

LANE MASTODON

IN THRILLING 3-D!



Several years ago, the Infocom Documentation Project produced the *definitive* Adobe Acrobat version of the **Leather Goddesses of Phobos** docs and feelies. The Documentaion Project PDF is not only complete, it's as beautiful a document as your copy of Acrobat might ever have the privilege to open (and the same goes for the other documents they completed, especially the gorgeous job they did with *Wishbringer*).

But in the case, specifically, of Issue #91 of *The Adventures of Lane Mastodon*, the definitive PDF suffers from its own perfection. Just as you'll have difficulty playing your original **LGoP** game diskette on most modern computers, the artfully-rendered and faithfully-scanned 3-D comic becomes increasingly difficult to enjoy properly, for a few key reasons:

- ◆ **3-D Has Changed:** In 1985, standard American 3-D glasses used red and blue tinted lenses, while modern glasses (of the sort you can scrounge from special issues of magazines, modern 3-D comics, special TV episode promotions and so on) use red and cyan tinted glasses for superior clarity. If you try to enjoy Lane Mastodon's adventure's with modern glasses, they'll work, more or less, but there will be unnecessary ghosting. Since Lane's 3-D effects (provided by the legendary Ray Zone) include the speech balloons (always a risky choice for legibility) this is a problem compounded.
- ◆ **The IDP Version Isn't Monitor Optimized:** The Infocom Documentation Project version of the comic is a straight scan, preserving the actual appearance of the feelie as nearly as can be, but this further compounds the ghosting problems on most monitors. No on-screen 3-D image can ever be ghost-free for everyone (since none of our monitors will ever *really* agree on how to display color), but more can be done for screen readers, specifically.

- ◆ **Not Everyone Has a Pair of 3-D Glasses:** No printer-friendly *two dimensional* version of the comic is available that I'm aware of. The last Activision compilation CD includes a reasonably nasty low-res 2-D version in printer-hostile purple, and that's it, I think, for folks without the funny spectacles.

This PDF is intended to unofficially supplement the Infocom Documentation Project version by providing *two* alternate versions of the comic-book interior.

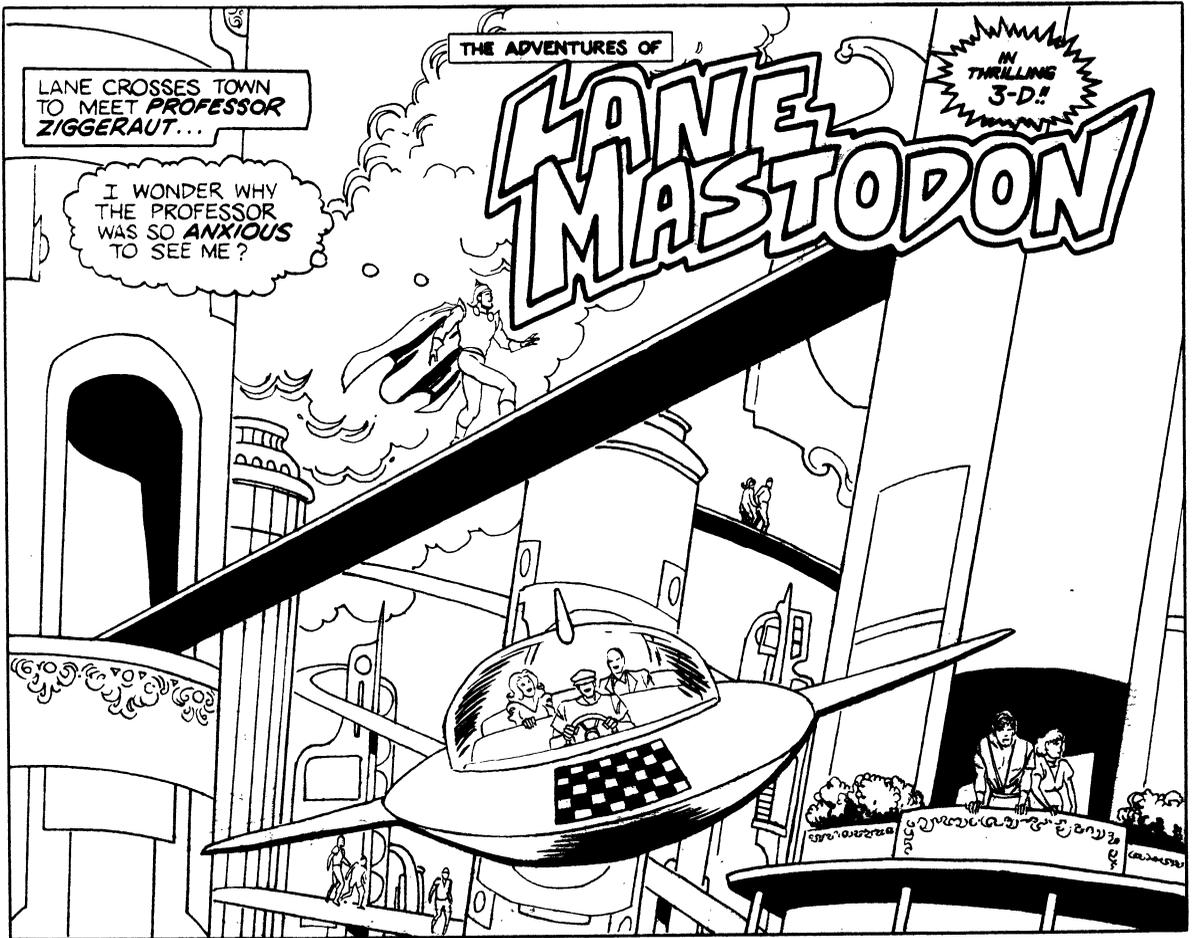
The first is a clear, black-on-white, printer-friendly two-dimensional version, digitally extracted from fresh high-resolution scans of an original feelie. This is, essentially, the *blue* portion of the two-tone comic, isolated with all reds removed (since the bluelines are the original artwork, with all of Ray Zone's magic taking place in the redlines). The 2-D version would also be a lot of fun to color with colored pencils if you have a rainy afternoon and no working copy of Frotz!

The second is a completely remastered 3-D version, created by re-coloring the comic to modern red-cyan style, along with a vigorous scrubbing and optimizing for well-tuned monitors. If you're experiencing much ghosting with this version, try a monitor-tuning application (there are several available) or enjoy the 2-D version as an alternative.

I consider this process a natural step forward for **Leather Goddesses**. We can assume that Infocom, in adapting the Depression-era original comic, had to perform a similar process (since, in the 1930s, American 3-D comics used the old red-and-green standard still used in some parts of the world). And on that last note, we are reminded of a job yet undone. Maybe tomorrow. Probably not. Either way, I'm sleepy now.

S. John Ross
Denver, Colorado, 2009

Version 2.00 November 2020. Corrected B&W version to original blues.



THE ADVENTURES OF

LANE CROSSES TOWN TO MEET PROFESSOR ZIGGERAUT...

I WONDER WHY THE PROFESSOR WAS SO ANXIOUS TO SEE ME?

LANE MASTODON

IN THRILLING 3-D!!



THANKS FOR COMING, LANE!

I'VE RECENTLY PICKED UP SOME ALARMING SIGNALS ON MY FOURTH-DIMENSIONAL MORSE CODE RECEIVER.

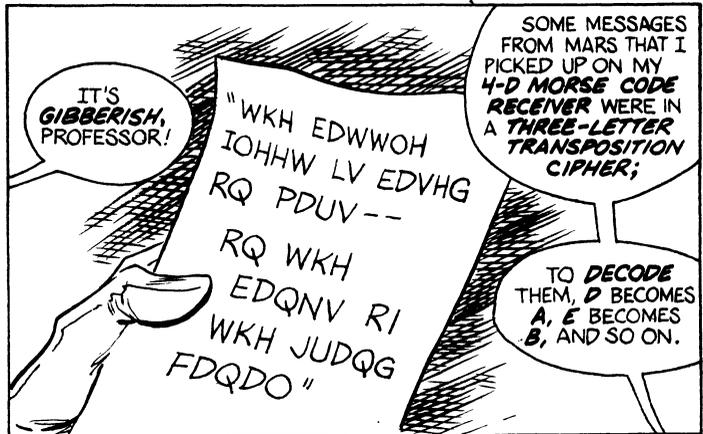


EVERY FIFTY YEARS, THE EVIL LEATHER GODDESSES OF PHOBOS LEAVE THAT TINY MOON OF MARS IN AN ATTEMPT TO ENSLAVE THE EARTH!



--AND A **BEAUTIFUL** ONE AT **THAT!**

AND SHE'S CLUTCHING A **MESSAGE!**

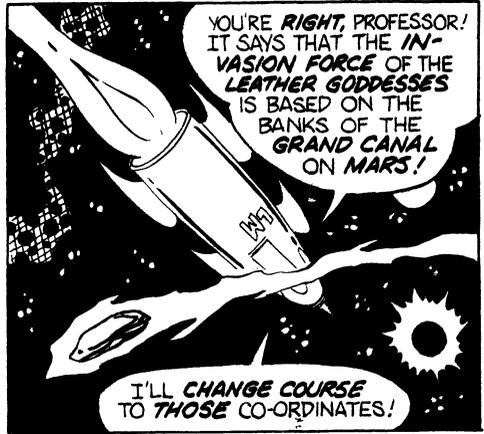


IT'S **GIBBERISH**, PROFESSOR!

"WKH EDWVOH
IOHHW LV EDVHG
RQ PDUV--
RQ WKH
EDQNV RI
WKH JUDQG
FDQDO"

SOME MESSAGES FROM MARS THAT I PICKED UP ON MY **4-D MORSE CODE RECEIVER** WERE IN A **THREE-LETTER TRANSPOSITION CIPHER**;

TO **DECODE** THEM, **D** BECOMES **A**, **E** BECOMES **B**, AND SO ON.



YOU'RE **RIGHT**, PROFESSOR! IT SAYS THAT THE **INVASION FORCE** OF THE **LEATHER GODDESSES** IS BASED ON THE **BANKS OF THE GRAND CANAL ON MARS!**

I'LL **CHANGE COURSE** TO **THOSE** CO-ORDINATES!

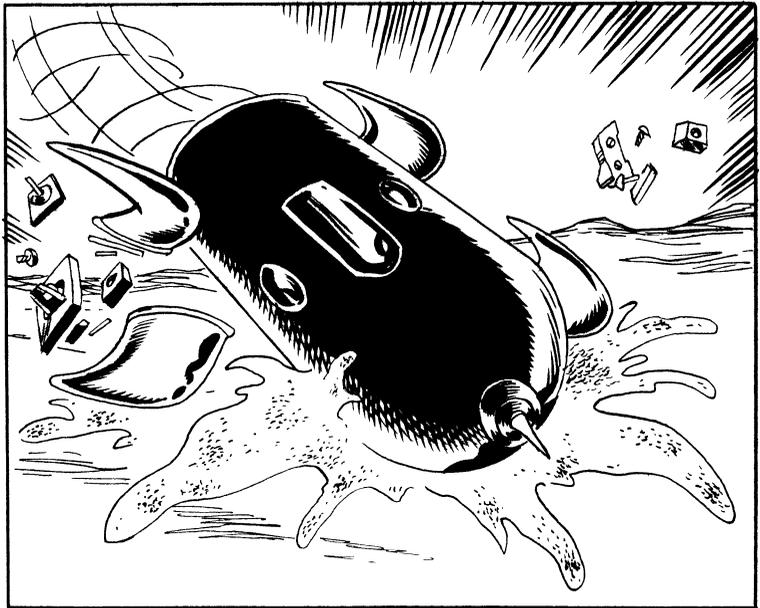
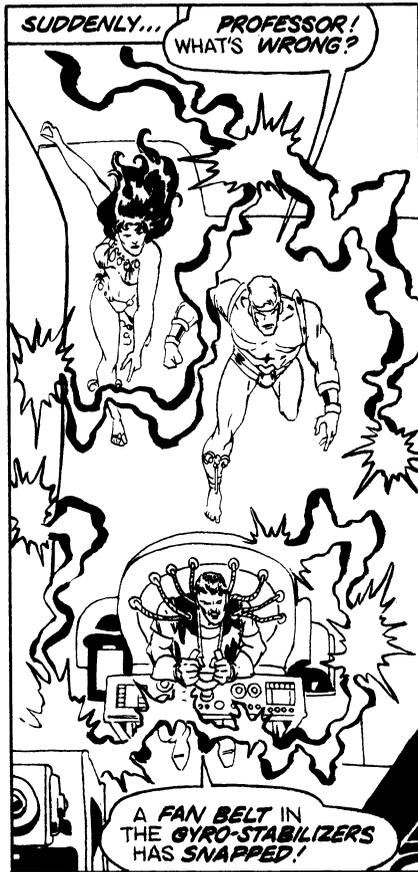


AS THEY NEAR **MARS**, THE **"VISITOR"** BEGINS TO **RECOVER**.

YOU'RE **SAFE** NOW! I'M **LANE MAS-TODON!**

AND YOU ARE...?

I'M **LYDIA CAMPBELL!** MY **FATHER** WAS **KIDNAPPED** BY THE **LEATHER GODDESSES!** I'VE GOT TO **FIND** HIM!





LANE AND LYDIA PEER INTO THE DIM INTERIOR OF THE GUARDHOUSE.

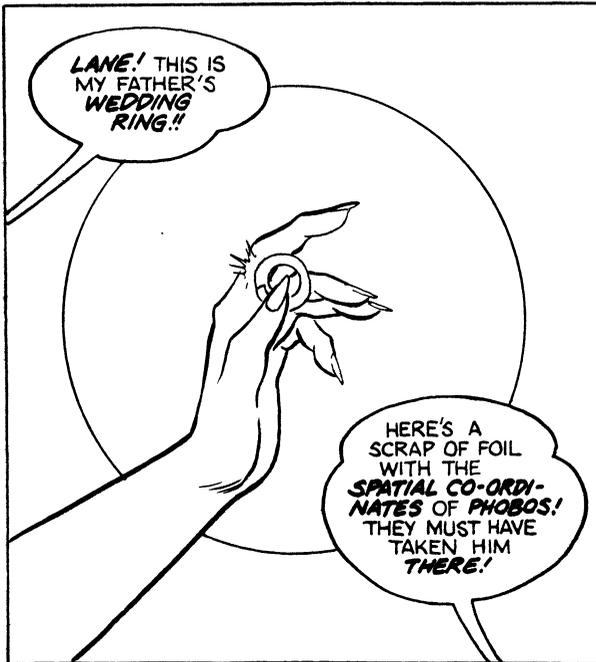


SUDDENLY...



OH, LANE, I'M SO GLAD YOU'RE SAFE!

IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE YOUR FATHER IS HERE!



LANE! THIS IS MY FATHER'S WEDDING RING!!

HERE'S A SCRAP OF FOIL WITH THE SPATIAL CO-ORDINATES OF PHOBOS! THEY MUST HAVE TAKEN HIM THERE!

AFTER ZIGGERAUT FINISHES BOOBY-TRAPPING THE ATTACK FLEET, LANE LEARNS HOW TO PILOT THE DEAD GUARD'S INTERPLANETARY SCOUTSHIP.

I'VE PUNCHED IN THE CO-ORDINATES!

THEY'RE TAKING US STRAIGHT TO THE PRIVATE PLEASURE PALACE OF THE LEATHER GODDESSES OF PHOBOS!

LANE LANDS THE SHIP ON SOME PLAINS IN SIGHT OF THE PALACE.

HOW DO WE GET INSIDE, PROFESSOR?

CAN'T THINK... FEEL TIRED...

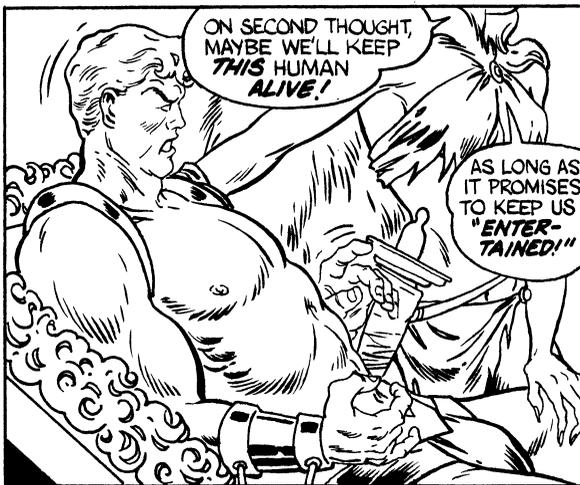
OOOH, LANE, I'M GETTING DIZZY...

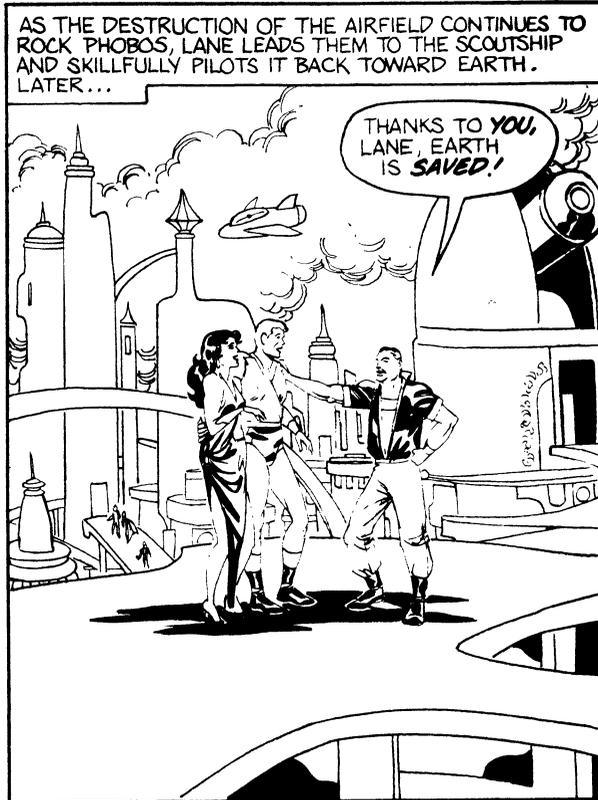
IT'S SOME KIND OF SOMNA-RAY! CAN'T FIGHT IT... CAN'T STAY...

...AWAKE...

AN UNKNOWN AMOUNT OF TIME LATER...

AH, THE PRISONERS AWAKE! WOULDN'T THEY HAVE BEEN DISAPPOINTED TO MISS THE SNAKE FEEDING--ESPECIALLY SINCE TODAY'S MAIN COURSE IS...





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IN THRILLING
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THEIR **LAST** ATTEMPT TO INVADE OUR WORLD WAS **FIFTY YEARS AGO--IN 1936--** SO THEIR **NEXT** ATTACK WILL BE **THIS YEAR!** AND IF I'VE **DECODED** THEIR **MESSAGES** CORRECTLY, IT'S ONLY **DAYS AWAY!**

HOLY NOVA, PROFESSOR, WE HAVEN'T A MINUTE TO LOSE!

THANK THE **NINE MOONS OF JUPITER** THAT MY SPACESHIP'S **COMPLETELY REPAIRED** FROM MY BATTLE AGAINST THE **MER-CURIAN MONSTEROIDS!**

***SEE "ADVENTURES OF LANE MASTODON #88."**

LANE AND ZIGGERAUT MAKE A BEELINE FOR THE SPACEPORT...

I'LL PILOT A COURSE FOR PHOBOS WHILE YOU GET HER SPACEREDY, LANE!

LEATHER GODDESSES, HERE WE COME!

PERFECT BLAST-OFF, LANE!

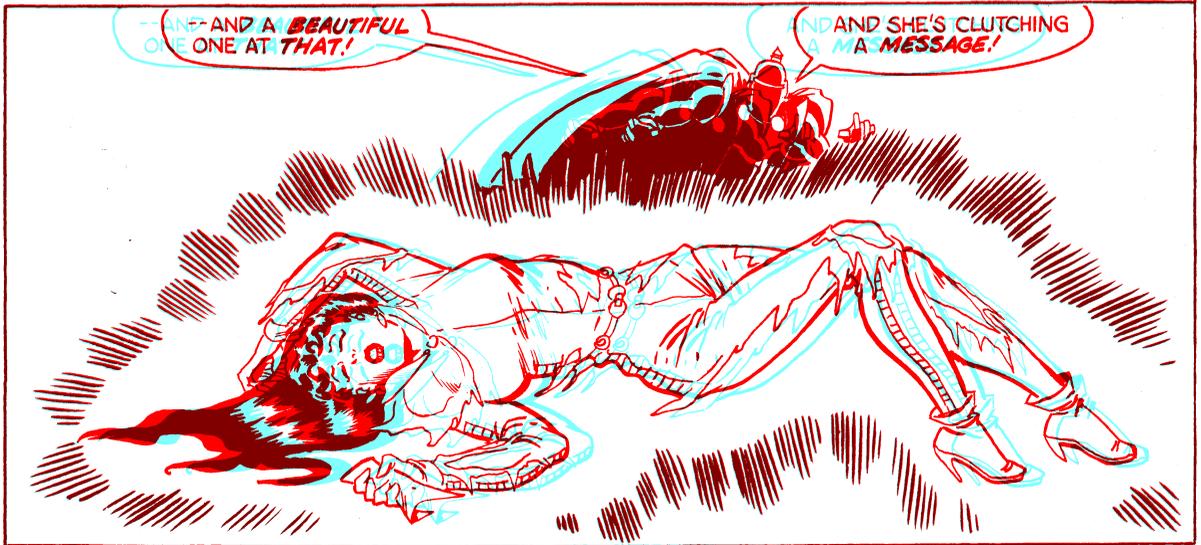
UH-OH! THE **DEEP SPACE IONISCOPE** DETECTS ANOTHER SPACESHIP ON A **COLLISION COURSE** WITH **OURS!**

WOOOOOORRRRR!

INTRA-SHIP BIOSENSORS INDICATE THAT THE ONLY PASSENGER IS **UNCONSCIOUS!** TELEPORT HIM OVER WHILE I TAKE **EVASIVE MANEUVERS!**

GOT HIM--AND JUST IN TIME, TOO! THERE GOES HIS SHIP, SPINNING INTO THE VOID!

PROFESSOR, IT'S A WOMAN!



—AND A BEAUTIFUL ONE ONE AT THAT!

AND SHE'S CLUTCHING A MESSAGE!



IT'S GIBBERISH, PROFESSOR!

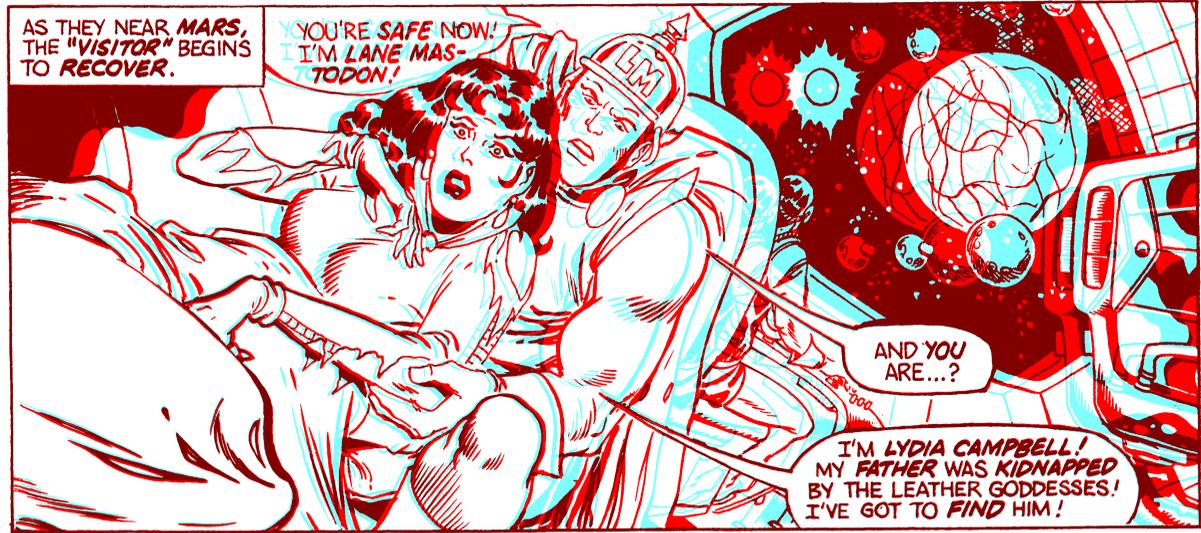
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AND YOU ARE...?

I'M LYDIA CAMPBELL! MY FATHER WAS KIDNAPPED BY THE LEATHER GODDESSES! I'VE GOT TO FIND HIM!



YOU MUST BE *SENATOR CAMPBELL'S DAUGHTER!* YESTERDAY'S NEWSREEL SAID HE WAS *MISSING!*

I GUESS I'M NOT A VERY GOOD *SPACESHIP PILOT.* OH, LANE, YOU'LL HELP ME *FIND DADDY,* WON'T YOU?



TOUCHDOWN IN *780 SECONDS.* PUT ON *THOSE OUTFITS--* THEY'RE MUCH MORE *SUITED TO THE MARTIAN CLIMATE!*

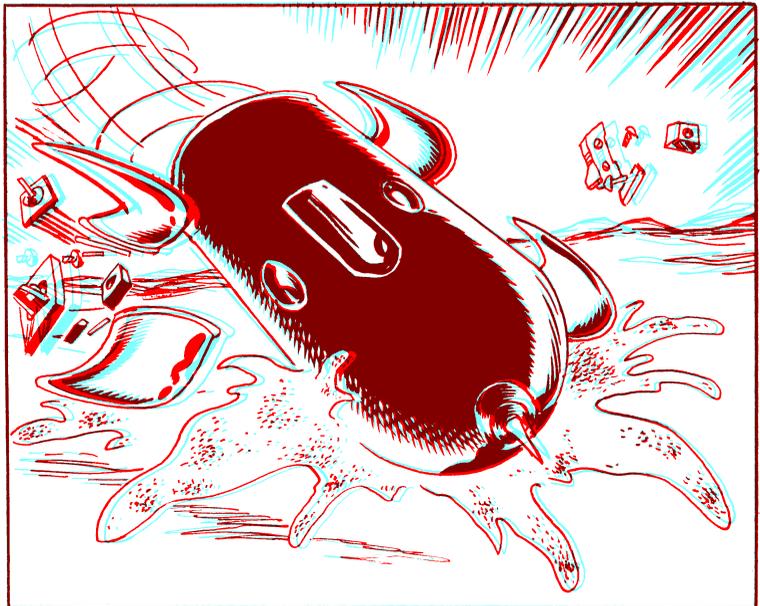


SUDDENLY... *PROFESSOR!* WHAT'S *WRONG?*

A *FAN BELT* IN THE *GYRO-STABILIZERS* HAS *SNAPPED!*



PREPARE FOR A *CRASH LANDING!*





LANE AND LYDIA PEER INTO THE DIM INTERIOR OF THE GUARDHOUSE.



SUDDENLY...

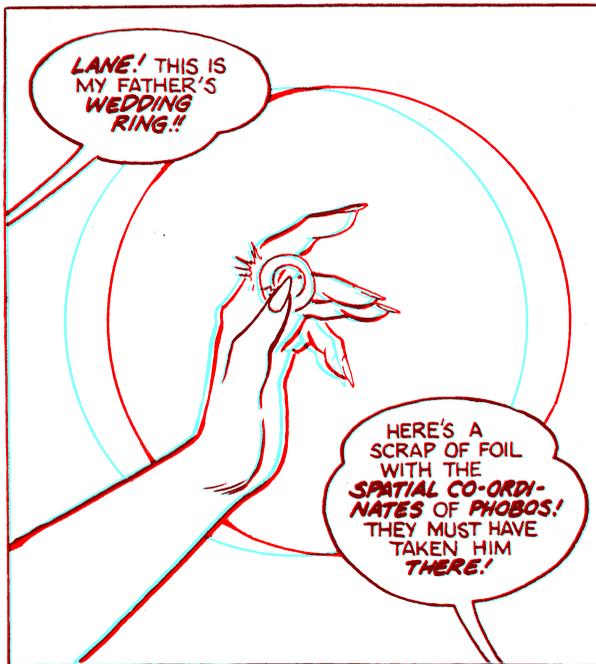


LANE!
LOOK
OUT!



OH, LANE, I'M
SO GLAD YOU'RE
SAFE!

IT DOESN'T
LOOK LIKE YOUR
FATHER IS
HERE!



LANE! THIS IS
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HERE'S A
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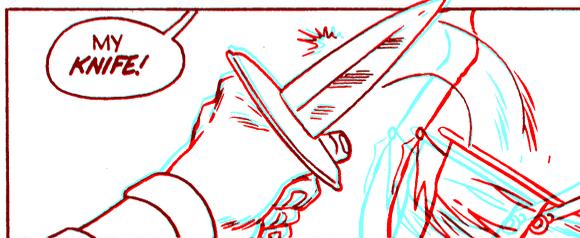
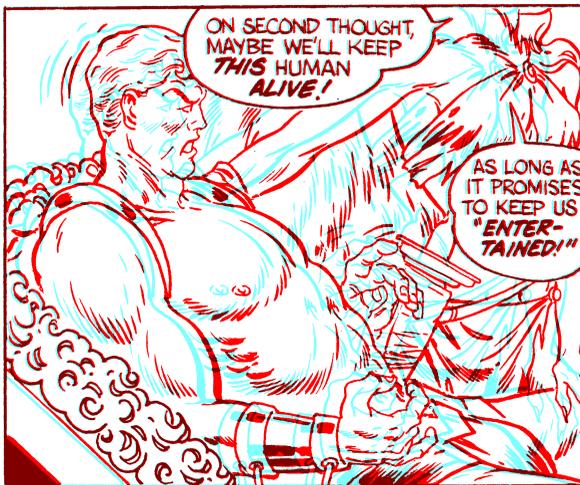
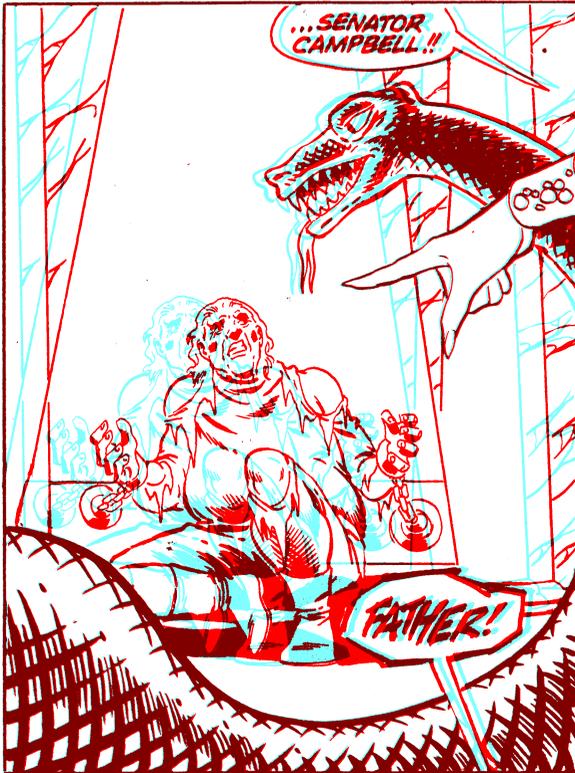
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...AWAKE...

AN UNKNOWN AMOUNT OF TIME **LATER...**

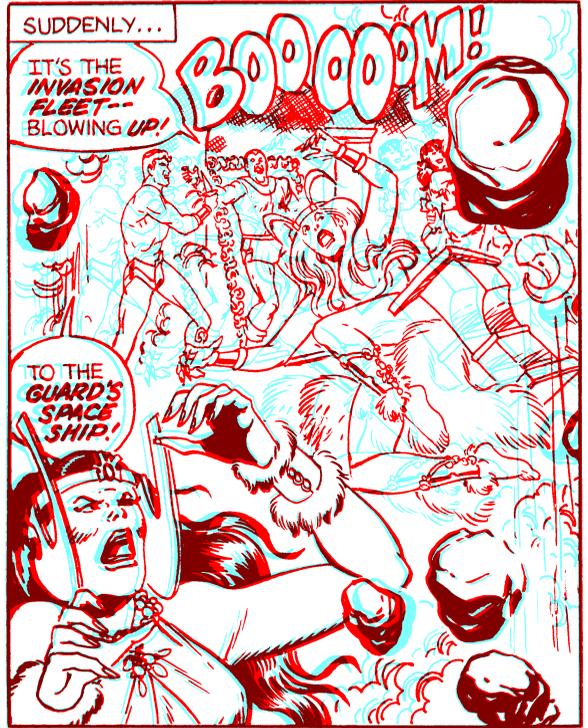
AH, THE PRISONERS **AWAKE!** WOULDN'T THEY HAVE BEEN **DISAPPOINTED** TO MISS THE **SNAKE FEEDING**--ESPECIALLY SINCE TODAY'S **MAIN COURSE** IS...





GURP!

THIS WILL ONLY CAUSE YOUR *OWN* DEATH TO BE *MUCH MORE PAINFUL*, EARTHMAN! AND TOMORROW WE SHALL *INVAD*E YOUR *PLANET*, AND ALL HUMANS WILL BECOME OUR *PRIVATE TOYS!*



SUDDENLY...

IT'S THE *INVASION FLEET*--
BLOWING UP!

BOOOOOW!

TO THE *GUARD'S SPACE SHIP!*

AS THE DESTRUCTION OF THE AIRFIELD CONTINUES TO ROCK PHOBOS, LANE LEADS THEM TO THE SCOUTSHIP AND SKILLFULLY PILOTS IT BACK TOWARD EARTH. LATER...



THANKS TO YOU, LANE, EARTH IS *SAVED!*

AND LATER *STILL...*



OH, LANE, HOW CAN I *EVER* THANK YOU FOR *SAVING* MY FATHER?!

THE END ...UNTIL THE NEXT EXCITING ISSUE OF...
LANE MASTODON