

B-MAN

DOUBLE-DARE ADVENTURES

Presents A BIG DOUBLE-FEATURE starring

BEE-MAN



GIANT
HARVEY
THRILLER
SIZE

DEC No. 1

25c



**EXTRA ADDED
ATTRACTION!**
You can be a magician.
INCREDIBLE MAGIC SECRETS
NEVER BEFORE REVEALED!!!



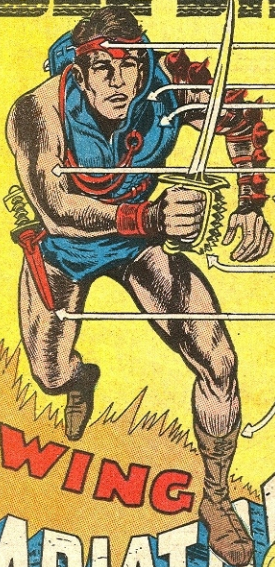
Can YOU take a dare? ..How about a- **DOUBLE DARE**

IF YOU CAN TAKE THE
THRILLS AND EXCITEMENT
OF A JOURNEY INTO THE
TOMB OF ANCIENT
EGYPTIAN GODS---
OF THE RETURN TO
LIFE---BEFORE YOUR
VERY EYES---OF A
FIGHTING MAN OF
2,000 YEARS AGO---
THEN, YOU HAVE TAKEN
US UP ON A-

DOUBLE DARE

FOR YOU HAVE
SEEN---IN
LIVING COLOR---

THE GLOWING GLADIATOR



SWEATBAND

ARMORED
CHIN GUARD.

LEFT ARM AND
SIDE PROTECTED
WITH ARMOR---THIS
IS SIDE STRUCK
BY OPPONENT.
RIGHT ARM FREE
TO ATTACK.

SPIKED
ARM DISKS
(OFFENSIVE).

KNUCKLE GUARD

DAGGER FOR
IN-FIGHTING.

LEATHER
SOCKS FOR
SPEED.

BUT FIRST-YOUR
DOUBLE DARE...
THE FANTASTIC
FRIGHTENING ORIGIN OF
B-MAN!



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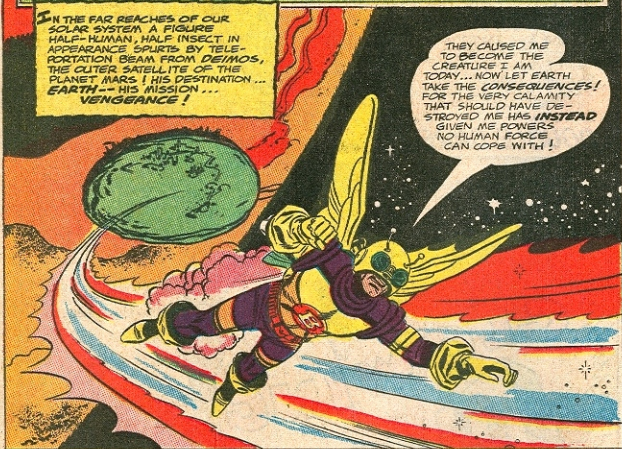
act of March 3, 1879. Single copies 25c. 35c. in Canada. Subscription rates, 4 issues for \$1.00. U.S. possessions only. All names in this periodical are entirely fictitious and no identification with actual persons is intended. Copyright © 1966, by Harvey Features Syndicate, New York, N. Y. All rights reserved. Printed in the U.S.A.

B^{EE}-MAN



IN THE FAR REACHES OF OUR SOLAR SYSTEM A FIGURE HALF-HUMAN, HALF INSECT IN APPEARANCE SPURTS BY TELEPORTATION BEAM FROM DEIMOS, THE OUTER SATELLITE OF THE PLANET MARS! HIS DESTINATION... EARTH-- HIS MISSION... VENGANCE!

THEY CAUSED ME TO BECOME THE CREATURE I AM TODAY... NOW LET EARTH TAKE THE CONSEQUENCES! FOR THE VERY CALAMITY THAT SHOULD HAVE DESTROYED ME HAS INSTEAD GIVEN ME POWERS NO HUMAN FORCE CAN COPE WITH!



WHO IS THIS MAN-THING? AND WHAT BIZARRE FATE HAS MADE HIM A MENACE TO THE PLANET EARTH?

I SHALL TOY WITH THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST POWERS OF LAW AND ORDER AS IF THEY WERE CHILDREN...



YES, HERE ON THIS MOUNTAIN TOP I SHALL BUILD MY "HIVE" AND INTO MY HONEY POT WILL GO THE MOST TREASURED OBJECTS ON EARTH!



AS THE FIGURE ALIGHTS ON WHAT IS TO BE HIS EARTH LABORATORY, LET US TURN BACK TIME AND SEE WHAT BROUGHT ABOUT... THE BIRTH OF THE BEE..

IT BEGAN MONTHS BEFORE...
WHEN A MARS PROBE
SPACE CRAFT FROM EARTH
CAUGHT A METEORITE...



OUR SCOOP HAS
GRAFTED SOMETHING...
PROBABLY A METEORITE!
WE'VE GOT A TREMENDOUS
SPACE FIELD, MEN!
TELL EAMES TO
BRING HER BACK
TO EARTH FAST!



BUT BARRY EAMES, OF
ROBOT SHIP CONTROL
HAD OTHER IDEAS...

THIS IS MY CHANCE AT
LAST... I'LL FOUL THE
CONTROLS... AND LAND THE
SHIP WHERE I'LL KNOW ITS
LOCATION! AND THE SPACE
BIG SHOTS WILL HAVE TO PAY
ME **BIG** IF THEY WANT
WHAT'S
INSIDE
HER!



SO IT IS, THAT WEEKS LATER,
ONLY ONE MAN KNEW THE
AREA WHERE THE VITAL
SPACE PROBE VESSEL SHOULD
CRASH LAND...

MY CALCULATIONS WERE **PERFECT!** SHE FELL RIGHT IN
THE RAVINE AREA WHERE
SHE'LL BE **OUT OF**
SIGHT! NOW TO
SEE WHAT
KIND OF A
TREASURE
THAT BABY
PICKED UP
IN SPACE!



BARRY EAMES MOVED
EXCITEDLY TO INVESTIGATE
HIS "TREASURE"...

IT'S A METEORITE ALL RIGHT...
BUT A REAL **WEIRD** ONE...
AND **LISTEN** TO THAT SOUND
COMING FROM INSIDE THE
THING! **HEY!** I MIGHT
HAVE ME SOMETHING
ALIVE!



INDEED EAMES DID HAVE SOME-
THING ALIVE...FOR **SUDDENLY...**



YIIIIII! INSECTS!
G-GIANT
INSECTS FROM
SPACE!

THE ALIEN INSECTS SWARMED LIKE LOCUSTS
OVER HIS BODY... A THOUSAND PIN PRICKS
INSERTED A STRANGE VENOM INTO HIS
FLESH...



YAAARRGH!

BZZ **Zzzzz**
BZZZZ
zzzz

AND IT WAS TWO DAYS LATER THAT A PASSING
MOTORIST FOUND HIM WANDERING DAZED IN
THE DESERT...

GREAT SCOTT!
THAT POOR CHAP
MUST HAVE GOTTEN
LOST IN THE DESERT...
HE'S **OUT** OF HIS
MIND... PROBABLY
HALF DEAD
FROM THIRST!

THE BEES... SAVE
ME FROM THE
GIANT BEES!



FOR THREE DAYS AND THREE NIGHTS HE TOSSED RAVING IN A HOSPITAL BED... AS A TEAM OF DOCTORS MADE TESTS...



STRANGE! HIS HEARTBEAT IS TRIPLE THE PACE OF A NORMAL ONE... BUT IT DOESN'T SEEM TO BE HARMING HIM!

AND HIS BLOOD-- IT... IT'S FANTASTIC... THERE IS NO SUCH TYPE IF WE DON'T HAVE A LISTING FOR IT!

WHATEVER HAPPENED TO THIS MAN, IT CHANGED HIS ENTIRE BODY CHEMISTRY!

YES, AND THOSE WEREN'T JUST WAGS OR BEE STINGS THAT LUMPED HIM UP! SOME UNKNOWN VENOM HAS BEEN PUMPED INTO HIS BODY! THIS IS A JOB FOR THE SPECIALISTS!



BUT HOURS LATER, AS HOSPITAL AUTHORITIES AWAITED THE ARRIVAL OF THE SPECIALISTS, BARRY EAMES REVIVED IN THE DARKNESS...



T-THEY'RE CALLING ME...

I... MUST RETURN... THEY ARE WAITING...



I'M COMING... I'M COMING...!



FINALLY, LIKE A MAN POSSESSED, HE RACED TO THE METEORITE... DRAWN LIKE A MOTH TO A FLAME...



BLIZZ BLIZZ

THEN, IN A SHATTERING BLAZE OF LIGHT, THE METEORITE PLUMMETED SKYWARD... TOWARD THE DISTANT PLANET MARS...



YOU... ARE PART OF OUR WORLD NOW, BARRY EAMES... YOU MUST RETURN TO IT!

ON DEIMOS, THE OUTER SATELLITE OF MARS, EAMES HAD FOUND A NEW HOME WITH THE SKELETAL CREATURES WHO OWNED THE BEES...

YOUR EARTH SHIP CAPTURED A SHIPMENT OF OUR WORKER BEES! HERE IN OUR SATELLITE KINGDOM THEY DO OUR WORK... AND NOW, THEIR VENOM IS IN YOUR VEINS, EARTHLINGS... YOU HAVE THEIR POWERS!

BUT YOU MUST RESIDE ON DEIMOS ALSO... FOR WE ARE NOT READY TO MEET YOUR CIVILIZATION! OUR FORCE BEAMS COULD CARRY US THERE AT WILL, BUT ALAS, EARTHLINGS WOULD NOT UNDERSTAND US!

THE POWERS OF AN ADVANCED CIVILIZATION, NINE!

IN THE WEEKS THAT FOLLOWED, BARRY EAMES ADAPTED TO HIS NEW SOCIETY... AND ALWAYS ONE THOUGHT WAS IN HIS MIND...

ANTENNA THAT CAN DAZE FOES WITH A SONIC BUZZ...



... A STINGER THAT EJECTS A DEADLY DRUG AGAINST ENEMIES...



... AND VAPOR-HONEY GRENADES THAT PUTS ATTACKERS TO SLEEP INSTANTLY! I'M READY... TO RETURN AND RAID EARTH!

THUS, THE BEE ARRIVES BACK ON EARTH... WILD WITH JOY...

WHAT SHEER IRONY... BARRY E. EAMES, WHOSE VERY INITIALS SPELL BEE, IS ABOUT TO REAP A HARVEST OF RICHES BECAUSE I ALMOST AM ONE! HA, HA, HA!

BZZZZ
BZZZZ

BZZZZ

BUT FIRST I MUST HAVE A LAIR... A HIVE!



INCREDIBLY, THE BEE CUTS A SERIES OF RIDGES ABOUT THE MOUNTAIN WITH SONIC BUZZ BLASTS UNTIL...



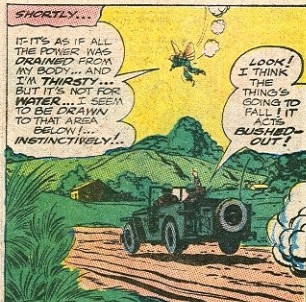
IT'S DONE... A PERFECT HIDEOUT TO STORE MY GAINS... ALL I NEED NOW IS A LITTLE CAMOUFLAGE!





BUT AS THE BEE
ZOOMS OFF...

H-HUH?
S-SOMETHING'S
HAPPENING TO
ME... I-I'M
LOSING MY
STRENGTH... CAN
HARDLY KEEP
AIRBORNE...



SHORTLY...

IT-IT'S AS IF ALL
THE POWER WAS
DRAINED FROM
MY BODY... AND
I'M THIRSTY...
BUT IT'S NOT FOR
WATER... I SEEM
TO BE DRAWN
TO THAT AREA
BELOW!...
INSTINCTIVELY!...

LOOK!
I THINK
THE
THING'S
GOING TO
FALL! IT
ACTS
BUSHED-
OUT!



THEN...

A BEE FARM! T-THAT'S
WHAT MY BODY CRAVES...
HONEY! OF COURSE!
I NEED HONEY TO
RETAIN MY POWERS!...

HONEYWELL
BEE FARM



AND AS THE BEE DESPERATELY TEARS OPEN HONEY-
FILLED HIVES...

NOW!
THESE GAS MASKS WILL
KEEP THE BEES OFF
US... BUT THEY AREN'T
BOTHERING THAT
FREAK CHARACTER!

MUST BE SOME GENIUS
CRACKPOT WHO DE-
VELOPED A PORTABLE
FLYING GADGET! LOOK
AT HIM EAT THAT
HONEY! CRAZY!



SUDDENLY...

STRENGTH IS SURGING
BACK INTO MY BODY...
THAT HONEY ACTS LIKE
AN INSTANT TONIC
ON MY ALIEN
BODILY CHEMISTRY!...

WATCH
IT!
THE
BUZZING
THINGAMAGIG
SEEMS TO BE
GETTING
STRONG
AGAIN!



ABRUPTLY, THE BEE'S STINGER RIPS THE NET
TO SHREDS WITH SONIC BUZZ-BLASTS...

Y-YIKES!

THE HONEY-MAD HORROR SPAWNED ON THE SATELLITE, DEIMOS, WHEELS IN MID-AIR AND...

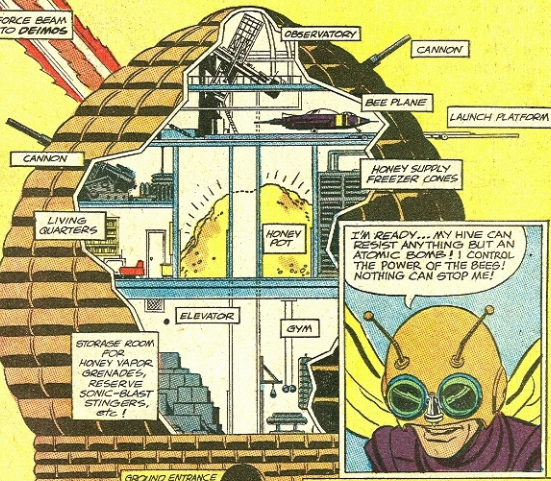


YOU'LL BE SEEING MORE OF MY STING, MEN... JUST GIVE ME A FEW WEEKS TO FURNISH MY HIVE PROPERLY AND I'LL GIVE THE U.S. ARMY ANOTHER CRACK AT THE BEE! HA, HA!



LET'S HURRY PAST THOSE NEXT FEW WEEKS AS THE BEE LOOTS A DOZEN SOURCES FOR SUPPLIES TO BUILD HIS HIVE! FINALLY, IT IS READY... AN IMPREGNABLE MOUNTAIN FORTRESS WITH A B-LINE INTO SPACE!

FORCE BEAM TO DEIMOS



I'M READY... MY HIVE CAN RESIST ANYTHING BUT AN ATOMIC BOMB! I CONTROL THE POWER OF THE BEES! NOTHING CAN STOP ME!

DON'T LAUGH TOO SOON, BEE... RIGHT NOW -- THIS MINUTE "QUEEN BEA" IS CHECKING UP ON YOU... AND SO IS THE F.B.I.!!

The BEE LINE

An outraged public, bewildered by THE BEE'S diabolically shocking crimes, has demanded an explanation. In desperation, The New York Globe printed a special "BEE Edition," in which it pleaded with THE BEE to come out in the open and tell the people WHO or WHAT he is and WHY he is doing all these weird things. "WHAT CAN WE DO TO STOP YOU," concluded the Globe's editorial.

THE BEE was not long in replying. Two days later, from a Catskill mountain-top, he fired his "sonic blast" into the Globe's television station, WGIX. It cut right into a popular coast-to-coast program. Yes, THE BEE was on television.

As the stunned viewers stared and listened in awe, THE BEE screamed out. "Okay, you selfish idiots—I'M HERE! So you want to know who I am, eh? I'm the GREATEST CRIMINAL in world history! I intend to weaken your entire planet, starting with its strongest nation, the United States."

THE BEE paused here, then with an expression of grim scorn, he continued. "My worthy deeds will force all Earthlings to surrender to my SUPERIOR WORLD. Many of your great scientists have predicted that ONE DAY INSECTS WILL RULE THE EARTH. You laughed and called them crazy, but I shall prove they were RIGHT. The day is not far away when INSECTS WILL INDEED RULE THE HUMANS OF EARTH. You will become our slaves and solve many of our problems—one of which is labor. The entire human race, what is left of it that is, will become SLAVES TO MY RACE. You will fulfill the duties of our 'worker



bees.' You will become MY SLAVES. Any questions?"

The program announcer cried out, "YES, I'm sure we have many things to ask THE BEE about. I'll call upon our studio audience!"

With this, a number of people rushed from their seats up to the station's mi-



chrophone, before the large picture vision of THE BEE.

"Where are you from?" yelled one man.

"I am originally from earth, believe it or not," returned THE BEE, as of now, however, you must consider me an inhabitant from another planet."

"But how," queried another, "I mean—you're obviously not one of us. How did you get here?"

THE BEE gave a buzzing smirk. "I flew here—within a force beam far greater than man's mind has created. Until my mission here is fulfilled, my entire time will be devoted to making the earth vulnerable for our conquest."

An elderly woman managed her way up to the mike. "But why?" she asked, "What have we done to you or your people?"

"You have scorned my talents—refused to let me be an astronaut," thundered the winged demon. "In space, I am appreciated. If Earthlings had minded their own business and taken care of THEIR troubles down here, I would not have been transformed into an alien thing. Unfortunately, I cannot change that now and you must suffer the consequences!"

"But our army and air force will certainly destroy you," cried an irate army officer. "You can't get away with tormenting a whole nation!"

THE BEE burst into a hearty, diabolical laugh. "Oh NO? You mean a whole WORLD, my fine feathered fool in blue."

A teen-age boy seized the mike. "How come you can cut in on a TV show like this, Mister Bee?"

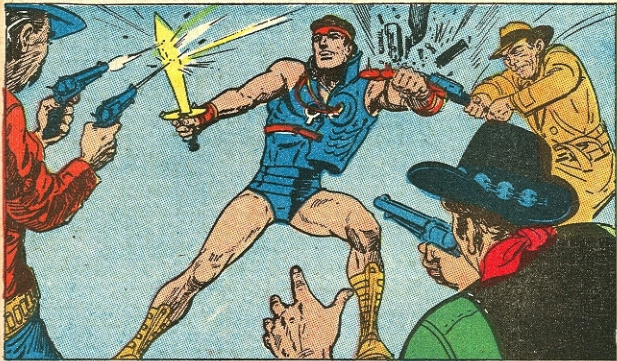
"You wouldn't understand, sonny," replied THE BEE, pointing to his belt. "I have a 'sonic buzzer' here which can short circuit radio and TV transmission. I could knock every radio and TV station in the country out of whack in 30 days if it so pleased me."

As the onlookers almost refused to believe what they were witnessing, a middle-aged lawyer spoke out. "Look, Bee, or Mister Bee or whoever you are...we don't know just what you have in mind or why you're doing this to us. Can't we declare a truce so that we can talk this over sensibly?"

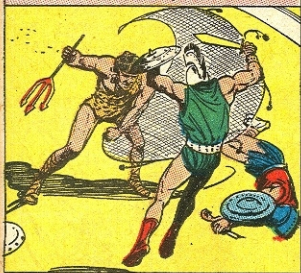
With this, THE BEE sent a sonic buzz-blast swirling about the screen. Electrified with fear, the shocked audience gaped at the weird patterns... "The answer is 'NO,'" snarled THE BEE, "and this is just a sample of what's in store for you. Good-bye for now, you greedy fools. I will visit you again soon."

THE BEE'S image faded from the screen...and the people wondered—"WHEN AND WHERE WILL THE BZZZZ OF THE BEE BE HEARD NEXT?"





OF ALL THE CHAMPIONS IN THE HISTORY OF FIGHTING MEN, NONE COULD BE CALLED MORE COURAGEOUS THAN THOSE WHO ENTERED THE ARENA TO BATTLE AS GLADIATORS! HERE, SINEW WAS PITTED AGAINST STEEL, CUNNING AGAINST RAIN POWER!



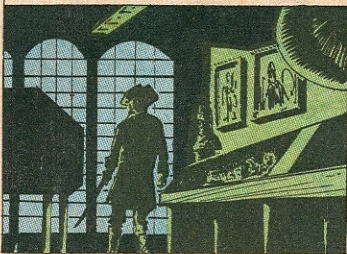
IN THEIR DAY, THESE VALIANT MEN-AT-ARMS WERE CONSIDERED A RACE OF SUPER-WARRIORS, CAPABLE OF COMBATING OVERWHELMING ODDS, ABLE TO FACE ANY OPPONENT WITHOUT FEAR!



COME WITH US AS WE FIND THE LONG LOST AMULET OF HANNIBAL... SEE THE ENCHANTED SWORD OF ACHILLES, DISCOVER THE FANTASTIC...

LEGEND OF THE GLOWING GLADIATOR

MIDNIGHT, A STRANGELY GARBED FIGURE PRAWLS THE MUSEUM OF WORLD HISTORY...



MOMENTS LATER, CAPTAIN WILLIAM KIDD SEEKS AND LOCATES THE OBJECT OF HIS NOCTURNAL MISSION...



...AND DELIVERS IT TO THE MAN KNOWN ONLY AS DESTINY...



HOURS LATER, DESTINY SUCCEEDS IN TRANSLATING THE CHALICE'S MYSTERIOUS INSCRIPTION...



AT LAST I KNOW FOR SURE! THE INSCRIPTION GIVES EVIDENCE THAT THE AMULET OF HANNIBAL STILL LIES IN THE RUINS OF CARTHAGE!

NOT DARING TO BE SEEN IN PUBLIC, THE ARCH — CRIMINAL ATTEMPTS TO FIND THE MEANS OF SECURING THE AMULET



OF COURSE, ADVENTURE UNLIMITED! THE ORGANIZATION WHICH GUARANTEES TO FILL UNUSUAL REQUESTS! THEY MUST GET THE AMULET FOR ME IMMEDIATELY!

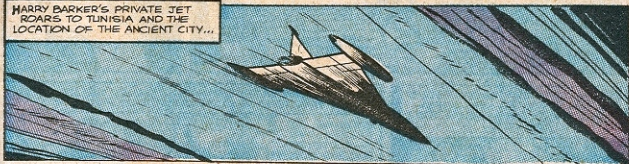


OF COURSE, WE WILL, MISTER DESTINY! I'LL REFER YOUR CALL IMMEDIATELY TO THE PRESIDENT OF ADVENTURE UNLIMITED! WE'LL CONTACT YOU THE MOMENT ANYTHING TURNS UP!

PRESIDENT AND CHIEF TROUBLE—
SHOOTER OF ADVENTURE
UNLIMITED, HARRY BARKER
GETS THE MESSAGE IN HIS
HONG KONG OFFICE...



HARRY BARKER'S PRIVATE JET
ROARS TO TUNISIA AND THE
LOCATION OF THE ANCIENT CITY...



IN THE MIDST OF
ALL THAT REMAINS
OF ONCE GLORIOUS
CARTHAGE, HARRY
BARKER SEEKS THE
SECRET CHAMBER
WHICH, THE CHALICE
LEGEND SAYS, CON-
CEALS THE OBJECT
OF HIS SEARCH...



SUDDENLY, THE GROUND BENEATH HIS FEET
GIVES WAY...



STARTLED, BUT UNHURT BY HIS SUDDEN FALL, HARRY BARKER BECOMES THE FIRST MAN IN OVER TWO THOUSAND YEARS TO VIEW THE ROOM OF ETERNAL DEDICATION...

IT'S UNBELIEVABLE! THIS ROOM... ITS SPLENDOR... LIKE THE EIGHTH WONDER OF THE ANCIENT WORLD!

I'VE FOUND IT... THE LEGENDARY AMULET OF HANNIBAL!

PEERING DEEP INTO THE OPALESCENT INTERIOR, HARRY BARKER SEEMS MYSTERIOUSLY DRAWN INSIDE THE AMULET...

AFTER AN ETERNITY, THE DARKNESS SUBSIDES AND HE FINDS HIMSELF FACE TO FACE WITH HIS EXACT SELF!

WELCOME, MY FRIEND! LONG HAVE I WAITED FOR THIS MOMENT! I AM THE ONE MEN CALL HANNIBAL! HANNIBAL OF BARCA!

HANNIBAL DIED CENTURIES AGO! I MUST BE OFF MY ROCKER-- LOOKING AT YOU IS LIKE LOOKING INTO A MIRROR!

I AM NO LONGER MORTAL, BUT MY SPIRIT HAS LIVED ON IN THIS AMULET FOR OVER TWO THOUSAND YEARS, WAITING TO BE RELEASED!

"AT THE AGE OF NINE, IN THIS VERY ROOM, I WAS SWORN TO AN OATH OF ETERNAL DEDICATION, PLEDGING TO MY FATHER TO COMBAT TYRANNY AND OPPRESSION WHEREVER IT MAY BE. IT WAS THEN, THIS BLADE WAS GIVEN TO ME..."

NOW, THE TIME HAS COME FOR THE ENCHANTED SWORD OF ACHILLES, TO AGAIN SERVE MANKIND IN YOUR HANDS-- IT IS THE ULTIMATE WEAPON, FOR BY MERE MENTAL COMMAND, IT HAS THE POWER TO CHANGE INTO ANY FORM OF ARMAMENT!

THE MYSTIC BLADE
IS AN UNCONQUERABLE
FORCE--



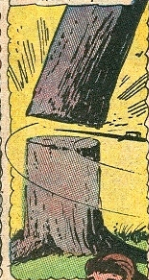
"IT BECOMES AN
IMMOVABLE OBJECT
WHEN PLACED AT THE
COMMAND OF ITS
WIELDER!"



"IT WILL RESPOND AND
GUIDE YOU WHEN EVIL
THREATENS!"



"IT CAN NEVER MISS
ITS MARK AND WILL
SLASH IRRESISTIBLY
THRU ANY NATURAL
MATTER!"



MY ARMOR WILL
BE YOURS...THIS
BREASTPLATE
WHICH ALLOWS
YOUR SWORD ARM
TO ACT WITHOUT
RESTRAINT..



..AND THIS, THE GAUNTLET
OF GOLDEN SPIKES,
WHICH
WILL WARD OFF EVEN THE
MOST DEADLY BLOWS!

MY SPIRIT LIVES IN THIS AMULET!
IF YOU WISH UPON THE AMULET,
I SHALL GRANT MY WEAPONS
THE POWERS YOU ASK OF
THEM...



PLACING THE
AMULET AROUND
HIS ALTER-EGO'S
NECK, THE TWO
FIGURES DISSOLVE
LIKE
SHADOWS
AND IN
THEIR
PLACE
STANDS A
TALL
SILHOUETTE
CLAD IN
GOLDEN
ARMOR...



THE GLOWING GLADIATOR

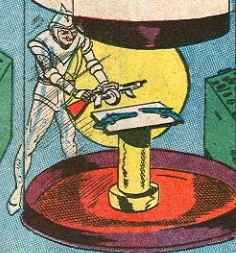
CHAPTER TWO

PLUNDERERS FROM THE PAST

SEVERAL DAYS LATER, BACK IN HIS NEW YORK CITY LAB, DESTINY PREPARES FOR ANOTHER SERIES OF SPECTACULAR CRIMES...

IN A FEW MOMENTS, I WILL SUMMON THE MOST NOTORIOUS BANK ROBBERS OF ALL TIME TO REPLENISH MY FUNDS!

I HAVE ONLY TO PLACE AN OBJECT POSSESSED BY THE SUBJECT I WISH TO RECALL INTO THE TIME TRANSPORTER AND IT WILL PLUCK THEM FROM THEIR AGE AND DEPOSIT THEM IN THE PRESENT!



THE MACHINE HUMS AND SUDDENLY FROM THE RECESSES OF TIME STEPS JOHN DILLINGER AND THE NOTORIOUS JAMES BROTHERS...



NOT LONG AFTERWARD...

SNAP IT UP YOUSE GUYS! THIS IS A BANK ROBBERY NOT A SUNDAY SCHOOL PICNIC!

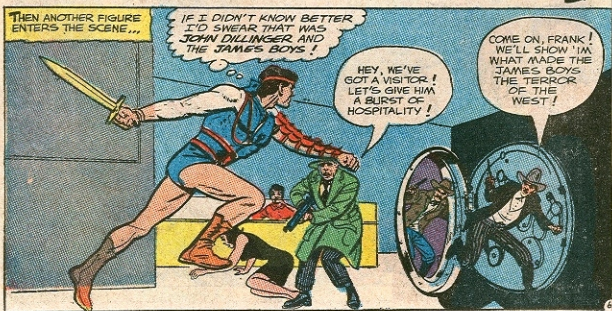


THEN ANOTHER FIGURE ENTERS THE SCENE...

IF I DIDN'T KNOW BETTER I'D SWEAR THAT WAS JOHN DILLINGER AND THE JAMES BOYS!

HEY, WE'VE GOT A VISITOR! LET'S GIVE HIM A BURST OF HOSPITALITY!

COME ON, FRANK! WE'LL SHOW 'IM WHAT MADE THE JAMES BOYS THE TERROR OF THE WEST!



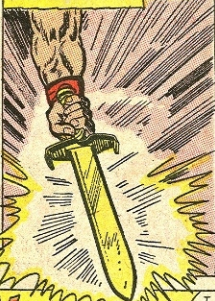
DETERMINED TO STOP THE CHARGING FIGURE, THE TRIO LOOSE'S A VOLLEY OF GUNFIRE ... BUT GUNFIRE IS OF LITTLE CONCERN TO THE VALIANT *GLADIATOR*...



JESS! OUR BULLETS ARE JUST BOUNCIN' OFF THE GUY'S SWORD!

SHADDUP AN' KEEP FIRIN'! AIN'T NOBODY CAN STAND IN THE FIRE OF MY CHOPPER AN' LIVE!

THE GLADIATOR WILL'S HIS STURDY SWORD TO BECOME A MACE AND CHAIN ...



NOW, TO BATTLE AS ONLY THE GLADIATOR CAN!



WHAM!

I DON'T BELIEVE IT! DA COPS WERE NEVER DIS TOUGH IN MY DAY!

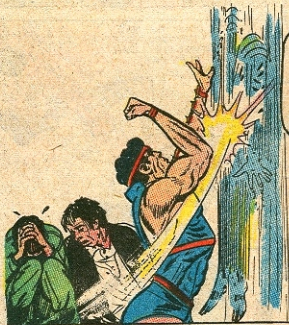
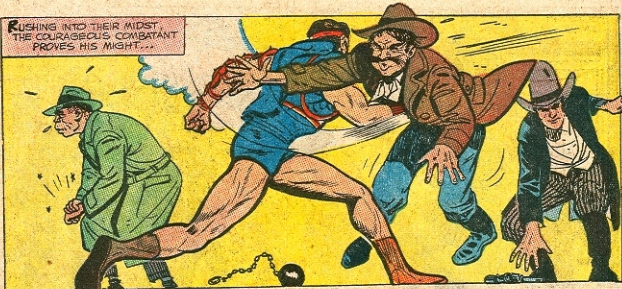
SWISS

WHAP

CRUNCH



RUSHING INTO THEIR MIDST,
THE COURAGEOUS COMBATANT
PROVES HIS MIGHT...



MOMENTS
LATER...



THE GLADIATOR VALIANTLY STRUGGLES TO RESIST
BUT THE PIERCING MIND OF THE HYPNOTIST FINALLY
TRIUMPHS...



BUT SO POTENT IS THE TRANCE, THAT EVEN THE
MIGHTY GLADIATOR MUST YIELD...



THE MASTER OF HYPNOSIS ORDERS THE DARK-HAIRED
GIANT INTO THE MASSIVE VAULT...



AS THE GIGANTIC VAULT DOOR SLAMS SHUT, THE
POWER OF THE HYPNOTIST IS BROKEN...



IT'S NO USE... THIS IS
LIKE BEING TRAPPED
IN A BANK VAULT! --
WELL, THAT WAS A
SHORT CRIME --
BUSTING CAREER!



A GUY COULD SUFFOCATE
HERE! IF ONLY THE
SWORD OF ACHILLES
WAS MINE! I WONDER
IF THIS AMULET
REALLY WORKS!...
I WISH IT COULD!



OUTSIDE...



THE AMULET'S COMMAND IS THE
SWORD'S IRRESISTIBLE COMMAND!
THE SWORD RESPONDS...



FREE! AT LAST!
WOW!
THIS
CRAZY
CHARM
REALLY
WORKS!

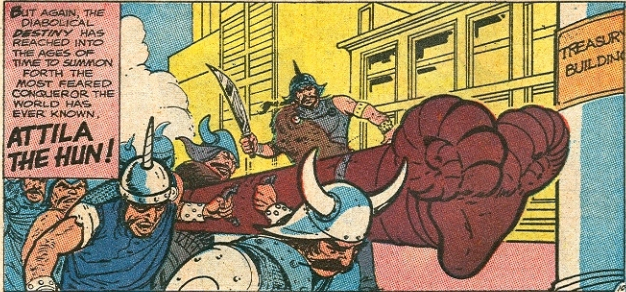


GOOD GOING,
HANNIBAL!
NOW... COMES
THE PAY-OFF!

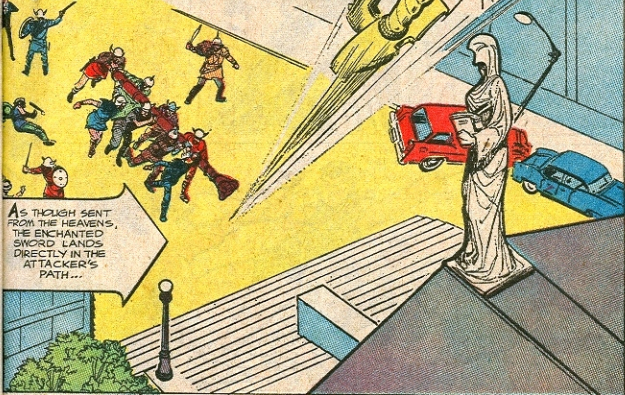


BUT AGAIN, THE
DIABOLICAL
DESTINY HAS
REACHED INTO
THE AGES OF
TIME TO SUMMON
FORTH THE
MOST FEARED
CONQUEROR THE
WORLD HAS
EVER KNOWN.

**ATTILA
THE HUN!**

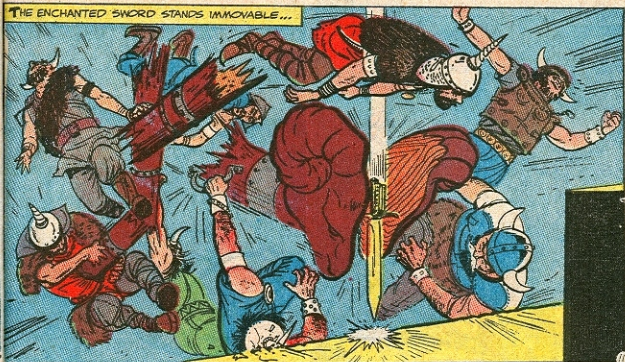


THE GLOWING GLADIATOR DEAD RECKONING




AS THOUGH SENT
FROM THE HEAVENS,
THE ENCHANTED
SWORD LANDS
DIRECTLY IN THE
ATTACKER'S
PATH...

THE ENCHANTED SWORD STANDS IMMOVABLE...





THE ENCHANTED SWORD
UNDERGOES ANOTHER
METAMORPHOSIS...



SEEING HIS LEGION DEFEATED, **ATTILA** RUSHES IN MERCILESSLY...

PREPARE TO MEET YOUR FATE; FOR NO ONE LIVES TO DEFY THE LORD OF TREACHERY!

YOU CALL THIS LIVING?



SEEING HIS LEGION DEFEATED, **ATTILA** RUSHES IN MERCILESSLY...

PREPARE TO MEET YOUR FATE; FOR NO ONE LIVES TO DEFY THE LORD OF TREACHERY!

YOU CALL THIS LIVING?



SEEING HIS LEGION DEFEATED, **ATTILA** RUSHES IN MERCILESSLY...

PREPARE TO MEET YOUR FATE; FOR NO ONE LIVES TO DEFY THE LORD OF TREACHERY!

YOU CALL THIS LIVING?



AS HANNIBAL
WOULD SAY,
EVIL SHALL
NEVER TRIUMPH
OVER THE
GLADIATOR!



NOW I'VE GOT
TO FIND THE
TWISTED BRAINS
BEHIND THIS
GROUP!



BY THE POWER OF THE
AMULET, LET MY
ENCHANTED SWORD
LOCATE THE FORCE
OF EVIL WHICH BROUGHT
THESE VILLAINS FROM
THE PAST!



LEAD ME,
O' ENCHANTED
BLADE, TO THE
HOME
OFFICE!

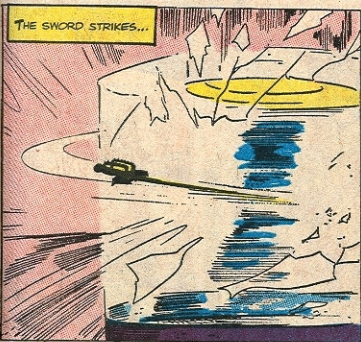


ATTILA AND
HIS BAND OF
SCAVENGERS
ARE OF NO
MORE USE TO
ME! I SHALL
RETURN THEM
TO THE PAST!



BEING DEFEATED AGAIN,
DESTINY'S ANGER IS
NOW UNCONTROLLABLE...

I AM VANQUISHED BY THE
POWERS OF A SINGLE MAN!
YET HE CANNOT BE INVINCIBLE!
I MUST SEARCH FOR A
STILL MORE FORMIDABLE
FOE FROM THE PAST TO
ELIMINATE HIM FOREVER!



YES, BUT NOT FOR LONG, GLADIATOR! FOR AT THIS VERY MOMENT, A FRIGHTENING NEW DANGER BEGINS TO STIR. DON'T MISS THE NEXT THRILL-A-SECOND ISSUE--
"WHEN THE GNOME STRIKES!"

THE CAPTAIN WAS TOO OLD FOR SPACE BUT A MAN DOES NOT EASILY GIVE UP HIS DREAMS.

The HAS-BEEN

SIR! WE'RE OFF COURSE!
WE'VE STRUCK A
COMMUNICATIONS
TOWER!

I KNOW! BUT NO ONE SEEMS
TO HAVE BEEN HURT. TRIM
YOUR COURSE. I'VE STILL GOT
TO SIT THIS SHIP DOWN!

ONE THING YOU MUST REMEMBER. THIS STORY TAKES PLACE 100 YEARS FROM NOW. AND IN THE YEAR 2057 THINGS WILL NOT BE THE SAME. HUMAN VALUES WILL BE DIFFERENT...

IN 2057 THE MEN WHO FLY OUR STAR-SHIPS WILL HAVE TO BE SPECIAL LIKE THE CAPTAIN. MEN WHOSE REFLEXES ARE **SURE**...

THERE! WE SHOULD
BE ALL RIGHT FOR
A LANDING NOW...

WE'LL MAKE IT THIS TIME!
WE WILL! I KNOW IT! I'M
STILL A CRACK PILOT...

NO! NO! WE'RE OVER-
SHOOTING THE FIELD!
TAKE HER UP!



SIR, MAYBE— MAYBE IT WOULD BE BEST IF I BROUGHT HER IN, YOU'RE TIRED...

NO! I KNOW WHAT YOU THINK! YOU THINK I'M TOO OLD TO HANDLE A SHIP! YOU THINK I SHOULD RETIRE! BUT YOU'RE WRONG! I'LL STILL TAKE HER DOWN!

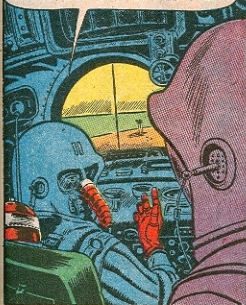


THE CAPTAIN WAS CLOSE TO TEARS! SPACE WAS HIS LIFE, HIS SECOND IN COMMAND **HAD** TO BE WRONG, AND YET...



TH-THAT OTHER TOWER, SIR! WE JUST MISSED IT!

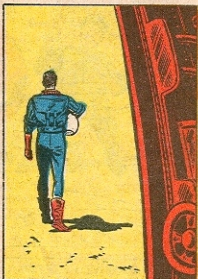
ALL RIGHT, MISTER. I GUESS THAT DID IT. YOU'D BETTER TAKE OVER...



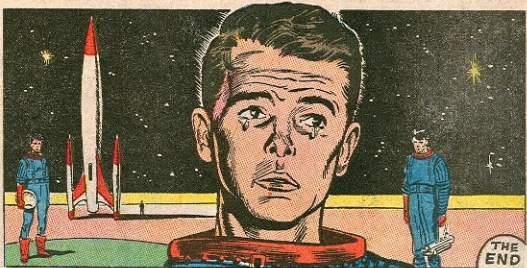
THE CAPTAIN KNEW, FINALLY! AND SO HE STOOD BY WHILE A YOUNGER MAN DID WHAT HE NO LONGER COULD DO...



IN THE END, THE CAPTAIN LEFT HIS SHIP, KNOWING THAT HE HAD MADE HIS LAST FLIGHT TO THE STARS, AND AS HE REMOVED HIS HELMET HIS EYES WERE WET...



THE CAPTAIN WAS TOO OLD FOR SPACE, AND THE TEARS GLISTENED LIKE DIAMONDS ON HIS CHEEKS. HE COULD SEE THE REPORT NOW, CAPTAIN WILLIAM BARNES, RETIRED, AGE—19.



THE END

UNDER OUR VERY NOSES -- AMONG THE
TINIEST OF LIVING CREATURES -- IS THE MOST
INCREDIBLE POWER ON EARTH -- THE POWER
OF THE ANT...WHO CAN LIFT A HUNDRED
TIMES HIS WEIGHT! ONE MAN DEVELOPED IT
FOR HUMAN USE. THEN THINGS BEGAN TO
HAPPEN -- *STRANGE, MYSTIFYING THINGS!*

THE ANT EXTRACT



YEARS OF STUDY LEFT FENIMORE FLOOD
WITH AN ADMIRABLE INTELLECT, BUT VERY
LITTLE BRAWN. YET, ODDLY ENOUGH, POWER
WAS HIS SUBJECT OF RESEARCH --



OH, I ASSURE YOU, SIR --
THERE'S NOTHING
FANTASTIC ABOUT MY
CLAIM! I'M NOT THE KIND
OF MAN TO DAWDLE
WITH HUMBUG!



WE KNOW YOU'RE NOT, MISTER FLOOD

THAT'S WHY WE WANT YOUR **ANT EXTRACT!** THE MEDICAL JOURNALS SAY IT COULD HAVE GREAT POSSIBILITIES!



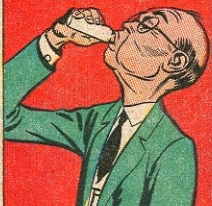
OH, DON'T GET US WRONG, DOC-- WE DON'T READ MEDICAL JOURNALS!

BUT WE WERE SENT BY PEOPLE WHO **DO!** WE'RE SORTA MIDDLE-MEN--

I SEE--



WELL, HERE IS THE EXTRACT, GENTLEMEN--



THE LITTLE SQUIRT--HE DRANK IT!

THAT'S FOUL PLAY! YOU WON'T GET AWAY WITH IT!

OH, BUT I'M **CERTAIN** I SHALL!



NOW, GOOD DAY TO YOU BOTH!



GET THE TICKETS, ROSCOE! WE'RE LEAVING TOWN!

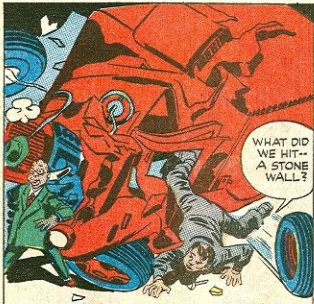
WELL! EXCEPT FOR A VISIBLE AURA OF BLAZING ENERGY, THE EFFECTS OF THE EXTRACT ARE QUITE REWARDING!



REMEMBERING HIS APPOINTMENT, FENIMORE FLOOD SET OUT, NATTILY ATTIRED, TO MEET THE GENTLEMEN WHO WOULD FINANCE THE PRODUCTION OF HIS MIRACULOUS EXTRACT--

MY GOODNESS--
I'M TERRIBLY
LATE--TERRIBLY
LATE!

HEY,
YOU!
LOOK OUT
FOR
THAT
TRUCK!



I DON'T BELIEVE
IT! I SAW THIS
GREAT BIG TRUCK
HIT HIM--AND IT
BROKE IN PIECES
ON HIM, AND--

MERCY
ME! SOME
DRIVERS
SHOULD BE
GIVEN A
SEVERE
TALKING TO!



IT WAS A MOST ASTOUNDING OCCURRENCE!
NO ONE WAS HURT--BUT EVERYONE WAS
STUNNED--EVEN FENIMORE FLOOD, WHEN HE
BECAME AWARE OF THE PHENOMENON--



LATER, AT THE OFFICE OF HIS
COLLEAGUES, FENIMORE FOUND
HIS FAME HAD PRECEDED HIM!

BEFORE YOU GO
ON ABOUT YOUR
EXTRACT, FLOOD, WE
ALREADY KNOW
IT'S A SUCCESS!

REALLY?



THE RADIO
HAS BEEN
BROADCASTING
ABOUT YOUR
BRUSH WITH
THAT TRUCK!

THEN, FOR
THE GOOD OF
MANKIND--
YOU WILL
BUY IT-- AND
PRODUCE IT?



FOR THE GOOD
OF MANKIND--
WE'RE GOING TO
SUPPRESS IT!

WHAT?



NOW, THIS SORT OF THING WORKS OUT FINE WITH ANTS!--IT HELPS THEM TO SURVIVE. BUT THINK HOW **HUMAN BEINGS** WOULD USE THIS SUPER-STRENGTH!



I SEE YOUR POINT--

THERE WOULD BE CHAOS--**RUIN!** THEN, AN END TO OUR SPECIES! EVEN YOU, FENIMORE, MIGHT GET THE URGE TO ABUSE THIS POWER-- NOW THAT YOU HAVE IT!

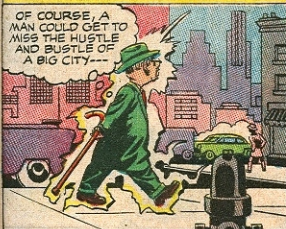


GOODNESS! WHAT CAN WE DO ABOUT ME?

HERE IS A CHECK FOR ENOUGH MONEY TO LAST YOU FOR THE REST OF YOUR LIFE--WHICH YOU WILL SPEND ON TAGUNI ISLAND-- A BEAUTIFUL SPOT! YOU'LL HAVE EVERY COMFORT THERE!



WHEN FENIMORE FLOOD LEFT THE OFFICE, HIS ENTIRE FUTURE WAS PROVIDED FOR! BEING A MAN OF PRINCIPLE, HE HAD AGREED TO THE CONDITIONS. ONLY ONE THING BOTHERED HIM--



OF COURSE, A MAN COULD GET TO MISS THE HUSTLE AND BUSTLE OF A BIG CITY--



IF I HAD A MOMENTO--THAT'S IT!--JUST **ONE** SOUVENIR OF THE BIG CITY TO TAKE WITH ME TO EXILE--TO REMIND ME OF CIVILIZATION--



--- AND THE GREAT SKYSCRAPERS LIKE THE MAGOONIS BUILDING--I'VE ALWAYS ADMIRIED IT! TO THINK I'LL NEVER SEE ITS LIKES AGAIN--

LATE THAT EVENING, AFTER THE WORKERS HAD GONE FOR THE DAY AND THE BUSINESS DISTRICT SEEMED ABANDONED, THINGS BEGAN TO HAPPEN--STRANGE THINGS--ESPECIALLY TO THE NIGHT WATCHMAN IN THE MAGOONIS BUILDING--

WHAT'S GOING ON?--THE WHOLE BUILDING IS SHAKING!



HE COULDN'T POSSIBLY GUESS AT THE TRUTH! IT WAS AS FANTASTIC AS THE MIRACULOUS ANT EXTRACT--WHICH WAS BEING PUT TO ITS MOST EXTREME TEST THAT VERY MOMENT--



THE NEXT DAY, EVERY PSYCHIATRIST IN THE CITY WAS SWAMPED BY CLIENTS WHO TOLD THE SAME BIZARRE STORY--THE MAGOONIS BUILDING WAS MISSING--ALL 67 STORIES OF IT-- GONE!

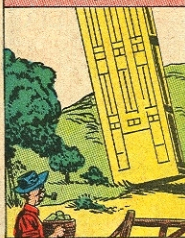


IF THIS IS A PRACTICAL JOKE--- IT'S A BEAUTY!

THEN THE REPORTS BEGAN COMING IN.-- A MOTORIST HEADING WEST ON HIGHWAY 99 SAW THE BUILDING MOVING IN THE SAME DIRECTION!



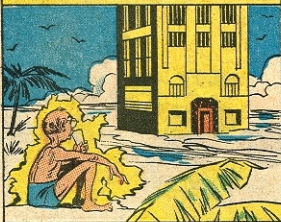
A NEAR-SIGHTED FARMER IN KANSAS WIPED HIS GLASSES AND WENT ON ABOUT HIS WORK, NOT BELIEVING WHAT HE SAW--



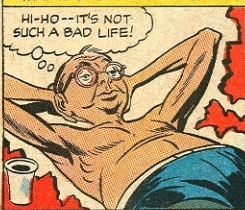
LATER, IN THE MOJAVE DESERT, AN OLD PROSPECTOR WHO THOUGHT HE'D SEEN EVERYTHING, FAINTED DEAD AWAY AS THE MAGOONIS BUILDING KEPT GOING ITS OWN CALM WAY TO THE WEST COAST--



NEEDLESS TO ADD, FENIMORE FLOOD TOOK HIS AMAZING MOMENTO OF THE BIG CITY WITH HIM TO TAGUNI ISLAND IN THE BLUE PACIFIC, WHERE HE SAT IN THE SUN AND LOOKED AT IT ADMIRINGLY AND WISTFULLY FOR THE REST OF HIS DAYS--



HOW HE GOT THE BUILDING TO THE ISLAND IS AN UNIMPORTANT DETAIL. AFTER ALL, A MAN WITH FENIMORE'S POWERS COULD MANAGE--WELL--ALMOST ANYTHING! AT ANY RATE, HE WAS CONTENT--AND FOR MANKIND, THAT WAS VERY IMPORTANT!



EVEN THOUGH THE BUILDING WAS PAID FOR BY MAILED CHECK, THERE ARE MANY WHO STILL CRITICIZE FENIMORE FOR THIS ACTION. BUT REALLY WHEN A MAN EXILES HIMSELF FOR HUMANITY'S WELFARE, SURELY HE DESERVES A BIT OF WHIMSICAL INDULGENCE!

The END.

MAGICMASTER

YOU CAN BE A
MAGICIAN!!

HERE, IN THIS GREAT,
NEW THRILLER,
YOU
WILL.



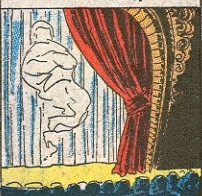
LEARN THE FORBIDDEN
SECRETS OF
THE EGYPTIAN FIRE KING!



SEE THE WORLD'S
GREATEST MAGICIAN
BLOT OUT THE SUN AND
CREATE AN IMAGINARY
STORM!



WITNESS THE WORK-
INGS OF THE
VANISHING-MAN ILLUSION
ON STAGE AT THE LONDON
PALLADIUM!



WATCH A REAL MAGICIAN
FROM THOUSANDS
OF YEARS IN THE PAST WORK
AUTHENTIC ILLUSIONS!



PERFORM THE APPEAR-
ING AND
VANISHING KEY TRICK AS
TAUGHT TO YOU HERE IN
THESE PAGES!



ESCAPE WITH OUR HEROES
FROM A TOMB
OF FIERY DEATH!



PLUS PAGE-AFTER-PAGE OF FANTASTIC SURPRISES, NERVE-SHATTERING
THRILLS AND STARTLING SECRETS... NEVER BEFORE REVEALED!!

SINCE THE DAWN OF CIVILIZATION MAN HAS SOUGHT TO INDUCE THE SECRET RITES THAT UNLOCK THE DOORS OF THE UNKNOWN; TO CONJURE UP IMAGES OF PHANTOMS AND PRODUCE DARK SPELLS FOR GOOD AND EVIL.

FROM THE DESERTS OF AGELESS EGYPT, WHERE MAGIC BEGAN, COMES THE SHADOWY FIGURE OF THE **SORCERER** TO DISPEL THE PRESENCE OF EVIL AND TRIUMPH OVER THE SUPERNATURAL.

LET US NOW BEGIN OUR STRANGE TALE AND DISCOVER ...

The SECRET OF

MAGICMASTER



IN THE DEAD OF NIGHT, A LONE CAR RACES ALONG A STORM DRENCHED HIGHWAY...
SUDDENLY...



LATER, THE SON OF THE WORLD'S GREATEST MAGICIAN ANSWERS THE LATE-NIGHT CALL ...

YOUR FATHER DIED INSTANTLY, JIMMY-- HERE'S SOMETHING WE FOUND AT THE SCENE!

IT'S THE TURBAN OF PRINCE INFERNUS, ONE OF THE BLACK DARWISHES WHO PRACTICES THE RITES OF EVIL MAGIC!



I REMEMBER TWO YEARS AGO, DAD, THE **INCREDIBLE APOLLO**, WAS IN EGYPT, SENT BY THE GOVERNMENT TO ROUT THE DIABOLICAL NATIVE MAGI BY OUTPERFORMING HIM.



AFTER THE OFFICER HAS LEFT, JIMMY THINKS BACK TO THAT DAY WHEN, ON THE MYSTIC SANDS OF EGYPT, A DUEL OF WIZARDS UNFOLDED...



INFERNUS, YOU ARE A FRAUD AND A LIAR! YOUR REIGN OF TERROR OVER THESE VILLAGERS IS AT AN END! SHOW ME THIS POWER OF YOURS!



"I WAS PARALYZED WITH FEAR WHEN INFERNUS SCOOPED UP A HANDFUL OF SAND AND HURLED IT AT DAD, ERUPTING THE AREA INTO AN AWESOME EXPLOSION OF FIRE..."



NOW, YOU WILL HEED MY WARNING, APOLLO!



"SO SAYING, THE STRANGE EGYPTIAN PLUCKED A RED-HOT BAR OF IRON FROM THE BLAZING FIRE ..."

OBSERVE, SON OF A DOG, THE FEARSOME STRENGTH OF PRINCE INFERNUS!



"NEXT, TURNING TOWARD THE THRONG OF FRIGHTENED BEDOUINS, HE BELCHED A PILLAR OF FIRE FROM HIS LIPS ..."

WITNESS NOW, INFIDEL! PRINCE INFERNUS, THE HUMAN DRAGON!



"THEN SUDDENLY, HE CLAPPED HIS HANDS TOGETHER AND THEY BURST INTO FLAME! ..."

BEHOLD AND BELIEVE YOUR EYES, WRETCHED ONE! PRINCE INFERNUS, THE INCOMBUSTIBLE MAN!



AND NOW, TREMBLE BEFORE THE AWESOME MAGIC OF PRINCE INFERNUS! LET US BEGIN ... THE TRIAL BY FIRE!



"DIRECTING US TO A SMALL COURTYARD, THE DARK FAKIR REVEALED ..."

A BED OF FLAMING COALS! HE ... HE'S GOING TO WALK THE LEGENDARY PATH OF FIRE!



"THOUGH THE HEAT SEEMED UNBEARABLE, EVEN STANDING OFF TO THE SIDE, PRINCE INFERNUS STRODE INTO THE FLAMING PATHWAY WITHOUT HESITATION ..."

IEEEH! THE PYROKHAN IS UNHARMED!

EVEN THE DEVIL HIMSELF COULD DO NOTHING AGAINST HIM!

ALLAH, PROTECT US!



SEE YOU NOW THE
POWER OF THE
MASTER OF FLAMES!
NOT FIRE NOR
BRIMSTONE CAN
HARM ME, SO
GREAT IS MY
POWER!



HOW
DID HE
DO IT,
DAD?

JUST A LOT OF
OLD CARNIVAL
TRICKS, SON!
HIS HANDS ARE
PROBABLY
COATED WITH
SILICONE
GREASE. A KIND
OF TEMPERATURE
BARRIER, SO HE
COULD PICK UP
THAT HOT BAR!
IT WAS EASILY
BENT BECAUSE
IT WAS HEATED!



TO EXHALE
FIRE, HE
CONCEALED A
CAPSULE OF
INFLAMMABLE
LIQUID IN HIS
MOUTH AND
SPRAYED IT
OUT WHILE
A SPARK
FROM A
TORCH
IGNITED
IT!

HE DID A
SIMILAR
STUNT WITH
HIS HANDS,
WHICH WERE
ALREADY
FIREPROOF,
LIKE A PIECE
OF ASBESTOS!



BUT
THE
BED
OF
COALS!
THAT
WAS
REALLY
HOT!

SURE IT WAS! BUT
NOT IN THE MIDDLE
WHERE HE WALKED!
THE COALS THERE
WERE ALREADY
BURNED OUT!
BESIDES THAT, HIS
AIDES THREW SALT
AND ALUM ON IT TO
COOL THE FIRE
DOWN EVEN MORE!



AND THE SOLES OF
HIS FEET LOOKED
AS TOUGH AS
BUFFALO HIDE, TOO!
HE DOESN'T HAVE
ANY MORE POWERS
THAN SLOOPY
SALES!



ENOUGH!
STAND ASIDE,
DECEIVER OF
OLD WOMEN
AND CHILDREN!
YOU CLAIM TO BE
MONARCH OF ALL
FIRE AND FLAME!
PREPARE NOW TO
WITNESS
THE INCREDIBLE
MAGIC OF
APOLLO!



WASTE NOT YOUR PARLOR TRICKS ON ME, EVIL ONE ! IF YOUR MAGIC TAKES THE FORM OF FLAME, THEN BEHOLD THE FIERY ORB IN THE SKY ! BEHOLD, THE SUN !



" WITH THIS, APOLLO STRODE QUICKLY TO THE PLATFORM, HESITATED A MOMENT, THEN GESTURED TOWARD THE HEAVENS..."

WHAT GREATER MAGIC CAN THERE BE THAN THAT WHICH AFFECTS THE UNIVERSE ? MY POWER IS SUCH THAT I CAN ERASE THE SUN FROM THE MORNING SKY !



BEHOLD THE TRUE MAGIC OF APOLLO ! BEHOLD AND BEAR WITNESS TO MY AWESOME OMNIPOTENCE !



" AS THE EERIE DARKNESS ENVELOPED THE CROWD, AN EARTH-SHAKING THUNDER-BOLT SHATTERED THE SILENCE ... "

LET THE GODS OF THE HEAVENS VENT THEIR WRATH ON THE FOLLOWERS OF PRINCE INFERNUS !

SAVE US ! BRING BACK THE SUN, PASHA !

SAVE US, O MIGHTIEST OF SORCERERS !



HAVE MERCY, O' PRINCE OF MAGICIANS !

STOP ! STOP !!

ROAR ! CRASH !



JACK QUICK-FROST

COME... COME
AND FIND OUT,
FROST... YOU ARE
A MAN OF COUR-
AGE, ARE YOU NOT?
THAT'S IT... CLOSER...
WE SHALL GRAPPLE
TOGETHER!

YOUR HEAT ROBOT
DIDN'T FARE SO WELL,
LAYZEE! I DON'T
SEE ANY GADGETS
ON YOU! WHAT'S
YOUR GIMMICK
PAL?



COLD FACTS

The appearance of JACK QUICK-FROST drew a huge crowd of fans and curious spectators as the famed "frozen man" was entering the United Nations Building in New York recently. Although in a hurry, QUICK-FROST delayed his appointment to answer a number of questions, some of which appear below:

QUESTION: "I have heard that you defrost from time to time. What do you do to eliminate this—or "re-frost," as you probably call it?"

ANSWER: "That is a good question, sir. This is a miniature atomic propulsion unit here on my *Polar Belt* which I wear constantly. When I feel defrosting pangs coming on, it enables me to shoot myself up into the stratosphere, where the low temperatures soon re-freeze me to normal."

QUESTION: "Tell me, Mr. Quick-Frost, what is that *other* small object, on the left side of your belt—the one that looks like a lens?"

ANSWER: "You may have guessed it is some sort of camera—and that is true. It is a "mini-TV projector," which simultaneously films magnetic tape. While traveling through space, this gadget records every criminal action that I observe. It has proven of great use to the I.C.A. (*International Counter-Intelligence Agency*).

QUESTION: "Gosh, Mr. Quick-Frost, if you can throw icicles at your enemies, what do you use that gun for?"

ANSWER: "That is my *Ice Pellet Gun*, fellows. I use it when I must send my *ice bullets* great distances. It is also more accurate."

QUESTION: "You must grow lonesome at times. When you were Agent James Flynn, I understand you were a very handsome man. Do you have any romantic attachments now?"

ANSWER: "You embarrass me somewhat, Miss. Yes, I *do* have lonesome moments. I'm afraid romance, for me, is



now out of the question—but my work is self-satisfying. There was a girl... oh, well...next question..."

QUESTION: "I guess you require unusual living quarters, Mr. Quick-Frost—to prevent your defrosting, I mean. Can you divulge *where* you stay when not on an assignment away from headquarters?"

ANSWER: "My home base is New York. When there, I reside in an especially designed apartment. It is in the air-conditioning unit atop ICA headquarters, where the temperature is kept at 20 degrees, ideal for me."

QUESTION: "Do you think you will ever become normal again?"

ANSWER: "This is most doubtful. Extensive tests by the world's leading physicians have shown no indication of this.

But no one should feel sorry for me—I am quite happy doing what I can to preserve peace in the world and prevent an atomic or nuclear conflict, which would mean the end."

QUESTION: "I imagine that you are probably much more valuable to our nation now than you were prior to your bizarre tragedy. How does the ICA feel about this?"

ANSWER: "My superiors at ICA have told me, and I hope they mean it, that since I was victimized by that cataclysmic atomic blast, I've been of more value to them than 1,000 agents."

QUESTION: "Do you have any weaknesses, Mr. Quick-Frost?"

ANSWER: "That's a real toughie, folks. I do have *one* weakness that I am aware of. I cannot reveal it, for security reasons, as it would aid and abet my enemies. If any of you can figure out *what* it is, I'd like to hear from you. But PLEASE DON'T TELL ANYONE, huh? Thanks!"

So ICA agent JACK QUICK-FROST does admit to a "hidden" weakness! Do you know *what* it might be?

Dear Reader:

THIS IS YOUR MAGAZINE.

In this column we will print the most interesting letters we receive, whether they are "fan" letters or "pan" letters. We want to hear from you . . . Not only those who are steady letter writers, but all of the comic readers who have ever thought... "Why doesn't somebody . . ." It is only through large-scale mail reading that we can get an accurate idea of what our readers think and what changes you would like to see us make. We will give each and every one of your letters careful consideration.

Write to: Harvey Thrillers
1860 Broadway
New York, N. Y. 10023

MAGICMASTER

CHAPTER TWO

FIRE KING'S REVENGE



"THEN, AS
SUDDENLY AS
IT BEGAN,
THE
THUNDER
AND
LIGHTNING
SUBSIDED,
AND THE
SUN RE-
APPEARED..."

NOW YOU HAVE
WITNESSED MY
POTENCY! AM I
NOT THE GREATEST
OF WIZARDS?

YES!
BY THE
BEARD OF
ALLAH,
YES!

THEN I COMMAND YOU
TO EXILE THE EVIL
PRINCE FOREVER,
LEAST I SUMMON
THE FORCES FROM
BEYOND TO
DESTROY
ALL!



DO NOT LISTEN! I AM
THE GREATEST MAGICIAN
IN ALL EGYPT! I AM
YOUR LEADER! YOU
MUST OBEY ME!

KILL
THE
PYROKHAN

DOWN
WITH
THE
TYRANT!



BEWARE, APOLLO! YOU
WILL SUFFER BY MY OWN
HANDS THE TERROR OF
VIOLENT DEATH! THIS
I SWEAR, BY THE BLACK
PYRAMIDS OF TIR!



"AS THE MOB LUNGED FORWARD, PRINCE
INFERNUS PRODUCED A BLAZING FIREBALL
TO WARD OFF HIS ATTACKERS..."

BE WARNED, PACK OF
SCORPIONS! THE KING
OF FIRE WILL RETURN
AND ENACT HIS VENGEANCE
ON HIS ENEMIES!



"LEAPING ACROSS THE COURTYARD, THE BLACK
PRINCE DISAPPEARED IN A MAZE OF ALLEYWAYS..."

STOP THE
DECEIVER!

DON'T LET
HIM GET
AWAY!



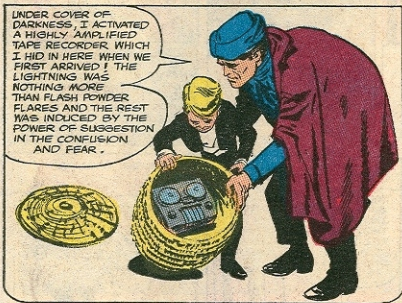
LOOKS LIKE YOUR MAGIC WORKED, DAD! THE GOVERNMENT WILL BE PLEASED BUT HOW DID YOU DO IT?

I'M SURPRISED YOU HAVEN'T ALREADY FIGURED IT OUT!



WELL, I GUESS YOU KNEW BEFOREHAND A SOLAR ECLIPSE WAS DUE BUT HOW ABOUT THE STORM?

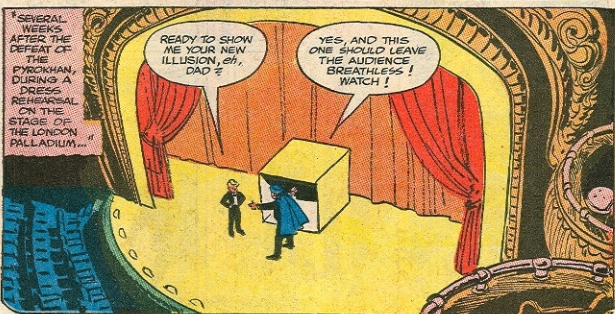
SIMPLE! ALL MY EFFECTS ARE ACCOMPLISHED BY NATURAL MEANS, THIS ONE WAS NO EXCEPTION.



UNDER COVER OF DARKNESS, I ACTIVATED A HIGHLY AMPLIFIED TAPE RECORDER WHICH I HID IN HERE WHEN WE FIRST ARRIVED! THE LIGHTNING WAS NOTHING MORE THAN FLASH POWDER FLARES AND THE REST WAS INDUCED BY THE POWER OF SUGGESTION IN THE CONFUSION AND FEAR.



"THE EVIL PRINCE INFERNUS DROPPED OUT OF THE PICTURE THEN AND GAVE NO MORE TROUBLE TO THE POLITICAL POWERS. IT SEEMED AS THOUGH THINGS WERE GOING TOO SMOOTHLY. BUT WE DIDN'T NOTICE, WE WERE TOO BUSY PERFORMING MAGIC ON OUR WORLD TOUR!"



*SEVERAL WEEKS AFTER THE DEFEAT OF THE PYROKHAN, DURING A DRESS REHEARSAL ON THE STAGE OF THE LONDON PALLADIUM...

READY TO SHOW ME YOUR NEW ILLUSION, eh, DAD?

YES, AND THIS ONE SHOULD LEAVE THE AUDIENCE BREATHLESS! WATCH!

"WHILE WE WORKED ON STAGE, TWO SINISTER FIGURES LURKED IN THE DESERTED WINGS, READY TO STRIKE..."

NO MERE TRICK
WILL SAVE HIM AS SURE
AS YOUR BLADE IS
GUIDED BY THOTH,
LORD OF THE UNDER-
WORLD! QUICKLY
NOW!



"THE SHIMMERING DAGGER
STREAKED UNERRINGLY
TOWARD ITS MARK..."



YOU FOOL!
IT WAS AN
ILLUSION OF
MIRRORS!
THE ACCURSED
ONE STILL
LIVES!

NEXT TIME WE
WILL SUCCEED,
O MASTER OF
BLACK ART!



"APOLLO EMERGED FROM
THE MAZE OF MIRRORS..."

THE DAGGER
OF PRINCE
INFERNUS!
THE FIEND
WILL NEVER
REST UNTIL
ONE OF US
IS DEAD!

LUCKY YOU
HAD A
TRICK UP
YOUR
SLEEVE,
DAD!



CURTAIN BACKDROP



AUDIENCE

WHEN I ENTERED THE
FULLY LIGHTED CABINET,
I STOOD IN POSITION A.
THOUGH I WAS OUT OF
THE AUDIENCE'S LINE
OF VISION, MY IMAGE WAS
REFLECTED ON A SPECIAL
TWO-WAY MIRROR.

THRU IT THE CURTAIN BACK-
DROP CAN ALSO BE SEEN,
WHILE I APPEARED TO BE IN
THE CENTER OF THE CABINET.
BY SWITCHING OFF THE LIGHTS
IN CORNER A, IT WOULD HAVE
SEEMED AS THOUGH I HAD
DISAPPEARED... BY MAGIC!



AND NOW PRINCE
INFERNUS HAS FUL-
FILLED HIS VOW !
IF ONLY I COULD
PROVE MY
SUSPICIONS !



DAD NEVER REPORTED THE
ATTACK OFFICIALLY TO PREVENT
ANY KIND OF INTERNATIONAL
SCANDAL ! WE HAD ENGAGEMENTS
TO FILL AND ANY INVESTIGATION
WOULD ONLY CAUSE US MORE
TROUBLE AND DELAY !



JIMMY WALKS INTO
HIS FATHER'S STUDY
WHICH HOLDS THE
WORLD'S GREATEST
COLLECTION OF
MAGIC PARAPHERNALIA
AND BOOKS ON THE
OCCULT ARTS...



DAD WANTED ME TO CARRY ON
HIS TRADITION ... I'LL DO
EVERYTHING I CAN TO BE
AS GREAT AS HE WAS !



ABSENT-MINDEDLY, JIMMY PAGES THRU A
SMALL, DARK, CRUMBLING VOLUME OF
EGYPTIAN MAGI ...

I'VE NEVER
SEEN THIS BOOK
BEFORE !
I WONDER
WHAT THIS
INSCRIPTION
MEANS ?



SOMEHOW,
THE WORDS OF LONG-
FORGOTTEN
SECRET
LANGUAGE
FORM ON THE YOUNG
MAGICIAN'S
LIPS,
WORDS
NOT
VOICED
FOR A SPAN
OF
CENTURIES...

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EDITOR'S NOTE : PLEASE DO NOT ATTEMPT
TO REPEAT THIS MYSTIC INCANTATION
AS WE CANNOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE
CONSEQUENCES.

SUDDENLY, THE ROOM FILLS WITH A STRANGE MIST... AND FROM SLEEP ETHERAL RISES THE EVEN STRANGER FIGURE OF THE MIGHTY SORCERER...

WHO SUMMONS SHAMARAH? WHO BECKONS FROM BEYOND THE WORLD OF ENDLESS REST?

HOLY SMOKES! ARE YOU FOR REAL?

I, SHAMARAH, MAGICIAN OF THE GODS, HAVE BEEN SENT TO AVENGE THE DEATH OF THE INCREDIBLE APOLLO! WHAT NOW?

YOU'RE ASKING ME? I WAS LOOKING THRU THIS BOOK AND YOU APPEARED! BUT NOW THAT YOU'RE HERE MAYBE YOU CAN HELP ME!

THE YOUNG MAGICIAN NARRATES HIS TALE OF THE EVENTS LEADING UP TO THE DEATH OF HIS FATHER...

AND ALL THAT I HAVE LEFT IS MY FATHER'S MAGIC, THE SECRETS OF WHICH HE HAS TAUGHT ONLY TO ME. WATCH!



CHAPTER THREE

THE MIGHT OF

MAGICMASTER



REACHING UP INTO THE AIR BEFORE HIM, A BEAUTIFUL BOUQUET OF FLOWERS, SUDDENLY APPEARS AT JIMMY'S FINGERTIPS...

PRESTO...
AND
NOTHING
UP MY
SLEEVES!

AN EXCELLENT TRICK!
PERHAPS YOU'LL
ALLOW ME TO
DEMONSTRATE A
FEW SIMPLE
ILLUSIONS OF
MY OWN.

SO LONG AS THE
MYSTIC DAGGER
OF DHARATH IS
MINE TO POSSESS,
ALL OF THE
MAGIC ARTS
ARE UNDER
MY MASTERY!



SHAMARAH DEMONSTRATES
HIS AWE-INSPIRING WILL...

THE POWER OF
LEVITATION--
IS MINE!

DAD
WOULD
NEVER
BELIEVE
THIS!

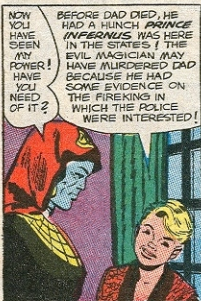
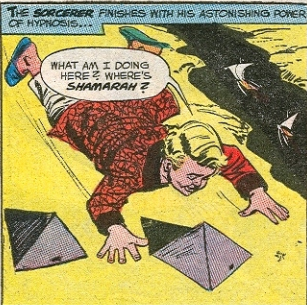


NEXT, THE MAN OF MYSTERY
FOLDS HIS FANTASTIC CLOAK
OF INVISIBILITY AROUND HIS
FORM...

BEHOLD, MY
ENCHANTED
RABTAH ENABLES
ME TO DECEIVE
THE EYES OF MY
FOES... TO FADE
LIKE BREATH
OF DESERT
DJINN!

WOW!
WHAT A
COMIC
BOOK
HERO
YOU'D
MAKE!







MAGICMASTER



LET'S TAKE A BREAK
IN OUR STORY
FOR A MOMENT SO
I CAN GIVE YOU
A LESSON IN
SLIGHT-OF-HAND
AND TEACH
YOU THE ...

APPEARING and VANISHING KEY TRICK

GET YOURSELF A SMALL
KEY, LIKE A MAILBOX OR
LOCKER KEY! THEN, TIE A
FLESH-COLORED THREAD
THRU THE BOW, LIKE THIS
ONE AND PUT IT IN YOUR
POCKET!



WHEN YOU'RE READY TO
PERFORM THIS TRICK
CASUALLY REACH INTO YOUR
POCKET LIKE I DID AND
BRING OUT THE KEY IN
THIS FASHION!



THE LOOP OF THREAD LIES
HIDDEN IN THE FOLD OF
SKIN AT THE BASE OF THE
FINGER! THE KEY IS CON-
CEALED BEHIND THE HAND!
BE CAREFUL IT DOESN'T
SHOW!



NOW YOU'RE READY TO
PRODUCE THE KEY! HOLD
YOUR HAND UP TO SHOW IT
EMPTY! AS YOU DO THIS,
SNAP YOUR FINGERS, STILL
TAKING CARE THE KEY
DOESN'T SLIP INTO SIGHT...



NOW, OPEN TO REVEAL THE
KEY! TO VANISH IT, SIMPLY
REVERSE THE PROCESS!
PRACTICE IN FRONT OF A
MIRROR TO GET YOUR MOVES
PERFECT BEFORE YOU SHOW
YOUR FRIENDS HOW A
MAGICIAN PRODUCES A
KEY!



THE INSTANT AFTER YOUR
SNAP, FLIP YOUR HAND
SLIGHTLY UPWARD, CAUSING
THE KEY TO JUMP FROM
THE BACK TO THE FRONT
OF YOUR HAND! CLOSE
THE FINGERS AS THE KEY
FLIES INTO YOUR PALM!





LET'S TAKE A BREAK NOW SO WE CAN GET TOGETHER AND DO A MIRACLE! EACH ISSUE, IN THIS SECTION, I'M GOING TO GIVE YOU, THE READER, PERSONAL INSTRUCTION IN THE ART OF SLIGHT-OF-HAND! OK, LET'S HAVE A ...

MAGIC SESSION



FIRST, LET ME SHOW YOU HOW TO "PALM" A COIN! THAT WORD "PALM" IS MAGICIAN'S TALK MEANING TO SECRETLY CONCEAL AN OBJECT IN THE HAND!



"THIS IS CALLED THE 'CLASSIC' PALM! THE COIN IS GRIPPED BY THE FLESHY PALM AS THE HAND ASSUMES A NATURAL POSITION! DON'T SQUEEZE IT!"



IF YOUR HAND IS SMALL USE A QUARTER!

"THIS ONE'S CALLED THE 'FINGER PALM'! AGAIN BE SURE THE HAND LOOKS RELAXED! DO IT NICE 'N' EASY!"



OTHERWISE USE A HALF DOLLAR!

"HERE'S THE DOWNS PALM! IT WAS CONCEIVED BY T. NELSON DOWNS, THE 'KING OF KOINS!' THE COIN IS HELD IN THE FORK OF THE THUMB!"



REMEMBER ... HOLD THE HAND NATURALLY!

"USING THIS PALM, YOUR HAND LOOKS LIKE THIS TO THE AUDIENCE ..."



THE COIN IS CONCEALED BEHIND THE THUMB!

"TO PRODUCE IT, CURL THE FIRST TWO FINGERS INWARD, CLIP THE COIN, THEN STRAIGHTEN THEM AGAIN! PRESTO! YOU'VE PLUCKED A COIN FROM THE AIR BY MAGIC!"



TO VANISH IT... SIMPLY REVERSE THE PROCEDURE!

NOW YOU KNOW HOW TO MAKE A COIN APPEAR! WATCH CAREFULLY AND I'LL SHOW YOU HOW TO MAKE ONE DISAPPEAR!

MAGICIAN'S CALL THIS...
THE FRENCH DROP!

"BEGIN BY SHOWING A COIN IN THE LEFT HAND LIKE THIS..."



"IT IS HELD BETWEEN THE THUMB AND LEFT FINGERTIPS..."



"NOW THE RIGHT HAND COMES OVER TO TAKE THE COIN, RIGHT THUMB GOING UNDER IT..."



"UNDER COVER OF THE RIGHT FINGERS, ALLOW THE COIN TO DROP INTO THE LEFT FINGERS! THE RIGHT HAND MOVES AWAY AS IF IT HOLDS THE COIN..."



"KEEP YOUR EYES ON THE RIGHT HAND WHILE THE LEFT DROPS CASUALLY TO YOUR SIDE! RAISE THE RIGHT HAND THEN SUDDENLY SNAP THE FINGERS! PRESTO! THE COIN HAS APPARENTLY DISAPPEARED!"



WELL, THAT'S THE WAY IT'S DONE! JUST THE WAY MY DAD TAUGHT IT TO ME! GOTTA SPLIT NOW! SO 'TIL I SEE YOU AGAIN AT OUR NEXT MAGIC SESSION TAKE CARE AND PRACTICE UP!



MAGICMASTER

CHAPTER
FOUR

CHAINS OF FIRE



SUDDENLY FROM BEHIND...



THE GOLDEN DAGGER OF DHARATHA CATCHES THE EYE OF THE FIRE-KING...

HE WON'T NEED THIS ANYMORE! NOW, THEY MUST PAY THE PENALTY FOR INVADING MY STRONG-HOLD!



TAKE THEM BELOW... TO THE ROOM OF FIRE! THE FIRE-KING WILL HAVE HIS FINAL REVENGE!



MOMENTS LATER...

PREPARE YOURSELF NOW, BOY, TO MEET THE CHALLENGE OF THE FIRE!

YOU REALLY KNOW HOW TO HURT A GUY!



AFTER THE MEN HAVE GONE...

IT APPEARS THAT WE HAVE UNDERESTIMATED OUR OPPONENT, O MASTER OF MODERN MAGIC!

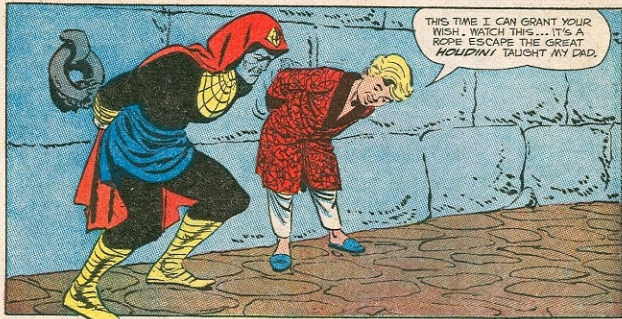
YOU'RE NOT KIDDING! IN A MINUTE THEY'RE GONNA TOAST US LIKE A COUPLE OF MARSHMALLOWS!



THE DAGGER OF DHARATHA! IT'S GONE! PRINCE INFERNUS TOOK IT WHEN THEY CLOBBERED YOU!

IF THE FIEND SO MUCH AS SUSPECTS THAT IT IS IN THE DAGGER THAT MY POWER LIES WE ARE DOOMED! WITHOUT IT, I AM ONLY MORTAL! IF WE COULD BUT ESCAPE TO RETRIEVE IT!





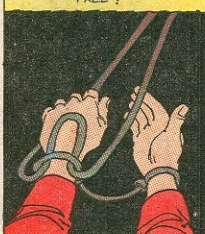
"FIRST, I PUSH THE LONG ROPE UNDER THE ROPE THAT'S TIED AROUND MY WRIST! IT'S A TIGHT SQUEEZE BUT I THINK I CAN MAKE IT!"



"NEXT, I GET SOME SLACK AND ENLARGE THE LOOP SO THAT IT WILL SLIP OVER MY HAND!"



"THEN, AS SOON AS MY HAND IS THROUGH THE LOOP I STEP BACKWARD AND... PRESTO! THE ROPE DROPS OFF AND I'M FREE!"



NOW ALL I HAVE TO DO IS BRING MY HANDS IN FRONT OF ME BY STEPPING OVER THE ROPE...



... AND LOOSEN THE KNOTS WITH MY TEETH. IT'S SIMPLE WHEN YOU KNOW HOW!



IT'S TOO LATE! THE FIRES HAVE BEGUN!



THEN, AT THE **SORCERER'S** COMMAND AN EERIE FORM MATERIALIZES ...

NO! HE CANNOT PROTECT YOU FROM THE SOULS OF THE DEAD! FROM YOUR OWN CONSCIENCE!

LET A PHANTOM RETURN FROM THE FORBIDDEN TOMBS OF THE DESERT OF DESOLATION!



HADEED! YA MASHUM! DON'T TOUCH ME!
NO! NO!



TERRIFIED, THE EVIL PRINCE RUSHES HEADLONG INTO THE CREMATORIUM ...



HE'S GONE... IN THE TRAP HE SET FOR US! DESTROYED BY THE INCARNATE EVIL THAT DWELLED WITHIN HIM!

WE'D BE THERE NOW IF YOU HADN'T REMEMBERED THE OLD MAGICIAN'S TRICK OF LAYING ON THE FLOOR IN A BURNING CUBICLE!



HEAT RISES, AND WHILE EVERYTHING ABOVE IS CONSUMED THE FLOOR REMAINS COOL! AFTER CRAWLING OUT, WE TRAPPED THE GANG IN A LOCKED ROOM, THEN CAME AFTER THE PRINCE OF FIRE!



LATER, BACK IN THE LIBRARY...

...AND SO YOU SEE, I HOPE THAT SOMEDAY I WILL BE AS GREAT AS MY FATHER!

AND SO YOU SHALL, FOR I WILL TEACH YOU, AS I HAVE MERLIN, CIRCE AND CAGLIOSTRO!



I SEE THERE IS SO MUCH EVIL IN THE WORLD TODAY. PERHAPS I SHOULD REMAIN TO SUPPRESS IT.

WE'LL DO IT TOGETHER!



BE ON HAND NEXT ISSUE AS THE YOUNG MAGICIAN AND **THE MIGHTY SORCERER** PIT THEIR STRENGTH AGAINST THEIR MOST DEADLY FOE! AN EPIC TALE OF **MAGIC VS. MAGIC!**