



MARVEL
COMICS
GROUP

NO. 245
WEEK ENDING
JUNE 8, 1977

THE MIGHTY WORLD OF
MARVEL™

10!

FEATURING

THE INCREDIBLE

HULK®

AND

**PLANET
OF THE
APES**™

WHERE MAN ONCE STOOD SUPREME
--NOW RULE THE APES!



**PSYKLOP
STRIKES!**



WHEN FLY THE APES!

(HIDEOUS-- SO VERY, VERY... HIDEOUS. IS THIS WHAT THE NEW ORDER IS--? IS THIS WHAT "MUTATION" IS? THE VILE CORRUPTION OF FLESH?)

YOU HAVE MADE PRISONERS OF US, OLD ONES, AND YOU THINK YOU HAVE WON THIS DEBACLE! BUT YOU ARE WRONG, FOR YOU ARE THE TRUE PRISONERS HERE-- PRISONERS OF THE BLESSED NEW ORDER!

(HE'S MAD-- HE MUST BE! STILL, IF THE WINDOW CAN DISPEL ANY DOUBTS...)

GO ON AND LOOK! SEE WHY YOU WILL NEVER RAM THIS SACRED CITY-SHIP OF CATHEDRALUS-- OR ANY OTHER CITY-SHIP EVER AGAIN!!

(OH NO-- IT CAN'T BE-- SHE WAS NEVER EVEN USED FOR HER MAIN PURPOSE -- AND NOW...)

THE FREEDOM REAVER, ALARIC--!!

GO TO THE WINDOW IN THE NAVE, OLD ONES, --LOOK OUT AND SEE WHAT HAS BECOME OF YOUR PREVIOUS VESSEL OF DESTRUCTION!

I DON'T LIKE THIS ALARIC...

SHE'S WRAPPED IN FLAMES-- HER PROW BURNING LIKE HELL ITSELF-- AND SHE'S SINKING!!

(YES SINKING... WITH HOW MANY ABOARD? HOW MANY WHO WERE TOO FEARFUL TO VENTURE ABOARD THIS RADIATION-SHROUDED GHOST-SHIP CALLED CATHEDRALUS--? HOW MANY WHO REMAINED BEHIND ... FOR SAFETY?)

FUTURE HISTORY CHRONICLES V

THE FLAMES-- WHY WAS THE HEAT FROM THEM NEVER FELT? WHY WERE THE SCREAMS NEVER HEARD? WHY WAS IT NEVER SUSPECTED--? EMPTINESS... SHOCK IS LITTLE MORE THAN EMPTINESS, ONCE THE FULL LOSS IS FELT...

WE NEVER EVEN GOT TO USE THAT DAMN PROW-- NEVER RAMMED SO MUCH AS A SINGLE STINKING APE CITY-SHIP!!

VERY WELL, YOU SLIMY FREAKS HAVE YOU ANYTHING TO SAY BEFORE I START HACKING THE PLANKS OF THIS WRETCHED CITY INTO FLOTSAM--?!

I WOULD NOT ADVISE THAT YOU MAY HAVE SEIZED COMMAND OF THIS SACRED ARK... BUT YOU CANNOT DESTROY IT. NOW THAT YOUR VESSEL IS DESTROYED, YOU ARE TRAPPED HERE ON CATHEDRALUS...

... AND YOU MUST GUIDE HER TO THE NEAREST LAND, FOR IF YOU DO NOT DEPART CATHEDRALUS--

-- YOU WILL ALSO BE TRANSFORMED TO MUTANTS-- IDENTICAL TO US! INDEED, EVERY MOMENT YOU REMAIN HERE, YOU ARE BEING EXPOSED TO THE HOLY FEVER OF BLESSED RADIATION WHICH PERMEATES THESE DECKS AND GLORIFIES THESE CHAPELS!

IN FACT...

...THE PROCESS HAS ALREADY BEGUN. SOON YOU WILL BEGIN TO GLOW... WITH HALOES BESTOWED FROM THE BOMBS ON HIGH... AND GRADUALLY THROUGH A PROCESS OF EXQUISITE PAIN, YOU WILL LOSE YOUR OFFENDING HAIR...

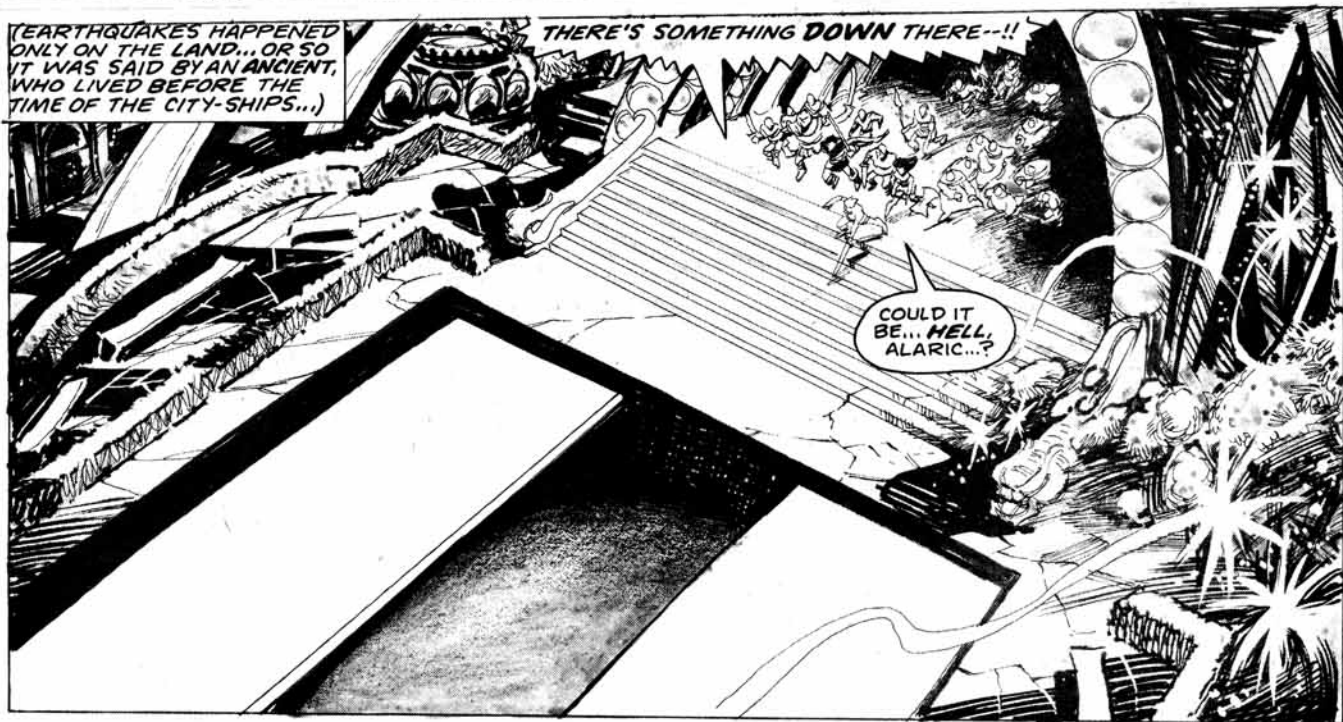
...YOUR SKIN, WHICH UNTIL NOW HAS SEALED YOU OFF FROM THE BLESSINGS OF THE BOMB, WILL CRACK AND PEEL AWAY LIKE WET MASKS OF SIN...

... AND YOU WILL BECOME CONVERTS TO THE NEW ORDER!!

(THE WIND RISES, PULLING THE RADIATION MISTS IN SLITHERING TRAILS OF GLOWING VAPOR... WRAPPING OUR FLESH... LIKE VIPERS...)

(WE MUST ESCAPE... WE MUST!!)

TO RACE THE DEATH-WINDS





IT'S A...
A... WHAT--?

A BALLOON!!
IT'S A BALLOON--
THAT'S WHAT IT IS!!
SOME OF THE MUTANTS
MUST BE TRYING
TO ESCAPE--!



ESCAPE,
GORILLA...?

THAT'S
WHAT WE
WANT
TO DO!



PERHAPS YOU'RE
RIGHT, HUMAN...
DOUBTLESS THE
THING IS JUST AS
CONTAMINATED
WITH RADIATION
AS THE REST OF
THIS HELLISH
SHIP--



-- BUT AT LEAST IT'LL
GET US TO CLEAN
LAND FASTER.

ALARIC--
REENA--COME
ON! THIS MAY
BE OUR ONLY
CHANCE!!

WHAT
ABOUT THE
REST OF
YOU--?

WILL YOU
JOIN US IN
THIS... THIS
BALLOON--?



IT IS... HARD
TO SAY, ALARIC.
PERHAPS, THERE
IS NOTHING BUT
DEATH FOR US
ON THIS CITY-
SHIP...

... BUT HOW
DO WE KNOW
WHAT AWAITS
US... UP THERE--?



HURRY,
ALARIC!!

THEN YOU
CHOOSE CERTAIN
DEATH OVER
THE UNKNOWN?

VERY WELL--
STAY HERE IF YOU
WISH, BUT WE ARE
GOING TO--



-- LEAVE YOU?

(TOO
LATE...!)



(THEN THIS IS A CAPTAIN'S REWARD... FOR THINKING FIRST OF HIS CREW--?)

YOUR CROSSBOW, ALARIC! TIE A LINE TO ONE OF THE BOLTS--!!

(YES! GRAYMALKYN IS RIGHT!)

(IT JUST MIGHT SUCCEED... IF ALLOWANCE IS MADE IN THE AIM, FOR THE WEIGHT OF THE LINE...)



NOW, REENA, IF I MAKE THIS SHOT... GRAB ONTO ME -- BEFORE THE LINE RUNS OUT!

YOU FORGET, ALARIC, THAT I VOWED YOU WOULD NEVER AGAIN TOUCH ME-- AND THAT I WOULD NEVER AGAIN LAY GENTLE HANDS ON YOU...



WAIT UNTIL THEY CLIMB HIGHER, AND TRY TO ENTER THE GONDOLA -- THEN KILL THEM!



UHP! FORGET WHAT I SAID BEFORE, ALARIC -- ABOUT THAT APE BLOOD IN YOUR VIENS! I DIDN'T MEAN IT!! I'M REALLY YOUR FRIEND-- I SWEAR IT!!

SHOCK



... BUT I SUPPOSE I REALLY HAVE NO CHOICE.

JUST DON'T THINK THIS EMBRACE IS ANYTHING MORE THAN IT HAS TO BE...

(IT IS... GOOD.)

(AND THAT IS ENOUGH.)



(... AND THEY'RE FIGHTING THE MUTANTS--ALONE!)

(SOUNDS FROM ABOVE
--SWORDS CLASHING!
THEN STARKOR AND
GRAYMALKYN HAVE
BOARDED THIS...
THING...)

BEHIND
YOU, APE!

THANK YOU
...HUMAN.

HANG ON,
ALARIC, JUST
WAIT UNTIL WE
FINISH OFF
THESE LAST
FEW ROTTEN-
FLESHERS!!

I'D HATE
TO FALL ON
CATHEDRALUS
FROM HERE...

NO TIME FOR
WAITING, STARKOR
-- WHEN THERE'S
NOTHING BUT A
ROPE BETWEEN
THIS MUTANT'S
SWORD AND THE
SPIRES OF
CATHEDRALUS
BELOW--!

REENA--
GRAB MY
DAGGER
BEFORE HE
REACHES
US!

WITH
PLEASURE,
ALARIC...

... MORE PLEASURE
THAN I TOOK FROM
THAT EMBRACE!

(SHE
JUST
WON'T
STOP.)



(NO MATTER, IT'S TIME TO BE CONCERNED WITH FIGHTING...!)

DOWN, REENA---!!



(... NOT WITH LOST LOVING.)

--BEFORE I SLASH YOUR PRETTY HEAD OFF!

JUST TRY IT, ALARIC, AND I'LL BITE YOUR--



HOLD IT, YOU TWO! CAN'T YOU SEE THE BATTLE'S OVER--?

AND SINCE THERE ARE ONLY THESE TWO LEFT... I'D SAY WE WON.



(PERHAPS... BUT EVEN AFTER THE TWO CAPTIVES HAVE BEEN BOUND, ONE OF THEM REMAINS DEFIANT...)

UNTAINED OLD ONES... PFAFF! MAY THE CLOUD SWARM CARRY YOU INTO THE DEATH MISTS-- AS YOU DESERVE!



(SOARING NOW... SO HIGH... SO HIGH THAT THE BREATH IS STOLEN... REPLACED BY THE EXHILARATION OF DANGER AND MASTERY OF THE SKY...!)

DEATH MISTS--! WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?



YOU WILL SEE, OLD ONE...

IGNORE HIS SENSELESS TALK, STARKOR--WE'D BETTER TAKE STOCK OF OURSELVES. WHERE WE ARE HEADING--?



HARD TO TELL, REENA-- WE SEEM TO BE SURROUNDED BY DENSE CLOUDS...

CLOUDS WOULDN'T BLOCK THIS MUCH OF OUR VISION, APE-- WE CAN'T EVEN SEE THE SEAS BELOW US ANYMORE...



WE'RE PASSING INTO IT--! SEEMS TO BE... MIST--BLACK MIST...!

THE DEATH-MISTS--!!

(LIKE THE GHOST OF AN EVIL SKY-LORD, IT ENGULFS THE BALLOON-- A SLOWLY SWIRLING MIASMA OF DARKNESS... AND--EYES-- BURNING!!)

(THROAT-- SCALDED AND SCRATCHED...
LIKE BREATHING GRITTY SPECKS
OF HOT SAND...!)

CAN'T...
BREATH...!
KOFF HUK
BLINDED...!

DOESN'T
SEEM TO-- KOFF
--AFFECT THE
MUTANTS...

YOU'RE CLOSEST,
STARKOR-- FORCE
THEM TO... KOFF...
TELL US HOW TO...
HAHGG... GET OUT
OF THE MIST...

CUT THE BALLAST--THOSE
BAGS ON THE SIDES OF
THE GONDOLA.

IT'LL MAKE
THE BALLOON
RISE-- ABOVE
THE DEATH-
MISTS...

(IT DOES...)

(...BUT NOW
THE BALLOON
DOES ENTER
SOME CLOUDS
--STORM
CLOUDS!)

(LIGHTNING
RIPS ALL
AROUND,
HUMMING,
SIZZLING,
MAKING HAIR
STAND ON
END...)

ALL RIGHT, YOU
TWO ROTTEN-FLESHERS
--MAYBE THE DEATH-
MISTS COULDN'T HURT YOU...

...BUT YOU'LL FALL
JUST AS FAR AND JUST
AS HARD AS THE REST OF
US IF ONE OF THOSE BOLTS
CUTS THIS THING LOOSE!

SO WHAT DO WE GET
OUT OF THIS-- AND DON'T
GIVE US ANY MORE
ABOUT BALLAST-- BE-
CAUSE THERE AREN'T
ANY MORE OF THOSE
BAGS LEFT!

THE BALLOON VALVE
--OPEN IT UP TO
RELEASE SOME OF
THE GAS-- IT WILL
LOWER THE BALLOON
INTO THE WIND
CURRENTS... UNTIL
WE ARE BLOWN
FREE OF THE
STORM!

(...AND THE WIND... LIKE A
HURRICANE...)

I HOPE
THIS THING
IS THE
"BALLOON
VALVE"
BECAUSE IF
IT ISN'T
I--

--YAAHHH!!
HAALLP!!

EASY, ALARIC--
I'VE GOT YOU!! LET
GO OF THAT THING
AND I'LL PULL
YOU--

(RAIN STARTING... VIOLENTLY...)



CONCLUDED NEXT WEEK.



CALLING ALL FANZINE FANS!

Dear Marvel,

I am starting a sci-fi fanzine (The World of S.F.) for sci-fi fans, and also a superhero fanzine (World's Heroes). Anyone interested in buying either, or both fanzines should contact me for details. News, art, and S.F. stories are featured in the Sci-Fi mag, and in the Superhero mag is featured Doc Savage (for the first issue).

When writing, a SAE should be included. We advertise Pen-Pals etc. for only 5 pence per issue (if using this service, please state which mag you wish to advertise in).

Thank-you.

Until Namor drowns, Make Mine Marvel.

Ian Abrahams,
Clovelly, Mt. Ambrose,
Redruth, Cornwall.

It sounds as though you'll be keeping yourself very busy publishing both those mags, Ian. Let's hope Marveldom Assembled rallies round and gives you the support you deserve!

DISCUSSION NOT CONTROVERSY

Fellow Humans!

Some points made in MWOM 237 have prompted me to write. Firstly, M. Cotgrove's missive made me stop and think. I never thought that expressing your own could prove harmful to some fans. I joined in with the Adams/Kirby controversy at a very early stage. I even had a letter printed about the subject in MWOM 193. In it, you may remember, I highly praised Kirby's work, but I never degraded Adams. I only pointed out a few simple facts about him. Other people, I'm afraid haven't been as discriminating. I now find that this constant slamming of Marvel's artists is most distasteful, especially for the people who enjoy that artist's particular work.

"Marvel people", it is said, "are the best people in the world". Yes, and I believe that is true. All the people who I've met who read Marvel Comics have been friendly and helpful. Marvel is a collection of different individuals with the same good taste for comics, a family, if you will. I suggest that criticism of the various artists should be stopped. We don't want any family arguments - Right?

You bet!

Secondly, S. Moore's request for a totally S.F. orientated comic is one that I'd like to see accomplished. Unfortunately, as has been stated by S.F. authors themselves, S.F. doesn't sell. There just isn't a large enough market for a completely S.F. comic. Still, you could try a little experiment. If FURY, the new, all-war comic by Marvel, lasts for at least thirty issues, then I'm sure that a S.F. comic will last much longer.

Think about it!

Philip Greenaway,
38, 9th Avenue, Galon Uchaf,
Merthyr Tydfil, S. Wales.

Could it be that a "Science Fiction Weekly" discussion is destined to take over from the never-ending Adams/Kirby controversy in the MWOM letter columns? Let's hope so, Seekers of the Truth, 'cos it sure would make for a more constructive discussion!

SIMIAN COMPLAINTS

Dear Nutters,

The new Hulk story, "Intruder In The Mind", is the talking point of all your mags at the moment. Len Wein should be singing in the hills at this success. The art is great. I cannot wait for the next issue. But if

ever a comic had a letdown, and if ever there was a worse Planet of the Apes story, I would commit suicide. They are pathetic (a good person doesn't like to call Planet of the Apes pathetic). The Battle of the Planet of the Apes was good, but then the last three issues. . . Alfredo Alcalá's art on "Battle" was the best ever Apes art.

Now Daredevil, again not up to standard recently. I would like to see Daredevil and Planet of the Apes drop out and let Luke Cage and the X-Men come in every twenty issues, so in issue 238 Luke Cage and the X-Men would come in, and in issue 258 POTA and Daredevil would come back.

The Captain Marvel story with Thanos is great. The story, "Thanos the God" was exceptional. I do not usually like Cap Marvel, but this time he excels in every sense of the word.

Make Mine Marvel.

Ian Thompson,
10 Welbury Road,
Newton Aycliffe, Co. Durham.

You'll be pleased to learn, Ian, that Planet of the Apes is being replaced by Dracula. Let's hope that the Lord of Vampires is more to your taste. But drop Daredevil - are you serious? MWOM just wouldn't be the same without ol' D.D.!



HAMMER VERSUS SHIELD

Dear Bullpen,

Way, way, way back in Avengers 21, yes you heard it right, a certain Master Wayne Blachmer wrote in asking if Captain America's Shield would stand up to Thor's Hammer. You answered that if Cap's shield was really whacked, it would probably break. But in Super Spidey issue 217, Cap, under the power of Magneto, sends Thor's hammer flying when his shield hits it. Is this worth a No-Prize, eh?

Nick Redfern,
20 Paradise Lane, Palsall,
Nr. Walsall, W. Midlands.

OK, Nick, we'll admit that we were wrong in that answer to a letter published in Avengers 21 (ah, remember the Avengers Weekly...?) and that genuine, Jubilee-year No-Prize is all yours. Make sure you give it a good home!

WEEKLY SCIENCE FICTION?

Dear Marvel,

The Mighty World of Marvel must surely be the best Marvel Weekly. I could have kicked myself for not reading MWOM before the merger with Planet of the Apes. Sal Buscema's artwork is the best Hulk artwork I've seen yet, he draws everything perfectly, and I was astounded when I saw the SHIELD "Hover Base". Joe Staton's

embellishing is beautiful too. You picked a good time to join the mags, I liked Hulk's battle with SHIELD to make it simple.

I'm all for Stephen Moore's views on a Sci-fi Weekly (MWOM 237). I'm sure you'd have a big enough audience if you used Nova. He's a hit craze in America now, so why can't he astound Britain in his own new Weekly. The success of the new weekly depends on its back-up features, and I suggest three new ones. Howabout: Ms. Marvel (another hit craze in America), 2001, and Logan's Run or Warlock. Please think about it and suggest it to Stan (the Man). Its title could simply be: NOVA! Britain needs more Marvel Weeklies -- remember the good old days with seven Weeklies? Though I can't blame you for cutting the number, for seven was too many. Five is a nice number, so howabout a NEW Weekly? Remember all the people who wrote into the Apes letter pages demanding the title should be changed to "Marvel Sci-Fi Weekly"?

Will FURY ever have a Marvel-styled cover? Doesn't it look like the other British War Weeklies, make it look better with a glossy cover and a trade-mark box in the top left-hand corner. Talking of trade-marks, the Ape in the MWOM box is not very good, so why not put the old ape face that used to appear on the front

covers issues 1-50 of POTA in its place?

Gregory Dunne, QNS, KOF, RFO.
7, Glengiven Avenue, Limvady,
Co. Derry, N. Ireland.

You know, the battling British Bullpen never ceases to be amazed at how "great minds think alike". We've been thinking for quite a while now about putting out a Marvel Science Fiction orientated Weekly. But we still retain the doubts, expressed in the reply to Stephen Moore's letter several weeks back, as to whether it would be commercially viable to publish such a mag. In other words, does Science Fiction, and Gregory has listed Marvel's main Sci-Fi features, have a wide enough appeal? Let's have the opinions of Marvel Assembled on the points raised in Greg's letter -- that means write in and tell us what new mags you would like to see! The best letters, needless to say, will be published. Start scribbling, Pilgrims!



MARVEL MAILBAG
MARVEL COMICS, TUBS HILL HOUSE,
SEVENOAKS, KENT

HOW D'JA LIKE OUR MARVEL ART LESSON ON PAGE 19?

IF YA DID, GRAB A COPY OF
THIS WEEK'S ISSUES OF

SUPER SPIDER-MAN AND CAPTAIN BRITAIN

WHERE YOU'LL FIND ALL THE
LOWDOWN ON HOW TO DRAW
SPIDEY AND THE THING!

