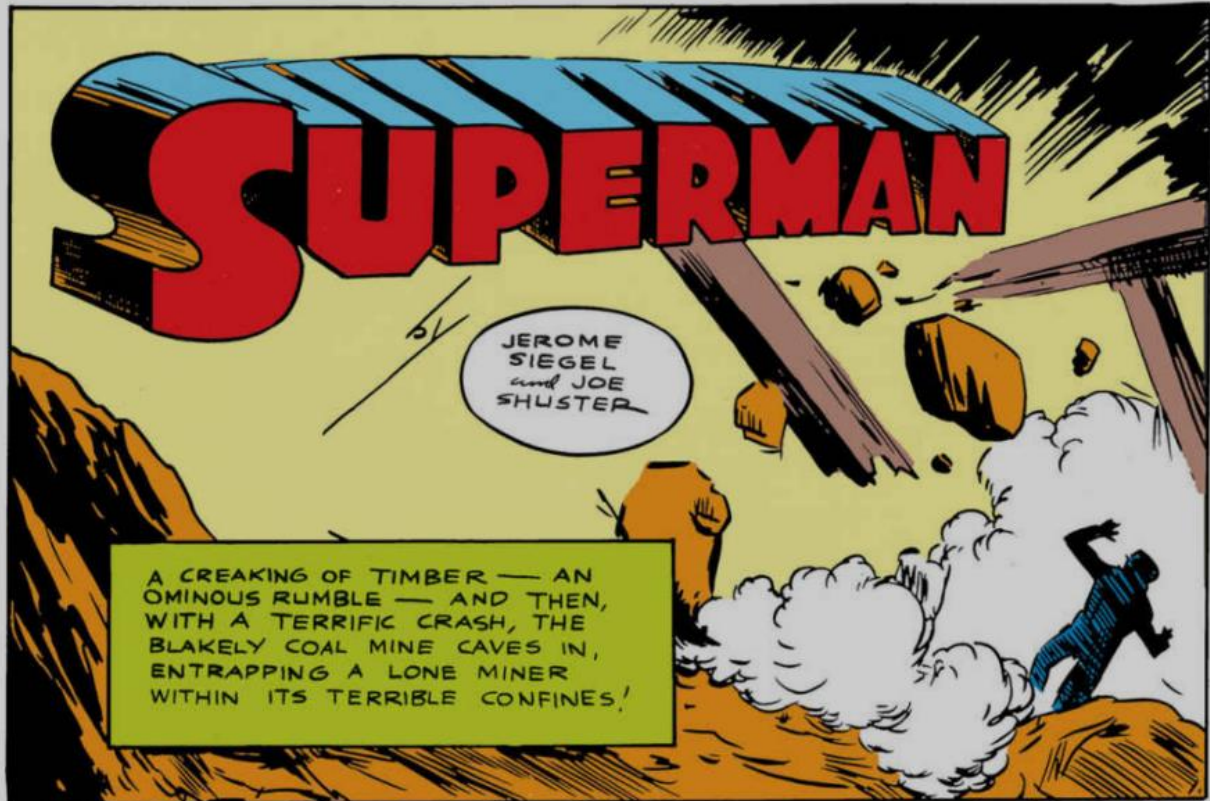


No. 3

AUGUST, 1938

# ACTION COMICS







DOWN PLUNGES SUPERMAN IN A FALL WHICH WOULD HAVE MEANT DEATH FOR AN ORDINARY MAN!



AS SUPERMAN STRIKES THE BOTTOM OF THE SHAFT, HE DETECTS --



HIS PHYSICAL STRUCTURE UNAFFECTED BY THE GAS, SUPERMAN CONTINUES ALONG THE MINE'S BOTTOM --



-- UNTIL HE STUMBLES UPON A DOZEN UNCONSCIOUS FIGURES.



PLACING THE MEN ON THE LIFT, SUPERMAN JERKS THE SIGNAL CORD, AND THE ELEVATOR BEGINS ITS UPWARD JOURNEY.





UPON ROUNDING A CURVE IN THE TUNNEL, SUPERMAN COMES UPON THE GREAT WALL OF COAL WHICH SEPARATES HIM FROM THE ENTRAPPED MINER.



ATTACKING THE STURDY BARRIER WITH HIS BARE HANDS, SUPERMAN PROCEEDS TO DEMOLISH IT AS THO' IT WERE BUT CONSTRUCTED OF PUTTY!







AN HOUR LATER KENT IS ADMITTED INTO THE PRESENCE OF THORNTON BLAKELY, MINE-OWNER...





HOWEVER, THE COMPANY WILL BE GENEROUS ENOUGH TO PAY A REASONABLE PORTION OF HIS HOSPITAL BILLS AND MAY EVEN CONSIDER OFFERING HIM A \$50 RETIREMENT BONUS.



BUT SURELY YOU'RE GOING TO REPAIR THE BAD SAFETY-CONDITIONS IN YOUR MINE!

THERE ARE NO SAFETY-HAZARDS IN MY MINE. BUT IF THERE WERE, -- WHAT OF IT? I'M A BUSINESS MAN NOT A HUMANITARIAN!



AND NOW, SINCE THIS IS ALL NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS, LET'S CONSIDER THE INTERVIEW CLOSED!



THAT NIGHT... SUPERMAN, CLAD IN MINER'S GARB, DROPS OUT OF THE SKIES LIKE SOME OCCULT, AVENGING DEMON...

... INTO THE BARRED AND CLOSELY GUARDED CONFINES OF THE BLAKELY ESTATE.



DRAWN BY THE SOUND OF LAUGHTER, MUSIC AND REVELRY...



... HE PEERS THRU A WINDOW AND DISCOVERS A GAY PARTY IN PROGRESS.



I'VE HALF A NOTION TO "CRASH" THIS PARTY ... TO BITS!

LOOK!



A PROWLER!

DON'T MOVE!



GOT 'IM!



SUPERMAN DELIBERATELY PERMITS HIMSELF TO BE CAPTURED.

WHAT WERE YOU DOIN' HERE?

HE WON'T ANSWER! LET'S TAKE HIM IN TO TH' BOSS!



WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS INTERRUPTION?

WE CAUGHT THIS BOHUNK -- PROBABLY A SNEAK-THIEF, WINDOW PEEPER! SHALL WE TAKE 'IM TO TH' STATION AND ROUGH-'IM-UP?



ALL I ASK IS A FEW MINUTES ALONE WITH THIS WINDOW-PEEPER IN THE BACK-ROOM AT HEADQUARTERS -- AND YOU'LL HAVE A FULL CONFESSION, MR. BLAKELY!



WHAT HAVE YOU TO SAY FOR YOURSELF?

BEAUTIFUL LADIES-- MUCH MUSIC-- RICH PARTY-- I READ OF THESE THINGS-- TONIGHT I WANT SEE THEM WITH OWN EYES--



I SEE! JUST A SAP! -- GIVE HIM A BEATING HE'LL NEVER FORGET, GUARDS, THEN TURN HIM LOOSE!



C'MON, YOU! OUTSIDE!

WAIT! I'VE CHANGED MY MIND! LET HIM STAY!



GATHER 'ROUND FOLKS! HERE'S WHERE THIS PARTY STARTS TO LIVEN UP!

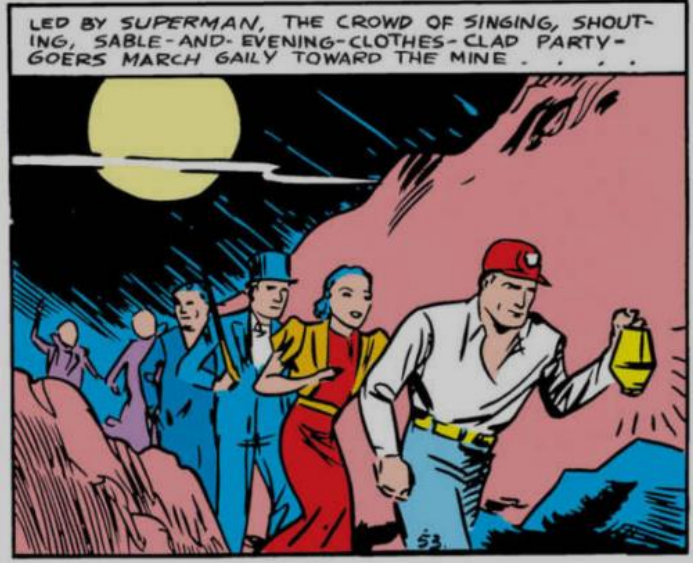


NOW FOR SOME FUN! BLAKELY'S GOT ONE OF HIS COMICAL INSPIRATIONS!

ELSA MAXWELL HAS NOTHING ON BLAKELY WHEN IT COMES TO THROWING A NOVEL PARTY!









THE MERRYMAKERS CROWD ONTO THE SHAFT PLATFORM AMID SHRILL LAUGHTER.



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A MOMENT LATER THEY ARE ON THEIR WAY TO THE PIT'S BOTTOM!



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TO HECK WITH TH' SANDWICHES! WHO BROUGHT A FLASK?



LOOK! I BROUGHT SOME SANDWICHES!

ISN'T THIS THRILLING?

BETTER HOLD TIGHT TO THAT RAIL! ON SECOND THOUGHT, WHY NOT ON TO ME? WHAT HAS THE RAIL GOT, I HAVEN'T GOT?



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FRESH!

ALL OUT! END OF THE LINE! -- WELL, FOLKS, I PROMISED YOU A NEW THRILL! WHAT DO YOU THINK OF IT?



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UGH! WHAT A HORRID-LOOKING PLACE!

WHILE THE OTHERS WALK FURTHER INTO THE MINE...



DON'T TELL ME PEOPLE ACTUALLY WORK DOWN HERE!

GEORGE! I--I DON'T LIKE THIS-- THIS FILTHY MINE!... WE SHOULDN'T HAVE COME!

... SUPERMAN DROPS BACK ...



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NOW TO PUT A HASTILY CONCEIVED PLAN INTO ACTION!

... AND ATTACKS THE WOODEN TUNNEL-SUPPORTS!

















KNEE-DEEP IN STAGNANT WATER, STRUGGLING WITH UNWIELDY TOOLS, SLIPPING, FREQUENTLY FALLING, THE ENTRAPPED PLEASURE-SEEKERS SEEK DESPERATELY, BUT VAINLY, TO BATTER DOWN THE HUGE BARRIER OF COAL!

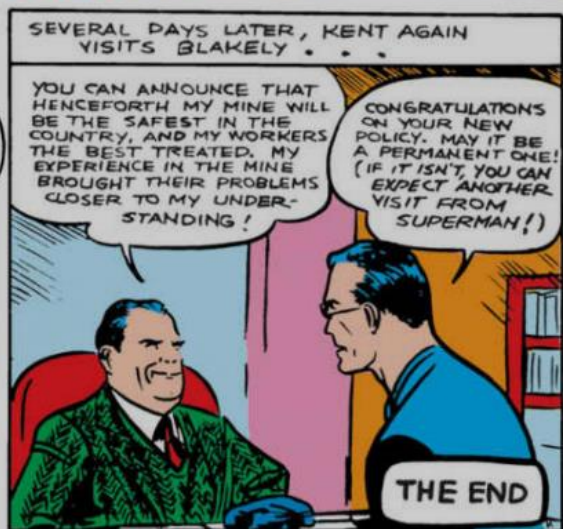




WHILE THE OTHERS SLEEP, SUPERMAN TEARS DOWN THE BARRIER --



-- PERMITTING MINERS TO ENTER AND RESCUE THE GROUP!



THE END

# HEY FELLERS!



Have you sent in your application blank for Membership in The SUPERMEN OF AMERICA? If not, turn back to the center spread of this book, fill it in and mail immediately so that you can become one of the Charter Members!