



TRINITY • Part 1 of 2

WONDER WOMAN

140 JAN 99

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
A
AUTHORITY



AH!

LUKE • PAQUETTE • MCLEOD

DEEP IN DARK, BLACK WARMTH, AS ENDLESS AS THE NIGHT SKY, AS TIGHT AS A WOMB...

...SOMETHING SQUIRMS. UNWRAPPING ITSELF FROM SLEEP, IT PUSHES UPWARD, OUTWARD.

IT SEARCHES FOR THE LIGHT, FOR SALVATION FROM THE EONS IT HAS SLUMBERED HERE...

...IN THE STOMACH OF ITS FATHER. FOR THE TITAN CRONUS, KNOWING THAT ONE OF HIS SONS WOULD BE STRONGER THAN HE, HAD SWALLOWED ALL HIS NEWBORN CHILDREN ALIVE.

AND STILL THEY STRIVE TO PLEASE HIM, THESE GASPING MONSTERS, STILL THEY DO HIS BIDDING. THIS CHILD REACHES OUT TOWARD THE SHINY, BLUE TOY...

AND PLAYS WITH IT...
FLOATING DOWN, BLACKER
THAN NIGHT.

FOR IT IS MADE OF
MEMORY, AND IT FLITS
THROUGH THE MIND OF
MAN LIKE THE ECHO OF
A SHAMBLING NIGHT-
MARE.

A BABY SCREAMS,
REMEMBERING
SOMETHING THAT
NEVER HAPPENED.

THIS CHILD
NAMED...
OBLIVION.

IT GATHERS
SPEED, SENSING
ITS PREY.

I STAND IN THIS ROOM ONE LAST TIME. I FIND COMFORT IN THE FAMILIAR DETAILS. THE SCENT OF OLD BOOKS...THE CREAK OF THE SAME FLOORBOARD, HEARD A THOUSAND TIMES...

MY OLD ROUTINES ARE GONE... BREAKFAST WITH CASSIE AND JOANNA. MY JOB AT THE MUSEUM. A WAR IS COMING, AND MY MUNDANE LIFE EVAPORATES AS IF IT WERE A FICTION.

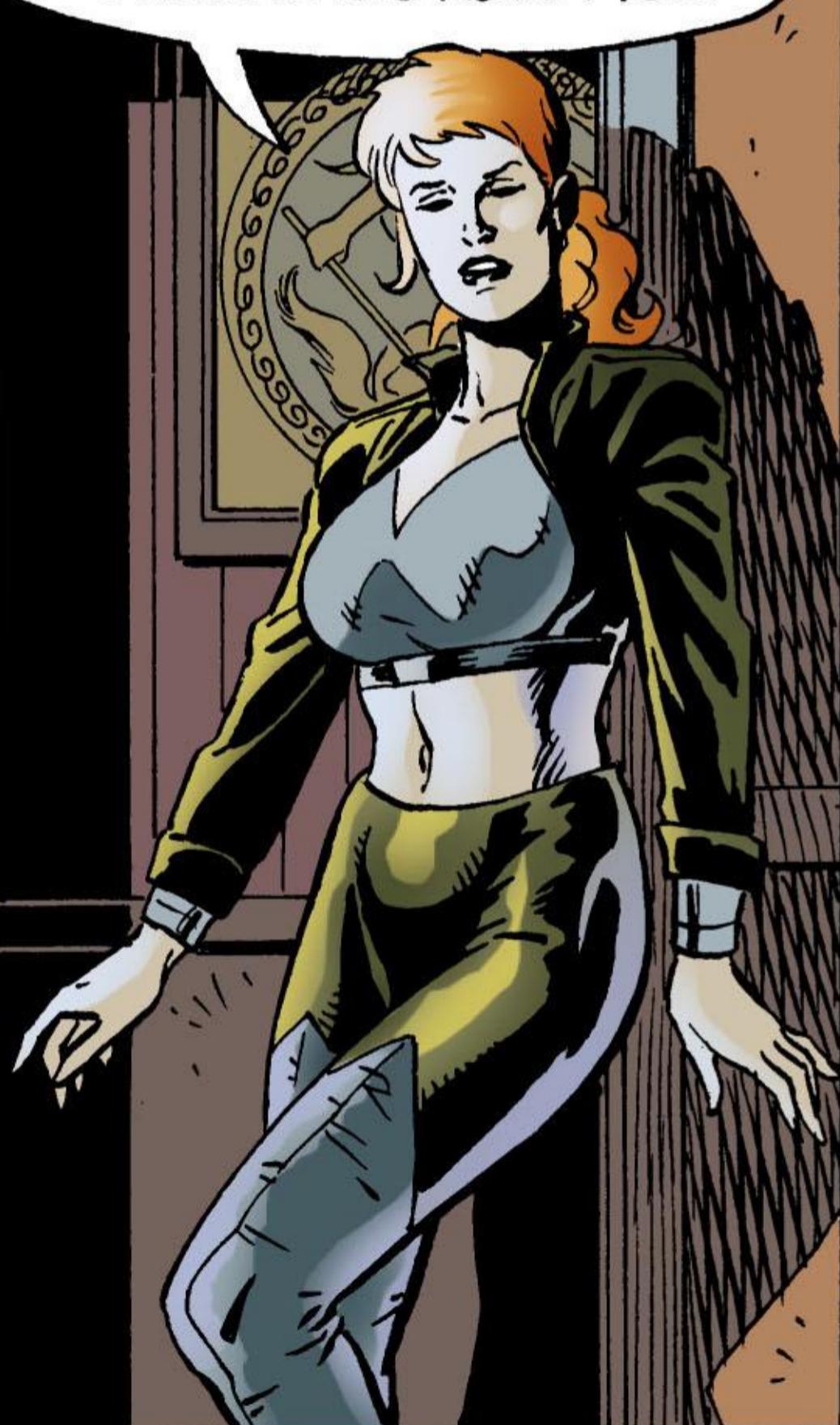
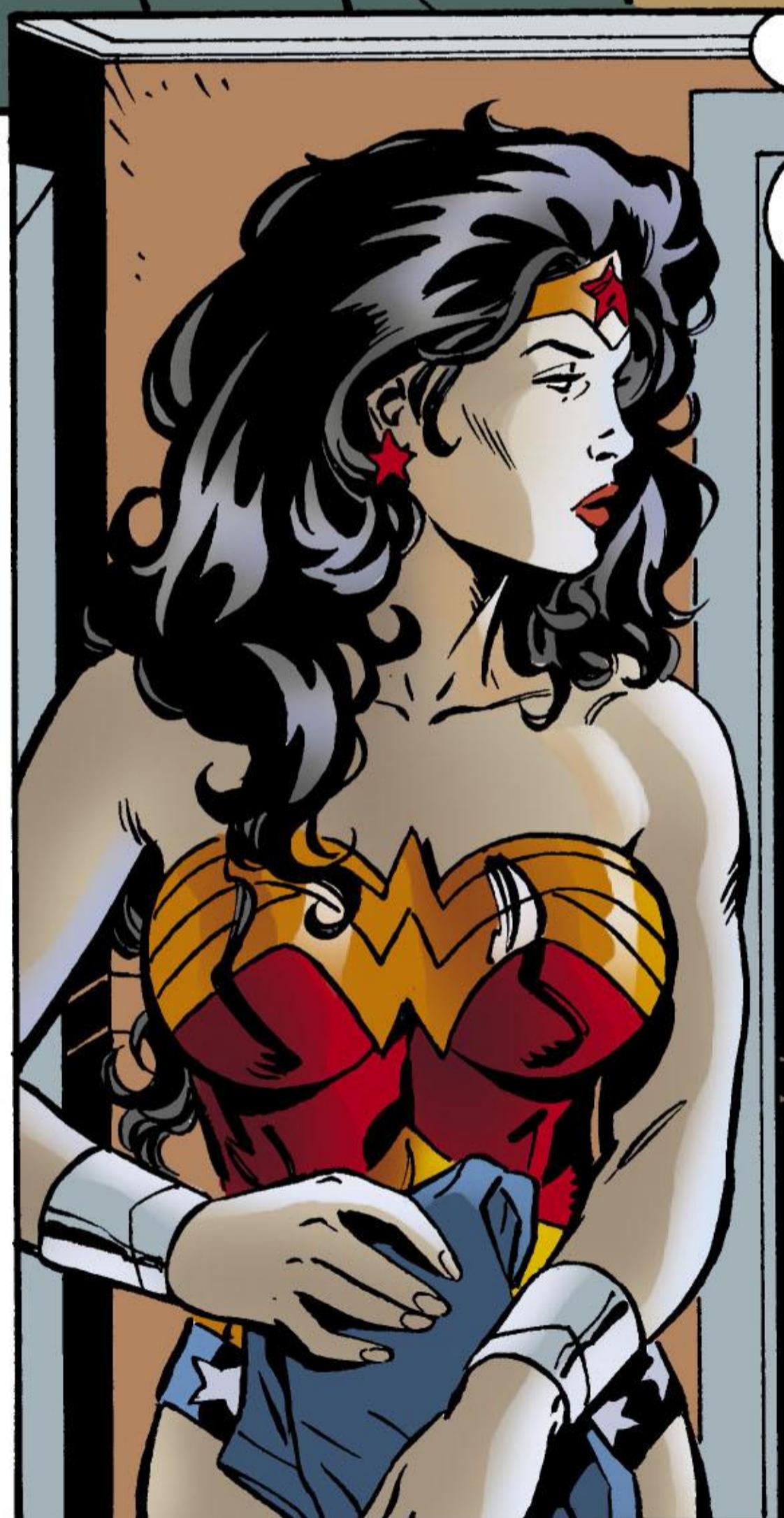


I WAS WONDERING WHEN YOU'D SHOW UP.

CAN'T FACE CASSIE TO TELL HER YOU'RE LEAVING? SHE'S BEEN ASKING ABOUT YOU.

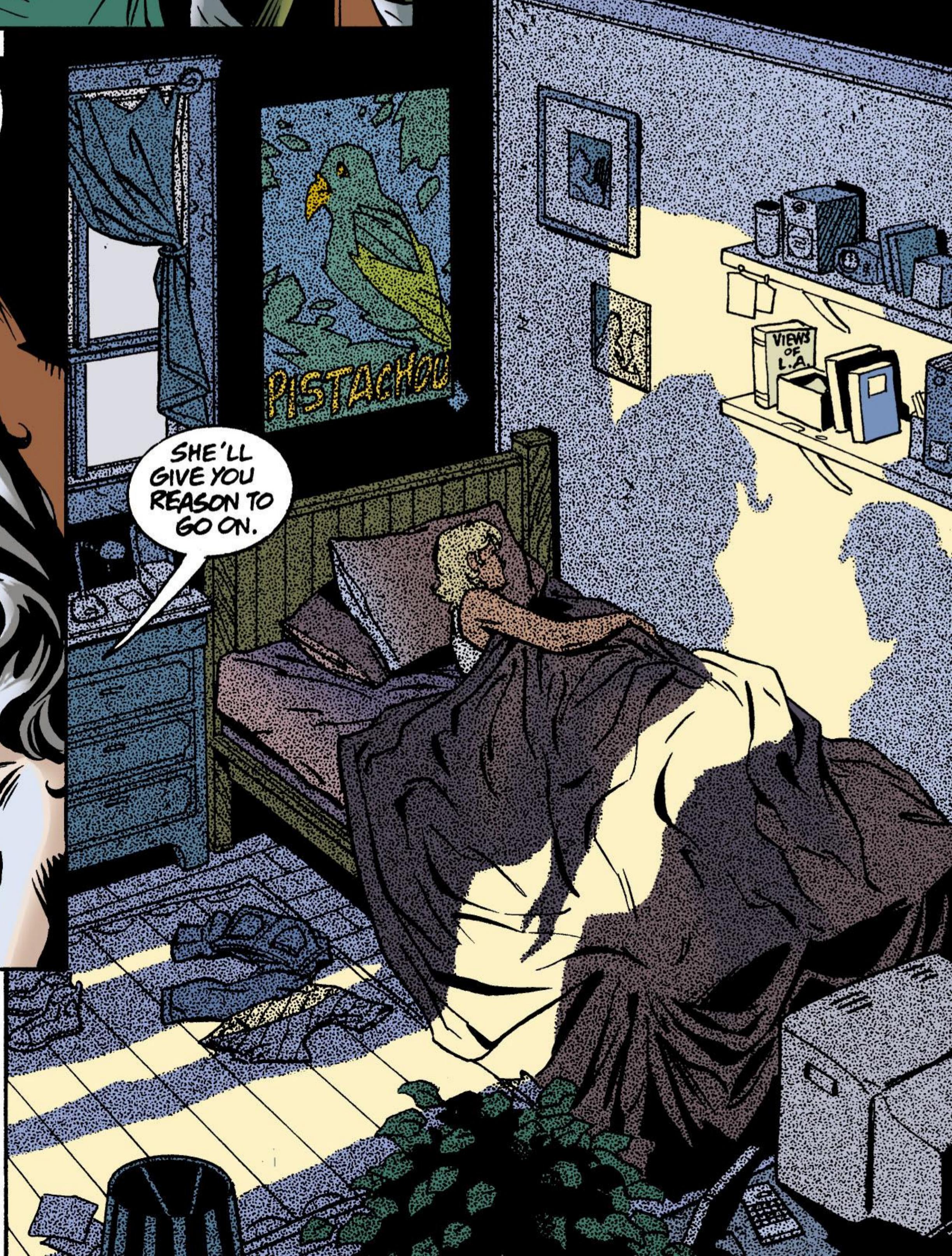
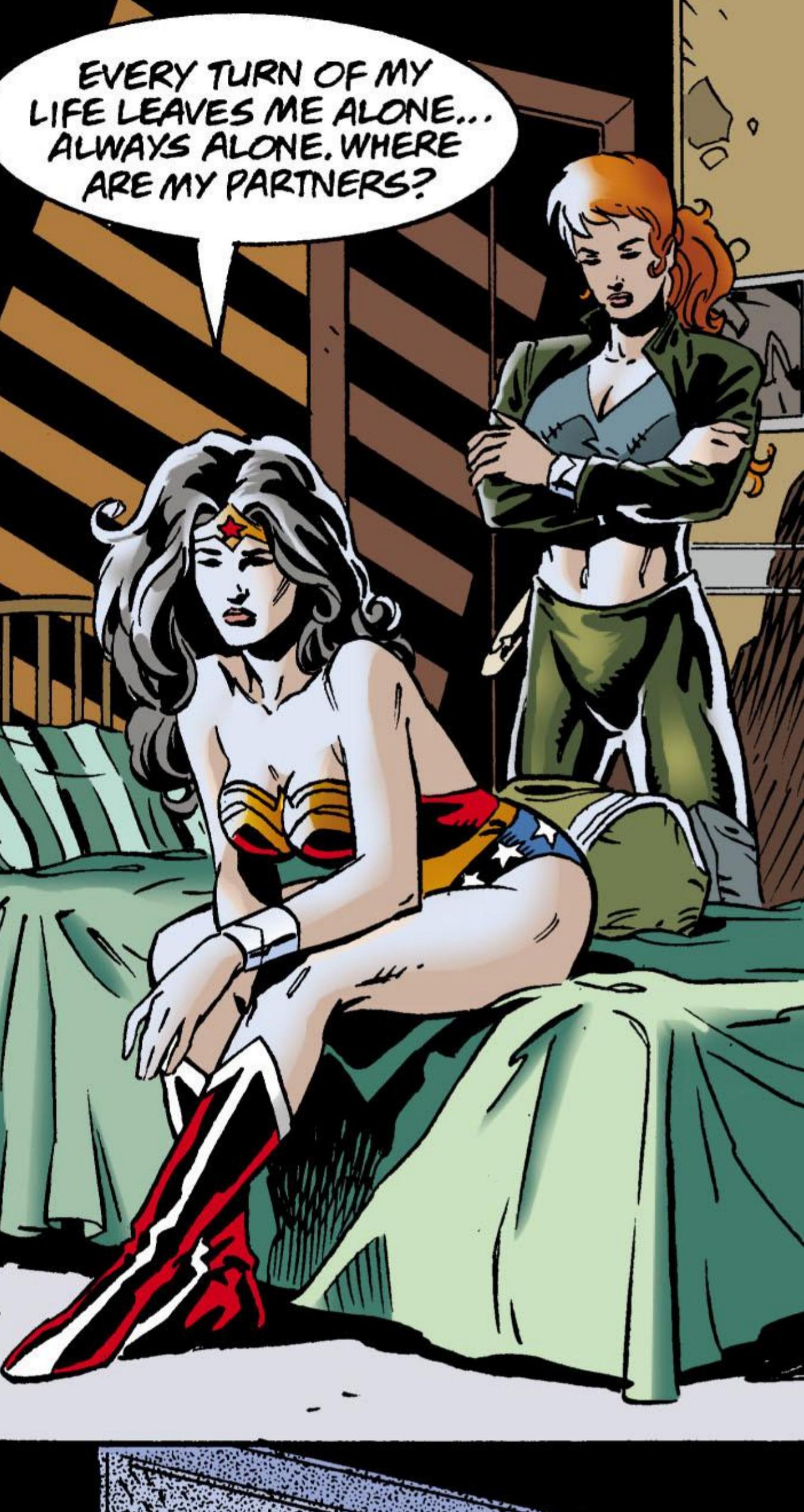
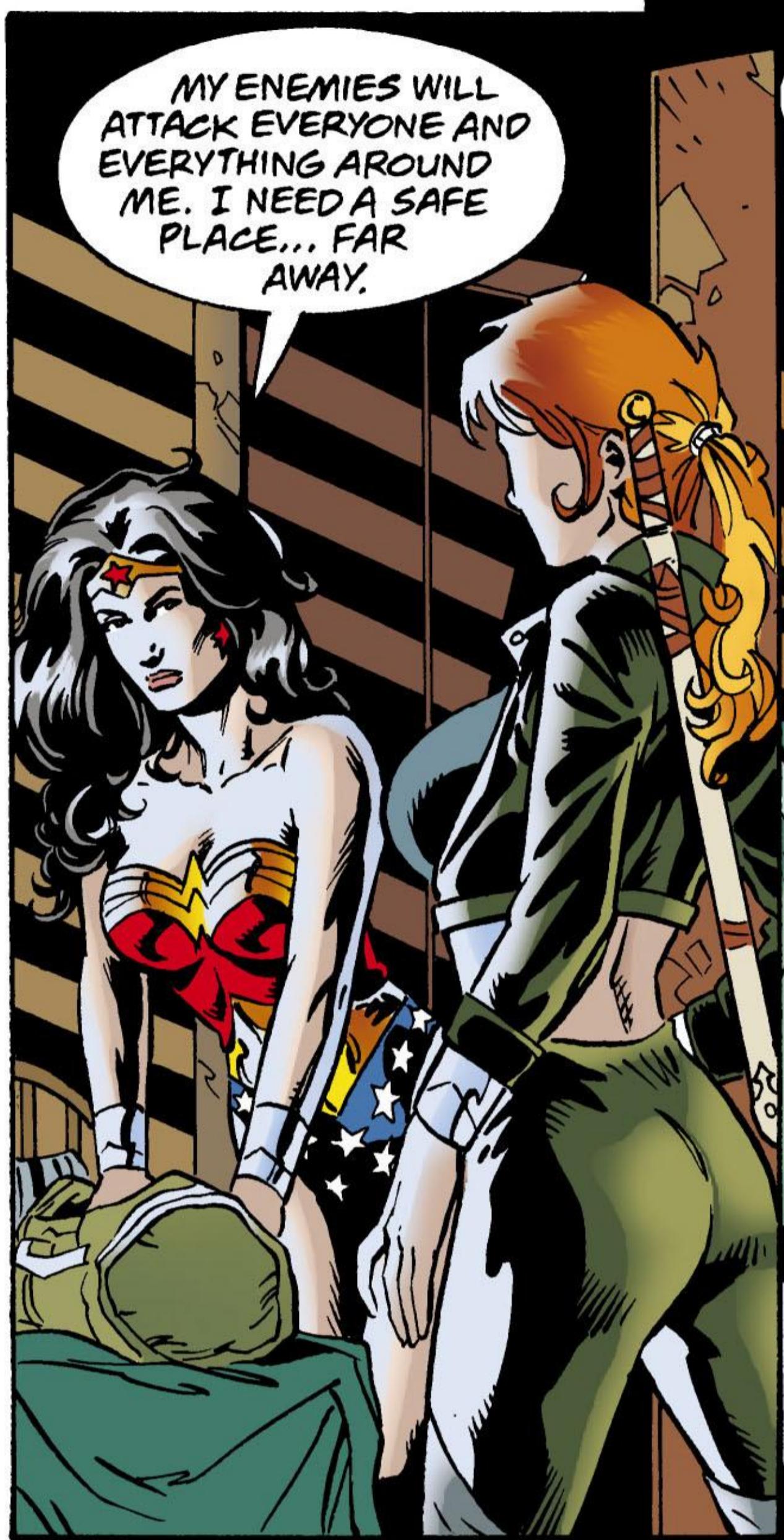
I'LL TALK TO HER AND JOANNA WHEN I CAN. RIGHT NOW I'M...ADRIFT. I'LL DO IT WHEN I'M STRONG, WHEN I CAN GIVE HER SOME DIRECTION.

NOW I'D JUST CONFUSE HER.



I HAVE TO END MY OLD LIFE FIRST.





TEACH HER, ARTEMIS. WHEN I CHARGED YOU TO BE HER GUARDIAN, I ENTRUSTED YOU WITH SOMETHING DEARER THAN MY OWN LIFE.

IN THE COMING WAR, THERE ARE THOSE WHO WILL ATTACK ME THROUGH HER. SHE'S SUCH A BABY. PREPARE HER TO DEFEND HERSELF.

AND ABOVE ALL... IF I FALL, SHE MUST BE READY.

I KNOW YOUR WILD STREAK, ARTEMIS. IF ANYTHING HAPPENS TO HER, I'LL COME LOOKING FOR YOU.

I'D EXPECT NO LESS, SISTER.

I LEAVE ARTEMIS SLEEPING AT THE FOOT OF CASSIE'S BED. AS WITH JULIA'S HOUSE IN BOSTON, I SAY GOOD-BYE TO THIS HAVEN TOO.

I'LL JUST LIE DOWN FOR A SECOND, REST MY HEAD ON MY OLD PILLOW. IT MAY BE THE LAST TIME I'LL KNOW HOME FOR A LONG... LONG... WHILE.

OBLIVION THINKS TO ITSELF, CREATING A PARADOX, FOR HOW CAN A BEING MADE OF THOUGHT... HAVE A THOUGHT?

IT THINKS...

THIS WILL GIVE HER THE CURSE OF GUILT. SHE WILL DOUBT HERSELF EVEN MORE THAN SHE DID FROM TITAN'S FEEBLE ATTEMPT.

AND FATHER WILL BE SO PROUD.

HE STROKES THE SIMPLE THING, OPENS IT...

AND SETS IT FREE.

FREE TO ACT ON ITS DEEPEST DESIRES.

HER FIRST SENSATION IS OF A GREAT WEIGHT, PRESSING THE BREATH OUT OF HER.

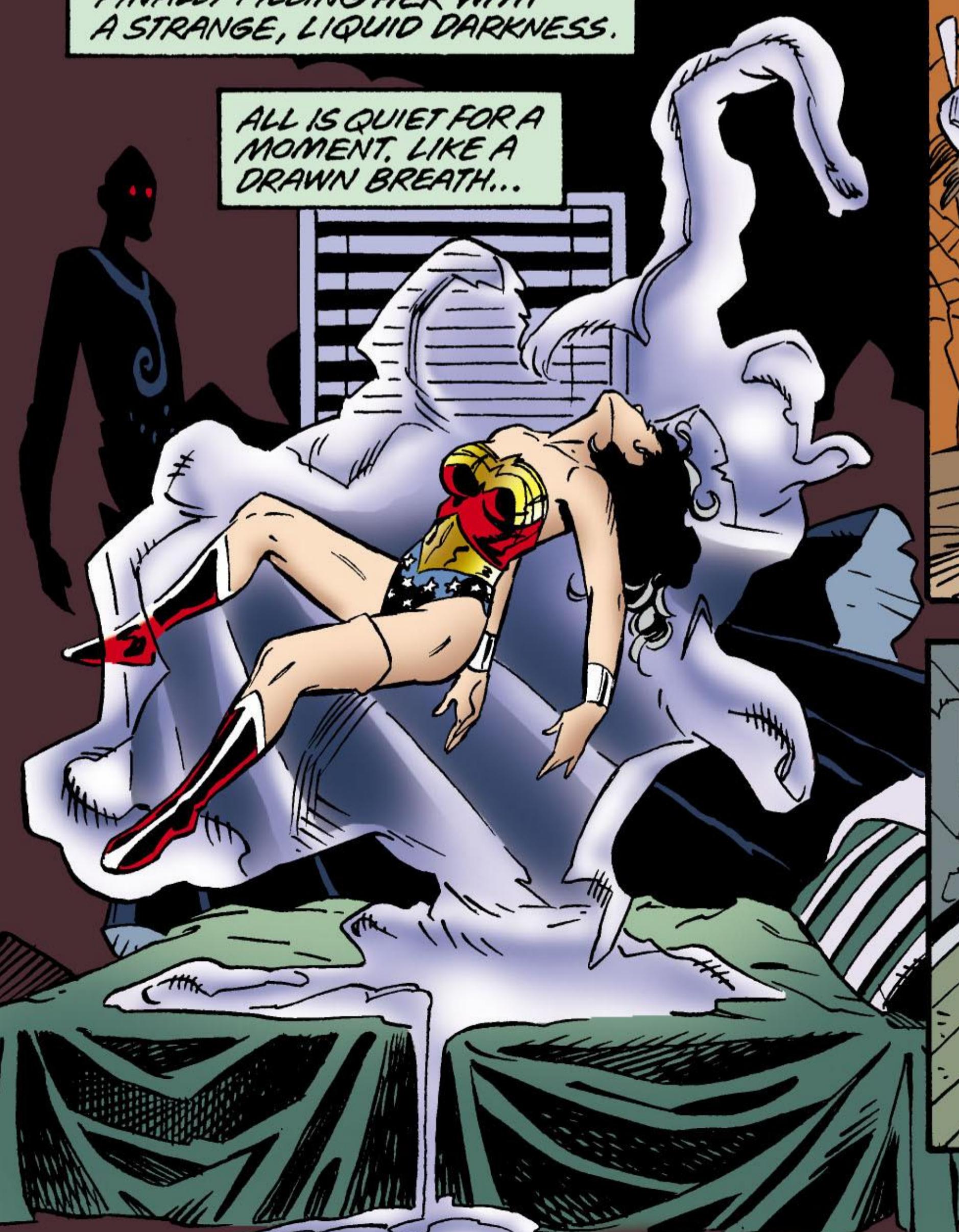
AND THEN, AS SHE TRIES TO BREATHE IN... OF A GREAT, INSISTENT SEA, INVADING HER MOUTH, HER THROAT.



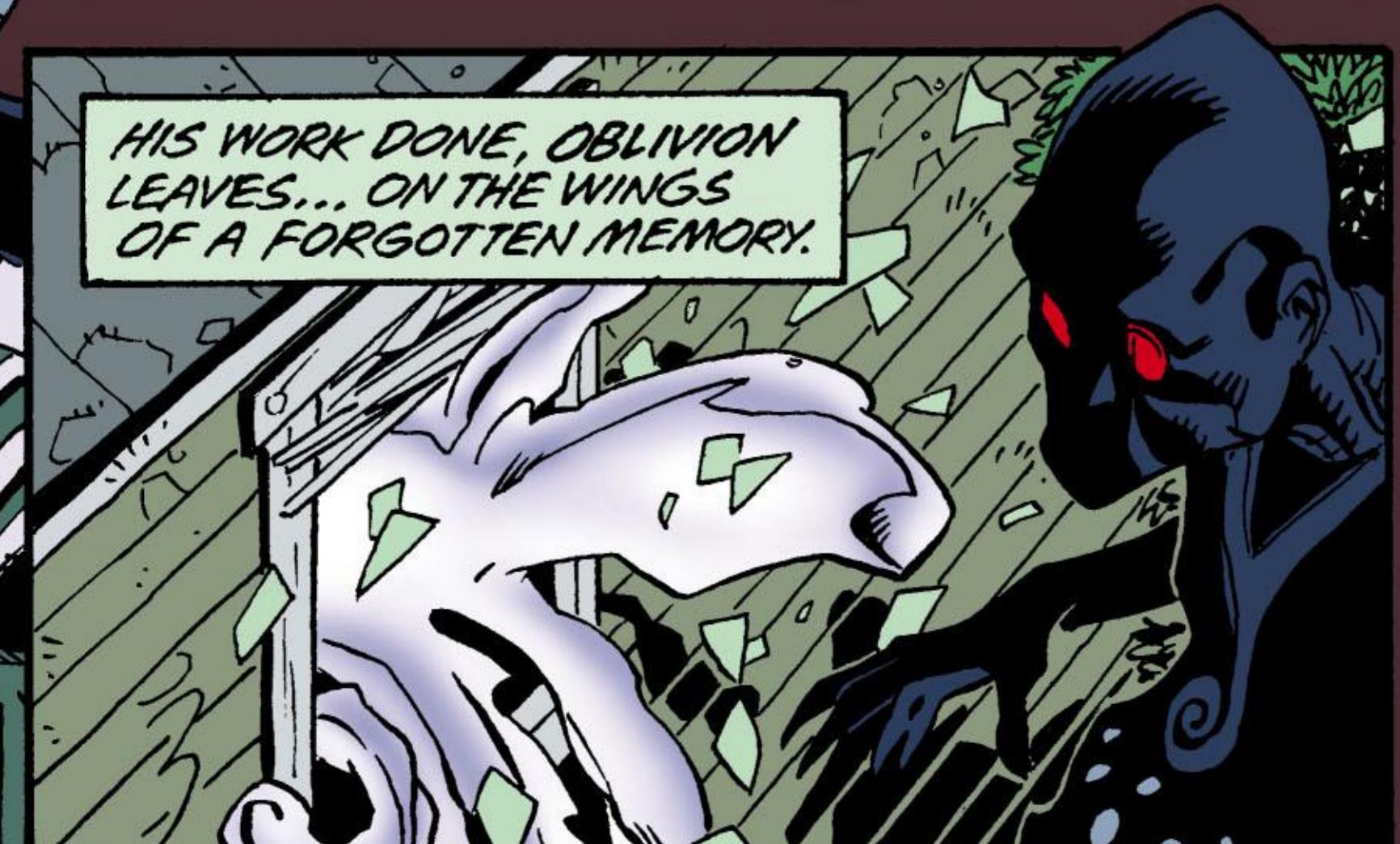
FINALLY FILLING HER WITH A STRANGE, LIQUID DARKNESS.

ALL IS QUIET FOR A MOMENT, LIKE A DRAWN BREATH...

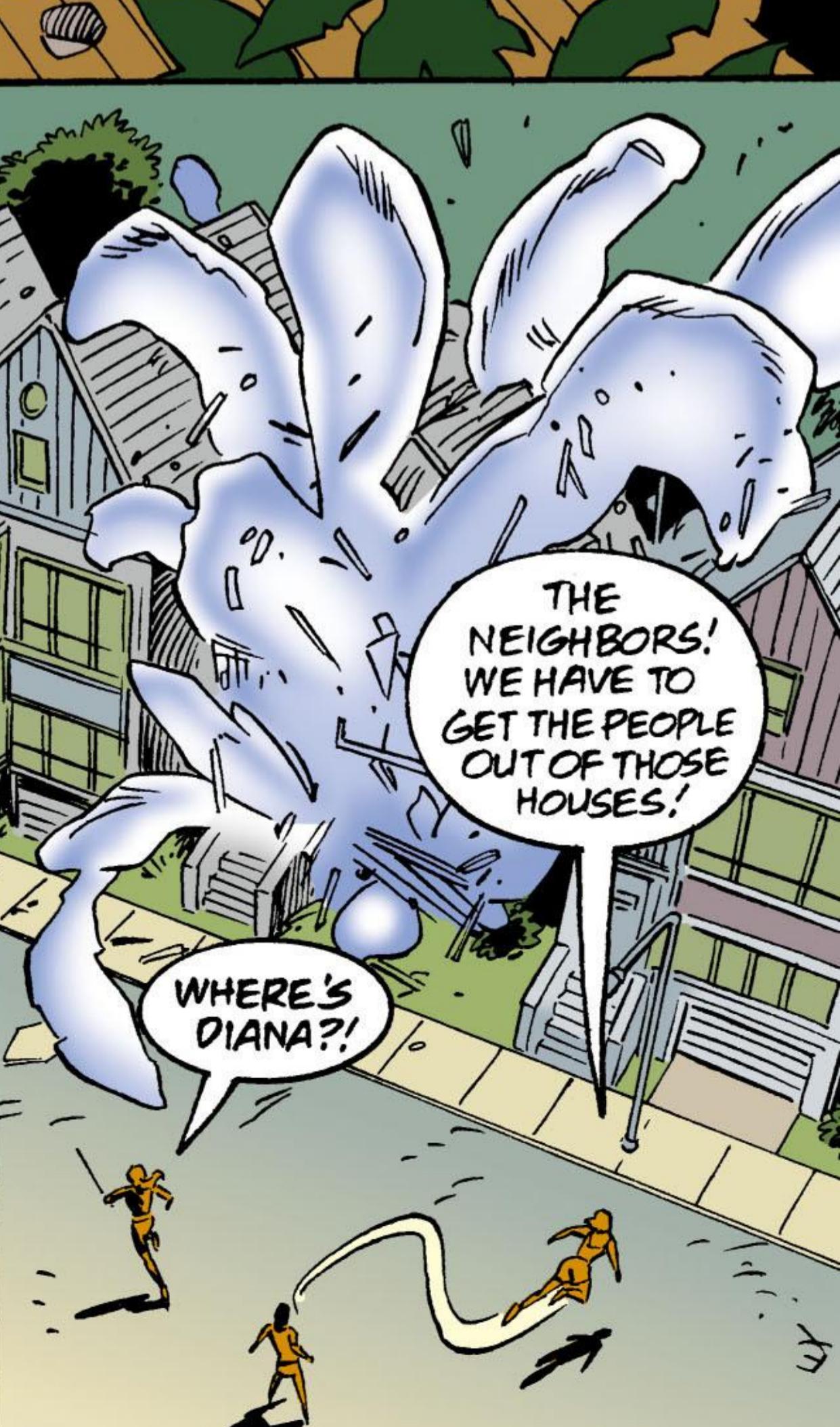
THEN IT LASHES OUT WITH ALIEN FURY.

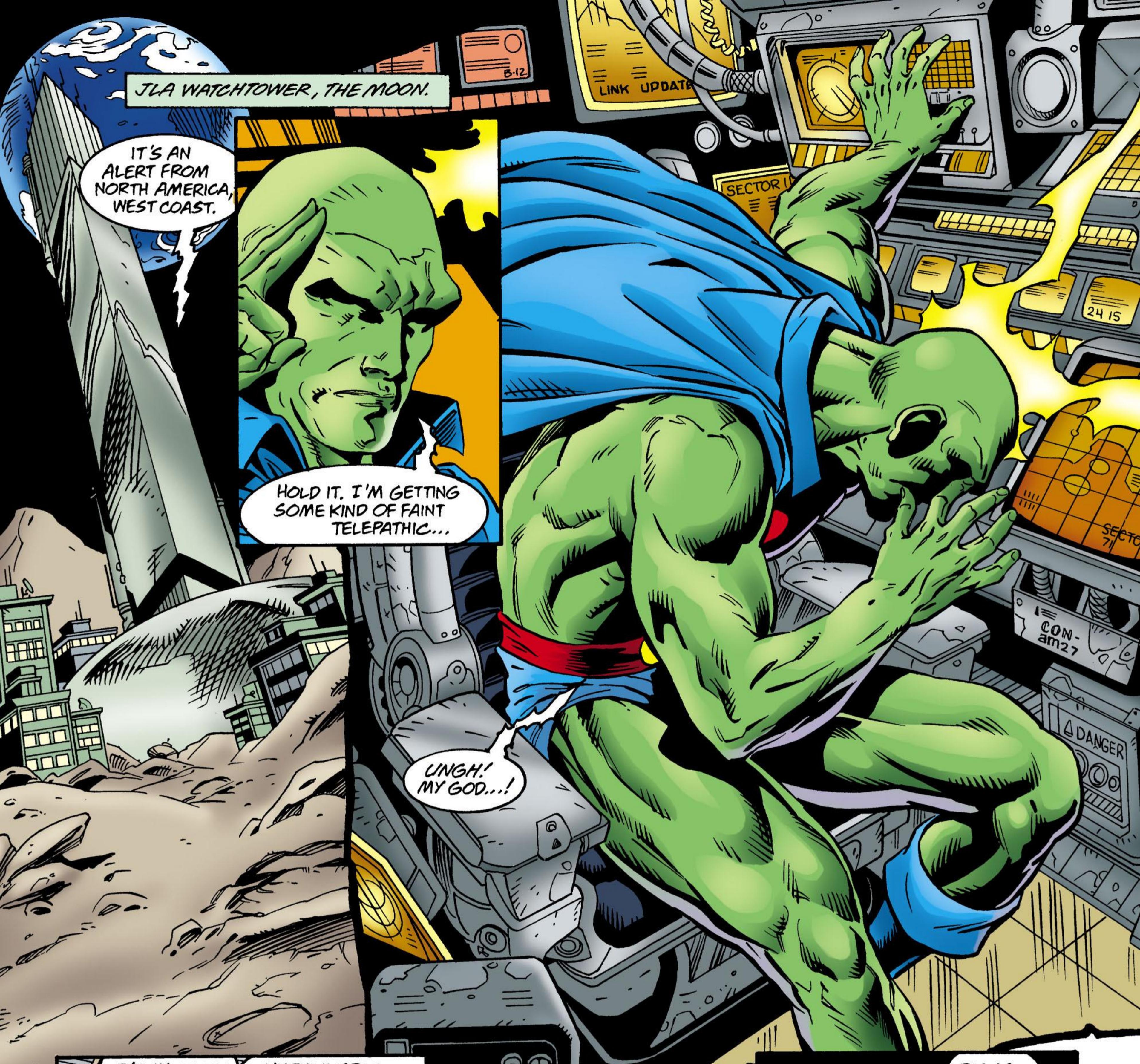


HIS WORK DONE, OBLIVION LEAVES... ON THE WINGS OF A FORGOTTEN MEMORY.

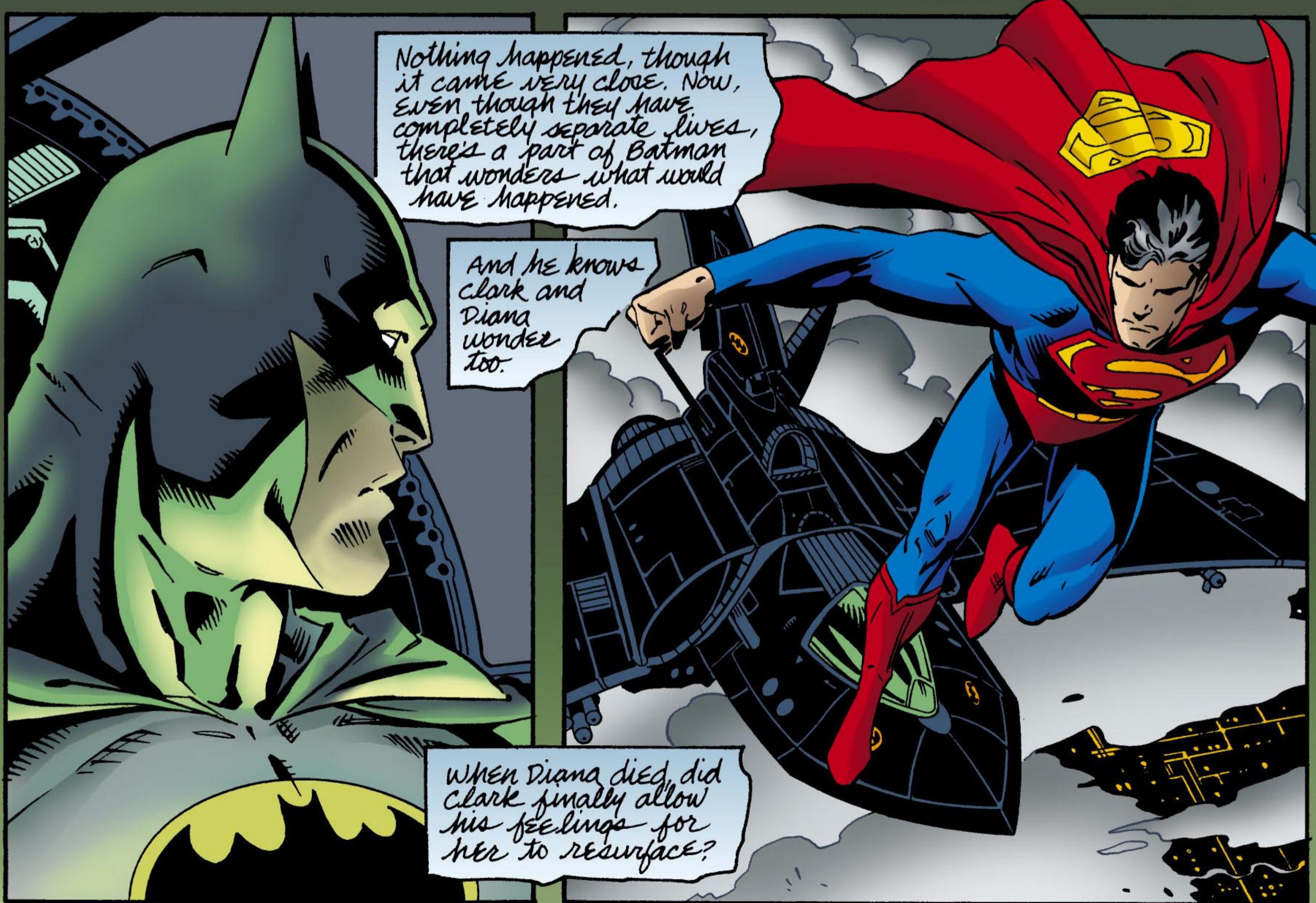
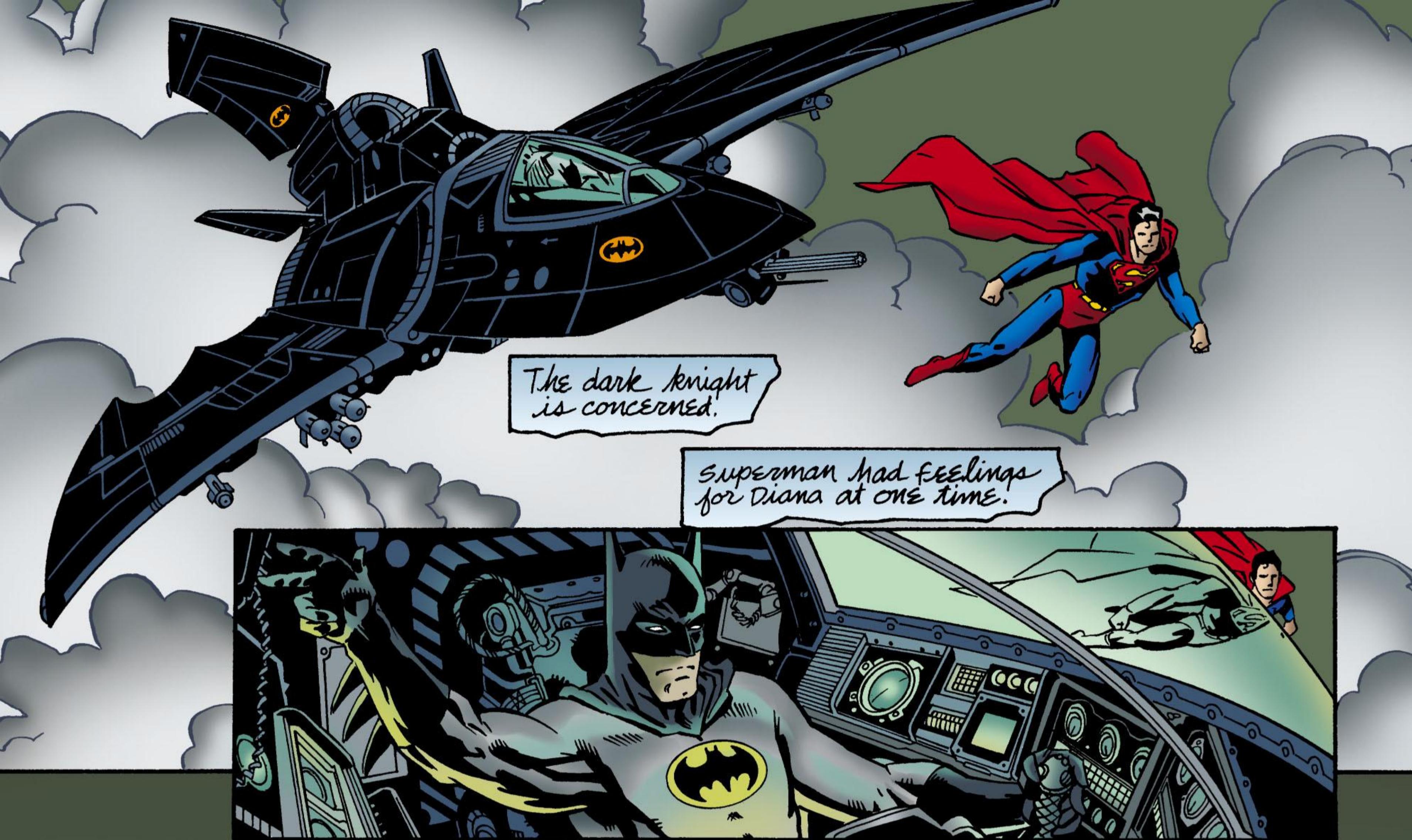












And if so, how would those feelings affect this mission, especially now, without the presence of the rest of the JLA to act as a buffer?



WHAT
IS IT?

DOING A
SCAN AND
DATABASE
SEARCH.

NOTHING
ON RECORD.

THIS IS
A NEW GAME,
SUPERMAN.



THE FIGHT IS LONG
AND HARD.

NOT ONLY THE EVERYDAY
WAR AGAINST INJUSTICE
AND TYRANNY, BUT THE
EFFORT TO SET AN EXAMPLE,
TO BECOME A SHINING
BEACON TO EVERYONE WHO
BELIEVES IN A BETTER
WORLD.

THEN ONE DAY, LIKE
A NEW WIND, SHE
FEELS A CHANGE. IT
STARTS SMALL, BUT
ALL HER EFFORTS
BEGIN TO MAKE A
DIFFERENCE.

HOW DOES THE PERSONALITY
OF A WORLD BEGIN TO SHIFT?
IN SMALL, KIND GESTURES
BY COMPLETE STRANGERS.



THEN IN MINOR MUNICIPAL LAWS...
AND AN ALMOST UNBELIEVABLE
EMPATHY WITH THE PUBLIC'S NEEDS
BY NEWLY ELECTED POLITICIANS.

JUS → PERFECT DRINK → JUS

BAT-STOR

LIVE 5TH

SONY

BAILEY'S
XL-50 FORD CAR

Tonight
THE QUIET MOON

FALHER SYM #1

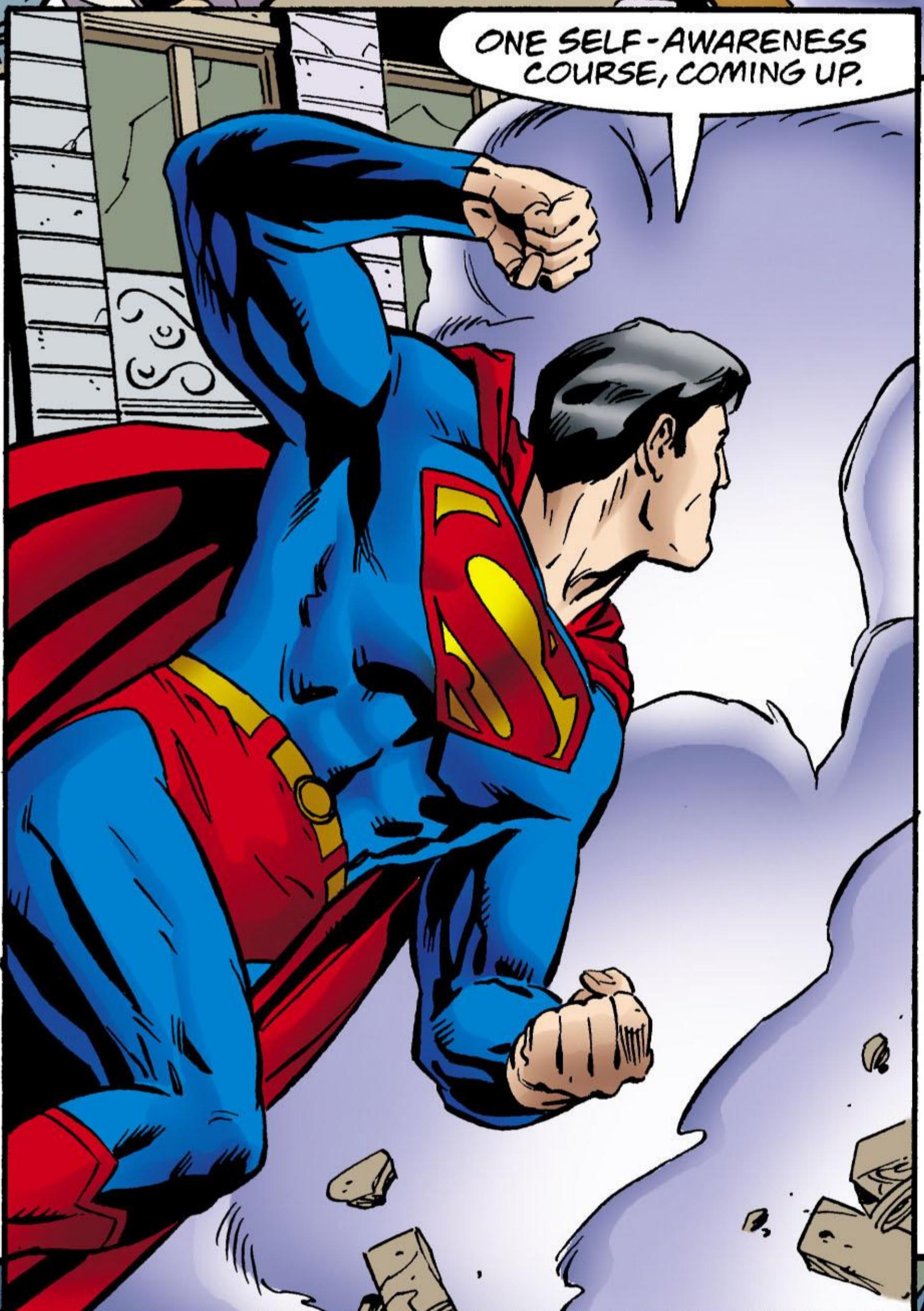
QUE

THE VIOLENT CRIME RATE
BEGINS TO PLUMMET, AS
PEOPLE SEEM TO SPONTA-
NEOUSLY DEVELOP A BASIC,
HUMAN DECENCY.

THEN IT SPREADS
LIKE JOYOUS
WILDFIRE...

GATEWAY CITY
THE SAFE CITY

WITHOUT
HER HELP.



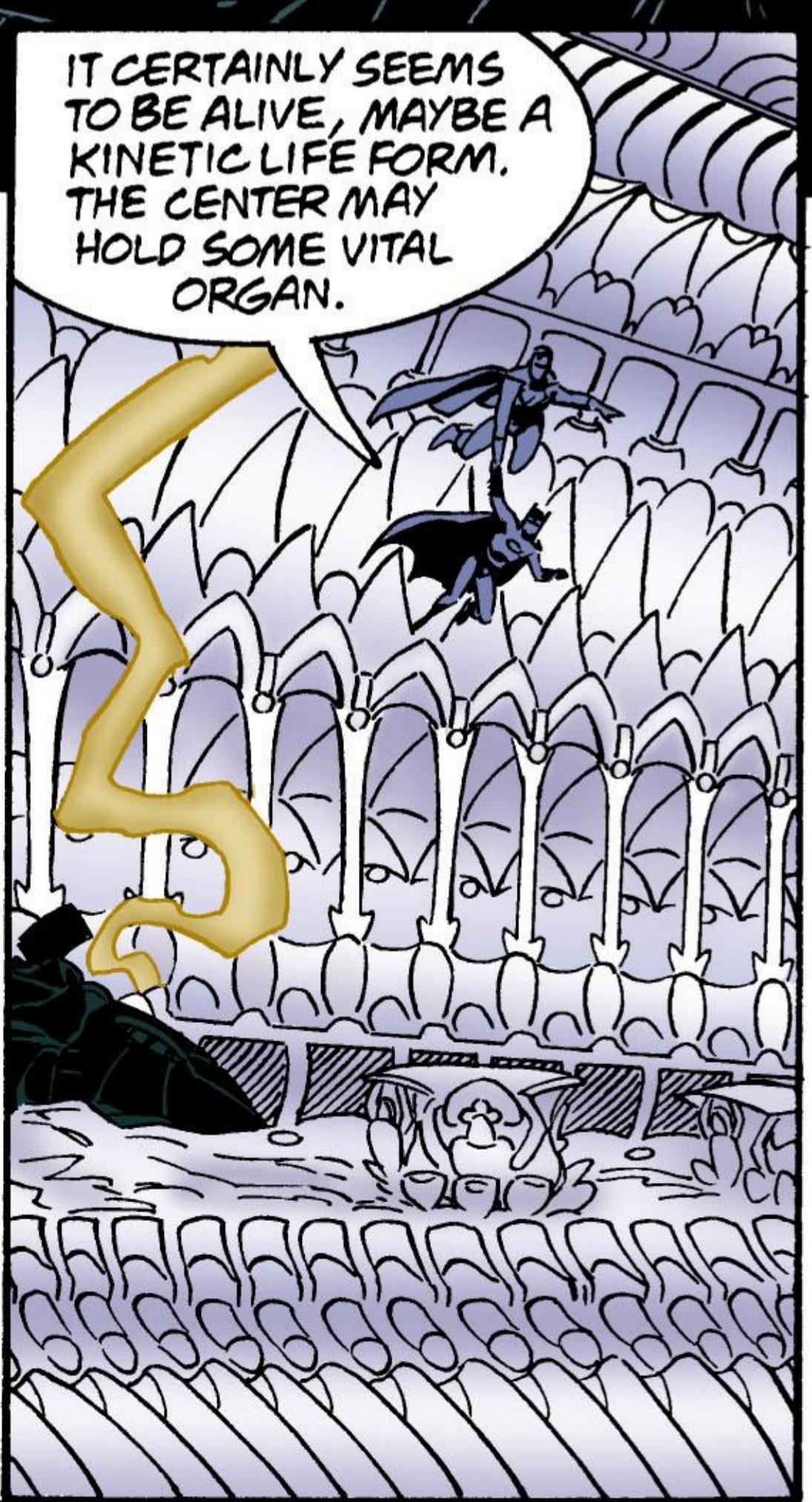
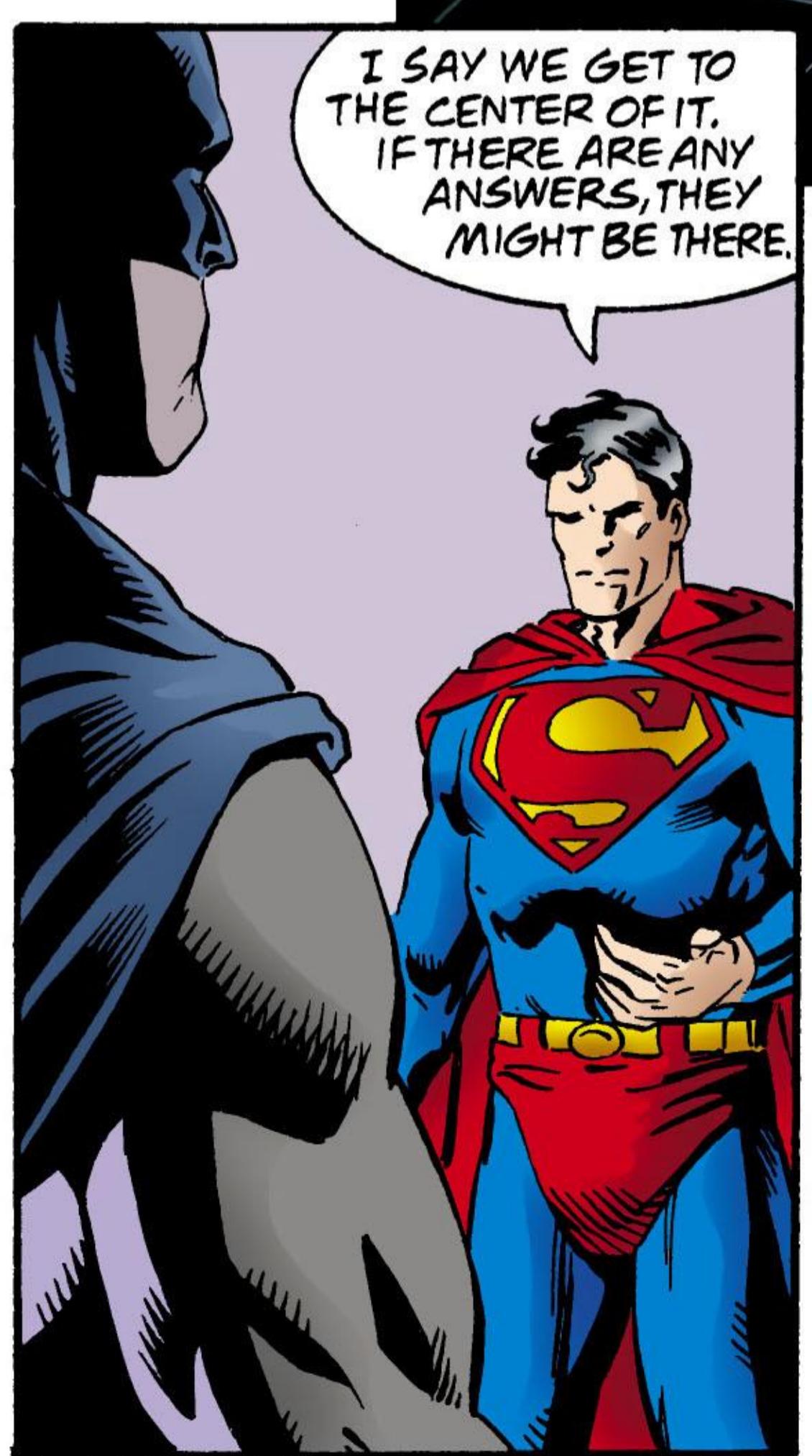


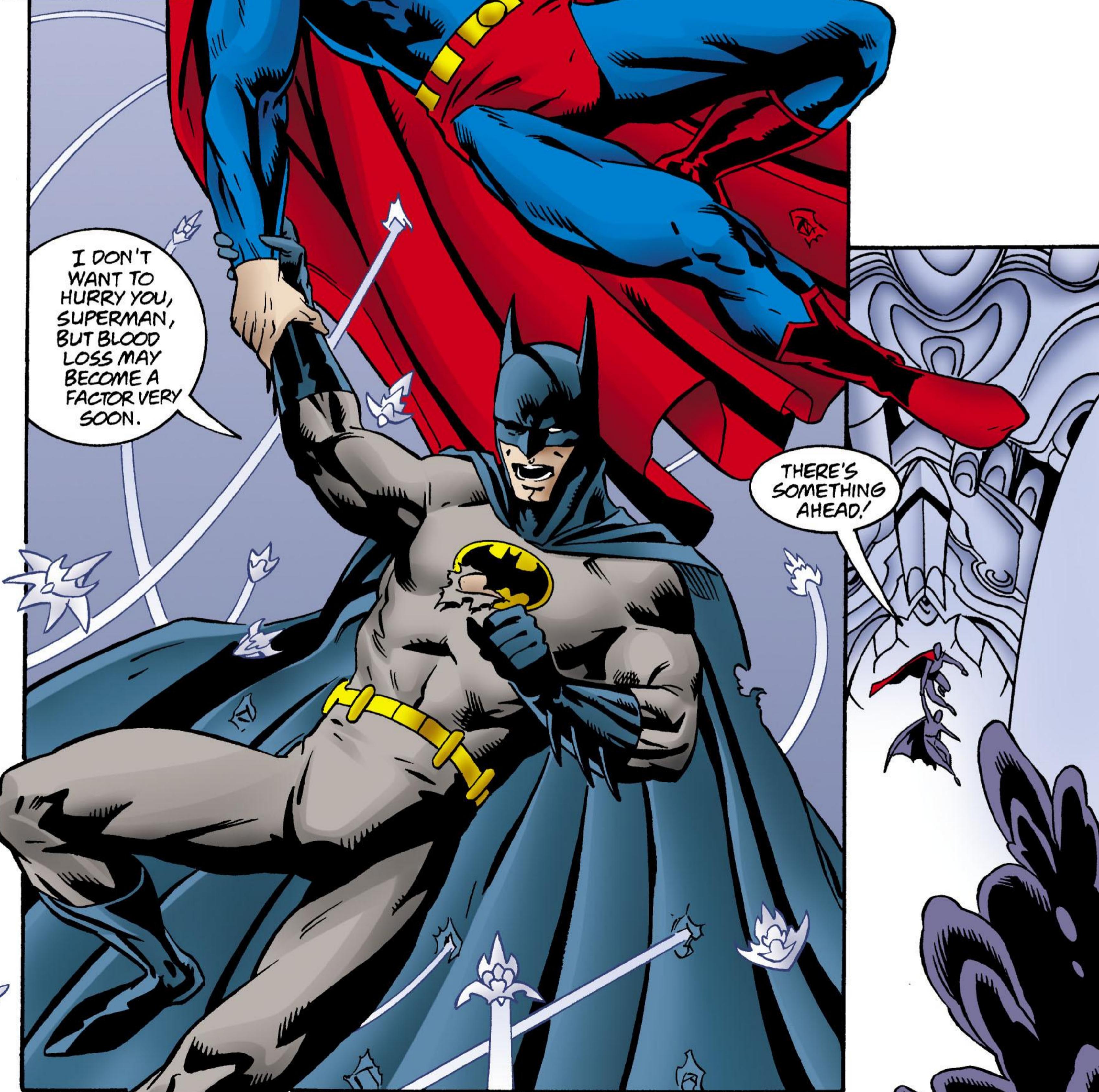
THE MAJOR GLOBAL FLASH-
POINTS SUDDENLY EVAPORATE,
AS WHOLE COUNTRIES FORGET
THE NEED FOR AGGRESSION
AND START TENDING TO THEIR
OWN POOR, SICK AND DYING.

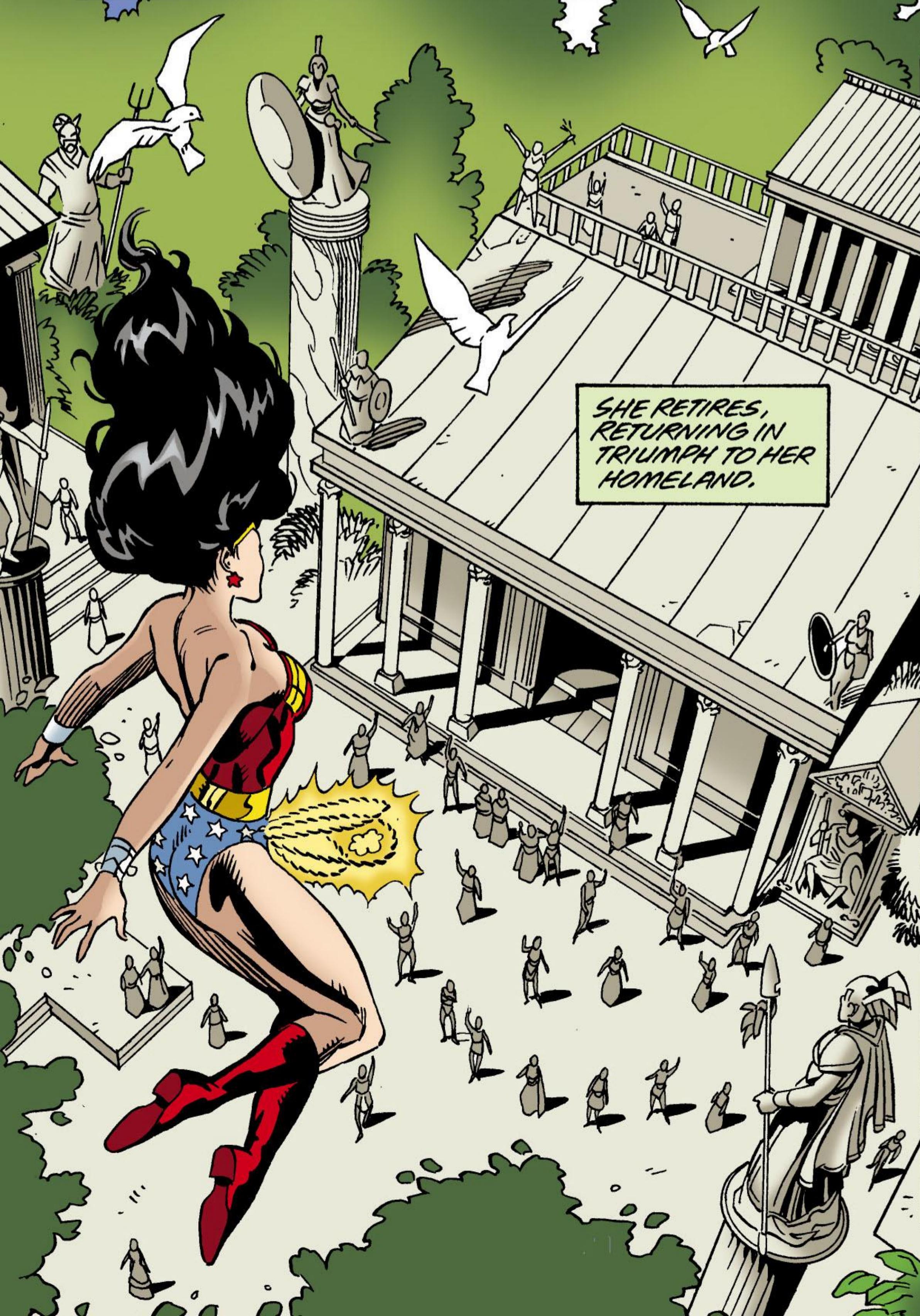
SHE FEELS THE INFLUENCE
OF HER OWN PERSEVER-
ANCE, AND SEES IT REFLECTED
IN THE EYES OF THE WORLD
OF MAN, FROM THE LEADERS...

...TO THE POOREST
BEGGAR.

SHE KNOWS IN
HER HEART THAT
ALL HER EFFORTS
HAVE SUCCEEDED.







SHE'S MADE ALL THE DIFFERENCE. SHE'S SUCCEEDED IN HER QUEST.

THIS WHOLE THING IS TELEPATHICALLY KEYED TO HER, AS THE PLANE WAS.

HOW DO WE GET HER OUT OF IT?

SHE'S BROUGHT PEACE TO THE WORLD OF MAN. THE GODS GIVE THE AMAZONS THEIR HUMANITY, AND THEIR SOULS SEEK FINAL SLEEP.

THAT'S OBVIOUSLY NOT THE PROBLEM. IF THIS IS ALL HER CREATION, THE REAL PROBLEM IS...

"...SHE DOESN'T WANT TO WAKE UP!"

WHAT A BEAUTIFUL DREAM. WHO WOULD EVER WANT IT TO END?

PART I TRINITY 98

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