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BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AO
AUTHORITY

WONDER WOMAN

ENTER... TM **THE DEMON!**



BY JOHN
BYRNE

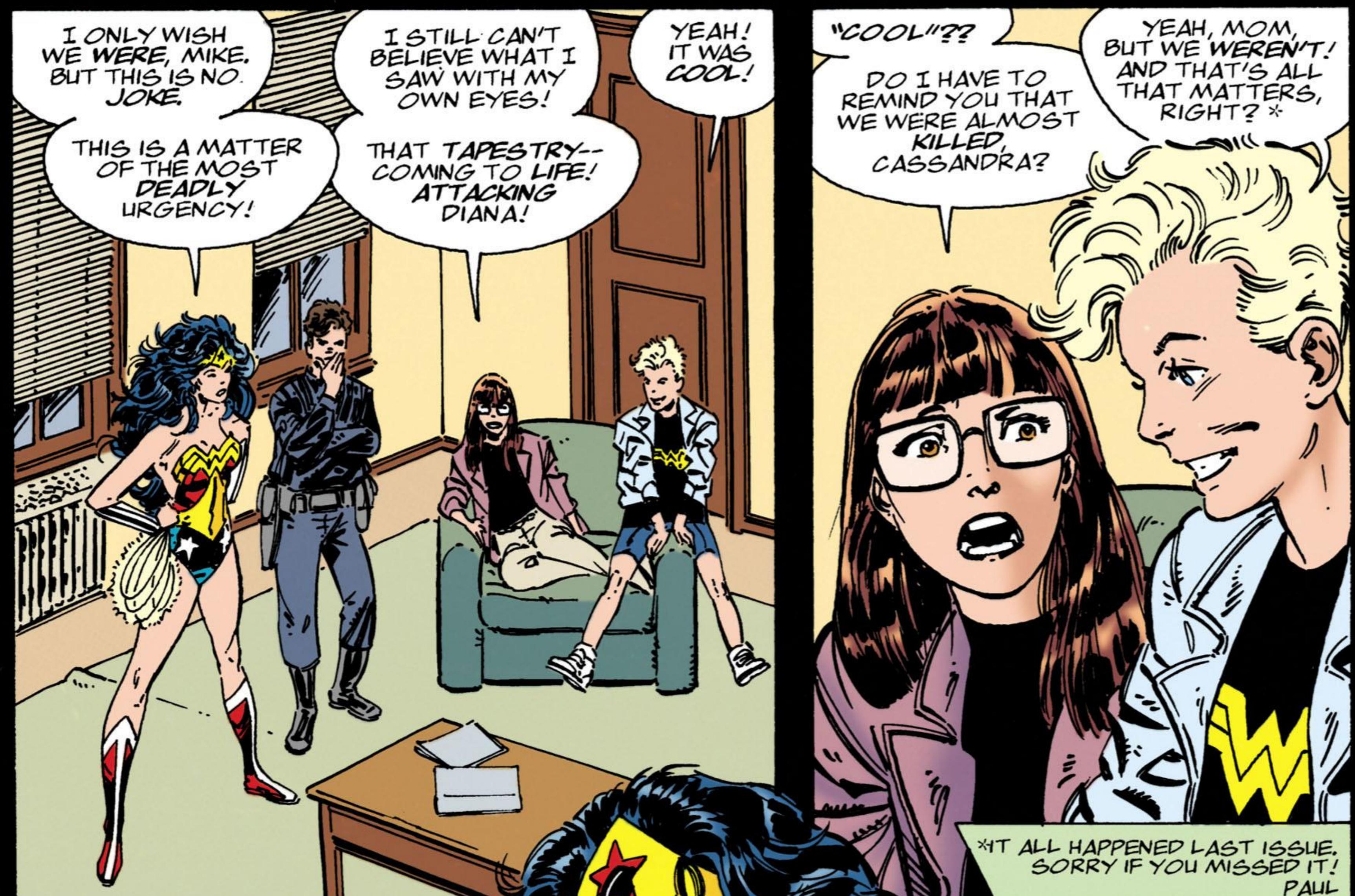
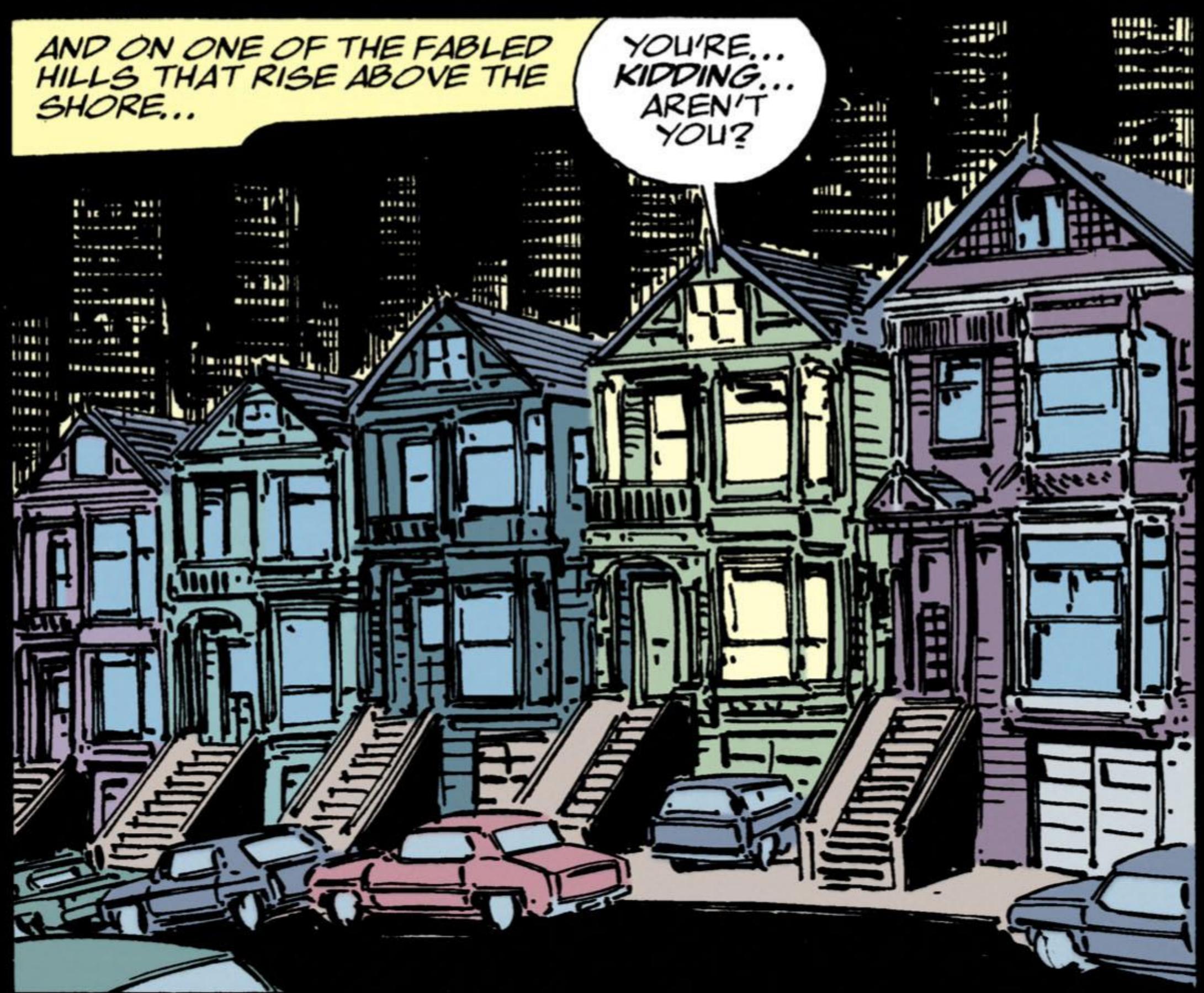
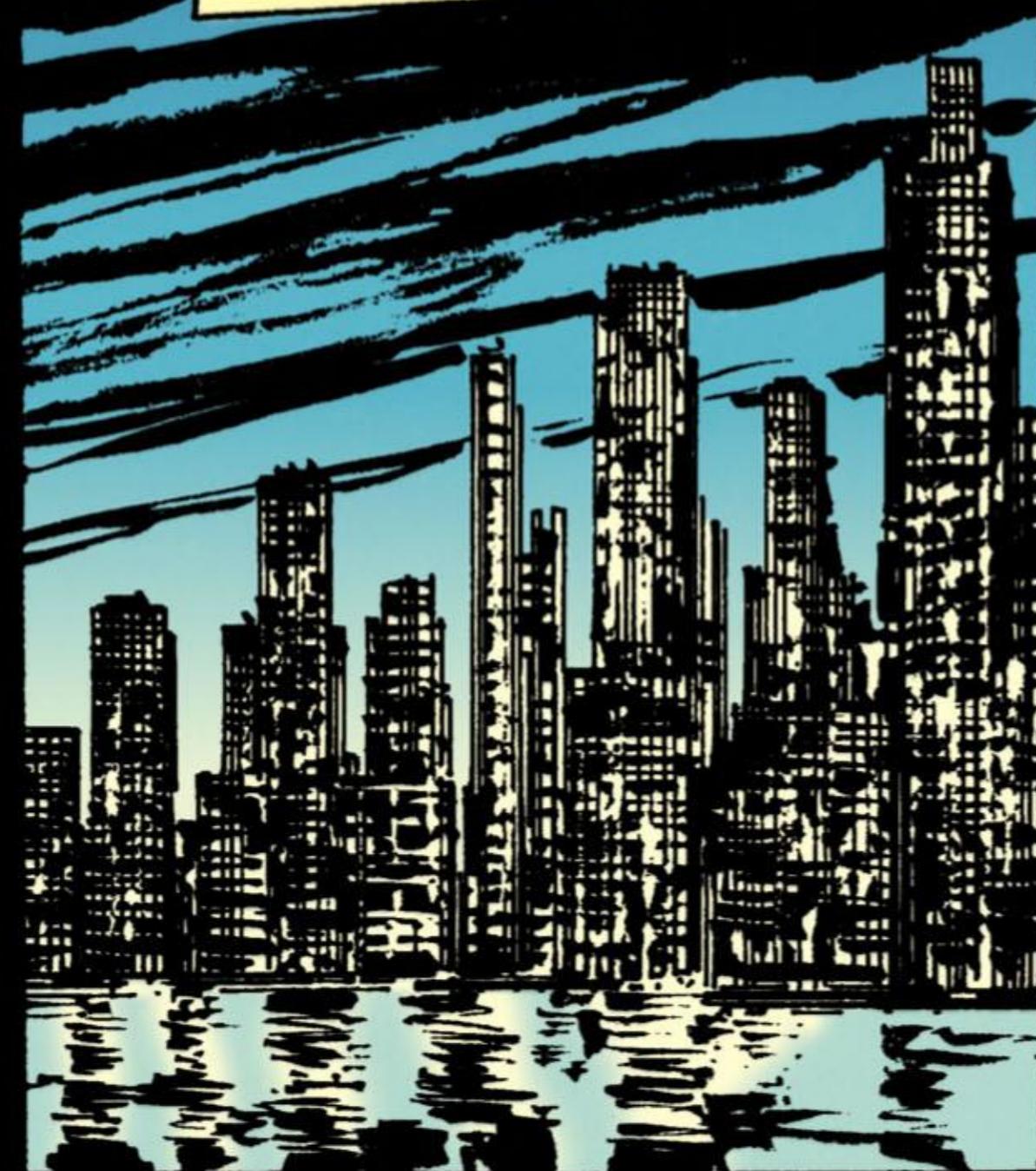


A QUIET EVENING IN
GATEWAY CITY.

OCEAN BREEZES CARRY
THE WINTER CHILL DEEP
INTO THE HEART OF THE
CITY.

AND ON ONE OF THE FABLED
HILLS THAT RISE ABOVE THE
SHORE...

YOU'RE...
KIDDING...
AREN'T
YOU?

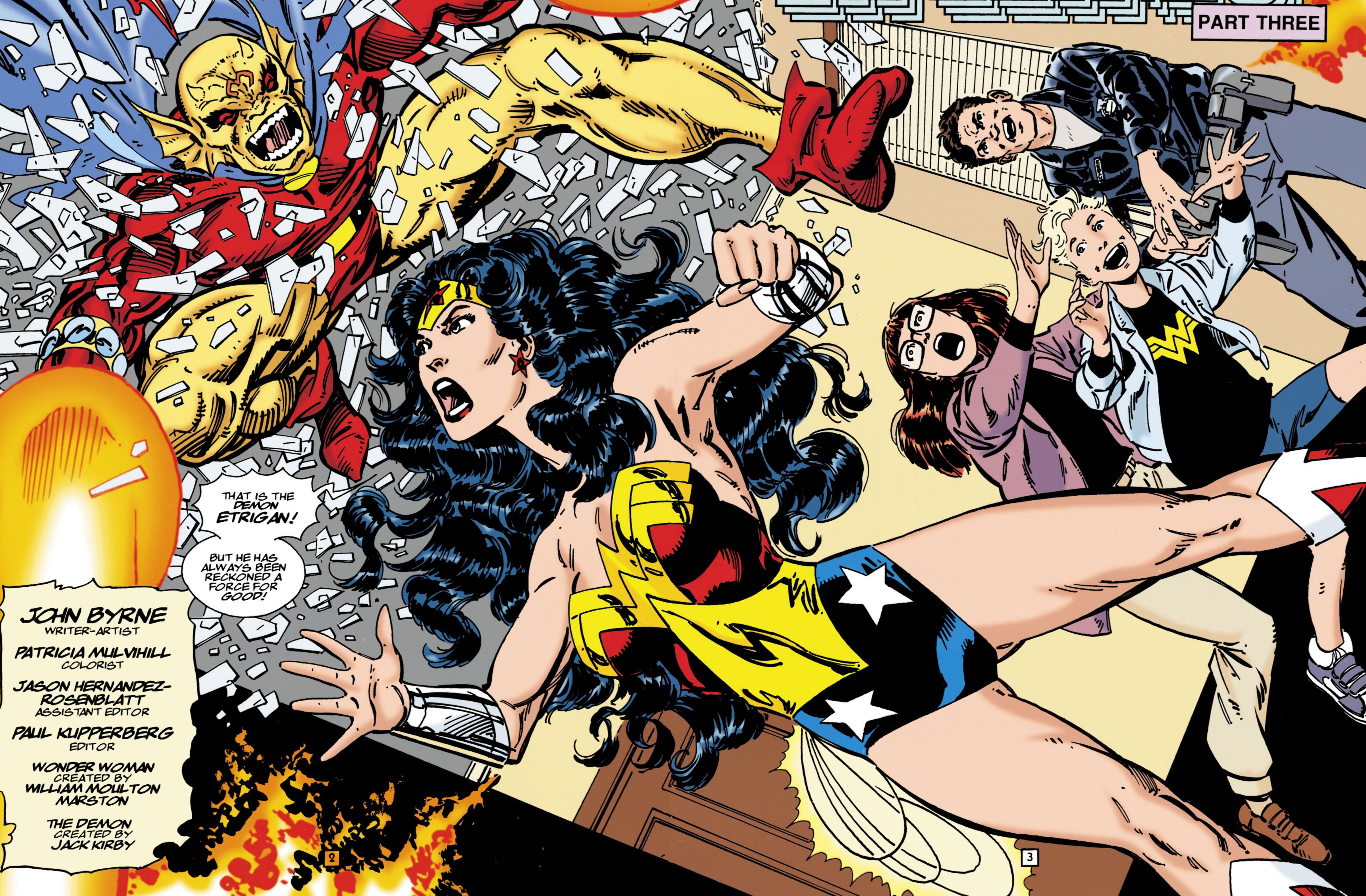


PERHAPS,
CASSANDRA STILL,
HAD IT NOT BEEN FOR
THE SUBTLE INTER-
VENTION OF THE
PHANTOM STRANGER...

DIE! DIE!
BY THE COMMAND
OF MORGAIN
LE FAY!

LIEFLINES

PART THREE



JOHN BYRNE
WRITER-ARTIST

PATRICIA MULVIHILL
COLORIST

JASON HERNANDEZ-
ROSENBLATT
ASSISTANT EDITOR

PAUL KUPPERBERG
EDITOR

WONDER WOMAN
CREATED BY
WILLIAM MOULTON
MARSTON

THE DEMON
CREATED BY
JACK KIRBY

HELENA!
LOOK OUT!!



FOOLISH HUMAN.

OW!

YOU
CANNOT HARM
ME!

CHOMP!

LEARN THE
PRICE FOR SUCH
EFFRONTERY!

EAT
THIS,
CREEP!

KRASH!

EH??



ZEUS! HE
IS NEARLY
AS STRONG AS
I!

LIKE MY OWN,
HIS POWER
IS MYSTICAL IN
ORIGIN!

WLONG!

AND HE HAS
NO QUALMS
ABOUT USING
IT!

I MUST CONTAIN
HIM BEFORE
SOMEONE IS
KILLED!

THERE!
EVEN THE GREATEST
PHYSICAL STRENGTH
IS HAMPERED WHEN
MECHANICAL ADVANTAGE
IS REMOVED.

WITH YOUR
ARMS PINNED, THERE
IS LITTLE YOU
CAN DO!

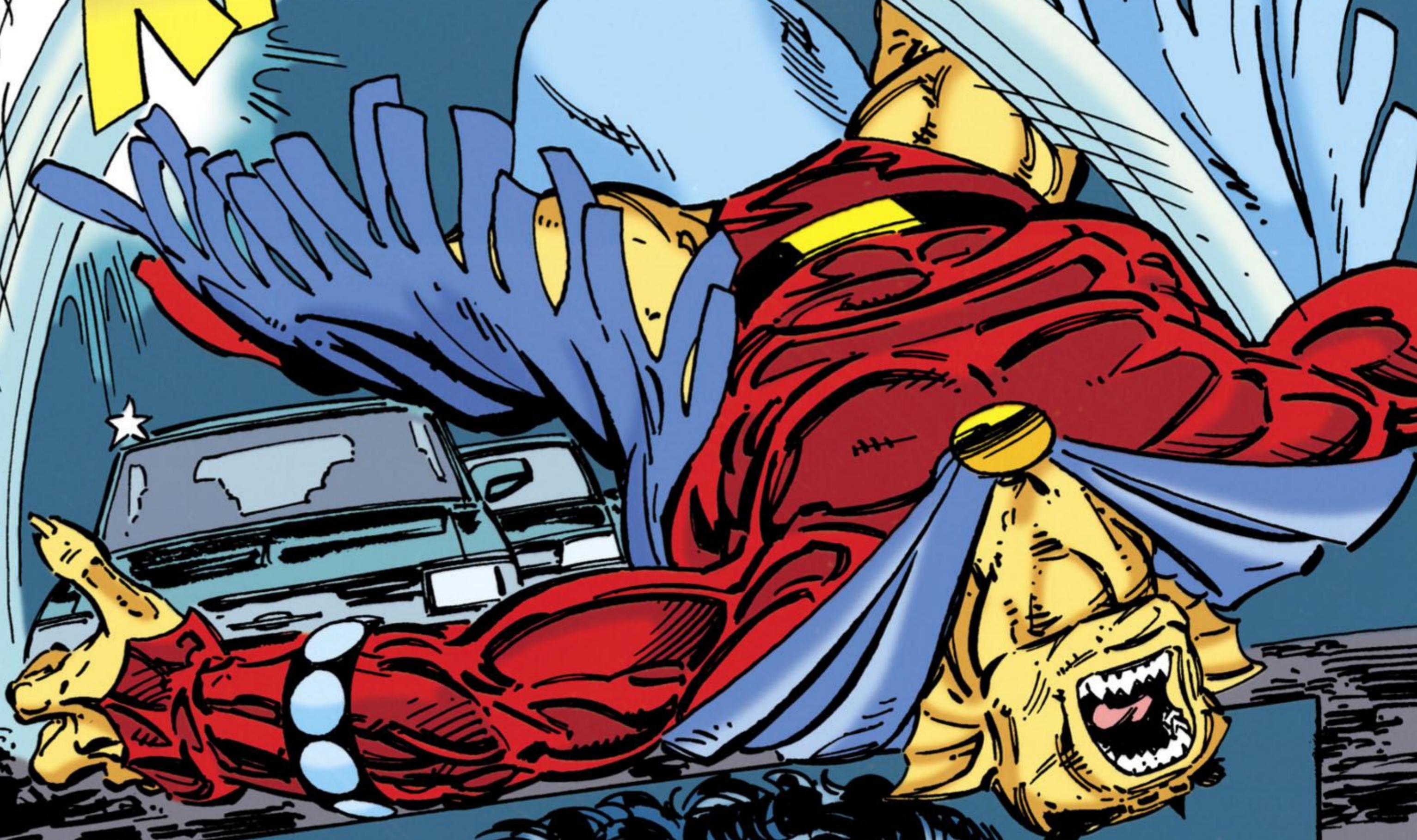
NO?

YOU UNDER-
ESTIMATE
ETRIGAN'S
POWER!

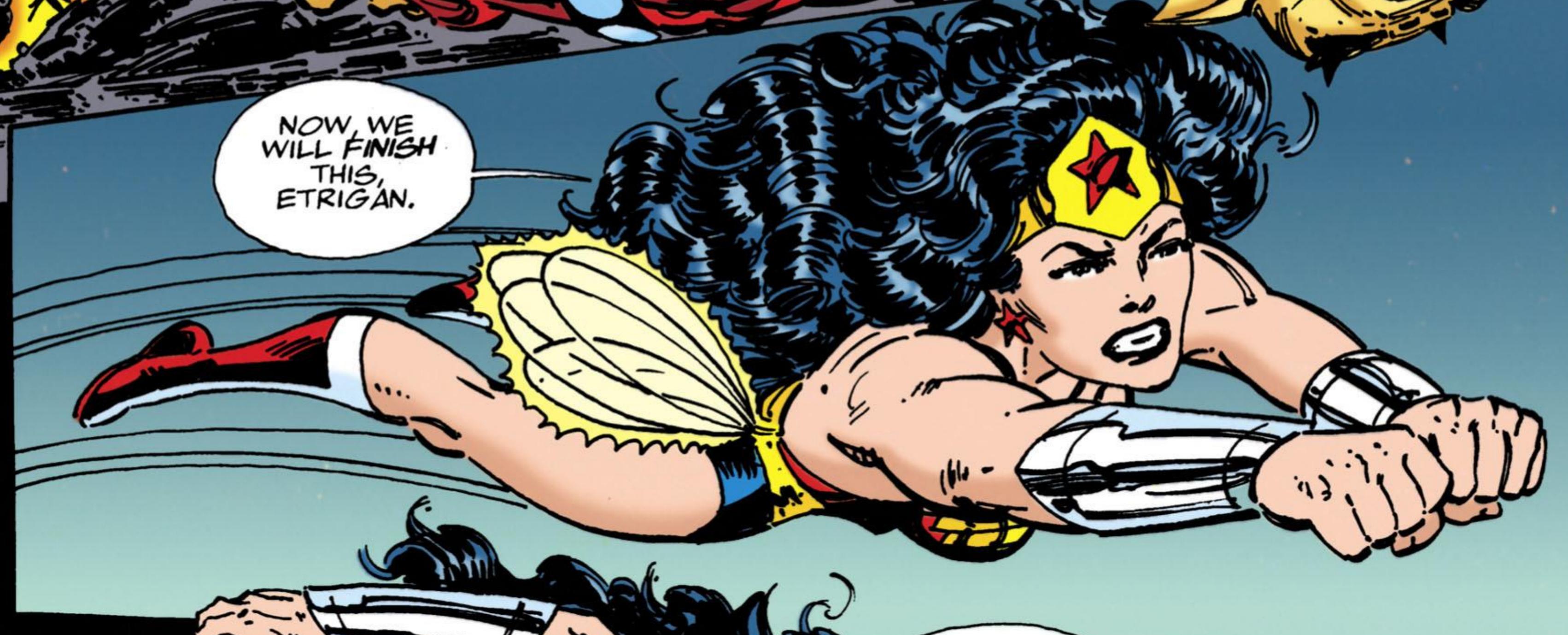
NOW,
SURRENDER,
WONDER
WOMAN!

I THINK NOT.

KRAM



NOW, WE
WILL FINISH
THIS,
ETRIGAN.



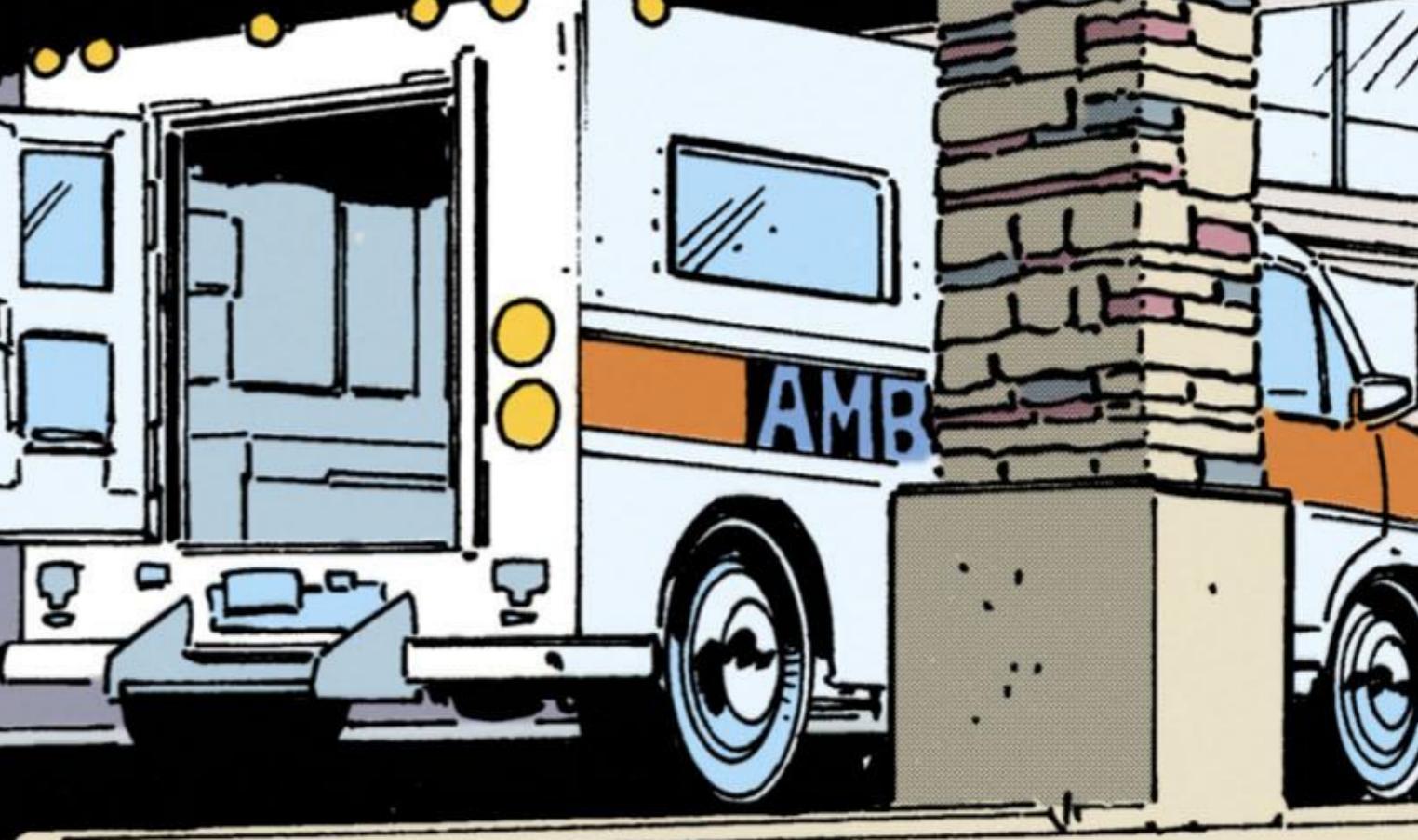
NOT YET,
MORTAL.



"THE TIME AND PLACE OF ETRIGAN'S DEFEAT IS NOT FOR YOU TO CHOOSE!"

RIGHT HERE!
GET ME A CLOSE-
UP RIGHT HERE
IN FRONT OF THE
DOORS!

EMERGENCY



THIS IS ROBIN LEVEY REPORTING LIVE FROM GATEWAY MEMORIAL HOSPITAL...

...WHERE THE SON OF FAMED THANATOLOGIST DR. JULIAN LAZARUS HAS JUST BEEN ADMITTED.

YOUNG KRIS LAZARUS WAS REPORTEDLY INJURED IN AN ACCIDENT AT HIS FATHER'S LAB.

FAMILY MEMBERS, INCLUDING DR. LAZARUS'S ESTRANGED WIFE, HAVE GATHERED AT THE BEDSIDE, AWAITING A PROGNOSIS.

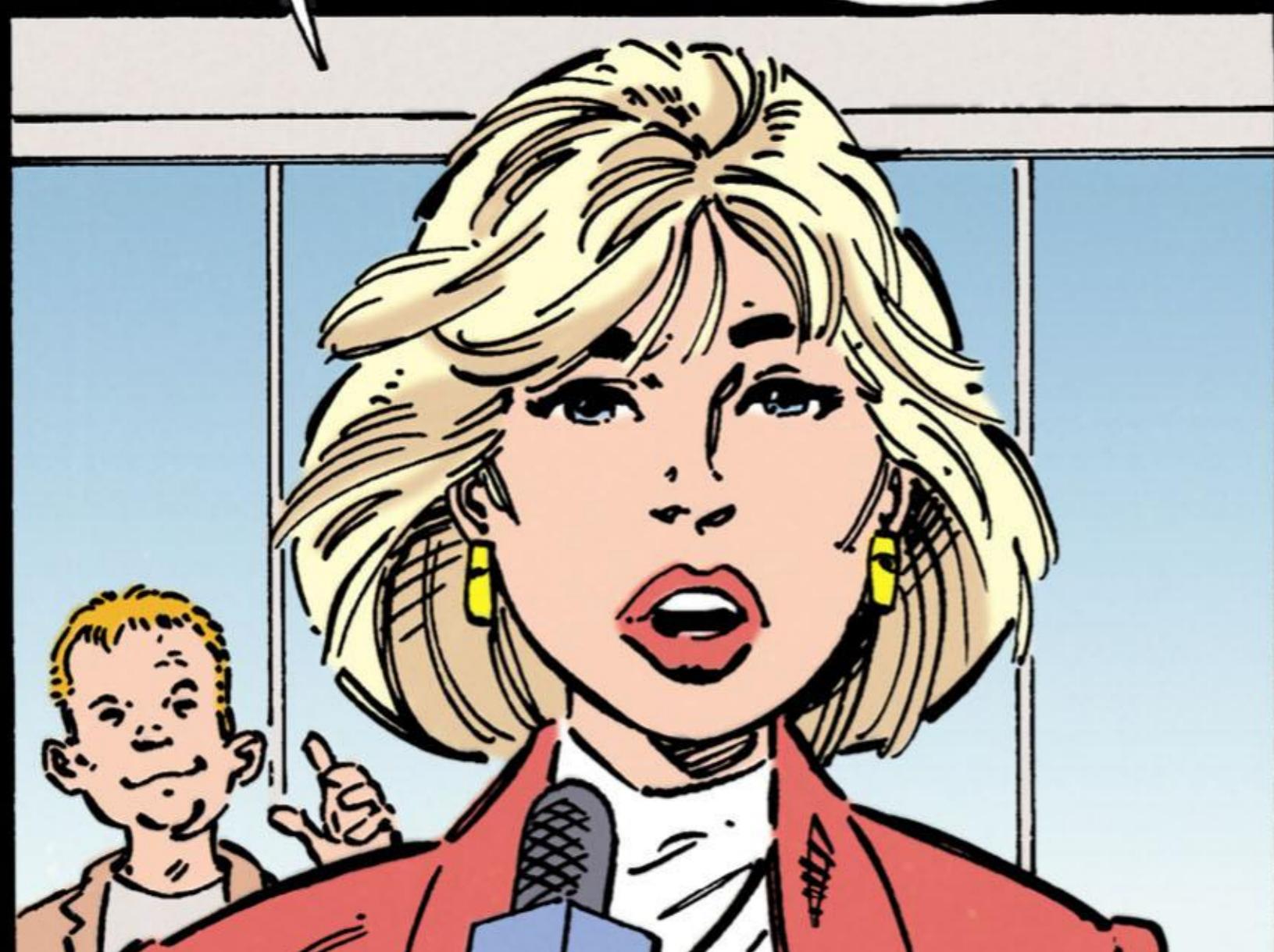


DR. LAZARUS, IT WILL BE RECALLED, CAME TO NATIONAL PROMINENCE WHEN HE WAS ONE OF THE MANY EXPERTS...

...CALLED UPON BY THE METROPOLIS DAILY PLANET TO OFFER GUIDANCE AND ASSISTANCE AFTER THE "DEATH" OF SUPERMAN.

LAZARUS, THE NATION'S LEADING EXPERT ON DEATH AND ITS CAUSES AND EFFECTS...

...IS BELIEVED TO HAVE DEVELOPED HIS DECIDEDLY MORBID FASCINATION DUE TO THE ELLIS ISLAND ALTERING OF HIS ORIGINAL FAMILY NAME.



IT IS NOT KNOWN WHAT BUSINESS OCCUPIED THE LAZARIUS FAMILY BEFORE THEY LEFT THEIR NATIVE...

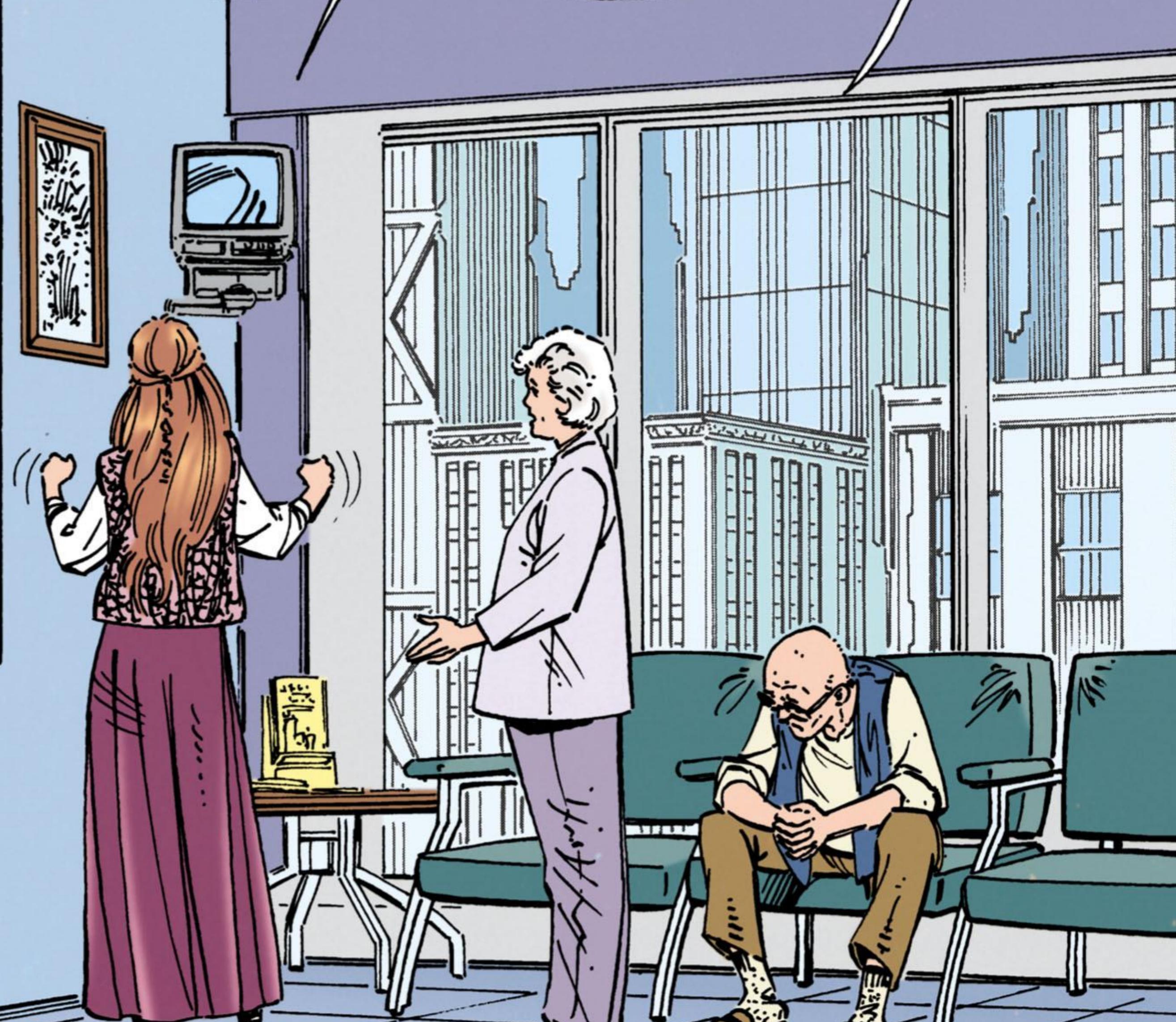
GHOULS!

ISN'T IT BAD ENOUGH THAT KRIS IS LYING IN THERE WITH ALMOST NO CHANCE...

...WITHOUT THEIR GATHERING LIKE VULTURES OUTSIDE?

IT'S JUST ONE OF THE THINGS JULIAN HAS HAD TO PUT UP WITH SINCE HE BECAME SO FAMOUS.

TRY NOT TO THINK ABOUT IT, ALLISON.



FAMOUS! YES, AND IF HE HAD NOT BECOME SO FAMOUS HE WOULD NEVER HAVE WON CUSTODY...

...AND MY SON WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN PLACED IN A SITUATION IN WHICH HE COULD GET KILLED!

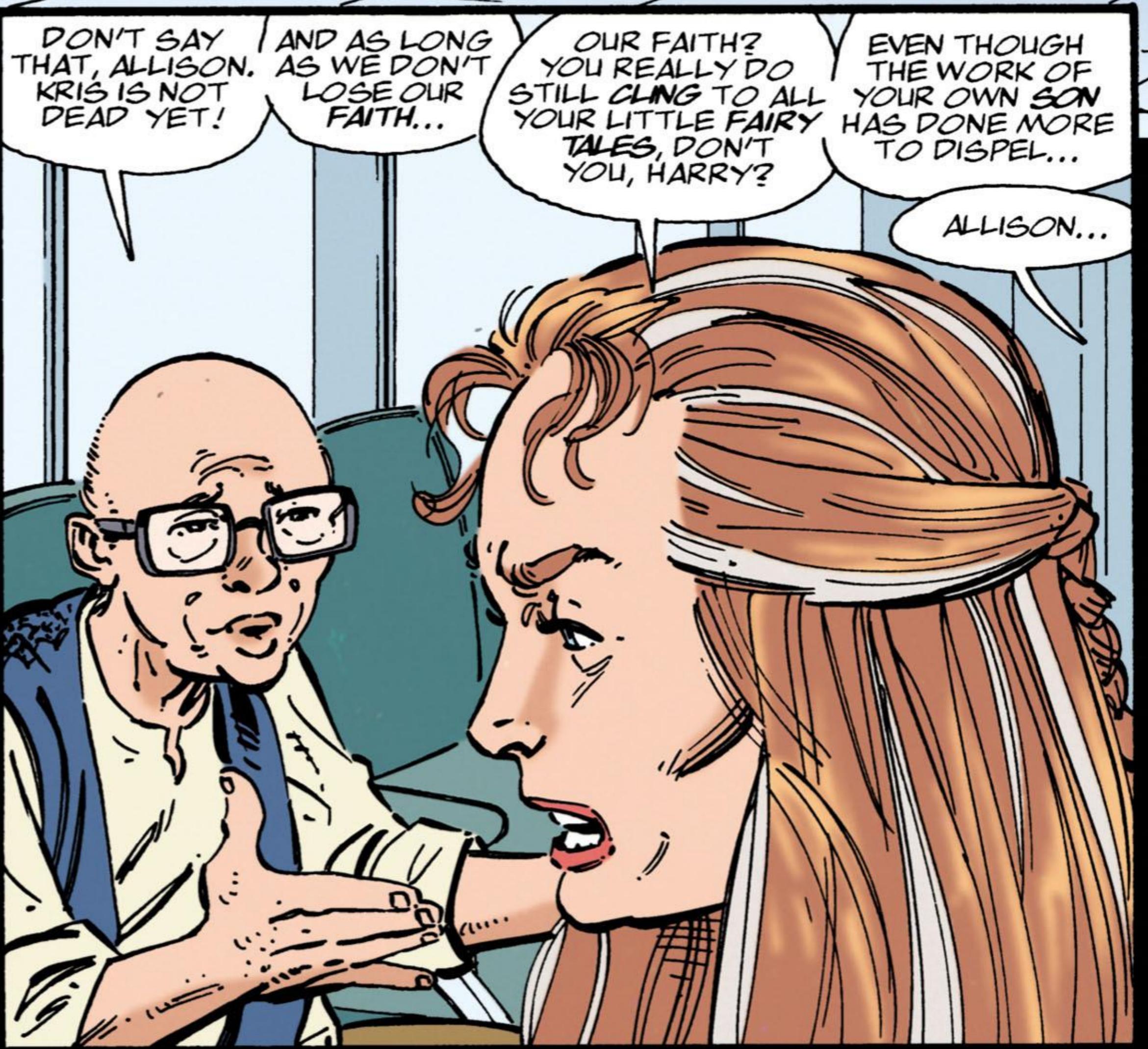
DON'T SAY THAT, ALLISON. KRIS IS NOT DEAD YET!

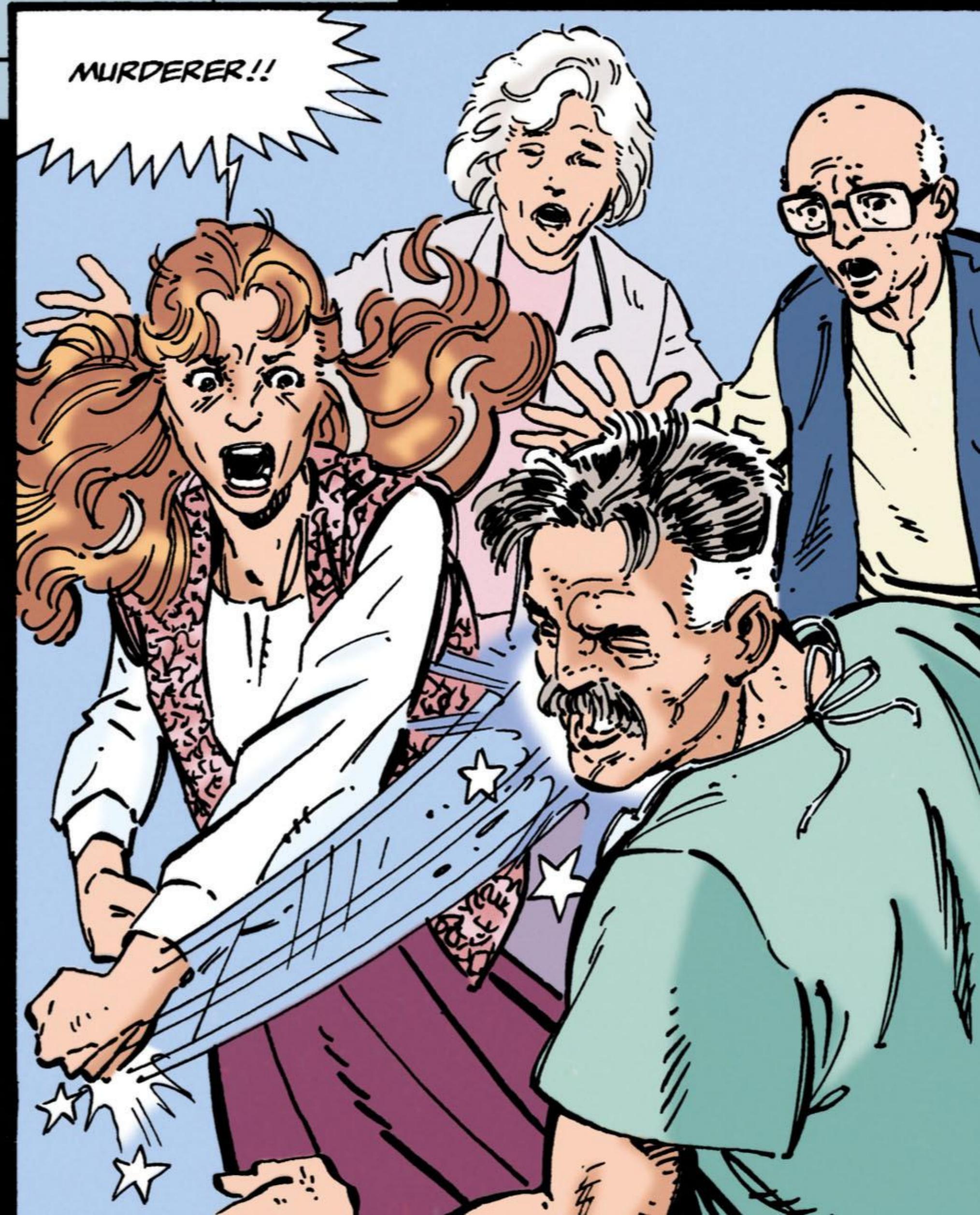
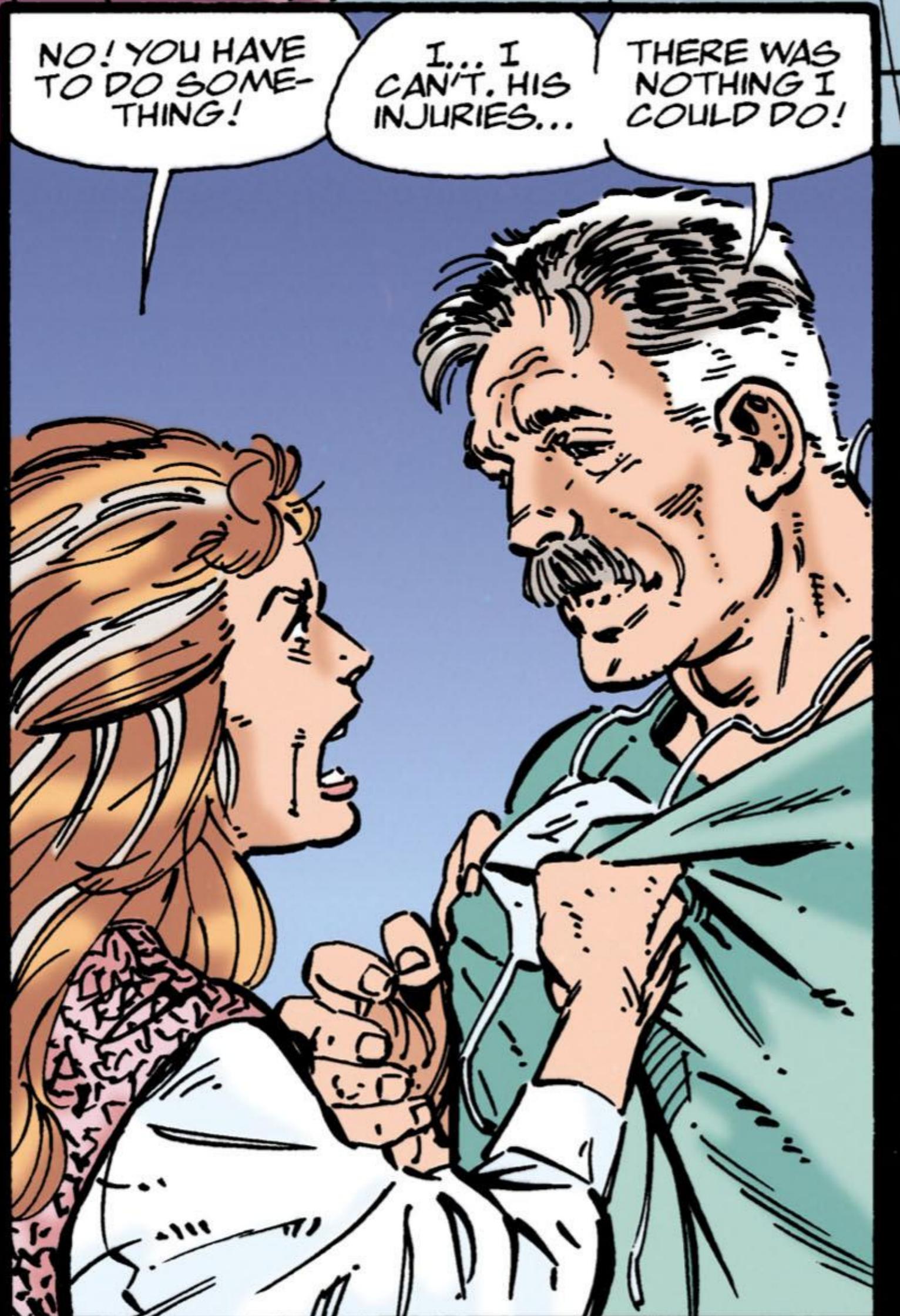
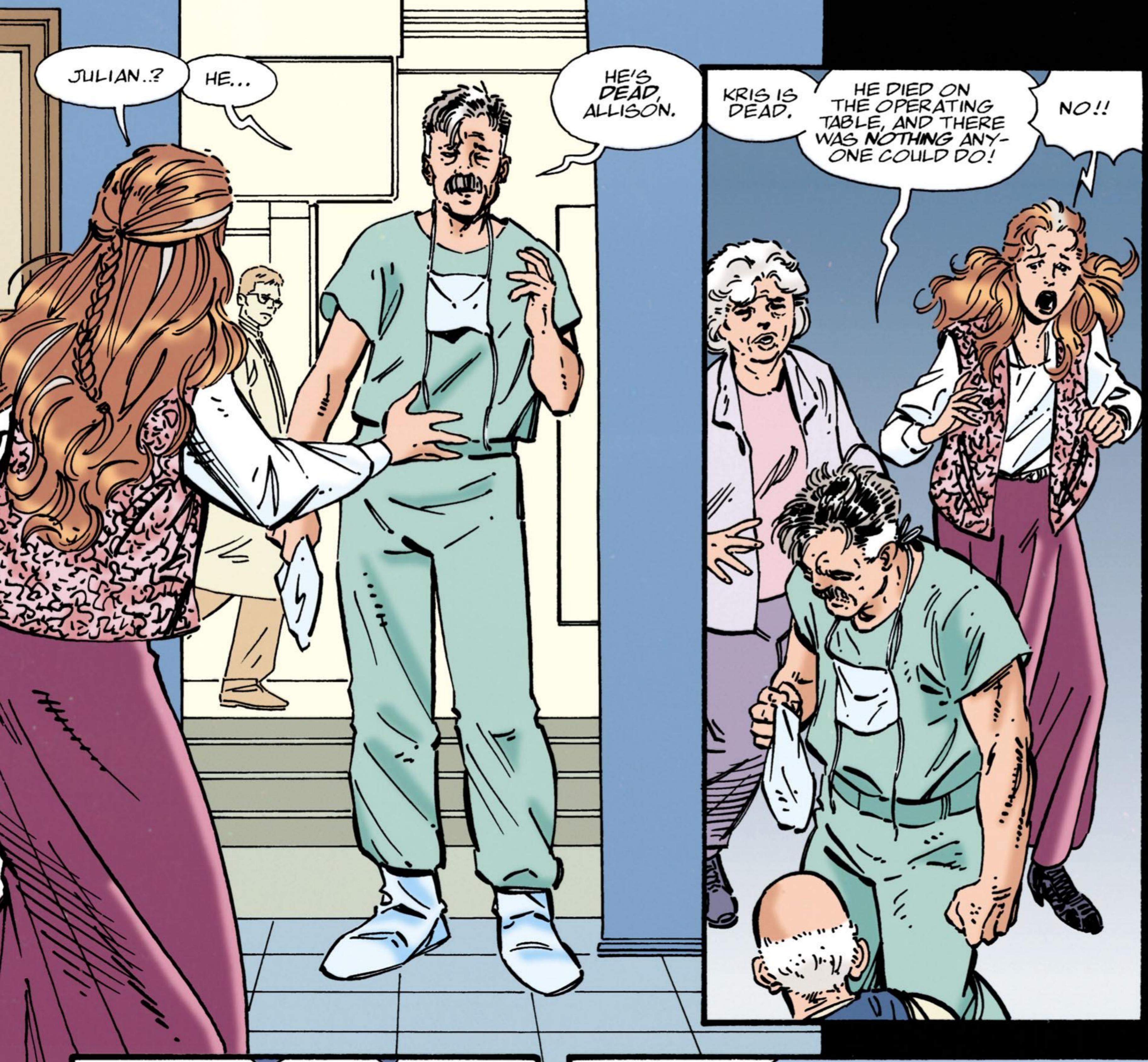
AND AS LONG AS WE DON'T LOSE OUR FAITH...

OUR FAITH? YOU REALLY DO STILL CLING TO ALL YOUR LITTLE FAIRY TALES, DON'T YOU, HARRY?

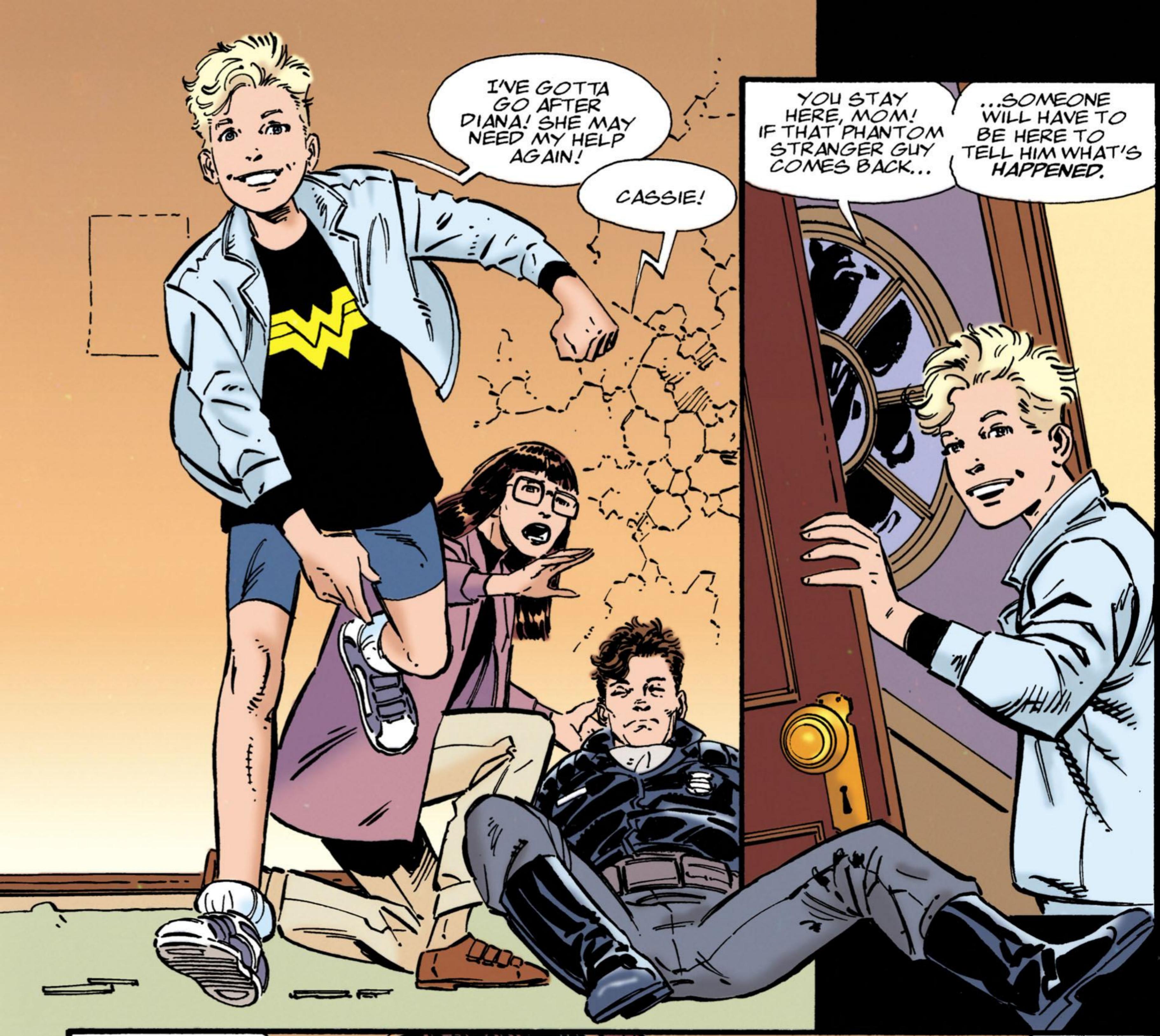
EVEN THOUGH THE WORK OF YOUR OWN SON HAS DONE MORE TO DISPEL...

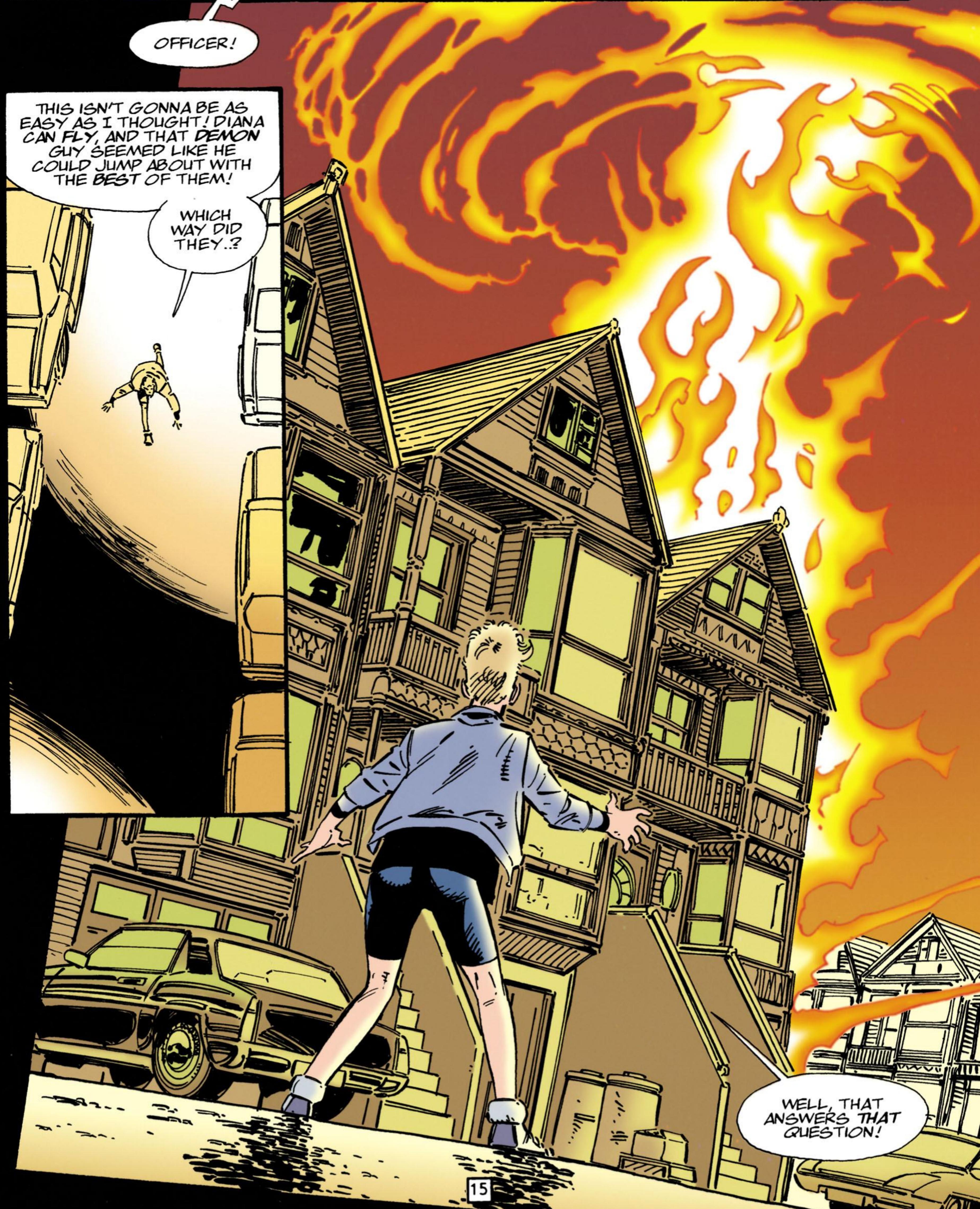
ALLISON...











SURRENDER,
WONDER WOMAN!
MY MISTRESS
DOES NOT WANT
YOU HARMED.

UNFORTUNATE
FOR YOU, THEN,
DEMON...

...SINCE I WILL
ONLY WHEN I HAVE
SURRENDERED MY
GRIP ON LIFE
ITSELF!

THAT WILL
NOT BE
NECESSARY,
DIANA.

VANISH, VANISH,
ETRIGAN! RETURN
AGAIN TO FORM
OF MAN!



STRANGER...
WHAT
IN...?

A
MOMENT, DIANA,
AND ALL WILL
BECOME
CLEARER.

AGAIN, I MUST APOLOGIZE
FOR HAVING TO WAIT UNTIL
YOU WERE ACTUALLY
ATTACKED BEFORE I COULD
ACT.

THE FORCES WE
ARE DEALING WITH
HERE ARE ANCIENT
AND CUNNING. THEY
KNOW WELL HOW TO
CONCEAL THEMSELVES,
EVEN FROM ME!

THIS ARTIFACT I
RECOVERED FROM THIS
MAN'S APARTMENT IN
LONDON.

THE RENOWNED
DEMONOLOGIST?
I HAVE HEARD OF
HIM!

IT IS THE LEGENDARY
PHILOSOPHER'S STONE,
AND HE, OF COURSE,
IS JASON BLOOD.

YES, FOR MANY LONG
CENTURIES THE SPIRIT OF
ETRIGAN HAS POSSESSED
THE FORM OF JASON
BLOOD...

...THOUGH THERE IS
AN OLDER LEGEND
THAT TELLS OF MERLIN'S
CREATING BLOOD AS A
VESSEL FOR HIS
DEMONIC SERVANT.

WOW!



THE SAME, THOUGH WHAT YOU KNOW OF HER IN LEGEND IS SOMEWHAT DIFFERENT FROM HER TRUE FORM.

SHE IS AN ANCIENT AND MOST DIABOLICAL SORCERESS, GIFTED IN THE MOST ARCANE OF THE BLACK ARTS, UTTERLY WITHOUT RESTRAINT IN USING THEM.

A WOMAN WHO WOULD RIP THE UNIVERSE IN HALF, IF SHE THOUGHT SO DOING WOULD GAIN HER ONE KOTA MORE OF POWER.

WE MUST ARRANGE FOR THE RETURN OF ETRIGAN, BLOOD.

HE CAN LEAD US TO THE LAIR OF LE FAY.

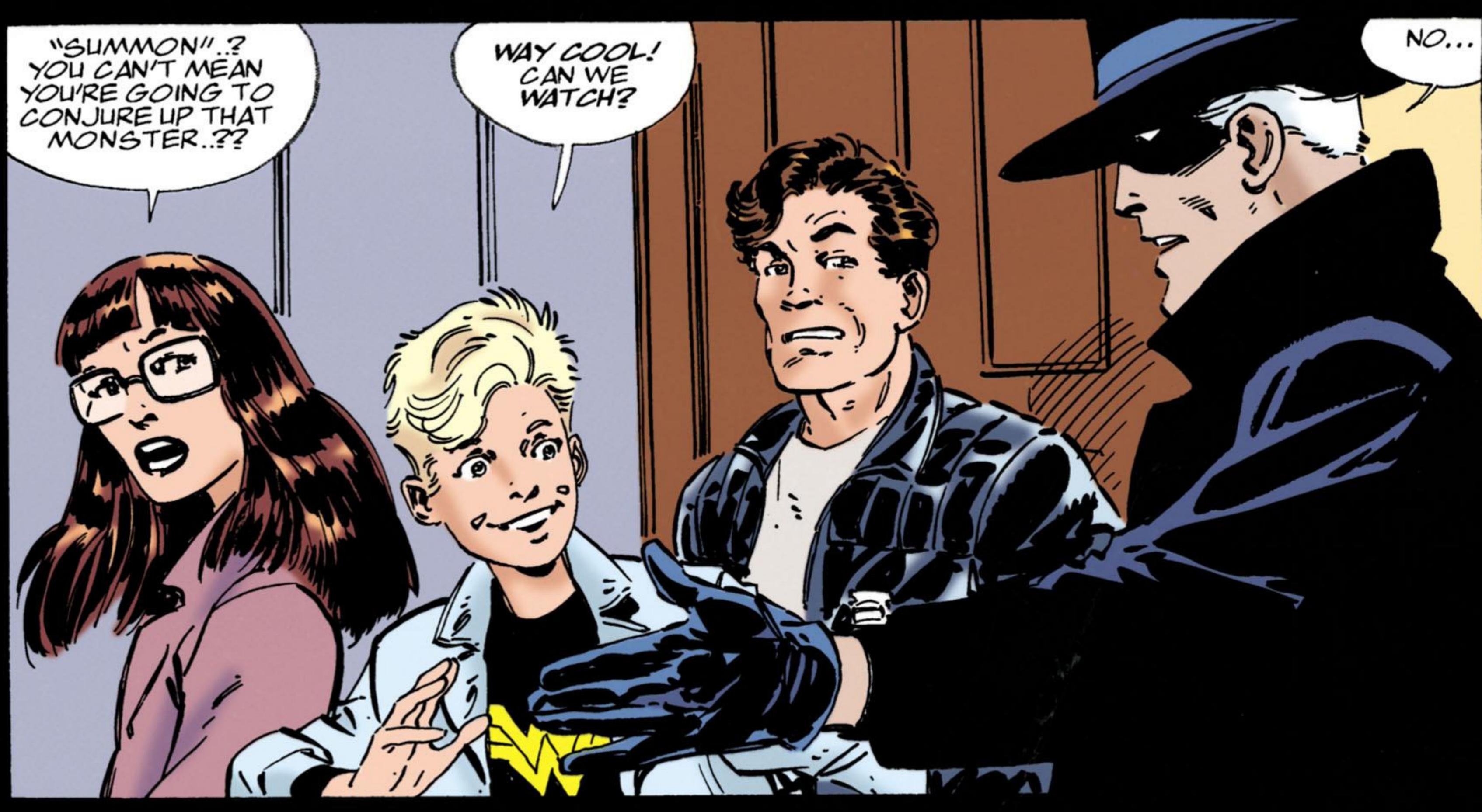
YES. NOW THAT THE POWER OF THE PHILOSOPHER'S STONE HAS BROKEN HER ENCHANTMENT, IT WOULD BE SAFE TO SUMMON ETRIGAN ONCE MORE.



"SUMMON" ...?
YOU CAN'T MEAN
YOU'RE GOING TO
CONJURE UP THAT
MONSTER...??

WAY COOL!
CAN WE
WATCH?

NO...



WHAT MUST NOW
TRANSPIRE IS NOT
FOR MORTAL
EYES TO SEE.

AGREED.
I AM READY
WHENEVER YOU
ARE,
STRANGER.



THEN LET US COMMENCE...

YARVA ETRIGAN DAEMONICUS...

"I SUMMON THE DEMON ETRIGAN!"

YES, YOU JUST DO THAT, STRANGER!

MISTRESS, SHALL I...

NOT YET. BIDE A WHILE, WARLY. LET THE STRANGER THINK ETRIGAN IS HIS TO CONTROL.

IT WILL BE BETTER IN THE LONG RUN IF THE AMAZON PRINCESS WALKS FREELY INTO MY WEB.

I THINK ANOTHER TOOL WILL SUIT OUR NEEDS ONCE DIANA IS WITHIN THESE WALLS.

ETRIGAN HAS SERVED A PURPOSE AFTER ALL.

LET US NOW
TEST THE METTLE
OF THIS ATLANTEAN
SORCERER AGAINST
THE PHANTOM
STRANGER.

UH-HHH... WHERE...

SHUSH,
ARION.

ALL YOUR
QUESTIONS WILL
BE ANSWERED
IN GOOD TIME.

AHGH!!

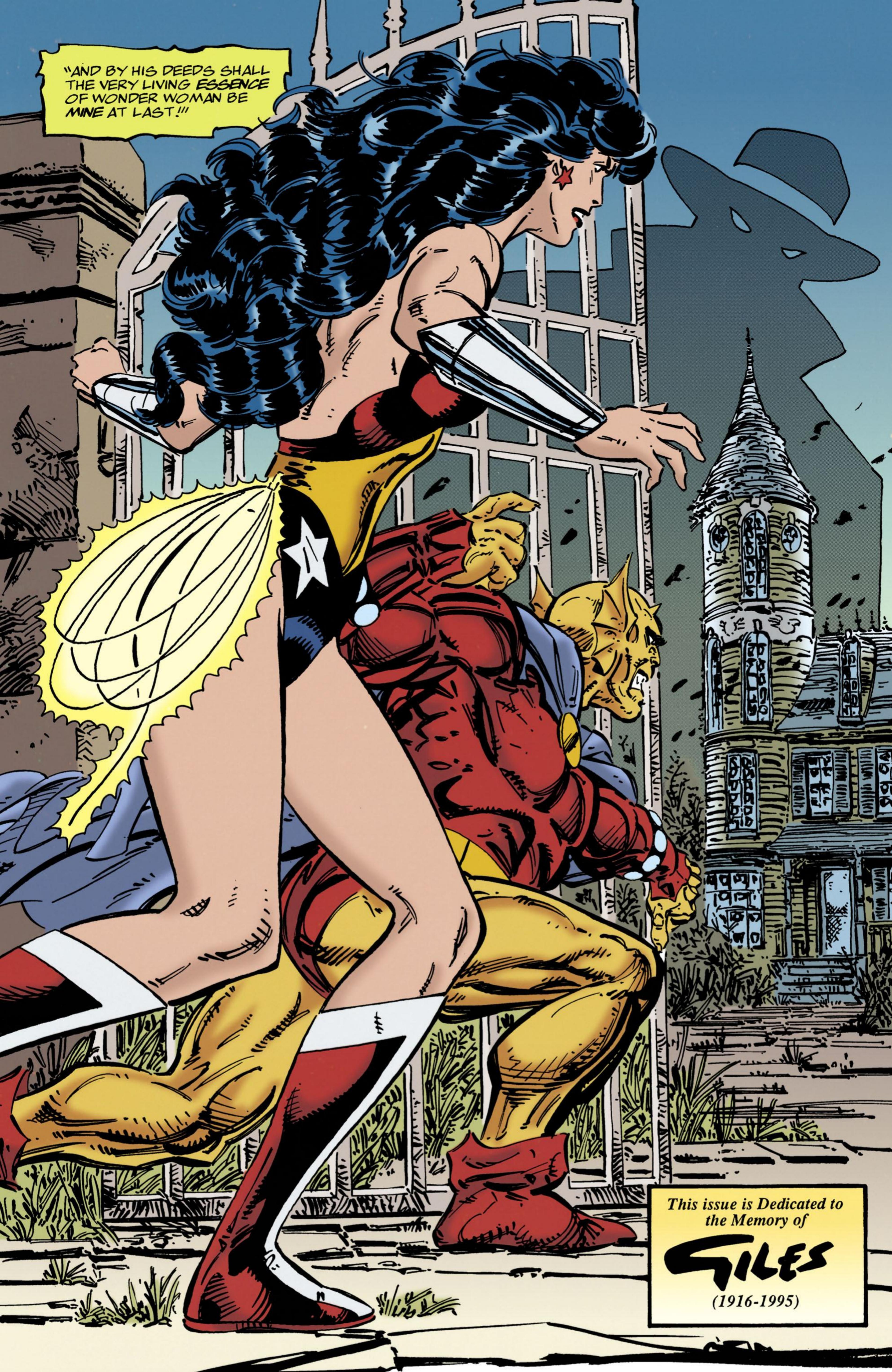
MISTRESS!
HE RESISTS
YOUR
SPELL!

RESISTS...

...BUT HAS NOT
THE POWER TO
CONQUER MY
MAGICKS!

NO, WARLY,
HIS ANCIENT GIFTS
ARE MINE TO
USE AS I SEE FIT. ARION
OF ATLANTIS IS IN THE END
A PUPPET TO MY WILL.

"AND BY HIS DEEDS SHALL
THE VERY LIVING ESSENCE
OF WONDER WOMAN BE
MINE AT LAST!!!"



This issue is Dedicated to
the Memory of

GILES
(1916-1995)