

HOWARD  
THE DUCK

MARVEL COMICS GROUP™

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TRAPPED IN A WORLD HE NEVER MADE!

BECAUSE YOU  
DEMANDED IT--  
THE FABULOUS  
FIRST ISSUE  
OF MARVEL'S MOST  
SENSATIONAL NEW  
SUPER-STAR!

# HOWARD THE DUCK



AGAINST SWORD AND SORCERY,  
HOWARD STANDS SIDE-BY-SIDE WITH  
THE AMAZING

## SPIDER-MAN!

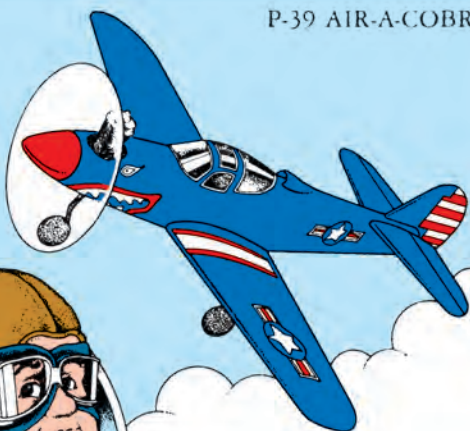
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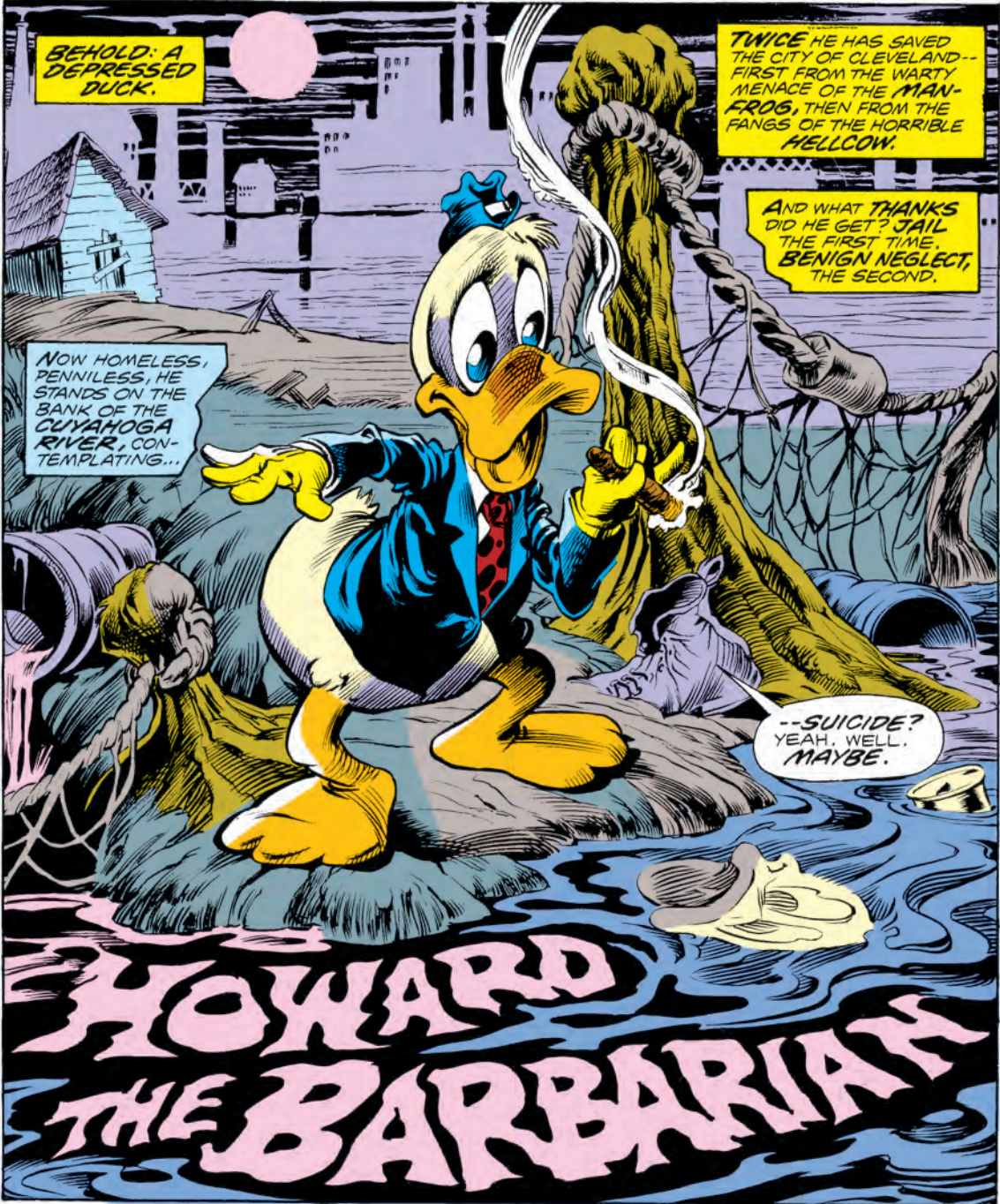
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Stan Lee  
PRESENTS: **HOWARD THE DUCK!**™

CREATED & WRITTEN BY **STEVE GERBER** • ILLUSTRATED & COLORED BY **FRANK BRUNNER** INKED BY **STEVE LEIALOHA** JOHN COSTANZA, letterer  
CO-PLOTTERS **MARV WOLFMAN**, Editor



BEHOLD: A DEPRESSED DUCK.

TWICE HE HAS SAVED THE CITY OF CLEVELAND-- FIRST FROM THE WARTY MENACE OF THE MAN-FROG, THEN FROM THE FANGS OF THE HORRIBLE HELLOW.

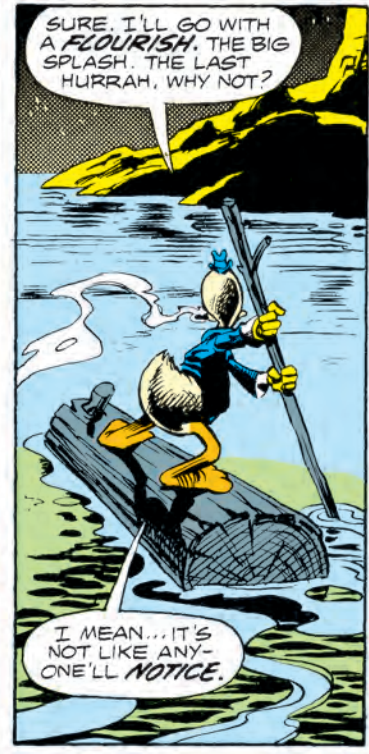
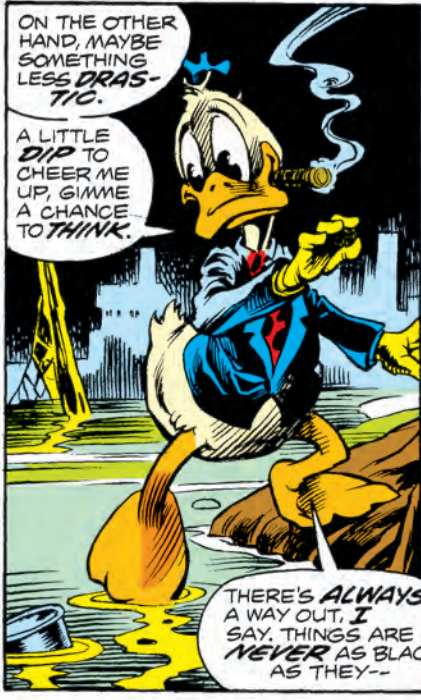
AND WHAT THANKS DID HE GET? JAIL THE FIRST TIME, BENIGN NEGLECT, THE SECOND.

NOW HOMELESS, PENNILESS, HE STANDS ON THE BANK OF THE CUYAHOGA RIVER, CONTEMPLATING...

--SUICIDE? YEAH. WELL. MAYBE.

**HOWARD THE BARBARIAN**









...AN' I'M *IT*. OR SOMETHING LIKE TH--

HEY, *THIS'S* WEIRD. THE WALL'S MADE OUTTA *PLASTIC*-- OLD CREDIT CARDS!

WHAT *IS* THIS PLACE?! WHY--?



ON SECOND THOUGHT --WHO CARES?

I CAME TO *KILL MYSELF*, NOT PLAY BUILDING INSPECTOR.

SO IF THERE'S NO DOORS-- I GUESS I START *CLIMBING*.

THE ASCENT IS SLOW, *ARDUOUS*. HOWARD'S WEBBED FEET PROVIDE NO *TRACTION* AGAINST THE SMOOTH SYNTHETIC SURFACE. MORE THAN ONCE HE *SLIPS*... AND NEARLY RUSHES HIS DATE WITH DESTINY. BUT THE DUCK PERSEVERES, AND...



A WINDOW. IT'S ABOUT *TIME*!

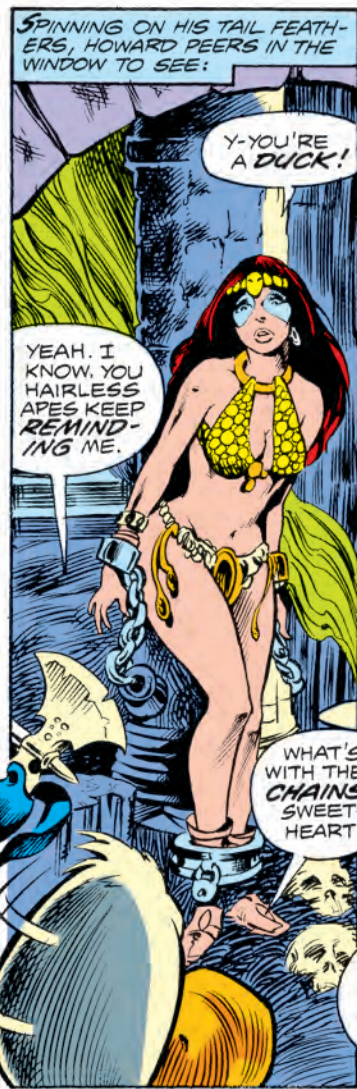


I'M ENTITLED TO A BREATHER BEFORE I DIE.

SHOULD'A KNOWN EVEN *SUICIDE* COULDN'T BE *SIMPLE* ON THIS WORL--

**HELP!**

HUH--?!



SPINNING ON HIS TAIL FEATHERS, HOWARD PEERS IN THE WINDOW TO SEE:

Y-YOU'RE A *DUCK*!

YEAH. I KNOW, YOU HAIRLESS APES KEEP *REMINING* ME.

WHAT'S WITH THE *CHAINS*, SWEET-HEART?



I'M THE *PRISONER* OF A *MAD-MAN*! YOU MUST *SAVE* ME... PLEASE... I BEG YOU...!

I REALIZE THIS IS *STRANGE*, FOLKS... BUT WHAT THE HECK?... IT BEATS DOING MYSELF IN. READY OR NOT, LADY, *HERE I--*



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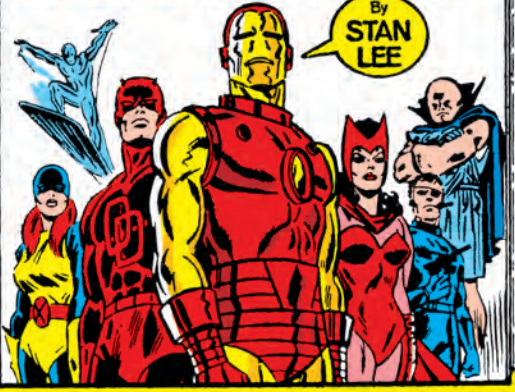
GALLERY MAGAZINE: "A phantasmagorical feast of friends and foes. Stan Lee has done a marvelous job of making them live."  
 RAY BRADBURY--LOS ANGELES TIMES: "Stan Lee's book is, to me, a better light bulb. Frivolous? Perhaps. Frightening? Sometimes."  
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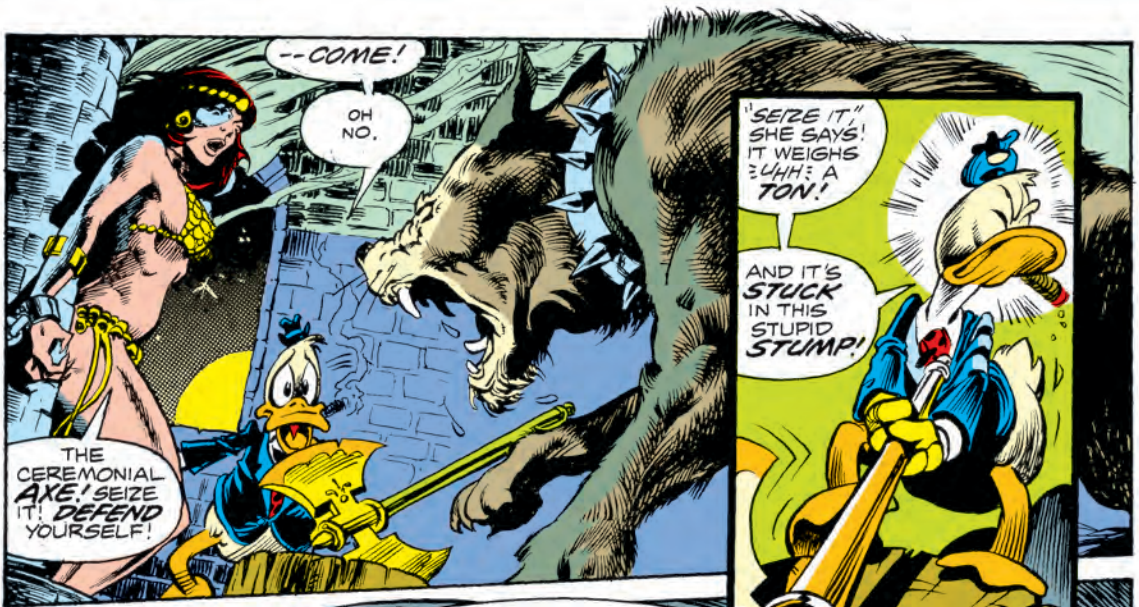


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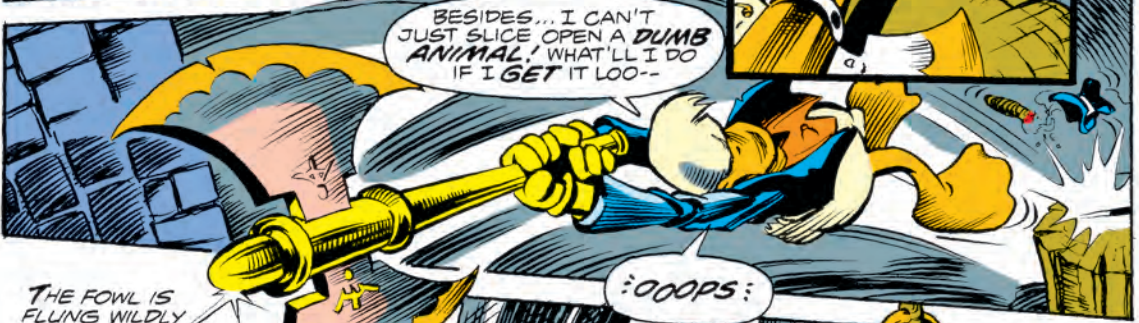
-- COME!

OH NO.

THE CEREMONIAL AXE! SEIZE IT! DEFEND YOURSELF!

"SEIZE IT" SHE SAYS! IT WEIGHS 3000 LBS. A TON!

AND IT'S STUCK IN THIS STUPID STUMP!



BESIDES... I CAN'T JUST SLICE OPEN A DUMB ANIMAL! WHAT'LL I DO IF I GET IT LOO--

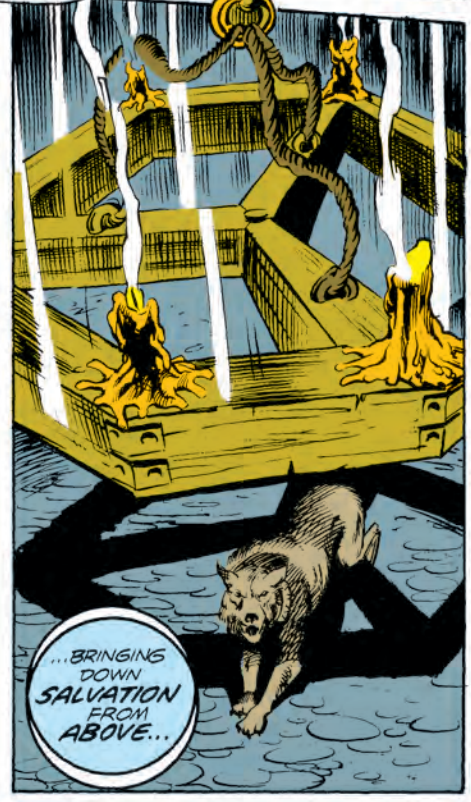
OOOPS!

THE FOWL IS FLUNG WILDLY ACROSS THE ROOM, AWAY FROM THE SPUMMING BEAST, CARRIED BY THE WEIGHT OF THE BROBINGNAGIAN BLADE...



THUD

... UNTIL HE STRIKES THE CHAMBER'S FAR WALL... AND A CERTAIN ROPE...



... BRINGING DOWN SALVATION FROM ABOVE...