

SUPERGIRL

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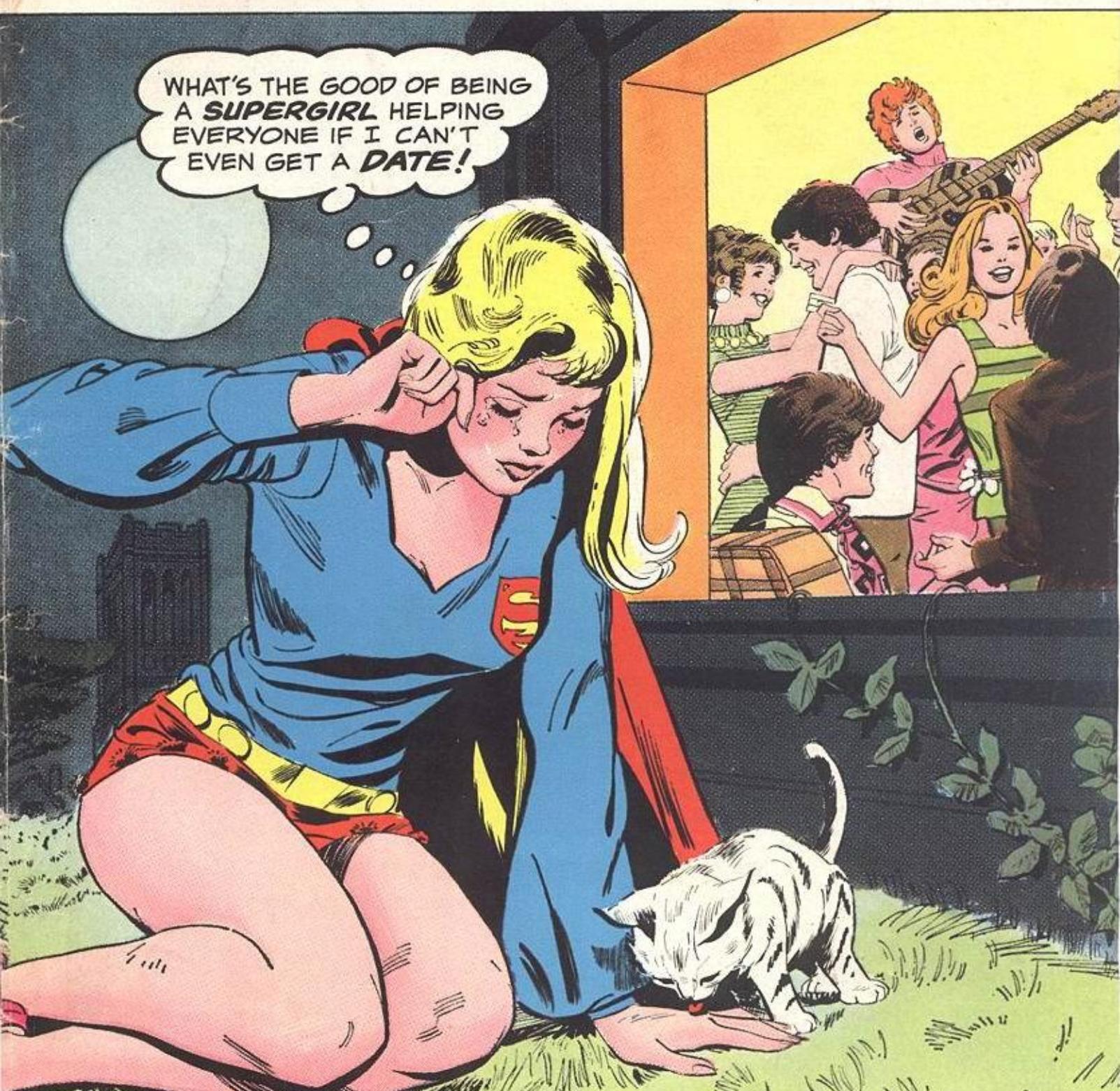


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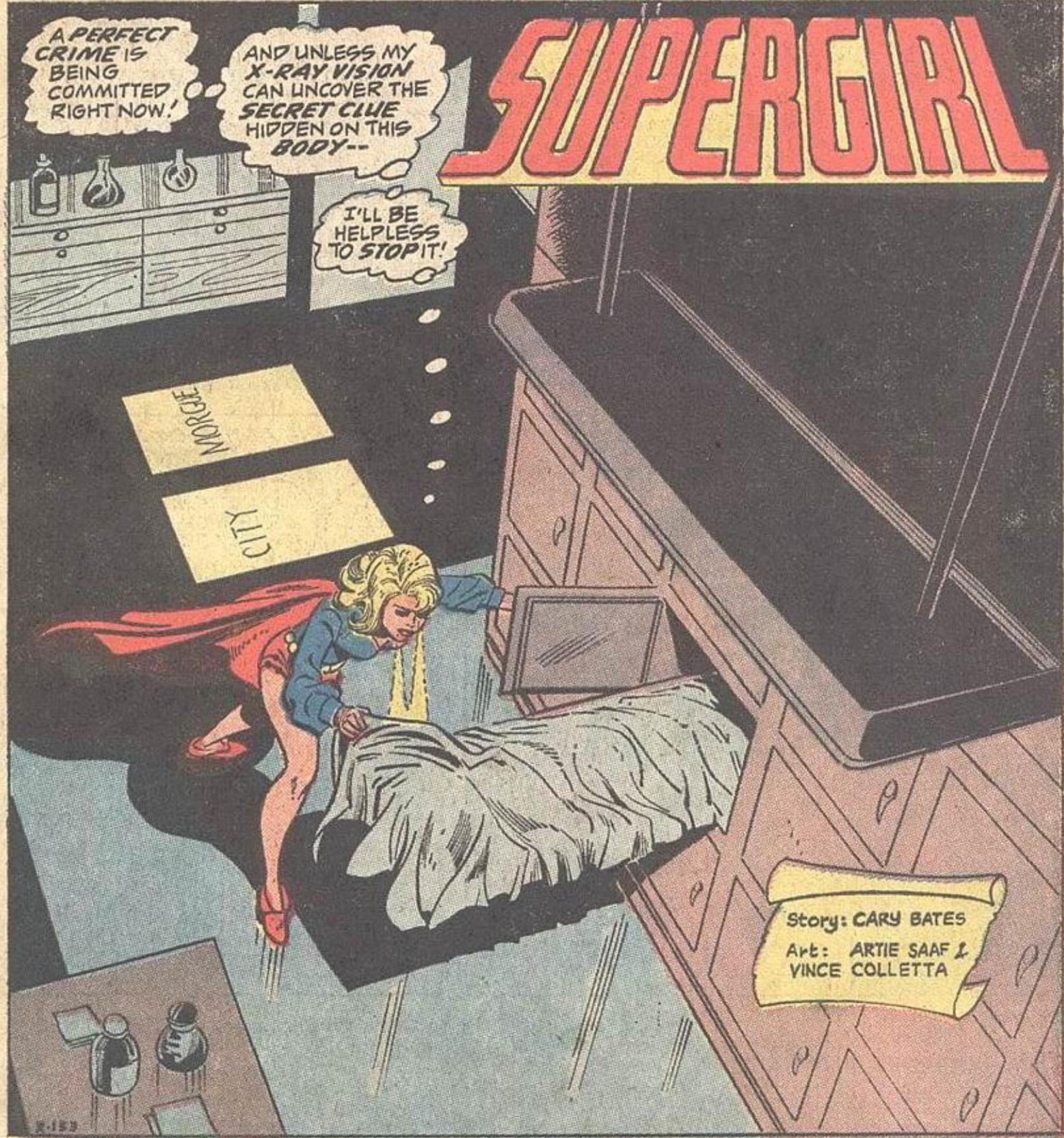
# SUPERGIRL

WHAT'S THE GOOD OF BEING  
A **SUPERGIRL** HELPING  
EVERYONE IF I CAN'T  
EVEN GET A **DATE!**



**SUPERGIRL UNCOVERS--**  
**"The GARDEN OF DEATH!"**

**ALSO**  
**THE AMAZING ZATANNA**  
**IN A**  
**SURPRISE FEATURE!!**



Like any girl starting out in college, Linda Danvers suffers her share of personal problems and heartbreak! But unlike any of her classmates, Linda is secretly the sensational **SUPERGIRL** -- always ready to rescue a friend in trouble! And this time, her helping hand introduces her to...

# "THE GARDEN OF DEATH"

SUPERGIRL, Vol. 2, No. 3, Feb., 1973. Published monthly (with the exception of Apr., Aug., Oct., and Dec.) by NATIONAL PERIODICAL PUBLICATIONS, INC., 909 Third Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10022. Carmine Infantino, Publisher. Robert Kanigher, Editor. Deborah Anderson, Assistant Editor. Vince Colletta, Art Director. Sol Harrison, Production Manager. Advertising Representative, Sanford Schwarz & Co., Inc., 16 West 46th Street, New York, N.Y. 10036. Copyright © 1972 by National Periodical Publications, 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.

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**A**MID FEBRUARY'S FROSTY CHILL, EXCITEMENT RUNS HIGH AMONG THE GIRLS ATTENDING VANDYRE UNIVERSITY...

WOW! GUESS WHO JUST ASKED ME TO THE BIG VALENTINE'S DAY FESTIVAL DANCE-- MIKE STANTON!

THAT BEAUTIFUL BASKETBALL STAR? I'D BE ENVYING YOU-- IF I WEREN'T ALREADY SO CRAZY ABOUT MY OWN DATE-- LENNIE DALE!



THE EXCITED VOICES CAME FROM THE DORM-- AND LINDA DANVERS' ROOMMATES - TERRI, AND SABRA, AN ISRAELI EXCHANGE STUDENT, AND EX-ARMY OFFICER ...

HOW ABOUT THAT THEATRICAL ROOMMATE OF OURS? HAS SHE STOPPED HER REHEARSALS LONG ENOUGH TO LINE UP A DATE FOR THE DANCE?

I THINK BOB LEWIS IS TAKING LINDA, TERRI! HE CALLED AND ASKED WHERE SHE WAS THIS AFTERNOON!



MEANWHILE AT THE SCHOOL OF DRAMA...

"WHAT SHALL I SWEAR BY?"

"DO NOT SWEAR AT ALL; OR IF THOU WILT, SWEAR BY THY GRACIOUS SELF..."

SHOULD'VE KNOWN LINDA WOULD BE HERE! METHINKS FAIR "JULIET" HAS JILTED ME FOR THE LAST TIME!



... AND AFTER REHEARSAL...

...LINDA--THIS IS THE THIRD TIME YOU'VE STOOD ME UP ON A DATE... BECAUSE OF REHEARSALS!

B-BUT BOB, I COULDN'T JUST--



YOU CAN FORGET ABOUT THE VALENTINE'S DAY DANCE FESTIVAL! I'M GOING TO FIND ANOTHER GIRL TO TAKE...! MAYBE YOU AND "ROMEO" OUGHTTA GO INSTEAD!

OOPS... I JUST LOST A TERRIFIC DATE! AND I WAS SO ANXIOUS TO HAVE BOB REALLY DIG ME...



COULDN'T HELP OVERHEARING  
THAT WALK-OFF SCENE,  
LINDA! SEEMS YOU AND I  
HAVE THE SAME PROBLEM...

WHAT  
DO YOU  
MEAN,  
FRANKIE?



MY GIRL MARY ANN  
JUST CALLED ME...  
AND SAID OUR  
DATE ON VALENTINE'S  
DAY IS OFF!

SHE WAS CRYING  
OVER THE PHONE...  
I NEVER HEARD  
HER SOUND SO  
UPSET! BUT SHE  
WON'T TELL ME  
WHAT'S WRONG!

I'LL TRY TO  
FIND OUT!



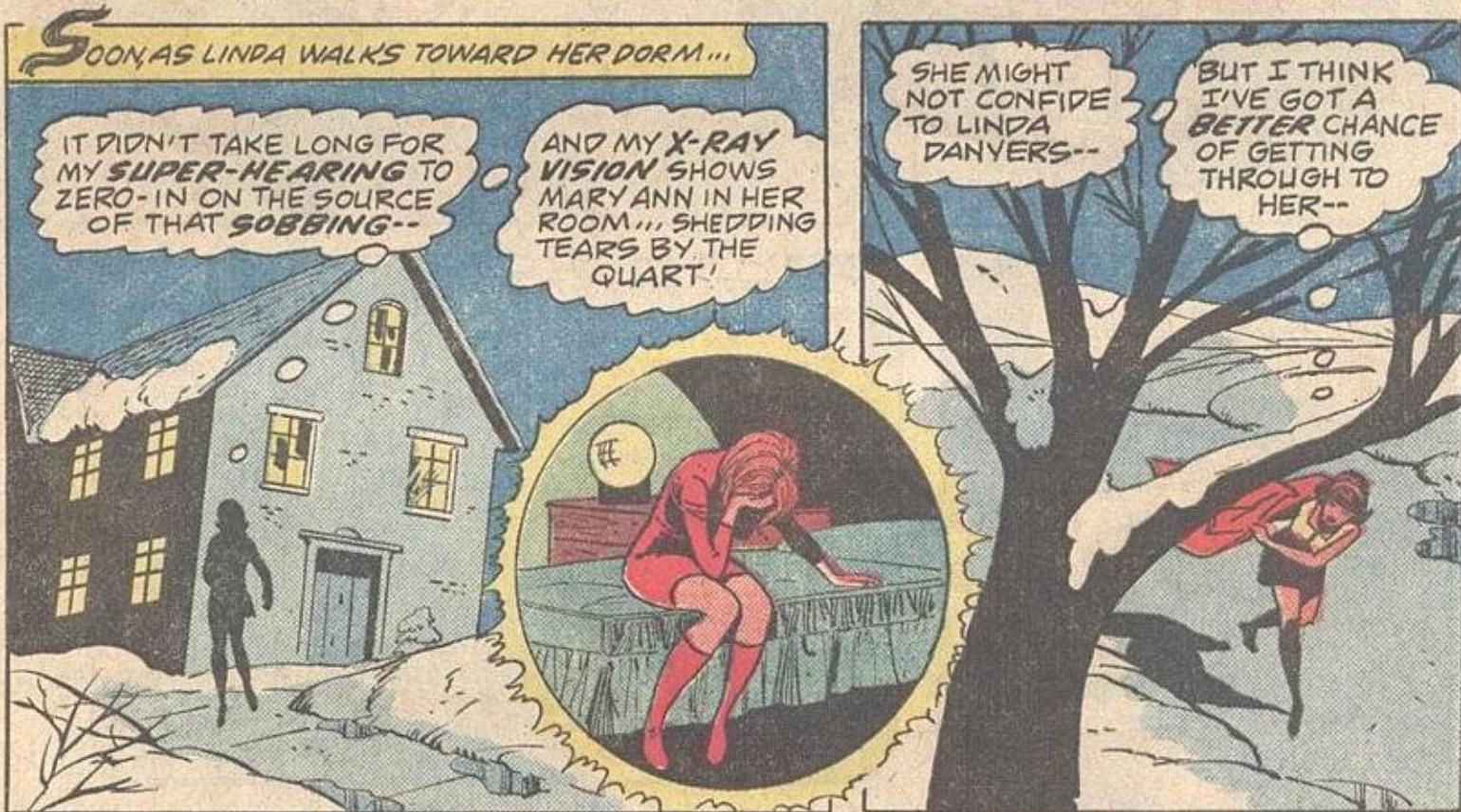
SOON AS LINDA WALKS TOWARD HER DORM...

IT DIDN'T TAKE LONG FOR  
MY SUPER-HEARING TO  
ZERO-IN ON THE SOURCE  
OF THAT SOBBING--

AND MY X-RAY  
VISION SHOWS  
MARY ANN IN HER  
ROOM... SHEDDING  
TEARS BY THE  
QUART!

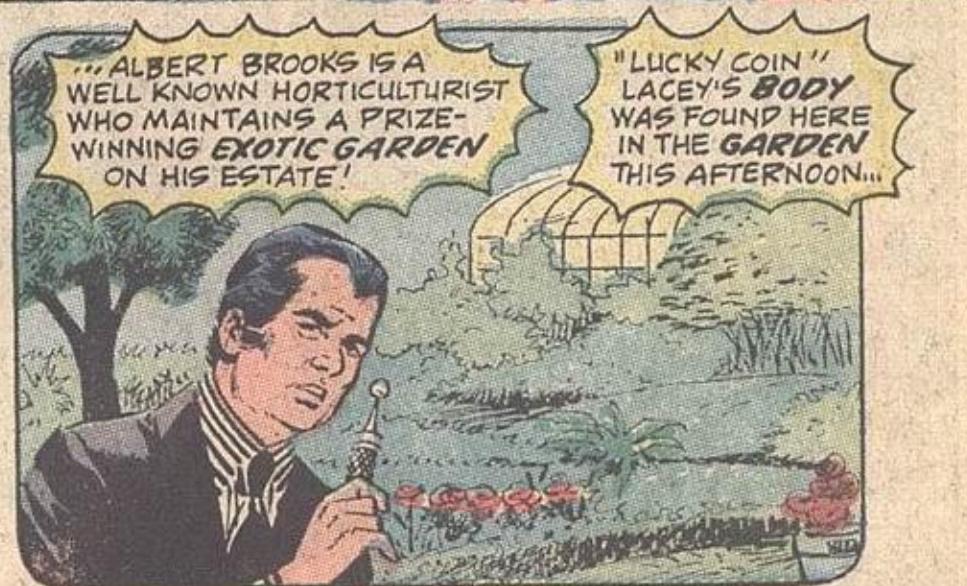
SHE MIGHT  
NOT CONFIDE  
TO LINDA  
DANVERS--

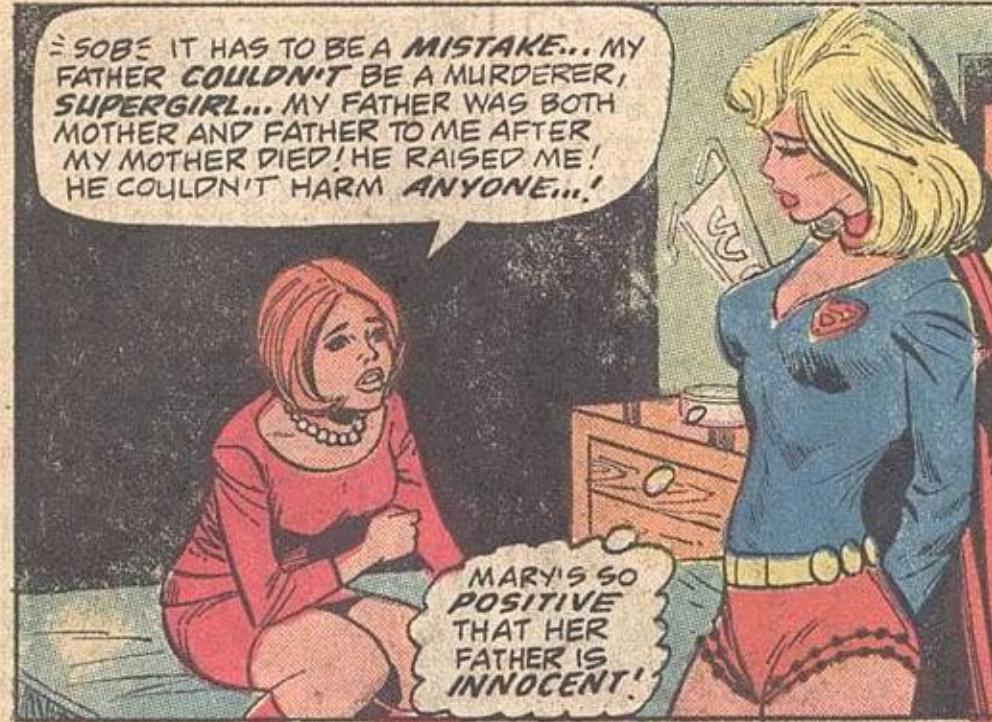
BUT I THINK  
I'VE GOT A  
BETTER CHANCE  
OF GETTING  
THROUGH TO  
HER--



-- AS  
SUPERGIRL!







"SUDENLY, THE BOTANISTS MADE A STARTLING DISCOVERY..."

I SWEAR... I DON'T KNOW HOW THAT COFFIN GOT THERE!

COME NOW, MR. BROOKS! YOU CULTIVATE THIS GARDEN EVERY DAY WITH YOUR OWN HANDS!

HOW COULD YOU NOT KNOW?

YOU'LL HAVE TO EXPLAIN TO THE POLICE!



THE DETECTIVE FINISHES HIS ACCOUNT WITH...

BUT THIS IS THE CLINCHER!

UPON EXAMINATION WE FOUND THIS DAGGER IN LACEY'S CHEST--

WITH BROOKS' FINGER-PRINTS ALL OVER IT!



LIE! IT'S ALL A LIE!

I'M SORRY, MISS BROOKS! JUST DOING MY JOB!

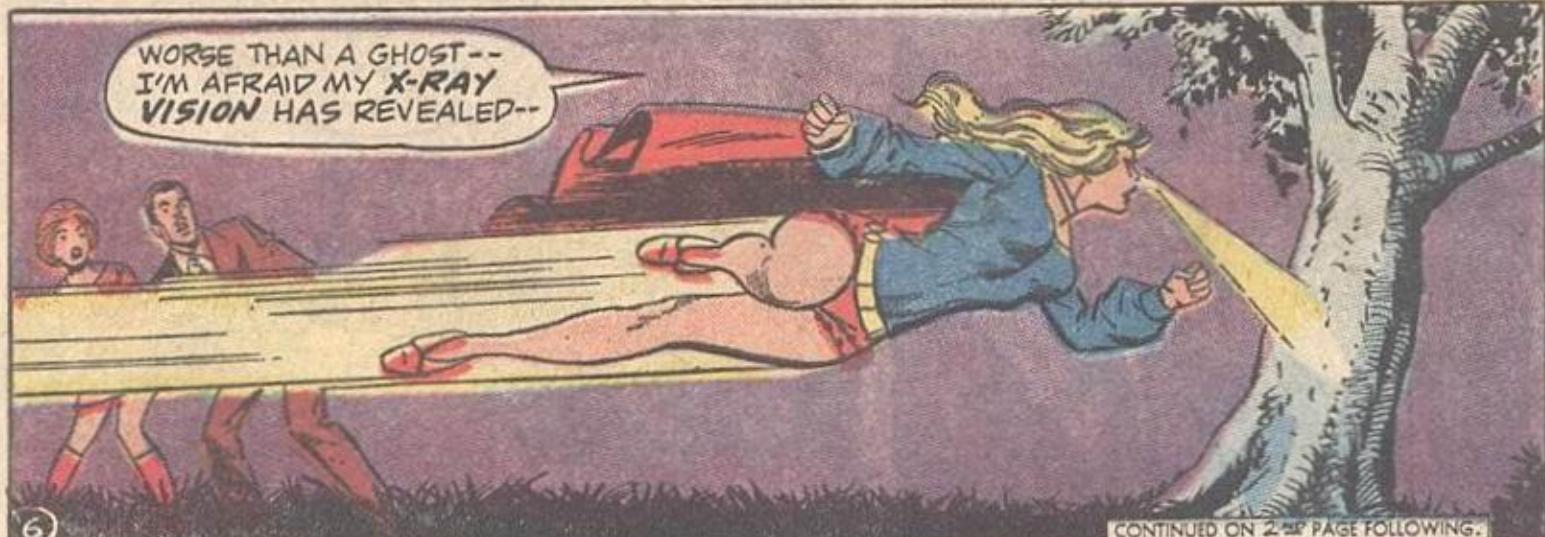


SUPERGIRL-- WHAT'S WRONG?

YOUR FACE LOOKS LIKE YOU'VE SEEN A GHOST!



WORSE THAN A GHOST-- I'M AFRAID MY X-RAY VISION HAS REVEALED--



--ANOTHER CORPSE!

CRAACK

NUMBER 2!

OH NO!

LOOKS LIKE WE HAVE A MULTIPLE MURDER ON OUR HANDS!

SUPERGIRL, WILL YOU MAKE A COMPLETE X-RAY SEARCH OF BROOKS' GROUNDS AND ESTATE?

I-I'LL HAVE TO-

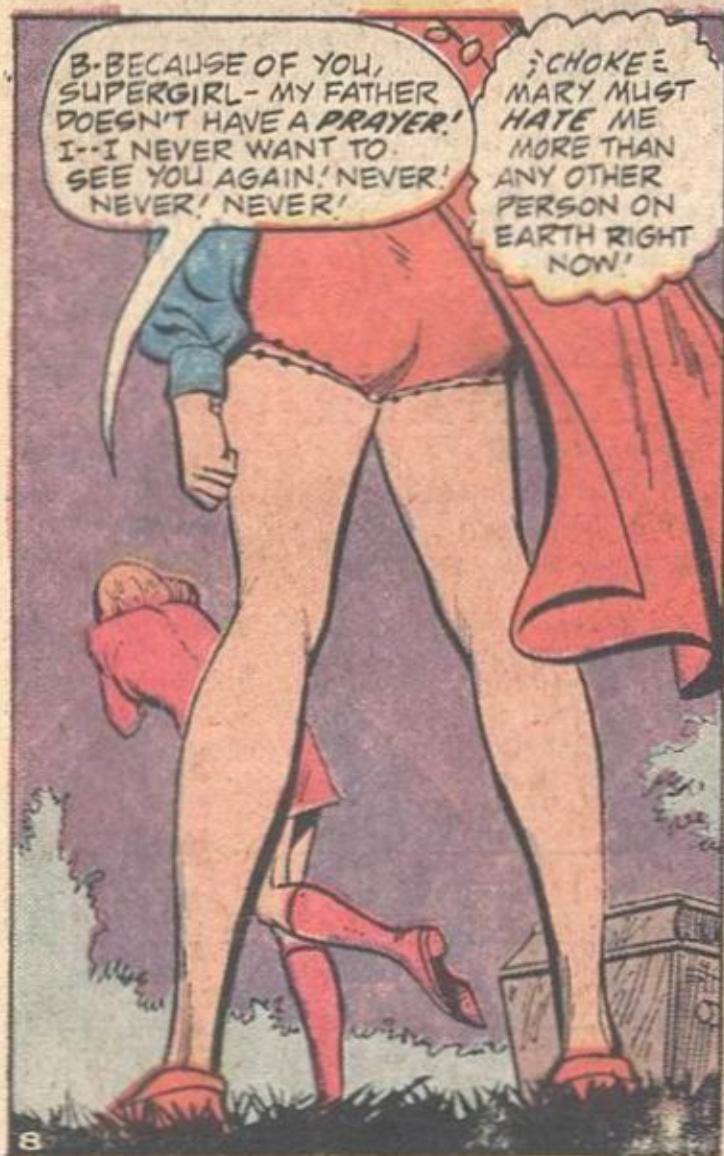
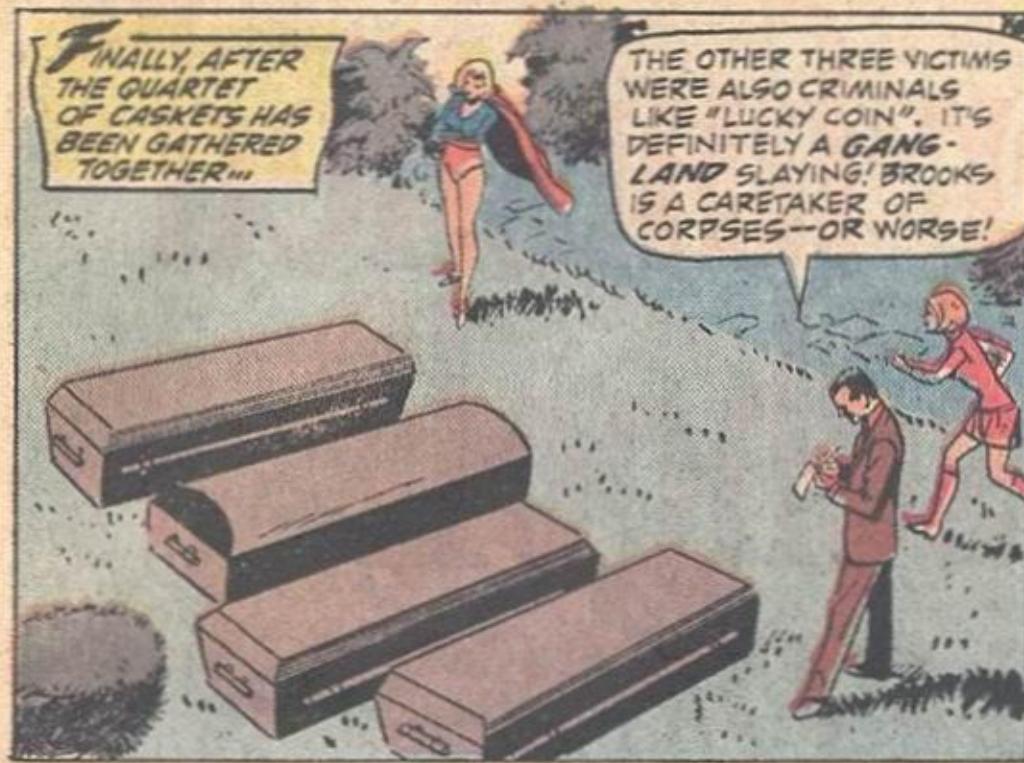
GRIMLY, THE MAID OF MIGHT THOROUGHLY SCANS THE PROPERTY--

THREE! HOW MANY MORE?

CRUNCH!

...AND STILL ANOTHER...

THIS IS--THE LAST!



THE NEXT DAY, A RED-AND-BLUE GARBED VISITOR CONFERS WITH THE MURDER SUSPECT IN HIS MAXIMUM SECURITY CELL...

SUPERRGIRL - THE AUTOPSIES SHOWED LACEY AND THE OTHER CROOKS WERE KILLED ABOUT 24 HOURS BEFORE MY GARDEN EXHIBITION!

BUT THE DAY BEFORE I WAS WITH A WITNESS WHO'LL PROVE I WASN'T THERE!

WONDERFUL! WHO IS HE? WHERE IS HE? YOU'VE TOLD THE POLICE, OF COURSE?

YES--  
BUT  
THEY  
CAN'T  
FIND  
HIM!

HE'S VIC MASON! A GRADUATE STUDENT OF MINE! HE AND I WERE ON A BOTANY-EXPEDITION ON MT. TAYLOR! HE WAS SUPPOSED TO LEAVE A FEW HOURS LATER ... BUT HE NEVER CAME OUT!

YOUR ONLY ALIBI MISSING!



MOMENTS LATER...

WHAT I'M ABOUT TO TRY IS A REAL LONG SHOT... BUT WITH THE ODDS SO AGAINST BROOKS, HE HAS NOTHING TO LOSE...

AND MY GAMBLE MAY SAVE TWO LIVES!



SOON, THE MIGHTIEST GIRL ON EARTH METHODICALLY SPIRALS OVER MT. TAYLOR AT EYE-BLURRING SUPER-SPEED...

BY ZOOMING OVER THE MOUNTAIN IN EVER-WIDENING CIRCLES --

ALWAYS SCANNING BELOW WITH TELESCOPIC VISION-

NOT EVEN ONE ROCK WILL ESCAPE THE SCRUTINY OF MY X-RAY EYES!



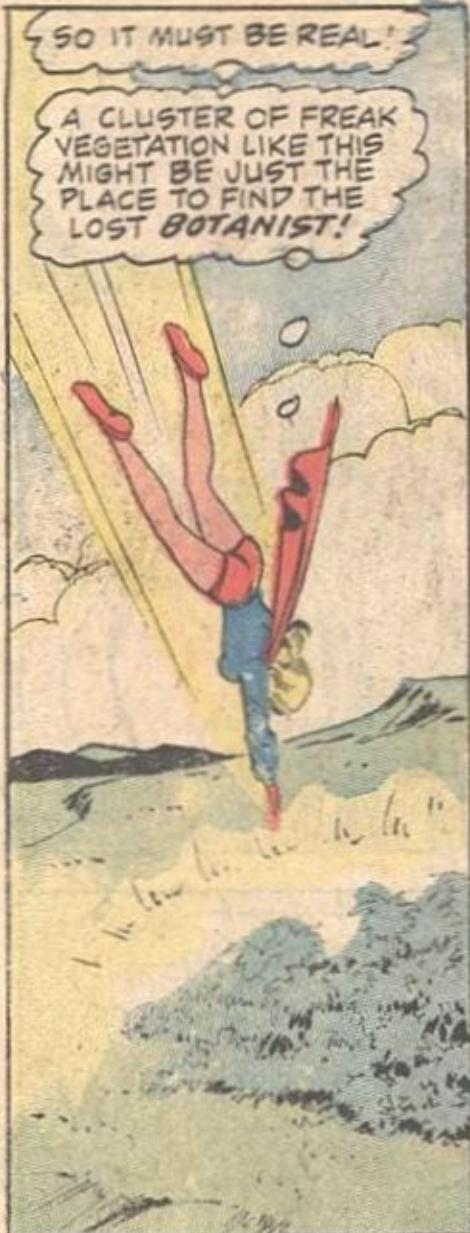
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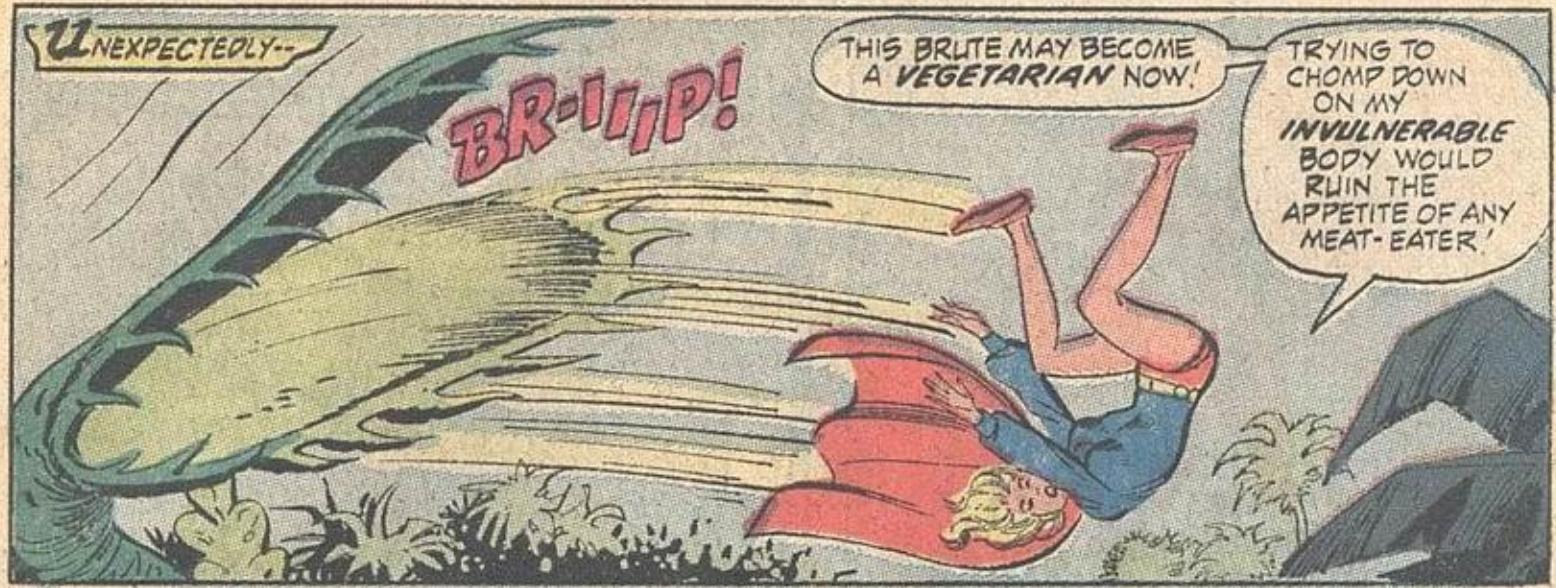
?!! HOW CAN I BE SEEING A MIRAGE?

AN OPTICAL ILLUSION LIKE THAT MIGHT FOOL SOMEONE ELSE!

BUT NOT MY SUPER-VISION!









AND AT THE SAME TIME IN THE BROOKS' BASEMENT...

PHASE THREE OF THE  
PERFECT CRIME, MR. BROOKS!

WH- WHAT ARE YOU  
GOING TO D-DO?



THE COIN-FLIPPING...  
THAT PIN-STRIPED  
SUIT... JUST LIKE THE  
PICTURES I SAW OF  
**LUCKY COIN LACEY!**  
BUT HE'S DEAD!!

CORRECTION—AN EXACT  
**DOUBLE** OF ME IS DEAD!  
THANKS TO THE DOC—  
ONE OF THE GREATEST  
**PLASTIC SURGEONS**  
IN THE WORLD! HE HAS  
NO LICENSE TO PRACTICE  
BUT HE IS FOR ME!

THE PLAN IS SIMPLE  
BUT BRILLIANT! MR.  
LACEY LIQUIDATED  
**FOUR** SMALL-TIME  
HOODS... THEN I  
TRANSFORMED ONE  
OF THEM INTO A  
**DOUBLE OF HIM!**

I HAD HIM INCLUDE  
EVERYTHING... EVEN  
A LEAD COIN!

I FRAMED YOU FOR  
THE MURDERS... KNOWING  
SUPERRGIRL WOULD  
PROVE YOU **INNOCENT**,  
BROOKS!



MEANTIME, I OPERATED  
ON LUCKY COIN LACEY  
MAKING HIM AN EXACT  
**DOUBLE** OF YOU,  
MR. BROOKS!

YEAH... AND AS  
SOON AS THE DOC  
MAKES SURE THE  
MATCH IS **PERFECT**,  
YOU GET A COFFIN  
ALL FOR YOURSELF,  
BROOKS!



MEANWHILE—AMID A CHURNING TEMPEST  
OF SWIRLING BAY WATERS...

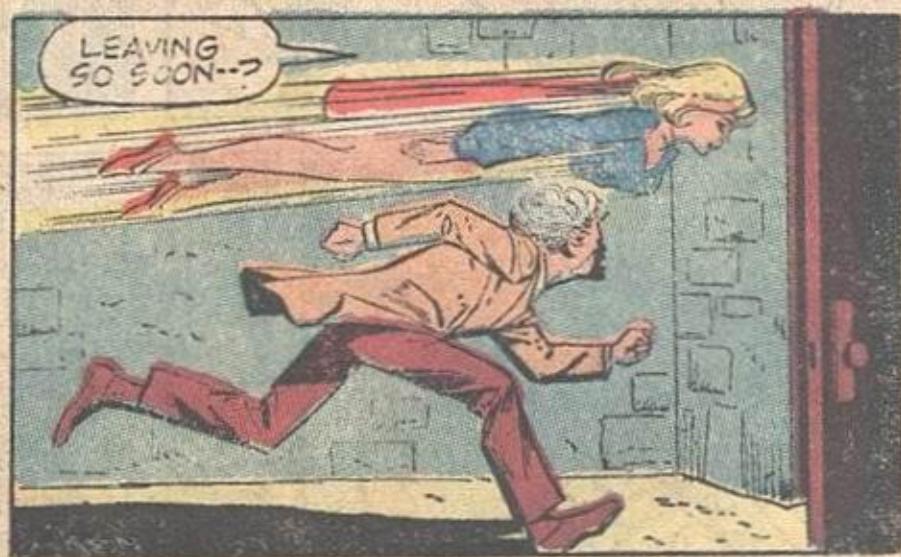
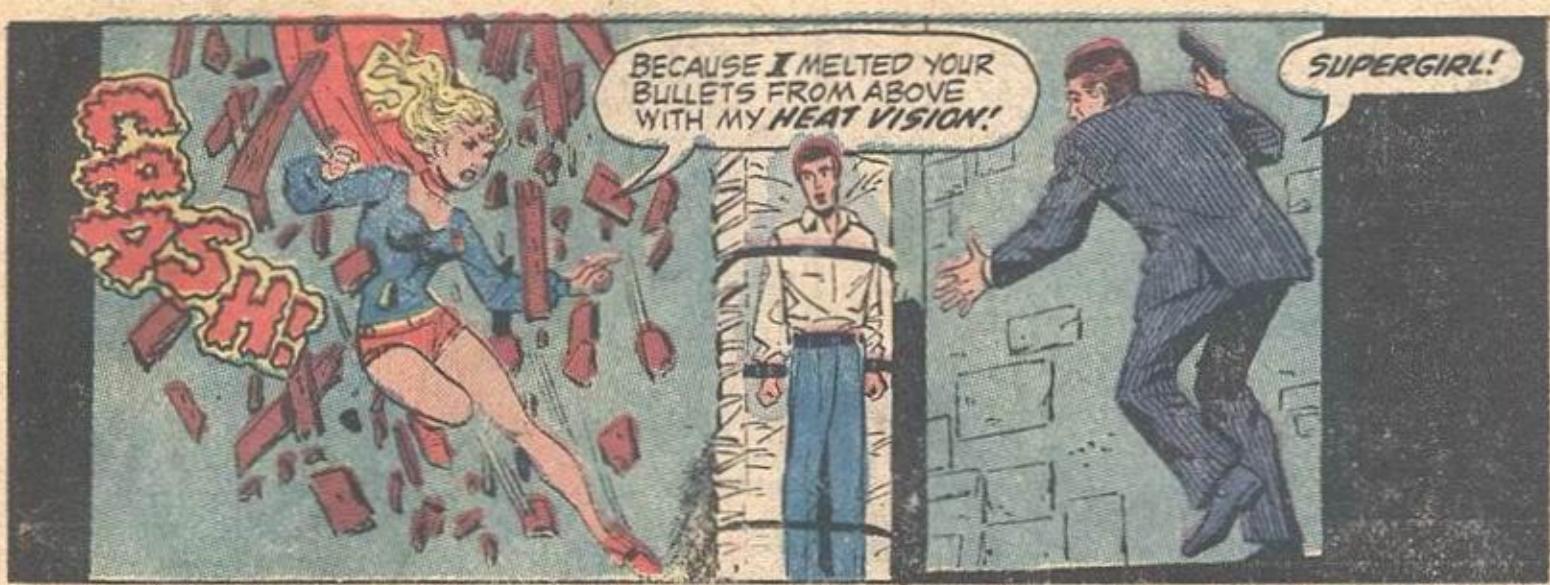
GET BACK,  
**SUPERRGIRL!**

I'D RATHER DIE  
THAN BE SAVED  
BY YOU--AFTER  
YOU CONDEMNED  
MY FATHER!

MARY'S  
HYSTERICAL...  
STILL CONVINCED  
I BETRAYED HER!







THE SAME SLIP-  
UP THAT  
TIPPED ME OFF  
YOUR "CORPSE"  
WAS A FAKE!

TWENTY YEARS OF FLIPPING  
A LEAD DOLLAR HAD TO  
LEAVE FAINT METALLIC  
RESIDUE ON YOUR FINGERS--

A RESIDUE THAT WAS  
MISSING FROM THE  
BODY I SAW IN THE  
MORGUE!

AND I THOUGHT  
I HAD EVERY  
ANGLE COVERED!

THE LUCKY COIN YOU  
CARRIED AROUND ALL  
THESE YEARS TURNED  
OUT TO BE A JINX!



MARY ANN!  
WHERE DID  
YOU RUN  
OFF TO?

SUPERGIRL RESCUED  
ME, AND TOLD ME  
THE WHOLE STORY!



A FEW DAYS LATER, BACK AT VANDYRE COLLEGE--  
THE NIGHT OF THE VALENTINE'S DAY FESTIVAL...

I'M SURE GLAD LINDA  
DANVERS CONTACTED  
SUPERGIRL, SO SHE  
COULD HELP YOU!

YOU'RE GLAD? IF IT WEREN'T FOR  
SUPERGIRL I WOULDN'T BE  
ALIVE... NEITHER WOULD MY FATHER  
OR HIS COLLEAGUE!

WONDER HOW A SUPER-  
HEROINE SPENDS HER  
HOLIDAY!



THE ANSWER  
WOULD SHUDDER  
YOUR HEART,  
MARY ANN--FOR  
YOU'D SEE THE  
ONLY GIRL ON  
CAMPUS WITHOUT  
A DATE...

SNIFF--I'M A REAL WINNER  
WHEN IT COMES TO SOLVING  
OTHER PEOPLE'S PROBLEMS--

BUT WHY AM I  
ALWAYS SUCH A  
LOSER AT SOLV-  
ING MY OWN!

SOME  
SUPERGIRL!  
I LOST MY  
DATE!





# SUPER FE-MAIL

R-174A

Dear Editor:

There are hardly any words I can use to describe how I feel about SUPERGIRL in her own magazine. After being introduced in ACTION #252, she worked her way forward so that, at times, she was the star of that mag. In 1969, she became the star feature in ADVENTURE. While in that magazine, she became the first heroine (or hero) to have a whole wardrobe of crime-fighting suits. Now she is to have her own magazine. No other heroine (or hero) had to work so hard to receive her own book.

I hope you will have her team up with other heroes in WORLD'S FINEST and BRAVE AND BOLD. And she should have her own Fortress of Solitude. After quitting her job in ADVENTURE #424, I hope she finds a new one, as well as a new boyfriend.

Good luck, SG!

Scott Taylor  
Rockville, Indiana

Dear Scott:

Only Bob Kanigher knows what's in store for our super-powered lass . . . and he's not talking!



Dear Editor:

Please grant one of my wishes and I'll be satisfied. First and foremost: Let the SUPERGIRL magazine contain stories as exciting as her finale in ADVENTURE. "Crypt of the Frozen Graves" is the best SG saga to date. Kara appears to be as super as ever, and at the same time, she's just like a real human being, able to be lost in her thoughts. She can love, and she can hate (check page 11 for the latter). Her foe isn't some alien with green skin, but a more up-to-date syndicate of crime. SUPERGIRL finds it isn't easy to destroy crime without losing something . . . or someone . . . in the process. Steve Skeates, congratulations!

And who said a down-to-earth situation doesn't provide action for our super-gal? Just look at her, meeting Bruce Ryan, saving him and other persons, doing the 'ghost' bit, fighting with Nasty, being tortured, and this only as Linda Danvers!

De Zuniga and Oksner illustrated the story quite well, and it was a pleasant change from the three previous Sekowsky-pencilled issues.

Now, if you could only grant my wish . . .

Allan Palmer  
Ville Laval, Quebec

Dear Allan:

We've got promises from all concerned with SG that "Crypt of the Frozen Graves" is only the beginning of what will be one of the most exciting chapters in super-heroine history!

Dear Editor:

"Crypt of the Frozen Graves" was a good story, but it was 'one of those.' You're probably muttering, 'what is one of those?' A 'one of those' stories is one built around a cover design. I mean, until I got to page 14, this story looked like an innocent heroine vs. mobster story. Then, on page 14 come mad scientists, crazy machines, etc. Well, I still say it was a good story, but it could've been better if the science fiction angle were not added.

I do hope, though, that Steve Skeates and Tony De Zuniga will be the permanent SG team. Tony's pencils are perfect for the Maid of Night. Bob Oksner made her look like a fourteen-year-old, and Kurt Schaffenberger made her SUPERMAN's double. Say, what ever happened to Kurt?

Joe Peluso  
Brooklyn, New York

Dear Joe:

Kurt is hard at work doing each and every issue of the new JIMMY OLSEN, while SUPERGIRL is in the capable hands of Art Saaf and Vince Colletta.



Our address is:  
**SUPER FE-MAIL**  
National Periodical Publ.  
909 Third Avenue  
New York, New York 10022

# ZATANNA

THE  
MAGICIAN

\* HSIF HSINAV!

? !? WHAT SORT OF TRICK IS THAT ??

NOT MINE, THAT'S FOR SURE!

THERE'S SOME OTHER POWER AT WORK HERE BEHIDES MY MAGIC!

POWER MIGHTIER THAN MY OWN!

A GOOD MAGICIAN NEVER REVEALS HER SECRETS TO ANYONE, AND ALWAYS WORKS TO KEEP HER AUDIENCE SURPRISED! SO IT WAS WITH THE BEWITCHING ZATANNA -- UNTIL THE DAY WHEN ALL THE SURPRISES WERE ON HER!

R-167

## "CURSE of PHANTOM HECKLER!"

Story: CARY BATES — Art: DON HECK

ONE DAY, AT THE GOTHIC LANDMARK THAT IS KNOWN AS SHADOWCREST MANSION...

SRETTEL  
ESIRA!  
SEPOLEVNE  
NEPO!

THE MAIL SURE PILED UP THE WEEK I WAS AWAY PERFORMING IN EUROPE!



--THE AMAZING MAGICIAN ZATANNA CAN READ HER MAIL WITHOUT LIFTING A FINGER-- SIMPLY BY RECITING A MYSTIC COMMAND BACKWARD...



OH! THIS IS A LETTER FROM MY FRIEND LINDA DANVERS... ASKING ME TO PUT ON A MAGIC SHOW FOR THE KIDS AT HER FIRST "ALMA MATER"--MIDVILLE ORPHANAGE!\*

\* YEARS AGO, WHEN SHE FIRST ARRIVED ON EARTH... LINDA (SUPERRGIRL) LIVED AT THE ORPHANAGE UNTIL SHE WAS ADOPTED!

CONTINUED ON 2<sup>nd</sup> PAGE FOLLOWING





DON'T BE STUPID, NEAL--  
ZATANNA DID NOT "GOOF"!  
SHE PLANNED FOR THE  
BOWL TO SHATTER!  
IT'S PART OF THE  
ACT!

YEAH--? JUST BECAUSE OF YOUR  
GENIUS I.Q. YOU THINK YOU KNOW  
EVERYTHING, CISSY?



PERPLEXED AND BAFFLED, THE MISTRESS OF MAGIC TRIES TO MAKE THE SHOW GO ON, BUT...

AND NOW,  
I'LL—  
OOOPS!

FOR MY  
NEXT TRICK—  
OHH!

CRACKS

AS THE CURTAINS HASTILY CLOSE A MOMENT LATER...

BOO! WHAT A LET-DOWN!

YEAH! SEEMED LIKE MOST OF THE SURPRISES WERE ON HER!

SO THAT'S ZATANNA!  
SOME MAGICIAN SHE TURNED OUT TO BE!

C'MON, NEAL!  
SOMETHING'S UP!

BACKSTAGE...

TOLD YOU SOMETHING WAS WRONG! LOOK AT HER!

ZATANNA!  
WHAT'S THE MATTER?

SOMEONE CONTACTING MY MIND...  
SOMEONE NAMED MICKEY!

MICKEY!?" HE USUALLY ONLY "TALKS" TO MR. AND MRS. BARTH!

I'LL GET A PICTURE OF HIM FOR YOU!

PICTURE?  
BRING HIM HERE!

IMPOSSIBLE, ZATANNA!  
MICKEY WAS THE VERY FIRST ORPHAN THE BARTHS EVER TOOK IN, A LONG TIME AGO! HE WAS LIKE A REAL SON TO THEM!

BUT NOT FOR LONG! HE WAS ABOUT MY AGE-- WHEN A TRUCK RAN HIM DOWN!

MICKEY'S BEEN DEAD FOR FIVE YEARS!

? THEN... HIS  
GHOST WAS  
COMMUNICATING  
WITH ME !??

MR. AND MRS. BARTH  
"TALK" TO MICKEY ALL THE  
TIME! THE REST OF US  
CAN NEVER HEAR HIM...  
BUT THE BARTHS DO!



MAYBE THE CARDS  
CAN CLEAR UP THE  
MYSTERY! IF MICKEY  
TAMPERED WITH THEM  
ONCE... HE CAN DO IT  
AGAIN!



BUT THEY'RE GONE  
NOW! AND COME TO  
THINK OF IT... THE  
ELECTRICIAN  
IS GONE, TOO!

ELECTRICIAN?



DO YOU THINK  
MICKEY WAS  
MESSING UP YOUR  
MAGIC TRICKS,  
ZATANNA?

BE LOGICAL, NEAL!  
IT HAS TO BE HIM!  
NO OTHER  
EXPLANATION  
IS POSSIBLE!

THE  
QUESTION  
IS... WHY?

ONCE MORE THE 52 CARDS FLUTTER TO THE  
GROUND, EACH ONE GUIDED BY AN UNSEEN  
SUPERNATURAL FORCE, UNTIL...

IT'S AN  
S.O.S.!

PUT BOTH MESSAGES  
TOGETHER AND YOU'VE  
GOT... "HELP... THE  
BARTHS!"

WHERE ARE THEY?  
I KNOW THEY WERE  
IN THE WINGS  
BEFORE THE SHOW!

"THE  
BARTHS!"

AT THAT VERY MOMENT...

WHY ARE YOU DOING  
THIS? WE DON'T EVEN  
KNOW YOU!

AH, BUT YOU  
DO KNOW  
MY BOSS!



**BIG  
MAX  
FENTON!**

YOU WERE SUPPOSED TO **TESTIFY**  
AGAINST HIM NEXT WEEK... SO  
MAX HAD TO ARRANGE A LITTLE  
"ACCIDENT" TO KEEP YOU TWO  
OUT OF COURT! PERMANENT!

**ZZZ**

H-HE'S GOING TO  
ELECTROCUTE  
US...

ELECTRIC

P-PLEASE...  
HAVE  
MERCY!

ELBAC  
TAOLF  
YAWA!

**ZZZ**

SUDDENLY, THE CABLE RISES UNDER ITS  
OWN POWER, AS...

ZATANNA!

WHAT  
PUT YOU  
ON TO ME?

A MAGICIAN  
NEVER REVEALS  
HER SECRETS,  
CRUMB--!

THINK ABOUT IT--  
WHEN YOU WAKE UP  
IN A JAIL CELL!

BMURC -- KCONK  
FLESRUOY TUO!

UHHH!



NEXT MOMENT-- AN INSTANTANEOUS ROUND  
OF APPLAUSE...

TERRIFIC  
SHOW,  
ZATANNA!  
THOSE  
TRICKS  
WERE YOUR  
BEST YET!

T-THANK THE  
STARS YOU  
FOUND US  
IN TIME!

THANK  
MICKEY,  
MR. BARTH!

NEXT ISSUE ON SALE ON OR ABOUT JAN. 23<sup>RD</sup>

AND UP ABOVE, ON THE EMPTY STAGE-- A  
DISCARDED PHOTOGRAPH SEEMS TO SMILE  
EVER SO SLIGHTLY...

The END