WHO ARE THE IRREPRESSIBLE! UNSTOPPABLE! VIGILANT?

THUNDERBOLT THE AVENGER | Buster 1965 | Script: **Unknown** | Art: **Unknown**

DON'T MISS THIS EXCITING STORY OF THE INCREDIBLE...

THUNDERBOLT THE AVENGER

POLICE-CONSTABLE MICK RILEY WAS AS KEEN AS THE NEXT MAN TO MAKE A SUCCESS OF HIS CAREER ... BUT HIS ONE DRAW-BACK WAS HIS SMALL PHYSIQUE!

THE NEXT SECOND, MICK RILEY FELT AS THOUGH HIS HEAD HAD BEEN TORN OFF HIS SHOULDERS...
AND WHEN HE CAME TO...
GOOD HEAVENS, RILEY! WHAT HAPPENED? HOW MANY OF THEM SET ABOUT YOU?
THERE-THERE WERE THREE OF THEM, SIR, BUT...ONLY ONE OF THEM HIT ME!
ONLY ONE? COULDN'T YOU DEAL WITH ONE MAN?
WELL, HE WAS...ER... BIGGER THAN ME..!.
AND THE FOLLOWING MORNING...
WE'VE BEEN MADE A LAUGHING STOCK, RILEY! YOU ARE A SHRIMP. WE WANT BIG MEN...MEN WITH MUSCLE! I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU GOT INTO THE FORCE!
I MEASURED UP TO THE MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS, SIR! PASSED ALL THE EXAMS.
THEN I HOPE YOU PASSED THE TYPING EXAMS, RILEY... BECAUSE THAT'S WHERE I'M PUTTING YOU... IN THE TYPING POOL! STARTING NOW!
YES, SIR.
THE TYPING POOL WAS COMPOSED MAINLY OF POLICE WOMEN...
I THINK I'LL SEND IN MY RESIGNATION! THIS IS JUST GIRLS' WORK!
IT WON'T BE FOR LONG! THEY'LL SOON PUT YOU BACK ON OUTSIDE DUTY. THEY KNOW YOU ARE A GOOD POLICEMAN!
A WEEK LATER...
THE INSPECTOR ASKED TO SEE YOU AS SOON AS YOU CAME IN!
GOOD-O! PERHAPS HE'S GOT A REAL JOB FOR ME...TACKLING SOMETHING A BIT MORE DANGEROUS THAN A TYPEWRITER!
YOU WANT TO SEE ME, SIR? I'M READY FOR ANYTHING. I'VE BEEN DOING A BODY-BUILDING COURSE THESE LAST FEW DAYS!
SPARE ME THE DETAILS, RILEY! THE JOB I HAVE FOR YOU DOESN'T NEED MUCH MUSCLE...OR BRAIN. IT SHOULD BE RIGHT UP YOUR STREET!

RILEY'S MISSION WAS TO DRIVE PROFESSOR MARKHAM FROM WHITEHALL TO HIS HOME IN KENT . . .
PILOTING SOME HALF-BAKED SCIENTIST TO HIS HOME IS ABOUT ALL THEY'LL EVER LET ME DO !
THE PROFESSOR WAS UPSET, TOO... BUT FOR A DIFFERENT REASON .
THE FOOLS! ALL OFFICIALS ARE FOOLS. THIS WRISTWATCH IS THE GREATEST INVENTION EVER MADE ! AND THEY WON'T EVEN LISTEN TO ME !
VERY IRRITATING, PROFESSOR !
THIS IS NO ORDINARY WATCH... INSIDE ITS CASE IS A COMPARTMENT CONTAINING THERMO-CLYODINE-PHOSTIUM. WHEN THE WATCH IS SET... IT PASSES A CURRENT INTO THE WEARER, GIVING HIM SUPER-HUMAN POWERS. UNTOLD STRENGTH...AGILITY... POWER EVEN TO FLY !
THE POWER IT GENERATES LASTS TWO HOURS. SO THE WEARER MUST TAKE CARE NOT TO OVER-RUN THE POWER-TIME SPAN. IT THEN TAKES TWENTY-FOUR HOURS TO RECHARGE ITSELF . . .
SUPER-POWER... ENABLES A MAN TO FLY ? HE'S BARMY !
SUDDENLY... A TYRE BURST !
RILEY HAD A MIRACULOUS ESCAPE, BUT PROFESSOR MARKHAM WAS IN A BAD WAY.
TAKE IT EASY, SIR... HELP WILL SOON BE HERE !
TOO LATE... I-I'M FINISHED ! TAKE MY WATCH... MY SECRET. SEE THAT IT'S USED...FOR... FOR GOOD PURPOSES...
WHEN RILEY REPORTED BACK TO THE STATION . . .
I'M SORRY ABOUT THE PROFESSOR, INSPECTOR. IS HE...?
HE DIED BEFORE WE COULD GET HIM TO A HOSPITAL. NOT YOUR FAULT, RILEY. YOU GO HOME AND REST !
AT HIS FLAT WHERE HE LIVED ALONE . . .
I WONDER IF THE OLD BOY WAS JUST PULLING MY LEG...? SUPER POWER AND ALL THAT ? NO HARM IN PUTTING IT ON, I SUPPOSE !

HE STRAPPED THE WATCH TO HIS WRIST, AND WHEN HE TURNED ONE OF THE SMALL WINDERS...

GOSH! I **DO** FEEL DIFFERENT! MY MUSCLES SEEM TO BE STRAINING TO GO INTO **ACTION!**

IN A CORNER WAS THE PUNCH BALL HE'D BEEN USING FOR HIS BODY-BUILDING EXERCISES. ONE BLOW WAS ENOUGH!

THERE WAS ONE MORE TEST HE HAD TO ATTEMPT...

PROFESSOR MARKHAM... I BELIEVE WHAT YOU TOLD ME! IF YOU WERE JOKING.. IT'S GOING TO BE A MIGHTY LONG DROP!

IT WORKS! I'M FLYING!

A SLIGHT FLICK OF THE SECOND WINDER ON THE WATCH, AND...

BY GLORY! WHAT A KICK THE BOOSTER'S GOT!

NELSON'S COLUMN AFFORDED A TEMPORARY LANDING PLACE...

IT WORKS! THE PROFESSOR'S INVENTION REALLY DOES GIVE A PERSON SUPER-POWER! WHAT WERE HIS LAST WORDS? "SEE THAT IT IS USED FOR GOOD PURPOSES!"

I PROMISE TO USE PROFESSOR MARKHAM'S INVENTION TO SEEK AND FIGHT THE FORCES OF EVIL... WHEREVER THEY MAY BE! AND THEY SHALL KNOW ME AS **THUNDERBOLT!**

ENCOUNTER THUNDERBOLT
15th August 2018
IRREPESSIBLE! UNSTOPPABLE!
THE VIGILANT