

AN OMINOUS NIGHT IN THE HEROIC TIME OF GREECE...A GRIM WARRIOR ASKS IF THE GODS LOOK WITH FAVOR UPON HIS IMPENDING ATTACK...

# JASON AND THE ARGONAUTS

WELL? WHAT SAY THE ASHES? WHAT FUTURE IS PLANNED BY ZEUS, KING OF THE GODS OF GREECE?

PELIAS, I SEE A GREAT TREE AT THE END OF THE WORLD. THERE, HANG THE SKULL AND THE SKIN OF A RAM...A GODLY PRIZE...A GOLDEN FLEECE!...AND I SEE SOMEONE WALKING, BUT WEARING ONLY ONE SANDAL... A FLEECE OF GOLD... A SINGLE SANDAL...



WE'VE NO TIME FOR RIDDLES. TELL ME OF TONIGHT.

TONIGHT YOU WILL CONQUER THE KINGDOM OF THESSALY. YOU WILL KILL ARISTO, THE KING, AND WEAR HIS CROWN. YOU WILL ACT WITHOUT FEAR OR WOUND, BECAUSE ZEUS COMMANDS IT.

WHAT ELSE DO YOU SEE?

IT IS ALSO FORETOLD THAT SOMEDAY, WHEN ZEUS DECIDES IT, YOU WILL LOSE THE CROWN TO ONE OF ARISTO'S CHILDREN.

THEN TWO GIRLS AND A BOY MUST DIE WITH THEIR FATHER TONIGHT!

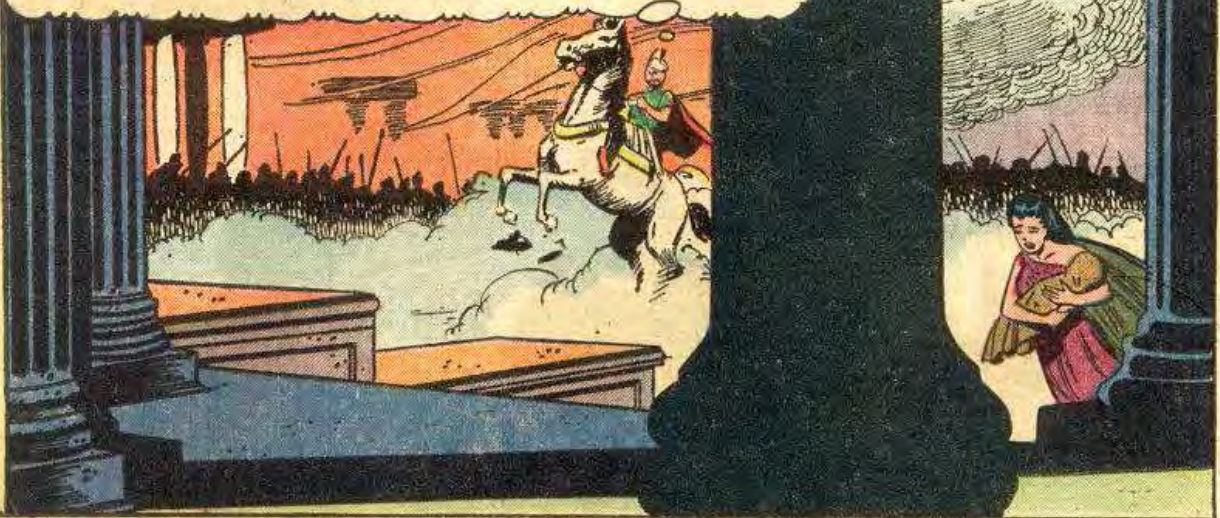


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LATER THAT NIGHT, AT THESSALY... THE SEER'S PREDICTION BECOMES REALITY...

IT IS AS THE SEER SPOKE. ARISTO IS DEAD. THESSALY IS MINE!...HMM...THAT GIRL WITH THE INFANT ENTERING THE TEMPLE OF HERA. COULD THESE BE TWO OF THE CHILDREN I SEEK...?



HERA, QUEEN OF THE GODS, PROTECT MY INFANT SISTER... AND IF I AM WORTHY, TAKE ME INTO YOUR PROTECTION...

I MUST KNOW IF THIS IS THE DAUGHTER OF ARISTO...

BE SILENT... SHE IS PRAYING.

BRISEIS...



ARE YOU A PRIESTESS?

I SERVE THE GODS... BRISEIS HAS CALLED UPON THE GODDESS HERA...SIX TIMES...AND THE GODDESS HAS HEARD HER.

THE GODS ABANDON YOU, PELIAS. THE ONE-SANDALLED MAN SHALL COME AND NO GOD WILL PROTECT YOU FROM HIM. THE CHILD WHO HAS ESCAPED YOU... JASON.

ONE SANDAL...?

AHHH!



THEN WHY WAS I NOT TOLD THE WHOLE PROPHECY? WHY DID ZEUS DRIVE ME TO KILL THIS GIRL, WHEN I NEEDED ONLY TO KILL JASON?

ZEUS CANNOT DRIVE MEN TO DO WHAT YOU HAVE DONE. ZEUS HAS RULED THAT JASON MUST SUCCEED YOU.



KILL JASON AND YOU KILL YOURSELF!

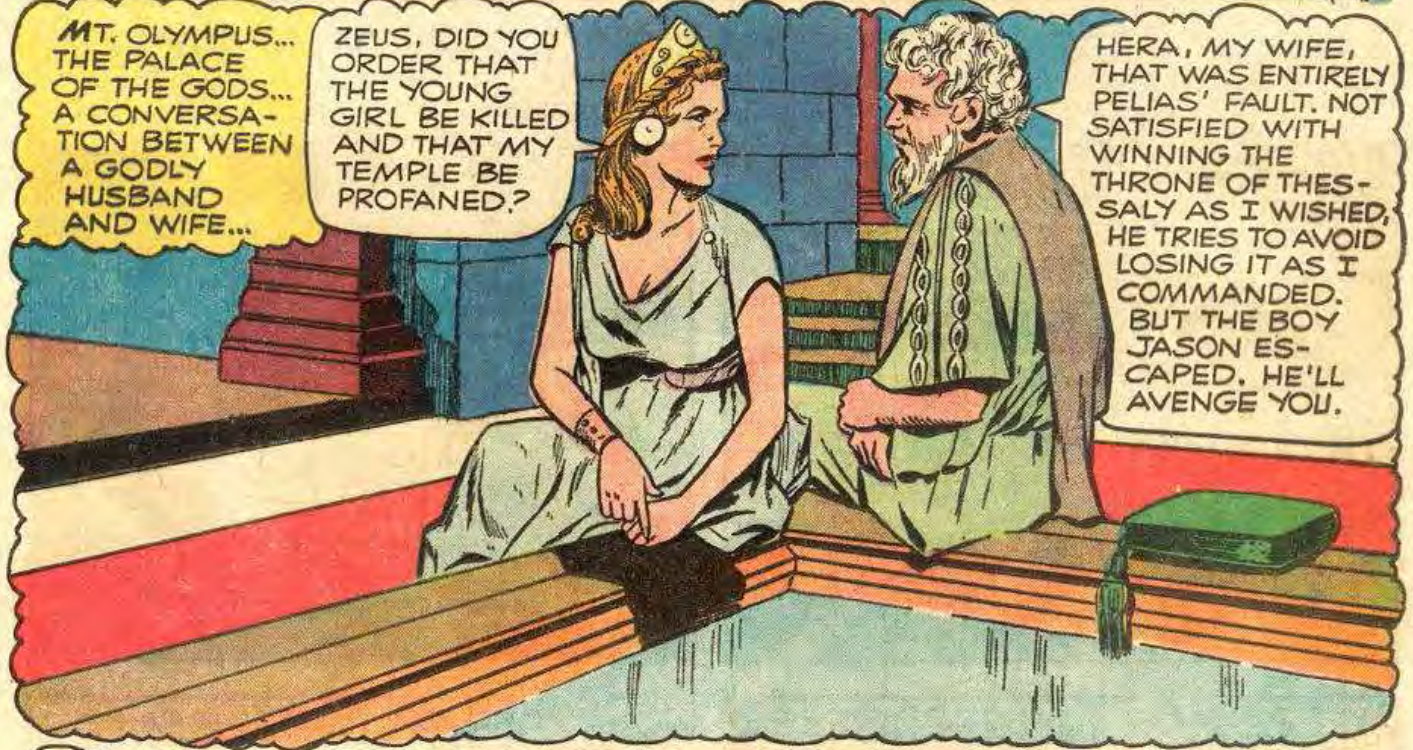
WAIT! TELL ME MORE!... SHE IS GONE !!



MT. OLYMPUS... THE PALACE OF THE GODS... A CONVERSATION BETWEEN A GODLY HUSBAND AND WIFE...

ZEUS, DID YOU ORDER THAT THE YOUNG GIRL BE KILLED AND THAT MY TEMPLE BE PROFANED?

HERA, MY WIFE, THAT WAS ENTIRELY PELIAS' FAULT. NOT SATISFIED WITH WINNING THE THRONE OF THES- SALLY AS I WISHED, HE TRIES TO AVOID LOSING IT AS I COMMANDED. BUT THE BOY JASON ES- CAPED. HE'LL AVENGE YOU.



THEN I WANT TO HELP JASON.

BUT THIS IS MAN'S WORK, HERA!... OH, AS YOU WISH... HOW MANY TIMES DID BRISEIS CALL UPON YOU BEFORE PELIAS KILLED HER?

SIX TIMES.

THEN YOU CAN HELP HER BRO- THER JASON SIX TIMES WHEN HE BECOMES A MAN. THAT WILL BE IN 20 YEARS...LONG YEARS FOR PELIAS, BUT AN INSTANT OF TIME HERE ON OLYMPUS.



AS ZEUS HAS SAID, THE YEARS VANISH, AND AN OLDER PELIAS, HUNTING ALONE IN THE WOODS FALLS VICTIM TO A DELIBERATELY-PLANNED ACCIDENT, EXECUTED BY A DISGUISED HERA.

WATCH OUT, OLD WOMAN! MY HORSE---! UHH!

THAT RIDER IS IN TROUBLE! I MUST HELP HIM!

MY FIRST ASSISTANCE TO JASON! PELIAS, PREPARE TO BE SAVED... BY MY AVENGER!



I SHALL LEAVE THEM TO WORK OUT THEIR OWN INTRODUCTION!

ALMOST TO SAFETY... CURRENTS ARE QUITE STRONG... AND THIS FELLOW IS A HEAVY, MUSCULAR CHAP...



MY---MY HEAD... I---I OWE YOU MY LIFE, STRANGER.

IT WAS AN ACCEPTABLE WAY TO FORD A RIVER...



BUT I SEEM TO HAVE LOST A SANDAL IN THE FRENZY...

SANDAL?? ERR--- WHERE ARE YOU TRAVELLING?



I AM BOUND FOR THE PALACE OF PELIAS OF THESSALY.

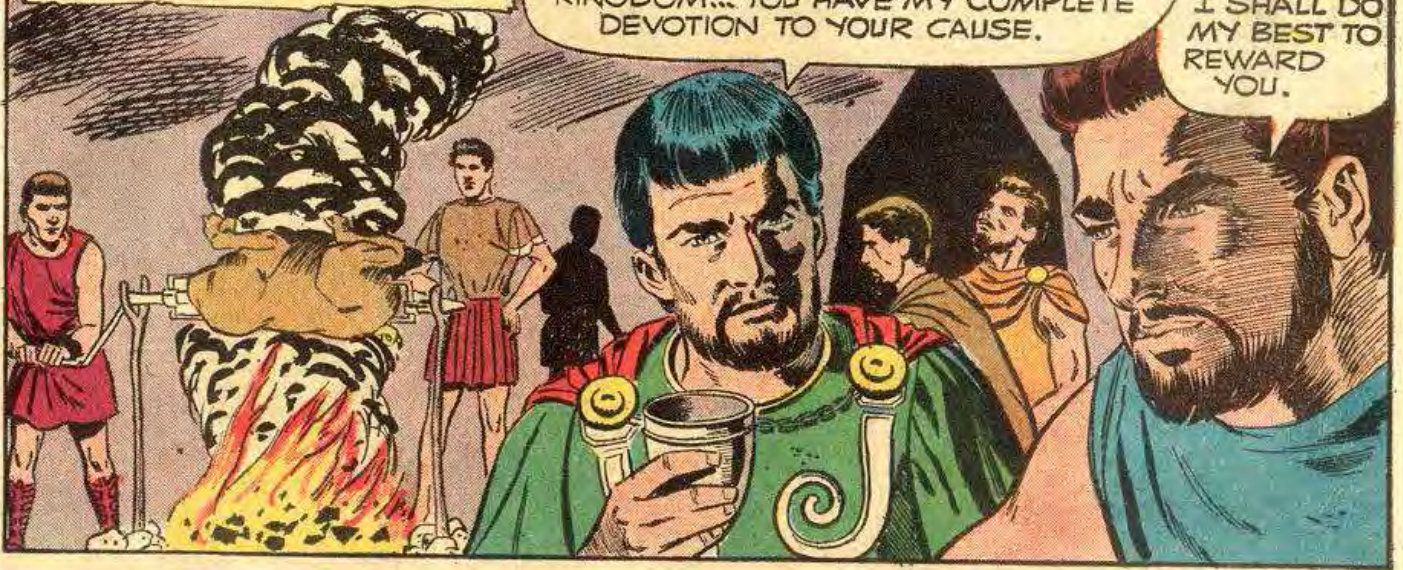
THEN I CAN DIRECT YOU. BUT FIRST YOU MUST ACCEPT THE GRATEFUL HOSPITALITY OF MY CAMP...



PELIAS DECEITFULLY PRIES HIS INFORMATION FROM THE UNWITTING STRANGER...

...SO YOU ARE JASON, SON OF ARISTO, ON YOUR WAY TO AVENGE THE DEATH OF YOUR FATHER AND RECLAIM HIS KINGDOM... YOU HAVE MY COMPLETE DEVOTION TO YOUR CAUSE.

I THANK YOU FOR THAT, AND I SHALL DO MY BEST TO REWARD YOU.



DO YOU BELIEVE IN THE GODS? OR IN PROPHECIES?

I BELIEVE ONLY IN GODS I CAN SEE AND PROPHECIES THAT COME TRUE.



JASON, WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF IT WAS PROPHESIED THAT A CERTAIN MAN WAS TO BRING YOU DISASTER? AND YET YOU WOULD HASTEN THAT DISASTER BY KILLING HIM?

I WOULD SET HIM SOME TASK, FAR AWAY, AND FOR SO LONG THAT HE COULD NEVER RETURN TO BRING THIS DISASTER.



WHAT TASK MIGHT YOU SUGGEST?

I HAVE HEARD THAT ON A TREE AT THE EDGE OF THE WORLD HANGS A GOLDEN FLEECE. WHETHER IT BE LEGEND OR FACT, YOUR ENEMY MIGHT SPEND HIS LIFE SEARCHING AND PROBABLY NEVER RETURN.



YOU HAVE GIVEN ME THE ANSWER! SEIZE HIM!!

WHA---??



I, PELIAS, WELCOME YOU TO MY KINGDOM, JASON! YOU HAVE SET YOUR OWN TASK. IF YOU DO NOT GO IN SEARCH OF THE GOLDEN FLEECE, I SHALL KILL PHILOMELA, YOUR SISTER, WHOM I HAVE HELD FOR THE 20 YEARS.

JASON, MY BROTHER!

PELIAS! ALAS, YOU HAVE TRICKED ME! SO BE IT. THEN I SHALL RAISE NO HAND AGAINST YOU UNTIL I HAVE FOUND THE GOLDEN FLEECE!



WHY DO YOU SET HIM FREE? A MAN SWORN TO AVENGE HIS FATHER AND BRING YOU DISASTER! WHOEVER HOLDS THE GOLDEN FLEECE SHALL BE KING!

A MAN *FATED* TO BRING ME DISASTER. ACASTUS, MY SON, I AM BUYING TIME.

HE SHALL BE FREE TO BUILD A SHIP AND FIND A CREW. BUT WHY SHOULD YOU NOT ACCOMPANY HIM ON HIS VOYAGE? LET JASON DO ALL THE WORK, AND SHOULD HE FIND THE FLEECE, YOU WILL BE THERE TO CLAIM IT.

MY FATHER PLOTS CLEVERLY.



DEEP IN THOUGHTS OF HIS PLIGHT, JASON WANDERS TO A RUINED TEMPLE OF HERMES.

WHATEVER ANSWER YOU SEEK, JASON, IT IS TIME YOU ASKED THE GODS.

IF I WERE OF A MIND TO DO SO, I SURELY WOULD NOT CHOOSE THIS FALLEN GOD, HERMES. AND, IF THE GODS WILL NOT ANSWER THOSE WHO BELIEVE IN THEM, WHY SHOULD THEY ANSWER THOSE WHO DO NOT?



ONLY A STATUE HAS FALLEN,  
TOPPED DURING A DIS-  
AGREEMENT AMONG THE  
GODS. COME WITH ME.

WHY?

SO THAT YOU WILL  
BELIEVE, AND BE  
ANSWERED.

HOW DID YOU  
DRIVE THIS HERE?  
THERE IS NO TRACK,  
AND THE TREES  
ARE THICK.



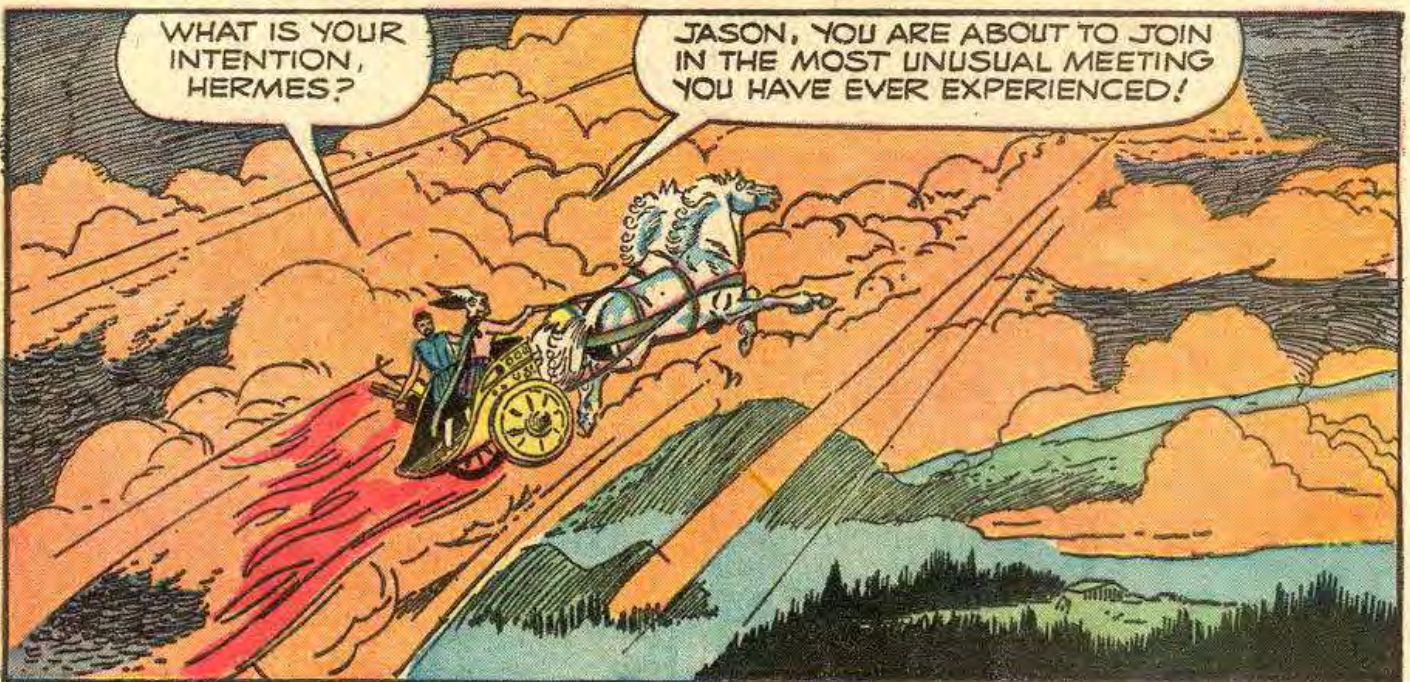
NOW THEN, JASON---  
STAND BESIDE ME!

SO! YOU ARE HERMES!



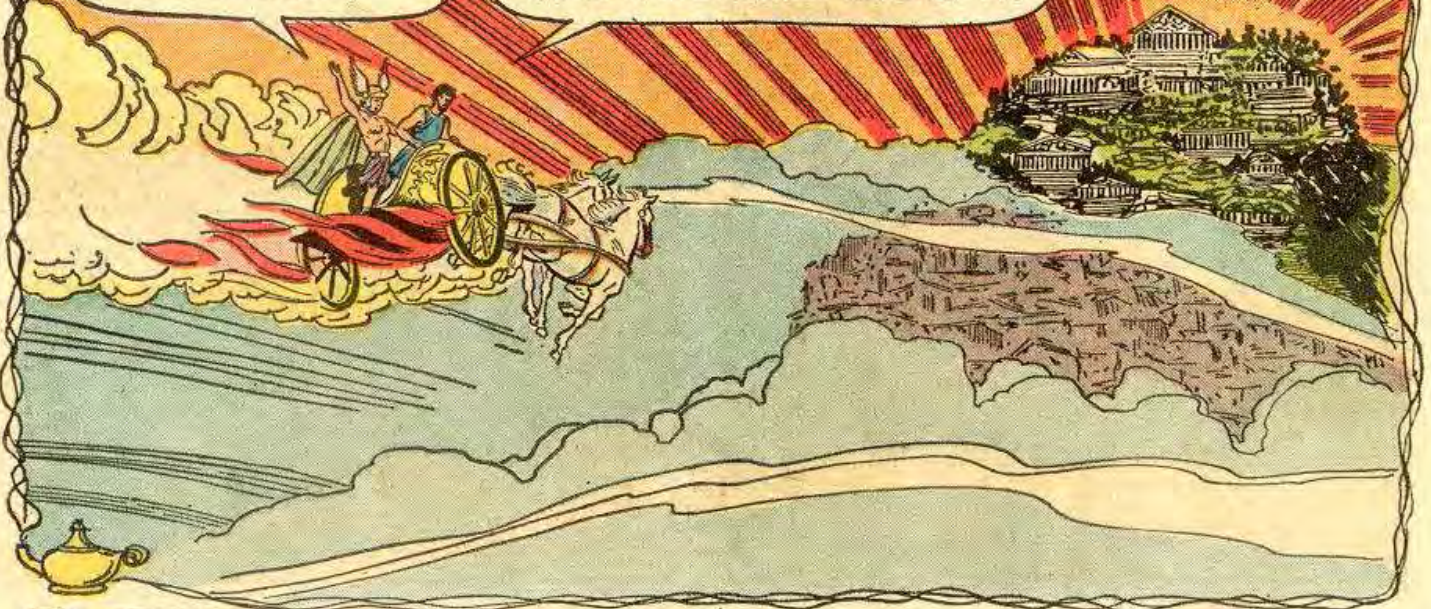
WHAT IS YOUR  
INTENTION,  
HERMES?

JASON, YOU ARE ABOUT TO JOIN  
IN THE MOST UNUSUAL MEETING  
YOU HAVE EVER EXPERIENCED!



OLYMPUS! THE HOME OF THE GODS!

IT IS EVEN MORE MAGNIFICENT THAN THE STORIES TOLD OF IT!



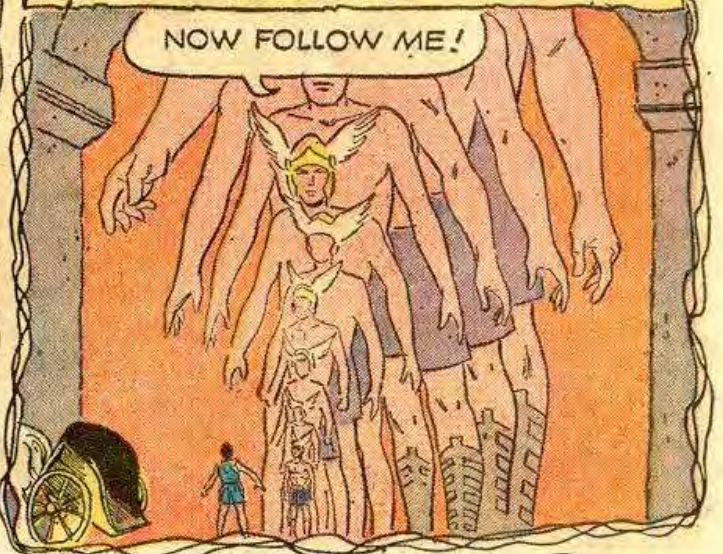
WHAT NOW, HERMES?

THE GODS AWAIT US. BUT FIRST---



AS JASON WATCHES IN AMAZEMENT, STILL ANOTHER GODLIKE FEAT IS PERFORMED!

NOW FOLLOW ME!



I WON'T BE ABLE TO KEEP UP WITH YOU! HOW FAR DO WE HAVE TO GO?

THAT DEPENDS ON WHOSE STRIDE WE ARE MEASURING. BUT YOU ARE RIGHT.



FOR ME IT IS ONLY A FEW STEPS, BUT YOU MIGHT FIND IT A CONSIDERABLE DISTANCE. THEREFORE, ALLOW ME...

NOT TOO TIGHTLY, HERMES... I'M ONLY HUMAN!





AH! JASON HAS AT LAST COME TO THE GODS! WHAT IS IT YOU WANT? A SHIP? A CREW?

THOSE I CAN FIND FOR MYSELF. I HAVE COME HERE FOR INFORMATION.

I AM HERA. IT IS ORDAINED THAT I HELP YOU SIX TIMES. I HAVE ALREADY AIDED YOU IN MEETING PELIAS, YOUR ENEMY.



I KNOW WHAT INFORMATION YOU SEEK. DOES THE GOLDEN FLEECE EXIST, AND, IF SO, WHERE? I SHALL ANSWER BOTH QUESTIONS WITH ONLY ONE ANSWER: SEARCH IN THE LAND OF COLCHIS.

THEN IT DOES EXIST!

BUT COLCHIS IS AT THE END OF THE WORLD! NO GREEK HAS EVER SAILED THERE!

ARE YOU STILL SO SURE YOU WON'T NEED MY HELP? WHAT SHIP IS STRONG ENOUGH FOR THIS VOYAGE? WHAT CREW BRAVE ENOUGH? NONE---EXCEPT THAT WHICH I, ZEUS, COULD GIVE YOU!



I'LL TELL THE PROUD SHIPBUILDERS OF GREECE THAT I NEED THE STRONGEST SHIP EVER BUILT... TO CARRY THE RICHEST CARGO... THE GOLDEN FLEECE!

THEN I SHALL ANNOUNCE ATHLETIC GAMES IN WHICH THE STRONGEST AND BRAVEST OF GREEKS WILL COMPETE FOR PLACES ON MY CREW!

I DID WELL TO CHOOSE YOU, JASON. THE GODS ARE BEST SERVED BY THOSE WHO WANT THEIR HELP LEAST.



JASON PUTS HIS MASSIVE PLAN INTO IMMEDIATE ACTION. THE GREATEST ATHLETES FROM ALL OVER GREECE COME TO COMPETE IN THE OLYMPIC GAMES. ALL OF THEM SEEK A PLACE AS MEMBERS OF JASON'S CREW, BUT ONLY THE STRONGEST AND BRAVEST WILL BE CHOSEN. AND AMONG THEM COMES THE GREATEST CHAMPION OF ALL!

I MEAN TO SAIL WITH YOU, JASON. JUST TELL ME WHICH OF YOUR CHAMPIONS I MUST BEAT!

WELCOME, HERCULES! THERE IS NO NEED FOR YOU TO COMPETE. YOUR PLACE IS RESERVED!

IF YOU ARE HERCULES, THEN I, HYLAS, OF DRYOPIAN, MUST DEFEAT YOU AT SOMETHING, OR JASON WILL REFUSE ME A PLACE ON HIS SHIP.



OF COURSE HE WILL REFUSE YOU. ON SUCH A VOYAGE ONLY *MEN* CAN SURVIVE!

I SHALL PROVE THAT A MAN OF WITS IS AS VALUABLE AS A MAN OF STRENGTH.



DO YOU SEE THAT ROCK? NO THROWER HAS EVER BEEN ABLE TO REACH IT. THE FURTHEST THROW WINS. CHILDREN FIRST, HYLAS.

I HAVE NEVER THROWN A DISCUS BEFORE. I MUST SEE HOW IT IS DONE.





NOW GO HOME, HYLAS. NO ONE CAN BETTER THAT THROW.

HE'S RIGHT, HYLAS.

IS IT NOW MY TURN?

**CLANG!**



**HYLAS, USING THE WITS OF WHICH HE BOASTED, CAUSES THE DISCUS TO SKIP, SEAWARD, FAR OVERSHOOTING HERCULES' EFFORT!**

BRILLIANT THINKING--- AND EXECUTION!

HE--- HE HAS OVERTHROWN ME!

HE'S DONE IT!

CLEVER FELLOW!

AMAZING!

SKIP!

SKIP!

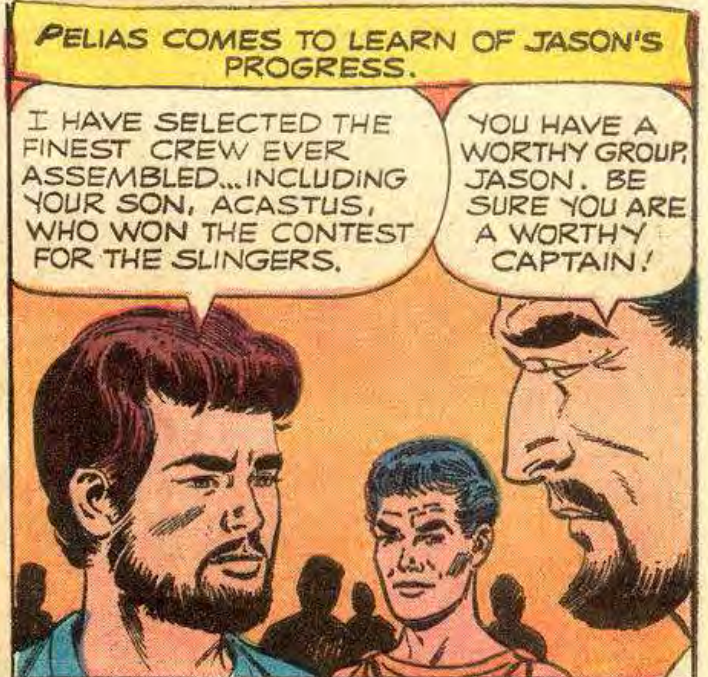
SKIP!

THUD!



I SHALL GO HOME TO THEBES---BEATEN BY A DWARF! YOU'LL HAVE YOUR PLACE, HYLAS!

AND YOU, YOURS, HERCULES. YOU ARE ONE MAN I CANNOT AFFORD TO LEAVE BEHIND!



**PELIAS COMES TO LEARN OF JASON'S PROGRESS.**

I HAVE SELECTED THE FINEST CREW EVER ASSEMBLED...INCLUDING YOUR SON, ACASTUS, WHO WON THE CONTEST FOR THE SLINGERS.

YOU HAVE A WORTHY GROUP, JASON. BE SURE YOU ARE A WORTHY CAPTAIN!

SOON IT IS TIME TO SEE  
IF HIS SHIP IS READY...

ARGUS! SURELY GREECE'S  
GREATEST SHIPBUILDER KNOWS  
THAT A FIGUREHEAD IS SUPPOSED  
TO KEEP WATCH OVER THE WATER  
AHEAD OF A VESSEL. WHY THEN  
HAVE YOU PUT IT ASTERN?

I DON'T KNOW, JASON. SOMETHING  
MADE ME PUT THIS ONE HERE. IT  
GIVES ME THE FEELING THAT SOME-  
ONE FRIENDLY IS WATCHING OVER US.



PERHAPS HERA---  
QUEEN OF THE GODS---  
ARRANGED IT HERSELF...

NOT SO FAST,  
MY PRICE IS  
THAT YOU  
LET ME SAIL  
WITH YOU.

YOU HAVE NAMED THE ONLY PRICE  
I CAN AFFORD. BUT I CAN DO ONE  
MORE THING---I CAN GIVE HER  
YOUR NAME. THE **ARGO** SAILS  
TOMORROW!

A FINE SHIP, ARGUS.  
I'LL ACCEPT HER.



THUS THE ARGO SETS  
SAIL, CARRYING A CON-  
FIDENT CAPTAIN AND  
CREW. BUT DESPITE  
THEIR COMBINED STRENGTH  
AND ENDURANCE, THE  
CREW SUFFERS GREATLY  
AT THE HANDS OF NATURE,  
THE WORST OF IT ALL  
COMING WITH A MERCILESS  
SUN, ON A WINDLESS SEA,  
WITH ALMOST NO DRINK-  
ING WATER REMAINING...



TAKE MY ADVICE, JASON, AND TURN BACK TO ICOS. THERE IS NOTHING AHEAD BUT ENDLESS SEA.

I WILL NOT LOSE FIVE DAYS' SAILING. THERE MUST BE AN ISLAND BEFORE US.



ARE THEY STILL GRUMBLING, JASON? GROWN MEN WAILING ABOUT A LITTLE THIRST AND BLISTERED HANDS. THEY SHOULD USE BRINE... THE SALT TOUGHENS THE SKIN.

THEN, GO DOWN AND TREAT THEM. I'LL STEER.



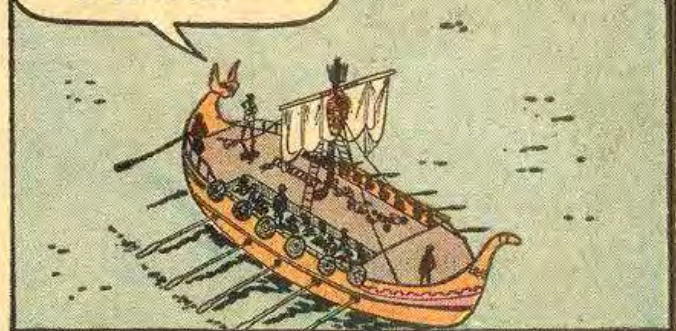
AS SOON AS JASON IS ALONE... THE FIGUREHEAD COMES TO LIFE...

HERA, YOU SAID YOU COULD HELP ME FIVE TIMES.

IN THE BEGINNING IT WAS SIX. I HAVE ALREADY AIDED YOU TWICE. I KNOW YOUR NEED...



HOIST SAIL AND STEER NORTH. AT NOON YOU WILL REACH THE ISLE OF BRONZE. NO MORTAL HAS EVER SET FOOT THERE. IT WAS THE FOUNDRY OF THE GODS. HEPHAESTUS LABORED THERE, MAKING ARMOR AND WEAPONS FOR ZEUS. HEPHAESTUS HAS LONG SINCE DEPARTED. BUT LISTEN TO ME VERY CAREFULLY, JASON...



WHEN JASON HAS HEARD THE REST OF HERA'S MESSAGE, HE RETURNS TO HIS CREW...


WE REACH LAND AT NOON. BUT MARK THIS: IT WILL BE SAFE TO TAKE FOOD AND WATER. BUT NOTHING ELSE. OTHERWISE YOU WILL INCUR THE WRATH OF TALOS. NOW UP WITH THE SAIL.

ARGUS, TELL THE CAPTAIN THERE'S NO WIND.

THE CAPTAIN SAYS HOIST SAIL, SO UP SHE GOES!




**NO SOONER ARE THE SAILS SET, THAN THE WIND BLOWS FREE. AND AT NOON THE ARGO IS IN SIGHT OF LAND.**



**BUT, JASON, WHO IS THIS MAN TALOS YOU SPOKE OF?**

**I SPOKE OF NO MAN. BUT IF THE CREW DISOBEYS MY ORDERS, WE WILL ALL BE PUNISHED!**



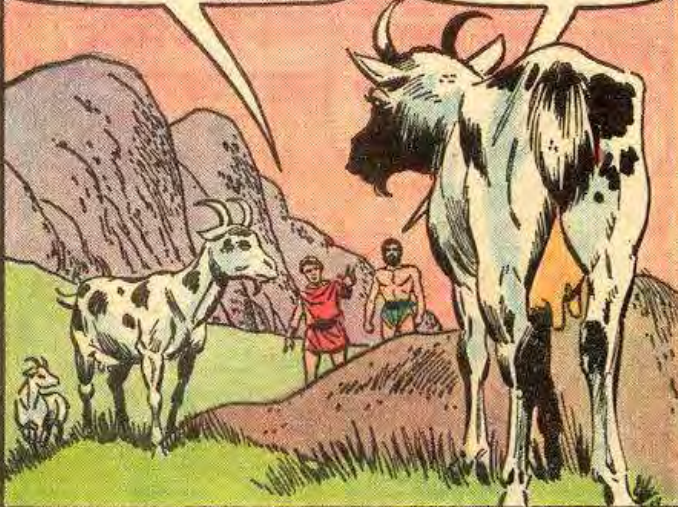
**HERCULES! FOOD AND WATER ONLY. DISTURB NOTHING ELSE!**

**DON'T WORRY, JASON. I WON'T UPSET YOUR PRECIOUS ISLAND.**



**GOATS! THEIR MILK WILL BE WELCOME THE NEXT TIME WE RUN OUT OF WATER!**

**THEN WE SHALL CATCH US SOME FOUR-LEGGED SHIPMATES!**



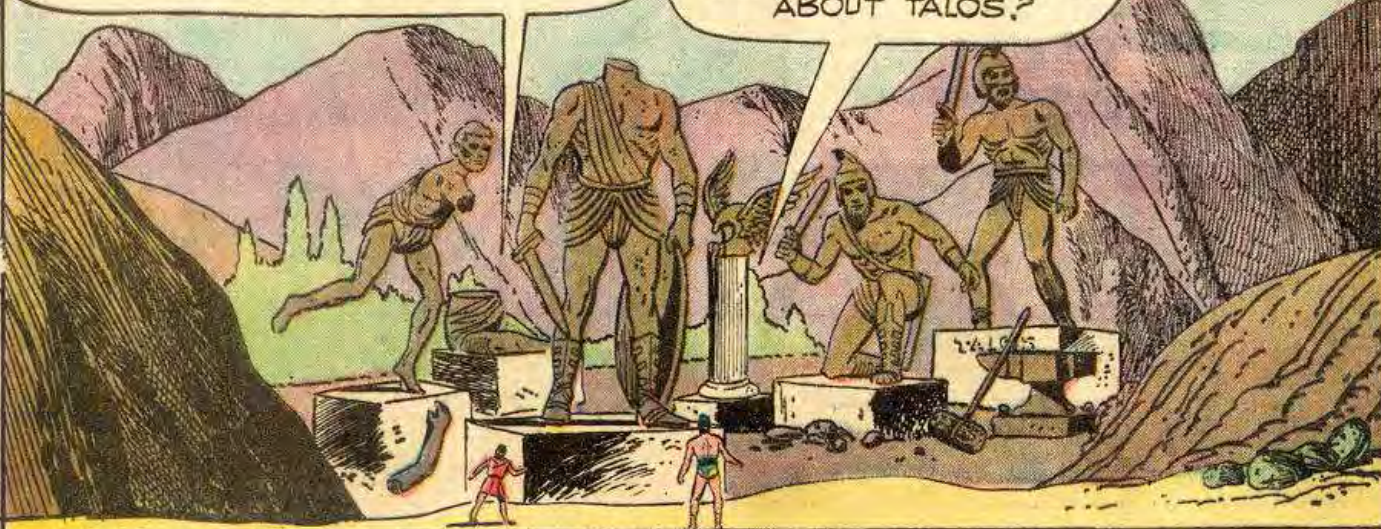
**AT THIS RATE WE'LL NEVER CATCH THEM!**

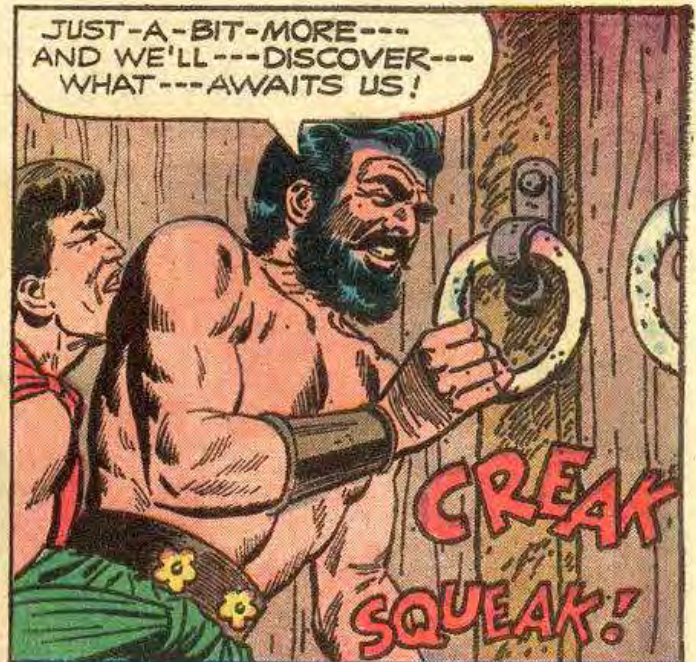
**I'M BEGINNING TO WONDER IF IT'S REALLY---**



**HOLD, HERCULES! AM I DREAMING? WHY---THIS MUST BE THE FOUNDRY OF THE GODS! WHERE HEPHAESTUS ONCE WORKED!**

**THIS PLACE REMINDS ME OF THE VALLEY OF THE DEAD. LOOK---DIDN'T JASON SAY SOMETHING ABOUT TALOS?**







I---I'M GOING TO RETURN THIS TO THE CHAMBER.

I THINK IT'S TOO LATE FOR THAT NOW! WE'D BETTER RUN AND WARN THE OTHERS!

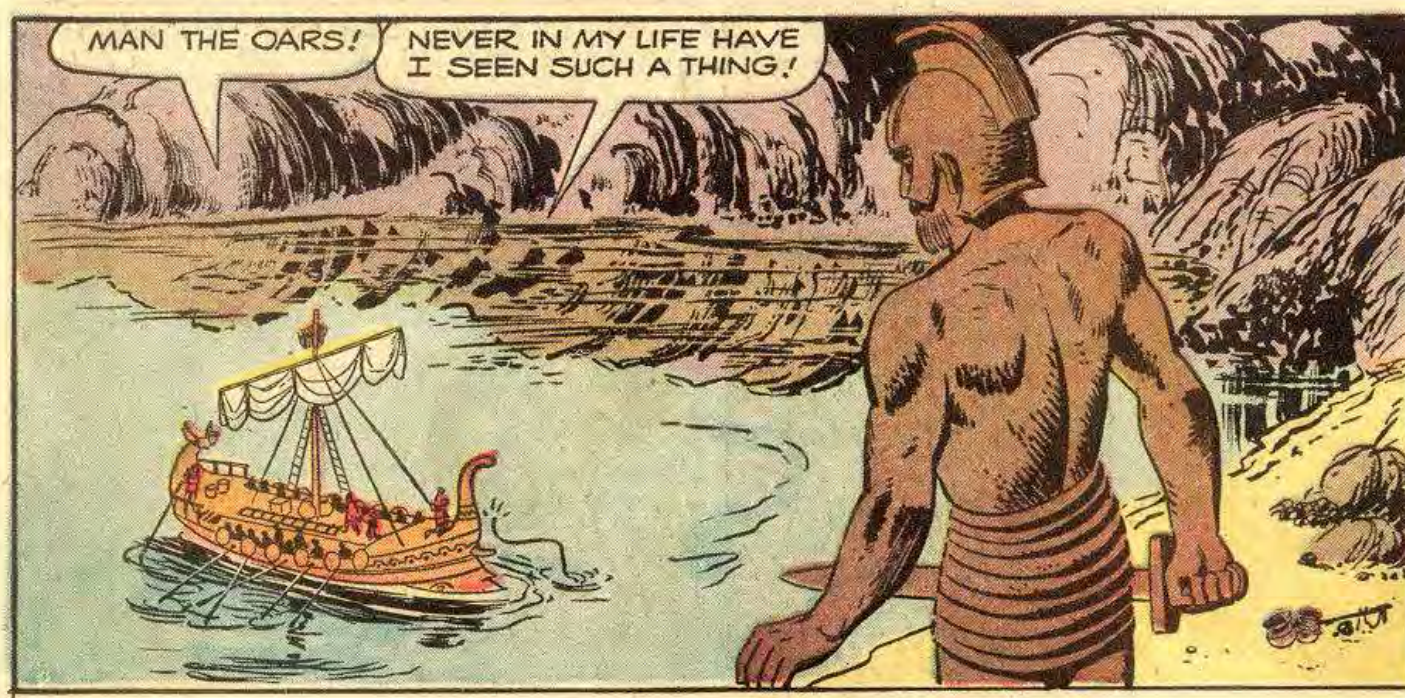
**GREAK!**



HERCULES AND HYLAS HAVE NOT YET RETURNED.

THEY WILL BE HERE PRES---

TALOS!



MAN THE OARS!

NEVER IN MY LIFE HAVE I SEEN SUCH A THING!



WHAT IS TALOS DOING NOW?

IT'S HARD TO SAY. HE DISAPPEARED BEHIND A MOUNTAIN RANGE.

**BOOM  
BOOM  
BOOM**

IF WE CAN JUST MAKE IT THROUGH THE CHANNEL, THEN WE'LL---! STOP! BACKWATER!!

THE TOWERING TALOS HAS QUICKLY STEPPED OUT OF HIDING AND DIRECTLY INTO THE PATH OF THE ON-COMING ARGO!

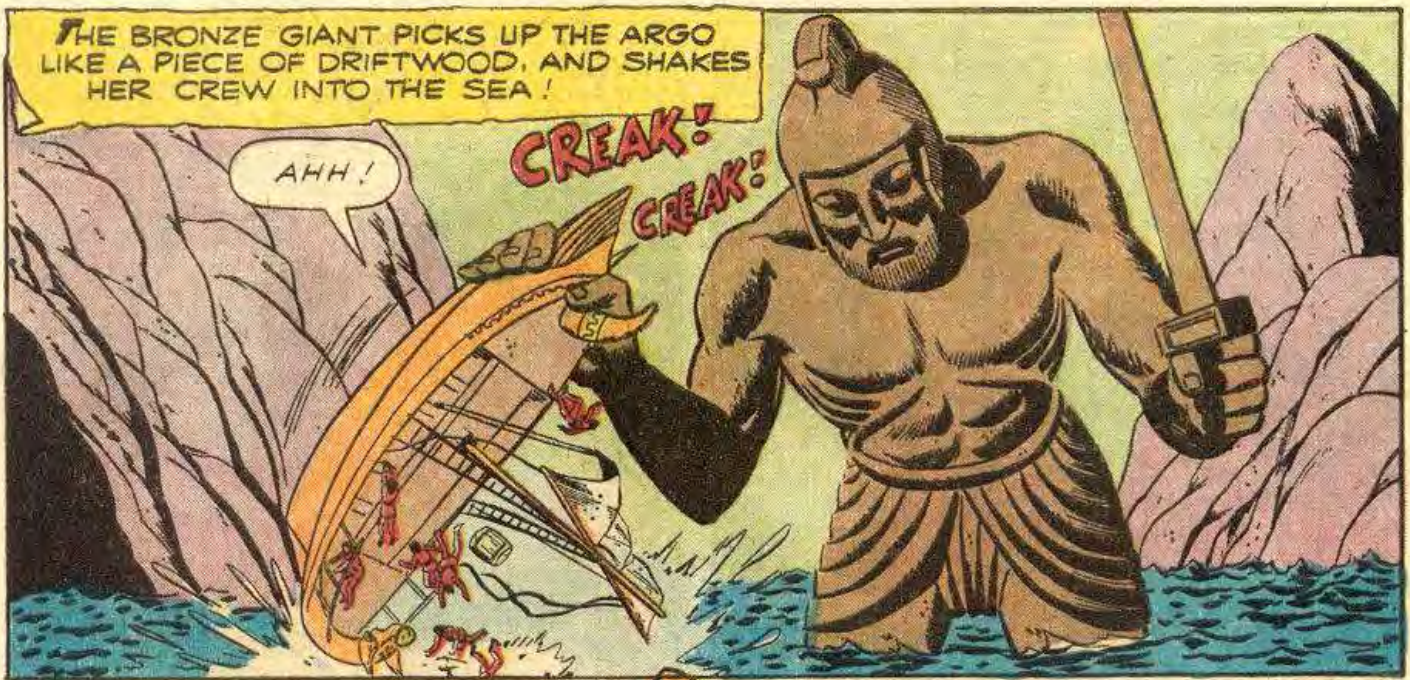
WE'RE FINISHED! EVERY MAN FOR HIMSELF!

IT'S NO USE, JASON! TALOS HAS US TRAPPED!

HOLD YOUR STATIONS!



THE BRONZE GIANT PICKS UP THE ARGO LIKE A PIECE OF DRIFTWOOD, AND SHAKES HER CREW INTO THE SEA!



AHH!

**CREAK!**  
**CREAK!**

WE ARE DOOMED! WHERE IS THE FIGUREHEAD OF HERA...?



**SPLASH!**

HERA! HOW CAN I FIGHT TALOS?

I WARNED YOU, JASON. THIS IS HERCULES' DOING. TALOS WILL TRY TO KILL ALL OF YOU. THINK BEFORE YOU USE ANOTHER OF YOUR CHANCES.



I REPEAT MY QUESTION. HOW CAN I DEFEAT TALOS?

THEN I MUST ANSWER YOU. FIGHT TALOS WITH YOUR WITS RATHER THAN YOUR COURAGE. AND LOOK TO HIS ANKLES. THAT IS ALL I CAN TELL YOU.



EVENTUALLY, THE MEN REGROUP, AND ARE JOINED BY HYLAS AND HERCULES.

IT'S MY FAULT, ALL THIS... IF I'D ONLY OBEYED YOUR ORDERS...

BUT I LED YOU TO THE TREASURE CHAMBER...



THE GIANT RETURNS, JASON! WHAT NOW, MY WORRIED CAPTAIN?

I SHALL HIDE HERE. THE REST OF YOU LURE HIM AMONG THESE ROCKS, BUT STAY OUT OF HIS REACH.



AND I SHALL DO MY BEST TO SEND HIM TO YOU, JASON--- MY VERY BEST!

SAVE YOUR VENOM FOR ANOTHER DAY, ACASTUS. TOO MUCH IS AT STAKE NOW!

**CREAK!**



HERA SAID LOOK TO HIS ANKLES... NOW I THINK I UNDERSTAND WHAT SHE MEANT...

**CREAK!**  
**CREAK!**



THIS MUST BE HIS CASTING VENT. IF I CAN GET IT OPEN, IT WILL DRAIN THE LIFE OUT OF HIM!

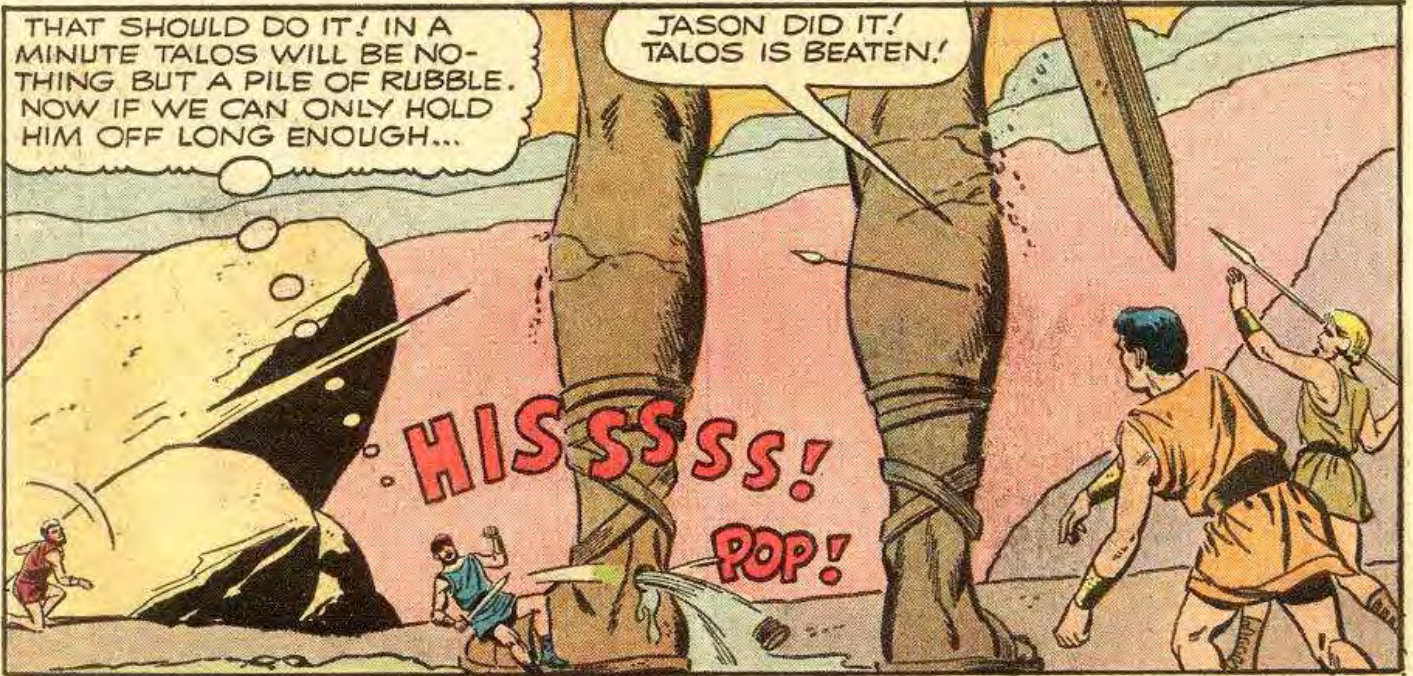
**HISS!**



THAT SHOULD DO IT! IN A MINUTE TALOS WILL BE NOTHING BUT A PILE OF RUBBLE. NOW IF WE CAN ONLY HOLD HIM OFF LONG ENOUGH...

JASON DID IT!  
TALOS IS BEATEN!

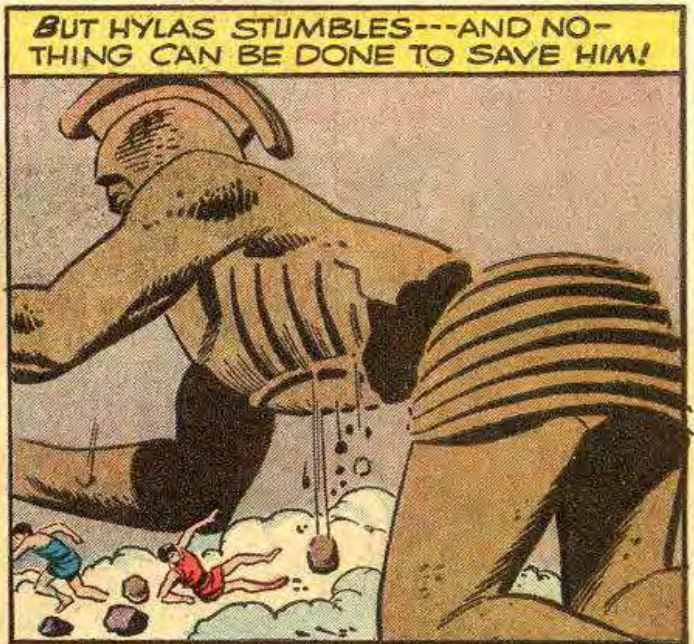
HISSSSS!  
POP!



MOVE BACK! OR WE'LL BE CRUSHED!



BUT HYLAS STUMBLES---AND NOTHING CAN BE DONE TO SAVE HIM!



WITH TALOS DEFEATED, JASON AND HIS MEN REPAIR THE ARGO. THEN...

HERA... I ASK YOU TO HELP ME RESTORE THE FAITH OF MY CREW, AS IT IS, HERCULES REFUSED TO LEAVE THE ISLE OF BRONZE.

THIS IS THE LAST TIME I CAN HELP YOU, JASON. KNOW THIS, ARGONAUTS: ZEUS HAS OTHER TASKS FOR HERCULES. YOU MUST NOW SAIL TO PHRYGIA. SEEK OUT PHINEAS, THE BLINDED MAN. ONLY HE CAN GUIDE YOU NOW.



THE ARGUS REACHES PHRYGIA, WHERE JASON AND HIS CREW FIND PHINEAS, BLINDED BY ZEUS FOR MISUSING HIS GIFT OF PROPHECY, AND PERMANENTLY BESET BY TWO MADDENING HARPIES...

LEAVE ME IN PEACE, YOU TORMENTORS. OH, ZEUS, TAKE THEM AWAY. I HAVE SUFFERED ENOUGH!

THIS LOOKS LIKE OUR MAN.



I WILL HELP YOU, JASON, BUT YOU MUST DO SOMETHING FOR ME FIRST. TRAP THE HARPIES!

CONSIDER IT DONE, PHINEAS.



THE PLAN OF CAPTURE IS QUICKLY DEvised. JASON AND HIS MEN FIND HIDING PLACES AMONG THE RUINS, WAITING FOR THE HARPIES TO RETURN.

COME, MY PRETTIES. WE'RE WAITING FOR YOU THIS TIME.



AHA! THANKS TO JASON, YOU'LL TORMENT ME NO LONGER!



COLCHIS IS FIVE DAYS NOR'WEST FROM HERE, BUT WITHOUT PROTECTION FROM THE GODS YOU WILL NEVER MAKE IT THROUGH THE CLASHING ROCKS. ALL I CAN OFFER YOU IS THIS CHARM.



THE CLASHING ROCKS. IT WOULD BE INSANE TO ATTEMPT TO PASS THROUGH THERE. WE'LL BE CRUSHED!

IT IS OUR ONLY PATH TO COLCHIS. WE MUST RELY ON THIS CHARM PHINEAS GAVE US.

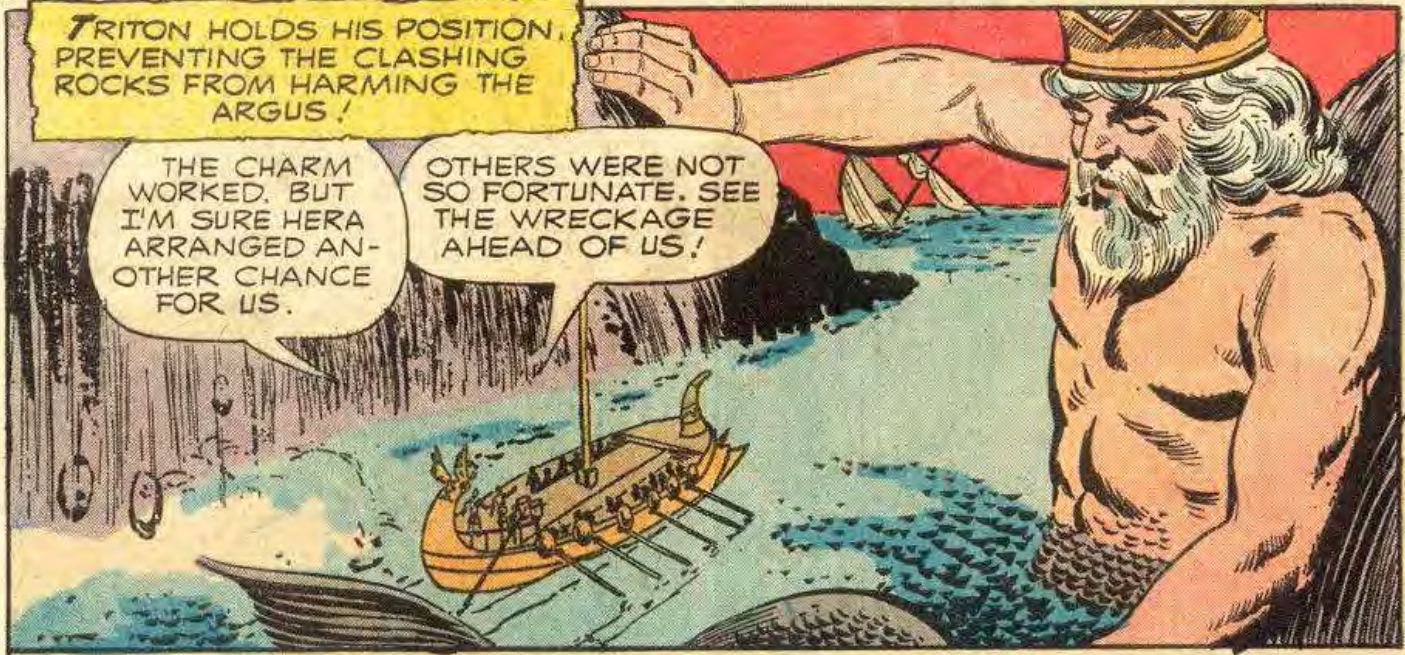
LOOK! IT IS TRITON HIMSELF, COME TO HELP US!



TRITON HOLDS HIS POSITION, PREVENTING THE CLASHING ROCKS FROM HARMING THE ARGUS!

THE CHARM WORKED, BUT I'M SURE HERA ARRANGED ANOTHER CHANCE FOR US.

OTHERS WERE NOT SO FORTUNATE. SEE THE WRECKAGE AHEAD OF US!



A SURVIVOR FROM THE DESTROYED SHIP! A WOMAN!



THE RESCUE IS COMPLETED...

YOUR SHIP WAS LOST, BUT YOU ARE SAFE. I AM JASON OF THESSALY.

MY NAME IS MEDEA, OF COLCHIS. YOU ARE NOT FAR FROM YOUR DESTINATION, BUT WHY DO YOU JOURNEY THERE?





I GO TO YOUR KING AETES IN PEACE. TO GAIN THE GOLDEN FLEECE.

BUT HE WILL NEVER GIVE IT. THE FLEECE HAS BROUGHT OUR CITY PEACE AND PROSPERITY. AND AETES CAN BE VERY CRUEL WHEN ANGERED.



I SAY WE ATTACK COLCHIS BY NIGHT!

WE MUST GO IN PEACE TO COLCHIS. A NIGHT ATTACK WILL CAUSE A MAN'S DEATH, ACUSTUS. MY DEATH! BROUGHT BY YOUR JAVELIN!



YOU'LL DIE FOR THAT, JASON! HERE AND NOW!

PUT UP YOUR SWORD, ACUSTUS! YOU STAND ALONE!

KEEP BACK, ARGUS! I SHALL FINISH THIS MYSELF!



ACASTUS ATTACKS IMMEDIATELY---

JASON! YOUR ARM!

DIE, JASON!



SUDDENLY---

THE COWARD FLEES!

BUT NOT FOR LONG! I, EUPHEMUS, WILL AVENGE YOU, JASON!

**BUT LATER...**

EUPHEMUS HAS  
DIED BY ACASTUS'  
HAND!

BUT EUPHEMUS  
CLUTCHES ACASTUS'  
SLASHED TUNIC.  
ACASTUS MUST BE  
AT THE BOTTOM OF  
THE SEA.



YOU ARE A PEACEFUL  
MAN, JASON. WHEN  
WE REACH COLCHIS,  
I SHALL TAKE YOU TO  
THE TEMPLE OF HEcate,  
WHERE YOU WILL MEET  
KING AEEETES.

I WONDER IF  
ACASTUS IS  
REALLY DEAD...?



**THE NEXT DAY... AT THE TEMPLE  
OF HEcate IN COLCHIS...**

KING AEEETES, I AM JASON  
OF THESSALY, COME TO  
COLCHIS ON A MISSION  
OF PEACE.

I HAVE ALREADY BEEN INFORMED  
OF YOUR REASON FOR COMING  
HERE, JASON. AND MY INFORM-  
ENT IS A COUNTRYMAN OF YOURS.



ACASTUS!

I THOUGHT YOU WOULD  
BE SURPRISED, JASON!  
GUARDS---SEIZE THE  
ARGONAUTS!



KING AEEETES HAS  
BETRAYED MY  
TRUST IN HIM AS  
A PEACEFUL  
MAN! I HAVE  
LED JASON INTO  
A TRAP!

THE GOLDEN FLEECE  
WILL REMAIN IN  
COLCHIS. JASON  
AND HIS PIRATES  
WILL DIE, AND YOU  
WILL BE ABLE TO  
TELL PELIAS THIS!





.THAT NIGHT...

MEDEA! WHY HAVE YOU COME HERE? DID AEETES SEND YOU?

AEETES WOULD KILL ME IF HE KNEW, JASON---I---FEAR FOR YOUR SAFETY BECAUSE---BECAUSE I LOVE YOU. I KNOW NOW THAT YOU ARE SET ON TAKING THE FLEECE. THEREFORE I MUST LEAD YOU TO IT AND FLEE WITH YOU---IF YOU'LL HAVE ME!



CAN YOU DOUBT IT? I HAVE LOVED YOU FROM THE FIRST MOMENT.

THEN IT IS SETTLED...

FEAR NOT. I HAVE DRUGGED THE GUARDS. JASON, YOU WILL COME WITH ME. YOUR MEN AND SHIP WILL MEET US DOWNSTREAM AT THE BREAK IN THE CLIFFS.



JASON HAS ESCAPED! I FOUND THE GUARDS DRUGGED!

WHAA--? AND ACASTUS HAS BEEN MISSING FOR SOME TIME! BUT IT IS NOT REASONABLE THAT HE WOULD HELP JASON! UNLESS IT WAS MEDEA. I SAW HOW SHE LOOKED AT JASON! AND SHE MUST BE LEADING HIM TO THE GOLDEN FLEECE! MUSTER THE MEN!



MEANWHILE, NEARING THE GLADE OF THE FLEECE...

SOON I, ACASTUS, WILL POSSESS THE GOLDEN FLEECE!

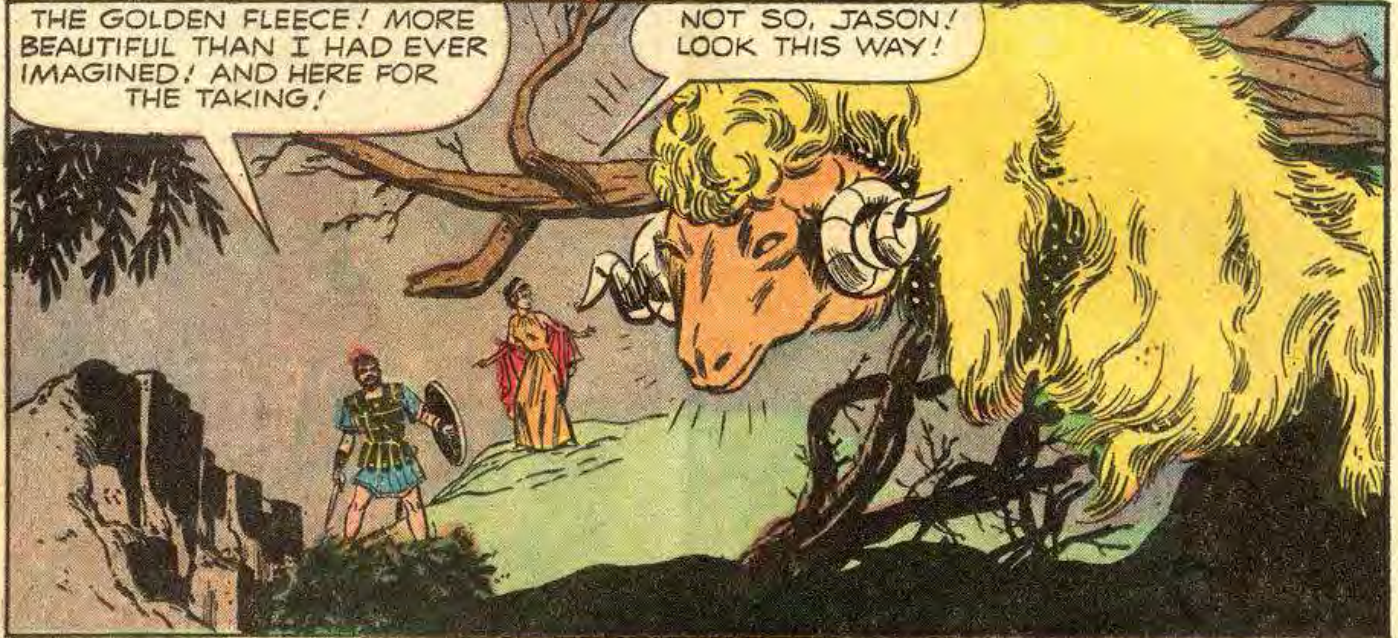


THE ARGO IS BROUGHT INTO POSITION, AWAITING MEDEA AND JASON...



THE GOLDEN FLEECE! MORE BEAUTIFUL THAN I HAD EVER IMAGINED! AND HERE FOR THE TAKING!

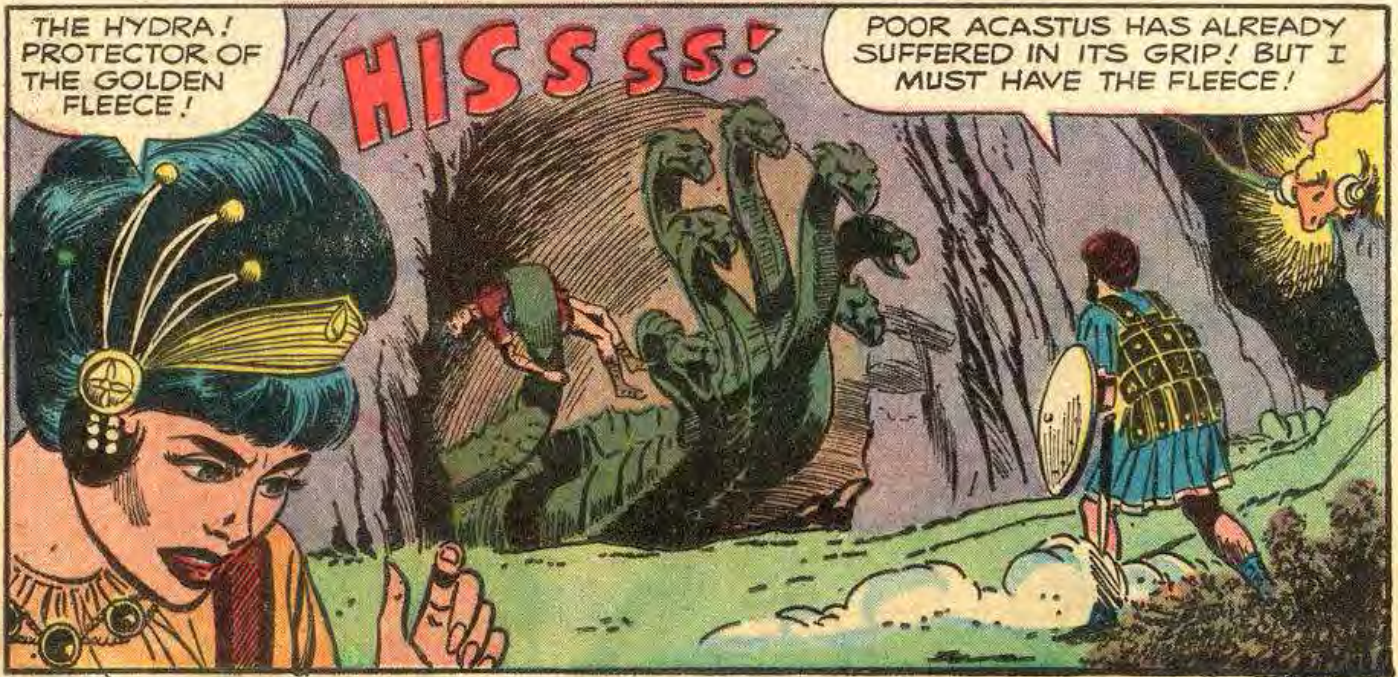
NOT SO, JASON! LOOK THIS WAY!



THE HYDRA! PROTECTOR OF THE GOLDEN FLEECE!

**HISSESS!**

POOR ACASTUS HAS ALREADY SUFFERED IN ITS GRIP! BUT I MUST HAVE THE FLEECE!



IT IS NO USE, JASON! THE HYDRA WILL KILL YOU, JASON, AS IT KILLED ACASTUS!

I MUST TAKE MY CHANCES!



BUT THE HYDRA'S SERPENTINE BODY SLITHERS AROUND THE GALLANT FIGHTER ...



PHEW! A TIGHT SQUEEZE!



THE TREMENDOUS STRUGGLE CONTINUES, WITH JASON FACING OVERWHELMING ODDS!



JASON CANNOT MAINTAIN HIS GRASP!



THE HYDRA ADVANCES FOR THE KILL!



MY LAST CHANCE TO HIT THE MARK!



AND THE THRUST IS TRUE!



COME, MEDEA! THE ARGO IS WAITING.

BUT BEWARE THE HYDRA'S SEED, JASON!



JASON! AEETES AND HIS MEN ARE CLOSE BEHIND! WE SAW THEM FROM THE SHIP!

LET'S GO THEN!



THERE, AETES! HE HAS THE FLEECE! AND MEDEA IS WITH HIM!

WE WILL STOP THEM! AGAINST THE HYDRA'S SEED THERE IS NO PROTECTION. FETCH ME THE HYDRA'S TEETH!

KEEP MOVING! WE'LL MAKE IT!



MEDEA IS HURT!

AH! JASON --- I CAN'T GO ON! LEAVE ME HERE!

NEVER! THE GOLDEN FLEECE WILL HEAL YOU!



I KNEW THE FLEECE WOULD WORK ITS WONDERS! NOW WE MUST HURRY!

I AM WELL AGAIN, JASON!

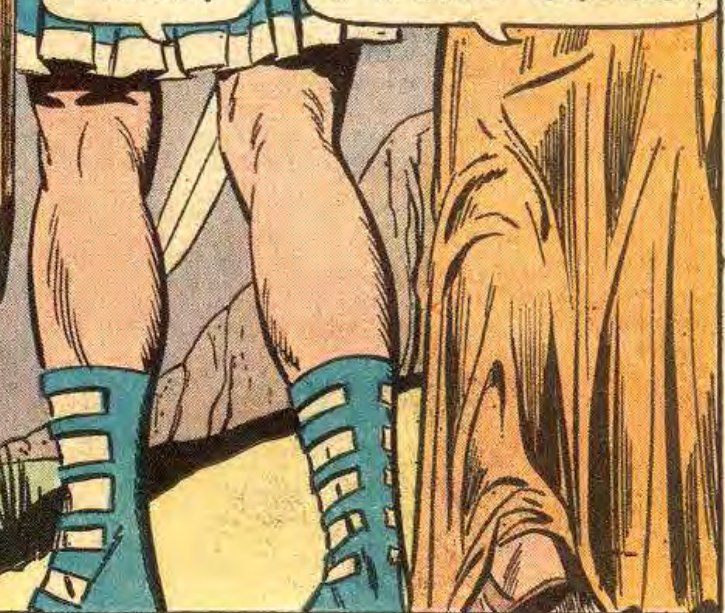


RISE UP ALL YOU DEAD, SLAIN OF THE HYDRA! RISE FROM YOUR GRAVES AND AVENGE US!



WHAT'S HE DOING?

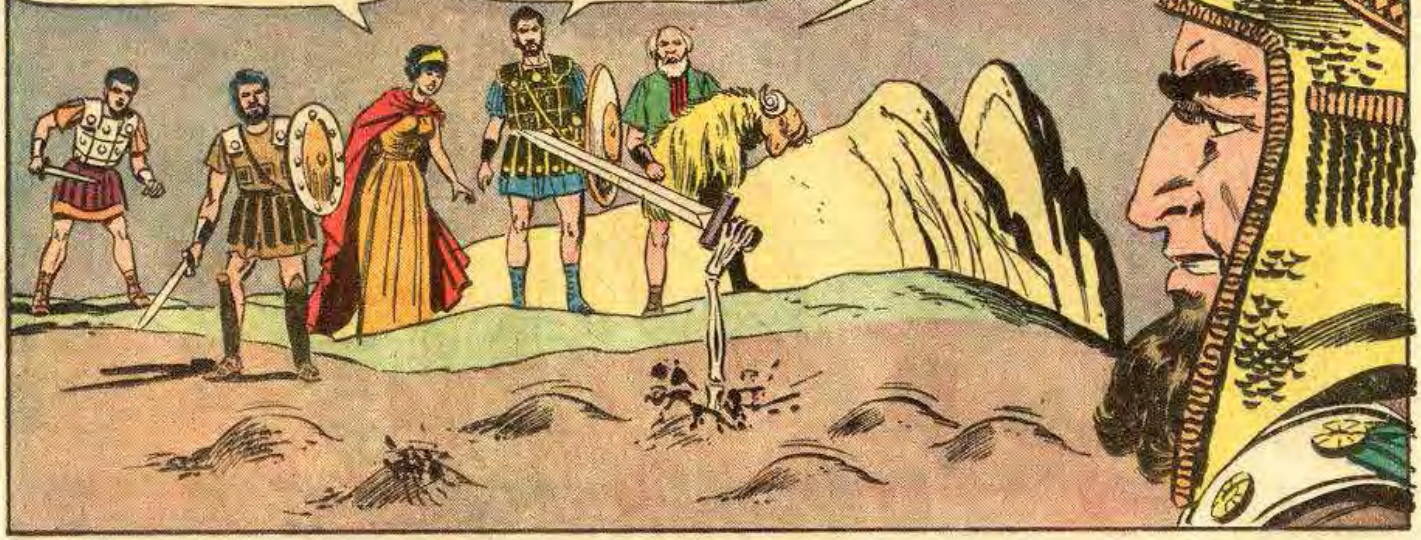
THE HYDRA'S SEED... I WARNED YOU, JASON...



JASON, WE MUST GO!  
THERE IS A WAY DOWN  
THE CLIFFS! HURRY!  
BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE!

ARGUS! TAKE MEDEA  
AND THE FLEECE TO THE  
SHIP! MAKE READY TO  
SAIL!

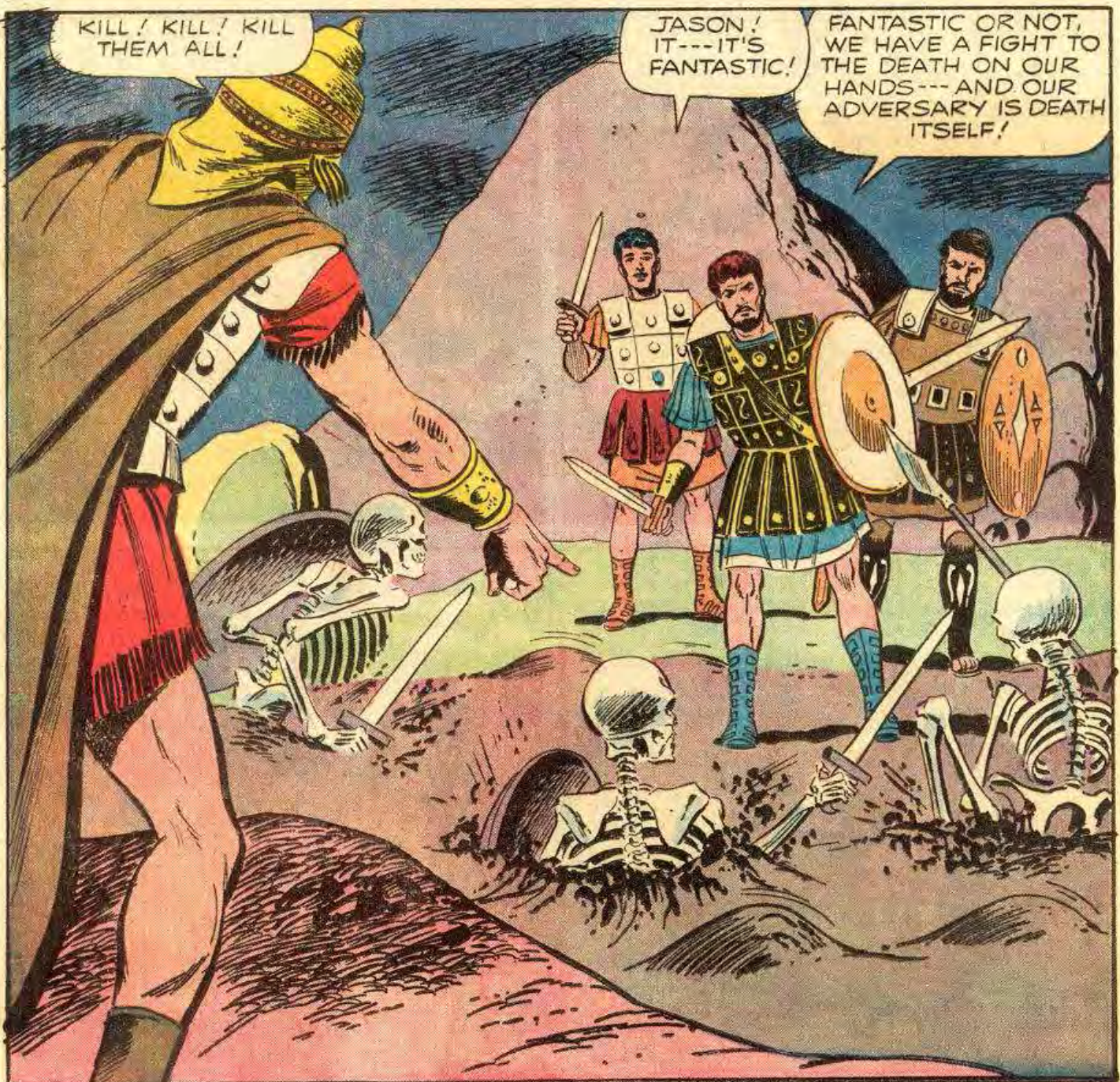
BUT, JASON---  
ALRIGHT, BUT BE  
CAREFUL!



KILL! KILL! KILL  
THEM ALL!

JASON!  
IT---IT'S  
FANTASTIC!

FANTASTIC OR NOT,  
WE HAVE A FIGHT TO  
THE DEATH ON OUR  
HANDS--- AND OUR  
ADVERSARY IS DEATH  
ITSELF!



THUS THE WIERDEST BATTLE IN HISTORY BEGINS! THE SKELETONS FIGHT WITH SKILL AND FURY, PUSHING JASON AND HIS MEN TO THEIR UTMOST!



POLYDEUCES IS THE FIRST TO FALL...

CASTOR! WORK YOUR WAY TOWARD THE CLIFF'S EDGE!

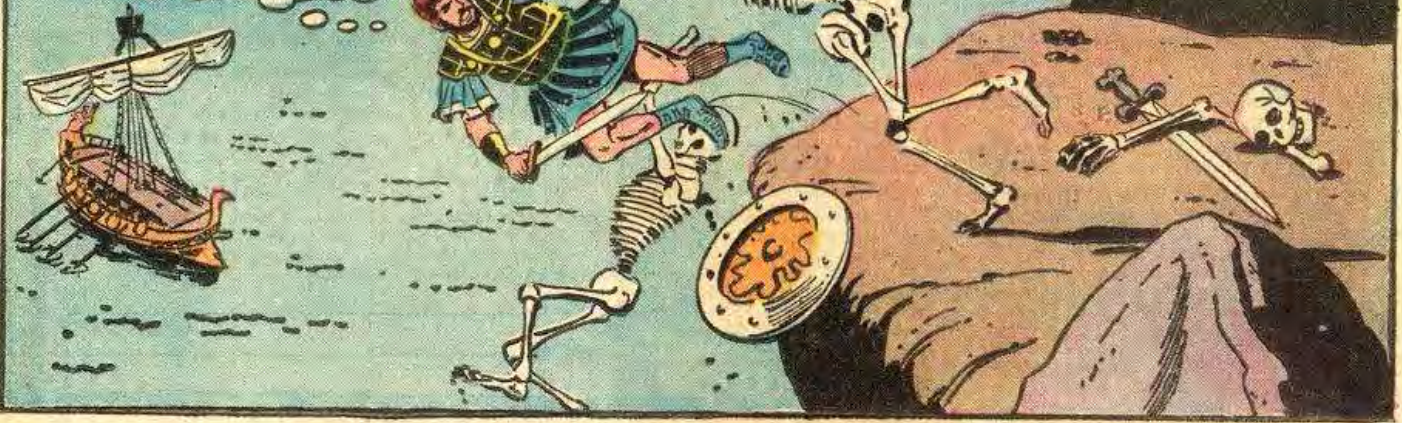


CASTOR'S FINISHED! ONLY ONE CHANCE LEFT FOR ME!



IN ONE LAST DESPERATE TRY FOR ESCAPE, JASON PLUNGES OFF THE CLIFF, DRAGGING SOME OF HIS PURSUERS WITH HIM.

IF ONLY I CAN SURVIVE THE IMPACT!





OH, JASON!  
JASON!

I WAS AFRAID WE'D  
LOST YOU, JASON!

I JUST COULDN'T LOSE,  
ONCE I HAD THE GOLDEN  
FLEECE... AND MEDEA!



AND WATCHING FROM OLYMPUS...

WAIT, HERA. WHY  
ARE YOU CLEARING  
THE BOARD? THE  
GAME IS NOT OVER.

NO? I THOUGHT  
IT WAS.



FOR THE MOMENT, LET THEM ENJOY A  
CALM SEA AND EACH OTHER. BUT THERE  
WILL BE OTHER ADVENTURES. I'VE NOT  
YET FINISHED WITH JASON... WE WILL  
CONTINUE THE GAME ANOTHER DAY...

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