

GOLD

STAR TREK

30¢



STAR TREK™

90210-711



**The Companion
plunges the
Enterprise into
a starless void!**



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SPIDER-MAN® IN "BREAK THE BANK"



STAR TREK A WARP IN SPACE!

IT BEGAN AS A ROUTINE MISSION FOR THE ENTERPRISE: FIND THE MISSING SHIPS! BUT THE ENTERPRISE WAS DESTINED FOR A TRIAL THAT NO HUMAN MIND COULD FORESEE! FOR THEIR JUDGES WERE NEITHER PHYSICAL NOR MENTAL, BUT A BREED OF BEINGS THAT HAD BEEN SPAWNED IN ANOTHER UNIVERSE, MILLENIA BEFORE THE CREATION OF WHAT WE CALL "LIFE!"

WRITTEN BY: GEORGE KASHDAN
ART BY: A. M. WILLIAMS



90210-711
STAR TREK #49-779

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CAPTAIN'S LOG:
STARDATE 3803.6:
We are now entering
Canaris Galaxy, last
known location of
the experimental
spacecraft which
the Enterprise has
been assigned to
Track down.

ACCORDING TO COMPUTER READOUT,
CAPTAIN KIRK, THERE WERE NO METEOR
STORMS, NOVAE OR ANY OTHER COSMIC
MISHAPS THAT MIGHT HAVE WRECKED
THE HYPER-WARP VEHICLES!

DID ANY PILOT'S
LOG INDICATE
MALFUNCTIONS,
MR. SPOCK?

SEE FOR YOURSELF, CAPTAIN!
COMPUTER RECALLS THE
CRAFT APPROACHING SPEED
OF WARP 13...
REPORTING NO
PROBLEMS!

...WHEN SUDDENLY, THEY
VANISHED FROM THE
FACE OF THE GALAXY!
IT'S UNCANNY,
MR. SPOCK!

I MEAN...OBJECTS
CAN'T SIMPLY
VANISH WITHOUT
A TRACE...OR CAN
THEY?

LOGICALLY, NO...
THOUGH AT SPEEDS
MUCH ABOVE WARP
9, ONE JOURNEYS
OUTSIDE THE
BOUNDS OF KNOWN
LOGIC!

AT THAT MOMENT...
MR. SPOCK! THAT SMALL
PLANET COMING INTO
VIEWSCREEN RANGE...
DO YOU RECOGNIZE IT?

NATURALLY...
GAMMA
CANARIS N!

AND DO YOU
REMEMBER
OUR VISIT
TO GAMMA
CANARIS N,
MR. SPOCK?

TO BE EXACT, CAPTAIN,
IT CAME ABOUT ON
STARDATE 3219.4!
WE WERE RETURNING
FROM A NEIGHBORING
WORLD, EPSILON CAN-
ARIS III, IN OUR
SHUTTLECRAFT...

... CARRYING ASSISTANT
FEDERATION COMMISSIONER,
NANCY HEDRON!

YOU CAN BE
HONEST
WITH ME,
DR. MCCOY!
WHAT ARE
MY CHANCES?

YOU HAVE A RARE
ILLNESS CALLED
SLUKARNO'S DIS-
EASE, COM-
MISSIONER!

IF NOT DEALT
WITH PROMPTLY,
IT'S INVARIABLY
FATAL!

... BUT IN YOUR CASE,
THERE'S NOTHING TO
WORRY ABOUT! WE'LL
HAVE YOU BACK ON THE
ENTERPRISE WITH
ENOUGH TIME TO
BEGIN TREATMENT!

JUST THEN...

CAPTAIN, I HAVE LOST
CONTROL OF THE
SHUTTLECRAFT! SOMETHING
SEEMS TO BE
PULLING US OFF-
COURSE!

WHAT...?
WHERE...?

GREAT GALAXIES!
THERE'S OUR ANSWER,
MR. SPOCK! A...A STRANGE
CLOUD CREATURE, DRAWING
US TOWARD GAMMA
CANARIS N!

FASCINATING!



"I'LL NEVER FORGET MY SURPRISE WHEN WE REACHED THE PLANET'S SURFACE, TO BE GREETED BY..."

ONE CAN HARDLY FORGET ZEFRAM COCHRANE, THE DISCOVERER OF SPACE WARP DRIVE!

ZEFRAM COCHRANE!

I'M HONORED THAT YOU REMEMBER ME!



HOWEVER, SIR, BY MY CALCULATIONS, YOU ARE OVER 200 EARTH YEARS OLD!

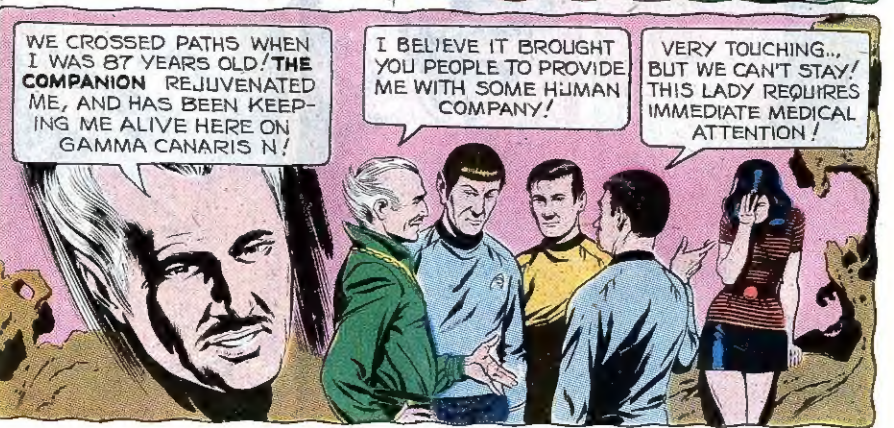
HA-HA... I HAVE THE COMPANION TO THANK FOR THAT!

KINDLY EXPLAIN YOUR YOUTHFUL APPEARANCE AND VIGOR!



WHAT THE DEVIL?

THE COMPANION...IT'S THE NAME I GAVE TO THAT CLOUD CREATURE! IT HAS INTELLIGENCE AND STRANGE POWERS!



WE CROSSED PATHS WHEN I WAS 87 YEARS OLD! THE COMPANION REJUVENATED ME, AND HAS BEEN KEEPING ME ALIVE HERE ON GAMMA CANARIS N!

I BELIEVE IT BROUGHT YOU PEOPLE TO PROVIDE ME WITH SOME HUMAN COMPANY!

VERY TOUCHING... BUT WE CAN'T STAY! THIS LADY REQUIRES IMMEDIATE MEDICAL ATTENTION!

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"THE COM-MISSIONER'S NEEDS OBVIOUSLY DIDN'T MATTER TO THE CLOUD CREATURE!"

IT WON'T LET US NEAR THE SHUTTLECRAFT!

IT APPARENTLY PLANS TO KEEP US HERE FOR- EVER!



WHILE YOU TWO ARE BUSY SPECULATING MY PATIENT IS DYING! IN FACT... IT MAY ALREADY BE TOO LATE TO SAVE HER!

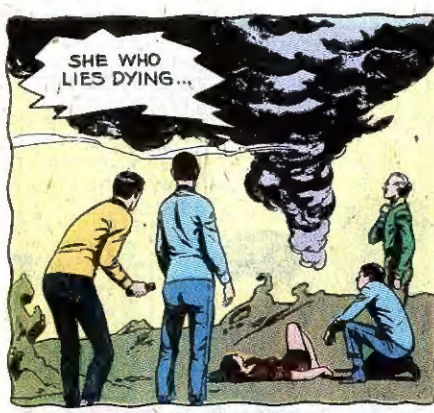


"EVENTUALLY, WE WERE ABLE TO ADAPT OUR COMMUNICATORS TO MAKE CONTACT WITH 'THE COMPANION'!"

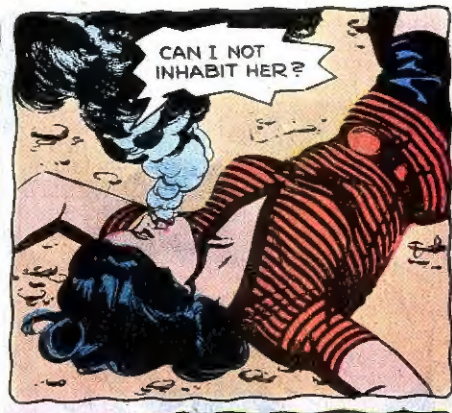
I FEAR, IF THEY LEAVE, YOU WILL LEAVE WITH THEM, ZEFRAM COCHRANE!

INTERESTING! THE CREATURE HAS A DISTINCTLY FEMININE PERSONALITY!

AND SHE'S IN LOVE!



SHE WHO LIES DYING...



CAN I NOT INHABIT HER?



CAN I NOT SAVE HER... SHARE CONSCIOUSNESS?



RESTORE HER HEALTH?

BRING BACK HER BEAUTY?



AND KNOW HUMAN LOVE?



LOVE?

YES... WITH YOU, COCHRANE!

↳GASP↵ TH-THAT PRESENTS... AN IMPOSSIBLE SITUATION!



NOT SO, ZEFRAM!

WHAT... WHAT DO YOU MEAN?



I THINK, GENTLEMEN, EVERYONE'S PROBLEM HAS BEEN SOLVED!



"WHEN WE LEFT GAMMA CANARIS N, I NEVER EXPECTED TO SEE ZEFRAM COCHRANE OR NANCY HEDRON AGAIN!"



...BUT NOW, WE PRACTICALLY HAVE NO CHOICE

LT. UHURA, HAVE DR. MCCOY REPORT TO THE TRANSPORTER... TELL HIM HE'S GOING TO VISIT SOME OLD FRIENDS!

YES, SIR!



BUT THE COMING 'VISIT' IS NO HAPPY SURPRISE TO THE STARSHIP'S PHYSICIAN!

JIM... COCHRANE AND NANCY WANT TO BE LEFT ALONE... AND WE PROMISED TO RESPECT THAT WISH!

BUT THESE ARE EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES, BONES! COCHRANE MAY BE THE ONLY PERSON WHO CAN HELP US!



THE CAPTAIN IS QUITE LOGICAL, DOCTOR... SINCE OUR PROBLEM CONCERNS WARP DRIVE AND ZEFRAM COCHRANE IS THE FOREMOST AUTHORITY ON THAT SUBJECT!

AS I'VE OFTEN EXPLAINED, MR. SPOCK, THERE'S A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN LOGIC OF THE MIND AND LOGIC OF THE HEART!



BUT, SINCE I'M OUTVOTED, LET'S GET THIS TRIP OVER WITH!

THREE TO BEAM DOWN, MR. SCOTT... TAKE COMMAND!

AYE, AYE, CAPTAIN!



SHORTLY, AS ENERGIZERS HUM, CONVERTING THREE FORMS INTO PURE ENERGY...



AN INSTANT LATER ON THE SURFACE OF GAMMA CANARIS N!

ZEFRAM! COME QUICKLY! LOOK!

WHAT..? WHO COULD POSSIBLY..



KIRK! MCCOY... I THOUGHT...

THAT YOU'D SEEN THE LAST OF US? SO DID WE, COCHRANE... BUT NOW WE NEED YOUR HELP... URGENTLY!



WHAT SORT OF HELP COULD I BE?

EXPERIMENTAL STARSHIPS, TRAVELING AT HYPER-WARP SPEEDS HAVE VANISHED IN THIS VICINITY...

WE'RE HOPING, PERHAPS, WITH YOUR EXPERTISE..



HYPER-WARP SPEEDS, EH? I'LL ADMIT THE CHALLENGE INTRIGUES ME!

ZEFRAM! YOU PROMISED YOU WOULD NEVER AGAIN GET INVOLVED WITH PROBLEMS OUT THERE!



BUT NANCY... HOW CAN I TURN AWAY PEOPLE WHO NEED MY HELP?

THEY CAME TO DESTROY OUR PEACE... OUR PRIVACY... AND YOU'RE ALLOWING IT!



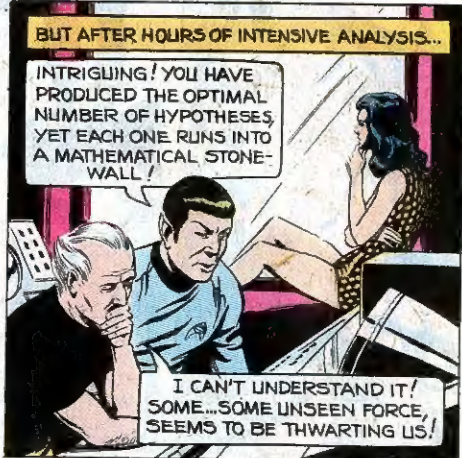
NANCY... OR SHOULD I SAY, **THE COMPANION**, FEARS ANYTHING THAT MIGHT SEPARATE US! SO LET'S SOLVE YOUR PROBLEM AND SEND YOU ON YOUR WAY!

EXCELLENT! MR. SPOCK WILL FILL YOU IN ON THE DETAILS!



JIM, I DON'T LIKE IT! THE TERROR IN NANCY'S VOICE... IT SOUNDED LIKE SOMETHING FAR WORSE THAN A LOVER'S QUARREL!

YOU'VE BEEN AWAY FROM WOMEN TOO LONG, BONES! NANCY WILL GET OVER IT AS SOON AS WE'RE GONE!



BUT AFTER HOURS OF INTENSIVE ANALYSIS...

INTRIGUING! YOU HAVE PRODUCED THE OPTIMAL NUMBER OF HYPOTHESES, YET EACH ONE RUNS INTO A MATHEMATICAL STONE-WALL!

I CAN'T UNDERSTAND IT! SOME... SOME UNSEEN FORCE, SEEMS TO BE THWARTING US!



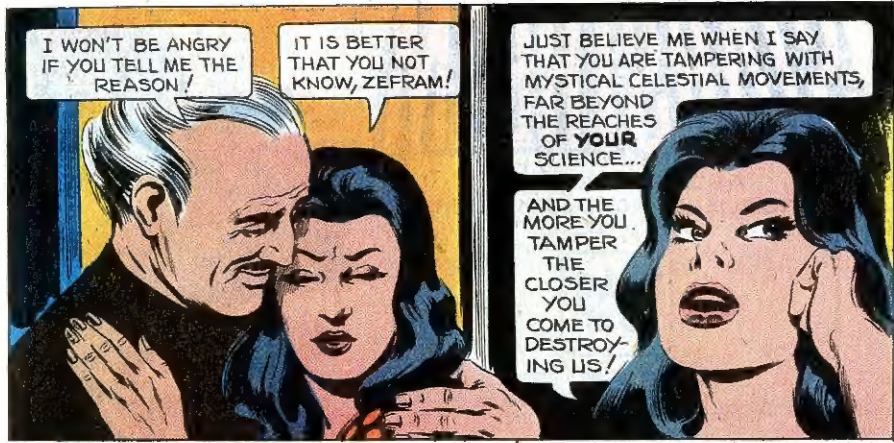
HMM... WOULD YOU PLEASE STEP OUTSIDE A MOMENT, MR. SPOCK!

AS YOU WISH, SIR!



IT WAS YOU, NANCY, WASN'T IT? I SENSED THE EMANATIONS! YOU WERE THROWING OFF OUR CALCULATIONS!

YES, I ADMIT IT... PLEASE DON'T BE ANGRY, ZEFRAM!

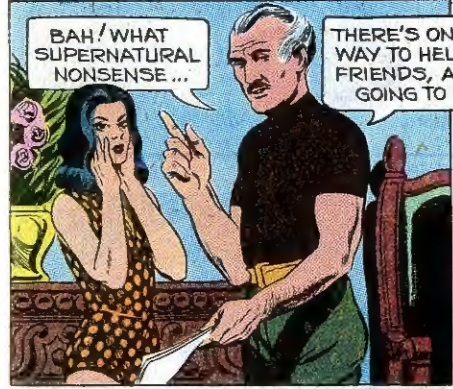


I WON'T BE ANGRY IF YOU TELL ME THE REASON!

IT IS BETTER THAT YOU NOT KNOW, ZEFRAM!

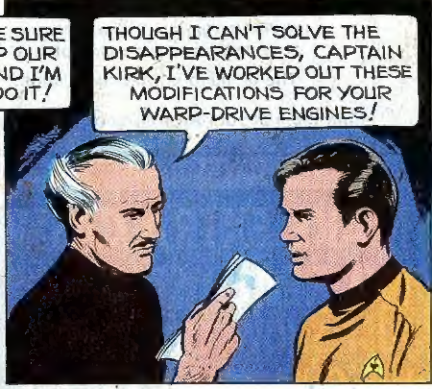
JUST BELIEVE ME WHEN I SAY THAT YOU ARE TAMPERING WITH MYSTICAL CELESTIAL MOVEMENTS, FAR BEYOND THE REACHES OF YOUR SCIENCE...

AND THE MORE YOU TAMPER THE CLOSER YOU COME TO DESTROYING US!



BAH! WHAT SUPERNATURAL NONSENSE ...

THERE'S ONE SURE WAY TO HELP OUR FRIENDS, AND I'M GOING TO DO IT!



THOUGH I CAN'T SOLVE THE DISAPPEARANCES, CAPTAIN KIRK, I'VE WORKED OUT THESE MODIFICATIONS FOR YOUR WARP-DRIVE ENGINES!



THEY'LL ENABLE YOU TO APPROACH THE SPEED AT WHICH THE EXPERIMENTAL CRAFT VANISHED!

GOOD ENOUGH, COCHRANE!

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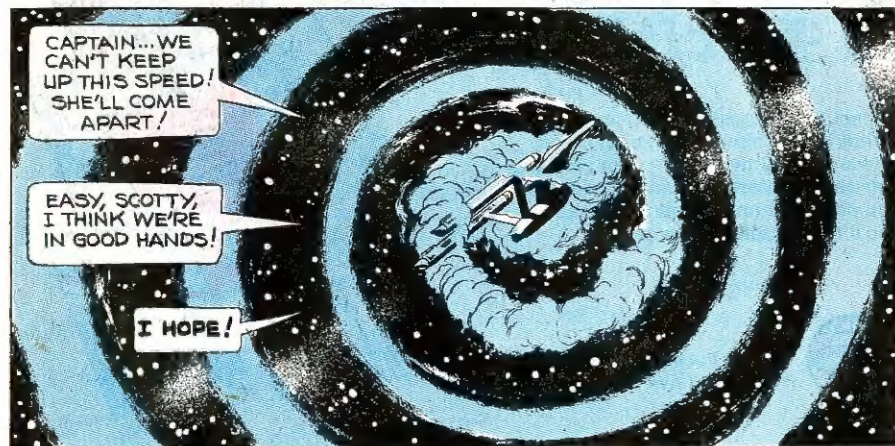
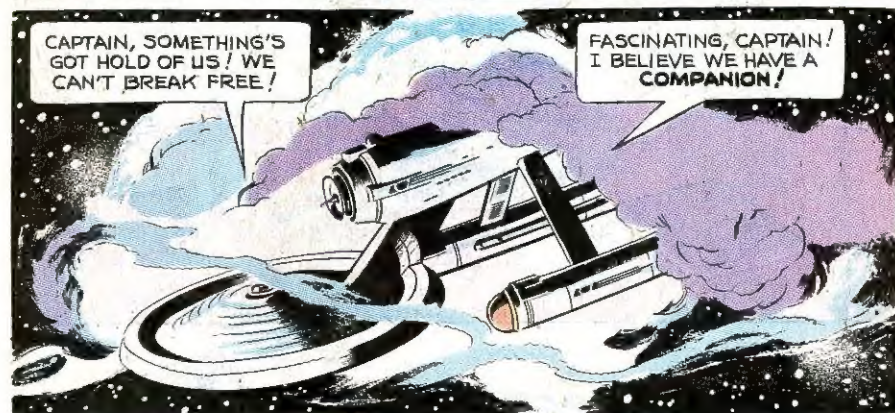
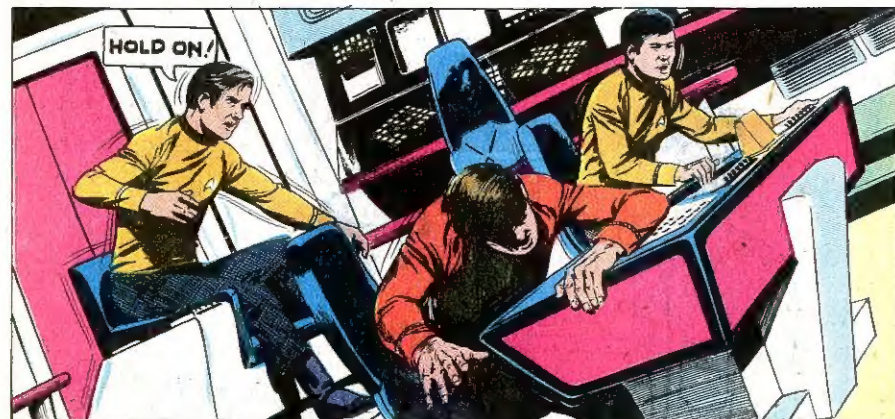
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A WARP IN SPACE!

PART II

CAPTAIN'S LOG:
STARDATE: 5807.1
"THE COMPANION" HAS TRANSPORTED
US, BY SOME MYSTERIOUS PROCESS,
THROUGH WHAT MR. SPOCK DESCRIBES
AS, QUOTE, A RIP IN THE FABRIC OF OUR
UNIVERSE, UNQUOTE.!

WE SEEM
TO HAVE
ENTERED A
STARLESS
WORLD!

INTERESTING! A
UNIVERSE WITHOUT
SUNS OR PLANETS,
BUT FILLED WITH
CLOUDS...OR SHOULD
I SAY, CLOUD
CREATURES!

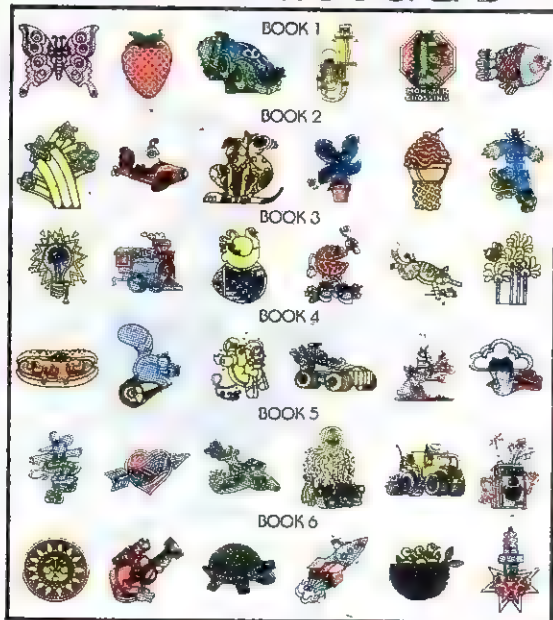
CAPTAIN! DEAD
AHEAD...THE
MISSING HYPER-
WARP CRAFT!



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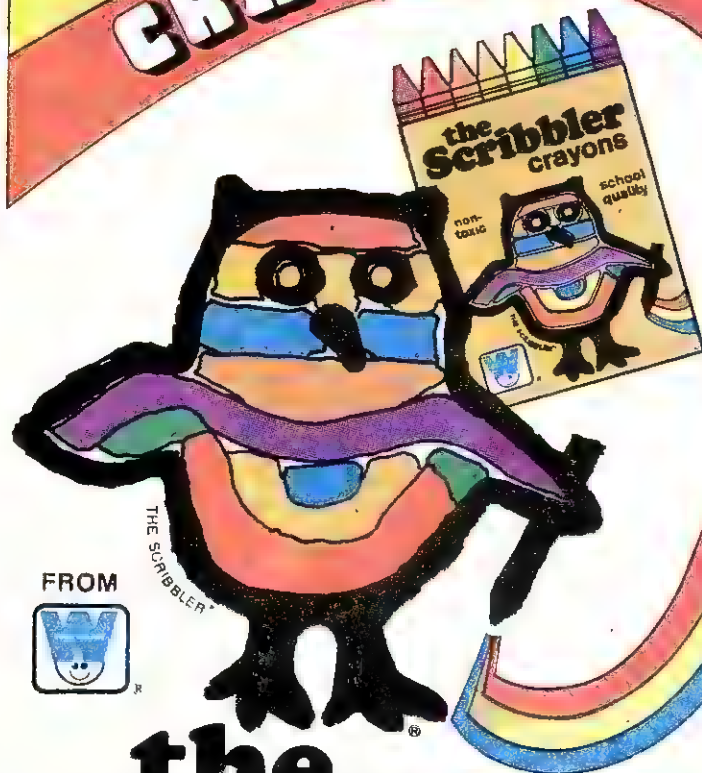


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THEY SEEM TO BE HOVERING AIMLESSLY... LIKE EVERYTHING ELSE IN THIS WASTELAND!

OPEN A HAILING FREQUENCY, LT. UHURA!

YES, SIR!



ATTENTION, X-1! THIS IS CAPTAIN JAMES KIRK OF THE STARSHIP ENTERPRISE... WHAT IS YOUR STATUS?



CAPTAIN... AM I GOIN' DAFT, OR ARE THEM... THEM KIDDY-CARS FORMIN' INTO COMBAT POSITIONS?

SOMEONE'S 'DAFT' ALL RIGHT, SCOTTY, BUT IT'S NOT YOU! THEY SEEM TO BE CHALLENGING US!

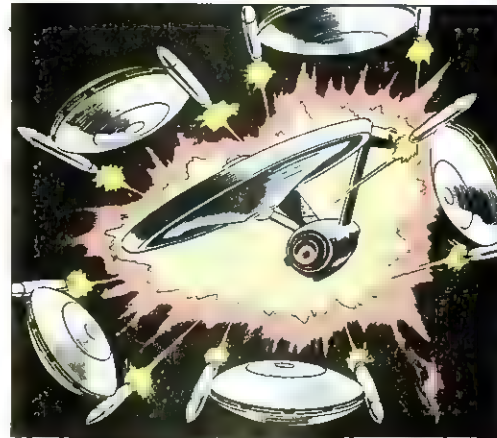


X-1 HERE, ENTERPRISE! DO NOT... REPEAT, DO NOT ATTEMPT FURTHER CONTACT!



DID I HEAR RIGHT? ARE THEY REFUSING RESCUE?

PUZZLING!

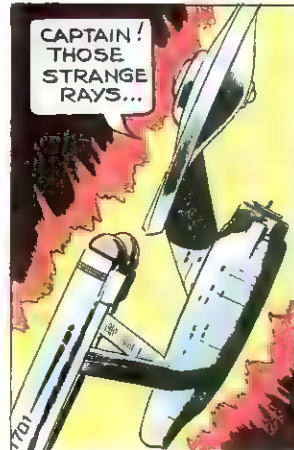


ALL PERSONNEL TO BATTLE STATIONS!

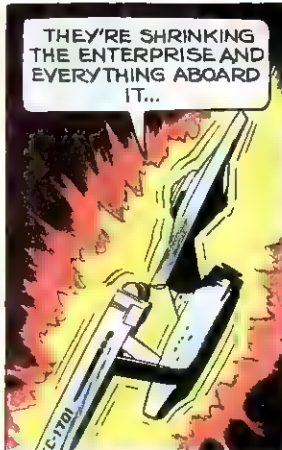
CAPTAIN... ALL OUR SYSTEMS APPEAR UNRESPONSIVE!



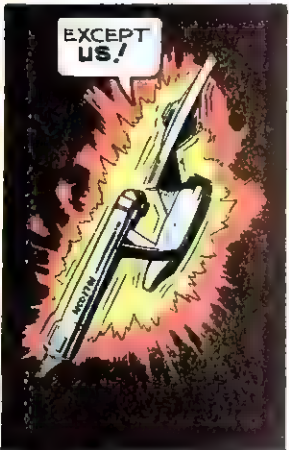
ENTERPRISE TO CRAFT... YOUR INSTRUCTIONS ARE REJECTED! PREPARE TO RECEIVE BOARDING PARTIES!



CAPTAIN! THOSE STRANGE RAYS...



THEY'RE SHRINKING THE ENTERPRISE AND EVERYTHING ABOARD IT...



EXCEPT US!



WHERE? WHERE DID THEY GET SUCH WEAPONS?

ONE CAN ONLY SPECULATE!

WHO CARES! IN ANOTHER MINUTE, WE'LL BE GROUND, TO DUST!

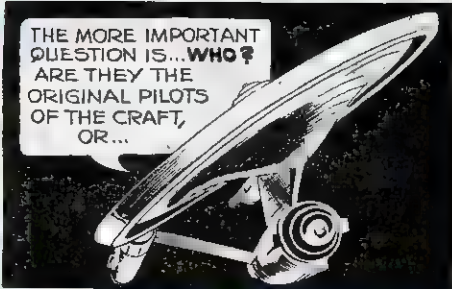


BUT IN THE NEXT INSTANT.

WHAT? WE'RE RETURNING TO NORMAL!



THEY'VE CHANGED THEIR MINDS... WHY?



THE MORE IMPORTANT QUESTION IS... WHO? ARE THEY THE ORIGINAL PILOTS OF THE CRAFT, OR...



GREAT GALAXIES!

BEGORRA!

FASCINATING!



THOSE SHIPS WERE PILOTED BY... MORE CLOUD CREATURES!

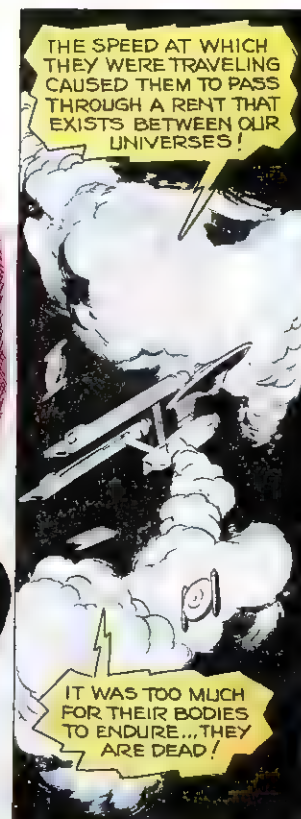


HERE, IN THE ATMOSPHERE OF OUR UNIVERSE, WE CAN COMMUNICATE BY TELEPATHY

I ASSURE YOU, YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO BE SO VIVID! WE CAME IN PEACE...

WHERE ARE THE PILOTS OF THOSE CRAFT?

WE DO NOT WISH TO HARM YOU... ONLY TO DEMONSTRATE THE POWERS WE POSSESS!



THE SPEED AT WHICH THEY WERE TRAVELING CAUSED THEM TO PASS THROUGH A RENT THAT EXISTS BETWEEN OUR UNIVERSES!

IT WAS TOO MUCH FOR THEIR BODIES TO ENDURE... THEY ARE DEAD!



THAT IS WHY I LEFT ZEFRAM TO ACCOMPANY YOU!

THE COMPANION!



YOU TOO MIGHT HAVE PERISHED, HAD YOU ACHIEVED A SPEED OF WARP 15!...

BY TRANSPORTING YOU HERE, ...THE WAY I CAME OUT LONG AGO... I WAS ABLE TO PROTECT YOU!



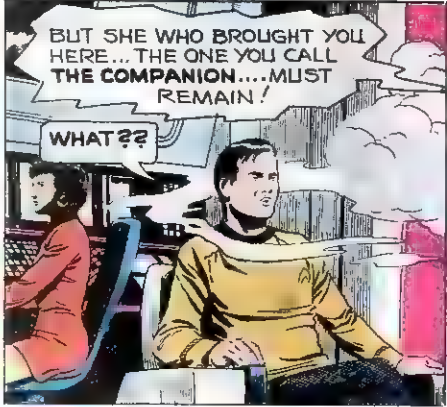
'PROTECT' US ? SHE SAVED OUR LIVES !

AT THE RISK OF HER OWN ! FOR ALL WE KNOW, NANCY HEDRON MAY ALREADY BE DEAD !

OUR UNIVERSE OFFERS NOTHING OF VALUE TO FLESH-AND-BLOOD BEINGS LIKE YOURSELVES ! WE WANT NOTHING OF YOU AND WILL OFFER NOTHING IN RETURN ! THIS IS FINAL !

AGREE TO LEAVE NOW AND WE WILL ESCORT YOU OUT THE WAY YOU ARRIVED !

AGREED !



BUT SHE WHO BROUGHT YOU HERE... THE ONE YOU CALL THE COMPANION... MUST REMAIN !

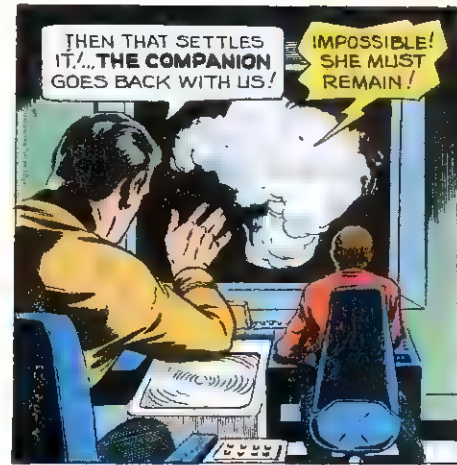
WHAT ??



I KNEW THIS MIGHT HAPPEN IF I RETURNED...



BUT THE THOUGHT OF GOING ON WITHOUT ZEFRAM, SADDENS ME ! I WANT TO BE WITH HIM, HOWEVER I COULD NOT WITHSTAND THEM ALL !

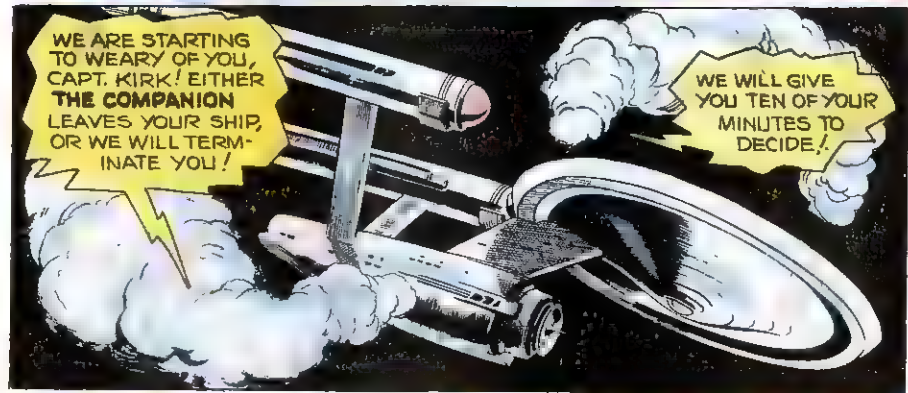


THEN THAT SETTLES IT... THE COMPANION GOES BACK WITH US !

IMPOSSIBLE ! SHE MUST REMAIN !

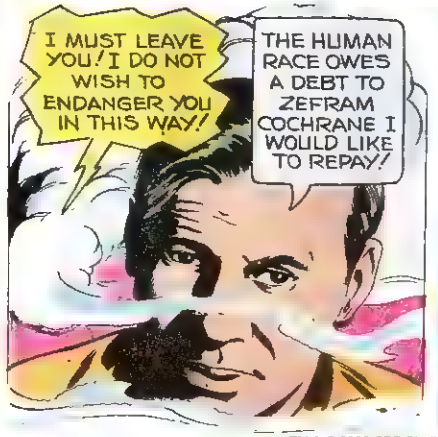


THEY'RE RIGHT, CAPTAIN ! WE DON'T KNOW THE WAY OUT OF HERE ! THEM CLOUD CREATURES ARE CALLIN' ALL THE SHOTS !



WE ARE STARTING TO WEARY OF YOU, CAPT. KIRK ! EITHER THE COMPANION LEAVES YOUR SHIP, OR WE WILL TERMINATE YOU !

WE WILL GIVE YOU TEN OF YOUR MINUTES TO DECIDE !



I MUST LEAVE YOU ! I DO NOT WISH TO ENDANGER YOU IN THIS WAY !

THE HUMAN RACE OWES A DEBT TO ZEFRAM COCHRANE I WOULD LIKE TO REPAY !



BUT, CAPTAIN... GETTING OUT WILL WRECK US !

MAYBE, SCOTTY... JUST MAYBE !

I BEGIN TO UNDERSTAND, CAPTAIN !

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THOSE MODIFICATIONS THAT COCHRANE SUGGESTED... DO YOU THINK YOU CAN MAKE THEM OPERATIONAL IN TEN MINUTES?

I... I'M NOT SURE...

WELL, YOU'D BETTER BE SURE, MR SCOTT! THAT'S AN ORDER!

AYE, SIR!

WHAT ARE YOU ATTEMPTING, CAPT. KIRK?

IT WAS WARP 15 DRIVE THAT PLUNGED THE EXPERIMENTAL CRAFT INTO YOUR UNIVERSE...



MAY I REMIND YOU, CAPTAIN, THAT IT ALSO KILLED THE PILOTS OF THE EXPERIMENTAL CRAFT?

IT'S A CHANCE WE'LL HAVE TO TAKE, MR. SPOCK! I'M BANKING ON THE ENTERPRISE'S STURDIER CONSTRUCTION TO PROTECT US!



SWIFTLY, TENSELY, THE MINUTES TICK OFF, AS...

BRIDGE TO ENGINEERING... HURRY, SCOTTY!

WORKIN' AS FAST AS I CAN, CAPTAIN!



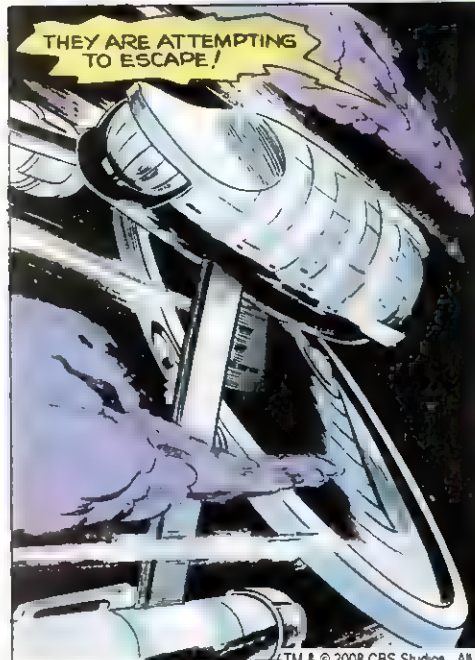
YOUR TIME IS UP, CAPT. KIRK!
RETURN THE COMPANION, OR
SHE, LIKE YOU, SHALL PERISH!



ENGINEERING TO BRIDGE...
MODIFICATIONS COMPLETED!
BUT THERE'S NO GUARANTEE,
CAPTAIN!

ENGAGE WARP
DRIVE, MR SULLI!

AYE AYE,
SIR!

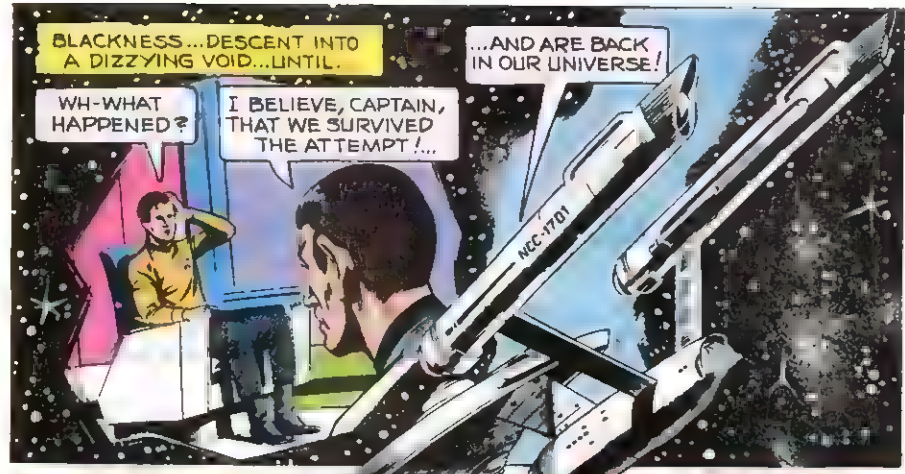


THEY ARE ATTEMPTING
TO ESCAPE!



THE VIBRATIONS...
THEY'LL TEAR US
APART!

DON'T STOP!
WE MUST
ACHIEVE
WARP 15!

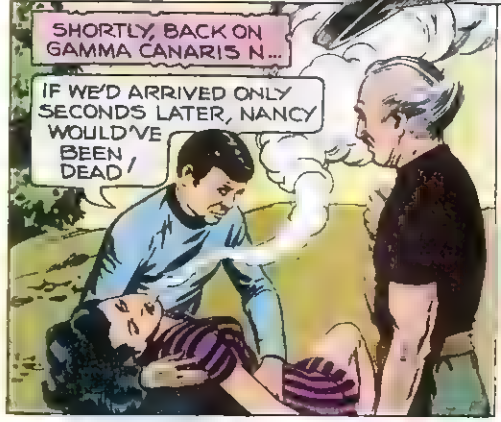


BLACKNESS...DESCENT INTO
A DIZZYING VOID...UNTIL...

...AND ARE BACK
IN OUR UNIVERSE!

WH-WHAT
HAPPENED?

I BELIEVE, CAPTAIN,
THAT WE SURVIVED
THE ATTEMPT!...



SHORTLY, BACK ON
GAMMA CANARIS N...

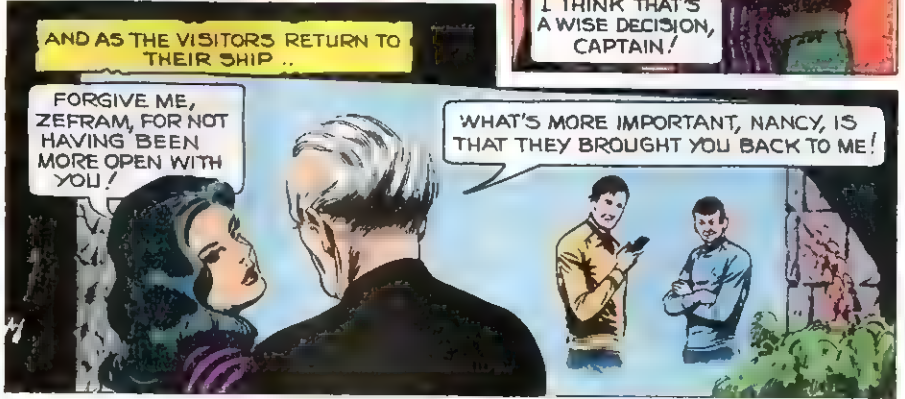
IF WE'D ARRIVED ONLY
SECONDS LATER, NANCY
WOULD'VE
BEEN
DEAD!



SOON AFTER...

I'LL NOTIFY FLEET HEADQUARTERS,
AND RECOMMEND THAT THEY
SUSPEND FURTHER EXPERIMENTS
UNTIL WE MAKE A FINAL REPORT!

I THINK THAT'S
A WISE DECISION,
CAPTAIN!



AND AS THE VISITORS RETURN TO
THEIR SHIP...

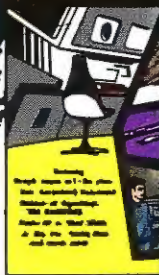
FORGIVE ME,
ZEFRAM, FOR NOT
HAVING BEEN
MORE OPEN WITH
YOU!

WHAT'S MORE IMPORTANT, NANCY, IS
THAT THEY BROUGHT YOU BACK TO ME!

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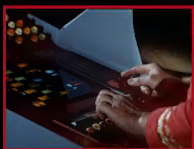
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