



Title : Wonder Woman V2

Issue : 44

Publisher : DC

Pages : 23

Scanner : >10x10x10

Channel : #OCD on Newnet

Forum : <http://ocd.conforums.com>

Released : February 18, 2003

#1041



44 US \$1.00
JUL 90 CAN \$1.25
UK 50P



WONDER WOMAN

By PEREZ·NEWELL

MARRINAN·TANGHAL

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
CARTOON
AUTHORITY



DO YOU KNOW
WHY THE TRAPPED
BIRD SINGS...

WONDER WOMAN

WONDER WOMAN
CREATED BY
WILLIAM MOULTON
MARSTON

GEORGE PÉREZ • PLOT
MINDY NEWELL • SCRIPT
CHRIS MARRINAN • PENCILS
ROMEO TANGHAL • INKS
JOHN COSTANZA • LETTERS
CARL GAFFORD • COLORS

TOM PEYER • ASSISTANT EDITOR
KAREN BERGER • EDITOR

I DON'T HAVE TIME FOR RIDDLES, MR. CHOI. WHERE IS LT. CANDY! AND MAXINE AND VALERIE!

BUT THAT IS PRECISELY MY POINT, MY DEAR. THE CAGED BIRD IS NOT GOING ANYWHERE, THEREFORE SHE HAS ALL THE TIME IN THE WORLD TO PERFECT HER SONG.

HOWEVER, MAXINE STERENBACH AND THE AIR FORCE OFFICER ARE ALL TOO VULNERABLE TO INJURY AND DEATH.

WHAT MAKES YOU THINK I'M NOT GOING ANYWHERE, MR. CHOI?

IT'S TRUE YOUR INDIVIDUAL PAIN TOLERANCE AND PHYSICAL DURABILITY MAY BE BEYOND OUR ABILITY TO INCAPACITATE, WONDER WOMAN.

AND IF YOU ATTEMPT TO BREAK OUT OF YOUR BIRD CAGE, THE RESULTANT SURGE OF ELECTRICITY WILL OVERLOAD THEIRS --AND POOF!..

I DON'T FEAR YOU, WONDER WOMAN. BUT YOUR LASSO IS SOMETHING ELSE ENTIRELY.

DO NOT THREATEN THOSE YOU'RE TRYING TO COERCE, MISS STERENBACH, UNLESS YOU'RE ABLE TO BACK UP THOSE THREATS WITH ACTION.

SHE'S WITH HER BENEFICATOR AND LOVER. WHERE ELSE WOULD SHE BE?

I STILL REMEMBER THE WAY IT FORCED ME TO SPEAK THE TRUTH IN THE MYNDI MAYER FIASCO. THAT'S AN EXPERIENCE I INTEND TO BLOCK FROM MR. ARMBRUSTER FOR MY OWN GOOD.

OF COURSE I COULDN'T EXPECT A WOMAN TO UNDERSTAND THE POLITICS OF POWER.

VAL! VAL--!!

WHAT'S WRONG WITH HER? WHY'S SHE IGNORING ME?

THE TRANSMISSION MUST BE ONE-WAY. SHE CAN'T HEAR YOU. NOT THAT SHE WOULD IF SHE COULD. LOOK AT HER--

CHOI!! YOU BETTER TELL ME WHAT THAT BOSS OF YOURS DID WITH VAL! OR ELSE!!

DAMN YOU! WHERE'S VAL!
NEVER RAISE YOUR VOICE, MY DEAR. IT'S THE SAME AS LETTING THEM SEE YOU SWEAT. AS FOR THE SILVER SWAN--

YOUR FRIEND IS MORE CHARMED BY HER SVENGALI THAN EVER.



TAKE IT EASY,
MAX.

VAL CAN'T HEAR YOU, AND YOU'RE
NOT GOING TO GET ANYWHERE SCREAMING
AT CHOI. HE'S A POKER PLAYER IF I
EVER SAW ONE.

I DON'T
GET YOU.

YOU HANDLE GUYS LIKE
LANDRY AND CHOI BY
RESPECTING THAT. AND
PLAYING BY THEIR
RULES, FOR A WHILE.

THEN YOU CHANGE
THE RULES. WHEN
THEY LEAST EXPECT
IT. SOMETIMES IT
WORKS. SOMETIMES,
IT DOESN'T.

JUST FOLLOW MY LEAD, AND
MAYBE WE'LL ALL GET OUT
OF HERE. VAL, TOO.

EVER SEE TOM LANDRY
WHEN HE COACHED THE COWBOYS?
NOBODY EVER KNEW WHAT HE
WAS THINKING. STONE-FACED.
NEVER LET HIS EMOTIONS GET
IN THE WAY OF THE GAME PLAN.

IF
SHE WANTS
TO.

MR. CHOI, I NOTICED
A DIFFERENCE IN THE
SILVER SWAN'S LAST
TWO BIO-READOUTS.
WAY BEYOND ANY
EXPECTED DISCREPANCIES
IN A NORMAL TWO-
MONTH SPAN.

ARE YOU A
BIOCHEMIST,
OFFICER
CANDY?

PERHAPS FROM THE
SILVER SWAN BACK
TO THE REAL VALERIE
BEAUDRY, ETIA.

WHEN WE WERE BATTLING
IN WAKEFIELD, SOMETHING
HAPPENED. IT WAS LIKE A
MASK BEING REMOVED.

LIEUTENANT
CANDY TO YOU, SIR.
THE LATER-DATED
FILE WAS MARKED
REVERSION
EXPERIMENT.

REVERSION
FROM WHAT,
MR. CHOI?

UNDERNEATH
WAS SOME-
THING DISTORTED,
FULL OF HURT AND
SHAME. ONLY HER
EYES WERE FAMILIAR.
BATTERED EYES.

AM I RIGHT,
MR. CHOI?

ANSWER HER! VALERIE
WAS REVERTING BACK TO
HER OWN SELF. WASN'T
SHE?

WASN'T
SHE!!!

WHY ME, MR. CHOI?
WHY DOES THE SILVER
SWAN HATE ME SO
MUCH?

WHETHER YOU CARE TO ADMIT IT OR NOT,
YOU HAVE BEEN SET UP BY THE MEDIA AS
A FEMALE PARAGON. VIRTUOUS, BEAUTIFUL,
SMART, POWERFUL-- YOU, MY DEAR, ARE
EVERY WOMAN'S DREAM, AND EVERY
MAN'S DESIRE.

THESE QUALITIES MARK
YOU AS THE PERFECT TARGET
FOR MS. BEAUDRY'S
INSECURITIES...

...JUST AS YOUR RESISTANCE
TO PHYSICAL HARM SERVES
TO TEST HER DESTRUCTIVE
CAPABILITIES.

SHE WILL SWOOP
INTO YOUR CELL
LIKE A BIRD OF PREY
AND DESTROY YOU.
ALL OF YOU.

WHAT'S SHE
DOING--?

VAL! VAL,
DON'T GET
IN THERE!

VAL, YOU'VE GOT
TO HEAR ME--

PLEASE,
VAL--!

CHOI, I'M
BEGGING YOU.
STOP HER!

YOU'RE GONNA
KILL HER, FOR
GOD'S SAKE!
LEAVE HER
ALONE!

SIGNAL US WHEN
YOU'RE READY
AND ALL CLEAR.

GO!

ALL
CLEAR!

HANG IN THERE,
KID!

REMEMBER
WHO LOVES
YOU!

I LOVE YOU,
HANK!

POWER'S AT
92 PERCENT,
SIR!

I WANT
100 PERCENT,
MISTER! NOW!

I DUNNO IF
SHE CAN TAKE
IT, MR.
ARMBRUSTER!

NOW!!

YESSIR...

YOU
HEARD 'M.
BOOST
IT UP.

I WISH I COULD THINK
CLEARLY... WISH I HAD
A SIGN...

DIANA--!
DIANA!

YOU SAID THAT HERMES
GAVE YOU THE SPEED
OF A GOD, AND THAT
YOU'RE STRONGER THAN
HERCULES. RIGHT?

WELL, HERE'S YOUR
CHANCE TO PROVE IT WASN'T
JUST PRESS. DON'T SAY
ANYTHING, CHOI SAID
WE'RE ALL DEAD ANYWAY,
SO WE MIGHT AS WELL
GO FOR IT--

WAIT,
NO, DON'T--

NOWWWWW-
OOOWWWWW!

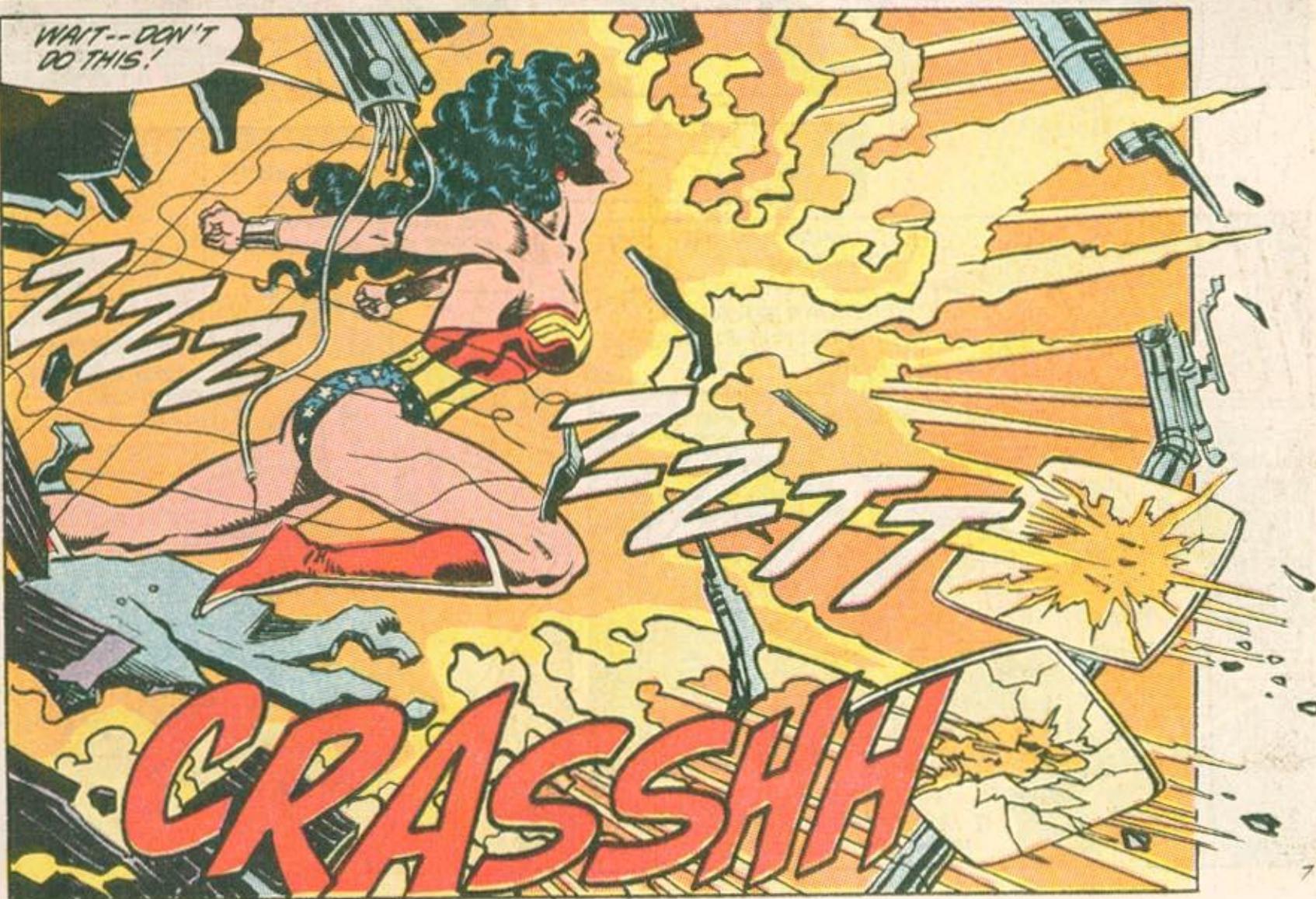


SUICIDE-?!?

ETTA--!!



WAIT--DON'T
DO THIS!

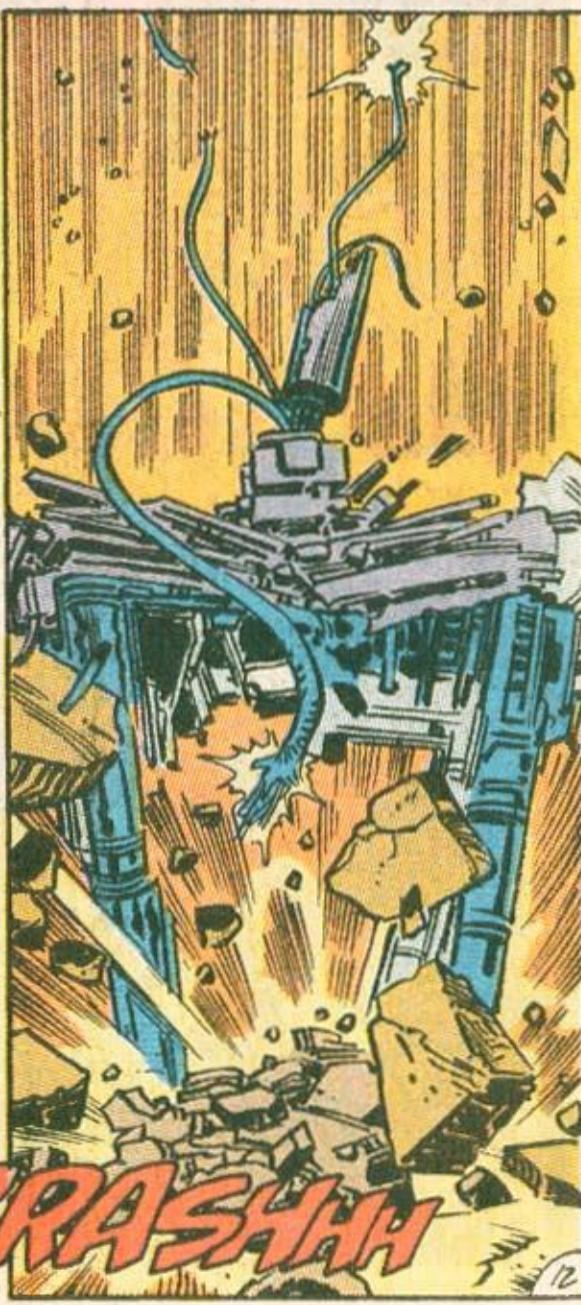
















FLAP FLAP FLAP

STOP
RUNNING,
HANK. I'M
GETTING
TIRED.

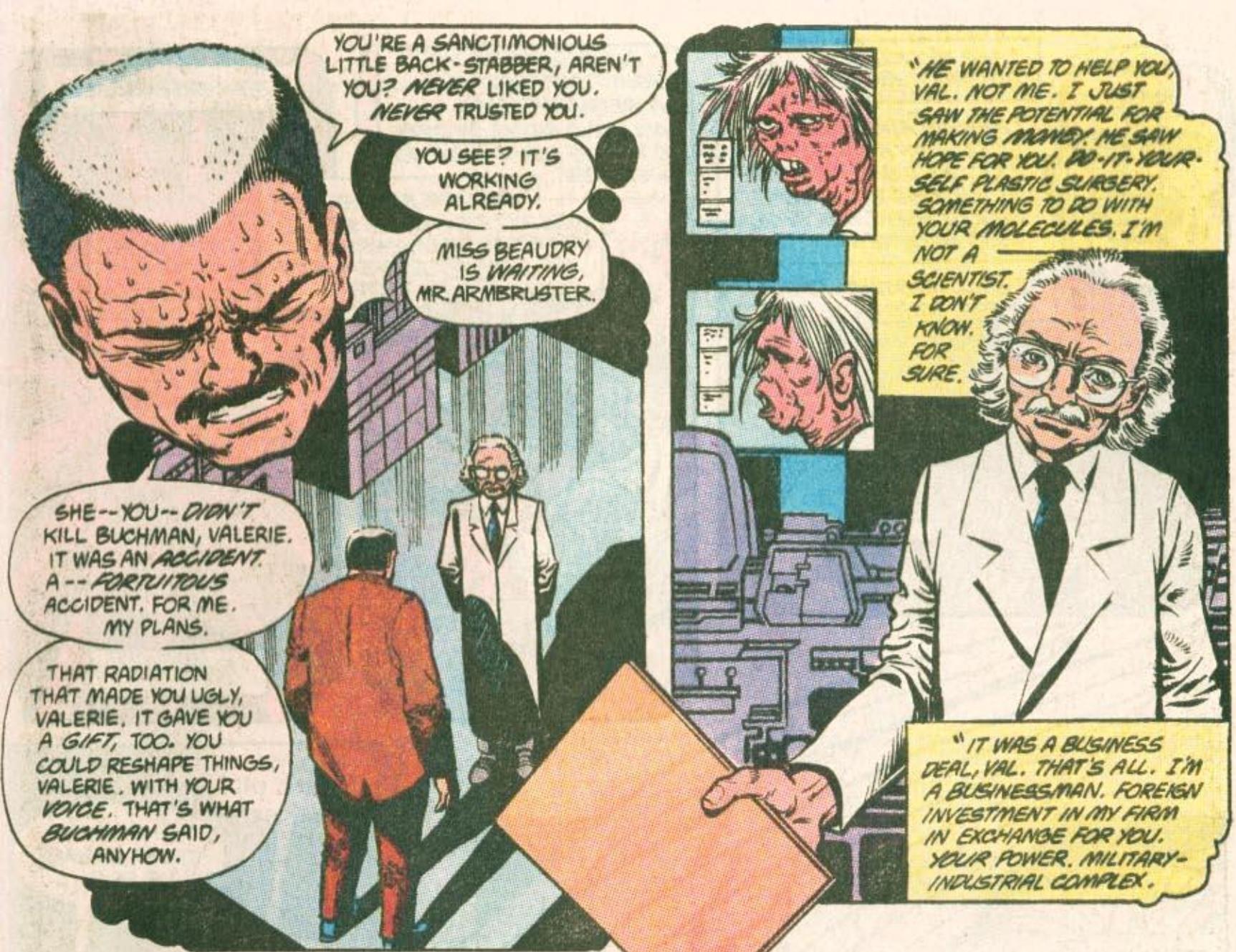
ARE YOU HIDING? ARE
WE PLAYING HIDE AND SEEK?
YOU CAN'T HIDE FROM ME,
MY LOVE. YOU KNOW THAT.

SCREEEEE

SLAMMISH







"AND YOU KILLED BUCHMAN, RIGHT?"

"WE WERE ALWAYS ARGUING, 'SCIENCE NOT A CAPITALIST TOOL', HE'D SAY. 'TECHNOLOGY BELONGS TO THE PEOPLE. WITHOUT HEART, MEN BECAME THEIR MACHINES!'

"I SAID, NO BUCKS, NO BUCK ROGERS. BOTTOM LINE!"

"GOT BAD, THOUGH. HE FOUND OUT ABOUT MY FOREIGN INVESTORS. MILLIONS RIDING ON OUT-COME. HE DIDN'T WANT TO RISK HER."

"BIG FIGHT. BIGGEST EVER. WOULDN'T RISK HER, HE SAID. I WAS RISKING EVERYTHING ON HER. LOST MY TEMPER, BOTH DID."

"THEN. BIG EXPLOSION."

"THAT'S ALL."

"NO, YOU DIDN'T, VAL!"

"YOU HAVEN'T KILLED ANYONE, VALERIE."

"YOU TELL HER, ARMBRUSTER!"

"NO!!"

I
"I KILLED HIM!
OH, THAT POOR MAN--!!"

"ONLY TRYING TO
HELP ME... AND
I KILLED HIM..."



SHE DIDN'T KILL ANYONE.
BUT-- IT SUITED MY
PURPOSE. TO LET HER
THINK SO.

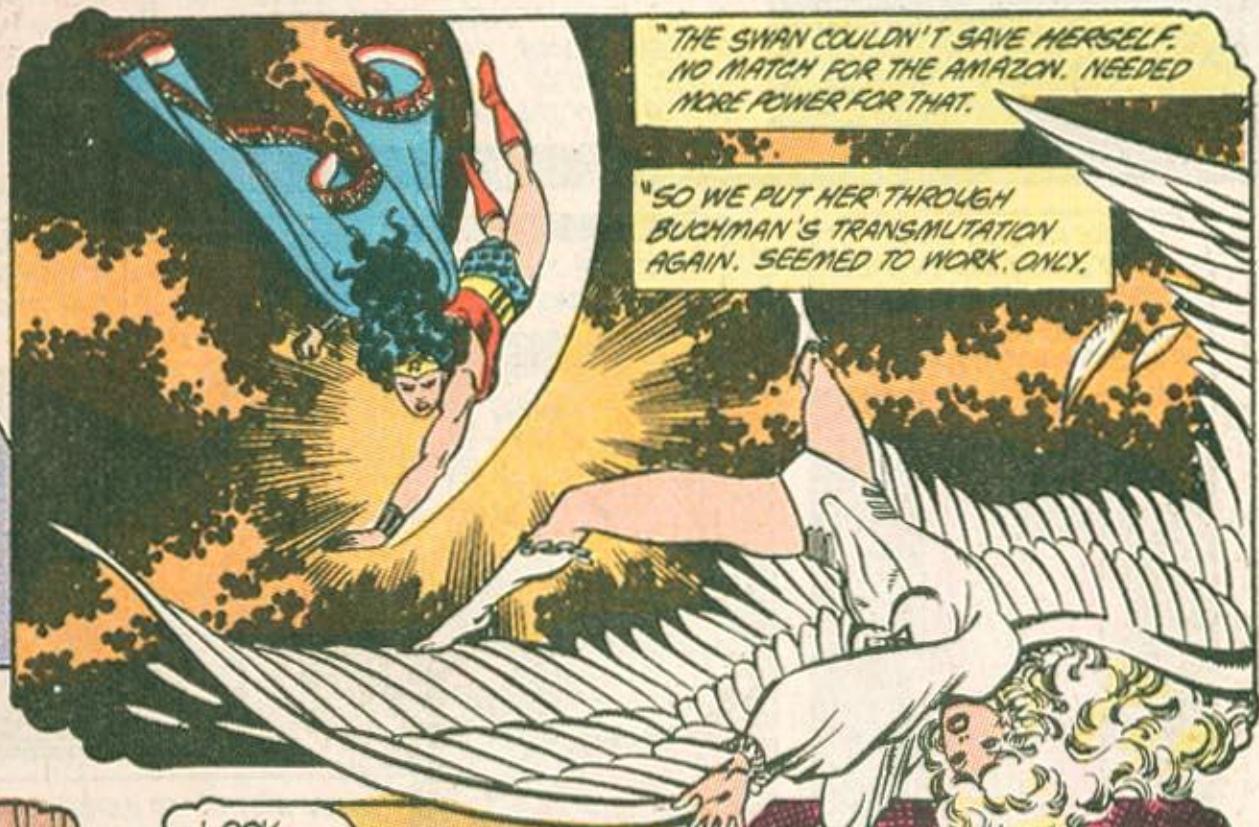
THE FIRST TIME ALWAYS
THE HARDEST.

BUT NEEDED SOMETHING. TO
PROVOKE HER FURTHER.



"BUT THEN DEAR ABBY SHOWED
UP. ALMOST DESTROYED EVERYTHING
WITH HER POISON PEN. ALMOST. NOT
QUITE.

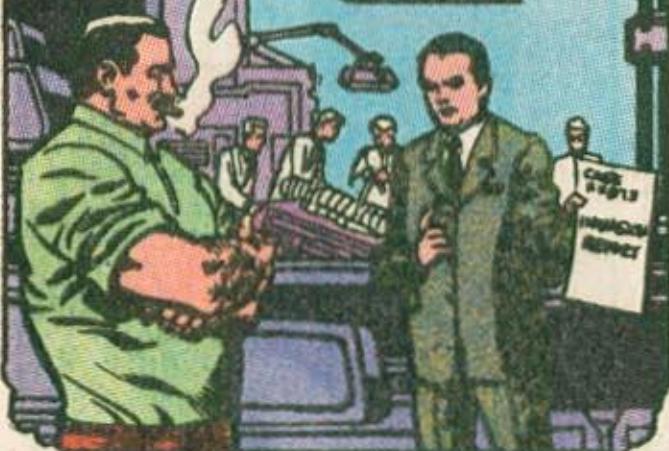
"DIDN'T COUNT ON HER
HOOKING UP WITH
BUCHMAN'S SON.
BATMAN AND
ROBIN. BIG HEROES.
SAVE THE DAY.
SAVE THE SWAN."



"THEN CHOI TELLS ME ABOUT SOME OTHER MUTANT TYPES. SUPER-HEROES WHOSE POWERS SUDDENLY WENT HAY-WIRE."

I REMEMBER. IT HAPPENED DURING THE ALIEN INVASION.

SOME TEMPORARILY LOST THEIR POWERS-- AND OTHERS DIED.



"CHOI SAYS IT WAS SOME KIND OF GENE BOMB. ERASED THE CHROMOSOME. warped it. RE-MUTATED. SAYS THAT'S WHY THE SWAN REVERTED."



"SAYS WE CAN FIX IT. PUT IT BACK. SO I HIRED SOME SCIENTISTS AND WHITE-KIDS FROM CAL-TECH AND STANFORD. GAVE 'EM EVERYTHING."



"PAID OFF. THE SWAN WAS BACK. ONLY."

"CHOI SAYS SHE'S DIFFERENT. HER DESTRUCTIVE POWERS ARE WEAKER. I TOLD 'M SHE LOOKED THE SAME TO ME."



"CHOI WANTED TO EXPERIMENT MORE. ADJUST FOR THE BOMB'S EFFECTS. ALL WAS READY. THEN YOU AN' BUCHMAN'S KID BUTTED IN. COST US PLENTY."

THAT'S ALL SHE HAS TO YOU. A FINANCIAL STATEMENT. DID YOU TELL VAL THESE REVERSION EXPERIMENTS COULD KILL HER?

THAT WAS NOT MY RESPONSIBILITY, MISS STERENBUCH. THAT CHOICE WAS MY EMPLOYER'S.



IF MR. ARMBRUSTER HAD CHOSEN TO ASK ME TO DISCUSS THE INHERENT DANGERS WITH MISS BEAUDRY, I WOULD HAVE. GLADLY.

BUT HE DIDN'T.

LET THE CHIPS FALL WHERE THEY WILL.



