

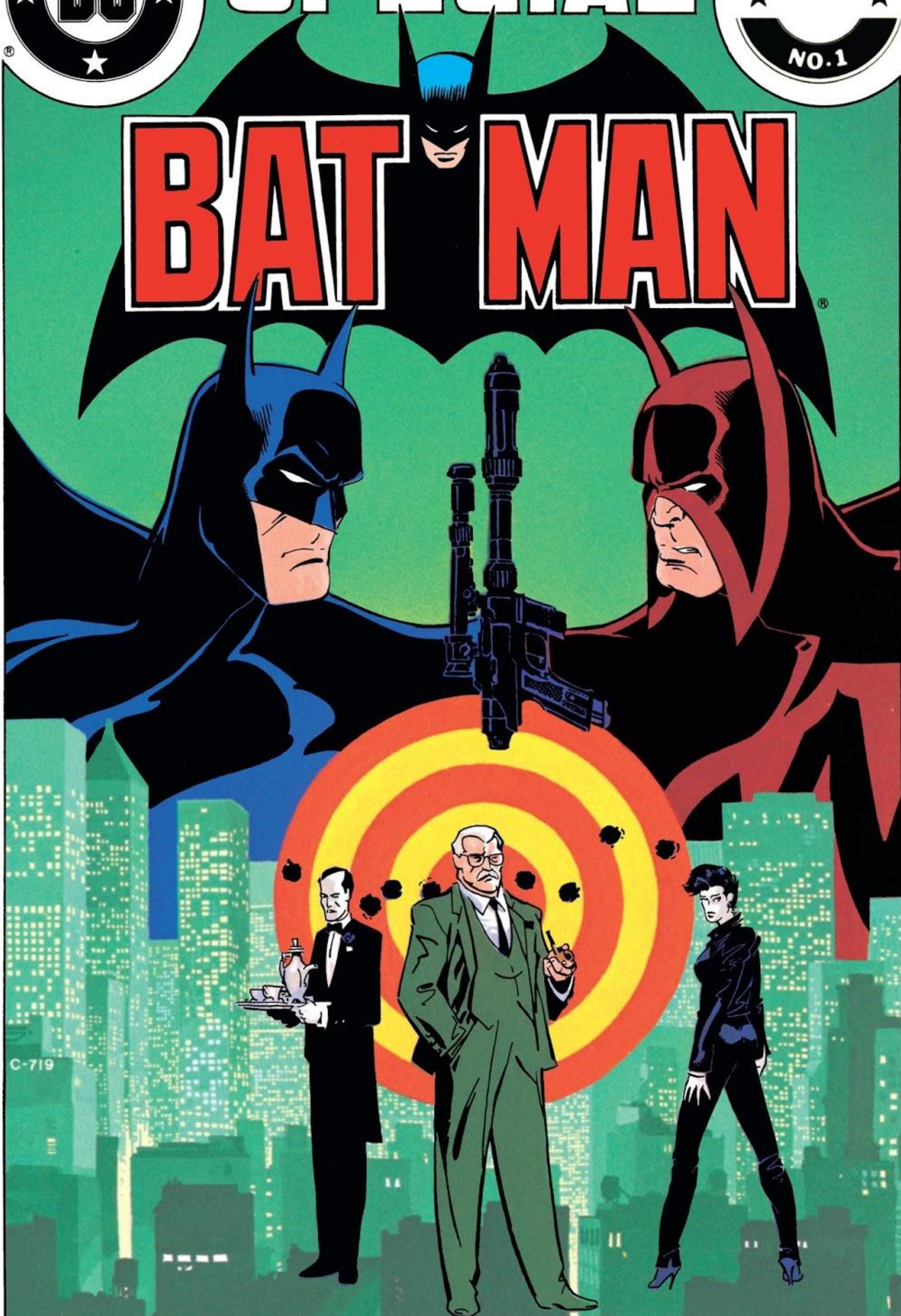
DC

SPECIAL

1984

No. 1

BATMAN



C-719

JUNE 26th, 25 YEARS AGO...

...THIS NEIGHBORHOOD WAS CALLED PARK ROW, THE DWELLING PLACE OF THE RICH AND THE SOON-TO-BE RICH...

...UNTIL TWO BRUTAL MURDERS OCCURRED...

I'LL TAKE THAT NECKLACE YOU'RE WEARIN', LADY!

LEAVE HER ALONE!

THOMAS, DON'T--!

DADDY...?

...THIS NEIGHBORHOOD NEVER HAD THE LUXURY OF A NAME...

...AND THE TWO KILLINGS THAT TOOK PLACE THAT SAME NIGHT AFFECTED ITS DESTINY NOT AT ALL...!

HOLD IT
RIGHT
THERE!

LOOK
OUT!

DADDY...?

G-1043



...AND FOR THE FIRST TIME
IN HIS EIGHT YEARS, BRUCE
WAYNE WAS **ALONE**...

EDITORS: DICK GIORDANO & LEN WEIN



ANOTHER CHILD WAS MADE
ALONE IN A FRIGHTENING NEW WORLD...



LETTERS: TODD KLEIN



...AS HE FORGED HIMSELF INTO THE FINEST CRIMINOLOGIST THE WORLD HAS EVER KNOWN...



COLORS: ADRIENNE ROY



SO HE BECAME THE MASTER OF THIS DARK WORLD, AND KNEW HE WOULD NEVER LEAVE IT...



...WHO DIED 25 YEARS AGO. 3

BRUCE WAYNE CRUSADES AGAINST
ALL CRIME, ALL INJUSTICE AS
THE DREAD

BAT MAN®

CREATED BY
BOB KANE



...WHILE HIS MIRROR-
SELF WARS AGAINST
ALL LAW...

...ALL THOSE WHO
ENFORCE THE LAW, AS...

INTERNATIONAL
DIAMOND EXCHANGE
WEST COAST BRANCH

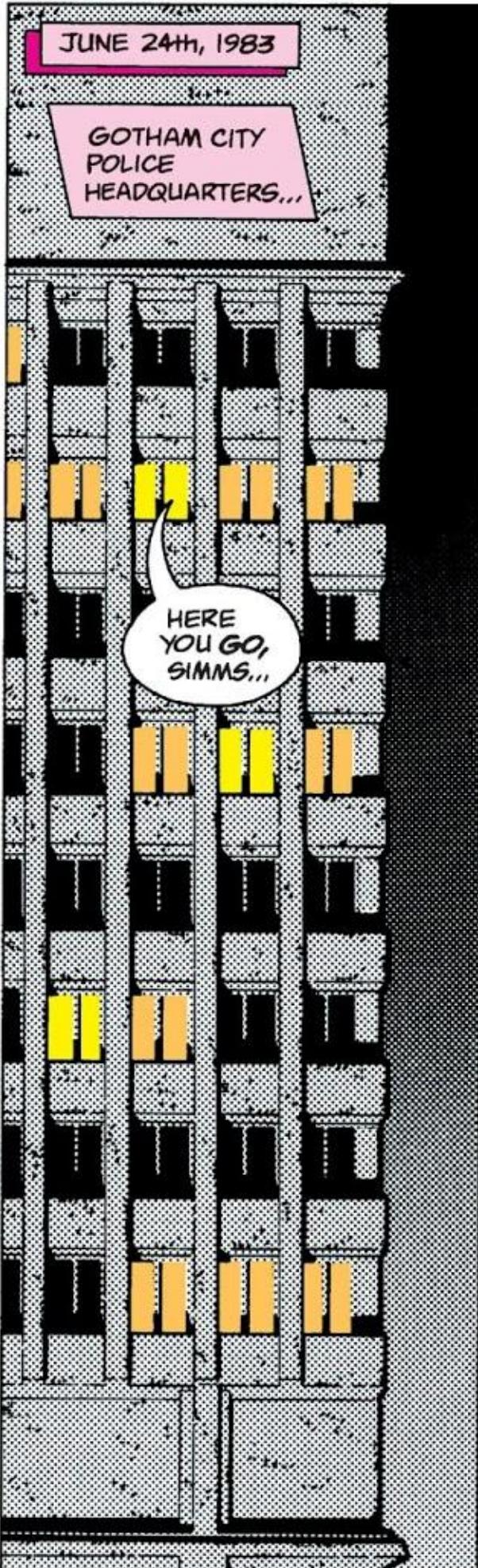
THE WRATH

NOW EACH MUST GAZE INTO
THE MIRROR OF HIS SOUL,
AND FACE...

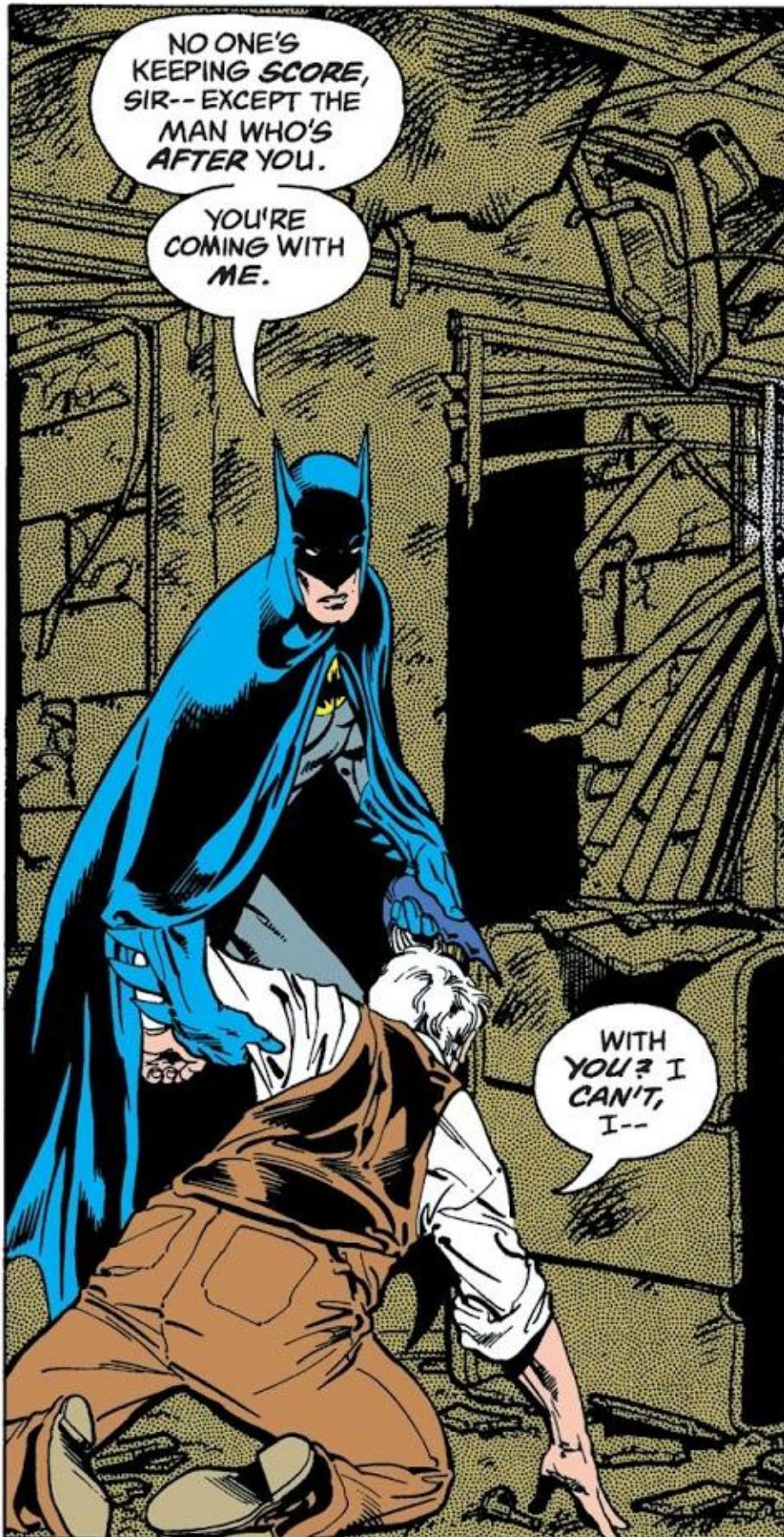


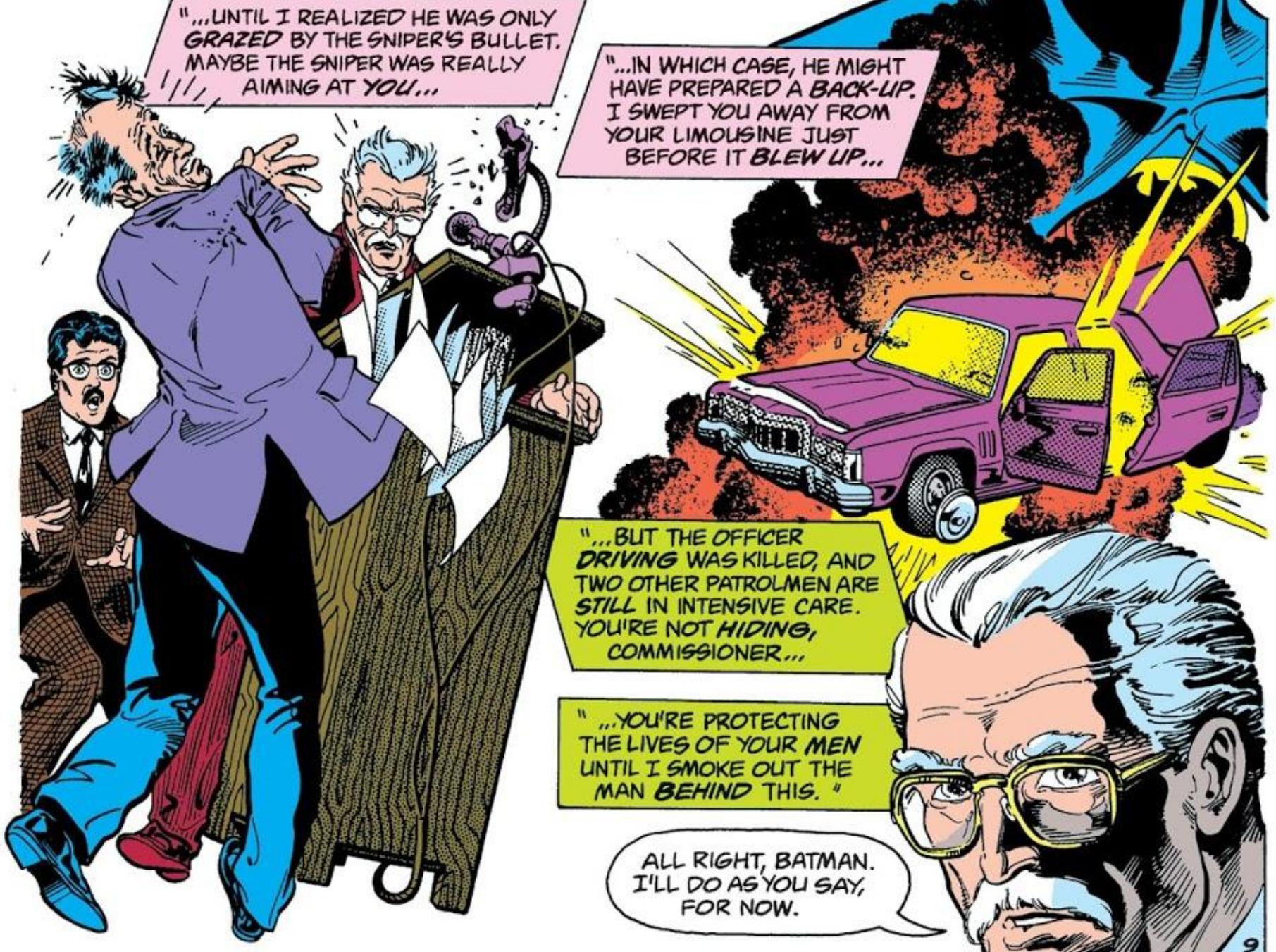
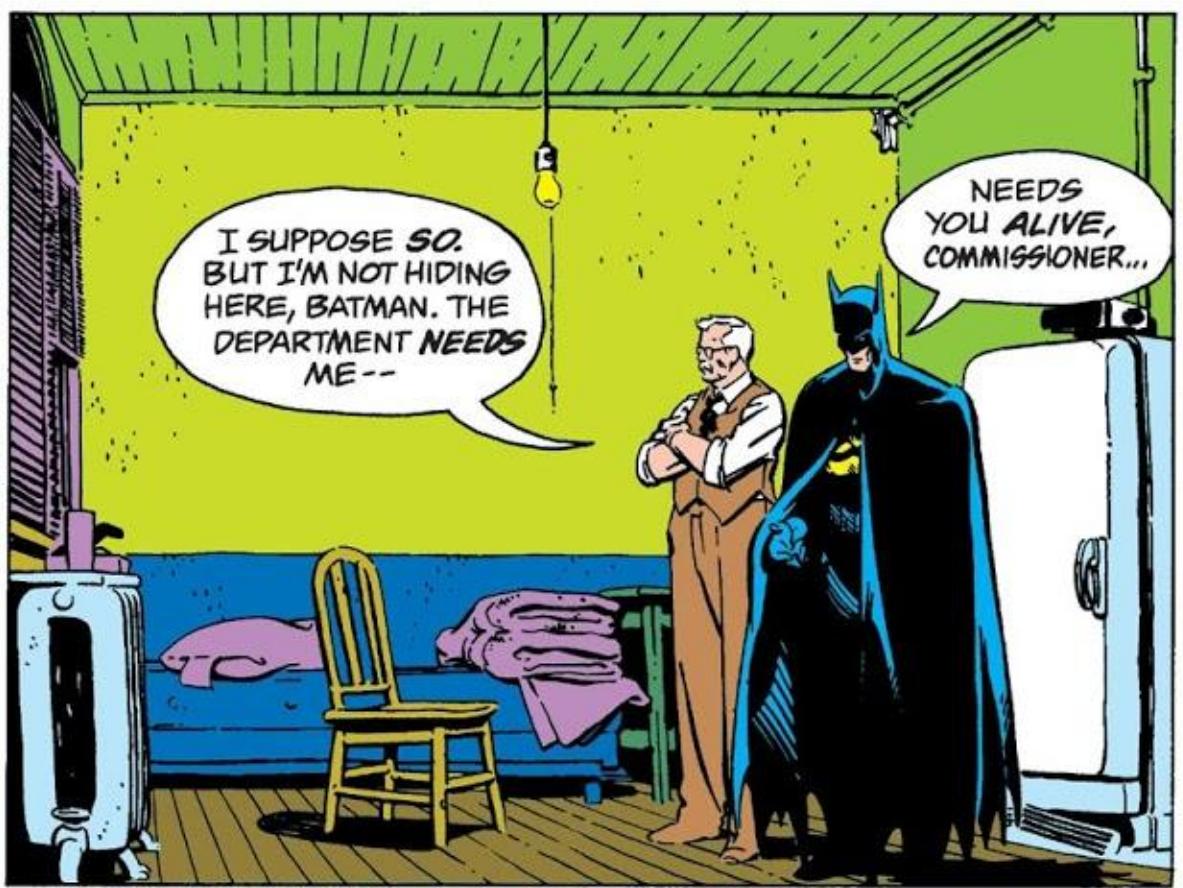
...THE PLAYER ON
THE OTHER SIDE!

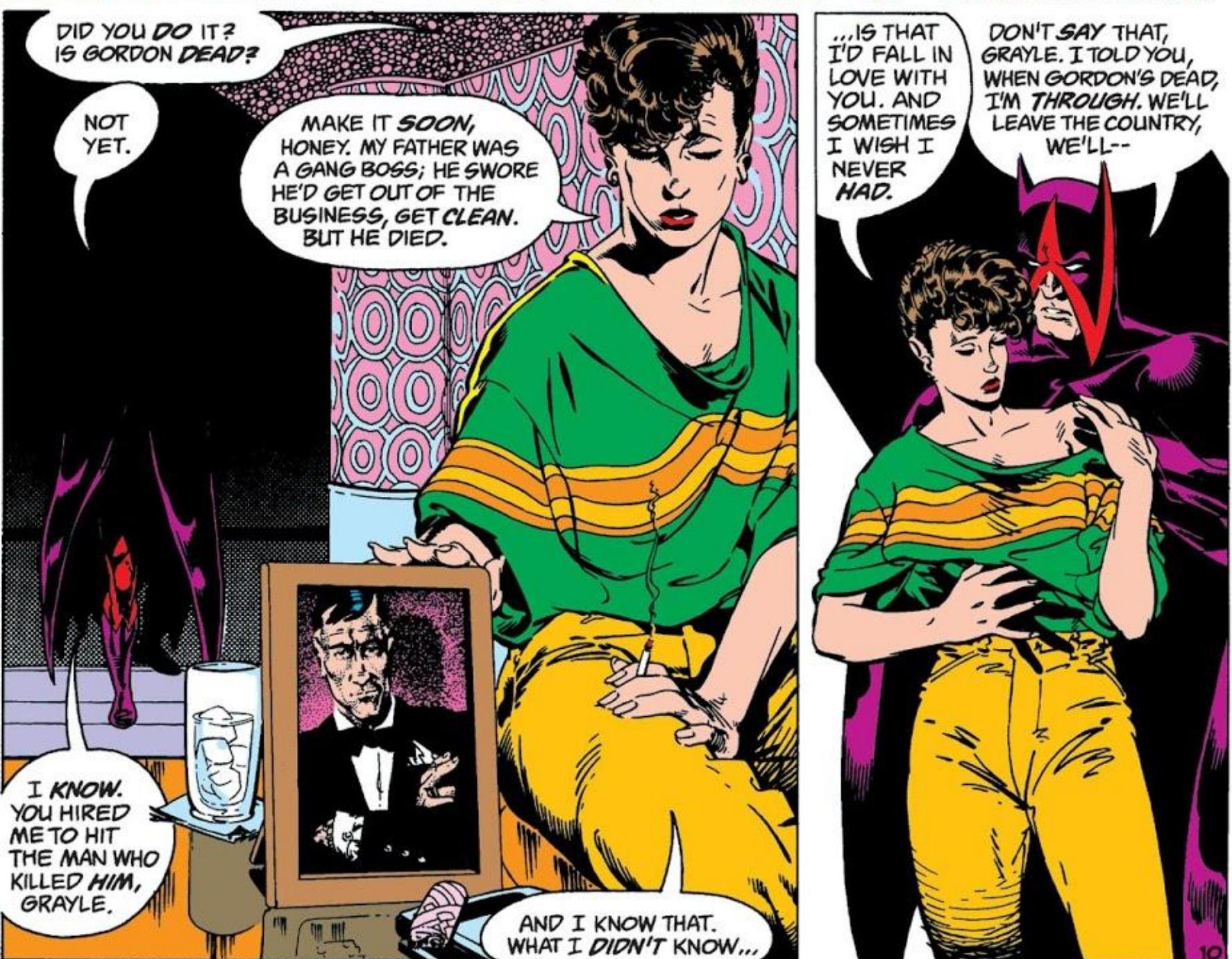
WRITER: MIKE W. BARR



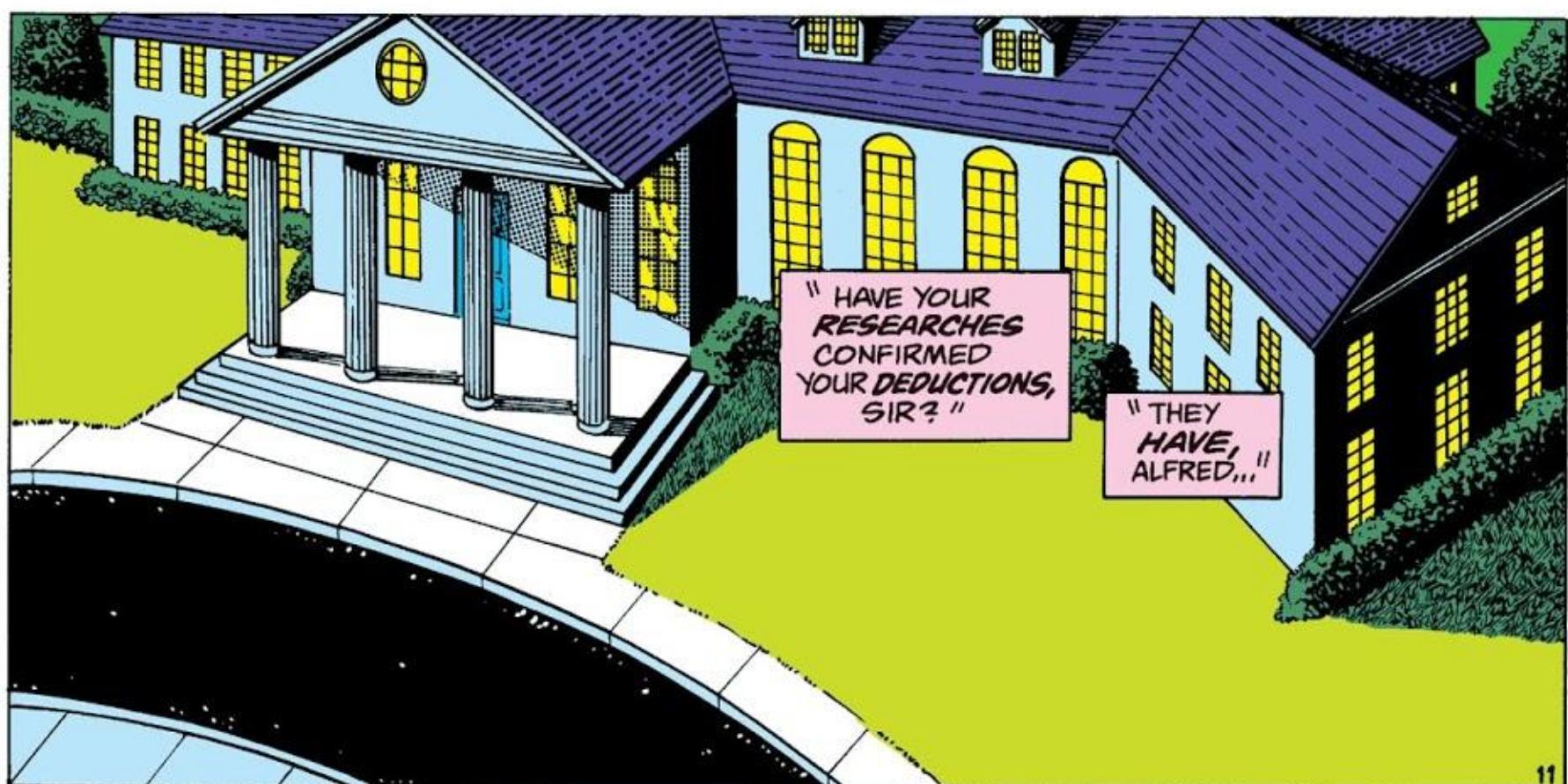




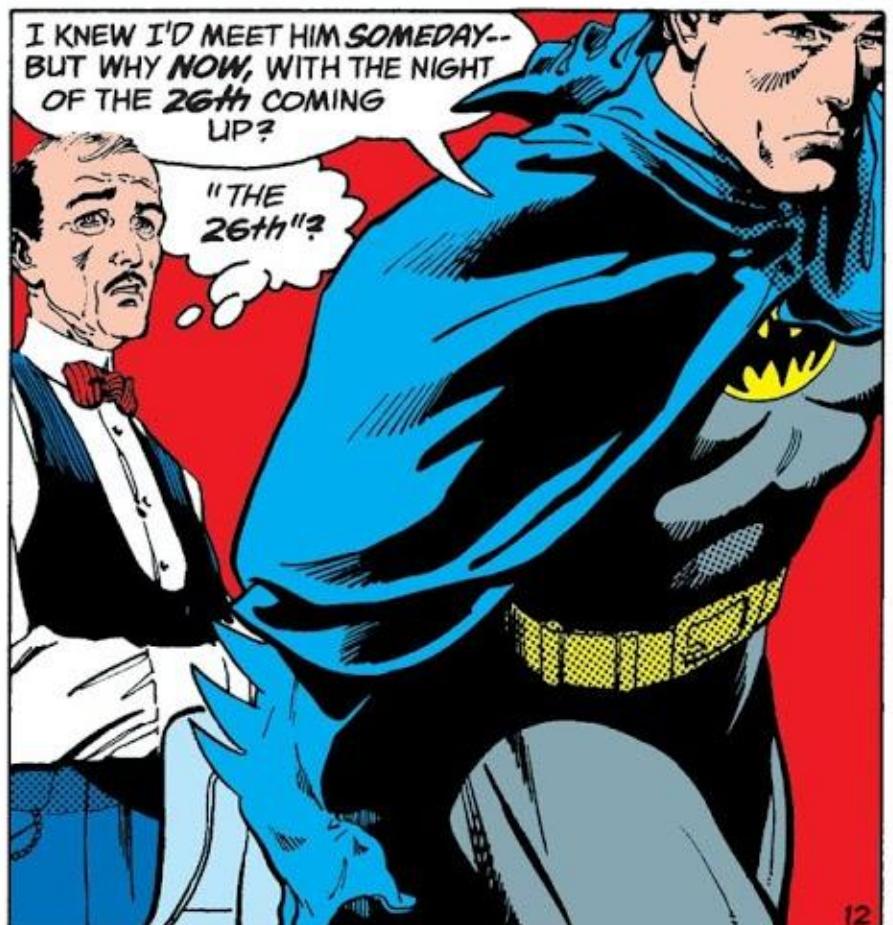
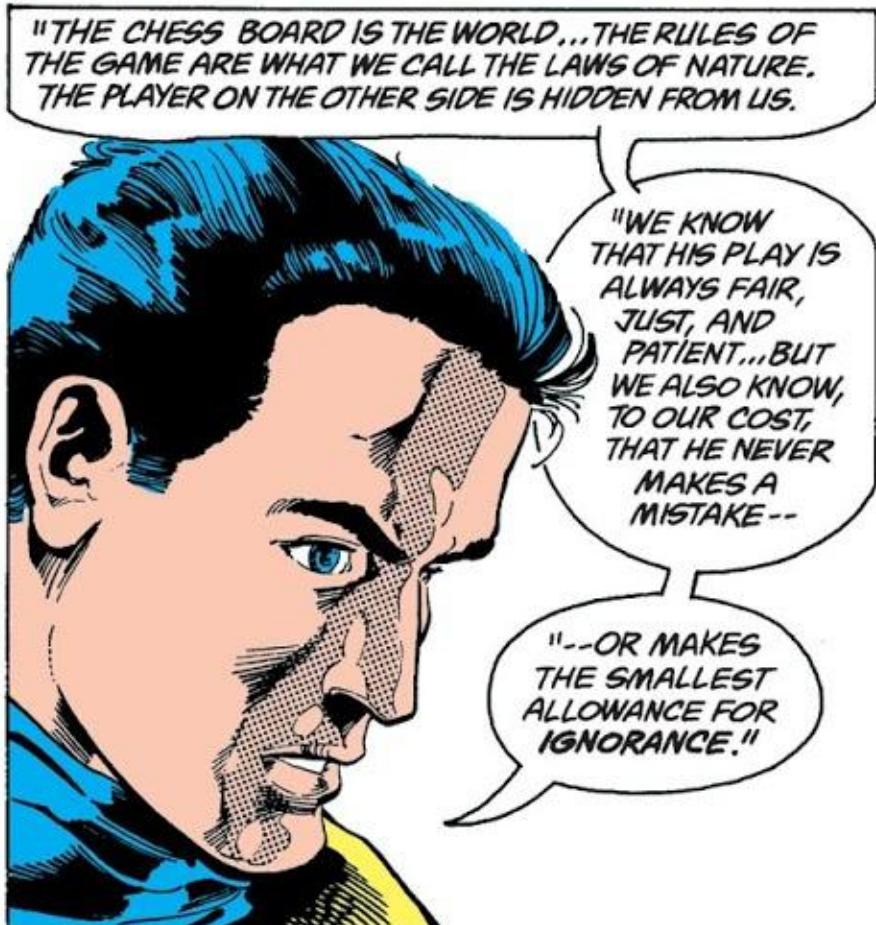
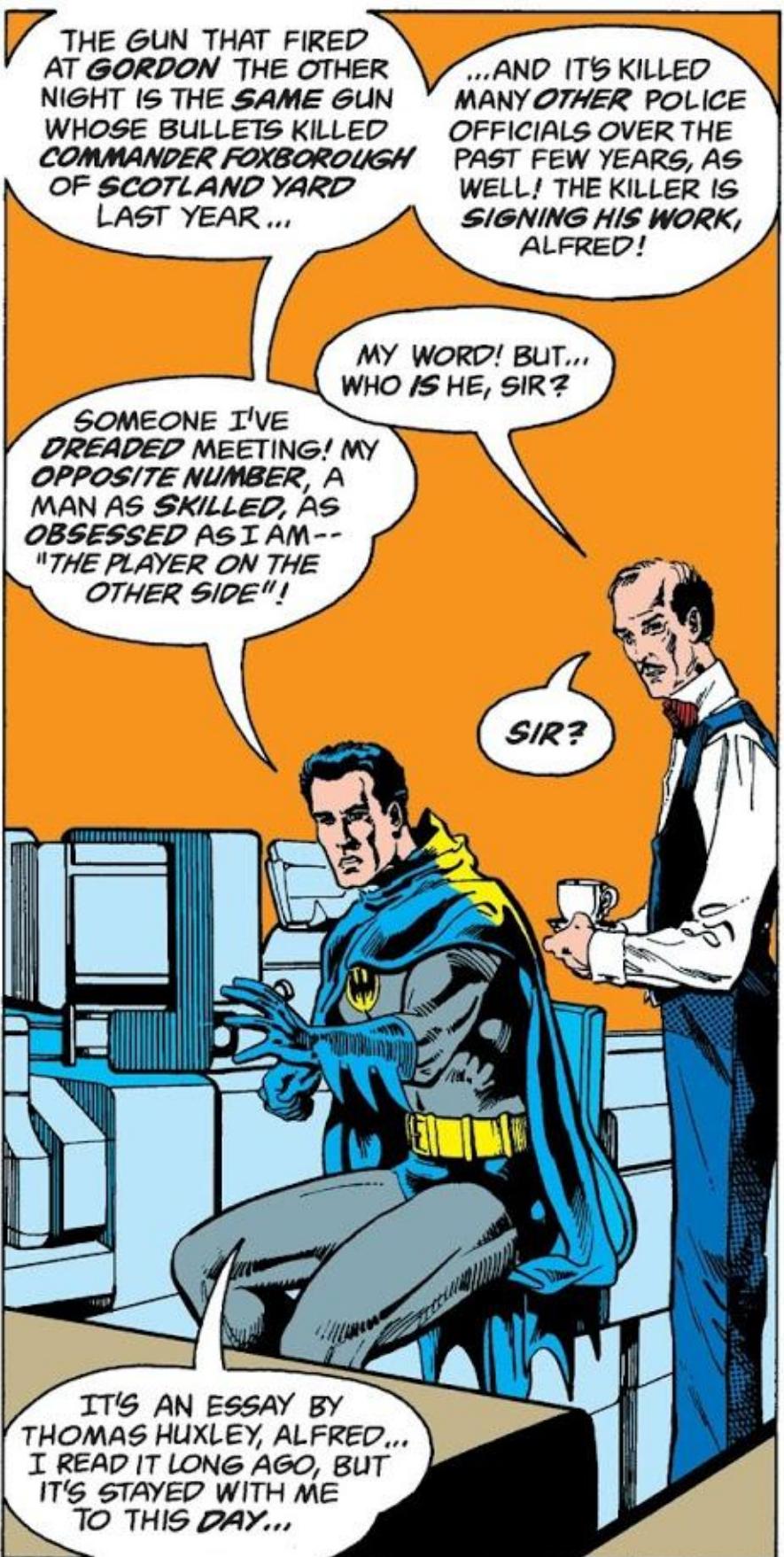


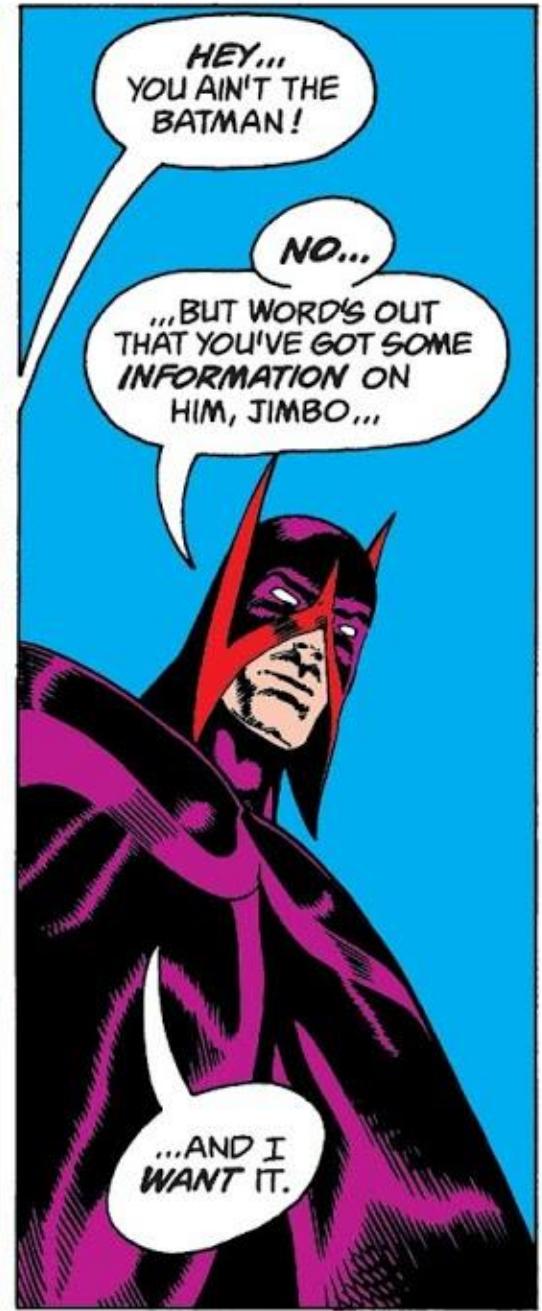


WILL YOU BE NEEDING ANYTHING ELSE, MISS HUDSON, BEFORE I--



"...UNFORTUNATELY."



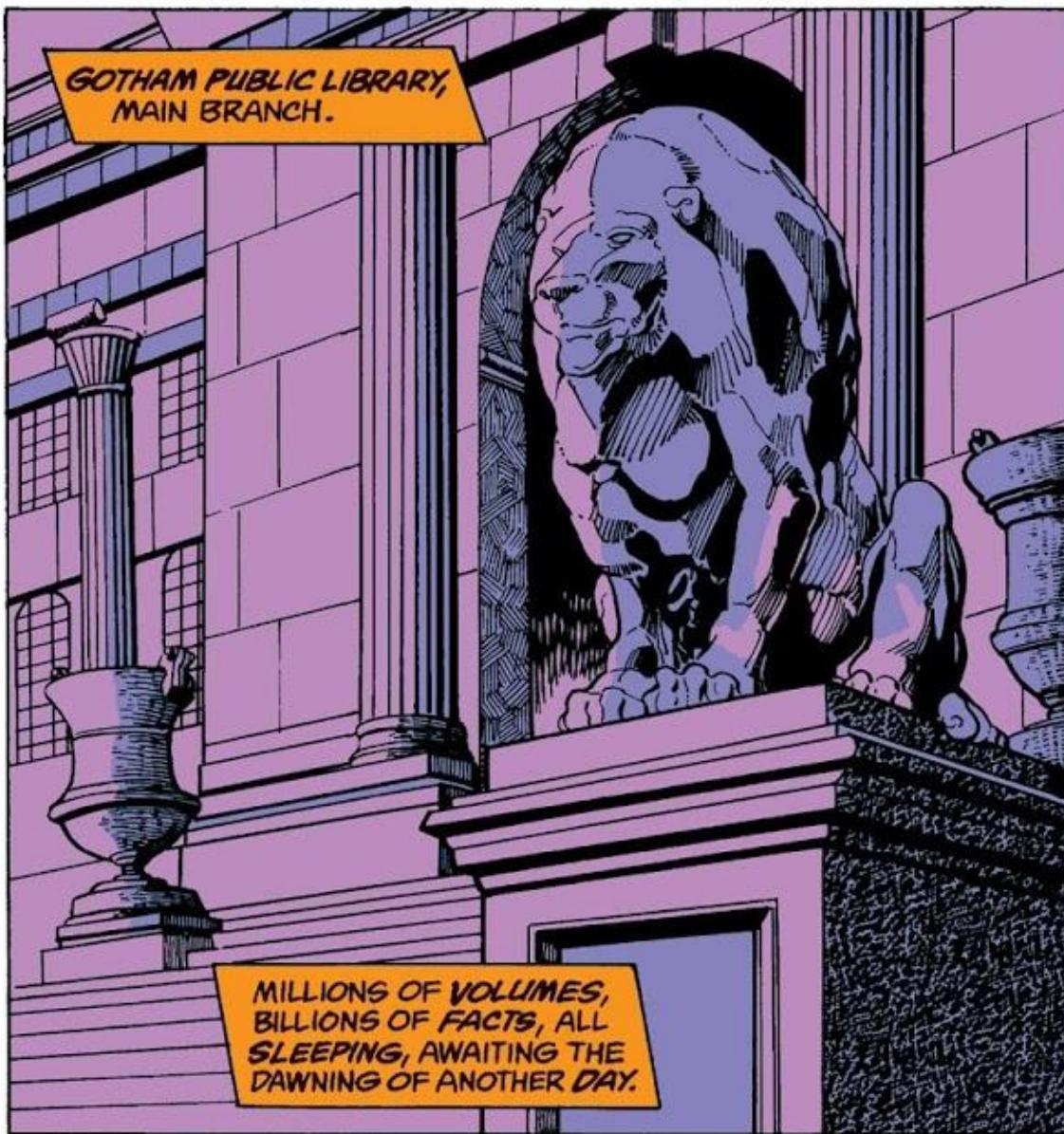


SURE I AM, MAN! THAT WAS THE NIGHT
I BROKE UP WITH MY OLD LADY! ALWAYS
USETA CELEBRATE BY RIPPIN' OFF
A CAR...

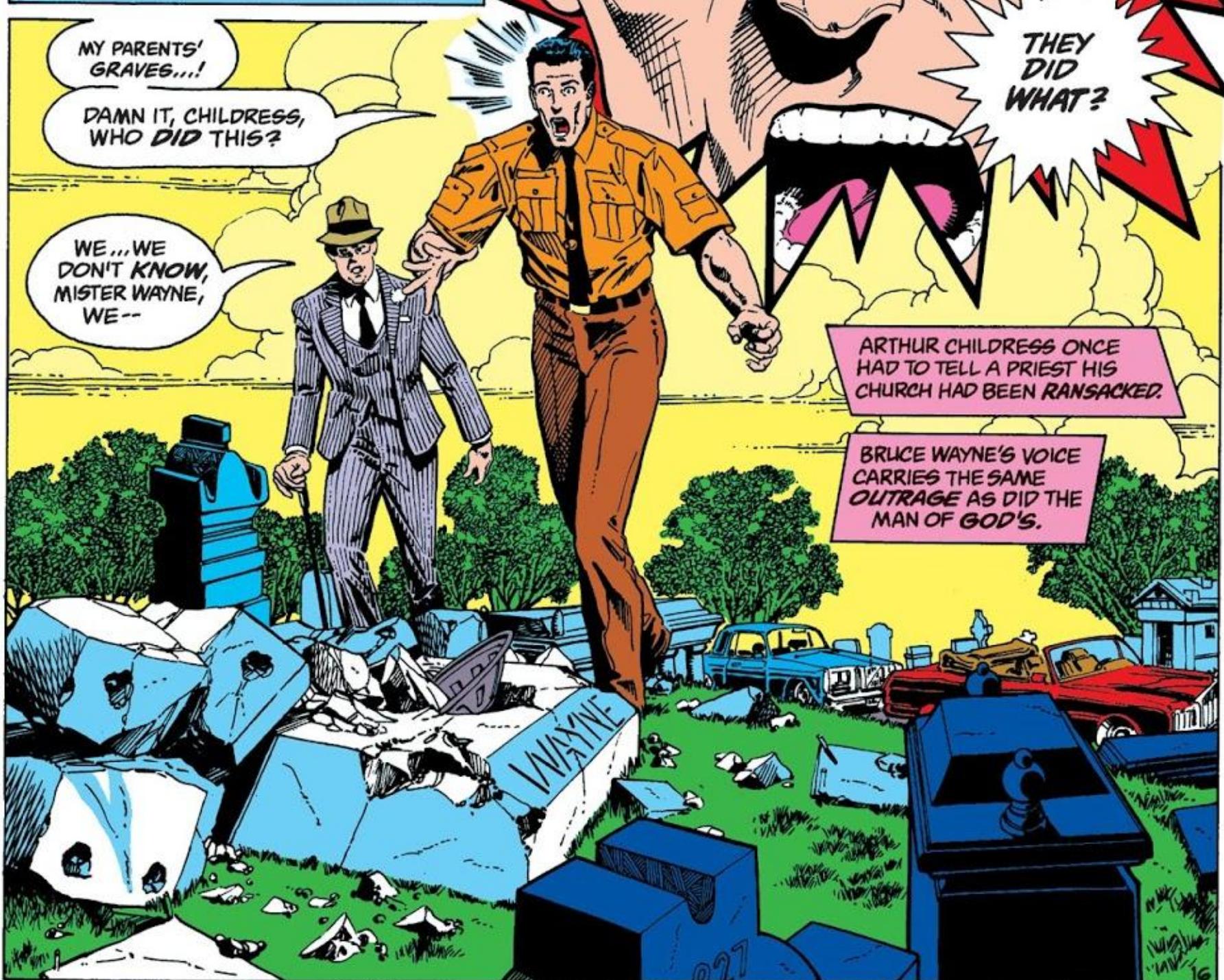
...TILL HE
CAUGHT ME! NOW
I'M CLEAN!

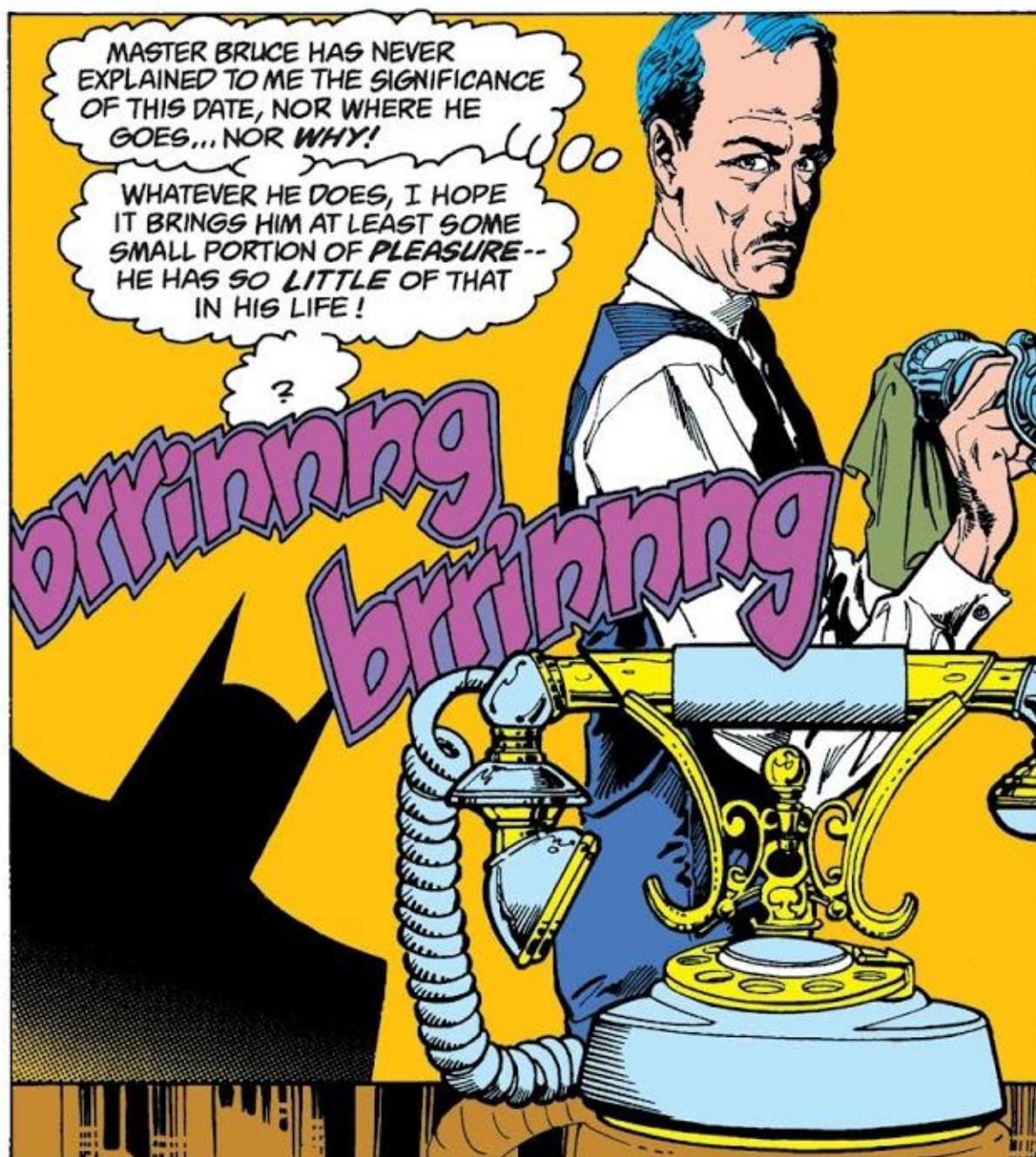
I BELIEVE
YOU, JIMBO...
...AND NOW
IT'S TIME FOR
YOU TO GET
PAID!

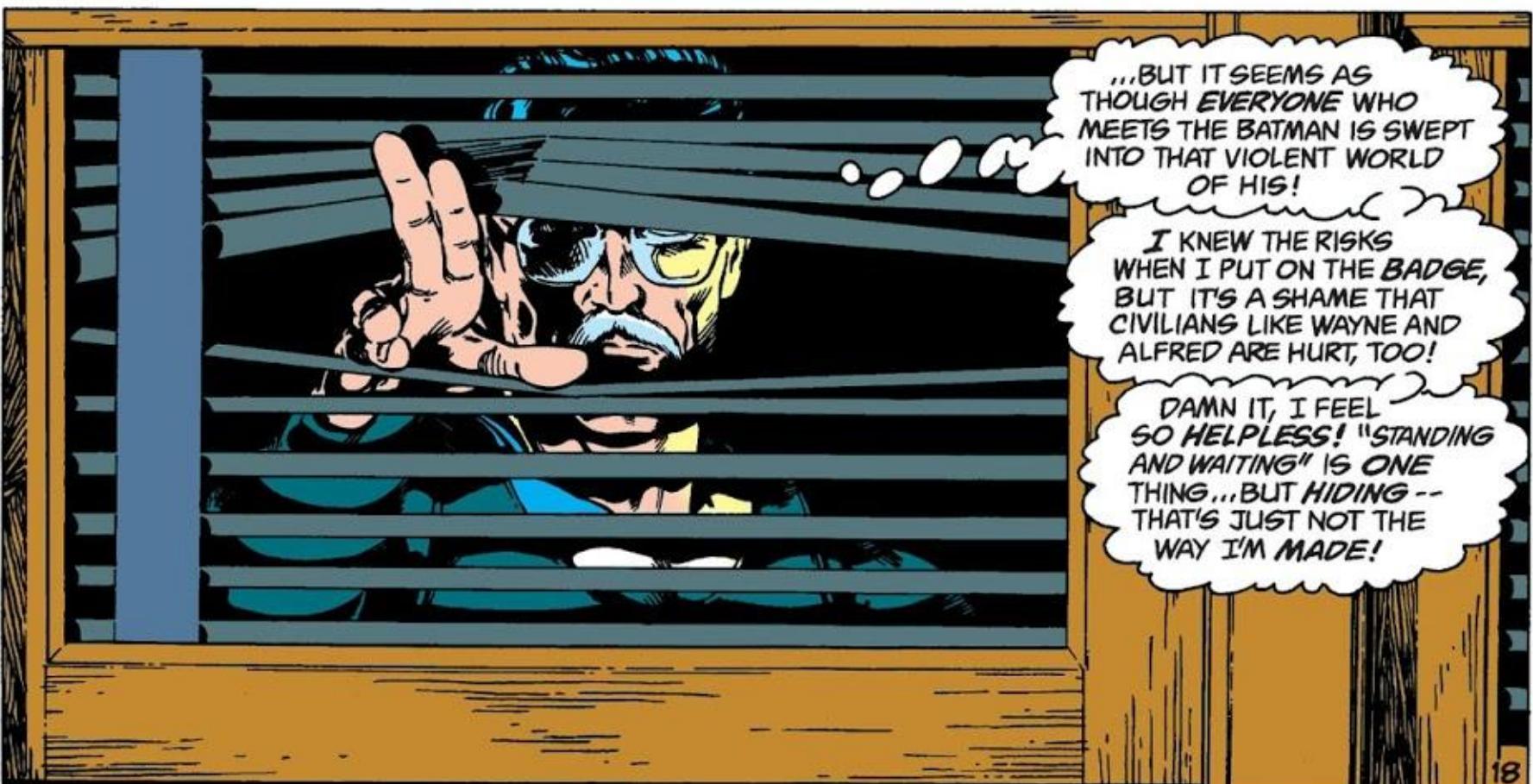
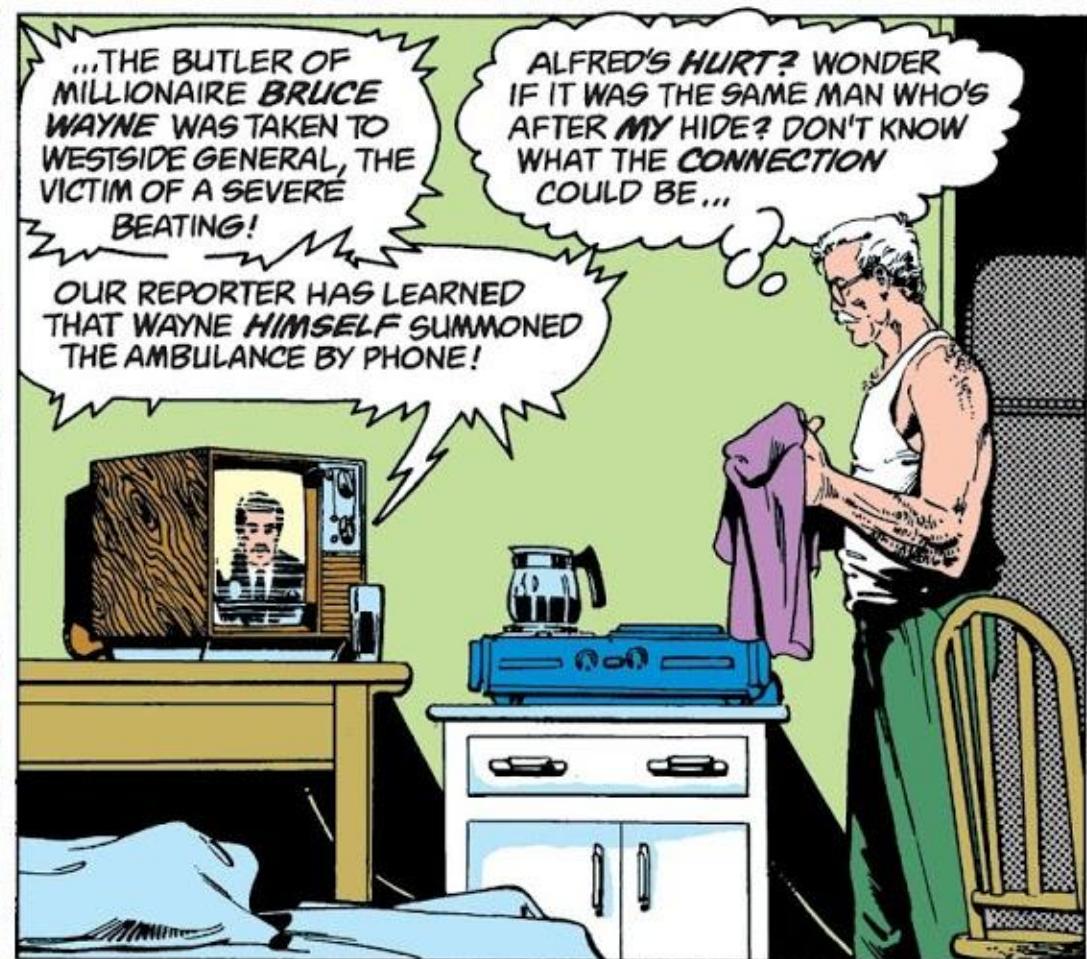
NO, MAN, PLEASE! I WAS
SQUARE WITH YOU, I--











SOME REGARD THE FOGHORN'S WAIL AS A MOURNFUL SOUND, BUT NOT THE PEOPLE GATHERED IN THIS DOCKSIDE WAREHOUSE...

...THEY GAVE UP MOURNING ANYTHING LONG AGO!

YOU ALL KNEW MY FATHER, "BIG JACK" HUDSON! HE WAS SQUARE WITH YOU, AND HE PAID YOU WELL!

I'M HIS DAUGHTER...



...AND I NEED YOUR HELP! POLICE COMMISSIONER GORDON IS HIDING SOMEWHERE OUT THERE--I WANT TO FIND HIM!

WHAT'N HELL FOR?

THAT'S MY BUSINESS! I'VE GIVEN ALL OF YOU MORE MONEY THAN YOU'VE EVER SEEN...



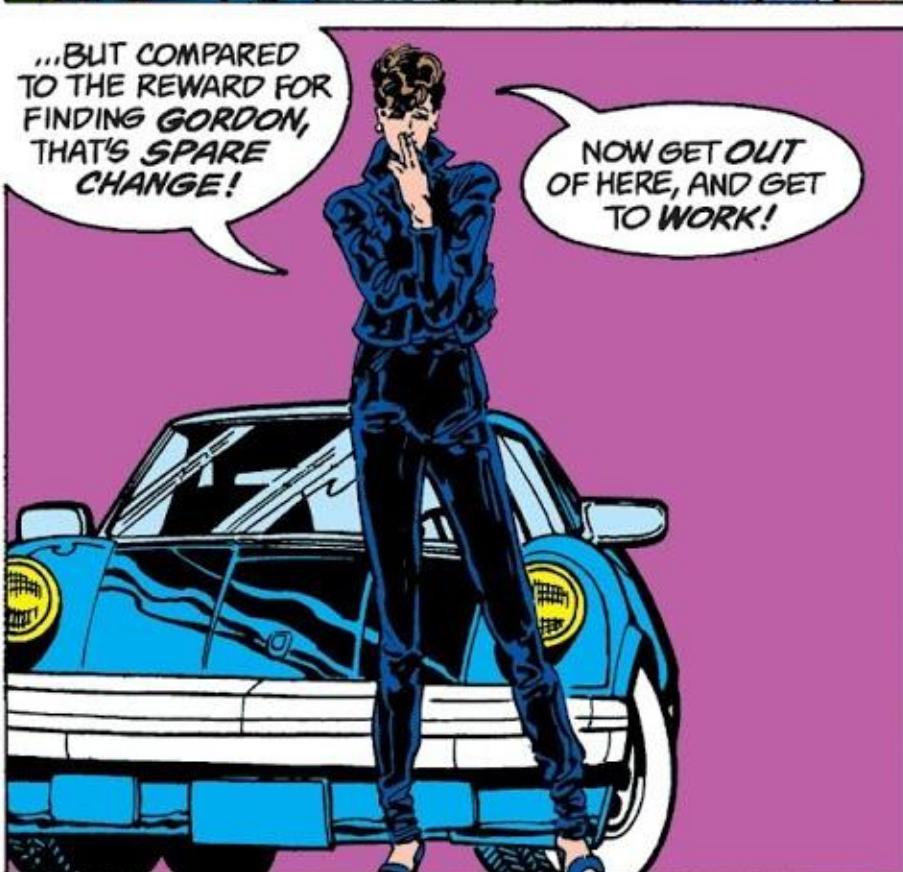
...BUT COMPARED TO THE REWARD FOR FINDING GORDON, THAT'S SPARE CHANGE!

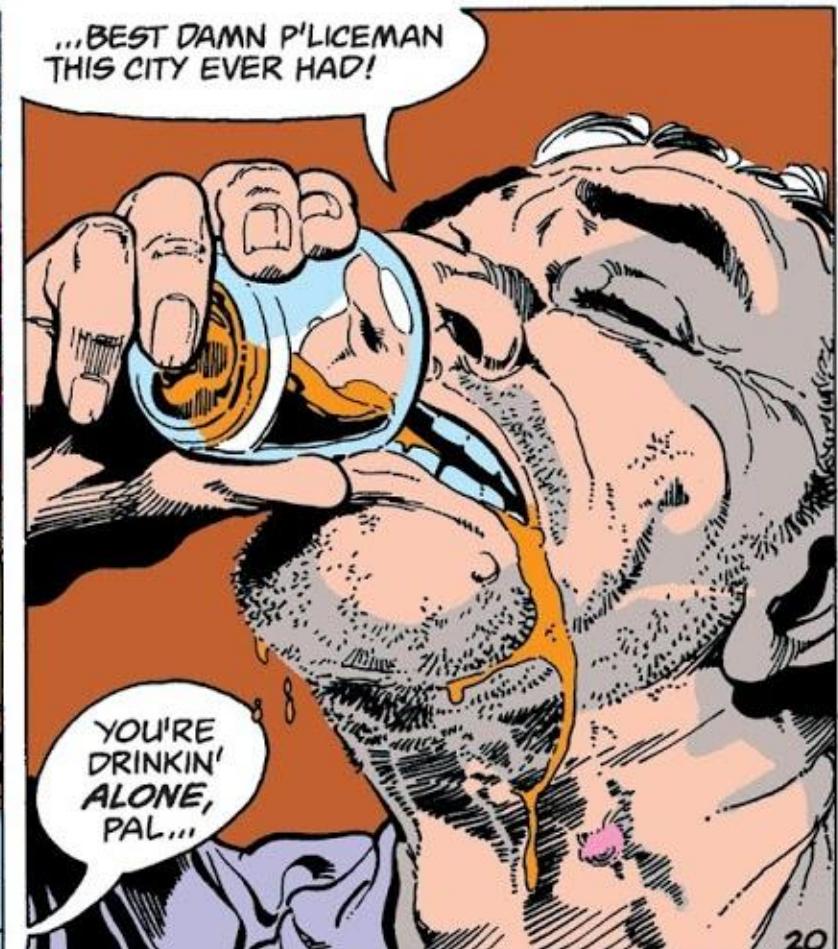
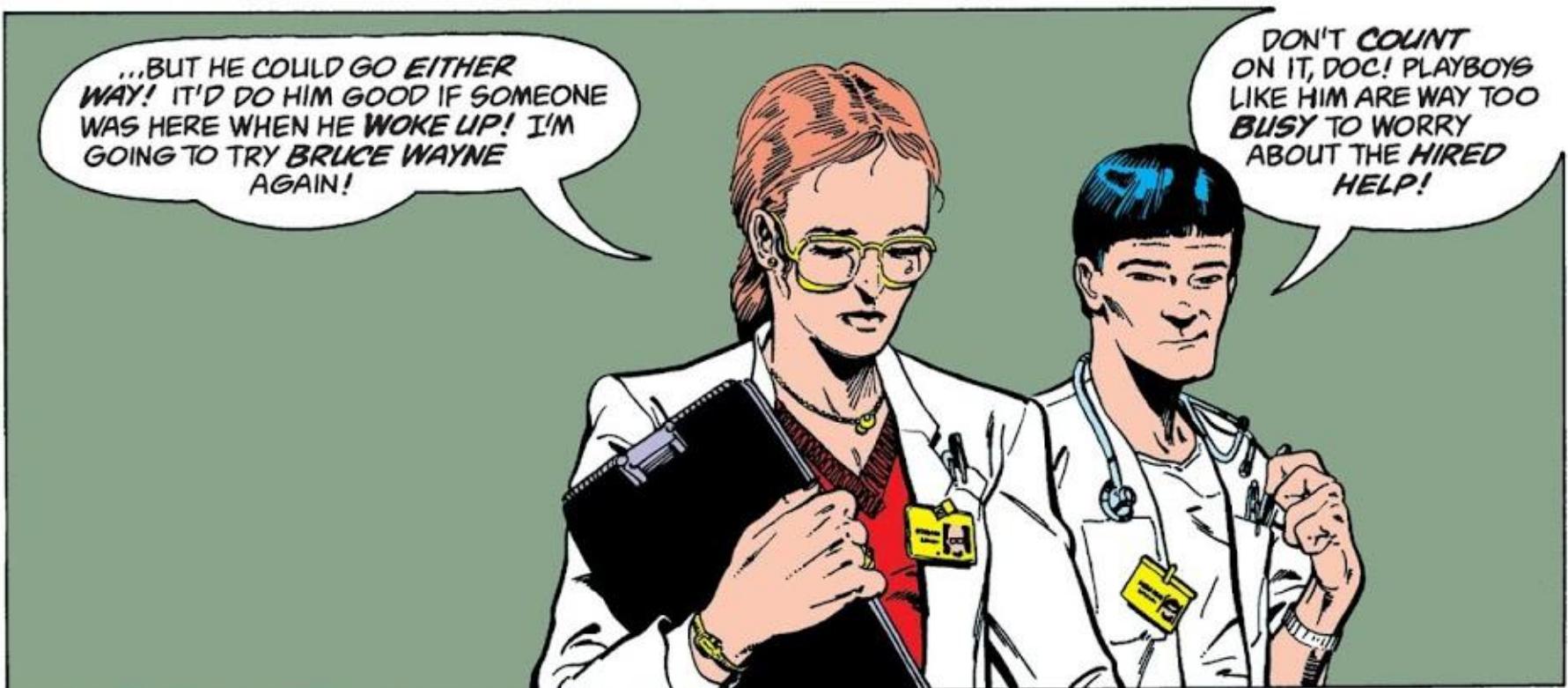
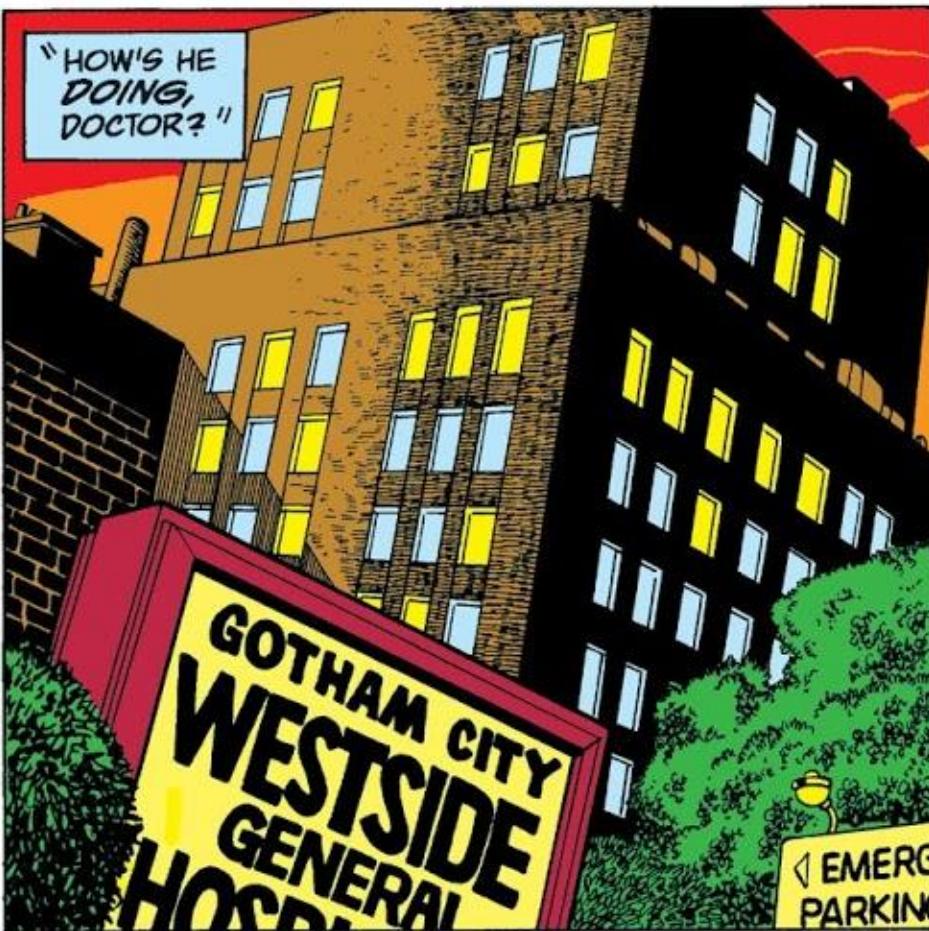
NOW GET OUT OF HERE, AND GET TO WORK!

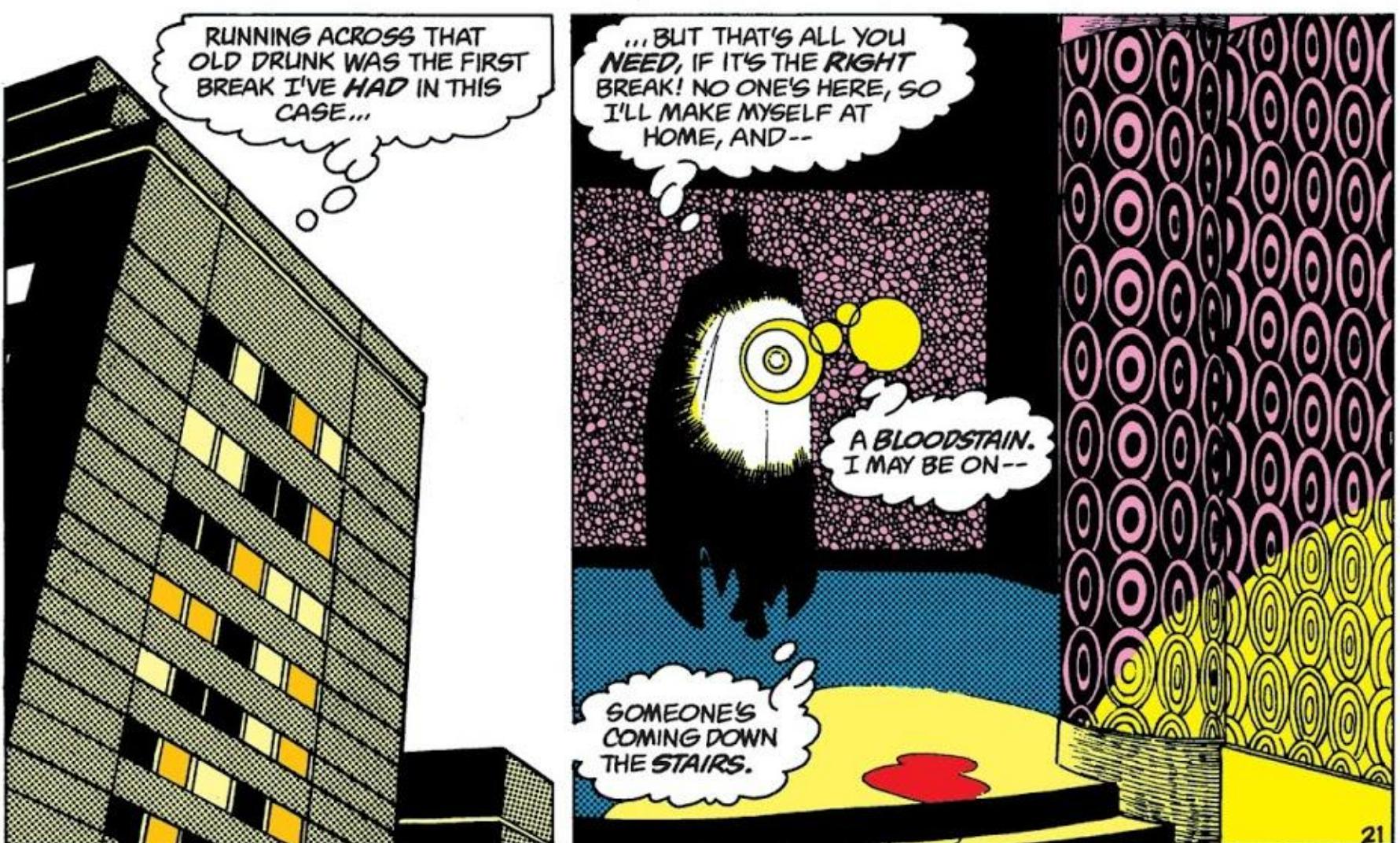
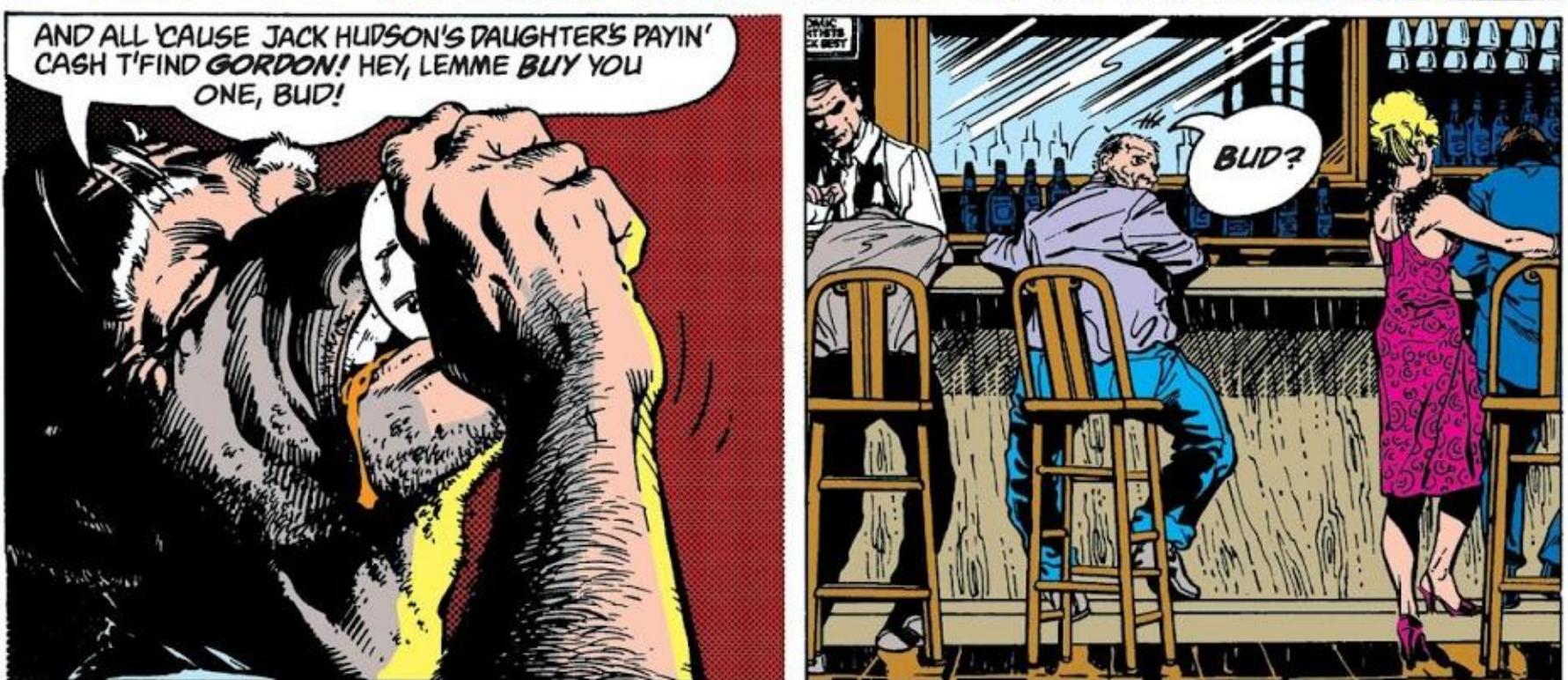
NOT ONE CHANCE IN A HUNDRED THIS WILL WORK, BUT I'VE GOT TO DO SOMETHING! MY LOVER IS OUT THERE LOOKING FOR GORDON...

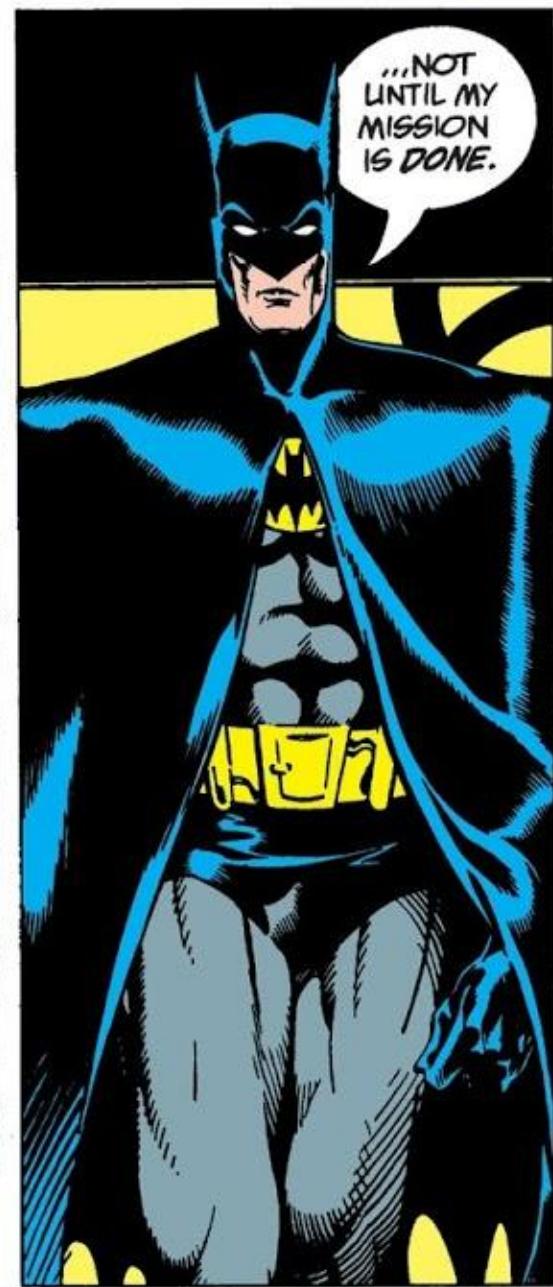
...AND IF I CAN HELP FIND HIM ONE MINUTE EARLIER, THAT'S ONE MORE MINUTE WE'LL HAVE TOGETHER!

HE'LL BE FREE OF HIS OBSESSION AT LAST... AND WE CAN START LIFE OVER!









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"...IT'S CRIME ALLEY!"

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO, THIS NEIGHBORHOOD WAS THE DWELLING PLACE OF THE RICH AND SOON-TO-BE RICH... A PLACE OF GOURMET RESTAURANTS AND FASHIONABLE THEATERS...

...OF ELEGANT WOMEN AND SUAVE MEN...

I'VE BEEN EXPECTING YOU-- YOU ALWAYS COME TO VISIT ME ON THIS DAY!

THEN YOU'RE THE ONE I'M LOOKING FOR!

BUT THE DRY ROT OF TIME SET IN, AND THE LAUGHTER STOPPED, AND THE LIGHTS DIMMED, AND THOSE ELEGANT WOMEN AND SUAVE MEN SOUGHT THEIR PLEASURES ELSEWHERE...

...AND NOW, ONLY THE FORLORN AND THE DESPERATE WALK THESE STREETS...

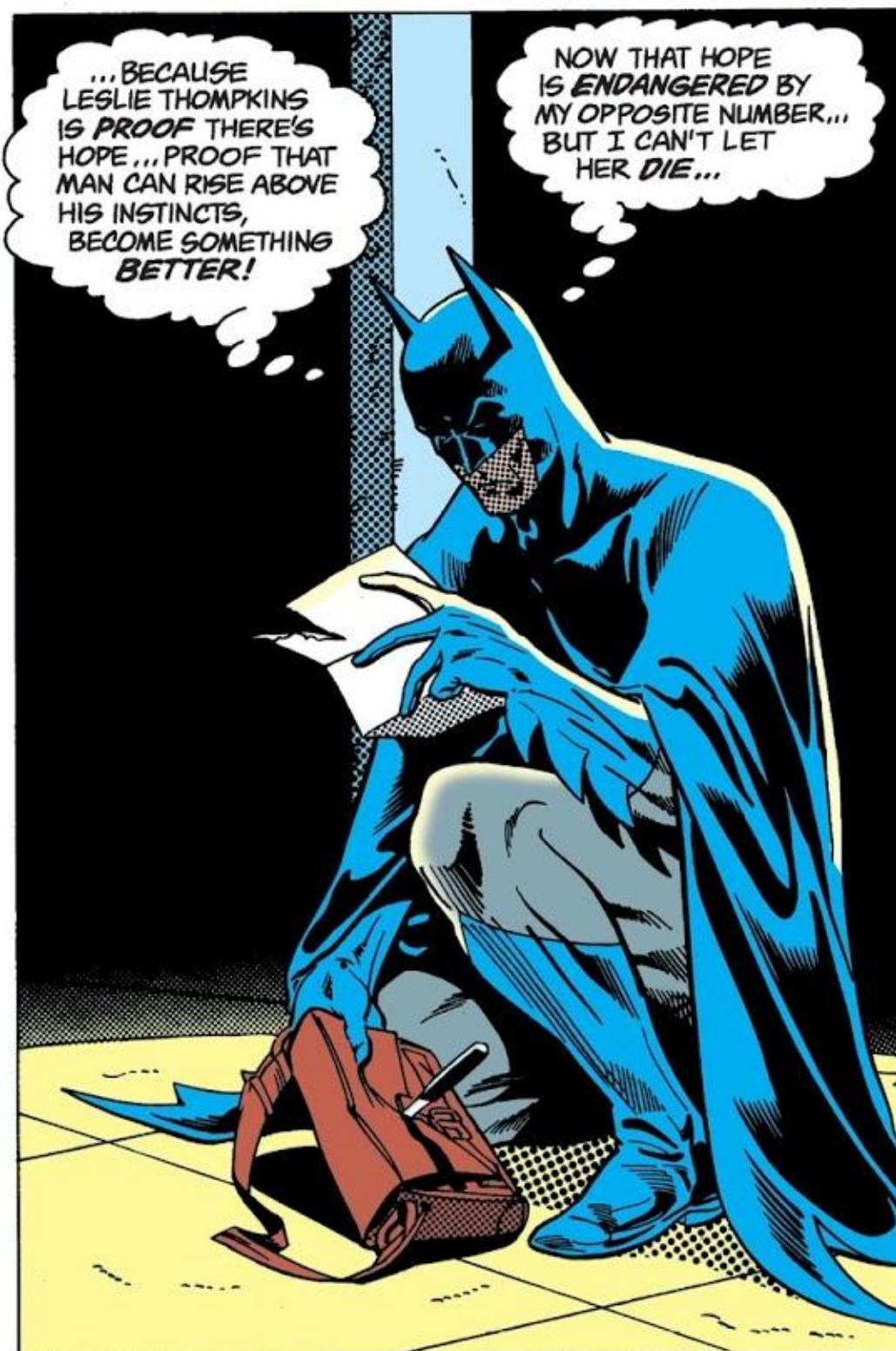
YOU DON'T RECOGNIZE ME? BUT...

FOR ONE NIGHT, TWO BRUTAL SLAYINGS OCCURRED SIGNALLING THE BEGINNING OF THE END...

WAIT--YOU AREN'T THE BATMAN!

NO, MA'AM.

...THE AREA KNOWN AS PARK ROW ACQUIRED A NEW NAME-- CRIME ALLEY... AND--





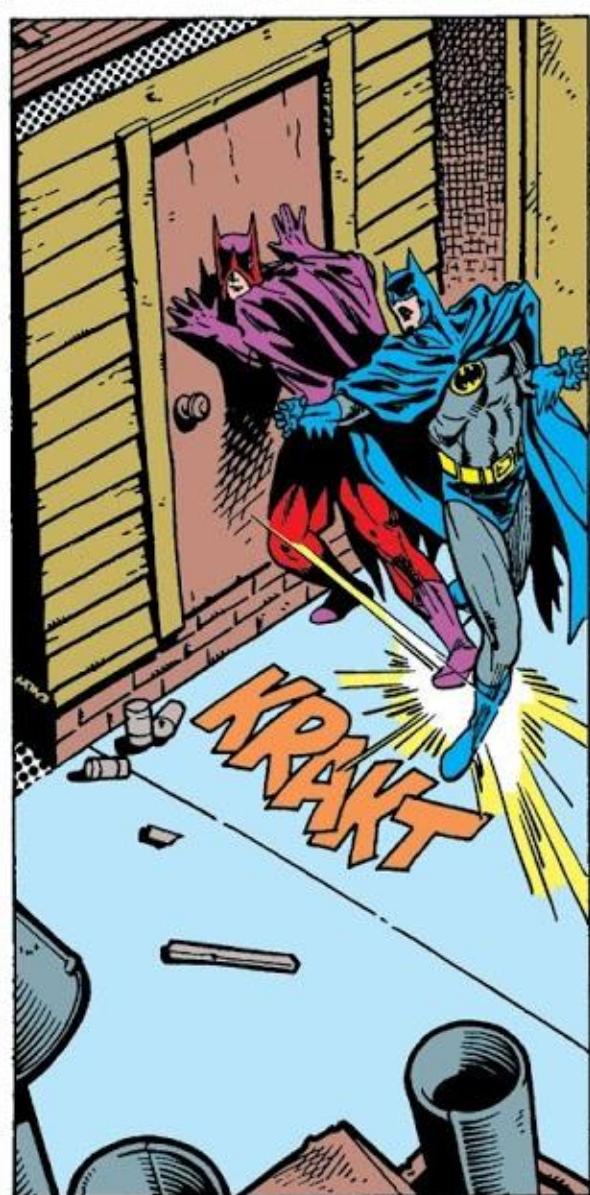






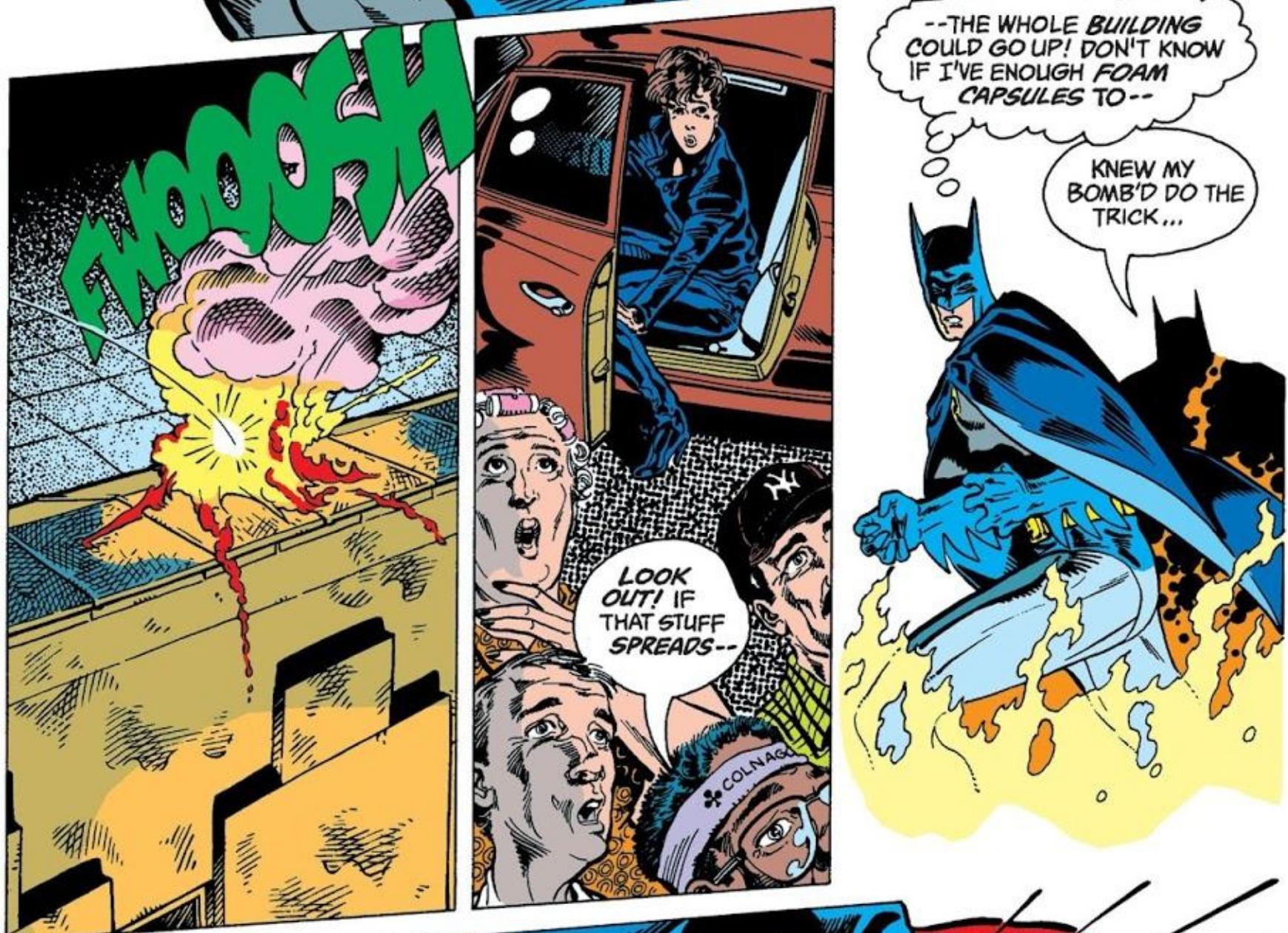








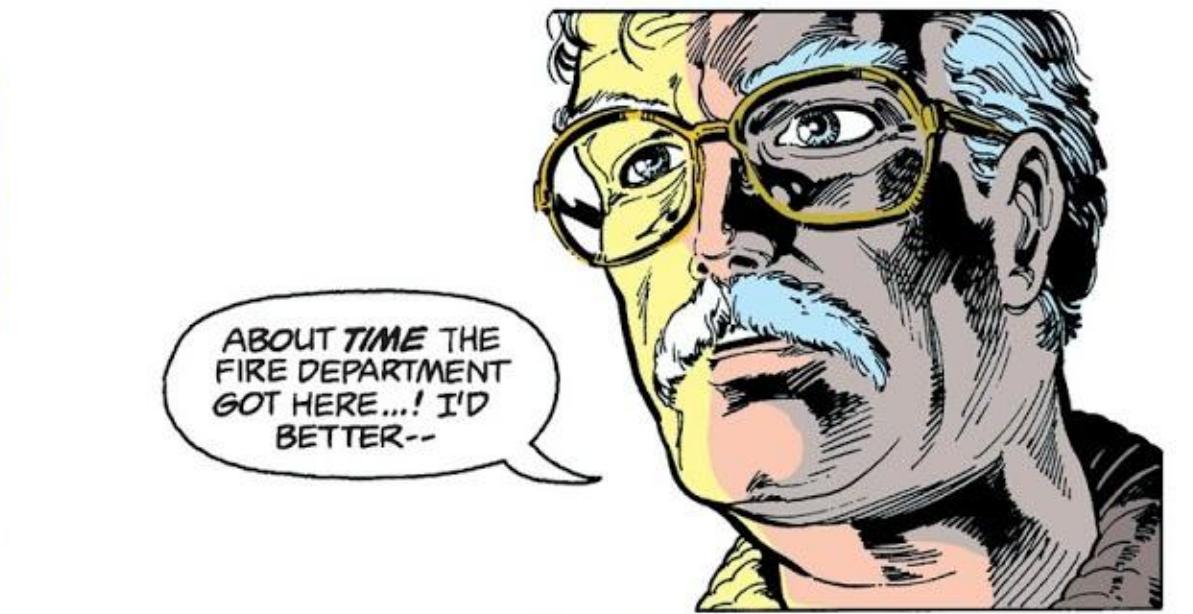




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...I ALMOST PASSED OUT
WHEN HIS BULLETS STRUCK THE
VEST...BUT I HEARD HIM SAY
SOMETHING!

WHAT WAS IT? DID
HE EXPLAIN WHY HE
WANTED TO KILL ME?
OR WHY HE'S
MURDERED SO
MANY OTHER
COPS?

NO, COMMISSIONER--MEN LIKE HIM
RARELY EXPLAIN THEIR MOTIVES! I DON'T
SUPPOSE WE'LL EVER KNOW WHY!

BATMAN...?

MISS
THOMPKINS! I'M
SORRY YOU HAD TO
BE INVOLVED IN
THIS!

...YOU KNOW, YOU'VE NEVER TOLD
ME THE REASON YOU COME TO
VISIT ME ON THIS DAY!

...AND MY
PROBABLE
END!

DON'T
BE... PLEASE!
BUT...

I WILL...
SOMEDAY.
BUT FOR NOW,
CALL IT A
MEMORIAL...
A REMINDER
OF MY
BEGINNING...

I LIVE FOR THE TIME
WHEN NO ONE WILL DIE
FROM CRIME OR
INJUSTICE...WHEN YOU
AND YOUR KIND ARE
UNNECESSARY.

FORGIVE ME.

NO APOLOGY NEEDED,
MISS THOMPKINS. I ONLY
HOPE I LIVE TO SEE
THAT DAY...

...WHEN CRIME,
AND ITS AVENGERS...
AND ITS VICTIMS ARE
A THING OF THE
PAST.

I ~~sob~~
KNEW WE
WOULDN'T MAKE
IT OUT... I
KNEW IT...

TAKE CARE, MISS
THOMPKINS... YOU MAY
BE THE ONLY HOPE
WE HAVE LEFT!



THAT'S RIGHT,
DEAR, LET IT
OUT...

I'M LESLIE
THOMPKINS.
PLEASE, COME
WITH ME...

...I'LL
DO WHAT I
CAN.

