



VISIONS OF DEATH!

# WONDER WOMAN

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APPROVED  
BY THE  
COMICS  
CODE  
C  
AUTHORITY



BILL LOEBS  
LEE MODER  
ANDE PARKS

HUFF... SWEETHEART, EXPLAIN TO ME AGAIN WHY YOU AREN'T JUST... UHGG... ZAPPIN' THIS STUFF UP HERE? AFTER ALL, YOU ARE DR. FATE!

BUT SWEETIE... I PROMISED YOU THAT I WOULDN'T EVEN THINK ABOUT DR. FATE DURING THIS VACATION. AND THE VACATION'S NOT OFFICIALLY OVER TILL WE GET UNPACKED.

I'M DOING IT FOR YOU, LOVUMS!

PONT... THANK YOU.



WE'VE GONE TO SUNNY, DECADENT MEXICO AND WE'LL BE BACK... WELL, EVENTUALLY. SO LEAVE A MESSAGE AND TAKE A NUMBER. IT COULD BE AWHILE. BYE!

Hi, Inza. This is Diana. I know you'll be surprised to hear from me...

DIANA!  
SHE'S  
ALIVE?

ANYWAY, I NEED YOUR HELP. THEMYSIRA HAS DISAPPEARED AND MY MOTHER AND THOUSANDS OF AMAZONS HAVE VANISHED FROM THE FACE OF THE EARTH...



The comfort we get from Sure knowing is superior to that we obtain through Faith, but is almost always purchased through Pain.

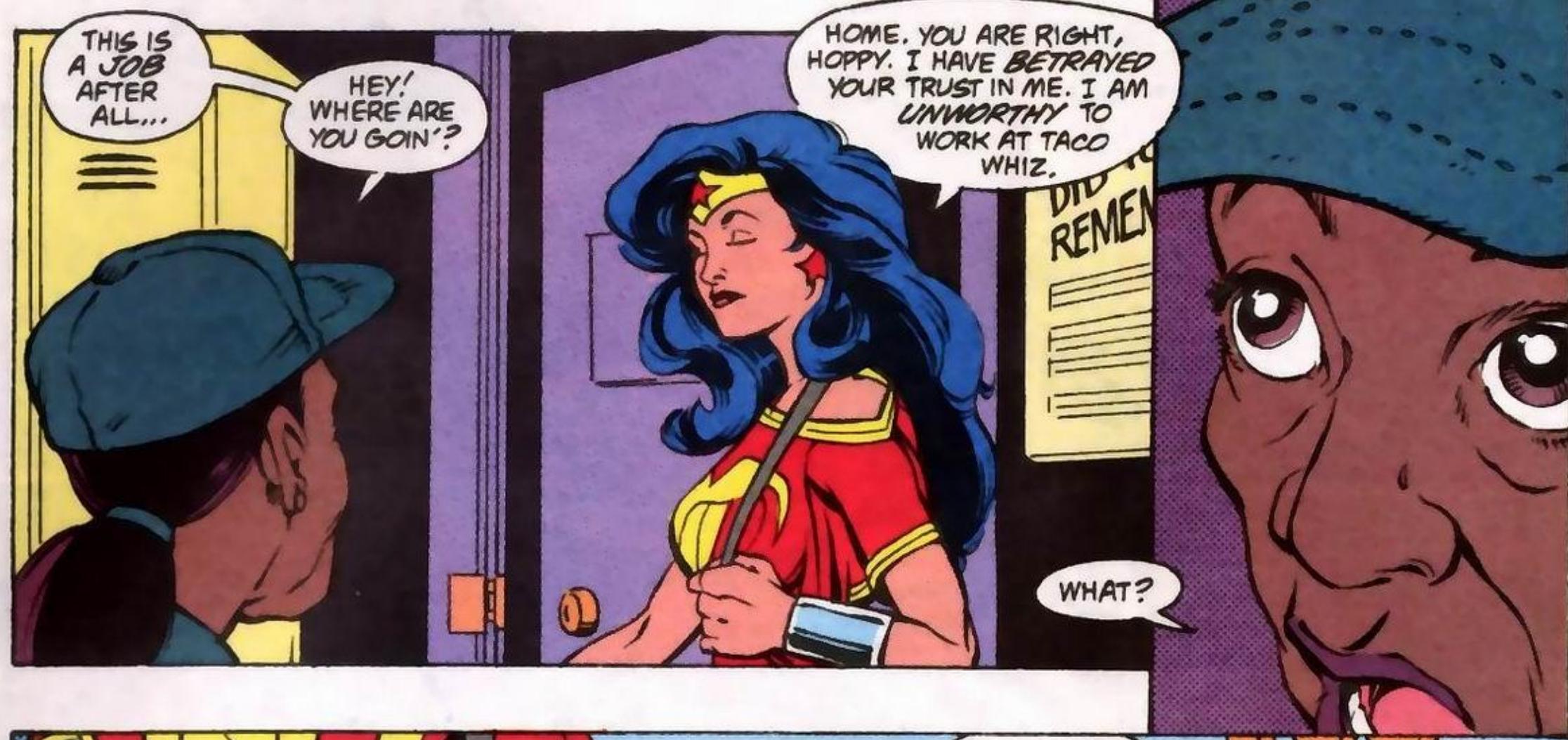
--Karen Turol, Marquise de Burauette

# WONDER WOMAN

# KNOWLEDGE



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LETTERER STEVE INKER  
BRIAN AUGUSTYN • MATTSSON • RUBEN  
EDITOR WILLIAM Moulton MARSTON  
Wonder Woman creator



HOME, YOU ARE RIGHT,  
HOPPY. I HAVE BETRAYED  
YOUR TRUST IN ME. I AM  
UNWORTHY TO  
WORK AT TACO  
WHIZ.

DID  
REMEM

WHAT?



TACOWHIZ

Tacowhi

DIOS!





ISN'T IT INSPIRING, HOPPY? BECAUSE OUR FOOD IS CHEAP, ALL THESE PEOPLE... RETIREES, STUDENTS, LAID-OFF WORKERS AND HOMELESS FAMILIES... WHO CANNOT AFFORD RESTAURANTS, COME HERE.

Kids Meal .99

Taco salad

Fajita churra

I NEED SIX TACOS! TWO FOR ME AND TWO EACH FOR MY FRIENDS, THE INVISIBLE SPACE PEOPLE FROM VENUS!

IT IS A VAST MELTING POT!

DID I EVER TELL YOU HOW I GOT NAMED HOPPY?

NO.

ALL RIGHT. SOME PARTS ARE MORE INSPIRING THAN OTHERS.

I GOT NAMED AFTER HOPALONG CASSIDY... THIS WHITE COWBOY DUDE FROM THE FIFTIES!

SEE, MOST COWBOYS HAD WHITE HATS. BAD GUYS WAS DRESSED IN BLACK. BUT HOPPY WAS ALWAYS IN BLACK... AN' HE WAS A GOOD GUY!

MY DADDY LOVED THAT. DADDY BELIEVED IN SYMBOLS.

GUESS I'M LUCKY HE DIDN'T NAME ME PALADIN...!

DIANA!







I CAN WEAVE A SPELL MADE UP OF TIME STRANDS AND SEND US BACK TO THE MOMENTS JUST BEFORE ALL THIS HAPPENED.

NO, WE WILL BE LIKE PHANTOMS AMID PHANTOMS.

WELL, THIS'LL BE LIKE THAT, EXCEPT THE SPECIAL EFFECTS WILL BE BETTER!

DO YOU REMEMBER THE EPISODE OF "BEWITCHED" WHERE SAM SENT DARRIN BACK TO THE JOHNS-TOWN FLOOD, TO PROVE IT WASN'T CAUSED BY WITCHES?

NO.

WILL WE BE ABLE TO STOP IT?

LOOK! I CAN SEE SOMETHING!

THERE'S DANTHIS AND HELLEN! EVERYTHING IS JUST AS I REMEMBER.

THEY SEE SOMETHING... WHY CAN'T WE HEAR THEM?

WE'RE ONLY BARELY HERE. IT LOOKS LIKE...

IT'S YOU,  
DIANA!



WHERE  
ARE THEY  
GOING?

PROBABLY TO SEE MY MOTHER,  
HIPPOLYTE. NORMALLY THE QUEEN  
DECIDES WHAT TO DO WITH SUCH  
SALVAGE.

YOU'RE RIGHT.  
THIS IS WHERE  
WE ENDED UP.

WHAT'S SHE  
DOING?

ADMINISTERING  
THE QUEEN'S  
PEACE.

AMAZON  
TRADITION ALLOWS  
HER TO HEAL  
DISPUTES BETWEEN  
FRIENDS.

BY FORCE  
OF WILL?  
DOES THAT  
WORK?

USUALLY,  
HERE WE GO.

I WISH WE KNEW  
WHAT THEY WERE  
SAYING.



IT DOESN'T  
LOOK  
DANGEROUS.

SHE LOOKS AT  
IT SO SADLY.  
SHE MISSES  
YOU, DIANA.

THE ORACLE.  
IF ANYONE CAN  
FIGURE OUT A  
MYSTERY, SHE  
CAN.

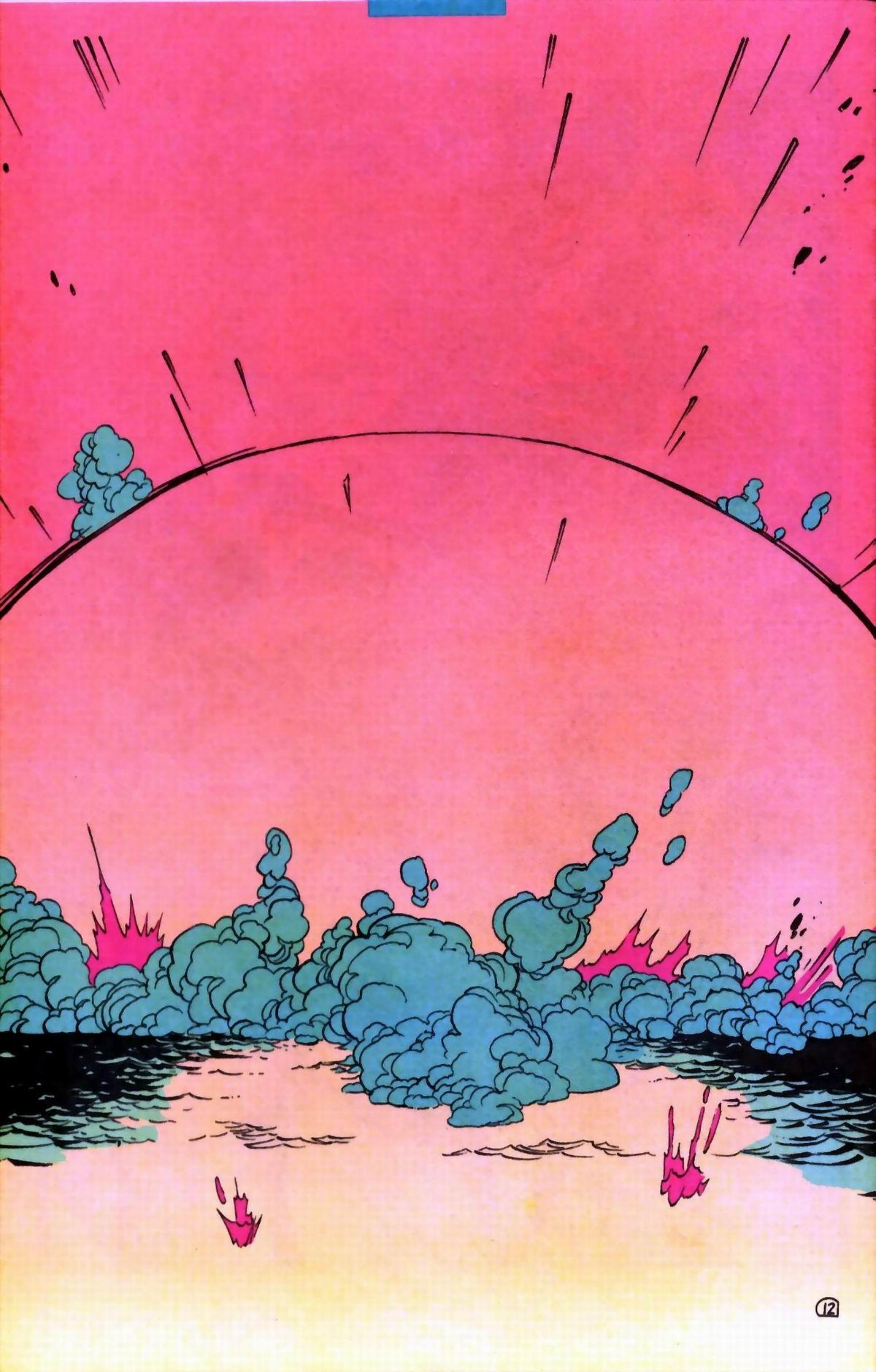
WHO'S  
THIS?

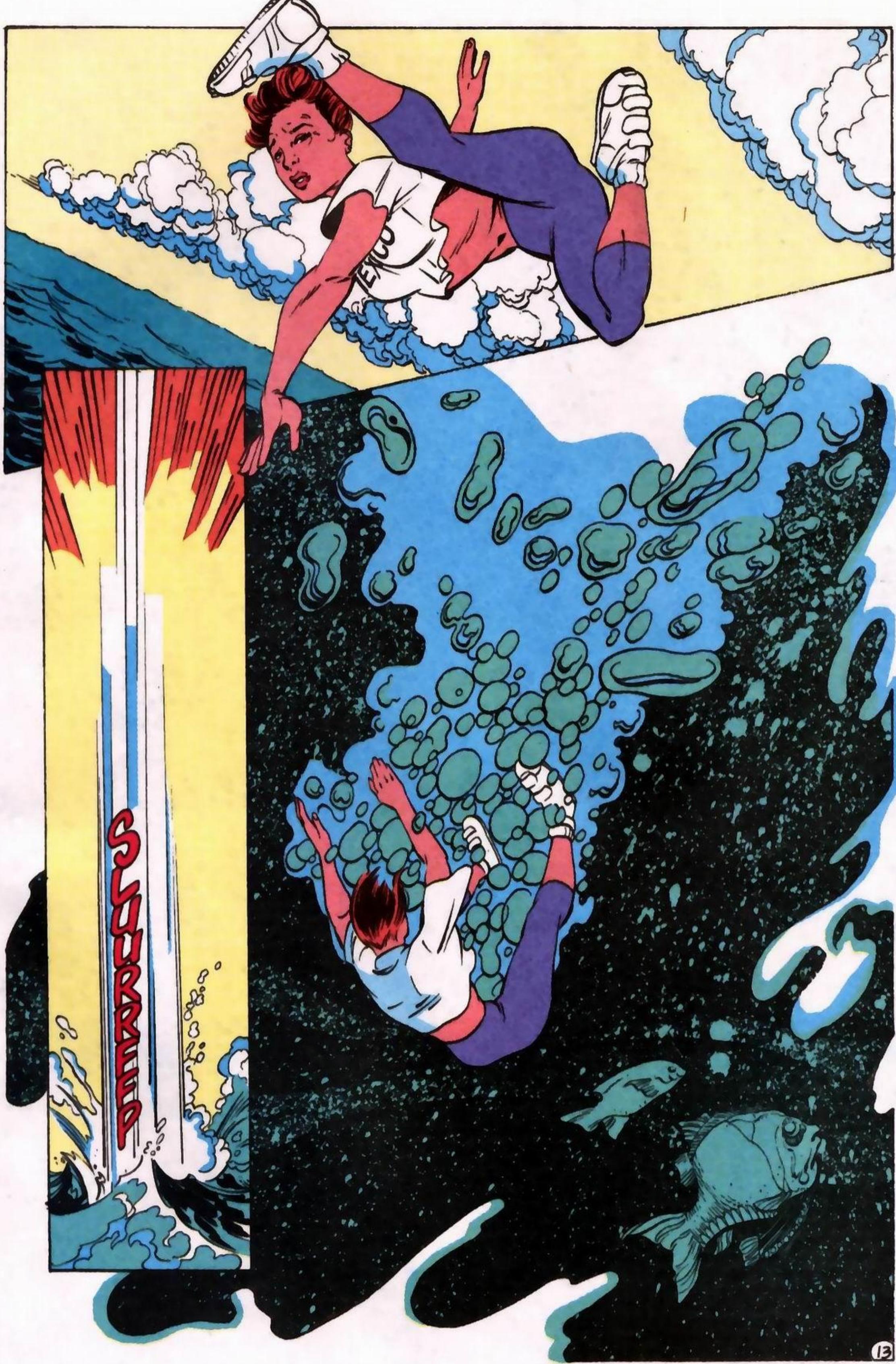
SHE'S TRYING  
TO SENSE  
ITS INNER  
NATURE...

SHE'S  
BEEN  
BLINDED!

FORCE  
BOLTS!







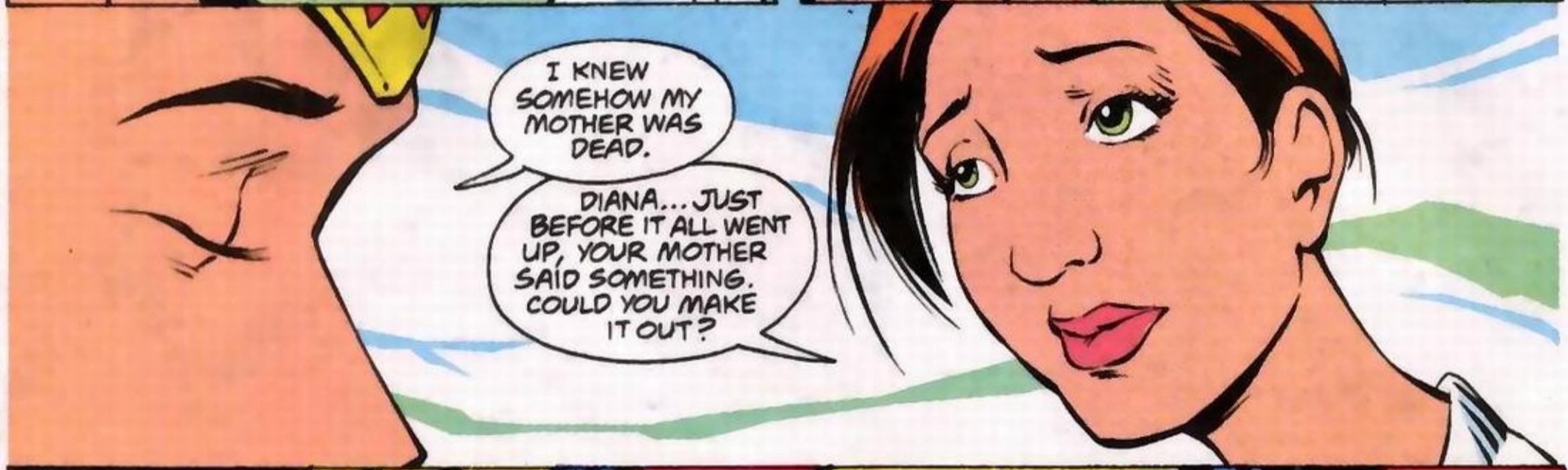


HAK HAK  
COF COF

HUHH  
HUHH

SO THIS IS  
WHAT IT FEELS  
LIKE TO BE  
RESCUED BY  
**THE**  
WONDER  
WOMAN.

WHAT  
DOES IT  
FEEL LIKE?



HALFWAY AROUND THE  
WORLD, IN OCEAN SEA'S  
DREARIEST SECTOR IS A  
SMALL ISLE

AND SET DOWN  
INTO THAT ISLAND  
IS A SMALL, DARK  
TEMPLE.

AND IN THAT  
TEMPLE LIVES  
THE MOST EVIL  
WOMAN ALIVE...

CIRCE, WHO  
HAS LIVED  
FOR 7 THOU-  
SAND YEARS  
BY HER  
SORCERIES,  
AND WHO  
HATES THE  
AMAZONS OF  
THEMYSCIRA  
LIKE THE RAT  
HATES THE  
WEASEL.

DO I WANT TO KNOW  
WHAT YOU'RE GOING  
TO DO, ONCE WE  
FIND THIS CIRCLE?

I DO NOT  
KNOW YET.

FAIR  
ENOUGH.

LOOKS DESERTED.  
YOU'RE SURE THIS  
IS THE RIGHT PLACE?

REASONABLY  
CERTAIN, YES.

WE ARE  
ENTERING THE  
HEART OF  
MALIGNANCY.  
BE PREPARED.

IT IS  
PITCH  
BLACK...

LET ME TRY  
A LIGHT  
SPELL. IF  
THIS DARK-  
NESS IS  
MYSTICAL,  
IT COULD BE  
A TUSSLE,  
BUT...

GAEA!

IS THAT CIRCE?  
CAN YOU TELL  
WHAT HAPPENED  
TO HER?

I CAN  
TRY...

AND I'LL TRY NOT  
TO GET US SO DEEPLY  
INVOLVED THIS  
TIME...

THAT VILE  
DEVIL! SHE'S  
KILLING THEM  
ALL! AND  
LAUGHING  
ABOUT IT!

I'LL DEVOLVE  
TIME TO THE SAME  
MOMENTS WE JUST  
EXPERIENCED...

AHA. THAT  
LOOKS GUILTY  
TO ME!

FLOOOF



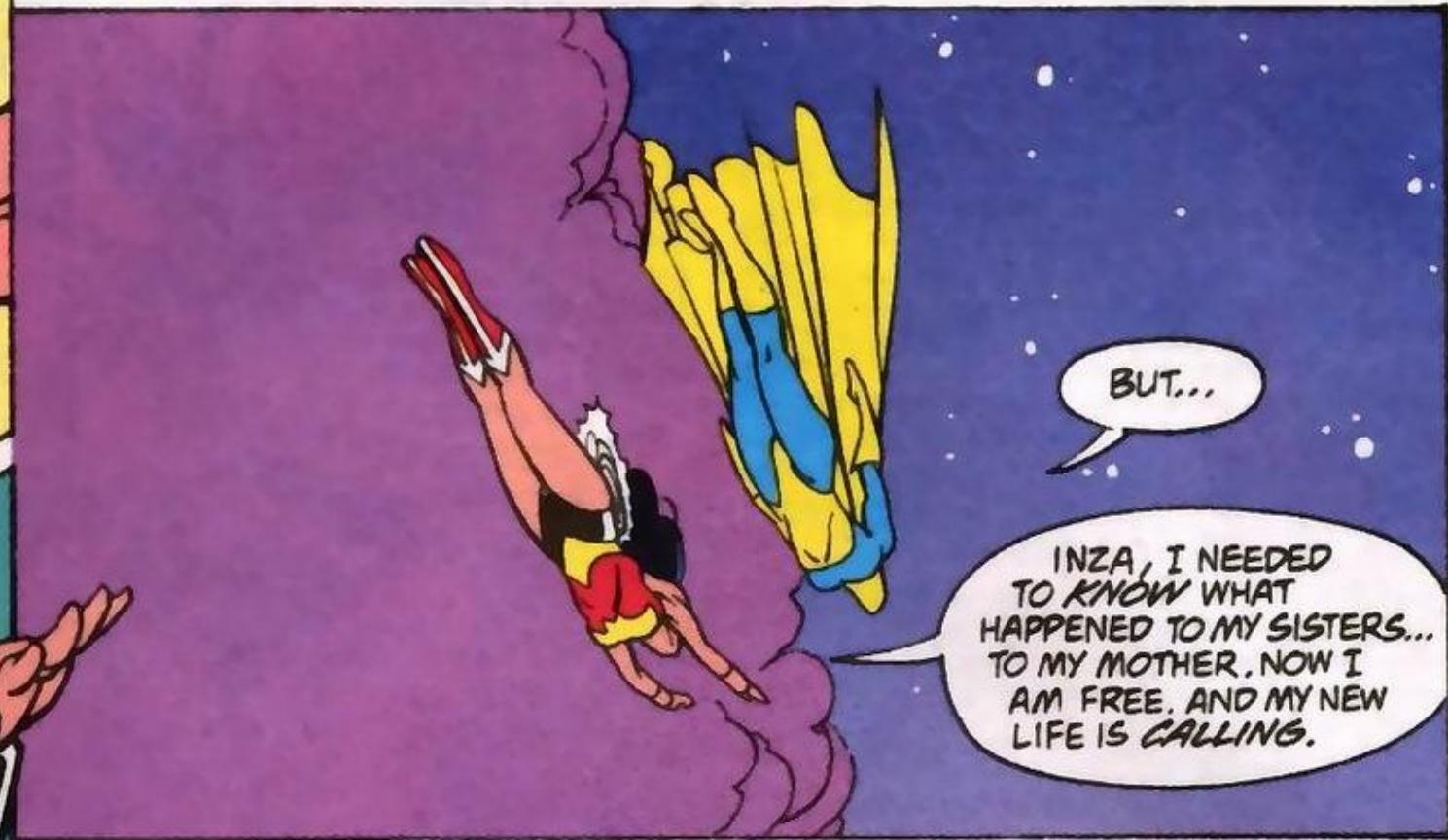
VIOLENCE HAS FED UPON ITSELF, AS IT USUALLY DOES, LEAVING NOTHING. VENGEANCE IS BESIDE THE POINT.

MY MOTHER AND MY SISTERS DIED AS TRUE AMAZONS. DEATH IS ALWAYS NEAR BY. THERE IS NO POINT TO GRIEF...

DO YOU?



THANK  
YOU, INZA.



The End

# WONDER WOMAN



## • BEFORE WE START •

So you're going to think, why the heck is he rambling again? It just seems that every time I sit down to do this lettercol, one topic tugs at my brain no end. What is it this time? It is what I'll simply call the **Pérez Complex**. I must say, at least two out of every ten letters has the "Well, when Pérez was working on WONDER WOMAN..." HELLO. WAKE UP CALL, AMERICA! Much to the dismay of many of our fans, I have a secret to share. Come close. Closer. George Pérez isn't on the book anymore.

Sure we've heard the stories of how DC doesn't care about Wonder Woman. DC doesn't support the character. DC has forgotten about one of its icons. Yatta Yatta Yatta... SURVEY SAYS... EEERRT! If DC didn't care about the character would we be printing the comic every month? If DC doesn't support the character would we be putting out a poster of the Amazon Princess next month? Would we be launching a line of toys and TV show if she was a dead-end character? If DC has forgotten about the character would we be planning stories that would change Diana's life forever (and we mean that!)? I think that it may be the **fans** who aren't supporting the character. Those of you who constantly complain about Pérez not doing the book anymore are propagating the star creator mentality. Are the X-Men worse characters or, for that matter, a worse book because Claremont or Lee or Byrne isn't doing the book? Does that mean we as a whole (company and fans) don't care about the character? Should Marvel have stopped publication the day Kirby and/or Lee stopped drawing and writing everything? Do you pick up comic books because the characters are thrilling extensions of your fantasies? Do you pick up comics because the character grows as you do with each adventure? Or, do you pick up comics merely because Artist/Writer X is on it?

Sure many of the elements Pérez put in the book were fun. Sure some of them were thought-provoking. But is that to say some of Loebs's aren't? Or Marston's weren't? A question: Are you the same person now that you were five, maybe ten years ago? Do you go to the same stores, theatres, live in the same neighborhood? Do you wear the same clothes? Do you have the same friends? The bottom line of each of these questions is EVOLUTION.

Evolution dictates the course of a character's life, of each of our lives. As an example, Diana's detachment from the gods may be her evolution of their divinity. How long could you pal around with God [the Lord] before you said, "Holee Cow, it's HIM!" How long would you spend fighting creatures of the netherworlds before you thought, "Hey, there's a whole world out there that needs my help too!" Diana's adventures are merely the evolution of her concerns. So please, although I don't mean to sound condescending, read the book for what it is.

Look beyond the name on the credits. Try to reach into the heart of the character. Try to walk a mile in their moccasins. Believe me, you will enjoy

Dear Brian,

It's OK to judge a book by its cover, particularly if that book is WONDER WOMAN and the cover is by Brian Bolland. Fortunately, the interior is equally as pleasing as the cover, in both tone and content. I picked up this series again after dropping it from my list at around #40 because I thought you folks were running out of steam. You would have lost me for good if not for the increasingly provocative renderings of the aforementioned Mr. Bolland.

This recent Wonder Woman as a slave on the outreaches of the cosmos storyline really sets a nice example of how well things can be done if you only try. It's probably the best of the "space operas" of the year.

Paris Collins does a fantastic job on this series, aided and abetted by the

excellent production crew at all levels. But William Messner-Loebs deserves most of the credit for writing one of the more personal and exciting adventures in Wonder Woman's long career.

Number 70 summarized the issues of rebellion against slavery nicely, leaving me interested in seeing Wonder Woman make her way back to Earth for some vengeance against those who set her up back in issue #66.

Thomas McNulty  
Somewhereville, Illinois

Well, we're glad Brian Bolland's covers got you to pick up the book. We hope the contents will keep you buying the book. Now, life wouldn't be complete without our Nancy Champion letter.

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Dear Brian,

About #70 and the Emperor's nativity: just between you and me, the cloning process can only replicate the donor organism exactly. The Santee religiously weeded out females as undesirable. So, either they (a) cloned a known female; (b) gene-spliced after replication to get a gender they were dedicated to eradicating; or (c) relinquished genetic verisimilitude to give us a Hitchcockian kicker in the plot. I guess I'll have to watch you guys even closer if you're going to do stuff like this. Nonetheless, I did enjoy the twist—the Emperor is a woman! That she-as-he would so enthusiastically embrace the destruction of her own sex is the zealotry of the converted. You know, Bolland's cover, superb as always, seemed to indicate a bit of Empirical transvestism, and the saber-wielding Diana looked pretty seriously p.o.'ed. I spent about ten minutes in Infinity, where I buy my books, looking at old ANIMAL MAN covers, just appreciating Bolland's immense talent. It was also nice to see Romeo Tanghal back, if only briefly.

Diana's personal charisma must be very great indeed to control allies like Ectreba and Sakritt. I liked very much Diana's expertise in handling the incipient mutiny, turning even that unpleasant prospect into a weapon against the common enemy rather than let it foment a schism in her own ranks.

I like details, especially in character definition. Bill's tense dialogue crams a lot of information into very few words; he obviously sculpts his succinct scripts with precision. So I enjoyed Diana's gentle sarcasm in rebuttal to Ectreba's savagery, and her adroit manipulation of the Emperor through flattery and self-denigration ("I'm just a pirate and an adventurer...only an Emperor can change an Empire"). She demonstrates a superb grasp of human—sentient—nature, and uses it shrewdly. The rather dry sense of humor Bill's given her is quite sophisticated and very appealing. I found one of the last boxes particularly nice: "Tomorrow she would exult and scream and laugh...now she just wanted to...sleep for a month." I'd like to see more of our super-heroes subordinate their powers to their humanity more, to show us they're not simply steel-muscled and -nerved automatons needing crisis and adulation to reaffirm their wrath, but human beings who pay for their dangerous self-sacrifices on our behalf.

with blood, tears, and pain, who feel joy and sorrow, who hunt, and want, and need, and who, incidentally, happen to be the most powerful beings on earth.

So what drastic changes await Diana coming home? Does Themyscira have satellite dishes and MTV? It seems to me that Asquith Randolph would've used her absence to consolidate his supremacy as Boston's resident super-hero, and would view her return as highly undesirable, especially since he worked so diligently to engineer her death. Just who were those friends he referred to in #66? She may have no proof of duplicity, but Diana knows he's responsible for her exile, and perhaps she suspects that he was the instrument of her Eclipse. Guerrilla war, anyone?

Nancy Champion  
7705 Anderson Ct.  
Marassas, Virginia 22110

*You can already see the changes that Di has come to face. Themyscira is gone! The Meyer agency is gone! Her room has been rented! She has no money! I think that's more than enough things she needs to put her life back in order.*

.....

Dear Brian,

Who cares if the end of the story made sense or not? As long as we have Messner-Loebs creating the wonderful stories (his best work, in my honest opinion!) and Paris Cullins delivering this great art, we have nothing to complain about, have we? See, I made it short and painless!

the BLUE PANTHER  
a.k.a Kashif Husain  
Germany

*Paris is no longer pencilling the series, but tell me you don't think Lee Moder and Ande Parks are doing a FANTASTIC job.*

.....

Dear Freedom Fighters,

The Gorgon-like appearance of the Sangtee Emperor on Brian Bolland's cover for WONDER WOMAN #70 was eye-catching and sinister-looking. The approaching Amazon princess in the background, determined to reclaim her heritage, gave the cover its balanced, splashy, dramatic flair. While the grinning Emperor on the cover caught my attention, the Emperor depicted in the pages looked a little more androgynous. That's okay, because it fit with the description of the Sangtee, but I thought it broadcast the Emperor's secret to the reader a little earlier in the story than it should have. When Diana confronts the Sangtee with her discovery, it comes as no shock to the reader. This didn't ruin my enjoyment of this issue, however. "Once I Was A Slave" was a great conclusion to the "Wonder Woman in Space" saga. The inspirational quotation on the first page captured the spirit of the story perfectly. The final pages, with the Emperor dropping her weapon

and admitting the truth about herself, were tensely written.

William Messner-Loebs does a beautiful job of bringing out Diana's nobility in the face of conflict. Her talk with Sakritt is the perfect example. I'm sure she anticipated some dissatisfaction among her ranks, and wisely prepared herself for it and confronted it. Mr. Messner-Loebs then used this little clash of personalities to the story's advantage when "the Wonder Woman" has to infiltrate the Sangtee later in the battle. I also thought it was very clever how Tasha turned a bouquet of flowers into an effective weapon on pages 14-15.

I've gotten so used to seeing Diana in this warrior garb of the last few issues that it was actually strange to see her back in her traditional costume again on page 21! Another striking costume is the one the Daxamite is wearing on pages 16-17. Just an issue or two ago, this woman was an eyeless horror in an alien prison camp. Now she's been transformed into a super-heroine with a spectacular appearance! I hope she gets to ride off happily into the sunset after everything she's been through.

Paris Cullins's pencils were nicely embellished this issue, probably because Ande Parks was helping Romeo Tanghal with the inks. The whole issue had a sparkly, ethereal, outer-space shine to it, from Diana's hologram on the splash page to the confrontation on the final page.

After reading the "next issue" blurb at the end of the letters page, you've got me very curious about Diana's returning home! I'm wondering about her reaction when she discovers her good friend, Superman, has been killed.

Neil Ahlquist  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

*Well, like the rest of the super-heroes, Diana was deeply saddened by the news. It was another blow that she had to deal with upon her return.*

.....

Dear Brian and Ruben,

It's a pity that comics narrative, driven as it is by its visual format, depends on action and the pacing of 22-page climaxes, for there were so many interesting elements in the last chapter of this WONDER WOMAN epic (indeed, in the complete story) that deserved greater space and development. I'll consider just three of them.

1. Tasha and Diana alone in the crippled spacecraft fostered a necessarily close and dependent friendship. Once free of the slave world, however, the focus of the plotting swings to more galactic themes, such that the Russian speaks only twice in this issue, even if she plays a pivotal role as Diana's decoy—though I liked the little touch of her playing target for Diana's lasso-practice. But I missed the important gentleness of their comradeship, of the longer conversations they must have had, a friendship widened by the very human touch of knowing there is a

daughter still at home. Both women seem to have become battle-hardened. I just hope that when they return to Earth, Bill finds time to cement this relationship into something permanent and ever-deepening.

2. The Daxamite. She is, of course, their secret weapon, and it makes sense to keep her secret from the readers too, for greater dramatic effectiveness. But, just as Tasha is a friend from home, the Daxamite would become a companion of Diana's in battle, and I'd have loved to see more interaction between the two: she's the most fitting "sister" Diana has outside of her Amazon family! I hope you also give her some role in the future, as she is very much an orphan now and deserves a home somewhere. Well, at the very least, give her a name!

3. Of course, the whole biological and cultural essence of the Sangtee race, so biased as it is against women, is extremely unlikely to accept en masse the decision made by the emperor on the last page, especially as that bias is more than simply an intellectual and emotional one, but essentially genetic. If Diana were to be completely true to her beliefs, she would stay and ensure that the major overhaul of this empire was carried out effectively, but that would take years; scenes of political rehabilitation could be significantly lacking in major drama, and we want to see her home again to renew our more comforting acquaintance with her earthbound life. But Diana has now forged a new legend of herself in the universe and a role that will allow her to pass through any of the galactic titles that DC now produces, in order to return one day and see the fruits of her labors.

It's been a fascinating and unusual journey, which confused me when it began, but ended up delighting and educating. Let's do this again some time!

Jim Jackson  
Biggin Hill, England

*I agree, it would be interesting to one day visit the Wonder Women in space. Maybe we can arrange something in VALOR or GREEN LANTERN?*

.....

NEXT ISSUE: Who destroyed Themyscira? That's what Diana and guest star Dr. Fate set out to discover—but the answer is far more devastating than they feared!!

—Ruben  
DC Thickneck

