



THE AVENGERS

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

MARVEL
COMICS
GROUP
12¢ 57
IND. OCT



BEHOLD...
THE
VISION!



Telegram-Marvel comics
(Avengers)

RAIN FALLS ON THE PARCHED CITY
...A RAIN THAT SENDS ALL SCURRY-
ING FOR SHELTER...



ALL SAVE ONE, WHO STALKS
ALONE THE CONCRETE CANYONS,
HEEDLESS OF THE TORRENTIAL
DOWN POUR...

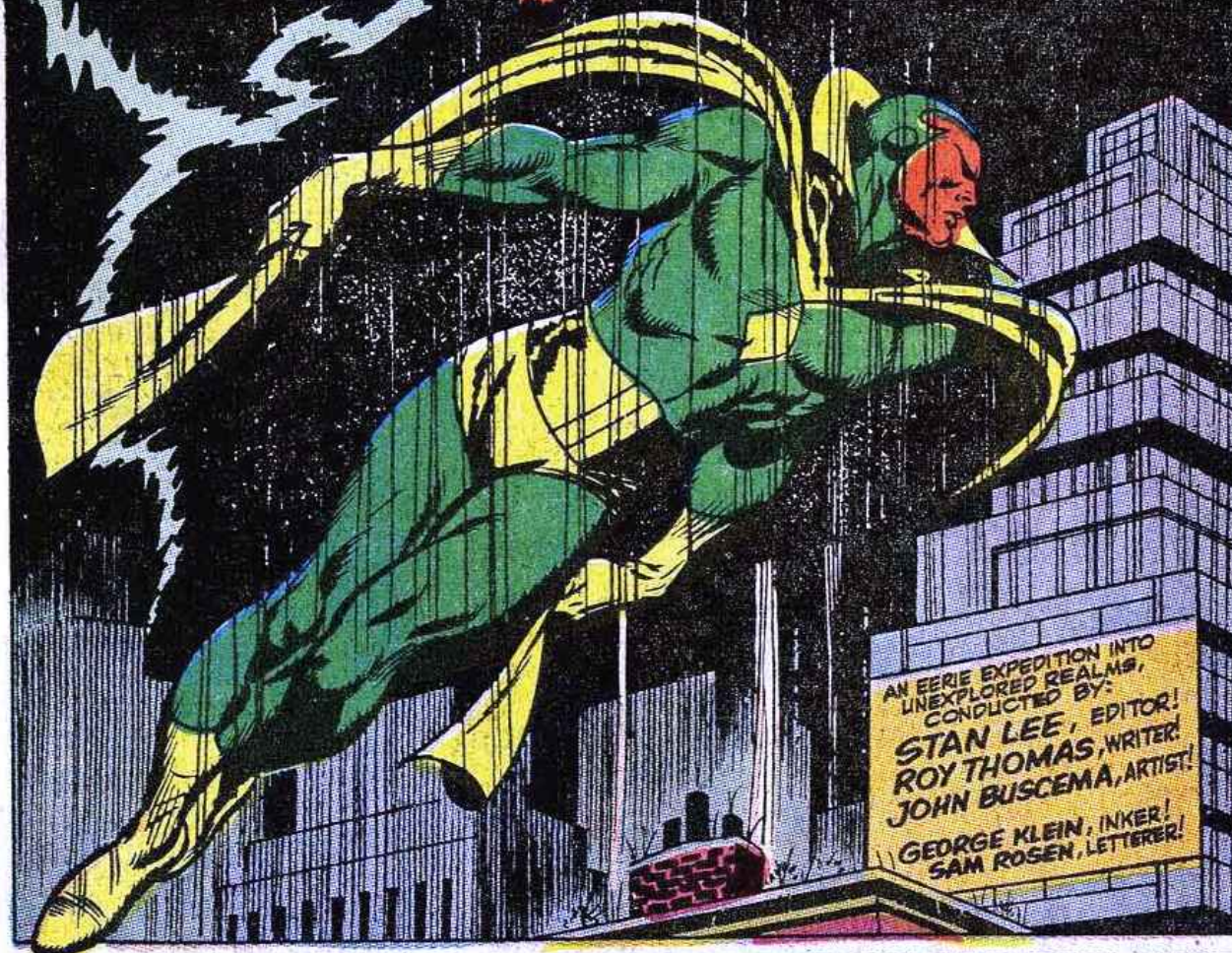


...BECAUSE IT DOES NOT TOUCH
HIM...



THEN, SILENTLY, EFFORTLESSLY
...LIKE SOME GREAT, VENGEFUL
BIRD OF PREY... HE SWOOPS
INTO THE MOONLESS, CLOUD-
DRAPE SKY...TOWARDS A
TOWERING STRUCTURE NEARBY...

BEHOLD...THE VISION!



AN EERIE EXPEDITION INTO
UNEXPLORED REALMS,
CONDUCTED BY:
STAN LEE, EDITOR!
ROY THOMAS, WRITER!
JOHN BUSCEMA, ARTIST!
GEORGE KLEIN, INKER!
SAM ROSEN, LETTERER!

THE AVENGERS is published by VISTA PUBLICATIONS, INC. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 625 MADISON AVENUE, NEW YORK, N. Y. 10022. SECOND CLASS POSTAGE PAID AT NEW YORK, N. Y. and at additional mailing offices. Published monthly. Copyright ©1968 by Vista Publications Inc. Marvel Comics Group, all rights reserved, 625 Madison Avenue, New York, N. Y. 10022. Vol. 1, No. 57, October, 1968 issue. Price 12¢ per copy. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. Printed in the U.S.A. by World Color Press, Inc., Sparta, Illinois 62286. Subscription rate \$1.75 and \$2.25 Canada for 12 issues including postage. Foreign subscriptions \$3.25.





YOUR TIME HAS COME, JANET VAN DYNE!

AND THERE IS NOTHING YOU CAN DO... TO STAY YOUR FATE!

NO--NO! IT'S SOME SORT OF UNEARTHLY INHUMAN VISION--!

AND THAT VOICE... LIKE SOMETHING FROM BEYOND THE GRAVE...!

KEEP YOUR HEAD, GIRL... YOU'VE BEEN THREATENED BEFORE!



DON'T KNOW WHO OR WHAT IS MENACING ME!

BUT MY WASP POWERS OFFER ME A SURE OUT!



MADE IT!

AND HOW MANY YOUNG LADIES CAN AVOID TROUBLE BY BEING SHRINKING VIOLETS?

OR BY TAKING A POWDER THRU A KEYHOLE?



SHOULD BE SAFE ENOUGH TO GROW AGAIN... THAT DOOR'S LOCKED, AND AN INCH THICK!

NOW TO CALL HANK, AND... WAIT!



SOMETHING'S HAPPENING... TO THE WALL!



NO... NOT TO THE WALL! BUT... THAT HAND...!



THAT HORRIBLE THING... IS WALKING THRU THE WALL... AS IF IT WEREN'T THERE!



NO... NO! STAY BACK...!!

NEXT, AS JAN
INSTINCTIVELY
TURNS TO FLEE...

DO WHAT YOU *WILL*,
YOU WHO ARE CALLED
THE *WASP*!

YOU CANNOT ESCAPE
THE SEARING GAZE
OF MY *THERMO-
SCOPIC EYES*!

THAT
HEAT...
IT'S UN-
BEARABLE..!

OR SOON
SHALL BE...
WHEN I
INCREASE ITS
UNIMAGINABLE
POWER!

BUT
THEN...
WITHOUT
WARN-
ING...

AAARRHH!

THE PAIN--
INSIDE MY HEAD!
CAN'T STAND
IT--!

A MOMENT
LATER, ON THE RAIN-
DRENCHED
STREETS
BELOW...

IT'S
JAN!

CAN'T WASTE TIME
USING THE
ELEVATOR!

GOT TO
REACH
HER FAST--
GOLIATH
STYLE!

THAT
SIGNAL...

ACTIVATING
THE TRANSCIVER
ON MY BELT...



UH OH! FORGOT THAT NOT EVERYBODY'S USED TO SEEING GIANTS SCALING THEIR WALLS!

BUT, CAN'T WORRY ABOUT THAT NOW!

WAKE UP, MATILDA!

IT'S JUST A MIRAGE ... I THINK!



HERE'S JAN'S PENTHOUSE, ON THE TOP FLOOR! ONLY HOPE I'M IN TIME!

JAN! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT..?

I AM, LOVER MAN!

BUT I'VE GOT A WINDOW THAT'LL NEVER BE THE SAME AGAIN!



HUH? IS THAT ALL THE THANKS I GET FOR...



OKAY, JAN BABY... SO YOU'RE ACTING LIKE A FIRST-RATE FINK!

STILL, YOU'VE GOTTA GET EVEN *SOMEHOW* FOR BEING WALKED OUT ON!

... EVEN IF YOU WERE SCARED STIFF JUST HALF A MINUTE AGO.

THANKS? FOR SMASHING THAT EXPENSIVE GLASS TO SMITHER-EEENS?

EVEN MY WOULD-BE ASSAILANT OPENED IT BY HAND!

LOOK, LET'S GET DOWN TO CASES, HUH?

WHO...OR WHAT... IS THIS GUY?



AND, WHAT MADE HIM COLLAPSE IN A HEAP LIKE THAT?

FRANKLY, HE DOESN'T LOOK LIKE THE TYPE TO BE TAKEN OUT BY YOUR WASP'S STINGS!

I'M AS MUCH IN THE DARK AS YOU, HANK!

SO, WHY DON'T WE GIVE HIM THE ONCE-OVER AT AVENGERS HQ?

...AFTER YOU WRITE ME A CHECK FOR MY WINDOW, THAT IS!

MEANWHILE, IN ANOTHER APARTMENT, SOMEWHERE ON NEW YORK'S UPPER EAST SIDE...



HI, 'TASH! HONEY! I GOT HERE AS FAST AS I...

WHAT IN BLAZES IS GOIN' ON HERE?

THERE'S NO NEED TO SHOUT, MY AMOROUS ARCHER!

YOU'VE SEEN THE BLACK WIDOW WALKING ON CEILINGS BEFORE!

MEBBE SO... BUT I DIDN'T THINK I WAS GONNA SEE IT AGAIN!

I THOUGHT YOU GAVE UP ALL THAT JAZZ... FOR GOOD!



SO DID I... WHEN I COMPLETED MY LAST ASSIGNMENT FOR SHIELD!

YA DON'T HAVETA TRY DAZZLIN' OL' HAWKEYE WITH DOUBLE-TALK, LADY!

BUT IT'S A LADY'S PREROGATIVE TO CHANGE HER MIND, IS IT NOT?



THWOP!

NICK FURY'S OFFERED YOU ANOTHER JOB... RIGHT?

AS A MATTER OF FACT... HE DID!

AND, SINCE YOU SEEM FOREVER TOO BUSY TO DO MORE THAN OCCASIONALLY VISIT ME...

YEAH, IF YOU CALL RISKIN' YOUR LIFE "BUSY"!

YEESH! THERE GOES MY BELT SIGNAL!

NOW WADDA THEY WANT?

YOU SEE? I MIGHT AS WELL BE BACK IN SIBERIA...



BZZZ

NOT NOW, NATASHA, HUH?

HAWKEYE HERE! WHAT'S UP, MAN-MOUNTAIN...?

I KINDA THOUGHT YOU WERE GONNA SAY THAT!



NO, DON'T SWEAT IT! I'M ON MY WAY!

BUT, YOU SURE KNOW HOW TO THROW A DAMPER ON A GUY'S LOVE LIFE!

WHAT LOVE LIFE? IT'S BEEN WEEKS SINCE WE EVEN HAD DINNER TOGETHER!

I'M SURE THAT MY NEW ASSIGNMENT FOR SHIELD WILL BE AT LEAST THAT ROMANTIC!



CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE



LOOK, I DON'T HAVE TIME TO **MINCE WORDS** WITH YA RIGHT NOW, DOLL!

WE'LL TALK ABOUT IT AFTER I ANSWER THAT **EMERGENCY CALL**, OKAY?

WHAT IS THERE TO **DISCUSS**?

WHEN YOU RETURN... I'LL NO LONGER **BE** HERE!



MEANWHILE, ON ANOTHER RAIN-SWEPT STREET SOME BLOCKS **NORTH**...

HAD TO GET OUT OF THE **AVENGERS' MANSION**!

ONLY **HERE**, IN THE OPEN AIR, CAN THE **BLACK PANTHER** BE FREE TO **THINK**...



...THINK ABOUT HIS **LIFE**... OR WHAT **PASSES** FOR HIS LIFE?

I WAS A **PRINCE** IN FAR-OFF **AFRICA**... OF A HIDDEN KINGDOM POSSESSED OF **MATCHLESS WEALTH**!

BUT, I FOUND MY **THRONE** AN EMPTY, **HOLLOW MOCKERY**...



THUS, I BECAME AN **AVENGER**... HOPING TO FIND FULFILLMENT IN RIDDING SOCIETY OF THOSE WHO WOULD **RUTHLESSLY DESTROY** IT!

YET, EVEN THAT IS **NOT ENOUGH**! I MUST DO MORE... **MORE**, IF I'M TO...

WAIT! WHAT'S THAT--?



HELP... POLICE!

ROBBERY... OVER THERE!





...AND YOU SET THE WOUNDED GUY'S **LEG** IN A SPLINT, TOO...EH, PANTHER?

SO AM I, OFFICER!

NOW, IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME, THERE'S SOMETHING I MUST DO...

GLAD TO SEE YOU AVENGERS HAVE TIME TO DO SOMETHING BESIDES SAVE THE EARTH FROM **SUPER-VILLAINS** ONCE IN A WHILE!

MAN, THAT BLACK PANTHER IS SOME-THIN' ELSE!

WE COULD SURE USE 'IM ON MY BLOCK!



SOMETHING IN THAT YOUNGSTER'S VOICE MAY JUST HAVE GIVEN ME THE **ANSWER** I'VE BEEN SEEKING!*

BUT FIRST, IT'S TIME THAT I **CHECKED IN**, TO SEE IF...

SORRY, HANK... DIDN'T HEAR YOUR SIGNAL... TOO **PRE-OCCUPIED**, I GUESS!

I'LL BE THERE IN **TEN MINUTES!**

*AN **ANSWER**, HOWEVER, WHICH WILL HAVE TO WAIT FOR AN **ISH** OR TWO!
--SNEAKY STAN.



...I STILL DON'T SEE WHY YOU CAN'T TELL ME IF MY VISITOR WAS **HUMAN** OR NOT, HIGH-POCKETS!

PERHAPS IT'S BECAUSE ...HE WAS **BOTH**, JAN!

EXACTLY, T'CHALLA!

ACCORDING TO MY EXAMINATION, HE'S EVERY INCH A **HUMAN BEING**...

...EXCEPT THAT ALL HIS **BODILY ORGANS** ARE CONSTRUCTED OF **SYNTHETIC MATERIALS!**

HOLY CATS, MAN-MOUNTAIN... LIKE YOUR **SYNTHOZOID!**



THE **WHAT**, HAWKEYE? I DON'T...

A **SYNTHOZOID**, PANTHER...A NAME I ONCE COINED FOR AN **ARTIFICIAL HUMAN!**

HAWKEYE REMEMBERS THAT I USED TO BE TRYING TO **DEVELOP** SUCH A THING, BUT I NEVER...

WAIT! HE'S STARTING TO MOVE...TO **BREATHE** AGAIN!

--THOUGH, I STILL CAN'T GUESS WHAT MADE HIM **STOP!**



MERELY TWO MEN?
YOU UNDERESTIMATE
YOUR OPPONENT, FOOLS!

A MERE CONCENTRATION
OF WILL POWER... AND
A BATTERING RAM
ITSELF COULD NOT
MOVE ME!

HE JUST FLEXED
HIS MUSCLES
... AND T'CHALLA
AND I WERE
TOSSED OFF
LIKE FLAP-
JACKS...!

MAYBE HE CAN
THROW YOU
TWO AROUND, BOW-
SLINGER, BUT...

UHHH! HE IS
MUCH... MORE
MASSIVE THAN
HE LOOKS!

HAVEN'T YOU
REALIZED YET...
THAT YOU ARE
DEALING WITH
ONE WHO CAN
COMPLETELY
CONTROL HIS
OWN DENSITY?

SO
THAT'S
YOUR
LITTLE
SECRET,
IS IT?

Y'KNOW, YOU'RE
GONNA BE SORRY
YOU SHOT OFF YOUR
MOUTH ABOUT
IT!

'CAUSE MY
SIZE-CHANGING
ABILITY GIVES ME
SOMEWHAT
COMPENSATORY
POWERS...

...AS YOU'VE
PROBABLY
NOTICED BY
NOW!

NOW SUPPOSE
YOU CALM DOWN...
AND LET'S REASON
TOGETHER ABOUT
THIS THING!

THERE IS NOTHING
TO REASON ABOUT,
HUMAN...

I WAS SENT
TO DESTROY
YOU... AND
DESTROY
YOU I
MUST! I
MUST!

STRANGE...HE SPEAKS LIKE A MAN...
OR AN ANDROID...IN A **TRANCE!**

HE TALKS ABOUT
HAVING TO TRY
TO **KILL US...**
YET MAKES
NO **MOVE!**

MAYBE
THAT PUTS
YOUR
MIND AT
EASE,
JUNGLE
MAN...

BROTHER **HAWKEYE'S**
STILL GONNA SCOOP
UP HIS **ARROWS!**

IF ONLY...I COULD
REMEMBER...!

YOU'VE GOT TO
REMEMBER, VISION...
SO WE CAN BE
FRIENDS, NOT
DEADLY **ENEMIES!**

I, TOO,
FEEL WE
SHOULD BE...
ALLIES!

AND YET, A
DARK MIST
CLOUDS MY
MIND, SO
THAT...

BUT, IN
TRUTH...I
DO NOT
KNOW!

WAIT!
SUDDENLY, I
RECALL...

...RECALL
THE ONE WHO
CREATED ME...
ORDERED ME
TO **DESTROY**
YOU!

IT WAS
A METAL
BEING...WHO
CALLED HIMSELF
ULTRON-5!

I SEE FROM
YOUR FACES
THAT YOU, ALSO,
HAVE HEARD
THAT NAME
BEFORE!

I DON'T KNOW WHY...
BUT THE MERE REMEMBRANCE
OF IT FILLS ME WITH A
FEELING OF...**HATRED!**

...IF A CREATURE SUCH
AS I BE ALLOWED TO HAVE
EMOTIONS!

I DON'T **GET IT!** FROM
WHAT YOU TOLD ME, JAN...

...HE COULD **WALK OUT!**
OF THIS ROOM...AT **WILL!**

WHO
ARE YOU,
FELLA?

HOW'D YOU
GET SUCH
POWERS?

YOU NEED
NOT **BELIEVE**
ME, ARCHER...



IT IS UNCANNY... BUT, NOW THAT I HAVE PLUMBED MY DIM MEMORIES BACK AS FAR AS THEY WILL GO...

I NO LONGER FEEL ANY DESIRE TO ATTACK YOU!

IN FACT, IF YOU WISH... I'LL LEAD YOU TO HIM WHO... CREATED ME!

WE'VE BEEN HUNTING THAT METAL MANIAC FOR WEEKS!

SO, WE'VE GOT TO TAKE A CHANCE ON YOU!

STILL, JUST IN CASE THERE'S SOME TRICK UP YOUR SLEEVE...

I'M KEEPIN' A SHOCK ARROW TRAINED RIGHT ON YOUR SYNTHETIC KISSER!

MOMENTS LATER, A SLEEK AIR-CRUISER SOARS INTO THE SKY... ITS OCCUPANTS CLOAKED IN SOMBRE SILENCE...

--- EXCEPT FOR THE STRANGELY UNNATURAL VOICE WHICH ISSUES DIRECTIONS... DIRECTIONS WHICH SOON LEAD TO...

ULTRON-5'S SUBTERRANEAN STRONGHOLD!

JARVIS COULDN'T LOCATE IT FOR US, BECAUSE OF AN INDUCED MEMORY BLOCK! *

WHY IS IT OPENING TO US... LIKE A BUDDING FLOWER?

*AN ESOTERIC FOLLOW-UP REF TO AVENGERS #55! --- STAN.

YOU ARE UNDOULY SUSPICIOUS, JANET VAN DYNE...

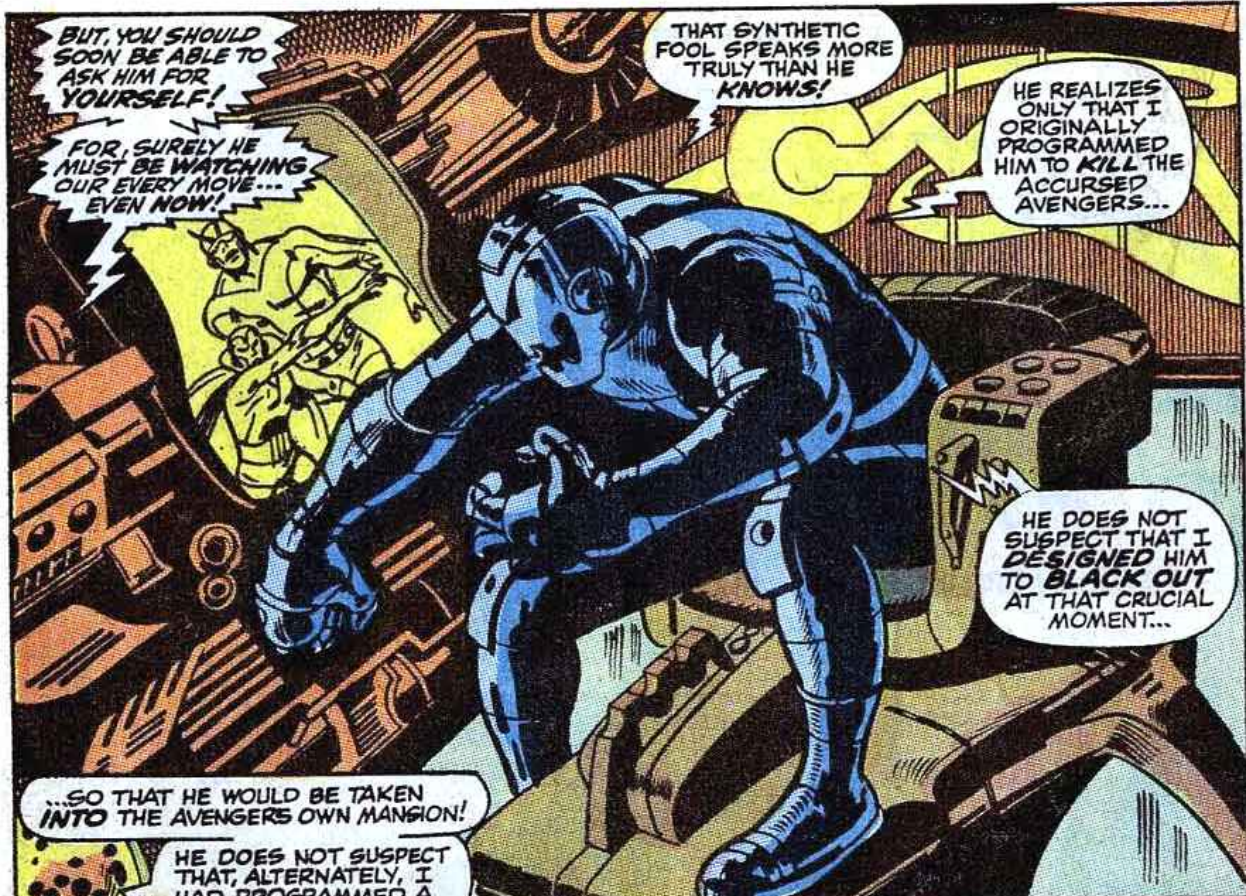


---REMEMBER, MY CREATOR'S PROTECTIVE DEVICES WERE SET TO RE-ADMIT ME!

SPEAKING OF YOUR SUPPOSED CREATOR...

JUST WHO IS HE... AND WHY IS HE SO FANATICAL ABOUT DESTROYING THE AVENGERS?

THAT, GOLIATH, EVEN I DO NOT KNOW...



BUT, YOU SHOULD SOON BE ABLE TO ASK HIM FOR YOURSELF!

FOR, SURELY HE MUST BE WATCHING OUR EVERY MOVE... EVEN NOW!

THAT SYNTHETIC FOOL SPEAKS MORE TRULY THAN HE KNOWS!

HE REALIZES ONLY THAT I ORIGINALLY PROGRAMMED HIM TO KILL THE ACCURSED AVENGERS...

HE DOES NOT SUSPECT THAT I DESIGNED HIM TO BLACK OUT AT THAT CRUCIAL MOMENT...

...SO THAT HE WOULD BE TAKEN INTO THE AVENGERS OWN MANSION!

HE DOES NOT SUSPECT THAT, ALTERNATELY, I HAD PROGRAMMED A **SECOND** REACTION IN HIM...



THAT, IF HE **FAILED** TO DESTROY THEM, HE WOULD LEAD THEM HERE...

...WHERE I COULD **ANNIHILATE** THEM!



AND, BEFORE ANOTHER **INSTANT** HAS ELAPSED...

PANTHER... **LOOK OUT!**

ERUPTING FLAMES... MISSING ME BY **INCHES**...

THE PANTHER GOT **PAST** 'EM!

BUT, WE'RE TRAPPED ON **THIS** SIDE!



UH OH!
LOOKS LIKE
I TALKED
OUTTA
TURN!

WHAT ELSE IS NEW,
BOW-SLINGER?

SOON AS YOU
TWO ARE OVER,
I'LL SHOOT UP
TO 25 FEET,
AND...

AAARRHH!

ONE SUDDEN, SINKING
MOMENT LATER...EVEN AS
HANK PYM'S MIGHTY FRAME
LANDS DOZENS OF FEET
BELOW...A HULKING FORM
LOOMS OVER HIM, ITS IN-
HUMAN FACE A MASK OF
LETHAL MENACE...



I DON'T KNOW IF THAT'S
A ROBOT...A SYNTHO-
ZOID...OR WHAT... BUT
IT SURE ISN'T HEADING
MY WAY TO SHAKE
MY HAND!

ULTRON-5 HAS
MORE KINDS OF
ANDROIDS THAN
ANDY WARHOL
HAS SOUP CANS!

WORSE... THAT
FALL SHOOK ME
UP SO BAD...
CAN'T CONCENTRATE
ON CHANGING
SIZE!

MAYBE...
I CAN FAKE
HIM OUT...
GET PAST
HIM...



BUT, FAR MORE
SWIFTLY THAN
GOLIATH COULD
HAVE GUESSED...

WITH
ONE BLOW
...HE KNOCKED
EVERY BIT OF
WIND OUT OF
ME...





LOOKS LIKE... I'VE HAD IT...

WHAM!

WELL DONE, LACKEY! NOW, BRING THE GIANT ONE TO ME... AT CONTROL CENTER!

ONE AVENGER HAS FALLEN... BUT THREE YET REMAIN...!



... I DON'T LIKE IT, HAWKEYE!

THE WAY HANK VANISHED... IT HAD ALL THE MARKINGS OF A WELL-LAID TRAP!

WADDA YOU SAY ABOUT IT, VISION?

THAT IS ALL THE MORE REASON FOR YOU TO FOLLOW ME... TO BEARD ULTRON-5 IN HIS LAIR, BEFORE...

BUT HANK... WHAT ABOUT HANK?

HE MAY NEED OUR HELP...!



I KNOW HOW YA FEEL, JAN...

BUT, YOU GOTTA SEE THIS WAY IS BEST! YOU GOTTA...

I ONLY SEE... THAT YOU MAY BE LEAVING HANK... TO DIE!

IT'S NOT LIKE THAT, KID... I SWEAR IT'S NOT!



THAT'S RIGHT, CLOWNS!

STAND THERE, THE VICTIM OF YOUR OWN INANE EMOTIONS!

THE BETTER FOR ME TO KILL YOU WITH!



OH... LOOK! THE WALLS...!

THEY'RE CLOSING IN ON US!

IT WAS A TRAP... THE WHOLE BIT!

I DID NOT KNOW... I DIDN'T!

THEN HELP US SMASH THESE WALLS... BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!



I...CAN'T...!

THEY'RE CONSTRUCTED OF AN ALLOY SO STRONG... SO IRRESISTIBLE... THAT, EVEN AT MY GREATEST DENSITY...

IT WOULD ONLY BE A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE I, TOO, WOULD BE CRUSHED... ALONG WITH YOU!

AND, IT WOULDN'T BE NICE TO GET YOUR OWN SYNTHETIC SELF SQUASHED LIKE A BUG, WOULD IT?

SO NATURALLY, YOU'VE GOTTA CUT OUT ON US... GO LOOKIN' FOR ULTRON-5 BY YOUR LONESOME!

EASY, HAWKEYE! THAT MAY WELL BE THE BEST COURSE... IF HE TELLS THE TRUTH!

THEN NONE OF YOU REALLY TRUSTS ME!

BUT, I SHALL PROVE MY WORTH... BY DEFEATING HIM WHO MADE ME!

IF YOU DON'T DO IT FAST, COME BACK LATER AN' SCRAPE US OFF THE WALLS, HUH?



THE EMBITTERED BOWMAN WAS CORRECT!

THOUGH THE WALLS MOVE SLOWLY... THEY MOVE REMORSELESSLY!

THEY MUST BE RESCUED SWIFTLY... OR NOT AT ALL!



YET, THEY WERE MUCH NEARER THAN THEY KNEW...

...TO THE NERVE CENTER OF THIS SINISTER BEEHIVE!



SO... YOU'VE RETURNED TO YOUR SENSES, AT LAST!

YOU WERE WISE, ANDROID... WISE TO THUS DESERT THE DOOMED MORTALS!



WELL, DO NOT SIMPLY STAND THERE... LIKE SOME LIFELESS MANNEQUIN!

I GAVE YOU A TONGUE TO SPEAK... LET ME HEAR YOUR REPORT!

YES... YOU CREATED ME... GAVE ME LIFE!

BUT, YOU MEANT ME TO BE NOTHING BUT A NAMELESS, SOULLESS IMITATION OF A HUMAN BEING!

RELEASE THE AVENGERS... OR FACE HIM WHOM THEY HAVE NAMED... THE VISION!

WHAT? YOU DARE TO CHALLENGE ME...??

FOR THAT, I SHOULD DESTROY YOU... REND YOU LIMB FROM LIMB...

YET, WHY SHOULD WE QUARREL...

IF YOU WISH THE AVENGERS TO BE SPARED...SO SHALL IT BE!

WHAT MEAN A FEW HUMAN LIVES TO ULTRON-5?

THEN, THE VISION HAS HIS SURPRISING ANSWER...

AARRHH!

...WE, WHO ARE BOTH SO FAR ABOVE THE GROVELING HUMAN RACE?

WHY THIS SUDDEN CHANGE OF HEART, EVIL ONE?

ULTRON-5 DOES NOT CHANGE HIS MIND...

...AND HAS NOT EVEN AN ARTIFICIAL HEART, AS YOU DO...!

MY SOLE WEAKNESS IS THE TWIN ELECTRODES WHICH STUD THE SIDE OF MY METALLIC SKULL...

...WHILE YOU RUN THE PITIFUL GAMUT OF EMOTIONS... INCLUDING THAT OF TRUST!

BUT, REALIZING THAT I HAD CREATED YOU WITH SUCH GREAT POWERS...

I KNEW I COULD ONLY DEFEAT YOU... BY LOWERING YOUR GUARD!

AND NOW, DIE, FOOL... DIE AS YOU SHOULD HAVE DIED BEFORE!!

YET, INCREDIBLY...

YOU LIVE! BUT HOW...

WHEN I HURLED YOU STUNNED--BODILY-- INTO THAT SEETHING ENERGY VAT!?

WHAT CANNOT BE TOUCHED... CANNOT BE HARMED!

I REDUCED MY DENSITY TO NEARLY ZERO AT THE LAST POSSIBLE INSTANT!

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE



BUT NOW, BEFORE YOU RELEASE THE AVENGERS, YOU MUST ANSWER THE QUESTION WHICH BURNS IN MY MIND!

I HAVE HUMAN THOUGHTS... HUMAN MEMORIES!

WHY, ULTRON-5? WHO... OR WHAT... AM I??



THAT YOU SHALL NEVER KNOW, WRETCHED ONE... BECAUSE I DO NOT CHOOSE TO TELL YOU!

RATHER, I CHOOSE NOW...



...TO DESTROY... WHA...?

YOU RIDICULED ME FOR HAVING EMOTIONS... YET YOU POSSESS THEM NO LESS THAN I!

OR ELSE YOU WOULD NOT HAVE LEAPED AT ME IN YOUR RAGE...



...TO YOUR OWN LITTER ANNIHILATION!

NO... NO! AAARRH!!



GONE IN ONE SHATTERING INSTANT IS THE MYSTERIOUS, SINISTER THREAT OF ULTRON-5... AND, IN THAT SELFSAME MOMENT...

THE WALLS HAVE STOPPED... IN THE PROVERBIAL NICK!

THEN, THE VISION WAS ON OUR SIDE... AND HE SUCCEEDED! IT HAS TO BE!



MY ROBOT CAPTOR COLLAPSED... LIKE A PUPPET WITH CLIPPED STRINGS!

SOMETHING HAPPENED... BUT WHAT?



NOR IS THE AWESOME ANSWER LONG IN COMING...

...THEN, YOU LEARNED OUR FOE'S WEAKNESS... AND USED IT TO DESTROY HIM?

IT WAS HE WHO TOLD ME OF THE TWIN ELECTRODES ON HIS STEEL-STRONG SKULL!

THEY MIGHT HAVE WITHSTOOD MY ATTACK... BUT NOT THAT EXPLOSION!

IF ONLY I'D HAD TIME TO MAKE HIM TELL ME MORE OF MY CREATION...

BUT... CAN WE BE SURE HE WAS REALLY DESTROYED?



LOOK, WASP, AT THE TWISTED REMNANTS OF HIS ONCE-GLAMING FORM!

ONLY THE EVILLY-SMILING HEAD IS MISSING!

WE CAN ONLY ASSUME THAT IT... AND ITS ELECTRODES... WERE DIS-INTEGRATED BY THE EXPLOSION...



EPILOGUE:

I met a traveler from
an antique land,
Who said:

Two vast and trunkless
legs of stone
Stand in the desert.

Near them, on the sand,
Half sunk, a shattered
visage lies,



Whose frown,
And wrinkled lip, and sneer
of cold command,

Tell that its sculptor well
those passions read
Which yet survive, stamped
on these lifeless things...

The hand that mocked them,
and the heart that fed;
And on the pedestal these
words appear:



"My name is Ozymandias,
King of Kings:
Look on my works, ye
Mighty, and despair!"

Nothing beside remains.
Round the decay
Of that colossal wreck,
Boundless and bare

The lone and level sands
stretch far away.

