



ALL NEW

THE FIRST DAY OF CHRISTMAS WILL BE
THE LAST DAY FOR SOMEONE ON THIS COVER!

NOW
40¢

NO. 309
MAR.

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
C.C.
AUTHORITY

BATMAN

**BATMAN:
HAVE YOURSELF A
DEADLY LITTLE
CHRISTMAS!**

--THE BLOCKBUSTER



S-3074

CHRISTMAS EVE IN GOTHAM: UPTOWN, THE STREETS ARE FILLED WITH LAST-MINUTE SHOPPERS AND THE CHEERING JINGLE OF CHIMES--

--BUT HERE, IN THE FORGOTTEN PART OF THE CITY, THE STREETS ARE ALMOST DESERTED, SAVE FOR A HANDFUL OF SCAVENGERS AND THEIR UNFORTUNATE VICTIM...

...AND THE VERY SPECIAL SORT OF VENGEANCE WHICH LURKS IN THE SHELTERING SHADOWS!

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

CREATED BY

BOB
KANE

HAVE YOURSELF
A DEADLY
LITTLE
CHRISTMAS!

writer - LEN WEIN
artists - JOHN CALNAN & FRANK McLAUGHLIN
coloring - GLYNIS WEIN • lettering - BEN ODA
editor - JULIUS SCHWARTZ





KROOM



THE TEARS HAVE FROZEN ON KATHY CRAWFORD'S CHEEKS WHEN, AT LAST, SHE RETURNS TO HER RUIN-DOWN ROOMING HOUSE...

THE WINTER IS SO MUCH COLDER HERE THAN IT HAD EVER BEEN BACK HOME IN PITTSDALE, SHE THINKS TO HERSELF...

...ESPECIALLY TONIGHT...

...TONIGHT OF ALL NIGHTS...

HOME..."SWEET" HOME...

IT'S NOT REALLY MUCH TO SHOW FOR ALL MY EFFORTS, IS IT?

ONE MISERABLE RENTED ROOM... FURNISHED IN EARLY POVERTY.

IT SEEMED LIKE SUCH A PROMISING DREAM IN THE BEGINNING...MOVING TO THE BIG CITY...

...BEING ON MY OWN FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MY LIFE...

MAKING SOMETHING OF MYSELF...

I'M SORRY, MOMMA...DADDY...

...SORRY I'VE BEEN SUCH A DISAPPOINTMENT TO YOU ALL MY LIFE...

I TRIED TO BE WHAT YOU WANTED ME TO BE... BUT I COULDN'T EVEN SUCCEED AT BEING WHAT I WANTED ME TO BE...

I COULDN'T SUCCEED AT ANYTHING.

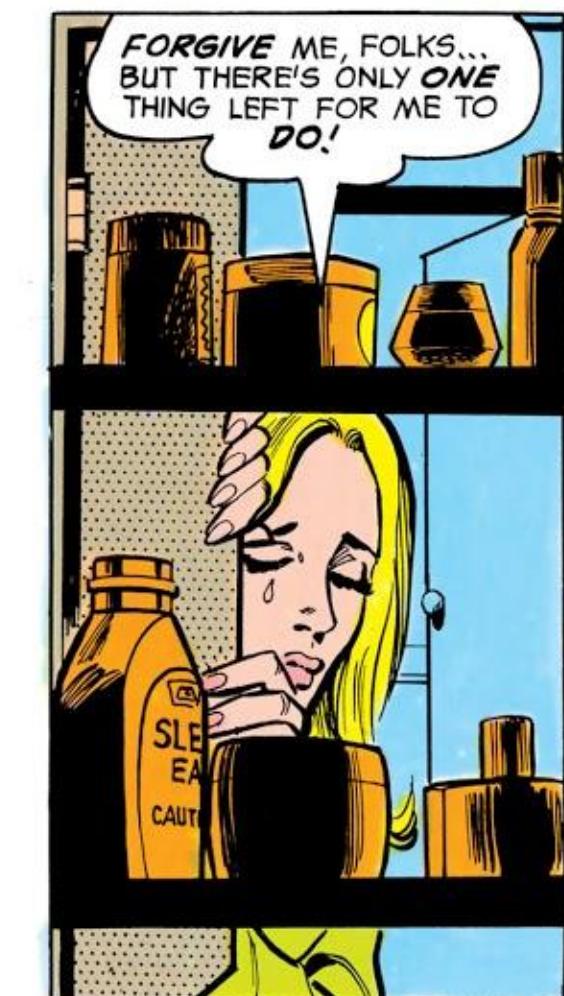
FORGIVE ME, FOLKS... BUT THERE'S ONLY ONE THING LEFT FOR ME TO DO!

AND, SEVERAL MINUTES LATER, AT GOTHAM CITY POLICE HEADQUARTERS...

NO... I ONLY CALLED BECAUSE I HAD NOBODY ELSE TO TALK TO...

I JUST WANTED TO SAY...

...GOOD-BYE.



INSTANTLY, SGT. MURRAY LANSKY STARTS TALKING. HIS VOICE SOOTHING, ALMOST PLAINTIVE--

--FOR HE KNOWS HE HAS TO KEEP THIS CALLER ON THE LINE... OR RISK LOSING HER FOREVER!

WHILE UPSTAIRS, IN THE OFFICE OF POLICE COMMISSIONER JAMES W. GORDON...

BLASTED PAPERWORK! EVEN ON A HOLIDAY, IT NEVER SEEMS TO END!

I SHOULD HAVE JUST LET IT SIT THERE UNTIL TUESDAY!

NOT YOU, COMMISSIONER!

YOU'RE NOT THE TYPE TO QUIT BEFORE THE JOB IS DONE!

AS THE KIDS SAY, BATMAN-- IT TAKES ONE TO KNOW ONE.

MERRY CHRISTMAS, OLD FRIEND.

AND THE SAME TO YOU AND YOURS, COMMISSIONER.

I JUST STOPPED BY FOR A MINUTE TO GIVE YOU YOUR PRESENT.

THE USUAL, I TAKE IT?

WHAT ELSE? SO LONG AS YOU KEEP SMOKING THAT PIPE, YOU'LL ALWAYS NEED TOBACCO.

AND I'VE MADE THE USUAL DONATION TO CITY CHARITIES IN YOUR NAME!

WE REALLY ARE GETTING SET IN OUR WAYS, AREN'T WE?

AND MOMENTS LATER, AS GOTHAM'S TWO MOST FAMOUS CRIME-FIGHTERS STROLL TOWARDS THE PARKING LOT...

--AND A HAPPY HOLIDAY TO YOU, TOO, O'BRIEN.

EXCUSE ME, COMMISSIONER-- BUT I COULD USE A HAND OVER HERE!

WHAT IS IT, SGT. LANSKY?





THE PHONE CALL WAS A MISTAKE,
KATHY KNOWS THAT NOW--BUT IN
A LITTLE WHILE, IT WON'T MAKE
ANY REAL DIFFERENCE!



SHYLY, LIKE SOME TIMOROUS CHILD, THE MONSTROUS FIGURE OFFERS KATHY HER PRECIOUS POCKETBOOK--



FEARFULLY, THE BEHEMOTH KNEELS AT KATHY'S SIDE, HIS FEEBLE MIND CHURNING IN CONFUSION...



WHY DOES SHE JUST LIE THERE?

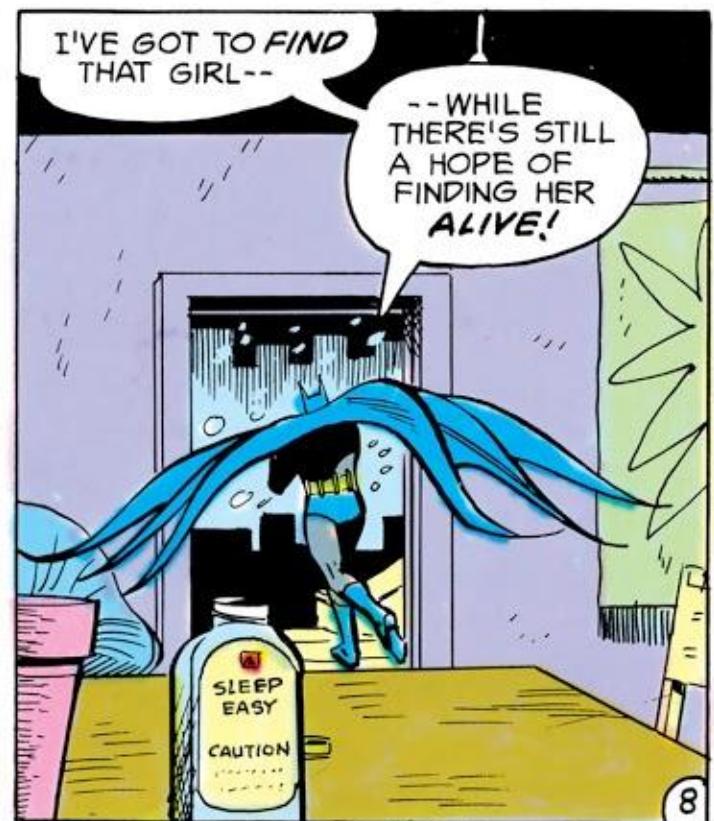
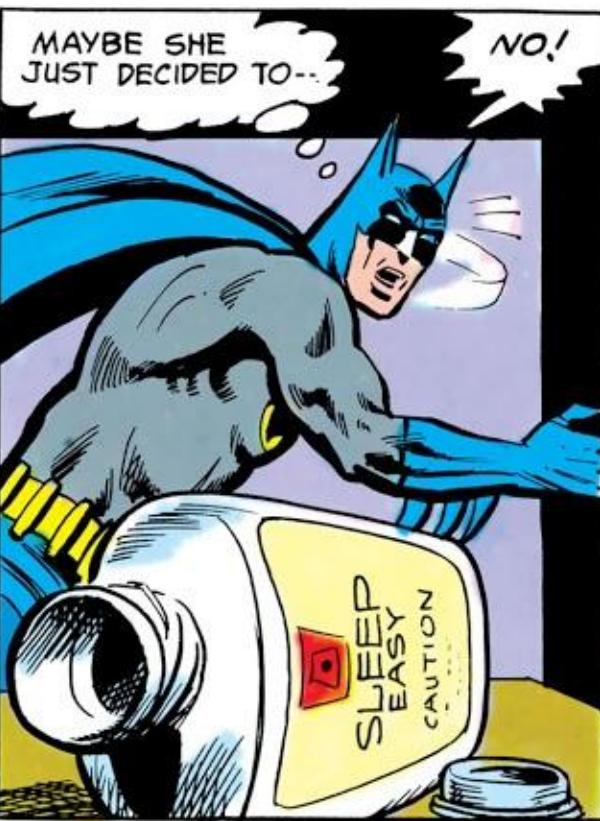
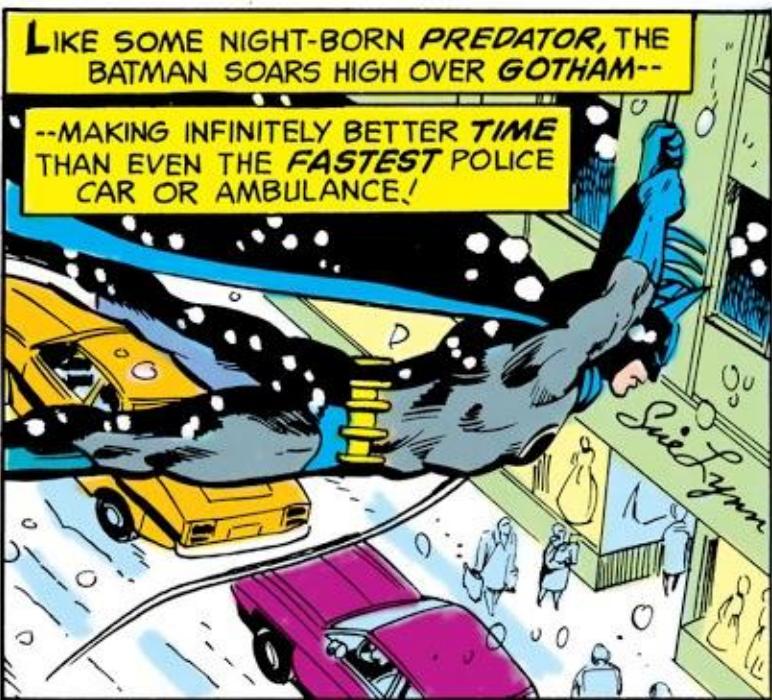


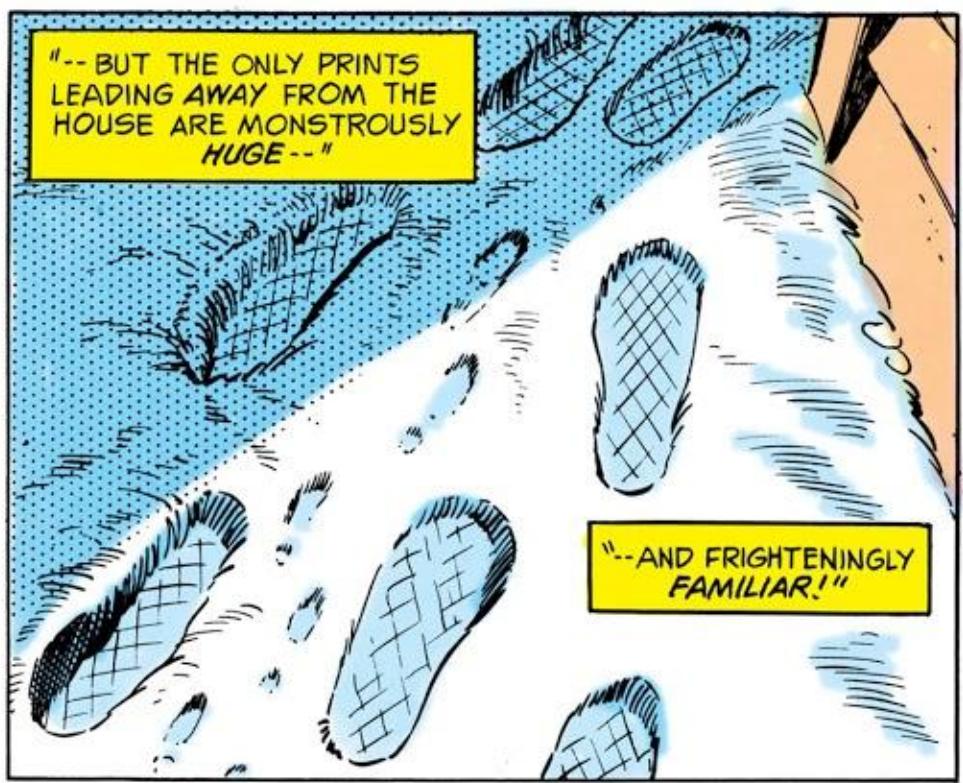
HAS HE SOMEHOW HURT HER?

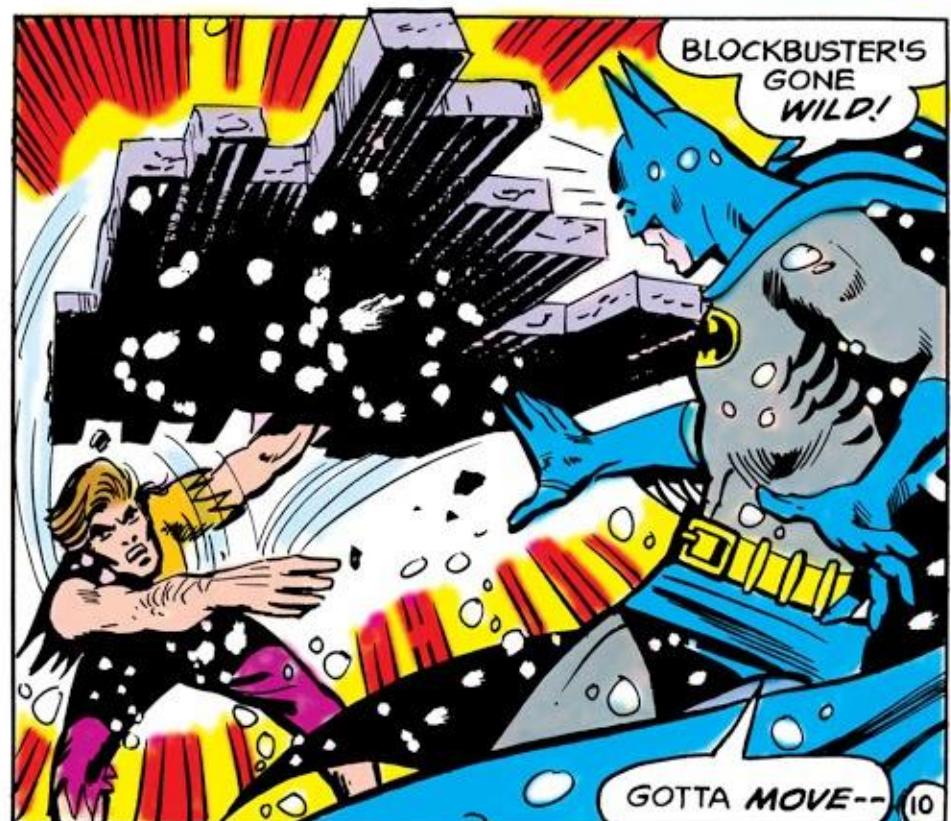
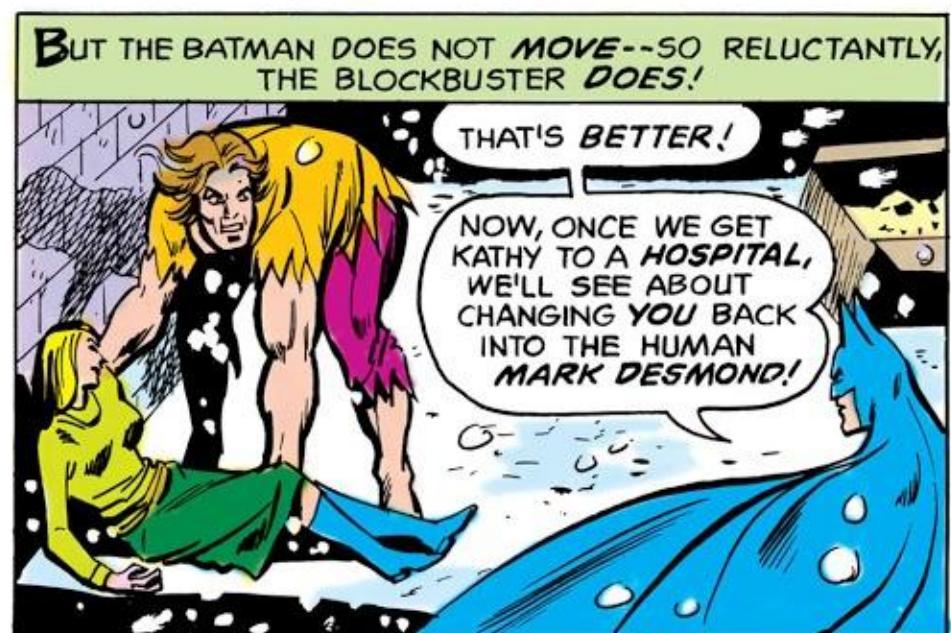


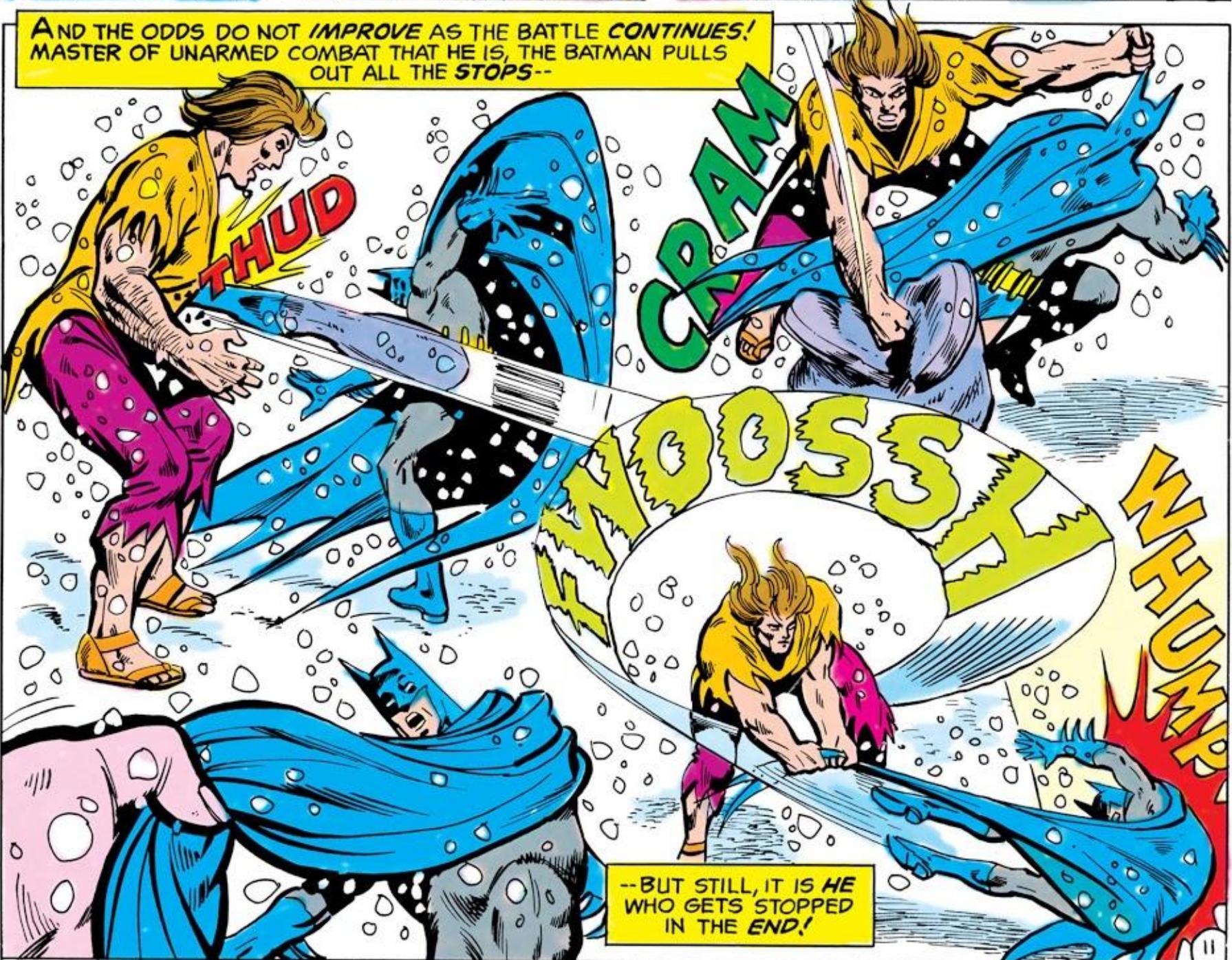
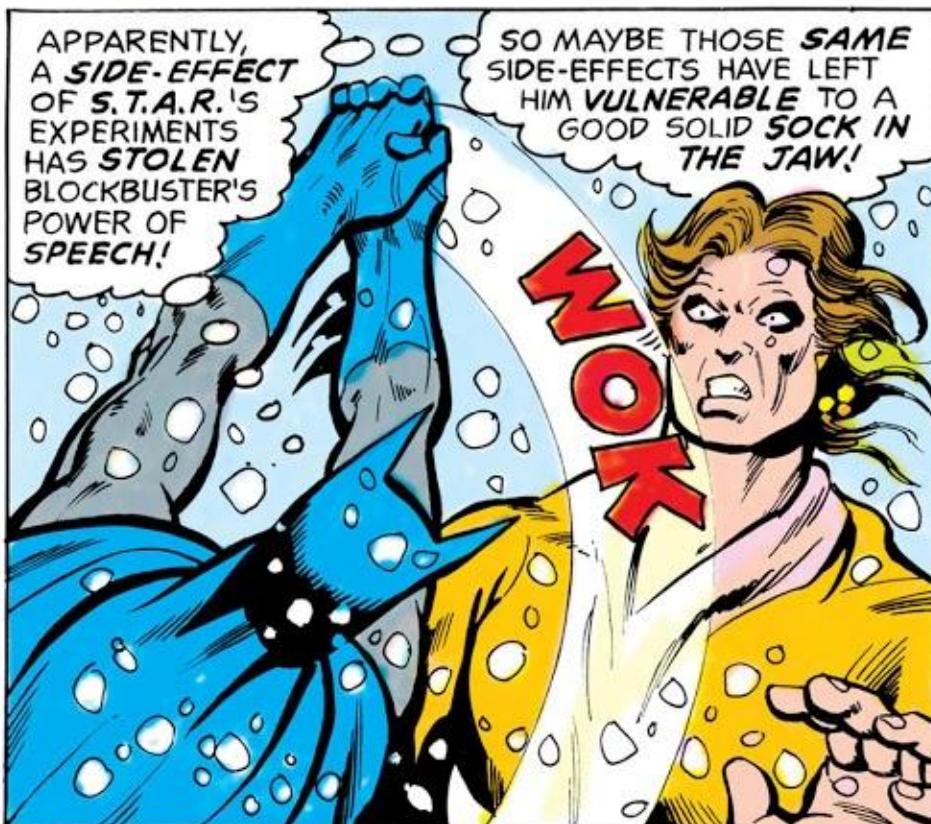
BUT OF ONE THING, AT AT LEAST, HE IS CERTAIN--

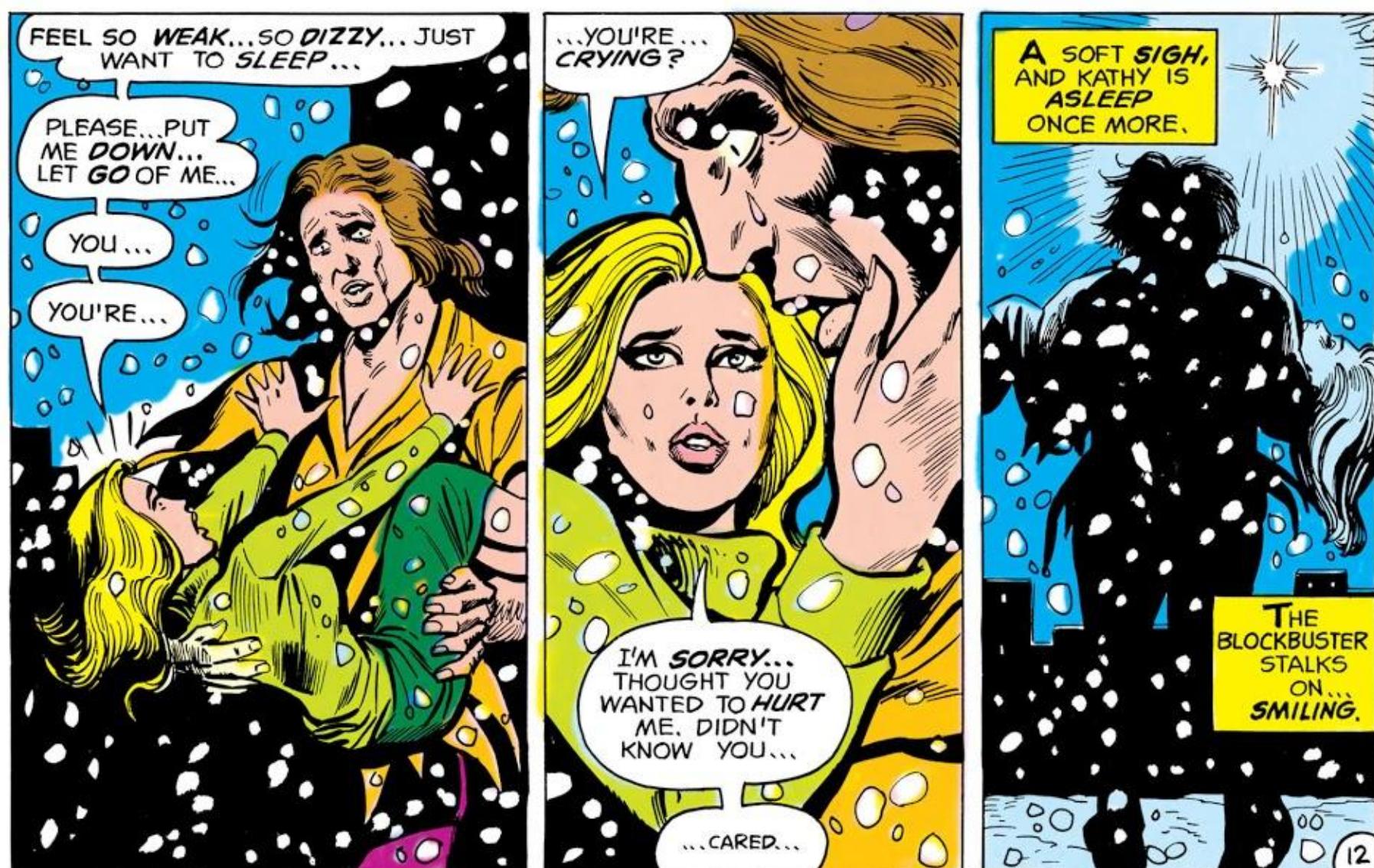
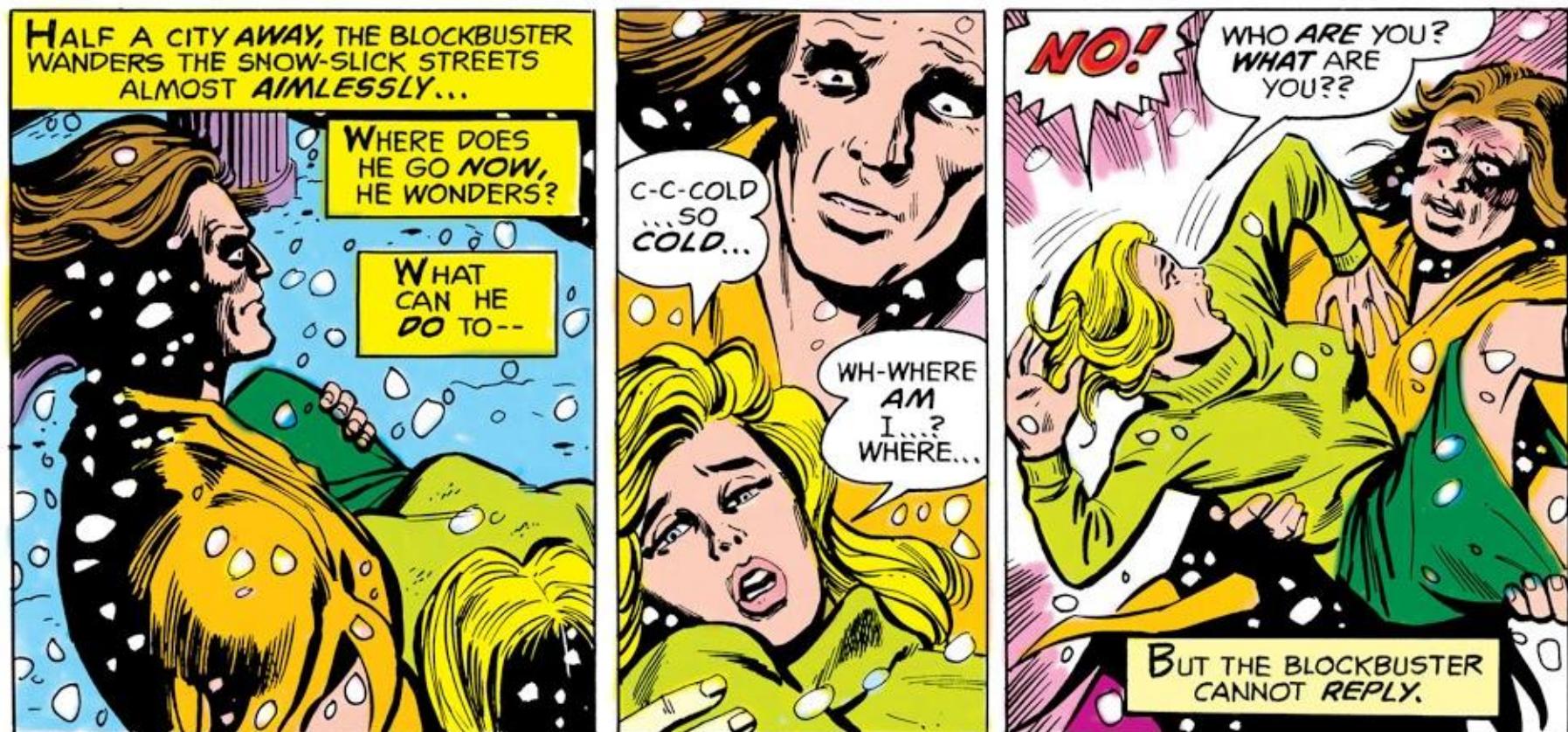


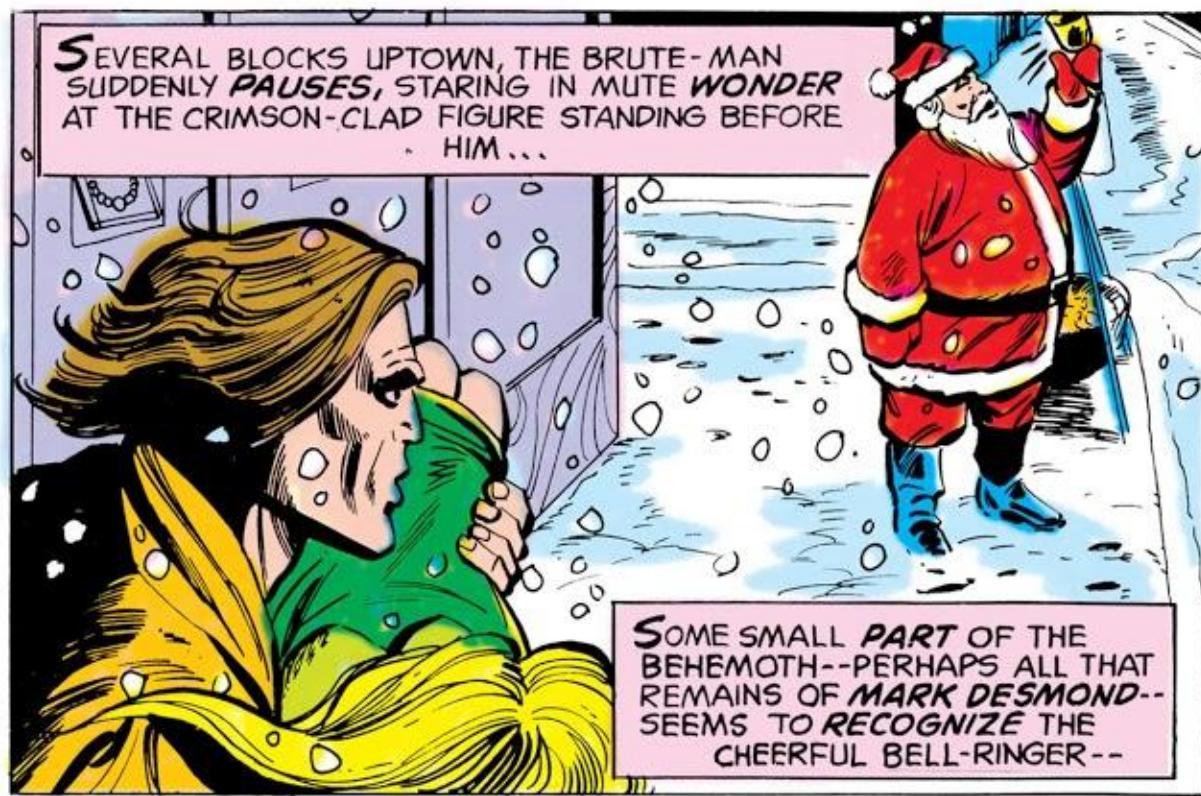












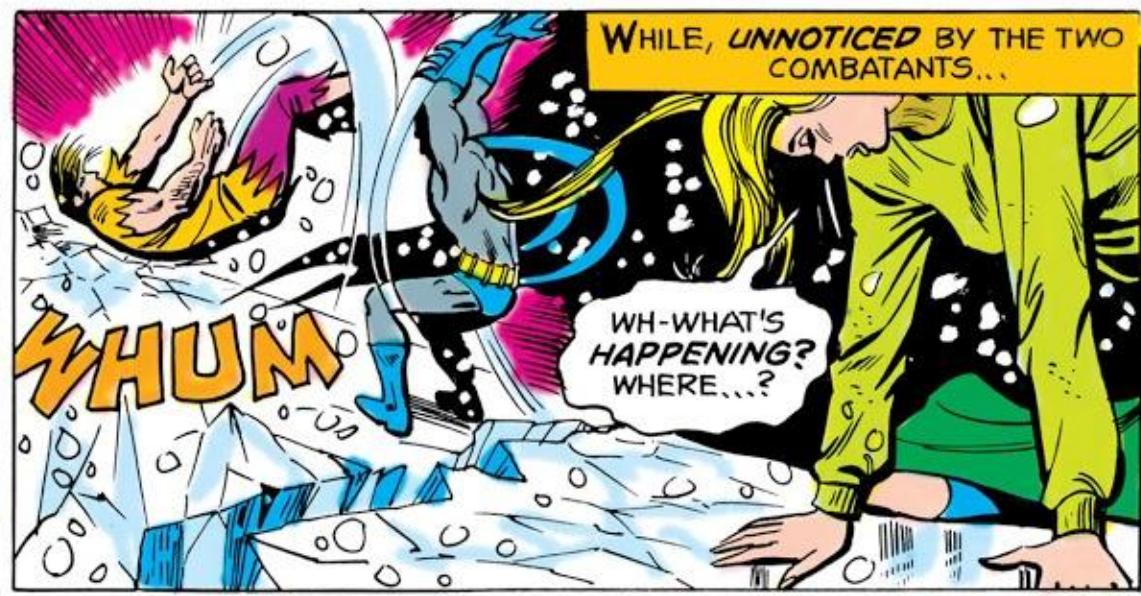




THE BLOCKBUSTER HAD TRIED TO AVOID THIS, BUT THE CAPE ONE KEPT HUNTING HIM, KEPT HOUNDING HIM--

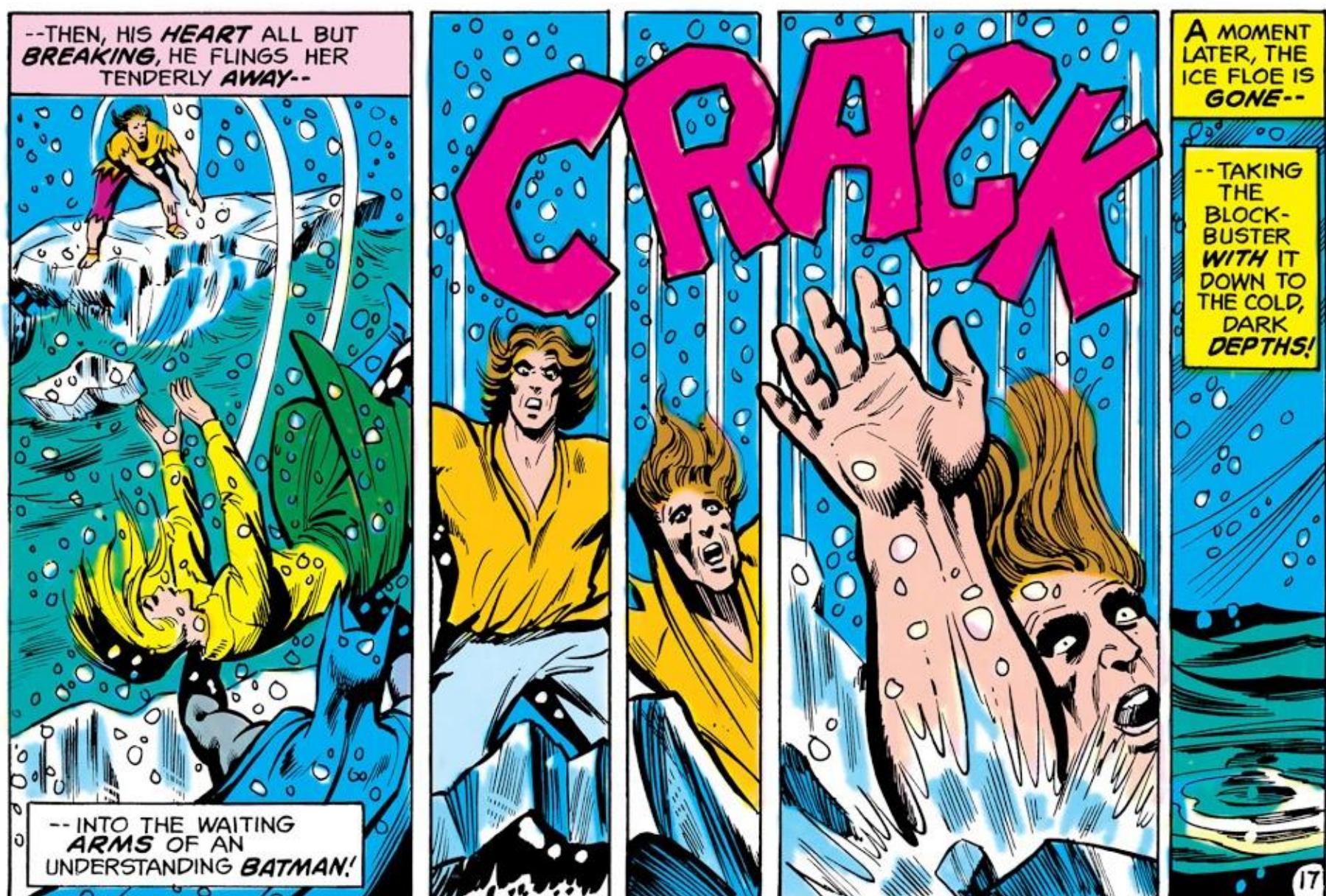
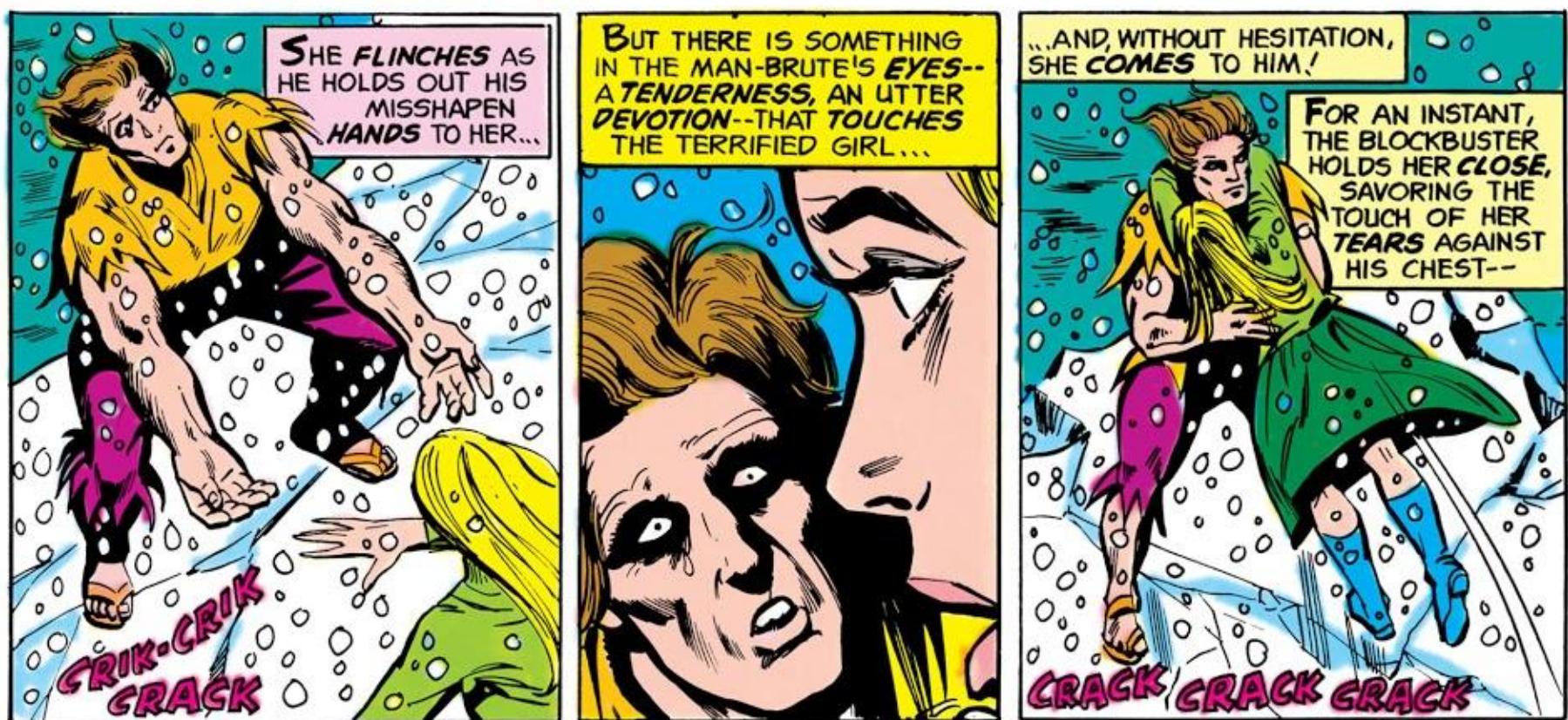
--AND NOW THE CAPE ONE MUST SUFFER FOR IT!!

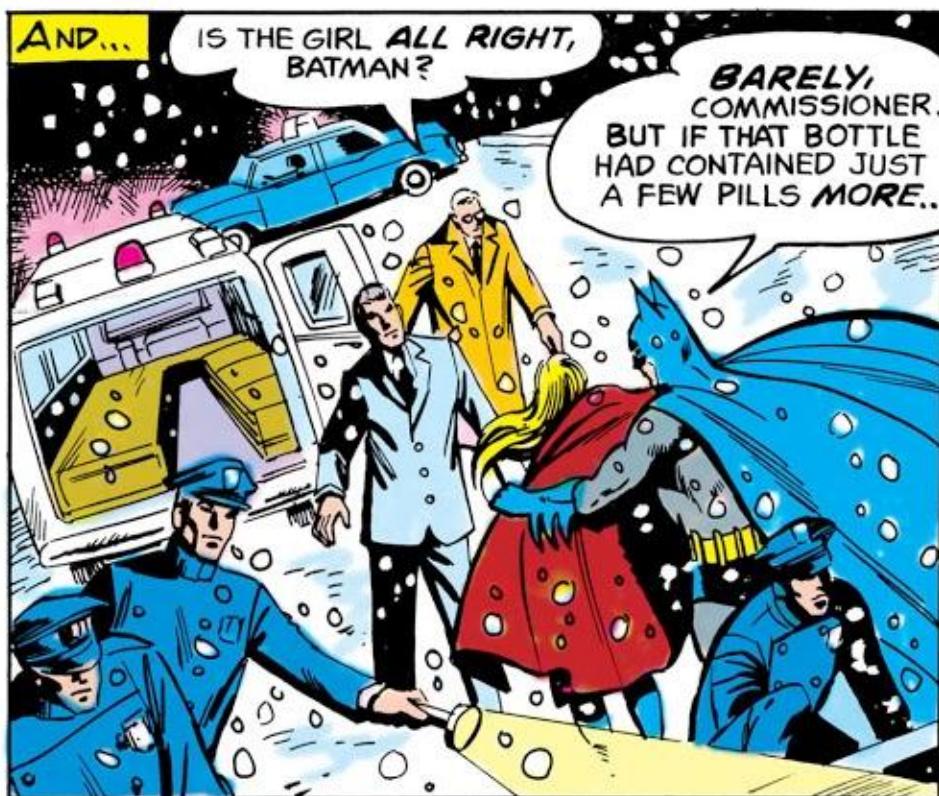
WHILE, UNNOTICED BY THE TWO COMBATANTS...



--IN LIEU OF MORE IMPORTANT THINGS!







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IRV NOVICK RETURNS TO THE ARTISTIC REINS, AS THE DARKNIGHT DETECTIVE FACES HAWKMAN'S GREATEST FOE! BE HERE FOR...

"THE GHOST WHO HAUNTED BATMAN!"

WE PROMISE IT WILL HAUNT YOU, TOO!



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