

NO.427
U.S. \$1.50
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Book Two
of Four

a Death in the Family

Robin finds
his mother.

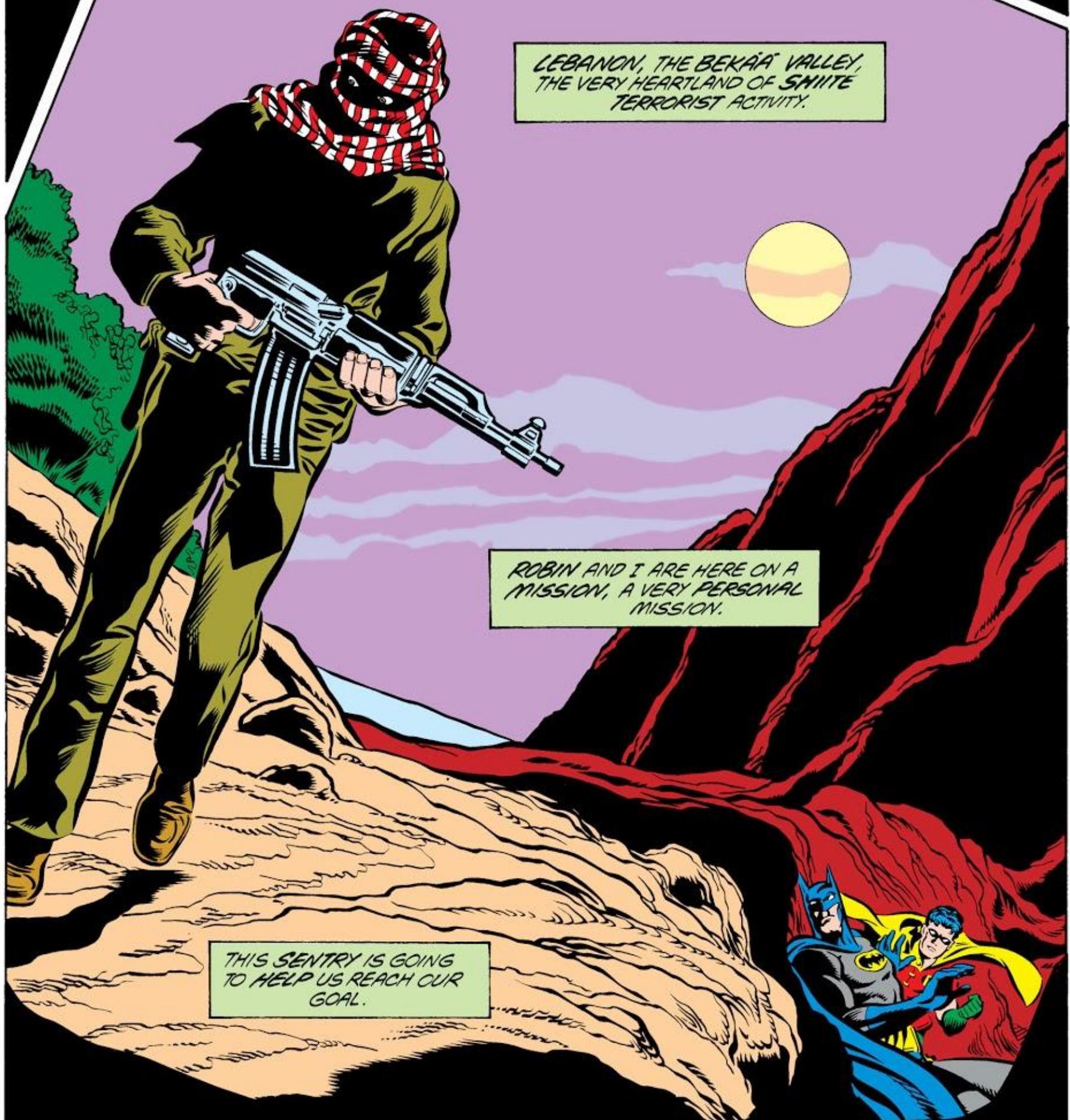
And waiting is
the Joker,
planning a revenge
that is swift,
violent,
terrible.

Can Robin survive?

You will decide.
Details on inside back cover.

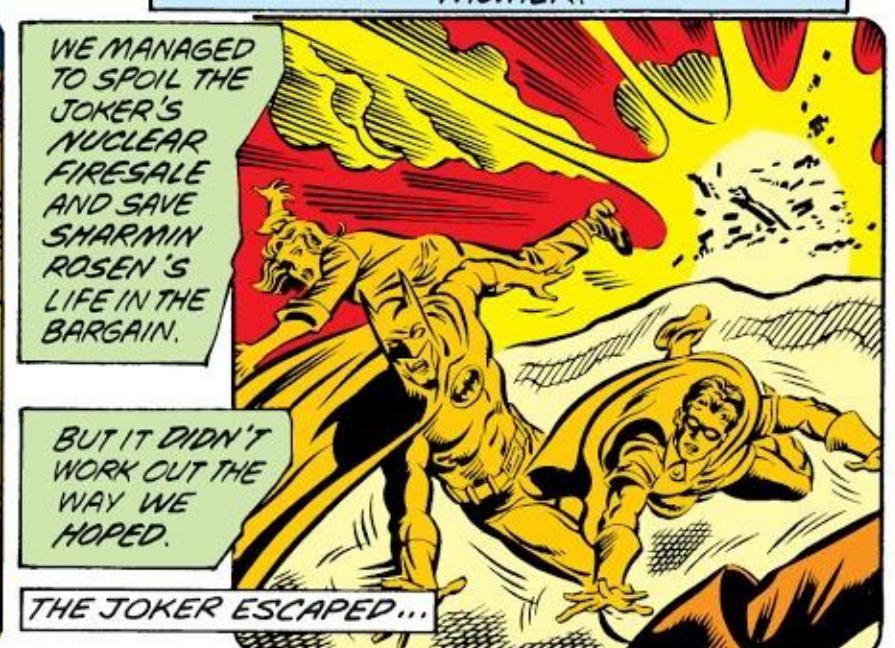
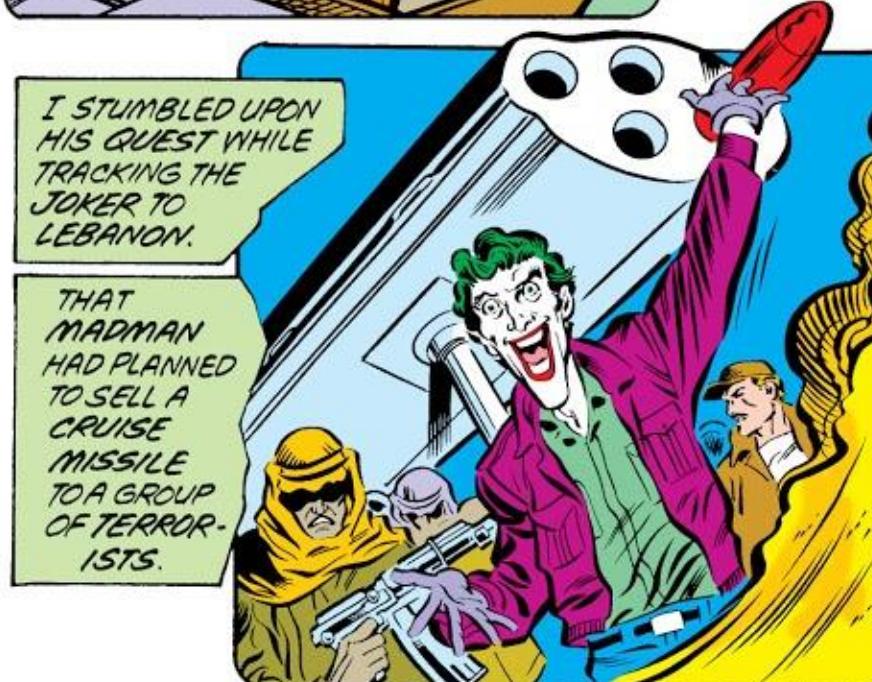
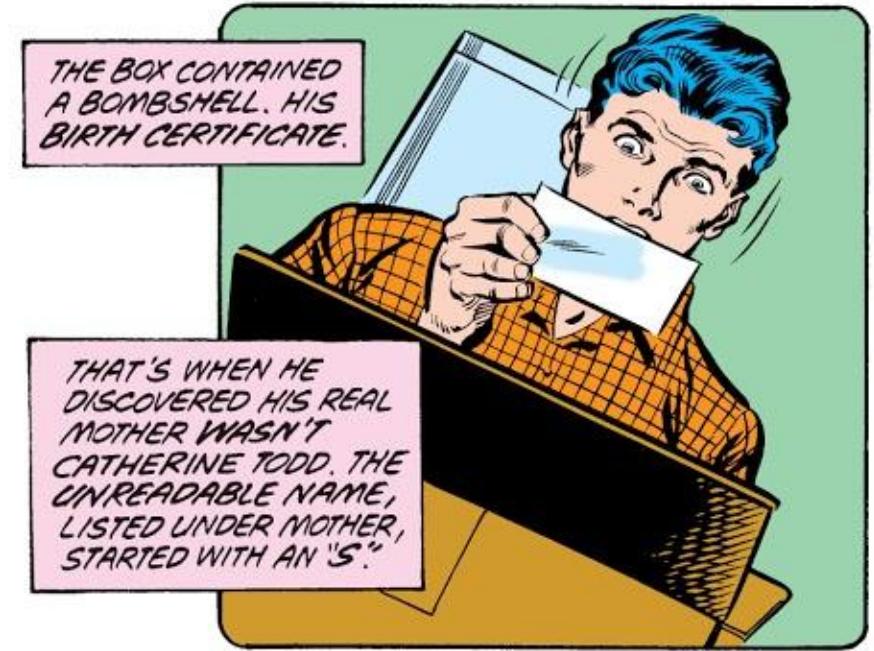
A DEATH in the FAMILY

CHAPTER 3



JIM STARLIN • JIM APARO • MIKE DECARLO • JOHN COSTANZA • ADRIENNE ROY • DAN RASPLER • DENNY O'NEIL
writer • penciler • inker • letterer • colorist • asst. editor • editor





TO SAVE TIME,
I CALLED MY
C.I.A. CONTACT,
RALPH
BUNDY.

WITHIN
HOURS HE
WAS ABLE TO
TELL US
WHERE SHIVA
WOOSAN
COULD BE
FOUND.



IMAGINE MY DELIGHT FINDING THAT MS. WOOSAN
WAS STAYING AT MY FAVORITE BEIRUT DIVE, THE
HOTEL BLU.



BUT WHEN
WE ASKED
FOR HER AT
THE RECEP-
TION DESK...

(SHIVA WOOSAN?)

(HAVEN'T YOU
HEARD?)*

*Translated from Farsi.



(UNFORTUNATELY,
SUCH THINGS ARE
NOT UNCOMMON
IN BEIRUT.)

STEADY, JASON.
WE'LL FIND HER.

IN FACT, I
KNOW JUST
WHERE TO
LOOK.



WHEN I WAS TRACKING DOWN THE JOKER, I'D DISCOVERED THAT BEIRUT'S CRIMINAL ELEMENT WAS JUST AS EAGER TO TALK TO MY BATMAN PERSONA AS THEIR GOTHAM COUNTER-PARTS ALWAYS ARE.

THE TRICK IS IN THE WAY YOU COUCH THE QUESTIONS YOU WANT ANSWERED.

<YOU CAN FIND THEM AT PASHAR PASS IN THE BEKAA VALLEY!>

<I WILL GLADLY DRAW YOU A MAP!>

AND THAT'S HOW WE CAME TO BE HERE, ATTEMPTING
TO RESCUE SHIVA WOOSAN FROM HER RADICAL
SHIITE CAPTORS.

WE GOT
COMPANY COMING.

TERRIFIC. HE LOOKS
TO BE JUST ABOUT
YOUR SIZE.

(RAMIN?)

(FELL
DOWN.)

(HOW DID YOU
DO THAT?)

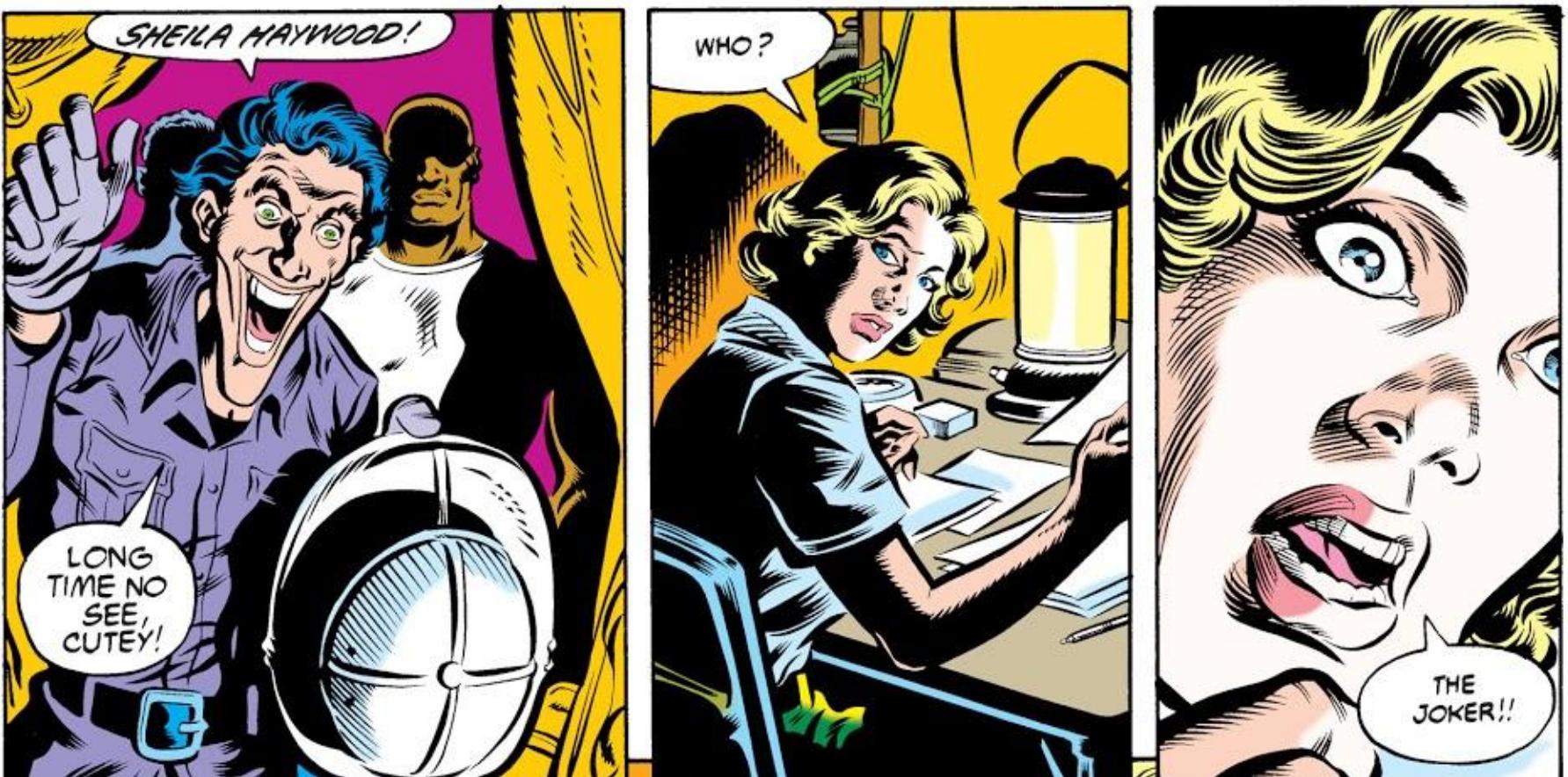
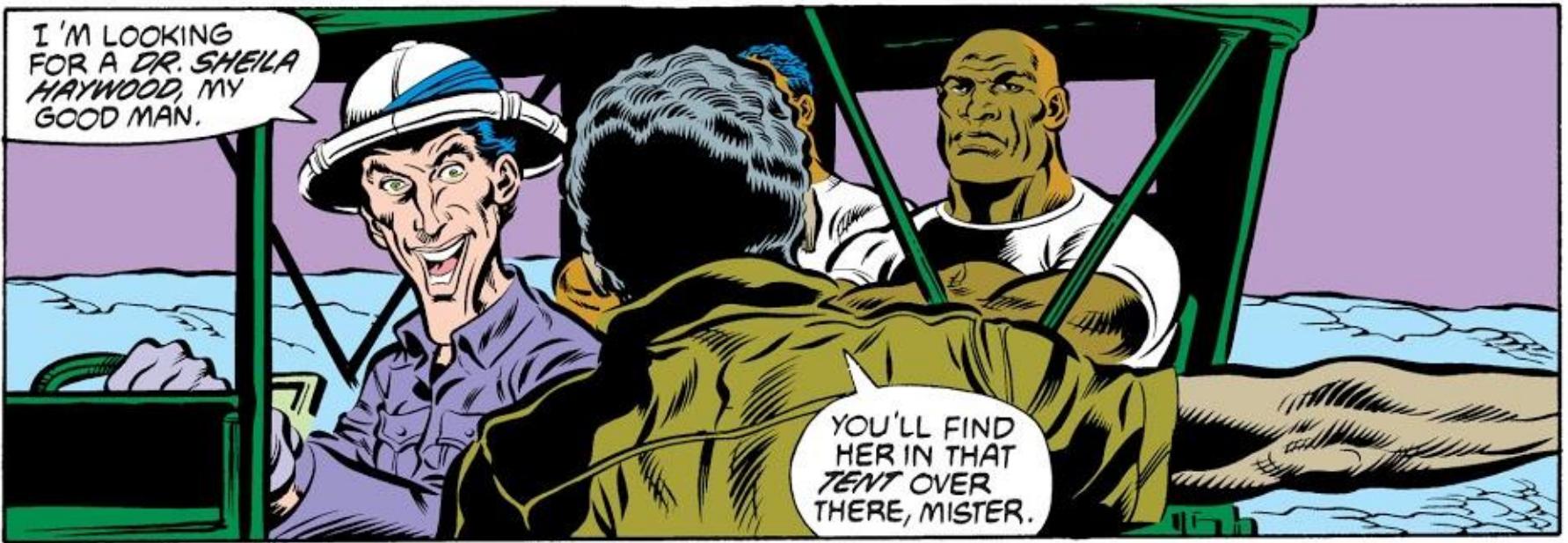
(RAMIN, WHAT
ARE YOU DOING
THERE?)

(LIKE THIS!)

HURRY UP AND
CHANGE.

I'LL GATHER
UP THEIR
WEAPONS.

A FAMINE RELIEF
CAMP JUST OUT-
SIDE MAGDALA,
ETHIOPIA.

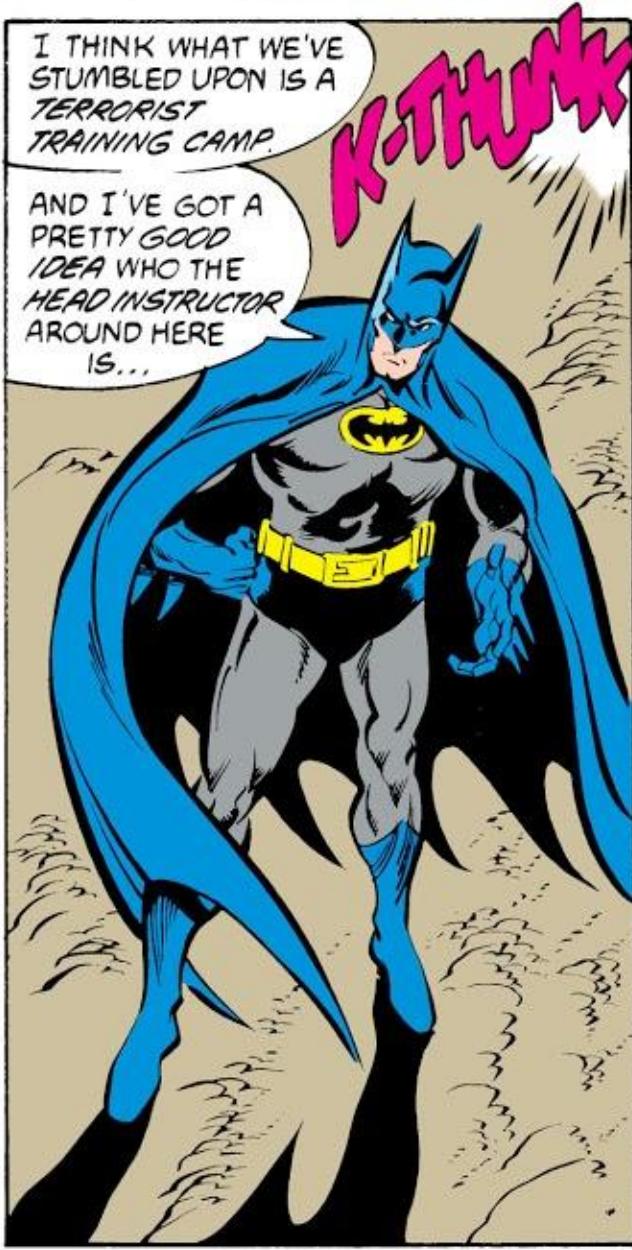
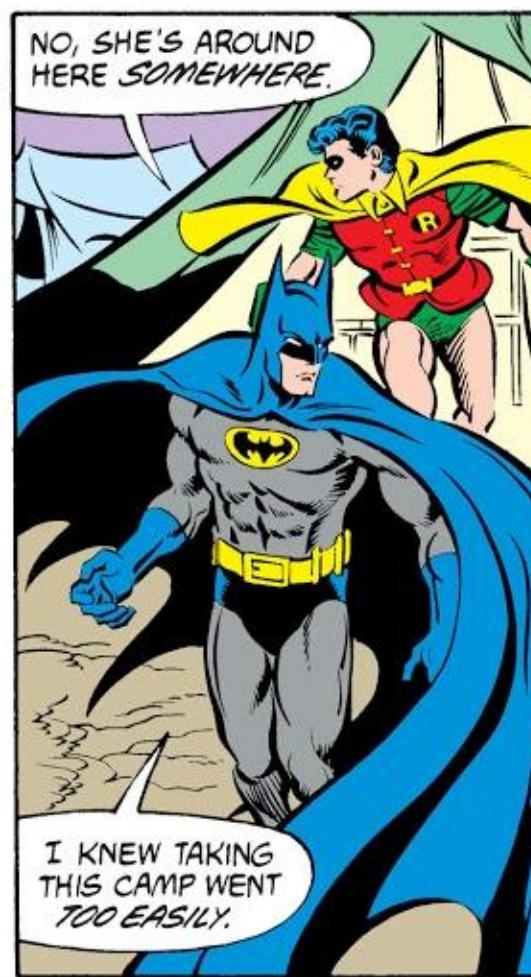


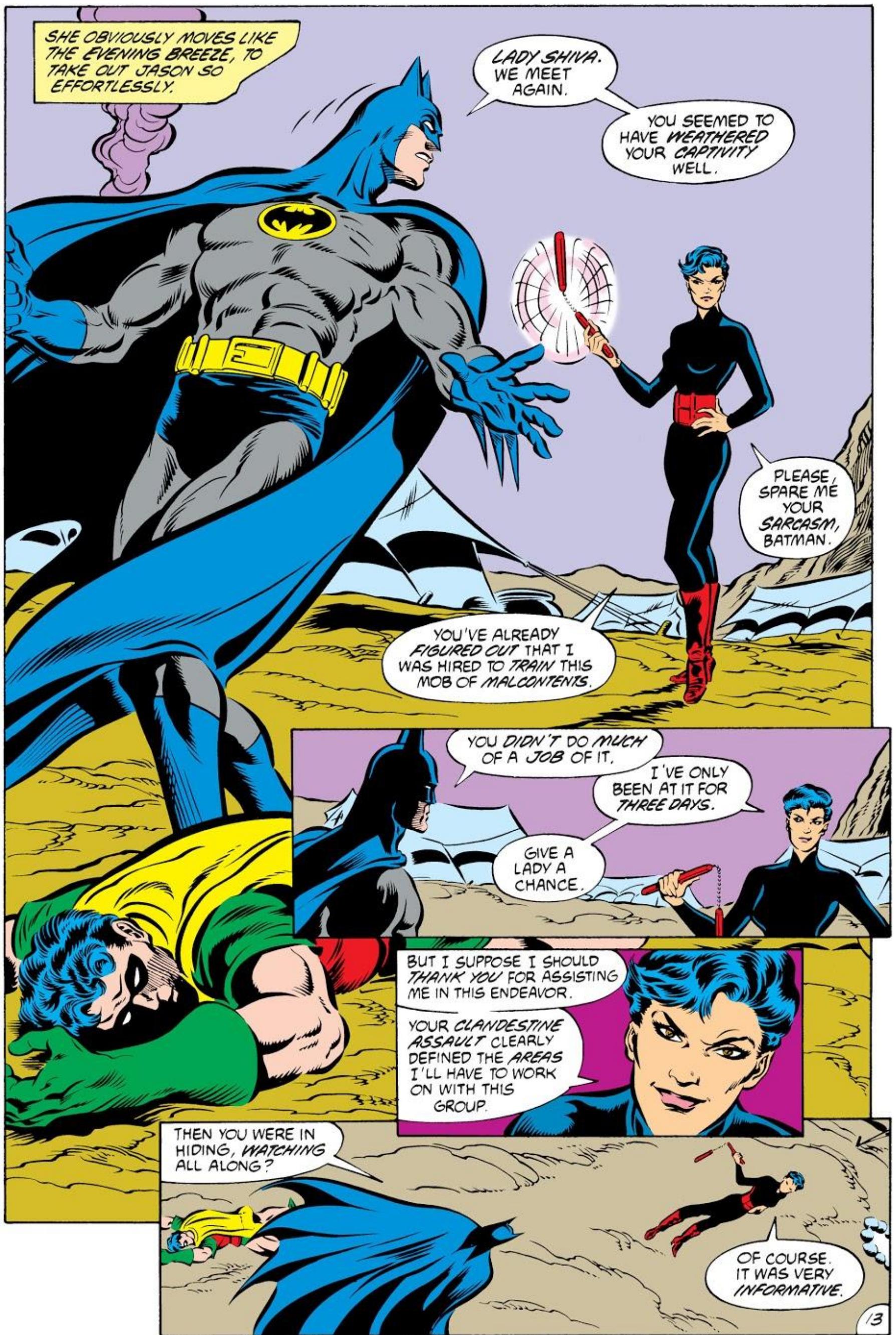














SHE'S BETTER THAN GOOD.

I DIDN'T EVEN SEE THAT SIDE KICK COMING.

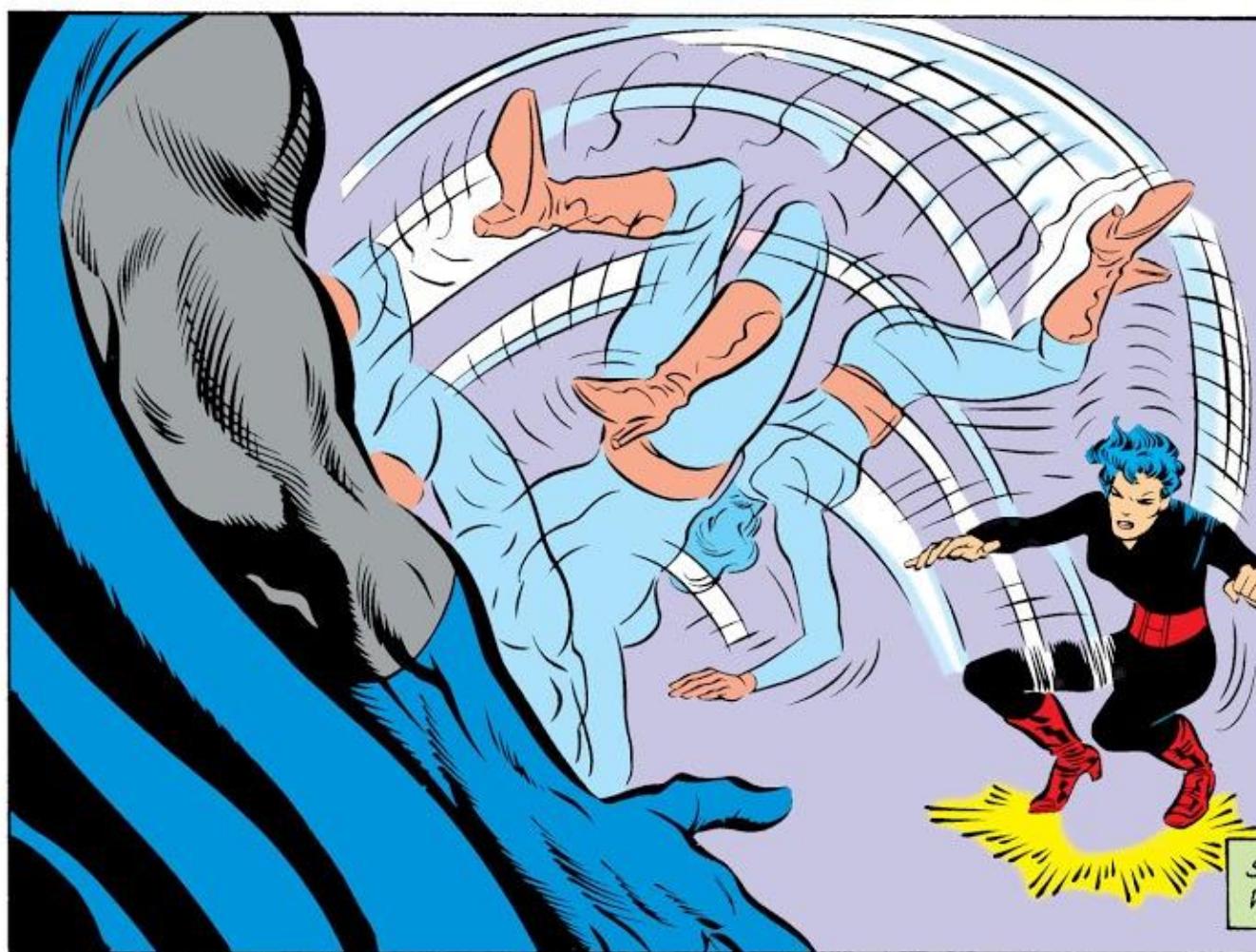
SHIVA'S EASILY GOT THE HITTING POWER OF RÁ'S AL GHŪL AND THE SPEED AND AGILITY OF THE SENSEI.

I SUDDENLY REALIZE I'VE GOT A REAL FIGHT ON MY HANDS.

IF I DON'T START TAKING THIS LADY SERIOUSLY, I COULD END UP DEAD.

GETTING RID OF THESE DISTRACTING NUNCHAKAS SHOULD HELP.

THWAKK!



AS HARD TO BELIEVE AS IT SEEMS,
THIS SHIVA WOOSAN APPEARS
TO BE MY EQUAL IN THE MARTIAL ARTS.

MY ONLY HOPE IS
TO COME IN CLOSE
AND SEE IF I CAN
OUT-MUSCLE
HER.

IT'S GOING TO
BE A REAL
WORKOUT.

Ooooooooooh

WHAT
HIT ME?

WHAT'S
THIS?

BATMAN
AND SHIVA
FIGHTING?

THEY'RE TRYING
TO KILL EACH
OTHER!

GOTTA
GET INTO
THIS, PUT
AN END
TO IT...
BUT WHO
DO I HELP?

BRUCE, THE MAN
WHO TOOK ME OFF
THE STREETS AND
GAVE ME A HOME?

OR SHIVA,
THE WOMAN WHO
MIGHT BE MY
MOTHER?

I SEE WHAT THE LAD'S UP TO AND TURN ON THE PRESSURE...

...TO KEEP SHIVA FROM SENSING HIS APPROACH.

I TAKE FULL ADVANTAGE OF THE SITUATION AND HIT HER WITH EVERYTHING I'VE GOT.

WHUM



I'M AMAZED WHEN SHE DOESN'T GO UNDER FROM THE PUNISHMENT I DEAL HER.

WHA-UMP



FROM SOMEWHERE DEEP WITHIN, SHE DRAWS THE STRENGTH TO MAKE A LAST-DITCH EFFORT AT REGAINING THE OFFENSIVE.



IT'S JUST NOT ENOUGH.

I END IT AS QUICK AND MERCIFULLY AS I CAN.



CUFF HER AND BE READY TO TAKE OFF AS SOON AS I GET BACK.

WHAT'ER YOU UP TO?

GOING TO INTRODUCE THE CONCEPT OF THE FOURTH OF JULY TO OUR PLAYMATES.



I TOSSED ALL THE SHIITES INTO A DITCH BEFORE SETTING THE TIME-DELAYED CHARGE IN THE AMMO STORAGE HUT.

THE SCORPIONS WILL AWAKEN ALIVE, WITH ONLY THEIR STINGERS PULLED.

ONCE WE'RE ABOUT TWO MILES FROM THE CAMP, I DECIDE IT'S TIME TO INTERROGATE MS. WOOSAN.

TIME TO ANSWER A FEW QUESTIONS, LADY.

AND IF I CHOOSE NOT TO ANSWER THEM?

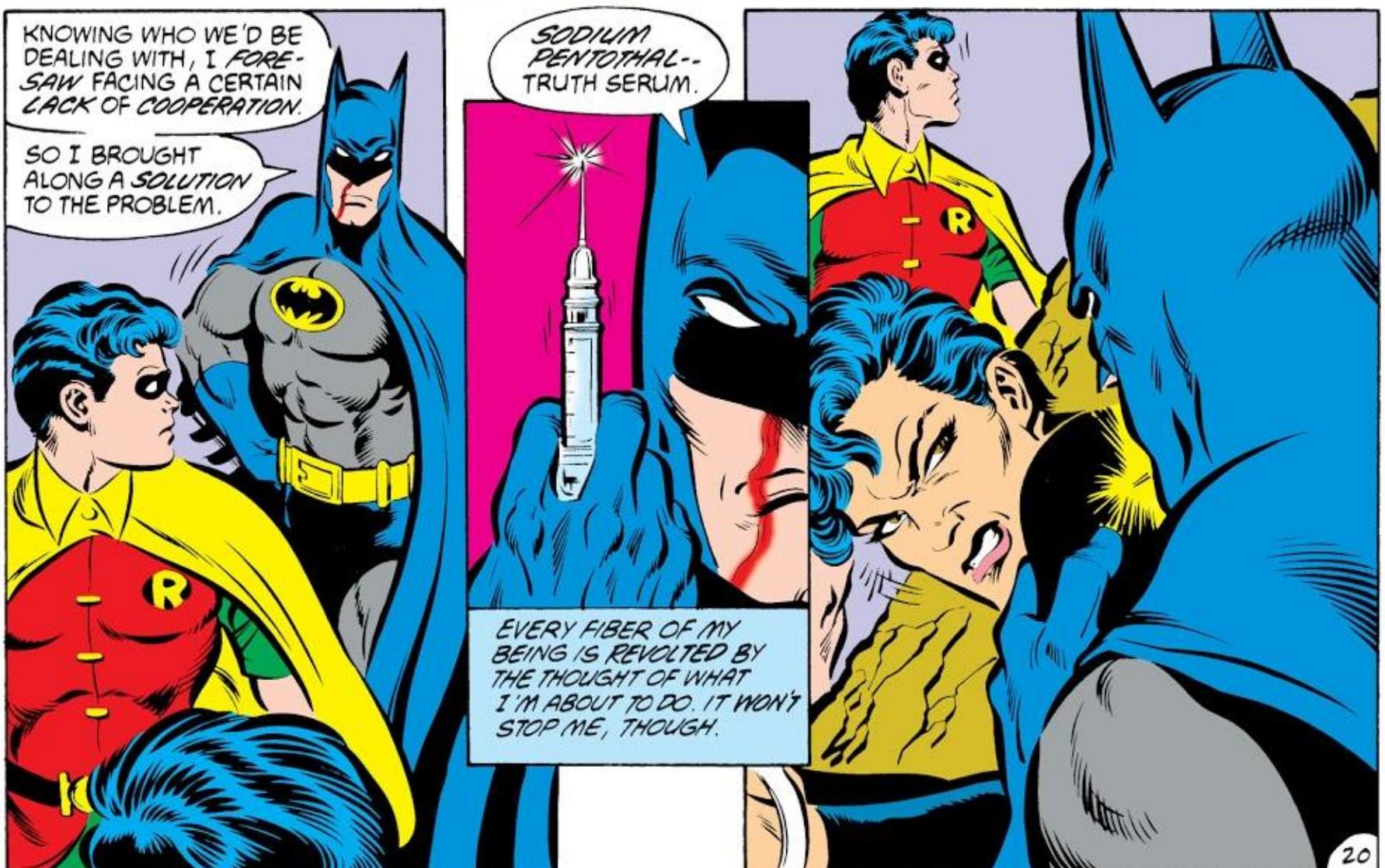
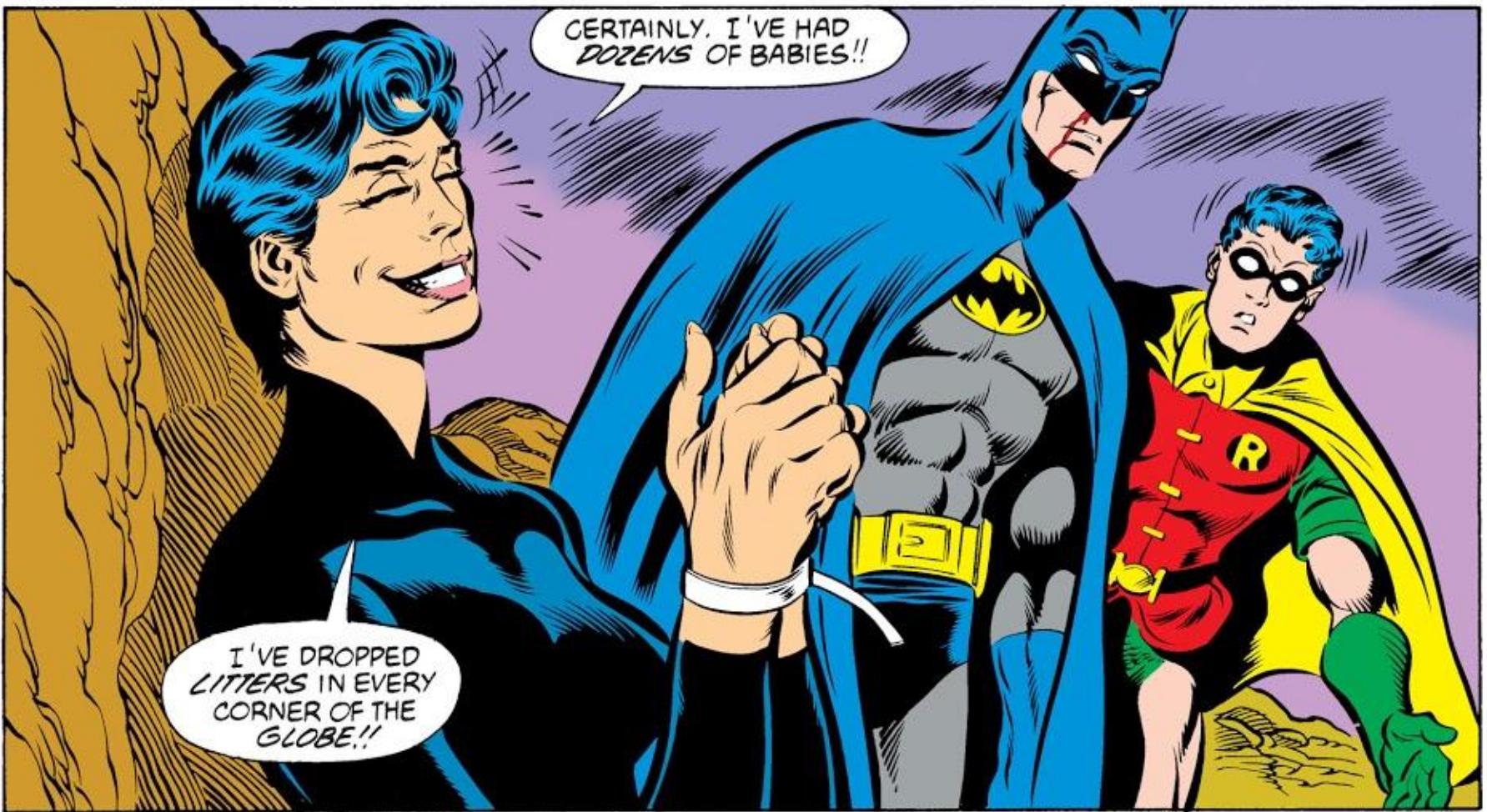
YOU'VE NO CHOICE IN THIS MATTER, SHIVA.

I ALWAYS HAVE A CHOICE.

NOT THIS TIME.

HAVE YOU EVER HAD A BABY?

A BABY?



THAT'S THE BIGGEST TROUBLE WITH THIS LINE OF WORK--
YOU CAN'T ALWAYS GET THE JOB DONE AND REMAIN A
HERO IN YOUR OWN EYES.

SHIVA.

DID
YOU EVER
HAVE ANY
CHILDREN?



...UGH...
UH...NEH...

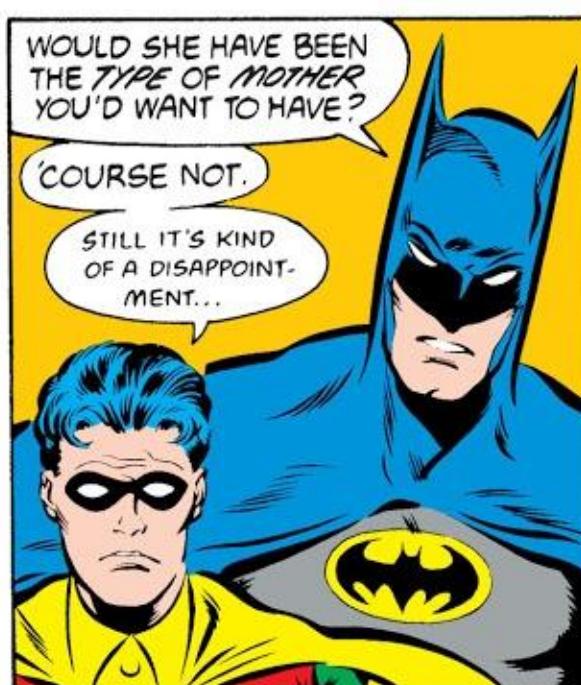
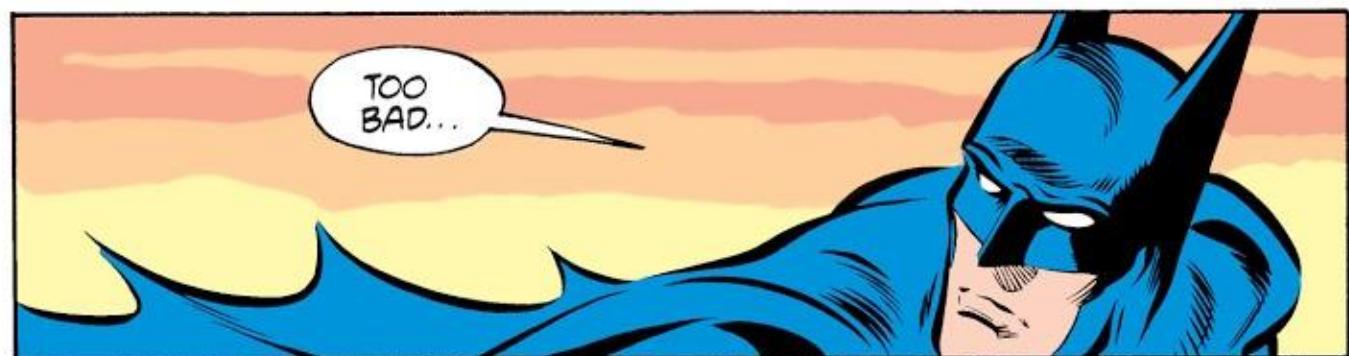
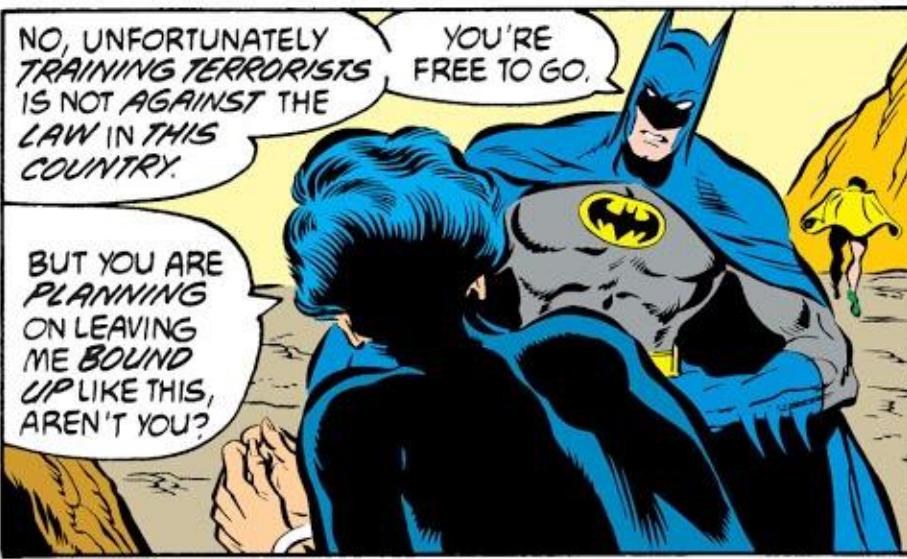
...N...N...NO...



SHE'S
BACK ON HER
TOES. LET'S
HIT THE
ROAD.

WE STUCK AROUND
UNTIL THE EFFECTS
OF THE DRUG
WORE OFF.

YOU PLANNING
ON DRAGGING
ME ALONG?



CHAPTER 4

AN ETHIOPIAN REFUGEE CAMP JUST OUTSIDE MAGDALA. THE MISERY HAS RETURNED.

ONCE AGAIN THE WORLD DIDN'T LISTEN IN TIME. THE SAME MISTAKES WERE REPEATED.

STARVATION AND DEATH CAST A LONG SHADOW OVER THIS LAND.

THE REFUGEES FLOCK INTO THE CAMPS BY THE THOUSANDS EACH DAY. IT'S UTTERLY HEARTBREAKING.

WHEN I RETURN TO GOTHAM, I'LL SEND OUT ANOTHER CHECK TO HELP THE EFFORT AND TRY TO FORGET WHAT I'VE SEEN HERE.

I'M NO DIFFERENT FROM ANYONE ELSE.

THERE'S ONLY SO MUCH EVEN BRUCE WAYNE -- AND BATMAN -- CAN DO.

THE PEOPLE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

