

# SPICY 'ADVENTURE' STORIES



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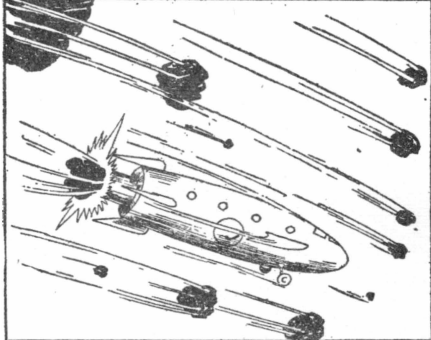


# Diana Daw

LEAVING VENUS,  
DIANA AND TED  
HEAD THEIR  
SPACE-SHIP OUT  
INTO SPACE IN  
AN EFFORT TO  
REACH EARTH.

By  
CLAYTON  
MAXWELL

SUDDENLY THE SPACE-SHIP IS OVERTAKEN BY A CLOUD OF METEORITES. ONE PLUGS THE ROCKET TUBE



IT'S--IT'S CARRYING US STRAIGHT TOWARD THE SUN!



I'VE GOT TO TAKE OFF SOME OF THESE CLOTHES--THE HEAT IS BECOMING UNBEARABLE!

BUT THE GRAVITY OF MERCURY PULLS THEM INTO ITS ORBIT



LOOK! THERE'S MERCURY!

WE'LL CRASH! EVEN IF WE SURVIVE THE CRASH--IF WE LAND ON THE HOT SIDE WE'LL BURN--IF ON THE COLD SIDE WE'LL FREEZE TO DEATH!

SEE--THERE'S A BELT RUNNING AROUND MERCURY--A TEMPERATE ZONE BETWEEN THE COLD AND HOT SIDES. THAT WOULD SUSTAIN LIFE. ONE SIDE OF THE BELT WILL GRADUALLY TAPER INTO ICE FIELDS--THE OTHER SIDE INTO A BURNING DESERT!



IF WE COULD ONLY START OUR ROCKET-MOTORS, WE COULD LAND THERE! LOOK! THE METEORITES ARE BURNING!



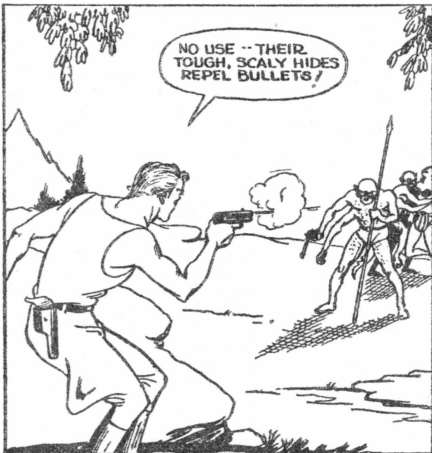
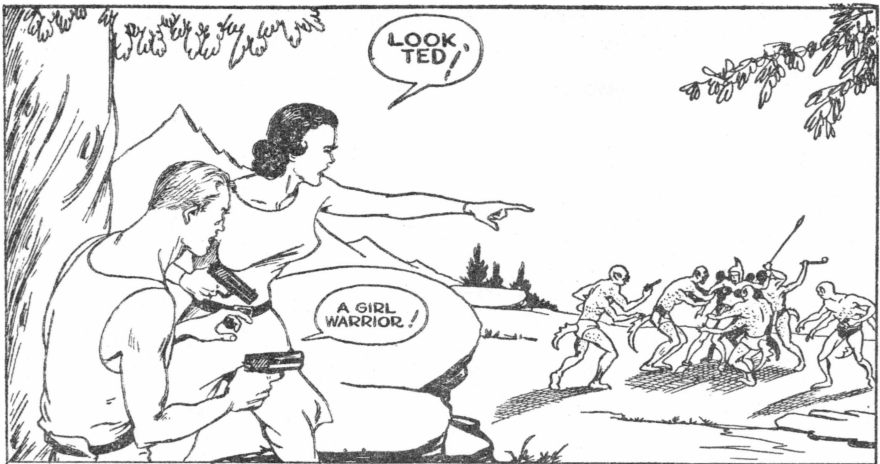
WHY--WHY YOU'RE LANDING OKAY, TED!

YEAH--THE FRICTION OF MERCURY'S AIR SET THE METEORITE AFIRE AND IT BURNED AWAY. I BLASTED THE REMNANT'S OUT OF THE ROCKET-TUBE!



TED, WE'RE CUT OFF FROM OUR SPACE-SHIP BY A FOREST FIRE! IT'S SPREADING TOWARD US!

THE METEORITES SET IT ON FIRE. RUN!



TED'S MUSCLES, TRAINED TO THE HEAVIER PULL OF EARTH'S GRAVITY, CARRY HIM EASILY OVER THE CHARGING REPTILE-MAN



TED'S SUPERIOR STRENGTH MAKES HIM A MATCH FOR THE REPTILE MEN

BY ALL THE GODS OF MERCURY... A MAN... WHO CAN FIGHT!

THEY CAN'T FIRE THEIR FLAME GUNS -- THEY MIGHT HIT THEIR OWN MEN -- BUT I CAN'T HOLD OUT HERE FOREVER!



TED IS SAVED BY A CHARGE OF AMAZON WARRIORS

THE AMAZONS!

JUST IN TIME, TOO!



COME ON, GIRLS, WE CAN BEAT THEM!



THE REPTILE-MEN FLED LEAVING MANY DEAD UPON THE FIELD

A MAN... AND SUCH A PHYSICAL SPECIMEN... YOU WILL BE MY HUSBAND!

THAT'S WHAT YOU THINK, SISTER!

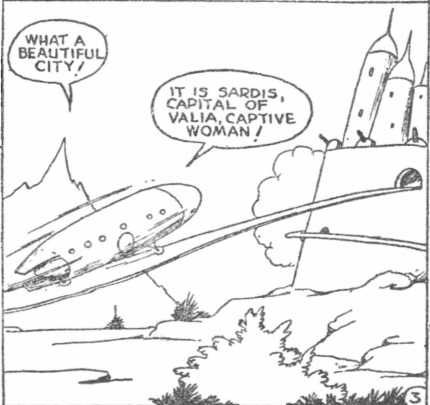
WE'RE PRISONERS TED!



DIANA AND TED ARE MARCHED ACROSS COUNTRY AND PLACED ABOARD A MONO-RAIL CAR. IT ZOOMS TO THE AMAZON CAPITAL CITY

WHAT A BEAUTIFUL CITY!

IT IS SARDIS, CAPITAL OF VALIA, CAPTIVE WOMAN!



THEY ARE TAKEN BEFORE XALA, QUEEN OF VALIA.



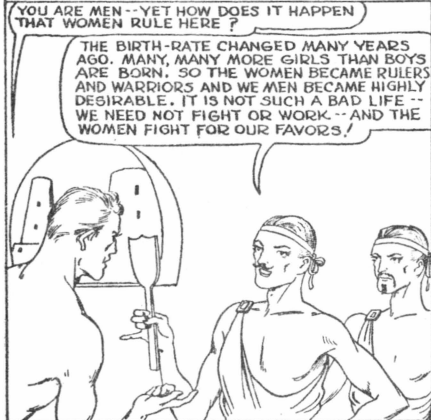
AH--A REAL MAN, YOU WILL BE MY HUSBAND. TRAIN THE GIRL AS A WARRIOR!

HE IS MINE BY RIGHTS! YOU'LL FIGHT ME FOR HIM IN THE ARENA, OH QUEEN!



I HATE TO DO THIS BUT I'LL BE HUSBAND TO NONE OF YOU BLONDES!

TED IS KNOCKED OUT AND COMES TO IN THE QUEEN'S HAREM.



YOU ARE MEN--YET HOW DOES IT HAPPEN THAT WOMEN RULE HERE?

THE BIRTH-RATE CHANGED MANY YEARS AGO. MANY, MANY MORE GIRLS THAN BOYS ARE BORN. SO THE WOMEN BECAME RULERS AND WARRIORS AND WE MEN BECAME HIGHLY DESIRABLE. IT IS NOT SUCH A BAD LIFE--WE NEED NOT FIGHT OR WORK--AND THE WOMEN FIGHT FOR OUR FAVORS!

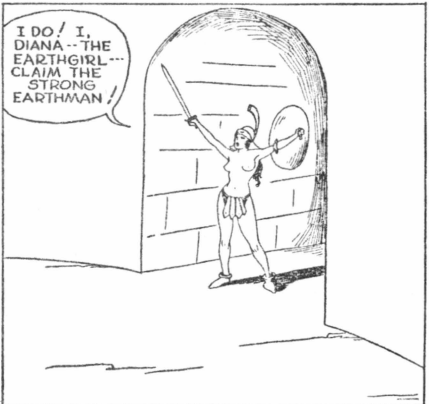


CLOSELY GUARDED, TED WATCHES THE QUEEN BATTLE THE WARRIOR WHO CLAIMS HIM.

THIS IS DISGUSTING--IF THERE WERE A CHANCE IN A MILLION OF ESCAPING, I'D DO IT!



I, QUEEN XALA, GREATEST WARRIOR OF VALIA, HAVE WON THE EARTHMAN! IS THERE ONE WHO DISPUTES MY CLAIM?



I DO! I, DIANA--THE EARTHGIRL--CLAIM THE STRONG EARTHMAN!

WHAT HAPPENS TO DIANA IN THE ARENA OF SARDIS? SEE THE MARCH ISSUE OF SPICY ADVENTURE STORIES