



# BATMAN

NOCTURNA MEANS  
NIGHTMARE!

75¢  
377  
NOV. 84  
APPROVED  
BY THE  
COMICS  
CODE  
CARTOON  
AUTHORITY



# BAT MAN

CREATED BY BOB KANE®

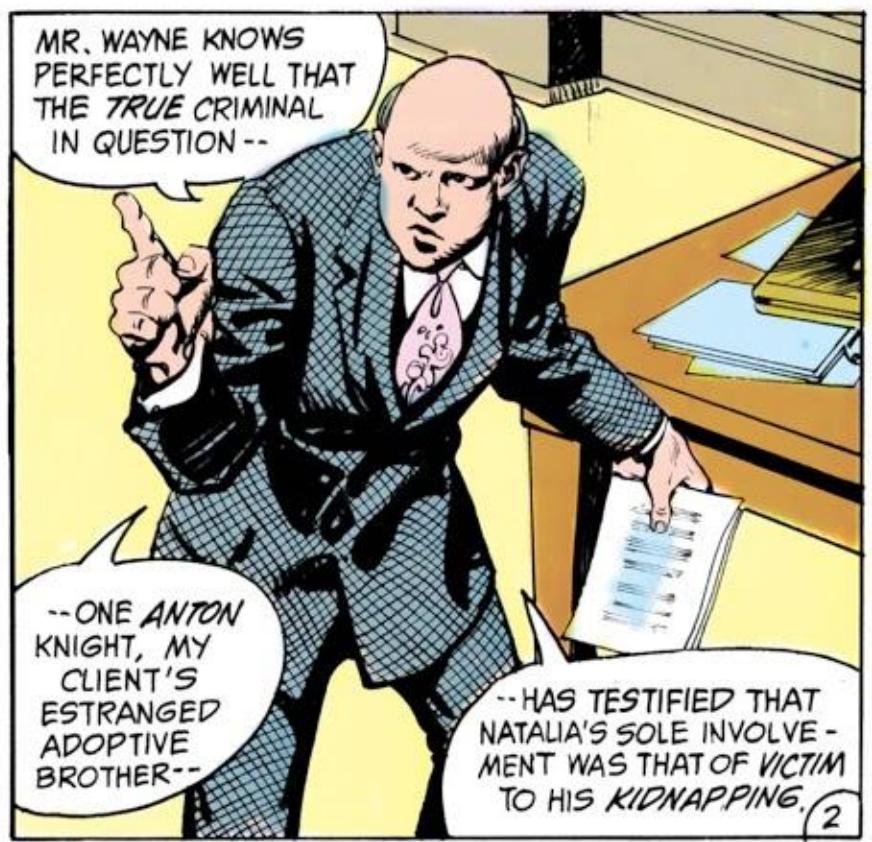
FOR GROWN MAN AS WELL AS YOUNG BOY, THE LURE OF DARKNESS CANNOT BE DENIED...

JASONNN!!

PALE NOCTURNA IS THE DARKNESS.

THE  
SLAYER  
OF  
NIGHT

DOUG MOENCH / DON NEWTON & ALFREDO ALCALA / ALCALA & ODA / ADRIENNE ROY / LEN WEIN  
WRITER ARTISTS LETTERERS COLORIST EDITOR



HE SAID THAT ONLY TO PROTECT HER-- BECAUSE HE LOVED HER!

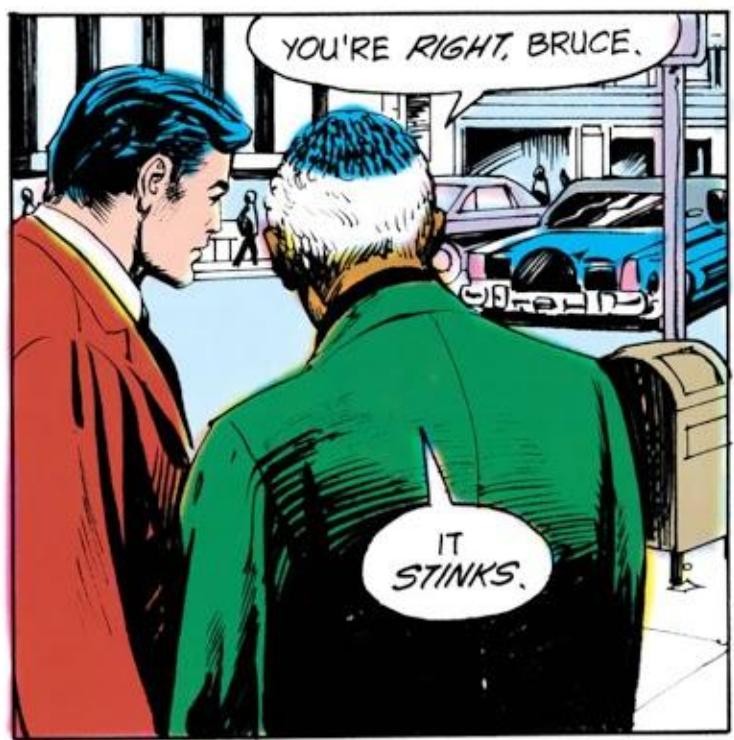
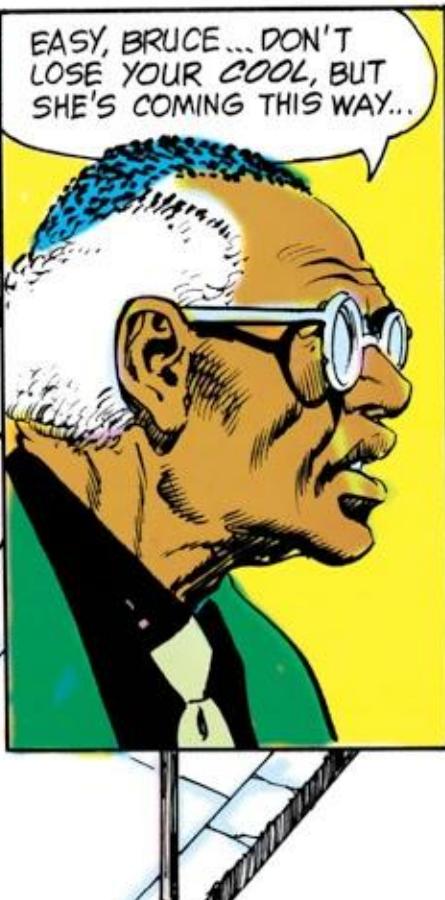
BUT A PERSONAGE NO LESS THAN THE BATMAN HIMSELF TESTIFIED--

YES,  
YES, MR.  
WAYNE...

... BUT EVEN EMPLOYING THE WELL-KNOWN AND HIGHLY IRREGULAR METHODS OF A LAWLESS VIGILANTE, THE BATMAN WAS UNABLE TO PRODUCE A SINGLE SHRED OF CONCRETE EVIDENCE.

NOW, THAT WILL BE QUITE ENOU--



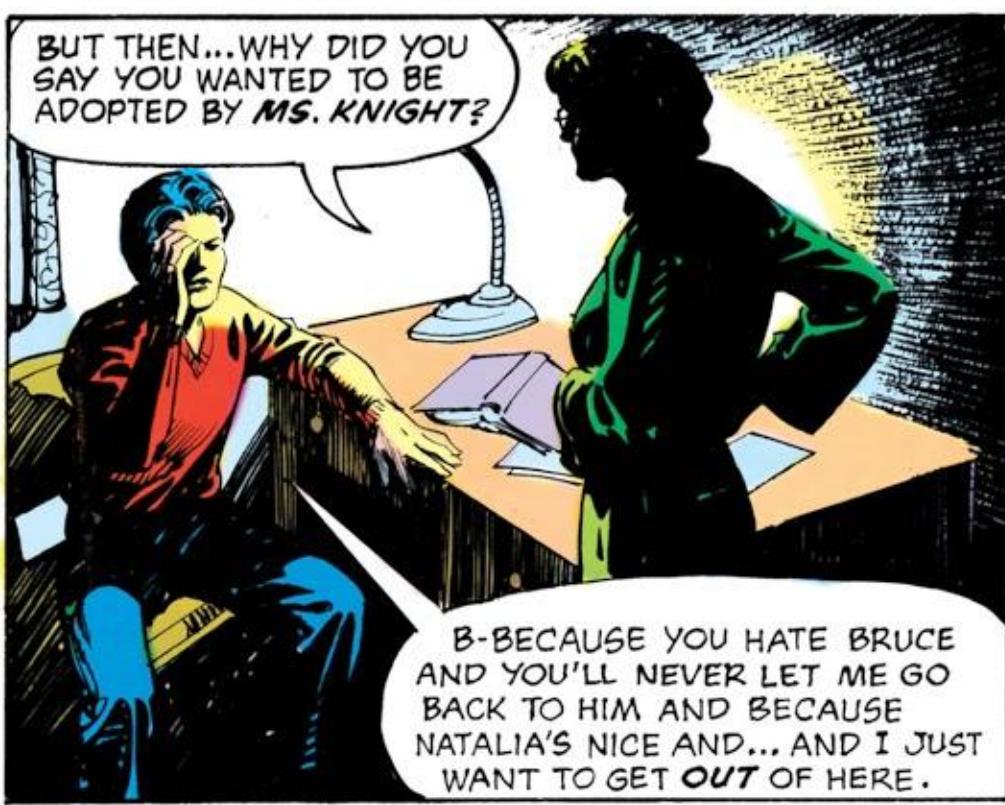


NIGHT: THE GOTHAM BUREAU OF CHILD WELFARE...

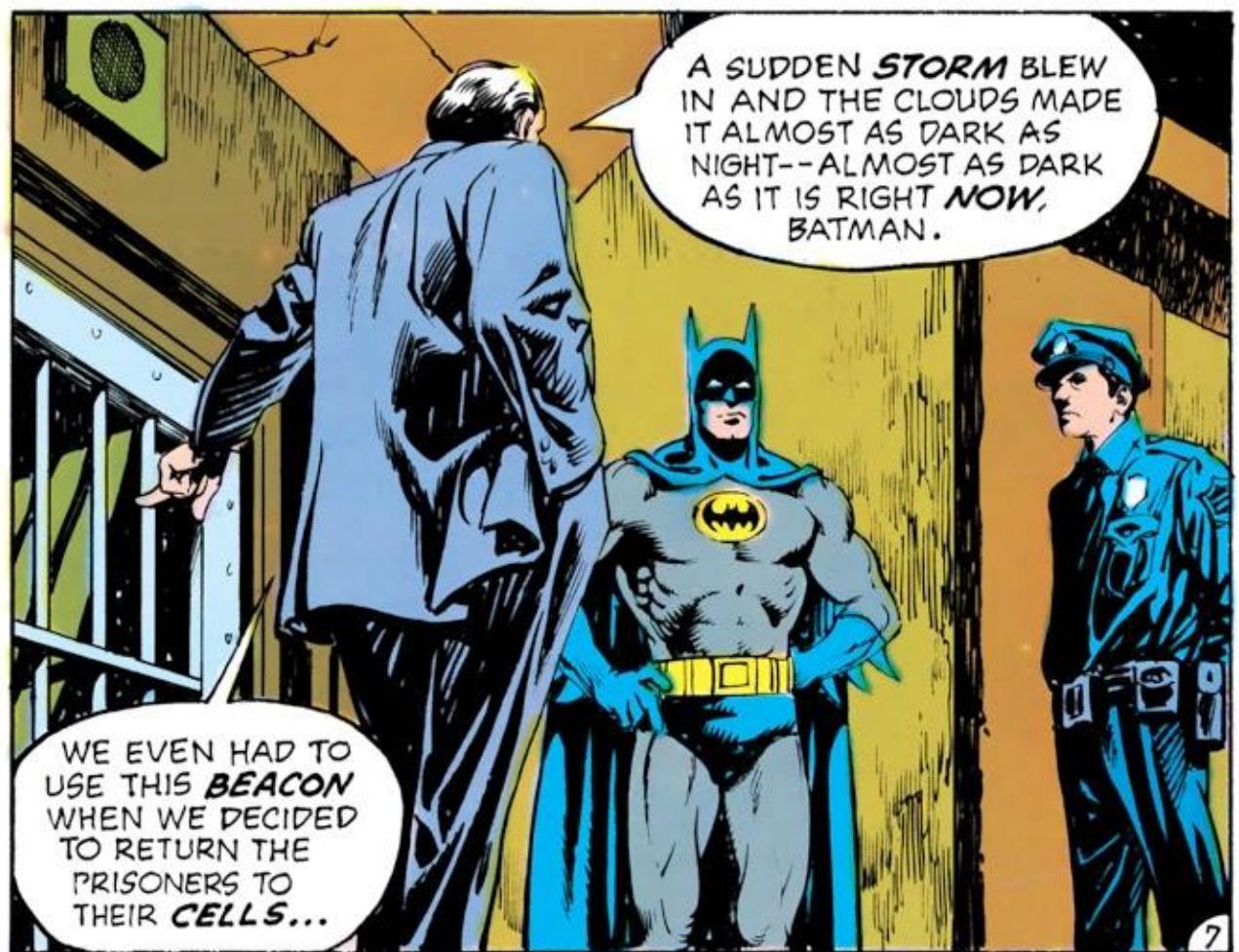


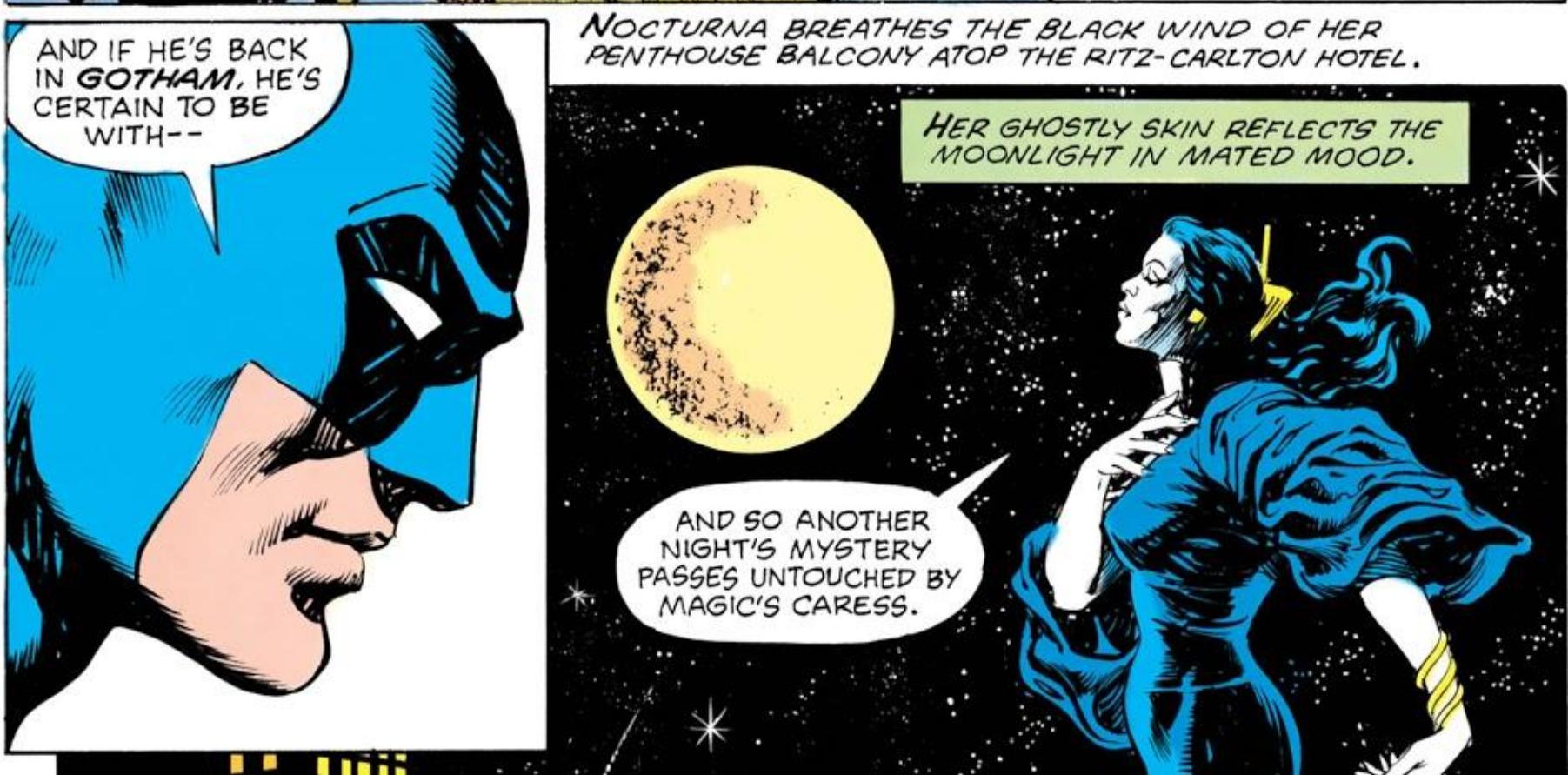






THE UPSTATE PENITENTIARY:

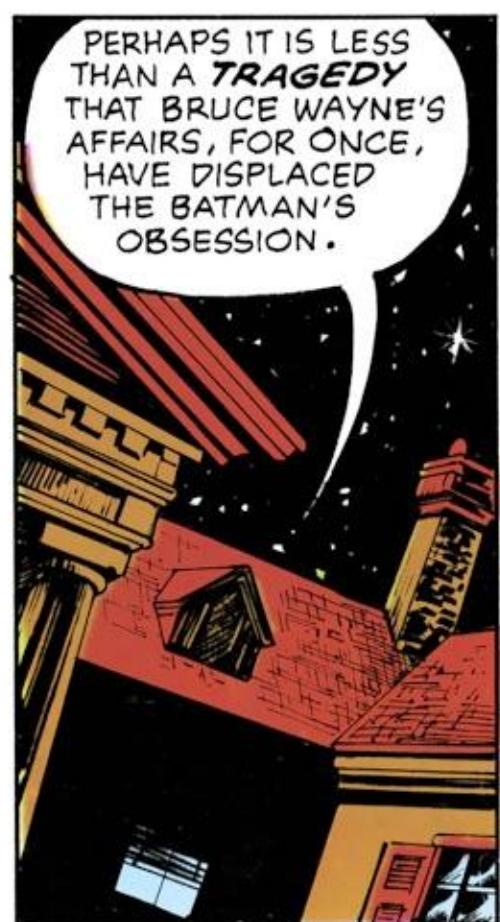








### WAYNE MANOR:



BUT... WELL, SIR... AS MUCH AS GOTHAM COULD NOT SURVIVE WITHOUT THE **BATMAN**... I DOUBT THE BATMAN COULD SURVIVE WITHOUT **BRUCE WAYNE**.

HAVE I BEEN NEGLECTING MY PERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS **THAT MUCH**, ALFRED?

CERTAINLY NOT WITH ME, SIR, AND NOT REALLY WITH YOUNG JASON--BUT INSO FAR AS THE BATMAN **MUST** TAKE UP MUCH OF YOUR TIME, IT IS INEVITABLE THAT BRUCE WAYNE'S AFFAIRS SHOULD SUFFER TO A **CERTAIN** EXTENT.

YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH **MISS VALE**, IN PARTICULAR--

YES, I KNOW I'VE BEEN **NEGLECTING** VICKI--BUT EVER SINCE TAKING ON **JASON**, MY TIME HAS BEEN--

I FULLY UNDERSTAND, SIR, AND WITH LUCK, SO DOES MISS VALE... BUT MY MEANING GOES **BEYOND** SUCH DETAILS, HOWEVER IMPORTANT THEY MAY BE.

AND IN THE **LARGER** SENSE...?

BY HIS VERY NATURE, SIR, AND NECESSARILY TO ENSURE HIS SUCCESS, THE BATMAN IS A... A CREATURE OF BUT ONE OVERRIDING EMOTION...

SUPREME OUTRAGE.

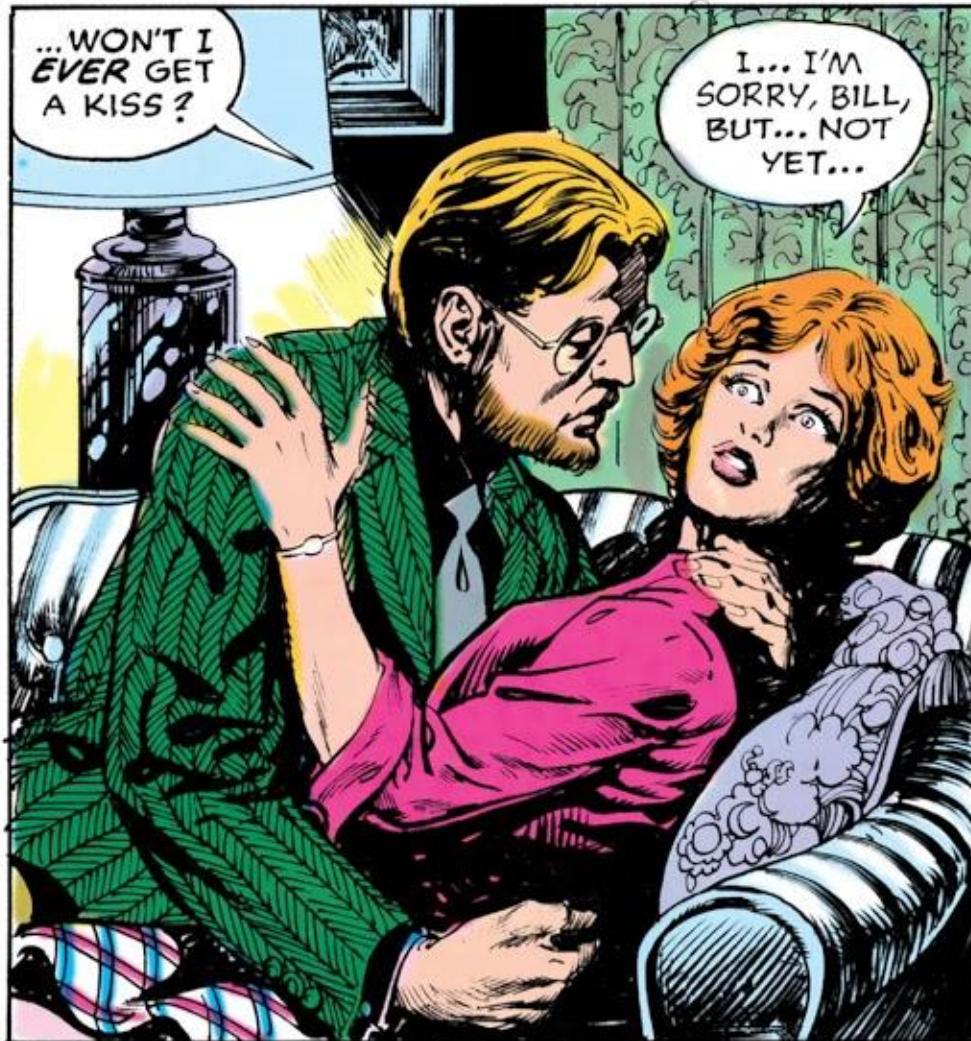
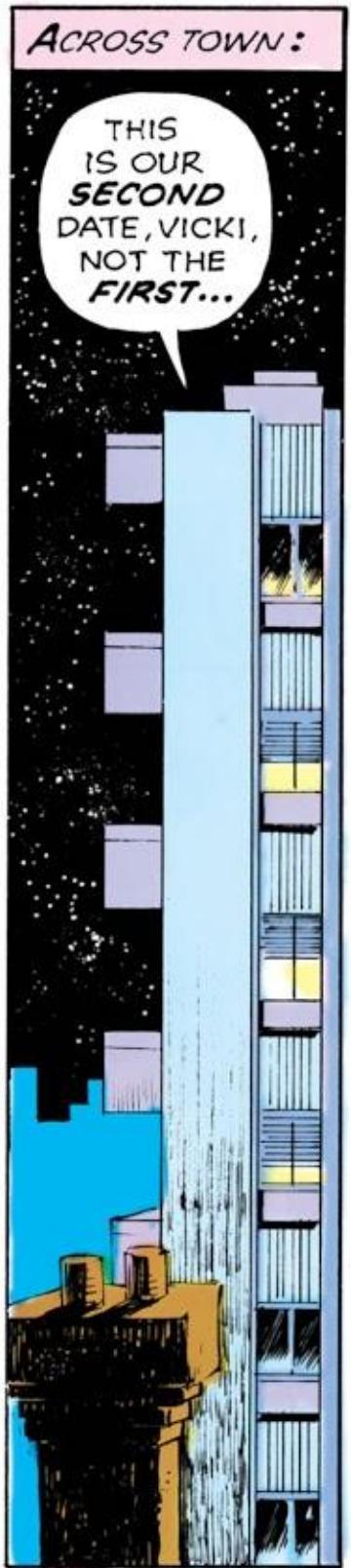
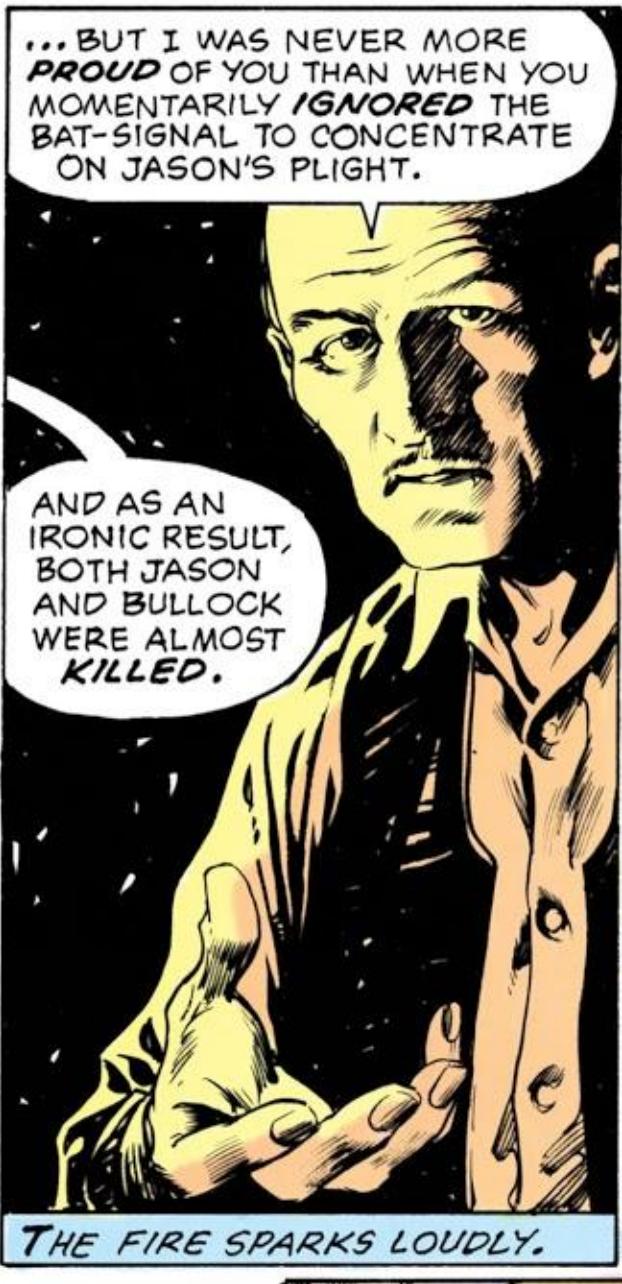
HIS CONSUMING NEED FOR JUSTICE AND RETRIBUTION IS THE VERY FACTOR WHICH ENCOURAGES HIS SUCCESS.

...THE FULL SPECTRUM OF ALL YOUR **OTHER** EMOTIONS.

THEREFORE BRUCE WAYNE REPRESENTS YOUR **POSITIVE** SIDE...

AND I SHOULD PAY MORE **ATTENTION** TO THOSE OTHER EMOTIONS--EVEN WHEN I'M NOT **FORCED** TO, AS IN THE CURRENT CRISIS INVOLVING **JASON**?

IT MAY BE **SELFISH** OF ME, SIR... //



IN A BASEMENT ON GOTHAM'S UPPER WEST SIDE, DR. FANG SWEATS.

THERE ARE THREE KINDS OF PEOPLE IN THE FIGHT GAME, WOAD.

THERE ARE THOSE WHO MAKE THE RULES--THE PROMOTERS, COMMISSIONERS, JUDGES, AND ALL THE OTHERS WITH BELLIES TOO FAT TO FIT BETWEEN THE ROPES.

THE FIGHTERS THEMSELVES ARE SUBSERVIENT TO THE RULES.



AND FINALLY THERE ARE THOSE WHO BECAME INDEPENDENT OF THE RULES-- BUT ONLY BY WALKING AWAY FROM THE ENTIRE SCENE FOREVER.

YEAH, BUT THE KINDA FIGHT YOU WANNA FIX-- A HEAVYWEIGHT TITLE SHOT WITH HEAVY ACTION BUT HEAVY ODDS TOO... A FIGHT LIKE THAT DON'T EXIST--IT'S A CONTRADICTION IN TERMS.

YOU'RE DREAMIN', BOSS.

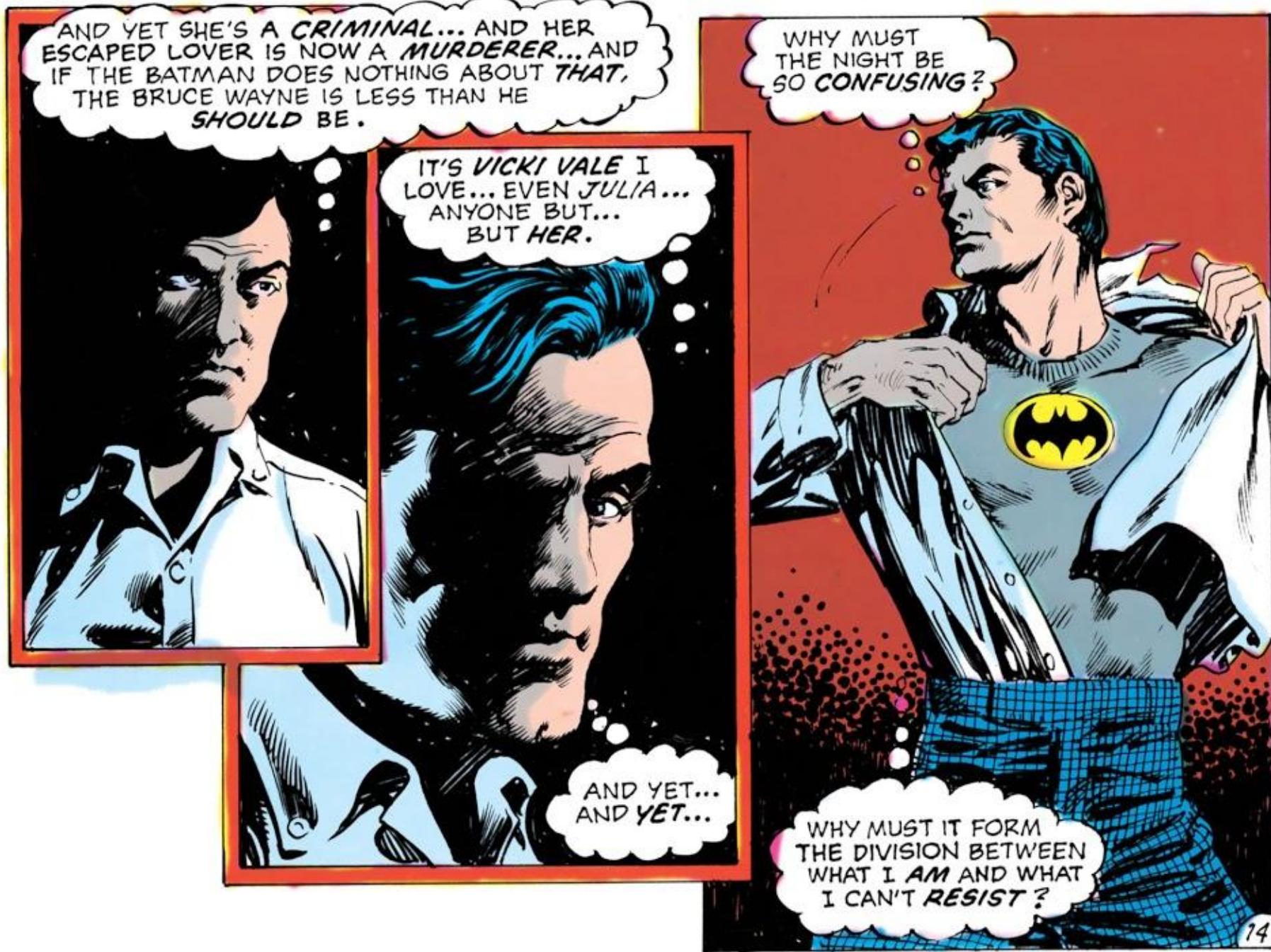
# WHAT PRICE, THE PRIZE?

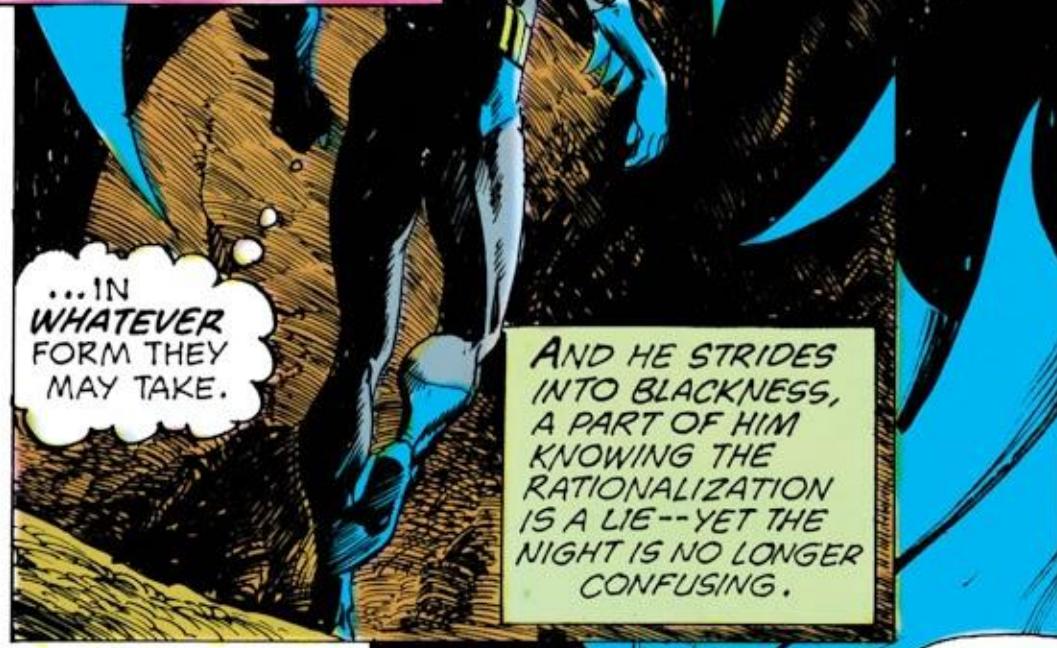
DOUG MOENCH & DON NEWTON  
WRITER/CO-PLOTTERS/ARTIST

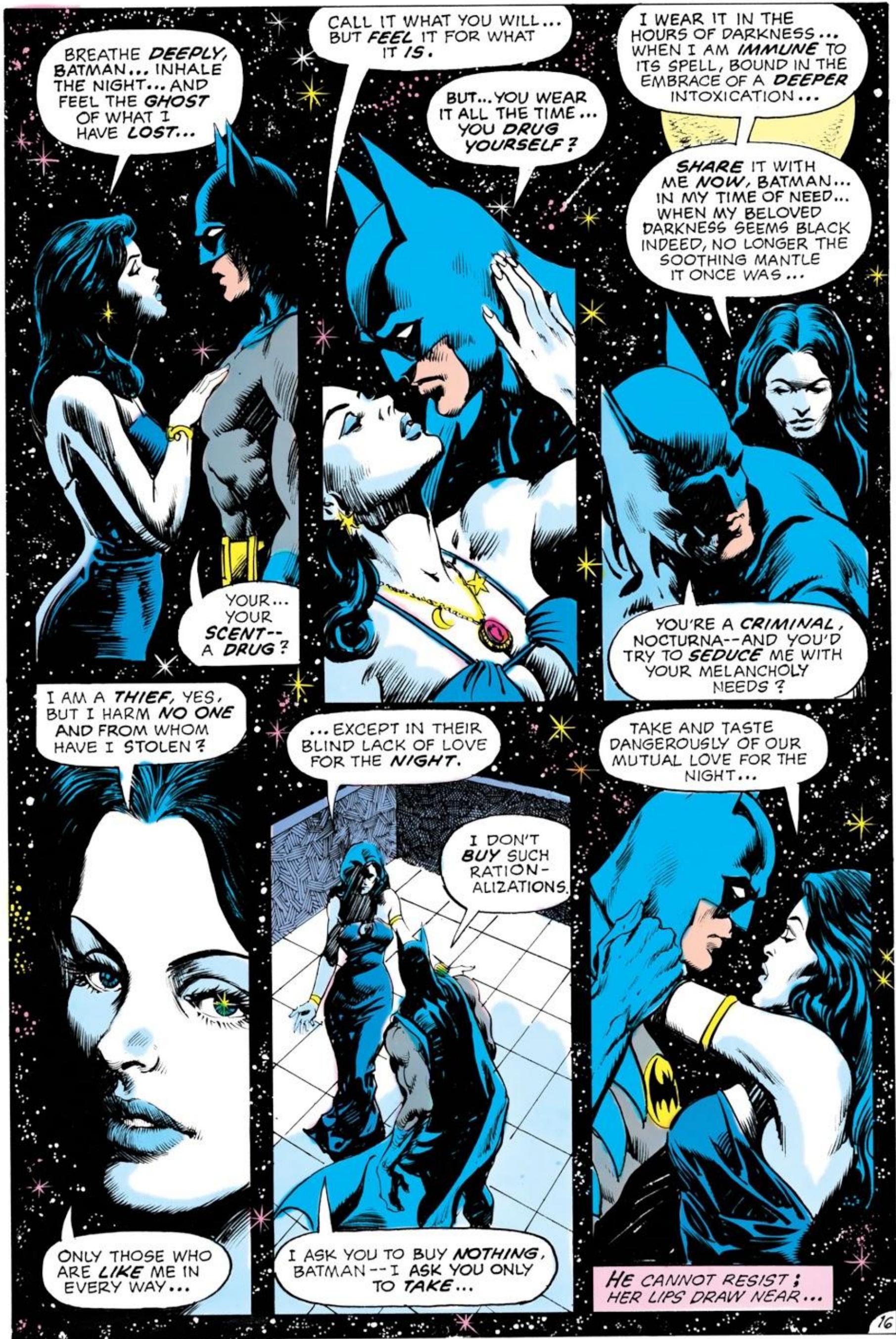
ALFREDO ALCALA  
INKER/LETTERER

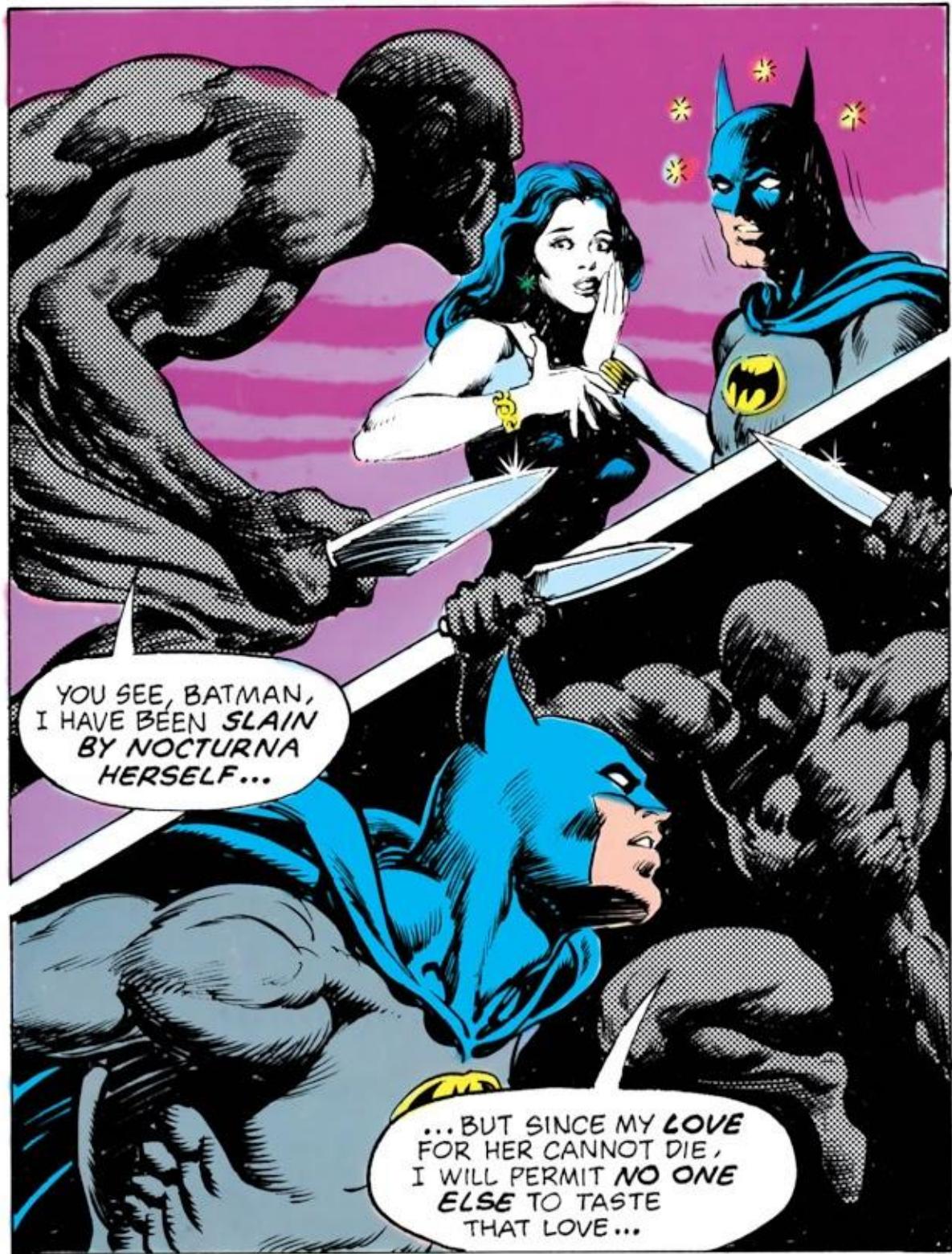
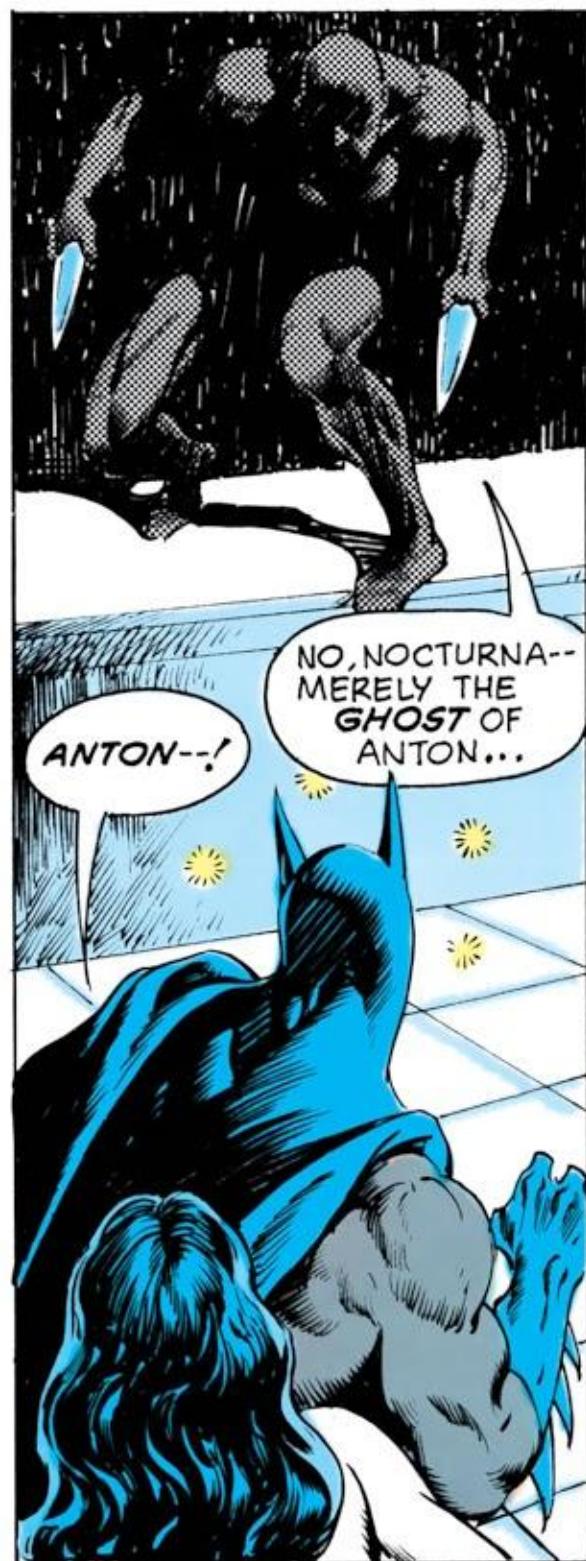
ADRIENNE ROY  
COLORIST

LEN WEIN  
EDITOR









TWO PIECES OF LIVING DARKNESS  
CURVED FROM THE NIGHT, THEY  
TUMBLE FROM GLOOM INTO GLARE...

...AND WITH EACH  
MOVE OF ABRUPT  
VIOLENCE, THE  
BATMAN'S MIND  
REELS--

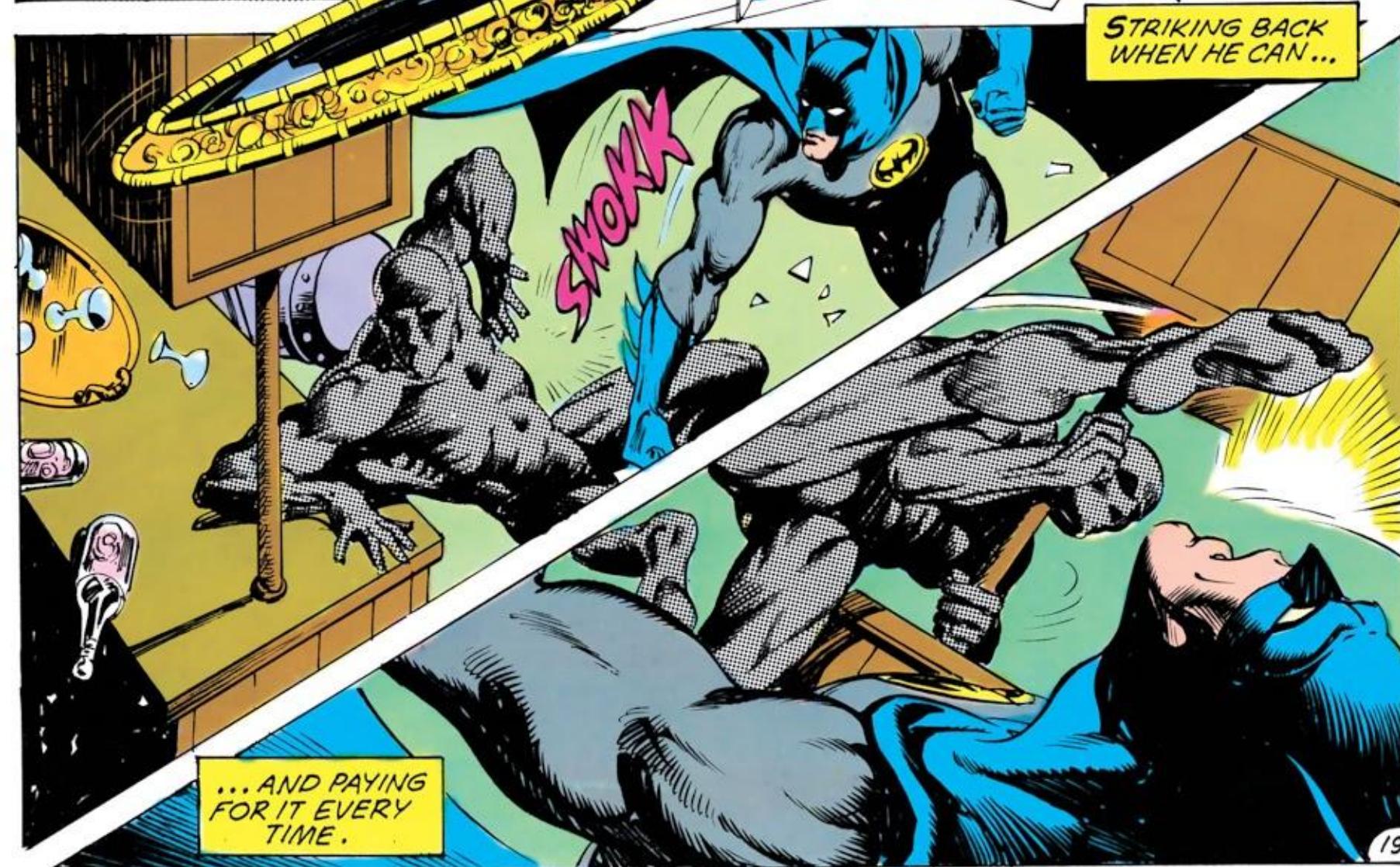
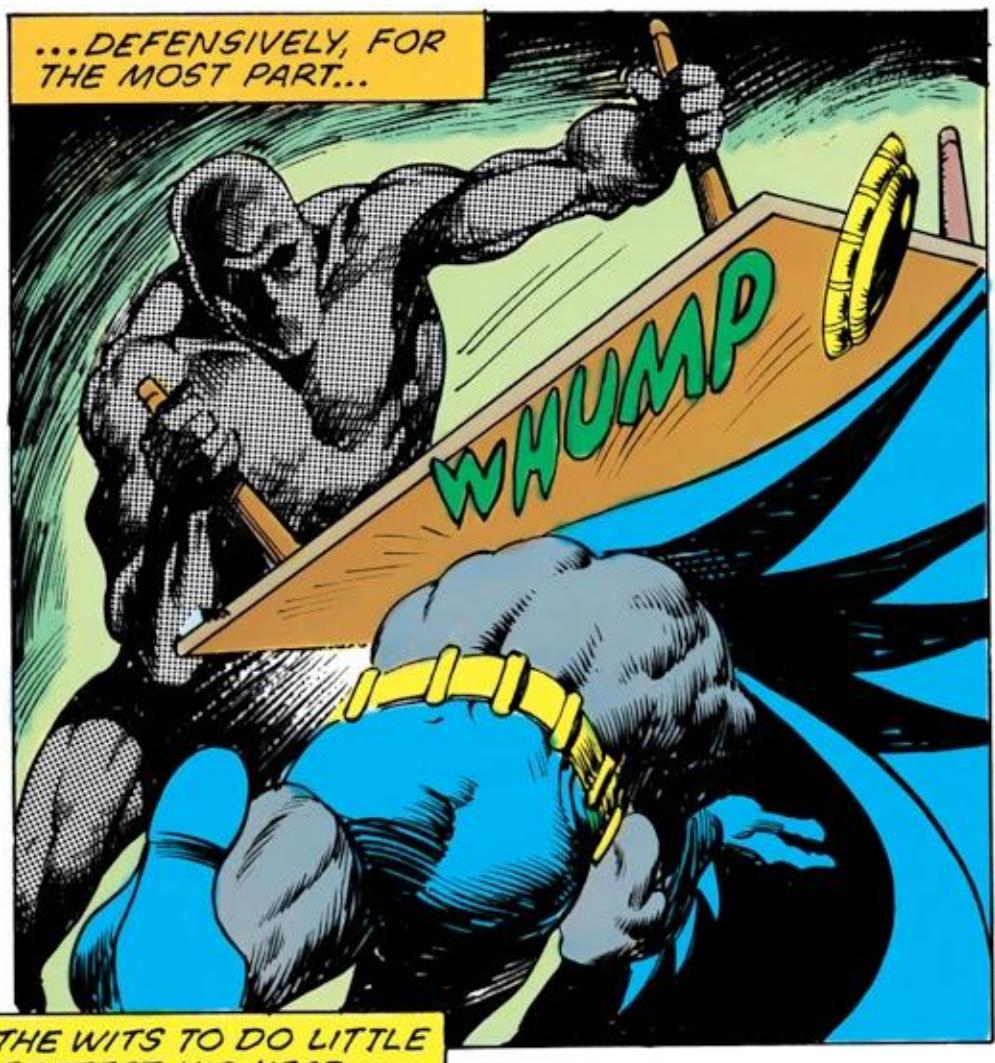
--HIS VISION FLASHING  
FROM PURPLE TO  
SCARLET, AFTER CROSSING  
THE TERRAIN OF BLACK-  
NESS BETWEEN.

IT IS THE MOMENTS OF BLACKNESS  
WHICH ALMOST KILL HIM, TIME AND  
DARK TIME AGAIN, EVEN AS ELEGANCE  
IS TRASHED.

WHAT  
HAVE I  
DONE?

WHAT  
HAVE I  
CREATED?

WHAT HAVE I  
DESTROYED?

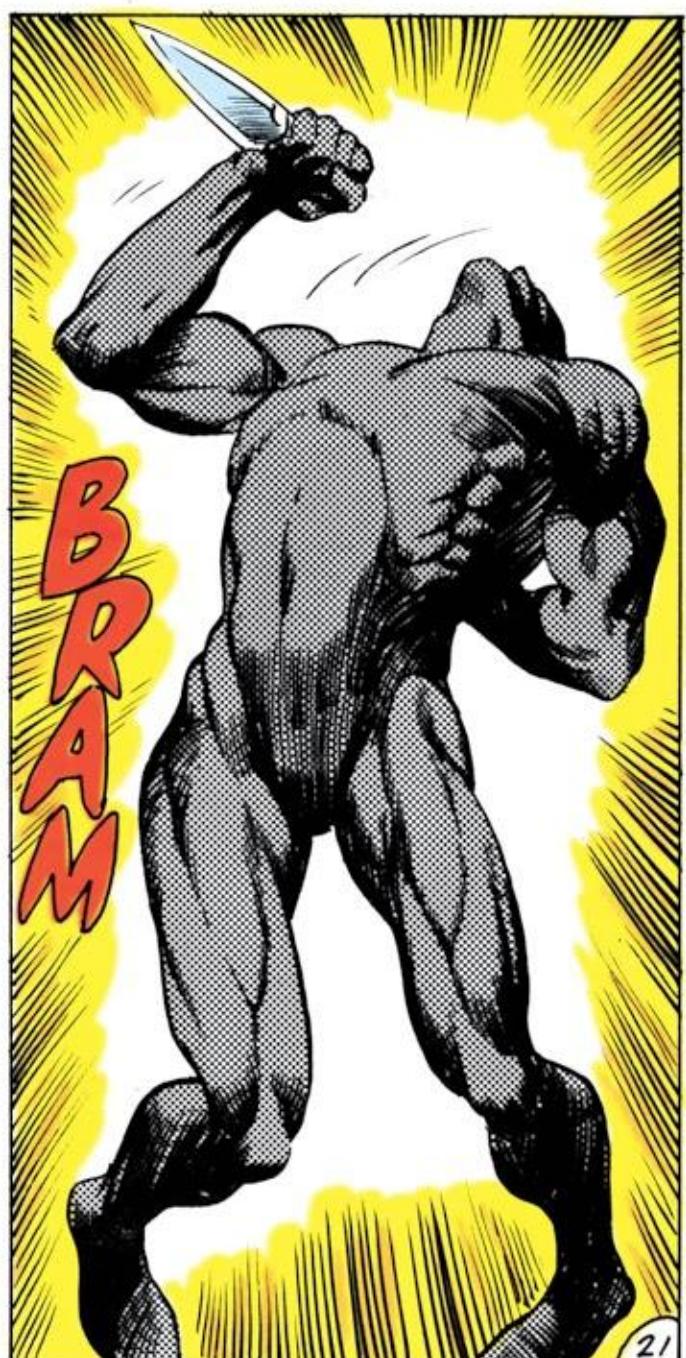


THROUGH A STORM OF LUXURY TURNED TO SHARDS, THE PINWHEEL OF PURPLE, BLACK, AND SCARLET SPINS BACK OUT ONTO THE BALCONY...

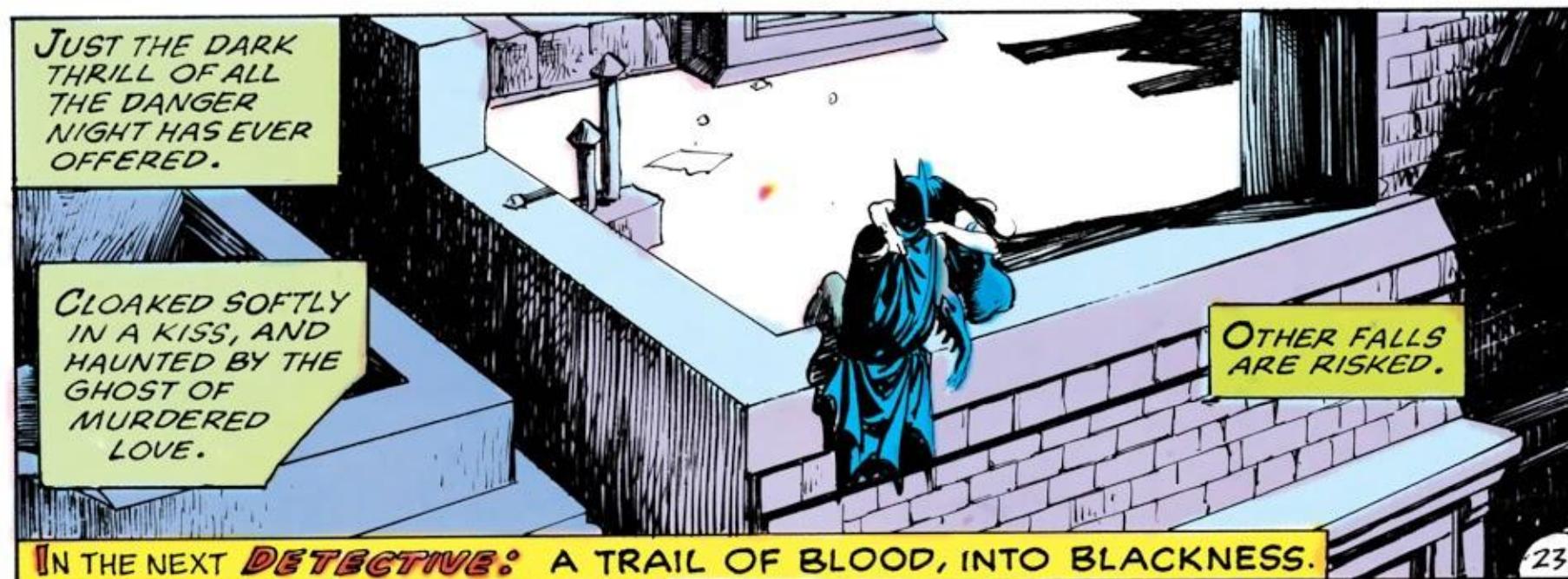
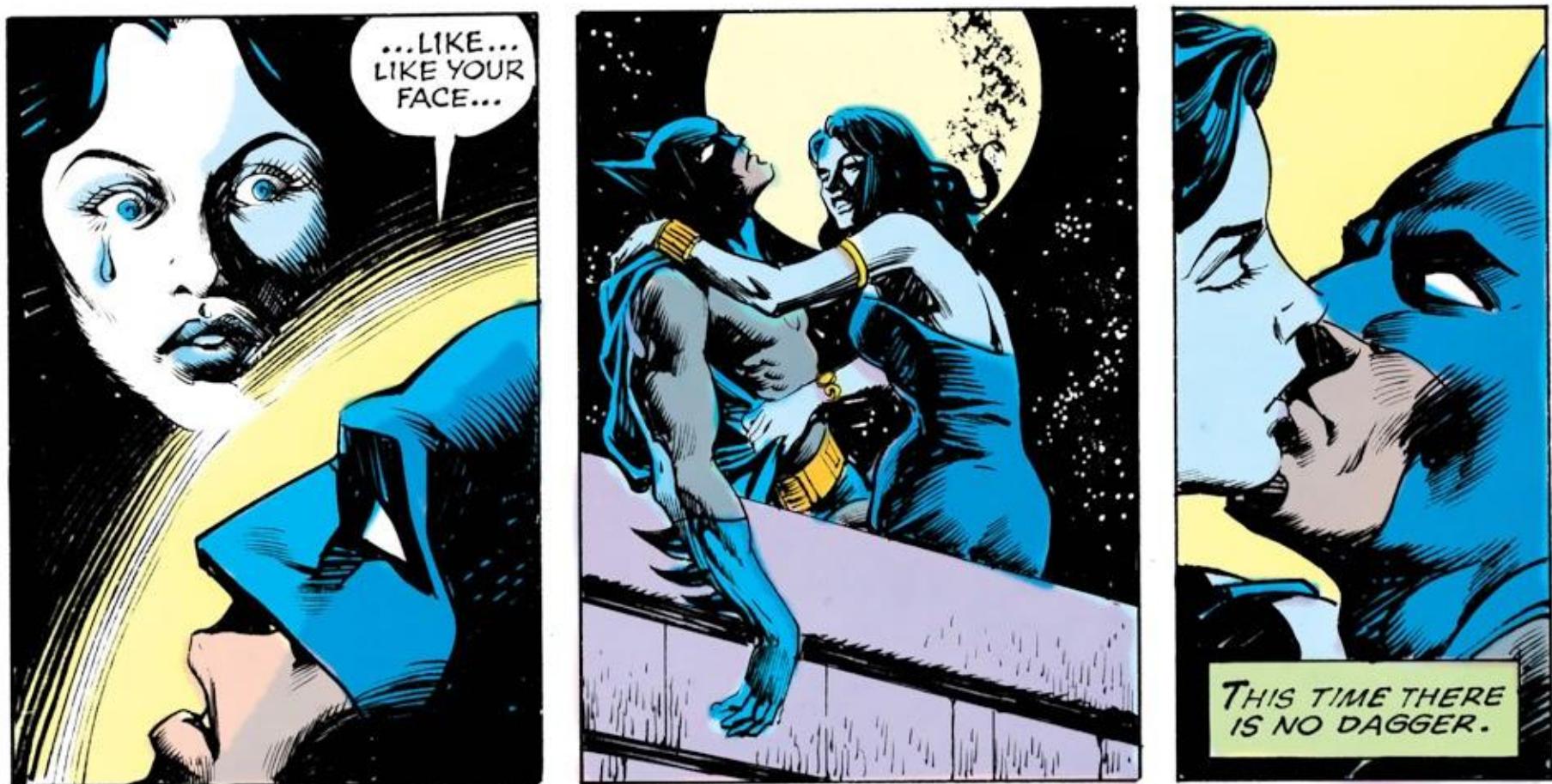
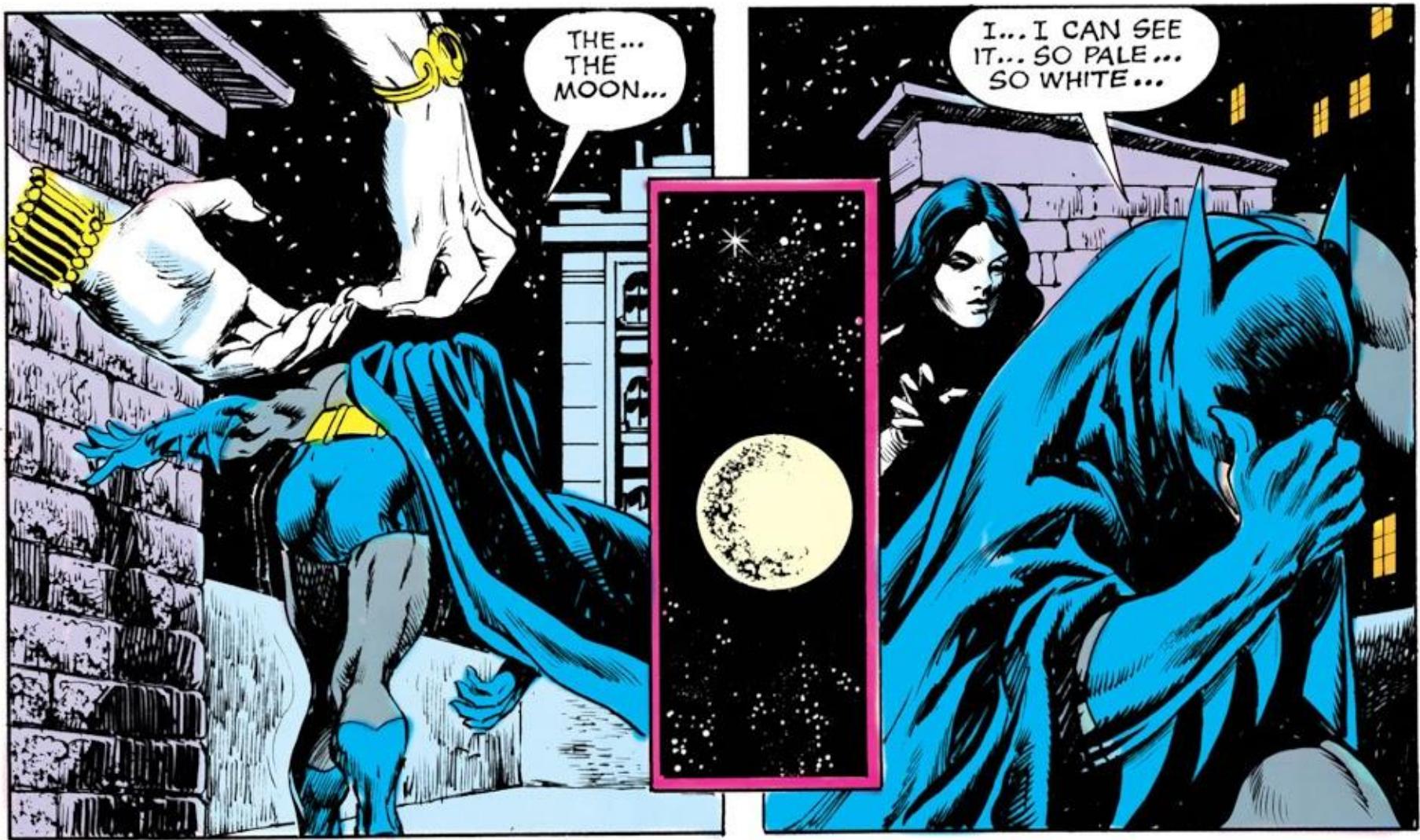


...THENCE INTO THE NIGHT ITSELF...











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