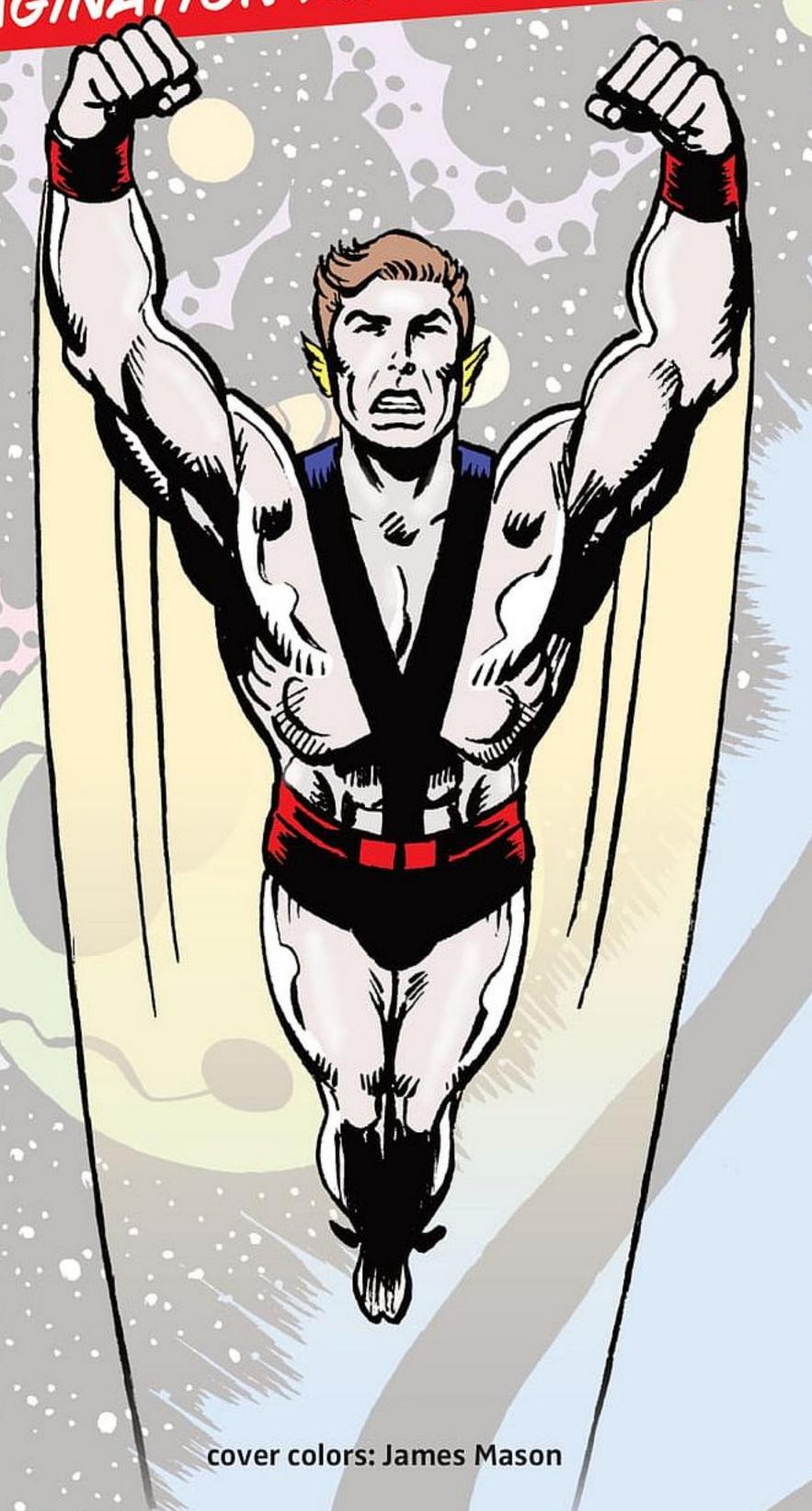


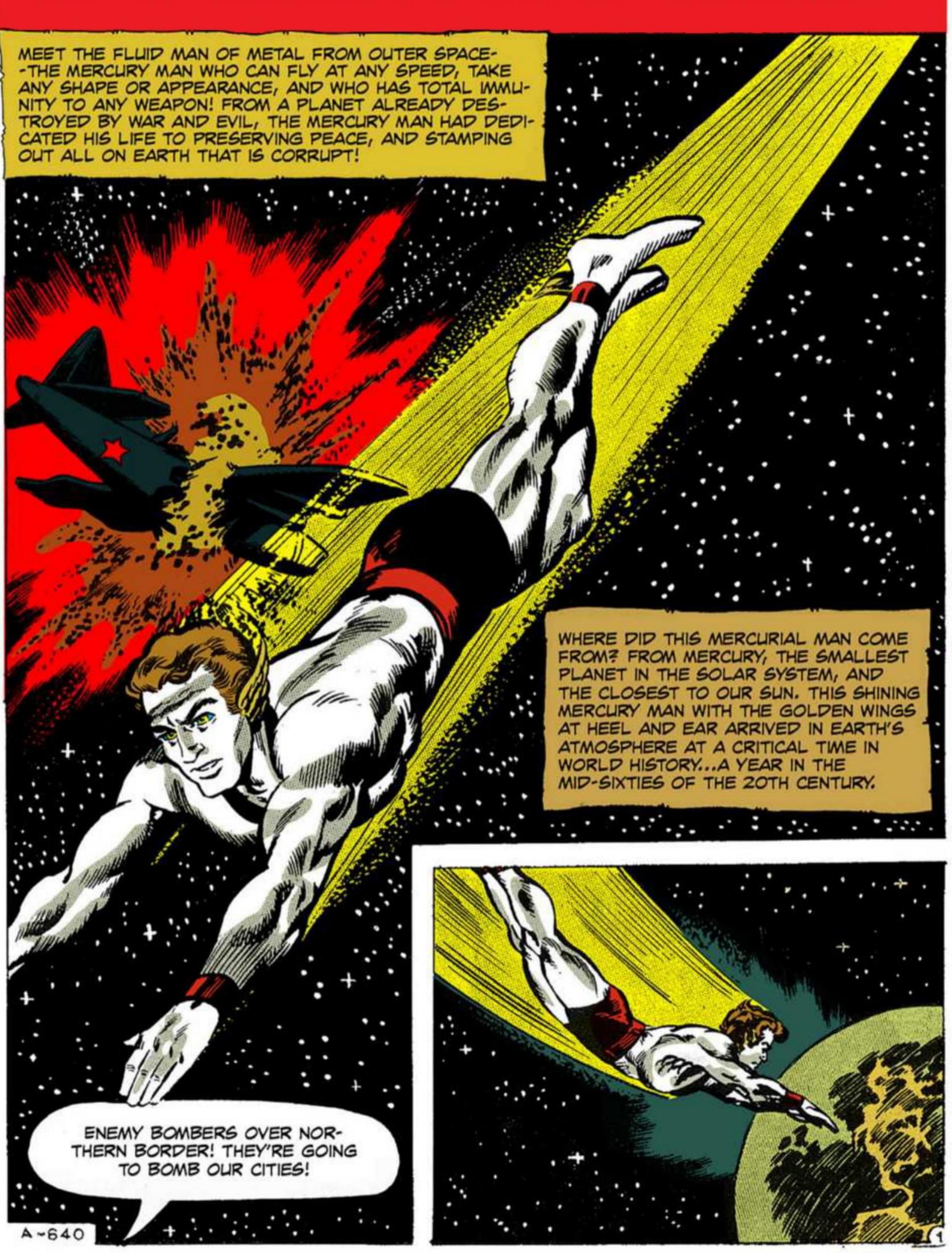
FACTASTIC FANTASY

IMAGINATION KNOWS NO LIMITS!



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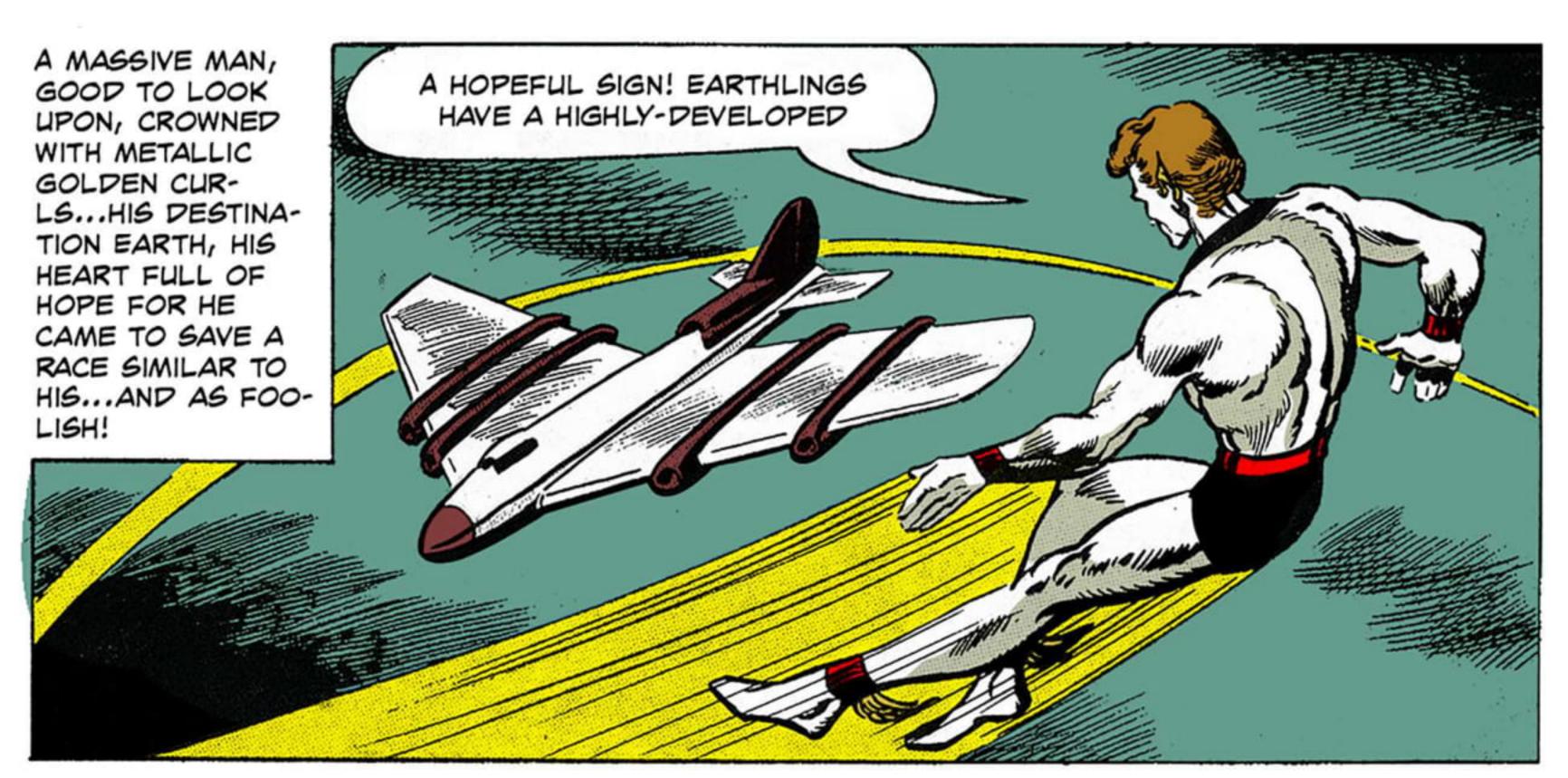
THE MERCHANISM



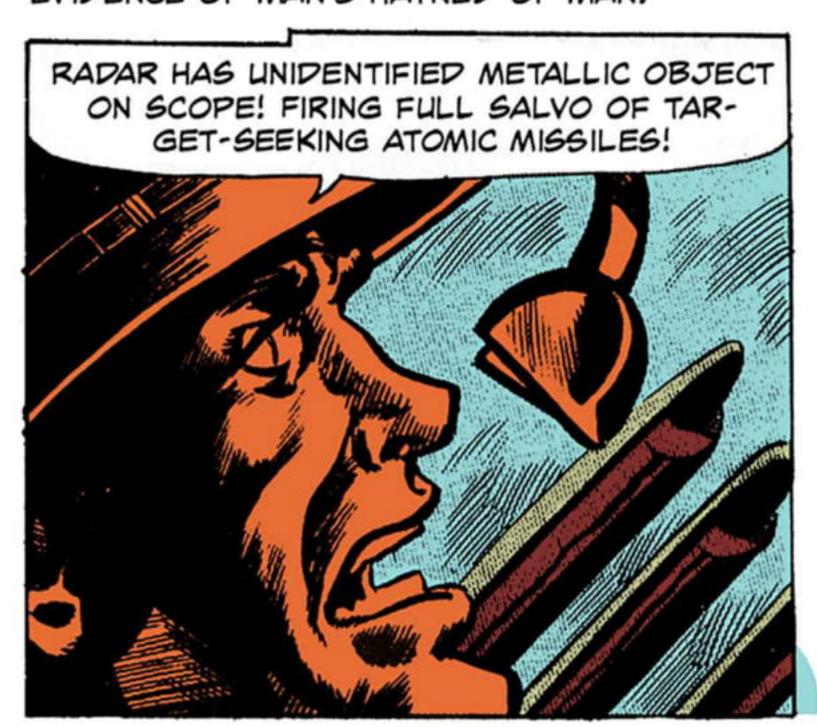
CREATOR: ROCKE MASTROSERIO

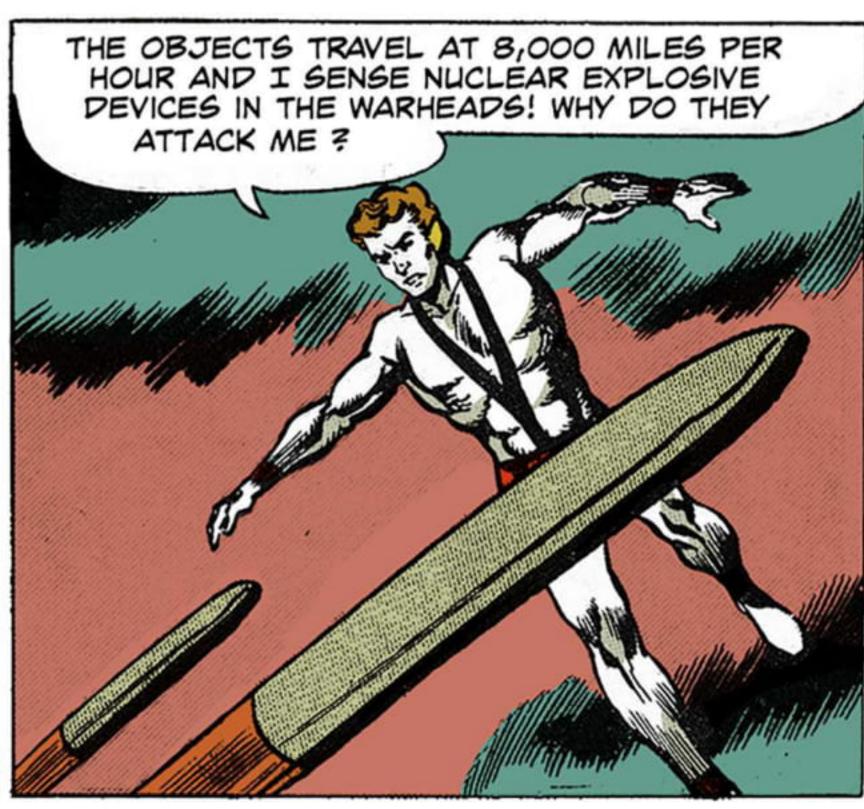
RESTORATION: ANTONIO PASTUCCI

LETTERS: FRED GRIVAUD



AND THEN...THE MERCURY MAN HAD POSITIVE EVIDENCE OF MAN'S HATRED OF MAN!

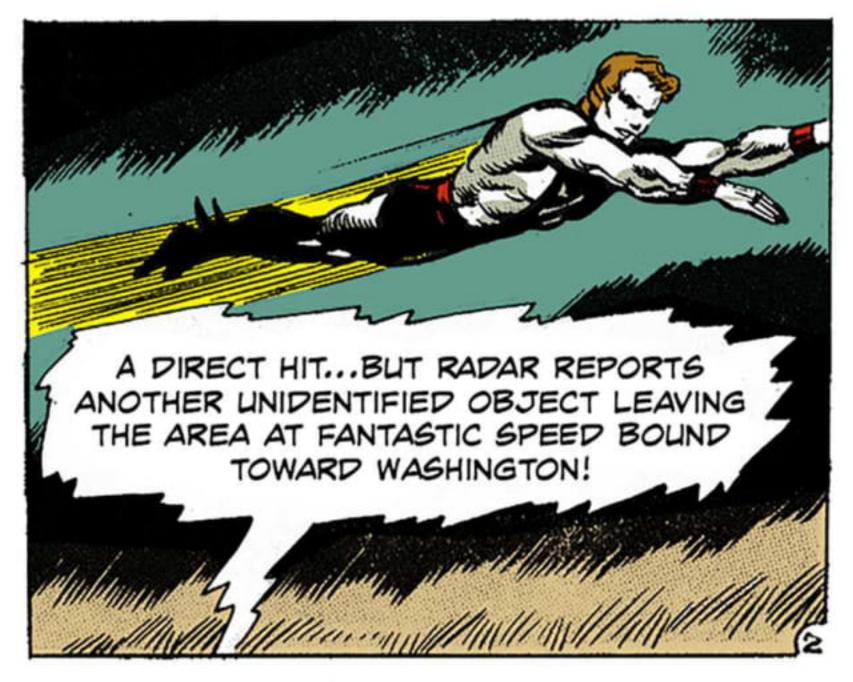




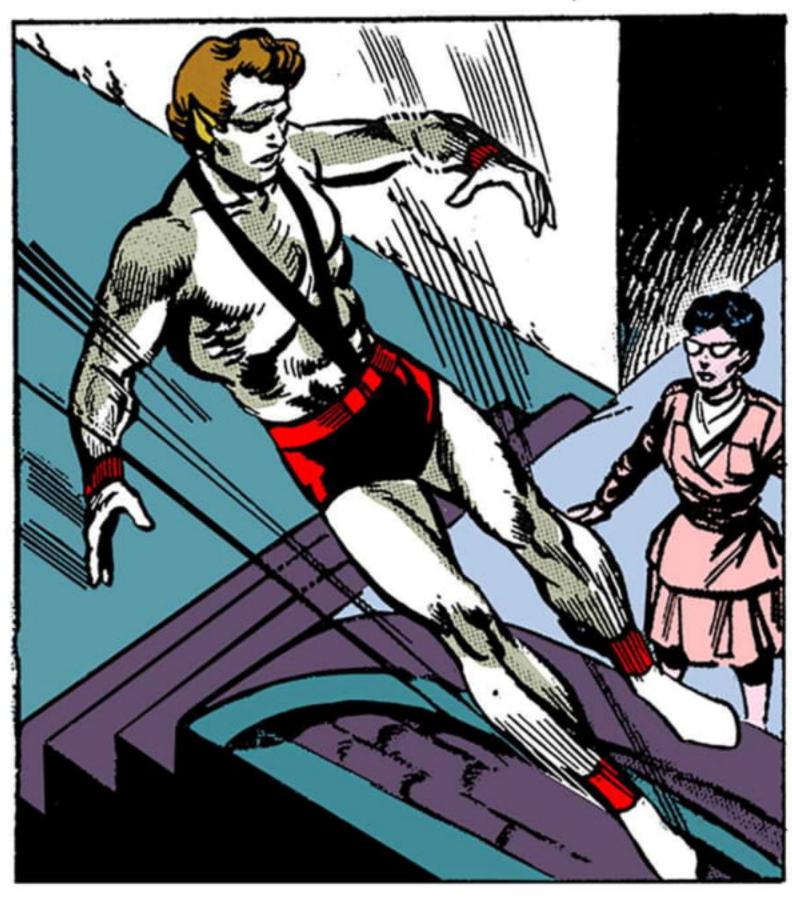
HE AVOIDED THE FIRST MISSILE BUT THE



FOR AN INSTANT, NOTHING IN THE TROPOSPHERE, THEN...THE FLASHING METALLIC MAN APPEARED AS A SILVER STREAK ACROSS THE SKY, TRAVELLING AT AN INCREDIBLE 50,000 MPH.

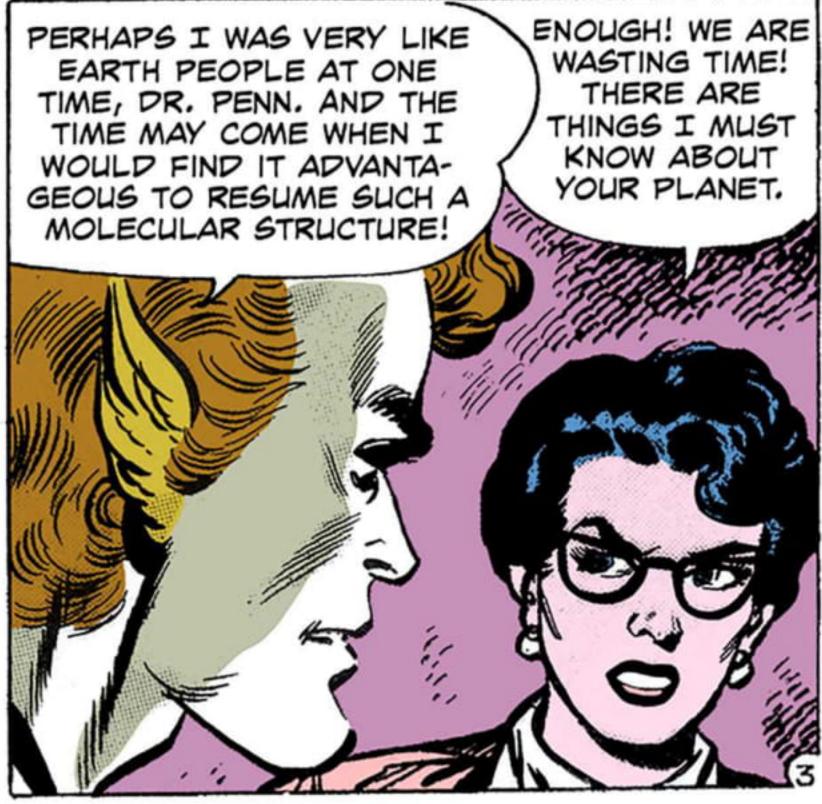














WE HAD WARS! PROGRES-SIVELY WORSE AS WE DEVE-LOPED OUR SCIENCES UNTIL EACH SIDE SUCCEEDED IN DESTROYING THE OTHER! I SURVIVED FOR ONE REASON ONLY...



I WAS WORKING IN METALS
AND ACCIDENTALLY DISCOVERED A WAY TO BECOME PURE
MERCURY. I EXPERIMENTED
AND IT WAS DURING SUCH
WORK THAT THE LAST SALVO
OF BOMBS FELL. WHEN THE
DUST SETTLED, I WAS ALONE
ON MY PLANET...AND CAME
HERE BECAUSE THIS PLANET
IS POPULATED BY MY KIND.



TWO OPPOSITE IDEOLOGIES,
OURS AND THE COMMUNIST
WORLD'S, CLASH. FOR A
DECADE, THE COMMUNIST
GROUP HAS BEEN POISED,
READY TO DESTROY US, ONLY
DETERRED BECAUSE OF CERTAINTY OF REPRISAL. NOW IS
THE MOST CRITICAL TIME OF
ALL.





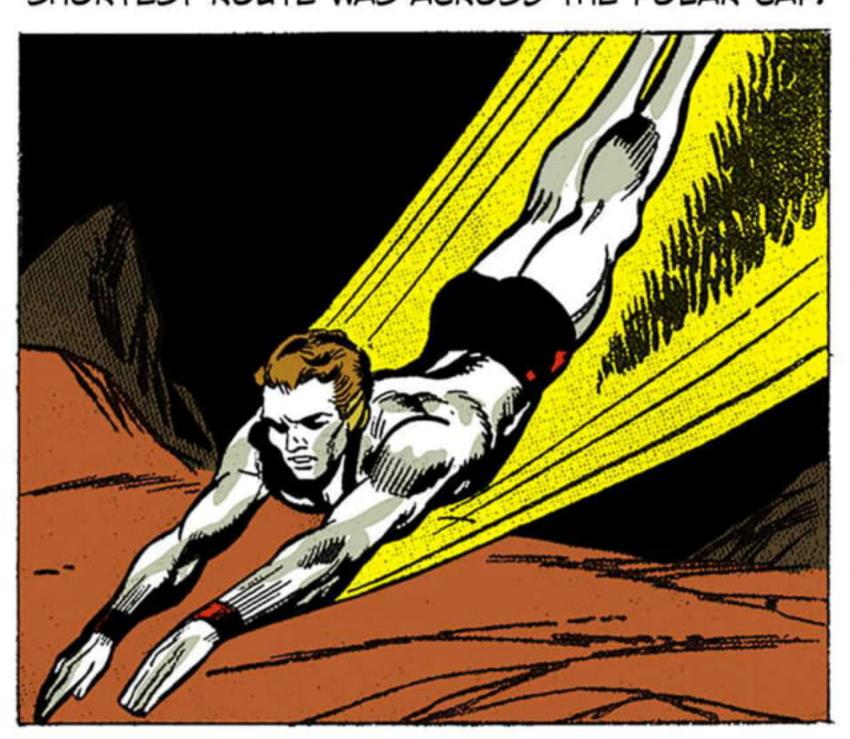
HE HAS STOCK-PILED INTERCONTINENTAL ATOMIC MIS-SILES...HE KNOWS THE WORLD WILL BE DESTROYED AND HE DOES NOT CARE.

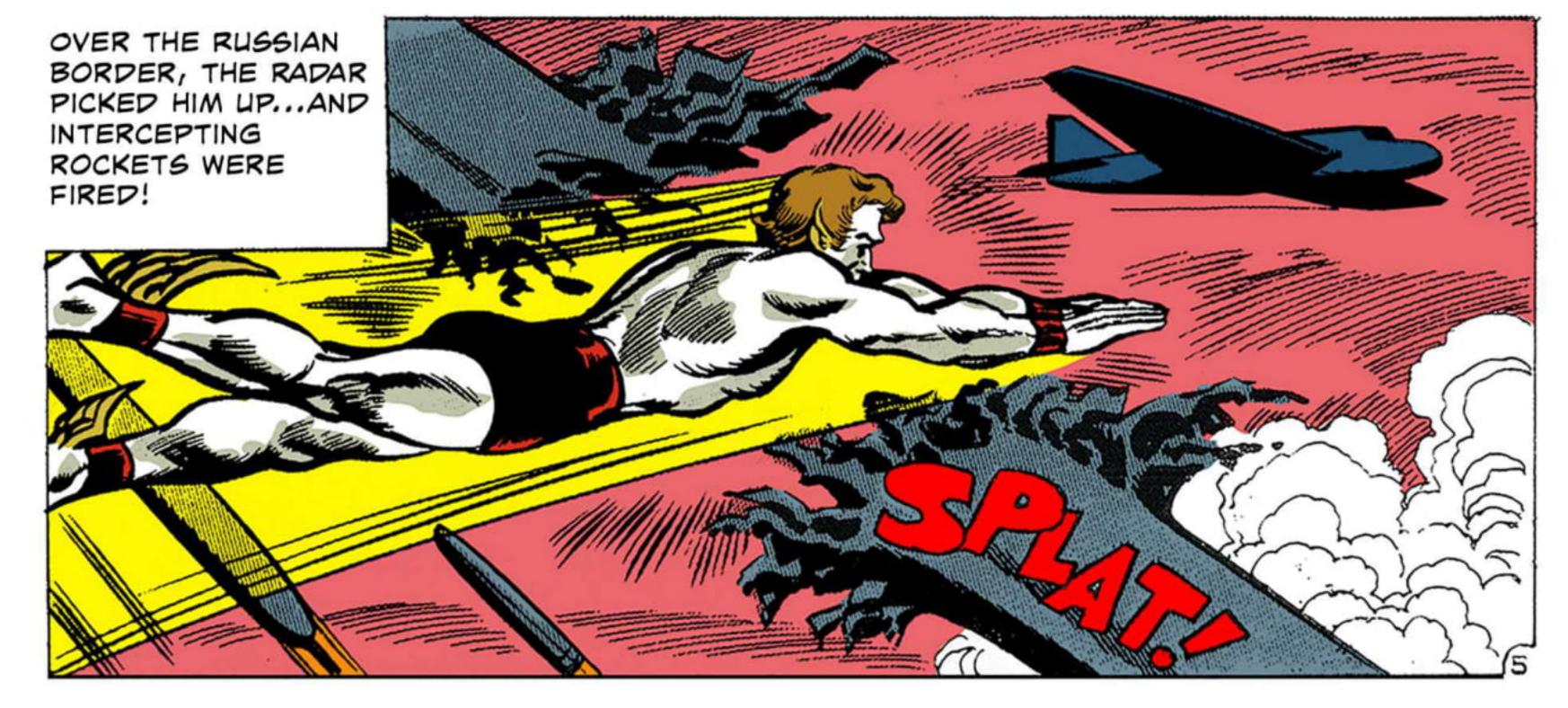


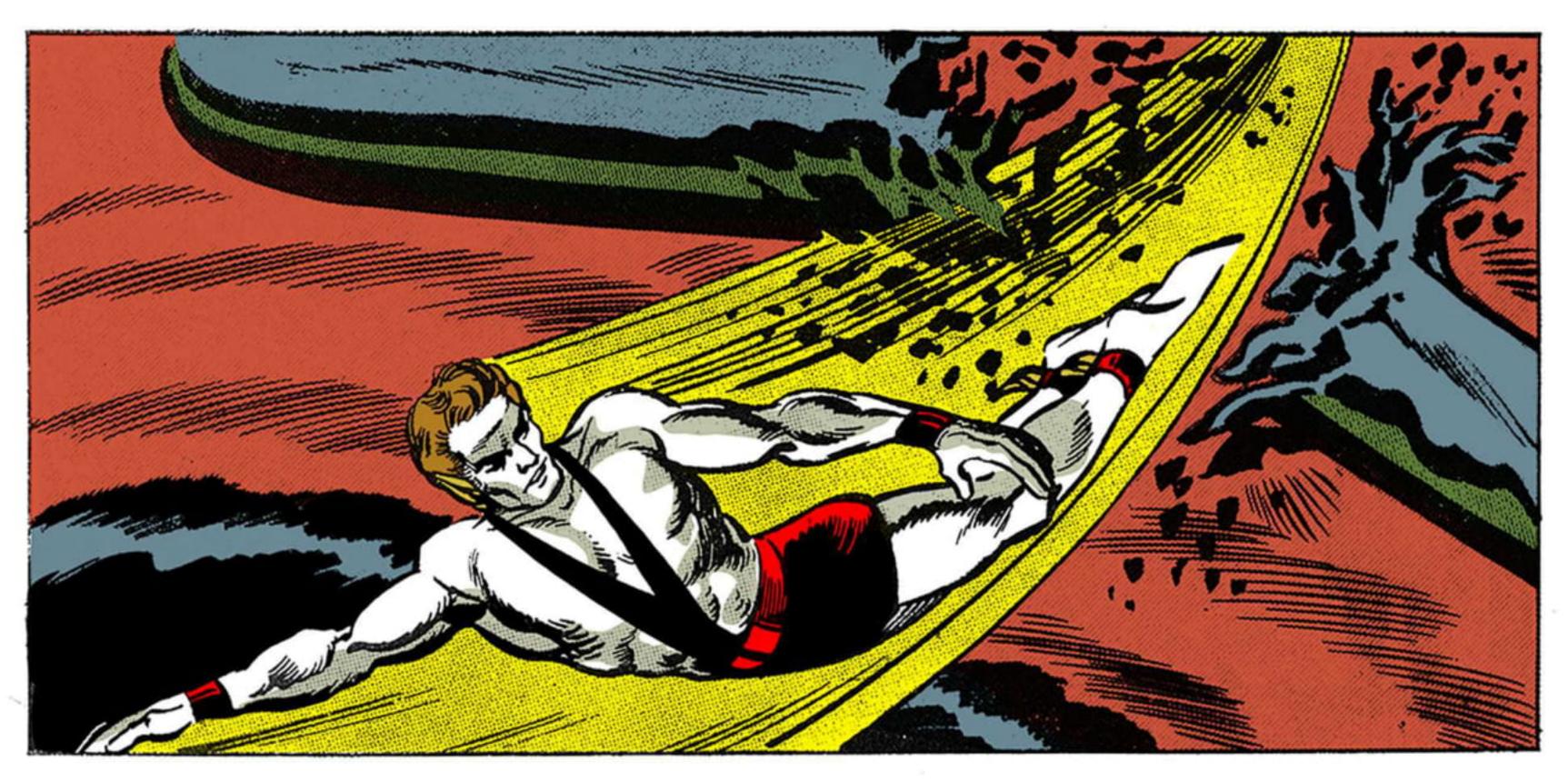




THE MAN FROM MERCURY ARROWED UPWARD INTO THE NIGHT, AVOIDING THE SECURITY PATROLS, AND THEN TURNED NORTH...FOR HIS SHORTEST ROUTE WAS ACROSS THE POLAR CAP.







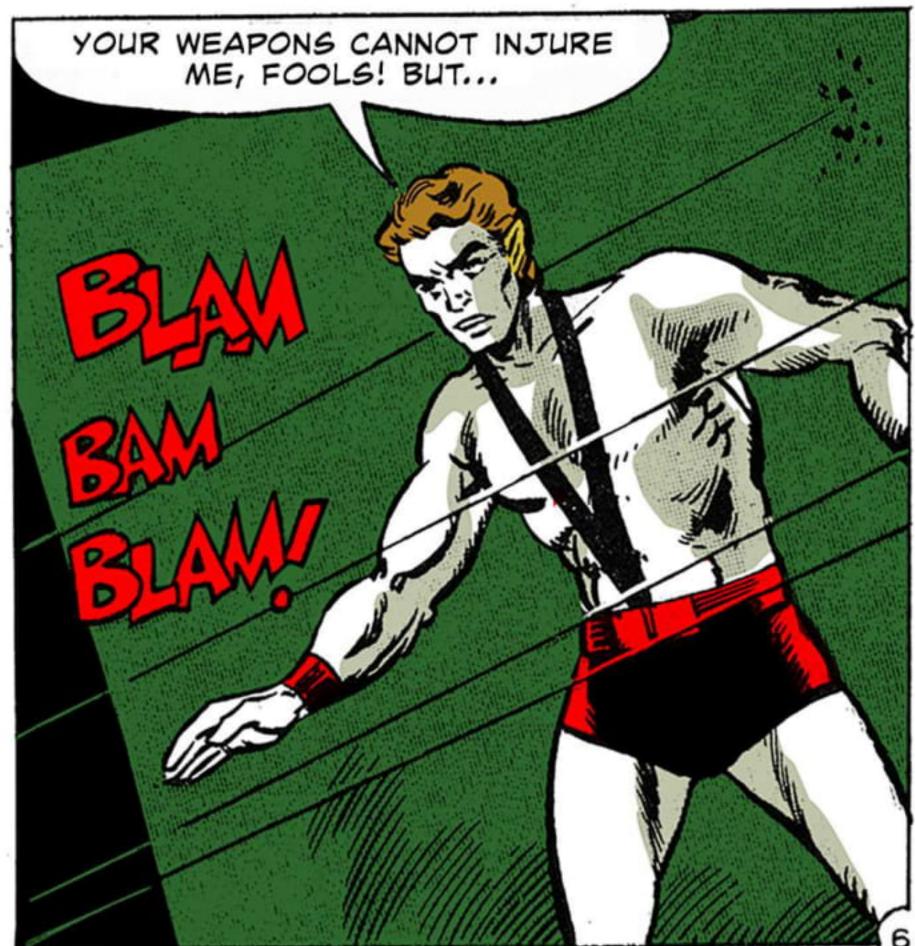
THEN, DOWN FROM THE ARCTIC WASTES INTO THE POPU-LATED AREAS WHERE GREAT WAR PLANTS WERE BUILDING THE DICTATOR'S WEAPONS...



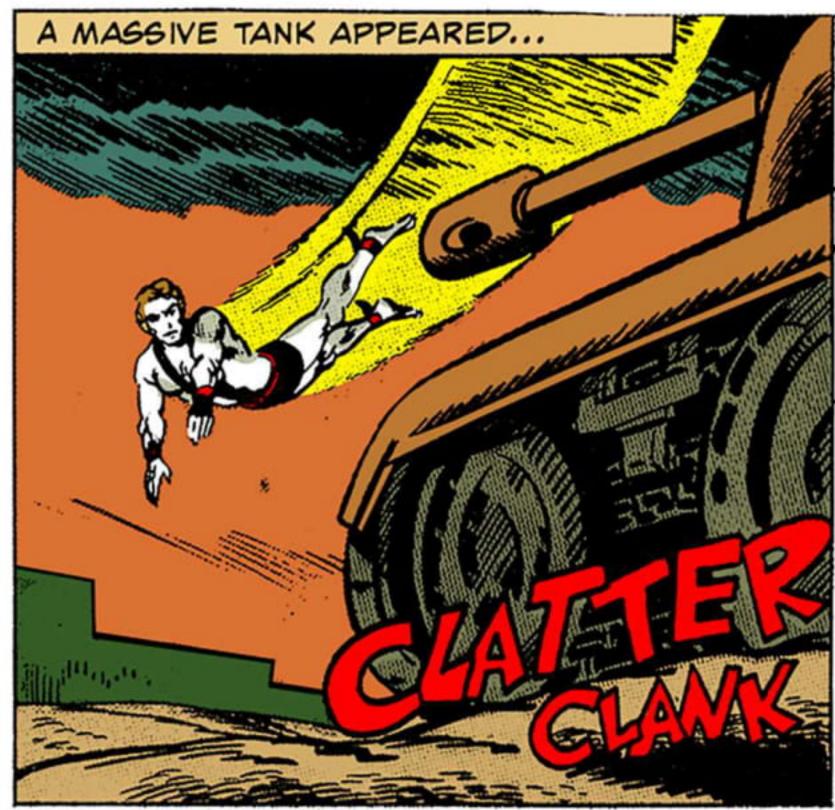
THEN, AHEAD HE SAW ...



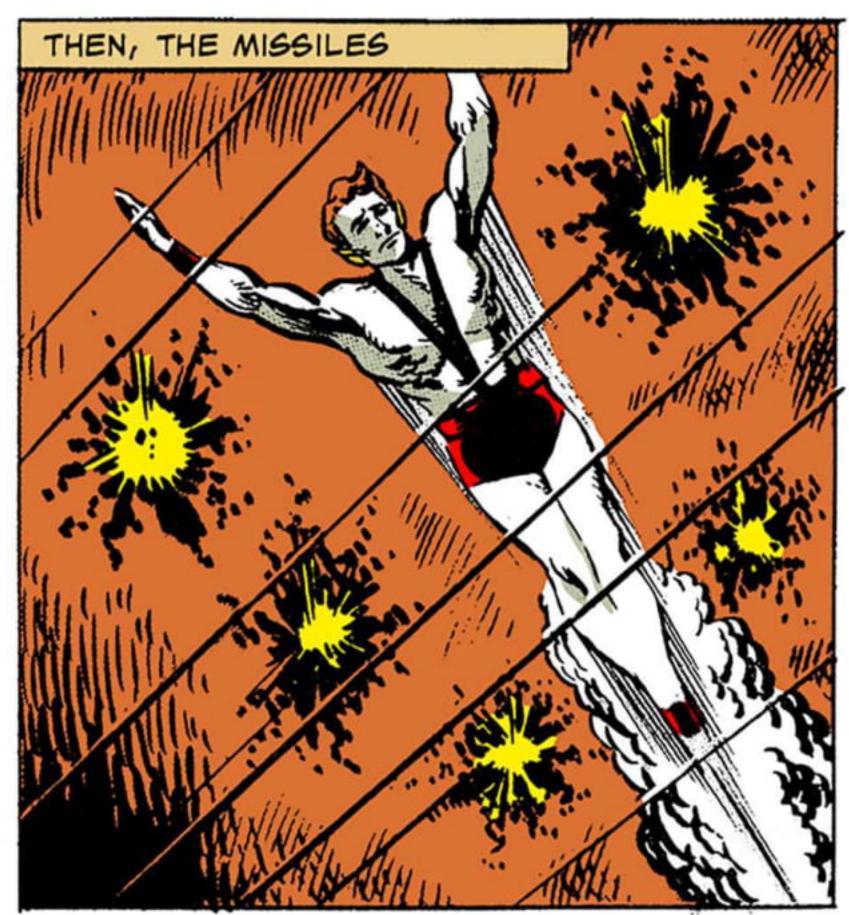


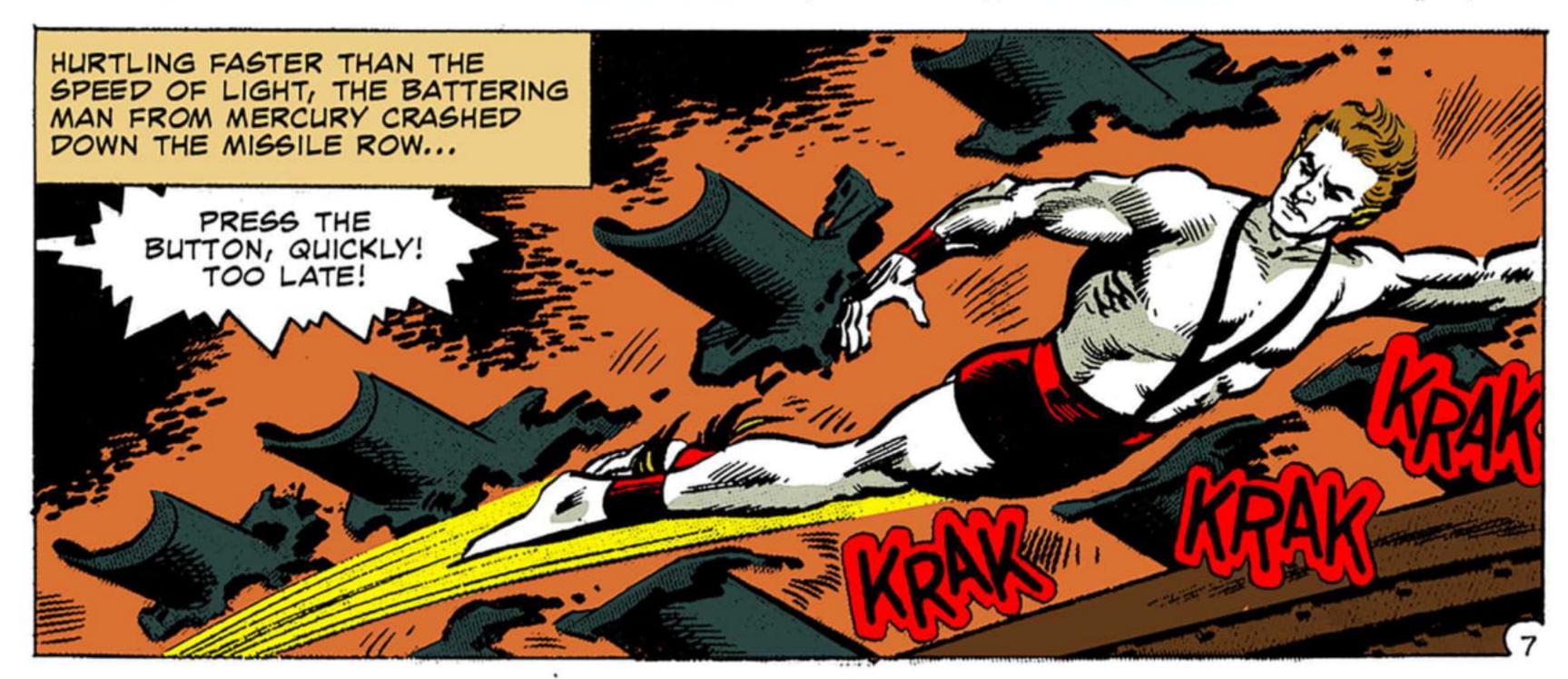












THE ENEMY AIR FORCE HAD DEVELOPED FAST FIGHTER PLANES WHICH CLOSED IN NOW AND...



THEY WON'T
TALK OF WAR
AGAIN FOR
YEARS! BUT
OTHERS
WILL...THEY
TOO MUST BE
TAUGHT THAT
PEACE IS AN
EASIER WAY!

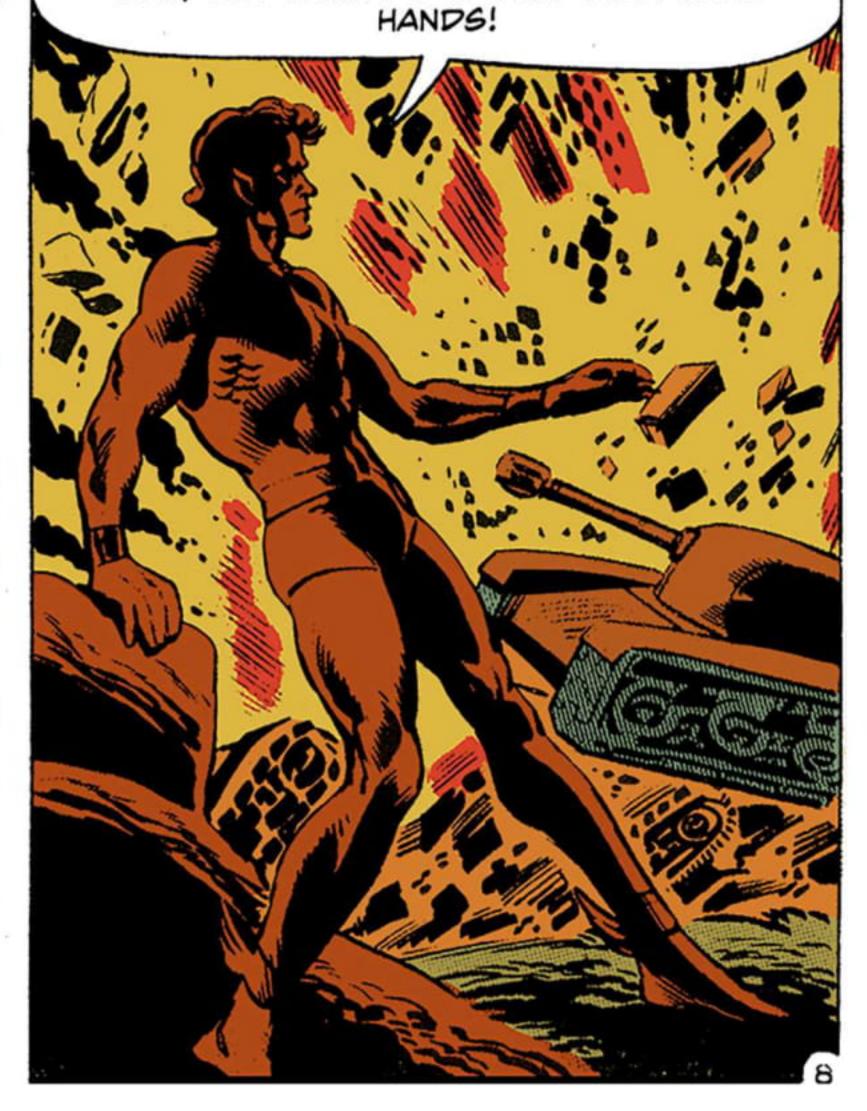
ROAMING THE SKIES, THE PLANETARY VISITOR DISCOVERED AFRICA AND...



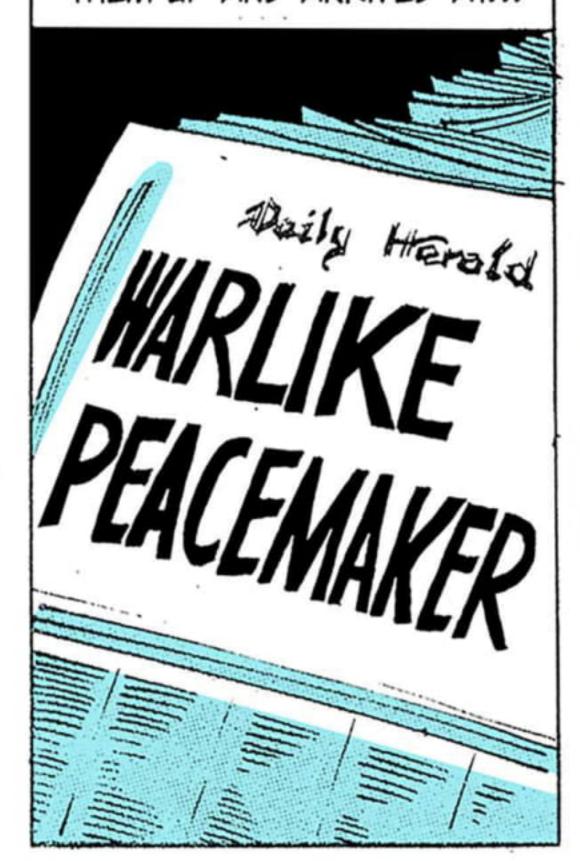


HE FOUND THE WEAPONS SUPPLY DEPOTS FOR BOTH SIDES AND...

GOT THEM BOTH! IF THEY WANT TO FIGHT NOW, LET THEM DO IT WITH THEIR BARE



STARTLED NEWS EDITORS WROTE UP THE INDIVIDUAL EVENTS...AND ONE ADDED THEM UP AND ARRIVED AT...



SIT DOWN AND REST, FOR GOODNESS' SAKE! FROM THE PAPERS, I'D SAY THAT YOU'VE BEEN ACTIVE. YOU DID DO ALL THOSE THINGS, DIDN'T YOU?

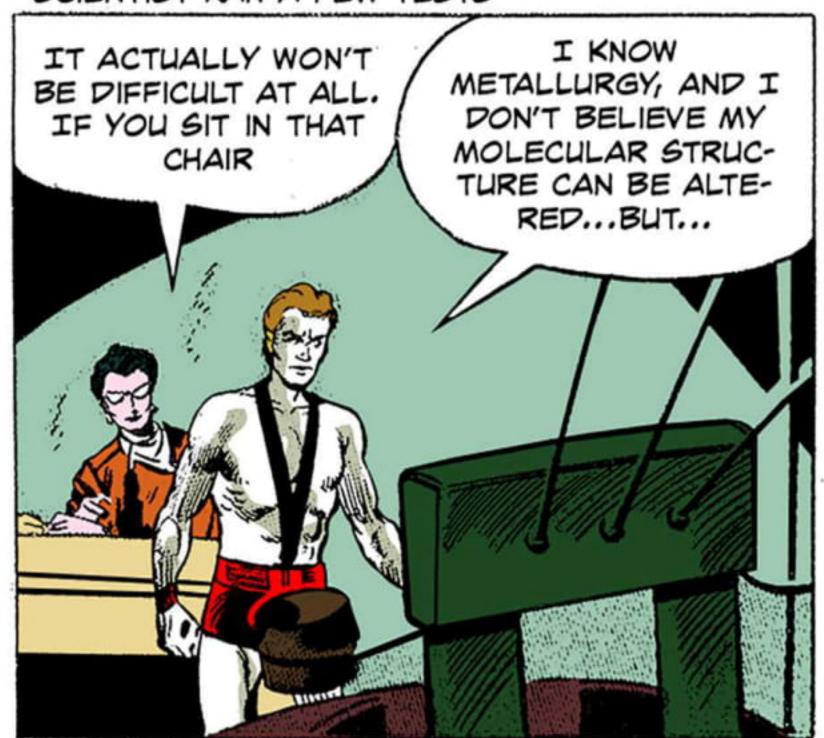


YES, AND A FEW MORE NOT MENTIONED, BUT IT ISN'T ENOUGH! I DON'T ONLY WANT TO SAVE MANKIND...





IN DR. ERIKA PENN'S LABORATORY, THE LADY SCIENTIST RAN A FEW TESTS





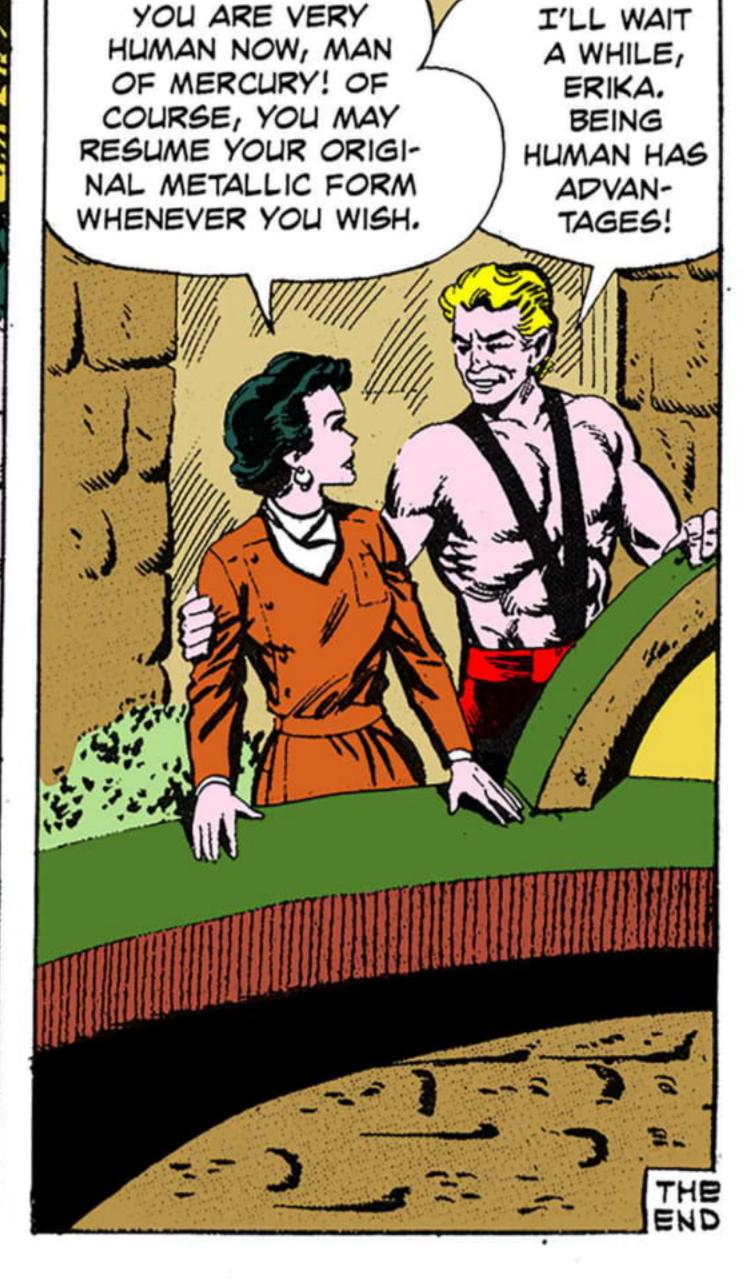
YOU MUST ENDURE THE DISCOMFORT FOR











OFF LIMITS

HE WAS A POET, AND HE WAS INTENT ON SEARCHING FOR SOME STRIKING IMAGE, AND HIS SEARCH WAS MADE MORE DIFFICULT BECAUSE THE IMAGE HAD TO END IN A PARTICULARIY DIFFICULT RHYME...AND SO AS HE WALKED, HE WAS TOTALLY UNAWARE OF THE BROAD SMILES ALL AROUND HIM.











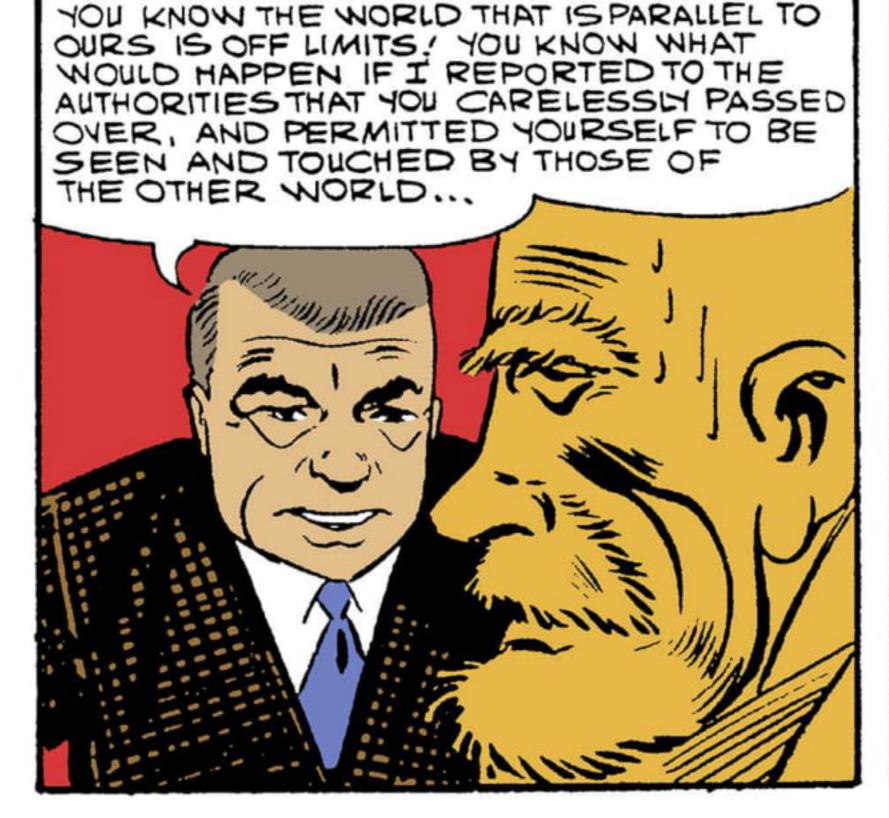
COLORS: JAMES MASON

















BUT, STRANGELY ENOUGH, THE
POLICE HAD LITTLE TO DO WITH
THE CAPTURE, FOR THE STEFANO
BROTHERS WERE BROUGHT TO
JUSTICE FOR THEIR MANY.
ROBBERIES BY THAT FANTASTIC
FIGURE OF THE NIGHT ... THE
RED DEMON...THE RED DEMON WHO
HAS ENDED THE CAREERS OF SO
MANY OTHER CRIMINALS...

GEATTER'S VOICE IS CARRIED TO THE STATION'S TRANSMITTER ...

AND SOMEWHERE IN AN UNKNOWN
HIDEAWAY IN THIS CITY LIVES THAT
NEMESIS OF CRIME AND EVIL. AND
IT IS STRANGE THAT IN TWO
YEARS NO ONE HAS BEEN ABLE
TO IDENTIFY HIM...OR
DISCOVER HIS HIDEOUT...

THE TRANSMITTER HURLS GEATTER'S VOICE THROUGH THE BLACK NIGHT AND INTO THE RADIOS OF COUNTLESS HOMES ...



FROM THE RADIO STATION TO THE TRANSMITTER... FROM THE TRANS-MITTER TO RADIOS... IN THIS CASE, A VERY SPECIAL RADIO...

HAVE SEEN HIM DARTING ACROSS A MIDNIGHT MOON IN HIS RED DEVILBIRD, NO ONE HAS SEEN HIM IN NO ONE BUT THOSE WHOM HE HAS CAUGHT IN THEIR EVIL WORK...



STRANGE WHAT VIOLENT CHANGES A FEW MONTHS CAN BRING TO A MAN... LET'S SEE ...

WHY... IT WAS ONLY TWO YEARS
AGO THIS MONTH THAT THE
BREWSTER GANG STAGED THAT
MASQUERADE PARTY... THE
PARTY THAT BROUGHT THE
RED DEMON INTO BEING...









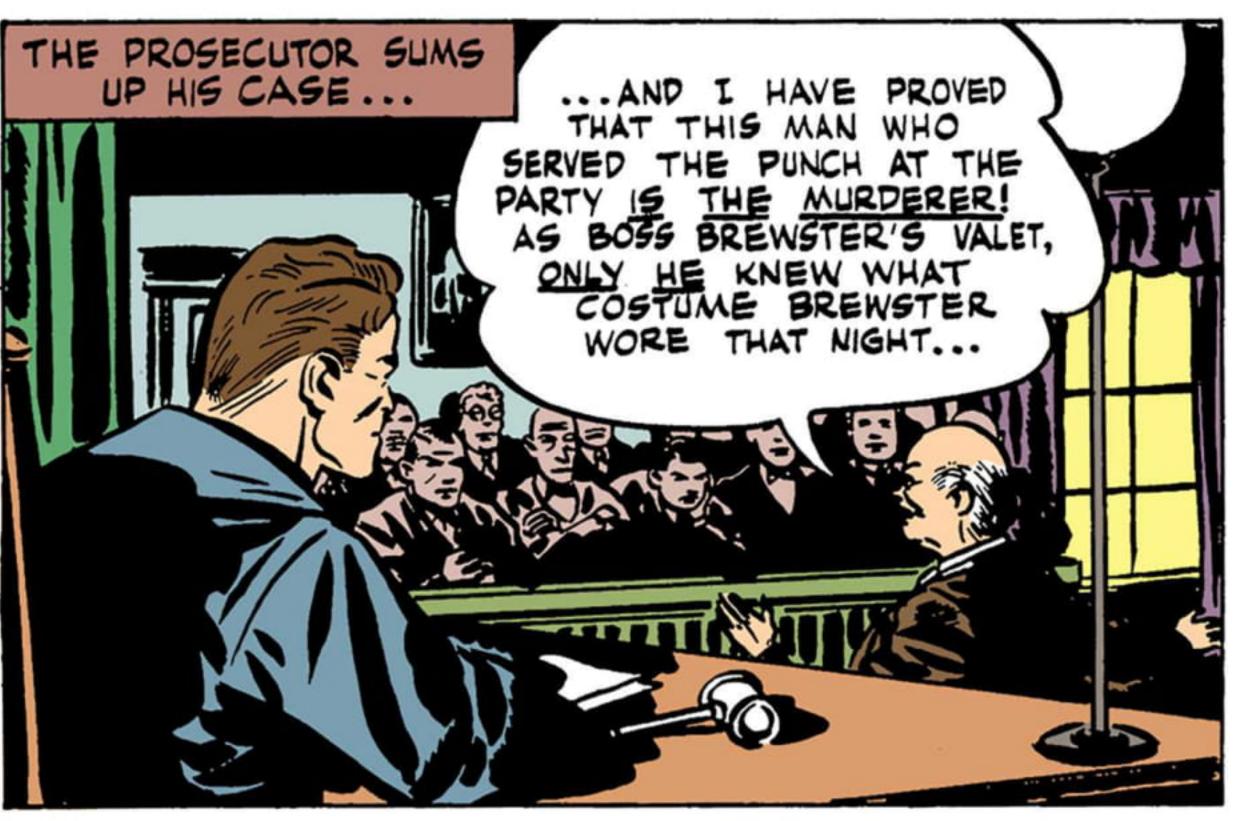




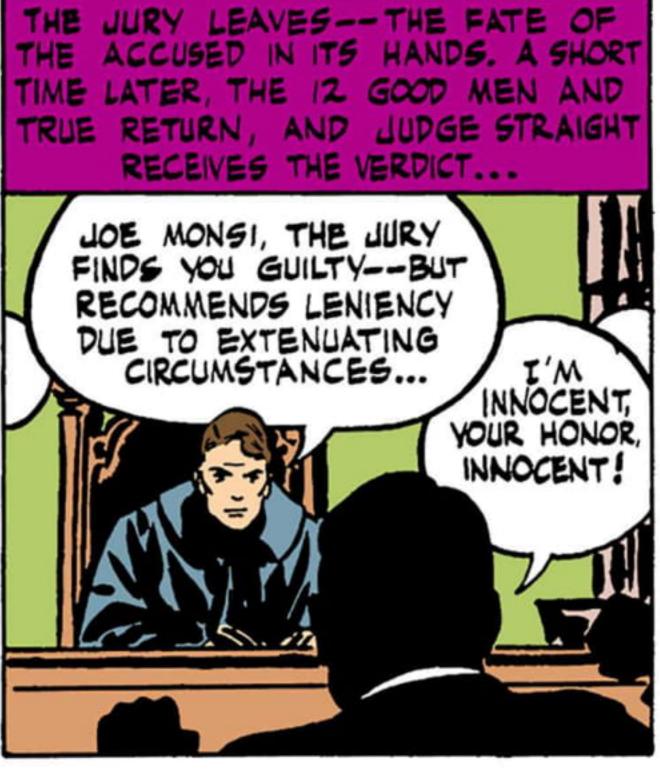




50 A MURDER IS DONE -- AND A COURT OF JUSTICE BECKONS TO ALL CONCERNED. PRESIDING AT THE TRIAL IS A MAN NAMED STRAIGHT ... HIS HONOR JUDGE STRAIGHT ...YOUNGEST JUDGE IN THE STATE ... LEADER OF HIS CLASS IN LAW SCHOOL ... AN ALMOST PERFECT MAN--EXCEPT, SOME PEOPLE SAY, HE HAS A TEXT BOOK FOR A HEART!



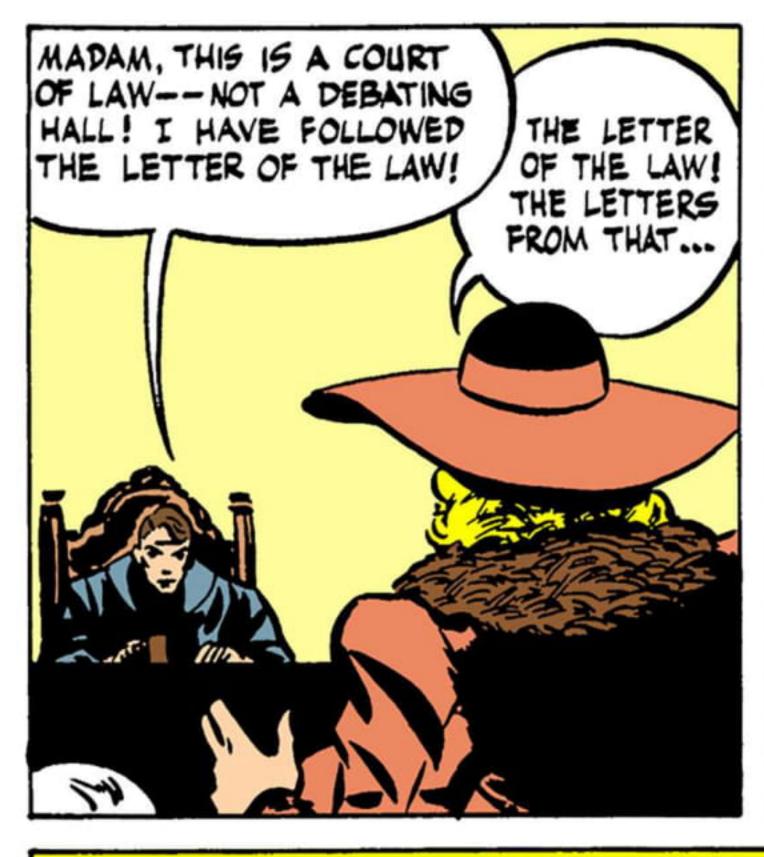
ONLY HE WOULD KNOW WHO TO KILL! THIS, PLUS THE FACT THE GUN WAS FOUND UNDER THE PUNCH TABLE, SHOULD CONVICT THIS MAN OF MURDER!

























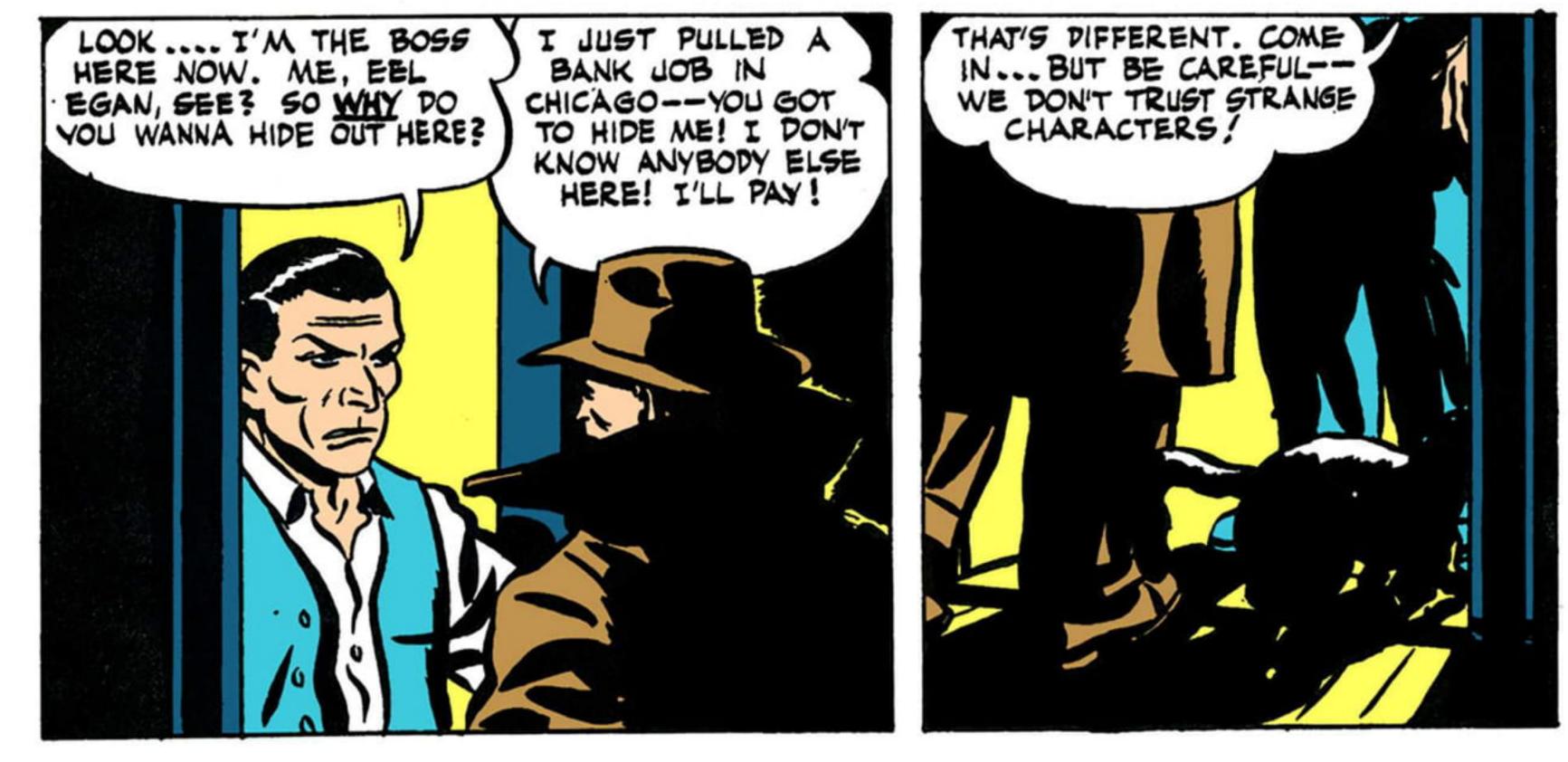


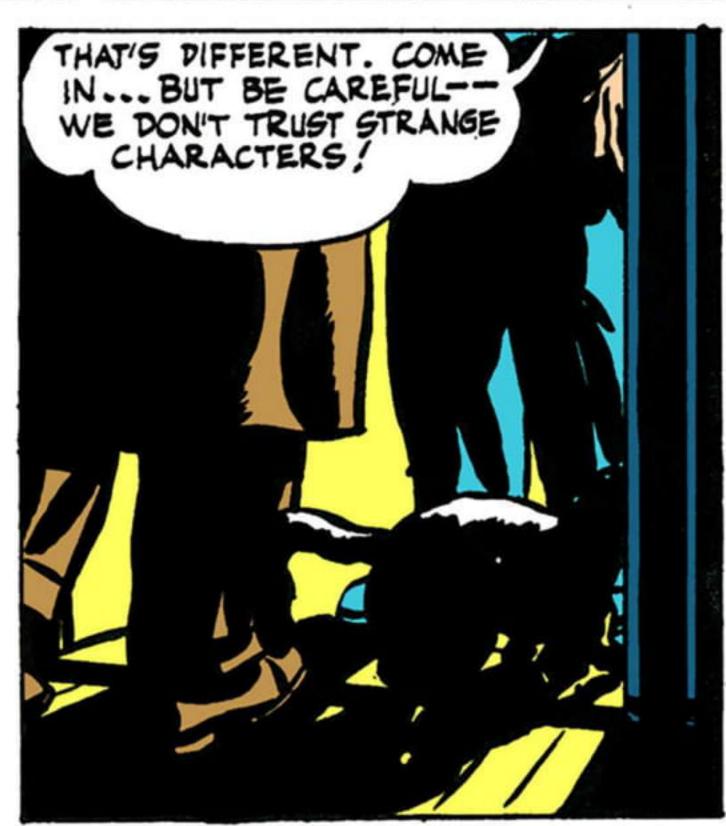




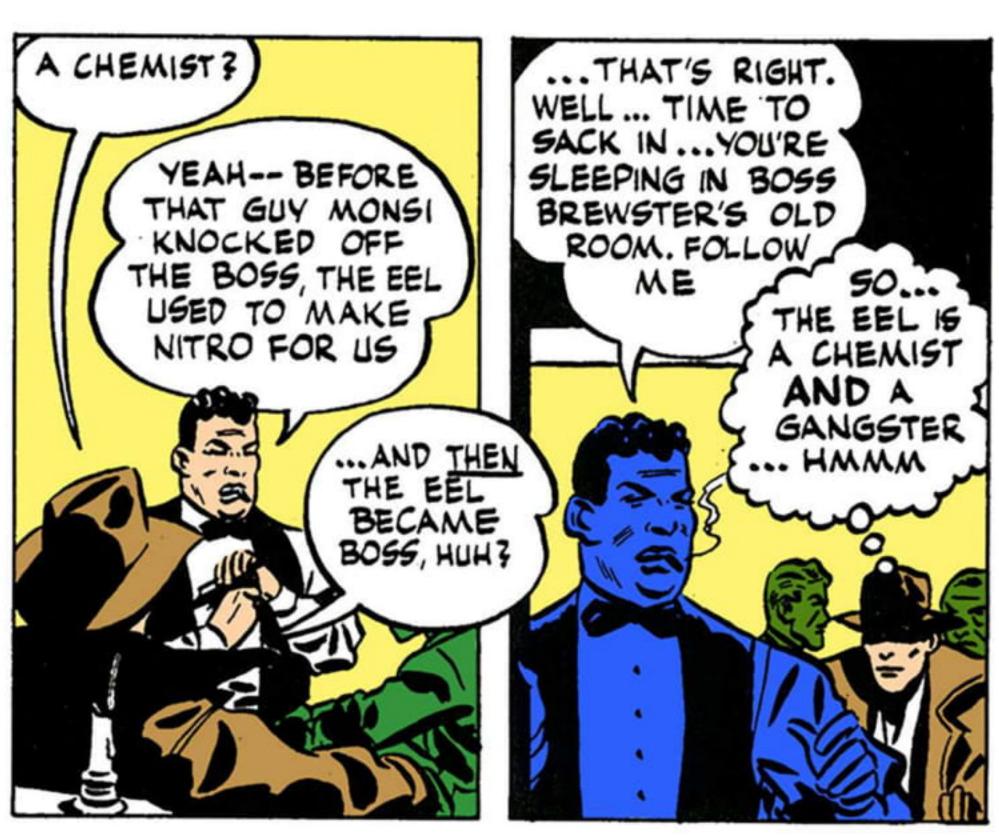
















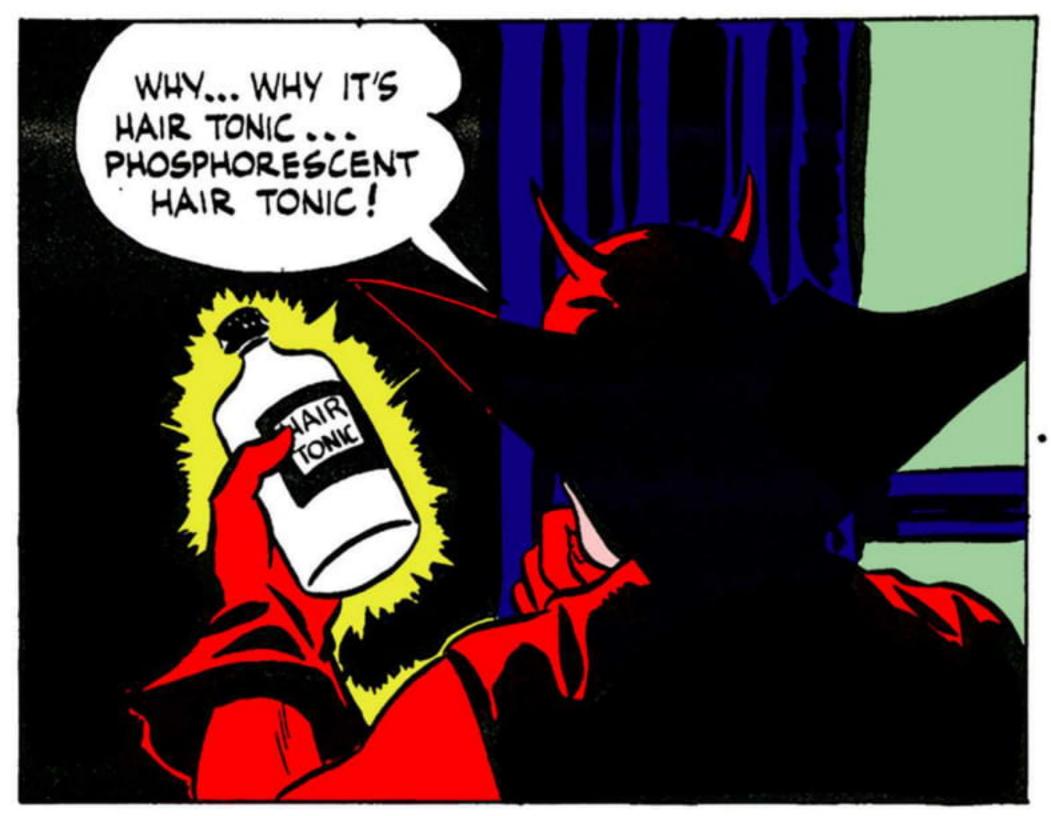






SUDDENLY, HIS EYES ARE DRAWN TO A FLICKERING GLOW IN THE DARK AND THE SMILE DIES ON HIS LIPS AS HIS SHARP EYES AND DEFT HANDS PROBE THE UNKNOWN...





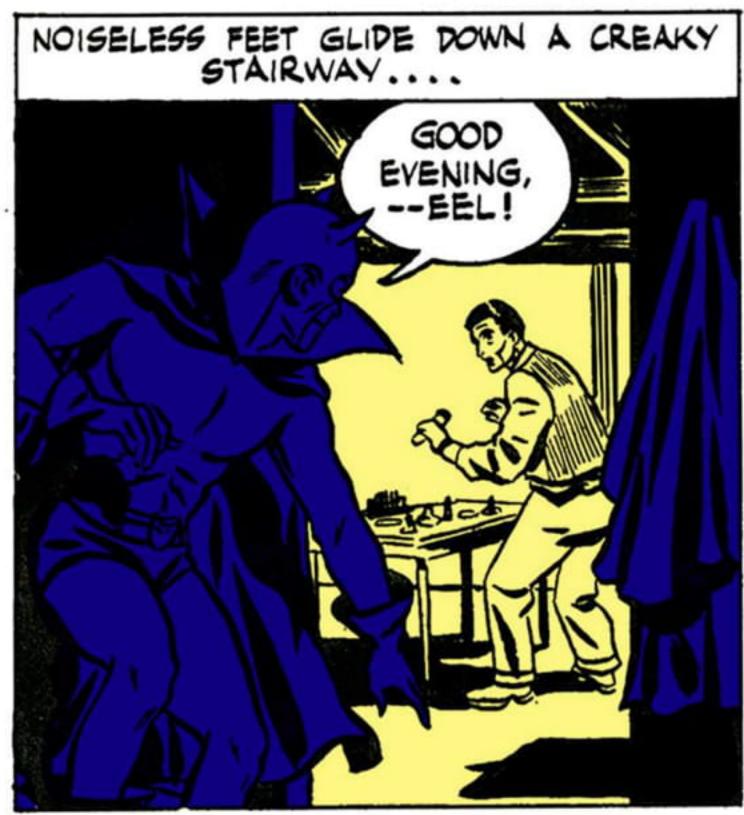
WITHIN HIS BREAST, A DEEP SEA OF ANGER IS LASHED BY A SWIFT STORM OF CHAGRIN AS HE REALIZES THAT THE MAN MONSI IS INNOCENT...THAT HE...A JUDGE...HAS SENTENCED THE WRONG MAN TO DEATH!

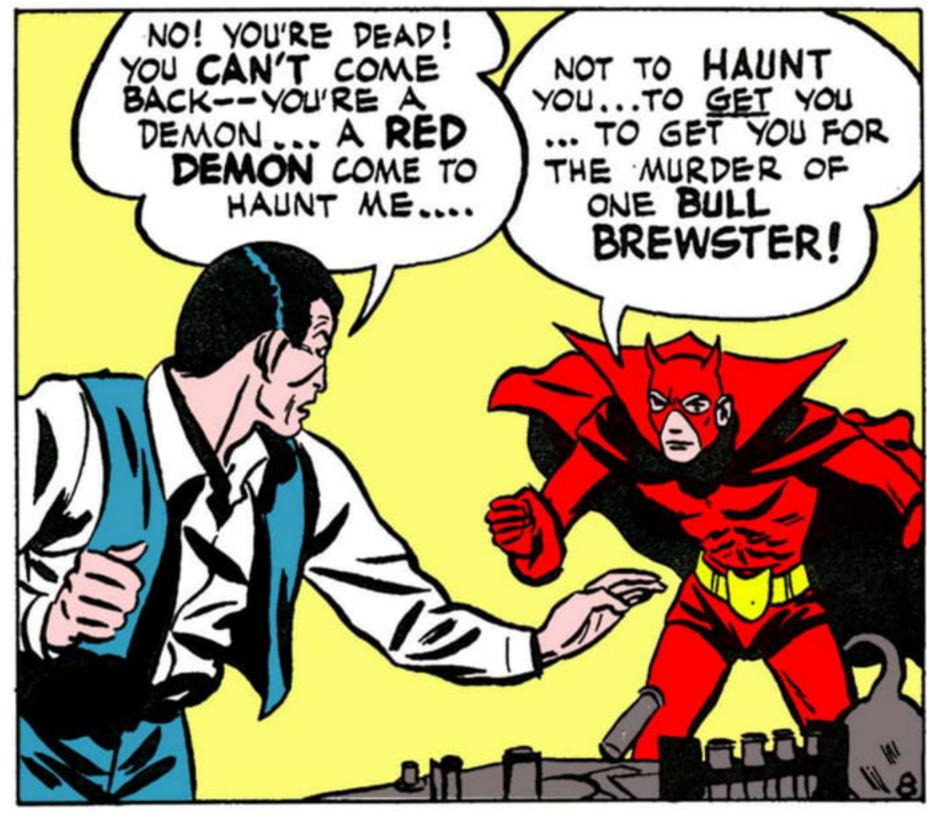


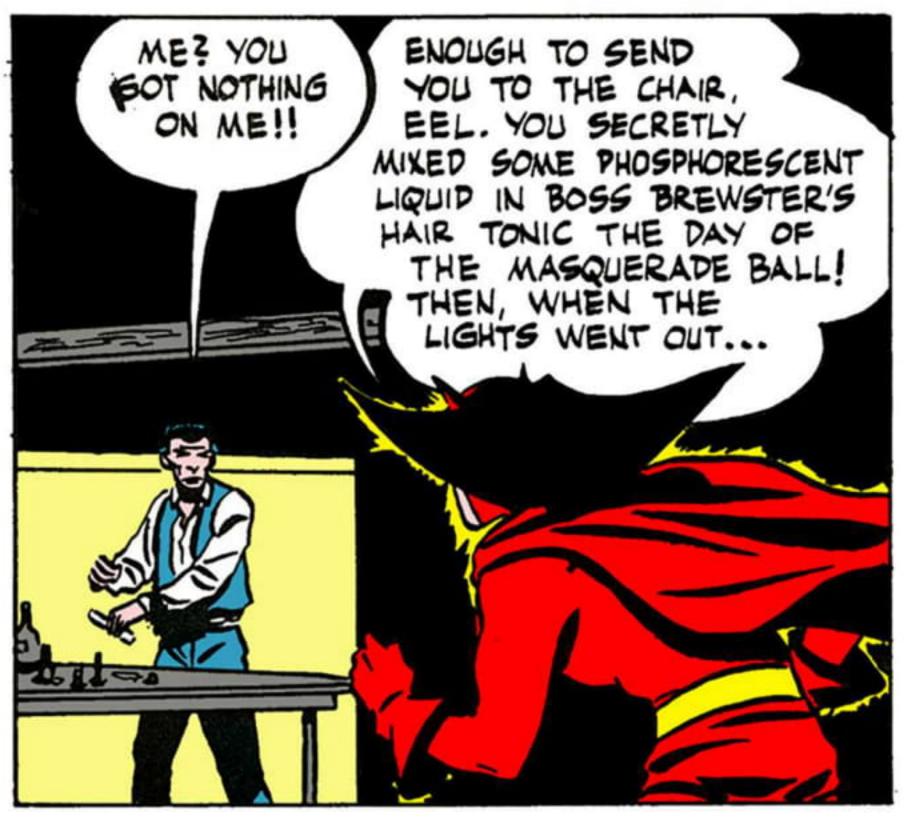


STEALING THROUGH THE SLEEPING HOUSE, HE SEARCHES THE ATTIC, THE SECOND FLOOR, AND THE FIRST FLOOR— WHERE HIS SEARCH ENDS...

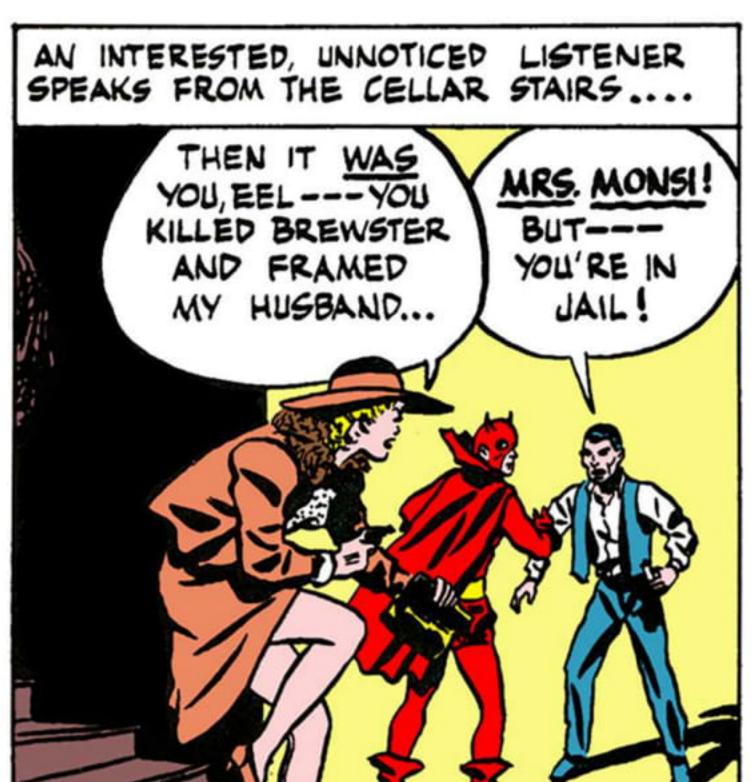
















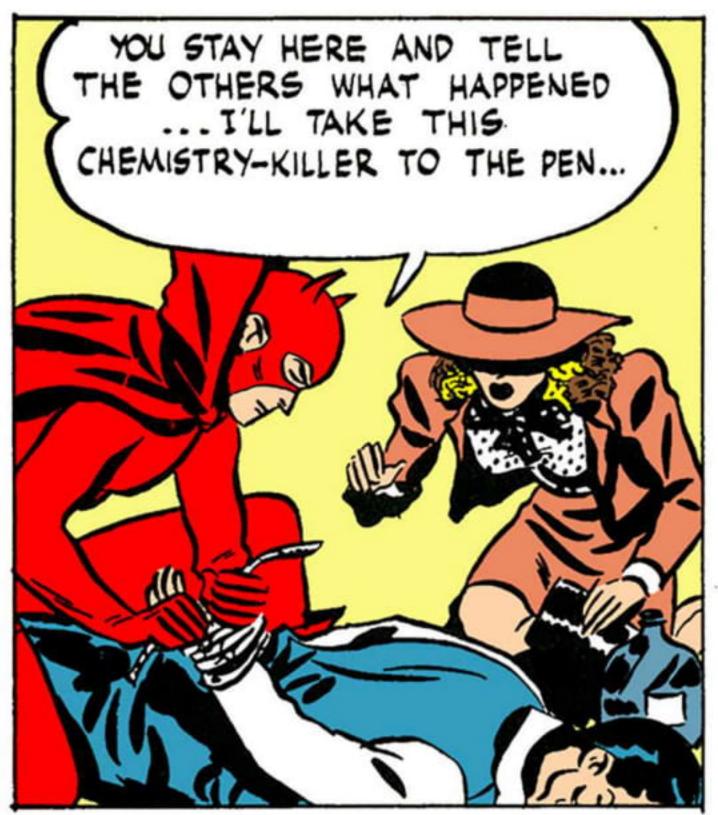


EVERY CAT HAS ITS

DAY, TOO ...

PERHAPS TABBY WAS PURPOSELY CLUMSY...OR PERHAPS IT WAS A MISTAKE WHEN SHE KNOCKED THE BOTTLE OFF---









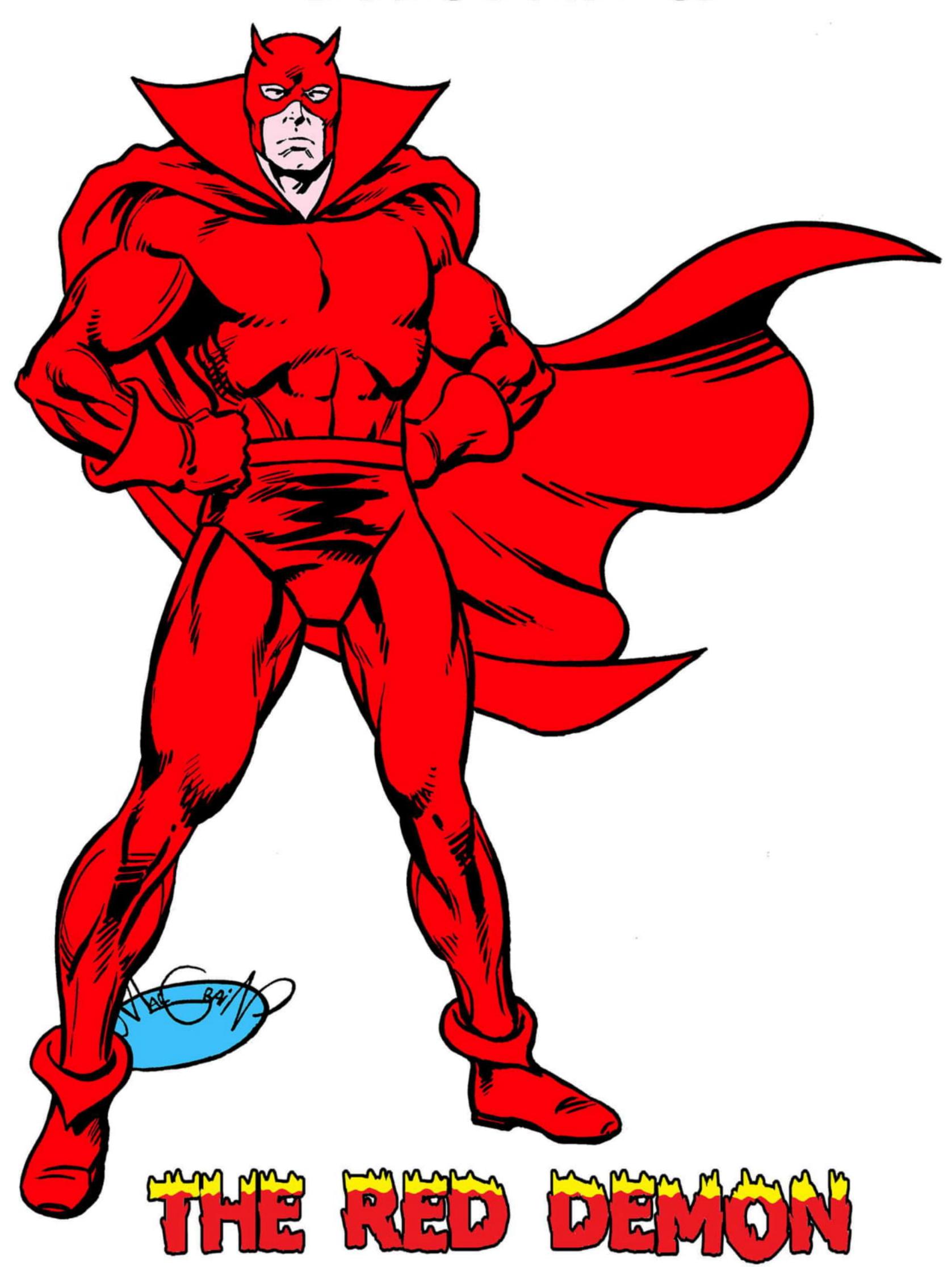








BOWS MARINE



BOWSPINHUP

