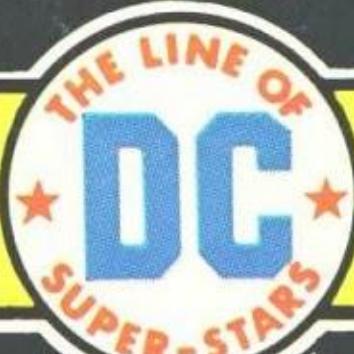




BAT MAN



A MIND-BLASTING SIZZLER--  
"MENACE OF THE FIERY HEADS!"

25¢  
NO. 270  
DEC.  
30430



# BATMAN



# BAT MAN

AND

## THE CAPTIVE COMMISSIONER

COMMISSIONER GORDON HAS BEEN CAPTURED BY THE 3 SVENGALI BROTHERS, UNDERWORLD FIGURES. WITHOUT IT'S COMMISSIONER, GOTHAM CITY IS IN TOTAL CHAOS.

ROBIN, UNTIL COMMISSIONER GORDON IS FREED, THIS CITY IS IN TROUBLE.

NOT JUST TROUBLE, BATMAN, REAL, DEEP, BIG TROUBLE!

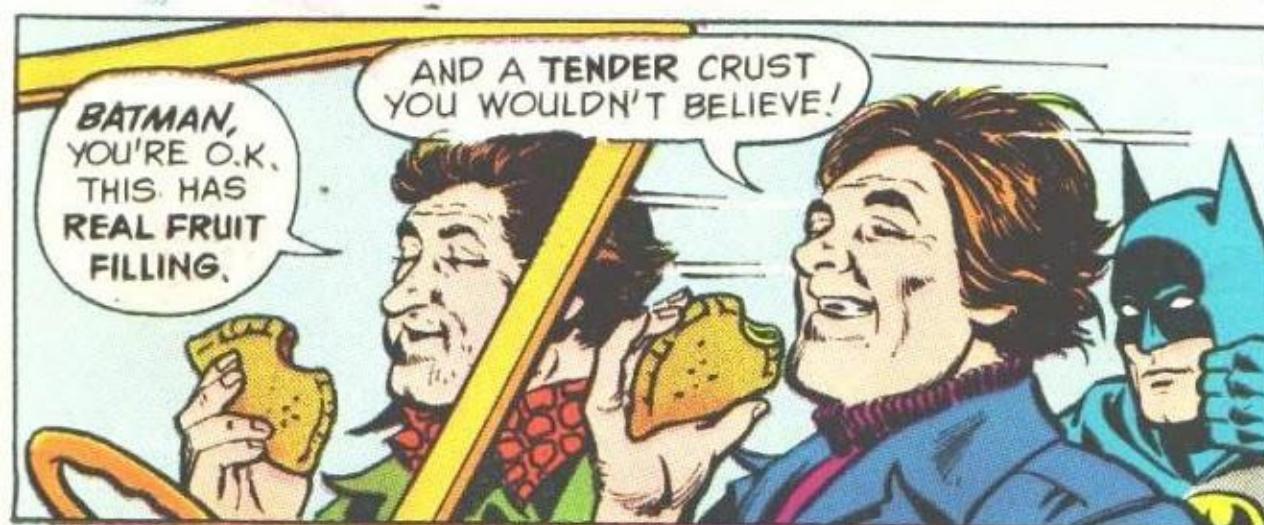
YOU TWO GUYS GOTTA MAKE A DEAL WITH THE BATMAN. EITHER WE RUN THIS TOWN, OR NOBODY'LL EVER SEE THE COMMISSIONER AGAIN.

WE'LL "PERSUADE" THE BATMAN...

...TO "TALK THINGS OVER."

DON'T TRY NUTHIN', BATMAN! THIS CAR IS COMPUTERIZED TO TAKE YOU TO OUR HIDEOUT, NO MATTER WHAT YOU DO!

IN THAT CASE, LET'S ENJOY SOME SNACKS!



YOU GET A BIG DELIGHT IN EVERY BITE OF **HOSTESS® FRUIT PIES**

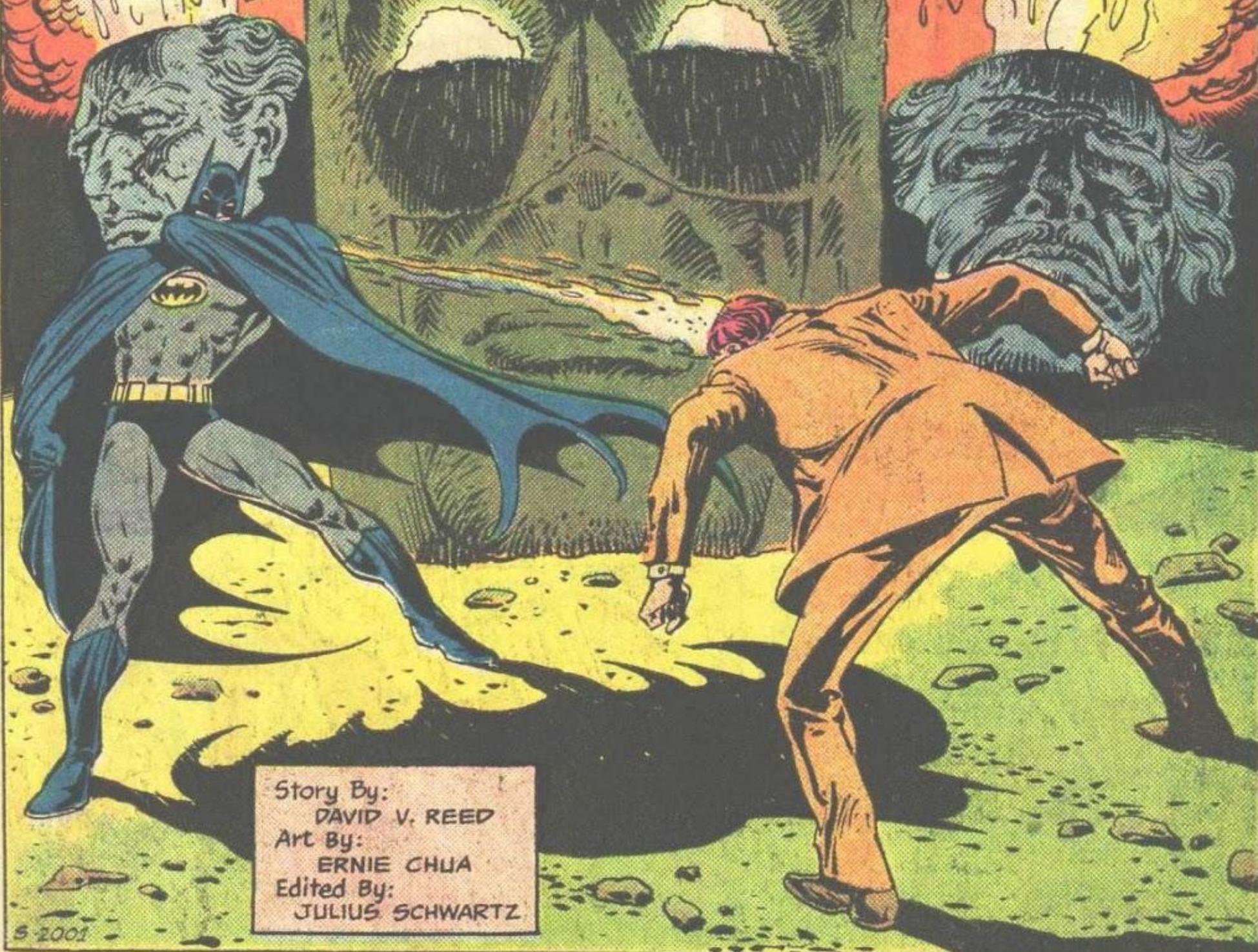
**RX PRESCRIPTION:**  
TAKE ONE BLAZING,  
BLOOD-CURDLING  
MYSTERY. MIX WELL WITH  
SEVERAL SCORCHING  
ENCOUNTERS THAT INCLUDE  
DUPLICITY, DANGER AND  
DEATH.

ADD THE

**BATMAN**

AND WHAT  
HAVE YOU  
GOT--?

# THE MENACE OF THE FIERY HEADS!



Story By:  
**DAVID V. REED**  
Art By:  
**ERNIE CHUA**  
Edited By:  
**JULIUS SCHWARTZ**

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AN EVENING AT  
THE HOME OF  
BRUCE WAYNE...

...WHERE THE WELL-KNOWN SOCIALITE  
AND PHILANTHROPIST  
PLAYS HOST TO  
GOTHAM CITY'S  
CIVIC COMMITTEE...

...AND MR. WAYNE HAS VERY  
GENEROUSLY VOLUNTEERED  
TO ARRANGE A SERIES OF  
ENTERTAINMENTS FOR THE  
COMMITTEE'S YOUTH  
DIVISION...

...FOR WHICH I  
MOST HEARTILY  
THANK HIM!

THANK YOU,  
MR. MAYOR, FOR  
YOUR CONFIDENCE  
IN ME!

I PROMISE TO DO  
EVERYTHING I CAN  
TO INSURE THE  
SUCCESS OF  
THIS PROGRAM--

SUDDENLY--

HELP!  
HELP!

IT'S COMING FROM  
THE APARTMENT  
DIRECTLY BELOW!

AND NOTHING I  
CAN DO ABOUT IT  
WITHOUT WRECKING  
BRUCE WAYNE'S  
REPUTATION AS A  
NONCOMBATANT!

HELP!

BRUCE, YOU'RE  
THE ONLY ABLE-  
BODIED MAN  
HERE!

BLAST  
IT--DO  
SOMETHING!

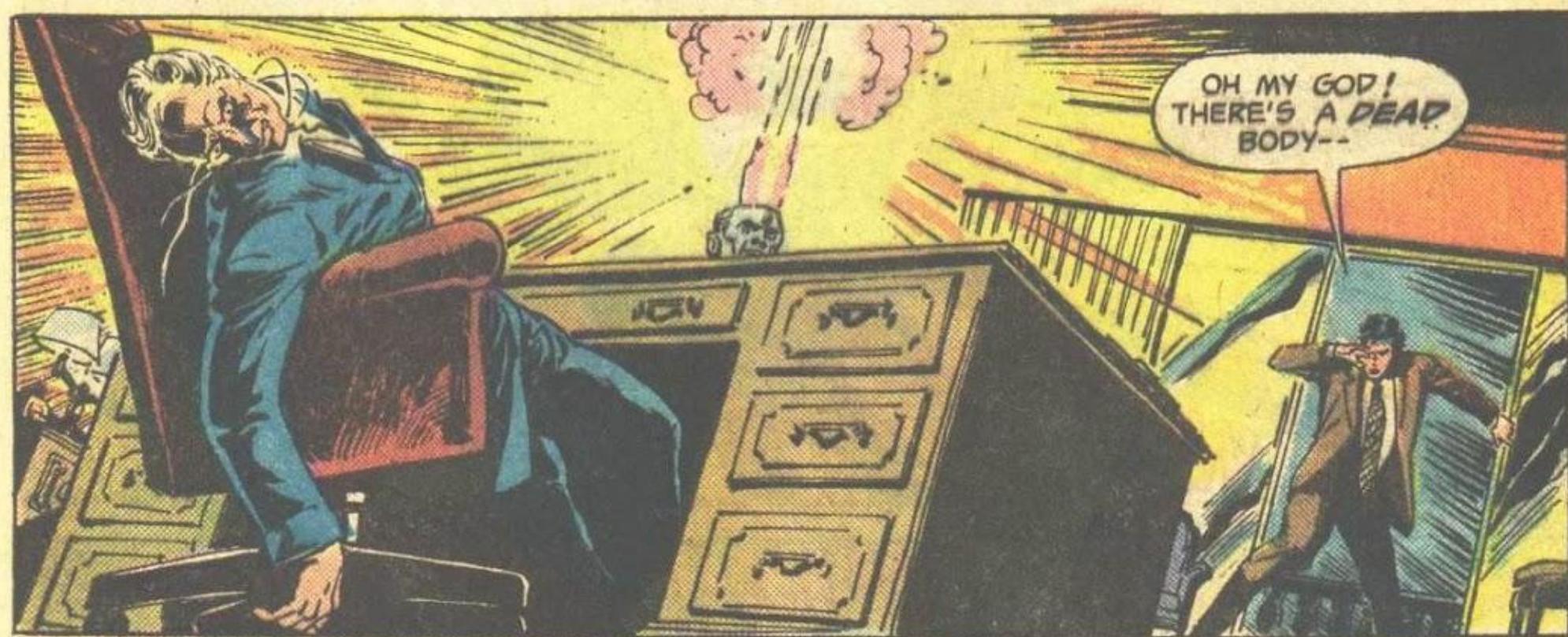
TRAPPED!--  
COMMISSIONER  
GORDON'S FORCING  
ME INTO ACTION!

ANYBODY WOULD BE  
SHAMED--DISGRACED--  
NOT TO RESPOND...

...EVEN  
BRUCE  
WAYNE!

I-I-ILL DO  
WHAT I CAN,  
COMMISSIONER!







CONTINUED ON 3RD PAGE FOLLOWING.

**A**LL THE ACTION STARTS WITH A PULL OF THE T-STICK (NO BATTERIES)

WATCH DAREDEVIL  
DAN CATCH THE  
THRILL BAR  
AND SPIN!

SEE THE MUSTANG II DO A  
WILD POWER SPIN-OUT!

SET  
STUNT WHEEL...PULL  
T-STICK

**SCREEEE**



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**D**EATH DEFYING WILD-ACTION STUNTS!

FEATURING DAREDEVIL DAN

**ALL THE ACTION OF THE REAL AUTO DAREDEVILS!**

DAREDEVIL  
DAN CATCHES  
THE THRILL  
BAR FROM  
ATOP A  
SPEEDING  
CAR!

THE MUSTANG II CRASHES  
INTO THE WALL AS DARE-  
DEVIL DAN LEAPS FOR  
LIFE!

"DRAGGING" WITH ALL  
THE FUN AND  
EXCITEMENT OF  
THE REAL  
PROS!

SET INCLUDES:  
MUSTANG II MODEL  
DAREDEVIL DAN  
HOOK  
THRILL BAR  
JUMP RAMP  
BARRELS  
T-STICK

SEE IT NOW--AT YOUR FAVORITE STORE!

**Kenner.**

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# WHAT TO SINK YOUR TEETH INTO WHEN YOU'RE HUNGRY AND YOU'RE NOT A WEREWOLF.

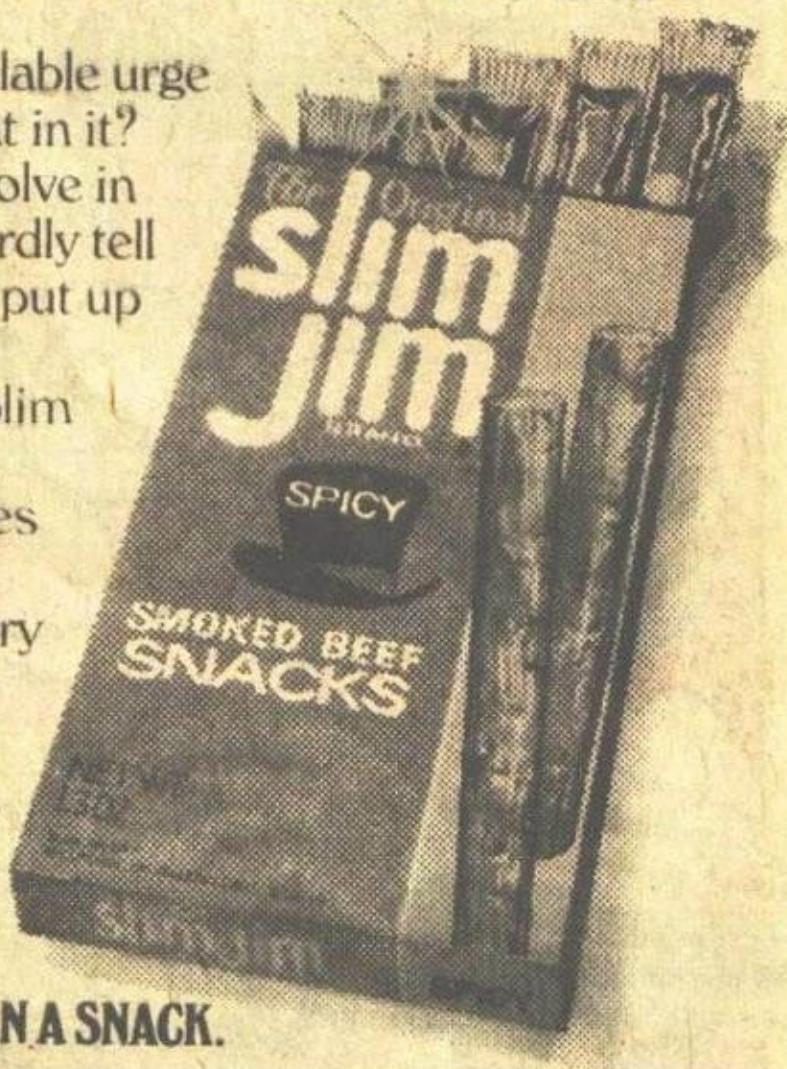
Every now and then, do you get this uncontrollable urge to bite into something that's really got some meat in it?

Are you tired of sugar-sweet snacks that dissolve in your mouth, and crunchy snacks that you can hardly tell you ate, and all the other boring stuff you have to put up with, every day?

Well, take heart. And, while you're at it, take Slim Jim along in your pocket.

Slim Jim is a chewy, all-meat snack that comes in five very un-boring flavors. Mild, spicy, salami, bacon, and pizza. And you can find it at the grocery store. Or at a lot of the places where you've been getting those sissy snacks.

You might want to carry a few extra ones, too. Then, if you meet a werewolf, you can give him something to sink his teeth into instead of you.



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AMERICAN CIRCLE CORP., DEPT. 25-K 2835 PETTIT AVE., BELLMORE, N.Y. 11710



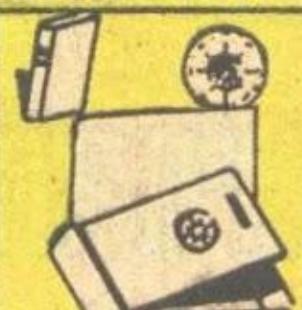
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5 pkgs. \$1.00



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D No. 217 4 for \$1.00



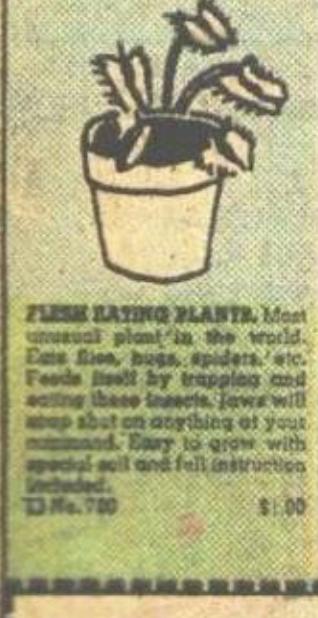
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**SNEEZING POWDER.** Place a little of this powder on your hand, blow into the air, step back and watch the fun begin. Everyone in the room will begin to sneeze without knowing why. More fun than a barrel full of monkeys.  
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THIRTY  
SECONDS  
LATER--

PLEASE FORGIVE  
ME...I FEEL VERY  
WEAK...

COMMISSIONER  
GORDON WILL EXPLAIN  
EVERYTHING...

THE HOT-LINE IS  
RINGING FOR BATMAN--  
BUT MASTER BRUCE IS  
WITH THE COMMISSIONER,  
SO HE'S SURELY AWARE  
OF THIS!

SOMETHING  
TERRIBLE MUST'VE  
HAPPENED  
DOWNSTAIRS!

R-R-RING

R-R-RING



M-MASTER  
BRUCE--  
YOU LOOK--

R-R-RING



I KNOW HOW  
I LOOK, ALFRED!

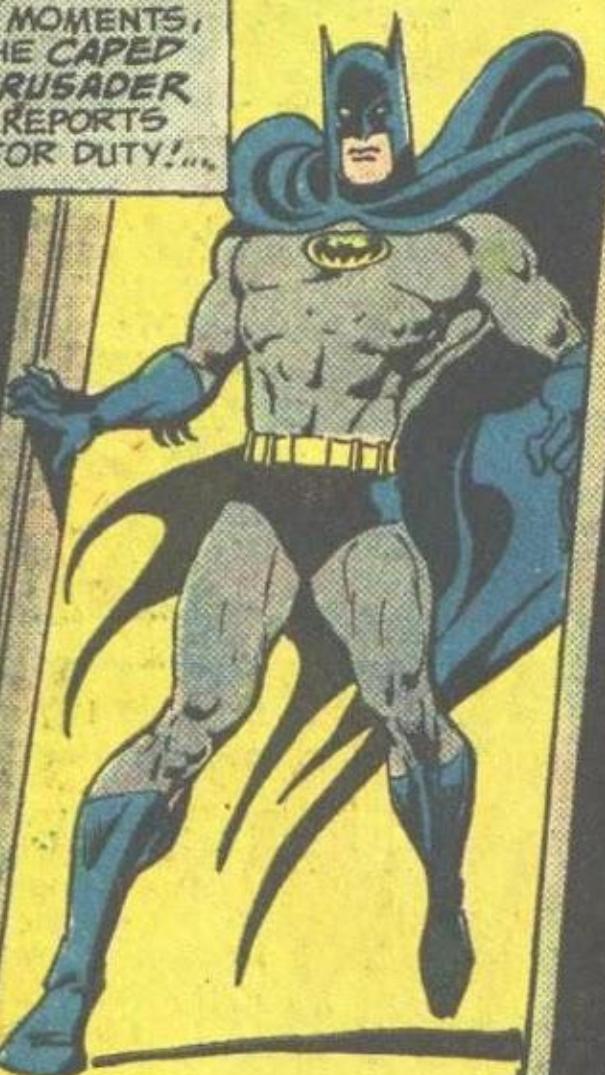
GET MY  
WORKING  
CLOTHES  
OUT!

YES,  
COMMISSIONER,  
WHAT'S UP?

A MURDER,  
PERHAPS--  
SOMETHING  
ON THE  
WEIRD  
SIDE?

GAD! IT'S  
ALMOST AS IF  
THE BATMAN  
KNOWS!

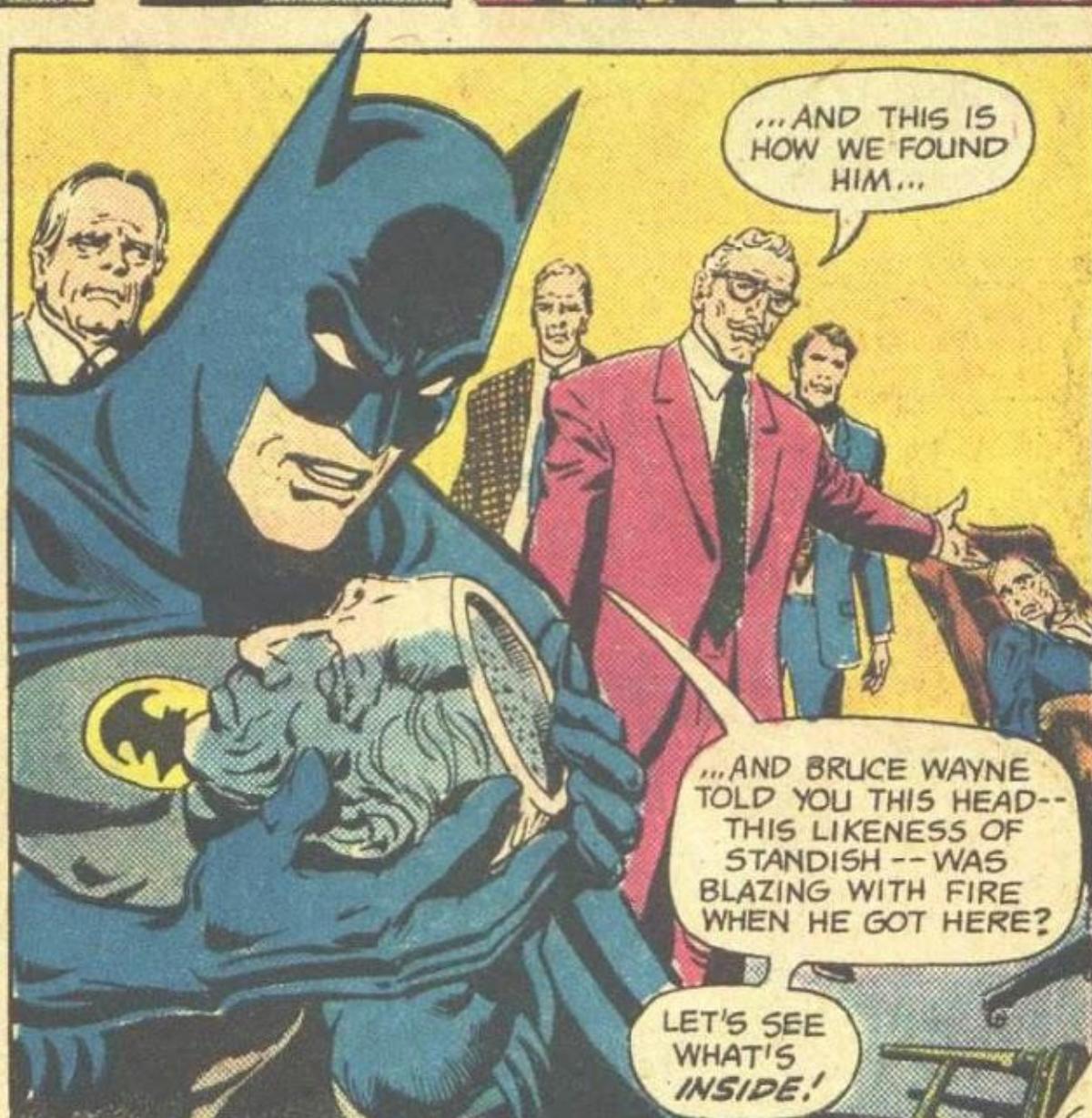
AND WITHIN  
MOMENTS,  
THE CAPE  
CRUSADER  
REPORTS  
FOR DUTY!!!

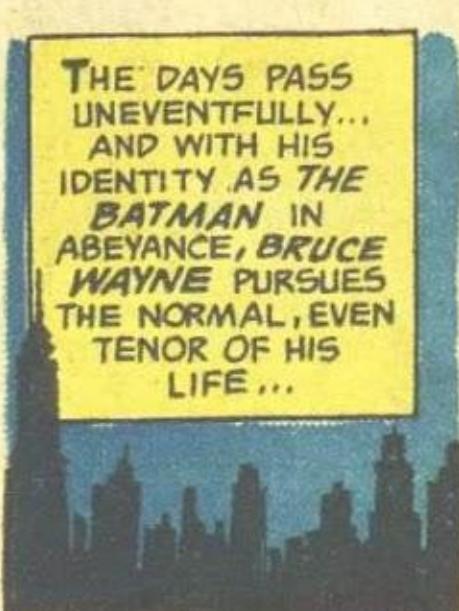
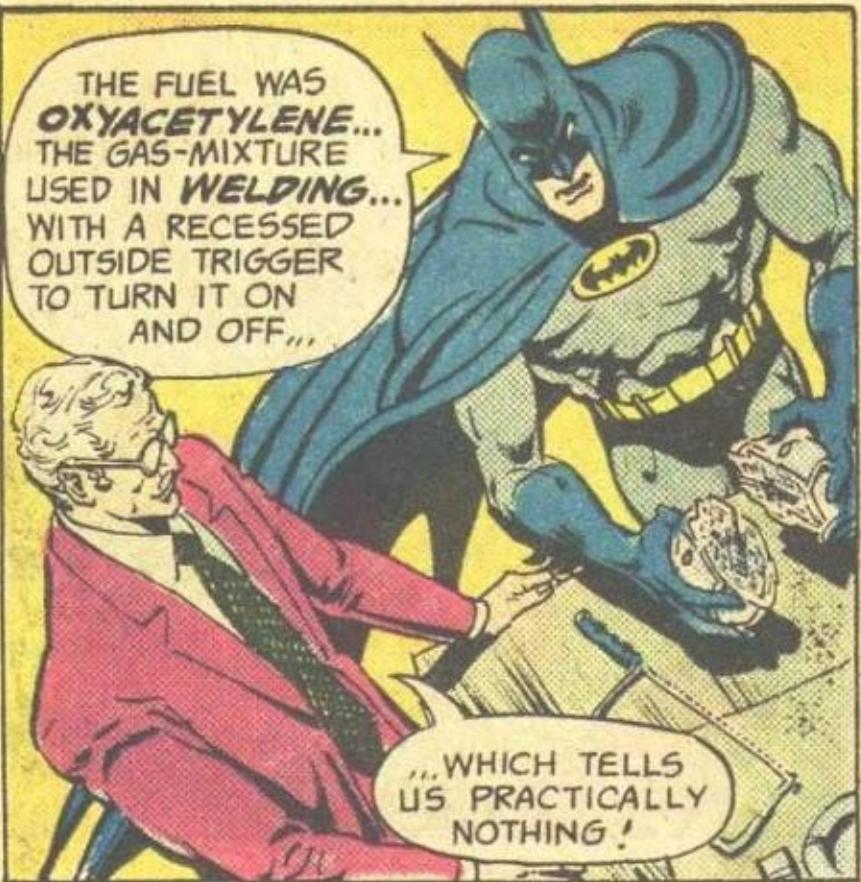


...AND THIS IS  
HOW WE FOUND  
HIM...

...AND BRUCE WAYNE  
TOLD YOU THIS HEAD--  
THIS LIKENESS OF  
STANDISH -- WAS  
BLAZING WITH FIRE  
WHEN HE GOT HERE?

LET'S SEE  
WHAT'S  
INSIDE!





MINUTES LATER, THE BATMOBILE RACES THROUGH THE STREETS OF GOTHAM ...

FROM WHAT GORDON SAYS, IT MUST BE THE SAME ONE!

BUT WHY DID THE "HEAD-KILLER" GIVE ADVANCE WARNING THIS TIME?

NO QUESTION ABOUT IT--THAT'S THE SAME OXYACETYLENE LIGHT!

OTHERWISE, AN OMINOUS QUIET...



THERE IT IS-- AND THE HEAD IS UNMISTAKABLY THAT OF JUDGE BROMLEY!

HELLO! ANYBODY HOME?



THERE'S NOT MUCH TO TELL! ABOUT AN HOUR AGO--I WAS IN THE NEXT ROOM-- WHEN SUDDENLY THAT INSANE LIGHT ERUPTED IN HERE!

I TOOK ONE LOOK AT THAT HEAD AND CALLED GORDON!

I REMEMBERED READING ABOUT THAT OTHER FIERY HEAD WHEN THE ASSISTANT D.A. WAS MURDERED LAST WEEK!



# The secret of teaching yourself music

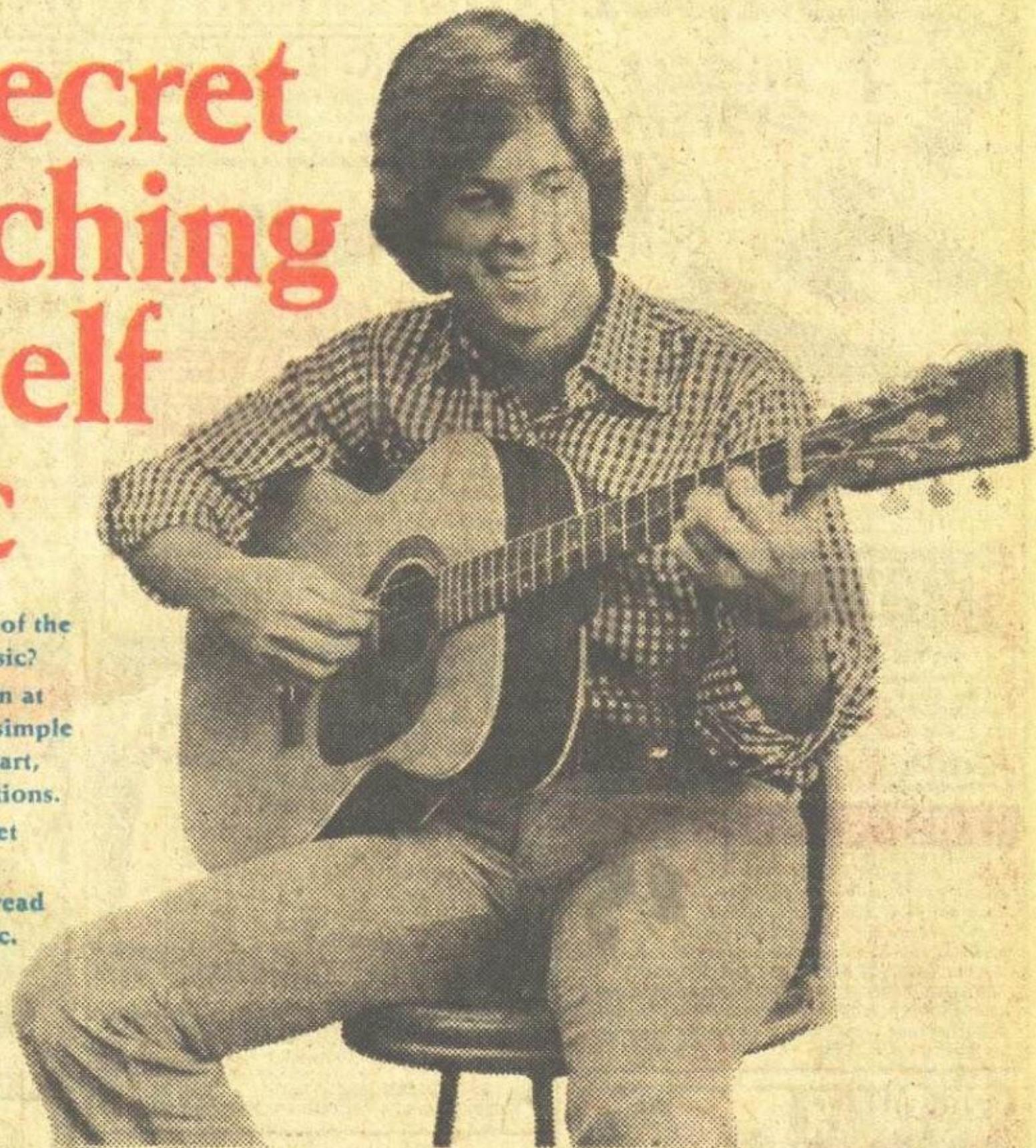
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With our lessons, you learn to play the right way—by note from regular sheet music. Without any gadgetry or gimmickry. And all it costs you is just pennies a day.

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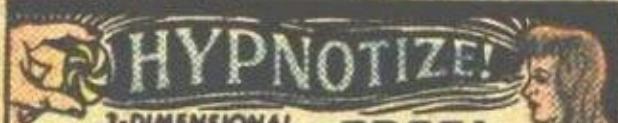
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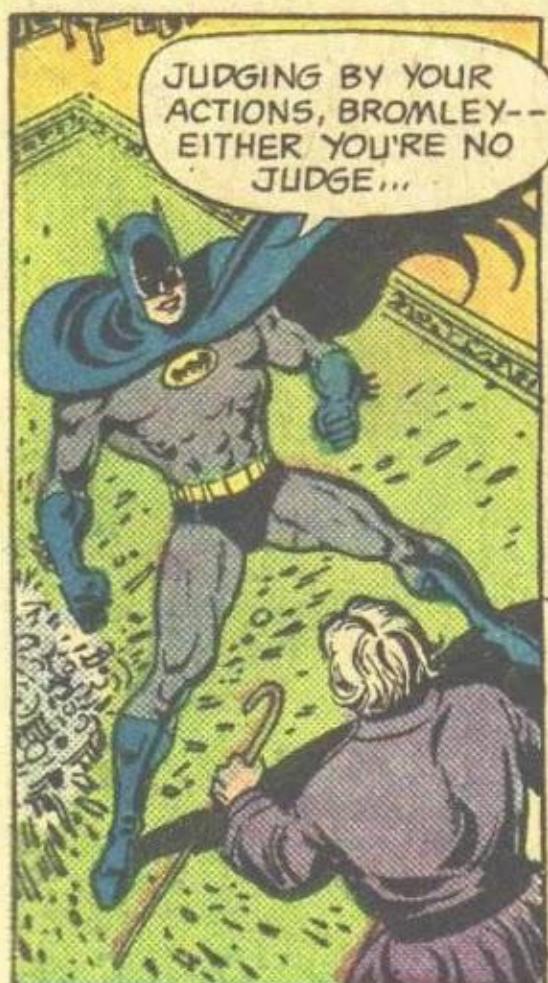
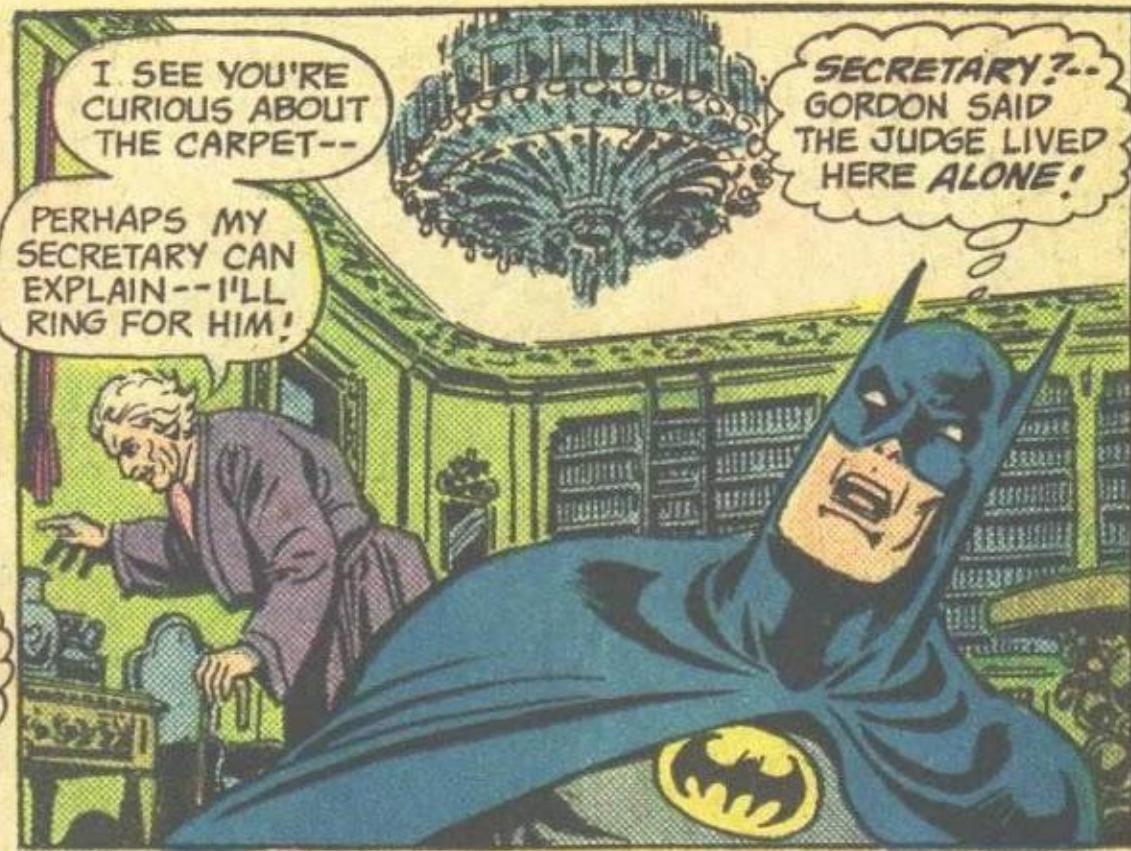
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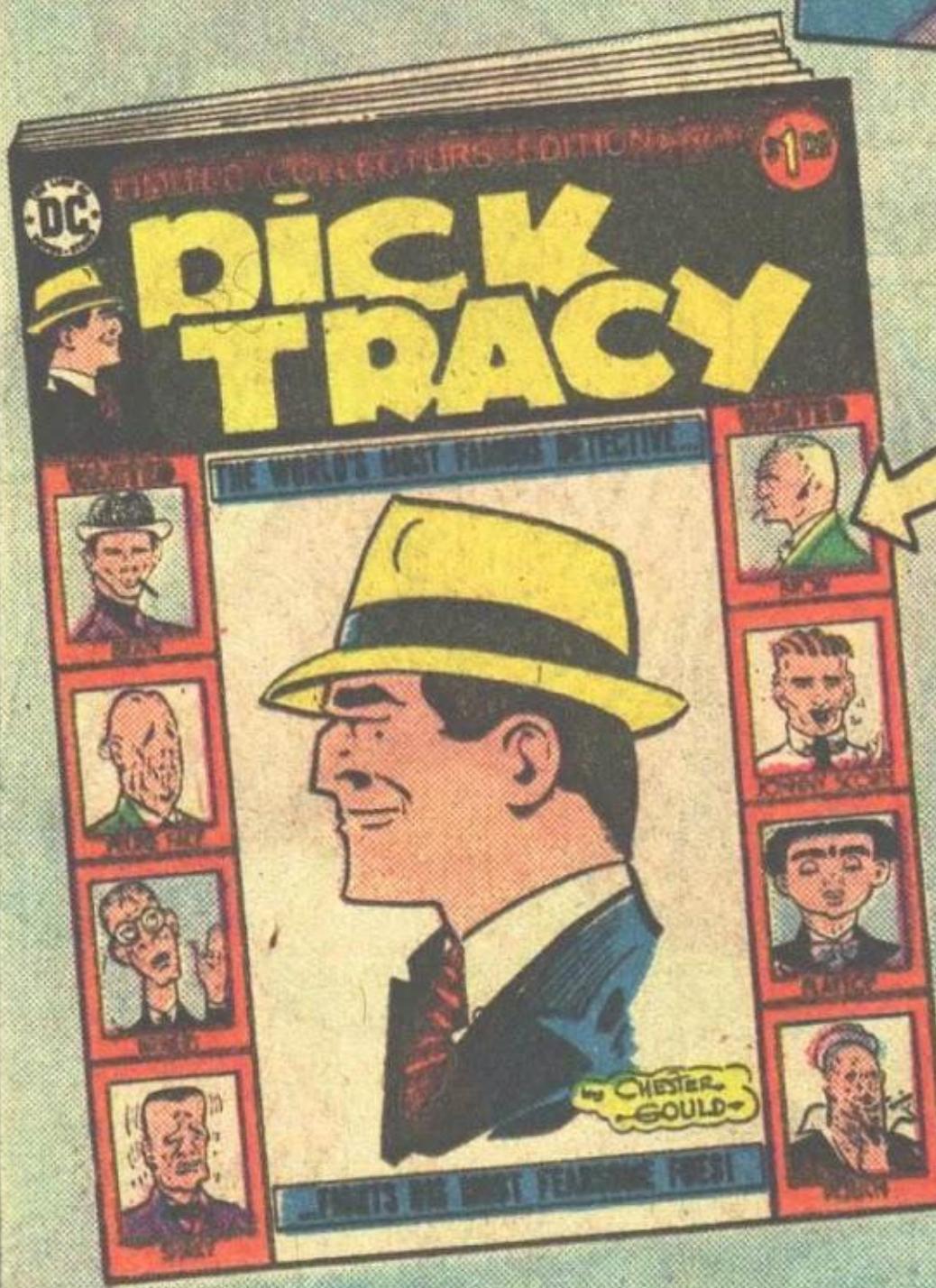
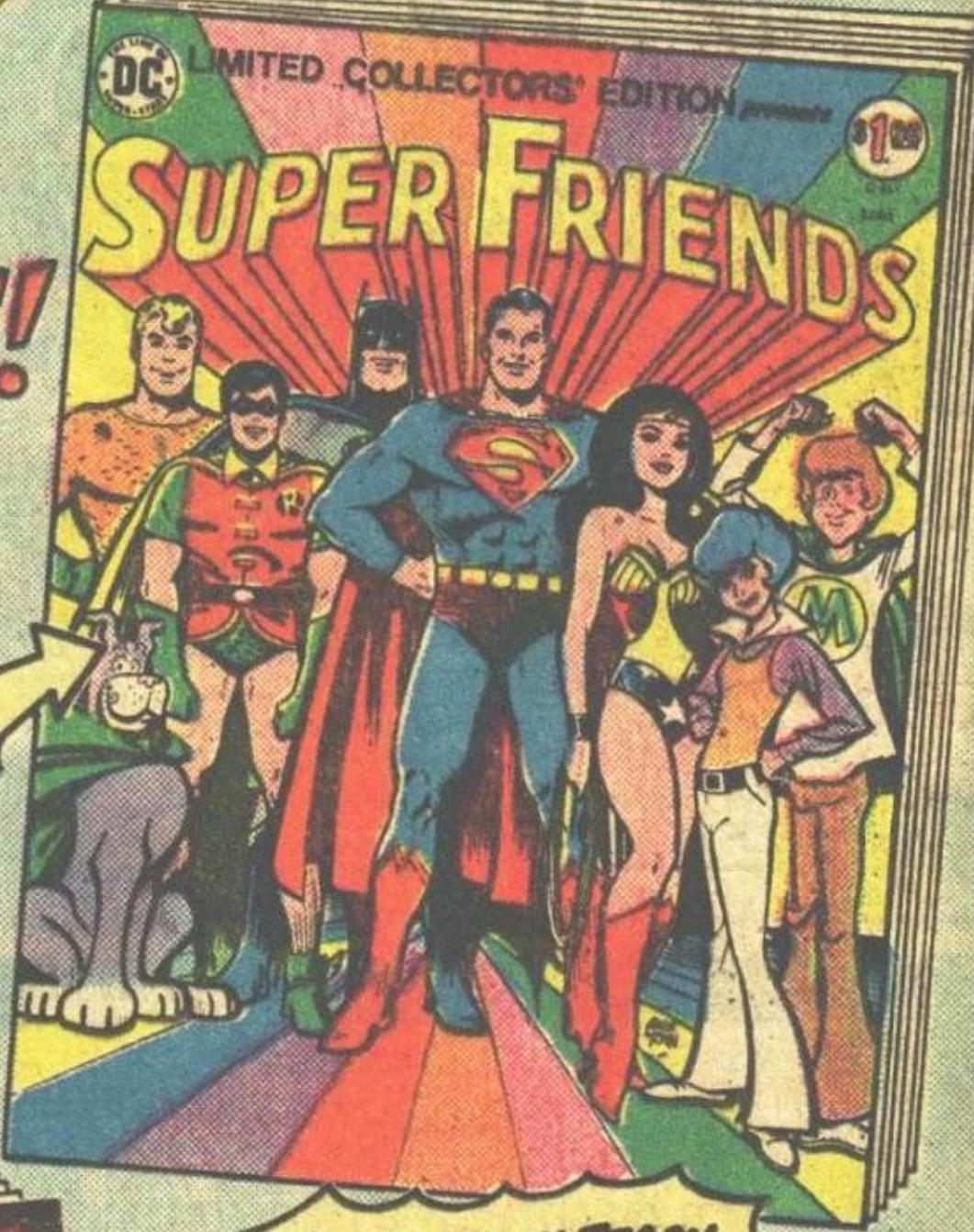


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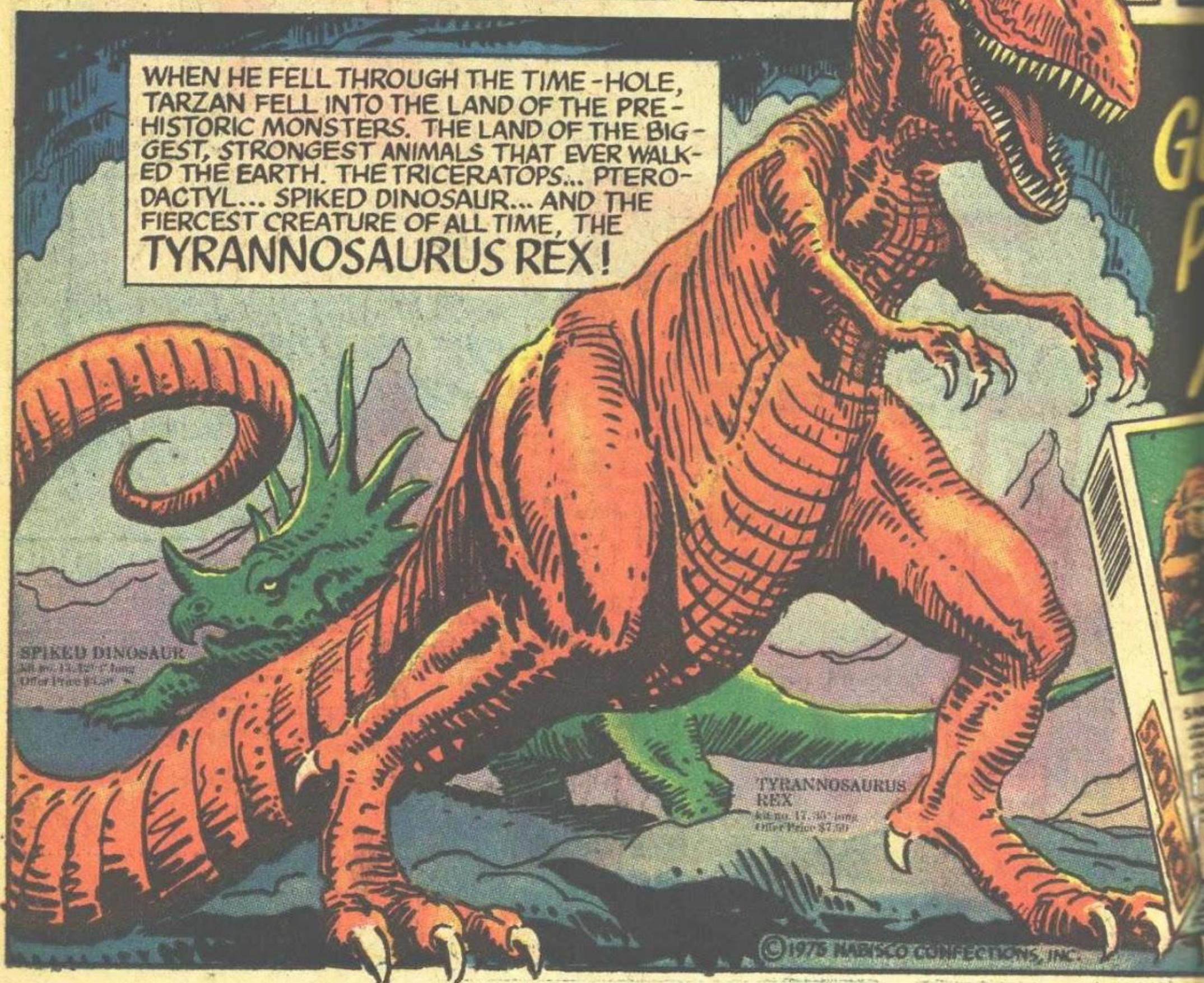
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OF EVERY NEWLY  
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MONSTER THAT  
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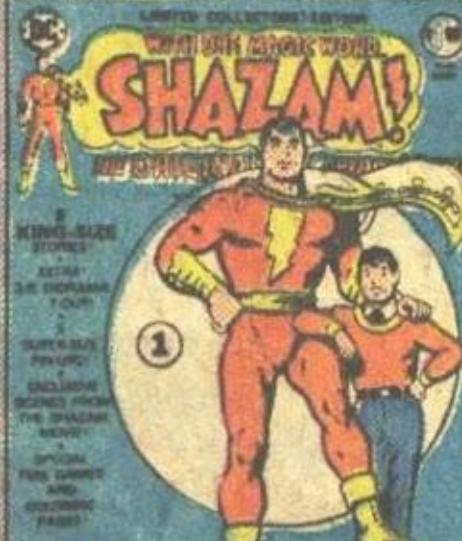
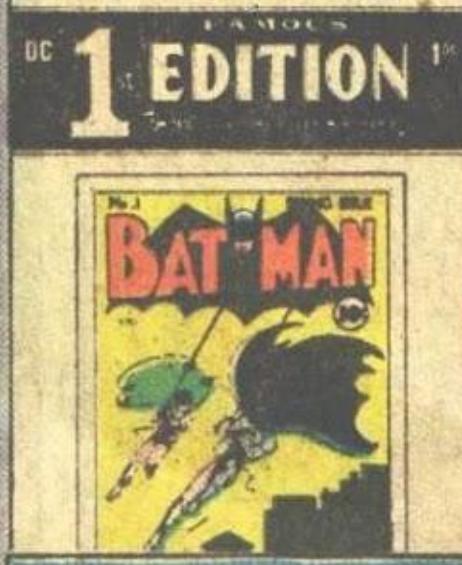
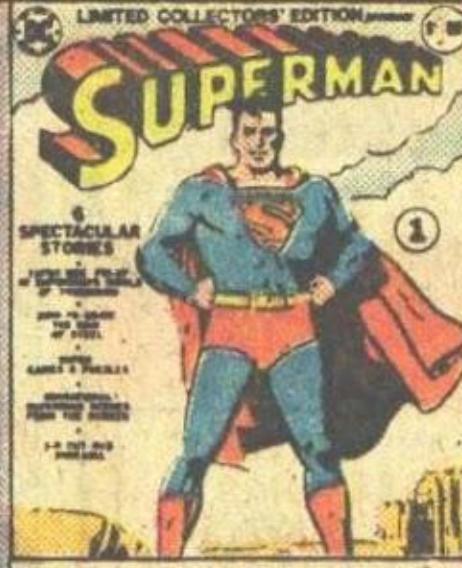
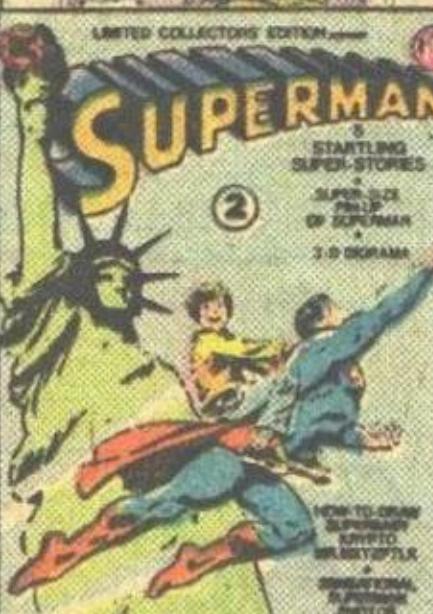
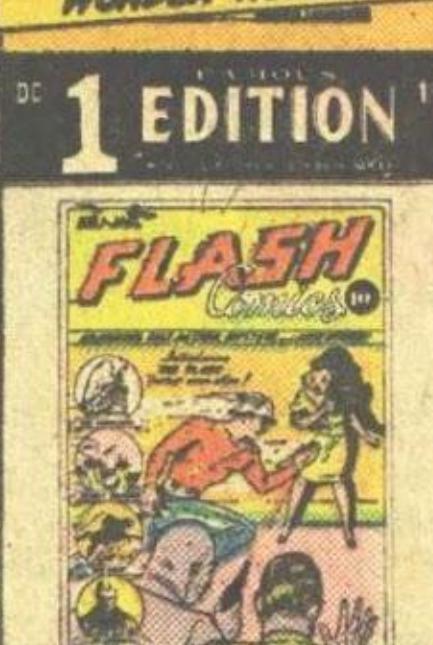
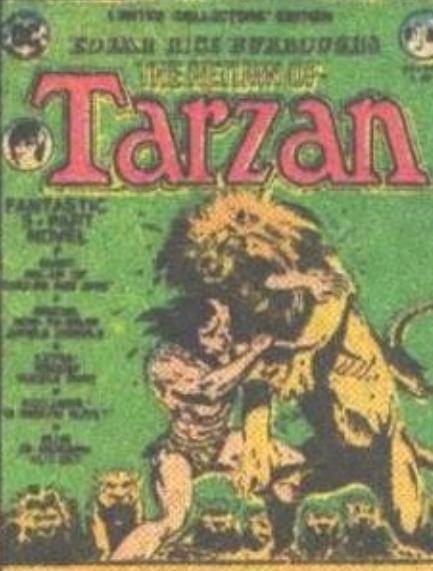
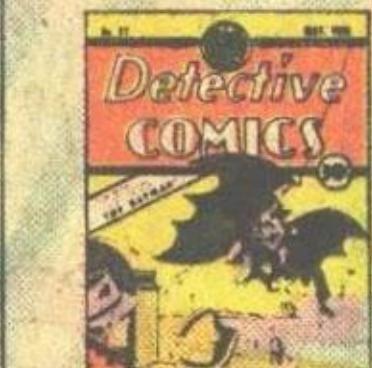
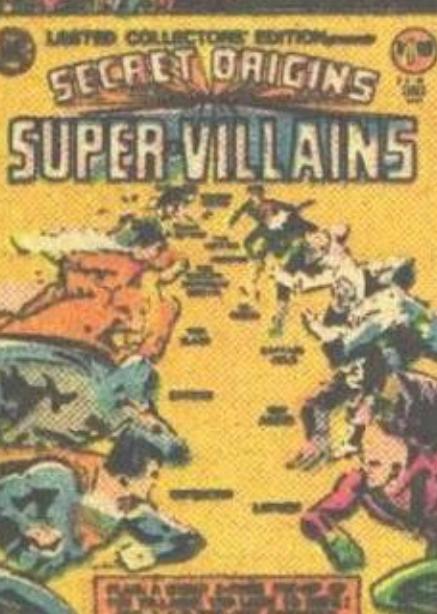
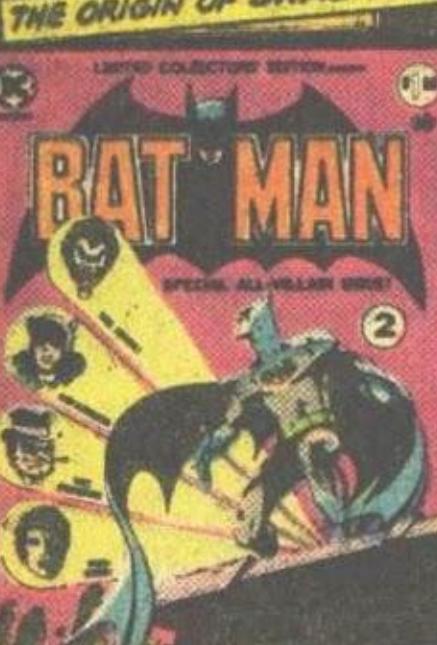
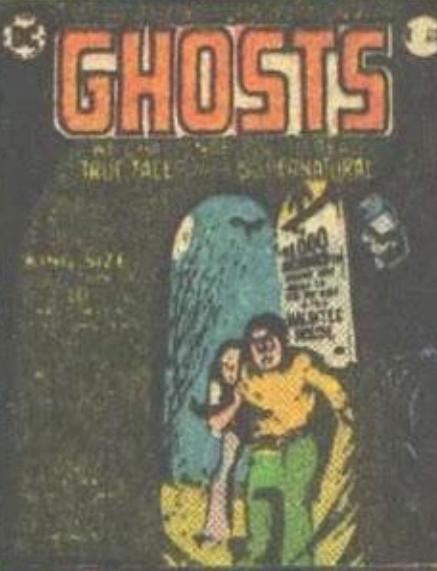
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BE BACK IN THE  
WORLD OF  
ORDINARY MONSTERS.



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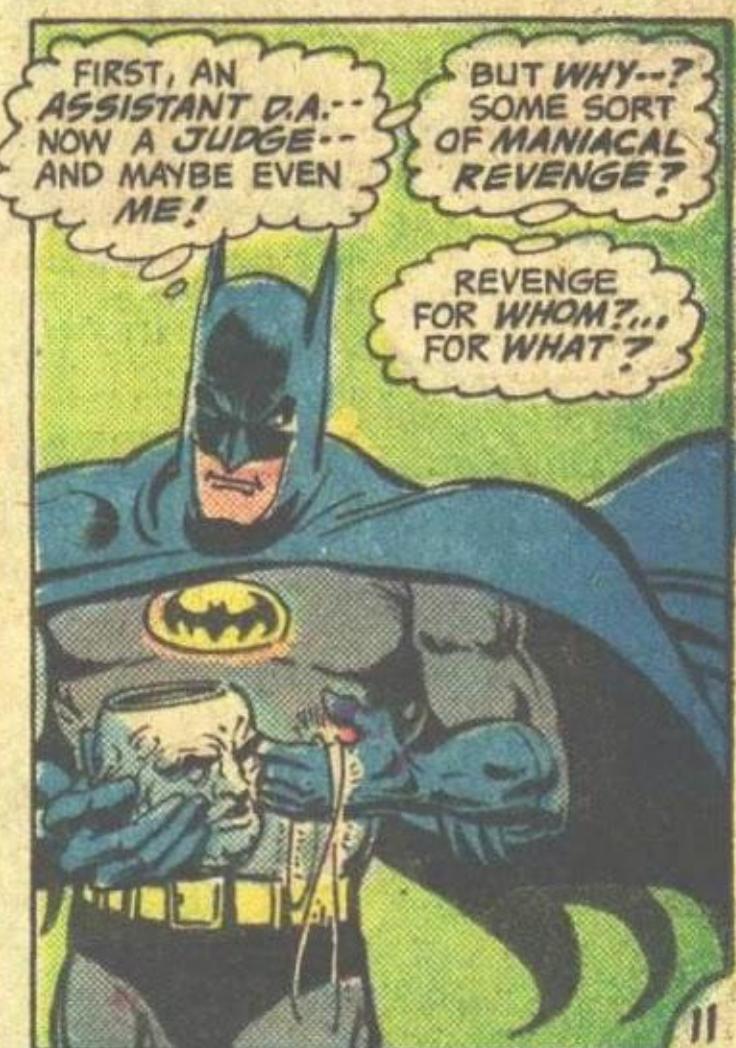
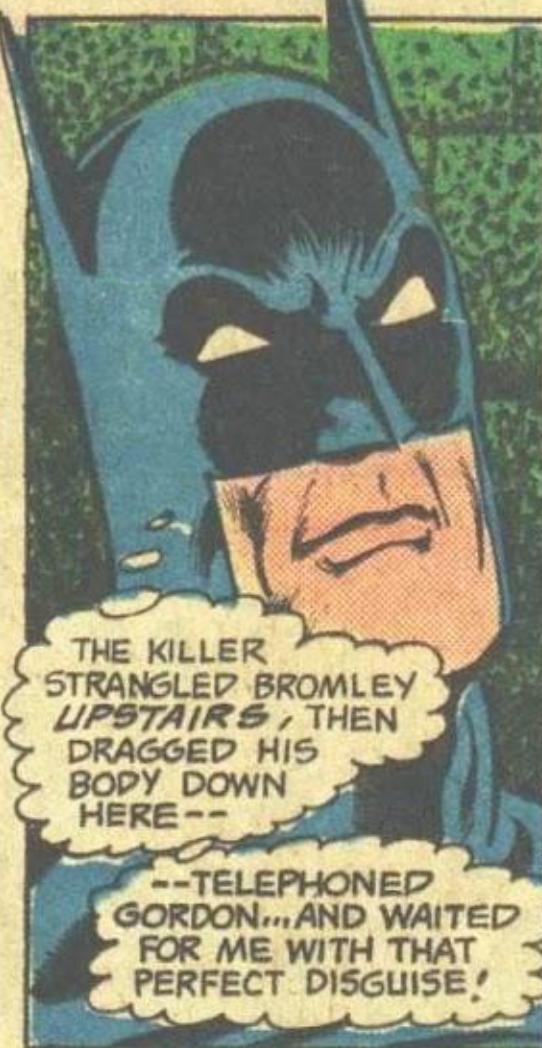
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SOME DAYS LATER,  
THE C.C.Y.P.  
MEETS AGAIN...  
THIS TIME AT THE  
HOME OF BRUCE  
WAYNE...

AS I WAS SAYING  
THE OTHER DAY, WHEN  
I SO RUDELY INTER-  
RUPTED MYSELF,  
WE'RE OPEN TO  
SUGGESTIONS!

WELL, MR.  
WAYNE, WE'VE  
COME TO A  
DECISION--

...WHEN--  
ONCE  
AGAIN!--

BEG PARDON,  
MASTER BRUCE--  
BUT YOU HAVE A  
MOST URGENT  
CALL--

EXCUSE ME!  
I'LL BE RIGHT  
BACK!

BUT THEN--

AHEM... ON BEHALF  
OF MR. WAYNE, MAY I  
CONVEY HIS MOST  
SINCERE APOLOGIES!

HE WAS  
UNAVOIDABLY  
CALLED AWAY  
ON A MOST  
PRESSING  
MATTER...

WHAT A  
DRAG!

I STILL  
DON'T  
BELIEVE  
IT!

PHOOOEY!

AND SHORTLY  
THEREAFTER--

NOW WHAT,  
COMMISSIONER?

THAT'S WHAT--  
WITH YOUR NAME  
ON IT-- LEFT  
DOWNSTAIRS BY  
SOMEBODY!

I HAD THE BOMB  
SQUAD SOUND IT,  
SO IT'S NOT THAT--  
BUT I DON'T LIKE  
THE LOOKS--

SUDDENLY,  
AN ERUPTING  
INTERRUPTION!

WHAT--

LOOKS LIKE THE  
FIERY HEAD WENT OFF  
PREMATURELY!

--OR  
DID  
IT?

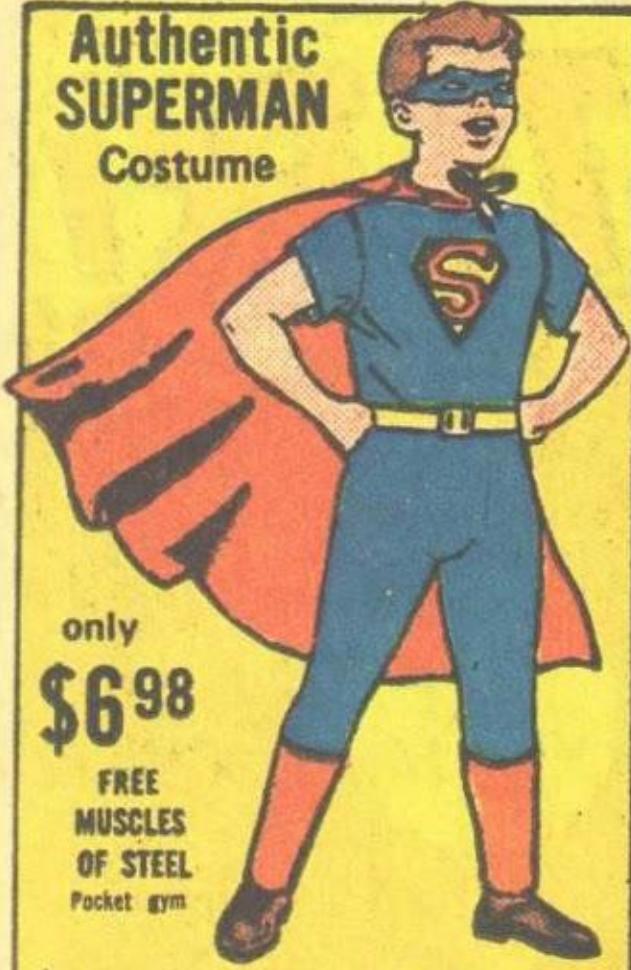
I'M GETTING  
PRETTY GOOD AT  
TURNING THESE  
OFF--

--THERE!

IT'S...  
ME--!

YOU ARE SLATED  
TO BE THE NEXT  
VICTIM!

## Authentic SUPERMAN Costume



only  
**\$6.98**

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MUSCLES  
OF STEEL  
Pocket gym

Just slip into this authentic "Superman" costume, put on the concealing mask, and in seconds you are Superman, that fearless fighter of evil. Made of long lasting, fire-retarded materials to give you weeks and months of fun. Be the first on your block - the envy of your friends. Send only \$6.98 plus 37¢ service charge. For CODs send \$1 and pay postman the balance plus COD and MO fees. If not delighted, return for a full refund.

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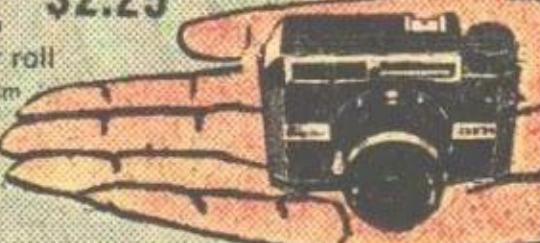
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DARK EYES

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THE BATTLE-  
FIELDS OF  
WORLD WAR  
TWO--SEEN  
THROUGH  
ENEMY EYES!

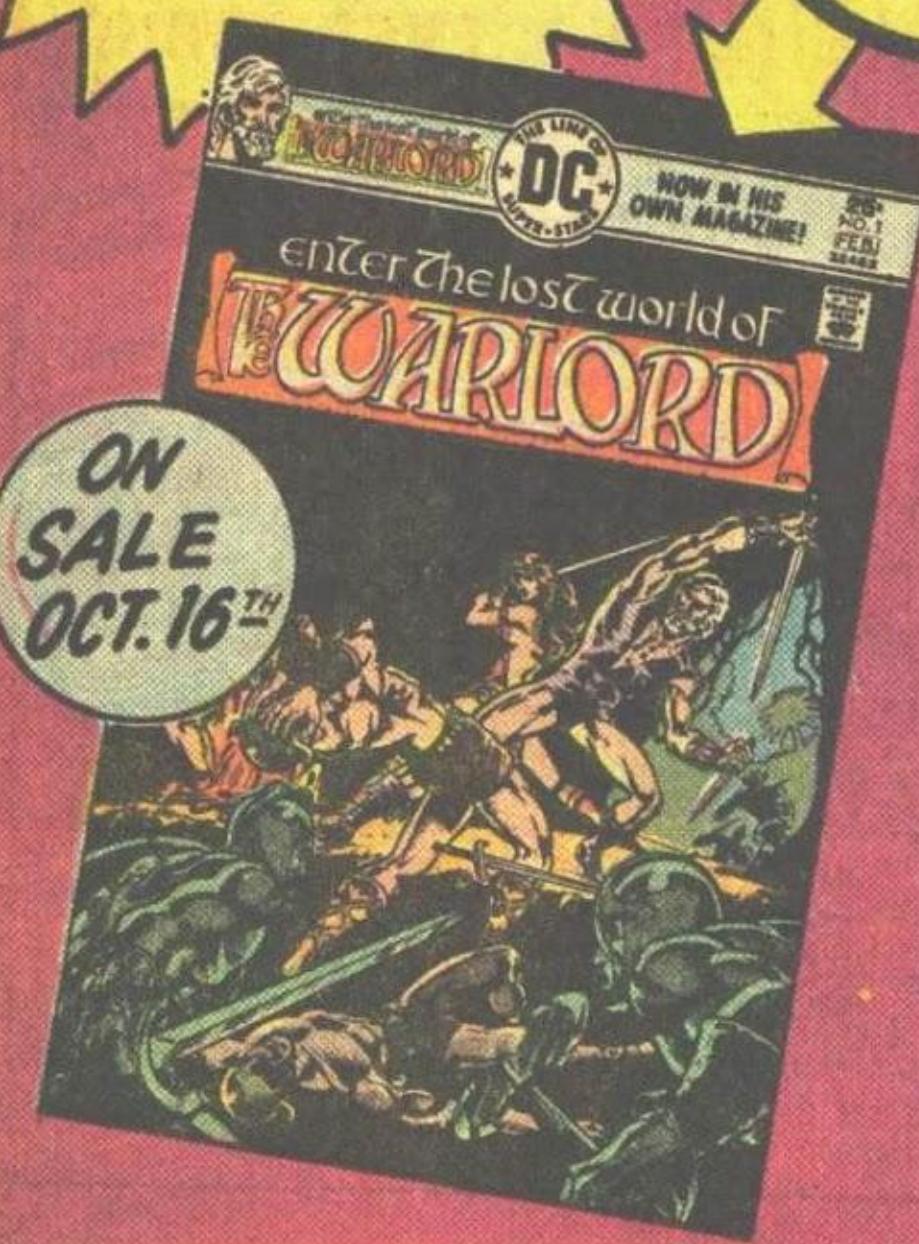


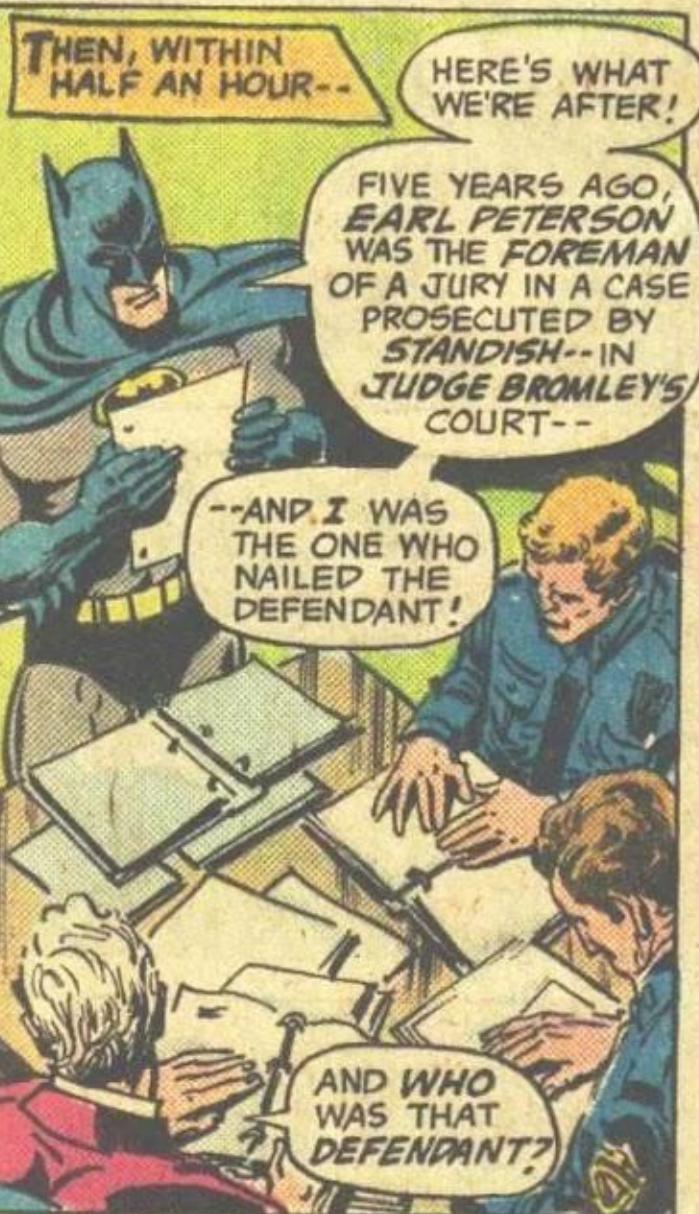
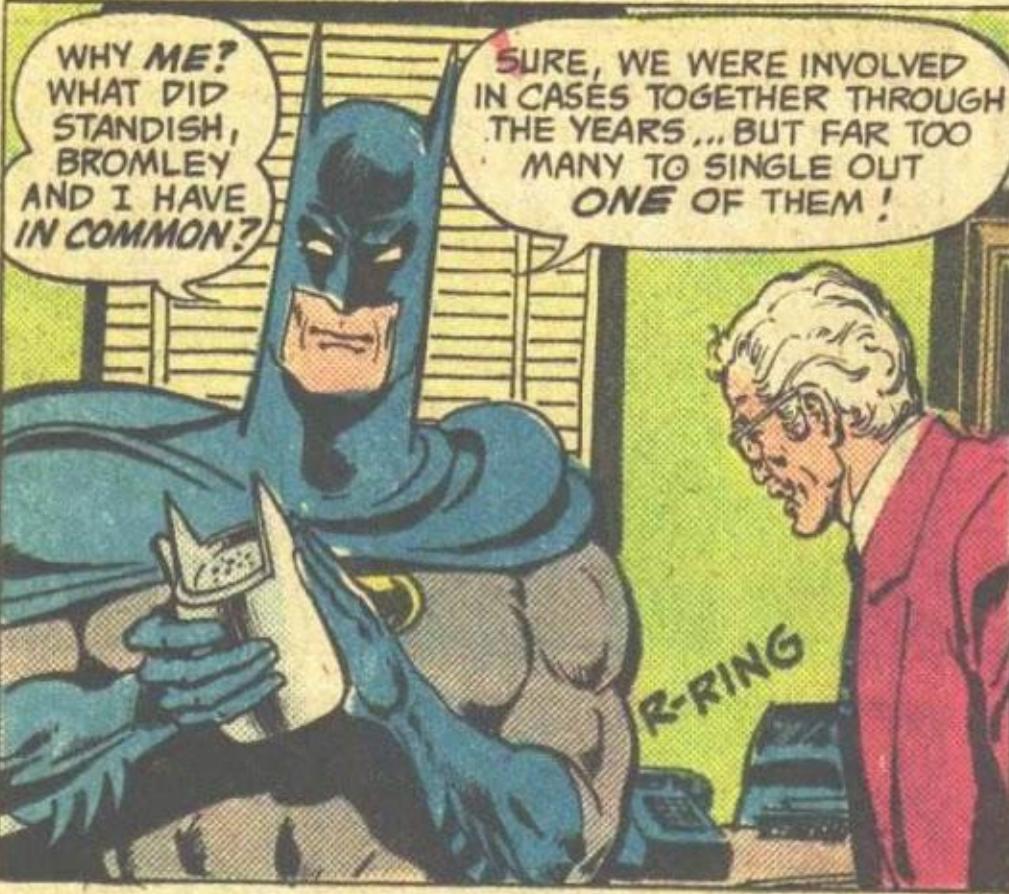
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OCT. 14<sup>th</sup>

WAR IN A  
LOST LAND  
OF  
MONSTERS!

# DC

THE GODS  
AT WAR--  
WITH EARTH  
THE PRIZE!





BUT, AN HOUR AFTER  
THE BATMAN HAS  
ALERTED HIS SOURCES  
IN THE UNDERGROUND  
GRAPEVINE--

BLINKY'S  
DROPPED  
OUTA SIGHT!  
FOXEY SAM  
MIGHT KNOW  
WHERE, BUT  
HE AIN'T ONE  
OF US!

SOON--

SPILL,  
SAM!

Y-YOU  
WON'T  
G-GIVE  
M-ME  
AWAY?

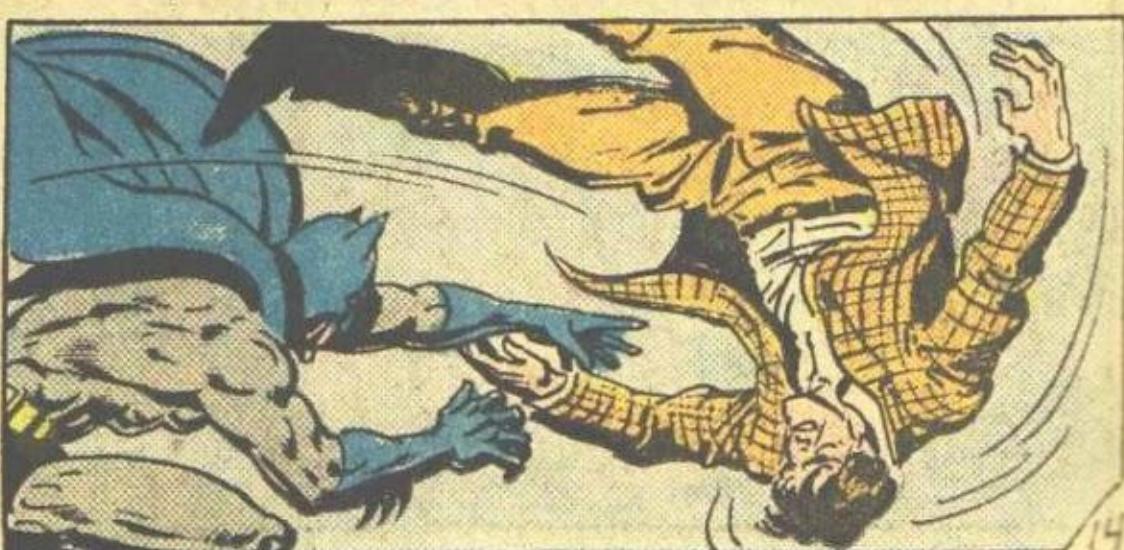
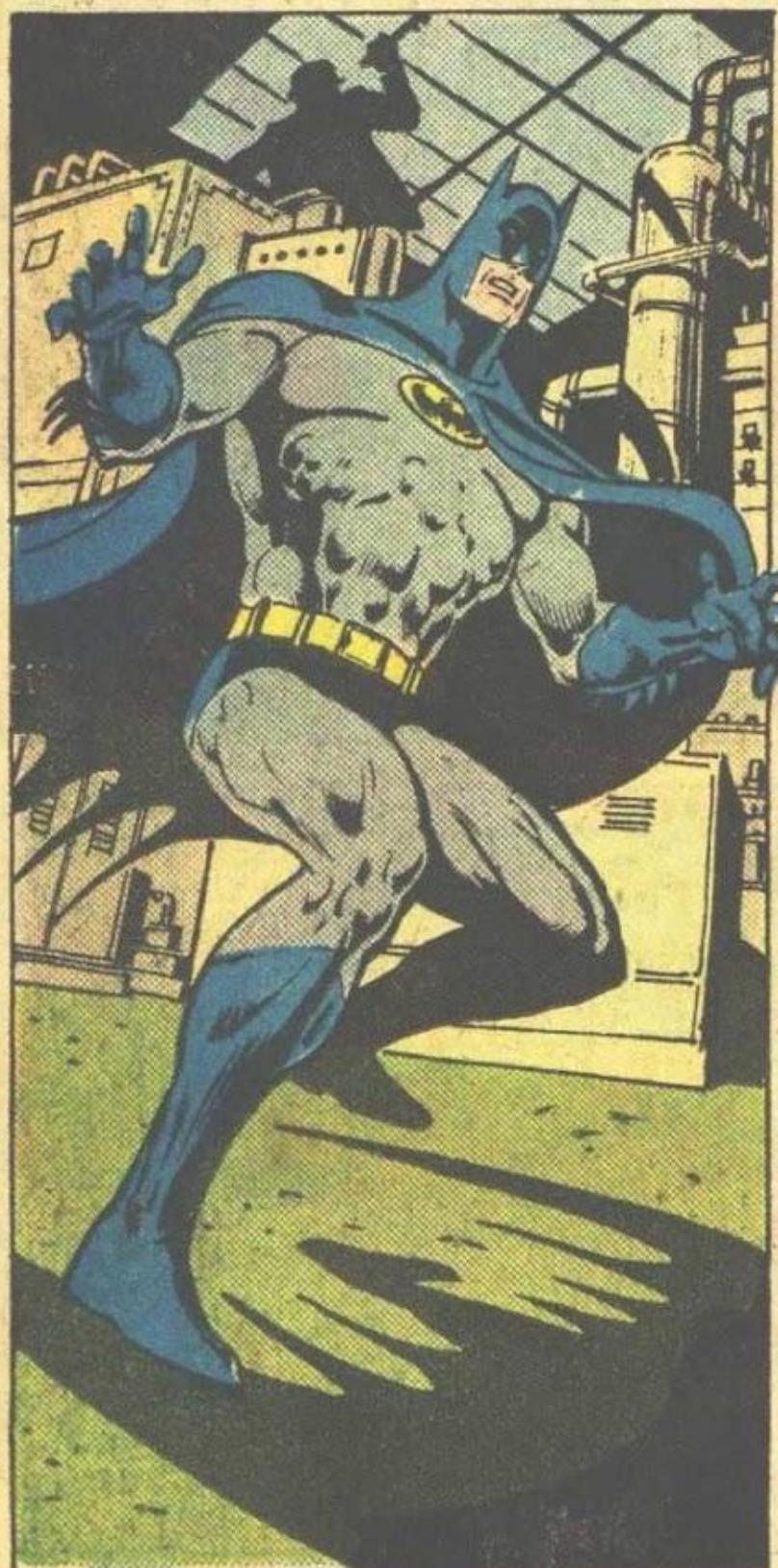
YOU  
KNOW  
ME  
BETTER!

THE OLD  
AJAX BREWERY...  
THE GENERATOR  
ROOM...

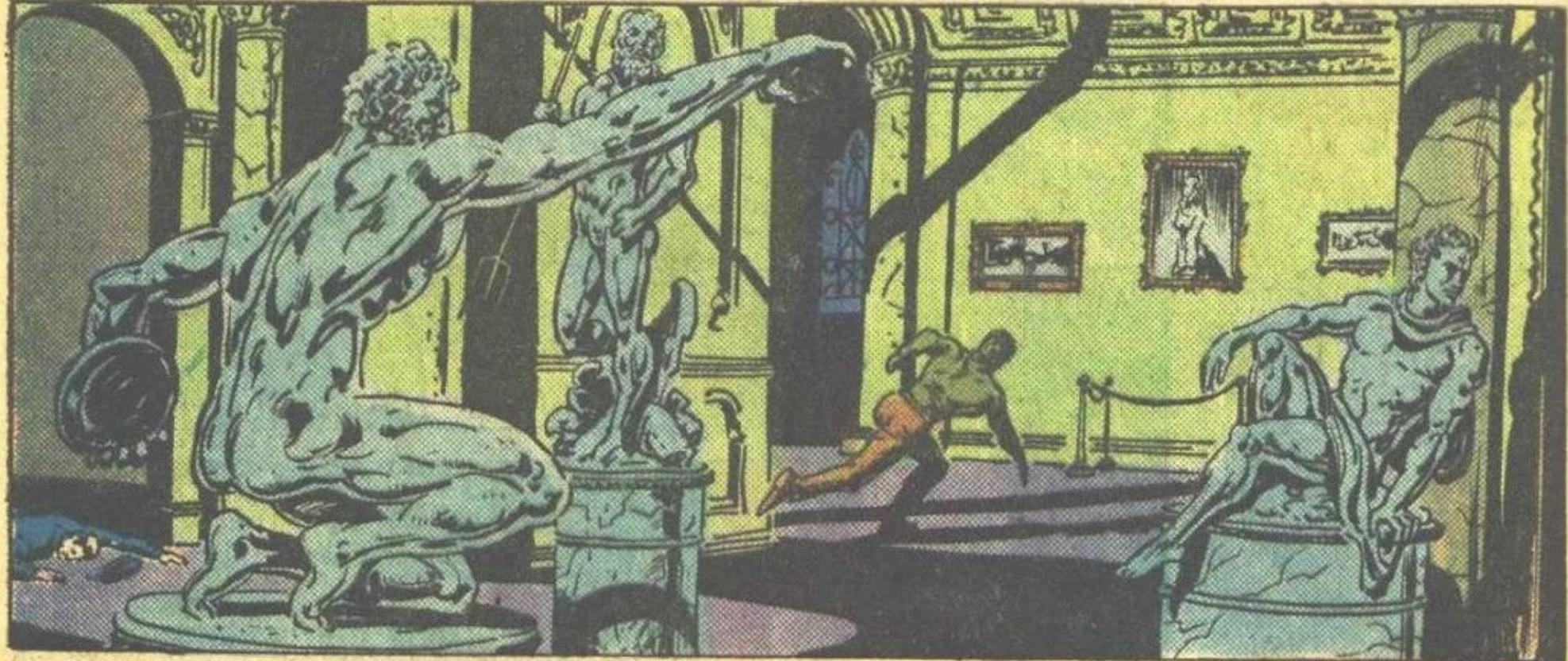
THEN, ON THE  
ROOF OF THE  
BREWERY...

AJAX BEER  
THE PRIDE OF GOTHAM

NO?... I THINK I'LL  
TELL HIM ABOUT THE  
BENEFITS OF  
MEMBERSHIP!







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LISTEN HERE. I'D SPASH YOUR FACE... ONLY YOU'RE SO SKINNY YOU MIGHT DRY UP AND BLOW AWAY.

BOY! IT DIDN'T TAKE ATLAS LONG TO DO THIS FOR ME! WHAT MUSCLES! THAT BULLY WON'T SHOVE ME AROUND AGAIN!

OM DON'T LET IT HURT YOU LITTLE BOY!

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(THERE'S THAT BIG STIFF AGAIN, SHOWING OFF IN FRONT OF GRACE AND THE CROWD. WELL IT'S MY TURN THIS TIME!)

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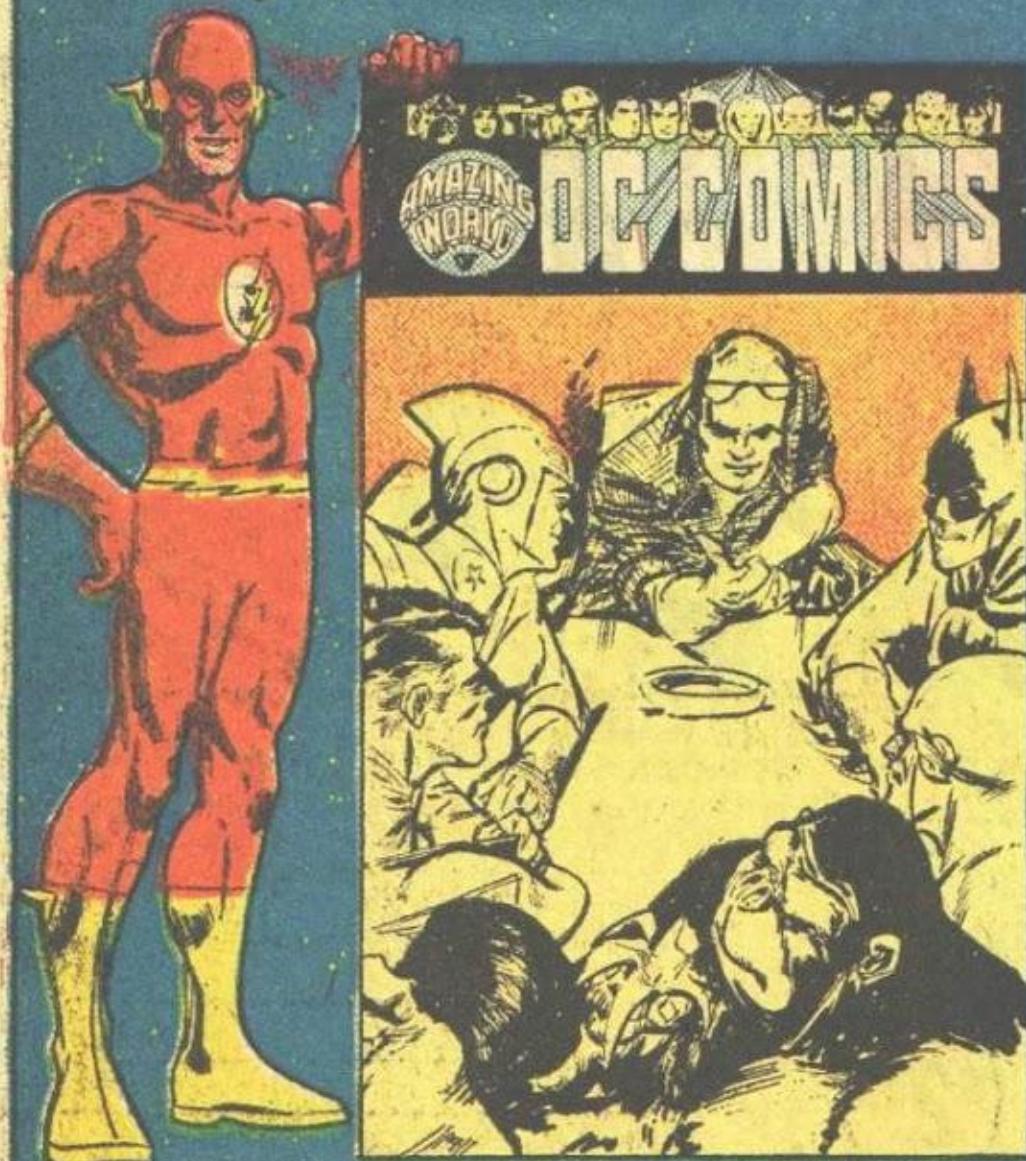
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LATER--

...AND WHEN I  
REALIZED BLINKY  
WASN'T OUR MAN,  
COMMISSIONER, I  
FIGURED THE REAL  
KILLER MUST'VE  
KNOWN BLINKY'S  
WHOLE HISTORY!

WHO?--WHY  
NOT BLINKY'S  
CELLMATE--WHO  
TURNED OUT TO  
BE HARRY WATKINS--  
ART-THIEF AND  
HOBBYIST  
SCULPTOR!

ALTHOUGH WE DIDN'T KNOW HE'D  
BEEN PAROLED THE SAME TIME AS  
BLINKY--HARRY WATKINS  
THOUGHT WE KNEW HE WAS OUT...

...AND THAT I'D BE  
KEEPING A CLOSE  
WATCH ON HIM,  
ESPECIALLY WITH  
THE REMBRANDT  
IN TOWN!

WATKINS' SERIES  
OF FALSE CLUES--  
TO STANDISH, THE JUDGE,  
THEN ME AND FINALLY  
THE JURY FOREMAN--  
WERE CALCULATED  
TO HAVE ME OUT  
HUNTING BLINKY--

--PRECISELY WHEN  
WATKINS WAS DOING  
HIS THING AT THE  
MUSEUM!

LISTEN...IF  
YOU THINK  
THAT'S ALL  
I HAVE ON  
MY MIND...

AS IT WAS, I  
BARELY GOT  
THERE IN TIME  
TO NAB--

BLAST THAT  
PHONE!--WHAT  
NOW?

WHAT?!--  
BRUCE WAYNE  
LEFT THE YOUTH  
DIVISION  
IN THE LURCH?

HOLD IT,  
COMMISSIONER!  
I FEEL I OWE  
BRUCE WAYNE  
SOMETHING  
FOR HIS PART  
IN THIS!

TELL YOU  
WHAT I'M  
GONNA DO--

AND SO, THE YOUTH  
DIVISION FINALLY  
HAD ITS DAY...A  
RAP SESSION  
WITH THE WORLD'S  
GREATEST DETECTIVE--

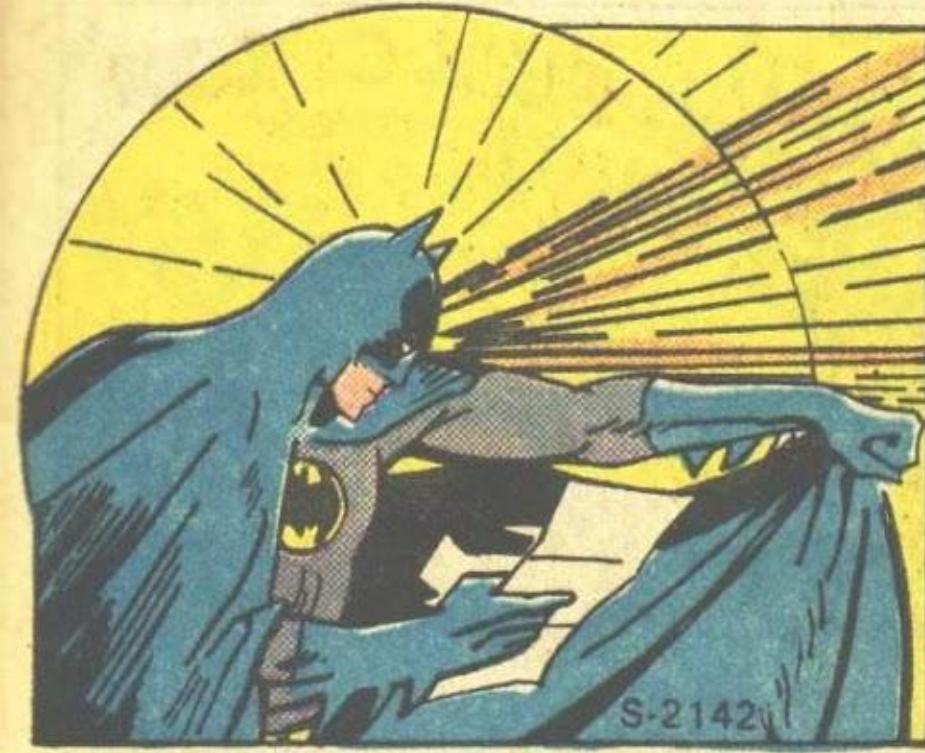
--THE BATMAN!  
WHO COULD ASK  
FOR ANYTHING  
MORE

AND MR. WAYNE HAS  
ASKED ME TO TELL YOU  
THAT NEXT WEEK'S  
GUEST SPEAKER WILL  
BE JOE NAMATH!

HOORAY FOR  
NAMATH!

WAYNE,  
TOO!

AND ESPECIALLY  
THE BATMAN!



# LETTERS to the BATMAN

c/o NATIONAL PERIODICAL PUBLICATIONS, INC.,  
75 ROCKEFELLER PLAZA, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10019.

reader reaction! Ladies and gentlemen, you have the floor . . . !—BR)

• • • •

Dear Julie, Bob and Company,

Bravo! The return of Catwoman . . . I believe. But I could be wrong. I mean, Catwoman is such a full, deep character—a real woman. She has these great psychological hang-ups which intrigue us: she loves crime but hates killing; she rejects men but yearns to be in Batman's arms; she wants to lord over men but wants Batman to master her. (I think she'd be quite disappointed if she defeated old Bats for good!)

But the Catwoman in BATMAN #266 didn't seem to carry this psychology within her. She was flat, lifeless. She tried—a one page run-in with her henchmen where she scratches his pawing paw—but that just doesn't convince me. The return of Catwoman in her old costume was great but remember that clothes do not make the cat. She was one of DC's most fascinating characters. Don't let her become just another pretty costume!

GREG POTTER, Hartford, Ct.

• • • • Yaaaay!! Catwoman's back! And in her best costume!

For once, she was handled well. Her position of being not really a villainous criminal was amply shown, but it's very precarious. You barely revealed enough of her vicious side which must exist for her to be a criminal at all.

TERRI KAY MARTIN, Lonoke, Ark.

• • • • Catwoman is finally a legitimate foe for Batman! She was elusive, cunning and mysterious, not to mention breathtakingly beautiful. I hope you will flare up the romance between Batman and Catwoman since she is so extremely attractive. I mean, when it comes to girls, isn't Batman human?

DAVID BOSNICH, Cheswick, Pa.

(You'll be seeing more and more of his very human reactions to girls as BATMAN and as BRUCE WAYNE in the future. Just keep reading this magazine and DETECTIVE COMICS!—BR)

• • • •

Dear Editor:

About your coincidence-oriented story in BATMAN #266: I was reading it while watching television and during the backgammon scene there was a game manufacturer's commercial for just that item. Then, as I read about the train wreck, on came the opening sequence of "The Fugitive"! Coincidence? Hard to believe?

ADAM CASTRO, New Rochelle, N.Y.

(No, Adam, we'd only find it hard to believe if you said a cat came through the window and stole the magazine when you got up to change channels!—Bob Rozakis)

FRED SCHNEIDER, New York, N.Y.

(Denny's Catwoman tale not only delighted regular readers, it even won us some new ones! Witness the following missive!—BR)

• • • •

Dear Editor:

This letter comes to you from a man who has rediscovered Batman at age 21—after six years. A couple of days ago, I noticed BATMAN #266 and could not resist the temptation to buy it. Believe me, I was glad I did!

This was The Batman I wanted to see back when I gave up comics. The art was superb, the story (despite the proliferation of coincidences) was realistic and well-done, and Catwoman was more beautiful and devious than ever. I was glad to see Batman fighting criminals without the excessive Bat-paraphernalia and ridiculous puns that characterized the TV show-influenced Caped Crusader. Here was no costumed clown, but rather a determined, clever and fear-invoking crimefighter.

With this masterpiece, you've won back a regular reader!

MARVIN JASON, Lynchburg, Va.

(While it was the characterization of THE BATMAN which most impressed you, Marvin, it was that of the Catwoman which sparked most

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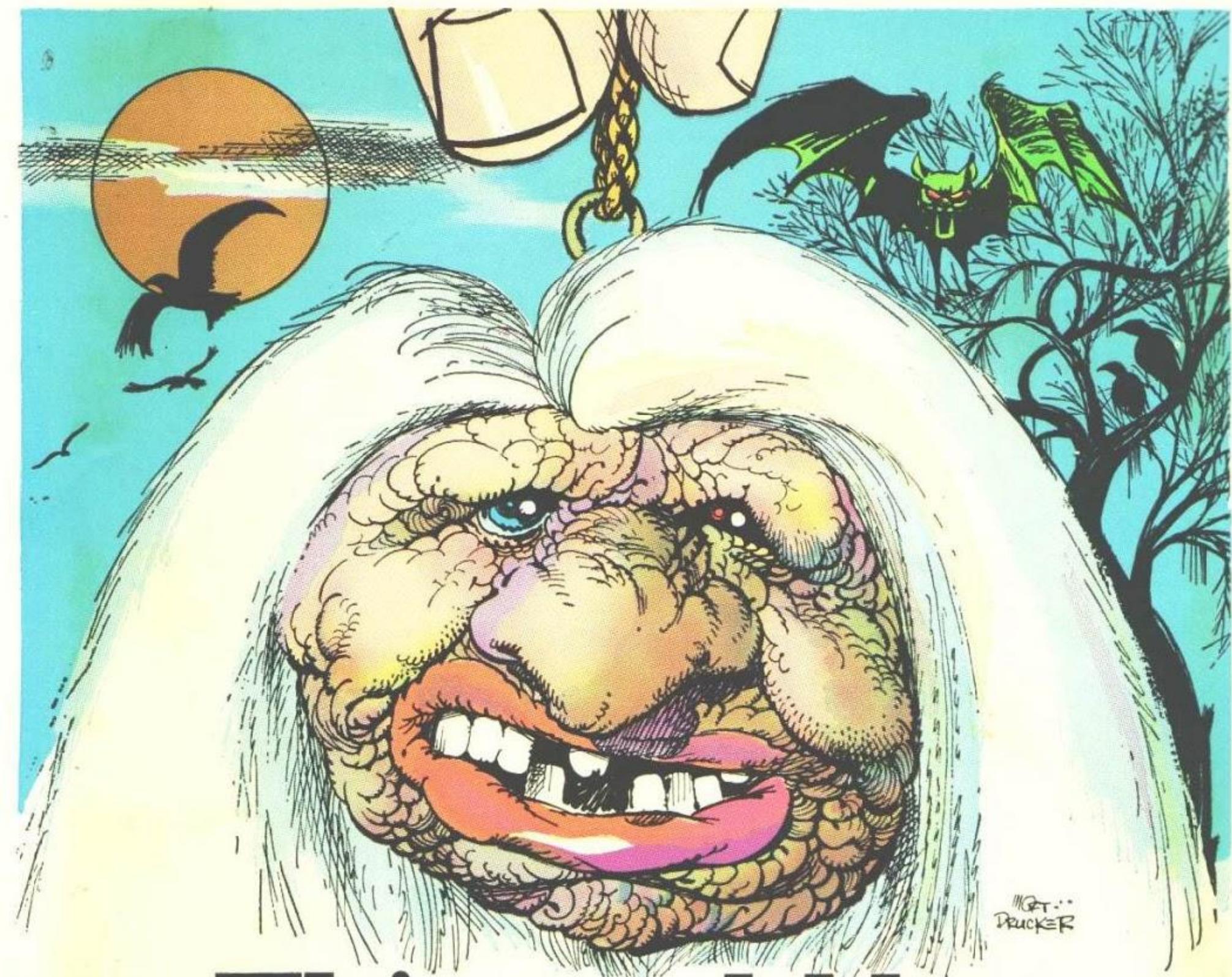
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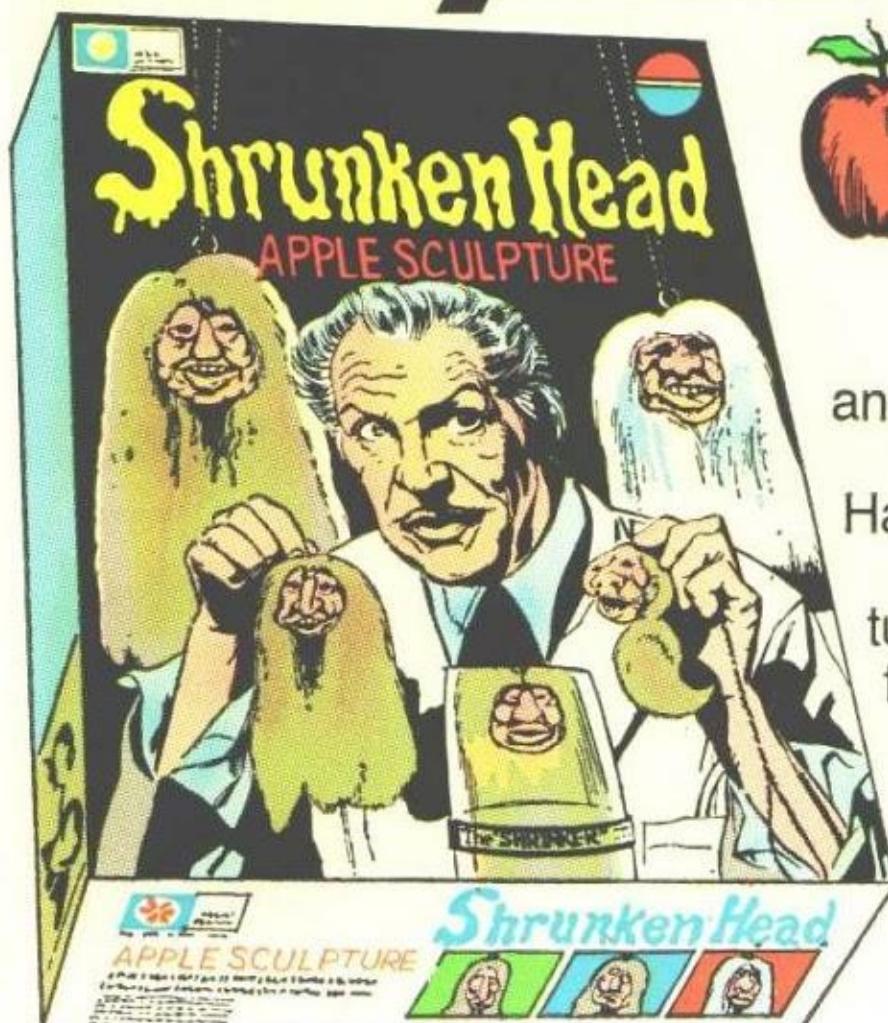
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