

I Am Iron Man

Adapted from Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia



Iron Man (Anthony Edward "Tony" Stark) is a fictional character, a superhero in the Marvel Comics Universe. The character was created by writer-editor Stan Lee, developed by scripter Larry Lieber, and designed by artists Don Heck and Jack Kirby first appearing in *Tales of Suspense* #39 (March 1963).

A billionaire playboy, industrialist and engineering genius, Stark suffers a severe chest injury during a kidnapping in which his captors attempt to force him to build a weapon of mass destruction. He instead creates a powered suit of armour to save his life and escape captivity. He later uses the suit to protect the world as Iron Man. Through his multinational corporation — Stark Industries — Tony has created many military weapons, some of which, along with other technological devices of his making, have been integrated into his suit, helping him fight crime.

Throughout most of the character's publication history, Iron Man has been a member of the superhero team the Avengers and has been featured in several incarnations of his own various comic book series. Iron Man has been adapted for several animated TV shows and films. The character is portrayed by Robert Downey, Jr. in the live action film *Iron Man* (2008), which was a critical and box office success. Downey has received much acclaim for his performance, reprised the role in the sequel, *Iron Man 2* (2010), and also played the character in a cameo in *The Incredible Hulk* (2008). Downey will also play the role in the upcoming film *The Avengers* (2012) and the planned *Iron Man 3* (2013).

In 1963, Stan Lee had been toying with the idea of a businessman superhero. He wanted to create the "quintessential capitalist", a character that would go against the spirit of the times and Marvel's readership. Lee said, "I think I gave myself a dare. It was the height of the Cold War. The readers, the young readers, if there was one thing they hated, it was war, it was the military....So I got a hero who represented that to the hundredth degree. He was a weapons manufacturer, he was providing weapons for the Army, he was rich, he was an industrialist....I thought it would be fun to take the kind of character that nobody would like, none of our readers would like, and shove him down their throats and make them like him....And he became very popular." He set out to make the new character a wealthy, glamorous ladies' man, but one with a secret that would plague and torment him as well. Writer Gerry Conway said, "Here you have this character, who on the outside is invulnerable, I mean, just can't be touched, but inside is a wounded figure. Stan made it very much an in-your-face wound, you know, his heart was broken, you know, literally broken. But there's a metaphor going on there. And that's, I think, what made that character interesting." Lee based this playboy's looks and personality on Howard Hughes, explaining, "Howard Hughes was one of the most colorful men of our time. He was an inventor, an adventurer, a multi-billionaire, a ladies' man and finally a nutcase." "Without being crazy, he was Howard Hughes," Lee said.

The art was split between Jack Kirby and Don Heck. "He designed the costume," Heck said of Kirby, "because he was doing the cover. The covers were always done first. But I created the look of the characters, like Tony Stark and his secretary Pepper Potts."

Iron Man first appeared in *Tales of Suspense*, which featured anthology science fiction and supernatural stories. The character's original costume was a bulky grey armoured suit, replaced by a golden version in the second story. It was redesigned as sleeker, red-and-golden armour in issue #48 (Dec. 1963). In his premiere, Iron Man was an anti-communist hero, defeating various communist agents. Lee later regretted this early focus. Throughout the series, technological advancement and national defence were constant themes for Iron Man, but later issues developed Stark into a more complex and vulnerable character as they depicted his battle with alcoholism (as in the "Demon in a Bottle" storyline) and other personal difficulties

From issue #59 (Nov. 1964) to its final issue #99 (March 1968), the backup stories in *Tales of Suspense* were replaced by a feature starring the superhero Captain America. After issue #99, the book's title was changed to *Captain America*. Bridging the gap between the last *Tales of Suspense* and the first solo Iron man comic, was the one-shot comic *Iron Man and Sub-Mariner* (April 1968). Iron Man made his solo debut with *The Invincible Iron Man* #1 (May 1968).

In order to keep the character contemporary, Writers have updated the war and locale in which Stark is injured. In the original 1963 story, it was the Vietnam War. During the 1980s it was an unspecified South East Asian country, then in the 1990s, it was updated to be the first Gulf War, and again later updated to be the war in Afghanistan. However, Stark's time with the Asian Nobel Prize-winning scientist Ho Yinsen is consistent through nearly all incarnations of the Iron Man origin, depicting Stark and Yinsen building the original armour together.

The original *Iron Man* title explored Cold War themes, as did other Stan Lee projects in the early years of Marvel Comics. Where *The Fantastic Four* and *The Incredible Hulk* respectively focused on American domestic and government responses to Communist threat, *Iron Man* explored industry's role in the struggle. Stark's real-life model, Howard Hughes, was a significant defence contractor who helped develop new weapons technologies. Subsequent re-imaginings of Iron Man have transitioned from Cold War themes to contemporary concerns, such as corporate crime and terrorism.

Iron Man's Armour

Iron Man possesses powered armour that gives him superhuman strength and durability, flight, and an array of weapons. The armour is invented and worn by Stark (with occasional short-term exceptions, for example James "Rhodey" Rhodes).

The weapons systems of the suit have changed over the years, but Iron Man's standard offensive weapons have always been the repulsor rays that are fired from the palms of his gauntlets. Other weapons built into various incarnations of the armour include: the uni-beam projector in its chest; pulse bolts (that pick up on kinetic energy along the way; so the farther they travel, the harder they hit); an electromagnetic pulse generator; and a defensive energy shield that can be extended up to 360 degrees. Other capabilities include: generating ultra-freon (i.e., a freeze-beam); creating and manipulating magnetic fields; emitting sonic blasts; and projecting 3-dimensional holograms (to create decoys).

In addition to the general-purpose model he wears, Stark has developed several specialized suits for space travel, deep-sea diving, stealth, and other special purposes. Stark has modified suits, like the Hulkbuster heavy armour. The Hulkbuster armour is composed of add-ons to his so-called modular armour, designed to enhance its strength and durability enough to engage the Incredible Hulk in a fight. A later model, designed for use against Thor, is modeled on the Destroyer and uses a mystical power source. While it is typically associated with James Rhodes, the War Machine armour also began as one of Stark's specialty armours.

The most recent models of Stark's armour, beginning with the Extremis Armour, are now stored in the hollow portions of Stark's bones, and the personal area networking implement used to control it is implanted in his forearm, and connected directly to his central nervous system.

Tony Stark's Skills

Tony Stark is an inventive genius whose expertise in the fields of mathematics, physics, chemistry, and computer science almost rivals that of Reed Richards, Hank Pym and Bruce Banner, and his expertise in electrical engineering and mechanical engineering surpasses even theirs. He is regarded as one of the most intelligent characters in the Marvel Universe. He graduated with advanced degrees in physics and engineering at the age of 21 from Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and further developed his knowledge ranging from artificial intelligence to quantum mechanics as time progressed. His expertise extends to his ingenuity in dealing with difficult situations, such as difficult foes and deathtraps, in which he is capable of using available tools, including his suit, in unorthodox but effective ways. He is well respected in the business world, able to command people's attention when he speaks on economic matters, having over the years built up several multi-million dollar companies from virtually nothing. He is also noted for the loyalty he commands from and returns to those who work for him, as well as for his business ethics. Thus he immediately fired an employee who made profitable, but illegal, sales to Doctor Doom. He also strives to be environmentally responsible in his businesses.

At a time when Stark was unable to use his armour for a period, he received some combat training from Captain America and has become physically formidable on his own when the situation demands it. He received further hand-to-hand combat training from his chauffeur / bodyguard and ex boxer Harry "Happy" Hogan and James Rhodes (a United States Air Force Combat Pilot).

In addition, Stark possesses great business and political acumen. On multiple occasions he reacquired control of his companies after losing them amid corporate takeovers.

Read on For Iron Man's premiere in Tales of Suspense # 39

In later re-tellings of this tale, Wong-Chu is revealed to be a minion of Iron Man's arch-foe The Mandarin. 1963 was a less politically-correct time, hence the depiction of yellow skinned oriental villains, not unlike the appearance of Japanese troops in comics and newspaper cartoons during World War II.

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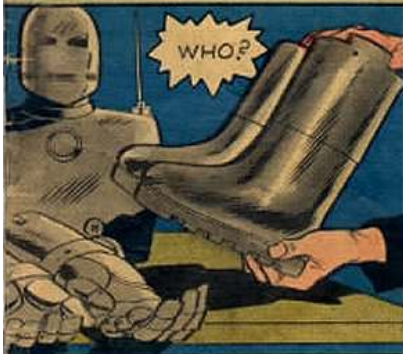
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39 MAR.

TALES OF SUSPENSE

WHO? OR WHAT, IS THE NEWEST, MOST BREATH-TAKING, MOST SENSATIONAL SUPER-HERO OF ALL...?



IRON MAN!

HE LIVES!
HE WALKS!
HE CONQUERS!



FROM THE TALENTED BULL-PEN WHERE THE FANTASTIC FOUR, SPIDER-MAN, THOR AND YOUR OTHER FAVORITE SUPER-HEROES WERE BORN!

IRON MAN

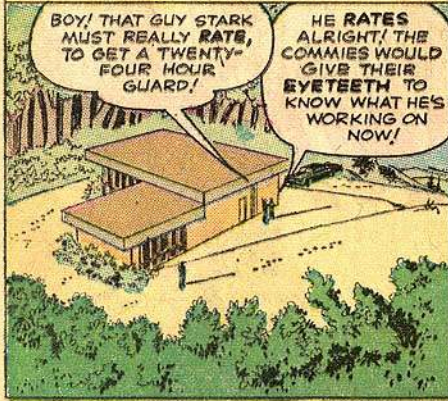
IS BORN!



PLOT:
STAN LEE
SCRIPT:
LARRY LIEBER
ART:
DON HECK
LETTERING:
ART SIMEK

WATCH HIS AWESOME
APPROACH! LISTEN
TO HIS PONDEROUS
FOOTSTEPS AS HE
LUMBERS CLOSER...
CLOSER... FOR
TODAY YOU ARE
DESTINED TO
ENCOUNTER--
**THE
INVINCIBLE
IRON MAN!!**

IN A SECLUDED AREA SOMEWHERE IN THE U.S. DEFENSE PERIMETER, THERE STANDS A CLOSELY GUARDED BUILDING... THE LABORATORY OF ANTHONY STARK!



BOY! THAT GUY STARK MUST REALLY RATE, TO GET A TWENTY-FOUR HOUR GUARD!

HE RATES ALRIGHT! THE COMMIES WOULD GIVE THEIR EYETEETH TO KNOW WHAT HE'S WORKING ON NOW!

AND, INSIDE...



GENERAL, YOU WILL SEE MY TINY TRANSISTOR INCREASE THE POWER OF THIS SMALL MAGNET SO TREMENDOUSLY, THAT IT WILL OPEN THAT LOCKED VAULT!

OH, COME NOW, STARK! THAT JUST ISN'T POSSIBLE!



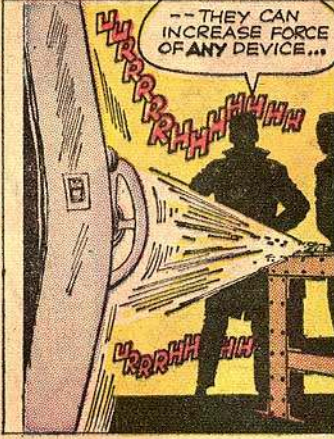
THINK SO? THERE! I'VE SWITCHED ON THE TRANSISTOR! IT'S ENERGIZING THE MAGNET!

CLICK



THE DOOR --IT'S BEGINNING TO BUDGE!

NATURALLY! MY TINY TRANSISTORS ARE SO POWERFUL THAT...



--THEY CAN INCREASE FORCE OF ANY DEVICE...

RRRRHHHHH

RRRRHHHH



--A THOUSANDFOLD!

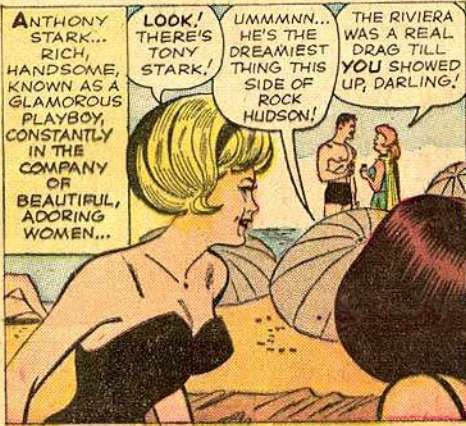
CRACK



NOW DO YOU BELIEVE THAT THE TRANSISTORS I'VE INVENTED ARE CAPABLE OF SOLVING YOUR PROBLEM IN VIETNAM?

STARK, AFTER WHAT I'VE JUST SEEN, I'M READY TO BELIEVE ANYTHING!

YES, IT WAS AN AMAZING DEMONSTRATION! BUT NOW, LET US LEARN MORE ABOUT THE MAN WHOSE GENIUS MADE IT POSSIBLE! LET US LEARN MORE ABOUT ANTHONY STARK, THE ONE WHO IS FATED TO BECOME... IRON MAN!



ANTHONY STARK... RICH, HANDSOME, KNOWN AS A GLAMOROUS PLAYBOY, CONSTANTLY IN THE COMPANY OF BEAUTIFUL, ADORING WOMEN...

LOOK! THERE'S TONY STARK!

UMMMNN... HE'S THE DREAMIEST THING THIS SIDE OF ROCK HUDSON!

THE RIVIERA WAS A REAL DRAG TILL YOU SHOWED UP, DARLING!



YES, ANTHONY STARK IS BOTH A SOPHISTICATE AND A SCIENTIST! A MILLIONAIRE BACHELOR, AS MUCH AT HOME IN A LABORATORY AS IN HIGH SOCIETY!

BUT, THIS MAN WHO SEEMS SO FORTUNATE, WHO'S ENVIED BY MILLIONS-- IS SOON DESTINED TO BECOME THE MOST TRAGIC FIGURE ON EARTH!

OUR TALE REALLY HAS ITS BEGINNING HALFWAY AROUND THE WORLD, IN A SOUTH VIETNAM JUNGLE, MENACED BY WONG-CHU, THE RED GUERRILLA TYRANT!



HAH, I HAVE BROUGHT ANOTHER VILLAGE TO ITS KNEES!

NOW FOR THE WRESTLING MATCH! IF ANY PRISONER CAN DEFEAT WONG-CHU, I FREE WHOLE VILLAGE!

DESPERATE TO SAVE THEIR VILLAGE, THE STRONGEST OF THE NATIVES ACCEPTS THE WARLORD'S CHALLENGE...



AH, YOU ARE GOOD! BUT WONG-CHU BETTER!

ANOTHER, AND ANOTHER, TRIES IN VAIN...

I AM STRONGEST OF ALL! NEXT TO WONG-CHU OTHER MEN ARE BUT FLEAS!



IT IS OVER! NOW LET US PLUNDER THE TOWN! FOR NONE CAN STOP THE VICTORIOUS WONG-CHU!



MEANWHILE, ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF THE JUNGLE...

THE RED GUERRILLAS OUTNUMBER US! OUR HEAVY ARTILLERY COULD BEAT THEM, BUT WE CAN'T TRANSPORT SUCH BIG WEAPONS THROUGH THE DENSE JUNGLE!

SO, THAT'S WHERE MY MIDGET TRANSISTORS COME IN, EH?



RIGHT! THANKS TO YOUR INVENTIONS, OUR MORTARS ARE NO LARGER OR HEAVIER THAN FLASHLIGHTS! OUR MEN CAN CARRY THEM ANYWHERE!

TAKE COVER! THERE'S THE ENEMY! YOU'LL SEE YOUR GUNS IN ACTION NOW!



THAT'S WHY I WAS SENT HERE! TO MAKE SURE THEY WORK AS WELL AS PLANNED! IF NOT, I'LL FIX 'EM ON THE SPOT!

JUST LOOK AT THE REDS RETREAT! STARK, YOUR WEAPONS ARE EVERYTHING WE HOPED FOR!



BATTLE-FILLED MINUTES LATER...

THE REDS NEVER KNEW WHAT HIT THEM!



BUT, THE JUNGLE HOLDS A THOUSAND PERILS! SOME NATURAL, OTHERS MAN MADE...

AND, TRIPPING OVER A SMALL CONCEALED STRING LEADS TO DISASTER...



MINUTES LATER...

YANKEE CIVILIAN STILL ALIVE! HIM MAYBE IMPORTANT OFFICIAL OF GOVERNMENT! I BRING HIM TO WONG-CHU! MAYBE GET REWARD!

OHHHH!

LATER, AT THE GUERRILLA CHIEF'S HEADQUARTERS...

HIS PAPERS REVEAL HE IS FAMOUS YANKEE WEAPONS INVENTOR! HOW IS HE?

BAD! MUCH SHRAPNEL NEAR HIS HEART! IMPOSSIBLE TO OPERATE! CANNOT LIVE LONGER THAN ONE WEEK!



IN A FEW DAYS SHRAPNEL WILL REACH HIS HEART-- THEN HE WILL DIE! NOTHING CAN SAVE HIM!

BAH! WE CAN USE HIS GENIUS! WONG-CHU WILL TRICK HIM INTO SPENDING HIS LAST DAYS ON EARTH WORKING FOR US! IS HE STRONG ENOUGH NOW?

YES, HE CAN WORK TILL SHRAPNEL REACHES HEART!

WE KNOW YOU ARE AMERICAN WEAPONS INVENTOR! IF YOU DESIGN POWERFUL NEW WEAPON FOR ME, AFTERWARDS I HAVE SURGEON SAVE YOUR LIFE!

HE'S LYING... IF THEY COULD THEY'D DO IT NOW, TO BE SURE I LIVE LONG ENOUGH TO DESIGN WEAPONS FOR THEM!

I KNOW I'VE ONLY DAYS TO LIVE, BUT MY LAST ACT WILL BE TO DEFEAT THIS GRINNING, SMIRKING, RED TERRORIST!

ALL RIGHT, WONG-CHU, I'LL DO IT!

I KNEW YOU WOULD NOT HESITATE TO BETRAY YOUR COUNTRY TO SAVE YOURSELF!

HERE ROOM WHERE YOU WORK! PLENTY OF SCRAP IRON! PLENTY TOOLS!

THIS I PROMISE YOU... I SHALL BUILD THE MOST FANTASTIC WEAPON OF ALL TIME!

I'LL BUILD IT, ALRIGHT, BUT IT WILL BE MINE...

---MADE FOR ONLY ONE PURPOSE--- TO KEEP ME ALIVE!

CLACK!

EVERY TICK OF THE CLOCK BRINGS THE DEADLY PIECE OF SHRAPNEL CLOSER TO MY HEART! I'VE GOT TO WORK FASTER THAN I'VE EVER WORKED BEFORE! CAN'T AFFORD A SINGLE MISTAKE!

THEN, ON THE SECOND DAY OF TONY STARK'S RACE AGAINST TIME...

THIS OLD ONE, PROFESSOR YINSEN! ONCE GREAT SCIENTIST! NOW LOWLY MAN-SERVANT OF WONG-CHU... WILL HELP YOU BUILD WEAPON!

NO! I WILL NEVER HELP THE EVIL RED TYRANTS! NEVER!!

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE..

PROFESSOR YINSEN, IN COLLEGE I READ YOUR BOOKS! YOU WERE THE GREATEST PHYSICIST OF ALL!! THEN, EVERYONE THOUGHT YOU HAD DIED!

I'D HAVE BEEN BETTER OFF IF I HAD! I WAS PRESSED INTO SLAVE LABOR BY THE REDS, AND WHEN I RESISTED, WONG-CHU TOOK ME PRISONER!

NO LONGER ABLE TO WORK IN SECRET, ANTHONY STARK MUST REVEAL HIS PLAN TO THE AGED SCHOLAR, THE ONLY HUMAN HE DARES TRUST!

AN IRON MAN! FANTASTIC! A MIGHTY, ELECTRONIC BODY, TO KEEP YOUR HEART BEATING AFTER THE SHRAPNEL REACHES IT! WE JUST MIGHT SUCCEED! THINK WHAT A CREATURE WE COULD CREATE! WHAT WONDERS HE SHALL PERFORM!

AND THE REDS THEMSELVES GAVE US ALL THE MATERIALS WE WILL NEED!

THUS, A DYING MAN'S DESPERATE RACE AGAINST TIME CONTINUES...

I'VE DONE EXTENSIVE WORK WITH TRANSISTORS! I CAN DESIGN THEM IN ANY SIZE TO PERFORM ANY FUNCTION!

WE SHALL USE THEM TO OPERATE THE MACHINE ELECTRONICALLY TO MOVE COUNTLESS GEARS AND CONTROL LEVERS!

ALL ACTIVITY MUST BE CO-ORDINATED PERFECTLY! THE IRON FRAME MUST DUPLICATE EVERY ACTION OF THE HUMAN BODY!

IT SHALL, MY FRIEND, IT SHALL! THIS SHALL BE THE CROWNING ACHIEVEMENT OF MY LIFE!

HOURS PASS INTO DAYS, AS THE SHRAPNEL MOVES CLOSER AND CLOSER TO ANTHONY STARK'S HEART...

I CAN FEEL THE PRESSURE! MY TIME IS RUNNING OUT! WE MUST WORK FASTER!

THERE! THE SELF-LUBRICATION SYSTEM IS COMPLETED! JUST A LITTLE LONGER! YOU MUST HAVE COURAGE!

AND THEN, WHEN THE DOOMED AMERICAN'S CONDITION BECOMES CRITICAL--WHEN HE CAN NO LONGER STAND...

THE LIFE-GIVING HEART OF YOUR IRON BODY IS READY! QUICKLY... CLAMP IT AROUND YOUR CHEST!

THERE! IT IS DONE! WHEN I ACTIVATE THE MACHINE, YOUR OWN AMAZING TRANSISTORS WILL FURNISH THE POWER TO KEEP YOUR HEART BEATING! YOU SHOULD LIVE AS LONG AS THE IRON BODY OPERATES!



THIS GENERATOR WILL SOON BUILD UP ENOUGH ENERGY TO FURNISH ALL THE POWER YOU'LL NEED TO MOVE!



BUT SUDDENLY...

THE WARNING LIGHT WE INSTALLED-- IT FLASHES! SOMEONE IS APPROACHING!

IT MUST BE WONG-CHU! IF HE ENTERS NOW, ALL OUR WORK WILL HAVE BEEN IN VAIN!!



WONG-CHU MUST BE KEPT AWAY UNTIL THE MIGHTY ELECTRONIC BODY BEGINS TO POWER THE HEART OF ANTHONY STARK!

MY LIFE IS OF NO CONSEQUENCE! BUT I MUST GAIN TIME FOR IRON MAN TO LIVE!



AND THUS THE GALLANT CHINESE SCIENTIST BUYS PRECIOUS SECONDS FOR ANTHONY STARK... WHILE THE LIFE-SUSTAINING MACHINE BUILDS UP MORE AND MORE POWER BEHIND THE LOCKED DOOR!!!



BANG!

IT IS DONE! DRAG HIM AWAY!

YOU WILL NOT HAVE DIED IN VAIN, MY FRIEND! I SWEAR IT! THE IRON MAN SWEARS IT!

THEN, BEFORE THE REDS CAN ENTER THE ROOM, THE BRAVE PROFESSOR YINSEN MAKES ONE DESPERATE LAST EFFORT...

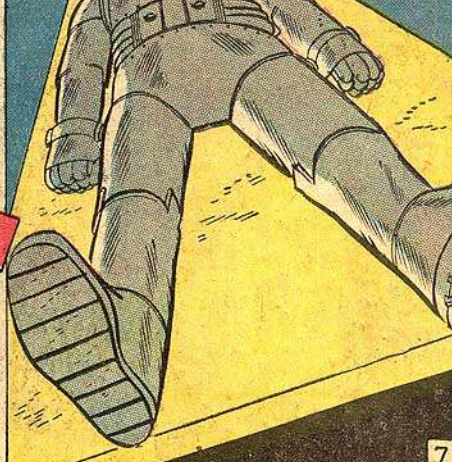
DEATH TO WONG-CHU! DEATH TO THE EVIL TYRANT!

HE HAS GONE MAD! AFTER HIM! END HIS MISERABLE LIFE! HE IS OF NO FURTHER USE TO ME!



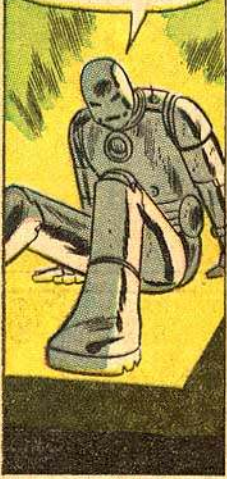
SLAM!

CLICK!



THEN, EVEN AS PROFESSOR YINSEN BREATHES HIS LAST, THE ELECTRONIC MARVEL BEGINS TO STR...

THE TRANSISTORS HAVE SUFFICIENT ENERGY NOW! MY HEART IS BEATING NORMALLY! THE MACHINE IS KEEPING ME ALIVE!
ALIVE!!



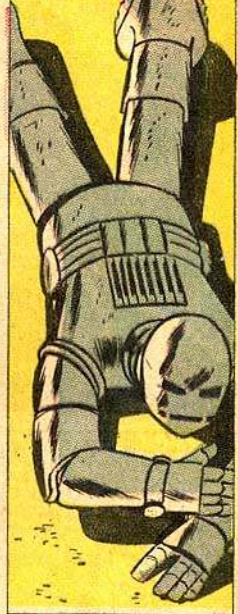
AND THE TRANSISTOR-POWERED CIRCUITS ARE COORDINATED WITH MY BRAIN WAVES, JUST AS ANY LIVING HUMAN'S BRAIN CONTROLS HIS OWN BODY!



B-BUT I'M LOSING MY BALANCE!



THUD!

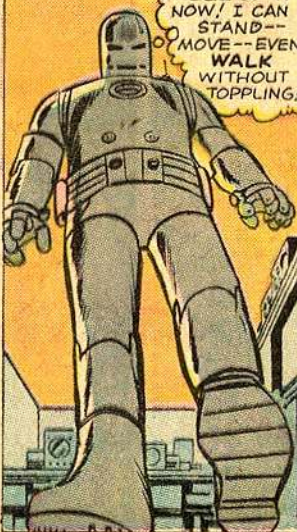


I'M LIKE A BABY LEARNING TO WALK! BUT I HAVEN'T TIME! I MUST LEARN QUICKLY! I MUST GET THE KNACK OF MANIPULATING THIS MASSIVE, UNBELIEVABLY POWERFUL IRON SHELL BEFORE THE REDS FIND ME--OR ELSE I'LL BE AT THEIR MERCY!



BUT THE BRAIN WHICH HAS MASTERED THE SECRETS OF SCIENCE IS ALSO CAPABLE OF MASTERING ITS NEW BODY! AND SO...

I HAVE THE FEEL OF IT NOW! I CAN STAND-- MOVE--EVEN WALK WITHOUT TOPPLING!



MEANWHILE, OUTSIDE THE LOCKED DOOR...

BREAK IT DOWN! SMASH IT! I MUST LEARN WHAT HAS HAPPENED IN THERE!



WHAM WH



THEY'RE COMING! THIS IS MY GREATEST TEST! CAN THE THING I HAVE CREATED SURVIVE? THE THING WHICH IS LESS THAN HUMAN...YET, FAR MORE THAN MERELY HUMAN! THIS THING WHICH IS NOW-- ANTHONY STARK!!

WHAM!



MY BRAIN STILL THINKS! MY HEART STILL BEATS! BUT, IN ORDER TO REMAIN ALIVE, I MUST SPEND THE REST OF MY LIFE IN THIS IRON PRISON!!



BUT, THIS BITTER REALIZATION IS SUDDENLY INTERRUPTED, AS THE IRON MAN SNAPS BACK TO REALITY...

THEY'LL SOON BE THRU THE DOOR... I MUST CONCEAL MYSELF UNTIL I CAN PLAN MY NEXT MOVE!



FORTUNATELY, YINSEN AND I EQUIPPED MY IRON BODY WITH MANY ATTACHMENTS, SUCH AS THESE!

I'LL FASTEN THESE SUCTION CUPS TO MY PALMS AND TURN ON MY TRANSISTOR-POWERED AIR-PRESSURE JETS!



THEY WORK! THEY GIVE ME THE POWER TO SOAR INTO THE AIR!



THEY DON'T DREAM OF LOOKING UP HERE IN THE SHADOWS!

HE CANNOT BE FAR! FIND HIM AND DISPOSE OF HIM AS YOU DID THE OTHER WHO DARED DEFY ME!



THE YANKEE IS GONE! AND HE HAS BUILT US NO WEAPONS!

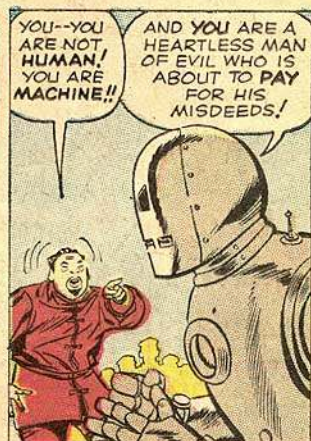
THEY KILLED THE PROFESSOR-- A MAN WHO NEVER HARMED ANYONE IN HIS LIFE! THE MURDERING SWINE! THEY'LL PAY FOR IT! I SWEAR IT! IRON MAN SWEARS IT!

WHILE YOU HUNT DOWN YANKEE, I SHALL AMUSE MYSELF AT MY FAVORITE SPORT

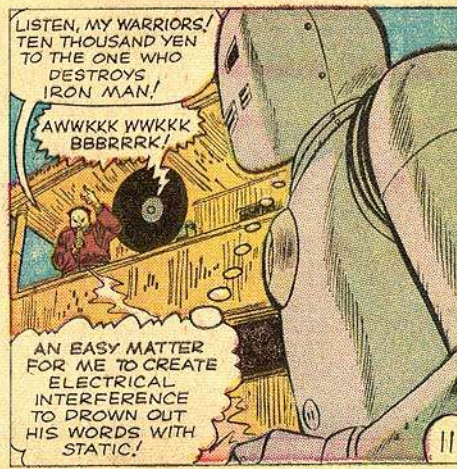
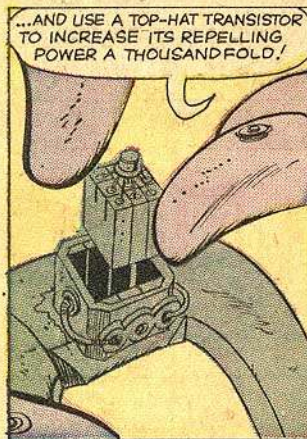


THEN, SECONDS AFTER THE REDS DEPART...

YES, WONG-CHU, AMUSE YOURSELF WHILE YOU STILL CAN! FOR OUR MOMENT OF RECKONING IS ALMOST AT HAND!



CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE...



AND THEN, TO FRUSTRATE THE WAR LORD'S EFFORTS EVEN FURTHER...

NOW I'LL SWITCH MY OWN VOICE ONTO THE LOUDSPEAKER!
DESERT WONG-CHU! FLEE INTO THE JUNGLE!



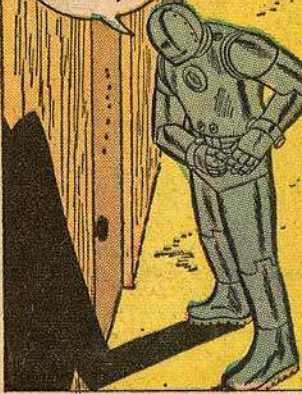
WHA--WHAT IS HAPPENING?? THOSE NOT MY WORDS!



NONE CAN DEFEAT IRON MAN! FLEE, BEFORE HE SLAYS YOU ALL!!

IN PANIC, AND WITHOUT LEADERSHIP, THEY'LL SOON BE CAPTURED BY SOUTH VIETNAM TROOPS!

HE'S LOCKED THE DOOR BUT THAT WON'T KEEP ME OUT!



AND NOW TO SETTLE WITH WONG-CHU!

MY POWERFUL TRANSISTOR MAKES THIS MINIATURE BUZZ-SAW INSIDE MY INDEX FINGER-CONTAINER OUTPERFORM ANYTHING A DOZEN TIMES ITS SIZE!



ALRIGHT, WAR LORD! YOU'RE FINISHED! COME DOWN HERE!



YOU MIGHT TERRIFY MY TROOPS! BUT NOT WONG-CHU!

TAKE THIS, MONSTER!



NOW TO ORDER THE EXECUTION OF ALL MY PRISONERS!

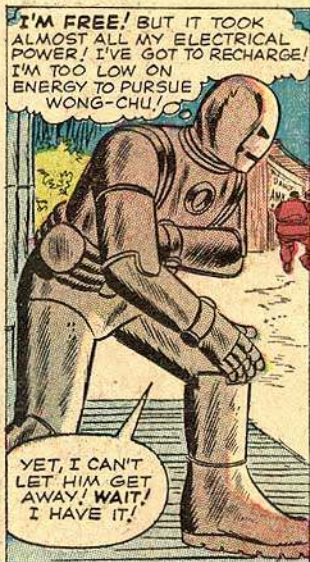


UGH!! HE WEIGHTED EACH DRAWER OF THIS CABINET WITH ROCKS!



BUT NO DRAWERS FILLED WITH ROCKS CAN HOLD BACK IRON LIMBS POWERED BY ELECTRONIC TRANSISTORS!

KNOWING HE'S DEFEATED, WONG-CHU IS TRYING TO MURDER ALL HIS PRISONERS BEFORE HE'S STOPPED! I CANNOT ALLOW THAT!



I'M FREE! BUT IT TOOK ALMOST ALL MY ELECTRICAL POWER! I'VE GOT TO RECHARGE! I'M TOO LOW ON ENERGY TO PURSUE WONG-CHU!

YET, I CAN'T LET HIM GET AWAY! WAIT! I HAVE IT!



UNFASTENING HIS LUBRICATING APPARATUS, THE IRON MAN SQUIRTS OUT A THIN STREAM OF OIL...

I ESTIMATED IT JUST RIGHT! THE PRESSURE'S GREAT ENOUGH FOR IT TO REACH THE AMMO DUMP!

GUARDS! GUARDS! SLAY THE PRISONERS! NOW!

DANG AMIN ST. R...



13



SECONDS LATER, IRON MAN HAS RECHARGED HIS BATTERIES, AND THEN...

I HAVE SET THE PRISONERS FREE, AND THE REDS HAVE FLED IN BLIND PANIC!

IT'S ALL OVER! NOW, PROFESSOR YINSEN, REST EASY! YOU, WHO SACRIFICED YOUR LIFE TO SAVE MINE, HAVE BEEN AVENGED!



AS FOR THE IRON MAN, THAT METALLIC HULK WHO ONCE WAS ANTHONY STARK... WHO KNOWS WHAT DESTINY AWAITS HIM? TIME ALONE WILL PROVIDE THE ANSWER! TIME ALONE...

THE END

DON'T MISS MORE OF IRON MAN IN THE NEXT GREAT ISSUE OF... TALES OF SUSPENSE!