



# WONDER WOMAN

75¢  
318  
AUG. 84

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BY THE  
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AUTHORITY

TM

THE  
FUTURE  
**BURNS**  
AROUND  
YOU,  
AMAZON...

...AND NO ONE  
HAS THE  
**POWER**  
TO HELP YOU NOW!

08



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LIGHTNING AND THUNDER SPLIT THE SKY, AND RAIN DRUMS STEADILY DOWN ON THE ROOFS--FILLING THE GEORGETOWN NIGHT WITH SOUND AND FURY!

BUT IT ISN'T THE NOISE THAT TORTURES DIANA PRINCE'S SLEEP--

...MISTS... PARTING...

--IT'S THE DREAMS!

THIS IS HORRIBLE! THIS LAND MUST HAVE BEEN LOVELY ONCE-- BUT NOW IT LOOKS LIKE A WAR ZONE!

AND YET SOMEHOW-- I SENSE THAT I BELONG HERE--!

WHY DO I SEEM TO RECOGNIZE THIS PLACE--THESE SHATTERED BUILDINGS?

IF ONLY I COULD SEE WHAT THEY WERE LIKE BEFORE THIS DEVASTATION!

THE FEELING OF FAMILIARITY NAGS AT HER...

...UNTIL REALIZATION  
COMES, AND WITH IT, A  
CHILL OF PURE DREAD!

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**WONDER WOMAN**  
®

GREAT HERA!

THIS IS  
PARADISE  
ISLAND!

THOSE WOMEN --  
I KNOW THEM ALL --  
THEY'RE MY SISTER  
AMAZONS!

BUT WHAT COULD  
HAVE REDUCED THEM  
TO THIS?!

WHAT?!

KURT BUSIEK  
WRITER  
IRV NOVICK  
PENCILLER  
RICK MAGYAR  
INKER

# PARADISE BURNING!

PHIL FELIX  
LETTERER  
NANSI  
HOOOLAHAN  
COLORIST  
ALAN GOLD  
EDITOR

DREAMS ARE SO INSUBSTANTIAL!  
DIANA STRAINS TO LEARN THE  
REASON FOR HER HOMELAND'S  
DESTRUCTION--

--AND ALL SHE GETS  
IS THE INSISTENT  
MURMUR OF THE  
STORM!

IT MUST BE DAWN  
ON PARADISE ISLAND.  
IT WON'T TAKE LONG  
TO FLY OUT THERE...

...MAKE SURE  
EVERYTHING'S  
ALL RIGHT.

THAT--THAT WAS  
MORE THAN JUST A  
NIGHTMARE!

I DON'T KNOW  
WHY I'M SO  
SURE -- BUT  
THOSE VISIONS  
WERE REAL!

HUNDREDS OF TIMES,  
DIANA HAS SPUN  
HER ENCHANTED  
GOLDEN LASSO...

...BUT THIS  
TIME ...

...THINGS ARE  
DIFFERENT!

HUNDREDS  
OF TIMES,  
SHE HAS  
STEPPED  
THROUGH  
THE  
CIRCLE...

...HUNDREDS  
OF TIMES...

MERCIFUL  
MINERVA!

THAT'S THE  
PARADISE ISLAND OF  
MY NIGHTMARE!

I DON'T  
KNOW WHAT'S  
GOING ON  
HERE--

--BUT  
BY HERA,  
I INTEND  
TO FIND  
OUT!

AND WITH NO MORE  
HESITATION THAN THAT...

--SHE STEPS  
FORWARD--

--INTO THE  
UNKNOWN!

IT'S ALL REAL--  
JUST AS I DREAMED  
IT! I'D HOPED IT  
WAS ONLY AN  
ILLUSION--

--BUT WHAT  
I HOPED IS NO  
LONGER IMPORTANT.  
WHAT'S REAL IS  
WHAT MATTERS!

AND THERE'S THE  
COLD REALITY BEHIND  
ALL THIS--ALIEN  
CREATURES ON  
PARADISE  
ISLAND!

NOT ONLY  
HAS THE  
ISLAND BEEN  
DEVASTATED  
AND THE  
AMAZONS  
ESCLAVED--  
APHRODITE'S  
LAW HAS BEEN  
BROKEN!

AS SOON AS ONE  
MAN SIMPLY SET  
FOOT ON ITS  
SANDS--IN THAT  
INSTANT, THE  
AMAZONS' GODDESS-  
GIVEN POWERS  
DESERTED  
THEM!

IT MUST HAVE  
SHATTERED THEIR  
SPIRITS--LIKE A  
PART OF THEM  
DYING!

BUT IF THAT'S TRUE--  
THEN WHY AM I STILL  
WHOLE? BY WHOSE  
GRACE HAVE I BEEN  
EXEMPT--

SHADES  
OF  
PLUTO!

NO  
WONDER  
I'M NOT  
AFFECTED  
BY THE  
INVASION!  
THIS CAN-  
NOT BE  
1984!

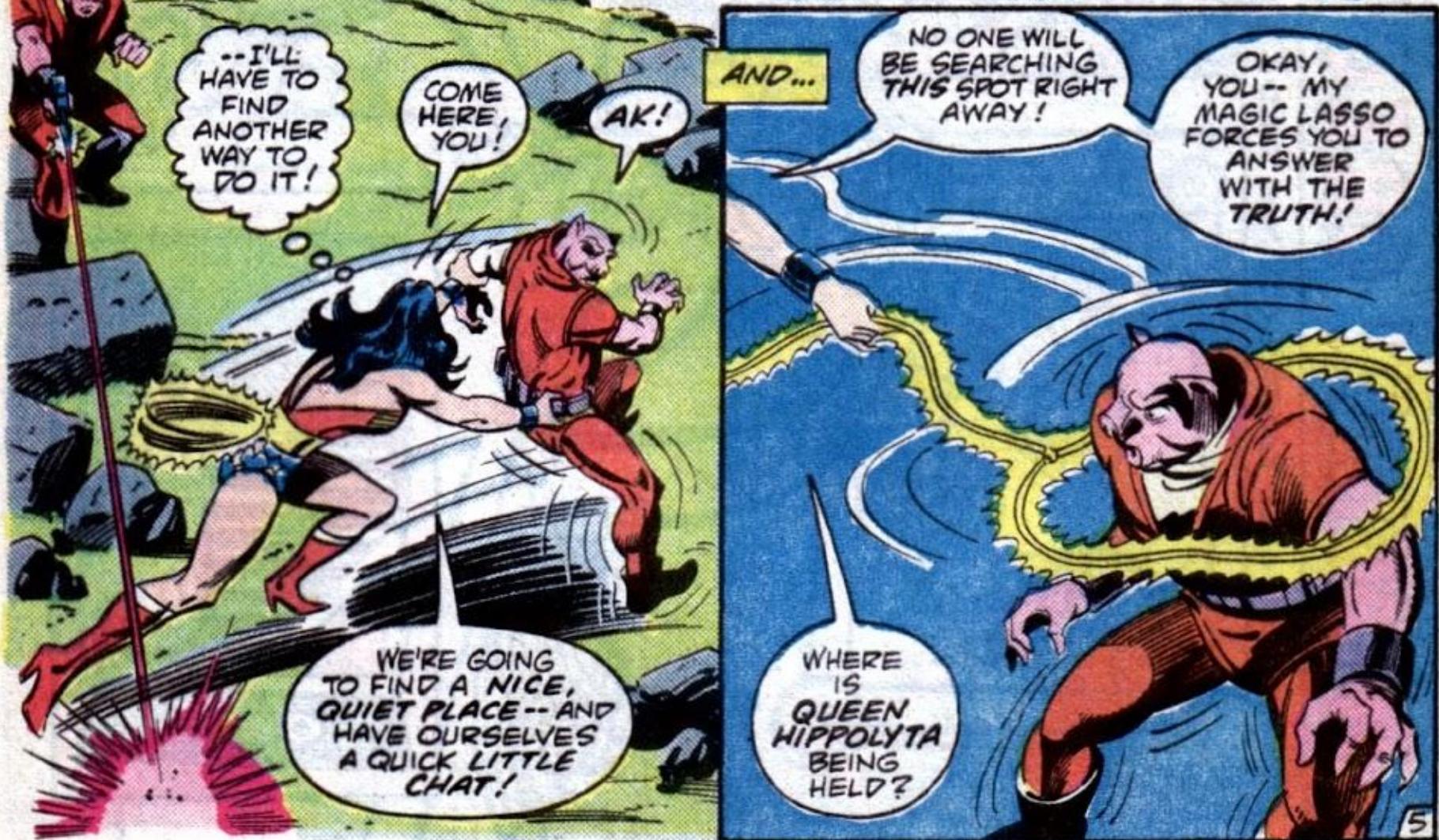
THAT'S A  
MEMORIAL  
STATUE  
--TO ME!  
IN THIS  
ERA I AM  
DEAD!

PRINCESS DIANA  
SHE SACRIFICED HER  
IMMORTALITY TO BRING  
APHRODITE'S WAY TO  
MAN'S WORLD.

BUT AS WONDER WOMAN TAKES IN THE  
PROOF OF HER OWN MORTALITY...

LOOK!  
ONE OF THEM  
IS FREE!

GET  
HER!



THE LASO, TOO, IS LOSING ITS MAGIC...

CAN'T MAKE HIM OBEY FOR MORE THAN A FEW WORDS AT A TIME--!

IS IT THIS WAY?

...NNUHHH...

...NNN...

YES!

EVENTUALLY...

THIS HAD BETTER NOT BE A TRAP!

NOT QUITE.

MOTHER?

DIANA!

THANK APHRODITE-- SOMEHOW YOU'RE HERE--

--IN OUR HOUR OF GREATEST NEED! OH, DIANA, HOW I'VE MISSED YOU!

DIANA?

HOW--?

MOTHER--I SAW YOU A SHORT TIME AGO. BUT TO YOU--I'VE BEEN DEAD FOR CENTURIES!

I'VE MISSED YOU, TOO, MOTHER. BUT IF I'M TO BE ANY HELP, I NEED INFORMATION. I KNOW NOTHING OF THIS TIME. PERIOD.

OH--OF COURSE!

JUST GIVE ME A MOMENT TO COMPOSE MYSELF. IT'S JUST-- I NEVER EXPECTED TO SEE YOU AGAIN...

I KNOW THINGS LOOK GLOOMY RIGHT NOW, MOTHER--BUT WE CAN BEAT THEM-- TOGETHER!



"THIS IS THE 63RD CENTURY, DIANA. MAN'S WORLD HAS ACHIEVED TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCEMENTS FAR BEYOND THE WILDEST DREAMS OF THE WORLD YOU KNOW..."

"...AND WITH THEM HAS COME A TIME OF PEACE AND PROSPERITY UNRIValed THROUGHOUT HISTORY."

"A GROUP OF OUR SISTERS FELT THAT MAN'S WORLD HAD COME AS FAR AS IT WAS ABLE TO ON ITS OWN..."

"...NOW DIRECT INVOLVEMENT WAS NEEDED BETWEEN AMAZONS AND MEN!"



"THEY URGED ME TO DISSOLVE THE MYSTIC BARRIERS HIDING OUR ISLAND FROM THE REST OF THE WORLD--TO REVEAL OUR EXISTENCE."

"I WAS UNSURE THAT THIS COURSE WAS TRULY WISE -- BUT BOWED TO THE MAJORITY'S WILL."

"WE OPENED OUR MYSTIC SHIELDS THE BAREST MINIMUM AS A PRELIMINARY TEST--"



SEE WHAT WE HAVE BEEN REDUCED TO--? SLAVES IN OUR DEFILED LAND!

WHAT HOPE DO WE HAVE? EVEN WITH YOU TO AID US--THE ENEMY IS STILL TOO STRONG!

I WON'T LET YOU TALK THAT WAY, MOTHER!

HOW MANY OTHERS ARE IMPRISONED IN THIS BUILDING?

...THIRTY... I THINK.



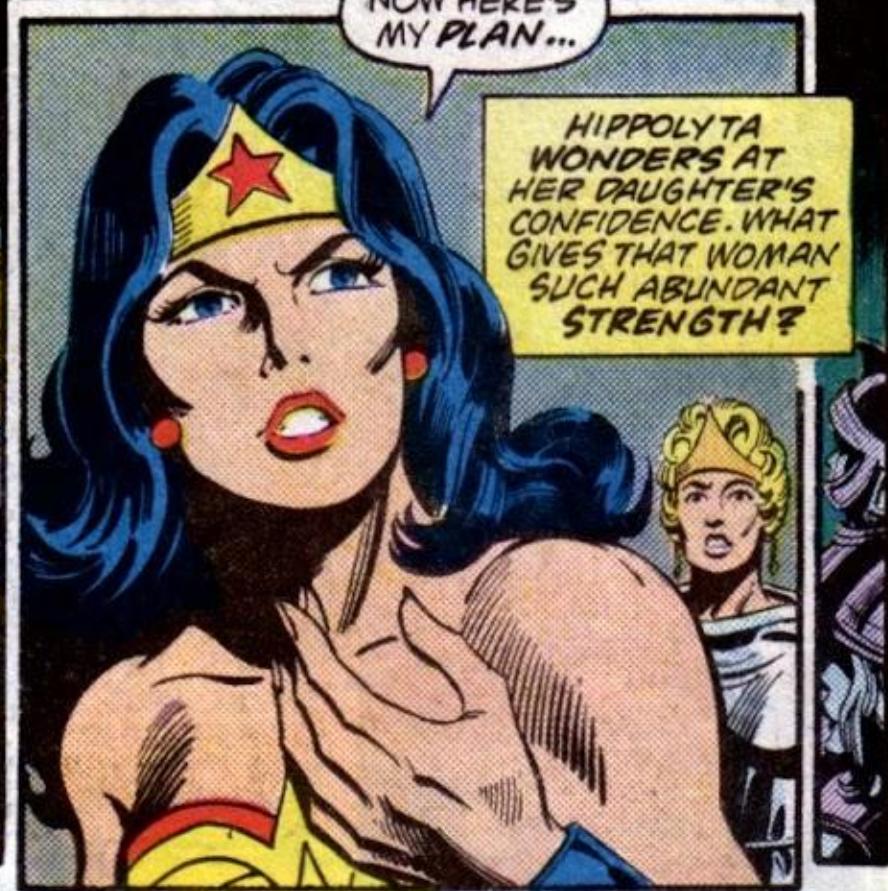
SOON...

WE HAVE ALL BEEN TAUGHT  
BY QUEEN HIPPOLYTA -- "USE  
YOUR STRENGTH AGAINST THE  
ENEMY'S WEAKNESS. IF HE  
HAS NO WEAKNESS--  
CREATE ONE!"



NOW HERE'S  
MY PLAN...

HIPPOLYTA  
WONDERS AT  
HER DAUGHTER'S  
CONFIDENCE. WHAT  
GIVES THAT WOMAN  
SUCH ABUNDANT  
STRENGTH?



THE ANSWER SHE CAN-  
NOT REMEMBER--IT'S  
SIMPLICITY ITSELF...

THE ESCAPEE  
--HAS SHE BEEN  
LOCATED YET?

NEGATIVE.  
SQUADS ARE  
COMBING THE  
HILLSIDES--

...SHE IS AN AMAZON!

ALERT!  
ALERT!

I--I DON'T  
BELIEVE  
IT!





--HER DAUGHTER PERSEVERES!

# SHREEEEE!

THE CEASE-FIRE SIREN!  
LAY DOWN YOUR ARMS!



NOW, AS I WAS SAYING--  
I COULD TURN YOU OVER TO  
THE PLANETARY GOVERNMENT,  
WHICH TAKES A DIM VIEW OF  
TECHNOLOGICALLY INFERIOR  
INVADERS--

--OR YOU COULD  
EVACUATE THIS  
ISLAND, LEAVE  
THIS PLANET, AND  
NEVER COME  
ANYWHERE NEAR  
IT AGAIN!

WHICH  
WILL IT BE?



SO...

--AND ONCE YOUR  
MAIN FORCE HAS  
DEPARTED, WE'LL RELEASE  
YOU ... YOU CAN CATCH UP  
WITH THEM LATER.

IN THE  
MEANTIME, I'M  
CURIOS-- HOW DID  
YOU KNOW TO  
ATTACK AT JUST  
THE RIGHT  
TIME?

THERE IS NO RESISTANCE AS HIPPOLYTA  
STRIDES THROUGH THE BUILDING...

DIANA! YOU'VE  
CAPTURED THEIR  
COMMANDER!

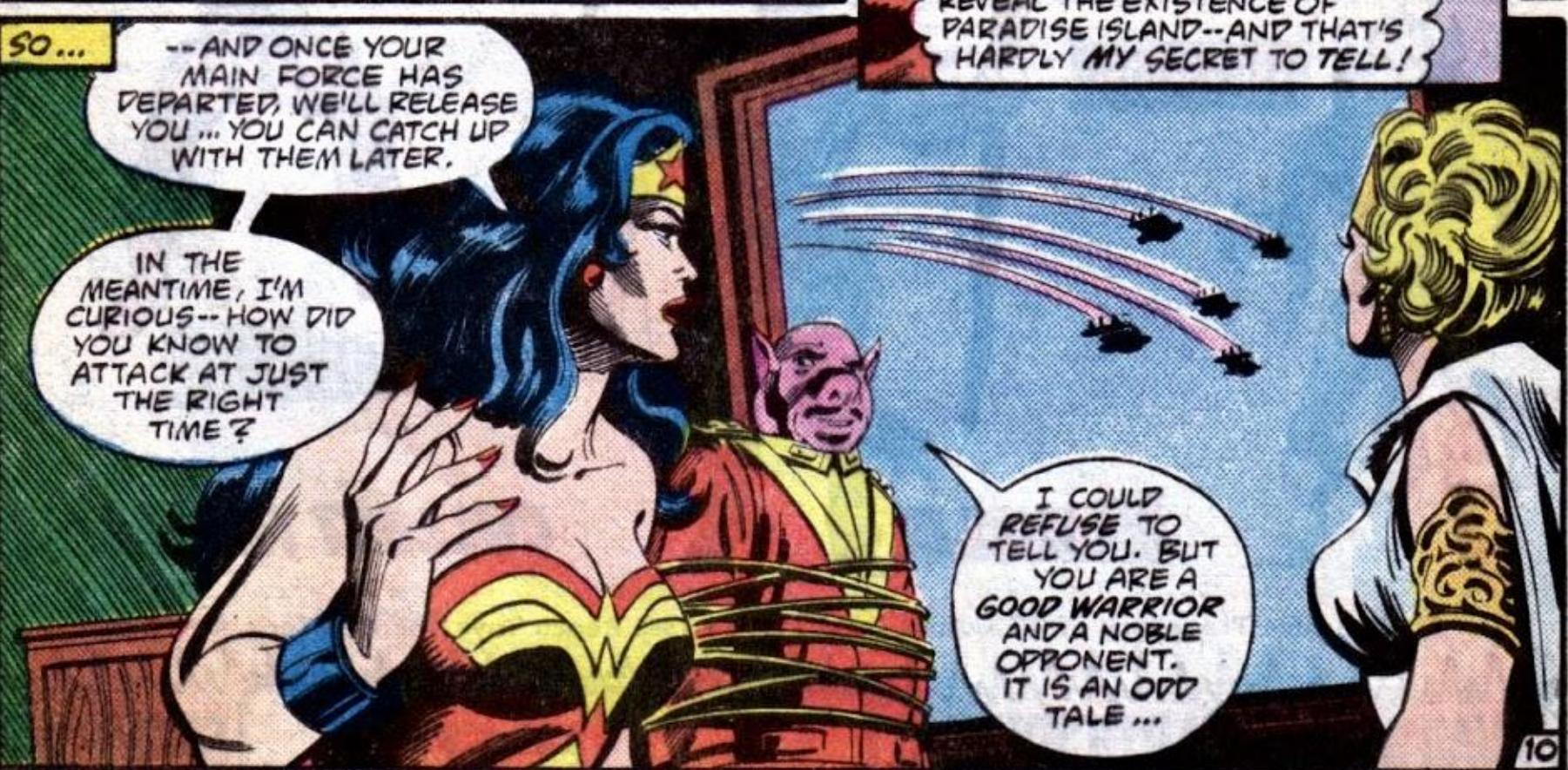
OF COURSE! MY  
LASSO MAY BE  
POWERLESS--  
BUT IT'S STILL  
UNBREAKABLE!



UNDER THE  
CIRCUMSTANCES...  
AH... WE'RE NOT AN  
UNREASONABLE  
RACE--HOW SOON  
DO YOU WANT  
US TO  
LEAVE?

GOOD THING HE DIDN'T  
CALL MY BLUFF! TO EXPOSE  
THE INVASION--I'D HAVE TO  
REVEAL THE EXISTENCE OF  
PARADISE ISLAND--AND THAT'S  
HARDLY MY SECRET TO TELL!

I COULD  
REFUSE TO  
TELL YOU. BUT  
YOU ARE A  
GOOD WARRIOR  
AND A NOBLE  
OPPONENT.  
IT IS AN ODD  
TALE...



CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING.

"WE ARE OF AN ANCIENT, WARRIOR RACE -- AND HAVE RANGED THROUGH MANY GALAXIES IN SEARCH OF A CHALLENGING CONQUEST."

"WE THOUGHT WE HAD FOUND IT IN EARTH -- BUT ALAS, HER DEFENSES PROVED UNBREACHABLE EVEN TO US!"

"EVENTUALLY, WE WERE REDUCED TO CONSIDERING NEGOTIATION TO GET WHAT WE CRAVED..."

"...THAT'S WHEN THE STRANGER APPEARED."

EXCUSE ME... PERHAPS I CAN OFFER AN... ALTERNATIVE.

"HE TOLD US OF THIS ISLAND OF YOURS -- THAT ITS EXISTENCE WAS A SECRET... UNKNOWN TO THE REST OF YOUR WORLD... IT WOULD MAKE A PERFECT BASE FROM WHICH TO MOUNT AN OFFENSIVE AGAINST YOUR UNSUSPECTING PLANET..."

"HE RELISHED WAR WITH ALL ITS HORRORS... A PERSUASIVE CREATURE."

"THE NAIVE ISLANDERS, HE SAID, WERE SOON TO ATTEMPT AN EXPERIMENT... THEY WOULD EXPOSE THEIR EXISTENCE -- ONLY FOR A MOMENT -- BUT THAT WOULD BE LONG ENOUGH!"

"WE SCANNED YOUR PLANET CEASELESSLY, AND WHEN THAT MOMENT OF SOFT VULNERABILITY ARRIVED... WE STRUCK!"

AS YOU SAID-- AN ODD STORY...

THE EVACUATION IS COMPLETE! I GO TO JOIN MY MEN!

I EXTEND TO YOU A WARRIOR'S THANKS FOR AN HONORABLE DEFEAT. YOU HAVE EARNED THE RESPECT OF OUR RACE.

THE SHUTTLECRAFT DWINDLES OUT OF SIGHT, AND...

=HHMMPH! E "WARRIOR'S RESPECT"! WHAT VALUE IS THAT?!

I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN BETTER! I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN WHAT WOULD HAPPEN!

IT NEVER CHANGES! MAN'S WORLD WILL ALWAYS BE CORRUPTED BY THE EMPTY PROMISES OF ARES!

APHRODITE'S WAY REMAINS EVER WITHIN THEIR GRASP-- BUT WE WERE FOOLS INDEED TO BELIEVE THEY'D EVER SEE IT!

THIS INVASION WAS OUR OWN FAULT FOR TRUSTING THEM... WE SHOULD NEVER HAVE LET DOWN OUR GUARD!

WE HOPED THAT THE **BEST** IN THEM WOULD COME OUT-- BUT THERE IS NO HOPE FOR THEM AND THERE NEVER WAS!

--DON'T YOU THINK THAT'S A LITTLE HARSH?

MOTHER--?

HARSH? NO, DAUGHTER-- IF ANYTHING, I HAVE BEEN TOO LENIENT!

BUT NEVER AGAIN! FROM THIS DAY FORTH, THE AMAZONS CLOSE THEIR BORDERS FOREVER AGAINST MAN'S WORLD!

LET THEM FIGHT! LET THEM KILL! ... BUT LET THEM BRUTALIZE EACH OTHER--NOT US!

WONDER WOMAN REMAINS SILENT -- PENSIVE --

--AS ALL THE AMAZONS, FROM ALL CORNERS OF THE ISLAND, ASSEMBLE --FOR THE MOST SACRED OF RITUALS IS AT HAND--!

WE STAND HERE, IN THE ONE UNspoiled SECTION OF OUR HOME, TO INVOCe OUR PROTECTOR, THE ALL-LOVING GODDESS, WHOM WE SERVE--

--SO THAT WE MAY BESEECH HER TO COME TO US, AND PURIFY OUR HOME -- TO REMOVE THE STENCH OF THE INVADERS --AND MAKE US WHOLE ONCE MORE!

HEAR US, O APHRODITE!  
YOUR DAUGHTERS AND LOYAL  
SERVANTS CRY OUT TO YOU!

WE ARE LOST--  
AND YOU ARE THE  
LIGHT THAT GUIDES  
OUR WAY!

COME  
TO US!



QUEEN HIPPOLYTA'S VOICE RINGS CLEAR IN THE NIGHT AIR...

...AND IS MAGNIFIED A  
THOUSANDFOLD AND MORE!

# HEAR US, O APHRODITE!

THE ECHOES HAVE A LIFE OF  
THEIR OWN! THEY TRAVEL  
THROUGHOUT THE ISLAND--  
ACROSS THE WIND-TOSSED  
SEA--

--EVEN UP TO THE  
HEAVENS THEMSELVES!



THEN, THEY  
FADE...



APHRODITE HAS  
DESERTED US!

OUR POWERS--  
GONE FOREVER!

GODDESS  
--COME  
BACK!

HOW CAN  
WE LIVE?

WE'RE  
LOST!

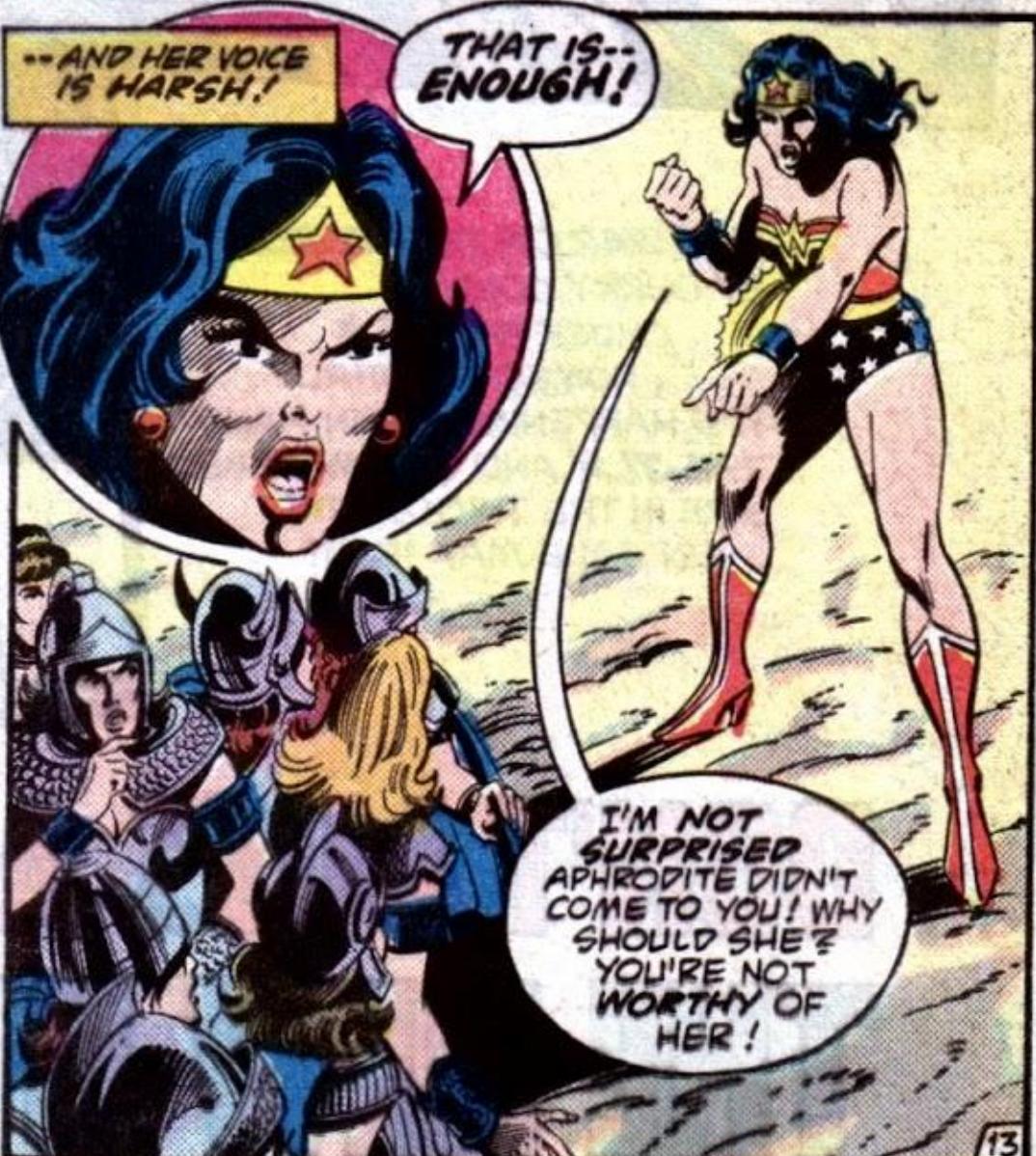
WE  
SHALL ALL  
AGE-- AND  
DIE!

WE  
ARE  
LOST!

PRINCESS DIANA'S  
EYES NARROW--

--AND HER VOICE  
IS HARSH!

THAT IS--  
ENOUGH!



CEASE YOUR WHIMPERING!  
YOU SOUND LIKE A BASKET OF KITTENS!

APHRODITE'S WAY IS ONE OF COMPASSION AND ETERNAL HOPE! WITHOUT THOSE, WE ARE NOTHING!

THE HUMANS YOU HAVE HIDDEN FROM HAVE LONG RESISTED ARES' WAYS!

THE INVASION DIDN'T COME FROM YOUR BEING TOO TRUSTING-- IT CAME FROM MISTRUST!

IF YOU HAD BEEN TRUSTING-- YOU WOULD HAVE DISSOLVED THE MYSTIC BARRIERS AS A CELEBRATION -- NOT TENTATIVELY, A PART AT A TIME!

THEN THERE WOULD HAVE BEEN NO WAR -- THE ISLAND WOULD HAVE BEEN USELESS TO THOSE ALIENS AS A SECRET BASE!

YOU'VE BEEN THROUGH A TERRIBLE ORDEAL, BUT IT'S OVER NOW! IT'S TIME TO GO ON WITH LIFE!

WHERE IS YOUR STRENGTH? WHERE IS YOUR AMAZON COURAGE?

WELL--?

WE MUST LOOK TO THE FUTURE RATHER THAN BEMOAN THE PAST.

LET US COMPORT OURSELVES AS AMAZONS AGAIN, HOPING ONE DAY TO REGAIN THE FAVOR OF APHRODITE, SO FOOLISHLY THROWN AWAY!

YOU-- YOU'RE RIGHT, DIANA.

WE HAVE GROWN TOO CONCERNED WITH OURSELVES--

--AND TURNED FROM OUR PURPOSE!

NO SOONER HAVE  
THE WORDS LEFT  
HIPPOLYTA'S LIPS...

WHAT WAS  
LOST IS NOW  
RECLAIMED!  
I AM HERE, MY  
DAUGHTERS, AS  
TRULY I ALWAYS  
WAS!

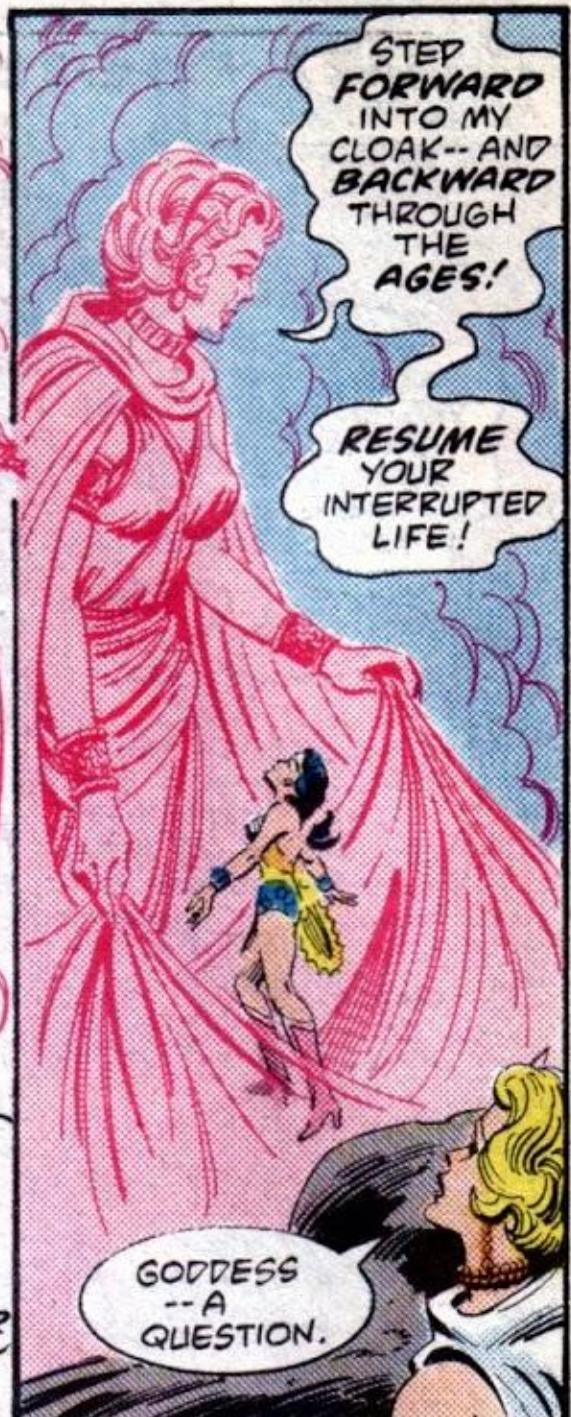
I COULD  
NOT COME TO  
YOU IN YOUR DISTRESS  
UNTIL YOU HAD  
RETURNED TO  
ME -- AND TO  
YOURSELVES!

BUT NOW  
THE BREACH IS  
MENDED-- AND I WISH  
THAT THE HARMONY  
BETWEEN US SHALL  
REMAIN FOREVER!

APHRODITE!  
WE HAVE ERRED  
AGAINST YOUR LAW-- AND  
SHOWN OURSELVES  
UNWORTHY OF  
YOUR NOTICE!

DO NOT ABJECT  
YOURSELF BEFORE  
ME, HIPPOLYTA.  
THOSE WHO FEAR MY  
VENGEANCE  
ARE NOT THOSE  
WHO KNOW THE  
GODDESS OF  
LOVE!





NEXT MONTH:  
THE RETURN OF  
**DR. CYBER!**  
COURTESY OF  
DAN MISHKIN AND DON HECK!

LET US NOT  
WASTE TIME  
BANTERING.

I HAVE KILLED  
ONCE TO POSSESS  
IT. I HAVE NO  
COMPUNCTIONS  
ABOUT KILLING  
AGAIN.

I AM KNOWN  
AS NIGHTINGALE.  
YOU, I AM GIVEN TO  
UNDERSTAND, WILL  
SOON HAVE ACCESS  
TO AN ART OBJECT  
THAT IS RIGHTFULLY  
MINE.

UNDERSTOOD?

SHE'S BRAGGING ABOUT KILLING  
MY OLD COLLEGE FRIEND, MYRA,  
TO GET AN ANCIENT JAPANESE  
SCULPTURE... THE HEAD OF A  
SAMURAI!

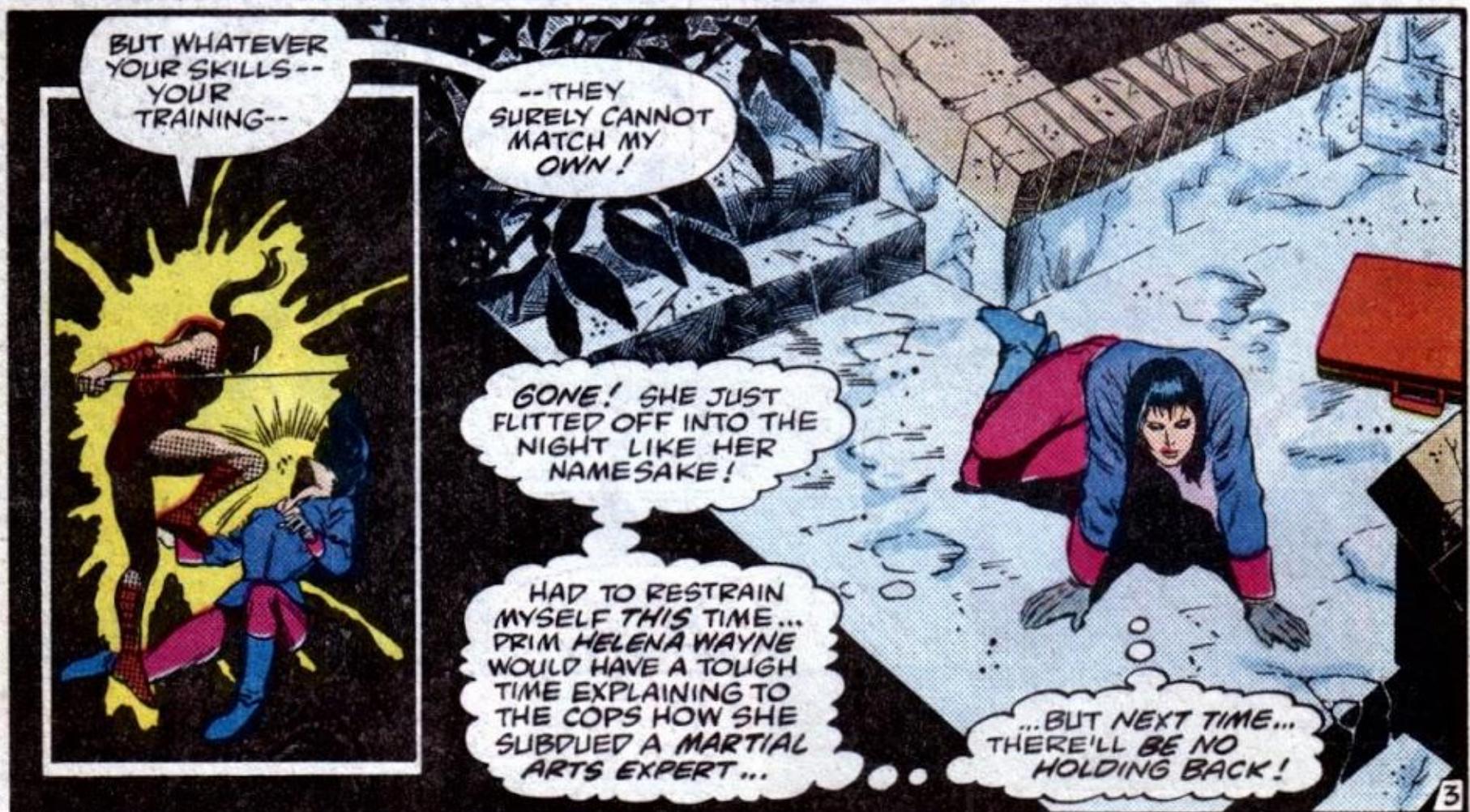
I'M MORE THAN WILLING  
TO GIVE HER SOMETHING SHE  
CAN REALLY BRAG ABOUT: A  
SHOWDOWN WITH YOURS TRULY...

*The Huntress*  
TM

# "KNEE OF THE IDOL"

JOEY CAVALIERI  
WRITER  
MARK BEACHUM  
PENCILLER  
STAN WOCH  
INKER  
PHIL FELIX  
LETTERER  
NANSI  
HOOGLAHAN  
COLORIST  
ALAN GOLD, EDITOR





LATER...



"TOMORROW NIGHT" ARRIVES...

SERAPHIN CAN SWEAT. I CAME TO L.A. FOR A REST.

SERAPHIN'S BUSINESS CAN WAIT TILL AFTER I TAKE IN THIS SHOW. IF HE THINKS--

HEY! HELENA WAYNE, RIGHT?

I'M SORRY. I--

TRACY. TRACY HEATHER. WE MET ON THE TRAIN, REMEMBER?

AS A MATTER OF FACT--

SEIJI MUST'VE GIVEN YOU A TICKET TO THE SHOW, TOO! DID YOU GET A BACKSTAGE PASS...?

GREAT! MEET YOU THERE AFTER THE PLAY!

DON'T KNOW WHAT'S PHONIER ABOUT HER... HER "I'VE-KNOWN-YOU-FOR-YEARS" GLAD-HANDING, OR HER "NAME-IN-LIGHTS" AMBITIONS!

NEARLY FORGOT ABOUT TRACY. I'D SWEAR SHE STOWED AWAY ON THAT TRAIN.

AFTER THE  
PLAY...



THE "MAGIC"'S ONSTAGE. HERE, IT'S LIKE LOOKING BEHIND THE FACE OF A WATCH TO SEE ITS WORKS. THAT'S WHAT FASCINATES ME.



EXCUSE ME. SEIJI KATO SAID HE'D MEET US HERE. WHERE CAN WE FIND HIM?

HIS DRESSING ROOM IS HERE... HE IS TAKING OFF HIS MAKEUP.



HELLO! GOOD TO SEE YOU AGAIN, MS. WAYNE. THE THIRD TIME IS ALWAYS LUCKY.

AND HELLO TO YOU, MS. HEATHER! DID YOU--

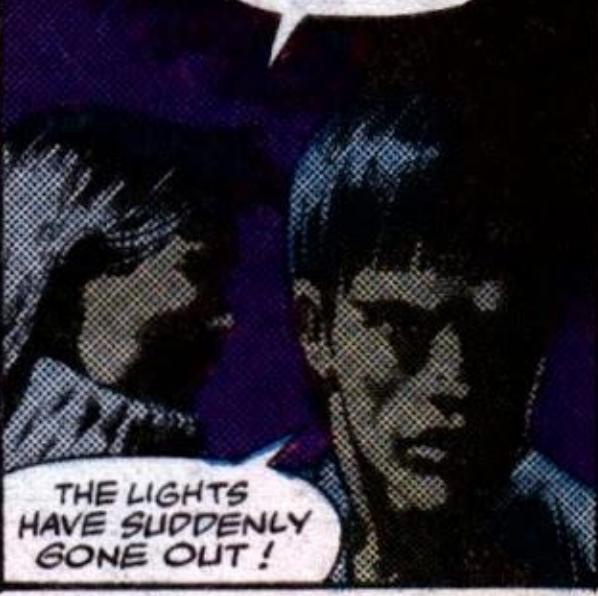


OH, NO! I'M SUPPOSED TO MEET SERAPHIN SOON.

THANK YOU FOR INVITING ME, MR. KATO, BUT I'M AFRAID I'VE ANOTHER APPOINTMENT.

BUT, WHEN HELENA IS GONE...

WH-WHAT'S HAPPENED?



KRASH!  
EEEEEEEEE

LATER ...

IF I'M GOING TO HAVE  
ANOTHER LITTLE MEETING  
WITH SERAPHIN ... I HAD  
BETTER FIRST GET AN  
OVERVIEW OF THE PLACE--

--AS THE  
HUNTRESS!

NO SIGN OF SERAPHIN  
YET. HE MUST BE--

CLINK!

A BADGE!  
WHERE DID  
THIS COME FROM?

DON'T WASTE YOUR  
TIME TRYING TO  
IDENTIFY IT!

IT BELONGS TO  
UNDERCOVER DETECTIVE  
CAROLINE MARTIN ...  
WHO CALLS HERSELF  
"TRACY HEATHER."

SHE WAS  
ASSIGNED TO  
PROTECT THE WOMAN  
FROM THE MUSEUM.  
SHE DID A  
POOR JOB.

I KILLED  
HER CHARGE...  
AND I WILL  
KILL YOU  
BOTH!

THE SHOWDOWN BEGINS NEXT ISSUE, IN...  
"THE OZYMANDIAS SOLUTION!"



L-1657

A few suggestions for the Naming of the Gremlin have come in this month—but not enough for a respectable contest, people! Sheesh. Do I have to sweeten the pot? Well, how about if I toss in a cover sketch for issue 319 by Ed Barreto? Trust me, Ed's sketches are more dazzling than many people's finished art. That, in addition to a neatly typed plot by Dan Mishkin, should get those creative juices flowing out there, folks! Grrr.

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Mr. Mishkin,

I have been enjoying your stint on *WONDER WOMAN* more than I have any writer on the book in quite some years. You have brought an energy and interest to the title that it has not seen since...since... well, it's rather appalling to think just how long it's been since somebody treated WW and her friends right!

However, I have been rather shocked at a few mistakes I've seen cropping up in the book: Themiscyra on an island, when the early Amazons were renowned in their lack of sea knowledge and their location in the world (Scythia) was so well known; the presence of Antiope—alive!—when such a character has been stone-cold dead for 2,700 years if Hippolyta is alive; the portrayal of the queen as rather selfish and lying, instead of a grieving/overy-caring mother who is at the whim of some rather capricious gods; and so on.

I've been a fan of Wonder Woman ever since I first picked up her book in 1962. In the seventies I published four issues of a fanzine called *Hola!*, and it is one of my dearest wishes to write the adventures of Wonder Woman.

Failing that, I've rewritten and updated a history of the Amazons that first appeared in *Hola!* #1, and presented it as a zine for *Interlac*, the Legion apa. Enclosed is a copy of this mammoth (for me) work, which I regard as absolutely complete and incontrovertible. (If you do have any arguments with my "facts," I'll be glad to argue back, explain, or hem and haw around them.)

I hope you read it. I believe it's worth reading, and worth thinking about.

Carol A. (Strick) Strickland  
Hillsborough, NC

Thanks for what is indeed a mammoth work, Strick. I enjoyed reading it very much, and I've sent a copy off to Dan. He hasn't responded yet, but I'm sure he'll enjoy it, whether or not he agrees with

every point. Just for the record, putting the Amazons on Themiscyra was something of a lark courtesy of Dan and me. *WONDER WOMAN* has played pretty loosely with Greek myths over the years, so it seemed no harm to invent an ancient island predating Paradise Island. In ancient myths the Scythian Amazons were only one of two well-known groups, by the way. In her essay, "The Amazon Legacy," Phyllis Chesler speaks about the North African Amazons living around Lake Triton. The Asiatic (Scythian) Amazons were the ones generally mentioned in Greek myth. I'd like to quote briefly from Chesler's article (which appears in *WONDER WOMAN, A Ms. Book*, published by Holt, Rinehart and Winston and Warner Books), describing the dress of the Scythian Amazons: they wore "long, narrow, checkered trousers, or leggings; soft, high, and often fur-topped boots; Phrygian caps or mantles; and long belted tunics, often with stars on them." If we were sticklers for accuracy, the Amazons we presented would be more than a little surprising to readers, I think. This isn't to say that your points aren't valid—and Dan will be treating the myths with more fidelity in the future (maybe). For those of you who really want a faithful picture of Amazons, by the way, Steve Gerber is writing a direct-sales-only version of Wonder Woman's adventures (deluxe format and all that), and he intends to keep to the legends and the historical facts more closely than anyone has heretofore, including Charles Moulton.

One last point (I'm not usually so windy, so bear with me): you haven't figured out our portrayal of Hippolyta yet. Strick (we have some cards up our sleeves), so hang on and watch her story unfold.

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Editor,

I like what you're doing for *WONDER WOMAN*. Number 314 is one of the best ones yet. I liked the way Wonder Woman told Keith Griggs that he was not an animal or not anybody's slave, but that he's a man. And then the glimmer of intellect. I also liked the part where Steve asked Etta if she would like to go for dinner. I thought that was nice. I also liked when Wonder Woman came up with the idea of using one bracelet to deflect the lightning. Would you please tell everybody to keep up the good work?

Todd Wethington  
Lewiston, IL

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Consider them told, Todd!

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Wonder People,

I can't tell you how much I love your *WONDER WOMAN* magazine. So keep up the good work. It will always be my favorite.

I have read that you were running a small contest for the little gremlin's name. Here are some ideas: (1) Orky, (2) Lynx, (3) Skippy, (4) Ikky, (5) Romi, (6) Tikky, or even (7) Yul. How about it?

I have been reading *WONDER WOMAN* for a long time now. My collection goes back to issue #1. And I also think *WONDER WOMAN* is #1.

I am looking forward to issue 316 for the conclusion of the Amazing Amazon vs. Aztec god. I'll write again soon.

Adriana Tomasino  
Brooklyn, NY

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Dear Sir/Madam:

Recently, I bought a copy of *WONDER WOMAN* and discovered "The Huntress" as the second feature. This character is so intriguing that I am now looking for all issues in which she appears. Could you please send me a list of the magazines and issue numbers in which the Huntress takes part, either solo or as part of a team? Thanks very much!

Barbara A. Eckstein  
Madison, WI

P.S. In case you are interested in the type of people who read your magazines, I am currently working on a doctorate in geophysics.

The Huntress first appeared in DC SUPER-STARS #17 (1978), Barbara. Since *WONDER WOMAN* #271 (again, 1978), she's appeared almost every month in the back-up feature (a few issues had full-length WW stories, with no back-up feature). She was admitted to the JSA in ALL-STAR COMICS #70 (also 1978).

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Dear Alan,

I finally decided to break a year of self-imposed silence on *WONDER WOMAN*. I do this to say I finally like some of the directions the old gal is moving in. I do like the gremlin. He adds some long-overdue comic relief to what has traditionally been a dull strip. Truly a bright spot. Because of that little fellow, the robot plane is also developing a personality. I can't say this is bad. In fact, I

felt the plane had the best line of issue #314 (on page 11). I think Steve Trevor's (and through him Diana's) learning of the previous Steve's deaths can only help this series, if for no other reason than to add some emotional content, and struggle with ghosts of the past. Which reminds me. What does Diana know? When she regained her costume and powers back in issue #204, all memory of her non-powered period was kept from her. Incomplete records was the reason cited. Yet when the mists of Nepenthe wiped out Diana's memories of the first Steve Trevor, that of necessity left many large gaps in her memory also. So what does she know? What does she actually remember? (Not very darn much, it looks like to me.)

When I stopped writing letters, I was one of those who complained loudest about the current WW top. I still feel it is a very poor substitute for the eagle top. (As an addendum I shall give my reasons again at the end of the letter. After all, you weren't involved with WW when I last put them on paper.) I must say I liked the other logo this book had at #300 much better than the current one.

What has happened to the Wonder Woman Foundation? If you'll read the DC COMICS PRESENTS preview, where WW changed tops, you'll find she changed because of this Wonder Woman Foundation. What have they done, what has been said about them since? Not a damn thing! It would be easier for me to accept this new top if there was some mention of the Foundation, some scene even where WW gets angry at them for supporting something she doesn't feel they should. Anything at all about the Foundation would make this top easier to accept.

The artistic team on the Huntress is in my opinion the best since Joe Staton and Bob Layton, the original artistic team. But Beachum and Martin are perpetuating the mistake made by most artists since then. They are drawing the lower cut of her costume wrong! Her costume looks like some of those modern swimsuits that are so popular with the cut above the hipbone. Joe Staton, and for that matter Jerry Ordway over on INFINITY, INC., don't (didn't) draw it that way. Beachum and Martin's suit looks as bad as the aforementioned swimsuits. I'll bet they aren't comfortable either, especially for basking crooks. Staton's and Ordway's version looks good. I wish the artistic team here would use that style also. Now if I could only get you guys to replace those knives with the original crossbow...

I'd also like to see a crossover or two by the Original Wonder Woman. (hint, hint) Perhaps as a tie-in with the annual JLA-JSA teamups?

Jef Peckham  
Manhattan, KS

Hey, wait, Alan! Where are you going? I'm not through. I promised you an addendum on why I object to the top.

The old eagle top always meant something special to me. It always seemed to represent what WW represented. Truth,

Justice, Fairness, and Equality for all, regardless of race, regardless of religion, regardless of color, regardless of SEX! Everyone will get a fair shake from her. In the new top, I can see only one thing, women, women, and more women. The woman shall be put forth, the man shall be subjugated everywhere, in every way. The man shall be put down, the woman put up, regardless of right, regardless of fairness, REGARDLESS of equity, regardless of truth. That is all the new costume means to me. Part of this came from the DC COMICS PRESENTS preview. The women who presented that all looked very pompous, especially the one who said "The W stands for Women, of course." Even the end, when WW said it stood for Wonder Woman, failed to change or even alter that earlier impression.

Call me naive, call me dumb, call me insane. I gladly admit to all of them! But through it all, I have a firm vision: a vision of America where all those qualities are the standard, not where the minorities have to fight for everything or demand special treatment because of what was done in the past. A vision where everyone is as good as they can be, not held back because of what they are. A vision of how America should, how she ought to be, not necessarily how she is. (In case you're wondering I'm a white, Anglo-Saxon Protestant male. I can trace my lineage back eight generations in America on my surname side of the family.) Where do I get these ideas? I don't know. But they're something to work for, to fight for, to die for. The day I stop fighting for them I might as well die, because then I won't be worth anything to anyone, especially myself.

*Soap-box time for Alan again...*

*First, because it's worth repeating every once in a while, the Wonder Woman Foundation is real and it does good work. It was founded in 1981 as a public, nonprofit fund by Warner Communications and DC Comics. That year marked the fortieth anniversary of WONDER WOMAN, so it seemed appropriate to name the foundation after her. The foundation established a fund for giving awards to women over forty, "focusing less on achievement for its own sake than on achievement as it emanates from personal growth." (I'm quoting from the First Report of the WWF.) Awards are given in a variety of categories each November. The categories include: women pursuing truth; women striving for equality and peace; women taking risks (courage and strength of character); women working creatively; women helping women.*

*Okay. Second: I think you're getting steamed up over nothing, Jef. The Wonder Woman Foundation isn't an example of discrimination against men—and it by no means stands for the subjugation of men. Many very deserving women have been passed by in our time when awards were given out. The WWF is one of many organizations that tries to make all of us aware of the*

*achievements and contributions of women. Your vision and that of the founders of the Wonder Woman Foundation are by no means opposed, as you believe. In fact, I suspect you'd be very comfortable in the company of those founders and the winners of WWF awards.*

*Finally, concerning the redesigned, Earth-1 emblem, Jef—many readers like the new look very much—prefer it to the eagle emblem, in fact.*

*But thanks for your impassioned opinions, Jef. Don't lose that passion. And please don't impose another silence on yourself, insofar as WONDER WOMAN is concerned.*

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*NEXT ISSUE: Hope you liked our little interlude in the far future, courtesy of Kurt and Irv. Read it over, perhaps. Savor it. Because from now on, we're back in the present, and busy, busy, busy! All those subplots you've been following are going to start heating up fast in the next few issues. First of all, there's an old foe of Diana's who's making trouble for everybody back in the nation's capital: it's Doctor Cyber. Have I got you counting off the days till WW #319 yet?*

*Many of you have been raving about the artistic team of Beachum and Martin—thanks a whole lot! Now the bad news: Mark has to take a break from The Huntress for a while (his work will be appearing in NEW TALENT SHOWCASE, for those of you who've been collecting his art), and Gary has been made permanent inker on THE BLUE DEVIL, embellishing Paris Cullins' extravagant nuttiness in rubbed lead. So... You won't be seeing either of them in these pages for a while. Now for the good news: For this issue, Mark's pencils were inked by Stan Woch, a very talented guy who's making a big splash in NTS. And next issue, Stan will be doing the penciling, too. I think you'll be writing in raves for SW's interpretation of the Huntress. It's the conclusion of the Nightingale story—and I think the solution will be a big surprise for many of you, although we've planted lots of clues along the way.*

*See you soon!*

*—Alan*