

The JAGUAR

HMM! THESE EXPLORERS DON'T KNOW I'M THE JAGUAR, AND THAT I'M ABOUT TO USE MY AMAZING ANIMAL POWERS AGAINST THIS MONSTER!

LOOK! A MAN-FLYING RIGHT INTO THE SERPENT'S JAWS! HE'LL BE KILLED!

IT'S A BRAVE MAN WHO CAN STICK HIS HEAD INTO A LION'S MOUTH! BUT IT TAKES MORE THAN BRAVERY WHEN THE MOST AMAZING MAN IN HISTORY, THE JAGUAR, STEPS INTO THE FANGED MOUTH OF A PERUVIAN MONSTER TO DEFY THE...

MENACE OF THE INCA SERPENT!

ONE DAY, WHILE FAMED ZOOLOGIST RALPH HARDY, ACCOMPANIES AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXPEDITION IN THE PERUVIAN JUNGLES...

LOOK, RALPH! THAT JAGUAR FLOATING ON A LOG IS FALLING INTO THE WATER!

HE MUST'VE TAKEN REFUGE ON THAT LOG AND GOTTEN TRAPPED WHEN IT FLOATED DOWNSTREAM!

GR-ROWR!

I'LL RESCUE HIM!

INSTANTS LATER...

YOU WANT TO S-SAVE HIM? BUT, RALPH, A JAGUAR IS THE MOST SAVAGE BEAST IN THE JUNGLE!

YES, BUT I CAN'T BEAR TO SEE ANY ANIMAL DIE WHEN I CAN PREVENT IT!

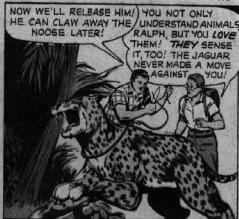
SECONDS LATER...



GOT HIM! C'MON--
GIVE ME A HAND
PULLING HIM
TO SHORE!

GRR-R!

THEN, AS THE CAT IS DRAGGED TO SAFETY...



NOW WE'LL RELEASE HIM!
HE CAN CLAW AWAY THE
NOOSE LATER!

YOU NOT ONLY
UNDERSTAND ANIMALS,
RALPH, BUT YOU LOVE
THEM! THEY SENSE
IT, TOO! THE JAGUAR
NEVER MADE A MOVE
AGAINST YOU!

THE NEXT DAY, NEAR THE CAMP-SITE...



GREAT GUNS, HARDY! I-I'M SEEING
THINGS! A WHITE JAGUAR! LET'S
I DIDN'T KNOW ANY EXISTED! TRY TO
CAPTURE HIM!

BUT AS THE HUMANS
PURSUE THE BEAST...



GOOD HEAVENS! THE
EARTH IS QUAKING!



I-IT'S AN EARTHQUAKE!
GASP!...THE GROUND
IS CRACKING OPEN!

CRACK!



LOOK! IT CAN'T BE A QUAKE!...
SOMETHING IS PUSHING ITS WAY UP!

SS-SST!

GOOD GRIEF! IT'S A HUGE, DINOSAUR-LIKE SERPENT! GET BACK BEFORE IT SEES US!

BUT WHERE CAN WE GO? THERE'S NO PLACE TO HIDE?



FOLLOW THE TRACKS OF THE WHITE JAGUAR! THEY MAY LEAD US TO A CAVE OR HIDING PLACE AMONG THOSE ROCKS!



SUDDENLY, ON TURNING A BEND...

LOOK! THE RUINS OF AN INCAN TEMPLE BUILT RIGHT INTO THE ROCK! THIS COULD BE THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL DISCOVERY OF THE DECADE!

IF WE LIVE TO REPORT IT...!



!GASP! RUN FOR THE TEMPLE! IT'S OUR ONLY CHANCE!

SS-SST!

BE CAREFUL WHEN YOU GET INSIDE! THE WHITE JAGUAR MIGHT BE HOLED UP HERE, TOO!

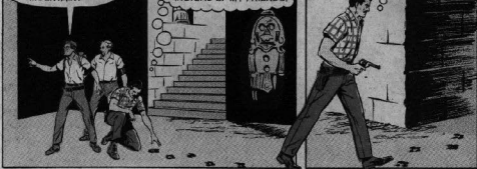


SHORTLY, INSIDE THE CRUMBLING RUINS...

THIS WAY QUICK! MAYBE WE CAN FIND AN EXIT LEADING TO THE OTHER SIDE OF THE MOUNTAIN!

HMM... JAGUAR PRINTS ARE PLAINLY MARKED IN THE DUST! SOME MYSTERIOUS INSTINCT IMPELS ME TO FOLLOW THE *PRINTS* -- INSTEAD OF MY FRIENDS!

WHAT A PECULIAR SENSATION I GET, WALKING INTO THIS DUSTY CHAMBER! AS IF I WERE ENTERING A DIFFERENT WORLD...



AMAZING! THE JAGUAR PUG-MARKS LEAD UP TO THE WALL--THEN *DISAPPEAR!* WHERE DID THE JAGUAR GO?



HOW *ODD!* HANGING OVER THE SPOT WHERE THE JAGUAR VANISHED IS A *TINY EMBLEM OF A WHITE JAGUAR...* WORN AS A BELT BUCKLE!



THEN, AS HARDY READS AN ANCIENT INSCRIPTION...

IT SAYS THAT ONLY HE WHO LOVES AND IS LOVED BY THE ANIMAL KINGDOM MAY WEAR THIS *JAGUAR BELT!*



TO BE TRANSFORMED INTO A *HUMAN JAGUAR* WITH SUPREME POWER OVER ANIMALS EVERYWHERE IN THE UNIVERSE, THE WEARER OF THIS MAGIC BELT NEED ONLY SAY... "*THE JAGUAR!*"



THIS **HUMAN JAGUAR** CAN COMMUNICATE TELEPATHICALLY WITH ANY BEAST--EVEN OVER **GREAT DISTANCES!** BUT MOST MARVELOUS OF ALL HIS POWERS...



...IS THAT HE **HIMSELF** CAN ACQUIRE ANY POWER ASSOCIATED WITH THE ANIMAL WORLD! MOREOVER, THIS POWER IS **MULTIPLIED THOUSANDS OF TIMES** IN HIM!



IT ALSO SAYS THAT THE **HUMAN JAGUAR** CAN FLY BY THE AID OF THIS NUCLEON-ENERGY BELT! HOW **FANTASTIC!**...

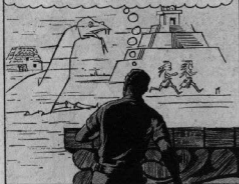


BUT THEN, **ALL** THE ANCIENT CIVILIZATIONS BELIEVED IN **FLYING ANIMALS!** THE PERSIANS WORSHIPPED THE **WINGED BULL...** THE EGYPTIANS, THE **WINGED SPHINX--**SO, WHY NOT A "**FLYING**" JAGUAR?



THEN, AS HARDY NOTICES A LARGE, MURAL...

!GASP! THE INCAS ENCOUNTERED THE MONSTER SERPENT, TOO! HERE, IT'S SHOWN BURSTING OUT OF THE GROUND TO THREATEN THEM...



THE INSCRIPTION SAYS THE HUGE REPTILE HIBERNATES UNDERGROUND FOR CENTURIES... THEN RE-APPEARS EVERY 400 YEARS TO GO ON A **RAMPAGE!** THAT'S WHY THE INCA PRIESTS CREATED **THE JAGUAR... TO STOP THE SERPENT!**



AT THAT MOMENT, IN ANOTHER PART OF THE
RUINED TEMPLE...

CRASH!

GOOD
HEAVENS! IT'S
THE SERPENT!

!GULP!
HE PROBABLY
KILLED HARDY
ALREADY! THAT'S
WHY HARDY'S
DISAPPEARED!

NOW HE'S
COMING FOR
US! WE'RE
DOOMED!

EE-AHH!

AS RALPH HARDY HEARS THE TERRIFIED SHRIEK...

EEE-EE-EAHH-H!

THAT CAN
MEAN ONLY ONE THING--THE SERPENT
HAS FOUND MY FRIENDS! THE INCAS'
BELIEF IN A HUMAN JAGUAR MAY
BE ONLY A SUPERSTITION...

...OR A FAIRY TALE, BUT I MUST TRY TO
SAVE MY COMRADES! I'LL PUT ON THIS
BELT AND PRONOUNCE THE WORDS...

THE JAGUAR!

SUDDENLY, AN AMAZING
TRANSFORMATION...

!GASP! THE
M-MAGIC WORKED!
I'VE BECOME
THE JAGUAR!
NOW TO SEE IF
I HAVE THE
POWERS!