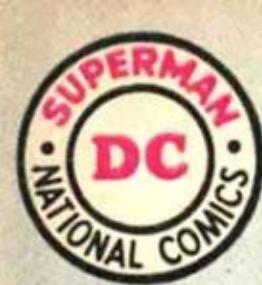


JUNE NO. 140

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BY THE  
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AUTHORITY



STILL  
10¢

# BATMAN

"The EIGHTH  
WONDER  
of SPACE!"





**3.**

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Please enter my drawing in your draw-a-head contest.

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Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

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*Contest Prize: \$495.00 Scholarship in Commercial Art*

Draw your choice of any one of these heads. Draw it any size except like a tracing. Use pencil. Everyone entering contest gets a professional estimate of his talent. Winner receives the complete course in commercial art taught by world's largest home study art school. Professional artists give individual instruction in advertising art, illustrating, cartooning or painting. School is an accredited member of National Home Study Council. Purpose of contest is to uncover hidden talent. Entries for June 1961 contest due by June 30. None returned. Amateurs only. Our students not eligible. Winner notified. Start on your drawing today.

*Use 1 coupon and pass this page on to a friend.*

THE WORLD THOUGHT  
HE WAS DEAD... BUT THEN,  
OUT OF THE SWIRLING MISTS,  
THERE ROSE A SUPERNATURAL  
CRIMINAL, A PHANTOM OF THE  
UNDERWORLD MORE DANGEROUS  
THAN ANY LIVING CRIMINAL!  
FOR NOW, BATMAN AND ROBIN  
HAD TO FACE...

## The GHOST OF THE JOKER!

BATMAN!... IT CAN'T  
BE! THE JOKER—  
ALIVE!

NOT THE JOKER,  
MY FRIEND... THE JOKER'S  
GHOST! HA-HA-HA!

# BATMAN

With  
**ROBIN**  
THE BOY WONDER

BOB  
KANE

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# BATMAN



IT'S EXERCISE HOUR AT  
GOTHAM PENITENTIARY,  
WHEN SUDDENLY...

SMOKE!... IN THE PRISON  
YARD, NEAR THE WALL!  
SOUND THE FIRE ALARM!



UNDER COVER OF THE DRIFTING  
SMOKE, A ROPE LADDER APPEARS  
ON THE PRISON WALL, AND...

THE FOOLS! DID THEY THINK  
ANY PEN COULD HOLD ME?...  
HA-HA-HA!



THE CHASE AFTER THE FUGITIVE TAKES  
THE GUARDS TO A NEARBY CONSTRUC-  
TION AREA...

LOOK!... HE RAN RIGHT  
PAST THE WARNING  
SIGN! HE'S DISAPPEAR-  
ING BEYOND THAT  
ROCKY BEND!

NO,  
JOKER.  
COME  
BACK! YOU'LL  
BE KILLED!



BUT NEXT MOMENT...

BAROOM!



FOLLOWING A QUICK SEARCH...

FORGET IT, BOYS... **NOTHING**  
COULD HAVE LIVED THROUGH  
THIS BLAST!

I KNOW TWO  
PEOPLE WHO'LL BE  
MIGHTY INTERESTED  
IN THIS NEWS!

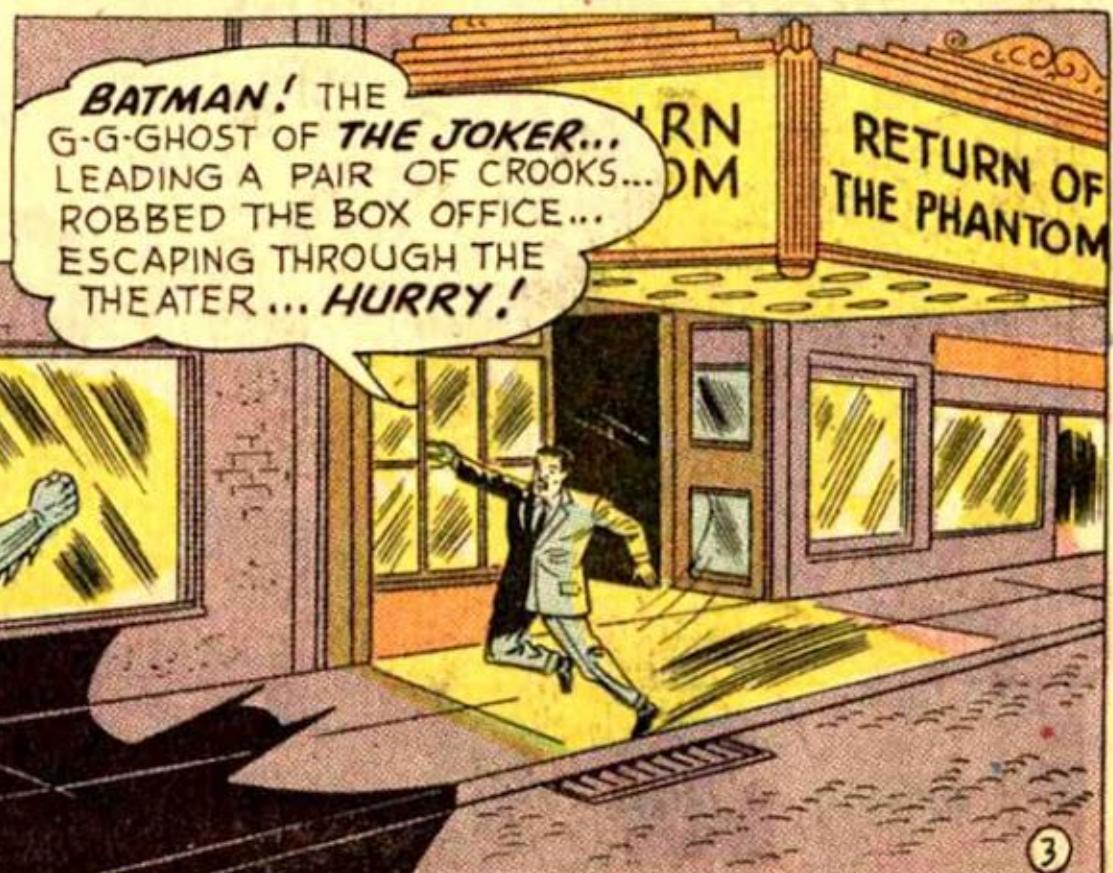
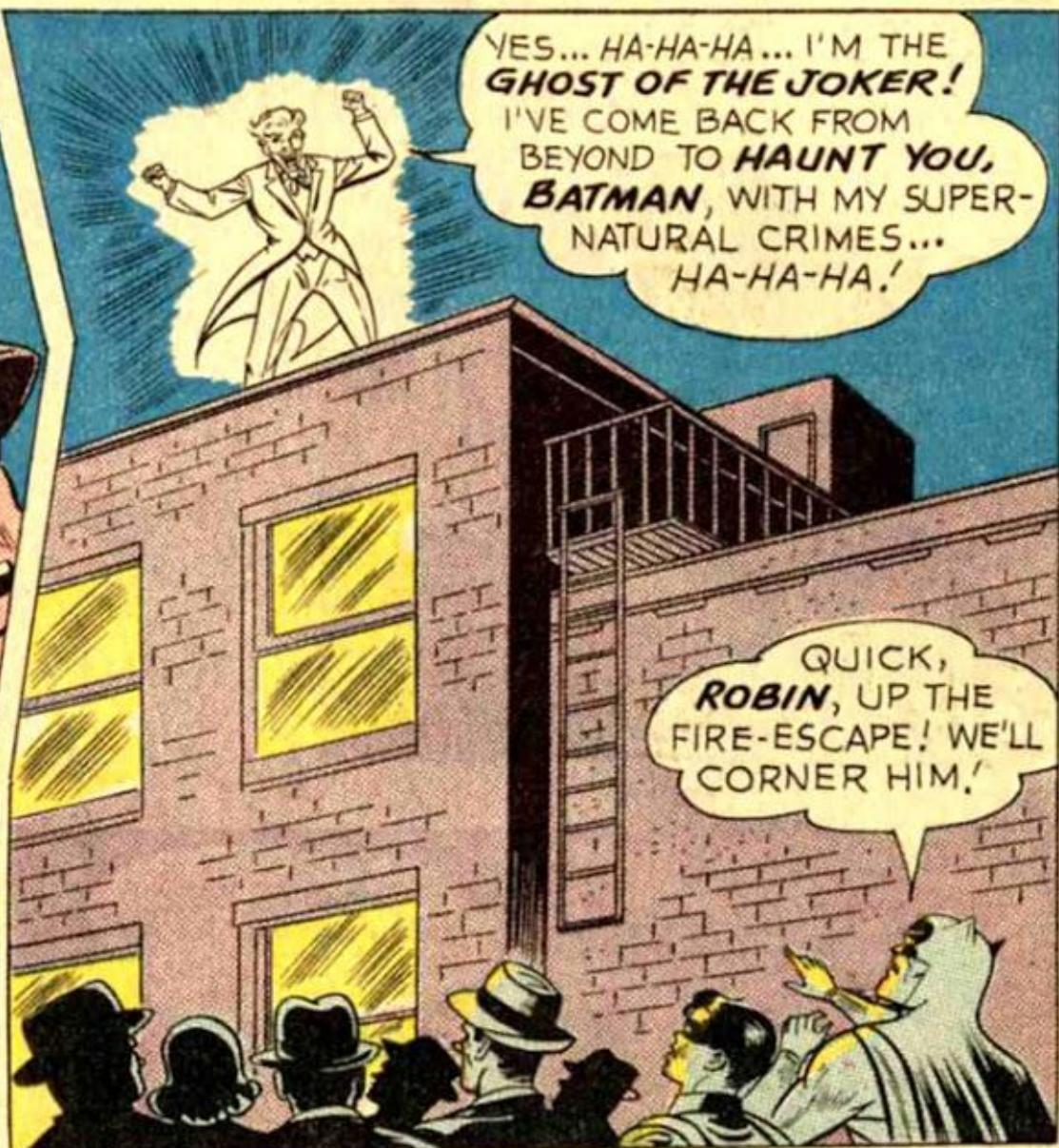


INDEED, THAT SAME NIGHT, AS THOSE "TWO PEOPLE" TOUR THE  
CITY ON THEIR NEVER-ENDING CRIME PATROL...

GOLLY, **BATMAN**, IT'S HARD  
TO BELIEVE... **THE JOKER-**  
**DEAD!**

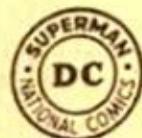
YES, **ROBIN**, AFTER ALL  
OUR BATTLES WITH HIM, HE  
FINALLY--WAIT!... WHAT'S  
THAT CROWD DOING UP  
AHEAD?







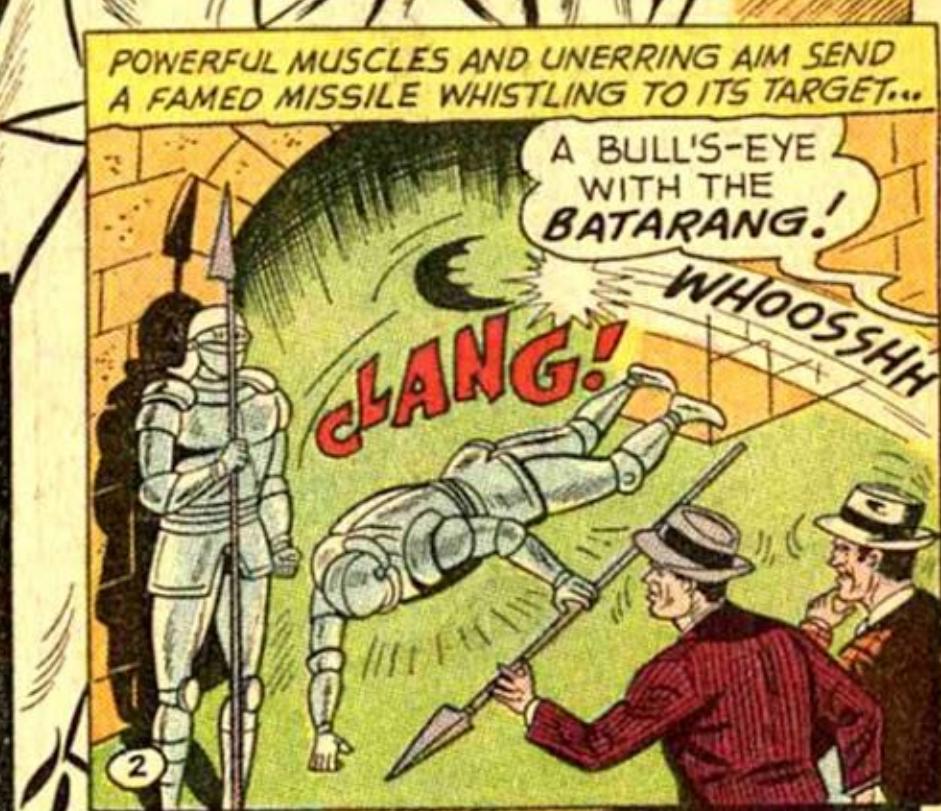
# BATMAN



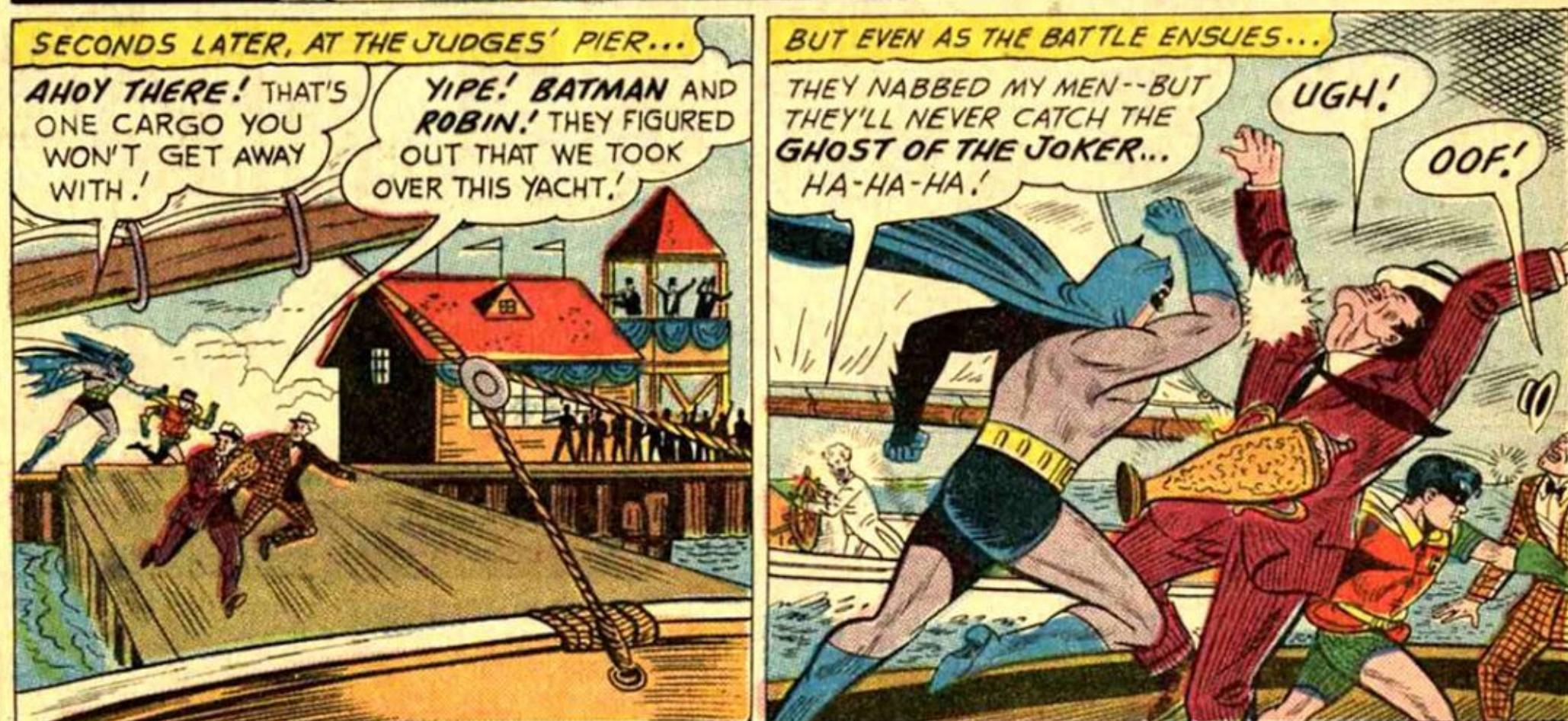
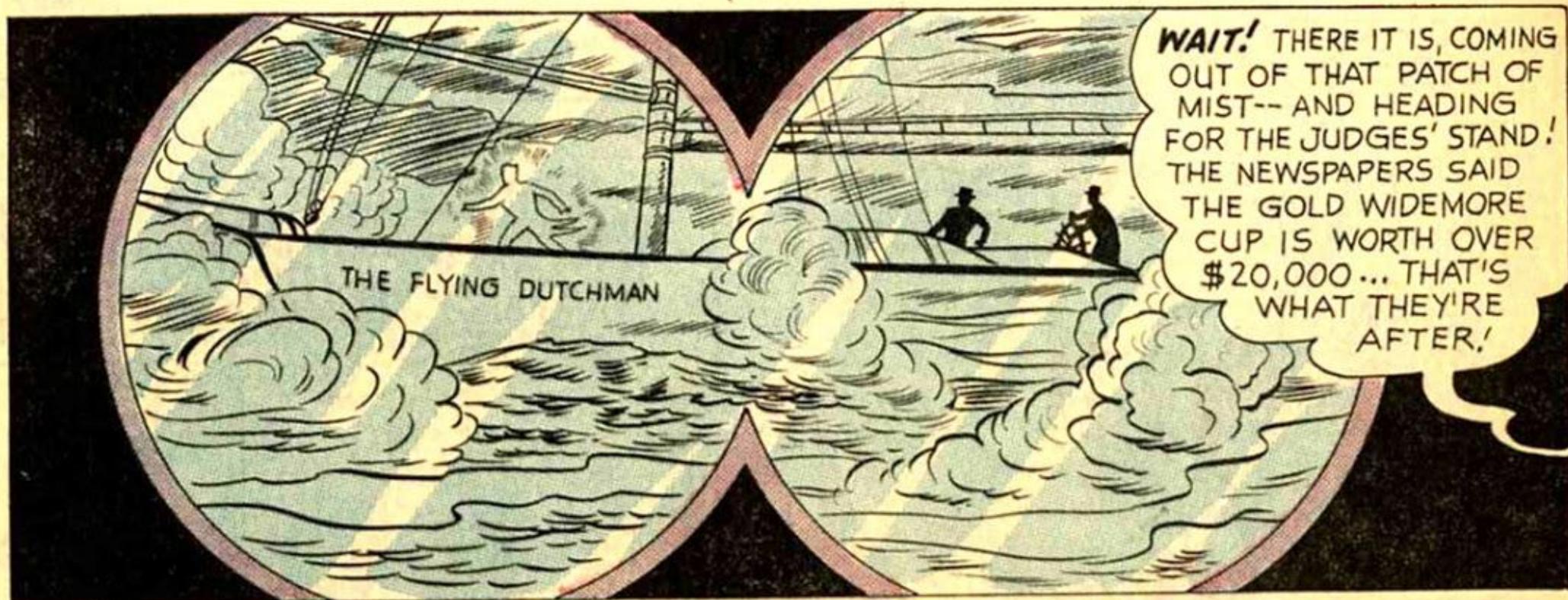
MOMENTS LATER, INSIDE THE PLAYHOUSE...

THERE THEY GO,  
**BATMAN!**  
WE'LL NEVER  
REACH THEM  
IN TIME!

THERE'S ONE WAY TO  
STOP THEM--A LONG  
SHOT!







LATER, WHEN THEY QUESTION THE CAPTURED CROOKS...

HAW!... YOU'LL NEVER GET US TO REVEAL THE JOKER'S HIDEOUT!

OKAY, WE'LL FIND IT WITHOUT YOU... AND THERE'S ONLY ONE PLACE TO START LOOKING!

FLYING UP TO THE PENITENTIARY, BATMAN AND ROBIN INVESTIGATE THE SITE OF THE JOKER'S "FATAL" ESCAPE...

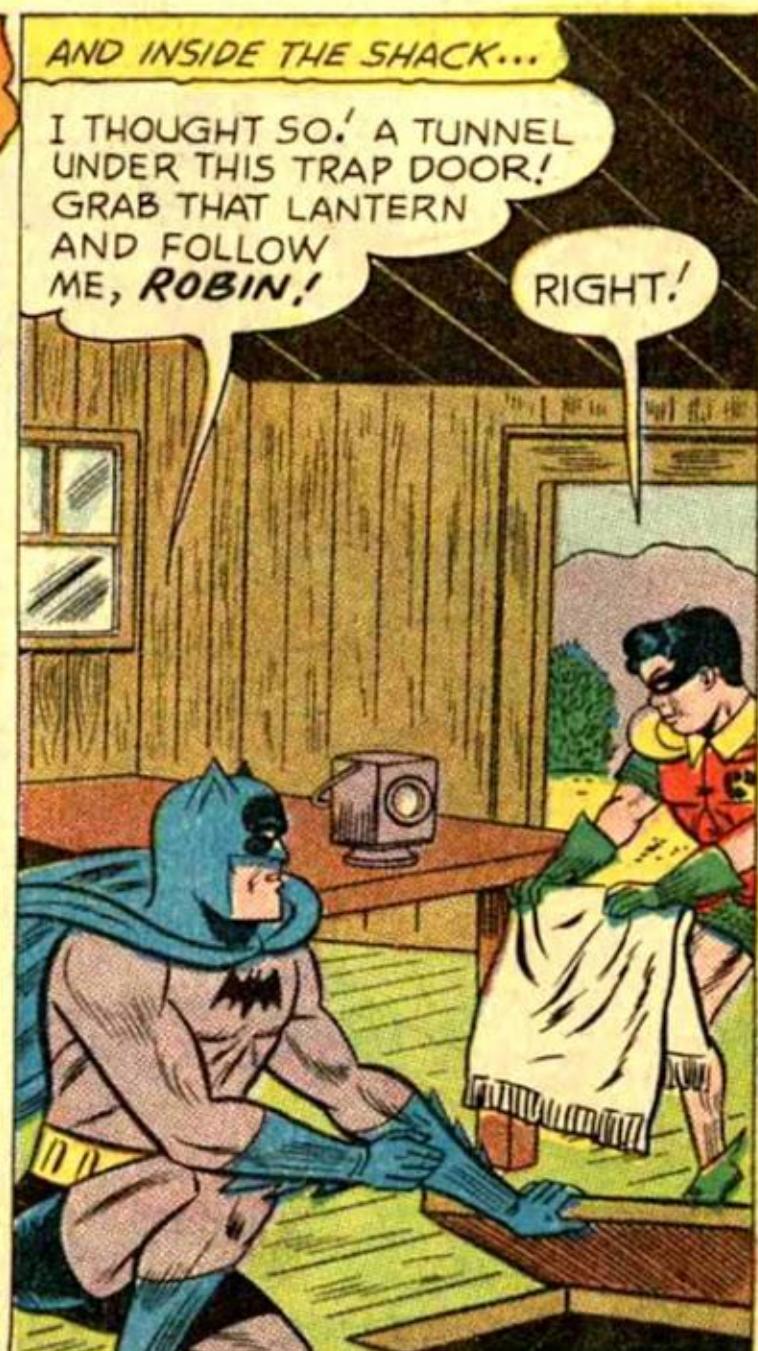
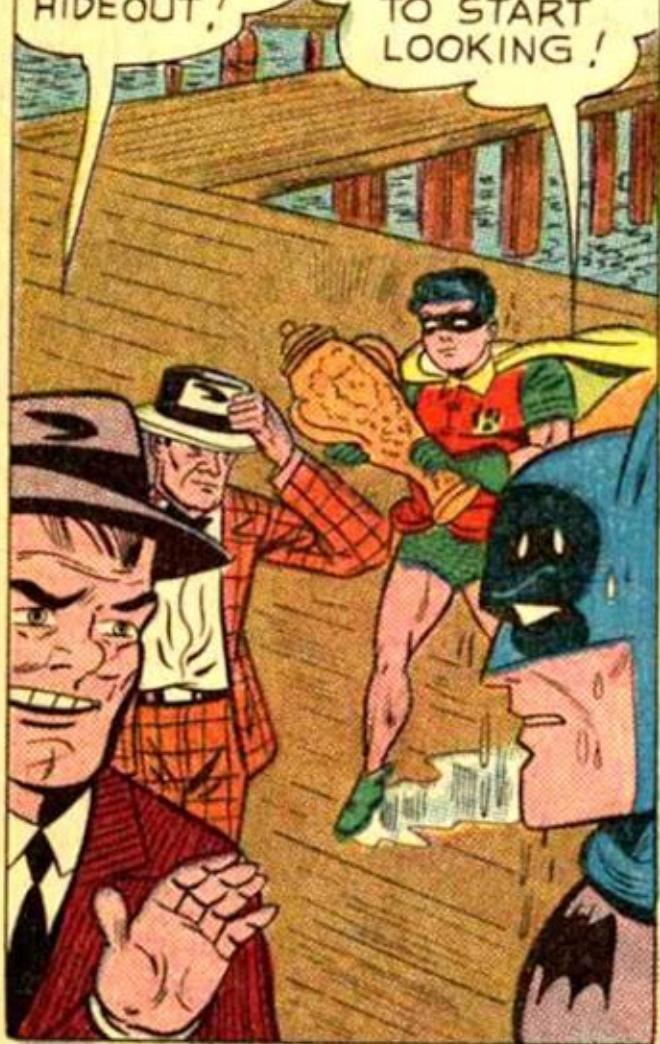
LAST SEEN DASHING AROUND THAT BEND! HMM... THERE'S A WORK SHACK NEAR THAT SPOT!

WE'D BETTER CHECK IT OUT!

AND INSIDE THE SHACK...

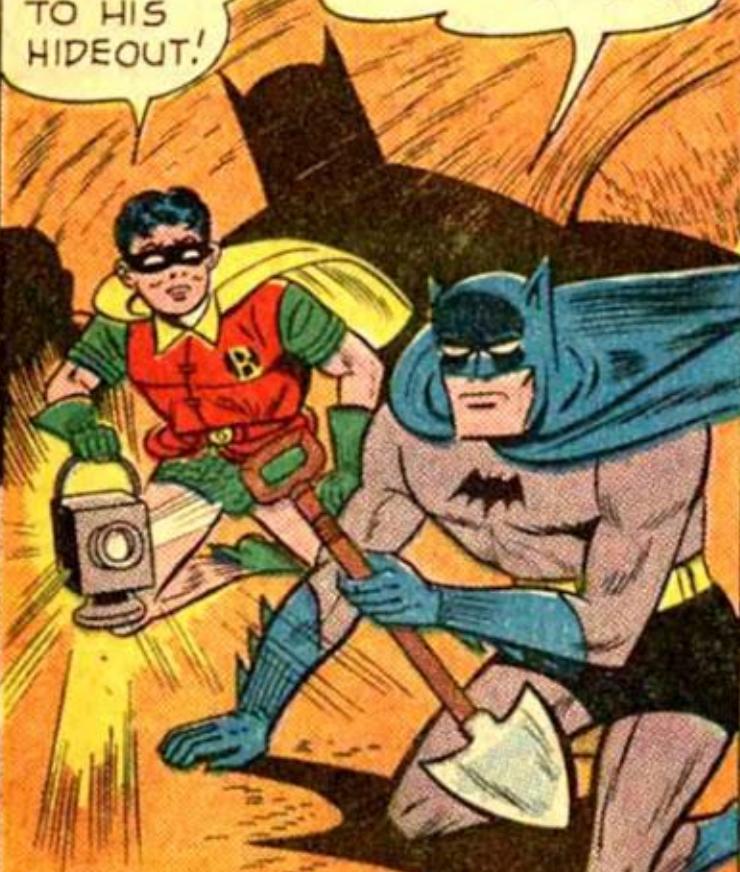
I THOUGHT SO! A TUNNEL UNDER THIS TRAP DOOR! GRAB THAT LANTERN AND FOLLOW ME, ROBIN!

RIGHT!



THE JOKER'S THUGS MUST HAVE PREPARED THIS TUNNEL FOR HIS ESCAPE. IT WAS ALL PERFECTLY TIMED! THEY KNEW WHEN THE DYNAMITING WAS TO TAKE PLACE! BUT THERE'S NO CLUE TO HIS HIDEOUT!

WRONG! SEE THIS STRING THAT WAS USED TO REPAIR THE SHOVEL HANDLE? IT'S BLACK FISHING LINE-- AND THERE'S ONE OCCUPATION, BESIDES FISHING, THAT EMPLOYS SUCH STRING... ONE THAT'S CLOSELY CONNECTED WITH THE JOKER!



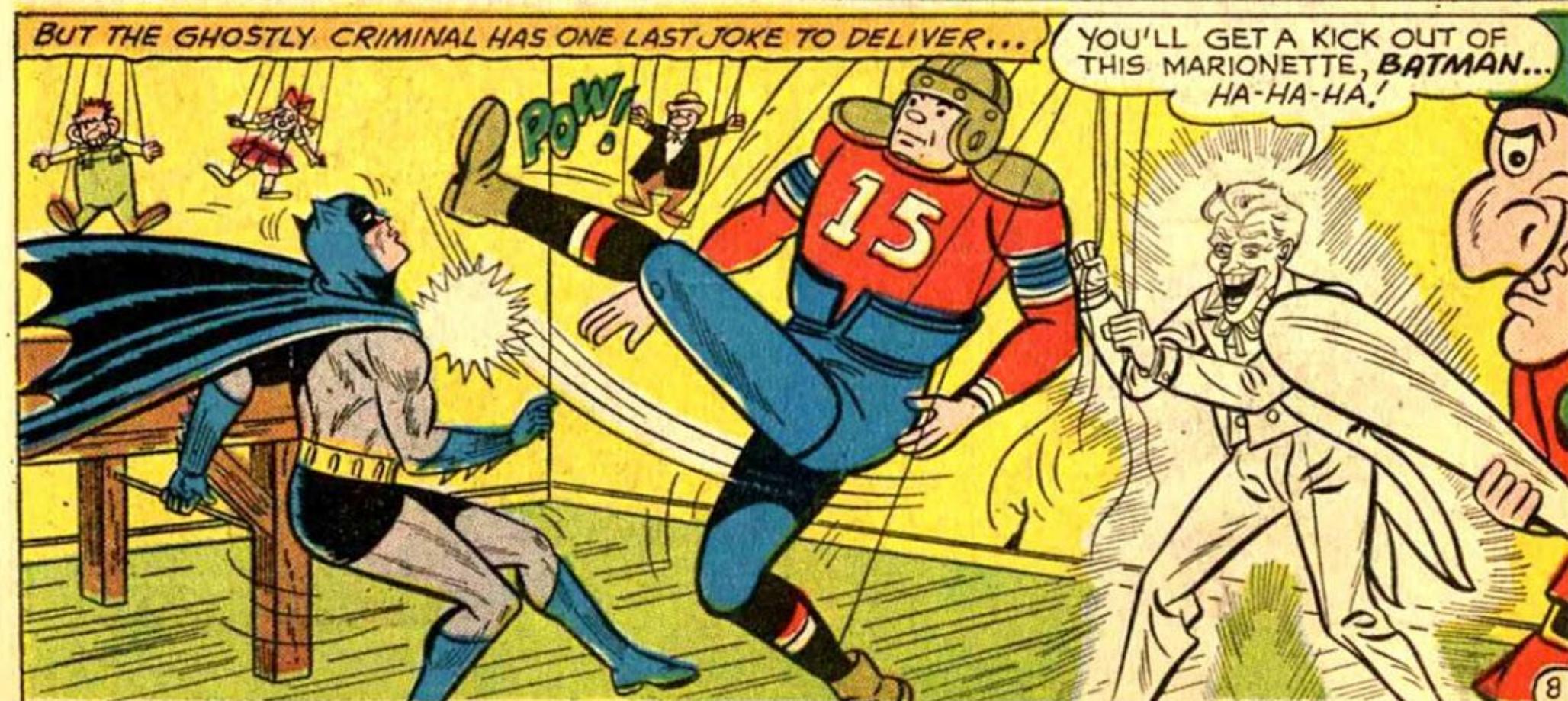
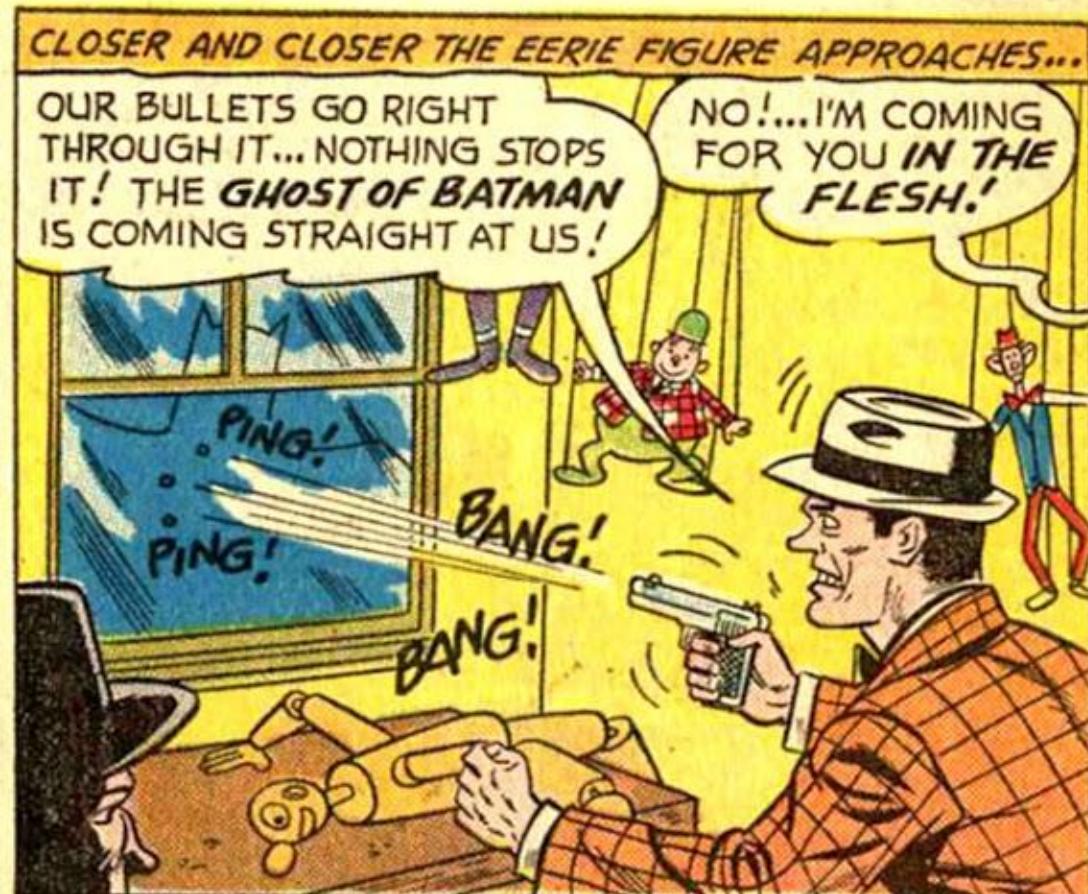
AND THAT NIGHT, IN A PLANT CLOSED FOR VACATION TIME...

WE'VE HAD A GOOD SCORE UNTIL NOW, JOKER, WITH THIS GHOST ROUTINE... BUT BATMAN'S STARTING TO CATCH ON TO US!

RIDICULOUS! HE'LL NEVER CRACK THE SECRET OF OUR HIDEOUT... HA-HA-HA!



## BATMAN



THEN, BEFORE THE DAZED CRIME-FIGHTER CAN RISE...

HA-HA-HA! DON'T YOU KNOW YOU  
CAN'T CATCH A **GHOST**?

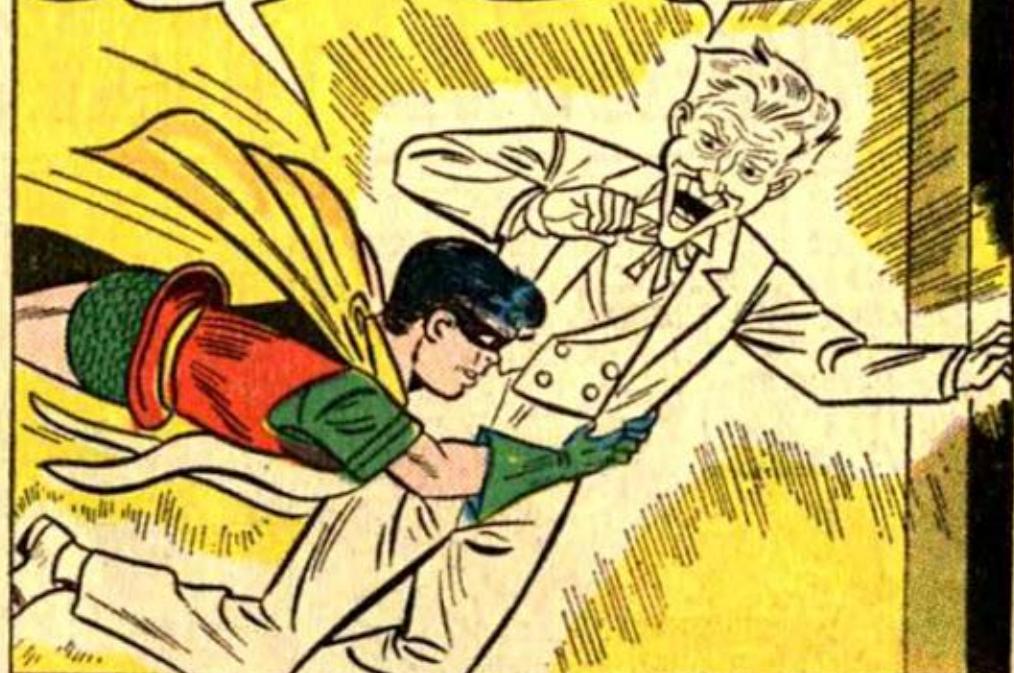


BUT SUDDENLY, A WELL-TRAINED BODY COMES  
HURTLING THROUGH THE AIR...

**ROBIN!**

WHO SAYS  
YOU CAN'T?

I FORGOT ABOUT THE  
**LITTLE BIRD!**



AND BEFORE THE JOKER CAN RECOVER...

IT'S THE END OF THE GHOST LINE FOR  
YOU, **JOKER**! EVEN THIS **DUMMY**  
ISN'T FOOLED BY THAT  
PHOSPHORESCENT  
PAINT YOU USED!



AND LATER...

SO THAT'S  
HOW YOU MADE THAT GHOST  
APPEAR ON THE WINDOW...  
WITH A CARDBOARD  
CUTOUT ON A  
LANTERN!

YES ... AND IT WAS YOU WHO  
GAVE ME THE IDEA! I REAL-  
IZED THAT THE GHOST FIGURE  
THAT APPEARED ATOP THAT  
BUILDING HAD TO BE A  
PROJECTED IMAGE! SO THE  
GHOST OF **THE JOKER**  
WAS CAUGHT BY THE  
GHOST OF **BATMAN**!



THE END

STILL 10¢

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CHALLENGERS  
OF THE  
**UNKNOWN**

•The COSMIC-  
POWERED  
CREATURES•

For The  
**VERY**  
**BEST**

SUPERMAN  
• DC •  
NATIONAL COMICS

...and  
**STILL**  
**10¢**

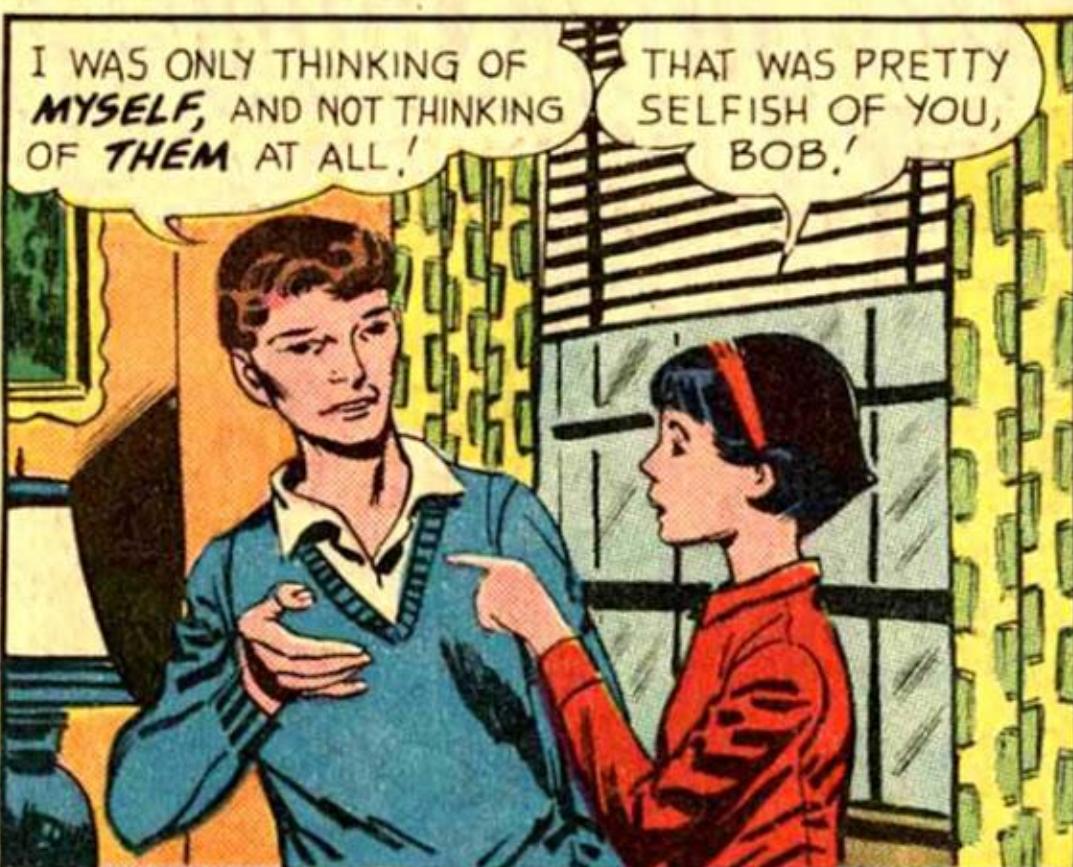
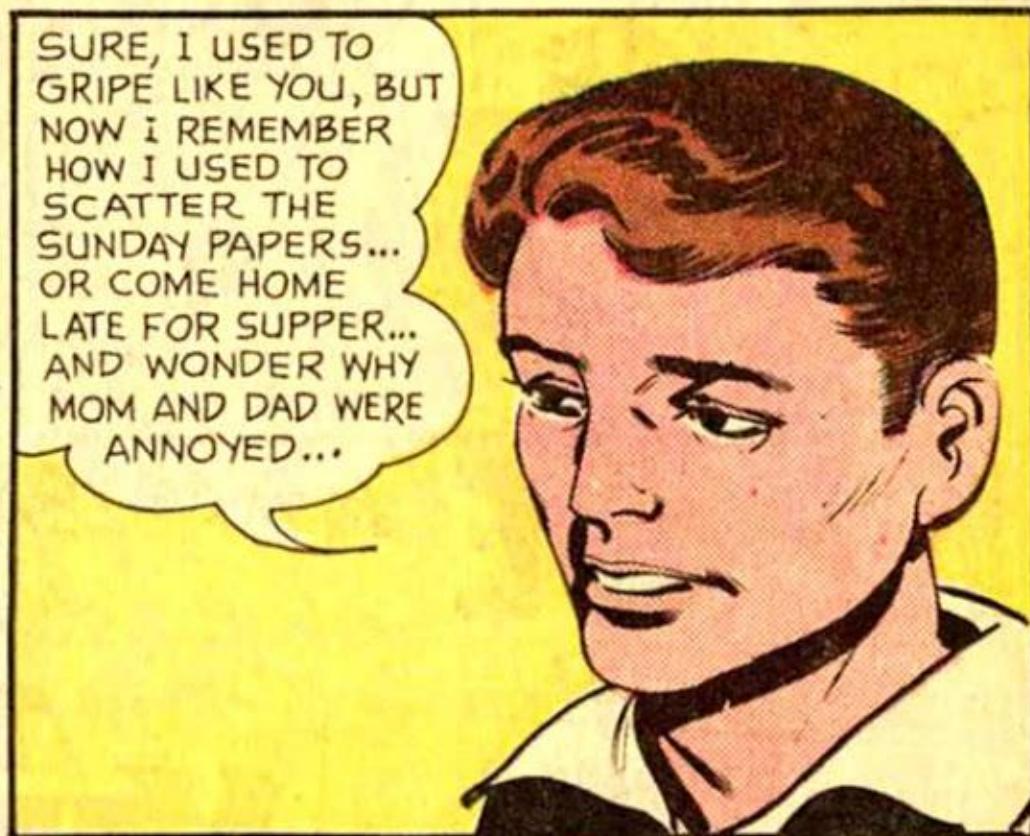
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**BLACKHAWK**

•The HUMAN  
DYNAMO•

# PARENTS Have Rights, Too!





BE MY GUEST AT THE  
CLYDE BEATTY & COLE BROS. 3-RING  
**CIRCUS**

AT **PALISADES**  
AMUSEMENT PARK, NEW JERSEY

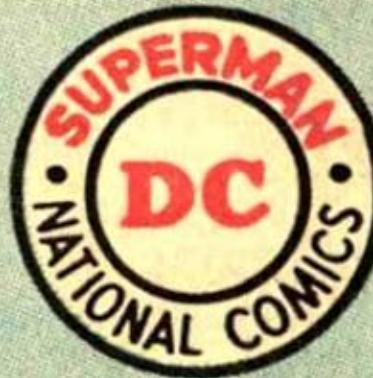


EMMETT KELLY  
in person

CIRCUS OPENING DATE **APRIL 15-MAY 21**

CLYDE in person  
BEATTY  
*Battling* 30 LIONS  
& TIGERS

EVERY COMIC MAGAZINE BEARING  
THIS EMBLEM  
CONTAINS  
A COUPON  
THAT IS WORTH  
**\$1.00**



**FREE ADMISSION FOR 1 CHILD**

(in General Admission)

ONLY VALID IF ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT  
PURCHASING A GENERAL ADMISSION TICKET

*(Good for 1 Child per each paid Adult Admission)*

Good for all weekday afternoon and evening performances  
and Saturday and Sunday evening performances only



...AND HERE IS  
A FREE COUPON  
FOR THE PARK...  
WHICH OPENS  
on APRIL 1<sup>ST</sup>

THIS COUPON ENTITLES YOU TO

**FREE** ADMISSION  
PLUS 2 **FREE RIDES**..  
ACTS AND PARKING!

ADMIT ONE (1) TO  
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GOOD MONDAYS and FRIDAYS  
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**FREE RIDE**  
ADMIT ONE  
"CATERPILLAR"

**FREE RIDE**  
ADMIT ONE  
"TILT-A-WHIRL"



# BATMAN



BLACK MAGIC AND PROTECTIVE POTIONS... WHO BELIEVES IN SUCH PHENOMENA, IN THIS DAY AND AGE? APPARENTLY ONE MAN DOES--AND PERHAPS YOU WILL, TOO, AS YOU WATCH THE IMPOSSIBLE EVENTS IN...

## THE CHARMED LIFE OF BATMAN!

# BATMAN

AND ROBIN

NOW LET'S SEE IF THE ALCHEMIST'S MAGIC POTION CAN SAVE BATMAN FROM SURE DEATH!

BATMAN! OHHH...

BOB KANE





# BATMAN

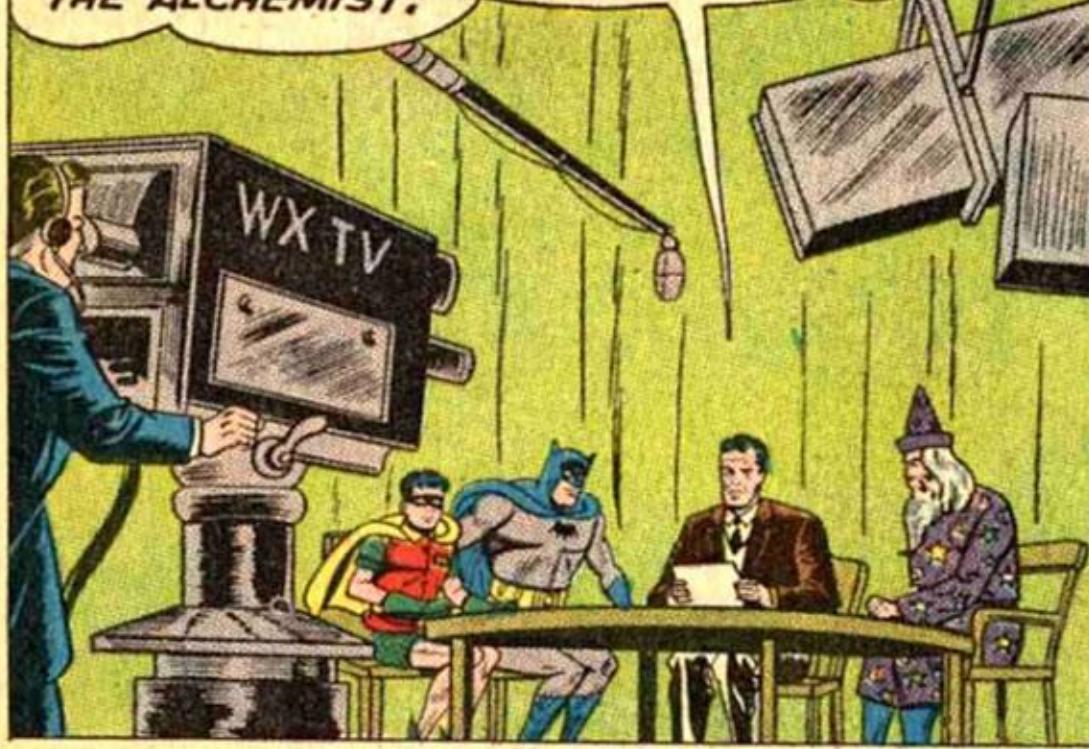


AS DAN MUSTIN, HOST OF THE TV SHOW, "UNUSUAL INTERVIEWS", OPENS ANOTHER PROGRAM...

TODAY, MY UNUSUAL GUESTS ARE **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**--AND A MAN WHO CALLS HIMSELF **THE ALCHEMIST**!

IN MEDIEVAL TIMES, AN ALCHEMIST WAS A COMBINATION SCIENTIST-SORCERER WHO DEVELOPED MAGICAL POTIONS! IS THIS WHY YOU CALL YOURSELF AN ALCHEMIST, SIR?

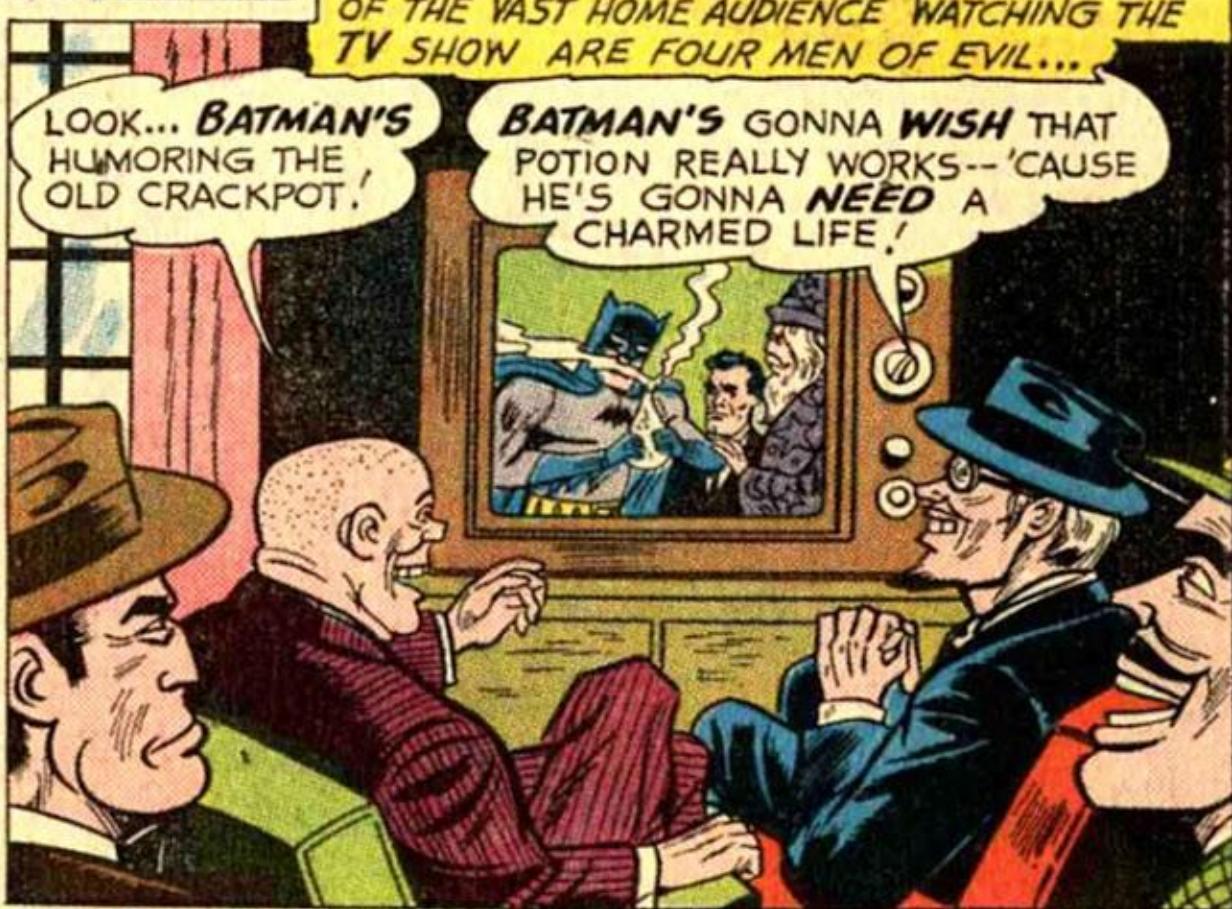
YES--FOR I HAVE DISCOVERED A POTION THAT CAN GIVE A PERSON A **CHARMED LIFE**!



**CHARMED LIFE?**  
SURELY YOU DON'T ACTUALLY BELIEVE YOUR POTION CAN PROTECT A PERSON FROM DANGER?

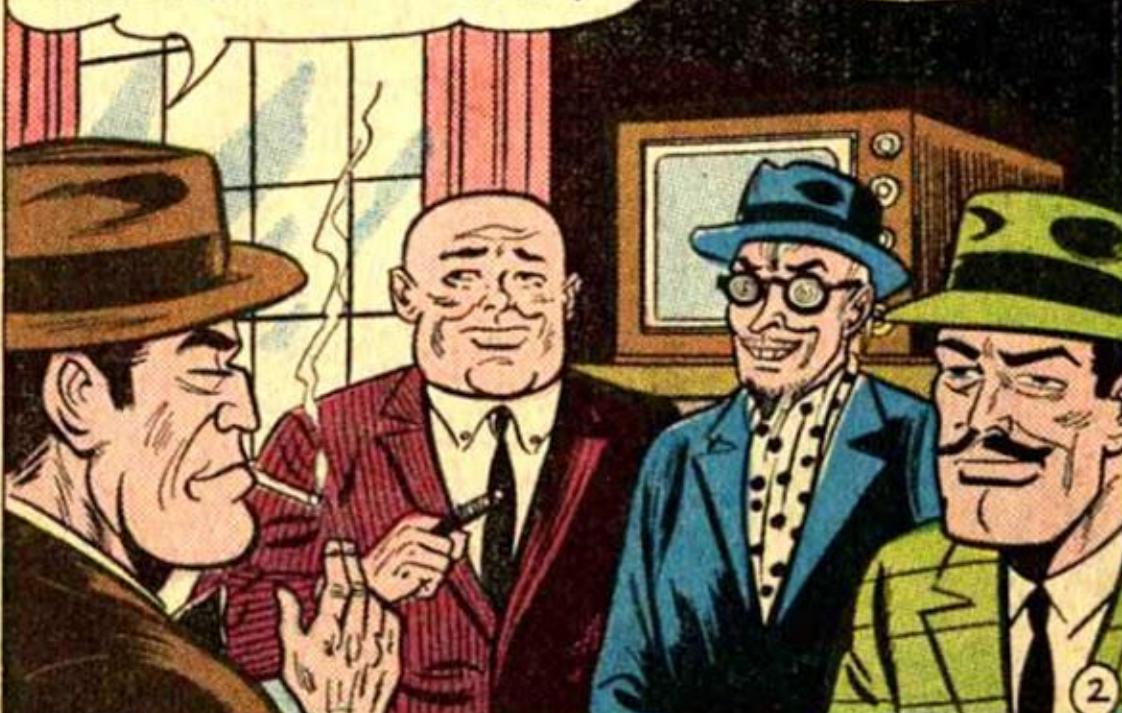
IF YOU WILL VOLUNTEER TO TEST MY POTION, DOUBTING MAN, YOU WILL HAVE PROOF OF MY WORDS!

OF THE VAST HOME AUDIENCE WATCHING THE TV SHOW ARE FOUR MEN OF EVIL...



YEAH--**BATMAN** DOESN'T KNOW WE'RE PROFESSIONAL **ASSASSINS**...AND THAT THE UNDERWORLD HIRED US TO KNOCK HIM OFF!

WE'RE ALL SPECIALISTS AT OUR JOBS... EACH ONE OF US WILL TAKE A CRACK AT **KILLING BATMAN**! IF ONE FAILS, THEN THE NEXT MAN WILL TRY--UNTIL **BATMAN'S FINISHED**!



THE FOLLOWING DAY, POLICE COMMISSIONER GORDON RECEIVES AN URGENT PHONE CALL...

COMMISSIONER--I JUST SAW BATMAN'S OLD ENEMY, THE JOKER, SNEAKING AROUND PLANETARIUM PARK!

WHAT??  
THANKS FOR THE TIP... I'LL NOTIFY BATMAN AT ONCE!

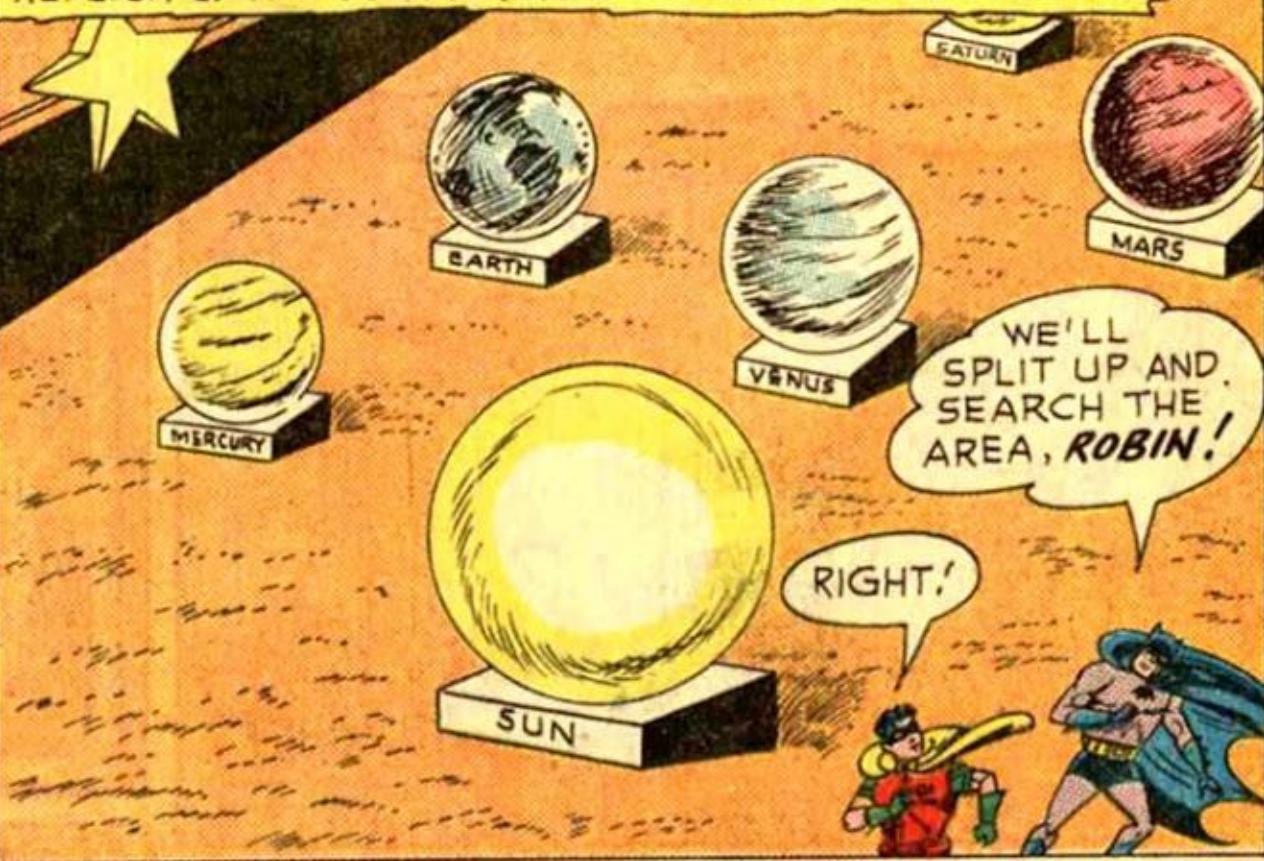


BUT THE CAPED CRIME-FIGHTERS ARE UNAWARE OF A SINISTER FIGURE MOVING INTO POSITION...

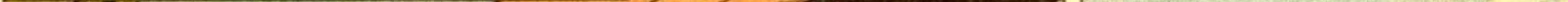
BATMAN DOESN'T KNOW IT, BUT IT WAS I WHO PHONED THAT FAKE "TIP"--SO I COULD LURE HIM HERE! THIS DYNAMITE WILL SEND "MARS" ROLLING RIGHT DOWN AT BATMAN!



SOON AFTER, ALERTED BY THE COMMISSIONER, BATMAN AND ROBIN REACH UNIQUE PLANETARIUM PARK WITH ITS "STATUARY"--A REPLICA OF THE SOLAR SYSTEM CARVED OF BOULDERS...



BOOM!



GREAT SCOTT!  
SOMEONE DELIBERATELY LOOSENERED THAT GIGANTIC BOULDER! IT'S GOING TO ROLL DOWN AT ME!



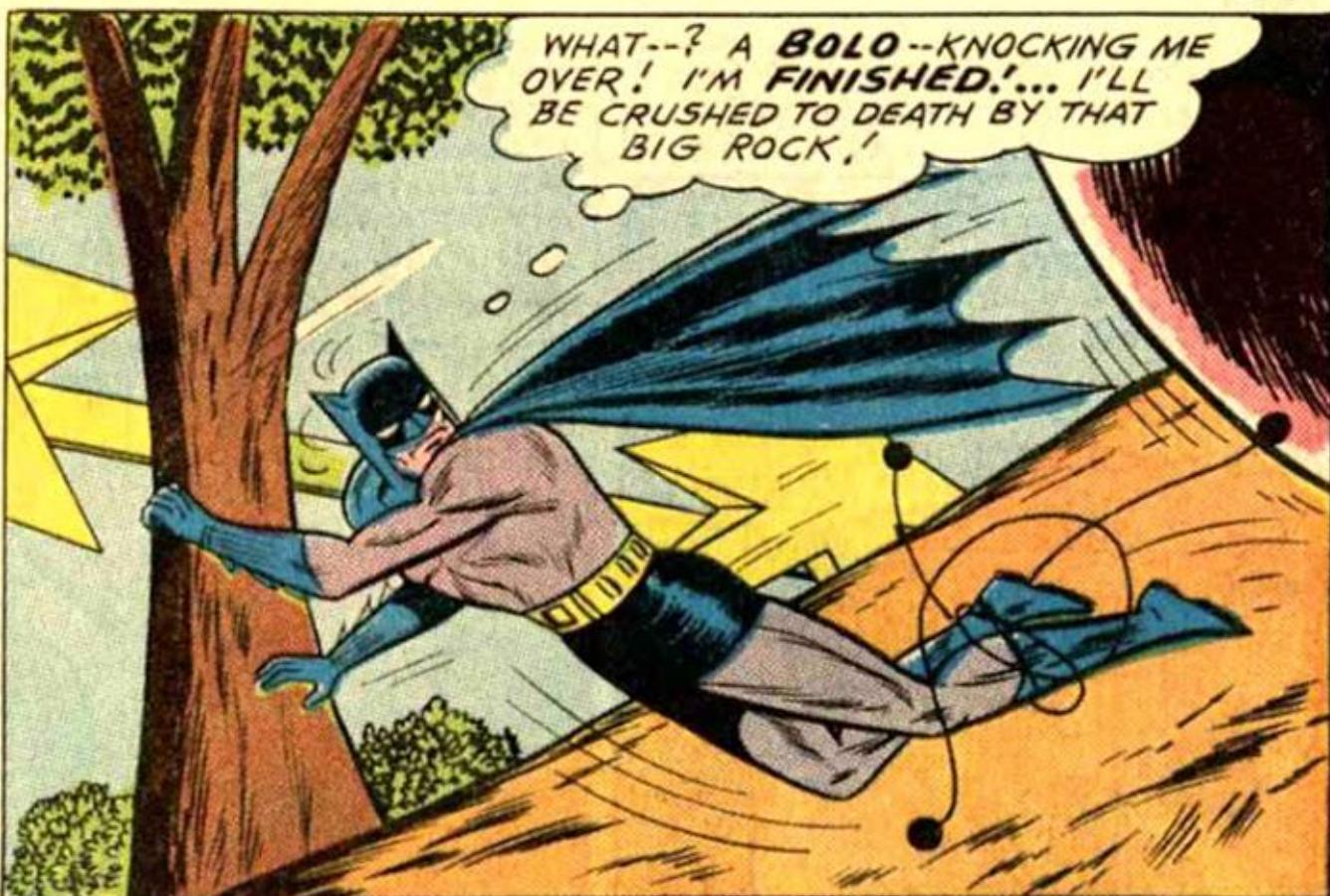


# BATMAN



BUT THE HIRED ASSASSIN IS PREPARED FOR SUCH AN ESCAPE...

THE SOUTH AMERICAN BOLO... THE GREATEST GADGET FOR TRIPPING UP A MAN!



SUDDENLY...



I CAN'T BELIEVE IT! IT BOUNDED RIGHT OVER ME!



THE VIBRATIONS OF THE ROLLING BOULDER MUST'VE DISLODGED THE TREE-- LIKE AN EARTHQUAKE-- SO THAT IT FELL BETWEEN BATMAN AND THE BOULDER! OF ALL THE FREAK ACCIDENTS--!



AT THAT INSTANT, ANOTHER FIGURE COMES HURTLING FORWARD...

OOF!  
ROBIN!

RIGHT, BUDDY-- AND I'VE GOT SOME QUESTIONS FOR YOU!





# BATMAN

BUT TRUE TO THE STRANGE CODE OF  
THE UNDERWORLD, THE ASSASSIN  
REFUSES TO TALK -- AND LATER...

BATMAN, DO YOU  
THINK YOUR MIRACU-  
LOUS ESCAPE MIGHT  
BE A RESULT OF  
**THE ALCHEMIST'S**  
POTION?

OF COURSE  
NOT! WHAT  
HAPPENED WAS  
JUST COINCIDENCE!  
I ASSURE YOU, I  
DO NOT HAVE  
ANY "CHARM"  
ON MY LIFE!

MEANWHILE, IN THE MEETING PLACE OF THE REMAINING ASSASSINS...

WELL--ONE OF US HAS  
FAILED... NOW IT'S  
**MY TURN TO TRY**  
AND **KILL,**  
**BATMAN!**

YES--AND THIS TIME, THERE  
WON'T BE ANY FREAK ACCIDENT  
TO SAVE **BATMAN'S** LIFE!



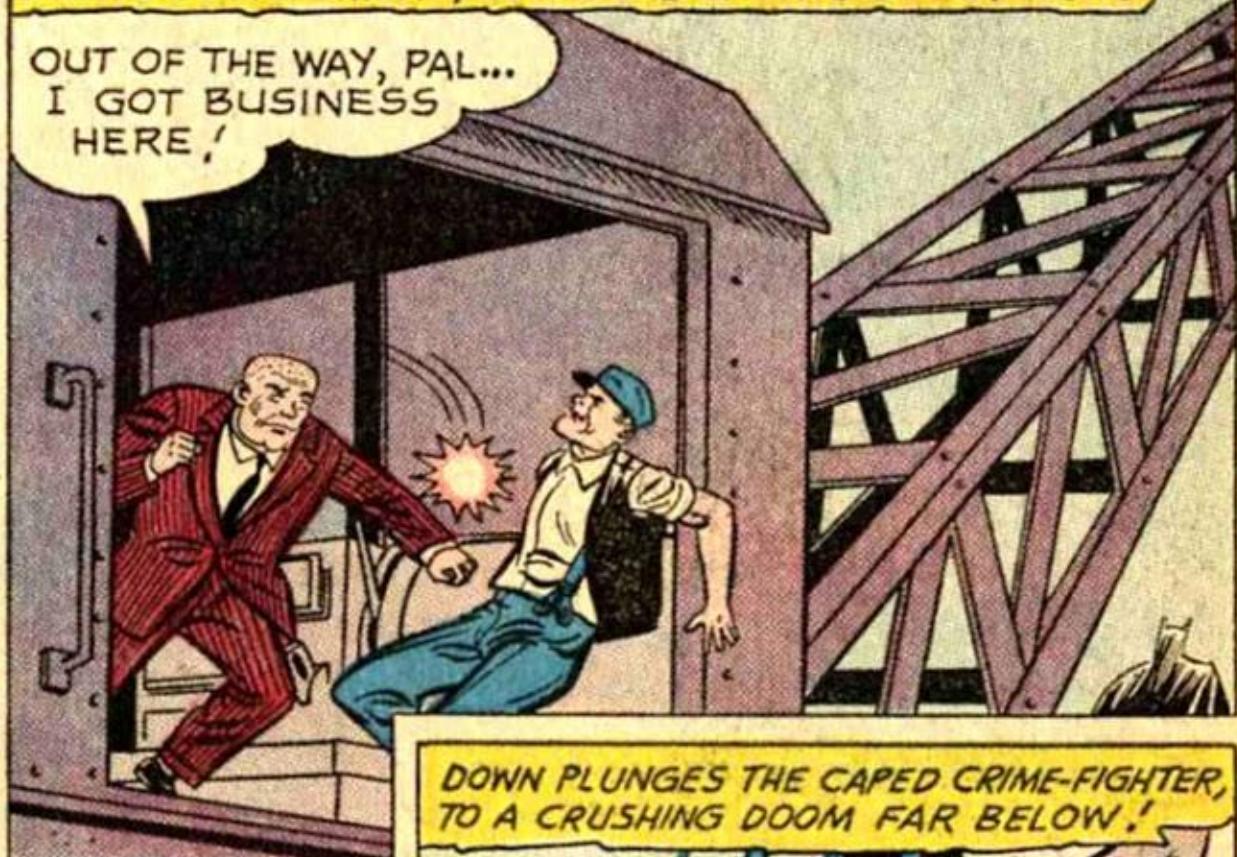
NEXT DAY, AS **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**  
KEEP AN APPOINTMENT TO INSPECT  
THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW SKY-  
SCRAPER...

? WHEW! THAT'S  
A LONG WAY DOWN WITHOUT  
A PARACHUTE!

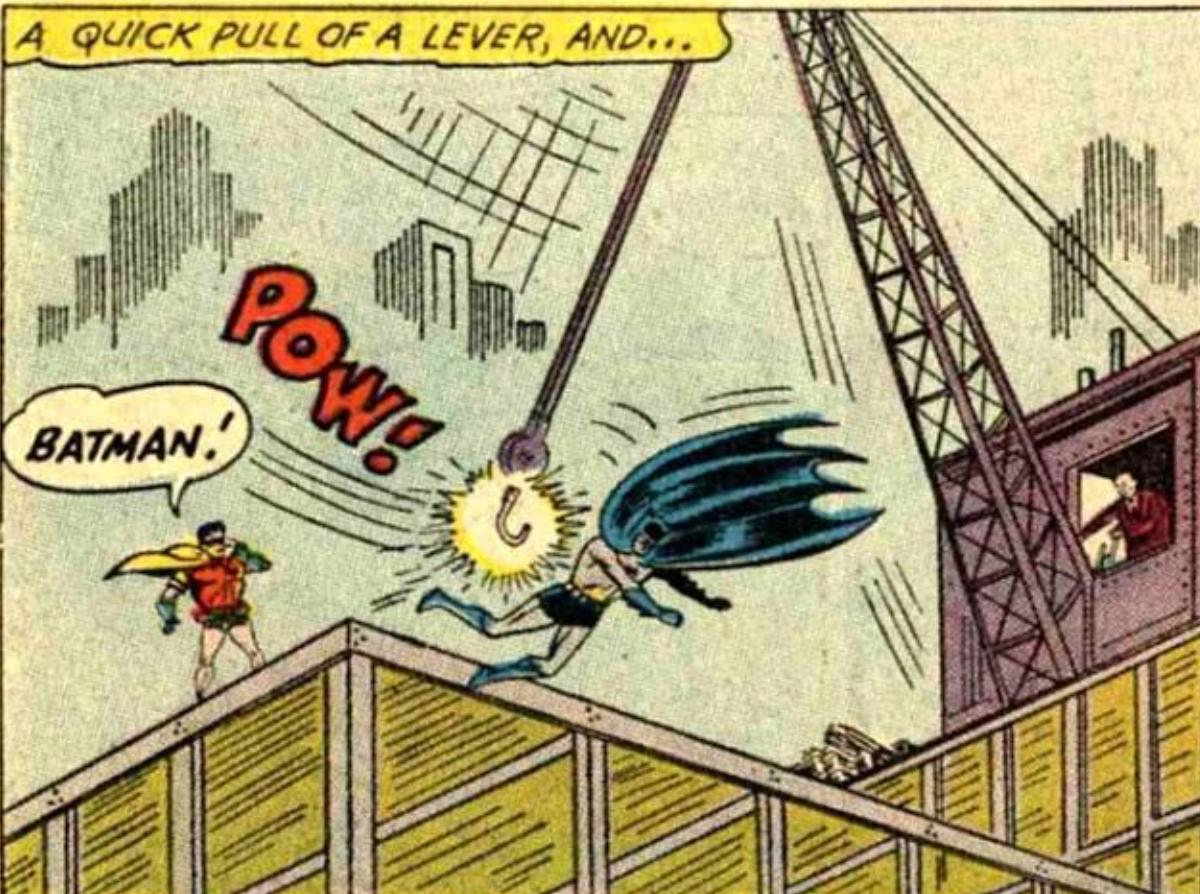


AT THIS VERY MOMENT, IN THE CAB OF A HOIST CRANE...

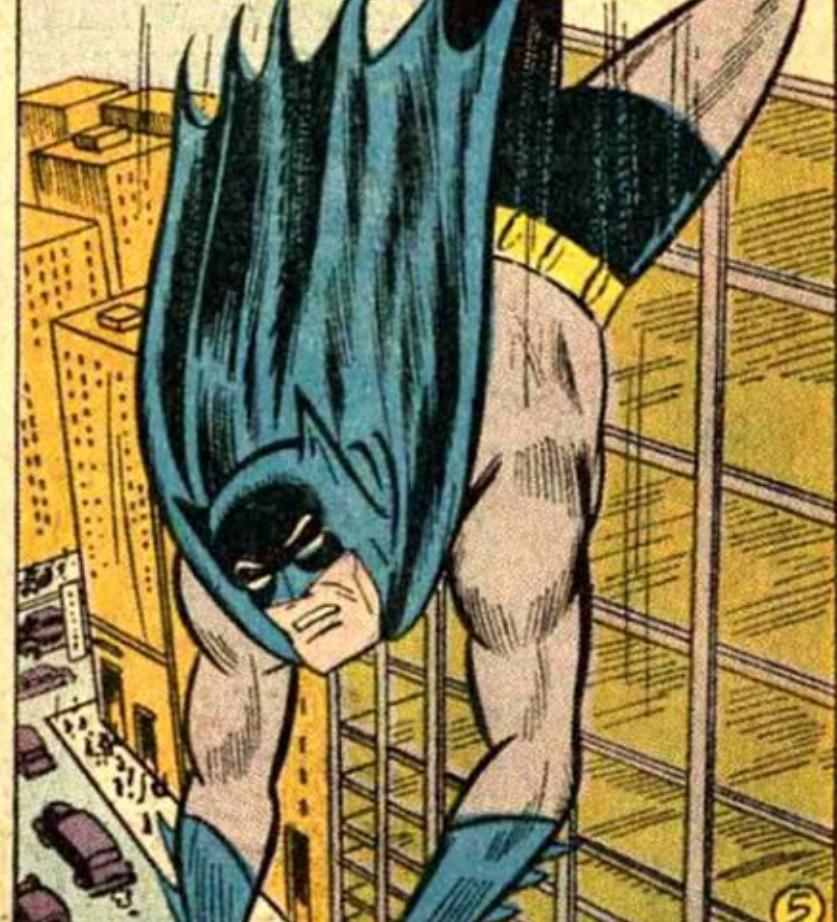
OUT OF THE WAY, PAL...  
I GOT BUSINESS  
HERE!



A QUICK PULL OF A LEVER, AND...

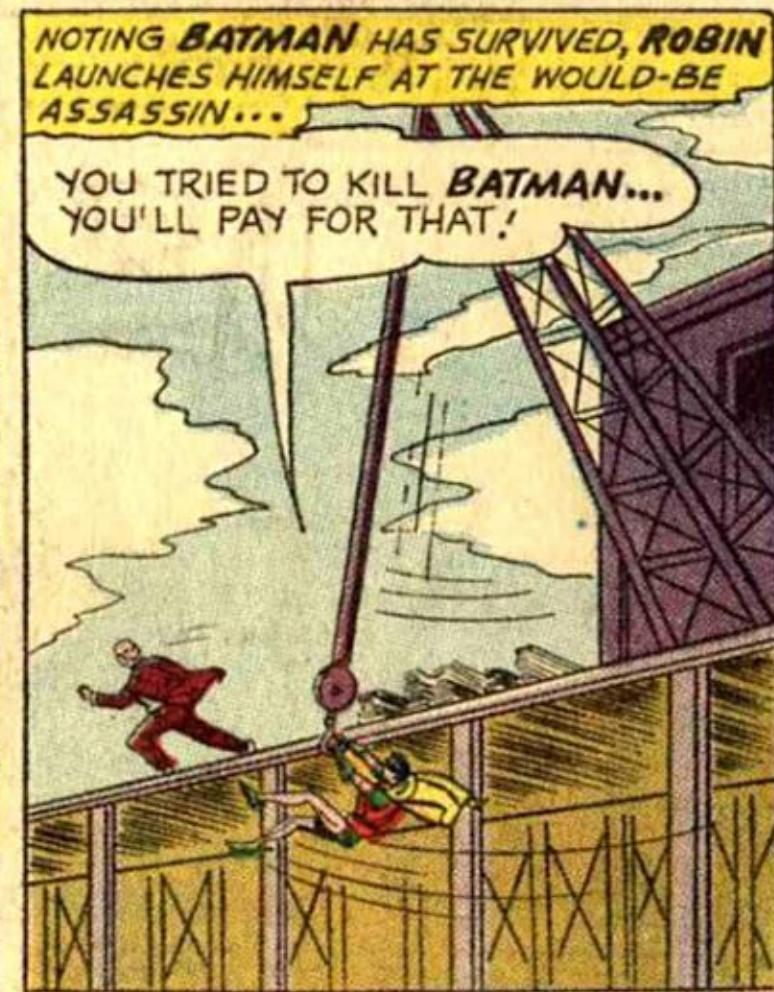


DOWN PLUNGES THE CAPED CRIME-FIGHTER,  
TO A CRUSHING DOOM FAR BELOW!





# BATMAN





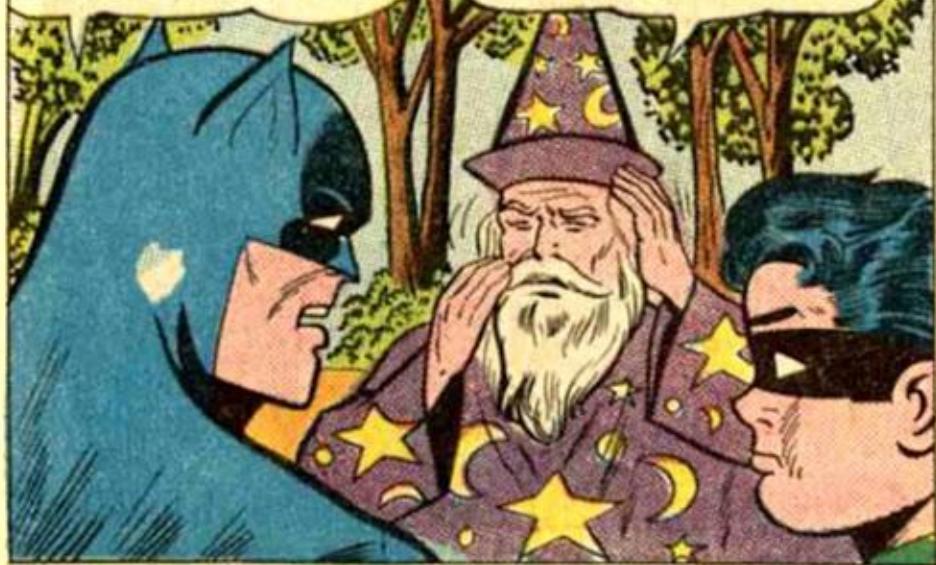
# BATMAN



LATER, HOWEVER, AT A SECLUDED MEETING PLACE...

WELL, SO FAR THE ASSASSINS HAVEN'T GUESSED IT WAS **YOU**, NOT YOUR POTION, WHO PERFORMED THOSE "MIRACLES!"

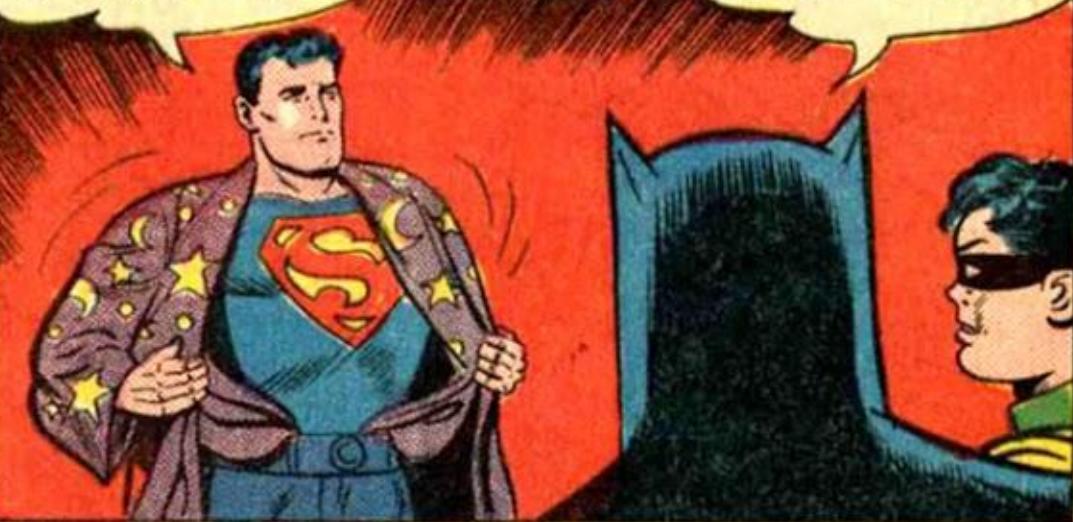
YES--BY MOVING SO FAST THAT I COULDN'T BE SEEN, I TOPPLED THAT TREE IN FRONT OF "MARS"--AND SMASHED THAT WATER TANK PLATFORM!



"THE ALCHEMIST" REMOVES HIS DISGUISE TO REVEAL STILL ANOTHER CRIME-FIGHTER...THE MIGHTY **SUPERMAN**!

WHEN AN UNDERWORLD TIPSTER TOLD ME ASSASSINS WERE PLANNING TO KILL YOU, I HAD TO MAKE THEM BELIEVE YOU HAD A CHARMED LIFE -- SO THEY'D GIVE UP THEIR PLAN!

YOUR IDEA WAS A GOOD ONE... I DON'T THINK THERE'LL BE ANY MORE ATTEMPTS, ON MY LIFE NOW.



BUT THE TRIO IS UNAWARE OF AN EAVESDROP-PING FIGURE NEARBY...

I HAD A HUNCH TO TRAIL THEM HERE! NOW THAT I KNOW THE TRUTH, I'LL KILL **BATMAN** IN SPITE OF **SUPERMAN**!



THAT NIGHT, AS **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** GO ON PATROL, AN AMBULANCE PULLS UP, AND...

**BATMAN**, BETTER COME WITH US! WE GOT WORD A MAN'S BEEN SHOT IN AN ALLEY... HE MAY BE ABLE TO IDENTIFY THE GUNMAN!



BUT WHEN THE DUO ENTERS THE ALLEY...

THERE'S NO WOUNDED MAN HERE!

WE JUST TOLD YOU THAT TO **BAIT** YOU HERE! OUR TWO PALS COULDN'T FINISH YOU--BUT **WE** WILL!



GOOD THING I'VE BEEN TRAILING YOU, EH, **BATMAN**?

**SUPERMAN**?... WE'VE BEEN EXPECTING YOU! BUT NOT EVEN YOUR SUPER-POWERS CAN GIVE **BATMAN** A "CHARMED" LIFE ANY MORE...





# BATMAN



I MANAGED TO GET THIS  
CHUNK OF **KRYPTONITE**!  
IT'LL KEEP YOU HELPLESS  
WHILE WE FINISH OFF  
**BATMAN**!

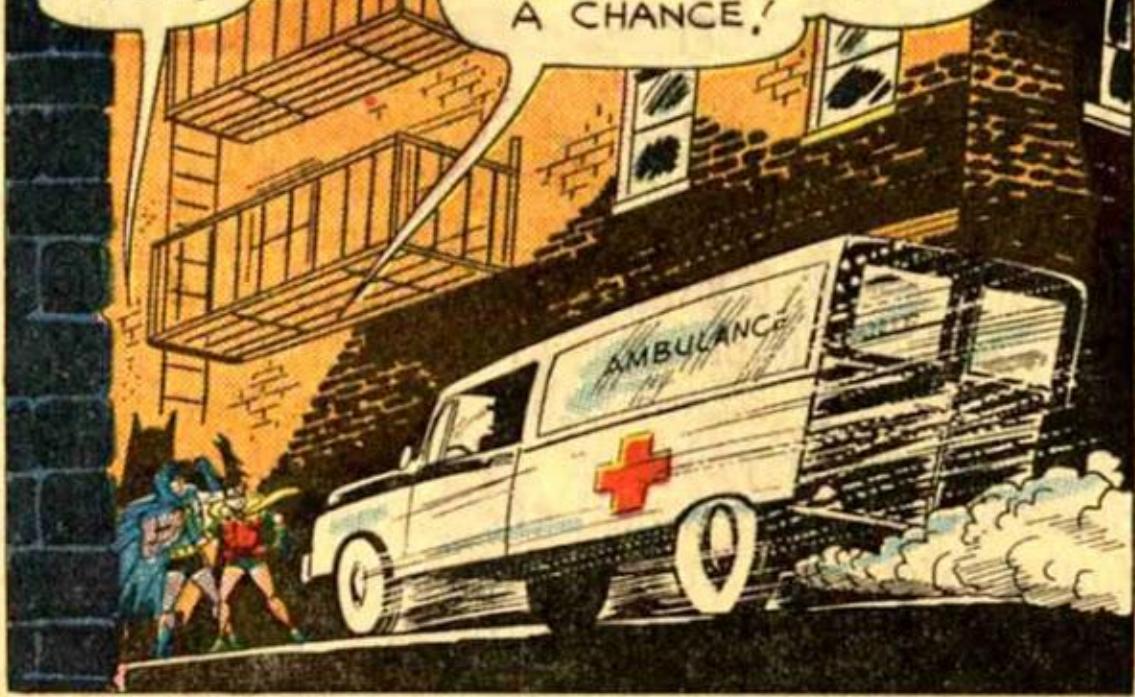
UH--MY STRENGTH--  
GOING...**KRYPTONITE**--  
THE ONE SUBSTANCE  
THAT CAN MAKE  
ME WEAK AS A  
KITTY!



THEN, THE ASSASSINS GUN THEIR VEHICLE FORWARD...

GREAT SCOTT!  
THEY'RE GOING TO  
RAM US DOWN!  
**RUN!**

IT'S NO USE! THIS IS A **DEAD  
END** ALLEY--AND IT'S TOO  
NARROW FOR US TO DODGE  
THE TRUCK! WE HAVEN'T  
A CHANCE!

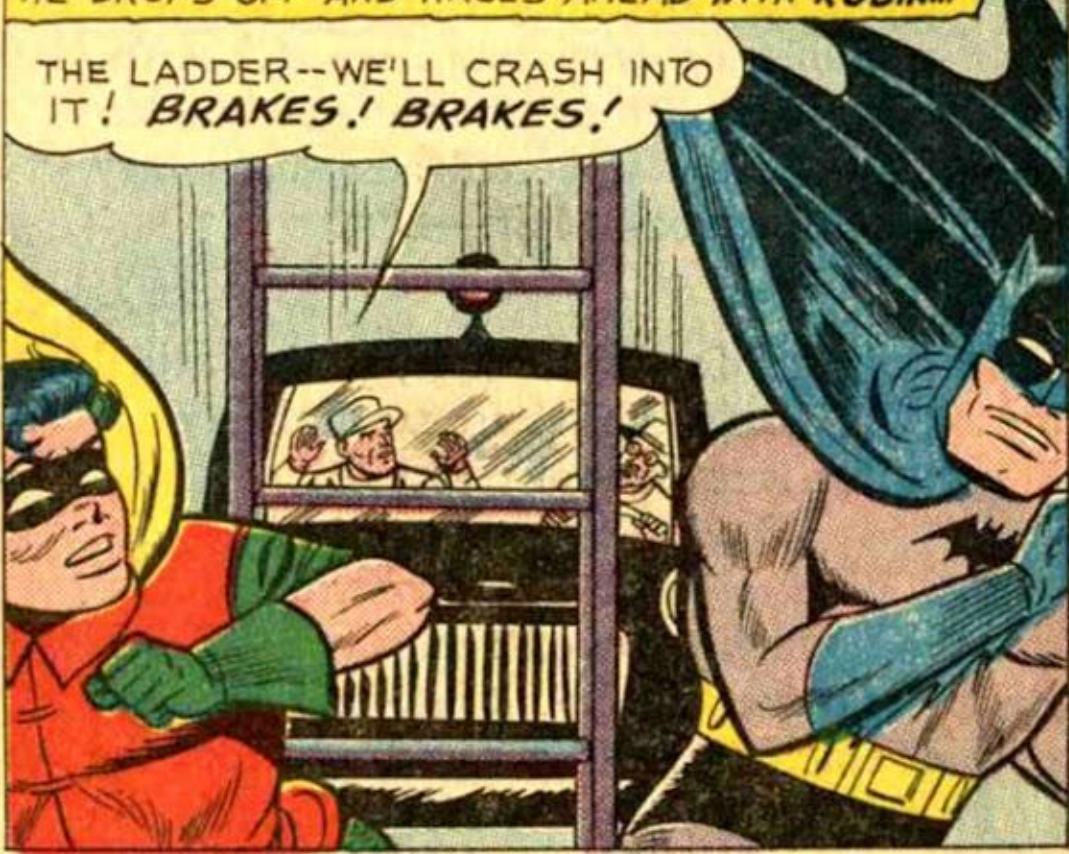


YES WE HAVE--  
THIS FIRE ESCAPE  
LADDER!

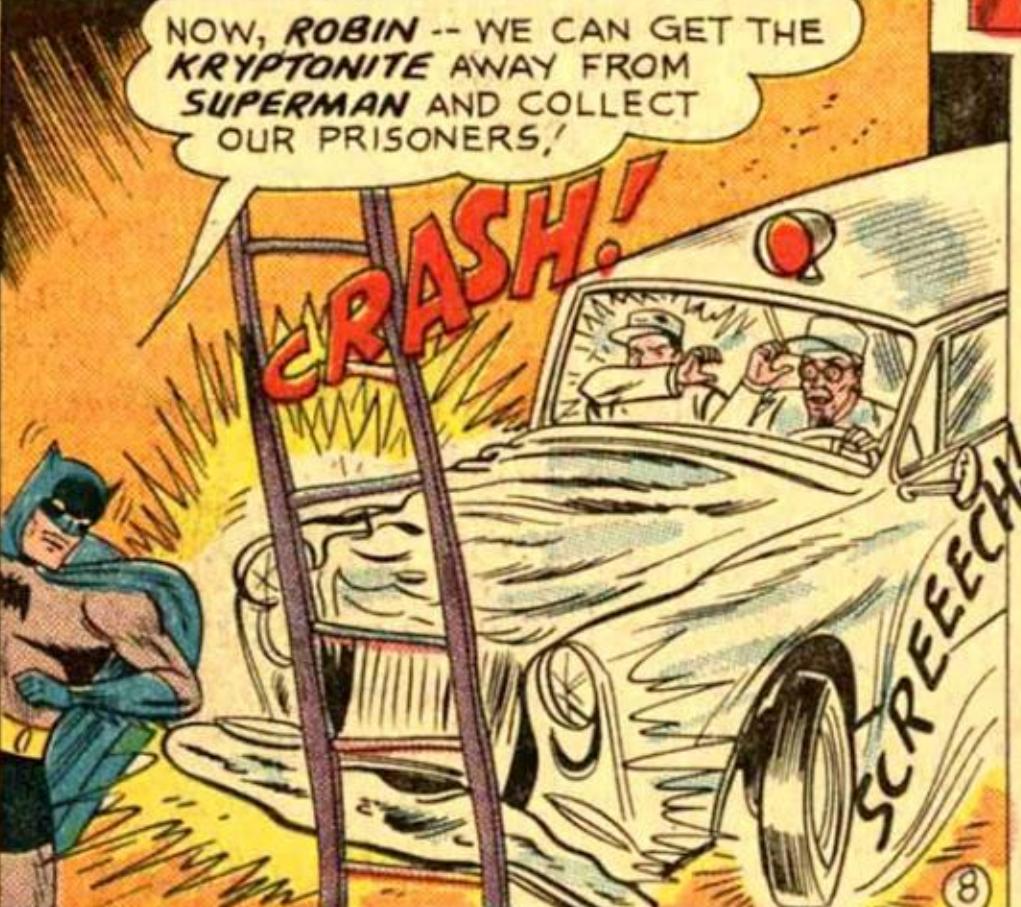


AS **BATMAN'S** WEIGHT PULLS THE LADDER DOWN,  
HE DROPS OFF AND RACES AHEAD WITH **ROBIN**...

THE LADDER--WE'LL CRASH INTO  
IT! **BRAKES! BRAKES!**



NOW, **ROBIN**--WE CAN GET THE  
**KRYPTONITE** AWAY FROM  
**SUPERMAN** AND COLLECT  
OUR PRISONERS!



LATER, WHEN THE LAST OF THE ASSASSINS ARE JAILED...

WELL,  
**SUPERMAN**--  
THANKS FOR  
YOUR HELP!

ACTUALLY, AT THE END, I DIDN'T  
HELP AT ALL! IT'S YOUR QUICK-  
THINKING THAT HAS **ALWAYS**  
GIVEN YOU A "CHARMED"  
LIFE!





Dear Editor: My oldest brother, who's been reading BATMAN much longer than I have, recalls a story in which BATMAN and ROBIN tracked down a criminal by means of *blind mice*. Could you please explain?

Sandy Osborne, Reno, Nev.  
(It was really very simple. When BATMAN opened a suitcase, which the criminal was forced to abandon at the scene of the crime, three blind mice leaped out of it. Realizing that the mice must have gotten into the suitcase accidentally, and knowing that *blind* mice generally inhabit dark, underground places—such as mines or deep tunnels—BATMAN and ROBIN searched every abandoned underground site in the suspected area, until they came upon the crook's lair.—Ed.)

\* \* \*

Dear Editor: More than once, you've called the BATMOBILE the fastest car in the world. What gives it its special power?

David Phemister, Pittsburgh, Pa.  
(In addition to its precision construction and its unique, high-powered fuel, the BATMOBILE has rocket tubes built into its rear. Used only in emergencies, this factor provides the thrust that makes the BATMOBILE truly the world's fastest vehicle on wheels.—Ed.)

\* \* \*

Dear Editor: Every counterfeiter strives for perfection in his criminal handiwork. Yet, I'm told, BATMAN once exposed a phony coin maker because his job was *too* good. How come?

Hollis Smith, Urbana, Ill.  
(This particular criminal was counterfeiting *ancient* coins, and passing them off to collectors for huge sums. Unlike modern coins, which are identical because they are manufactured by machine, coins in olden times were stamped out by hand. That made it impossible for two of them to be exactly alike. BATMAN, detecting the identical quality of the crook's "old" coins, realized that they were run off recently, by machine.—Ed.)

Dear Editor: My favorite type of adventure is one in which BATMAN, ROBIN or SUPERMAN—alone or together—get trapped in another dimension. Are you planning one soon?

Lefty Donovan, Lexington, Ky.

(Such a story is slated for the JUNE issue of WORLD'S FINEST COMICS, No. 118. The MAN OF STEEL finds himself trapped in another dimension. To make matters worse in *our* dimension, BATMAN and ROBIN are left to fight "THE CREATURE WHO WAS EXCHANGED FOR SUPERMAN!"—Ed.)

\* \* \*

Dear Editor: Recently, you had a story in which a giant enemy gave BATMAN and ROBIN some awful rough moments. It seems to me that if BATMAN could grow into a giant, he'd be much more effective against criminals.

Chuck Byrd, Pawtucket, R. I.  
(That sounds logical enough, Chuck—and yet, as you'll discover in the JUNE issue of DETECTIVE COMICS, No. 292, the caped crime-fighter has plenty of reason to *regret* the day when he becomes "THE COLOSSUS OF GOTHAM CITY!"—Ed.)

\* \* \*

Dear Editor: You sometimes show BATMAN and ROBIN running off conversations, on tape, which they recorded secretly in the presence of other persons. How is this possible?

Diane Linden, Princeton, N. J.  
(One of BATMAN'S inventions is a *miniature tape recorder*, which he inserts in his UTILITY BELT on special missions. When he or ROBIN wishes to record a conversation, they simply flip a switch.—Ed.)

\* \* \*

Dear Editor: Frankly, I think BAT-GIRL is terrific. Will we be seeing more of her?

Katey Simms, Santa Barbara, Cal.  
(You're not the only reader who loves BAT-GIRL, Katey. You'll see her again in the next issue of BATMAN COMICS, AUG., No. 141, where BAT-GIRL becomes "BAT-WOMAN'S JUNIOR PARTNER!"—Ed.)

# LEFTY LOOIE

WHILE WE'RE IN HERE, HOLDING UP THE BANK, YOU STEAL A CAR AND WAIT FOR US IN FRONT!

HENRY  
BOLTHOFF

AND, IN A  
FEW MINUTES...

OKAY, HERE'S LOOIE!  
EVERYTHING WAS  
TIMED RIGHT!

HOW DO YOU LIKE  
THIS AUTO I SWIPED,  
FELLERS? CLASSY,  
EH?



The **BEST** Comics are **STILL** 10¢



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READERS'  
CHOICE**

!

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GIVES YOU  
*Two***

MAGAZINES FEATURING  
ADVENTURES OF THE

***SUPER-HEROES  
You ASKED FOR!***

**SHOWCASE**



**ON SALE  
APR. 28<sup>TH</sup>**

**NOW ON  
SALE!**



BATMAN



# BAT-MAN

WITH  
ROBIN

-THE BOY WONDER-

No--THOSE ARE NOT ALIENS WEARING THE FAMILAR GARB OF A FAMED GANG-BUSTING TEAM! THEY ARE BATMAN AND ROBIN, WITH STRANGE BODIES--AND EVEN STRANGER POWERS.. POWERS WITH WHICH TO FIGHT CRIME! IS IT ANY WONDER THAT THE AWED UNDERWORLD NOW THINKS OF BATMAN AS...

THE EIGHTH WONDER OF SPACE

OUT OF BUSINESS

"HA, HA! BATMAN MISDIRECTED HIS ALIEN POWERS -- AND KNOCKED DOWN THAT DISPLAY SIGN! NOW WE CAN GET AWAY!"

TONY'S SHOE SHOP



BOB KANE



# BATMAN



ATOP HEADQUARTERS, POLICE COMMISSIONER GORDON AND BATWOMAN WAIT IMPATIENTLY...

I WONDER WHY BATMAN AND ROBIN ASKED US TO MEET THEM HERE?

WE'LL FIND OUT SOON ENOUGH! I'M MORE CURIOUS ABOUT WHERE THEY'VE BEEN THE LAST THREE DAYS!

THE ANSWER PROVES STARTLING INDEED, AS TWO STRANGE YET FAMILIAR BEINGS LOOM INTO VIEW...

GOOD GRIEF!

IT--IT CAN'T BE....

YES--IT'S WE... BATMAN AND ROBIN! LISTEN--WE CAN EXPLAIN EVERYTHING...



"IT ALL BEGAN A FEW DAYS AGO, AS WE WERE SOARING OVER THE CITY IN THE BAT-PLANE..."

BATMAN! WE'RE CAUGHT IN SOME KIND OF RAY!

IT--IT SEEMS TO BE COMING FROM... OUTER SPACE!



"AND ONLY A SPLIT SECOND LATER..."

L-LOOK! WHILE TESTING OUR NEW SPACE-WARP RAY, WE'VE ACCIDENTALLY SNATCHED UP A SHIP FROM ANOTHER WORLD!

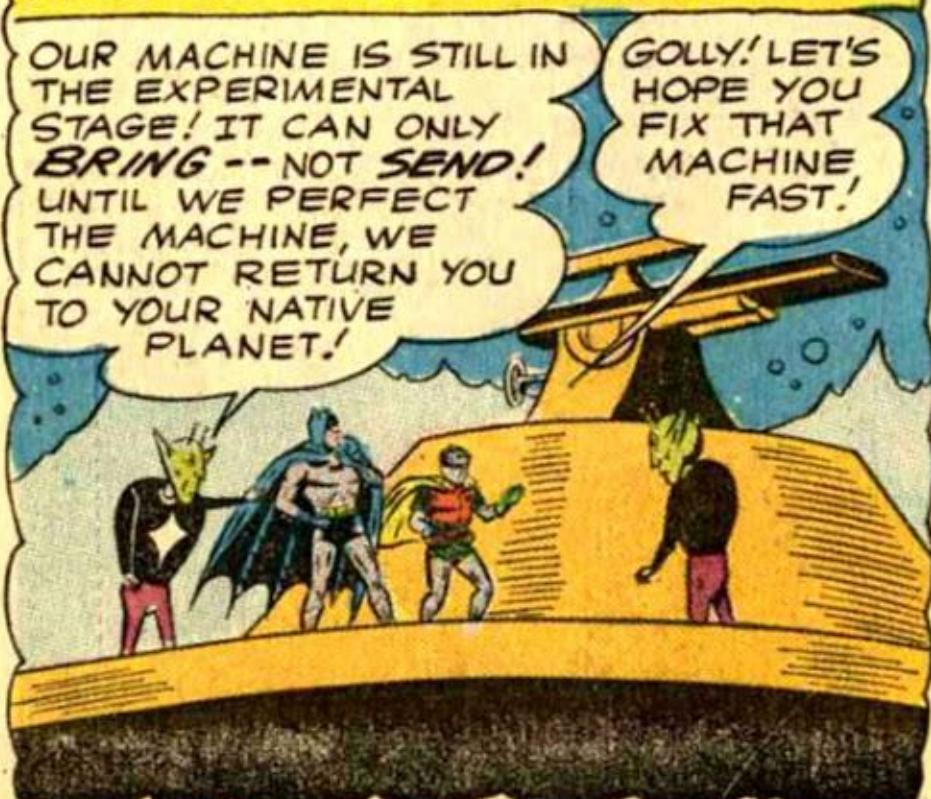
GREAT SCOTT! A RAY THAT CAN BYPASS THE LAWS OF SPACE AND TIME... IT'S BEAMED US, INSTANTLY, TO AN ALIEN PLANET!



"AFTERWARD, SCIENTISTS OF THE PLANET XLUR WERE VERY APOLOGETIC..."

OUR MACHINE IS STILL IN THE EXPERIMENTAL STAGE! IT CAN ONLY BRING -- NOT SEND! UNTIL WE PERFECT THE MACHINE, WE CANNOT RETURN YOU TO YOUR NATIVE PLANET!

GOLLY! LET'S HOPE YOU FIX THAT MACHINE FAST!



"IT TOOK THEM EXACTLY THREE DAYS -- BUT DURING THAT TIME, A FANTASTIC THING HAPPENED..."

ROBIN... SOMEHOW, THIS WEIRD PLANET'S ATMOSPHERE IS AFFECTING US -- CHANGING US INTO ALIENS!

MAYBE IT WON'T BE PERMANENT! M-MAYBE, WHEN WE RETURN TO EARTH, WE'LL CHANGE BACK TO THE WAY WE WERE!



# BATMAN



WE WERE RETURNED TO EARTH A LITTLE WHILE AGO, HOPING WE HAD CHANGED BACK AGAIN... BUT WE DIDN'T!

BAH!... DID YOU REALLY THINK WE'D BELIEVE SUCH A FANTASTIC STORY? YOU'RE LYING!

I THINK YOU'RE REAL ALIENS, WHO HAVE CAPTURED OR KILLED BATMAN AND ROBIN-- AND ARE PRETENDING TO BE THEM!

YES-- SO YOU CAN SPY ON US--AND LEAD THE WAY FOR AN INVASION OF EARTH BY YOUR PLANET!

WAIT! COMMISSIONER GORDON, SUPPOSE I TELL YOU SOMETHING YOU'VE REVEALED ONLY TO BATMAN? AND YOU, BATWOMAN-- WHAT IF I WHISPER YOUR SECRET IDENTITY IN YOUR EAR? WOULDN'T THAT PROVE I'M REALLY BATMAN?

WE-ELL...

YOU ONCE CONFIDED THAT WHEN YOU RETIRE, YOU'RE GOING TO WRITE A BOOK ABOUT THE POLICE FORCE, AND CALL IT, "GOTHAM CITY GUARDIANS!"

WHY--THAT'S RIGHT! I NEVER TOLD THAT TO ANYONE BUT BATMAN!

AS FOR YOU, BATWOMAN, YOUR SECRET IDENTITY IS KATHY KANE!

OH! ONLY BATMAN AND ROBIN WOULD KNOW THAT! YOU COULDN'T BE IMPOSTORS!

JUST THEN...

COMMISSIONER! SOMEBODY'S SPOTTED MEMBERS OF THE YELLOW SWEATER GANG, ROBBING THE YACHT CLUB AT THE WATERFRONT!

LET ROBIN AND ME HANDLE IT! IN ONE RESPECT, WE HAVEN'T CHANGED.. WE'RE STILL CRIME-FIGHTERS!

# BATMAN



SOON AFTER...

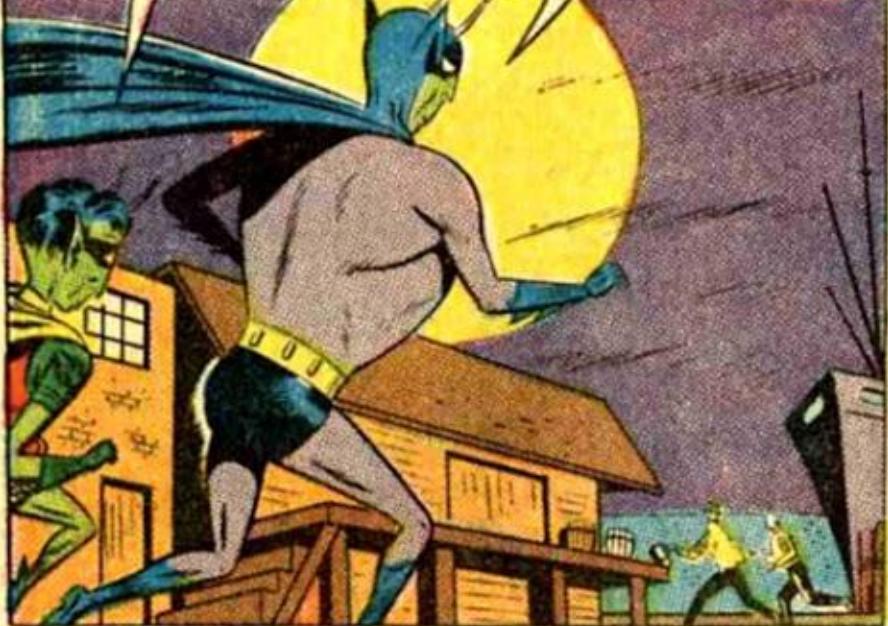
THERE  
THEY  
ARE!

GOOD! ALONG  
WITH OUR ALIEN  
FORMS, WE ACQUIRED  
ALIEN POWERS ...  
NOW LET'S PUT  
THEM TO WORK!

BECAUSE THEIR BODIES ARE ADAPTED TO THE  
ALIEN PLANET'S GREATER GRAVITATIONAL PULL,  
THE CRIME-FIGHTERS CAN NOW MAKE GIGANTIC  
LEAPS ON EARTH...

BATMAN AND  
ROBIN! B-BUT...  
THEY LOOK  
DIFFERENT!

YEAH -- AND THEY'RE  
PRACTICALLY  
FLYING!



BUT, BECAUSE THEY HAVE NOT YET  
LEARNED TO CONTROL THEIR NEW POWER...

WE'VE OVERSHOT THE  
BANDITS! WE'LL LAND IN  
THE WATER, UNLESS WE  
ACT FAST!

HA, HA! NOW  
WE CAN GET  
AWAY IN OUR  
MOTORBOAT!



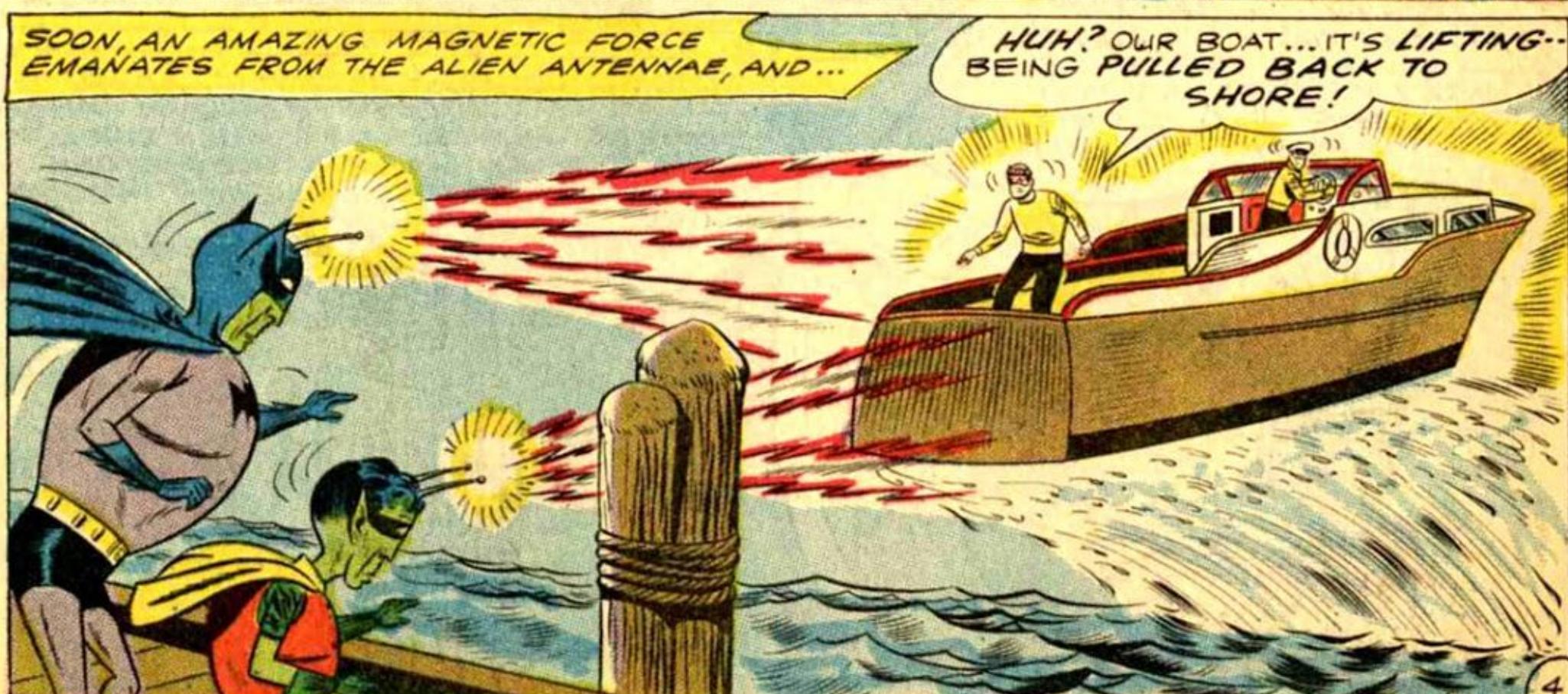
BUT SUPERB ACROBATIC SKILL ENABLES  
BATMAN AND ROBIN TO BRAKE THEIR  
PLUNGE!

THAT DOES IT! NOW, LET'S  
GET DOWN TO THE PIER AND USE  
OUR ANTENNAE TO STOP  
THOSE CROOKS!



SOON, AN AMAZING MAGNETIC FORCE  
EMANATES FROM THE ALIEN ANTENNAE, AND...

HUH? OUR BOAT... IT'S LIFTING...  
BEING PULLED BACK TO  
SHORE!



# BATMAN



AFTER DEPOSITING THE BANDIT BOAT ON THE DOCK...

WELL, ROBIN, THESE ARE TWO OF THE YELLOW SWEATER GANG WHO WON'T ESCAPE WITH ANY LOOT!



LATER, UPON JAILING THEIR PRISONERS, BATMAN AND ROBIN EXPLAIN THEIR ALTERED APPEARANCES TO NEWS AGENCIES...

BATMAN, DO YOU SUPPOSE YOU'LL EVER LOOK HUMAN... ER... I MEAN--LIKE EARTH MEN AGAIN?

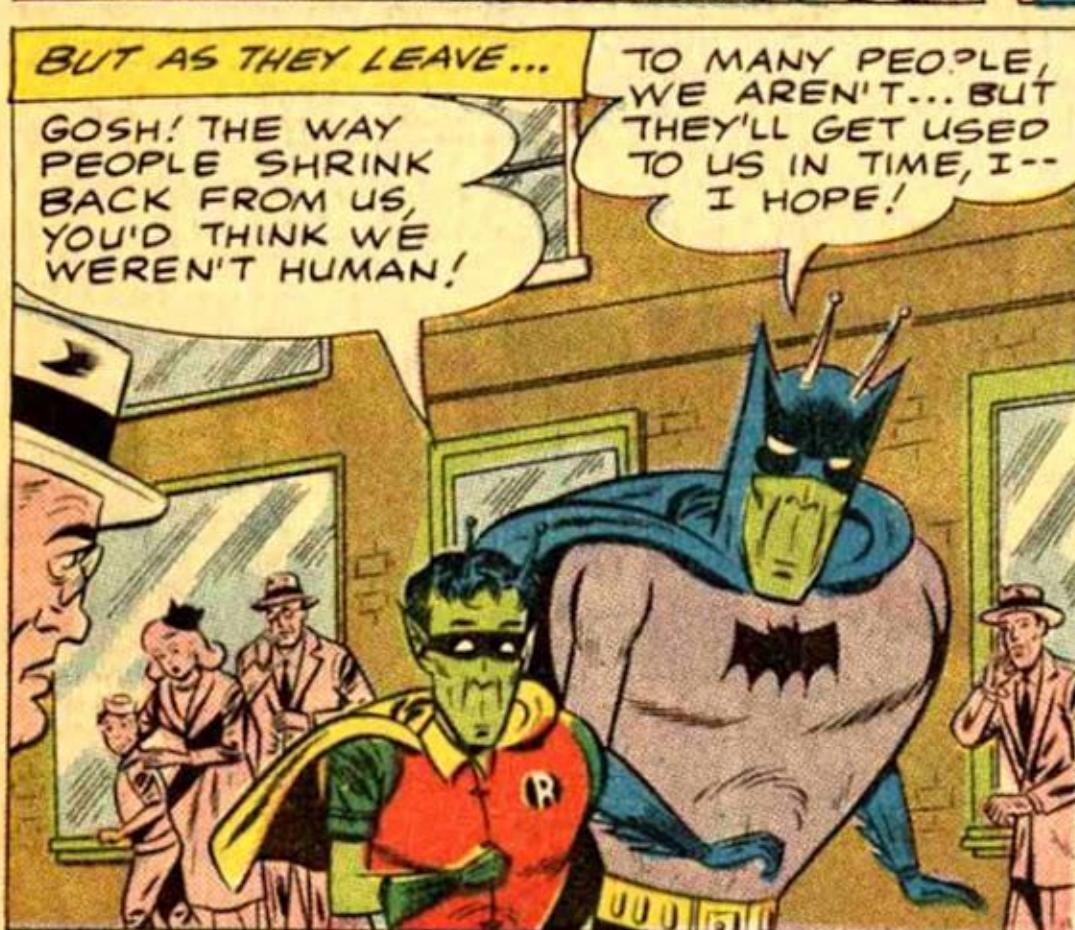
WE DON'T KNOW! IF NOT, WE'LL JUST HAVE TO ACCEPT OUR NEW FORMS-- AND HOPE YOU WILL, TOO!



BUT AS THEY LEAVE...

GOSH! THE WAY PEOPLE SHRINK BACK FROM US, YOU'D THINK WE WEREN'T HUMAN!

TO MANY PEOPLE, WE AREN'T... BUT THEY'LL GET USED TO US IN TIME, I-- I HOPE!



ARRIVING IN THE BAT-CAVE, THROUGH ITS SECRET ENTRANCE, THE ALIEN FIGURES COME UPON TWO HOSTILE ONE-TIME FRIENDS... ACE, THE BAT-HOUND, AND ALFRED, THEIR FAITHFUL BUTLER!

ACE! ALFRED! PLEASE--DON'T YOU KNOW US?



IN ANSWER, THE DOG SNIFFS-- THEN YELPS WITH JOY!

EGAD! I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO BELIEVE WHEN I SAW THE TV REPORT... BUT THIS IS GOOD ENOUGH FOR ME! YOU CAN'T FOOL A DOG! WELCOME BACK, SIRS!

THANK YOU, ALFRED... IT'S GOOD TO BE HOME AGAIN-- AMONG FRIENDS!



AS THEY CHANGE INTO THEIR EVERYDAY IDENTITIES...

GOLLY--WE CAN'T GO AROUND AS BRUCE WAYNE AND DICK GRAYSON THIS WAY! OUR IDENTITIES WOULD BE REVEALED!

WHAT'S MORE, I HAVE A DATE WITH KATHY TOMORROW NIGHT-- AS BRUCE WAYNE!





# BATMAN



FACED WITH THIS DILEMMA, BRUCE HITS UPON A SOLUTION...

KATHY, FOR OUR DATE TOMORROW, LET'S GO TO THE ANNUAL MASQUERADE BALL! YOU CAN GET A COSTUME IN TIME, CAN'T YOU?

MASQUERADE BALL? BUT EVEN IF BRUCE DISGUISES HIMSELF WITH A COSTUME, WHAT HAPPENS WHEN HE HAS TO UNMASK, AT MIDNIGHT?

A GOOD QUESTION, DICK -- AND YET THE FOLLOWING EVENING, AT KATHY'S HOME...

HI! HOW DO YOU LIKE MY COSTUME AND MAKEUP? I'M GOING TO THE BALL AS THE "ALIEN BATMAN"... HA, HA!

WHAT???



HOW COULD YOU MAKE FUN OF BATMAN, KNOWING WHAT HE'S GOING THROUGH? DON'T YOU REALIZE HOW BATMAN MUST BE SUFFERING? YOUR "JOKE" IS IN TERRIBLE TASTE!

IF YOU THINK I'M GOING OUT WITH YOU NOW, YOU'RE MISTAKEN! GOOD NIGHT!

WHWEE! MY TRICK WORKED... I MADE HER ANGRY ENOUGH TO CALL OFF OUR DATE! BUT MY ALIEN APPEARANCE, AND DICK'S, CAN'T BE HIDDEN FOR LONG! SOONER OR LATER, OUR SECRET IDENTITIES WILL HAVE TO BE EXPOSED!

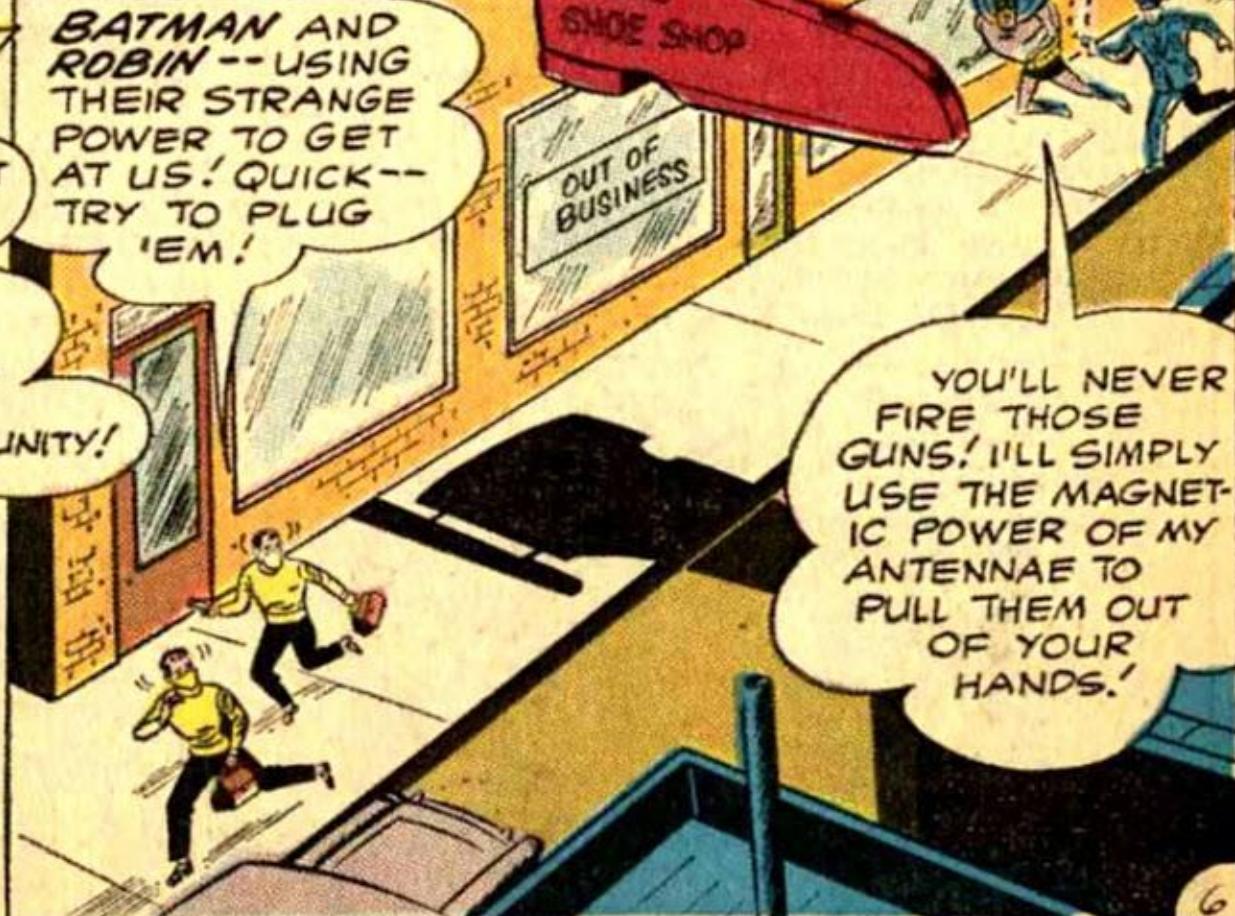


THAT SAME NIGHT, THE CRIME-FIGHTERS TRY TO FORGET THEIR PERSONAL TROUBLES BY GOING ON PATROL, WHEN...

LOOK! TWO MORE OF THE YELLOW SWEATER GANG, SHOOTING IT OUT WITH THAT POLICEMAN!

THEY'VE JUST ROBBED THAT JEWELRY SHOP! COME ON... WE'VE BEEN WAITING FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY!

BATMAN AND ROBIN -- USING THEIR STRANGE POWER TO GET AT US! QUICK -- TRY TO PLUG 'EM!



YOU'LL NEVER FIRE THOSE GUNS! I'LL SIMPLY USE THE MAGNETIC POWER OF MY ANTENNAE TO PULL THEM OUT OF YOUR HANDS!

# BATMAN



BUT AS BATMAN EMPLOYS HIS EERIE POWER...

YOUR AIM WAS OFF! YOU PULLED THAT OLD DISPLAY SIGN TOWARDS US-- BLOCKING US FROM THE CROOKS!

OUT OF BUSINESS

TONY'S  
SHOE SHOP

HAW!... NOW'S OUR CHANCE! TO THE GETAWAY CAR!



MEANWHILE...

WE LET THOSE CROOKS ESCAPE ONLY SO WE COULD TRAIL THEM TO THEIR HIDEOUT-- THAT GARAGE! NOW WE CAN RECOVER OTHER LOOT THEY'VE STOLEN, AND ROUND UP THE WHOLE GANG!

THINK I'LL PUSH MY COWL BACK... I WANT TO

MAKE SURE MY ANTENNAE WORK PERFECTLY WHEN WE MOVE IN FOR THE CAPTURE!

BUT BATMAN AND ROBIN ARE UNAWARE OF A CITY-WIDE POLICE ALARM THAT THE GANG HEARS IN ITS HIDEOUT...

LOOKOUT FOR THE ALIENS CALLING THEMSELVES BATMAN AND ROBIN! THEY ARE IMPOSTORS! THEY LET TWO OF THE YELLOW SWEATER GANG ESCAPE FOR A PRICE!

HUH? THAT'S CRAZY, UNLESS... HMM... UNLESS BATMAN AND ROBIN LET YOU TWO GUYS ESCAPE SO THEY COULD TRAIL YOU HERE!



MOMENTS LATER...

THE POLICEMAN IS JUST STUNNED FOR THE MOMENT... HE NEVER REALIZED WE DELIBERATELY LET THOSE CROOKS ESCAPE! HURRY, ROBIN--LET'S GO FOR THE PAYOFF!

-GULP! BATMAN DOESN'T KNOW I'M CONSCIOUS ENOUGH TO HEAR HIM! HE INTERFERED ONLY TO PREVENT ME FROM ARRESTING THOSE CROOKS-- AND HE'S BEING PAID FOR IT!

LATER, WHEN THE POLICEMAN TELLS HIS STORY AT HEADQUARTERS...

THE REAL BATMAN AND ROBIN WOULD NEVER WORK WITH CROOKS! YET, IF THEY'RE IMPOSTORS, HOW DID "BATMAN" KNOW MY SECRET IDENTITY--AND ALL ABOUT YOUR BOOK?

I'LL BET THOSE TWO ALIENS CAN READ MINDS-- AND PROBED THE THOUGHTS OF BATMAN AND ROBIN AFTER THEY CAPTURED THEM!



AND SO, BECAUSE OF A MISUNDERSTANDING,  
THE DYNAMIC DUO WALKS INTO A TRAP!

WHAT--?

NICE WORK, BOYS! THESE  
INNER TUBES WILL PINION  
THEIR ARMS WHILE YOU  
KNOCK THEM OUT!



MINUTES LATER, WITH THE CROOKS BUSY  
MOVING OUT THEIR LOOT, BATMAN AND  
ROBIN AWAKEN TO A FANTASTIC  
PHENOMENON...

YOUR FACE--  
CHANGING!  
WE'RE STARTING  
TO RETURN TO  
OUR NORMAL  
SELVES!

OH, NO!... MY COWL  
IS OFF! WHEN THE  
GANG RETURNS,  
THEY'LL SEE MY  
SECRET IDENTITY!  
THEY'LL KNOW I'M  
BRUCE  
WAYNE!



BATMAN ACTS SWIFTLY-- BEFORE HIS ANTENNAE AND THEIR EERIE  
POWER DISAPPEAR ENTIRELY...

HAD JUST ENOUGH POWER LEFT TO PULL  
THAT KNIFE HERE AND PUNCTURE  
THIS RUBBER TUBE!



NICE GOING! THE TUBE'S  
DEFLATING... YOU'LL BE  
ABLE TO FREE YOUR ARMS!  
QUICK-- PULL YOUR COWL  
ON ... THE GANG'S  
COMING BACK!

BATMAN'S  
LOOSE! GULP!  
AND HE AND  
ROBIN DON'T  
LOOK LIKE  
ALIENS ANY-  
MORE!

THEY'RE BACK  
TO NORMAL --  
WITHOUT ALIEN  
POWERS! BUT  
THEY'RE JUST  
AS DANGEROUS  
TO US... LET'S  
SCRAM!

HAPPILY, THE CAPED-CRIME FIGHTERS RELY ON  
THEIR ORDINARY EARTH POWERS AGAIN...

YOU FELLOWS LOOK  
"TIRED!" OUCH!...  
THAT'S AN AWFUL  
PUN!

THE GANG BOSS--  
ESCAPING!



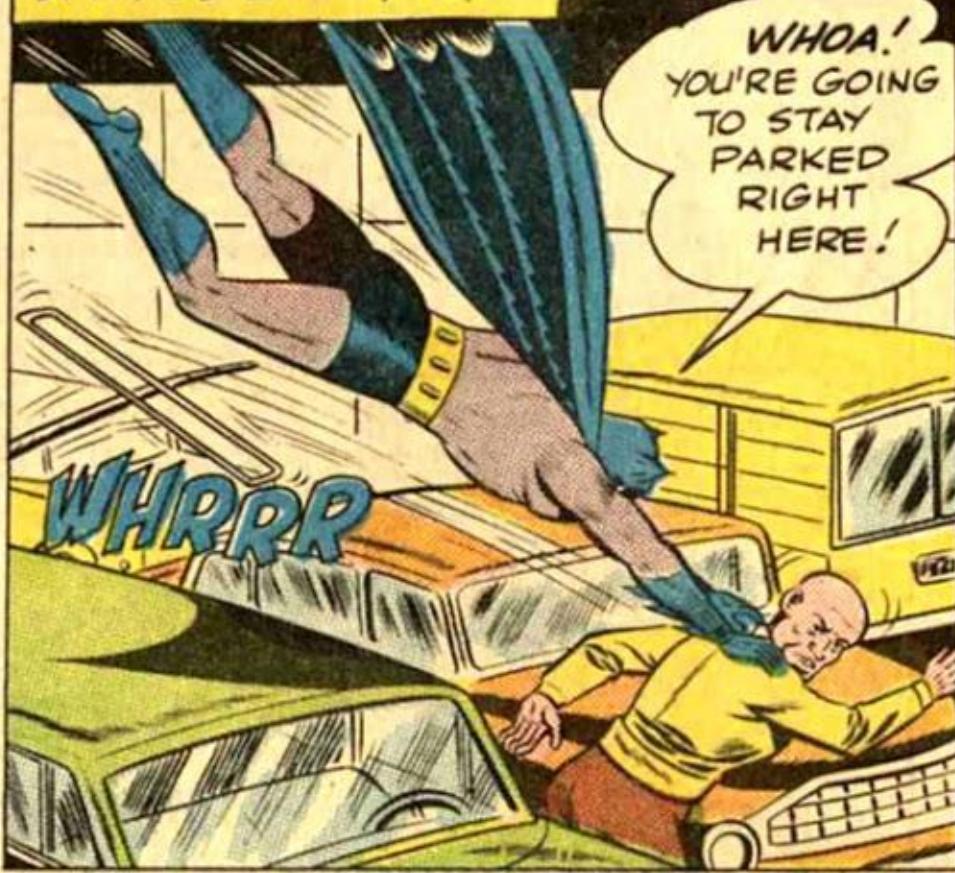
AS THE FRANTIC BANDIT TRIES TO FLEE AMID THE PARKED VEHICLES...

I DON'T HAVE MY OWN ANTENNAE ANYMORE -- BUT I CAN USE THE ONE ON THIS ADVERTISING TRUCK!



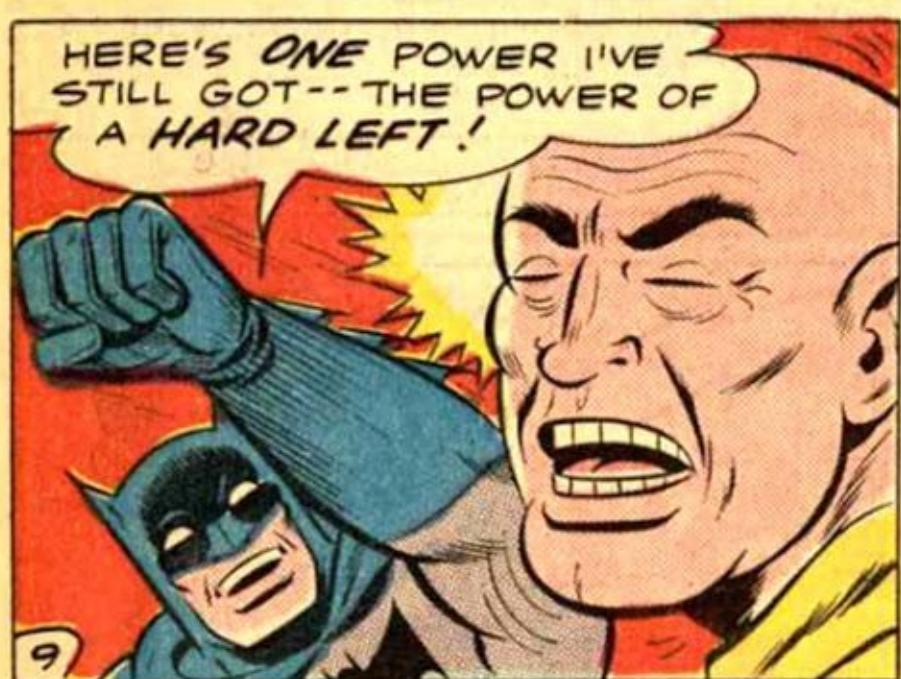
FOR AN INSTANT, THE TENSILE STEEL BENDS UNDER BATMAN'S WEIGHT, THEN SPRINGS ERECT, AND...

WHOA! YOU'RE GOING TO STAY PARKED RIGHT HERE!



AND SO, LATER, BATMAN AND ROBIN RESUME THEIR NORMAL LIVES AGAIN-- AND THEIR NORMAL PROBLEMS!

HERE'S ONE POWER I'VE STILL GOT-- THE POWER OF A HARD LEFT!



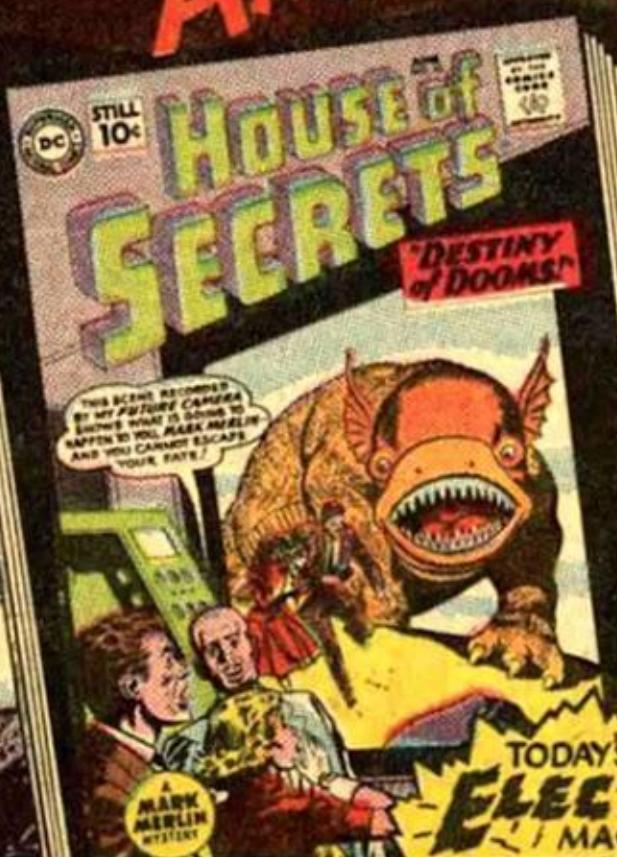
WHERE ARE YOU GOING WITH THOSE FLOWERS?

TO KATHY! MAYBE THEY'LL MAKE HER FORGIVE ME FOR TRYING TO MAKE MY FACE LOOK LIKE BATMAN'S!



THE End

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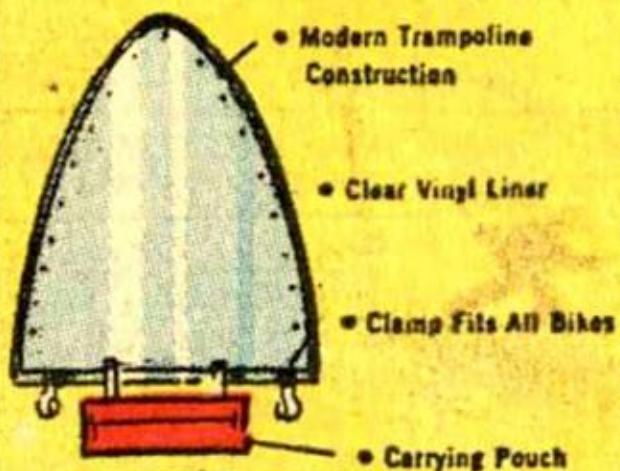
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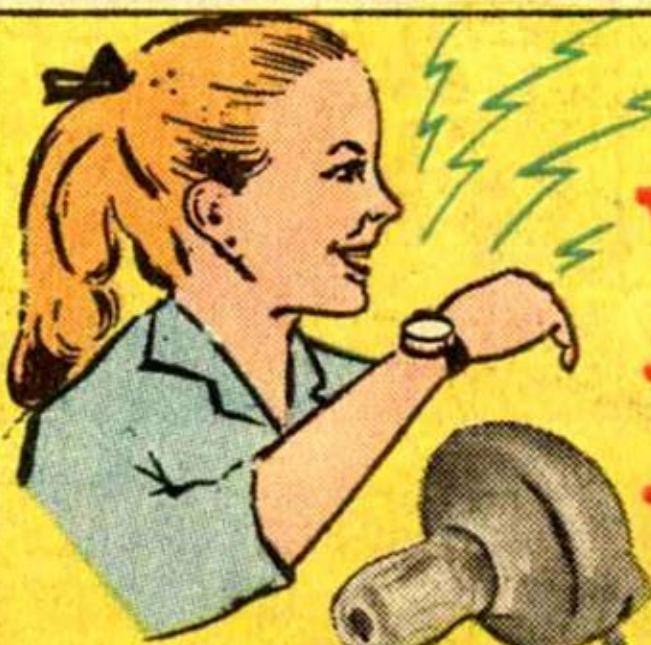
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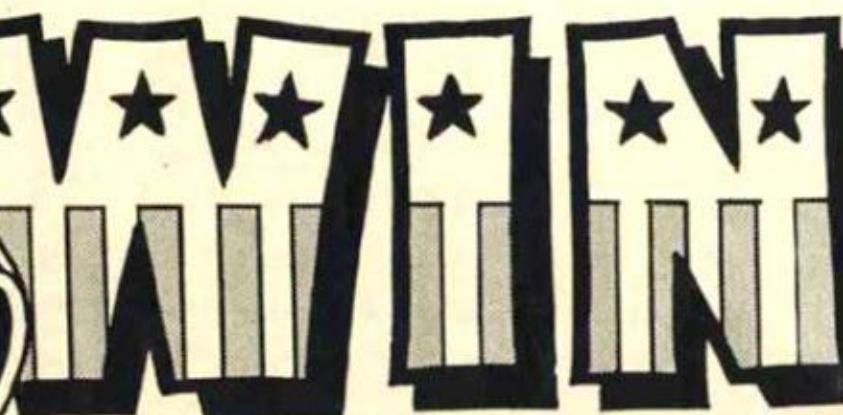
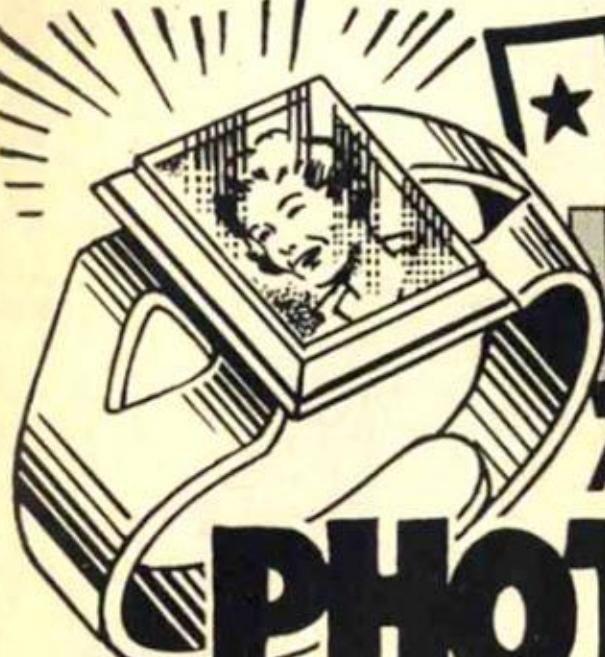
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Address.....

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THE  
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