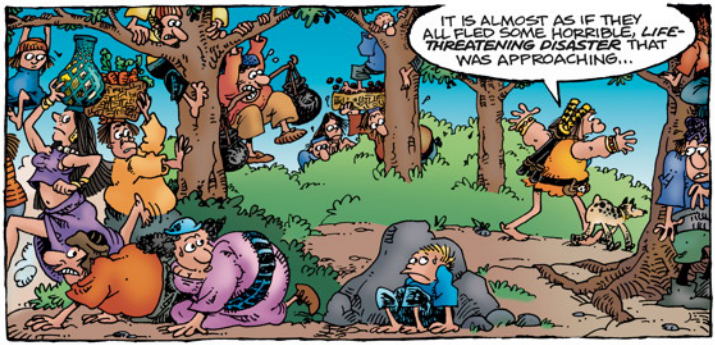
GROO AND RUFFERTO HAVE BEEN WALKING FOR DAYS...
HAVE YOU NOTICED SOMETHING UNUSUAL, RUFFERTO?
THAT YOU HAVE SLAIN NO ONE LATELY?

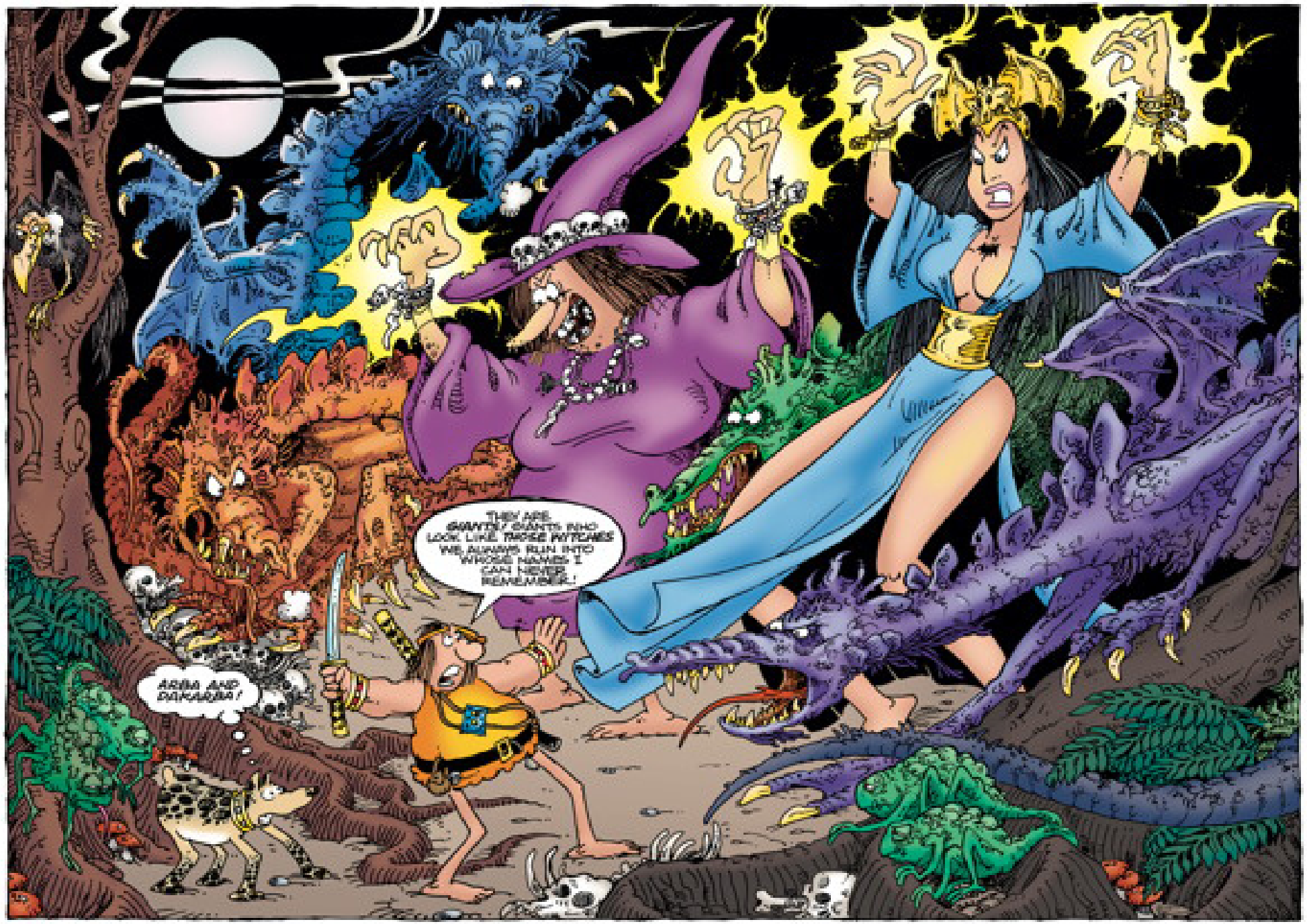
WE HAVE WALKED MANY LEAGUES IN MANY NIGHTS AND WE HAVE NOT SEEN A *SINGLE PERSON*...


IT IS ALMOST AS IF THEY ALL FLED SOME HORRIBLE, *LIFE-THREATENING DISASTER* THAT WAS APPROACHING...

WE HAVE BEEN THIS WAY BEFORE, I SENSE! I RECOGNIZE ALL THE TREES THAT WERE NOT HERE WHEN I CAME THIS WAY BACK THEN!

SAY, WHAT BECAME OF THAT LITTLE BOY SEARCHING FOR HIS MOTHER?
YOU MEAN THE LITTLE *GIRL* SEARCHING FOR HER *FATHER*...

I KNOW GROO'S WISE SURVIVAL INSTINCTS! ANY MOMENT NOW, HE WILL SUGGEST THIS LAND LOOKS EVIL AND BARREN...
HE WILL SUGGEST WE TURN BACK, AS WE SHALL FIND NO FOOD AHEAD!
THIS LAND LOOKS GOOD AND FRUITFUL, RUFFERTO! IF WE PRESS AHEAD, WE SHALL SURELY FIND FOOD!
I WAS CLOSE!
WAIT! I AM NOW NOTICING IT IS NOT SO FRUITFUL! THERE IS A SCARCITY OF BIRDS AND GAME! ESPECIALLY GAME WITH RIBS!
IT DOES NOT SMELL SO WELL HERE, EITHER!
THE MORE WE WANDER, THE MORE OUR SURROUNDINGS APPEAR DESOLATE AND FOREBODING!
THE MORE WE JOURNEY, THE MORE I FEEL THE ICY PRESENCE OF OMINOUS DEATH AND TERROR!
THAT DOES RAISE THE QUESTION...
RUFFERTO! LOOK!
WHY ARE WE WALKING THIS WAY?


THEY ARE GIANTS! GIANTS WHO LOOK LIKE THOSE WITCHES WE ALWAYS RUN INTO WHOSE NAMES I CAN NEVER REMEMBER!
ARRA AND DAMAGGA!

QUITE NEARBY...
I HEAR NO SCREAMS! OUR APPARITIONS HAVE MATERIALIZED TO SCARE OFF VISITORS, BUT I HEAR NO SCREAMS!
THAT IS NOT POSSIBLE!
WHEN ANYONE NEARS OUR LAIR, THE APPARITIONS APPEAR AND SEND THE ENCROACHER SCREAMING IN TERROR! WHO WOULD NOT?
ONLY SOMEONE DEVOID OF SENSE...
GROO!!!
GROO IS HERE! WE CONJURED UP THOSE APPARITIONS TO SCARE OFF ANYONE BUT HIM ESPECIALLY!
WE SHOULD HAVE KNOWN HE HAS NOT THE BRAINS TO BE SCARED!
I REMEMBER THOSE WITCHES! BUT WERE THEY NOT SHORTER?
GROO! LET US FLEE!