



SHOWCASE *presents*

DEC. NO. 23

APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE



AUTHORITY

10c

GREEN LANTERN

NOT EVEN GREEN LANTERN'S MIGHTY POWER RING CAN STOP ME FROM SETTING OFF THIS ATOMIC BOMB EXPLOSION!



Featuring **"The INVISIBLE DESTROYER!"**

GREEN LANTERN

I'VE GOT TO USE MY POWER RING TO STOP THAT ATOMIC BOMB EXPLOSION-- BEFORE IT DESTROYS COAST CITY!

WHO WAS THE INCREDIBLE CREATURE WHO ROBBED-- YET LEFT NO CLUE TO WHAT WAS STOLEN?
WHO CRASHED IN AND OUT OF BUILDINGS-- WITHOUT CAUSING ANY DAMAGE?
WHO SHOWED HIMSELF-- BUT COULDN'T BE SEEN?
GREEN LANTERN GRAPPLES WITH THE MOST ASTOUNDING MENACE THAT EVER THREATENED THE WORLD IN--

THE INVISIBLE DESTROYER!





AS HAL JORDAN, TEST PILOT, ENTERS THE OFFICE OF HIS BOSS, CAROL FERRIS...

I WONDER WHY CAROL SENT FOR ME? IT'S THE FIRST TIME THIS WEEK SHE'S SHOWN ANY SIGN SHE KNOWS I'M ALIVE!



SINCE SHE BECAME INTERESTED IN GREEN LANTERN SHE'S HAD NO TIME FOR ME AT ALL!

*EDITOR'S NOTE! ALTHOUGH CAROL FERRIS IS UNAWARE OF IT, GREEN LANTERN AND HER ACE EMPLOYEE HAL JORDAN ARE ONE AND THE SAME PERSON!



OH, SO THERE YOU ARE, HAL! HAVE YOU SEEN THE ITEM IN TODAY'S NEWSPAPERS ADDRESSED TO OUR MUTUAL FRIEND GREEN LANTERN?

NO! WHAT ITEM--?



HERE-- IN THE PUBLIC NOTICES!

THE HERALD POST

ATTENTION-- GREEN LANTERN! URGENT YOU COME TO 854 WILSON AVENUE. DO NOT DELAY!

SALE ON SHOES



WHAT DO YOU MAKE OF IT, HAL?

I DON'T KNOW... BUT I'M GOING TO FIND OUT-- AS GREEN LANTERN!

IF THAT'S ALL YOU WANTED TO SEE ME ABOUT, CAROL--



GOOD-BYE!

GOING ALREADY!? WELL, IF THAT DOESN'T BEAT ALL! USUALLY HE BEGS FOR A CHANCE TO TALK TO ME--!

IN THE PRIVACY OF HAL JORDAN'S DRESSING ROOM, MOMENTS LATER...

IN BRIGHTEST DAY... IN BLACKEST NIGHT, NO EVIL SHALL ESCAPE MY SIGHT! LET THOSE WHO WORSHIP EVIL'S MIGHT, BEWARE MY POWER-- GREEN LANTERN'S LIGHT!



AND SOON... A GLITTERING EMERALD-CLAD FIGURE CLEAVES THE AIR OVER COAST CITY...



WHOEVER PUT THAT PUBLIC NOTICE IN THE PAPER SOUNDED LIKE HE WAS IN TROUBLE! LET'S SEE... WILSON AVENUE IS ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE CITY... EH?!

PASSING OVER THE ROOFTOPS, THE KEEN EYE OF THE GREEN GLADIATOR SPIES A STRANGE SIGHT...

GREAT SCOTT! THERE'S THAT PHANTOM THIEF-- THE ONE THE NEWSPAPERS HAVE LABELLED THE INVISIBLE DESTROYER-- ON THE ROOF OF THAT BUILDING!



WITHOUT HESITATION, GREEN LANTERN POWER-- DIVES DOWN...

I'VE BEEN TRYING FOR DAYS TO GET A CRACK AT THIS CROOK WITH THE INCREDIBLE COSTUME THAT MAKES HIM SEEM INVISIBLE!

GREEN LANTERN! THIS IS MY LUCKY DAY!



I WAS HOPING WE'D MEET, GREEN LANTERN-- SO I COULD PROVE WHO WAS MORE POWERFUL-- YOU OR I!

INCREDIBLE--



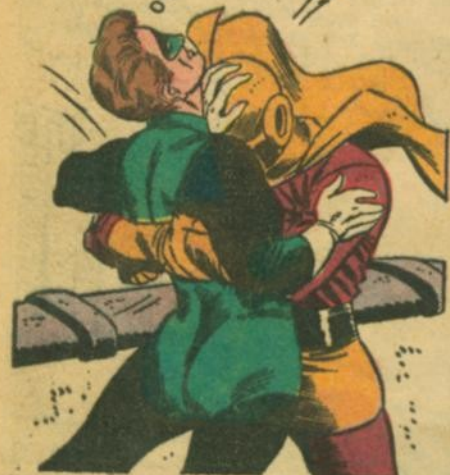


MY POWER RING HAS NO EFFECT ON HIM-- HE'S WALKING RIGHT THROUGH ITS BEAM!

AS THE EMERALD CRUSADER IS GRIPPED IN ARMS OF TITANIC FORCE--

SEIZING ME! GASP! I CAN HARDLY BREATHE!

HA! HA!



BUT THEN SUDDENLY, WITH GL ON THE VERGE OF COLLAPSE...

PANT! HE--HE DISAPPEARED LIKE A PUFF OF SMOKE!

POP!



LATER, AFTER A SEARCH FOR THE INVISIBLE DESTROYER HAS PROVED VAIN...

NO SIGN OF HIM! WE DON'T KNOW WHAT HE WAS DOING IN THIS BUILDING, GREEN LANTERN! WE HAVE A CYCLOTRON HERE...

AND HE DIDN'T STEAL ANYTHING?



NO! HE CRASHED IN--RIGHT THROUGH A WALL WITHOUT CRACKING IT--AND LEFT WITHOUT STEALING ANYTHING THAT WE CAN SEE!

I'D BETTER BE ON MY WAY. I CAN'T DO ANY MORE HERE...



EVERY TIME THE DESTROYER HAS BEEN SEEN, HE'S DISAPPEARED THE SAME WAY--SUDDENLY AND INCREDIBLY! WHO IS HE--WHERE DOES HE COME FROM?





SOON... HERE IT IS... 854 WILSON... BUT WAIT--! I'VE BEEN TO THIS HOUSE-- AS HAL JORDAN! DR. PHILLIPS, THE FAMOUS AND BRILLIANT SCIENTIST, LIVES HERE!



AS GREEN LANTERN ENTERS THE IMPOSING RESIDENCE...

HE WON'T RECOGNIZE ME AS HAL JORDAN, OF COURSE...

GREEN LANTERN! I'M HAPPY YOU COULD COME!



WITHOUT DELAY THE EMINENT SCIENTIST UNBURDENS HIMSELF TO THE GREEN-CLAD CHAMPION...

WHAT I HAVE TO TELL YOU WILL SOUND FANTASTIC-- UNBELIEVABLE! YOU'VE HEARD OF THE INVISIBLE DESTROYER?

NOT ONLY HEARD OF HIM-- BUT HAD AN ALMOST DISASTROUS ENCOUNTER WITH HIM! ON THE WAY HERE, I SAW--



NERVOUSLY THE PHYSICIST INTERRUPTS...

LISTEN! I HAVE A HABIT OF DOODLING WHILE I WORK-- YOU KNOW, MAKING DRAWINGS ON A PIECE OF PAPER-- HARDLY REALIZING WHAT I'M DOING! LOOK AT THESE, PLEASE--



IT'S THE INVISIBLE DESTROYER! YOU MUST HAVE SEEN HIS PICTURE IN THE PAPERS--! SOMEONE SNAPPED HIM--

I MADE THESE DRAWINGS OVER A PERIOD OF THREE DAYS, GREEN LANTERN...



...BEFORE I SAW HIS PICTURE IN THE PAPERS!

I TOLD YOU WHAT I HAD TO SAY WOULD SOUND FANTASTIC! GREEN LANTERN! BUT, WAIT-- HERE'S THE REAL SHOCKER!

AS DR. PHILLIPS REVEALS A TRULY STARTLING THEORY...



I-- I FEEL THAT I'M RESPONSIBLE FOR THE 'INVISIBLE DESTROYER' THAT SOMEHOW HE'S BOUND UP WITH MY IMAGINATION--!

I DON'T FOLLOW YOU--



LOOK! HOW ELSE CAN YOU EXPLAIN THESE SKETCHES? MY IDEA IS THAT SOMEHOW A PART OF MY BRAIN -- WHILE THE REST OF IT IS OCCUPIED -- HAS ACTUALLY BROUGHT THIS TERRIBLE CREATURE TO LIFE!



IT COULD HAVE BEEN DONE BY THE ACTION OF MIND-OVER-MATTER-- BY A PART OF MY MIND THAT I'M HARDLY EVEN AWARE OF!

BUT-- THIS CREATURE IS EVIL! IT DESTROYS--



YOU ARE FAMILIAR WITH THE STORY OF DR. JEKYLL AND MR. HYDE? EVIL THOUGHTS MAY LURK IN OUR SUBCONSCIOUS MINDS! USUALLY WE CONTROL THEM--

THERE COULD BE A WAY TO TEST YOUR THEORY..



I CAN USE MY RING-- TO PUT YOU INTO A STATE OF DEEP CONCENTRATION-- TO GIVE THE DESTROYER A CHANCE TO APPEAR--

GOOD! I MUST KNOW MY RESPONSIBILITY IN THIS MATTER!



AS THE GREAT GREEN BEAM OF THE EMERALD CHAMPION GOES TO WORK...

MY RING WILL MAKE DR. PHILLIPS CONCENTRATE COMPLETELY ON THAT FORMULA HE'S WRITING! NOW LET'S SEE WHAT HAPPENS...

THEN, INCREDIBLY A FEW MOMENTS LATER...



GREAT JUPITER! THE DESTROYER!

-- HE MATERIALIZED RIGHT OUT OF DR. PHILLIPS'-- SPRANG INTO EXISTENCE FROM HIS BRAIN! AND DR. PHILLIPS ISN'T EVEN AWARE--!!



INSTANTLY GREEN LANTERN LUNGES AT HIS FOE...

SOMEHOW I'VE GOT TO DESTROY THIS THING-- THIS EVIL THING! I'LL RAISE MY BEAM TO ITS GREATEST STRENGTH--



BUT AS THE GREEN-CLAD HERO CATAPULTS FORWARD, HE STRIKES A WASTE BASKET...



WHAT'S THAT?

CLANG!

AND SIMULTANEOUSLY AS THE NOISE DISTRACTS THE PHYSICIST...

WH-WHAT HAPPENED?

AS DR. PHILLIPS SNAPPED BACK INTO AWARENESS OF HIS SURROUNDINGS-- THE DESTROYER DISAPPEARED! THAT PROVES HE'S RIGHT-- IT IS FROM HIS MIND!



AS GL AND THE SCIENTIST CONFER OVER THE DREADFUL DEVELOPMENT...

SO THE DESTROYER IS PART OF ME! I'M RESPONSIBLE FOR HIM--!

NO--NOT CONSCIOUSLY! THE GOOD PART OF YOUR MIND REFUSES TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE DESTROYER'S EXISTENCE! THAT'S WHY IT BLANKS OUT THE DESTROYER'S FACE-- SO IT APPEARS INVISIBLE!

OUR PROBLEM IS TO DESTROY THE DESTROYER-- WITHOUT HARMING YOU! WAIT--! SUPPOSE I USE MY RING TO PROBE INTO YOUR BRAIN! MAYBE I CAN FORCE THE CREATURE TO REVEAL ITS PLANS--WHAT IT'S UP TO!

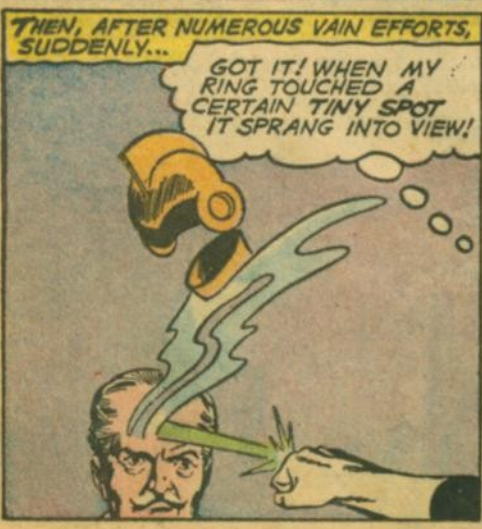
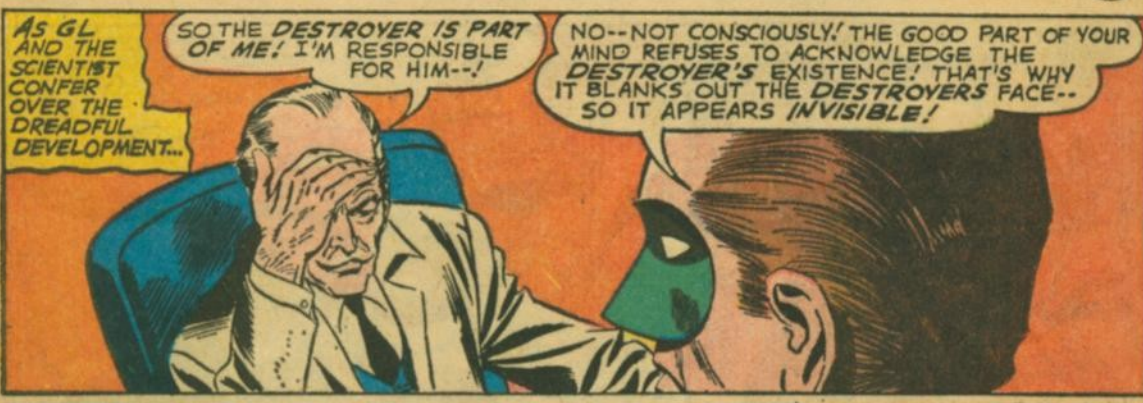
DESPERATE, DR. PHILLIPS AGREES TO THE PROPOSAL...

THIS IS A HUNDRED TIMES MORE DELICATE THAN BRAIN SURGERY! BUT CAN I MANAGE IT? I'VE GOT TO--FOR DR. PHILLIPS' SAKE-- AS WELL AS THE WORLD'S!

THEN, AFTER NUMEROUS VAIN EFFORTS, SUDDENLY...

GOT IT! WHEN MY RING TOUCHED A CERTAIN TINY SPOT IT SPRANG INTO VIEW!

SO YOU WANT TO KNOW MY PLANS, GREEN LANTERN? WELL, I DON'T MIND TELLING YOU, BECAUSE YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO STOP THEM!



SO FAR I'VE ONLY BROKEN INTO PLACES WHERE ATOMIC RADIATION EXISTS-- LIKE THAT CYCLOTRON! AND THE REASON IS SIMPLE...



I FEED ON RADIATION! EACH DOSE THAT I ABSORB MAKES ME MORE POWERFUL! SOON I WILL BE THE MOST POWERFUL BEING ON EARTH!



THEN, ABRUPTLY... HE'S BROKEN LOOSE FROM DR. PHILLIPS!

I'VE DECIDED TO STOP BOTHERING WITH SMALL AMOUNTS OF RADIATION...



I'M GOING TO SET OFF A GREAT ATOMIC EXPLOSION! IN ONE STROKE I'LL ABSORB ALL THE RADIATION I NEED!

NOT IF I CAN HELP IT!



BUT BEFORE THE GRIM RING-BEARER CAN REACH HIS FOE...



OHHH!

DR. PHILLIPS!?



A MOMENT LATER...

THE STRAIN WAS TOO GREAT ON DR. PHILLIPS-- HE PASSED OUT! HE'LL BE ALL RIGHT-- HE'S COMING TO NOW--



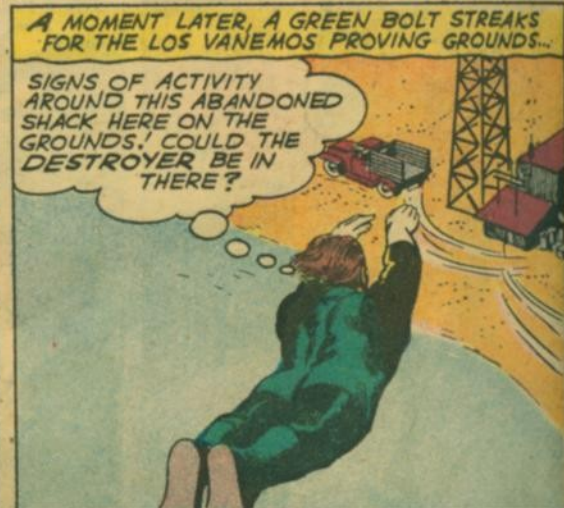
-- BUT MEANWHILE THE DESTROYER GOT AWAY! I'VE GOT TO FIND HIM! THE--THE FATE OF THE WORLD MAY BE AT STAKE!



SHORTLY, AFTER A FRANTIC SEARCH...

... AND A GREAT AMOUNT OF NUCLEAR MATERIAL HAS BEEN STOLEN FROM THE LOS VANEMOS BASE NEAR COAST CITY!

THAT'S MY CLUE!



A MOMENT LATER, A GREEN BOLT STREAKS FOR THE LOS VANEMOS PROVING GROUNDS...

SIGNS OF ACTIVITY AROUND THIS ABANDONED SHACK HERE ON THE GROUNDS! COULD THE DESTROYER BE IN THERE?



INSIDE THE SHACK...

YOU'RE TOO LATE, GREEN LANTERN! BUT YOU CAN WATCH THE EXPLOSION ON THIS TELEVISION SCREEN THAT I SET UP TO VIEW MY HANDIWORK!



BUT THE INDOMITABLE SPIRIT OF THE EMERALD GLADIATOR REFUSES TO LET HIM GIVE UP...

THERE'S THE ATOM BLAST! IT WILL ONLY TAKE SPLIT-SECONDS TO SPREAD-- BUT MY RING CAN OPERATE FASTER! IT MUST OPERATE FASTER!

REACHING THE BLAST SITE IN A SPLIT-INSTANT, THE GREAT GREEN-GLAD CHAMPION PERFORMS AN INCREDIBLE FEAT!

THERE! MY RING HAS THROTTLED THE EXPLOSION-- SHRUNK IT TO THE SIZE OF A FIRECRACKER POP!



AS GREEN LANTERN HEADS BACK FOR THE SHACK...

YOU ROBBED ME OF MY TRIUMPH, GREEN LANTERN! BUT IT'S A DEFEAT I SHALL TURN INTO A GREATER VICTORY-- BY DESTROYING YOU!



COMING AT ME! AND--MY GREEN BEAM CAN'T STOP HIM! BUT WAIT--IT MUST BE BECAUSE AS A PRODUCT OF DR. PHILLIPS' MIND HE'S PURE ENERGY! THAT GIVES ME AN IDEA!



YOU'LL NEVER INTERFERE WITH ME AGAIN--!

SHOOTING ENERGY BOLTS AT ME! I'VE GOT ONLY A MOMENT TO CARRY OUT MY PLAN!



POWERED BY GL'S INDOMITABLE WILL, HIS GREAT BEAM SENDS OUT A BOLT OF ANTI-ENERGY--!

SCIENTISTS HAVE THEORIZED THERE IS AN ANTI-MATTER UNIVERSE TO COUNTER-BALANCE OUR POSITIVE MATTER UNIVERSE! IF THE TWO SHOULD MEET, BOTH WOULD BE DESTROYED! I HOPE THE SAME HAPPENS WHEN ANTI-ENERGY MEETS PURE ENERGY..!



THEN... FANTASTICALLY, BEFORE GREEN LANTERN'S VERY EYES...



IT WORKED!
THE INSTANT HE AND MY BOLT OF ANTI-ENERGY CAME TOGETHER-- IT BLASTED HIM TO BITS! THAT-- THAT'S THE END OF THE INVISIBLE DESTROYER!

AND LATER, IN DR. PHILLIPS' LABORATORY...



GREEN LANTERN, YOU'VE SAVED MY LIFE-- AND MY SANITY! BUT HOW CAN I EVER THANK YOU?

DON'T TRY, DR. PHILLIPS! THE MAIN THING IS...

... WITH THE DESTROYER GONE, THAT TINY SPOT IN YOUR MIND THAT PRODUCED HIM IS GONE TOO! IT WILL NEVER BOTHER YOU AGAIN! SO LONG--



GOOD-BYE, GREEN LANTERN!

BUT WITH HIS GREEN LANTERN UNIFORM HUNG UP SHORTLY AFTER, HAL JORDAN STILL HAS A PROBLEM...



HOW CAN I GET A DATE WITH MY BOSS, CAROL FERRIS? GOSH! IF I COULD ONLY SOLVE MY PROBLEM AS EASILY AS I SOLVE OTHER PERSON'S PROBLEMS!

The End