



IT'S A DUEL TO THE DEATH FOR THE SENSATIONAL...

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NO. 285
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Wonder Woman®

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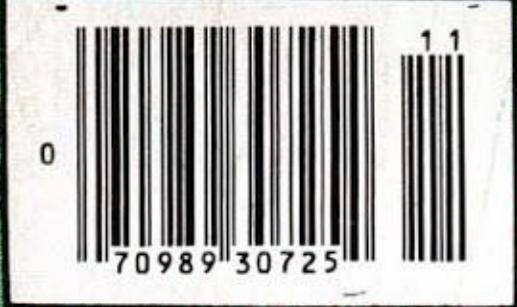
RACE INTO ALL-NEW
ACTION WITH THE
HUNTRESS!



IF THE
RED DRAGON
DOESN'T KILL
ME --

--THEN THE
CHINESE ARMY
WILL!!

G-7-3



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Wonder Woman

DRAGON HUNT

I HAVE ONLY
SECONDS UNTIL
THAT MISSILE BLASTS
THE GREAT WALL OF
CHINA TO ATOMS--!

ONLY SECONDS
--TO CHANGE FROM
DIANA PRINCE INTO
WONDER WOMAN--

--FASTER THAN I
EVER HAVE
BEFORE!

GERRY CONWAY, * JOSE DELBO and DAVE HUNT
WRITER ARTISTS

MILT SNAPINN,
LETTERER
JERRY SERPE
COLORIST
LEN WEIN,
EDITOR

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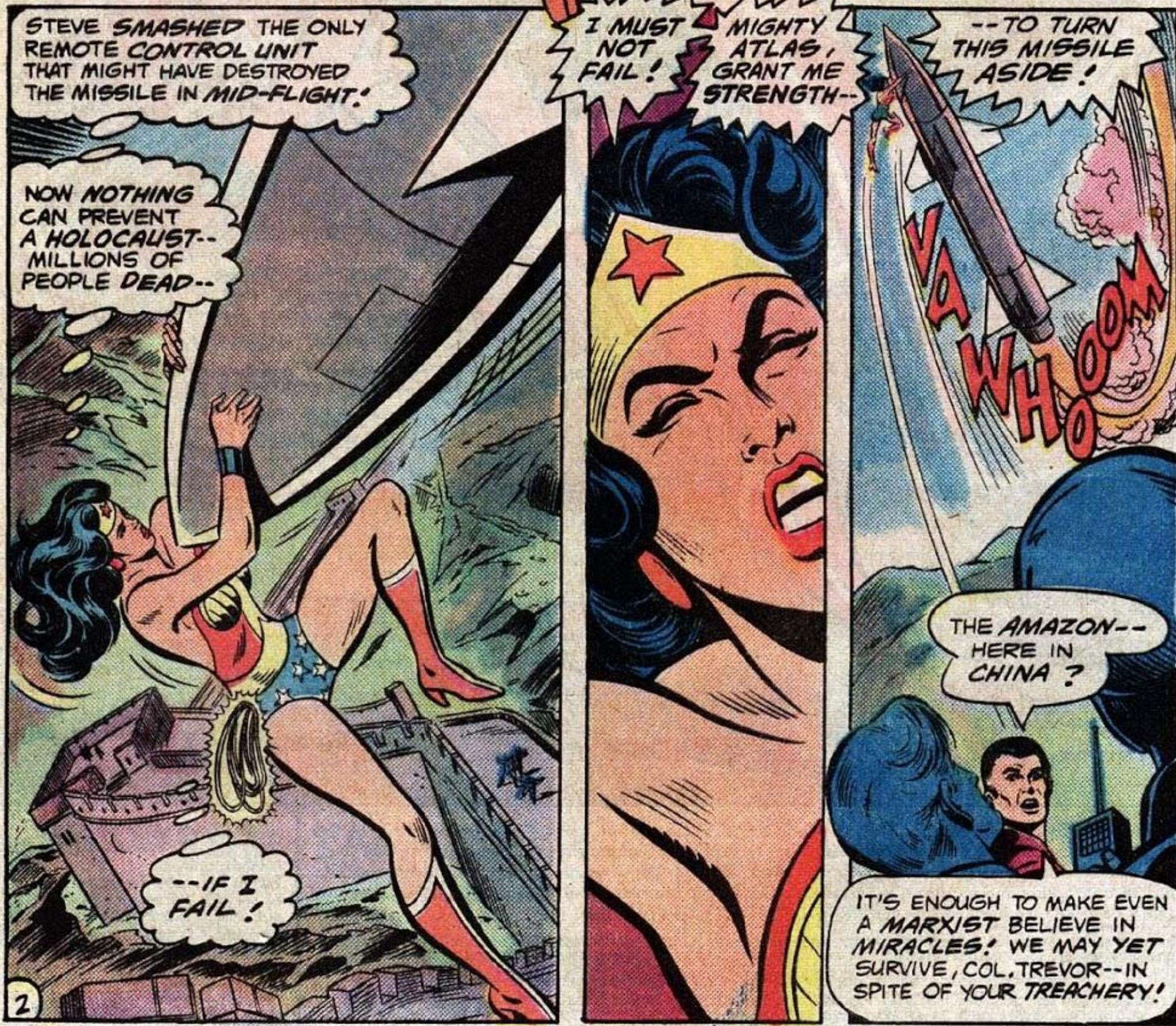
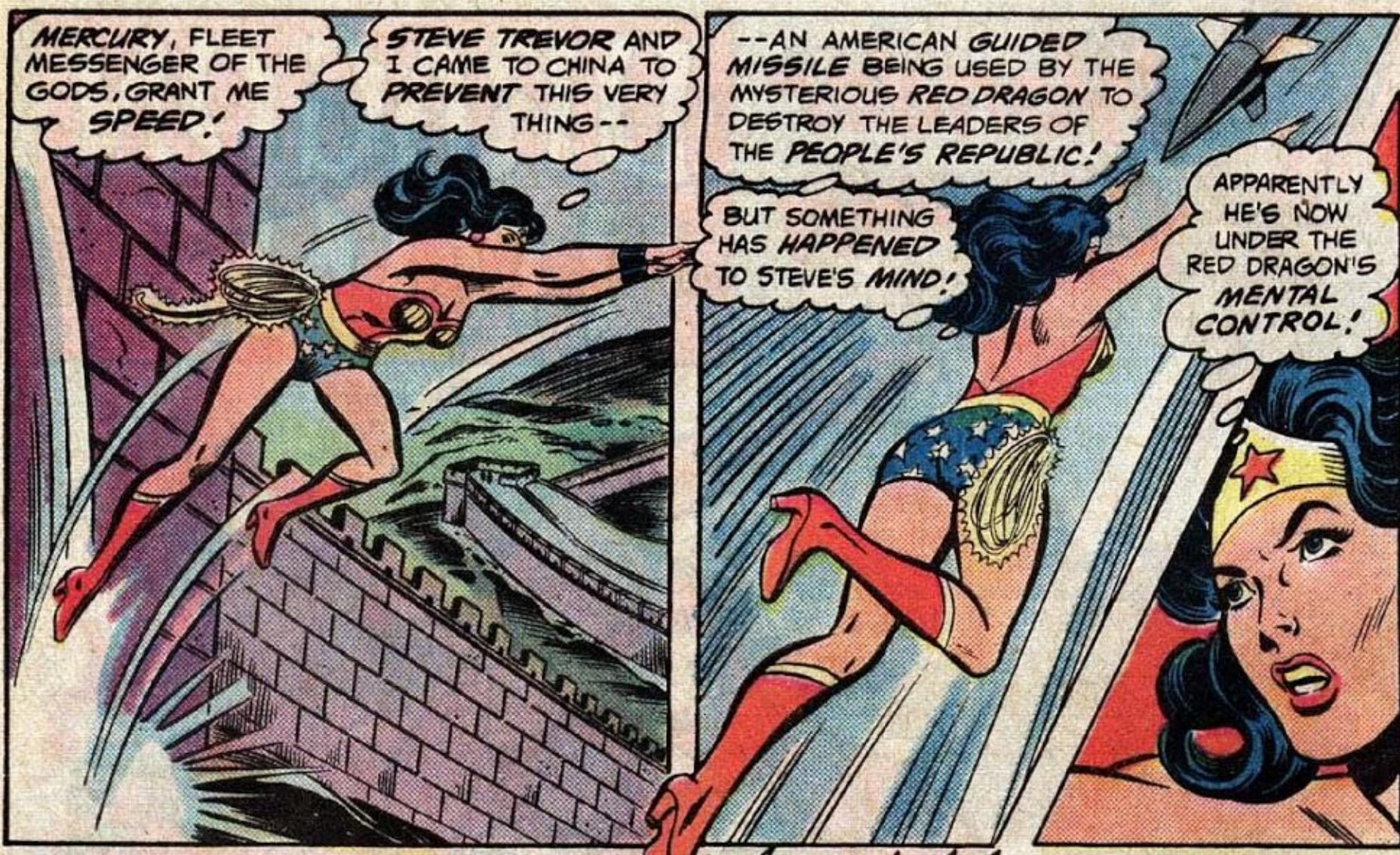
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AND, AS THE CHINESE SECURITY CHIEF, LAO CHEN, ORDERS THE ENTRANCED STEVE TREVOR ARRESTED--

--HIGH ABOVE, ANOTHER DRAMA PLAYS TO ITS FATEFUL CLIMAX:

G-FORCES HOLDING ME AGAINST THE MISSILE-- AS IT ACCELERATES OUT OVER THE PACIFIC!

MUST LET GO -- SOON-- OR I'LL BE CARRIED TO MY DEATH!

BUT FIRST--!

SCRANG

THERE! WITH ITS COMMUNICATIONS GEAR DESTROYED, THE MISSILE CAN-NOT BE CONTROLLED FROM AFAR!

NOW RED DRAGON CAN'T ALTER THE MISSILE'S COURSE --BACK OVER THE MAINLAND!

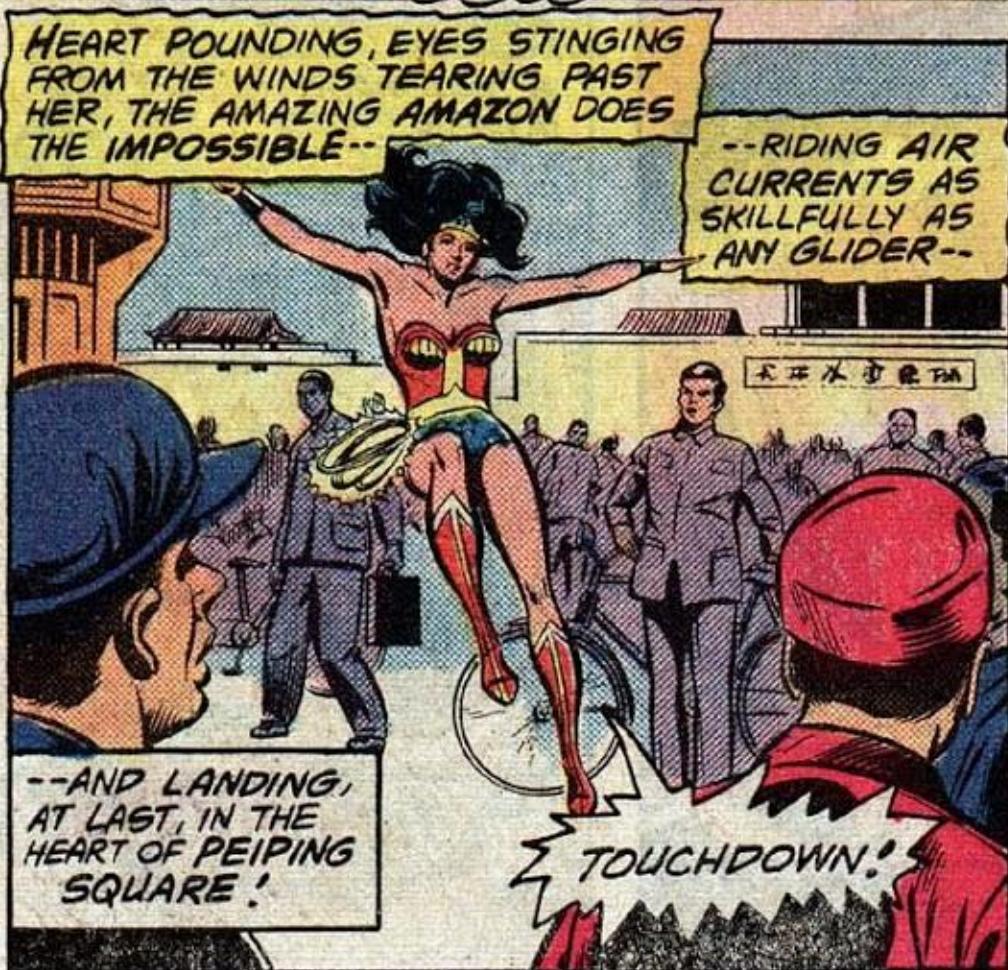
AND, AS A SIDE-EFFECT, IN ABOUT THREE SECONDS, THE MISSILE WARHEAD WILL--

BLAMM

NOT SINCE THE SIGNING OF THE NUCLEAR TEST BAN TREATY IN THE SIXTIES HAS THE PACIFIC FELT A BLAST SUCH AS THIS...

A MAN-MADE SQUALL RACES IN ALL DIRECTIONS FROM THE HEART OF THE EXPLOSION--

--AND THE RESULTING SHOCK-WAVE HITS WITH THE FORCE OF VULCAN'S HAMMER!



AHH, AND THERE ARE OTHER THINGS ABOUT THE MIDDLE KINGDOM THAT ONE WOULD NOT EXPECT TO FIND IN, SAY, THE AMERICAN MIDWEST--

--SUCH AS A MEDIEVAL PAGODA-LIKE CASTLE TUCKED IN A HIDDEN VALLEY IN SOUTHWESTERN CHINA--



--AND ITS MASTER, A WOULD-BE FEUDAL WARLORD WHO CALLS HIMSELF: THE RED DRAGON!

IS ALL IN READINESS?

I WOULD BEGIN MY DAILY--TRAINING!



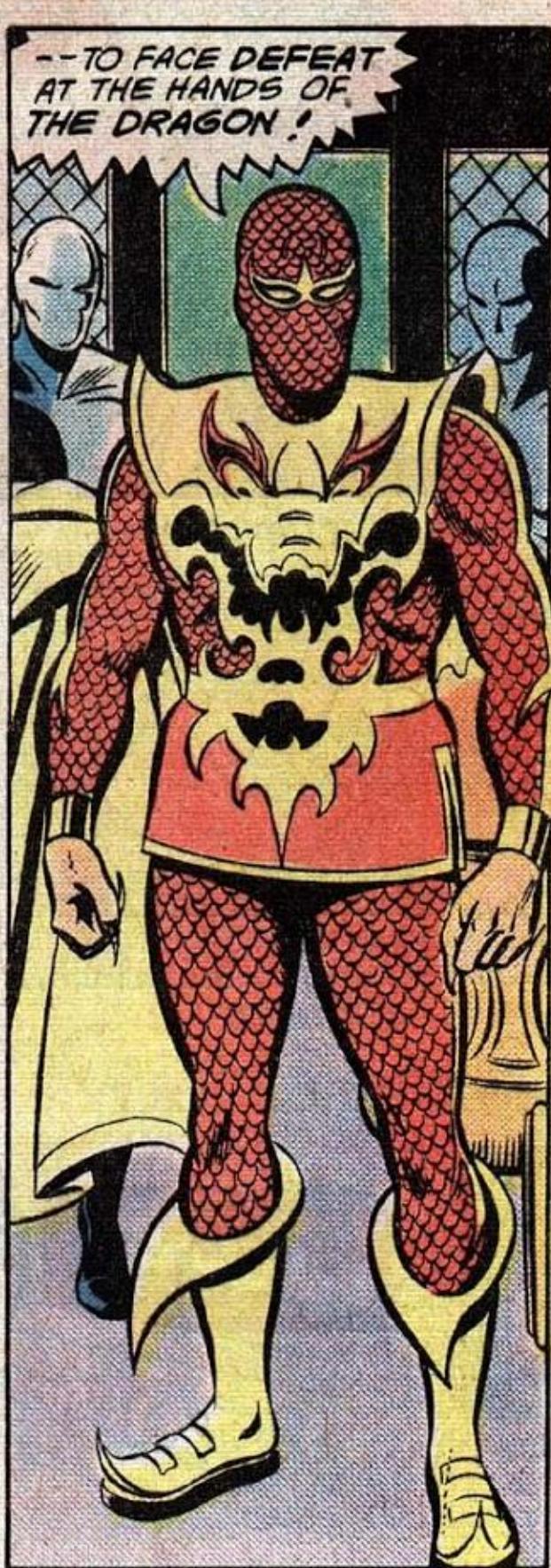
AS EVER, MASTER.
THREE OF OUR NUMBER HAVE-- VOLUNTEERED TO ASSIST YOU.

--TO FACE DEFEAT AT THE HANDS OF THE DRAGON!

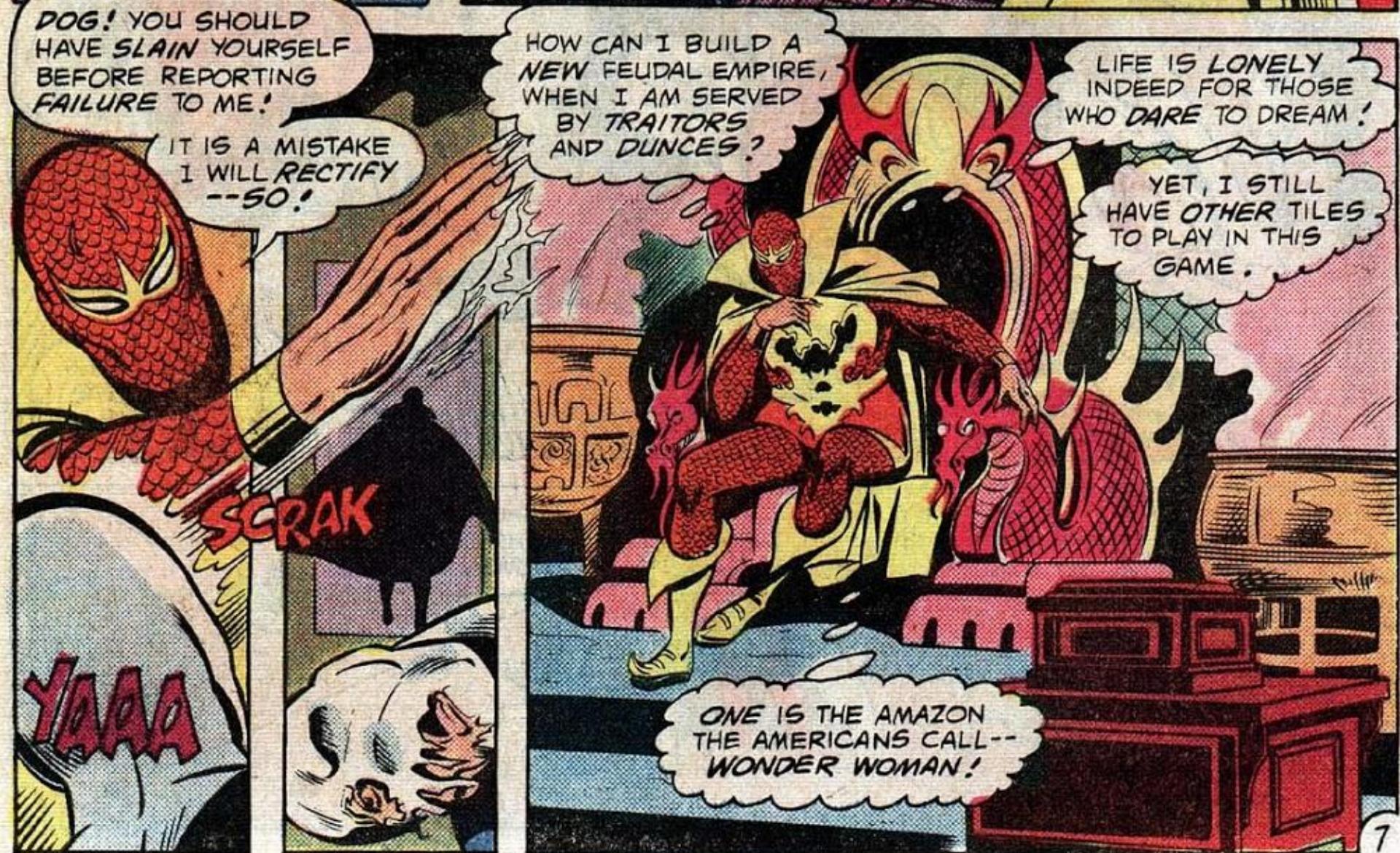
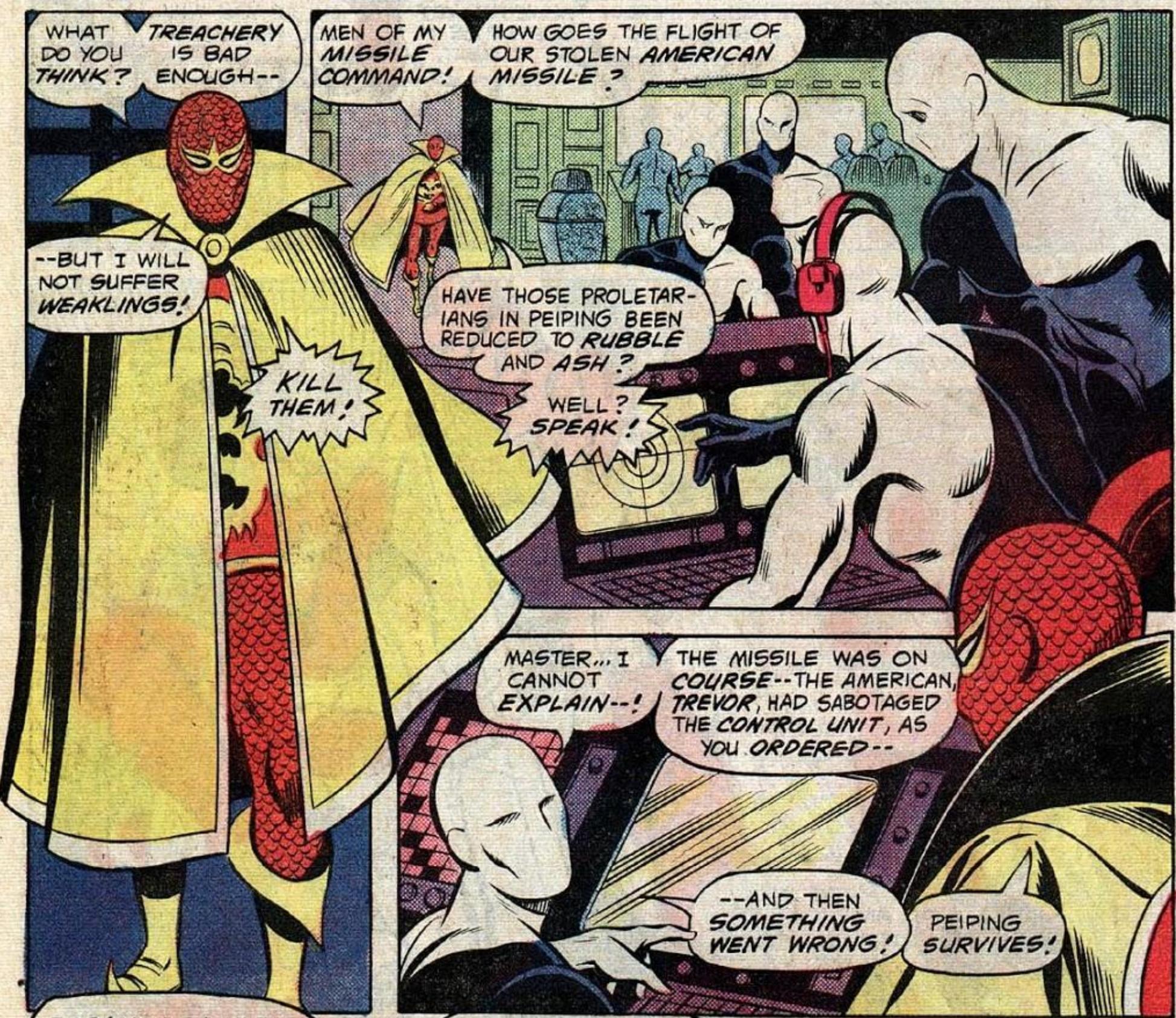
BEFORE WE BEGIN, THERE IS THE RITUAL TO DISPOSE OF.

IN ORDER TO ASSURE THAT YOU WILL FIGHT TO THE BEST OF YOUR ABILITY--AND HOLD NOTHING BACK--

--I FORGIVE YOU IN ADVANCE, SHOULD YOU INJURE ME.







PEIPING, IN THE PEOPLE'S
REPUBLIC OF CHINA, AT
THE HEADQUARTERS OF
THEIR NATIONAL SECURITY
AGENCY...

WELL, DOCTOR?
WHAT ARE YOUR
FINDINGS?

SIMPLY PUT,
COMRADE LAO CHEN--

--YOUR
FRIEND
COLONEL
TREVOR
HAS LOST
HIS WILL!

MENTALLY, HE
REMAINS AS HE
WAS BEFORE,
BUT HE HAS NO
CONTROL OVER
HIS ACTIONS, NO
INDIVIDUALITY--
NO SELF!

STRANGE, ISN'T IT? IN A
WAY, STEVE TREVOR HAS
BECOME THE PERFECT
COMMUNIST--

--AND IT IS
DESTROYING HIM!

APPARENTLY
I WAS WRONG
TO ARREST
HIM!

OBVIOUSLY,
LAO.

STEVE MAY
HAVE SABOTAGED
THE MISSILE
CONTROL UNIT--

--BUT HE DID
SO IN A
TRANCE!

NOT QUITE
A TRANCE,
CAPTAIN
PRINCE.

THE COLONEL
IS AWARE
OF HIS
SURROUNDINGS--

--BUT HE
IS UNABLE
TO ACT.

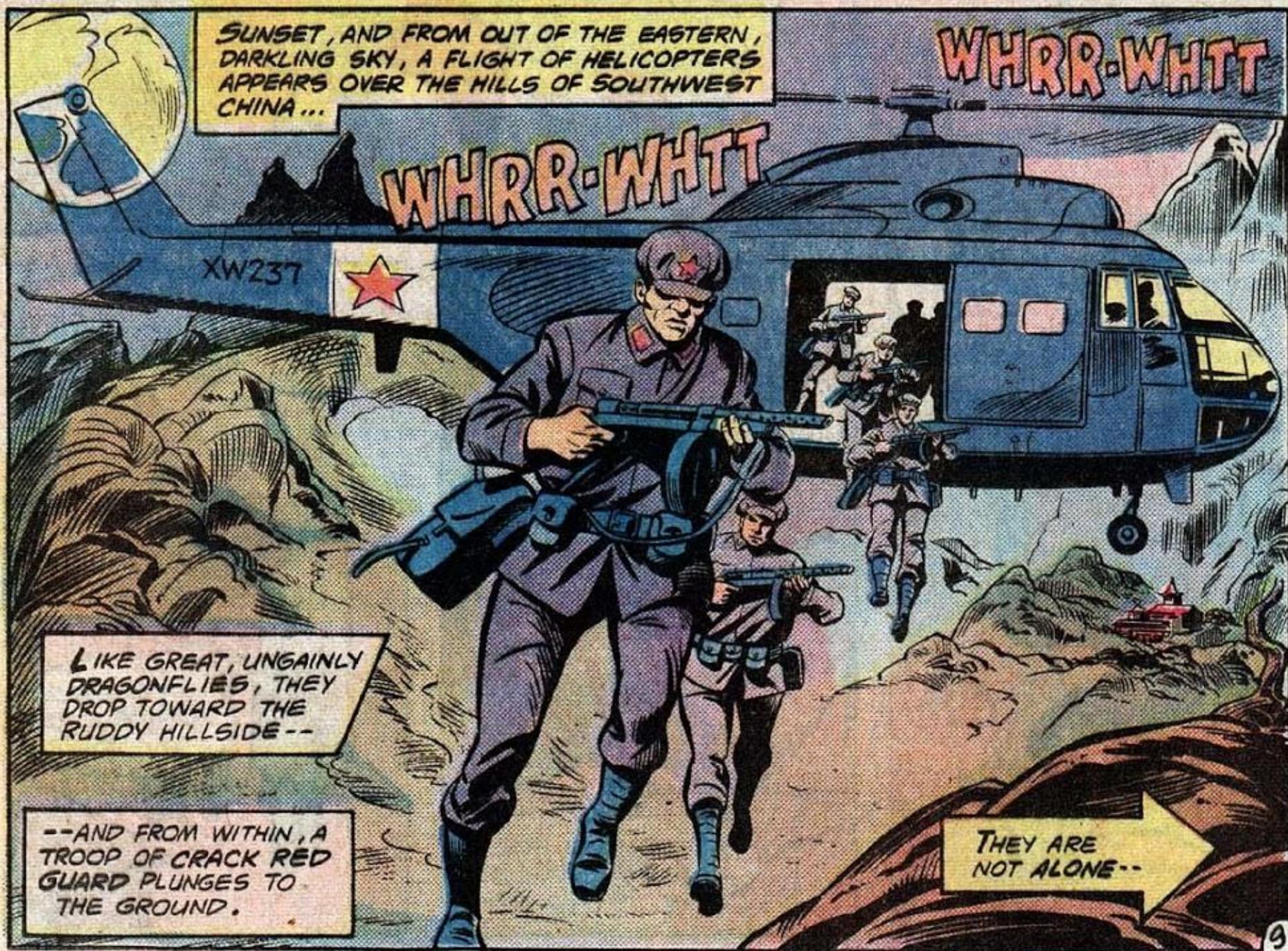
SOME FORCE
HOLDS HIM
IN THRALL.

ALREADY, HIS
HEARTBEAT IS
SLOWED... HIS
BLOOD
PRESSURE
IS DOWN... AND
THERE ARE SIGNS
OF NERVE
DETERIOR-
ATION!

CAN'T YOU
REVERSE
IT?

WORSE, THAT FORCE
IS SLOWLY KILLING
HIM.

A SMALL
POSSIBILITY
EXISTS...!



CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING.

RED TORNADO

in
"CLEAN SWEEP"

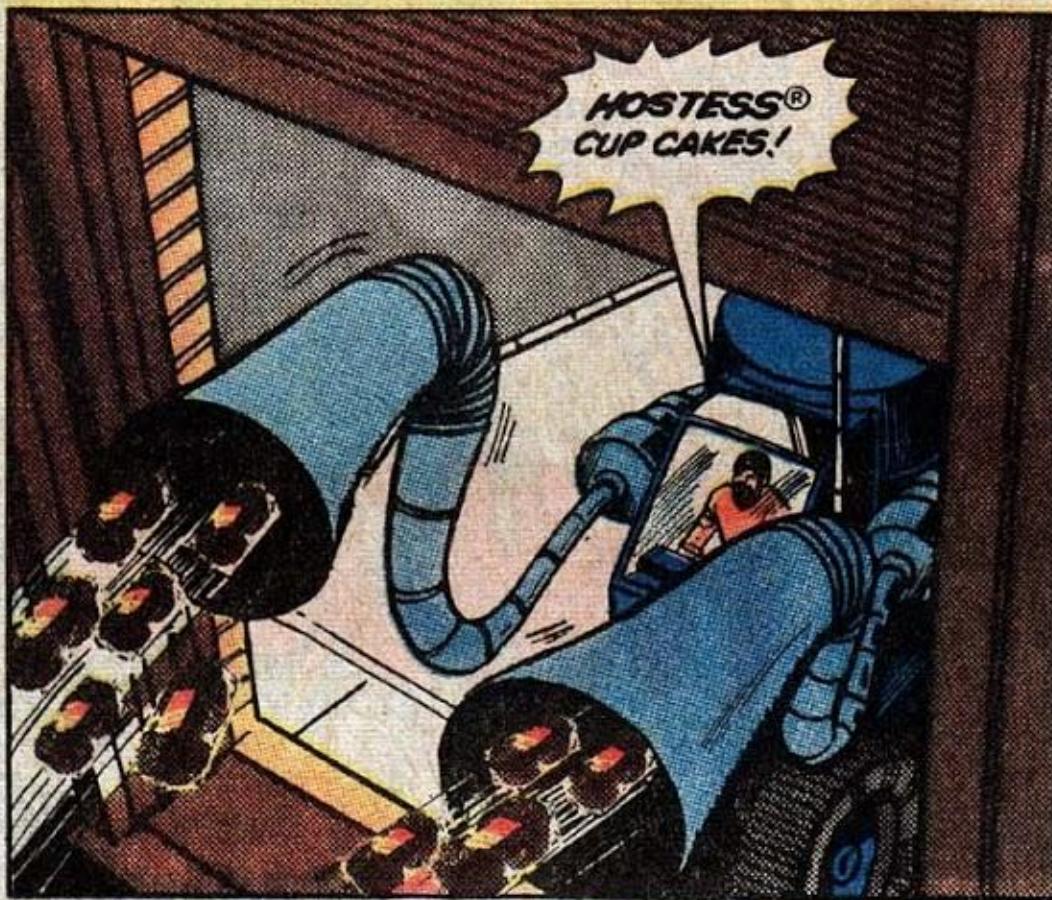
A MYSTERIOUS VACUUM THIEF STRIKES NIGHTLY IN METROPOLIS, DEVOURING ITEMS OF INVALUABLE TASTE. NO FORCE TO DATE HAS BEEN ABLE TO STOP ITS SWIFT CLEANSWEEPING SUCTION.

IT'S A HARD ACT TO SWALLOW, REDDY. YOUR WHIRLWIND POWERS ARE THE ONLY MATCH FOR THIS HUNGRY VILLAIN.

MY COMPUTER BRAIN INFORMS ME WE MUST BAIT THE VACUUM VULTURE WITH SOMETHING DARK AND DELICIOUS.

LATER THAT EVENING...

AN INCREDIBLE READING. SOMETHING OF INCOMPARABLE TASTE IS NEAR AT HAND.



HOSTESS®
CUP CAKES!



FUDGY ICING!
DEEP, DARK,
DELICIOUS
CHOCOLATY CAKE!
INVALUABLE TASTE!



I BELIEVE IT IS NOW TIME TO STIR UP TROUBLE IN THE VACUUM'S CONTROL CIRCUITS.



REDDY, YOU'RE QUITE A HERO!

YOU ARE MISTAKEN, COMMISSIONER. THE HOSTESS CUP CAKES ARE THE REAL HERO.

YOU GET A BIG DELIGHT IN EVERY BITE OF HOSTESS CUP CAKES





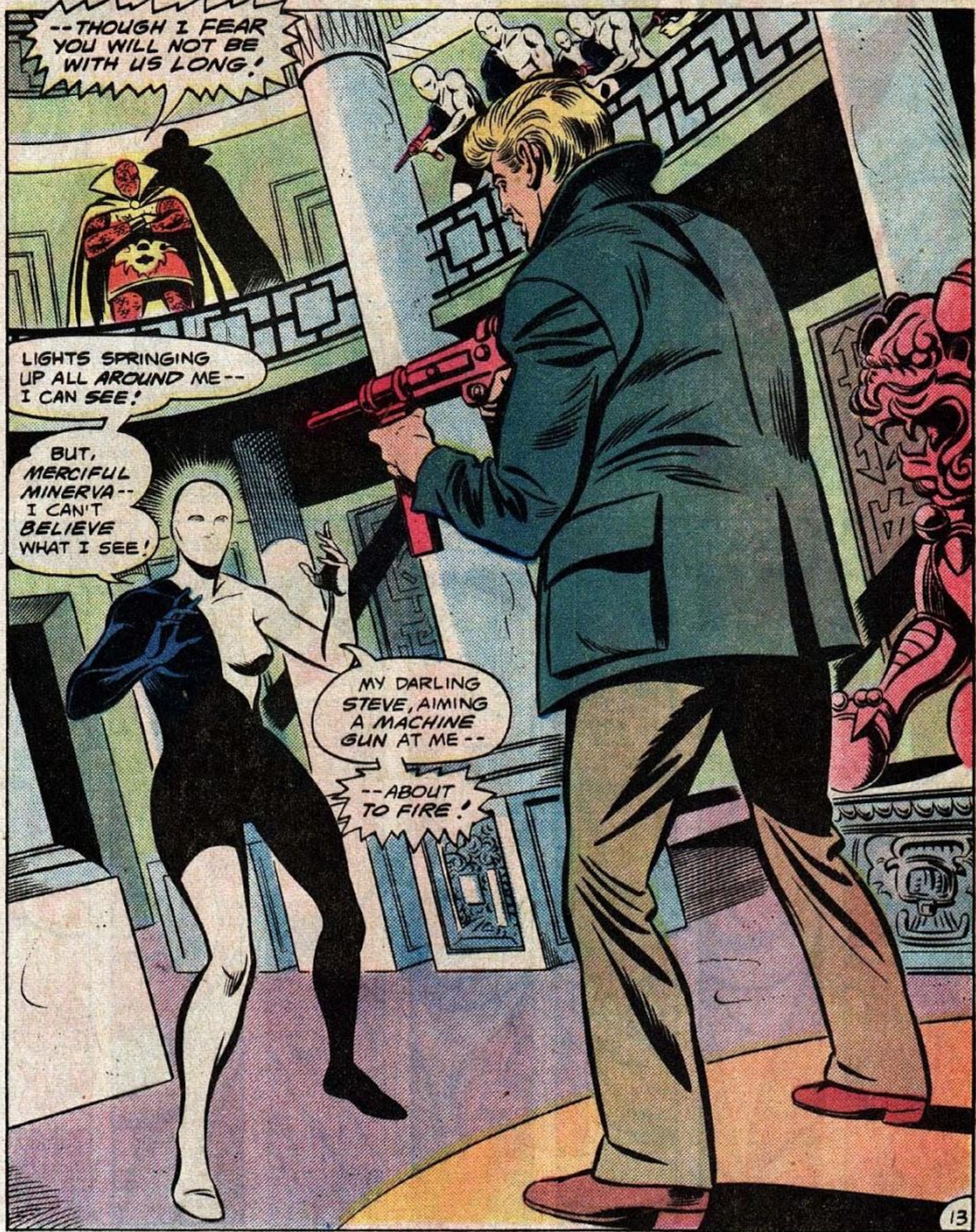


TO HER SURPRISE, THE DISGUISED WONDER WOMAN FINDS THE OUTER COURTYARD OF THE DRAGON'S CASTLE DESERTED...

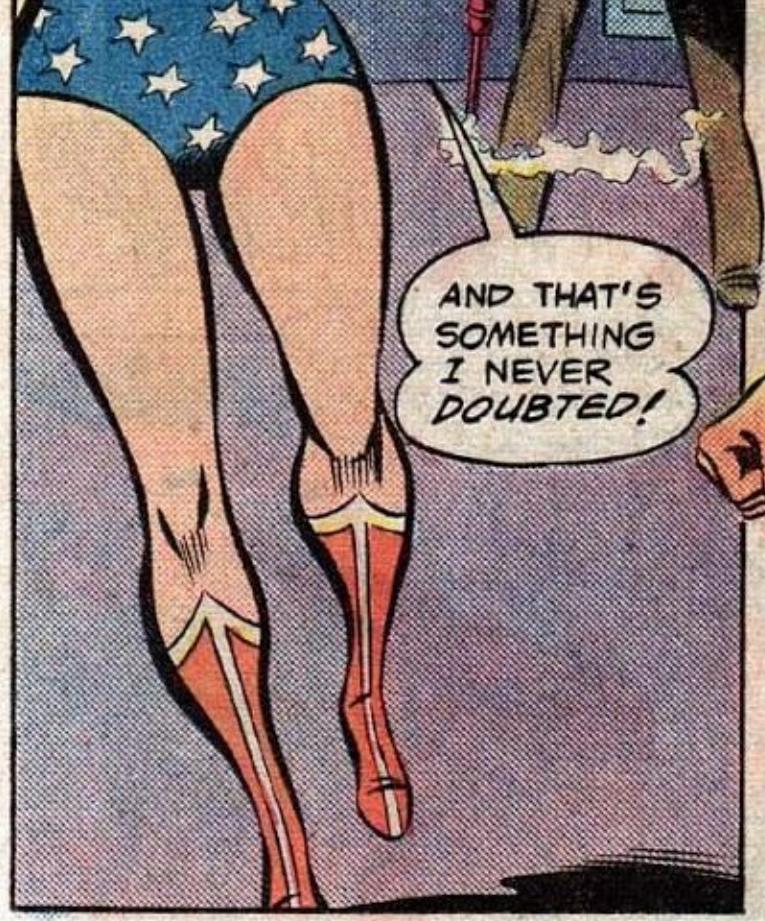
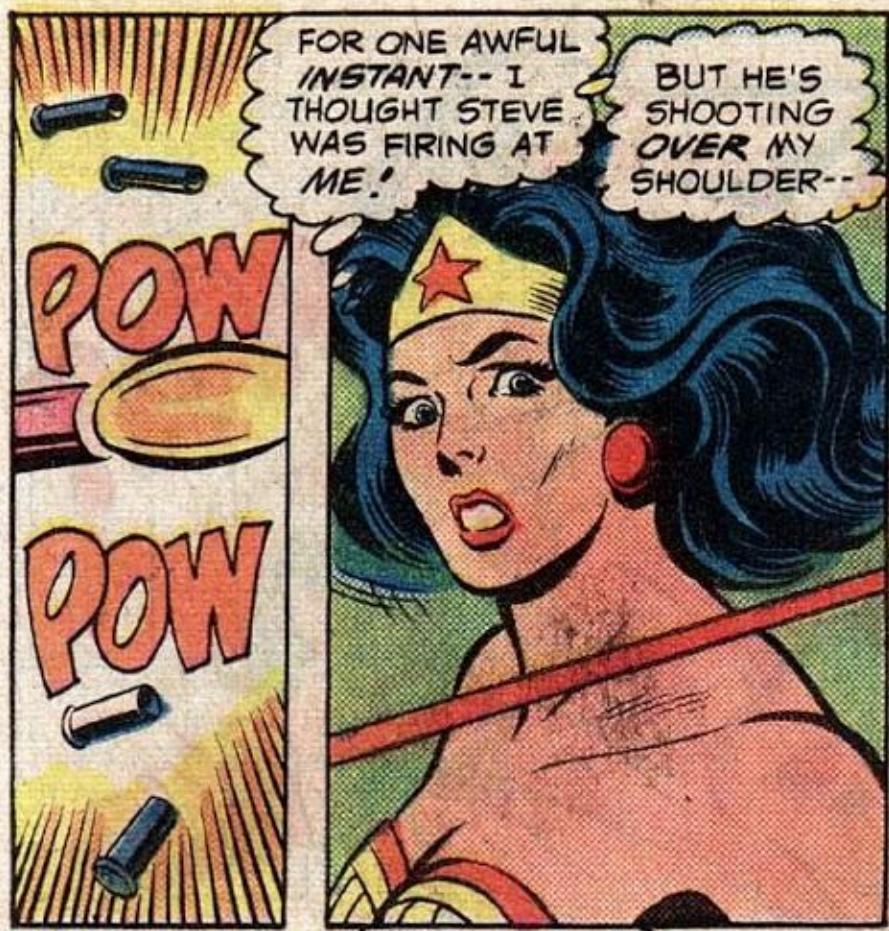
FROWNING BENEATH HER MASK, SHE FOLLOWS THAT PATH WHICH SHE SAW TAKEN BY HER HYPNOTIZED COMPANIONS --

-- AND SOON FINDS HERSELF STRIDING DOWN CORRIDORS THAT SMELL OF STRANGE INCENSE, AND ECHO AS THOUGH WITH A LIFE OF THEIR OWN...









THERE ARE MOMENTS
WHEN PICTURES
SPEAK FOR
THEMSELVES.

THIS IS ONE
OF THOSE
MOMENTS...



AND, AS AMAZON
AND WARLORD
BATTLE FOR SHEER
SURVIVAL --

-- STEVE
TREVOR
SLOWLY
REGAINS
HIMSELF --

-- AND STRIKES
OUT ON HIS
OWN!

GOTTA KEEP THOSE
GOONS FROM SHOOTING
WONDER WOMAN!

HEADS DOWN,
YOU CREEPS!



DODGING, DUCKING, FIRING EVERY CHANCE HE CAN, STEVE TREVOR PROVIDES COVER FOR THE WOMAN HE LOVES--

--AND FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MONTHS, HE FEELS ALIVE AGAIN!



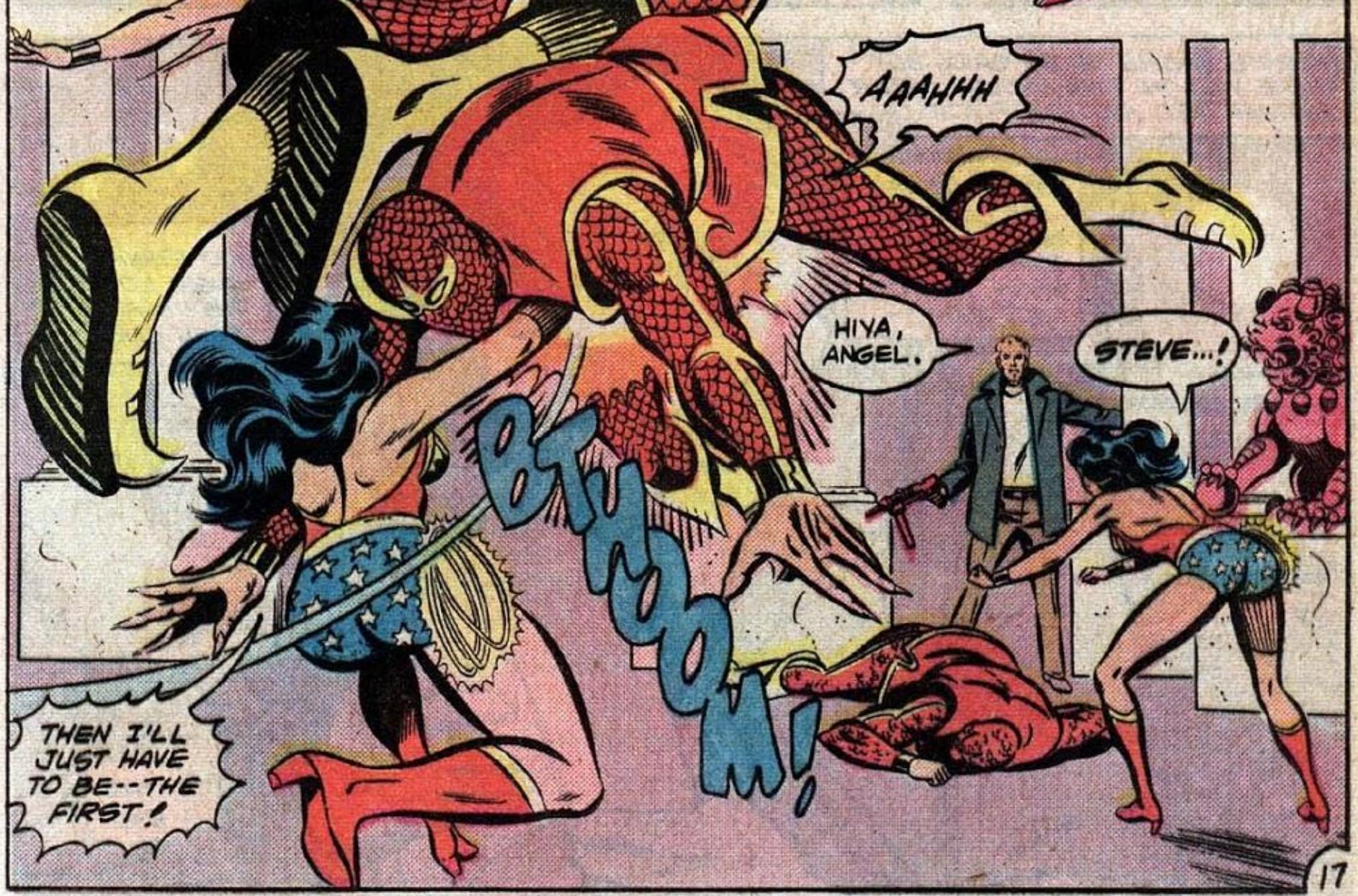
AND, AS FOR THE AMAZING AMAZON...

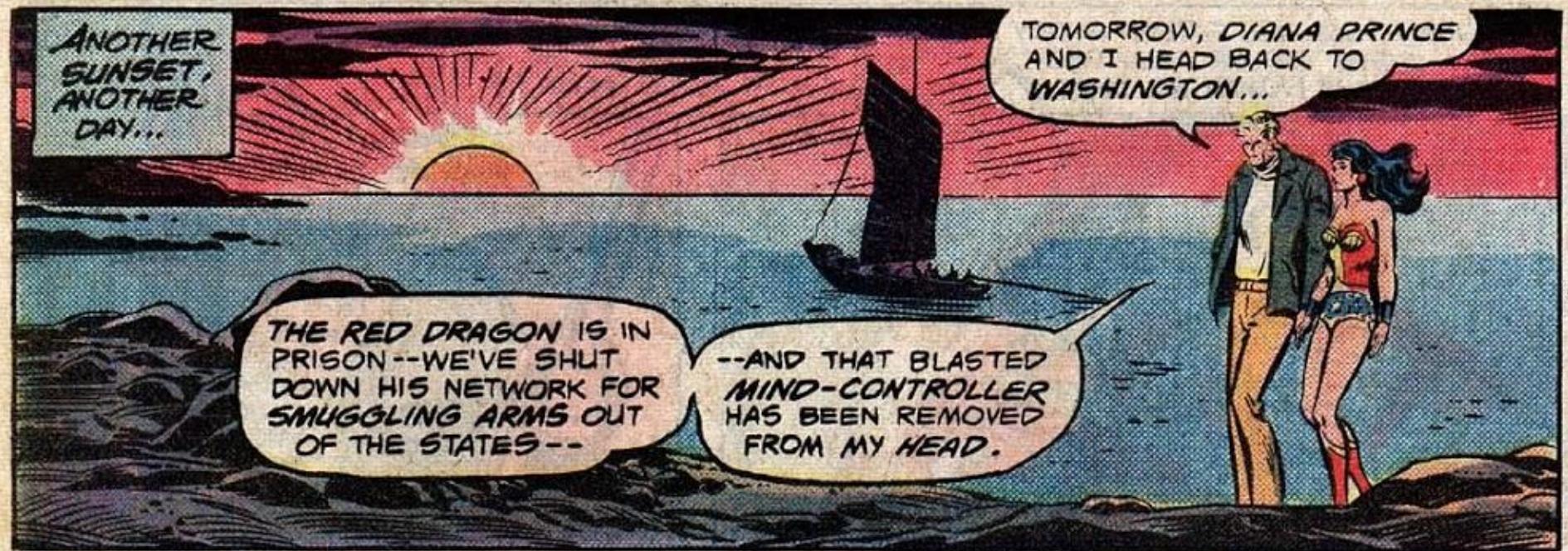
WHY DO YOU KEEP FIGHTING, END OBVIOUS ? FEMALE ?

ISN'T THE



IT IS MY CURSE --AND MY TRIUMPH !







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

Dear Wonder People,

YARVA ETRIGAN DAEMONICUS—I summon the demon Etrigan! What can I say about **WONDER WOMAN** #280 except that everything is terrific! Page 16 was absolutely breathtaking as Jason Blood underwent the transformation from man to Merlin's devoted servant. It's great to have the mighty Etrigan back. Needless to say, I'm anxious to see the next issue!

May I also offer you more compliments? Please don't ever get rid of Steve Trevor again. I was overjoyed when you returned him—you did the right thing. And I'm also glad to see Etta Candy; I always did like her. You've also added a new and, I hope, permanent character, Mother Juju. Diana needs someone like her to confide in. She's like a mother to her in man's world while she's away from her real mother on Paradise Island.

Jose Delbo's pencilling is terrific! His Amazing Amazon is the best I've ever seen!

I'm also enjoying *The Huntress*! I like Joe Staton's art and Paul Levitz's stories. I knew you would kill off Harry Sims, but using *The Joker* was a real shock.

So, no complaints at all, friends. I've been a WW fan since 1963 and I'm very pleased. Keep it up!

JUANITA S. WOODS,
2595 North 4th Street,
Columbus, OH 43202

Dear Len,

Each and every issue of **WONDER WOMAN** is better than its predecessor. Such is the case with #280's "In the Claws of Demons." The progressing plot revolving around Etta Candy's disappearance has never had a dull moment in it and gives us a great array of characters in addition to the usual supporting cast. Mother Juju was on hand last issue and this month we have the *Demon* and the monster Baal-Satyr. These make for a great story and an interesting mystery. Who are the "men" in the hoods and the one with the goat mask? Who are the guys in the "control room"? I'm biting the nails off all my fingers wondering what will happen next!

The challenge *The Huntress* faced in "Lion at Bay" knocked me for a loop. The poor woman was battered and boxed almost to death! This is the kind of battle I really want to see here. On top of all that, I almost fell out of my chair when I saw Harry Sims with that "deathly grin" on his face in the last panel. Surely this can't be his death? He is a character with a lot of potential and I looked forward to his striking up a romance with Helena!

DUSTY LEARY,
117 Emeline Place,
Morehead City, NC 28557

Dear Len,

Wonder Woman is my favorite hero and **WONDER WOMAN** #280 was another outstanding issue. But I have one complaint. I hate the way WW is drawn. Why can't she look

more like she does on the cover? Except for WW herself, the art is exceptionally good.

MARK J. KRUGER,
Box 511,
Minnedosa, Man. ROJ 1EO

Dear Len:

I LOVE IT!!

Portrait of *Superman*: "Lois, I can't marry you. You will always be the target of my enemies. I can't let you fall victim to them!"

Portrait of *Batman*: "Batgirl, the super-hero business is no place for a woman. It's much too dangerous!"

Portrait of *The Huntress*: "Harry, stay behind! You might be hurt!"

FANTASTIC!

Even in *Wonder Woman*'s adventures, Steve Trevor will tell her to stay behind and let him handle things now and again. But now Harry Sims knows how many women are treated in the comics (and the real) world. BRAVO!

By the way, you people better watch out or you'll find *The Huntress* overshadowing your lead feature. (What's her name again? Oh yeah... *Wonder Woman*!) *The Huntress* has more of an air of the real Batman; the child who swore at his parents graves to avenge their murders and bring all criminals to justice. How could it be otherwise when it was Helena's father who first made that vow?

One last question. Is Harry Sims really dead? That's one way (albeit extreme) to protect Helena's secret identity!

DAN COAKLEY,
22 Dean Street,
Norwood, MA 02062

Poor Harry Sims!. Nobody seems to have given him half a chance of surviving the attack by *The Joker*. It's a good thing all you folks don't live in Gotham City or you would have had him (and probably Commissioner O'Hara) buried already!

In case you haven't noticed, we've been keeping our editorial mouths shut till the end of this page, but it's not because we have nothing to say! We've just been trying to keep a lid on the exciting announcement about what will be happening in this magazine beginning with #277!

First off, the current team of Gerry Conway and Jose Delbo will be leaving the adventures of the Amazing Amazon! But replacing them will be a couple of the "new faces" on the DC block—Roy Thomas and Gene Colan! Coupled with Levitz and Staton on *The Huntress*, they should make this magazine one of the most exciting and popular comics on the stands. And while we look forward to our new team, we certainly don't want to slight the current one—a duo that has done a wonderful job of bringing WW to the heights she's reached! Gerry and Jose are currently working on next issue's tale and promise to make it one you won't forget! As Len told them, "Go out with a bang! Give the 'new kids' a tough act to follow!" Join us next issue!—Ted P. Skinner

**THE MAN OF
1,000 FACES**

**THE UNKNOWN
SOLDIER**

**IN MONTHLY
BATTLE
BLOCKBUSTERS!**

HER NAME IS HELENA WAYNE, AND SHE'S CARRYING ON A FAMILY TRADITION. HERE ON A WORLD SUBTLY DIFFERENT FROM OUR OWN, SHE SAW THE BATMAN DIE... AND FIGHTS ON AS HIS DAUGHTER SHOULD, BATTLING CRIME AS...

The Huntress

HE'S BEEN THROUGH A LOT, SURVIVED SHOCK AFTER SHOCK... JUST BARELY. A FEW WEEKS AGO HE WAS A HAPPY MAN, A FEW DAYS AGO HE WAS CLOSE TO DEATH.

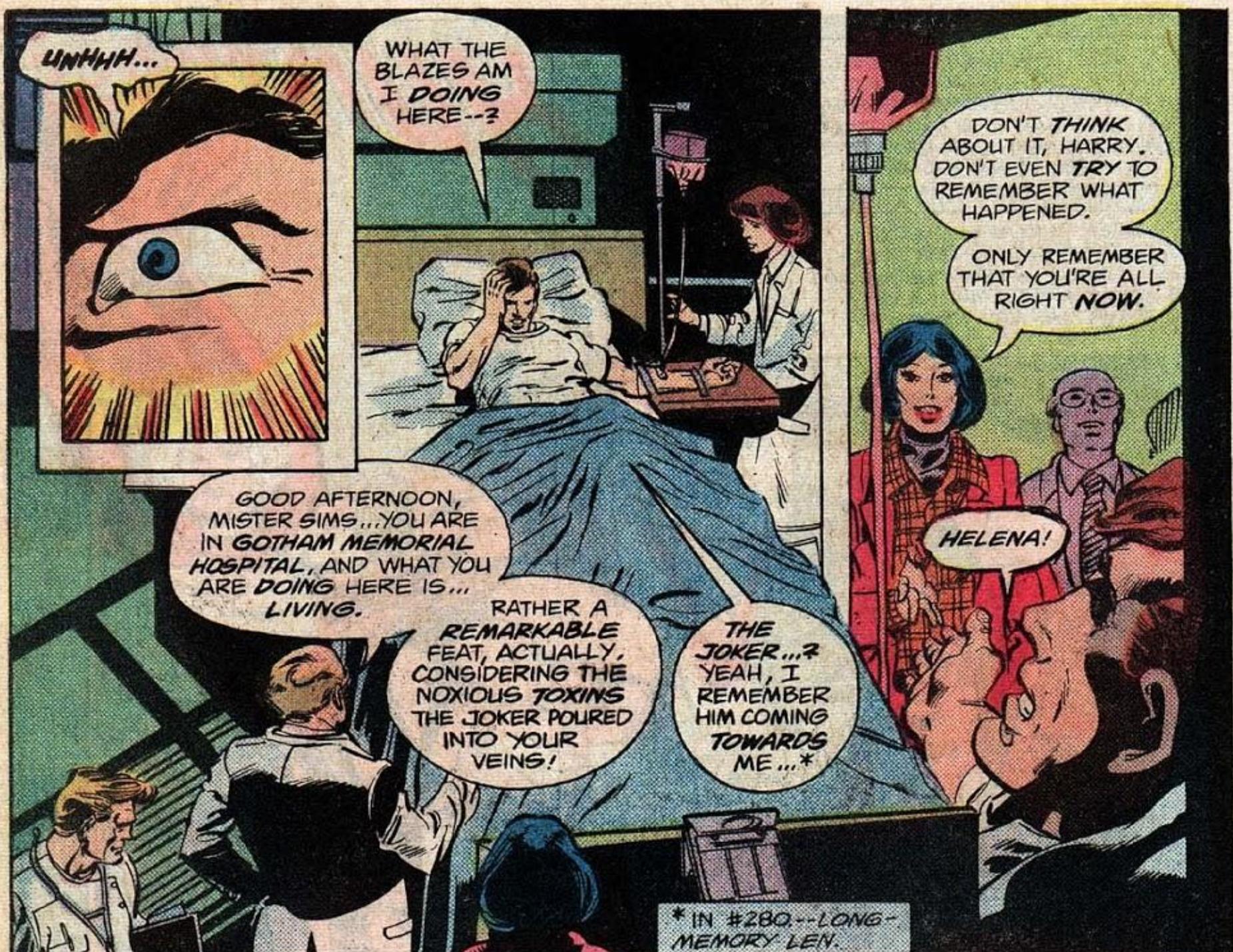
NOW HARRY SIMS TOSSES AND TURNS, FEVERISH WITH DREAMS OF THE COSTUMED HEROES AND HORRORS WHO HAVE CROSSED HIS PATH... EVER SINCE HE DISCOVERED HELENA WAYNE WAS THE HUNTRESS.

HE'S NOT SIMPLY GOTHAM'S DISTRICT ATTORNEY ANY MORE... HE'S ALSO...

THE MAN IN THE MURDER-WARD!

PAUL LEVITZ & JOE STATON, STORYTELLERS • BOB SMITH, INKER
ADRIENNE ROY, COLORIST • TODD KLEIN, LETTERER • LEN WEIN, EDITOR





INNWOOD IS A LITTLE PIECE OF GOTHAM, NESTLED BETWEEN PARKS THAT PROTECT IT FROM THE REST OF THE CITY'S BUSTLE, GRIME AND EVEN CRIME...

A SLEEPY, OUT-OF-THE-WAY PLACE, WELL-PATROLLED BY PRIVATE GUARDS HIRED BY THE WEALTHY RESIDENTS... WHO NEVER REALIZED THAT THEIR BEST PROTECTION LIES HIDDEN WITHIN A BROWNSTONE APARTMENT ON PARK TERRACE ROAD...



...AND A LONG LOOK INTO EYES THAT STARE INTENTLY AS THOUGH EACH IS SEEING THE OTHER FOR THE FIRST TIME...

UH, HEL--I'M SORRY. I-I GUESS MY TIMING'S A LITTLE OFF...

I-IT'S OKAY, DICK... I THINK MAYBE WE'RE BOTH A LITTLE OFF TODAY.

OR A LITTLE SOMETHING, ANYWAY...

THE PHONE RINGS, SHATTERING THE ALMOST-SILENCE OF UNEXPRESSED FEELINGS...

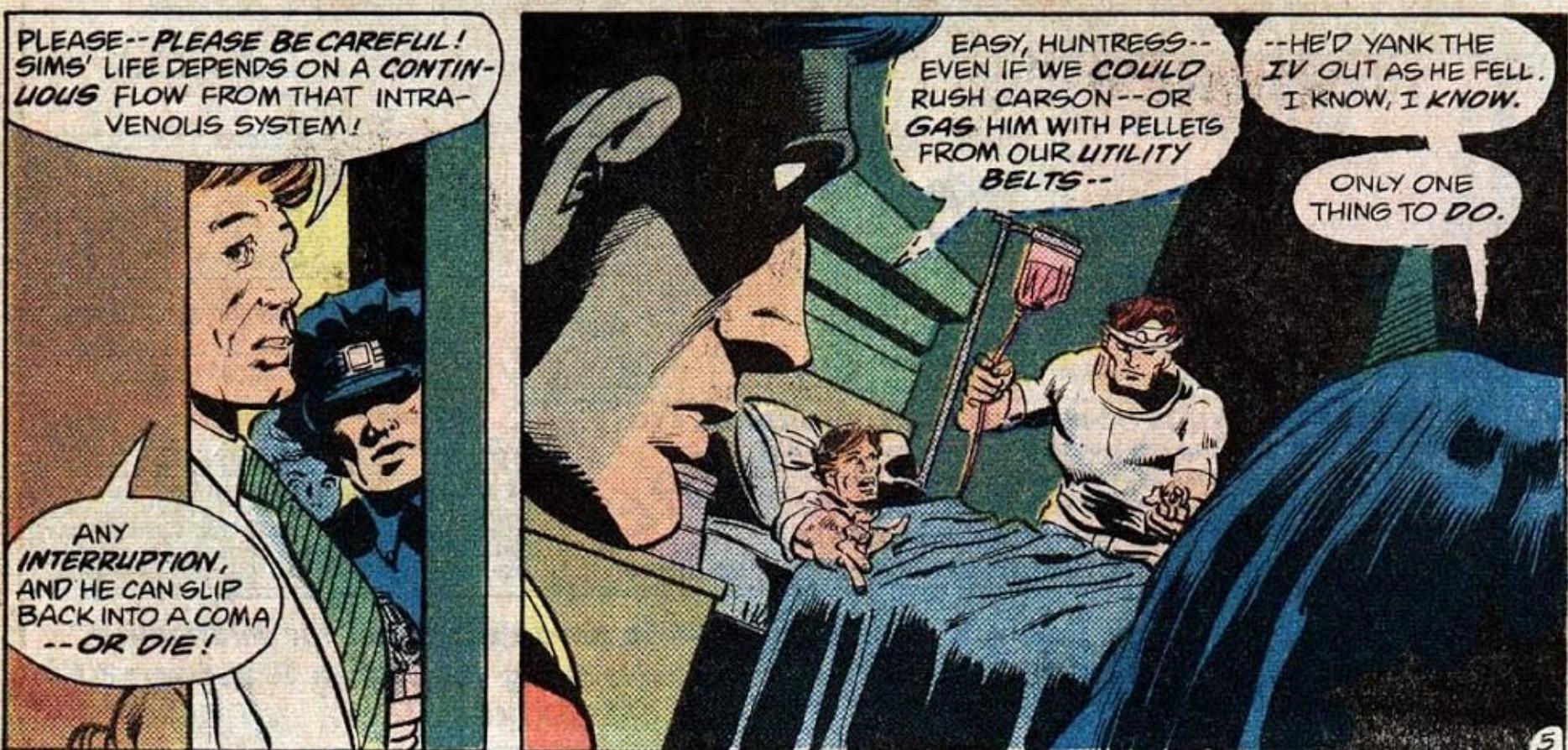
BRI/NG!

HARRY'S VOICE SPEAKS A SINGLE WORD...

"HELP"

...AND A LITHE FIGURE SPINS INTO COSTUME, AND INTO ACTION...

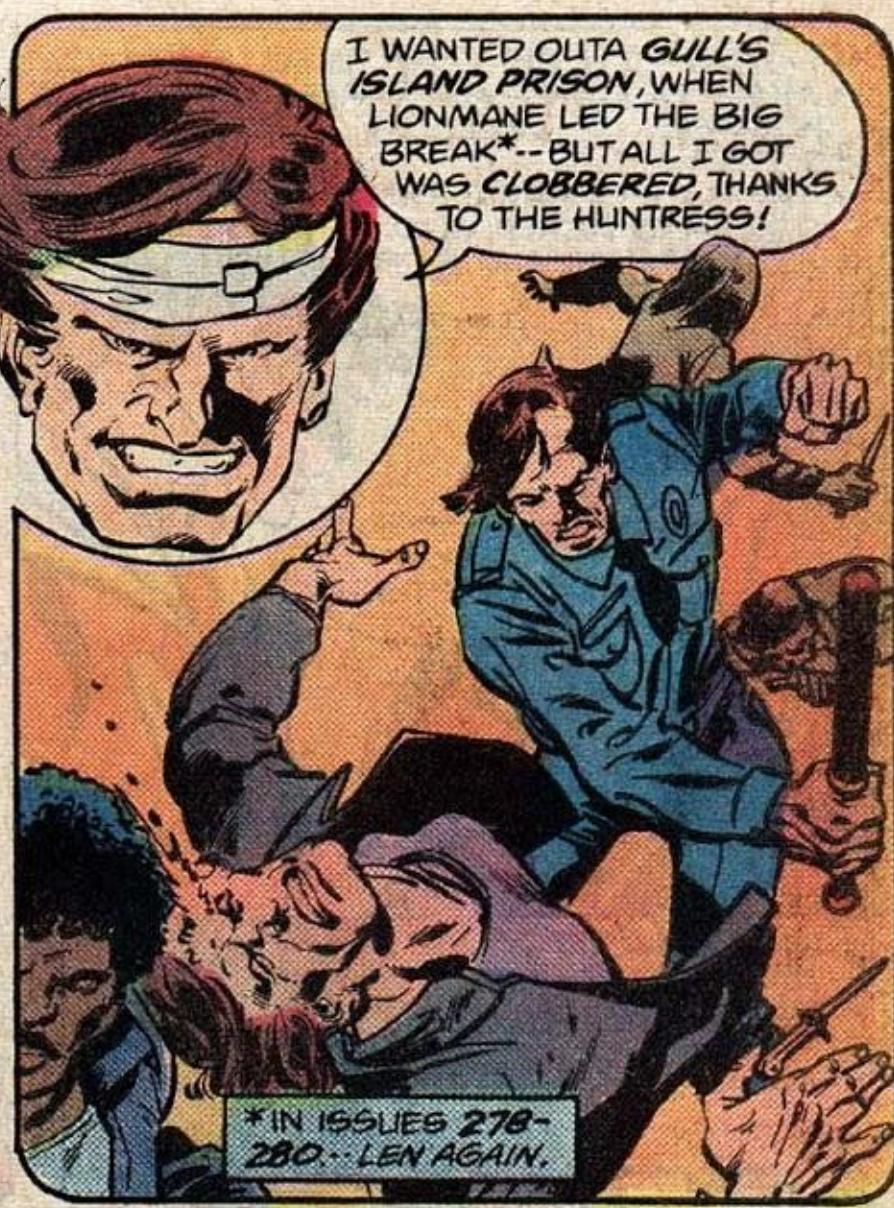
...FOLLOWED BY ANOTHER--AND THEN TWO SHADY FORMS SWING OUT OVER THE NIGHT SKY OF GOTHAM...

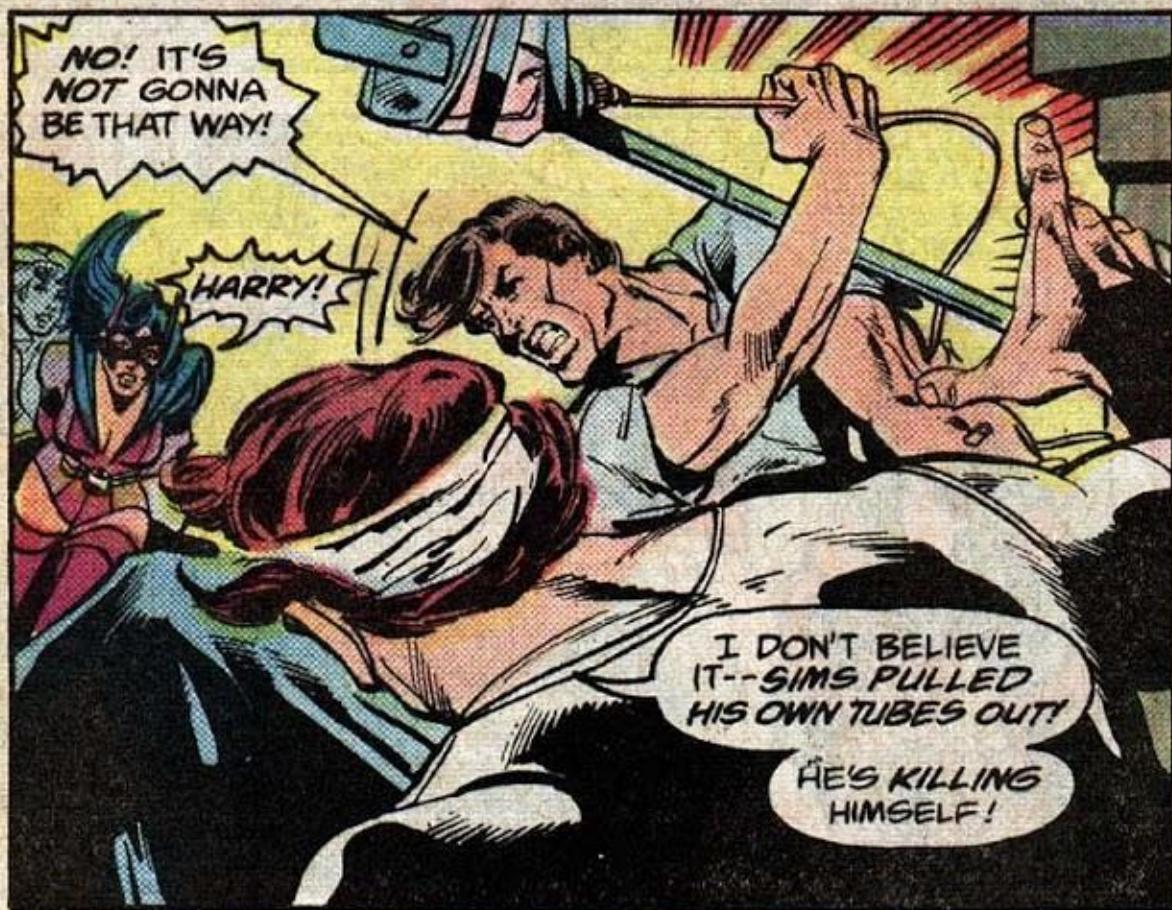
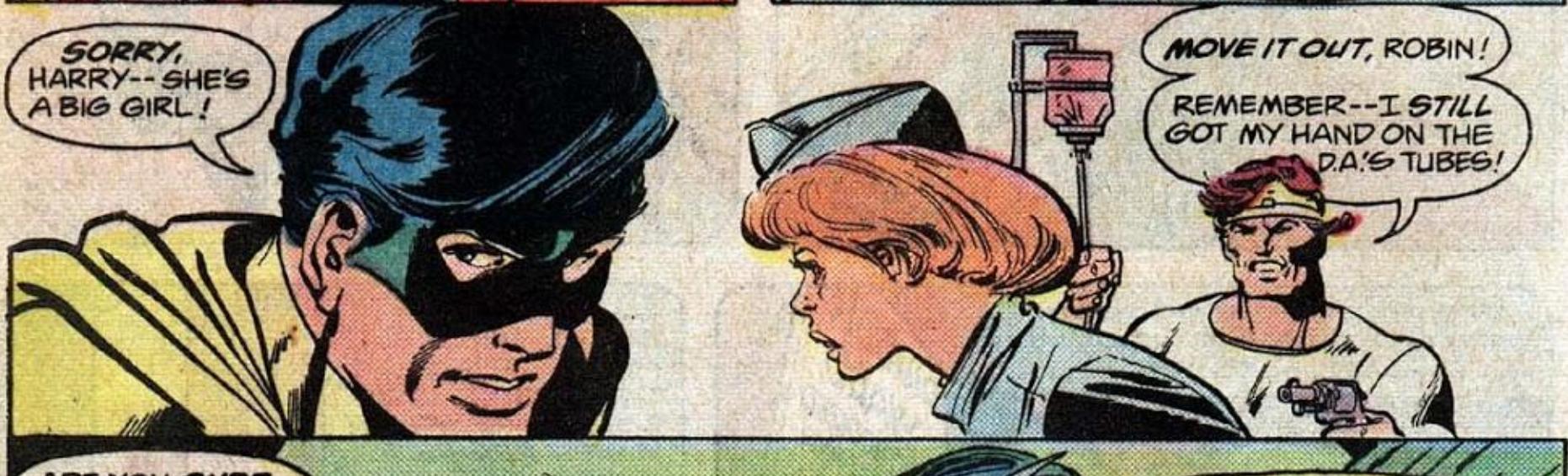


ALL RIGHT, CARSON. --WE'LL LEAVE. BUT BEFORE WE DO, HOW ABOUT TELLING US WHAT YOU WANT?

WANT? I WANT OUT, ROBIN, THAT'S ALL.

I WANTED OUTA GULL'S ISLAND PRISON, WHEN LIONMANE LED THE BIG BREAK*--BUT ALL I GOT WAS CLOBBERED, THANKS TO THE HUNTRESS!





WHEW!

FIRST, HARRY
SIMS ISN'T GOING
TO DIE--

--AND SECOND,
IF HE DOES, HE WON'T
HAVE KILLED HIMSELF,
NOT IN MY BOOK--
YOU'LL HAVE
KILLED HIM!

AND IF,
JUST IF
HE DIES--
SO DO
YOU!

A DROP OF SWEAT ROLLS OFF
HARRY SIM'S FOREHEAD ONTO HIS
PILLOW, MARKING THE SECONDS
THAT PASS AS HE LAPSES BACK
INTO UNCONSCIOUSNESS.

EVEN AS HIS EYES SHUT, CARSON
COLLAPSES TO THE FLOOR, AND
DOCTORS AND NURSES POUR
INTO THE ROOM ...

