DEATH WEARS 1,000 DIFFERENT HATS WHEN THE MAD HATTER STRIKES!

35¢

NO. 297
MAR.
30430

BAT MAN

APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY

CREATED BY BOB KANE
ORPHANED AS A CHILD WHEN HIS PARENTS WERE KILLED BEFORE HIS EYES, BRUCE WAYNE TRAINED HIMSELF TO WAGE RELENTLESS WAR AGAINST CRIME AS THE DREAD AVENGER OF THE NIGHT...
THE BATMAN
ONCE A CROOK, ALWAYS A CROOK--! -- RIGHT? WELL -- YES AND NO -- AND HERE'S THE WILD AND WOOLY SAGA OF A WOULD-BE EX-CROOK TO PROVE IT BOTH WAYS! BUT EITHER WAY, IT MAKES FOR A FAST-PACED, FASCINATING AND FEROCIOUS STORY WHEN...
"The MAD HATTER GOES STRAIGHT!"
STOP, MAD HATTER-- IN THE NAME OF THE LAW!
I AM THE LAW, BATMAN!
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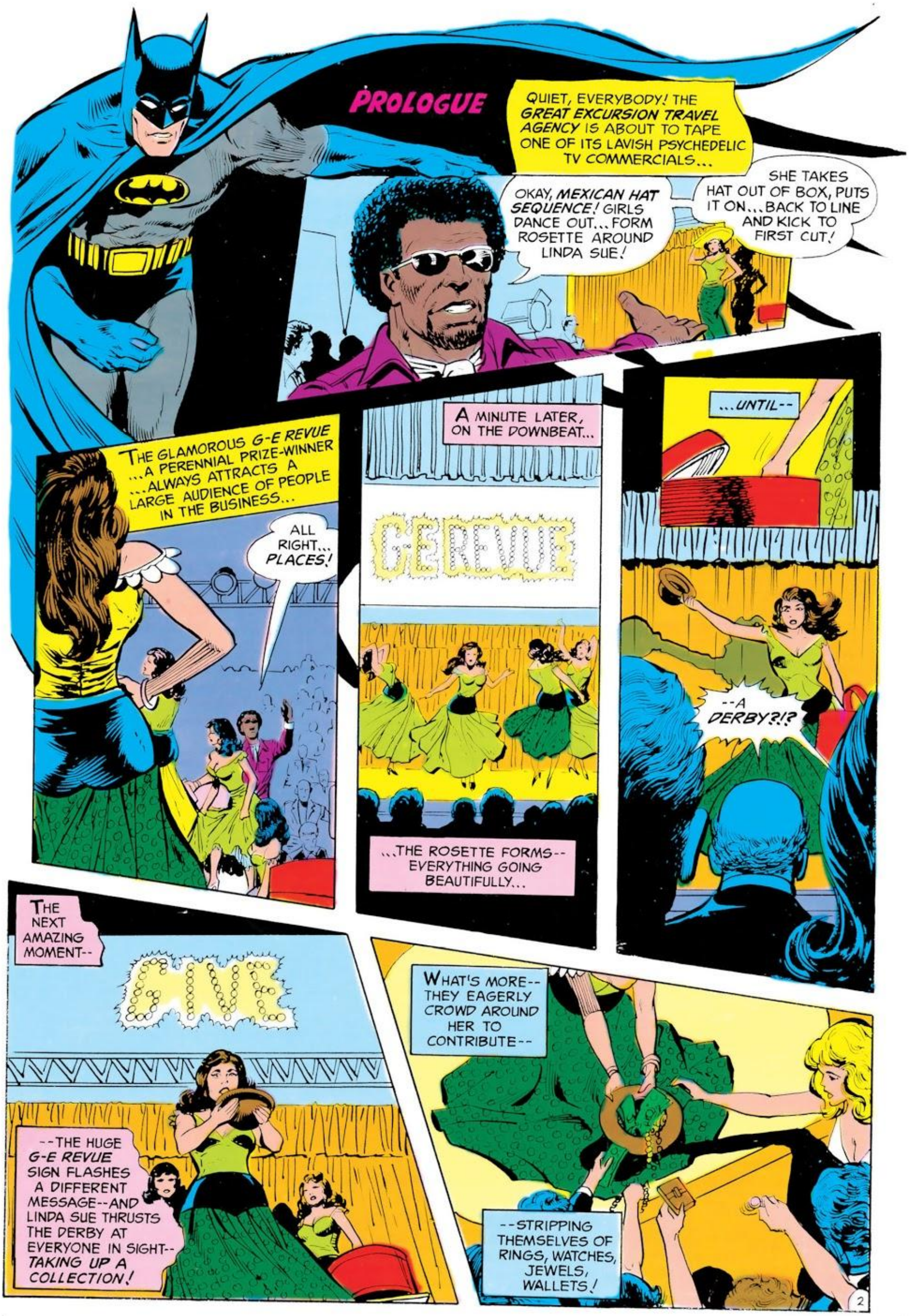
S-2662


PROLOGUE
QUIET, EVERYBODY! THE GREAT EXCURSION TRAVEL AGENCY IS ABOUT TO TAPE ONE OF ITS LAVISH PSYCHEDELIC TV COMMERCIALS...
OKAY, MEXICAN HAT SEQUENCE! GIRLS DANCE OUT... FORM ROSETTE AROUND LINDA SUE!
SHE TAKES HAT OUT OF BOX, PUTS IT ON... BACK TO LINE AND KICK TO FIRST CUT!
THE GLAMOROUS G-E REVUE ...A PERENNIAL PRIZE-WINNER ...ALWAYS ATTRACTS A LARGE AUDIENCE OF PEOPLE IN THE BUSINESS...
ALL RIGHT... PLACES!
A MINUTE LATER, ON THE DOWNBEAT...
G-E REVUE
...THE ROSETTE FORMS-- EVERYTHING GOING BEAUTIFULLY...
...UNTIL--
--A DERBY?!?
THE NEXT AMAZING MOMENT--
G-E REVUE
--THE HUGE G-E REVUE SIGN FLASHES A DIFFERENT MESSAGE--AND LINDA SUE THRUSTS THE DERBY AT EVERYONE IN SIGHT-- TAKING UP A COLLECTION!
WHAT'S MORE-- THEY EAGERLY CROWD AROUND HER TO CONTRIBUTE--
--STRIPPING THEMSELVES OF RINGS, WATCHES, JEWELS, WALLETS!

SHE THEN GOES TO THE DOOR--

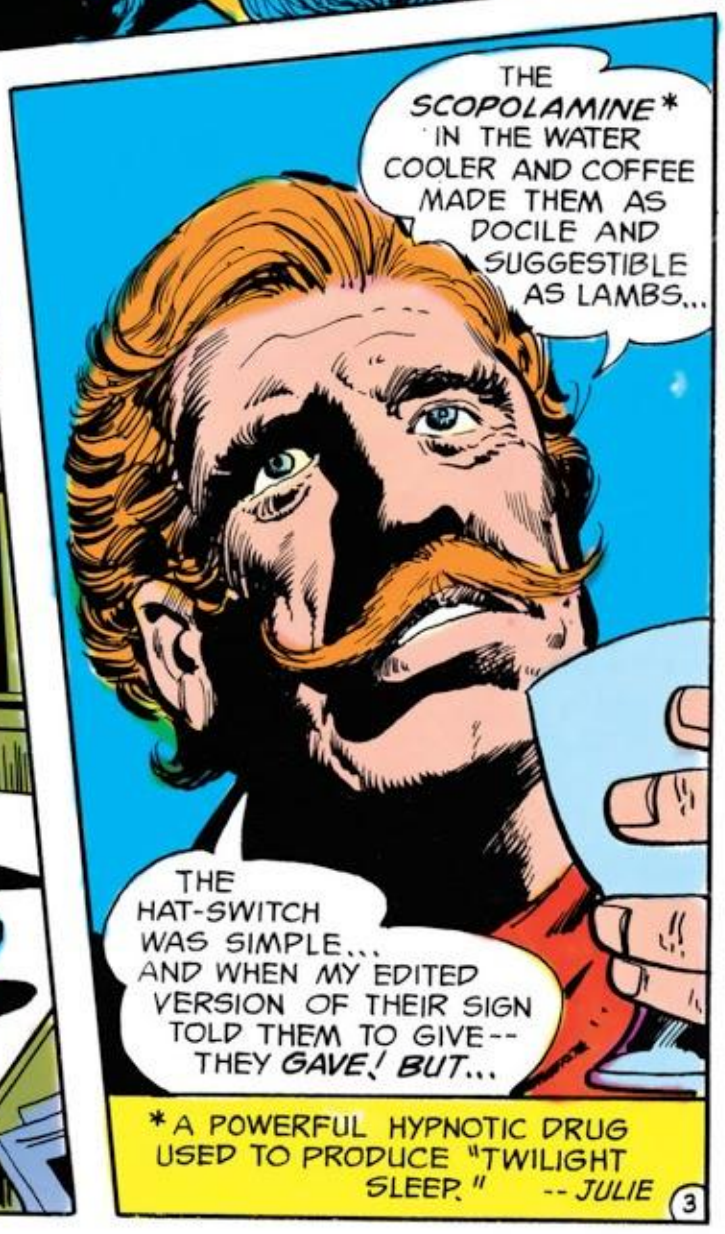
-- WHICH OPENS TO REVEAL--
-- THE MAD HATTER-- JERVIS TETCH-- A MALICIOUS ZANY WITH A FLAIR FOR STYLE--AND A GREAT HUNGER FOR OTHER PEOPLE'S PROPERTY!

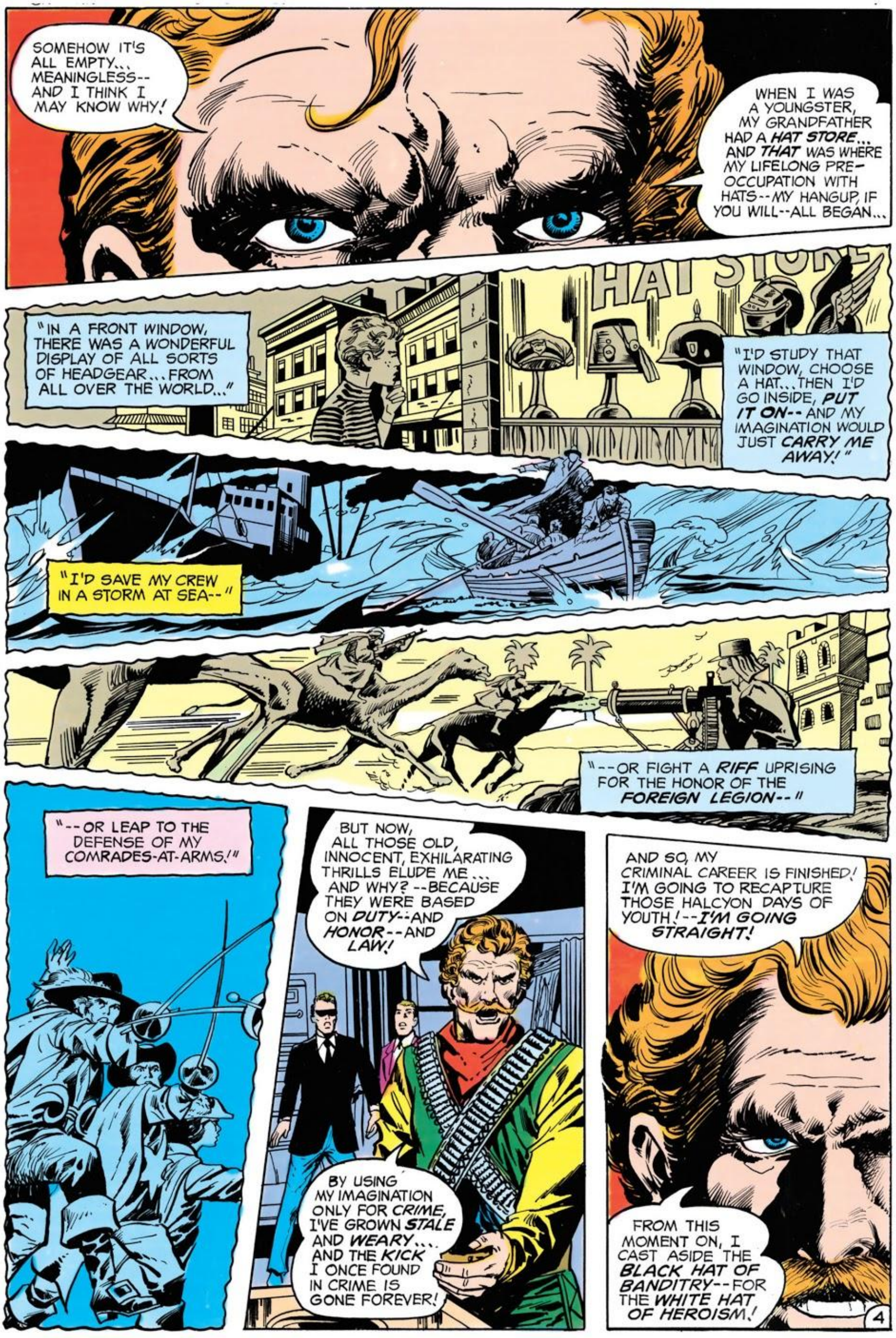
WITH THE NET RESULT--AND A NICE NET IT IS...
MUCHAS GRACIAS!

THEN THE DOOR SLAMS SHUT-- AND IT'S OVER!
EXIT
GAB TV
IT WILL BE SOME HOURS BEFORE THEY BEGIN TO UNDERSTAND WHAT HAS HAPPENED...

BUT, SOON AFTER-- IN THE ABANDONED AND BOARDED-UP RESTAURANT WHERE THE MAD-HATTER AND HIS HAT-BAND HAVE MADE THEIR H.Q.-- AN ALTOGETHER DIFFERENT MYSTERY IS MANIFESTING ITSELF...
WHAT'S WRONG, HATTER? WHY THE GLOOM?

EVERYTHING WORKED FINE-- AND YOU MADE A BUNDLE!
YES... I SHOULD BE PROUD, JUBILANT!


THE SCOPOLAMINE* IN THE WATER COOLER AND COFFEE MADE THEM AS DOCILE AND SUGGESTIBLE AS LAMBS...
THE HAT-SWITCH WAS SIMPLE... AND WHEN MY EDITED VERSION OF THEIR SIGN TOLD THEM TO GIVE-- THEY GAVE! BUT...
*A POWERFUL HYPNOTIC DRUG USED TO PRODUCE "TWILIGHT SLEEP." -- JULIE


SOMEHOW IT'S ALL EMPTY... MEANINGLESS-- AND I THINK I MAY KNOW WHY!
WHEN I WAS A YOUNGSTER, MY GRANDFATHER HAD A HAT STORE... AND THAT WAS WHERE MY LIFELONG PRE-OCCUPATION WITH HATS--MY HANGUP, IF YOU WILL--ALL BEGAN...
"IN A FRONT WINDOW, THERE WAS A WONDERFUL DISPLAY OF ALL SORTS OF HEADGEAR...FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD..."
HAT STORE
"I'D STUDY THAT WINDOW, CHOOSE A HAT...THEN I'D GO INSIDE, PUT IT ON-- AND MY IMAGINATION WOULD JUST CARRY ME AWAY!"
"I'D SAVE MY CREW IN A STORM AT SEA--"
"--OR FIGHT A RIFF UPRISING FOR THE HONOR OF THE FOREIGN LEGION--"
"--OR LEAP TO THE DEFENSE OF MY COMRADES-AT-ARMS!"
BUT NOW, ALL THOSE OLD, INNOCENT, EXHILARATING THRILLS ELUDE ME... AND WHY? --BECAUSE THEY WERE BASED ON DUTY--AND HONOR--AND LAW!
BY USING MY IMAGINATION ONLY FOR CRIME, I'VE GROWN STALE AND WEARY... AND THE KICK I ONCE FOUND IN CRIME IS GONE FOREVER!
AND SO, MY CRIMINAL CAREER IS FINISHED! I'M GOING TO RECAPTURE THOSE HALCYON DAYS OF YOUTH!--I'M GOING STRAIGHT!
FROM THIS MOMENT ON, I CAST ASIDE THE BLACK HAT OF BANDITRY--FOR THE WHITE HAT OF HEROISM!

"The MAD HATTER GOES STRAIGHT!"

CHAPTER ONE

A MOONLIT NIGHT IN *GOTHAM'S* MIDTOWN PARK ...WHERE BRUCE WAYNE--SOCIALITE, TYCOON, AND EMINENTLY ELIGIBLE BACHELOR--IS DEVOTING THE EVENING...

...TO MORE ROMANTIC PURSUITS THAN THOSE WHICH ORDINARILY OCCUPY HIM IN HIS SECRET IDENTITY AS THE FABLED *BATMAN*--

KIM, YOU HAVE SUCH A LOVELY, MYSTERIOUS SMILE ON YOUR FACE! CAN YOU TELL ME WHAT YOU'RE THINKING ABOUT?

THAT'S EASY--*CHINESE FOOD!*

WHAT?! WILL YOU KINDLY EXPLAIN WHY CHINESE FOOD SHOULD BE ON YOUR MIND AT A TIME LIKE THIS?

WHY? BECAUSE WE JUST DROVE PAST A GORGEOUS *GINKO* TREE!

SUDDENLY--

GIMME YOUR NECKLACE!

I'LL TAKE YOUR MONEY!

A MOMENT THAT LASTS AN ETERNITY...

I... I CAN'T SEEM TO FIND IT.

IF THERE WERE ONLY *ONE,* I COULD TAKE HIM AND SOMEHOW PRETEND I GOT *LUCKY!* BUT WITH *TWO*...

...I'D HAVE TO DO AN UNMISTAKABLE JOB... SOMETHING WELL BEYOND BRUCE WAYNE'S PROWESS... SO--

I'LL FIND IT!

WRONG, VARMINT!

HUH?

INCREDULOUSLY, BRUCE WAYNE WATCHES-- AS WITH SKILLED AND SWIFT DISPATCH...
SORRY ABOUT THIS, FOLKS!

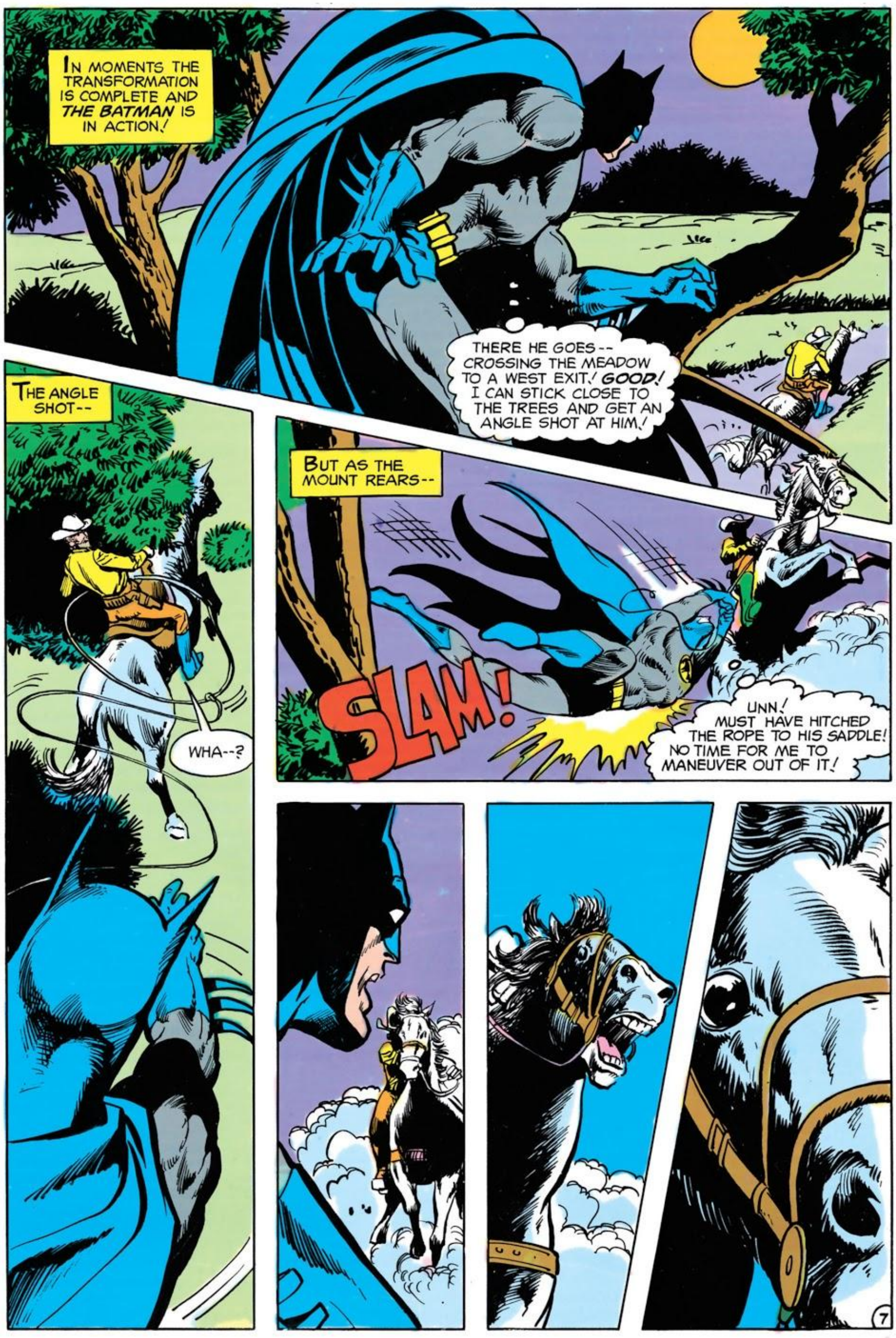
IF YOU'RE FROM OUT OF TOWN...
...I JUST HOPE THIS DOESN'T GIVE YOU A BAD IMPRESSION OF GOTHAM CITY!

AFTER WHICH--
THIS SHOULD KEEP 'EM TILL THE NEXT POLICE PATROL COMES BY!
WHO ARE YOU--?
SHERIFF OF THIS PARK! SHERIFF TETCH IS THE NAME-- AND LAW-AND-ORDER IS MY GAME!

HOW MARVELOUS! I NEVER KNEW GOTHAM CITY HAD A SHERIFF IN THE PARK! ISN'T THERE SOME WAY I CAN REWARD YOU?
WELL, MA'AM, NOW THAT YOU PUT IT THAT WAY... I KNOW GOOD PEARLS WHEN I SEE 'EM--

THANK YOU, MA'AM... MUCH OBLIGED!

AND WITH THAT--
BRUCE! THE SHERIFF JUST ROBBED ME! I THINK I'M LOSING MY MIND!
NO, DEAR-- JUST YOUR PEARLS!
DRIVER, GET OUT AT THE 59TH STREET GATE AND WAIT THERE FOR ME! I'LL CALL THE POLICE ON A PARK PHONE!


IN MOMENTS THE TRANSFORMATION IS COMPLETE AND *THE BATMAN* IS IN ACTION!
THERE HE GOES -- CROSSING THE MEADOW TO A WEST EXIT! *GOOD!* I CAN STICK CLOSE TO THE TREES AND GET AN ANGLE SHOT AT HIM!
THE ANGLE SHOT--
WHA--?
BUT AS THE MOUNT REARS--
SLAM!
UNN! MUST HAVE HITCHED THE ROPE TO HIS SADDLE! NO TIME FOR ME TO MANEUVER OUT OF IT!

ARR--
CLOBBERED ME WITH HIS SHOTGUN! HUH? I HEAR HIM-- RUNNING THROUGH UNDERBRUSH!

HE'S HEADING FOR THE TRANSVERSE!

FIRST TIME I EVER PUNCHED ANYBODY INTO AN ESCAPE!
GO FIGURE IT!
FOR THAT MATTER--GO FIGURE ANY PART OF THIS!
SHORTLY AFTERWARD...
WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN, SIR?...I FLAGGED A POLICE CAR--THEY'RE IN THE PARK LOOKING FOR YOU AND THAT CRAZY SHERIFF FELLER! DID YOU--?
NEVER MIND THAT! WHERE'S THE YOUNG LADY WHO WAS WITH ME?
OH, SHE TOOK A TAXI HOME, SIR...ALL SHOOK UP ABOUT BEING ROBBED--AND THEN YOU RUNNING OFF! SHE SAID TO SAY GOOD NIGHT.
A PERFECT EVENING... IN PERFECT RUINS!
AND YET, STRANGELY ENOUGH--IF NOT MORE THAN ENOUGH--THE BATMAN'S BAFFLEMENT AND GALLING FRUSTRATION ARE AT THIS MOMENT BEING MIRRORED --LITERALLY--
--BY THE VERY PERSON WHO CAUSED THEM --SHERIFF (SO HE SAYS) TETCH!

I BELIEVED IN YOU-- AND YOU LET ME DOWN!
WHY DID I DO IT? HOW COULD I CHANGE FROM GOOD SAMARITAN SHERIFF TO OUTLAW IN ONE MOMENT? I TRIED TO BE A HERO --AND ENDED UP A CROOK!
I DIDN'T EVEN WANT THESE PEARLS... AT LEAST, I DIDN'T THINK I WANTED THEM! I REALLY FELT I WAS A SHERIFF--BREAKING UP THAT ROBBERY FULFILLED ME!
AND IT ALL ENDED WITH ME LUCKY TO BARELY GET AWAY FROM THE BATMAN!
WHAT WENT WRONG? WAS I TOO OPTIMISTIC --EXPECTING AN OVERNIGHT CHANGE, AFTER SPENDING MOST OF MY LIFE AS A CRIMINAL?
MAYBE IT WAS TOO DRASTIC FOR MY FIRST ATTEMPT?
YES... YES... THAT'S IT! I SHOULD HAVE TRIED ANOTHER ROLE ... SOMETHING LESS INTIMATELY INVOLVED WITH THE LAW ITSELF!
HMMMM... LET ME THINK...

CHAPTER TWO:

THE FOLLOWING AFTERNOON ...AT BRUCE WAYNE'S PENTHOUSE HOME--
YOU SEEM VERY TROUBLED, MASTER BRUCE.
YES, ALFRED... I CAN'T BEGIN TO UNDERSTAND WHAT HAPPENED LAST NIGHT. NOT ONLY WAS THE MAD HATTER USING HIS REAL NAME--

--BUT IT SEEMED MORE A SUDDEN IMPULSE THAN A PLANNED CRIME ...UNLESS HE'D STAKED US OUT EARLIER, AND THE TWO MUGGERS HAPPENED ALONG!
I SPOKE TO KIM AN HOUR AGO. THOSE PEARLS ARE A FAMILY HEIRLOOM ...AND I FEEL RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR LOSS!

I HAVE EVERY CONFIDENCE YOU'LL GET THEM BACK, SIR. YOU CAN PRACTICALLY PROMISE AS MUCH TO MISS KIMBERLY!
CAN I? THE HATTER MAY VANISH FROM GOTHAM AS INEXPLICABLY AS HE RETURNED! WHO CAN SAY WHETHER I'LL EVER SEE HIM AGAIN?

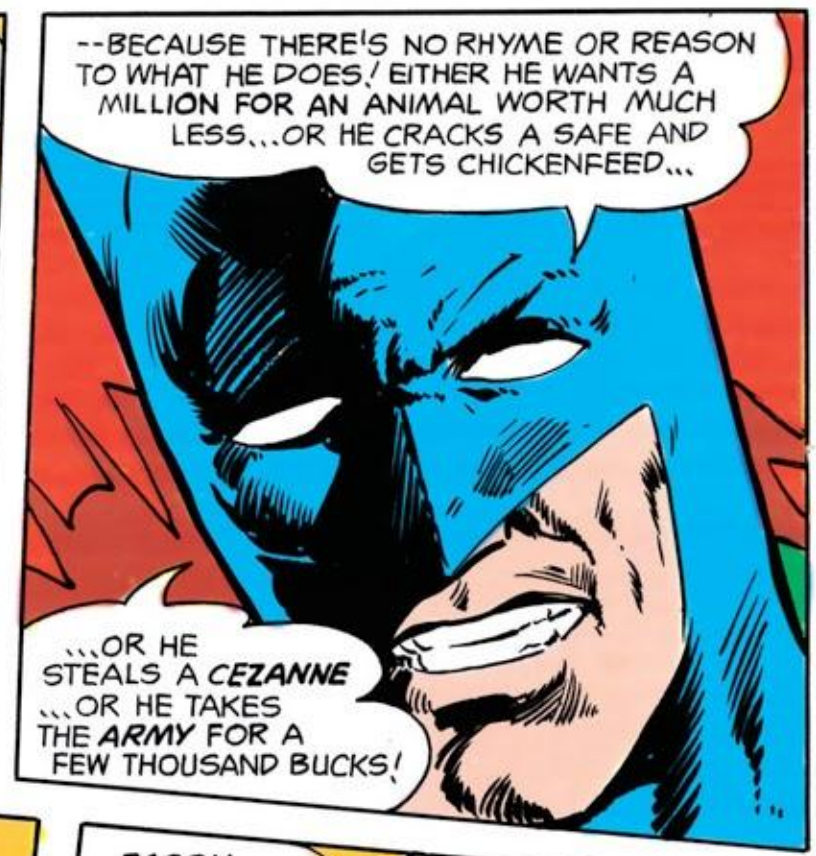
BUT TWO DAYS LATER, AT LEAST PART OF THE ANSWER BECOMES APPARENT--THE MAD HATTER HAS NOT LEFT GOTHAM CITY! ...FAR FROM IT!

IT HAPPENS IN THE EVENING--AS THE S.S. LAS PALMAS DOCKS... WITH AN AFRICAN CARGO THAT INCLUDES COCOA, HIDES, MAHOGANY, AND MOST NOTABLY--A RARE AND PRIZED ACQUISITION FOR THE CITY ZOO--AN AARDVARK!
CAREFUL! EASY AS SHE GOES!
FRAGILE

BUT--DESPITE ALL PRECAUTIONS...
LOOK OUT!
THE AARDVARK'S ESCAPING!
IN MINUTES--THE POLICE WAVEBAND TRANSMITS A MOST UNUSUAL CALL--WHICH IS HEARD BY A MOST UNUSUAL PERSON!
CARS 14, 32, 6! PROCEED TO SOUTH STREET PIER AND RENDER ASSISTANCE! --AN AARDVARK IS LOOSE...THAT'S A-A-R-D-V-A-R-K. GOOD LUCK, BOYS!
LUCK? THEY'RE LUCKY I HEARD THIS! HERE'S MY CHANCE TO GIVE SOME REAL HELP!
FIFTEEN MINUTES LATER... ALONG THE RIVERBANK NEAR THE SOUTH STREET PIER...A SCENE OF TURMOIL AND COMMOTION...
KEEP DIGGING! IT'S DOWN THERE SOMEWHERE!
IT'S NO USE! THAT THING DIGS FASTER THAN WE CAN! WE'LL HAVE TO GET A STEAM SHOVEL!
OKAY, SEND FOR A STEAM SHOVEL!
GET MORE LIGHTS HERE!
CAREFUL, SERGEANT! WHEN THEY CORNERED IT, IT ROLLED OVER ON ITS BACK AND STRUCK WITH ALL FOUR FEET! LOOK AT THESE WOUNDS!
THEN--ALL AT ONCE--A STRANGE AND IMPERIOUS FIGURE APPEARS...
NO--STOP THE DIGGING AT ONCE! AND TURN OFF ALL THE LIGHTS!
WHAT? AND WHO THE DEVIL MIGHT YOU BE?
MAJOR TETCH OF THE RHODESIA ZOO! I WAS ON THAT SHIP!
NOW FOLLOW MY ORDERS AND I'LL GET THAT AARDVARK FOR YOU! UTMOST CAUTION MUST BE EXER-CISED HERE--
--EVEN A MODERATE BLOW ON THE HEAD CAN BE FATAL TO IT!
OKAY, MAJOR, YOU GOT IT! TAKE OVER!
THE "MAJOR'S" ORDERS ARE CARRIED OUT... THE CROWD RECEDES...ALL IS DARK AND QUIET... THE MINUTES PASS...
WHAT'S THAT WOOD YOU PUT AROUND THE BURROW, MAJOR?
OLD DECAYED LUMBER, FULL OF TERMITES--ITS FAVORITE FOOD! THAT'LL BRING IT UP SOON ENOUGH!
ANOTHER BRIEF INTERVAL--AND--PRECISELY AS PREDICTED...
GOT IT!

GREAT WORK, MAJOR! THANKS A MILLION!
NOT AT ALL--
--A MILLION?!?
AND WITH THE "MAJOR" STILL IN COMMAND...
SERGEANT, GET A HEAVY CRATE AND A TRUCK! I'LL WAIT HERE!!
EVERYBODY GET BACK--AND LET'S HAVE ABSOLUTE DARKNESS! THIS IS A NOCTURNAL CREATURE-- LIGHT MAKES IT FEEL ENDANGERED!
BUT WHEN THE SERGEANT RETURNS...
MAJOR-- WHERE ARE YOU? ...MAJOR?
I DON'T GET THIS!
IN SHORT ORDER-- THE ANSWER...
HE STOLE THE AARDVARK!-- WHAT FOR?
HE WAS CLIMBING UP THOSE ROCKS... TO THE ROAD... WITH THE ANIMAL IN THE NET... OVER HIS BACK! I STARTED TO SAY SOMETHING--AND HE SLUGGED ME!
THE NEXT MORNING-- THE "WHAT FOR?" IS CLEAR-- AND ASTOUNDING!
AARDVARK HIJACKED! IMPOSTOR PHONES FOR MILLION DOLLAR RANSOM!
WELL, ALFRED, IT LOOKS LIKE THE M.H. HAS GOT HIMSELF A NEW M.O.!
I WAS ALMOST GLAD TO READ IT, SIR! NOW WE KNOW HE'S STILL IN TOWN!
IN THE DAYS THAT FOLLOW, THE MAD HATTER MAKES HIS PRESENCE INCREASINGLY EVIDENT--AND PAINFUL!
CONSTRUCTION SITE STICKUP!...PHONY HARDHAT HEISTS PAYROLL!
FAKE FIREFIGHTER CRACKS SAFE AS BUILDING BURNS TO GROUND!
Gotham Gazette FINAL
BOGUS ARTIST COPIES MUSEUM MASTERPIECE --THEN STEALS IT!
GOTHAM NEWS
ARMY FUNDS RIPPED OFF! CROOK IMPERSONATES RECRUITMENT OFFICER!

THE SCENE: COMMISSIONER GORDON'S OFFICE AT POLICE H.Q.--
THE BASIC TROUBLE IS--THERE'S NO WAY TO ANTICIPATE HIM!
IT'S AS THOUGH HE WERE ACTING ON A SUDDEN IMPULSE EVERY TIME--

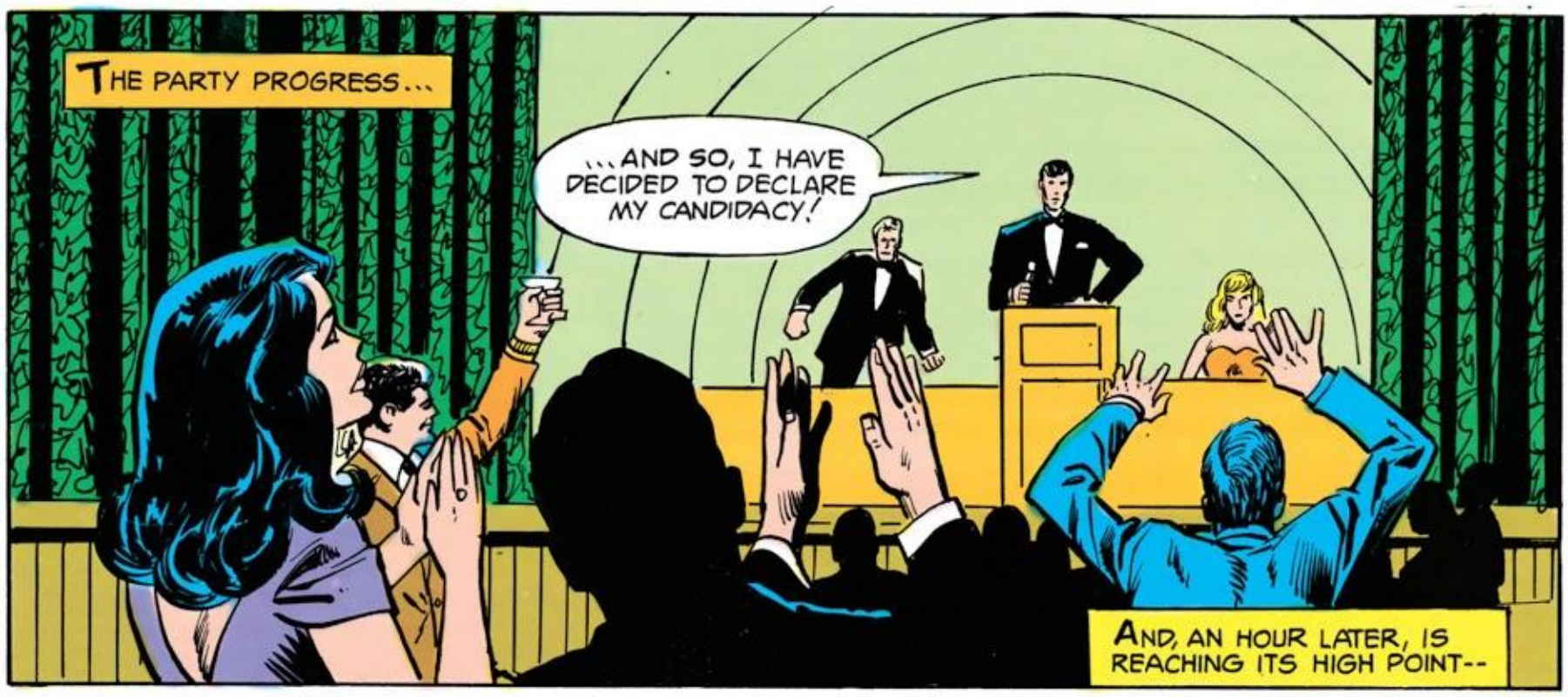

--BECAUSE THERE'S NO RHYME OR REASON TO WHAT HE DOES! EITHER HE WANTS A MILLION FOR AN ANIMAL WORTH MUCH LESS...OR HE CRACKS A SAFE AND GETS CHICKENFEED...
...OR HE STEALS A CEZANNE ...OR HE TAKES THE ARMY FOR A FEW THOUSAND BUCKS!

SO--?
SO, COMMISSIONER, YOU KNOW THE STORY ABOUT MOHAMMED AND THE MOUNTAIN?
UH-HUH... WHO'S WHICH?
I'M THE MOUNTAIN AND HE'S MOHAMMED! I'M GOING TO MAKE HIM COME TO ME-- WITH A LITTLE SCHEME THAT INVOLVES BRUCE WAYNE AND JASON BARD!

JASON BARD--THE PRIVATE INVESTIGATOR?
THAT'S THE ONE! HE'S PLANNING TO RUN FOR D.A.-- AND BRUCE IS GOING TO THROW A BIG, PUBLICIZED PARTY FOR BARD TO MAKE THE ANNOUNCEMENT AND ASK FOR CONTRIBUTIONS!-- GET IT?
N-NO.
YOU WILL-- THREE NIGHTS FROM NOW!

THREE NIGHTS LATER...A FESTIVE, GLITTERING OCCASION...
BRUCE, MY BOY, A CAPITAL IDEA--OPENING WAYNE MANOR AGAIN FOR THIS PARTY--
--JUST LIKE OLD TIMES!
THANK YOU, JUDGE... AND NOW I'D LIKE YOU ALL TO MEET THE GUEST OF HONOR, MR. JASON BARD!

AH, YES, I BELIEVE WE'VE MET BEFORE.
QUITE SO, JUDGE HARKNESS... SHORTLY AFTER I RETURNED FROM VIETNAM...
AT A SEMINAR WHERE YOU SPOKE ON CAREERS FOR VETERANS IN CRIMINOLOGY... AND STARTED ME OFF.


THE PARTY PROGRESS...
...AND SO, I HAVE DECIDED TO DECLARE MY CANDIDACY!
AND, AN HOUR LATER, IS REACHING ITS HIGH POINT--

--THAT POINT, NATURALLY, BEING THE FUND-RAISING...
WE'LL TAKE PLEDGES, CHECKS AND CASH--
WITH RECEIPTS FOR EVERYONE FROM MR. WAYNE, THE FINANCE CHAIRMAN OF OUR CAMPAIGN!

...WHICH IS AN OBVIOUS SUCCESS TO ANY OBSERVER--AS, FOR EXAMPLE--JERVIS TETCH--PASTRY CHEF EXTRAORDINAIRE!
MON DIEU, CHEF, THE CAKES REQUIRE YOUR IMMEDIATE ATTENTION! YOU ARE NEGLECTING YOUR DUTY!
DUTY...DUTY... YES, I DID VOLUNTEER MY SPECIAL SERVICES... TO HELP THE CAMPAIGN... A VERY WORTHY CAUSE... BUT--

BUT THE DOUGH IS RISING!
IT SURE IS!

PRESENTLY...
THANK YOU ALL VERY MUCH ...YOU'VE DONE NOBLY! NOW LET'S ALL ENJOY OURSELVES!
DON'T FORGET --THERE'S A TERRIFIC BUFFET COMING!

THEN...
BRUCE, DEAR, AREN'T YOU GOING TO DANCE WITH ME?
AS SOON AS I'VE GOT THE CONTRIBUTIONS SAFELY LOCKED AWAY UPSTAIRS!

AND--THIRTY SECONDS AFTER BRUCE ASCENDS...

AT THE HEAD OF THE STAIRS... A DOOR AJAR... A LIGHT WITHIN...
THE MAD HATTER ADVANCES...TAKES A TENTATIVE STEP INSIDE--
--AND...
THE NEXT INSTANT...
THAT'S A PASTRY CHEF'S HAT YOU'RE WEARING, TETCH!
BATMAN?
WHAT POSSIBLE USE CAN YOU HAVE FOR A CLEAVER?
THIS!!
BUT--
CHUNK!
NOW, MY FRIEND--

WHUP!
KLOWP!
THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG WITH YOUR HEAD--
--SO I THINK--MAYBE I'LL RESHAPE IT--
K-BOK!
--AND BRING IT TO A POINT--
--SO THE ONLY HAT--
--THAT'LL EVER FIT YOU AGAIN--
--WILL BE A DUNCE CAP!
THERE! YOU NEVER LOOKED BETTER!

THE FOLLOWING EVENING...
YOU SEE, COMMISSIONER, ONCE THE HATTER HEARD ABOUT THE PARTY, HE WAS IRRESISTIBLY DRAWN THERE!
IRRESISTIBLY--?
BECAUSE FIRST, IT INVOLVED JASON BARD THROWING HIS HAT INTO THE RING--
--AND SECOND, PASSING THE HAT AROUND! CONSCIOUSLY OR NOT, THOSE SYMBOLS WERE BOUND TO EXCITE HIS IMAGINATION!
--WHICH THEY DID!
WE'VE RECOVERED EVERYTHING--INCLUDING THE AARDVARK, ALL INTACT--AND THE WAY HE EXPLAINS IT...
...AND IT RINGS TRUE...
...HE WAS ACTUALLY TRYING TO REFORM -- AND KEPT FAILING!
TOO BAD! IT WOULD HAVE MADE A GREAT HEADLINE -- "THE MAD HATTER GOES STRAIGHT!"
IT STILL DOES! ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS ADD-- "TO JAIL!"
AND NOW, SIR--
--I'VE GOT URGENT BUSINESS WAITING!
SOON AFTERWARD... THE URGENT BUSINESS--
BUT, BRUCE, I DON'T UNDERSTAND... WHY HAVE YOU BROUGHT ME HERE?
TO THE SCENE OF THE CRIME? VERY SIMPLE!
DRIVER, MAY I BORROW YOUR HAT A MOMENT?
SURE... YES, SIR... I GUESS SO!
BRUCE TAKES THE HAT--THEN...
OBSERVE!
MY PEARLS! BRUCE, YOU DARLING, HOW ON EARTH DID YOU EVER GET THEM BACK?
A TRICK, MY DEAR--A SIMPLE HAT TRICK--AND WE MAGICIANS NEVER EXPLAIN OUR TRICKS!
TWO HOURS LATER...
WE'VE BEEN AROUND THE PARK THREE TIMES, SIR! WHAT NOW?
KEEP DRIVING! YOU'RE DOING GREAT!
AND SO AM I!
END
NEXT ISSUE "CASE OF THE CRIMSON COFFIN!"

OK C.O.M.P.U.T.O.
novus
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