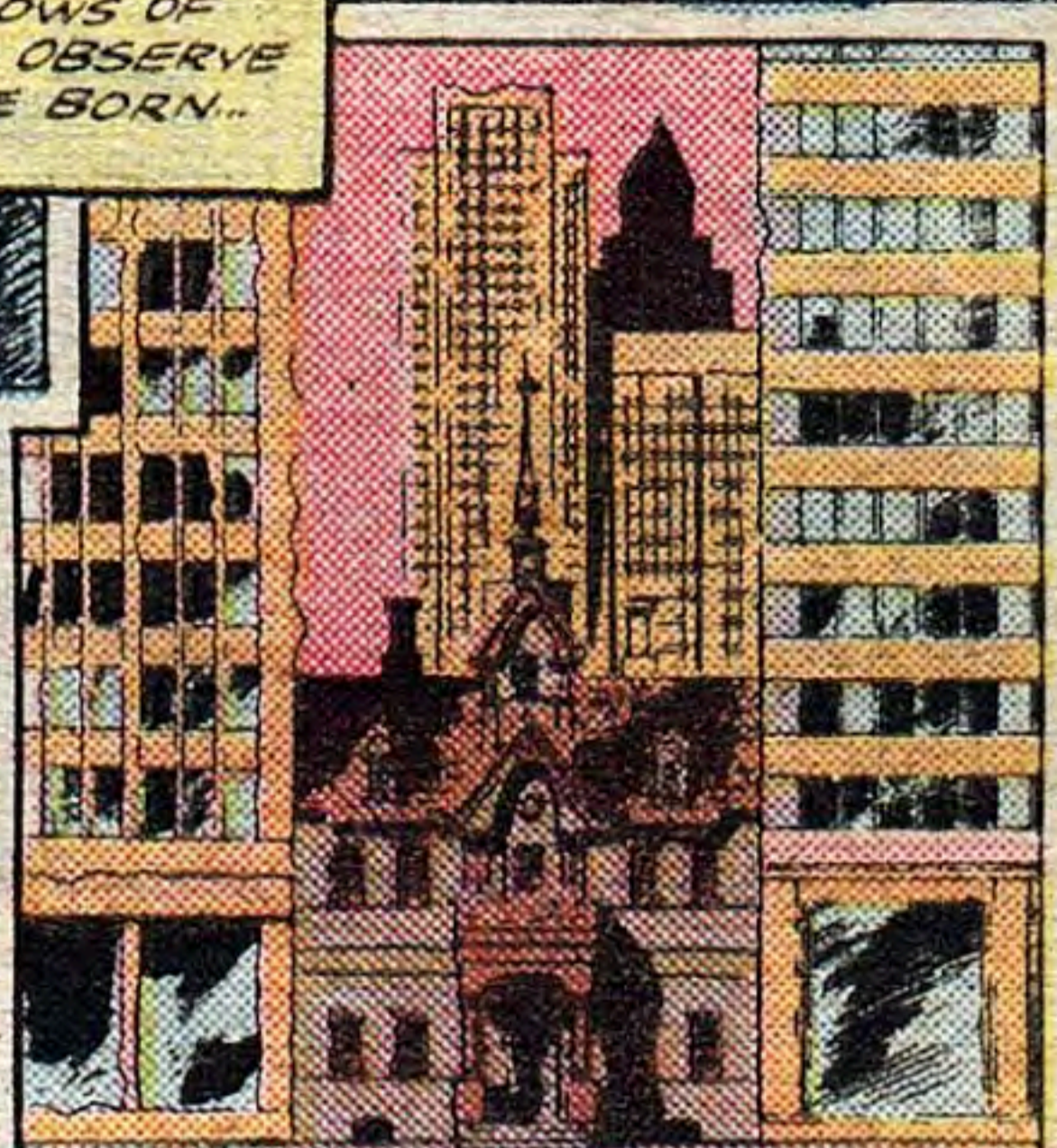


YOU ARE ABOUT TO EXPERIENCE ONE OF THE STRANGEST MEETINGS EVER CONVENED-- A JOINING OF THE FOUR MOST UNUSUAL PEOPLE ON EARTH! SIT QUIETLY IN THE SHADOWS OF THIS CLANDESTINE CONFERENCE AND OBSERVE IT WELL! FOR FROM IT SHALL SOON BE BORN...

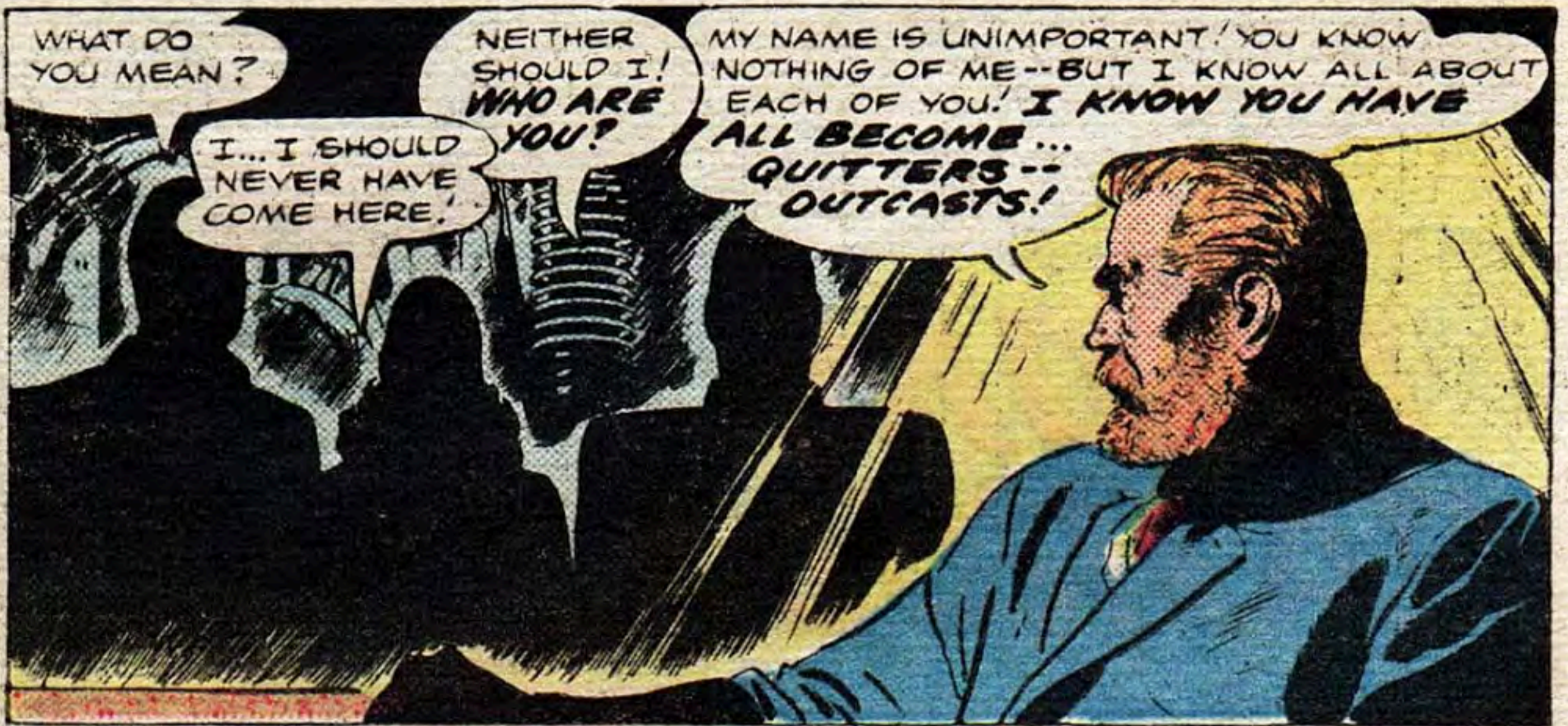
THE DOOM PATROL



IN THE SUB-STRUCTURE OF A STATELY BUILDING IN A BUSTLING CITY...

YOU THREE ARE VICTIMS OF A CRUEL AND FANTASTIC FATE! I SUMMONED YOU HERE TO GIVE YOU THE OPPORTUNITY TO CHEAT THAT FATE BY OFFERING YOU THE CHANCE TO EXPERIENCE ADVENTURES MORE INCREDIBLE THAN ANY HUMANS HAVE EVER KNOWN!





WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

I... I SHOULD NEVER HAVE COME HERE!

NEITHER SHOULD I! WHO ARE YOU?

MY NAME IS UNIMPORTANT! YOU KNOW NOTHING OF ME--BUT I KNOW ALL ABOUT EACH OF YOU! I KNOW YOU HAVE ALL BECOME... QUITTERS-- OUTCASTS!



WHAT WOULD YOU KNOW ABOUT THE TERRIBLE THINGS I... WE... HAVE EXPERIENCED? I'M LEAVING--

SIT DOWN! STOP FEELING SORRY FOR YOURSELF! YOU AREN'T THE ONLY ONES TO WHOM LIFE DEALT A HARSH BLOW...



A WHEELCHAIR!

YOU SEE, I, TOO, HAVE A HANDICAP! BUT I CONQUERED IT WITH MY **BRAIN** BY MASTERING EVERY FIELD OF KNOWLEDGE! IN THESE ROOMS, I GO ON MY OWN ADVENTURES... **ADVENTURES WITH MY MIND!**



BUT THERE ARE ADVENTURES IN WHICH I'M UNABLE TO PARTICIPATE--CATASTROPHES TO BE CHECKED...EVIL TO BE FOUGHT...PEOPLE TO BE HELPED! THAT'S WHY I NEED YOU!



NO! MY ADVENTURING DAYS ARE OVER! COUNT ME OUT--

THIS IS UPSETTING ME... I WANT TO LEAVE!



BUT AS A SPOTLIGHT PINPOINTS ONE OF THE FIGURES...

RITA FARR, WAIT AND LISTEN TO ME! BEHIND THAT BEAUTIFUL FACE, YOU ARE DIFFERENT THAN OTHER GIRLS! FOR **INSIDE,** YOU ARE MARKED BY DISASTER...

TURN OFF THAT LIGHT. PLEASE...

RITA--THIS IS THE SCENE IN WHICH YOU'RE CHASED BY A CROCODILE! BE CAREFUL!

DON'T WORRY, MITCH--I DIDN'T WIN A SWIMMING GOLD MEDAL AT THE OLYMPICS FOR DOING THE DOG PADDLE!

"DO NOT QUESTION ME HOW I KNOW THESE THINGS-- BUT IT HAPPENED WHEN YOU MADE THAT MOVIE IN AFRICA-- AFTER YOU INSISTED ON PERFORMING YOUR OWN DANGEROUS STUNT WORK..."

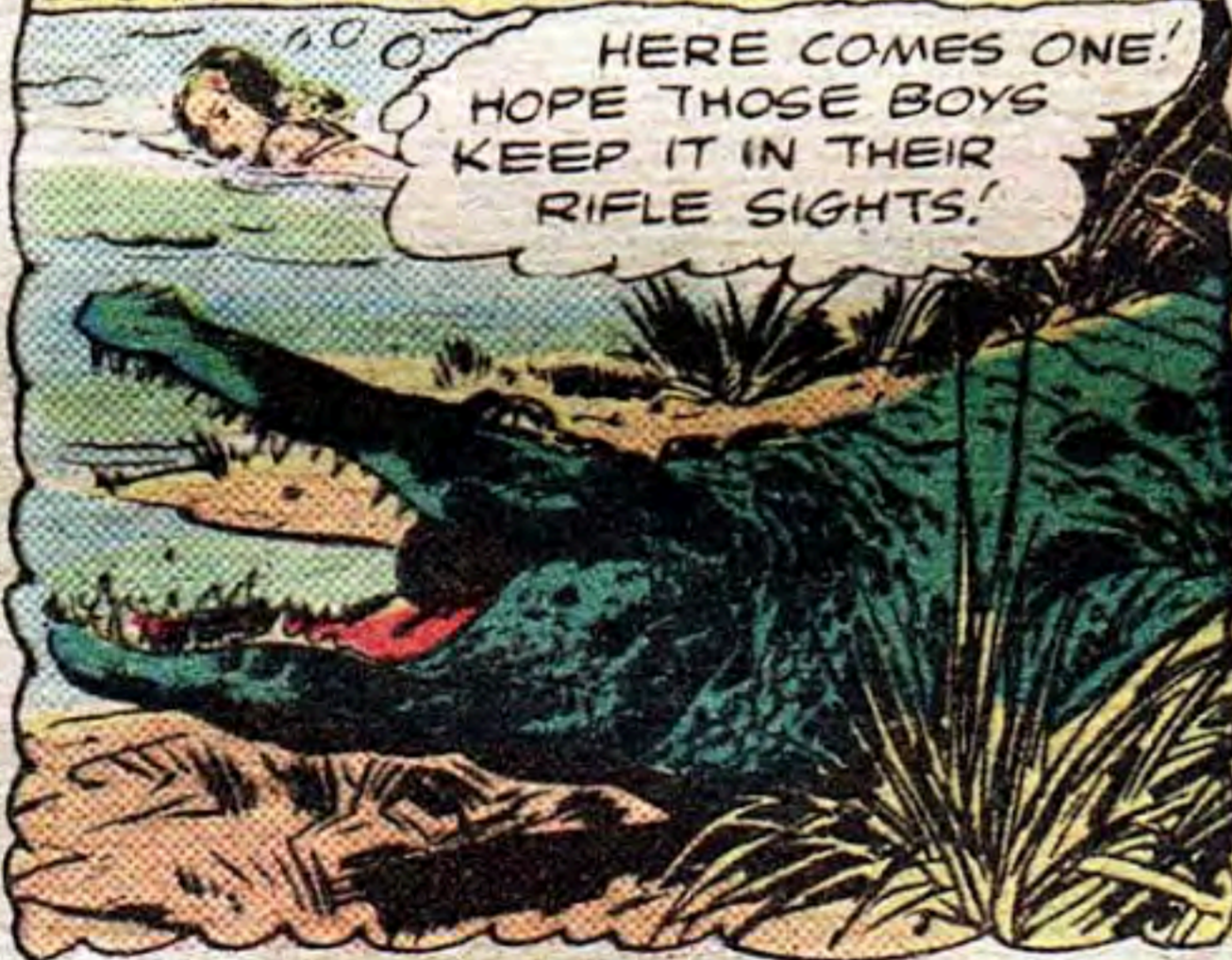


"YES IT WAS THE REAL THING--INCLUDING THE GENUINE CROCODILUS NILOTICUS IN RESIDENCE ALONG THAT RIVER..."

"YOU WANTED REALISM IN YOUR PICTURES, BUT THIS TIME THINGS SUDDENLY BECAME TOO REAL. RITA FARR..."

HERE COMES ONE! HOPE THOSE BOYS KEEP IT IN THEIR RIFLE SIGHTS!

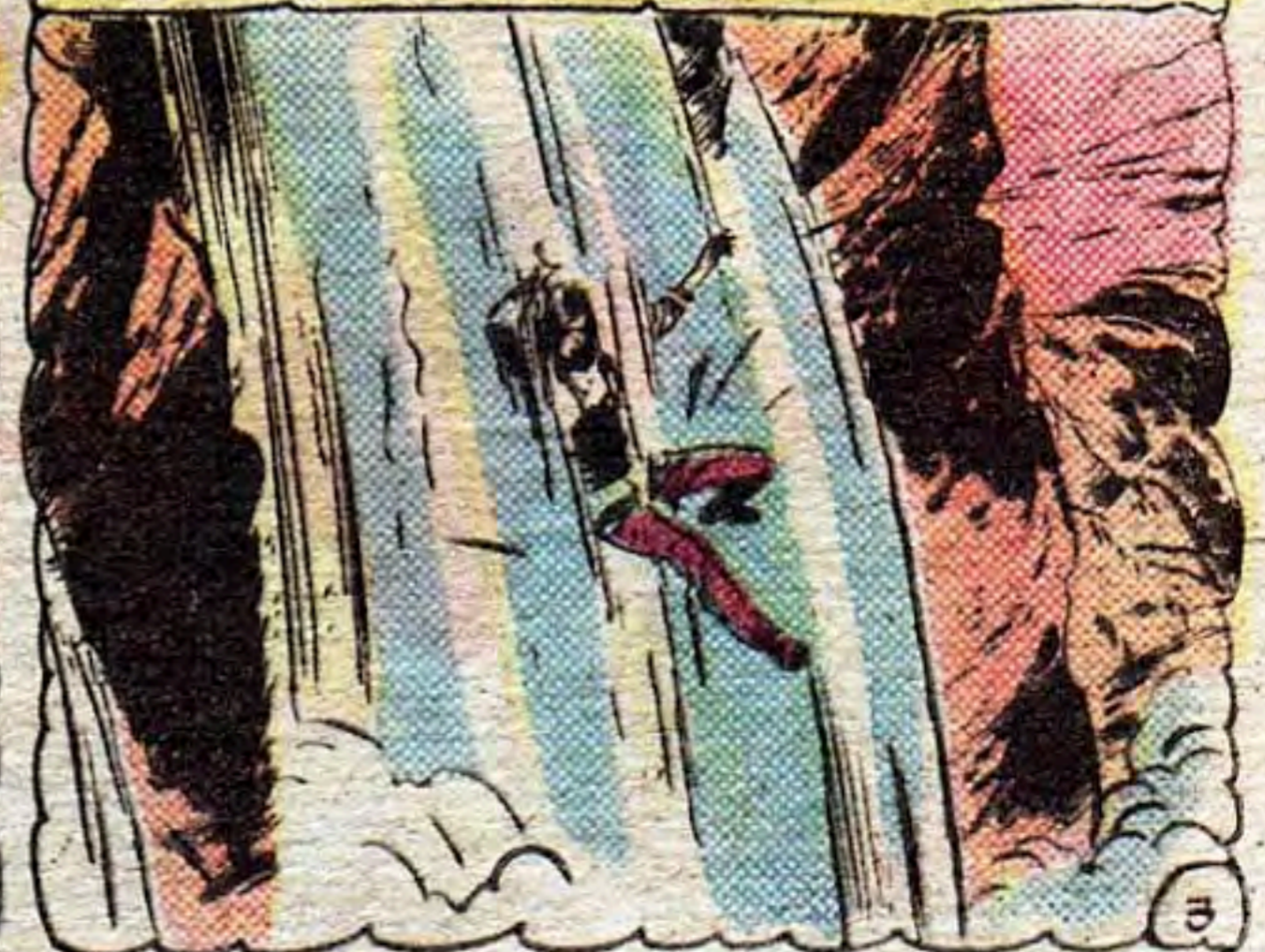
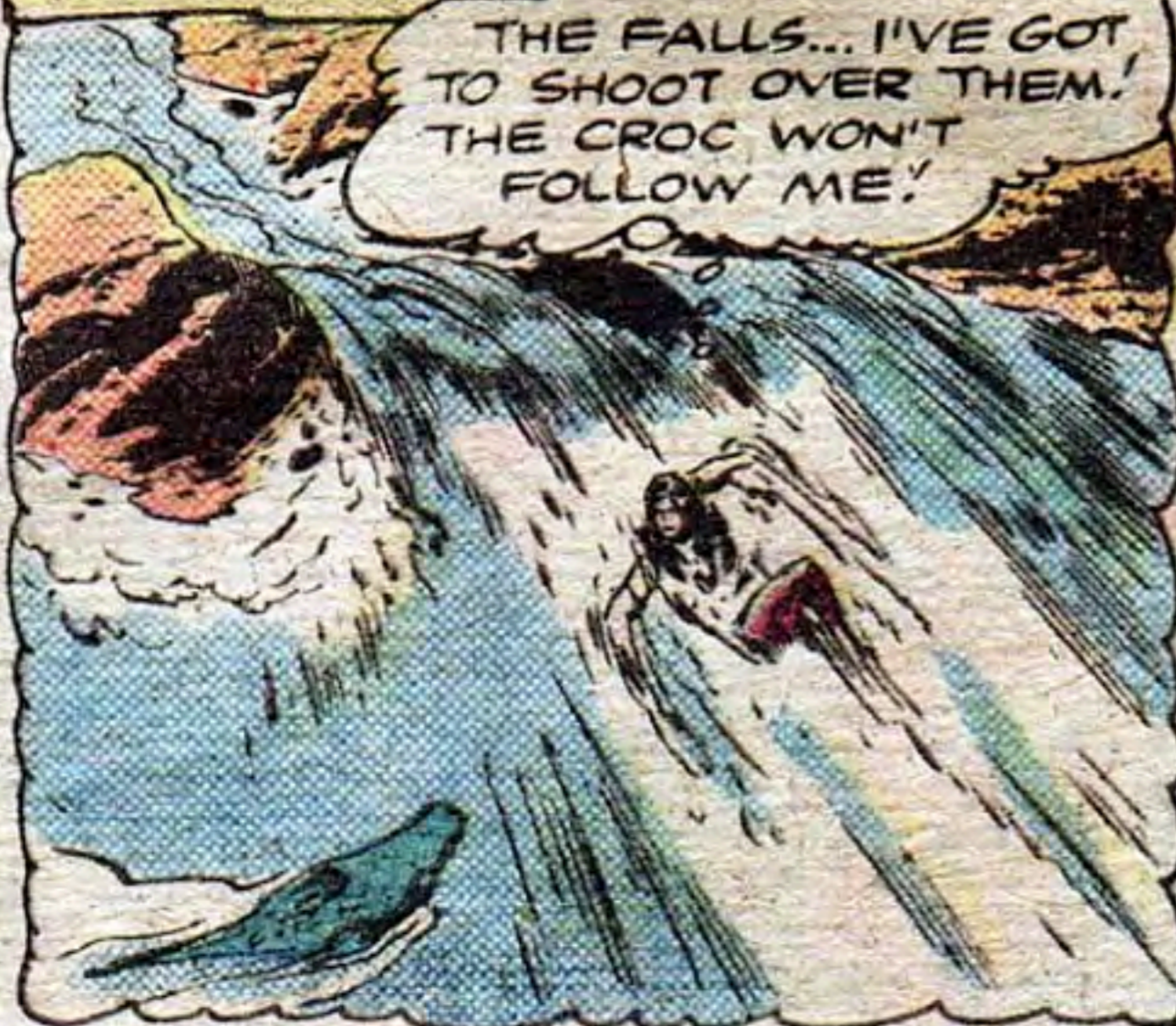
GOOD HEAVENS! I'VE BEEN CAUGHT IN A STRONG CURRENT AND AM BEING CARRIED BEYOND GUN RANGE... AND THAT BIG LIZARD IS GAINING ON ME!

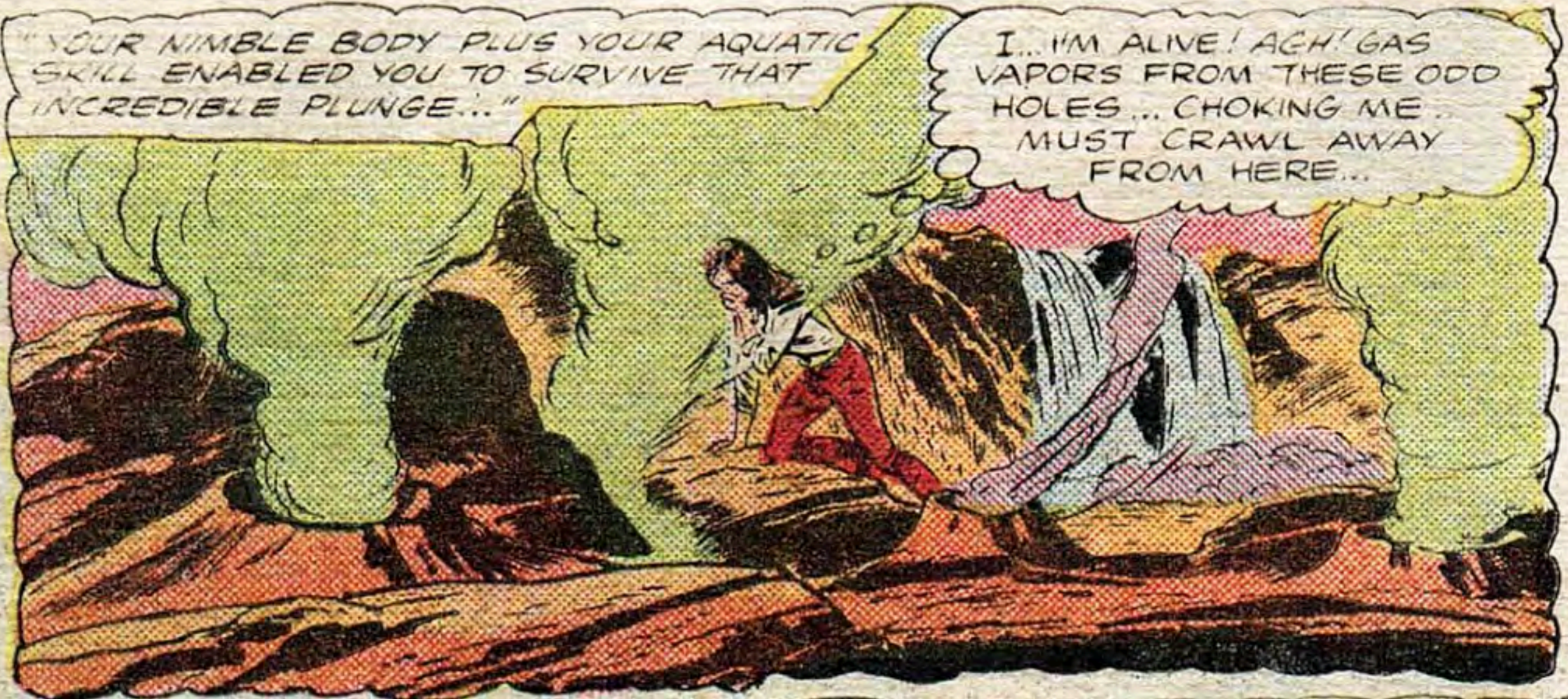


"THERE WAS ONLY ONE WAY TO SHAKE THAT BEAST..."

THE FALLS... I'VE GOT TO SHOOT OVER THEM! THE CROC WON'T FOLLOW ME!

"SURE ENOUGH, THE POWERFUL CROC SWERVED OFF, BUT YOU, RITA, WENT OVER LIKE A HELPLESS LEAF..."





"YOUR NIMBLE BODY PLUS YOUR AQUATIC SKILL ENABLED YOU TO SURVIVE THAT INCREDIBLE PLUNGE..."

I... I'M ALIVE! AGH! GAS VAPORS FROM THESE ODD HOLES... CHOKING ME... MUST CRAWL AWAY FROM HERE...

"YOU DRAGGED YOURSELF FROM THAT WEIRD TERRAIN AND COLLAPSED FROM EXHAUSTION UNTIL THE SEARCH PARTY FOUND YOU..."

"FOR DAYS, YOU LAY STRICKEN WITH AN ILLNESS NO DOCTOR COULD DIAGNOSE, BUT AFTER AWHILE YOU RECOVERED..."

IT'S RITA!
SHE'S IN BAD SHAPE! RADIO FOR THE AMBULANCE PLANE FROM NAIROBI!

WE'RE READY TO SHOOT OUR NEXT SCENES! WHERE'S RITA?
FOR THE LUVVA MIKE--LOOK!



RITA! SHE'S BECOME A-GIANT!

LOOK OUT!

HELP ME... HELP ME... SOMEBODY, PLEASE HELP!

"THEN, AS THE ASTONISHED MOVIE CREW RECOILED BEFORE THE APPROACH OF YOUR MAMMOTH FORM..."

LOOK WHAT'S HAPPENING TO HER NOW! SHE'S SHRINKING!

RITA! WHAT'S COME OVER YOU? CAN YOU TELL US? RITA!

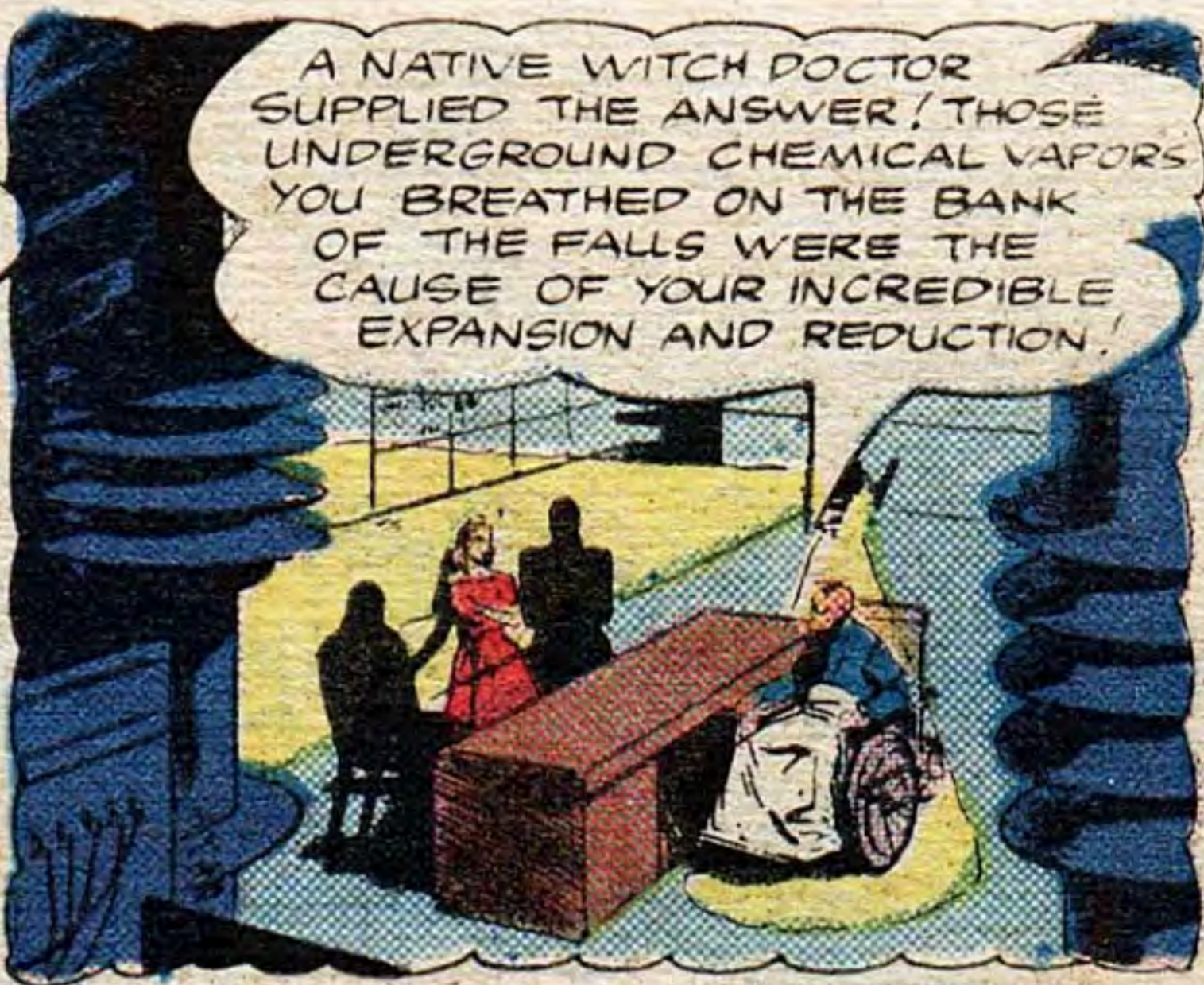


"THE AMAZING PHENOMENON CONTINUED UNTIL..."

I... I CAN'T BELIEVE IT! WHAT... WHAT CAN BE THE EXPLANATION FOR ALL THIS?



A NATIVE WITCH DOCTOR SUPPLIED THE ANSWER! THOSE UNDERGROUND CHEMICAL VAPORS YOU BREATHED ON THE BANK OF THE FALLS WERE THE CAUSE OF YOUR INCREDIBLE EXPANSION AND REDUCTION!



IT'S ALL TRUE... AS YOU SAID! I COULDN'T CONTROL THIS TERRIBLE POWER! IT HAPPENED ANYWHERE... ANYTIME!

SO YOU GAVE UP YOUR CAREER... HID FROM THE WORLD OUT OF SHAME AND FEAR! BUT NOW, RITA, YOU HAVE LEARNED TO CONTROL THAT STRANGE POWER! NOW YOU CAN END YOUR SELF-EXILE!

YOU KNOW EVERYTHING, DON'T YOU! BUT YOU DON'T KNOW IF WE WANT TO FACE THE PUBLIC AGAIN!

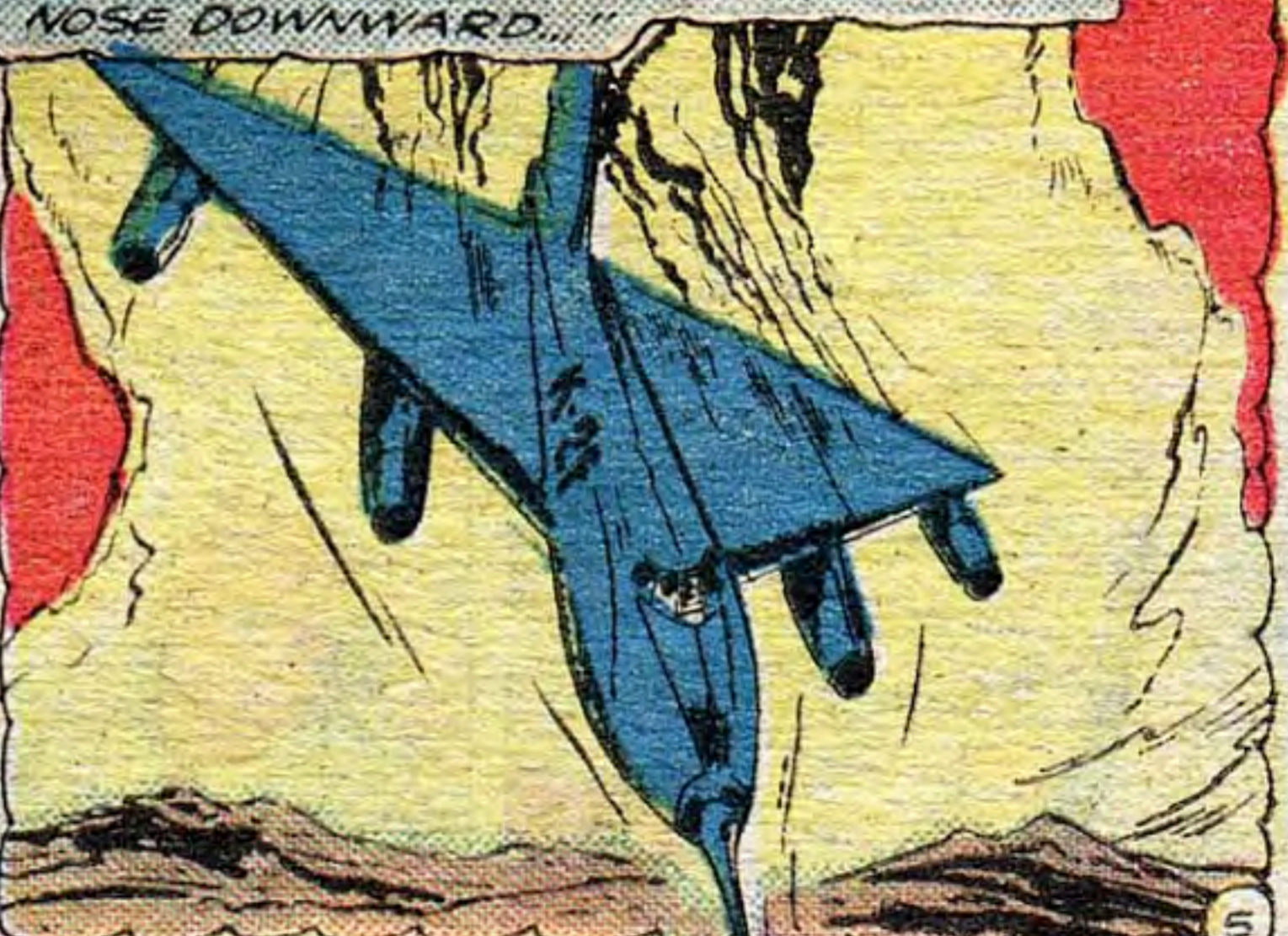
I KNOW ALL ABOUT YOU, TOO, LARRY TRAINOR! I KNOW HOW AND WHY YOU BECAME AN **OUTSIDER**-- A STRANGE ONE!



"DISASTER STRUCK YOU AS YOU TESTED THE K-2F, THE EXPERIMENTAL ROCKET PLANE THAT FLEW HIGHER THAN ANY MANNED AIRCRAFT HAD EVER GONE..."

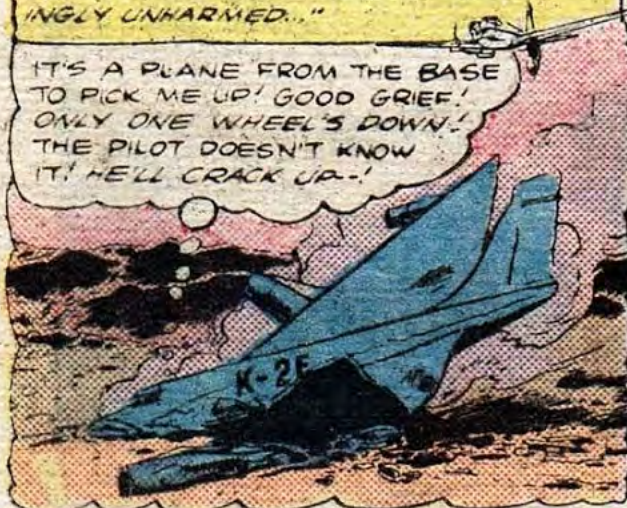
GYRO CONTROL'S JAMMED! CAN'T ADJUST THE GLIDE ANGLE! I'M GOING BEYOND MAXIMUM ALTITUDE... INTO SUB-ORBIT!

"YOU LOST GROUND CONTACT, BLACKED OUT FOR HOURS, YOUR JET SKIMMED THROUGH THE STILL UNCHARTED WAVE BELTS OF INNER SPACE UNTIL IT SUDDENLY BEGAN TO NOSE DOWNWARD..."



"YOU REVIVED IN TIME TO CRASH-LAND THE K-2F ON A DRY LAKE BED! AS YOU CLIMBED OUT, SEEMINGLY UNHARMED..."

IT'S A PLANE FROM THE BASE TO PICK ME UP! GOOD GRIEF! ONLY ONE WHEEL'S DOWN! THE PILOT DOESN'T KNOW IT! HE'LL CRACK UP--!



"BUT AS YOU WATCHED HELPLESSLY, AN EXTRAORDINARY THING OCCURRED..."

A STRANGE DUPLICATE... EMERGING FROM MY OWN BODY!



"DEPRIVED OF YOUR STRENGTH, YOU COULD ONLY LOOK ON IN A KIND OF AMAZED STUPOR..."

I CAN ONLY SPECULATE, LARRY, THAT UNKNOWN WAVE BELTS BOMBARDING YOUR BODY FLOATING IN SPACE WITHOUT ADEQUATE PROTECTION ARE WHAT CREATED THAT BIZARRE BEING-- THAT **NEGATIVE MAN!**



IT'S PULLING THE OTHER WHEEL DOWN! HE'S GOING TO LAND OKAY!

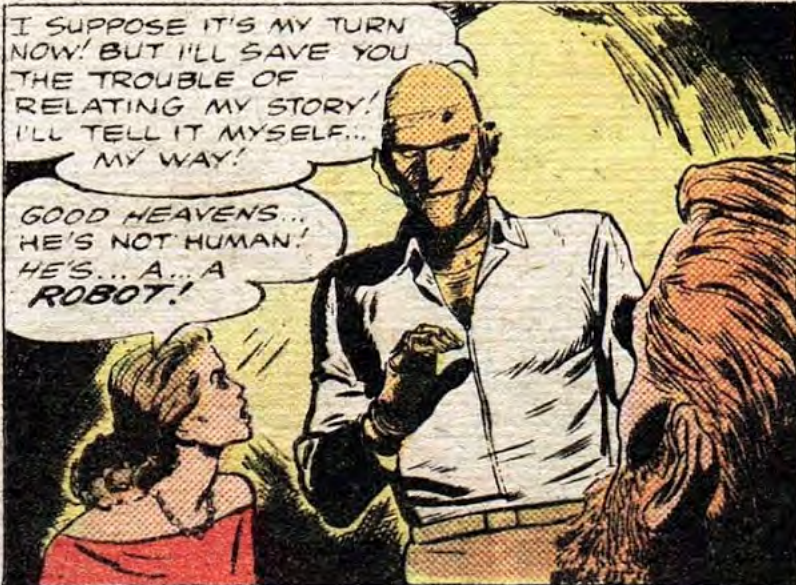


PERHAPS! BUT WHAT YOU DON'T REALIZE IS THAT WHILE **NEGATIVE MAN** FUNCTIONS, I'M BARELY CONSCIOUS! AND IF HE DOESN'T RETURN WITHIN **60 SECONDS...** I DIE! HOW'D YOU LIKE TO LIVE WITH THAT?

BUT YOU CAN CONTROL **NEGATIVE MAN** WITH YOUR WILL, LARRY-- AND USE HIS GREAT POWERS FOR GOOD-- INSTEAD OF RETREATING FROM LIFE AS YOU'VE DONE!

I WON'T DO IT! I WON'T-- AND NOTHING ON EARTH WILL MAKE ME CHANGE MY MIND!



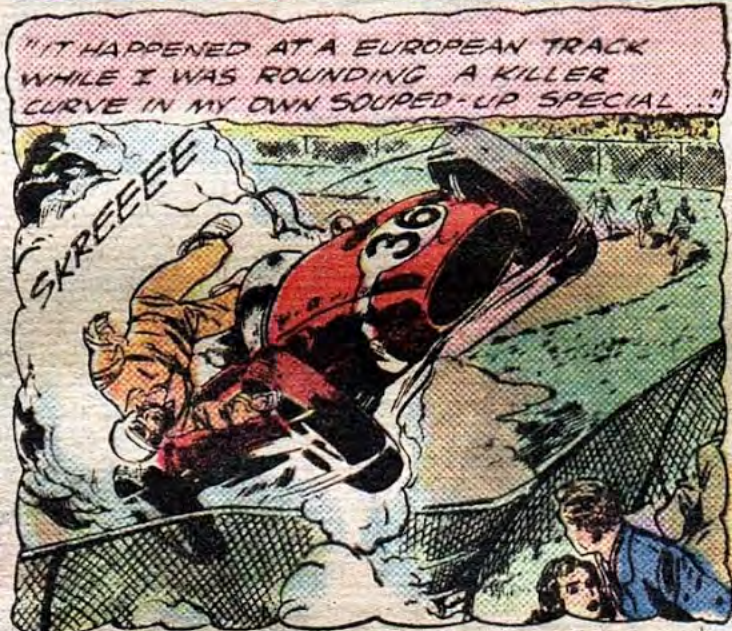


I SUPPOSE IT'S MY TURN NOW! BUT I'LL SAVE YOU THE TROUBLE OF RELATING MY STORY! I'LL TELL IT MYSELF... MY WAY!

GOOD HEAVENS... HE'S NOT HUMAN! HE'S... A... A ROBOT!



I WAS HUMAN ONCE... YOU MAY REMEMBER CLIFF STEELE, A DARE-DEVIL IN SEARCH OF EXCITEMENT AND DANGER...



"IT HAPPENED AT A EUROPEAN TRACK WHILE I WAS ROUNDING A KILLER CURVE IN MY OWN SOUPED-UP SPECIAL..."



IT'S HOPELESS! HIS BRAIN'S NOT DAMAGED, BUT HIS BODY'S BEYOND REPAIR!

ONE MAN MIGHT SAVE HIM... ONE SURGICAL WIZARD-- IF WE CAN CONTACT HIM IN TIME!



"DIMLY, THROUGH A CLOUD OF ANESTHESIA, I REMEMBER A MAN-- A VERY SHORT MAN-- OPERATING ON ME! AN ETERNITY LATER, AS I OPENED MY EYES..."

METAL HANDS! THEY... THEY'RE MY HANDS!



"THAT GENIUS WHO'D SAVED MY LIFE HAD PERFORMED THE IMPOSSIBLE-- THE INCREDIBLE..."

I'M A ROBOT MAN... EXCEPT FOR MY HUMAN BRAIN THAT WAS TRANSPLANTED, THAT ALONE REMAINS OF CLIFF STEELE... THAT ALONE IS HUMAN!

SURE, MY ROBOT BODY WAS PERFECT-- AND I COULD PERFORM ALL MY FORMER FEATS EVEN BETTER THAN BEFORE BUT...

COMPETE WITH THAT MECHANICAL CHARACTER? WHAT CHANCE HAVE WE GOT AGAINST HIM--OR SHOULD I SAY "IT?"

YOU'RE RIGHT! EITHER HE PULLS OUT, OR WE DO!

AND YOU'RE GOING TO TELL ME I'VE GOT NO REASON TO BE BITTER... NO REASON TO FEEL I'M AN OUTCAST?

BUT YOU FORGET, IN YOUR SELF-PITY, HOW UNIQUE YOU ARE! YOU'RE INVULNERABLE TO MOST DANGERS -- UNBELIEVABLY STRONG-- AND YOUR LIVING BRAIN STILL THRILLS TO YOUR FIVE SENSES!

HOW DO YOU KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE... BEING TRAPPED INSIDE THIS METAL BODY? HOW DO YOU KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT ME AT ALL?

I KNOW, CLIFF.. BECAUSE I WAS THAT SURGEON!

A GASP GREETES THE ANNOUNCEMENT...

IT... IT... MUST BE HIM! HE OPERATED FROM HIS WHEEL-CHAIR!.. THAT'S WHY HE SEEMED SHORT TO ME!

INCREDIBLE!

NOW WITH SILENCE BORN OF A NEW RESPECT, THEY FOLLOW THEIR AMAZING HOST ALONG A CORRIDOR...

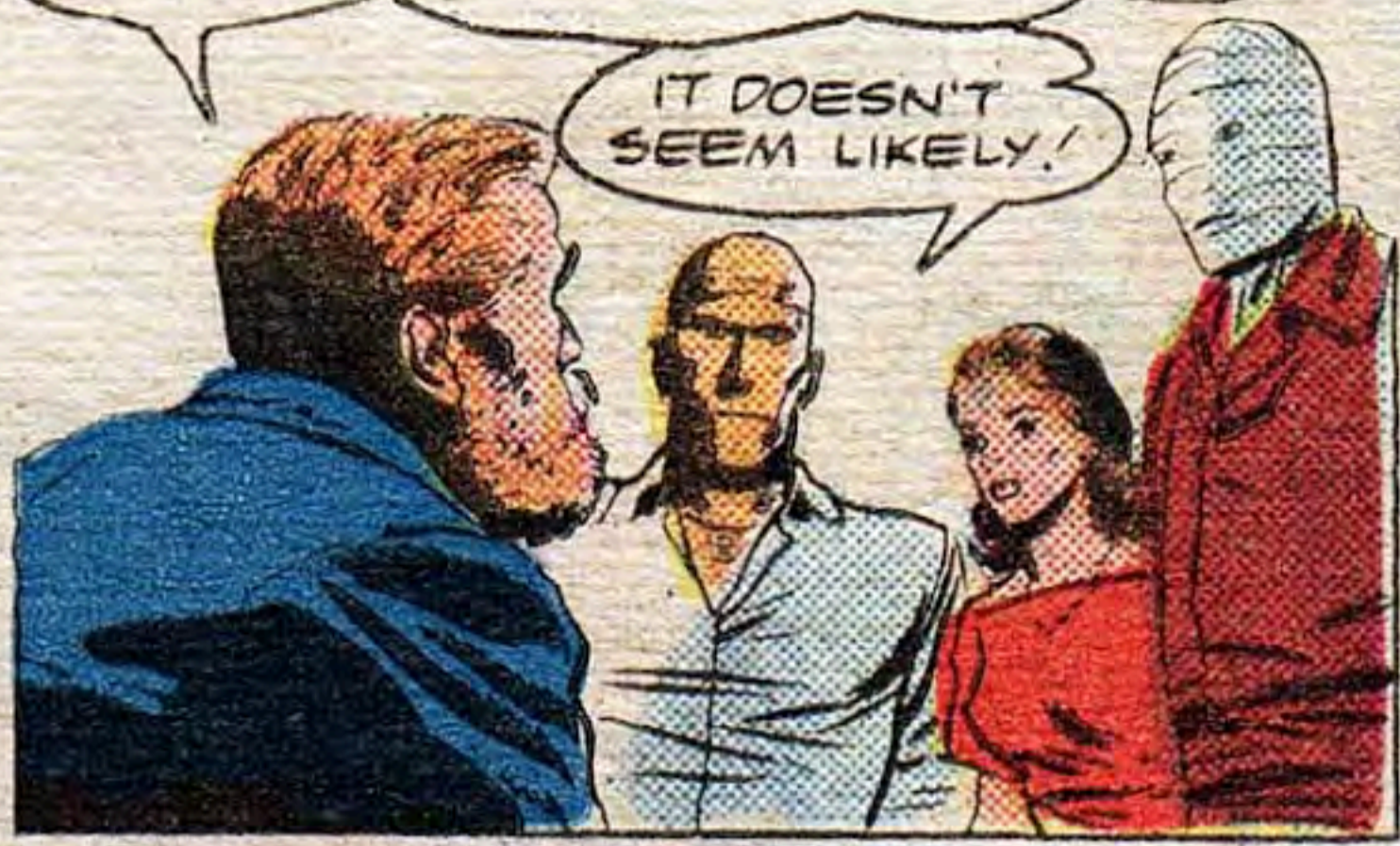
MY HEADQUARTERS CONTAINS ALMOST ALL THE WORLD'S KNOWLEDGE... EVERY TECHNIQUE OF OPERATION... EVERY MEANS OF COMMUNICATION AND SCIENTIFIC ANALYSIS!

THIS IS THE NERVE CENTER! HERE I CAN INSTANTLY BE IN CONTACT WITH ANY PLACE ON EARTH WHEN DISASTER STRIKES!

OBVIOUSLY, I CAN'T GO TO THOSE AREAS-- BUT YOU THREE CAN-- AND USE YOUR UNIQUE POWERS! I WOULD REMAIN HERE.. GUIDING YOU AS YOUR LEADER...

YOU'RE AN AMAZING GUY-- AND THIS SET-UP IS IMPRESSIVE, BUT COULD YOU HELP US FROM A GREAT DISTANCE?

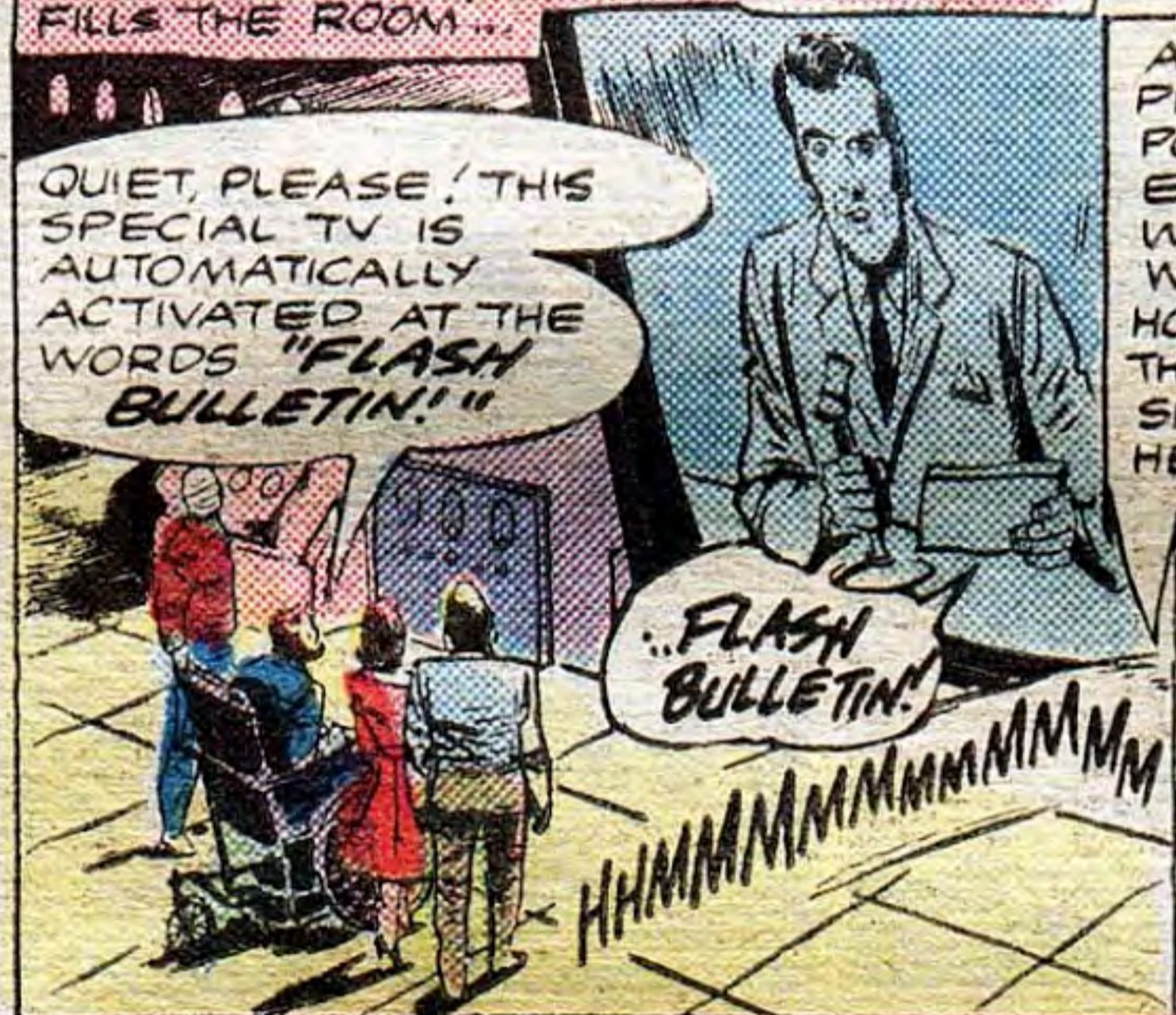
IT DOESN'T SEEM LIKELY!



JUST THEN, AN ELECTRONIC HUMMING FILLS THE ROOM...

QUIET, PLEASE! THIS SPECIAL TV IS AUTOMATICALLY ACTIVATED AT THE WORDS "FLASH BULLETIN!"

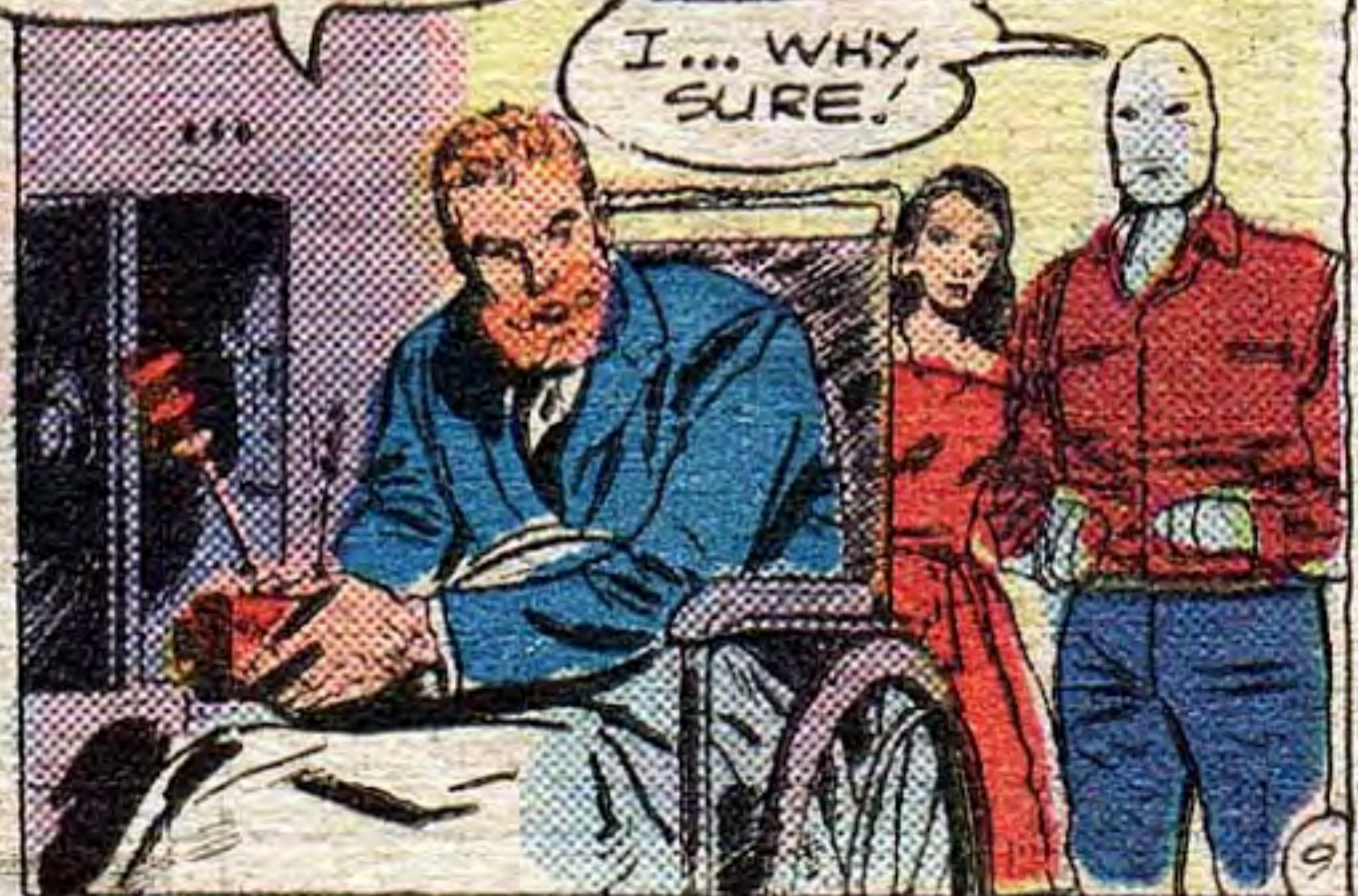
A TIME BOMB ON THE NORTH STREET PIER MAY GO OFF AT ANY MOMENT! POLICE ARE BEGINNING TO EVACUATE THE ENTIRE AREA! NOW WE TAKE YOU TO THE HARBOR WHERE OUR CAMERA UNIT IS HOVERING ABOVE THE DANGER SPOT IN A HELICOPTER!



THE BOMB IS HIDDEN IN ONE OF THESE CRATES, BUT DETECTORS HAVE FAILED TO LOCATE THE DEADLY MISSILE!

LARRY-- THIS IS A JOB FOR YOUR OTHER HALF... **NEGATIVE MAN!** ONLY HE CAN REACH THE DOCKS AND LOCATE THE BOMB IN TIME WITH THIS NEW TYPE OF DETECTOR I INVENTED! WILL YOU HELP ME IN THIS EMERGENCY?

I... WHY, SURE!



GRASPING THE INSTRUMENT, LARRY CONCENTRATES ALL HIS WILL POWER...

AN INSTANT LATER, THE NEGATIVE FORM HAS VANISHED AS LARRY LIES INERT...

THAT WEIRD FIGURE IS SPLITTING AWAY FROM HIS BODY--

HE'S GOT JUST **60 SECONDS** TO FIND IT AND RETURN! IF HE'S A MERE SECOND LATE GETTING BACK, LARRY WILL DIE!

SO WILL HUNDREDS OF OTHERS--IF HE DOESN'T LOCATE THAT TNT!

AND HE'S COLLAPSING...

THE TRIO EYES THE GIANT SCREEN TENSELY...

ABRUPTLY...

HE'S REACHED THE DOCK--

AND HAS BEEN GUN TO SEARCH WITH YOUR GADGET! WILL HE BE IN TIME?

HE FOUND IT! **21 SECONDS...**
22...

10 SECONDS...
11 SECONDS...

AND AS THE CLOCK TICKS OFF 32 SECONDS...

ANYTHING WRONG?

HE'S BACK... AND RETURNING TO LARRY'S BODY!

A MAGNIFICENT JOB! NOW I'VE GOT TO DO MINE... GIVE ME THAT BOMB!

IT'S A NEW TYPE OF PLASTIC EXPLOSIVE-- WITH A SPECIAL TIMER INSIDE! DEACTIVATING IT BY NORMAL METHODS WOULD SET IT OFF! **RITA!** I MUST ASK YOU TO VOLUNTEER NOW!

ONLY YOU--IN YOUR **REDUCED** SIZE--CAN GET INSIDE THAT THING AND RENDER IT HARMLESS! WILL YOU DO IT?



AM I SMALL ENOUGH?

PERFECT, RITA! NOW WHEN YOU GET INSIDE, YOU WILL SEE TWO INTERSECTING CHANNELS! TAKE THE LEFT ONE...



I... I'D BETTER HOLD IT AGAINST MY METAL BODY... TO SMOTHER THE BLAST... IN CASE...



YES, I HEAR YOU! I FOUND THE LEFT CHANNEL...

NOW... CAREFUL... YOU'LL SEE A SMALL GEAR WHEEL...

DO YOU SEE IT, RITA?



YES, I SEE IT!

HERE'S A SMALL LEVER... MESHING INTO THE GEAR WHEEL! PULL IT AWAY FROM THE WHEEL... BUT GENTLY!



MOMENTS GRIND BY... EACH ONE AN ETERNITY...

I'VE GOT IT! I'M LOOSENING IT... IT'S COMING OFF--!



THEN...

SHE DID IT! WHEW!

GOOD GIRL! PLASTIC... EVERY BIT OF IT! THAT'S WHY THE POLICE COULDN'T LOCATE IT! THEIR DETECTORS ONLY WORK ON METAL!



AS THE DARING GIRL RESUMES HER NORMAL SIZE...

NICE GOING! IF IT WEREN'T FOR YOU, A LOT OF PEOPLE WOULDN'T BE ALIVE NOW!

BUT YOU HELPED, TOO, LARRY! OR RATHER, YOUR OTHER SELF, **NEGATIVE MAN**, DID!



DON'T FORGET CLIFF, WHO WAS READY TO DESTROY HIMSELF BY MUFFLING THE BOMB!

BUT **YOU**--YOU WERE MOST IMPORTANT! YOU'RE THE BRAIN, ALL RIGHT!



AT THAT MOMENT, A UNIQUE BAND IS BORN...

DO YOU SEE WHAT THIS MEANS? THE EXPERIENCE HAS GIVEN ME HOPE FOR THE FIRST TIME! THE SAME GOES FOR YOU TWO! WHY CAN'T WE CONTINUE?

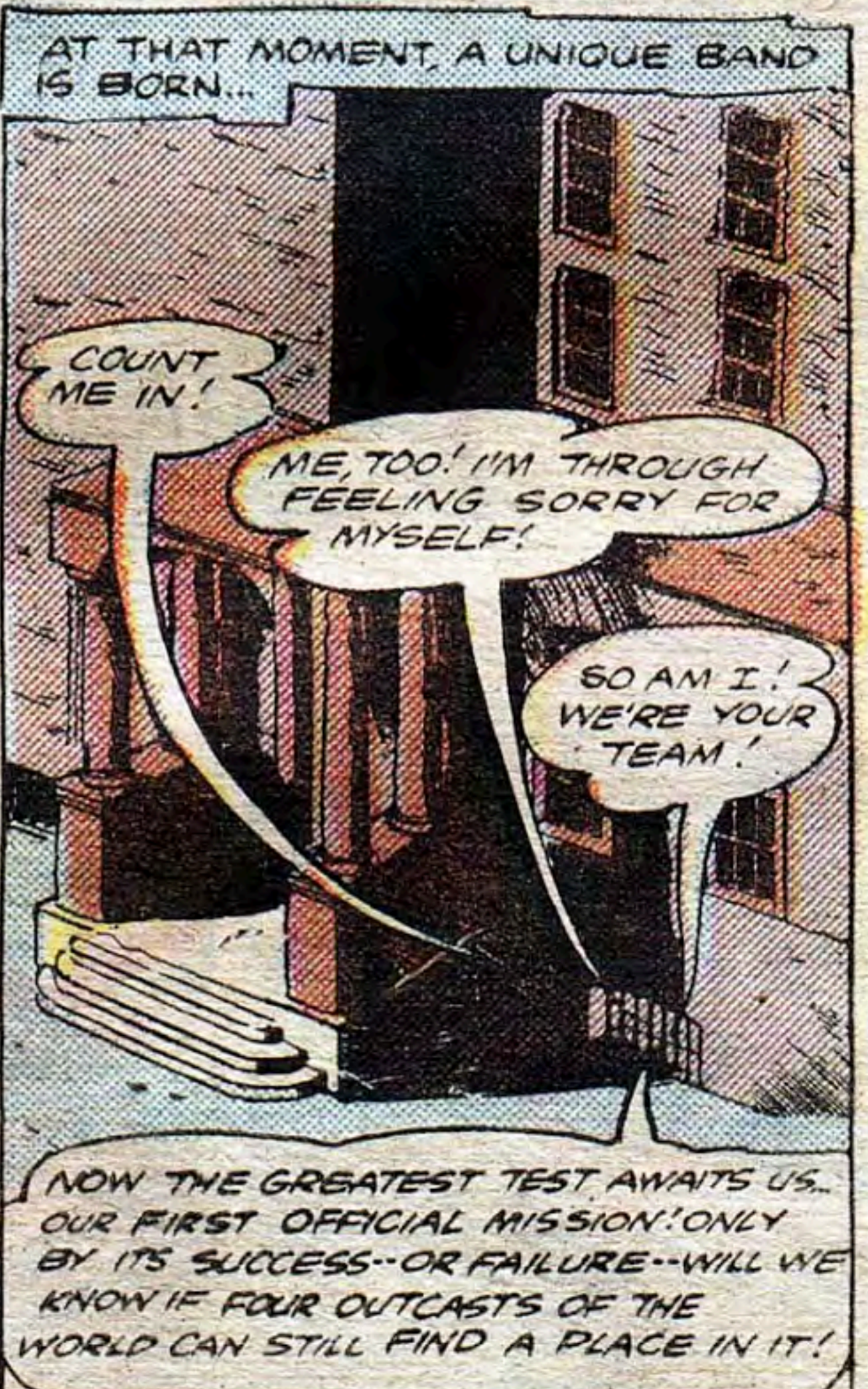
WELL, BOYS, WHAT DO YOU SAY? ARE WE A TEAM ... DEDICATED TO ADVENTURE ... ANYWHERE ... ANYTIME...?



COUNT ME IN!

ME, TOO! I'M THROUGH FEELING SORRY FOR MYSELF!

SO AM I! WE'RE YOUR TEAM!



NOW THE GREATEST TEST AWAITS US... OUR FIRST OFFICIAL MISSION! ONLY BY ITS SUCCESS--OR FAILURE--WILL WE KNOW IF FOUR OUTCASTS OF THE WORLD CAN STILL FIND A PLACE IN IT!