COMMANDING A STRATEGICALLY
IMMOVABLE POSITION ON
A ROOFTOP OVERLOOKING THE CITY
HOME OF JASON AND ALEX, THE
HUMANOID BEAST'S SMILE
BELLOW A SINGLE WORD...

FIRE!!

...AND THIS BEGINS A TERRIBLE DAY OF DARK
AND BLOODY BATTLE, A WAR DESTINED TO
END IN THE...

REVOLT OF THE GORILLOIDS!
LIKE TRUMPETS OF AWEOME DOOM!

--THE ARRAYED WAR MACHINES BLARE A MELLODY OF RAGE FROM ON HIGH...

...AND THE STREETS OF THE CITY BELOW EXPLODE IN CHAOS.

GET DOWN, NAZGUL! ZI UP FROM THE BUILDINGS!!!

BRANT.

THE REST OF YOU-- FALL BACK! GET DEEPER INTO THE CITY...

...BEFORE THE NEXT WAVE OF SHELLING PUTS US ALL UNDER THE CITY!!

...DEMONSTRATING THAT JASON IS APPARENTLY ONE OF THOSE RARE FEW WHO POSSESS THE QUALITIES OF A NATURAL LEADER.

But what of Moravius, the City's newly appointed peace officer-- he who has been selected to replace the renegade brutes-- what qualities does he possess?

It appears your new position is threatened on two sides. Peace officer Moravius. The city's peace is being rapidly destroyed...

...and that human youth-- Jason, I believe he is called-- seems determined to take over your duties.

We'll see about that.

Does he, scribe?

Yes, Moravius... I suspect we will.
HURRY!!
EVACUATE THE RIDGE, SIRE! THE MONSTER IS OUT OF CONTROL.
YOU WILL HURT SOMEONE, AND JUST WHO ARE YOU?
I'VE CALLED FOR HELP, BUT THE CITY'S NEW PEACE OFFICER, JASON, ISN'T COMING.
LOOK HUMAN, I HAVE NO NUGGETS IN ARGUING SPECIES COORDINATION. I WOULD FATHER COOPERATE AND ENSURE THE SAFETY OF ALL THE CITIZENS.
THERE'S NO NEED FOR FIGHTING AMONG OURSELVES—EVEN IN A SITUATION LIKE THIS.

THAT'S ENOUGH, HUMAN!

I'LL TAKE OVER NOW.

JASON PLEASE!
LISTEN TO HIM—HE'S MAKING SENSE.

JASON!

IN OTHER WORDS, THE MONSTER IS OUT OF CONTROL. WHO'S TRYING TO HELP?
THIS SITUATION WAS CAUSED BY A MONSTER LIKE YOU. AND IF YOU DON'T--

JASON!!

WE FORGOT ABOUT THE LAWYER--

HE MIGHT BE DYING. TRAPPED IN ONE OF THE COLLAPSED BUILDINGS...

PERHAPS YOU AND YOUR LAWYER COULD MOVE THE LAWYER TO A POSITION OF SAFETY--

...WHILE I SUPERVISE THE BARRICADES CONSTRUCTION...

AS IF TO PUNCTUATE, A HIGH-Pitched SCREAM RINGS LOUDER--

THAT IS RIGHT, HUMAN...
--SCORING A CRATER FROM THE NEARBY GROUND, IT IS ALL THE IMPETUS JASON NEEDS...

LIGHTSMITH: You stay here with MALAGUETA! She tells nothing happens to her!

CHOOM

VERY WELL, JASON--AND MAY THE LIGHT OF ILLUMINATED KNOWLEDGE GUIDE YOUR WAY.

--CONTINUE SHIELING THEM FOR THE REST OF THE DAY...

YIKES, JASE. MAYBE THAT MORAVUS AIN'T SO BAD...

AFTER ALL, YOU WERE JURGING HIM SOONER OR LATER, EVEN IF YOU KNEW HIM... OR KNEW ANYTHING ABOUT HIM.

I KNOW ONE THING, ALEX--HE'S A GORILLA, AND THAT'S ALL I NEED TO KNOW.

NOW COME ON--LET'S FIND THE LAWYERS BEFORE BRUTUS FLATTENS THIS ENTIRE CITY!

--AND THEN, AT NIGHTFALL, WE'LL MOW DOWN INTO THE CITY FOR SOME MAZEY COMBAT.

I TRUST THAT MEETS WITH MY NEW ALLIES' APPROVAL...?

WELL GORILLA'S... ARE YOU READY TO TELL THE HUMANS AWAY?

...BUT SEVERAL OF THE OTHER BONG GORILLAS ARE NOT QUITE SO CERTAIN.

DUNNO... NOT WHAT MAKERS TOLD US TO MAKE. MAKERS SAY BRING BACK MORE ORIGIALLIES... MAKERS CAN MAKE MORE OF US.

SHUT UP!!

TARGET--THE MAKERS!! COUNT ANY MORE--!!

WE MUST REGAIN THE CONTROL OF THEM!

MANY OF THE SYNTHESIZED METAL- AND BONE REPLICAS APPEAR TO SHARE HUMAN'S THIRST FOR BLOOD...

CHOOM

VOICED.

KILL HUMANS! HAVE FUN!

THE MAKERS DISAGREE.
In fact, the heroic mutant team is determined to solve the mystery even if it means mercilessly grilling a suspected saboteur named Zilvens...

Tell us why, why! Why don't the others have a clue? We're here to find some knowledge...

Knowledge that could save the team's life!!

Hey, I've got an idea...

Let's use his little brain.

Yeah, that idea is very good.

No...

No...

No...

Can't be thunder. Zilvens... the sky is clear...

But there seems to be some sort of disturbance in the streets... perhaps there's been an influx of dust particles from the ridge...

That's all we need at this point. With the team in such critical condition as it is...
PERHAPS WE SHOULD SWAPPLE HIS FACE WITH SOME CLOTH TO FILTER OUT THE...

WAIT A MOMENT... WHAT'S THAT... WHISTLING SOUND?...

HE MIGHT BE IN THERE, JARE... THAT IS WHERE THE PHYSICIANS USUALLY...

OHHH NOOO...!! THERE'S A SHEL... ALEX-- HEADING STRAIGHT TOWARD IT!!!

GETTING LOUDER.

WHISTLING SOUND? I DON'T HEAR ANYTH--

BWUKROOM!

SO YOU SEE ANYTHING, JARE... ANYTHING AT ALL...?!

YEAH, ALEX... THE WORST THING I COULD SEE...

THERE'S A HAND STICKING OUT OF THE RUBBLE BACK THERE... AN OCTOPUS HAND... AN OLD CRANGULAN...

LIKE... THE LAWSAVERS

N-NOO...
But where in the world have you been all this time, son?... Well, it’s... uh, a long story, father... but at least I’m back now.

And I was hoping to stay before Brutus started all this anyway...

Yes, son. I know what you mean...

But why are we wasting time on such matters? Let’s talk about more pleasant things, son...

It’s beginning to look as if none of us will be able to stay in the city now...

More pleasant things... a phrase for joy with a hollow ring--an echo of the dead past.

For me too once knew a time of more pleasant things....

A time when he shared the comfort of a home with his own mother and father.

But Brutus’ lust for power ended all that. Of course--ended the simple joys of sharing...

...and even ended the lives of his mother and father...

Until now the world no longer offers any more pleasant things... offers nothing to claim but hollow echoes of the dead past.

Jason...

I... I know how it must be, Jason...

If... if there’s anything I can...

Do...?
DO...? YES, THERE'S SOMETHING YOU CAN DO, MALAGUERA... YOU CAN JUST LEAVE ME ALONE FOR A CHANGE!

BUT JASON...

VERY WELL, JASON, I'M TWO!

I DON'T WANT TO HEAR SO MUCH AS A SINGLE ROCK DISTURBED... UNTIL WE REACH THE CITY...

...AND UNTIL I GIVE THE COMMAND TO ATTACK!

FACES ALONG THE BARRICADE: LIGHTSMITH AND ALEX...

HELLING'S STOPPED... ANNULLING OUT THERE...

JASON AND MALAGUERA... ABOUT WHAT I SAID EARLIER...

YES, JASON...

...I KNOW.

AND MORAVUS PERHAPS THE MOST UNCERTAIN OF ALL, FACING HIS FIRST TEMPTATION OF FIRE...
ATTACK!!

AND BRUTUS NORMAL A STALWART BASH CONVOY'S STRENGTH'S NOW RESERVED.

ALL RIGHT HERE THEY COME...

WAIT UNTIL THEY GET CLOSER... JUST A LITTLE CLOSER...

NOW!!

A SEEMED COMPLAINT TRUE... BUT ON THE COMMAND FROM MORAVUS...

-- SEVERAL OF THE SOLENS'S MANAGE TO BREAK THROUGH --

-- VOLLEY OF ARROWS, WRAPPED IN FLAME --

-- AND HANDS IN THE GENERAL DIG TRENCH FILLED WITH "OZ."

-- BUT ALTHOUGH THE ERECTING WALL OF THE BATTLE'S ASSAULT FORCE --

-- AND STORM THE BARRICADE!

-- ARS HIGH ON THE BARRICADE --

-- MEOW!! OUT...

-- BEHIND YOU!!

MORE NEXT WEEK
YE GODS!

Dear Stan,

Whilst reading a book about Celts, I noticed the name "Crom Cruach, Lord of the Mound" or "Bowed One of the Mound", an over-sized Irish god, and the piece written about him. It begins:

They did evilly,
Beat on their palms, thumped their bodies,
Wailing to the monster who enslaved them.
Their tears fell in showers,
In rank stood twelve idols of stone,
The figure of Crom was in gold.
The Monster of Nores, a half-eaten limb protruding from its fanged mouth. Scaly back and huge claws clamped on twin severed heads, it says.
Perhaps this was the image that represented Crom Cruach.
Perhaps the immortal R.E. Howard was inspired by this Irish god, Crom Cruach.
Talking about gods, Morrigan, Macha and Badbh, the gods which Conan the Cimmerian sometimes swears by, are, as it says in the book, known as the Triple Goddesses.

In Greek and Celtic legends, the goddesses who preside over birth, life and death are the triad of maiden, bride and crone. The Greek goddesses being Persephone, Demeter and Bcace.

Steve Cooper,
72 Third Ave., Bush Hill Park, Enfield, Midx.

Whether or not those ancient Celtic gods provided inspiration to Robert E. Howard is something we'll never know. But no one could deny that it's all fascinating stuff—which is why we've published you, Steve. (And we have the feeling you KNEW we just couldn't resist it!)

IN SEARCH OF FOOM

Dear Stan,

I am a regular buyer of 'Mighty World of Marvel'. I think it is fabulous. I was especially pleased with No. 226. The Hulk story was ace, so were Daredevil and Powerman, but the illustration in the Captain Marvel was unbelievably fantastic!

Jim Starlin has been doing a great job ever since Captain Marvel came to 'Mighty World of Marvel'.

I am disappointed that Spidey hasn't got eleven pages any more, but I suppose it was unavoidable.

I was unfortunate enough to miss the Foom membership. Could you please send me details on how to join? Could you also let me know something that has been puzzling my brother and me for some time. If this letter is printed, do I become a QNS? And what is a No-Prize?

David Rainford,
5 Finchdale Close, Carterton,
Oxford, OX1 3BT.

You're now a 'Quite 'Nuff Sayer', Dave—and to prove it, your name has been duly entered in the massive tome where such important happenings are recorded for posterity to ponder upon. And a No-Prize? Well, it means exactly what it states it is—it's a No Prize. I started way back in Marvel's early history. We wanted, all of us, to make a recognition of any act performed by a Marvelite that conscience would not allow to pass unmarked. We couldn't give a prize, so what else? Then someone suggested (and it was a Marvelite who put forward the idea) that, instead, we award a 'No-Prize'. And how the thing has grown since then. You can't feel, touch, see, hear or even taste a No-Prize, but that doesn't mean it doesn't exist. And if you doubt that statement, then just check with a Merry Marvel Madman who's been given one. Lastly, the FOOM bit. The only way to enroll is to scan the pages of the mags each week. Sooner or later (and we hope it'll be sooner) we'll be able to re-open the membership lists and publish an enrolment form. As soon as you see one, fill it in and rush it to us. But you've gotta be quick. How you've gotta be quick!

THE ADDICT

Dear Armadilloes,

Five years ago I was still reading DC comics, but something in my mind clicked, and since that day I have read only Marvel. I now regret that in my early childhood I never bought a Marvel comic, and I sigh when I think of the collection I might have by now if only I'd noticed Marvel sooner.

The reason I swapped publishers was because Marvel's concept of the comic book seemed more lifelike than DC's. The characters have a real existence, with all life's problems. The stories are more believable.

Marvel work has reached such a high standard lately that I just can't seem to buy enough mags. I get every weekly comic, 20 American titles a month, I subscribe to Foom and each month I obtain from 'Fantasy Unlimited' 20 back issues which I have missed. I'm an addict.

Sadly, no-one that I know of in my area is really involved in Marvel, so I'm rather alone in my interests. My family try to put me off comics, and my old dear's always telling me to throw some out. Don't worry though,