

GOLD
KEY

THE PHANTOM

STILL ONLY 12c

THE PHANTOM

10014-411
NOVEMBER

by LEE FALK



The Phantom falls
into a trap from which
no man has EVER escaped!

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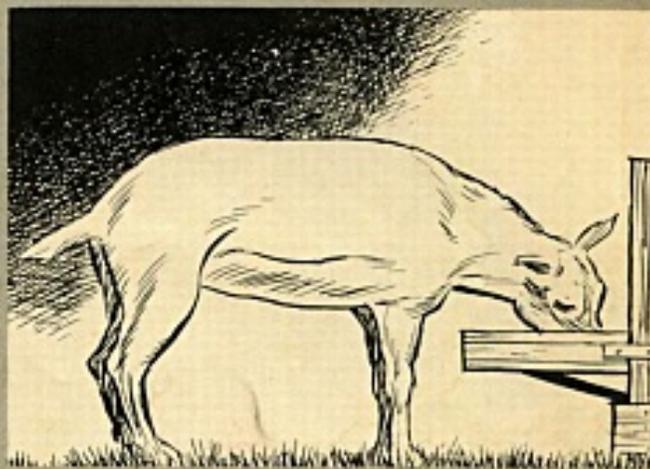
KEYS OF KNOWLEDGE

DOMESTIC ANIMALS

NUMBER 15

DOMESTIC GOATS

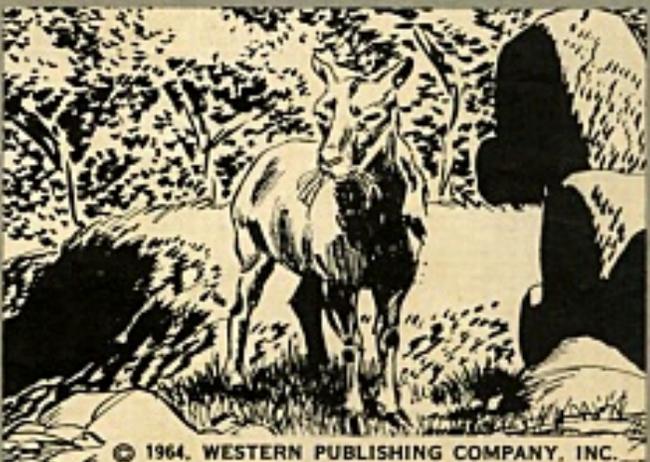
This is one of a series of information features in Gold Key Comics. Collect the whole series for useful knowledge.



Domestic Goats, raised in the south and southwest of the U.S. can exist on land that would not support horses or cattle.



Goats are used to lead herds of sheep that otherwise might stampede and destroy themselves without such guidance.



Expectant does are isolated so that newly-born kids will not be trampled to death by the herd which may be as large as 1200.



Goats are of importance to man, providing flesh and milk suitable for food, hair for clothing, and hides useful for leather.

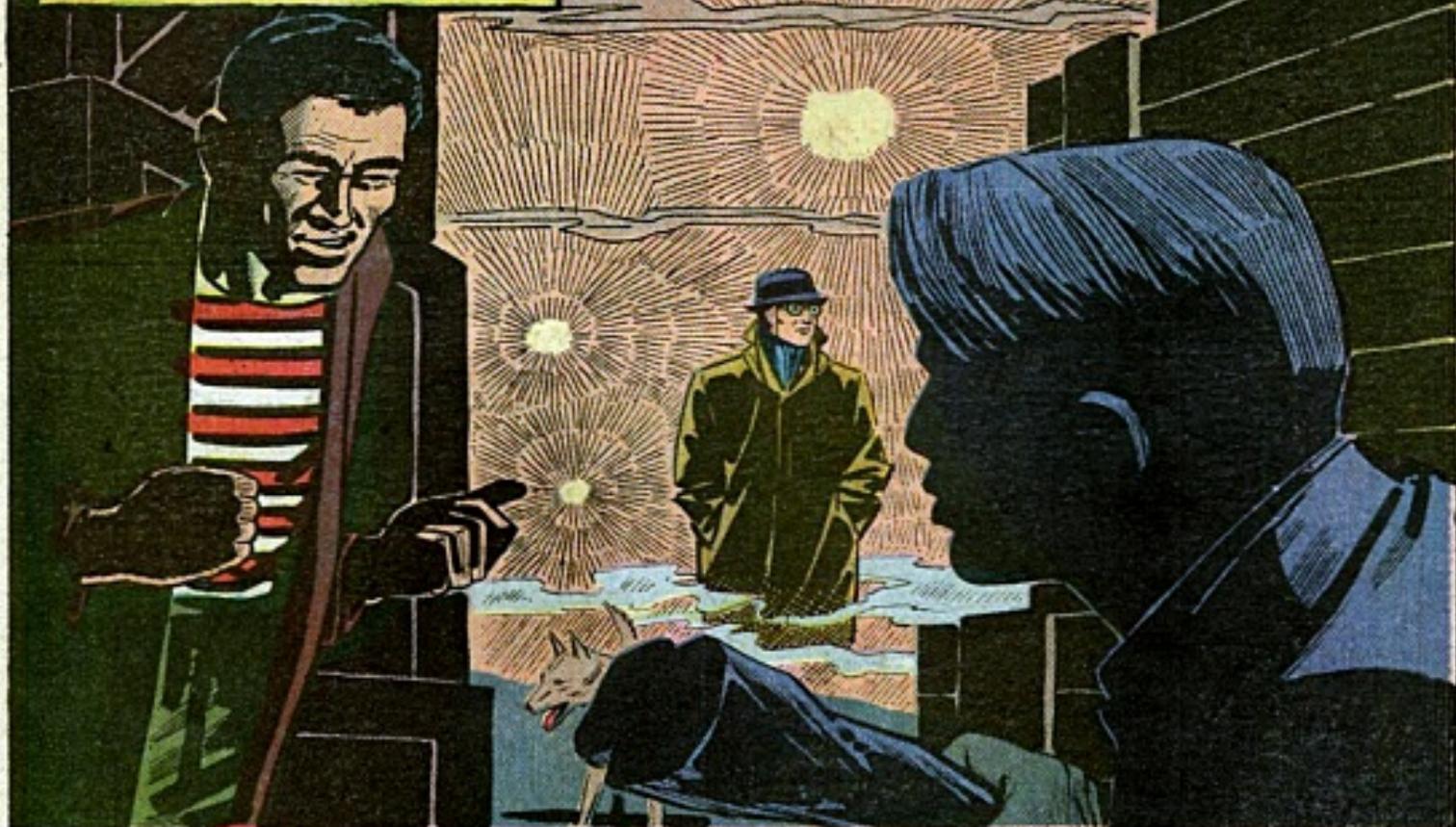


They also serve as draft animals and can operate small treadmills. Goats are usually clipped about twice a year for their hair.

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THE PHANTOM
**THE SIXTH
 MAN**

IT IS SAID THAT SOMETIMES THE PHANTOM LEAVES THE JUNGLE AND WALKS THROUGH THE STREETS OF THE TOWN LIKE AN ORDINARY MAN! THIS WAS SUCH A NIGHT!



PHAN. #9-645

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THE PHANTOM
MOVES LIKE
LIGHTNING...



ALL RIGHT! WHAT'S
YOUR GAME?

THE NATIVES SAY WHEN THE ANGRY PHANTOM
SPEAKS THE WHOLE EARTH TREMBLES!



... AND EVEN THE
STRONGEST
OF MEN TURNS
WEAK WITH TERROR!

DON'T HURT ME!
I'LL TELL YOU!
YOU WERE THE
SIXTH MAN...
WE ALREADY
DELIVERED FIVE!

DELIVERED?
TO WHOM?
AND FOR
WHAT?



TELL
ME!

HONEST!... I
DON'T KNOW **ANY-
THING!** SOME GUY
OFFERED US A HUNDRED
APIECE TO GET HIM
SIX HUSKY MEN! WE
GOT FIVE SO FAR!



WE DELIVERED
'EM TO HIM...
ALIVE BUT
KNOCKED OUT...
HE PAID US AND
CARTED 'EM OFF.
THAT'S **ALL** I
KNOW!



SEE THIS GUN!... REMEMBER, I HAVE IT!

NOW I'LL BE YOUR SIXTH MAN! YOU CAN DELIVER ME!

HUH?... YOU!



YES! NOW HIT ME! HARD! MAKE IT LOOK GOOD!



GOOD!

IT'S LIKE HITTING A STONE WALL!



HELP ME GET HIM OVER TO THE CAPTAIN SO WE CAN COLLECT OUR HUNDRED!

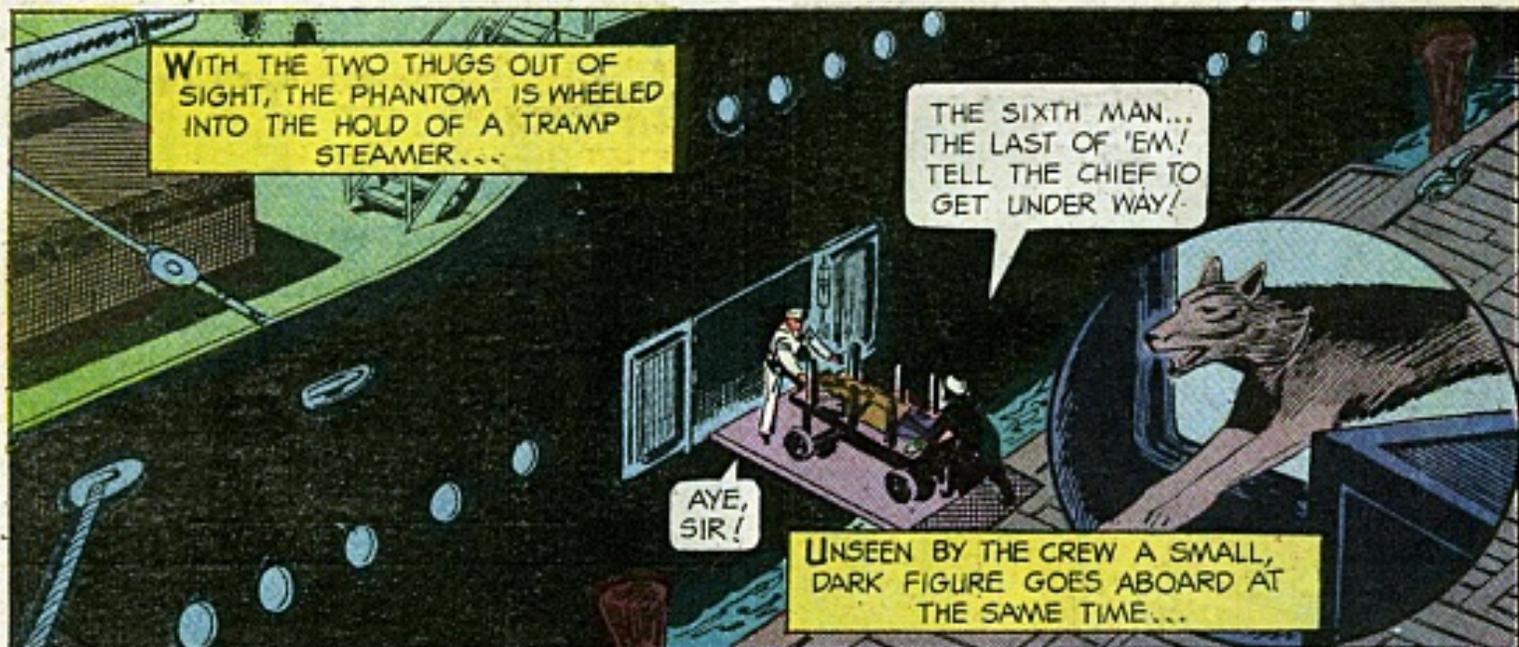
MAC! I WAS WATCHIN! YOU REALLY HIT HIM GOOD!



MINUTES LATER, THE DELIVERY IS MADE AND *THE PHANTOM* BEGINS A STRANGE ADVENTURE...

HERE'S YOUR SIXTH MAN, CAPTAIN!

...AND HERE'S YOUR MONEY! NOW TAKE OFF AND FORGET YOU EVER SAW ME!



WITH THE TWO THUGS OUT OF SIGHT, THE PHANTOM IS WHEELED INTO THE HOLD OF A TRAMP STEAMER...

THE SIXTH MAN... THE LAST OF 'EM! TELL THE CHIEF TO GET UNDER WAY!

AYE, SIR!

UNSEEN BY THE CREW A SMALL, DARK FIGURE GOES ABOARD AT THE SAME TIME...



THE SHIP PUTS OUT TO SEA... AND IN THE HOLD...

DEVIL! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE? IF I DIDN'T SEE YOU, I GUESS NO ONE ELSE DID!... WE'D BETTER KEEP YOU OUT OF SIGHT FOR A WHILE!... BUT WHERE?



SOON THE OTHER FIVE CAPTIVES ARE AWAKE...

HEY!... WHERE AM I?

ON A SHIP! SHANGHAIED!



MAYBE WE'RE CARRYING EXPLOSIVES...

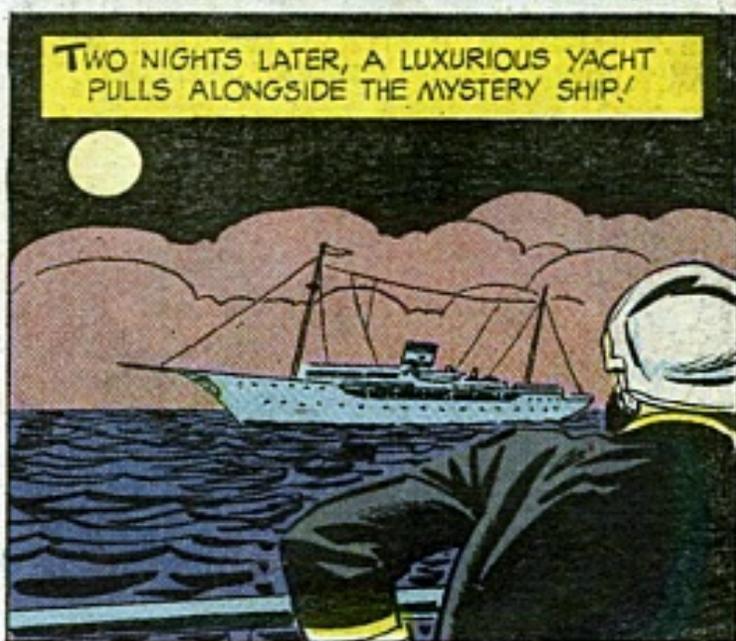
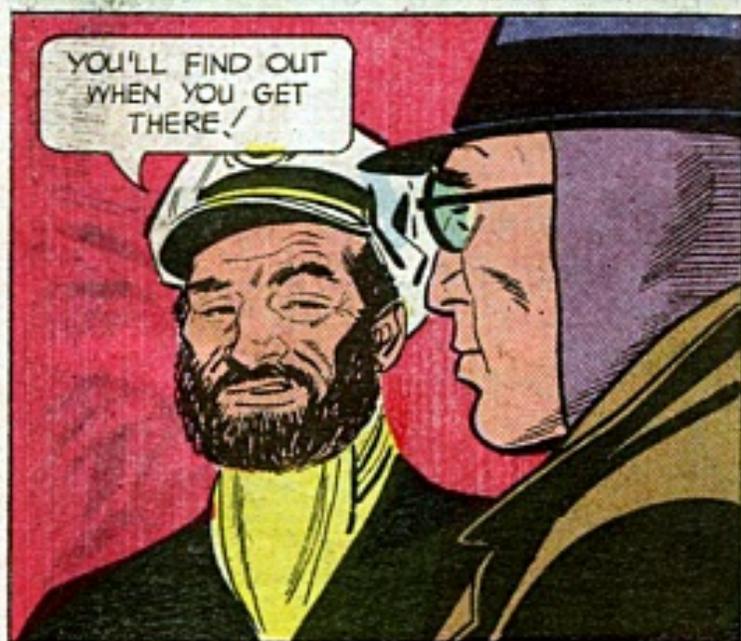
MAYBE WE'RE HEADED FOR A HOSTILE PORT!

HEY YOU! OVER BY THE WALL! WHAT DO YOU THINK?... YOU'RE TAKING ALL THIS PRETTY CALMLY!



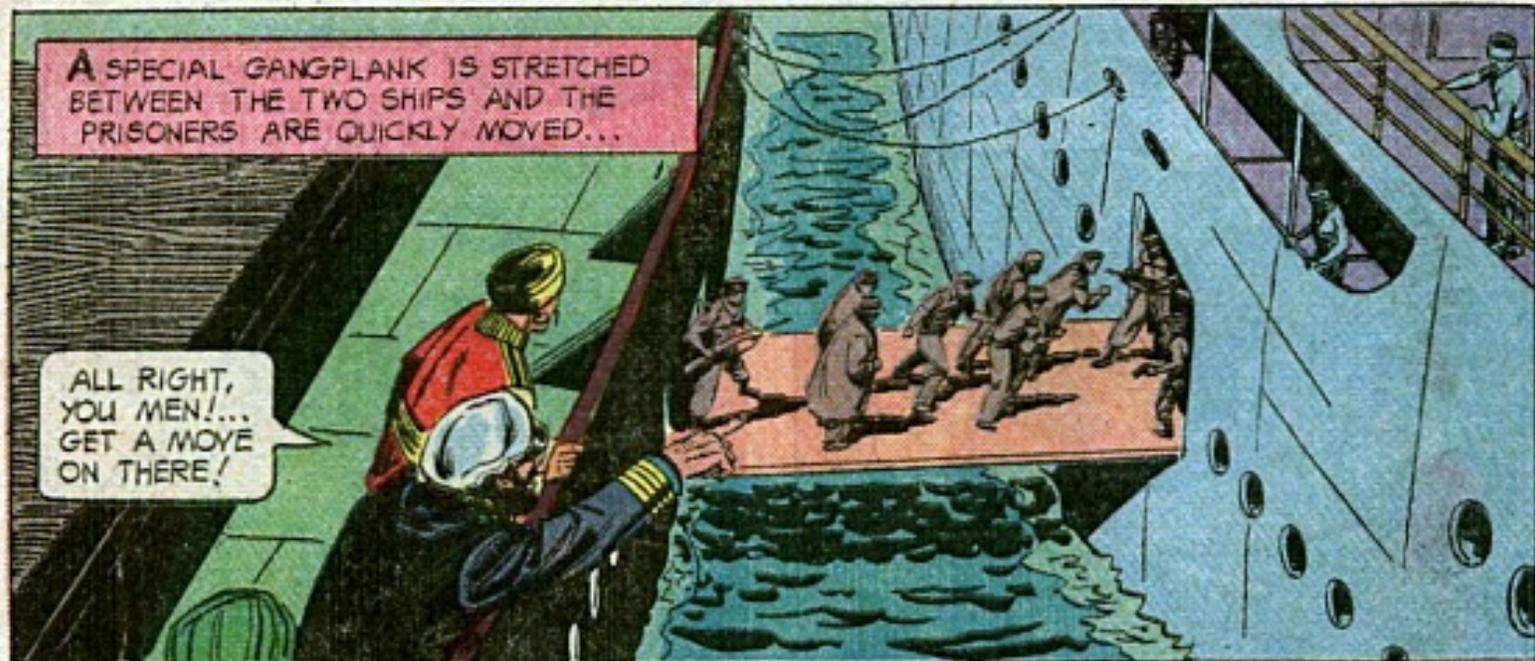
BEFORE THE PHANTOM CAN ANSWER, THE DOOR SUDDENLY OPENS...

HOW ARE YOU MEN FEELING? ALL AWAKE?



A SPECIAL GANGPLANK IS STRETCHED BETWEEN THE TWO SHIPS AND THE PRISONERS ARE QUICKLY MOVED...

ALL RIGHT, YOU MEN!... GET A MOVE ON THERE!



THE PHANTOM, LAST TO LEAVE THE SHIP, HAS MANAGED TO CONCEAL DEVIL UNDER HIS COAT...

EASY, BOY... WE'LL BE IN THE CLEAR IN A MINUTE!



YOU'LL HEAR FROM US WHEN WE NEED YOU AGAIN, CAPTAIN!... NEXT TIME, HOWEVER, BE MORE SELECTIVE! THE SIXTH MAN IN THIS GROUP LOOKED **FAT!** WE WANT ONLY MEN IN GOOD CONDITION!

YOU IMAGINED!... NONE OF THEM IS FAT!



LATER, ABOARD THE YACHT...

YOU'RE PROBABLY WONDERING WHY YOU'VE BEEN BROUGHT HERE AND WHERE YOU'RE GOING!



YOU HAVE BEEN HIRED BY MY RULER! YOU WILL BE WELL-TREATED AND WELL-FED! **ONE** OF YOU HAS A CHANCE FOR GREAT RICHES!

"RICHES FOR ONE... AND THE OTHERS?"



AT DAWN THE NEXT DAY THE YACHT ANCHORS IN A TROPICAL PORT...

PALM TREES!...
WHERE ARE WE?

ARE THOSE REAL
SOLDIERS?... THEY
LOOK LIKE SOME-
THING OUT OF THE
ARABIAN NIGHTS!

YEAH!
BUT THOSE
GUNS ARE
REAL
ENOUGH!



STAY DEVIL,
UNTIL I
WHISTLE
FOR YOU!



THE PRISONERS ARE TAKEN TO A BEAUTIFUL
PALACE IN THE CENTER OF THE CITY...

IS THIS
WHERE WE
BUNK?

BUT WITH
BARS
ON THE
WINDOWS!

IT'S FIT FOR
A KING!



TOMORROW YOU WILL
MEET OUR RULER AND
LEARN WHY YOU'VE BEEN
BROUGHT HERE!

WHO CARES?
WHAT A
FEAST!

TURKEYS
ARE WELL-
STUFFED
BEFORE
THANKSGIVING,
TOO!

THEY ARE TREATED LIKE
HONORED GUESTS RATHER
THAN PRISONERS...



THE NEXT MORNING THEY ARE USHERED INTO A HUGE ROOM IN THE PALACE...

YOU ARE NOW IN THE PRESENCE OF YOUR RULER. UNCOVER YOUR HEADS!



... I SAID REMOVE YOUR HAT!

NO THANK YOU! I PREFER TO LEAVE IT ON!



WHY DOES THAT MAN HAVE HIS HAT ON?



I DID NOT ASK TO COME HERE! I SHALL NOT TAKE OFF MY HAT!



IMPUDENT DOCK WALLOWER! REMOVE YOUR HAT IN THE PRESENCE OF QUEEN SANSAMOR!

NO, CALI! LET HIM KEEP IT ON! I ADMIRE SUCH SPIRIT!





I LIKE TO SEE STRONG MEN FIGHT FOR WHAT THEY WANT! THAT IS WHY YOU WERE BROUGHT HERE!

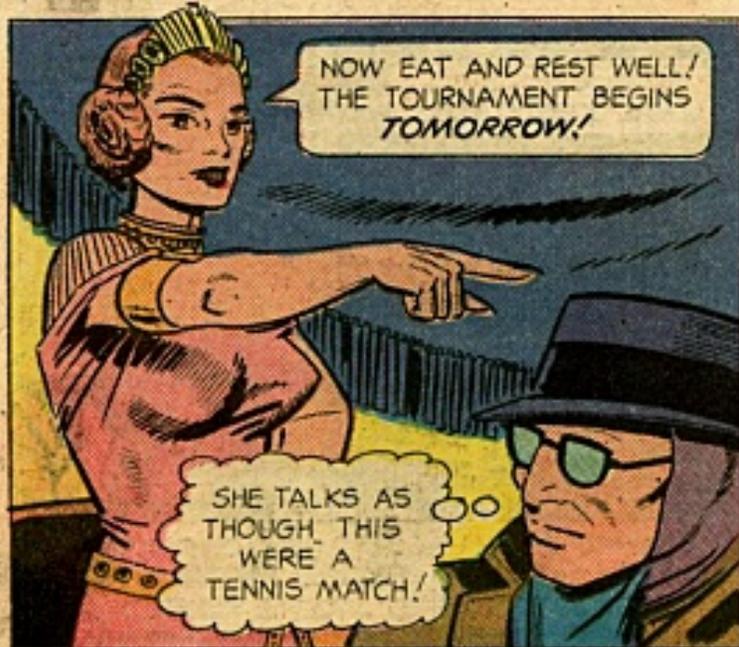
NEAR MY PALACE IS A PRIVATE ARENA! THERE YOU SIX WILL FIGHT WITH HAND WEAPONS UNTIL ONLY **ONE** IS LEFT!



THAT ONE WILL FIGHT MY CHAMPION! IF YOU BEAT **HIM!**



THIS IS THE PRIZE! JEWELS AND GOLD WORTH OVER A MILLION!



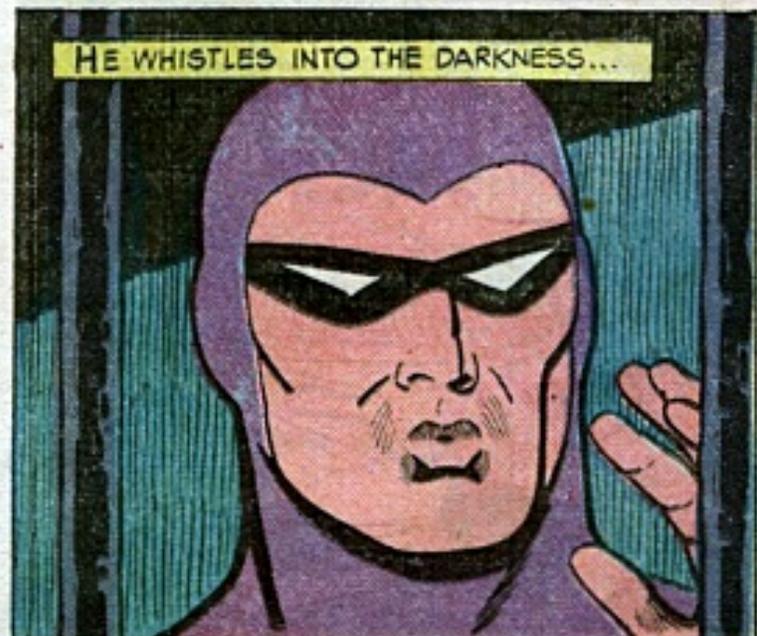
NOW EAT AND REST WELL! THE TOURNAMENT BEGINS **TOMORROW!**

SHE TALKS AS THOUGH THIS WERE A TENNIS MATCH!



LATER, WHEN THE MEN HAVE LEFT...

A GOOD LOT, CALI! IF I WERE TO BET ON A WINNER, I'D PICK THE ONE WHO WOULDN'T TAKE OFF HIS HAT!





AND LATER THAT NIGHT, STRANGE THINGS BEGIN TO HAPPEN...

UHP!...

SHHH!...DON'T BE AFRAID! I WON'T HARM YOU!



I ONLY WANT INFORMATION ABOUT QUEEN SANSAMOR!

WHAT IS THERE TO TELL? SHE IS A SPOILED CHILD... BUT WHO ARE YOU?



I'M ASKING THE QUESTIONS! ... GO ON!

SHE ALWAYS LOVED VIOLENCE! MANY MEN HAVE FOUGHT FOR HER IN THE ARENA! BUT NONE HAVE WON THE PRIZE BECAUSE NONE COULD BEAT HER CHAMPION!



THE PHANTOM'S NEXT STOP IS THE THRONE ROOM AND THE GLITTERING TREASURE...

THIS GOLD IS THE PRIZE THAT HAS COST SO MANY LIVES. I'D LIKE TO HAVE A CLOSER LOOK.



AROOOOO

BUT AS HE REACHES FOR THE CHEST THE ENTIRE PALACE IS FILLED WITH THE SOUND OF AN ALARM!



THE PALACE GUARD RUSHES INTO THE ROOM -- ONLY TO FIND IT *EMPTY!*

THERE'S NO ONE HERE!

SOMETHING SET OFF THAT ALARM!



SOMETHING IS RIGHT!-- LOOK AT THIS!

SKULL MARK!



SKULL MARK?-- SOMEONE IS TRYING TO FRIGHTEN YOU WITH FAIRY TALES! SEARCH THE PALACE!

CHECK THE PRISONERS!



...BUT WHEN THE PRISONERS ARE CHECKED...

WHERE'S THE SIXTH MAN?-- AND HOW DID THAT WOLF GET IN HERE?

WE DON'T KNOW!-- IT WAS HERE WHEN WE WOKE UP!



THE WINDOWS ARE BARRED... THERE WAS A GUARD AT THE DOOR... NO ONE COULD GET IN OR OUT! A MAN CAN'T TURN HIMSELF INTO A WOLF!

ONE MAN CAN...

THE PHANTOM!



WHAT DOES ALL THIS MEAN, CALI?

YOUR HIGHNESS, AN OLD JUNGLE LEGEND SPEAKS OF **THE PHANTOM!** THE NATIVES SAY HE CAN TAKE THE SHAPE OF AN ANIMAL SUCH AS A WOLF!

--HIS SIGN IS A SKULL MARK, LIKE THE ONE WE FOUND ON THE CHEST!



NONSENSE!--GROWN MEN AFRAID OF MYTHS! BUT--ER--SEE THAT WOLF IS KEPT LOCKED UP!



THE SEARCH FOR THE SIXTH MAN IS INTERRUPTED THE NEXT MORNING WHEN THE PRISONERS ARE LED THROUGH THE STREETS TO THE ARENA!



IN PLACE OF THE SIXTH MAN... A WOLF, WHO MANY BELIEVE IS THE SIXTH MAN!

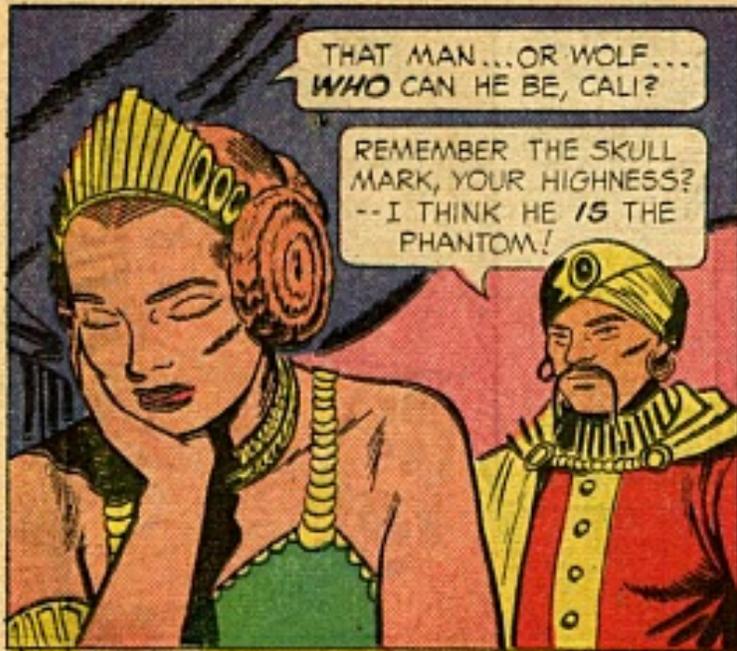
THERE THEY GO, INTO THE ARENA, WITH DEVIL! I'VE GOT TO STOP THE FIGHT SOMEHOW!



LATER, UNSEEN BY THE OTHERS...

SH-H-H, DEVIL! IT'S TIME FOR US TO SWITCH PLACES! ...HIDE, BOY... **QUICKLY!**





THAT MAN...OR WOLF...
WHO CAN HE BE, CALI?

REMEMBER THE SKULL
MARK, YOUR HIGHNESS?
--I THINK HE IS THE
PHANTOM!



THE MAN WHO CANNOT DIE! WHAT A
FIGHT THIS WILL BE! LET IT BEGIN!

...BUT YOUR
HIGHNESS, THE
MEN REFUSE
TO FIGHT!



THE ANGRY QUEEN HURRIES BACK TO THE ARENA...

WE REFUSE
TO FIGHT!

NOT
AGAINST A
WOLF-MAN!

AND
NOT FOR
PHONY
JEWELS!



THE JEWELS
ARE *REAL!*
YOU *WILL*
FIGHT-- ALL
OF YOU-- OR
BE SHOT DOWN
WHERE YOU
STAND!

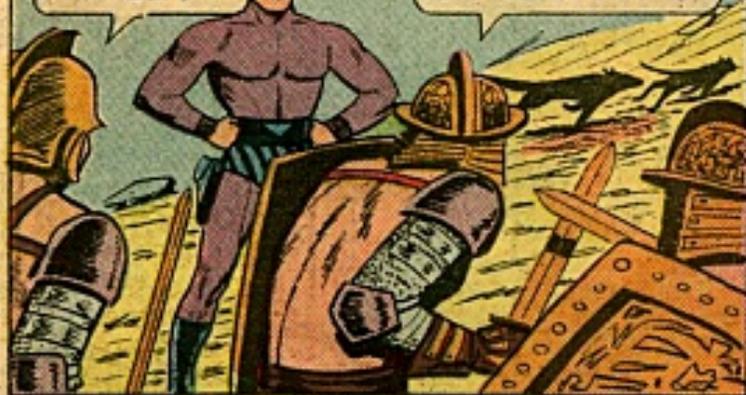


SUDDENLY, FATE UPSETS THE PHANTOM'S
PLANS, A STRAY CAT ATTRACTS THE
ATTENTION OF THE CONCEALED DEVIL...
AND THE CHASE IS ON!

RIGHT INTO THE ARENA RUNS THE CAT WITH DEVIL
IN HOT PURSUIT!

SO--IT WAS A FANCY
SHELL GAME! PRETEND-
ING YOU WERE
A WOLF!

WE OUGHT TO
TEAR YOU APART!
SOME ACT!--TAKE
OFF THAT MASK!



WAIT! DO
NOT HARM
HIM! I FIND
THIS AMUSING!
IF HE IS AS
STRONG AS
HE IS
CLEVER,
HE'LL WIN
THIS
CONTEST!
-- THEN
HE'LL FACE
MY
CHAMPION!



YOU KNOW THE RULES! ONLY
ONE OF YOU SIX CAN WIN!
OVER THERE IS A HILL ...



"WHOEVER REACHES THE TOP GAINS THE
RIGHT TO FIGHT MY CHAMPION WHO IS
IN THAT TENT! DEFEAT HIM AND THE
MILLION IN JEWELS IS YOURS!

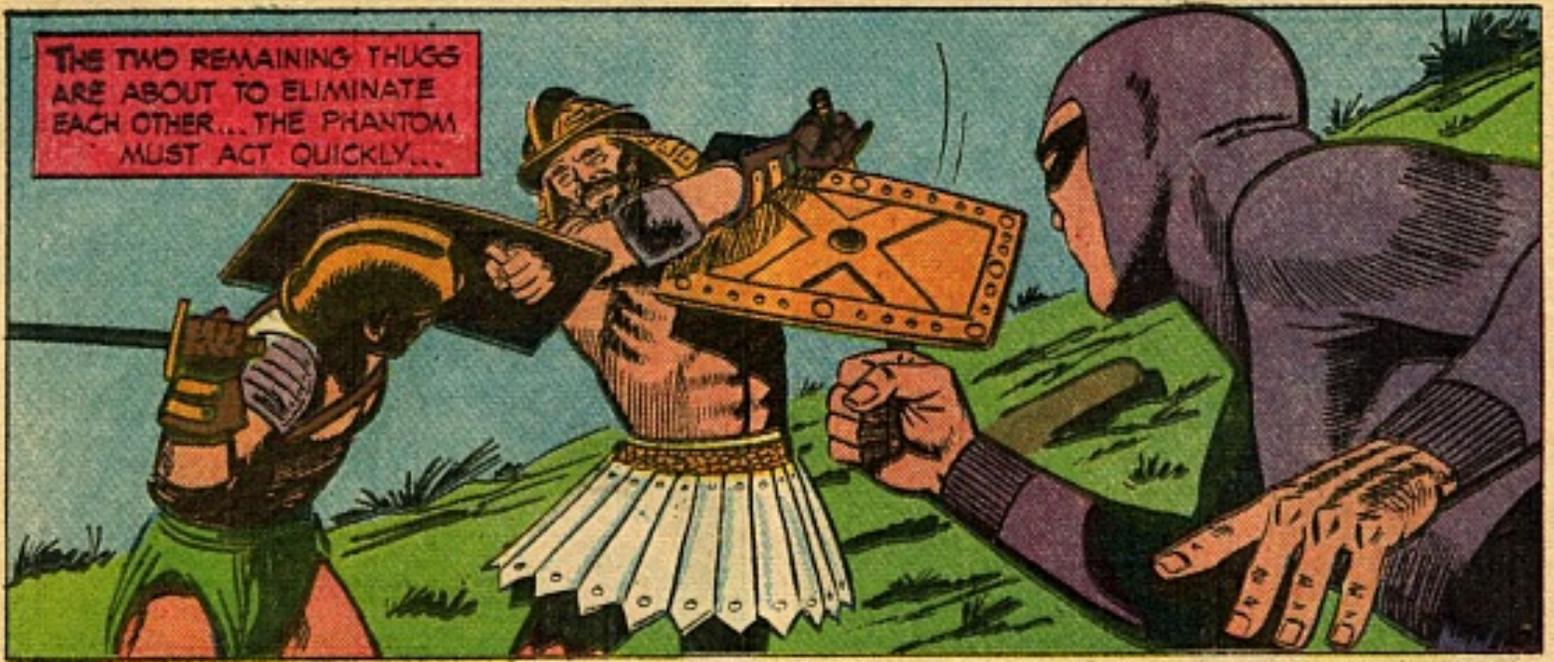


"...LET THE CONTEST BEGIN!"





THE TWO REMAINING THUGS
ARE ABOUT TO ELIMINATE
EACH OTHER... THE PHANTOM
MUST ACT QUICKLY...



LIKE A JUNGLE CAT, THE
GHOST WHO WALKS SPRINGS...

FOUR
DOWN...
ONE TO
GO!

AND
YOU ARE
NUMBER
FIVE!





NOW THE PHANTOM MOVES SLOWLY TOWARD THE BLACK TENT AND THE UNKNOWN CHAMPION OF THE QUEEN...



IT'S GOOD-BYE TO HIM!
NO ONE'S EVER COME OUT OF THAT TENT ALIVE!

HE'S TOO BRAVE TO DIE THIS WAY!
STOP HIM!



IT'S TOO LATE, YOUR HIGHNESS
HE HAS REACHED THE TENT!



NOW TO MEET THE UNKNOWN...
HUH...

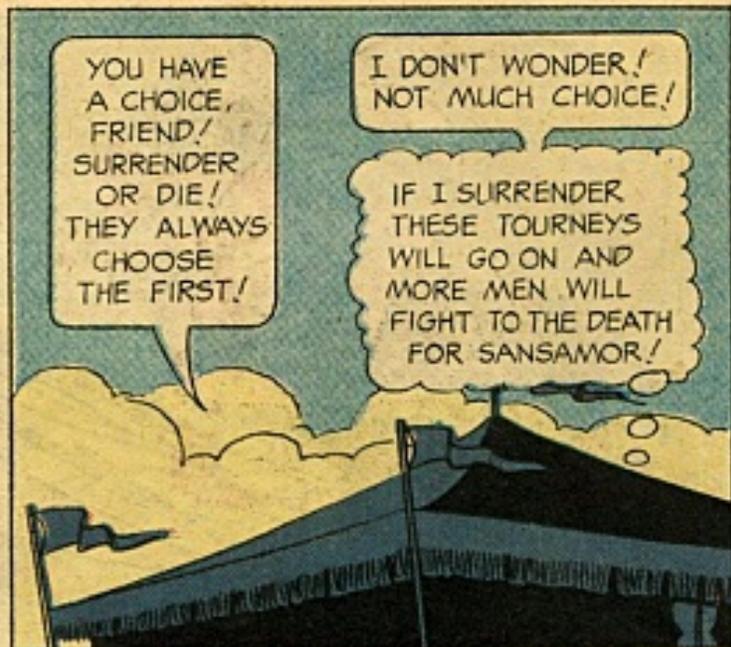
...AFTER THE SUNLIGHT OUTSIDE...
DARK IN HERE...
CAN'T SEE!





AS HIS EYES BECAME ACCUSTOMED TO THE GLOOM, THE PHANTOM SEES ANOTHER MASKED MAN! THE QUEEN'S UNKNOWN, UNDEFEATED CHAMPION!

AN EXECUTIONER!



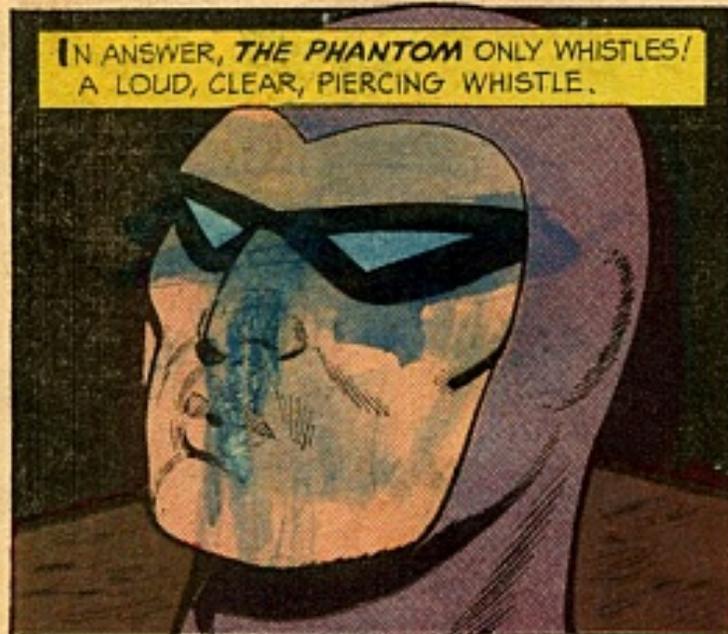
YOU HAVE A CHOICE, FRIEND! SURRENDER OR DIE! THEY ALWAYS CHOOSE THE FIRST!

I DON'T WONDER! NOT MUCH CHOICE!

IF I SURRENDER THESE TOURNEYS WILL GO ON AND MORE MEN WILL FIGHT TO THE DEATH FOR SANSAMOR!



COME MAN! I CAN'T WAIT ALL DAY FOR YOU TO MAKE UP YOUR MIND!... WHAT IS YOUR CHOICE?



IN ANSWER, THE PHANTOM ONLY WHISTLES! A LOUD, CLEAR, PIERCING WHISTLE.



SECONDS LATER...

GOOD BOY, DEVIL! GET HIM!



WOLF!



KEEP HIM BUSY, BOY!

CAREFUL OF THAT AXE!



TO QUICK FOR ME!
CAN'T HANDLE HIM!
HELP!



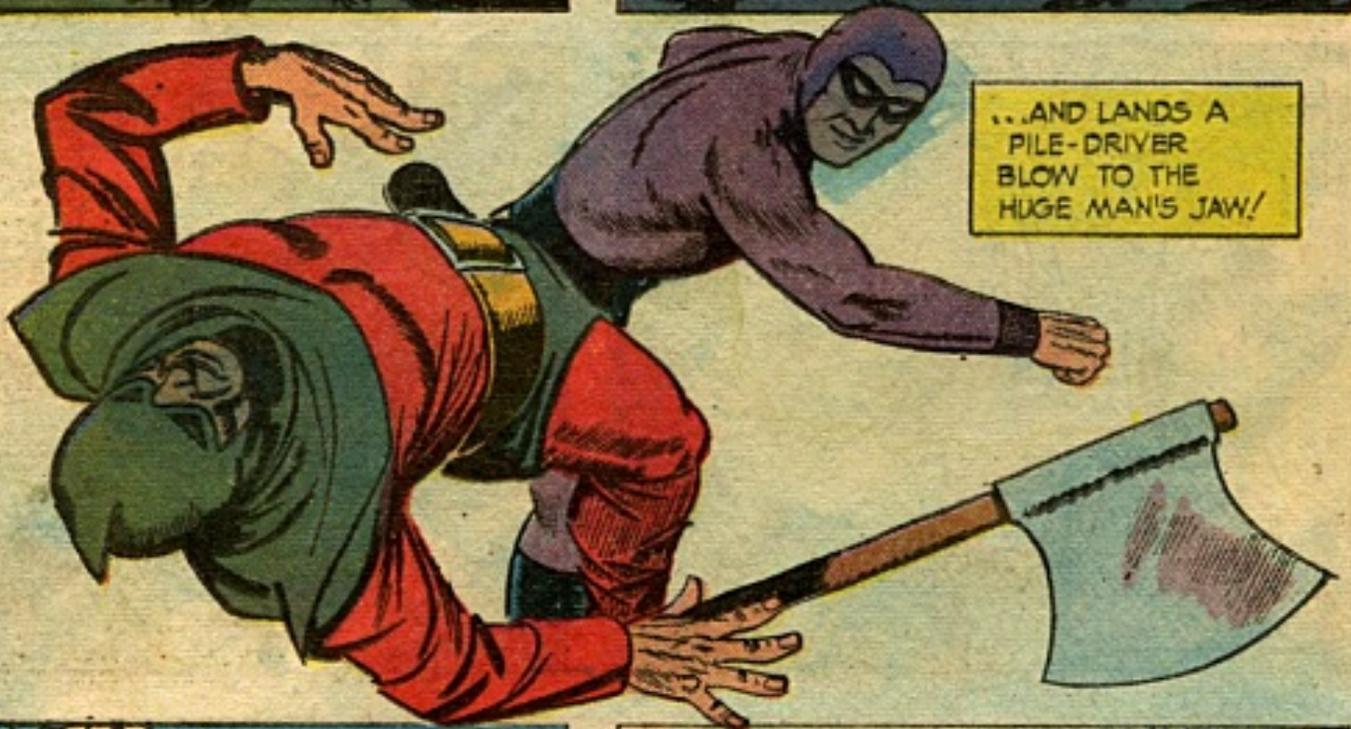
NO WONDER HE'S UNDEFEATED!

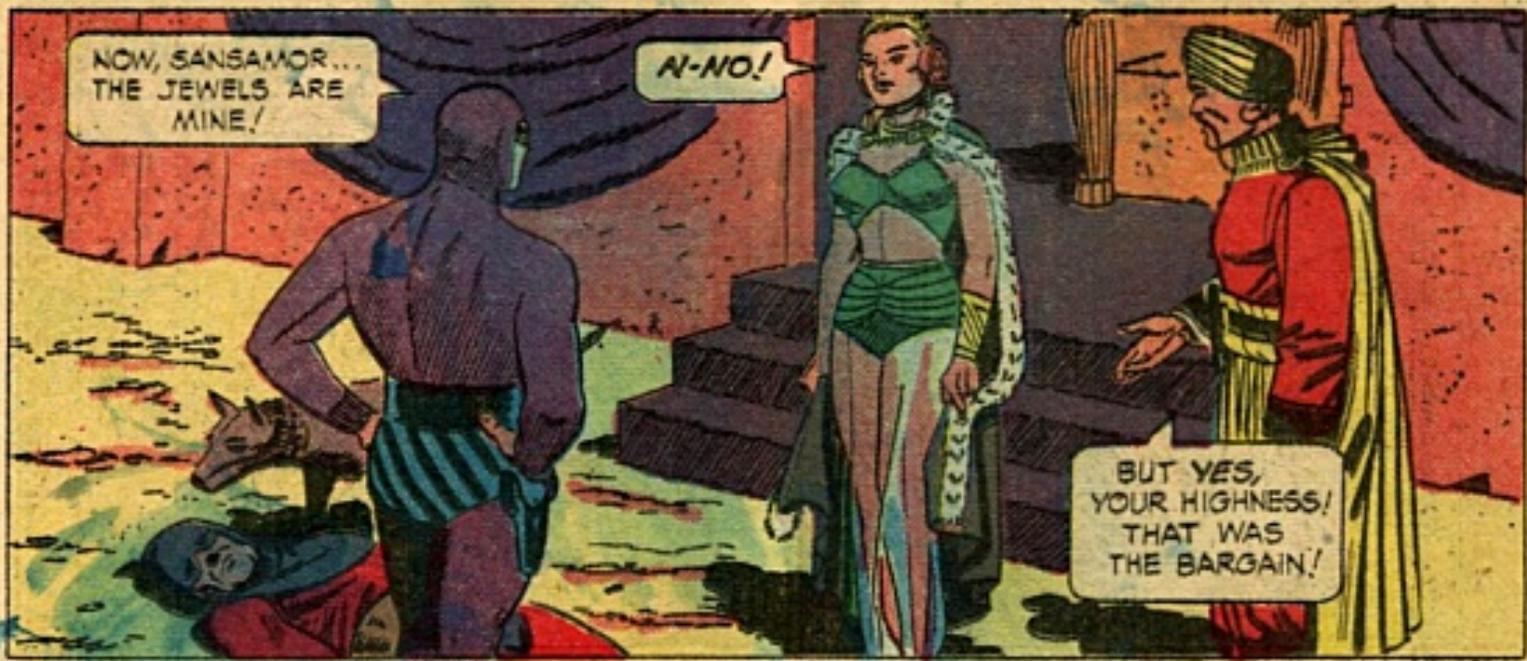
SO THAT'S THE QUEEN'S UNKNOWN CHAMPION!
AN EXECUTIONER!



AT LAST!

INSIDE THE TENT, THE PHANTOM BREAKS FREE OF THE TRAP...





NOW, SANSAMOR...
THE JEWELS ARE
MINE!

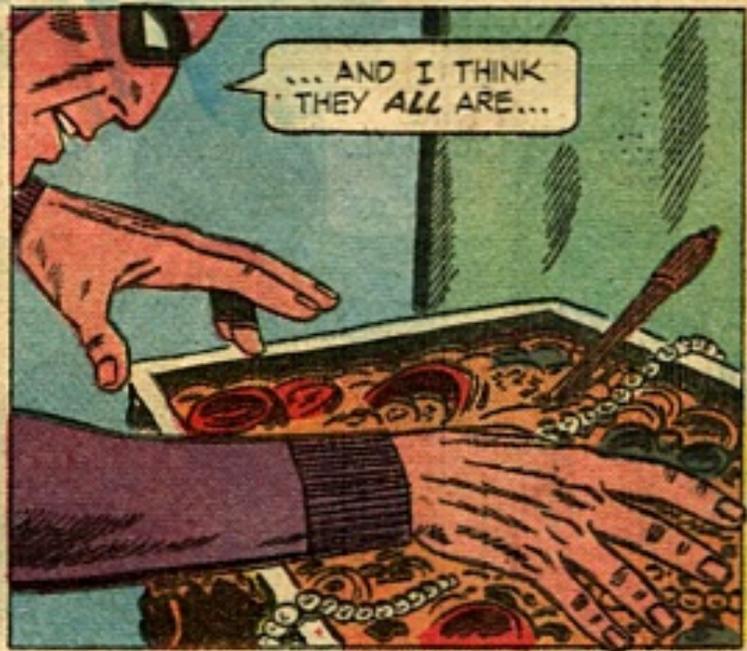
N-NO!

BUT YES,
YOUR HIGHNESS!
THAT WAS
THE BARGAIN!



THE PHANTOM HEADS FOR THE THRONE-ROOM
AND THE JEWELS...

SOME BARGAIN...
IF THOSE JEWELS
ARE WHAT I
THINK
THEY ARE...



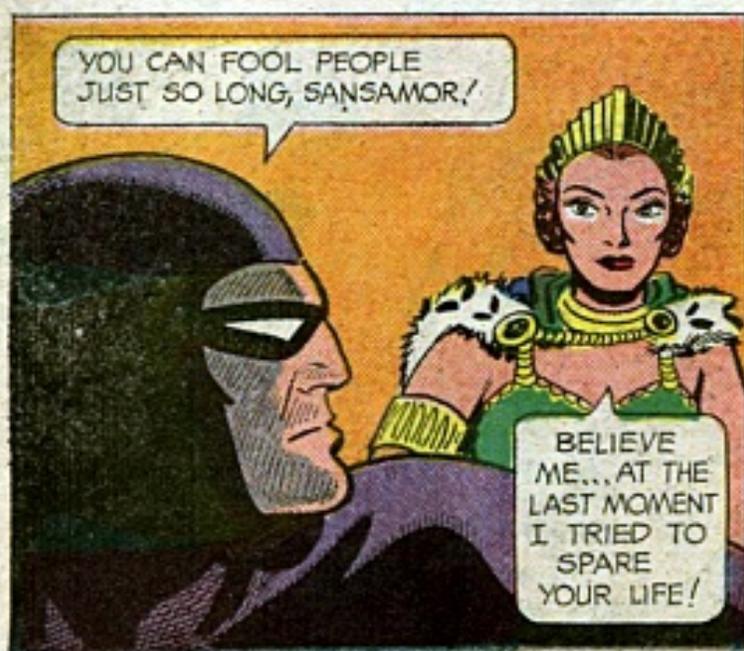
... AND I THINK
THEY ALL ARE...



... PASTE!



NO!



NEXT MORNING, AS **THE PHANTOM** PREPARES TO LEAVE...

WE'VE PUT THE QUEEN UNDER HOUSE ARREST! -- NOW WHAT?

LET YOUR COURTS DECIDE!-- HAVE I YOUR PROMISE THAT THESE TOURNAMENTS ARE FINISHED?



CONFIDENTIALLY, NONE OF US APPROVED OF SANSAMOR'S HOBBY. THE SOLDIERS WANT YOU TO TAKE HER PLACE!

NO THANKS!... I HAVE WORK TO DO!



I ALMOST FORGOT... ARE YOU REALLY **THE PHANTOM**... THE GHOST WHO WALKS?

WHAT? I CAN'T HEAR YOU!



I SAID... OH, WHAT'S THE USE, HE CAN'T HEAR ME NOW!

I GUESS I'LL NEVER KNOW!



IT IS SAID THAT SOMETIMES **THE PHANTOM** LEAVES THE JUNGLE AND WALKS THE STREETS OF THE TOWN LIKE AN ORDINARY MAN...



... TO THOSE WHO MEET HIM ON SUCH NIGHTS, HE IS ANYTHING BUT AN **ORDINARY MAN**!

PHAN-MAIL!

Concerning your Phan Mail in issue #6, I agree with the writer who said please no space monsters or one long story. Two stories are much better. I disagree that THE PHANTOM should go back in time and fight Indians! There is enough odd-ball stuff like that in other comics. About THE PHANTOM and TARZAN appearing in a story together, I am a little skeptical, but I suppose it would be all right if it didn't get out of hand. Please do not have advertisements in THE PHANTOM! It down-grades the quality. Just leave the covers like they are. Also please leave the inside covers like they are, with the Keys Of Knowledge. One question, who is Doctor Axel?

K. French
115 W. 11th St., Port Angeles, Wash.

Doctor Axel established a jungle hospital many years ago with the help of THE PHANTOM. He, like THE PHANTOM, has dedicated his life to helping the natives and preserving peace in the jungle. The witch doctors, of course, hate both Doctor Axel and THE PHANTOM since they thrive in an atmosphere of superstition and ignorance.

There is one thing that I disagree with you on: It is that you say THE PHANTOM is the ruler of the jungle. I think that TARZAN is the king and ruler of the jungle. I also like TARZAN better and I think that he is stronger than THE PHANTOM.

Cheryl Dancy
Rt. 4, North Wilesboro, N. C.

May I suggest that you put THE PHANTOM on television? You could still write comic books about them. Bonanza is on television and still has its very own comic book. Or you could make film stories about THE PHANTOM. I am ten years old. I am very fond of THE PHANTOM and I buy every issue of him.

Sammy Wetanobe
629 E. Cordova St., Vancouver, B. C.

I think you and Lee Falk are just great! I have been a fan of yours since 1962, because that was the year I first saw a PHANTOM Comic. KING, QUEEN AND JACK are good, but THE PHANTOM is better. Does Lee Falk make up the pictures? One of the best stories I've read was "Son Of The Ghost Who Walks." I like the idea of making two copies, one on the front and one on the back. Whenever I finish reading it, I like to cut out THE PHANTOM Pin-Ups. On the pin-up of The Swamp Rats, I liked the dark skies and the blue water. The rest of them were great too.

Saul Weisel
921 Rockland, Montreal, Quebec

Lee Falk is THE PHANTOM's creator. He writes the popular newspaper feature as well as the Gold Key Comic.

Out of my collection of at least forty comics, the four PHANTOM comics I have are the best. I like the trouble THE PHANTOM gets into and I like the way he gets out of it. I like your covers. They get me interested. I like your comic strip in the daily papers too.

Brian Hughes
515 Daves Avenue, Utica, N. Y.

I have always enjoyed THE PHANTOM in the newspaper comics and I'm glad that Gold Key has decided to publish a comic book on THE PHANTOM. I like the idea of a PHANTOM ANNUAL, but please don't put talking on the covers or advertisements between the stories. Having Keys Of Knowledge rather than advertisements is one thing that makes me like Gold Key so much. My sister told me that a long time ago in the comics in the paper there was a girl PHANTOM. Is that so? If it is, what was the story about her? Thanks for a great magazine!

Sandra Lee Howell
RR 1, Box 5, Iron City, Ga.

There was a girl PHANTOM — and a very interesting story it is! We plan to tell the entire story in a forthcoming issue. Watch for it!

The Super Apes was the best PHANTOM story yet! Why didn't the bullets kill them when the Jungle Patrolman tried to shoot them? Why couldn't THE PHANTOM knock them down with his fists? Did THE PHANTOM know it was really men in ape suits when he first saw them? THE PHANTOM is the greatest character in comics. He can be killed, but no man is able to kill him. He can be hurt, but nobody's strong enough or smart enough to hurt him. Why don't you have a PHANTOM adventure at the New York World's Fair?

Michael Boranian
208-10 35th Ave., Bayside, N. Y.

The costumes the "super apes" wore were very heavily padded so that bullets couldn't get through to the man inside. Although a blow from the fist of THE PHANTOM can stop any man, the super apes were ready for that too with extra-thick padding around their jaws. Their fists were encased in steel, so that they were able to knock THE PHANTOM unconscious when they had the opportunity. THE PHANTOM is too busy preserving THE PHANTOM peace in the jungle to come to New York.

In answer to a letter in Phan Mail, I think there shouldn't be any talking on the covers except the title and the caption beneath the picture. All the word balloons do is block out the picture. The black and other dark colors are just fine for the skies because they make THE PHANTOM, colorful jungle and other figures stand out. THE PHANTOM doesn't have to go back in time for battles. All you have to do is show some of the first PHANTOM's adventures. If you will take a few minutes to look through the book, you will find that every page is well-occupied. There is no need for any advertisements. There are enough books with this in them already. One more thing: If this kid likes KING, QUEEN AND JACK so much, why does he want to cut them out of the book to put three PHANTOM stories in?

Leigh Varcheski
2227 South Trail, Venice, Fla.

I have been a loyal fan of THE PHANTOM since 1950 when I first read it in the newspaper. The comic books are both interesting and exciting! How did THE PHANTOM first become the leader of the Jungle Patrol? I want to know exactly. Please re-run this story in the comic someday. There is usually one adventure of THE PHANTOM four times a year. I would like to see two adventures of THE PHANTOM four times a year or a full adventure every month. What do you think?

Jack J. Haas
238 Bloy St., Hillside, N. J.

The story of *The Jungle Patrol* is an interesting one. We'll try to bring it to you in *Gold Key Comics* soon.

I have been an ardent reader of your costumed hero publications for several months. I want to congratulate you on your consistently fine quality. Your covers are the most beautiful of all the comics on the market. Your paper is of a fine texture and most of your artwork is simply superb. Although THE PHANTOM plots are only ordinary, the art is fine and the cover feature in your current issue is also great. THE PHANTOM has the best covers of all your comics and please don't change them as was suggested in a recent letter column. Light backgrounds and word balloons would make your great covers simply run-of-the-mill. Let the readers whom dark covers scare go back to his Mother Goose books! I am eagerly looking forward to your new publications, MIGHTY SAMSON and JOHN CARTER. I hope the latter follows the book version as much as possible. I wish you success in the future and ask you not to cater to the whims of those readers who wish to bring down the excellent quality of your magazines to an average level. In other words — stay great!

Andrew Franknoi
1950 Andrews Ave., Bronx, N. Y.

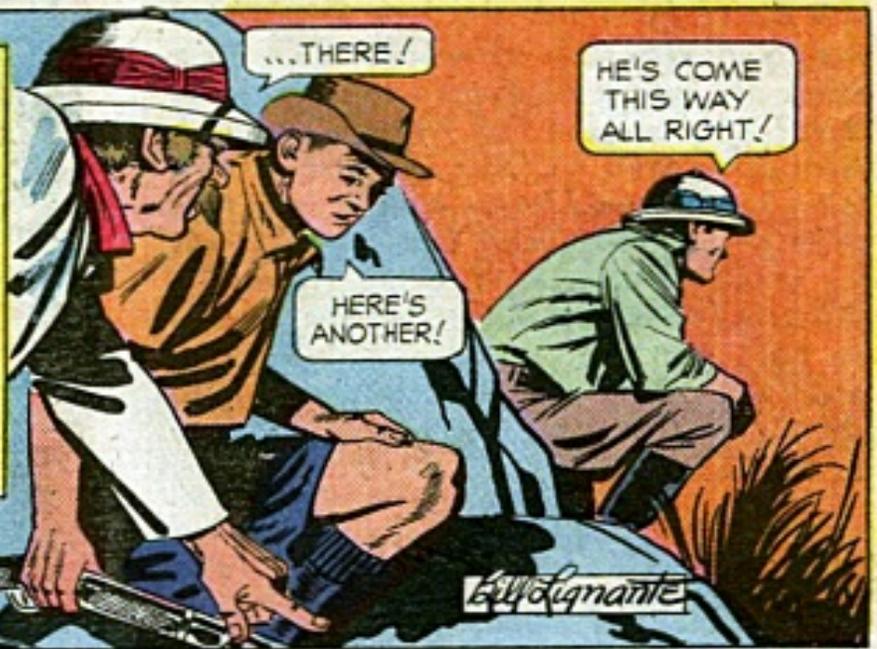
Although it isn't possible to answer each and every letter, your ideas and suggestions are important. Address your mail to:

THE PHANTOM
K. K. Publications, Inc.
Poughkeepsie, New York, 12601

KING QUEEN AND JACK

A BREATHTAKING EXPERIENCE

A LEOPARD, POUND FOR POUND, IS THE STRONGEST, FIERCEST ANIMAL ON EARTH. A WOUNDED LEOPARD IS DOUBLY DANGEROUS! THIS ONE WAS WOUNDED...



...THERE!

HE'S COME THIS WAY ALL RIGHT!

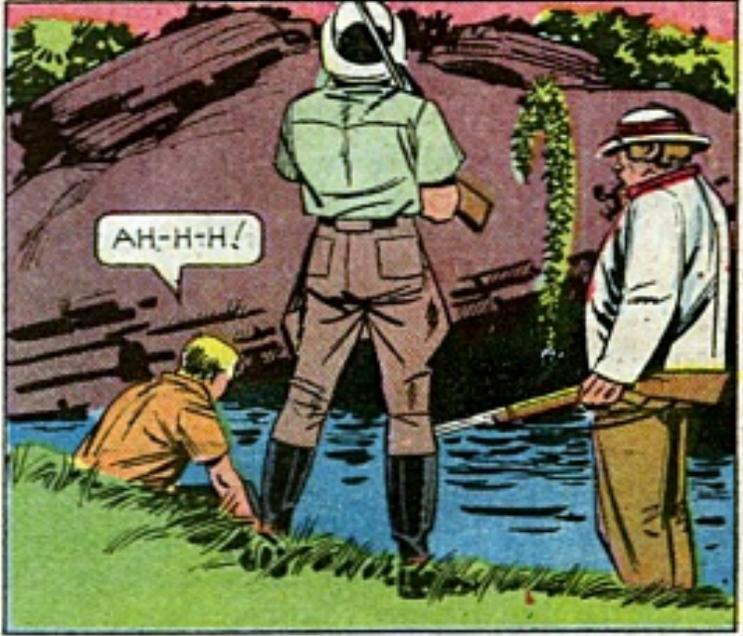
HERE'S ANOTHER!

Bill Siganante

FOUR HOURS LATER...

OH-H! LOOK AT THAT BEAUTIFUL COOL POOL! HOW I'D LOVE TO DUNK MY FEET IN THERE!

GO AHEAD, LAD! QUEEN AND I WILL STAND WATCH!



AH-H-H!



ROAH-H-H!

THE SERENE SILENCE IS BROKEN AS THE BLACK AND YELLOW FURY SPRINGS...



INSTINCTIVELY, QUEEN FIRES AT THE BLUR DESCENDING ON THE BACK OF HIS FRIEND... HE MISSES...

BAM!

THE LEOPARD SINKS ITS TEETH INTO KING'S SHOULDER AND THE TWO, PROPELLED BY THE MOMENTUM OF THE CHARGE, ROLL OVER INTO THE POOL...



JACK EXCITEDLY REACHES FOR HIS RIFLE TO HELP HIS FRIEND...



MR. KING!

LOCKED IN A STRANGE EMBRACE, BEAST AND MAN SINK BELOW THE SURFACE OF THE WATER...

MR. QUEEN, DO SOMETHING!



HOLD YOUR FIRE, LAD! WE'LL SHOOT AS SOON AS WE HAVE A TARGET!

LIKE THE STERN WHEEL OF A MISSISSIPPI RIVER BOAT, KING AND THE LEOPARD GO ROUND AND ROUND...



HELPLESS TO AID KING, QUEEN AND JACK LOOK ON...

POOR MR. KING!





AGAIN AND AGAIN THE TWO GO UNDER AND COME UP...

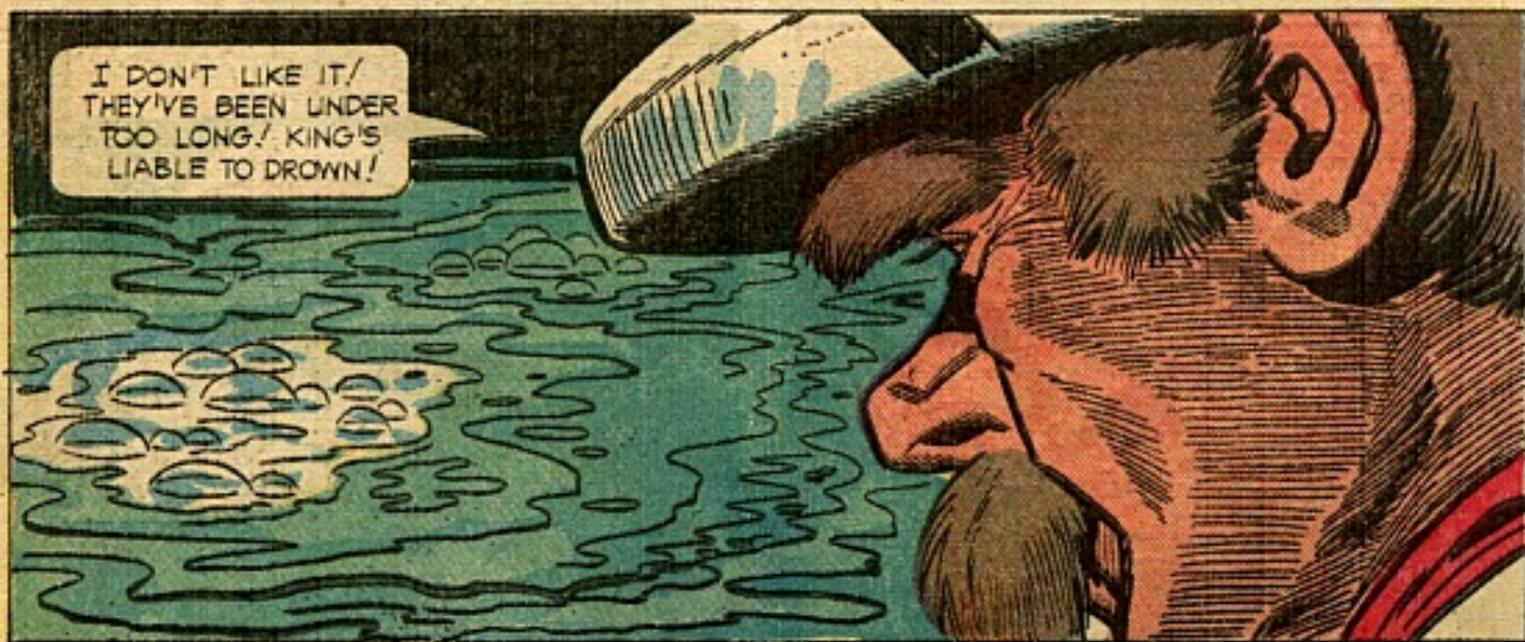
BLAST! CAN'T GET A SHOT AT THE BEAST!



... BUT THE FURIOUS LEOPARD NEVER LOOSENS HIS GRIP ON KING'S SHOULDER...



I'VE ONLY ONE CHANCE... GOT TO TRY TO DROWN THE BRUTE!



I DON'T LIKE IT! THEY'VE BEEN UNDER TOO LONG! KING'S LIABLE TO DROWN!

THE DESIRE TO SURVIVE FORCES THE HALF-DROWNED LEOPARD TO FINALLY RELEASE HIS GRIP ON KING... AND AS HE COMES UP FOR AIR...



THERE HE IS!
THE LEOPARD!

THE TWO DIVE OVER THE DEAD LEOPARD TO SEARCH FOR THEIR LOST FRIEND!



WITHIN SECONDS THEY HAVE THEIR FRIEND ASHORE...

IS... IS HE ALIVE?

BARELY, LAD! BETTER GET HIM TO CAMP AS QUICKLY AS WE CAN!



TWO DAYS LATER...

I SAY, OLD CHAP! NOW THAT YOU'RE FEELING BETTER TELL ME ONE THING!

ANYTHING QUEEN, OLD FRIEND!

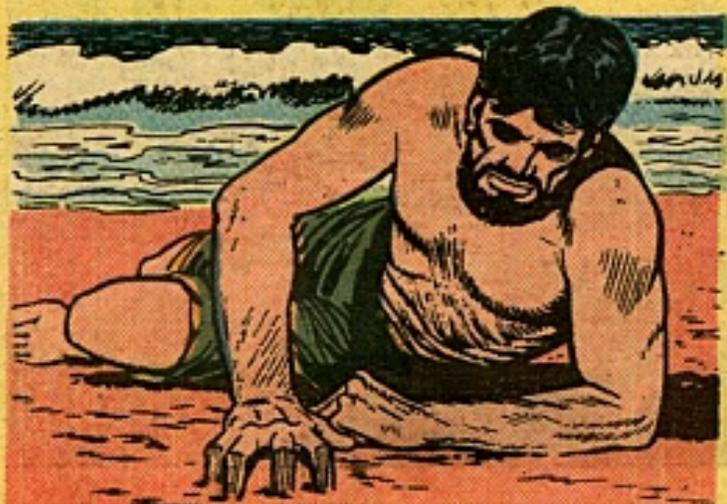


HOW DID YOU KNOW THE LEOPARD COULDN'T HOLD HIS BREATH LONGER THAN YOU?

I DIDN'T!



400 YEARS AGO, THE SOLE SURVIVOR OF A PIRATE RAID WAS WASHED UP ON A REMOTE BEACH...



HE WAS THE *FIRST* PHANTOM!

I WILL DEVOTE MY LIFE TO THE DESTRUCTION OF CRUELTY AND INJUSTICE!--MY DESCENDANTS WILL FOLLOW ME!



GHOST WHO WALKS-- CANNOT DIE!



GENERATION AFTER GENERATION FOLLOWED! NATIVES, THINKING IT THE SAME MAN, CALLED HIM IMMORTAL!

THE PHANTOM

NOW, 16TH OF THE LINE, THE SCOURGE OF EVIL-DOERS...





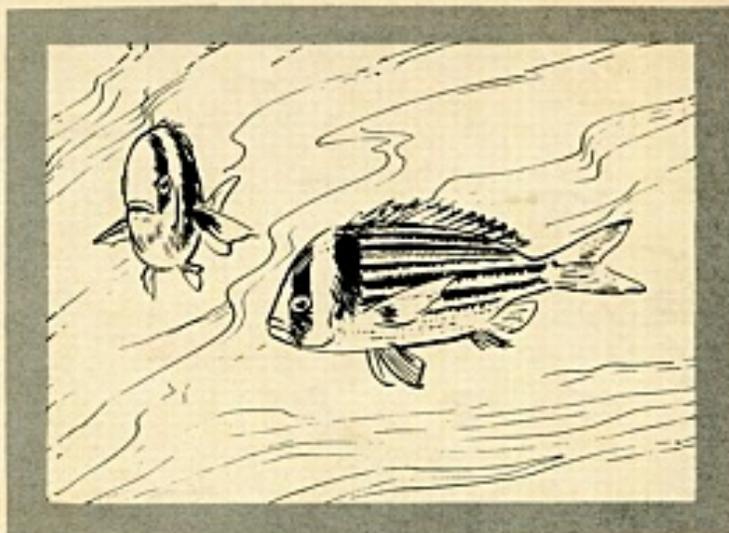
KEYS OF KNOWLEDGE

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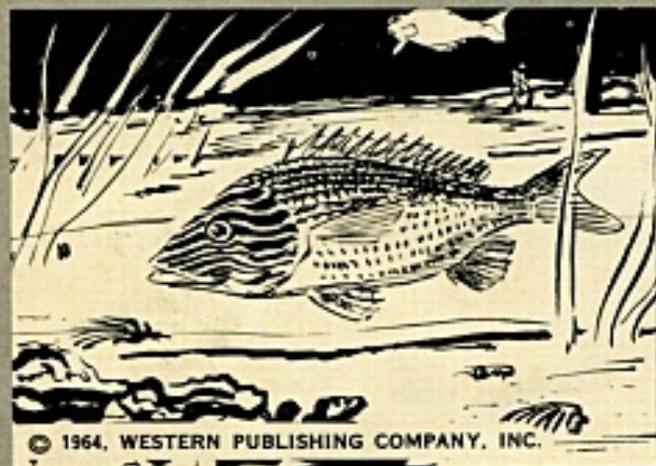
NUMBER 52

GRUNTS

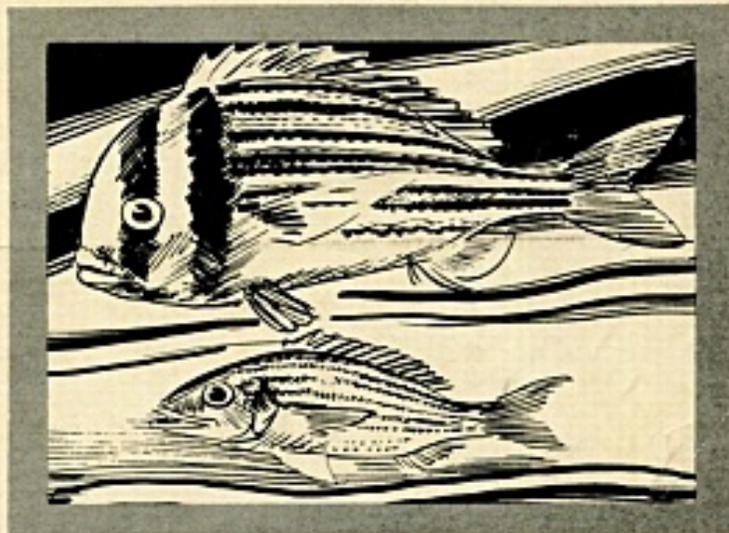
This is one of a series of information features in Gold Key Comics. Collect the whole series for useful knowledge.



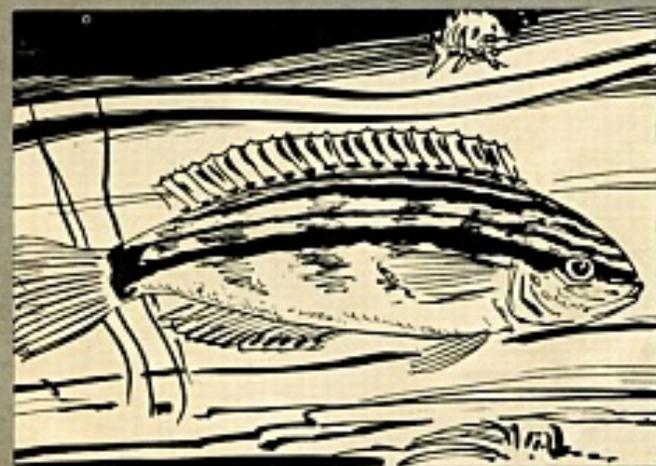
Grunts are small, tropical fish, with unusual markings. Their mouths are brightly colored. Many have horizontal stripes.



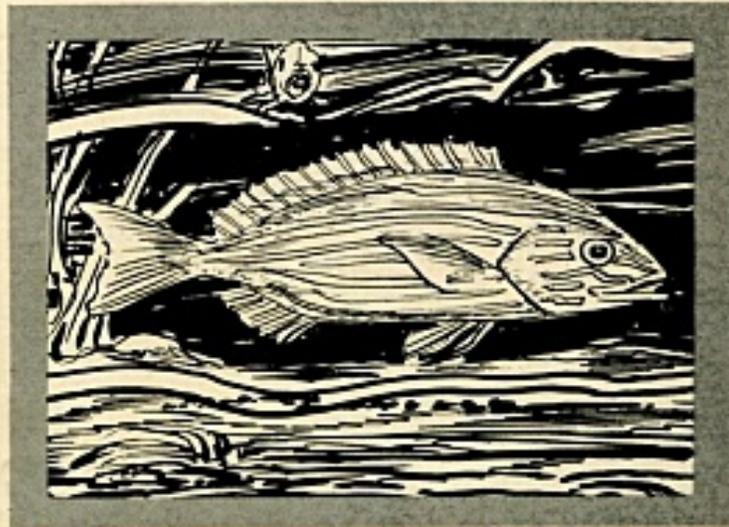
Grunts, common to Atlantic waters, favor shallow, sandy bottoms. They rarely exceed 4 lbs. in weight or lengths over 18 inches.



Grunts must have been named by someone with a sense of humor. The smallest fish is the Caesar. Most colorful is the Porkfish.



Curiously, there is also a Pigfish Grunt with diagonal stripes on its back. It is an important food fish in the Atlantic waters.



Other varieties are the White Grunt, found from the West Indies to the Carolinas, and Bluestripe, a handsome tasty specimen.

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