

The SUPER-TEAM SUPREME

# Doctor FATE and HOURMAN

**I**N A STONE TOWER IN WITCH-HAUNTED SALEM LIVES A MAN KNOWN TO HIS WORLD AS -- **DOCTOR FATE!** MASTER OF THE OCCULT SCIENCES, HE MOVES WHERE HE WILLS -- UPON, BELOW, AND ABOVE THE EARTH HE HAS SWORN TO PROTECT!

**EVER** SINCE HIS DISCOVERY OF **MIRACLO**, A PILL THAT GIVES HIM SUPER-CHARGED POWERS FOR **ONE HOUR**, "TICK-TOCK" TYLER HAS ASSUMED THE ROLE OF **HOURMAN**, ALLY OF THE OPPRESSED AND SCOURGE OF GANG-LAND!



STORY BY  
GARDNER FOX



ART BY  
MURPHY ANDERSON

**BOTH** THESE SUPER-HEROES HAVE RECENTLY COME OUT OF RETIREMENT TO JOIN IN THE RESURGENCE OF THE **JUSTICE SOCIETY OF AMERICA!** NOW THEY COMBINE FORCES AS THE **SUPER-TEAM SUPREME** TO BATTLE EARTH'S MOST AWESOME MENACE!

## **SOLOMON GRUNDY GOES ON A RAMPAGE!**

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# SOLOMON GRUNDY GOES ON A RAMPAGE-- PROLOGUE \*

NOT REAL LIFE--ONLY A WEIRD DISTORTION OF IT--SOLOMON GRUNDY IS SAID TO HAVE BEEN CREATED BY THE STRANGE CHEMICAL REACTION OF SIZZLING SUNLIGHT BEATING DOWN ON THE DECAYED VEGETATION OF SOGGY SWAMPLAND...



"IMPOSSIBLE," SAID SCIENTISTS! WELL, MAYBE IT WAS! BUT, BEFORE LONG, A CRIMINAL BAND FOLLOWED A NEW CHIEF--SOLOMON GRUNDY!



SOON--TOO SOON--AN ENTIRE NATION WAS TREMBLING BEFORE THE OMINOUS ONSLAUGHTS OF A RAGING COLOSSUS OF CRIME WHO COULDN'T BE STOPPED BY BULLETS.



FINALLY TRAILED TO THE PETRIFIED FOREST BY INDOMITABLE GREEN LANTERN, A TRULY TITANIC BATTLE ENSUED...



YOU--HURT--ME--

THAT CHASE ACROSS THE CONTINENT DIDN'T HELP HIM ANY! MY RAY IS WEAKENING HIM--

BULLETS COULDN'T KILL HIM--JAILS COULDN'T HOLD HIM--ONLY THE EMERALD ENERGY OF GREEN LANTERN HAD ANY EFFECT ON SOLOMON GRUNDY...

AND, TODAY, HERE IS THAT VISION OF TERROR--STILL IMPRISONED IN A BUBBLE OF EMERALD ENERGY!

CANNOT KILL ME--LIVE FOREVER--MUST COME TIME WHEN AM FREE! THEN--KILL--GREEN LANTERN!

CAN'T--MOVE--I'M CAUGHT!



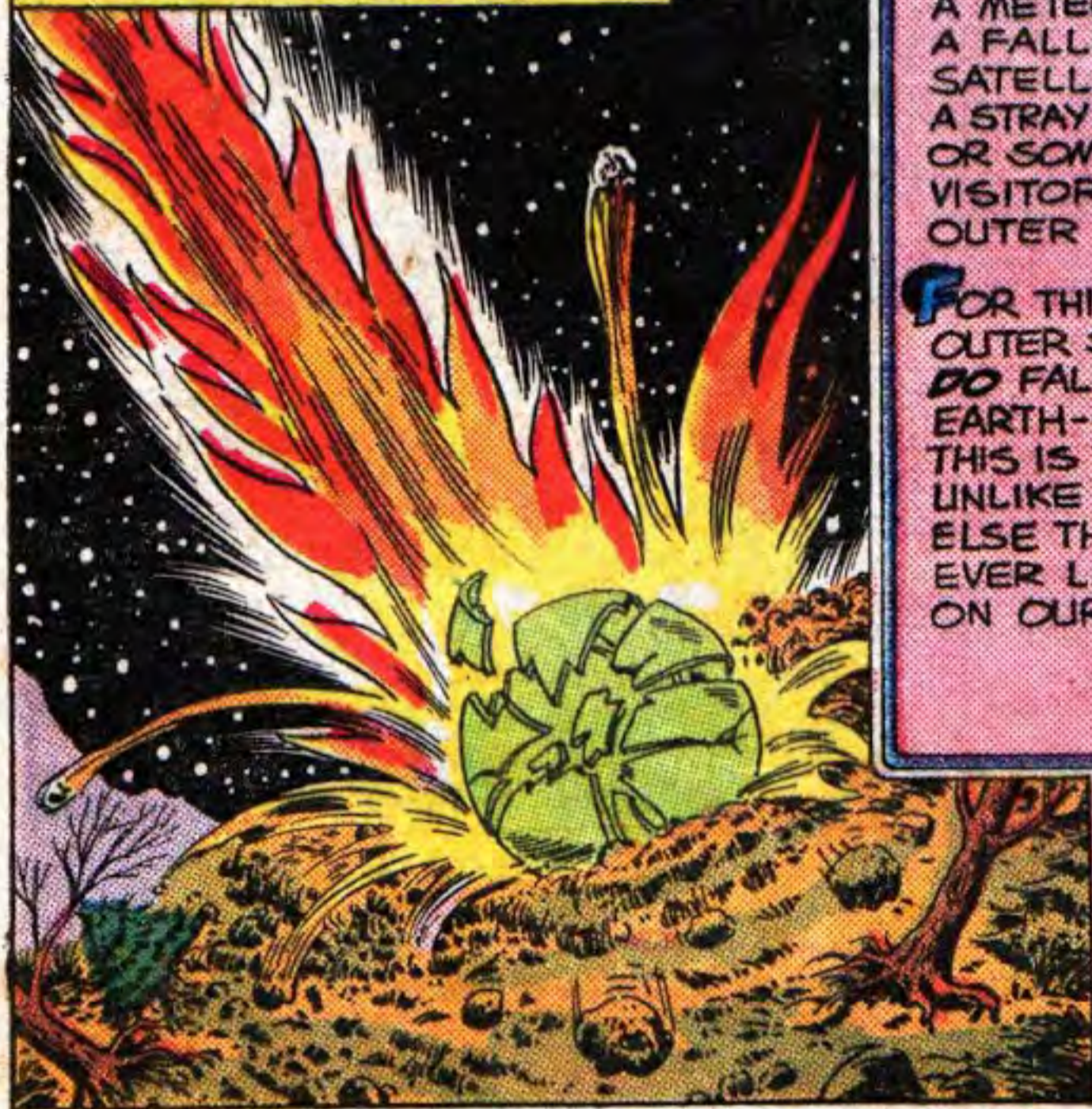
SOME DAY--GET OUT--DESTROY ENEMY--GREEN LANTERN--SOME DAY--



\*EDITOR'S NOTE: THIS IS A RE-CREATION OF A PAGE THAT ORIGINALLY APPEARED IN "THE REVENGE OF SOLOMON GRUNDY!", PUBLISHED IN ALL STAR COMICS # 33 (FEBRUARY-MARCH, 1947).

# SOLOMON GRUNDY GOES ON A RAMPAGE! chapter 1

OUT OF THE SKY IT COMES, STREAKING EARTHWARD IN A FURIOUS BLAST OF FLAME AND THUNDER--TO CRASH AND HURL SKYWARD A SPRAY OF DIRT AND BURNING VEGETATION! ...



HERE IS AN EERIE SILENCE. IS THIS MYSTERIOUS EXPLODING OBJECT A METEOR? A FALLEN SATELLITE? A STRAY ASTEROID? OR SOME OTHER VISITOR FROM OUTER SPACE?

FOR THINGS FROM OUTER SPACE DO FALL ON EARTH--YET THIS IS TOTALLY UNLIKE ANYTHING ELSE THAT HAS EVER LANDED ON OUR PLANET!

FOR FROM THE WISPING REMNANTS OF THE SHATTERED GLOBE RISES A CREATURE WITH A HATE-TWISTED FACE...



EXILED INTO OUTER SPACE BY GREEN LANTERN, SOLOMON GRUNDY HAS RETURNED TO THE EARTH THAT SPAWNED HIM!

THE FIGURE STUMBLES AWAY FROM THE IMPACT POINT, THROUGH THE WOODS...

I FIND HIM! WHEN I FIND HIM--I KILL!



IT STRIDES INTO A LAKE, PROCEEDING FORWARD EVEN AS THE WATERS CLOSE ABOUT ITS HEAD, NOT BREATHING, NOT NEEDING TO BREATHE...

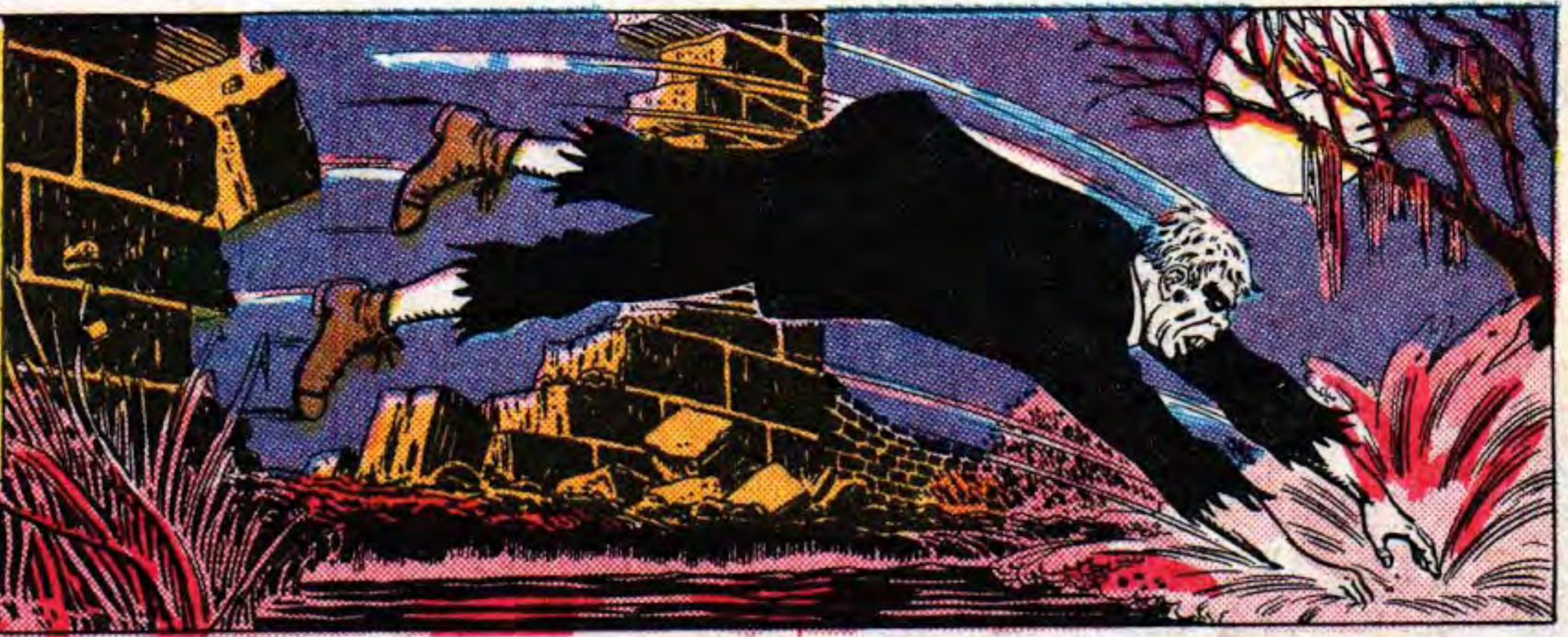


UNTIL IT COMES TO A HIGH STONE WALL SURROUNDING WHAT USED TO BE--LONG AGO--THE WATERY MARSHLANDS KNOWN AS SLAUGHTER SWAMP...

WALL NO STOP ME! I GO BACK TO BIRTH WATERS!



THE WALL GOES DOWN BEFORE THE GIANT STRENGTH OF THE EERIE HUMANOID-- REVEALING A GLOWING MARSHLAND INTO WHICH **SOLOMON GRUNDY** HURLS HIMSELF HEAD-LONG ...



FAR AWAY IN THE WITCH-HAUNTED HILLS OF **OLD SALEM** STANDS A STONE TOWER, WHICH EMITS A PULSING GLOW INTO THE NIGHT AS...



KENT--LOOK! THE TOWER IS GIVING OFF SOME SORT OF STRANGE RADIANCE!

NOT THE TOWER--BUT THE CRYSTAL BALL INSIDE IT, HONEY! THIS HASN'T HAPPENED IN A LONG TIME!



ARCHEOLOGIST **KENT NELSON** AND HIS LOVELY WIFE, THE FORMER **INZA CRAMER**, HURRY INTO THE STONE TOWER--WHICH HAS NO DOOR!...

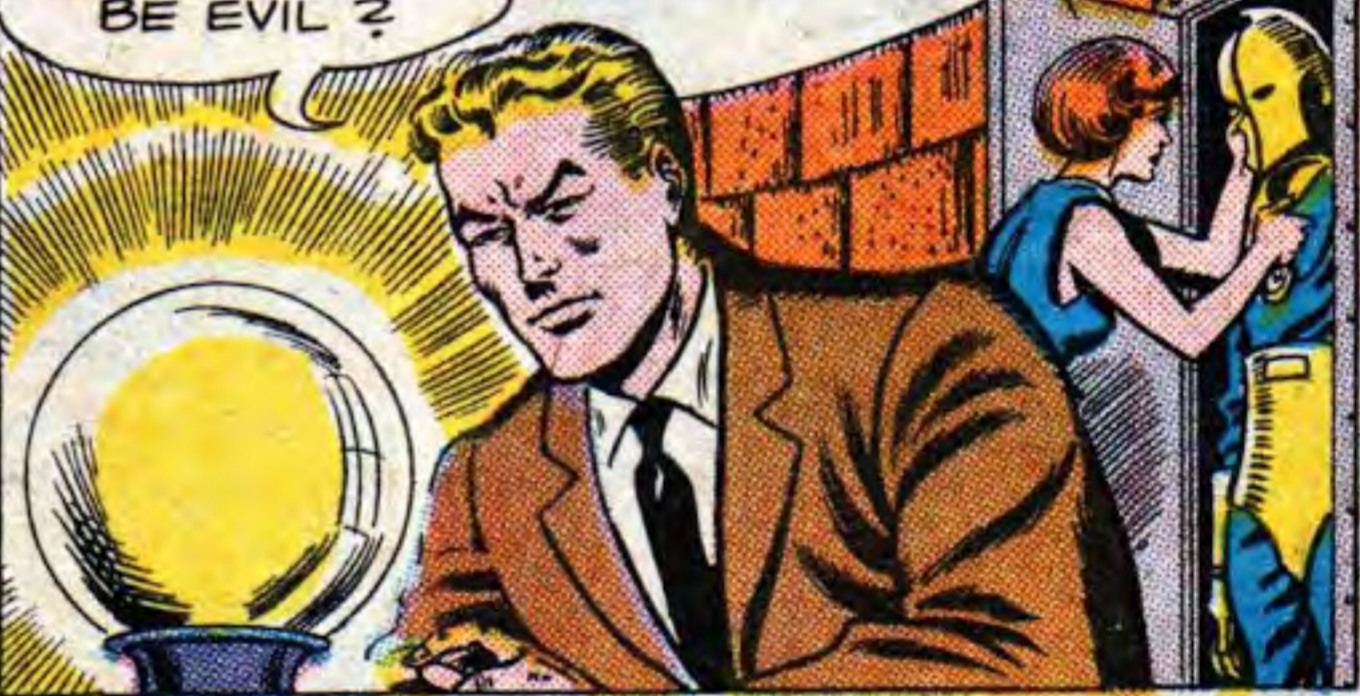
THE CRYSTAL BALL GLOWS OF ITS OWN ACCORD-- ONLY WHEN SOME TERRIBLE EVIL WALKS THE EARTH! HURRY--I MUST LOOK INTO ITS DEPTHS!



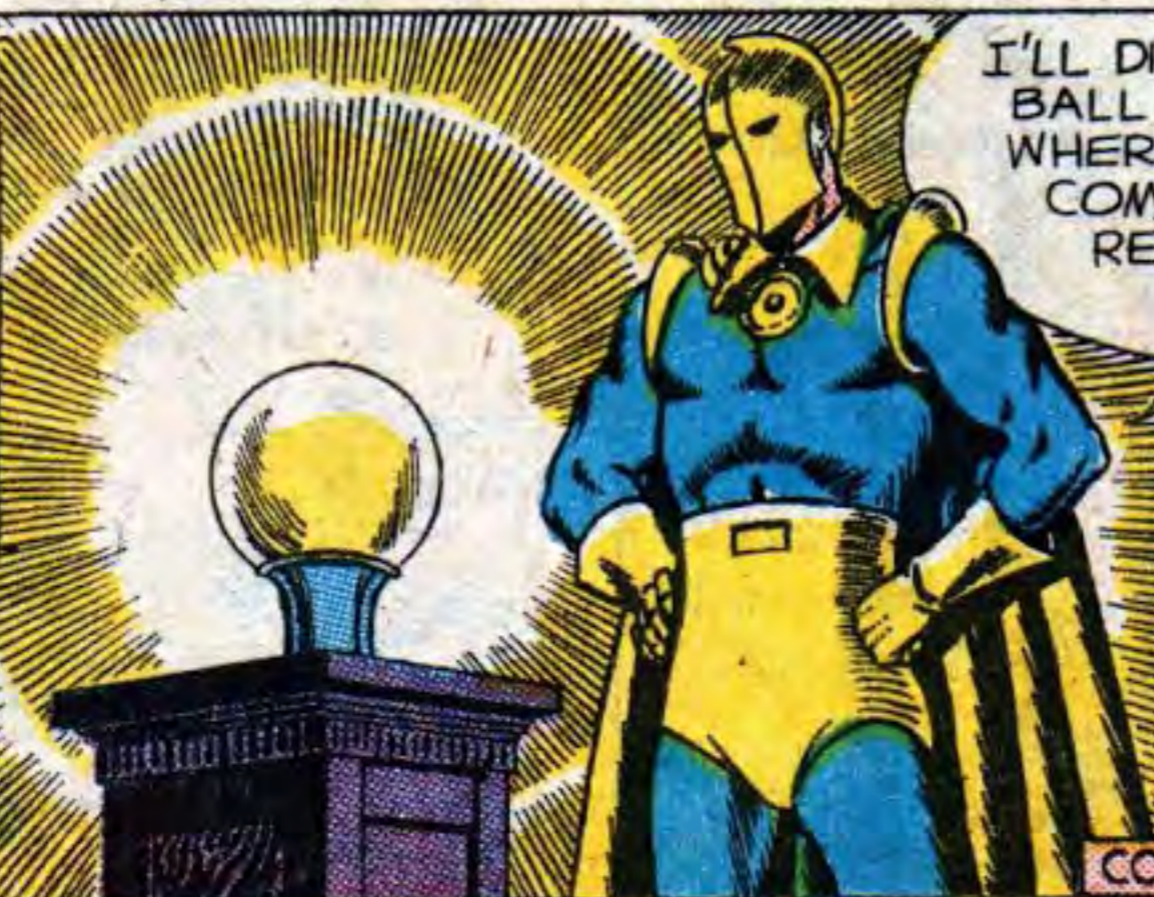
TO THE TOPMOST ROOM HURRIES THE MARRIED COUPLE-- BUT ONLY KENT NELSON DARES STARE INTO THAT BRILLIANT GLOBE...

ODD--I SEE THE RADIO-ACTIVE MARSHLANDS ATTACHED TO THE **TYLER CHEMICAL COMPANY** PLANT! HOW CAN THAT BE EVIL?

I'LL GET YOUR COSTUME, DEAR! I KNOW TROUBLE WHEN I SEE IT!



NEXT MOMENT, THE MASTER OF MAGIC-- **DOCTOR FATE**-- STANDS ARRAYED IN THE UNIFORM GIVEN HIM BY **NABU THE WISE** \*...



I'LL DIRECT THE CRYSTAL BALL TO SHOW ME WHERE THE EVIL COMES FROM, TO RETRACE ITS STEPS!

*\* Editor's Note:*  
FOR AN EXPLANATION OF THE ORIGIN AND POWERS OF **DOCTOR FATE**, SEE THE TEXT PAGE AT THE END OF THIS STORY.

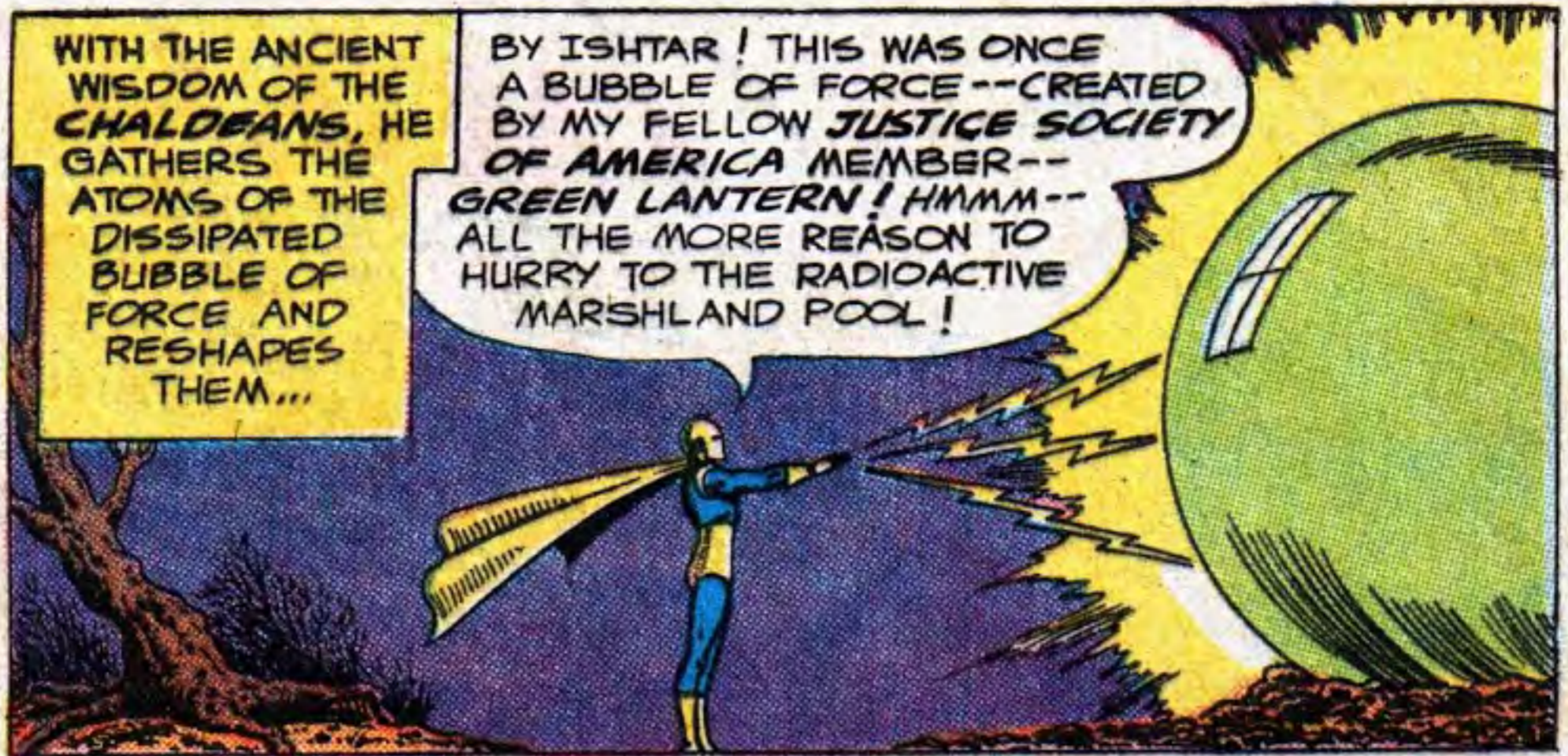
HURLING HIMSELF UPWARD FROM THE TOWER AND MERGING HIS ATOMIC STRUCTURE WITH THE VERY WIND, **DOCTOR FATE** QUICKLY ARRIVES AT THE IMPACT POINT WHERE THE CELESTIAL GLOBE STRUCK THE EARTH...

WHATEVER IT WAS THAT FELL HERE IS... GONE! BY REASSEMBLING ITS ATOMS, I CAN RECONSTRUCT ITS ORIGINAL FORM!



WITH THE ANCIENT WISDOM OF THE **CHALDEANS**, HE GATHERS THE ATOMS OF THE DISSIPATED BUBBLE OF FORCE AND RESHAPES THEM...

BY ISHTAR! THIS WAS ONCE A BUBBLE OF FORCE--CREATED BY MY FELLOW **JUSTICE SOCIETY OF AMERICA** MEMBER--**GREEN LANTERN!** HMMM-- ALL THE MORE REASON TO HURRY TO THE RADIOACTIVE MARSHLAND POOL!



SOME MILES AWAY IN THE **TYLER CHEMICAL COMPANY** PLANT OFFICE, THE PRESIDENT OF THE COMPANY--**REX TYLER**-- IS ENTERING A VAULT KNOWN ONLY TO HIMSELF...

I WAS WORKING LATE TONIGHT SO I COULD BE HERE WHEN THE ALARM SOUNDED! SOME MAN OR ANIMAL HAS BLUNDERED INTO THE MARSH WHERE WE EMPTY THE RADIOACTIVE WASTE FROM OUR **CYCLOTRON!**



MOMENTS LATER, HE DONS THE UNIFORM OF THE GREAT CRIME-FIGHTER, **HOURLMAN!**...

I'LL TAKE A HANDFUL OF **MIRACLO** PILLS WITH ME-- BUT WILL HOLD OFF SWALLOWING ONE UNTIL I SEE WHAT IT IS THAT BROKE INTO THE RADIOACTIVE MARSHES! I MAY NEED A **FULL HOUR OF SUPER-ENERGY** TO COPE WITH IT!



\*Editor's Note: FOR AN EXPLANATION OF THE ORIGIN AND POWERS OF **HOURLMAN**, SEE THE TEXT PAGE AT THE END OF THIS STORY.

SOON AFTER, THE MAN OF THE HOUR STANDS BEFORE THE GLOWING WASTES OF **SLAUGHTER SWAMP**-- AND LIFTS OUT A **MIRACLO** PILL AT SIGHT OF...



**SOLOMON GRUNDY!** I'VE HEARD **GREEN LANTERN** SPEAK OF THAT MOST BITTER OF ALL FOES--AND HOW HE PUT HIM AWAY ON A DISTANT PLANET-- PRESUMABLY "FOR **ETERNITY!**"

SWALLOWING A MIRACLO PILL, HOURMAN VAULTS INTO THE AIR AT THE MACABRE MAN-THING...

I MUST STOP HIM, THEN TELL GREEN LANTERN--

NO TELL GREEN LANTERN! I TELL HIM I HATE GREEN LANTERN!!

10:15 P.M.

BUT INSTEAD OF ATTACKING WITH HIS UPRaised ARM, SOLOMON GRUNDY SWINGS HIS LEFT ARM UPWARD...

OOOOOF!

I MUST BE RUSTY--TO LET HIM BOOBY-TRAP ME WITH THAT RIGHT HAND--

THUMMMMP!

10:15 1/4 P.M.

EVEN AS HOURMAN SLAMS INTO THE BOLE OF A THICK TREE-- FROM THE SKY ABOVE SWOOPS THE WONDER WIZARD, BOLTS OF LIGHTNING RUNNING FROM HIS FINGERTIPS...

SOLOMON GRUNDY! I NEVER FOUGHT AGAINST HIM-- BUT I'VE HEARD THE JUSTICE SOCIETY MEMBERS TELL OF THEIR HOMERIC BATTLE WITH HIM!

DOCTOR FATE INFECTS THE SWAMPLAND TREES WITH A PSEUDO-LIFE-FORCE AND DIRECTS IT TO ATTACK THE BELLOWING MAN-THING...

AAARRGHHH!

MAD WITH RAGE--  
LIVID WITH THE  
URGE TO REND  
AND TEAR--  
**SOLOMON GRUNDY**  
REACHES OUT  
AND RIPS ANOTHER  
TREE FROM ITS  
EARTH-BED...

WHAT ENORMOUS STRENGTH  
HE HAS--TO FIGHT OFF MY  
MAGIC-RIDDLED TREES  
AND RIP UP ANOTHER ONE!



WITH THAT FLAIL  
IN HIS HANDS, THE  
**MARSHLAND  
MONSTER** SWEEPS  
THE AIR ABOVE HIM,  
SEEKING TO "BAT  
DOWN" HIS FOE...

I KILL!  
NO STOP  
ME!  
I KILL!



QUICKLY,  
**DOCTOR  
FATE**  
DIVERTS  
SOME  
OF HIS  
MAGIC  
TO  
SHRED  
THE  
TREE-  
CLUB  
INTO  
POWDER...

IT IS EVIDENT THAT  
**SOLOMON GRUNDY--** BEING  
ONLY A PSEUDO-LIFE-FORM--  
IS NOT AS BADLY AFFECTED  
BY MY MAGIC AS A TRUE  
HUMAN WOULD BE!



WITH A HUGE  
ROAR OF  
DEFIANCE, THE  
MAN-THING  
RIPS THE TREES  
FROM HIS BODY--  
EVEN AS THE  
**WONDER  
WIZARD**  
FREEZES THE  
VERY AIR ABOUT  
HIM!...



MAGICALLY FORM THE FROST CRYSTALS! SWIFTLY THEY BUILD AND CLING TO ONE ANOTHER--UNTIL AN IMMENSE ICE-BLOCK STANDS ON THE RIM OF **SLAUGHTER SWAMP!**...

I'VE IMPRISONED HIM! NOW I'LL SEE TO **HOURMAN!**



BUT THE **MARSHLAND MAN-THING** IS NO ORDINARY FOE! THE HATE THAT SURGES THROUGH HIS BODY POWERS MUSCLES THAT HAVE NO HUMAN EQUAL! ...



INCREDIBLE! I NEVER THOUGHT ANYTHING COULD BURST THE ICE I FORMED AROUND HIM! HIS INCREDIBLE STRENGTH CALLS FOR-- NEW WAYS TO USE MY MAGIC!

AS THE RENDING BURST OF CRACKING ICE FILLS THE NIGHT, A GROGGY **HOURMAN** LIFTS HIS HEAD...

I'LL DELIBERATELY LET **GRUNDY** GRAB HOLD OF ME--AND WHEN HE SWINGS ME UP TO HURL ME DOWN AT THE GROUND--



**DOCTOR FATE-- IN DANGER!**

10:28 P.M.

AS **DOCTOR FATE** HAS ANTICIPATED, **SOLOMON GRUNDY** GRIPS AND LIFTS THE **MAGIC MASTER**, SWINGING HIM HIGH INTO THE AIR...

NOW THAT I'M IN CONTACT WITH HIM-- I'LL FILL HIS BODY WITH **ELECTRICAL MAGIC!**



HIGH UP, THE **MAN-THING** SWINGS HIS FOE-- WHILE FROM **DOCTOR FATE** A FLOOD OF CRACKLING ELECTRICAL MAGIC FREEZES THE **MARSHLAND MONSTER** MOTIONLESS!...



**DOCTOR FATE** NEEDS A HELPING HAND! I'VE GOT TO KNOCK **GRUNDY** OUT WITH ONE WELL-TIMED BLOW!

10:29 P.M.



EVEN AS SOLOMON GRUNDY STANDS HELPLESS-- ELECTROCLUTED BY MAGIC!-- HOURMAN ROCKETS TO THE DEFENSE OF HIS FRIEND-- UNAWARE THAT BY SO DOING-- HE WILL BRING ABOUT THEIR OWN DEFEAT!...



10:29 :02 P.M.

FOR AS HE JETS INTO ACTION-- THE DEADLY MAGIC SUDDENLY SEEPS OUT OF SOLOMON GRUNDY AND BACK INTO THE BODY OF THE WONDER WIZARD! THIS, AS HOURMAN SLAMS HOME HIS ENERGY-PACKED FIST-- HE FREES THE MAN-THING FROM HIS SPELL! ...



10:29 :03 P.M.

STORY CONTINUES ON 3<sup>RD</sup> PAGE FOLLOWING!

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# SOLOMON GRUNDY GOES ON A RAMPAGE!

CHAPTER 2

**L**IKE AN ELECTRIFIED LOG, DOCTOR FATE CRASHES INTO HOURMAN!

**T**HE TITANIC FORCE OF THEIR COLLISION DRIVES A WEDGE OF INSENSIBILITY INTO THEIR BRAINS AS THEIR MUSCLES GO LIMP AND THEIR BODIES COLLAPSE INTO UNCONSCIOUSNESS!

**T**OWERING HIGH ABOVE THEM IS THE MAN-THING FROM THE MARSHES, FILLED WITH HATE, HIS WARPED AND ALIEN MIND HOLDING ONLY ONE THOUGHT...

I HATE!  
I KILL!



FOR A MOMENT SOLOMON GRUNDY STARES DOWN AT THE CRUMPLED, INERT FORMS OF HIS FOES--THEN TURNS, AND PLODS OFF THROUGH THE NIGHT...



WHILE HE SHUFFLES ALONG THE ROAD LEADING TOWARD GOTHAM CITY, HIS BODY GLOWS WITH WEIRD BRILLIANCE, WHICH SPREADS TO NEARBY OBJECTS MADE OF WOOD...



QUIVERING WITH HALF-LIFE, A GLOWING FENCE YANKS FREE OF THE GROUND THAT HOLDS IT AND JOINS A GLOWING BARREL IN AN EERIE FLIGHT THROUGH THE NIGHT AIR AFTER THE DEMONIC MAN-THING...



IN AN EERIE DANSE MACABRE, DOZENS OF WOODEN OBJECTS--ALL AFFLICTED WITH A RADIOACTIVE PART-LIFE GIVEN THEM BY SOLOMON GRUNDY-- TRAIL HIM INTO GOTHAM CITY!...



POCKETING AN AXE-HANDLE, HE GRIPS THE DOORS OF A LOCAL BANK AND...

I FIND! I MAKE HIM COME TO ME! I ROB! HE NO LIKE ANYONE TO ROB!



INSIDE THE BANK HIS FINGERS FASTEN ON THE HEAVY VAULT DOOR AND...

I BRING HIM SOON, NOW! I TAKE MONEY! HE COME STOP ME! THEN I-- KILL!

MOMENTS LATER, THE POCKETS OF HIS RAGGED, ROTTING GARMENTS STUFFED WITH GREENBACKS, THE MAN-THING LURCHES FROM THE BANK WHERE HIS WOODEN SLAVES HAVE BEEN HOVERING..

WHERE IS HE? HE BE HERE SOON, I THINK!

AS HE HOWLS HIS FURY TO THE STARS...

COME GET ME! WHERE YOU HIDE? I WAIT! I WAIT! WHERE YOU? WHERE YOU?

THERE HE IS! HE COME AT LAST!

IT HARDLY SEEMS POSSIBLE! I LEFT SOLOMON GRUNDY TRAPPED ON A COLD, LIFELESS PLANET! HOW COULD HE HAVE ESCAPED MY GLOBE OF EMERALD ENERGY?

FROM THE POWER RING SHOTS A VERDANT BEAM OF ENERGY-- AND AS IT HITS THE MACABRE MAN-THING AND SPREADS-- IT FORMS ANOTHER BUBBLE OF FORCE WITH WHICH TO CONTAIN HIM...

THERE-- THAT DOES IT! LET'S SEE GRUNDY ESCAPE FROM THAT!

FOR THOSE READERS WHO MAY BE PUZZLED AT THE UNFAMILIAR COSTUME OF GREEN LANTERN, BE ADVISED THAT THIS IS THE GREEN LANTERN OF EARTH-TWO!

IN THIS OTHER EARTH-- AS CONTRASTED TO EARTH-ONE, WHERE GREEN LANTERN IS REALLY TEST PILOT HAL JORDAN-- THE EMERALD CRUSADER'S CIVILIAN IDENTITY IS THAT OF ALAN SCOTT, EX-RADIO ANNOUNCER AND NOW PRESIDENT OF THE GOTHAM CITY BROADCASTING COMPANY!



FROM HIS PERSON, SOLOMON GRUNDY LIFTS A RADIO-ACTIVE AXE-HANDLE AND SLASHES OUT WITH IT--DENTING AND CRACKING HIS POWER RING PRISON!...

NO! I NOT GO TO FARAWAY PLANET AGAIN! I STAY HERE-- AND SMASH GREEN LANTERN!

Whew!! HE SURE SHOWED ME!



THE QUEER, HALF-ALIVE WOOD SMASHES THE POWER GLOBE-- AS THE MARSHLAND MONSTER HOWLS HIS TRIUMPH...

IN THE LONG YEARS WHEN HE WAS IMPRISONED ON THAT PLANET WITH PLENTY OF TIME TO THINK, HE MUST HAVE REMEMBERED OUR BATTLES AND REALIZED-- THAT WOOD IS MY WEAKNESS AND NEMESIS!



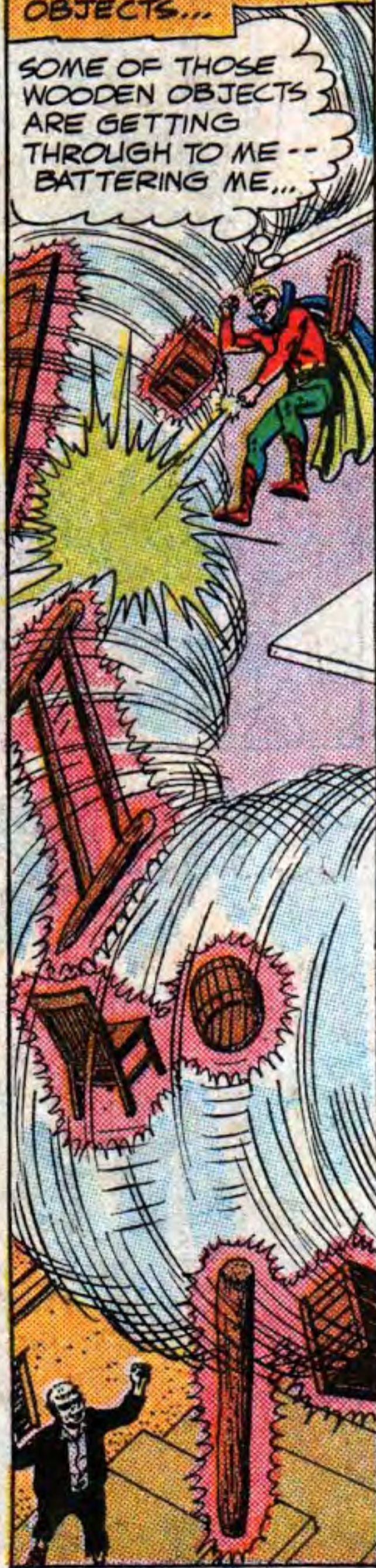
NEXT MOMENT, THE MAN-THING WAVES HIS "WOODEN SOLDIERS" TO THE ATTACK...

HIT! HIT! KNOCK HIM DOWN TO ME-- SO I GRAB HIM!



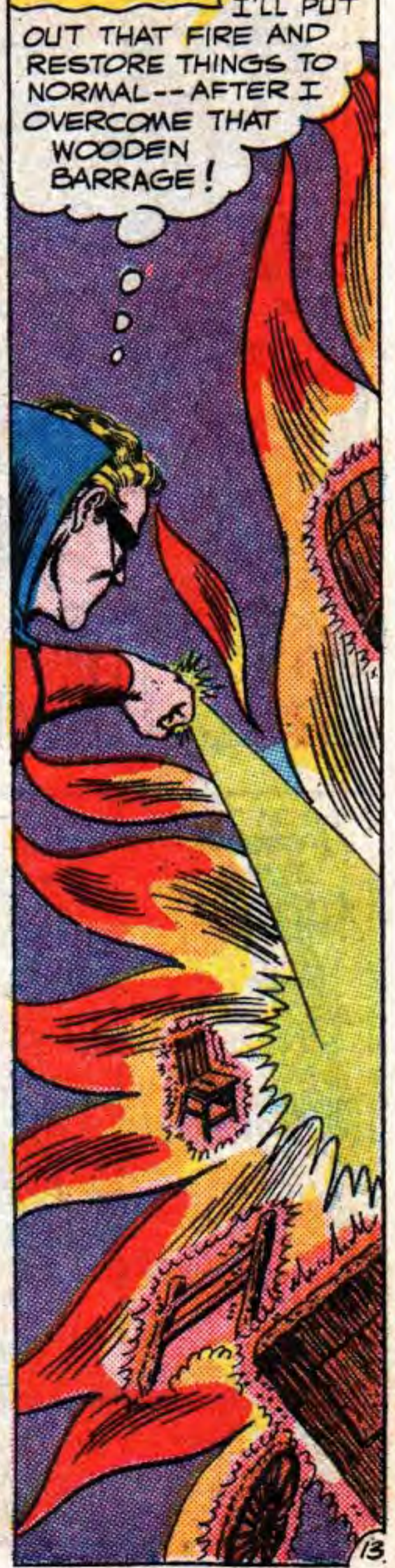
QUICKLY, THE EMERALD CRUSADER DEFLECTS THE PATH OF A DISTANT CYCLONE TO BLOW AWAY THOSE DEADLY OBJECTS...

SOME OF THOSE WOODEN OBJECTS ARE GETTING THROUGH TO ME-- BATTERING ME...



WITH HIS POWER RING HE FASHIONS TONGUES OF FLAMES TO LEAP UP AT THOSE WOODEN WEAPONS...

I'LL PUT OUT THAT FIRE AND RESTORE THINGS TO NORMAL-- AFTER I OVERCOME THAT WOODEN BARRAGE!



BUT ALWAYS THAT ARMY OF WOOD INCREASES SO THAT THE UNENDING BLOWS FELL THE GREEN GLADIATOR...



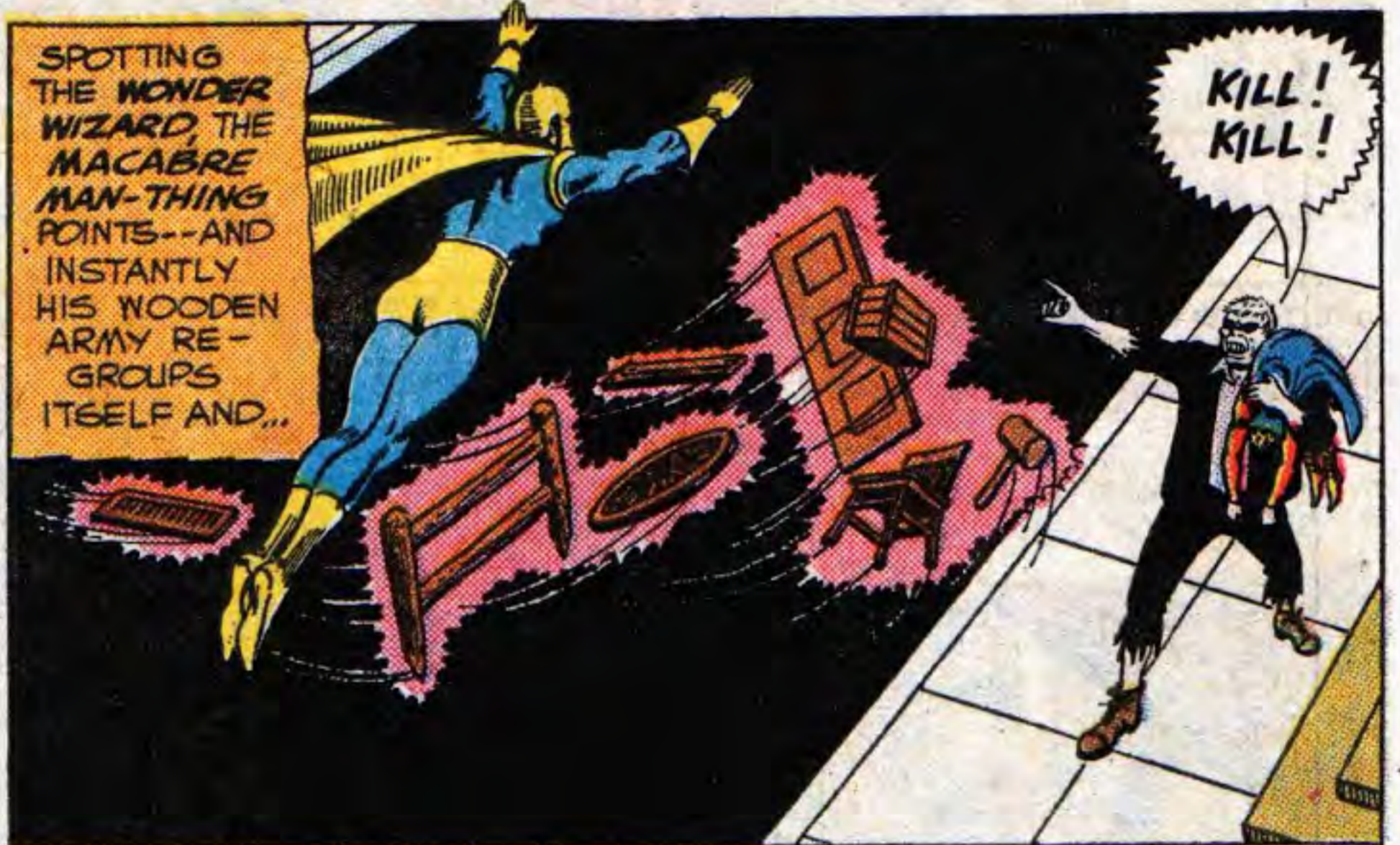
I WIN!  
I WIN!

AT THIS CRITICAL MOMENT, FROM SOUTH OF GOTHAM CITY STREAKS DOCTOR FATE, FULLY RECOVERED FROM HIS KNOCKOUT BLOW...



GRUNDY'S GRABBING GREEN LANTERN!  
FORTUNATELY I WAS ABLE TO TRACK HIM HERE BY HIS RADIO-ACTIVE FOOTPRINTS!

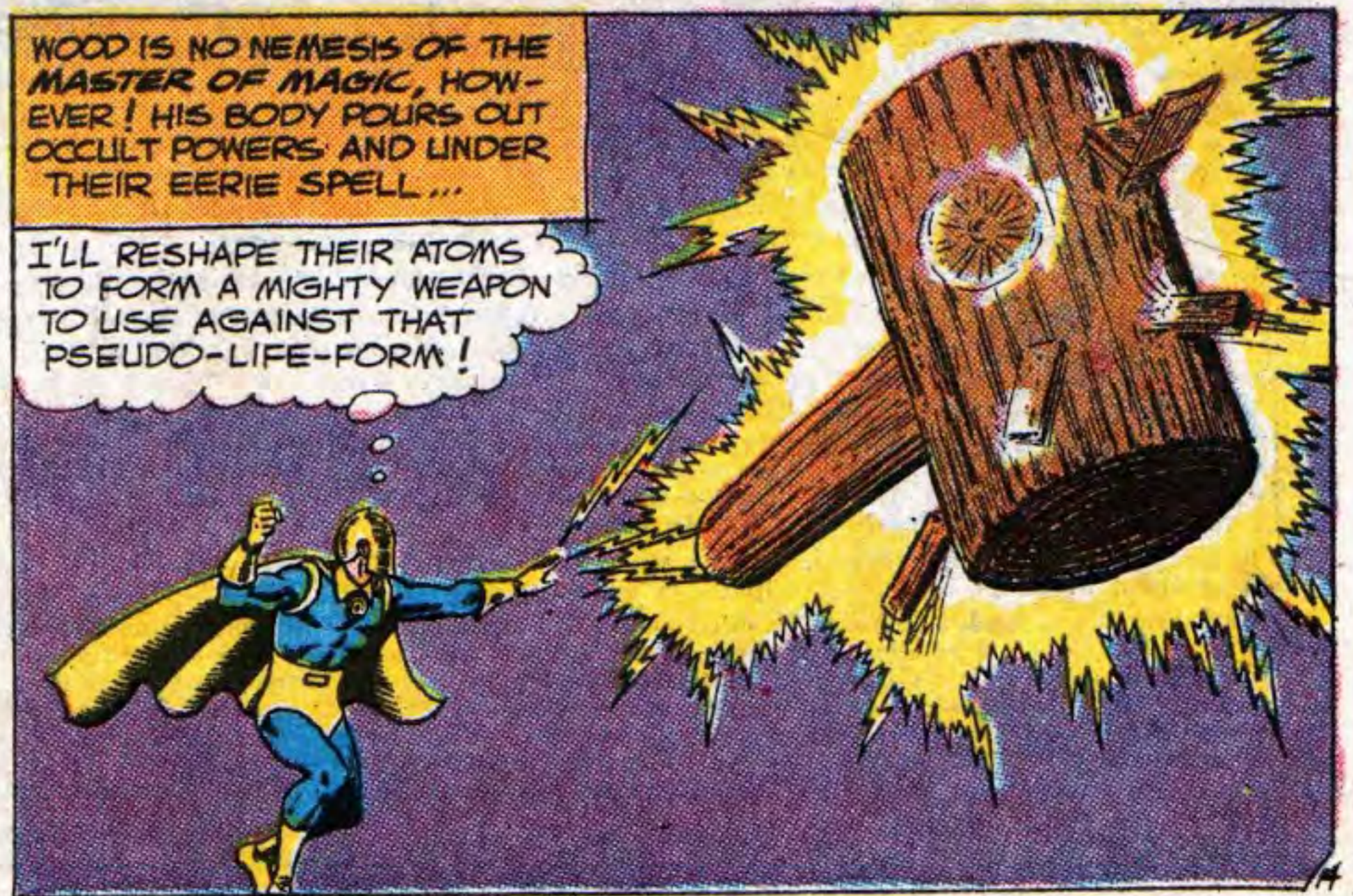
SPOTTING THE WONDER WIZARD, THE MACABRE MAN-THING POINTS--AND INSTANTLY HIS WOODEN ARMY RE-GROUPS ITSELF AND...



KILL!  
KILL!

WOOD IS NO NEMESIS OF THE MASTER OF MAGIC, HOWEVER! HIS BODY POURS OUT OCCULT POWERS AND UNDER THEIR EERIE SPELL...

I'LL RESHAPE THEIR ATOMS TO FORM A MIGHTY WEAPON TO USE AGAINST THAT PSEUDO-LIFE-FORM!

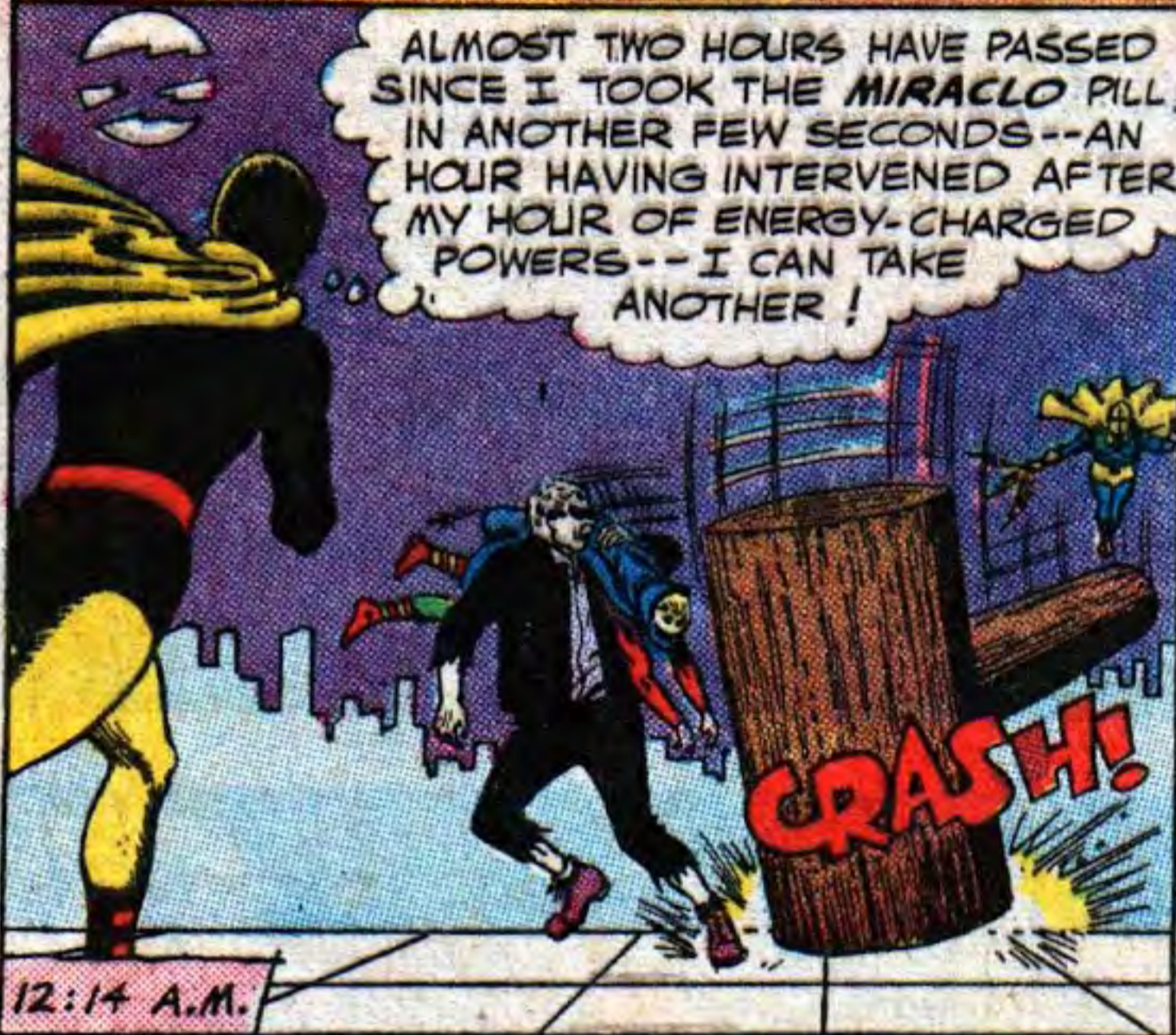




# SHOWCASE



MEANWHILE, HOURMAN HAS ALSO BEEN TRAILING SOLOMON GRUNDY AS SWIFTLY AS HE CAN...



ALMOST TWO HOURS HAVE PASSED SINCE I TOOK THE MIRACLO PILL! IN ANOTHER FEW SECONDS--AN HOUR HAVING INTERVENED AFTER MY HOUR OF ENERGY-CHARGED POWERS--I CAN TAKE ANOTHER!

CRASH!

12:14 A.M.

EVEN AS HE SWALLOWS A MIRACLO PILL, HE SEES THE SWAMPLAND SCARECROW LIFT DOCTOR FATE'S WOODEN MALLET AND SWING IT...



I HOPE THAT THIS "HELPING HAND" I GIVE DOCTOR FATE WILL TURN OUT BETTER THAN THE LAST ONE!

12:15 A.M.

BUT--AS DOCTOR FATE SWERVES ASIDE FROM THE MALLET, TICK-TOCK TYLER SEES HIS FELLOW SUPER-HERO COME STRAIGHT FOR HIM!...



ALL OF A SUDDEN--I HAVE A GREAT COMPULSION TO DESTROY HOURMAN!

12:15 1/2 A.M.



I MUST BATTLE AND OVERCOME DOCTOR FATE-- AT ALL COSTS!

STORY CONTINUES ON THE NEXT PAGE...

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I certify that the statements made by me above are correct and complete. IRWIN DONENFELD, Business Manager.



# SOLOMON GRUNDY GOES ON A RAMPAGE!

CHAPTER 3

THE INSTANT YOU TOUCH THAT MAGICAL LIGHT CURTAIN, HOURMAN--YOU DOOM YOURSELF!

I'LL MATCH MY MIRACLO POWERS AGAINST YOUR MAGIC ANYTIME, DOCTOR FATE!

AAAARRGH!

**SOLOMON GRUNDY** IS FORGOTTEN BEFORE THE SUDDEN HATE THAT FILLS THE HEARTS AND MINDS OF THE TWO CRUSADERS!

NO LONGER DO THEY CONCERN THEMSELVES WITH BATTLING THE MACABRE MAN-THING... THEY ARE INTENT ONLY ON DOING AWAY WITH ONE ANOTHER!

THE DEADLY DUEL BEGINS AS DOCTOR FATE FLINGS UP A CURTAIN OF MAGIC-- AND HOURMAN LEAPS TOWARD HIM, ENERGY-CHARGED FIST CLENCHED!





CONFIDENTLY, THE MAN OF THE HOUR SPRINGS INTO THE SHIMMERING DRAPE OF AWESOME ENCHANTMENT! ...



HA! HIS BODY IS STIFFENING -- HIS MIND REELING ...

BUT EVEN THOUGH HOURMAN SINKS INTO UNCONSCIOUSNESS...



HE HAD SO MUCH MOMENTUM BEHIND HIM, IT CARRIED HIM CLEAR THROUGH MY MAGICAL CURTAIN -- UNNGH!

HEAD OVER HEELS, THE INERT SUPER-HEROES TUMBLE TOWARD THE GROUND...



THE INSTANT THEY THUD TO EARTH, THE MARSHLAND MONSTER TRUDGES OFF INTO THE NIGHT...





AS HE SHUFFLES ALONG THE ROAD TOWARD SLAUGHTER SWAMP, SOLOMON GRUNDY IS SUDDENLY FRAMED IN A PAIR OF BRILLIANT HEADLIGHTS...

FOR PETE'S SAKE! LOOK THERE! IT'S OUR OLD PAL -- SOLOMON GRUNDY!

WHERE YA BEEN ALL THESE YEARS?



THE MAN-THING PAUSES, RECOGNIZING HIS GANG OF YEARS BEFORE...

AND HE'S GOT HIS ARCH-ENEMY-- GREEN LANTERN! HOW ABOUT THAT!

GREEN LANTERN PUT ME ON DEAD PLANET--LONG TIME AGO! VERY COLD, VERY DARK THERE! ME NOT LIKE!



"THEN LONG TIME LATER, BIG THING LIKE SHOOTING STAR PASS HIGH UP... PULL EVERYTHING OFF PLANET NOT HELD DOWN. I GO TOO..."

NOW ME FIND GREEN LANTERN! ME GET REVENGE!



"I RIDE THROUGH SPACE. NOT NEED TO BREATHE. FEEL COLD, BUT NOT FREEZE..."

MOVE GREEN BALL BY HOLDING SIDES! MAKE IT GO WHERE ME WANT!



"TOOK LONG TIME -- BUT AT LAST I STEER IT HOME" ...

URGED ON BY HIS EAGER FRIENDS, SOLOMON GRUNDY AGREES TO HELP THEM PULL OFF ANOTHER JOB--FOR OLD TIME'S SAKE...

ATTABOY, SOLOMON! WE'LL TAKE OVER NOW!

MAN, WHAT A HAUL!



WHILE THE SWAMPLAND SCARECROW CONTINUES ON HIS WAY-- DOCTOR FATE AND HOURMAN SLOWLY STIR--RISE TO THEIR FEET...

Whew! WHAT CAME OVER US? FOR A WHILE THERE, I FELT YOU WERE MY ENEMY!

SAME HERE! BUT I BELIEVE I'M BEGINNING TO UNDERSTAND. MY HATE FOR YOU BEGAN WHEN-- YOU SWALLOWED THAT MIRACLO PILL!



12:30 A.M.

SOMETHING ABOUT YOUR MIRACLO AFFECTS MY MAGIC, JUST AS MY MAGIC HAS AN ADVERSE INFLUENCE ON YOU WHEN YOU GO INTO ACTION NEAR ME!

FIRST IT WEAKENED US SO SOLOMON GRUNDY COULD THROW OFF YOUR MAGIC ELECTRICITY AND HURL YOU AT ME! THEN IT MADE US FIGHT ONE ANOTHER! PERHAPS THE RADIOACTIVITY OF SOLOMON GRUNDY'S BODY HAD SOMETHING TO DO WITH IT!



MERGING HIS BODY-ATOMS WITH THE WIND HE CREATES WITH HIS MAGIC, THE WONDER WIZARD ROCKETS INTO THE AIR AS THE MAN OF THE HOUR IS DRAWN UP AFTER HIM...

I'LL CREATE A NON-GRAVITIC PATHWAY IN THE AIR BEHIND ME-- SO YOU CAN RIDE ALONG, DRAWN AFTER ME BY THE SPEED OF MY FLYING!

SINCE WE HAVE TO BE REASONABLY CLOSE TO HAVE MY MIRACLO AFFECT YOUR MAGIC, I'LL MAKE SURE TO KEEP MY DISTANCE!



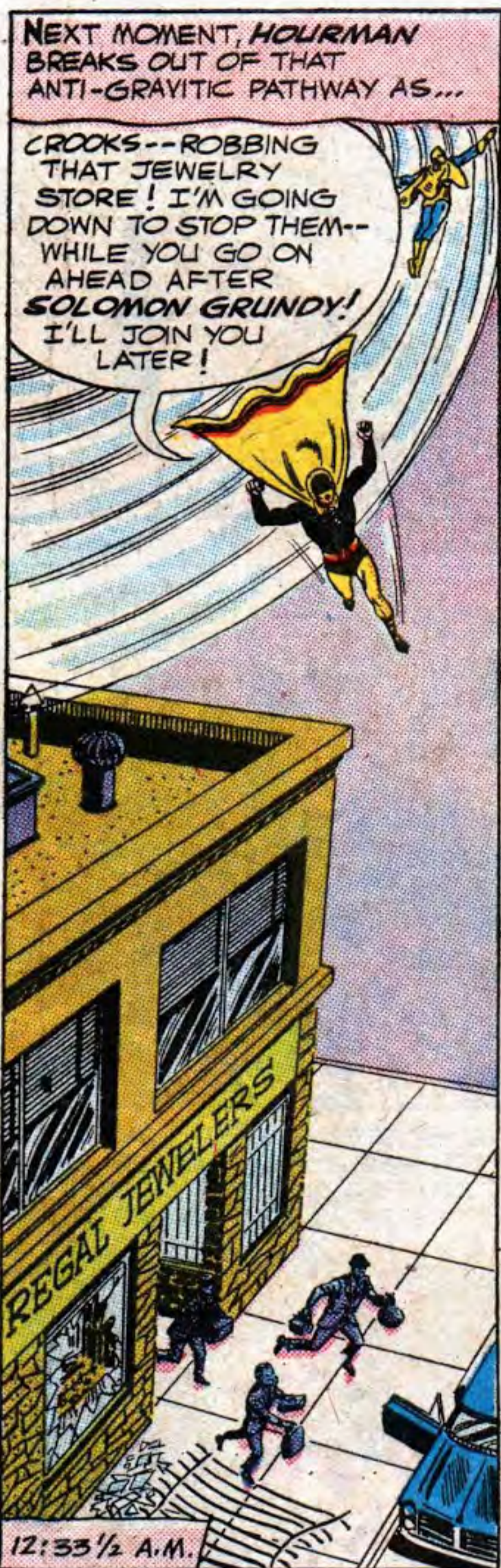
12:31 A.M.

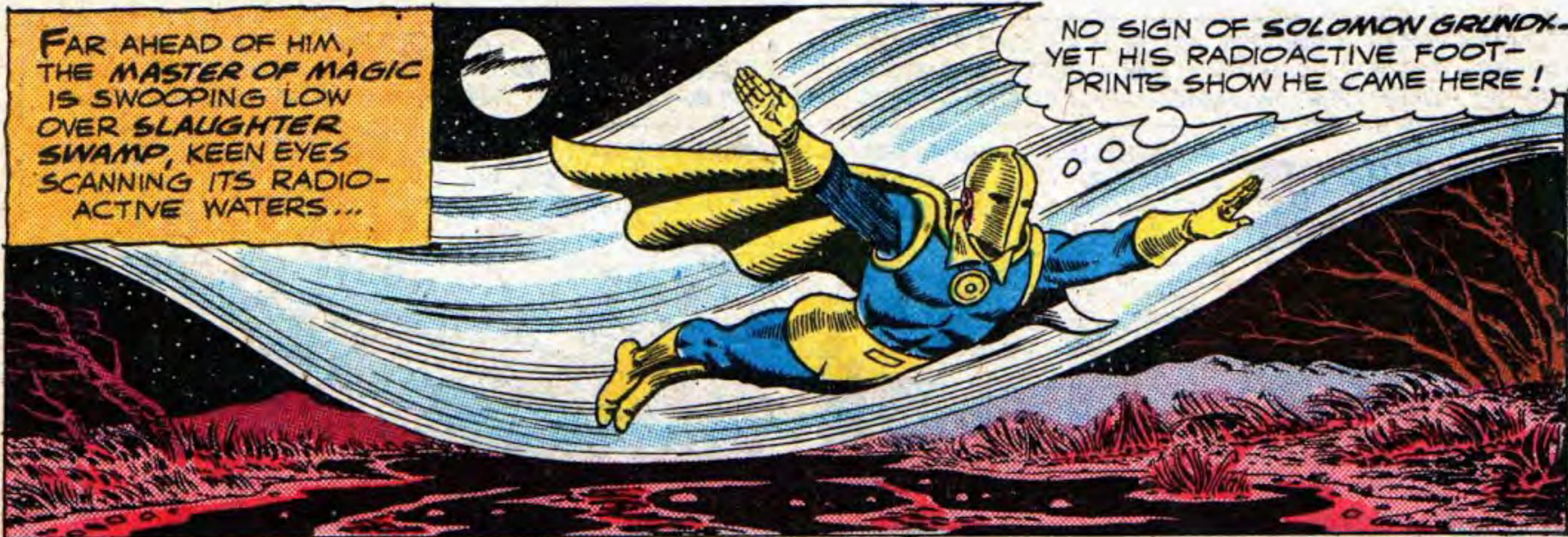
WITH THE MASTER MAGE LEADING THE WAY, "TICK-TOCK" TYLER SPEEDS ALONG BEHIND HIM WITH THE EASE OF AN "AIR-SKIER"-- UNTIL...

DOCTOR FATE-- LOOK BELOW YOU!



12:33 A.M.





FAR AHEAD OF HIM, THE MASTER OF MAGIC IS SWOOPING LOW OVER SLAUGHTER SWAMP, KEEN EYES SCANNING ITS RADIOACTIVE WATERS...

NO SIGN OF SOLOMON GRUNDY-- YET HIS RADIOACTIVE FOOT-PRINTS SHOW HE CAME HERE!

SUDDENLY THE WATERS PART AS THE MACABRE MAN-THING RISES UPWARD TO COME TO GRIPS WITH HIS TORMENTOR...



AH, THERE YOU ARE! YOU NOT ONLY HAVE ME TO DEAL WITH, GRUNDY-- BUT ALSO--GREEN LANTERN!

AAAARRGH!

THE STUNNED EYES OF THE SWAMPLAND SCARECROW TURN TOWARD THE EDGE OF THE MARSHLAND, WHERE...



GREEN LANTERN? NO! YOU IN SWAMP! ME PUT YOU THERE-- MAKE YOU JUST LIKE ME--HELP ME FIGHT ENEMIES! THAT--NOT YOU!

I FIGURED THAT MAGICAL GREEN LANTERN I CREATED WOULD MAKE HIM BLURT OUT THE WHEREABOUTS OF THE REAL GREEN LANTERN!

DESPITE HIS CLAIM TO HAVE IMPRISONED THE EMERALD GLADIATOR, THE SIGHT OF HIS LONG-TIME FOE MADDENS SOLOMON GRUNDY...



I TAKE YOU BACK INTO WATER! I MAKE YOU MAN-THING--LIKE ME!

THE MARSHLAND MONSTER DISCOVERS THAT THE "MAGICAL GREEN LANTERN" HAS AN EERIE STRENGTH ALL HIS OWN!...



YOU HIT HARD-- BUT I KNOCK YOU OUT! YOU WAIT! YOU SEE!

TO ONE SIDE, DOCTOR FATE HAS CAST AN ANCIENT SPELL, LIFTING THE GLOWING WATERS OF SLAUGHTER SWAMP UPWARD INTO THE AIR--REVEALING...



A MONSTROUS GREEN LANTERN! SOLOMON GRUNDY BROUGHT HIM HERE TO MAKE THESE RADIO-ACTIVE WATERS TURN HIM INTO A PSEUDO-LIFE-FORM LIKE HIMSELF!

SHAMBLING FORWARD, THE TRANSFORMED GREEN LANTERN HURLS HIMSELF STRAIGHT AT THE WONDER WIZARD...



HE DOESN'T KNOW WHO HE IS OR WHO I AM! HE IS COMPLETELY UNDER THE SPELL OF THE RADIOACTIVE SWAMPLANDS!

A BEAM FROM THE POWER RING FORMS A GREAT GREEN MACE THAT PLUMMETS DOWNWARD AT THE MYSTICAL MAGE...



I KILL!

WITH HIS LEFT HAND DOCTOR FATE CATCHES AND HOLDS THE MACE AS HIS RIGHT HAND HURLS TINY SUNS AT HIS FELLOW JUSTICE SOCIETY MEMBER...



YOU HAVE GREAT POWERS, GREEN LANTERN--BUT SO HAVE I! AND MY BRAIN IS KEEN AND ALERT, WHILE YOURS IS POSSESSED ONLY WITH THE DESIRE TO DESTROY!

THE MINIATURE SUNS BEAT DOWN UPON GREEN LANTERN WITH THEIR MYSTIC POWERS! HE WRITHES, HE TWISTS TO ESCAPE THE MAGICAL RAYS THAT BATHE HIS BODY! ...



SUDDENLY, A STARTLING CHANGE COMES OVER THE EMERALD CRUSADER! HIS MONSTROUS FEATURES DISAPPEAR, HIS TORN AND RIDDLED CLOTHES FIRM BACK TO NORMAL-- UNTIL IN EXHAUSTION AT HIS ORDEAL, HE DROPS TO HIS KNEES...

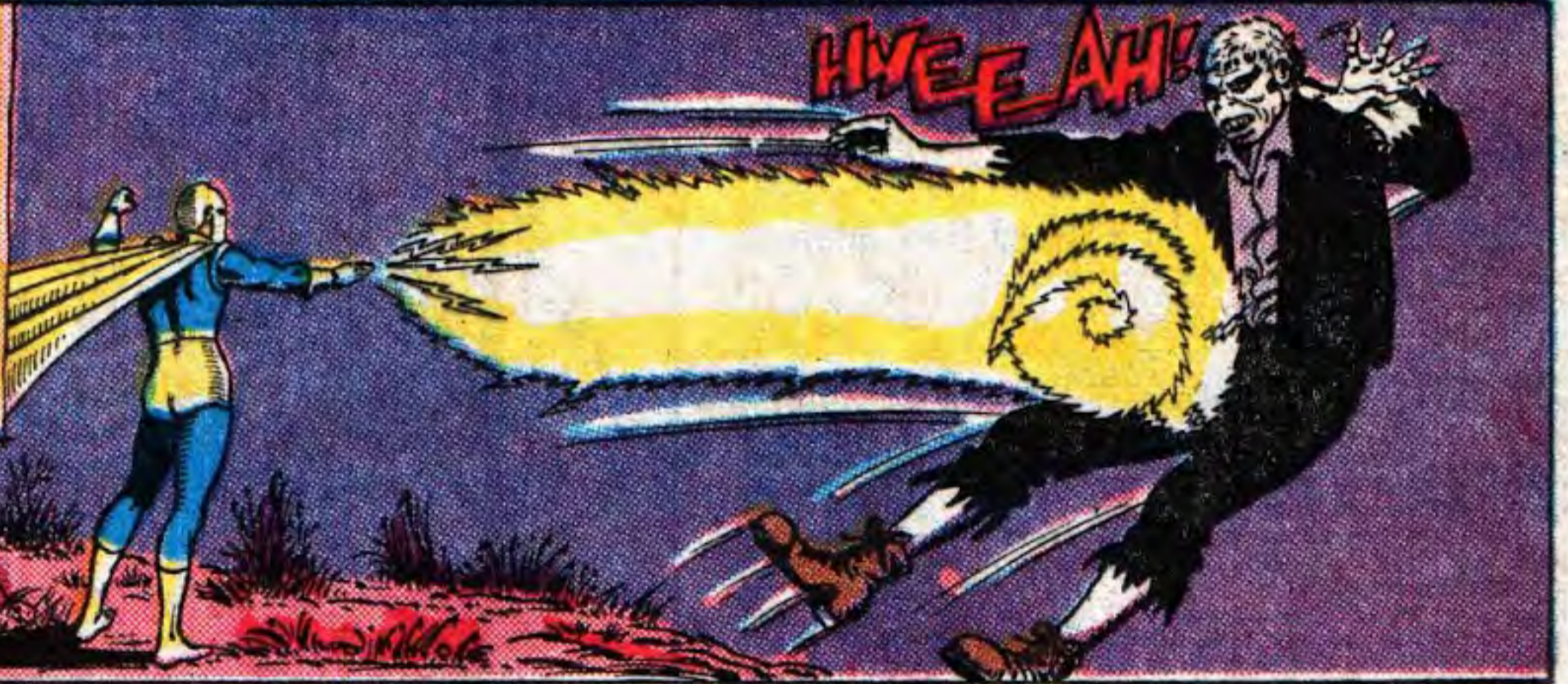


WITH A BELLOW OF RAGE, SOLOMON GRUNDY TURNS FROM THE MAGICAL GREEN LANTERN TOWARD THE REAL ONE--AND SEES DOCTOR FATE STANDING IN HIS PATH...



YOU DO THIS! YOU TRICK ME! I--GET YOU!

NOW THE WONDER WIZARD IS IN CONTROL, HOWEVER! HIS MAGIC IS NEVER STRONGER AS HE HURLS A SORCEROUS BATTERING RAM AT HIS EERIE FOE ...

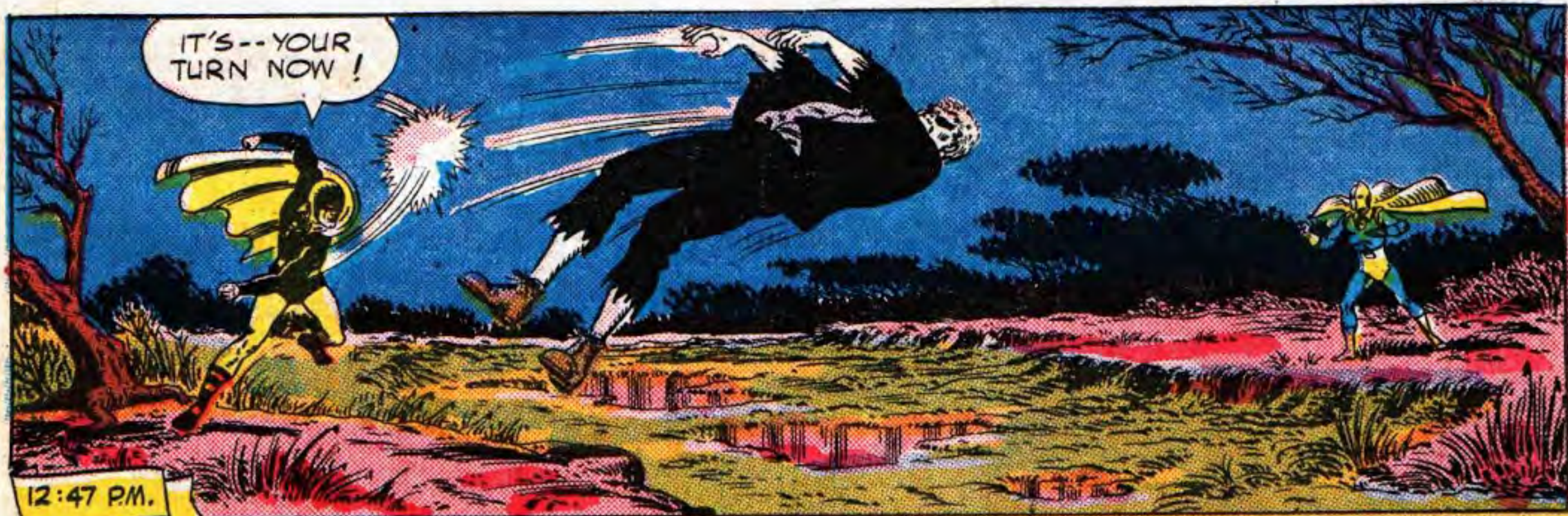


HVEE AHI!

THEN OUT OF THE NIGHT RACES HOURMAN-- EAGER TO BE IN AT THE FINISH! ...



ATTABOY, DOCTOR FATE! YOU KNOCKED HIM WITHIN RANGE OF MY FISTS! HOLD OFF ON YOUR MAGIC WHILE I GIVE HIM A DOSE OF MY SUPER-ENERGY!





AS DOCTOR FATE CONTINUES THE ONSLAUGHT, A REVITALIZED GREEN LANTERN MOVES IN...

SIDE BY SIDE, DOCTOR FATE AND GREEN LANTERN RISE INTO THE NIGHT SKY...

LET ME HELP OUT, FELLOWS! YOU MUST KNOW BY NOW THAT NOTHING CAN KNOCK GRUNDY OUT BECAUSE OF HIS STRANGE LIFE-FORM! WE MUST DO SOMETHING ELSE!

WHAT HAVE YOU GOT IN MIND, GREEN LANTERN?

TO IMPRISON HIM IN A MODIFIED FORCE BUBBLE! THE ONE I ORIGINALLY CREATED YEARS AGO WAS WEAKENED OVER THE YEARS BECAUSE OF ITS LONG TRIP THROUGH SPACE AND ITS FIERY FALL THROUGH THE EARTH'S ATMOSPHERE-- SO THAT IT CRACKED OPEN AND DISSIPATED WHEN IT LANDED!

I UNDERSTAND! I'LL ADD MY MAGIC TO THE ENERGY OF YOUR POWER RING!

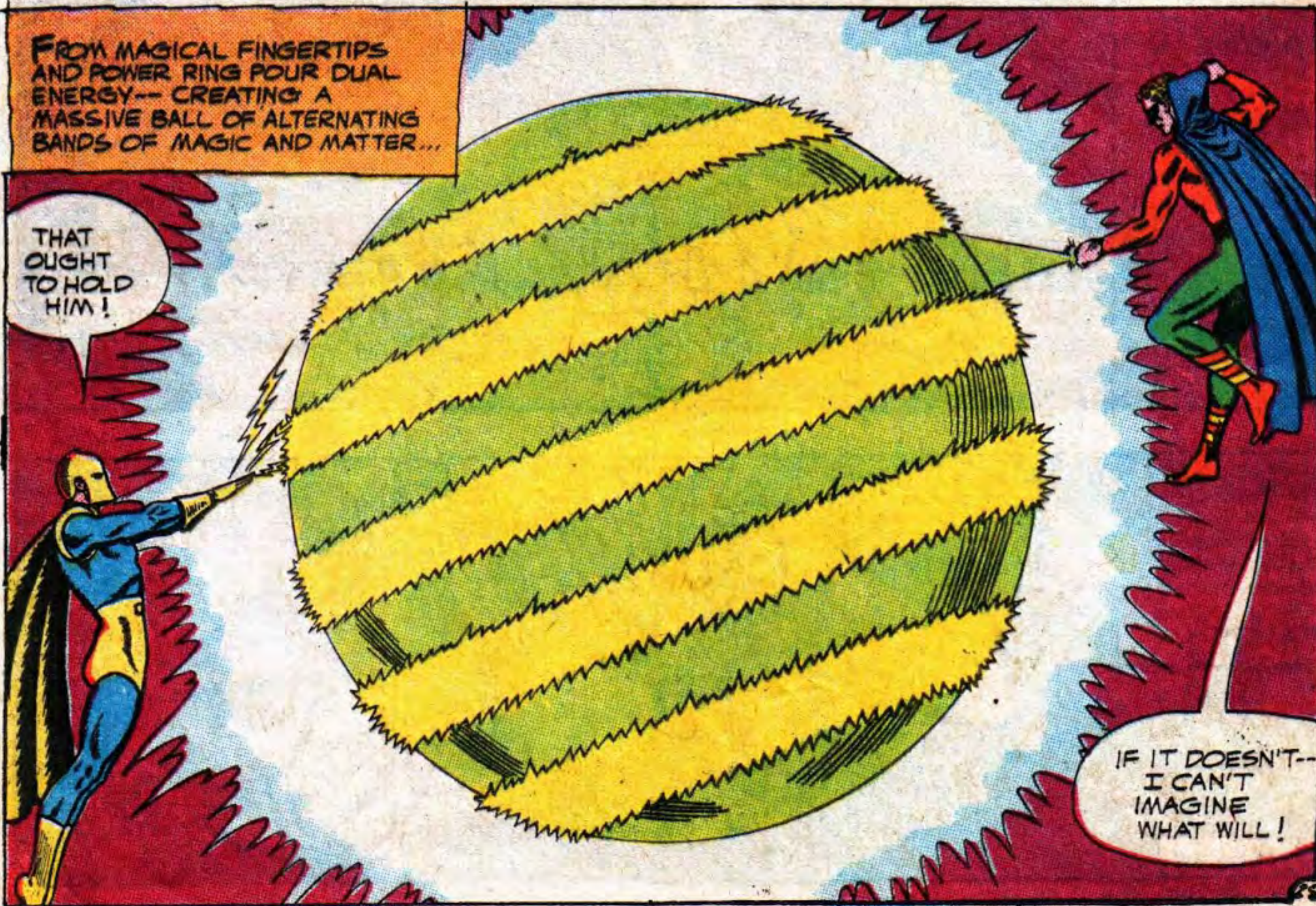
EXACTLY! TOGETHER WE'LL CREATE A GLOBE-- HALF-ENERGY AND HALF-MAGIC-- THAT WILL LAST UNTIL THE END OF TIME!

AAARGHH!



FROM MAGICAL FINGERTIPS AND POWER RING POUR DUAL ENERGY-- CREATING A MASSIVE BALL OF ALTERNATING BANDS OF MAGIC AND MATTER...

THAT OUGHT TO HOLD HIM!



IF IT DOESN'T-- I CAN'T IMAGINE WHAT WILL!

THEN FROM BELOW, HOURMAN LIFTS HIS FIST IN A MAGNIFICENT UPPERCUT-- DRIVING THE MACABRE MAN-THING UPWARD TOWARD THE MAGICAL PRISON PREPARED FOR HIM...



SO AWESOME IS THAT BLOW THAT WITHIN MOMENTS...

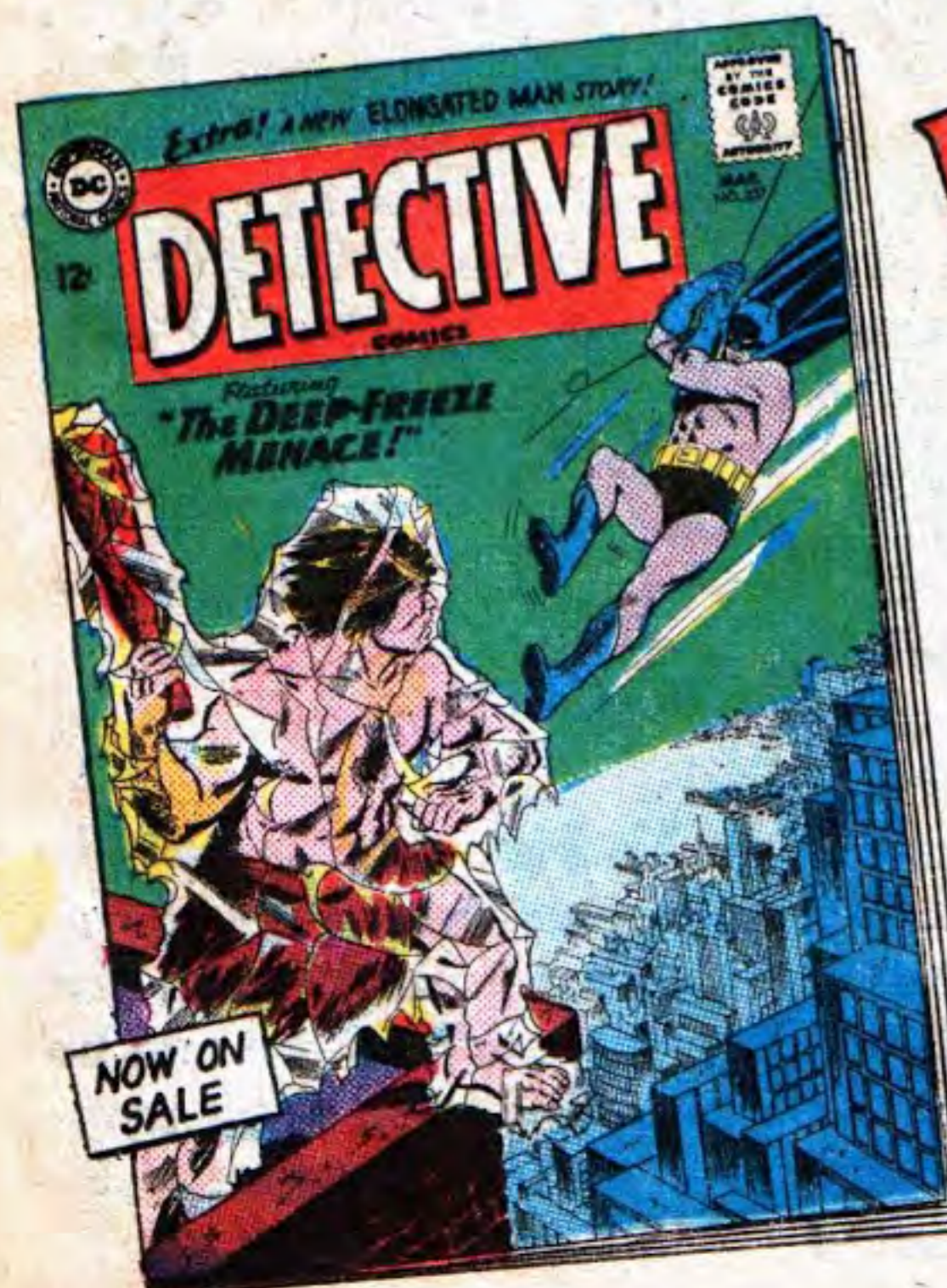
NOW WHAT DO WE DO WITH SOLOMON GRUNDY? WITH OUR COMBINED POWERS, WE'LL PUT HIM IN ETERNAL ORBIT AROUND THE EARTH! THAT WAY, WE CAN MAINTAIN A 24-HOUR VIGILANCE ON HIM!



UPWARD AND OUTWARD INTO AN ORBIT ABOUT THE PLANET GOES THE MACABRE MAN-THING, ENDLESSLY CIRCLING THE WORLD THAT SPAWNED HIM...



MY CRYSTAL BALL AND YOUR POWER RING WILL GLOW IN A UNIQUE WAY IF SOLOMON GRUNDY EVER ESCAPES FROM THAT PRISON!! PERSONALLY, I DON'T THINK HE'LL EVER BOTHER US AGAIN!



For The VERY BEST



in COMICS READING



NOW ON SALE

# THE ORIGIN OF DR. FATE HOURMAN



*Doctor Fate* is a student of those ancient mysteries the secrets of which were lost when Julius Caesar burned the library in Alexandria. He delves into the sciences of the occult and the weird, being both an alchemist and a mage. He has learned the ultimate secret of the universe, the true conversion of energy into matter and matter into energy.

He lives in a doorless stone tower in witch-haunted Salem. In his civilian identity of Kent Nelson, archeologist, he is married to Inza Cramer, who shared his many adventures as originally reported in *More Fun Comics*, from his initial appearance in the May, 1940 issue, number 55, through issue number 98. *Doctor Fate* also appeared in many *All-Star* adventures, as a member of the famed super-hero organization, the *Justice Society of America*.

The son of an archeologist, young Kent Nelson accompanied his father Sven to the Valley of Ur, in his quest to solve the riddle of the building of the pyramids. There Kent discovered the living but inert body of *Nabu the Wise* in a casket. By pushing a lever, Kent sent a flood of gas into *Nabu's* casket, releasing him from the state of hibernation in which he had lain for centuries.

When Kent found his father dead, *Nabu* remained with him, teaching him the secrets of the universe, the lost mystical arts of Chaldea and Egypt, Babylon and Sumer. *Nabu* was from *Cilia*, a planet that orbits close to Earth once every several thousand years. When he was about to return home, he gave Kent Nelson the blue-and-gold uniform which he was to wear in his adventurous career as *Doctor Fate*.

Recently, *Doctor Fate* reappeared with the revived *Justice Society* to help its counterpart on another Earth, the *Justice League*, combat the *Crime Champions* and the *Crime Syndicate of America*.



For one hour, thanks to the *Miraclo* pills, he became endowed with super-charged energy! At the end of that hour, he once again was a normal human being! His name was Rex Tyler, and he made his first appearance in *Adventure Comics* in the March, 1940 issue, as—*Hourman*.

The inventor of *Miraclo*, "Tick-Tock" Tyler soon discovered that this powerful chemical transformed him from a meek, mild chemist to *Hourman*—a fleet-footed man with the strength of a giant, the leaping ability of a super-athlete and a body insensible to harm. Since his great powers lasted precisely one hour, he hung an *hourglass* about his neck to keep track of the time.

When he first began his adventures, his superior at the chemical plant assured him he would never amount to anything because of his meekness, but today he owns that chemical plant and runs it with business skill and acumen!

*Hourman*, too, was a charter member of the *Justice Society of America* but was granted a leave of absence and replaced by *Starman* in *All-Star* number 8. Subsequently, in issue 83, *Hourman* was given another leave of absence, this time from *Adventure Comics*. Until his recent appearance in *Justice League of America*, he has remained in quiet retirement. Until, that is, he was summoned out of that retirement, as was *Doctor Fate*, by the *Crises on Earth-One* and *Earth-Two*! Battling side by side with such former friends as *Flash*, *Green Lantern*, *Atom*, *Hawkman* and the *Black Canary*, *Hourman* found a new love of life!

Today he keeps his *Miraclo* pills and his *Hourman* costume in a secret vault in the Tyler Chemical Company plant, ready for any sudden emergency such as the one he is presented with in this issue—the reappearance of the marshland monster, *Solomon Grundy*!