



NO. 234 AUG. 35¢
30725



Wonder Woman

NOT ONLY
HAS SHE FOUGHT
IN **VAIN...**

...BUT THOSE
SHE **DIES FOR**
ARE THE **CAUSE**
OF HER DEATH!

HIS NAME IS ARMAGEDDON:

HIS MISSION... **DESTROY!**



G. Lopez
Colletta

YOU COULD BE IN THE
SUPERMAN MOVIE
--DETAILS INSIDE--

Wonder Woman

"AND
DEATH MY DESTINY!"

LIKE A MODERN-DAY JONAH IN THE JAWS OF A MUTANT WHALE, THE WOMAN PLUNGES DOWN AND DOWN INTO EMERALD DUSK, HER LUNGS STRAINING FOR AIR, HER EYES BURNING, HER HEART LABORING --

--EVERY NERVE AND MUSCLE SCREAMING AS SHE STRUGGLES WITH THE BEAST ENGLUFING HER--

STRUGGLES-- APPARENTLY IN VAIN!

LONG SINCE, ANOTHER MIGHT HAVE FALLEN VICTIM FIRST TO DESPAIR--THEN DEATH! BUT NOT SHE --

SHE IS AN AMAZON-- AND IF IT CONSUMES ALL HER STRENGTH-- SHE WILL SURVIVE!

A TALE OF SPECIAL COURAGE BY--

GERRY CONWAY,
WRITER

* DON HECK AND JOE GIELLA
ARTISTS *

LIZ BERUBE
COLORIST

WONDER WOMAN, Vol. 36, No. 234, August, 1977. Published monthly by DC COMICS INC., 75 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, N.Y. 10019. Second Class Postage paid at New York, N.Y. and Additional Mailing Offices. Copyright © 1977 by DC Comics Inc. All Rights Reserved. The stories, characters and incidents mentioned in this magazine are entirely fictional. No actual persons, living or dead, are intended or should be inferred. Printed in U.S.A. misterjoel, scanner

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* ABOVE DIALOGUE ADAPTED FROM LAST ISSUE, FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO JUST DROPPED IN FROM MARS. -- DENNY.

AND, AS THE DESPERATE AND UNEQUAL COMBAT CONTINUES IN THE ICY WATERS OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC, ABOVE, ON THE CONNING TOWER OF U-BOAT 211...



YOU TOLD ME TO FIND THE MOST OVERWHELMING SEA-THING IN THE AREA -- AND MY MIND REACHED OUT -- TOUCHED THE THING IN ITS LAIR --

IN ABRAHAM'S NAME, I WISH I HAD NEVER BEEN BORN!

WATCH YOUR TONGUE, JUDEN! -- THAT DAY YOU AND YOUR PATHETIC CHILDREN REICH, AND THE DAY YOUR USEFULNESS ENDS --

WILL DIE!

BE THANKFUL YOU POSSESS STRANGE MIND-POWER, FOR IF YOU DID NOT --



-- YOU WOULD BE WORTH LESS ALIVE THAN DEAD!

AS A CORPSE, WE COULD AT LEAST USE YOUR BODY FOR SOAP! *



* MORE UPDATING FOR THE UNFORTUNATE FEW WHO MISSED LAST MONTH'S MAG. -- D. AGAIN.

AT THAT MOMENT, FATHOMS BELOW...

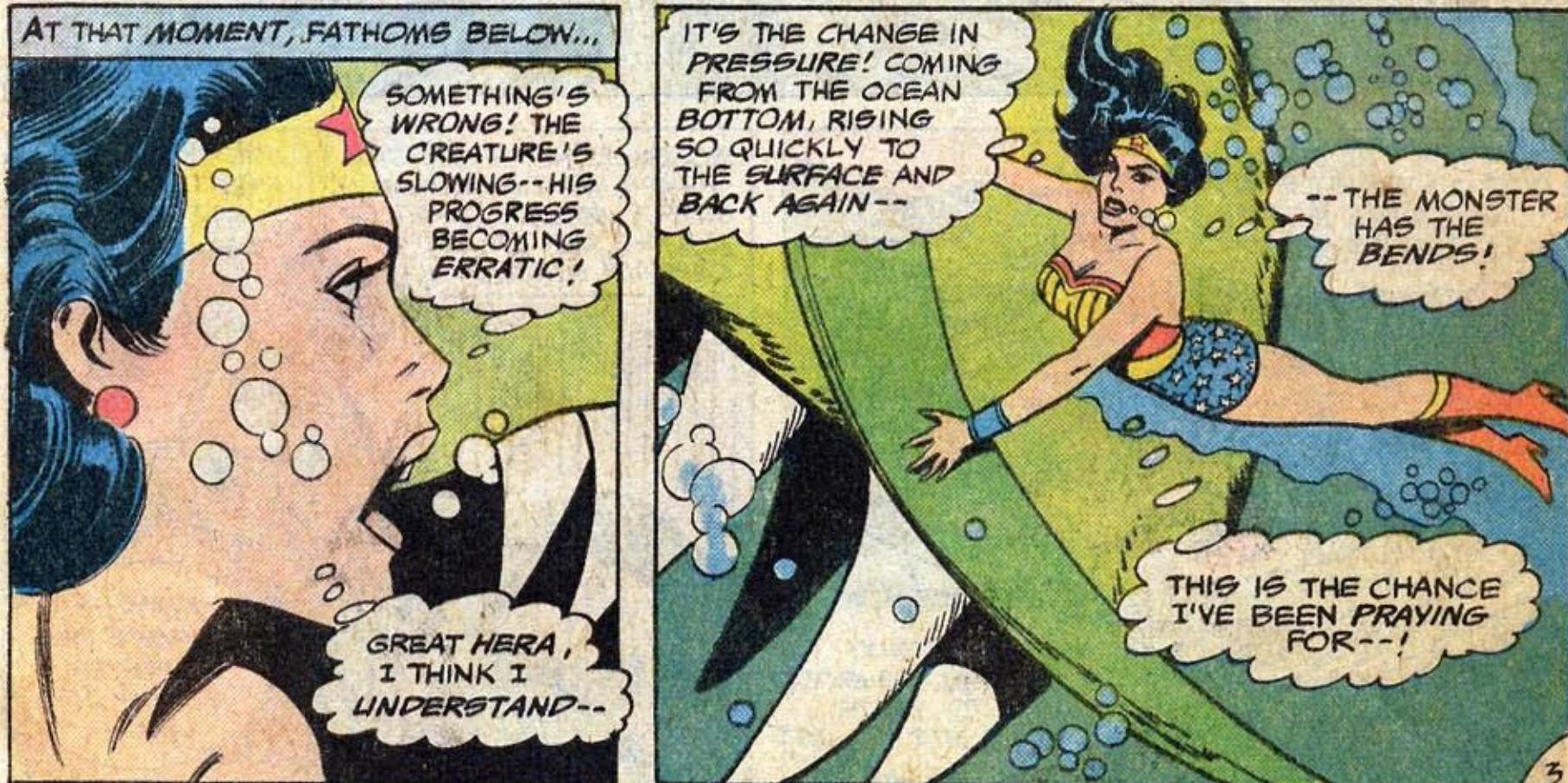
SOMETHING'S WRONG! THE CREATURE'S SLOWING -- HIS PROGRESS BECOMING ERRATIC!

GREAT HERA, I THINK I UNDERSTAND --

IT'S THE CHANGE IN PRESSURE! COMING FROM THE OCEAN BOTTOM, RISING SO QUICKLY TO THE SURFACE AND BACK AGAIN --

-- THE MONSTER HAS THE BENDS!

THIS IS THE CHANCE I'VE BEEN PRAYING FOR --!

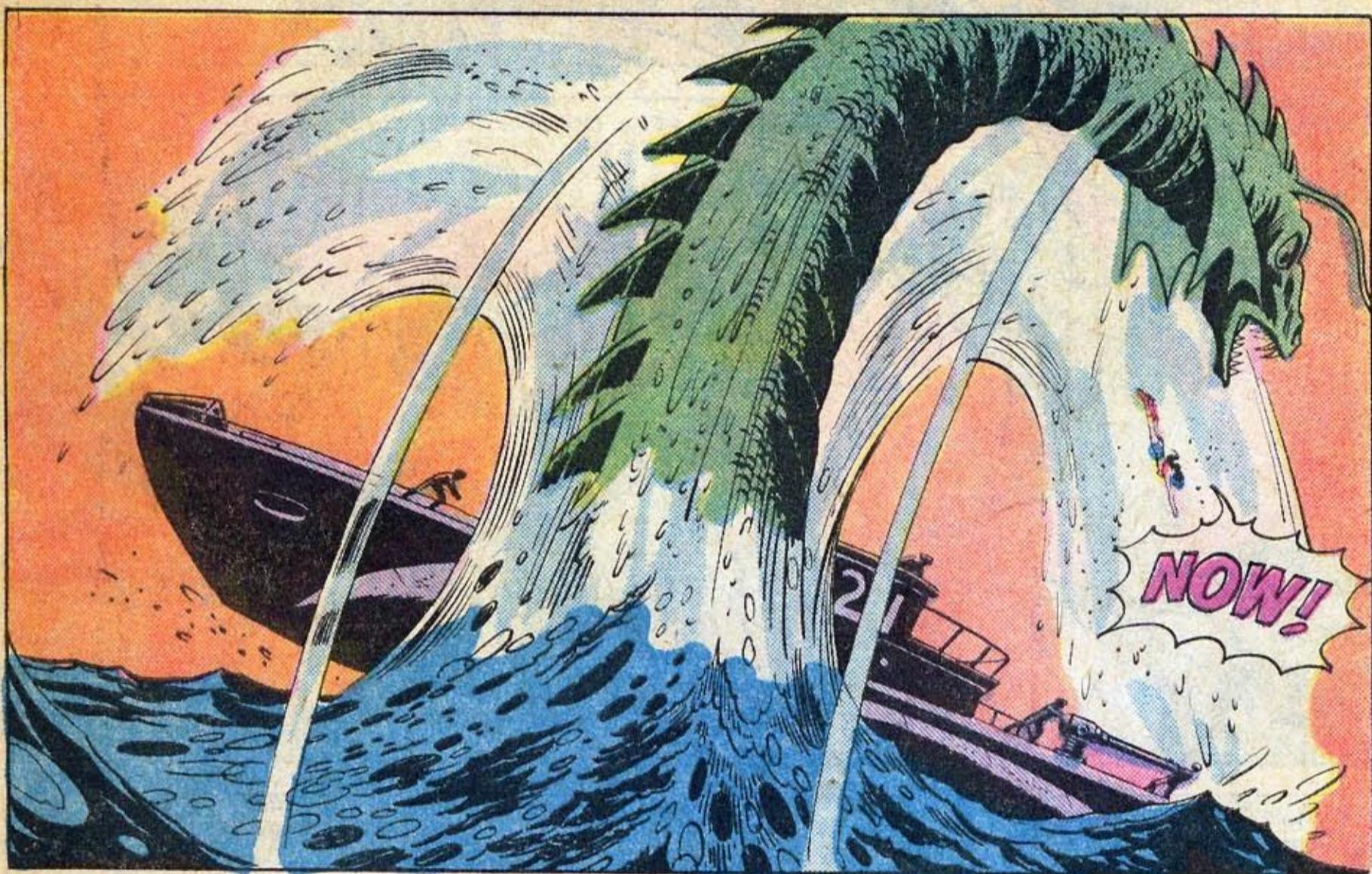


BY HITTING IT
JUST RIGHT, I CAN
CAUSE IT TO ALTER
ITS PATH--

--DIRECTLY
FOR CAPTAIN
STRUNG'S
SUBMARINE!

--HEAD TOWARD
THE SURFACE
IN CONFUSION--

WE'RE GOING
TO STRIKE--



AND NOT ONE SECOND
TOO SOON! EVEN MY
LUNGS WERE GETTING
A LITTLE RAGGED!

HOWEVER, NOT EVERYONE
SHARES WONDER WOMAN'S
JOYFUL MOOD, LEAST OF
ALL THE MAN CALLED
CAPTAIN STRUNG--

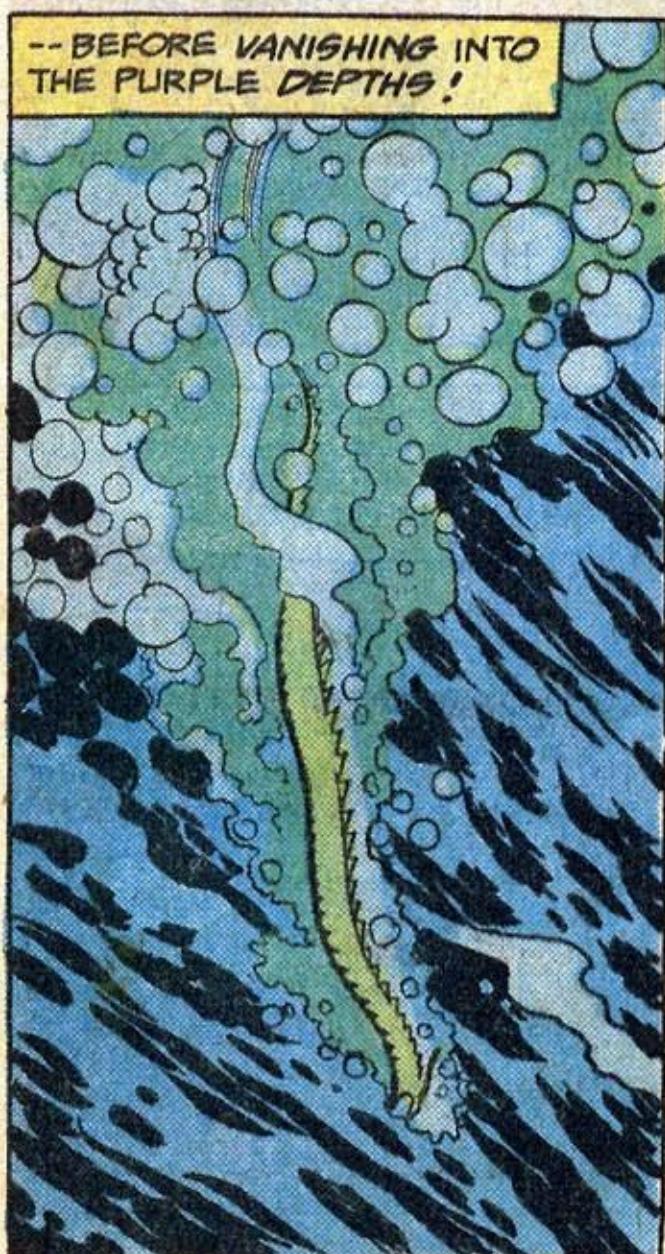
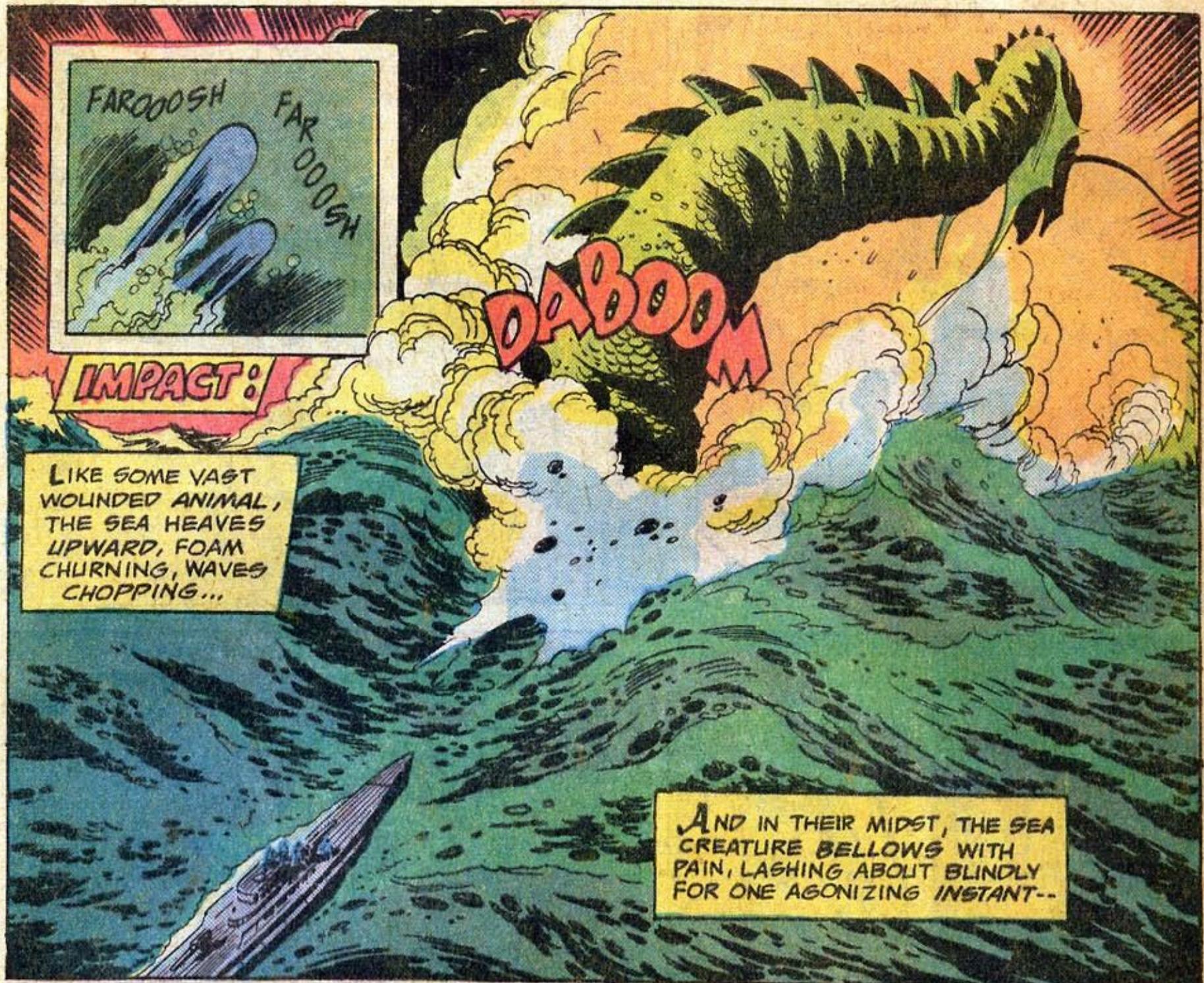


NEVER KNEW IT
COULD FEEL SO GOOD
-- JUST TO TASTE
THE AIR!

THE TORPEDOES!
FIRE TUBES ONE
AND THREE--



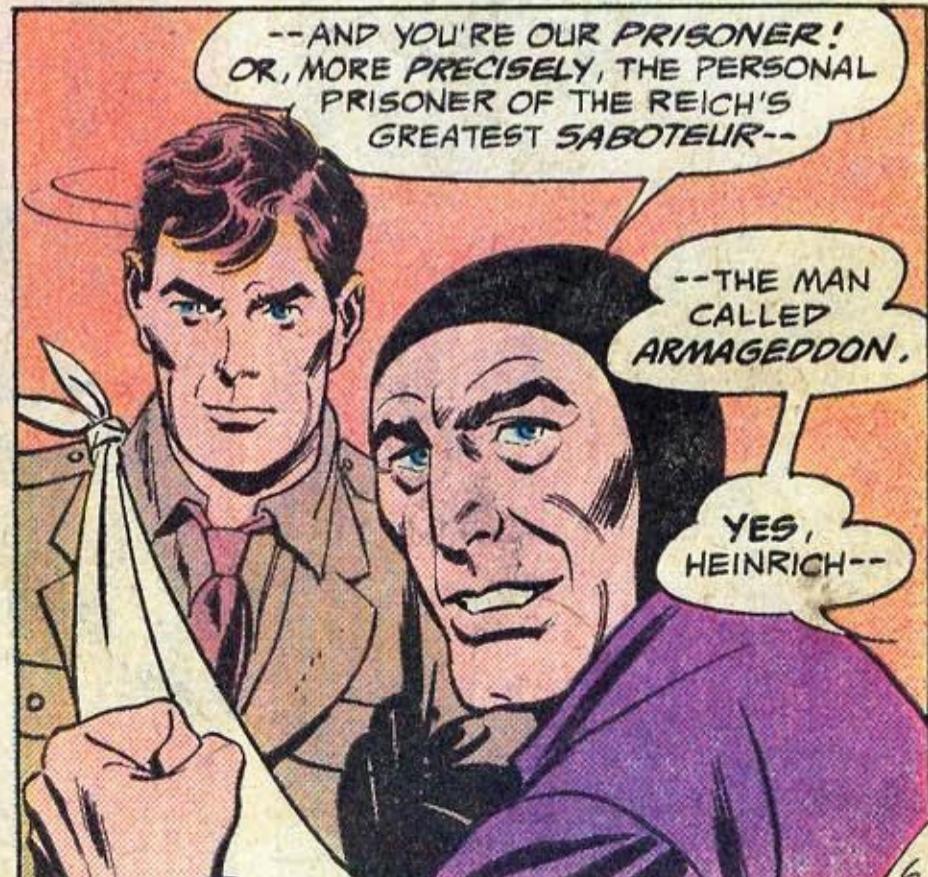
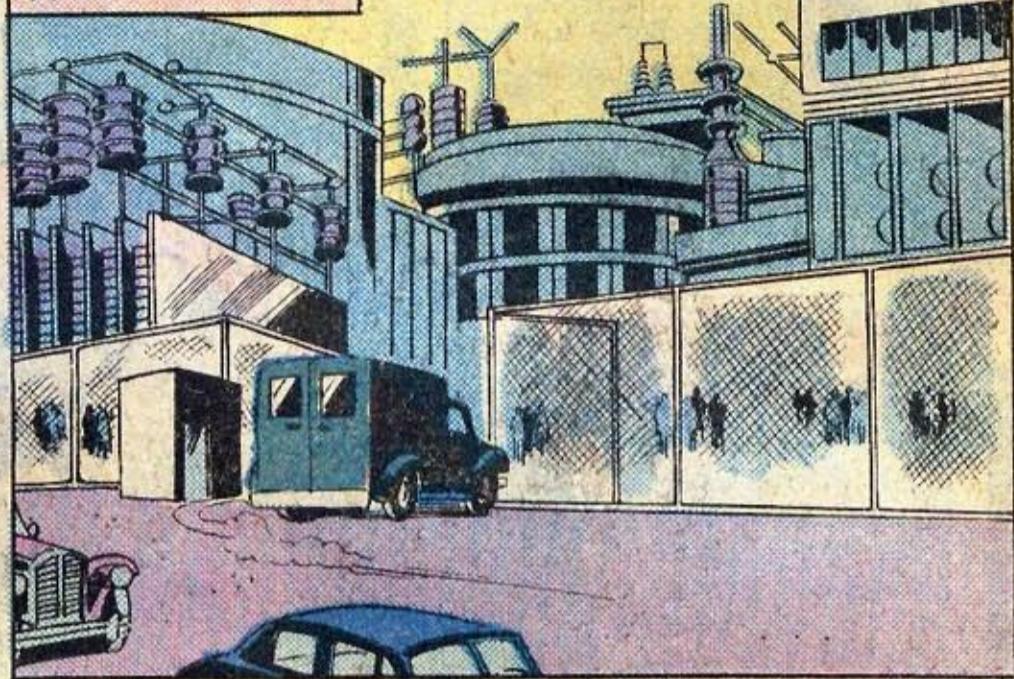
FIRE--
BEFORE THE
MONSTER
KILLS US
ALL!

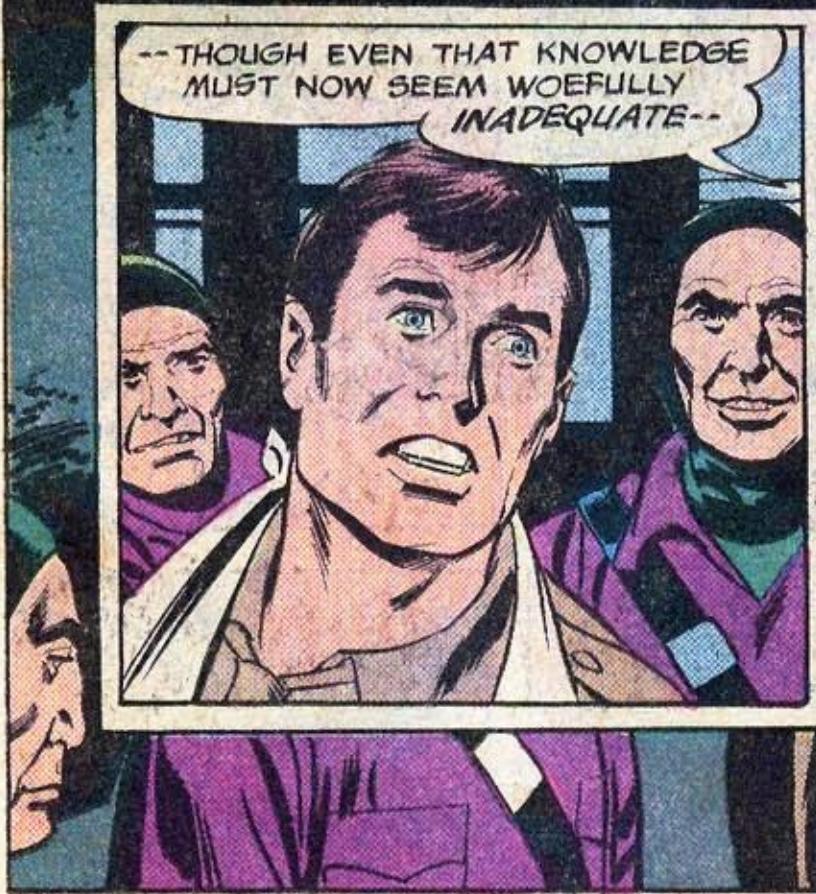


AFTER WE HAVE CLAIMED ONE FINAL GLORY, ONE FINAL -- VICTORY!



THE NOON WHISTLE HAS JUST SHRIEKED IN AN ELECTRICAL POWER PLANT OUTSIDE WASHINGTON D.C., AND THE WORKERS GOING ON A LUNCH-BREAK ARE TOO ENGROSSED IN THEIR BROWN BAGS TO NOTICE A SMALL PANEL TRUCK --





FOR WONDER WOMAN, THE PAST FEW HOURS HAVE BEEN ONES OF NIGHTMARE...

SLOWLY NOW, SHE RISES FROM UNCONSCIOUSNESS, AS A WORRIED MAN NAMED FREIDRICH BENDS OVER HER...

MY BRACELETS!

AH, FRAULEIN! YOU WAKE AT LAST! YOU CANNOT KNOW HOW WORRIED I --

MERCIFUL MINERVA, THEY'VE BEEN CHAINED!

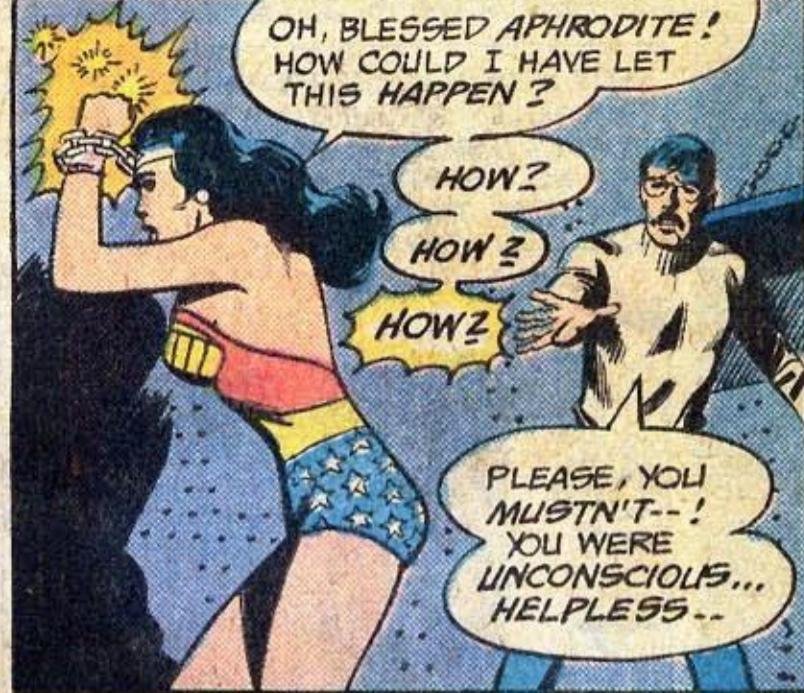


CHAINED BY A MAN, I LOSE MY AMAZON POWERS--I BECOME HELPLESS... SUBSERVIENT! PLUTO TAKE THE FIEND WHO--

YOU! DID YOU DO THIS--?



NO, FRAULEIN! I AM AS MUCH A PRISONER AS YOU--I SWEAR IT!



OH, BLESSED APHRODITE! HOW COULD I HAVE LET THIS HAPPEN?

PLEASE, YOU MUSTN'T--! YOU WERE UNCONSCIOUS... HELPLESS--

IF ANYONE IS TO BE CURSED FOR HIS FATE-- IT IS I!

YOU WERE UNAWARE WHEN THESE SCUM BOUND YOU... BUT I HAVE BECOME THEIR SLAVE WILLINGLY...

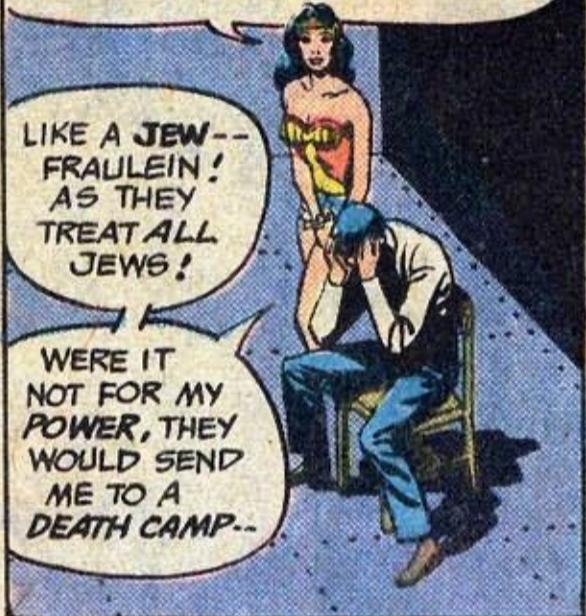
MAY GOD FORGIVE ME... I HAVE BEEN WEAK!



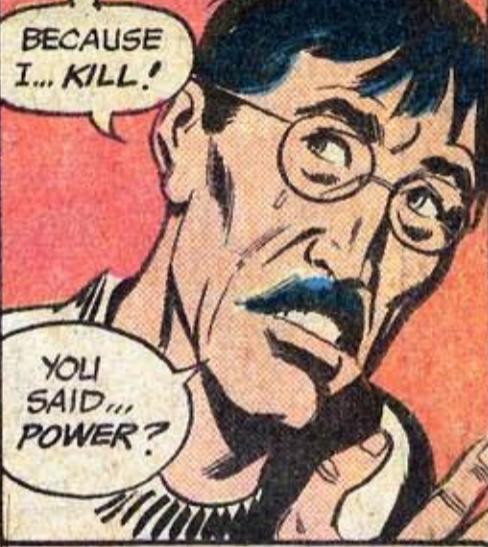
YOU... I'VE SEEN YOU IN THE CREW... BUT I'VE ALSO SEEN HOW THEY TREAT YOU... LIKE--

LIKE A JEW-- FRAULEIN! AS THEY TREAT ALL JEWS!

WERE IT NOT FOR MY POWER, THEY WOULD SEND ME TO A DEATH CAMP--



INSTEAD, THEY LET ME LIVE! THEY LET MY CHILDREN LIVE! BECAUSE I SERVE THEM...

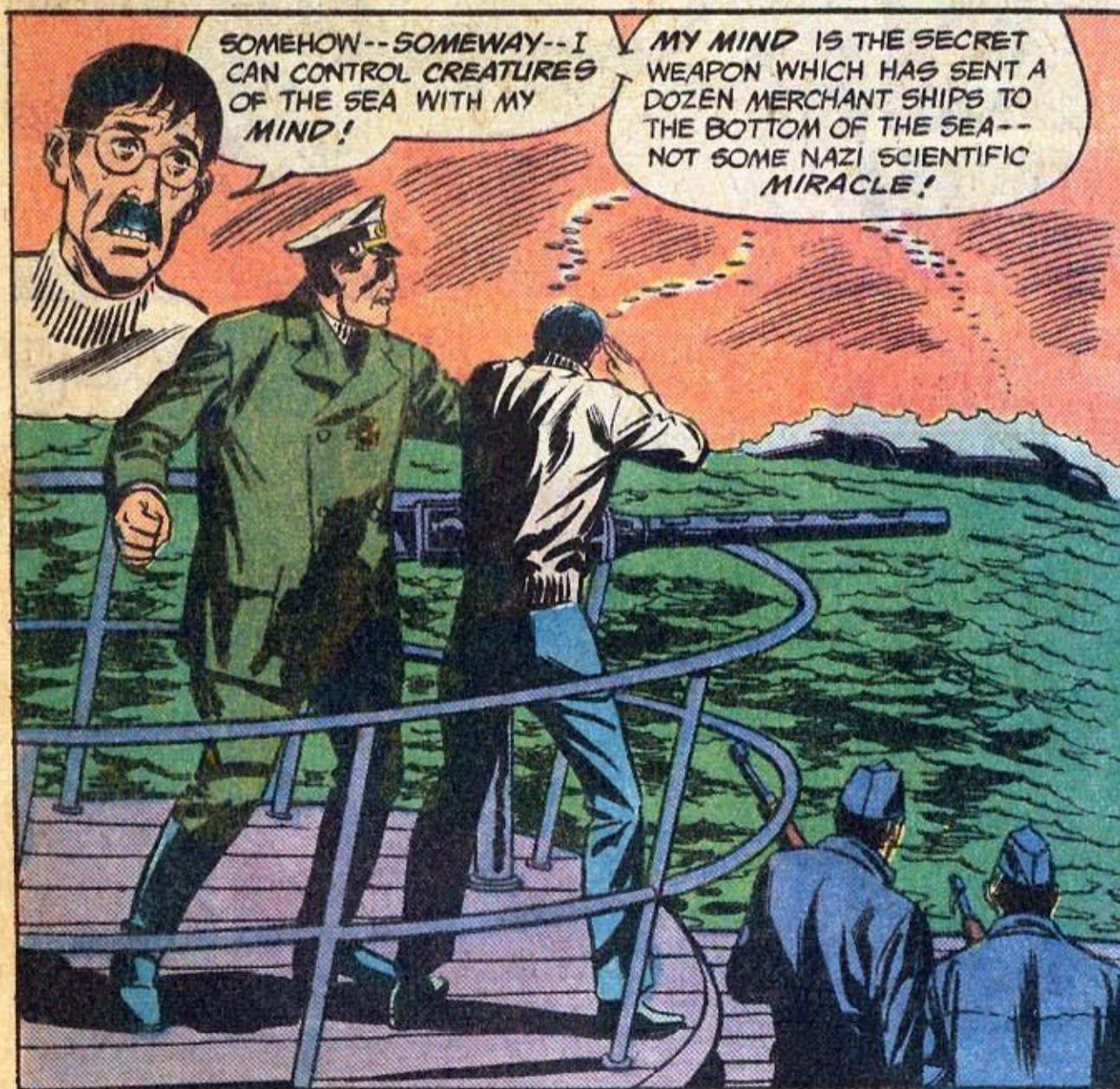


BECUSE I... KILL!

YOU SAID... POWER?

SOMEHOW--SOMEWAY--I CAN CONTROL CREATURES OF THE SEA WITH MY MIND!

MY MIND IS THE SECRET WEAPON WHICH HAS SENT A DOZEN MERCHANT SHIPS TO THE BOTTOM OF THE SEA-- NOT SOME NAZI SCIENTIFIC MIRACLE!



--BECAUSE I AM WEAK
--AND WILL NOT SEE
MY CHILDREN DIE.

AS SILENT AS A BARRACUDA,
U-BOAT 211 DRIVES EAST
THROUGH THE TWILIT NORTH
ATLANTIC, UNABLE TO DIVE--

THOUGH SHE WANTS
DESPERATELY TO COMFORT
THIS TORMENTED MAN,
WONDER WOMAN FINDS
HIS GRIEF OVER-
WHELMING--

--AND DISCOVERS
SHE CANNOT
SPEAK-- BUT CAN
ONLY WATCH
HIM CRY!

--BUT MORE THAN CAPABLE OF ATTACK!

KAPITAN, SONAR INDICATES
A MERCHANT CONVOY LESS
THAN THREE MILES FROM
HERE--NORTH BY NORTHEAST!

SO WE SHALL HAVE
OUR LITTLE VICTORY
AFTER ALL...EH,
OTTOMUN?

YOU--GET
FREIDRICH
AND THE
AMAZON.
THE FRAULEIN MAY FIND THIS
DEMONSTRATION OF NAZI FORCE...
ENLIGHTENING!

PERHAPS IT WILL
TEACH HER RESPECT
...OR BETTER,
FEAR!

HERE, THE NIGHT WIND IS COOL, BUT THE
CHILL WHICH THE AMAZON FEELS IS MORE
THE COLD RAGE OF ANGER THAN THE
RESULT OF AN EVENING BREEZE...

WATCH CLOSELY,
AND YOU SHALL
LEARN WHY WE
GERMANS SEEK
POWER...WHY I
SEEK POWER...

BEFORE HITLER'S NEW
ORDER, I WAS LITTLE
MORE THAN MY FAT
EMPLOYER'S SLAVE!

HE GAVE ME
NOTHING...AND WHILE
HE GORGED, I
STARVED!

THE NAZI PARTY CHANGED
ALL THAT! NOW MY EMPLOYER
SCREAMS IN A CONCENTRATION
CAMP--

--AND WILHELM STRUNG
HAS COMMAND OF LIFE--
AND DEATH!

SHARKS,
FREIDRICH.

THIS TIME...
SEND SHARKS!



AS THOUGH JERKED ON THE
END OF A LEASH, THEY STOP,
THESE BEASTS OF THE DEPTHS...

HEEDING HYMAN FREIDRICH'S
CALL--

--WHO JOIN IN A PACK ATTACK
ORDINARILY FOREIGN TO THEIR
SPECIES--



--A MENTAL CRY WHICH, OVER
THE NEXT HOUR, BRINGS A
HUNDRED OF THEIR NUMBER
IN REPLY --

-- AND STRIKE WITH ONE PURPOSE --



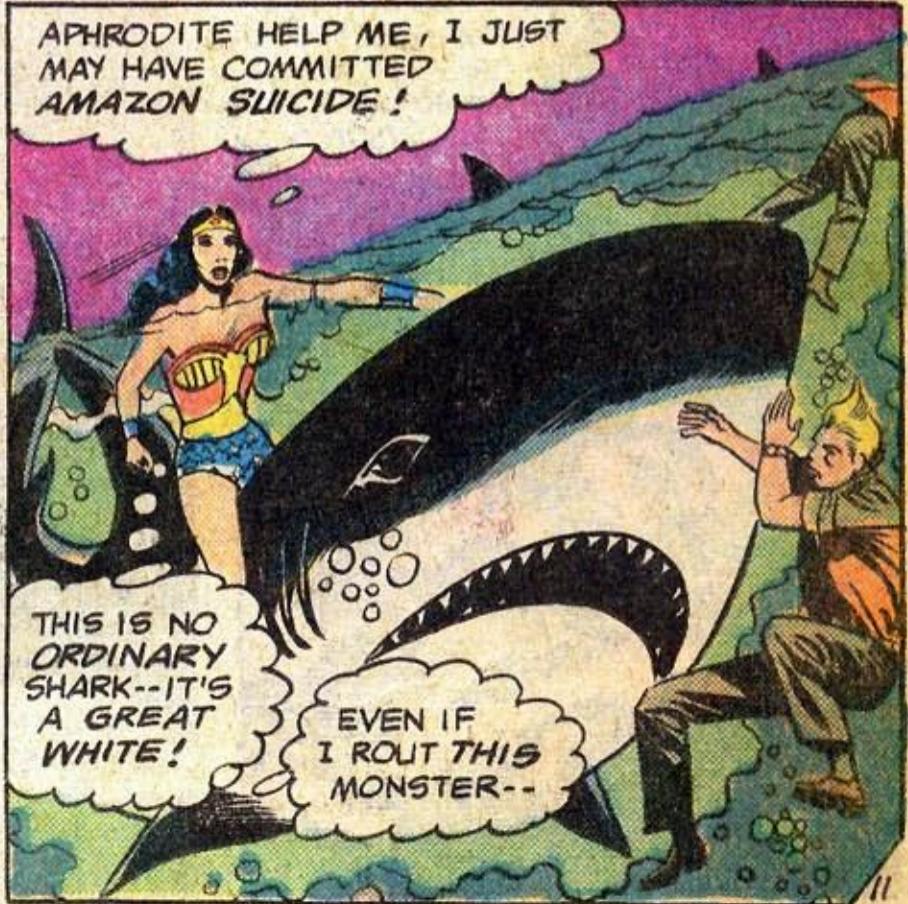
--AND ONE
RESULT!

IN THE NAME
OF ATHENA, NO!

I CAN'T LET YOU
DO IT--I CAN'T
LET THOSE MEN
BE KILLED!

MADWOMAN,
YOU ARE
CHAINED! YOU
HAVE NO--

YUUUHHH!





HOW MANY HOURS HE'S LAIN HERE, IN THE DARKNESS AND THE STENCH, STEVE TREVOR DOES NOT KNOW...

HIS BODY ACHES FROM A BRUTAL BEATING, HIS MOUTH IS CRUSTED FROM HEAT AND HUNGER...

HIS MIND SPINS WITH FEVER...

...AND HE HAS LITERALLY BEEN PUSHED TO THE LIMITS OF HIS ENDURANCE...

WHEN THE HEAVY METAL DOOR CREAKS OPEN, AND THE SABOTEUR BECKONS FOR STEVE TO STAND FOR ANOTHER ROUND OF "INTERROGATION" --

--SOMETHING INSIDE STEVE TREVOR SNAPS!

HE DOES NOT THINK AS THE MAN'S HANDS GRIP HIM ROUGHLY AND HAUL HIM UPRIGHT--

--HE ONLY REACTS.

A RUSTED TOOLBOX LYING IGNORED IN A CORNER: IT'S A CRUDE WEAPON--

--BUT IT DOES THE JOB!

STEVE FLEES, AND EVEN IN HIS SEMI-CONSCIOUS STATE--

--HE SOMEHOW FINDS AN OPEN DOOR, AND BY THE GRACE OF GOD--

--HE ESCAPES!

THE GRACE OF GOD?

EVEN EMPTY, THAT TOOLBOX HURT!

SACRIFICES HAVE TO BE MADE, HEINRICH--

JUST BE GRATEFUL YOU HAVE SERVED THE FATHERLAND!

YOU HAVE SERVED VERY WELL, INDEED!

MORNING AT
LAND'S END,
BRITAIN, IS
SOMETIMES
A MURKY
AFFAIR,
DIMMED BY A
FADING
MIST ACROSS
THE WATERS,
THE GREY
LIGHT
ABOVE
THE SEA...

TODAY, HOWEVER, THE SUN IS
MELLOW, GREETING THE BRITISH
NAVAL STATION WITH UNUSUAL
CHARM --

-- ALSO GREETING
A SUBMARINE A
MILE OFF SHORE --

--U-BOAT 211-- THE DOMAIN OF
CAPTAIN WILHELM STRUNG:

TODAY THERE WILL BE
NO ERRORS, FREIDRICH--
IS THAT CLEAR?

TOTALLY,
MEIN
KAPITAN!

THEN PROCEED,
FREIDRICH--AND MAY
YOUR JEWISH GOD
PROTECT YOU IF YOU
FAIL ME NOW!

ARE THE FISHES DEPLOYED
ACCORDING TO MY
INSTRUCTIONS?

J-JA!

SLOWLY, THE
ARMY BEGINS
TO MOVE, AND WITHIN
THIRTY
SECONDS--

--THE BATTLE BEGINS!

WHALES, DOLPHINS, SHARKS,
TUNA, CRAYFISH--A THOUSAND
SPECIES, ALL CONCENTRATED
IN ONE SMALL BATTLEFIELD--

COR BLIMEY--
IT'S A BLOODY
INVASION!

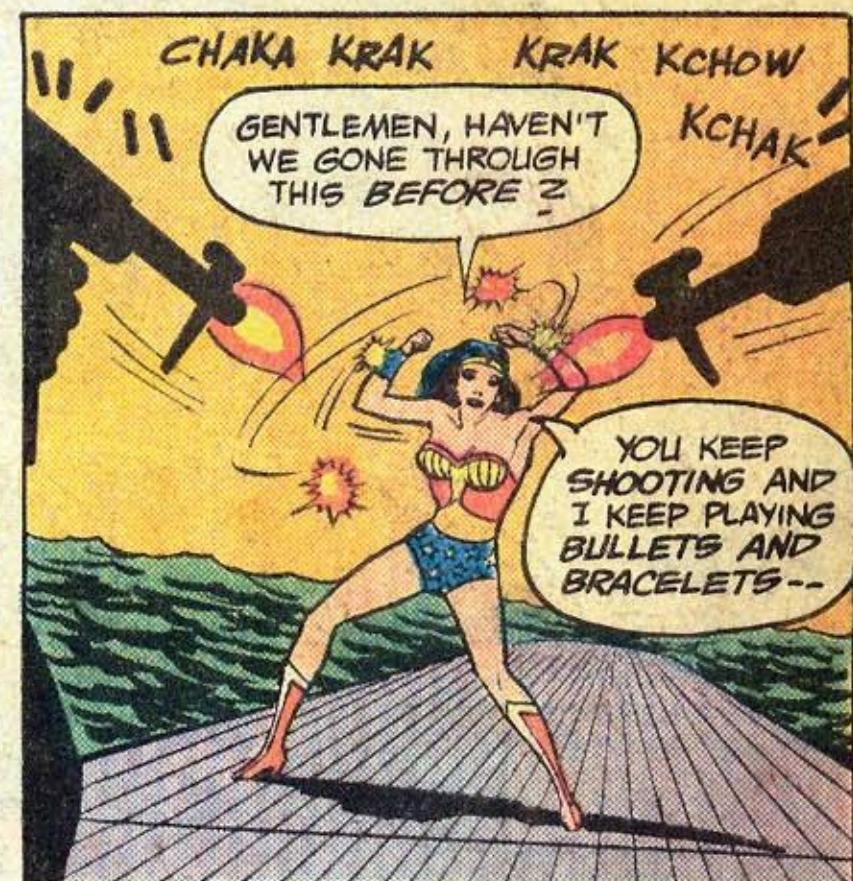
--STRIKING WITH A
FORCE THAT MAY
QUICKLY PROVE
OVERWHELMING!

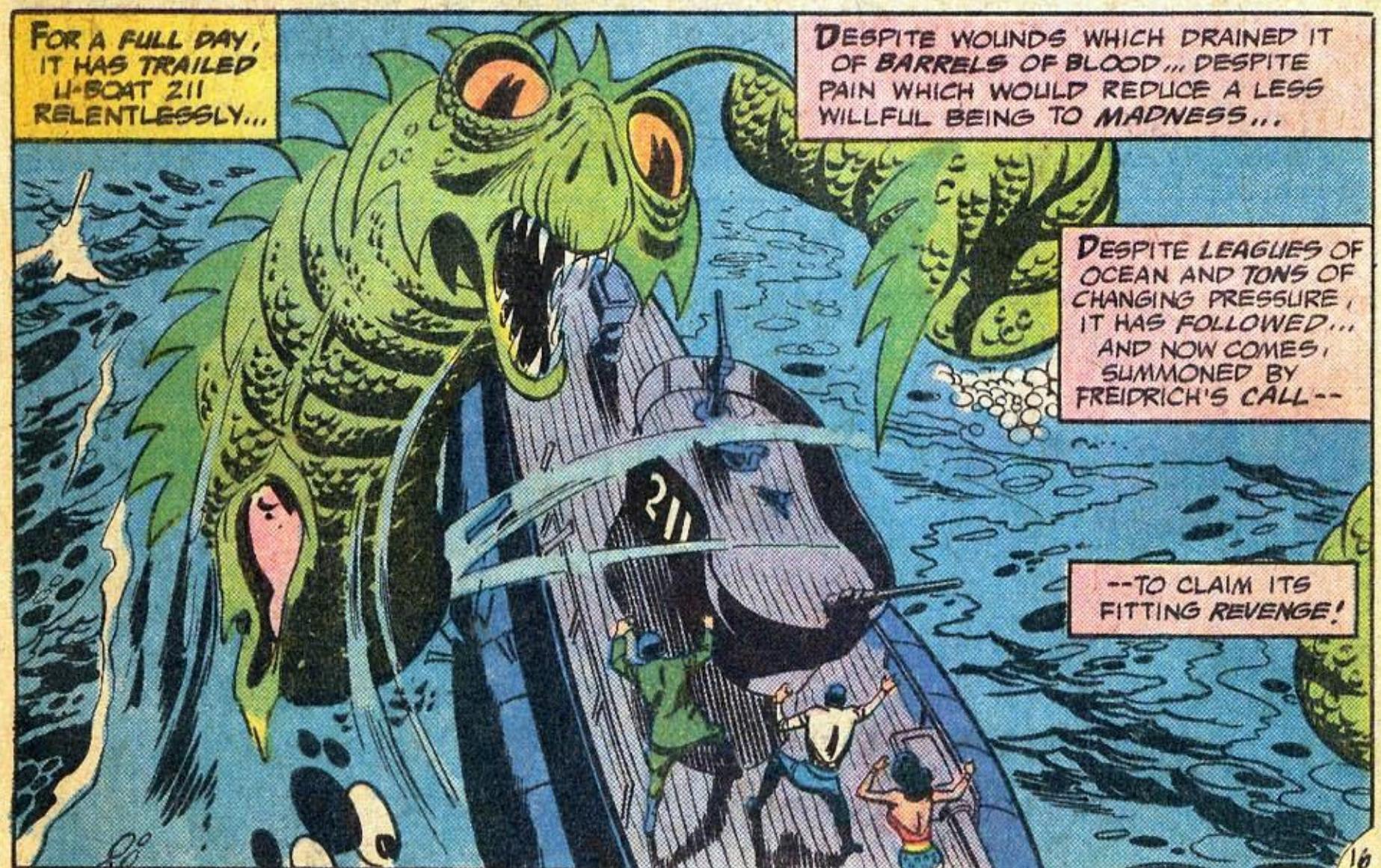
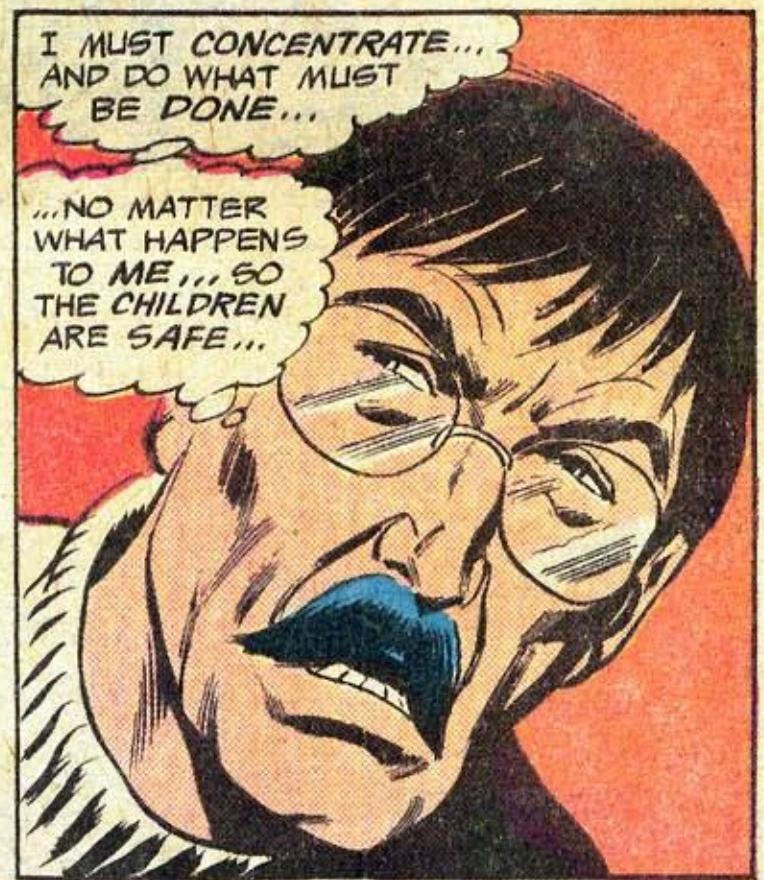
THE FUHRER WILL AWARD ME THE IRON CROSS FOR THIS TRIUMPH, FREIDRICH! NEVER HAS THE REICH KNOWN SUCH VICTORY--

ONE U-BOAT CHALLENGING A THIRD OF THE VAULTED ROYAL NAVY-- SMASHING IT BEYOND SALVAGE!



IF THE RICH PIG WHO SCORNED ME COULD SEE THIS -- IF HE COULD FULLY COMPREHEND THE GLORY I HAVE...





DRIVEN BY AGONY, THE
CREATURE DESCENDS--

--SWEEPING THE
DECK CLEAN OF
LIFE, BARELY
MISSING A
DIVING AMAZON--

--AND FINALLY RETURNING TO
THE BLACK DEPTHS TO DIE--

AND
TWENTY
MINUTES
AFTER THE
SEA HAS
REGAINED
ITS CALM...

OUR FATHER IS
DEAD, JA? LIKE
MOTHER?

YES, HORST. AND
THOUGH HE WAS
A WEAK MAN,
HE WASN'T AN
EVIL MAN --

--CARRYING
ITS ENEMIES
WITH IT--

--AND AS
HE DIES,
A WEARY
SMILE
PLAYS ON
FREIDRICH'S
LIPS...

--AND I THINK,
IN THE END, HE
DIED A MAN
OF COURAGE!

IT'S TOO
EASY TO
JUDGE A
HUMAN BY
RIGID
CODES OF
RIGHT...
AND
WRONG!

EASY...
AND
USELESS.

FOR, AT THE
LAST, A MAN
IS HIS OWN
JUDGE. AND
FOR A WEAK
MAN WITH A
WILL FOR
GOOD--

--HIS OWN
JUDGEMENT
MAY BE THE
HARSHEST
OF ALL!

NEXT ISSUE:
TWENTY-FOUR
HOURS OF TERROR,
WHEN AN UNWITTING
STEVE TREVOR BECOMES--

"The
BIOLOGY BOMB!"

NEXT ISSUE ON SALE DURING THE LAST WEEK IN JUNE



Wonder Words

L-727

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

Dear Friends,

WONDER WOMAN #230 ["Claws of the Cheetah"] was a truly ultrafantabulous comic! As a fanatic Cheetah fan, I especially enjoyed the story. Although it conflicted with the original tale of Cheetah's capture and her unmasking as Priscilla Rich (WW #6; Fall, 1943), it was a tale needed for a number of reasons.

It was a better look into The Cheetah than has been given since the 1943 publication of Moulton's then-unpublished story "Cheetah's Thought Prisoners". While Cheetah is a villainess, we don't hiss and boo her, as one does Red Panzer. She is . . . a pitiful soul, and the handling of her personality, against the backdrop of the TV-Wonder Woman format, was masterful. The mentioning of Transformation Island, too, was a good return to the days of 1943.

A wonderful job, worthy of Charles Moulton himself. Keep up the fabulous work on WW—and have The Cheetah back soon!

Carl Nicastro
317 North George St.
Pottsville, Pa. 17901

The future of The Cheetah is, for now, known only to story-editor Denny O'Neill and writer Gerry Conway. For now, we'll leave the question of the continuity-conflict you mentioned to be argued among your fellow-readers who are as well-versed on WW-lore as you, Carl. Hey . . . is it possible you got that way thanks to Volume 2 of THE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF COMIC BOOK HEROES—which is entirely devoted to a detailed chronicling of WONDER WOMAN's life, loves and crime-busting adventures? It's now available in paperback at your booksellers—and while you're there, check out Volume 1, devoted to THE BATMAN! Both books—and the volumes to come—were lovingly researched and written by JONAH HEX scripter Michael L. Fleisher, and we think they're great.

Dear Editor:

No. 230 [represents] everything that is wrong with chronicling of the "traditional" Wonder Woman.

You have The Cheetah hypnotizing Diana Prince into believing she's not Wonder Woman. It's supposedly easy to "cast a spell" because Wonder Woman is not familiar with hypnotism. Come on now! Amazon science makes our Western science look like the Stone Age, what with "Purple Healing Rays" and a plane that in the 1940's was flying over 300 mph. The Amazons had investigated mental phenomena and the mind in general to such a degree that they had developed telepathy to a fine art via "the mental radio". Also, several chroniclers assert that the secret of Wonder Woman's strength is her ability to focus all her mental/brainwave energy into

her muscles. So if the Amazons have that much control over the mind, hypnotism is probably well known to them; in fact, it is almost certain that no Amazon could be hypnotized against her will.

Marian Davis

3869 Sherwood Place
Sherman Oaks, CA 91423

Not necessarily. While Amazon science is advanced, you must remember that theirs is a loving and peaceful culture, whose members have the highest regard for the human rights of others. So if hypnotism is well-known to them, it is only known as a psychoanalytic technique—but certainly not as a manipulative tool used to coerce others into actions against their wills.

• • • •

Dear Editor,

The April (#230) WONDER WOMAN is your very finest issue since the very early Schwartz-edited numbers about three years ago. Never has Diana's old foe The Cheetah been better utilized. This Feline Felon has always had the potential to become one of Wonder Woman's—no, one of DC's finest villains, but until "The Claws of The Cheetah!", that potential had never been explored. Thanks to author Marty Pasko, we now see Priscilla Rich for the tormented creature she is—a woman with two personalities, each fighting for control of her body. Those scenes of the unfortunate Priscilla arguing with her evil alter-ego in the mirror were classic; finely-wrought character-studies which sent chills down my spine.

Naturally, The Cheetah had to win out, or we wouldn't have had much of a story. Her schemes were dynamite—giving her such derring-do as claw-darts and claw-pellets was a clever way of tying the villainess in with her feline namesake. Pasko outdid himself on this story!

As did Jose Delbo and Vince Colletta. It was extremely difficult to read on the letters page that Jose will be leaving this book when I had just finished reading one of the most beautifully-illustrated stories I'd ever seen: Was it Mr. Delbo's idea to make all of The Cheetah's word-balloons look like cheetah-spots? It is a fascinating idea, a stroke of genius! It enables readers to know when Priscilla Rich is talking and when it is The Cheetah speaking. Whoever thought of that, step forward and take a bow! In fact, everyone connected with WW #230 take a bow!

Scott Gibson

2711 South Pinchurst
Evergreen, CO 80439

You may be interested to know that issue 230 was done pencils-first, drawn from Marty's breakdowns. Marty dialogued the story after it was drawn. The speech-effect was designed by Marty and masterfully executed by crack letterer and cartoonist John Workman.

THE GREAT SUPERMAN
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VOLUME 77 ISSUE 22

WEEK OF MAY 30, 1977

BOB ROZAKIS: EDITOR

ANTHONY TOLLIN: PRODUCTION

BATMAN MURDERED!!

VILLAINS MEET TO DECIDE WHO DID IT

(Gotham City)—*The Batman* is dead, the murder victim of one of his deadly foes—but the question is: Who did it?

The problem is not that no one will admit it. On the contrary, there are more than enough super-foes ready to take credit for the crime... so a judge and jury are collected to determine the guilt or innocence. (His honor is Ra's al Ghul; the jury is made up of 12 of Batman's deadliest enemies!) And the first one to give her testimony is *The Catwoman*!

You won't want to miss this strangest Bat-adventure of all when the curtain goes up on "Where Were You on the Night Batman Was Killed?" by David V. Reed, John Calnan and Tex Blaisdell. It's in BATMAN #291, on sale the week of June 6th.

CAPTAIN MARVEL BATTLES RAINBOW SQUAD

(Columbus, Ohio)—Captain Marvel faces his deadliest challenge when he comes up against the Rainbow Squad, six fabulous females, each with a power similar to one of Cap's own! Can the Big Red Cheese stop them—and who is the mysterious Mr. Wonderful who sends them on their crime campaign? You'll find the answers in "The Rainbow Squad" by E. Nelson Bridwell, Kurt Schaffenberger and Vince Colletta in SHAZAM #31.

And also in that same issue, which goes on sale the week of June 6th, you'll see the startling return to action of *Minute Man*, a hero who has not seen battle since 1944! It's a nostalgic treat you won't want to miss!



DIRECT CURRENTS

ON SALE WEEK OF JUNE 6th
THE FLASH #253—The Scarlet Speedster finds out that you "Don't Mess With the Molder" in this Cary Bates/Irv Novick/Frank McLaughlin Collaboration.

JUSTICE LEAGUE #146—A new member joins the JLA and *Red Tornado* turns up alive... or does he? Read "Inner Mission" by Steve Englehart, Dick Dillin and Frank McLaughlin.

KARATE KID #10—It's back to the future for KK and a "Death Duel on Orando" by Barry Jameson, Ric Estrada and Jack Abel. The Legion of Super-Heroes guests stars.

SUPERMAN #315—Meet Les Vegas, the man who says "Good Evening, Superman—I'm Clark Kent... and You're Not" in this Marty Pasko/Curt Swan/Dan Adkins super-story.

WEIRD WAR TALES #55—Arnold Drake and Bill Draut unleash "The Abominable Weapon" and then "A Rebel Shall Rise From the Grave!" *WELCOME BACK, KOTTER* #6—The Kotters get a strange baby-sitting job and the Sweathogs get a mascot in the form of "Petunia—The Elephant Who Joined the Sweathogs" by Bob Toomey, Ric Estrada and Bill Draut.

ASK THE ANSWER MAN

Q: How does *Superman* fly? Is it because the gravity on his native planet Krypton was so much greater than Earth's?—Jonathan Saxton. A: Yes, but since you already knew the answer, why ask me?

Q: Are Omac, Sandman or Mister Miracle ever going to reappear?—Anthony Pignataro. A: Omac resurfaced in *KAMANDI* #50, Mister Miracle returns in his own magazine later this month, and as for Sandman, well, you never can tell...

Q: Can you name some of the supervillains the JLA has fought?—J. DeBisceglie. A: Sure, Starro the Conqueror, Felix Faust, Dr. Light, the Royal Flush Gang, Amazo, Shaggy Man, The Joker, the Injustice Gang, Kanjar Ro, etc. etc. etc.

Q: When can I sell my comics for the highest prices?—Pat Hagan. A: When the person willing to pay the highest prices is ready to buy!

Got a question for the Answer Man? Send it to Bob Rozakis, DC COMICS, 75 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, NY 10019.

AND ON SALE RIGHT NOW:
ACTION COMICS #474/*DETECTIVE COMICS* #471/*GHOSTS* #56/*GREEN LANTERN* #96/*JONAH HEX* #4/*SECRET SOCIETY OF SUPER-VILLAINS* #9/*SHOWCASE* #94 (starring the new *Doom Patrol*)/*WONDER WOMAN* #234