

**MARVEL
GRAPHIC
NOVEL**
\$5.95

THE DEATH OF CAPTAIN MARVEL



by JIM STARLIN

STAN LEE PRESENTS:

**The
DEATH
of
CAPTAIN
MARVEL**

**By
JIM STARLIN**

**COLORED BY: STEVE OLIFF
LETTERED BY: JAMES NOVAK
EDITED BY: AL MILGROM
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF: JIM SHOOTER**

THE DEATH OF CAPTAIN MARVEL: Copyright © 1982 by the Marvel Comics Group, a division of Cadence Industries Corporation. All rights reserved, including the right to reproduce this book or portions thereof in any form whatsoever.

CAPTAIN MARVEL (including all prominent characters featured in this book) and the distinctive likenesses thereof are trademarks of the MARVEL COMICS GROUP.

8th PRINTING

ISBN# 0-939766-11-6

THE **DEATH** OF CAPTAIN MARVEL

I WAS BORN
MAR-VELL, A SON
OF THE KREE
EMPIRE.

ON EARTH, MY
NAME FELL VICTIM
TO AN ALIEN TONGUE
AND I BECAME
KNOWN AS **MARVEL**
... **CAPTAIN
MARVEL**.

THE FOLLOWING IS
A JOURNAL OF MY LIFE
SINCE I LEFT KREE-
LAR; MY ADVENTURES,
MY VICTORIES, MY
MISTAKES.

MY HOPE IN RECORDING
THIS **MINI-AUTOBIOGRAPHY**
IS THAT IT MAY PROVE OF SOME
USE TO THOSE I LEAVE BEHIND.

IT ALL BEGAN ON A KREE SCOUT SHIP WHICH MADE AN UNDETECTED LANDING BACK ON EARTH IN 1967.

THE EXPEDITION WAS ON A SECRET **SPY MISSION**. ITS ASSIGNMENT WAS TO STUDY THE PLANET'S DEFENSES AND POPULACE.

EARTH WAS ON THE DESPOTIC KREE EMPIRE'S LIST OF FUTURE **PLANETARY CONQUESTS**.

I WAS PART OF THAT SCOUT SHIP'S CREW.

I WAS A **KREE WARRIOR**, A CAPTAIN. I WAS SLATED TO BE THE MISSION'S CHIEF **FIELD AGENT**.

ALSO AMONG THE SHIP'S COMPLEMENT WAS ONE COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER **UNA**. I LOVED THIS WOMAN.

BUT MY LOVE WAS DOOMED. FOR THE SHIP'S COMMANDER WAS A COLONEL **YON-ROGG** WHOSE HATRED FOR ME AND LUST FOR UNA WOULD PROVE OUR DOWNFALL.

SO I BEGAN MY MISSION... I BEGAN TO STUDY THE PEOPLE OF EARTH.

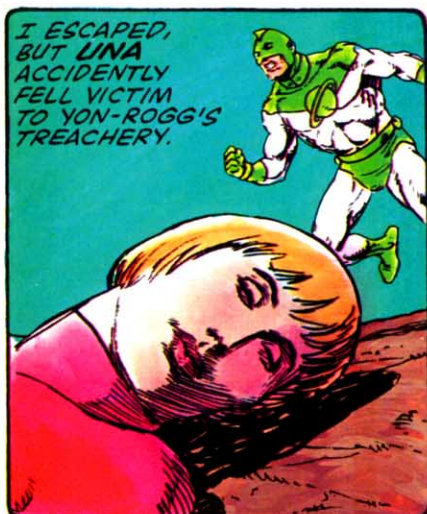
BUT THE MORE I LEARNED OF THIS TARGET PLANET, THE MORE **REPULSED** I BECAME AT THE THOUGHT OF THE TYRANNICAL KREE **BESPOILING** THIS LOVELY WORLD AND **ENSLAVING** ITS HAPLESS POPULATION.

I SHARED THESE THOUGHTS WITH **UNA** WHO EVENTUALLY CAME OVER TO MY POINT OF VIEW.

UNFORTUNATELY **YON-ROGG** FOUND US OUT AND TOOK MEASURES TO ASSURE MY **DEATH** SO THAT HE WOULD HAVE A CLEAR FIELD FOR UNA'S AFFECTIONS.



HE SET A TRAP FOR ME
...ARRANGED IT SO I
FELL INTO THE HANDS
OF THE KREE'S
ANCIENT ENEMIES,
THE AAKON.



I ESCAPED,
BUT UNA
ACCIDENTLY
FELL VICTIM
TO YON-ROGG'S
TREACHERY.



HEARTBROKEN, I DESERTED
THE KREE. THE EARTHINGS
WERE FAR FROM
PERFECT BUT
WITHIN THEIR
COLLECTIVE SOUL
I SENSED THE
POTENTIAL FOR
GREATNESS.

I SWORE THEN I
WOULD DEFEND
THEM AGAINST
MY HOMEWORLD'S
DARK APPETITE.



SO THE OLD CAPT. MAR-VELL
DIED AND THE **NEW**
CAPTAIN MARVEL WAS
BORN.

I BECAME EARTH'S
COSMIC PROTECTOR
AND EVENTUALLY
AIDED MY NEW
HOMEWORLD IN
RIDGING ITSELF OF
THE THREAT OF
THE EVIL KREE
EMPIRE.



BUT THE KREE WERE NOT
THE ONLY STELLAR RACE
THAT COVETED EARTH'S
NATURAL RICHES. TIME
AND AGAIN I WAS CALLED
UPON TO SAVE MY ADOPTED
HOME.

I WAS GREATLY
AIDED IN THIS TASK...



...BY A BEING NAMED EON
WHO GRANTED ME THE POWER
OF COSMIC AWARENESS.



SO THE YEARS PASSED AND
WITH THEM PASSED WHAT
SEEMED LIKE AN ENDLESS
LINE OF VILLAINS AND
WOULD-BE
CONQUERERS.

I BEGAN
TO TIRE.



FORTUNATELY, IN
RECENT YEARS,
OTHERS OF GREAT
POWER HAVE COME
ALONG TO RELIEVE
ME IN THIS ETERNAL
BATTLE OF GOOD
VERSUS EVIL.

OF LATE, I'VE BEEN
ENJOYING A STATE OF
SEMI-RETIREMENT ON
TITAN, A SATELLITE
OF SATURN.

TITAN IS A WONDROUS PLACE. ITS OUTER HUSK IS A BARREN, AMMONIA ENSHROUDED DESERT, BUT BENEATH ITS SURFACE LIES A FUTURISTIC PARADISE.



THIS WORLD IS JUSTLY RULED BY A DEMI-GOD NAMED **MENTOR** AND HIS SON, **EROS**. I MET THEM YEARS AGO WHEN...



... I HAD TO BATTLE MENTOR'S OTHER SON, THE EVIL **THANOS**.



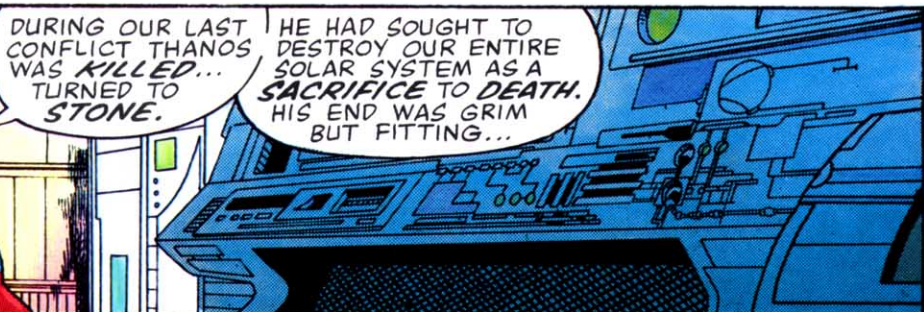
HE EASILY PROVED HIMSELF THE MOST DANGEROUS FOE I EVER FACED.

IN FACT, **THANOS** IS THE REASON FOR THIS VOYAGE.



DURING OUR LAST CONFLICT **THANOS** WAS **KILLED**... TURNED TO **STONE**.

HE HAD SOUGHT TO DESTROY OUR ENTIRE SOLAR SYSTEM AS A **SACRIFICE** TO DEATH. HIS END WAS GRIM BUT FITTING...



MAR-VELL, WE'RE ALMOST THERE!



SAY, WHAT ARE YOU UP TO BACK HERE?



JUST DOING A LITTLE RECORDING.

I'M PREPARING AN **AUDIO FILE** OF MY LIFE AND ...'ADVENTURES' FOR THE **AVENGERS** AND OTHER EARTH SUPER HEROES.



YOU'RE KIND OF YOUNG TO BE WRITING YOUR **MEMOIRS**, AREN'T YOU?



PERHAPS, BUT YOU NEVER KNOW...





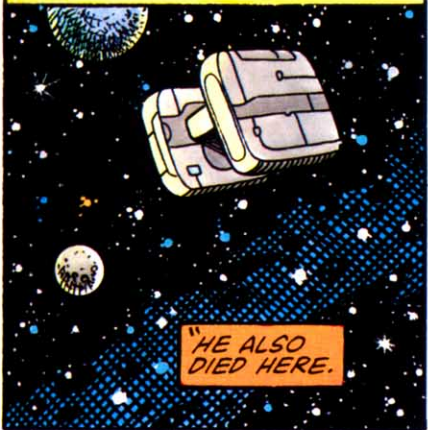
"I WAS WITH THE **AVENGERS** WHEN THEY TOWED **THANOS'S ARK** OUT HERE PAST **PLUTO** AND ABANDONED IT.

"THEY FIGURED IT WASN'T LIKELY TO FALL INTO THE **WRONG HANDS** THIS FAR OUT.

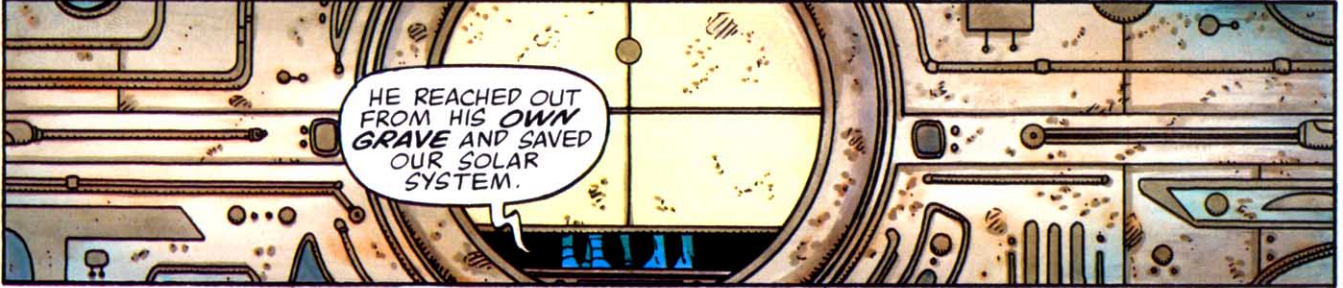
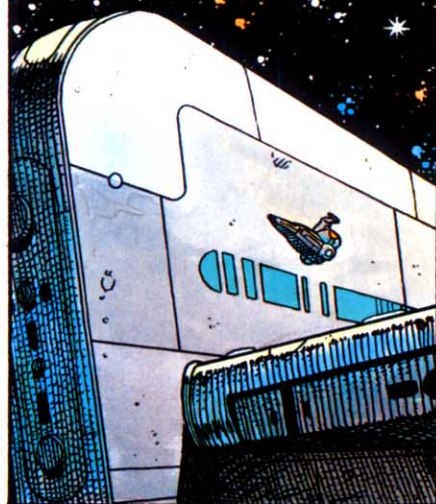
"**THANOS** RAN HIS ENTIRE OPERATION FROM HERE. THIS WAS HIS **SPACE FLEET'S** CONTROL CENTER. IT WAS ON THIS SHIP HE CREATED THE WEAPON THAT WAS MEANT TO **DESTROY OUR SUN**.

"IT TOOK THE COMBINED POWER OF THE **AVENGERS**, THE **THING**, **ADAM WARLOCK**, **SPIDER-MAN** AND MYSELF TO THWART **THANOS'S** MAD PLANS.

"IT WAS **ADAM WARLOCK** WHO FINALLY STRUCK **THANOS** DOWN."



"HE ALSO DIED HERE.



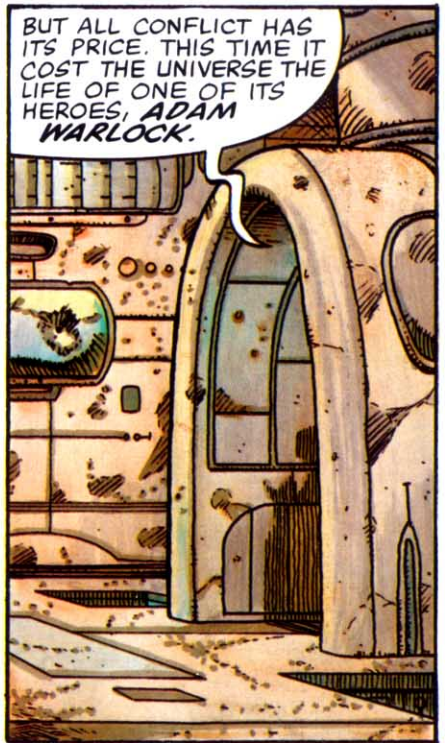
HE REACHED OUT FROM HIS **OWN GRAVE** AND SAVED OUR SOLAR SYSTEM.



IT ALL HAPPENED HERE IN THESE DARK-ENED HALLS. THE **BLACKNESS OF OBLIVION** NEARLY CLAIMED US ALL.



BUT, AT THE LAST MOMENT, A **GOLDEN WARRIOR** SAVED US. SO THE **LIGHT** YET SHINES AND **LIFE** CONTINUES.



BUT ALL CONFLICT HAS ITS PRICE. THIS TIME IT COST THE UNIVERSE THE LIFE OF ONE OF ITS HEROES, **ADAM WARLOCK**.



HE WAS BORN A
DEMI-GOD.

HE WAS **POWER**
ALMOST WITHOUT END.

HE GAVE HIS
HEART TO DEATH.

HE DIED ATTEMPTING
TO SATISFY THAT DARK,
UNREQUITED LOVE.

HE WAS
THANOS
OF TITAN.

HE DIED ENCASED IN
STONE AS HARD AS
HIS OWN HEART.



BY THE GREAT SPIRIT! I HAD NO IDEA IT WAS LIKE THIS...

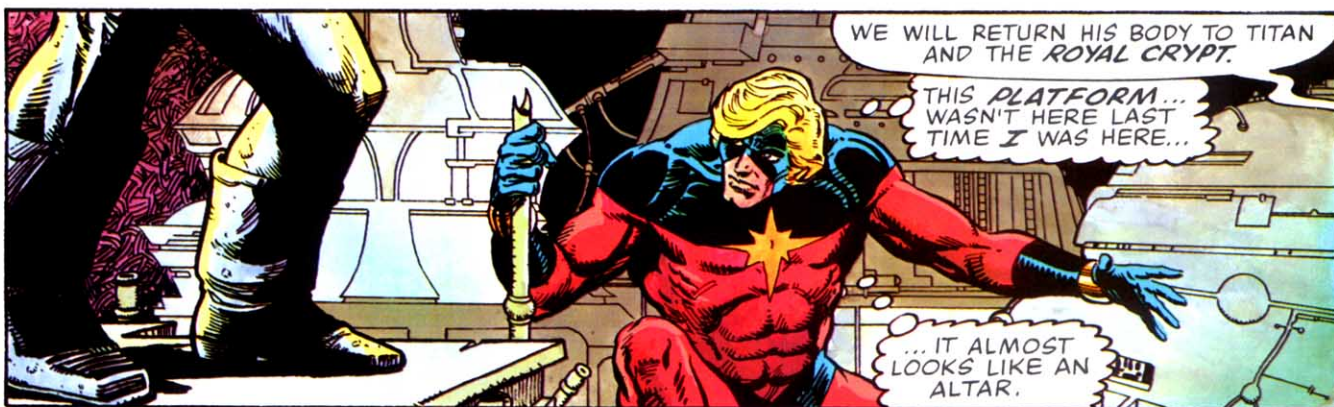
THANK YOU, FATHER, FOR ALLOWING US TO TAKE MY BROTHER'S BODY FROM THIS PLACE.



THANOS WAS A VILLAIN... HIS CRIMES HAVE BESMIRCHED THE HONOR OF TITAN FOREVER... HIS FATE WAS JUST...



... BUT HE WAS MY SON AND I CANNOT ALLOW HIM TO SPEND ETERNITY ENTOMBED HERE... NO MATTER WHAT HE DID.



WE WILL RETURN HIS BODY TO TITAN AND THE ROYAL CRYPT.

THIS PLATFORM... WASN'T HERE LAST TIME I WAS HERE...

... IT ALMOST LOOKS LIKE AN ALTAR.



THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG HERE.

SUDDENLY, MAR-VELL'S EVERY SENSE BLAZES TO RAZOR SHARP ALERTNESS...



HIS SPHERE OF BEING EXPANDS...



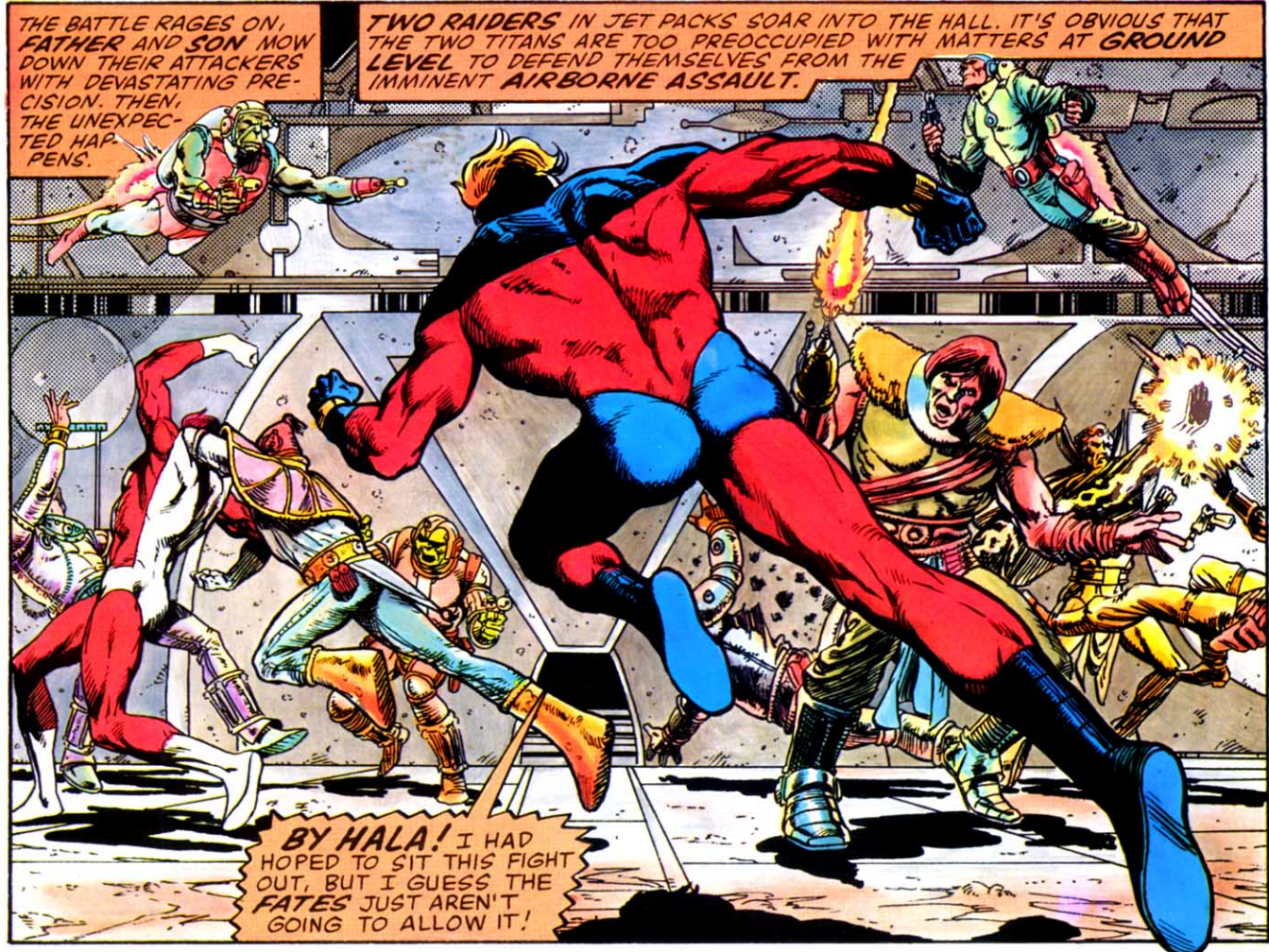
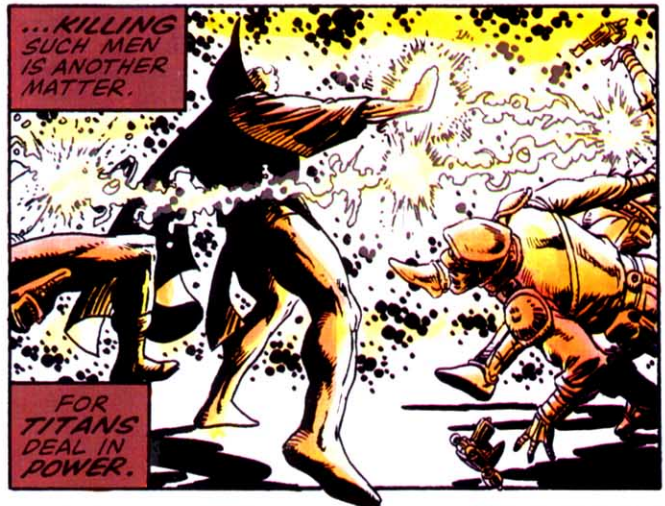
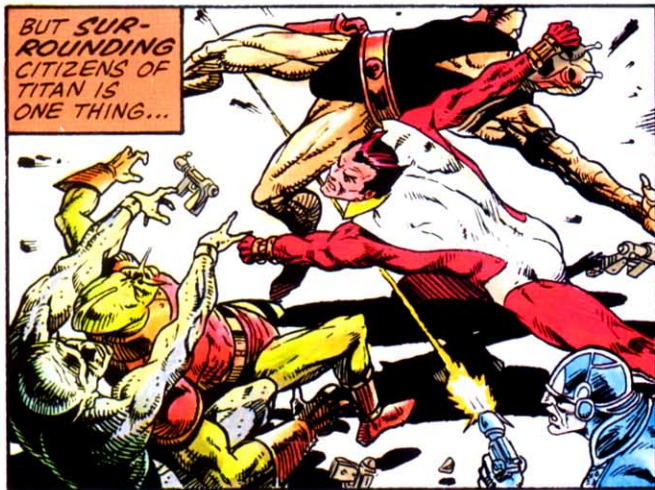
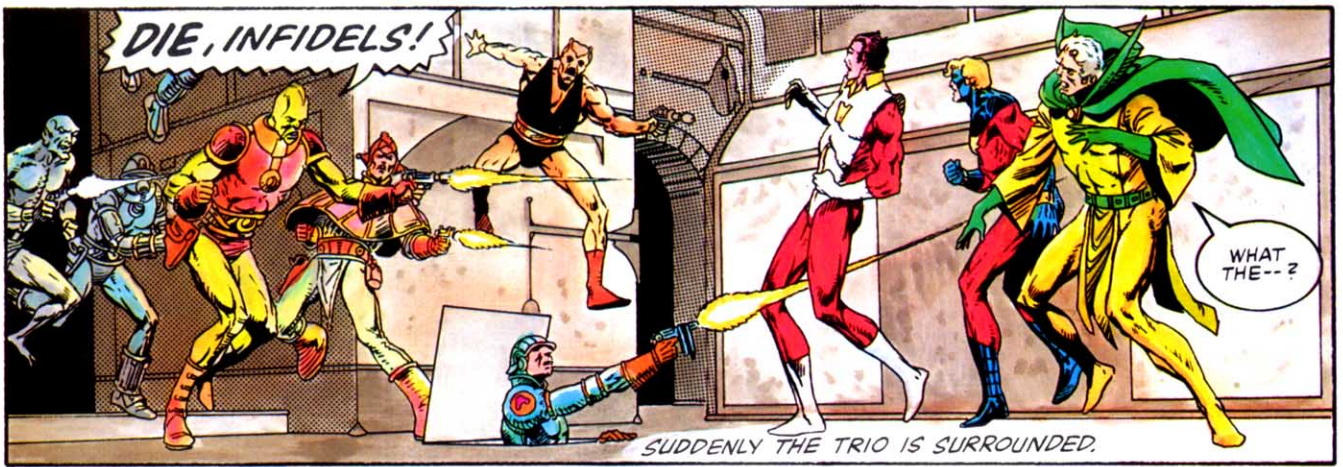
ALL THAT IS ABOUT HIM IS GRASPED AND RECOGNIZED...



FOR NOTHING CAN ESCAPE HIS COSMIC AWARENESS...



MENTOR! EROS! BEWARE!



BUT PERHAPS IT'S JUST AS WELL...
MENTOR AND EROS SOMETIMES **FORGET** THE EXTENT OF THEIR **POWER**.



I MAY ACTUALLY BE DOING THESE THUGS A **FAVOR**.



THE TITANS MIGHT **ACCIDENTALLY** USE MORE FORCE THAN IS NECESSARY.

SOMEONE COULD GET **HURT**... MAYBE EVEN **KILLED**.

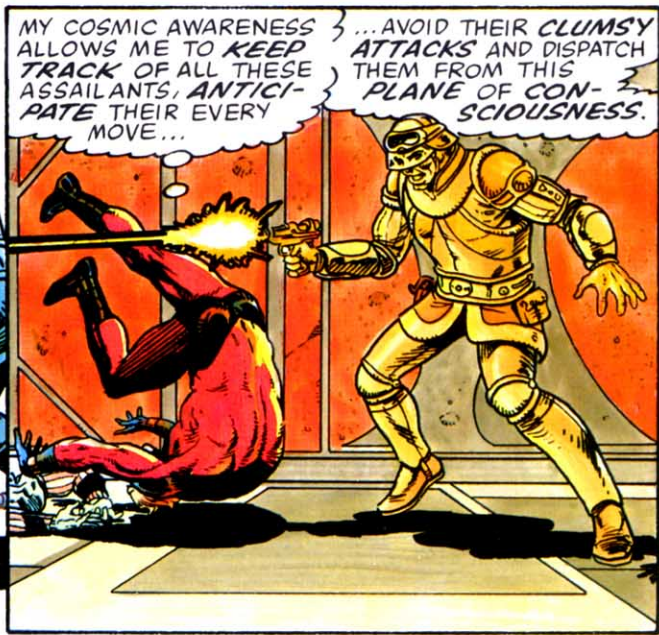


FORTUNATELY, THE **MORE** OF THESE ATTACKERS I PUT OUT OF ACTION THE **LESS** LIKELY THE CHANCES OF THERE BEING A **FATAL MISCALCULATION**.



MY COSMIC AWARENESS ALLOWS ME TO **KEEP TRACK** OF ALL THESE ASSAILANTS, **ANTICIPATE** THEIR EVERY MOVE...

...AVOID THEIR **CLUMSY** ATTACKS AND DISPATCH THEM FROM THIS **PLANE OF CONSCIOUSNESS**.



BUT UNLIKE MENTOR
AND EROS, I CAN
SENSE JUST EXACTLY
HOW MUCH FORCE
IS NEEDED TO
ACCOMPLISH
MY GOAL.



THAT WAY I END UP WITH UNCONSCIOUS
BUT **UNBROKEN** AND **LIVING** FOES.

OF COURSE THERE
ARE THOSE FOLKS
WHO CLAIM A **DEAD**
ENEMY IS THE
BEST KIND
OF ENEMY
TO HAVE.



BUT THEN, I'VE
FOUND THAT PEOPLE
WHO PRACTICE THAT
PHILOSOPHY USUALLY
HAVE A HARD TIME
SLEEPING AT NIGHT.

OF COURSE MY KREE BATTLE
TRAINING AND PHOTONIC POWERS
MAKE IT A LOT EASIER FOR ME
THAN FOR MOST FOLKS.

THERE AREN'T MANY
AROUND WHO CAN **DODGE**
A LASER SHOT FIRED AT
POINT BLANK RANGE
LIKE THIS.

BUT FOR
THAT
MATTER...



...WHO IN THEIR
RIGHT MIND WOULD
WANT TO?

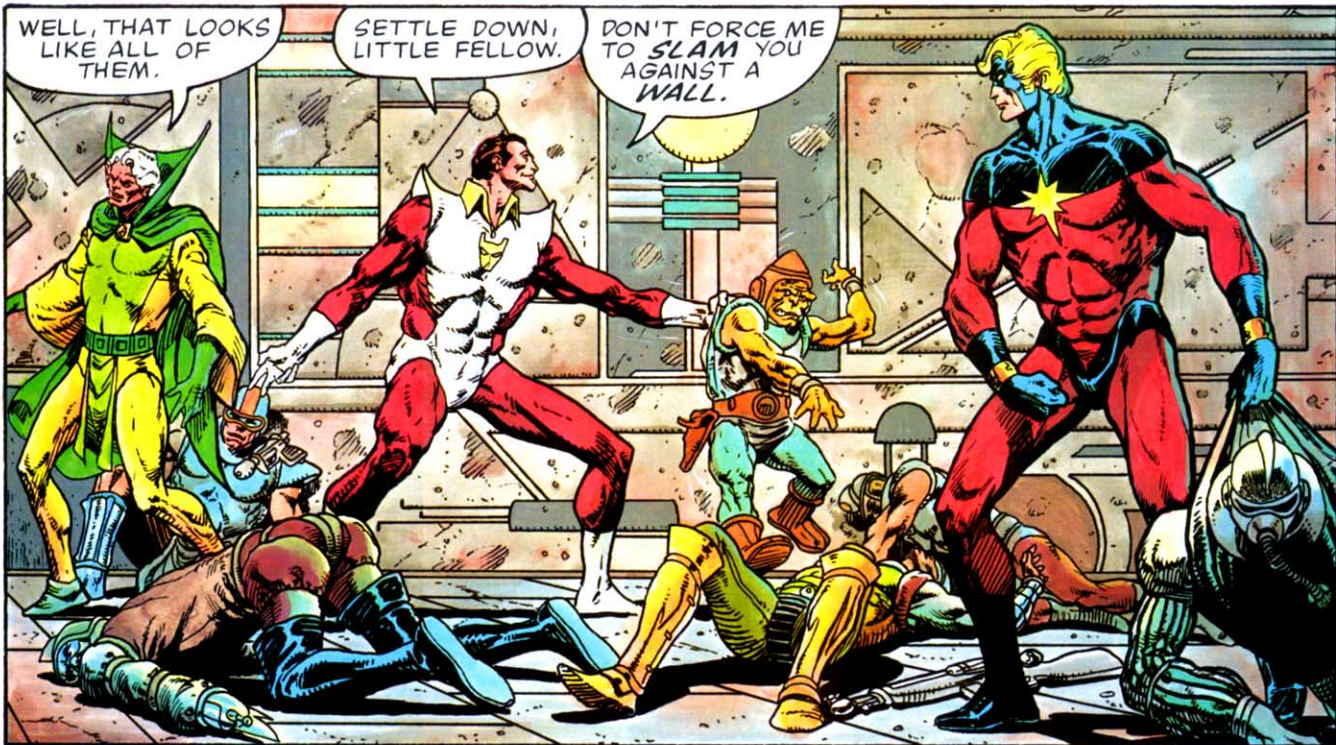


NO, MOST PEOPLE HAVE ENOUGH
SENSE TO **AVOID** TROUBLE
LIKE THIS.

I'VE BEEN TRYING TO
FOLLOW THEIR EXAMPLE,
BUT SOMETIMES IT'S
JUST NOT EASY TO
SIDESTEP TROUBLE.

SOME-
TIMES,
BUT NOT
ALWAYS.







BY HALA!
THEY WORSHIP
THANOS AS
A GOD...

...AND ARE
WAITING FOR
HIM TO COME
BACK FROM THE
DEAD!



YOU,
FOOLS!!

CAN YOU
TRULY BE
SO
BLIND?!

DO YOU REALLY NOT SEE MY
SON FOR WHAT HE WAS?!



HE WAS AN EVIL LUNATIC WHO
USED YOU AND WOULD HAVE
SACRIFICED YOU WITHOUT A
SECOND THOUGHT OR REMORSE!

HIS PROMISE OF A
NEW LIFE WOULD
HAVE PROVEN TO BE
DEATH AND
OBLIVION.



BUT YOU MORONS REPAY HIS
TREACHERY WITH BLIND WOR-
SHIP!

YOU AWAIT HIS
RESURRECTION WITH
PRAYERS ON YOUR
LIPS... UNBE-
LIEVABLE!!



WELL, WAIT
NO MORE!

FOR I'VE COME TO TAKE HIS BODY HOME, AND PLAN TO DESTROY
THIS ARK, THIS LAST TESTAMENT OF HIS INSANE VILLAINY.



SO, GO... LEAVE THIS PLACE
OF EVIL AND BEGIN THAT
NEW LIFE THANOS
PROMISED YOU.

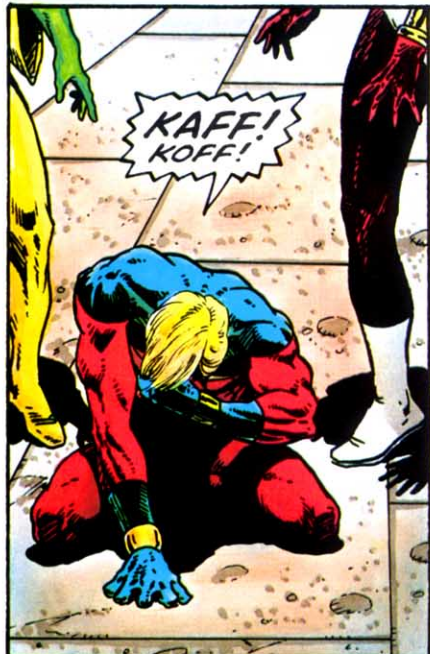
KAFF!

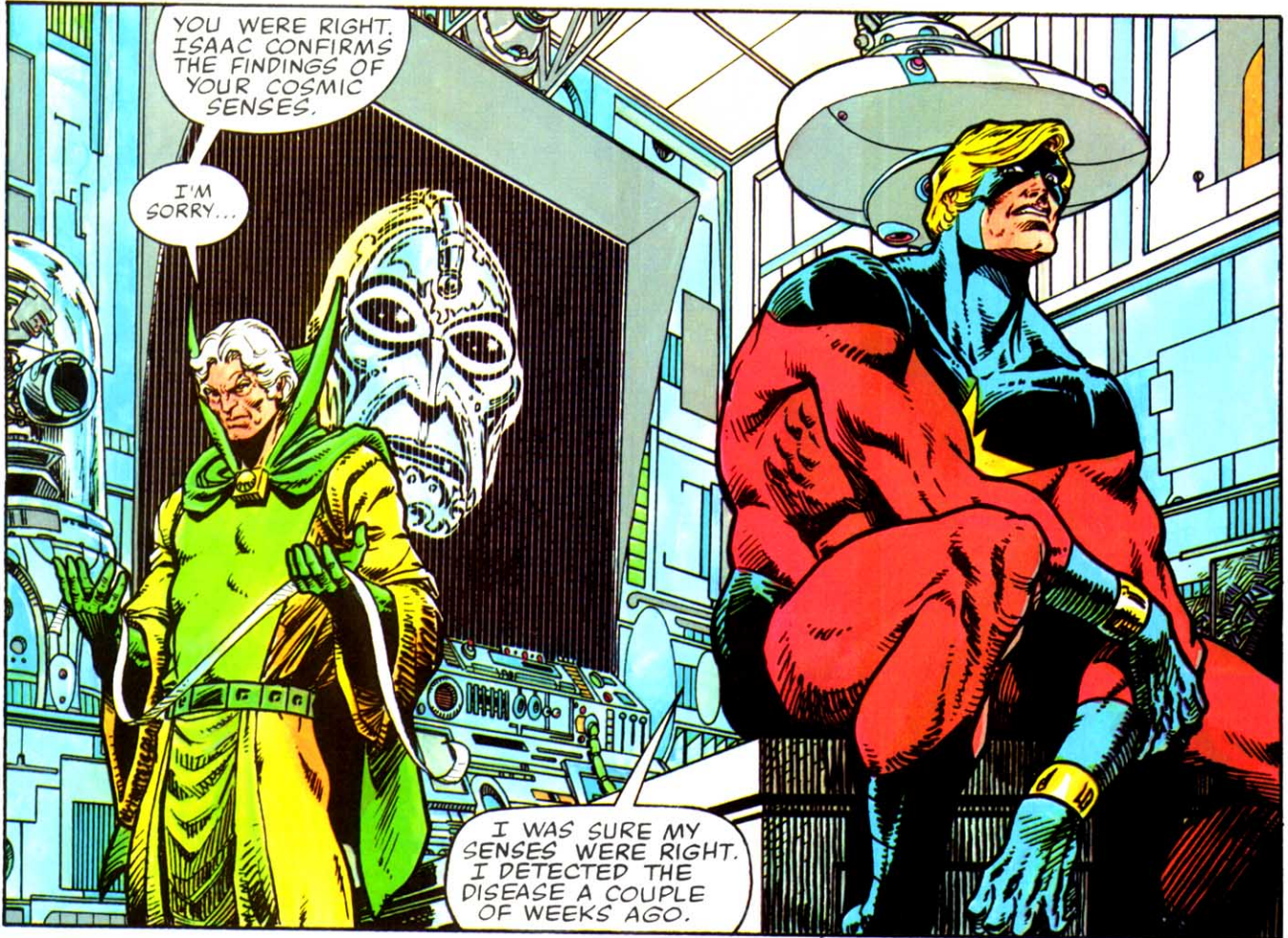
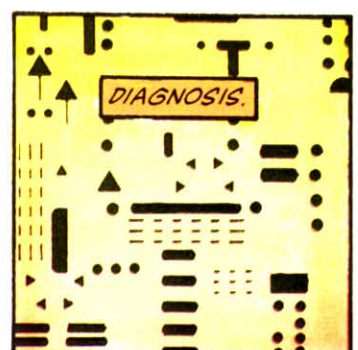
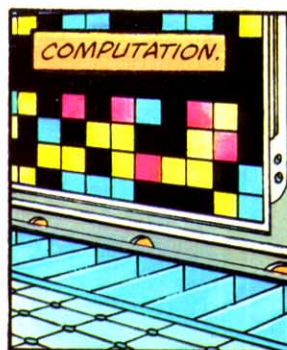
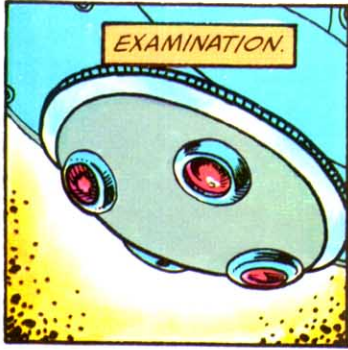
HIS DEATH HAS
FREED YOU TO DO SO.

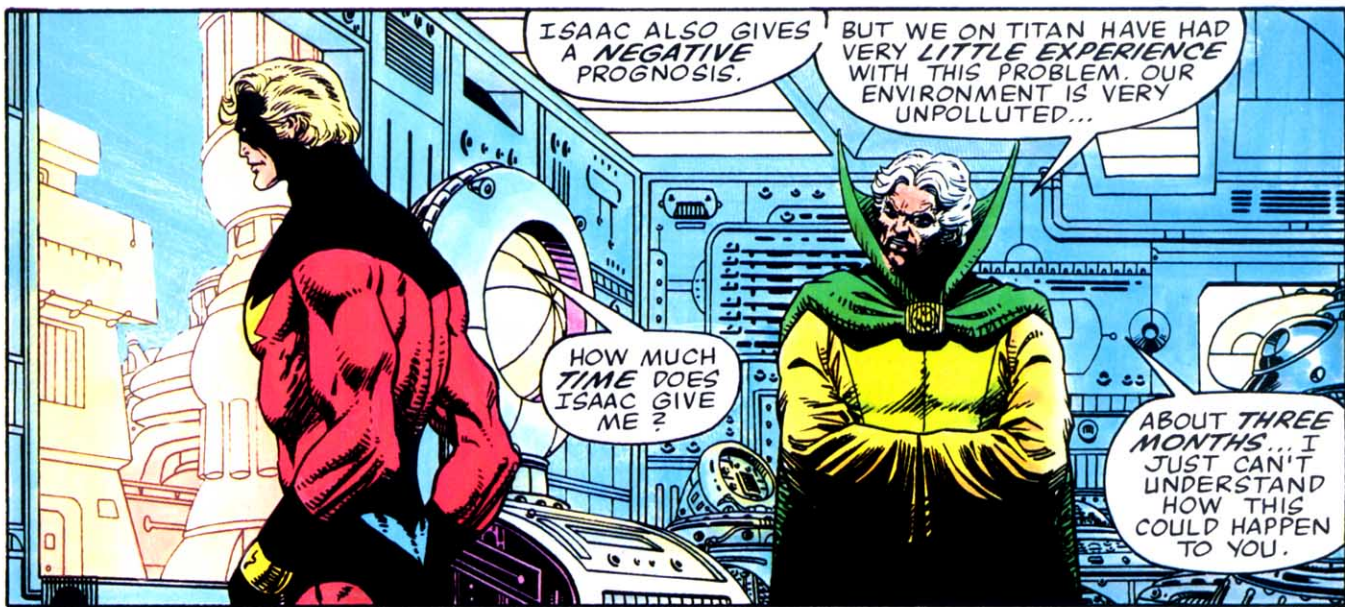


KOFF! KAFF! KOFF!

MAR-VELL,
ARE YOU ALL
RIGHT?







ISAAC ALSO GIVES A **NEGATIVE** PROGNOSIS.

BUT WE ON TITAN HAVE HAD VERY **LITTLE EXPERIENCE** WITH THIS PROBLEM. OUR ENVIRONMENT IS VERY UNPOLLUTED...

HOW MUCH **TIME** DOES ISAAC GIVE ME?

ABOUT **THREE MONTHS**... I JUST CAN'T UNDERSTAND HOW THIS COULD HAPPEN TO YOU.



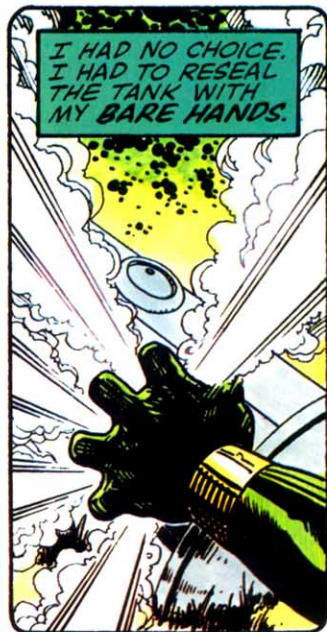
IT WAS ABOUT SEVEN YEARS AGO... I WAS BACK ON **EARTH**...



THERE WAS THIS THIEF CALLED **NITRO** WHO HAD STOLEN A CANISTER OF **NERVE GAS** FROM THE UNITED STATES ARMY.



DURING OUR BATTLE, THE GAS CANISTER BROKE OPEN AND ITS DEADLY CONTENTS THREATENED THE LIVES OF **THOUSANDS** WHO LIVED IN THE AREA.



I HAD NO CHOICE. I HAD TO RESEAL THE TANK WITH MY **BARE HANDS**.



I REALIZE NOW THE NERVE GAS ACTED AS A **CARCINOGEN** IN MY BODY. THE MOMENT IT TOUCHED ME I BEGAN TO DIE.

IN FACT I PROBABLY SHOULD HAVE DIED **YEARS** AGO.



I BELIEVE THE **PHOTONIC POWER** MY NEGABAND WRISTLETS GRANT ME, HAS FOUGHT OFF THE CANCER FOR A LONG TIME NOW.

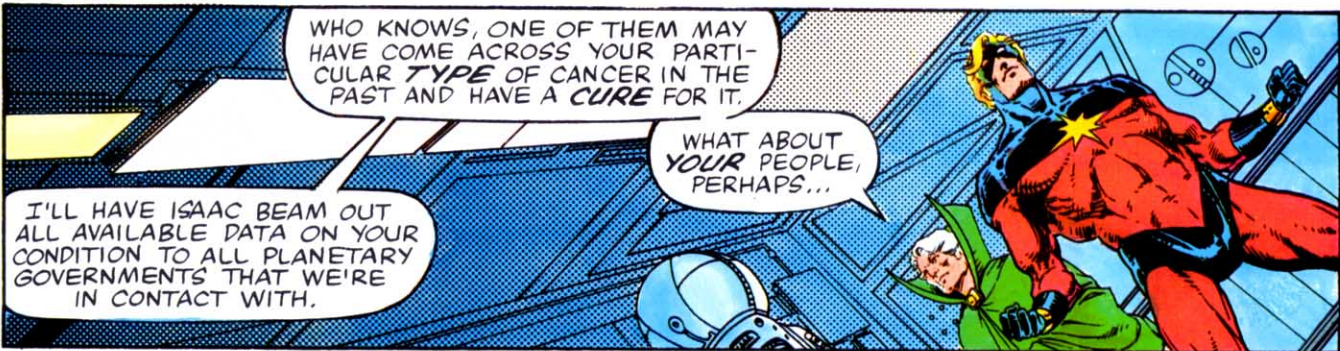


BUT THE **REMISSION PERIOD** IS OVER. THE DISEASE RESUMES ITS MARCH TO DARKNESS.



I... WE OF TITAN WILL DO ANYTHING WE CAN TO HELP YOU.

WHATEVER YOU NEED...



WHO KNOWS, ONE OF THEM MAY HAVE COME ACROSS YOUR PARTICULAR *TYPE* OF CANCER IN THE PAST AND HAVE A *CURE* FOR IT.

WHAT ABOUT *YOUR* PEOPLE, PERHAPS...

I'LL HAVE ISAAC BEAM OUT ALL AVAILABLE DATA ON YOUR CONDITION TO ALL PLANETARY GOVERNMENTS THAT WE'RE IN CONTACT WITH.



NO, *WAR* HAS ALWAYS BEEN THE KREE EMPIRE'S CHIEF PREOCCUPATION.



THEY'VE NEVER HAD THE SPARE *TIME* OR *RESOURCES* NEEDED TO FIND A CURE FOR THE *BLACKEND*.

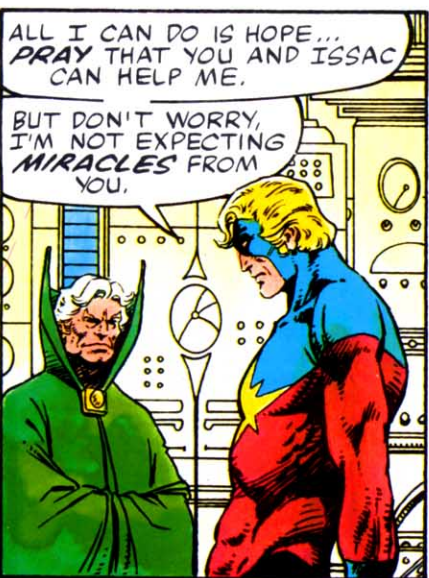
THEY'RE A LOT LIKE *EARTH* IN THAT RESPECT.

HAVE YOU ANY PLANS? I MEAN...



TERMINAL DISEASE FIGHTING IS A LITTLE OUT OF MY LEAGUE.

I'M A *WAR*-RIOR NOT A *DOCTOR*.



ALL I CAN DO IS HOPE... *PRAY* THAT YOU AND ISSAC CAN HELP ME.

BUT DON'T WORRY, I'M NOT EXPECTING *MIRACLES* FROM YOU.



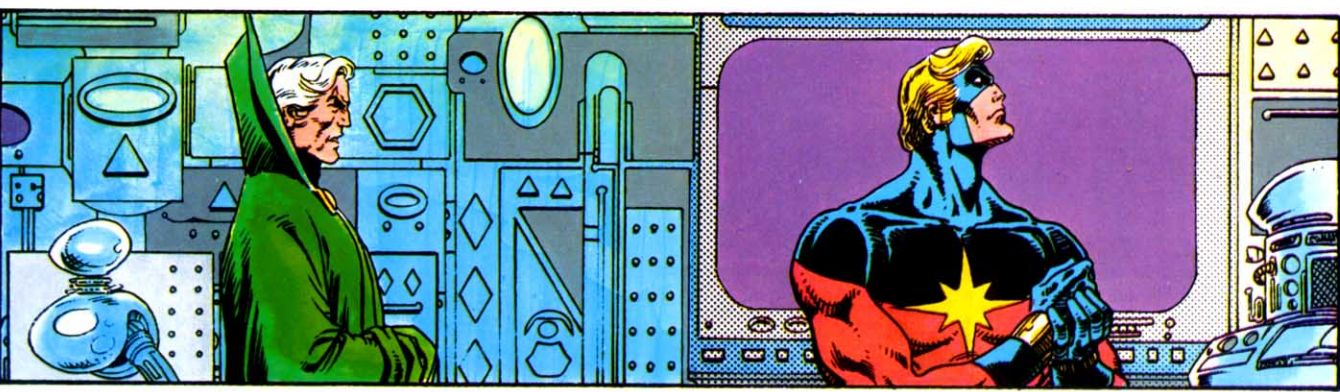
I'D *WELCOME* ONE, BUT I DON'T EXPECT ANY.

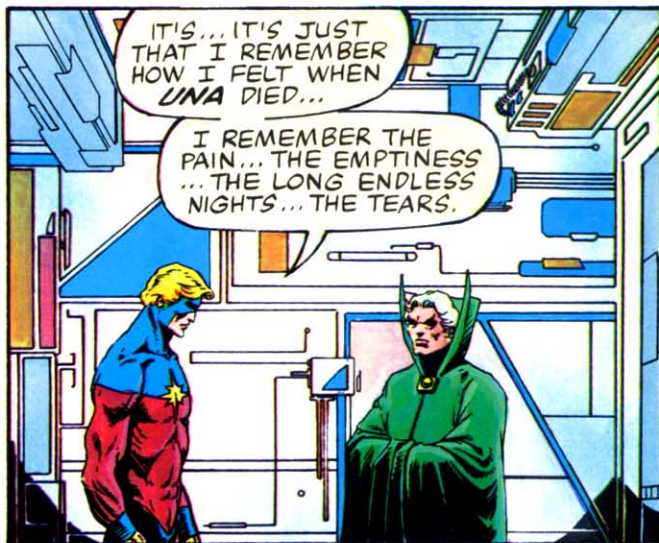
I FIGURE MY TIME HAS COME AT LAST. I NEVER EXPECTED IT TO BE LIKE THIS, BUT...

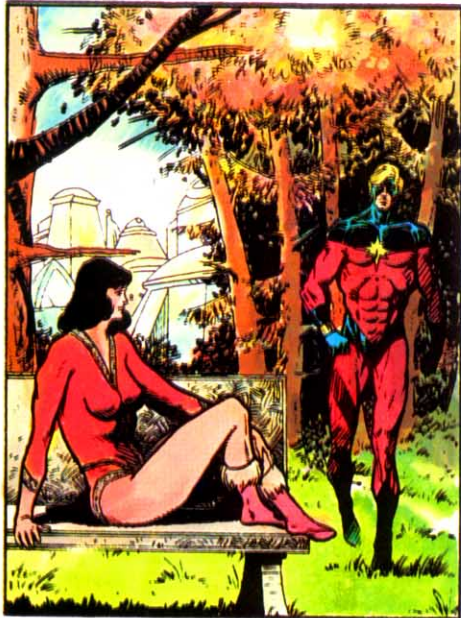


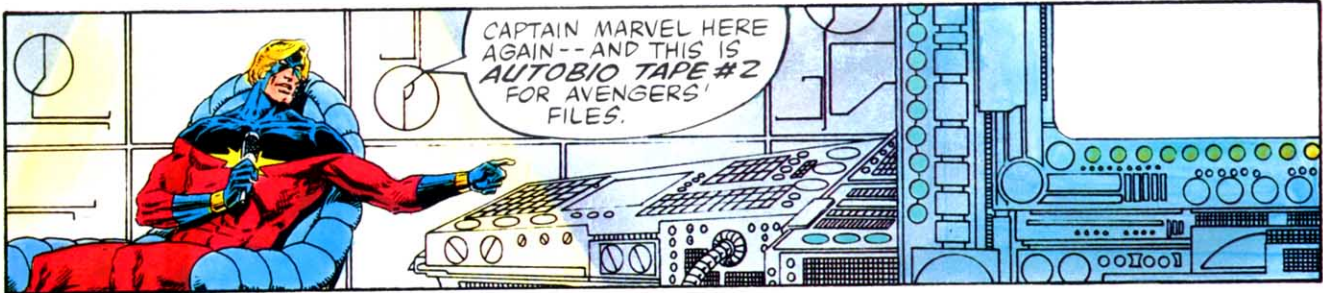
... I'M LEARNING TO... LIVE WITH IT.

DOES *ELYSIUS* KNOW?









CAPTAIN MARVEL HERE AGAIN-- AND THIS IS **AUTOBIO TAPE #2** FOR AVENGERS' FILES.

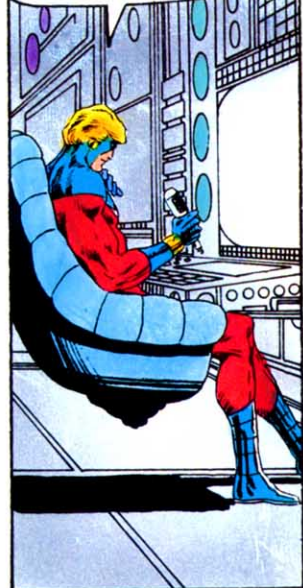
BY HALA, HOW DO YOU PUT YOUR ENTIRE LIFE INTO A FEW HOURS OF TAPE?

YOU CAN'T.



ALL YOU CAN DO IS TALK AND HOPE THAT WHAT YOU'RE SAYING WILL MEAN SOMETHING TO SOMEONE, SOMEWHERE, SOMEDAY.

NOW, WHERE WAS I...? YES... I HAD DESERTED THE KREE EMPIRE...



...BUT LESS THAN A YEAR LATER I WAS TRICKED INTO RETURNING TO KREELAR, CAPITAL OF THE KREE GALAXY.

THERE I STOOD, BEFORE THE EMPIRE'S ALL-POWERFUL MONARCH...



...THE SUPREME INTELLIGENCE.



BUT I DIDN'T STAND THERE FOR LONG.

THE FIEND TELEPORTED ME OFF TO A STRANGE DIMENSION CALLED THE NEGATIVE ZONE.



IT SEEMED I WAS DOOMED TO SPEND THE REST OF MY LIFE FLOATING IN THAT COSMIC WASTELAND...

...AND I WOULD HAVE, IF IT HADN'T BEEN FOR THE EARTH YOUTH NAMED RICK JONES.



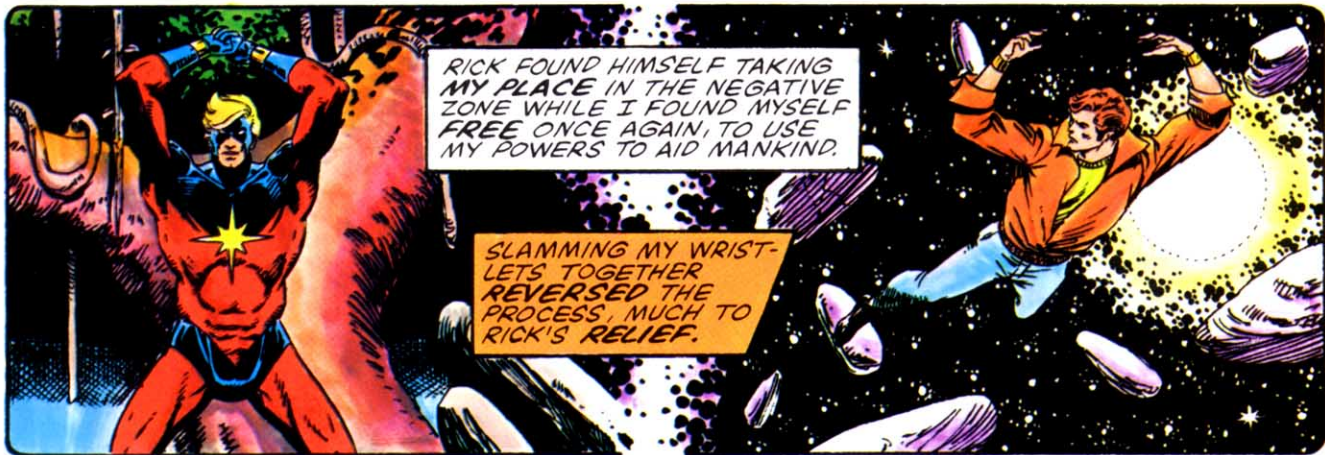
FOR RICK FOUND, WITHIN A SECRET CAVERN, THE ANCIENT NEGA-BANDS OF THE KREE.





WE FOUND THAT ONCE RICK PUT THE BANDS ON, HE AND I COULD COMMUNICATE ACROSS THAT VAST DIMENSIONAL GAP.

BUT EVEN BETTER THAN THAT WAS THE DISCOVERY THAT IF RICK SLAPPED THE WRISTLETS TOGETHER, AN EVEN STRANGER INTERCHANGE WAS POSSIBLE.



RICK FOUND HIMSELF TAKING MY PLACE IN THE NEGATIVE ZONE WHILE I FOUND MYSELF FREE ONCE AGAIN, TO USE MY POWERS TO AID MANKIND.

SLAMMING MY WRISTLETS TOGETHER REVERSED THE PROCESS, MUCH TO RICK'S RELIEF.

IT WAS DURING ONE OF MY EARLY LEAVES FROM THE NEGATIVE ZONE THAT I AT LAST CAUGHT UP WITH YON-ROGG AND MADE HIM PAY FOR UNA'S MURDER.



FINALLY, MY KREE PAST WAS COMPLETELY BEHIND ME. TRUE, MY NEW LIFE, SHARING TIME AND SPACE WITH AN EARTH TEENAGER, WAS A BIT HARD TO GET USED TO.



BUT OUR STRANGE RELATIONSHIP ALLOWED ME TO LEARN SO MANY THINGS ABOUT MY NEW HOME, EARTH, THAT I WOULD HAVE NEVER REALIZED ALONE.

RICK AND I BECAME CLOSE FRIENDS.

BUT RICK WASN'T THE ONLY EARTHLING I CAME TO KNOW. THERE WERE ALSO THE AVENGERS.

I USUALLY WORKED ALONE, BUT OCCASIONALLY, I FOUND MYSELF FIGHTING BY THEIR SIDE-- AND I'M GLAD I DID.



THEY PROVED TO BE GOOD COMRADES AND THE STARS ONLY KNOW HOW MANY TIMES WE NEEDED EACH OTHERS' HELP.

IT'S A DARK UNIVERSE OUT THERE WITH MANY A DANGER AND NEARLY AS MANY ENEMIES.





SOME LATER
BECAME FRIENDS,
BUT TOO FEW...

I'M AFRAID I'M GOING TO LEAVE BEHIND
ME MORE ENEMIES THAN ANY MAN
SHOULD HAVE HAD IN ONE LIFETIME.

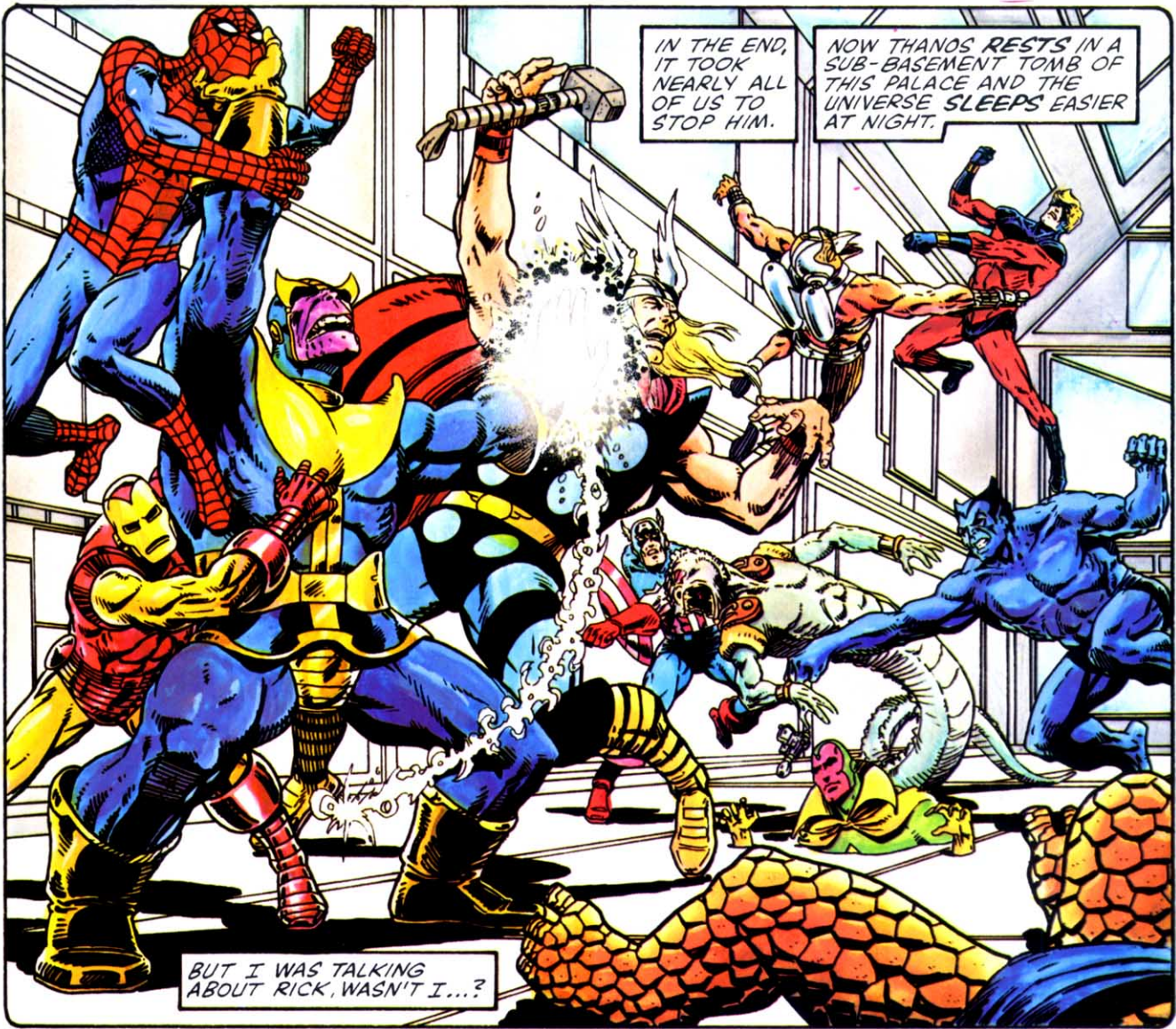
BUT THE ONE FOE I'M GLAD I STOOD
AGAINST ALSO PROVED TO BE THE MOST
FORMIDABLE... THE
MAD WARLORD
OF TITAN,
THANOS.

HE BEGAN WITH AN INTERGALACTIC ARMY OF THRALLS. THEN THERE WAS THAT MASSIVE MIND CONTROL EXPERIMENT AND THE COSMIC CUBE AND SO MANY OTHER SCHEMES AND PLANS.

THAT THWARTED HIS INSANE... TO BECOME ENMESHED IN... R. ANOTHER.

HE BEGAN WITH AN INTERGALACTIC ARMY OF THRALLS, THEN THERE WAS THAT MASSIVE MIND CONTROL EXPERIMENT AND THE COSMIC CUBE AND SO MANY OTHER SCHEMES AND PLANS.

IT WAS USUALLY ADAM WARLOCK OR MYSELF THAT THWARTED HIS INSANE PLOTS. BUT NEARLY EVERY EARTH SUPER HERO BECAME ENMESHED IN HIS NETWORK OF SCHEMES AT ONE TIME OR ANOTHER.



IN THE END, IT TOOK NEARLY ALL OF US TO STOP HIM.

NOW THANOS RESTS IN A SUB-BASEMENT TOMB OF THIS PALACE AND THE UNIVERSE SLEEPS EASIER AT NIGHT.

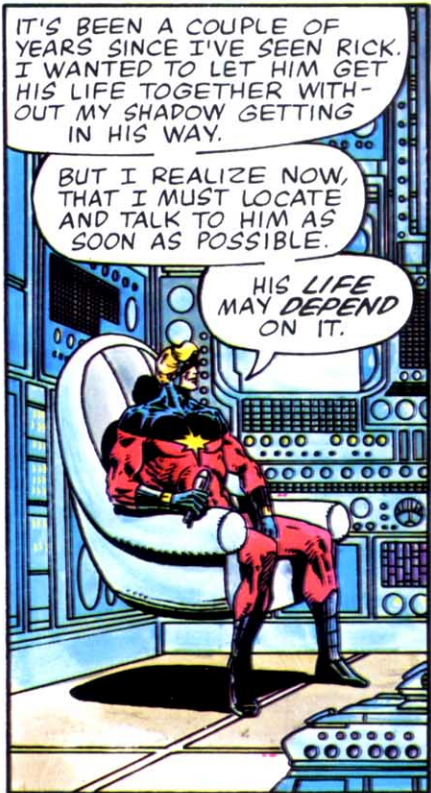
BUT I WAS TALKING ABOUT RICK, WASN'T I...?



SHORTLY AFTER THE THANOS AFFAIR, I WAS ABLE TO ESCAPE FROM THE NEGATIVE ZONE.



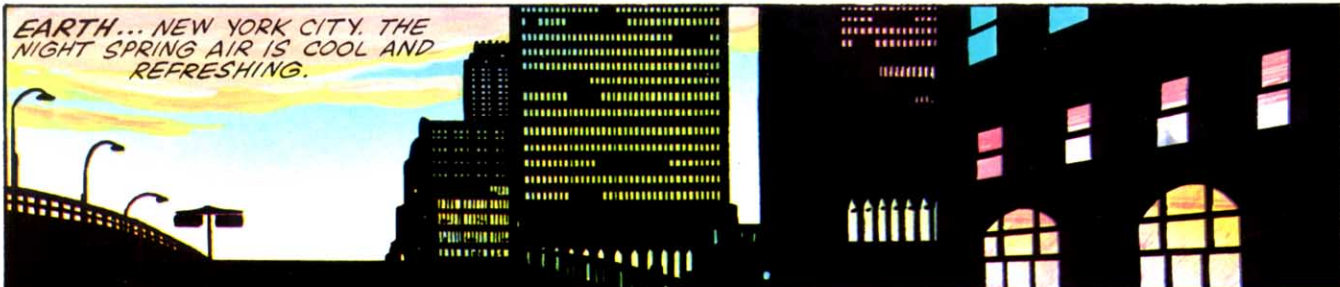
WE WENT OUR SEPARATE WAYS THEN. RICK LEFT TO PURSUE HIS MUSIC CAREER AND I RETURNED TO THE ONLY LIFE I'VE EVER KNOWN, THAT OF THE WARRIOR.



IT'S BEEN A COUPLE OF YEARS SINCE I'VE SEEN RICK. I WANTED TO LET HIM GET HIS LIFE TOGETHER WITHOUT MY SHADOW GETTING IN HIS WAY.

BUT I REALIZE NOW, THAT I MUST LOCATE AND TALK TO HIM AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

HIS LIFE MAY DEPEND ON IT.



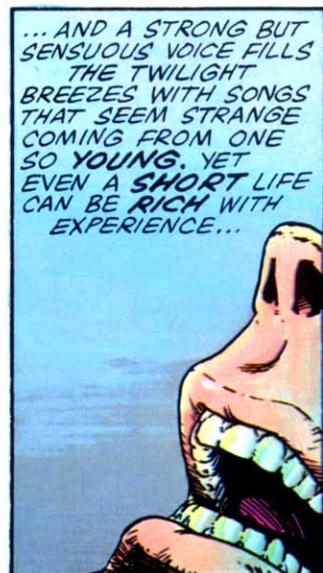
EARTH... NEW YORK CITY. THE NIGHT SPRING AIR IS COOL AND REFRESHING.



JUST RIGHT FOR SITTING ON A 44TH STREET TENEMENT ROOF.



THE GUITAR'S GENTLE RHYTHMS WEAVE SAD PATTERNS...

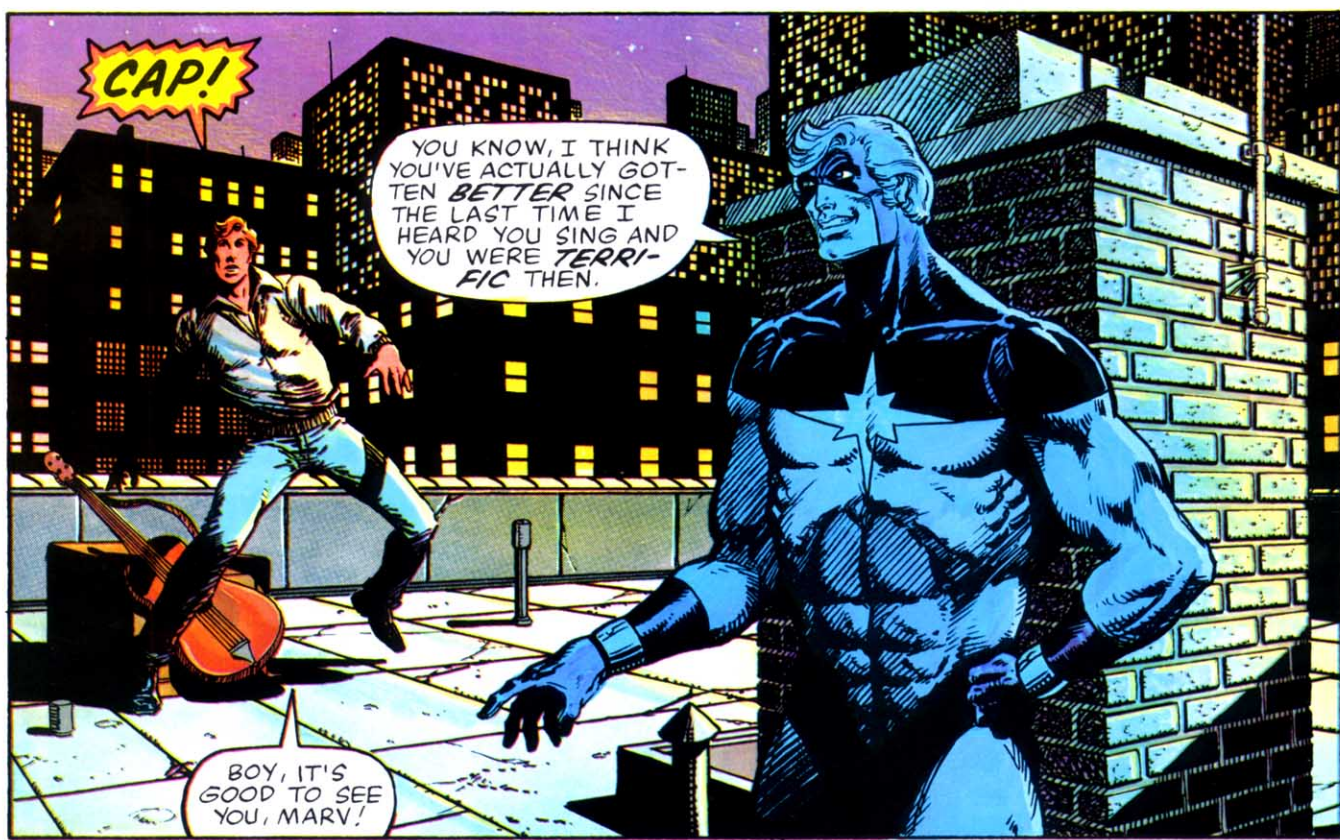


... AND A STRONG BUT SENSUOUS VOICE FILLS THE TWILIGHT BREEZES WITH SONGS THAT SEEM STRANGE COMING FROM ONE SO YOUNG. YET EVEN A SHORT LIFE CAN BE RICH WITH EXPERIENCE...



ESPECIALLY IF THAT LIFE BELONGS TO...

RICK JONES.
WHO?



CAP!

YOU KNOW, I THINK YOU'VE ACTUALLY GOTTEN BETTER SINCE THE LAST TIME I HEARD YOU SING AND YOU WERE TERRIFIC THEN.

BOY, IT'S GOOD TO SEE YOU, MARV!



HOW YOU DOING?

NOT SO WELL, RICK.
IN FACT, THAT'S WHAT I'VE COME TO SEE YOU ABOUT.

I WANT YOU TO HEAD OVER TO AVENGERS' MANSION TOMORROW MORNING. I'VE ARRANGED FOR A DR. BLAKE TO GIVE YOU A COMPLETE PHYSICAL CHECK-UP.

CHECK-UP?



DON'T TELL ME YOU'VE COME ALL THE WAY FROM TITAN JUST TO MAKE SURE I'M TAKING CARE OF MY HEALTH?

WHAT'S GOING ON HERE, MARV?



REMEMBER BACK WHEN WE WERE SHARING BODIES AND WE HAD A RUN-IN WITH THAT LUNATIC LEGIONNAIRE, NITRO?

SURE.



I ALSO REMEMBER THAT LEAKING CANISTER OF NERVE GAS. THAT WAS REALLY A CLOSE SHAVE.

CLOSER THAN YOU THINK, RICK.

YOU'LL RECALL I WAS EXPOSED TO THAT GAS, OVER THE YEARS, THAT GAS HAS AFFECTED ME.



AFFECTED YOU...? HOW?

I'VE GOT CANCER, RICK, AND IT'S INOPERABLE.

I'VE LESS THAN FOUR MONTHS TO LIVE.



CANCER... IT CAN'T BE...

BUT IT IS. THAT'S WHY I WANT YOU TO GET THIS CHECK UP.

I DON'T THINK OUR SYMBIOTIC RELATIONSHIP WOULD ALLOW THIS DISEASE TO BE PASSED ON TO YOU, BUT WE SHOULDN'T TAKE ANY CHANCES.



IS THIS SOME KIND OF JOKE?

I WISH IT WERE...

BUT WHAT ABOUT YOU? YOU'RE GETTING SOME KIND OF TREATMENT, AREN'T YOU?

YES, MENTOR HAS BEGUN GIVING ME RADIATION TREATMENTS...



...AND IF THOSE FAIL, HE'S DEVISED A FORM OF **CHEMOTHERAPY** FOR ME TO TRY.

BUT THE TROUBLE IS... I'M A **KREE**.



MY **BIOLOGICAL SYSTEM** IS DIFFERENT THAN SOMEONE FROM **TITAN** OR **EARTH**.

BECAUSE OF THIS, IS AC ONLY GIVES ME A .09 PERCENT CHANCE FOR RECOVERY WITHOUT HELP FROM **KREE** MEDICAL SCIENTISTS...



...AND THE **KREE EMPIRE** IS **NOT** ABOUT TO HELP SAVE THE LIFE OF ONE THEY CONSIDER A **TRAITOR**.

I'M AFRAID IT DOESN'T LOOK TOO GOOD FOR ME.



SO YOU'RE JUST GOING TO **GIVE UP** AND **DIE**?

RICK! DON'T GIVE ME THIS **'NO HOPE' CRAP!**

YOU FORGET I'VE SEEN YOU IN ACTION.



YOU'VE BEEN IN TIGHT SCRAPES BEFORE, FACED IMPOSSIBLE ODDS, BUT YOU'VE ALWAYS COME OUT ON TOP.

WITH YOUR **PHOTONIC POWERS** AND **COSMIC SENSES** YOU CAN BEAT ANYTHING.



YOU'RE A **KREE WARRIOR**, TRAINED TO FIGHT DEATH, NOT LAY DOWN AND **SURRENDER** TO IT.



I'M AFRAID ALL MY POWERS ARE **USELESS** IN THIS SITUATION, RICK.



I CAN'T PUNCH, KICK OR FLY AWAY TO ESCAPE THIS CANCER. IT JUST DOESN'T WORK THAT WAY.

IT'S MY **BODY** THAT'S BETRAYED ME. IT'S MY **OWN BIOLOGY** WHICH IS KILLING ME.



THERE'S **NOTHING** MY POWERS CAN DO TO SAVE ME.

ALL THEY CAN DO IS HELP ME TO **ACCEPT** MY FATE.

ACCEPT...



WELL MAYBE YOU'RE PREPARED TO ACCEPT IT, BUT I'M **NOT!**



THE TRIP BACK TO TITAN IS A LONG AND LONELY JOURNEY, THE HARSH WORDS OF YOUTH CUT DEEP AND ECHO LONG AFTER THEIR SAYING.







HALF A SOLAR SYSTEM AWAY... EARTH.



ONCE AGAIN NEW YORK CITY, ONLY THIS TIME THE SETTING IS AN IMPRESSIVE MANHATTAN MANSION OWNED BY TONY STARK.

BUT MOST PEOPLE DON'T THINK OF IT AS BEING THE PROPERTY OF THE WEALTHY INDUSTRIALIST. NO, TO THEM IT'S SIMPLY KNOWN AS AVENGERS' MANSION.

...THAT'S WHY I ASKED YOU PARTICULAR AVENGERS HERE, YOU SEVEN... YELLOWJACKET, THE BLACK PANTHER, VISION, WONDER MAN, BEAST, IRON MAN, AND THOR, ALL HAVE SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC OR MEDICAL KNOWLEDGE.

I FIGURE IF ANYONE CAN SAVE CAPTAIN MARVEL'S LIFE, YOU CAN.



WITH YOUR POWERS AND BRAINS YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO FIND A CURE FOR CANCER IN NO TIME AT ALL.

NOW HOLD ON A MINUTE, RICK.

I DON'T THINK YOU UNDERSTAND THE COMPLEXITIES OF CANCER RESEARCH. THIS IS A PROBLEM HUNDREDS OF RESEARCH SCIENTISTS HAVE BEEN WORKING ON FOR DECADES.



IT'S TRUE WE'RE GOOD AT WHAT WE DO, BUT CANCER RESEARCH IS SOMETHING COMPLETELY NEW TO US.



WHAT I THINK THE BEAST IS TRYING TO SAY IS: 'DON'T EXPECT ANY MIRACLES,' AFTER ALL WE'RE ONLY HUMAN...

...WELL AT LEAST MOST OF US ARE.



OH... I SEE... I GET IT...



IN OTHER WORDS YOU'D LIKE TO HELP...

...BUT IT'S NOT GOOD BUSINESS TAKING ON ANYTHING IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE YOU CAN LICK...

...BAD FOR THE OLD REPUTATION.

RICK! WAIT! YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND!



A DOOR SLAMS AND A ROOM FULL OF THE WORLD'S MOST POWERFUL BEINGS FALLS SILENT. BUT IT ISN'T THE IRRATIONAL OUTBURST OF A YOUTH IN PAIN THAT SO HUMBLER THEM.

FOR IF RICK JONES HAD REMAINED, HE WOULD HAVE LEARNED THAT **ALL** WITHIN THAT ROOM HAD **ALREADY** ARRANGED TO GO TO TITAN TO WORK WITH **MENTOR** IN FINDING A CURE FOR MARVEL'S MALADY.

NO, THAT WHICH HAS SO SUBDUED THEM IS A COMMON QUESTION THEY EACH ASK THEMSELVES.

WHY? WHY HAVEN'T WE USED OUR GENIUS, ABILITIES, AND POWERS TO STAMP OUT THIS DREADED KILLER BEFORE THIS?

EACH HAS HIS OWN ANSWER. EACH FINDS HIS OWN ANSWER **UN-SATISFACTORY**.

THE DAYS TURN INTO WEEKS AND THE WORD SPREADS THROUGHOUT THE GALAXY... A HERO IS DYING. ONCE AGAIN THE DARKNESS CLAIMS THE LIGHT. THE UNIVERSE IS SOON TO BE A LITTLE EMPTIER.

THE NEWS IS RECEIVED WITH MIXED FEELINGS.

SHOCK AND DISMAY...

JOYOUS TRIUMPH...

RESTRAINED PASSIVITY...

SOME REMEMBER HIM AS A FRIEND--

--TO OTHERS HE WAS A COMRADE.

STILL TO OTHERS, HE MEANT EVEN MORE.

BUT **ALL** FEEL THE LOSS...

...FOR HE IS CAPTAIN MARVEL.

ISAAC HAS BEEN RECEIVING DATA TRANSMISSIONS FROM ALL OVER THE GALAXY. MANY WORLDS HAVE FOUND A WAY TO **BEAT** THIS KILLER, **CANCER**.

BUT ISAAC HAS BEEN EXAMINING AND TESTING EACH CURE AS IT COMES IN AND HAS FOUND **NONE** OF THEM CAN HELP **MY** PARTICULAR CASE, RIGHT?

YES, BUT EVERY BIT OF DATA WE GET IS ANOTHER **STEP** TOWARD FINDING A WAY TO HELP **YOU**.

WITHOUT THE AID OF THESE TRANSMISSIONS ISAAC WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN ABLE TO DESIGN THAT **LIFE SUPPORT TUNIC** YOU'VE GOT ON.

THE **MEDI-SYSTEM** BUILT INTO THAT TUNIC HAS REDUCED THE DEGENERATION PROCESS BY SOME **20%**.

YES I KNOW...

I'M AFRAID I'VE LOST TOO MUCH WEIGHT TO LOOK ANYTHING BUT **SILLY** IN IT.

THINK I'LL WANDER DOWN TO THE **COM-CENTER**.

...PLUS IT'S GIVEN ME AN EXCUSE TO GET OUT OF MY OLD RED AND BLUE LEOTARD.

I'VE SOME TAPES TO RECORD.

EROS!

I'M GLAD I RAN INTO YOU. I'VE BEEN WANTING TO ASK SOMETHING OF YOU.

SOMEONE I CAN **DEPEND** ON.

I'VE KNOWN FOR A LONG TIME HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT **ELYSIUS**.

MAR-VELL... I... I NEVER...

I KNOW, EROS, AND IT'S NOT IMPORTANT NOW. CHANCES ARE THAT IN A SHORT TIME I'LL BE GONE... **DEAD**...

SURE, WHAT DO YOU NEED?



IT WAS ONLY A
MATTER OF TIME
BEFORE OUR LOVE
SURFACED.



WE TOURED EARTH TOGETHER.
IT WAS A **HONEYMOON** OF
SORTS. I LOVED HER MORE
WITH EVERY PASSING DAY. I
NEVER KNEW SUCH HAPPINESS.

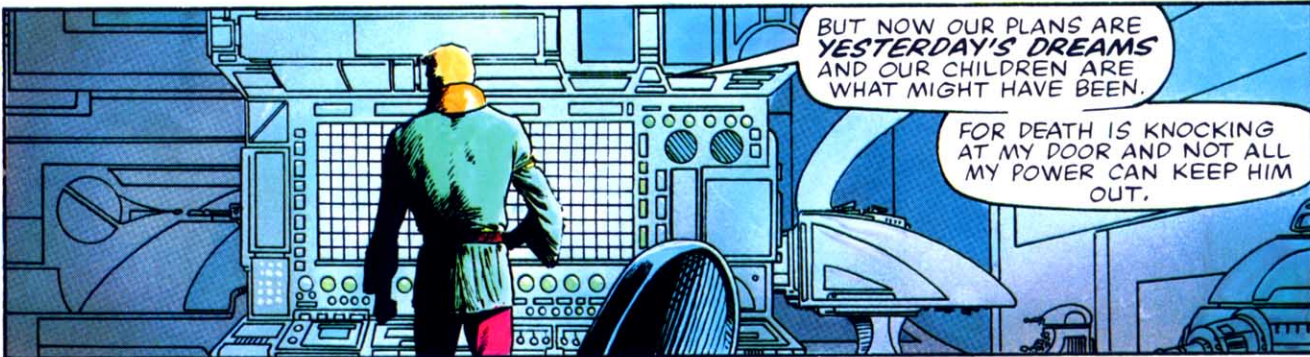


WE FINALLY DECIDED TO
SETTLE DOWN HERE ON
TITAN. WE MADE **PLANS**
AND TALKED OF HAVING
CHILDREN.



BUT NOW OUR PLANS ARE
YESTERDAY'S DREAMS
AND OUR CHILDREN ARE
WHAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN.

FOR DEATH IS KNOCKING
AT MY DOOR AND NOT ALL
MY POWER CAN KEEP HIM
OUT.



IT WOULD
HAVE BEEN A
GOOD LIFE,
ELYSIUS.

I'M SORRY.



I WISH...

ARH!

PAIN...



OVERWHELMING
PAIN...

IT BURNS... IT
TEARS... IT TWISTS
AND BENDS... IT
KILLS.



IT KILLS SLOWLY...
A LITTLE PIECE
AT A TIME... AND
THEN IT FADES.



YES, THE PAIN
COMES AND IT
GOES...





DAMN!

...BUT THE
ANGER
ALWAYS
REMAINS.

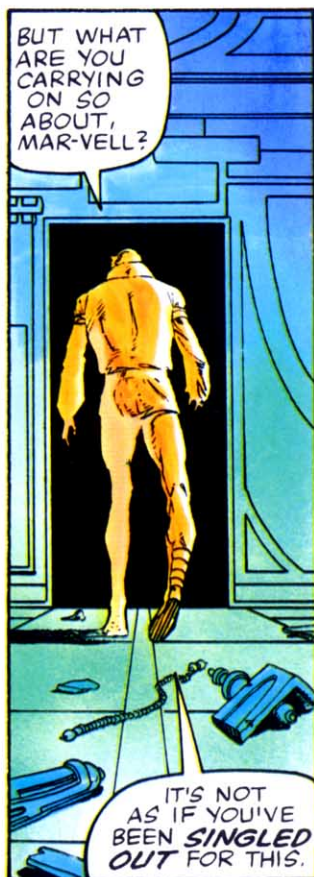
ALIEN INVADERS,
SUPER-VILLAINS,
MONSTERS,
MUTANTS, THEY
ALL TRIED,
BUT **NONE** OF
THEM COULD
KILL ME.

I
FOUGHT
THEM ALL
AND I
WON!

**I
SURVIVED!**

WHO WOULD
HAVE THOUGHT
THAT, IN THE
END...

...IT'D BE MY
OWN BODY
THAT WOULD
TURN ON ME
AND DO ME
IN.



BUT WHAT
ARE YOU
CARRYING
ON SO
ABOUT,
MAR-VELL?

IT'S NOT
AS IF YOU'VE
BEEN **SINGLED**
OUT FOR THIS.



EVERYONE HAS TO
DIE SOMEDAY.

OR DID
YOU THINK
YOU WERE
UNIQUE?

YES,
I GUESS
THAT'S
WHAT
IT'S ALL
ABOUT.



I JUST NEVER
FIGURED IT
WOULD HAPPEN
TO **ME**.

DEEP DOWN INSIDE ME
I FELT THAT THOSE
SPECIAL THINGS
THAT MAKE ME WHO
I AM WOULD JUST
LIVE **FOREVER**.



IT'S HARD TO
ACCEPT THAT
THE WORLD IS
GOING TO GO
ON **WITHOUT**
ME.

DAMN.



IT JUST CAN'T END LIKE THIS, NOT FOR *HIM*.

I WON'T LET IT!



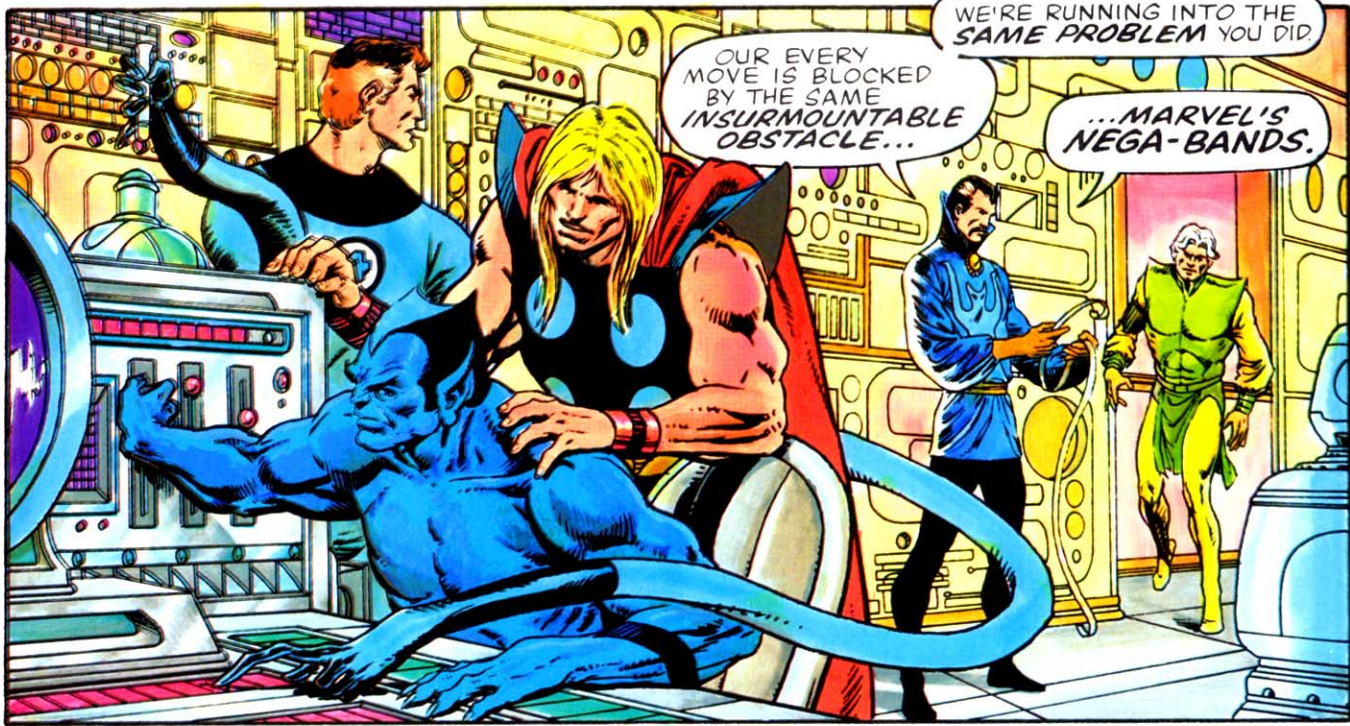
I... WE ON TITAN... EVERYONE IN THE UNIVERSE, WE ALL OWE HIM SO MUCH... WE OWE HIM OUR VERY LIVES A DOZEN TIMES OVER.



I MUST REPAY THAT DEBT TO HIM... AT LEAST *ONCE*.

HOW'S IT GOING IN HERE?

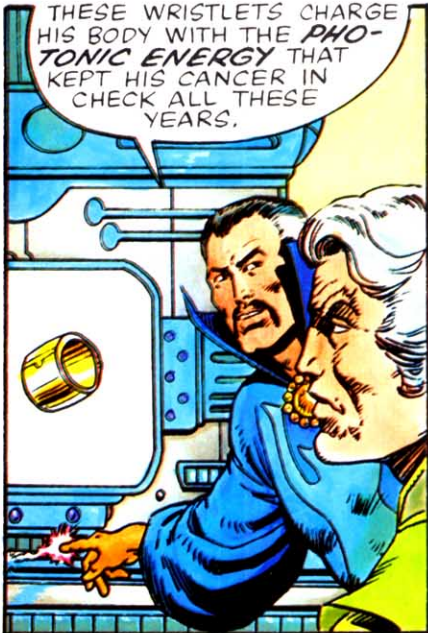
NOT WELL, I FEAR.



OUR EVERY MOVE IS BLOCKED BY THE SAME INSURMOUNTABLE OBSTACLE...

WE'RE RUNNING INTO THE SAME PROBLEM YOU DID.

...MARVEL'S NEGA-BANDS.



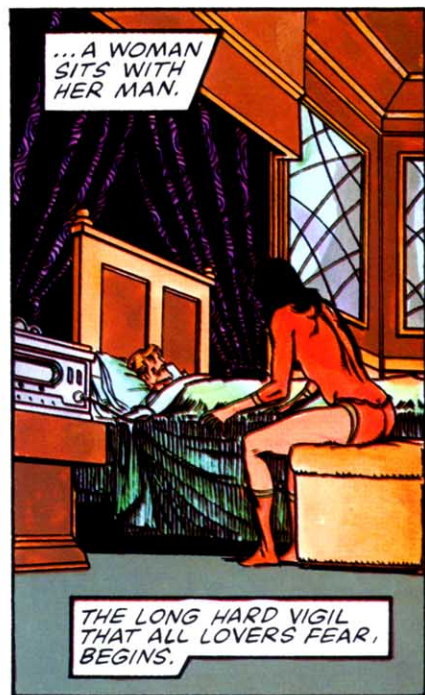
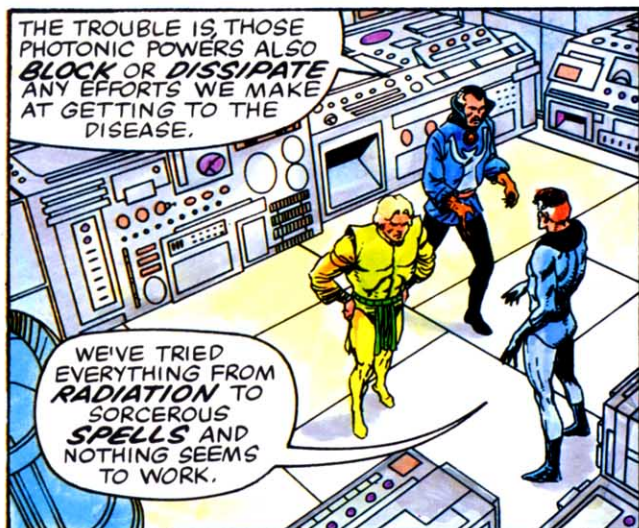
THESE WRISTLETS CHARGE HIS BODY WITH THE *PHOTONIC ENERGY* THAT KEPT HIS CANCER IN CHECK ALL THESE YEARS.



BUT DURING THAT TIME HIS DISEASE HAS *MUTATED* GAINED AN *IMMUNITY* TO THOSE PHOTONIC ENERGIES.



AS THE CANCER SPREAD, THE CAPTAIN'S BODY CAME TO *DEPEND* MORE AND MORE ON THE *NEGA-BANDS'* POWER TO SUSTAIN LIFE. NOW IT'S GOTTEN TO THE POINT WHERE I DOUBT MARVEL COULD LIVE MORE THAN A *FEW HOURS* WITHOUT THOSE WRISTLETS.



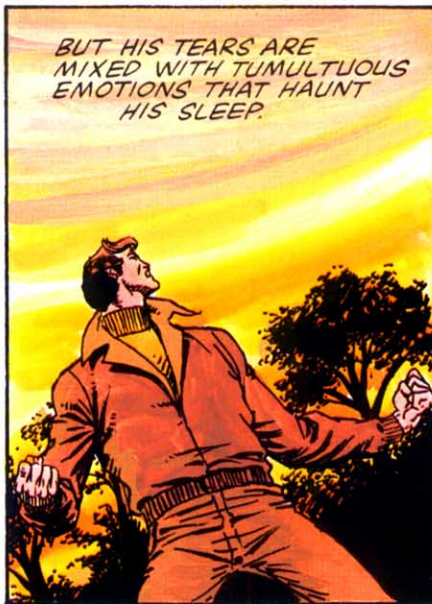
SHE WEEPS.



HE JOINS HER.



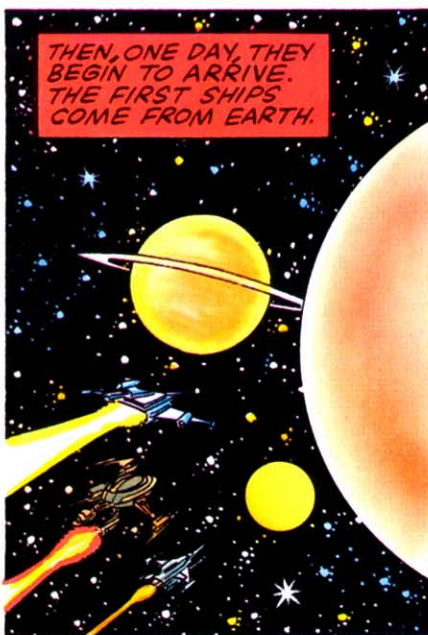
BUT HIS TEARS ARE
MIXED WITH TUMULTUOUS
EMOTIONS THAT HAUNT
HIS SLEEP.



TITAN, A MOON OF
SATURN, DRIFTS
THROUGH SPACE
AND WEEKS OF
TIME... WAITING.



THEN, ONE DAY, THEY
BEGIN TO ARRIVE.
THE FIRST SHIPS
COME FROM EARTH.



BUT THEY ARE SOON JOINED BY
MORE ADVANCED AND EXOTIC
ETHER-CUTTERS FROM OUTSIDE
OUR SOLAR SYSTEM.

ALL CRAFTS ARE
IMMEDIATELY
IDENTIFIED AND
CLEARED FOR
LANDING EXCEPT
ONE.

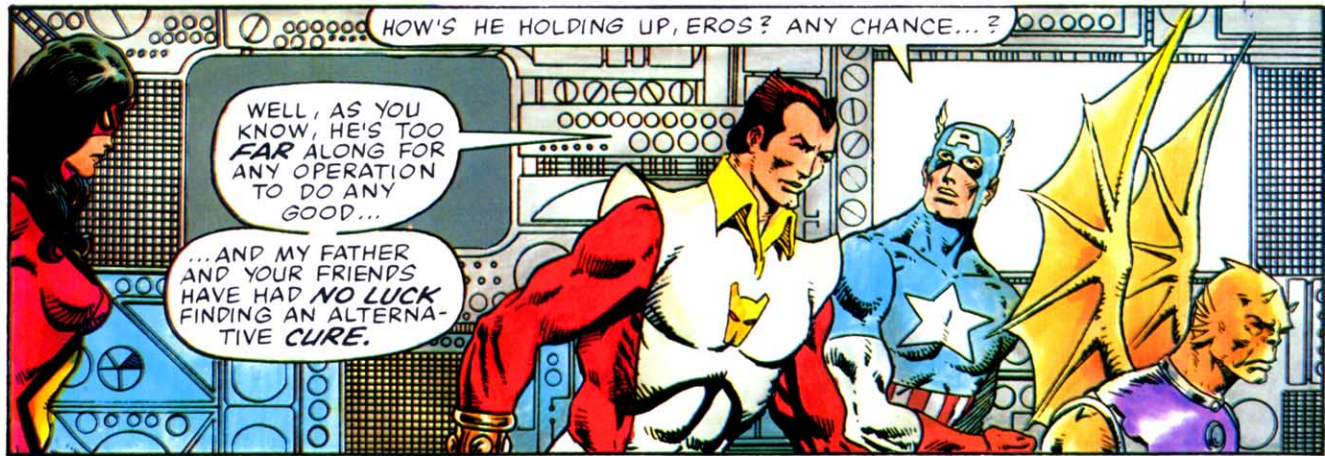


BUT FINALLY, EVEN *THAT* SHIP
IS GRANTED CLEARANCE, ONCE
CERTAIN GUARANTEES OF
PROPER CONDUCT ARE
ASSURED BY A PASSENGER ON
BOARD.



THEY ARE THE FAMILY OF SUPER-MAN. THEIRS IS THE TASK OF PROTECTING A UNIVERSE THEY CALL HOME. MANY HAVE FOUGHT BESIDE MAR-YELL, A FEW HAVE FOUGHT AGAINST HIM, BUT NOW, ALL THINK OF HIM AS A BROTHER, A BROTHER WHO IS DYING. THEY'VE COME TO TITAN TO SAY GOODBYE TO ONE OF THEIR OWN.





HOW'S HE HOLDING UP, EROS? ANY CHANCE...?

WELL, AS YOU KNOW, HE'S TOO **FAR** ALONG FOR ANY OPERATION TO DO ANY GOOD...

...AND MY FATHER AND YOUR FRIENDS HAVE HAD **NO LUCK** FINDING AN ALTERNATIVE **CURE**.

SO I'M AFRAID IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF TIME.



BUT I'M SURE HE'LL BE GLAD TO SEE YOU ALL, I THINK HE MISSES EARTH.



NOT HALF AS MUCH AS **EARTH** IS GOING TO MISS **HIM**.



I'LL GO CHECK ON HIM. **ELYSIUS** IS WITH HIM NOW.



...SO AFTER THAT, I JUST DRIFTED AROUND UNTIL I CAME TO TITAN.

YOU KNOW THAT'S THE MOST **FRUSTRATING** PART OF THIS WHOLE BUSINESS OF DEATH.



THERE'S SO MUCH I DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOU AND SO **LITTLE TIME** LEFT ME TO FIND IT ALL OUT.

YES... MUCH TOO SHORT A TIME.



BUT THE TIME WE'VE HAD HAS BEEN GOOD.

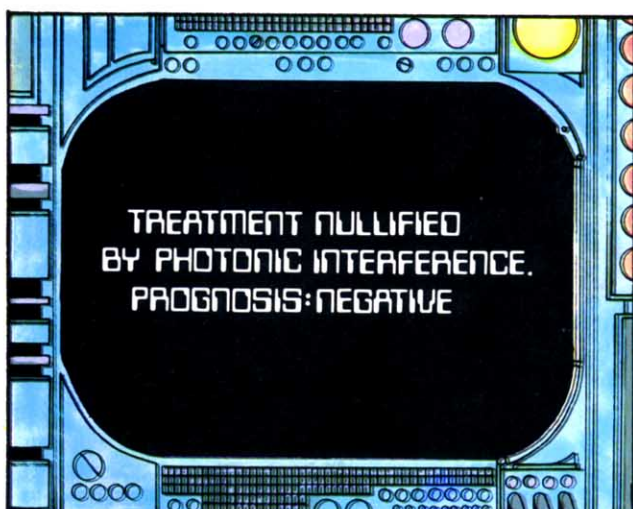
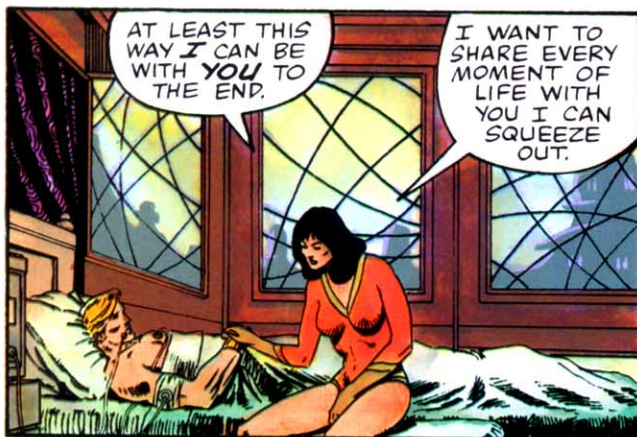
I'VE NEVER LOVED ANYONE AS I HAVE YOU.



I FEEL THE SAME, BUT I NEVER DREAMT IT WOULD END LIKE THIS FOR US.

BUT PERHAPS THIS WAY IS BEST.







ANOTHER FAILURE...

EVERY AVENUE WE EXPLORE ON ISAAC'S **MEDI-SIMULATOR** IS BLOCKED BY THAT BLASTED **PHOTONIC ENERGY**.

THERE MUST BE SOME WAY TO GET AROUND IT.

YES, BUT **HOW?**

PERHAPS A **COMBINATION** OF TREATMENTS?

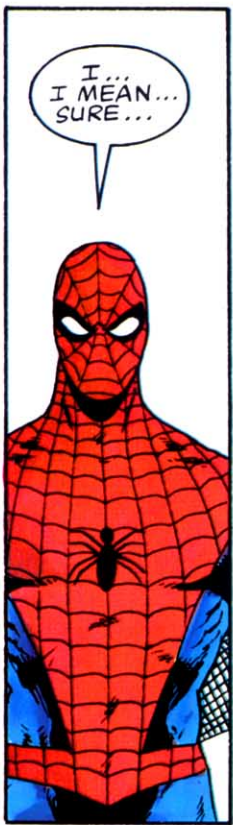
MEANWHILE...

...AND THEN JUST WHEN I THOUGHT I'M ABOUT TO LAY HIM OUT FOR THE COUNT, MARVEL YANKS THIS **POWER CABLE** OFF THE WALL AND **ZAPS** ME.



I TELL YOU, ELYSIUS, THIS IS ONE **TOUGH COOKIE** YOU GOT.

AIN'T THAT RIGHT, SPIDEY?



I... I MEAN... SURE...



PLEASE... EXCUSE ME...



SPIDEY!
WHAT THE...

BEN, LET HIM GO.



DEATH TOUCHES US ALL IN **DIFFERENT WAYS**.

SOME BARELY FEEL ITS PASSING.

OTHERS, IT STRIKES RIGHT IN THE **FACE**.

STILL OTHERS FEEL
ITS SHARP BLADE IN
THEIR **HEARTS**.

SPIDEY, ARE
YOU ALL RIGHT?



YEAH SURE... JUST
A LITTLE SHAKEN.

IT'S ALL JUST
A BIT TOO
MUCH.



I MEAN, THIS JUST **CAN'T**
BE HAPPENING.

CAPTAIN MARVEL
IS ONE OF US.
HE'S A FULL-
BLOWN, CARD
CARRYING
**SUPER
HERO**.

WE
DIE FROM
**BULLETS
AND
BOMBS...**



... NOT FROM SOMETHING
LIKE **CANCER**. IT JUST
CAN'T BE.

I'M
AFRAID
IT IS.



IN CASE YOU HADN'T NOTICED,
BENEATH MOST OF THESE
FANCY COSTUMES AND FLASHY
POWERS HIDE MORTAL **MEN**
AND **WOMEN**.



NONE OF US HAVE MUCH OF
A SAY ON HOW WE'RE GOING
TO END THIS LIFE.

I
GUESS
NOT...



BUT DON'T FEEL ALONE
IN YOUR FEELINGS, SPIDEY.
WE'RE ALL HAVING A HARD
TIME ACCEPTING THIS...

... ESPECIALLY
HIM!



RICK
JONES!

HI, GANG! QUITE
A LINE-UP TO SEE
MARV.



DO I GRAB A NUMBER
OR SOMETHING?

NO, YOU JUST
WALK RIGHT IN.
HE'S BEEN
WAITING FOR
YOU.



RICK! YOU CAME...

'COURSE I CAME.
WE'RE **PARTNERS**
AREN'T WE?

THIS IS
WHERE I
BELONG.



BUT I TELL
YOU, IT WASN'T
EASY.



DID YOU EVER
TRY **HITCH-
HIKING** FROM
EARTH TO
TITAN?

LUCKILY, I
GOT A LIFT
FROM **CAP**
AND **HERC**.



WHAT I'M...
TRYING TO...
SAY... IS...

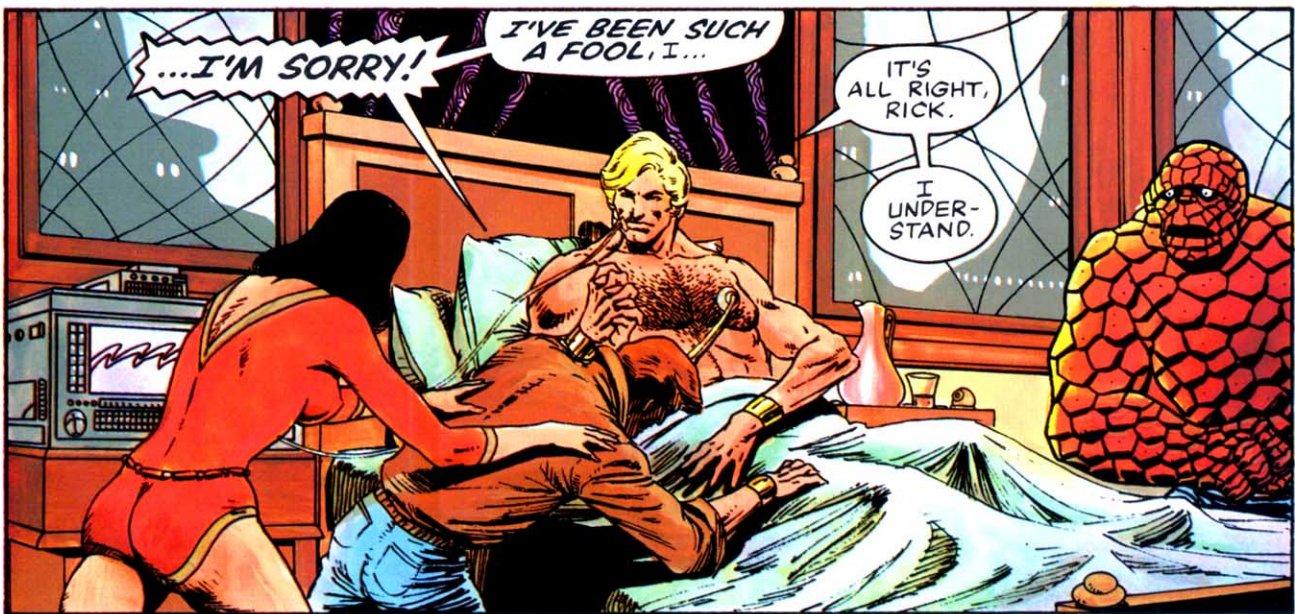


...I'M SORRY!

I'VE BEEN SUCH
A FOOL, I...

IT'S
ALL RIGHT,
RICK.

I
UNDER-
STAND.



BUT YOU'RE HERE
NOW. THAT'S ALL
THAT MATTERS.



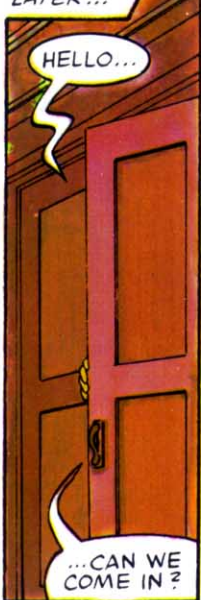
WE'RE TOGETHER
AGAIN. JUST LIKE
THE OLD DAYS.

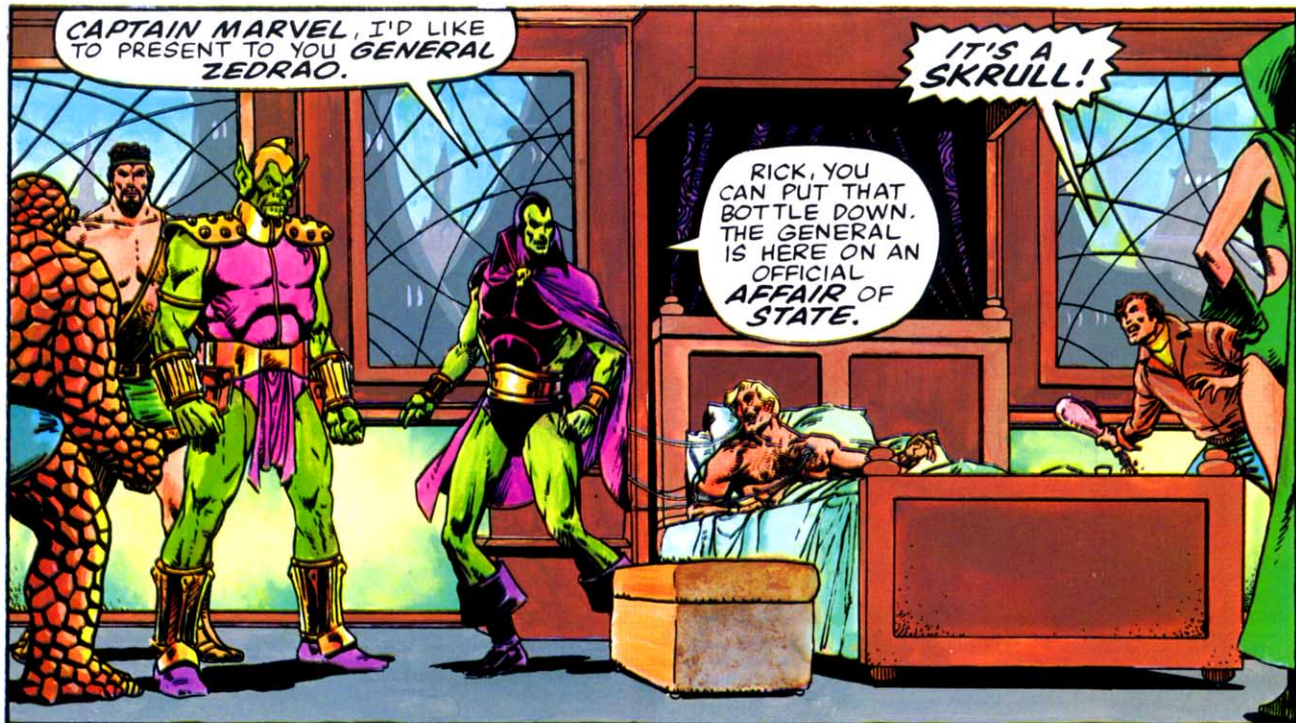


THEY'RE GOING TO
WANT TO BE ALONE
FOR AWHILE.



SOMETIME
LATER...





CAPTAIN MARVEL, I'D LIKE TO PRESENT TO YOU **GENERAL ZEDRAO**.

IT'S A **SKRULL!**

RICK, YOU CAN PUT THAT BOTTLE DOWN. THE GENERAL IS HERE ON AN **OFFICIAL AFFAIR OF STATE**.



HE HAS **ASSURED** ME THAT HIS MISSION IS **PEACEFUL** AND MY PRESENCE **GUARANTEES** IT.



CAPTAIN MARVEL, I GREET YOU IN THE NAME OF THE **IMPERIAL SKRULL EMPIRE**.



I AM HERE **NOT** BECAUSE YOU ARE OUR **ENEMY** BUT BECAUSE YOU HAVE ALWAYS BEEN OUR **GREATEST ENEMY**.

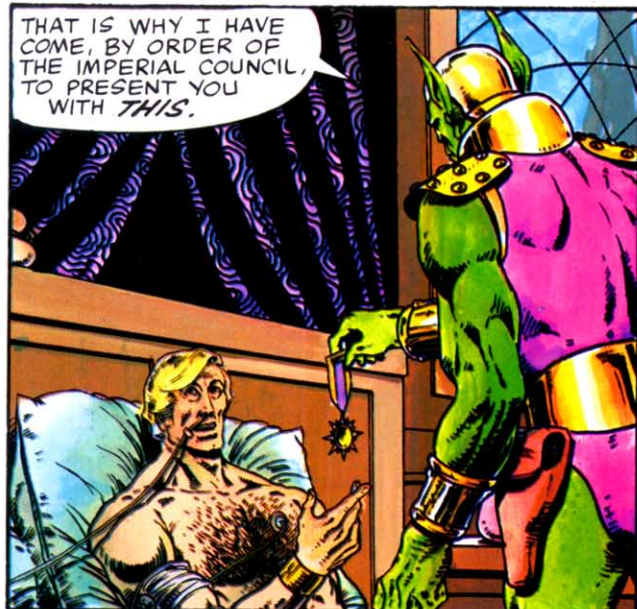


NO BEING IN THE ENTIRE GALAXY HAS EVER FACED OUR ARMED MIGHT SO **BRAVELY** OR THWARTED OUR PLANS AS MANY TIMES AS YOU HAVE.

YOU ARE QUITE POSSIBLY THE **GREATEST WARRIOR** WHO EVER WALKED THE STARS.



WE SKRULLS ARE A **MARTIAL RACE** AND HAVE LONG RESPECTED YOUR SKILLS, DEEDS, AND COURAGE EVEN THOUGH YOU ARE OUR FOE.



THAT IS WHY I HAVE COME, BY ORDER OF THE IMPERIAL COUNCIL, TO PRESENT YOU WITH *THIS*.



IT'S...THE ROYAL SKRULL MEDAL OF VALOR...



I SALUTE YOU, CAPTAIN!

MAY YOUR PASSING BE *SWIFT* AND YOUR AFTERLIFE REWARD *GREAT*.



HOW DO YOU LIKE THAT...

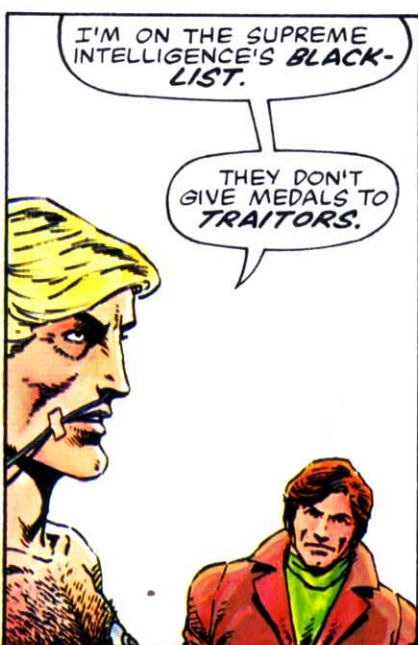


...THE *SKRULLS*, YOUR WORST ENEMIES, GIVE YOU A MEDAL. BUT WHAT DO YOUR OWN PEOPLE DO TO HONOR YOU?



ZIP! NOTHING! I'VE LOST TRACK OF HOW MANY TIMES YOU GOT THEIR FAT OUT OF THE FIRE!

BUT IN THE END I *TURNED* ON THE KREE EMPIRE, RICK.

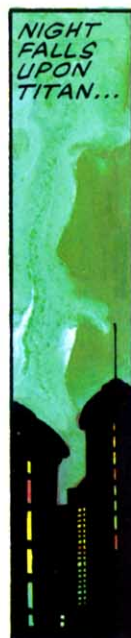


I'M ON THE SUPREME INTELLIGENCE'S *BLACK-LIST*.

THEY DON'T GIVE MEDALS TO *TRAITORS*.



BUT IT ALL SEEMS SO UNFAIR.

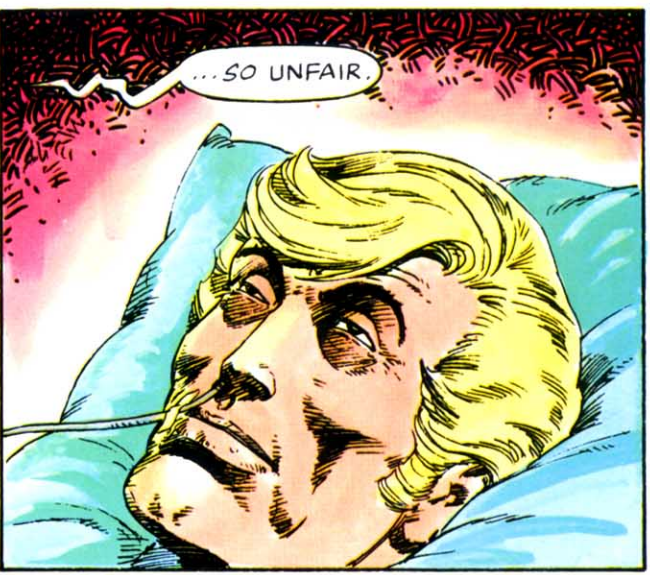


WE'RE
TOO
LATE.

WE HAVE
FAILED YOU,
CAPTAIN
MARVEL.

MIDNIGHT.





SO UNFAIR SO UNFAIR SO UNFAIR SO UNFAIR

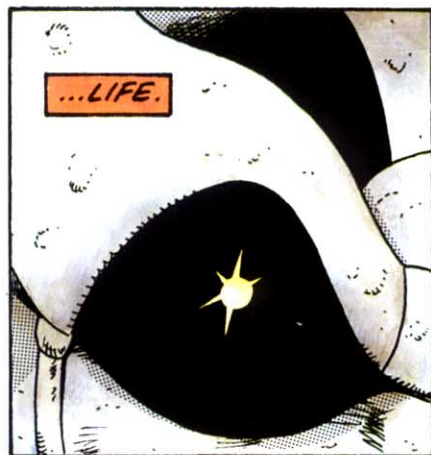


UNFAIR UNFAIR UNFAIR UNFAIR UNFAIR UNFAIR UNFAIR





IN A SUB-BASEMENT
TOMB. IN THE MIDST
OF DEATH...



...LIFE.



HE HEARS THE CALL
AND MUST ANSWER.



ONE LAST
TASK.



UP TOWARDS THE
PALACE LEVELS HE
CLIMBS, AND AS HE
GOES, A STRANGE
METAMORPHOSIS
OCCURS.



DOWN FAMILIAR,
WOOD PANELED
HALLWAYS HE
STALKS.

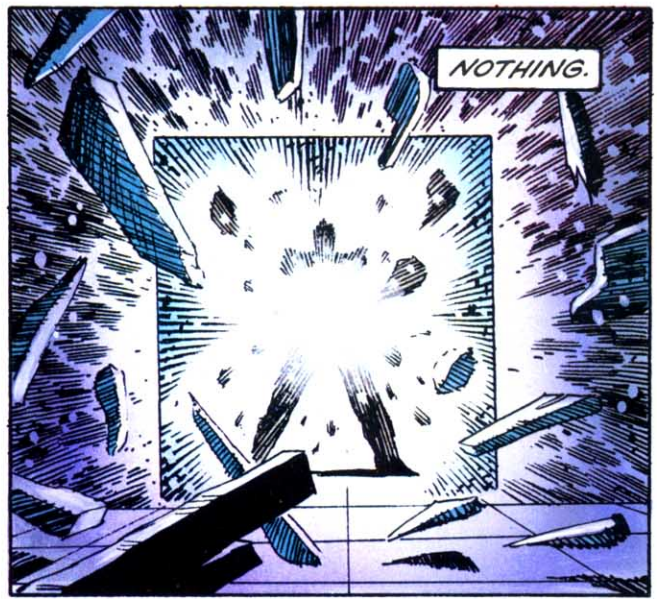


AT LAST
HE STOPS.

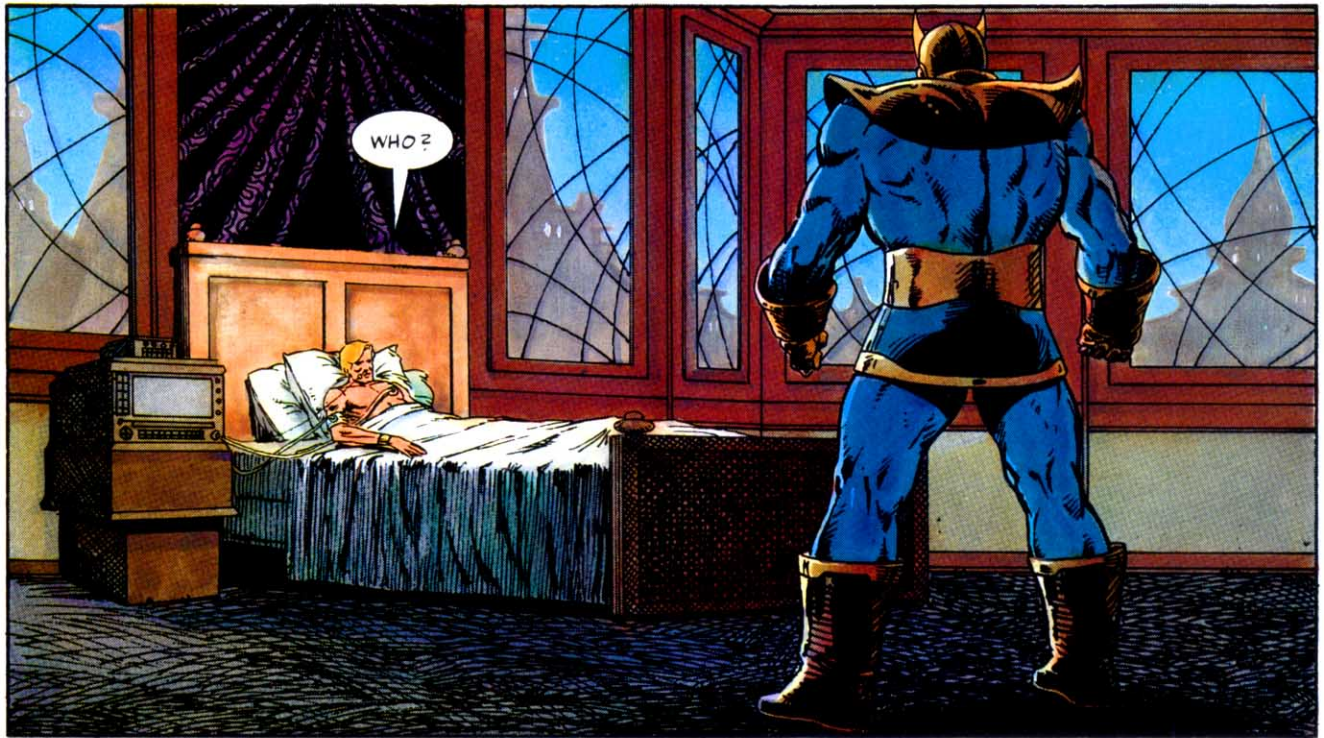
THE SILENT ROYAL
BED CHAMBER
BECKONS LIKE THE
DEATH HE LOVES.



HIS GOAL LIES WITHIN. NOTHING MUST STAND IN HIS WAY.



NOTHING.



WHO?



THANOS! HOW? YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE...

... DEAD!



SO I AM ...

...AND IT WOULD APPEAR THAT **YOU** ARE SOON TO JOIN ME IN THAT STATE ...

IT **PAINS** ME TO SEE YOU SO.



FRAIL, ILL, DECAYED, SLOWLY WITHERING AWAY...



I'VE ALWAYS HAD GREAT RESPECT FOR YOU, MAR-VELL.

YOU HAVE ALWAYS BEEN MY GREATEST FOE, MY ARCH NEMESIS.



FOR ONE SUCH AS YOU, DEATH SHOULD NOT COME GNAWING LIKE SOME VERMIN.



FOR YOU, DEATH SHOULD BE...

...A GLORIOUS EVENT!



SO RISE, CAPTAIN MARVEL!

I'M WHOLE AGAIN!

THE *GREATEST MINDS* OF THE UNIVERSE HAVE LABORED FOR MONTHS TRYING TO SAVE ME.

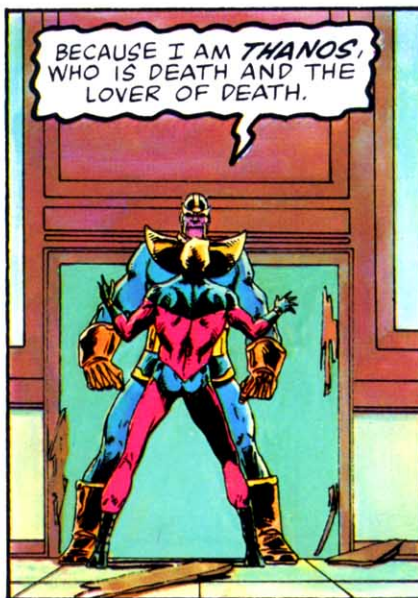
BUT THEY *FAILED*. THEN YOU JUST COME ALONG AND WAVE YOUR HAND AND...



...I'M WELL AGAIN.

HOW?

WHY?

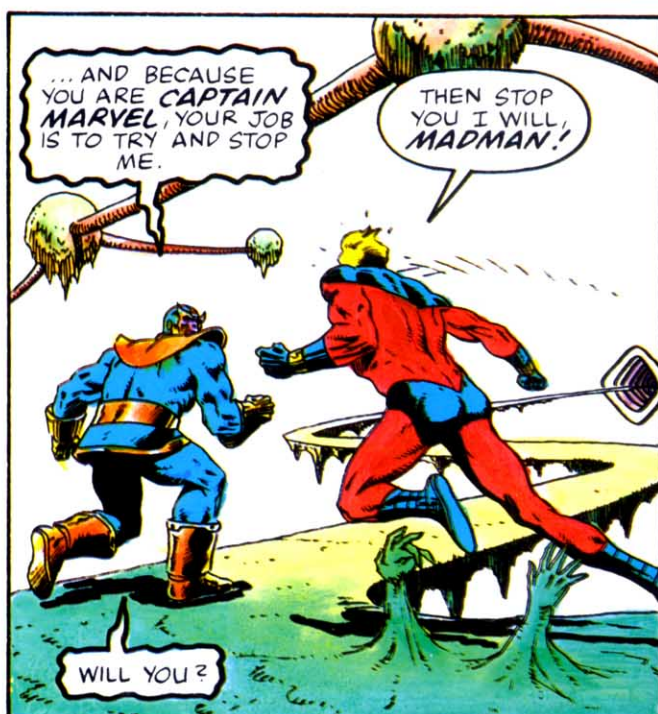
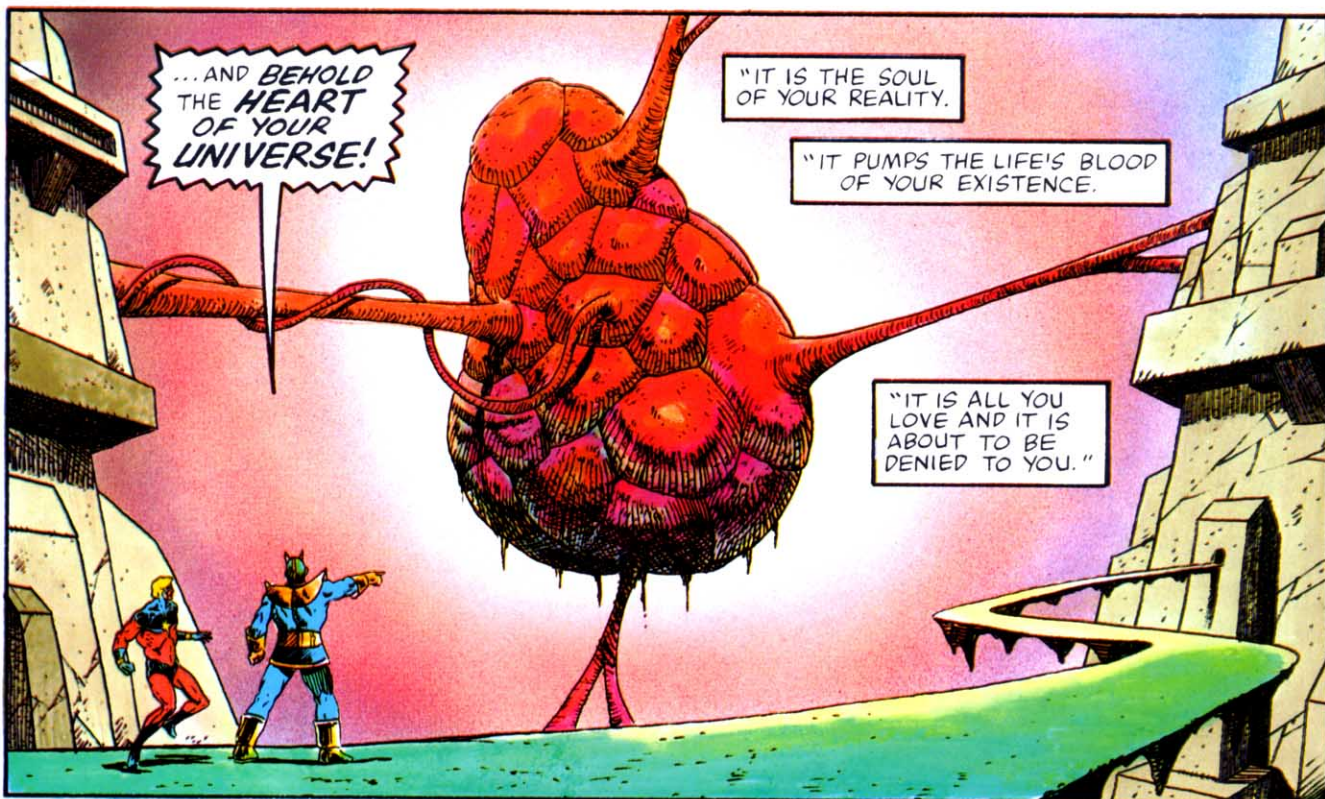


BECAUSE I AM *THANOS*, WHO IS DEATH AND THE LOVER OF DEATH.



I HAVE RETURNED FROM THE DARKNESS FOR ONE LAST, MAGNIFICENT BATTLE...

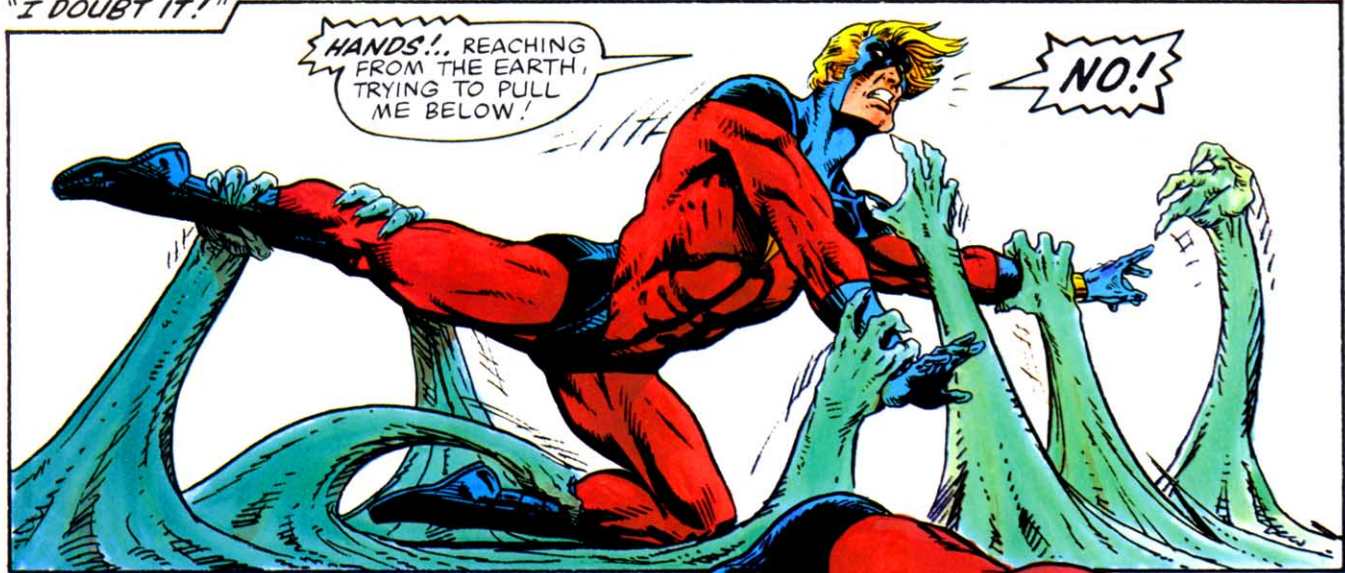
...WITH YOU.



"I DOUBT IT!"

HANDS!.. REACHING
FROM THE EARTH,
TRYING TO PULL
ME BELOW!

NO!



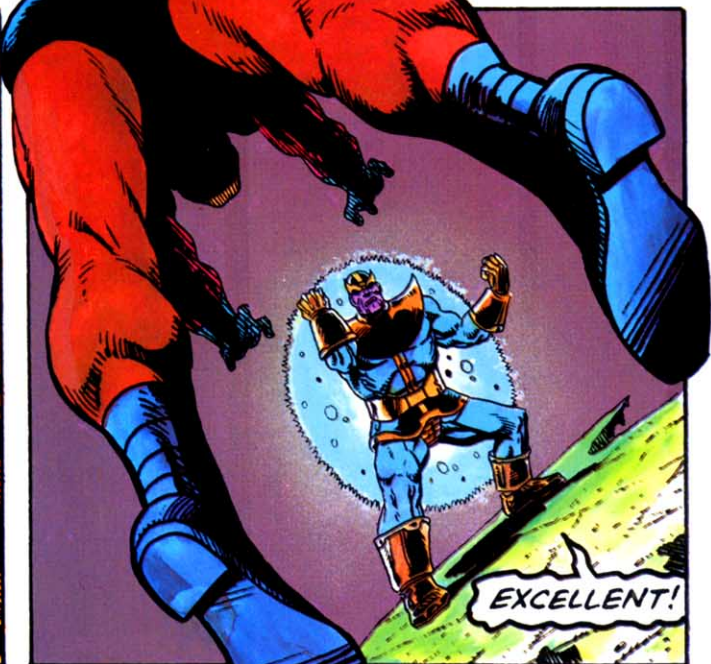
YOU'VE TRIED
THIS TRICK
BEFORE, THANOS!

IT
DIDN'T
WORK
THEN.

IT
WON'T
WORK
NOW!



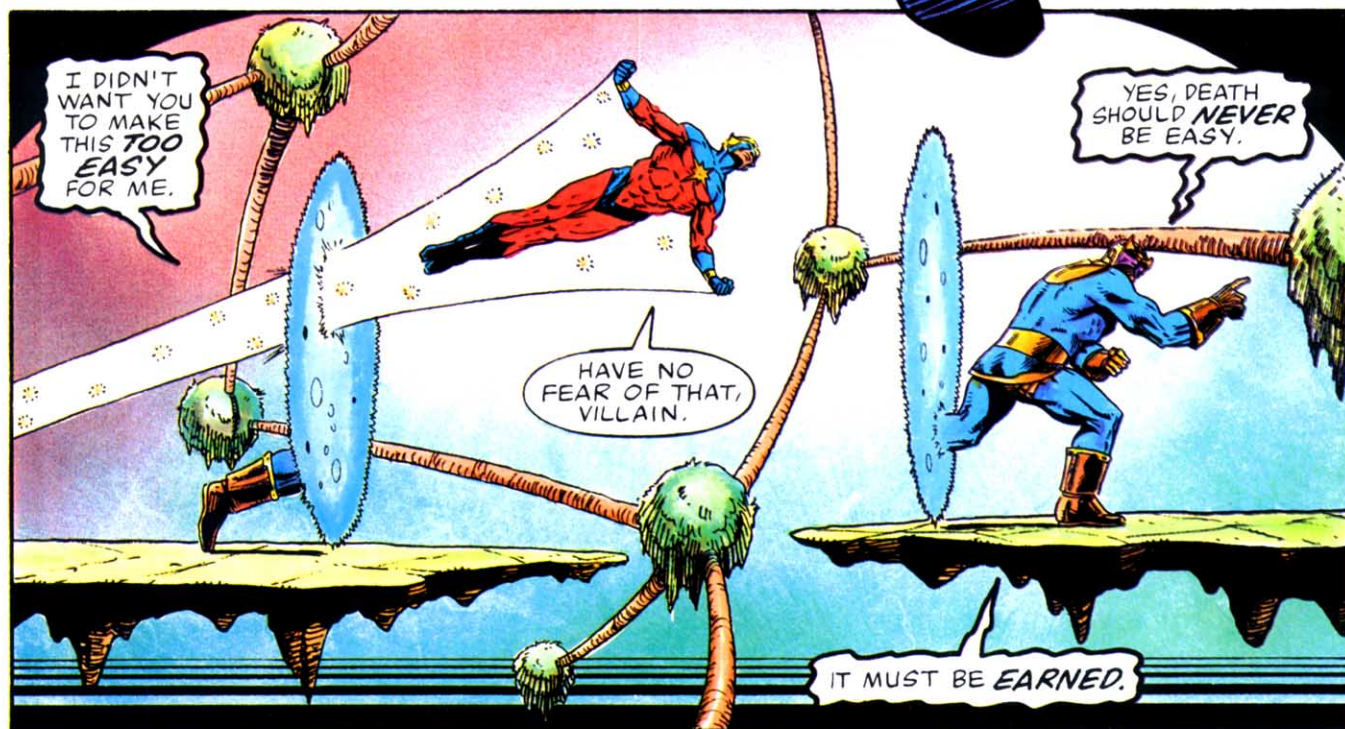
EXCELLENT!



I DIDN'T
WANT YOU
TO MAKE
THIS TOO
EASY
FOR ME.

HAVE NO
FEAR OF THAT,
VILLAIN.

YES, DEATH
SHOULD NEVER
BE EASY.



IT MUST BE EARNED.

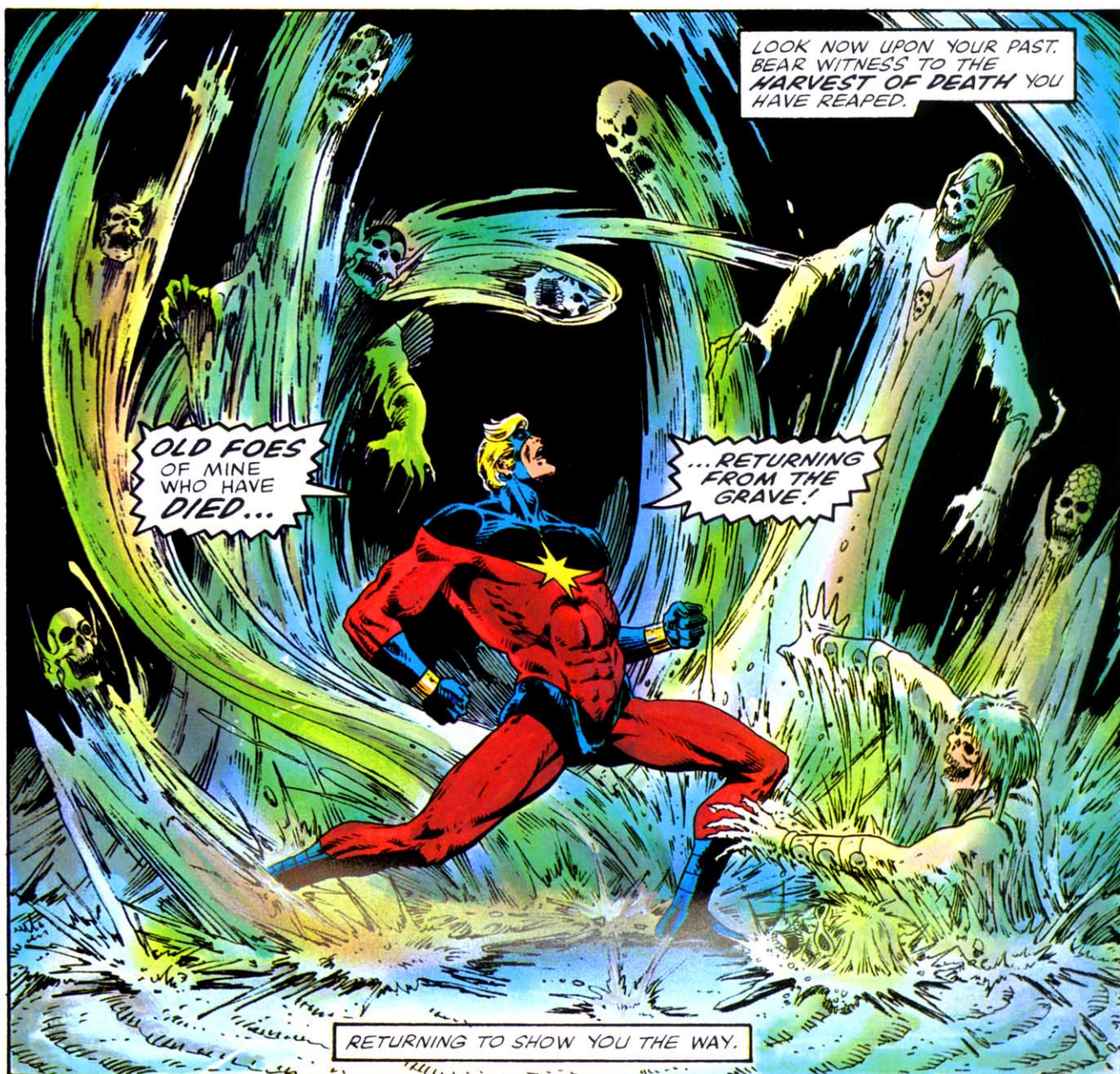


FOR LIFE ITSELF IS NAUGHT
BUT THE FIRST STEP TO
ETERNITY, AND SETS ITS
TONE.

YOUR TIME
IS SPENT.
YOUR FATE
IS CAST.



SO IT *BEGINS*. SO IT *ENDS*.



LOOK NOW UPON YOUR PAST.
BEAR WITNESS TO THE
HARVEST OF DEATH YOU
HAVE REAPED.

OLD FOES
OF MINE
WHO HAVE
DIED...

*...RETURNING
FROM THE
GRAVE!*

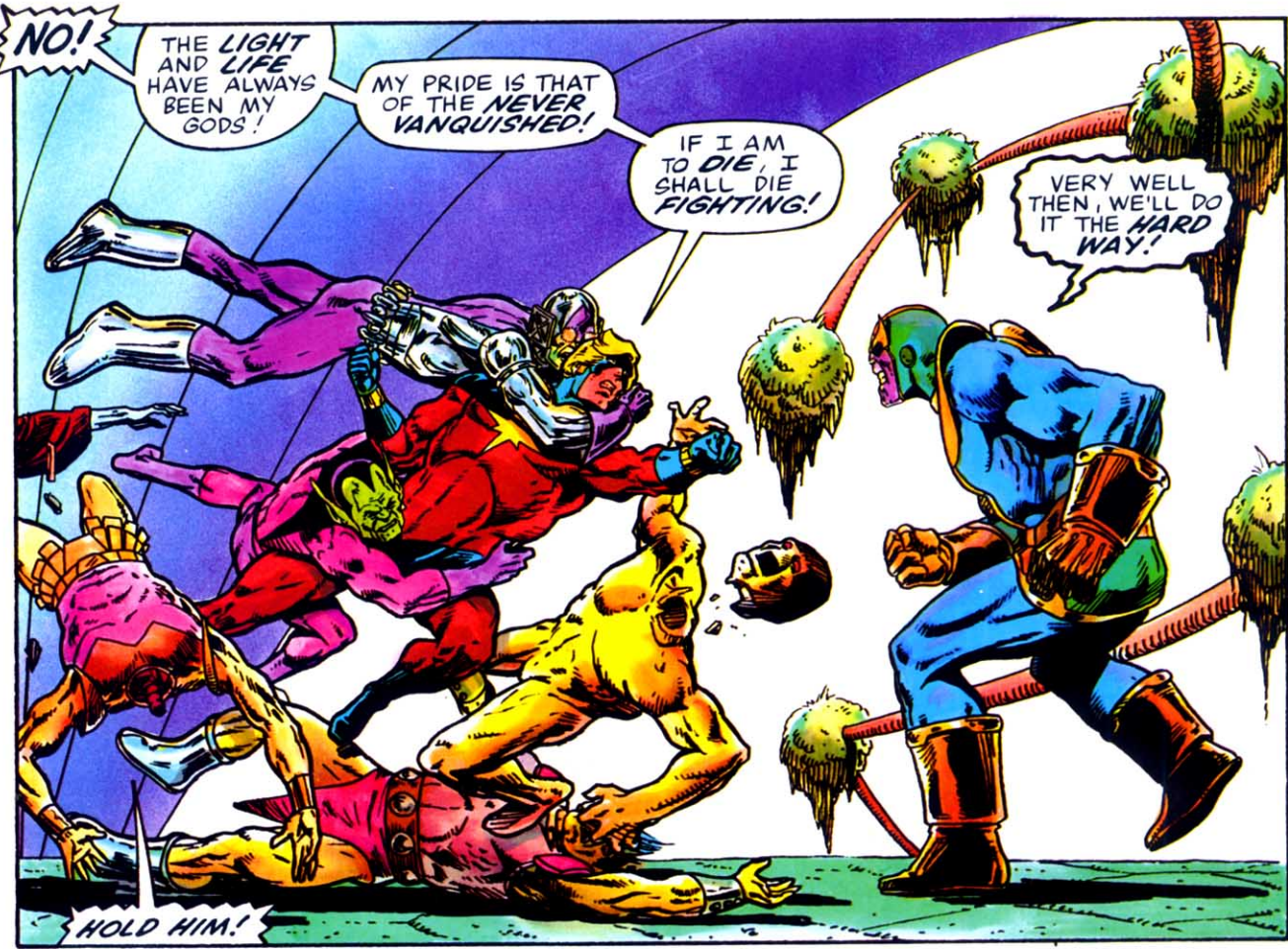
RETURNING TO SHOW YOU THE WAY.

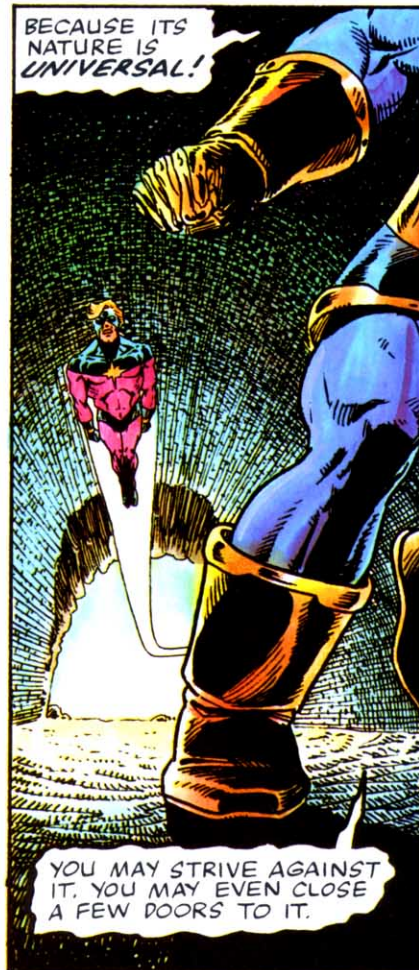
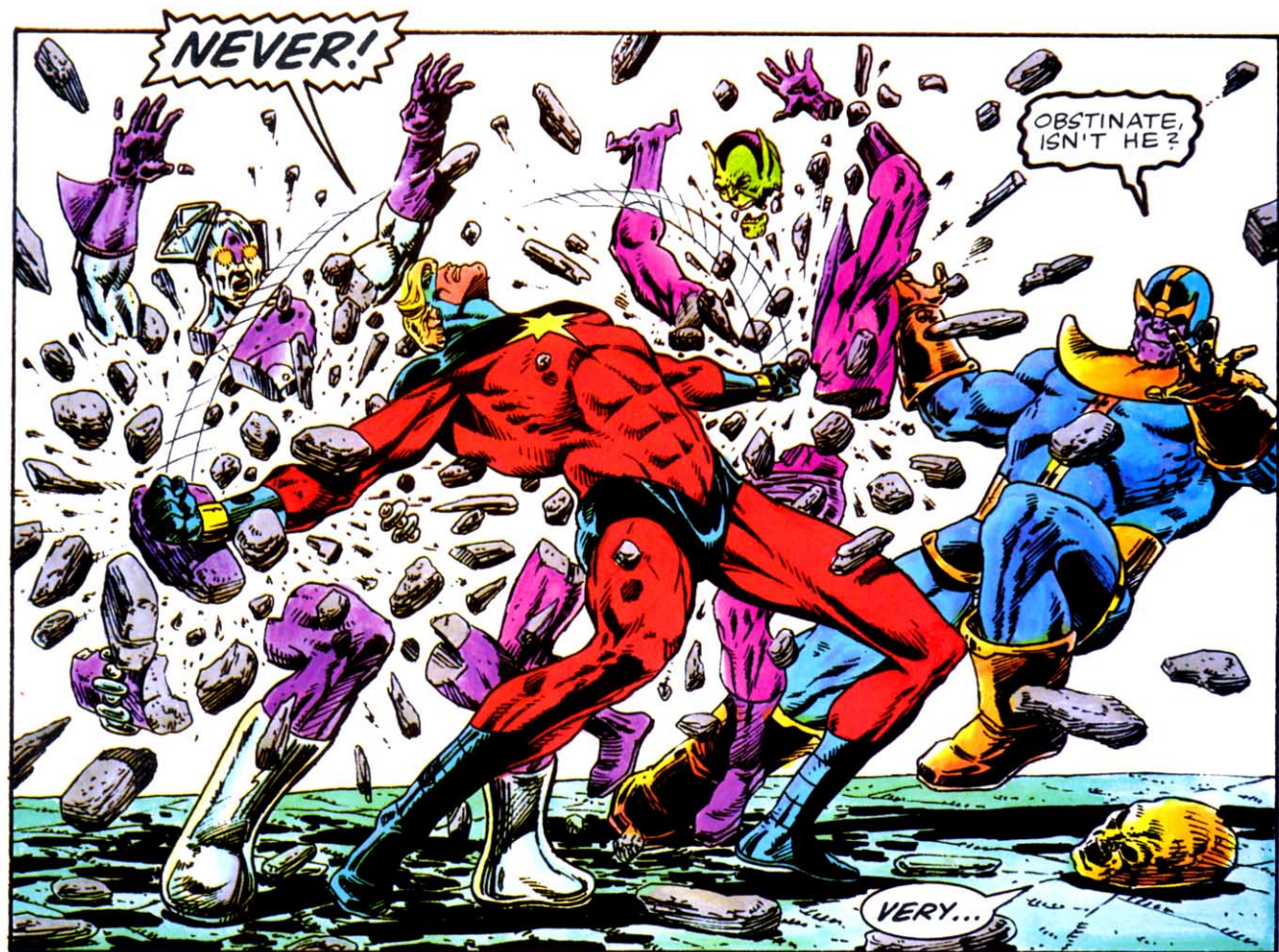


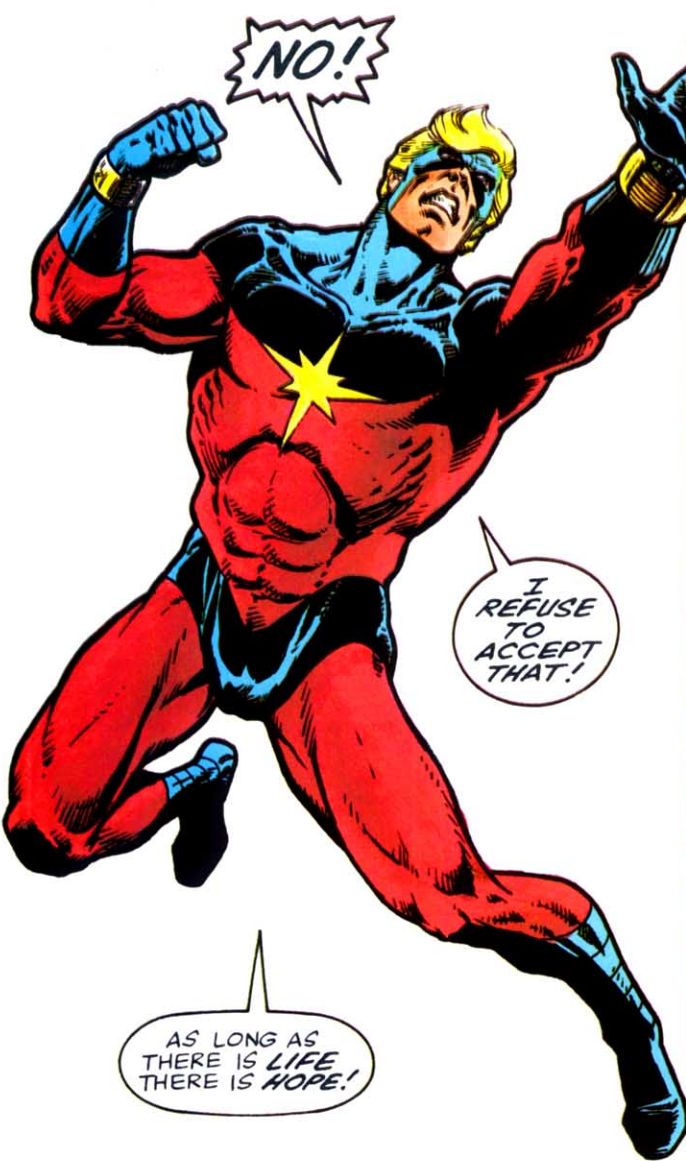
CRUSH HIM!!

SURRENDER YOURSELF TO THEIR COLD EMBRACE, MAR-VELL. IT IS YOUR FATE.

PUT AN END TO THIS CHILDISH MYOPIA OF REALITY. MAKE IT EASY ON YOURSELF.







NO!

I REFUSE
TO
ACCEPT
THAT!

AS LONG AS
THERE IS *LIFE*
THERE IS *HOPE!*



THERE IS *NOTHING*
IN THE UNIVERSE
THAT CANNOT BE
OVERCOME!

WOULD YOU
CHALLENGE THE
ABSTRACT? WOULD
YOU DENY THE
INFINITE?

YES!



THEN BE PREPARED
TO FIND THAT YOUR
VICTORIES ARE THE
STUFF OF DREAMS...

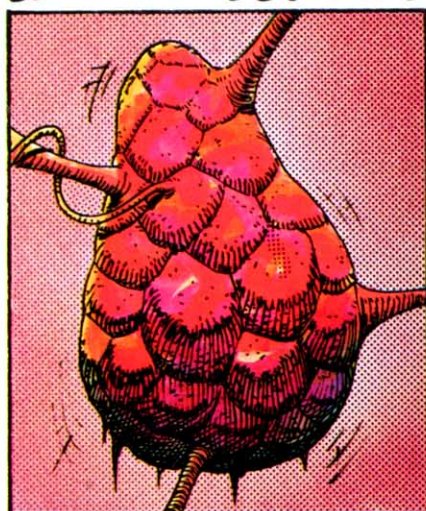
...ILLUSIONS.





SO IT ENDS...

TA-TUT TA-TUT TA-TUT TA-TUT TA



IS THAT ALL THERE IS TO IT?

A KISS AND I'M BEYOND THE VEIL?



I EXPECTED MORE.

THERE IS MORE, IT AWAITS US.

TAKE HER HAND.



SHE WILL LEAD US ON OUR JOURNEY.

SHE WILL SHOW US THAT THIS IS NOT THE END...

