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BATMAN FACES A MYSTERY FROM COMMISSIONER GORDON'S PAST!

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NO. 328  
OCT.

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AUTHORITY

# BATMAN



A COURT FOUND ME  
NOT GUILTY OF MURDER-  
BUT I **DID** KILL THE  
VICTIM AND YOU'LL  
NEVER PROVE IT,  
BATMAN!

JOE  
KUBERT

C4/5



DOUBLE JEOPARDY!  
A NOVEL-LENGTH  
THRILLER!



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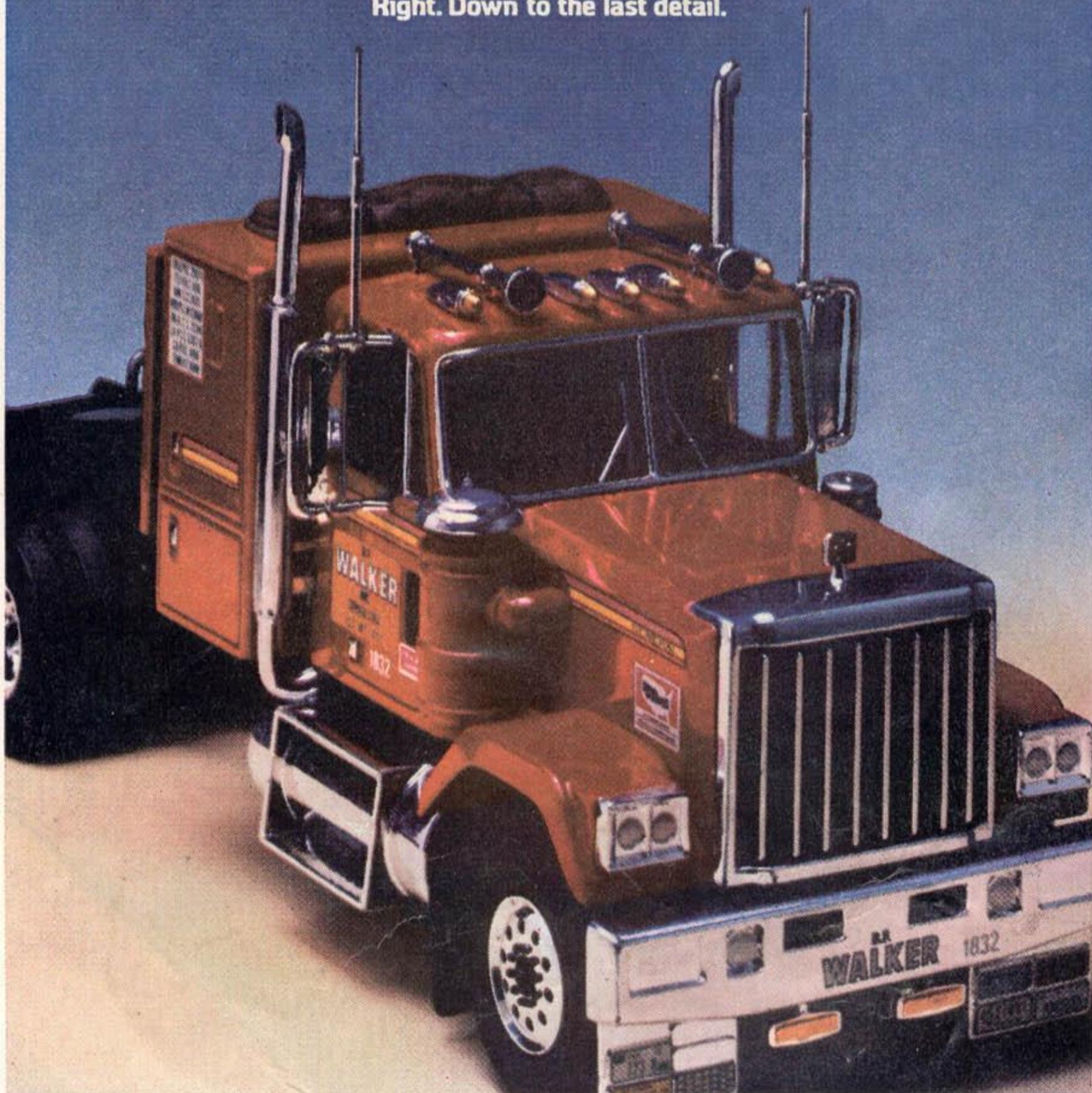
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**Right. Down to the last detail.**



SOMBER DARKNESS FILLS THE BATCAVE, THEN, SUDDENLY, IT COMES ALIVE WITH FLICKERING LUMINESCENCE ...

BATMAN! YOU'VE WITNESSED THE RE-ENACTMENT OF MY TRIAL--

YOU'VE SEEN ME ACQUITTED OF ANTON KAROSELLE'S MURDER BY A JURY OF MY PEERS...

BUT, I WANT YOU, BATMAN, YOU ABOVE ALL TO KNOW--NOT ONLY DID I KILL THAT MAN ONCE--

--I KILLED HIM TWICE!!

# BAT-MAN

## DOUBLE JEOPARDY

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U 6662

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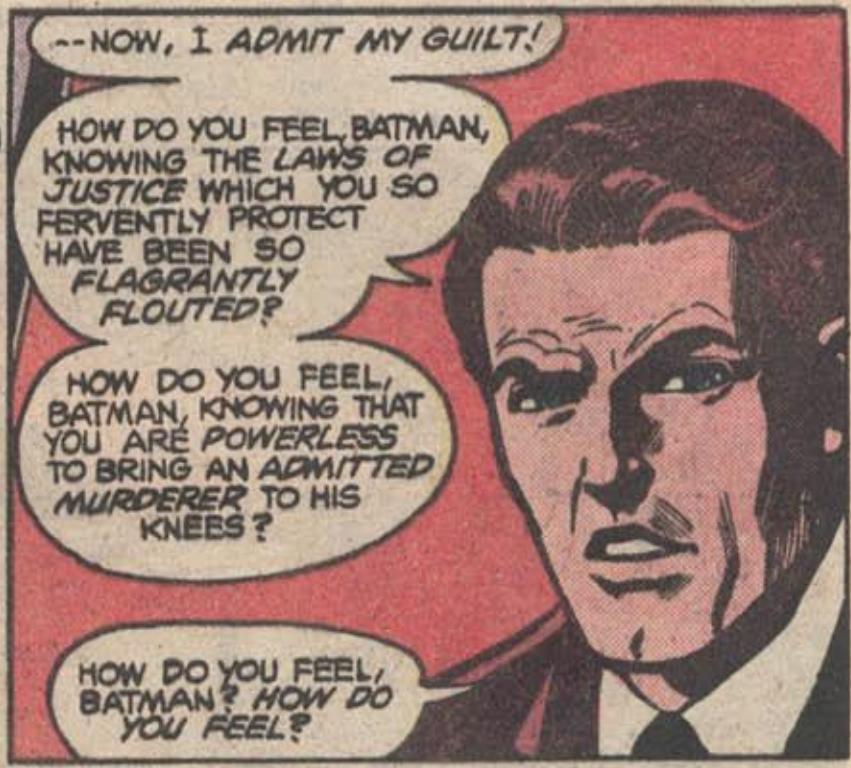
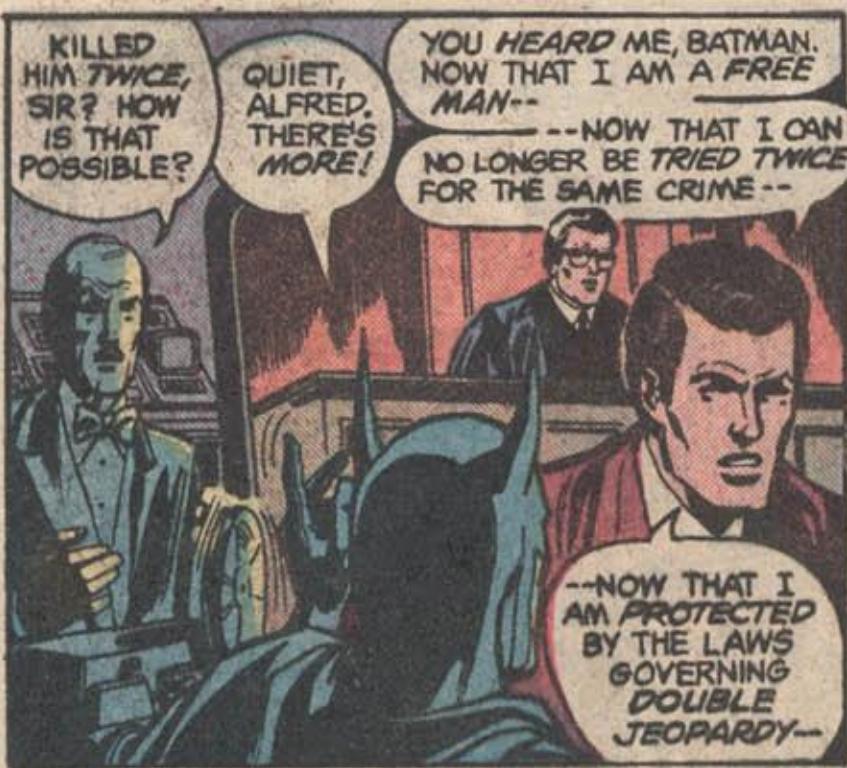
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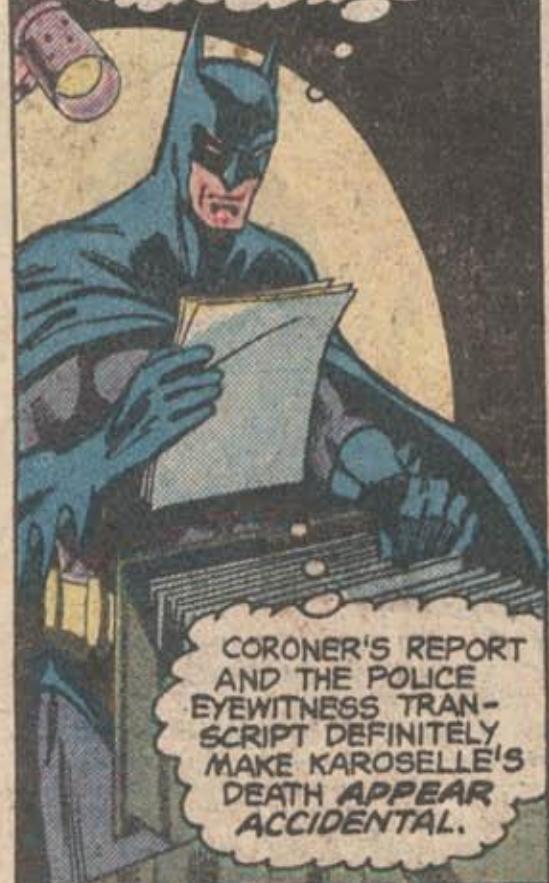
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HMM. HIS NAME'S CARL TERNION, AND I CAN CERTAINLY SEE WHY HE WAS ACQUITTED...



CORONER'S REPORT AND THE POLICE EYEWITNESS TRANSCRIPT DEFINITELY MAKE KAROSSELLE'S DEATH APPEAR ACCIDENTAL.

LESTER GREENE IS A ROOKIE PATROLMAN RETURNING FROM A TIRING NIGHT SHIFT TOUR. THOUGH LESTER'S ONLY THOUGHTS ARE OF SLEEPING AWAY THE NIGHT'S PAIN...

...WHEN HE SEES A FAINT LIGHT PEAK FROM BENEATH A SUPPOSEDLY EMPTY ROOM...



HUH? LIGHT INSIDE THE RECORDS' ROOM? BUT THAT'S CLOSED?

CAUTIOUSLY, THE YOUNG ROOKIE UNLOCKS THE DOOR, AND...

DON'T THAT BEAT ALL! WINDOW'S OPEN... MUST'A BEEN THE MOONLIGHT I SAW...

YEAH HADDA BE THE MOONLIGHT...

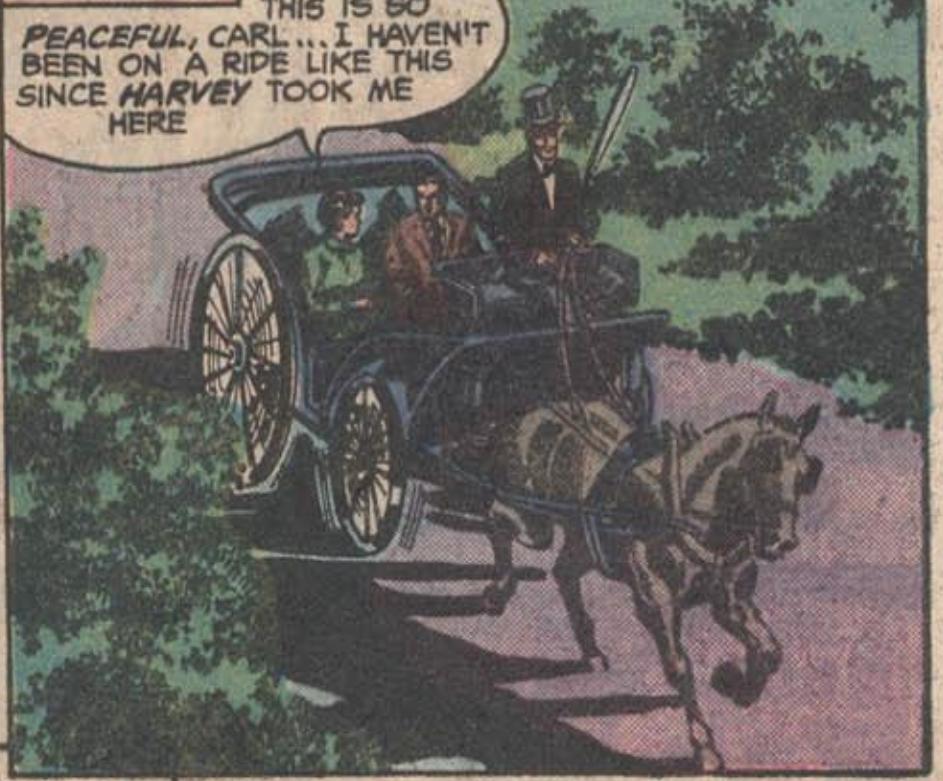


NOBODY GOES INTO THAT ROOM THIS TIME OF NIGHT...

...AND CERTAINLY NOBODY CAME CLIMBING THROUGH A FOURTEENTH FLOOR WINDOW!

GOTHAM PARK SEEMS ALMOST TO GLOW BENEATH THE SHIMMERING MOONLIGHT. LONG SHADOWS RIPPLE ACROSS DIRT AND ROCK...

THIS IS SO PEACEFUL, CARL... I HAVEN'T BEEN ON A RIDE LIKE THIS SINCE HARVEY TOOK ME HERE



WE'D OFTEN COME HERE LATE AT NIGHT, RIDE THROUGH THE PARK TALK ABOUT ALL OUR FUTURE PLANS...

HARVEY WAS YOUR FIRST HUSBAND, WASN'T HE?



MY FIRST... THEN CAME DAVID... MY TWO MARRIAGES, I LOVED THEM BOTH... AND THEY WERE BOTH TAKEN FROM ME...

DID YOU KNOW THAT DAVID WAS HARVEY'S ASSISTANT? THAT'S HOW I FIRST MET HIM.



YES, GILDA, MY LOVE... I KNEW DAVID... AND HARVEY... AND MORE THAN YOU COULD EVER GUESS...

SHORTLY...  
YOUR APARTMENT IS WARM AND LOVELY... JUST LIKE YOU, GILDA.

IT'S THE PLANTS... THEY MAKE THIS OLD PLACE COME ALIVE!

THEY ALMOST MAKE YOU FORGET THERE'S A COLD AND FRIENDLESS CITY OUTSIDE.

CARL, THERE'S SOMETHING I STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND. DAVE WAS KILLED...

BUT I DID KNOW HIM, GILDA... A LONG TIME AGO... AND I CARED FOR HIM AS ONE FRIEND DEEPLY CARES FOR ANOTHER.

...AND YOU HUNTED DOWN HIS KILLER... YOU CONFRONTED HIM... ACCIDENTALLY KILLED HIM, BUT WHY? WHY RISK THAT WHEN YOU DIDN'T KNOW DAVID?



YOU HAVE TO UNDERSTAND, WE HAD A FALLING OUT... ONE THAT FOOLISHLY KEPT US APART... BUT I KNEW HE WAS MARRIED TO YOU...

I KNEW HE WAS HAPPY, THAT HE WAS KEEPING YOU HAPPY... AND THEN, WHEN HE WAS KILLED, I FELT RAGE!

HIS KILLER LEFT YOU A LONELY WIDOW. I--I HAD TO DO SOMETHING... I HAD TO FIND HIS MURDERER AND MAKE HIM PAY!

I CAN'T APPROVE OF WHAT YOU DID.

BUT I DIDN'T GO AFTER KAROSELLE TO KILL HIM. I DIDN'T EVEN HAVE A WEAPON... GILDA... WHAT'S WRONG, MY LOVE?

OH, CARL-- HARVEY IS GONE... DAVID IS DEAD... AND I'M BEGINNING TO FEEL LIKE A JONAH...

...LIKE THE BLACK WIDOW SPIDER WHOSE LOVE KILLS THE ONE SHE'S WITH. I'M SO AFRAID, CARL... AFRAID OF BEING ALONE...

YOU WON'T EVER HAVE TO BE ALONE AGAIN. I'LL BE HERE... ALWAYS...

WE'LL NEVER BE SEPARATED, GILDA--

--NOT ONCE I'VE SLAIN THE BATMAN!

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NEWEST NUMBER YUM!<sup>TM</sup>  
**WILD CHERRY BUBBLE YUM®**  
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a long, long, loooong time.



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RUSH THIS ORDER  
(add 50¢ for RUSH service)

These cards are blank and  
DO NOT FOLD OR CUT

DARK, TWISTING SHADOWS CURL OMINOUSLY THROUGH THE GRIMY STREETS OF CRIME ALLEY. THICK, STIFLING BLACKNESS SEEMS EVERYWHERE...

MARY ANN?

AH, LADDIE, 'TIS YE!

Y'FAIR GAVE ME A SPOOK WON'DRIN' WHO'D BE SNEAKIN' OWT'N THESE FORSAKEN STREETS.

IT'S TOO LATE FOR YOU TO BE OUT HERE, MARY ANN.

AN' FORFEIT ME BEST COLLECTIN' HOURS? LADDIE, YE SHOULD KNOW BETTER, B'NOW!

I DON'T KNOW WHY YOU HAVE TO RUMMAGE. I CAN--

LADDIE, AIN'T NOTHIN' YE CAN DO FUH ME. CAN YE HELP T'FOIND ME SUCH UH BEAUTY OF UH LAMP THAT THE SALVATION ARMY WOULD PAY ME TEN BUCKS? NAY! I DIN NEED YE FER THAT!

GOOD FRIENDS CAN'T TALK BEFORE GETTING DOWN TO BUSINESS?

WITH YE, LAD, BUSINESS MEANS DANGER, AN' DANGER MEANS YE HAD BETTER RUSH, SO SPEAK UP AN' GET ON WITH IT.

THREE WEEKS AGO A MAN NAMED KAROSELLE WAS KILLED. ANOTHER MAN, CARL TERNION, WAS TRIED AND ACQUITTED FOR THAT MURDER.

ONLY TERNION DID MURDER KAROSELLE. I HAVE TO PROVE IT.

FAITH! NEITHER NAME STRIKES ME MEMORY-- WHICH AIN'T ALL THAT GOOD THESE DAYS ANYWAY...

...BUT I'LL BE PUTTIN' OUT THE WORD, AND I'LL GET IN TOUCH WITH YE--THE USUAL WAY.

NOW, YE AIN'T COME ALL THE WAY DOWN HERE T'CHAT...

I'D APPRECIATE IT, MARY ANN.

THINK NOTHIN' OF IT, LADDIE. I STILL OWE YE FER ALL YE'VE DONE FUH THIS OLD BAG 'A BONES!

ONCE AGAIN THE SHADOWS TWIST. THEN, IN A MOMENT, THEY ARE STILL...

HOME, A GLEAMING PENTHOUSE APARTMENT HIGH ABOVE THE WAYNE FOUNDATION...

HOW DID THE INVESTIGATION FARE, SIR?

FRANKLY, ALFRED, IT'S A PUZZLE!

ACCORDING TO THE POLICE REPORT, TERNION AND KAROSELLE HAD NEVER MET OR KNOWN EACH OTHER BEFORE THE NIGHT OF THE MURDER.

THERE SEEMED NO DISCERNABLE MOTIVE OTHER THAN THE ONE TERNION HIMSELF GAVE.

WHICH WAS--?

A MURDER KAROSELLE SUPPOSEDLY COMMITTED... ANOTHER MURDER WITHOUT A MOTIVE.

"THE POLICE REPORT STATES TERNION ENTERED KAROSELLE'S MANSION DIRECTLY AFTER MIDNIGHT..."

WHO IN BLAZES ARE YOU? HOW DID YOU GET IN HERE?

YOU'RE ANTON KAROSELLE?

YOU GOT IT, BUDDY-- NOW, WHO ARE YOU?

CALL ME YOUR ACCUSER. YOU MURDERED DISTRICT ATTORNEY DAVID STEVENS.

YOU'RE MAD! I'M A CRIPPLE! EVEN IF I KNEW THIS STEVENS, I COULDN'T KILL HIM!

YOU'RE PLAYING GAMES, KAROSELLE, I HAVE PROOF!

ANTON KAROSELLE? THAT NAME DOESN'T SEEM FAMILIAR, SIR.

NOR TO ME, ALFRED. I'M RUNNING IT THROUGH THE BATCAVE COMPUTERS EVEN NOW.

YOU'RE A FOOL, MAN, WHATEVER YOU MAY KNOW--

--WILL REMAIN THE SECRET OF A DEAD TRESPASSER IN MY HOME!

ACCORDING TO THE POLICE AND TERNION, KAROSELLE DID NOT TAKE THIS ACCUSATION WELL...

BAM-BAM!  
NOT IF YOU CAN'T HIT ME, KAROSELLE!

OH, I'LL DO MORE THAN JUST  
HIT YOU, MISTER--

I'LL MAKE  
CERTAIN YOU'LL  
NEVER  
REVEAL WHAT  
YOU KNOW  
ABOUT ME.

YOU'RE TOO LATE FOR THAT,  
MY FRIEND. I HAD TO SNEAK  
PAST A POLICE CORDON  
TO GET TO YOU--

YOU WERE DOOMED EVEN  
BEFORE I CAME HERE!

BAM!  
BAM!

NO!

"A STRAY  
BULLET..."

KRAK!

...ACCIDENTALLY SHEARED  
THE ROD HOLDING UP  
KAROSELLE'S  
CHANDELIER...

KE-RASH!

"AND, AS  
THE  
POLICE  
ENTERED,  
THEY  
FOUND  
KAROSELLE  
DEAD!!"

YOU SAY THE POLICE WERE ALREADY  
OBSERVING KAROSELLE'S MANSION?

THEIR INVESTIGATION OF  
DAVE STEVENS' MURDER LED  
THEM TO KAROSELLE.

THEY SAW WHAT HAD HAPPENED, AND IT WAS THE POLICE  
TESTIMONY THAT FINALLY  
CLEARED CARL TERNION.

ISN'T IT  
POSSIBLE  
THIS  
TERNION  
FELLOW  
JUST  
MIGHT BE  
INNOCENT?

NORMALLY I'D SAY SO.  
EXCEPT FOR THE FILM  
HE SENT ME.

ALSO, IF HE KNEW  
THE POLICE HAD  
FOUND  
KAROSELLE--  
WHY SNEAK IN  
PAST THEM?

NO, CARL  
TERNION  
DELIBERATELY  
MURDERED  
KAROSELLE  
... AND I  
HAVE TO  
PROVE IT!

HE SITS... A SOMBER SILHOUETTE, FRAMED  
IN THE GLOW OF A FULL PALE MOON.

... BY THE GHOUlish RAPPING OF FLESH  
POUNDING FLESH...

FOR LONG MOMENTS HE  
SILENTLY STARES INTO THE  
DARKNESS, A THOUSAND  
THOUGHTS SCRAMBLING  
THROUGH HIS MIND.

SUDDENLY, HIS MENTAL  
MUSINGS ARE  
INTERRUPTED...

PUNKS BEATING  
ON AN INNOCENT  
CITIZEN. YOU  
SCUM MAKE  
ME SICK!

THERE MUST BE SOME LOGIC TO THIS  
CRIME... SOME KEY TO UNLOCK THE  
MYSTERY. BUT WHERE? WHAT?

AND IT'S ONLY  
WHEN YOU  
STUMBLE ACROSS  
SOMEONE  
BIGGER THAN  
YOU THAT YOU  
SCURRY BACK  
TO THE RATHOLES  
YOU SQUIRMD  
OUT OF!

WHAKKO!

WELL, THIS  
TIME YOU'RE  
NOT RUNNING  
OFF!

SUDDENLY, THE BATMAN HEARS A FAINT GROAN  
FROM BEHIND HIM...

MARY  
ANN? I  
DIDN'T  
KNOW IT  
WAS YOU.

SAVED ME AGAIN, EH,  
LADDIE? YER MAKIN' A  
HABIT OUT OF IT, EH?

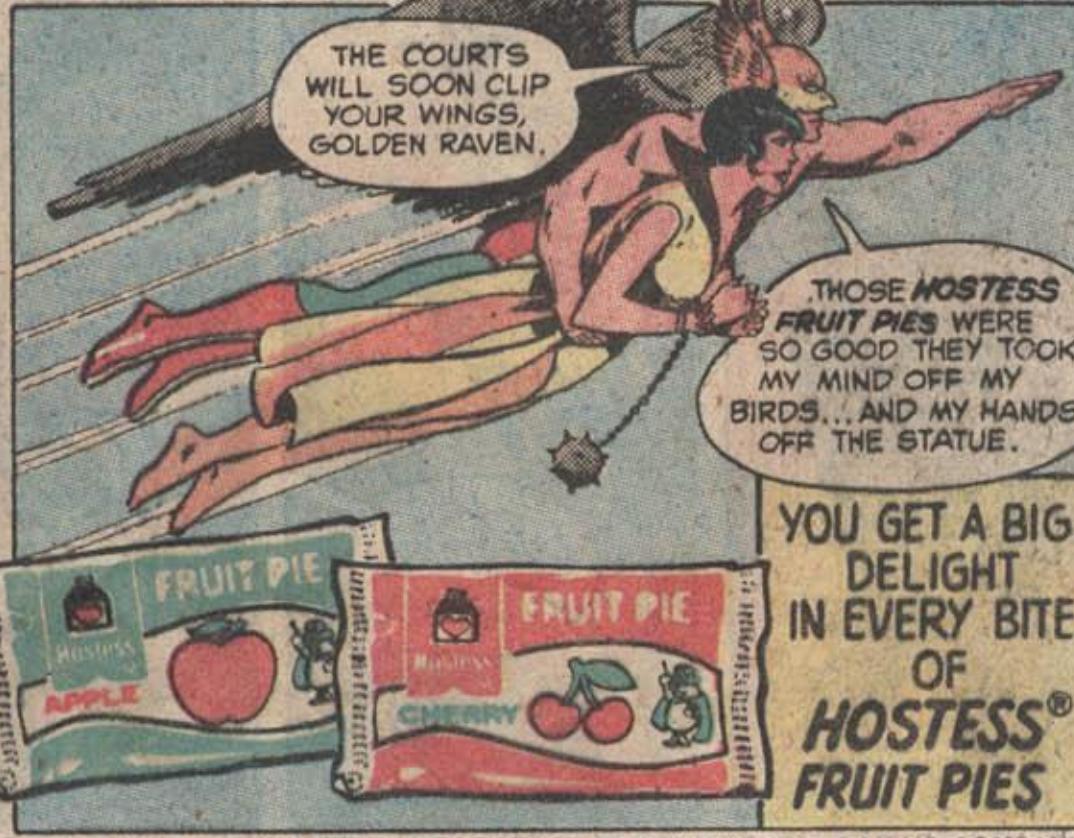
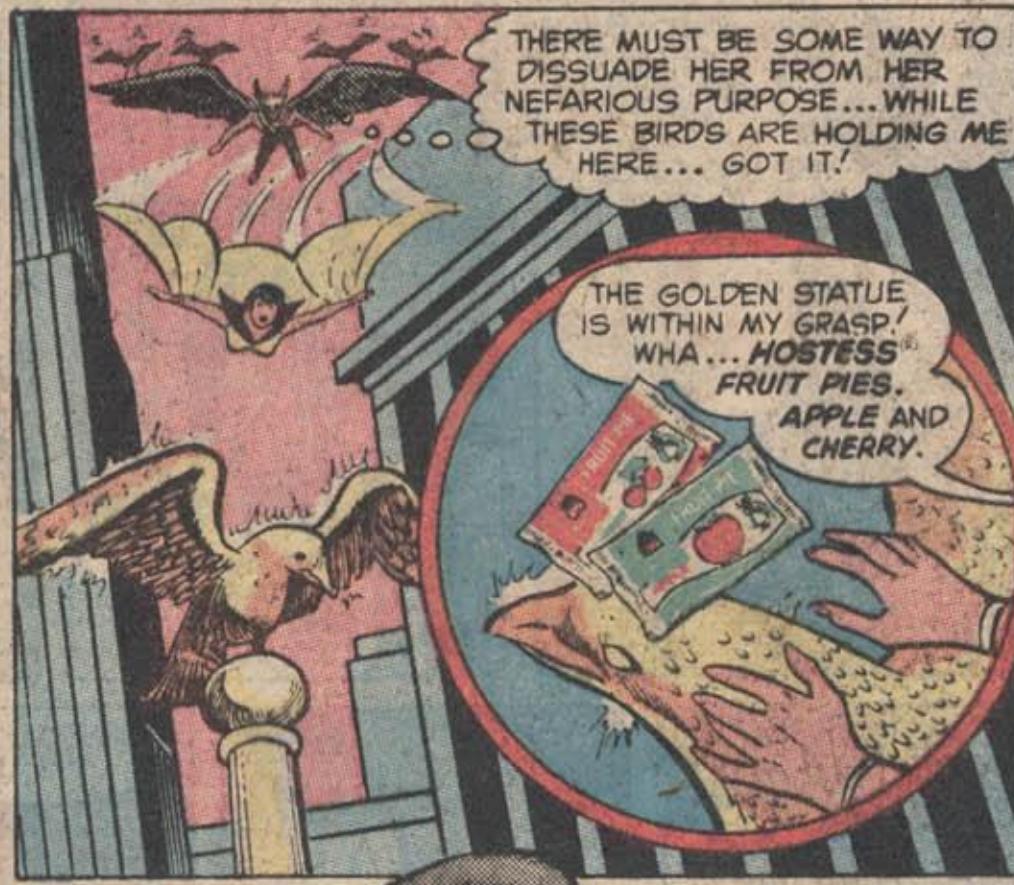
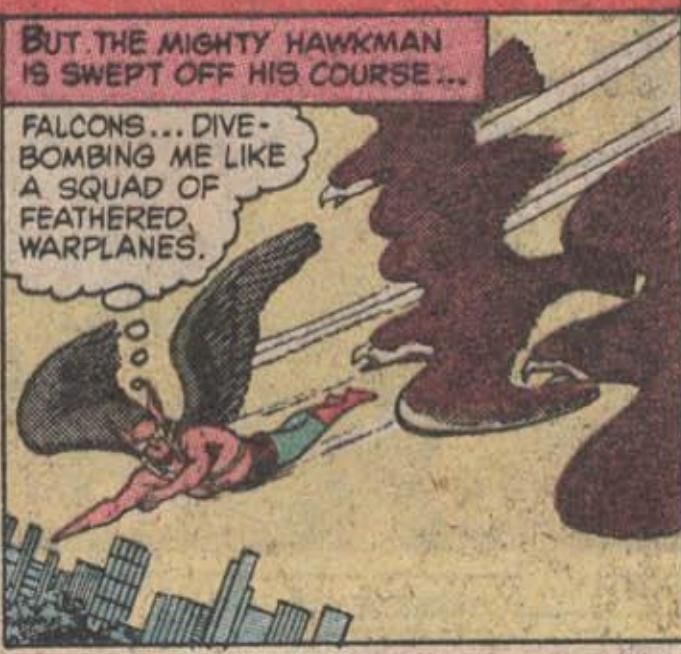
YOU'RE  
BLEEDING  
... I'VE GOT  
TO GET YOU  
TO THE  
HOSPITAL.

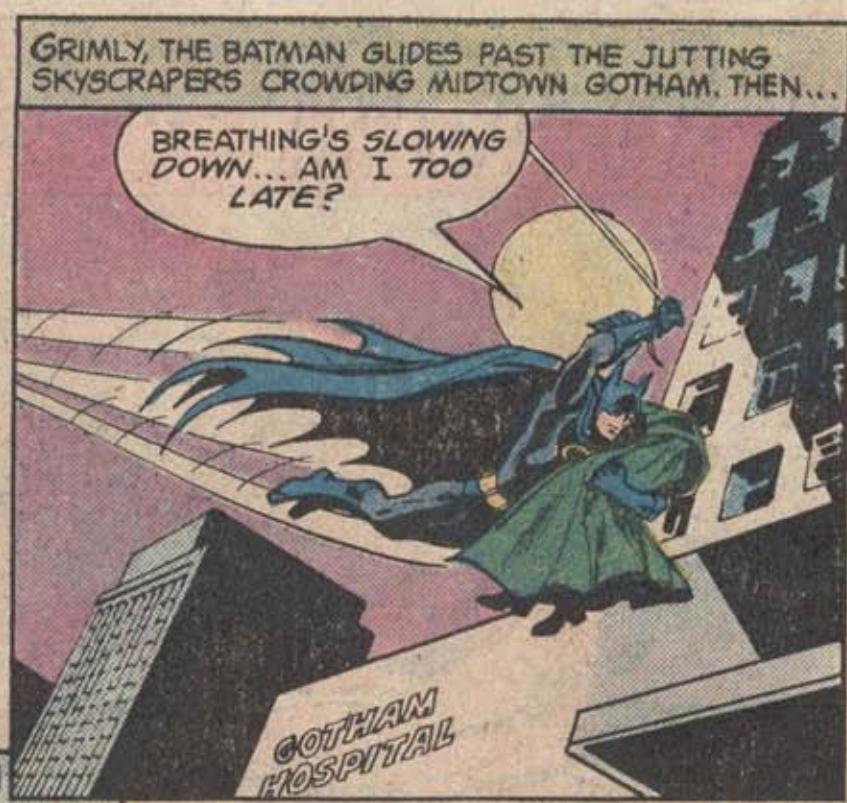
WAIT, LADDIE,  
'EAR ME OUT.  
THEY CAME  
AFTER ME,  
FUH ASKIN'  
QUESTIONS...

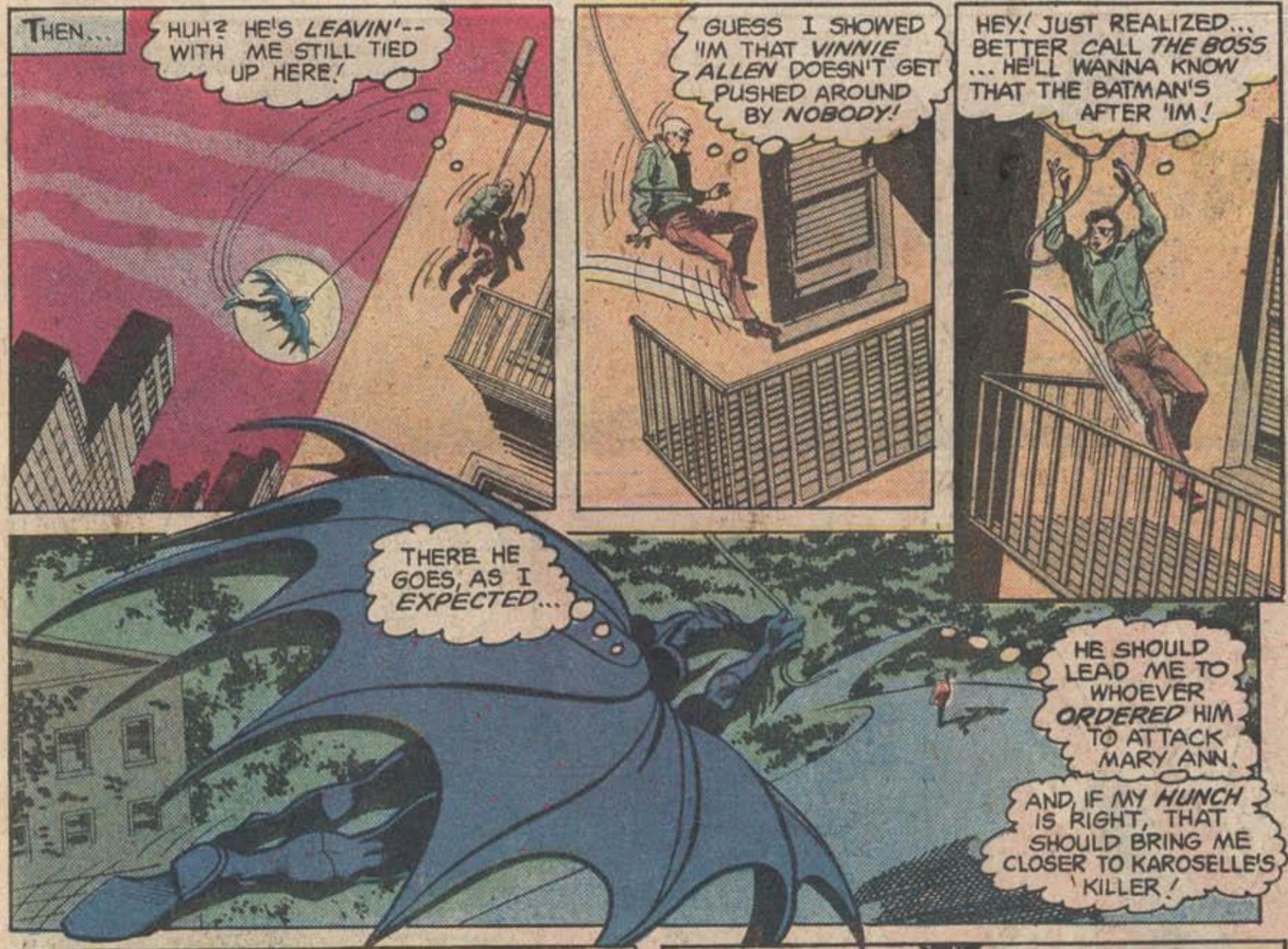
... I FOUND  
... FOUND  
OUT... EKK...  
EKKK... OUT  
... EKKK...  
OUTTT...  
UNNHHH...

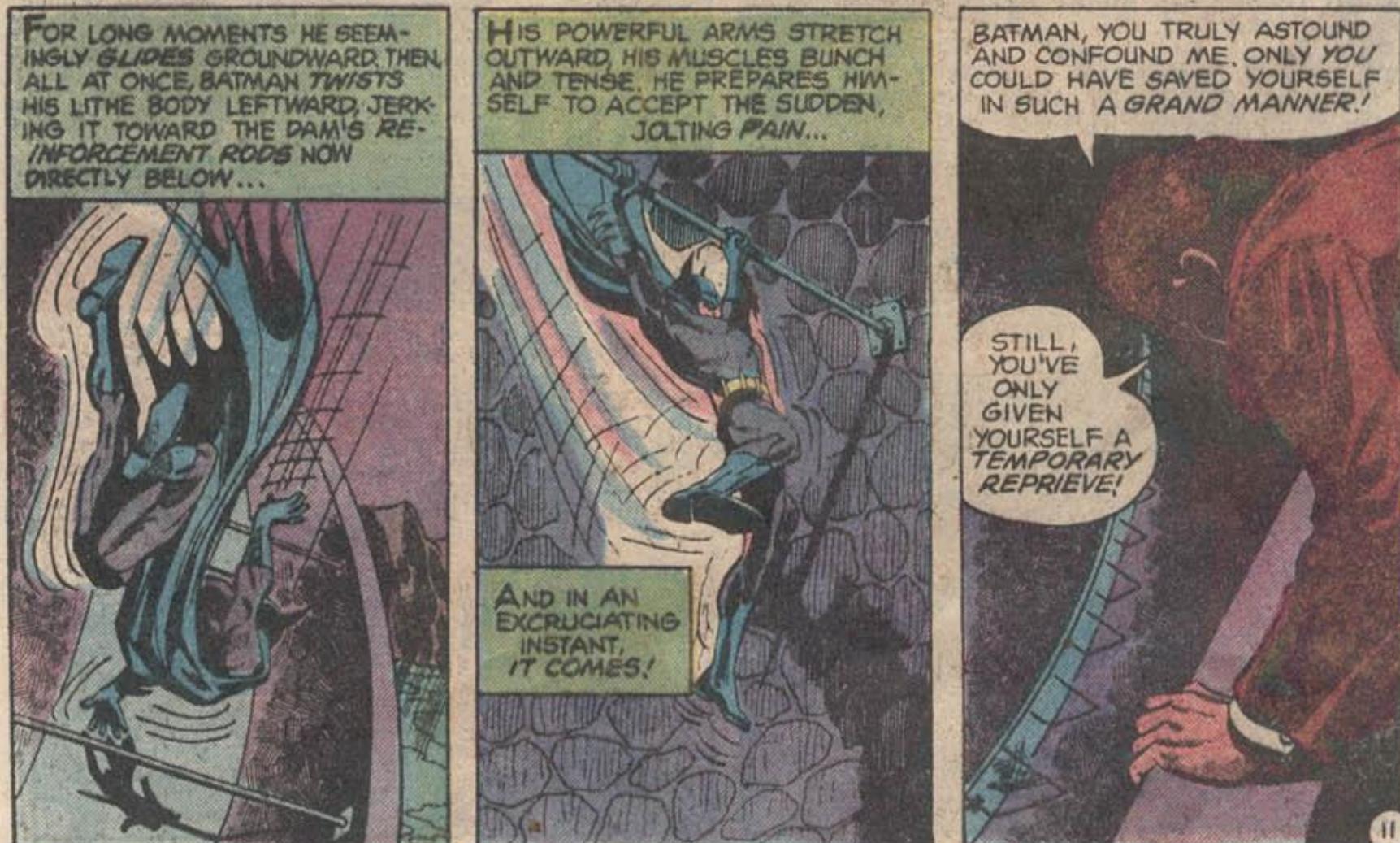
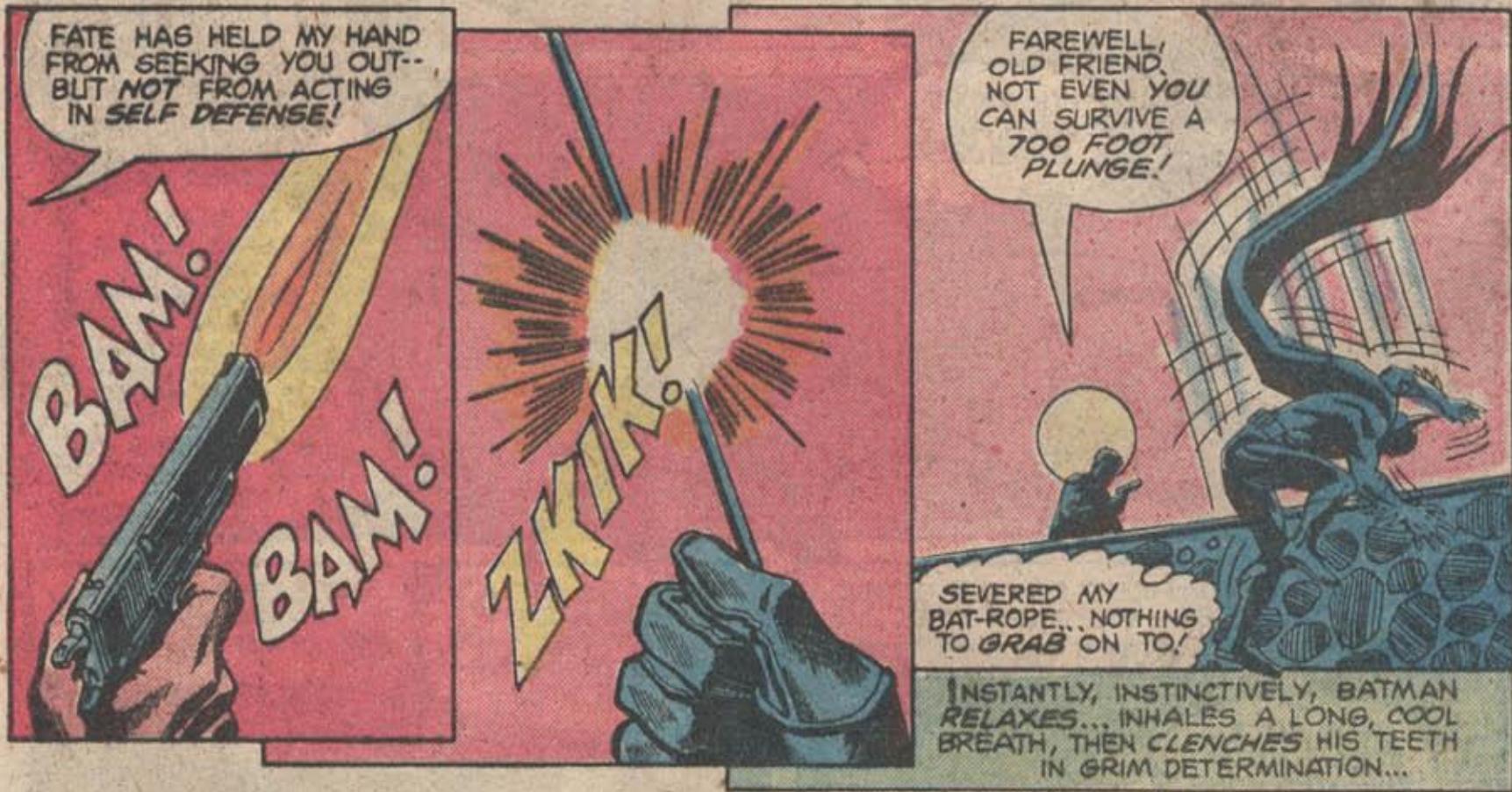
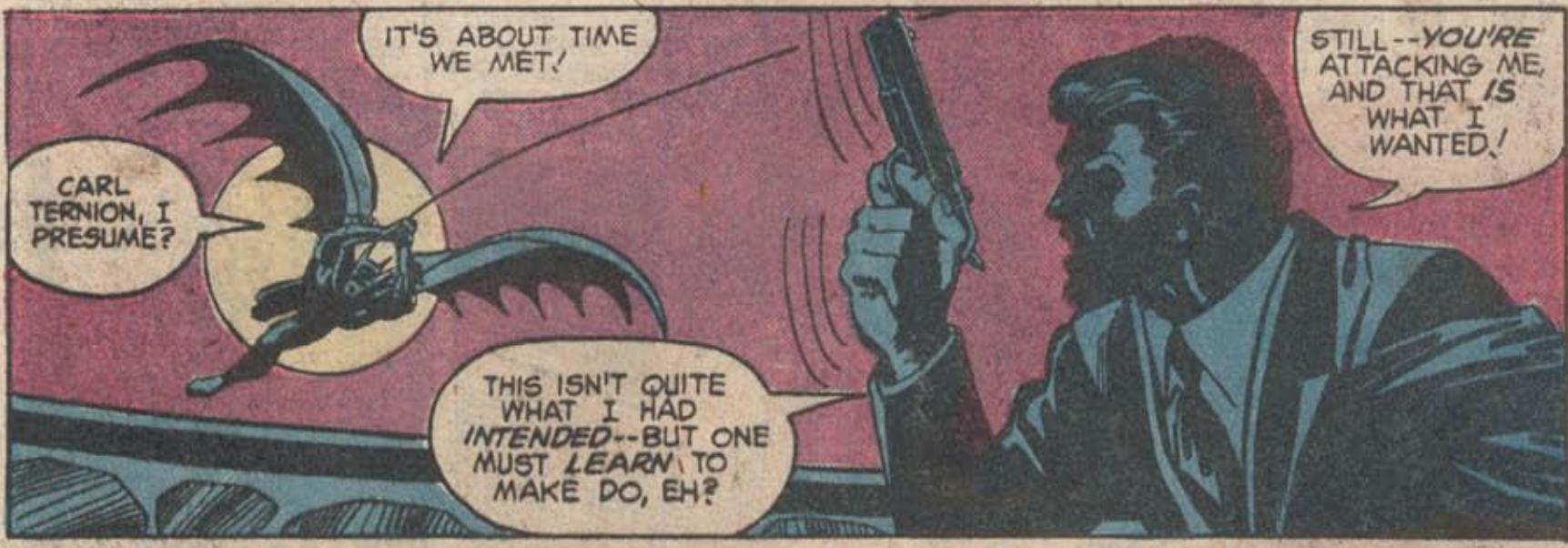
DON'T  
TALK...  
YOU'VE  
GOT TO  
REST.

# HAWKMAN™ in "SHE'S NO ANGEL"









A MOMENT LATER, INSIDE THE DAM'S BLOCKHOUSE...

EVEN NOW FATE } PREVENTS ME BUT, I CAN STILL  
FROM KILLING OFFER HIM AN EVEN  
HIM OUTRIGHT! CHANCE FOR  
SURVIVAL--

--PROVIDING, OF COURSE,  
HE CAN SURVIVE BEING  
DELUGED BY A THOUSAND  
TONS OF RAVAGING WATER!!

PROAAR

HE'S  
OPENED  
THE SPILLWAY,  
AS I  
EXPECTED...

WELL, AT LEAST MY  
REBREATHER WILL  
PREVENT ME FROM  
DROWNING, IF NOT  
FROM BEING  
CRUSHED!

MENTALLY, THE DARKNIGHT DETECTIVE COUNTS  
OFF THE PRECIOUS SECONDS...

THEN, AS THE WATER  
ALL BUT ENGULFS HIM,  
HE DIVES HEADLONG INTO  
THE ONRUSHING WAVE...

RRR-WOOSH!

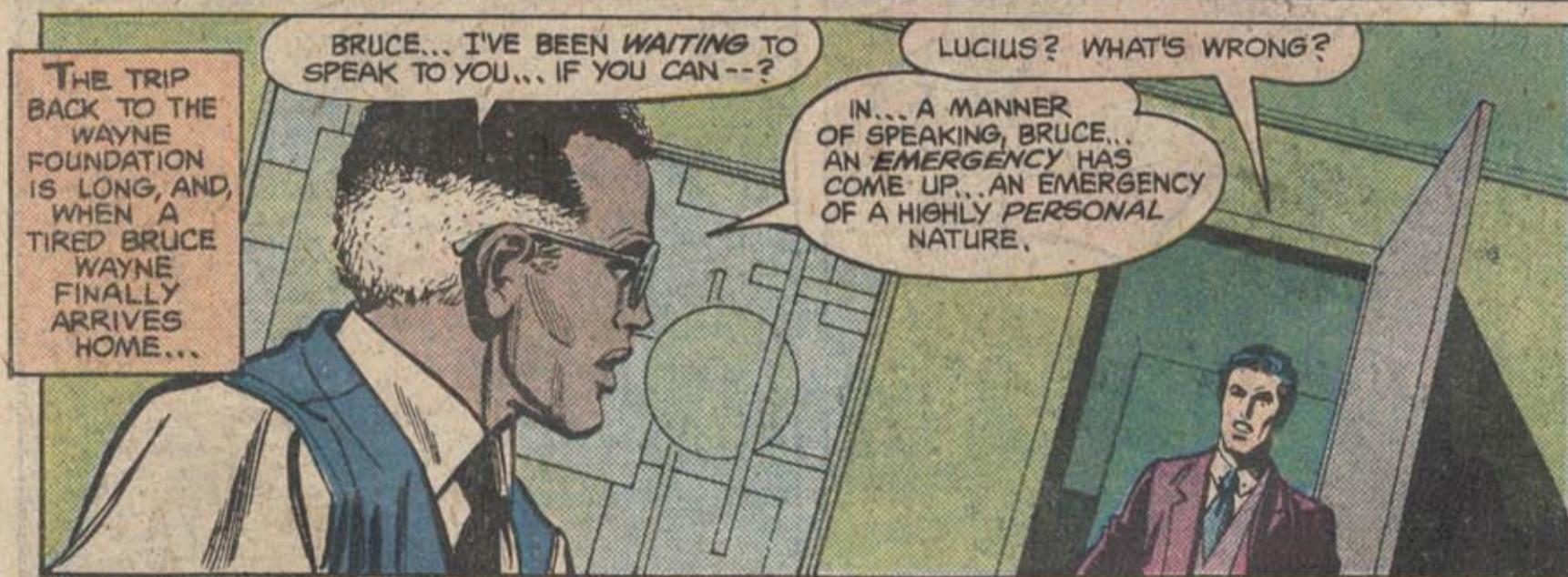
LIKE A  
PRACTICED  
SURFER,  
HE TWISTS HIS BODY  
WITH THE  
WATER'S FLOW...

HIS ACHING MUSCLES  
GUIDE HIM FORWARD  
AS HIS REBREATHER  
SPENDS ITS LAST...

THEN AS THE FOAMING WATER GUSHES PAST HIS NARROWED EYES, HE SPIES THE FAINT METALLIC GLIMMER OF A FAMILIAR SHAPE...



HIS BODY WRACKED WITH PAIN, THE BATMAN THRUSTS A POWERFUL ARM THROUGH THE TERRIBLE ONRUSHING CURRENT...

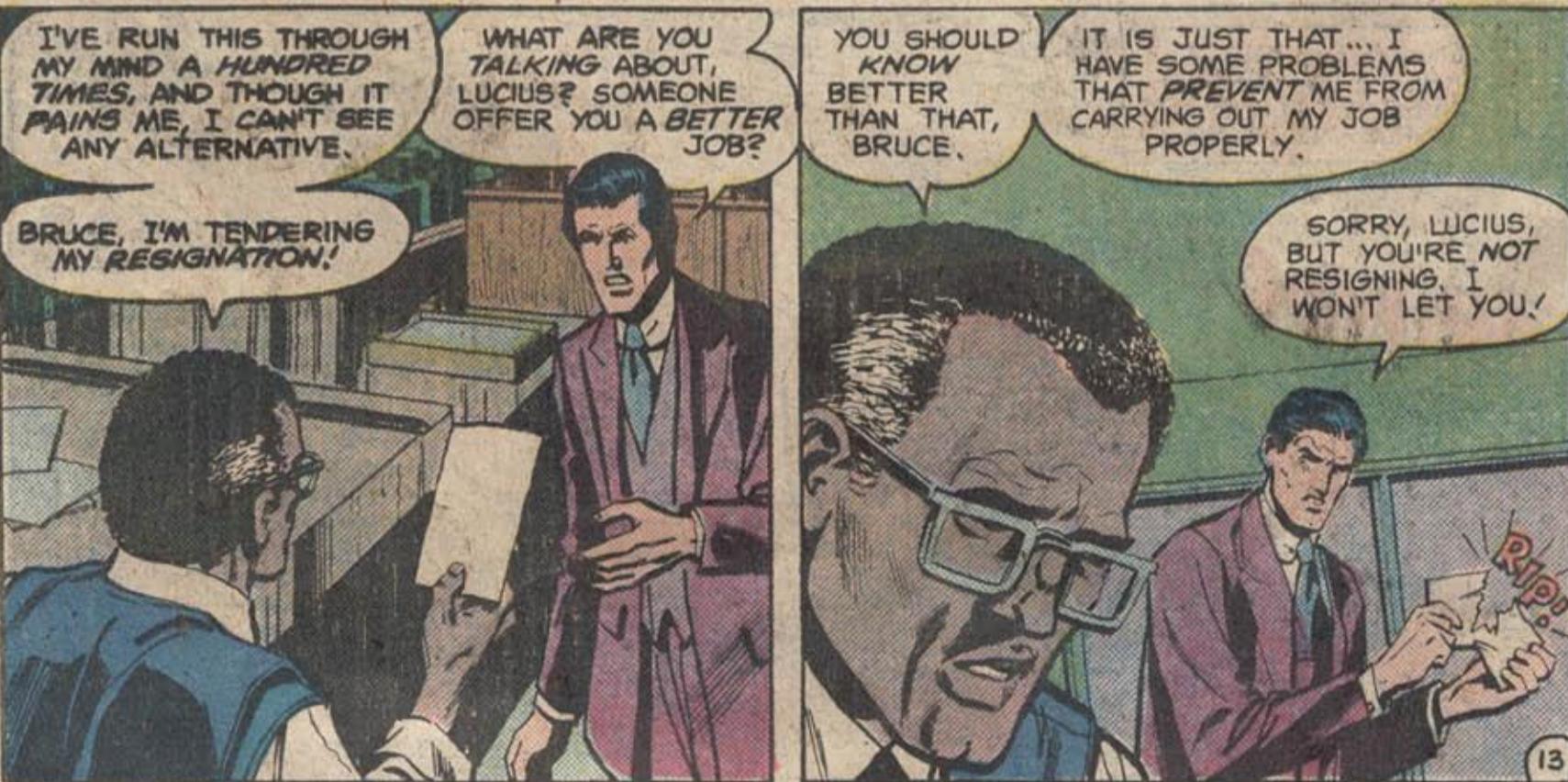


THE TRIP BACK TO THE WAYNE FOUNDATION IS LONG, AND, WHEN A TIRED BRUCE WAYNE FINALLY ARRIVES HOME...

BRUCE... I'VE BEEN WAITING TO SPEAK TO YOU... IF YOU CAN --?

LUCIUS? WHAT'S WRONG?

IN... A MANNER OF SPEAKING, BRUCE... AN EMERGENCY HAS COME UP... AN EMERGENCY OF A HIGHLY PERSONAL NATURE.



CONTINUED ON 2<sup>ND</sup> PAGE FOLLOWING.

# RICHIE RICH® IN FATHER KNOWS BEST

THE POOR LITTLE RICH BOY

HOW  
DID WE  
GET TO BE  
RICH,  
DAD?



AS A BOY,  
I SOLD GRIT,  
RICHIE...IT'S AMERICA'S  
ONLY NATIONAL  
FULL FAMILY WEEKLY  
NEWSPAPER. LOTS  
OF FAMOUS PEOPLE  
GOT THEIR START.  
SELLING GRIT

FOR EVERY 35¢ COPY  
YOU SELL, YOU KEEP 12¢...  
YOU CAN EARN YOUR OWN  
SPENDING MONEY EVERY  
WEEK

HERE,  
RICHIE.  
THIRTY  
FIVE  
CENTS



NOWADAYS YOU EARN PRIZES,  
TOO—MORE THAN 100 TO CHOOSE  
FROM. THE MORE PAPERS  
YOU DELIVER, THE NEATER  
THE PRIZES

GIRLS SELL  
GRIT, TOO



WANT TO EARN  
PRIZES AND CASH  
IN YOUR SPARE TIME?  
ALL IT TAKES IS  
A LITTLE GRIT

## GRIT

Will Help You Start  
Your Own Business

You will be sent papers to sell, supplies and selling helps. You pay nothing in advance so you don't risk a penny. You have everything to gain—nothing to lose—by starting your own GRIT business. Thousands of young persons all over America now sell GRIT. You'll have steady profits and earn free prizes regularly.

(Papers sent only in the continental U.S.)

Introduce **GRIT** To Friends, Relatives,  
Neighbors and Others

State law requires newsboys and girls to be 10 years or older. 12 years or older in the states of AL, DE, LA, MA, MO, NJ, NY, NC, PA, RI, VA and WI.

### HURRY!

### SIGN UP NOW

•••• Fill Out and Mail This Coupon In An Envelope Today ••••  
**GRIT PUBLISHING CO.,** Williamsport, PA 17701

Please send me all the details and ..... copies  
each week to start my own GRIT route.

NC 70

Name .....

In Care of .....

Address .....

Town ..... State ..... ZIP .....

Age ..... Date of Birth ..... Month Day Year

Male  Female Please Print Your Last Name Plainly Below



I'M TELLING YOU, BRUCE--  
FOR THE NEXT SEVERAL  
WEEKS, I WILL BE  
USELESS TO THIS  
COMPANY.

YOU WON'T BE  
GETTING YOUR  
MONEY'S WORTH  
OUT OF ME, AND  
THAT IS HARDLY  
FAIR TO YOU.

LUCIUS, FROM THIS  
MOMENT ON, YOU'RE  
ON LEAVE OF  
ABSENCE-- WITH  
FULL PAY!

DO YOU REMEMBER  
THE WENTWORTH DEAL?  
I EXPECTED A TWENTY  
PERCENT PROFIT FROM  
THAT ACCOUNT. SOMEHOW,  
YOU MANAGED TO  
BOOST THAT TO A  
WHOPPING TWO HUNDRED  
PERCENT!

THE TOWER BUILDING  
COMPLEX YOU TALKED ME  
INTO HAS NETTED US MORE  
THAN ANY OF US COULD HAVE  
DREAMED. SHALL I GO ON?

IF YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT YOUR  
VALUE TO US IN MERE DOLLARS,  
WELL, YOU'VE HELPED MAKE MORE  
FOR WAYNE ENTERPRISES AND  
THE FOUNDATION THAN  
WE HAD ANY RIGHT TO  
EXPECT.

IF YOU NEED TWO  
WEEKS, TWO MONTHS,  
OR EVEN TWO YEARS,  
IT STILL WOULD  
ONLY BE A  
FRACTION OF  
WHAT YOU'VE  
GIVEN US.

YOU'RE NOT AN  
EMPLOYEE HERE,  
LUCIUS. YOU PUNCH  
IN NO TIME CLOCKS,  
YOU FILL OUT NO  
DATA SHEETS, AND  
I COULDN'T CARE  
LESS WHAT HOURS  
YOU KEEP...

YOU NEED  
TIME OFF, IT'S  
YOURS! AS  
LONG AS YOU  
NEED...

BUT, MORE  
IMPORTANTLY,  
LUCIUS, IF YOU  
NEED SOMEONE  
TO TALK WITH, OR  
SOMEONE JUST TO  
TALK TO-- I'M HERE...  
WHENEVER YOU  
NEED ME.

BELIEVE ME, BRUCE... WHEN  
I CAN TALK, I WILL.  
AND... THANK YOU...

CARL TERNION PAUSES BEFORE THE DOOR LEADING TO DR. ALBERT EKHART'S OFFICE. HIS FINGERS TREMBLE AS HE CLUTCHES THE BRONZE KNOB...



ALL TOO SOON TERNION WILL KNOW WHETHER HE HOLDS A HOPEFUL FUTURE... OR IF HE IS FORCED TO REMAIN A VICTIM OF HIS OWN, TWISTED PAST...

EKHART, I'M NOT CERTAIN, BUT THE SURGERY DOESN'T SEEM TO BE HOLDING.

I WARNED YOU OF THAT CHANCE, DIDN'T I?

YES.. BUT I HAD NO CHOICE, DID I?



I WANTED TO WIN BACK GILDA... I WANTED HER TO BE MY WIFE-- FOR THE SECOND TIME!

YOU KNOW HER, EKHART--YOU KNOW SHE COULDN'T ACCEPT ME THE WAY I WAS. I WAS FORCED TO TAKE THE RISK.

AND NOW, MY HAPLESS FRIEND, YOU ARE SUFFERING THE CONSEQUENCES, EH?

YES, I CAN SEE MY WORK IS BEGINNING TO FADE. SOON YOU WILL BE AS YOU WERE.



I AM TRULY SORRY, BUT I TOLD YOU LONG AGO THAT YOU COULD NOT BE GIVEN A SECOND CHANCE AT THIS SURGERY.

AT BEST I GAVE YOU TEMPORARY HOPE... PERHAPS THAT WAS WORSE THAN NO HOPE AT ALL...

I AM SORRY, BUT IN THIS, NOTHING CAN BE PERMANENT...

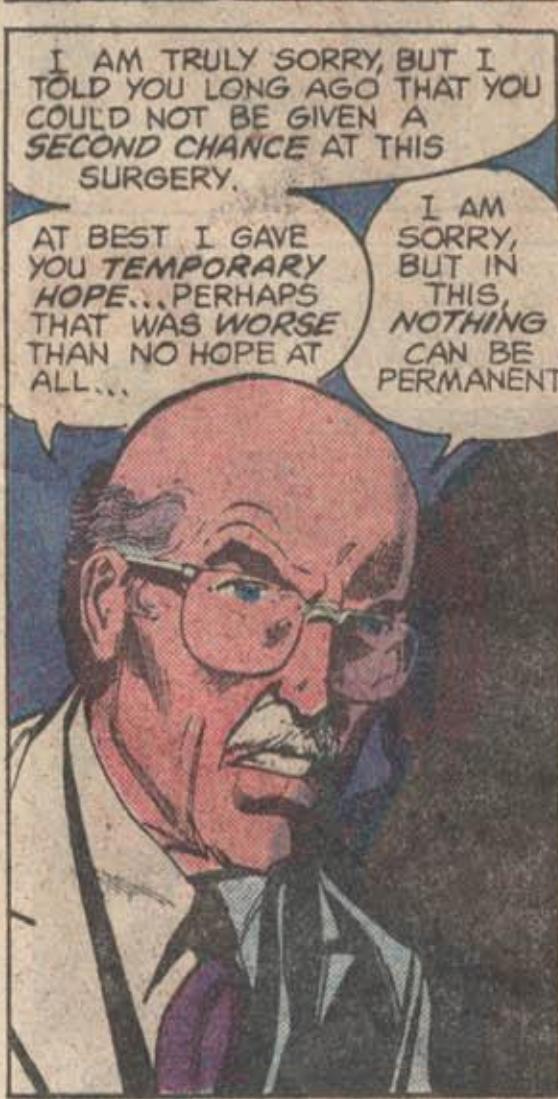
YOU'RE WRONG THERE, DOCTOR. ONE THING CAN BE PERMANENT...

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

YOU SAY YOU CAN NEVER HELP ME AGAIN.. AND SINCE THE FATES, TOO, HAVE DECREED YOUR USELESSNESS--

--I NOW GIVE TO YOU THE ONLY GIFT THAT WILL ALWAYS BE PERMANENT--

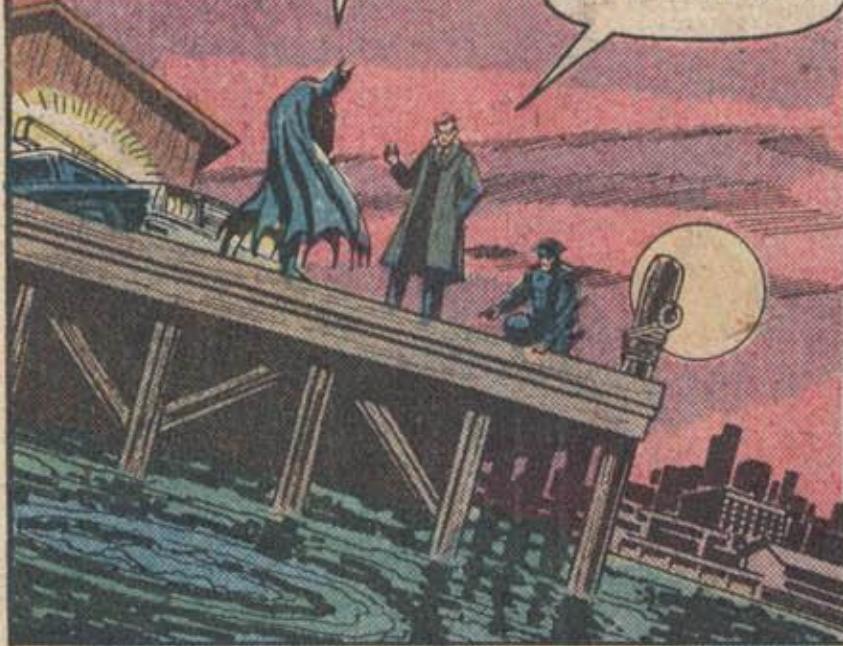
--DEATH!!



GOTHAM  
PIER...  
2:30 IN  
THE  
MORNING...

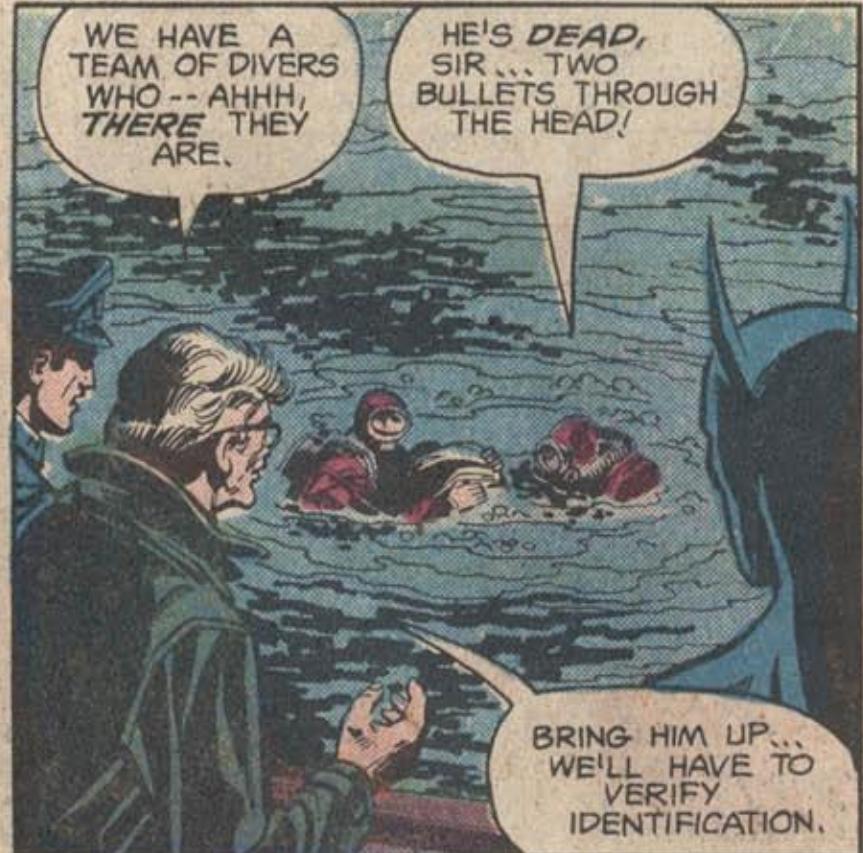
YOU  
CALLED  
ME,  
COMMISSIONER?

TWO WITNESSES  
SAW SOMEONE  
BEING DUMPED  
HERE LESS  
THAN FIFTEEN  
MINUTES AGO.



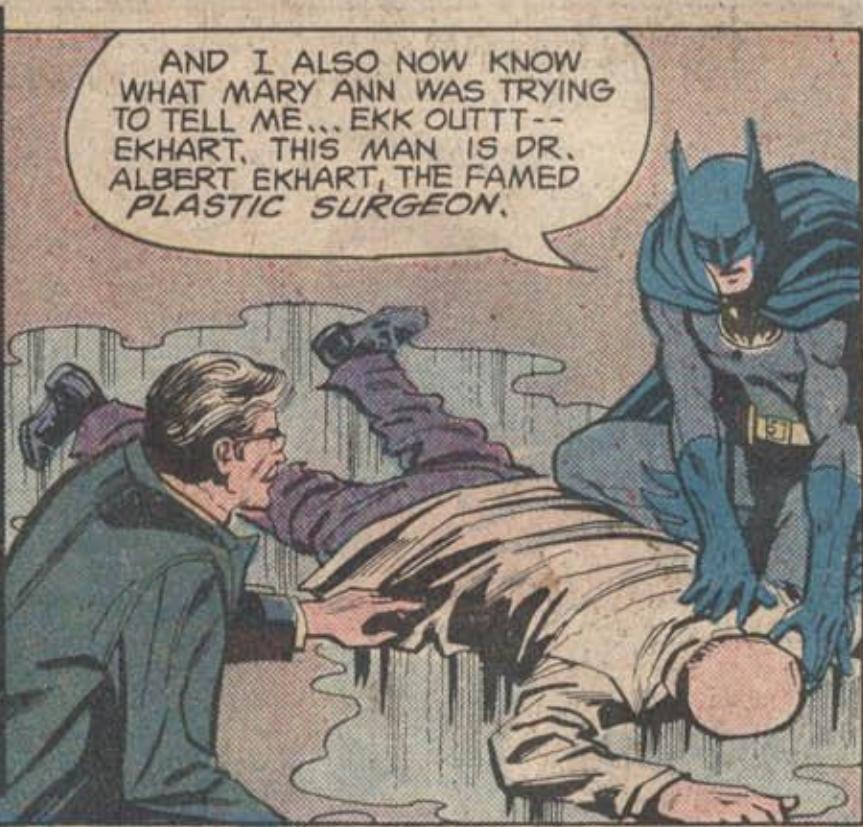
WE HAVE A  
TEAM OF DIVERS  
WHO -- AHMH,  
**THERE** THEY  
ARE.

HE'S DEAD,  
SIR ... TWO  
BULLETS THROUGH  
THE HEAD!

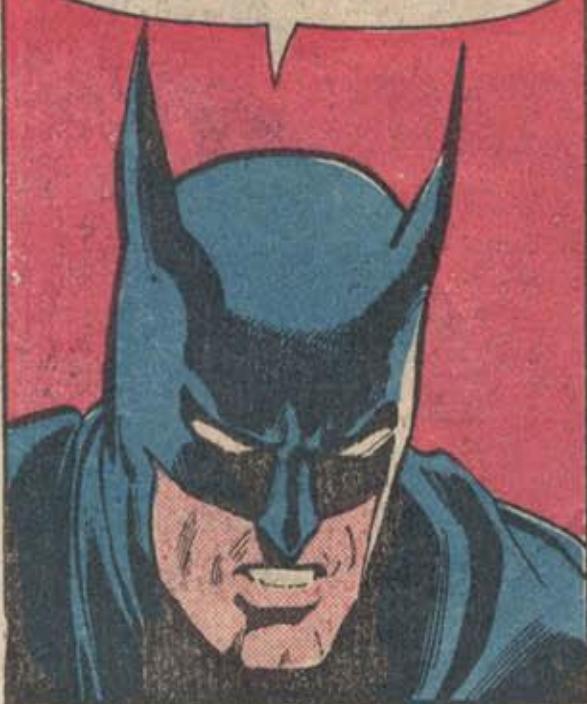


YOU WON'T  
HAVE TO WAIT,  
COMMISSIONER--  
I KNOW THIS  
MAN.

AND I ALSO NOW KNOW  
WHAT MARY ANN WAS TRYING  
TO TELL ME... EKK OUTTT--  
EKHART, THIS MAN IS DR.  
ALBERT EKHART, THE FAMED  
PLASTIC SURGEON.



IT'S TAKEN AWHILE, BUT  
SUDDENLY EVERYTHING'S FALLEN  
INTO PLACE. I KNOW WHO OUR  
KILLER IS.



BATMAN!  
WHERE ARE  
YOU GOING?

TO FIND A MURDERER, COMMISSIONER-- AND TO SHOW HIM JUST HOW FAR HIS DOUBLE JEOPARDY ROUTINE WILL GET HIM!



AND, IN THE APARTMENT OF  
GILDA STEVENS...

WHAT'S WRONG, HONEY?  
YOU LOOK ILL!

DID YOU HEAR THE NEWS,  
CARL? THE POLICE JUST  
FOUND THE BODY OF DR.  
EKHART. HE WAS...KILLED...

HE... WAS A PLASTIC SUR-  
GEON... HE'S THE ONE WHO  
HELPED MY FIRST HUSBAND...  
MANY YEARS AGO.

HE GAVE HARVEY  
AND ME SUCH  
HOPE...

AND NOW...  
NOW HE'S  
GONE, TOO...  
JUST LIKE  
HARVEY... JUST  
LIKE DAVE!

I FEEL SO  
ALONE, CARL  
...SO VERY  
ALONE...

EKHART.

NOT ALL, MY LOVELY  
GILDA... THERE'S STILL  
ONE WHO LIVES... BUT,  
NOT FOR LONG.

AND, ONCE I KILL  
THE BATMAN--THEN  
NOBODY WILL BE  
LEFT TO PREVENT  
YOU FROM BECOMING  
MY WIFE--

--FOR  
THE SECOND  
TIME!!

ALL OF  
THOSE PEOPLE  
I ONCE KNEW  
ARE EITHER  
DEAD OR  
GONE...



NEXT  
ISSUE

A VILLAIN FROM BATMAN'S PAST RETURNS TO THREATEN HIS FUTURE:  
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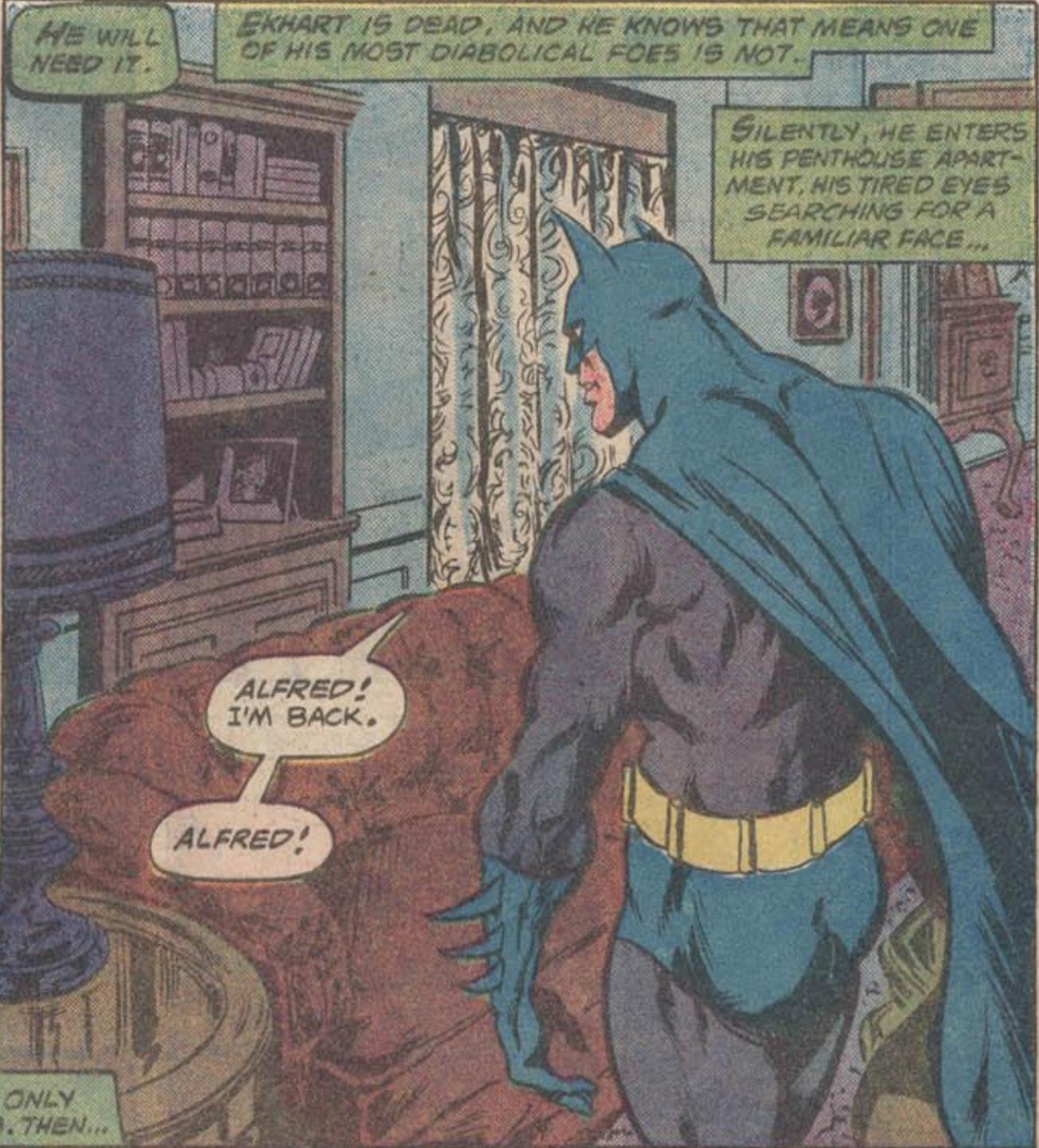
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GRIMLY, HE GLIDES  
THROUGH THE COAL-DARK NIGHT, A SHA-  
DOW SLIPPING PAST  
A THOUSAND OTHER  
NIGHT-TIME SHADOWS...



HE IS RETURNING  
HOME FOR A WELL-  
DESERVED SLEEP.



FOR LONG MOMENTS ONLY  
SILENCE GREETS HIM. THEN...

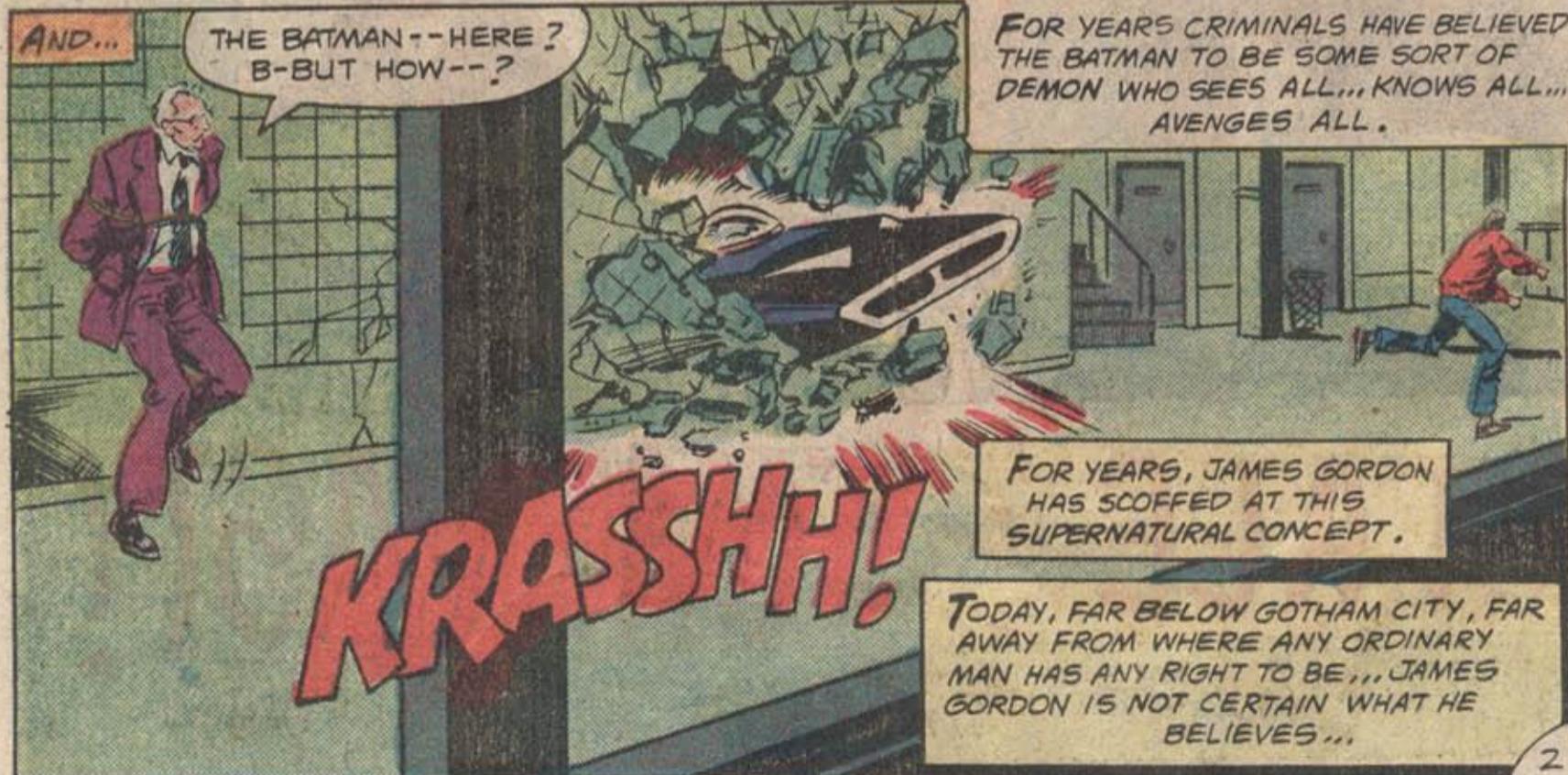
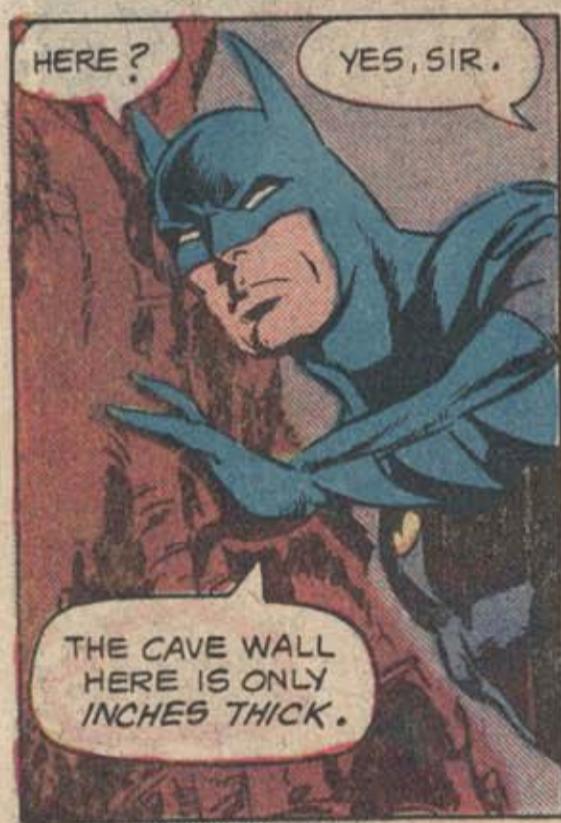


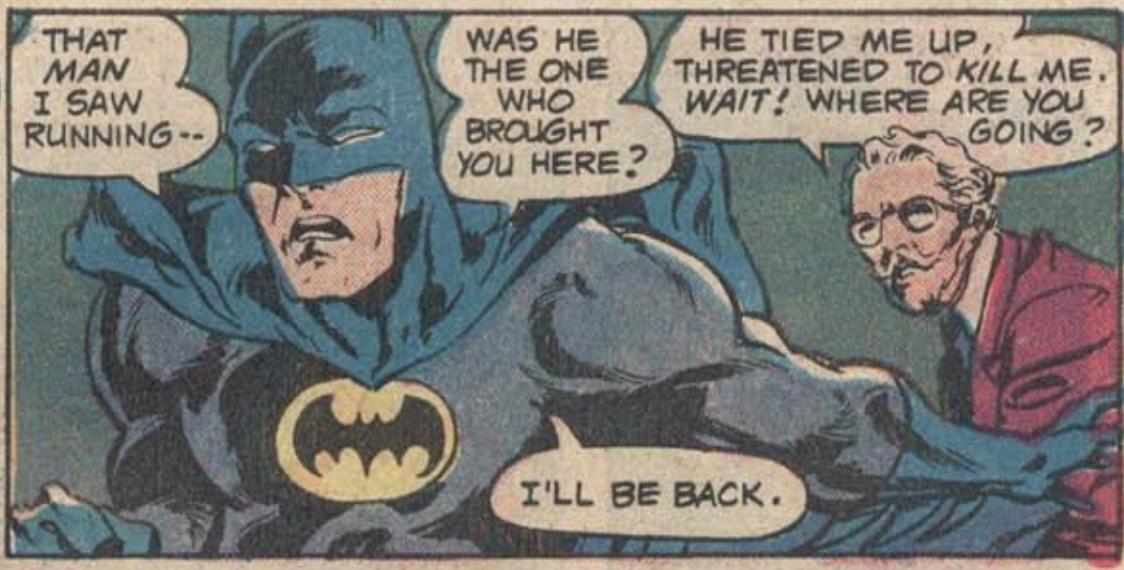
# A TALE of TIME PAST!

MARV WOLFMAN \* DON KIM  
WRITER \* ARTISTS

MILT SNAPINN \* ADRIENNE ROY  
LETTERER \* COLORIST

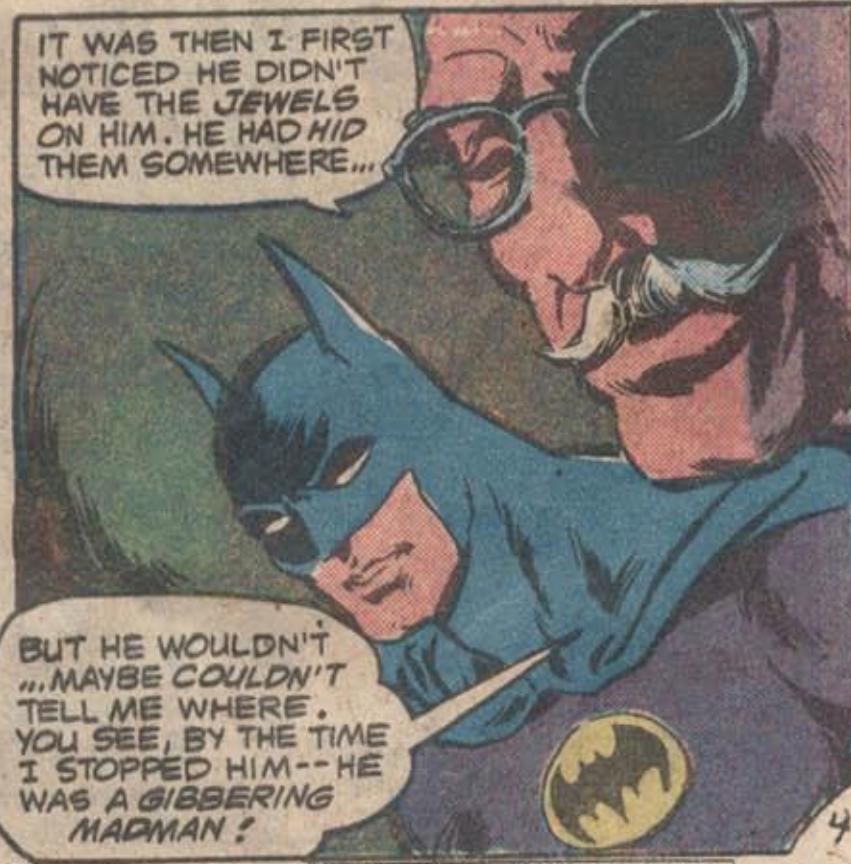
\* PAUL LEVITZ  
EDITOR







"FOR AN HOUR I WANDERED  
THE TUNNELS. THEN, AFTER  
I HEARD A MUFFLED  
EXPLOSION, I SAW HIM..."



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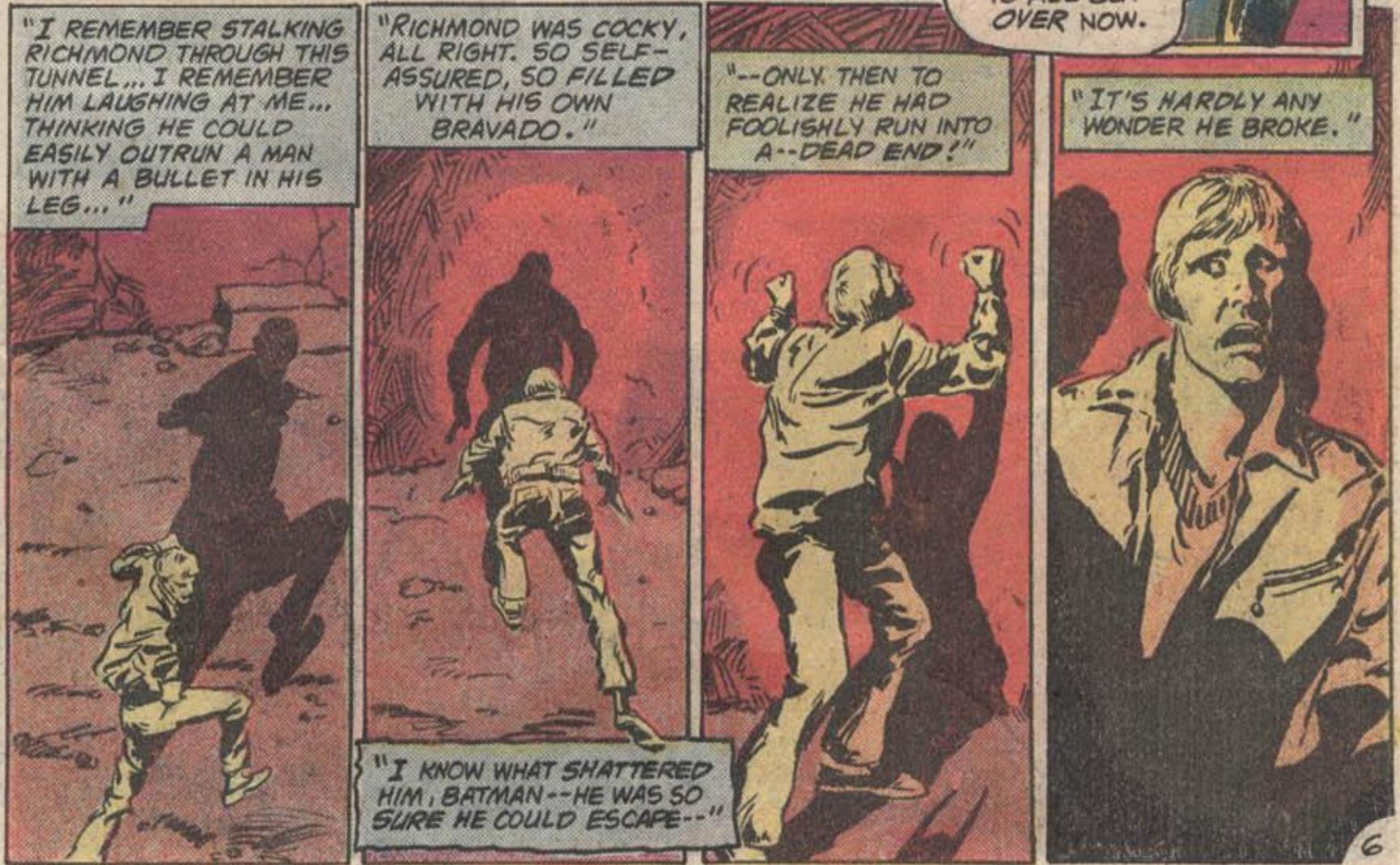
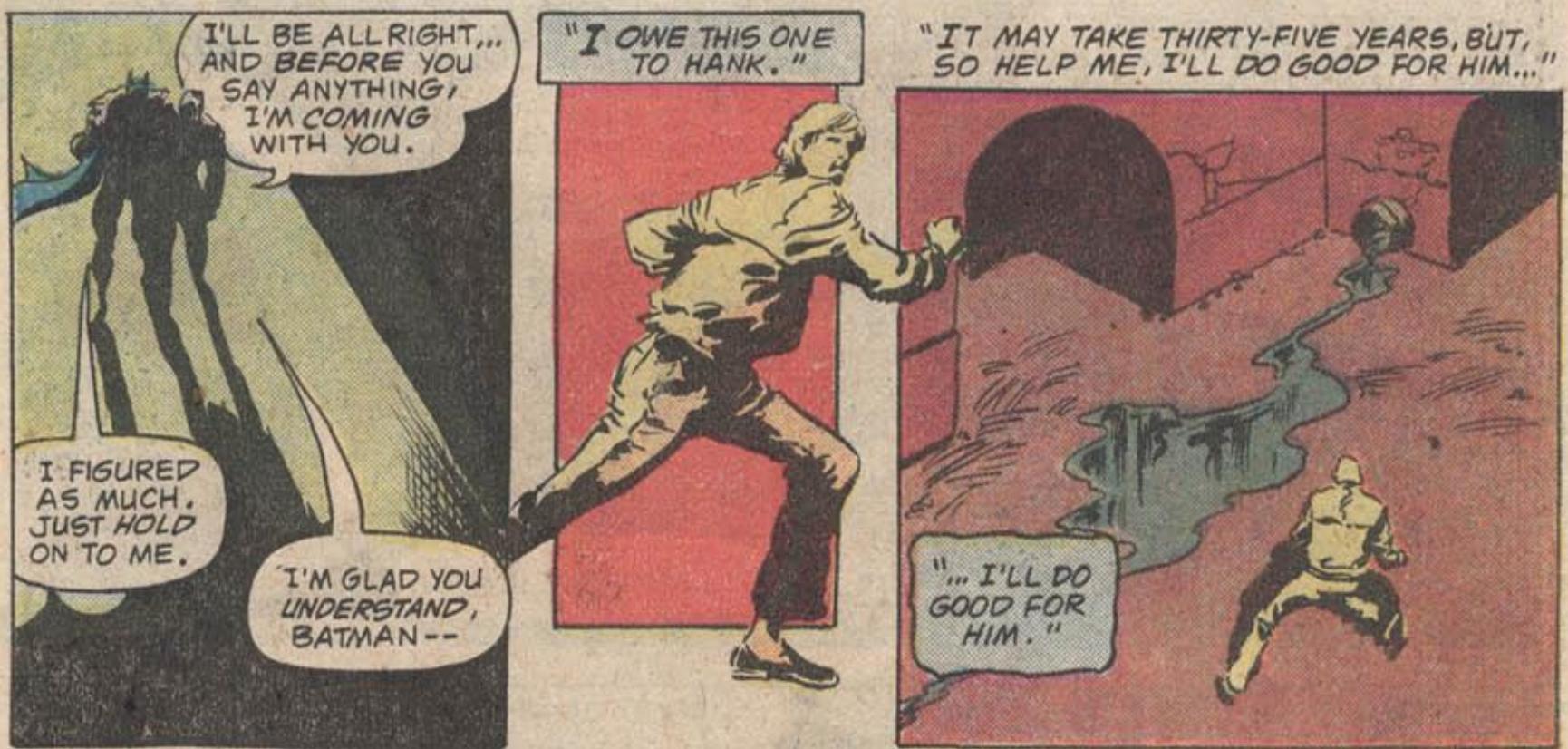
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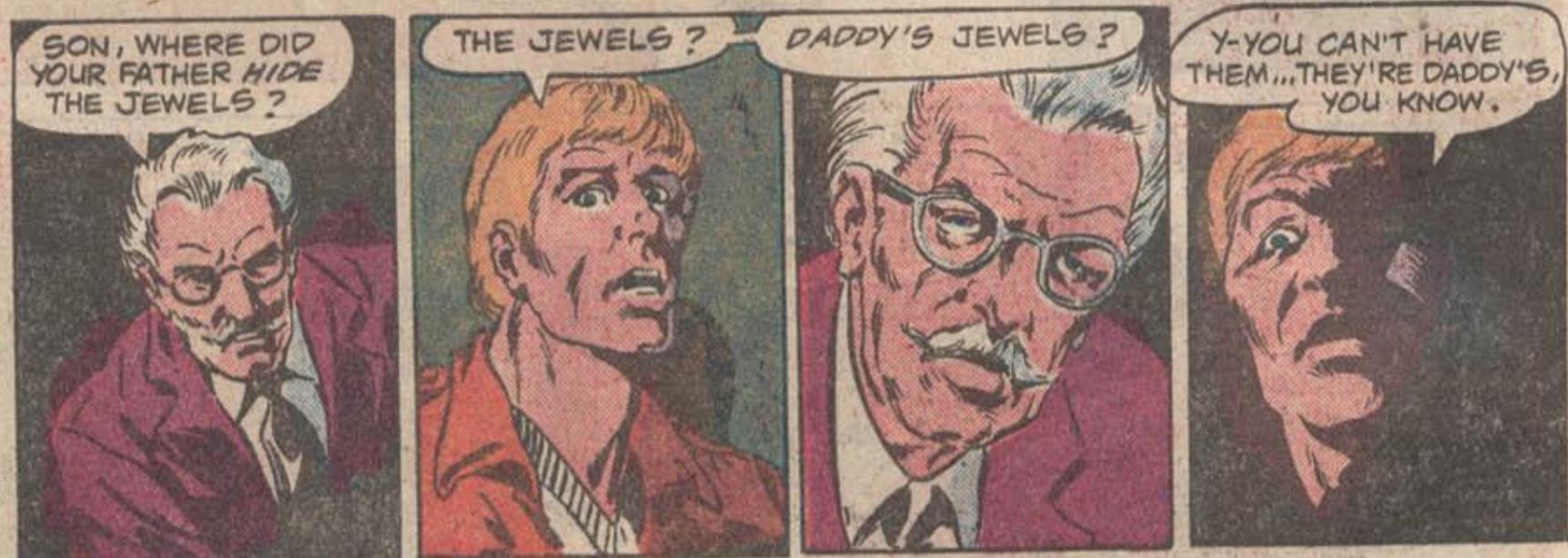
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AFTER THE  
POLICE HAVE  
BEEN SUMMONED...

RICHMOND  
WILL BE  
TAKEN CARE  
OF... IN  
ARKHAM...

...AND THE  
JEWELS ARE  
STILL LOST.

I'VE NEVER  
MADE GOOD ON  
MY PROMISE TO  
POOR HANK.

THE BATMAN IS SILENT AS  
GORDON IS HELPED TO THE  
HOSPITAL...

BUT, LATER IN THE BATCAVE...

I STILL FAIL TO UNDER-  
STAND, SIR...

I'VE TOLD YOU  
THAT THE BAT-  
CAVE WAS ORIG-  
INALLY PART OF  
AN OLD ABANDONED  
SUBWAY TUNNEL--\*

-- THE SAME TUNNEL  
RICHMOND'S  
FATHER BLUNDERED  
INTO YEARS AGO.

GORDON SAID HE HEARD AN  
EXPLOSION, RICHMOND MUST  
HAVE BURIED HIS TREASURE--  
-- THEN RIGGED SOME OF  
THE EXPLOSIVES THE  
WORKMEN USED IN  
CARVING OUT THE  
TUNNEL--

\* AS REVEALED IN DETECTIVE #470.--PAUL.

POLICE  
HEADQUARTERS...

SIR, THIS  
PACKAGE JUST  
CAME FOR YOU.

THANK YOU, SARAH.  
JUST PUT IT ON MY  
DESK, PLEASE.

REMEMBRANCES  
FROM TIMES PAST.  
IT WAS YOUR  
CLUE THAT LEAD  
ME TO THEM.

IT'S TAKEN QUITE  
A WHILE, HANK...  
THIRTY-FIVE  
LONG YEARS...

I... I KNOW  
IT MIGHT BE  
LATE, BUDDY--  
BUT I PRAY  
I'VE DONE GOOD  
FOR YOU AT  
LAST...

I JUST  
PRAY I'VE  
DONE GOOD.

THE  
END



## BAT SIGNALS

c/o DC COMICS, INC.  
75 ROCKEFELLER PLAZA  
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10019

Dear Editor,

After reading BATMAN #323, does anyone really want to see the regal Catwoman leading a life of quiet domesticity?

As Mrs. Bruce Wayne, she would merely be basking in his reflected glory and always open to ridicule and rebuke by his associates for her infamous past deeds.

And besides, who could profess a love for Catwoman, derived from an irresistible mixture of beauty, brains, and roguish brashness, and suggest such a demeaning fate for comicdom's consummate crime queen, especially on this—her 40th anniversary?

Here's hoping for 40 more, S.K.I.

Jeffrey Lowndes  
809 Sunset St.  
Scranton, Pa. 18509

*Rest assured, Jeffrey, that whatever we have in mind for Selina when she next returns, quiet domesticity has NEVER crossed our minds. Speaking of irresistible, however, another of the women in Batman's life is scheduled for a starring role in the near future, as Talia returns in #330's extra-length novell—PL.*

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear People,

For what you have done to The Batman, I sentence you to stand up and take a bow.

This book has become such a beautiful piece of entertainment, that it is hard to believe that it is not just a dream. Batman has grown up quite a bit these last few years. The various writers have tried to show us more of the man and not just the enigma that he is.

I've always felt that Bruce Wayne and The Batman have been pictured as two completely separate people. These two personalities must play off of each other (as has been done lately) and not against each other.

The best scenes in BATMAN #323 were when The Batman confronted Selina in the opening scenes and Catwoman confronting Bruce a few panels later. These scenes (which were well thought out) showed us how much Bruce/Batman and Selina/Catwoman are alike. Selina loves Bruce and dislikes The Batman, whereas Bruce loves Selina and dislikes Catwoman.

The tragic thing about this is that both of them only love a half of what the other person really is. If is for this reason that their romance is doomed.

A major problem with this book used to be that it lacked continuity. What I mean by this is that the old Batman stories never seemed to happen in any specific order, they just happened. With the addition of subplots, each succeeding issue becomes part of one enormous story and not just scattered events. I can now look forward (somewhat impatiently) to each new issue.

In closing, I would just like to say that I have been reading Batman comics since issue number 144 and NO ONE can draw the Catwoman like Irv Novick.

Dan Haupert  
1233 Somerset Lane  
Schaumburg, IL 60193

*New scripter Marv Wolfman promises that he'll reveal even more of the humanity of Bruce Wayne and the Batman, and has cooked up a storyline that will show it's even harder to tell where the one person begins and the other ends than we thought.—PL.*

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Paul,

Re: Batman #323.

How can Bruce profess to love Selina and then actually believe that she had gone back to being The Catwoman? There really was no concrete proof of her guilt as she stated to Batman. Even the museum guard saw only a person dressed in a cat outfit who clawed his face. Anyone could've done that to frame The Catwoman. And, that seems to be exactly what happened.

Batman and Catwoman were both surprised to have been caught by the Cat-Man, but does that mean Pinch didn't tell Selina who had the urns when he directed her to that warehouse? It sure was a coincidence that Cat-Man swiped the Egyptian urns when Selina wanted them. Then again, if he heard about Selina's argument with the museum guide he probably figured that if he stole it the police would naturally blame The Catwoman.

Surely Bruce can guess that something is genuinely wrong with Selina. He sent her to see Dr. Dundee for her headaches, didn't he? So he must know that something is troubling her. All he needs from her is confirmation and a few specific details.

Karen Wu

851 Tantau Avenue  
Cupertino, CA 95014

*As our stories made clear, in retrospect even Bruce felt that he had been unfair to Selina...but that the ever-doubting Batman aspects of his personality simply drove him on. And, of course, there was no reason to believe that anyone had a motive for framing Catwoman...or the unique aptitude of the Catman for pulling off just such a frame.—PL.*

\*\*\*\*\*

*NEXT MONTH: "Twice Dies The Batman" when he squares off against Two Face in our lead by Marv Wolfman and Irv Novick, and then the Gotham Guardian is reunited with Robin in an added attraction featurette!—Paul Levitz.*

\*\*\*\*\*

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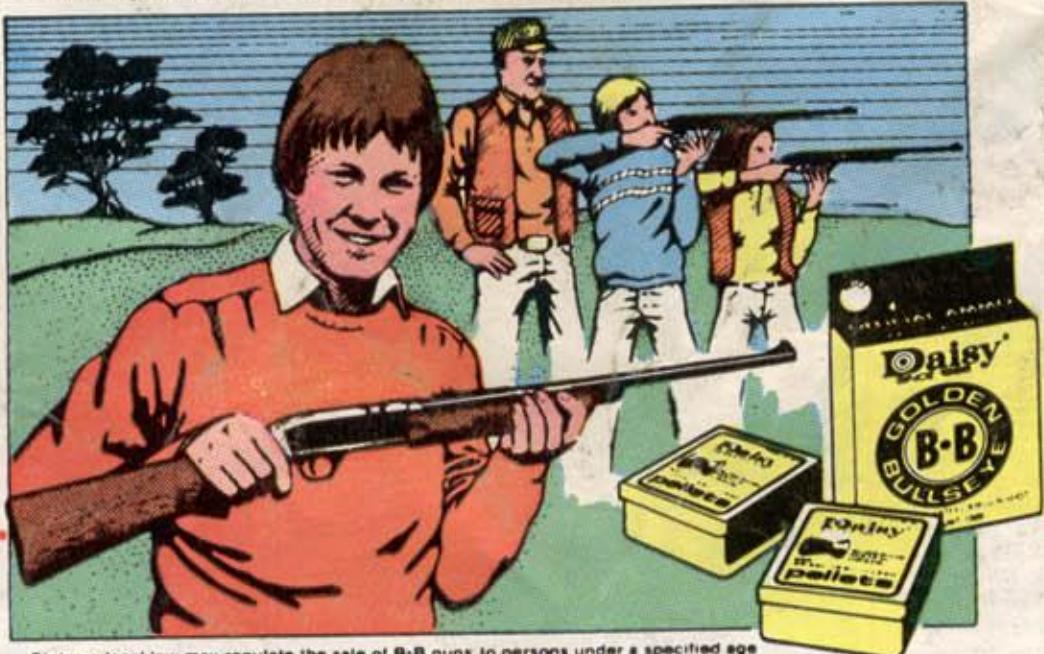
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