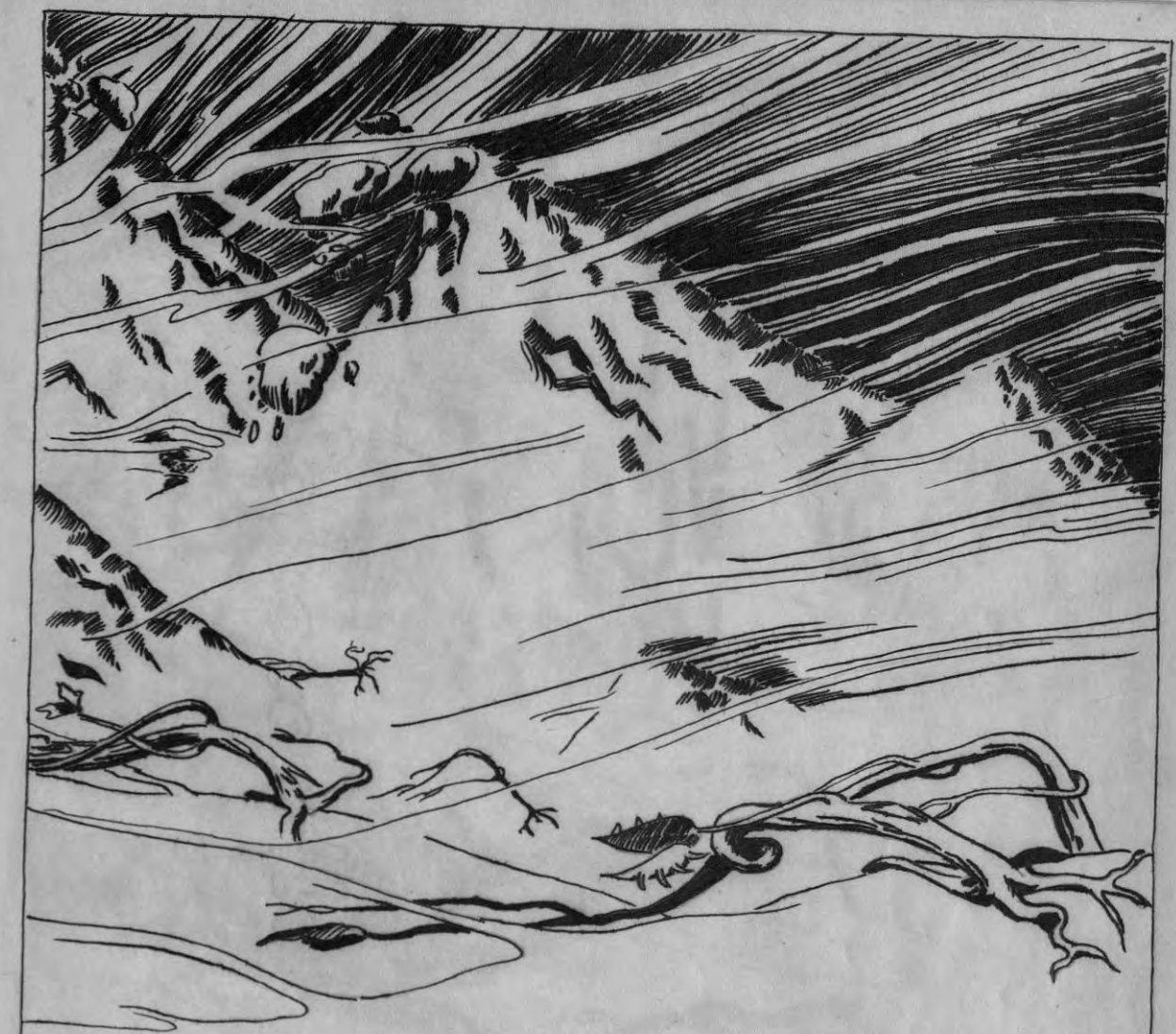
ALL RIGHTS BELONGING
TO:
CARL W. CORLEY
FLORENCE MASS.

SOMEWHERE IN THE INDICO UNIVERSE A PLANET TORE FROM THE BONDS OF IT'S GRAVITY SYSTEM AND DROPPED MILLION'S OF MILE'S---



-TOWARD THE EARTH. IT'S SPEED WAS GIGANTIC AND SEVERE, CAUSING GREAT WIND'S AND STORM'S TO SWEEP PAST IT'S SURFACE TEARING AND SMASHING TO THE GROUND THE VAST AND GIANT VEGETATION THAT BLOCKED THE PATH OF THE RAGING WIND'S---.



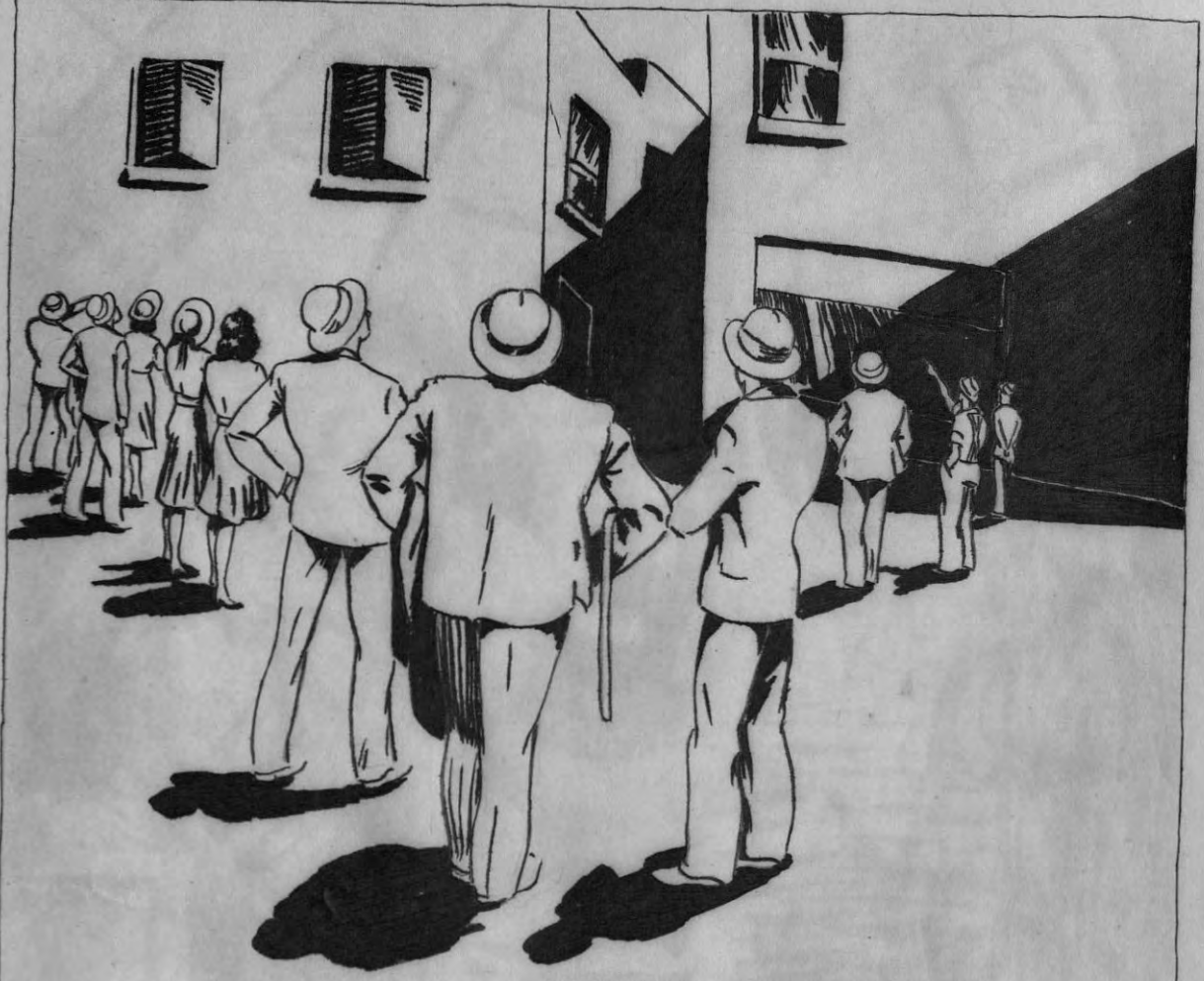
LIKE A TINY BALL SHOT FROM A GUN THE PLANET CONTINUED IT'S JOURNEY THROUGH SPACE. THE ONRUSH OF AIR BOILED AND CIRCLED THE GLOBE LIKE A MAD THING, EVEN HUGE BOULDER'S TORE AND FELL FROM THE STRANGE SURFACE OF THE PLANET ONLY TO CRUSH TO THE GROUND OR BE CARRIED AWAY WITH THE MAD WIND.



ADMIST THE VAST VEGETATION AND MOUNTAIN RANGES LAY STRANGE STRUCTURES OF SOME STERN AND FORBIDDEN NATURE, WHERE EVEN THEY--- NOT WITHSTANDING THE PRESSURE BROKE AND CRUMBLED WITH THE RAGING TORRENT'S.



MEANWHILE IN THE LARGEST INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOCY ON THE EARTH THE WORLD'S MOST-NOTED ASTRONOMERS GEATHERED TO DISCUSS AND DETERMINE THE STRANGE PLANET'S ACTIONS. THEIR CONCLUSION WAS THAT IT WAS JUST ANOTHER FALLING COMET.



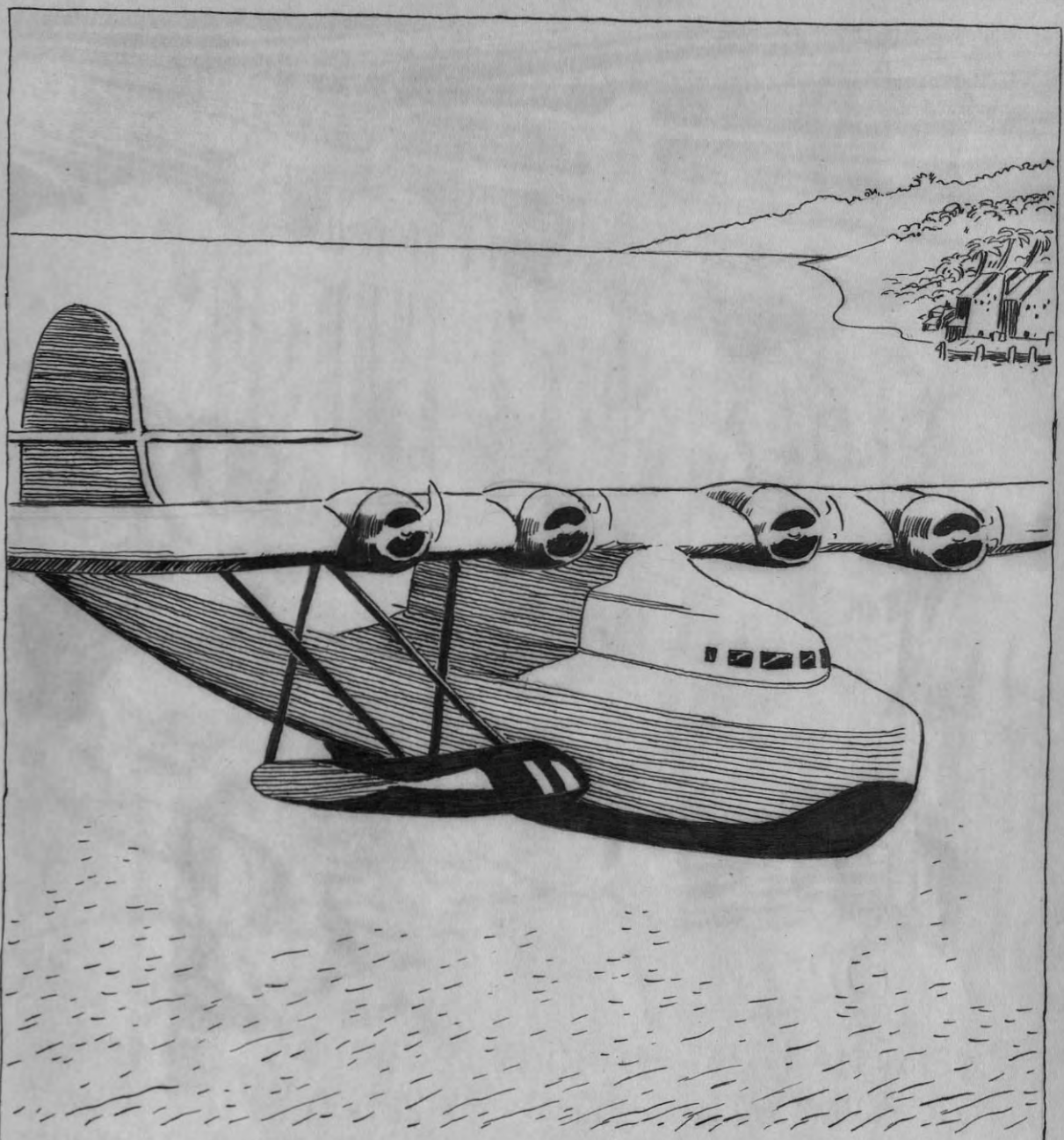
BUT THE NEXT DAY TERRIFIED AND EXCITED PEOPLE WATCHED THE HEAVENS WITH QUESTIONABLE EYES,— FOR THE PLANET HAD FALLEN SO CLOSE TO THE EARTH THAT IT CUT OFF PART OF THE SUN LEAVING THE WORLD IN ALMOST COMPLETE DARKNESS,— SURELY THE EARTH WAS DOOMED!

AND AT THE SAME TIME ON THE COAST OF JAVA—



-TWO LONE PASSENGERS AWAIT ANXIOUSLY THE ARRIVAL OF A GIANT CLIPPER ENROUTE TO AMERICA.

NEXT WEEK:— MAGNET RAYS



ABOUT ONE HOUR LATER THE GIANT CLIPPER SHIP DRONES OVER THE PACIFIC CARRYING THE TWO PASSENGERS TOWARD THE UNITED STATES.



MEANWHILE ON THE SURFACE OF THE FALLING PLANET THE MASSIVE CITIES CONTINUE TO CRUMBLE WITH THE MAD CURRENTS CAUSED BY THE PLANETS RAPID MOVEMENT. AND BEHIND THOSE BREAKING WALLS STRANGE PEOPLE OF SOME EXOTIC NATURE OUT LIVE THE ANNOYING STORMS.

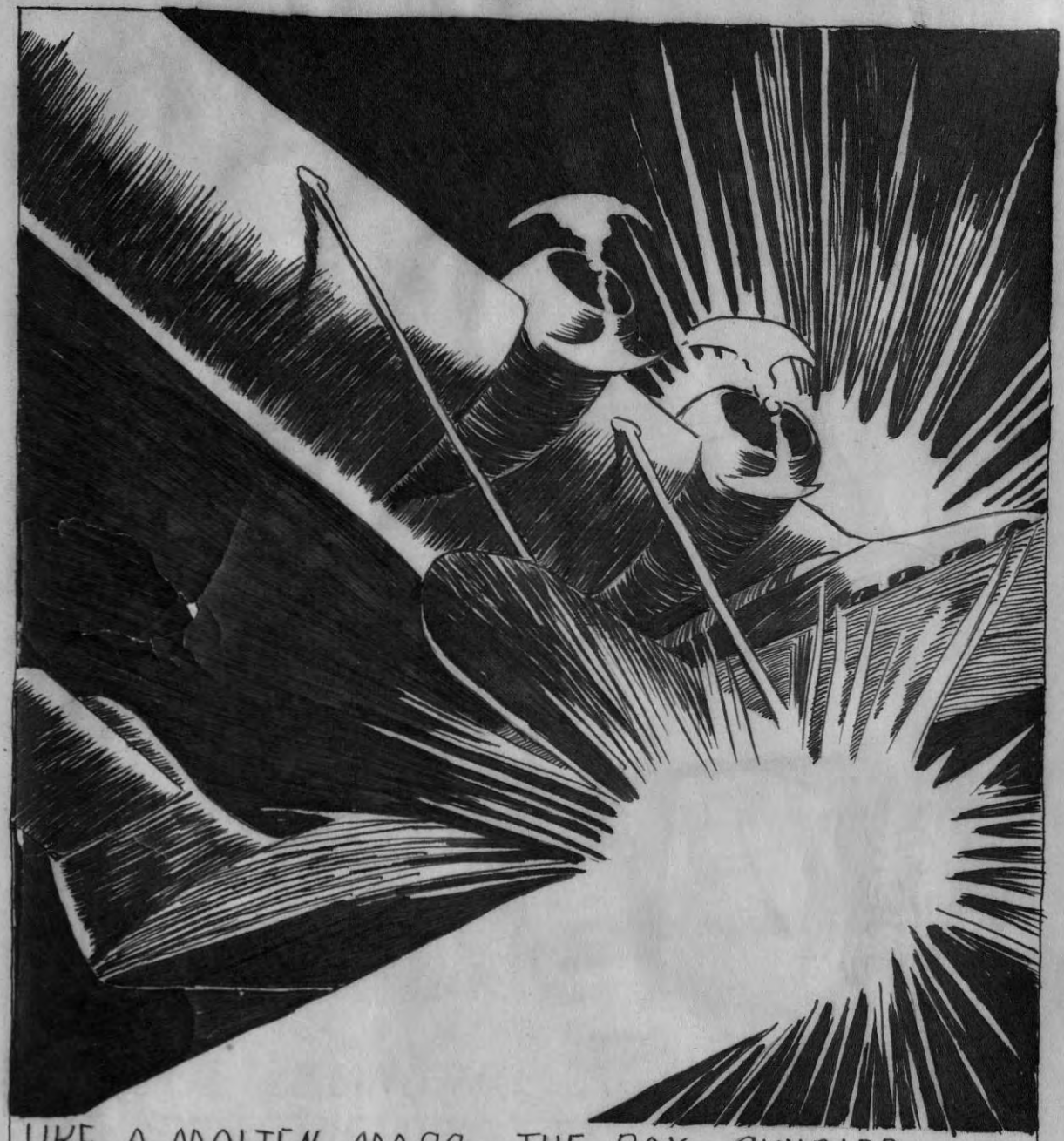

QUEEN TANJA, THE STRATOSPHERE METERS SHOW THAT WE SHALL MISS THE NEIGHBORING PLANET, BUT WE SHALL FALL CLOSE ENOUGH TO CAPTURE SOME OF ITS INHABITANTS IF THERE ARE ANY.
GOOD NALA! TRAIN THE VERSISPHERE SCOPE TO ALL PARTS OF THE DISTANT PLANET, IF THERE IS ANY LIFE ON THE SURFACE WE SHALL CAPTURE IT.



AFTER MINUTES OF VIGEROUS TUNING ON THE VERSI SPHERE SCOPE,
LOOK! YOUR HIGHNESS, SOME STRANGE CRAFT LOOMING TOWARD US.
YES NALA, PROBERLY TO ENVADE US.
QUICK! THE MAGNET RAYS.



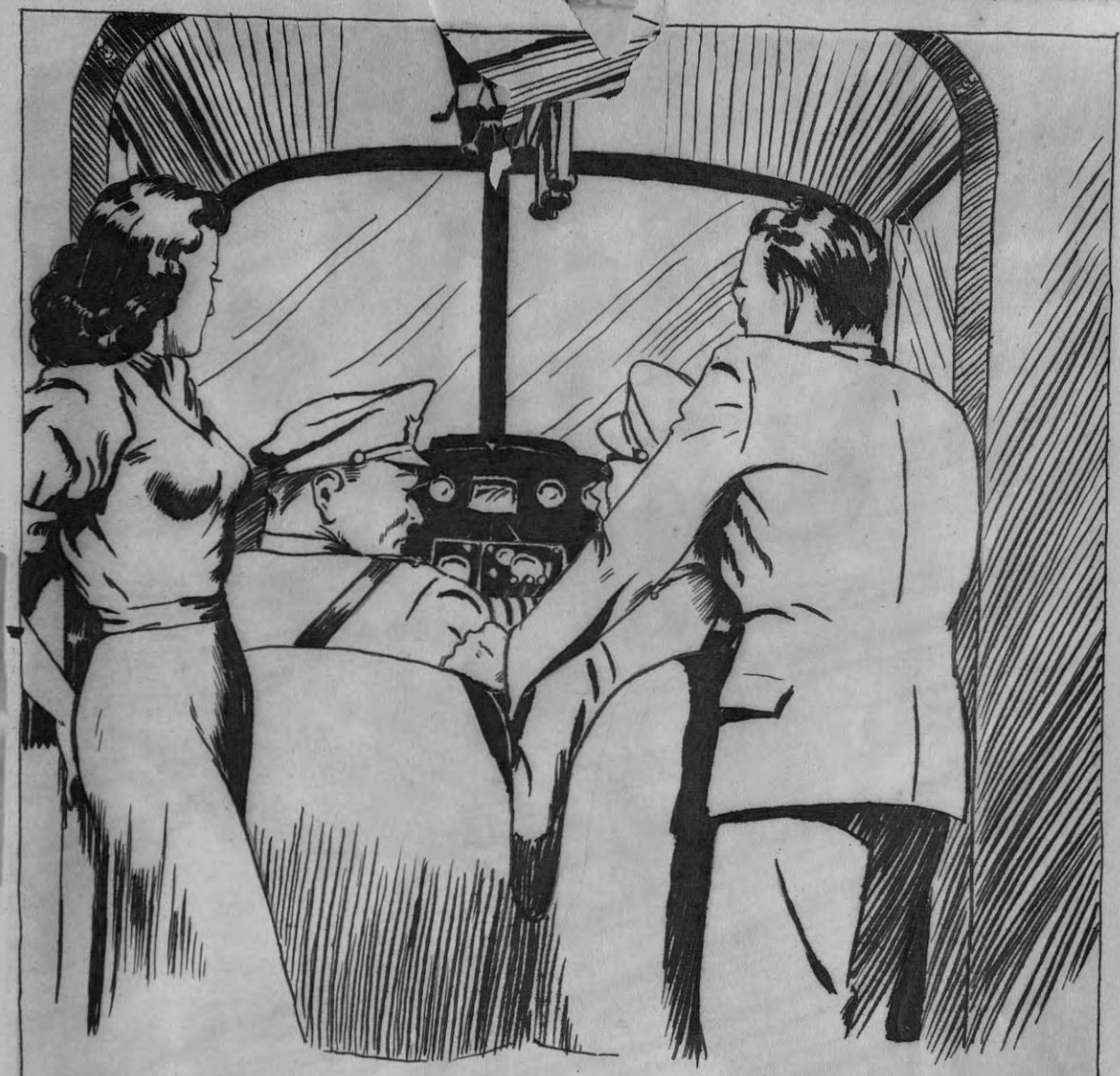
AGAINST THE WHIRLING STORMS, THE QUEEN AND HER PRIME MINISTER RISKED THEIR LIVES TO CAPTURE THE EARTH PEOPLE WITH THEIR MAGNET RAY'S IRRESISTIBLE FORCE THAT WOULD PULL AN OBJECT MILES INTO IT'S TRAP.



LIKE A MOLTEN MASS THE RAY SWIRLED ABOUT THE GIANT CLIPPER, FORCING IT DOWN THROUGH THE MUSKY ATMOSPHERE TOWARD THE STRANGE PLANET.

NEXT WEEK ÷ MAROONED

CARL CORLEY



AS THE BLINDING RAYS STRUCK THE SHIP, THE TWO FRIGHTNED PASSENGERS CONTACTED THE PILOT'S AT ONCE—.



THROUGH ENDLESS SPACE THE TWISTING CLIPPER WAS FORCED BY THE RAYS IRRESISTIBLE FORCE DOWN---DOWN ADMIST THE GASEOUS ENVELOPE AND WAILING WINDS THAT INCLOSES THE FALLING PLANET.



THE GAS FROM THE MAGNET RAYS MADE BREATHING IMPOSSIBLE, AND ONE BY ONE THE OCCUPANTS OF THE CLIPPER SLUMPED TO THE FLOOR.


"YOUR SPELL IS ON THEM, O QUEEN, THEY ARE NOW HELPLESS AND HARMLESS."
17



A SPLIT SECOND LATER THE GIANT CLIPPER TORN AND TWISTED, CRASHED TO THE SURFACE OF THE STRANGE PLANET.

NEXT WEEK ÷ DYING WIND'S

CARL CORLEY


YOUR HIGHNESS, A MESSAGE FROM YOUR SCIENTISTS. "THE WINDS HAVE STOPPED, OUR PLANET HAS CEASED TO FALL, AND HAS FOUND ITS TRUE ORBIT AGAIN.

RADIOMEN QUICKLY BROADCAST THE NEWS TO ALL PARTS OF THE PLANET.



"YOU MAY OPEN YOUR DOORS AND REST IN PEACE, FOR TODAY OUR PLANET STOPPED FALLING IT HAS FOUND IT'S TRUE ORBIT SAYS SCIENCE, AND IT IS NOW REVOLVING ON IT'S AXIS AS BEFORE."



AND A CELEBRATION SUCH AS **VULCAN** HAD EVER KNOWN IN PREVIOUS HISTORY TOOK PLACE.



MEANWHILE--- FOR A LONG TIME THERE IS NO SIGN OF LIFE ABOUT THE WRECKAGE OF THE CLIPPER, FINALLY THE HEAD AND SHOULDERS OF FLOYD RAYMOND APPEARS.



DAZED, HIS LEGS NUMB, FLOYD HALF DRAGS, HALF CARRIES THE LIMP FORM OF HIS SWEETHEART, FRIA LANG FROM THE WRECKAGE—

BUT THE WRECK AND SHOCK IS TO GREAT FOR FLOYD'S STRENGTH, HE FINALLY COLLAPSES WITH HIS BURDEN—



CABE CORLEY

—AND ALL IS SILENT EXCEPT FOR THE WAILING AND MOANING OF THE DYING WINDS.

NEXT WEEK ÷ LITTLE DWAR

A LITTLE BAT-EYED GOGGY MAN OF SOME STRANGE NATURE ON RETURNING HOME FROM HIS WORK STUMBLES UPON THE UNCONSCIOUS EARTHLINGS—



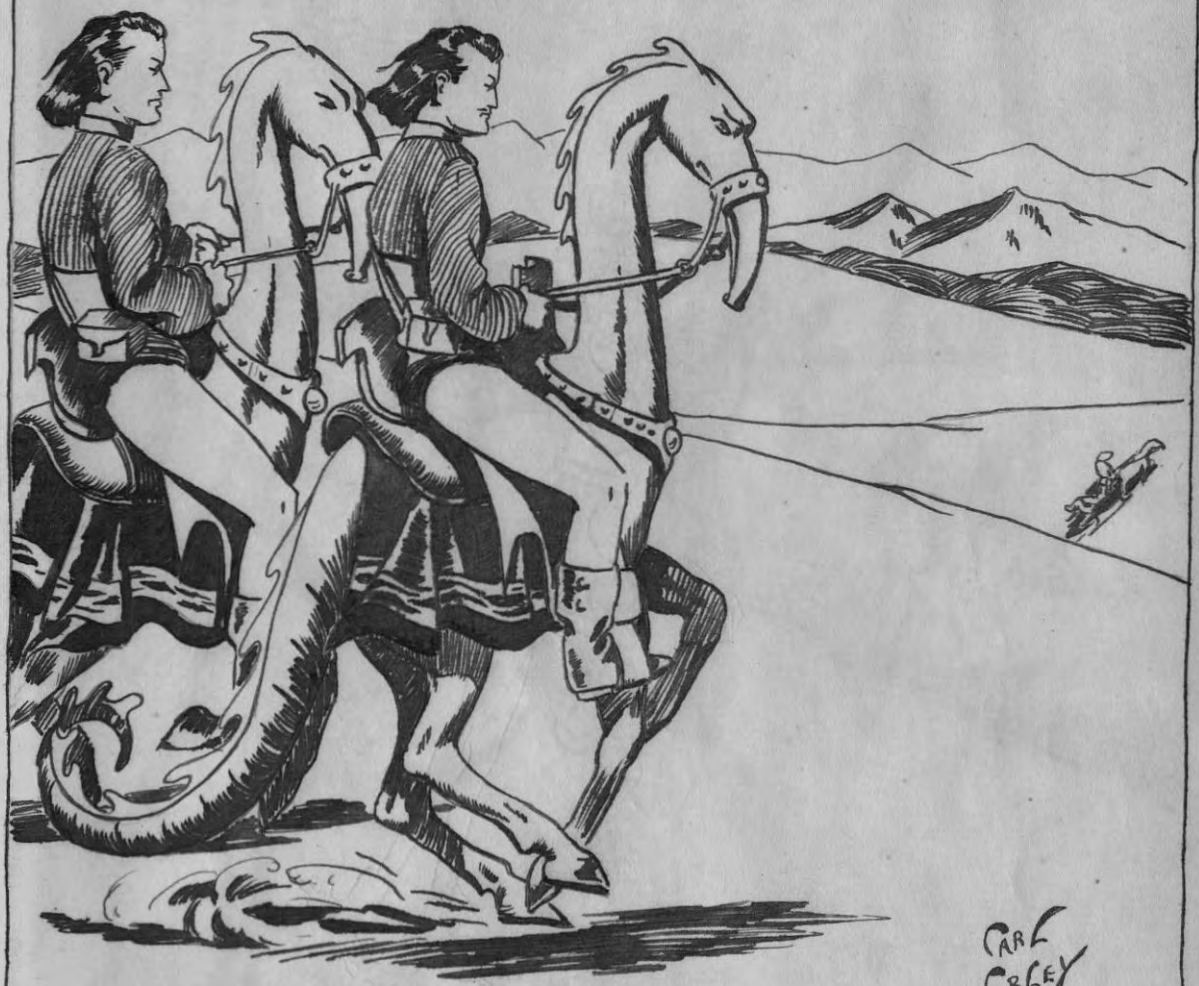


SEEING THEY MIGHT BE SUVIVED, HE LASHES THEM TO HIS FRAGON DRAWN SLED AND STARTS THE LONG TREAK HOMEWARD. HIS EYES SHINE AS THEY SOON APPROACH HIS SHANTY HOME.


BUT NOT FAR AWAY QUEEN TANJA AND HER ROYAL LANCERS SEARCH FOR THE WRECK THROUGH POWERFUL MAGFY GLASSES.
SUDDENLY SHE STOPS AND POINTS--- "LOOK, THERE IT IS AT THE EDGE OF THE MOUNTAIN SLOPE.


THE LANCER'S SEARCH VAINLY THROUGHOUT THE BATTARED SHIP BUT FIND ONLY THE BROKEN DEAD BODIES OF THE PILOTS.


DISGUSTED, QUEEN TANJA TURNS TO HER ASSISTANT, COUNT LUCHON.
"I'M POSTIVE THERE WAS A GIRL AND YOUNG MAN IN THAT CRAFT."
"SEARCH THESE SURROUNDINGS, THEY MIGHT HAVE ESCAPED?"



COUNT LUCHON AND THE LANCERS LOSE NO TIME IN CARRYING OUT QUEEN TANJA'S ORDERS BY FOLLOWING THE TRAIL OF THE SLED WITH THEIR MERLIN HORSES.

NEXT WEEK ÷ OXYZONE BREATHERS


"ON YOUR KNEES, FOOL? I AM YOUR QUEEN, YOUR UNDER ARREST FOR HOSTAGEING A PRISONAR!"
THE QUEER LITTLE MAN IS SOON OVERTAKEN AND DRAGGED BEFORE THE QUEEN



HAVING FLOYD RAYMOND AND FRIA LANG CAST INTO AN AMBULANCE SLED, AND LITTLE DWAR BOUND SECURELY THEY START THE LONG DASH TOWARD THE QUEEN'S KINGDOM OF BLUE MAGIC.



AS TWILIGHT SETTLES OVER THE LAND THEY REACH THE INTRANCE TO THE ENCHANTED CITY. THE GATES, CLOSING AS THEY ENTER BODES ILL TO ALL STRANGERS WHO TRESPASS.



FLOYD AND FRIA ARE IMMEDIATELY CARRIED TO A SPACIOUS LABORATORY, WHERE A TECHNICIAN UNDER STRANGE APPARATUS TRIES VAINLY TO SURVIVE THE PAIR BUT ALL STIMULANTS FAIL.


THEY WERE CAST INTO A OXYZONE MACHINE, AN APPARATUS WHICH CAN CONVERT A PERSON INTO A OXYZONE BREATHER, THE GASEOUS AIR BREATHED BY ALL THE PEOPLE ON THE PLANET. AS THE QUEEN DEPARTED SHE SIGHED, "IF AND WHEN THEY SURVIVE, SEND THEM TO MY STUDY."



AFTER HOURS IN THE OXYZONE MACHINE FLOYD-FIRST, IS PLACED UNDER A HUGE RADLETHURM RAY WHICH HEALS ALL WOUND'S. SUDDENLY, THE TECHNICIAN SHOUTS--- "STOP! HE'S-- BREATHING---HE'S ALIVE!"

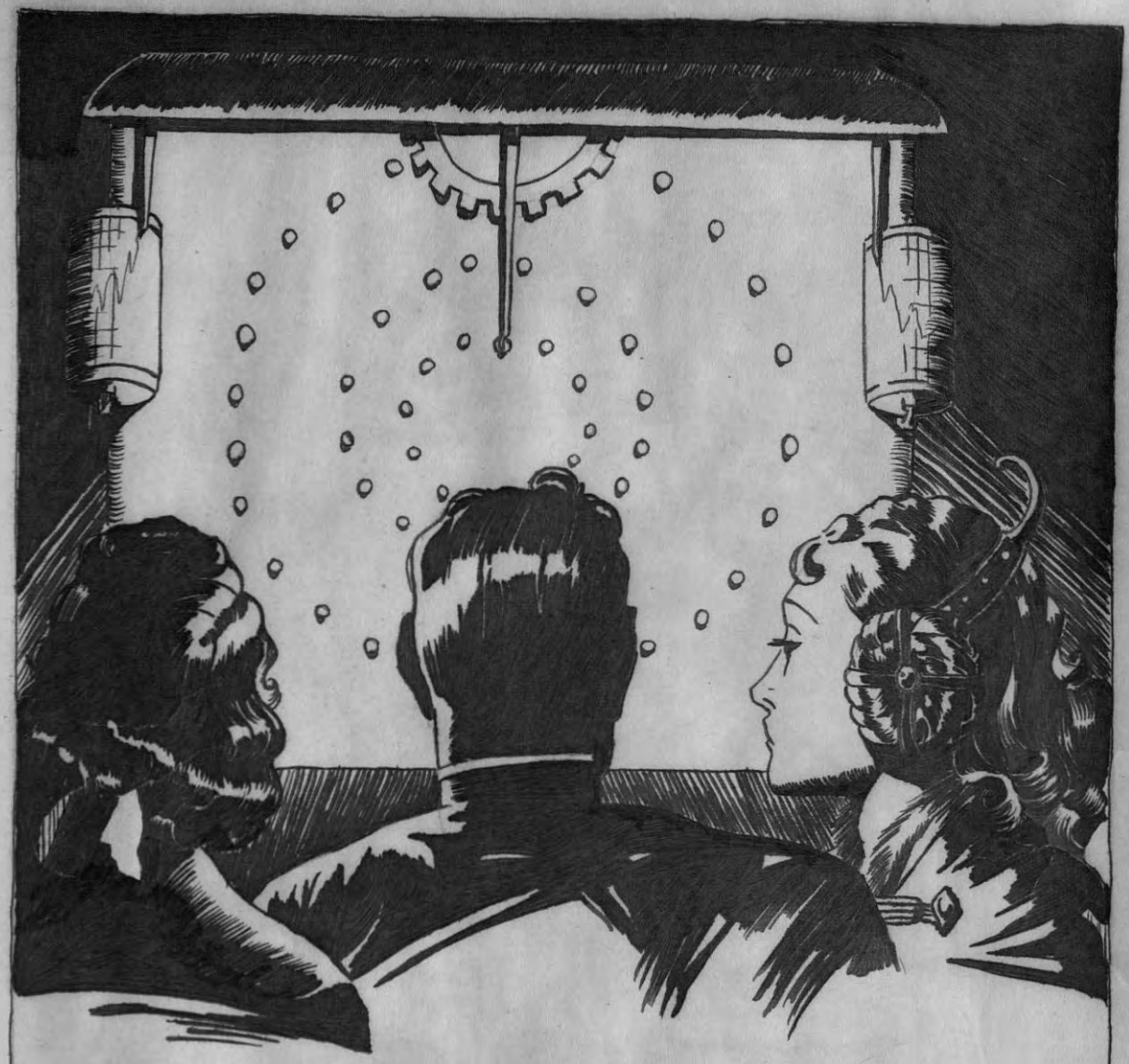
NEXT WEEK: IN THE QUEENS COURT



FLOYD RAYMOND AND FRIA LANG THE TWO EARTH PEOPLE HAVE BEEN SURVIVED BY THE MAGIC QUEEN, TANJA. BUT AS REACHING FOR EACH OTHERS WAITING ARMS TWO ASISTANT'S FLING THEM APART---


SO THE TWO EARTH PEOPLE ARE ALIVE! THE DOCTOR'S HAVE DONE WELL!
--- AND CARRY THEM INTO THE SUMPTUOUS COURT OF QUEEN TANJA.


"YOU ARE ON THE PLANET VULCAN, AND I AM TANJA LE FAY QUEEN OF THE BLACK MAGIC REALM.---YOUR CRAFT, UNDER THE POWER OF MY MAGNET RAY CRASHED NEAR MY KINGDOM WHERE YOU SHALL LIVE FOREVER." "ON ANOTHER PLANET!" CRIES FLOYD, "AND YOU SPEAK ENGLISH TOO!"



FRIGHTENED FRIA AND FLOYD ARE CARRIED TO A LABARTORY, WHERE UPON THE PALAEOLITHIC WALL IS ERECED A WEIRD APPARATUS. "THIS IS A LANGUGRAPH. FROM THE MINUTE MY RAY STRUCK YOU UNTIL YOU CRASHED THIS GRAPH PENCILED EVERY THING YOU SAID. LATER IT WAS TRANSLATED.---BUT COME!"



TANJA LE FAY LED THEM INTO A LUXURIOUS CHAMBER. FROM A GOLDEN FLAGON SHE POURED DRINK INTO DEFTLY FASHIONED GOBLETS. "THE FINEST NECTAR IN THE LAND," SHE SIGHED, "LET'S DRINK TO OUR WEIRD AQUAINTANCE AND FRIENDSHIP."



FLOYD DRANK. THEN EVERY-
THING WENT BLACK--HE BECAME
WEAK, AND WHEN TANJA LE FAY GAVE A
THROATY LAUGH OF MALICE, FLOYD REALIZED
THAT HE HAD BEEN TRICKED.

NEXT WEEK ÷ THE FLAMING AQUARIUS

CARL CORLEY

FLOYD RAYMOND, THE NINETEEN YEAR OLD EARTH YOUTH STILL UNDER THE POWER OF THE WEAKENING DRUG---



--IS STRIPPED OF HIS TORN CLOTHING AND AND IS DRAGGED TO AN UNDERGROUND EDFICE---



---WHERE UPON AN ELEVATED THRONE, TREACHEROUS TANJA LE FAY LOOKED DOWN UPON A PLACID POOL SURRONDED BY LETHAL FLAME.


FLOYD, TO WEAK TO STAND SINKS TO HIS KNEE'S AND SCREAMS IN AGONY AND FRIGHT AS A GUARD ROUGHLY STRAPS A TRANSPARENT GLOBE ABOUT HIS SHOULDER'S.
45



THEY HANDED FLOYD A SMALL DAGGER AND WITHOUT A MOMENTS HESITATION SLUNG HIM INTO THE DEADLY LAGOON.

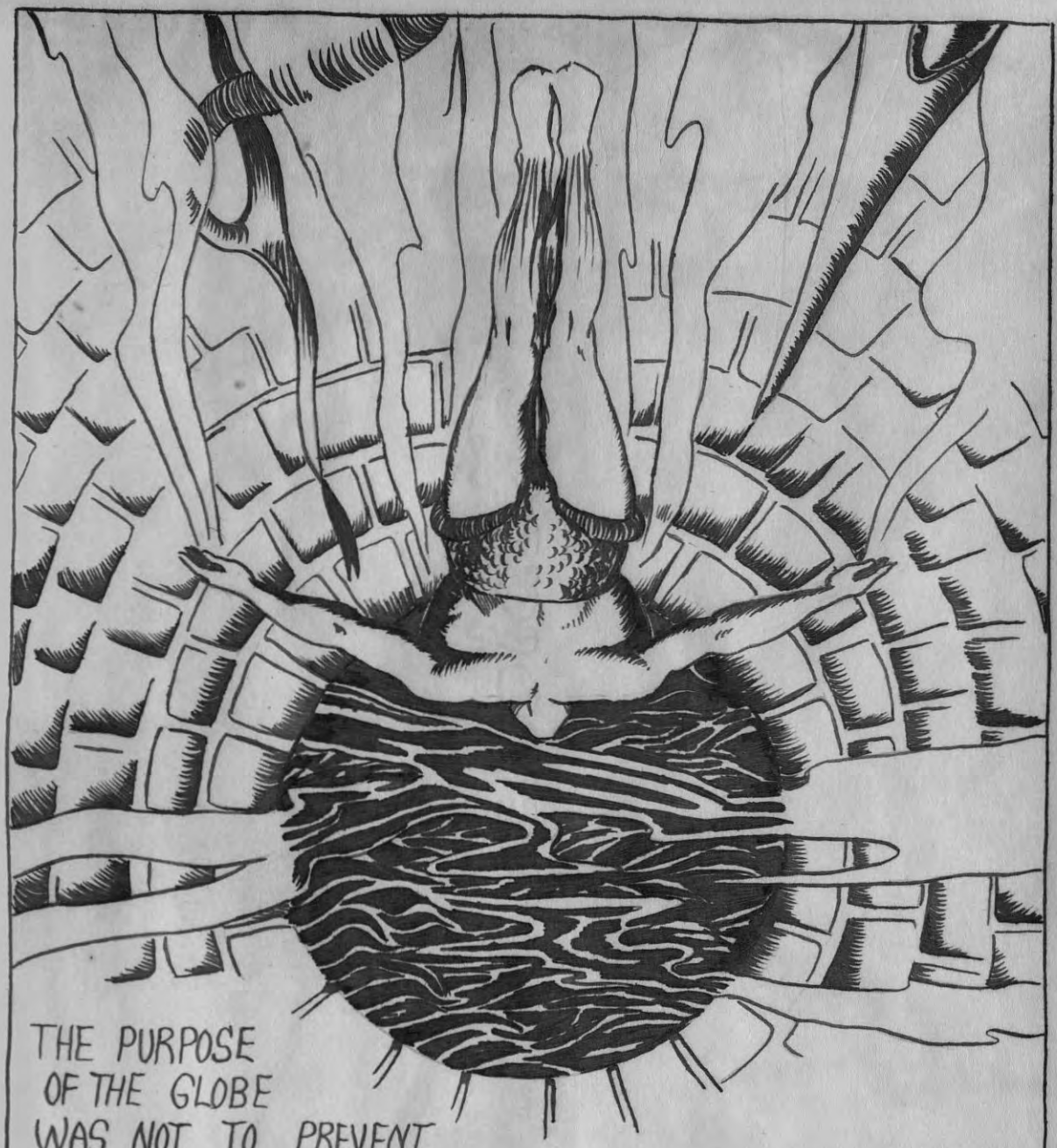


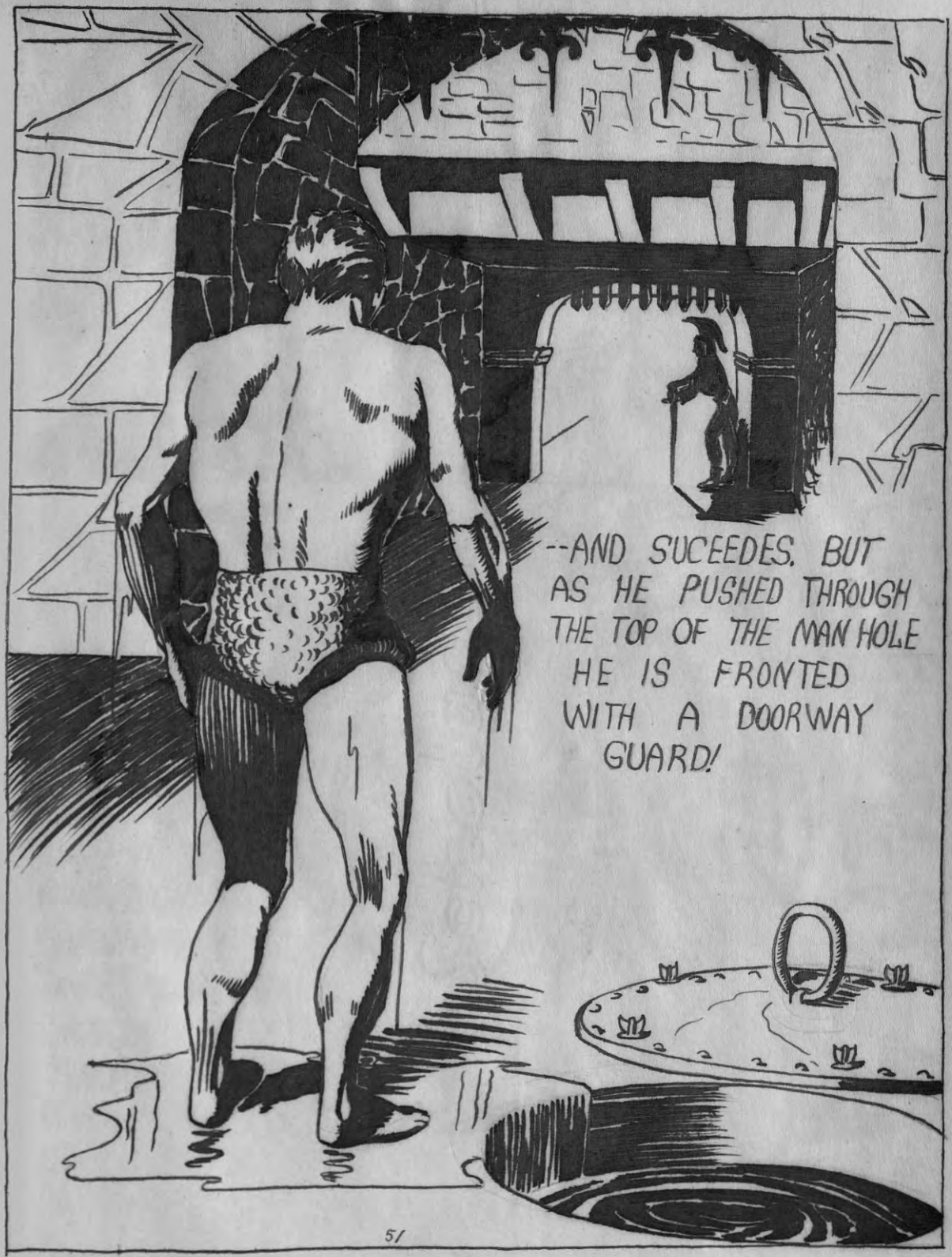
--WHERE A GIGANTIC FISH BREAKS WATER---THEN WITH LIGHTENING SPEED CHARGES FLOYD, WHO SCREAMS IN AGONY AND PAIN AS THE FLASHING TALONS STRIKE!



NEXT WEEK ÷ A MIRACLE HAPPENS

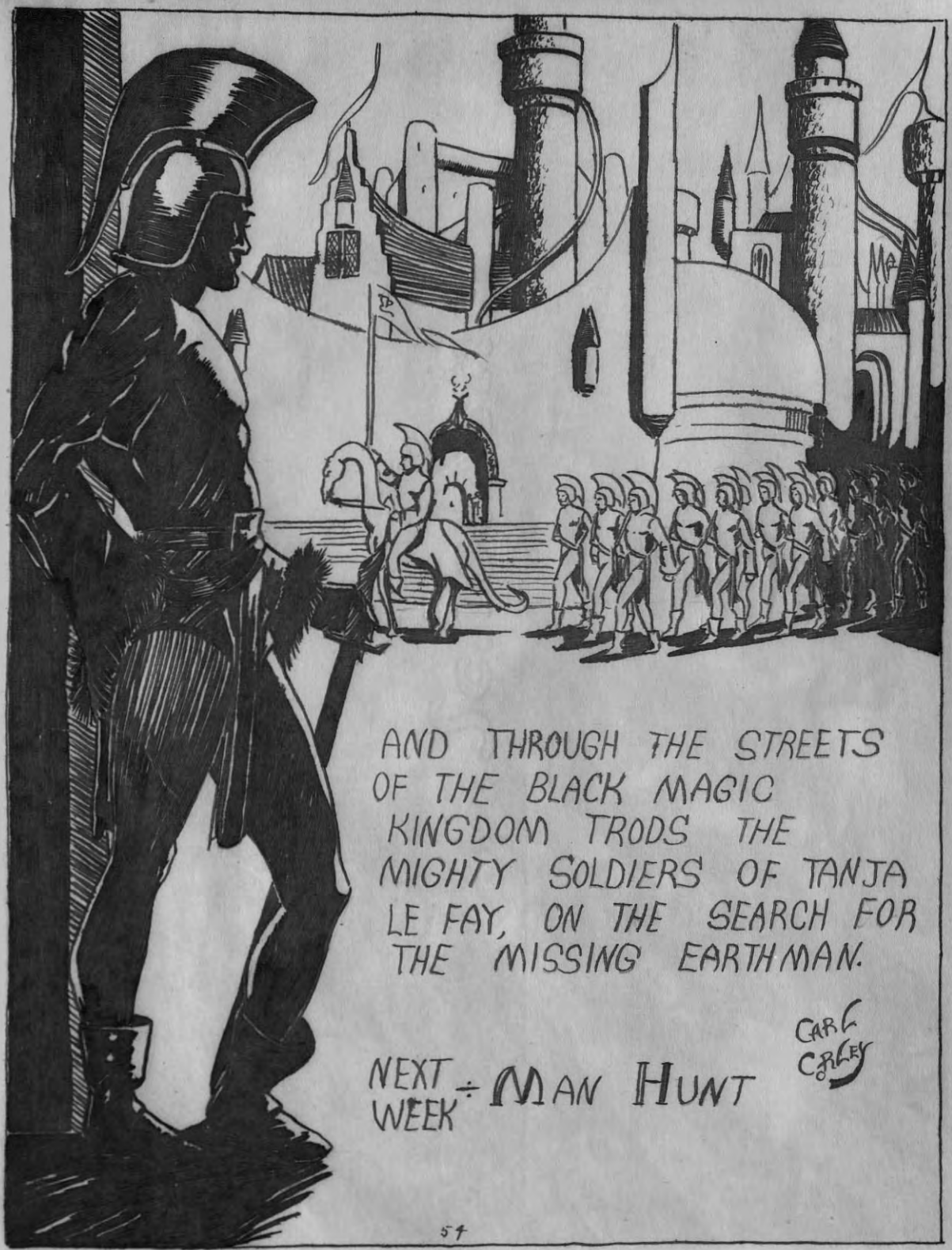

THE SEA MONSTER ONLY GASHING FLOYD'S THIGH, TURNS AND CHARGES AGAIN- CRASHING THE GLASS GLOBE ABOUT HIS SHOULDERS. THEN A MIRACLE HAPPENS- FLOYD REGAINS HIS STRENGTH--.


THE PURPOSE
OF THE GLOBE
WAS NOT TO PREVENT
DROWNING, BUT TO KEEP THE WATER FROM HIS
HEAD WHICH KILLS THE DRUG:--FLOYD BY DIVING
WITH ALL HIS STRENGTH TRIES A DARING ESCAPE
THROUGH THE POOL'S MANHOLE---


--AND SUCEEDES. BUT AS HE PUSHED THROUGH THE TOP OF THE MAN HOLE HE IS FRONTED WITH A DOORWAY GUARD!


TANJA LE FAY EXPECTING TO FIND FLOYD DEAD FROM WOUNDS OF THE SEA MONSTER HAS THE WATER DRAWN OUT OF THE POOL AND THE FLAME SHUT OFF.
THEN A GUARD SHOUTS, "YOUR HIGHNESS--THE EARTH MAN IS GONE!"
"GONE", WHISPERS TANJA LE FAY. "IMPOSSIBLE!"


BELIEVING THAT FRIA KNOWS THE WHEREABOUTS OF FLOYD, TANJA LE FAY TRIES TO WREST THE IMFORMATION FROM HER BY THE USE OF TORTURE.
53


AND THROUGH THE STREETS OF THE BLACK MAGIC KINGDOM TRODS THE MIGHTY SOLDIERS OF TANJA LE FAY, ON THE SEARCH FOR THE MISSING EARTHMAN.
CARL CARLEY
NEXT WEEK ÷ MAN HUNT

FLOYD RAYMOND ON EMERGING FROM THE DEADLY LAGOON IS FRONTED WITH AN OFFICER, AND WITH ACCURATE SKILL WAYLAYS HIM--




--AND TAKING THE OFFICERS CLOTHES, FLOYD DARTS THROUGH THE PALACE ON THE SEARCH FOR FRIA LANG
ORIGINAL
56



FLOYD'S FREEDOM IS SHORT LIVED, FOR AS HE APROACHES AN ARCH WAY HE IS QUIETLY SEIZED---



--AND FLUNG INTO A STYGIAN DUNGEON WHERE HE WAS TAUGHT OBEDIENCE AT THE END OF A VIOLANT WHIP.

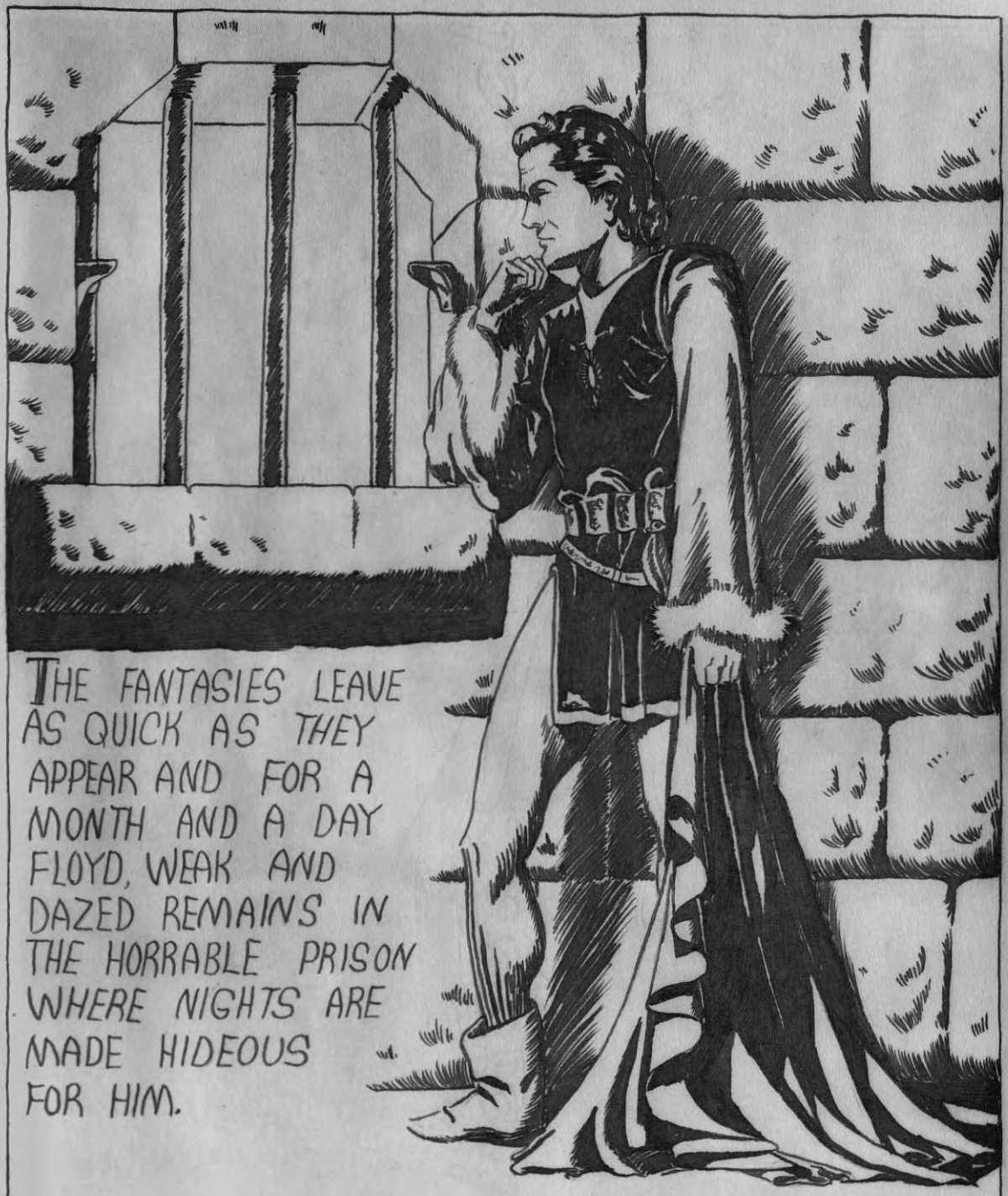


TANJA LE FAY SETS TO WORK ON HER BLACK MAGIC IN ORDER TO FRIGHTEN THE YOUTHFUL FLOYD INTO RECONISING HER POWER.



AND AT MIDNIGHT; INTO FLOYD'S DUNGEON COMES WIERD ILLUSIONS COUGHED UP FROM THE MUNGWYN HALF-WORLD BY TANJA LE FAY'S BLACK MAGIC.

NEXT WEEK ÷ HOME SICK


THE FANTASIES LEAVE AS QUICK AS THEY APPEAR AND FOR A MONTH AND A DAY FLOYD, WEAK AND DAZED REMAINS IN THE HORRABLE PRISON WHERE NIGHTS ARE MADE HIDEOUS FOR HIM.



FRIA ALSO IS CAST INTO A DUNGEON OVER FLOYDS WHERE SHE IS EVER HAUNTED BY THE NIGHTMARE ILLUSIONS BY TANJA LE FAY.



DAYS CONTINUE TO PASS – AND FLOYD FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE HE HAD BEEN MAROONED ON THE STRANGE PLANET REALIZES THAT HE MAY NEVER SEE HIS HOME AGAIN AND FLINGING HIMSELF ON THE BED SOBS OUT HIS HEART BREAK.



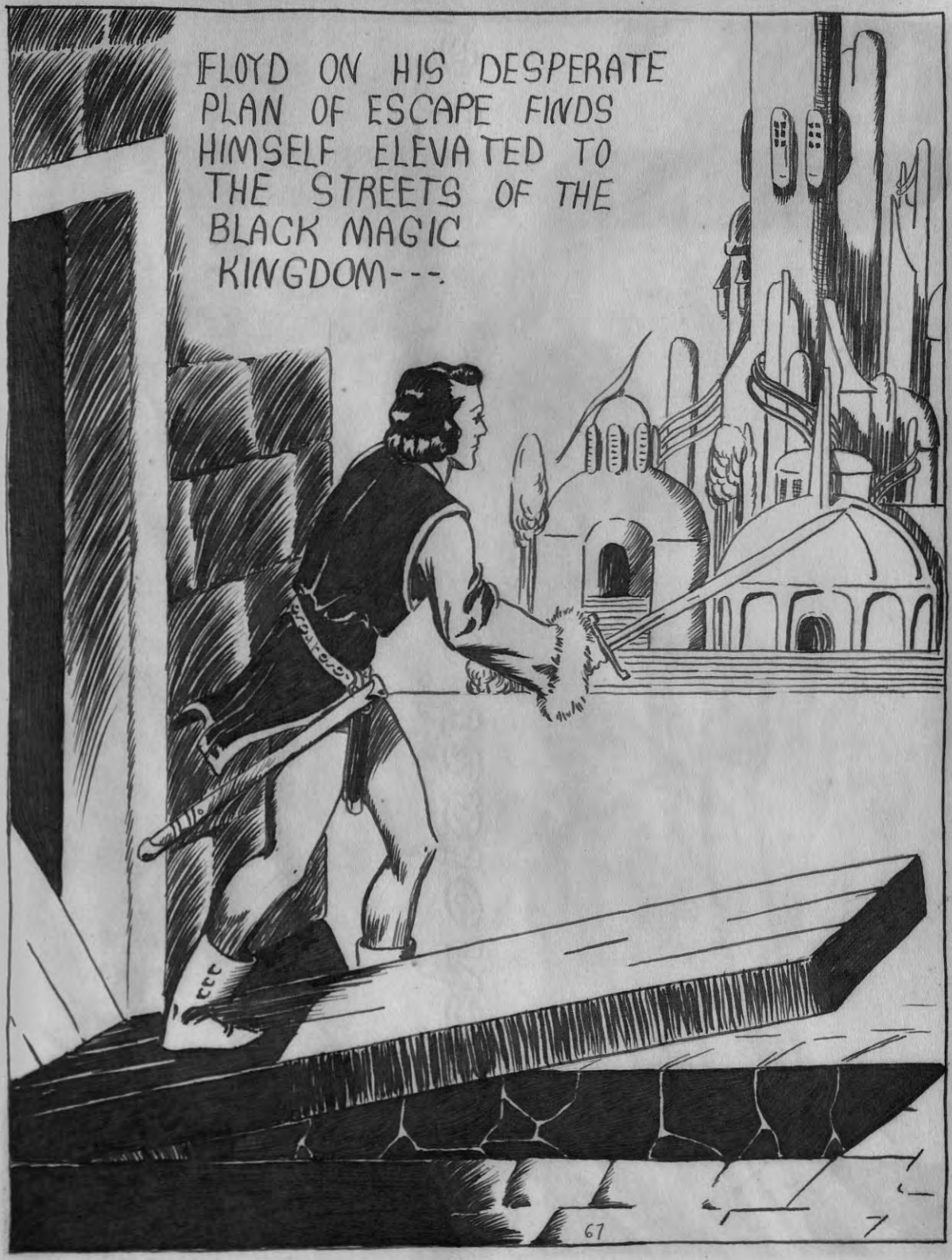
FLOYDS HOME-
SICKNESS IS
OVER COME WHEN
A PLAN STRICKS
HIS MIND AS
HE SEES HIS
LONG SHAGGY
HAIR THROUGH
A BRIGHT TRAY.
IN ORDER TO
WORK HIS PLAN
FLOYD BRIBES
THE KITCHEN
SERVANT OF
HIS CARVING SCISSORS.


WITH ONLY A PAIR OF KITCHEN SCISSORS AND A SHINY TRAY FOR A MIRROR---
---FLOYD FASHIONS HIS HAIR THE STYLE OF THE MUNGWYNS IN ORDER TO CARRY OUT HIS BOLD PLAN OF ESCAPE.--- AND DOES REMARKABLY WELL!



WHEN THE REVOLVING DOOR IS RAISED TO ADMIT THE SERVANT WITH THE USUAL SOUP AND NECTAR---FLOYD RIDES THE DOOR TO HIS ESCAPE!

NEXT WEEK ÷ LETHAL-DISSOLVE GUNS:


FLOYD ON HIS DESPERATE PLAN OF ESCAPE FINDS HIMSELF ELEVATED TO THE STREETS OF THE BLACK MAGIC KINGDOM---.
67
7

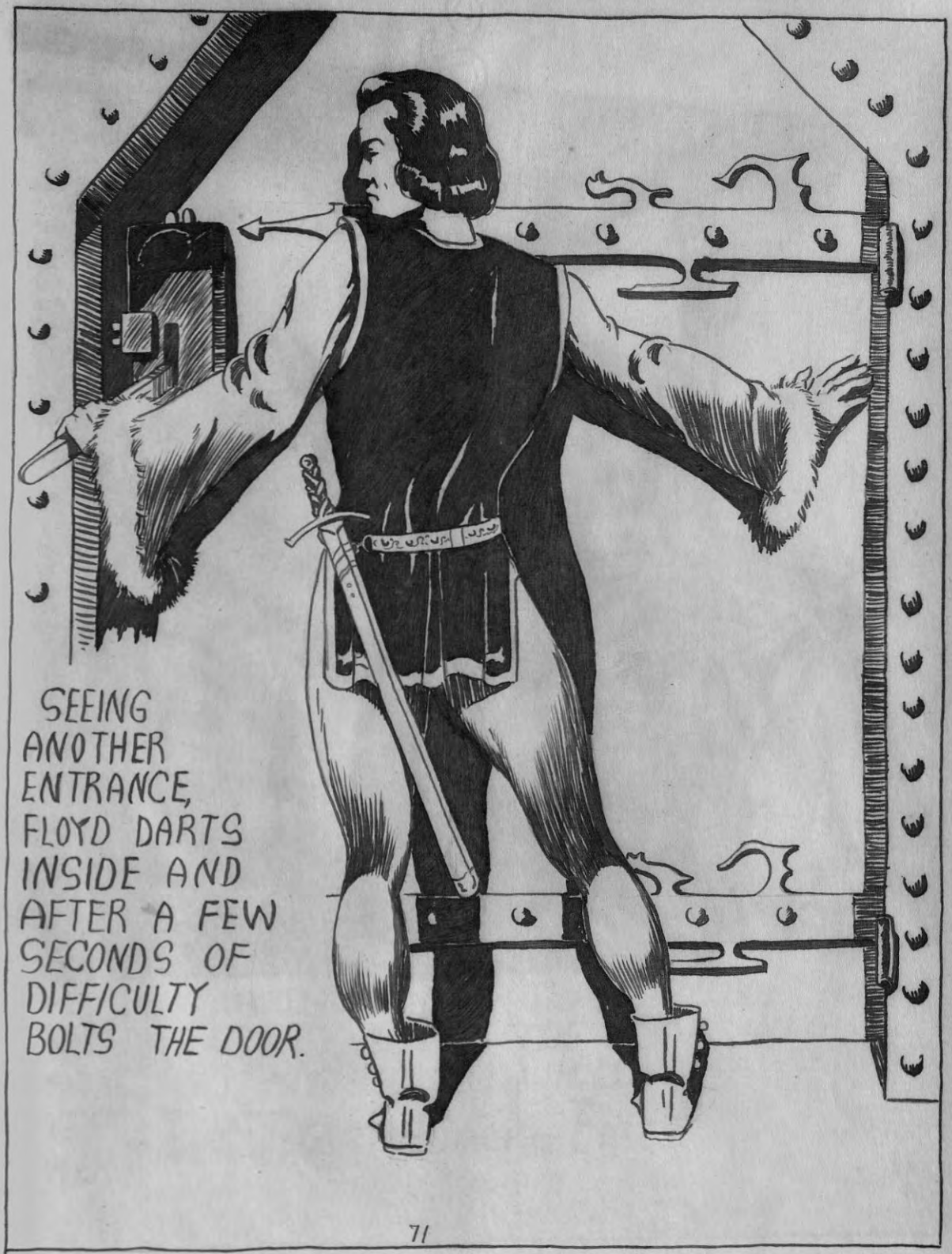

THE SERVANT REPORTS TO THE QUEEN OF FLOYD'S ESCAPE.
"YOU BLUNDERING FOOL", SHE CRIES, "GUARDS! TURN ON ALL THE ELECTRO RAYS AT ALL DOORS AND GATES LEADING OUT OF THE CITY."--- ARREST OR KILL EVERY STRANGER YOU SEE!"



FLOYD--- SEARCHING DESPERATLY FOR FRIA HUNTS AN AVENUE OF ESCAPE THROUGH A QUEER DOOR-BUT IS CHECKED WITH HIS SWORD FROM A BLINDING BEAM. MISSING ELECTROCUTION BY INCHES.



THE BEAM COMPLETING ITS CIRCUIT SENDS OUT AN ALARM BRINGING A HORDE OF INVADER GUARDS.---FLOYD THANKING HIS FATE, CREEPS AROUND THROUGH THE DOOR--- FOILING THE BEAM.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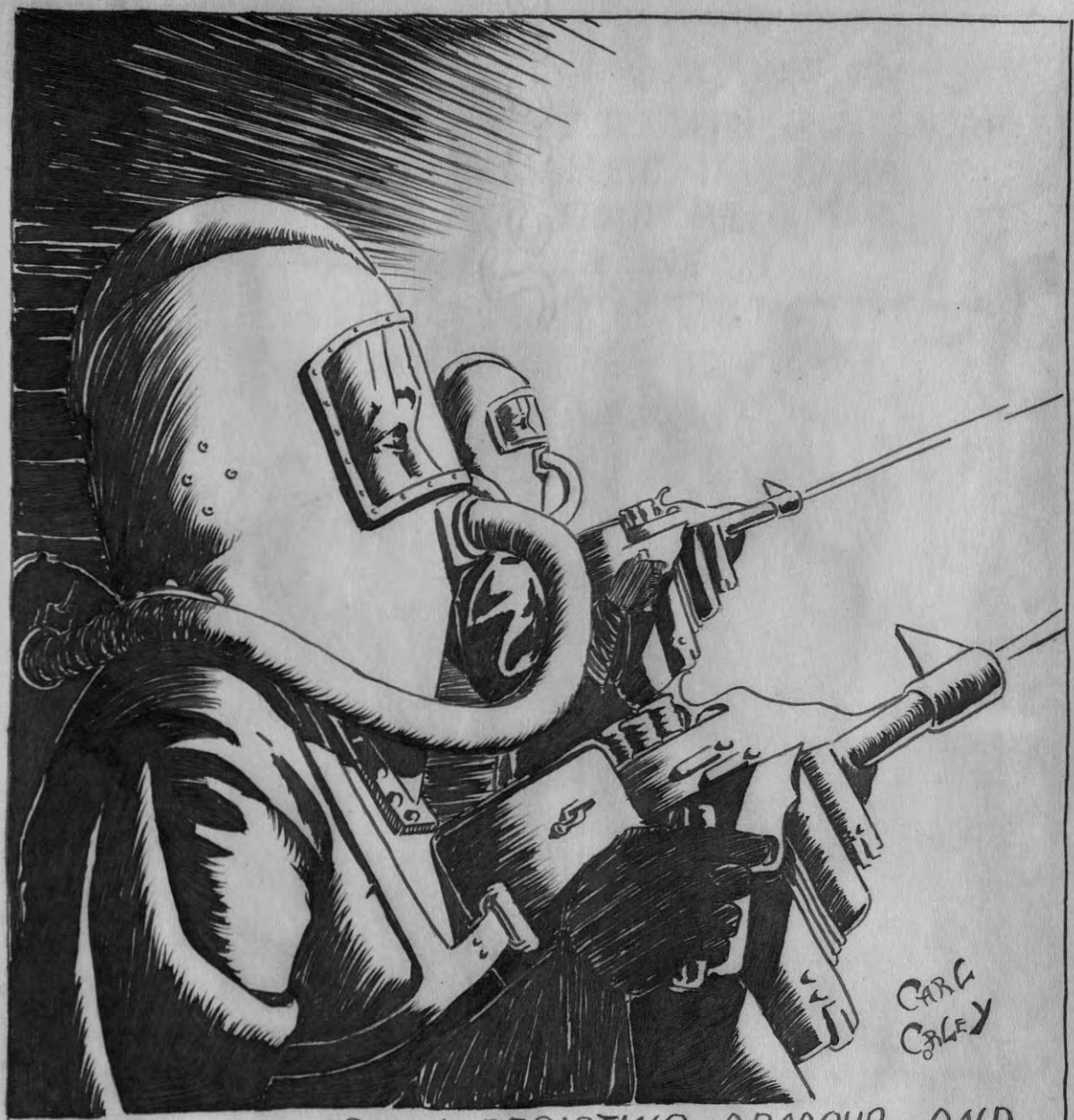
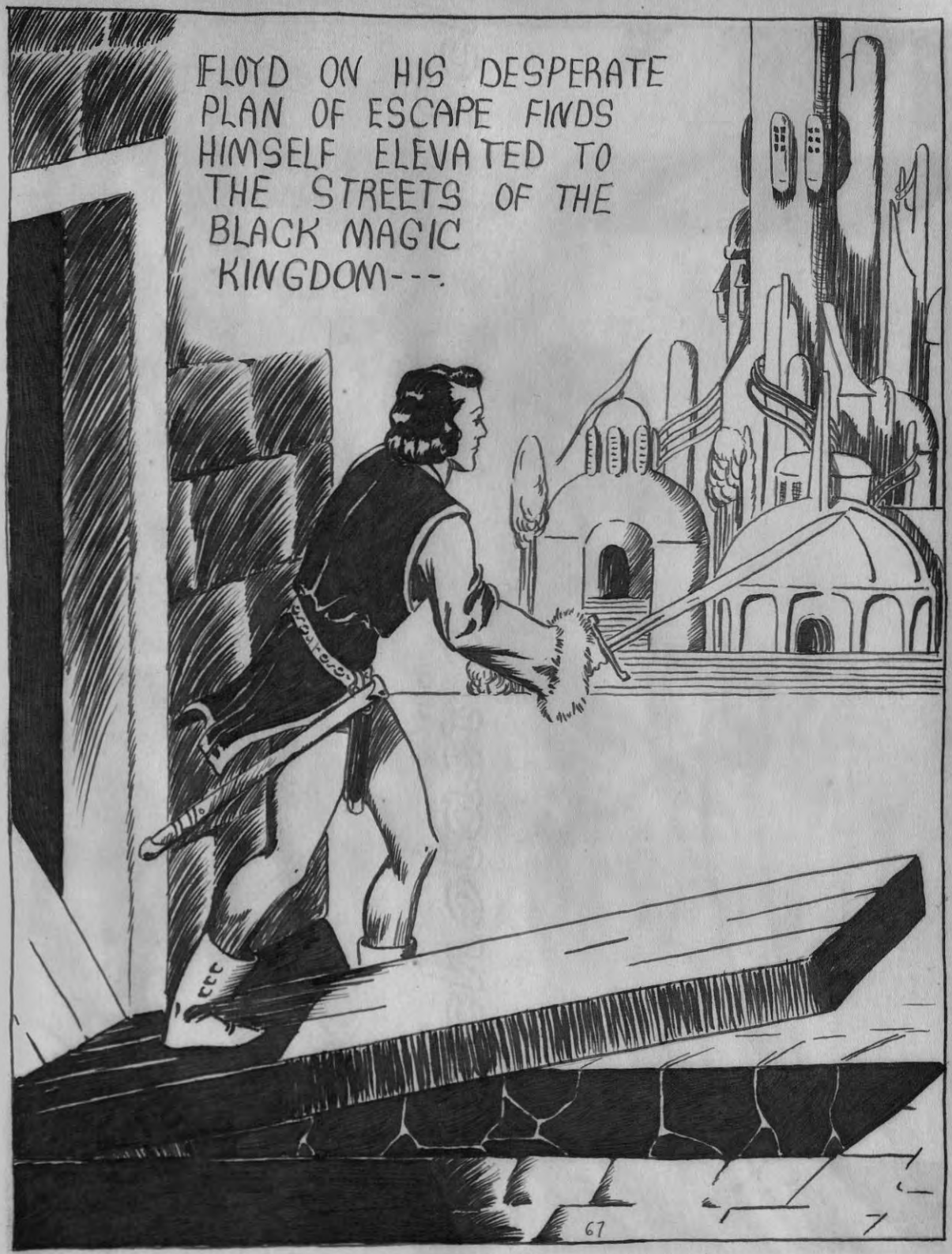


BUT THE GUARDS IN RESISTING ARMOUR AND DESSOLVE-GUNS BLAST THE DOOR INTO A MASS OF BOILING LIQUID.

NEXT WEEK ÷ THE BLAST BACK-FIRES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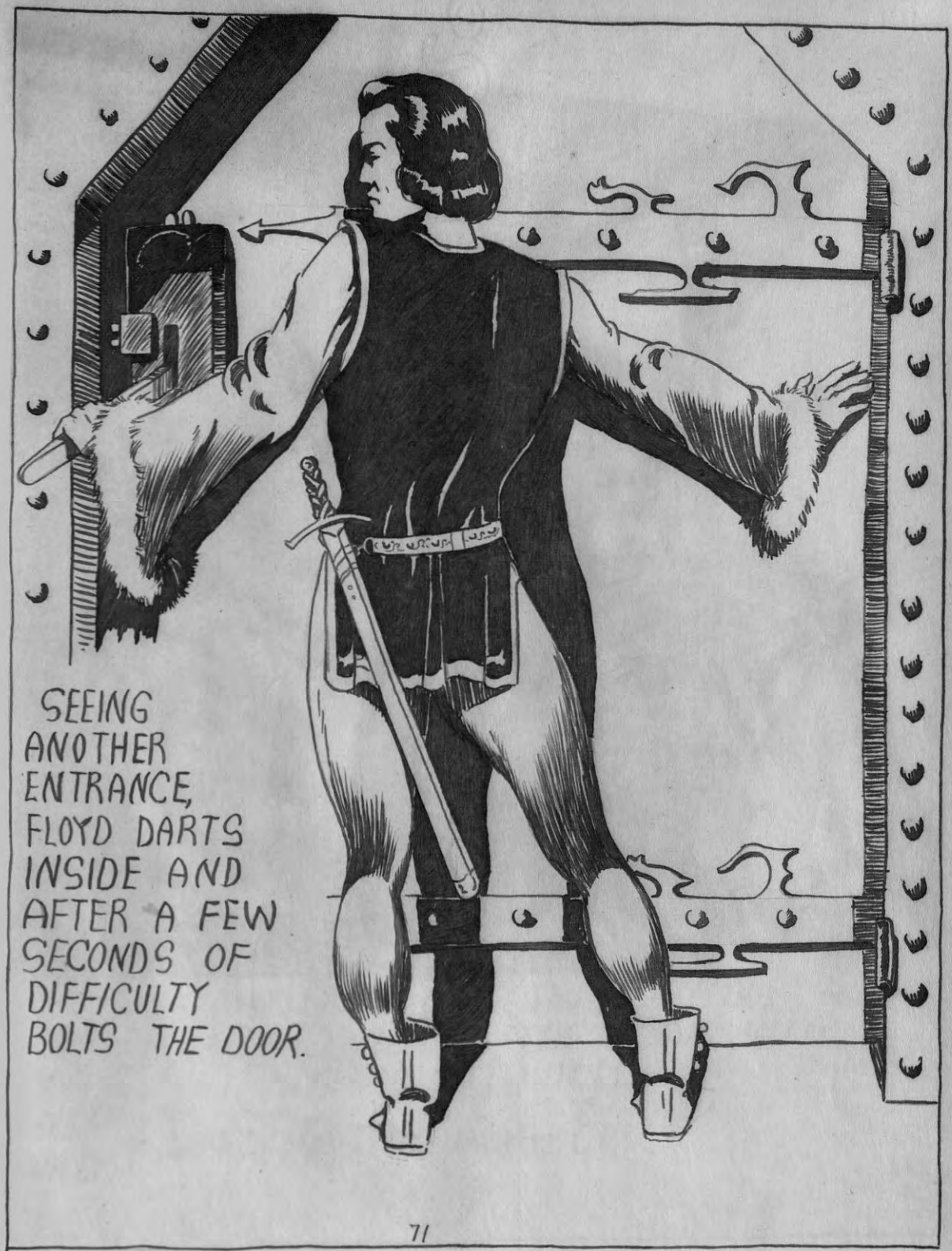
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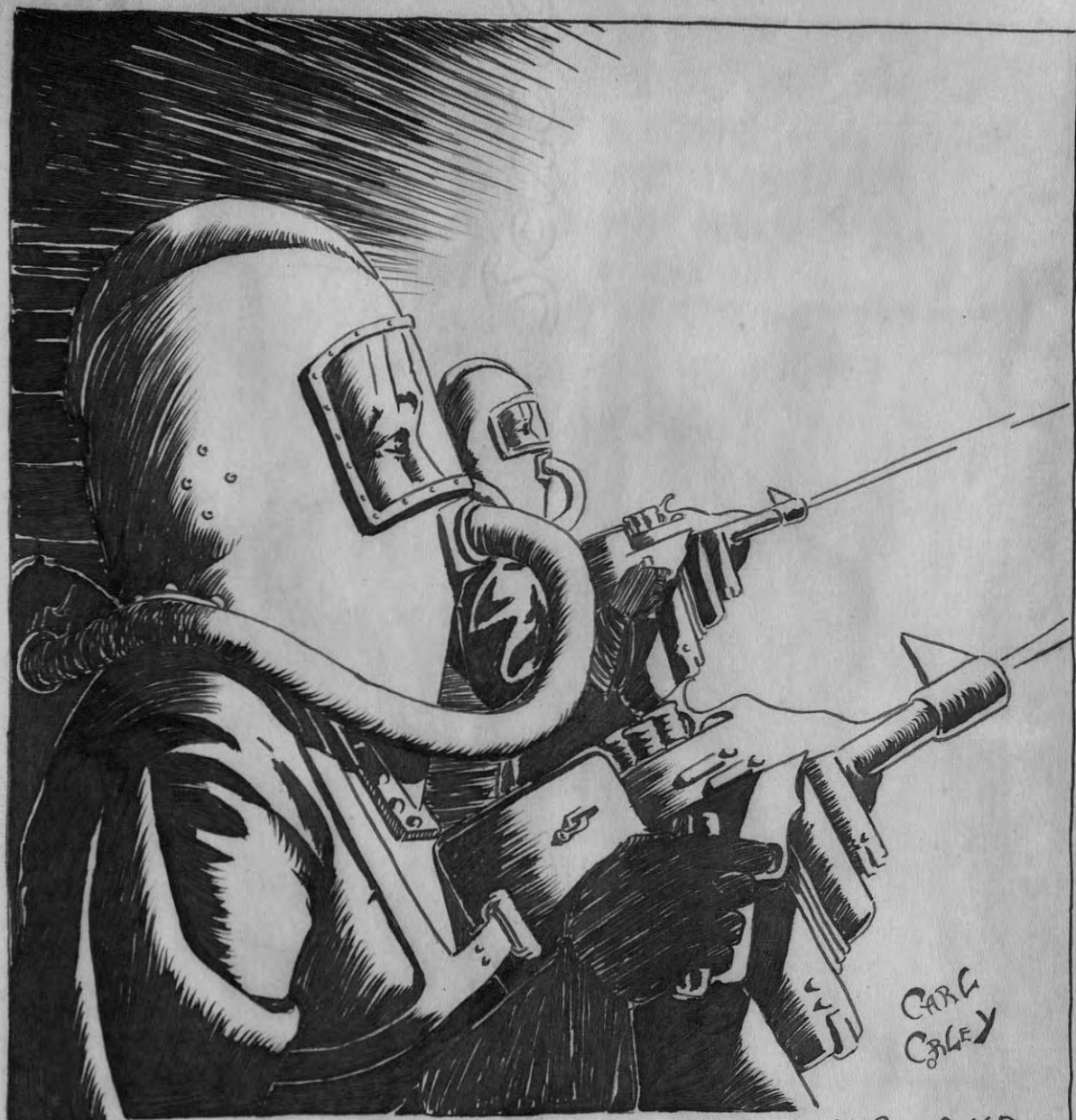

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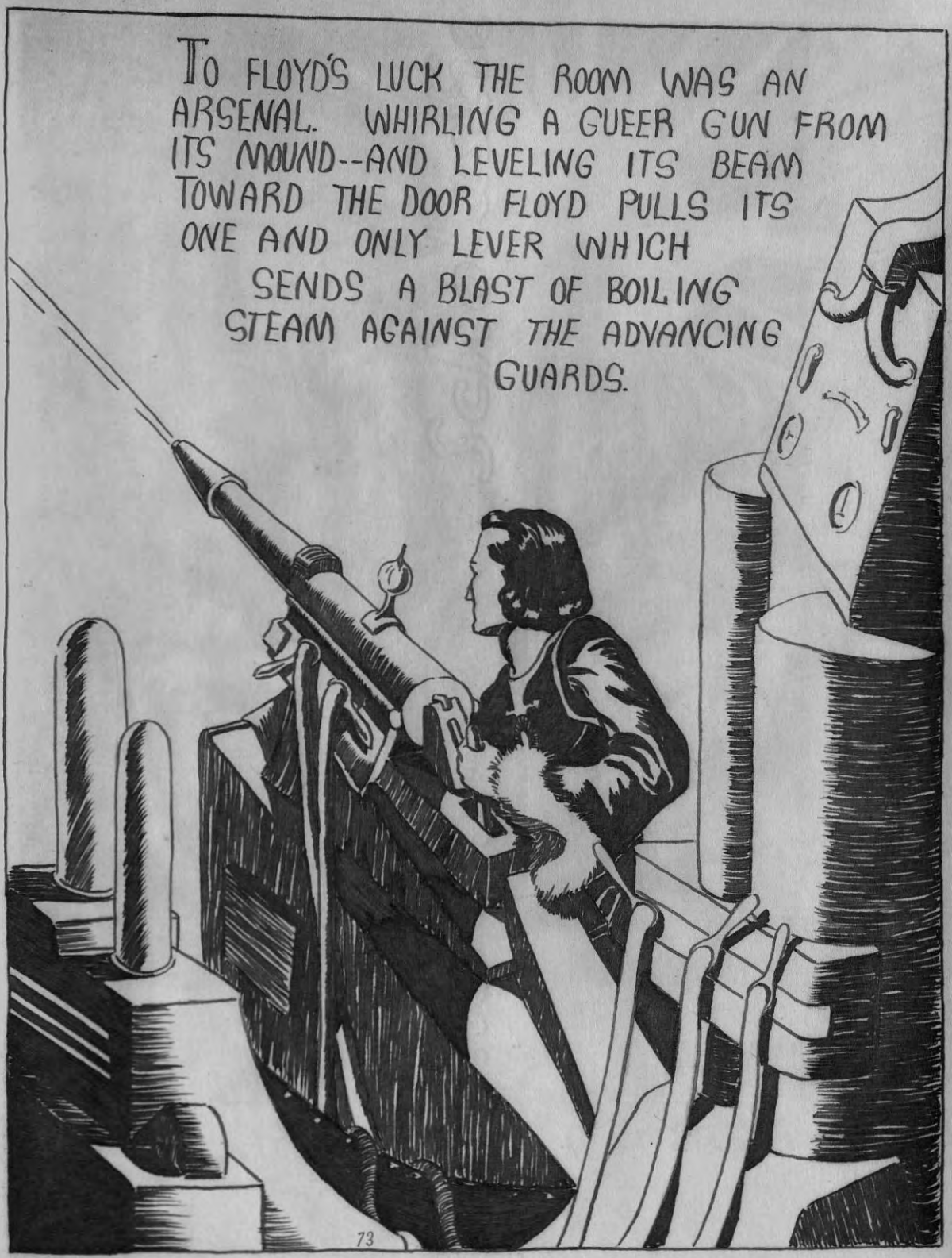

TO FLOYD'S LUCK THE ROOM WAS AN ARSENAL. WHIRLING A QUEER GUN FROM ITS MOUND--AND LEVELING ITS BEAM TOWARD THE DOOR FLOYD PULLS ITS ONE AND ONLY LEVER WHICH SENDS A BLAST OF BOILING STEAM AGAINST THE ADVANCING GUARDS.
73


THE GASEOUS STEAM DROPS THE GUARDS LIKE TIN-PINS
CAUSING A HORRIBLE DEATH OF MOLTEN METAL AND SCALDED BODIES.


BUT THERE ARE SURVIVORS---AND FLOYD---
-DARTS AROUND THE CORNER INTO A WEIRD DINING BAZAAR.
75


FLOYD BUYS A MUCH NEEDED MEAL FROM THE MERCHANT AND ENDS IT BY SAYING,--"CHARGE IT TO THE CAPTAIN?

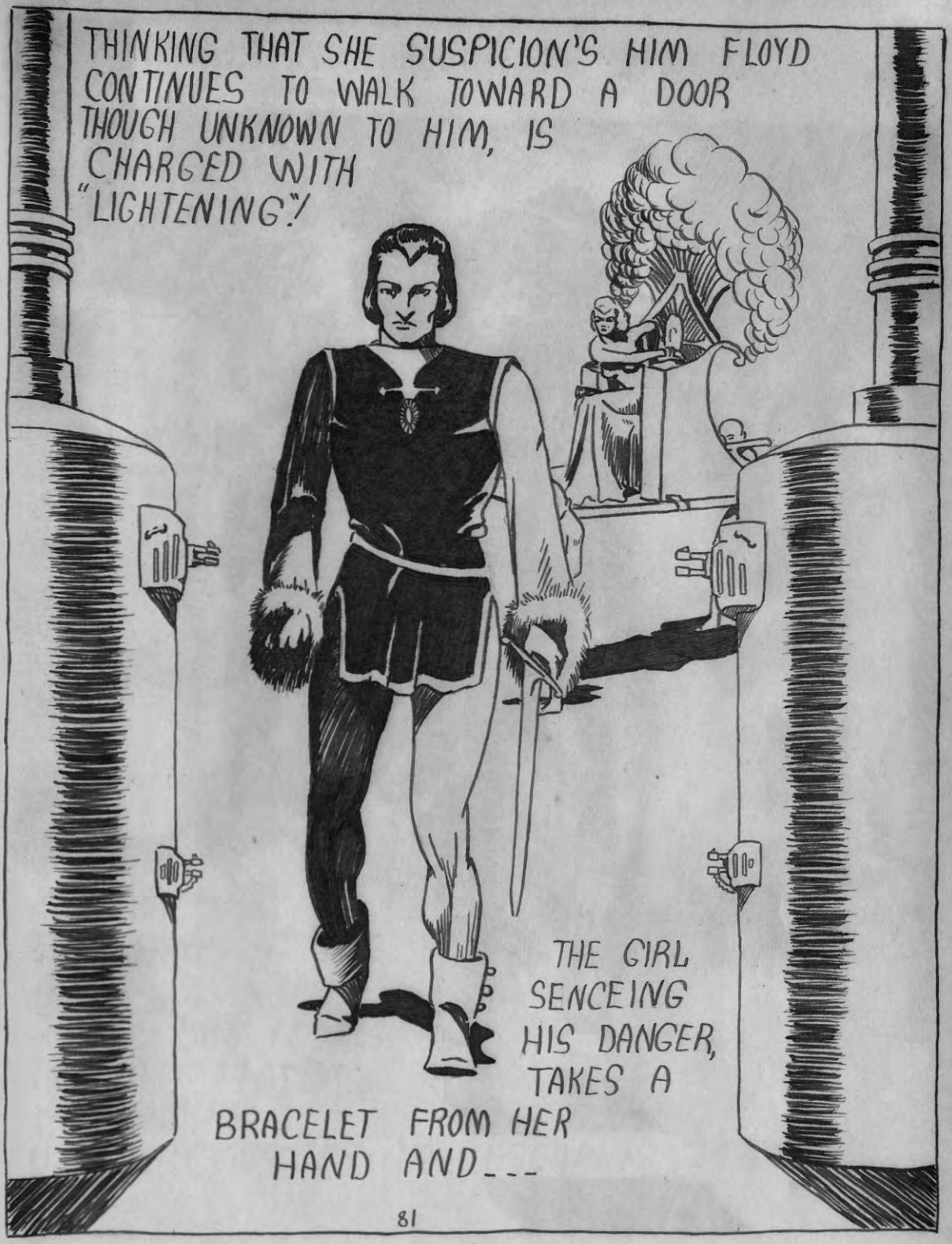

AS FLOYD DASHES OUT THE SIDE ENTRANCE THE CAPTAIN APPEARS ON THE SEARCH FOR HIM.
"YES, A DARK HAIRED YOUTH BOUGHT A MEAL HERE HE PROMISED YOU'D PAY."
YOU OUGHT TO BE FLOGGED FOR THIS, YOU FOOL! THAT WAS THE EARTH MAN!



NEXT WEEK ÷ FLOYD FINDS A FRIEND


AS THE CAPTAIN APPROACHES HE MISTAKES FLOYD FOR A GUARD, "HO! GUARD, HAVE YOU SEEN THE ESCAPED EARTH YOUTH?"
"YES," LIES FLOYD "HE HAS BEEN CAPTURED AND SENT TO THE PALACE OF JUSTICE FOR QUESTIONING."


THE CAPTAIN RIDES AWAY, AS FLOYD SMILES WITH RELIEF---AND AT THE SAME TIME, SEATED UPON A LITTER A BEAUTIFUL GIRL WATCHES HIM AFFECTINGLY.


THINKING THAT SHE SUSPICION'S HIM FLOYD CONTINUES TO WALK TOWARD A DOOR THOUGH UNKNOWN TO HIM, IS CHARGED WITH "LIGHTENING"!
THE GIRL SENCEING HIS DANGER, TAKES A BRACELET FROM HER HAND AND---


---THROWS IT THROUGH THE OPENING---
--CONTRACTING THE BEAM, IN ORDER TO WARN FLOYD. BUT IT WAS TO LATE, FLOYD IS KNOCKED UNCONSCIOUS BY IT'S ESCAPING BLAST.


THE EXOTIC GIRL HAS FLOYD CARRIED TO A REMOTE TOWER OF THE CITY, WHERE SHE HIRES A SKILLED TECHNICIAN TO TREAT FLOYD WITH A LIGHTRO HYPODERMIC.


AS FLOYD GAINS CONSCIOUS, HE STARTLES IN AMAZEMENT, "WHERE AM I?--WHO ARE YOU?"
"MY NAME IS FELICIA!" SHE SAID "YOU ARE WELCOME TO MY HOMELY THRONG."
CARL CARLEY
NEXT WEEK ÷ THE UNEXPECTED


FLOYD FINDS A FRIEND IN FELICIA, A LADY OF THE QUEENS COURT.
"ARE YOU SOME BRAVE HERO DISGUISED AS A GUARD?" SHE QUESTIONS, "OR A NOBLE FIGURE TRYING TO DISCLOSE HIS IDENTITY. THE QUEEN WILL BE PROUD TO---
--MEET SUCH A SPECIMAN."


FELICIA GOES THE LIMIT TO DRESS FLOYD PROPERLY IN ORDER TO MEET THE QUEEN. AND FLOYD, HOPING FOR THE BEST, FREEZES AS THE SERVANT WHO ATTENDS HIM SAYS, "I KNOW WHO YOU ARE! YOU ARE THE EARTH MAN. THE QUEEN WILL AWARD ME FOR YOUR CAPTURE."
86

"YOU'L NEVER HAVE THE CHANCE TO TELL YOUR QUEEN." CRIES FLOYD, AND DRAGGING HIM TO A NEAR BY STORE ROOM OF THE QUEEN HE BINDS THE MEDDLING CHURL.




FLOYD RESUMES HIS POSITION AND STARTS WITH THE WOEFUL FELICIA TO THE QUEEN'S PALACE, BUT A GUARD WHO OVERHEARD THE STRUGGLE FOLLOWS---

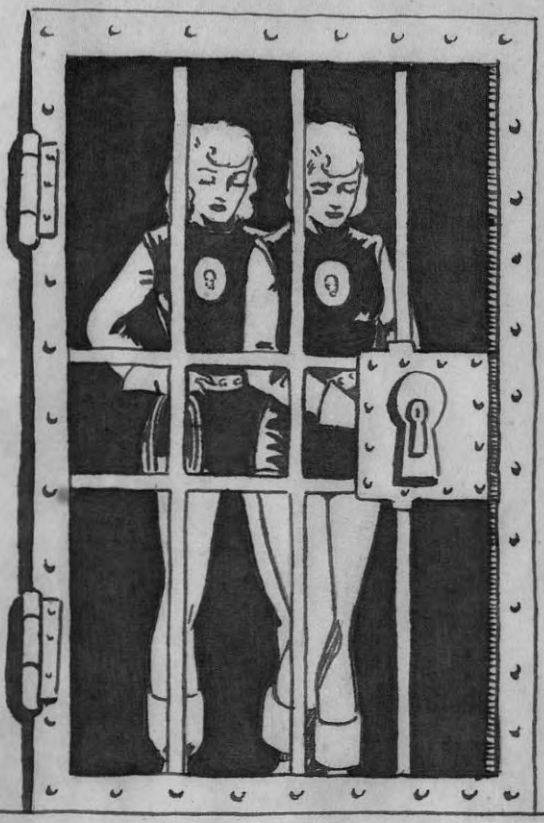
AND AT THE DESIRED TIME LEAPS AT THE STALWART FLOYD,-- BUT FELICIA, QUICK AS A FRIGHTENED CAT, DRAWS A QUEER WEAPON FROM HER DRESS AND DROPS THE GRUELSOME GUARD.





NEXT WEEK ÷ COOKING WITH LIGHTENING





BENEATH THE STYGIAN STREETS OF THE BLACK MAGIC KINGDOM--FRIA, DESPERATE, REMAINS IN HER PRISON. THEN FINALLY TWO JAIL ATTENDANTS UNLOCK HER CELL DOOR.


THEY ROUGHLY CAST OFF FRIA'S CLOTHES AND HAND HER A STRANGE GARB. AS FRIA NERVOUSLY DRESSES ONE ATTENDANT SNARLS, "THAT BEAUTY OF YOURS WILL SOON FADE WHEN WE PUT YOU THROUGH YOUR TASKS!"
92



FRIA IS CARRIED INTO A SPACIOUS EDIFICE WHERE THE ATTENDANT SAYS, "THIS IS OUR KITCHEN, OUR POWER IS CONSTRUCTED OF RAY-TRODE LIGHTNING MIXED WITH OXZONE WHICH HELPS TO COMPLETE THIS WEIRD CIRCUIT. YOU HAVE MUCH TO LEARN."

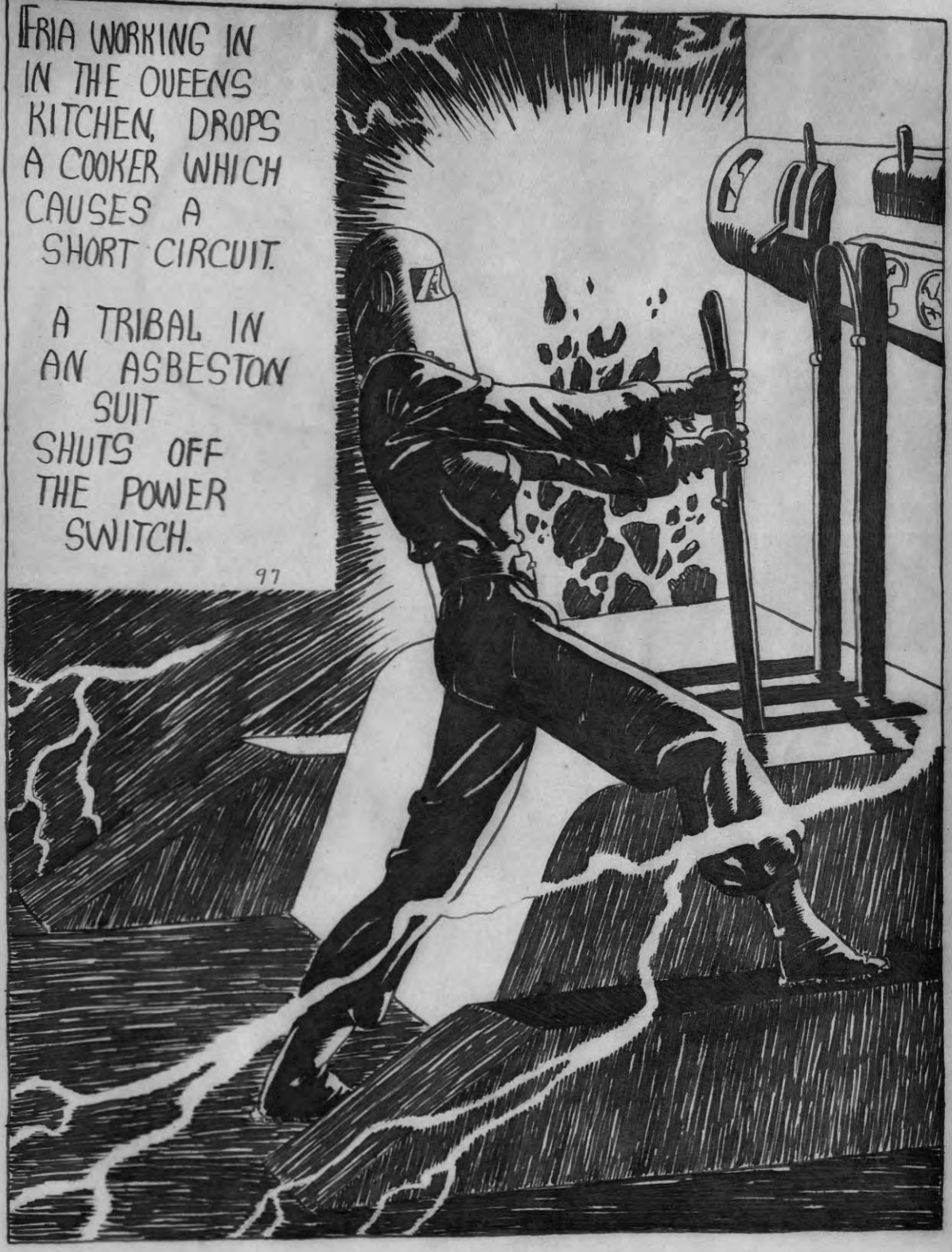

THEN SHE ORDERS, "CARRY THESE COOKERS TO YONDER TABLE, AND MIND YOU DON'T DROP THEM ITS DANGEOUS!"


FRIA TRIES VAINLY
TO CARRY OUT THE ATTENDANT'S
ORDERS, BUT NERVOUSLY
SHE TRIPS ON THE
COOKERS POWER CORD
AND FALLS.



THIS CAUSED A DEADLY SHORT CIRCUIT. IT WAS NO LONGER A KITCHEN OF COOKING BUT AN ELECTRICAL TRAP--A ROOM OF DOOM!

NEXT WEEK ÷ FRIA'S MISTAKE


FRIA WORKING IN IN THE QUEENS KITCHEN, DROPS A COOKER WHICH CAUSES A SHORT CIRCUIT.
A TRIBAL IN AN ASBESTON SUIT SHUTS OFF THE POWER SWITCH.
97



AND FRIA LIES VICTIM TO A WICKED WHIP.
"NOW ASSIGN THIS WITCH TO SOME OTHER TASK," COMMANDED THE ATTENDANT, "BEFORE SHE HAS US ALL KILLED!"


FRIA IS PLACED IN THE QUEEN'S BREWERY TO SERVE AS A SLAVE. INSIDE SHE FINDS THE CHURL THAT FLOYD A SHORT TIME AGO HAD TIED UP. HIS GAG LOOSE HE SHOUTS, "HO--MAID! UNTIE MY BONDS."
99


FRIA INNOCENT, OBEYS. "NOW THAT I HAVE FREED YOU," SHE SOBS "TELL ME---THE MAN THAT THE QUEEN CAPTURED A SHORT TIME AGO, IS HE ALIVE?"
"HE IS ALIVE AND WELL. I SHALL TAKE YOU TO SEE HIM, WHEN WE SERVE OUR GRACIOUS QUEEN."
100


MEANWHILE IN THE QUEEN'S PALACE.
"WHY DO YOU COME UNANNOUNCED INTO MY PALACE"?
"I BRING A NOBLE COUNT FROM SOME DISTANT LAND." LIES FELICIA.
"HE IS HANDSOME COUNT LUCHON. HE MUST STAY"

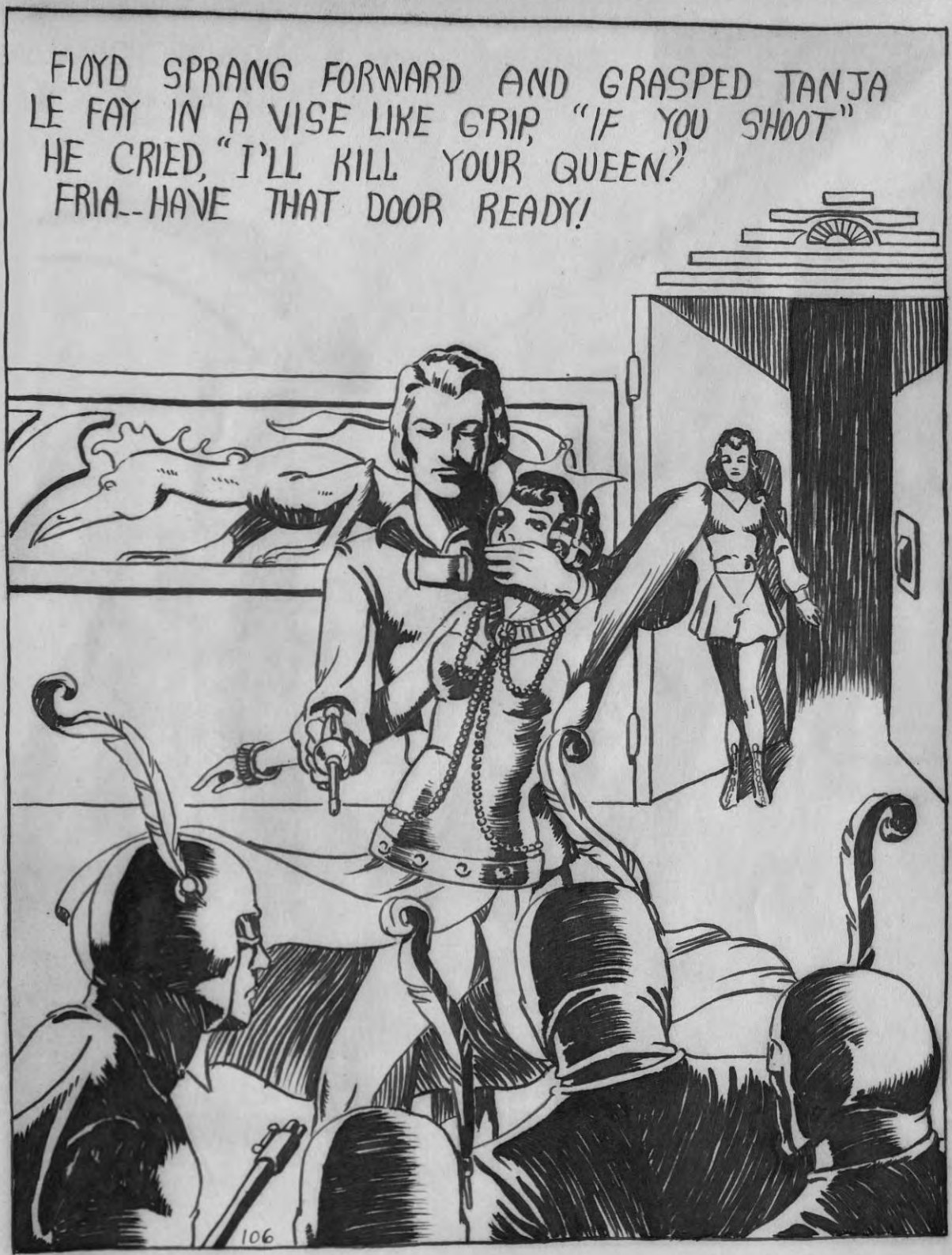

AND FLOYD REVELS IN THE LUXURY OF THE MUNGWYN ENTERTAINMENT UNTIL FROM THE DOOR-WAY APPEARS THE VENGEFUL CHURL AND FRIA.
CARL CARLES
NEXT WEEK ÷ A BOLD ESCAPE

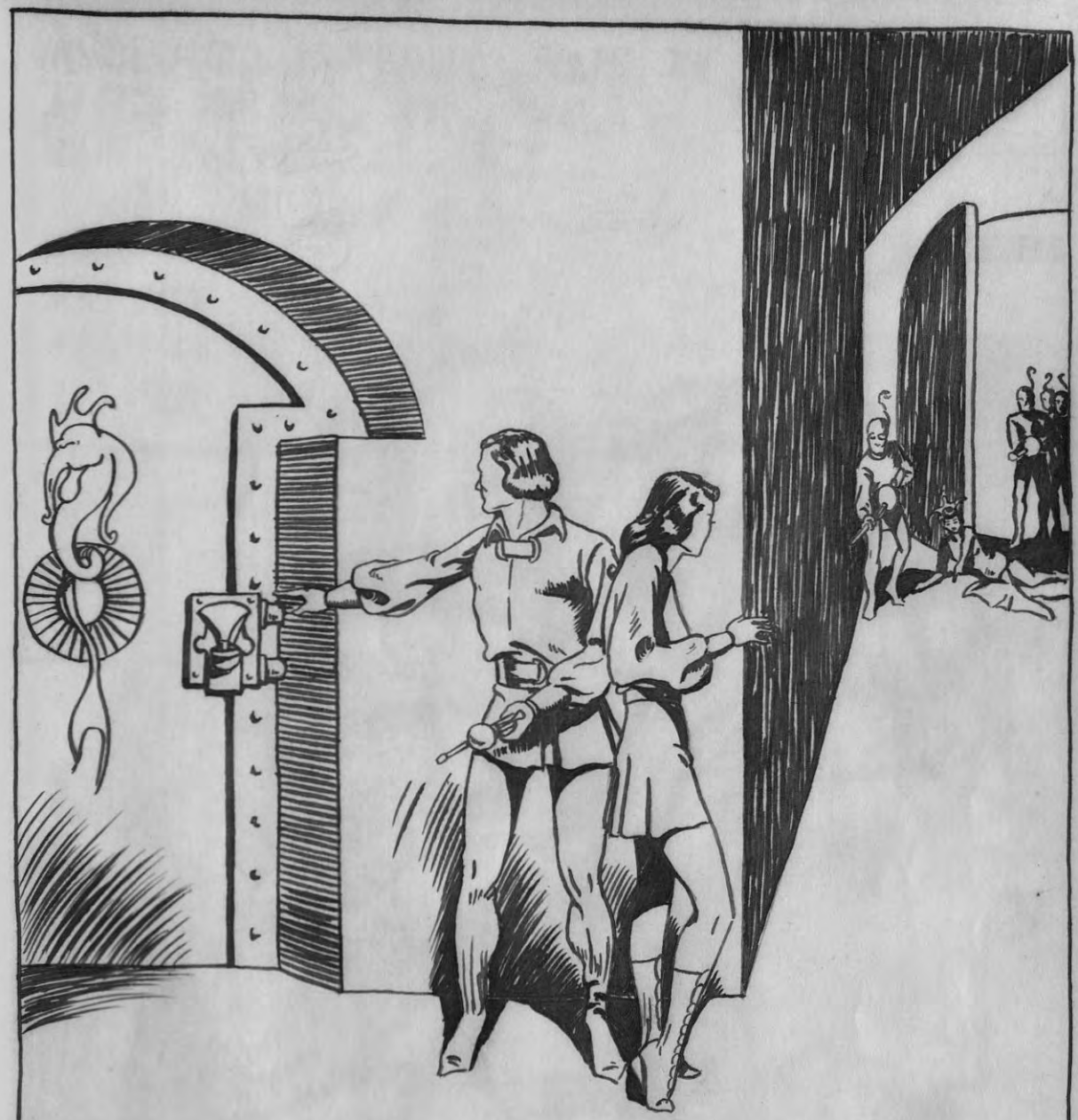
FLOYD, IN THE QUEENS PALACE, HOPES BUT FOR ONE THING TO FIND FRIA. AND GLANCING UP SEES FRIA BEARING A TRAY INTO THE ROOM. BUT HIS HOPE FADES WHEN BESIDE HER HE SEES AND RECOGNIZES THE SERVANT.




TANJA LE FAY IN A MALIGN MOOD TURNS ON FLOYD RAYMOND, "SO!--SO YOU ARE THE EARTHMAN IN DISGUISE--YOU SHALL REGRET THIS!"
WITH HER JEWELED HAND SHE PRESSES A BUTTON OF A DEVICE ON THE TABLE--
104


---WHICH BRINGS A HORDE OF THE QUEEN'S PUGNACIOUS CORRIDOR GUARDS ARMED WITH LIGHTENING GUNS.


FLOYD SPRANG FORWARD AND GRASPED TANJA LE FAY IN A VISE LIKE GRIP, "IF YOU SHOOT" HE CRIED, "I'LL KILL YOUR QUEEN!" FRIA--HAVE THAT DOOR READY!
106



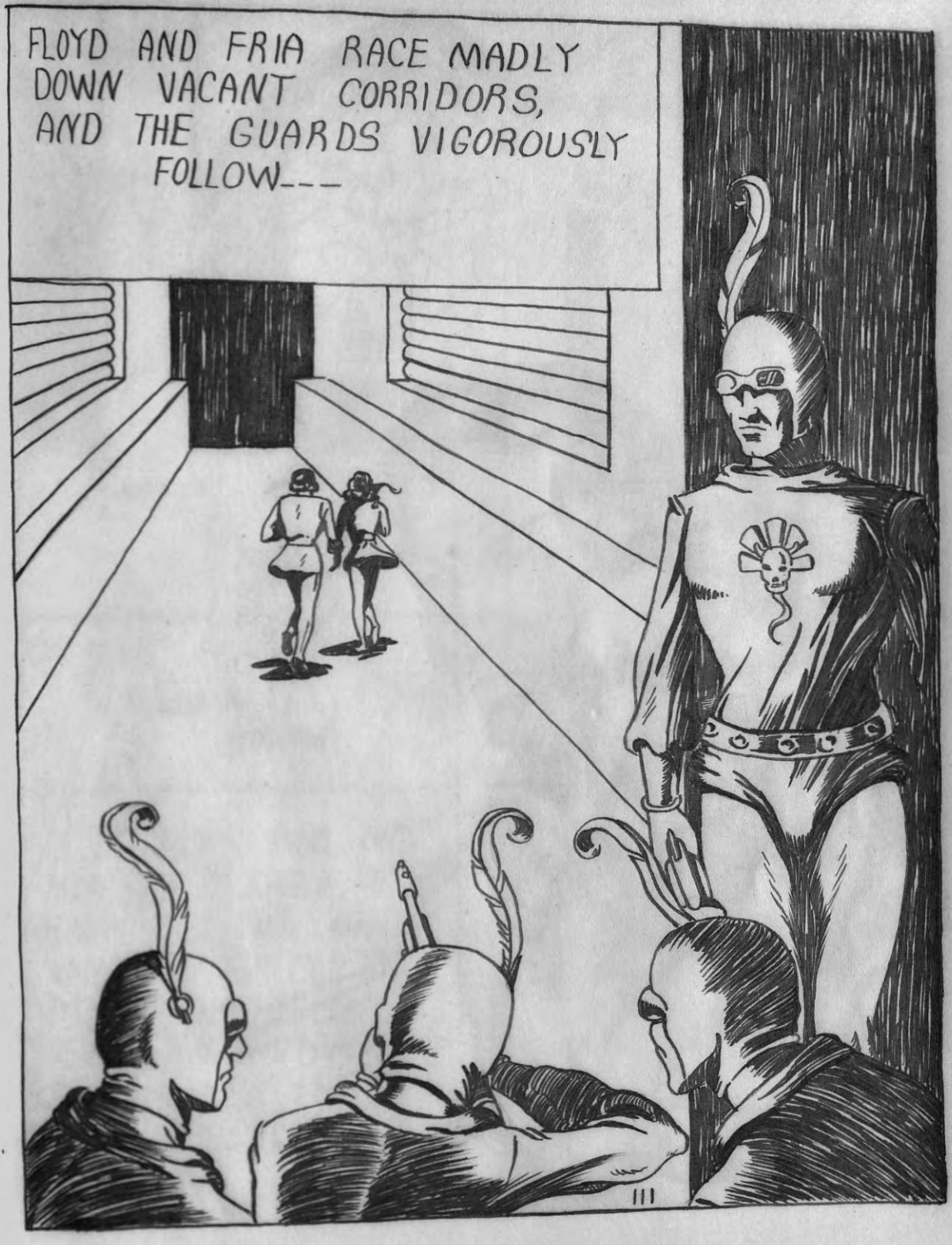
AT THE DOOR FLOYD LETS THE QUEEN GO, THEN WITH FRIA RACES DOWN THE MAIN CORRIDOR, BUT THE GUARDS ARE HOT ON THEIR TRAIL. "IN HERE!" HISSES FLOYD.


INSIDE, FLOYD FEVERISHLY BOLTS THE DOOR.
"FLOYD DARLING," SOBS FRIA,
"WE'RE TOGETHER AT LAST---
I WAS SO SURE YOU
WERE DEAD!---
AND YOUR HAIR---YOUR
HANDSOMER THAN EVER!
BUT THIS HORRIBLE
PLACE---WHERE ARE WE?"
CARL COBLEY
NEXT WEEK ESCAPE TO NOWHERE


FLOYD RAYMOND AND FRIA LANG HAVE ESCAPED FROM THE PALACE OF QUEEN TANJA LE FAY.
"FELICIA"..SIGHS TANJA LE FAY, "ALTHOUGH THE EARTHMAN HAS ESCAPED FOR THE TIME BEING, I MUST AWARD YOU AND THIS SERVANT FOR YOUR PATRONAGE...
-THIS HUMILIATING EARTHMAN SHALL REGRET WHAT HE HAS DONE.
109

MEANWHILE FLOYD AND FRIA HAVE BEEN DISCOVERED AND THERE IS A FURIOUSLY POUNDING ON THE METAL DOOR. "WE'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE," BREATHES FLOYD, "AND QUICK"!
"OH!" SOBS FRIA, "WHATS GOING TO HAPPEN TO US."



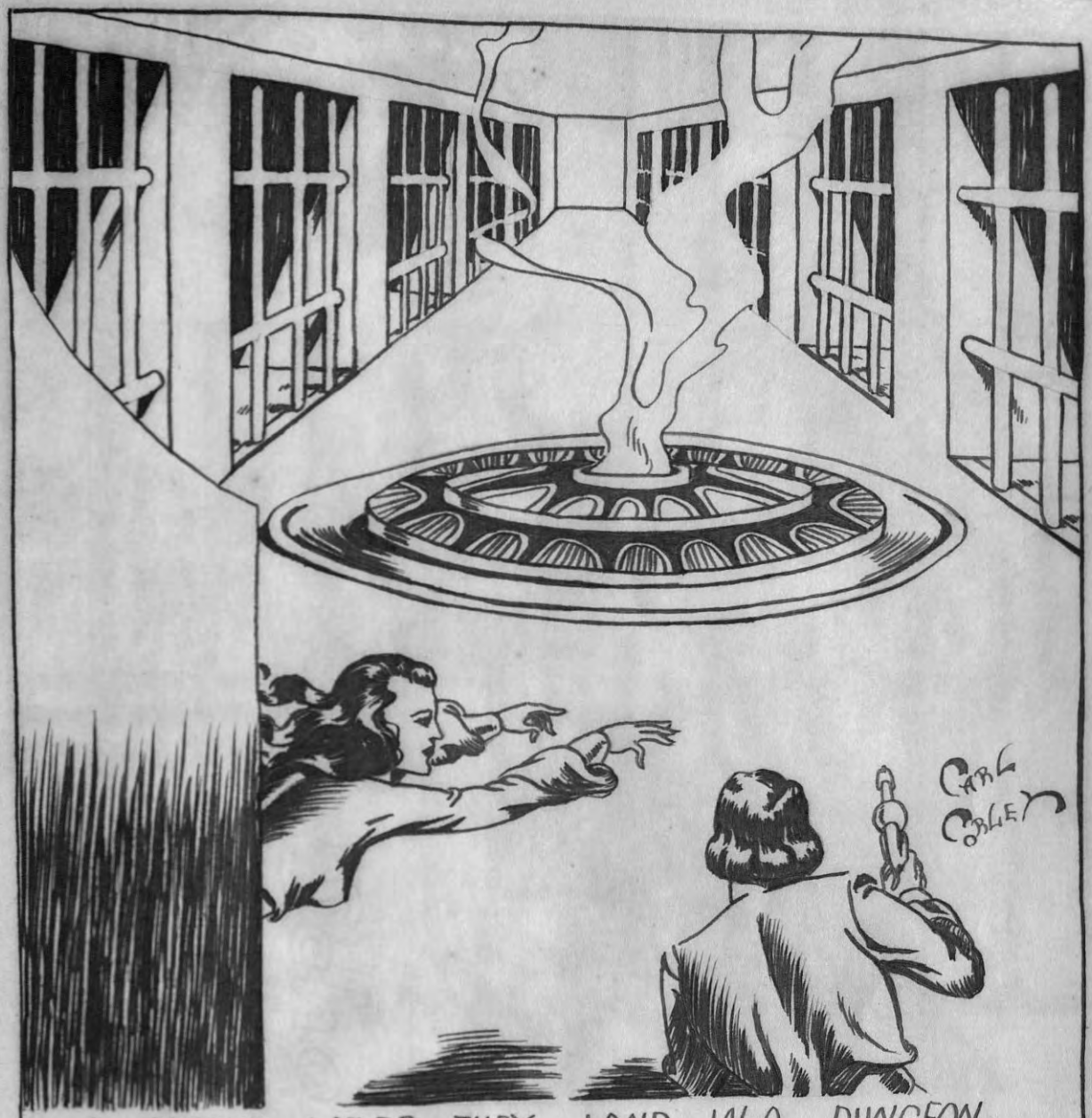

FLOYD AND FRIA RACE MADLY DOWN VACANT CORRIDORS, AND THE GUARDS VIGOROUSLY FOLLOW---



AT INTERVALS FLOYD AND FRIA STOP TO CHECK THEIR GAIN. THEY FAIL TO NOTICE AT THE CEILING A GUARD INCLOSED BEHIND A TRANSPARENT BOOTH, WHOSE LEFT HAND CLUTCHES A LEVER.



THE GUARD THROWS THE LEVER AND FRIA AND FLOYD FALL INTO STYGIAN DARKNESS!

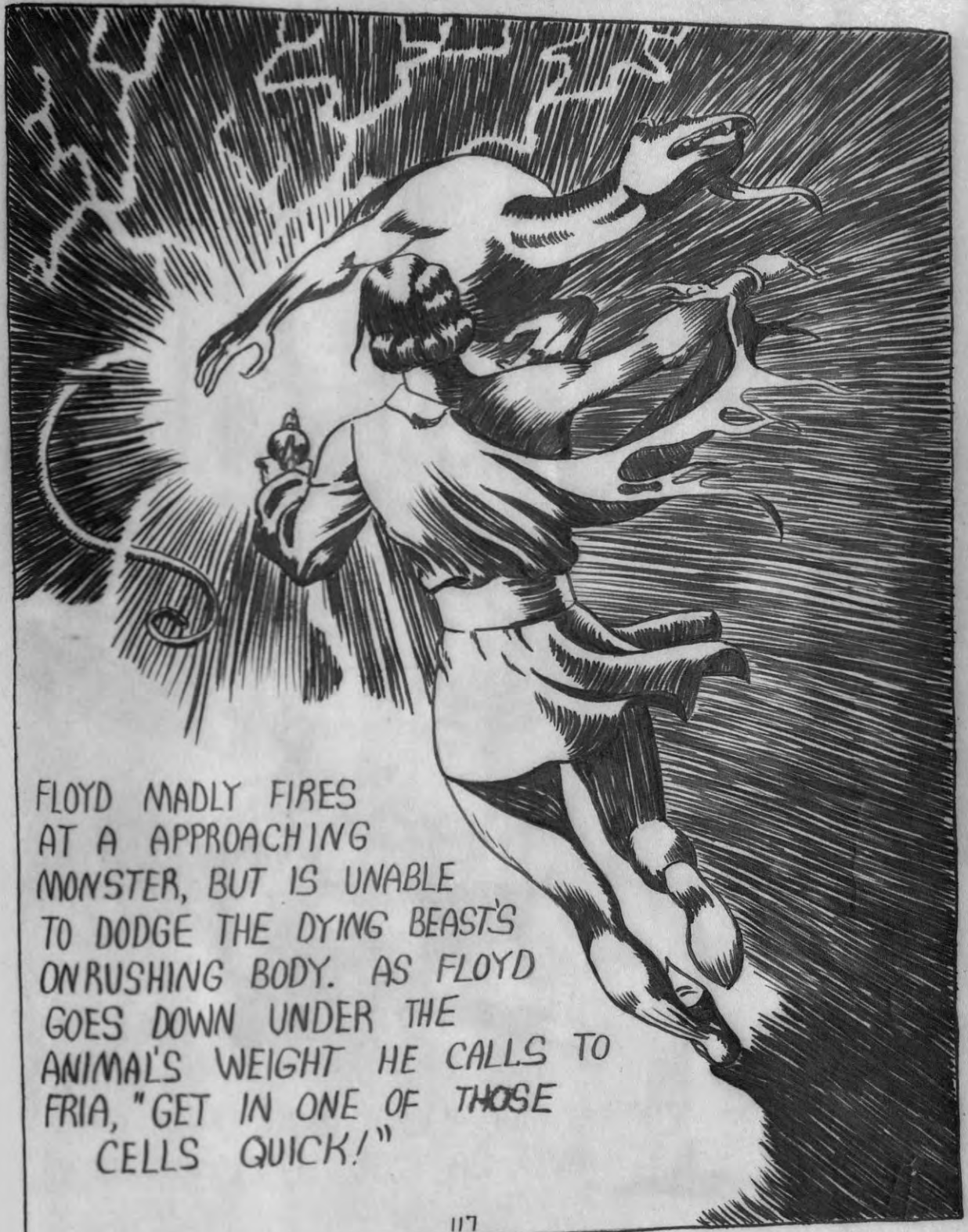


A SECOND LATER THEY LAND IN A DUNGEON. ON EACH SIDE OF THE EDIFICE IS A ROW OF CAGES WHERE FROM WITHIN COMES FIERCE GROWLS!

NEXT WEEK :- IN THE DRAGONS DEN


FLOYD AND FRIA HAVE BEEN TRAPPED IN A DUNGEON IN THE BLACK MAGIC KINGDOM.
"FLOYD!" CRIES FRIA, "I--I'M AFRAID!"


WITH AUTOMATIC ACTION THE DOORS SPRING OPEN. THE ANIMALS RUSH FORTH WITH BARED FANGS, AND FLOYD CHIVALROUSLY, TRIES TO KEEP THEM BACK WITH HIS GUN.


FLOYD MADLY FIRES AT A APPROACHING MONSTER, BUT IS UNABLE TO DODGE THE DYING BEAST'S ONRUSHING BODY. AS FLOYD GOES DOWN UNDER THE ANIMAL'S WEIGHT HE CALLS TO FRIA, "GET IN ONE OF THOSE CELLS QUICK!"



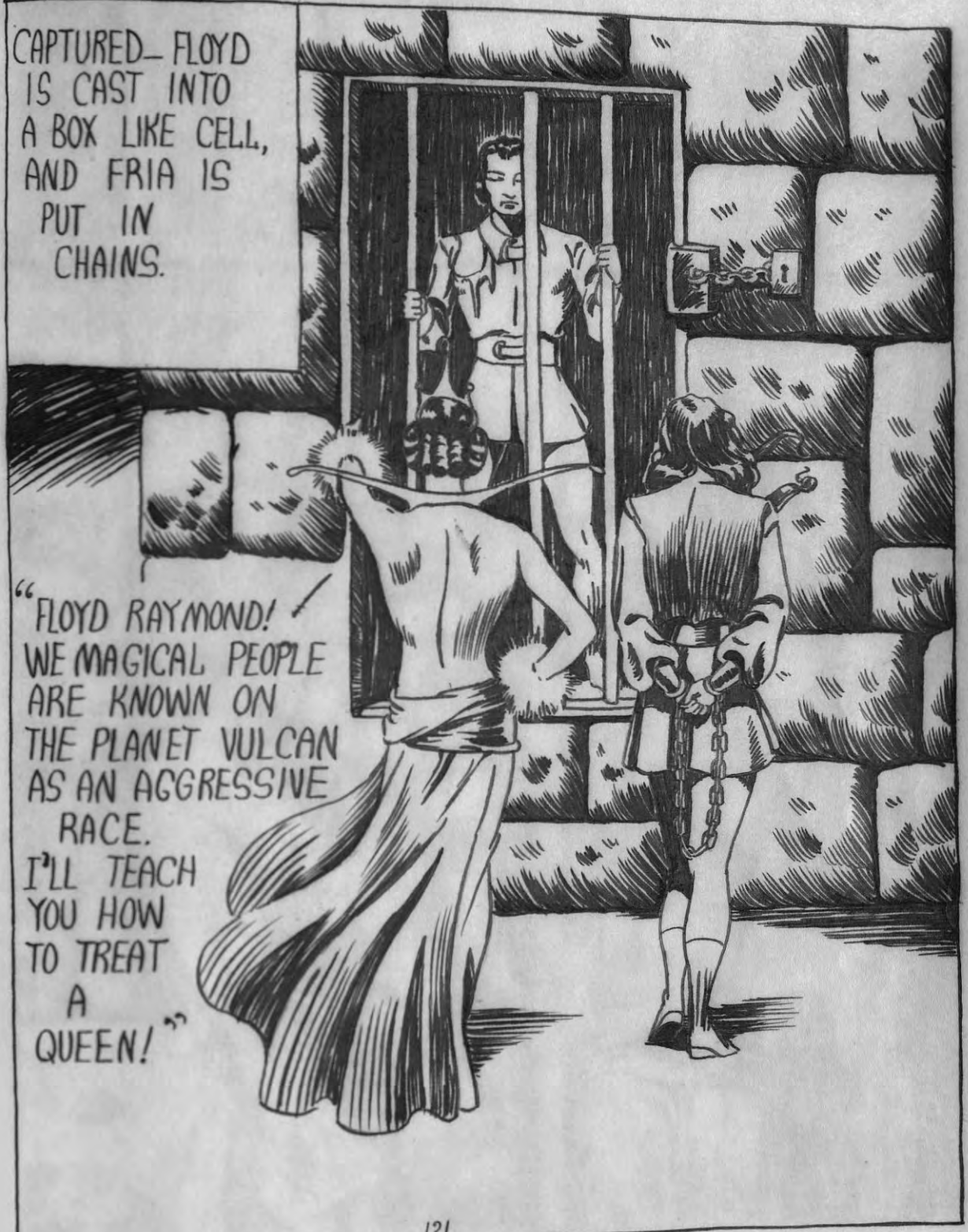
FLOYD SLIPS FROM UNDER THE ANIMAL AND DASHES INTO THE CELL JUST AS FRIA CLOSES THE DOOR.


THEN FROM THE INCENSE CENSER APPEARS THE SORCERESS, TANJA LE FAY, IN ALL OF HER GLITTERING BLACK MAGIC!



"WELL FLOYD RAYMOND, MY BLACK MAGIC HAS TRAPPED YOU AGAIN!"

NEXT WEEK ÷ IN THE ROYAL DUNGEONS


CAPTURED— FLOYD IS CAST INTO A BOX LIKE CELL, AND FRIA IS PUT IN CHAINS.
"FLOYD RAYMOND! WE MAGICAL PEOPLE ARE KNOWN ON THE PLANET VULCAN AS AN AGGRESSIVE RACE. I'LL TEACH YOU HOW TO TREAT A QUEEN!"


AND YOU GIRL, SHALL SERVE HIM THE USUAL BREAD AND NECTAR UNTIL HE SINKS IN HIS CELL AND HOWLS FOR MERCY!-AND YOU WILL BE ABLE TO DO NOTHING ABOUT IT.


FLOYD REACHES OUT WITH A STRONG ARM AND PINS THE QUEEN TO THE CELL WALL, BUT HE IS NOT QUICK ENOUGH TO PREVENT A HIGH PIERCING SCREAM--
123



---WHICH REACHES THE EARS OF THE BRUTAL SHERIFF WHO HASTILY UNLOCKS THE DUNGEON DOOR.



A WICKED WHIP, YIELDED BY THE STRONG ARM OF THE SHERIFF, CRACKS DOWN ON THE LITHE FIGURE OF FRIA WHICH WITH EMOTION CAUSES FLOYD TO RELEASE THE ENCHANTED QUEEN INSTANTLY.


LATER THE DIABOLICAL QUEEN HAS A WIERD GLOBOSE SHAPED CRYSTAL PLACED BEFORE FLOYD'S CELL. "WITH THIS-SHERIFF," SHE SAYS IN A VOICE OF MALICE, "I CAN SEE IF THE EARTHMAN TRIES TO ESCAPE."
CARL COBLER
NEXT WEEK :. THE GLOBE REVEALS

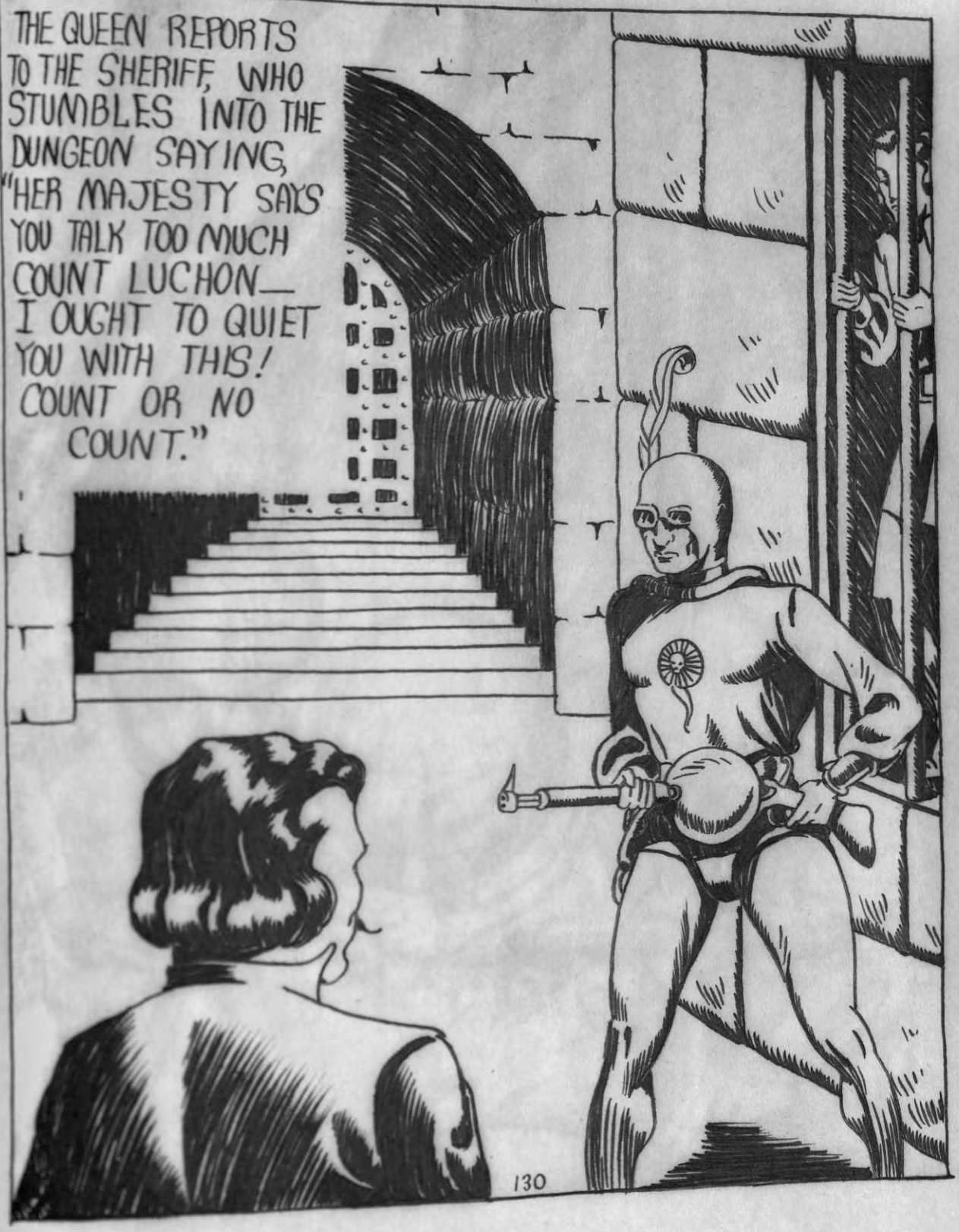
IN THE DUNGEON WHERE FLOYD AND FRIA ARE HELD PRISONERS, THE INQUISITIVE COUNT LUCHON APPEARS- "WELL FLOYD RAYMOND! YOU'RE IN A BAD WAY. OUR QUEEN'S PURPOSE WAS TO CAPTURE AN INHABIT--ANCE FROM YOUR NATIVE PLANET, BUT SINCE YOU HAVE HUMILIATED HER I DOUBT IF SHE WILL SHOW YOU MUCH MERCY. I TOOK YOU TO BE OF MORE INTELLIGENCE THAN THAT."

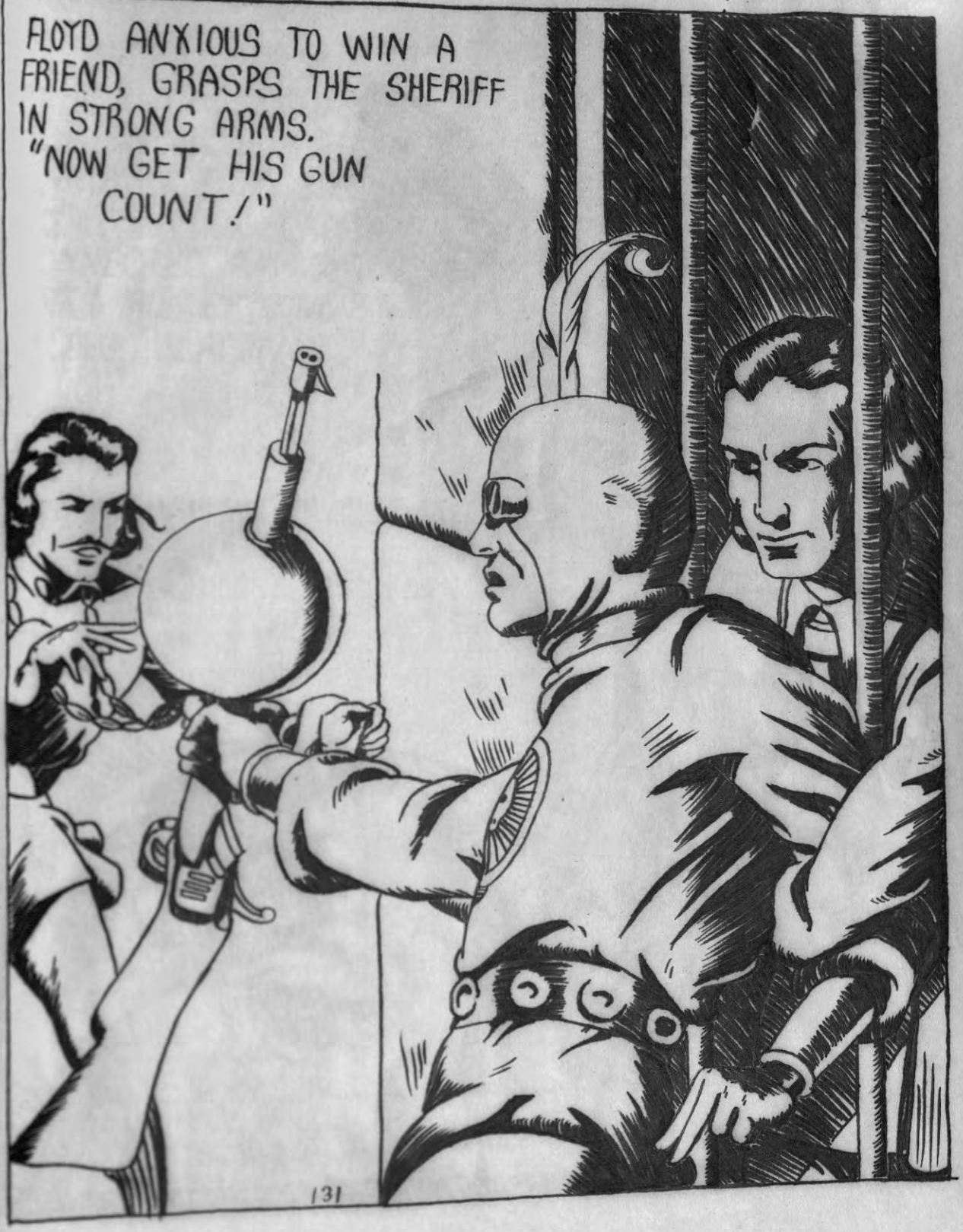



"WHAT MORE COULD YOU EXPECT," REPLIES FLOYD. "WE WERE BROUGHT HERE AGAINST OUR WILL AND HAVE BEEN KEEP A PRISONER EVERYSENSE. ALL WE ASK IS TO MAKE FRIENDS AND FIND A WAY HOME." "YOU SHALL NEVER REACH YOUR HOME" SAYS THE COUNT.



MEANWHILE—QUEEN TANJA LE FAY, FROM HER SUMPTUOUS PALACE WATCHES COUNT LUCHON IN HER MAGIC CRYSTAL.


THE QUEEN REPORTS TO THE SHERIFF, WHO STUMBLES INTO THE DUNGEON SAYING, "HER MAJESTY SAYS YOU TALK TOO MUCH COUNT LUCHON— I OUGHT TO QUIET YOU WITH THIS! COUNT OR NO COUNT."


FLOYD ANXIOUS TO WIN A FRIEND, GRASPS THE SHERIFF IN STRONG ARMS. "NOW GET HIS GUN COUNT!"
131


BUT TANJA LE FAY SEES ALL IN HER MAGIC GLOBE. HER THIN BROWS LIFT IN ANNOYANCE AS SHE SEES COUNT LUCHON CRASH THE CONNECTED APPARATUS, THEN THE CRYSTAL GOES BLACK!
CARL COLLE
NEXT WEEK ÷ BLOOD AND STEEL
132