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# Wonder Woman

131

MAR 98

BY JOHN BYRNE




ALONGSIDE *The* JUSTICE SOCIETY  
of America™

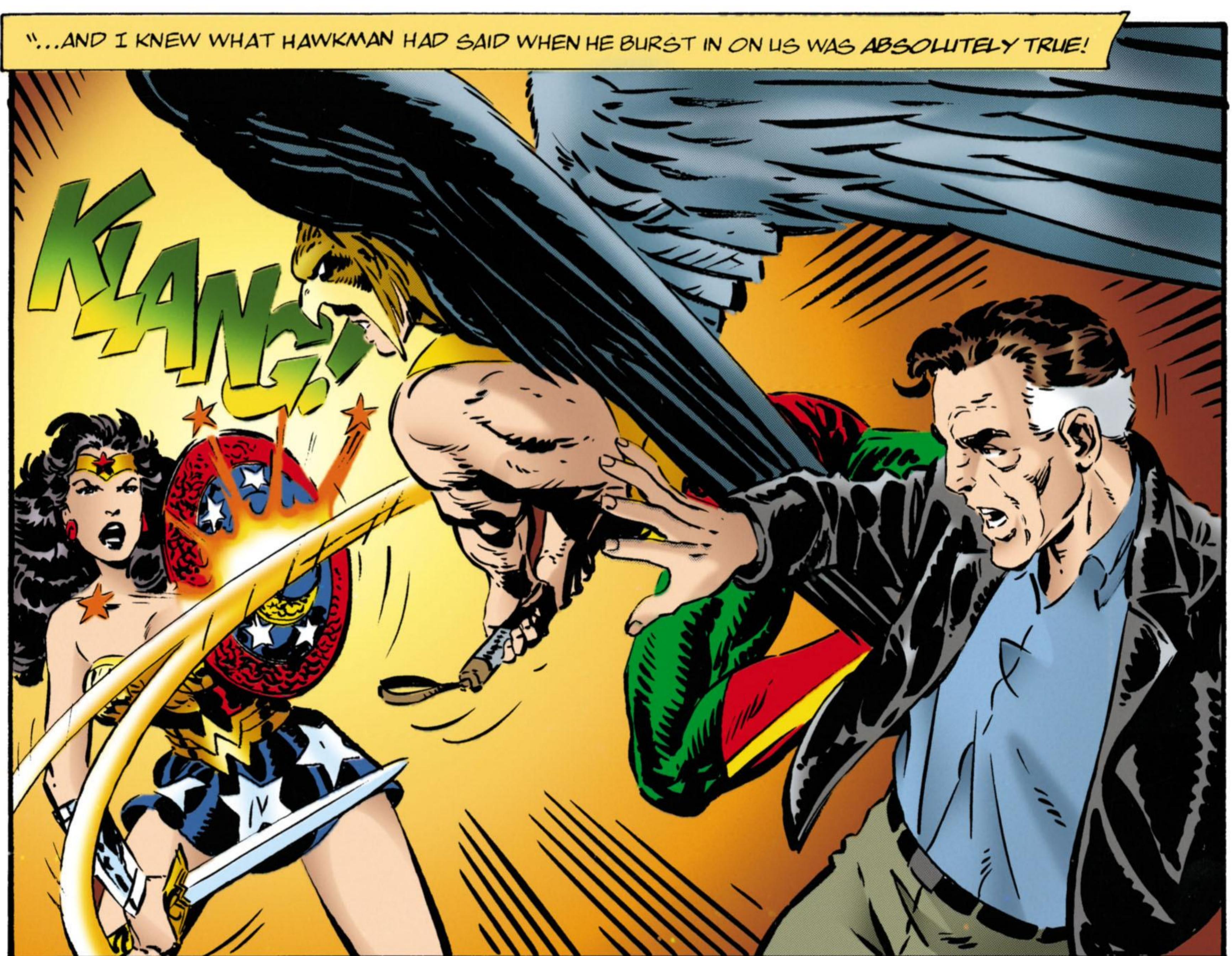
"OKAY, SO THERE WE WERE, WONDER WOMAN AND I, BACK IN 1942, TRYING THE BEST WE COULD TO MIND OUR OWN BUSINESS..."

# FIGHT IMPERIUM!

COME ON,  
YOUR MAJESTY!  
WE'VE GOT TO  
GET OUT OF  
HERE!

NO! I WOULD  
SHAME MY AMAZON  
HERITAGE IF I WERE  
TO FLEE FROM  
BATTLE!





HE WAS GONNA BE A LOT HARDER TO DEAL WITH THAN THE ATOM AND MY YOUNGER SELF HAD BEEN!

BUT... YOU AND HAWK-MAN WERE PARTNERS IN THE OLD JSA FOR, LIKE, TEN YEARS.

DIDN'T HE RECOGNIZE YOU?

JAY IS FIFTY-FIVE YEARS OLDER THAN THE VERSION OF HIMSELF THAT HAWKMAN KNEW, DONNA.

PLUS, EVEN THOUGH WE ALL KNEW EACH OTHER'S TRUE IDENTITIES, I STILL USED TO USE MY OLD TRICK OF VIBRATING MY FACE WHEN I WAS IN COSTUME AS THE FLASH.

I'M NOT SURE HAWKMAN OR ANY OF THE OTHER JSAERS EVER KNEW WHAT I REALLY LOOKED LIKE!

YEAH... I GUESS YOU GUYS WERE A LOT MORE CAREFUL ABOUT YOUR SECRET IDENTITIES IN THOSE DAYS.



HECK... IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE I'VE EVEN HEARD ANYONE USE THE PHRASE "SECRET IDENTITY" WITH A STRAIGHT FACE!



TRUE... ALTHOUGH THE IRONIC THING, I GUESS, IS THAT IT WAS OUR "SECRET IDENTITIES" THAT ALLOWED US TO BEAT THE NAZI SORCERESS WHO'D CAPTURED US AND...

WELL, SLOW DOWN ON THAT ONE! I'M GETTING WAY AHEAD OF MYSELF! THIS STORY IS TOTALLY CONFUSING OUT OF ORDER!



ANYWAY, THERE WE WERE, IN THE MIDDLE OF THE OLD SMITHSONIAN BUILDING, UP TO OUR NECKS IN TROUBLE.

"HAWKMAN WASN'T ABOUT TO TAKE ANY CHANCES, YOU SEE. AMERICA WAS AT WAR..."



"...AND SINCE WE HAPPENED TO BE STANDING OVER TWO OF HIS COMRADES WHO MIGHT BE DEAD AS FAR AS HE KNEW..."

"...HE WAS REACTING EXACTLY AS I WOULD HAVE IN THE SAME CIRCUMSTANCES."

"THEN..."

THUD!



"IT WAS A LUCKY SHOT, I KNEW. HAWKMAN WAS HAMPERED BY BEING INSIDE A BUILDING."

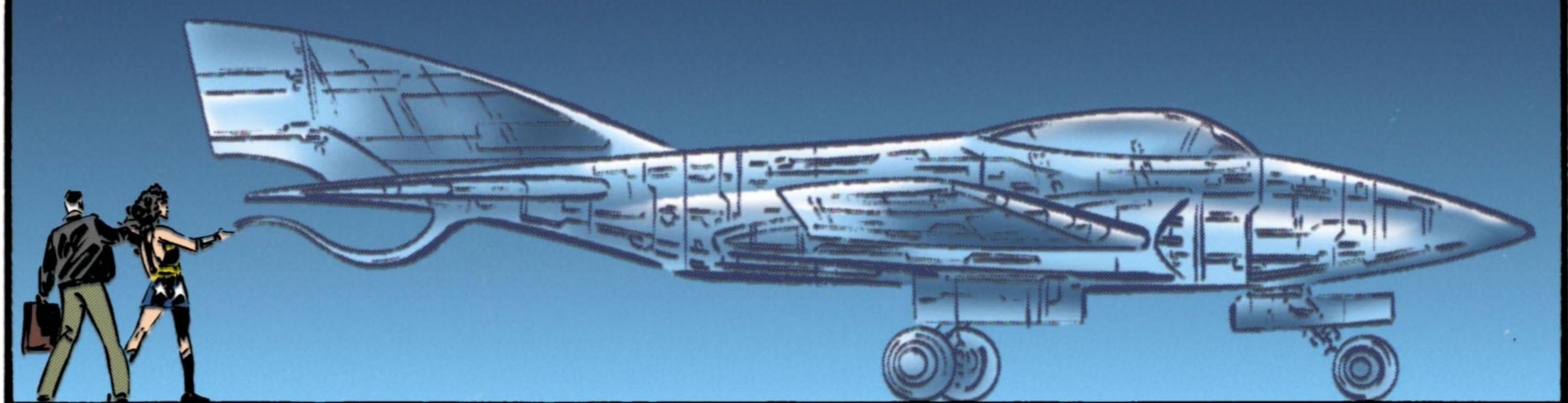
WONDER WOMAN! COME ON! THIS IS OUR CHANCE TO ESCAPE!

I MUST RELUCTANTLY AGREE WITH YOU, JAY. WE HAVE ALREADY TOO GREATLY INVOLVED OURSELVES IN THE PAST!

"SO WE HIGHTAILED IT OUT OF THERE, DUCKING 'ROUND THE FIRST CONVENIENT CORNER..."



"...WHERE WONDER WOMAN DEPLOYED THAT AMAZING MORPHING PLANE OF HERS!"

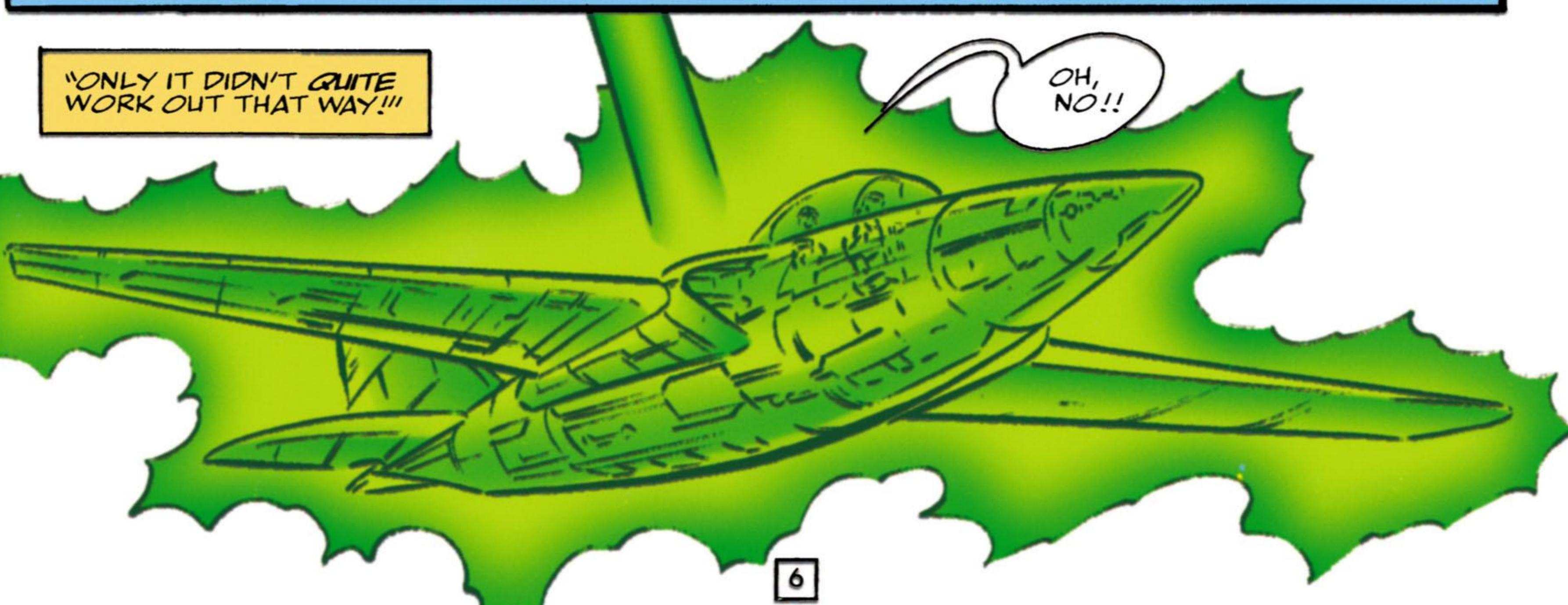


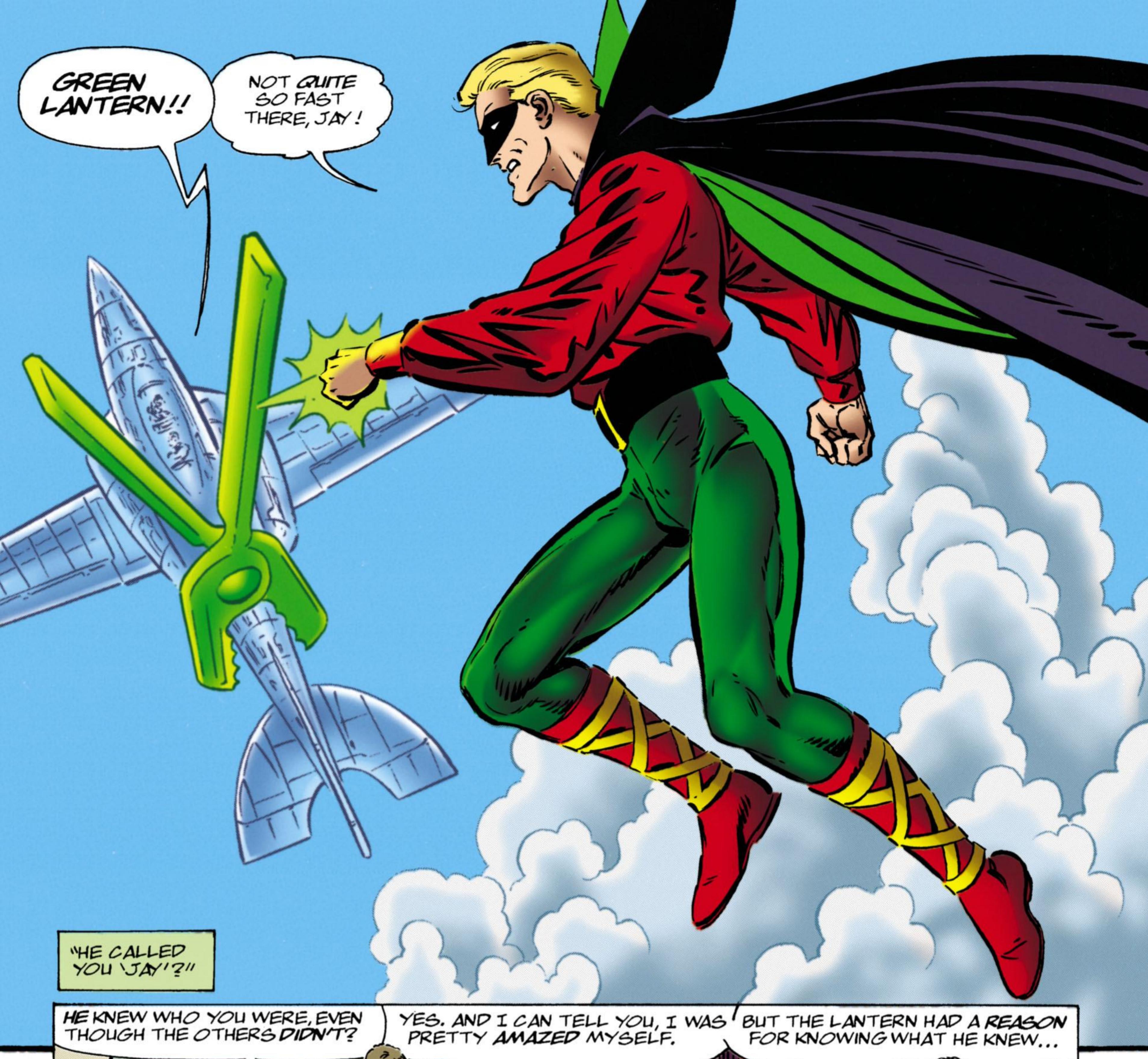
"ALL WE HAD TO DO WAS FLY BACK TO THEMYSCIRA..."

"...AND THE ABILITY OF THAT ISLAND TO BE IN ALL TIMES AT THE SAME TIME WOULD HAVE US BACK TO THE PRESENT BEFORE ANY MORE HARM WAS DONE!"

"ONLY IT DIDN'T QUITE WORK OUT THAT WAY!!"

OH, NO!!





"HE CALLED YOU 'JAY'?"

HE KNEW WHO YOU WERE, EVEN THOUGH THE OTHERS DIDN'T? YES. AND I CAN TELL YOU, I WAS PRETTY AMAZED MYSELF. BUT THE LANTERN HAD A REASON FOR KNOWING WHAT HE KNEW...



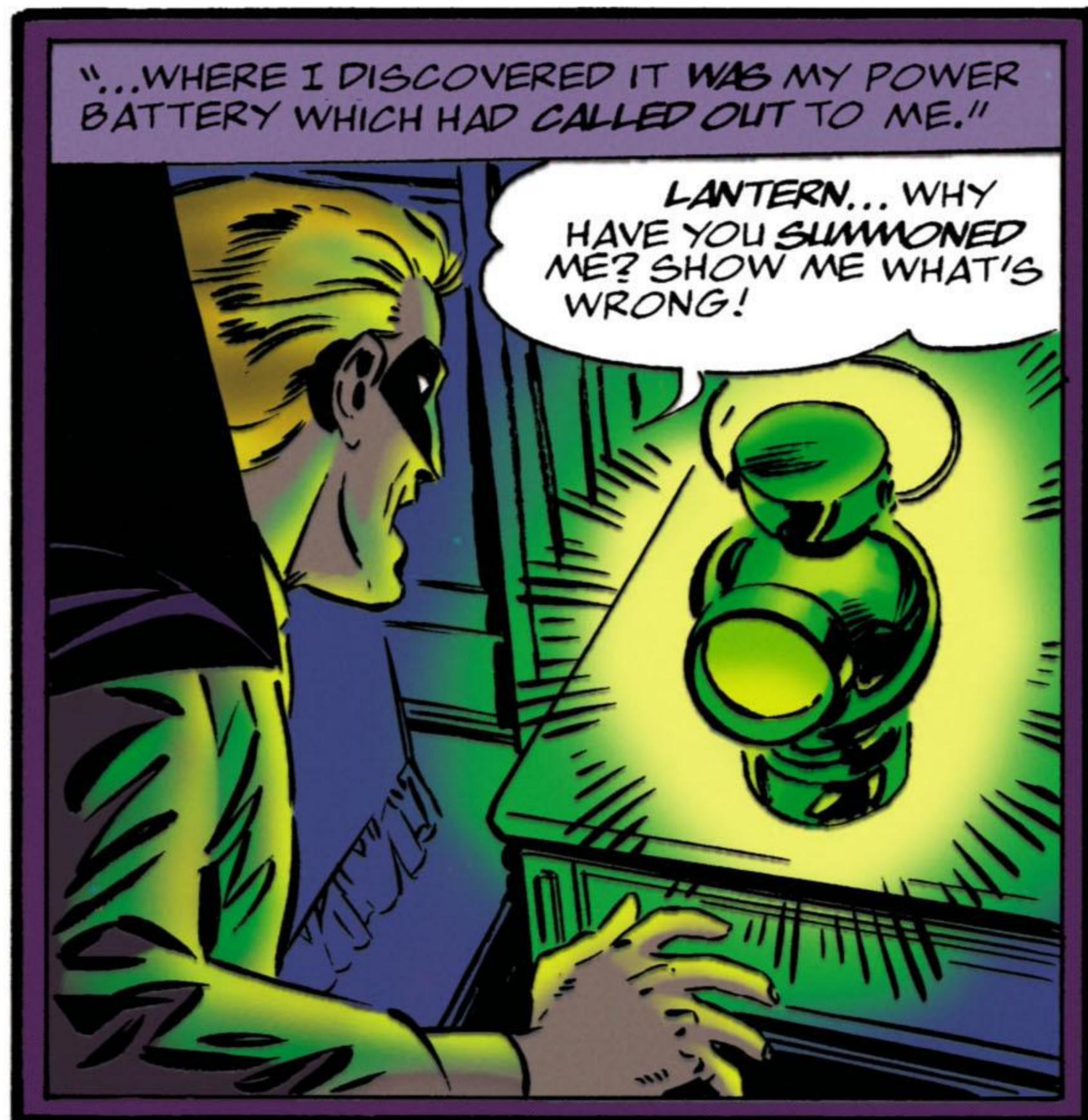
"...AS WE WOULD ALL FIND OUT, ONCE HE'D MANAGED TO CALM DOWN MY FELLOW JSERS."

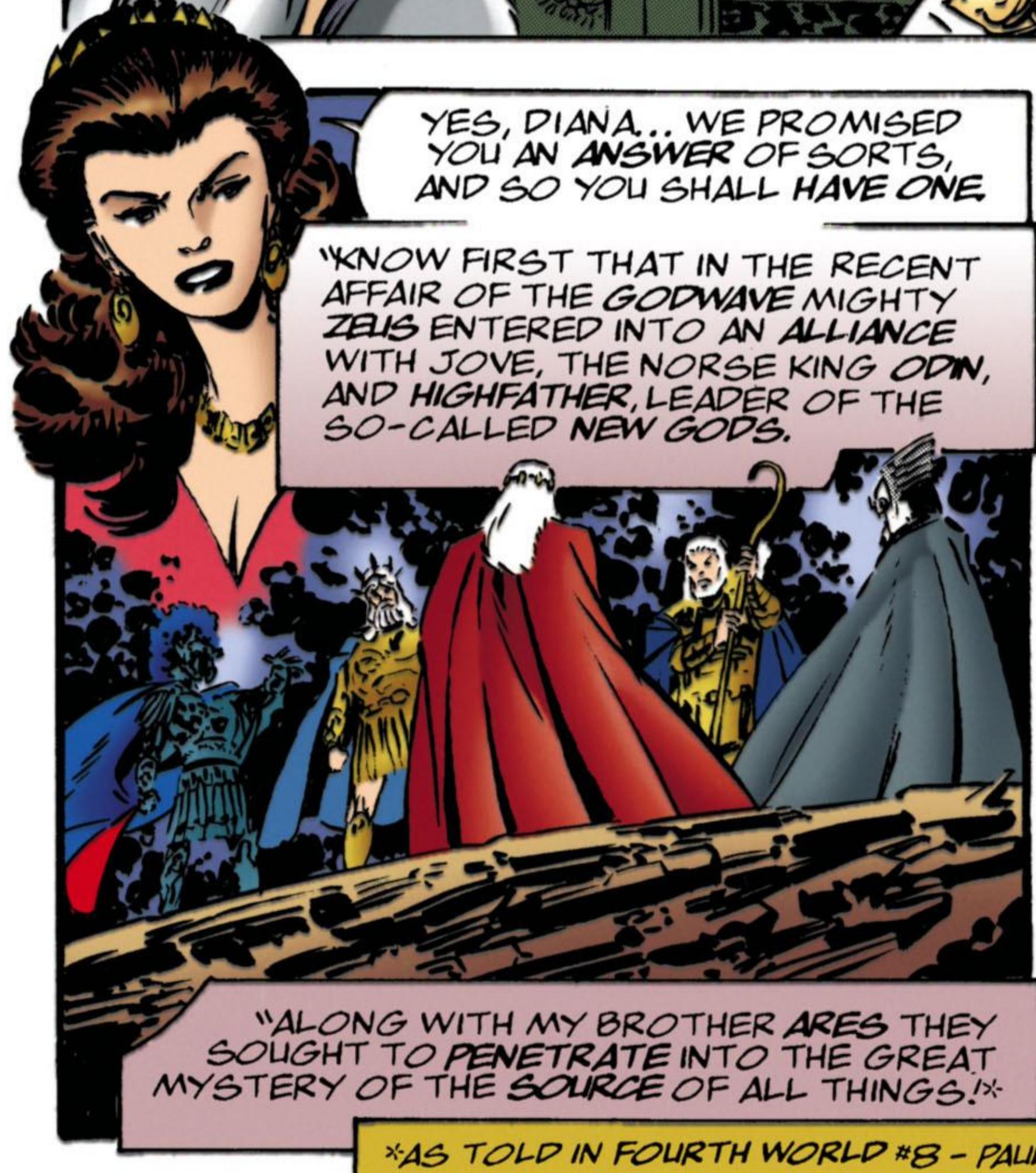
ALL RIGHT, LANTERN, SPILL IT! TELL US WHY WE SHOULDN'T BUST THESE INVADERS INTO THE NEXT CENTURY!

WHICH WOULD BE JUST ABOUT RIGHT, WOULDN'T IT, JAY?

AND WILL SOME BODY PLEASE TELL ME WHO THIS GUY IS!?! AND WHY EVERYONE KEEPS CALLING HIM BY MY NAME!?







"THE PLAN WAS THAT AS THE SOURCE SOUGHT TO REPEL THESE WELL-INTENTIONED INVADERS..."

"...A SEGMENT OF THE UNION WOULD SPLIT OFF. THE SUDDEN SEPARATION SERVING TO PROPEL THE REMAINING COALITION DEEPER INTO THE SOURCE."

"BUT WHEN THE MOMENT CAME FOR ZEUS TO BE SEPARATED, JOVE WAS TAKEN WITH HIM!"

FATHER!!

"HE WAS SAVED FROM DRIFTING FOREVER IN SPACE BY HIS SON HERAKLES, WHOM ZEUS HAD BROUGHT TO THE SOURCEWALL AS JUST SUCH A CONTINGENCY."

YOU MEAN... THIS BUSINESS HAD CAUSED THEM TO BECOME ONE BEING?

ONE BEING THEY HAD INDEED BECOME, DIANA, BUT NOT BECAUSE OF THIS.

NO. SOMETHING OLDER. SOMETHING EVEN WE GODS HAD ALL BUT FORGOTTEN!

I... DO NOT UNDERSTAND. NOR DO WE, ENTIRELY, DIANA IT IS SOMETHING SHROUDED IN THE MISTS OF AGES LONG PAST. SOMETHING THAT DATES TO THE VERY FOUNDING OF ROME...

AND TO THE MACHINATIONS OF A LESSER GOD THEN KNOWN IN HIS OWN TONGUE AS UXAS...

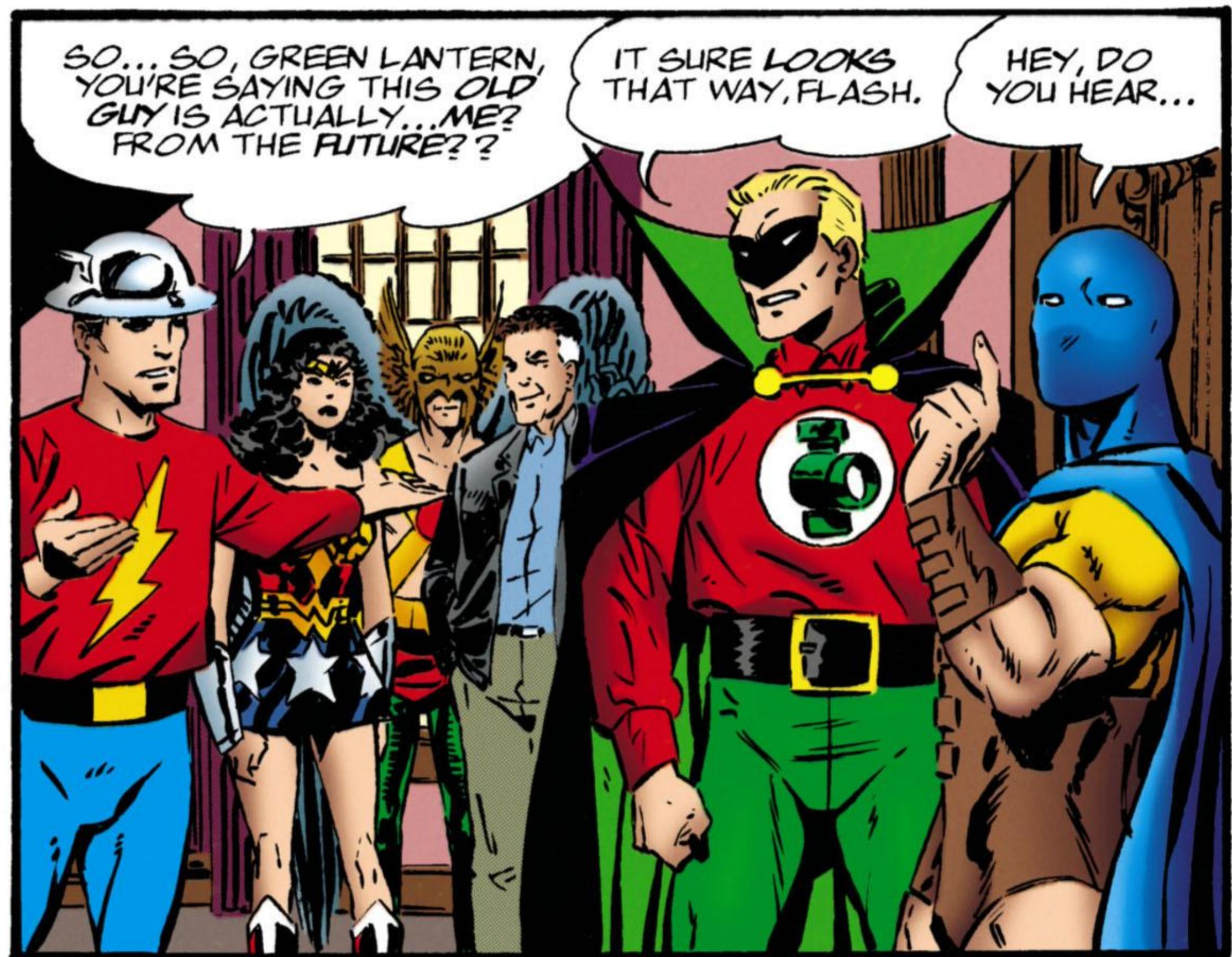
"WHAT HAPPENED NEXT, JAY?"

WELL, AS IF THAT LITTLE BLOCKBUSTER WASN'T ENOUGH, WE'D BARELY HAD TIME TO TRY TO FIGURE OUT WHAT IT WAS ALL ABOUT WHEN SOMETHING POTENTIALLY WORSE DROPPED INTO OUR LAPs!

SO... SO, GREEN LANTERN, YOU'RE SAYING THIS OLD GUY IS ACTUALLY... ME? FROM THE FUTURE??

IT SURE LOOKS THAT WAY, FLASH.

HEY, DO YOU HEAR...



JOHNNY THUNDER!!

JOHNNY! WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU???

GOT... GRABBED BY... A BUNCH OF NAZIS, FLASH. THEY KIDNAPPED ME ALL TH' WAY BACK TO BERLIN!

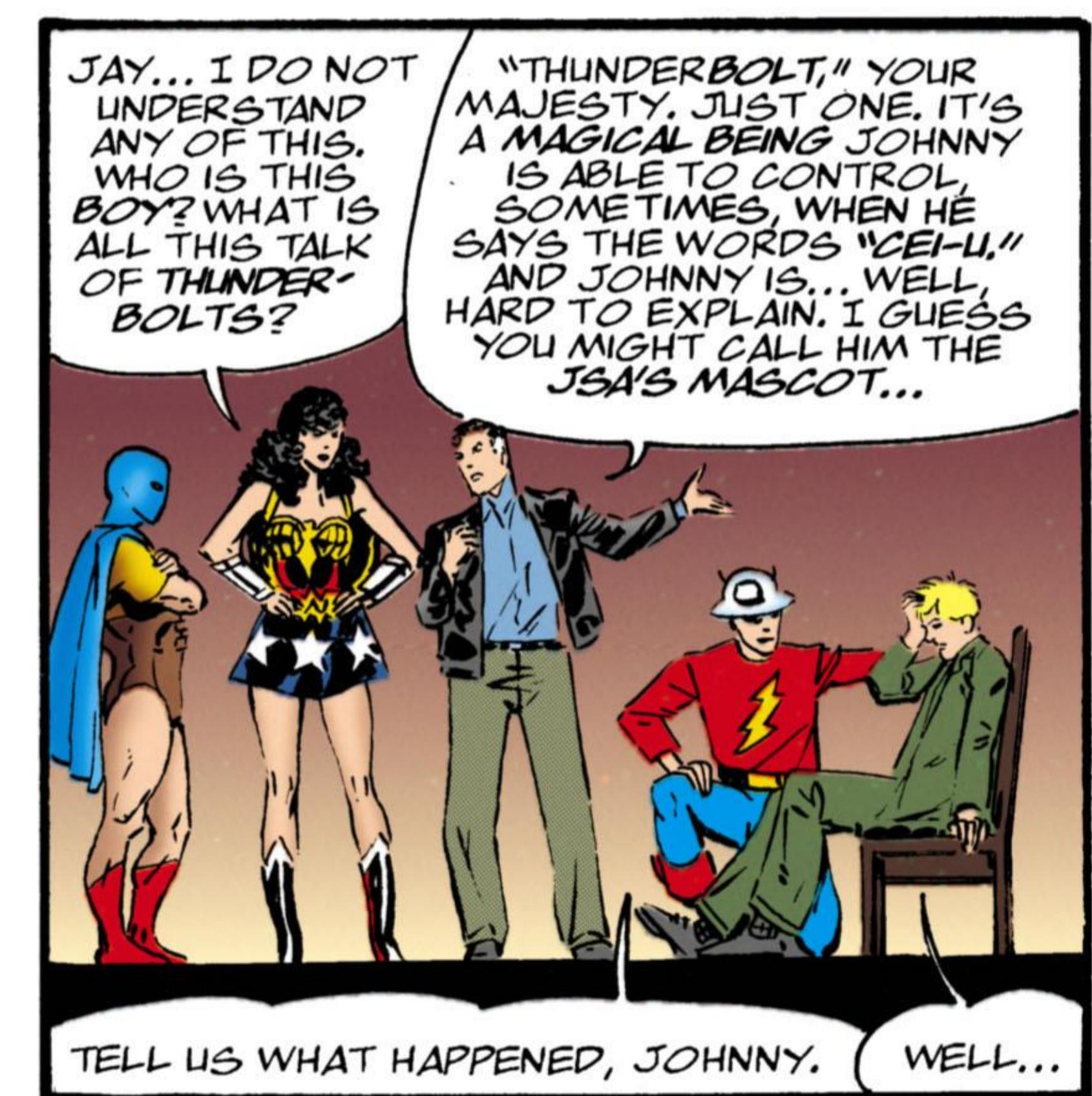


SLOW DOWN, JOHNNY. WHY DIDN'T YOUR THUNDERBOLT COME TO YOUR RESCUE?

HE SORTA DID, HAWK. BUT ONLY AT THE LAST MINUTE. SEE... THE NAZIS HAVE CAPTURED THE THUNDERBOLT!

JAY... I DO NOT UNDERSTAND ANY OF THIS. WHO IS THIS BOY? WHAT IS ALL THIS TALK OF THUNDERBOLTS?

"THUNDERBOLT," YOUR MAJESTY. JUST ONE. IT'S A MAGICAL BEING JOHNNY IS ABLE TO CONTROL. SOMETIMES, WHEN HE SAYS THE WORDS "CEI-U," AND JOHNNY IS... WELL, HARD TO EXPLAIN. I GUESS YOU MIGHT CALL HIM THE JSA'S MASCOT...



TELL US WHAT HAPPENED, JOHNNY.

WELL...

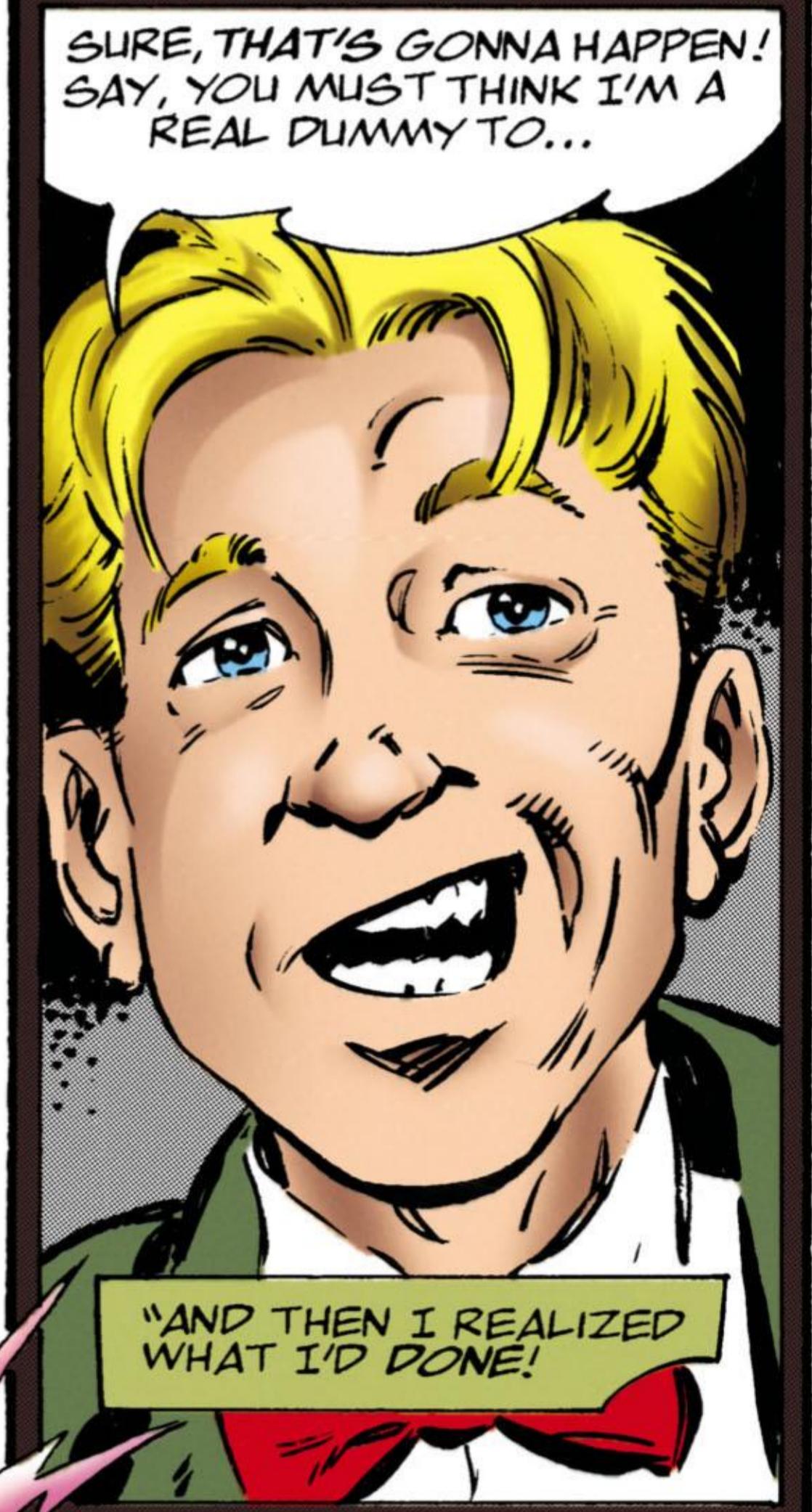
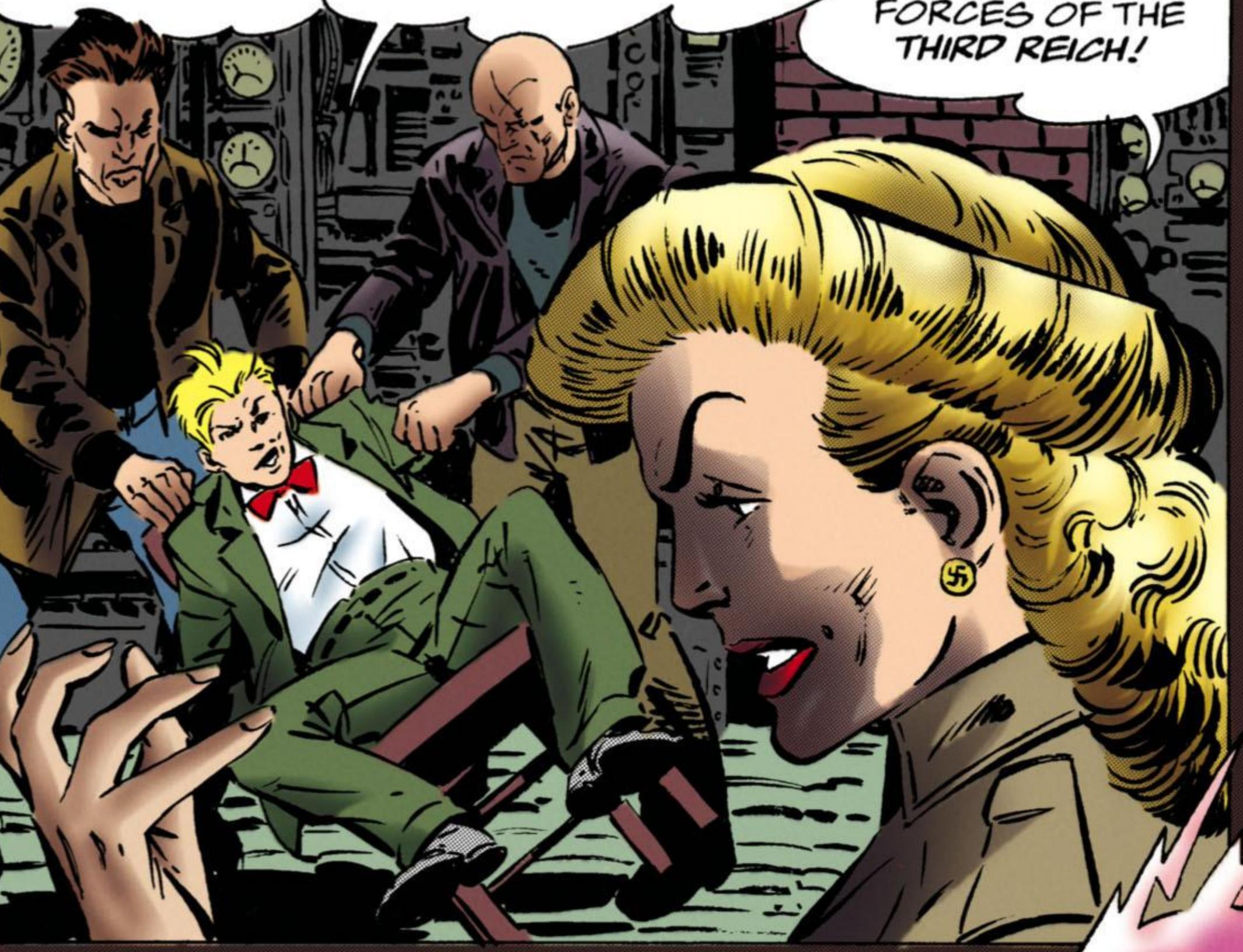


HEY, I FIGGERED YOU NAZIS WEREN'T TOO BRIGHT, SEEIN' AS HOW YOU WERE FOLLOWIN' OL' ADOLF OVER IN KRAUTLAND...

...BUT YOU GOTTA BE SMART ENOUGH T'KNOW THAT IF I CALL DOWN TH' THUNDERBOLT HE'S GONNA KICK YOUR CANS AROUND THE BLOCK!

I THINK NOT. THE THUNDERBOLT WILL HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO ADD HIS POWER TO THE UNBEATABLE FORCES OF THE THIRD REICH!

SURE, THAT'S GONNA HAPPEN! SAY, YOU MUST THINK I'M A REAL DUMMY TO...

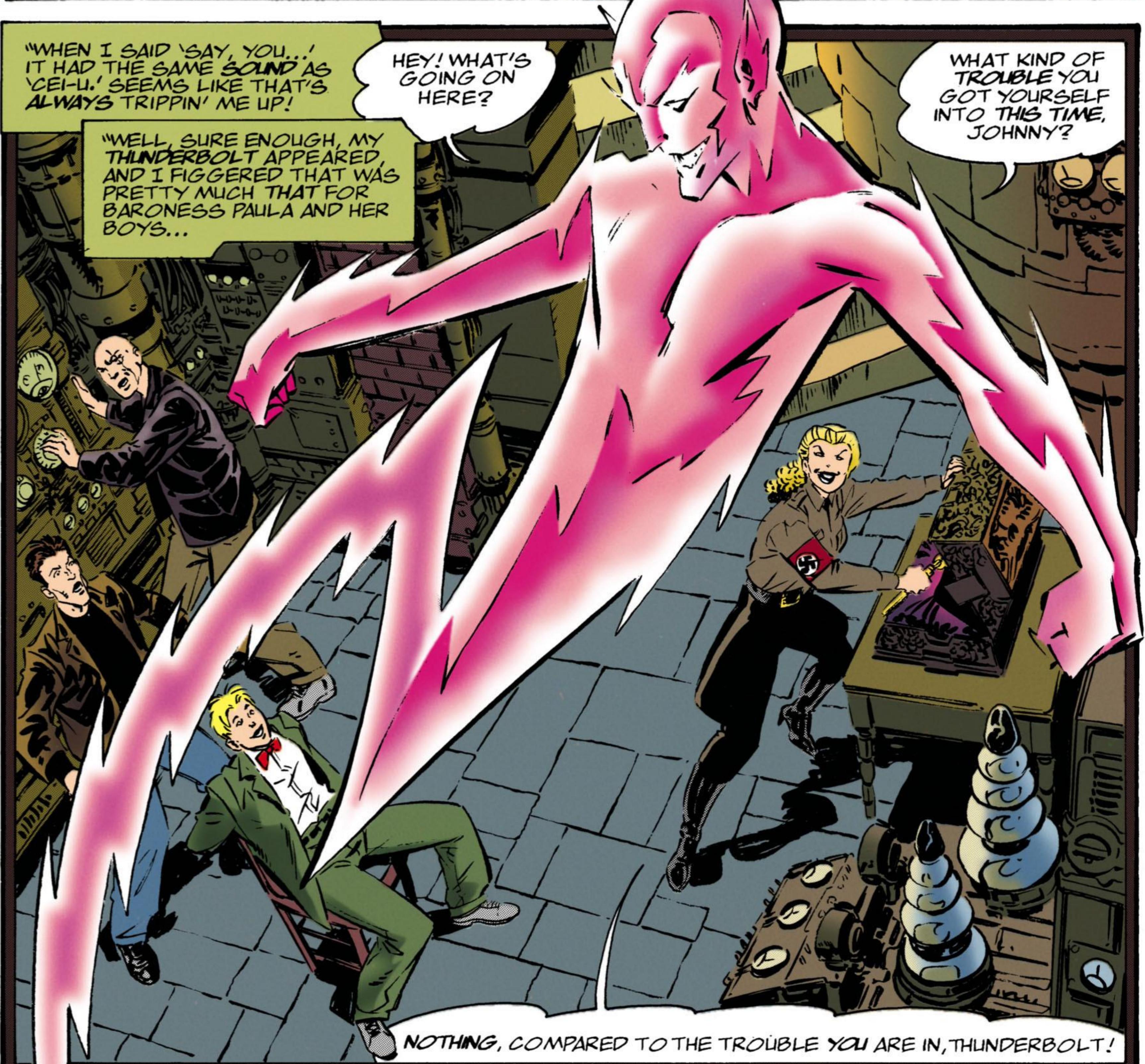


"WHEN I SAID 'SAY, YOU...' IT HAD THE SAME SOUND AS 'CEI-U.' SEEMS LIKE THAT'S ALWAYS TRIPPIN' ME UP!"

HEY! WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?

"WELL, SURE ENOUGH, MY THUNDERBOLT APPEARED, AND I FIGGERED THAT WAS PRETTY MUCH THAT FOR BARONESS PAULA AND HER BOYS..."

WHAT KIND OF TROUBLE YOU GOT YOURSELF INTO THIS TIME, JOHNNY?



NOTHING, COMPARED TO THE TROUBLE YOU ARE IN, THUNDERBOLT!



I HAVE MADE AN INTENSE STUDY OF BAHDNISIAN MAGIC, AND I KNOW THIS SCEPTER WILL BE MORE THAN ENOUGH TO CONTAIN YOUR POWER!

HEY! WHAT GIVES HERE?!?



"I COULDN'T DO ANYTHING BUT STARE AS THAT MAGIC WAND SUCKED UP THE THUNDERBOLT LIKE HE WAS JUST SO MUCH DIRT UNDER A VACUUM CLEANER!"

GOOD GOSH! I SURE WISH THERE WAS SOME WAY I COULD CONTACT THE JUSTICE SOCIETY RIGHT ABOUT NOW!



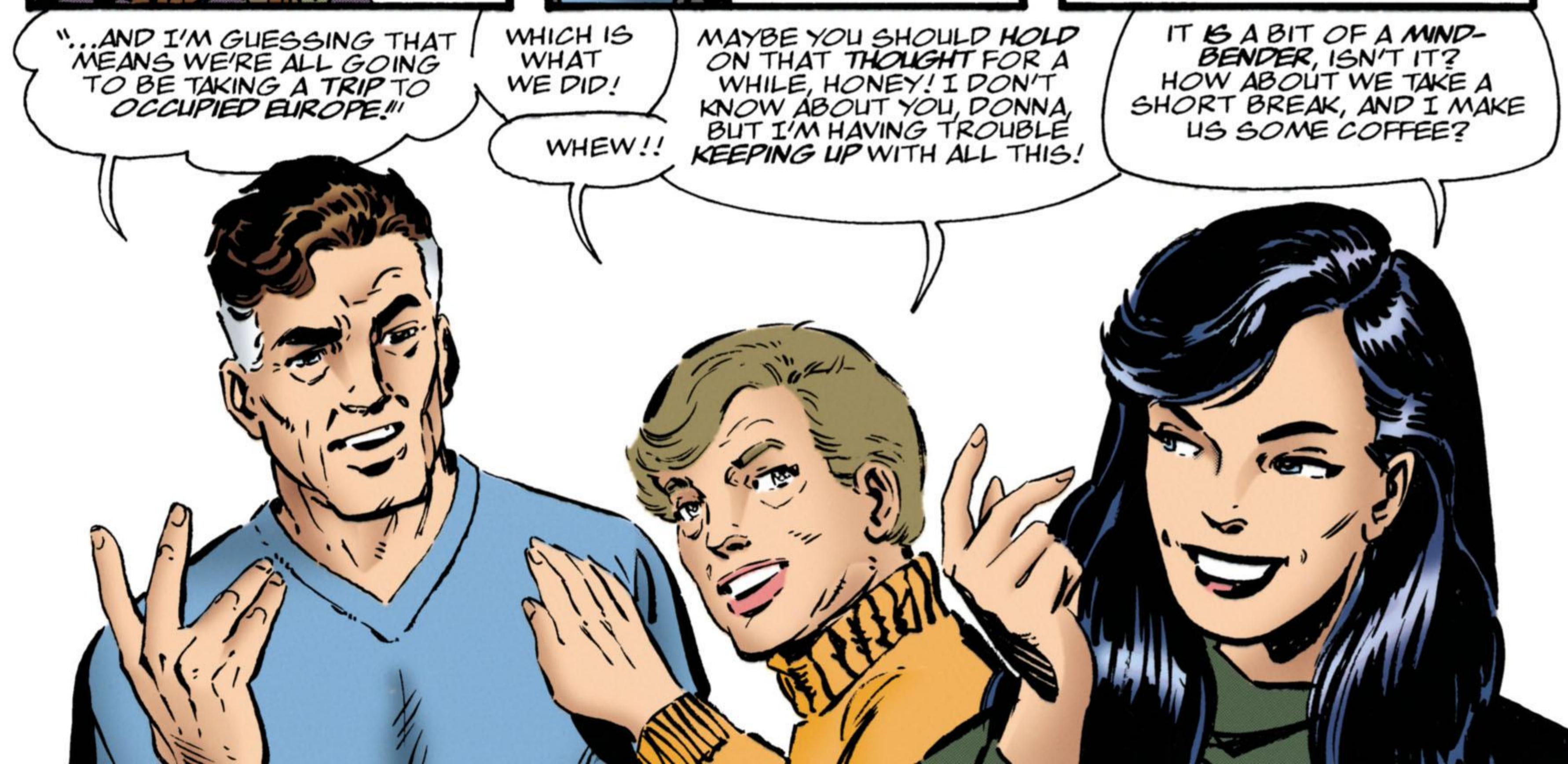
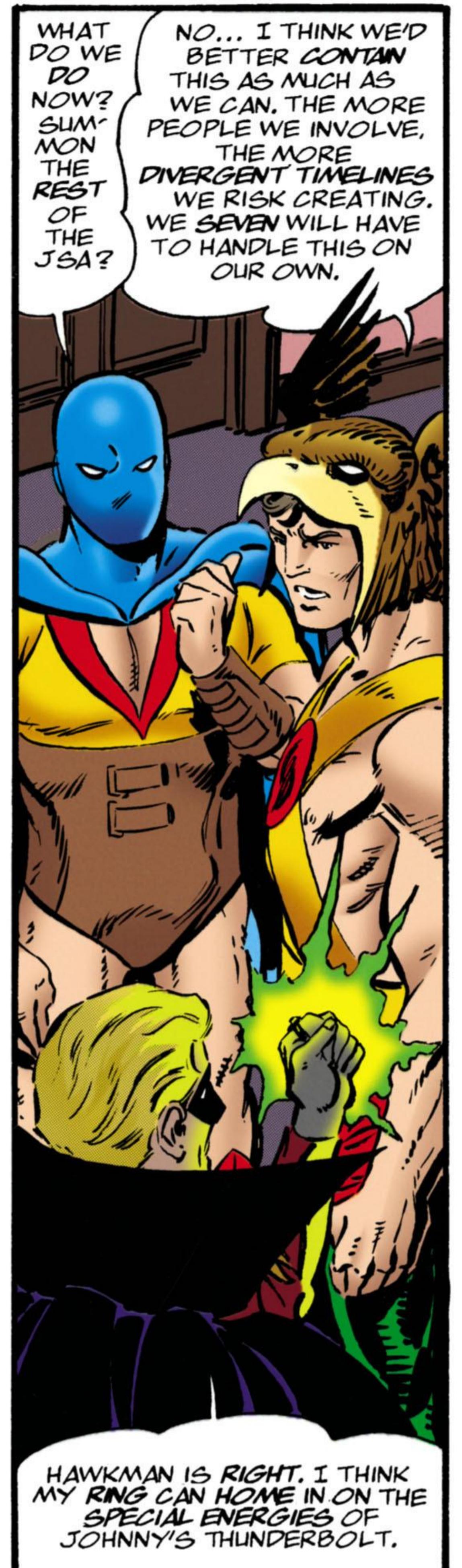
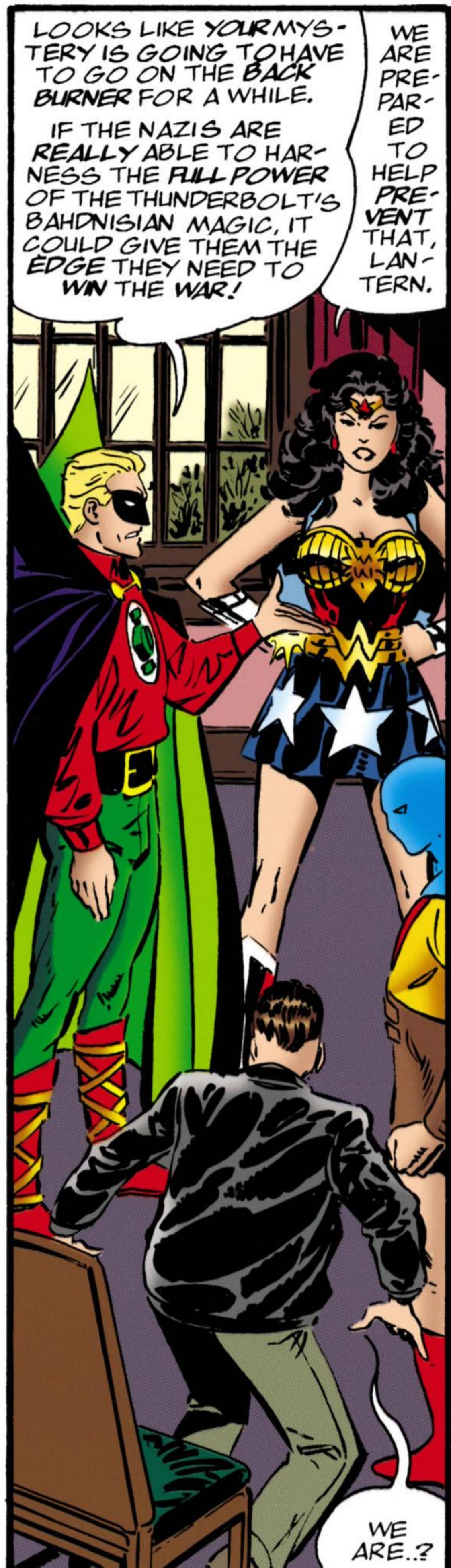
SEE, WHEN I WISHED I COULD CONTACT YOU GUYS, IT GAVE THE THUNDERBOLT THE ONE CHANCE HE HAD TO DO SOMETHING.

HE USED HIS MAGIC IN A LAST-DITCH EFFORT TO TRANSPORT YOU HERE!

THAT'S ALL I NEEDED!

AND IF WE NEEDED ANY PROOF THIS WILD TALE WAS ON THE LEVEL, JOHNNY HAS SAID "CEI-LU" A COUPLE OF TIMES IN THE TELLING...

...AND THE THUNDERBOLT HASN'T APPEARED!



THIS REALLY IS THE MOST AMAZING TALE. IN MY YEARS AS WONDER GIRL I SAW SOME PRETTY ASTONISHING STUFF, AND MY SHORT STINT AS A DARK-STAR ONLY ADDED TO THAT, BUT...

KING!

HELLO, SANDS-MARK RESIDENCE. SPEAKING. OH, CAPTAIN WANNEMAKER --YES, I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOUR CALL. YOU DID GET ENOUGH DNA FROM THE REMAINS FOR A POSITIVE I.D.?\*



\*DONNA'S EX-HUSBAND, STEPPDAUGHTER AND SON WERE KILLED IN AN AUTOMOBILE ACCIDENT - PAUL

YES... YES I GOT THAT. ALL THREE. AND... THERE'S NO CHANCE THERE COULD BE ANY ERROR?

NO... NO, OF COURSE NOT. FOOLISH OF ME TO ASK. YES. THANK YOU FOR CALLING.

SO THAT'S IT! THE LAST HOPE I HAD THAT THEY WEREN'T ALL IN THE CAR.

EVERYTHING THAT MATTERS TO ME HAS BEEN STRIPPED AWAY. I CAN'T POSSIBLY SINK ANY LOWER...

OH, BUT YOU CAN, PRINCESS.

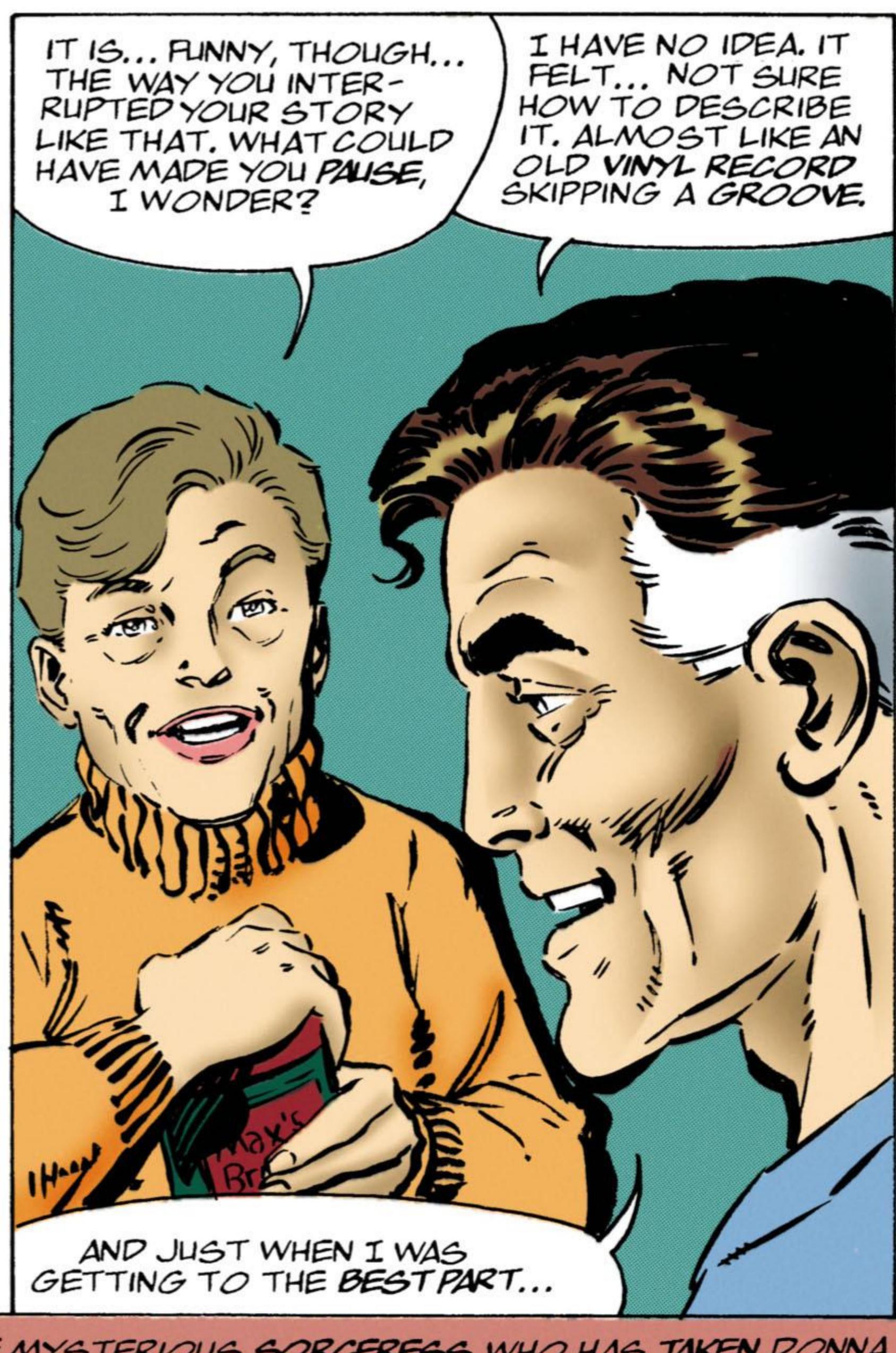
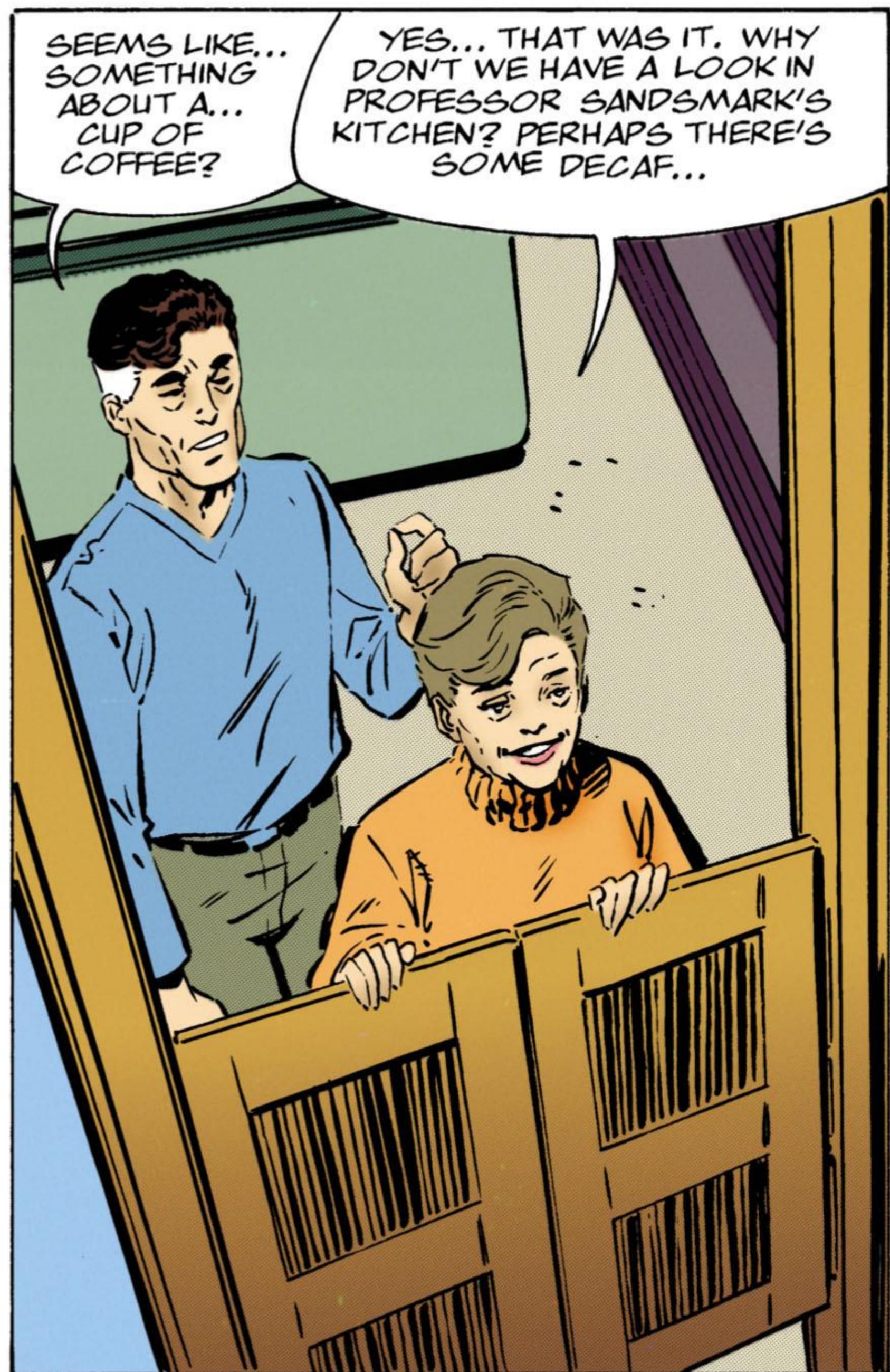
DARK ANGEL!  
OH... NO!!!

OH, YES! THE TIME HAS COME ONCE MORE,  
PRINCESS. YOU HAVE REACHED THE LOWEST  
EBB, AND THAT MEANS IT IS TIME TO BEGIN  
AGAIN!

NO...  
PLEASE...  
WHY ARE  
YOU DO-  
ING THIS?  
WHY HAVE  
YOU NEVER  
TOLD ME  
WHY YOU'RE  
DOING THIS?

BUT I HAVE TOLD YOU,  
PRINCESS.  
I DO THIS TO PUNISH YOUR  
MOTHER FOR HER CRIMES  
AGAINST ME.  
SHE KNOWS OF YOUR EVERY  
MOMENT OF TORMENT, AS  
SHE KNOWS THERE IS  
NOTHING SHE CAN DO TO  
SAVE YOU!  
NOW, COME ALONG...





NEXT: WHO IS THE MYSTERIOUS SORCERESS WHO HAS TAKEN DONNA  
TROY? WHERE AND WHY HAS SHE TAKEN HER? AND HOW IS THIS CONNECTED TO WONDER  
WOMAN'S ADVENTURES WITH THE JUSTICE SOCIETY OF AMERICA?

SOME OF THE ANSWERS  
WILL BE YOURS IN 30 DAYS!

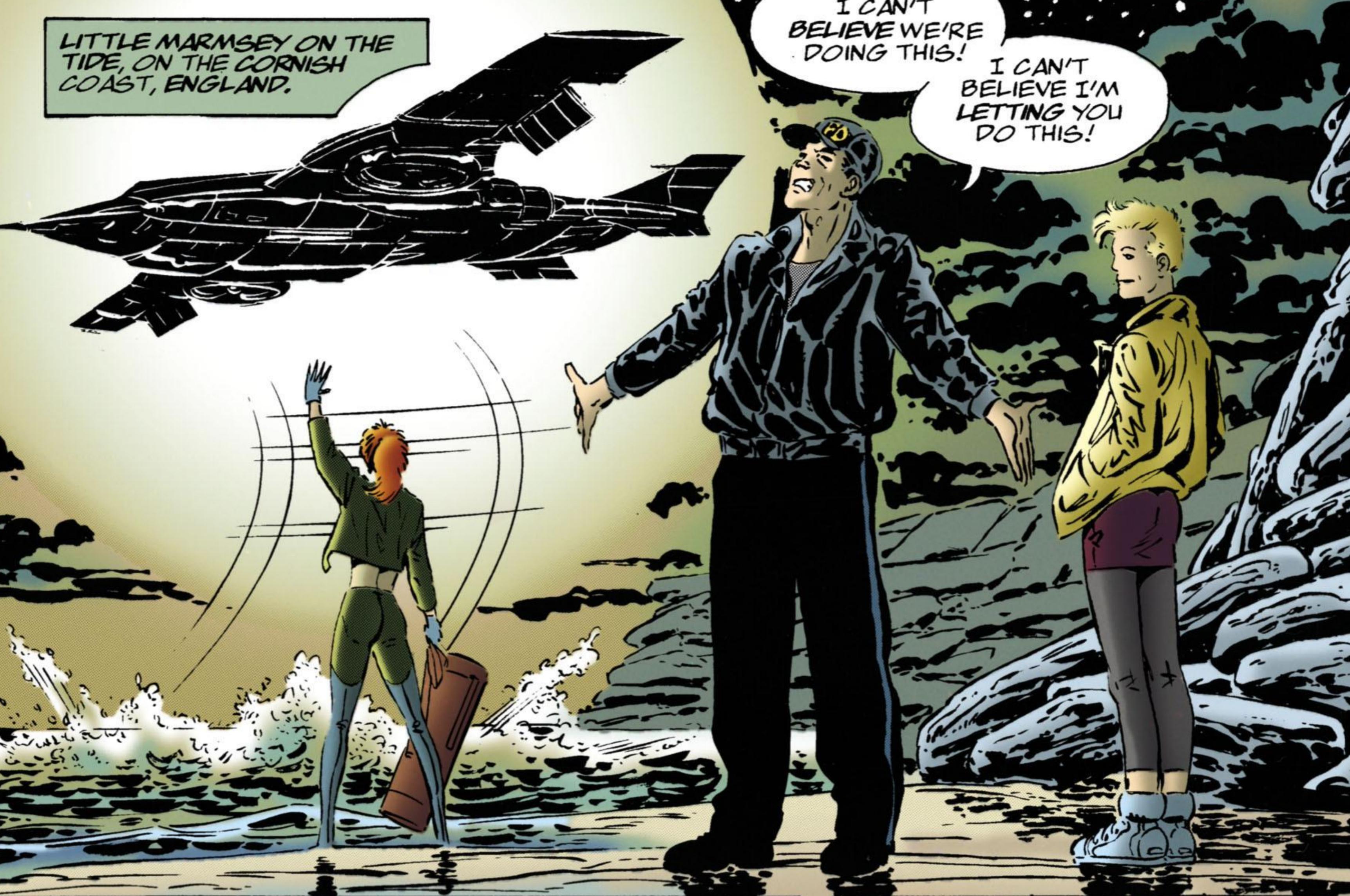
CONTINUING THE TALE OF TERROR, MYSTERY AND BETRAYAL WE CALL SIMPLY...

# MEANWHILE

LITTLE MARMSEY ON THE TIDE, ON THE CORNISH COAST, ENGLAND.

I CAN'T BELIEVE WE'RE DOING THIS!

I CAN'T BELIEVE I'M LETTING YOU DO THIS!



WHAT'S WRONG, MIKE? I THINK IT WAS WAY COOL OF ARTEMIS TO GET HER FRIENDS TO GIVE US A LIFT ALL THE WAY TO ENGLAND SO WE CAN LOOK FOR MY MOM AND JASON BLOOD.

IT IS NO MORE THAN I MUST DO, CASSANDRA, KNOWING THAT THIS MATTER IN SOME FASHION INVOLVES THE DEMON ETRIGAN.

YEAH, SURE... BUT THERE'S STILL THAT LITTLE MATTER OF PASSPORTS AND LEGAL ENTRY INTO A FOREIGN NATION!

YOU WORRY TOO MUCH, MIKE! IT'S NOT LIKE WE'RE GONNA BE HERE LONG...

...AND WE SHOULD HAVE NO DIFFICULTY BLENDING WITH THE INDIGENOUS POPULACE.

YEAH, RIGHT. LOOKED IN A MIRROR LATELY, RED?



NO. IT IS NOT THE HABIT OF AMAZONS TO WASTE TIME REGARDING THEMSELVES IN LOOKING GLASSES...

NEVER MIND... I WISH THERE WAS SOMEONE TO GIVE US DIRECTIONS.

CASSIE... WHAT DID YOU SAY WAS THE NAME OF THAT HOTEL WHERE HELENA IS SUPPOSED TO BE STAYING?

"THE KING'S COCKEREL" THAT'S SOME KIND OF BIRD I GUESS.

AND THERE IT IS!



THIS IS MORE LIKE AN OLD INN THAN A REAL HOTEL. I'M AMAZED THEY EVEN HAVE TELEPHONES!

SOME-  
THING  
IS...  
AWES  
HERE. I  
FEEL  
IT.

YEAH... IT'S  
KINDA...  
QUIET, ISN'T  
IT?

IT'S ALSO THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT, LOCAL TIME, CASSIE. FUNNY, THOUGH... NO ONE IS RESPONDING TO THE BELL...

HEY! LOOK!



LOOKS LIKE SOMETHING'S GOING ON AT THAT BIG PILE OF RUINS UP ON THE HILLTOP.



