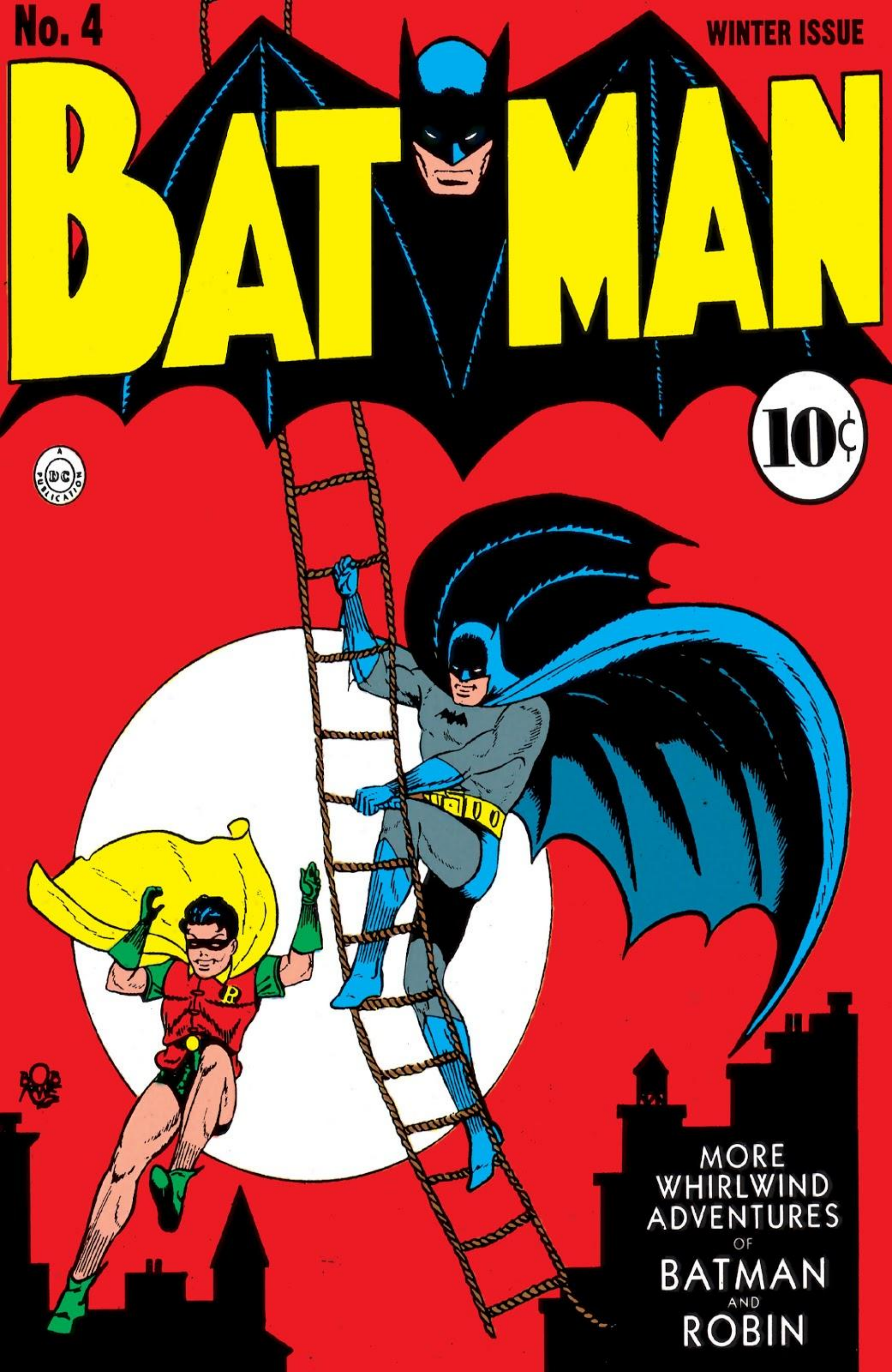
No. 4

WINTER ISSUE

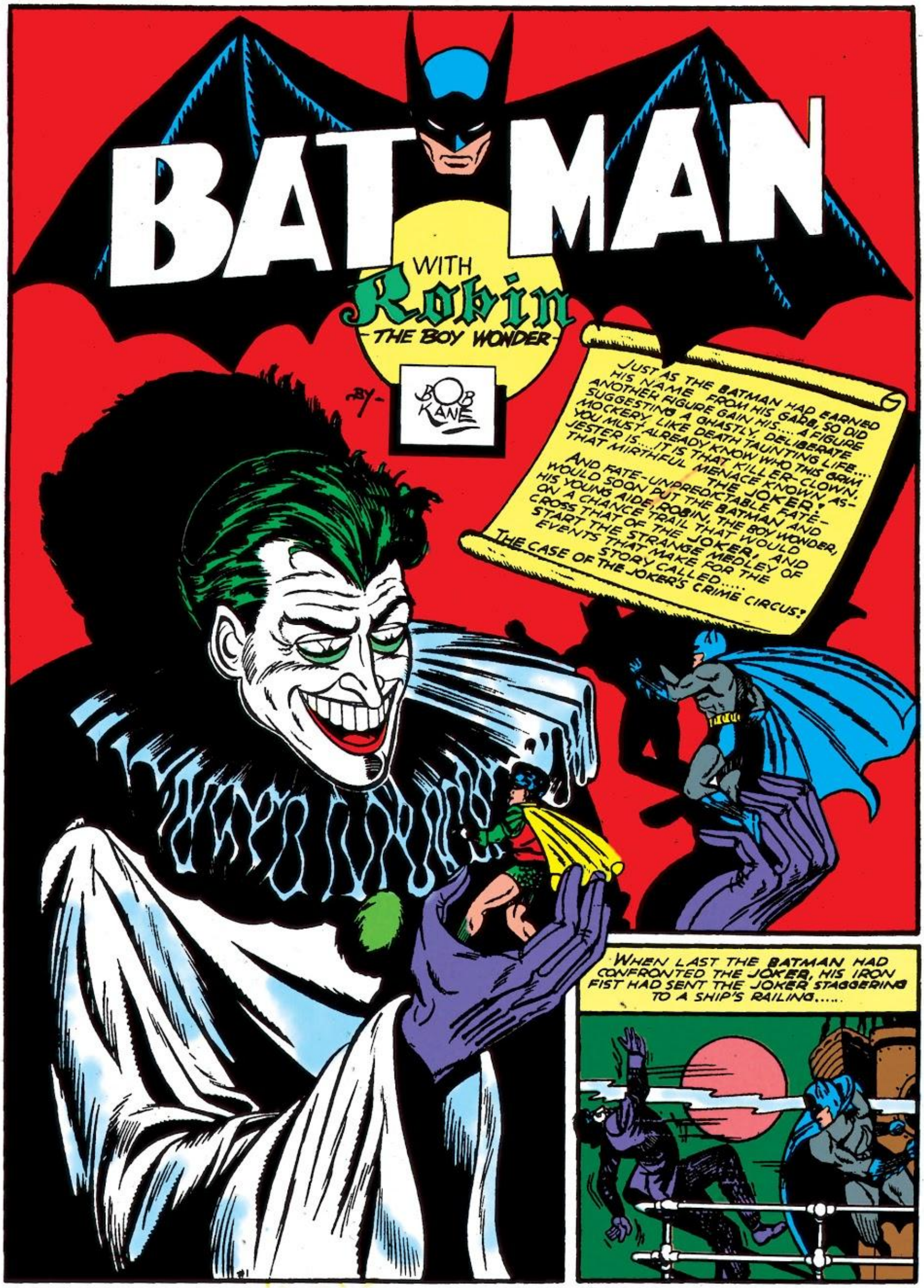
BATMAN

10¢

A DC PUBLICATION



MORE WHIRLWIND ADVENTURES OF BATMAN AND ROBIN


BATMAN
WITH
Robin
-THE BOY WONDER-
-BY-
BOB KANE
JUST AS THE BATMAN HAD EARNED HIS NAME FROM HIS GARB, SO DID ANOTHER FIGURE GAIN HIS.... A FIGURE SUGGESTING A GHASTLY, DELIBERATE MOCKERY, LIKE DEATH TAUNTING LIFE.... YOU MUST ALREADY KNOW WHO THIS GRIM JESTER IS....IT IS THAT KILLER-CLOWN, THAT MIRTHFUL MENACE KNOWN AS- THE JOKER!
AND FATE-UNPREDICTABLE FATE-WOULD SOON PUT THE BATMAN AND HIS YOUNG AIDE, ROBIN, THE BOY WONDER, ON A CHANCE TRAIL THAT WOULD CROSS THAT OF THE JOKER, AND START THE STRANGE MEDLEY OF EVENTS THAT MAKE FOR THE STORY CALLED.....
THE CASE OF THE JOKER'S CRIME CIRCUS!
WHEN LAST THE BATMAN HAD CONFRONTED THE JOKER, HIS IRON FIST HAD SENT THE JOKER STAGGERING TO A SHIP'S RAILING.....

....THE JOKER PLUMMETED DOWN TO HIT THE WATERS AND REMAIN BELOW.....
I WONDER IF THIS IS REALLY THE END OF THE JOKER AT LAST?

....AS THE LIGHTS OF THE SHIP TWINKLE LIKE FIREFLIES IN THE DISTANCE, A FIGURE RISES TO THE SURFACE OF THE WATER... IT IS THE JOKER!

.....HOURS LATER, A YACHT MAKES OUT HIS BOBBING FORM...
MAN AHEAD, SIR- LOOKS LIKE HE'S CLINGING TO A BIT OF DRIFTWOOD!
GIVE THE NECESSARY ORDER TO PICK HIM UP!

....THE JOKER IS TAKEN ASHORE.....
QUEER SORT OF DUCK, WASN'T HE, SIR?
YES....AND THAT BLANK-WHITE FACE OF HIS... UGH!- IT GAVE ME THE CREEPS! WELL, AT LEAST, WE SAVED A MAN'S LIFE!
PERHAPS HE WOULD NOT HAVE MADE THAT STATEMENT WITH SUCH THANKFULNESS HAD HE KNOWN WHO THAT MAN WAS!

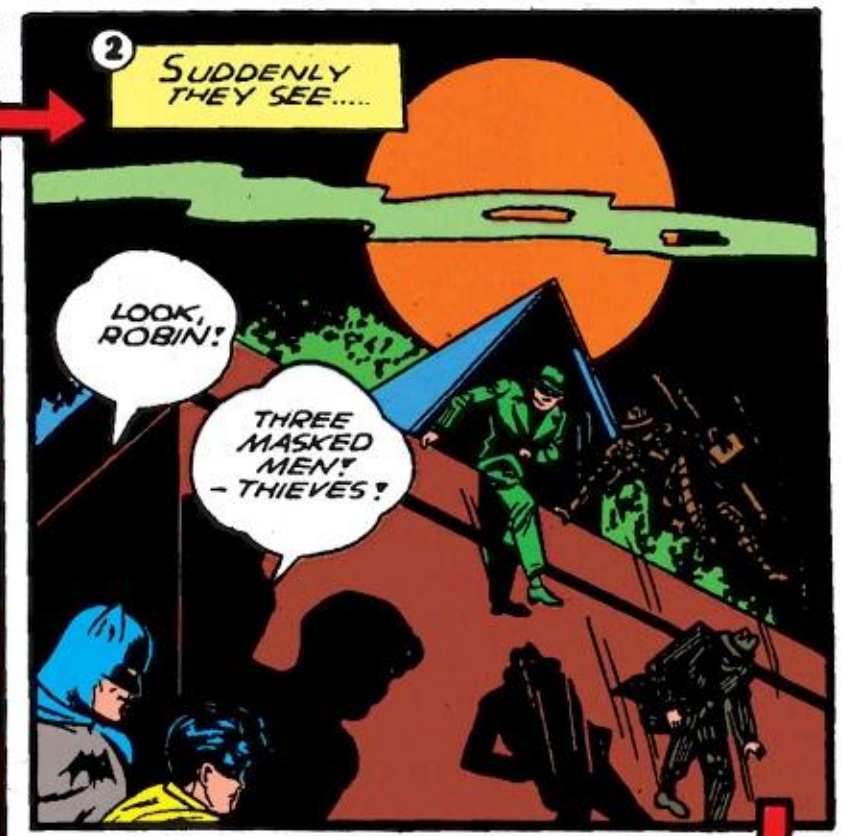
UNOBSERVED, HE STEALS TO THE EDGE OF TOWN TO A SEEMINGLY DESERTED, GLOOMY OLD MANSION DUBBED BY THE PEOPLE AS "HAUNTED"....

BUT THE STRANGE-LOOKING MANSION IS NOT REALLY "HAUNTED" AND DESERTED..... IN REALITY, IT IS THE HIDDEN SANCTUM OF THE JOKER...

....THEN, THE JOKER LAUGHS. A WILD, JEERING LAUGH THAT MAKES THE VERY SILENCE OF THE ROOM CRAWL WITH MENACE.
I'M ALIVE! HA HA! I'M ALIVE! HA HA HA HA!
THE CLEVEREST AND THE MOST DANGEROUS CRIMINAL IN THE ANNALS OF CRIME WAS STILL AT LIBERTY!

THE BATMAN THINKS, I'M DEAD. HE'LL KNOW DIFFERENTLY WHEN WE MEET AGAIN! ....AND WE SHALL MEET AGAIN!
THE TIME WAS CLOSE WHEN NEW FACTORS WOULD BRING ABOUT AN ACTUAL DUEL BETWEEN THE BATMAN AND THE JOKER!

1
TWO MONTHS PASS
AS NIGHT MAKES HER ENTRANCE WEARING HER GARMENTS OF BLACKNESS, TWO FIGURES DART THROUGH THE DARK OF HER SHADOW....


2
SUDDENLY THEY SEE.....
LOOK, ROBIN!
THREE MASKED MEN! - THIEVES!

3
THE THREE MEN BEND THEIR KNEES AS SOON AS THEY HIT THE GROUND, AND ROLL OVER.....

4
THEY ROLLED OVER TO ABSORB THE SHOCK OF HITTING THE GROUND.
JUST LIKE PROFESSIONAL ACROBATS WOULD DO IT!

5
THE TWO CRIME-FIGHTERS STRIKE!
PERHAPS YOU'RE NOT AWARE OF IT... BUT THERE'S A LAW AGAINST STEALING!

6
AS THEY BATTLE, THEY DO NOT NOTICE THE HUGE, HULKING FORM THAT COMES FROM THE CAR PARKED NEARBY.....

A HAND REACHES OUT TO SLAP ROBIN AND SEND HIM SPINNING...
HAH! JUST A BOY!

AGAIN, HE REACHES OUT, TO CLAMP STEEL HANDS UPON THE BATMAN!
I FIX YOU!
WHA...?

....HE LIFTS THE BATMAN HIGH IN THE AIR.....

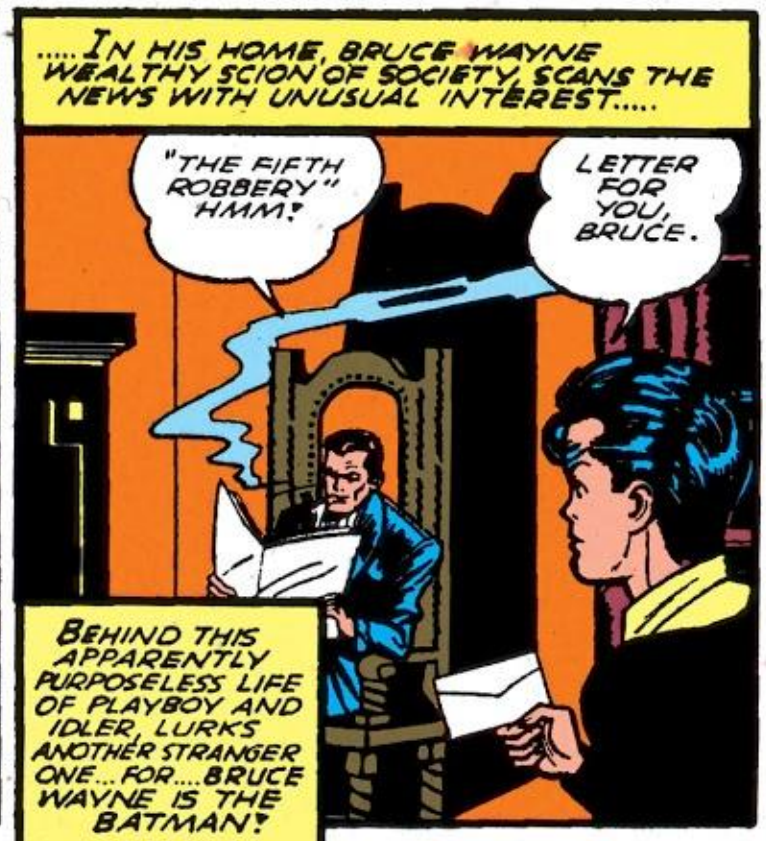
....AND HURLS HIM AGAINST THE CONCRETE WALL!
I BREAK YOU TO PIECES!

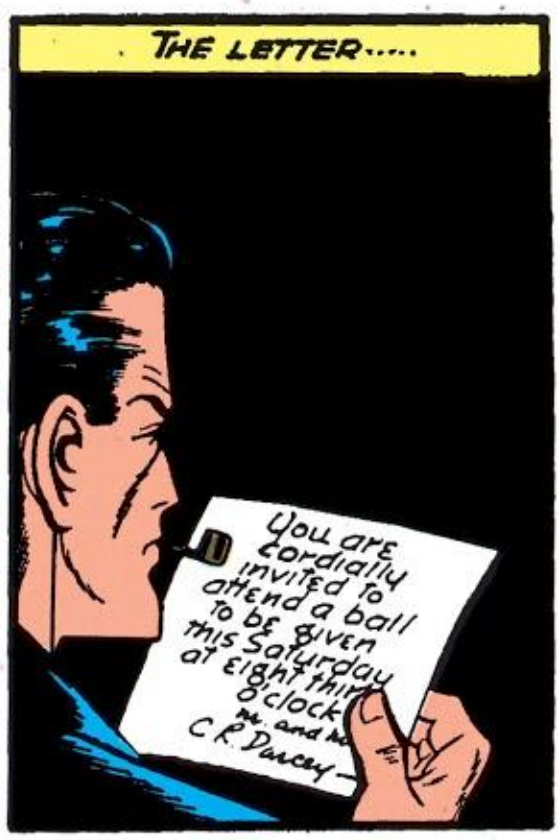
I CRUSH HIM TO LITTLE BITS!
YEAH-YEAH...SOME OTHER TIME! C'MON!
LET'S GET AWAY FROM HERE!

THE STRANGE BANDITS MAKE THEIR GETAWAY... A FEW MOMENTS AFTER....
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
THINK SO! - NO BONES BROKEN AT ANY RATE! BUT I'LL BET I MADE A DENT IN THAT WALL!

MY FACE ACHES ALL OVER WHERE THAT GUY SMACKED ME! WAS HE STRONG!
ANYTIME THAT GUY WANTS A JOB AS STRONGMAN AT A CIRCUS HE CAN CALL ME TO VOUCH FOR HIM!

A WEEK LATER, ANOTHER RICH HOME IS ROBBED..
GOTHAM CITY GAZETTE
VAN PLATT HOM ROBBED.....
FIFTH RICH HOME LOOTE IN LATEST ROBBERY EPIDEMIC
THOSE MYSTERIOUS BURGLARS, WHO HAVE BEEN STRIKING AT THE SOCIETY RICH THIS PAST MONTH, BRAZENLY ENTERED THE VAN PLATT MANSION LAST NIGHT, AND


.....IN HIS HOME, BRUCE WAYNE WEALTHY SCION OF SOCIETY, SCANS THE NEWS WITH UNUSUAL INTEREST.....
"THE FIFTH ROBBERY" HMM!
LETTER FOR YOU, BRUCE.
BEHIND THIS APPARENTLY PURPOSELESS LIFE OF PLAYBOY AND IDLER, LURKS ANOTHER STRANGER ONE... FOR.... BRUCE WAYNE IS THE BATMAN!

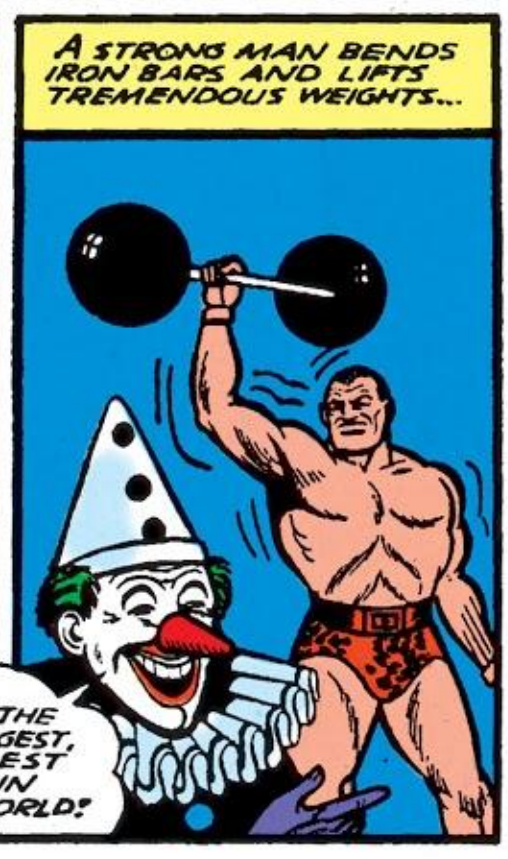

THE LETTER.....
You are cordially invited to attend a ball to be given this Saturday at eight thirty o'clock
C.R. Darcey

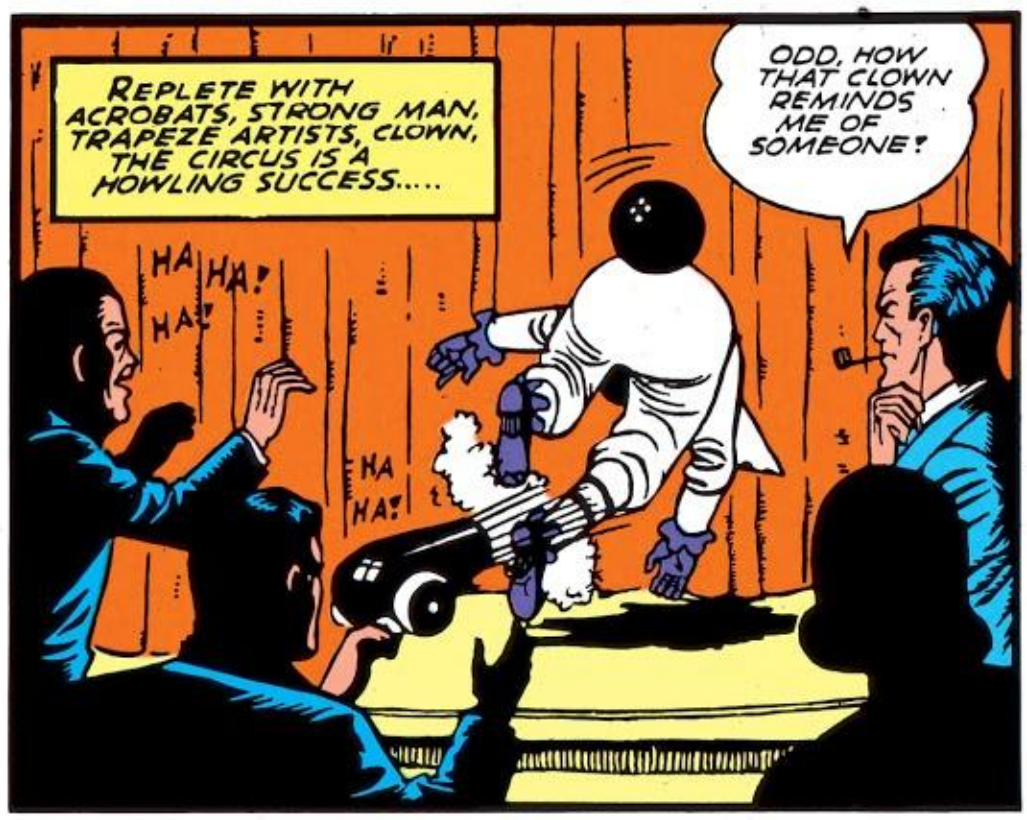
ACCORDINGLY.....THAT SATURDAY NIGHT.....
AH, BRUCE- GLAD YOU COULD COME!
WILD HORSES COULDN'T KEEP ME AWAY, DARCEY.

BRUCE SEEMS TO GO OUT OF HIS WAY TO PROVE HE IS THE NO. 1. CANDIDATE FOR THE 'IDLE RICH, BORED WITH LIFE -CLUB'....
THERE'S BRUCE, YAWNING AS USUAL! JUST LOOK AT HIM!
HE HAS NO MORE BRAINS IN HIS HEAD THAN THE HEAD OF HIS WALKING STICK HAS!

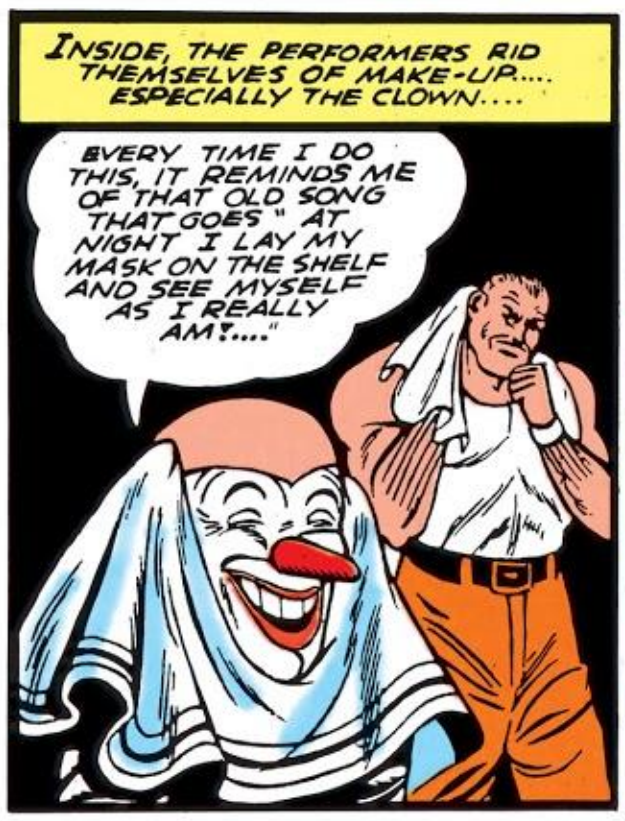
...SUDDENLY, THERE IS A ROLL ON THE DRUMS, AND DARCEY ADDRESSES HIS GUESTS..
FRIENDS-NOW I HAVE A TREAT IN STORE FOR YOU! THE BALL ROOM WILL BE CLEARED AND YOU WILL BE GIVEN SEATS SO THAT YOU MAY WATCH A CIRCUS!
#5

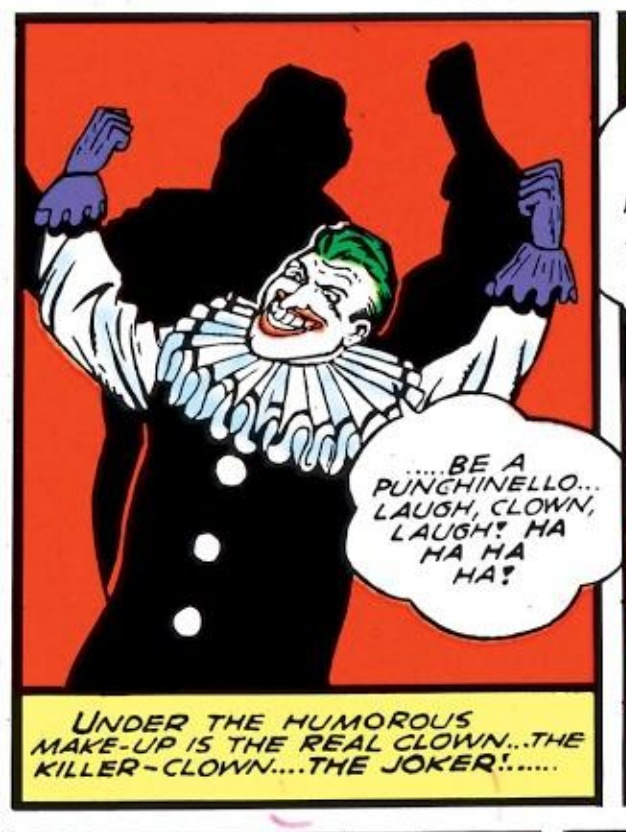
....A MINIATURE CIRCUS SHOW IS PUT ON IN THE BALLROOM... ACROBATS PERFORM


A STRONG MAN BENDS IRON BARS AND LIFTS TREMENDOUS WEIGHTS...
AJAX...THE STRONGEST, MIGHTIEST MAN IN THE WORLD!


REPLETE WITH ACROBATS, STRONG MAN, TRAPEZE ARTISTS, CLOWN, THE CIRCUS IS A HOWLING SUCCESS.....
HA HA! HA!
HA HA!
ODD, HOW THAT CLOWN REMINDS ME OF SOMEONE!

THAT NIGHT, WHEN THEIR ENGAGEMENT ENDS, THE CIRCUS TROUPE TOILS UP THE LONELY ROAD THAT LEADS TO THE "HAUNTED HOUSE".....


INSIDE, THE PERFORMERS RID THEMSELVES OF MAKE-UP.... ESPECIALLY THE CLOWN....
EVERY TIME I DO THIS, IT REMINDS ME OF THAT OLD SONG THAT GOES "AT NIGHT I LAY MY MASK ON THE SHELF AND SEE MYSELF AS I REALLY AM!...."

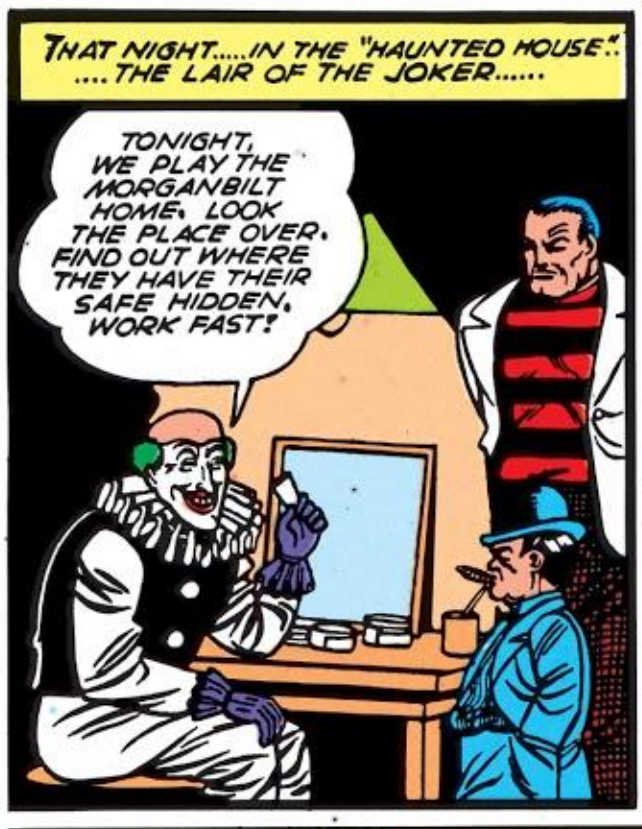

.....BE A PUNCHINELLO... LAUGH, CLOWN, LAUGH! HA HA HA HA!
UNDER THE HUMOROUS MAKE-UP IS THE REAL CLOWN...THE KILLER-CLOWN....THE JOKER!.....

..... AND EXACTLY THREE DAYS LATER.....
BRUCE! BRUCE! THE DARCEYS - THE PEOPLE WHOSE PARTY YOU WENT TO-THEY'VE BEEN ROBBED!
WH-AT? THAT MAKES THE SIXTH RICH FAMILY ROBBED THIS MONTH!

BRUCE INVESTIGATES, AND AT THE END OF THE DAY ANNOUNCES HIS FINDINGS AND SUSPICIONS TO DICK....
...YOU MEAN TO SAY YOU'VE FOUND OUT THAT EVERY RICH HOME THAT HAS BEEN ROBBED HAS HAD THIS CIRCUS PLAY AN ENGAGEMENT AT THEIR HOUSE?
YES .... AND REMEMBER WHEN WE HAD THAT RUN-IN THE OTHER NIGHT?.. THE CROOKS HOPPED AROUND LIKE PROFESSIONAL ACROBATS!

.... AND ONE WAS STRONG LIKE THE STRONG MAN OF A CIRCUS! NOW, WHAT'S TO PREVENT THIS CROOKED CIRCUS FROM PLAYING A RICH HOME AND "CASING" IT FOR A FUTURE ROBBERY? LOGICAL, ISN'T IT?

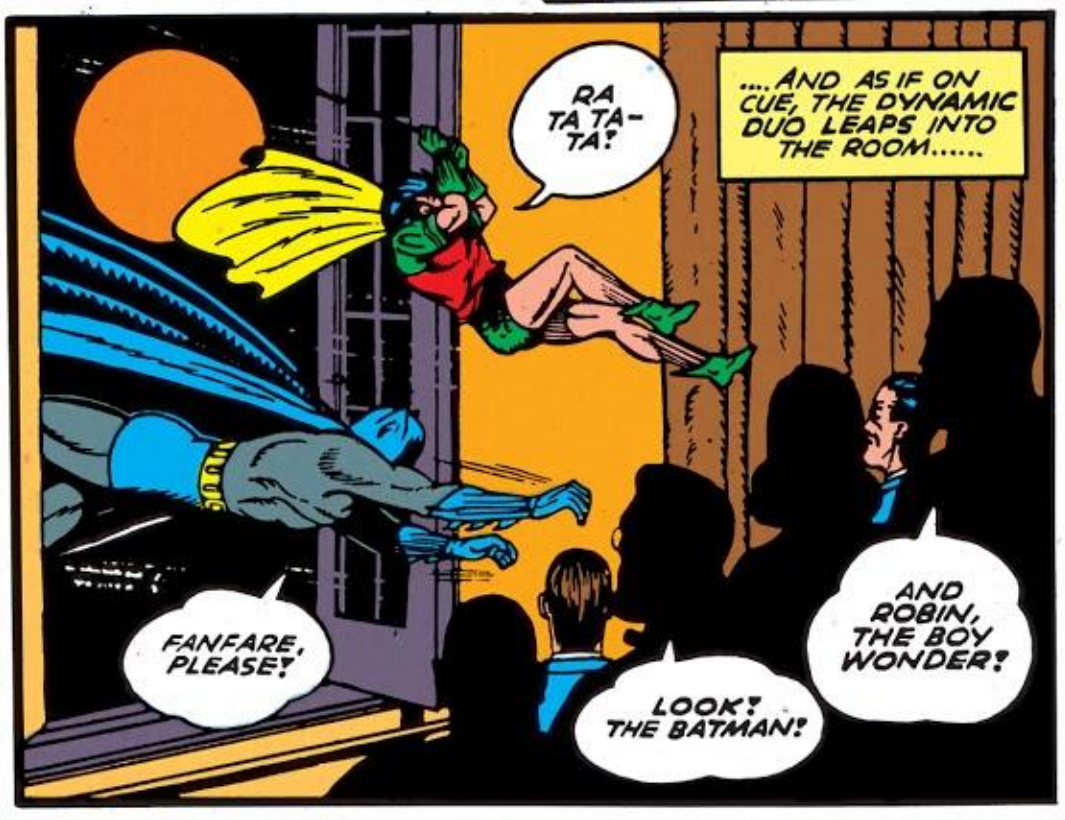
GOSH! THE SOCIETY COLUMN SAYS "THE MORGANBILTS' PARTY TONIGHT WILL FEATURE THE MINIATURE CIRCUS THAT IS THE CURRENT RAGE OF SOCIETY!"
WE CAN'T TELL WHEN THEY'LL STRIKE, SO WE'VE GOT TO PREVENT A FUTURE CRIME! DICK, WE'RE STEPPING OUT... TONIGHT!

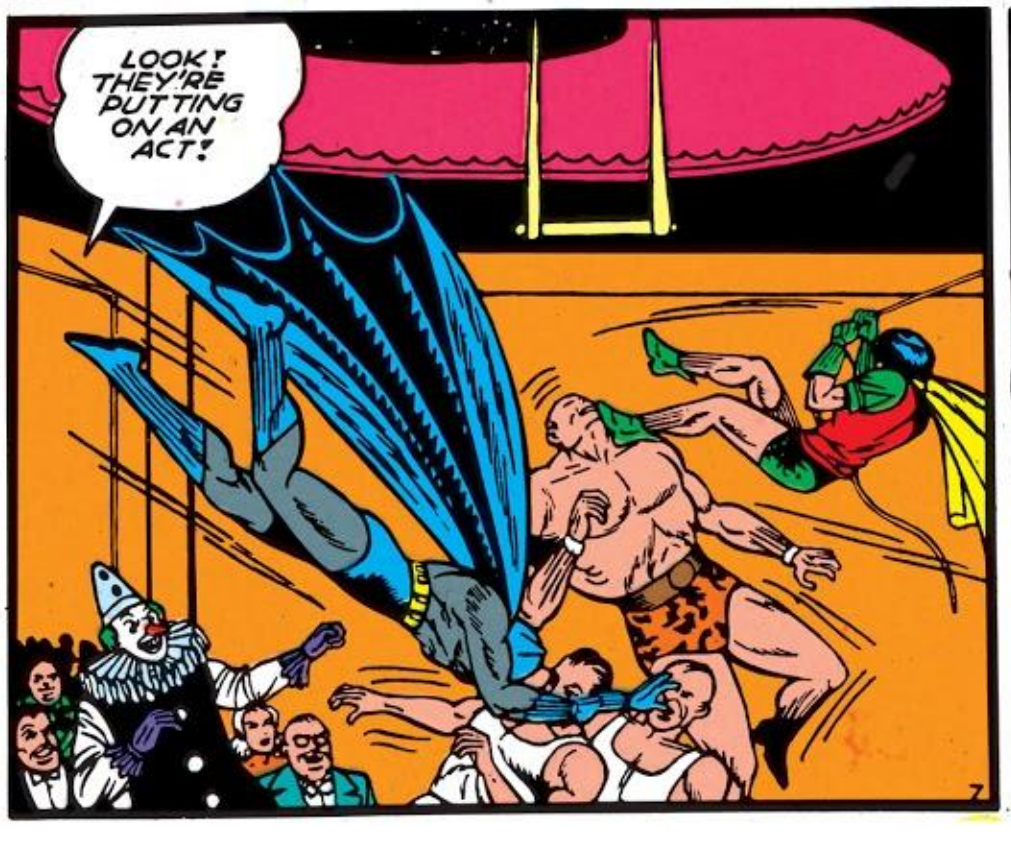

THAT NIGHT.....IN THE "HAUNTED HOUSE".
....THE LAIR OF THE JOKER.....
TONIGHT, WE PLAY THE MORGANBILT HOME. LOOK THE PLACE OVER. FIND OUT WHERE THEY HAVE THEIR SAFE HIDDEN. WORK FAST!

THIS IS TINO. HE HAS JUST JOINED UP WITH US. HE'LL BE OUR SURPRISE GUEST TONIGHT! NOW LET'S GO!
SO WAS THE STAGE SET, WITH THE BATMAN, ROBIN AND THE JOKER TO BE THE PRINCIPAL PLAYERS!

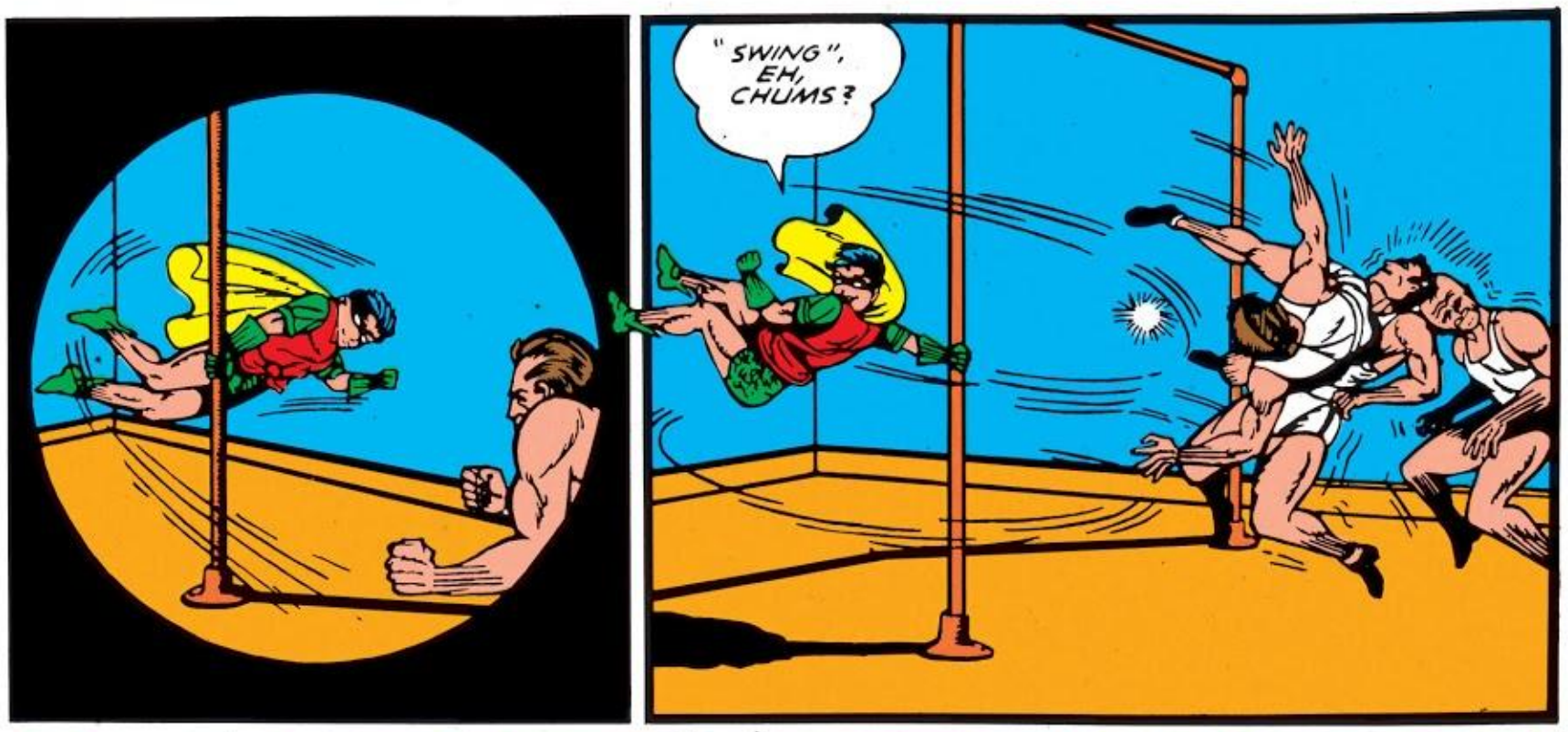
EVENING, AT THE MORGANBILT HOME.....THE JOKER'S CRIME CIRCUS HOLDS THE CENTER OF INTEREST.....

THE HARLEQUIN OF HATE STEPS FORWARD.....
.....AND NOW WE HAVE A SURPRISE FOR YOU. WE PRESENT....

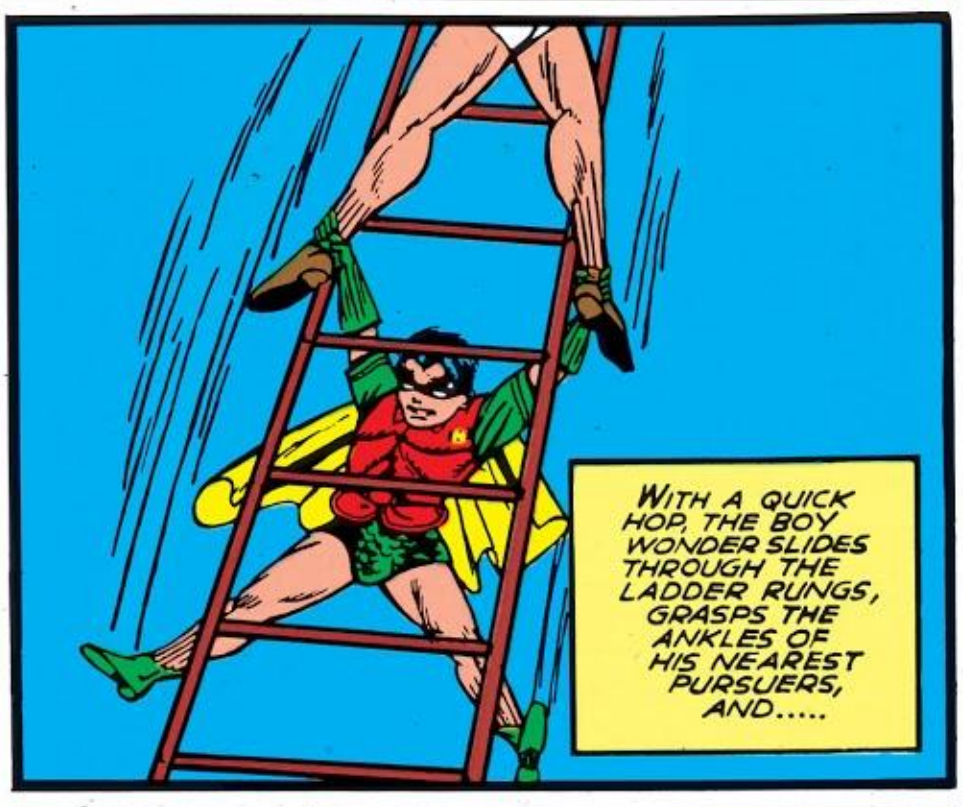

....AND AS IF ON CUE, THE DYNAMIC DUO LEAPS INTO THE ROOM.....
RA TA TA-TA!
FANFARE, PLEASE!
LOOK! THE BATMAN!
AND ROBIN, THE BOY WONDER!

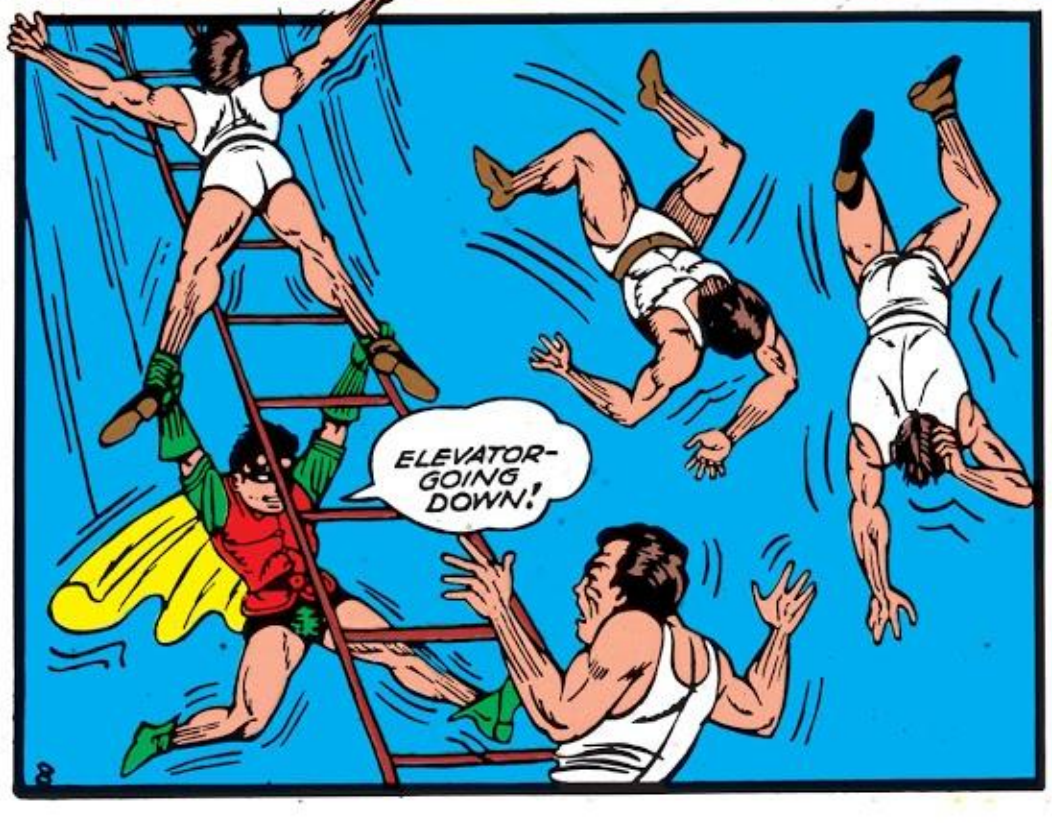

LOOK! THEY'RE PUTTING ON AN ACT!

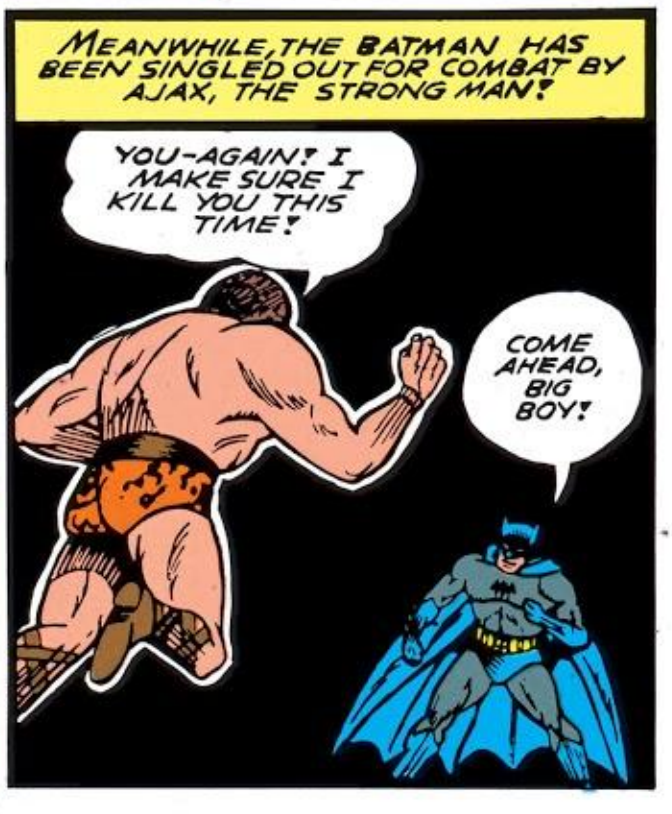
MAKING BELIEVE HE IS AFRAID, THE BOY WONDER RACES AWAY, FOLLOWED BY THE ACROBATS, AND....


"SWING", EH, CHUMS?

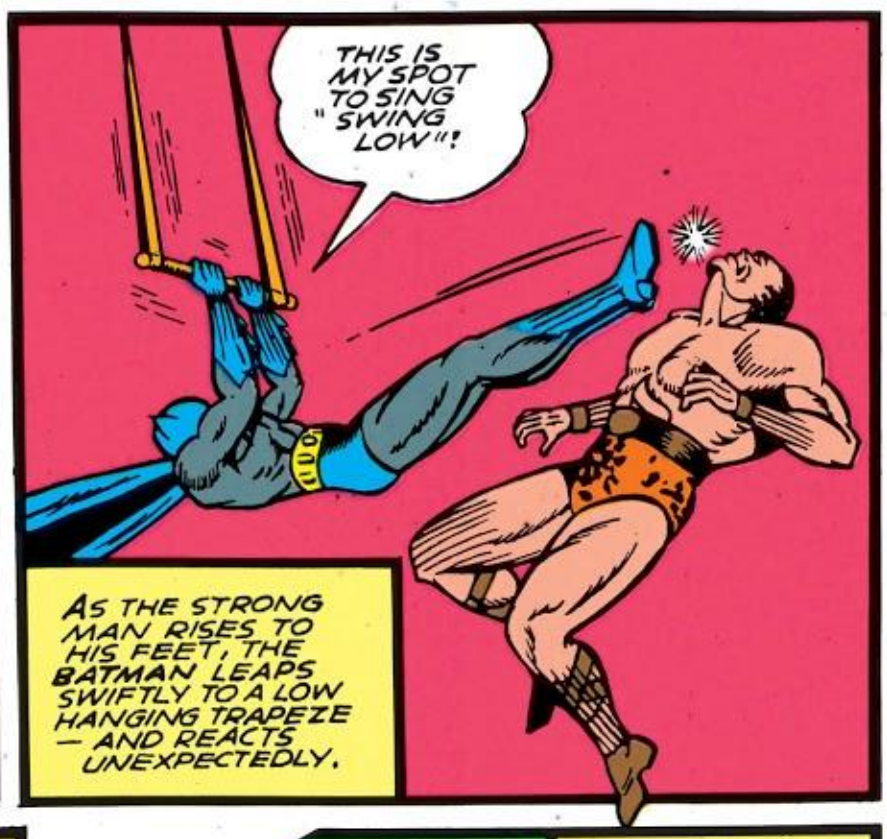
MIGHT WORK AGAIN!
AGAIN HE SIMULATES FEAR, RACES UP A LADDER AND IS FOLLOWED BY THE TRAPEZE ARTISTS.....

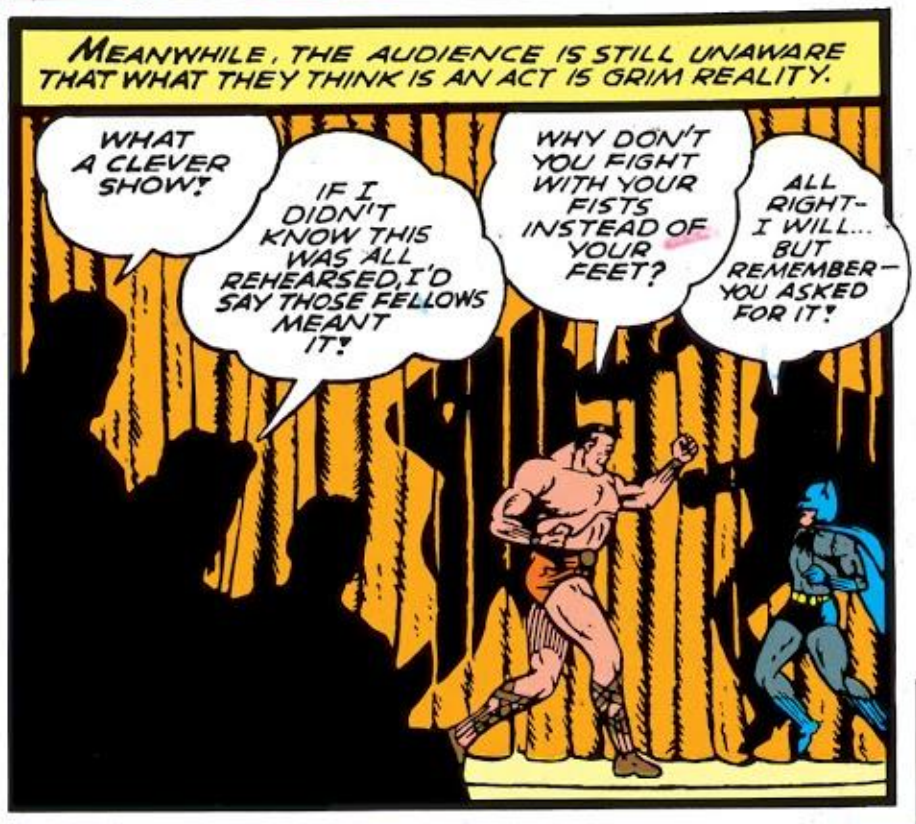

WITH A QUICK HOP, THE BOY WONDER SLIDES THROUGH THE LADDER RUNGS, GRASPS THE ANKLES OF HIS NEAREST PURSUERS, AND.....

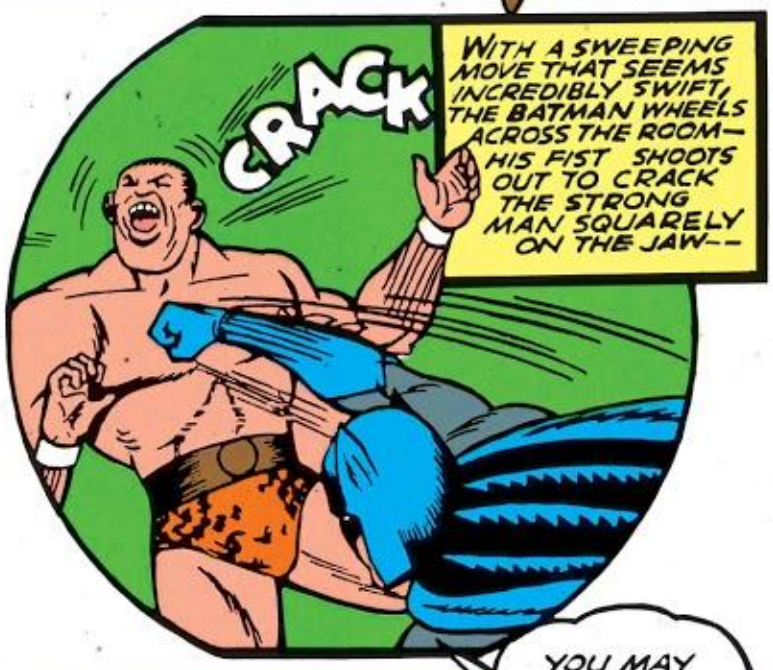

ELEVATOR-GOING DOWN!

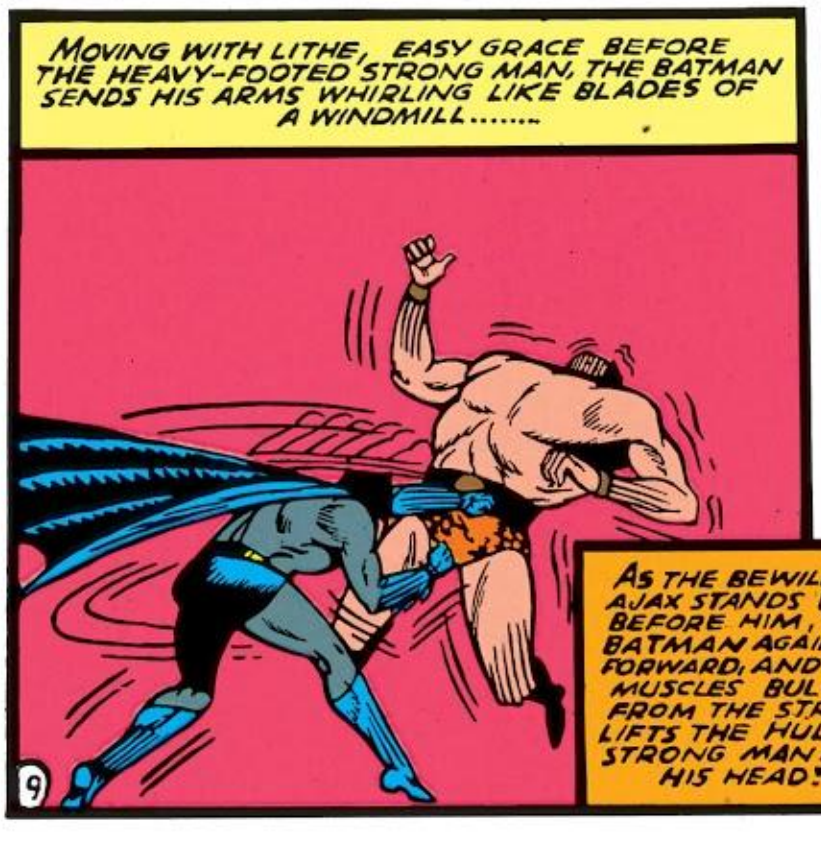

MEANWHILE, THE BATMAN HAS BEEN SINGLED OUT FOR COMBAT BY AJAX, THE STRONG MAN!
YOU-AGAIN! I MAKE SURE I KILL YOU THIS TIME!
COME AHEAD, BIG BOY!

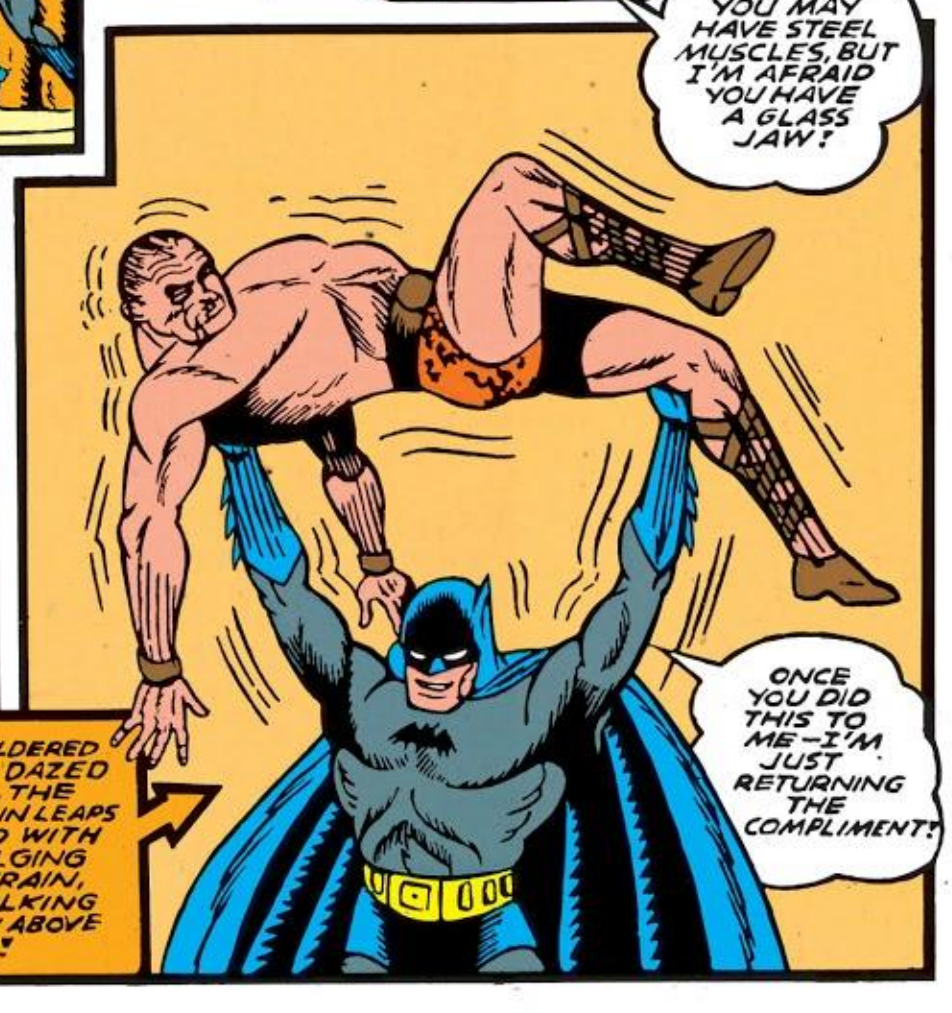
THE FOOT IS QUICKER THAN THE EYE!
I- OOF!

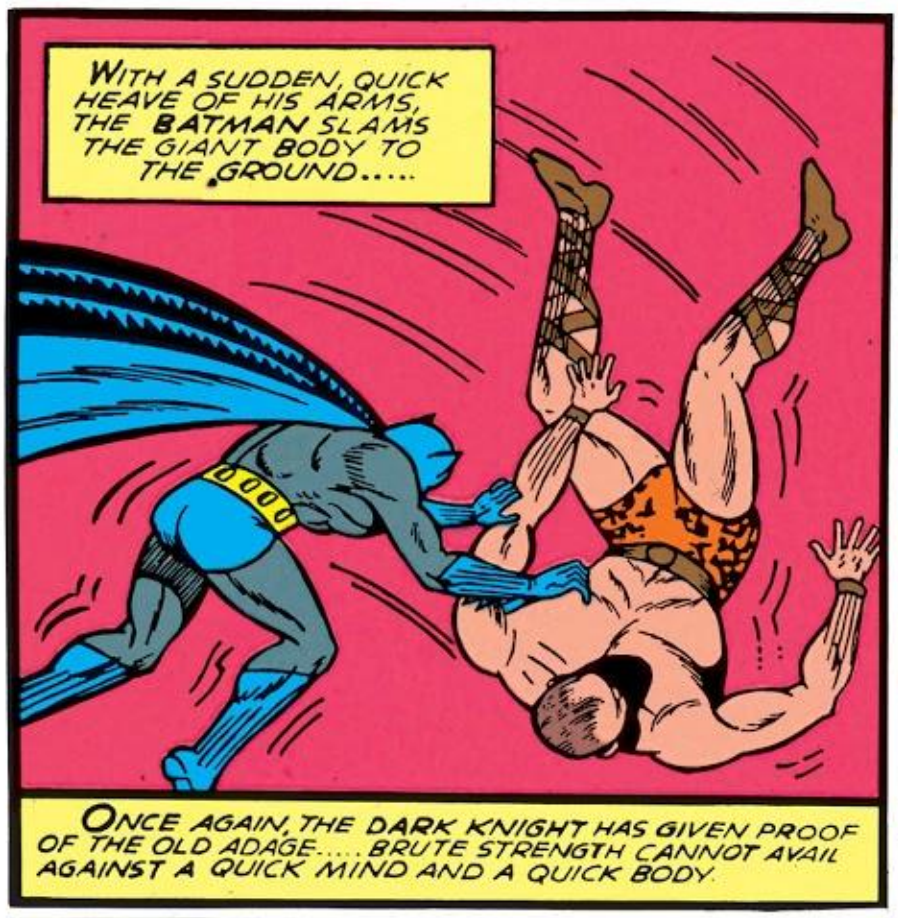

THIS IS MY SPOT TO SING "SWING LOW"!
AS THE STRONG MAN RISES TO HIS FEET, THE BATMAN LEAPS SWIFTLY TO A LOW HANGING TRAPEZE — AND REACTS UNEXPECTEDLY.


MEANWHILE, THE AUDIENCE IS STILL UNAWARE THAT WHAT THEY THINK IS AN ACT IS GRIM REALITY.
WHAT A CLEVER SHOW!
IF I DIDN'T KNOW THIS WAS ALL REHEARSED, I'D SAY THOSE FELLOWS MEANT IT!
WHY DON'T YOU FIGHT WITH YOUR FISTS INSTEAD OF YOUR FEET?
ALL RIGHT- I WILL... BUT REMEMBER— YOU ASKED FOR IT!


CRACK
WITH A SWEEPING MOVE THAT SEEMS INCREDIBLY SWIFT, THE BATMAN WHEELS ACROSS THE ROOM— HIS FIST SHOOTS OUT TO CRACK THE STRONG MAN SQUARELY ON THE JAW--


MOVING WITH LITHE, EASY GRACE BEFORE THE HEAVY-FOOTED STRONG MAN, THE BATMAN SENDS HIS ARMS WHIRLING LIKE BLADES OF A WINDMILL.....


YOU MAY HAVE STEEL MUSCLES, BUT I'M AFRAID YOU HAVE A GLASS JAW!
AS THE BEWILDERED AJAX STANDS DAZED BEFORE HIM, THE BATMAN AGAIN LEAPS FORWARD, AND WITH MUSCLES BULGING FROM THE STRAIN, LIFTS THE HULKING STRONG MAN ABOVE HIS HEAD!
ONCE YOU DID THIS TO ME—I'M JUST RETURNING THE COMPLIMENT!

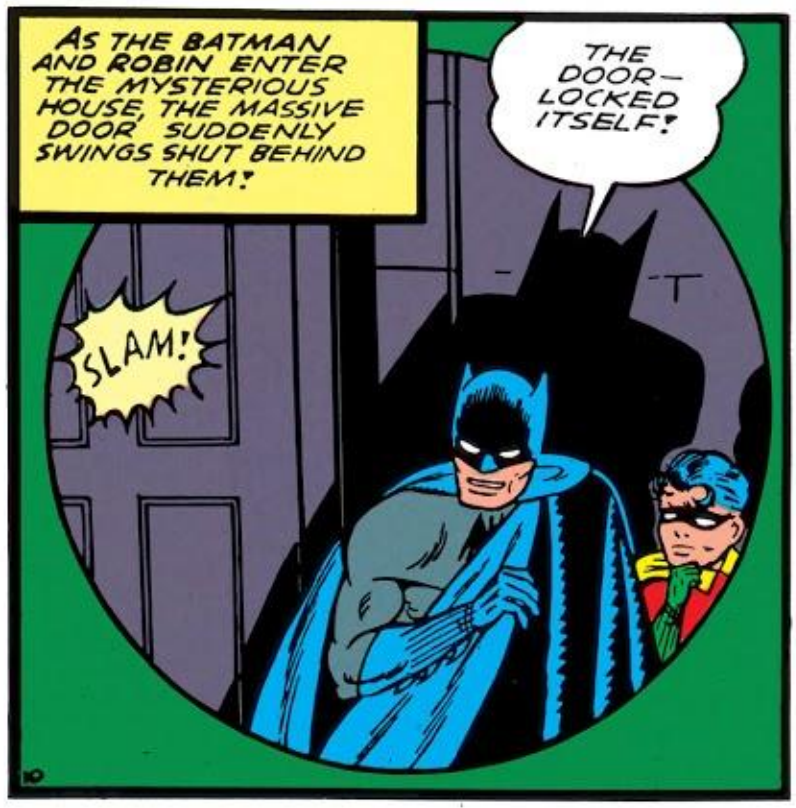

WITH A SUDDEN, QUICK HEAVE OF HIS ARMS, THE BATMAN SLAMS THE GIANT BODY TO THE GROUND.....
ONCE AGAIN, THE DARK KNIGHT HAS GIVEN PROOF OF THE OLD ADAGE..... BRUTE STRENGTH CANNOT AVAIL AGAINST A QUICK MIND AND A QUICK BODY.

....THE JOKER CHOOSES THAT MOMENT TO EFFECT HIS ESCAPE.....
LOOK! THAT CLOWN-HE'S GETTING AWAY!
THE CLOWN!- NOW, I KNOW WHY HE REMINDED ME OF SOMEONE.... HE'S THE JOKER-- ALIVE!

THE AUDIENCE LEARNS THE TRUTH...
...AND IF THE POLICE WILL QUESTION THESE MEN, YOU'LL FIND THIS ENTIRE CIRCUS IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THESE ROBBERIES!
C'MON, ROBIN!
DID YOU HEAR THAT?
NO WONDER THAT FIGHT LOOKED SO REAL!

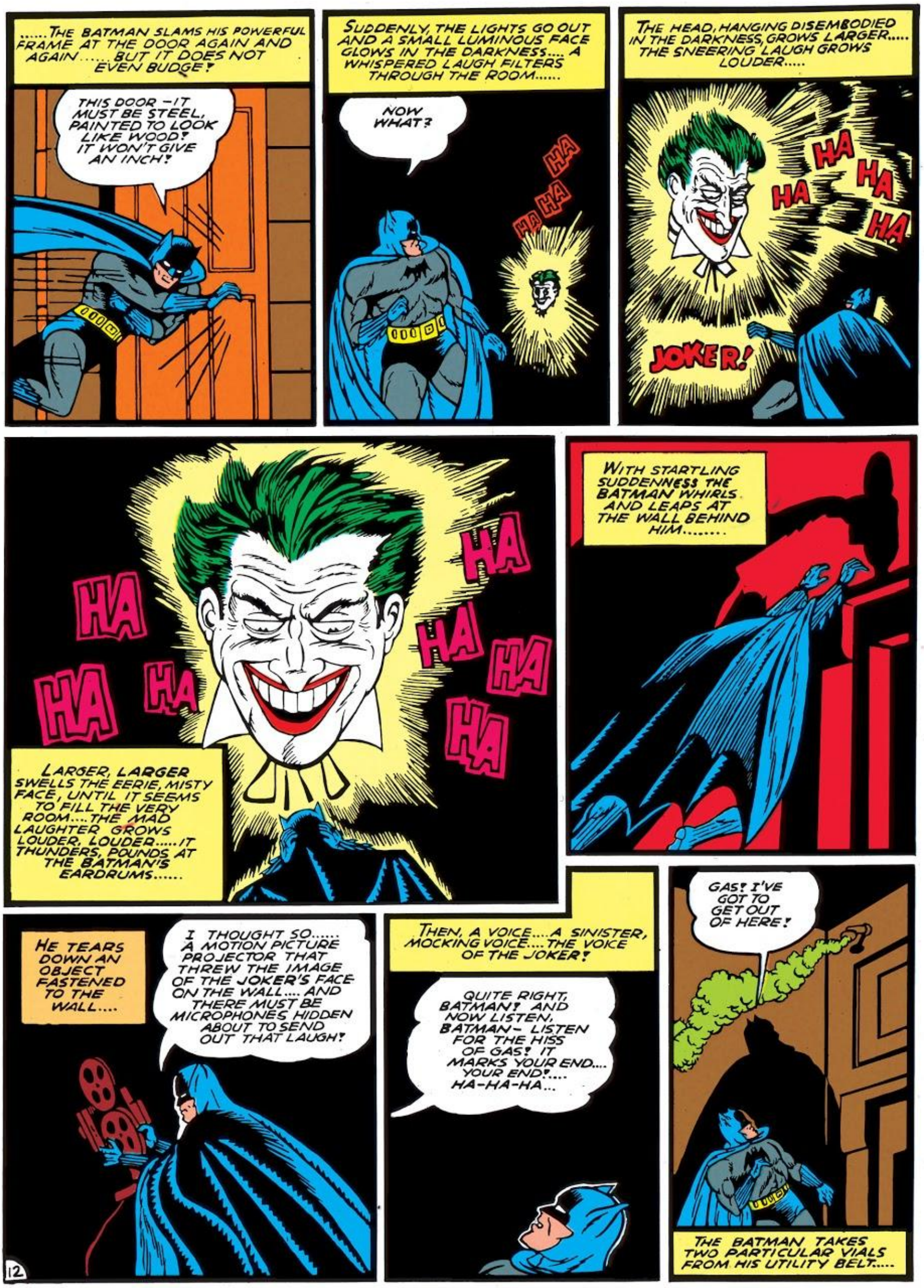
KEEPING THE JOKER'S CAR IN SIGHT, THE BATMAN AND ROBIN FOLLOW HIM TO HIS LAIR.....
SO, THIS IS HIS HIDEOUT!
SAY- THIS IS THE "HAUNTED HOUSE!"

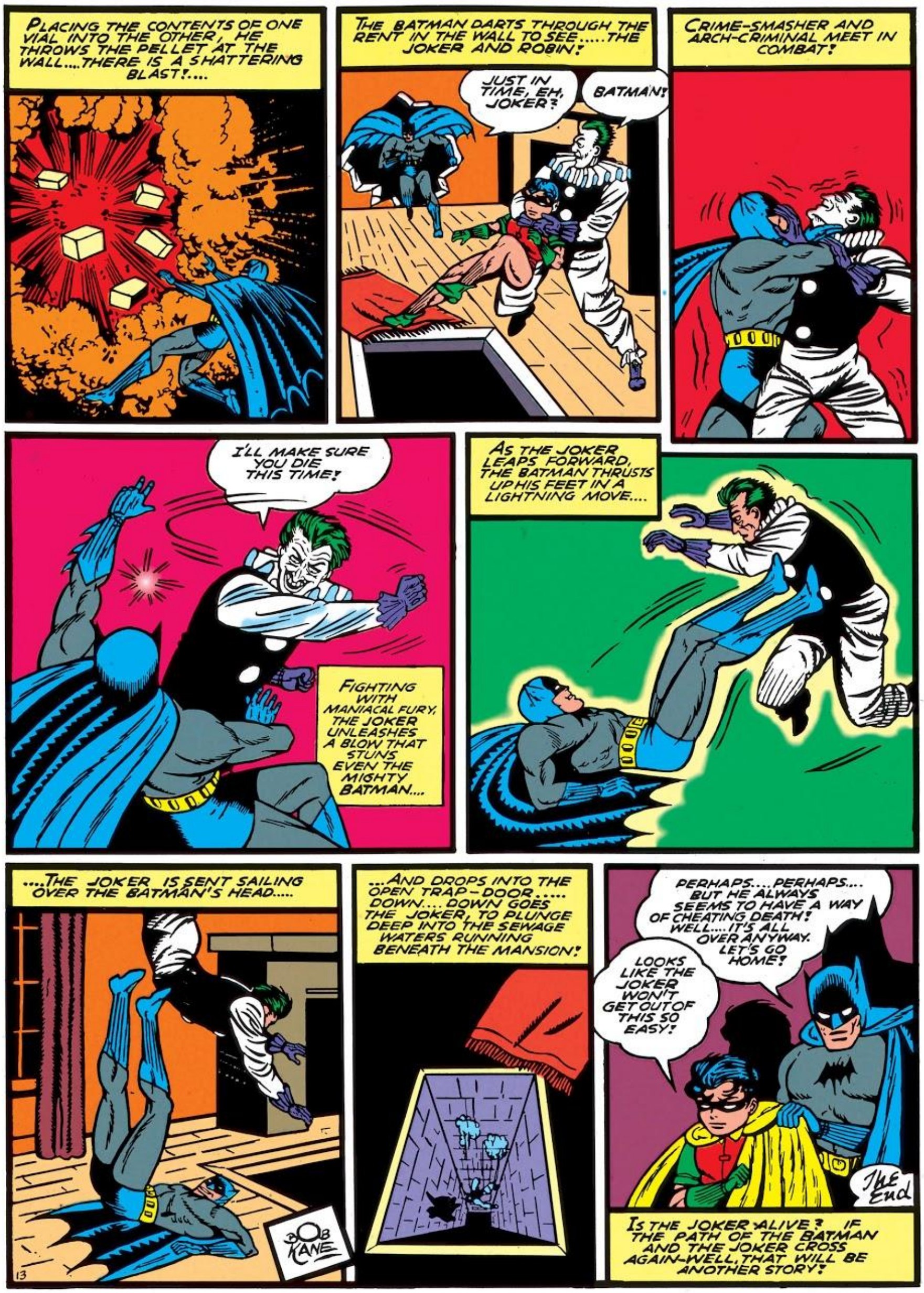
AS THE BATMAN AND ROBIN DASH UP THE WINDING PATH, A FACE PEERS OUT AT THEM .....THE JOKER!
SO, THEY'RE COMING IN, ARE THEY? I'LL FIX THEM. I'LL SCARE THEM JUST AS I SCARE THE VILLAGERS WHEN THEY PRY INTO THIS HOUSE! HA HA HA!


AS THE BATMAN AND ROBIN ENTER THE MYSTERIOUS HOUSE, THE MASSIVE DOOR SUDDENLY SWINGS SHUT BEHIND THEM!
THE DOOR- LOCKED ITSELF!
SLAM!

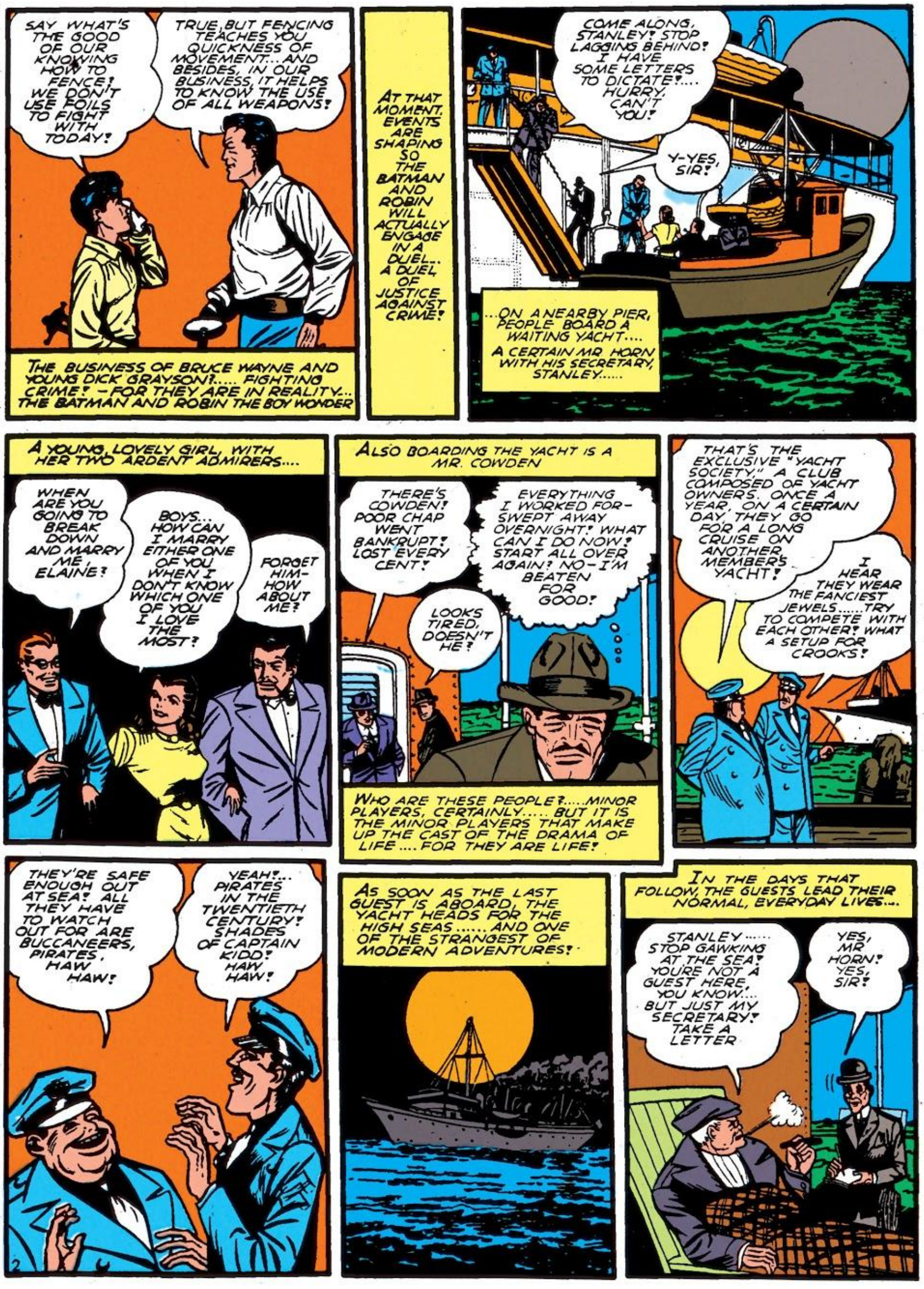
THE TWO MOUNT CREAKY, OLD STAIRS.....
PLEASANT LITTLE PLACE, ISN'T IT?
YES- IT MAKES A LOVELY BREEDING GROUND FOR GHOSTS!

1
AND THERE, WAITING FOR THEM ATOP THE STAIRS, IS AN AWESOME SIGHT.....
INTRUDERS! GET OUT! GET OUT OF MY HOUSE ELSE I VENT MY WRATH UPON YOU!
2
THE BATMAN ATTACKS THE GHOST!
NEVER TACKLED A GHOST BEFORE— BUT THERE'S ALWAYS A FIRST TIME FOR EVERYTHING!
3
THE "GHOST" IS UNMASKED!
MY- WHAT A HEALTHY-LOOKING GHOST YOU ARE! FLESH AND EVERYTHING!
ABSORBED IN THE UNMASKING, THE BATMAN AND ROBIN DO NOT SEE A WALL PANEL SLIDE OPEN....AND AWAITING INSIDE IS THE JOKER!
4
5
AND WHEN THE BATMAN FINALLY DOES LOOK AROUND.....
OUR "GHOST" FRIEND IS NONE OTHER..... ROBIN!— GONE!— AND HE WAS JUST STANDING HERE A MOMENT AGO!
6
THE "GHOST!" HE MUST KNOW WHERE HE IS! I'LL...OH-OH- HE'S GETTING AWAY!
RACING AFTER HIM, THE BATMAN DARTS INTO A ROOM IN WHICH THE "GHOST" HAS ENTERED.....TO FIND THE "GHOST" IS GONE!
7
GONE!.... NOW, THIS DOOR HAS SHUT ON ME! I'LL SOON FIX THAT!
SLAM


.....THE BATMAN SLAMS HIS POWERFUL FRAME AT THE DOOR AGAIN AND AGAIN..... BUT IT DOES NOT EVEN BUDGE!
THIS DOOR –IT MUST BE STEEL, PAINTED TO LOOK LIKE WOOD! IT WON'T GIVE AN INCH!
SUDDENLY, THE LIGHTS GO OUT AND A SMALL LUMINOUS FACE GLOWS IN THE DARKNESS.... A WHISPERED LAUGH FILTERS THROUGH THE ROOM.....
NOW WHAT?
HA HA HA
THE HEAD, HANGING DISEMBODIED IN THE DARKNESS, GROWS LARGER..... THE SNEERING LAUGH GROWS LOUDER.....
HA HA HA HA
JOKER!
HA HA HA HA HA HA HA
LARGER, LARGER SWELLS THE EERIE, MISTY FACE, UNTIL IT SEEMS TO FILL THE VERY ROOM....THE MAD LAUGHTER GROWS LOUDER, LOUDER.....IT THUNDERS, POUNDS AT THE BATMAN'S EARDRUMS.....
WITH STARTLING SUDDENNESS THE BATMAN WHIRLS AND LEAPS AT THE WALL BEHIND HIM.....
HE TEARS DOWN AN OBJECT FASTENED TO THE WALL....
I THOUGHT SO..... A MOTION PICTURE PROJECTOR THAT THREW THE IMAGE OF THE JOKER'S FACE ON THE WALL.... AND THERE MUST BE MICROPHONES HIDDEN ABOUT TO SEND OUT THAT LAUGH!
THEN, A VOICE....A SINISTER, MOCKING VOICE....THE VOICE OF THE JOKER!
QUITE RIGHT, BATMAN! AND NOW LISTEN, BATMAN– LISTEN FOR THE HISS OF GAS! IT MARKS YOUR END.... YOUR END!.... HA-HA-HA...
GAS! I'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE!
THE BATMAN TAKES TWO PARTICULAR VIALS FROM HIS UTILITY BELT.....

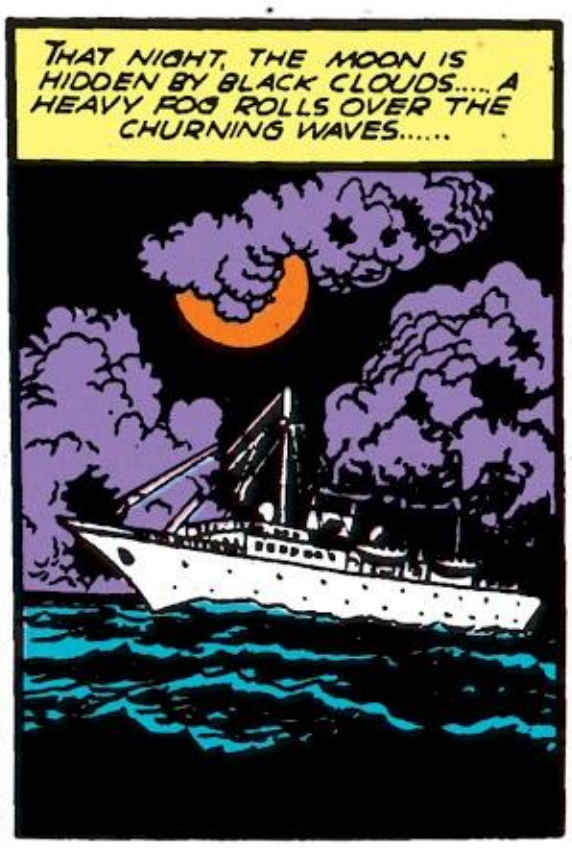

PLACING THE CONTENTS OF ONE VIAL INTO THE OTHER, HE THROWS THE PELLET AT THE WALL....THERE IS A SHATTERING BLAST!....
THE BATMAN DARTS THROUGH THE RENT IN THE WALL TO SEE.....THE JOKER AND ROBIN!
JUST IN TIME, EH, JOKER?
BATMAN!
CRIME-SMASHER AND ARCH-CRIMINAL MEET IN COMBAT!
I'LL MAKE SURE YOU DIE THIS TIME!
FIGHTING WITH MANIACAL FURY, THE JOKER UNLEASHES A BLOW THAT STUNS EVEN THE MIGHTY BATMAN....
AS THE JOKER LEAPS FORWARD, THE BATMAN THRUSTS UP HIS FEET IN A LIGHTNING MOVE....
....THE JOKER IS SENT SAILING OVER THE BATMAN'S HEAD.....
BOB KANE
13
...AND DROPS INTO THE OPEN TRAP-DOOR..... DOWN.... DOWN GOES THE JOKER, TO PLUNGE DEEP INTO THE SEWAGE WATERS RUNNING BENEATH THE MANSION!
PERHAPS....PERHAPS.... BUT HE ALWAYS SEEMS TO HAVE A WAY OF CHEATING DEATH! WELL....IT'S ALL OVER ANYWAY. LET'S GO HOME!
LOOKS LIKE THE JOKER WON'T GET OUT OF THIS SO EASY!
THE End
IS THE JOKER ALIVE? IF THE PATH OF THE BATMAN AND THE JOKER CROSS AGAIN-WELL, THAT WILL BE ANOTHER STORY!

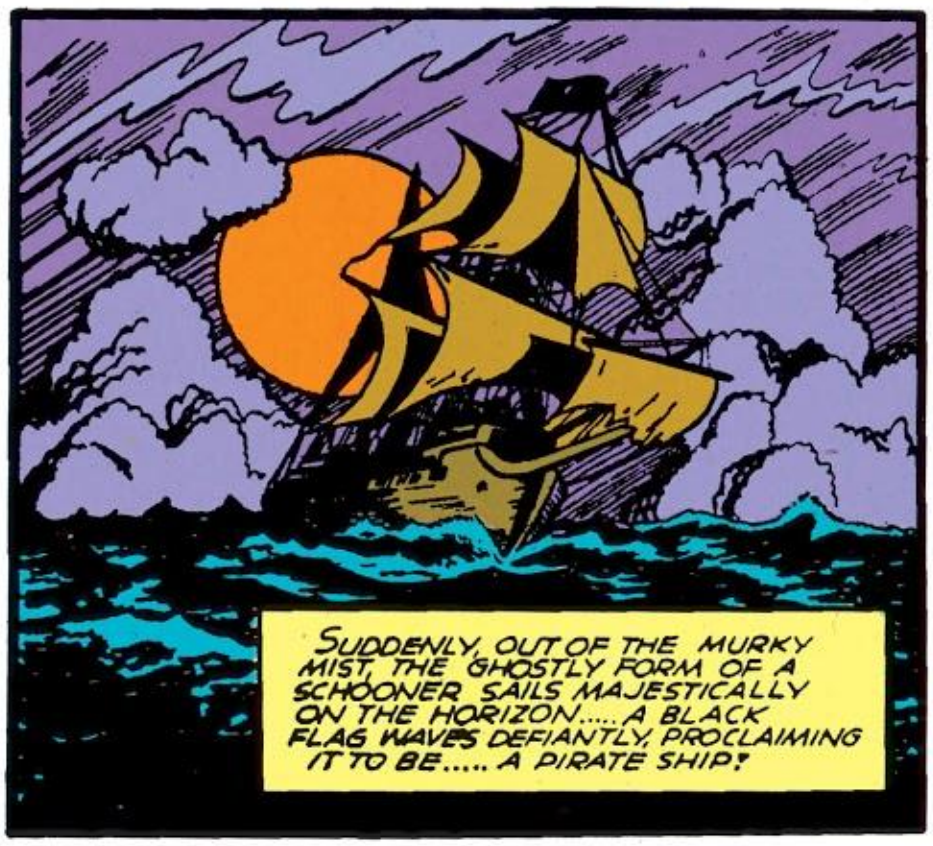
BATMAN
WITH
Robin
-THE BOY WONDER-
THIS IS A STORY OF BOLD PIRATES AND THE BATMAN AND ROBIN. IMPOSSIBLE, YOU SAY.... BATMAN AND ROBIN ARE OF THE PRESENT.... PIRATES ARE OF THE PAST! YET HERE IT IS—A STORY OF FLASHING STEEL, SAVAGE FIGHTING, SWASHBUCKLING PIRATES, BUCCANEERS MET BY THE THUNDERING FISTS OF THE DYNAMIC DUO.....HERE IT IS, ALL CONTAINED IN THE STRANGE TALE, CALLED "BLACKBEARD'S CREW AND THE YACHT SOCIETY"
BOB KANE
THE CLASH OF STEEL UPON STEEL IS HEARD IN THE BRUCE WAYNE HOME.....
NICE WORK, DICK!


SAY WHAT'S THE GOOD OF OUR KNOWING HOW TO FENCE? WE DON'T USE FOILS TO FIGHT WITH TODAY!
TRUE, BUT FENCING TEACHES YOU QUICKNESS OF MOVEMENT... AND BESIDES, IN OUR BUSINESS, IT HELPS TO KNOW THE USE OF ALL WEAPONS!
THE BUSINESS OF BRUCE WAYNE AND YOUNG DICK GRAYSON?..... FIGHTING CRIME! – FOR THEY ARE IN REALITY... THE BATMAN AND ROBIN THE BOY WONDER
AT THAT MOMENT, EVENTS ARE SHAPING SO THE BATMAN AND ROBIN WILL ACTUALLY ENGAGE IN A DUEL... A DUEL OF JUSTICE AGAINST CRIME!
COME ALONG, STANLEY! STOP LAGGING BEHIND! I HAVE SOME LETTERS TO DICTATE!.... HURRY, CAN'T YOU!
Y-YES, SIR!
...ON A NEARBY PIER, PEOPLE BOARD A WAITING YACHT.... A CERTAIN MR. HORN WITH HIS SECRETARY, STANLEY.....
A YOUNG, LOVELY GIRL, WITH HER TWO ARDENT ADMIRERS....
WHEN ARE YOU GOING TO BREAK DOWN AND MARRY ME, ELAINE?
BOYS... HOW CAN I MARRY EITHER ONE OF YOU WHEN I DON'T KNOW WHICH ONE OF YOU I LOVE THE MOST?
FORGET HIM– HOW ABOUT ME?
ALSO BOARDING THE YACHT IS A MR. COWDEN
THERE'S COWDEN! POOR CHAP WENT BANKRUPT! LOST EVERY CENT!
EVERYTHING I WORKED FOR– SWEPT AWAY OVERNIGHT! WHAT CAN I DO NOW? START ALL OVER AGAIN? NO– I'M BEATEN FOR GOOD!
LOOKS TIRED, DOESN'T HE?
WHO ARE THESE PEOPLE?.....MINOR PLAYERS, CERTAINLY..... BUT IT IS THE MINOR PLAYERS THAT MAKE UP THE CAST OF THE DRAMA OF LIFE .... FOR THEY ARE LIFE!
THAT'S THE EXCLUSIVE "YACHT SOCIETY," A CLUB COMPOSED OF YACHT OWNERS. ONCE A YEAR, ON A CERTAIN DAY, THEY GO FOR A LONG CRUISE ON ANOTHER MEMBER'S YACHT!
I HEAR THEY WEAR THE FANCIEST JEWELS.....TRY TO COMPETE WITH EACH OTHER! WHAT A SETUP FOR CROOKS!
THEY'RE SAFE ENOUGH OUT AT SEA! ALL THEY HAVE TO WATCH OUT FOR ARE BUCCANEERS, PIRATES, HAW HAW!
YEAH!... PIRATES IN THE TWENTIETH CENTURY! SHADES OF CAPTAIN KIDD! HAW HAW!
AS SOON AS THE LAST GUEST IS ABOARD, THE YACHT HEADS FOR THE HIGH SEAS ..... AND ONE OF THE STRANGEST OF MODERN ADVENTURES!
IN THE DAYS THAT FOLLOW, THE GUESTS LEAD THEIR NORMAL, EVERYDAY LIVES....
STANLEY..... STOP GAWKING AT THE SEA! YOU'RE NOT A GUEST HERE, YOU KNOW.... BUT JUST MY SECRETARY! TAKE A LETTER
YES, MR HORN! YES, SIR!

IT'S VERY FLATTERING TO A GIRL TO BE LOVED BY TWO SUCH YOUNG MEN, BUT IT'S ALSO VERY DIFFICULT FOR HER!
DON'T KID YOURSELF! IT'S ME YOU REALLY LOVE!

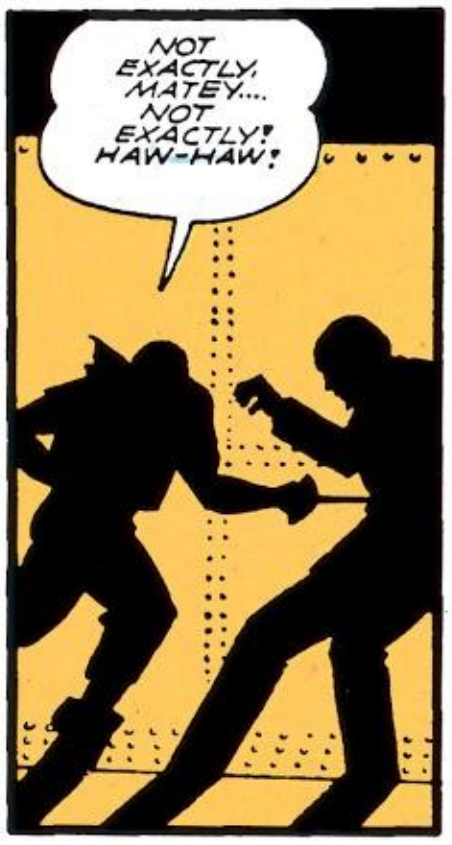
..... AND MR COWDEN!
I'M TIRED.... BEATEN! I DON'T WANT TO FIGHT ANYMORE! THAT WATER..... DROWN YOUR TROUBLES, THEY SAY....


THAT NIGHT, THE MOON IS HIDDEN BY BLACK CLOUDS..... A HEAVY FOG ROLLS OVER THE CHURNING WAVES.....


SUDDENLY, OUT OF THE MURKY MIST, THE GHOSTLY FORM OF A SCHOONER SAILS MAJESTICALLY ON THE HORIZON..... A BLACK FLAG WAVES DEFIANTLY, PROCLAIMING IT TO BE..... A PIRATE SHIP!

SMALL BOATS ARE LOWERED FROM HER SIDE, AND WITH MUFFLED OARS, MEN SLIP UP TO THE YACHT!.....

THE DOOR OF THE CAPTAIN'S CABIN IS THRUST OPEN.....
WHA..... PIRATES! PIRATES!
PIRATES! ....WHY, IT MUST BE A MASQUERADE PARTY!


NOT EXACTLY, MATEY.... NOT EXACTLY! HAW-HAW!

1
THE PEOPLE ARE ALL BROUGHT UP ON DECK, WHERE THEY ARE STRIPPED OF THEIR VALUABLES, WHEN A TERRIBLE FIGURE APPEARS. A MAN WHO SEEMS TO BE A REINCARNATION OF THE DREADED BLACKBEARD, THE PIRATE!
HO HO.... WHAT A PRIZE CATCH THIS IS!
IF THIS IS SOMEONE'S IDEA OF A JOKE....
I SHALL PROTEST TO THE AUTHORITIES.. I....

2
WHAT-WHAT DO YOU INTEND TO DO WITH US?
PUT YE ON MY SHIP AND HOLD YE FOR RANSOM. YOU'RE A RICH PACK.....YOUR RELATIVES AND ASSOCIATES WILL BE GLAD TO PAY!

3
IN THE WIRELESS ROOM, THE QUICK-THINKING SPARKS MANAGES TO SEND OUT A MESSAGE BEFORE HE IS SUBDUED.....
MEN DRESSED AS PIRATES ENTERED. MAY BE MASQUERADE PARTY. ..LOOK VICIOUS...SE...

4
THE MESSAGE IS CAUGHT BY THE AUTHORITIES.
PIRATES! HA. NO DOUBT THOSE RICH PEOPLE ARE HAVING A COSTUMED BALL! PIRATES. CAN YOU IMAGINE IT?
I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT, SIR! IT COULDN'T BE TRUE!

5
THE MESSAGE IS ALSO CAUGHT AT ANOTHER POINT... BY DICK GRAYSON AND BRUCE WAYNE!...
YOU HEARD IT! THINK WE OUGHT TO INVESTIGATE!
SOUNDS FANTASTIC, BUT THE MOST IMPROBABLE THINGS SOMETIME TURN OUT TO BE QUITE TRUE! WE MIGHT TAKE A LOOK! WON'T HURT!

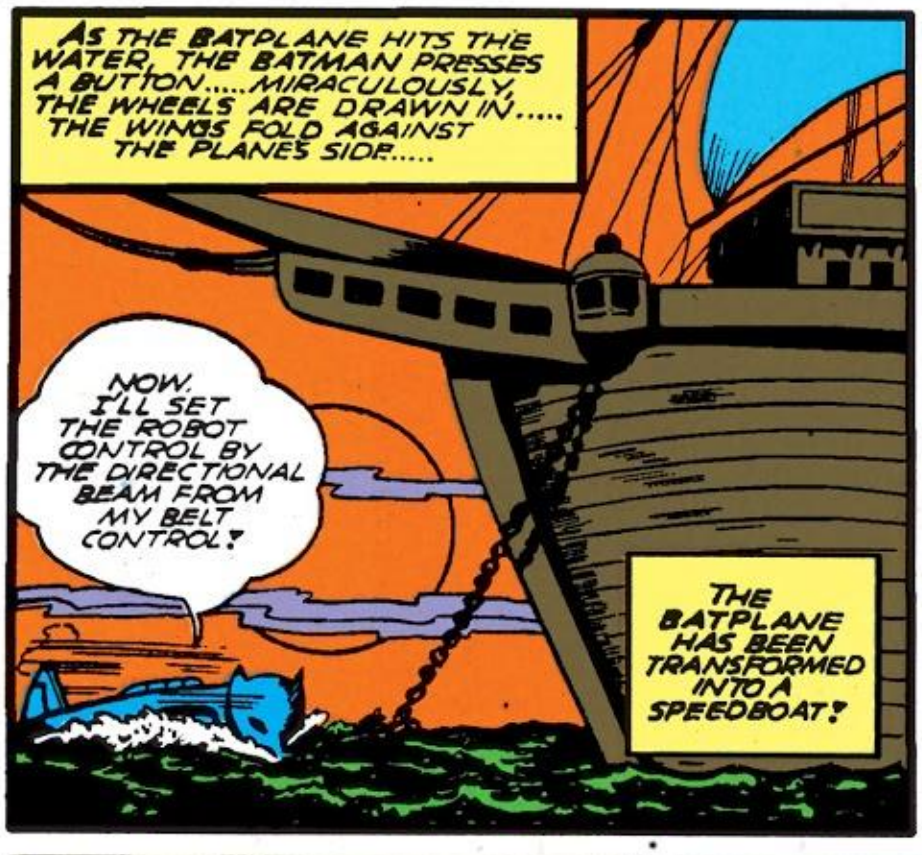
6
STRANGE GARB TRANSFORMS THE TWO INTO THAT DYNAMIC DUO .... BATMAN AND ROBIN, THE BOY WONDER!....
ALL SET, ROBIN!
JUST LEAD ME TO THOSE PIRATES!

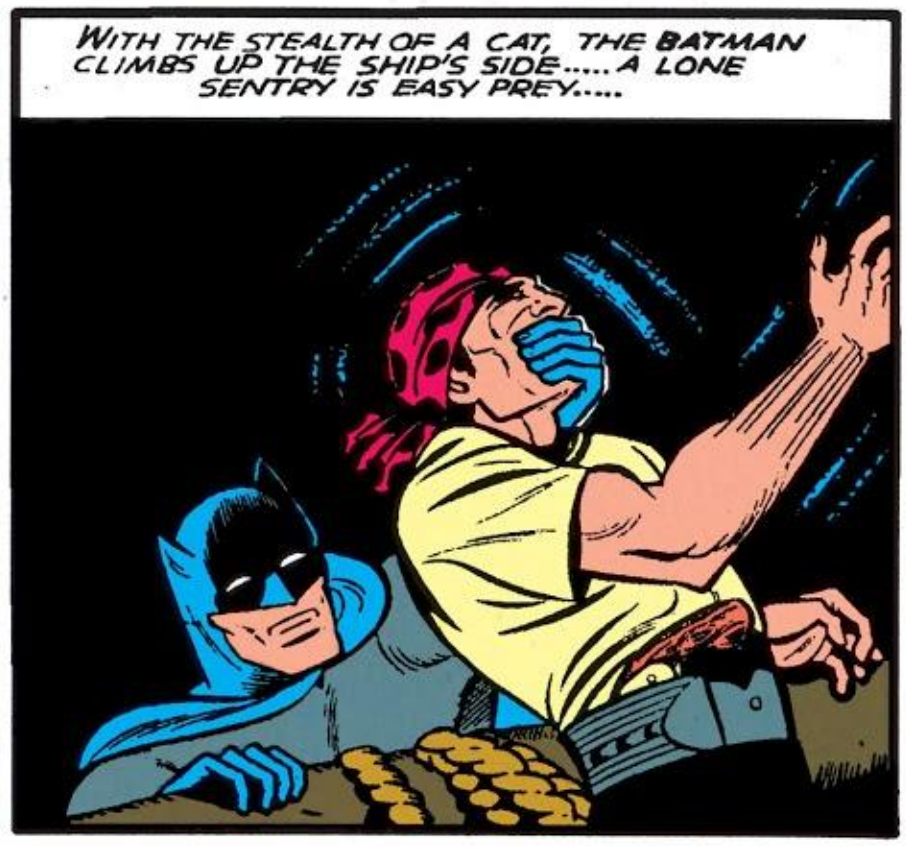
7
LATER, A STRANGE, WEIRD-LOOKING CRAFT WINGS OVER THE SEA..... THE BATPLANE!

THERE'S THE YACHT! FUNNY– THERE'S NO ONE ON DECK! IT LOOKS DESERTED!
SOMETIME LATER... DAWN BEGINS TO BREAK.

LOOK! LOOK OVER THERE!
EITHER MY EYES ARE PLAYING TRICKS ON ME, OR THAT IS A PIRATE SHIP... A PIRATE SHIP, SHELP ME!

WHAT ARE YOU SETTING HER DOWN FOR?
UNDOUBTEDLY, THAT'S WHERE THE PEOPLE FROM THE YACHT ARE BEING HELD!


AS THE BATPLANE HITS THE WATER, THE BATMAN PRESSES A BUTTON.....MIRACULOUSLY, THE WHEELS ARE DRAWN IN..... THE WINGS FOLD AGAINST THE PLANE'S SIDE.....
NOW, I'LL SET THE ROBOT CONTROL BY THE DIRECTIONAL BEAM FROM MY BELT CONTROL!
THE BATPLANE HAS BEEN TRANSFORMED INTO A SPEEDBOAT!

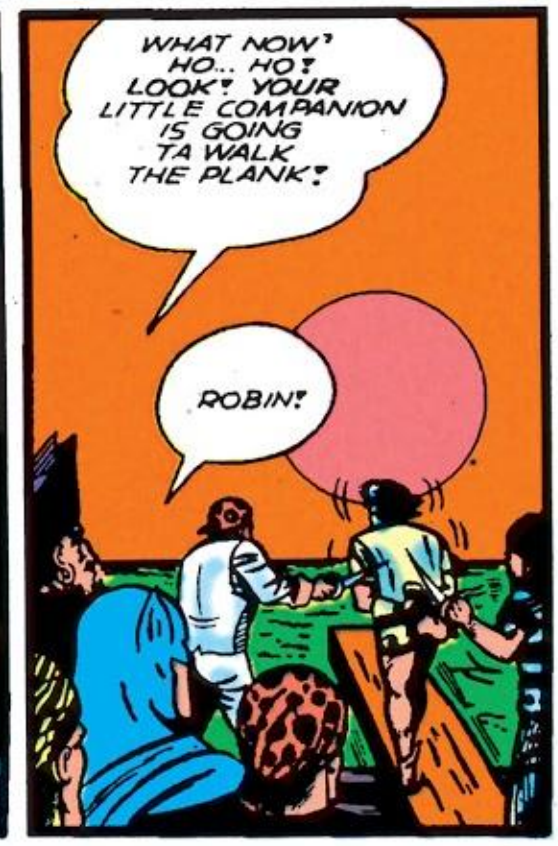

WITH THE STEALTH OF A CAT, THE BATMAN CLIMBS UP THE SHIP'S SIDE..... A LONE SENTRY IS EASY PREY.....

AS THE TWO SPRING LIGHTLY TO THE DECK, THEY ARE UNAWARE OF A RELIEF SENTRY'S WATCHING EYES.....

SECONDS LATER, AS THEY PASS THE HOLD MANY FORMS FLING THEMSELVES OUT OF THE SHADOWS
GET 'EM!
WHA?

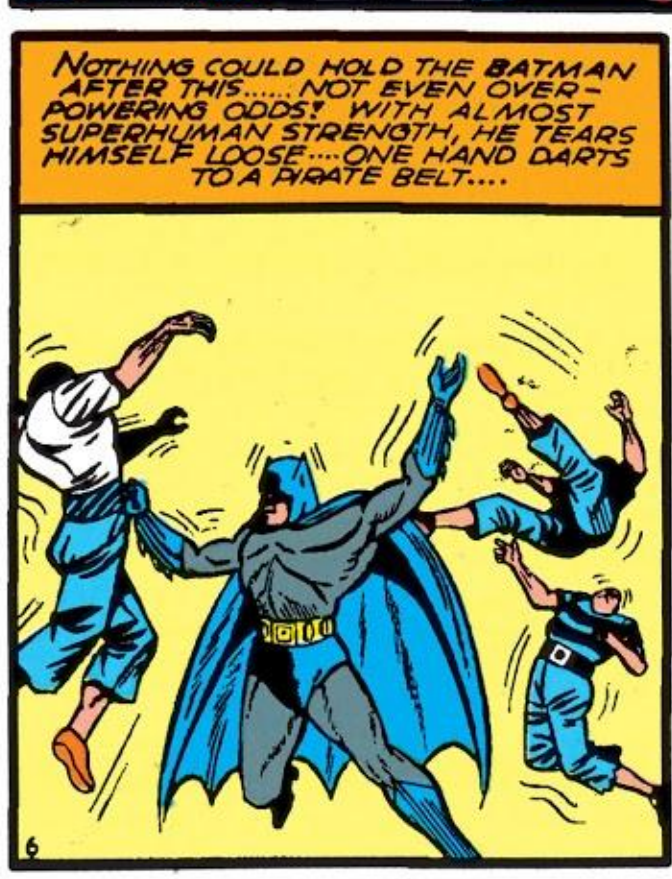
THOUGH THEY BATTLE VALIANTLY, THE BATMAN AND ROBIN ARE OVERWHELMED BY SUPERIOR NUMBERS.

WHEN THE BATMAN AWAKENS.
PERHAPS, YE'VE HEARD OF ME? I'M BLACKBEARD! I KNOW YOU.... BATMAN
AMAZING HOW AN EIGHTEENTH CENTURY PIRATE KNOWS OF A TWENTIETH CENTURY PERSON LIKE MYSELF! WELL, MR. DIRTY BEARD, OR BLACKBEARD, WHAT NOW?


WHAT NOW? HO... HO! LOOK! YOUR LITTLE COMPANION IS GOING TA WALK THE PLANK!
ROBIN!

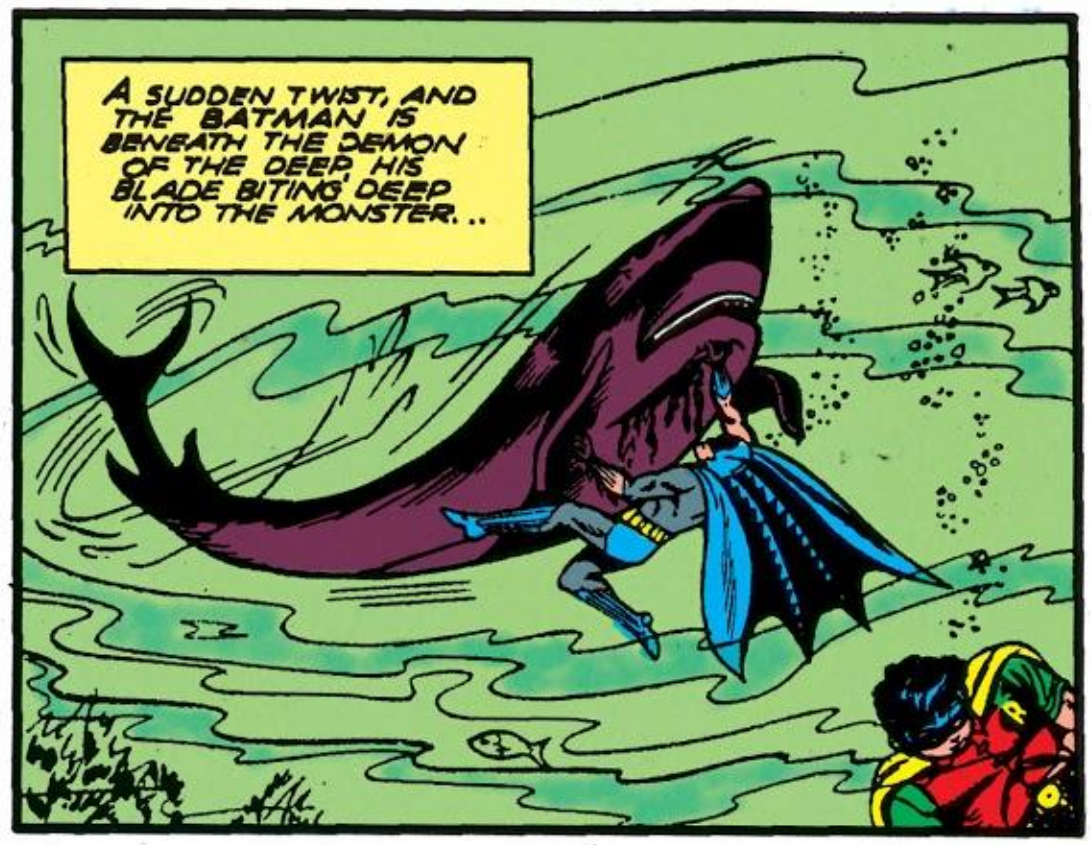
THE BATMAN GOES BERSERK AT THE SIGHT....
YOU ROTTEN SWINE! I'LL GET YOU FOR THIS! LET ME GO! LET ME GO!
HO HO HO..... HO....

A FINAL SHOVE .... AND ROBIN TOPPLES OFF THE PLANK!
IN YOU GO! HA HA!


NOTHING COULD HOLD THE BATMAN AFTER THIS..... NOT EVEN OVER-POWERING ODDS! WITH ALMOST SUPERHUMAN STRENGTH, HE TEARS HIMSELF LOOSE....ONE HAND DARTS TO A PIRATE BELT....

....A LITHE SPRING AND HE IS OVER THE SHIP'S SIDE....

A NEW MENACE APPROACHES - A TIGER SHARK APPEARS, CUTTING SHARPLY TOWARD ROBIN'S PLUMMETING FORM.....


A SUDDEN TWIST, AND THE BATMAN IS BENEATH THE DEMON OF THE DEEP, HIS BLADE BITING DEEP INTO THE MONSTER...

LOOK! BLOOD! THAT SHARK WE SEEN MUST HAVE GOT 'EM!
THAT'S THE END OF THE BATMAN!

BUT THE BATMAN AND ROBIN ARE VERY MUCH ALIVE....SWIMMING BENEATH THE SHIP, THEY CLIMB UP THE OTHER SIDE.....
THE HOLD IS OPEN ABOVE US! WE HEARD BLACKBEARD AND HIS MEN TALKING ABOUT YOU!
THANKS. BUT HOW DID YOU KNOW?

LEST THE CREW ABOVE MIGHT HEAR, THE PRISONERS GATHER IN A FAR CORNER OF THE HOLD.
YOU HAVE A PLAN TO FREE US?
YES, WHILE ROBIN AND I KEEP THE PIRATES OCCUPIED, I WANT TWO MEN TO GATHER ARMS FROM THE ROUNDHOUSE!

YOU CAN COUNT ME IN ON THIS!
IT MAY BE CRAZY, BUT IT'S THRILLING! GO TO IT, HENRY!
THIS IS CRAZY. THEY'LL GET YOU BEFORE YOU CAN GET STARTED!

EYES SHINING WITH EAGERNESS, COWDEN STEPS FORWARD.....
I'M YOUR OTHER MAN! I WANT TO FIGHT!
YOU'RE MAD, ALL OF YOU— MAD! TRUSTING YOUR LIFE TO THIS— THIS MASKED BANDIT!—

THE BATMAN! LIKE AS NOT HE'S.....
SHUT UP!

FOR TEN YEARS NOW, YOU'VE ORDERED ME AROUND! NOW, I'M GOING TO TELL YOU WHAT TO DO! IF YOU DON'T SHUT UP, I'M GOING TO SLAP YOU SILLY! NOW- SHUT UP!

IF YOU CAN USE AN EXTRA MAN..?
THANKS, BUT JUST TWO WILL BE ENOUGH! NOW, LISTEN CAREFULLY...

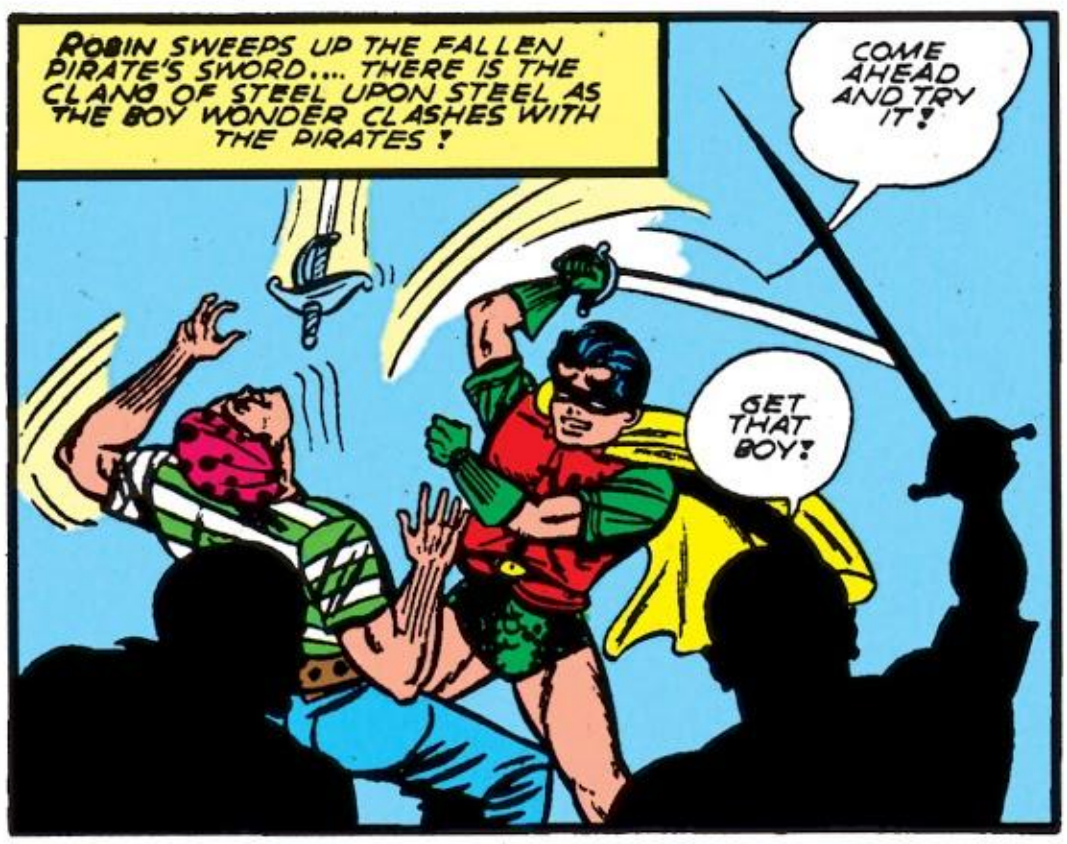
MOMENTS LATER, A PIRATE WHEELS AS A VOICE HAILS HIM....
HI THERE, UGLY!
IT'S HIM, THE BOY! ESCAPED- NOT DEAD!

DRAWING HIS CUTLASS, THE PIRATE LUNGES FORWARD....
I'LL MAKE SURE YOU DIE THIS TIME!

...BUT THE BOY WONDER NIMBLY LEAPS OVER THE SLASHING BLADE, WITH THE AGILITY OF A TRAINED ACROBAT!
WHAT SAY TO A GAME OF "HOP SCOTCH"?

TCH-TCH NO MANNERS! DON'T YOU KNOW IT'S NOT POLITE TO TURN YOUR BACK TO PEOPLE!
OW!

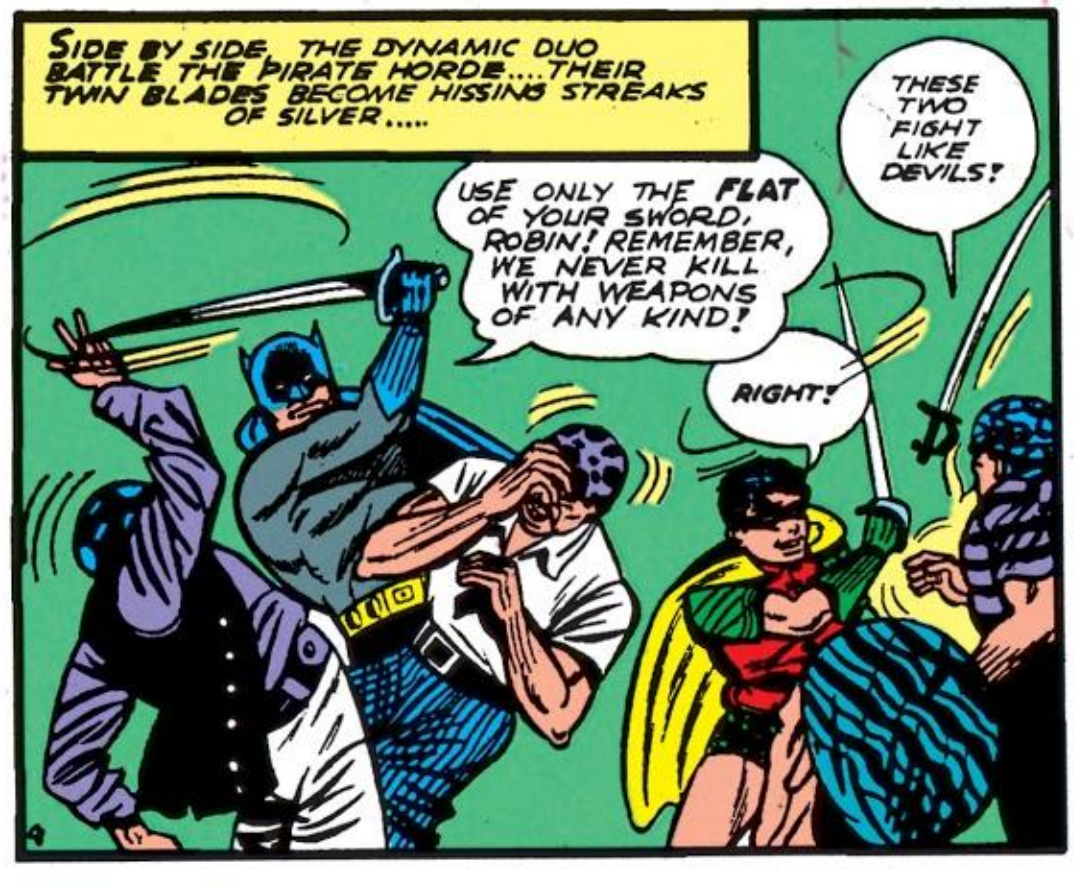
LOOK! THE GHOST OF THE BOY!
WE KNOW HOW TO SETTLE WITH "GHOSTS!" C'MON!


ROBIN SWEEPS UP THE FALLEN PIRATE'S SWORD.... THERE IS THE CLANG OF STEEL UPON STEEL AS THE BOY WONDER CLASHES WITH THE PIRATES!
COME AHEAD AND TRY IT!
GET THAT BOY!

MEANWHILE, THE BATMAN HAS BEEN QUITE BUSY...
UGH!
I'LL TAKE THAT SWORD, PLEASE!

A LITHE SPRING TO A DANGLING ROPE, AND HE SWINGS ACROSS THE DECK.....

MIND IF I BUTT IN?

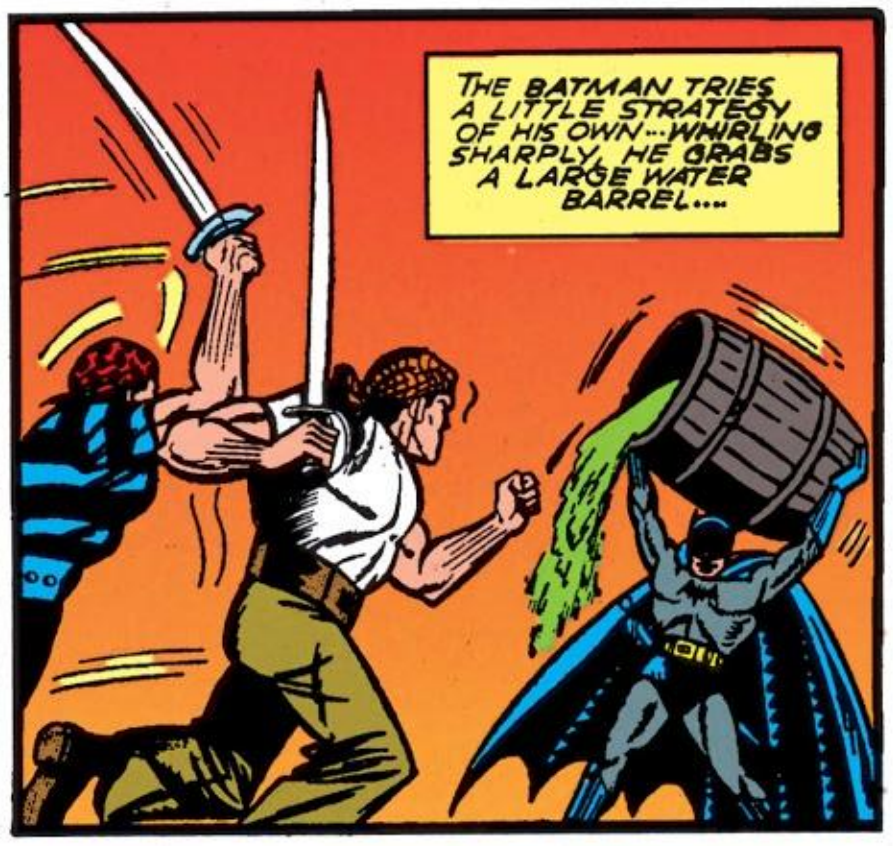

SIDE BY SIDE, THE DYNAMIC DUO BATTLE THE PIRATE HORDE....THEIR TWIN BLADES BECOME HISSING STREAKS OF SILVER.....
USE ONLY THE FLAT OF YOUR SWORD, ROBIN! REMEMBER, WE NEVER KILL WITH WEAPONS OF ANY KIND!
THESE TWO FIGHT LIKE DEVILS!
RIGHT!

AS MORE PIRATES CHARGE ON DECK, ROBIN SUDDENLY PUTS A PLAN INTO ACTION. HE RACES AWAY PURSUED BY A SHOUTING PIRATE....
FRIGHTENED, EH?

THE BOY WONDER GRASPS THE LOW-HANGING ROPE....
UP THE STAIRS, MEN... HE'S GETTING AWAY!

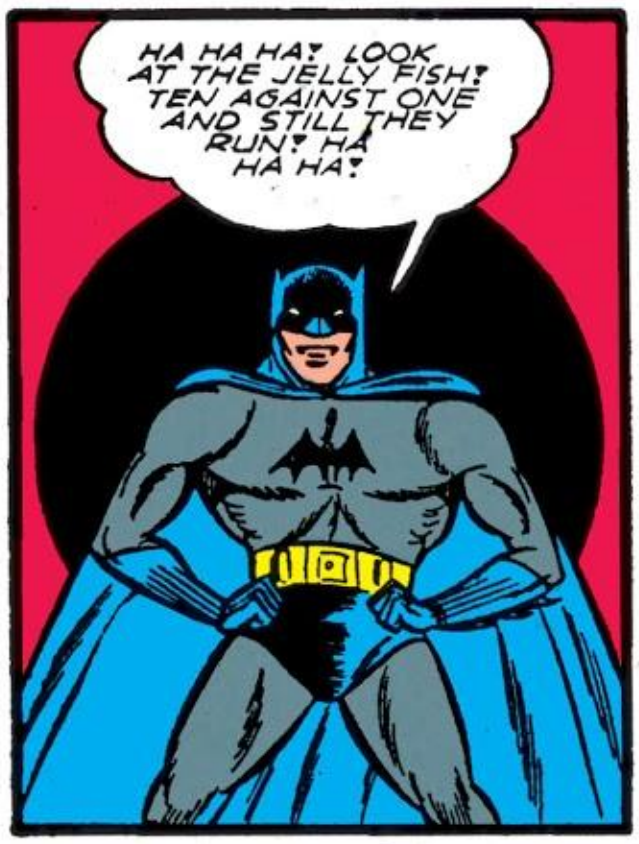
....SWINGS TO THE UPPER DECK.... A QUICK PIVOT....

....AND THE PIRATES GO SPRAWLING DOWN THE STAIRS!


THE BATMAN TRIES A LITTLE STRATEGY OF HIS OWN...WHIRLING SHARPLY, HE GRABS A LARGE WATER BARREL....

YOU BOYS LOOK LIKE YOU CAN USE A BATH, ANYWAY!

THEN, THE BATMAN CHARGES... AS HIS BLADE FLASHES.....THE PIRATES BREAK BEFORE HIM LIKE WATER, TUMBLING AGAINST ONE ANOTHER AS THEY RUN!
COME ON, YOU SPINELESS SWINE... FIGHT!

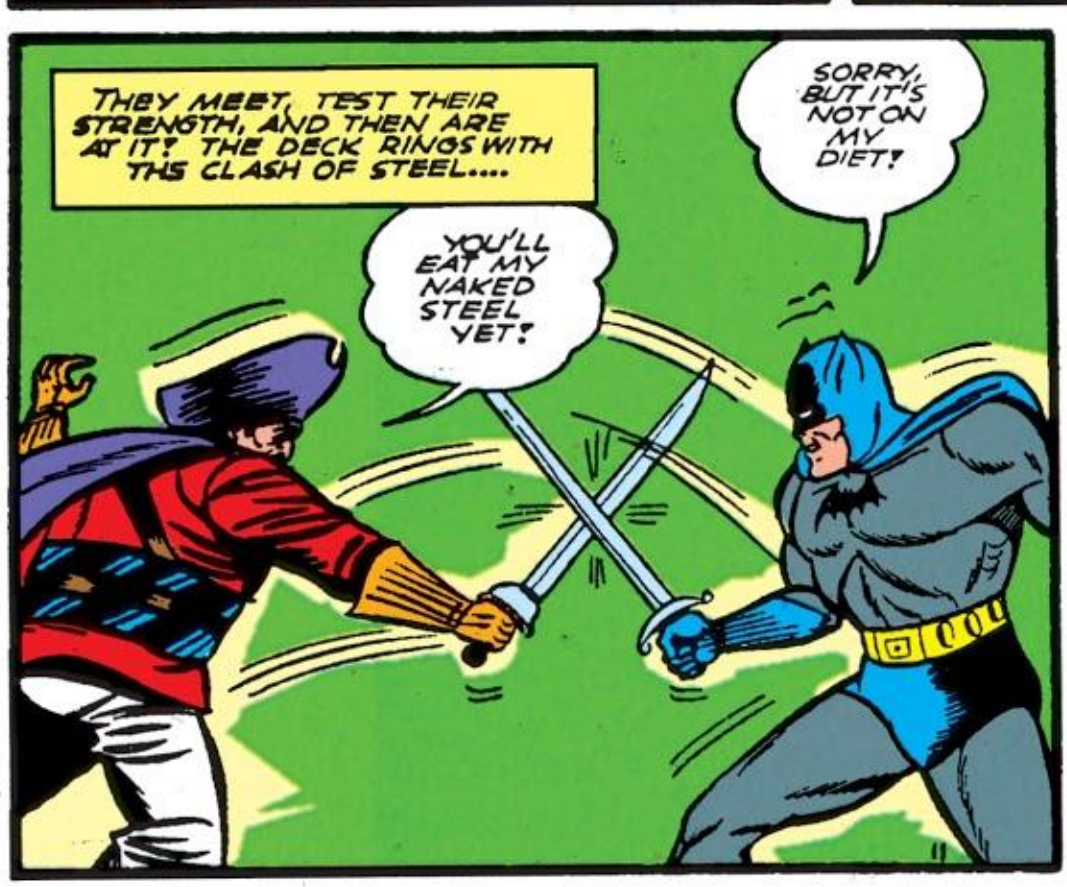

HA HA HA! LOOK AT THE JELLY FISH! TEN AGAINST ONE AND STILL THEY RUN! HA HA HA!

HIGH ABOVE, ROBIN SCRAMBLES UP THE SHIP'S RIGGING....

HIS KNIFE SLASHES AT THE RIGGING ROPES, AND THE SAILS DROP FROM THE MASTS IN GREAT WAVES.....
THE SAILS! THEY'RE FALLING!

THE PIRATES ARE ENVELOPED BY THE HEAVY SAILS!

AT THAT VERY INSTANT, THE GREAT BLACKBEARD HIMSELF RUSHES FULL TILT AT THE BATMAN!
SO, YOU'VE RISEN FROM THE GRAVE, EH? — WELL, I'LL SEND YOU BACK TO IT!
WORDS, BLACKBEARD— JUST WORDS!


THEY MEET, TEST THEIR STRENGTH, AND THEN ARE AT IT! THE DECK RINGS WITH THE CLASH OF STEEL....
YOU'LL EAT MY NAKED STEEL YET!
SORRY, BUT IT'S NOT ON MY DIET!

SUDDENLY, THE BATMAN SLIPS ON A FALLEN KNIFE....
NOW, I HAVE YOU!

BLACKBEARD'S SWORD DARTS IN LIKE THE TONGUE OF A SNAKE, BUT THE BATMAN TWISTS ASIDE..
MY STEEL!

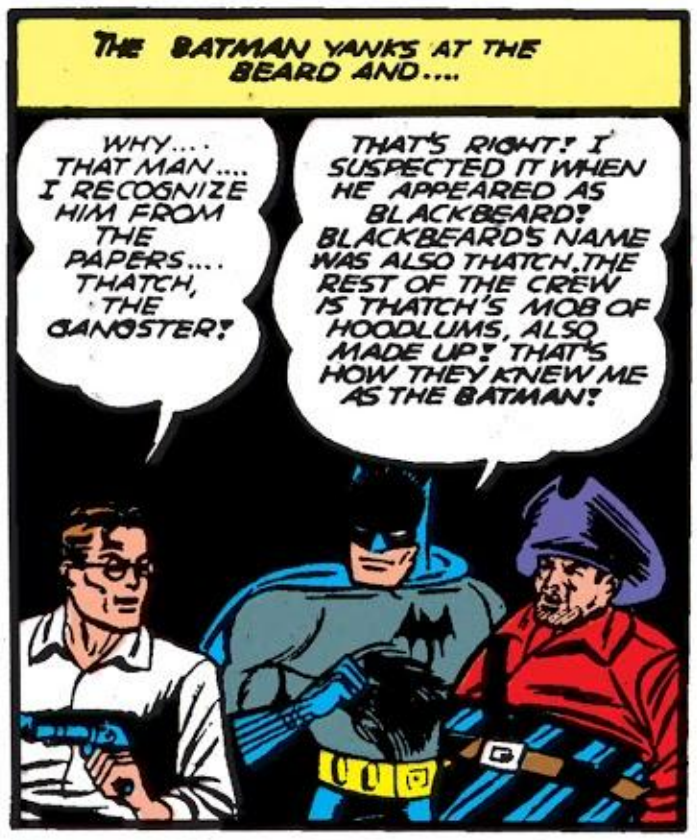
MY FOOT!

SNAPPING ERECT LIKE A COILED SPRING, THE BATMAN PARRIES A TERRIBLE COUNTER-STROKE.
HAH!
HA-HA!

....THEN, THE BATMAN'S HAND STREAKS FORWARD IN A DEADLY THRUST..... IT IS A MASTER-STROKE FOR BLACKBEARD'S SWORD FLIES FROM HIS HAND....
NOW!
HUH?

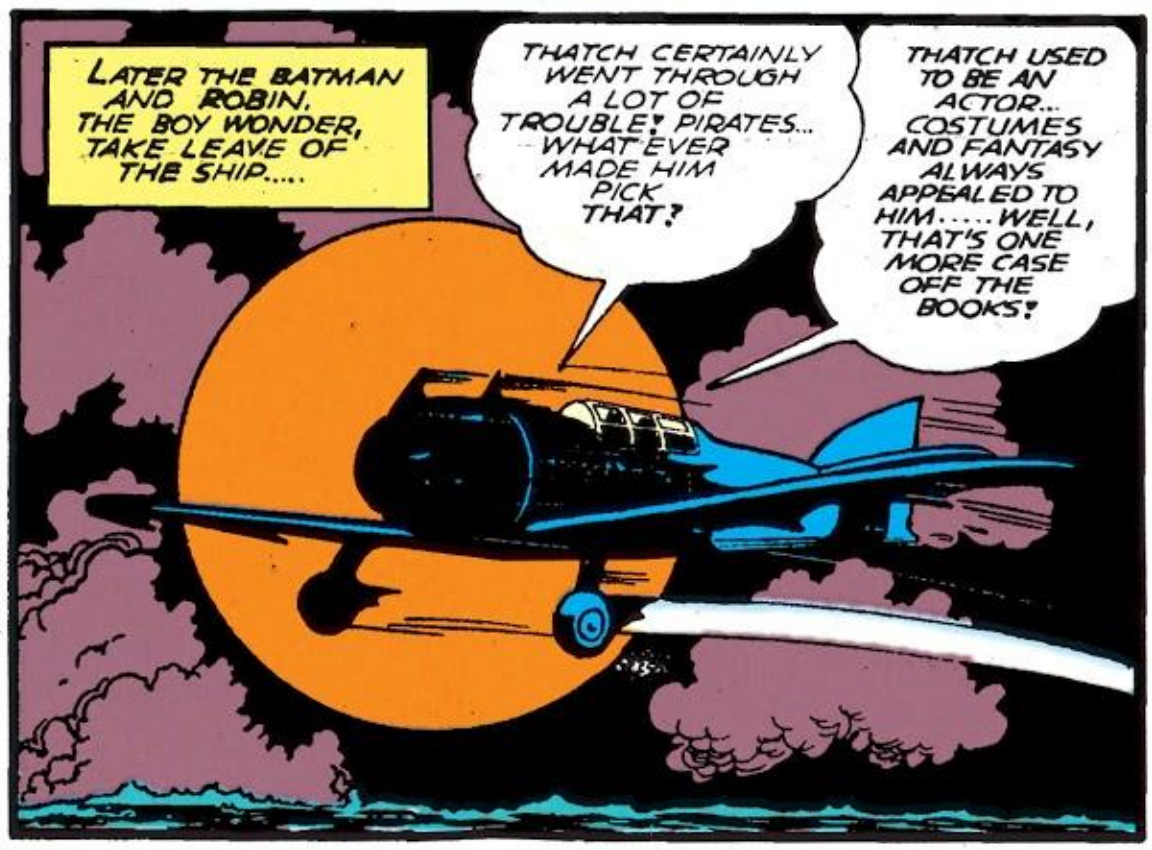
I DON'T NEED A SWORD, NOW! THIS WILL BE JUST AS EFFECTIVE!
UGH!

HENRY AND COWDEN ROUND UP THE PIRATES....
...AND NOW, I'LL SHOW YOU WHO OUR FRIEND, BLACKBEARD, REALLY IS!


THE BATMAN YANKS AT THE BEARD AND....
WHY.... THAT MAN.... I RECOGNIZE HIM FROM THE PAPERS.... THATCH, THE GANGSTER!
THAT'S RIGHT! I SUSPECTED IT WHEN HE APPEARED AS BLACKBEARD! BLACKBEARD'S NAME WAS ALSO THATCH. THE REST OF THE CREW IS THATCH'S MOB OF HOODLUMS, ALSO MADE UP! THAT'S HOW THEY KNEW ME AS THE BATMAN!

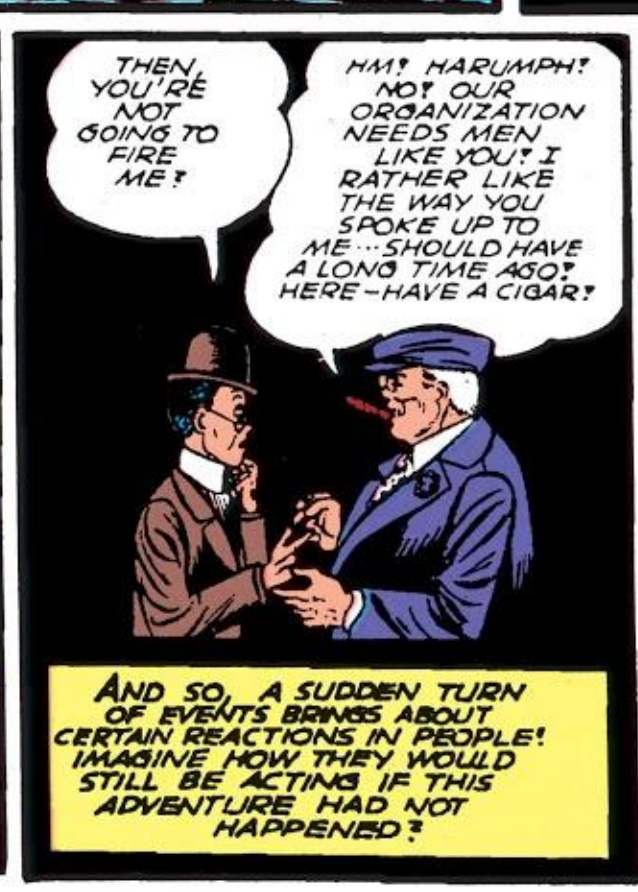
THATCH CONFESSES....
SO, YOU KNEW OF THE "YACHT SOCIETY'S" TRIP A YEAR AGO?
SURE! AFTER LAST YEAR'S CRUISE, THE SOCIETY MENTIONED THE YACHT PICKED FOR THIS YEAR! I PLANNED IT THEN! WAS GOING TO ROB THE PEOPLE...

... AND HOLD THEM FOR A RANSOM! I GOT MY MEN TOGETHER AND HAD A FRIEND TEACH THEM TO DUEL! I BOUGHT THIS SHIP FOR CASH UNDER ANOTHER NAME!
AND NATURALLY, WHEN YOU RETURNED AS YOURSELVES AGAIN, NO-ONE WOULD SUSPECT THE SUDDENLY REINCARNATED BLACKBEARD AND HIS PIRATES, ARE YOU GANGSTERS! CLEVER!

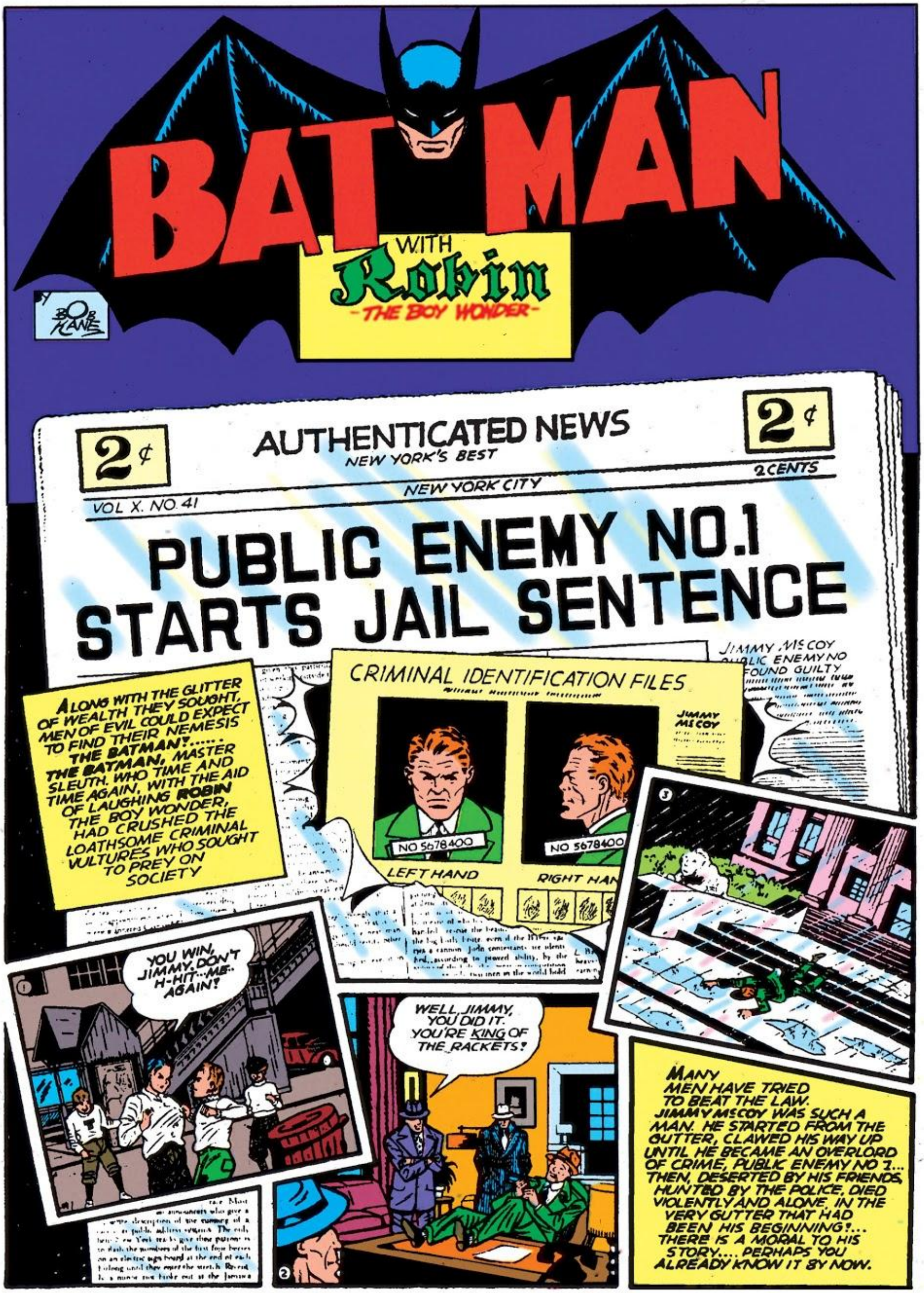

LATER THE BATMAN AND ROBIN, THE BOY WONDER, TAKE LEAVE OF THE SHIP.....
THATCH CERTAINLY WENT THROUGH A LOT OF TROUBLE! PIRATES... WHAT EVER MADE HIM PICK THAT?
THATCH USED TO BE AN ACTOR... COSTUMES AND FANTASY ALWAYS APPEALED TO HIM..... WELL, THAT'S ONE MORE CASE OFF THE BOOKS!

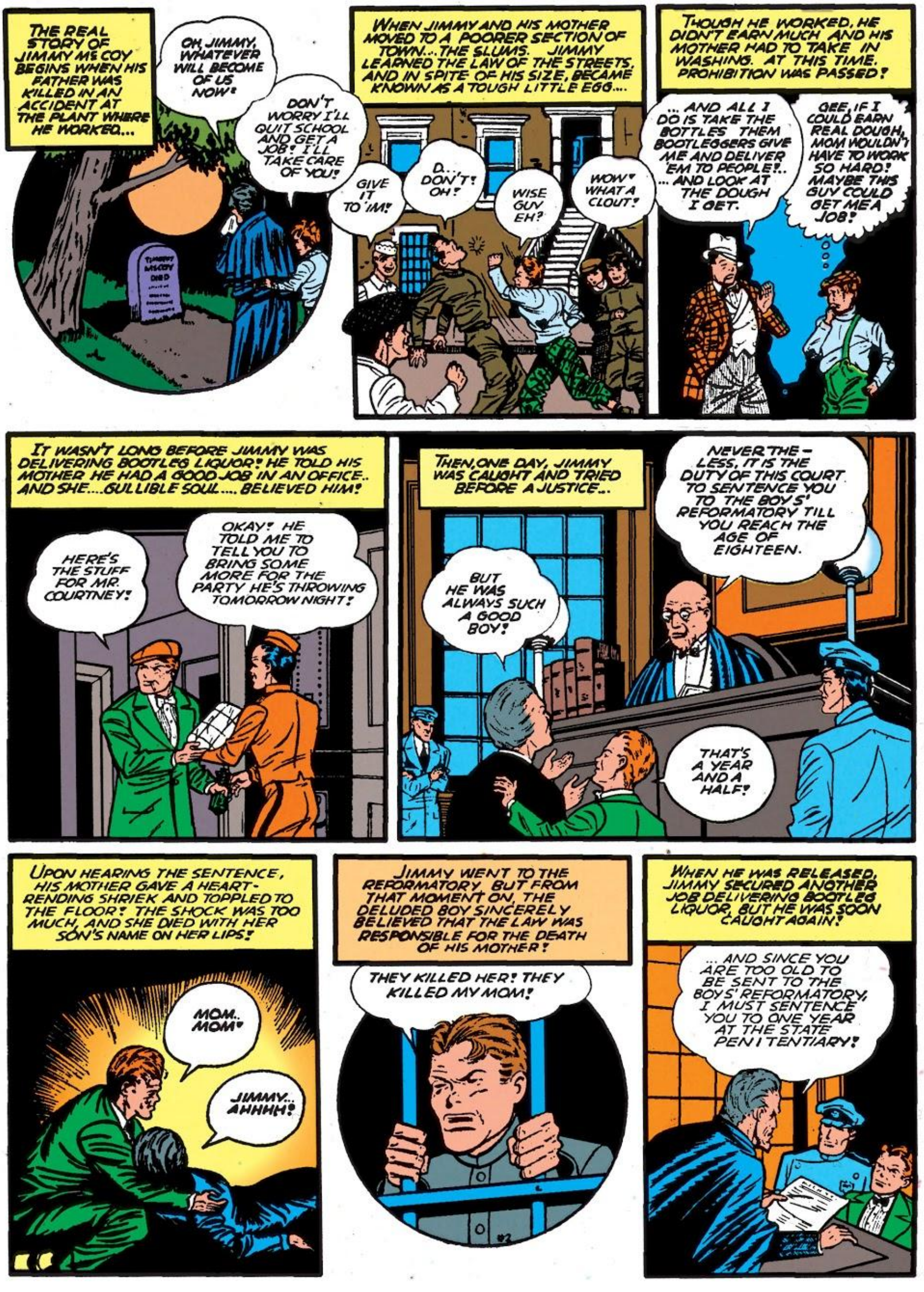
THE BATMAN'S ADVENTURE MAY BE FINISHED, BUT FOR OTHERS IT IS JUST BEGINNING... ABOARD THE YACHT.....
WHEN DID YOU KNOW IT WAS ME YOU REALLY LOVED?
WHEN YOU OFFERED TO HELP THE BATMAN, AND PAUL HESITATED— HIS HESITATION DECIDED ME!

I HEAR YOU'RE THINKING OF QUITTING THE FIELD, COWDEN!
I WAS, BUT THIS TRIP SUDDENLY SHOWED ME WHAT EXCITEMENT THERE IS IN FIGHTING INSTEAD OF QUITTING! NO SIR, I'M NOT QUITTING!


THEN, YOU'RE NOT GOING TO FIRE ME?
HM! HARUMPH! NO! OUR ORGANIZATION NEEDS MEN LIKE YOU! I RATHER LIKE THE WAY YOU SPOKE UP TO ME... SHOULD HAVE A LONG TIME AGO! HERE—HAVE A CIGAR!
AND SO, A SUDDEN TURN OF EVENTS BRINGS ABOUT CERTAIN REACTIONS IN PEOPLE! IMAGINE HOW THEY WOULD STILL BE ACTING IF THIS ADVENTURE HAD NOT HAPPENED!

Acclaimed
AMERICA'S NUMBER ONE ADVENTURE TEAM
THE AMAZING BATMAN WITH THAT SENSATIONAL YOUNG PHENOMENON, THE Original AND GREATEST WONDER BOY OF THEM ALL ROBIN— THRILL YOU EVERY MONTH— WITH THEIR ASTOUNDING, ACTION-A-MINUTE EXPLOITS IN DETECTIVE COMICS


BATMAN
WITH
Robin
-THE BOY WONDER-
BOB KANE
2¢
AUTHENTICATED NEWS
NEW YORK'S BEST
2¢
2 CENTS
NEW YORK CITY
VOL X. NO. 41
PUBLIC ENEMY NO.1 STARTS JAIL SENTENCE
JIMMY McCOY PUBLIC ENEMY NO FOUND GUILTY
ALONG WITH THE GLITTER OF WEALTH THEY SOUGHT, MEN OF EVIL COULD EXPECT TO FIND THEIR NEMESIS THE BATMAN!..... THE BATMAN, MASTER SLEUTH. WHO TIME AND TIME AGAIN, WITH THE AID OF LAUGHING ROBIN THE BOY WONDER, HAD CRUSHED THE LOATHSOME CRIMINAL VULTURES WHO SOUGHT TO PREY ON SOCIETY
CRIMINAL IDENTIFICATION FILES
JIMMY McCOY
NO 5678400
NO 5678400
LEFT HAND
RIGHT HAN
YOU WIN, JIMMY. DON'T H-HIT...ME.. AGAIN!
WELL, JIMMY, YOU DID IT. YOU'RE KING OF THE RACKETS!
MANY MEN HAVE TRIED TO BEAT THE LAW. JIMMY McCOY WAS SUCH A MAN. HE STARTED FROM THE GUTTER, CLAWED HIS WAY UP UNTIL HE BECAME AN OVERLORD OF CRIME, PUBLIC ENEMY NO 1... THEN, DESERTED BY HIS FRIENDS, HUNTED BY THE POLICE, DIED VIOLENTLY AND ALONE, IN THE VERY GUTTER THAT HAD BEEN HIS BEGINNING!... THERE IS A MORAL TO HIS STORY.... PERHAPS YOU ALREADY KNOW IT BY NOW.

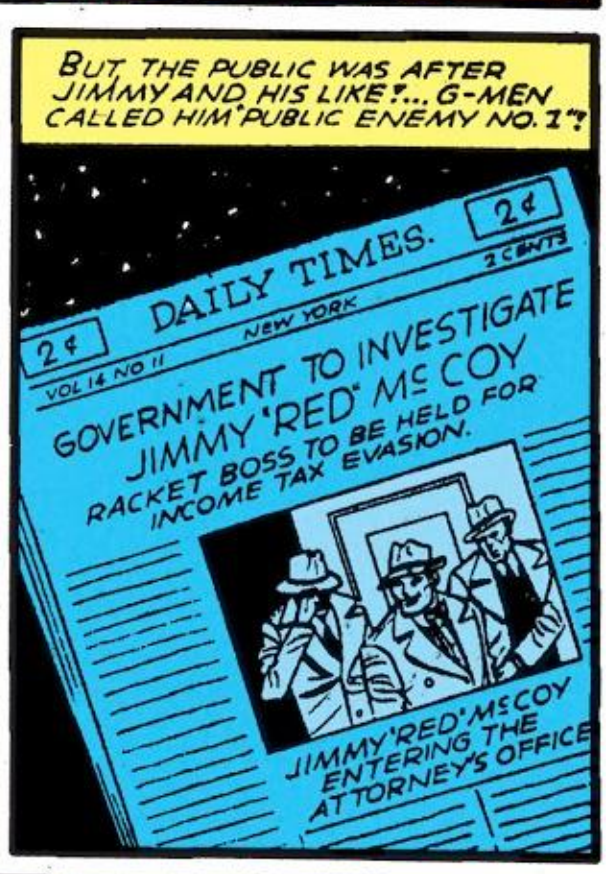

THE REAL STORY OF JIMMY McCOY BEGINS WHEN HIS FATHER WAS KILLED IN AN ACCIDENT AT THE PLANT WHERE HE WORKED...
OH, JIMMY, WHATEVER WILL BECOME OF US NOW!
DON'T WORRY I'LL QUIT SCHOOL AND GET A JOB! I'LL TAKE CARE OF YOU!
WHEN JIMMY AND HIS MOTHER MOVED TO A POORER SECTION OF TOWN... THE SLUMS. JIMMY LEARNED THE LAW OF THE STREETS, AND IN SPITE OF HIS SIZE, BECAME KNOWN AS A TOUGH LITTLE EGG....
GIVE IT TO 'IM!
D... DON'T! OH!
WISE GUY EH?
WOW! WHAT A CLOUT!
THOUGH HE WORKED, HE DIDN'T EARN MUCH AND HIS MOTHER HAD TO TAKE IN WASHING. AT THIS TIME, PROHIBITION WAS PASSED!
... AND ALL I DO IS TAKE THE BOTTLES THEM BOOTLEGGERS GIVE ME AND DELIVER 'EM TO PEOPLE!.. ... AND LOOK AT THE DOUGH I GET.
GEE, IF I COULD EARN REAL DOUGH, MOM WOULDN'T HAVE TO WORK SO HARD! MAYBE THIS GUY COULD GET ME A JOB!
IT WASN'T LONG BEFORE JIMMY WAS DELIVERING BOOTLEG LIQUOR! HE TOLD HIS MOTHER HE HAD A GOOD JOB IN AN OFFICE.. AND SHE....GULLIBLE SOUL.... BELIEVED HIM!
HERE'S THE STUFF FOR MR. COURTNEY!
OKAY! HE TOLD ME TO TELL YOU TO BRING SOME MORE FOR THE PARTY HE'S THROWING TOMORROW NIGHT!
THEN, ONE DAY, JIMMY WAS CAUGHT AND TRIED BEFORE A JUSTICE...
BUT HE WAS ALWAYS SUCH A GOOD BOY!
NEVERTHE-LESS, IT IS THE DUTY OF THIS COURT TO SENTENCE YOU TO THE BOYS' REFORMATORY TILL YOU REACH THE AGE OF EIGHTEEN.
THAT'S A YEAR AND A HALF!
UPON HEARING THE SENTENCE, HIS MOTHER GAVE A HEART-RENDING SHRIEK AND TOPPLED TO THE FLOOR! THE SHOCK WAS TOO MUCH, AND SHE DIED WITH HER SON'S NAME ON HER LIPS!
MOM.. MOM!
JIMMY... AHHHH!
JIMMY WENT TO THE REFORMATORY, BUT FROM THAT MOMENT ON, THE DELUDED BOY SINCERELY BELIEVED THAT THE LAW WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DEATH OF HIS MOTHER!
THEY KILLED HER! THEY KILLED MY MOM!
WHEN HE WAS RELEASED, JIMMY SECURED ANOTHER JOB DELIVERING BOOTLEG LIQUOR, BUT HE WAS SOON CAUGHT AGAIN!
... AND SINCE YOU ARE TOO OLD TO BE SENT TO THE BOYS' REFORMATORY, I MUST SENTENCE YOU TO ONE YEAR AT THE STATE PENITENTIARY!

IN JAIL JIMMY BECOMES ACQUAINTED WITH HARDENED CRIMINALS...MEN WHO HAD BUCKED THE LAW ALL THER LIFE!
WHEN WE GET OUT, KID, I'LL GET YOU IN WITH A MOB! I KNOW! YOU'RE A SMART KID! YOU CAN GET TO BE A BIG SHOT!

IN THE YEARS THAT FOLLOWED, JIMMY McCOY CHANGED FROM AN EMBITTERED BOY, TO A SNEERING, CUNNING CRIMINAL
...AN' FROM NOW ON, YOU'RE GONNA BUY OUR BEER! - AN' IF YA DON'T....
See ED' for a TOM
NO TRUST

JIMMY WASN'T CONTENT TO BE A MERE MOBSTER. HE ORGANIZED HIS OWN MOB AND IT WASN'T LONG BEFORE HE WAS BEING CALLED THE "KING OF RACKETS!"
I WANT YOU BOYS TO PAY A VISIT TO AUGIE DAVIS! TELL HIM I'M TAKING OVER THE NORTH SIDE! GET GOIN'!

THEN ONE DAY, JIMMY'S BUBBLE BURST.... PROHIBITION WAS REPEALED!
WHAT ARE WE GONNA DO? BOOTLEGGIN' WON'T GET US DOUGH ANYMORE!
WE'LL EXPAND OUR "PROTECTION" RACKET! THERE'S WAYS WE CAN GET DOUGH FROM THE SUCKERS! STOP WORRYIN'!

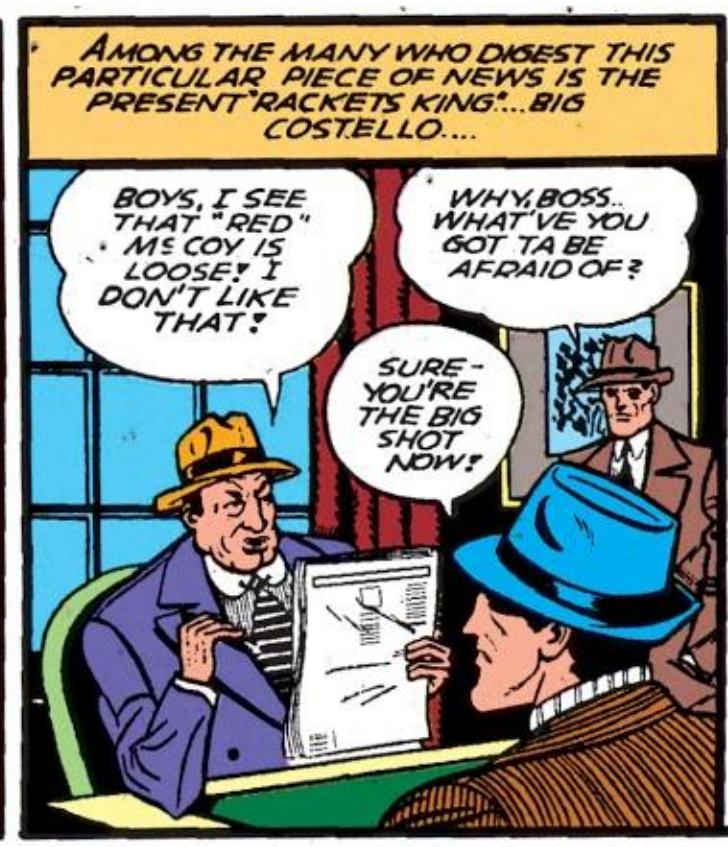

BUT, THE PUBLIC WAS AFTER JIMMY AND HIS LIKE!... G-MEN CALLED HIM "PUBLIC ENEMY NO. 1"!
DAILY TIMES.
2¢
2 CENTS
VOL 14 NO 11
NEW YORK
GOVERNMENT TO INVESTIGATE JIMMY "RED" McCOY RACKET BOSS TO BE HELD FOR INCOME TAX EVASION.
JIMMY "RED" McCOY ENTERING THE ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

INVESTIGATION OF JIMMY'S EARNINGS SHOWED HE HAD BEEN CARELESS ABOUT HIS ENTRIES. HE WAS FOUND GUILTY...
THE COURT FINDS YOU GUILTY OF TAX EVASION AND SENTENCES YOU TO TEN YEARS IN THE STATE PRISON!
WH-AT? WHY, YOU... YOU CAN'T DO THAT TO ME! I'M JIMMY McCOY! I CAN BUY AND SELL YOU!

BUT JIMMY'S THREATS DIDN'T HELP HIM... HE WAS SENT TO PRISON.. THE YEARS PASSED..
1931
1941

THEN. THE DAY CAME WHEN HE WAS RELEASED.... JIMMY "RED" McCOY WAS FREE ONCE MORE!
NOW THAT I'M OUT, THE FIRST THING I'M GONNA DO IS GET MY OLD MOB TOGETHER! I'M GONNA RUN THIS TOWN JUST LIKE I USED TO!

THE NEWS OF McCOY'S RELEASE HITS THE NEWSPAPERS...
3¢ TRIBUNE 3¢
VOL I NO 6 NEW YORK 3 CENTS
McCOY FREED
ONE TIME RACKETS KING SERVES SENTENCE
REFUSES TO TALK TO REPORTERS


AMONG THE MANY WHO DIGEST THIS PARTICULAR PIECE OF NEWS IS THE PRESENT "RACKETS KING"...BIG COSTELLO....
BOYS, I SEE THAT "RED" McCOY IS LOOSE! I DON'T LIKE THAT!
WHY, BOSS.. WHAT'VE YOU GOT TA BE AFRAID OF?
SURE - YOU'RE THE BIG SHOT NOW!

I KNOW JIMMY McCOY! THE FIRST THING THAT GUY'S GONNA DO IS GET A MOB TOGETHER AND TRY TO BE THE BIG SHOT HE ONCE WAS!

WELL, BEFORE McCOY GETS A CHANCE TO GET STARTED, I WANT HIM RUBBED OUT! GET HIM....I DON'T CARE HOW.. BUT GET HIM!
YEAH.. JIMMY'S LIKE THAT!
GOTCHA, BOSS.

LATER THAT DAY, AS JIMMY McCOY WANDERS IDLY DOWN THE STREET THAT HE LIVED ON AS A BOY!..
SAME OLD BLOCK!...BUNCH O' KIDS STILL PLAYIN' THE SAME GAMES! CHEE.....IT GIVES ME A FUNNY FEELIN'!

SUDDENLY, A CAR WHIPS AROUND THE CORNER, THE SNOUT OF A MACHINE GUN CHATTERING SMOKE AND DEATH...

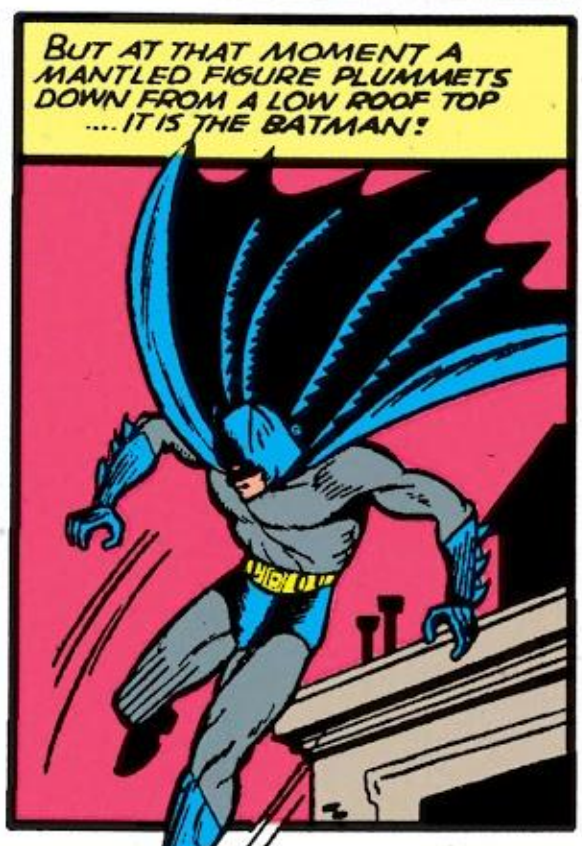
AT THE SOUND OF THE DEADLY CHATTER, McCOY THROWS HIMSELF TO THE GROUND AS BULLETS LANCE OVER HIM...
MAMA! MAMA..
LOOK OUT, KID!

BUT ONE STRAY BULLET FINDS A TARGET ... IN THE LEG OF A LITTLE GIRL RUNNING FOR SAFETY!

AS THE CAR SPEEDS UP THE STREET, McCOY DRAWS HIS GUN AND TAKING CAREFUL AIM.. FIRES!
MY CHILD- MY CHILD!
THAT GOT 'EM!

AS THE TIRE BLOWS OUT, THE CAR SKIDS MADLY AND CRASHES INTO A POLE!

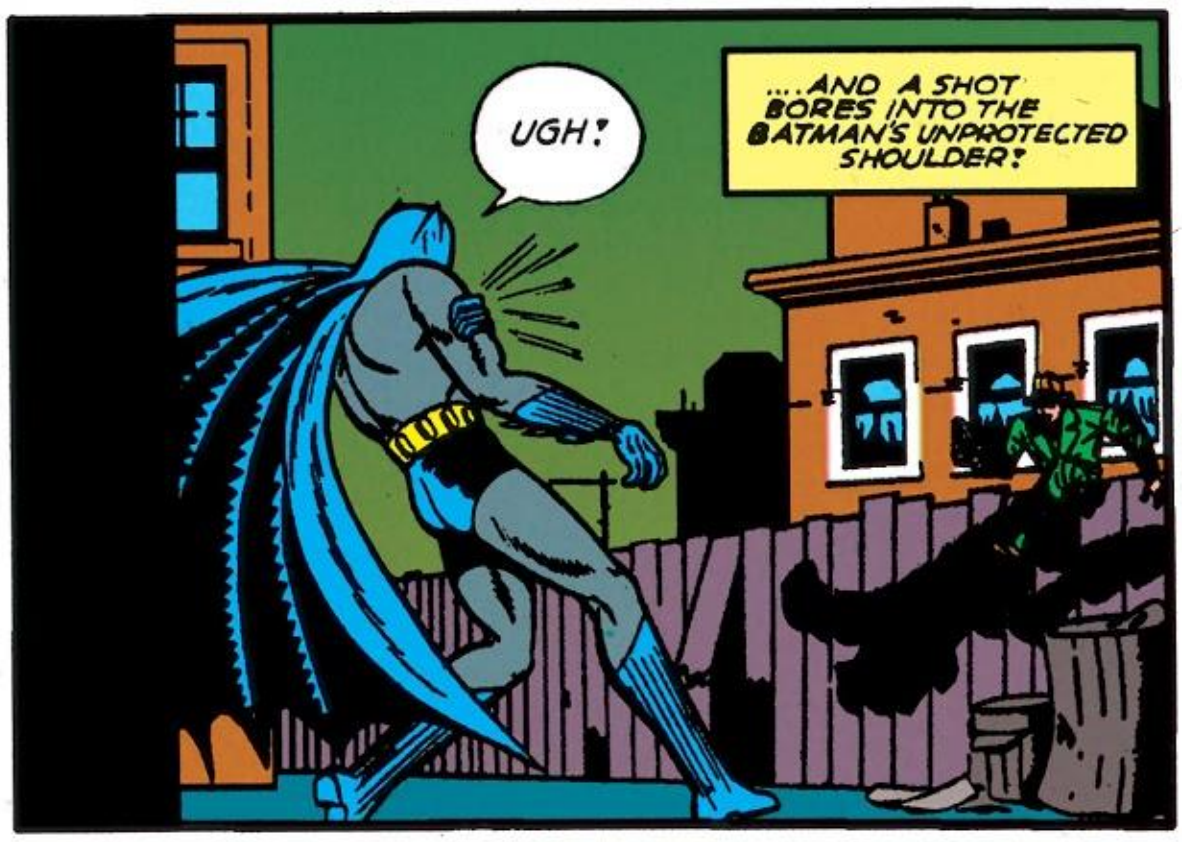
WITH A TRIUMPHANT LAUGH, McCOY LEAPS TO HIS FEET AND DARTS AWAY.
HA-HA! NOW, I'LL SCRAM BEFORE THE COPS GET HERE!


BUT AT THAT MOMENT A MANTLED FIGURE PLUMMETS DOWN FROM A LOW ROOF TOP .... IT IS THE BATMAN!

...THE MIGHTY CRIME-SMASHER CHASES AFTER THE FLEEING HOODLUM.....
THE BATMAN!

THE BATMAN FLATTENS HIMSELF AGAINST THE WALL AS BULLETS HIT THE WALL, SENDING CHIPS INTO HIS FACE.....

AS THE CHASE IS RESUMED, THE GUNMAN STRADDLES A FENCE, AND WHIPPING AROUND, FIRES AGAIN!..
I'LL GET 'IM THIS TIME!


UGH!
....AND A SHOT BORES INTO THE BATMAN'S UNPROTECTED SHOULDER!

WITH A MOCKING LAUGH, MS COY MAKES HIS ESCAPE.....
SO LONG, BATMAN! HAW... HAW!

MY FOLLOWING MSCOY TO SEE IF HE WAS GOING STRAIGHT, AT LEAST CONVINCED ME OF ONE THING..... MS COY IS NOT GOING UP THAT NARROW PATH-BUT A VERY CROOKED ONE!

IF IT'S THE LAST THING I EVER DO, I'M GOING TO GET MS COY! THE NEXT TIME WE MEET, THINGS WILL BE DIFFERENT!

THAT NIGHT..... MEN GATHER IN AN OLD DESERTED WAREHOUSE.....
WHAT'S THE IDEA O' GETTIN' US TOGETHER, MS COY?
I SENT FOR YOU BOYS 'CAUSE I KNOW THAT EACH O'YA HAS A GRUDGE AGAINST BIG COSTELLO!...AN' SOME O'YA USED TO BE IN MY OLD MOB!

I WANT TO START A NEW MOB! YOU GUYS STICK WITH ME AN' YOU'LL BE EAT I N' OUTA GOLD PLATES!
WHAT ABOUT BIG COSTELLO? HE RUNS THIS TOWN NOW!
YEAH! HE AIN'T GONNA LIKE IT!

WHATSA MATTER WITH YOU GUYS? COSTELLO'S GOT YOU SCARED?
DON'T GET SORE, MS COY! I'M WITH YA!
COUNT ME IN!
ME, TOO!

AFTER LIGHTING HIS OWN CIGARETTE, A THUG HOLDS THE LIGHT FOR MSCOY...
HERE'S A LIGHT, "RED."
HOLD THAT FOR ME!

AFTER LIGHTING UP, McCOY BLOWS THE FLAME!
HEY!... WHAT'S THE IDEA? YOU KNEW I WANTED A LIGHT!
SHUT UP! I NEVER LIGHT THREE ON A MATCH! IT'S BAD LUCK!

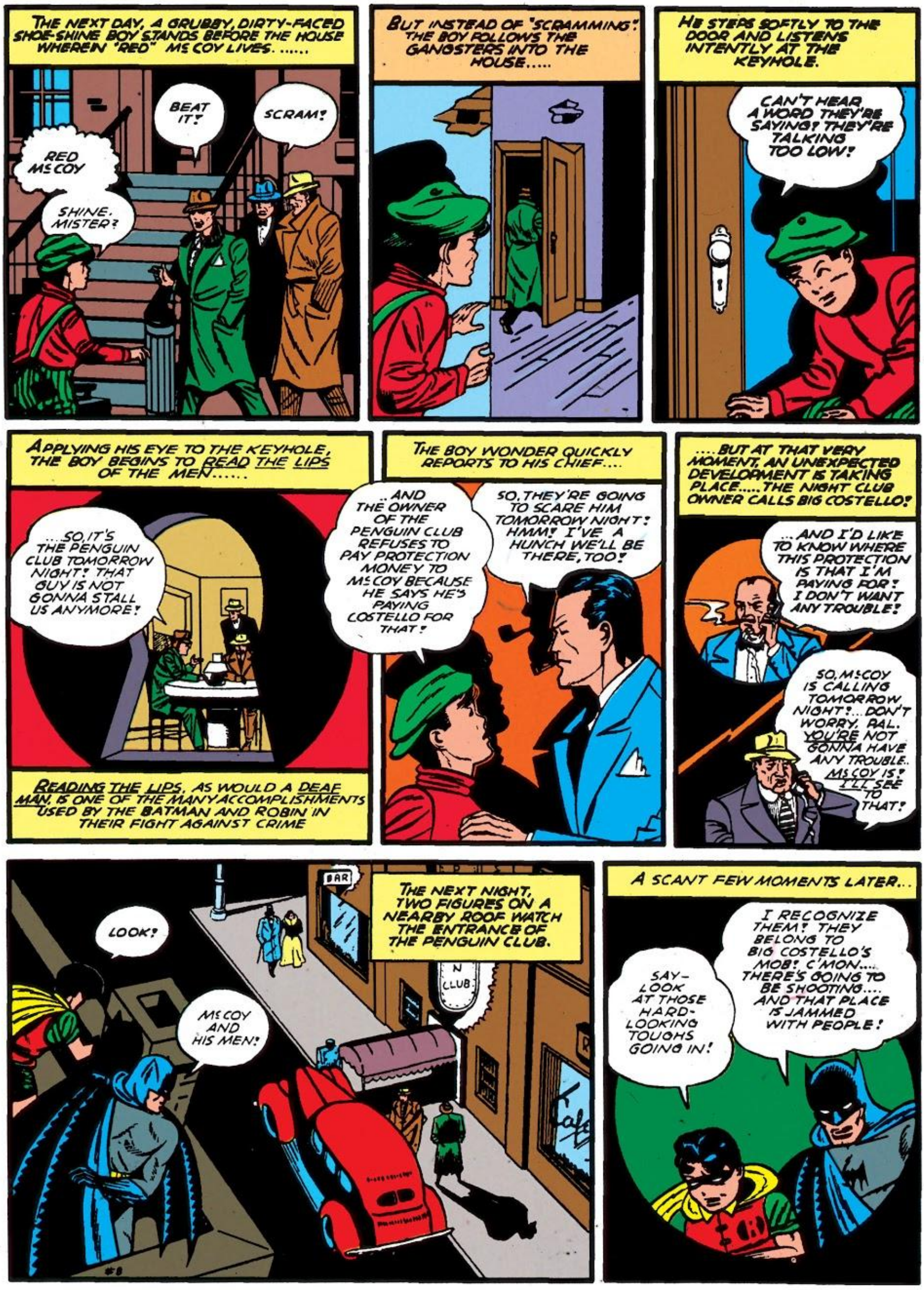
SAME OLD JIMMY McCOY... STILL SUPERSTITIOUS! I'LL BET YOU STILL HAVE THAT OLD LUCKY RABBIT'S FOOT!
YOU BET YOUR SWEET LIFE I HAVE. THE DAY I LOSE THAT MY LUCK'S GONNA RUN OUT!

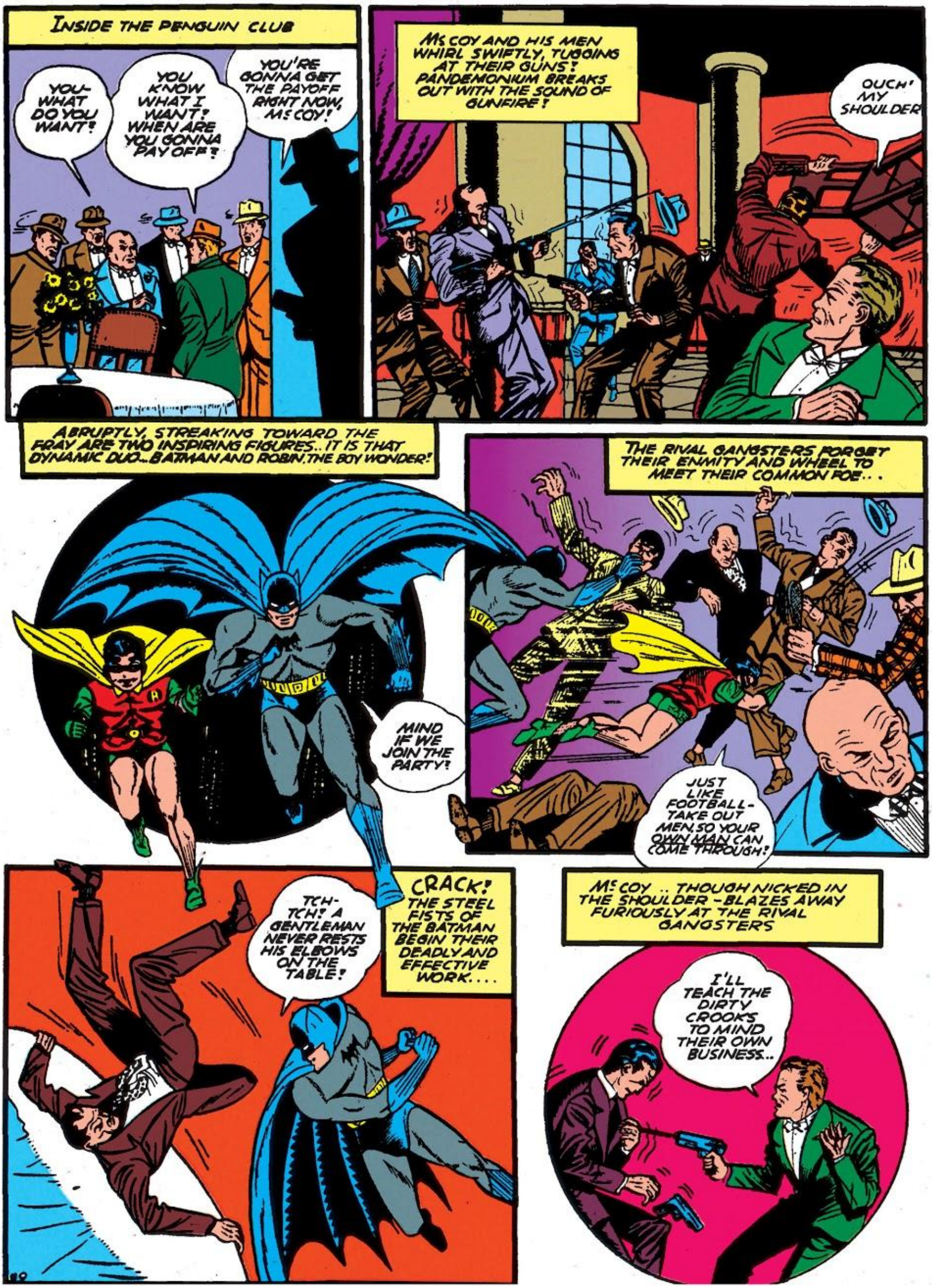
BUT I'VE BEEN PAYING ANOTHER PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION! I.... ....
SHUT UP! FROM NOW ON, WE'RE PROTECTIN' YA! GET ME?
IN THE ENSUING DAYS, JIMMY McCOY BEGINS TO MOVE IN ON COSTELLO'S TERRITORY...

CAN'T PAY UP, EH?.. OKAY, BOYS..... THROW THAT ACID OVER THE CLOTHES!!
NO ONE SEEMS SAFE FROM HIS MEN...

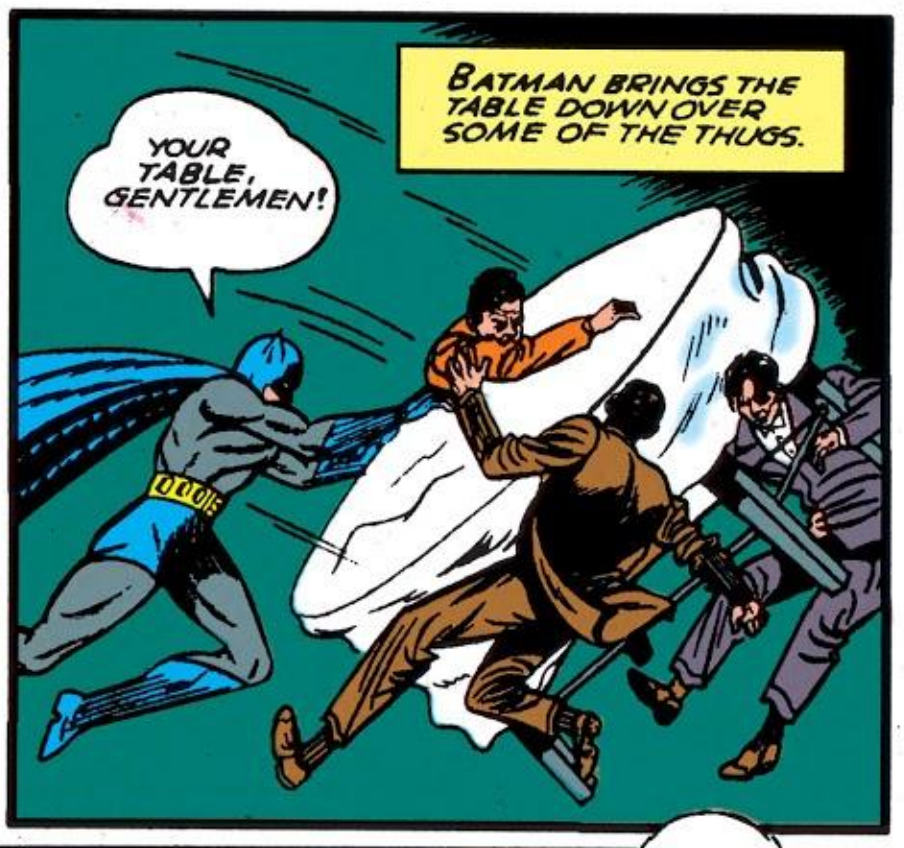
AS THE RIVAL GANGS CLASH, BATTLES ARE FOUGHT....THE SMOKING GUN HOLDS SWAY....!
BOOM

WHILE IN HIS APARTMENT, BRUCE WAYNE, WHO IS IN REALITY THE BATMAN, SPEAKS WITH HIS WARD, DICK GRAYSON, WHOSE OTHER SELF IS ROBIN, THE BOY WONDER!
READING ABOUT THE GANGWAR AGAIN?
YES, AND I'VE GOT A FEELING THAT McCOY IS THE ONE WHO IS BUCKING BIG COSTELLO!-BUT NOBODY CAN PROVE IT. STORE OWNERS ARE AFRAID TO TALK. DICK, YOU'VE GOT A JOB TO DO - LISTEN...


THE NEXT DAY, A GRUBBY, DIRTY-FACED SHOE-SHINE BOY STANDS BEFORE THE HOUSE WHEREIN "RED" McCOY LIVES.....
RED McCOY
SHINE, MISTER?
BEAT IT!
SCRAM!
BUT INSTEAD OF "SCRAMMING" THE BOY FOLLOWS THE GANGSTERS INTO THE HOUSE.....
HE STEPS SOFTLY TO THE DOOR AND LISTENS INTENTLY AT THE KEYHOLE.
CAN'T HEAR A WORD THEY'RE SAYING! THEY'RE TALKING TOO LOW!
APPLYING HIS EYE TO THE KEYHOLE, THE BOY BEGINS TO READ THE LIPS OF THE MEN.....
....SO, IT'S THE PENGUIN CLUB TOMORROW NIGHT! THAT GUY IS NOT GONNA STALL US ANYMORE!
READING THE LIPS, AS WOULD A DEAF MAN, IS ONE OF THE MANY ACCOMPLISHMENTS USED BY THE BATMAN AND ROBIN IN THEIR FIGHT AGAINST CRIME
THE BOY WONDER QUICKLY REPORTS TO HIS CHIEF....
..AND THE OWNER OF THE PENGUIN CLUB REFUSES TO PAY PROTECTION MONEY TO McCOY BECAUSE HE SAYS HE'S PAYING COSTELLO FOR THAT!
SO, THEY'RE GOING TO SCARE HIM TOMORROW NIGHT! HMM! I'VE A HUNCH WE'LL BE THERE, TOO!
....BUT AT THAT VERY MOMENT, AN UNEXPECTED DEVELOPMENT IS TAKING PLACE.....THE NIGHT CLUB OWNER CALLS BIG COSTELLO!
...AND I'D LIKE TO KNOW WHERE THIS PROTECTION IS THAT I'M PAYING FOR! I DON'T WANT ANY TROUBLE!
SO, McCOY IS CALLING TOMORROW NIGHT!...DON'T WORRY, PAL. YOU'RE NOT GONNA HAVE ANY TROUBLE. McCOY IS! I'LL SEE TO THAT!
BAR
THE NEXT NIGHT, TWO FIGURES ON A NEARBY ROOF WATCH THE ENTRANCE OF THE PENGUIN CLUB.
LOOK!
McCOY AND HIS MEN!
CLUB
A SCANT FEW MOMENTS LATER...
SAY- LOOK AT THOSE HARD-LOOKING TOUGHS GOING IN!
I RECOGNIZE THEM! THEY BELONG TO BIG COSTELLO'S MOB! C'MON.... THERE'S GOING TO BE SHOOTING.... AND THAT PLACE IS JAMMED WITH PEOPLE!


INSIDE THE PENGUIN CLUB
YOU- WHAT DO YOU WANT?
YOU KNOW WHAT I WANT! WHEN ARE YOU GONNA PAY OFF?
YOU'RE GONNA GET THE PAYOFF RIGHT NOW, MC COY!
MC COY AND HIS MEN WHIRL SWIFTLY, TUGGING AT THEIR GUNS! PANDEMONIUM BREAKS OUT WITH THE SOUND OF GUNFIRE!
OUCH! MY SHOULDER
ABRUPTLY, STREAKING TOWARD THE FRAY ARE TWO INSPIRING FIGURES.. IT IS THAT DYNAMIC DUO.. BATMAN AND ROBIN, THE BOY WONDER!
MIND IF WE JOIN THE PARTY!
THE RIVAL GANGSTERS FORGET THEIR ENMITY AND WHEEL TO MEET THEIR COMMON FOE...
JUST LIKE FOOTBALL- TAKE OUT MEN, SO YOUR OWN MAN CAN COME THROUGH!
TCH-TCH! A GENTLEMAN NEVER RESTS HIS ELBOWS ON THE TABLE!
CRACK! THE STEEL FISTS OF THE BATMAN BEGIN THEIR DEADLY AND EFFECTIVE WORK....
MC COY .. THOUGH NICKED IN THE SHOULDER - BLAZES AWAY FURIOUSLY AT THE RIVAL GANGSTERS
I'LL TEACH THE DIRTY CROOKS TO MIND THEIR OWN BUSINESS..

HOLDING A HEAVY DINING TABLE OVER HIS HEAD PROVES CHILD'S PLAY FOR THE DARK KNIGHT!


BATMAN BRINGS THE TABLE DOWN OVER SOME OF THE THUGS.
YOUR TABLE, GENTLEMEN!

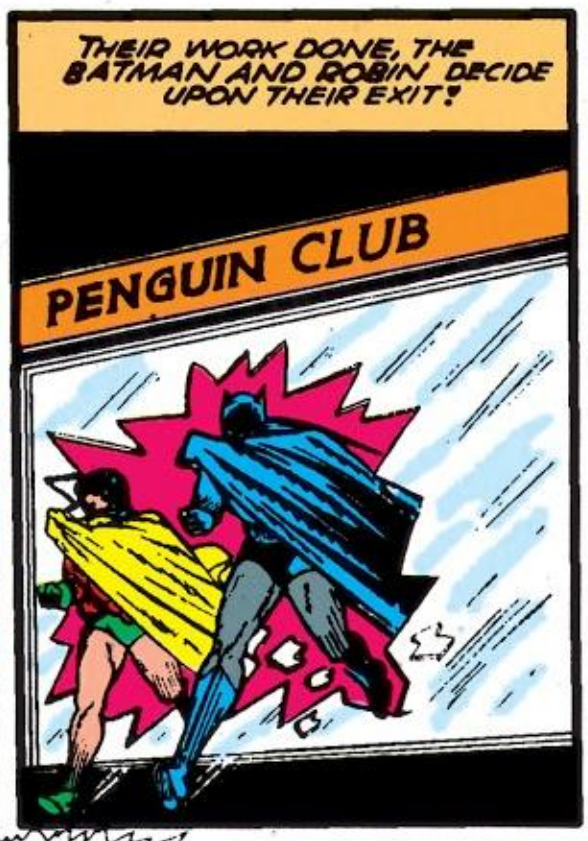
AS THE GUNMEN BAND TOGETHER FOR A CONCERTED RUSH, THE MANTLED FIGHTERS HASTILY DECIDE UPON A PLAN OF ATTACK!
LOOK, ROBIN.... AMMUNITION!
I GET YOU!

THE THUGS ARE MET BY A BARRAGE OF HAND GRENADES!
OW!
AWK!
OUCH!
...AND A CUP OF TEA!
DO HAVE A PLATE OF SOUP!

THE THUGS ARE "OVERCOME" BY THE AMAZING DINNER!.
...PIE FOR DESSERT!

....WHILE ROBIN PROVIDES THE "ENTERTAINMENT"... SOME "AFTER-DINNER MUSIC"
...BET YOU NEVER KNEW I STUDIED THE BASS FIDDLE.... DOES IT "SHOCK" YOU?

SUDDENLY THE AIR IS PIERCED BY THE SOUND OF A POLICE WHISTLE ...
COPS! JIMMY!
C'MON! LET'S SCRAM OUTA HERE!
GRILL


THEIR WORK DONE, THE BATMAN AND ROBIN DECIDE UPON THEIR EXIT!
PENGUIN CLUB

UNDER PRESSURE FROM THE POLICE, THE NIGHT CLUB OWNER FORGETS HIS FEAR OF REPRISAL FROM THE RACKETEERS AND BABBLES HIS TALE OF WOE.
THEN, McCOY'S MEN STARTED SHOOTING! OH, MY PLACE IS RUINED... RUINED!
McCOY, EH? YOU'D BETTER COME ALONG FOR QUESTIONING COSTELLO!

ONE O'COSTELLO'S RATS GOT ME IN THE SHOULDER! I....
LISTEN!
ALL POLICE OFFICERS!... BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR JIMMY "RED" McCOY! WANTED FOR ATTEMPTED EXTORTION RACKET! ALSO PICK UP "BIG" COSTELLO FOR QUESTIONING!
AS McCOY SPEEDS AWAY IN HIS CAR, HE TURNS ON THE RADIO TO THE POLICE CALLS AND HEARS.....

THIS IS WHERE I GET OFF! YOU'RE TOO "HOT" FOR ME TO BE STICKIN' TO!
"RED" McCOY! WANTED (AWK)
YEAH- EVERY COP IN TOWN WILL BE LOOKIN' FOR YA!.. AN' I DON'T WANNA BE AROUND WHEN THEY GET YA!
YOU YELLOW RATS! GET OUT!.. GET OUT BEFORE I PLUG YA!

"BIG" COSTELLO'S RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS! ... I'M GONNA GET THAT GUY!... THEY PROBABLY HAVE HIM OVER AT THE COURT-HOUSE FOR QUESTIONING BY NOW!.. I'LL GET HIM!

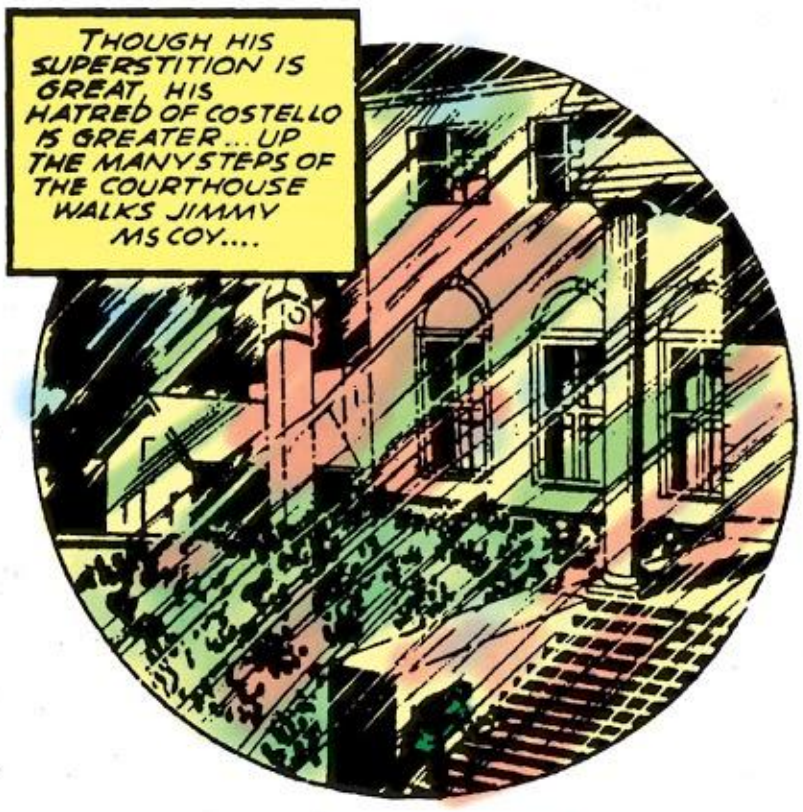
AS JIMMY STEPS FROM HIS CAR, CLOUDS GATHER IN LOWERING MASSES IN THE SKY... IT IS LIKE SOME OMINOUS FOREBODING OF THINGS TO COME. .
THE FIRST THINGS THE COPS WILL DO IS STOP EVERY CAR! BETTER WALK THERE!
Jerry COFFEE

THUNDER PULLS GIANT WAVES..... JAGGED STREAKS OF WHITE LIGHTNING LEAP IN THE STORM-LASHED SKY. . A HEAVY DOWNPOUR OF RAIN PELTS DOWN ON THE LONE STAGGERING FIGURE.....
MY LUCKY RABBIT'S FOOT... IT'S GONE! I MUST HAVE DROPPED IT AT THE CLUB... IT'S GONE!.. MY LUCK'S GONE!

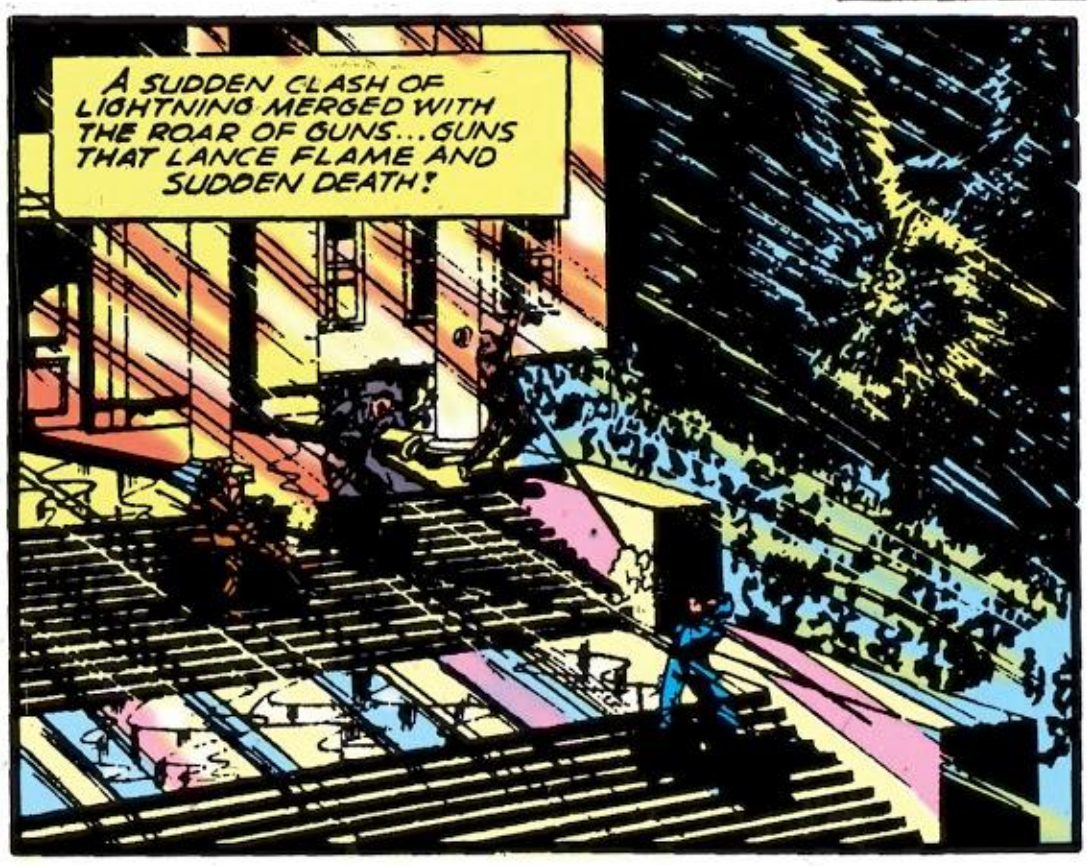
AT THAT VERY INSTANT, THE MANTLED FORM OF THE BATMAN STRIDES INTO MS COY'S ROOMS...
HE'S NOT HERE....I WONDER IF THAT HOT-HEADED...

THE NEXT MOMENT, HE AND ROBIN ARE RACING ALONG THE STREETS IN DESPERATE HASTE..
YOU THINK HE'S GONE TO THE COURTHOUSE TO GET COSTELLO?
I KNOW IT! HE'S HOT-HEADED, MAKES QUICK, RECKLESS DECISIONS! C'MON! ..THERE'S GOING TO BE MORE SHOOTING!

.. AND AT THAT MOMENT AS JIMMY MS COY NEARS THE COURTHOUSE A SMALL CREATURE PASSES BEFORE HIM.. .. A BLACK CAT!
A BLACK CAT! ..CROSSING MY PATH! THAT'S BAD LUCK! AND TODAY, I FORGOT...IT'S FRIDAY THE 13TH.


THOUGH HIS SUPERSTITION IS GREAT, HIS HATRED OF COSTELLO IS GREATER...UP THE MANY STEPS OF THE COURTHOUSE WALKS JIMMY MS COY....

...THEN, THE GREAT DOORS OPEN AND CLOSE BEHIND THE FIGURES OF THREE MEN..."BIG" COSTELLO AND HIS BODYGUARDS!
THEY SURE FIND OUT THEY COULDN'T HOLD YOU, BOSS! HAW, HAW!
THEY DIDN'T HAVE A THING ON ME, AND THEY KNEW IT!
BOSS, LOOK! IT'S MS COY!


A SUDDEN CLASH OF LIGHTNING MERGED WITH THE ROAR OF GUNS...GUNS THAT LANCE FLAME AND SUDDEN DEATH!

TWO CLOAKED FIGURES LEAP UP THE STEPS AND PUT AN END TO THE GUN-FIGHT!
THAT'LL BE ENOUGH OF THAT!
LOOKS LIKE THE OTHER GUYS ARE ALL SHOT!

OKAY, McCOY!.... I'M TAKING YOU IN! YOU'RE GOING TO A CELL AGAIN!
I'M NOT GOIN' TO ANY JAIL ANYMORE! HA HA! YOU'RE JUST A LITTLE TOO LATE! HA HA!

SUDDENLY, McCOYS LAUGHTER IS CHOKED OFF BY A RACKING COUGH... HE CLAWS CONVULSIVELY AT HIS CHEST...
JUST A LITTLE TOO LATE! HA HA (COUGH) AHHH!!

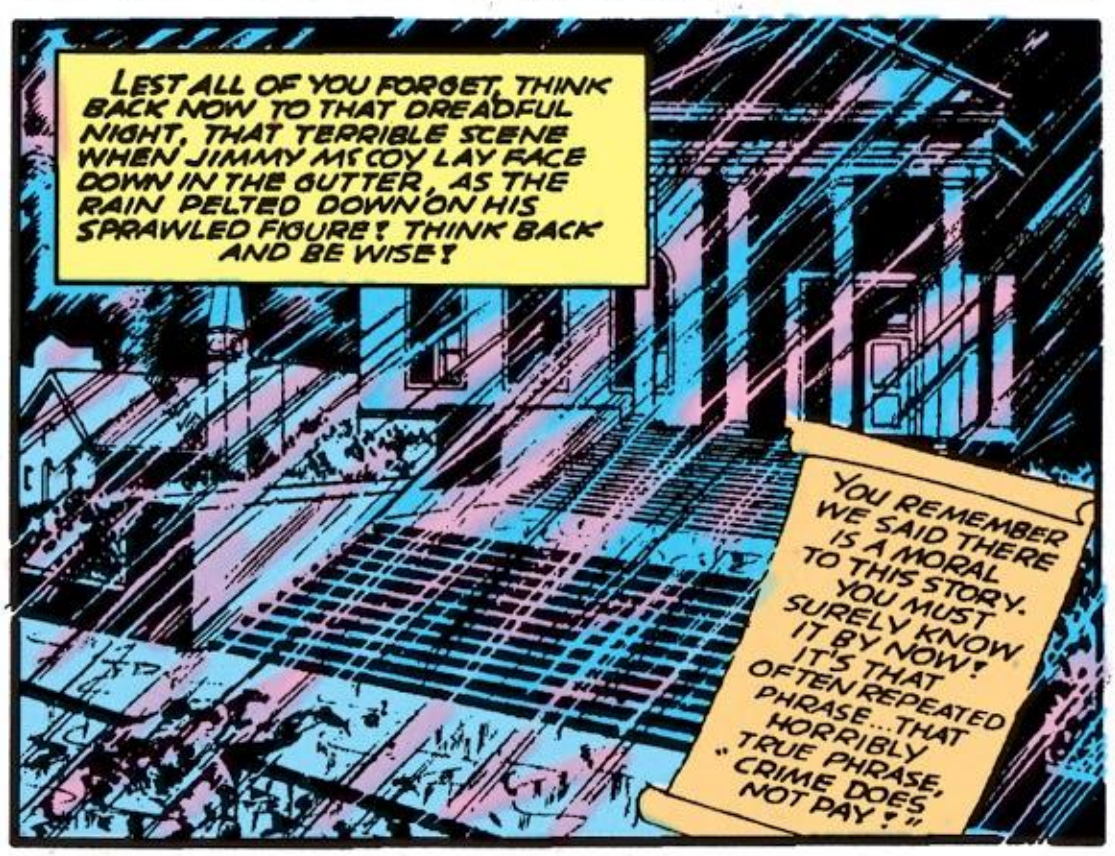
...AND TUMBLES DOWN THE STEPS.....

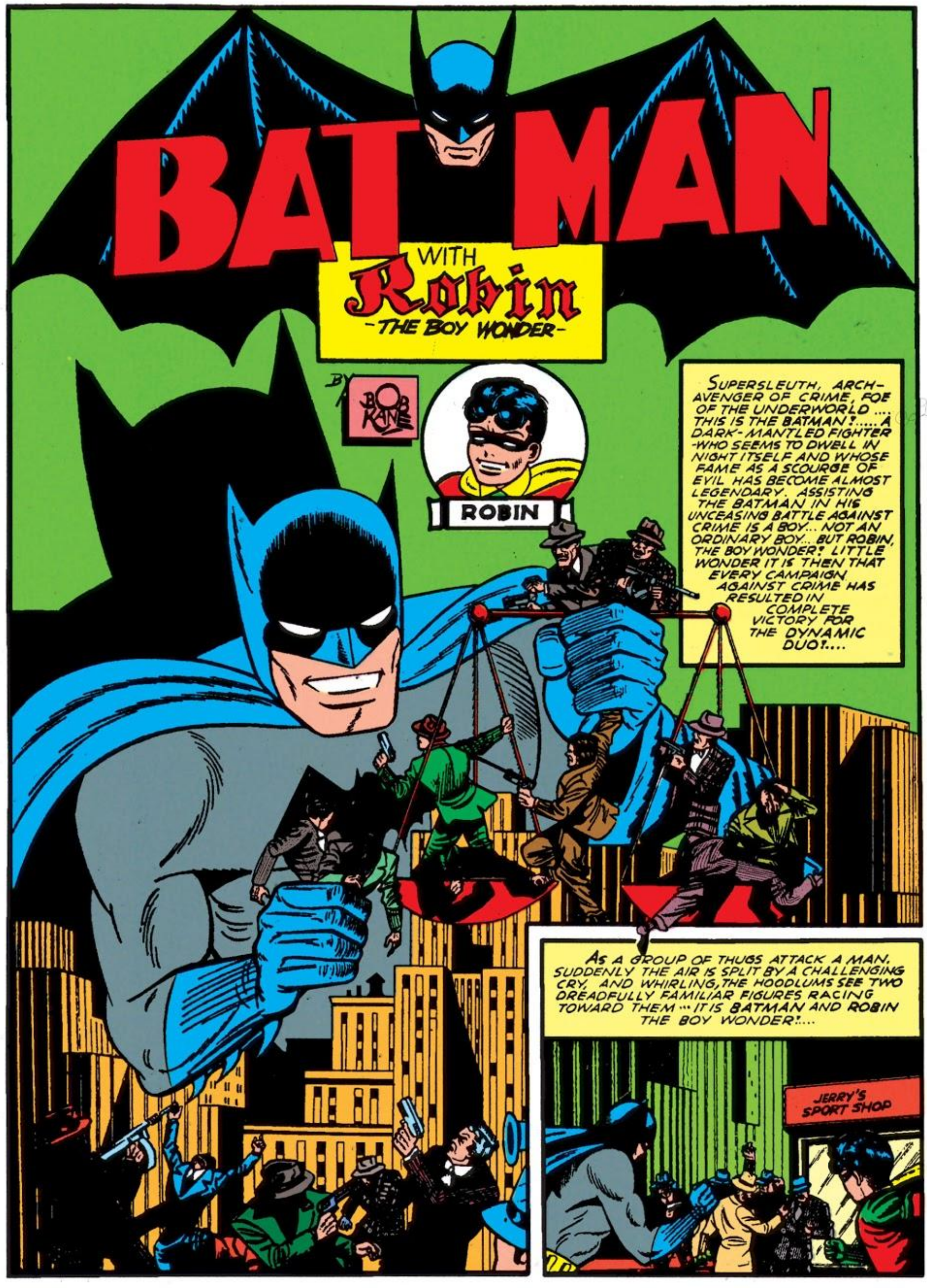
....ROLLS ALONG THE SIDEWALK ...

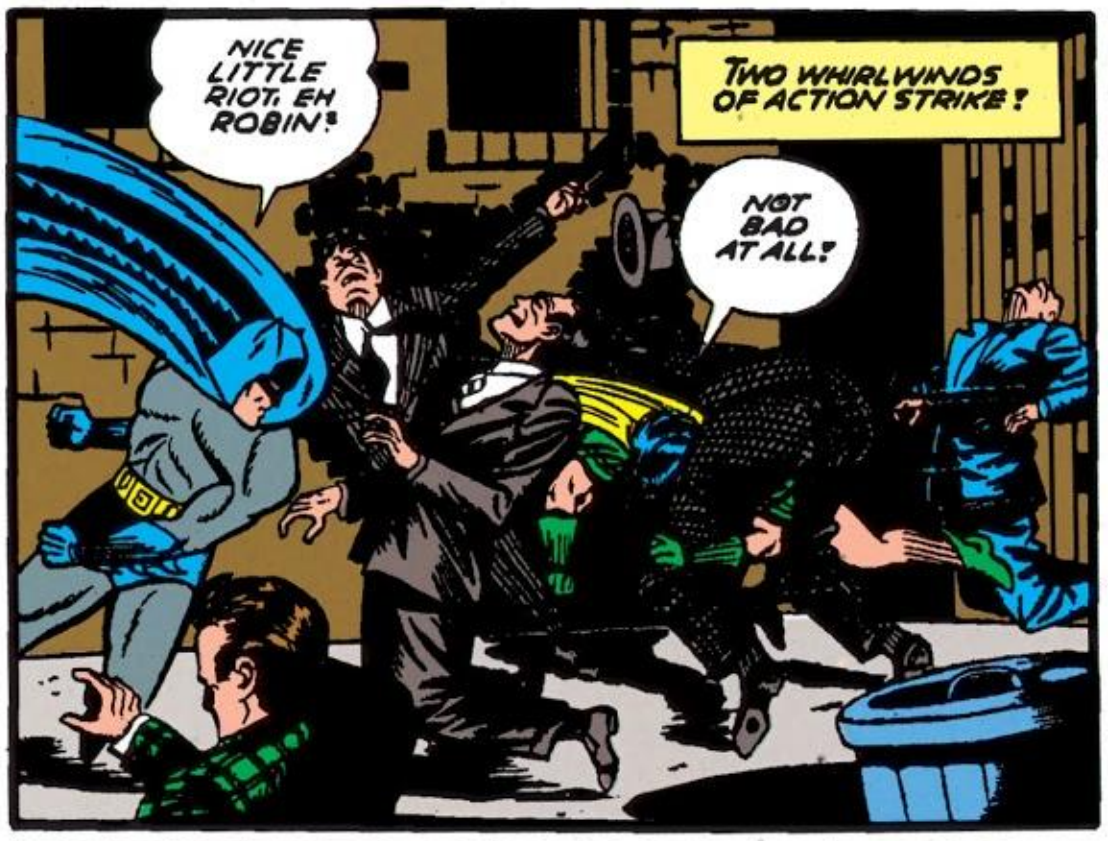
...AND SPRAWLS OVER THE CURB AND THE GUTTER!
JIMMY McCOY'S INFAMOUS CAREER HAS COME TO AN END AT LAST!

IT IS THE NEXT DAY IN THE WAYNE HOME!....
SOMETHING THAT SUGGESTED HE WAS A BOY TRYING TO ACT LIKE A BIG SHOT! YES, I FELT IT, TOO! TOO BAD....HE HAD TALENT. HE WOULD HAVE GONE FAR IN BUSINESS!
YOU KNOW— EVEN THOUGH McCOY WAS A CRIMINAL THERE WAS SOMETHING ...SOMETHING ABOUT HIM—

BRUCE..... IF YOU COULD SPEAK TO EVERY GIRL AND BOY RIGHT NOW. WHAT WOULD YOU SAY?
JUST THIS: DON'T BE IMPRESSED BY THE POWER OF CRIMINALS, OF THEIR SLEEK CLOTHES, THEIR LUXURIOUS SURROUNDINGS! THEIRS IS A LIFE OF FEAR... FEAR OF THE POLICE, FEAR THAT THEY, TOO, WILL END AS JIMMY McCOY DID!

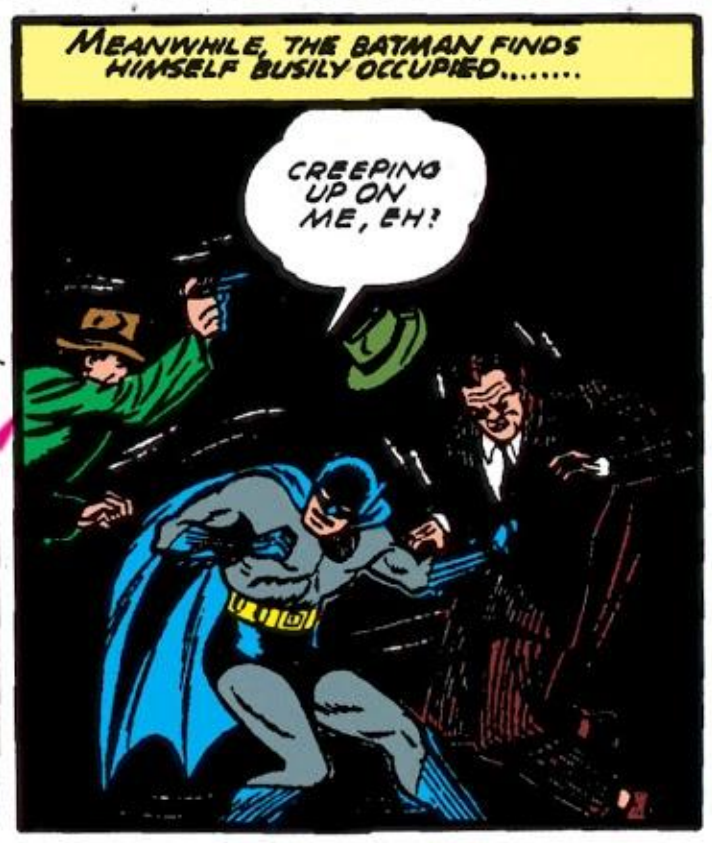

LEST ALL OF YOU FORGET, THINK BACK NOW TO THAT DREADFUL NIGHT, THAT TERRIBLE SCENE WHEN JIMMY McCOY LAY FACE DOWN IN THE GUTTER, AS THE RAIN PELTED DOWN ON HIS SPRAWLED FIGURE! THINK BACK AND BE WISE!
YOU REMEMBER WE SAID THERE IS A MORAL TO THIS STORY. YOU MUST SURELY KNOW IT BY NOW! IT'S THAT OFTEN REPEATED PHRASE...THAT HORRIBLY TRUE PHRASE, "CRIME DOES NOT PAY!"


BATMAN
WITH
Robin
-THE BOY WONDER-
BY BOB KANE
ROBIN
SUPERSLEUTH, ARCH-AVENGER OF CRIME, FOE OF THE UNDERWORLD .... THIS IS THE BATMAN?..... A DARK-MANTLED FIGHTER -WHO SEEMS TO DWELL IN NIGHT ITSELF AND WHOSE FAME AS A SCOURGE OF EVIL HAS BECOME ALMOST LEGENDARY. ASSISTING THE BATMAN IN HIS UNCEASING BATTLE AGAINST CRIME IS A BOY... NOT AN ORDINARY BOY... BUT ROBIN, THE BOY WONDER! LITTLE WONDER IT IS THEN THAT EVERY CAMPAIGN AGAINST CRIME HAS RESULTED IN COMPLETE VICTORY FOR THE DYNAMIC DUO?....
AS A GROUP OF THUGS ATTACK A MAN, SUDDENLY THE AIR IS SPLIT BY A CHALLENGING CRY, AND WHIRLING, THE HOODLUMS SEE TWO DREADFULLY FAMILIAR FIGURES RACING TOWARD THEM ... IT IS BATMAN AND ROBIN THE BOY WONDER!....
JERRY'S SPORT SHOP


NICE LITTLE RIOT, EH ROBIN?
TWO WHIRLWINDS OF ACTION STRIKE!
NOT BAD AT ALL!

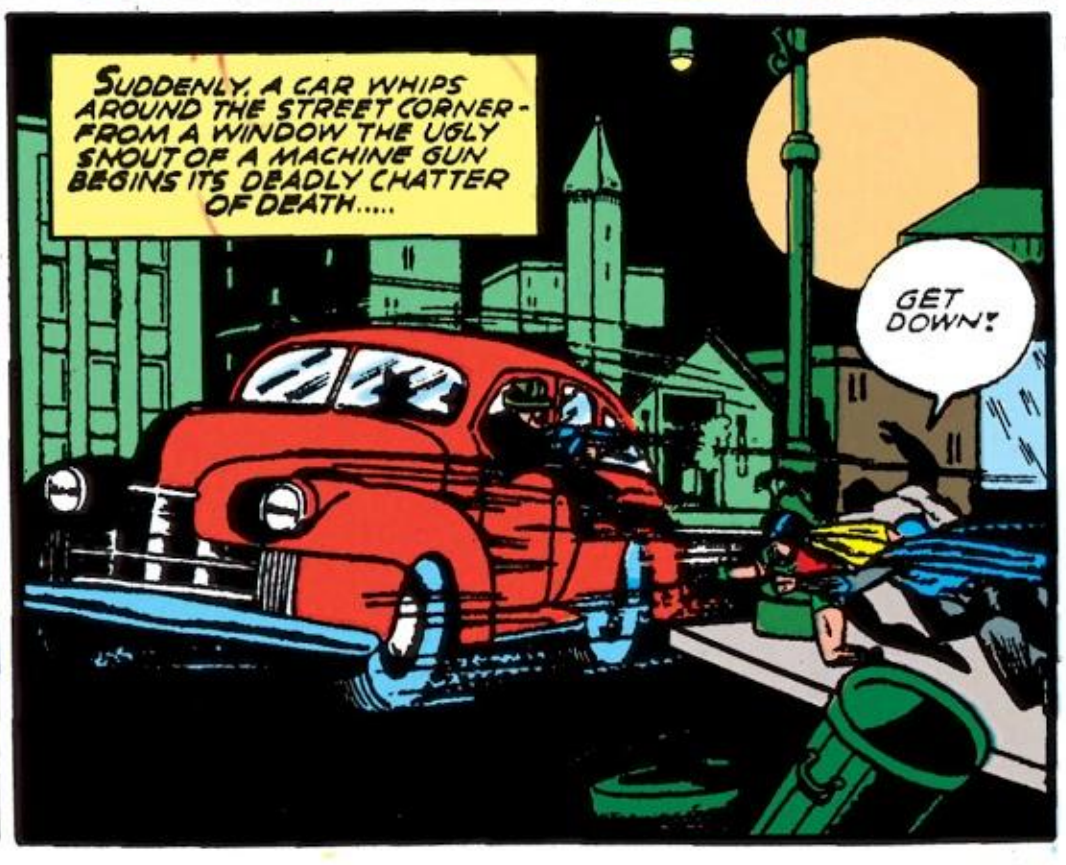
A BIG BOY LIKE YOU PLAYING WITH TOYS! TCH-TCH!

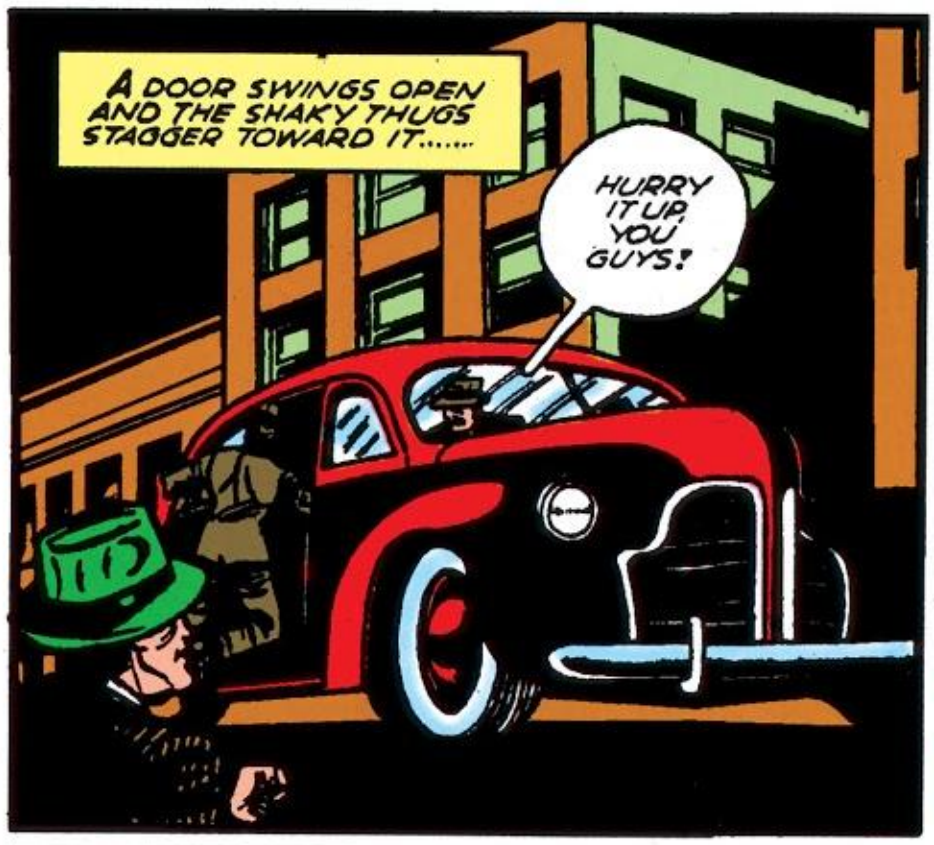
A SMALL BUT COMPACT FIST SHOOTS OUT WITH TRIP-HAMMER SPEED!


MEANWHILE, THE BATMAN FINDS HIMSELF BUSILY OCCUPIED.....
CREEPING UP ON ME, EH!

WITH THE SPEED OF A STRIKING RATTLER, THE BATMAN'S HAND STREAKS FORWARD.....

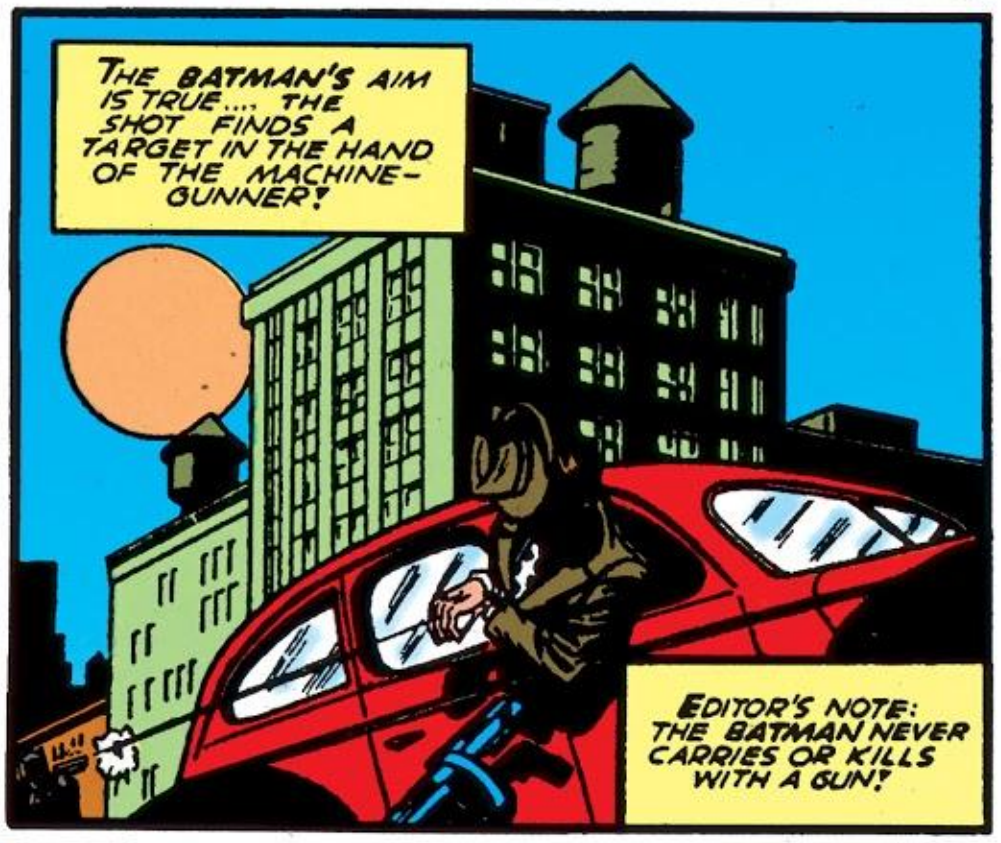
NEXT TIME DON'T BE SO COY!
....AND THE NEXT MOMENT, THE ASTOUNDED THUG FINDS HIMSELF SPINNING THROUGH THE AIR!


SUDDENLY, A CAR WHIPS AROUND THE STREET CORNER - FROM A WINDOW THE UGLY SNOUT OF A MACHINE GUN BEGINS ITS DEADLY CHATTER OF DEATH.....
GET DOWN!


A DOOR SWINGS OPEN AND THE SHAKY THUGS STAGGER TOWARD IT.....
HURRY IT UP, YOU GUYS!

AS THE CAR MAKES ITS GETAWAY, THE MACHINE GUN IS POINTED AT THE HUDDLED FIGURE OF THE RESCUED MAN....
LOOK OUT! THEY'RE GUNNING FOR YOU! BEHIND THE ASH CAN!

AS BULLETS WHINE OVER HIM LIKE ANGRY HORNETS, THE BATMAN PICKS UP A GUN DROPPED BY A THUG. TAKES CAREFUL AIM --- AND FIRES!
JUST WANT TO WING HIM!


THE BATMAN'S AIM IS TRUE.... THE SHOT FINDS A TARGET IN THE HAND OF THE MACHINE-GUNNER!
EDITOR'S NOTE: THE BATMAN NEVER CARRIES OR KILLS WITH A GUN!

YOU CAN GET UP NOW! I DON'T THINK THEY WANT TO PLAY ANYMORE!

SAY, AREN'T YOU TIM BANNON, THE COACH OF THE PANTHERS -- THE PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALL TEAM?
YES - AND YOU'RE THE BATMAN! I'VE HEARD OF YOU!

ANY IDEA WHY THOSE MEN TRIED TO BEAT YOU UP?
MY TEAM IS PLAYING THE LIONS IN A COUPLE OF DAYS. THAT'S THE TEAM OWNED BY STACY THE GAMBLER! I THINK....

I KNOW-- YOU THINK THAT STACY WANTS TO MAKE SURE HIS TEAM IS GOING TO WIN. I HEARD HE HAS A LOT OF MONEY BET ON HIS TEAM FOR THAT GAME!
THAT'S IT! THAT GUY'S TRYING EVERY DIRTY TRICK TO HURT MY TEAM'S CHANCES! HE'S A DANGEROUS MAN!

SUDDENLY
THOSE SHOTS CAME FROM UP HERE!
OH-OH! SEE YOU AGAIN, BANNON- WHEN WE'RE NOT SO PRESSED FOR TIME!

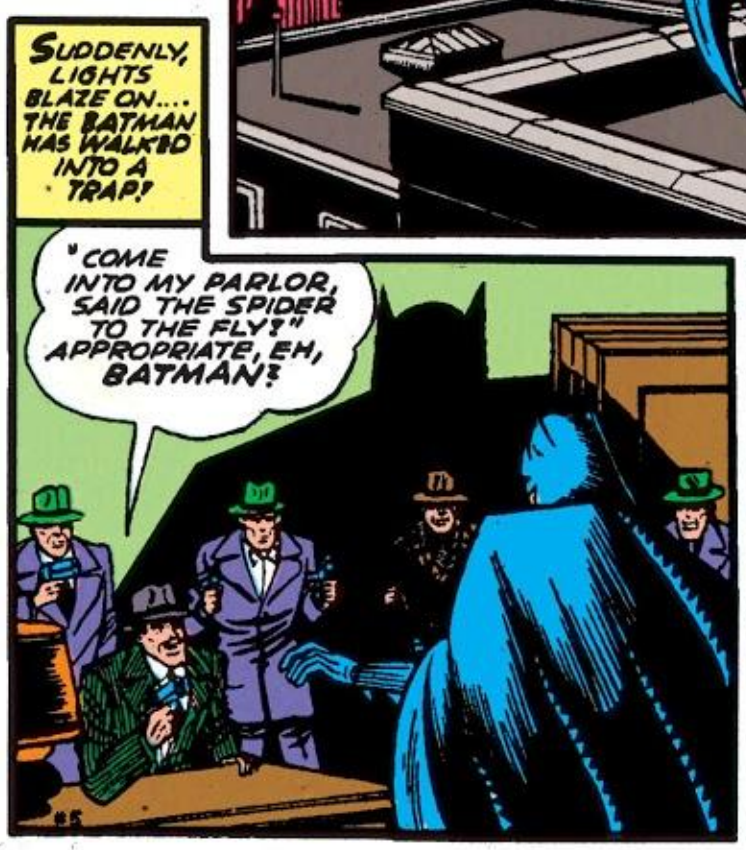
LATER..... IN A HOUSE ON THE SUBURBS.... EXIT BATMAN AND ROBIN -- ENTER BRUCE WAYNE AND YOUNG DICK GRAYSON!
DICKEY, M'LAD- I'VE A STRANGE FEELING WE'RE GOING TO HAVE A LITTLE EXCITEMENT IN THE NEXT COUPLE OF DAYS!
YOU'VE ONLY A FEELING-- I KNOW IT!

THAT NIGHT, STACY'S MEN REPORT AND TELL OF THEIR ENCOUNTER WITH THE BATMAN!
SO, THE BATMAN SHOWED UP, EH? THAT'S BAD--- VERY BAD!
YEAH-- HE'S LIABLE TA MAKE TROUBLE FER US! THAT GUY'S POISON!
WE GOTTA GET THAT GUY OUTA THE WAY!

YOU'RE RIGHT! WE'VE GOT TO GET RID OF THE BATMAN-- AND I KNOW JUST THE WAY TO DO IT! YOU SEE-- I THINK I KNOW WHO THE BATMAN IS!
HUH!
WHA..?

ONE OF THE STOOLIES THAT WORKS FOR THE POLICE TELLS ME THAT THIS SOCIETY GUY, BRUCE WAYNE, IS ALWAYS HANGIN' AROUND HEADQUARTERS! SEEMS HE'S A FRIEND OF COMMISSIONER GORDON!

WITH THESE FEW WORDS, THE STAGE IS BEING SET FOR A TITANIC STRUGGLE BETWEEN THE BATMAN AND THE MINIONS OF CRIME! WHO WILL WIN? WILL THE BATMAN BE EXPOSED?



HELLO-- AM I LATE?
NO- WE'VE BEEN HOLDING UP THE PARTY FOR YOU!
ABRUPTLY, A LIVING HURRICANE SWEEPS INTO THE ROOM...IT IS ROBIN, THE BOY WONDER!

CAN I GIVE YOU A LIFT, STACY?

THIS IS ONE MERRY-GO-ROUND THAT'S FREE, EH, BOYS?

AS THE DYNAMIC DUO STREAKS OUT OF THE ROOM TOWARD THE STAIRS, THEY FIND THEIR EXIT IS BLOCKED!
OH-OH- WE'VE GOT MORE COMPANY!

ALLOW ME TO WELCOME OUR.... GUESTS?

AS THE MEN SPILL DOWN THE STAIRS, THE BATMAN AND THE WONDERBOY TAKE A LONG HEADLONG DIVE....
LOW BRIDGE!

....ROLL OVER THEM IN MID-AIR....

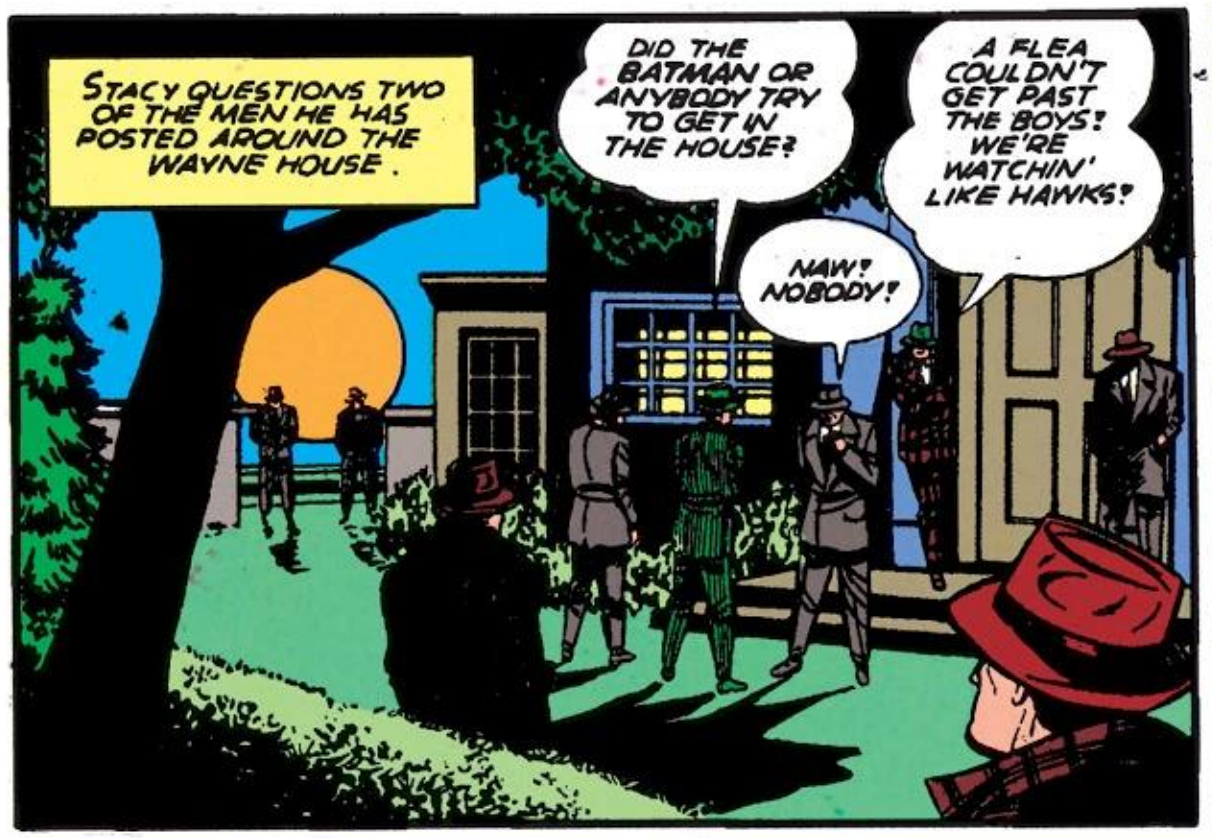
... AND LIKE TWO CANNONBALLS LEAVING THE MUZZLE OF A SPRING-GUN, THEY BOMBARD THE CREW OF THUGS MASSED AT THE BOTTOM OF THE STAIRS!

FOLLOW THEM! DON'T LET THEM GET AWAY!

LIKE TWO FOXES ELUDING THE HOWLING PACK, THE DYNAMIC DUO LEADS THE THUGS A MERRY CHASE!
IF IT'S A CHASE THEY WANT, WE'LL GIVE IT TO THEM!

THERE THEY GO! -TOWARD THAT OLD BARN!
WE'VE GOT 'EM CORNERED - C'MON!
..... AFTER WHAT SEEMS HOURS TO THE WEARY GUNMEN, THE BATMAN AND ROBIN LEAD THEIR PURSUERS TO AN OPEN FIELD AT THE EDGE OF TOWN....

BUT WHEN THE GANGSTERS ENTER THE BARN.....
FINE! THAT'S BRUCE WAYNE'S HOME OVER THERE! I PLANTED SOME BOYS THERE EARLIER THIS EVENING IN CASE THIS SHOULD HAPPEN!
THEY MUST'VE GONE THROUGH THE WINDOW!
GONE! THERE'S NOBODY HERE!

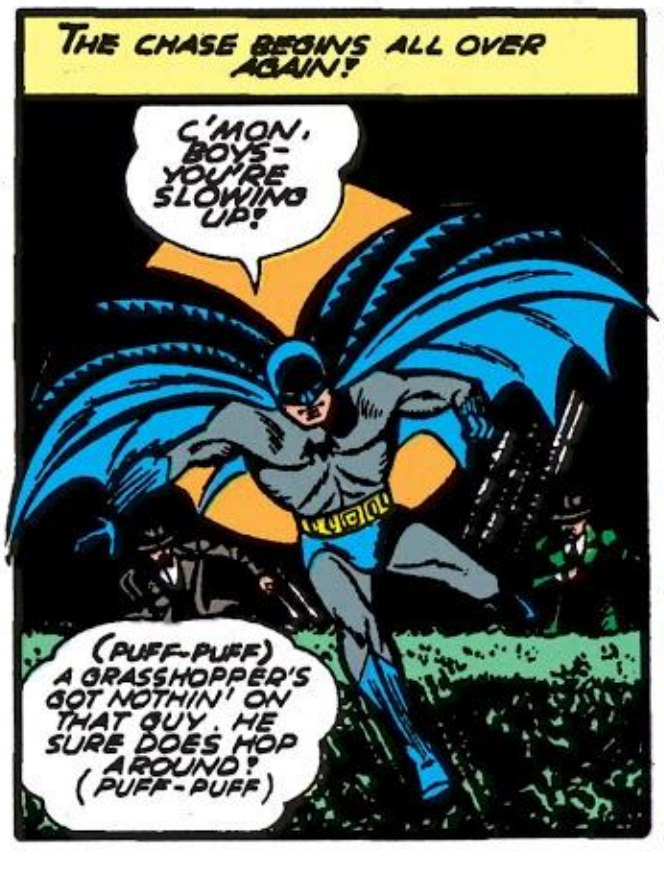

STACY QUESTIONS TWO OF THE MEN HE HAS POSTED AROUND THE WAYNE HOUSE.
DID THE BATMAN OR ANYBODY TRY TO GET IN THE HOUSE?
NAW! NOBODY!
A FLEA COULDN'T GET PAST THE BOYS! WE'RE WATCHIN' LIKE HAWKS!

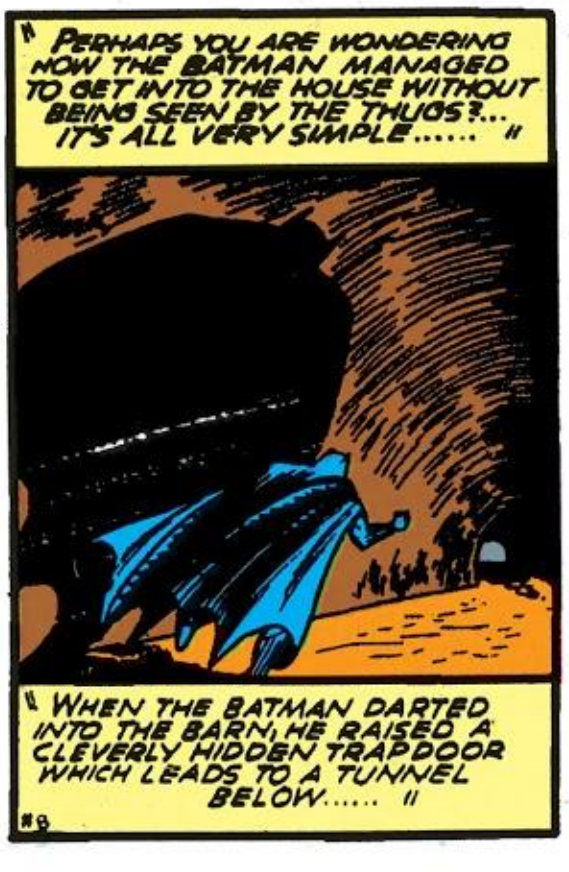
JUST THEN, THE HOODLUMS HEAR A VOICE, AND WHEEL ABOUT TO SEE THE MAN THEY SUSPECT IS THE BATMAN... BRUCE WAYNE!
I DON'T KNOW WHO YOU PEOPLE ARE, BUT YOU'RE DISTURBING ME!
ULP!
IT'S HIM!— BRUCE WAYNE!

WITH A FINAL ADMONISHING, BRUCE CLOSES THE DOOR ON THE BEWILDERED MEN!
THAT GUY CAN'T BE THE BATMAN! NOBODY GOT PAST US!
IT MUST BE A TRICK! LOOK THROUGH THE WINDOW AND SEE WHAT HE'S DOING!

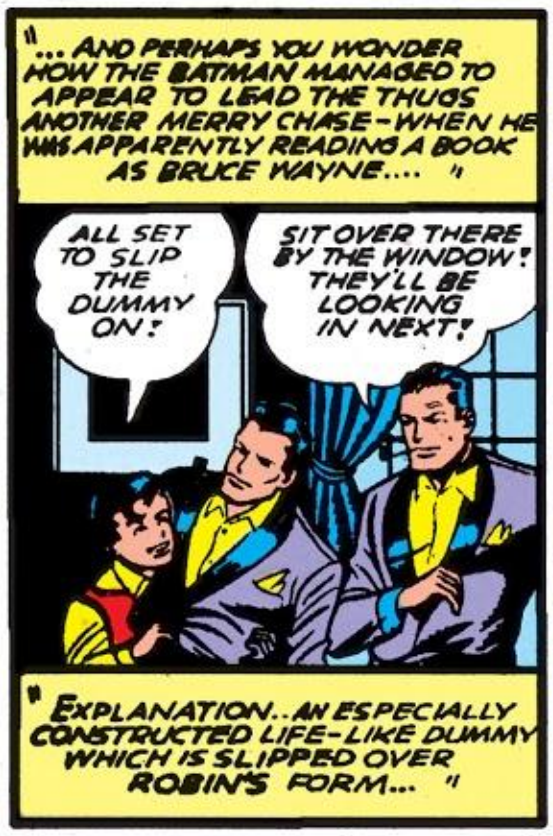
WHAT THE MEN SEE WHEN THEY PEER THROUGH THE WINDOW.
THAT'S HIM! LET'S WATCH HIM AWHILE...
YEAH! HE'S READIN' A BOOK

IDLY, THE MEN WATCH FOR A FEW MINUTES..... WHEN SUDDENLY.. ...
HYA BOYS! LOOKING FOR ME?
ULP! THEN, THIS WAYNE GUY CAN'T BE HIM! HE'S STILL SITTIN' IN THE CHAIR READIN' A BOOK!
THE BATMAN!


THE CHASE BEGINS ALL OVER AGAIN!
C'MON, BOYS— YOU'RE SLOWING UP!
(PUFF-PUFF) A GRASSHOPPER'S GOT NOTHIN' ON THAT GUY. HE SURE DOES HOP AROUND! (PUFF-PUFF)


"PERHAPS YOU ARE WONDERING HOW THE BATMAN MANAGED TO GET INTO THE HOUSE WITHOUT BEING SEEN BY THE THUGS?... IT'S ALL VERY SIMPLE....."
"WHEN THE BATMAN DARTED INTO THE BARN, HE RAISED A CLEVERLY HIDDEN TRAPDOOR WHICH LEADS TO A TUNNEL BELOW....."

"THIS TUNNEL RAN DIRECTLY TO THE WAYNE HOUSE WHERE THE BATMAN MOUNTED STEPS, AND SLIPPED THROUGH A SECRET PANEL INTO HIS HOME....."
"THEN, HE SIMPLY DISCARDED HIS COSTUME AND OPENED THE FRONT DOOR!"


"... AND PERHAPS YOU WONDER HOW THE BATMAN MANAGED TO APPEAR TO LEAD THE THUGS ANOTHER MERRY CHASE - WHEN HE WAS APPARENTLY READING A BOOK AS BRUCE WAYNE.... "
ALL SET TO SLIP THE DUMMY ON!
SIT OVER THERE BY THE WINDOW! THEY'LL BE LOOKING IN NEXT!
"EXPLANATION.. AN ESPECIALLY CONSTRUCTED LIFE-LIKE DUMMY WHICH IS SLIPPED OVER ROBIN'S FORM... "

"... AND WHEN ROBIN WORKS HIS HANDS IN THE SLEEVES, IT SEEMS TO THE OBSERVER TO BE THE ACTIONS OF BRUCE WAYNE HIMSELF! "
"WHILE ROBIN MANIPULATED THE DUMMY, BRUCE SLIPPED ON HIS COSTUME AND RACED THROUGH THE TUNNEL AND OUT IN THE NIGHT! "

MEANWHILE, THE ELUSIVE BATMAN THROWS A PARTING WORD AT STACY AND HIS THUGS.
PERHAPS, YOU ARE WONDERING HOW I MANAGED TO SHOW UP TONIGHT, WHEN IT WAS BRUCE WAYNE WHO RECEIVED THAT PHONE CALL - IT MIGHT INTEREST YOU TO KNOW THAT I LISTENED IN ON YOUR LITTLE CONFAB LAST NIGHT, AND ACTED ACCORDINGLY!
OH, THAT'S HOW...?

THAT VERY NIGHT, STACY AND HIS MEN ARE WEARY AND FOOTSORE AFTER A FUTILE EFFORT TO CATCH THE BATMAN!
WELL, STACY, ARE YA CONVINCED NOW THAT BRUCE WAYNE AIN'T THE BATMAN!
YEAH-YEAH! - BUT THAT ISN'T GOING TO STOP ME FROM GOING AHEAD WITH MY PLANS! I'VE GOT TOO MUCH MONEY BET TO STOP NOW!
OKAY! WE KNOW WHAT TO DO!

THE MORNING OF THE BIG GAME.....
WHAT'S THE IDEA OF SLIPPING OVER TO SEE STOCKTON, THE STAR QUARTERBACK OF THE PANTHERS?
JUST WANT TO MAKE SURE THAT STACY'S MEN HAVEN'T INTIMIDATED HIM - THREATENED TO HURT HIM UNLESS HE FUMBLES A FEW PLAYS!

BUT WHEN THEY STEP INSIDE ..
BARTON! STOCKTON'S ROOM-MATE... STABBED TO DEATH!...
AND STOCKTON'S NOT AROUND! THEY'VE KIDNAPPED HIM! STACY'S MEN HAVE KIDNAPPED HIM TO KEEP HIM FROM PLAYING!

SEATING HIMSELF BEFORE A MIRROR, THE BATMAN PROPS UP A PICTURE OF THE KIDNAPPED STAR..
SAY-- WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
STOCKTON'S MY HEIGHT AND ABOUT MY BUILD. I THINK IT WILL WORK!

DEFT FINGERS APPLY MAKEUP FROM THE UTILITY BELT...SLOWLY MOULD AND CHANGE THE CONTOURS OF THE FACE...
MMM! NOSE NEEDS A LITTLE MORE PUTTY TO GET THAT SHAPE!

UNTIL AT LAST..
HOW DO I LOOK?
YOU'RE STOCKTON! YOU'RE HIM EXACTLY!
THE BATMAN WAS NOW READY TO MAKE THE FINAL MOVE IN HIS CAMPAIGN AGAINST STACY AND HIS COHORTS!

LATER THAT DAY..... HUGE THRONGS FILL THE STADIUM—CHEER WILDLY AS THE PLAYERS DASH ONTO THE FIELD.
EXIT

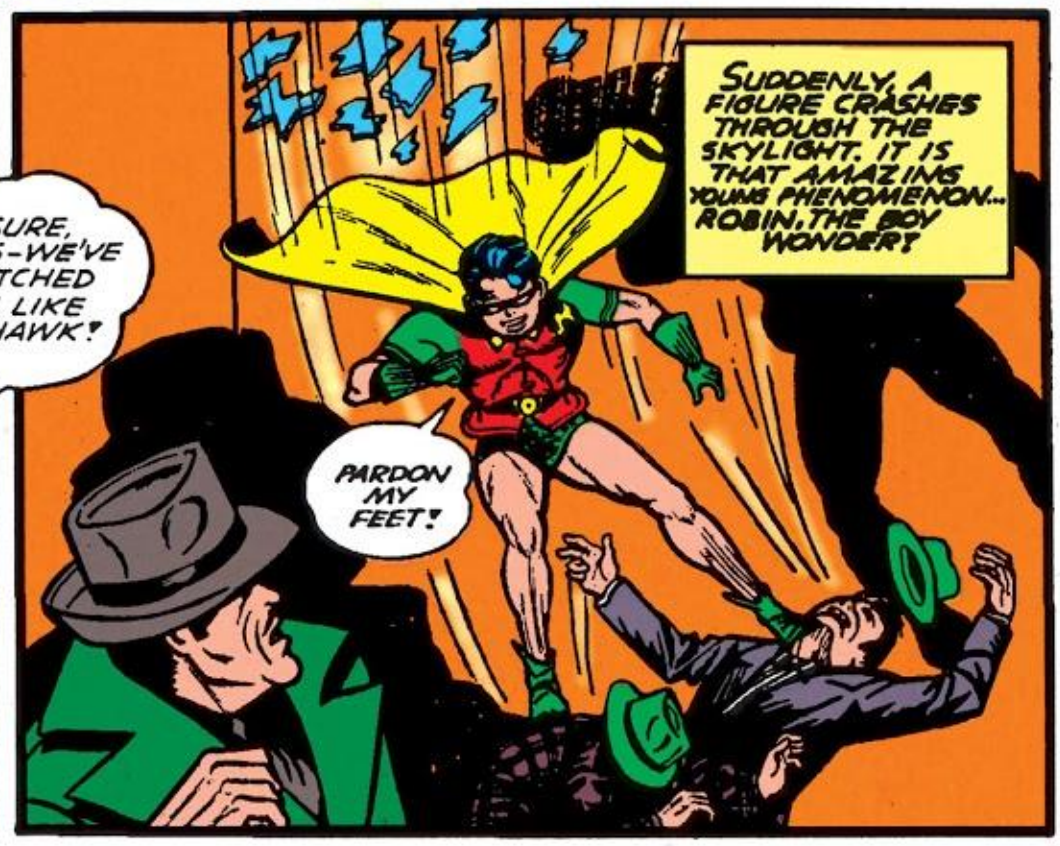
IN HIS BOX, STACY GETS A DECIDED SHOCK AS HE PEERS THROUGH HIS OPERA GLASSES.....
NO 34?...STOCKTON? ...THAT'S HIM
4

SOMETHING'S WRONG! BETTER GET OUT TO THE HIDEOUT RIGHT AWAY!
STACY LEAVES, AND IN HIS HASTE DOES NOT NOTICE THE YOUNGSTER WHO FOLLOWS HIM.....

STACY UNWITTINGLY LEADS THE BOY TO THE HIDEOUT!
IT WORKED! THE BATMAN'S PLAN WORKED!
GARAGE

STACY GETS ANOTHER SHOCK....
WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH YOU MUGGS? I THOUGHT I TOLD YOU TO SNATCH STOCKTON AND....STOCKTON? —HERE?

BUT IT CAN'T BE!..... I JUST SAW HIM ON THE FOOTBALL FIELD!
YOU'RE NUTS, BOSS! THIS GUY'S BEEN HERE ALL THE TIME!
SURE, BOSS—WE'VE WATCHED 'IM LIKE A HAWK!
#10


SUDDENLY, A FIGURE CRASHES THROUGH THE SKYLIGHT. IT IS THAT AMAZING YOUNG PHENOMENON... ROBIN, THE BOY WONDER!
PARDON MY FEET!

GET THAT KID! HE WORKS WITH THE BATMAN!
THIS WILL TAKE CARE OF HIM!

GOOD THING NOBODY WAS SITTING IN IT!

YOU LOOK VERY TIRED! DO HAVE A CHAIR!

AS STACY AND A THUG SEND SHOTS WINGING TOWARD HIM, THE QUICK-THINKING BOY WONDER DROPS TO THE FLOOR....
(OH-OH! THE FLOOR IS THE BEST PLACE FOR ME RIGHT NOW!)

UH- I'M SHOT!
BUT STACY IS IN LINE OF THE FIRE FROM HIS THUG- AND A LEADEN PELLET BORES INTO HIS BODY!

STACY IS FINISHED... .. AND SO ARE YOU!

ROBIN FREES STOCKTON...
DON'T TELL ME A KID LIKE YOU TOOK CARE OF THESE TOUGHS!?

ROBIN TELLS STOCKTON HOW THE BATMAN HAS TAKEN HIS PLACE AT THE BIG GAME..
TOOK MY PLACE?..I'LL BET HE'S FUMBLING EVERY PLAY! I BETTER GET BACK THERE AND STOP HIM IN TIME!
YOU GO THERE ALONE. I WANT TO DELIVER THESE MUGGS TO JAIL. ONE OF THEM IS GUILTY OF THE MURDER OF YOUR ROOM-MATE!

MEANWHILE .... AT THE STADIUM, THE TWO TEAMS HAVE BEEN BATTLING, WITH EITHER SIDE FAILING TO SCORE
34

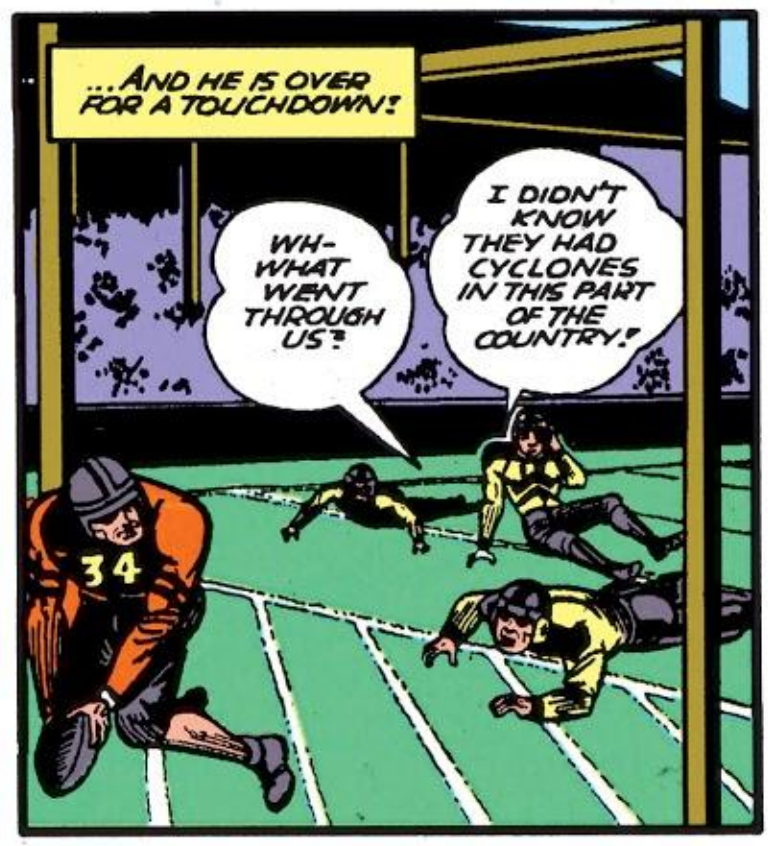
THE RIVAL TEAM GETS THE BALL.....THE PLAY IS PUT INTO ACTION..... THE QUARTERBACK THROWS A LONG PASS TO AN END.....
34

....BUT A MAN SUDDENLY LEAPS UP AND LITERALLY PLUCKS IT FROM HIS HANDS..... IT IS THE BATMAN..... "STOCKTON"

.....A STIFF STRAIGHT ARM TAKES CARE OF THE END.....
SORRY, BUDDY— I'VE GOT A DATE WITH THE GOAL POSTS!

.....DOWN THE FIELD STREAKS THE BATMAN, WEAVING IN AND OUT OF THE OPPOSITION IN A PERFECT EXAMPLE OF BROKEN FIELD RUNNING....
HAVEN'T DONE THIS SINCE MY COLLEGE DAYS!
34

AS THREE OF THE OPPOSITION CLOSE IN ON HIM AT THE GOAL, THE BATMAN'S POWERFUL FRAME SLAMS INTO THEM LIKE A BATTERING RAM.
4

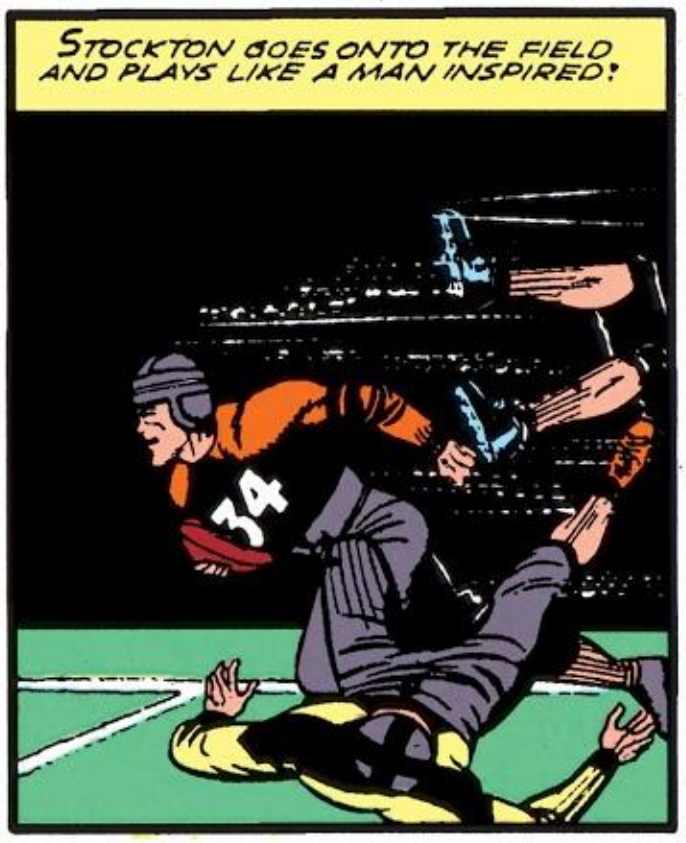

...AND HE IS OVER FOR A TOUCHDOWN!
WH-WHAT WENT THROUGH US?
I DIDN'T KNOW THEY HAD CYCLONES IN THIS PART OF THE COUNTRY!
34

THE BATMAN'S KICK FOR THE EXTRA POINT IS GOOD! THE PANTHERS LEAD 7 TO 0!
34
10

....AT THAT MOMENT, THE REAL STOCKTON ENTERS THE STADIUM TO HEAR CHEER AFTER CHEER FOR HIS BRILLIANT PERFORMANCE ON THE FIELD....
STOCKTON
STOCKTON
YEA
YEA!
SAY - I MUST HAVE DONE ALL RIGHT!...THAT IS - I MEAN- HE DID ALL RIGHT!

AT THE END OF THE HALF, THE BATMAN MEETS STOCKTON IN A SECLUDED CORNER....
G-GOSH! YOU'RE MORE LIKE ME THAN I AM MYSELF!
NOW THAT YOU'RE HERE, YOU CAN GO OUT AND DO YOUR OWN PLAYING!

THEY CHANGE CLOTHES.....
I-I DON'T KNOW HOW TO THANK YOU FOR EVERYTHING!
FORGET IT! I LIKE TO KEEP MY SPORTS CLEAN AND HONEST! NOW, GO OUT THERE AND PLAY!
34


STOCKTON GOES ONTO THE FIELD AND PLAYS LIKE A MAN INSPIRED!
34

WHILE UP IN THE STANDS TWO FIGURES WATCH WITH INTEREST.....THEY ARE BRUCE WAYNE AND YOUNG DICK GRAYSON.....
NICE GAME, EH, BRUCE?
NOT BAD- NOT BAD AT ALL!