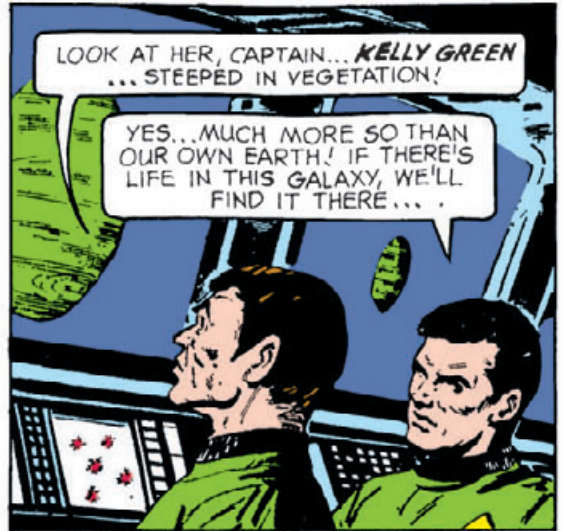


**CAPTAIN'S LOG, STAR DATE 18:09.2**—  
ENTERPRISE CARRYING OUT EXPLORATION  
MISSION THROUGH GALAXY ALPHA. SO  
FAR WE'VE SEEN NO INDICATION OF  
LIFE ANYWHERE IN THE GALAXY...

CAPT. KIRK, SIR-- I'VE PICKED UP AN-  
OTHER CELESTIAL BODY ON THE SPACE-  
SCOPE! AND THIS ONE APPEARS **FERTILE!**

GIVE ME A CLOSEUP OF  
IT ON THE TV **SCANNER!**

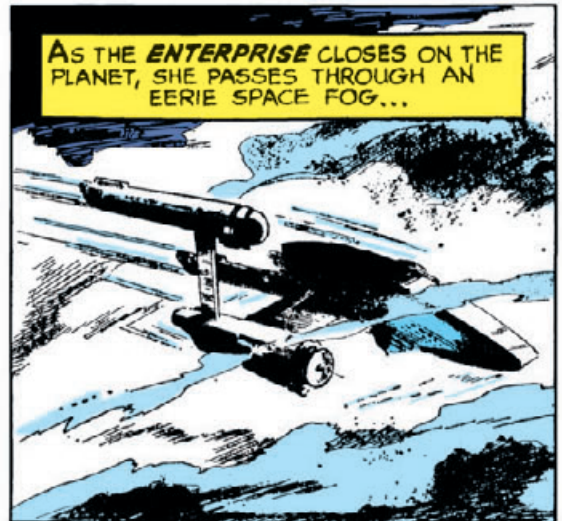


LOOK AT HER, CAPTAIN... **KELLY GREEN**  
... STEEPED IN VEGETATION!

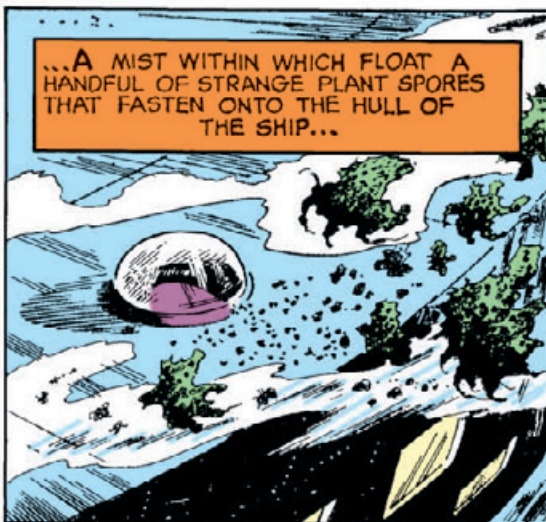
YES... MUCH MORE SO THAN  
OUR OWN EARTH! IF THERE'S  
LIFE IN THIS GALAXY, WE'LL  
FIND IT THERE...



**ATTENTION CREW!** WE'RE GOING  
TO DISPATCH AN EXPLORATION PARTY!  
MAKE NECESSARY PREPARATIONS!



AS THE **ENTERPRISE** CLOSES ON THE  
PLANET, SHE PASSES THROUGH AN  
EERIE SPACE FOG...

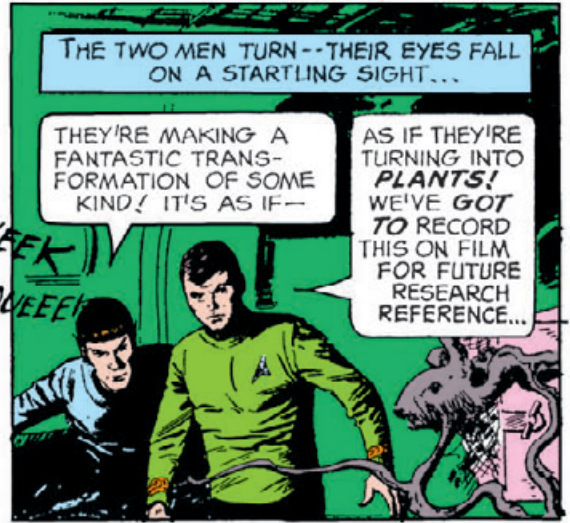


...A MIST WITHIN WHICH FLOAT A  
HANDFUL OF STRANGE PLANT SPORES  
THAT FASTEN ONTO THE HULL OF  
THE SHIP...

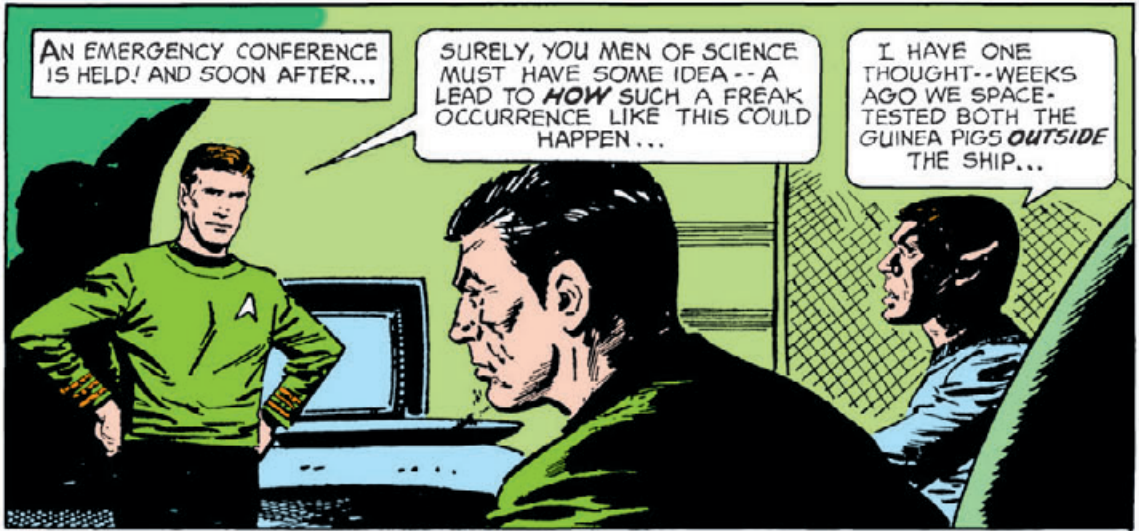


THE ONE-CELLED REPRODUCTIVE  
BODIES ARE SO MINUTE, YET SO  
POWERFUL, THAT THEY SEEP THROUGH  
THE VERY SUPERSTRUCTURE...

LET'S SEE WHAT THE CAPTAIN ORDERED  
FOR THE EXPLORATION TEAM, A THREE-  
DAY SUPPLY OF FOOD CONCENTRATE...  
WATER CAPSULES...







AN EMERGENCY CONFERENCE IS HELD! AND SOON AFTER...

SURELY, YOU MEN OF SCIENCE MUST HAVE SOME IDEA -- A LEAD TO **HOW** SUCH A FREAK OCCURRENCE LIKE THIS COULD HAPPEN...

I HAVE ONE THOUGHT -- WEEKS AGO WE SPACE-TESTED BOTH THE GUINEA PIGS **OUTSIDE** THE SHIP...



IT IS QUITE POSSIBLE, IN THIS UNKNOWN GALAXY, THAT THEY PICKED UP **ALIEN SPORES**...

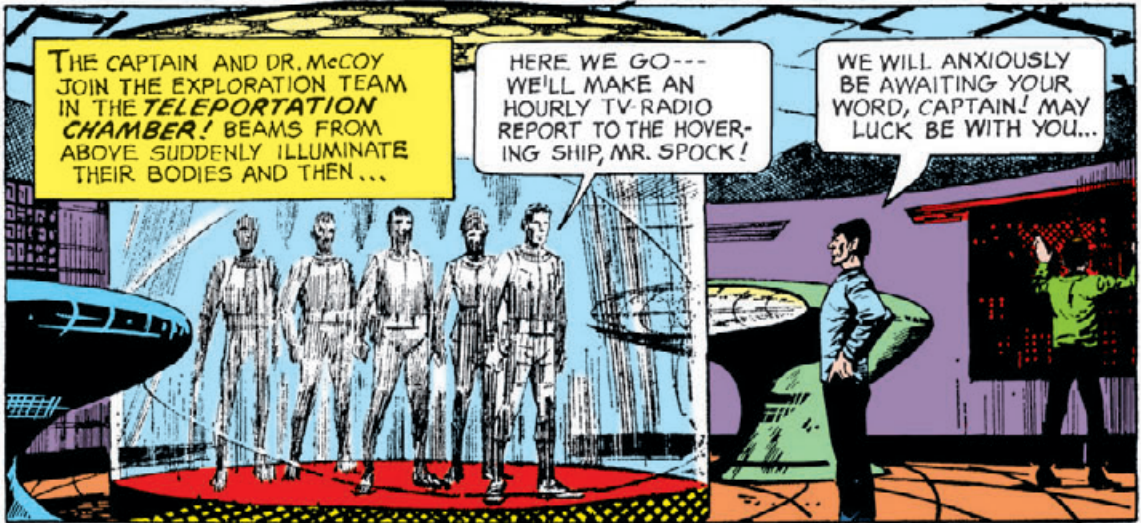
AND THESE SPORES, AFTER A PERIOD OF TIME, REACTED ON THE ANIMALS PHYSICALLY AND BROUGHT ABOUT THE TRANSFORMATION! AN EXCELLENT THEORY, MR. SPOCK!



I'LL RUN A SERIES OF TESTS ON THE PLANT REMAINS WHILE YOU GENTLEMEN ARE ON THE EXPLORATION MISSION!

WHICH REMINDS ME -- IT'S NEARLY "D" HOUR! WE'D BETTER GET A MOVE ON, DOCTOR!

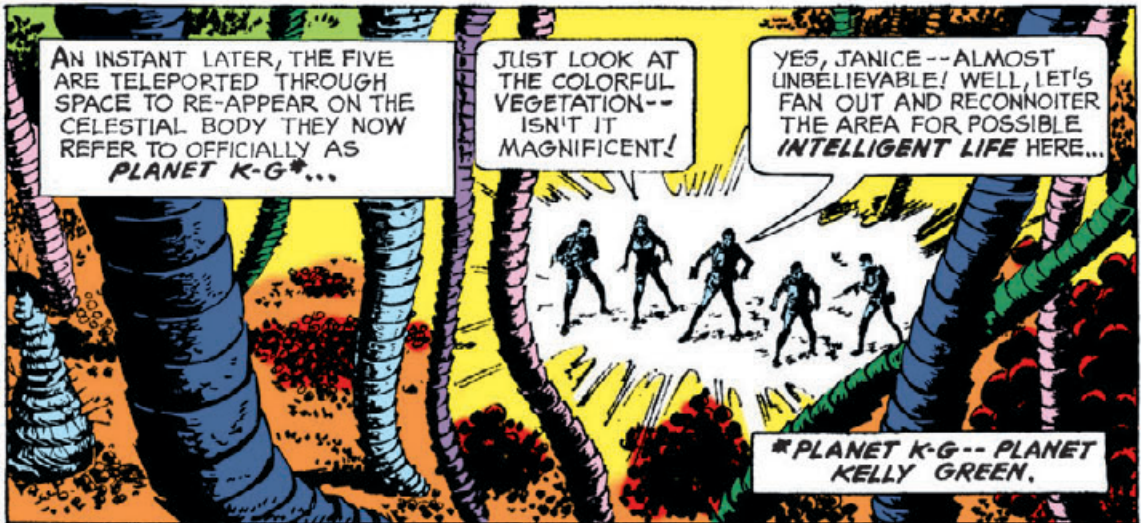
\*"D" HOUR -- DEPARTURE TIME.



THE CAPTAIN AND DR. MCCOY JOIN THE EXPLORATION TEAM IN THE TELEPORTATION CHAMBER! BEAMS FROM ABOVE SUDDENLY ILLUMINATE THEIR BODIES AND THEN...

HERE WE GO--- WE'LL MAKE AN HOURLY TV-RADIO REPORT TO THE HOVERING SHIP, MR. SPOCK!

WE WILL ANXIOUSLY BE AWAITING YOUR WORD, CAPTAIN! MAY LUCK BE WITH YOU...



AN INSTANT LATER, THE FIVE ARE TELEPORTED THROUGH SPACE TO RE-APPEAR ON THE CELESTIAL BODY THEY NOW REFER TO OFFICIALLY AS PLANET K-G\*...

JUST LOOK AT THE COLORFUL VEGETATION-- ISN'T IT MAGNIFICENT!

YES, JANICE--ALMOST UNBELIEVABLE! WELL, LET'S FAN OUT AND RECONNOITER THE AREA FOR POSSIBLE INTELLIGENT LIFE HERE...

\*PLANET K-G-- PLANET KELLY GREEN.



THE TEAM MOVES ACROSS THE CLEARING! AS THEY DO SO, CREWMAN HUNT PASSES THROUGH A PATCH OF MIST...



AND AS THE GROUP REACHES THE THICK, MULTICOLORED FOLIAGE...

ALL RIGHT--NOW WE'LL REGROUP AND... HUNT! WHAT IN HEAVEN HAS HAPPENED TO YOU?