

**F**LYING A U-2 PLANE OVER RED CHINA WAS MORE THAN A HAZARDOUS MISSION FOR THIS MAN! FOR, THE WORST HAD HAPPENED! SOMETHING HAD GONE WRONG-- THERE HAD BEEN LITTLE TIME TO CORRECT HIS SITUATION! IN ONE CHAOTIC MOMENT, HE FOUGHT AND FELL AND THE STORM SWEEP TRIUMPHANTLY ACROSS THE SPOT WHERE HE STRUCK! --THUS, WE BEGIN WITH THE END-- AND MOVE ON TO STRANGER EVENTS-- AS A MAN SHALL FLEE...

# ...AND **F E E A R** **SHALL FOLLOW!**



**STAN LEE**  
EDITOR

**JACK KIRBY**  
WRITER &  
ARTIST

**JOHN VERPOORTEN, INKER**  
**ARTIE SIMEK, LETTERER**

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I WAS ROUSED WITH A START--PERHAPS BY THE SHRIEKING WIND--OR THE LASH OF THE RAIN...



ALL ABOUT ME WAS THE ANGRY VOICE OF THE STORM --"I GOT YOU!" IT ROARED, "YOU FLEW TOO LOW--AND I GOT YOU--!"



IT WAS TRUE, ALL RIGHT! WHEN I ROSE TO MY FEET I SAW THE WRECKAGE--A TECHNOLOGICAL WONDER, SEARED, AND TWISTED AND SCATTERED LIKE JUNK--



BUT, I WAS INTACT! NOTHING SEEMED BROKEN--I COULD MOVE WITHOUT PAIN...

I MUST HAVE BEEN THROWN CLEAR WHEN THE PLANE HIT! TALK ABOUT BREAKS!

I'LL NEED ANOTHER MIRACLE TO GET OUT OF THIS NEW FIX!



MY SITUATION FILLED ME WITH FEAR! U-2 PILOTS ARE NOT KNOWN TO DRAW CHEERS IN MAO COUNTRY!! THEN, I SAW HIM--SILHOUETTED BY THE LIGHTNING!

MY FIRST WELCOMER! GOT TO START MOVING BEFORE HE CALLS THE LOCAL POSSE!

STOP! DON'T LEAVE! I'VE COME FOR YOU!



HE SHOUTED IN ENGLISH AND HIS MEANING WAS CLEAR! BUT I DIDN'T GET A SECOND CHANCE FOR LIFE--TO WASTE IT IN SOME RED PRISON! I TOOK OFF--!

HE'S FOLLOWING! I'VE GOT TO FIND SOME WAY TO SHAKE HIM OFF MY TRAIL!

MY PISTOL-- I DIDN'T SEARCH FOR IT-- TOO LATE NOW--

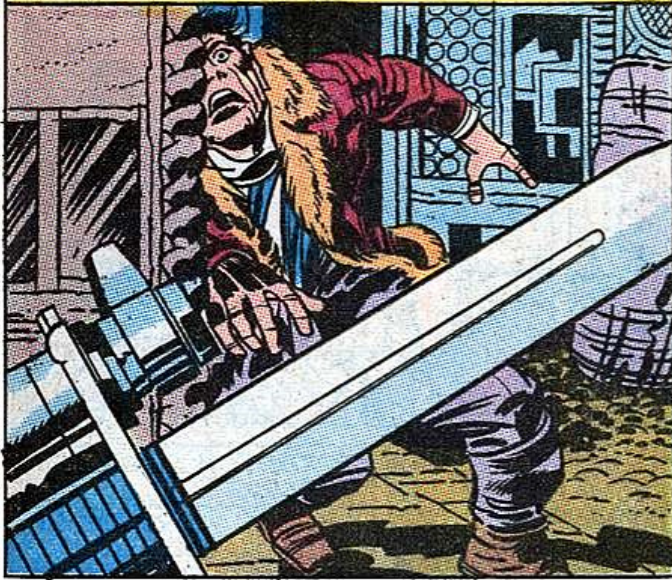


I RAN FOR WHAT SEEMED LIKE MILES! THEN I FOUND THE TOWN--THE STORM HAD DRIVEN EVERYONE INDOORS, AND I RAN DOWN THE EMPTY STREETS...

THIS IS RISKY--BUT I MAY FIND COVER UNTIL THAT GUY LOSES MY SCENT!



THEN, I STEPPED HARD ON THE BRAKES--  
ALMOST ROUNDING A CORNER WHERE A  
BAYONET WAITED--GLEAMING--DEADLY--



I WAS CAUGHT BETWEEN A LONE SENTRY  
AND MY PURSUER! HE WAS DRAWING  
CLOSER--CLOSER, UNTIL  
I COULD SEE HIM--

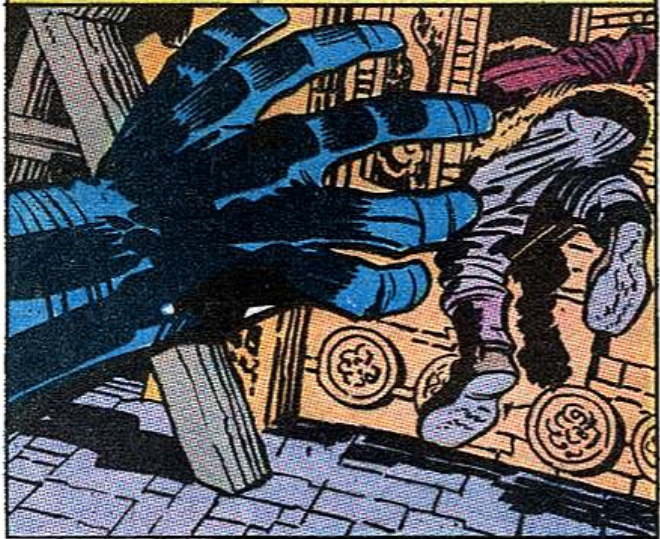


DON'T BE A FOOL--  
THERE'S NO PLACE  
FOR YOU TO RUN--

COME WITH  
ME--!

YOU'LL NEED A  
GUN TO FORCE  
ME--AND YOU  
HAVEN'T GOT ONE!

HE REACHED FOR ME--AND I FOUND  
THE OPEN WINDOW--



I LEAPED INTO THE  
DARKNESS OF A STRANGE  
BUILDING--A TEMPLE OF  
SORTS! MY FINGERS  
TOUCHED WALL CARVINGS  
AS I FLED DOWN THE  
CORRIDORS--



IT WAS LIKE PLUNGING  
DEEPER AND DEEPER INTO  
A GROWING NIGHTMARE!  
SUDDENLY, THERE WAS  
LIGHT--AND BEHIND ME--



THAT FACE!  
THAT EVIL  
FACE!--

BUT IT'S  
ONLY A  
PAINTED  
IDOL!



WHAT FROZE ME NEXT--  
WERE TWO HEADS--  
FLOATING TOWARD ME  
FROM THE DARKNESS--

DID YOU HEAR  
SOMETHING,  
BROTHER?

YES--BUT IT  
COULD HAVE  
BEEN THE  
WIND!



THEY WERE MONKS--AND  
THEY DIDN'T SEE ME--I'D  
SOMEHOW MOVED FAST  
ENOUGH TO ELUDE  
DISCOVERY!



I COULD HEAR MY HEART--  
POUNING FASTER--LOUDER--  
--LIKE APPROACHING FOOT-  
STEPS-- THEN SILENCE--  
AND A STRANGE TENSION!  
I FOUGHT DOWN MY FEAR  
--AND DARED TO TURN--



HE WAS THERE! HE'D TRACKED ME DOWN!

YOURS IS A FRUITLESS  
FLIGHT! YOU CAN'T  
ESCAPE ME!

STAY BACK! I  
WARN YOU--DON'T  
COME ANY CLOSER!



THE VERY SIGHT OF HIM NOW FRIGHTENED  
ME--DROVE ME TO RUN--AND I RAN!

WHY PROLONG YOUR  
FATE? COME BACK!

NO! NO! YOU'LL  
NEVER TAKE ME--  
NOT WITHOUT  
A FIGHT!



MY ORIGINAL FEAR WAS  
NOW SOMETHING LARGER,  
MORE FOREBODING IN  
NATURE--LURKING IN HIS  
GIANT, STALKING SHADOW--!

--MUST FIND  
A HIDING  
PLACE--  
STRONG--  
SECURE--  
TO KEEP  
HIM  
OUT!



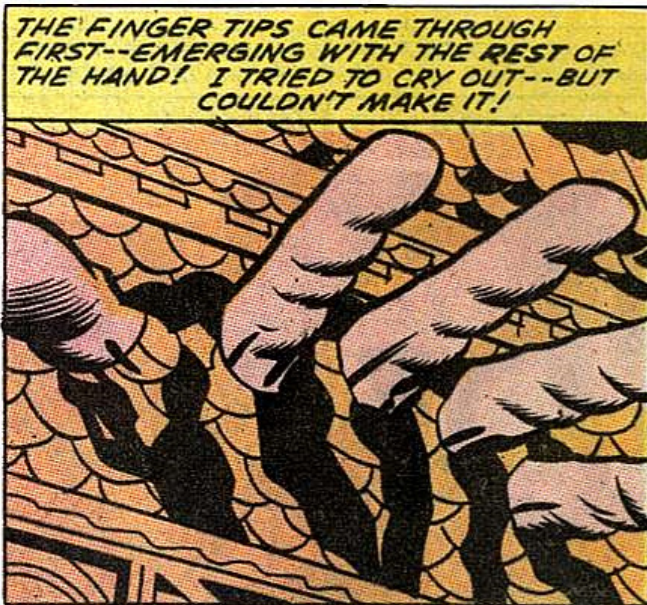
YOU HAVE  
FOUND A  
THICK, STONE  
CHAMBER,  
BUT IT  
WILL  
NOT  
KEEP  
ME  
OUT!

THIS CAN  
KEEP AN  
ARMY  
OUT!



I SECURED THE STRONG  
BOLT--AND BREATHED  
FREELY FOR THE FRACTION  
OF A SECOND--





**BUT I DID KNOW WHAT HE WAS TALKING ABOUT! I JUST COULDN'T FACE IT! ALL I FELT WAS DESPAIR---**

**COME! IT'S ALL OVER! YOU KNOW WHAT REALLY HAPPENED WHEN YOU CRASHED--**

**YOU RAN WHEN YOU COULDN'T ACCEPT IT--!**

**THAT'S NOT TRUE! YOU'RE LYING! IT'S A RED TRICK! A PHONY RED TRICK!**

**HE SHOOK HIS HEAD AND SMILED GENTLY! I COULDN'T IDENTIFY HIS RACE OR HIS CLOTHES! HE SEEMED A BIT SMALLER NOW--AND LESS FRIGHTENING--**

**NONSENSE-- WE TWO ARE BEYOND THESE THINGS--!**

**RISE UP! LET THE 'FRIGHT LEAVE YOU--THIS MUST HAPPEN --HAS HAPPENED --**



**THERE! NOW YOU'RE READY! I CAN SEE IT IN YOUR EYES-- IS MY TOUCH SO FEARSOME?**

**NO--NOW THAT I SEE YOU AS YOU REALLY ARE!**



**WHEN YOU WALKED THROUGH THAT WALL, I KNEW WHY YOU CAME FOR ME--**

**DON'T BE SAD! YOU'RE FREE NOW--**

**--FREE FROM THE ILLS AND FEARS THAT RULE ALL MEN!**



**COME! IT IS TIME! THAT OTHER ROAD I SPOKE OF AWAITS US--**

**OKAY! I'M GAME! LEAD ON!--I'LL GO WITH YOU--**



**HE HEADED STRAIGHT FOR THE WALL--AND I WENT WITH HIM... AND WHAT WE DID WAS NO TRICK!! FOR US THERE WERE NO BARRIERS-- NONE OF THE CONFINES THAT HOLD MORTAL MAN!**

**WE WALKED THROUGH THAT WALL TO WHAT LAY BEYOND--AND I SENSED A LIGHTNESS IN MY STEP THAT ALMOST MADE ME SOAR! I WAS FREE-- FREE FROM THE DARKNESS--AND FEAR FOLLOWED ME--NO LONGER--!**