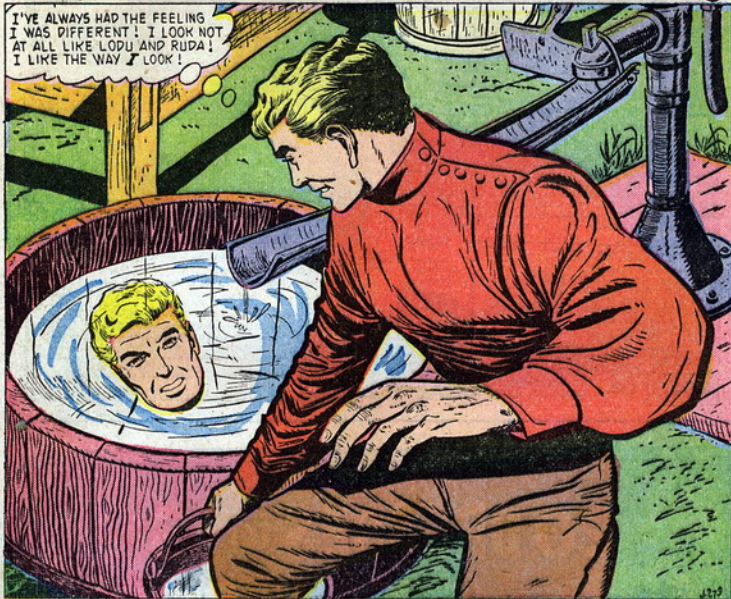


GEORGE FLED FROM THE OLD COUPLE WHO'D ALWAYS BEEN KIND TO HIM, BUT THE UNGRATEFUL YOUTH FOUND OUT THAT HE NEVER SHOULD HAVE TRIED TO TAKE ...

FLIGHT from MARS!

I'VE ALWAYS HAD THE FEELING I WAS DIFFERENT! I LOOK NOT AT ALL LIKE LOPU AND RUDA! I LIKE THE WAY I LOOK!



FROM THAT MOMENT ON, GEORGE LACEY BEGAN TO ACT UNKINDLY TOWARDS THE PEOPLE WHO HAD BROUGHT HIM UP ...

IN MANY WAYS, HE HINTED THAT HE KNEW HE WAS DIFFERENT ...

GOING INTO THE HOUSE, GEORGE?

YES... I JUST DON'T FEEL LIKE DIRTYING MY HANDS IN THE SOIL ANY MORE TODAY!



COME, GEORGE, THIS IS KIBROO, YOUR FAVORITE DISH! I WANT YOU TO TASTE IT!

KIBROO? I'VE NEVER REALLY LIKED IT AT ALL! I ONLY PRETENDED TO LIKE IT, TO PLEASE YOU!



THE CHANGE IN GEORGE LACEY'S MANNER WORRIED THE MARTIAN COUPLE ...

SOMEHOW GEORGE HAS FOUND OUT THAT HE'S NOT LIKE US, THOUGH WE'VE NEVER HAD A MIRROR IN THE HOUSE!

WHY SHOULD THAT MATTER, RUDA? WE'VE ALWAYS BEEN LIKE REAL PARENTS TO HIM!



UPSTAIRS, GEORGE FOUND A PICTURE OF A MAN AND A WOMAN IN A BUREAU DRAWER ...

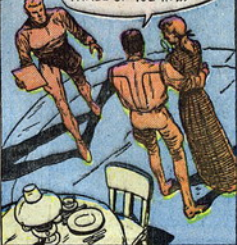
I KNOW NOW I AM BETTER THAN THEY... DIFFERENT, LIKE THESE TWO PEOPLE!



THESE TWO PEOPLE... YES, IT HAPPENED TWENTY YEARS AGO... YOUR PARENTS?

YES, IT HAPPENED TWENTY YEARS AGO... YOUR PARENTS?

FATHER CRASH-LANDED THE SHIP HE WAS PILOTING! WE TOOK THE THREE OF YOU IN ...



YOUR PARENTS DIED SHORTLY AFTER YOUR THIRD BIRTHDAY, GEORGE! YES, WE'RE DIFFERENT FROM YOU... WE ARE MARTIANS, AND YOU'RE AN EARTHLING!

I DON'T WANT TO STAY WITH YOU ANY LONGER! I WANT TO GO TO MY OWN HOME!



YOU HAVE NO OTHER HOME NOW, SON! WE WANT YOU TO STAY WITH US!

DON'T CALL ME YOUR "SON"!



IN THE FOLLOWING DAYS, GEORGE BEHAVED COLDLY TOWARDS THE KINDLY MARTIAN COUPLE ...

YOU LEFT THE TEAM HOOKED UP TO THE PLOW ALL NIGHT, GEORGE!

I'M NOT A SERVANT HERE! I WANT TO BE AT HOME WHERE I BELONG!

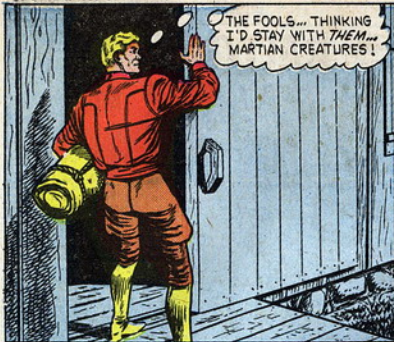


YOU NO LONGER HAVE A HOME ON EARTH! YOU COULD BE HAPPY HERE WITH US!

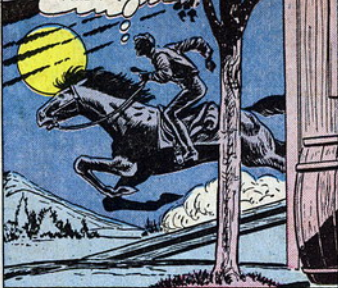
I'LL NEVER BE HAPPY WHILE I STAY WITH YOU AND RUDA!



GEORGE LACEY SLIPPED OUT OF THE FARMHOUSE THAT NIGHT...



I'M GOING TO GET BACK TO EARTH SOMEHOW! MY FATHER AND MOTHER MUST'VE HAD A HOME THERE... AND FRIENDS!



RUDA! THAT IS GEORGE RIDING OFF! I'M GOING AFTER HIM! HE MUST BE STOPPED!

I'M GOING WITH YOU! PERHAPS HE WILL LISTEN TO ME!



I KNEW THEY'D COME AFTER ME! THEY DON'T WANT TO LOSE A GOOD FARM WORKER!



BEFORE LONG, GEORGE LACEY CAME UPON A SPACEPORT...



GEORGE MANAGED TO CONCEAL HIMSELF IN AN OXYGEN VENT A MOMENT BEFORE THE PILOT AND HIS FOSTER PARENTS CAME ABOARD...

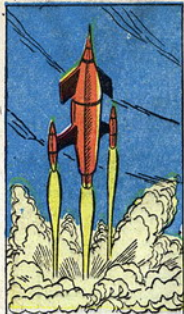
GIVE US MORE TIME TO LOOK FOR THE BOY... I'M SURE HE'S ON THIS SHIP!

YOU MUST GET OFF! THE TAKEOFF TIMING DEVICES HAVE BEEN SET... I HAVE NO WAY OF SHUTTING THEM OFF!



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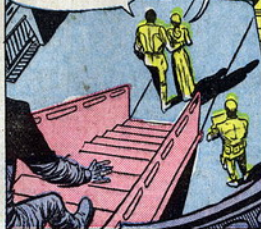
THE MARTIAN COUPLE REFUSED TO LEAVE THE SHIP AND LESS THAN A MINUTE LATER...



SEVERAL WEEKS LATER THE SHIP REACHED ITS MARTIAN PORT...

I'M SORRY WE CAME HERE, RUDA... I'M BEGINNING TO THINK GEORGE ISN'T WORTH THE TROUBLE! HE'S TOO UNGRATEFUL!

YOU KNOW YOU DON'T MEAN THAT! YOU WANT HIM AS BADLY AS I DO!



GEORGE LACEY CAME FROM HIDING AND DASHED PAST HIS FOSTER PARENTS...

GEORGE! COME BACK!

NEVER! DON'T TRY TO FOLLOW ME, OR I'LL GO TO THE POLICE!



THEY PURSUED HIM IN SPITE OF HIS THREAT...



YOU HAVE ONLY YOURSELF TO BLAME, IF YOU'RE THROWN INTO PRISON!



CAPTAIN, I... OH!

WE TRIED TO TELL YOU, GEORGE!

WE TRIED TO STOP YOU FROM BOARDING THE ROCKET SHIP, BECAUSE WE KNEW IT WAS HEADED HERE... TO MARS! YOU SEE, WE'VE BEEN LIVING ON EARTH FOR MANY YEARS SECRETLY!

AND NOW THAT SHIP HAS GONE BACK AGAIN!

EARTHLING, YOU'D BETTER START LOOKING FOR WORK ON THIS PLANET... IT'LL BE A LONG, LONG TIME BEFORE ANOTHER ROCKET SHIP COMES FROM EARTH, TO TAKE YOU BACK!

