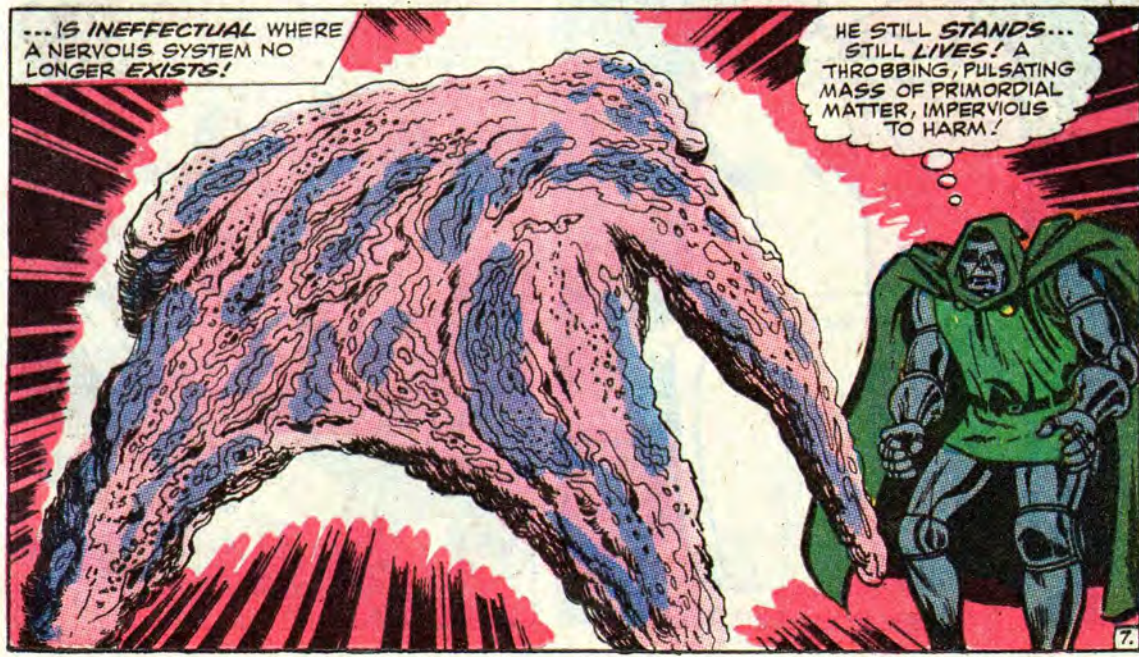


...ITS CHEMICAL COMPOUND WILL EFFECT THE MOST INCREDIBLE TRANSFORMATION OF ALL!

IT WILL TURN A SENTIENT HUMAN BEING INTO A MASS OF NERVELESS PROTOPLASM!



AND DIABLO'S GAMBIT WORKS! FOR, ENERGY CREATED TO SHATTER NERVES...



...IS INEFFECTUAL WHERE A NERVOUS SYSTEM NO LONGER EXISTS!

HE STILL STANDS... STILL LIVES! A THROBBING, PULSATING MASS OF PRIMORDIAL MATTER, IMPERVIOUS TO HARM!

THE SPELL IS ENDED! ONCE AGAIN YOU SEE BEFORE YOU **DIABLO, THE MAN!**

AN IMPRESSIVE BUT **FUTILE** DISPLAY!

NO MATTER WHAT YOUR POWERS, I NEITHER SEEK, NOR WILL I ACCEPT AN ALLY!



IN THAT CASE, I MUST RESORT TO **OTHER** MEANS OF PERSUASION!

BEHOLD THE **FIGURE** WHO APPEARS IN YON VAPOROUS MIST!

OBSERVE THAT SHE IS MY HELPLESS **CAPTIVE**, HELD IN A SEMI-CONSCIOUS STATE BY UNBREAKABLE BANDS OF SLUMBER!

HER **FACE**... IT SEEMS STRANGELY **FAMILIAR!**

IT **SHOULD!** TAKE A LONG, LINGERING LOOK AT THE LOVELY CREATURE... THEN SEARCH YOUR **MEMORY**...



IT WAS SO **FAR BACK**... SO MANY **YEARS** AGO...

...LONG **BEFORE** THE DREAMS OF **POWER** AND **CONQUEST** AND **VENGEANCE!**

IT WAS A **HAPPY** TIME... A **HALCYON** TIME... A TIME OF **CHILDHOOD!**



I CAN SEE THEM **NOW**... TWO **GYPSY** CHILDREN, **ALIVE** AND **JOYFUL**... **LAUGHING** IN THE **AFTERNOON** SUN...



"BUT THEN, SUDDENLY, DISASTER STRUCK!"

FATHER, WHAT'S WRONG? WHAT HAS HAPPENED?

I TOLD THE BARON I HAD NO POTION... NO ELIXIR TO SAVE HIS DYING WIFE... BUT HE MADE ME TRY, AND FOR MY FAILURE HE NOW SEEKS REVENGE!

WE MUST FLEE AT ONCE!



"AND AS THE FRIGHTENED GYPSY HEALER FLED WITH HIS SON..."

HE IS NOT HERE!

WE'LL FIND HIM! WE'LL COMB THE COUNTRYSIDE! NO FLUGITIVE CAN HIDE FROM THE BARON'S VENGEANCE!



"SO THE GRIM CHASE BEGAN!"

WHY DO WE RUN, FATHER? WHY DO WE NOT STAY BEHIND AND FIGHT!?



AHH, VICTOR... YOU SOUND LIKE YOUR DEAD MOTHER! SHE TOO FEARED NOTHING, NO MATTER HOW HOPELESS THE ODDS!

BUT, NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS TO ME, THEY WILL NEVER GET YOU, MY SON! FOR YOU HAVE A DESTINY TO FULFILL!

FATHER... I'M HUNGRY... AND COLD...!



"WRAPPING HIS OWN THREAD-BARE GARMENTS AROUND THE SHIVERING BOY, THE DESPERATE GYPSY PLODDED ON THRU THE NIGHT, MIRACULOUSLY EVADING HIS PURSUERS..."



"UNTIL, FINALLY..."

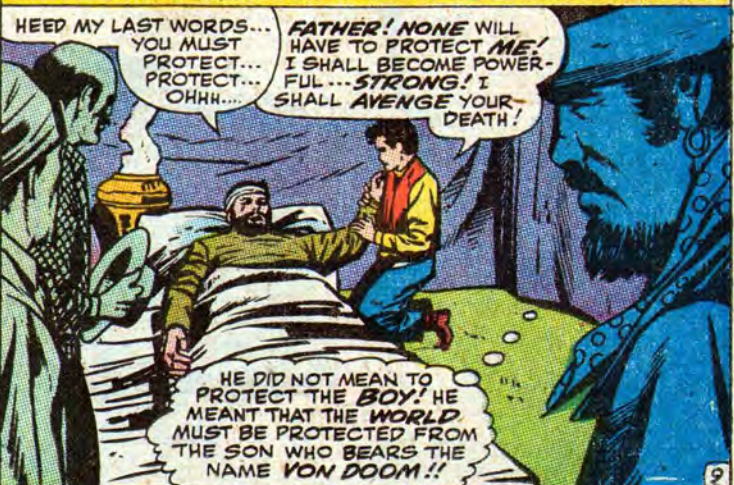
VON DOOM! IT'S ME... BORIS! THE SOLDIERS HAVE GONE! VON DOOM!



"THE NEARLY FROZEN FIGURES WERE BROUGHT BACK TO CAMP, IN TIME FOR THE SON, BUT TOO LATE FOR THE FATHER..."

HEED MY LAST WORDS... YOU MUST PROTECT... PROTECT... OHHH...

FATHER! NONE WILL HAVE TO PROTECT ME! I SHALL BECOME POWERFUL... STRONG! I SHALL AVENGE YOUR DEATH!



HE DID NOT MEAN TO PROTECT THE BOY! HE MEANT THAT THE WORLD MUST BE PROTECTED FROM THE SON WHO BEARS THE NAME VON DOOM!!



THEY MURDERED MY MOTHER... WHEN I WAS BUT AN INFANT!! AND NOW THEY HAVE SLAIN MY FATHER!! THEY'LL PAY FOR THAT! ALL OF MANKIND SHALL PAY!!

WE NEVER TOLD HIM THAT HIS MOTHER WAS A MYSTIC **SORCESSER!** AND, HER BLOOD RUNS IN HIS OWN VEINS! I PRAY HE NEVER LEARNS OF HIS DARK HERITAGE!



"BUT, AFTER THE OTHERS HAD GONE..."

VICTOR, WHAT ARE YOU SEARCHING FOR?

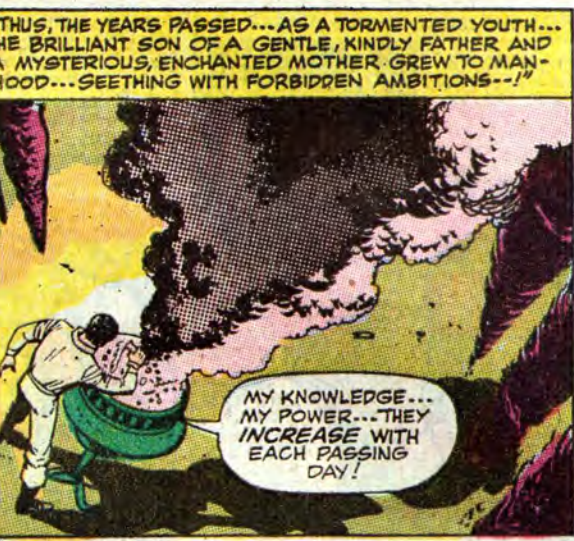
AMONG THESE **HEIRLOOMS** HIDDEN BEHIND MY FATHER'S HERBS AND REMEDIES... ARE STRANGE OBJECTS THAT BEAR MY MOTHER'S NAME!



MAGIC POTIONS! FORBIDDEN SCIENTIFIC SECRETS! WHY DID I NEVER SUSPECT? MY MOTHER WAS A WITCH! AND NOW I CAN LEARN HER SECRETS!

NO, VICTOR! YOU **MUSTN'T!** IT'S **WRONG...** AND **DAANGEROUS!**

QUIET, GIRL! THIS... THIS IS MY **TRUE HERITAGE!**



"THUS, THE YEARS PASSED... AS A TORMENTED YOUTH... THE BRILLIANT SON OF A GENTLE, KINDLY FATHER AND A MYSTERIOUS, ENCHANTED MOTHER. GREW TO MANHOOD... SEETHING WITH FORBIDDEN AMBITIONS--!"

MY KNOWLEDGE... MY POWER... THEY **INCREASE** WITH EACH PASSING DAY!



"UNTIL, FINALLY..."

I'VE GLEANED ALL THAT I CAN FROM THE MYSTIC ARTS! NOW I MUST AUGMENT THAT WITH **SCIENCE--SCIENCE** SUCH AS IS TAUGHT IN THE GREAT UNIVERSITIES OF THE WEST!

THEN YOU'RE LEAVING LATVERIA! BUT WHAT OF **US?** WHAT OF OUR DREAM OF A LIFE TOGETHER? IS THAT **NEVER TO BE?**

THAT DREAM **DIED**, WITH MY CHILDHOOD, VALERIA! I HAVE NO LOVE... NO COMPASSION... NOT A TENDER FEELING TO SHARE WITH ANYONE!

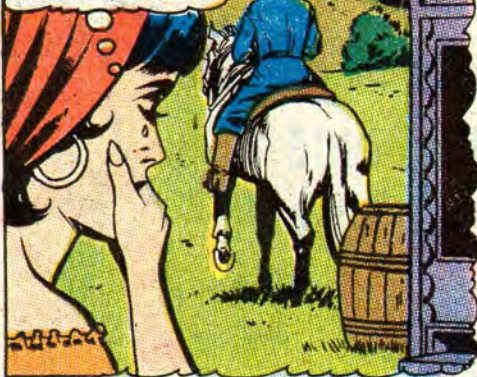
THEN I **PITY** YOU, VICTOR!



DO NOT... FOR, THOSE MAUDLIN SENTIMENTS HAVE BEEN REPLACED BY A THIRST FOR **POWER--** MORE POWER THAN ANY MORTAL HAS EVER ENVISIONED! AND IT WILL BE **MINE, VALERIA!** ALL **MINE!!**

"AND, WITHOUT ANOTHER WORD, VICTOR VON DOOM DEPARTED FROM THE GYPSY CAMP..."

HE'S POSSESSED OF A MADNESS THAT WILL LEAD ONLY TO **INFAMY!** YET I STILL LOVE HIM... FOR WHAT HE ONCE WAS... FOR WHAT I PRAY HE'LL AGAIN **BECOME**, WHEN THIS NIGHTMARE ENDS!



SUDDENLY, THE REVERIE STOPS, AS EVIL INCARNATE SPEAKS...

WELL, DOOM... DO YOU REMEMBER?

YES...



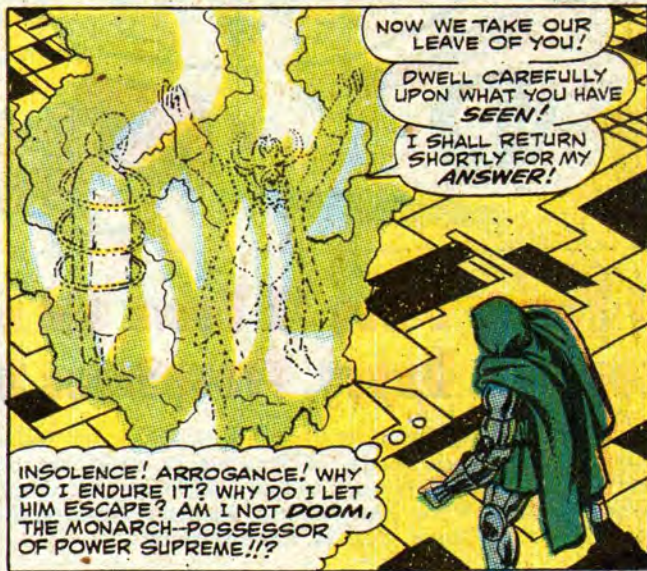
THEN, KNOW YOU **THIS!** THE WOMAN WHO WAS ONCE IN YOUR HEART... IS NOW IN MY **POWER!** HER FATE DEPENDS UPON YOUR **COMPLIANCE!** I THINK I NEED SAY NO MORE!



NOW WE TAKE OUR LEAVE OF YOU!

DWELL CAREFULLY UPON WHAT YOU HAVE **SEEN!**

I SHALL RETURN SHORTLY FOR MY **ANSWER!**



INSOLENCE! ARROGANCE! WHY DO I ENDURE IT? WHY DO I LET HIM ESCAPE? AM I NOT DOOM, THE MONARCH-POSSESSOR OF POWER SUPREME!??

YES, I AM ALL THAT AND **MORE!** I AM **COLD, RUTHLESS, IMPLACABLE**... ABOVE ALL HUMAN **EMOTION!** I COULD CRUSH A **CONTINENT** WITHOUT A QUALM!

AND YET, THE SIGHT OF ONE DIMLY REMEMBERED **FEMALE**, HELD CAPTIVE... GAVE ME PAUSE!

THOUGH NOT FOR LONG! I WILL THINK.. PLAN.. AND THEN EXACT A **VENGEANCE** UPON **DIABLO** TO MAKE THE HEAVENS TREMBLE... OR LET MEN NOT CALL ME... **DOOM!**



CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

"BUT, STILL
THE MEMORY
PERSISTS...
OF PARADISE
LOST... OF WORLDS
THAT MIGHT
HAVE BEEN..."

"...INDEED, OF
A WORLD WHICH
YET MIGHT BE...
IF I BUT GRASP
THOSE LONG-DEAD
DREAMS, AND MAKE
OF THEM THE STUFF
OF REALITY!"

"YET, EVER
BETWEEN ME...
AND THE GIRL I
ONCE LOVED...
FALLS THE SINISTER
SHADOW OF...
DIABLO..."



... AND, OF ONE MORE THING!

FOR, I HAVE SPOKEN LIKE ONE WHO HAS A CHOICE...

WHEN, IN TRUTH, THAT CHOICE WAS MADE FOR ME... LONG YEARS AGO...

... IN ONE SINGLE SECOND OF SEARING FLAME!



WHAT WOULD SHE THINK OF ME NOW...

THE MAN BEHIND THE MASK OF METAL!



WOULD SHE TURN AWAY IN HORROR IF I PRESSED THE CONCEALED STUD UPON MY GLOVE...



... IF I LOOSED THE MASK WHICH HAS SHIELDED ME SO LONG FROM PRYING EYES...

INCLUDING MY OWN!



COULD SHE BEAR TO LOOK ON A FACE DISFIGURED BY A FIERY EXPLOSION...

... LOOK ON IT WITHOUT REVULSION... WITHOUT SHEER, SHAMELESS LOATHING?



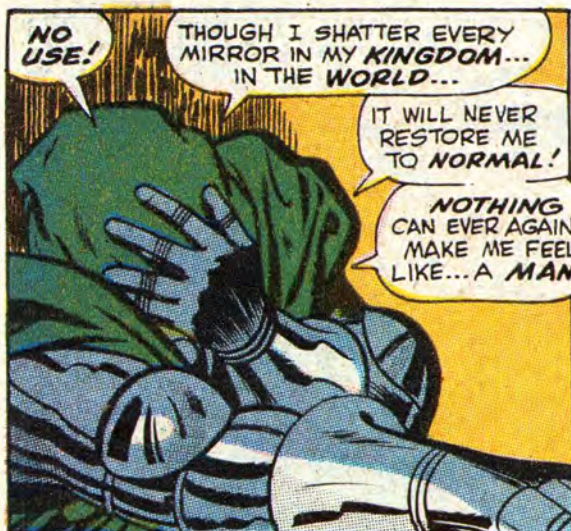
No!

HOW COULD SHE... WHEN EVEN I AM DRIVEN TO MADNESS BY THE SIGHT?

I BUT DREAMED A DREAM!



AND DREAMS... LIKE MIRRORS... EXIST MERELY TO BE SMASHED!!

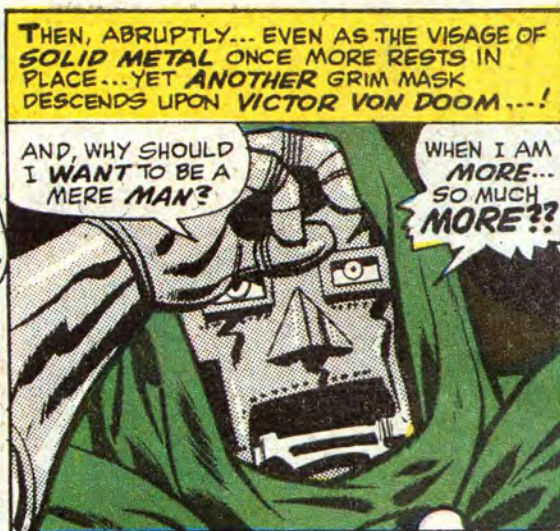


NO USE!

THOUGH I SHATTER EVERY MIRROR IN MY KINGDOM...
IN THE WORLD...

IT WILL NEVER RESTORE ME TO NORMAL!

NOTHING CAN EVER AGAIN MAKE ME FEEL LIKE... A MAN!



THEN, ABRUPTLY... EVEN AS THE VISAGE OF SOLID METAL ONCE MORE RESTS IN PLACE... YET ANOTHER GRIM MASK DESCENDS UPON VICTOR VON DOOM...!

AND, WHY SHOULD I WANT TO BE A MERE MAN?

WHEN I AM MORE... SO MUCH MORE??



I AM HE WHO HAS RAVAGED A WORLD...

HE WHOSE VERY NAME BESPEAKS THE DIRE DESTRUCTION I CAN RAIN DOWN UPON A HELPLESS PLANET!

I AM DOOM!
DOOM!



WHAT I DO NOT WANT... I DESTROY!

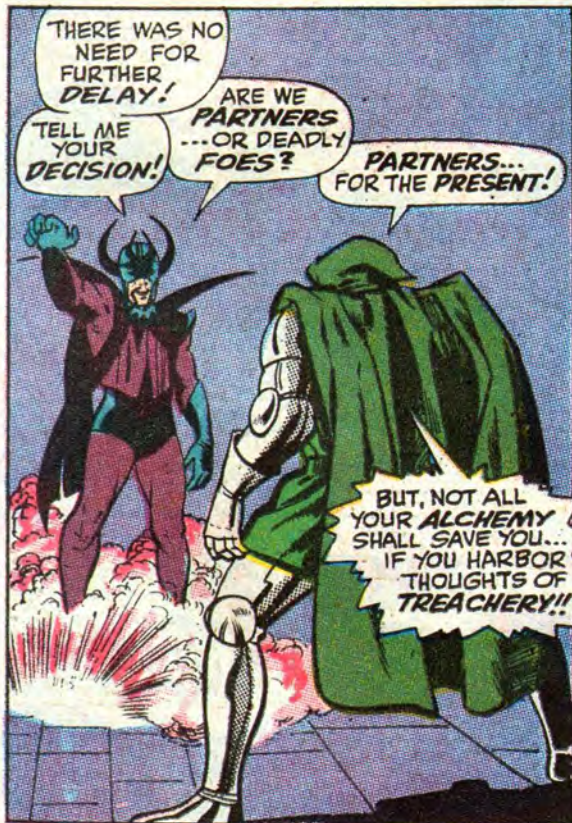
AND WHAT I WANT ... I TAKE!



WELL SPOKEN, DOOM! SURELY, THE GIRL COULD SCARCELY DENY A SUITOR SUCH AS YOURSELF...

DIABLO!

...ESPECIALLY WHEN YOU HAVE BOUGHT HER FREEDOM...WITH YOUR OWN PEER-LESS POWER!



THERE WAS NO NEED FOR FURTHER DELAY!

TELL ME YOUR DECISION!

ARE WE PARTNERS ...OR DEADLY FOES?

PARTNERS... FOR THE PRESENT!

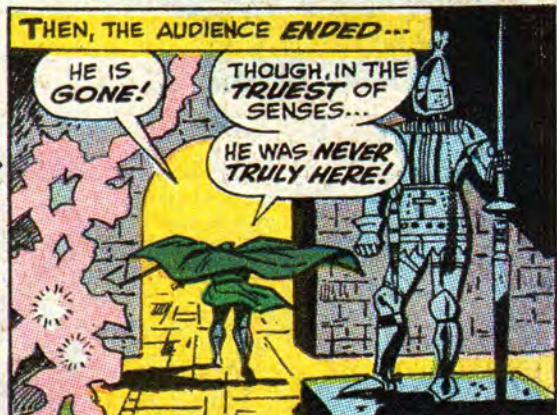
BUT, NOT ALL YOUR ALCHEMY SHALL SAVE YOU... IF YOU HARBOR THOUGHTS OF TREACHERY!!



BETRAY SUCH AN ESTEEMED COMRADE-IN-ARMS?

SO BASE A JEST IS UN-WORTHY OF YOU, MY DEAR DOOM!

NOW LISTEN WELL...TO MY PLAN...!



THEN, THE AUDIENCE ENDED...

HE IS GONE!

THOUGH, IN THE TRUEST OF SENSES...

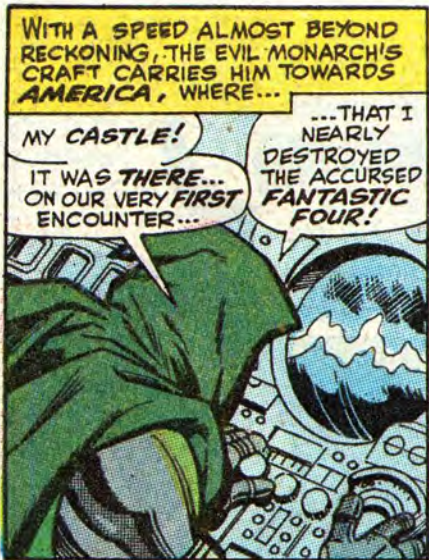
HE WAS NEVER TRULY HERE!



NOR WAS THE GIRL AUGHT...SAVE AN ALCHEMIST'S IMAGE!

BUT, WHEN NEXT WE THREE MEET...IT WILL BE IN THE FLESH!

THEN, DIABLO ... WE SHALL SEE WHICH OF US IS MASTER!!

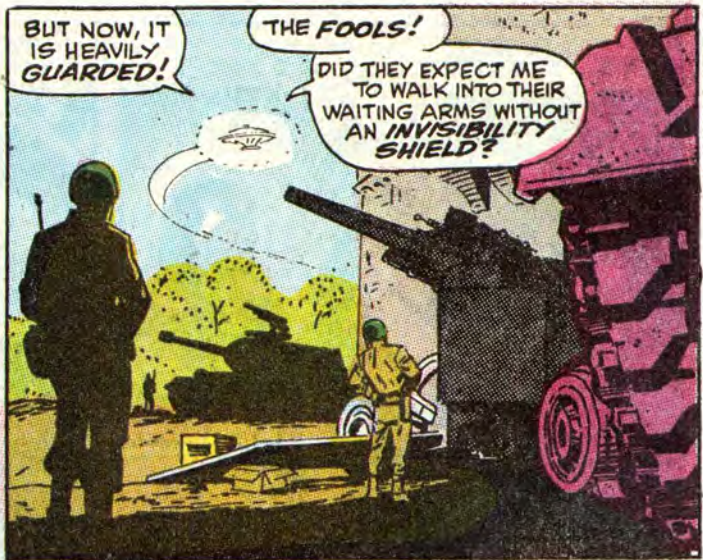


WITH A SPEED ALMOST BEYOND RECKONING, THE EVIL MONARCH'S CRAFT CARRIES HIM TOWARDS AMERICA, WHERE...

MY CASTLE!

IT WAS THERE... ON OUR VERY FIRST ENCOUNTER...

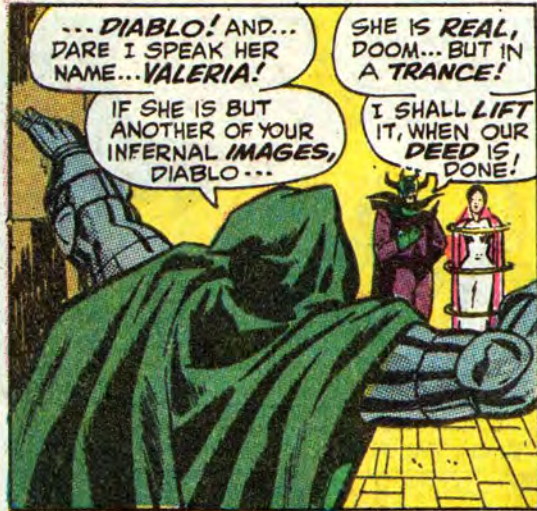
...THAT I NEARLY DESTROYED THE ACCURSED FANTASTIC FOUR!



BUT NOW, IT IS HEAVILY GUARDED!

THE FOOLS!

DID THEY EXPECT ME TO WALK INTO THEIR WAITING ARMS WITHOUT AN INVISIBILITY SHIELD?



...DIABLO! AND... DARE I SPEAK HER NAME... VALERIA!

IF SHE IS BUT ANOTHER OF YOUR INFERNAL IMAGES, DIABLO...

SHE IS REAL, DOOM... BUT IN A TRANCE!

I SHALL LIFT IT, WHEN OUR DEED IS DONE!



VALERIA! MANY WERE THE TIMES I LONGED TO SEE HER... TO KNOW WHERE SHE HAD GONE!

I WANTED TO SHOW HER THE CONQUEROR I HAD BECOME!

BUT NOT LIKE... THIS!

A SKULKING THIEF... WITHIN MY OWN CASTLE...!

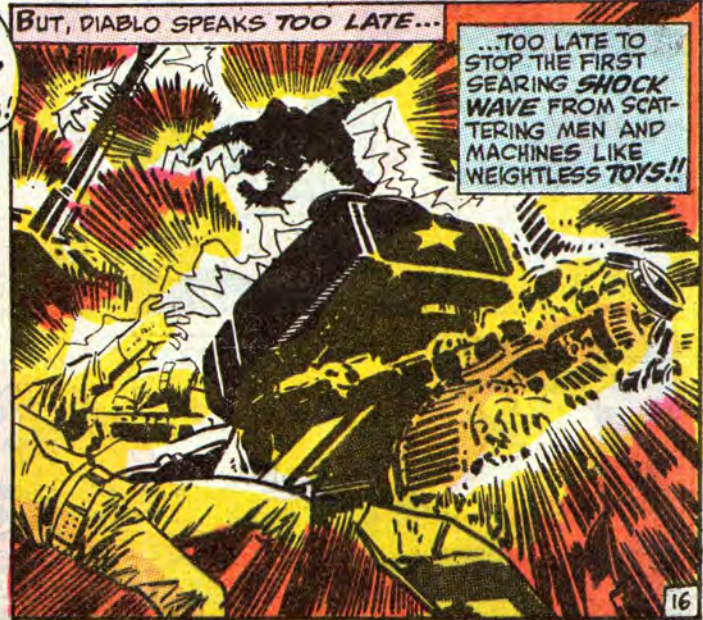


NO!

I'LL PLAY THE CRINGING COWARD NO LONGER!

WE SHALL CONCLUDE OUR BARGAIN... AFTER I RID MY CASTLE OF ITS CAPTORS!

DOOM... DON'T BE A FOOL...!



BUT, DIABLO SPEAKS TOO LATE...

...TOO LATE TO STOP THE FIRST SEARING SHOCK WAVE FROM SCATTERING MEN AND MACHINES LIKE WEIGHTLESS TOYS!!



THEN...

DOOM IS BACK! FIRE, YOU DOG-FACES... FIRE!

IT'S NOT DOIN' ANY GOOD, SARGE!

OUR SHOTS AREN'T EVEN REACHIN' THE CASTLE!

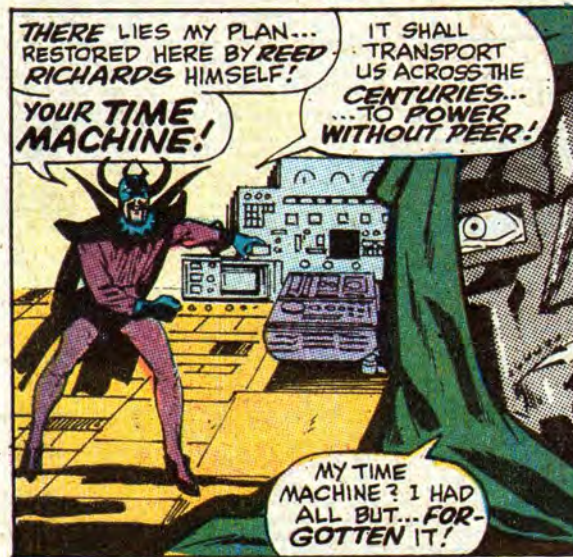


BAH! NOT FOR ME ARE THE PUTRID PLEDGES OF DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITY!

VICTOR VON DOOM TAKES WHAT IS HIS... BY SHEER FORCE!

NOW, WHILE MY FORCE FIELD HOLDS THEM AT BAY... TELL ME YOUR PLAN, DIABLO!

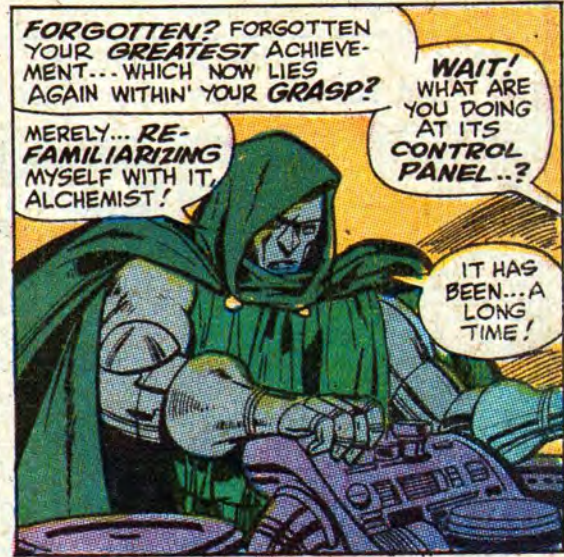
YES... OF COURSE...



THERE LIES MY PLAN... RESTORED HERE BY REED RICHARDS HIMSELF! YOUR TIME MACHINE!

IT SHALL TRANSPORT US ACROSS THE CENTURIES... TO POWER WITHOUT PEER!

MY TIME MACHINE? I HAD ALL BUT... FORGOTTEN IT!

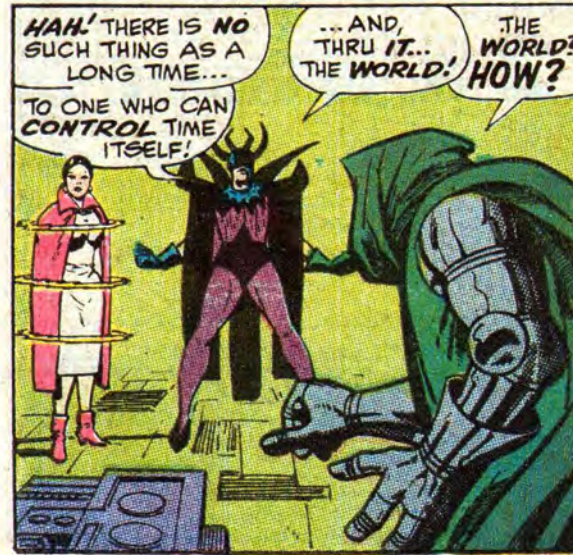


FORGOTTEN? FORGOTTEN YOUR GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT... WHICH NOW LIES AGAIN WITHIN YOUR GRASP?

MERELY... RE-FAMILIARIZING MYSELF WITH IT, ALCHEMIST!

WAIT! WHAT ARE YOU DOING AT ITS CONTROL PANEL...?

IT HAS BEEN... A LONG TIME!



HAH! THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS A LONG TIME...

TO ONE WHO CAN CONTROL TIME ITSELF!

... AND, THRU IT... THE WORLD! THE WORLD? HOW?



DESPITE YOUR PRODIGIOUS POWER, DOOM, YOU ACT THE BUFFOON!

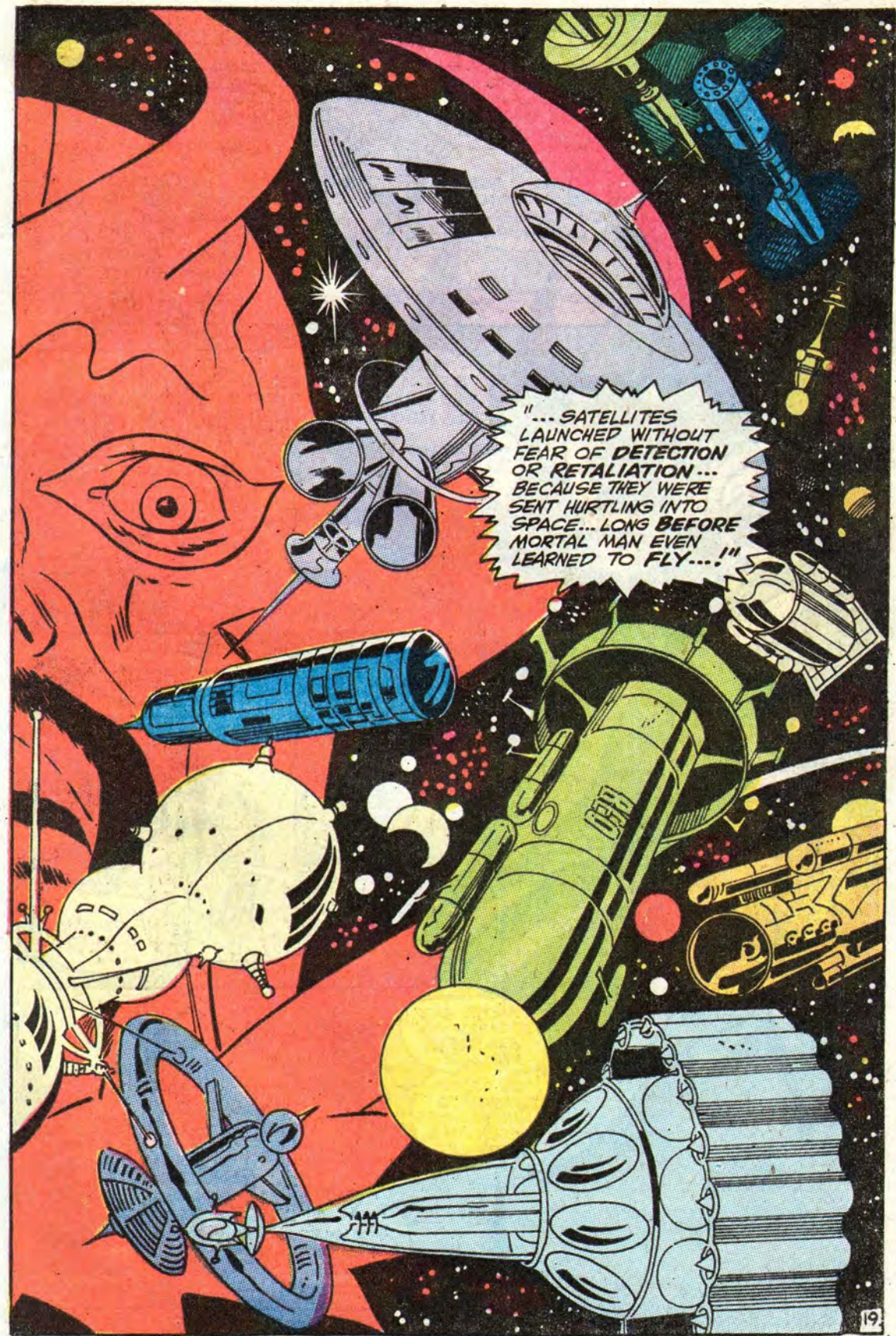
YOU ONCE USED THE MACHINE ONLY TO LOCATE TREASURE...

WHILE, TOGETHER, WE SHALL USE IT...

...TO RULE THE WORLD!!



"IMAGINE IT, MY DEAR DOCTOR, IF YOU ARE ABLE... A TWENTIETH-CENTURY EARTH, OBEYING OUR EVERY WHIM AND DICTATE, UNDER THE THREAT OF INSTANT ANNIHILATION BY SPACE-SPINNING SATELLITES..!"

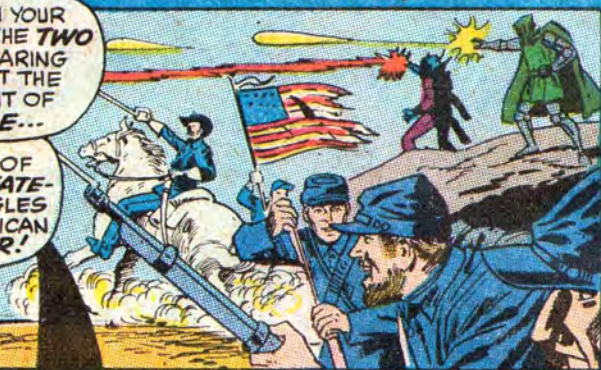


"... SATELLITES LAUNCHED WITHOUT FEAR OF DETECTION OR RETALIATION... BECAUSE THEY WERE SENT HURTLING INTO SPACE... LONG BEFORE MORTAL MAN EVEN LEARNED TO FLY...!"

OR, FRIEND VICTOR, IF YOU PREFER A MORE **PERSONAL** APPROACH TO THE **CHANGING** OF A PLANET'S HISTORY...

BEHOLD IN YOUR MIND'S EYE THE **TWO** OF US... APPEARING SUDDENLY AT THE FOREFRONT OF **BATTLE**...

DURING ONE OF THE MOST **FATEFUL** STRUGGLES OF THE AMERICAN **CIVIL WAR!**



WHEN BATTLE WAS DONE, IT WOULD BE **WE** WHO WOULD DICTATE TERMS TO A POWERFUL YOUNG NATION...

WITH **NONE** TO GAINSAY US...!



HOLD! DOOM... WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

I HAVE LISTENED LONG ENOUGH TO YOUR MAD RANTINGS!

NOW, IT IS **DOOM'S** TURN TO... **ACT!**

ANOTHER OF YOUR UNCANNY **FORCE FIELDS!**

YOU EDGED **CLOSER** TO YOUR MACHINES... EVEN AS I **SPOKE!**

AND MY **RUSE SUCCEEDED...**

FOR, VALERIA'S **TRANCE** IS SHATTERED!





YOU ARE TRULY THE MADDEST FOOL OF ALL!

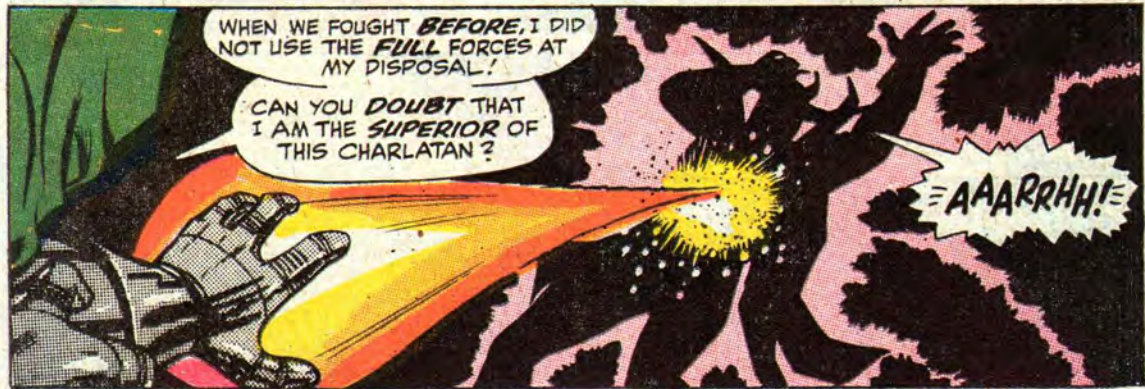
WE COULD HAVE BEEN KINGS TOGETHER... CO-RULERS OF AN ENSLAVED PLANET!

INSTEAD, YOU CHOSE THE WAY OF... DEATH!

DIABLO...NO... DON'T!

AWAY, WOMAN!

DR. DOOM HIDES BEHIND NO FEMALE!



WHEN WE FOUGHT BEFORE, I DID NOT USE THE FULL FORCES AT MY DISPOSAL!

CAN YOU DOUBT THAT I AM THE SUPERIOR OF THIS CHARLATAN?

AAARRHH!



THAT BLAST MIGHT WELL HAVE FINISHED THIS BATTLE, DOOM...

IF I WERE THE CHARLATAN YOU DARE CALL ME!

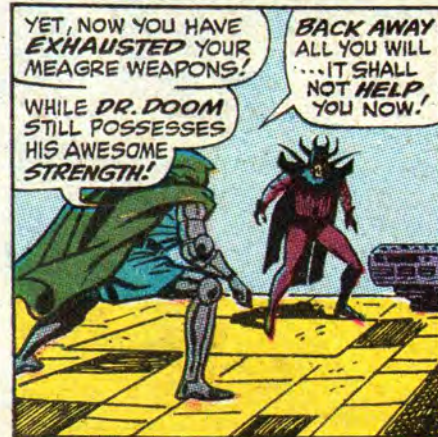


BUT, I AM NOT... AS THIS AGE-OLD PELLET SHALL PROVE!



FUMES... NOXIOUS... PARALYZING...!

ONLY MY IMPERVIOUS ARMOR... SHIELDS ME FROM DISASTER!



YET, NOW YOU HAVE EXHAUSTED YOUR MEAGRE WEAPONS!

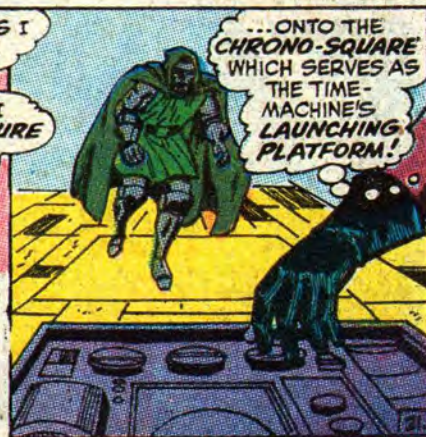
WHILE DR. DOOM STILL POSSESSES HIS AWESOME STRENGTH!

BACK AWAY ALL YOU WILL...IT SHALL NOT HELP YOU NOW!



THE FOOL! HE THINKS I FEAR HIS PHYSICAL MIGHT!

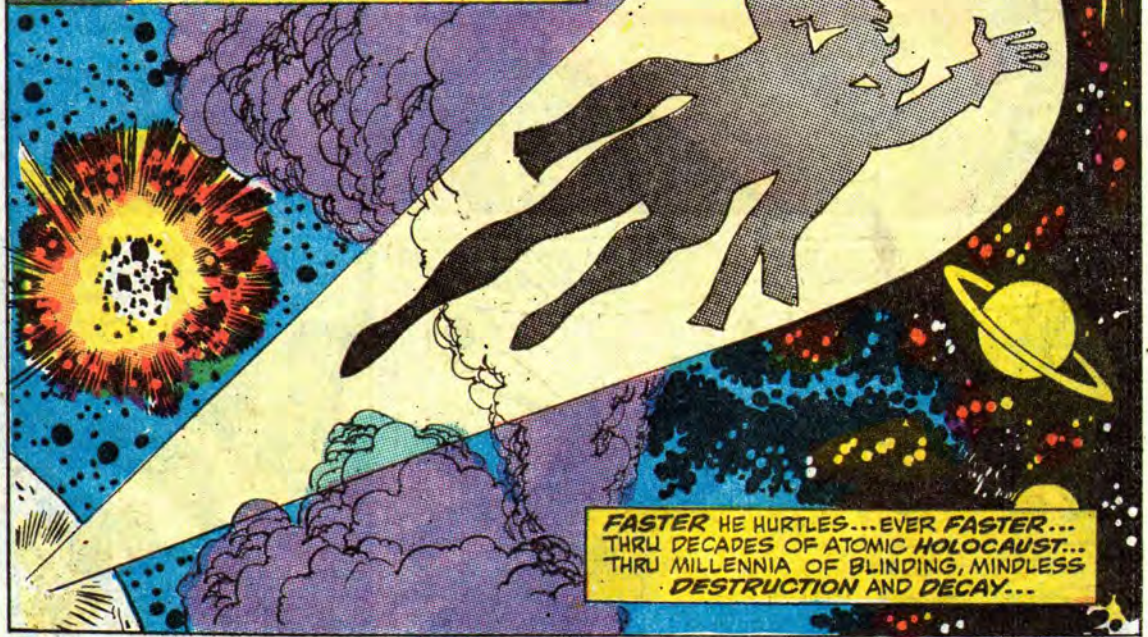
WHEN, IN REALITY, I MERELY WISH TO LURE HIM...



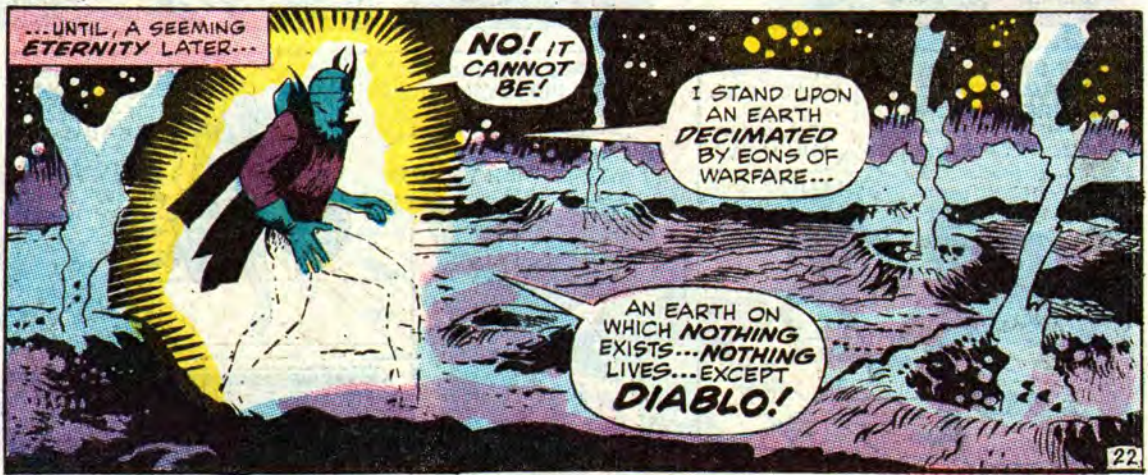
...ONTO THE CHRONO-SQUARE WHICH SERVES AS THE TIME-MACHINE'S LAUNCHING PLATFORM!

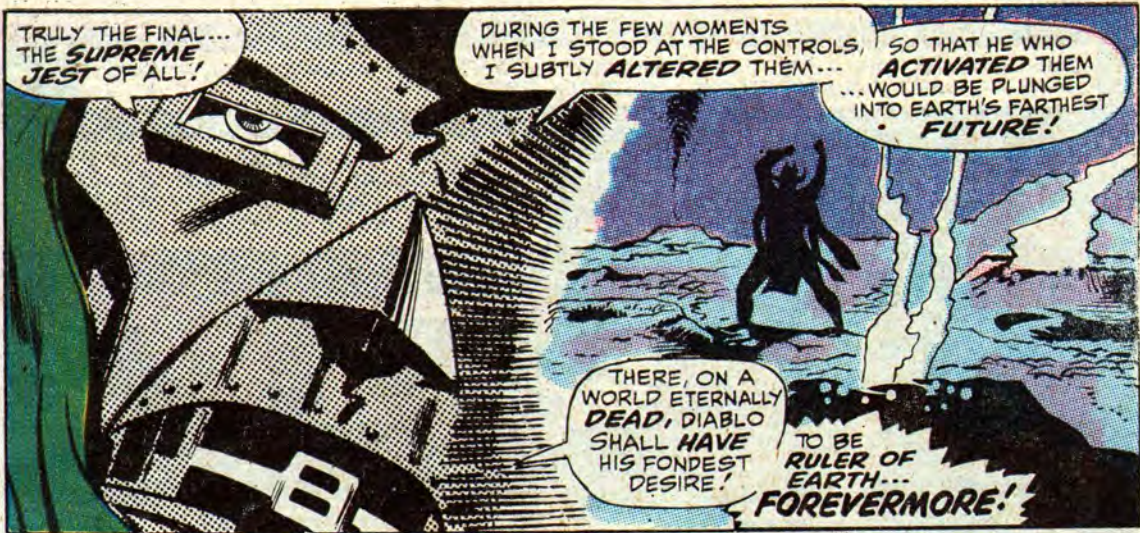


BUT, THE EVIL ALCHEMIST IS DESTINED NEVER TO HEAR HIS ARMORED FOE'S REPLY... AS, IN THAT VERY INSTANT, DIABLO IS HURLED HEADLONG THRU THE SWIRLING CENTURIES...



FASTER HE HURTTLES... EVER FASTER... THRU DECADES OF ATOMIC HOLOCAUST... THRU MILLENNIA OF BLINDING, MINDLESS DESTRUCTION AND DECAY...





TRULY THE FINAL...
THE **SUPREME**
JEST OF ALL!

DURING THE FEW MOMENTS
WHEN I STOOD AT THE CONTROLS,
I SUBTLY **ALTERED** THEM...

SO THAT HE WHO
ACTIVATED THEM
...WOULD BE PLUNGED
INTO EARTH'S FARTHEST
FUTURE!

THERE, ON A
WORLD ETERNALLY
DEAD, DIABLO
SHALL HAVE
HIS FONDEST
DESIRE!

TO BE
RULER OF
EARTH...
FOREVERMORE!



BUT, **ENOUGH** TIME HAS
BEEN WASTED ON THAT
TRICKSTER!

VALERIA... WE HAVE
A **LIFETIME** TO
RECAPTURE...
TOGETHER!

NO!
...DON'T
TOUCH
ME...!!



WHAT? YOU DARE SPEAK
THUS... TO **DR. DOOM**?

WHEN, IT WAS FOR
YOU THAT I DESTROYED
DIABLO...

IF ONLY... I
COULD
BELIEVE
THAT...!

FOR YOU!



FOR YEARS,
I HAVE
DREAMED
OF THIS
MOMENT...

TO BE THE BELOVED
NOT OF THE CRUEL,
CALLOUS **DR.**
DOOM...

BUT OF A **MAN** I
ONCE KNEW... NAMED
VICTOR!

WHEN I SAW
YOU **GLOAT** OVER
THE FATE OF DIABLO... I
KNEW THAT MAN WAS FOREVER **GONE!**



OR AM I **WRONG**, VICTOR VON DOOM?

TELL ME YOU WOULD
RENOUCE YOUR
TOWERING AMBITION...
FOR THE **GIRL** YOU
ONCE LOVED!

...YOUR
SILENCE...
IS MY ANSWER!

I MUST...
LEAVE YOU
NOW... MY
LOVE...



...WE SHALL
NEVER MEET
AGAIN!

SHE IS GONE NOW... BUT, IN THE DUST AND THE DARKNESS WHICH REMAIN, AN AWE-SOME ARMORED FIGURE STANDS... SILENTLY BROODING...

...KNOWING, AT LONG LAST, THAT IT IS NOT HIS BURNT, SCARRED FACE... HIS GRIM, METAL MASK... WHICH ARE NOW AND FOREVER HIS MERCILESS PRISON...

... BUT THE
MAN HIMSELF
... THE TORTURED,
TWISTED BEING
WHOM THE
WORLD CALLS
ONLY...
DOOM!!

