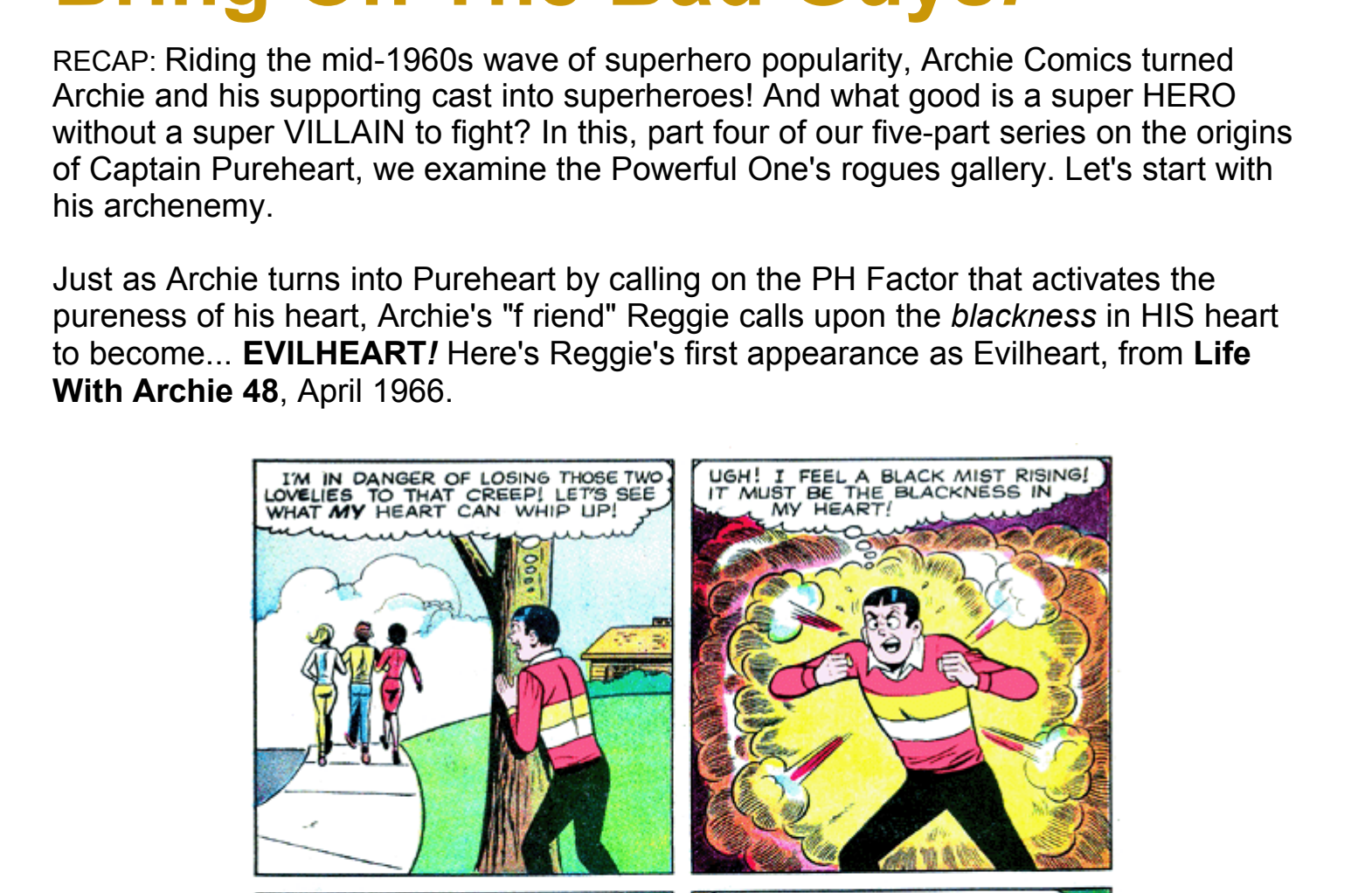


DOCKA MACKIE!
IT'S DIAL B FOR BLOG... THE WORLD'S GREATEST COMIC BLOGAZINE!
THE MOST ORIGINAL WEB LOG IN COMICS HISTORY!
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
FEB NO. 229

SECRET ORIGINS OF ARCHIE AS PUREHEART!



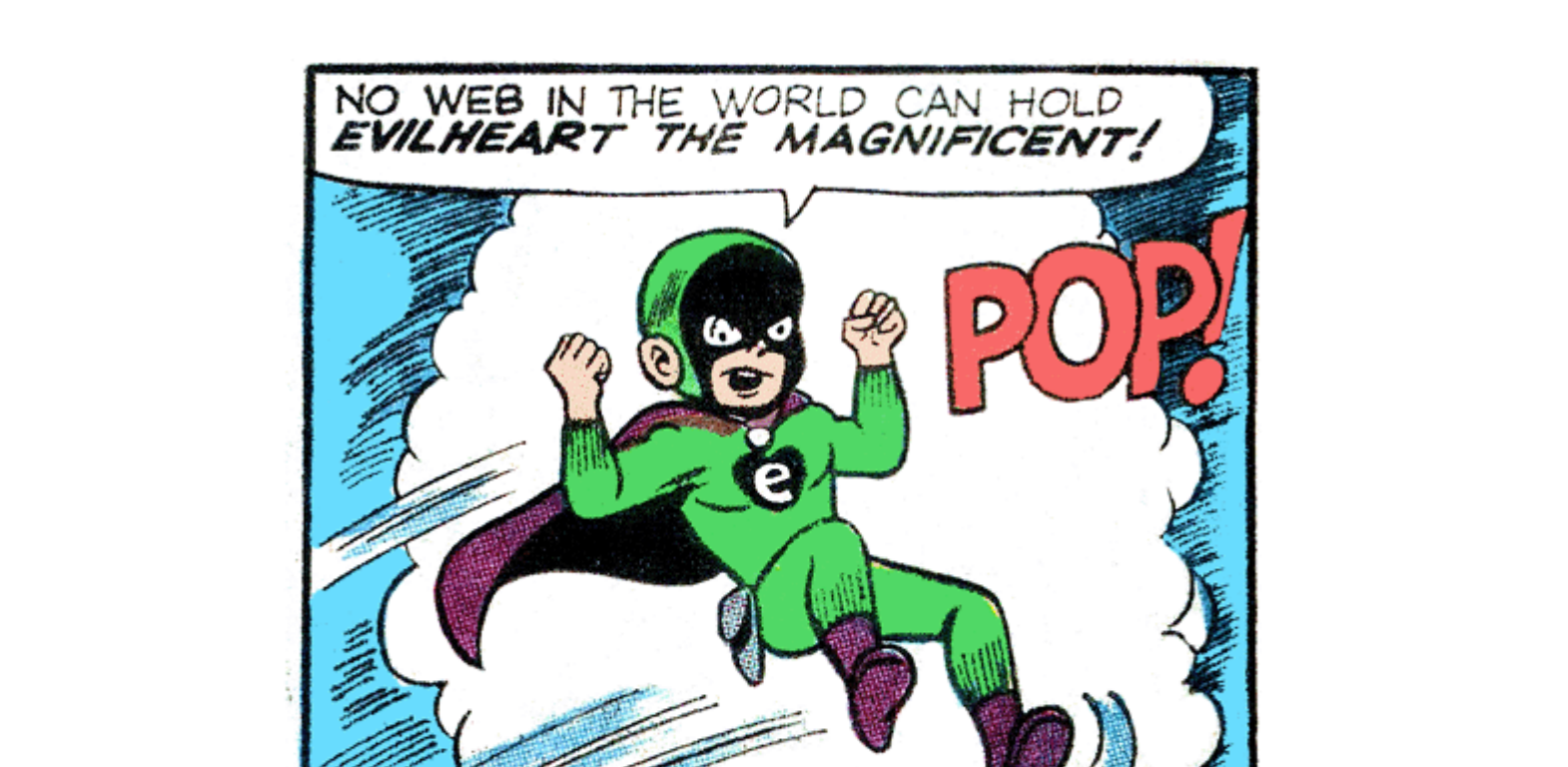
Bring On The Bad Guys!

RECAP: Riding the mid-1960s wave of superhero popularity, Archie Comics turned Archie and his supporting cast into superheroes! And what good is a super HERO without a super VILLAIN to fight? In this, part four of our five-part series on the origins of Captain Pureheart, we examine the Powerful One's rogues gallery. Let's start with his archenemy.

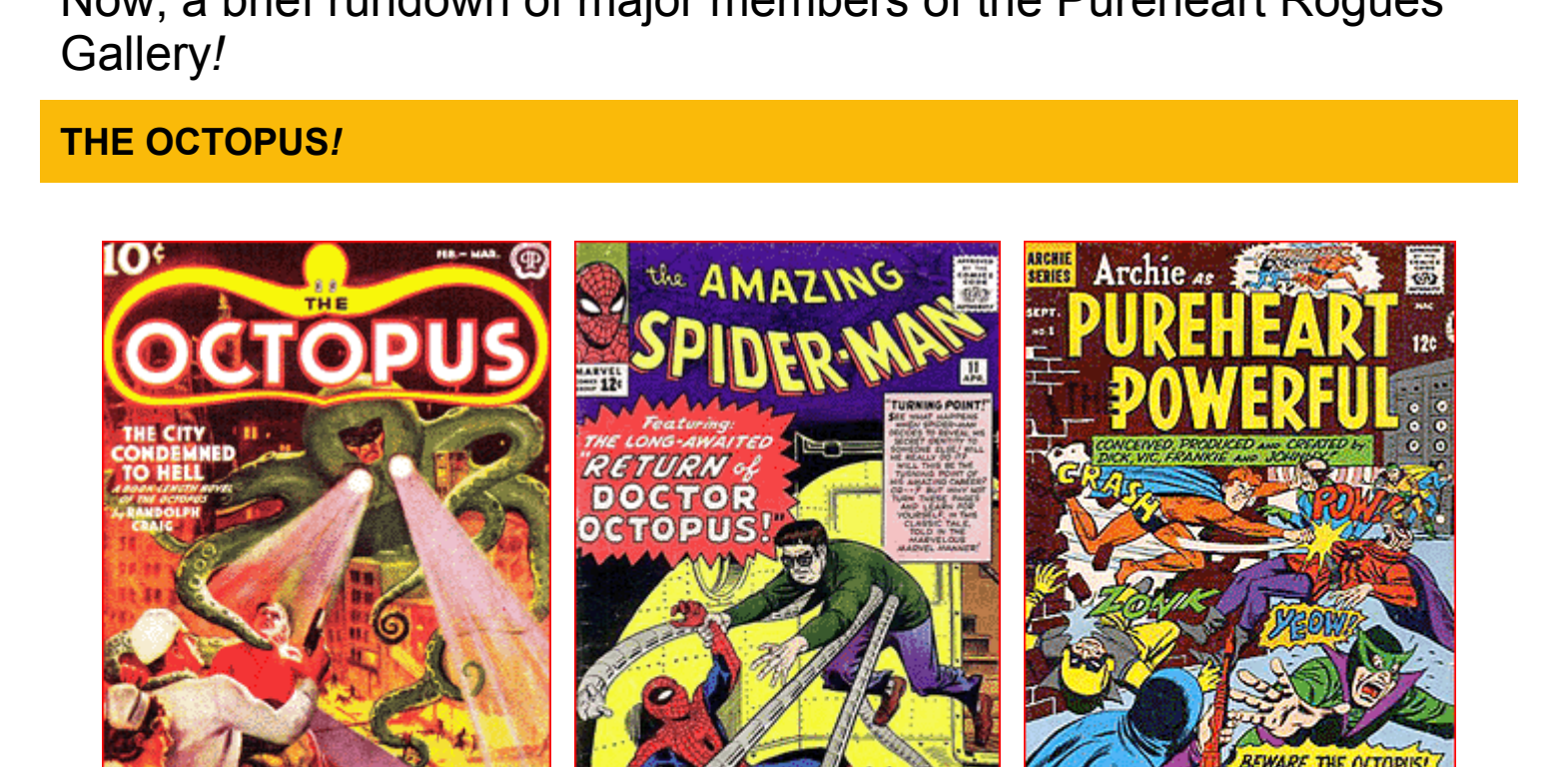
Just as Archie turns into Pureheart by calling on the PH Factor (that activates the pureness of his heart, Archie's "friend" Reggie calls upon the *Evilness* in HIS heart to become... **EVILHEART!** Here's Reggie's first appearance as *Evilheart*, from *Life With Archie* #48, April 1966.



Here are three of Reggie's cover appearances as Pureheart's nemesis, the evil Evilheart!

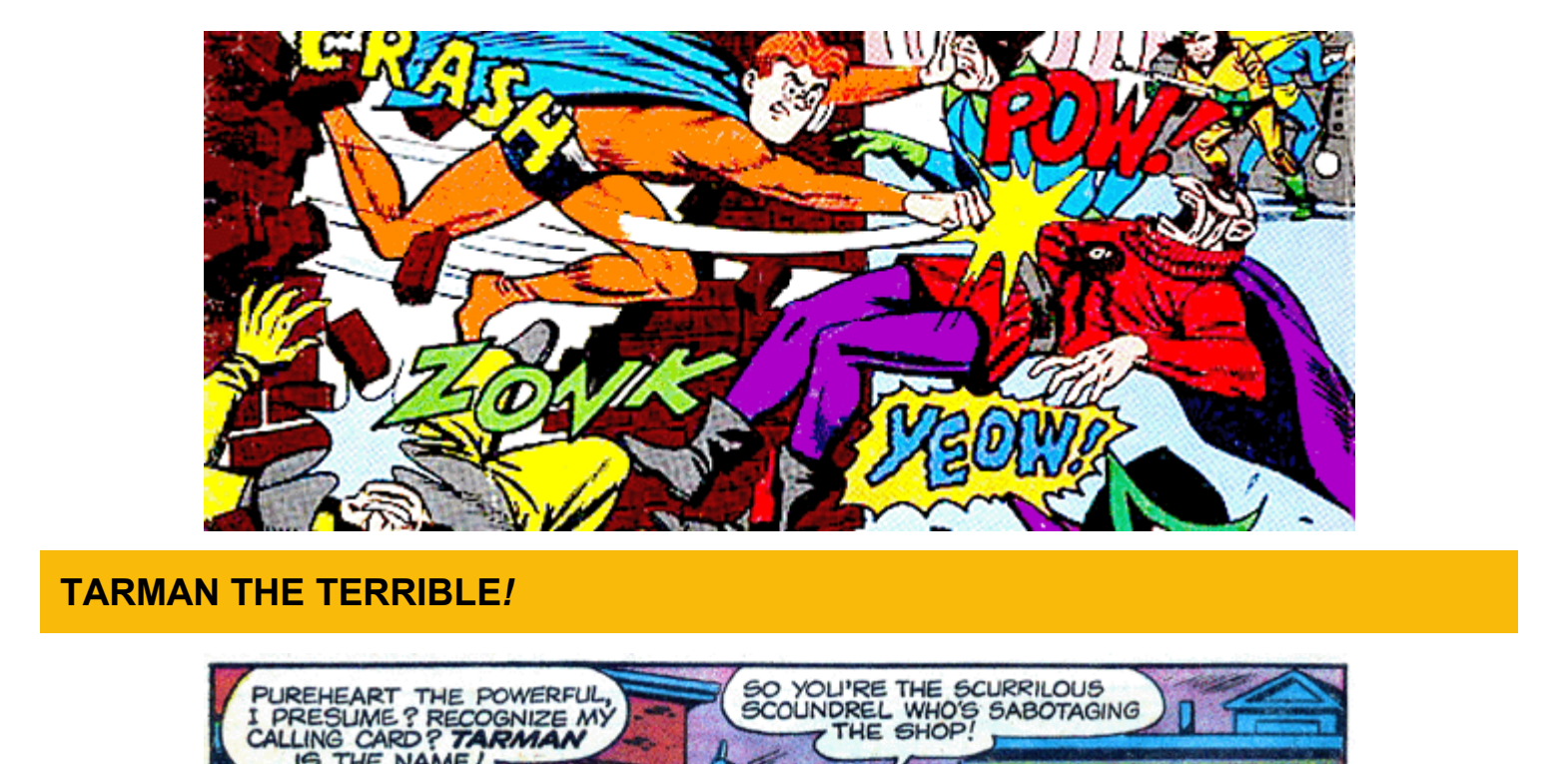


And, when Little Archie became Little Pureheart, Little Reggie became Little Evilheart!

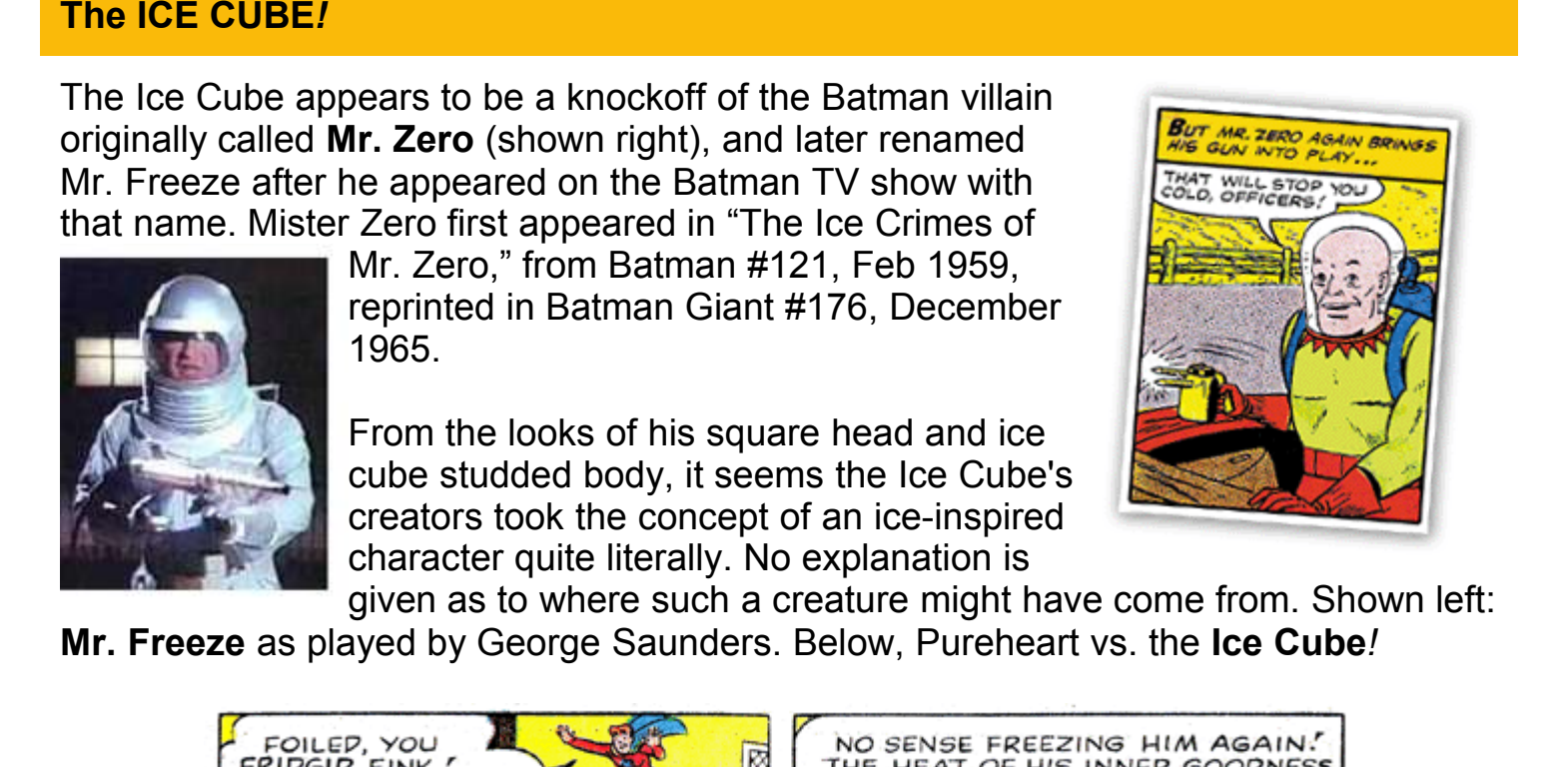


Now, a brief rundown of major members of the Pureheart Rogues Gallery!

THE OCTOPUS!



Octopi have been headlining comics for decades. Above: A 1939 pulp titled "The Octopus." Marvel's **Doctor Octopus** aka Doc Ock (above center) came on the scene in 1963. So, there had been a long line of octopi several years before the debut of *The Octopus* in Pureheart #1, October 1966. Powers? Doc Ock had four mechanical arms, while *The Octopus* had... a red turtle neck sweater/skirt with an octopus emblem on it. Ummm... Pow.

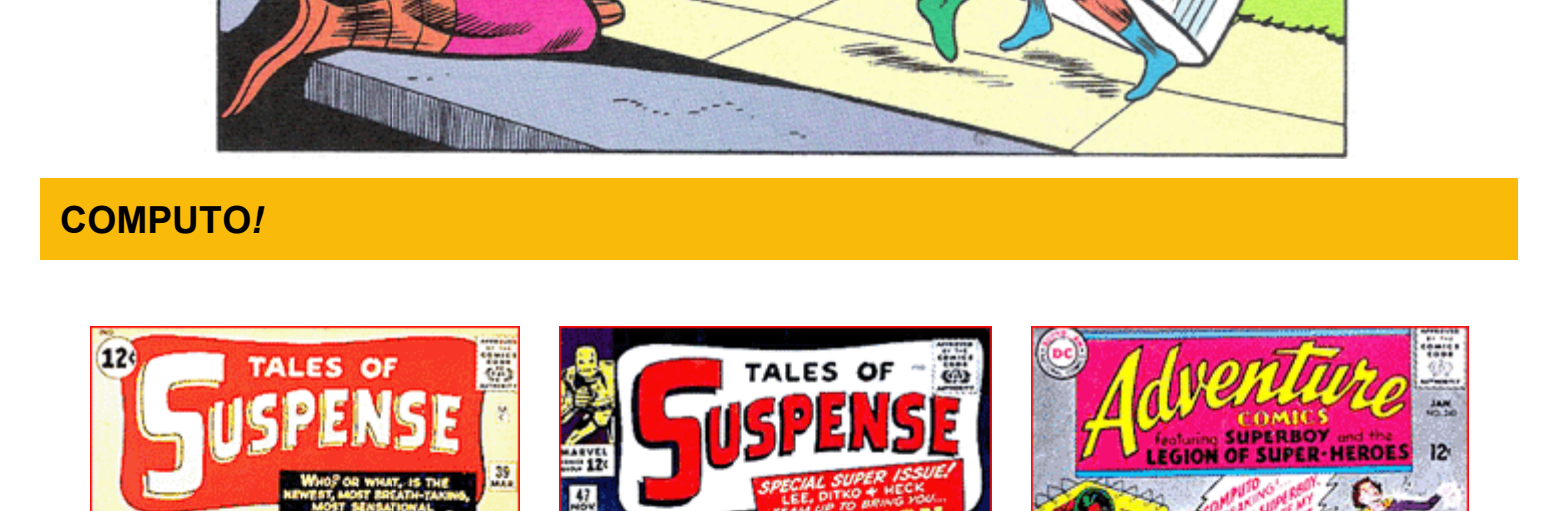


TARMAN THE TERRIBLE!

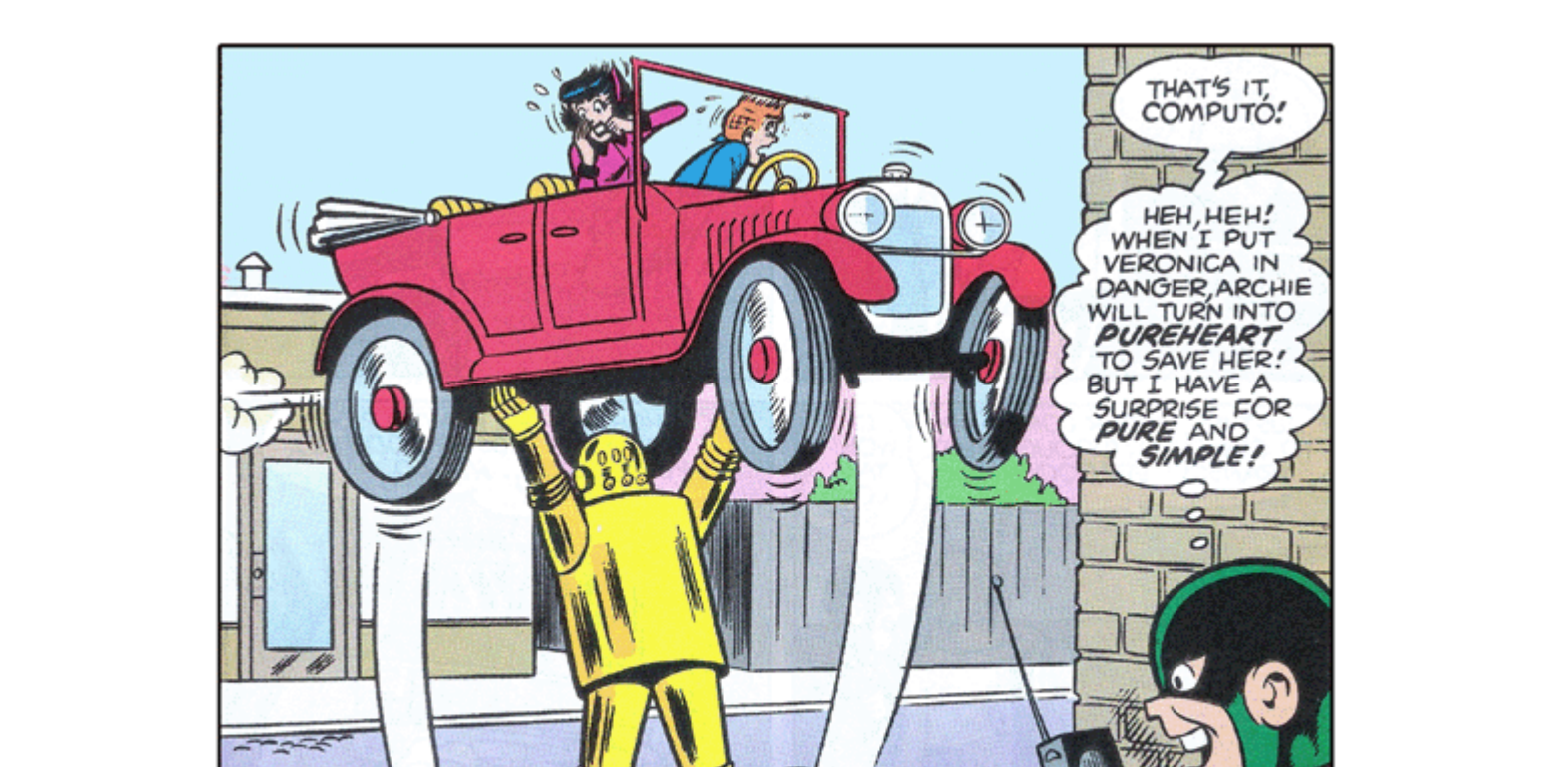


The ICE CUBE!

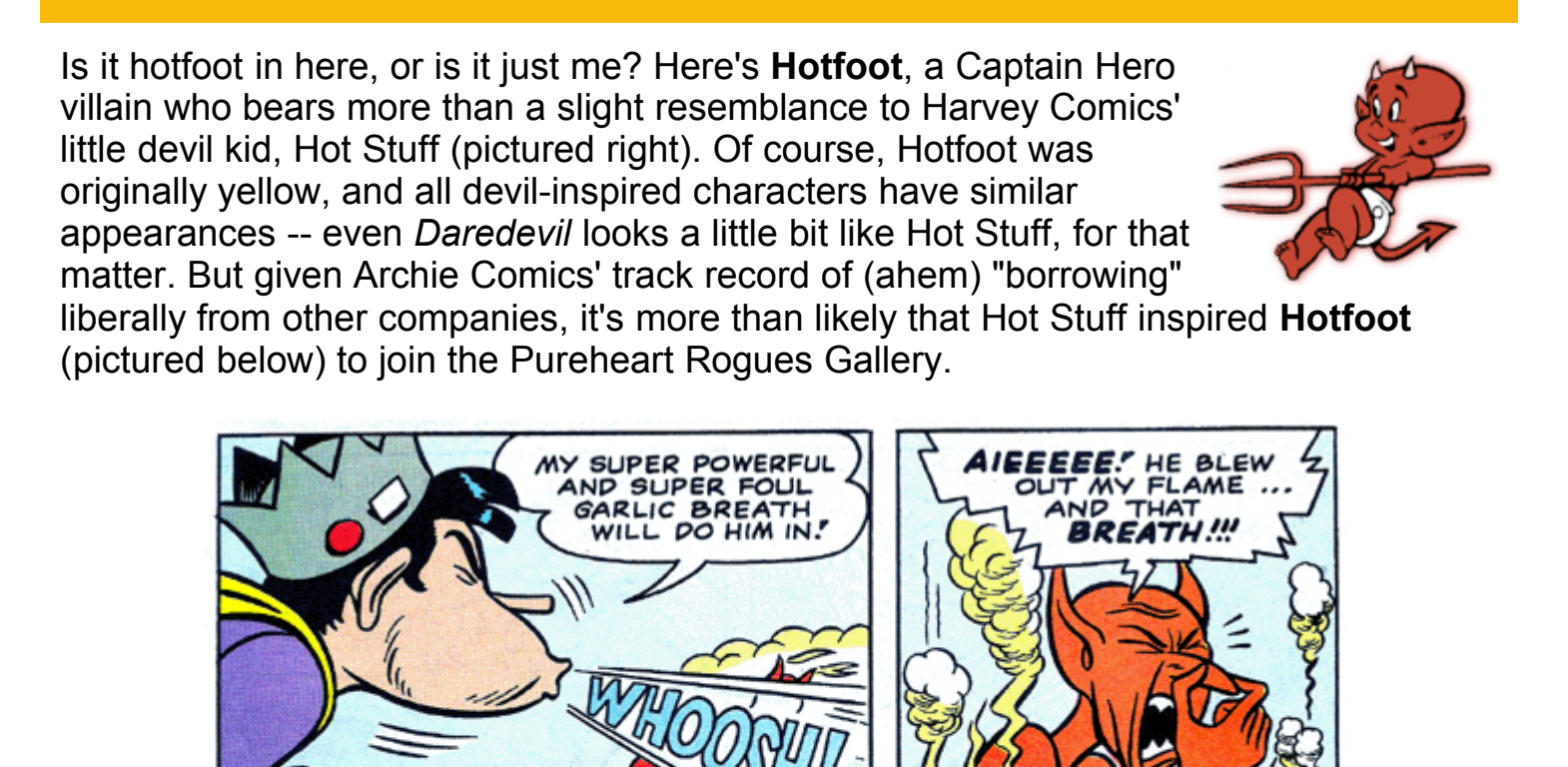
The Ice Cube appears to be a knockoff of the Batman villain originally called **Mr. Zero** (shown right), and later renamed Mr. Freeze after he appeared on the Batman TV show with that name. Mister Zero first appeared in "The Ice Crimes of Mr. Zero," from *Batman* #121, Feb 1959, reprinted in *Batman Giant* #176, December 1965.



FANG FINKSTER!



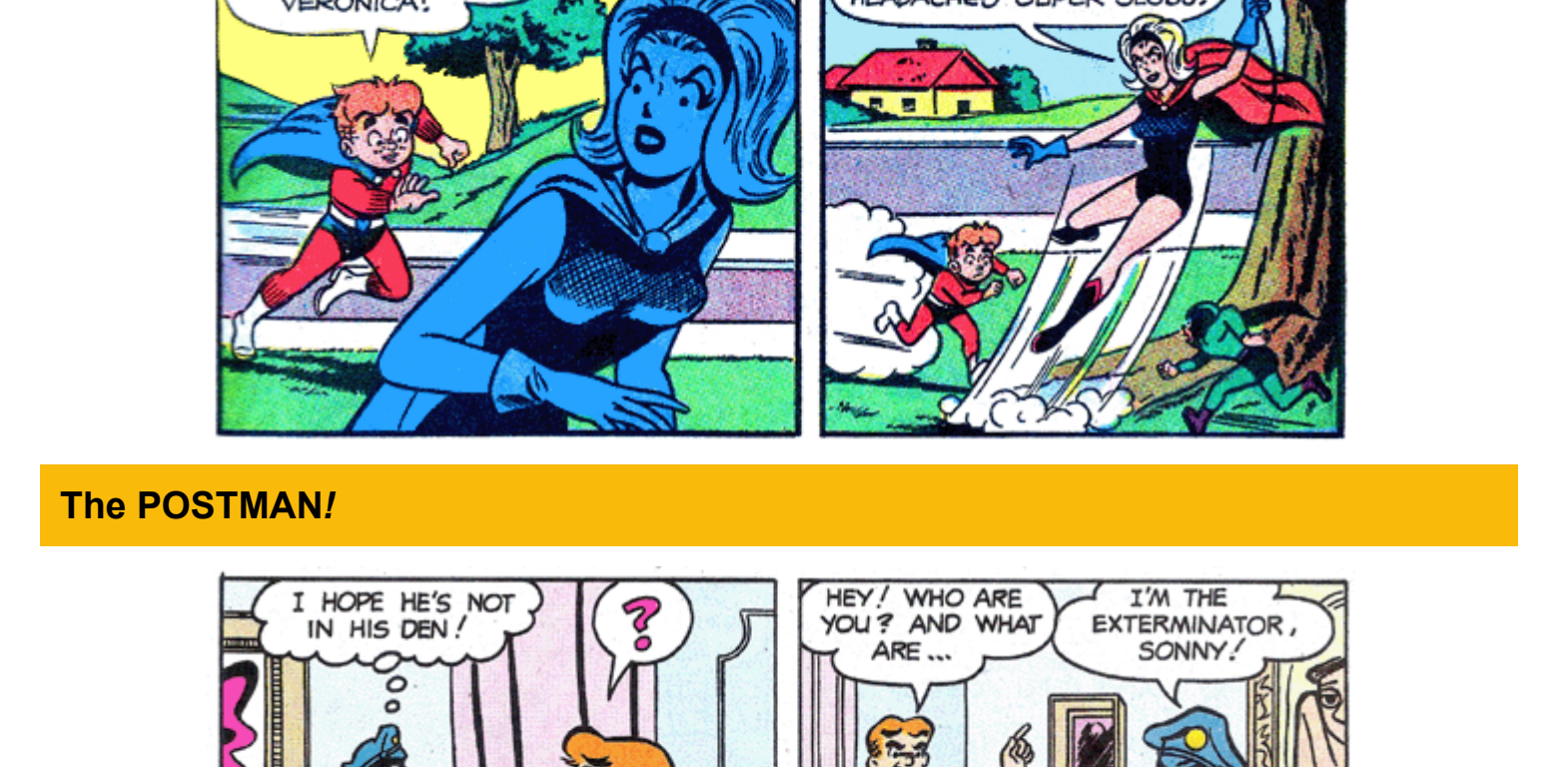
The COLLECTOR!



COMPUTO!

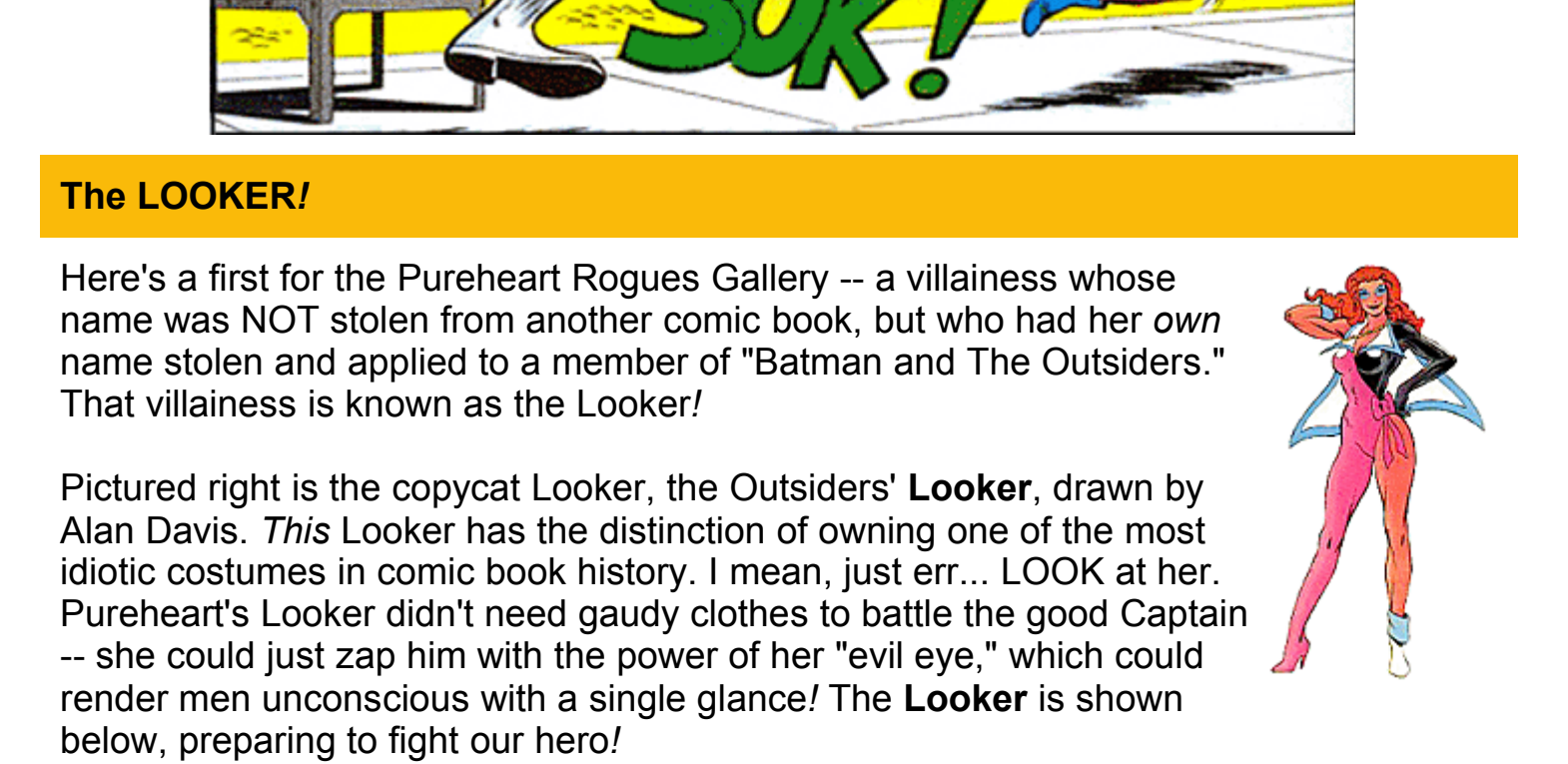


What happens when you mix the Invincible Iron Man with *Computo the Conqueror*, the automated foe of the Legion of Super-Heroes? You get **Computo**, automated foe of various Pureheart, that's what! The evil robot was colored both gold and gold in certain reprintings of his debut story. Computo is seen below in gray, being directed by Evilheart to attack Veronica and Archie.

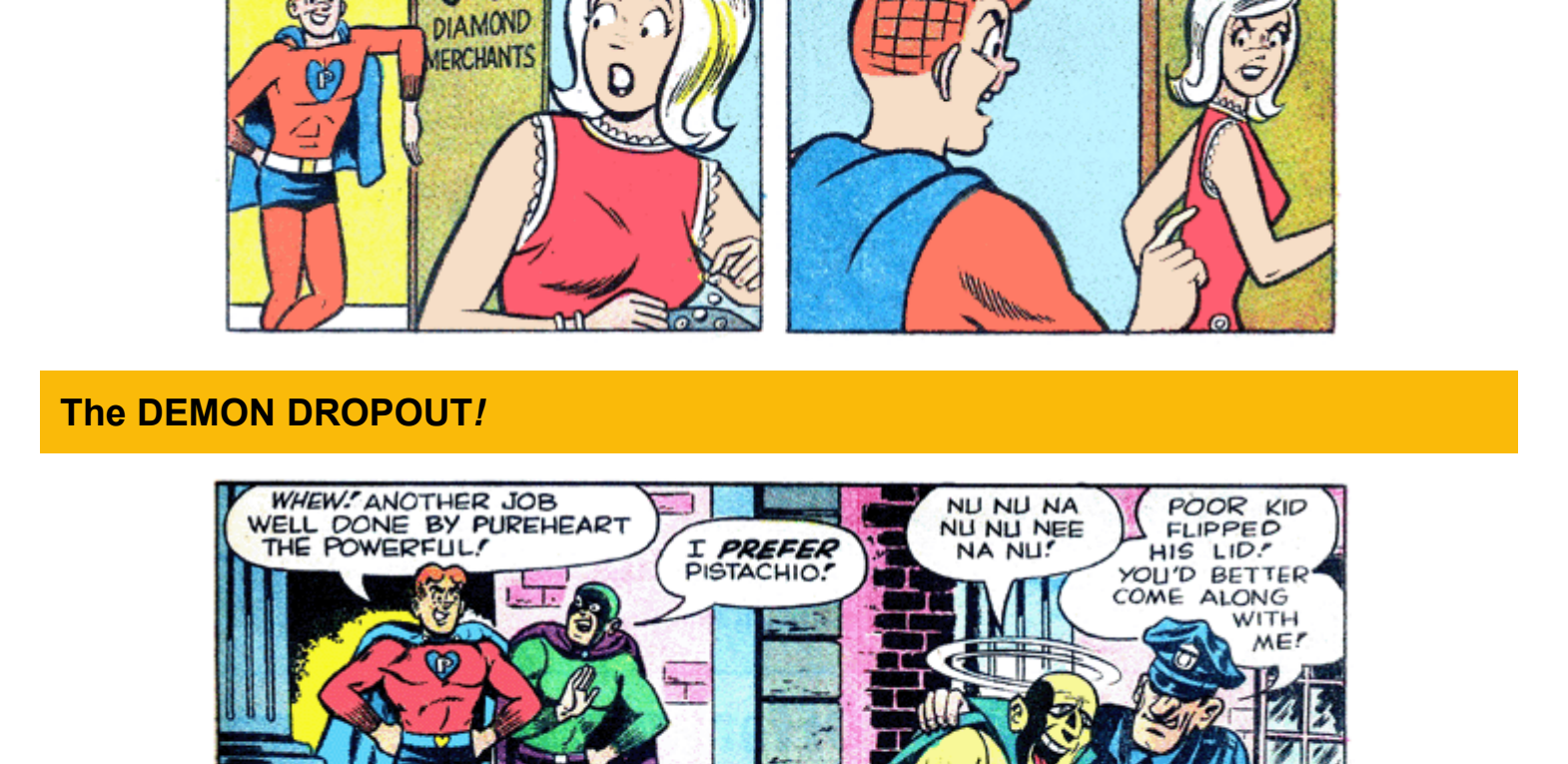


HOTFOOT!

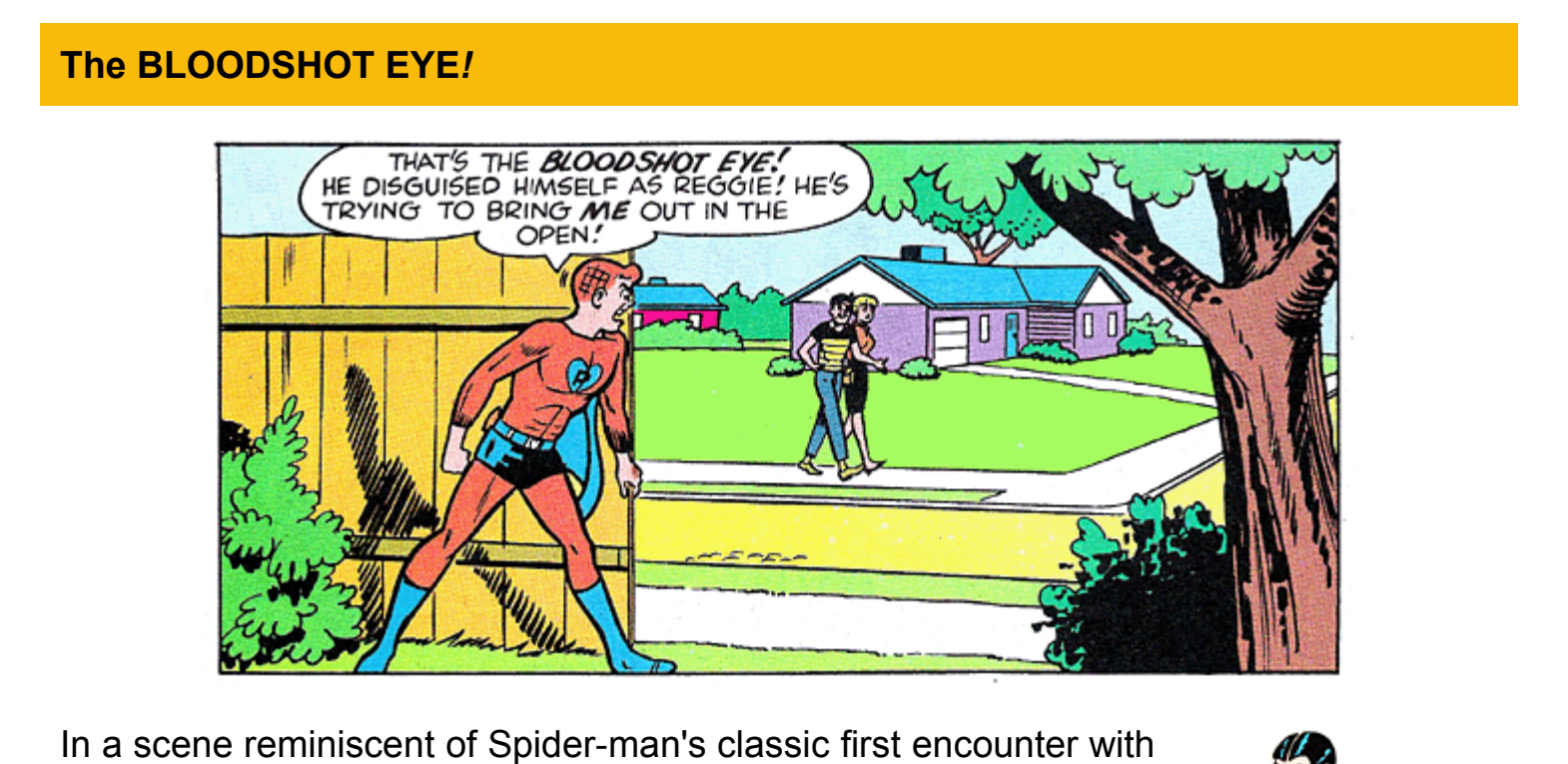
Is it hotfoot in here, or is it just me? Here's **Hotfoot**, a Captain Hero villain who bears more than a slight resemblance to Harvey Comics' little devil kid, Hot Stuff (pictured right). Of course, Hotfoot was originally yellow, and all devil-inspired characters have similar appearances -- even *Daredevil* looks a little bit like Hot Stuff, for that matter. But given Archie Comics' track record of (ahem) "borrowing" liberally from other companies, it's more than likely that Hot Stuff inspired **Hotfoot** (pictured below) to join the Pureheart Rogues Gallery.



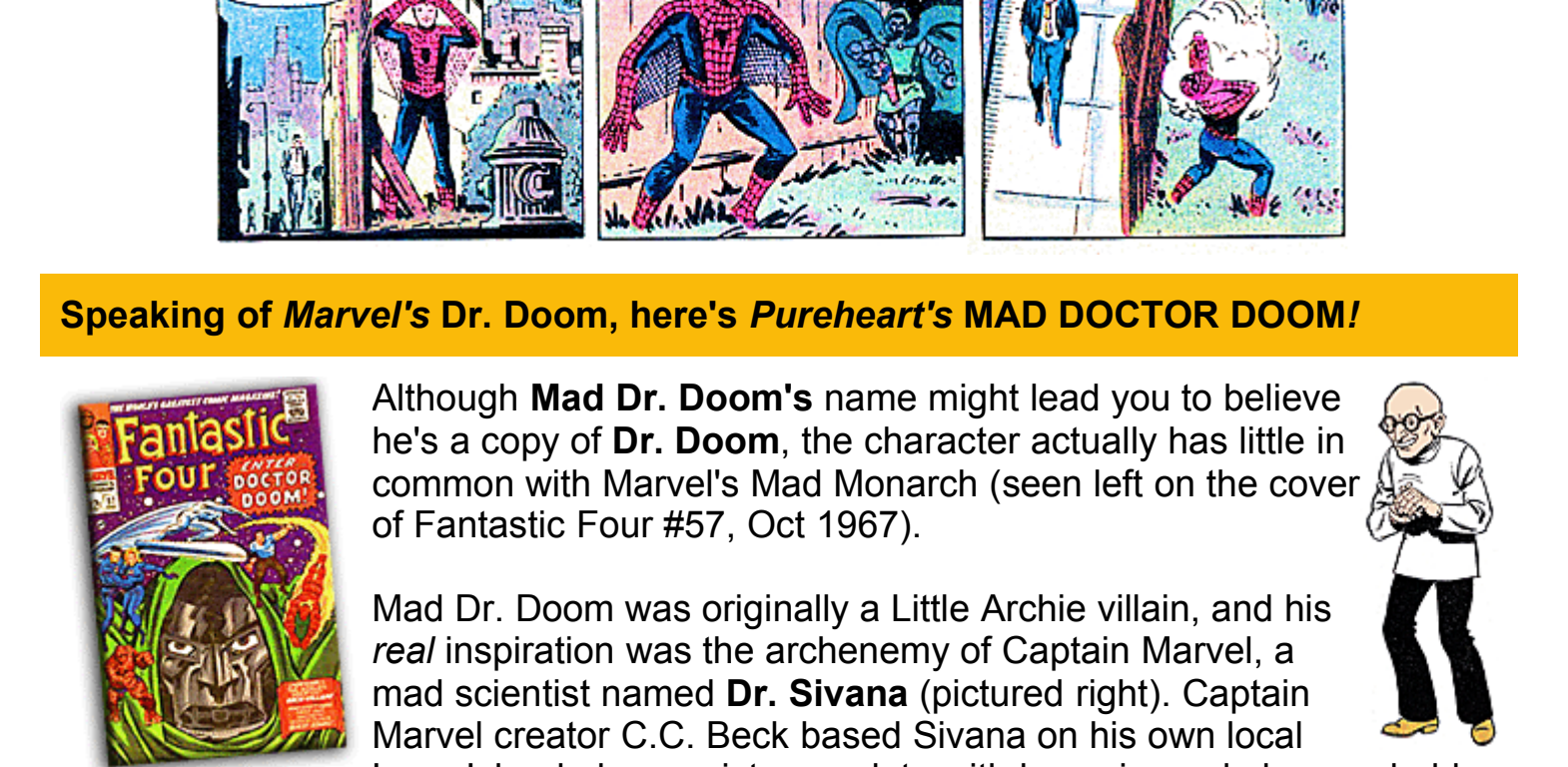
The CONSUMER!



BLACK WIDOW!



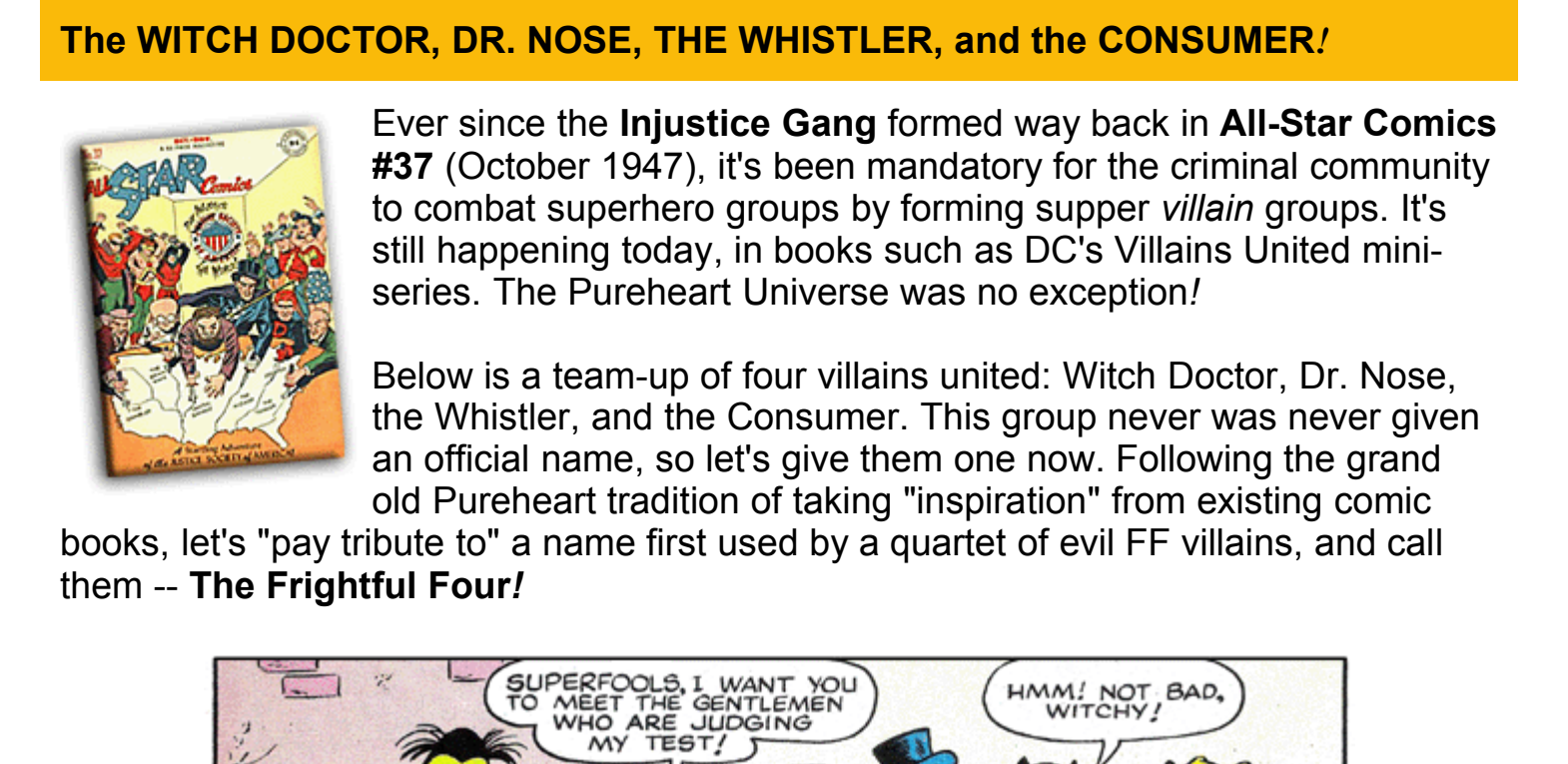
Marvel returned Natasha Romanoff aka **The Black Widow** way back in *Tales of Suspense* #52 (April 1964, cover detail shown left). Tasha was just a super spy, and didn't wear a costume in her first appearance. She got that sexy black jumpsuit a few months later. Meanwhile, over in Pureheart Universe, Little Pureheart fought his own version of the *Black Widow* in his debut appearance, in *Little Archie* #40 (Fall 1966). Below, Little Pureheart and Little Evilheart battle the Black Widow as she rises on her "webbing," aka filament wire!



The POSTMAN!



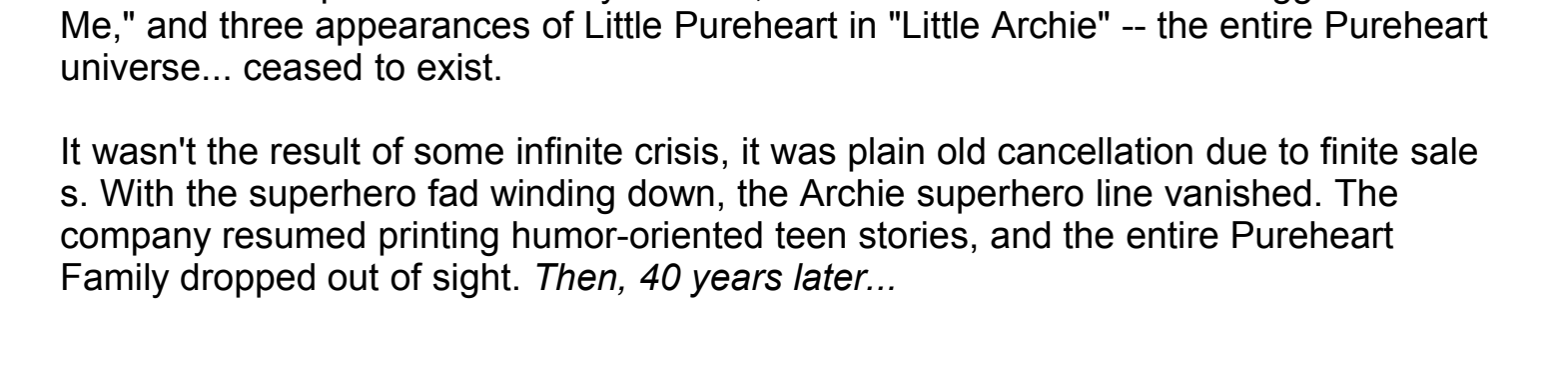
DOCTOR DETEST!



The LOOKER!

Here's a looker for the Pureheart Rogues Gallery -- a villainess whose name was NOT stolen from another comic book, but who had her own name stolen and applied to a member of "Batman and The Outsiders." That villainess is known as the **Looker!**

Pictured right is the copycat Looker, the Outsiders' **Looker**, made by Alan Davis. *This Looker* has the distinction of owning one of the most idiotic costumes in comic book history. I mean, just err... LOOK at her. Pureheart's Looker didn't need gaudy clothes to battle the good Captain -- she could just zap him with the power of her "evil eye," which could render men unconscious with a single glance! **The Looker** is shown below, preparing to fight our hero!



The DEMON DROPOUT!

The BLOODSHOT EYE!

In a scene reminiscent of Spider-Man's classic first encounter with Doctor Doom way back in *Spidey* #5, the **Bloodshot Eye** (shown right without disguise) attacks Pureheart.

Speaking of Marvel's Dr. Doom, here's Pureheart's MAD DOCTOR DOOM!

Although **Mad Dr. Doom**'s name might lead you to believe he's a copy of **Dr. Doom**, the character actually has little in common with Marvel's Mad Monarch (seen left on the cover of *Fantastic Four* #57, Oct 1967).

Mad Dr. Doom was originally a Little Archie villain, and his real inspiration was the archenemy of Captain Marvel, a mad scientist named **Dr. Sivana** (pictured right). Captain Marvel creator C. C. Beck based Sivana on his own local Long Island pharmacist, complete with horn-rimmed glasses, bald head and white pharmacist's jacket. Below, Pureheart's **Mad Dr. Doom** is also bald with a white druggist's jacket!

The WITCH DOCTOR, DR. NOSE, THE WHISTLER, and the CONSUMER!

Ever since the *Injustice Gang* formed way back in *All-Star Comics* #37 (October 1947), it's been mandatory for the criminal community to combat superhero groups by forming super *villain* groups. It's still happening today, in books such as DC's Villains United mini-series. The Pureheart Universe was no exception!

Below is a team-up of four villains united: Witch Doctor, Dr. Nose, the Whistler, and the Consumer. This group never was given an official name, so let's give them one now. Following the grand old Pureheart tradition of taking "inspiration" from existing comic books, let's "pay tribute to" a name first used by a quartet of evil FF villains, and call them -- **The Frightful Four!**

The CANCELLATION NOTICE!

Pureheart's greatest foe, the one foe not even he could triumph over, was **cancellation**. In November 1967 -- after seven issues of "Captain Hero," six issues of "Pureheart," six issues of *Super Teen* in "Betty and Me," five issues of *Evilheart* in "Reggie and Me," and three appearances of Little Pureheart in "Little Archie" -- the entire Pureheart universe... ceased to exist.

It wasn't the result of some infinite crisis, it was plain old cancellation due to finite sale s. With the superhero fading winding down, the Archie superhero line vanished. The company resumed printing humor-oriented teen stories, and the entire Pureheart Family dropped out of sight. *Then, 40 years later...*