

ATLAS

STRANGE TALES

STRANGE TALES OF SUSPENSE!

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CODE



AUTHORITY

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STRANGE TALES

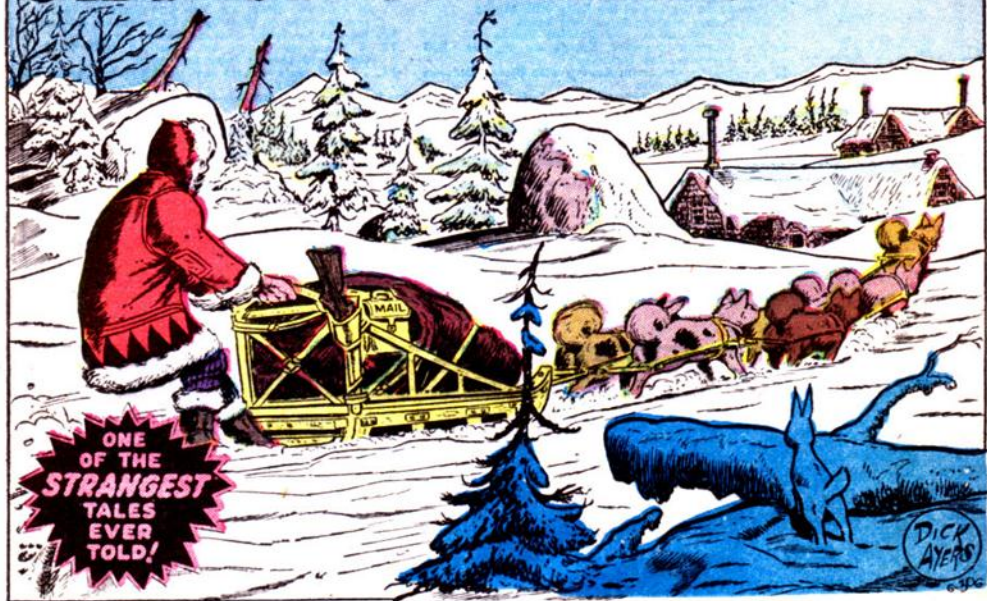
BRAND-NEW
STRANGE
TALES!

THAT NIGHT, WHAT
CAME...
"OUT OF THE
STORM"?



FOR FORTY YEARS, OLD JOHN OOSLUMA HAD BROUGHT THE MAILS THROUGH SNOW AND STORM, TO THE TRADING POST AT "TRAIL'S END"! HE BROUGHT, TOO, THE THINGS THAT SUSTAINED LIFE IN THAT LONELY NORTHERN OUTPOST! WHENEVER MEN HEARD THE TINKLE OF THE BELLS SEWED TO THE HARNESS OF HIS TEAM, THEY WOULD SMILE AND SAY, "THE BELLS OF LIFE", AND THIS BECAME A BYWORD IN THE LAND... A NICKNAME THAT PROVED ITSELF IN A STRANGE WAY!

OUT OF THE STORM!



ONE
OF THE
STRANGEST
TALES
EVER
TOLD!

DICK
AYERS

CHESTER MARTIN, THE FACTOR, CAME TO THE DOOR OF THE TRADING POST! HE AND OLD JOHN WERE FAST FRIENDS...

HURRY IN OUT OF THE COLD, JOHN! DO YOU BRING A LETTER FROM MY SON?

YES, MARTIN, A LETTER FROM TOMMY IN THE GREAT OUTSIDE WORLD OF CITIES AND MANY PEOPLE!



THIS WAS THE BOND BETWEEN THESE TWO OLD MEN... TOMMY MARTIN, THE SON OF ONE, THE ADOPTED SON OF THE OTHER!

FIRST MUST I FEED AND CARE FOR MY TEAM AND BRING THE HARNESS IN OUT OF THE COLD, SO IT WILL NOT CRACK! THEN YOU WILL READ TO ME THE LETTER FROM TOMMY!

RIGHT, JOHN!



OLD JOHN'S FIRST CARE WAS ALWAYS FOR HIS TEAM AND HARNESS. FOR IN THEM, HE TOOK GREAT PRIDE! WERE THEY NOT THE TWO THINGS WHICH GAVE HIM THIS IMPORTANT JOB AND MADE HIM BIG AMONG HIS PEOPLE?

HA, THREE-TOES, YOU ARE HUNGRY? HIS THREE-TOED PAW OF YOURS IS ALMOST AS FAMOUS IN THE NORTH, AS YOUR BELL HARNESS, AND JOHN OOGUMA WHO DRIVES YOU!



THE NIGHT CAME DOWN AND THE TWO OLD FRIENDS SAT BEFORE THE FIRE, AND AS ALWAYS, THEY SPOKE OF THE BOY WHOM BOTH OF THEM LOVED SO WELL!

TOMMY SAYS COLLEGE IS FINE, AND HE'S LEARNING A LOT!

HE LEARNS FAST! AND WHO SHOULD KNOW BETTER THAN I, WHO TAUGHT HIM THE WAYS OF THIS NORTH COUNTRY, SO LONG AGO!



IT WAS THE NEXT MORNING THAT THE PLANE ARRIVED, SETTING DOWN ON SKIS ON THE FROZEN WATER OF THE BAY!!!

WHAT DOES THE SKY BIRD DO HERE?

I'M LOOKING FOR JOHN OOGUMA!



HE'S RIGHT HERE!

COME IN AND...

NO THANKS! I HAVE TO GET RIGHT BACK. I'VE JUST FLOWN UP TO TELL JOHN OOGUMA THAT I'LL BE BRINGING IN MAIL AND SUPPLIES FROM NOW ON IN THE AFTERNOON! HE'S TO BE PENSIONED OFF! THE PLANE WILL DO THE WORK OF HIS GLED AND TEAM NOW!

THE PLANE ROARED, ROSE AND FLEW SOUTH INTO THE BLUE SKY! BEHIND IT, IT HAD LEFT A GREAT EMPTINESS!!!

DON'T TAKE IT SO HARD, JOHN! NOW YOU CAN REST! OF COURSE YOU'LL LIVE HERE WITH ME!

MY GLED, MY TEAM, MY HARNESS OF BELLS... OLD THREE-TOES AND OLD JOHN, CAST ASIDE USELESS! IT IS A HARD THING!

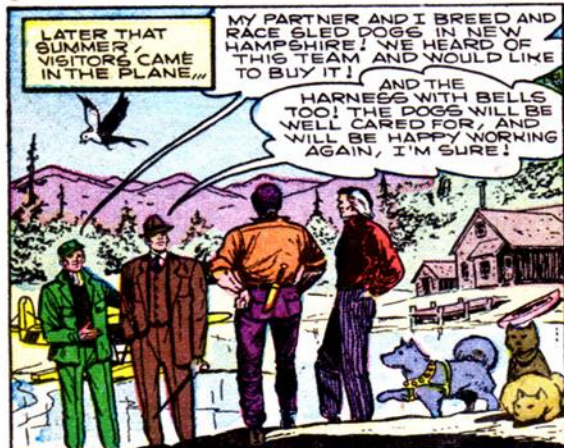


SPRING CAME! THE DAYS WERE LONG, THE ICE BROKE AND SPLINTERED IN THE BAY, AND THE SUN SHONE! BUT WINTER HAD SETTLED IN OLD JOHN'S HEART...

JOHN, YOU MUST SNAP OUT OF IT! WHAT IS DONE IS DONE!

THIS IS A STRANGE LAND, MY FRIEND! ONLY THE ESKIMO UNDERSTANDS IT! THE "BELLS OF LIFE" HAD MEANING! NOW THEY TINGLE NO MORE AND THE LAND OF SNOW IS SAD FOR ME!





A FEW WEEKS LATER, THE LONG NIGHT OF WINTER CAME SUDDENLY, AND WITH IT CAME HOWLING WINDS AND STORMS...

IT'S BAD!
AND THE PLANE
IS DUE WITH
TOMMY!

IN MY LIFETIME, I HAVE NEVER SEEN IT
LIKE THIS! IT IS THE WORST STORM THE
NORTH COUNTRY HAS HAD!

LET'S SEE IF WE CAN
GET SOME NEWS!
MAYBE THE STORM'S
JUST LOCAL!

AND NOT EVEN THE
OLD-TIMERS CAN
REMEMBER A STORM
OF THIS MAGNITUDE!
JUST A MINUTE...
HERE'S A FLASH...

THE PLANE DUE AT TRAIL'S
END WAS CAUGHT IN THE
STORM OVER THE MOUNTAINS,
NEAR THE BAY AND CRASHED!
IN THE PLANE WERE THE PILOT
AND THOMAS MARTIN, SON OF
THE FACTOR AT TRAIL'S END!
RESCUE PARTIES ARE TRYING
TO GET THROUGH.

TOMMY!

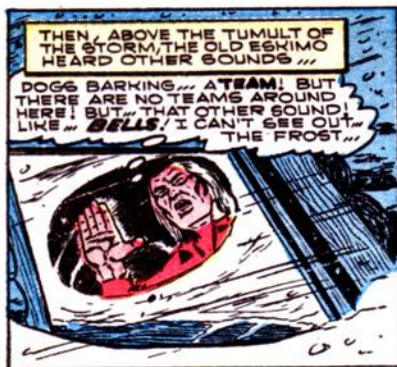
I'M GOING
OUT THERE!

YOU HEARD HIM! WE
ARE OLD... WE HAVE
NO TEAM! WE WOULD
NOT GET A HUNDRED
YARDS, BEFORE THE
STORM FINISHED US
AND LEFT US IN THE
SNOW!

PERHAPS THIS WAY IS BEST!
WHAT IS LEFT? THE BELLS,
OLD THREE-TOES, ALL ARE
GONE... AND NOW TOMMY
GO WILL MARTIN AND I GO
NOW!

JUST A MINUTE! JUST GOT
NEWS! THE PILOT HAS BEEN
FOUND AND IS BEING BROUGHT
IN! YOUNG MARTIN EVIDENTLY
STARTED THROUGH THE
STORM FOR HELP, BUT
THERE IS NO TRACE OF HIM!
NO ONE COULD LIVE ON
FOOT IN THIS STORM...

TOMMY'S
OUT THERE
ALONE!
I'M
GOING
TO
HIM! I'LL
GET THE
SNOWSHOES!



FOR THE BEST IN UNUSUAL STORIES LOOK FOR THE ATLAS SEAL ON THE COVER

