

WARREN
MAGAZINE



EERIE
#70

NOV. 1975

THIS ISSUE: SLAUGHTER FIVE! EL CID! OOGIE and the JUNKERS!

EERIE

\$1.00

56320-6

PDC


UK 30p

AN ANCIENT INDIAN CURSE GRANTED HIM IMMORTALITY!
NOW... THE SAME CURSE MUST DESTROY HIM!

COFFIN
THE MAN WHO HUNTED DEATH!



ALSO: HUNTER II and the EXTERMINATOR ROBOT!



WELCOME, FRIGHT FIENDS.
YOUR OLD **COUSIN EERIE** HAS
BROUGHT YOU A FANTASTIC
BUNDLE OF **GOODIES** THIS
TIME!

UNDEAD **CORPSES!** INDIAN
MASSACRES! LIVING **MACHINES!**
MUTANT **GOBLINS!** MAD **MAGICIANS!**
CANNIBALS! ALIEN KIDNAPPERS!

AND AS A SPECIAL
TREAT... THE **HEAD OF...**
WELL, LOOK **INSIDE**
AND SEE FOR
YOURSELVES!



OUR COVER

Will those who doomed Coffin to existence as a living corpse, allow him to die? His agonized face screams the question. A terrifying cover painting by Sanjulian!

Editor-In-Chief
& Publisher
JAMES WARREN

Editor
W.B. DuBAY

Production Manager
W.R. MOHALLEY

Assistant Editor
LOUISE JONES

Cover
SANJULIAN

Artists This Issue
ESTEBAN MAROTO
GONZALO MAYO
PAUL NEARY
JOSE ORTIZ
LEOPOLD SANCHEZ
BERNI WRIGHTSON

Writers This Issue
GERRY BOUDREAU
BILL DuBAY
BUDD LEWIS

EERIE NO. 70 PUBLISHED MONTHLY EXCEPT APRIL, JULY AND DECEMBER BY WARREN PUBLISHING CO. EDITORIAL SUBSCRIPTION & BUSINESS OFFICES AT 145 EAST 32nd STREET, N.Y. 10016. TELEPHONE: (212) 683-6050.

SUBSCRIPTIONS: 9 ISSUES FOR \$10.00 IN THE U.S.; CANADA AND ELSEWHERE \$12.00.

SECOND-CLASS POSTAGE PAID AT NEW YORK, N.Y. AND AT ADDITIONAL MAILING OFFICES. ENTIRE CONTENTS COPYRIGHTED © 1975 BY WARREN PUBLISHING CO. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED THROUGHOUT THE WORLD UNDER THE UNIVERSAL COPYRIGHT CONVENTIONS, THE INTERNATIONAL COPYRIGHT CONVENTION, AND THE PAN AMERICAN COPYRIGHT CONVENTION. EERIE IS REGISTERED U.S. PATENT OFFICE. MARCA REGISTRADA. MARQUE DÉPOSÉE. NOTHING MAY BE REPRODUCED IN WHOLE OR IN PART WITHOUT WRITTEN PERMISSION FROM THE PUBLISHER.

SORRY, NO RESPONSIBILITY CAN BE ACCEPTED FOR UNSOLICITED MATERIAL. PRINTED IN U.S.A.

SUBSCRIBERS: PLEASE ALLOW 8 WEEKS FOR DELIVERY OF YOUR FIRST ISSUE.

CONCERNING OUR MAIL ORDER ADVERTISEMENTS: Warren Publishing Co. guarantees the delivery and satisfaction of all items advertised in this issue. Should you need to write us concerning an order, whether it be from our address or a Post Office Box address, send your letter to: E.C. Ives, Customer Service Dept., Warren Publishing Co., 145 E. 32nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10016.

EERIE

CONTENTS

ISSUE NO. 70
NOVEMBER 1975

4 DEAR COUSIN EERIE Rave reviews for EERIE #68! Hunter II: "Phenomenal! Stunning potential!" Godeye: "Hilarious! Worthy of Mark Twain!" Muck Monster: "Shattering! Effective!" Coffin: "Macabre, grotesque! I loved it!" Deep Brown & Jorum: "Great fun! A tragic, epic masterpiece!"

5 COFFIN Tomorrow pony soldiers would take the Kiowa to a reservation. Braves would weave baskets. Eat corn. Sit in the sun. Die. A man could wither. Or he could sell his life dearly, taking hundreds of soldiers with him. Leading the Indians to massacre is Death incarnate. The undead Coffin!

19 HUNTER II Three men. Three destinies. The Exterminator: A machine-man who must destroy the unfit. Who must kill goblins. Karas Hunter: Determined to slay the goblin-breeding wizard, Yaust, and save the world. Echo: A warrior chief. He's lost his tribe to Yaust's mutants. He may lose his life!

30 CODE NAME: SLAUGHTER 5 No food. Stringent birth control. Cannibalism. Legalized murder. It made no difference. The population continued to increase. And starve. Population reduction was Slaughter's aim. Revolt was his method. For, a lot of people would die in a revolution!

41 EL CID: CROOKED MOUTH Garcia Ordenez' tongue was as twisted as his face. He hated El Cid. Whispered that Cid harbored the King's Moorish enemies. Fed them. Treated them as guests. Many believed. El Cid was called to answer before God, King, and the Demon who plotted his ruin!

51 OOGIE & THE JUNKERS Leroy was a Buck Blaster freak. He'd seen every show. Bought every cassette. Read every book. Even owned a uniform & decoder ring. Only thing he didn't have was Buck's voluptuous sidekick, Thelma Starbust. And an obliging alien was planning to give him her!

HELL'S SUMMER WAS AT AN END. THERE HAD COME THE RAINS. THERE HAD COME THE COOLING BREEZES FROM THE NORTH, PROMISING WINTER LIFE AFTER SUMMER DEATH. AND UPON THE EARLY NOVEMBER WINDS CAME THE IMAGE OF **DEATH** INTO THE KIOWA VILLAGE.

LIKE AN OMEN OF **EVIL** YET TO COME, **DEATH'S** WRETCHED SPECTRE **SLITHERED** OUT OF THE DESERT DARKNESS, AND STOOD BEFORE THEM IN THE FORM OF A LIVING **DEAD MAN!**

A MAN... A CORPSE... NAMED...

COFFIN

WHAT MAN COMES
TO COUNCIL IN OUR
FINAL HOUR?

A WHITE MAN! A
FOOLISH DOG! AN
ENEMY!

BRING
HIM TO ME!

THIS IS NO
ENEMY TO THE
KIOWA TRIBE!

HERE IS NO
WHITE MAN!
NO DOG!

THIS ONE
IS **DEATH!**

THE FINAL SUNRISE

THE ANCIENT CHIEFTAIN OF THE ANCIENT TRIBE WAS CALLED **TWO KNIVES**. AN ELDER OF GREAT SIGHT WITH KNOWLEDGE OF THE WORLD IN WHICH HIS PEOPLE LIVED. A MAN NOT OF **HATRED AND FIRE**, BUT OF **THOUGHT AND WISDOM**.

BEFORE HIM, HE SAW **NOT** A WHITE MAN, RAVAGED BY FATE AND CIRCUMSTANCE! HE SAW AN **OMEN**, PERHAPS A **FRIEND**.



NO, HERE IS NO ENEMY, HERE IS **DEATH**, COME TO TAKE THE PEOPLE OF TWO KNIVES TO THE LAND OF **PEACE**.

HE HAS COME FAR TO BE WITH HIS PEOPLE.

BE WARNED BY THE BUFFALO ROBE OF TWO KNIVES, FRIEND DEATH!



AH, **DEATH**. ENEMY TO NEITHER WHITE MAN NOR RED, BUT **FRIEND AND PEACEMAKER** TO BOTH.

I HAVE AWAITED THIS COMING.



YOU WILL **SLEEP** HERE, **REST** AFTER YOUR LONG JOURNEY FROM THE GREEN FORESTS TO THE KIOWA DESERT. I WILL **WATCH** FOR YOU...**FRIEND**.

TOGETHER WE SHALL **SHARE** THIS **LAST EVENING**. THIS **FINAL HOUR** OF **PEACE**.



TOGETHER WE SHALL WATCH THE RISING OF THE **LAST SUNRISE**.

THEN TOGETHER WE SHALL RIDE TO **DEATH'S GENTLE PARADISE**. **TOGETHER**.



THROUGH THE SLEEPLESS NIGHT A PEACEFUL **CHANTING** CAME FROM THE LODGE OF TWO KNIVES. TWO KNIVES, A MAN WHO HELD **PEACE** AND **DEATH** IN HIS ARMS

THEN CAME THE **LAST DAWN.**



THE VILLAGE AWAKENED SILENTLY, WORDLESSLY. AND IT BEGAN. THE MEN EACH WENT TO THEIR WOMEN WITH QUIET RESERVE AND CULTURED PRIDE AND **HELD** THEM LINGERINGLY... FOR THE **LAST TIME.**

THEN EACH HELD HIS **CHILDREN**... AND NO TEAR WAS SHED.



THE WOMEN GATHERED STICKS TO BUILD THE **WAR FIRE.**



AND SOON THE **WAR DRUMS** SOUNDED. THE **DEATH SONG** HAD **BEGUN.**



THE WARRIORS HEARD THE SONG... THE DRUMS, AND THEY ADORNED THEMSELVES IN **FINERY.** THE PAINTS OF **WAR** AND FEATHERS OF **EAGLES.**

BOWS WERE STRUNG, **HATCHETS** SHARPENED, **ARROWS** HONED AND BEFEATHERED. THEIR PONIES BUCKED RESTLESSLY, YEARNING FOR THE LONG AND FINAL **CHARGE.**



BEFORE THE SUN HAD RISEN A HANDSPAN IN THE SKY, THE PROUD KIOWA NATION STOOD READY FOR WAR.

THEIR FIERCE YOUNG GENERAL, **STEEL LANCE**, CAME TO THE DARK LODGE OF HIS FATHER, TWO KNIVES.



THE WAR-
LANCE IS
READY,
FATHER.

THEN
SOON
YOU
WILL
LEAVE
ME.



WHAT LAST
WISDOM
WILL
YOU GRANT
ME, FATHER?

I, NONE.
NONE BUT
WHAT DEATH'S
ANGEL WILL
GIVE.



AWAKE, FRIEND
DEATH, AND BLESS
THESE CHILDREN.

W-WHAT...?
WHERE
AM I?



MY FATHER SAYS
YOU ARE THE OMEN
OF DEATH. COME
TO GUIDE THE KIOWA
PEOPLE AS WE RIDE
TO WAR TO DIE!

WHAT WISDOM
WILL YOU GRANT
US BEFORE WE
GALLOP INTO
THE SOLDIERS'
GUNSHOTS?



I...I'M NOT
DEATH. I...I'M
LOST...SICK...
SO WEAK.

THEN THIS
LAST MOMENT
IS THE MOST
DARK. WE DIE
ALONE.



NO...
WAIT!

TELL ME OF YOUR
PLIGHT, MAYBE I CAN
HELP...SOMEHOW.

EVEN BETTER.
I HAVE NEVER
BELIEVED IN
THE OLD GODS
AND OMENS. I
BELIEVE IN
MEN OF GUILE.

THE
STORY IS
SIMPLE.



THE WHITES...THE **SOLDIERS**
CAME. THEY SAID IN THIRTY
SUNS THEY WOULD RETURN
TO TAKE THE KIOWA TO A
NEW LAND.

A
RESERVATION?

A RESERVATION,
THERE TO LIVE
ON **CORN**, TO
MAKE **BLANKETS**
AND DIE LIKE
SICK **OLD**
WOMEN.

THEY SAID THE
FATHER IN
WASHINGTON
WANTED OUR
LAND. **TODAY**
IS THE **LAST**
SUNRISE OF
THE THIRTY.



WE **CANNOT** LEAVE THE
GROUNDS OF THE KIOWA, OUR
ANCESTORS **DIED** FIGHTING
FOR THIS LAND SINCE TIME
BEGAN. WE CAN DO NO LESS.

WE **CANNOT**
DIE IN A
STRANGE
LAND. WE
MUST DIE
HERE... WITH
OUR ANCEST
GHOSTS.

I UNDERSTAND.



THE KIOWA ARE A **GOOD**
PEOPLE, YOU TOOK ME IN,
NURSED ME. GAVE ME **NEW**
HOPE. I'LL DO THE SAME
FOR YOU.

I'VE A **DEBT**
TO **REPAY**.
THROUGH THE
KIOWA I'LL
REPAY IT.
I'LL NEED A
HORSE.

THE NEW EASTERN
SUN LOOKED DOWN
UPON A LIVING DEAD
MAN AND A SMALL
WARPARTY OF DOOMED
WARRIORS ON A
DESPERATE
MISSION.

WOULD THIS BE
THE **LAST DAY...**?
OR A NEW CHANCE
FOR TEN THOUSAND
BRIGHTER DAYS TO
COME?



ONLY **GOD**
COULD KNOW.

A **CAVALRY**
DETACHMENT.

THOSE ARE OUR BOYS!
ON THEIR WAY TO MOVE
YOUR PEOPLE TO THE
RESERVATION.

NOW, ALL I'VE GOT TO DO IS TO RIDE DOWN, TELL THEM THERE'S GOING TO BE A **BLOOD-BATH** IF THEY GO INTO THE VILLAGE.

THEY'LL **HAVE** TO TURN BACK.



LET'S **CATCH** THEM!



THE INDIAN SCOUT TO THE SMALL DETACHMENT HEARD THE THUNDER AS FOUR HORSES RACED TOWARD HIM, THE SHARP EYED SCOUT DID NOT SEE FOUR FELLOW HUMAN BEINGS COMING TO BEG FOR **MERCY...**

HE SAW ONLY A WHITE MAN BEING **CHASED** BY THREE **BLOODTHIRSTY** KIOWAS!

HEEEYYYYYYY!
SOLDIERS!
HEEEYYY!



A SIMPLE MISTAKE IN **JUDGEMENT...**



...MADE KIOWA LAND JUST A LITTLE BIT MORE **PRECIOUS.**

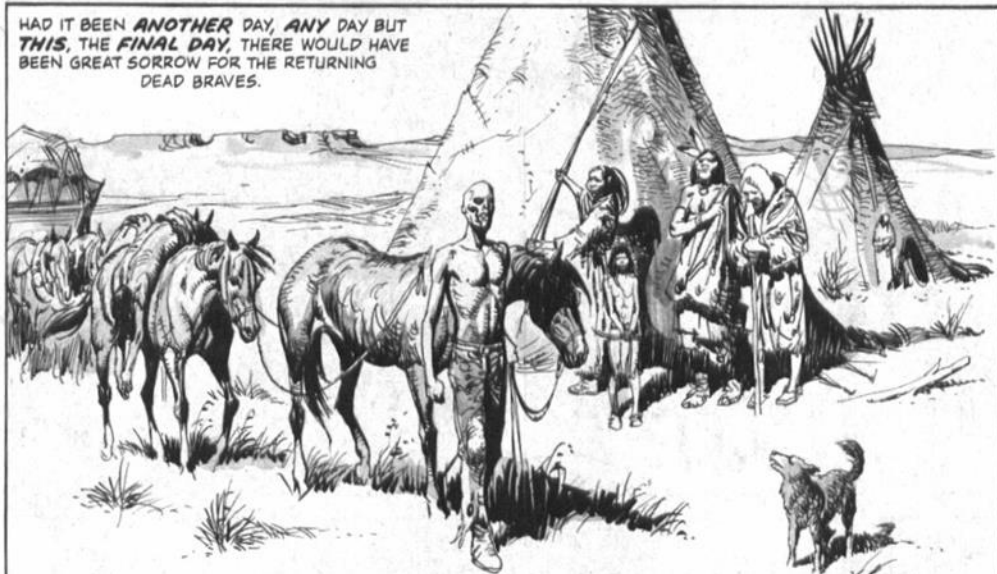


DAMN YOU!
DAMN! DAMN YOU!





HAD IT BEEN **ANOTHER** DAY, **ANY** DAY BUT **THIS**, THE **FINAL** DAY, THERE WOULD HAVE BEEN GREAT SORROW FOR THE RETURNING DEAD BRAVES.



OLD WOMEN WOULD HAVE **CUT** THEMSELVES IN GRIEF, FUNERAL DRUMS WOULD HAVE TOLLED, HERBS BURNT, AND THE OLD MEN WOULD HAVE **WAILED** TRAGIC CHANTS.

BUT THIS WAS THE **LAST** DAY, AND THE **ANGEL OF DEATH** HAD COME AMONG THEM, PREPARING FOR GLORIOUS HEAVEN'S GATE...WITH **REPEATING RIFLES!**



AND THERE WAS GREAT **JUBILATION**...IN THIS, THE **FINAL** HOUR!

YET FOR THE WRETCHED **ANGEL OF DEATH**, LET IT BE SAID, THERE WAS **YET** HOPE FOR PEACE AS HE SAT TO **TRY** ONCE MORE.



TO THE POSTMASTER,
SIR,

I AM A WHITE MINISTER
EN ROUTE TO CALIFORNIA
WITH MY FAMILY, OUR WAGON
WAS ATTACKED BY KIOWAS,
WHO SAY, THAT IF THE
SOLDIERS COME, THEY WILL
KILL ALL OF US. THEY ARE
PREPARED TO DIE
DEFENDING THEIR LAND
AGAINST YOU. FOR THE
MERCY OF GOD, SPARE
ME AND MINE. **STAY
AWAY!**

IN THE NAME OF
CHRIST LORD,
REV. John Meek

THIS'LL STALL
THEM. IT'LL WORK
AS SURELY AS
THERE IS A GOD
IN HEAVEN.

**BOY, YOU'RE
TOO YOUNG**
TO BE AN
ENEMY TO THE
SOLDIERS.
YOU'LL
DELIVER THE
MESSAGE.



A MAN NAMED **COFFIN** AND A **TEN YEAR OLD CHILD** STRUCK OUT TO A NAMELESS U.S. ARMY POST SOMEWHERE IN ARIZONA WITH AN AUDACIOUS **LIE** ON PAPER AND A GLIMMERING **HOPE** IN THEIR HEARTS.



PLEASE, GOD, LET IT WORK.



INTJUN WITH A WHITE FLAG!



IT'S JUST A KID!



STILL AN INTJUN.

LET 'IM IN!

AND THE WAIT BEGAN.



TEN MINUTES.



FORTY FIVE.



NINETY.

AND THEN... IT WAS OVER.



IT WORKED! JUST LIKE I SAID.



AS SURELY AS THERE'S A GOD IN H--!



NOOOOO!

NEVER WAS **HEAVEN**
SO **VACANT**, A **THRONE**
SO **EMPTY**, OR A **MAN**
SO **ALONE**.

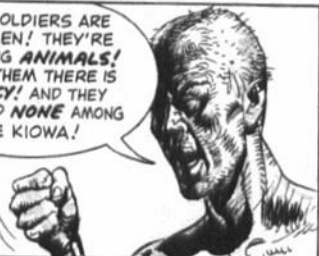


THE MAN CALLED **COFFIN** HAD LOST **THRICE-FOLD** IN HIS GAMBIT FOR LIFE. HE'D PUT HIS FAITH IN **GOD**, HIS TRUST IN **FELLOW MAN** AND DUMPED THEM **BOTH** INTO A GRAVE WITH A TEN YEAR OLD **CHILD**.

THEY WERE THE FINAL THREE COBBLE-STONES IN A PAVED ROAD TO...



THE SOLDIERS ARE **NOT** MEN! THEY'RE **RAVAGING ANIMALS!** AMONG THEM THERE IS **NO MERCY!** AND THEY WILL FIND **NONE** AMONG THE **KIOWA!**



STEEL LANCE! THESE ARE THE **LAST SECONDS!** LEAD YOUR WARRIORS!

FOLLOW ME! TO HELL!

I AM DEATH!



AND A **WARCRY** ROSE UP TO THUNDER THE BATTLEMENTS OF HEAVEN AS THE **ANGEL OF DEATH** LED HIS PEOPLE... TO **PARADISE!**



THE **WRITERS** WEREN'T THERE THAT NOVEMBER DAY. THE **NEWS-PAPERMEN** TENDED PRESSES BACK EAST, THE **CAMERMEN** SNAPPED GENTLEMEN IN HIGH STARCHED COLLARS, SOMEWHERE IN NEW YORK AND WASHINGTON.



BUT THERE WAS **NO** MERRIMENT FOR THE KIOWA OR THE DARK ANGEL WHO LED THEM ON THAT CHILL NOVEMBER AFTERNOON...!



NED BUNTLINE AND THE **IMAGINEERS** SAT ON PARK AVENUE CREATING LEGENDS OF **BILLY** AND **WYATT**, **CUSTER** AND **SUNDANCE**...

...TELLING SAGAS FOR DIME NOVELS THAT **NEVER** WERE **TRUE**.

THANKSGIVING TURKEY STEAMED ON THE TABLE, **PUMPKIN PIE** AND **SUGAR MAPLE** MADE THE FOLKS MERRY... **SOMEWHERE!**



BUT NOT **HERE**....!

NO ONE EVER **KNEW**, SO THEY'LL **NEVER REMEMBER** THAT WAR ON THE **THIRTIETH MORNING**.

WHEN SOLDIERS WIN A BATTLE WITH INDIANS, THEY ALL REMEMBER THE **VICTORY!** BUT WHO CAN RECALL A...

...**MASSACRE**...?

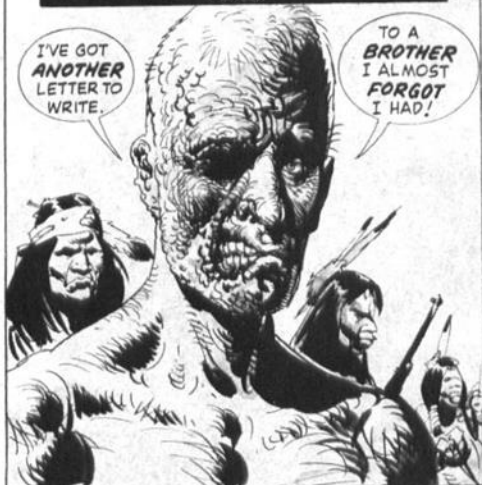


THE BATTLE WAS OVER AND THE KIOWAS STILL STOOD TALL AND **PROUD** UPON THE GRAVES OF THEIR ANCESTORS.

YET, THERE WOULD BE **OTHER SOLDIERS**. **OTHER RESERVATIONS**. BUT MAYBE NEXT TIME, THEY'D COME WITH **TREATIES** TO BE HONORED. PERHAPS THEY WOULD COME IN **PEACE**.

I'VE GOT **ANOTHER** LETTER TO WRITE.

TO A **BROTHER** I ALMOST **FORGOT** I HAD!



To Congressman Thomas Meek,
Washington D.C.

Dear Tom,

It's been a long time since I've been in touch. I'm fine. But there are some mighty mistreated people out here called Kiowa Indians. There's been some bad trouble and you'll have to send the best Indian agent you've got to help out. They **need** you, Tom.



IN THE **FINAL HOUR** CAME A **NEW, BEGINNING** FOR OLD PEOPLE, **IMPORTANT** GOOD PEOPLE FROM WASHINGTON, PEOPLE WHO **CARED** WOULD COME TO THE AIDE OF THE ABUSED INDIANS, AND PERHAPS, SOMEHOW, **HELP**.

THE MAN NAMED **COFFIN** HAD AT LAST **REPAID** A LONGSTANDING **DEBT**.



HE KNEW IT WAS **OVER** FOR HIM. HIS SEARCH FOR HIMSELF WAS AT AN **END**.



HE'D FOUND TRUTH, FAITH, LOVE AND **HOPE** AMONG THE HORRORS OF THE WORLD, ALL **INSIDE HIMSELF**. HE COULD GO **NO FURTHER** IN HIS QUEST FOR **DEATH**... FOR HE FOUND **HOW TO LIVE**.

TIME WAS **COME**, HE'D NEED BE A MAN CALLED **COFFIN** NO LONGER.

SUDDENLY DUSTY, WORN MEMORIES REVERBERATED IN HIS CONSCIOUSNESS, THE VOICE SPOKE, AND HE **REMEMBERED**, THE **CURSE** OF AN OLD **MEDICINE MAN**.

"AND SO HERE IS THE CURSE OF A DEAD PEOPLE! YOU, MAN... WILL **NEVER DIE!** YOU WILL **LIVE** AND KNOW **WOUNDS** AND **TORMENT!** YOU WILL NEVER SLEEP PEACEFULLY IN A **GRAVE!** YOU ARE **CURSED** WITH **LIFE!** YOU WILL SEARCH FOR **DEATH** TO FULFILL YOUR AGONY... BUT WILL **NEVER** FIND IT. ONLY I CAN REMOVE YOUR CURSE. BUT I **WILL NOT!** ONLY WHEN YOU HAVE LEARNED TO LIVE AND **RESPECT** LIFE... WILL YOU BE FREED."



"**NOW GO!**
AND **LIVE!**"



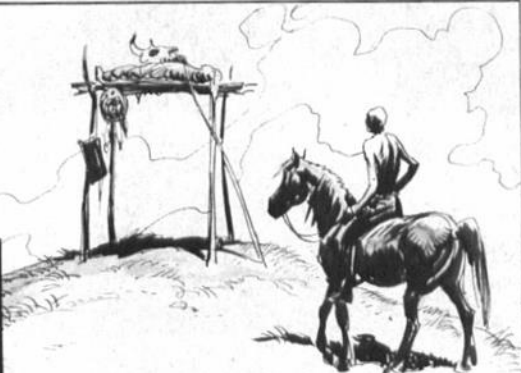
HE HURRIED **BACK** TO WHERE IT HAD ALL **BEGUN**, AS STRAIGHT ACROSS COUNTRY TO WHERE HE'D LAST SEEN THE OLD MAGIC MAN AS A **PIGEON** TO ITS BOX.

HE **HURRIED, RUSHED**, AND FOR THE FIRST TIME IN SO DAMNED LONG, THE MAN **SMILED**.



HE **GOT** THERE, BUT THE OLD MAN COULDN'T **WAIT** FOR HIM.

THE WEARY MEDICINE MAN HAD GONE TO JOIN HIS PEOPLE, CHASING SILVER WHITE BUFFALO ACROSS ETHEREAL PRAIRIES IN **ETERNITY**.



THE ONLY ONE WHO COULD **LIFT** THE CURSE OF LIFE... WAS **DEAD!**



THE EVENING
GATHERED
ABOUT THE
CRUSHED MAN.
AND SUDDENLY
AN IRONIC
THOUGHT
TOUCHED HIS
HEART... AND
HE **REALIZED!**
OF COURSE!



THE **ANSWER** HAD BEEN HERE ALL ALONG.
IT WOULD **END** WHERE IT **STARTED**. JUST
AT THE **BOTTOM** OF THE **HILL**, AT A VERY
FAMILIAR **MOUND**.



ALL HE HAD TO DO WAS STIR UP THE DIRT
AND LAY HIMSELF **DOWN**. THE **ANTS**...
THOSE TORMENTERS OF **MONTHS**
AGO... WOULD DO THE REST.



SOON... WHY, IN NO TIME AT ALL,
THERE'D BE **NOTHING** LEFT BUT
BONES, A RAG, A PAIR OF **BOOTS**...
AND THE WIND SCATTERED
MEMORY OF A MAN THEY
CALLED... **COFFIN**.

ARIZONA, 1889. HELL'S SUMMER
WAS **OVER**. THERE HAD COME THE
COOLING BREEZES, PROMISING WINTER
LIFE AFTER SUMMER DEATH. AND
EVERYTHING WAS **FULL OF LIFE**...
EXCEPT ONE MAN. THE MAN WHO
SOUGHT **PEACE**.

THERE IS A **NEW** EARTH. A NEW ORDER AND SCHEME OF THINGS. A NEW WORLD TO BE ADAPTED TO.

THE PASTORAL EARTH IS **TRAPPED** WITH A TIME-SHELL RAPIDLY APPROACHING **EXTINCTION**. IT IS A WORLD WITH AN APPOINTED TIME TO **DIE**.

THIS NEW WORLD WOULD BE AN IDYLIC PLACE FOR THE HEALING RACE OF MAN TO INHABIT. WERE IT NOT DYING.

MEN OF MAGIC AND SCIENCE HAVE COMBINED TO ACT AS THE **LEVER** WITH WHICH TIME AND NATURE WILL BE PRIED APART, IN AN EFFORT TO **SAVE** THE EARTH.

A RESURRECTED **HERO** IS THE FULCRUM UPON WHICH PRECARIOUSLY RESTS THAT **LEVER**. A HERO NAMED...

HUNTER II

2394 AD

HERE I AM UP TO MY
KEESTER IN **MUD**! IF
THESE WATERS KEEP RISING,
BOTH OF US MAY **DROWN**
BEFORE I CAN UPRIGHT
YOU!

IF YOU CAN'T DUMP
ME OVER THIS TIME,
LEAVE ME! I'M NOT
THAT **IMPORTANT**!

GOBLIN Thrust



THERE I
THINK YOU
MOVED
A TRIFLE!
WHEWH!

I THINK THE
BIG DIPPER
JUST MOVED,
BUT I DIDN'T!



GOD! IF
I JUST HAD
SOME HELP!

GIVE UP,
KARAS. IT'D
TAKE A DOZEN
MEN TO BUDGE
ME OUT OF
THIS MUD.

SAY,
EXTERMINATOR?
WHAT'S TWENTY-
FOUR DIVIDED
BY TWO?

IF MY
COMPUTER
TAPES AREN'T
SOAKED...



...I'D SAY
ABOUT A
DOZEN...!

GOOD, YOU'VE
GOT YOUR BUDGE!
CAUSE I JUST
COUNTED TWENTY-
FOUR LEGS!



IT'S A GOOD THING
YOU HAPPENED ALONG!
YOU SEE MY FRIEND HERE
IS IN TROUB--!

SHUT YOUR
LYING FACE,
PIG!

INAR, BYORSVUN,
SCOUT AROUND. SEE
IF THERE'RE ANY MORE
OF THESE MURDEROUS
MAGGOTS AROUND.

TIE THIS
ONE UP AND
BLAST THAT
TURNED OVER
TURTLE.

HEY!
HOLD
ON!



I TOLD YOU TO
SHUT YOUR FACE,
MUTANT LEADER!



ECHO, THIS ONE...
THE **MECHANICAL MAN!**
COME QUICKLY!



THIS ROBOT MAY
BE ELSE THAN HE
SEEMS, ECHO.
IT IS WOUNDED,
PROBABLY SHOT
BY THAT MUTANT
LEADER.

IT MUMBLED
AN ANCIENT **CODE**
WORD FROM OUR
HOMELANDS... THEN
A **SPARK** JUMPED
FROM ITS NECK AND
IT FELL MUTE.



WHAT ANCIENT
CODE WORD DID
THIS THING SPEAK?

IT SAID,
"MOONTAINT".

AND? A WORD
NEVER SPAKE BY
MUTANT-KIND.
TRULY AN ANCIENT
PASSWORD, NEARLY
OUT OF MODERN
MEMORY.

YET... IT
MAY BE A
TRICK.



STILL, IF THIS TIN
MAN IS **NOT** ONE OF THE
MUTANT FORCES, IT
WOULD SIN OUR NAMES
TO LET IT **DIE** HERE.

RIGHT
HIM!



ECHO! THERE
ARE DEAD **GOBLINS**
UP HERE! A KNOCKED
OUT **GUN!** AND A
BUNKER!

LET US
GO SEE.
MACHINE-
MAN... CAN
YOU
MOVE?

UHH...
SLOWLY.



THE SOUND OF **GUNFIRE**
WE HEARD MUST HAVE COME
FROM **HERE.** THE HELMETED
GOBLIN **GENERAL** AND HIS GUN
CREW, NO DOUBT OPENED
FIRE ON THE METAL MAN.

THE ROBOT WAS
ARMED. HE MUST
BE A MUTANT
KILLER.

WE'LL **QUESTION**
OUR MUTANT CAPTIVE
BEFORE WE **KILL** HIM!





AND IF *STILL* YOU DON'T BELIEVE ME, CHECK THESE DEAD MUTANTS. YOU'LL SEE MY BUTCHERY THERE

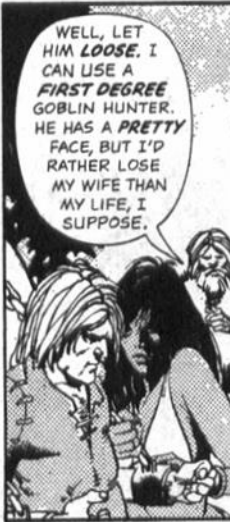
IF YOU THINK ME A *LIAR*, SLIP OFF THESE CHAINS... AND I'LL SHOW YOU A FANCY PIECE OF KNUCKLE-WORK.



WELL, THEN... I'LL TRUST MY INSTINCTS *AND* MY RUSTY FRIEND.

WHO IS THIS *BOY*, MACHINE-MAN? YOUR *FRIEND* OR THE ONE WHO *SHOT* YOU?

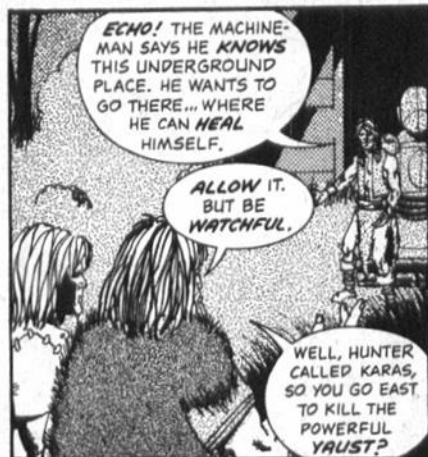
KARIS... GOBLIN HUNTER... *FIRST* DEGREE.



WELL, LET HIM *LOOSE*. I CAN USE A *FIRST* DEGREE GOBLIN HUNTER. HE HAS A *Pretty* FACE, BUT I'D RATHER LOSE MY WIFE THAN MY LIFE, I SUPPOSE.



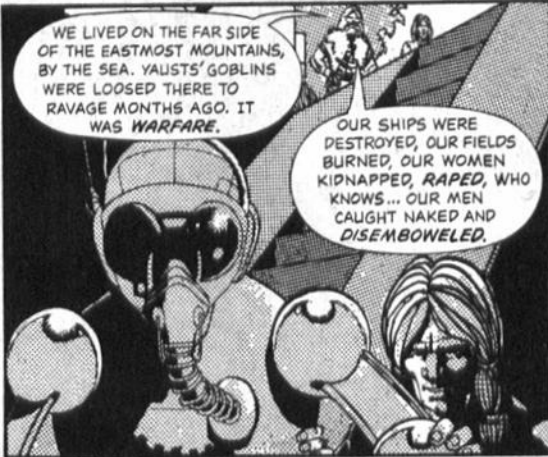
NO MERE *BOY* WILL TAKE ME FROM YOU, MY NOBLE HUSBAND.



ECHO! THE MACHINE-MAN SAYS HE *KNOWS* THIS UNDERGROUND PLACE. HE WANTS TO GO THERE... WHERE HE CAN *HEAL* HIMSELF.

ALLOW IT. BUT BE *WATCHFUL*.

WELL, HUNTER CALLED KARAS, SO YOU GO EAST TO KILL THE POWERFUL *YAUST*?



WE LIVED ON THE FAR SIDE OF THE EASTMOST MOUNTAINS, BY THE SEA. *YAUSTS'* GOBLINS WERE LOOSE THERE TO RAVAGE MONTHS AGO. IT WAS *WARFARE*.

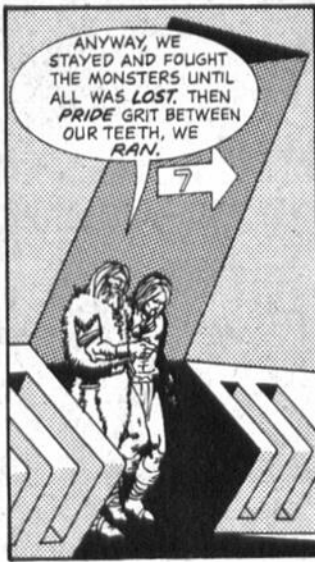
OUR SHIPS WERE DESTROYED, OUR FIELDS BURNED, OUR WOMEN KIDNAPPED, *RAPED*, WHO KNOWS... OUR MEN CAUGHT NAKED AND *DISEMBOWELED*.



I WAS A YOUNG MAN WHEN THE LAST OF THE *DEMON WAR* RAGED. ONLY THOSE *OLD* MEMORIES MATCH THE HORROR OF THESE *NEW* ONES. IT SEEMS THAT THIS *YAUST* HAD BEEN BUSY BREEDING THESE MONSTERS TO UNLEASH ON THE EARTH... FOR ONLY GOD KNOWS WHAT *PURPOSE*.

ECHO, HE SAYS IT'S GOOD TO BE IN FAMILIAR *SURROU--!*

SHORNDURST, SPARE ME THE RUNNING TRANSLATION. JUST LET HIM *FIX* HIMSELF.

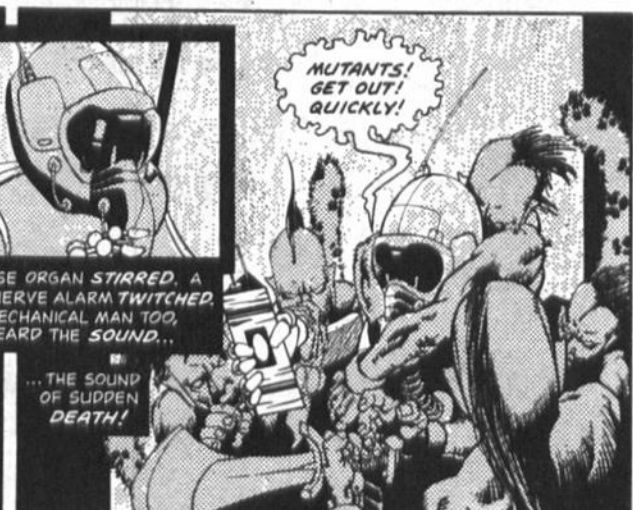
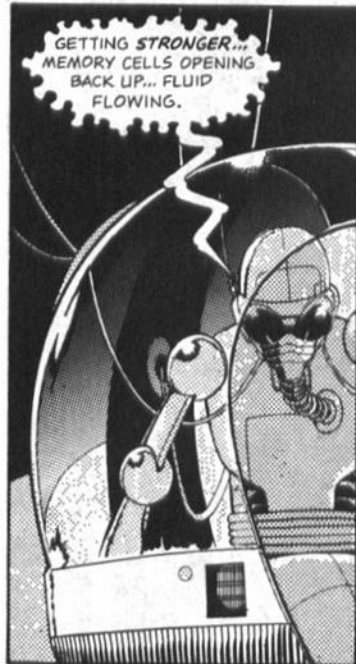


ANYWAY, WE STAYED AND FOUGHT THE MONSTERS UNTIL ALL WAS *LOST*. THEN *PRIDE* GRIT BETWEEN OUR TEETH, WE *RAN*.



ONLY *MY* WIFE WAS SPARED FROM BEING TAKEN. THE *OTHER* MEN DIE DAILY FROM MEMORY OF THEIR WIVES, DAUGHTERS AND MOTHERS IN THE HANDS OF *MONSTERS*.

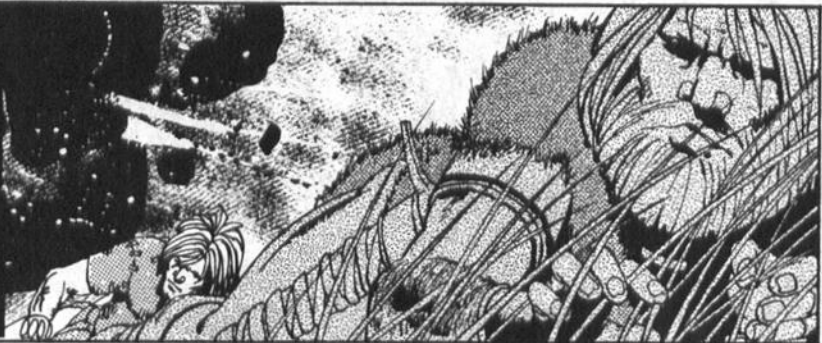
IT MAKES ME *HEARTSICK*.

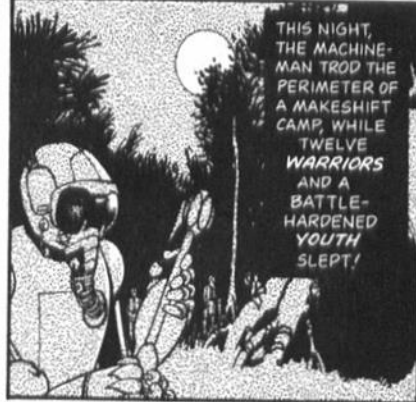




DEEP FROM THE BOWELS OF THE UNDERGROUND CAVERN CAME BASS RUMBLINGS, AND THE LABYRINTH WAS FOREVER SEALED... ALONG WITH ALL WITHIN

A ONCE NOBLE OUTPOST TRANSFORMED INTO A GOBLIN NEST, WAS NOW AND EVER HENCE, **SANCTIFIED** BY HEROISM.





THIS NIGHT, THE MACHINE-MAN TROD THE PERIMETER OF A MAKESHIFT CAMP, WHILE TWELVE WARRIORS AND A BATTLE-HARDENED YOUTH SLEPT!



FOR A TIME, GENTLE EYES *RESTED* ON THE YOUTHFUL KARAS HUNTER. BUT FOOLISH, ROMANTIC *DREAMS* SOON PULLED EVEN THE *GIRL* INTO A HEAVY SLUMBER.



AND THEN... A WARRIOR *STIRRED*, HIS EYES PARTING ABOUT, TO BE SURE THAT NONE *OBSERVED* HIM...



...AS HE HASTILY *RAN* INTO THE DENSE NIGHT WOODS!



AARGH! SOMEBODY SHOOT DOWN THE SUN BEFORE IT WRECKS A PERFECTLY GOOD DREAM!



GOOD MORNING, KARAS HUNTER. DID YOU KNOW YOU ARE *PRETTY* WHEN YOU SLEEP?



WELL...GOOD MORNING AND THANK YOU, YOU'RE *PRETTY TOO... ALL THE TIME!*



ECHO! ECHO! MY BROTHER, DUMAS, IS *GONE!* GOBLINS HAVE *STOLEN* HIM DURING THE NIGHT!



THERE HAVE BEEN *NO* GOBLINS *HERE!*

DUMAS... IS A *TRAITOR!*



YOU JUNK HEAP! I'LL *KILL* YOU FOR THAT ACCUSATION! WHAT GIVES YOU THE *RIGHT* TO ACCUSE ANYO--!

BEHOLD YOUR BROTHER!



MY GOD!
IT IS
DUMAS!

ALL THIS TIME
WE CARRIED A
SPY IN OUR
MIDST.

WHY? WHY
WOULD HE DO
THIS TO US? WE
ARE FAMILY!

WE'RE DOOMED.
HE'S BROUGHT
HUNDREDS...

...OF KILLER
GOBLINS!

FOR WEALTH...
POWER... OR
MAYBE EVEN
FOR FEAR!



IN THE ANCIENT SCROLLS OF
HISTORY IT TOLD OF TWO
BROTHERS.

ONE MURDER
MAKES A VILLIAN!



ONE BROTHER ROSE
UP AGAINST THE
OTHER, AND SLEW
HIM.

A DOZEN
MURDERS
MAKES A
HERO!



IT HAS TAKEN
A THOUSAND
YEARS TWICE!

BOAAM!



BUT ABEL IS AT
LAST AVENGED.

HENCE... I
AM FOREVER MARKED...
VILLAIN!



HERE THEY
COME!
FOLLOW
ME!



NO! THERE
ARE TOO MANY
OF THEM! WE...
WE MUST RUN
AGAIN!

RUN OR FIGHT... YOU
HAD BEST
DECIDE
QUICKLY...



...OR THE
DECISION WILL
BE MADE FOR
YOU!



EVERYONE, GET
THROUGH THIS PASS.
I'LL STAY HERE AND
GUARD YOUR RETREAT.

THE PASS IS
NARROW, WE CAN
HOLD THEM FOR
AWHILE!



NO, KARAS! IT IS YOUR QUEST TO THE MOUNTAIN OF YAUST THAT MUST BE **FINISHED**. I'LL HOLD THE PASS, ALONE!



THERE IS ONLY **ONE** RESOLVE HERE. **HUNTER** MUST KILL THE MONSTER, **YAUST**. YOU, MACHINE-MAN, MUST SHOW THE WAY.



ME AND MY WARRIORS HAVE BEEN CHASED A **THOUSAND MILES** FROM OUR HOMES. WE RUN NOT **ONE FOOT** FURTHER.



WE STAND **HERE**. IN THIS PASS WE WILL STAND FOUR ABREAST, LOCK OUR SHIELDS...



...AND **STOP** THE ENEMY.



TAKE CARE OF THEM, MY WIFE. THEY NEED **MOTHERING**.

AND REMEMBER ME... I LOVE YOU FAR BEYOND THIS HOUR...

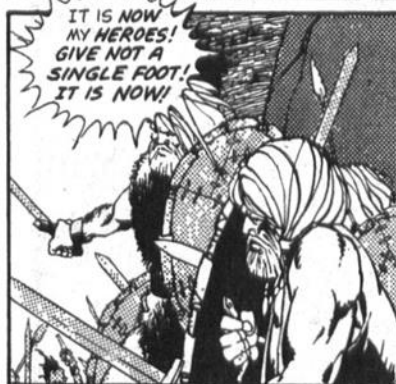


...FAR BEYOND THIS **FINAL** HOUR...



AAIEEE! COME NOW, GUT-EATERS!

COME TASTE THE BLADES OF THOSE WHO DO NOT FEAR YOU!



IT IS NOW MY **HEROES!** GIVE NOT A **SINGLE FOOT!** IT IS NOW!



THE DIN OF DIRE **BATTLE** WELLED FROM THE VALLEY FLOOR AND FILLED THE WORLD WITH **HOPE**.



CRIES OF THE DEAD AND THE DEFIANT ROSE ABOVE THE CLANG OF SWORD UPON SHIELD.



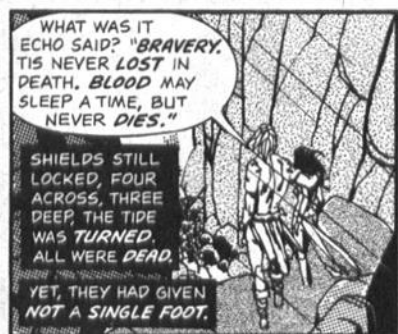
THE LEGION OF MUTANT WARRIORS **SWELLED** AND **BROKE**, AGAIN AND AGAIN AGAINST THE SHIELDS OF TWELVE BRAVE MEN...

...LIKE WAVES CRASHING AND **BREAKING** AGAINST THE EVERLASTING SHORE ROCKS.



THEN ALL WAS SILENT.

IT'S... **FINISHED**.



WHAT WAS IT ECHO SAID? "**BRAVERY**. TIS NEVER **LOST** IN DEATH. **BLOOD** MAY SLEEP A TIME, BUT NEVER **DIES**."

SHIELDS STILL LOCKED, FOUR ACROSS, THREE DEEP, THE TIDE WAS **TURNUED**. ALL WERE **DEAD**.

YET, THEY HAD GIVEN NOT A **SINGLE FOOT**.

WHILE THEY LAST!

JAMES BOND 007

POSTERS!

EXCLUSIVE! MOTION PICTURE POSTERS. ORIGINAL FULL-SIZE ONE SHEETS IN COLOR AND MINT CONDITION! FEATURES BOND, HIS FOES, AND HIS WOMEN.

These are the films that made Bond famous! And the world's most indestructible spy is back in the form of magnificent collector's item posters. Each is a big 27"x40", and will add a touch of intrigue to your favorite wall. But our supply of these rare, high-quality pin-ups is limited, so be sure to order yours today!



FROM RUSSIA WITH LOVE #1
Two Color
Matte Finish
#2956 \$4.00



DR NO
Full Color
Matte Finish
#2955 \$5.00



GOLDFINGER
Full Color
Glossy Finish
#2958 \$5.00



FROM RUSSIA WITH LOVE #2
Two Color
Matte Finish
#2957 \$4.00

ASTONISHING! BRAND-NEW VINYL WHOLE-HEAD HORROR MASKS!

NEW! FROM HOLLYWOOD! VINYL MOVIE MONSTER MASKS!

They fit the whole head. Sturdy flexible but unbreakable all-weather vinyl masks. Reasonably priced so you can buy 'em ALL! All great!



"THIN" FRANKENSTEIN! For the narrow-minded, this long-face Frank's a must! "THIN" FRANKENSTEIN \$8.95 #2555



THE SKULL! Immense, oversized skull! Classic for the Calcium Clique! And quite cracked! #2556 THE SKULL \$8.95



VERMILION SKULL! A fearful fiery Roasting Red! The hard-headed hit of Hades! #2557 VERMILION SKULL \$8.95



WOLFMAN! Really new-fangled way to break friends & influential people! #2558 WOLFMAN \$8.95



METALUNA ROBOT! A metal man, shining silver. It could be YOU! #2559 METALUNA ROBOT \$8.95



"WIDE" FRANKENSTEIN! The square-headed monster built will DEMAND this! #2560 "WIDE" FRANKENSTEIN \$8.95



THE PHANTOM! His skull-like face and flaring nostrils could make a statue sweat blood! #2561 THE PHANTOM \$8.95



THE MUMMY! He leers at you from the AGES, this ghost-propelled corpse of fainted Tannis! #2562 THE MUMMY \$8.95



THE HUNCHBACK! Deformed creature cursed to slink through countless catacombs! #2563 THE HUNCHBACK \$8.95



MR. HYDE! The first and last (choking) word in beast-men! The sawney Fiend of Fiends! #2564 MR. HYDE \$8.95



TOR JOHNSON! One of the greatest character actors of all time! Now YOU can be him! Perfect! #2565 TOR JOHNSON \$8.95

To order any of these items, please see last page of this magazine

PROLOGUE

THE SITUATION REACHED CRISIS PROPORTIONS SEVEN YEARS AGO.



OVERPOPULATION WAS THE ROOT FROM WHICH ALL OTHER PROBLEMS STEMMED...SO THE GOVERNMENT INSTITUTED A SIX-POINT **PROGRAM** DESIGNED TO CURB THE **BIRTH RATE**, PROMISING THAT THESE MEASURES WOULD ONLY BE **TEMPORARY**.

AS USUAL, GOVERNMENTAL **OPTIMISM** ENGENDERED ONLY **FALSE HOPES**. IN THOSE SEVEN YEARS **FAMINE** AND **DISEASE** CLAIMED HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF LIVES.



BUT IT WAS NOWHERE NEAR ENOUGH.

EDICTS WERE ISSUED PROHIBITING ALL **CARNAL PRACTICES** SAVE **HOMOSEXUALITY**, WHICH POSED NO THREAT OF **PREGNANCY**. ALL UNBORN CHILDREN WERE SUBJECT TO IMMEDIATE **ABORTION**. THE **MOTHERS** WERE **IMPRISONED**. THE **FATHERS**, IF DISCOVERED, WERE **CASTRATED**.



ALL **CRIMES**, FROM JAYWALKING TO THEFT, WERE PUNISHABLE BY DEATH, SAVE **MURDER**, WHICH WAS REDUCED TO A **MISDEMEANOR**. MURDERERS WERE, IN ESSENCE, DOING SOCIETY A FAVOR.

WHILE **THESE** MEASURES WERE PRESENTED TO A DEEPERATE PUBLIC, THE ELECTED LEADERS IN WASHINGTON HAD A **SECRET PLAN** FOR DIMINISHING THE NATION'S **NUMBERS**.

GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, LED BY THE C/I, WENT AMONG THE POPULACE, FOSTERING **DISCONTENT** AND **REVOLUTION**.

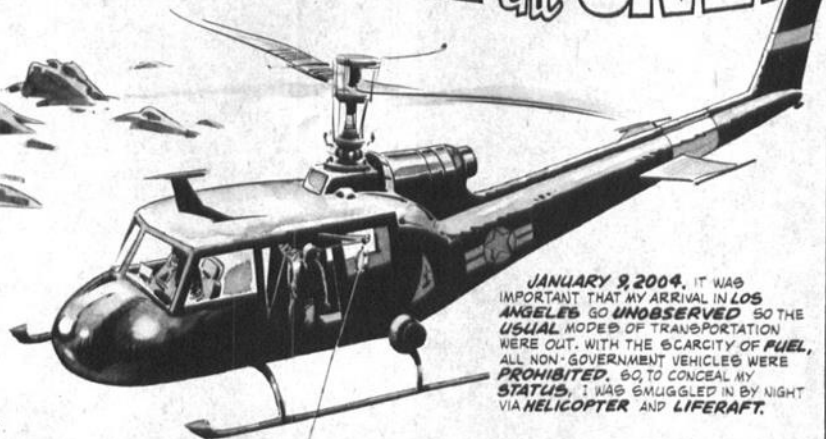
FOR, LET'S **FACE** IT...A LOT OF PEOPLE **DIE** IN A REVOLUTION.



CODE NAME:

SLAUGHTER FIVE

FROM *the* CRADLE *to* the GRAVE



JANUARY 9, 2004, IT WAS IMPORTANT THAT MY ARRIVAL IN LOS ANGELES GO UNOBSERVED SO THE USUAL MODES OF TRANSPORTATION WERE OUT. WITH THE SCARCITY OF FUEL, ALL NON-GOVERNMENT VEHICLES WERE PROHIBITED. SO TO CONCEAL MY STATUS, I WAS SMUGGLED IN BY NIGHT VIA HELICOPTER AND LIFERAFT.

I WAS HERE WITH A MISSION. TO INCITE THE MASSES TO REVOLT, WHILE INSURING THAT THEIR ORGANIZATION AND ARTILLERY WERE INSUFFICIENT FOR SUCCESS.

ALL THE GOVERNMENT **WANTED** WAS A LEGITIMATE EXCUSE FOR **MASS MURDER**. NOT ONLY WOULD IT RID THE WORLD OF EXCESS **POPULATION**, BUT IT'D ALSO DETER **FUTURE** INSURGENCE IF CONDITIONS **WORSENED**.

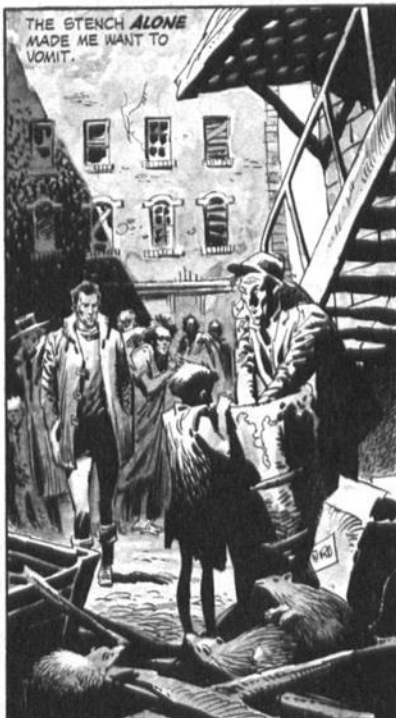


A SMALL REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENT HAD ALREADY **BEGUN** IN L.A. MY JOB WAS TO INFILTRATE IT, WORK MY WAY UP TO THE COMMAND ECHELON, AND DIRECT ITS COURSE.



AT FIRST, I **BALKED** AT THE IDEA. BUT AS I LOOKED AT THE **POVERTY** AND **MISERY** OF THE WORLD, I SAW THAT **SOME MUST DIE** FOR OTHERS TO **LIVE**.

LOS ANGELES, LIKE MOST URBAN AREAS, SUFFERED **MOST** FROM THE BLIGHT OF OVERPOPULATION. **SANITATION** EFFORTS WERE **FUTILE**, AND THE STREETS WERE LINED WITH **WASTE** AND **REFUSE**.



WASHINGTON ADVISED ME THAT MY PRIMARY LEAD WOULD BE **JESSICA WINTHROP**, A RADICAL **ACTIVIST** WHO FANCIED HERSELF A **SAVIOURETTE**. IT TOOK ME ONLY **FOUR DAYS** TO TRACE HER WHEREABOUTS.





THE SUNSHINE ONLY **AGGRAVATED** AND **ENRICHED** THE PUTRID STENCH THAT HUNG IN THE AIR. THE CITY SEEMED A DECAYING **MAUSOLEUM!** INFESTED BY HUMAN **MAGGOTS.**

I FELT MY FINGERS **CONSTRUCT** INVOLUNTARILY IN MUTE ANSWER TO HER PLEA. I **WANTED** TO KILL HER, GOD KNOWS, IF ONLY TO BLOT THIS **UGLINESS** FROM MY SIGHT.

BUT MURDER, EVEN **EUTHANASIA**, WAS STILL A MISDEMEANOR, AND I COULDN'T **ENDANGER** MY MISSION BY ATTRACTING UNDUE **ATTENTION.** HER CRIES JOINED THE UNIVERSAL **WHIMPER** THAT SEEMED TO HOVER OVER THE CITY.

K-KILL M-ME...
P-PLEASE S-SOMEBODY
...KILL...ME...!

WON'T YOU K-KILL
M-ME... M-MISTER...
PLEASE...?

K-KILL ME...
P-PLEASE...!

ELSEWHERE, THAT NIGHT...!

I STILL THINK YOU ARE **WRONG** TO **TRUST** THAT MAN, JESSICA. FROM WHAT YOU TOLD ME, HE IS **TOO** CLEVER, TOO **CONFIDENT.** HE WILL **HURT** OUR CAUSE...!

YOU THINK I AM **WRONG** TO **TRUST** ANY MAN, ANY. THE GOVERNMENT'S **SEXUALITY** **EDICT** SUITED YOUR NATURE PERFECTLY. BUT NOT MINE.

I'M **SORRY.** I SHOULDN'T HAVE **SAID** THAT.

IF YOU **OPPOSE** THE **EDICT**, WHY DO YOU **OBEY** IT?

BECAUSE IT IS **LAW.** I CAN'T GIVE THE GOVERNMENT **ANY** **EXCUSE** TO **ARREST** ME... THE MOVEMENT **NEEDS** ME.

YOU COULD **ABSTAIN**...!

ANY, WE **ALL** NEED WARMTH AND LOVE, AND NO MATTER WHAT I **PREFER,** LOVE...EVEN LOVE FROM ANOTHER **WOMAN** IS BETTER THAN **NO** LOVE AT ALL.

BESIDES, THERE IS A **CRISIS** GOING ON. I HAVE TO MAKE **CONCESSIONS** AND **COMPROMISES** LIKE EVERYONE ELSE.

MEANWHILE, I PICKED UP AN EVENING NEWSPAPER. ALTHOUGH PEOPLE RARELY READ THEM ANYMORE, THEY CONTINUED TO BE **PUBLISHED**, MAINLY TO CARRY THE GOVERNMENT EDICTS TO THE PEOPLE.

THE CONTENTS WERE **TYPICAL**.



AS I SAID... **TYPICAL**.

I SPENT THE NIGHT AT A **HOSTEL**, IN THE COMPANY OF TWO UNSAVORY MEN WHO INSISTED ON **ELABORATING** IN GREAT DETAIL UPON THE FOREMENTIONED NEWS ITEMS.



THE FOLLOWING MORNING, JESSICA'S COUNCIL **CONTACTED** ME AS PROMISED. TWO MENIALS ESCORTED ME TO A CRAMPED **REFRIGERATION CHAMBER** BENEATH AN ABANDONED FLORIST SHOP.



IN CHINA, A THOUSAND OF **BUDDHIST MONKS** MARCHED INTO THE SEA LIKE **LEMMINGS** IN A NOBLE **SUICIDE** GESTURE TO PROVIDE MORE FOOD FOR THEIR PEOPLE.

HERE IN **LOS ANGELES**, AUTHORITIES GROW ALARMED AT THE INCREASING INCIDENTS OF **CANNIBALISM**, AND THREATEN TO CALL IN THE **NATIONAL GUARD** IF IT CONTINUES.




ONE OF THEM TOLD ME HOW HIS OWN **APARTMENT** BUILDING HAD BEEN **BESIEGED** BY AN INSANE, HALF-STARVED MOB WHO TRIED TO **DEVOUR** ITS OCCUPANTS.

IT MAY SOUND PREPOSTEROUS, BUT **SIMILAR** INCIDENTS HAVE BEEN REPORTED THROUGHOUT THE CITY. **CANNIBALISM** WAS BECOMING AN **EPIDEMIC** OF MAJOR PROPORTIONS.






I'M IMPRESSED.
I DOUBT WE'LL HAVE ANY
PROBLEM WITH UNWANTED
EAVESDROPPERS HERE!




EAVESDROPPERS ARE
THE **LEAST** OF OUR FEARS.
OR HAVEN'T YOU BEEN PAYING
ATTENTION TO THE **NEWS**?

THIS SECTION OF THE
CITY HAS SUFFERED
SEVERAL CASES OF
CANNIBALISM THE
PAST FEW DAYS!



THERE SEEMS TO BE NO
WAY TO **CONTROL** THE MOBS
ONCE THEY ARE FORMED. MASS
HYSTERIA SETS IN, AND
THINGS JUST REACH
INCREDIBLE PROPORTIONS.
I THINK WE'D BE WISE TO FIND
A NEW **HEADQUARTERS**
BEFORE THE SITUATION
WORSENS.

POSSIBLY. BUT
NOW TO THE BUSINESS
AT HAND...




...WE'VE DECIDED
AGAINST AN ALLIANCE
WITH **CORD**. THE MERGER
WOULD GENERATE TOO
MUCH **ACTIVITY** AND
UNDPULY AROUSE THE
SUSPICIONS OF THE
GOVERNMENT.

BESIDES, WE
HAVE **ENOUGH**
TROUBLE
CONTROLLING THE
SMALL GROUP
ALREADY AT OUR
COMMAND.



AS FOR YOURSELF, MR.
AMES, YOU SHOW THE KIND OF
ENTHUSIASM AND **INITIATIVE**
WE **NEED**! IF YOU WOULD
LIKE TO JOIN US, WE WOULD
WELCOME YOU!

JESSICA'S RECOMMENDATION
IS **MORE** THAN SUFFICIENT.




THEY COULDN'T HAVE BEEN MORE
COOPERATIVE IF THEY WERE
READING FROM A PREARRANGED
SCRIPT. I ACCEPTED IMMEDIATELY
AND SIGHED INWARDLY AS THE MOST
DIFFICULT PART OF MY
MISSION WAS SUCCESSFULLY
CONCLUDED.



NOT ONLY HAD I WON A **PLACE** WITHIN
THE GROUP BUT I HAD GAINED THEIR
RESPECT AS WELL.


HOW MANY **PEOPLE**
CAN WE MUSTER FOR THE
REVOLUTION? HUNDREDS,
THOUSANDS?

THE MAPS AND PLANS WERE CAREFULLY
DRAWN OUT, **METICULOUS** IN EVERY
DETAIL.




THE MASSES ARE TOO **DISORGANIZED**... TOO POORLY **TRAINED** TO BE OF ANY VALUE. THEY WOULD **HINDER** RATHER THAN **HELP** US.

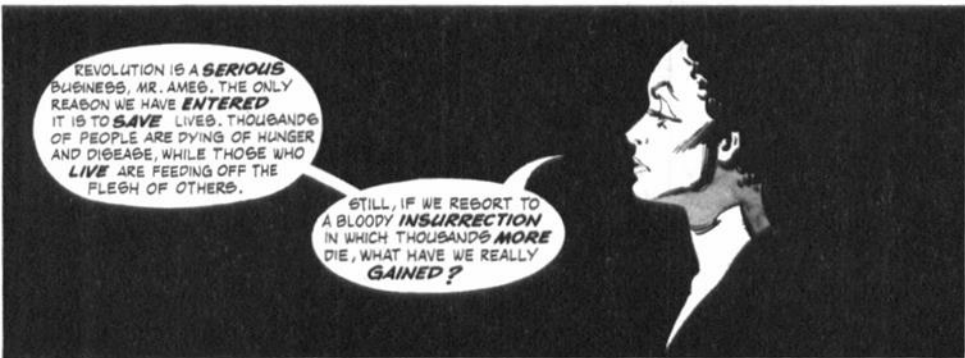
NUMBERS WILL NOT WIN THIS WAR... ONLY SWIFT, DECISIVE **STRATEGIC ACTION!**



BUT SURELY THERE IS **STRENGTH** IN **NUMBERS**. IMAGINE THOUSANDS OF BODIES, FIGHTING SIDE BY SIDE FOR A COMMON CAUSE... **OUR CAUSE!**



AN **OUTMODED** CONCEPT. THE DAY OF THE MASS REVOLUTION IS PASTED, MADE **OBSOLETE** BY TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPED DURING THE **VIETNAM** WAR, FORTY YEARS AGO!




REVOLUTION IS A **SERIOUS** BUSINESS, MR. AMES. THE ONLY REASON WE HAVE **ENTERED** IT IS TO **SAVE** LIVES. THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE ARE DYING OF HUNGER AND DISEASE, WHILE THOSE WHO **LIVE** ARE FEEDING OFF THE FLESH OF OTHERS.

STILL, IF WE RESORT TO A BLOODY **INSURRECTION** IN WHICH THOUSANDS **MORE** DIE, WHAT HAVE WE REALLY **GAINED?**

HER WORDS STRUCK SOME LATENT **DOUBTS** IN THE BACK OF MY MIND, AND A NEW **PERSPECTIVE** BEGAN TO TAKE SHAPE. THESE PEOPLE WERE NOT THE RADICAL **POLITICOS** MY SUPERIORS TRIED TO MAKE ME BELIEVE... THEY WERE RATIONAL **MILITARY STRATEGISTS!**

MORE THAN THAT...!



THEY'RE **THINKERS... PLANNERS...** BUILDING A FUTURE ON HOPE, ON POSITIVE ACTION. YET THEY'RE THE ONLY ONES WHO'VE THREATENED THE EXISTING **POWER STRUCTURE** ... AND THUS, MUST BE **DESTROYED**.

I THOUGHT OF THE **OTHERS** OUTSIDE. THE SHEEP WHO WOULD CONTINUE TO BLEAT AND MOAN AND EXIST UNTIL THEY **DIED**, DOCILELY, PASSIVELY.



WHO REALLY CARED ABOUT **THEM?** THE **GOVERNMENT?** NO. FIVE YEARS **EXPERIENCE** CONVINCED ME OTHERWISE.

THE **REVOLUTIONARIES**?
PERHAPS. UNDENIABLY, IT WAS A
GAMBLE, BUT IN SEVEN YEARS
OF **PROMISES**, THE LORDS OF
WASHINGTON BROUGHT ONLY
FAMINE, DISEASE, SUICIDE, AND
CANNIBALISM.

AND THEIR ONLY SOLUTION WAS
SLAUGHTER.



MY DECISION WAS **MADE**. WASHINGTON
WOULD BE MOST **DISPLEASED**, BUT
THEY WOULD NEVER **KNOW** UNTIL IT
WAS TOO LATE, THAT THERE WOULD
BE **NO SABOTAGE**.

BE **CAREFUL**, MARSHALL.
THE **CANNIBAL MOBS ARE**
PLAGUING THE NEIGHBORHOOD
...AND **GOD HELP** US IF
THEY SHOULD FIND OUR **LAIR**!



BEFORE I GO, JESSICA
...THERE'S SOMETHING YOU
SHOULD **KNOW** ABOUT ME...!

IT'S NOT **NECESSARY**,
MARSHALL. WE'VE KNOWN
FROM THE VERY
BEGINNING.

THEN
WHY DID
YOU--?



BECAUSE I SAW THE
NOBLE **INTENTIONS** BENEATH
YOUR PHONY COVER. I COULD
SEE THAT YOU WANTED TO
HELP **HUMANITY**, AND
WERE DOING IT IN THE **BEST**
WAY YOU KNEW HOW.

I KNEW IF I COULD
SHOW YOU A **BETTER**
WAY, YOU WOULD **JOIN**
US. AND SOMEONE IN
YOUR POSITION
WOULD BE AN
INVALUABLE AID.



I SUPPOSE I SHOULD
RESENT BEING **USED** THAT
WAY, BUT I'M NOT ONE TO
CAST THE FIRST
STONE.

AS YOU SAID,
IT'S ALL WORKED
OUT FOR THE
BEST...?



THE REFRIGERATOR DOOR WAS FOUR INCHES OF SOLID STEEL, WHICH EXPLAINS WHY I DIDN'T HEAR THE SHUFFLING AND GROWLING WITHOUT.



WHEN I DID, IT WAS ALREADY TOO LATE.

OH, LORD! THEY MUST HAVE FOLLOWED US TO THE CHAMBER... THEN WAITED OUT THERE LIKE BUZZARDS FOR THE DOOR TO OPEN!

I KNEW WE SHOULD HAVE CHANGED HEADQUARTERS WHEN THE FIRST WAVE STARTED...!



BUT THE TIME FOR RECRIMINATIONS WAS PAST. ONLY ONE QUESTION BURNED IN MY MIND...

...WHO WOULD SAVE MANKIND WHEN WE WERE GONE?



FOOD!
FOOD!
FOOD!



I SQUIRMED AND STRUGGLED, BUT DESPERATION FOSTERED UNNATURAL STRENGTH WITHIN THEM.

THE OTHERS WERE DEAD, TAKEN BY SURPRISE WITH THE FIRST ASSAULT. IRONIC THAT THIS MADDENED MOB SHOULD SUCCEED IN THEIR OWN TYPE OF REVOLUTION WITHOUT THE CAREFUL PLANNING THAT SEEMED SO IMPORTANT.



YET EVEN AS MY FLESH WAS RIPPED, AND CLAWED, AND STRIPPED, ONE PHRASE HELD FAST AND DIED IN MY MIND.



FATHER, FORGIVE THEM... THEY KNOW NOT WHAT THEY ARE DOING.



EL CID

EL CID!
EL CID!
WE ARE
PROTECTED
BY GOD AND
EL CID!

DON DIEGUEZ!
I SEE CHRISTIANS
AND MOORS GALLOPING
TOWARD VIVAR! IT IS
EL CID CAMPEADOR!

LOOK HERE, EL CID
HAS CAPTURED ALL
THE MOORS!

NO! MY SON
CAPTURES ONLY
THE LEADERS! HE
SLAYS THE
REST!

EL CID! EL CID!
WE ARE LOVED BY
GOD AND EL CID!

CROOKED MOUTH



H-HAIL...!



HAIL...
CID!



HAIL, FATHER
OF CID!



LET YOUR CAPTAINS SEE TO
YOUR MEN AND PRISONERS.
RODRIGUEZ, COME INSIDE
AND WE'LL TOAST HEAVEN
FOR YOUR SAFE RETURN.

FINE, FATHER, BUT
TELL YOUR SERVANTS
TO PREPARE BATH,
BED AND FOOD FOR
THE MOORS.



WHAT?
WHAT DO
I HEAR?

CID! YOU KNOW ME. I AM CRUZ. I
HAVE LIVED HERE ALL MY LIFE, WATCHING
YOU GROW FROM A BOY INTO A MAN. I
LOVE YOU AND HAVE PRIDE IN YOU.
BUT YOU ARE ACTING STRANGELY. YOU
CANNOT TREAT THESE MOORS AS IF
THEY WERE GUESTS IN YOUR HOUSE!
KILL THEM!



THESE MOORS ARE GREAT NOBLEMEN.
I CONQUERED THEM IN NOBLE COMBAT,
AND WE MUST TREAT THEM AS NOBLEMEN!

WE ARE CHRISTIANS
OF OLD STOCK...

COME NOW, BE QUIET,
OLD MAN! YOU DON'T
UNDERSTAND ANYTHING!



YES, I **AM** OLD AND YOU ARE NOTHING BUT A YOUNG MAN, DON RODRIGUEZ. YOU HAVE NOT YET **SEEN** WHAT I HAVE SEEN IN **OTHER** TIMES.



CID! KILL THEM! THEY ARE **ENEMY** TO **US**, OUR **LAND**, OUR **GOD!**

WOULD YOU **KILL** THEM IN THE NAME OF **CID**, **SPAIN** OR **GOD?** WHICH WOULD **JUSTIFY** **MURDER?**



ESCORT THESE **NOBLES** INTO MY **FATHER'S** **HOUSE!** **REMOVE** THEIR **BONDS** AND **SPEAK** TO THEM **NOT** WITH **GRIT** **TEETH!**



CRUZ, GO **HOME**, IT'S **COLD**. YOU'VE A **FIRE** AND **STEW** **WAITING**, OLD **FATHER**. LET ME **FIGHT** YOUR **WARS**.



YES, **CID**. I WOULD LIKE TO LET YOU **FIGHT** MY **WARS**,... BUT **GIVING** **COMFORT** TO MY **ENEMIES** IS **TREASON** TO ME... AND MY **KING!**



IS IT NOT SAID THAT **YOUNG** **MEN** **RIDE** THEIR **CHARIOTS** TO **WAR** WHILE THE **OLD** **MEN** **RIDE** THEIR **ARM** **CHAIRS?**



IT IS **FITTING**.



FOR THE **YOUNG** **MEN** **FEEL** **NOT** THE **COLD**, WHILE THE **OLD** **STOP** TO **LOOK** FOR **HEARTHFIRES**.



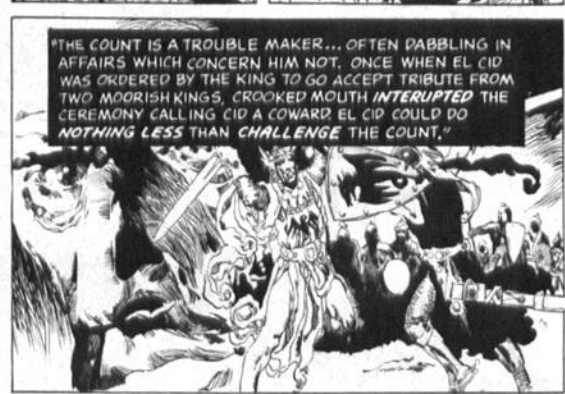
WHAT **WAR** WAS **WON** SITTING BESIDE A **FIRE?** WHAT **BATTLE** **FOUGHT** BY **GRAY** **WHISKERED** **OLD** **MEN** **WARMING** THE **COLD** FROM THEIR **BONES?**

BRING ME A **HOT** **DRINK**, **STRONG!** I'M GOING TO **BURGOS!**



AND WHAT **MISSIONS** OF **URGENCY** SERENELY **FORGOTTEN** BY **POWERFUL** **BREWS** THAT **NUMB** THE **MIND?**

BURGOS? I JUST I JUST **CAME** FROM THERE. THERE WAS **HEAVY** **SNOWFALL** LAST **NIGHT**.





NO!
CROOKED
MOUTH!

THE COUNT
HATES THE
MOORS...



...AND CID
HATES NO
MAN!"

PERHAPS
THE REASON
YOUR MOUTH
IS SO
CROOKED...



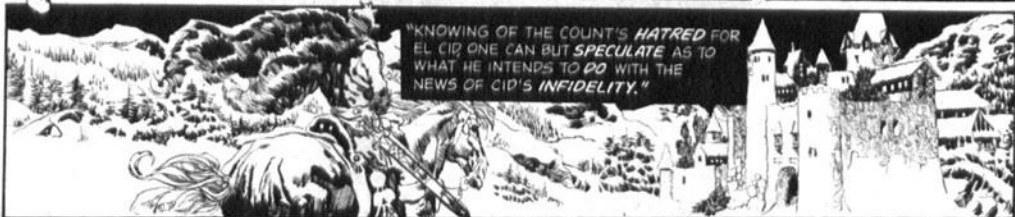
...IS BECAUSE YOUR
BEARD IS ON TOO TIGHT!
THERE IT'S LOOSE NOW!

THUS THE COUNT BELIEVES
CID'S CHRISTIANITY TO
BE COWARDICE! EL CID..!



I'LL GET YOU FOR
THIS, CID! I'LL
HAVE MY REVENGE!
COWARD! COWARD.

...WAS THERE EVER A
MAN LIKE HIM? TO EVEN
LOVE HIS ENEMIES
ENOUGH TO PROTECT
THEM FROM HIS ALLIES!"



"KNOWING OF THE COUNT'S HATRED FOR
EL CID ONE CAN BUT SPECULATE AS TO
WHAT HE INTENDS TO DO WITH THE
NEWS OF CID'S INFIDELITY."



YES, ONE CAN BUT SPECULATE, BUT I TELL
YOU THIS! THE SHARPNESS OF THE
TONGUE IF APPLIED JUST SO, IS MORE
DEADLY THAN ANY SWORDPOINT. AND
THE COUNT WAS TONGUES AT COURT..."



...AND HE DOES FULL
WELL KNOW HOW TO
USE THEM. HE CAN
BUT TAKE A GRAIN
OF GOSSIP..."



...DROP IT IN
A FERTILE
EAR..."



BRING...
EL CID TO
ME.

...AND BEFORE THE SUN COMES UP, THAT GRAIN HAS BECOME A HARVEST OF DANGEROUS,
VINDICTIVE AND UGLY RUMORS WHICH CAN EVEN SCYTHE DOWN ONE SO GREAT AS EL CID, HIMSELF."





MEANWHILE,
A NOBLE CID
RIDES TO
BURGOS, UN-
AWARE OF
ANY
DANGER...

...WHEN
SUDDENLY...!



IN
CHRIST'S
NAME!



WHAT MANNER
OF FELL THING
IS THIS?



AAARRN-WARRRH!



IF... IF YOU HAVE... A MASTER...
TELL HIM YOU HAVE FOUND...
CID! SAY... CID IS THE ONE
WHO SLEW... YOU!



WHAT?!!! MY
ARMOR IS FROZEN!
CAN'T MOV... UHHNN!



JESUSSSSSS!

MAJESTY, I HAVE BEEN CONSULTING MY MAGICIANS AND THEY TELL ME THAT EL CID WILL NOT DARE SHOW HIS FACE IN YOUR COURTS.

YET EVEN AS THE LIES SLIP FROM ORDONEZ' CROOKED TONGUE, HE BEGINS TO BLEED AND WRITHE IN AGONY...!

GOOD GOD, SAVE US! WHAT MAGIC IS THIS! ORDONEZ IS POSSESSED! SUMMON MY PHYSICIANS! HE'S BLEEDING TO DEATH!

BLEEDING TO DEATH BY HIS OWN TREACHERY AND MAGICKS. I HAVE COME, MY KING. CID IS HERE.

YHAZEEEEE

I COME AT YOUR SUMMONS. BUT A MILE FROM THE CASTLE I WAS ATTACKED BY A HIDEOUS DEMON. WE FOUGHT. I BROKE MY SWORD ON THE MONSTER.

LIAR! TRAITOR! YOU VILLIAN! BANISH THE TRAITOR! DRAW AND QUARTER THE TRAITOR! LIAR!

YOU FILTHY TRAITOR! YOU SHALL DIE FOR THIS

YOU! CROOKED MOUTH! YOU CONJURED UP A MONSTER TO SET IN MY WAY!

TO KILL ME, TO KEEP FROM ANSWERING THE CHARGES THAT YOU BEGAN AGAINST ME! IT WAS YOUR MONSTER! YOURS!

NO! NO, I SWEAR IT'S ANOTHER LIE!

THEN SWEAR! SWEAR TO CHRIST YOUR BLESSED SAVIOR, THEN KISS THE HOLY CROSS! KISS IT!

I... CANNOT!



WHAT'S **WRONG**?
WHY CAN YOU
NOT KISS THE
HOLY CRUCIFIX?



FATHER? CAN YOU
KISS THIS HOLY
SYMBOL?

WITH
HUMILITY
AND LOVE.



I CAN ALSO, **CID!**
AND WITH **PRIDE.**

THE KING EVEN
HUMBLES TO THE
SIGN OF GOD...



... BUT YOU CANNOT!
WHAT **MONSTER** DOES
QUAIL FROM THE HOLI-
NESS OF THE CROSS?

WHAT
MONSTER,
CROOKED MOUTH?
KISS IT!

NOOOO!
GET AWAY
FROM...



AND WHAT OF YOUR
EYE, CROOKED MOUTH?
WHAT **SMOTE** YOU?

IN THE NAME OF
GOD, CASTILE AND
THE KING...



... I DELIVER YOUR SOUL
FOR JUDGEMENT...!

SLEHT!



MAJESTY, FORGIVE ME.
AND HEAR ME. LISTEN
TO MY PLEA. FOR I
LOVE YOU...!

SPEAK TO
ME THEN,
RODRIGUEZ.



IT IS TRUE THAT I
HOUSE SEVERAL **MOORISH**
EMIRS IN MY FATHER'S
HOUSE. I DEFEATED THEM
IN COMBAT. THEY WERE
LORDS... NOBLEMEN!
THUS I GRANTED THEM
THE **RESPECT** OF THOSE
BORN **NOBLE.**

I THINK I
UNDERSTAND.
GO ON.

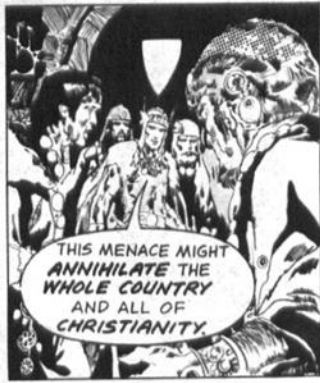


THESE MOORS ARE **POWERFUL**. TO KILL THEM WOULD ACCOMPLISH **NOTHING**. BUT SAVE THEIR LIVES, TREAT THEM AS HUMAN BEINGS, AND WE MAY WELL GAIN **ALLIES**!

WHY DO WE **NEED ALLIES**?



BECAUSE MANY PEOPLE SAY THAT THE **BERBERS** FROM AFRICA AND THE EAST ARE GOING TO LAUNCH ANOTHER **HOLY WAR** FOR ISLAM!



THIS MENACE MIGHT **ANNIHILATE** THE **WHOLE COUNTRY** AND ALL OF **CHRISTIANITY**.



IF WE **BECRIEND** THE MOORS, THEY **WON'T** JOIN THE **BERBERS**, BUT **US** INSTEAD. **WHY**? THE MOORS WERE BORN ON THE **SAME EARTH** AS **WE**. BREATHE THE **SAME AIR**. THEY **CHERISH** SPAIN AS **WE** **CHERISH** IT. THEY **LOVE** THE **ARTS** AND **SCIENCES**... **NOT** **DESTRUCTION**.

THEY HAVE **MUCH** TO PASS DOWN TO THEIR **CHILDREN**. THEY ARE **NO** DIFFERENT THAN **WE**. EXCEPT THEIR **SKIN** IS **DARKER**, AND THEY CALL **GOD** BY A DIFFERENT **NAME**.

WE SHALL BE A **UNITED SPAIN**. AND IT WILL BEGIN WITH **ME**.



GOD **BLESS** YOU, RODRIGUEZ. YOU BEAR **NO GUILT**.

BUT TELL ME. HOW DID YOU KNOW THAT **CROOKED MOUTH** INVENTED THAT DEMON TO **STOP** YOU FROM **COMING**?



A CONJURER PUTS HIS **DARK SOUL** INTO HIS CREATIONS. THUS DID **CROOKED MOUTH**. I **SLEW** THE **BEAST** WITH A **PAGGER** THROUGH THE **EYE**. AT THE MOMENT OF **THRUST**, ORDOÑEZ FELL WITH A **BLOODY SOCKET**.



THE **BEAST**, **CROOKED MOUTH** WAS **VANQUISHED**. A GREAT ENEMY AT END. YET THE **GREATEST ENEMIES** OF SPAIN AND EL CID YET **WAIT** BEYOND **TOMORROW'S HORIZON**.

"THE BEAST'S LOATHSOME PUSS-GREEN TENTACLES SLITHERED OVER, THEN **CRUSHED** THE GLASS VIEWING SCREEN OF THE LOST SPACE VESSEL. **AIR** EXPLODED **OUTWARD**, SUCKING THE BLOOD-PULP **JELLY** THAT WAS ONCE THE SHIP'S CREW MEMBERS INTO SPACE'S ICY BLACKNESS!"

"SLOWLY, METICULOUSLY, THE SLIME TENTACLES **GRASPED**, OOOZING TOWARDS THE BUBBLING HUMAN **MEAT**, DRAWING EVER CLOSER, **CLOSER** WITH ITS CRUSHING MAW!"

"THEN **SUDDENLY**, SEEMINGLY OUT OF NOWHERE, BURST **BUCK BLASTER** AND THE BEAUTIFUL **THELMA STARBUST!** WHIPPING HIS GRISLY **GAMMA GUN** FROM THE MOCK ALLIGATOR SKIN HOLSTER IN HIS RED PAISELY FIGHT SUIT, BUCK LEVELED IT DEAD CENTER BETWEEN WHAT HE MISTAKENLY TOOK FOR THE CREATURE'S BULBOUS EYES! AND **FIRED!**"

FZZZZAP!
TWAPP!
TINK!
TINK!

"IT WAS **OVER!** A STARRY-EYED THELMA PRESSED TIGHTLY AGAINST BUCK'S MANLY BUT HAIRLESS CHEST AND COOED, "**MY HERO!** ONCE AGAIN YOU'VE SAVED MANKIND FROM BECOMING INTERSTELLAR **GROUND ROUND!**"

STILL DOWNING YOUR SATURDAY MORNING "**PABLUM**," EH, LEROY?

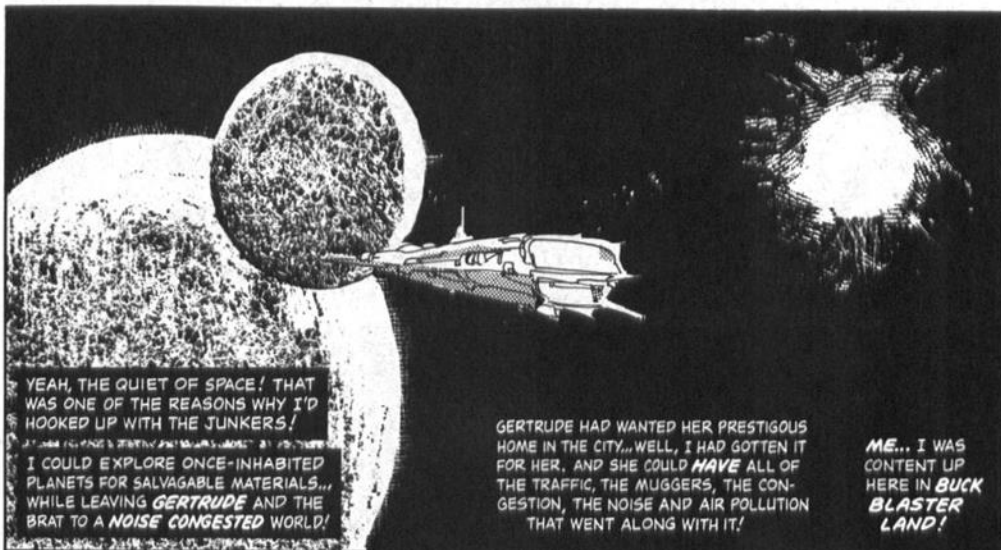
AW, PRUNIE! THIS IS THE **AMOROUS ADVENTURES OF BUCK BLASTER!** YOU **KNOW** IT'S MY FAVORITE SHOW! THE TRANSMISSION FROM EARTH MAY BE A LITTLE **FUZZY**, BUT OTHER THAN THAT, IT'S A **GREAT** SERIES!

I HATE TO INTERRUPT YOUR AFFAIR WITH **BUCK BLASTER**, LEROY, BUT THE SKIPPER WANTS US TO REPORT TO **OPERATIONS**. WE'RE NEARING A **JUNKYARD**.

THE SKIPPER! OLD RELIABLE **BULL SHUTTERS!** HASSLING ME ON CUE! IT HAPPENED EVERY TIME **BUCK BLASTER** CAME ON THE TUBE! ENJOYING BUCK'S SERIES WAS THE ONE THING THE OLD MAN AND I HAD IN COMMON. AND HE TOOK A SADISTIC DELIGHT IN ASSIGNING ME DUTIES WHILE THE SHOW WAS IN PROGRESS!

TIMES LIKE THESE, I WAS SORRY I'D EVER SIGNED ONTO THE **MOTHER JUNKER!** AFTER ALL, IF A GUY COULDN'T ENJOY A GOOD **SPACE SERIES** IN THE CALM OF **DEEP SPACE**, WHERE **COULD** ONE ENJOY IT?

OOGIE and the JUNKERS



YEAH, THE QUIET OF SPACE! THAT WAS ONE OF THE REASONS WHY I'D HOOKED UP WITH THE JUNKERS!

I COULD EXPLORE ONCE-INHABITED PLANETS FOR SALVAGABLE MATERIALS... WHILE LEAVING GERTRUDE AND THE BRAT TO A NOISE CONGESTED WORLD!

GERTRUDE HAD WANTED HER PRESTIGIOUS HOME IN THE CITY... WELL, I HAD GOTTEN IT FOR HER, AND SHE COULD HAVE ALL OF THE TRAFFIC, THE MUGGERS, THE CONGESTION, THE NOISE AND AIR POLLUTION THAT WENT ALONG WITH IT!

ME... I WAS CONTENT UP HERE IN **BUCK BLASTER LAND!**

A **JUNKER'S PAY** WAS GOOD! BUT THEN IT **HAD** TO BE TO SUPPORT **GERTRUDE!**

THE **HOURS** WERE DOWNRIGHT **CRIMINAL!** WE HAD TO WORK ABOUT **THREE** ACTUAL HOURS PER WEEK, EXPLORING PLANETS, PLANETOIDS, PLANETETTES!

THE REST OF THE TIME WE WERE **IN-TRANSIT**, PICKING LINT FROM OUR BELLY-BUTTONS AND WATCHING THE SHIP **RUN ITSELF!**

THAT'S OUR **BABY!**

READOUTS INDICATE IT'S RICH IN **SCRAP TIN, Balsa WOOD, NATURAL PLASTICS**, AND A SUBSTANCE AKIN TO **HERSHEY'S COCOA!**

IN-FLIGHT, I SPENT A LOT OF TIME READING **BUCK BLASTER** PAPERBOOKS AND LISTENING TO **BUCK BLASTER** CASSETTES!

I'VE READ ALL SIXTY-TWO **BUCK BLASTER** NOVELS, COLLECTED AN ENTIRE SET OF **BUCK BLASTER** COMIC CASSETTES, AND HAD A REPLICA OF THE OFFICIAL **BUCK BLASTER** FLIGHT SUIT AND SECRET DECODER RING!

YOU MIGHT SAY I WAS A **BUCK BLASTER FREAKIE!**

BUT NEXT TO **BUCK** AND THE EFFERVESCENT **THELMA STARBUST**, THE OTHER PASSION IN MY LIFE WAS **PRUNELLA McSHATTERS**, MY **SHIP-MATE!**

WHERE'S THAT **CLOWN LEROY?** HE'S GOT TO CHECK OUT THE **GARBAGE TRUCK** BEFORE HE GOES DOWN THERE!

THE **JUNKER CHIEFS** HAD LONG AGO INITIATED THE POLICY OF ISSUING CREW MEMBERS AN **IN-FLIGHT MATE** OF THE OPPOSITE SEX!

IT ELIMINATES SLOPPY EMOTIONAL COMPLICATIONS AND THE USUAL MASCULINE OR FEMININE COURTING RITUALS WHICH SO OFTEN DISRUPT A SHIP'S QUIETUDE ON LENGTHY MISSIONS!

THIS WAS MY **SECOND** OUTING WITH **PRUNIE** AS MY **SHIP-MATE!** SHE WASN'T A **BUCK BLASTER** FREAK, BUT **HELL**, DID SHE HAVE A **BODY!**

GERTRUDE DIDN'T UNDERSTAND ABOUT **PRUNIE** OR THE **JUNKER'S COHABITATION** POLICY! BUT THEN, **GERTRUDE** DIDN'T UNDERSTAND MUCH OF **ANYTHING!**

GOOD SHOW THIS WEEK, ISN'T IT, **LEROY?**

ACTUALLY, **GERTRUDE** WAS AN AWFUL LOT LIKE MY SKIPPER, OLD **BULL** SHUTTERS. SHE WAS A LOT PRETTIER IN THE **FACE**, BUT JUST AS **STUBBORN** IN THE **HEAD!** SHE TOO, RECEIVED A CERTAIN SADISTIC PLEASURE FROM TAKING ME AWAY FROM THE **BUCK BLASTER** PROGRAM!

BUCK'S IN FINE FORM, B.S.! BUT THAT **PUSS-GREEN SLIME** CREATURE IS A LITTLE HARD TO SWALLOW, DON'T YOU THINK?

WELL... ER--!



BUT I'D LEARNED LONG AGO THAT I COULD CATCH EITHER OF THEM **OFF GUARD** BY DOING OR SAYING EXACTLY THE **OPPOSITE** OF WHAT I MEANT!



HONESTLY! BOTH OF YOU TALK ABOUT THAT **BOOB-TUBE 8020** AS IF HE WERE A **REAL PERSON**.

PRUNIE'S STILL AN **UNBELIEVER, B.S.!** BUT GIVE ME A FEW MORE MONTHS! I'LL **CONVERT** HER! I'VE ALREADY ORDERED HER AN OFFICIAL **BUCK BLASTER** NIGHTIE...

...SHOULD BE **READY** WHEN WE GET **HOME!**

MEANWHILE, WHAT'S THE **GIG, B.S.?**



GOT A **JUNKYARD** FOR YOU, LEROY! A PLANET RICH IN **DECOMPOSED MANUFACTURATES!** METALS! SYNTHETICS! THE **WORKS!**

SCANNERS SHOW **MINOR LIFE FORMS...** NO CREATURES WITH **INDUSTRIAL ABILITIES!** APPARENTLY ANOTHER OF THOSE CIVILIZATIONS THAT JUST **BURNED THEMSELVES OUT!**

SCOUT DOWN AND SEE IF YOU CAN **DREDGE UP ANYTHING SALVAGABLE!**



DESPITE HIS SADISTIC TENDENCIES, **BULL SHUTTERS** WAS A **GOOD SKIPPER!** HE BROUGHT BACK **TONS** OF **SALVAGE** EACH TRIP! SOME OF IT **PROVING EXCEEDINGLY PROFITABLE** WHEN SOLD TO **NEEDY NATIONS** LIKE **CHINO-RUSSIA** OR THE **INTER-AMERICAS!**

IF THIS TRIP'S A **QUICKIE**, MAYBE YOU'N I COULD DO A **LITTLE MAMMIE-PAMBIN'** AROUND TONIGHT, PRUNIE!



SOMETIMES I WONDER, LEROY, **WHO** YOU THINK ABOUT **MORE... ME, BUCK BLASTER** OR YOUR **WIFE**.

GERTRUDE'S OUT OF THE **RUNNING, LOVER!**

IT'S USUALLY A **TOSSUP** BETWEEN YOU'N **BUCK!** BUT LATELY YOU'VE BEEN ON THE **INSIDE TRACK!**



I... I'VE BEEN FEELING CLOSER TO YOU, TOO, LEROY. YOU'RE LIKE A **CUTE, IRRESISTABLE, IRRESPONSIBLE LITTLE BOY** TO ME, I WANT TO **WRAP YOU** IN MY ARMS AND **SMOTHER YOU** WITH AFFECTIONS... **FOREVER.**

BUT EVERY TIME I THINK OF HOW MUCH YOU MEAN TO ME, I REALIZE YOU'LL HAVE TO **RETURN TO YOUR WIFE** AFTER THIS TRIP IS **OVER!**

EMOTIONAL INVOLVEMENT! THE COMPANY DIDN'T LIKE IT! THE **SKIPPER** DIDN'T BELIEVE IN IT! MY WIFE WOULD'VE **KILLED** ME OVER IT!

IT WASN'T SUPPOSED TO HAPPEN IN THE **SHIP-MATE PROGRAM!** BUT IT **WAS!** AND PRUNIE AND I COULD **BOTH** FEEL IT!



IT WOULD HAVE BEEN EASY FOR ME TO **DIVORCE GERTRUDE** AND **MARRY PRUNIE!**

HELL, I'D **DIVORCED RUTHIE** FOR **GERTRUDE!** BEFORE THAT **MAYBELLE** FOR **RUTHIE** AND **ESTHERANN** FOR... **HELL!** I DIDN'T EVEN **RE-MEMBER** THE **SEQUENCE** ANYMORE!

I WAS OLD ENOUGH TO REALIZE THAT MEN AND WOMEN **TIRED** OF EACH OTHER AFTER AWHILE, AND **MARRIAGE** WAS A **MAGICAL ENTANGLEMENT** THAT SOMEHOW MANAGED TO **SPEED UP** THAT **TIRING PROCESS!**

PRUNIE... BABY! I LOVE YOU FOR THE **MOMENT!** MAY THAT **MOMENT** LAST **FOREVER!**

I GUESS I WAS JUST A **ROMANTIC...**... AN **IDEALIST!** I HAD LOVED... **GENUINELY** LOVED... MORE WOMEN IN MY FEW YEARS AT IT, THAN ANY MAN SHOULD HAVE BEEN ALLOWED! AND I MADE THE MISTAKE OF **MARRYING ALL** MY LOVERS!

I LOVED **PRUNIE** NOW! I'D FELT MY LOVE GROWING SINCE OUR VERY FIRST NIGHT TOGETHER!

YET I WONDERED HOW LONG OUR LOVE WOULD **LAST** AFTER WE STEPPED OFF THE **ALTER**.

I GLADLY WOULD HAVE TRADED MY **MARRIAGE** WITH GERTRUDE FOR A **LIFETIME** WITH PRUNELLA!

IN MOMENTS OF TROUBLED THOUGHT, I TURNED TO **BUCK BLASTER** AND IMAGINED WHAT **HE** WOULD DO IN A SIMILIAR SITUATION!

BUT **BUCK** COULDN'T HELP ME HERE! FOR I **REMEMBERED** THE PERFECT INTERGALACTIC ADVENTURER HAD **THELMA STARBUST**, THE PERFECT INTERGALACTIC ADVENTRESS! WHY NEED HE EVER EVEN CONTEMPLATE **MARRIAGE?**

TOUCHDOWN, LEROY. WE'RE IN THE **JUNK-YARD**.

ONCE ON THE PLANET, I FORGOT ALL ABOUT **MARRIAGE** AND **LOVE!**

THE PLACE WAS **BEAUTIFUL!** THE PERFECT GARDEN OF EDEN! A **FANTASIA!** I COULD SEE NO VISIBLE SIGNS OF SCAVENGE ANYWHERE! ONLY A PLANET OF MYSTICAL CHARM! IT WAS LIKE A **SET** STRAIGHT FROM THE **BUCK BLASTER** SHOW!

I GLANCED OVER MY SHOULDER TO COMMENT TO PRUNIE ON THE WONDERMENT... BUT I DID A **DOUBLE-TAKE** AS I SAW HER IN PLANET'S PULL BLUE LIGHT!



I...I DON'T BELIEVE IT!

SOMEHOW, THE STRANGE DARK ATMOSPHERE MADE HER LOOK LIKE **THELMA STARBUST!**

BEFORE I COULD SAY ANYTHING ABOUT THE PHENOMENA, HOWEVER, PRUNIE POINTED OUT AN EVEN **MORE** STARTLING ENIGMA...!

T-THAT **SMELL**. I-IT'S **UNBELIEVABLE**. LIKE... LIKE **HOT COCOA**.

AN ENTIRE **OCEAN** OF NATURAL **HOT CHOCOLATE**.

T-THAT'S **ABSDUR!** **IMPOSSIBLE!** THERE'S NOTHING LIKE THIS IN REAL **LIFE!** ONLY ON--!

ONLY ON **WHAT**, LEROY? AND DON'T SAY WHAT I **THINK** YOU'RE GOING TO SAY!

BUCK BLASTER ONCE FOUGHT THE **MELTING MARSH-MELLOW MEN** OF **MUNGO** ON AN OCEAN OF **HOT COCOA!**

THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT YOU WERE GOING TO SAY!

UH OH, DON'T LOOK NOW...

...BUT I THINK **MORE** OF YOUR HERO'S BUDDIES ARE COMING.

I-IT'S THE **TERRIBLE TENTACLED PUSS-GREEN SLIME CREATURE...** STRAIGHT OUT OF THE SHOW I SAW THIS MORNING!





LEROY, IT'S CHANGING, MELTING. EMITTING A FOUL ODOR... LIKE... LIKE...

...CHEESE.

STRAIGHT OUT OF BUCK'S ADVENTURES ON THE DAIRY WORLD OF FUNGO...



...WHERE THE UDDER BUDDERS TURNED THE VERY GROUND UNDER BUCK'S FEET INTO MOLTEN SWISS CHEESE!

OUR HERO WAS SWALLOWED WHOLE INTO THE BOWELS OF THE PLANET!



DOWN! DOWN WE TUMBLED! LIKE ALICE FALLING INTO THE RABBIT HOLE... OR BETTER STILL, LIKE BUCK BLASTER BEING GOBBLED DOWN BY A SWISS CHEESE PLANET!

IT WAS INCREDIBLE! UNBELIEVABLE! BUT WE WERE RELIVING MY IDOL'S ADVENTURES! AND I HAD NO IDEA WHY... OR HOW!

COULD WE HAVE ACCIDENTALLY STUMBLED ONTO THE PLANET WHERE ALL OF BUCK BLASTER'S ADVENTURES WERE TAPED?

OR... AS AMAZING AS IT SOUNDS... WAS SOME ALIEN FORCE READING MY MIND, RECREATING BUCK'S ADVENTURES FOR MY ENJOYMENT... SO THAT I MIGHT LIVE THEM AS MY HERO HAD?

LEROY... WE... WE... CAN'T STOP.



W-WE'RE JUST FALLING... FALLING FOREVER.



WHATEVER THE ANSWER, I FIGURED WE WOULD FIND IT AT THE END OF OUR FALL...



...OR BE DASHED ABOUT AND CRUSHED WORSE THAN THE BLOOD-PULPED JELLY MEN I'D SEEN ON THE VIDEO TUBE EARLIER IN THE DAY!

THERE'S THE GROUND, BABY! AND IT'S COMING UP FAST!



OUR SPLAT DOWN WAS REMINISCENT OF BUCK BLASTER'S LANDING WHEN THE HIDEOUS NEMO-GOBLINS OF HUNGO SENT HIM HURLING THROUGH SPACE... ONLY TO SPLOSH SAFELY ON A PLANETOID OF PURE SPONGE! VERY WET PURE SPONGE.

WE BOUNCED RESILIENTLY ON THE SPONGY SURFACE FOR WHAT SEEMED LIKE DAYS BEFORE WE CAME TO A DIZZIFYING HALT!

AND THEN, AS I WAS FORCING MY STOMACH OUT OF MY THROAT, BACK TO WHERE IT BELONGED... I SAW IT...! HIM...!

HOLY
GEEZ!

I-IT'S OOGIE
FINGER, THE
AMAZING
AMOEBAMAN OF LUNGO!

IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE! BUT UNLESS I WAS HALLUCINATING OR DREAMING IN BUCK
BLASTER RERUNS, IT WAS TRUE! BEFORE ME WAS MY HERO'S ARCH ENEMY!

Y-YOU KNOW
ME, EARTH MAN? YOU
HAVE SEEN THIS
GUISE BEFORE?

ARE YOU KIDDING?
EVERY BUCK BLASTER
FAN KNOWS THE ICKY
OOGIE FINGER?

PRAISE BE! THEN
YOU ARE A FOLLOWER.
ALSO! EARTH MAN, I HAVE
PRAYED TO THE GREAT AD-
VERTISING GODS OF THE
AIRWAYS TO SEND ME A
BELIEVER!

I... I DON'T
UNDERSTAND ANY
OF THIS. W-WHAT'S
GOING ON?

POOR PRUNIE! NOT BEING A
BUCK BLASTER FREAKIE,
SHE HAD NO IDEA WHAT WAS
COMING DOWN! FOR THAT
MATTER, NEITHER DID I!
BUT SHE MUST HAVE BEEN
SCARED OUT OF HER GOURD!

I AM NOT REALLY THE
EVIL SCIENTIST YOU BELIEVE
ME TO BE! MY NAME IS KIL
GORE TROWT! I AM THE
LIFE FORCE OF THIS
PLANET... THE SOLE
LIVING BEING ON THIS
WORLD!

FOR EONS, I BELIEVED
MYSELF TO BE THE ONLY
LIVING CREATURE IN THE
UNIVERSE! BUT THEN...
THREE OF YOUR EARTHLY
VIDEO SEASONS AGO,
I BEGAN MONITORING
STRANGE BROADCASTS
FROM YOUR WORLD!
VIDEO BROADCASTS!

THE AMOROUS
ADVENTURES
OF BUCK
BLASTER, IN
PARTICULAR!

I MONITORED THE
SHOWS AVIDLY! THOUGH
YOUR EARTH TRANSMISSIONS
WERE FUZZY, I SOON BECAME
A FAN AND YEARNED FOR
OTHERS LIKE MYSELF, TO
SHARE IN BUCK
BLASTER'S EXPLOITS!

GEEZ! NO
KIDDIN'?

YOU SEE, I HAVE
THE CAPABILITY OF
CONTROLLING THE
ELEMENTS OF THIS
PLANET! I CAN ALTER
MY WORLD TO ANY
FORM... ANY SHAPE
I PLEASE!

I CAN CREATE
ARTIFICIAL LIFE! I
CAN CREATE SETS AND
CHARACTERS AND EXTRAS...
JUST LIKE THOSE ON
THE BUCK BLASTER
SHOW!

HOLY FISHBONES!
IT'S THE MALICIOUS
MEMBRANE MEN
OF DUNGO!

LEROY.

AND NOW... WITH YOU
HERE, MY FRIENDS, I
DON'T HAVE TO WAIT
ONCE A WEEK TO
MONITOR MY FAVORITE
SERIES!

WITH YOU, I CAN
ENJOY BUCK BLASTER
ADVENTURES OVER
AND OVER... EVERY
DAY OF THE WEEK!

UH... OOGIE,
WE REALLY
CAN'T STAY!

Y'SEE, PRUNIE
AND I HAD PLANS
FOR TONIGHT
AND--!

LEEEEROOOO!
HEEEELLLLP!

AT LAST I WILL HAVE SOMEONE TO **PLAY** WITH! SOMEONE WITH WHOM TO SHARE **BUCK BLASTER'S** ADVENTURES! **YOU**, LEROY, WILL BE **BUCK BLASTER!** AND YOUR WOMAN WILL BECOME **THELMA STARBUST!**

BUT FIRST WE MUST REMOVE YOUR RIDICULOUS **CLOTHING!** **BUCK BLASTER** WOULD NEVER APPROVE OF ANYTHING **SO... SO... ORDINARY!**

UH... **DOOGIE!** I KNOW THIS IS THE OPPORTUNITY OF A LIFE-TIME FOR US, BUT WE'VE GOT A **JOB** TO DO! WE'RE **JUNKERS**, Y'SEE... AND UH... OUR **SHIP** IS --!

LEEEEROOOOOY!
I'M BEING **MOLESTED!**

IF YOU EVER WANT TO PARTAKE OF MY AFFECTIONS AGAIN, YOU'LL GET ME **OUT** OF HERE!

DON'T BE CONCERNED OVER YOUR **SHIP!** EVEN NOW IT IS BEING **CHEWED** INTO **SCRAP** BY THE SAME FEROCIOUS FIENDS WHO **PLAGUED BUCK AND THELMA** IN THE **CASE OF THE BURSTING BUBBLEGUM ASTEROID!**

AS FOR YOUR MOTHER **SHIP**, THE **MOTHER JUNKER**, THEY CAN ONLY ASSUME THAT YOU AND YOUR WOMAN HAVE **PERISHED!** THEY WILL LEAVE YOU WITH ME... **FOREVER!**

SKIPPER, COME **QUICK**. L-LOOK AT THE SCANNERS. THE **GARBAGE TRUCK** IS BEING DESTROYED... **EATEN** BY UNBELIEVABLE CREATURES.

AND WHAT'S SO **UN-BELIEVABLE** ABOUT THE **MALICIOUS METAL MUNCHERS** OF **BUNGO**? WHY ONLY LAST WEEK I SAW THEM **CHOMP** AN ENTIRE **FLEET--!**

B-BUT, B.S.!!

BUT **NOTHING!** IF LEROY AND PRUNIE WERE ATTACKED BY **THOSE DEVILS**, THERE'S NOTHING LEFT OF THEM! NOT EVEN **SCRAP!**

THEY'RE THE FIRST **JUNKERS** TO BE **LOST** IN THE LINE OF DUTY! BUT THEIR DEATHS WILL NOT BE IN **VAIN!** WE MUST TELL THE CHIEF **JUNKERS** TO PLACE THIS PLANET OFF **LIMITS!**

IT IS TOO DANGEROUS EVEN TO BE **EXPLORED!**

WE MAY HAVE LOST TWO **JUNKERS** AND AN OCEAN OF NATURAL **HERSHEY'S COCOA...** BUT WE'VE GAINED **INVALUABLE KNOWLEDGE!**

HOW'S THAT **B.S.?**

WE NOW KNOW FOR CERTAIN THAT THE **MALICIOUS METAL MUNCHERS** OF **BUNGO** ARE NOT THE FIGMENTS OF A VIDEO WRITER'S **IMAGINATION!**

IT GIVES US **HOPE** THAT SOMEWHERE IN THAT VAST SEA OF NOTHINGNESS, THE **REAL BUCK BLASTER** MAY TRULY **EXIST!**

SO THE MOTHER JUNKER **LEFT** US THERE. **STARK NAKED** ON AN ALIEN PLANET SOMEWHERE ON THE OUTER-MOST VIDEO RECEPTION AREA OF THE UNIVERSE!

AND ALL WE HAD FOR COMPANY WAS A PLAYFUL **LIFE-FORCE** WHO WANTED TO DO NOTHING BUT BE **BUCK BLASTER'S** EVIL ARCH ENEMY!

YOU LOOK TIRED, LEROY... I MEAN, **BUCK!** WHY DON'T YOU AND **THELMA** RELAX BEFORE WE BEGIN OUR NEXT ADVENTURE!

GEE! THANKS, OOGIE! WE'D LIKE THAT!

IT'S TAKEN PRUNIE... I MEAN **THELMA** A WHILE TO ADJUST TO HER NEW SURROUNDINGS! TO ADJUST TO THE CONTINUAL PLAYFULNESS OF **KIL GORE!** **OOGIE** IN ENACTING OUT **BUCK'S** ADVENTURES!

AT FIRST, SHE WANTED ME TO OFFER OOGIE MY ENTIRE COLLECTION OF **BUCK BLASTER** CASSETTES, ALL SIXTY-TWO **BUCK BLASTER** NOVELS, AND MY OFFICIAL **BUCK BLASTER** DECODER RING IN EXCHANGE FOR A TICKET ON THE FIRST FREIGHTER TO EARTH!

SHE EVEN OFFERED TO THROW IN HER **BUCK BLASTER** NIGHTIE!

BUT I EXPLAINED THAT NO **SINCERE BUCK BLASTER** FREAKIE WOULD TRADE HIS CODE RING FOR **ANYTHING!**

SO **THELMA** HAS ACCEPTED HER FATE! IN FACT, EXCEPT FOR AN OCCASIONAL TINGE OF HOMESICKNESS, SHE EVEN **ENJOYS** IT HERE!

SHE'S BLOSSOMED INTO A FULL FLEDGED **BUCK BLASTER** FREAKIE LIKE ME AND OOGIE!

AS FOR OOGIE... THE GUY HAS THE POTENTIAL TO BE A **GOD** IF HE WANTED... CREATING **THIS** OVER HERE, ALTERING **THAT** OVER THERE...!

IT DAWNED ON ME THAT **THELMA** AND I ARE LIKE AN **ADAM** AND **EVE** IN THE **GARDEN OF OOGIE!**

I ASKED **OOG** IF HE KNEW HOW TO DO AN **APPLE TREE!** HE JUST SHRUGGED AND SAID, "NO, BUT DO YOU WANNA SEE A **MELTING MARSHMALLOW MAN OF MUNGO?**"



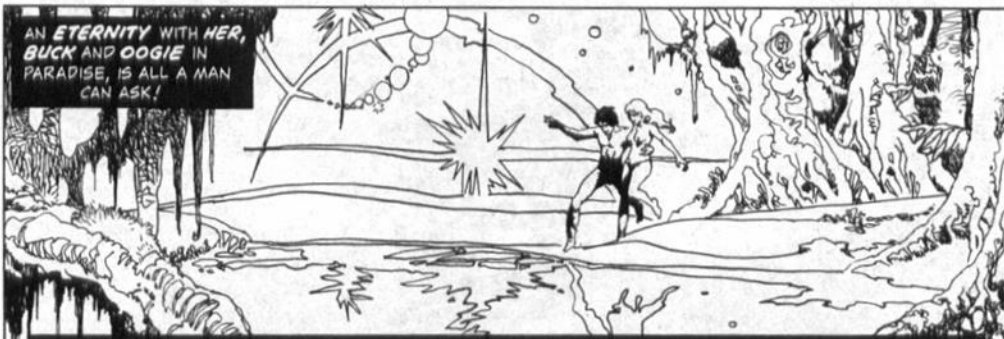
OOGIE TREATS US **GOOD!** OUR LIFE WITH HIM COULDN'T BE BETTER! IT'S A **PARADISE!** A **PLAYLAND!** IT'S THE WAY MAN WAS **MEANT** TO LIVE, WITH NONE OF THE NOISE, HASSELS OR MATERIALISM OF OLD EARTH!

I DON'T **MISS** GERTRUDE OR THE KID! THEY'LL BE WELL PROVIDED FOR, I **KNOW!** SOME POOR BOZO WILL DIVORCE A PERFECTLY GOOD WIFE, **MARRY** GERTRUDE, AND BOOGIE OFF INTO **SPACE** SO SHE CAN BUY NEW CARS, NEW HOUSES AND A FACE-LIFT EVERY OTHER YEAR!



ME... I'VE FOUND MY TRUE LOVE! **PRUNIE/THELMA!**

AN **ETERNITY** WITH HER, **BUCK** AND **OOGIE** IN PARADISE, IS ALL A MAN CAN ASK!



AND IT WILL **REMAIN** A PARADISE, I KNOW...UNTIL SOME CLOWN COMES ALONG AND INVENTS **MARRIAGE!** WHEN THAT DAY COMES, I JUST MIGHT DONATE A **RIB** AND ASK **OOGIE** TO CONTUNE ME UP A SHAPELY LITTLE REDHEAD!

SUBSCRIBE TODAY & RECEIVE A FREE GIFT!



UNCLE CREEPY CROAKS "SUBSCRIBE NOW!" & RECEIVE THESE BONUSES!

The first and finest magazine in comic art! A fantastic publication featuring the best in current graphic horror stories containing the best fiction and illustration. Subscribe now for one year (9 big issues) and receive the exciting "Monster Match" game absolutely free! Many hours of fun are yours as you buy and trade demons to your ghoulish little hearts content. Or subscribe for two years (18 huge issues) and we'll send you a full-color poster of lovable Uncle Creepy. Painted by Sanjulan, this 20"x28" classic portrait is a must for all monster art fans. Have Creepy delivered to your home for one or two years and receive these free bonus gifts!



"SUBSCRIBE NOW!" MOANS COUSIN EERIE AND GET FREE BONUS GIFTS!

The most exciting and unique comic magazine in the world of illustrated terror, featuring comic's greatest artists and writers. Subscribe for one year (that's 9 terrific issues) and a free "Creepy Crawley Castle" game will be yours. Warren Publishing Co. proudly presents this devilish game of monster and victim in a deadly race through the slimy maze of the Castle Creepy. Subscribe for two years (18 magnificent issues) and you will receive a 20" x 28" full-color Sanjulan rendering of dear Cousin Eerie in gruesome detail. It's ideal for decorating your dungeon! Cousin Eerie wants to come to your house so much that he's bribing you (shh!) with free gifts. Take him up on his offer! Subscribe!



VAMPIRELLA PLEADS "PLEASE SUBSCRIBE." I HAVE SOMETHING FOR YOU!

For visions of demonic fantasy featuring the world's most alluring vampire, "Vampirella" will come to your door if you subscribe now! A one year subscription brings you 9 fantastic issues and a gruesome game of "Capture" as well, absolutely free! "Capture" is the exciting and diabolic game of battling monsters and satanic villains. Or subscribe for two years (18 big issues) and receive a special full-color life-size (6 foot tall) Vampi poster. Display her in your den or playroom. It will be like having a live Vampi in your very own home. Make sure she comes to you... by subscription! If you really want her now, you know how to get her. So subscribe for one year and play the frenzied Capture game! Or subscribe for two years and feast your eyes on the poster of the delicious Drakulonne. It's up to you!



"SUBSCRIBE NOW!" SUGGESTS THE SPIRIT. DON'T MISS THIS CHANCE FOR FREE BONUS GIFTS AND ADVENTURE

Come face-to-face with the greatest crime-fighter of them all! The Spirit is a new Warren Magazine, brilliantly written and drawn by Will Eisner, one of the greatest graphic story tellers of all time. This superb magazine is filled with the classic adventures Eisner is master of, plus a color section each month. Subscribe for one year (6 excitement filled issues) and get, absolutely free, crisp new editions of two, first-rate, classic adventure novels. Or subscribe for two years (12 suspenseful issues) and receive a big 24"x30" full color Spirit poster by Will Eisner! Hang it in your room, den, or playroom! Remember, there's only one Spirit... and Warren's got him! Have The Spirit delivered to your door and receive these valuable bonuses as well! How can you lose? Get your subscription to the one and only Spirit today!



I enclose _____ Please send me the subscription checked below.

EERIE

- ☐ 9 ISSUES \$10.00
☐ 18 ISSUES \$19.00

CREEPY

- ☐ 9 ISSUES \$10.00
☐ 18 ISSUES \$19.00

VAMPIRELLA

- ☐ 9 ISSUES \$10.00
☐ 18 ISSUES \$19.00

FAMOUS MONSTERS

- ☐ 9 ISSUES \$10.00
☐ 18 ISSUES \$19.00

THE SPIRIT

- ☐ 6 ISSUES \$7.50
☐ 12 ISSUES \$15.00

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____

In Canada and outside the U.S., please add \$2.00 to all rates!

MAIL TO: WARREN PUBLISHING CO.
145 E. 32nd STREET
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016



SUBSCRIBE TO FAMOUS MONSTERS OF FILMLAND ONCE-IN-A-DEATH-TIME OFFER! FEARFUL PHOTOS! A FILM FREAK'S DELIGHT!

Now is your chance! Have the "insiders" monster magazine delivered to your door each month! A horror package complete with all the new and old monsters that have made film horror the exciting genre it is today. Famous Monsters of Filmland... what monster movies are all about! Subscribe now for one year (9 chilled issues) and we'll send you a magnificent full-color portrait of the great Vincent Price as the mad sculptor from "House of Wax." It was painted by the renowned Basil Gogos and is yours, absolutely free. Subscribe now for two years (18 great issues) and receive a full color 20" x 28" poster of our 100th issue cover featuring Boris Karloff as the Frankenstein monster.



VAMPIRELLA.

THE WORLD'S #1 COMIC STRIP HEROINE COMES TO PAPERBACK!
BLOODSTALK!
 FIRST TIME IN PRINT

Vampirella! A woman from the stars. Beautiful. Shapely. Deadly. Refugee from the dead planet Drakulon where the rivers flowing with human blood dried...and died. A survivor. Plunged to Earth in a returning Explorer rocket. And onto a planet where, to survive, she must take the lives of fellow creatures. And she chose to survive! To become a vampire...feast on human blood. To live. Her story is one of danger. Excitement. Drama. This is the beginning of her story...told in an action packed novelization. 144 pages of suspense. Presented as only a veteran S-F writer can. A whole new world in a small 7"x4" paperback package. Colossal!

THE WORLD'S NO. 1 COMIC STRIP HEROINE!



**VAMPIRELLA,
 PENDRAGON, THE
 VAN HELSINGS,
 FACE CHAOS. IN THE
 NEW PAPERBACK
 NOVELIZATION!**

Vampirella! Thrust onto an unknown planet...and into a pitched battle with the mad god Chaos and his seven demon servants. A vampire...far stronger than most men...with the ability to change shape...to assume the form of the deadly vampire bat...seemed an obvious candidate for service to Chaos. Vampirella had other ideas. Hunted by the renowned Conrad and Adam Van Helsing, the vampire slayers, she combats Chaos. And she makes valuable friends. The great Pendragon. The mad doctor who tried to relieve her of her vampire curse. Who help in her fight against evil. The Crimson Chronicles. And the Cult of Chaos. #21194 / \$1.25

FEAR PAPERBACKS



A CLUTCH OF VAMPIRES. A follow-up to McNally's book "In Search of Dracula." Fascinating collection of 25 tales ranging from historical accounts to literary invention. And Dr. McNally personally witnessed one of the episodes. 30 illustrations. 7"x4" paper. #21192/\$1.75



FRANKENSTEIN FACTORY. Science fiction. Spies. Murder. Mystery. Story by S-F writer Edward D. Hoch. Today's horror story becomes a futuristic reality as a team of doctors labor to create a new man from parts of cryogenically frozen dead. 7"x4". #21191/\$1.25

NOSTALGIA BOOK OF SCIENCE FICTION ART



COLOR REPRODUCTIONS 40 SCI-FI COVERS

Galaxy. Fantastic. Amazing. Analog. Science Wonder Stories. Titles to warm the heart of any science fiction enthusiast! Now Ballantine Books has created a deluxe 96 page review...40 full-page color reproductions of the best sci-fi covers created between 1926 and 1954! The 8-1/2"x11-1/2" soft cover format, printed on slick, heavy-duty stock, is large enough to be easily visible...small enough to be easily handled. These covers were chosen from among the thousands spanning 38 years of magazine publication by prominent science fiction writer Lester del Rey, who also provides plate annotations and a 16-page introduction to the genre. A must for S-F fans. #21193/\$4.95

FAMOUS MONSTERS 1975 CONVENTION POSTER

ATTENTION! COLLECTORS! A 27"x20" POSTER! FULL COLOR! FIVE MONSTERS!



Mummy. Frankenstein. Wolfman. Dracula. Reptile. Together for the first time. Giant sized. In full color. On the 1975 Famous Monsters Convention poster. This 27"x20" poster will lure hundreds of monster fans to New York in 1975. It announces the monsterific event of the year. November 7th, 8th and 9th of 1975 will bring you a Hammer Film Festival. Monster movie celebrities. Costume parades. Displays. Exhibits. And this is the poster that will stain them with its vibrant color. Excellent detail. Exciting information. You can own a copy of the original poster, the same poster that will be used to advertise the FM Convention throughout the country. The same slick stock. The same vibrant color. The fabulous rendering by FM's famous Ken Kelly. This is a collector's classic you can't afford to miss out on. Order now, while the supply is available. #2972/\$1.50

STAR TREK CALENDAR



RECEIVE A FREE POSTER WITH YOUR CALENDAR

The year...1976. Stardate 2700. And you are there. Charting your "incredible voyages" through time, space, infinity. And what better way for a Star Trek fan to "mark time" in 1976, than with this new STAR TREK (STARDATE) CALENDAR! This exciting collector's calendar features 14 of the TV show's most exciting scenes in full-color. Many black & white photos have been inserted in the specially designed futuristic grids of the calendar that indicate star dates and standard Earth dates. A large 13"x12" design means large pictures...big date grid. #26001/\$4.95



Yours. Free. When you order the exciting Star Trek Calendar. A full-color 14"x11" poster featuring Kirk, Spock, McCoy and other personalities.

YOUNG FRANKENSTEIN BOOK



PAPERBACK BOOK FROM THE MOST HILARIOUS HORROR FILM EVER!

This 152 page 4 1/2"x7" paperback spoof by Gilbert Pearlman is based on the hilarious Gene Wilder/Mel Brooks movie "Young Frankenstein." It includes 16 pages of fabulous photos. When brain surgeon Dr. Frederick Frankenstein, grandson of THE Dr. Frankenstein who created the Monster, is willed the family castle and fortune, he journeys to Transylvania, finds his granddad's journal, and the do-it-yourself fun begins. #21171/\$1.50

ATTENTION COMIC COLLECTORS!



1974 NEW YORK COMIC ART CONVENTION PROGRAM BOOK

The biggest and best Program Book from the biggest and best Comic Con. The book captures all the excitement and drama of the Comic Event of the Year! This big 100-page 5 1/2"x8 1/2" book features a full-color cover of Joe Simon's original drawing of CAPTAIN AMERICA! Included are great articles and photos: an in-depth interview with Bob Kane and C.C. Beck, creators of BATMAN and CAPTAIN MARVEL; Will Eisner profile, by artist Murphy Anderson; Joe Simon article, with Simon & Kirby art; Harvey Kurtzman and Little Annie Fanny. No serious Collector of comic art can afford to be caught without this star-studded Collector's Item! Order your copy while they last! \$3.00 #21158

A GALAXY OF STAR TREK NOVELS!

Star Trek lives! First as a live-action science fiction adventure series, then as an exciting Saturday morning animated television show. Now it comes to you in this terrific collection of paperback books by major science fiction writers James Blish and Alan Dean Foster. Several of the books by the series' creators tell how it was developed and produced for television, including special information on some of its best episodes. Each book is a 7"x4" masterpiece. Included are photos of the crew, the Starship, & the control panel.



STAR TREK LIVES! Personal notes and anecdotes; what the creators are doing now; goals & achievements; plans for Star Trek's return. #21190/\$1.95



STAR TREK LOG FOUR "The Terratin Incident" stars a shrinking crew. "Time Trap" involves the Delta Triangle, and "More Trouble, More Trouble." #21189/\$1.25



STAR TREK LOG THREE By popular demand, another trilogy of tales. "Once Upon a Planet," "Mudd's Passion," and "The Magicks of Megastu." Buy #21180/\$1.25.



STAR TREK LOG TWO Second in the latest series. Alan Dean Foster brings you "The Survivor," "The Lorelei Signal," and "The Infinite Vulcan." #21179/95c



STAR TREK LOG ONE Don't miss one of these parts: "Beyond the Farthest Star," "Yesterday," and "One of Our Planets is Missing." Adventure. #21156/95c



STAR TREK TEN Six thrill-packed adventures including "A Private Little War," "The Empath," "Omega Glory," & "The Galileo Seven." #21196/95c



STAR TREK NINE Why will Kirk die if touched by the murderous beauty? Find out in this series including "The Ultimate Computer." #21071/95c



STAR TREK EIGHT "The Man's Dead, Jim" McCoy said it, but about whom? "The Enemy Within," "Catspaw," & "Spock's Brain" among others. #21193/95c



STAR TREK SEVEN Read about the colorful sail being in our "Who Mourns for Adonai?" and "The Paradise Syndrome" which are 2 of 6 yarns. #21192/95c



STAR TREK SIX A hijacking to another galaxy cannot be overlooked by you! Also read about "The Savage Curtain," and "The Apple." #21191/95c



STAR TREK FIVE A mutiny aboard the Enterprise is the plot of one story in this exciting collection. "Whom Gods Destroy" & 6 others. #21190/95c



STAR TREK FOUR Six more dazzling exploits featuring "All Our Yesterdays," "The Devil in the Dark," & "A Piece of the Action." Don't Miss #21189/95c



STAR TREK THREE Spock goes crazy in "Amok Time." Also a preface listing some awards and an open letter from the author. Get #21188/95c



STAR TREK TWO The Enterprise is off to more intrigue in 8 explorations of outer space. Thrill to "The City on the Edge of Forever." #21187/95c



STAR TREK ONE Adaptation of 7 television episodes from airless wastes and uncharted worlds. Including "Charlie's Law" & "Mir." #21186/95c



SPOCK MUST DIE! 2 Spocks come through the transporter and one of them must die. Starship crew finds itself in the midst of an undeclared war. #21123/95c



THE MAKING OF STAR TREK The book on how to create for TV! Full of action-packed photos and advice on how to sell a script. 414 fact-filled pages. #21069/\$1.95



TROUBLE WITH TRIBBLES. The birth, sale and final production of one episode. Scripts, portraits and photos of your favorite sci-fi actors! #21065/\$1.50



THE WORLD OF STAR TREK The show the networks couldn't stop! David Gerrold's inside look at the Star Trek phenomenon. Packed with photos. #21064/\$1.50

To order any of these items, please see last page of this magazine for convenient RUSH ORDER FORM.

FIRE-BREATHING MONSTER WALKING DOLLS

These sparking monsters will charm the pants off even the meanest sourpuss in your neighborhood. Just wind up the heavy-duty plastic walking dolls with the permanently attached keys and watch out! They march across the terrain breathing fire. Pit ferocious Rex Dinosaur against Mighty King Kong! Match King Kong with the wild Creature of the Black Lagoon! Painted in full color, the tough 3" tall bodies have coal-black eyes that peer out at you. So Beware! Even tho' the flint sparks can't harm you, your parents might steal these monsters so they can play with them alone!



LAGOON CREATURE
#2698/\$1.59

KING KONG
#2696/\$1.59

REX DINOSAUR
#2697/\$1.59

ANIMATED MONSTER HOME MOVIES

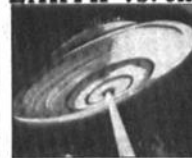
AVAILABLE IN REG 8 AND SUPER 8, 200' REELS!

20 MILLION MILES TO EARTH



A black & white monster spectacular. Harryhausen animation of Ymir. A rocket returning from the planet Venus crashes into the ocean. From the open hatch washes a precious cargo specimen. ... an egg brought from Venus' surface. It floats to shore, then hatches. Due to elements in earth's atmosphere it grows rapidly from a tiny reptilian biped to a monstrous marauding sixty foot giant. It ravages a zoo, battles a bull elephant to the death. Finally it is cornered atop the Colosseum. But can the combined armies of two mighty nations end the menace? #22029/\$9.95

EARTH vs. the FLYING SAUCERS



Paris falls! Moscow surrenders! London is a shambles! Alien invaders from a dying world have arrived on earth... intent upon making it their own. Their saucers are everywhere. Their onslaught makes a shambles of the military operation of every country on earth. Hundreds fall before their death dealing rays. And Washington, D.C. is next! But one lone genius stands between the invaders and earth's imminent destruction. A scientist-inventor creates an amazing anti-gravity ray... and the battle is on. Washington is destroyed. But are the invaders? #20028/\$9.95

EQUINOX OCCULT BARRIER BETWEEN GOOD & EVIL



AVAILABLE IN SUPER 8 ONLY... 200 feet of black and white terror. A scientist is missing. And an adventuresome crew begin a search for him! They come upon a strange, forbidding castle and discover gigantic footprints... footprints much too large to be human! They stumble upon a mysterious cave. And find an ancient book detailing a terrifying force. Then the awestruck adventurers are faced with the most terrifying discovery they have yet to make... the incredible lumbering ape-like monsters. And the dread figure who has mastered the beast. #2289/\$9.95



IT CONQUERED THE WORLD
A benevolent scientist establishes contact with a Venusian intent on conquering earth. #22058/\$9.95

NEW SUPER 8 BLACK & WHITE MOVIES 200 FEET OF EXCITING SILENT FILM ADVENTURE!



NIGHT OF THE BLOOD BEAST
An alien takes over the body of a returning astronaut... destination: our own earth. #22059/\$9.95



THE RAVEN Price, Karloff and Lorre together in the Poe spoof of the century. Frightening and hilarious. Fantastic. #22079/\$9.95



THE SCREAMING SKULL The sudden appearance of glaring skulls makes a woman, released from an asylum again mad. #22081/\$9.95



FRANKENSTEIN CONQUERS THE WORLD Last Hiroshima survivor has Frankenstein heart grafted to his body by Nazis. #22076/\$9.95



THE PHANTOM PLANET. Explorer is captured on an unknown planet and turned into an incredible Shrink-in Man. #22083/\$9.95



DESTROY ALL MONSTERS Rodan! Godzilla! Ghidorah! Mothra! Simultaneous attack by Japan's greatest monsters. #22061/\$9.95

ATTENTION! BRAND NEW PLANET OF THE APES HOBBY KITS!



CAESAR, THE RULER #24109/\$3.50



ZIRA, THE DOCTOR #24108/\$3.50

THE MOVIE YOU'VE BEEN WAITING FOR!

VAMPIRELLA



A MAJOR
MOTION
PICTURE

NOW IN
PRODUCTION FROM
HAMMER
FILMS

COMING YOUR WAY
IN 1976!

WARREN PUBLISHING
PRESENTS THE

1975

SUPER SPOOKTACULAR
ONE & ONLY...

FAMOUS MONSTERS CONVENTION



FEATURING A MONSTERRIFIC ALL-COLOR
HAMMER FILMS FESTIVAL

**PLUS MONSTER MOVIE CELEBRITIES • 2 HORRIFIC COSTUME PARADES
MONSTER DISPLAYS & EXHIBITS • MONSTER MARKET PLACE**

WOULD YOU LIKE A GIANT POSTER OF THIS CONVENTION ANNOUNCEMENT? SEE AD ON PAGE SIXTY-ONE.

**FRIDAY
NOV. 7**

**SATURDAY
NOV. 8**

**SUNDAY
NOV. 9**

NEW YORK CITY

**HOTEL COMMODORE
42nd & PARK AVENUE**

FOR MORE INFORMATION WRITE TO: FAMOUS MONSTERCON, WARREN PUBLISHING CO., 145 E. 32nd ST., NEW YORK 10016