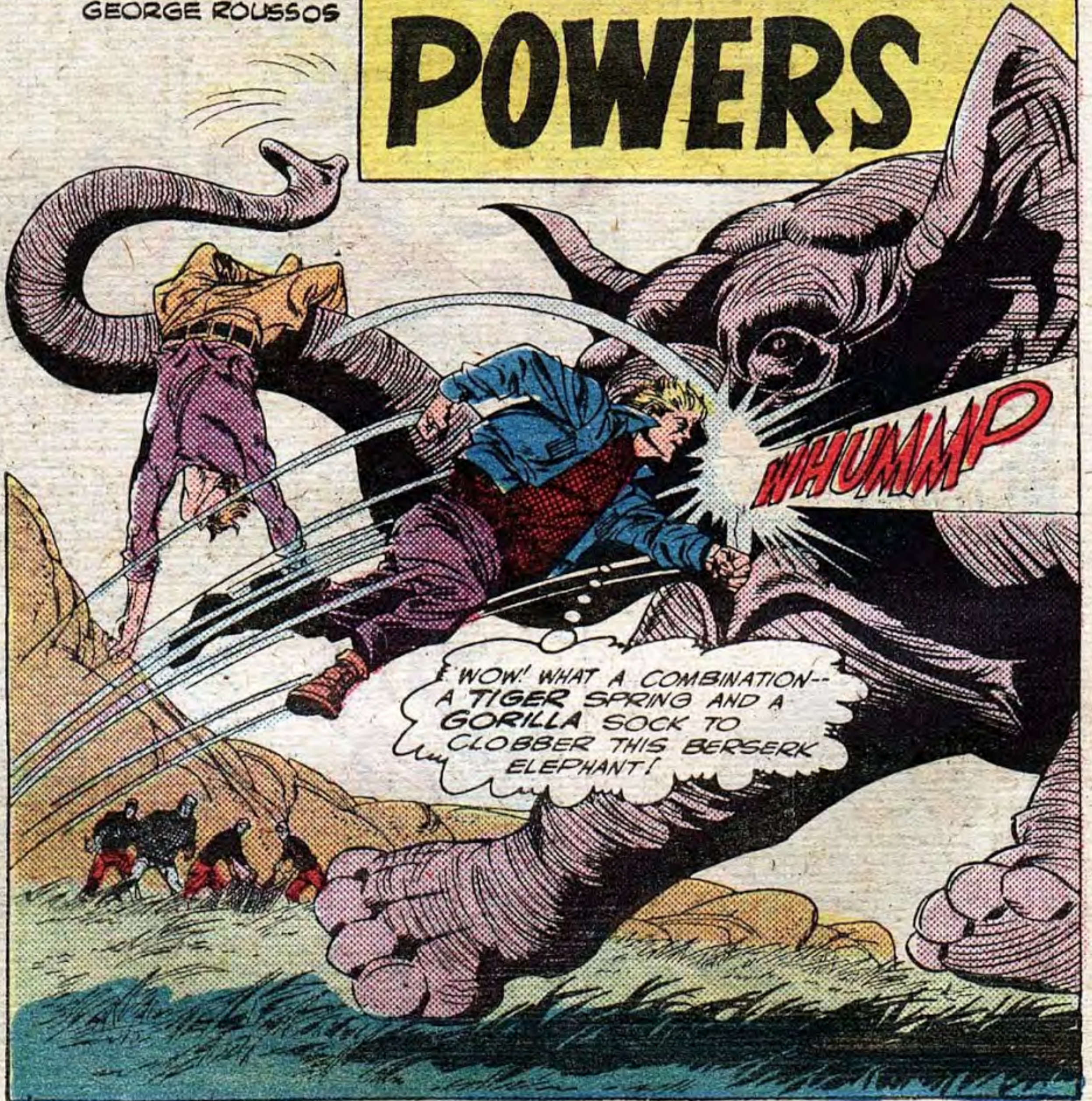


THERE I WAS IN THE WILDERNESS--ATTACKING A TEN-TON ELEPHANT THAT HAD GONE BERSERK! A FOOL-HARDY ACTION FOR ANY MAN--ANY NORMAL MAN! BUT YOU SEE, I WAS MORE THAN THAT--I HAD SUDDENLY FOUND MYSELF GIFTED WITH INCREDIBLE ABILITIES THAT NO MORTAL MAN HAD EVER KNOWN, FOR...

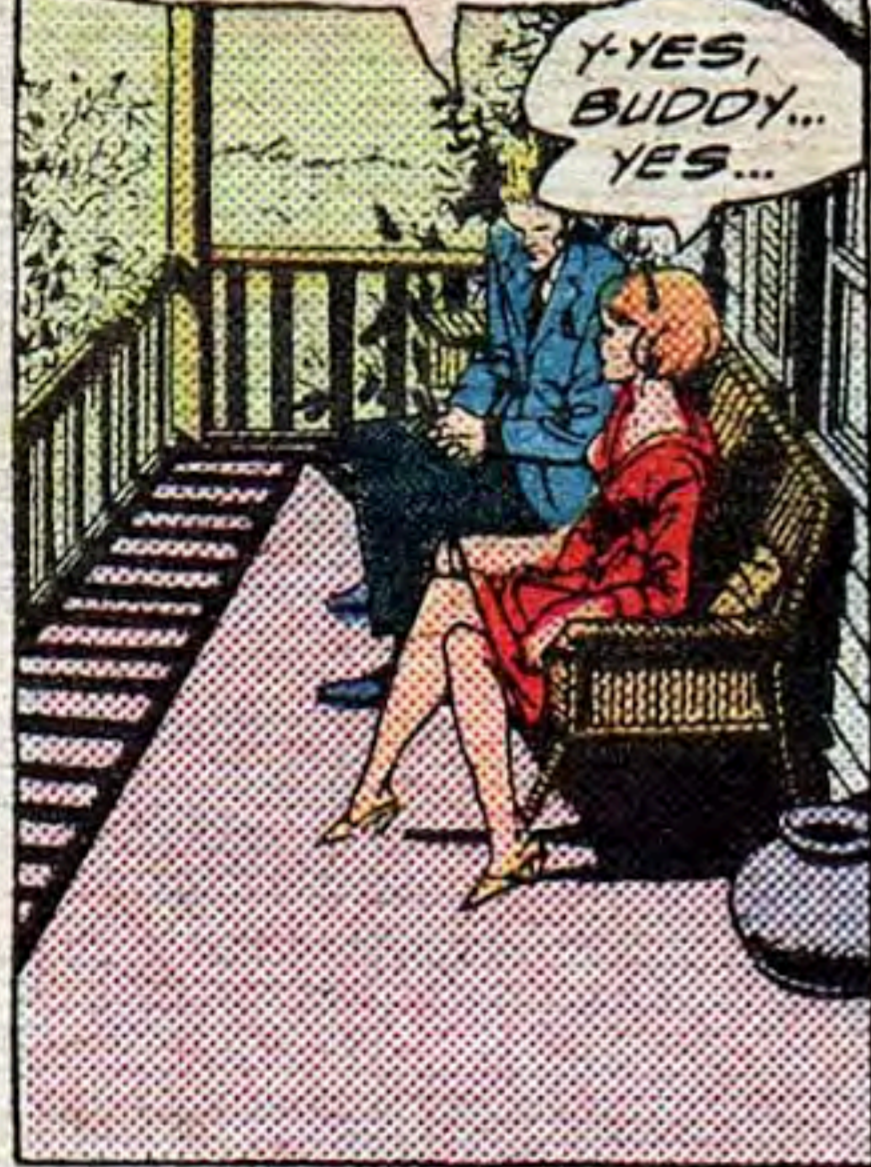
STORY —  
FRANCE E. HERRON  
PENCILS —  
CARMINE INFANTINO  
INKS —  
GEORGE ROUSSOS

# I WAS THE MAN WITH ANIMAL POWERS



I WAS A HOUSE OF A MAN WHEN IT CAME TO PROPOSING... MY HANDS SHAKING, MY KNEES KNOCKING...

ELLEN... THERE'S SOMETHING I'VE GOT TO SAY--I MEAN, ASK YOU! I... ER... WELL... ER...



Y-YES, BUDDY... YES...

THEN, I CRACKED LIKE AN EGG SHELL...

FORGET IT--NOTHING IMPORTANT! I'LL BE RUNNING ALONG...



DID IT AGAIN-- LOST MY NERVE!

I TOOK THE INEVITABLE NEEDLING NEXT DAY WHILE HUNTING...



SO YOU CHICKENED OUT AGAIN, BUDDY BOY! SOME ROMEO!

OKAY, OKAY-- YOU'VE HAD YOUR LAUGH, ROGER! NOW LET'S SPLIT UP AND HUNT TRACKS! I'LL TAKE THE RIDGE TRAIL...

IT HAPPENED SOME 20 MINUTES LATER... I WAS JUST APPROACHING THE RIDGE WHEN...

**KA-BOOOM**



M-MY EYES... CAN'T SEE...

WHEN THE LIGHTS CAME ON AGAIN, I WAS STANDING IN A CLEARING GAPING AT A FOUR-FOOTED NIGHTMARE...

**GROOOWW**



A-A TIGER! IN THIS COUNTRY! I MUST STILL BE IN WOOLY LAND... HAVING HALLUCINATIONS...

IT'S FOR REAL... SPRINGING AT ME... I'M A GONER... THEN THE BUBBLE BURST...

**ARROOO**



I INSTINCTIVELY  
LEAPED TO ONE  
SIDE-- AND THEN  
IT HAPPENED...

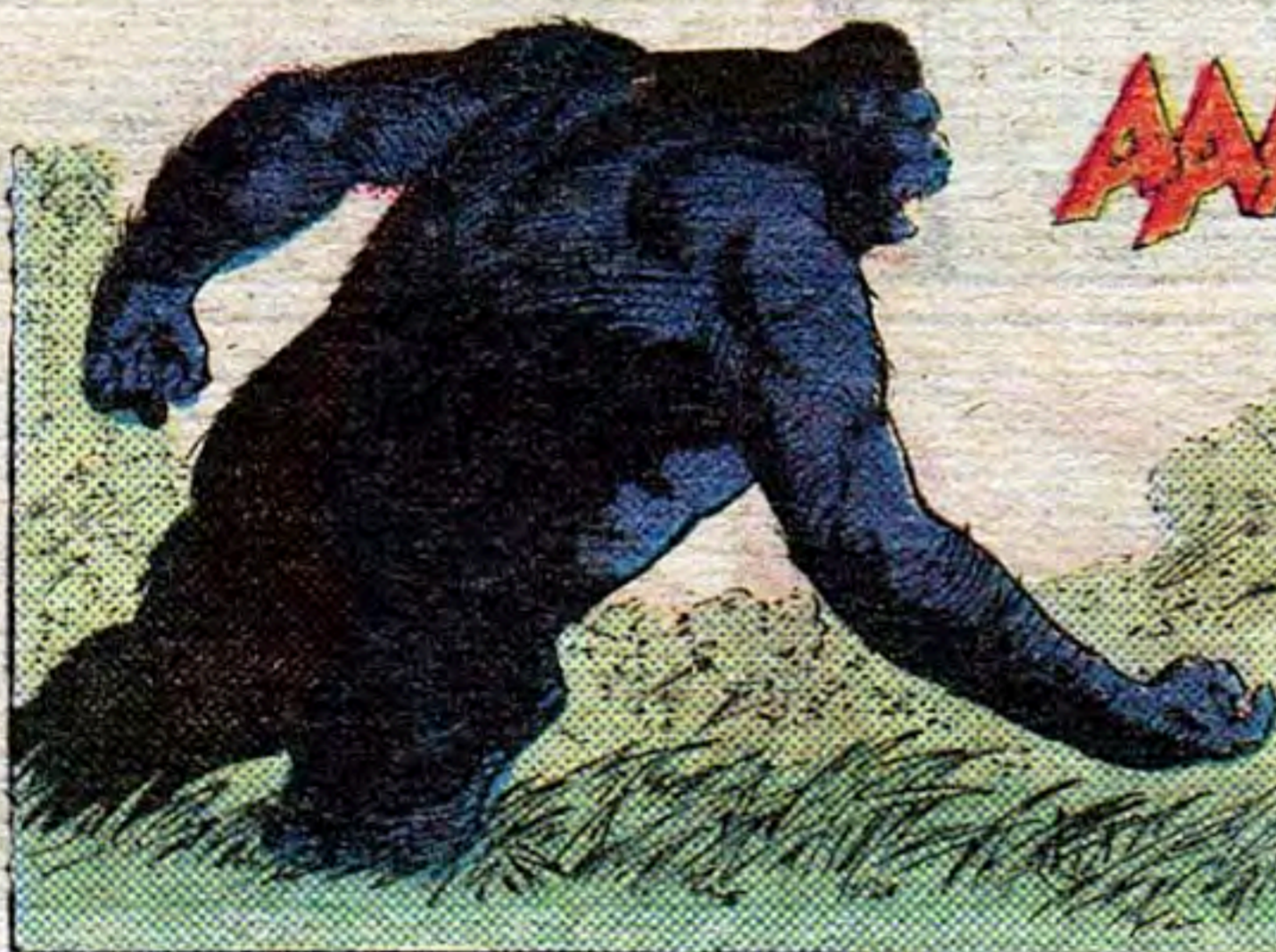


H-HUH...? I'M  
SPRINGING OFF  
THE GROUND...  
LIKE A...



...LIKE A TIGER!  
THIS IS ALL CRAZY...  
NOTHING'S MAKING  
ANY SENSE... HUH?

**AAARG**



**AAARG**

YI! NOW A  
GORILLA'S  
TRYING TO  
PLAY TAG  
WITH ME!



THE TIGER AGAIN!  
I'M CAUGHT BE-  
TWEEN THEM!



INSTINCTIVELY, I REACHED OUT  
TO PROTECT MYSELF...

NOT A CHANCE OF  
ESCAPING HIM THIS  
TIME!

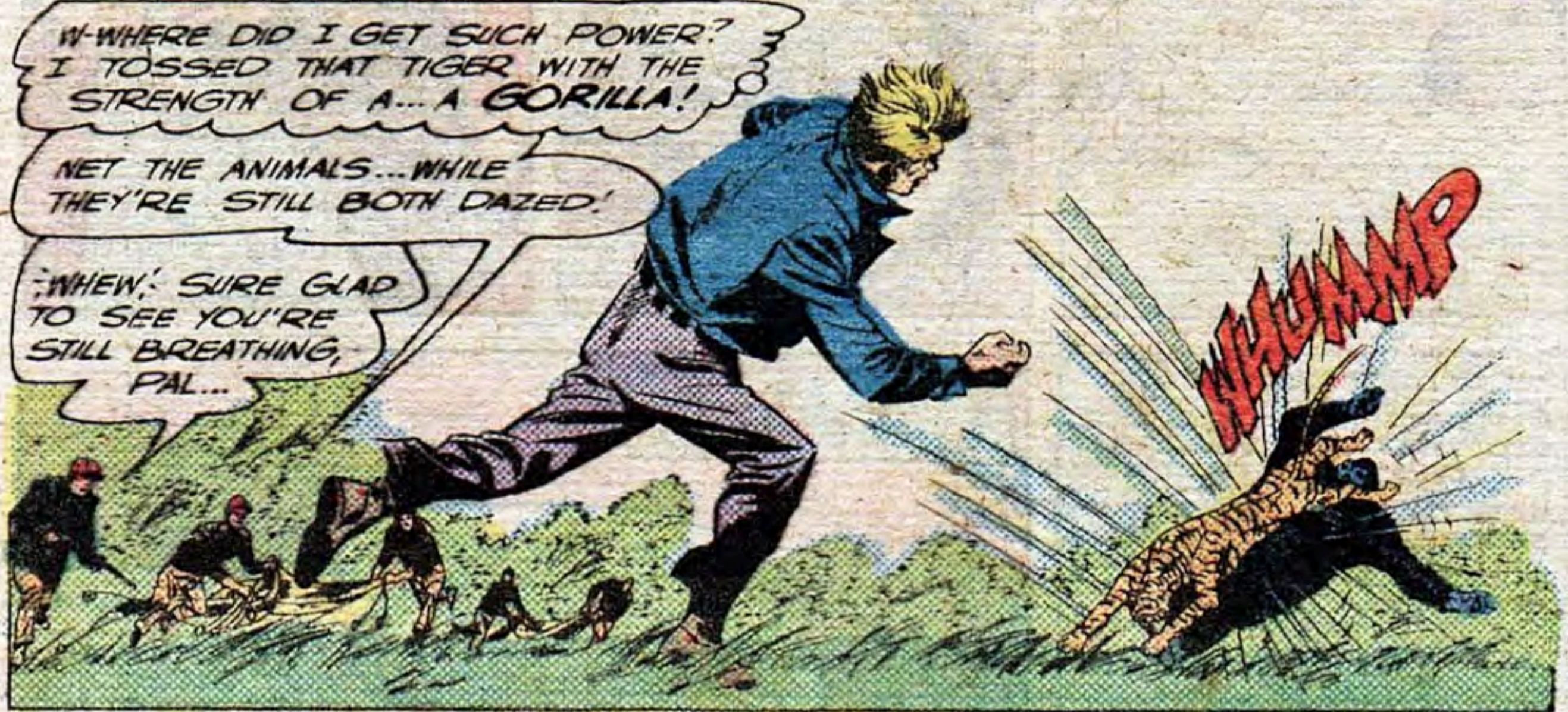
AS MY HANDS SNARED THE BEAST'S PAWS, A GREAT FEELING OF STRENGTH SURGED THROUGH MY ENTIRE BODY, AND...



W-WHERE DID I GET SUCH POWER? I TOSSED THAT TIGER WITH THE STRENGTH OF A... A GORILLA!

NET THE ANIMALS... WHILE THEY'RE STILL BOTH DAZED!

WHEW! SURE GLAD TO SEE YOU'RE STILL BREATHING, PAL...



THERE WAS A TRAIN WRECK-- SOME OF THE ANIMALS ON A CIRCUS TRAIN ESCAPED! THEY'RE PROWLING AROUND THIS AREA...

SO THAT'S IT! FOR A WHILE THERE I THOUGHT I'D GONE OFF MY ROCKER!

HEY-- WHERE DID YOU GET ALL THE MUSCLE? YOU TOSSED THAT TIGER AROUND WITH SUPER-HUMAN STRENGTH!

I--I SEEM TO HAVE ACQUIRED SOME ANIMAL POWERS, ROGER! MATTER OF FACT, I FEEL AS THOUGH I'VE STILL GOT THEM! AND I HAVE ONLY ONE POSSIBLE EXPLANATION FOR THE WHOLE CRAZY BUSINESS...



WHEN I APPROACHED THE RIDGE, A WEIRD EXPLOSION RATTLED MY BRAINS! I HAVEN'T FELT QUITE THE SAME YET...

WE HEARD SOMETHING AND SAW A GLOW! WHILE THEY'RE CAGING THE ANIMALS-- LET'S GO UP TO THE RIDGE AND TAKE A LOOK!

SURE ENOUGH, THE EXPLANATION FOR MY DILEMMA WAS THERE ON THE RIDGE! FOR SHORTLY...

WHY... IT'S AN ALIEN SPACE CAPSULE OF SOME KIND! THAT'S WHAT CAUSED THE EXPLOSION...

OF COURSE-- AND THE RADIATION GLOW MUST HAVE AFFECTED ME IN SOME STRANGE WAY, GIVING ME THE CHARACTERISTICS OF ANIMALS THAT WERE IN THIS GENERAL AREA, WHENEVER I GET NEAR THEM!

GOSH, WE COULD SURE USE A GUY LIKE YOU ON THIS CIRCUS-ANIMAL ROUND-UP, MISTER...

YOU CAN COUNT ON ME...

UNIT TWO... EMERGENCY!

WE'VE LOCATED BIMBO, OUR ELEPHANT, AT DEEP HOLLOW! HE'S GONE BERSERK... ATTACKING US! NEED YOUR HELP!

DEEP HOLLOW-- THAT'S NOT FAR! LET'S MOVE!

WHEN WE REACHED OUR DESTINATION...

WOW! THAT POOR CIRCUS TRAINER, SNARED IN THE BEAST'S TRUNK, IS IN A REAL SPOT...

A DEADLY SPOT... IF BIMBO ISN'T TAKEN CARE OF! STAND BACK, EVERYONE-- I'M GOING TO TRY SOMETHING...

SURE HOPE MY HUNCH IS RIGHT!  
IF I HAVEN'T RETAINED THE  
CHARACTERISTICS OF THOSE  
OTHER TWO ANIMALS, THIS BEAST  
WILL STOMP ME INTO THE  
GROUND...

A MOMENT  
LATER...

WOW! WHAT A COMBINATION--  
A TIGER SPRING AND A  
GORILLA SOCK!

BUT "JUMBO"  
DIDN'T HAVE A  
GLASS JAW--HE  
WAS STILL IN  
THERE...

LOOK OUT!  
HE'S HEADED  
FOR US!

GOT TO STOP THAT ELEPHANT  
CHARGE--AND THERE'S ONLY  
ONE WAY TO DO IT!

TIGER-LIKE,  
I SPRANG  
IN FRONT  
OF THE  
ELEPHANT,  
AND...

B-BUDDY! WHAT  
ARE YOU TRYING  
TO DO--KILL  
YOURSELF?

JUST DO AS I  
SAY--HAVE  
THAT CIRCUS  
MAN WITH  
THE ELEPHANT  
TRANQUILIZER  
STAND BY... AND  
KEEP YOUR  
FINGERS  
CROSSED!

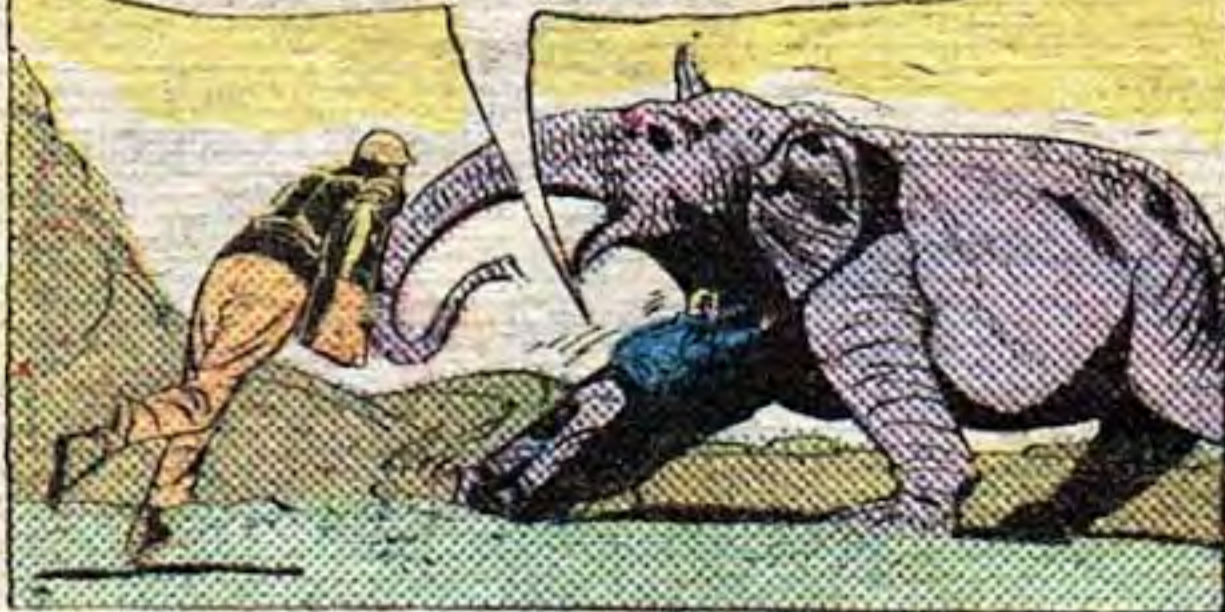
CLOSER,  
CLOSER  
THE BRUTE  
THUNDERED--  
AND THEN...

C-CON-TACT!

WHAAAAP!

THE IMPACT WAS A BONE-RATTLER-- BUT MY SUSPICIONS PROVED TRUE-- I HAD ASSUMED THE ELEPHANT'S OWN MASSIVE STRENGTH--

YOU WITH THE HYPO-NEEDLE-- GET OVER HERE AND PUT HIM TO SLEEP! THIS DRAW WON'T LAST FOREVER!



THEN, AS BIMBO SWAYED INTO SLUMBER-  
LAND...

UNITS TWO AND THREE! OUR SEA LION'S BEEN SIGHTED IN MIRROR LAKE! IT'S ATTACKING A GROUP OF PICNICKING KIDS!

HERE WE GO AGAIN! LET'S HOPE I CAN GET THERE IN TIME!



I RACED TO THE LAKE TO OBSERVE A FRIGHTENING SIGHT...

TOO LATE-- THE SEA LION'S UPTURNED THE RAFT! THOSE KIDS ARE FINISHED-- UNLESS I CAN BRING A NEW ANIMAL POWER INTO PLAY FAST ENOUGH...

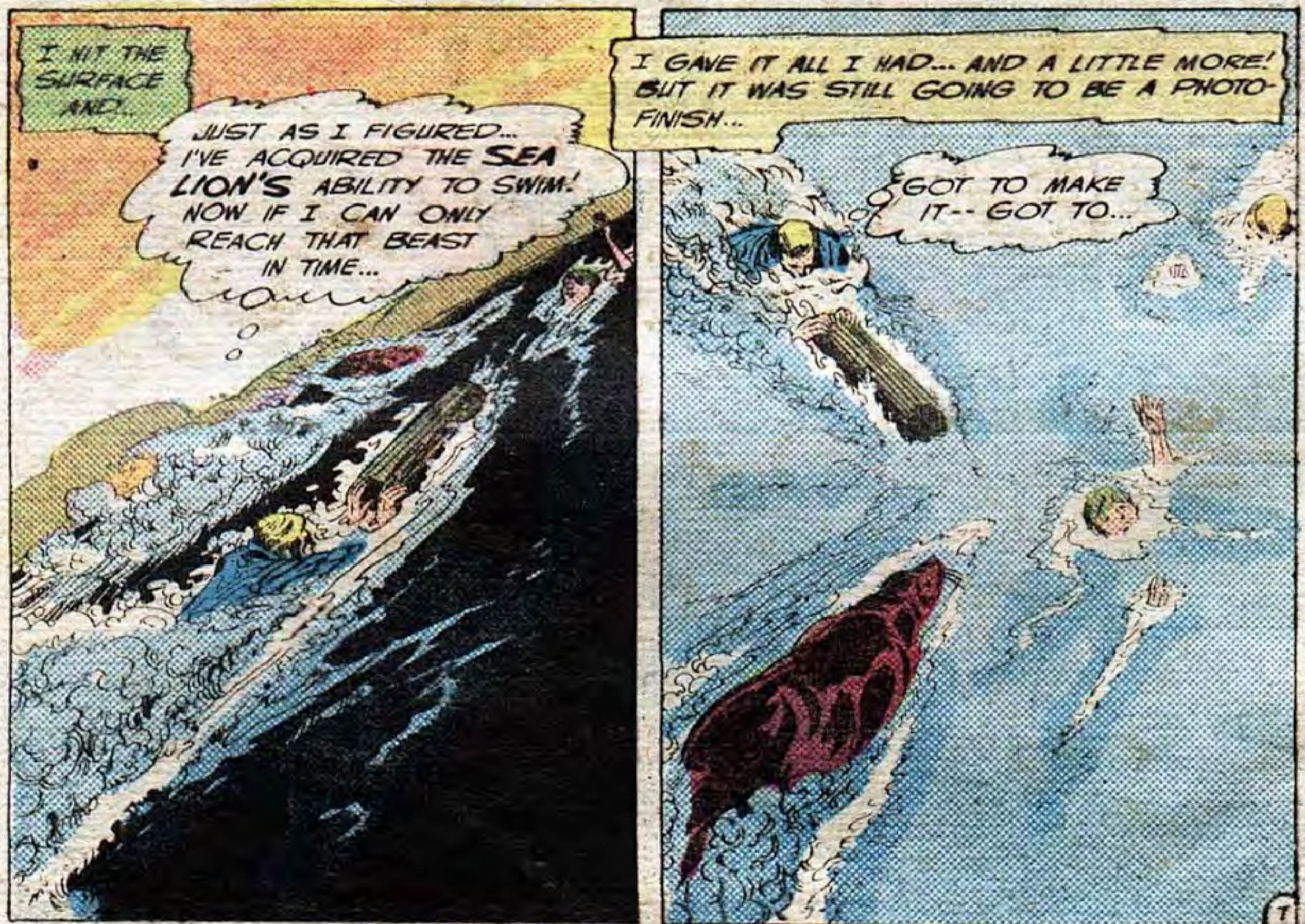


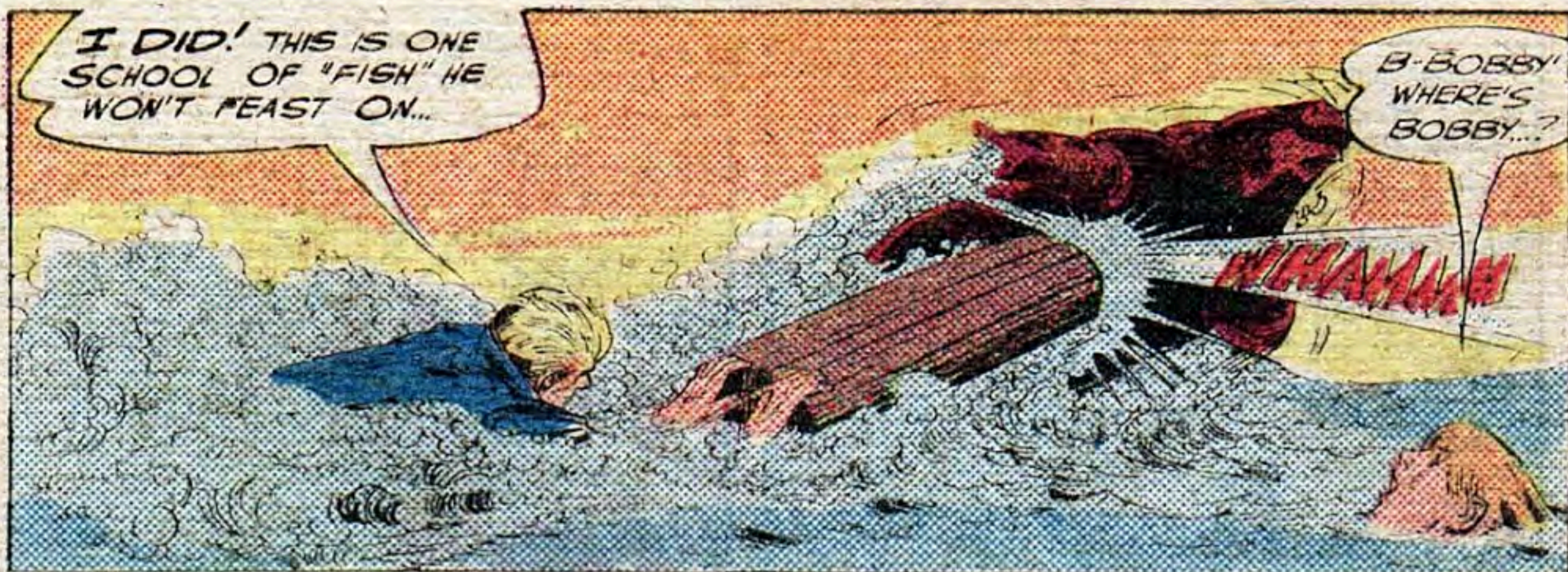
I HIT THE SURFACE AND...

JUST AS I FIGURED... I'VE ACQUIRED THE SEA LION'S ABILITY TO SWIM! NOW IF I CAN ONLY REACH THAT BEAST IN TIME...

I GAVE IT ALL I HAD... AND A LITTLE MORE! BUT IT WAS STILL GOING TO BE A PHOTO-FINISH...

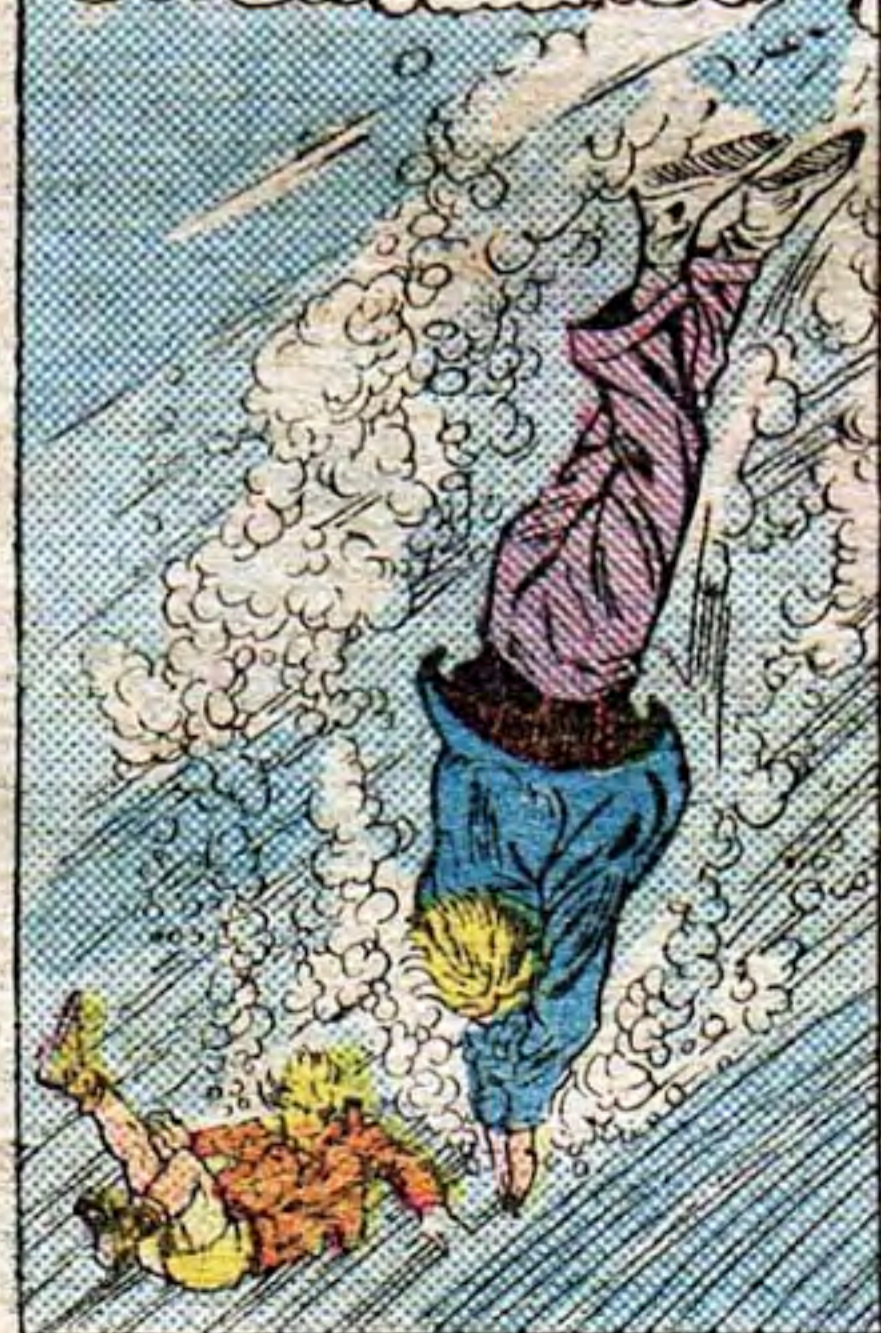
GOT TO MAKE IT-- GOT TO...





DOWN I ZOOMED-- UTILIZING ALL THE SEA LION KNOW-HOW I HAD AT MY COMMAND! FINALLY...

THERE'S THE LAD... AND WITH THIS NEW WATER SKILL I HAVE, I MAY JUST BE ABLE TO GET HIM TO THE SURFACE IN TIME...



IT WAS MUSIC TO MY EARS WHEN WE BOBBED INTO THE AIR...

'GASP-GASP! THANKS, MISTER... HE'S ALIVE! NOW TO GET HIM TO SHORE WHILE THE CIRCUS TEAM ROWS OUT AND RECOVERS THEIR SEA LION!



I HAD JUST REJOINED ROGER AND THE OTHERS WHEN THE REPORT CAME IN THAT REALLY SHOOK US UP!

THE THING... WHATEVER IT IS... IS APPROACHING THE LOGGING CAMP NOW...

THING...? MUST BE SOME ANIMAL THEY'RE NOT FAMILIAR WITH! LET'S GET OVER THERE...







WHEN WE GOT THERE, BEDLAM GREETED US...

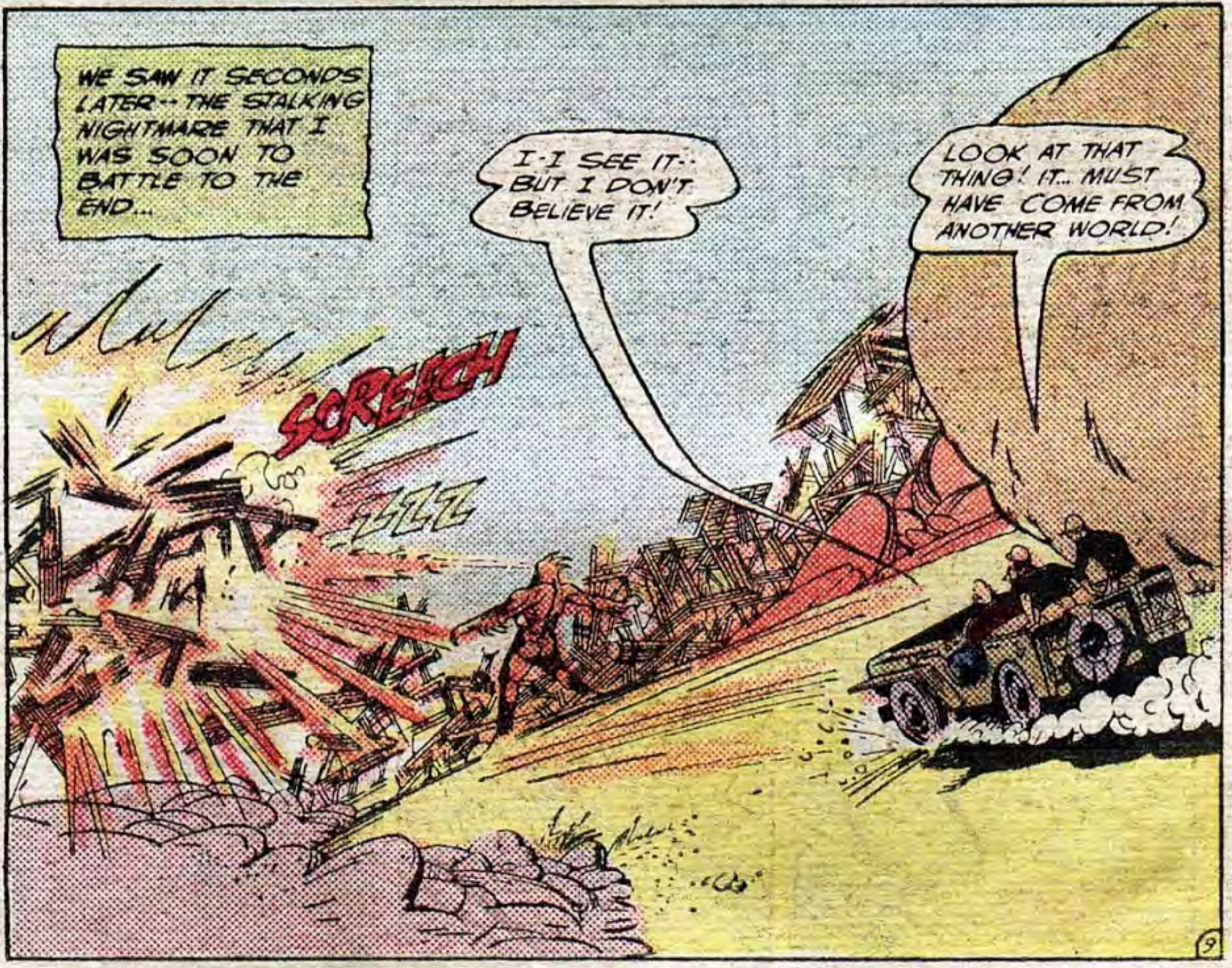
TURN AROUND--  
GO BACK... NOTHING  
CAN STOP IT!

I DON'T LIKE THIS--  
WHEN TOUGH LOGGERS  
GET FRIGHTENED,  
THERE'S SOMETHING TO  
WORRY ABOUT! LET'S  
HAVE A LOOK...



W-WHAT KIND OF AN  
ANIMAL MAKES A  
SOUND LIKE THAT?

I-I NEVER HEARD ANY-  
THING LIKE IT IN ALL  
MY DAYS...



WE SAW IT SECONDS  
LATER-- THE STALKING  
NIGHTMARE THAT I  
WAS SOON TO  
BATTLE TO THE  
END...

I-I SEE IT--  
BUT I DON'T  
BELIEVE IT!

LOOK AT THAT  
THING! IT... MUST  
HAVE COME FROM  
ANOTHER WORLD!

# I Was the Man with Animal Powers



FOR A LONG MOMENT WE STOOD THERE GAPING AT THE THING... SPEECHLESS! ROGER FINALLY BLURTED OUT A REMARK-- A QUESTION THAT PLAGUED US ALL...

LOOK AT THAT THING! WHAT IS IT? WHERE DID IT COME FROM...?

ROGER! THE CAPSULE THAT CRASH-LANDED... THAT GAVE ME THESE STRANGE ANIMAL POWERS.

IT MUST HAVE COME FROM IT... SURVIVED THE CRASH...

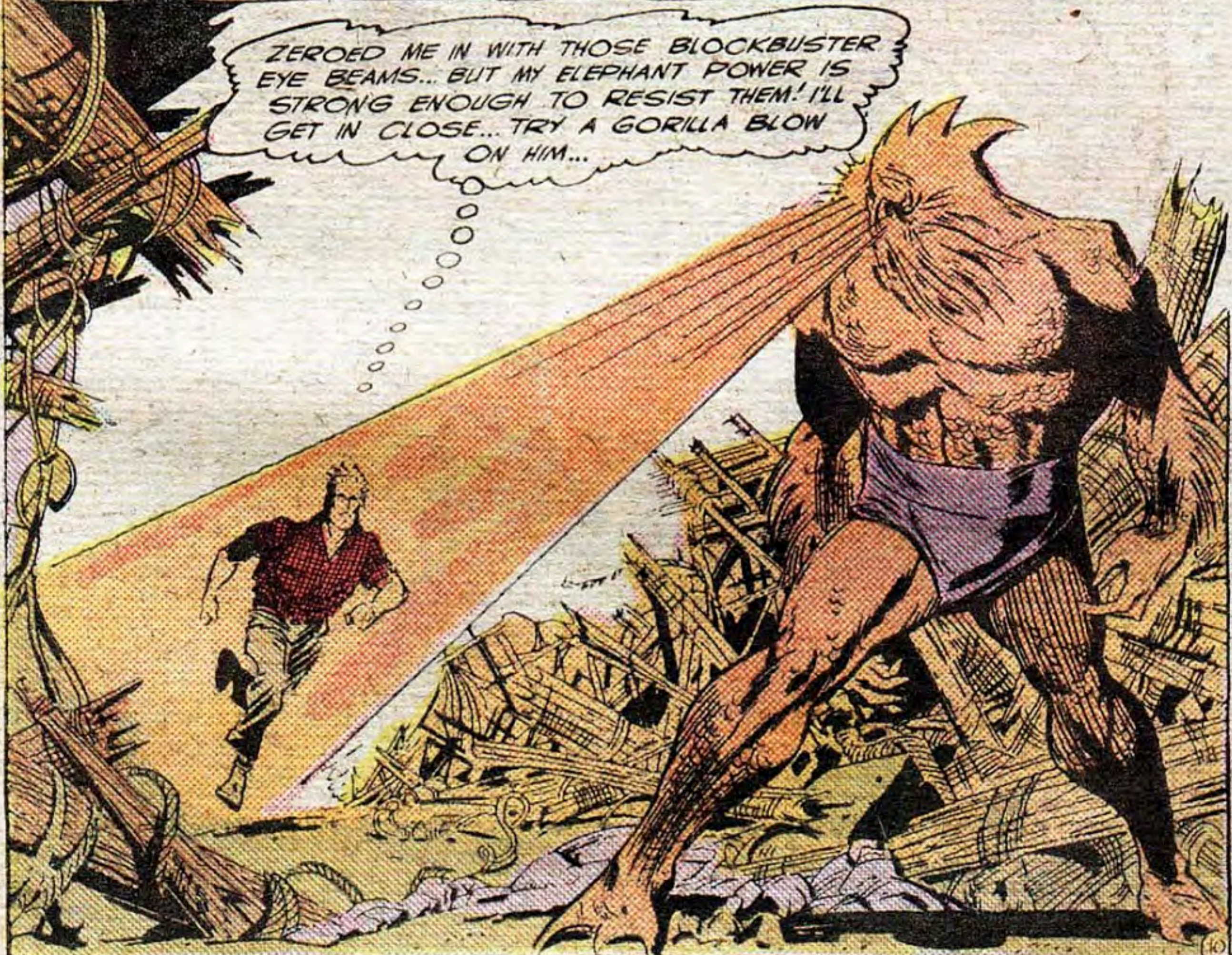
OF COURSE... THAT'S THE ONLY LOGICAL EXPLANATION! BUDDY! WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

AFTER THAT THING-- DEFEAT IT WITH MY ANIMAL POWERS, IF POSSIBLE! KEEP YOUR FINGERS CROSSED, ROGER...

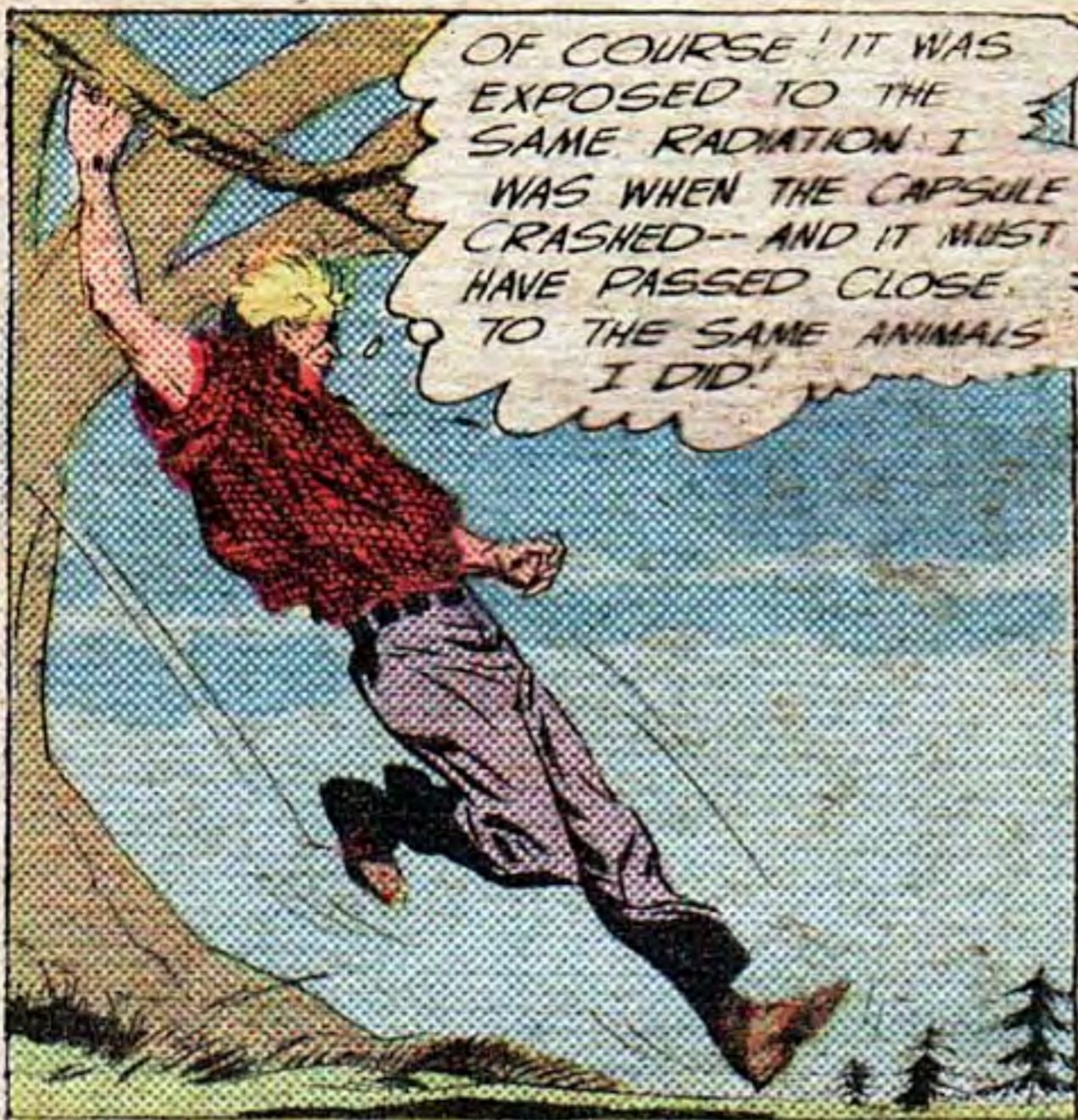


THE AWESOME HULK SPOTTED ME SECONDS LATER-- COMING AT HIM ON THE DEAD RUN! THAT'S WHEN HE GAVE ME HIS FULL ATTENTION...

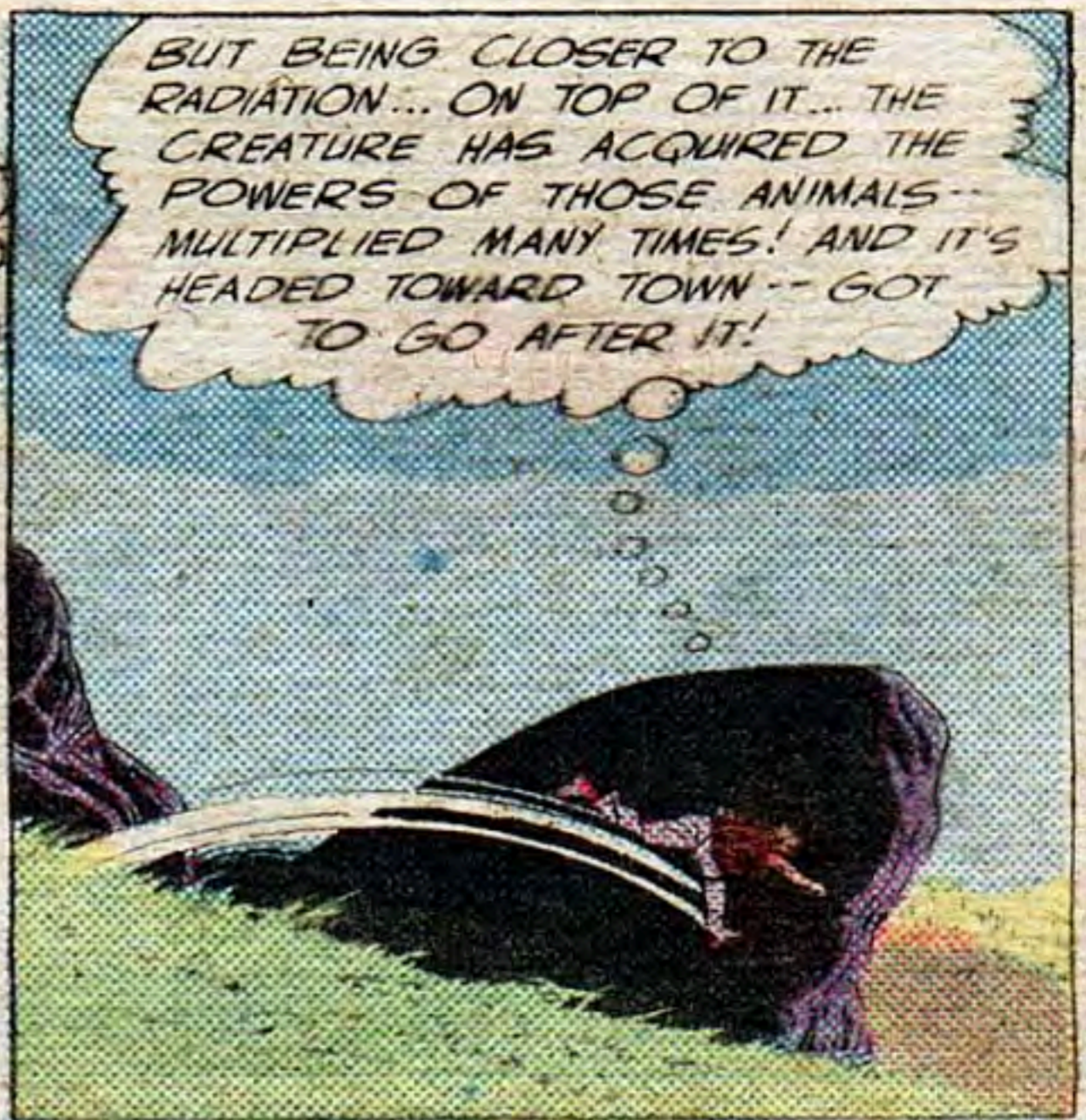
ZEROED ME IN WITH THOSE BLOCKBUSTER EYE BEAMS... BUT MY ELEPHANT POWER IS STRONG ENOUGH TO RESIST THEM! I'LL GET IN CLOSE... TRY A GORILLA BLOW ON HIM...



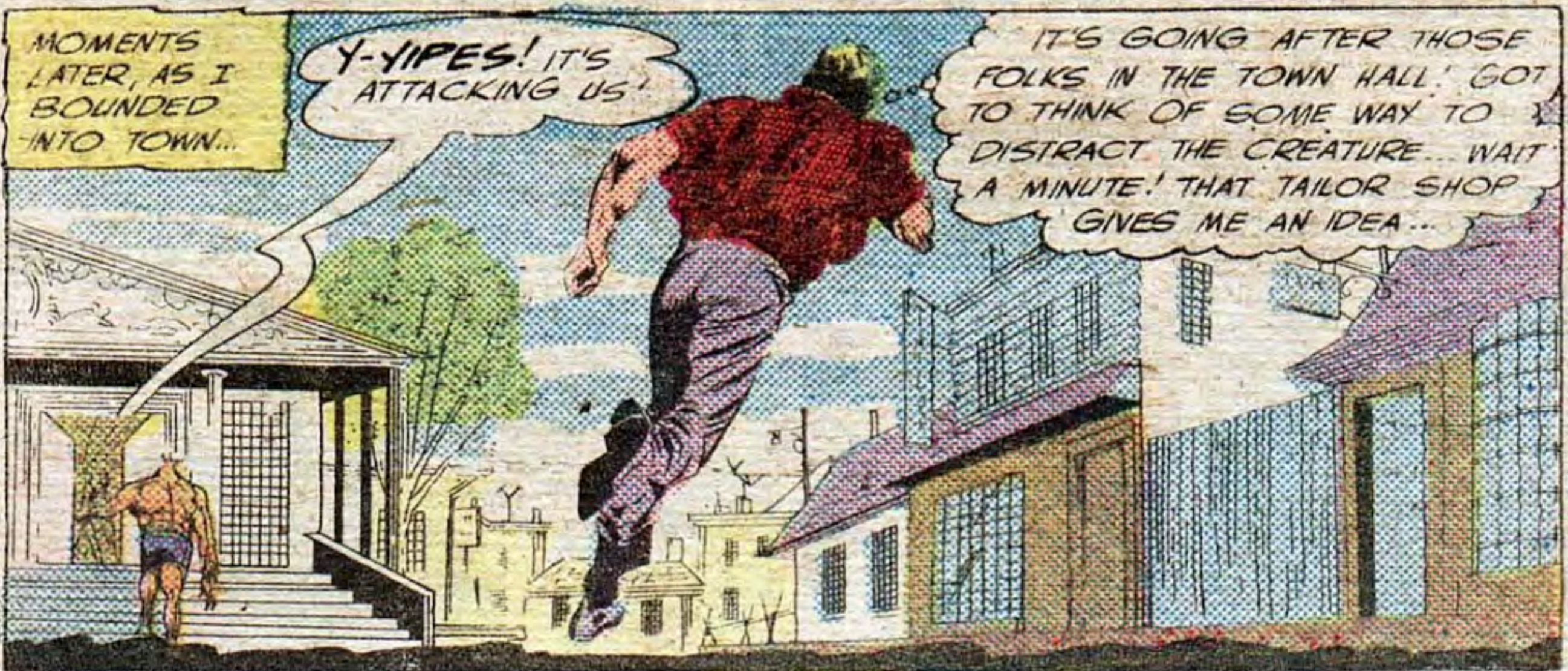




OF COURSE! IT WAS EXPOSED TO THE SAME RADIATION I WAS WHEN THE CAPSULE CRASHED-- AND IT MUST HAVE PASSED CLOSE TO THE SAME ANIMALS I DID!



BUT BEING CLOSER TO THE RADIATION... ON TOP OF IT... THE CREATURE HAS ACQUIRED THE POWERS OF THOSE ANIMALS-- MULTIPLIED MANY TIMES! AND IT'S HEADED TOWARD TOWN-- GOT TO GO AFTER IT!



MOMENTS LATER, AS I BOUNDED INTO TOWN...

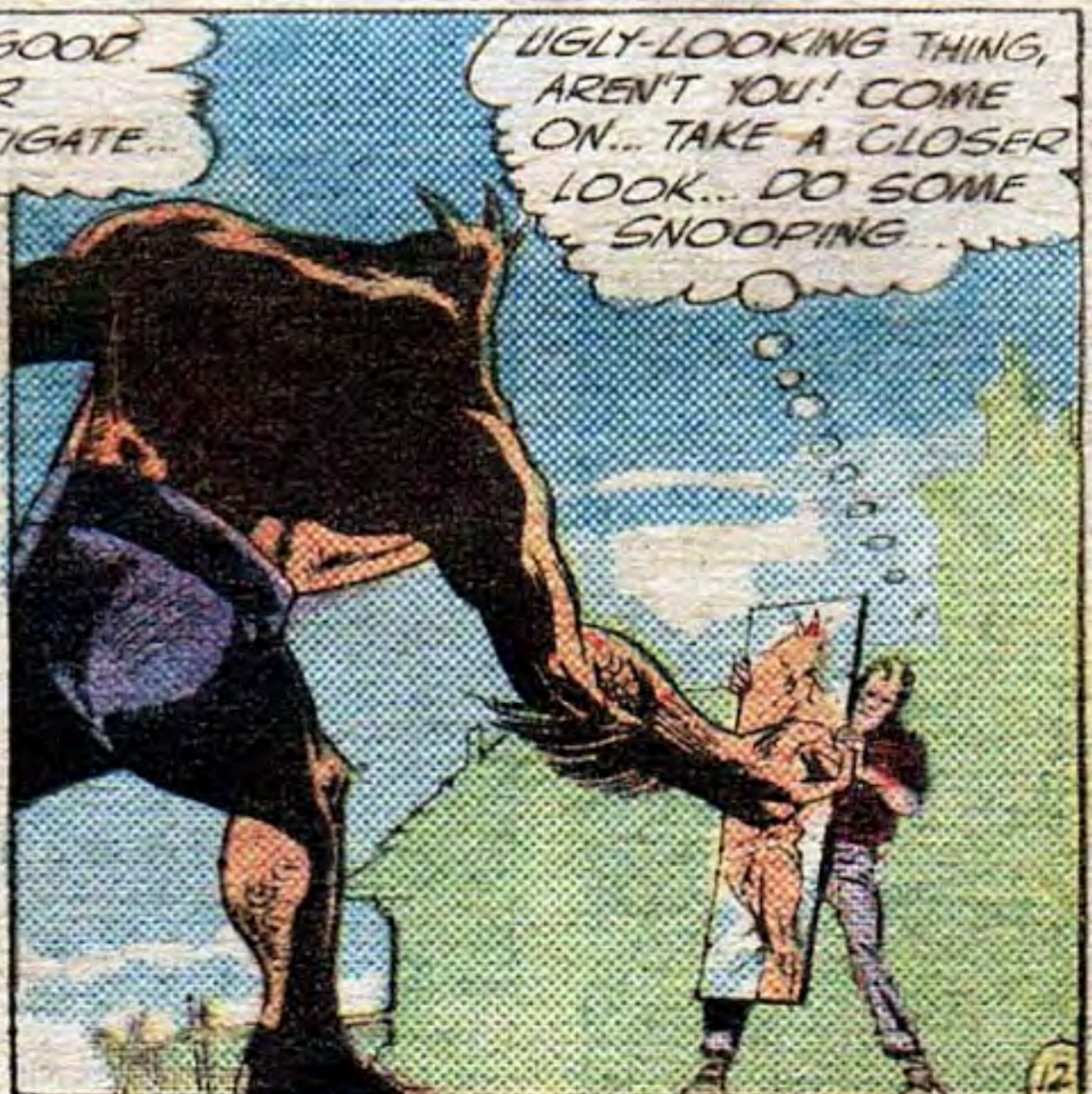
Y-YIPES! IT'S ATTACKING US!

IT'S GOING AFTER THOSE FOLKS IN THE TOWN HALL! GOT TO THINK OF SOME WAY TO DISTRACT THE CREATURE... WAIT A MINUTE! THAT TAILOR SHOP GIVES ME AN IDEA...

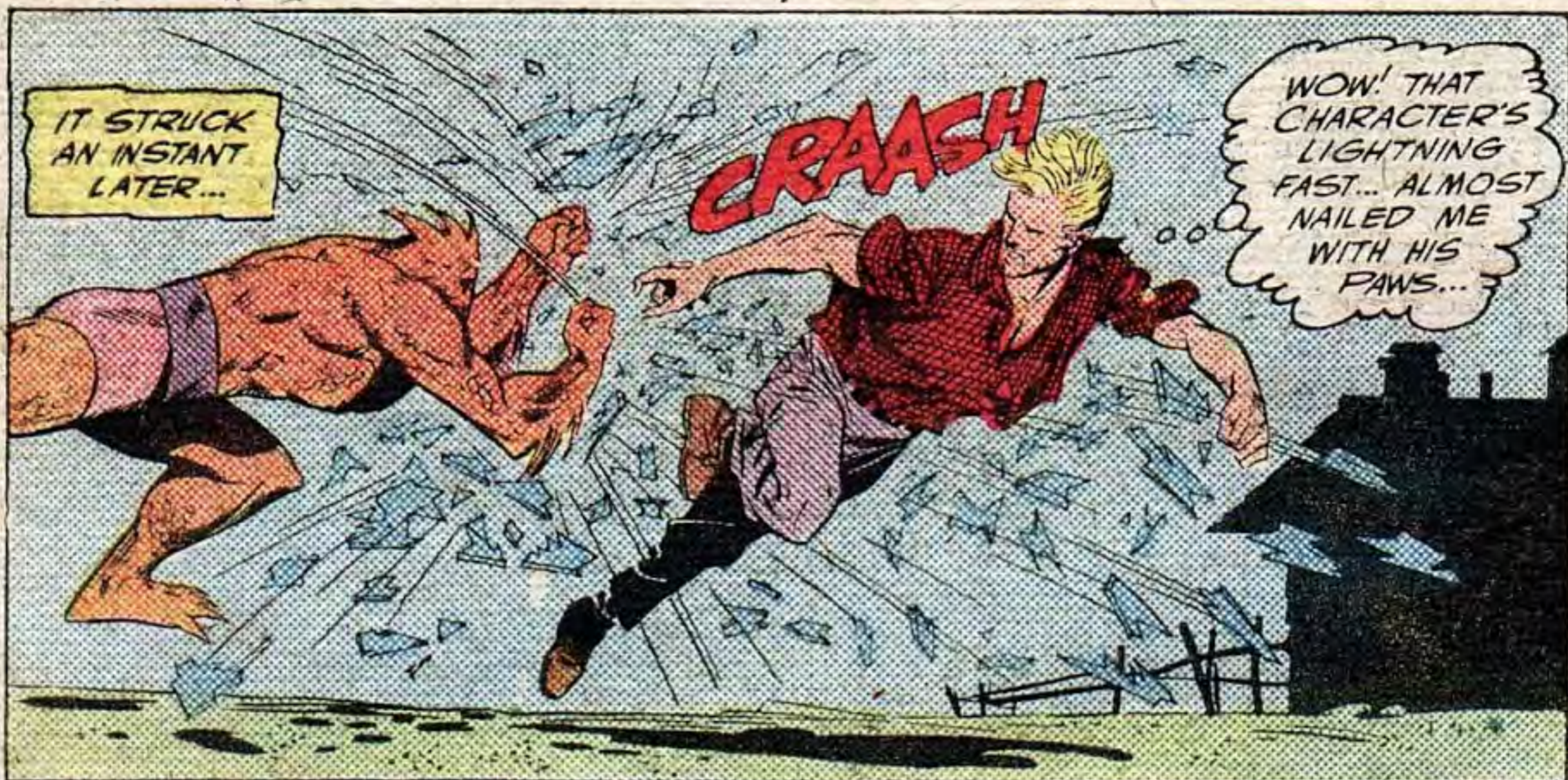


IT WAS A LONG SHOT-- A GAMBLE... BUT IT HAD TO WORK...

THAT'S IT, PAL... TAKE A GOOD LOOK... BUILD UP YOUR CURIOSITY AND INVESTIGATE...



UGLY-LOOKING THING, AREN'T YOU! COME ON... TAKE A CLOSER LOOK... DO SOME SNOOPING...



HEY... I DIDN'T GET AS MUCH DISTANCE OUT OF THIS TIGER LEAP! SOMETHING'S WRONG... MY ANIMAL POWERS... THEY'RE FADING AWAY...

THAT'S WHEN IT HIT ME--A FRIGHTENING FACT ROCKED MY MIND...

THE RADIATION... IT'S WEARING OFF... I'M LOSING MY ANIMAL POWERS! WITHOUT THEM, I HAVEN'T ANY CHANCE OF STOPPING THIS CREATURE...

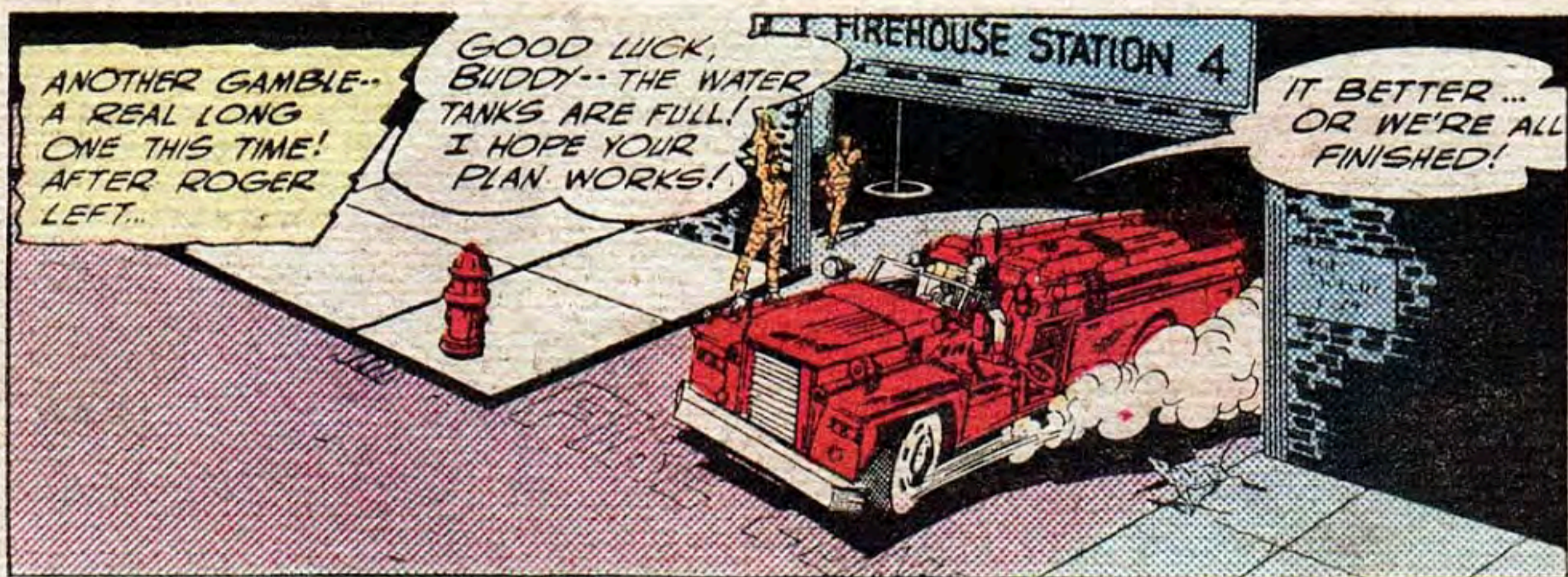
IT CAN RUN RAMPANT... DESTROY EVERYTHING... EVERYONE!

BUDDY! WE SAW YOU IN ACTION AGAINST THAT MONSTER-- YOU WERE GREAT! AND I CALLED YOU A "MOUSE OF A MAN"... WAIT UNTIL ELLEN HEARS ABOUT THIS!

ROGER! YOU'VE JUST GIVEN ME A POSSIBLE WAY TO DEFEAT THIS BEAST! DON'T ASK ANY QUESTIONS... JUST DO AS I SAY...

H-HUH? SURE... SURE, BUDDY!





ANOTHER GAMBLE--  
A REAL LONG  
ONE THIS TIME!  
AFTER ROGER  
LEFT...

GOOD LUCK,  
BUDDY-- THE WATER  
TANKS ARE FULL!  
I HOPE YOUR  
PLAN WORKS!

IT BETTER ...  
OR WE'RE ALL  
FINISHED!



THREE BLOCKS  
LATER, I CAUGHT  
UP WITH THE  
THING -- AND NOT  
A MOMENT TOO  
SOON...

IT'S ABOUT TO  
TEAR THE HOTEL  
DOWN... THIS  
BETTER ATTRACT  
HIS ATTENTION...

WHIRR

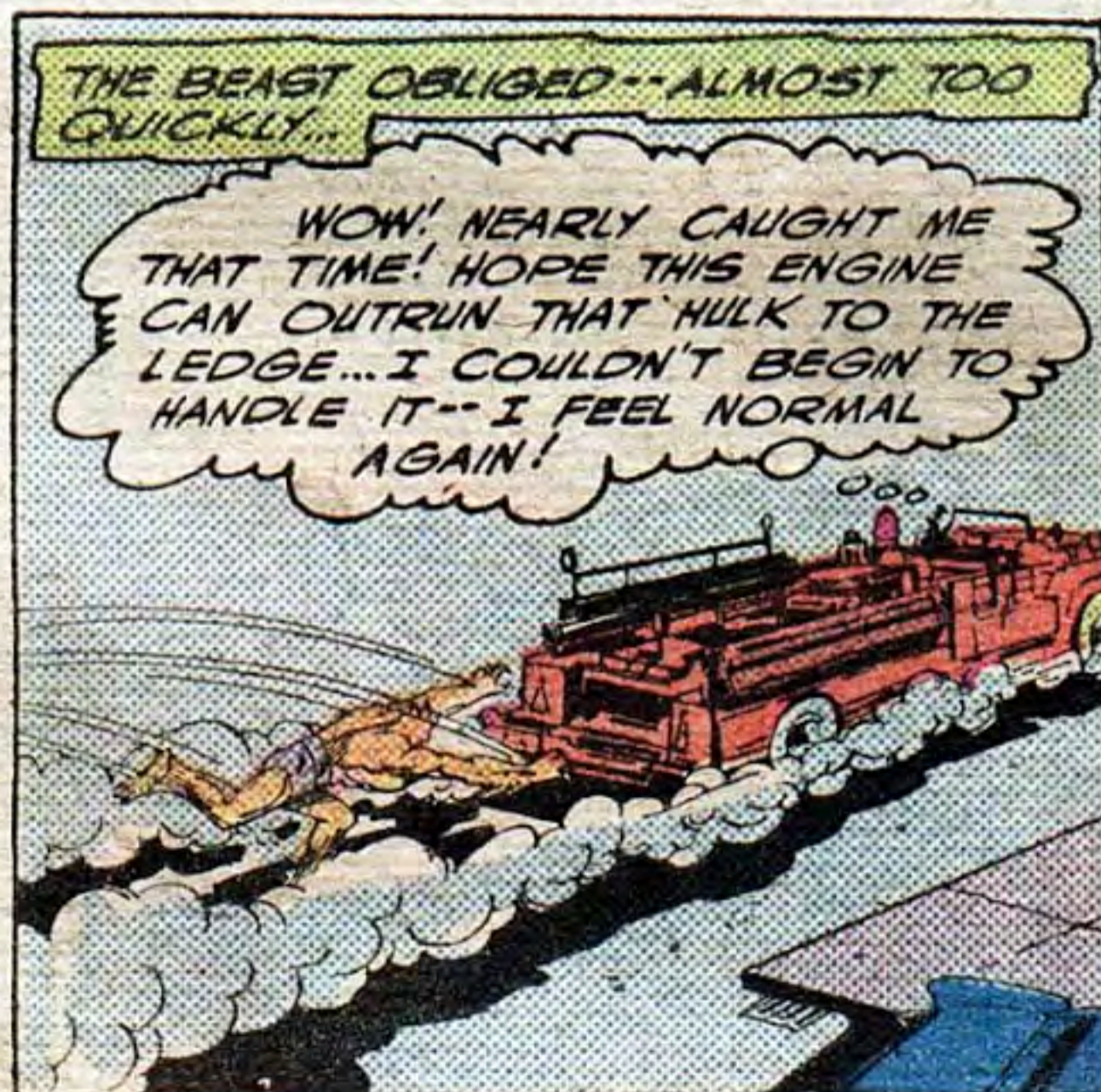


I GAVE IT  
THE HOSE  
AN INSTANT  
LATER...

GROOOWWW

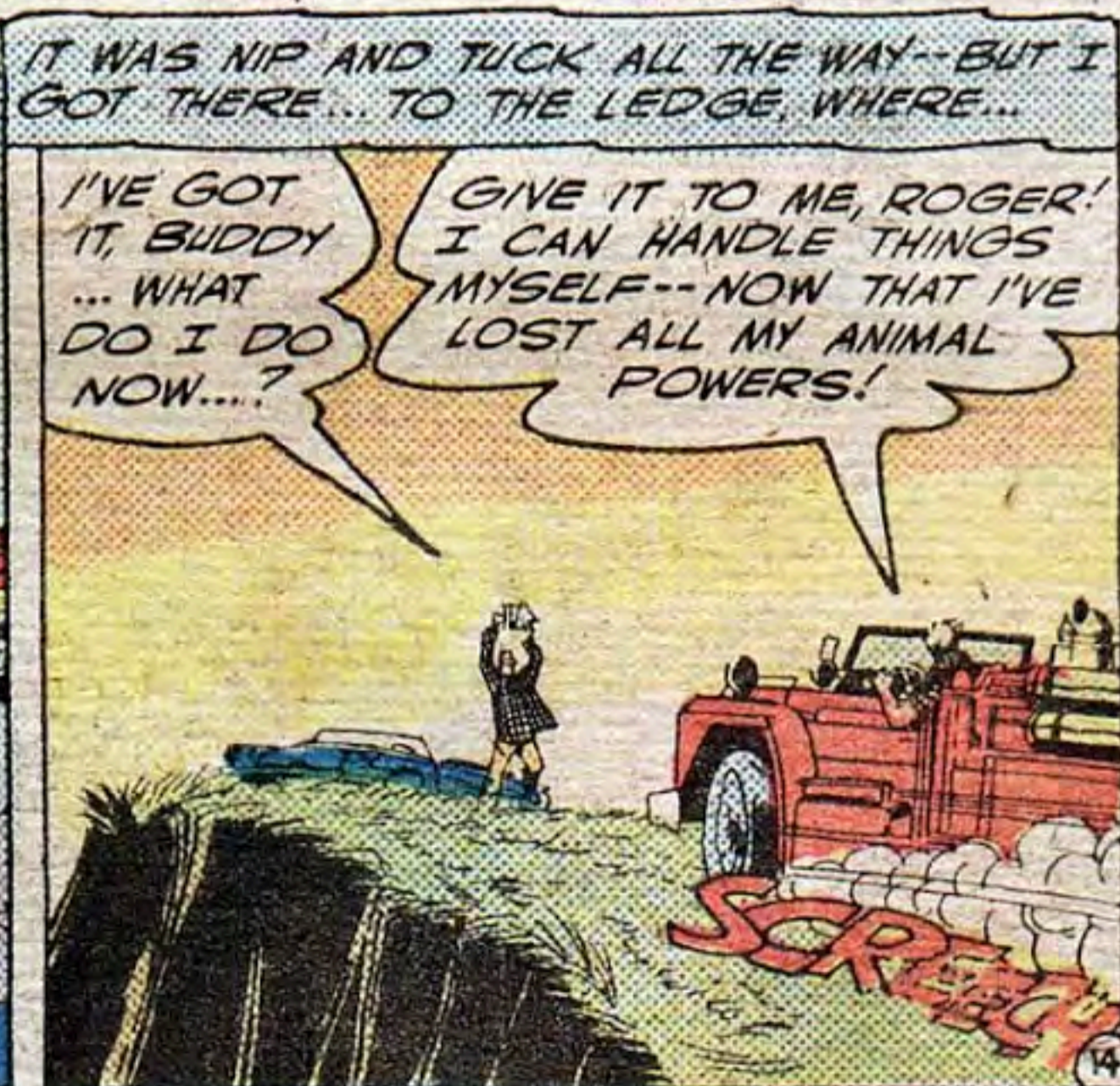
THAT'S IT... COME  
AFTER ME, BUSTER...

FUSSY



THE BEAST OBLIGED -- ALMOST TOO  
QUICKLY...

WOW! NEARLY CAUGHT ME  
THAT TIME! HOPE THIS ENGINE  
CAN OUTRUN THAT HULK TO THE  
LEDGE... I COULDN'T BEGIN TO  
HANDLE IT -- I FEEL NORMAL  
AGAIN!

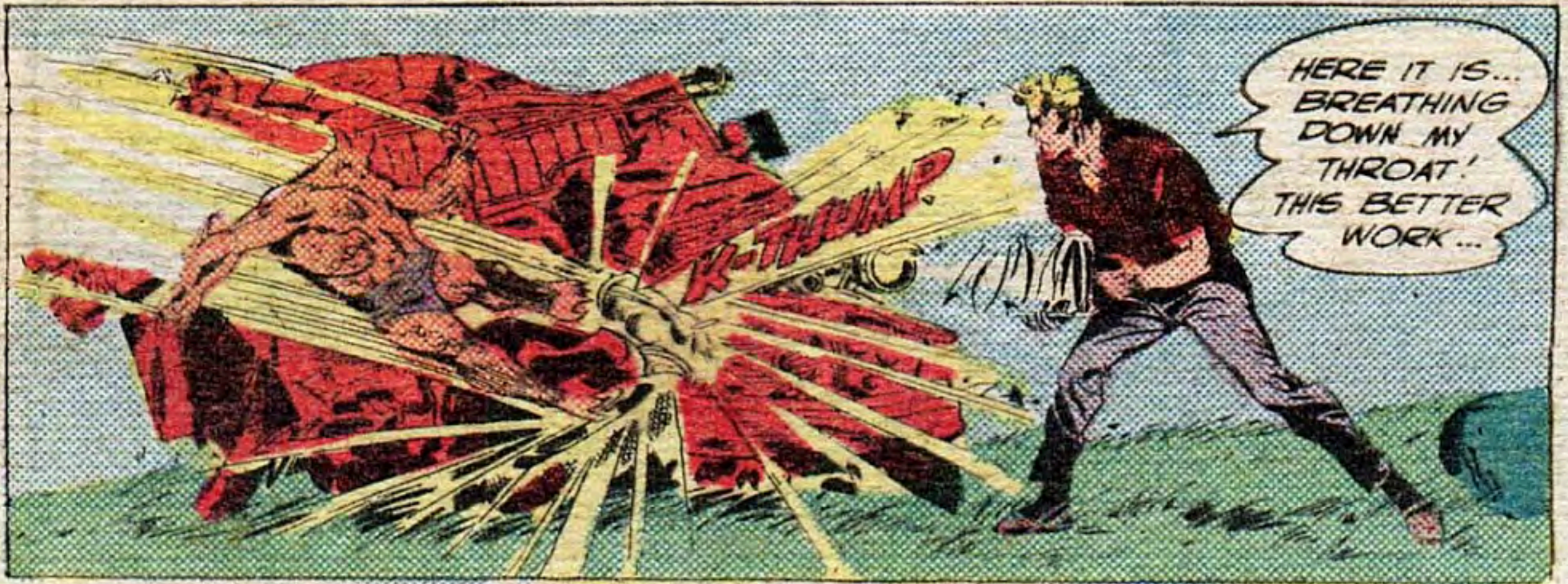


IT WAS NIP AND TUCK ALL THE WAY -- BUT I  
GOT THERE... TO THE LEDGE, WHERE...

I'VE GOT  
IT, BUDDY  
... WHAT  
DO I DO  
NOW...?

GIVE IT TO ME, ROGER!  
I CAN HANDLE THINGS  
MYSELF -- NOW THAT I'VE  
LOST ALL MY ANIMAL  
POWERS!

SCREECH



HERE IT IS... BREATHING DOWN MY THROAT! THIS BETTER WORK...



I TOOK A DEEP BREATH AND WENT INTO MY ACT...

YAAA! GO AHEAD, PAL... ASSUME THE CHARACTERISTICS OF THESE ANIMALS...



THAT'S IT... CRINGE... FLEE LIKE A FRIGHTENED MOUSE...

IT'S WORKING... THE THING'S ACQUIRED THE INSTINCTIVE FEAR OF THESE MICE...



I LUNGED FORWARD WITH THE ONLY WEAPON I HAD-- A CAGE FILLED WITH MICE...

BUDDY BOY-- YOU DID IT!



THE MICE FROM THE PET SHOP FRIGHTENED THAT THING OVER THE CLIFF... TO ITS DOOM!

'WHEW!' I WASN'T SURE, BUT I WAS RELYING ON THE FACT THAT THERE WERE FIELD MICE

AROUND IN THE RADIATION AREA-- AND THE CREATURE WOULD THEREFORE HAVE THEIR POTENTIAL CHARACTERISTIC!



THIS SHOW'S LEFT ME A LITTLE LIMP, PAL! LET'S GET BACK TO TOWN...

AND SOME RECEPTION YOU'LL GET, BUDDY!... YOU'RE A HERO!



I WAS A HERO, ALL RIGHT--A **BRAVE MAN**... THE PAPERS SAID! AND STILL, I GOT THAT SAME FEELING AS I APPROACHED ELLEN'S HOME THAT MORNING...

WHY IS IT... EVERY TIME I SEE HER I START TO SHAKE... CAN'T GET THE QUESTION OUT OF MY MOUTH? I'M GONNA THIS TIME... AFTER ALL, I'M A HERO... A **BRAVE MAN**...

I GOT IT OUT THIS TIME--DON'T ASK ME HOW... BUT I DID...



ELLEN! I'M ASKING YOU TO MARRY ME... BE MY WIFE! I-I...

OH, BUDDY, DARLING... OF COURSE I WILL...



MY BRAVE HERO--HE'S FAINTED! WELL, I'M GLAD AT LEAST THAT HE FINALLY POPPED THE QUESTION!