

One of my biggest thrills in buying comics in the early '60s was finding a copy of *The Big Strange Tales Annual #1* in which I read Don Heck's "I Saw the Serpent That Saved the World!" Imagine . . . This story *and more* for only a quarter!

# I SAW THE SERPENT THAT SAVED THE WORLD!

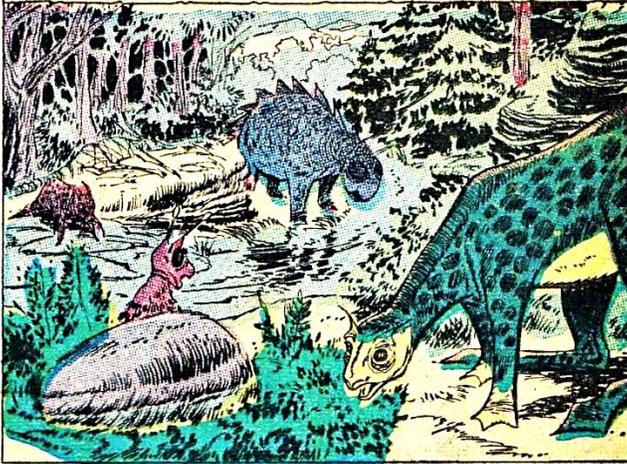
IT CAME FROM ANOTHER WORLD-- FROM A RACE OF INDESTRUCTIBLE MONSTERS, AND WHEN IT GREW TO ITS FULL SIZE, IT WOULD ATTACK AND DESTROY EVERY LIVING THING ON EARTH! WAS THIS TO BE OUR FATE-- WAS THERE NO ESCAPE FOR MANKIND?? ONLY THE NEXT FEW HOURS COULD TELL!!!



I HAD THE DREAM AGAIN LAST NIGHT! THE SAME ONE I'VE HAD THRU THESE MANY YEARS! IT ALWAYS BEGINS WITH THAT PLANET-- THAT PLANET WHICH SPINS IN A REMOTE PART OF SOME DISTANT GALAXY...



THE PLANET IS A LUSH AND PRIMITIVE WORLD, VERY MUCH LIKE OUR EARTH IN ITS EARLY DAYS! IT HAS MANY KINDS OF ANIMALS, WHICH LIVE IN ITS DENSE FORESTS, AND BASK IN THE LIGHT FROM A NEARBY STAR!



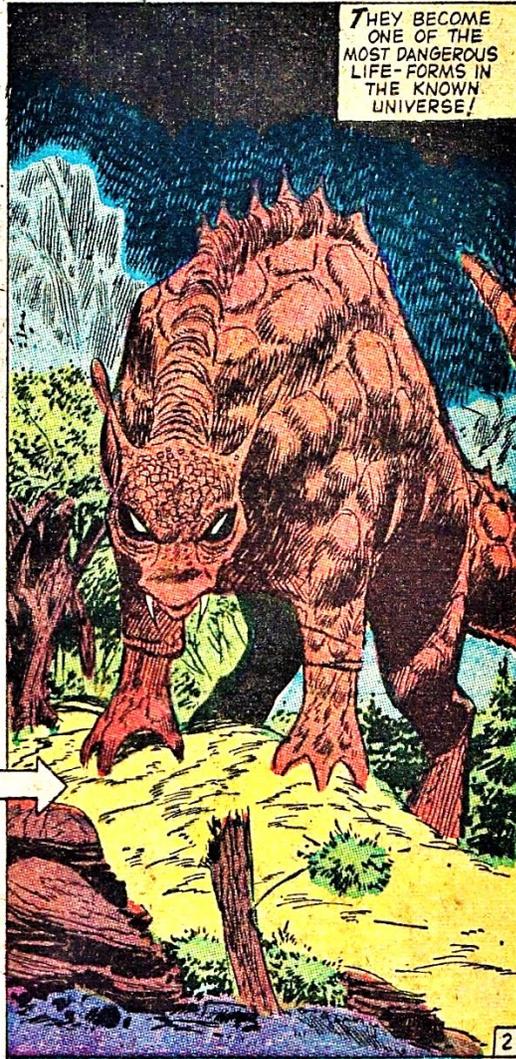
UNKNOWN TO THESE CREATURES, THERE IS **ANOTHER** TYPE OF LIFE FORM ON THAT PLANET WHICH ALSO ABSORBS THE RAYS OF THAT STAR! A STRANGE AND TERRIBLE LIFE FORM-- BUT STILL IN A DORMANT STATE-- SMALLER THAN A COMMON EARTH HOUSE FLY!



HOWEVER, THEY DON'T REMAIN THAT WAY FOR LONG! WITH THE NOURISHING WARMTH THEY RECEIVE, THEY SOON BEGIN TO **DEVELOP!**



THEY BECOME ONE OF THE MOST DANGEROUS LIFE-FORMS IN THE KNOWN UNIVERSE!



THEY GROW... AND GROW... AND GROW...



UNTIL...

