

SUPERMAN
DC
NATIONAL COMICS

10¢

BAT-MAN

SEPT.
NO. 142

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
CARTOON
AUTHORITY

'RULER of the
BEWITCHED
VALLEY!"

FOOLS! YOU WERE
WARNED OF MY
POWERS! NOW, MY
CREATURE WILL
DESTROY YOU!



FROM THE VAST REACHES OF OLITER SPACE
IT CAME! ITS MISSION?... TO PROTECT THE
LIFE OF BATMAN! LITTLE DID THE CAPE-
CRIME FIGHTER REALIZE, HOWEVER, THAT
HE HAD MORE OF AN ENEMY THAN A
FRIEND IN...

BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN
- THE BOY WONDER

BATMAN'S ROBOT- GUARDIAN



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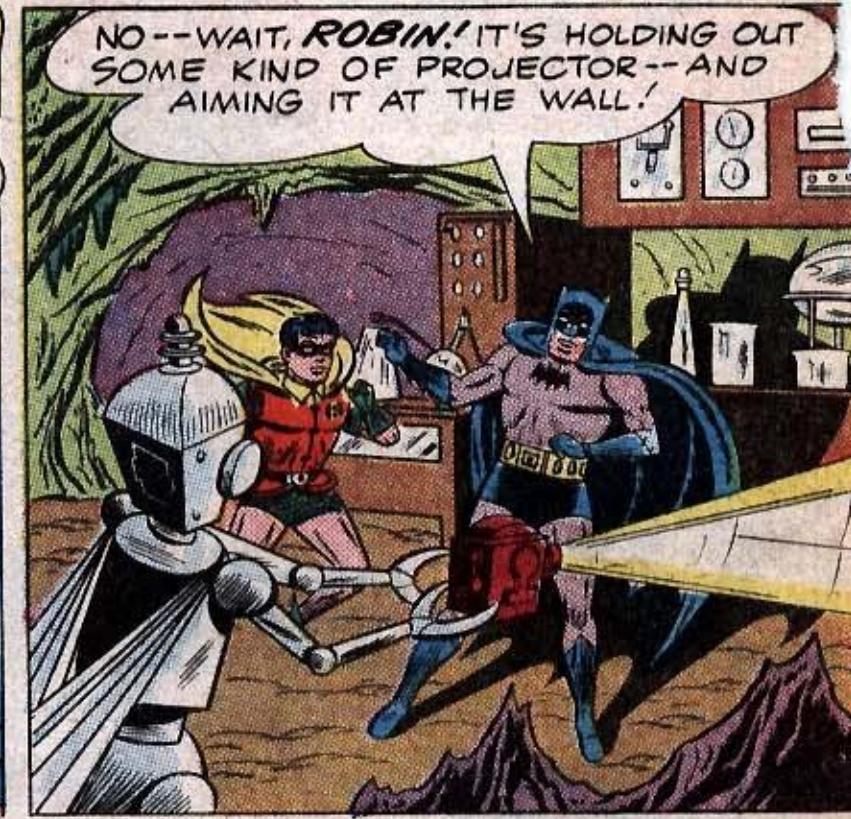
BATMAN



AS BATMAN AND ROBIN PREPARE TO GO OUT ON PATROL, ONE NIGHT, A STARTLING SURPRISE AWAITS THEM IN THE BAT-CAVE...

B-BATMAN!
SOME KIND OF CREATURE'S
FOUND ITS WAY IN
HERE!

IT'S GOING
TO ATTACK
US!



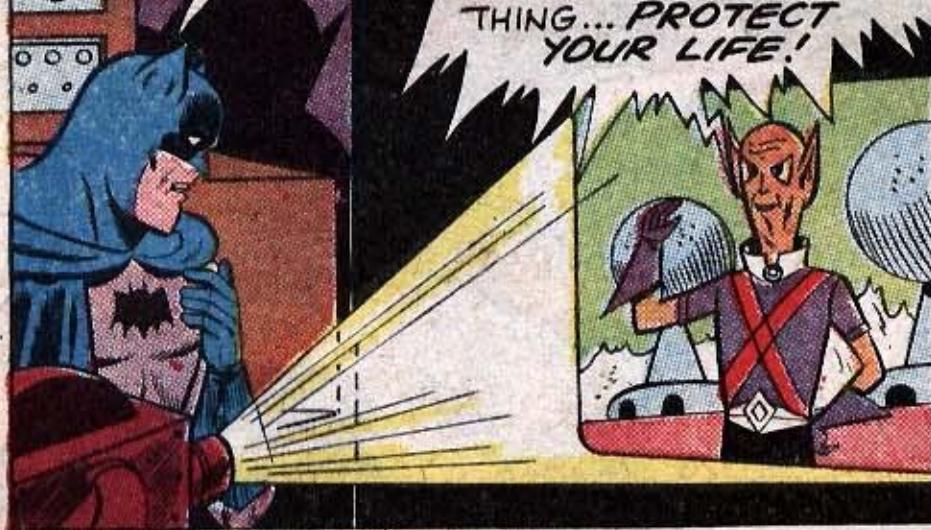
INSTANTLY, AN AMAZING FILM IS PROJECTED...

WHY-- THAT'S TAL-DAR... THE ALIEN
WE ONCE HELPED
ON HIS NATIVE
PLANET!

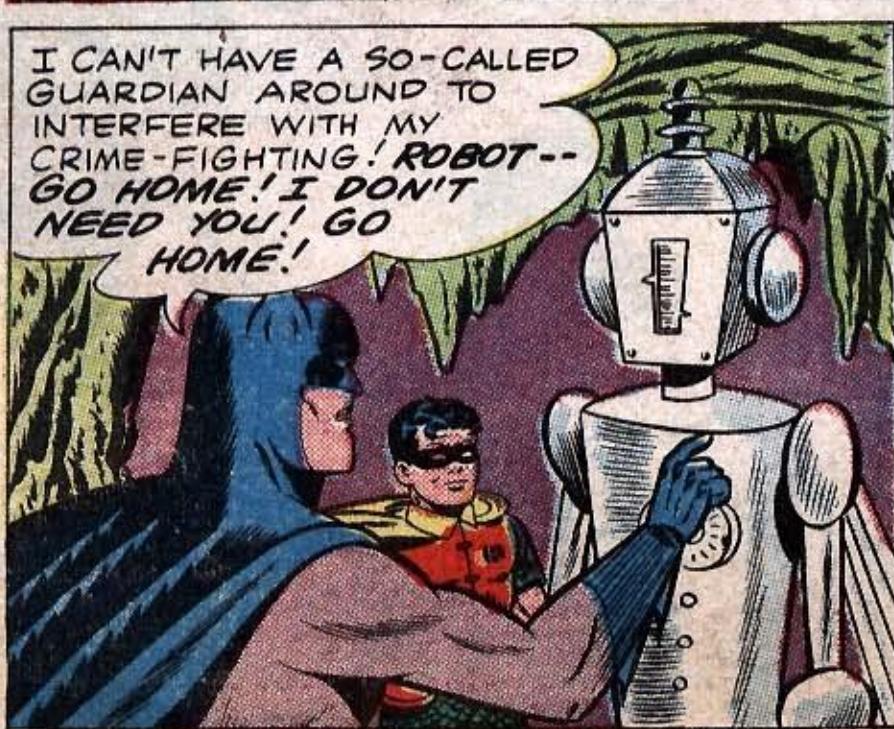
BATMAN, IN GRATITUDE
FOR YOUR PAST HELP, I
HAVE SENT YOU A GIFT--
A ROBOT! THIS ROBOT
HAS BEEN ELECTRONICALLY
CONDITIONED TO DO ONE
THING... PROTECT
YOUR LIFE!

IT HAS COME TO YOU IN A
SPACE CAPSULE WHICH IT
HAS HIDDEN... AND IT WILL
REMAIN WITH YOU ALWAYS,
TO SAVE YOUR LIFE
WHENEVER YOU ARE
IN DANGER! FAREWELL,
OLD FRIEND!

GREAT
SCOTT...
A
PROTECTOR?



I CAN'T HAVE A SO-CALLED
GUARDIAN AROUND TO
INTERFERE WITH MY
CRIME-FIGHTING! ROBOT--
GO HOME! I DON'T
NEED YOU! GO
HOME!



LATER, ON PATROL, THE BATMOBILE
POLICE RADIO BLARES AN ALARM...

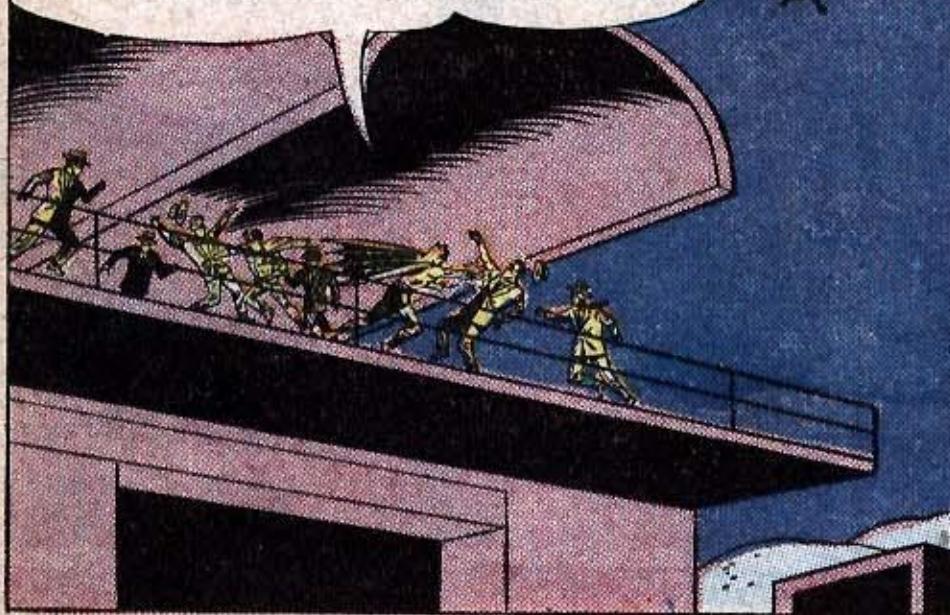
ROBBERS STEALING
GOLD SHIPMENT AT
GOTHAM AIRPORT!

THAT'S FOR
US... GOTHAM
AIRPORT
IS RIGHT
NEARBY!



SPEEDING TO THE SCENE, THE CRIME-FIGHTERS CHARGE HEAD-ON INTO THE FLEEING BANDITS...

WE'RE OUTNUMBERED, ROBIN... DON'T WASTE YOUR PUNCHES!

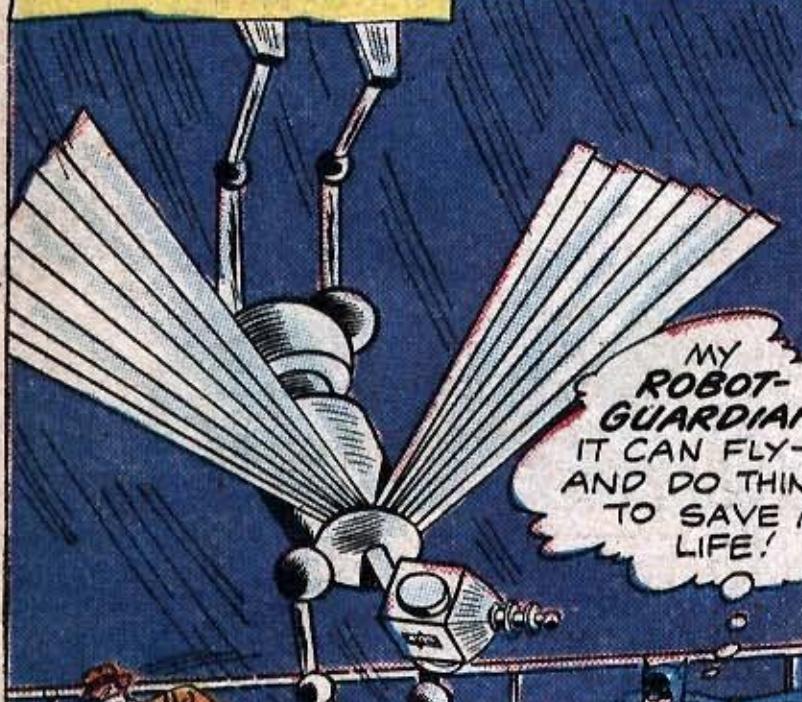


AT THAT MOMENT, ONE CRIMINAL RAISES HIS GUN, AND...

'HA, HA! CAUGHT YOU OFF-GUARD, BATMAN!'



BUT, IN THAT SAME INSTANT, FROM THE SKIES, SOMETHING STREAKS TO BLOCK THE BULLET!



DURING THE CONFUSION, A PLANE SUDDENLY REV'S UP, AND...

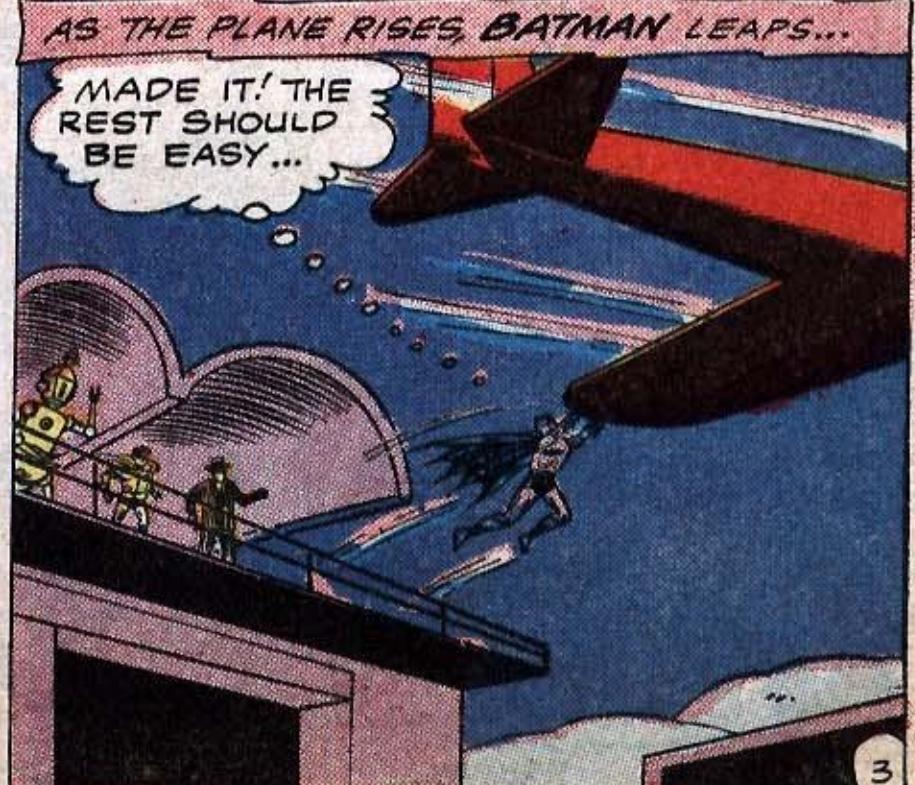
IT'S MIKE!... TAKING OFF WITH THE GOLD-- THAT DOUBLE-CROSSING HEEL!

GOT TO STOP HIM -- THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY...



AS THE PLANE RISES, BATMAN LEAPS...

MADE IT! THE REST SHOULD BE EASY...





BATMAN



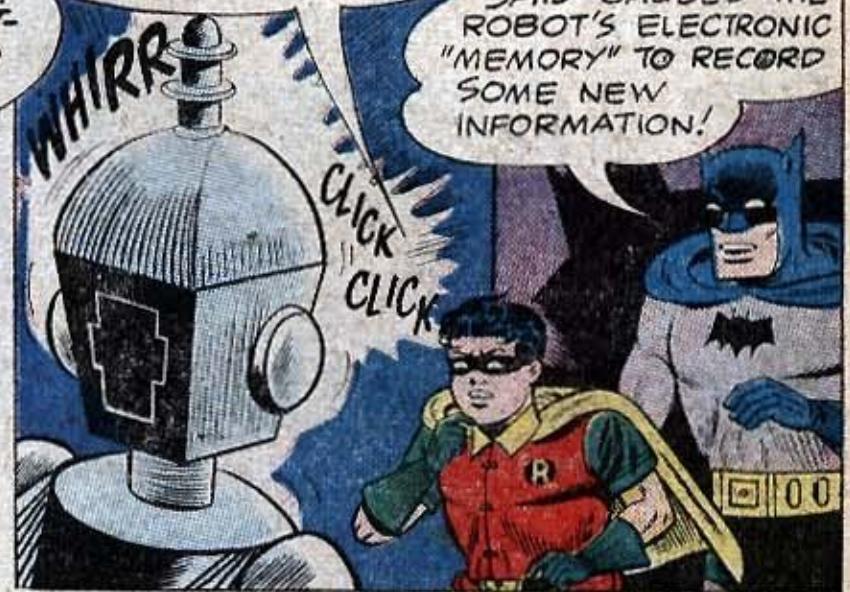
EASILY OVERCOMING THE PILOT, BATMAN
BRINGS THE CRAFT TO A SAFE LANDING...

THAT WAS SOME
CHANCE YOU TOOK!
YOU MIGHT HAVE
BEEN KILLED!

I WASN'T WORRIED...
NOT WITH MY ROBOT-
GUARDIAN AROUND
TO LEND A HAND!

BATMAN, LISTEN TO
THOSE SOUNDS!
WHAT'S HAPPENING?

I'M NOT SURE...
APPARENTLY,
SOMETHING I
SAID CAUSED THE
ROBOT'S ELECTRONIC
"MEMORY" TO RECORD
SOME NEW
INFORMATION!



SOON, NEWSPAPERS HEADLINE THE STRANGE
EVENT...

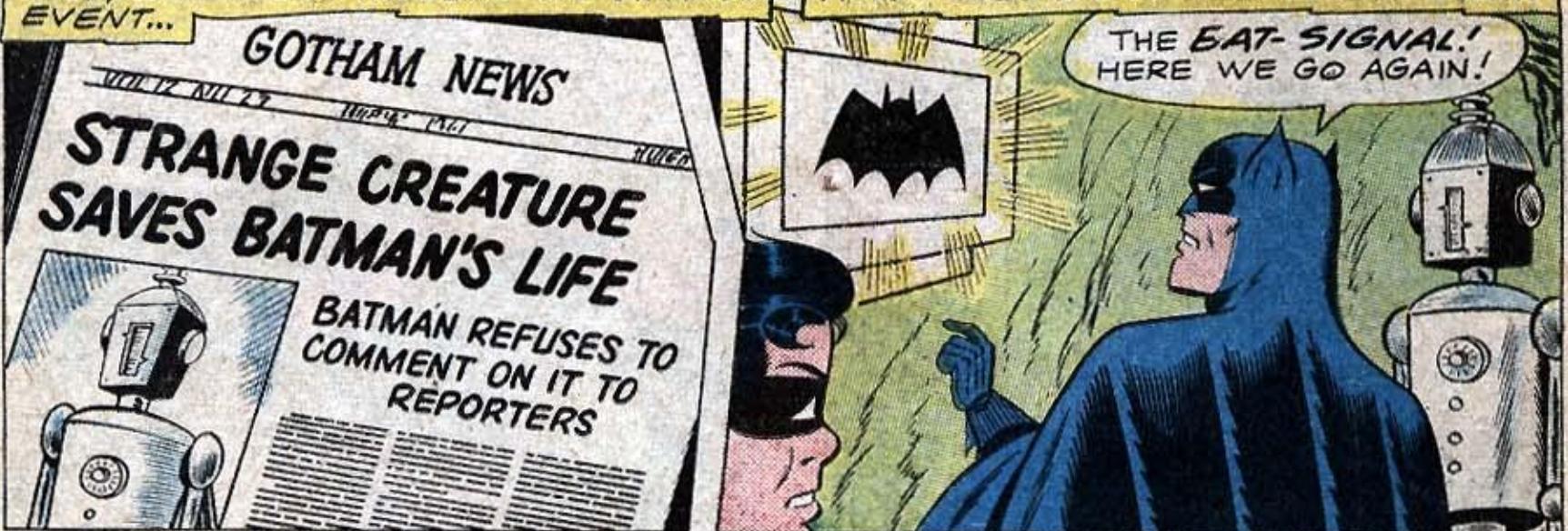
GOTHAM NEWS

STRANGE CREATURE
SAVES BATMAN'S LIFE

BATMAN REFUSES TO
COMMENT ON IT TO
REPORTERS

NEXT DAY, IN THE BAT-CAVE, A UNIQUE
RECEIVER, TUNED IN TO HEADQUARTERS,
AGAIN ALERTS BATMAN AND ROBIN...

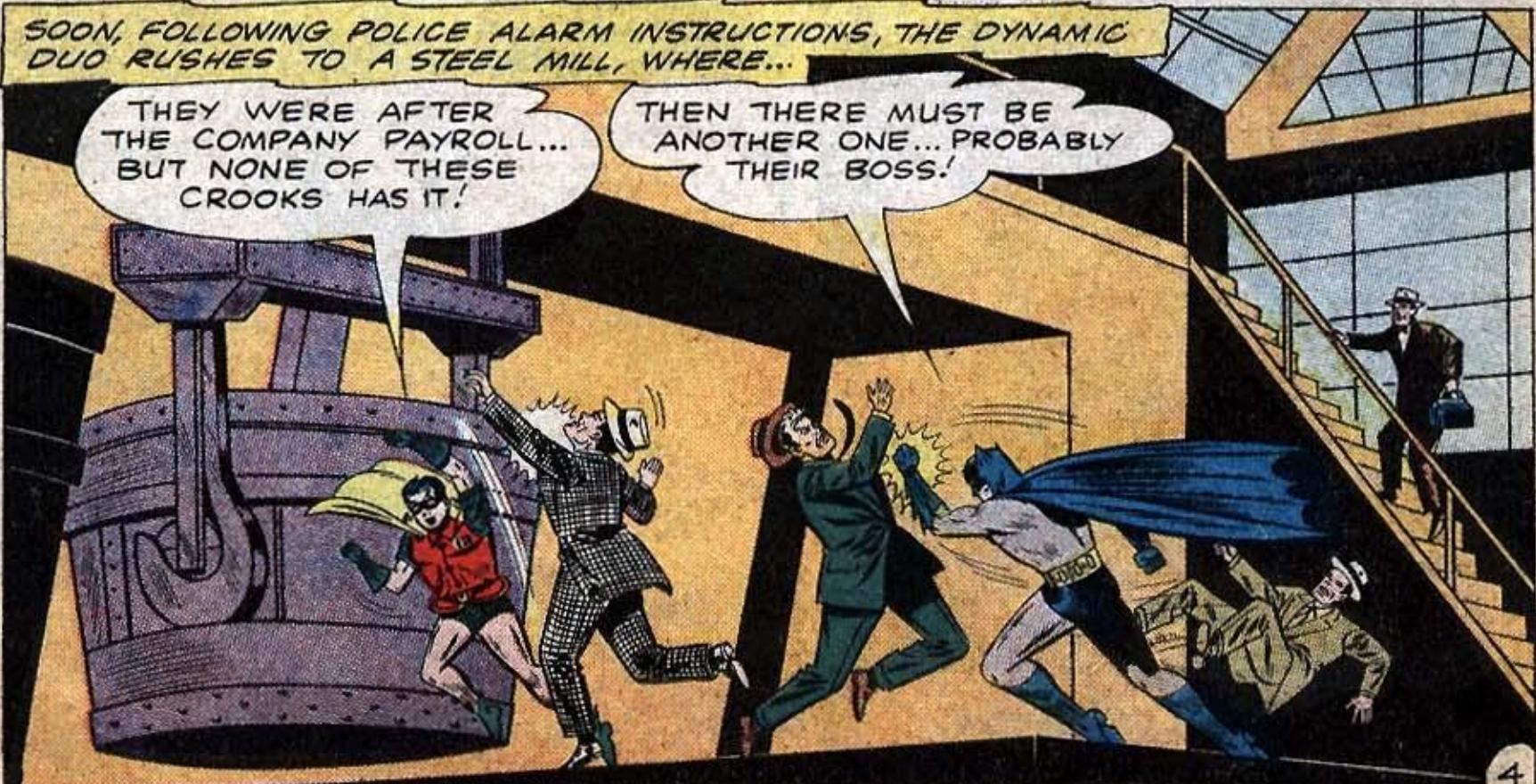
THE BAT-SIGNAL!
HERE WE GO AGAIN!



SOON, FOLLOWING POLICE ALARM INSTRUCTIONS, THE DYNAMIC
DUO RUSHES TO A STEEL MILL, WHERE...

THEY WERE AFTER
THE COMPANY PAYROLL...
BUT NONE OF THESE
CROOKS HAS IT!

THEN THERE MUST BE
ANOTHER ONE... PROBABLY
THEIR BOSS!

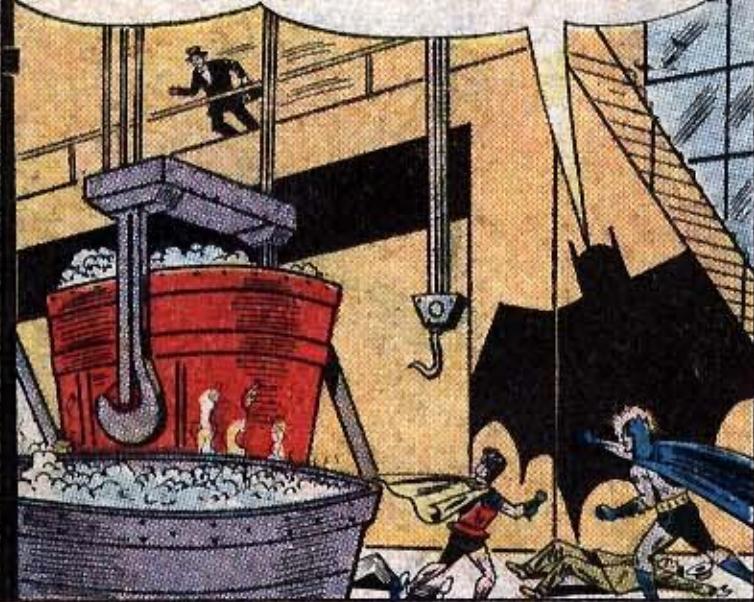




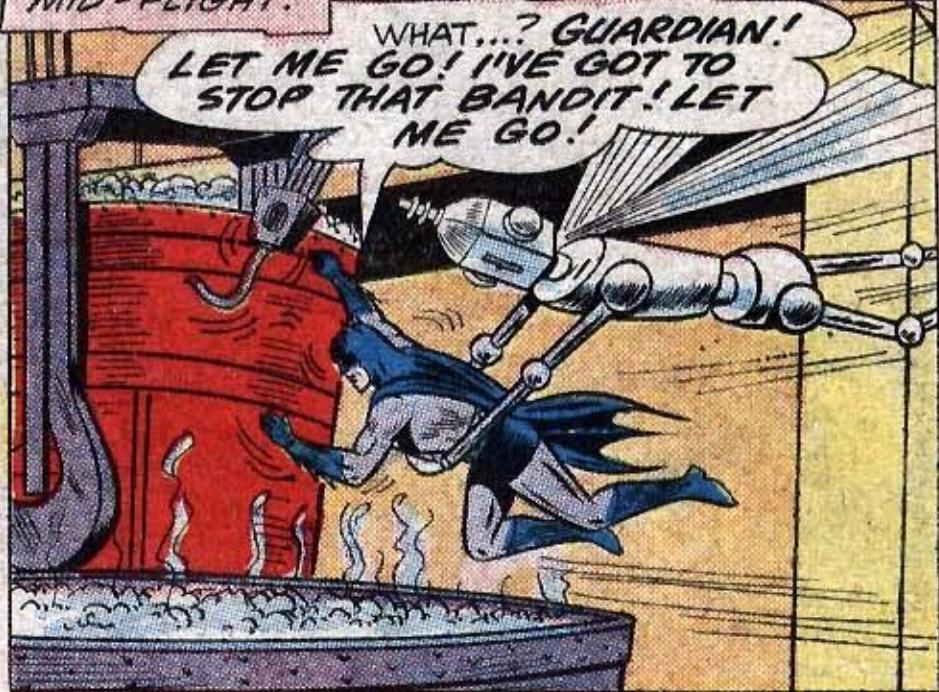
BATMAN



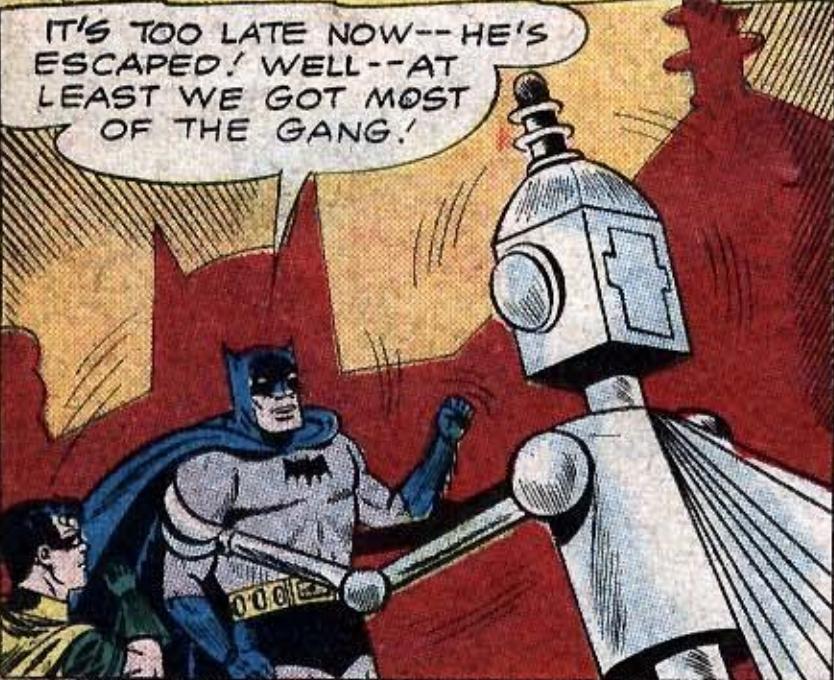
THERE HE GOES! THE ONLY WAY I CAN STOP HIM IS BY SWINGING OVER THE CAULDRON OF MOLTEN METAL--TO THE CATWALK! IT'S RISKY--BUT I'VE GOT NO CHOICE!



YET, EVEN AS BATMAN LAUNCHES HIMSELF UPWARD, ANOTHER FIGURE CATCHES HIM IN MID-FLIGHT!



BUT BATMAN'S PROTESTS ARE IN VAIN...



LATER, BACK IN THE BAT-CAVE...



WITH THOSE WORDS, ELECTRONIC RELAYS CLICK AND TAPES START TURNING IN THE ROBOT'S "BRAIN"...

NEXT MORNING, FOLLOWING AN UNDERWORLD TIP, BATMAN AND ROBIN KEEP WATCH OVER THE WATERFRONT, UNTIL...



LISTEN--IT'S HAPPENING AGAIN!

YES...ITS CIRCUITS ARE RECORDING MORE FACTORS!

WRRR
CLICK

WRRR
CLICK

THE TIP WAS CORRECT... BANDITS ARE STEALING THAT SHIPMENT OF ART FROM THE WAREHOUSE! LET'S GO, ROBIN!



BATMAN



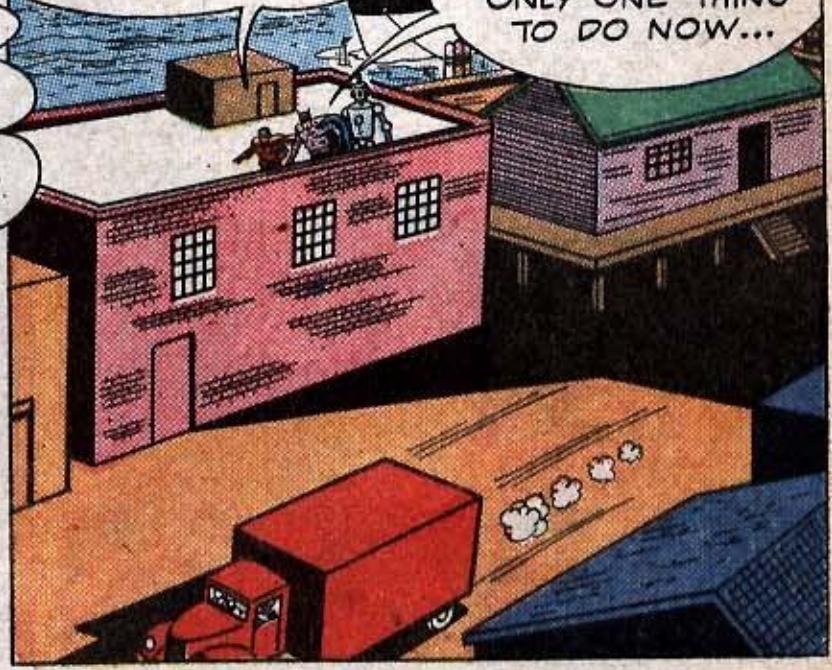
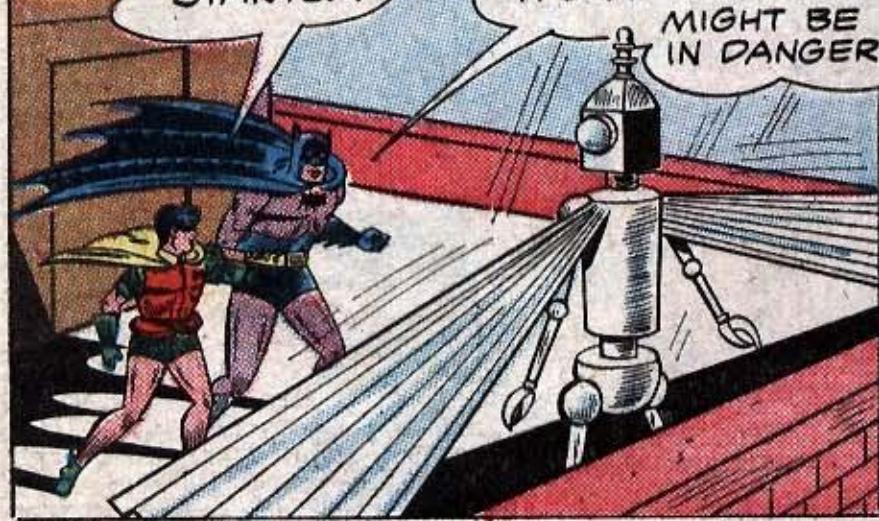
BUT BEFORE THE CRIME-FIGHTERS CAN MAKE A MOVE, THE ROBOT-GUARDIAN FLASHES DOWN FROM THE SKIES, AND...

OH, NO! THIS TIME, IT STOPPED US BEFORE WE EVEN GOT STARTED!

IT DOESN'T WANT US TO GO INTO ACTION, BECAUSE IT'S AFRAID WE MIGHT BE IN DANGER!

LOOK--THE BANDITS ARE GETTING AWAY IN THAT TRUCK!

I GOT THE LICENSE NUMBER! THERE'S ONLY ONE THING TO DO NOW...



MINUTES LATER...

QUICK--BANDITS IN A GETAWAY TRUCK--LICENSE 6488! STOP THEM! WE...ER... WE CAN'T RIGHT NOW!



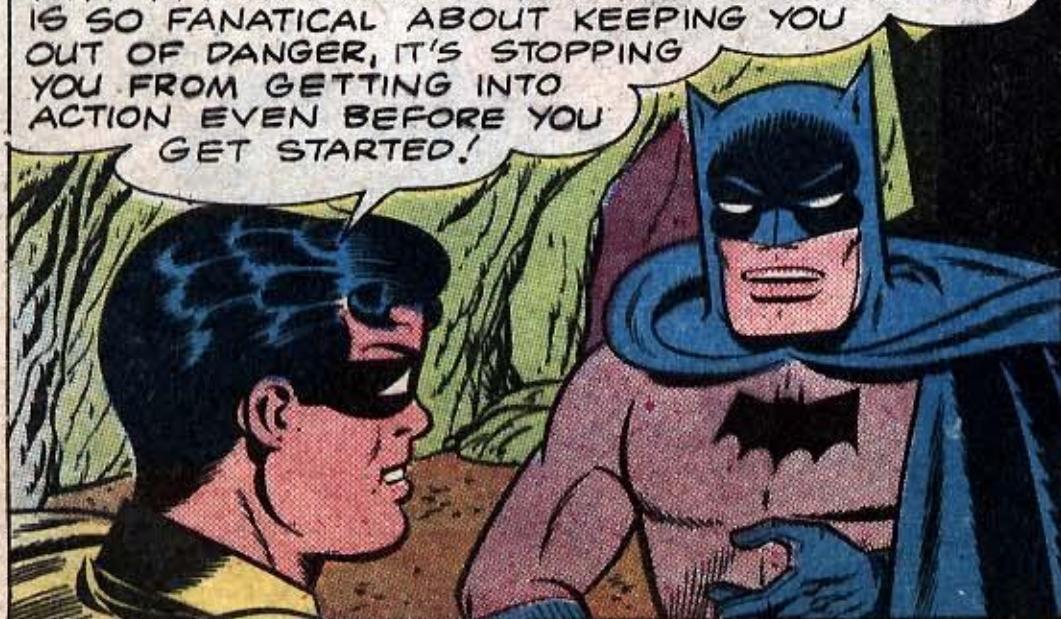
FUNNY... THE BATMOBILE IS THE FASTEST THING ON WHEELS! HOW COME BATMAN CAN'T STOP THE CROOKS?

IT'S A MYSTERY TO ME!

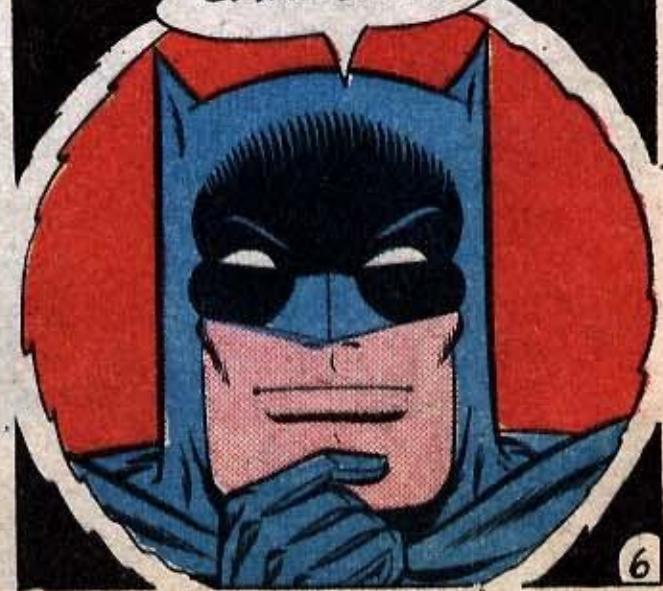


BUT IT'S NO MYSTERY TO BATMAN AND ROBIN, AS THEY PONDER THE PROBLEM IN THE BAT-CAVE...

WHAT A PREDICAMENT! YOUR ROBOT-GUARDIAN IS SO FANATICAL ABOUT KEEPING YOU OUT OF DANGER, IT'S STOPPING YOU FROM GETTING INTO ACTION EVEN BEFORE YOU GET STARTED!



YES... AND IF THIS KEEPS UP, IT WILL EVENTUALLY MEAN THE END OF OUR CRIME-FIGHTING CAREERS!





BATMAN



COULDN'T WE COUNTER-COMMAND ITS ORDERS -- OR ORDER IT BACK TO ITS HOME PLANET?

IMPOSSIBLE! THE ROBOT CAN ONLY FOLLOW ITS ORIGINAL ORDER FROM TAL-DAR... AND WHILE IT'S HERE, IT KEEPS ADDING TO ITS ELECTRONIC BRAIN-- MORE DATA FOR IT TO KEEP US FROM ANY POSSIBLE DANGER!

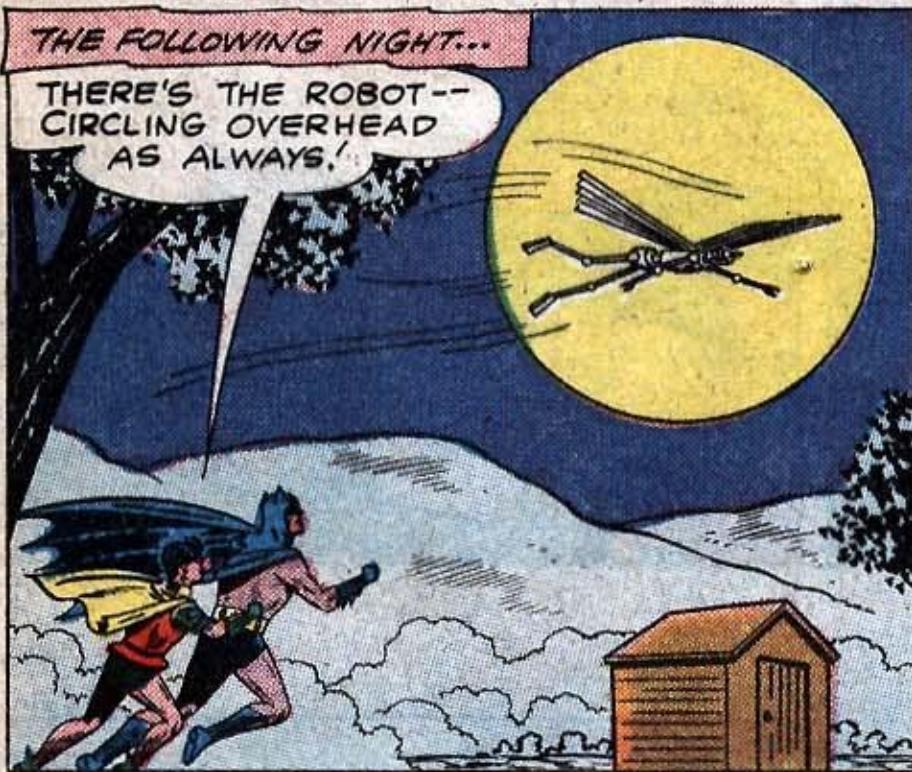
THEN-- WHAT'LL WE DO?

I DON'T KNOW--I JUST DON'T KNOW...



THE FOLLOWING NIGHT...

THERE'S THE ROBOT-- CIRCLING OVERHEAD AS ALWAYS!

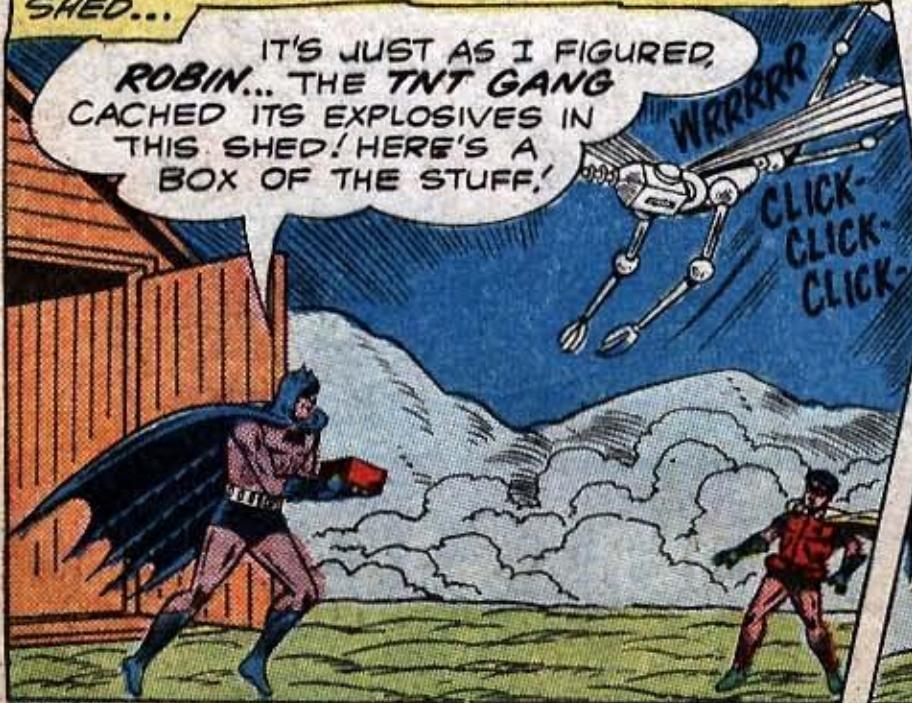


ROBIN-- YOU STAY HERE! I'M GOING INSIDE THE SHED!



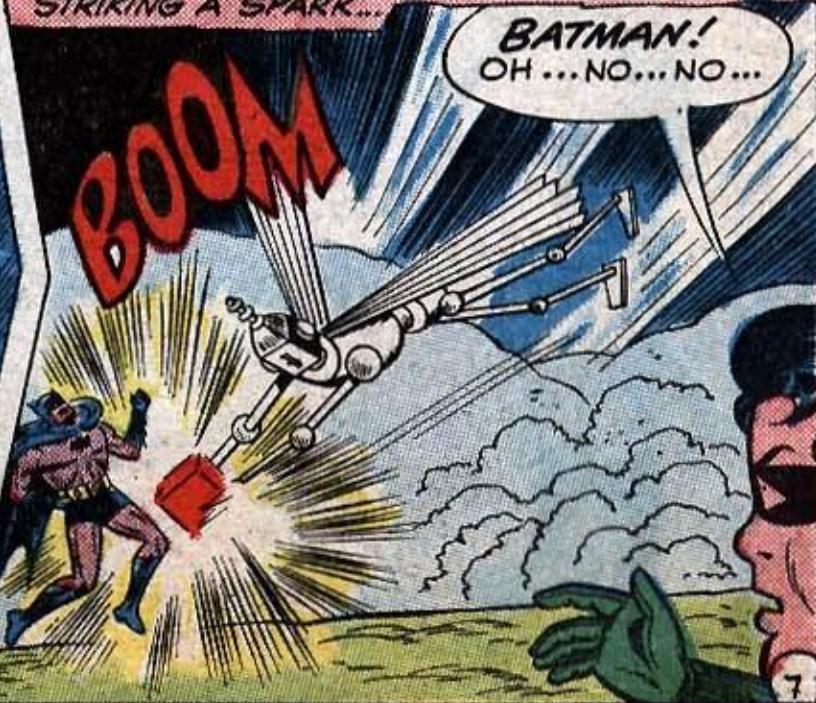
TENSE MINUTES ELAPSE BEFORE THE CAPED FIGURE FINALLY EMERGES FROM THE SHED...

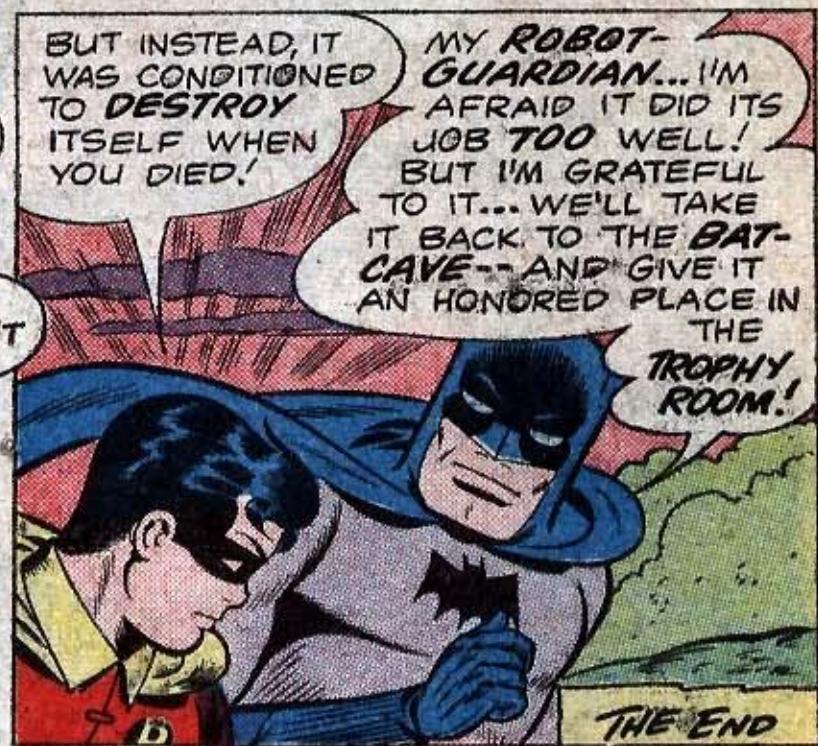
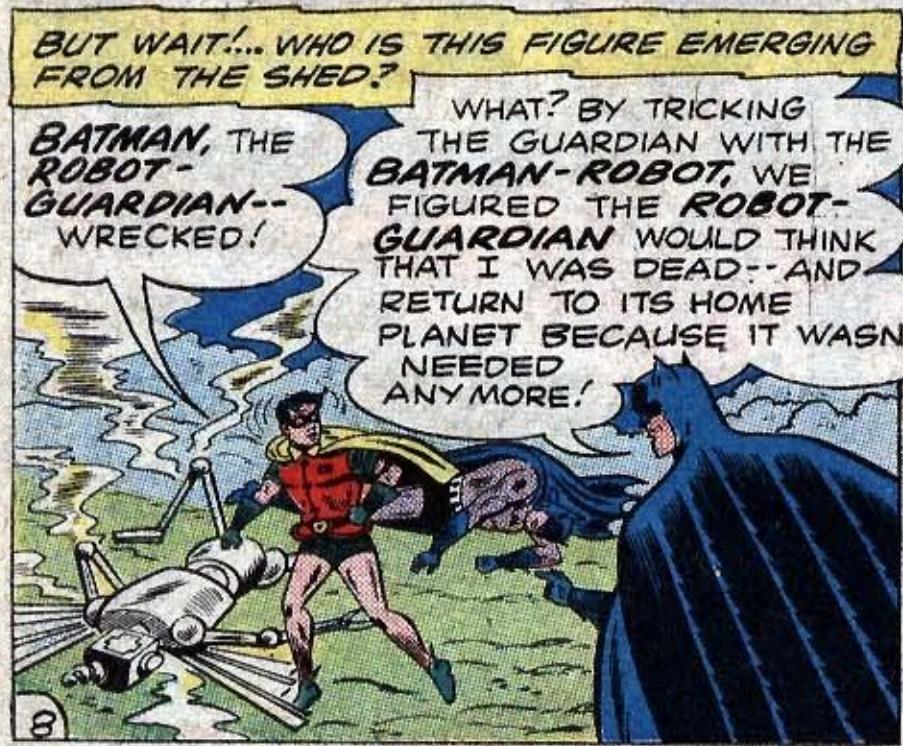
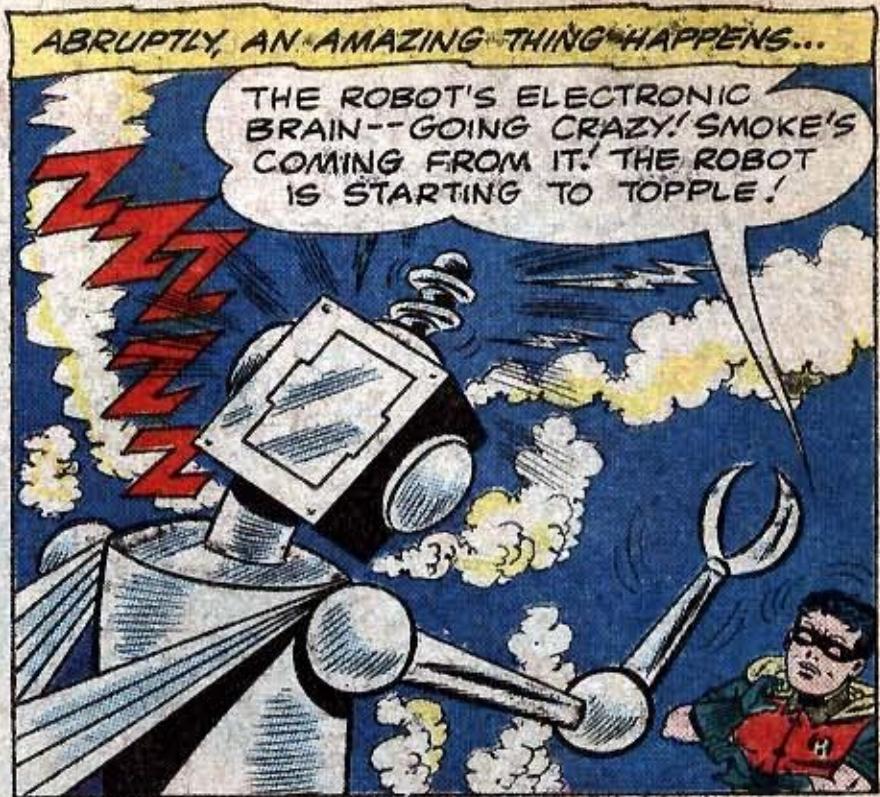
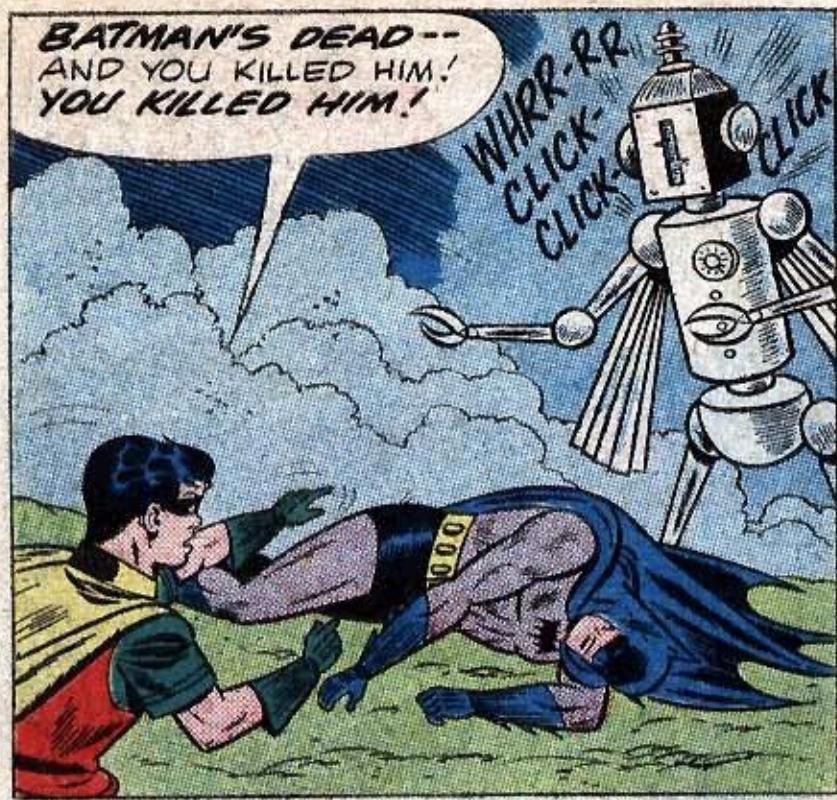
IT'S JUST AS I FIGURED,
ROBIN... THE TNT GANG
CACHED ITS EXPLOSIVES IN
THIS SHED! HERE'S A
BOX OF THE STUFF!



REACTING AUTOMATICALLY, THE ROBOT-GUARDIAN TRIES TO SNATCH AWAY THIS POSSIBLE DANGER TO BATMAN-- BUT, AS ITS TALONS SINK INTO THE BOX, STRIKING A SPARK...

BATMAN!
OH ...NO...NO...





ADVERTISEMENT

Tootsie Roll makes HISTORY!

The General who posed with one hand in his vest
Was Napoleon Bonaparte
He really was holding a **Tootsie Roll**
Which he always kept close to his heart.

AMERICA'S FAVORITE CANDY!

Tootsie Roll

NAPOLEON

The RIGHT to be DIFFERENT!

COME ON, PETE,
WE'RE GOING
FOR A SWIM!

GOSH, FRED, I--I WAS GOING TO
GO DOWN TO WHERE THEY'RE
CUTTING THROUGH THE NEW
ROAD TODAY. THERE OUGHT TO
BE SOME QUARTZ OVER THERE

I MIGHT
PICK UP.

AW, WHY DO YOU WANT
TO BOTHER LOOKING
FOR SILLY OLD ROCKS?
WHAT FUN IS THAT?

YOU'D BE SURPRISED! I
HAVE ABOUT 25
DIFFERENT KINDS IN
MY COLLECTION ALREADY
... AND IT'S PRETTY
EXCITING!

YOU LEARN A LOT FROM
THEM ABOUT HOW THE
EARTH WAS MADE, AND
WHAT THE MARKS ON
THE STONES MEAN,
AND HOW JEWELS
WERE FORMED FROM
MINERALS...

OKAY, OKAY,
DON'T JOIN THE
GANG! BE A
SQUARE, IF
YOU WANT!

THAT'S NOT FAIR, FRED! WHAT'S
WRONG IF PETE WANTS
TO BE ALONE SOME-
TIMES DOING
SOMETHING HE'S
INTERESTED IN?

I DON'T HAPPEN
TO GO IN FOR ROCK
COLLECTIONS MYSELF,
BUT EACH GUY TO
HIS OWN TASTE!

SO LONG, PETE, AND MORE POWER
TO YOU! MAYBE YOU CAN JOIN
US TOMORROW!

SURE THING, SAM--AND
THANKS FOR UNDER-
STANDING!



BATMAN



BAT-MAN

With
ROBIN

THE BOY WONDER

TO SEAMEN OF OLDEN DAYS, THE ALBATROSS WAS A BIRD OF ILL OMEN... BUT NOW, THE OLD SUPERSTITION SEEKS TO COME TRUE, AS AN ALBATROSS HOVERS OVER BATMAN AND ROBIN! FORETELLING EVIL AND PIRACY, IT DRAWS THE CAPE CRIME-FIGHTERS INTO A STRANGE MYSTERY, AS THEY BATTLE...

the CRIMES of the **ANCIENT MARINER**

ATTACK,
DAVY--
ATTACK
BATMAN!

GREAT SCOTT! THE ANCIENT MARINER IS ORDERING HIS HUGE ALBATROSS AT ME!



BOB
KANE



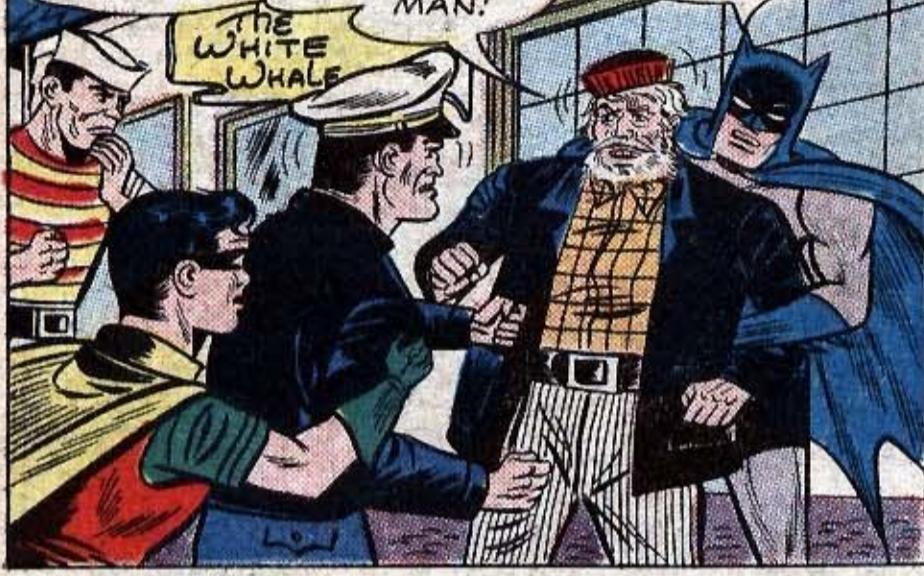
BATMAN



WHILE PATROLLING THE WATERFRONT ONE NIGHT, BATMAN AND ROBIN RACE UP TO STOP A BRAWLING BATTLE...

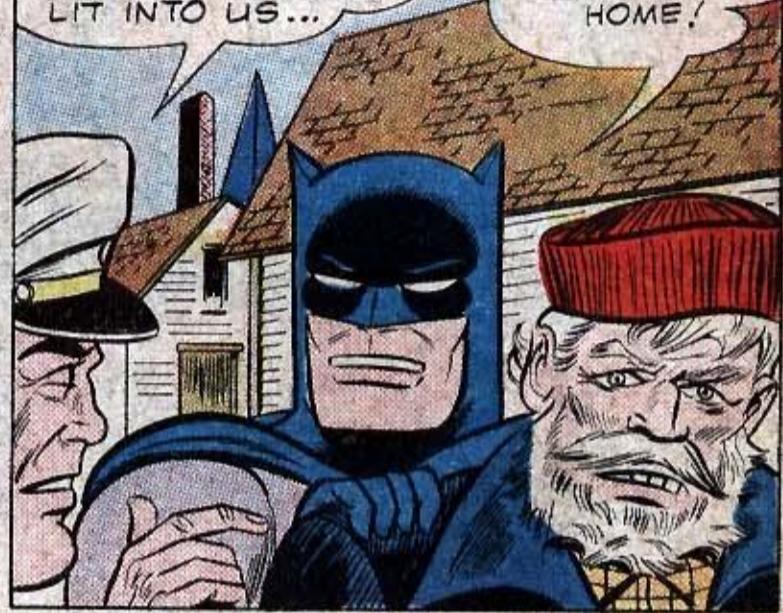
I'LL SHOW YE I'M AS STRONG AS EVER! I'LL SHOW YE I'M AS TOUGH AS A YOUNGER MAN!

BREAK IT UP, MEN! WHAT STARTED THIS?



WE WERE JUST TEASING HIM A BIT--WHEN ALL OF A SUDDEN THE ANCIENT MARINER LIT INTO US...

HMM...COME ON, OLD-TIMER, WE'LL TAKE YOU HOME!



HOME--A WATERFRONT BOARDING HOUSE RUN BY TOM TRAVIS...

BATMAN AND ROBIN?

OH, MR. STUBBS!...
DON'T TELL ME
YOU'VE BEEN
FIGHTING AGAIN?

AYE...PEOPLE MOCK ME, TOM--
BECAUSE I'VE
BEEN BEACHED--BUT
I'LL MAKE THE DUTTON
SHIPIARDS PAY FOR
WHAT THEY DID TO ME!

RUSHING INTO THE HOUSE, TOM TRAVIS
FETCHES SOMETHING FROM STUBBS'
ROOM...

HERE, MR. STUBBS--
DAVY JONES HAS BEEN
WAITING FOR YOU! NOW--
WHY DON'T YOU GO IN
AND GET SOME SLEEP...?

GREAT SCOTT!
THAT SEA
BIRD--IT'S AN
ALBATROSS!



YES--HE PICKED UP THAT PET DURING HIS TRAVELS, AND TRAINED IT! THAT'S HOW STUBBS GOT HIS NICKNAME--"THE ANCIENT MARINER"!!

YES--THERE WAS AN ALBATROSS IN COLERIDGE'S FAMOUS POEM, "THE RIME OF THE ANCIENT MARINER"...

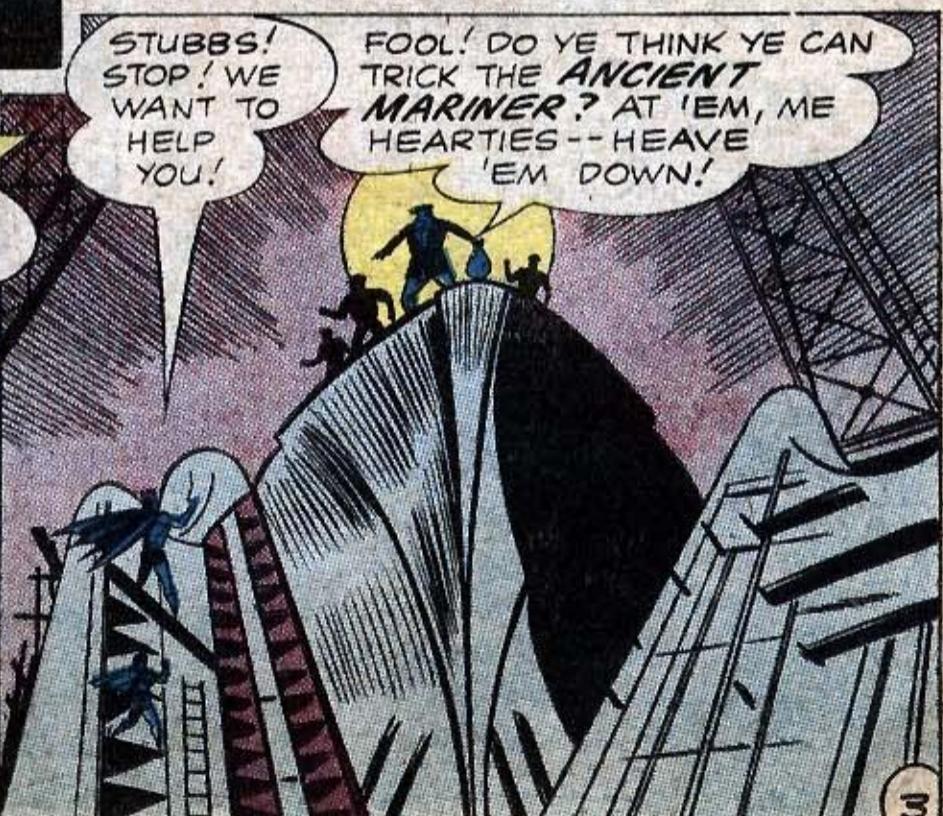
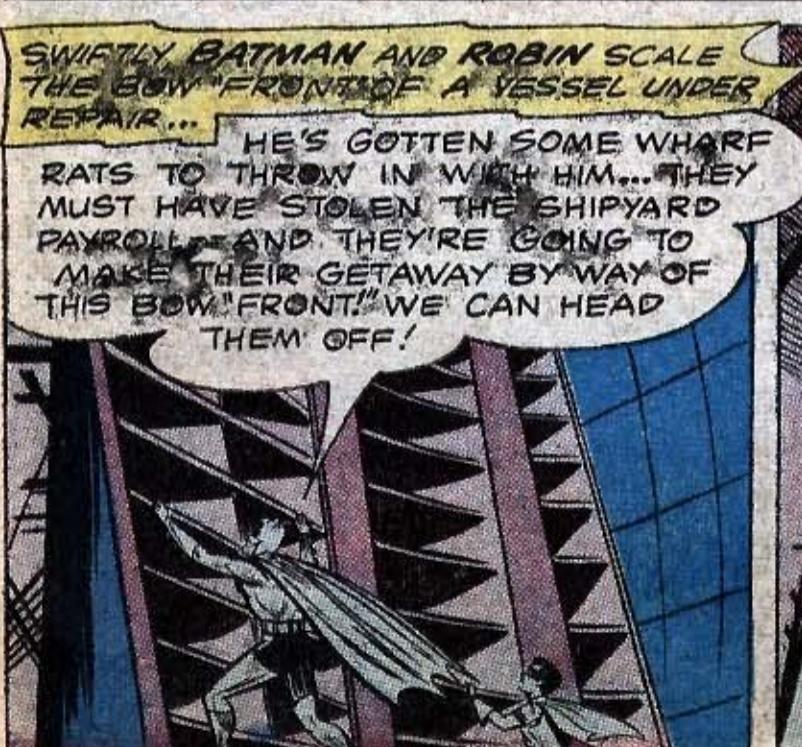
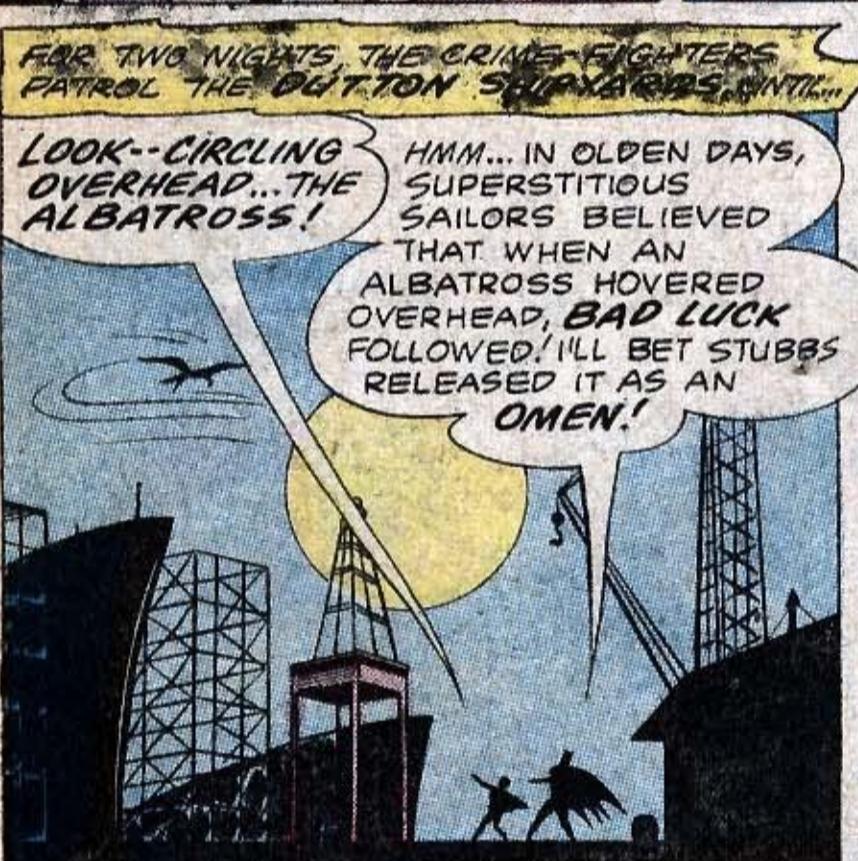
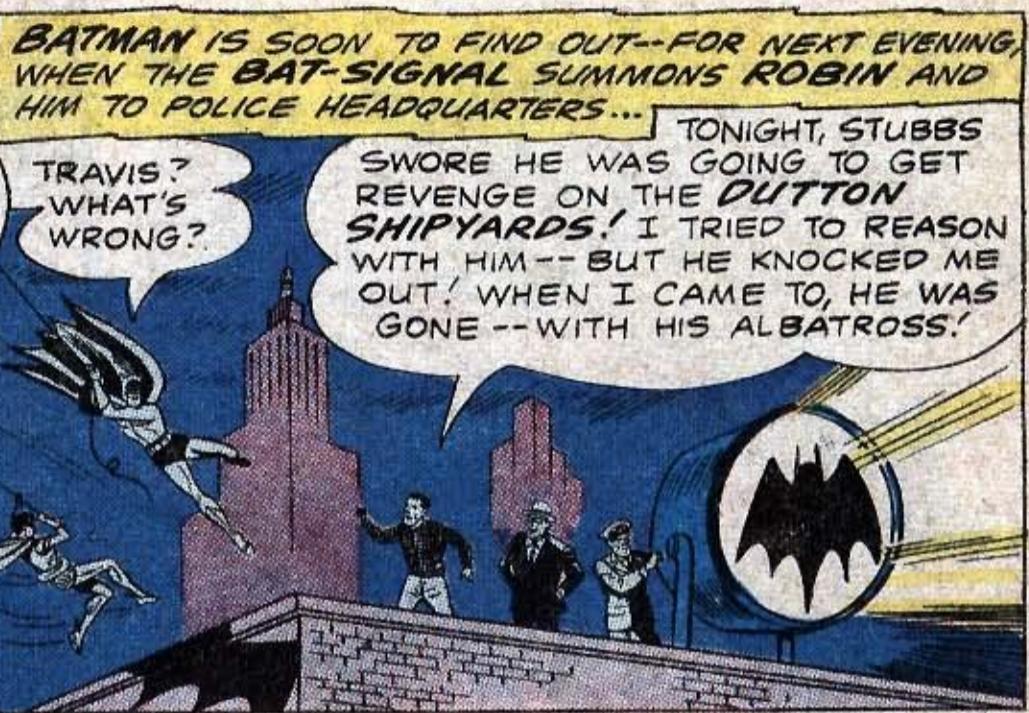
WHAT'S HE GOT AGAINST THE DUTTON SHIPIARDS?

HE WORKED FOR THEM, TAKING NEWLY-LAUNCHED CRAFT ON TEST RUNS! BUT RECENTLY, THEY PENSIONED HIM OFF, SAYING HE WAS TOO OLD!

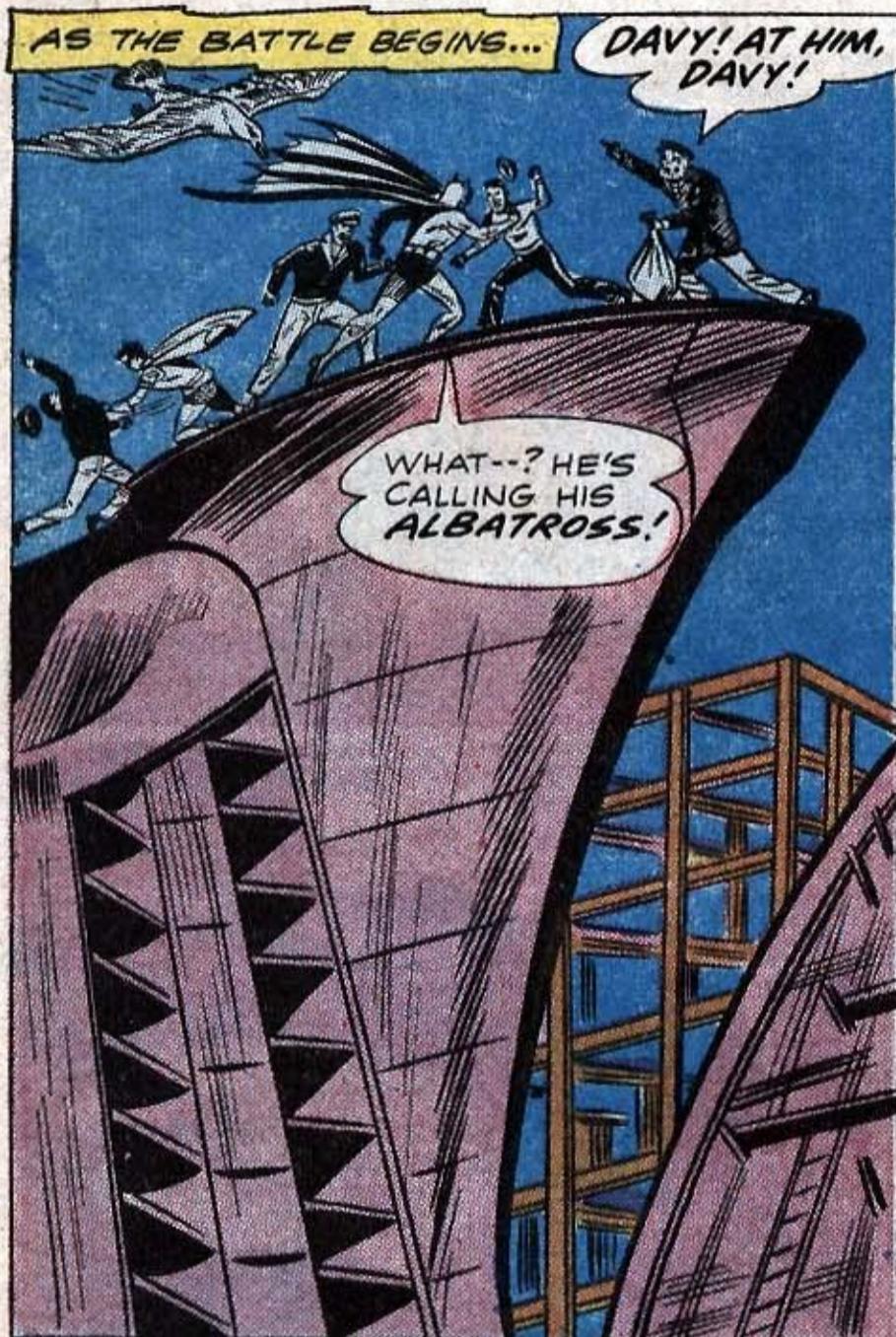




BATMAN



BATMAN



BY THE TIME THE PAIR CAN RE-JOIN FORCES,
HOWEVER...

THE GANG
HAD A
LAUNCH
WAITING!

YES-- AND THE PAYROLL
ROBBERY IS ONE WAY STUBBS
HAS MADE THE SHIPYARD
PAY FOR RETIRING
HIM!



AND THIS IS ONLY THE BEGINNING--FOR THE
VERY NEXT DAY, IN THE DUTTON SHIP-
YARD OFFICE...

STUBBS AND HIS MEN HAVE
STOLEN A MODEL OF AN
ANCIENT PHOENICIAN WAR
GALLEY--A SPECIAL
ORDER PLACED BY A
MUSEUM!

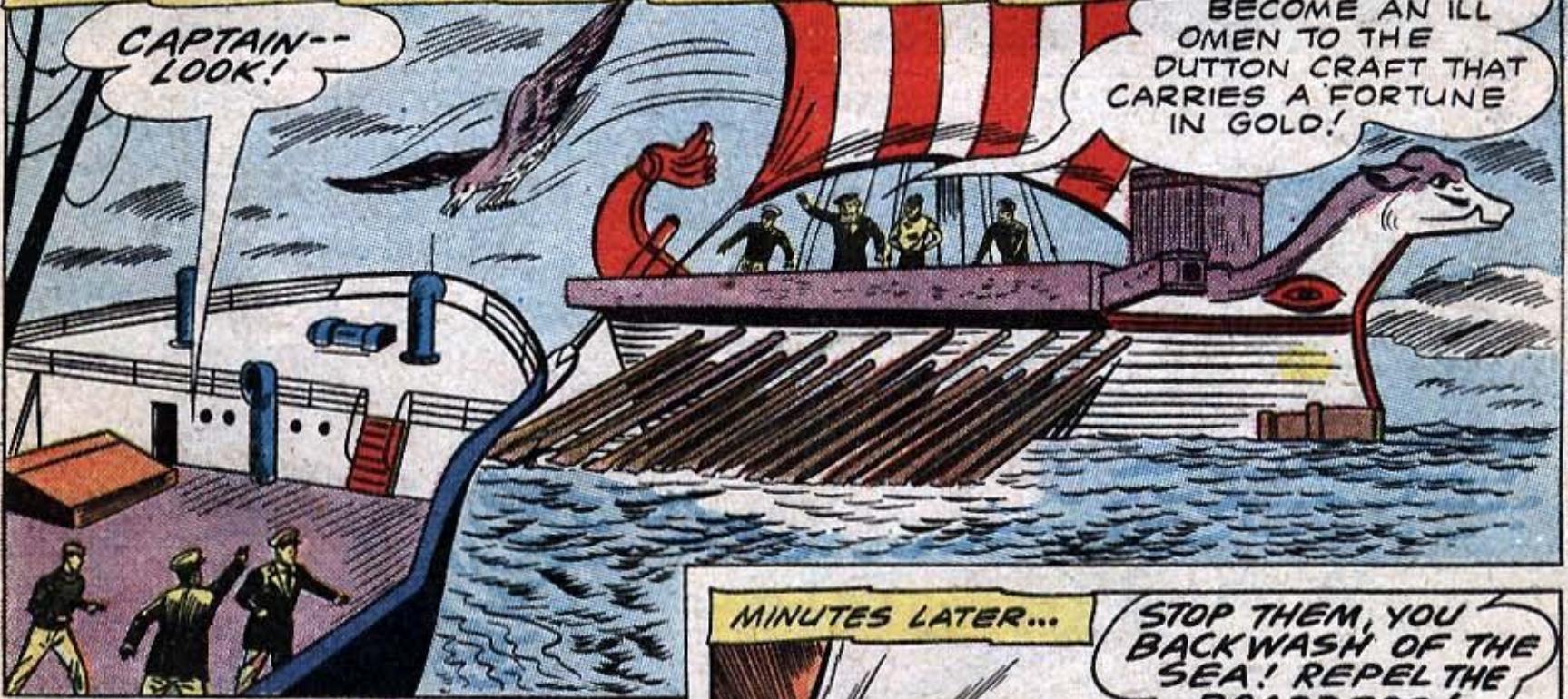
HMM...WE'LL
HAVE TO
GO AFTER
HIM IN OUR
WHIRLY-BATS!
WITH THEM,
WE CAN
SCOUT THE
WATER
FROM
OVERHEAD!



SOON AFTER, WHERE A DUTTON FREIGHTER HEADS FOR PORT...

CAPTAIN--
LOOK!

FLY ON, DAVY!
BECOME AN ILL
OMEN TO THE
DUTTON CRAFT THAT
CARRIES A FORTUNE
IN GOLD!



AND JUST AS THE WHIRLY-BATS
APPEAR...

UHH... GAS...
MAKING
ME
SLEEPY...

GREAT SCOTT! THE
ALBATROSS HAS DROPPED
CAPSULES CONTAINING A
KNOCKOUT GAS! ALL RIGHT,
ROBIN--LET'S DROP
RIGHT DOWN ON
THE GANG!



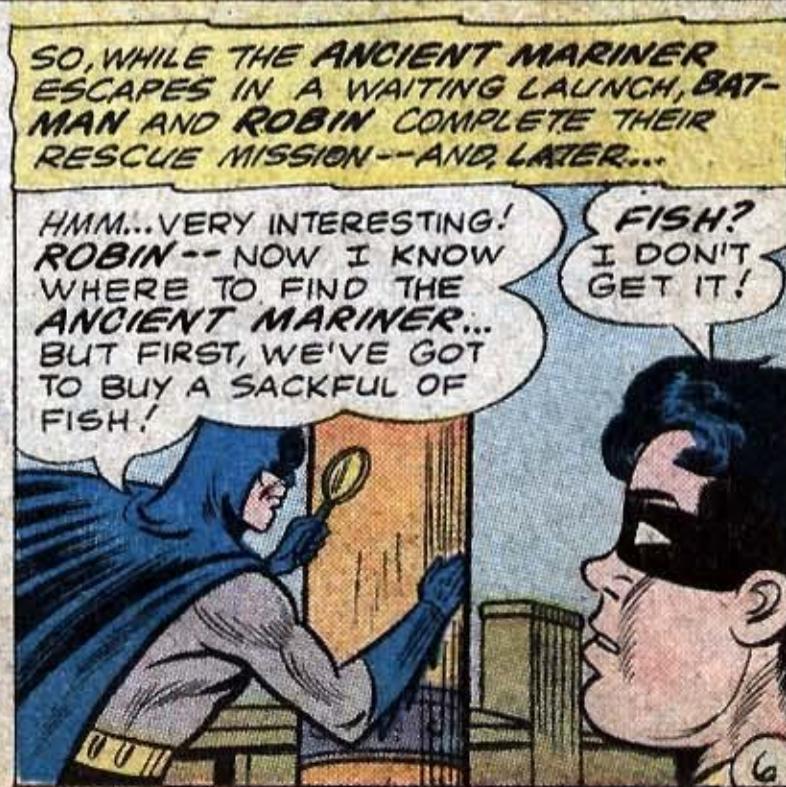
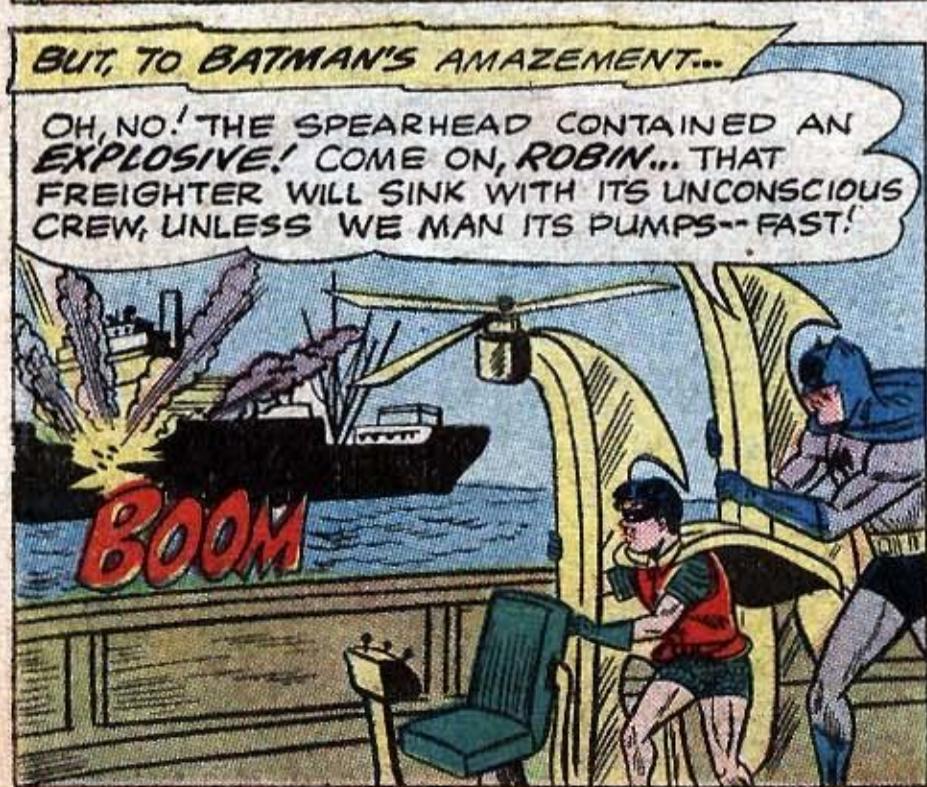
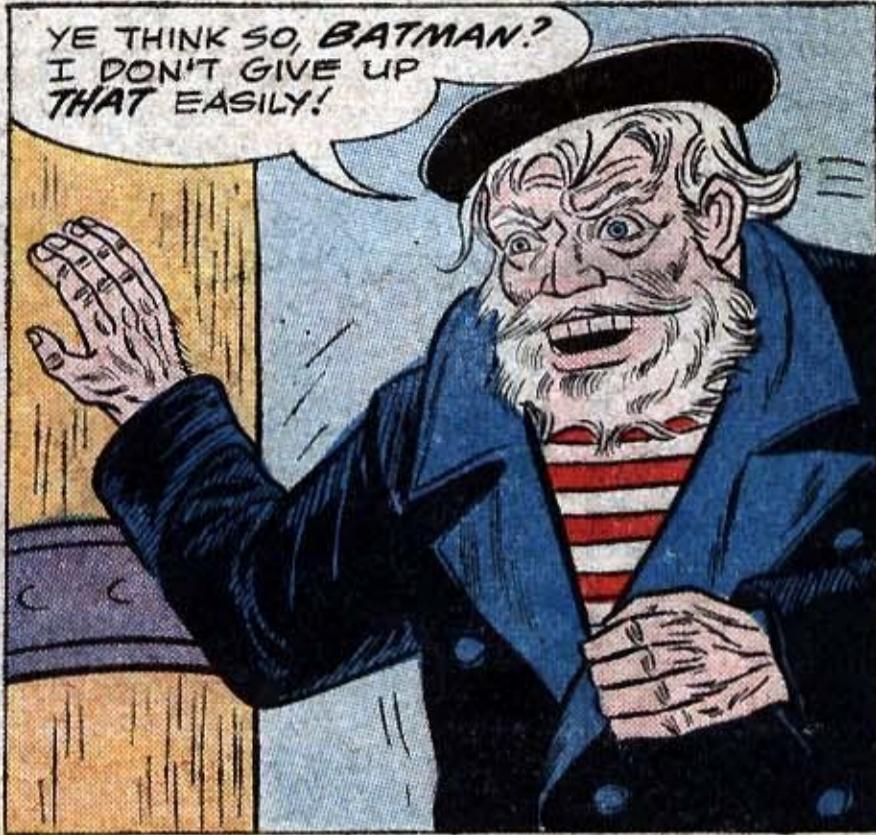
MINUTES LATER...

STOP THEM, YOU
BACKWASH OF THE
SEA! REPEL THE
BOARDERS!





BATMAN





BATMAN



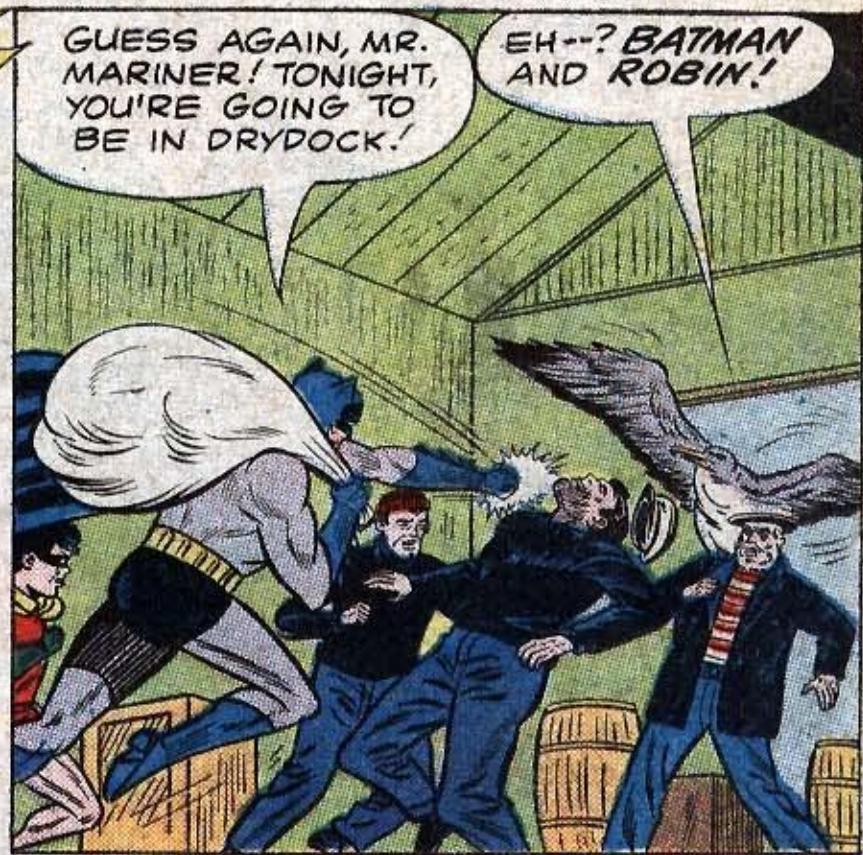
WHAT IS BATMAN PLANNING? THAT SAME NIGHT, IN THE HIDEOUT OF THE ANCIENT MARINER...

WELL, CAP'N--
YOU GOT ANOTHER
JOB PLANNED FOR
US?

AYE, THAT
I HAVE!
WE'LL UP
ANCHOR
TONIGHT,
AND--

GUESS AGAIN, MR.
MARINER! TONIGHT,
YOU'RE GOING TO
BE IN DRYDOCK!

EH--? BATMAN
AND ROBIN!



DAVY! AT 'EM,
DAVY!



BUT AS THE BIRD COMES SWOOPING DOWN...

HERE, DAVY-- KEEP
YOURSELF BUSY
GORGING THESE
FISH!

WHAT--? HE WAS
READY FOR DAVY
THIS TIME!

DESPERATELY, THE CORNERED CRIMINAL
REACHES FOR A HARPOON--BUT
BATMAN'S FIST MOVES SWIFTLY...

THE END OF THE
ANCIENT
MARINER'S VOYAGE
INTO CRIME!



AFTER CAPTURING THE HIRELINGS, BATMAN STOOPS OVER THE FALLEN ANCIENT MARINER, AND...

JUST AS I FIGURED... HIS VEINED, GARNLED, AGEING "HANDS" WERE MOLDED RUBBER GLOVES -- THE KIND USED BY MOVIE PROP DEPARTMENTS! I REALIZED THAT WHEN HE LEFT NO FINGERPRINTS ON THE SLICK, WAX SURFACE OF THE GALLEY MAST! AND, OF COURSE, OUR IMPERSONATOR MUST BE...

...TRAVIS! HAVING THE ALBATROSS IN HIS HOUSE ALL THE TIME, HE WAS THE ONLY ONE, BESIDES STUBBS, WHOM THE BIRD WOULD OBEY!

YES--WE SAW THAT THE NIGHT WE TOOK STUBBS HOME! THAT'S WHY WE TRAILED TRAVIS TONIGHT--KNOWING HE'D GO TO HIS HIDEOUT DISGUISED AS STUBBS!

SOON, IN A BACK ROOM, BATMAN FINDS THE REAL STUBBS--A PRISONER...

BATMAN, THAT RASCAL TRAVIS BOASTED THAT HE USED MY FOOLISH RAVINGS AS A MEANS FOR CRIME!

YES--HE CONFESSED THAT EVENTUALLY HE WAS GOING TO

SHOOT YOU, AND MAKE IT LOOK AS IF YOUR GANG DID IT, IN A FALLING OUT OVER THE LOOT! THAT WAY, THE POLICE WOULD NEVER SUSPECT HIM!

I'M GLAD YOU'VE COME TO YOUR SENSES! YOU'LL NEED THEM WHEN YOU TAKE OVER THE NEW JOB I GOT YOU, AS A FERRY CAPTAIN!

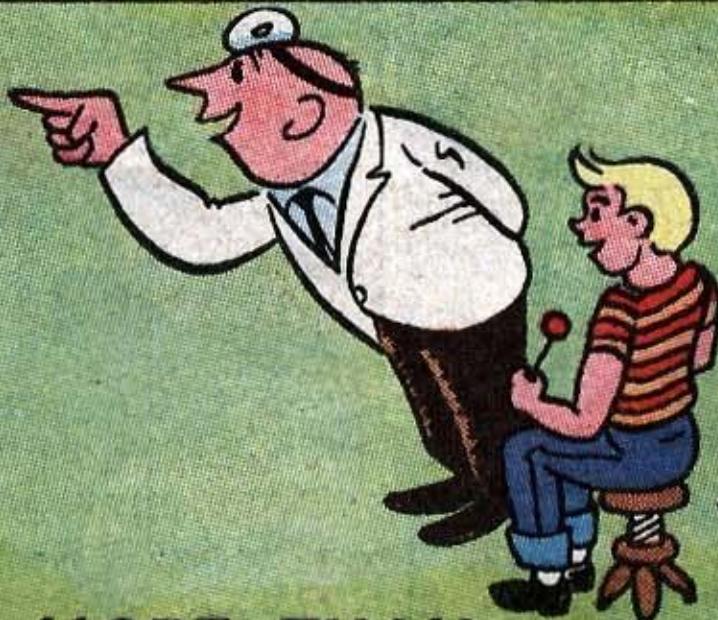
THANKS, BATMAN! I'M GLAD I'LL BE KNOWN AS CAPTAIN STUBBS AGAIN--NOT AS THE ANCIENT MARINER!

8

The End

ADVERTISEMENT

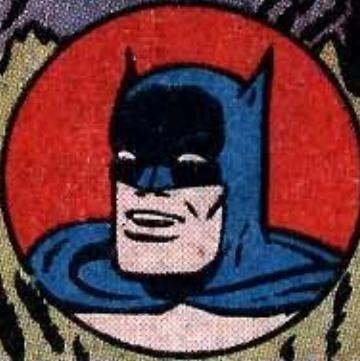
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O O
TOOTSIE
ROLL
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THERE'S MORE THAN
MEETS THE EYE.....

Letters to the BAT-CAVE



Dear Editor: Many times, I've seen BATMAN and ROBIN capture criminals who use super-weapons. How come they just destroy these weapons or keep them in their TROPHY ROOM? Wouldn't they be better off using them to fight crime?

Butch Shaw, Cincinnati, Ohio

(*Most criminal super-weapons are much too dangerous and destructive. BATMAN and ROBIN fight crime, using weapons that don't risk lives.—Ed.*)

* * *

Dear Editor: What happens if BATMAN and ROBIN are summoned to a crime scene while Dick Grayson is in school?

Beatrice Thorpe, Grand Rapids, Mich.

(*While Dick is in school, BATMAN handles the case alone. As soon as Dick is free, he switches to ROBIN, contacts BATMAN by belt-radio, then joins forces with him.—Ed.*)

* * *

Dear Editor: When are you planning to have Professor Nichols use his time machine to send BATMAN and ROBIN on another adventure in the past?

Danny Evers, Omaha, Neb.

(*In the SEPTEMBER issue of DETECTIVE COMICS, No. 295, the professor sends BATMAN and ROBIN back in time on one of their most exciting quests, when they have to uncover "THE SECRET OF THE BEAST PAINTINGS."—Ed.*)

* * *

Dear Editor: In the first BAT-GIRL story, you have a scene where she and BATWOMAN lift up two grown men as if they were made of straw. How can two females have such strength?

Edward Caiazzo, Staten Island, N. Y.

(*They weren't actually "lifting up" those two criminals. BATWOMAN and BAT-GIRL have been specially trained in JUDO, the art of using your opponent's weight and strength AGAINST him. The two female crime-fighters were simply tossing the men in typical JUDO fashion.—Ed.*)

Dear Editor: In the BATMAN ANNUAL, you show all the terrific ways in which BATMAN and ROBIN have used their unique equipment against crime. I can't help wondering, though, how are they able to get the parts for all their vehicles and secret weapons without revealing how these things are built?

Aaron Bridges, Miami, Fla.

(*BATMAN and ROBIN never buy all the parts for their equipment in the same place. In that way, nobody knows every single component that goes into their crime-fighting arsenal.—Ed.*)

* * *

Dear Editor: BAT-HOUND is my favorite animal character. Please let me know when you're featuring him in another BATMAN adventure.

Sid Kane, Rockford, Ill.

(*BAT-HOUND seems to be EVERYBODY'S favorite four-legged hero. The famed crime-fighting dog has a number of strange and sinister surprises in store for you, when you next see him in the OCTOBER issue of BATMAN COMICS, No. 143, in "BAT-HOUND AND THE CREATURE!"—Ed.*)

* * *

Dear Editor: Is it true that BATMAN once tracked down a criminal with a pair of eyeglasses as his only clue? How was this possible?

Harry Finch, Paterson, N. J.

(*The crook had dropped his glasses at the scene of the crime. BATMAN later analyzed the prescription of these glasses, in the BAT-CAVE'S CRIME LAB, then alerted opticians throughout the city to inform the police of any customer ordering that same prescription.—Ed.*)

* * *

Dear Editor: BATMAN and ROBIN always have their hands full when some phenomenon drains SUPERMAN of his super-powers. When will they be finding themselves in that situation again?

George Kelsey, Boston, Mass.

(*In the SEPTEMBER issue of WORLD'S FINEST COMICS, No. 120, that's exactly what happens when they join forces with the MAN OF STEEL, to uncover "THE SECRET OF THE FACELESS CREATURES!"—Ed.*)

BATMAN



BAT-MAN

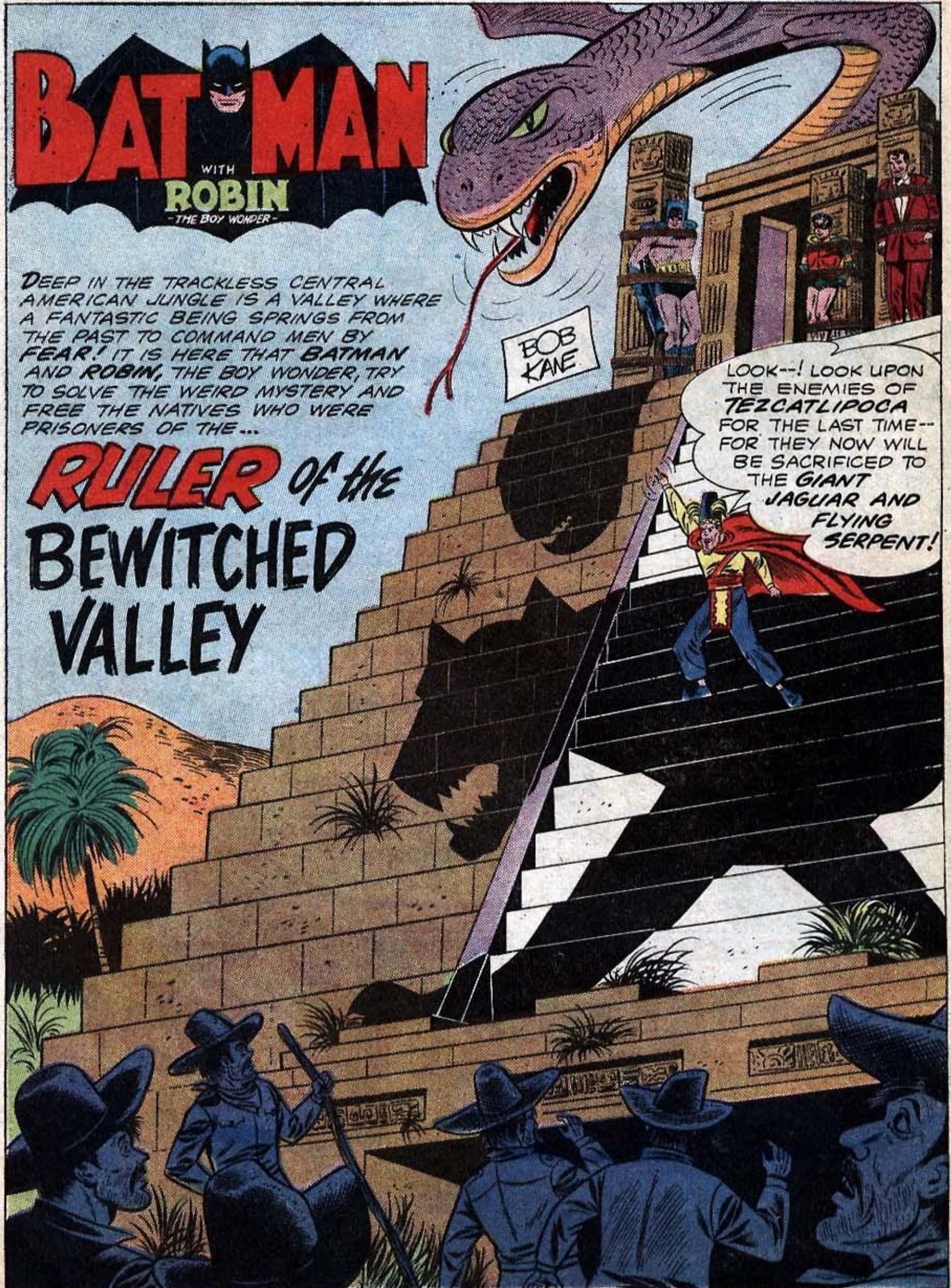
WITH
ROBIN
-THE BOY WONDER-

DEEP IN THE TRACKLESS CENTRAL AMERICAN JUNGLE IS A VALLEY WHERE A FANTASTIC BEING SPRINGS FROM THE PAST TO COMMAND MEN BY FEAR! IT IS HERE THAT BATMAN AND ROBIN, THE BOY WONDER, TRY TO SOLVE THE WEIRD MYSTERY AND FREE THE NATIVES WHO WERE PRISONERS OF THE...

RULER of the BEWITCHED VALLEY

BOB KANE

LOOK--! LOOK UPON THE ENEMIES OF TEZCATLIPOCA FOR THE LAST TIME-- FOR THEY NOW WILL BE SACRIFICED TO THE GIANT JAGUAR AND FLYING SERPENT!



SOMEWHERE OVER CENTRAL AMERICA, THE BAT-PLANE REACHES ITS DESTINATION...

THERE IT IS, ROBIN--
JUST AS THE NATIVES
DESCRIBED IT--A MAYAN
TEMPLE IN A HIDDEN
VALLEY! I'LL SET DOWN
NEAR THAT SHEPHERD!



BAT-HOMBRE
AND ROBIN....?

HELLO! MAYBE YOU CAN
HELP US FIND A FRIEND
OF OURS... A DETECTIVE
NAMED REGAN...



NO--I HAVE SEEN
NO ONE! THIS
VALLEY IS
BEWITCHED! NOW
GO -- QUICKLY--
BEFORE YOU
ROUSE THE
ANGER OF
TEZCATLIPOMA!

TEZCATLIPOMA--
THE GOD OF THE
ANCIENT MAYANS!
THEY BELIEVED
HE WAS THE GOD
OF WITCHCRAFT
AND DESTRUCTION!
BUT THAT WAS
ONLY ANCIENT
SUPERSTITION...

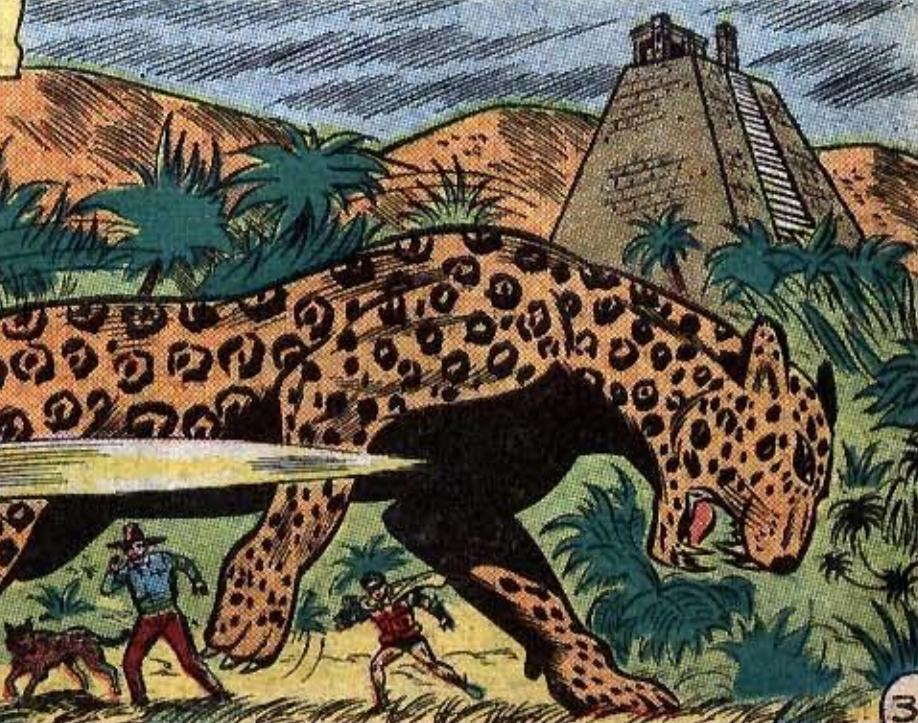
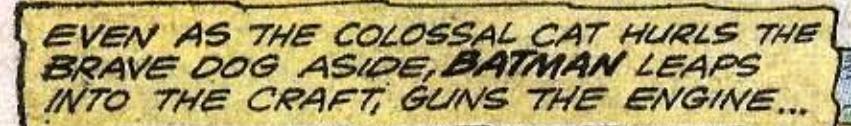
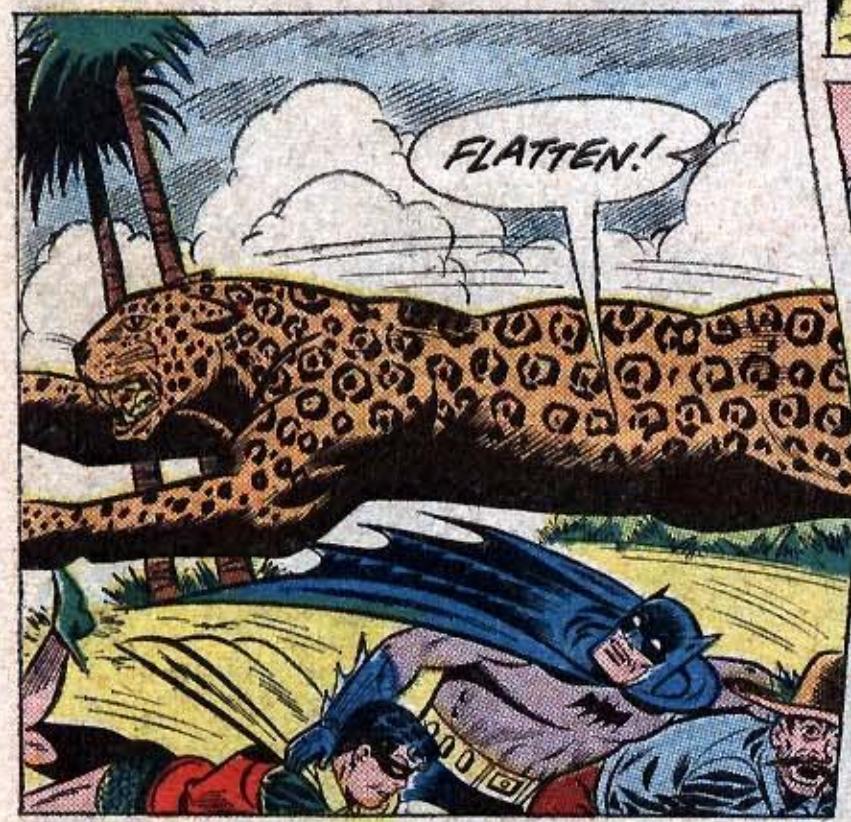
SUDDENLY, FROM AFAR, A VOICE INTONES ...

INTRUDERS OF MY VALLEY--I,
TEZCATLIPOMA, SEND YOU A
WARNING OF MY POWERS,
SO THAT YOU WILL LEAVE
AND NEVER RETURN!





BATMAN





BATMAN



THEN, THE SNARLING BEAST BOUNDS OFF...

BOY! YOU SURE GOT US OUT OF A JAM!

HERE'S THE BRAVE FELLOW WHO REALLY DESERVES THE CREDIT! IF HE HADN'T DISTRACTED THE JAGUAR, I COULDN'T HAVE DONE IT!

SOON, OTHER INHABITANTS FLOCK TO THE SCENE...

IT WAS TEZCATLIPOMA'S POWERS THAT MADE THE JAGUAR A GIANT! PLEASE-- GO BEFORE YOU ARE DOOMED... LIKE ALL OF US IN THIS VALLEY!

IF ALL OF YOU ARE SO AFRAID OF TEZCATLIPOMA, WHY DON'T YOU LEAVE?

HE HAS DECLARED HIMSELF OUR RULER--AND DEMANDS WE FARM THE VALLEY AND BRING HIM FOOD FOR TRIBUTE! SHOULD WE TRY TO LEAVE, HE WOULD BRING UNKNOWN TERRORS UPON US! BUT YOU--YOU MUST GO--!



BUT BATMAN ISN'T EASILY DISCOURAGED...

COME ON, ROBIN--I WANT TO TAKE A CLOSER LOOK AT THIS PLACE...

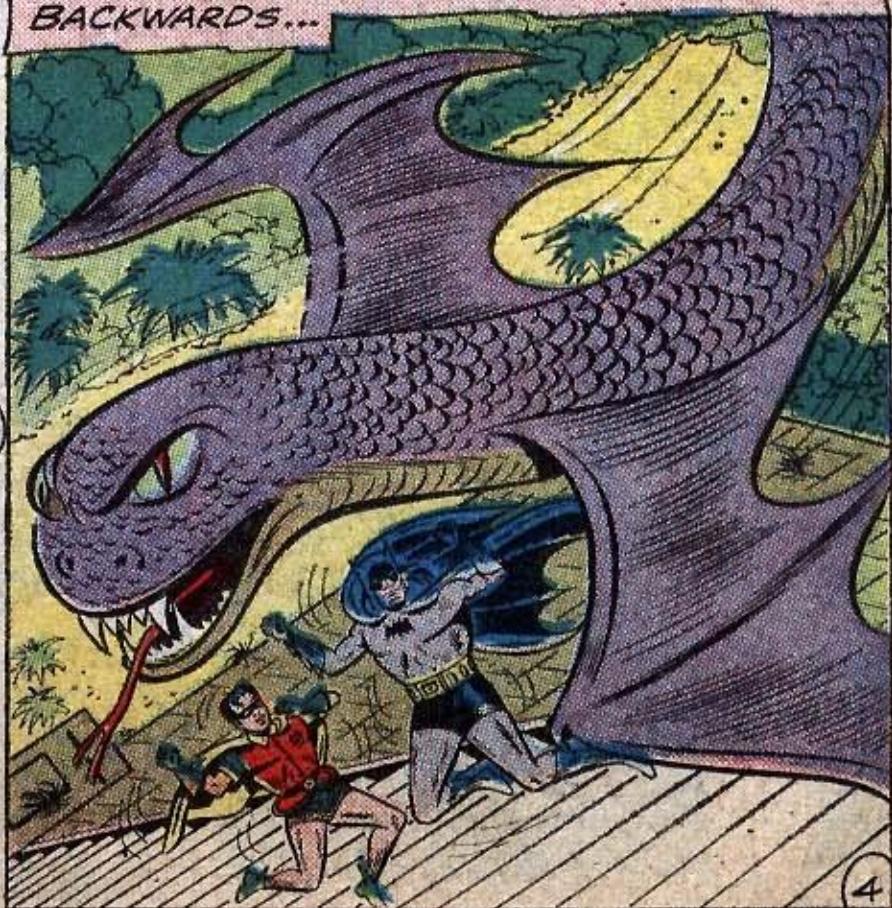


AS THEY MOUNT THE STEEP STEPS...

FOOLS! YOU WERE WARNED OF MY POWERS! NOW THIS CREATURE I CREATED WILL PUT FEAR INTO YOUR HEARTS!

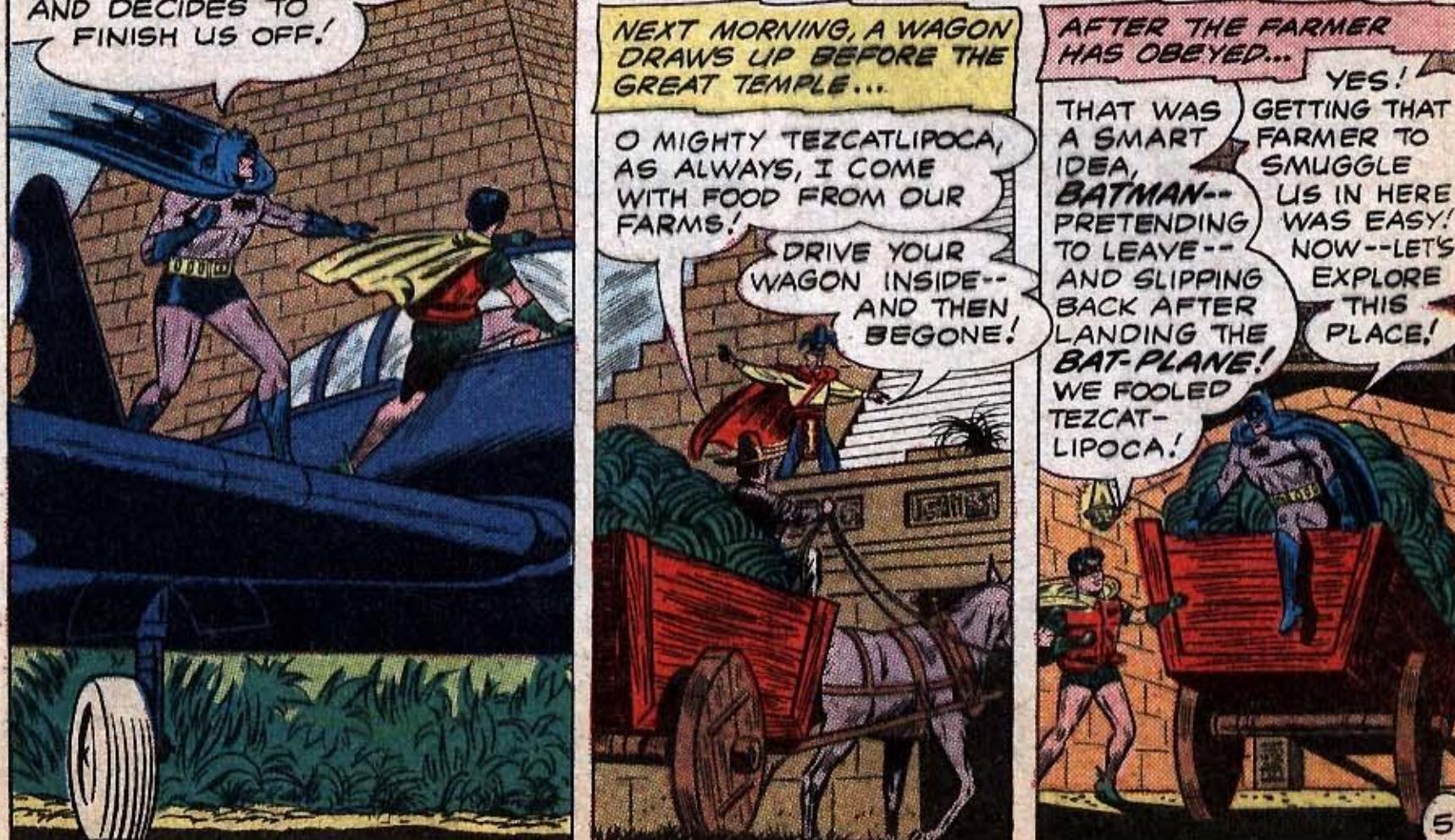
OMIGOSH! A--A FLYING SERPENT!

POWERFUL WINGS BEAT AT THE CAPE CRIME-FIGHTING PAIR, HURLING THEM BACKWARDS...

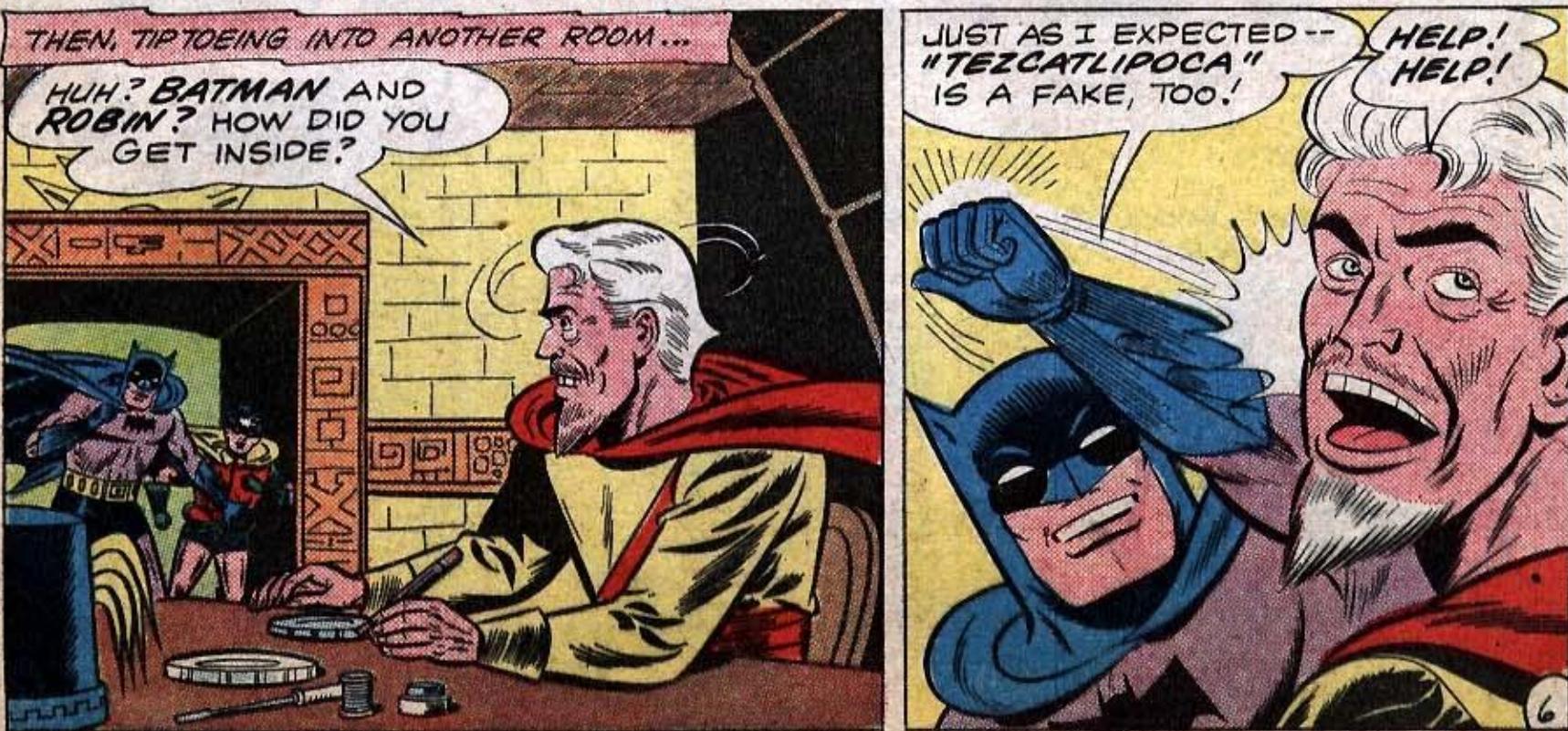




BATMAN



BATMAN





BATMAN



IN ANSWER TO THE CRY, FOUR THUGS SWARM ONTO THE SCENE ...

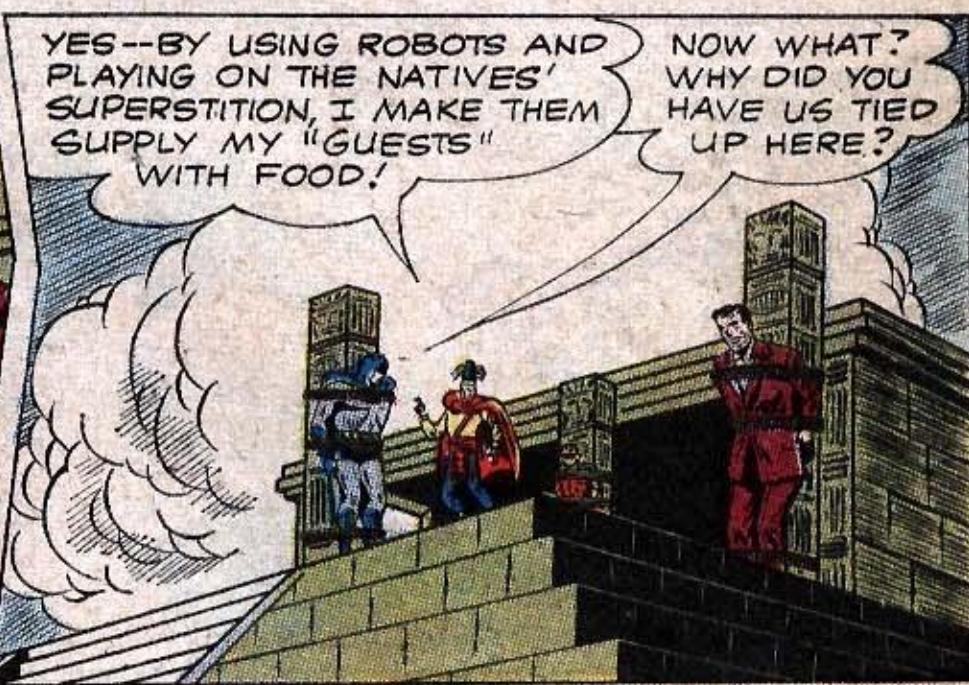
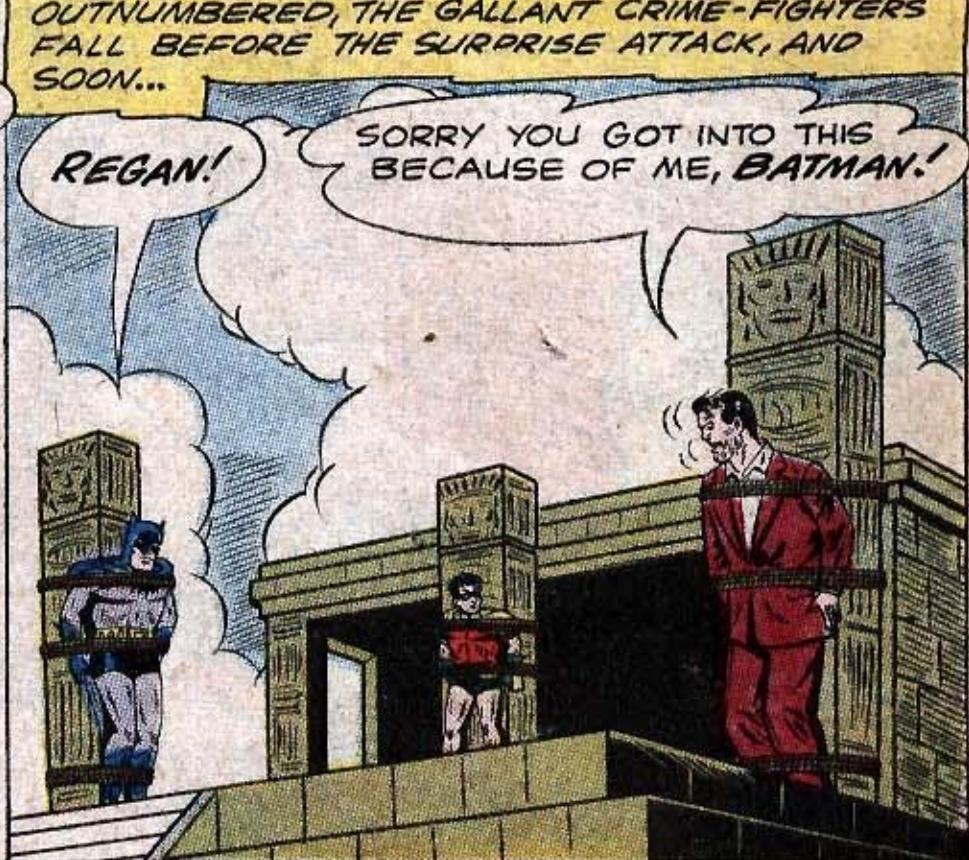
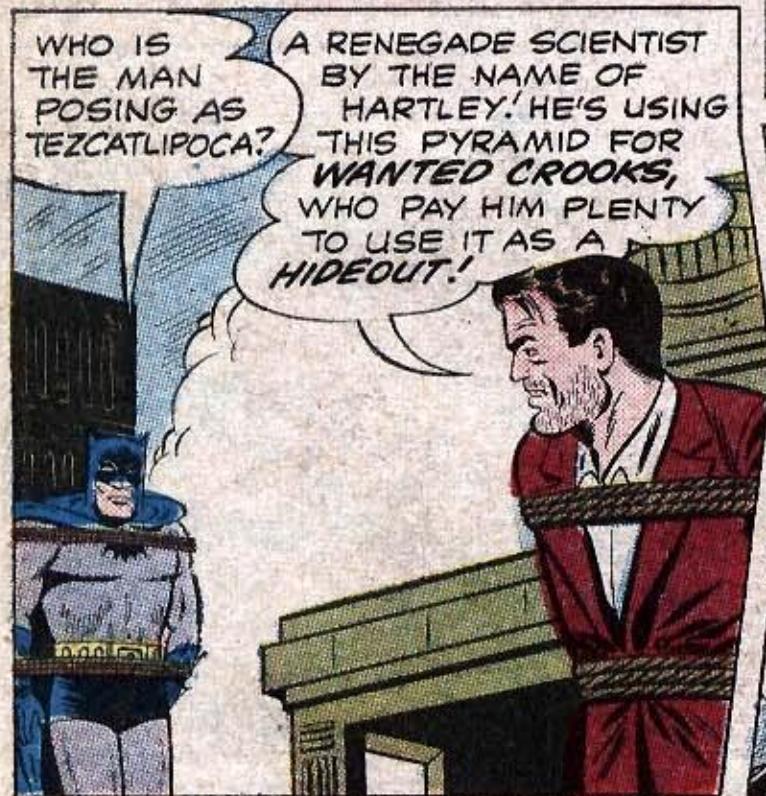
GRAB 'EM!
KNOCK 'EM OUT!

BATMAN AND ROBIN,
EH? THIS IS A
PLEASURE I'VE
BEEN WAITING FOR!

OUTNUMBERED, THE GALLANT CRIME-FIGHTERS FALL BEFORE THE SURPRISE ATTACK, AND SOON...

REGAN!

SORRY YOU GOT INTO THIS
BECAUSE OF ME, BATMAN!



BATMAN

UNOBSERVED BY THE THROG BELOW, HE PRESSES SEVERAL BUTTONS ON HIS CONCEALED CONTROL-BELT, AND...

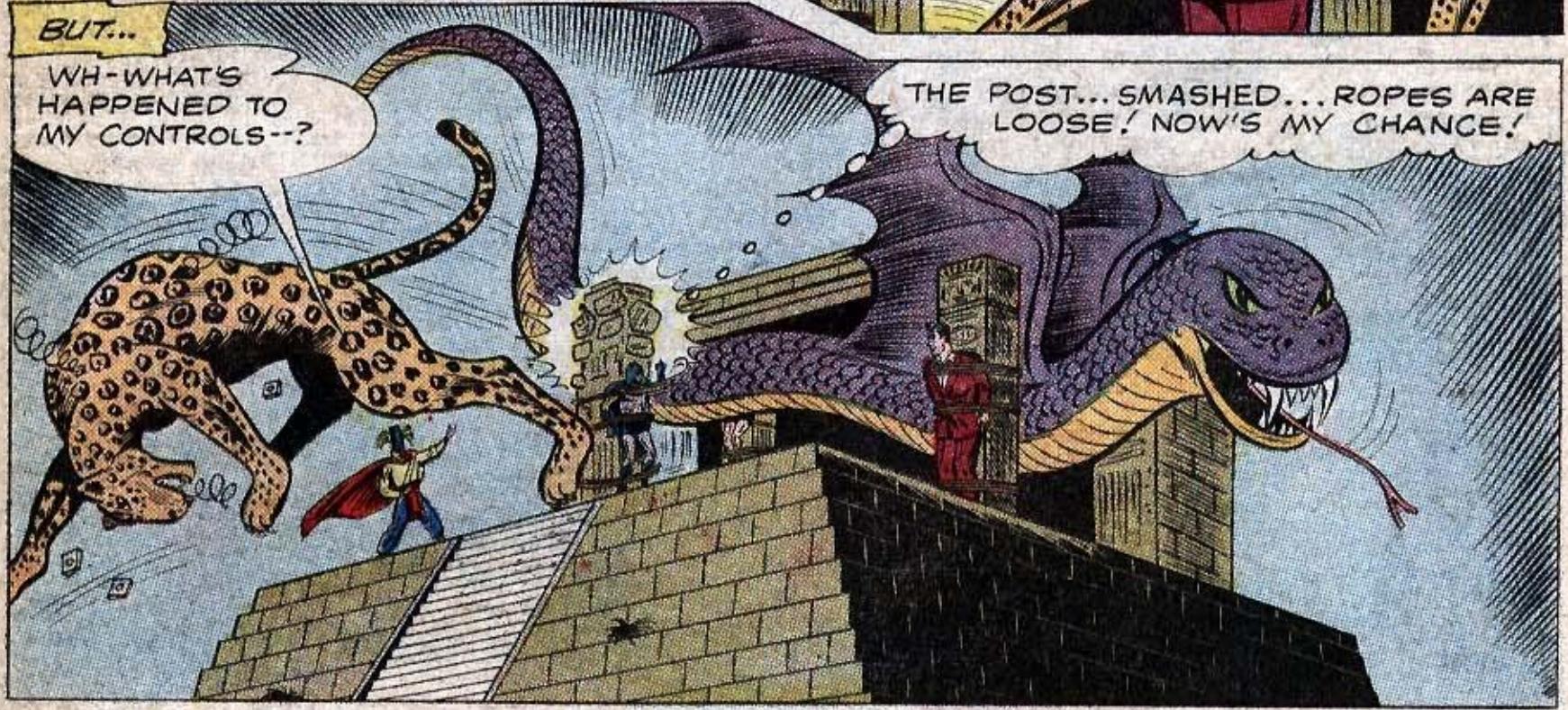
NOW SEE THE FATE THAT BEFALLS THOSE WHO DARE TO DEFY THE GREAT POWERS OF TEZCATLIPOCA!



BUT...

WH-WHAT'S HAPPENED TO MY CONTROLS--?

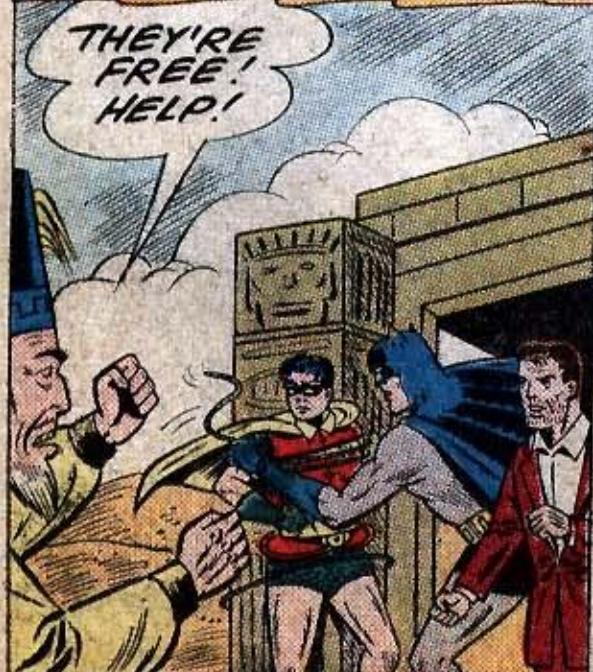
THE POST... SMASHED... ROPES ARE LOOSE! NOW'S MY CHANCE!



BATMAN QUICKLY FREES HIMSELF, THEN IN THE CONFUSION...

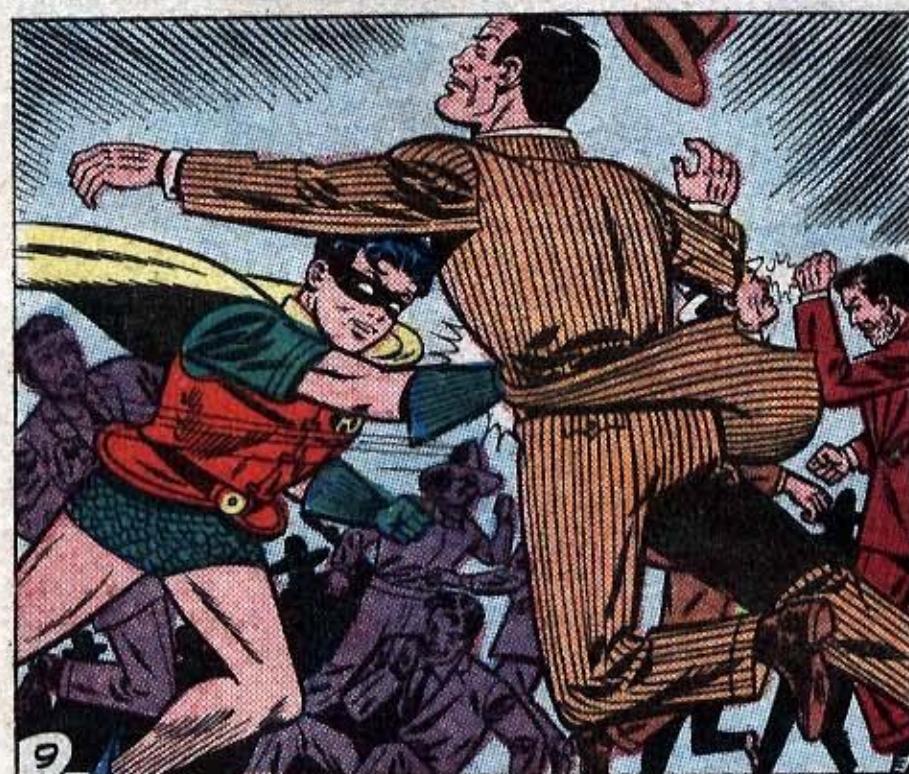
THEY'RE FREE!
HELP!

HERE COMES THE THUNDERING HERD! UP AND AT 'EM! THIS TIME, WE'RE READY FOR THEM!



TAKE CARE OF THESE MUGS! I'LL GET HARTLEY!





BATMAN ALSO APPEARS IN DETECTIVE COMICS, AND WITH SUPERMAN IN WORLD'S FINEST COMICS

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delicious
Tootsie Roll
flavor!