

# DOUBLE-DARE ADVENTURES

Presents A BIG DOUBLE-FEATURE starring

COMICS  
CODE  
AUTHORITY

25c

HARVEY  
THRILLER

MAR. No. 2

# B MAN



THEY'RE  
HEISTING A  
DIAMOND TIARA  
WITH A  
VACUUM  
TUBE!

EXTRA! FULL LENGTH CIRCUS  
OF THRILLS!

## MAGICMASTER

IN  
MONSTER  
MENAGERIE!

THIS MAGAZINE  
ADMITS ONE



# DOUBLE-DARE ADVENTURES

Presents A BIG DOUBLE-FEATURE

**T**HIS IS THE ENCHANTED GLOWING SWORD WHICH HAS PROTECTED THE LEGION OF GLADIATORS FOR 2,000 YEARS...IT DRAWS ENERGY FROM THE SUN...BUT THIS DAY IT WILL FACE THE TEST OF DARKNESS IN THE CAVERN OF DEEP MYSTERY! THIS WILL BE A DAY LIKE NO OTHER DAY IN THE HISTORY OF FIGHTING MEN!

**FEATURING**  
A FANTASTIC IMMOBILIZING LIGHT-SUN -- THAT STOPS THE GLADIATOR COLD!



**STARRING**  
THE TERRIBLE MONSTER IN THE GROTO OF EVIL!



THIS IS OL' DESTINY--AND IF YOU'RE WONDERING WHO'S BEHIND ALL THESE HEAD-ACHES IN BONES FOR THE GLADIATOR--I'M IT! AH! AND DON'T BANK ON HIS BLASTED MAGIC SWORD TO BAIL HIM OUT OF TROUBLE! I'VE GOT PLANS FOR THAT, TOO! SEE YOU LATER--IN THE STORY! HA! HA!



starring

## BOMAN



**IS HE A FORCE FOR GOOD OR EVIL?**  
HIS SECRET WILL BE REVEALED ON THESE PAGES!

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A MOMENT  
LATER, THE  
HOSPITAL IS  
ROCKED BY...

THE VAULT DOOR WAS NO MATCH  
FOR MY BEE BOMB! NOW TO  
REAP THE HARVEST...



RADIUM...THE SIXTH RAREST ELEMENT IN THE  
WORLD---AND I'VE GOT A MILLION BUCKS OF THE  
STUFF! AND THAT'S JUST WHAT THEY'LL HAVE TO  
PAY TO GET IT BACK! HA, HA...TIME TO  
BUZZ OFF!



AS THE HALF-MAN, HALF-INSECT WINGS BACK  
TO HIS LAIR, LET'S TURN BACK TIME TO SEE  
HOW SUCH A FREAK OF NATURE CAME INTO  
EXISTENCE.



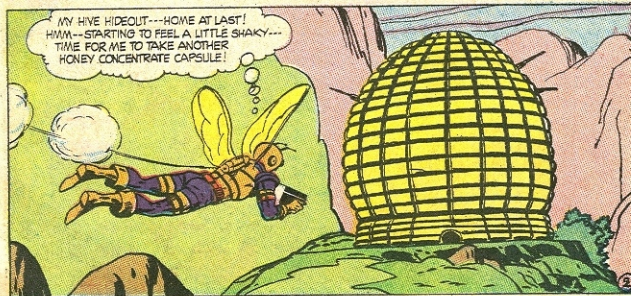
A HUGE METEORITE CRACKED OPEN, RELEASING A  
SWARM OF WEIRD, ALIEN BEES THAT ATTACKED AND  
STUNG ASTRONAUT BARRY E. EAMES...

WITHIN DAYS, HIS BEE-BITTEN BODY MADE A REMARKABLE...AND  
FRIGHTENING TRANSFORMATION...

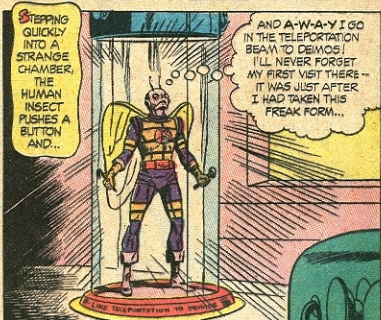
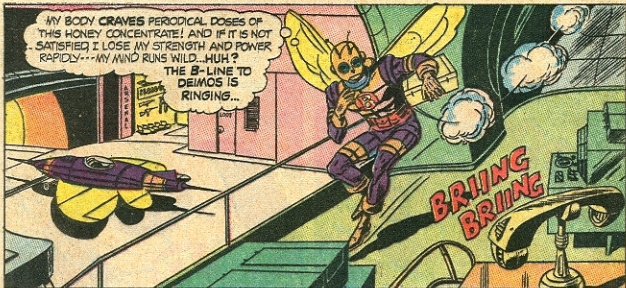


SO IT WAS, THE BEE  
WAS "BORN"...AND  
EAMES, BEING A  
GREEDY PERSON  
TOOK ADVANTAGE  
OF IT...

MY HIVE HIDEOUT---HOME AT LAST!  
HMM---STARTING TO FEEL A LITTLE SHAKY---  
TIME FOR ME TO TAKE ANOTHER  
HONEY CONCENTRATE CAPSULE!













# THE BIRTH OF THE F-BEE-I

I DIDN'T  
TELL YOU--  
THE BEE'S A  
REAL BUZZER  
WHEN IT  
COMES TO  
MARKSMAN-  
SHIP!

BECAUSE  
THE MAN HAS  
HIS HANDS  
UP, SIR...HE'S  
SURRENDERING!

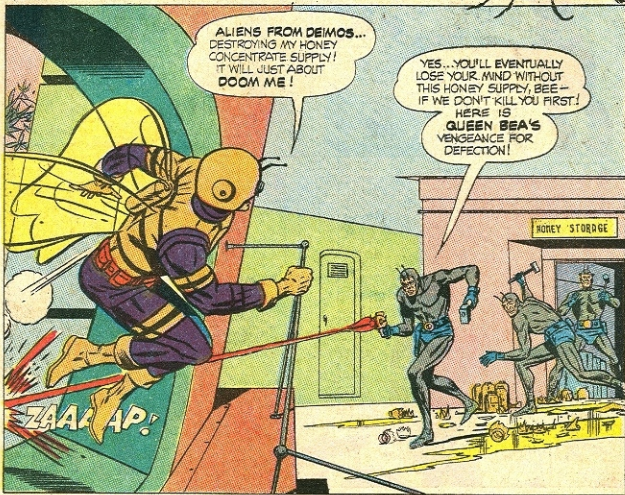
I'LL  
MEET  
YOU  
THERE.





RETURNING TO HIS HIVE AFTER THE CEREMONIES, THE F. BEE I. AGENT FINDS COMPANY—UNINVITED GUESTS WHO ARE DETERMINED TO MAKE THIS...

# B-DAY FOR B-MAN



**S**UDDENLY, A BARRAGE OF LETHAL FIRE POURS FORTH FROM THE HUMAN INSECT'S ANTENNAE...

I'LL JUST DISARM YOU CHARACTERS AND THEN TAKE YOU ON—ALL THREE AT A TIME!

WE'RE NO MATCH FOR HIS POWERS WITHOUT GUNS! TO THE TELEPORTATION CHAMBER—HURRY!



**T**HE BEE TURNS ON A BLAST OF WING-POWER—BUT...

TOO LATE—THEY'RE ON THEIR WAY BACK TO DEIMOS! BUT NOT BEFORE THE DAMAGE HAS BEEN DONE!





THE RARE HONEY CONCENTRATE FROM THE MOON—**DESTROYED!** I'VE ONLY GOT A FEW HONEY CAPSULES IN MY BELT—

ONCE THAT IS USED UP, I'LL BE A GONER...

...FOR WITHOUT REGULAR DOSES OF THIS SPECIAL HONEY, I'LL LOSE MY SANITY IN A COUPLE OF HOURS! WAIT—I'M AN F BEE I. AGENT— PERHAPS THE F. BEE I. LAB CAN HELP—  
**DUPLICATE THIS HONEY CONCENTRATE!**

**T**AKING A SAMPLE OF THE HONEY, THE BEE MAKES A BEE-LINE TO THE LAB, WHERE...

THERE'S ALWAYS A CHANCE OF DUPLICATING THIS CONCENTRATE—BUT IT WILL TAKE TIME TO ANALYZE, BEE! IT MIGHT EVEN BE DAYS...

WELL, HOP RIGHT ON IT WILL YOU, PAL? THREE HONEY CAPSULES IS ALL I HAVE LEFT—THEN I'M OUT OF THE BALL GAME FOR KEEPS... AND OFF MY ROCKER!

**S**UDDENLY, THE COSTUMED AGENT'S BADGE BUNKS FURIOUSLY—AND THEN...

FBI CHIEF TO BEE—  
JOIN AGENT DUNN AT PIER #12!  
**YOUR ASSIGNMENT—  
BODYGUARD PRINCESS  
ARNA WHEN SHE  
DEPARTS FROM SHIP!**

READ YOU LOUD AND CLEAR CHIEF—  
TAKING OFF NOW...

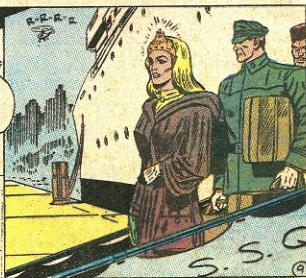
**OVER AND  
OUT...**

**S**HORTLY...

THERE'S THE PRINCESS—A REAL DOLL, HUH? BUT THE CRAZY GAL INSISTS UPON WEARING THAT DIAMOND TIARA IN PUBLIC...

BOY, THAT HUNK OF GLITTER IS BAIT FOR ANY HOODS—WHAT'S THAT SOUND?

12



CRIMINALS IN A COPTER! THEY'RE USING A GIMMICKY DEVICE... A VACUUM CLEANER... TO SNARE THE TIARA? I'M GOING UPSTAIRS!

KEEP ON THE BALL, BEE—THEY WON'T THROW IN THE SPONGE WITHOUT A FIGHT!

POW!

BLAM!

BLAM!

WITH LIGHTNING-LIKE SPEED THE WINGED CRIME-FIGHTER SOARS SKYWARD WHERE...

HEY! WHAT'S THAT CRAZY BUG TRYING TO DO?

DOWN YOU... WITH ONE OF MY HEAT BOMBS, PAL! YOU MIGHT SAY I'M JUST A FIREBUG AT HEART...

BLAM!  
BLAM!

KA-POW!

JOEY—I HIT HIM—I THINK...

NO—BUT YOU MIGHT AS WELL HAVE—YOUR SLUGS SHATTERED MY THREE HONEY CAPSULES IN MY BEE BELT!

UNDER A SURGE OF POWER, THE AMAZING BEE DIES—THEN...

MY GUN... HE FLIPPED IT OUT OF MY HANDS WITH HIS CRAZY WINGS...

AND I'LL GET RIGHT BACK TO YOU, BUDDY BOY—RIGHT AFTER I TAKE CARE OF YOUR SIDEKICK!

FLAPPER  
FLAP

FLAP

AND HERE'S MY PRESENT FOR YOU—A PAIR OF 'EM!

CLOMP



TENSE MOMENTS LATER, AGENT DUNN ARRIVES ON THE TOP DECK TO OBSERVE AN OMINOUS SIGHT...

GREAT WORK, BEE—YOU REALLY PUT THESE BABIES AWAY!...HEY...YOU DON'T LOOK SO HOT! WHAT'S WRONG...?

A-A SPELL OF SOME KIND-- CAN'T SEEM TO THINK STRAIGHT... NEED A HONEY DOSE... HAVEN'T ANY LEFT...



Suddenly...

HE'S... HALF OUT OF HIS MIND... ATTACKING ME! GET A GRIP ON YOURSELF!



I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF THIS BIRD BRAINED F.B.I. BUSINESS— AND DON'T CALL ME 'PAL' PUNK! I'M GOING TO USE MY POWERS FOR CRIME!



THE LACK OF HONEY CONCENTRATE HAS DRIVEN HIM BERSERK! NO TELLING WHAT HE'LL DO... HE'S A MENACE TO SOCIETY IN THAT CONDITION!



AND NOW I'LL JUST BUZZ OFF WITH MY LOOT! HA, HA, HA!

CHANCES ARE HE'LL MAKE FOR HIS BEE HIVE HIDE-OUT! GOT TO GET MORE AGENTS AND MOVE--FAST! IT MAY MEAN WE'LL HAVE TO SHOOT HIM DOWN! BUT WE HAVE NO CHOICE!



**S**HORTLY, A TEAM OF AGENTS BATTERS DOWN THE DOOR OF THE UNIQUE BEE HIVE AND...

ZERO HIM IN WITH A TEAR GAS PELLET, JASON — IF THAT DOESN'T PUT HIM AWAY THEN...WE'LL HAVE TO USE OUR GUNS!

IDIOTS! FOOLS! MY UNIQUE BODY IS IMMUNE TO SUCH FUMES AS YOU WILL SOON SEE!  
**HO, HO, HO!**



OBSERVE...I DIDN'T EVEN COUGH! KAHAKAHA...NOW I'VE GOT A FEW PELLETS OF MY OWN TO SPRING ON YOU...

HE'S GOING FOR A WEAPON IN HIS BEE BELT! LOOKS LIKE WE'LL HAVE TO OPEN UP ON HIM, BOYS...



**B**UT BEFORE THE AGENTS CAN TRIGGER THEIR GUNS...

W-WHAT IS THIS STUFF... CAN'T MOVE...

AN INSTANT DRYING LIQUID BEES WAX, BUSTER! ENOUGH TO KEEP YOU NAILED DOWN SO I CAN GET SOME ANTENNAE SHOOTING IN!



**S**UDDENLY, SEEMINGLY FROM NOWHERE...

IT'S REARDON... HE'S FIRED A HYPO DART INTO THE BEE!

FILLED WITH HONEY THAT THE LAB BOYS CAME UP WITH—AND LET'S HOPE IT'S THE RIGHT HONEY CONCENTRATE TO SNAP THE BEE BACK TO NORMAL!



**F**OR A LONG TIME, THE BEE REMAINS MOTIONLESS, THEN FINALLY...

DUNN...WHAT ARE YOU GUYS ALL DOING HERE? I'M BACK AT THE BEE-HIVE... CAN'T REMEMBER ANYTHING...

WE'LL EXPLAIN LATER, BEE! BUT HERE'S A BIT OF GOOD NEWS—THE LAB TECHNICIANS CAME UP WITH A SYNTHETIC HONEY CONCENTRATE—AND IT **WORKS**—ON YOU!—YOU'LL NEVER HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT FLIPPING YOUR LID AGAIN!





# THE GLOWING GLADIATOR

DON'T ENVY HARRY BARKER. I SURE, HE EXPERIENCED ONE OF THE MOST INCREDIBLE ADVENTURES EVER DREAMED UP, EVEN FOR HARRY, WHO HAS EXPLORED THE ANCIENT TOMBS OF EGYPTIAN PHAROAHS--- EVEN FOR HARRY, WHO WAS GRANTED A DOUBLE LIFE WITH AWESOME POWERS BY A GLADIATOR AWAKENED AFTER 2000 YEARS---FOR HARRY BARKER, TODAY'S GLO GLO GLADIATOR COULD EASILY GOOF WHEN HE TACKLES THE BIG DADDY OF ALL CREEPY CHARACTERS IN---

## THE TWO DEADLY FACES OF DESTINY!



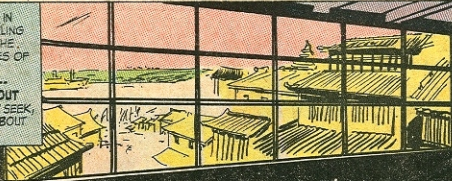
I STRIKE THROUGH THE FANTASTIC CREATURE---AGAIN AND AGAIN---BUT MY FAITHFUL SWORD MIGHT AS WELL BE CUTTING AT---AT AIR!

HAHAHA! I SURE PUT THAT GLADIATOR ON SHAKY-STREET WHEN I CONNED HIM INTO A SWINGIN' TRIP TO MY WORLD OF NO RETURN!

SHALL I SAVE THE HALF-MORTAL? NO! HIS PRIDE WOULD KILL HIM---IF THE MONSTER DOESN'T!



YOU SEE HERE IN  
SPRAWLING, BAWLING  
HONG KONG, THE  
EASTERN OFFICES OF  
**ADVENTURE  
UNLIMITED---**  
AND IF ITS WAY-OUT  
ADVENTURE THEY SEEK,  
THEY'RE JUST ABOUT  
TO GET IT...



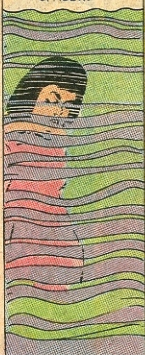
INSIDE, TAKING IT EASY AT THE  
NOON BREAK, IS **HARRY BARKER**,  
PRESIDENT AND CHIEF TROUBLE-  
SHOOTER FOR THE FIRM--AND HE'S  
IN FOR **PLENTY OF TROUBLE** TO  
SHOOT AT!

I'LL HAVE THOSE  
NEW YORK REPORTS  
IN A MOMENT,  
MR. BARKER...

WWW...SURE,  
ANGELA--NO  
BIG RUSH...



SUDDENLY, A MYSTERIOUS  
MIST PERMEATES THE  
CASUAL AIR OF THE  
OFFICE...



IN THE NEXT INSTANT, STRANGE RAYS CON-  
VERGE ON **ONE TARGET---** TROUBLE-SHOOTING  
**HARRY BARKER...**

MR. BARKER!  
WHAT'S  
WRONG?

D-DON'T KNOW,  
ANGELA...GOT A SUDDEN  
BOMBARDMENT OF PAIN  
IN THE CHEST...L-LIKE I'M  
BEING SHOWERED BY  
FLYING NEEDLES!



FAR AWAY--HALFWAY  
AROUND THE WORLD--  
A FAMILIAR, EVIL  
FIGURE GLOATS OVER  
HIS LATEST SCHEME  
OF DEVILRY! IF YOU  
HAVEN'T MET THIS  
KOOKY PLOTTER OF  
STRANGE BITS, NOW'S  
THE TIME! HIS NAME  
IS...**DESTINY!**

SOMEWHERE ---  
SOMEWHERE---IS MY  
ENEMY!...THE **GLOW-  
ING GLADIATOR!**  
I'LL LOCATE HIM!





I DON'T KNOW THAT GLADIATOR CHARACTER'S SECRET IDENTITY-- BUT I DO KNOW HE'S GOT THE MAGIC AMULET OF HANNIBAL--A PRIZE HE PICKED UP WHEN HE STUMBLED INTO AN ANCIENT CAVERN IN CARTHAGE! SOME GUYS HAVE ALL THE LUCK!



THAT ODDBALL AMULET MAKES HIM HALF-MORTAL, HALF-IMMORTAL! I'D BE A CHUMP TO LET HIM KEEP IT!



NOW...THESE WAVES FROM MY NEWEST INVENTION ARE THE GREATEST! THEY'LL HOME IN ON THE WEAK MORTAL PART OF HIS BODY--CAUSING HIM TO SWITCH TO HIS IMMORTAL GLO-GLO GLAD ROLE---AND COME HOT-RODING IT AFTER ME!



BUT HAVE I GOT HEADLINES FOR HIM! WHAT A BLAST HE'S IN FOR! IT'LL ---HA, HA--KILL HIM!



WHILE BACK IN HONG KONG...

I'LL --I'LL GET A DOCTOR!

YES-YES! HURRY!



AS SOON AS THE SECRETARY DEPARTS, HARRY BARKER'S HAND SLOWLY INCHES ITS WAY INTO AN INNER HIDING PLACE OF HIS SUIT--AND EMERGES AGAIN, HOLDING...

...THE HANNIBAL AMULET! ITS POWER SHOULD WARD OFF WHATEVER IS SLOWLY KILLING ME.



GRADUALLY, THE TORTURED  
FIGURE STARTS TO CHANGE...



...AND CHANGE...



...UNTIL HE COMPLETES THE  
TRANSFORMATION TO HIS OTHER  
IDENTITY...HIS OTHER SELF...

...THE GLOWING GLADIATOR!  
JUST AS I THOUGHT--THE STRANGE  
PAIN IS GONE! THE AMULET DID  
THE TRICK!



THE SOUND OF HURRIED FOOTSTEPS  
OUTSIDE THE DOOR...

I CAN WILL MYSELF INVISIBLE--  
FOR A BRIEF MOMENT! AND IN  
THAT MOMENT--I MUST GET OUT  
OF HERE--UNSEEN!



SORRY, ANGELA--  
BUT I CAN'T LET  
YOU KNOW ABOUT  
MY...MY "OTHER  
SELF!" NOW---I  
HAVE A JOURNEY  
TO MAKE!

YOUNG LADY!  
ANY MORE OF  
THIS TOM-  
FOOLERY, AND  
I'LL...I'LL...

BUT HE WAS  
HERE--ON THE  
FLOOR JUST A  
MINUTE AGO!



OUTSIDE, IN THE BACK-STREET SHADOWS--AFTER  
HIS INVISIBILITY HAS WORN OFF...

WITH THE AMULET'S  
POWER, I CAN TRACE  
THE ROUTE OVER WHICH  
THOSE WAVE EMANATIONS  
TRAVELED! I MUST  
TRACK DOWN THEIR  
EVIL SOURCE!



WHO CAN EXPLAIN THE WAYS OF A HALF-MORTAL? IS  
HE CARRIED BY THE WINDS, OR IS HE WILLED ACROSS  
GREAT DISTANCES? ANYWAY, AN OMINOUS CAVERN LOOMS  
JUST AHEAD, AND...

O HERO FROM THE DEAD  
PAST--BEWARE THE CAVERN  
THAT LEADS TO THE WORLD  
OF NO RETURN!...OR  
YOU'LL BE AS DEAD AS  
THE PAST!

I SAY--WHO  
SPEAKS?





MYSTERIOUS ONE--WITH SHROUDED FACE! HOW DO YOU KNOW ME? HOW DO YOU KNOW I BREATHE THE SPIRIT OF 2,000 YEARS?

I KNOW MANY THINGS---JUST AS I KNOW THE CAVERN CAN LEAD YOU TO...YOUR DEATH!

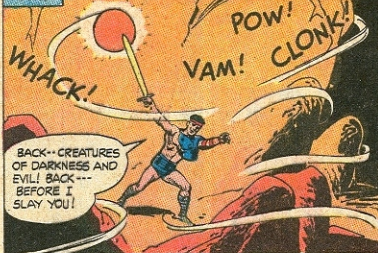


STILL I CONTINUE ON MY MISSION! NOTHING CAN SWERVE ME!

YES--I KNOW THAT! BUT... CONTINUE WITH CAUTION! BE WARY OF STRANGE THINGS-- STRANGE PLACES! I HAVE SPOKEN! NOW I GO!



THEN, ENTERING THE CAVERN, HE SENSES UNEARTHLY ENEMIES-- AND SWIFTLY WILLS THE HANNIBAL SWORD INTO A FLAMING "SUN!"



BACK--CREATURES OF DARKNESS AND EVIL! BACK--- BEFORE I SLAY YOU!

THEN, AS THE UNEARTHLY ATTACKERS SCATTER AND SCURRY INTO TUNNEL-WAYS AND CREVICES...



FORBIDDEN, AM I? THERE ARE SINISTER SECRETS LOCKED BEHIND THOSE DOORS---AND NOTHING WILL KEEP ME OUT!



THIS IS MY OWN SPECIAL "KEY" FOR OPENING DOORS! NOW, WHAT ABOUT YOUR WARNINGS-- WHOEVER YOU ARE!

BUT... YOU...DESTINY! THE PRINCE OF EVIL PLOTTERS!

GREETINGS, GLAD! YOU STUMBLED RIGHT INTO MY TRAP--AND YOU'RE STUCK...THANKS TO MY IMMOBILIZING LIGHT-GUN! GET IT? THEY GUM UP YOUR SPECIAL POWER---I MEAN LIKE A DOLLAR WATCH!



DON'T SPLIT, READERS..THE GLO-GLO GLAD'LL BE BACK FOR A REAL SMASHEROO! DON'T MISS THE REST OF THE FLICK!

# THE GLOWING GLADIATOR

ONE THING'S FOR SURE---GLADIATOR CAN'T BE SUCH A GLAD-LAD NOW--NOT WITH HIS MIGHTY POWERS SUDDENLY STYMIED BY WILD, DOUBLE-DEALIN' OL' DESTINY! NOW WHAT HAPPENS? P-L-E-N-T-Y!! SO STICK AROUND WITH THE GREAT GLADIATOR--AS THE GLO-GLO GUY BOGS DOWN IN--

## THE LAND OF NO RETURN

THIS IS A ROUGH SPOT FOR ANYBODY--EVEN THE GREAT GLADIATOR, WHO CAN'T TWITCH SO MUCH AS A SINGLE MIGHTY MUSCLE!







BUT...I AM NO  
MERE MORTAL!  
I AM HALF-  
IMMORTAL!

DOWN, DOWN  
GOES THE  
GREAT  
PART-IMMORTAL,  
DOWN INTO  
A DANK  
POOL IN A  
GROTTO OF  
EVIL!



DRAWING ME  
DOWN INTO THE  
DRINK, EH? WELL,  
IT'LL BE A SHORT  
SWIM--WHENEVER I  
COME FACE TO FACE  
WITH WHATEVER  
HOLDS ME!



WHU-WHU-  
WHU...

MONSTROUS  
DENIZEN OF THIS  
FOUL AND DREARY  
PLACE--HAVE A  
TASTE OF MY  
ENCHANTED  
BLADE!



THWUNK

ELSEWHERE, A CHUCKLING FIGURE OBSERVES ALL...

HA! NOW HE'LL FIND OUT THAT  
HIS KOOKY MAGIC POWERS  
WILL GET HIM NOTHING BUT  
A HEADACHE IN THE LAND  
OF NO RETURN! GO GET  
'IM, MONSTER! GO! GO!



AS THE AWESOME STRUGGLE CONTINUES, NO OTHER SEES A DIM FIGURE STANDING IN THE DEPTHS...

HEAR ME!  
WITHOUT  
WATER, THE  
PLANT DIES..



A VOICE...SOMEONE SPOKE  
TO ME! "...WITHOUT WATER,  
THE PLANT DIES??"



"...WITHOUT WATER...THE PLANT  
DIES..." A RIDDLE---YES! AND  
I THINK I'VE SOLVED IT!



SUDDENLY, THE FIGHTING, FLAILING  
FIGURE GROWS LUMP, AND...



THEN SLOWLY, THE HUGE FINGERS  
RELAX ---AND...

IT WORKED!...  
ACTING LIKE I  
WAS DROWNED!  
NOW--TO ZIP  
TO THE  
SURFACE!



IN A COUPLE OF SECONDS...

WHO  
WHO!

HE'S REALLY MAD...  
THE WAY I PLAYED  
POSSUM AND  
TRICKED HIM!  
HERE HE COMES!





NOW OUT OF THE WATER, THE  
GIGANTIC LEGS SLOW DOWN...  
FALTER...



...THEN TOTTER, AND COLLAPSE...

WHU-U-U-U-U-U.



AND... THE MYSTERIOUS WORDS  
WERE PROPHETIC.....

"WITHOUT WATER, THE PLANT  
DIES..." AND WITHOUT WATER,  
THE MONSTER DIED!  
SO BE IT!



BUT WHERE DID THE VOICE  
COME FROM? DID I TRULY HEAR  
IT--OR WAS IT ALL IN MY MIND?



SOON, EMERGING ABOVE THE  
GROUND AGAIN....

A DEADLY SERPENT--AND JUST  
LOOK AT THE CONDITION OF MY  
SWORD!

THE SERPENT  
SHALL  
STRAIGHTEN  
THE  
TWISTED  
TRAIL!



DID I HEAR MYSTERIOUS WORDS  
AGAIN? NO! IT MUST BE A TRICK  
OF THIS UNREAL PLACE! YET--WHY  
DO I LET THE SERPENT CLIMB  
MY SWORD? WHY?



BY THE CURSE THAT DESTROYED CARTHAGE! MY TRUSTY BLADE--AS GOOD AS EVER! BUT NOW, WHAT NEW, TERRIBLE THREAT WILL I FACE?



SUDDENLY, HE'S GOT HIS ANSWER---AND HOW!



I STRIKE AGAIN AND AGAIN AT THIS MONSTROUS CREATURE-- BUT HARM IT NOT! I CUT. NOTHING BUT AIR!

GR-ROR-R!



I'M HELPLESS--- HELPLESS AGAINST A THING I CAN HARDLY SEE!

WHAT IS NOT-- IS NOT!

AND AS THE GREAT GLADIATOR CONCENTRATES, CONCENTRATES...

ASTOUNDING! THE MYSTERIOUS WORDS WERE CORRECT! I MERELY THOUGHT THE THING DID NOT EXIST--AND IT VANISHED!

POP!

AND IN THE VERY NEXT INSTANT...

I-I'M BACK HERE AGAIN... WITH YOU! NOW I RECALL THE MYSTERIOUS WORDS...YOUR WORDS! WHO ARE YOU, FAIR LADY?

I? I TOO, AM DESTINY! AND I AM DEADLY-- BUT DEADLY ONLY TO THE OTHER DESTINY... THE EVIL ONE... YOUR ARCH ENEMY!

YOU WON YOUR GREATEST TRIUMPH, O GLADIATOR!...TRUMPH OF MENTAL STRENGTH OVER MENTAL TERROR! I MERELY GUIDED YOU! AND YOUR VICTORY BROUGHT EVIL DESTINY'S END! BUT BEWARE... BEWARE!

I CERTAINLY WILL, THANK YOU! NOW--TO GET BACK TO MY HONG KONG OFFICE--AS HARRY BARKER! FAREWELL!

BUT, AS THE TWO DEPART...

INDEED THE GLADIATOR SHOULD BEWARE...BECAUSE DESTINY CAN DIE...AND DIE... AND DIE! I'M A COOL CAT--- WITH NINE HUNDRED LIVES...

END ALL



# SUNKEN TREASURE

I HEAR YOU'RE GOING TO TREASURE HUNTING AGAIN, DAN? WHERE TO THIS TIME?

IN THE MEDITERRANEAN, BILL... NOT TOO FAR FROM THE COAST OF SPAIN!

DAN FINCH WAS AN EXPLORER AND ADVENTURER, BUT NEVER IN HIS YEARS OF TRAVELING, DID HE ENCOUNTER AN EXPERIENCE AS MYSTERIOUS AS THE ONE WHICH BEFELL HIM THE DAY HE SEARCHED FOR SUNKEN TREASURE!

THIS OLD VOLUME, TRANSLATED FROM THE ORIGINAL SPANISH, NARRATES THE HISTORY OF SPANISH COMMERCIAL SHIPPING, IN THE 16TH CENTURY! SEE THIS CHART?

THE "CASTILLA" LOADED WITH TREASURE FROM THE MIDDLE EAST, SANK IN A VIOLENT STORM IN 1558, JUST BEFORE REACHING SPAIN! A SURVIVOR DREW THIS MAP FROM MEMORY!

I'M EQUIPPING A SHIP AND GOING HUNTING FOR THAT TREASURE WANNA COME ALONG, BILL?

JUST TRY AND STOP ME! I'M WITH YOU, DAN!

A MONTH LATER, THE TREASURE-HUNTERS HAD REACHED A SPOT MARKED ON THE FOUR CENTURY-OLD MAP...

THE DARING ADVENTURER SEARCHED THE SEA BOTTOM FOR SIGNS OF THE ANCIENT WRECKAGE, IN VAIN...

I'LL GO DOWN AND SEE WHAT I CAN FIND! I HOPE THAT SURVIVOR'S MEMORY WASN'T FAULTY!

THERE MUST BE AN ERROR ON THE OLD MAP!

BETTER COME TOPSIDE, DAN! LOOKS LIKE A BIG STORM IS BREWING!



WITHIN AN HOUR, THE STORM STRUCK IN ALL ITS FURY...



THE STORM DROVE THE SALVAGE SHIP SOME DISTANCE OFF ITS COURSE, THEN, SUDDENLY THRU A STRANGE MIST...



THE STORM FINALLY PASSED AND DAN MADE A DIVE IN THIS NEW SPOT WHERE THE STRANGE VESSEL HAD PLUNGED BENEATH THE ANGRY WAVES...



AND SOON...



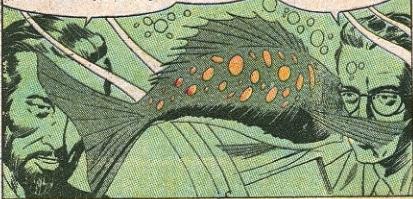


IN THE OFFICE OF COASTAL SCIENCES INC. TWO FIGURES CLOSELY STUDY THE MOVEMENTS OF THE FISH WITH THE STRANGE SPOTS! AT TIMES A PHENOMENON OF NATURE CAN GIVE A CLUE TO SOMETHING MUCH BIGGER! TO MEN OF SCIENCE THIS CHANCE IS AN INTRIGUING ONE!

STRANGEST FISH I'VE EVER SEEN, HIGGINS! THOSE **GOLD SPOTS** ARE MOST UNUSUAL! WHERE EXACTLY DID YOU SAY YOU CAME ACROSS IT?

I'VE MARKED THE LOCATION ON THIS CHART, PROFESSOR!

I'LL ARRANGE FOR ANOTHER EXPEDITION IMMEDIATELY! IF **ONE** NEW VARIETY EXISTS THERE, PERHAPS WE CAN FIND OTHERS!



YOU ARE THE FIRST TO ENTER... THE FIRST TO UNLOCK THE MYSTERIES OF A LAND BURIED BENEATH THE OCEAN FOR MILLIONS OF YEARS! YOU ARE THE ONLY ONE WHO WILL KNOW...

# THE SECRET OF THE MOUNTAIN



WITHIN THREE DAYS A SMALL BOAT ANCHORS OFF THE COAST OF AN UNINHABITED ISLAND!

WE FOUND THE FISH AT THE UNDERWATER BASE OF THIS CLIFF, PROFESSOR!

FINE! I'LL MAKE THE FIRST DIVE, MYSELF!



YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE TOO MUCH DIFFICULTY! THE WATER'S PRETTY SHALLOW AT THIS POINT!



DO YOU REALLY THINK THE PROFESSOR WILL FIND ANYTHING DOWN THERE?

I DOUBT IT, HIGGINS! IF YOU ASK ME, OUR CUTE LITTLE FRIEND WITH THE GOLD SPOTS IS JUST ANOTHER FREAK OF NATURE!



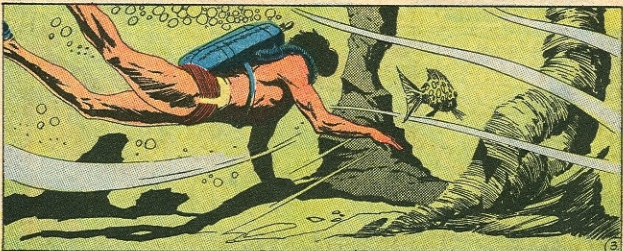
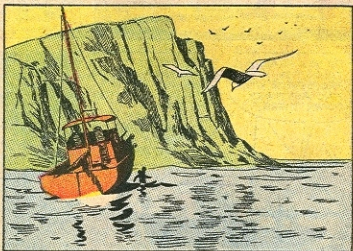
HMM! NO FISH OF ANY KIND DOWN HERE!



AND I SEE WHY... NO PLANT LIFE!









AH-HA! A  
CREVICE IN  
THE WALL!



NOW LET'S JUST HOPE  
IT'S LARGE ENOUGH SO  
I CAN FOLLOW IT TO  
ITS END!

AS THE PROFESSOR FOLLOWS THE FISH  
DEEPER INTO THE LARGE CREVICE, THE LIGHT  
GROWS FAINTER! THEN, SUDDENLY, IT  
REAPPEARS! SHOOTING TO THE SURFACE,  
THE PROFESSOR FINDS HIMSELF IN A  
LARGE, UNDERGROUND CAVERN,  
ILLUMINATED BY A STRONG,  
PHOSPHORESCENT GLOW!



WOW! THIS  
CAVERN MUST EXTEND  
FOR A THOUSAND FEET  
INTO THE MOUNTAIN ABOVE!  
AND THE WALLS ARE  
COMPLETELY COATED  
WITH LUMINOUS  
GROWTHS OF EVERY  
COLOR!

AT ONE TIME THERE MUST  
HAVE BEEN MANY OPENINGS  
INTO THIS PLACE, THROUGH  
WHICH LIFE COULD ENTER!  
AS THE ISLAND IS VOLCANIC,  
HOWEVER, THE ERUPTIONS  
MUST HAVE SEALED THE  
MAJORITY OF THEM BY  
NOW, TRAPPING EVERYTHING  
WITHIN!



REMOVING A SMALL NET FROM HIS BELT, THE  
PROFESSOR RE-ENTERS THE WATERY DEPTHS!





THE PROFESSOR RELATES HIS DISCOVERY TO THE OTHERS ON BOARD...

FOR CENTURIES LIFE HAS BEEN TRAPPED WITHIN THE HOLLOW MOUNTAIN EVOLVING ON ITS OWN! IT WAS POSSIBLY A TREMOR IN THE EARTH WHICH CAUSED THE CRACK THROUGH WHICH THE FIRST FISH ESCAPED!

UNFORTUNATELY, ALL I COULD CAPTURE WERE SEVERAL SMALLER SPECIMENS, PLUS SOME SAMPLES OF THE PHOSPHORUS GROWTHS! THE ORIGINAL, LARGER FISH GOT AWAY! BUT AT LEAST WE NOW KNOW THE FULL SECRET OF THE FISH AND THE HOLLOW MOUNTAIN!



MEANWHILE, IN A FAR FAR LARGER CAVERN DEEP WITHIN THE MOUNTAIN, A SMALL HAND POINTS EXCITEDLY TOWARD THE SWIRLING WATERS OF A LARGE POND!

LOOK, DADDY! MY FISH HAS COME BACK!



YES, SON... IT HAS!



# THIS IS YOUR TICKET

TO A CIRCUS THE LIKES OF WHICH  
WILL NEVER BE SEEN AGAIN!

ADMIT ONE

MONSTER MENAGERIE

# CIRCUS

WIZARD  
ADVENTURES  
FINAL  
PERFORMANCE  
BOX SEAT

featuring the YOUNG RINGMASTER OF MIRACLES,  
**JIMMY APOLLO**  
WITH HIS TROUPE OF  
AUTHENTIC **MONSTERS**



AND STARRING-- FROM  
ANCIENT CARTHAGE--WITH  
MYSTICAL POWERS MATCHED  
BY NO MORTAL-- THE  
**GREAT, GREAT**

# MAGICMASTER



UNSTANDARD  
APPEARANCE  
BY THAT EVIL MASTER  
OF BLACK MAGIC!  
THE **BLUE SORCERER**



WITH NEW MAGIC  
TRICKS FOR YOU  
TO PERFORM--

NOW  
SHOWING  
IN THIS  
ISSUE



# MAGICMASTER



UPSY DAISY,  
JUMBO...  
ARE YOU AN  
ELEPHANT  
OR A  
MOUSE?  
YOU HARDLY  
WEIGH A  
THING!

WOW!  
THAT KID  
LIFTED A  
TEN-TON  
ELEPHANT!  
HOW DOES  
HE DO IT?

AT THE CIRCUS ON A SIDESHOW STAGE, YOUNG JIMMY APOLLO FOLLOWS IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF HIS DEAD FATHER, WHOSE STAGE MAGIC ENTERTAINED MILLIONS, BY PERFORMING AN AMAZING FEAT! BUT LITTLE DOES THE BOY MAGICIAN KNOW THAT FOLLOWING HIS ACT, EERIE DANGER WILL STRIKE RIGHT AND LEFT IN..

## SORCERY AT THE CIRCUS

WOULD YOU LIKE TO KNOW TOO? WELL, LET'S LISTEN IN ON JIMMY'S THOUGHTS...MAYBE HE'LL LET US IN ON THE SECRET!

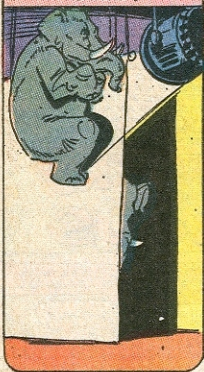
A GOOD TRICK MY DAD, THE INCREDIBLE APOLLO SR., TAUGHT ME BEFORE HE DIED! IT TAKES A FEW PROPS, BUT FIRST THE AUDIENCE SEES A REAL ELEPHANT ON STAGE...



"THEN, FROM OVERHEAD, A PLASTIC DUMMY INVISIBLE IN ORDINARY SPOT-LIGHTING, IS LOWERED IN FRONT OF THE REAL ELEPHANT..."



"NEXT, A SPECIAL SPOTLIGHT OF POLARIZED OR ONE-WAY LIGHT IS TURNED ON THE DUMMY, MAKING IT SEEM SOLID AND REAL!"



"AT THE SAME TIME...AND THE TIMING OF COURSE IS BY SPLIT-SECONDS... A POLARIZED PLASTIC SHADE LOWERS BETWEEN THEM THROWING THE REAL ELEPHANT INTO DARKNESS..."



"EASY AS PIE THEN FOR ME TO LIFT JUMBO...OR HIS LIGHT-WEIGHT PLASTIC DUMMY!"



"FINALLY, AFTER I LOWER THE ELEPHANT, THE TWO PLASTIC PROPS ARE SWIFTLY YANKED UP."



"...AND I'M LEFT WITH THE REAL ELEPHANT, WHICH THE AUDIENCE IS INVITED TO FEEL!"



NOW THAT YOU KNOW HOW THIS TRICK WORKS, GET YOURSELF A REAL ELEPHANT AND TRY IT, FRIENDS! WELL, LET'S GET ON WITH THE STORY, AS THE CIRCUS OWNER MEETS JIMMY AFTER HIS ACT...



THANKS FOR TURNING OVER  
A CHECK FOR THE RECEIPTS  
TO ME, MR. MORGAN! I'M  
DONATING IT TO CHARITY,  
IN MEMORY OF MY  
DAD!

WHY NOT STAY  
AND SEE THE  
REST OF THE  
SHOW, JIMMY!  
HERE'S A  
PASS!



GEE,  
THANKS,  
SIR...

HEY, MR. MORGAN DROPPED THAT  
NOTE WHEN HE PULLED THE PASS  
FROM HIS POCKET! I'LL PICK  
IT UP...



THOUGH NOT MEANING TO READ IT, GRIM WORDS  
CATCH JIMMY'S EYE...

MORGAN--YOUR CIRCUS  
IS PROSPEROUS AND  
YOU CAN AFFORD TO  
SPLIT HALF YOUR  
PROCEEDS WITH ME--  
OR ELSE YOU'LL MEET  
RUIN THROUGH THE  
UNCANNY POWERS OF...  
THE BLUE WIZARD!

GOSH, AN  
EXTORTION  
NOTE! IS HE  
SOME CRANK,  
SIGNING THAT  
FANCY NAME?



LATER, UNDER THE BIG TENT, AS CLOWNS START  
OFF THE SHOW...

Too + Too = F~~our~~  
...Too-Too!

THAT  
CLOWN  
WRITING  
SILLY  
THINGS  
IS TOO  
FUNNY!



LATER, AS THE MAIN THREE-RING ACTS BEGIN...

YAWWY! THAT BAREBACK ACT ON  
A SUSPENDED RING IS GREAT!  
SOME DROP IF THAT GIRL--  
ACROBAT SLIPPED!



BUT AN OMINOUS FIGURE LOOKS OUTSIDE THE  
TENT AND...

MORGAN DEFIED MY NOTE!  
NOW MY THREAT WILL COME TRUE!  
UNCANNY POWERS FLOWING FROM  
ME WILL STOP THAT HORSE  
IN MID-STRIDE!



**SHOCKINGLY, THE HORSE "FREEZES" AND...**



WH-WHERE'S  
MY HORSE?  
I'M  
FALLING...  
OHHHHHH!

**JIMMY WASTES NO TIME!**

MY MAGIC AMULET...  
TIME TO TWIST THE  
JEWEL AND WHISPER...

**PRESTO  
MERCURO!**



**LIGHTNING CRASHES DOWN FROM NOWHERE,  
AND OUT OF THE BLINDING FLASH MATERIAL-  
IZES KAZIAM, MAGIC MASTER, THE  
WIZARD FROM ANCIENT EGYPT!**

**QUICK, MAGIC  
MASTER! SAVE  
THAT FALLING  
GIRL ACROBAT!**

I'LL POINT  
MY MYSTIC  
DAGGER OF  
DHARATH  
AND...



...CONJURE  
UP A MAGIC  
CUSHION!

**ATTA BOY, MAGICMASTER!  
THE CROWD WILL THINK  
IT'S ALL PART OF THE  
"ACT"!**



**JIMMY SHOWS THE THREAT NOTE...**

Hmm...THE BLUE WIZARD, eh?  
SOUNDS LIKE SOME MODERN  
PRACTITIONER OF THE EVIL  
ARTS OF SORCERY! WE MUST  
FIND HIM, JIMMY... BUT HE  
WILL PROBABLY BE DISGUISED  
IN SOME CUNNING WAY!

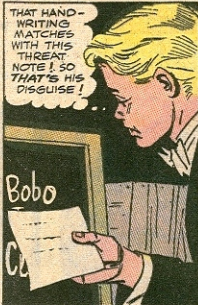
I'LL GO  
THIS  
WAY,  
MAGIC-  
MASTER!



**NOBODY UNDER  
THE STANDS!  
I'LL LOOK  
BACKSTAGE  
TOO!**







LOCKED IN A SLEEPING GORILLA'S CAGE BY THE **BLACK WIZARD**, JIMMY DESPERATELY BRINGS OUT HIS ROCKET-KIT OF LOCKPICKING TOOLS...

UMPHHH...  
UMMMMM...  
UNGGG!

GORRO'S TURNING IN HIS SLEEP RESTLESS AS IF ABOUT TO WAKE UP! BUT THE **BLUE WIZARD** MUST HAVE BEEN BLUFFING... NO LOCK IN THE WORLD IS SAFE FROM AN EXPERT'S TOOLS! HMM... THAT DIDN'T WORK!

FIVE MINUTES...  
AND STILL NO  
LUCK! WAIT... I  
KNOW THE SECRET  
OF HIS "MAGIC  
SPELL" NOW!

THERE! IT'S  
OPEN... AND  
WITHOUT USING  
ANY TOOLS!

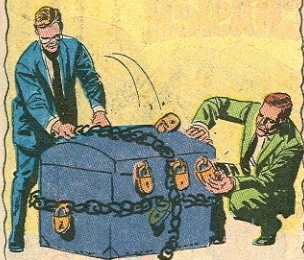
Whew! JUST IN TIME!  
LUCKY I THOUGHT  
OF THE **SIMPLE**  
WAY TO OPEN THAT  
PADLOCK AND GET  
OUT!

"MY CLUE WAS A STORY ABOUT **HOLDINI**, THE FAMOUS MAGICIAN AND ESCAPE ARTIST, WHO WOULD BE CHAINED AND PADLOCKED A DOZEN TIMES..."

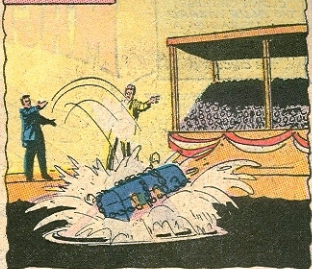
CAN YOU GUESS JIMMY'S BIG SECRET, BEFORE HE TELLS IT TO US?



"... THEN SEALED IN A CHEST ... !"



"... AND THROWN IN A POOL OF WATER WITH LESS THAN FIVE MINUTES TO ESCAPE BEFORE DROWNING !"



"ALWAYS, BEFORE HIS DEADLINE OF DEATH, HOUDINI WOULD POP UP ALIVE AND FREE !"



"BUT ONCE... AND ONLY ONCE... WAS THE GREAT HOUDINI BAFFLED, WHEN LOCKED IN AN ORDINARY JAIL-CELL !"



"WHEN HOUDINI GAVE UP, THE DOOR WAS SIMPLY OPENED WITHOUT USING ANY KEY !"



THE BLACK WIZARD USED THE SAME TRICK WITH ME, BETTER THAN ANY MAGIC ! I WASN'T LOCKED IN AT ALL ! I WAS TRYING AT FIRST TO "UNLOCK" SOMETHING ALREADY UNLOCKED !

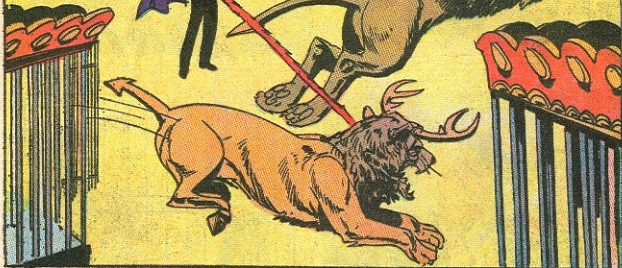


CONTINUED IN THIS ISSUE

CASTING ASIDE HIS  
CLOWN DISGUISE,  
THE BLUE WIZARD  
NOW UNLEASHES A  
MONSTROUS MENACE  
TO CREATE  
PANDEMONIUM AT  
THE CIRCUS!

# MAGICMASTER

BY THE DARK POWER OF  
OSIRIS, I COMMAND THE  
LION TO GROW WINGS  
AND AN EAGLE'S HEAD!  
THE TIGER TO GAIN  
ANTLERS AND HOOVES!



I BESTOW  
SIX ARMS TO  
A GORILLA!



RHINO HORN!  
LENGTHEN  
AND GROW!



EVEN THE GENTLE RABBIT,  
IN THE SIZE OF A HORSE,  
WILL BE A FIERCE  
BEAST!

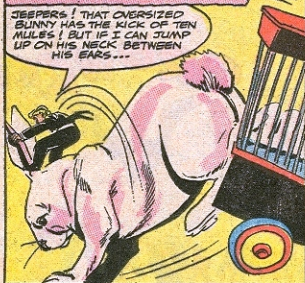




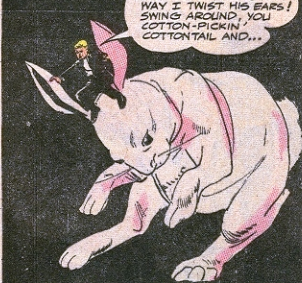


MEANWHILE, JIMMY DOES HIS PART...

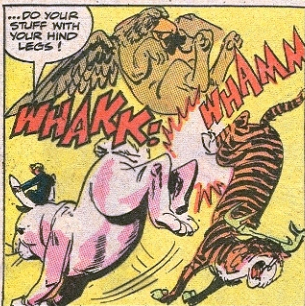
JEEPERS! THAT OVERSIZED BUNNY HAS THE KICK OF TEN MULES! BUT IF I CAN JUMP UP ON HIS NECK BETWEEN HIS EARS...



HE'LL TURN WHICHEVER WAY I TWIST HIS EARS! SWING AROUND, YOU COTTON-PICKIN' COTTONTAIL AND...



...DO YOUR STUFF WITH YOUR HIND LEGS!



NOW YOU ARE SEEING STARS-- PRESTO!



KAZZAM HAS HIS HANDS FULL WITH THE LONG-HORNED RHINO...

YOUR "RAMROD" HORN WOULD SPEAR ME LIKE A FISH...



BUT DIDN'T YOU SEE THAT TREE-STUMP IN YOUR WAY? DEAR ME, YOU RHINOS ARE MORE NEAR-SIGHTED THAN WHAT NATURALISTS SAY!







BY THOTH! THIS WILL BE TOUCH-AND-GO WHETHER I CAN COMMAND ENOUGH MAGIC TO STOP THEM ALL AT ONCE! JIMMY, ARE YOU DESERTING ME? CRAWLING AWAY LIKE A COWARD!



WELL, I WILL BATTLE TO THE LAST... AND DIE ALONE! NOTHING CAN SAVE ME!



BUT AN AMAZING, MIRACLE OCCURS...

THAT SHADOW! SOME GREATER MONSTER IS MATERIALIZING, CREATING FEAR IN THE LESSER MONSTERS! THEY ARE RUNNING AWAY!



THAT GAVE ME TIME TO SPRAY MAGIC AND IMMOBILIZE THE MONSTERS BACK ON THE MERRY-GO-ROUND! BUT THAT GIANT DRAGON...?

I CONJURED IT UP, MAGIC MASTER... BY A SIMPLE TRICK!



"WHIPPING OUT MY MAGICIAN'S SCISSORS, I QUICKLY MADE A PAPER CUT-OUT..."



THEN BY HOLDING THE CUT-OUT IN FRONT OF MY HIGH-POWERED PENLITE BEAM LIKE THIS, I CAST A SHADOWGRAPH ON THE TENT WALL, SCARING THE SMALL MONSTERS!

NOW WHY DIDN'T WE THINK OF BIG "MAGIC" LIKE THAT IN OLD EGYPT?

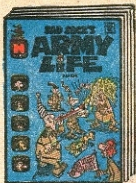


BRAINY BRAT! BUT I'LL TURN HIS OWN TRICK AGAINST HIM NOW AND CREATE THE DRAGON TRAP!



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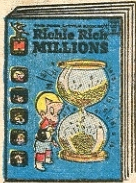


***EVERY ONE  
DIFFERENT!***



**MORE STORIES!...  
MORE ENTERTAINMENT!  
YOU'LL READ THEM ALL,  
AND KEEP THEM...  
TO READ THEM...  
AGAIN AND AGAIN!!**

***...HURRY! GET  
YOUR COPIES!***

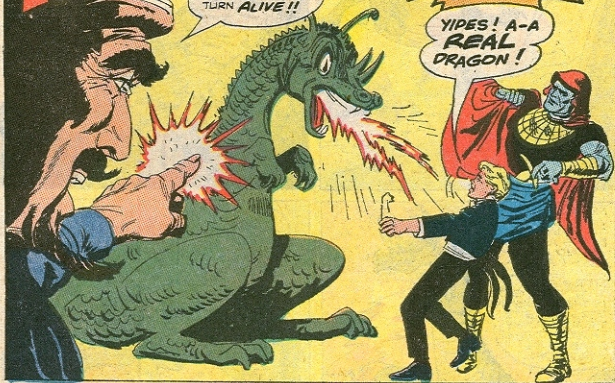


# MAGICMASTER

## PART IV BATTLE of MAGIC!

SHADOW, I  
COMMAND YOU TO  
TURN **ALIVE!!**

YIPES! A-A  
REAL  
DRAGON!



AND WHEN MAGICMASTER TRIES TO USE HIS MAGIC DAGGER...

OWWW!  
IT TURNED  
RED-HOT!

JUST AS I PLANNED!  
THE DRAGON'S FLAME-  
BREATH MADE HIM  
DROP HIS MAGIC  
DAGGER!



NOW PURSUE  
THEM,  
DRAGON!  
HA HAHHA!

JEEPERS! WITHOUT  
YOUR MAGIC-DAGGER,  
YOU CAN'T LEVITATE US,  
MAGICMASTER! WE  
JUST HAVE TO RUN FOR IT!



PROAR!

THAT CLIFF...  
IT BLOCKS OUR  
PATH... (AH!)...  
WE'RE TRAPPED!







MEANWHILE, THE BLUE WIZARD WAITS FOR THE DAGGER OF DHARATH TO COOL OFF, AND TRIES TO PICK IT UP...

G-GREAT BEELZEBUS!

HAH! THE BLUE WIZARD FOUND OUT THAT IF ANYONE BUT ITS OWNER TOUCHES MY DAGGER, HE RECEIVES A MAGIC JOLT MORE POWERFUL THAN ELECTRICITY!



IT IS IN MY HANDS AGAIN!

BUT OUR SPELL-THROWING PAL HAD TIME TO RUN INTO THE BIG SHOW! BET HE'S UP TO SOME NEW DEVILTRY THERE!



JIMMY IS NOT WRONG...

MR. MORGAN... WHAT HAPPENED?

BOO!  
BAH!

THE BLUE WIZARD CAST A SLEEP SPELL ON ALL MY PERFORMERS JUST BEFORE THE NEXT PERFORMANCE STARTED! ALL THE CUSTOMERS WILL DEMAND THEIR MONEY BACK! I'M RUINED... RUINED!



KAZZAM USES WHITE MAGIC TO AWAKEN THE SLEEPERS, BUT...

OHMH... DIZZY!

THEY ARE TOO GROGGSY, FROM THE MAGIC SLEEP, TO GO ON WITH THE SHOW! JIMMY, ARE YOU THINKING THE SAME THING I AM?

YOU SAID IT, MAGIC-MASTER!



LADIES AND GENTLEMEN! DON'T LEAVE! YOU ARE ABOUT TO SEE A SPECIAL CIRCUS PERFORMANCE BY THE APOLLO-MAGICMASTER TEAM!

NOT TEAM, JIMMY... WHY NOT TROUPE?

OH, BOY! DUPLICATES OF US SO WE CAN PERFORM IN ALL THREE RINGS AT ONCE! LET'S GO...ER... FELLAS!





IN ONE SIDE RING...

ALLEY...

...OOP!

COHH!  
THEY  
MISSED  
THE  
TRAPEZES!

GUESS WE GAVE THE  
CROWD HEART-FAILURE,  
**MAGICMASTER!**  
THEY DIDN'T KNOW  
YOU WOULD CONJURE  
UP YOUR OWN  
**INVISIBLE BAR!**

YAYYYYYY!  
TERRIFIC! THE  
BEST ACROBAT  
ACT IN THE  
WORLD!

LURKING NEARBY IS THE **BLUE WIZARD**...

THE CURSE OF **KURIDA** UPON THEM!  
THEY ARE TURNING A FLOP SHOW  
INTO SUCCESS! BUT I'LL RUIN THE  
NEXT ACT WITH A MAGIC BULLET...

AND IN THE OTHER SIDE RING, WHERE  
ANOTHER DUPLICATE TEAM OF "JIMMY  
**MAGICMASTER**" PERFORMS...

...SNAPPING  
THAT HIGH-WIRE!  
**HAAAAA!**

ZING!

NEXT, THE GREAT FINALE IN THE MAIN RING,  
BY THE **REAL JIMMY** AND **MAGICMASTER!**

LOOK! BOTH OF THEM  
WERE SHOT OUT OF  
CANNONS! BUT WHERE  
ARE THEY GOING TO  
LAND?

BOOM! BOOM!

NOBODY EVER  
ROLLER-SKATED AND  
SKI-ED ON A HIGH WIRE  
ESPECIALLY WITHOUT  
THE WIRE!  
**YAYYYYYY!**



WHY, BACK WHERE WE  
CAME FROM... THE  
CANNON'S MOUTH!

WHEEEE!  
YAYYYY!  
GREAT!



CASTING ALL CAUTION ASIDE, THEIR ENEMY  
ATTACKS, BORROWING THEIR TRICK!

MEET THE BLUE WIZARD GANG!  
MY DUPLICATES AND I WILL NOW  
YOU DOWN BEFORE YOU CAN  
USE YOUR MAGIC!



WHO NEEDS MAGIC WITH CHUMPS  
LIKE YOU? A BIT OF JUDO AND  
TWO OF YOU END UP WITH  
KING-SIZED HEADACHES!



WHAT A PLEASURE UPPER CUTTING FOUR  
BLUE WIZARD CHINS WITH FOUR  
RIGHT HOOKS!



NOW TO BUTT THE  
REST DOWN, AND  
THAT'S NO BULL!

WHAMMO!



HIS BLUE WAND  
IS BROKEN! SO  
NOW, WIZARD,  
I TURN YOU INTO  
A "GENIE"!

I'VE  
GOT  
THE  
BOTTLE  
READY...



...AND THE CORK! HERE,  
MR. MORGAN... PUT THIS  
ON EXHIBIT IN YOUR  
CIRCUS... THE  
BOTTLED  
SORCERER!

FAREWELL,  
JIMMY!  
SUMMON ME  
AGAIN WHEN  
YOU NEED  
ME!



YOU SEE, THIS STRANGE WORLD  
YOU'RE ABOUT TO ENTER INTO  
STILL DOESN'T REALLY EXIST, AND  
YOU'D OTHERWISE NEVER SEE IT,  
UNLESS YOU LIVE FOR--SAY--  
ANOTHER 500 YEARS!

SO YOU GET A SNEAK PREVIEW OF  
A DISTANT TOMORROW, WHERE A  
MAN--FROM THE PRESENT--  
AFTER SURVIVING A FREAK  
ACCIDENT, BECOMES...

# THE PRISONER of PLASTIC CITY!

YOU'VE PROBABLY SEEN THESE  
LITTLE MEMENTOS FROM A  
MILLION OR SO YEARS AGO--  
INSECTS IMPRISONED IN A  
SOFT RESIN THAT HAS SINCE  
TURNED AS HARD AS  
STONE...



THE MAN HOLDING THESE  
SPECIMENS OF BYGONE AGES  
IS EXPLORER ALAN PERRY,  
AN AVID COLLECTOR OF SUCH  
CURIOS...



IT'S GETTING LATE!  
I'D BETTER STOP MY  
INSECT-HUNTING,  
AND GET BACK  
TO CAMP...

SUDDENLY, PERRY STEPS INTO  
SOMETHING SOFT--GOOEY...

I'VE STUMBLERD INTO...  
A PIT OF RESIN...  
JUST LIKE A  
QUICKSAND  
PIT! I CAN'T  
GET OUT!



AND NOW--A LITTLE MATTER OF  
FIVE CENTURIES LATER...

HE WAS FOUND IN THE  
JUNGLES--JUST WHERE  
THE NEW APARTMENT  
PROJECT IS GOING UP!  
HE'S ESTIMATED TO  
HAVE LIVED 500  
YEARS AGO!

AND--  
HE'S SO  
L-LIFE-LIKE,  
ISN'T HE?





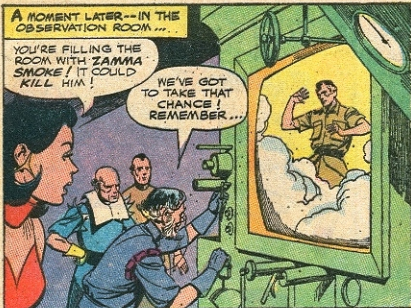




A MOMENT LATER--IN THE  
OBSERVATION ROOM...

YOU'RE FILLING THE  
ROOM WITH ZAMMA  
SMOKE! IT COULD  
KILL HIM!

WE'VE GOT  
TO TAKE THAT  
CHANCE!  
REMEMBER...



... HE STILL CARRIES  
BACTERIA OF FIVE  
CENTURIES AGO...  
BACTERIA THAT WAS  
NATURAL TO THOSE  
OF HIS DAY... BUT COULD  
PROVE DEADLY TO US!  
THE ZAMMA BATH  
WILL DESTROY THE  
BACTERIA...



BESIDES, HE POSSESSES THE  
PHYSICAL STRENGTH OF HIS  
AGE--A STRENGTH LONG SINCE  
LOST BY THE HUMAN RACE!  
HE SHOULD BE STRONG  
ENOUGH TO WITHSTAND  
THE ZAMMA!



STUMBLING BLINDLY ABOUT, THE MAN FROM THE PAST  
CRASHES UP AGAINST A WALL, AND...



R-RIP!

HURRY, KATA!  
THE NUMB-GUN!  
USE IT!



BY BLAZES, I DON'T KNOW  
WHAT THIS IS ALL ABOUT--  
BUT I'M NOT GOING TO BE  
SUFFOCATED AND SHOT AT!  
GIVE ME THAT!

BUT--YOU  
DON'T  
UNDERSTAND!  
YOU MUST  
LISTEN TO  
US...





**BENILDERED--LIKE SOMEONE IN A NIGHTMARE--PERRY RUSHES OUT ONTO THE STREET...**

TH--THIS PLACE? WHERE IS IT? WHAT AM I DOING HERE?



**AND THE STREETS... SOFT, PLIABLE-- LIKE THE WALL IN THERE!**

**FOOL! LOOK OUT! YOU ARE STANDING IN A CONTROL-THOROUGHFARE!**



WHAT KIND OF MAN IS THE STRANGER! HE SEEMS TO BE MADE OF SPECIAL METAL! LOOK WHAT HE'S DONE TO THE CAR!

THIS IS... CRAZY!



**SUDDENLY, AS IF FROM NOWHERE, SPRING A SCORE OF FLAILING, FIGHTING FIGURES...**

I CAN'T LET THEM TAKE ME... GOTTA BREAK FREE... GOT TO GET OUT OF THIS PLACE...

HE IS A THREAT TO US-- AND OUR WORLD! HE'S GOT TO GO BACK TO WHERE HE CAME FROM!



**THEN, TOTAL BLACKOUT--AND THEN, THE ABSOLUTELY "IM-POSSIBLE!"**

...GOT TO BREAK LOOSE... CAN'T LET THEM TAKE ME...

ALAN--FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE--CALM DOWN! WHEN YOU WERE LATE IN RETURNING, WE CAME AFTER YOU-- FOUND YOU IN THAT GOOEY PIT...



I PANICKED-- GOT DELIRIOUS... HAD A VISION THAT I WAS IN A WILD WORLD SOMEWHERE... A WORLD SO CRAZY THAT...

ALAN! IN YOUR BELT! WHAT KIND OF ODDBALL GADGET IS IT?



**VISION? THEN IT WAS NO VISION! SOMEHOW--IT WAS REAL! I WAS THERE... AND THEY SENT ME BACK!**

AW, C'MON, ALAN! YOU'D BETTER EXPLAIN ALL THIS!



**EXPLAIN? BUT WHO CAN EXPLAIN THE INEXPLICABLE? ALAN PERRY IS AN EXPLORER. HE WILL RETURN TO PLASTIC CITY SOMEHOW... AND YOU WILL BE THERE TO FOLLOW HIS ADVENTURES--**