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MARVEL® COMICS GROUP

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AT LAST! BEYOND THE MOVIE! BEYOND THE GALAXY!

STAR WARS

KEEP FIRING,
CHEWIE--ALL
OF YOU!

IT'S DO OR DIE--
'CAUSE HERE COME
**THE CLOUD-
RIDERS!**

YEAH--AND
IT LOOKS LIKE
IT'S GONNA BE
DIE!



Stan Lee
PRESENTS:

STAR WARS

THE GREATEST
SPACE FANTASY OF ALL!

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CONTINUING THE SAGA
BEGUN IN THE FILM BY
GEORGE LUCAS,
RELEASED BY 20TH CENTURY-
FOX



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HE'S RIGHT,
SOLO--AND
YOU KNOW IT!

HOW'D YOU GET INTO THIS MESS,
ANYHOW--LEADING CHEWBACCA
AND SIX BASICALLY SCRUFFY
SPACERS INTO WHAT'S BOUND TO
BE A BATTLE WITH A BUNCH OF
BANDITS WHO OUTNUMBER US
FIVE TO ONE?

I THOUGHT I
WAS ALL OVER
THAT IDEALISTIC
NONSENSE; I
MEAN, A FEW MONTHS
BACK, I WAS SMUG-
GLING SPICE FOR A
LOWLIFE NAMED JABBA
THE HUT.

YOU CAN'T
GET MUCH LESS
IDEALISTIC
THAN THAT!

THEN, I GOT TANGLED
UP WITH LUKE SKYWALKER
AND PRINCESS LEIA--AND
I ACTUALLY ENDED UP
TURNING NOOBIE FOR A
MINUTE THERE.

'COURSE, I TRIED TO
RE-ESTABLISH MYSELF
IN THE SPACE MERCENARY
COMMUNITY BY PAYING JABBA
BACK WHAT I OWED HIM--ONLY
TO GET AMBUSHED BY SPACE-
PIRATES--

--WHO TOOK THE
TREASURE LEIA'S REBELS
GAVE US, AND LEFT US WITH
NOTHING BUT THE MILLEN-
NIUM FALCON AND THE
PRICE JABBA'S PUT
ON OUR HEADS!

"YEAH, THAT'S HOW
CHEWIE AND I WOUND
UP ON THIS HELLHOLE
CALLED ADUBA-3,
ALL RIGHT--AGREEING
TO PROTECT A BUNCH
OF PEASANTS FROM
A BANDIT TYPE
NAMED SERJI-X."

"FAR AS I CAN SEE,
THIS JOB'S NOT GOING
TO PAY US ANYTHING
MORE THAN ALL THE
CACTUS WE CAN EAT..."

"AND WE HAD
TO GO THRU A
BARROOM BRAWL
OR TWO TO
GET THE
JOB AT
THAT!"

"AND THE GUYS I SIGNED ON TO HELP US' I MUST'VE BEEN CHEWING LUNA-WEED!"

"DON-WAN KIOTI, CRAZY OLD COOT WHO THINKS HE'S THE LAST OF THE JEDI KNIGHTS--"

"JAXXON-- A SIX-FOOT RABBIT WHO GNAWS ON HAMBONES INSTEAD OF CARROTS--"

"HEDJI, ONE OF THE FEW REMAINING SPINERS-- WELL, HE THROWS A MEAN QUILL, AT LEAST--"

"AND AMAIZA, WELL-- I'VE SEEN HER SHOOT THE ANTENNAE OFF A JI-ANT AT 600 YARDS!"

"DON'T KNOW WHAT POSSESSED ME TO BRING JIMM, WHO WANTS ME TO CALL HIM THE STAR-KILLER KID-- UNLESS IT'S BECAUSE HE'S A NATIVE--"

"BESIDES, HIS ROBOT EFFIE MIGHT BE USEFUL TO US."

ONLY THING IS, I DON'T KNOW HOW THOSE SIX WILL HOLD UP IF SERJI-X TRIES TO AMBUSH US BEFORE WE GET TO THE PEASANTS' VILLAGE.

MAYBE I SHOULD'VE REMEMBERED THAT MY LAST NAME IS SOLO, AND--

KID! THIS IS YOUR PLANET! WHAT'RE THOSE BIG BIRDS FLYING FAST TOWARD US?

NOT BIRDS, SOLO! THEY'RE CALLED HIGH-HOUNDS... AND THEY'RE BLOOD-THIRSTY SCAVENGERS.

THEY'LL PICK THE PEASANTS' CROPS BARE, IF WE DON'T STOP 'EM!

I SHOULD'VE KNOWN BETTER THAN TO ASK!

WELL, WE MIGHT AS WELL BE KILLED BY THINGS WITH FEATHERS AS BANDITS WITH BLASTERS.

COME ON, YOU STAR-HOPPERS--

LET'S GO GET 'EM!

Grrrrr

NEXT MOMENT, THE EARTH LITERALLY TREMBLES BENEATH THE RACE OF RAMPAGING BANTHAS--

--AS UP AHEAD, A NUMBER OF THE PLANET'S HUMAN INHABITANT'S ARE BEING BESIEGED BY SHRIEKING, QUASI-HUMAN MONSTERS ON THE WING--

NOR DID ANY MERE SCARECROW EVER SUFFICE AGAINST SUCH BLOODTHIRSTY SCAVENGERS AS THESE!

SKRAWIN'

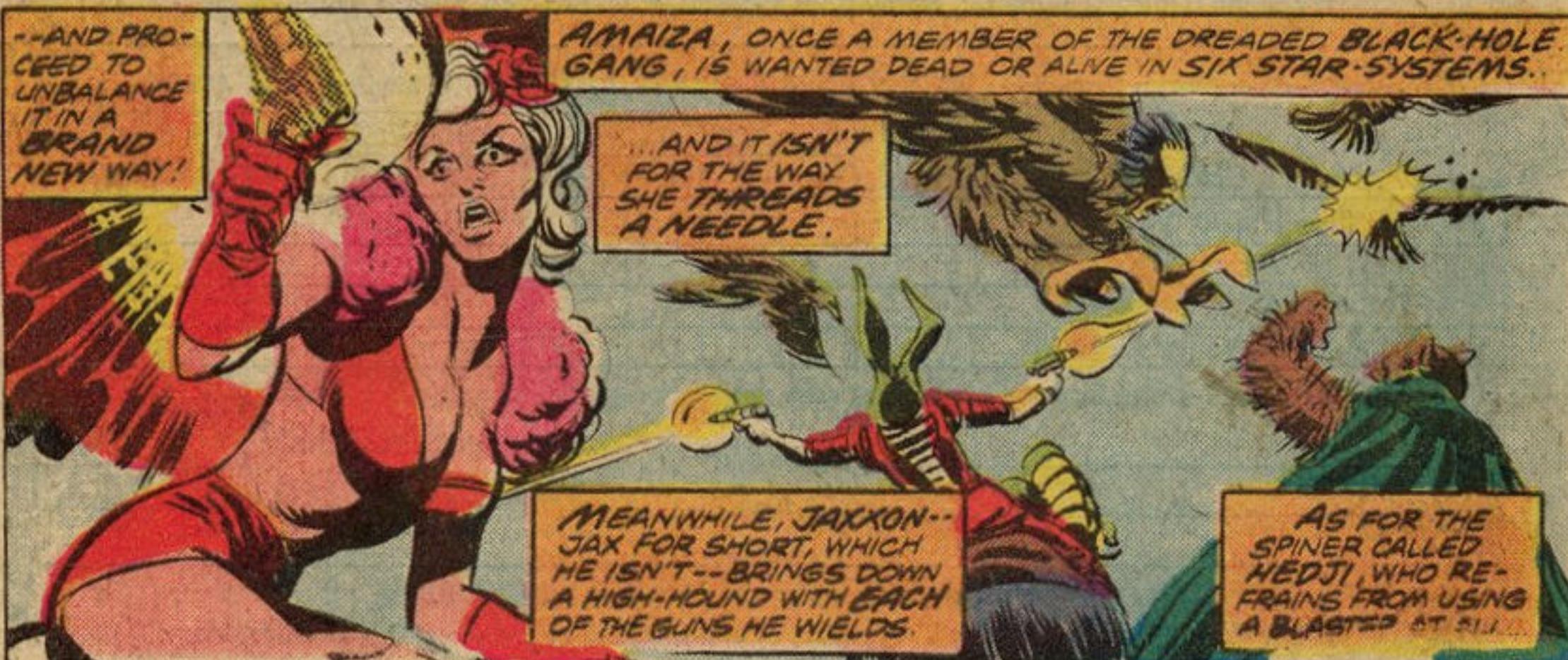
YET, IF STRAW MEN WOULD PROVE USELESS AGAINST CREATURES WHICH FEED ON THE MAZE-STALKS WHICH ARE ADU-BA-3'S STAPLE CROP...

--THERE ARE OTHER WAYS.

OKAY, GUYS! NOW WE KNOW THOSE BIRDIES AREN'T IMMUNE TO A WELL-AIMED BLASTER.

TIME TO GET IN SOME TARGET PRACTICE WHILE WE'RE WAITING FOR SERJI-X AND HIS BOYS!

THUS, GUNS BLAZING, THE AMAZING EIGHT MADE INTO THE VERY MIDST OF THE UNEVEN FRAY--



--AND PROCEED TO UNBALANCE IT IN A BRAND NEW WAY!

AMAIZA, ONCE A MEMBER OF THE DREADED BLACK-HOLE GANG, IS WANTED DEAD OR ALIVE IN SIX STAR-SYSTEMS.

...AND IT ISN'T FOR THE WAY SHE THREADS A NEEDLE.

MEANWHILE, JAXXON--JAX FOR SHORT, WHICH HE ISN'T--BRINGS DOWN A HIGH-HOUND WITH EACH OF THE GUNS HE WIELDS.

AS FOR THE SPINNER CALLED HEDJI, WHO REFRAINS FROM USING A BLASTER AT ALL,

...HE HAS BUT TO FLEX HIS MUSCLES IN A PRECISE, PRE-DETERMINED WAY...

...TO TURN THE FOREMOST OF THE MARAUDING MAN-HAWKS INTO A FORMERLY LIVING PIN-CUSHION!

AS FOR "THE LAST OF THE JEDI KNIGHTS"...

FIE UPON YOU, FOUL FEATHERY FIEND--

IN THE NAME OF JUSTICE, LET THIS PLANET BE CLEANSED OF SUCH FILTH AS YOU AND YOUR BRETHREN!

I'M NOT SURE WHAT YOU JUST SAID, OLD MAN-- BUT I'M WITH YOU IN SPIRIT!

WHILE I DO ALL THE ACTUAL WORK...

...AS PER USUAL.

Y'KNOW AMAIZA-- WHEN THIS BABY-SITTIN' MISSION'S OVER, HOWZABOUT YOU AN' ME TEAMIN' UP?

I GOT A HUNCH WE COULD MAKE BEAUTIFUL BLASTER-MUSIC TOGETHER.

NO THANKS, BUCK-TOOTH!

NO OFFENSE, BUT IF I HUNG AROUND WITH A GUY WHO LOOKS LIKE A BIG GREEN RABBIT, FOLKS MIGHT START TO TALK, AND--

SOLO! OVER THERE TO YOUR RIGHT--!

THANKS, LADY! I SEE HER--

--ONE OF THE LOCALS, BEING CHASED BY A HIGH-HOUND!

BUT-- EVEN IF I TAKE HIM OUT AT THIS RANGE, HE'S STILL LIABLE TO CRASH RIGHT INTO HER!

AND, INDEED, THE GIRL HAS
ALREADY CLOSED HER EYES--
CONSIGNING HER SOUL TO
WHATEVER GODS SHE MAY
WORSHIP--

ZAK!

--WHEN, SUDDENLY--

HERE, STONE-
FACE! TRY
CHEWING ON
A LASER
BEAM FOR
A WHILE!

NOT THAT
IT'LL BE TOO
EASY WITH
NO TEETH--

OR,
FOR THAT
MATTER
--NO
HEAD!

NEXT MOMENT, THEIR RANKS
SORELY DEPLETED, THE
GROTESQUE SCAVENGERS TAKE
TO THE AIR ONCE MORE...

... AND, IN A
FEW SECONDS,
ARE LOST
TO SIGHT.

I HOPE SERJI-X AND HIS
CLOUD-RIDERS GIVE
UP AS--

WELL THEN THERE NOW!
THINGS ARE LOOKING
UP ON ADUBA-3!

I--I
THANK YOU, KIND
STRANGER, FOR
RESCUING ME--
BUT, I DON'T
UNDERSTAND--

MAYBE THIS
PLACE IS
WORTH SAVING,
AFTER ALL.

A FEW MINUTES LATER, AT
THE VILLAGE ITSELF...

SORRY WE DIDN'T GET
HERE SOONER, PEOPLE...
BUT WE HAD A LITTLE
TROUBLE GETTING THE
SPACEPORT CROWD TO
LOAN ME THESE BANTHAS
WITH MY STARSHIP AS
SECURITY...

AS
YOU
MAY SUPPOSE,
HAN SOLO, WORD
OF YOUR COMING
PRECEDED YOU.

NOR COULD YOU
HAVE COME AT A MORE
OPPORTUNE MOMENT,
THAN IN TIME TO SAVE
MY DAUGHTER.

I SEE THIS
ISN'T THE BEST
TIME TO CONTIN-
UE OUR LITTLE
DISCUSSION.



TIME IS AN ALL BUT MEANINGLESS CONCEPT IN THE VAST SEA OF STARS.

YET, IF SUCH A WORD A "MEANWHILE" CAN HAVE ANY RELEVANCE AT ALL, THEN THIS IS WHAT IS HAPPENING AT THE SELFSAME MOMENT ON THE FOURTH MOON OF THE DISTANT PLANET YAVIN...

...OR, RATHER, BEneath THE SURFACE OF THE JUNGLE-INFESTED SATELLITE?

I DON'T LIKE IT, GENERAL DODONNA!

WE SHOULD HAVE HEARD FROM LUKE BY NOW!

YOU LIKE THIS YOUNG MAN "LUKE SKYWALKER", DON'T YOU, HIGHNESS?

AS MUCH AS ONE WITH MY RESPONSIBILITIES CAN AFFORD TO LIKE ANYONE IN THESE TROUBLED TIMES.

OH, IF ONLY I COULD HAVE GONE WITH HIM AND HIS DROIDS!

FOR US, HOWEVER, THE EXIGENCIES OF TIME AND SPACE DO NOT EXIST.

BEGGING YOUR PARDON, MASTER LUKE, BUT AS YOU KNOW, SPACE TRAVEL IS HARDLY MY SPECIALTY... OR EVEN ANYTHING I LIKE VERY MUCH.

WOULD YOU MIND ELABORATING...?

GLADLY! WE WERE SENT HERE TO FIND A NEW WORLD FOR THE REBELS TO MIGRATE TO, BEFORE DARTH VADER SENDS THE WHOLE IMPERIAL WAR-FLEET AGAINST THEM.

YOU BET YOUR CARBON SCORING MARKS I HAVE!

AND THAT'S NOT ALL--

THUS, LET US SKIP LIGHTLY ACROSS THE VOID OF SPACE, TO WHERE THE SMALL STAR-CRAFT OF LUKE SKYWALKER HAS JUST GONE INTO ORBIT AROUND AN UNNAMED PLANET OF THE STAR-SUN DREXEL...

WELL, THREEPPIO, ARTOO.. THIS IS IT!

YES, ARTOO... IT DOES SOUND AS IF HE'S FOUND WHAT HE'S LOOKING FOR, DOESN'T IT?

WHEEE!

THE TIME'S COME TO BREAK TRANS-CEIVER SILENCE LONG ENOUGH TO TELL PRINCESS LEIA ABOUT IT!

OH, DON'T BE SUCH A
WORRY-DROID!

...NOT SO LONG AS THE ION-SCRAMBLER
IS OPERATING TO CONFUSE THE ENEMY.

BRIEF PERIODS OF
INSTANTANEOUS
COMMUNICATION
WON'T ENDANGER
OUR LOCATION...

ISN'T THAT
RIGHT, MASTER
LUKE?

THAT'S THE THEORY,
THREEPIO. NOW I--

BREEF
BREEF

WAIT!
I'M RAISING
THE REBEL
BASE, AND--

PRINCESS! IT'S
GREAT TO SEE
YOU AGAIN!

AND YOU
LUKE. ARE
YOU ALL
RIGHT?

YEAH, I THINK I
HAVE, YOUR HIGH-
NESS. IT'S A PLANET
IN THE DREXEL
SYSTEM, THAT--

NOW
WHAT IN
BLAZES...?

LUKE--!

LUKE!?

THE
IMAGE IS
GONE!

NO USE,
YOUR
HIGHNESS!

HE'S
STOPPED
SENDING!

HAVE YOU FOUND
A NEW SAFE-
HAVEN FOR
OUR REBEL
FORCE?

TIME
IS RUN-
NING
SHORT.

NO! IT--IT
ISN'T POSSIBLE!
IT--

MORE POWER,
ENSIGN! YOU'VE
GOT TO GIVE
ME MORE RE-
CEIVING
POWER!

AND THERE'S
NO WAY TO
RE-ESTABLISH
CONTACT FROM
THIS END.

WE'VE
LOST HIM!

IF WE EVEN KEEP SENDING,
SOME STRAY EMPIRE SHIP
IS LIABLE TO--

THEN STOP
SENDING!

PRINCESS
LEIA-- WHERE
ARE YOU--?

I'M GOING TO DO
WHAT I WANTED TO
DO IN THE FIRST
PLACE-- WHAT I WAS
TALKED OUT
OF DOING.

I'M GOING TO
FIND LUKE
SKYWALKER--
NO MATTER WHAT!!

BOLD WORDS INDEED FOR ONE WHOSE
STATION IN LIFE WOULD USUALLY HAVE
HER DELIBERATING ON MATTERS OF
STATE...

BUT WHILE PRINCESS LEIA
CONTemplates JUST HOW
TO FIND ONE PERSON LOST
IN THE VASTNESS OF SPACE...

--THE TENSION ON ADUBA-3 IS WELLING
LIKE A THING ALIVE...

OKAY THEN, YOU MISFITS!
IT'S NOT GONNA BE LONG
BEFORE THE FIREWORKS
START POPPING!

SO YOU WANNA
HURRY UP
WITH UNLOAD-
ING THOSE
WEAPONS AN'
POWER
PACKS?

I DON'T
THINK SERJI-X
IS GONNA
WAIT FOR US!

WAIT, YOUNG MAN!
I WOULD HAVE
WORDS WITH
YOU BEFORE
YOU--

HUH?
GRAND-
FATHER?!
LISTEN,
OLD MAN--

NO,
GRAND-
FATHER!
NOT
NOW!

--IT'S NOT SAFE
SNEAKING UP LIKE
THAT ON A GUY
WITH A TEMPERA-
MENTAL BLASTER!

LUCKY FOR YOU I HEARD
MERRI CALL YOU GRANDPA,
OR YOUR OLD AGE MIGHT'A
GOT CUT SHORT!

SO WHAT D'YA
WANT? BUT
MAKE IT QUICK--
'CAUSE I'M
SORTA BUSY
RIGHT NOW!

I AM HERE
TO TELL YOU
THAT THE
HELP OF
YOU AND
YOUR COM-
PANIONS IS
NOT NEEDED
HERE!

LISTEN,
OLD-TIMER!
TIME'S A'
WASTING, SO...

YOU THINK I
AM JESTING,
YOUNG MAN!
BUT IT HAS
BEEN MANY
DECades SINCE
I HAVE SPOKE
LIGHTLY!

I TELL YOU IN ALL
SOBRIETY THAT WE
DO NOT NEED YOU
OR YOUR ALIEN HORDE
TO DRIVE THOSE
OUTLAWS FROM
OUR VILLAGE!

"WHY SHED THE LIFE FLUIDS OF YOUR
FRIENDS, WHEN THERE IS A SIMPLER
SOLUTION TO MY PEOPLE'S PROBLEM--

--A MYSTICAL SOLUTION
I ONCE BEHELD IN MY YOUTH!"

FIRST OF ALL, NOT ALL THOSE CHARACTERS ARE MY FRIENDS! AND SECOND, THEY KNEW WHAT THEY WERE GETTING INTO WHEN THEY TOOK THIS JOB!

AND THIRD, I OUTGREW FAIRY TALES BY THE TIME I COULD TALK!

NO, HEAR ME, MERCENARY!

MAYBE SOME OTHER TIME, ALL RIGHT?

THEN YOU WILL NOT LISTEN! GRAND-DAUGHTER... TAKE HIDING BEFORE SERGI-X COMES...

--WHILE I DO WHAT I WAS BORN TO DO... ALONE!

PLEASE IGNORE THE OLD ONE, HAN SOLO!
HE FANCIES HIMSELF AS A MYSTIC... A SHAMAN... CAPABLE OF SUMMONING SOME LEGENDARY MONSTER TO SAVE OUR VILLAGE!

UH, YEAH! WELL TELL YOU WHAT, ONCHO! AFTER WE'VE USED UP OUR LAST SHOT--

--THEN MAYBE WE'LL TAKE THE CODGER UP ON HIS OFFER! BUT FOR NOW--

--ALL YOU HEROES READY? BLASTERS AT FULL POWER... QUILLS SHARPENED AND ALL THAT?

READY WHEN EVER YOU GIVE THE WORD, SOLO!

MEAN'MY ROBOT'S READY, LEADER MAN!

SPEAK FOR YOURSELF, JUVENILE!

READY! AND IF WHAT THEY SAY ABOUT US RABBITS HAVIN' GOOD EYES IS TRUE--

--THEN I SUGGEST WE GET UP OFF OUR FANNIES AN' COTTON TAILS--

--'CAUSE I GOT A HUNCH TROUBLE'S ON THE WAY...

"BIG TROUBLE--

KR BLAZZ!

--AN' IT'S COMIN' AT US HARD AN' FAST!"

STAR WARS

PIN-UP SPECIAL



CHEWIE, HAN SOLO, LUKE SKYWALKER &
PRINCESS LEIA AS SEEN BY ARTIST HOWARD CHAYKIN.

I HOPE YOU PEASANTS APPRECIATE OUR SPECTACULAR ENTRANCE THIS YEAR! BUT WE HADDA TOP OUR LAST APPEARANCE IN YOUR SQUALID VILLAGE--

--WHEN WE SIMPLY CRASHED INTO A FEW OF YOUR DWELLINGS! REMEMBER? HARRRR!!!

BUT YOU KNOW WHY WE'RE HERE, SO LET'S NOT WASTE ANYMORE OF MY VALUABLE TIME!

YOU CAN START DOLIN' OUT THE TRIBUTE YOU'VE BEEN SAVIN' UP FOR US ALL YEAR! RIGHT?!

AND THAT INCLUDES THE CREAM OF YOUR CROP, WHO JUST REACHED THE AGE I LIKE THEM! YOU KNOW, WHAT'S HER-NAME --?



BUT THERE ARE OTHER,
THOUGH LESSER, "FORCES"
ON HAN SOLO'S SIDE --

"OR THAT IN THE SHAG-COVERED ARMS OF AN ENRAGED SEVEN-FOOT, WOOKIEE!

YET, IN THEIR OWN, IMMEDIATE WAY...



--LIKE THE ROBOTIC FORCE
THAT BRINGS A METAL ARM
TO SNATCH A LOW-FLYING
SKYSPEEDER.



OBVIOUSLY, SUCH FORCES
CANNOT COMPARE WITH
THAT WHICH BINDS TOGETHER
THE GALAXY.



YOU KNOW, CHEWBACCA!
WE MAKE AN EFFECTIVE
TEAM AND --

WHAT'S THAT YOU
SAID, EFFIE? CAN'T
HEAR YOU ABOVE
ALL THIS
SHOOTIN'!!



--EVEN THOUGH
IT MEANS MY...

EFFIE!!

THOUGH THE ROBOT FE-90 CLAIMED
NEITHER TO BE SERVANT NOR PET TO THE
STARKILLER KID... PERHAPS HE WAS
SOMETHING MORE...

THEIR RELATION-
SHIP NOT UNLIKE
THAT SHARED BY
HAN SOLO AND...

CHEWIE--!!

AMAIZA... DON-WAN...
YOU THREE BETTER
PROTECT OUR REAR!!

YEAH! THAT'S A
SIMPLE ENOUGH
ORDER TO
GIVE, HOT-SHOT!

TAKE CARE,
FAIR MAIDEN!
BEHIND YOU--

SO IF YOU REALLY KNOW
HOW TO USE THAT LIGHT-
SABRE OF YOURS--

AYE, IN THE
NAME OF
RIGHTEOUS-
NESS, USE IT
I SHALL!

BUT THESE SPACE-
UGLIES ARE ALSO
COMIN' AT US FROM
EVERY OTHER
DIRECTION!

--BUT NOW
I NEED YOUR
HELP A
HELLUVA LOT
MORE!

SHE SEES THE BLADELIKE
BEAM APPEAR AT THE TOUCH
OF A BUTTON...

AND SHE WONDERS IF THIS MADMAN
CAN ACTUALLY WIELD THE LEGENDARY
WEAPON OF THE JEDI-KNIGHTS...

YAAARRGG!!

HE CAN...

MAY YOU
PERISH, YOU
SCUM WHO
WOULD DARE
TAINT THE
FLESH OF THIS
LADY MOST
FAIR!!

HE'S NOT BAD
FOR AN OLD-TIMER!
BUT HE'S NOT FAST
ENOUGH--

--AND THERE'S A
SKYSPEEDER
ZOOMING DOWN, TOO
FAST FOR ME TO GET
HIM BEFORE--



STAN
Lee
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MARVEL® BULLPEN BULLETINS

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STAN'S SOAPBOX

Many knowledge-hungry readers have asked what in the name of Irving Forbush do I talk about when I make my monthly pilgrimage to some defenseless college bringing a modicum of Marvel culture to the madly cheering masses! Therefore, in my burning desire to answer your every question—and because I can't think of anything else to write about—you're now about to be favored with a typical outline of one of Lee's Luminous Little All-Purpose Lectures! So let's begin before you get too choked up to read any further. I usually kick off with a brief outline of the history of mighty Marvel—how and why the whole nutty thing began. And, since I've got the world's worst memory, it rarely comes out the same way twice! Half the campuses in America probably have wildly conflicting histories of the growth of Marvel's greatness—but at least it keeps 'em on their toes! Then, we have some dizzy in-depth discussions of our cuddly costumed cavorters. We probe the psyches and gestalts of Spidey, the Hulk, Doc Doom, Howard the Anatid (in case you meet a guy who speaks only Latin!), and as many other of our legendary little lovebugs as time, and the audience's stamina, will permit. Next, we come to the really heavy stuff—namely, the philosophy of comics. We explore what's right with them and (gulp!) what's wrong with them; why Marvel has a furshlugginer flavor all its own (sort'a like a ripe scallion); and what lies ahead for Marveldom Assembled. That's probably the most momentous subject of all, for as academia knows, as Marvel goes so goes the nation! (The world?) (The universe maybe?) Finally, we segue into the grand finale, the part where the long-suffering audience can get its well-deserved revenge—the Questions-and-Answers period! This is the zingiest part for all concerned 'cause they can put me on the spot while I get my jollies by trying to worm out of it in my usual sneaky way! And there you have it—next to the secret of the Rosicrucians, probably the most sought-after info since the Silver Surfer divulged the name of his barber! And now, till J. Jonah Jameson elopes with Aunt May, have the merriest of Christmases, be good to each other, and always remember—Red Sonja will love you if you keep thinking Marvel!

Excelsior!

Stan

ITEM! Just to prove we really love you all, we've come up with a holiday surprise package that we think will absolutely knock you on your mistletoe, namely the second of our MARVEL COMICS SUPER SPECIALS. If you caught our first one (which starred the rock group KISS), then you know to expect a deluxe magazine with radiant full color, high quality paper, and dazzling art reproduction. And if you've checked out the illustration on this page, then you also know the sensational subject of this Special, none other than everyone's favorite sword-swinging Cimmerian, CONAN THE BARBARIAN. Odds are that's enough to send most of you cogent comics cognoscenti stampeding to your nearest newsdealer, but for the doubters and diehards lurking about, we'll elaborate further. The magazine's main feature is a novel-length epic entitled: "Revenge of the Barbarian." It's based on a story by Conan's creator, ROBERT E. HOWARD, and adapted by the award-winning team of writer/editor ROY THOMAS and artist extraordinaire JOHN BUSCEMA. Adding their talents are Awesome ALFREDO ALCALA, who renders John's layouts to a fantastic finish, and Mirthful MARIE SEVERIN, whose hand-tinting craftsmanship brings new meaning to the words 'full color!' In addition, there's a fabulous feature section (also in color) delving into the history of Conan in the comics as well as other awesome aspects of the sword-and-sorcery trade, and the whole prestigious package comes with a rip-roaring wraparound cover painting by Earnest EARL NOREM. All that... and it's yours for a mere \$1.50! MARVEL COMICS SUPER SPECIAL #2 featuring THE SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN. Don't miss it!



ITEM! If you think from the last item we're shooting our bolt on the holiday season and don't have anything left for the New Year... then you misjudge just how much we like to keep the excitement flowing your way, amigo, because on tap in January is a veritable landslide of landmark mags! First, there's SPIDER-WOMAN debuting in her own title; revamped, redesigned, and refined to a fare-thee-well from her MARVEL SPOTLIGHT appearance by MARV WOLFMAN, CARMINE

INFANTINO, and TONY DeZUNIGA into one of the most unique and uniquely exciting super-heroines to hit the scene. Then there's the fabulous fiftieth issue of POWER MAN, which hits you with a dazzling new direction as Luke Cage becomes partners with Danny Rand, otherwise known as IRON FIST. It's offbeat and outrageous, but we're betting it's the most winning combination since Starsky met Hutch. Last month we gave you the rundown on JACK "King" KIRBY's two new books, DEVIL DINOSAUR and MACHINE MAN. This month we're going to cue you that next month they're going to be on sale. A word to the wise should be sufficient . . . first issues, especially those by Mr. K., disappear fast! Finally, in our black-and-white magazine line, a new edition of MARVEL PREVIEW surges forth in January and features THE U.F.O. CONNECTION, a novel-length blockbuster of flying saucers, pyramid power, reincarnation, and a secret war with beings from the beyond written by DAVID KRAFT, drawn by HERB TRIMPE, and rendered by KLAUS JANSON. Editor ROGER SLIFER assures us it's all imaginary, but the way it ties in with some known facts and theories leaves us wondering. . . and experiencing a shiver or two definitely not brought on by the winter wind!

ITEM! One thing we always seem to have plenty of in the Bullpen is changes, and this time around is no exception. We're saying hail and farewell to Edifying ED HANNIGAN, who is abandoning his Assistant Editor's post for the rigors of becoming full-time penciler of the monthly DEFENDERS mag, and to Mellow MARY ELLEN BEVERIDGE, who departs as our Lady of the Fan Letters to take up the brush and Doctor Martin's dyes of a freelance colorist. Fortunately, ready to step into their places, respectively, are Slim JIM SALICRUP and Heavenly HELLEN KATZ. A whole lot of good luck to the lot of you in your new endeavors. On the free-lance front, let's say hello to Rebel ROGER McKENZIE who has recently taken over the scripting of DAREDEVIL and GHOST RIDER, and offer considerable congratulations to Klobbering KEITH POLLARD, whose pulsating pencil work can now be seen on the FANTASTIC FOUR and IRON MAN comics. We're looking forward to bigger and better dazzling from both these promising talents!

ITEM! A sad note: The passing of RON HAYDOCK, who contributed many articles to our black-and-white magazines of several seasons back, particularly MONSTERS OF THE MOVIES. He was a friend to many of us here at Marvel and his absence shall be felt.

ITEM! As usual, there's a lot to cover and always too little space to do it in. We didn't get a chance to mention the secret project that artist GEORGE "Pacesetter" PEREZ and scripter DAVID KRAFT are huddling together on, or those private planning sessions between STAN, CHRIS CLAREMONT, and DAVE COCKRUM over a certain super-heroine in Marvel's mighty line-up. Maybe next time.

ITEM! It's December and another holiday season, good people, so from every amiable armadillo and boisterous Bullpenner here at merry Marvel, the very best of Season's Greetings to you one and all!

BUT THE SHAMAN SEEKS NOT TO
HEAR THE NOISES OF BATTLE,
FOR HIS MIND IS SOMEWHERE
ELSE--



--HIS THOUGHTS BURNING
THROUGH SOLID STONE WITH
THE EASE AND INTENSITY OF A
LIGHT-SABRE--



--UNTIL AN ALMOST INHUMAN SHRIEK
ISSUES FROM HIS MOUTH!

THERE! THAT TAKES
CARE OF THE LAST OF
THOSE SNEAK
ATTACKERS FAR AS
I CAN TELL!

BUT OUR MAIN
ATTACK'S STILL
COMING FROM
THE SKY!

HEY, JAXXON!
HOW'S OUR
AMMUNITION
HOLDING OUT?!

WELL, UNLESS YOU GOT
SOME TRICK EXTRA LONG
FEET STASHED AWAY, YOU'D
BETTER KEEP SHOOTING!

AIN'T COMPLAININ',
SOLO! AN' IF I RUN OUTA
POWER, I CAN ALWAYS
KICK THOSE RIDERS
OUTA THE CLOUDS!



YAAAHOOO!!
YOU SEE THAT,
RABBIT--?

TALK ABOUT FLYING
RIGHT INTO THE
LINE OF FIRE!!

NO ONE HAS YET
NOTICED THAT THE
OLD SHAMAN HAS
RELAXED HIS
CONCENTRATION...

...OR THAT HE
NOW SPEAKS.

EMERGE
FROM YOUR
BED-CHAMBERS
OF STONE! SAVE
US WHOSE
ANCESTORS
ONCE WOR-
SHIPPED
YOU!

HEAR ME,
SLUMBERING
ONE!

I BEG YOU
AWAKEN AS YOU
DID IN DECADES PAST!
OUR MINDS ARE NOW
LINKED TOGETHER AS ONE!

WHEN THE ROCK
BEGINS TO SHIFT,
EVEN MAN SOLO
MUST TAKE
NOTICE!

OH, HELL!
IF WE DIDN'T HAVE
ENOUGH TO
WORRY ABOUT!!

THE CARNAGE OF BATTLE CONTINUES,
WITH BLASTERS BARKING THEIR MINIATURE
EXPLOSIONS... AND WITH THE SKIES
ABLAZE WITH THE DEBRIS OF ERUPTING
SKYSPEEDERS.

BUT, SOMEHOW,
SERJI-X
ARROGANTUS
AND HIS SURLY
BAND OCCUPY
SECOND PLACE
IN HAN SOLO'S
PRIORITIES--

GREE-AARGH!

--AS HE STARES
DUMBFOUNDEDLY
WHILE THE MOUNTAIN
ITSELF IS
TORN ASUNDER--
FROM WITHIN...

QUITE OBVIOUSLY,
THE REAL BATTLE'S
YET TO BEGIN!!

NEXT ISSUE:
**DAY OF THE
BEHEMOTH!**