

THIS IS THE PHANTOM STRANGER!

STOP! DON'T READ THIS SINISTER SHOCKER! NOT UNLESS YOU'RE PREPARED TO LIVE ON THE EDGE OF A NIGHTMARE FOR THE REST OF YOUR LIFE! WHERE THERE IS AN UNENDURABLE SCREAM BEHIND EVERY LAUGH! CRUSHING DARKNESS BEHIND EVERY LIGHT! AND YAWNING GRAVES BENEATH YOUR FEET! IF YOU DARE... FOLLOW ME TO FEVERISH HAITI WHERE THE THROBBING NIGHT DROPS ITS SINISTER MANTLE AROUND DR. TERENCE THIRTEEN AND HIS WIFE MARIA. FOLLOW ME TO THE LAND WHERE "THE DEAD DON'T SLEEP FOREVER!"

CHAPTER ONE

THERE IS LAUGHTER IN HELL THIS DAY!

LISTEN TO THE WILD CHANTING, TERENCE! DO YOU THINK TALA WILL APPEAR?

IF SHE DOES IT WILL BE AN HYPNOTIC TRICK...

TERENCE, LOOK! THE TOURIST FROM THE HOTEL...

HE'S GOING TO JUMP!

THE PHANTOM STRANGER, No. 4, Nov.-Dec., 1969. Published bi-monthly by NATIONAL PERIODICAL PUBLICATIONS, INC., 2nd & Dickey Sts., SPARTA, ILL. 62286. Editorial, Executive offices, 909 THIRD AVENUE, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10022. Joe Orlando, Editor. Carmine Infantino, Editorial Director. SECOND CLASS POSTAGE ENTRY, PENDING AT SPARTA, ILL. No subscriptions. For advertising rates address Richard A. Feldon & Co., 41 E. 42nd St., New York, N.Y. 10017. Copyright © National Periodical Publications, Inc., 1969. All rights reserved under International and Pan-American Copyright Conventions. The stories, characters and incidents mentioned in this magazine are entirely fictional. No actual persons, living or dead, are intended or should be inferred.

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**TALA... RIKKI...
RODROD...
AHHHHH--**

THAT'S NO WAY TO CALL A BEAUTIFUL BABE FROM HER PAD! TALA-- I'M GOIN' TO SPLASH DOWN FOR YOU!

FOOL!

ONLY RIPPLES OF SILENCE FOLLOW THE RECKLESS TOURIST'S DIVE...

AKKK-TALA! TALA HAS TAKEN HER LOVER TO HER BOTTOMLESS HEART!

THE POOR, EXCITED FOOL MUST BE CAUGHT IN AN UNDERWATER VINE! I'M GOING INTO THE POOL AFTER HIM!

AN EERIE GLOW, CAST BY THE COUNTLESS FLICKERING CANDLES, DIMLY LIGHTS DR. THIRTEEN'S TURBULENT WAY...

POWERFUL UNDERWATER CURRENT -- DRAGGING ME TOWARDS THAT TUNNEL-- GOT TO FIGHT IT OFF!

FINALLY... THANK GOD! THEY WERE SCREAMING TALA DROWNED YOU TOO!

(GASP)--(GASP)... NONSENSE! THERE IS NO TALA! JUST AN UNDERWATER VORTEX WHIRLING EVERYTHING INTO A TUNNEL--WHICH HAS TO BE SEALED PERMANENTLY! (GASP)--(GASP)... TO PREVENT THIS TRAGEDY FROM EVER HAPPENING AGAIN!



SUDDENLY...

TALA...RIKKKI
UMBERO! TALA
HAS BLOWN OUT
THE CANDLES FOR
THE SOULS SHE
HAS SNATCHED!

TERENCE--
THE
CANDLES?

THEY'VE
GONE
OUT!

JUST
BLOWN OUT
BY THE WIND,
MARIA!



IN THE COOL
SANITY OF DAY...

BRWHUMM

I PERSUADED
THE AUTHORITIES
TO CLOSE UP THE TUNNEL
WITH EXPLOSIVES! THAT'S
THE END OF TALA!...NOW
WE'VE GOT TO JET BACK
TO NEW YORK! TO EXPOSE
THE SECRET OF THE
SOBBING BROWNSTONE
HOUSE!



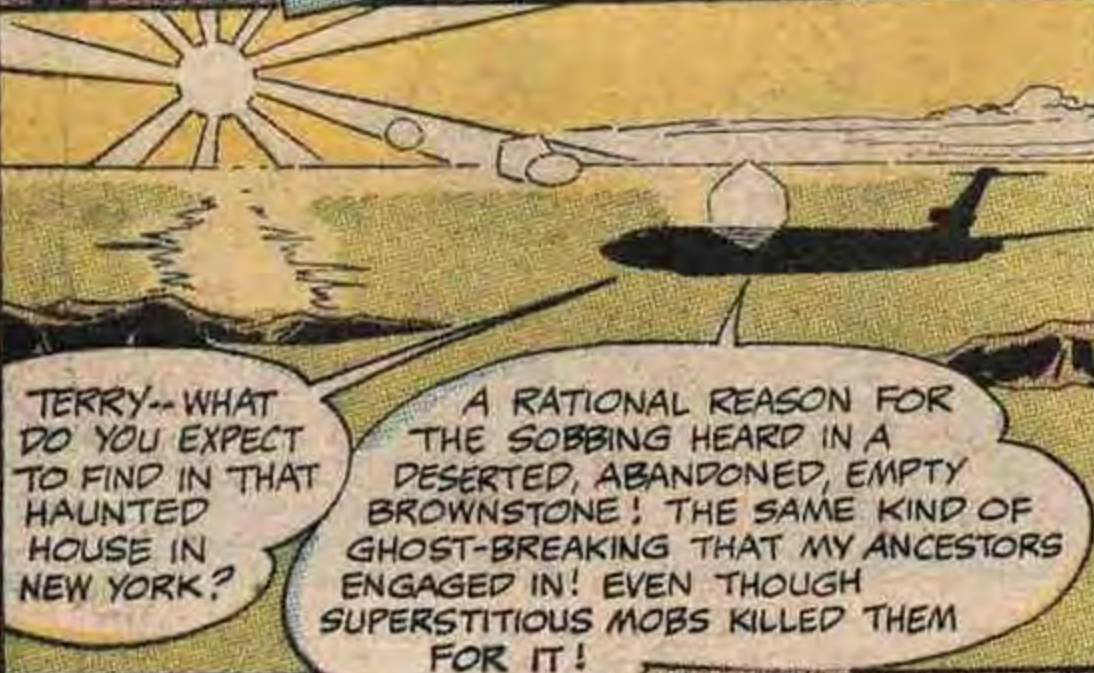
BUT UNOBSERVED
AND UNHEARD BY
THE DEPARTING
GROUP, RISING
WRAITH-LIKE FROM
THE BUBBLING BLACK
WATERS...THE
NOXIOUS FUMES...THE
SWIRLING SMOKE...A
CREATURE OF
UNEARTHLY EVIL AND
DAZZLING BEAUTY!

I, TALA,
HAVE BEEN
RELEASED
TO ROAM
THE WORLD!

BY THE VERY
MAN WHO IS
BLIND TO MY
PRESENCE!

THERE IS
LAUGHTER IN
HELL THIS
DAY! HA
HA HA HA
HA HA--

ON FLIGHT 275
OUT OF SUN-
BRIGHT HAITI...



TERRY--WHAT DO YOU EXPECT TO FIND IN THAT HAUNTED HOUSE IN NEW YORK?

A RATIONAL REASON FOR THE SOBBING HEARD IN A DESERTED, ABANDONED, EMPTY BROWNSTONE! THE SAME KIND OF GHOST-BREAKING THAT MY ANCESTORS ENGAGED IN! EVEN THOUGH SUPERSTITIOUS MOBS KILLED THEM FOR IT!



LOOK AT THAT ENORMOUS BLACK CLOUD COVERING THE SUN! JUST LIKE THE TROPICS! BRIGHT ONE MOMENT! DARK THE NEXT! ENOUGH TO RATTLE THE SUPERSTITIOUS MIND!

OUTSIDE, IN THE BLASTING WIND, WILD LAUGHTER MINGLES WITH THE ROAR OF THE JETS!



THE SUN IS A PUNY LIGHT--THAT CAN GO OUT AT ANY MOMENT! HAHHA HA HA HA--

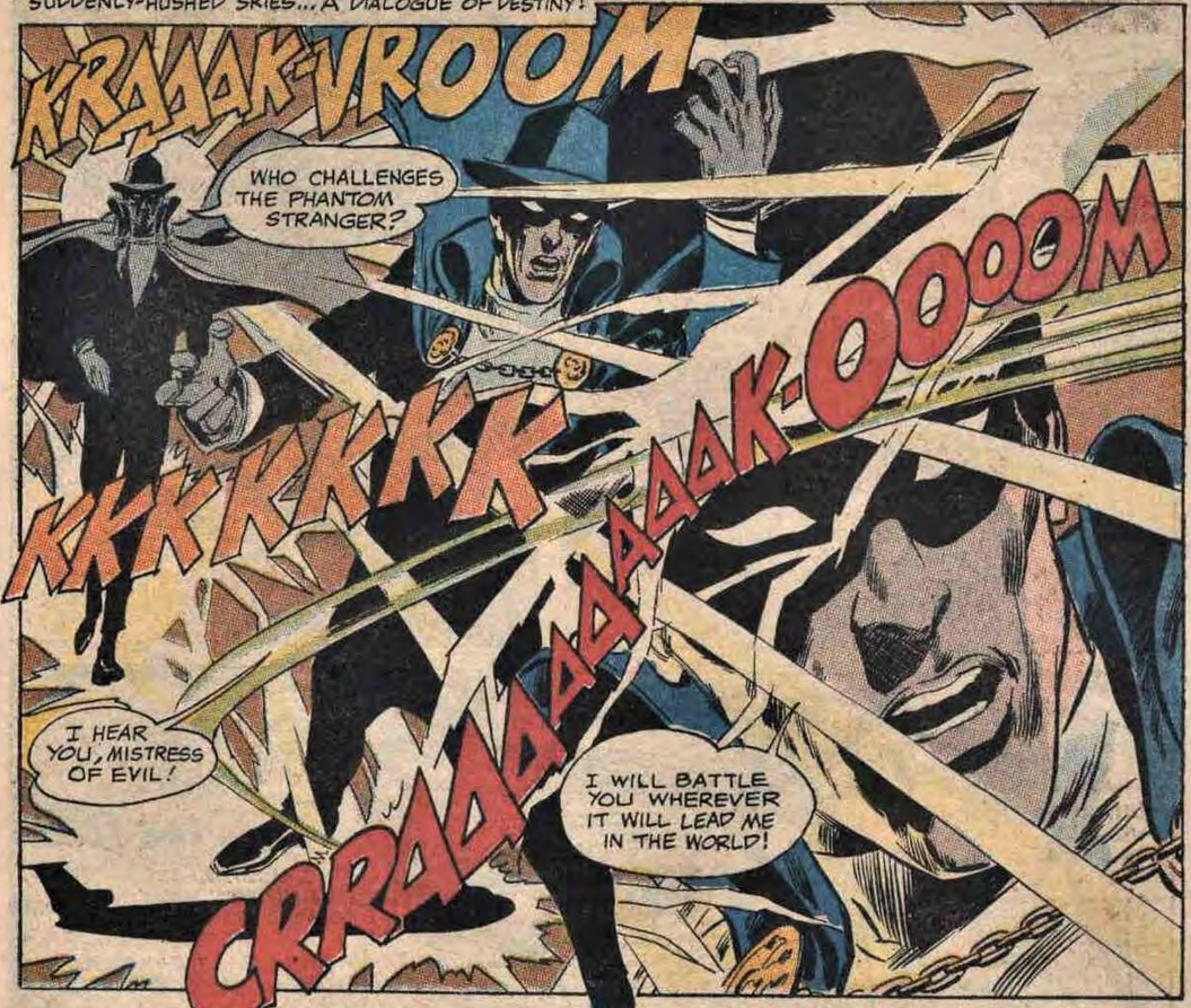
SUDDENLY, THUNDER AND JAGGED LIGHTNING, MORE CRASHING THAN ALL THE SEAS, LASH DOWNWARD IN A RIPTIDE OF ENERGY TOWARD THE ENVELOPING DARKNESS...

K-TAKKKK-VROOM



SO! THE STRUGGLE BEGINS! BETWEEN THE DARK AT NOON! AND THE LIGHT! SO BE IT! I, TALA, AM READY FOR THE DUEL!

OUT OF A VAST, WHITE CLOUD DAZZLING WITH WHIRLING ATOMS AND SHIMMERING COSMIC DUST IN THE SUDDENLY-HUSHED SKIES... A DIALOGUE OF DESTINY!



WHO CHALLENGES THE PHANTOM STRANGER?

I HEAR YOU, MISTRESS OF EVIL!

I WILL BATTLE YOU WHEREVER IT WILL LEAD ME IN THE WORLD!

CRRAAAA

LATER, AS DR. THIRTEEN'S FLIGHT ROARS OVER NEW YORK...

THE CITY'S PITCH-DARK! EVERY SINGLE LIGHT IS OUT!



KENNEDY AIRPORT'S BLACKED-OUT TOO! MUST BE A CITY-WIDE POWER FAILURE!

LUCKILY OUR LANDING LIGHTS ARE ON! AND WE MUST STILL BE IN CONTACT WITH THE CONTROL TOWER! WE'LL BE ALL RIGHT!



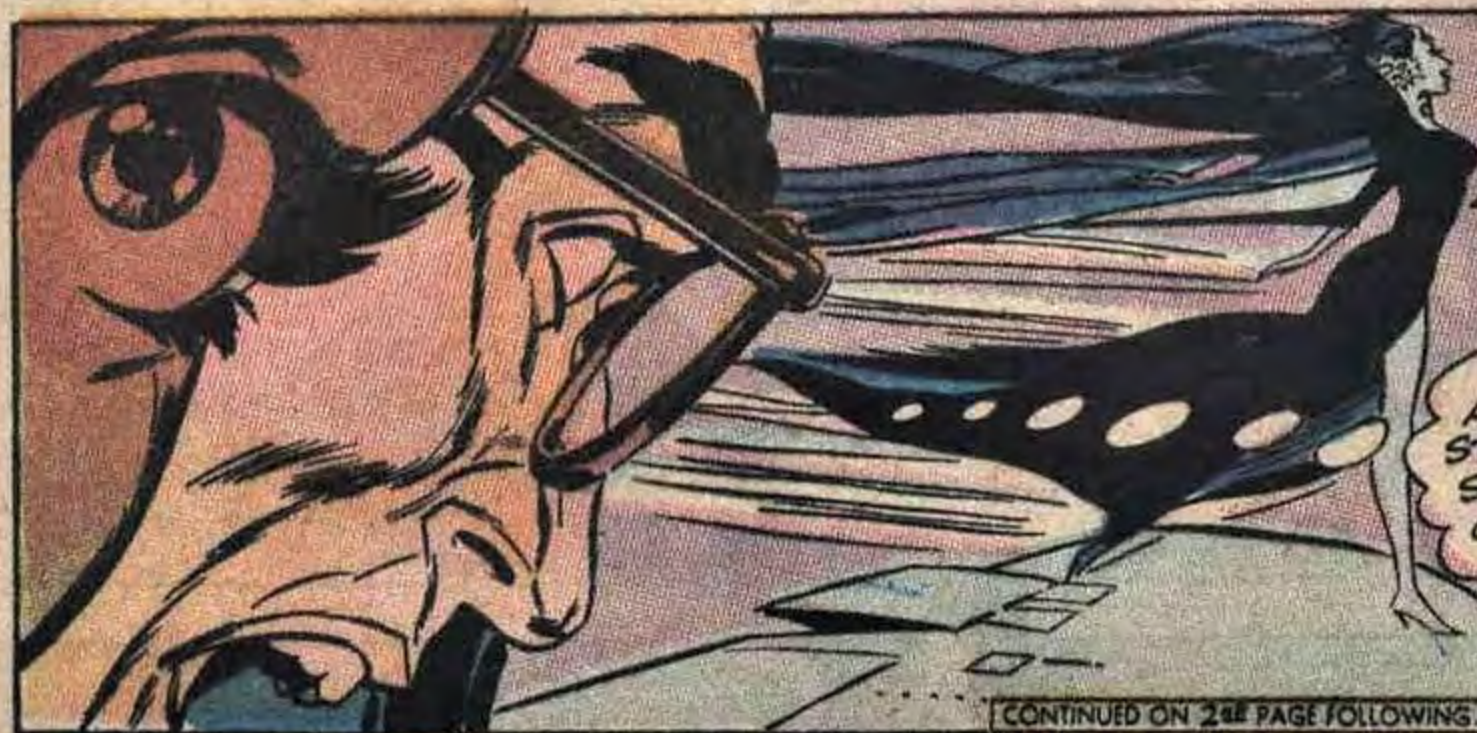
AS THE JET
CIRCLES THE
LONELY SKIES...

OUR LIGHTS
JUST WENT OUT,
CAPTAIN! SO DID
THE RADIO! CAN'T
RAISE THE
CONTROL TOWER!

FUEL'S
ALMOST
GONE
TOO!



THIS JET'S
DEAF-DUMB-AND
BLIND! BUT I'VE
REACHED THE POINT OF
NO-RETURN! I'VE GOT TO TRY
TO GET HER DOWN! BETTER
PREPARE THE PASSENGERS!



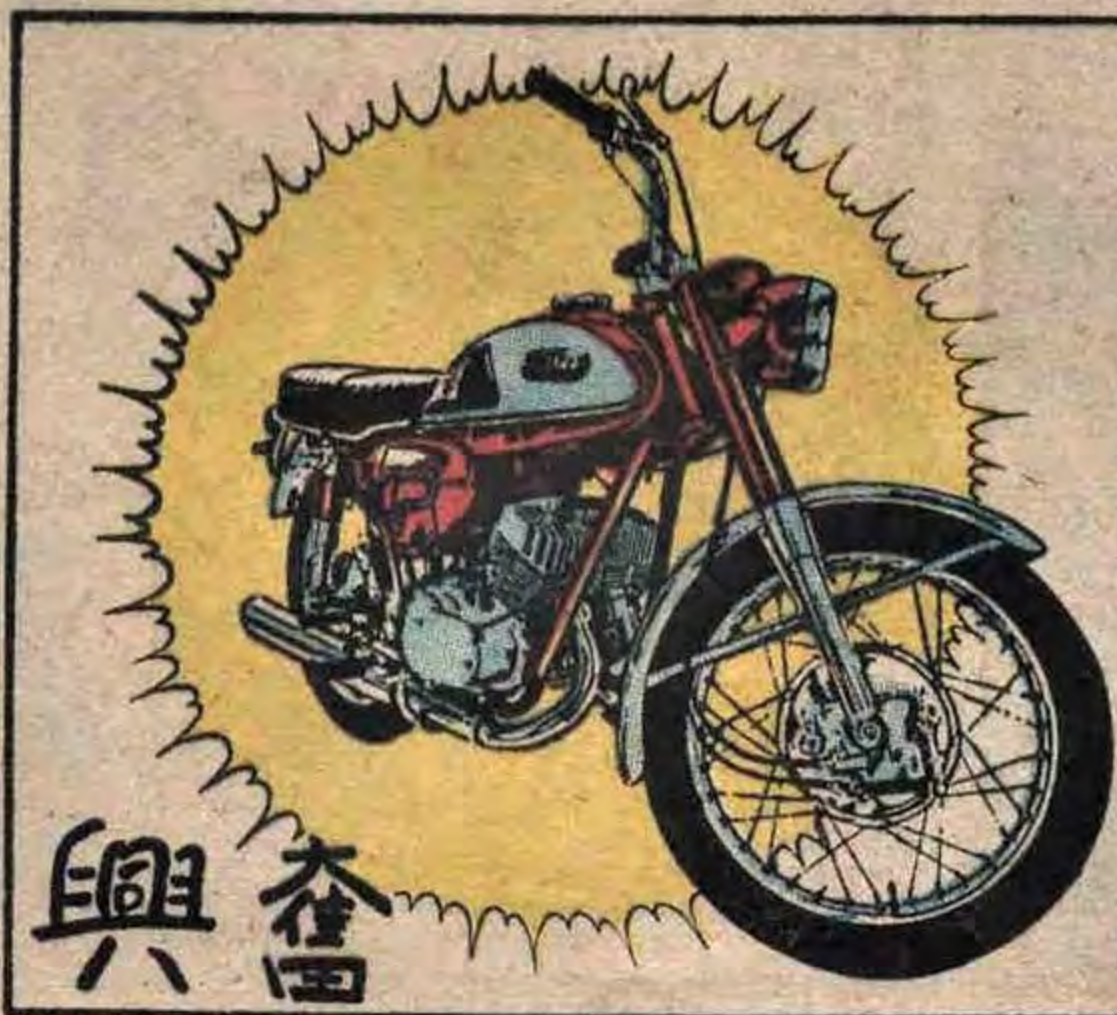
DON'T BE ALARMED,
FOLKS! BUT WE'VE GOT
TO MAKE AN EMERGENCY
LANDING! IT'S STANDARD
PROCEDURE!

I MUST BE SEEING THINGS!
AN ILLUSION FROM THE
STRAIN! NO HUMAN CAN
STAND ON THE WING OF A
650 M.P.H. JET--WITHOUT
BEING BLASTED OFF!

END PART ONE

CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING.

6



Here is Japanese engineering at its most ingenious. Little wonder this feisty, two-cycle bike is so fiercely competitive on the track circuits, chalking up more than its share of victories. In Japan, they'd use the above ideogram to describe the "350." Translation: Feisty. We've miniaturized every detail of the Grand Prix, including control cables, fuel and oil lines, steerable front wheel and detailed, hollow tires. Your finished model is one-eighth as long as the real bike. Under \$4, wherever toys or hobbies are sold.

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Build it yourself
Revell's Model-of-the-Month for September
Yamaha Grand Prix "350."

CHAPTER II

THERE IS LAUGHTER IN HELL TONIGHT!

AS THE JET DROPS INTO A POOL OF DARKNESS...

AND THEN, IN THE BLACK SKIES, A SILVERY BEACON...

THE MOON'S JUST COME OUT! RELAX, MARIA! WE'LL HAVE LIGHT ENOUGH TO LAND BY NOW!

BUT, WITH DEMONIC LAUGHTER, TALA SPREADS HER DARK MANTLE LIKE A SINISTER CLOUD, BEHIND HER...

SUDDENLY, GLOWING THROUGH THE PIT OF DARKNESS AND DESPAIR...

LOOK!

HE'S WAVING US IN!

EITHER I'M FLIPPIN' FROM EYE-STRAIN! OR I SEE AN ILLUMINATED MAN ON A RUNWAY!

KEEP THAT RIGHT WING UP!-- UP-- UP! NOW DROP HER DOWN! YOU'RE HOME!

HA HA HA HA HA HA HA

I HAVE PUT OUT THE EYES OF THE WORLD!

SKREEEEECHH

LIKE A LIVING BEACON, THE PHANTOM STRANGER USES HIS GLOWING BODY TO GUIDE THE GREAT JET ONTO A RUNWAY...



THE BATTLE HAS ONLY JUST BEGUN!

AMERICAN AIRLINES

I AGREE! BUT, ROUND ONE'S OVER!



YOU'LL SEE ME AGAIN! AS SURELY AS NIGHT FOLLOWS DAY!

I READ YOU LOUD AND CLEAR! BUT DON'T FORGET THE SUN ALWAYS RISES!



SHORTLY...

I DON'T BELIEVE IN MIRACLES! I CAME BACK TO INVESTIGATE WHAT HELPED US LAND! I SEE NO MYSTERY! BUT A MAN! A HEADLINE HUNTER WHO COVERED HIS BODY WITH PHOSPHORESCENT PAINT! A PONEY STAGE MAGICIAN'S TRICK!

NO MAGICIAN, BUT THE PHANTOM STRANGER!



SO LONG... FOR NOW--!

YOU CAN'T BE VANISHING FROM IN FRONT OF MY VERY EYES!



THE PHANTOM STRANGER'S GONE! BUT HE'S A FRAUD! HE PROBABLY RELEASED A SQUIRT OF GAS AT ME! TO GIVE ME THE ILLUSION OF HIS FADING AWAY INTO THE SMOG!

THE NEXT DAY, A GHOSTLY BROWNSTONE, THE LONE RELIC OF A DEMOLISHED STREET, STARES SILENTLY AT A STRANGE QUARTET OF TEENAGERS-- SPARTACUS, ATILA, WILD ROSE, AND MISTER SQUARE...



THE LIGHTS ARE GOING ON AGAIN! THAT'S ALL I NEED! THE LIGHT OF REASON TO EXPOSE CHARLATANS LIKE THE PHANTOM STRANGER! AND I WILL! NEXT TIME WE MEET! AS SURE AS MY NAME IS DR. THIRTEEN!



I--I WOULDN'T WANT TO GO IN THERE TO FIND OUT!

MAN! I SURE COULD USE THAT HAUNTED HOUSE AS MY PAD!

YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO HEAR A WOMAN'S SOBBING IN THAT PLACE. BUT I THINK SOMEONE MUST'VE HEARD CANARIES CHIRPIN' IN HIS SKULL!

UNDER THE BROOKLYN BRIDGE-- A CRAZY, JUMBLED JUNKYARD...

HEY, SHARK-TOOTH! WAKE UP, MAN! WE NEED SOME BREAD!

WE'VE GOT NICE JUNK FOR YOU!

M-MAYBE WE OUGHT TO COME BACK?

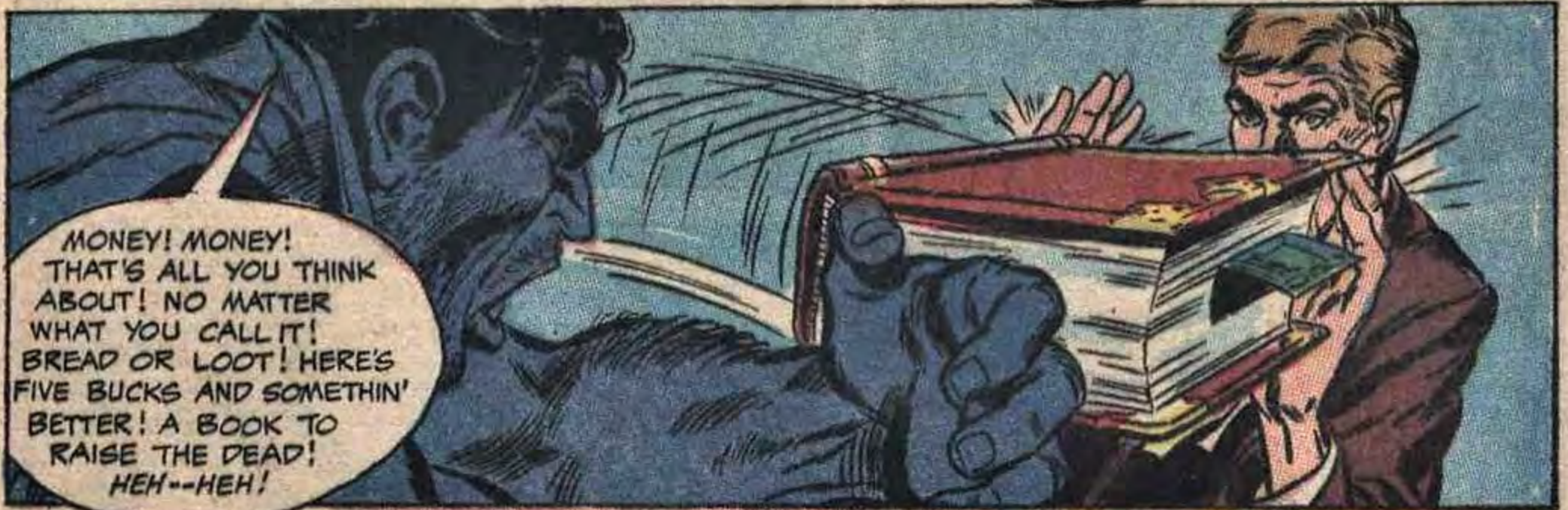




NOISE! NOISE!
THAT'S ALL YOU
BIRDS KNOW
HOW TO MAKE!

WAKIN' ME
UP FROM MY
DREAMS--THE
ONLY REAL
THING IN THIS
SOOR LIFE!

LET'S NOT HAVE
YOUR LIP, SHARK-
TOOTH... WE
CAME FOR
BREAD!



MONEY! MONEY!
THAT'S ALL YOU THINK
ABOUT! NO MATTER
WHAT YOU CALL IT!
BREAD OR LOOT! HERE'S
FIVE BUCKS AND SOMETHIN'
BETTER! A BOOK TO
RAISE THE DEAD!
HEH--HEH!



NOW LEAVE
ME TO MY DREAMS!
WHILE YOU STICK
TO WHAT YOU
CALL LIVIN'!
HEH--HEH--HEH!

HA HA
HA HA
HA HA



SOMETHING STRANGE ABOUT
THIS BOOK! IT SEEMS TO GROW
HEAVIER WITH EACH STEP I
TAKE! I WANT NO PART OF
IT! TAKE IT, ATTLA!

SURE, MISTER
SQUARE! I'VE
GOT IT!

THAT HOUSE
HAS BEEN DEAD FOR
FIFTY YEARS! MAYBE
WE CAN USE THE
BOOK TO WAKE IT
UP AGAIN!



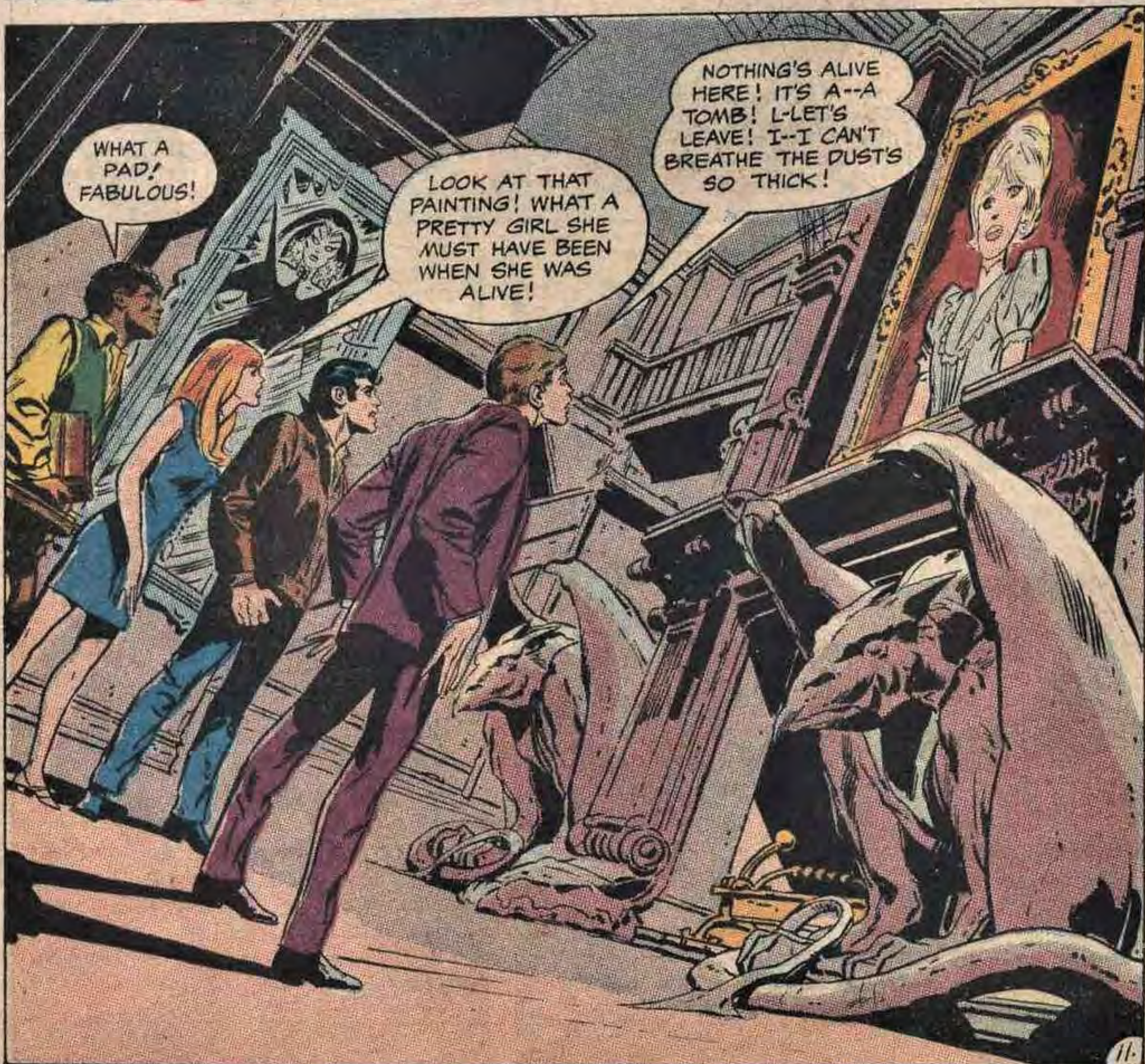
THE DOOR'S OPENIN'! LIKE IT'S BEEN WAITING FOR US!



TH-THIS PLACE LOOKS LIKE A SPIDER'S NEST! W-WE OUGHT TO GET OUT WHILE WE CAN! C'MON, WILD ROSE!

SIMMER DOWN, MISTER SQUARE!

YEAH, MAN! LET'S GROOVE ON THE SCENE A WHILE!




WHAT A PAD! FABULOUS!

LOOK AT THAT PAINTING! WHAT A PRETTY GIRL SHE MUST HAVE BEEN WHEN SHE WAS ALIVE!

NOTHING'S ALIVE HERE! IT'S A--A TOMB! L-LET'S LEAVE! I--I CAN'T BREATHE THE DUST'S SO THICK!







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CHAPTER 3: EVEN THE WALLS ARE WEEPING!

AS THE VERY WALLS OF THE EERIE HOUSE SHUDDER WITH SOBBING...



OH!
OH!
OH!

LOOK!...THE BOOK IS OPEN TO A VOODOO INCANTATION FOR RAISING THE DEAD!
SEE WHAT IT SAYS!

WE EACH HAVE TO READ A LINE!

TALA...TALA...
AKKA...VOOROO...
SSSULOODO!

T-TALA...TALA...
A-ALL P-POWERFUL...
B-BRING LIFE IN OUR MIDST.

TALA...EVIL AS THE BLACK WATERS THAT CHURN WEST OF THE MOON...

TALA, WILD WIND THAT EBBS AND FLOWS FROM EAST OF THE SUN...

ARRRRAGHHHH

WITH THE UNEXPECTEDNESS OF A HOWLING NIGHTMARE...

W-WE DIDN'T RAISE THE DEAD! WE BROUGHT THE GARGOYLES TO LIFE!

AS THE QUARTET OF TEENAGERS IS PRESSED BACK BY THE FEROCIOUS GARGOYLES--ASHES, LONG DEAD IN THE FIREPLACE, SUDDENLY GLOW REDLY...

WE RAISED THESE MONSTERS BY ONE INCANTATION FROM THE BOOK! MAYBE WE COULD SEND THEM BACK INTO THE WOODWORK BY READING ANOTHER?

WE'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO GET PAST THOSE CLAWS AND TEETH TO GET AT THE BOOK!

LOOK! WE'VE ALSO RAISED A PHANTOM!

PHANTOM'S ONLY HALF MY NAME! STRANGER'S THE OTHER!

S S S S S S S

M-MAN--PHANTOM STRANGER! Y-YOU FLIPPED! THINKIN' YOU CAN S-STOP THESE THINGS WITH A CURTAIN ROD?

ARRRRHHH

THINGS ARE NEVER WHAT THEY SEEM!

G N N N N N N

ARRRGHHH



I DON'T
NEED TWO
GUESSES...

TZUUNGG

TO PINPOINT
WHOSE HAND
RAISED THESE
MONSTERS--

TALA'S!

TZUUNGG

ARRRGHHH



YOU SURE COOLED 'EM, MAN!

LOOK!--THEY'VE TURNED BACK INTO CRACKED PLASTER AGAIN!

I-I DON'T DIG IT!



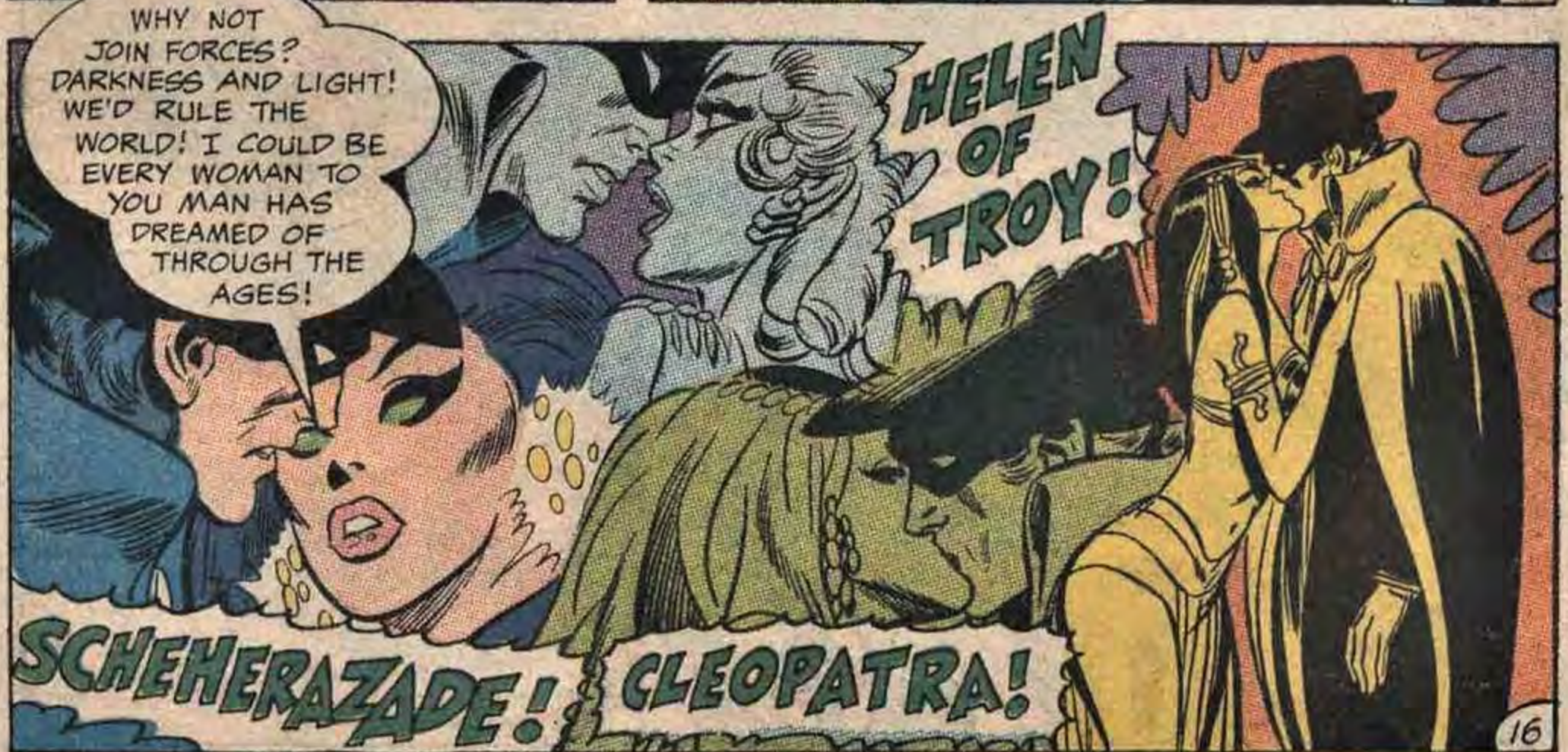
YOU'VE AROUSED DARK FORCES YOU CAN'T CONTROL! DO YOU DIG THAT?

CRACK!



LET ME INTRODUCE YOU TO THE LADY WHO WAS PULLING ALL THE STRINGS IN THIS SHOW OF DARKNESS-- **TALA... COME FORTH!**

YOUR CALL IS AS STRONG AS THE TIDES!



WHY NOT JOIN FORCES? DARKNESS AND LIGHT! WE'D RULE THE WORLD! I COULD BE EVERY WOMAN TO YOU MAN HAS DREAMED OF THROUGH THE AGES!

HELEN OF TROY!

SCHEHERAZADE! CLEOPATRA!



YOU EVIL VIXEN...
YOU DARE TEMPT ME!
YOU CAN'T MAKE ME
FORGET THAT NIGHT
AND DAY CAN
NEVER MEET!

COOL,
MAN!

CRASH

FOOL! I WON'T
BE SO GENEROUS
WITH MY LIPS NEXT
TIME WE MEET!
I ALSO HAVE
TEETH!



A FEW MOMENTS LATER...

PHANTOM STRANGER!
WHAT FAKERY ARE
YOU PRACTICING
NOW?

FAKERY? HOW
COULD HE HAVE SAVED
US FROM THESE
GARGOYLES WITH
FAKERY?

STILL CHASING
ANSWERS WITH A
SLIDE RULE, DR.
THIRTEEN?

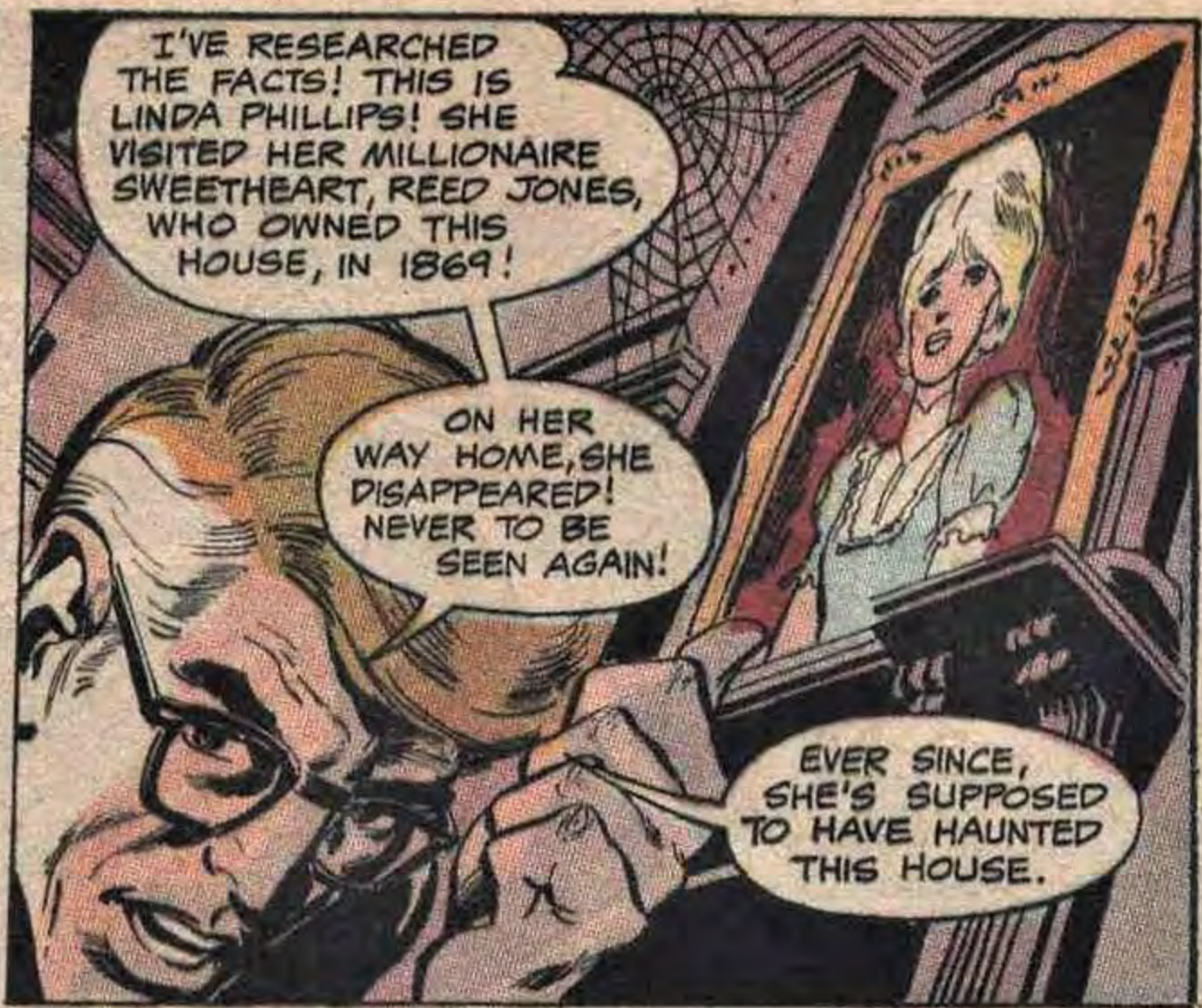


PLASTER ISN'T
FLESH AND BLOOD!
YOU WERE DECEIVED BY
THE EERIE SHADOWS
AND MIND-DISORDERING
DUST IN THIS OLD
HOUSE! WITH THE PHANTOM
STRANGER PLAYING UPON
YOUR DELUSIONS!



HEY, MAN, WE HEARD SOMEONE CRYIN'! THIS PAD IS HAUNTED!

HEARD! BUT DIDN'T SEE! WHERE'S THE SOBBING NOW THAT I'M HERE TO QUESTION IT?



I'VE RESEARCHED THE FACTS! THIS IS LINDA PHILLIPS! SHE VISITED HER MILLIONAIRE SWEETHEART, REED JONES, WHO OWNED THIS HOUSE, IN 1869!

ON HER WAY HOME, SHE DISAPPEARED! NEVER TO BE SEEN AGAIN!

EVER SINCE, SHE'S SUPPOSED TO HAVE HAUNTED THIS HOUSE.



SUDDENLY, WITH HEART-RENDING INTENSITY...

OHH OHH OHH

THERE IT IS AGAIN, DR. THIRTEEN!

AN OBVIOUS TRICK! PLANTING DELUSIONS IN OUR MINDS! ALL WE HEAR IS THE WIND MOANING THROUGH THIS OBVIOUSLY-DRAFTY, OLD HOUSE!



ANOTHER ONE OF YOUR TRICKS, PHANTOM STRANGER... CUTTING THROUGH THAT WALL AS IF YOUR FINGER WERE A LASER BEAM!

YOU PROBABLY PALMED A MINIATURE ACETYLENE TORCH!



MY GOD! LOOK!

INSIDE THE WALL--AN ANCIENT, SHRUNKEN, SKELETAL CRONE...

OHhhh--
OHhhh--

WINDY DRAFTS,
DR. THIRTEEN?

SHE'S NOT A
GHOST! SHE'S ALIVE!
OBVIOUSLY SURVIVING ALL
THESE YEARS THROUGH
SUSPENDED ANIMATION! WHEN
HER VITAL FUNCTIONS SLOWED
DOWN TO A STATE
RESEMBLING DEATH!

I REMEMBER...
IT WAS A
SUNNY DAY...

WHO ARE
YOU?

LINDA...
PHILLIPS!...
I WAS 18...
WHEN I LAST
CAME HERE...
TO SEE
REED JONES...
MY FIANCE...

"EVEN THOUGH... REED'S INSANE JEALOUSY
HAD ALWAYS... TERRIFIED ME..."

I--I CAN'T
KEEP IT FROM
REED ANY
LONGER!

I--I'VE FALLEN IN LOVE
WITH SOMEONE ELSE,
REED! IT--IT WOULD BE
UNFAIR NOT TO TELL
YOU!



I'LL NEVER
LET ANYONE
TAKE YOU
FROM ME!

NEVER!

NEVER!

NEVER!



"I NEVER LEFT THE HOUSE... AGAIN..."

IF I CAN'T HAVE YOU--NO ONE ELSE WILL!

YOU'LL STAY HERE WITH ME!

ALWAYS!-- ALWAYS!-- ALWAYS!



"REED LOCKED HIMSELF IN... LIVING LIKE A HERMIT IN A CAVE..."

OH OH OH OH OH OH

NO ONE CAN TAKE YOU FROM ME NOW!



"THE YEARS PASSED... UNTIL..."

OH OH OH OH OH OH

I'M... DYING-- BUT... YOU'LL BE MINE... FOREVER-- AH H H H G H H H...



"UNDER REED'S WILL ... THE HOUSE COULDN'T BE TOUCHED... IT REMAINED... LIKE A DUSTY TOMBSTONE..."

OH OH OH OH OH OH

IT'S HAUNTED! LISTEN!



NOW... AT LAST... YOU... HAVE FREED ... ME...

WHAT'S THAT? THE HOUSE IS SHAKING!

SUDDENLY, AS IF HEAVING IN DEATH AGONIES...

**CRAAKRRRUMBLE
CRAASH**

OUT, EVERYONE!
TALA'S IN A FRENZY
AGAIN! HURRY!

TALA? IT
CAN'T BE! I
EXPLODED THE
MYTH OF TALA
MYSELF!

AMIDST THE INFERNO
OF DESTRUCTION...
LAUGHTER LIKE AN
INSANE WIND...

**HAAAA
HA
HAHA**

LOOK--IT'S
TALA! ATOP
THE HOUSE!

THAT CHICK'S
BLOWN HER
COOL SKY-
HIGH!

THERE IS NO TALA! JUST
AN ILLUSION CREATED BY
THE WHIRLING DUST, SMOKE,
AND FLAMES! PLANTED
IN YOUR MINDS BY THE
PHANTOM STRANGER'S
HYPNOTIC
SUGGESTIONS!

I WANT TO...
SLEEP... SLEEP FOREVER...
PROMISE... YOU'LL SEE
...TO... IT--AHHNNN--

I
PROMISE
LINDA!



THE NEXT EVENING...

"LINDA PHILLIPS, 1851-1969, REST IN PEACE!"

NO MORE SOBBING FOR LINDA! SHE'S AT ETERNAL PEACE NOW!



ADMIT IT! YOU STAGED IT! WITH HYPNOTIC SUGGESTIONS! THERE IS NO ONE BURIED THERE!

THERE ARE MORE THINGS IN HEAVEN AND EARTH--THAN ONE CAN IMAGINE.



KRAK

FARE... WELL!



THE PHANTOM STRANGER'S GONE! BUT HIS FLOWERS REMAIN!

A TYPICAL STAGE MAGICIAN'S TRICK! I'LL EXPOSE HIS CHARADES! SOMEHOW... SOMEWHERE... SOMETIME!

THE END.

DON'T MISS THE NEXT DAZZLING, MIND-STAGGERING TALE STARRING THE NEW PHANTOM STRANGER, WITH THE BEAUTIFUL TITANIC TERROR, TALA--AND THE ETERNALLY DOUBTING DR. THIRTEEN IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE PHANTOM STRANGER!

THE REAL ONE IS HERE!

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