WONDER WOMAN
#177
WARNING
Parking is Prohibited between 6AM and 9AM
JIMENEZ
LANNING
WONDER WOMAN
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
AH!
dccomics.com
FEB 2002

Paradise Found
IT'S OVER.
CLANG
Phil Jimenez
Story & Pencils
Andy Lanning
Inks
Trish Mulvihill
Colors
Heroic Age Separations
Comicraft Letters
Tom Palmer jr. Assistant Editor
Eddie Berganza Editor
Wonder Woman Created By
William Moulton Marston

GET BACK! I SAID GET BACK!
RICKY, SHE AIN'T BACKIN' DOWN. WE'RE DUST!
BAM BAM

CLNKG
CLNKG
CLNKG
WELL, YOUR LITTLE OPERATION HERE CERTAINLY IS.

RUN!!
WHERE THE HELL ARE WE GONNA GO? THAT'S WONDER WOMAN!

BOOM
Ah, NO!

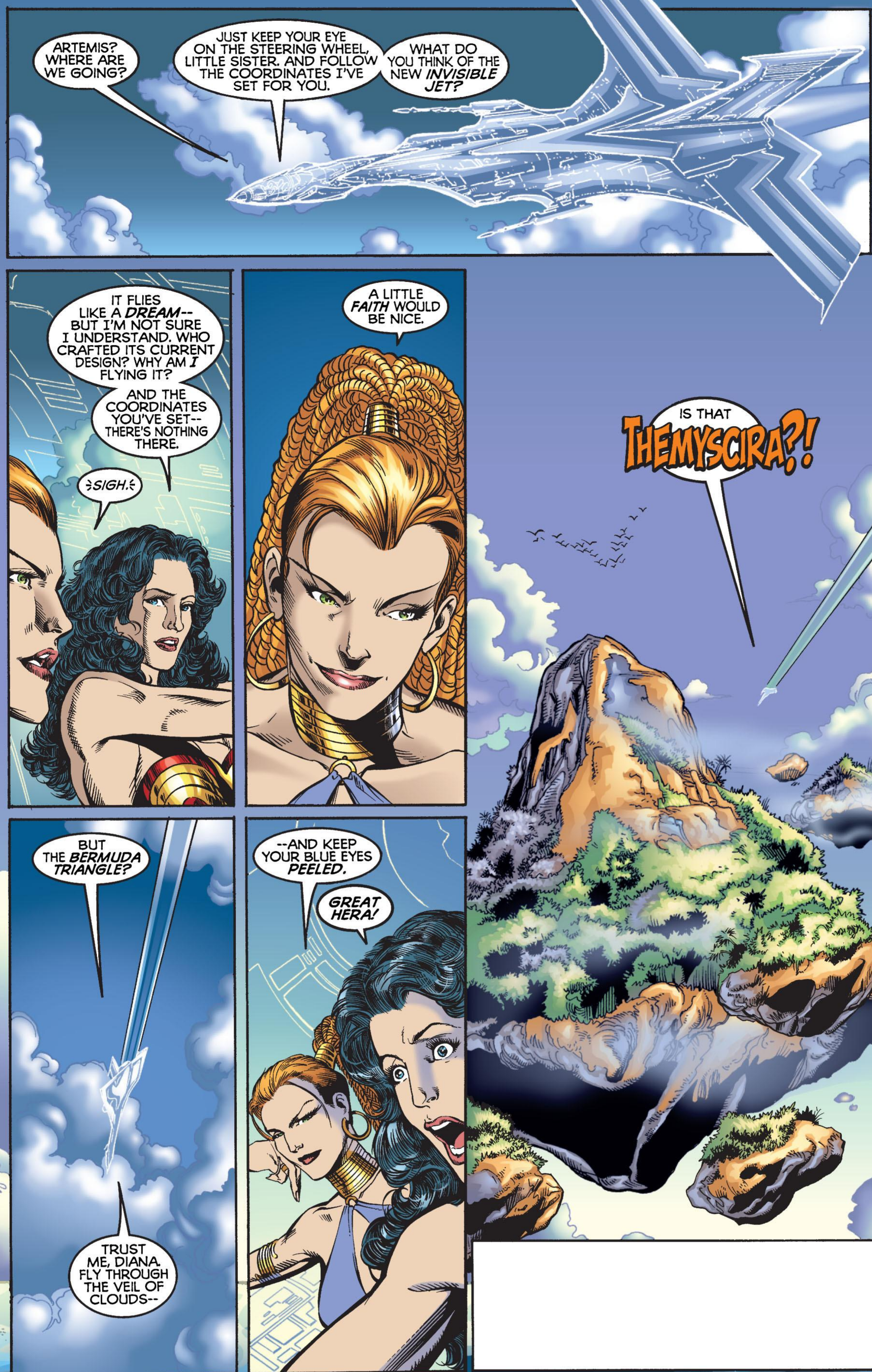
I SAID THIS WAS OVER...
...AND I MEANT IT.

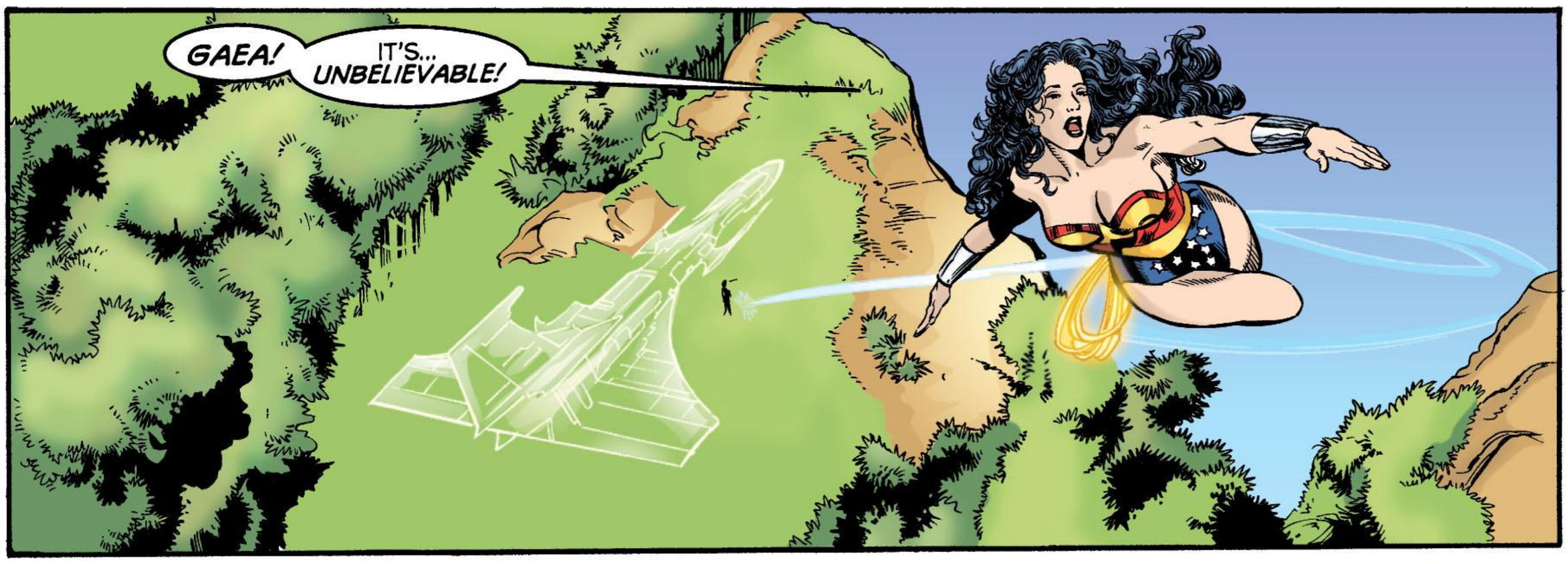
THAT'S WHAT I *LOVE* ABOUT YOU, DIANA. TO THIS DAY, IT STILL *AWES* YOU THE DEPTHS TO WHICH THE SOULS OF THOSE IN PATRIARCH'S WORLD CAN *SINK.* EVEN AFTER ALL YOUR YEARS HERE.

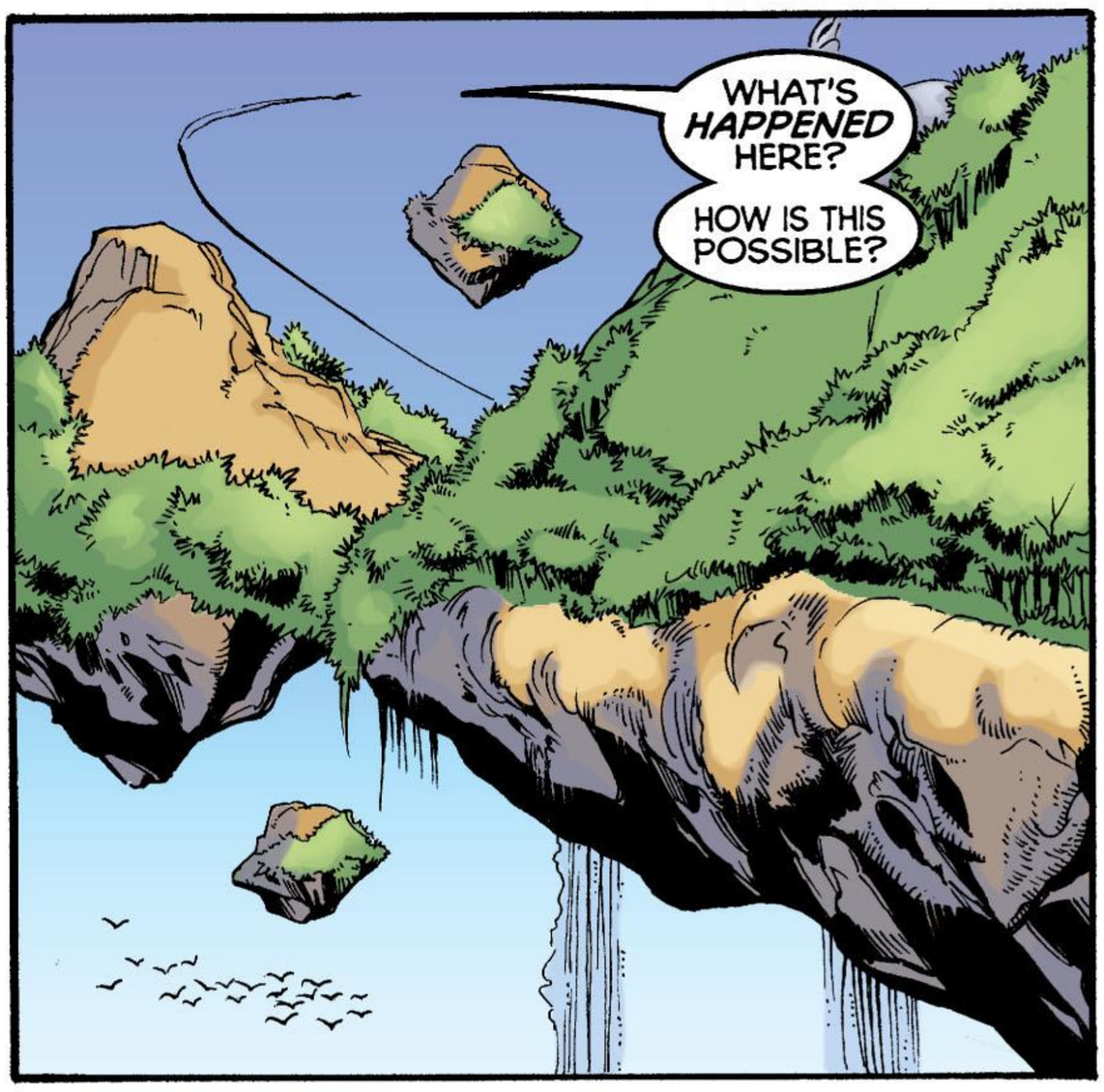
IT REALLY *IS* ONE OF YOUR GREAT CHARMS.

NOW, WHEN YOU'RE DONE *"PLAYING"* WITH YOUR NEW FRIENDS, DROP THEM OFF WITH THE CLOSEST AUTHORITIES AND COME WITH ME.

I HAVE SOMETHING TO *SHOW* YOU.

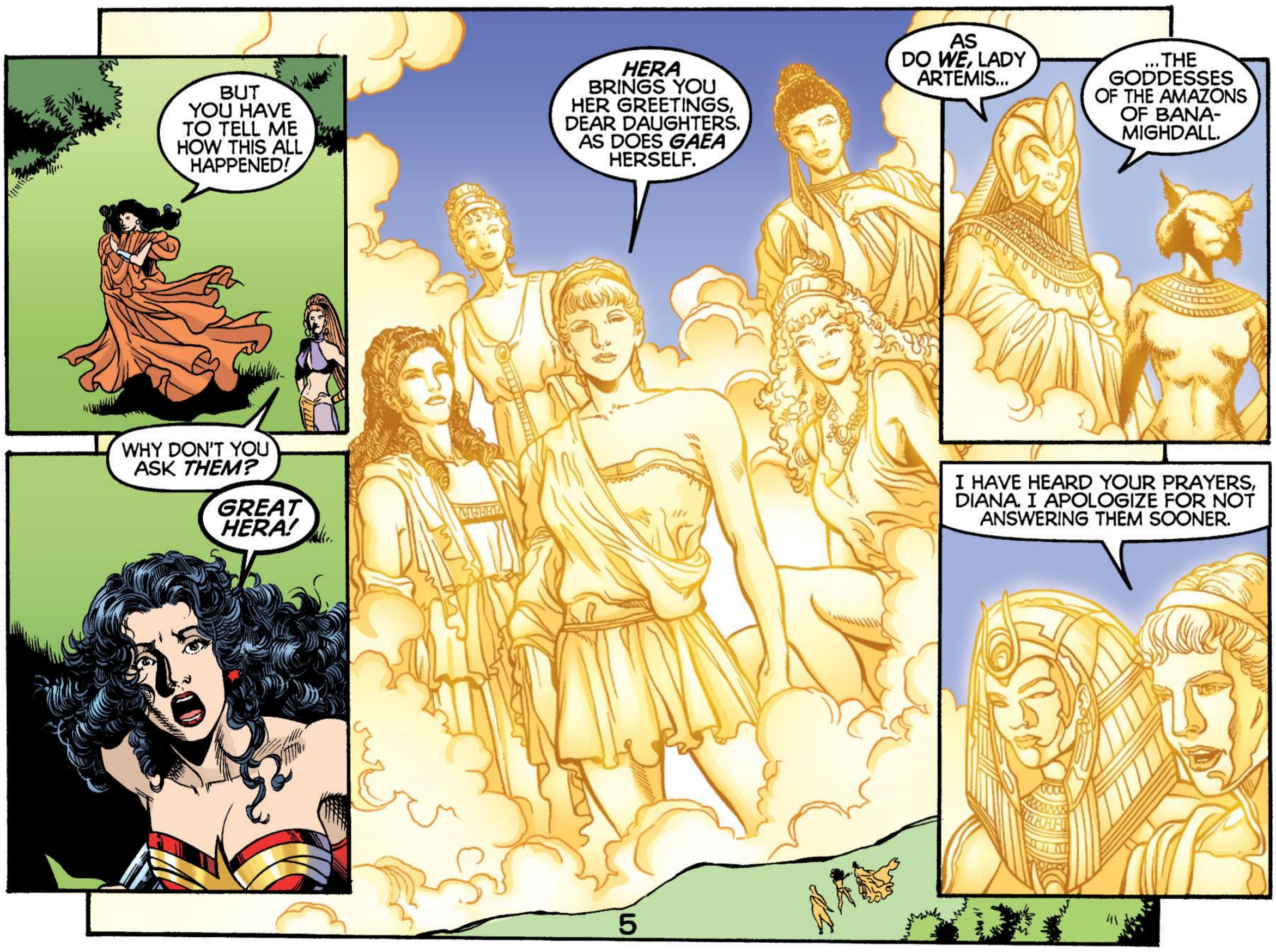

ARTEMIS? WHERE ARE WE GOING?
JUST KEEP YOUR EYE ON THE STEERING WHEEL, LITTLE SISTER. AND FOLLOW THE COORDINATES I'VE SET FOR YOU.
WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THE NEW *INVISIBLE JET?*
IT FLIES LIKE A *DREAM*-- BUT I'M NOT SURE I UNDERSTAND. WHO CRAFTED ITS CURRENT DESIGN? WHY AM *I* FLYING IT?
AND THE COORDINATES YOU'VE SET-- THERE'S NOTHING THERE.
SIGH.
A LITTLE *FAITH* WOULD BE NICE.
IS THAT THEMYSCIRA?!
BUT THE *BERMUDA TRIANGLE?*
TRUST ME, DIANA. FLY THROUGH THE VEIL OF CLOUDS--
--AND KEEP YOUR BLUE EYES *PEELED.*
GREAT HERA!

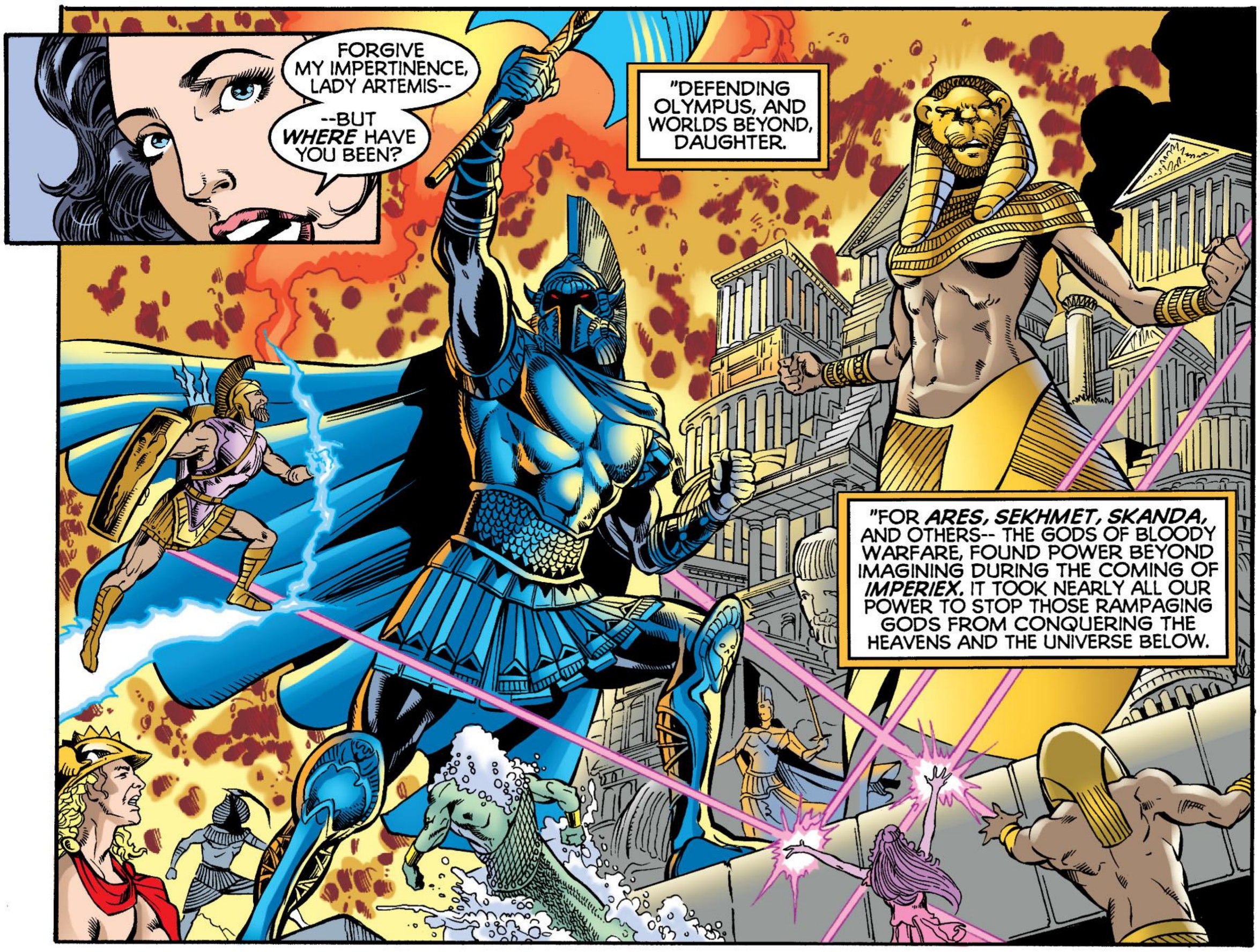

GAEA!
IT'S... UNBELIEVABLE!

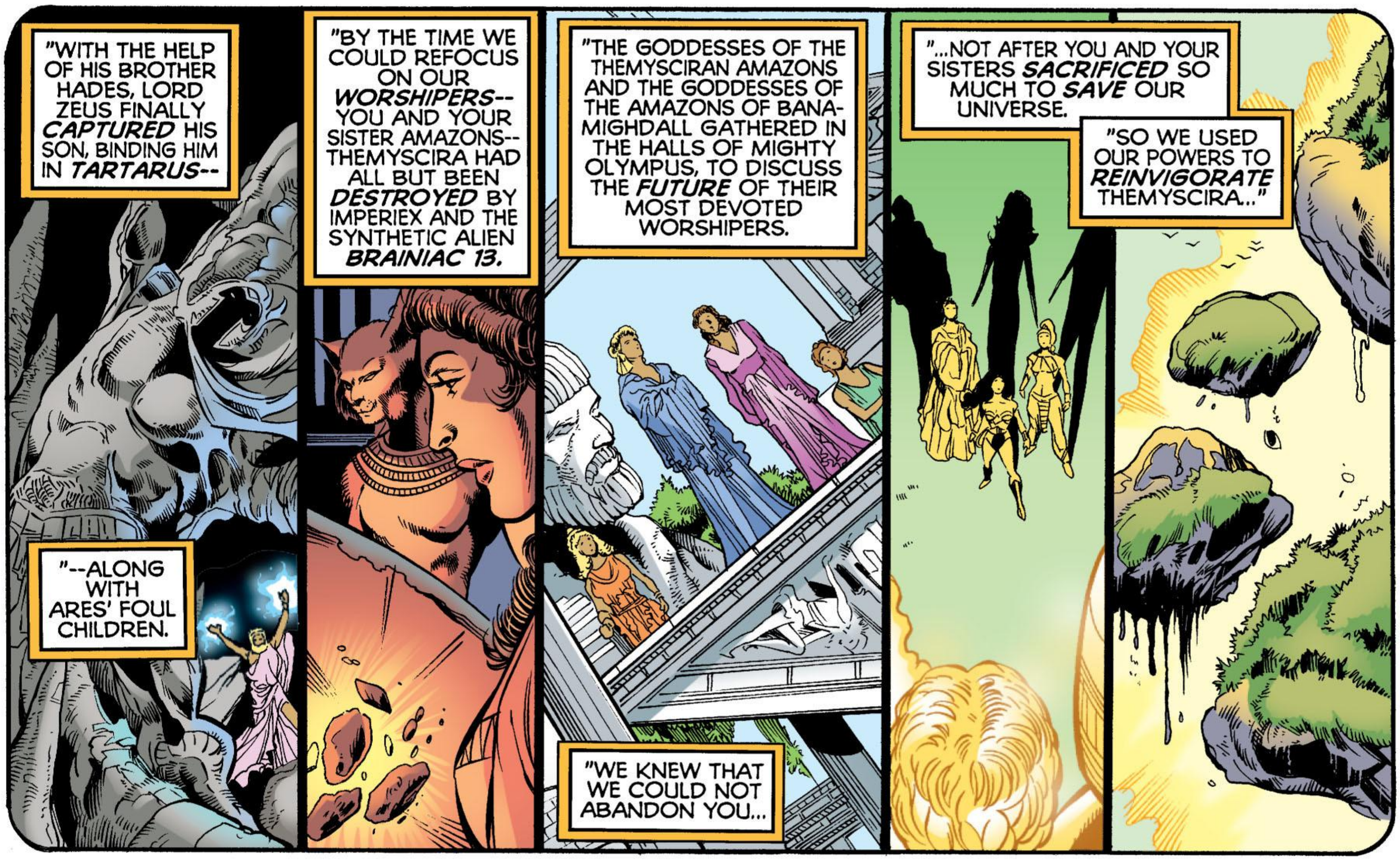

WHAT'S HAPPENED HERE?
HOW IS THIS POSSIBLE?

PHILLIPUS? IS THAT YOU?
HELLO, DIANA.

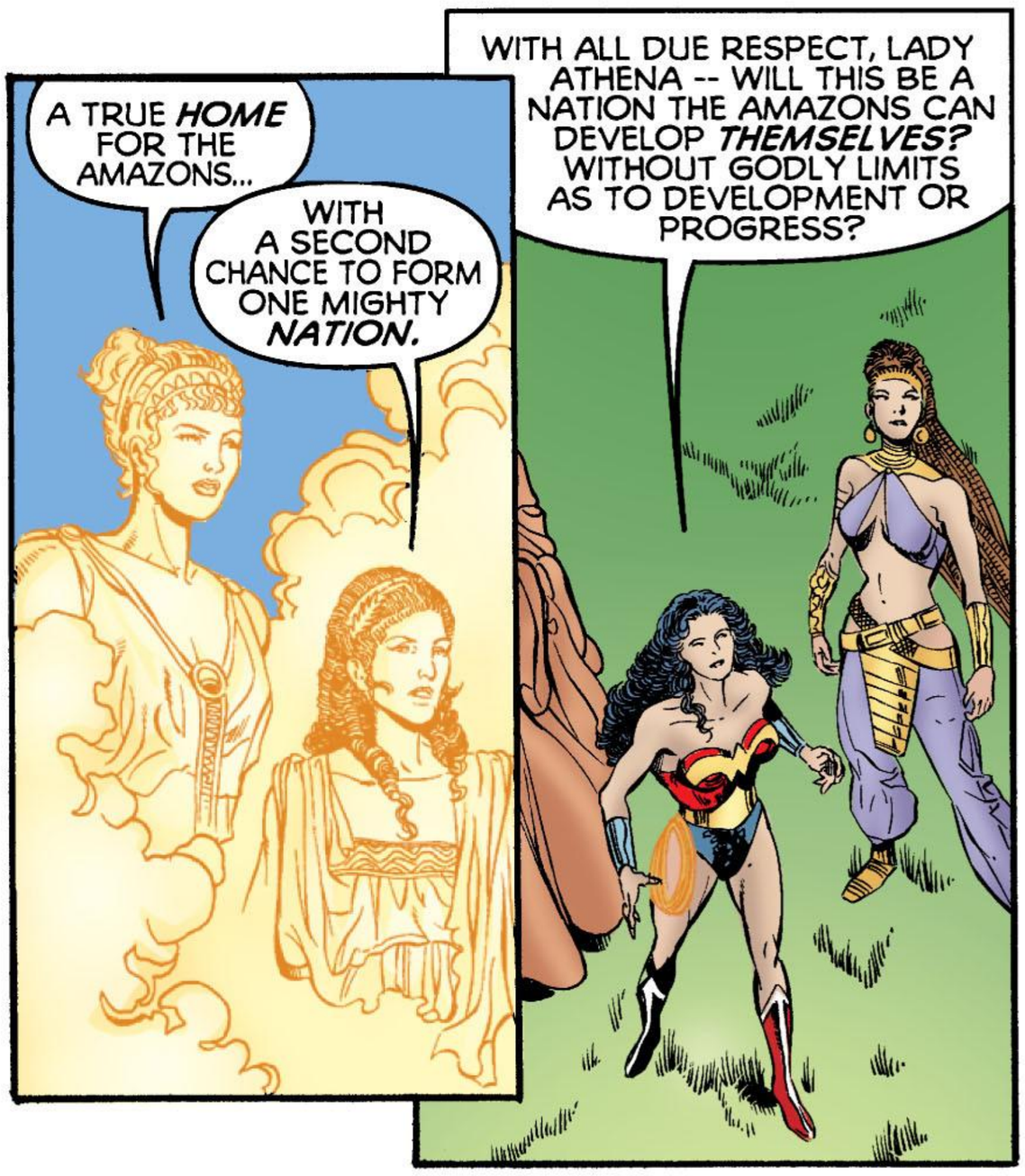
I GUESS YOU COULD SAY, AS THEMYSCIRA HAS TRANSFORMED, SO HAVE I.
I'M JUST SO THRILLED TO SEE YOU.

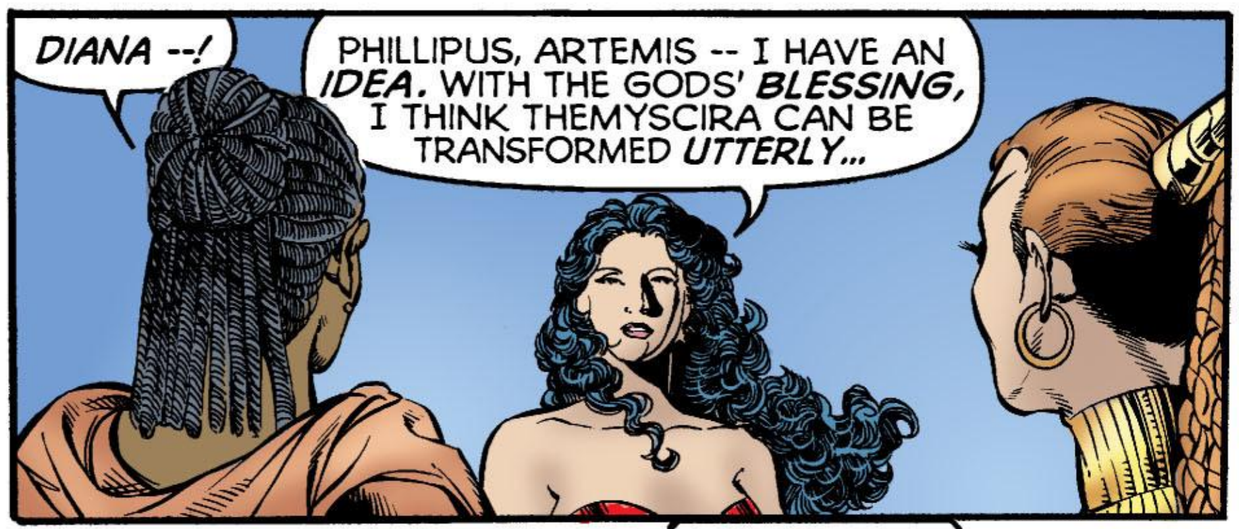

BUT YOU HAVE TO TELL ME HOW THIS ALL HAPPENED!
WHY DON'T YOU ASK THEM?
GREAT HERA!
HERA BRINGS YOU HER GREETINGS, DEAR DAUGHTERS. AS DOES GAEA HERSELF.
AS DO WE, LADY ARTEMIS...
...THE GODDESSES OF THE AMAZONS OF BANA-MIGHDALL.
I HAVE HEARD YOUR PRAYERS, DIANA. I APOLOGIZE FOR NOT ANSWERING THEM SOONER.

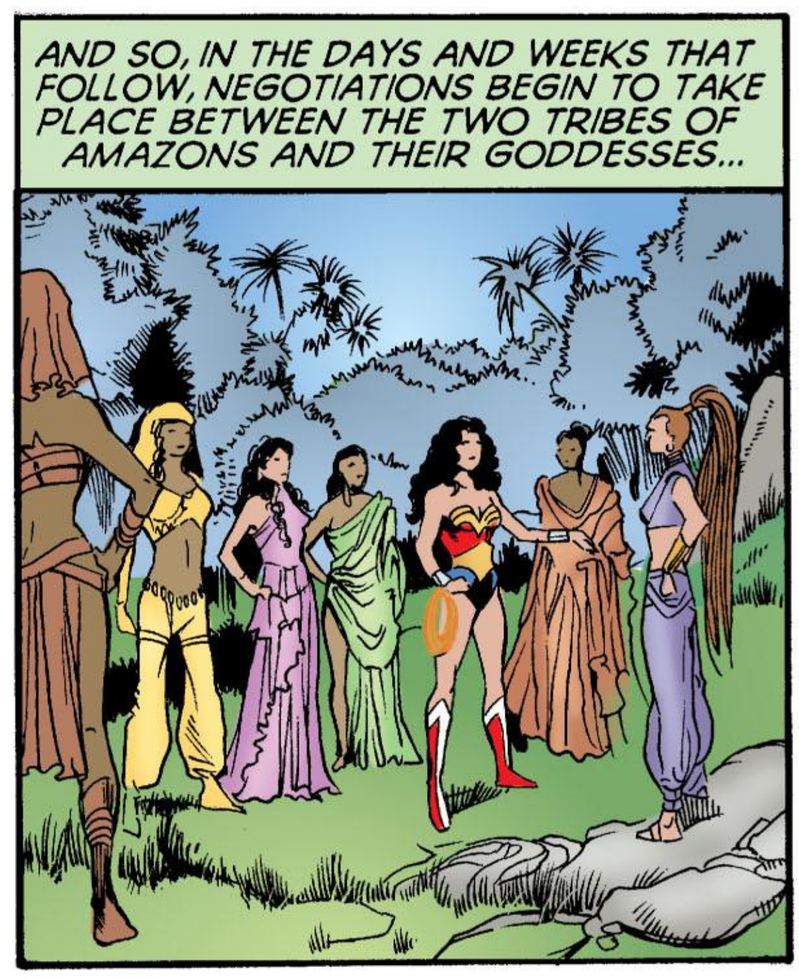

FORGIVE MY IMPERTINENCE, LADY ARTEMIS--
--BUT *WHERE* HAVE YOU BEEN?
"DEFENDING OLYMPUS, AND WORLDS BEYOND, DAUGHTER.
"FOR *ARES, SEKHMET, SKANDA,* AND OTHERS-- THE GODS OF BLOODY WARFARE, FOUND POWER BEYOND IMAGINING DURING THE COMING OF *IMPERIEX.* IT TOOK NEARLY ALL OUR POWER TO STOP THOSE RAMPAGING GODS FROM CONQUERING THE HEAVENS AND THE UNIVERSE BELOW.

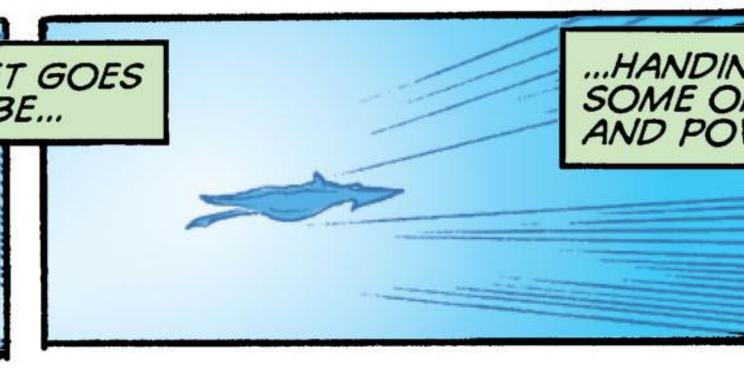

"WITH THE HELP OF HIS BROTHER HADES, LORD ZEUS FINALLY *CAPTURED* HIS SON, BINDING HIM IN *TARTARUS*--
"--ALONG WITH ARES' FOUL CHILDREN.
"BY THE TIME WE COULD REFOCUS ON OUR *WORSHIPERS*-- YOU AND YOUR SISTER AMAZONS-- THEMYSCIRA HAD ALL BUT BEEN *DESTROYED* BY IMPERIEX AND THE SYNTHETIC ALIEN *BRAINIAC 13.*
"THE GODDESSES OF THE THEMYSCIRAN AMAZONS AND THE GODDESSES OF THE AMAZONS OF BANA-MIGHDALL GATHERED IN THE HALLS OF MIGHTY OLYMPUS, TO DISCUSS THE *FUTURE* OF THEIR MOST DEVOTED WORSHIPERS.
"WE KNEW THAT WE COULD NOT ABANDON YOU...
"...NOT AFTER YOU AND YOUR SISTERS *SACRIFICED* SO MUCH TO *SAVE* OUR UNIVERSE.
"SO WE USED OUR POWERS TO *REINVIGORATE* THEMYSCIRA..."

...THAT YOU MIGHT ONCE MORE TRANSFORM IT INTO *PARADISE!*



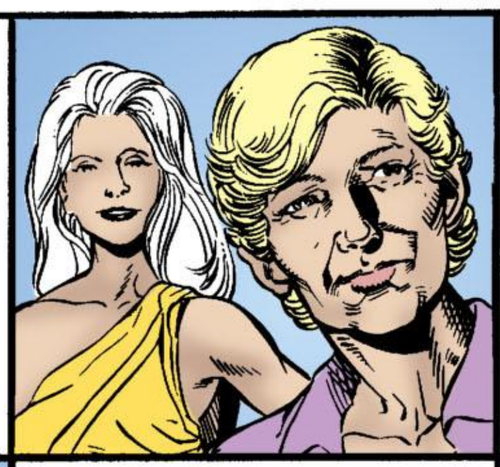






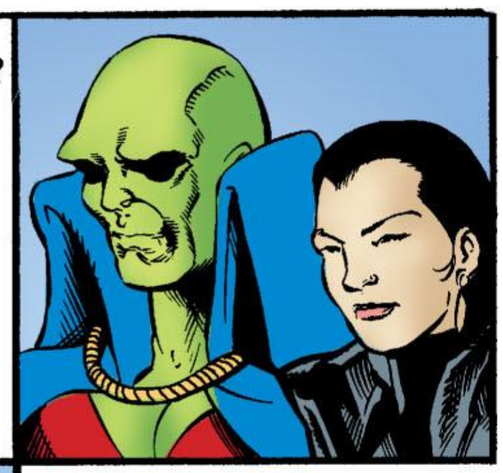
...TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE TRIUMPHANT REBUILDING OF THE AMAZONS' ISLAND HOME.

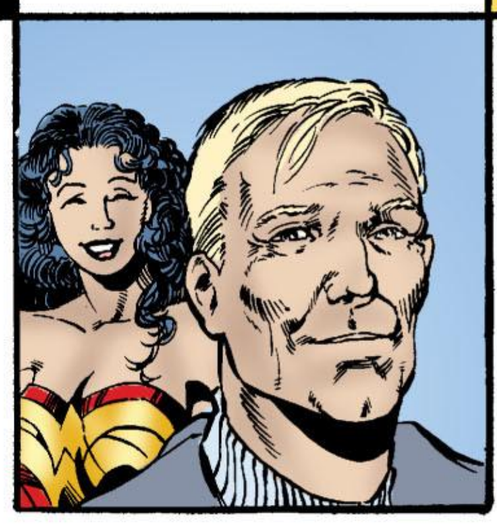
ARCHITECT **HENRI CLAUDE TIBET...**



...HARVARD PROFESSOR **JULIA KAPATELIS,** SPIRITUAL DAUGHTER OF THE AMAZON PYTHIA...

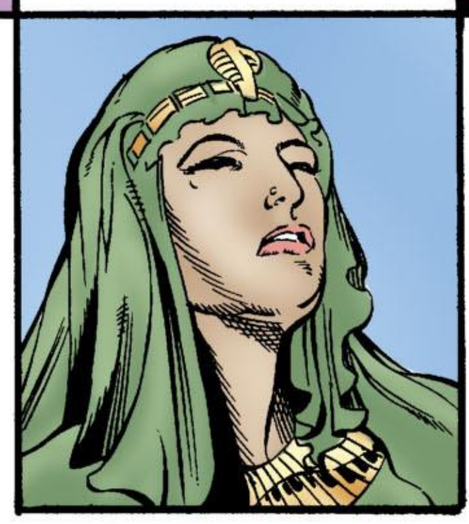
...J'ONN J'ONZZ, THE **MARTIAN MANHUNTER,** AND KIMIYO HOSHI, KNOWN TO SOME AS DOCTOR LIGHT...

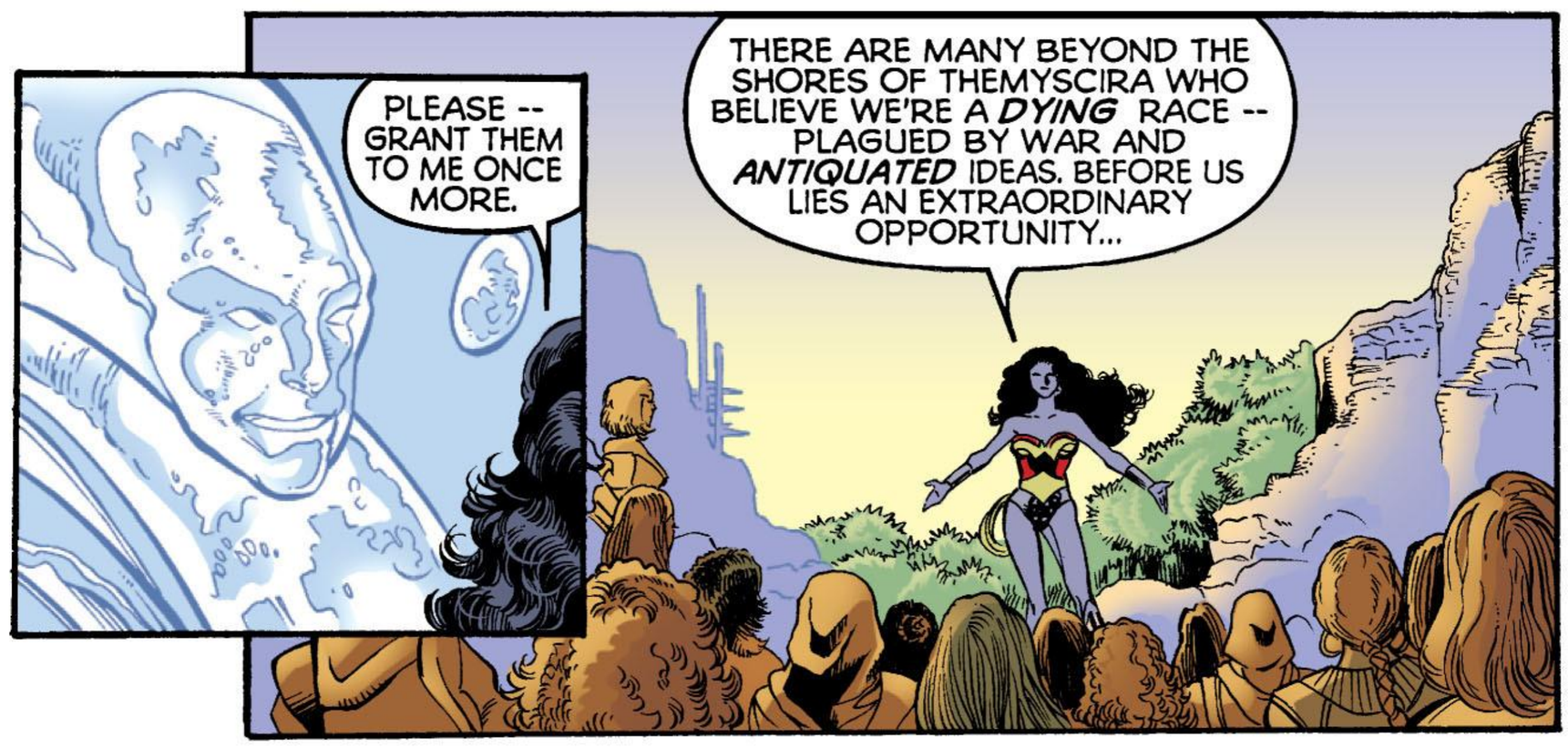




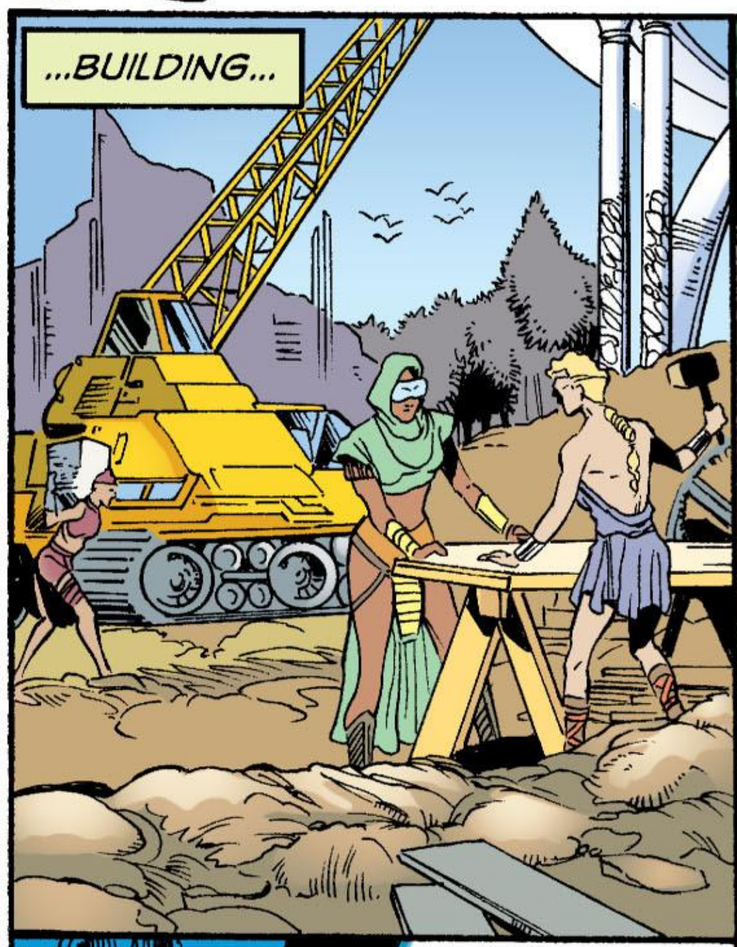
DECORATED PILOT AND ENGINEER **STEVE TREVOR,** AFTER WHOSE MOTHER DIANA WAS NAMED...

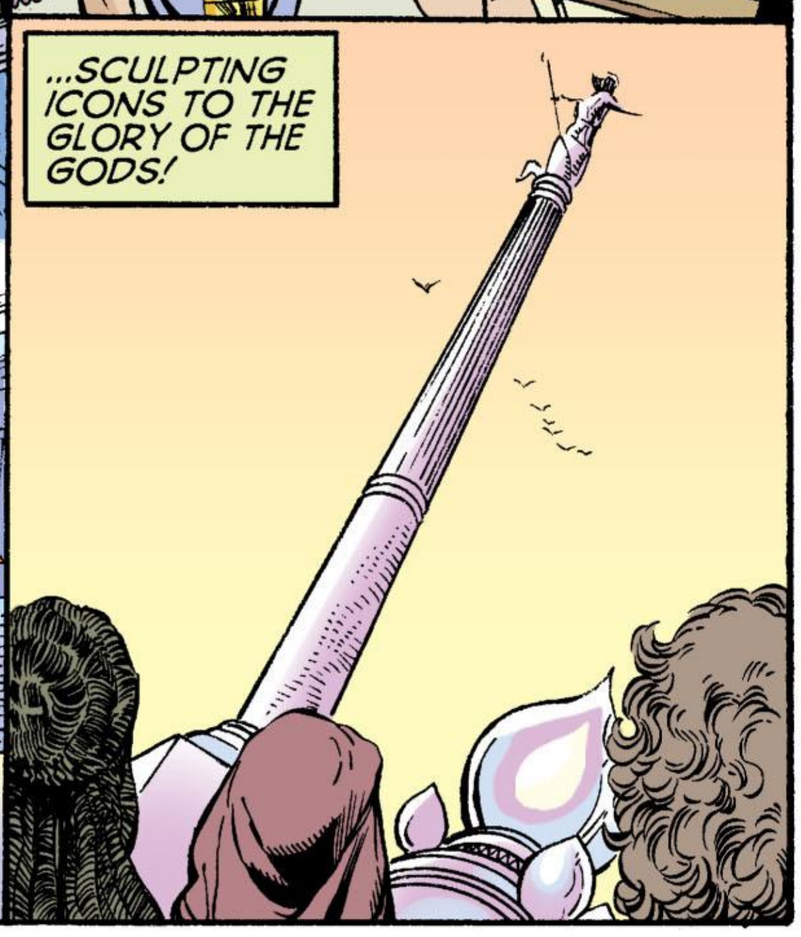
...ALL COME TOGETHER WITH IDEAS, TECHNOLOGIES, AND POWERS, UNDER THE AMAZON MASTER DESIGNER **KALEEZA FASHED.**

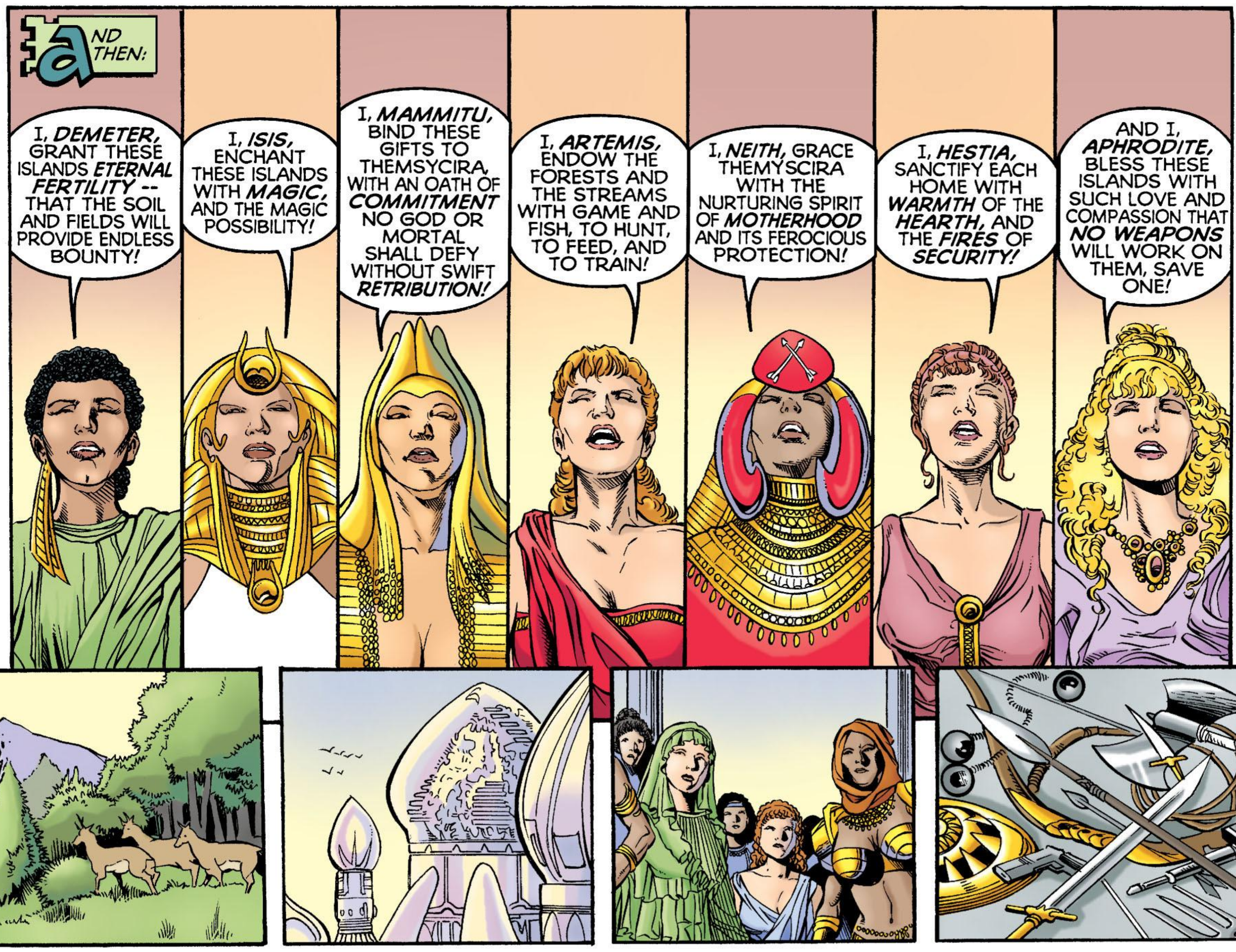




USING SECRETS GLEANED FROM THE ALIEN **WONDERDOME'S** TECHNO-BIOLOGY, THE AMAZONS WHO CHOOSE TO STAY ON THEMYSCIRA, ALLIED WITH THEIR OUTWORLD COMPANIONS, BEGIN TO DESIGN THEIR NEW WORLD. INCORPORATING RADICAL ARCHITECTURE, ALIEN SCIENCE, OTHERDIMENSIONAL ENERGIES, AND ANCIENT PHILOSOPHIES ABOUT HARMONY AND NATURE...

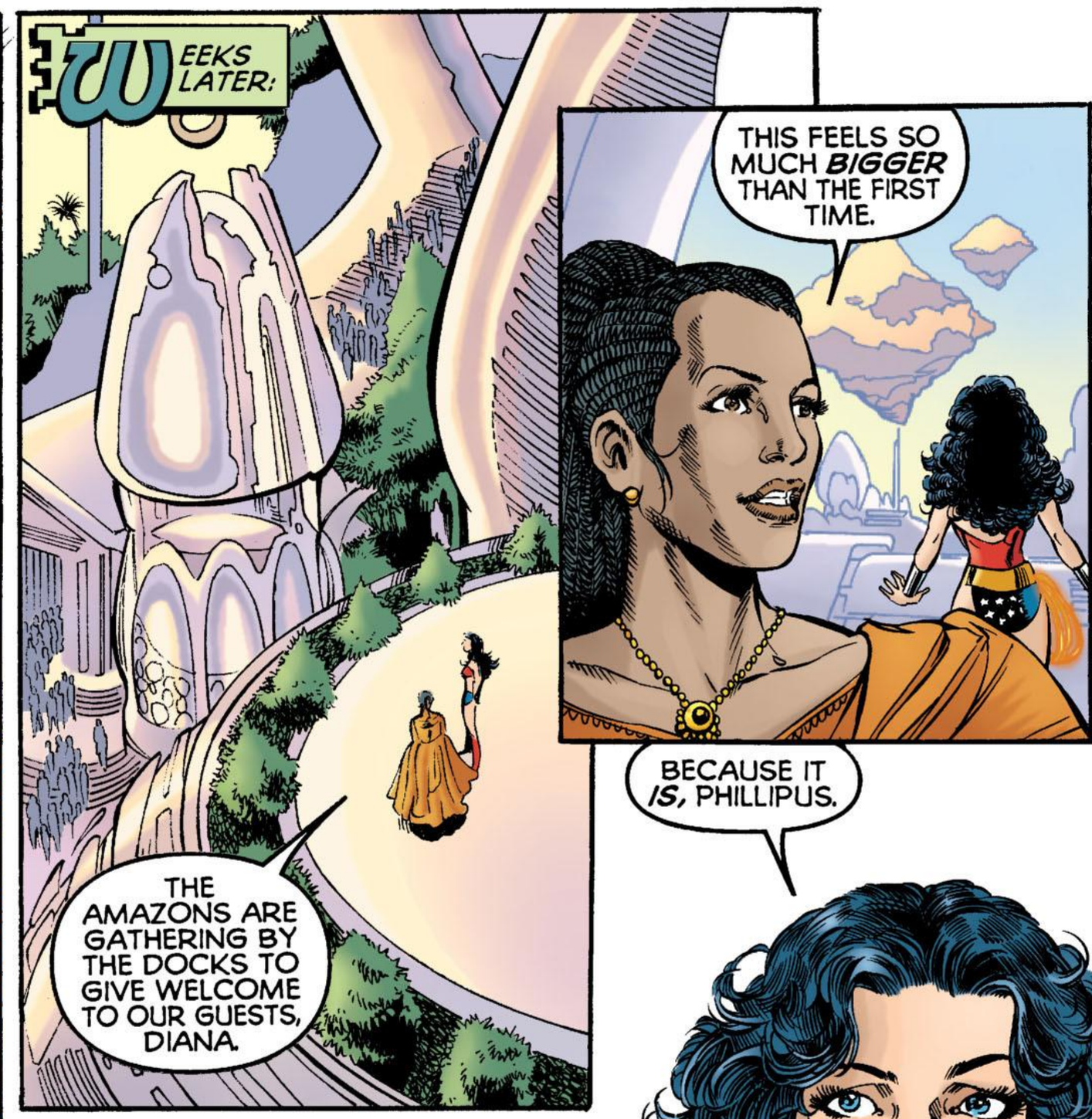





AND THEN:
I, DEMETER, GRANT THESE ISLANDS ETERNAL FERTILITY -- THAT THE SOIL AND FIELDS WILL PROVIDE ENDLESS BOUNTY!
I, ISIS, ENCHANT THESE ISLANDS WITH MAGIC, AND THE MAGIC POSSIBILITY!
I, MAMMITU, BIND THESE GIFTS TO THEMSYCIRA, WITH AN OATH OF COMMITMENT NO GOD OR MORTAL SHALL DEFY WITHOUT SWIFT RETRIBUTION!
I, ARTEMIS, ENDOW THE FORESTS AND THE STREAMS WITH GAME AND FISH, TO HUNT, TO FEED, AND TO TRAIN!
I, NEITH, GRACE THEMYSCIRA WITH THE NURTURING SPIRIT OF MOTHERHOOD AND ITS FEROCIOUS PROTECTION!
I, HESTIA, SANCTIFY EACH HOME WITH WARMTH OF THE HEARTH, AND THE FIRES OF SECURITY!
AND I, APHRODITE, BLESS THESE ISLANDS WITH SUCH LOVE AND COMPASSION THAT NO WEAPONS WILL WORK ON THEM, SAVE ONE!

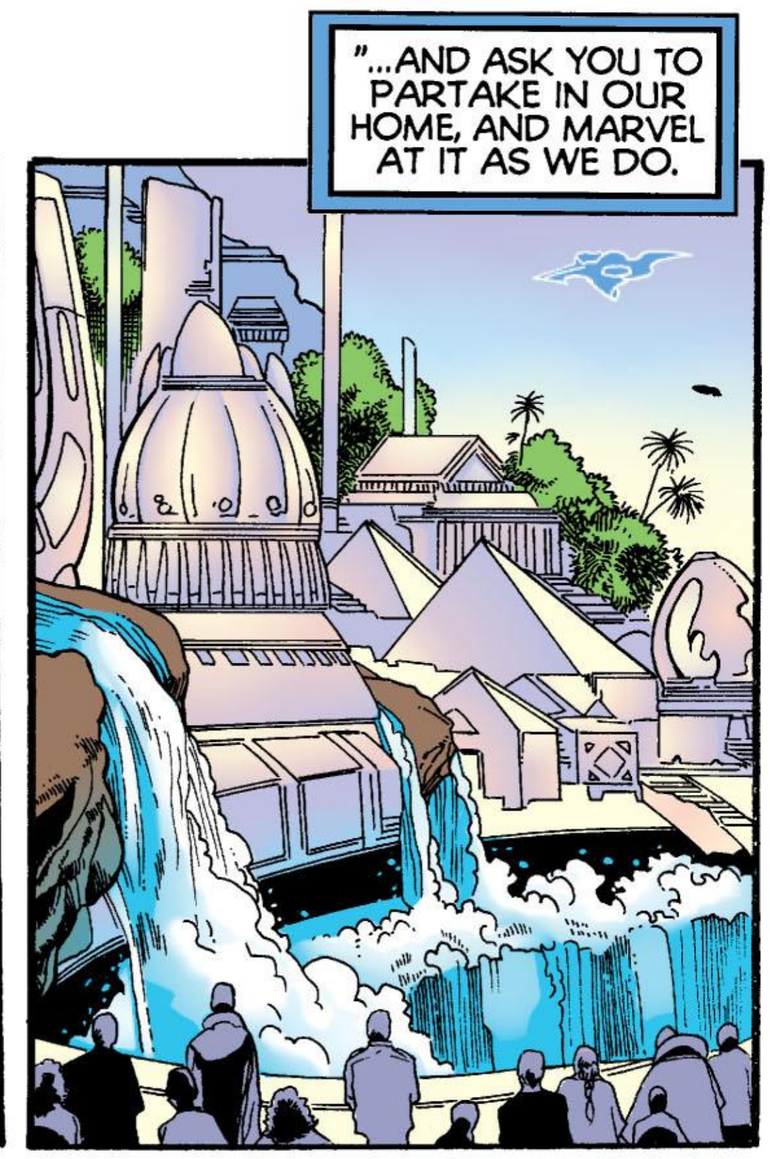
WITH THESE BLESSINGS AND MORE, THE AMAZONS WILL HAVE A NEW STRONGHOLD FROM WHICH TO TEACH, AND TO LEARN...
...AND YOU NEED NEVER FEAR AGAIN THAT WE WILL HAVE FORSAKEN YOU.

WE THANK YOU AGAIN FOR SAVING THE GODS AND THEIR UNIVERSE, DEAR DAUGHTERS.
FARE THEE WELL.


WEEKS LATER:
THE AMAZONS ARE GATHERING BY THE DOCKS TO GIVE WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS, DIANA.
THIS FEELS SO MUCH BIGGER THAN THE FIRST TIME.
BECAUSE IT IS, PHILLIPUS.

"FOR THIS THEMYSCIRA...
"...MAY TRULY CHANGE THE WORLD!"

"TO ALL OF OUR HONORED GUESTS-- DIGNITARIES FROM BEYOND OUR SHORES, FELLOW AMBASSADORS OF PEACE AND GOODWILL-- THE AMAZONS BID YOU *WELCOME*...


"...AND ASK YOU TO PARTAKE IN OUR HOME, AND MARVEL AT IT AS WE DO.

"YOU HAVE BEEN ASKED HERE TO *JOIN* US IN OUR NEW VENTURE..."
DONNA, WOULD YOU LOOK AT THIS!
I KNOW-- IT'S LIKE A DREAM!

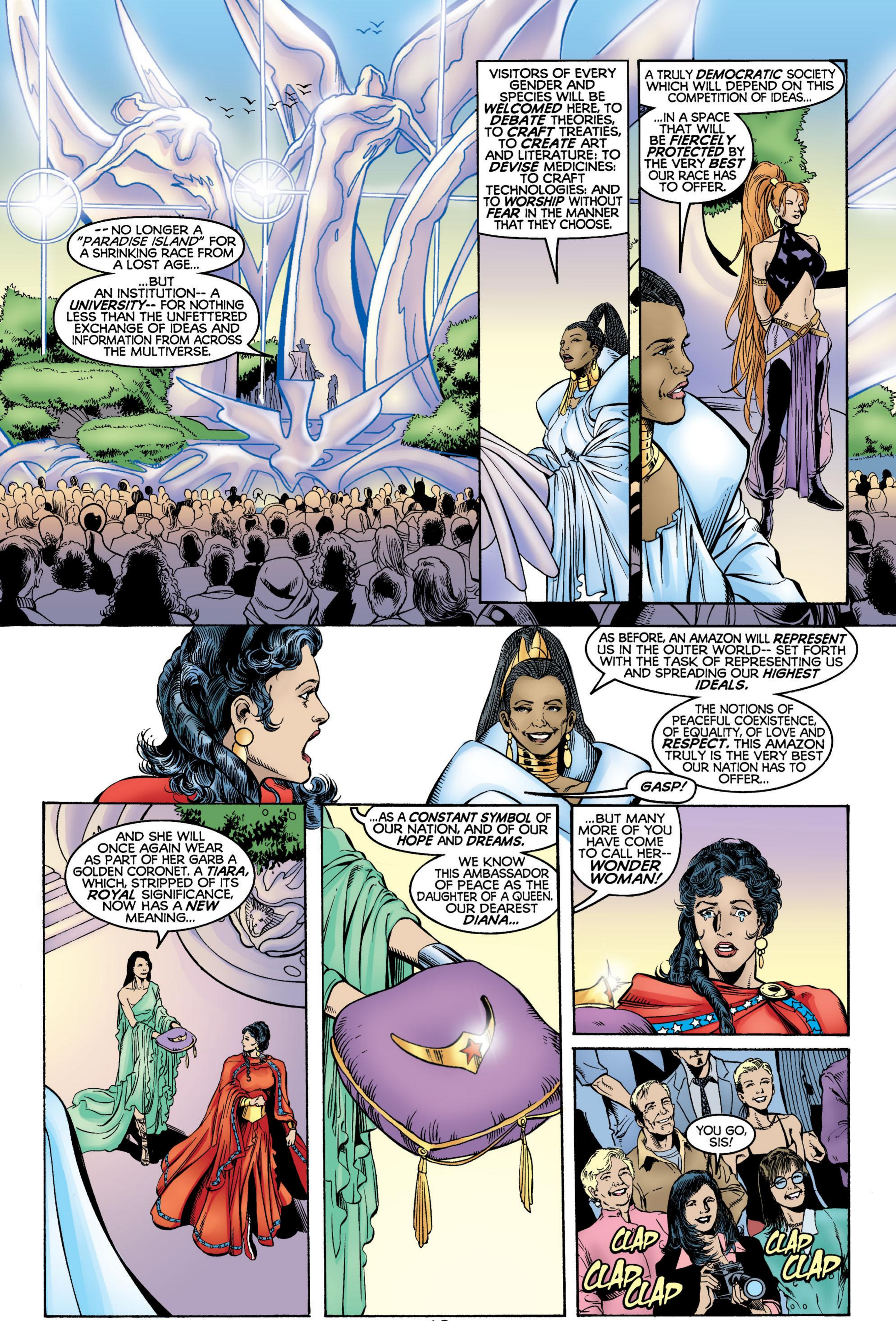
LOIS!
TOGETHER AGAIN, Eh, DIANA?

I WOULDN'T MISS IT.
NO EVIL APPLES TO SCREW THIS ONE UP, I HOPE.
DIANA, THIS IS MY MOTHER, ELLA.
IT'S A PLEASURE TO MEET YOU, DIANA. I'M VERY SORRY TO HEAR ABOUT *YOUR* MOTHER...

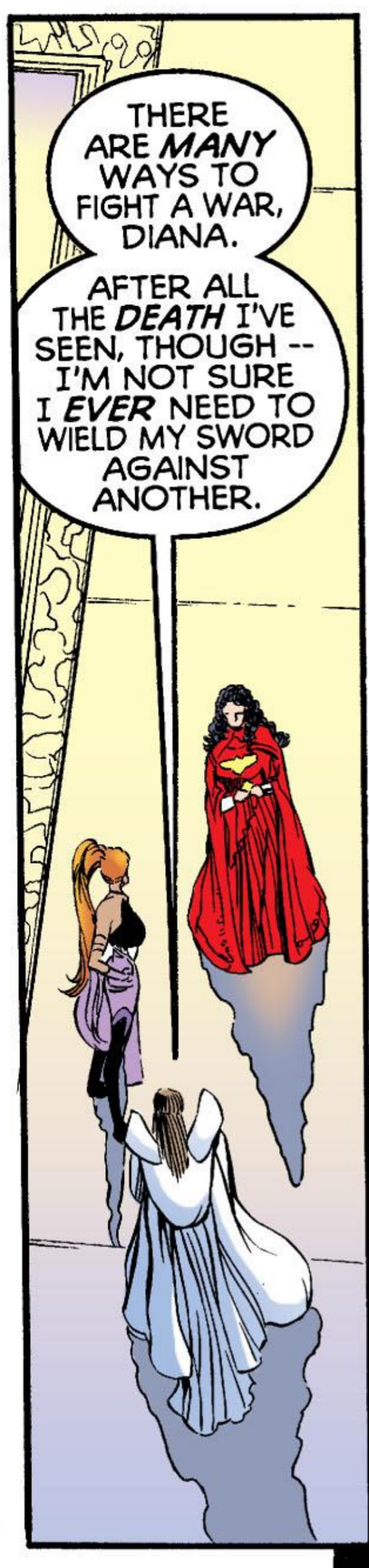
"...AND TO BEAR WITNESS AS THEMYSCIRA IS *RECONCEIVED*."
DIANA...
TREVOR? I'M SO... HONORED YOU COULD COME HERE.

THE U.N. OFFICIALS YOU'VE INVITED ARE OFFICIALLY *WOWED*, DIANA. INCLUDING ME.
YES, WELL...

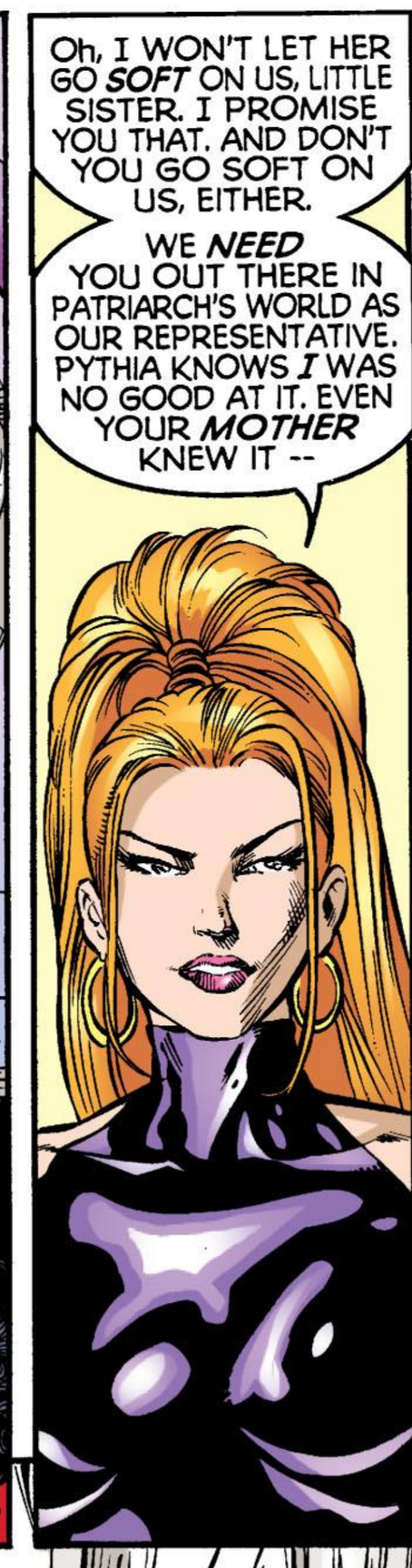
...*CHANCELLOR PHILLIPUS* IS ABOUT TO BEGIN SPEAKING AT THE INAUGURATION.
PERHAPS YOU'D CARE TO JOIN ME...?


-- NO LONGER A "PARADISE ISLAND" FOR A SHRINKING RACE FROM A LOST AGE...
...BUT AN INSTITUTION-- A UNIVERSITY-- FOR NOTHING LESS THAN THE UNFETTERED EXCHANGE OF IDEAS AND INFORMATION FROM ACROSS THE MULTIVERSE.
VISITORS OF EVERY GENDER AND SPECIES WILL BE WELCOMED HERE, TO DEBATE THEORIES, TO CRAFT TREATIES, TO CREATE ART AND LITERATURE; TO DEVISE MEDICINES: TO CRAFT TECHNOLOGIES: AND TO WORSHIP WITHOUT FEAR IN THE MANNER THAT THEY CHOOSE.
A TRULY DEMOCRATIC SOCIETY WHICH WILL DEPEND ON THIS COMPETITION OF IDEAS...
...IN A SPACE THAT WILL BE FIERCELY PROTECTED BY THE VERY BEST OUR RACE HAS TO OFFER.
AS BEFORE, AN AMAZON WILL REPRESENT US IN THE OUTER WORLD-- SET FORTH WITH THE TASK OF REPRESENTING US AND SPREADING OUR HIGHEST IDEALS.
THE NOTIONS OF PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE, OF EQUALITY, OF LOVE AND RESPECT. THIS AMAZON TRULY IS THE VERY BEST OUR NATION HAS TO OFFER...
GASP!
AND SHE WILL ONCE AGAIN WEAR AS PART OF HER GARB A GOLDEN CORONET. A TIARA, WHICH, STRIPPED OF ITS ROYAL SIGNIFICANCE, NOW HAS A NEW MEANING...
...AS A CONSTANT SYMBOL OF OUR NATION, AND OF OUR HOPE AND DREAMS.
WE KNOW THIS AMBASSADOR OF PEACE AS THE DAUGHTER OF A QUEEN. OUR DEAREST DIANA...
...BUT MANY MORE OF YOU HAVE COME TO CALL HER-- WONDER WOMAN!
YOU GO, SIS!
CLAP CLAP CLAP
CLAP CLAP

THE TEMPLE OF HIPPOLYTA, ON THE ISLE OF REMEMBRANCE:
SO IS IT TRUE, CHANCELLOR PHILLIPUS? YOU'VE GIVEN UP YOUR ROLE AS A SOLDIER? AS A WARRIOR?


THERE ARE MANY WAYS TO FIGHT A WAR, DIANA.
AFTER ALL THE DEATH I'VE SEEN, THOUGH -- I'M NOT SURE I EVER NEED TO WIELD MY SWORD AGAINST ANOTHER.

DON'T LET MOTHER HEAR YOU SAY THAT. YOU WERE HER GREATEST GENERAL.

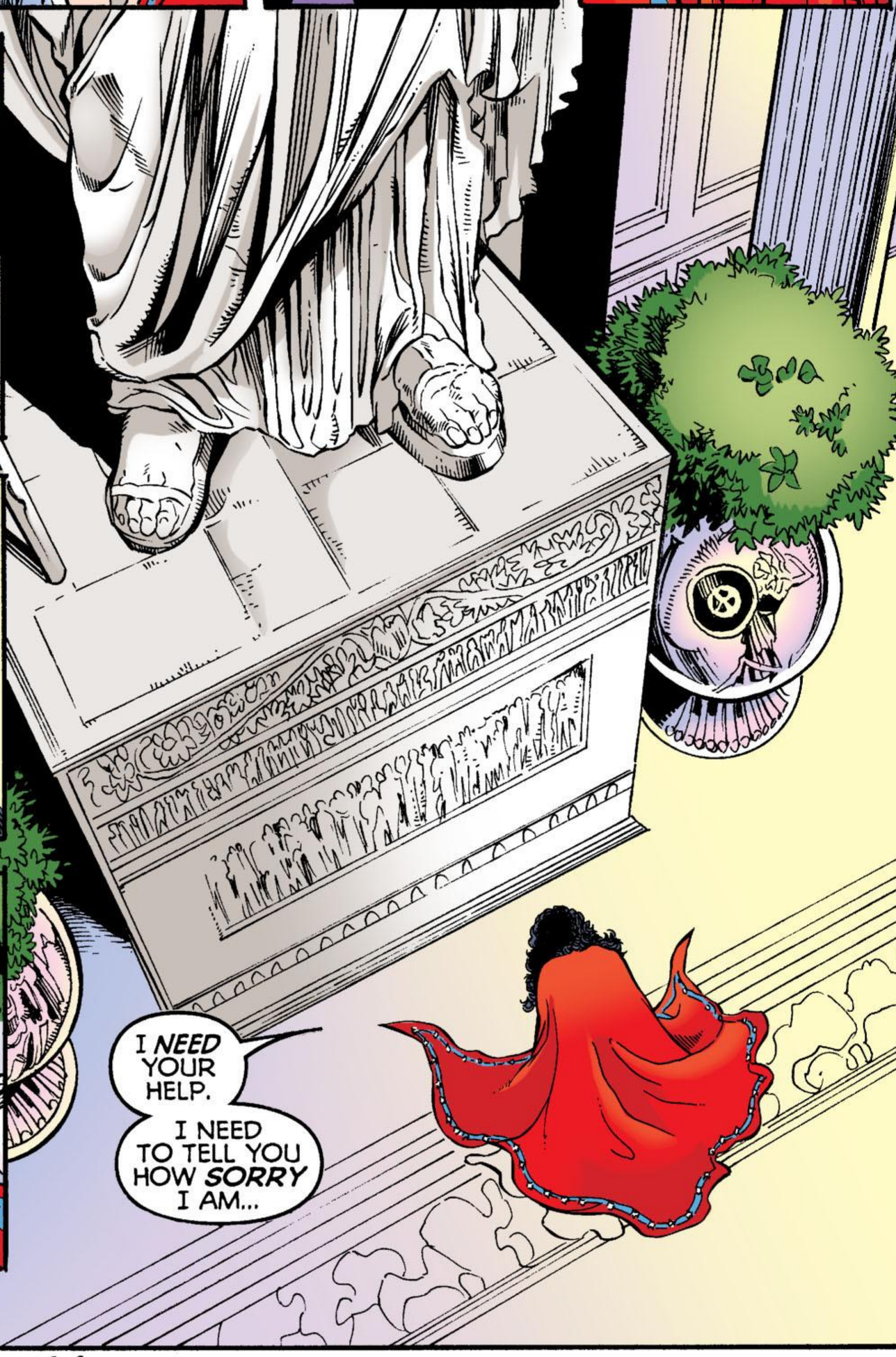

Oh, I WON'T LET HER GO SOFT ON US, LITTLE SISTER. I PROMISE YOU THAT. AND DON'T YOU GO SOFT ON US, EITHER.
WE NEED YOU OUT THERE IN PATRIARCH'S WORLD AS OUR REPRESENTATIVE. PYTHIA KNOWS I WAS NO GOOD AT IT. EVEN YOUR MOTHER KNEW IT --

-- AND YES, IT TOOK THE AMAZONS A LITTLE TIME TO REALIZE IT. BUT THINGS WERE SO RAW AFTER THE CIVIL WAR...
WE MADE A MISTAKE IN REJECTING YOU AND YOUR HELP. WE'RE TRYING TO RECTIFY THAT NOW.

SO DON'T TAKE TOO LONG DECIDING TO PUT THAT TIARA BACK ON YOUR HEAD. THERE'S A WORLD OUT THERE THAT NEEDS YOU.
YOU AND THAT DAMNED OPTIMISM OF YOURS.

DID YOU HEAR THAT, MOTHER?
A WORLD THAT NEEDS ME: A BEACON OF CIVILITY. A PERFECT EXAMPLE OF HUMANITY.

IF ONLY THEY KNEW HOW WRONG THEY WERE.
I NEED YOU SO MUCH, MOTHER.


I NEED YOUR HELP.
I NEED TO TELL YOU HOW SORRY I AM...

DIANA...

GREAT HERA..

MOTHER?

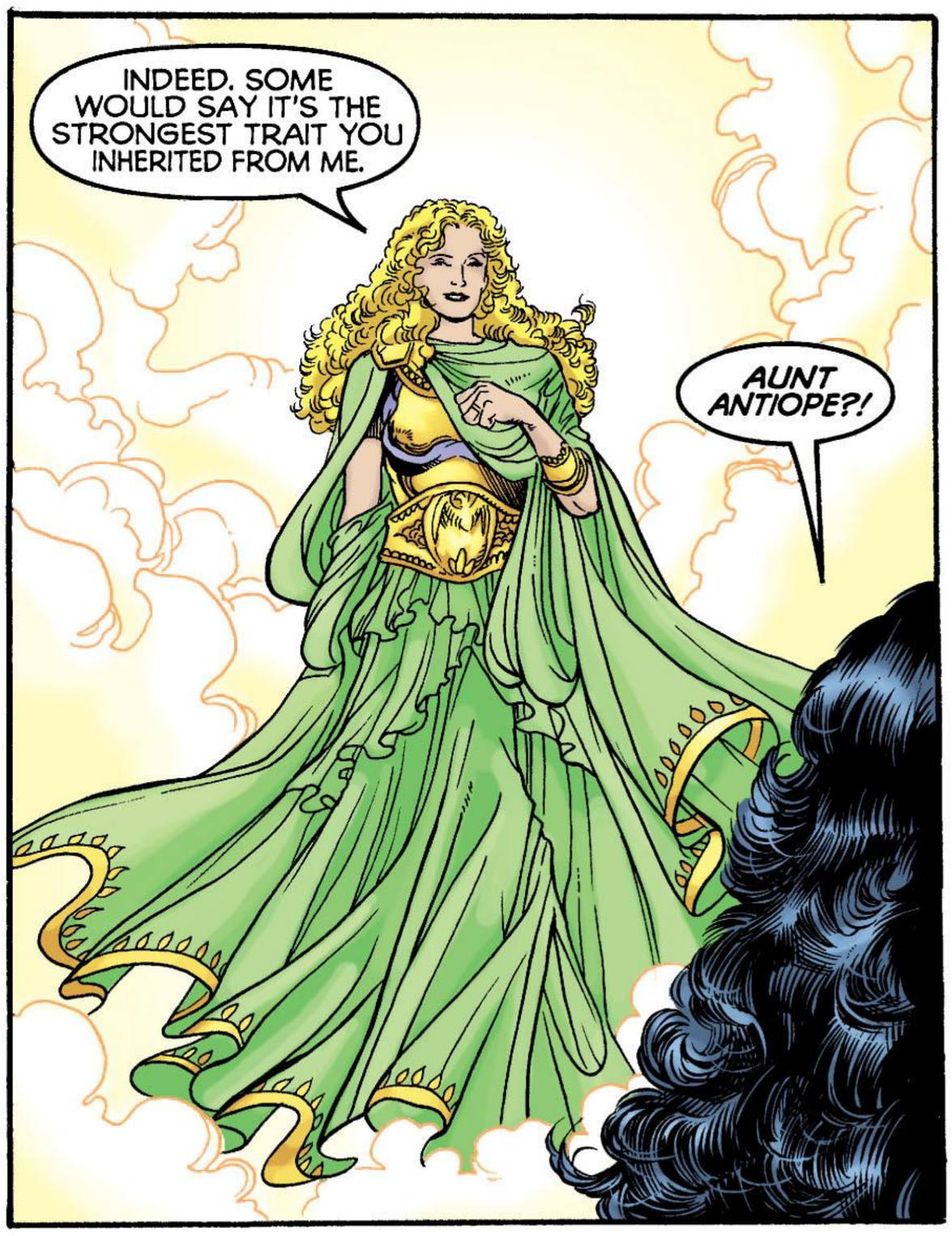
IT'S YOU, ISN'T IT? IT'S NOT *CIRCE*, OR SOME DREAM --!

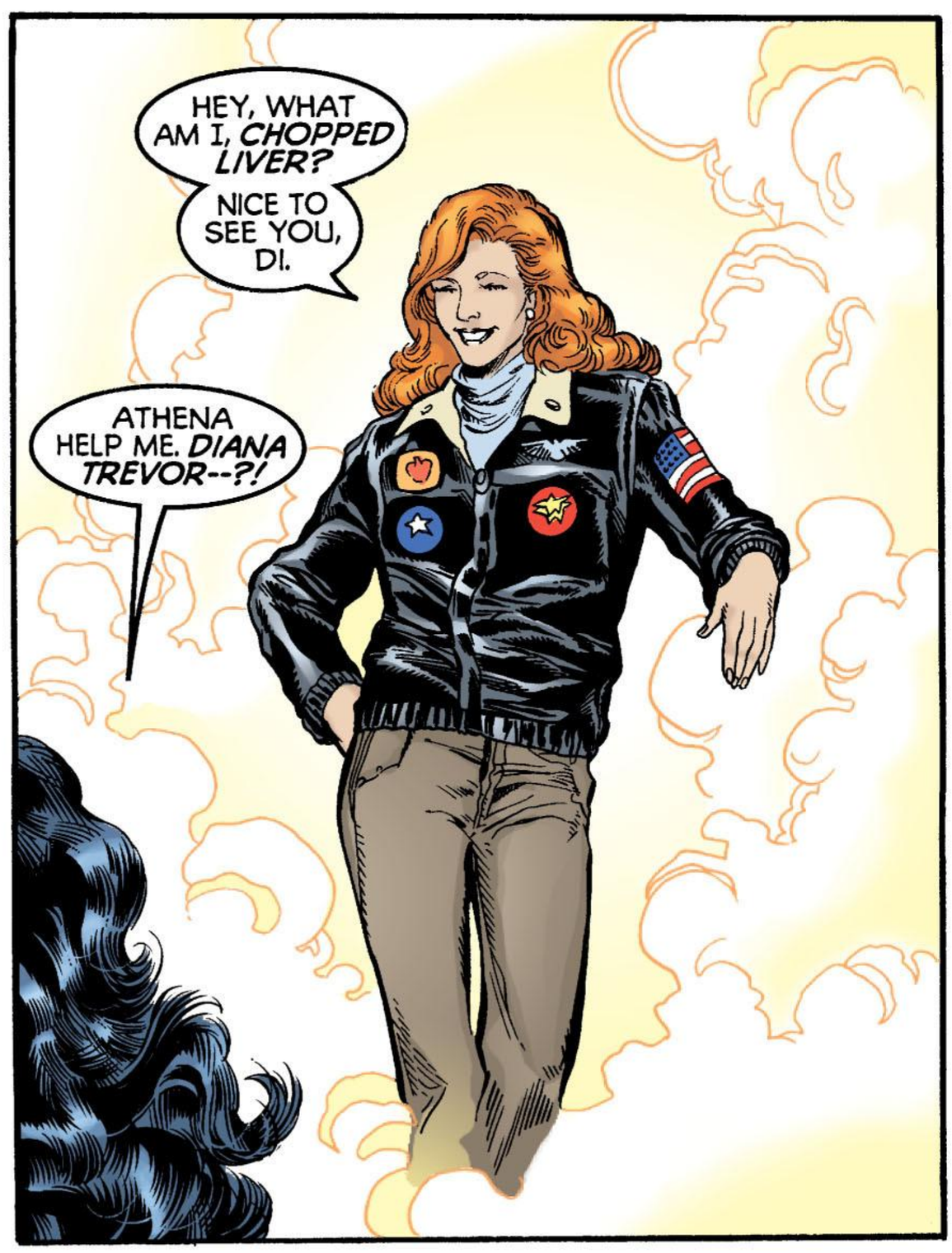
THANK GAEA, IT'S YOU!

MOTHER, I'LL PETITION LORD HADES -- I'LL FREE YOUR SPIRIT AND THEN YOU CAN COME BACK AND RULE THE NEW THEMYSCIRA. I'LL BE A DAUGHTER YOU CAN BE *PROUD* OF -- SUBMIT TO YOUR LOVING RULE...

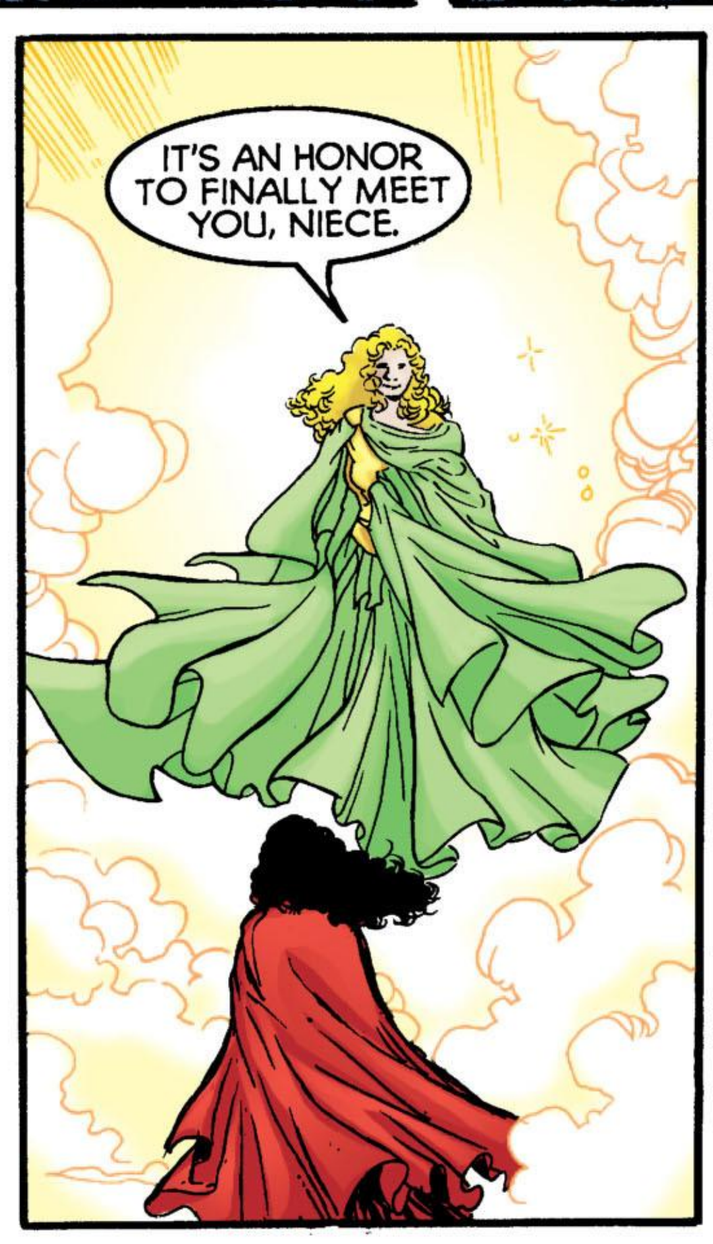
DIANA, YOU WERE NEVER GOOD AT SUBMITTING TO ME OR *ANYONE*. HOW OFTEN DID YOU DEFY THE *GODS*, FOR GAEA'S SAKE?

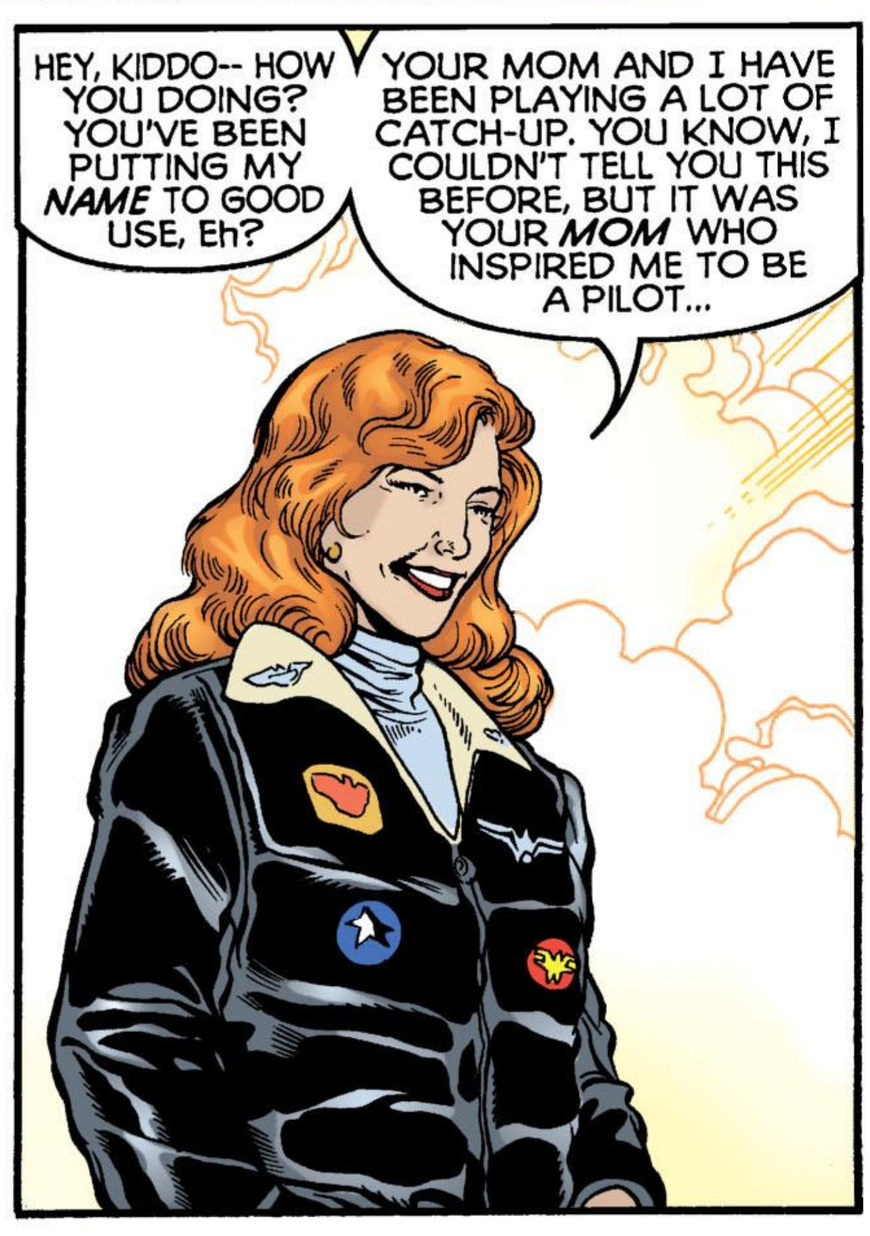
DIANA, YOUR WILL IS *INDOMITABLE*. IT IS ONE OF YOUR GREATEST ASSETS. ONE OF THE THINGS I'M MOST PROUD OF.


INDEED. SOME WOULD SAY IT'S THE STRONGEST TRAIT YOU INHERITED FROM ME.
AUNT ANTIOPE?!

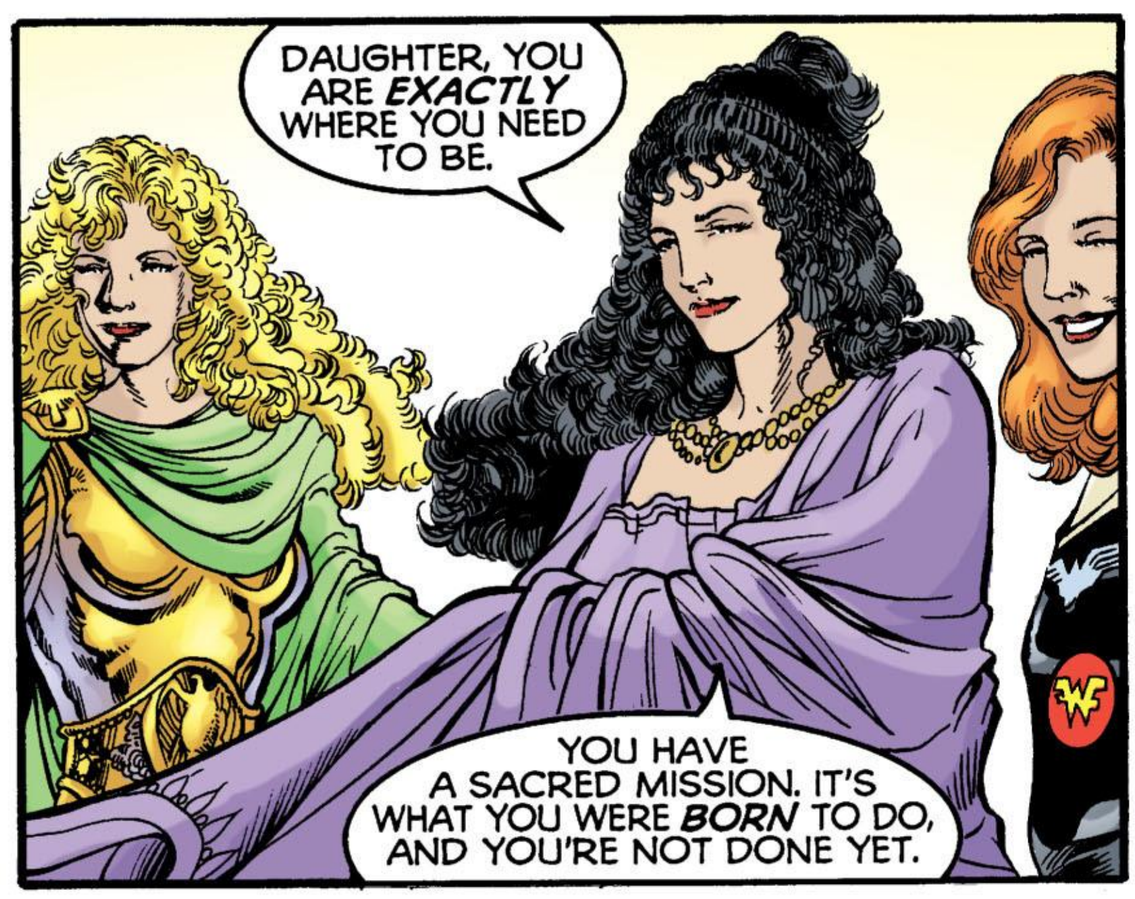

HEY, WHAT AM I, CHOPPED LIVER?
NICE TO SEE YOU, DI.
ATHENA HELP ME. DIANA TREVOR--?!

WELL, WE CERTAINLY DO LOOK ALIKE, DON'T WE?
HIPPOLYTA HAD TOLD ME AS MUCH, BUT TO SEE IT IN PERSON...

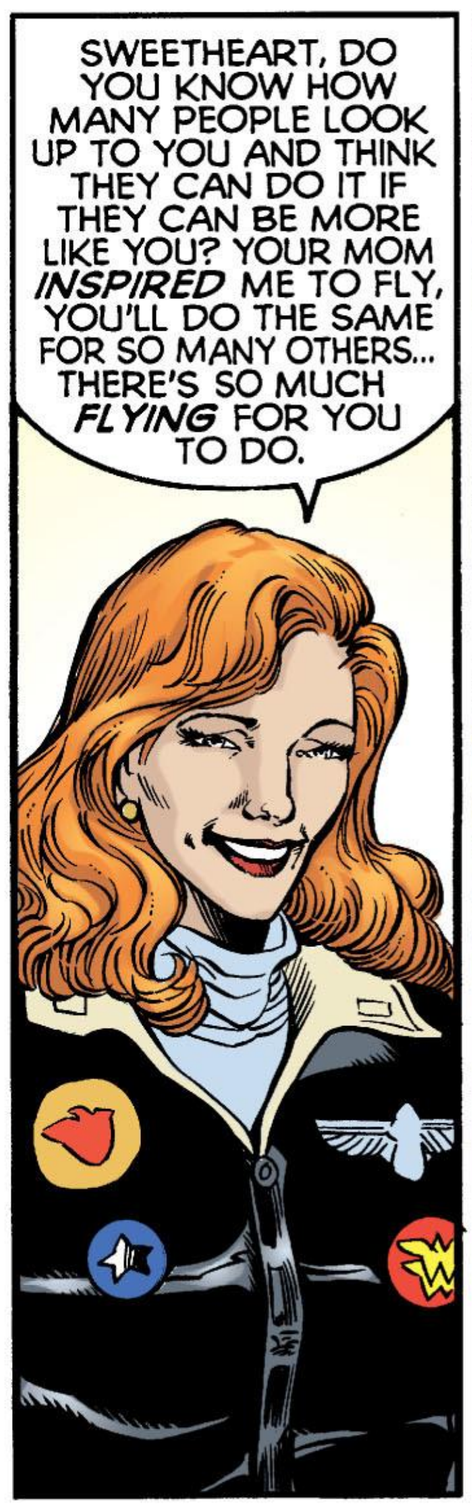

IT'S AN HONOR TO FINALLY MEET YOU, NIECE.


HEY, KIDDO-- HOW YOU DOING? YOU'VE BEEN PUTTING MY NAME TO GOOD USE, Eh?
YOUR MOM AND I HAVE BEEN PLAYING A LOT OF CATCH-UP. YOU KNOW, I COULDN'T TELL YOU THIS BEFORE, BUT IT WAS YOUR MOM WHO INSPIRED ME TO BE A PILOT...

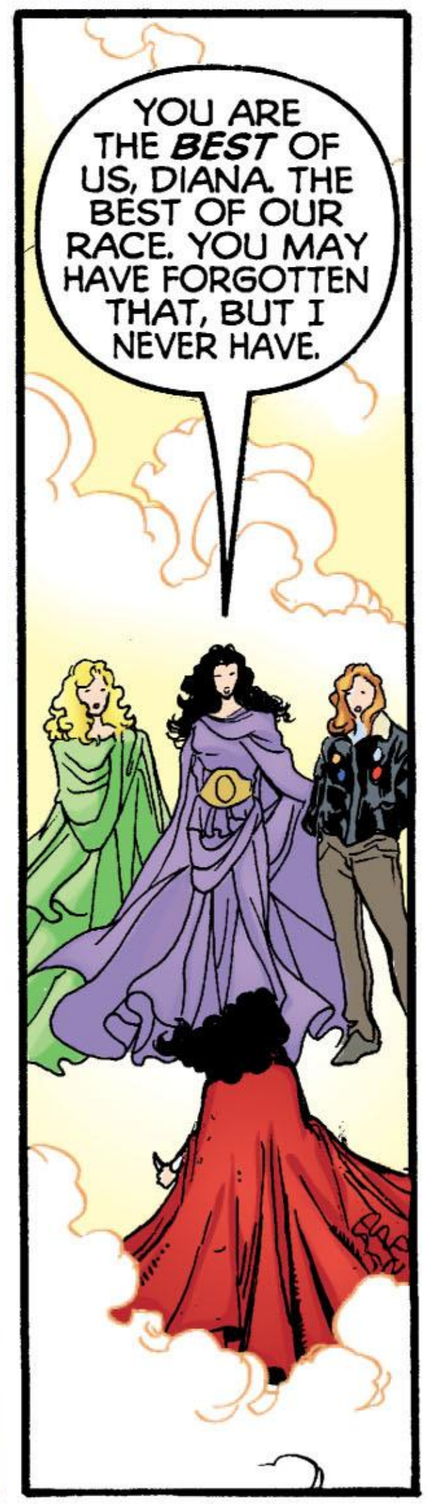
I MISS YOU SO MUCH.
IF I CAN'T FREE YOU, THEN I'LL COME WITH YOU. I WANT SO BADLY TO BE WITH YOU.


DAUGHTER, YOU ARE EXACTLY WHERE YOU NEED TO BE.
YOU HAVE A SACRED MISSION. IT'S WHAT YOU WERE BORN TO DO, AND YOU'RE NOT DONE YET.

YOU *ARE* WONDER WOMAN. YOU MUST GO FORTH AND REPRESENT OUR IDEALS AND HOPES AND DREAMS. OUR NATION HAS PLACED ITS FAITH IN YOU-- FOR YOU ARE ITS BEST OPPORTUNITY TO HELP *TRANSFORM* THIS WORLD.

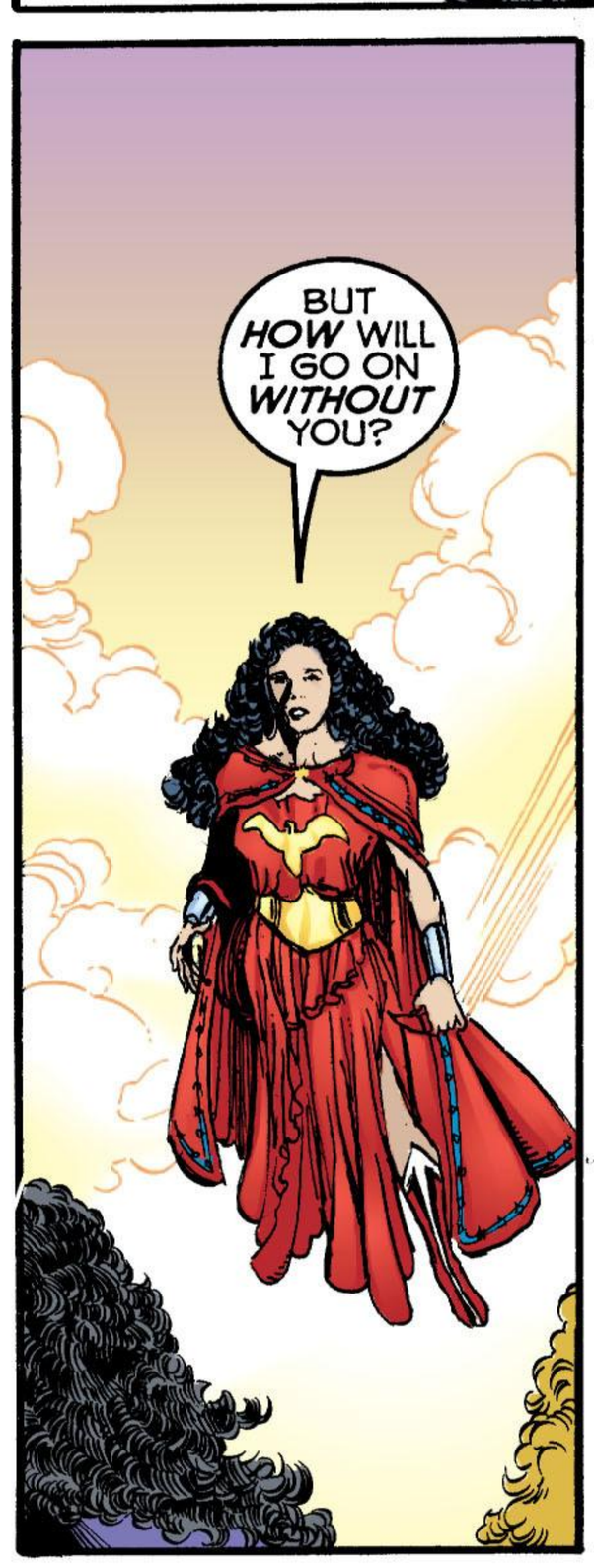

SWEETHEART, DO YOU KNOW HOW MANY PEOPLE LOOK UP TO YOU AND THINK THEY CAN DO IT IF THEY CAN BE MORE LIKE YOU? YOUR MOM *INSPIRED* ME TO FLY, YOU'LL DO THE SAME FOR SO MANY OTHERS... THERE'S SO MUCH *FLYING* FOR YOU TO DO.

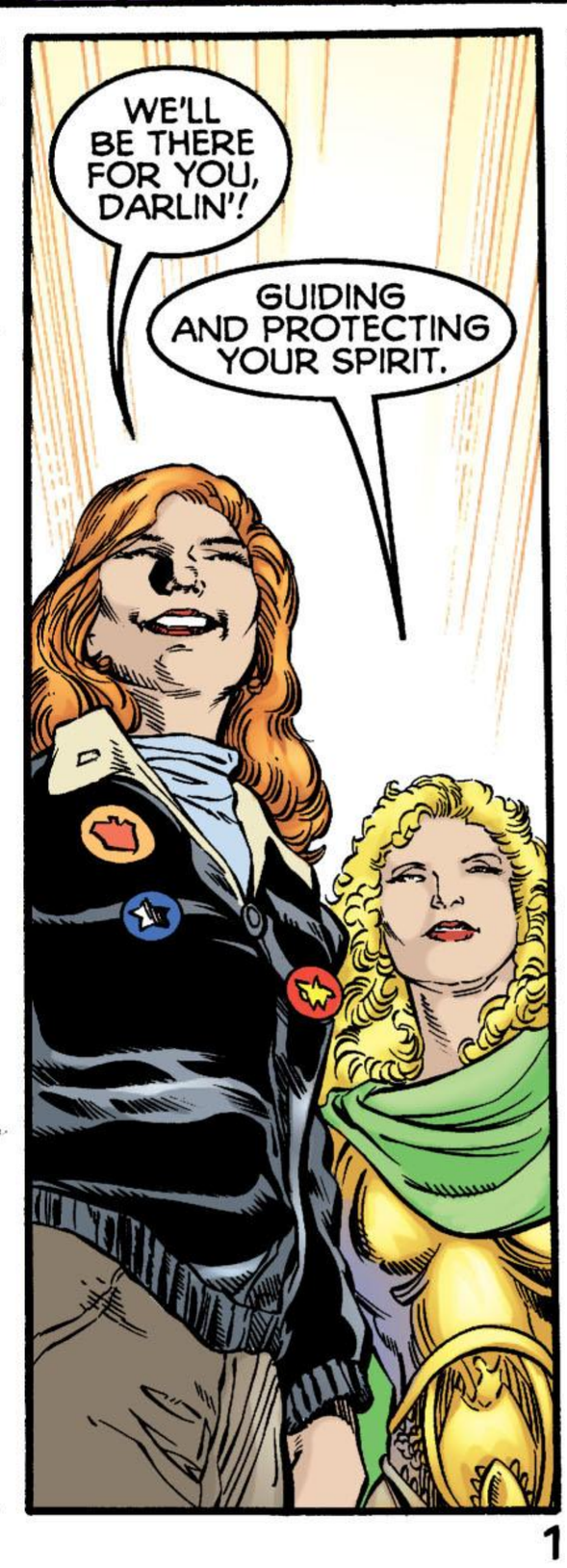
THERE ARE *OTHER* AMAZONS OUT THERE. DESCENDANTS OF MY TRIBE, OTHER OFFSHOOTS-- DIANA, YOU MUST SEEK THEM OUT, AND GUIDE THEM-- AND REPRESENT THEM IN THE WORLD OF MAN.

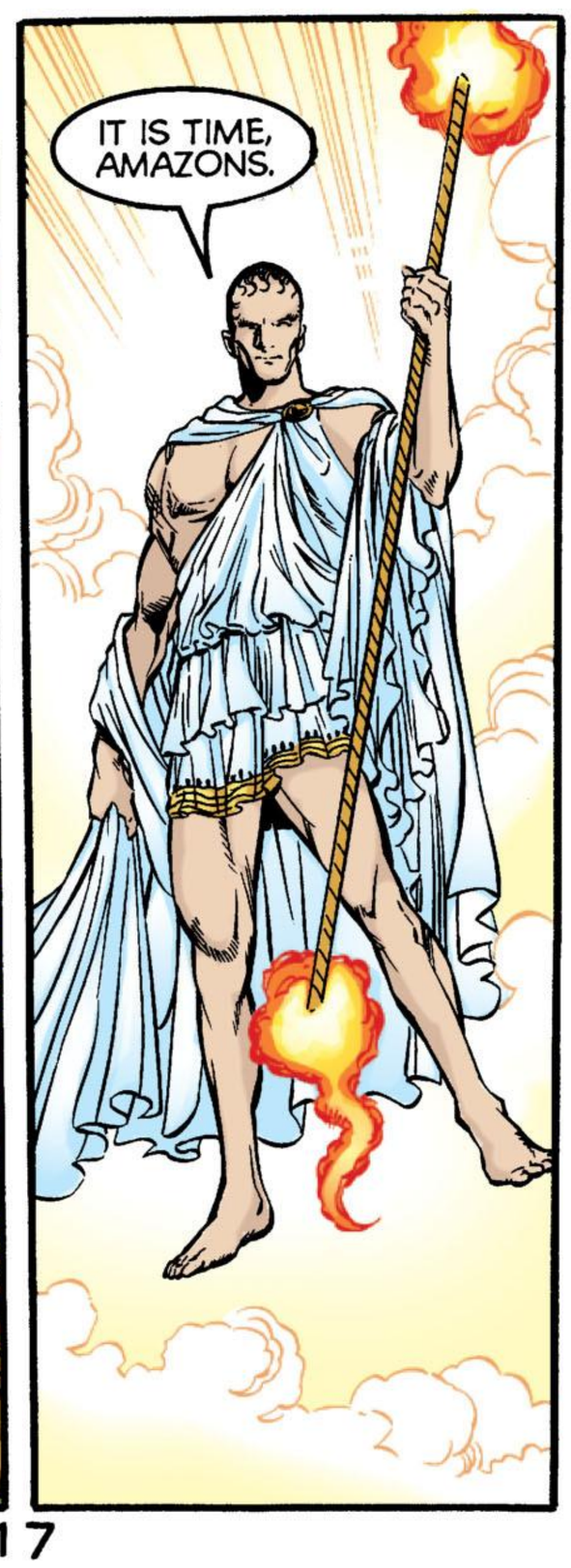

YOU ARE THE *BEST* OF US, DIANA. THE BEST OF OUR RACE. YOU MAY HAVE FORGOTTEN THAT, BUT I NEVER HAVE.

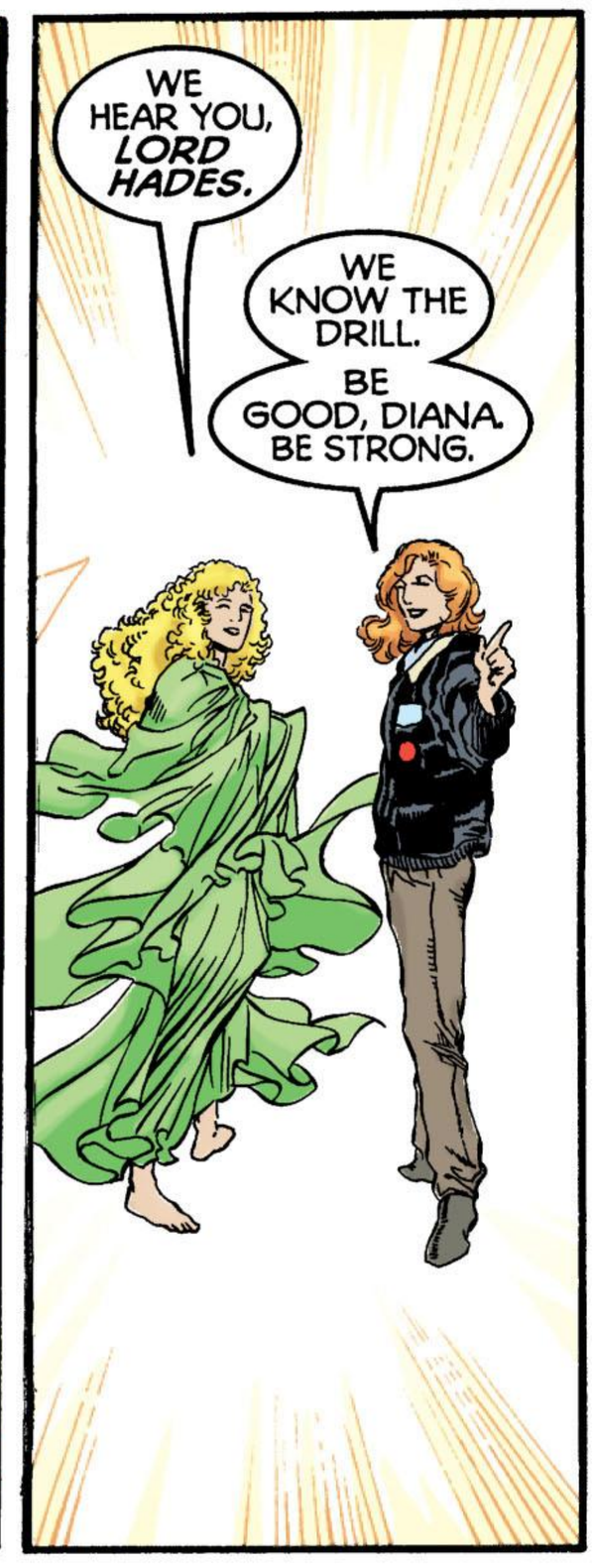
YOU HAVE MUCH TO DO OUT THERE, BEYOND PARADISE. LIVES TO MAKE BETTER, TO CHANGE, INCLUDING YOUR *OWN.*

YOU HAVE LESSONS TO TEACH AND SO MUCH LOVE TO GIVE. DIANA, WITHOUT YOU AND YOUR INSPIRATION, *I* COULD NEVER HAVE BEEN WONDER WOMAN!
DON'T YOU *SEE?* YOU HAVE A DESTINY TO FULFILL, DAUGHTER. DON'T SWAY NOW!


BUT *HOW* WILL I GO ON *WITHOUT* YOU?


WE'LL BE THERE FOR YOU, DARLIN'!
GUIDING AND PROTECTING YOUR SPIRIT.


IT IS TIME, AMAZONS.

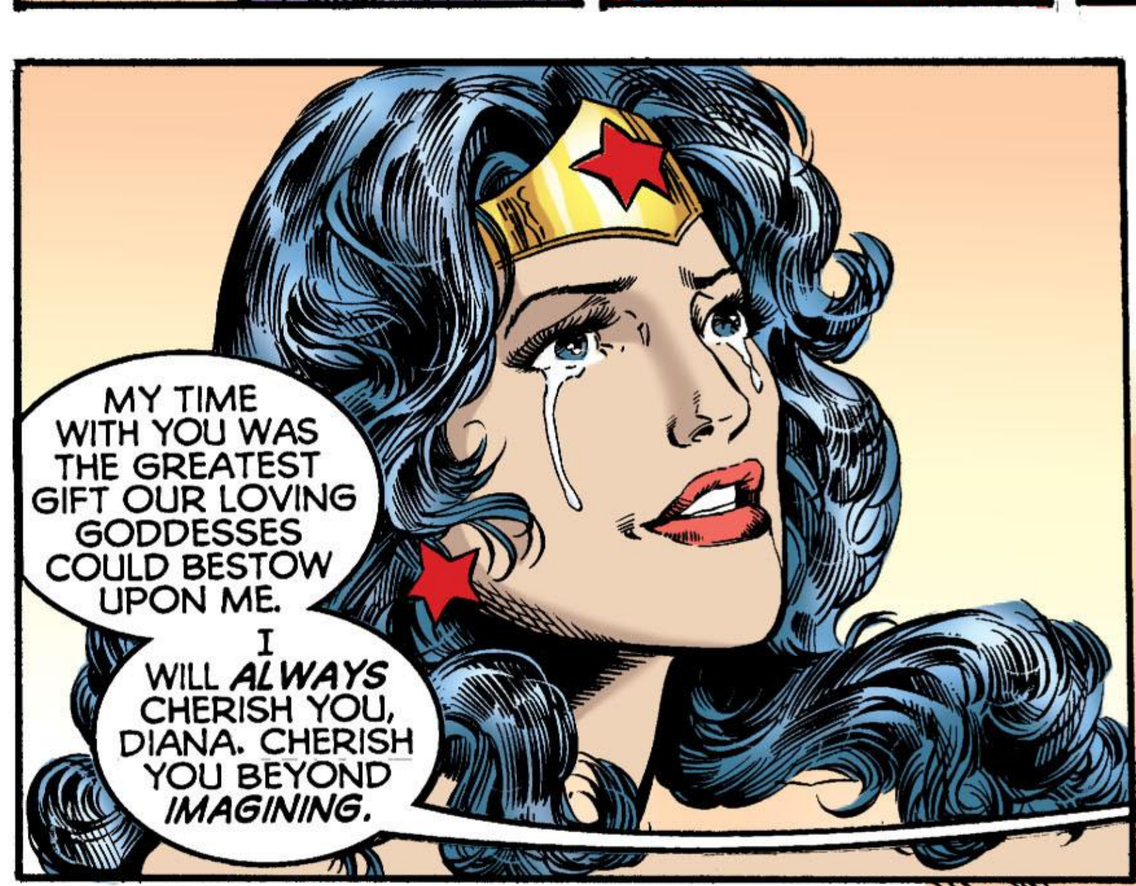

WE HEAR YOU, *LORD HADES.*
WE KNOW THE DRILL.
BE GOOD, DIANA. BE STRONG.

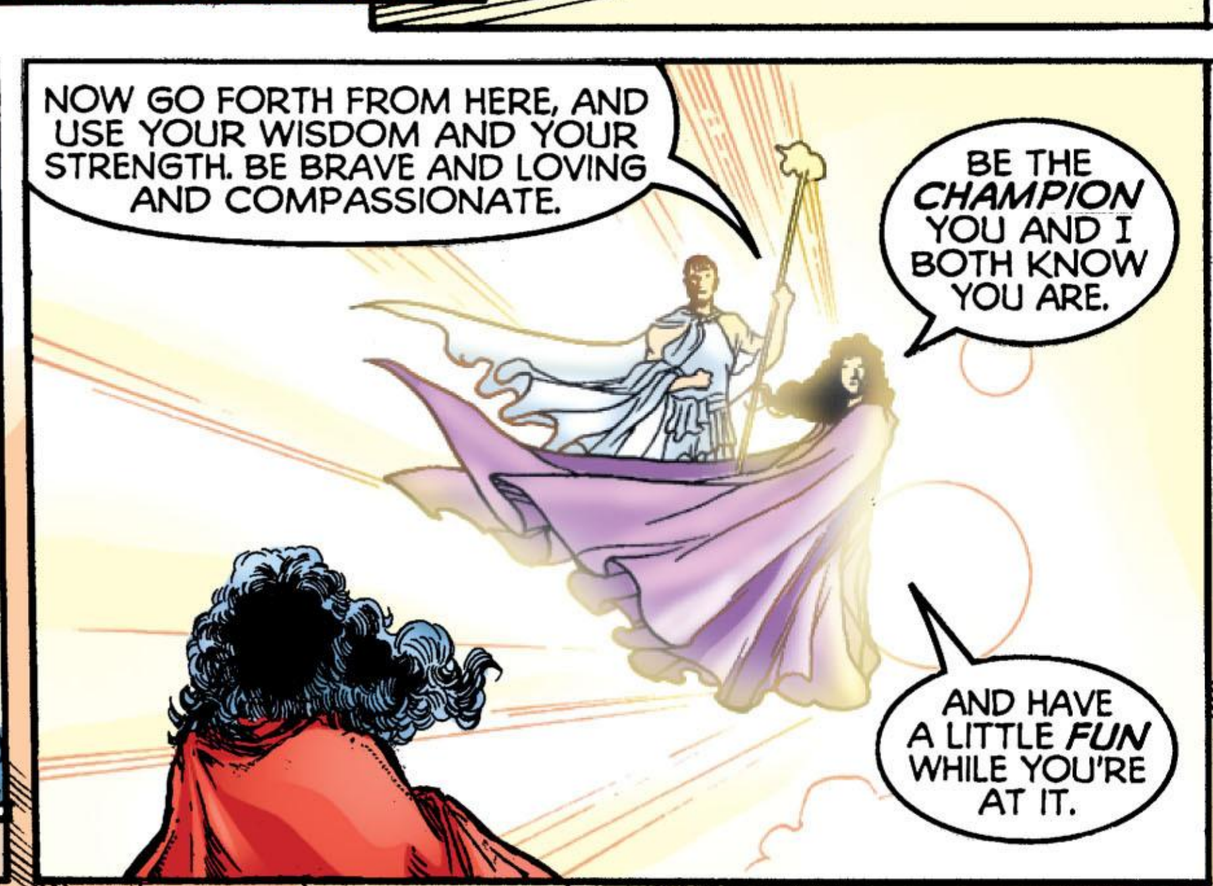
I'M SORRY I COULDN'T HAVE BEEN A BETTER MOTHER TO YOU.
NO! I'M SORRY I COULDN'T HAVE BEEN A MORE THOUGHTFUL, LOVING DAUGHTER TO YOU. A BETTER PRINCESS FOR HER QUEEN.

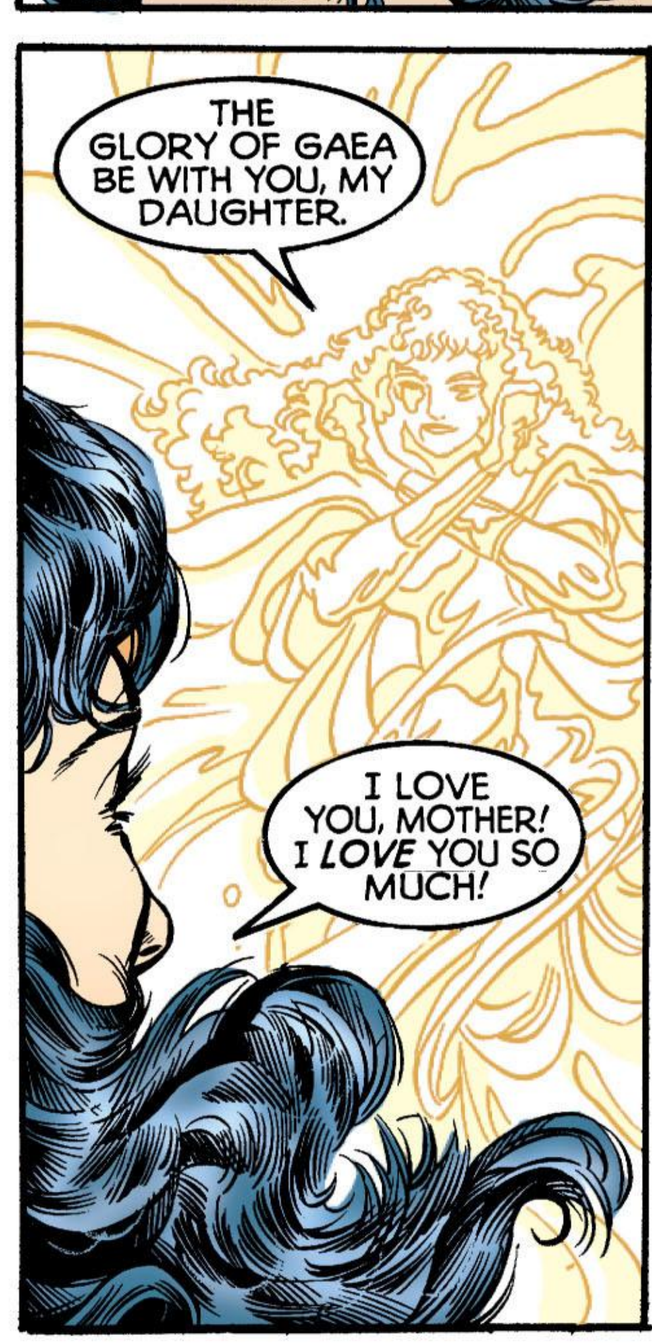
I'LL HEAR NONE OF THAT NONSENSE. NOW, PLACE THAT TIARA UPON YOUR HEAD AND WEAR IT AS YOU SHOULD.
YOU'VE BEEN HONORED BY OUR NATION AS ITS GREATEST CHAMPION AND REPRESENTATIVE.

YOU'LL WEAR THAT HONOR PROUDLY.
NOW THAT'S MY GIRL.

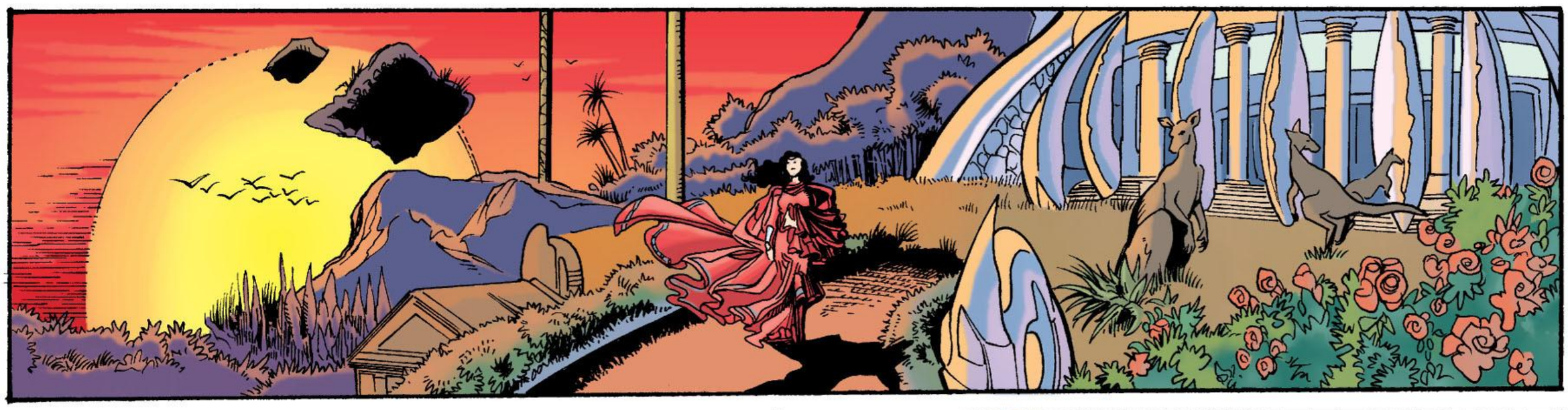
YOU ARE MY PRIDE AND JOY, DIANA OF THEMYSCIRA. WISE AS ATHENA, BEAUTIFUL AS APHRODITE, SWIFT AS HERMES AND STRONGER THAN HERACLES. A LEADER, A TEACHER -- A HERO -- TO GENERATIONS DESPERATE FOR THE VERY IDEALS YOU EMBODY. WHAT MORE COULD ANY MOTHER HAVE ASKED FOR?

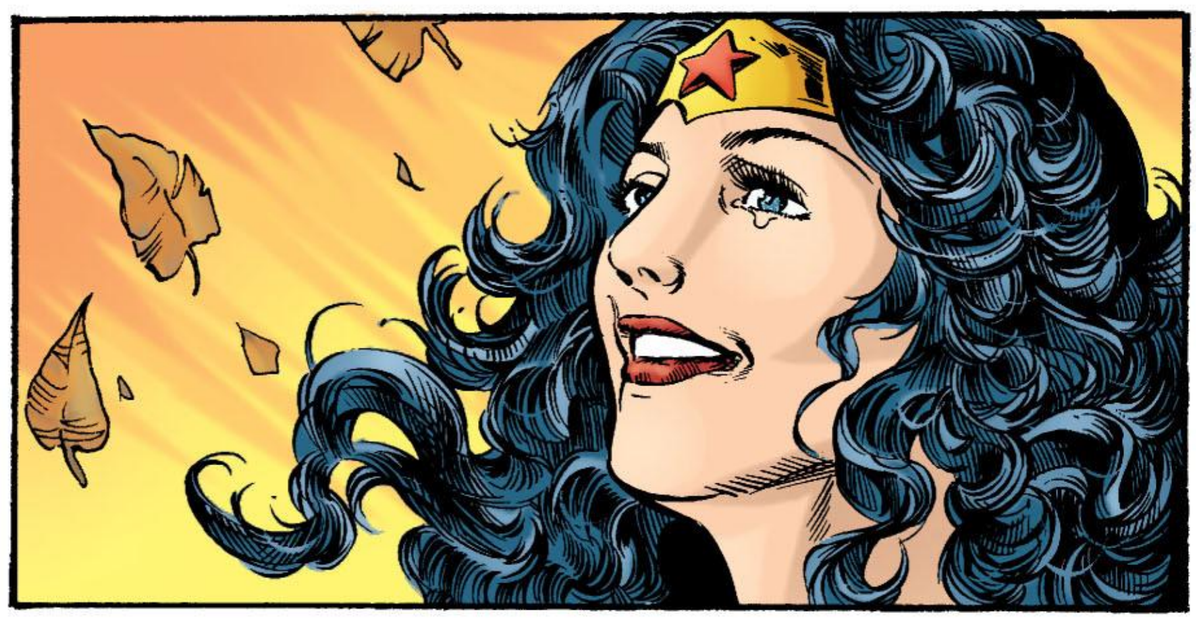

MY TIME WITH YOU WAS THE GREATEST GIFT OUR LOVING GODDESSES COULD BESTOW UPON ME.
I WILL ALWAYS CHERISH YOU, DIANA. CHERISH YOU BEYOND IMAGINING.

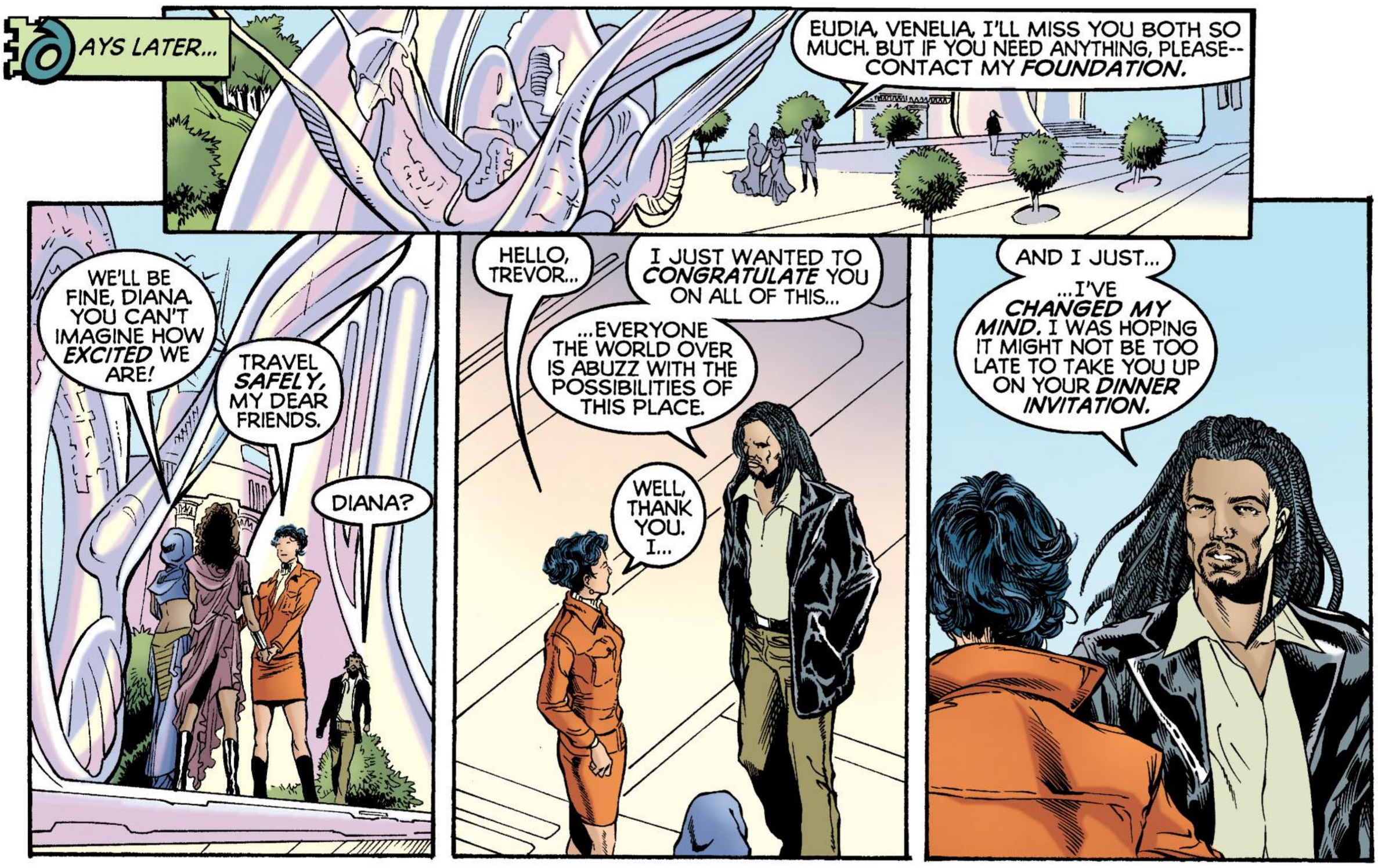

NOW GO FORTH FROM HERE, AND USE YOUR WISDOM AND YOUR STRENGTH. BE BRAVE AND LOVING AND COMPASSIONATE.
BE THE CHAMPION YOU AND I BOTH KNOW YOU ARE.
AND HAVE A LITTLE FUN WHILE YOU'RE AT IT.


THE GLORY OF GAEA BE WITH YOU, MY DAUGHTER.
I LOVE YOU, MOTHER! I LOVE YOU SO MUCH!

AND I LOVE YOU, DIANA.
I WILL ALWAYS LOVE YOU.

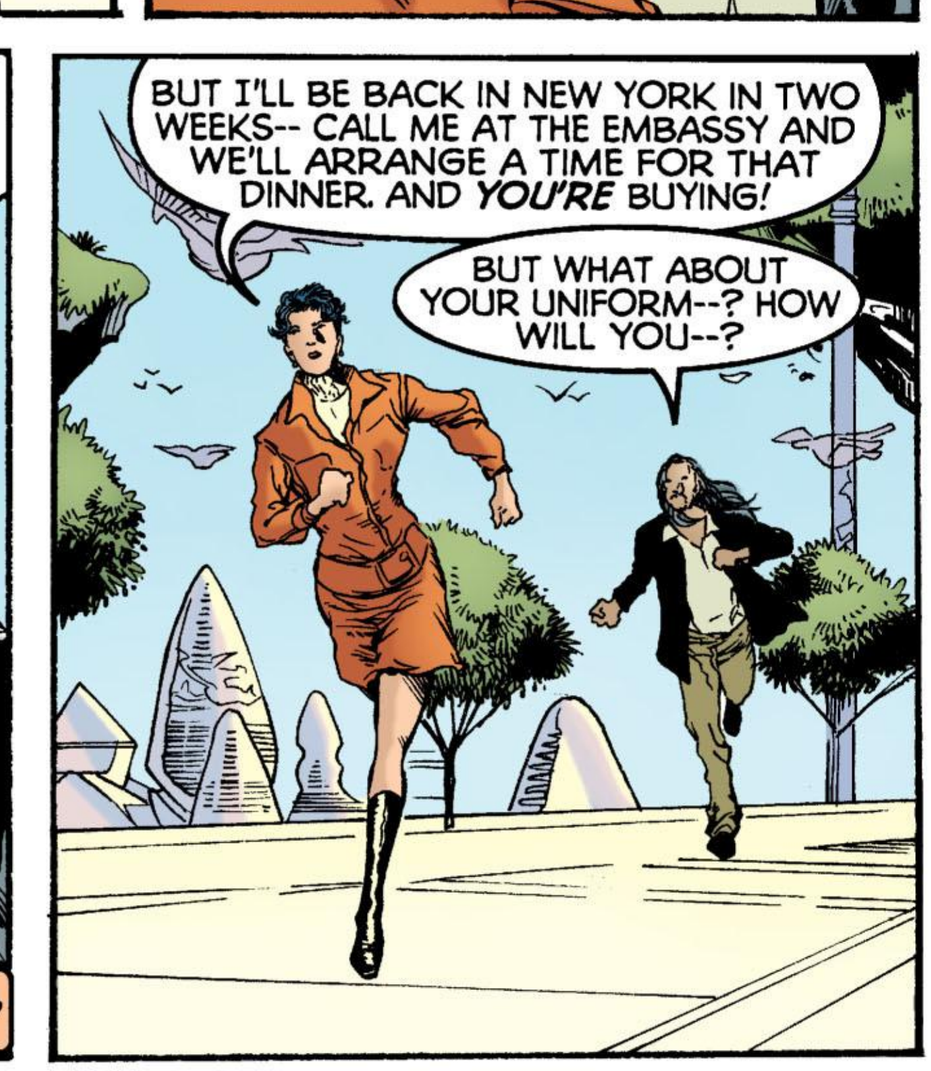


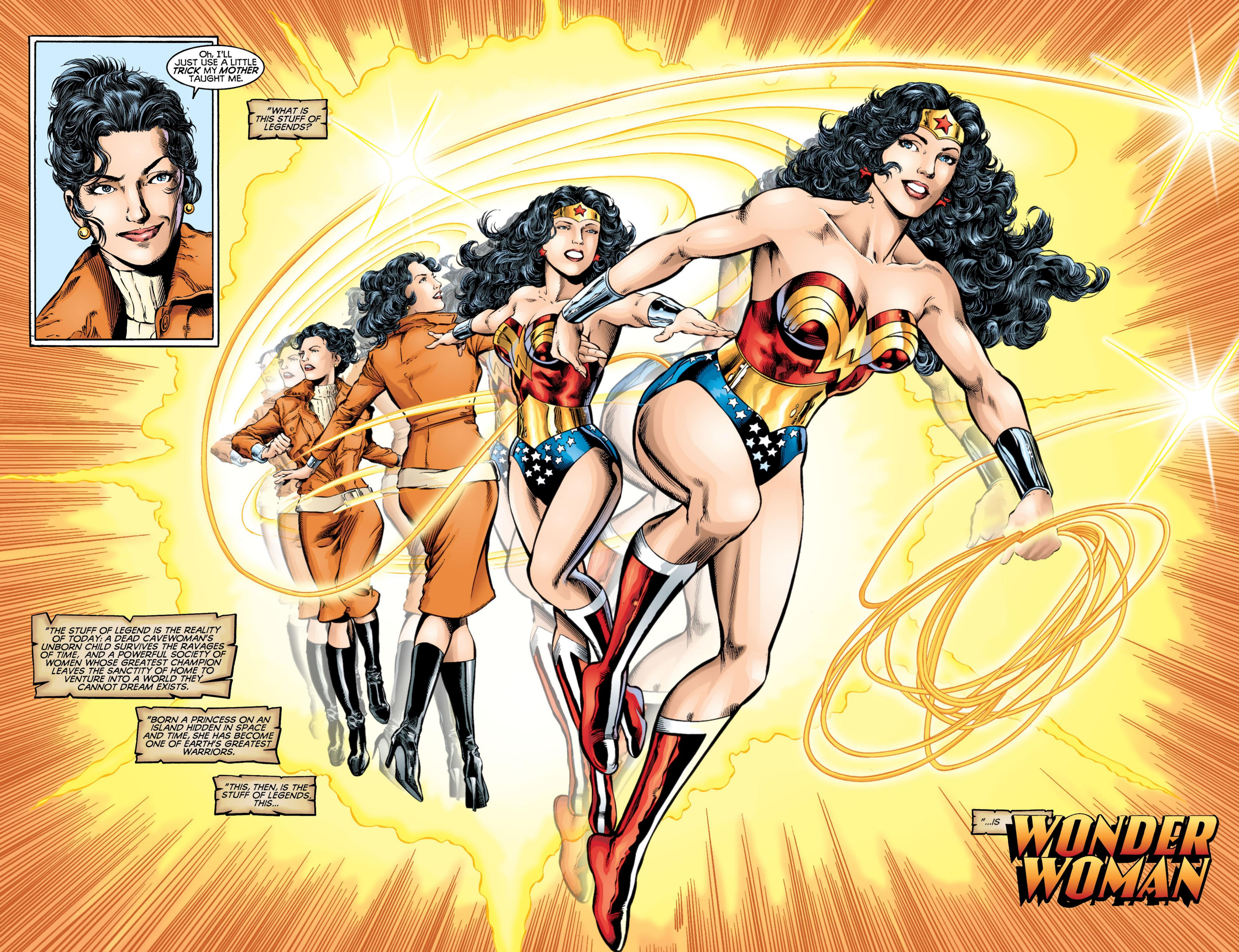



DAYS LATER...
EUDIA, VENELIA, I'LL MISS YOU BOTH SO MUCH. BUT IF YOU NEED ANYTHING, PLEASE-- CONTACT MY *FOUNDATION.*
WE'LL BE FINE, DIANA. YOU CAN'T IMAGINE HOW *EXCITED* WE ARE!
TRAVEL *SAFELY,* MY DEAR FRIENDS.
DIANA?
HELLO, TREVOR...
I JUST WANTED TO *CONGRATULATE* YOU ON ALL OF THIS...
...EVERYONE THE WORLD OVER IS ABUZZ WITH THE POSSIBILITIES OF THIS PLACE.
WELL, THANK YOU. I...
AND I JUST...
...I'VE *CHANGED MY MIND.* I WAS HOPING IT MIGHT NOT BE TOO LATE TO TAKE YOU UP ON YOUR *DINNER INVITATION.*

Oh? AND WHAT'S BROUGHT THIS CHANGE OF HEART? DECIDED I MIGHT BE *WORTH* IT...?
NO, IT'S NOT LIKE THAT AT ALL. I'VE JUST *SEEN* SOME THINGS--

WAIT A MINUTE.
OF COURSE, J'ONN! YES, OF COURSE--! I'LL GATHER MY ARMOR AND WEAPONS AND BE THERE AT THE SPEED OF HERMES!
I HAVE TO GO. MANGATRON'S ATTACKING JAPAN AGAIN.*
MANGATRON ATTACKED DIANA AND AQUAMAN IN JLA #5.


BUT I'LL BE BACK IN NEW YORK IN TWO WEEKS-- CALL ME AT THE EMBASSY AND WE'LL ARRANGE A TIME FOR THAT DINNER. AND *YOU'RE* BUYING!
BUT WHAT ABOUT YOUR UNIFORM--? HOW WILL YOU--?


Oh, I'LL JUST USE A LITTLE TRICK MY MOTHER TAUGHT ME.
"WHAT IS THIS STUFF OF LEGENDS?
"THE STUFF OF LEGEND IS THE REALITY OF TODAY: A DEAD CAVEWOMAN'S UNBORN CHILD SURVIVES THE RAVAGES OF TIME, AND A POWERFUL SOCIETY OF WOMEN WHOSE GREATEST CHAMPION LEAVES THE SANCTITY OF HOME TO VENTURE INTO A WORLD THEY CANNOT DREAM EXISTS.
"BORN A PRINCESS ON AN ISLAND HIDDEN IN SPACE AND TIME, SHE HAS BECOME ONE OF EARTH'S GREATEST WARRIORS.
"THIS, THEN, IS THE STUFF OF LEGENDS, THIS...
"...IS
WONDER WOMAN

In Loving
Memory, and
with the Most
Humbling Respect,
to the Real Legends
who Died and Lived on
September 11, 2001.
We Honor
your Nobility,
Your Dignity,
and your Heroism,
and give
our Thanks...
Phil, Andy, Trish,
Saida, the Heroic Age guys,
Tom and Eddie.