



GIANT

A STAR-STUDED
COLLECTION!

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AUTHORITY

ISSUE No.3

BATMAN ANNUAL

80
PAGES

**BATMAN
and ROBIN'S
MOST
FANTASTIC
FOES!**



THE JOKER



GORILLA
BOSS



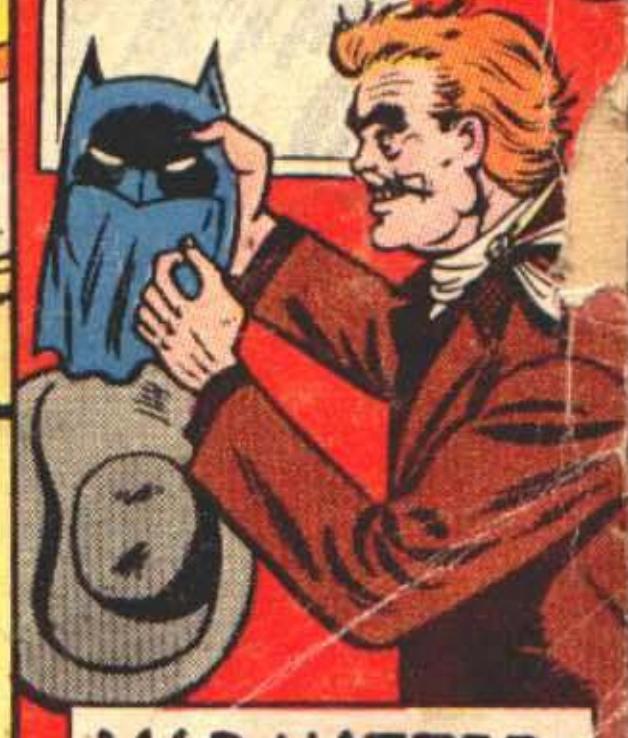
TWO-FACE



HUMAN FIREFLY



MIRROR
MAN



MAD HATTER

GIANT BAT-MAN ANNUAL

ISSUE No.3

BATMAN
and ROBIN'S
MOST
FANTASTIC
FOES!

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BATMAN

With
ROBIN
THE BOY WONDER

HOLD IT,
MAD HATTER!
YOU'RE NOT ADDING
MY COWL TO YOUR
COLLECTION!



"HOLD ONTO YOUR HAT!"
THAT WARNING GOES OUT
EVERYWHERE-- AND NO
WONDER! FOR A NEW
CRIMINAL IS ON THE
LOOSE... A BANDIT
WHOSE BIZARRE HOBBY
IS-- STEALING HATS!
BUT THAT'S ONLY HALF
THE STORY, AS
BATMAN AND
ROBIN DISCOVER
TO THEIR DISMAY,
WHEN THEY RUN INTO
A HEAD-ON BATTLE WITH...

THE MAD HATTER OF GOTHAM CITY

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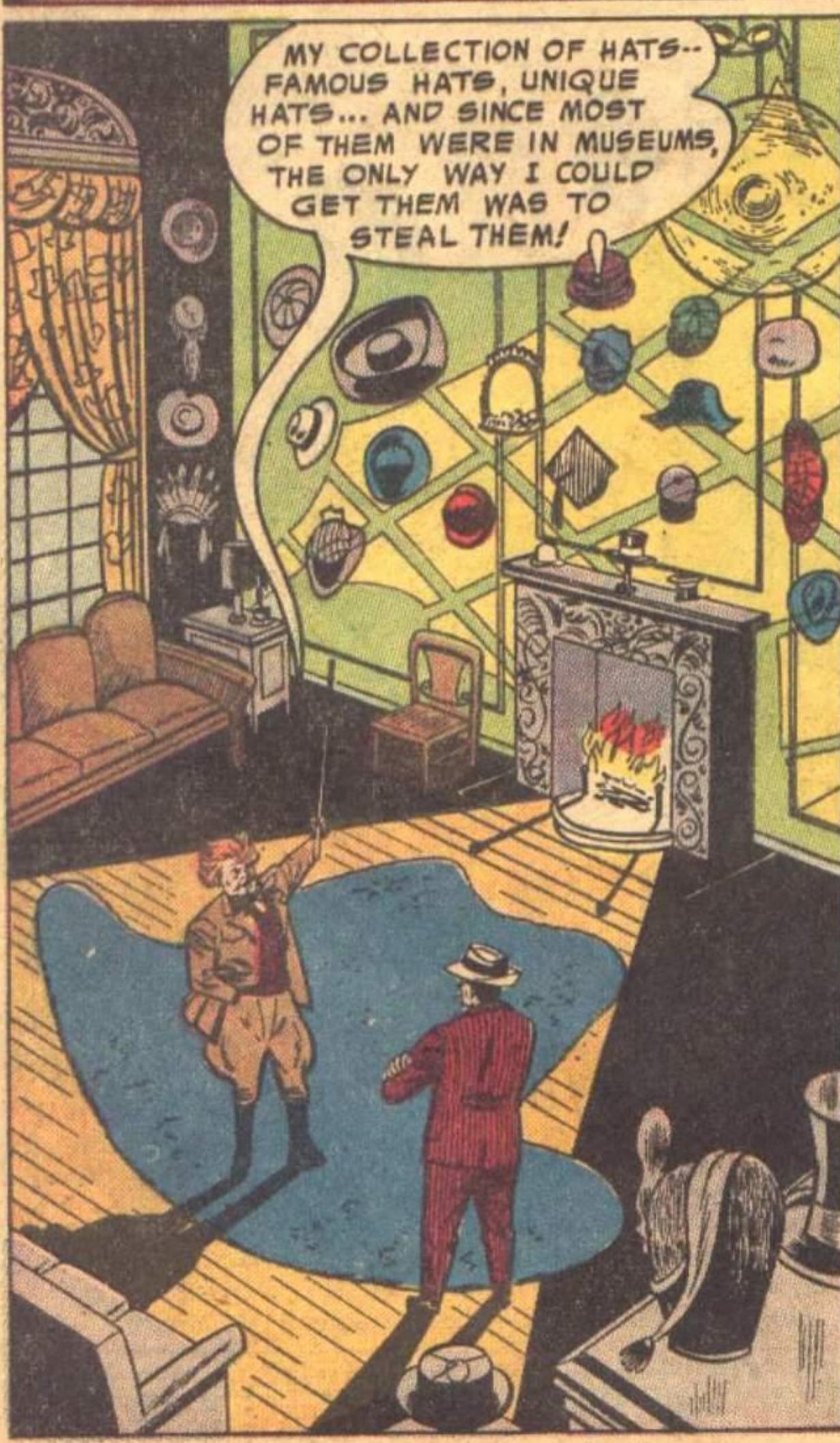
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A RADIO BLARES OUT WITH A STRANGE NEWS EVENT--BUT THE STORY AMUSES ONE PARTICULAR LISTENER...

TONIGHT THE MAD HATTER STRUCK AGAIN--THIS TIME BREAKING INTO GOTHAM MUSEUM AND STEALING A HAT ONCE WORN BY GEORGE WASHINGTON!

SOME PEOPLE COLLECT PAINTINGS... STAMPS... OLD CARS... BUT I, JERVIS TETCH, COLLECT HATS!

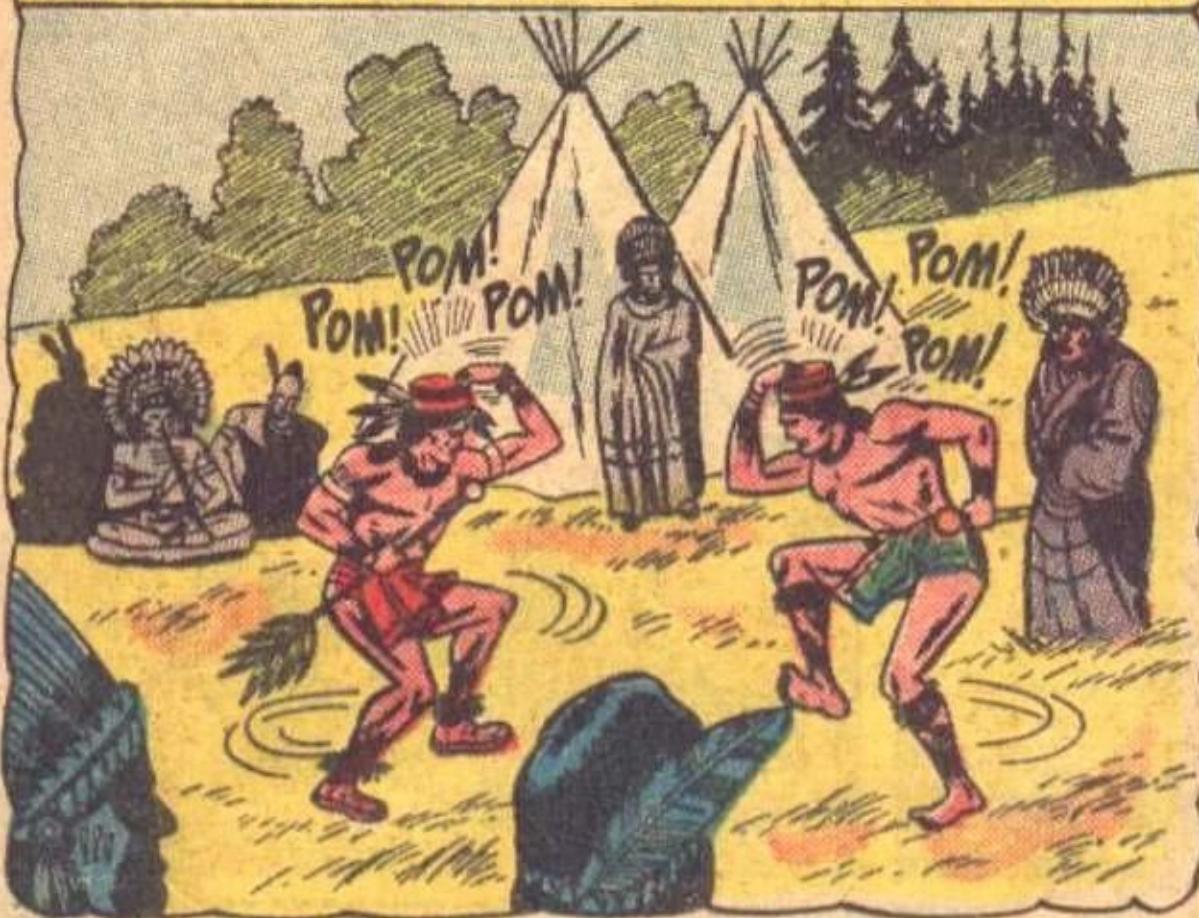
HA, HA... THIS HAT WILL BE WONDERFUL IN MY COLLECTION!



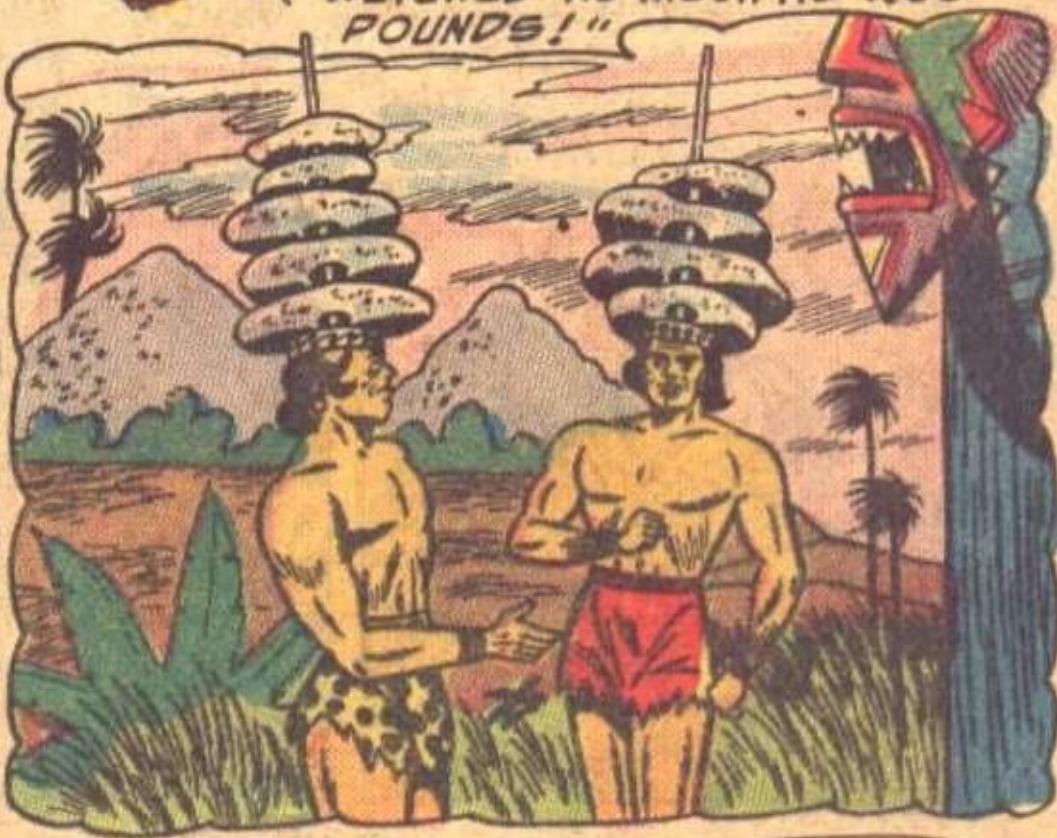
BATMAN ANNUAL



"MANY HATS SERVED TWO PURPOSES -- SUCH AS THE INDIAN DRUM HAT, WHICH WAS USED DURING THE WALKING DRUM CEREMONY..."



"ON YAPPA ISLAND, NATIVES STRENGTHENED THEIR NECK MUSCLES BY WEARING STONE HATS -- SOME OF WHICH WEIGHED AS MUCH AS 200 POUNDS!"



"HERE'S A CAGE HAT, IN WHICH A SOUTH AMERICAN INDIAN TRIBE WOULD CARRY ITS HUNTING HAWKS..."



"AND HERE'S THE TRICK SOMBRERO OF THE NOTORIOUS WESTERN BADMAN -- NED DALTON! HE CACHED A TINY DERRINGER INSIDE ITS CROWN!"



BUT, BOSS -- HOW COME YOU KEEP THIS HOOK EMPTY?

PETE, THAT'S RESERVED-- FOR THE RENOWNED HEADGEAR THAT WILL MAKE MY COLLECTION COMPLETE...



I'M SAVING THAT PLACE FOR BATMAN'S COWL!



CHEE, BOSS--
STEALING
BATMAN'S
COWL AIN'T
GONNA BE
EASY!

IT WILL BE--
FOR ME! YOU
SEE, I'VE MADE
A LIST OF CERTAIN
PUBLIC EVENTS
BATMAN IS
SCHEDULED TO
APPEAR AT THIS
WEEK, ACCORDING
TO THE NEWSPAPERS!

FOR EXAMPLE, HE'S DUE TO
ATTEND A LUNCHEON AT
THE **GREEN DERBY**
RESTAURANT TOMORROW...
BUT WE'LL BE THERE
BEFORE HIM -- WAITING!

NEXT DAY, IN THE HOME OF SOCIALITE
BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS YOUNG WARD,
DICK GRAYSON, WHO ARE SECRETLY
THE BATMAN AND ROBIN,
THE BOY WONDER...

IF ONLY
WE COULD
NAB THE
MAD
HATTER...

WE WILL--
EVENTUALLY! SPEAKING
OF HATS, DICK, REMINDS
ME THAT WE'RE INVITED
TO LUNCH AT THE
GREEN DERBY,
TO HONOR THE PRODUCER
OF A SERIES OF CRIME
PREVENTION
MOVIES!



SO AWHILE LATER, AS THEY
APPROACH THE **GREEN
DERBY**, FAMED
RESTAURANT OF
THE MOVIE-
MAKERS...

GET READY, PETE--
HERE THEY COME...



ABRUPTLY, A LASO Hisses
DOWN, AND...

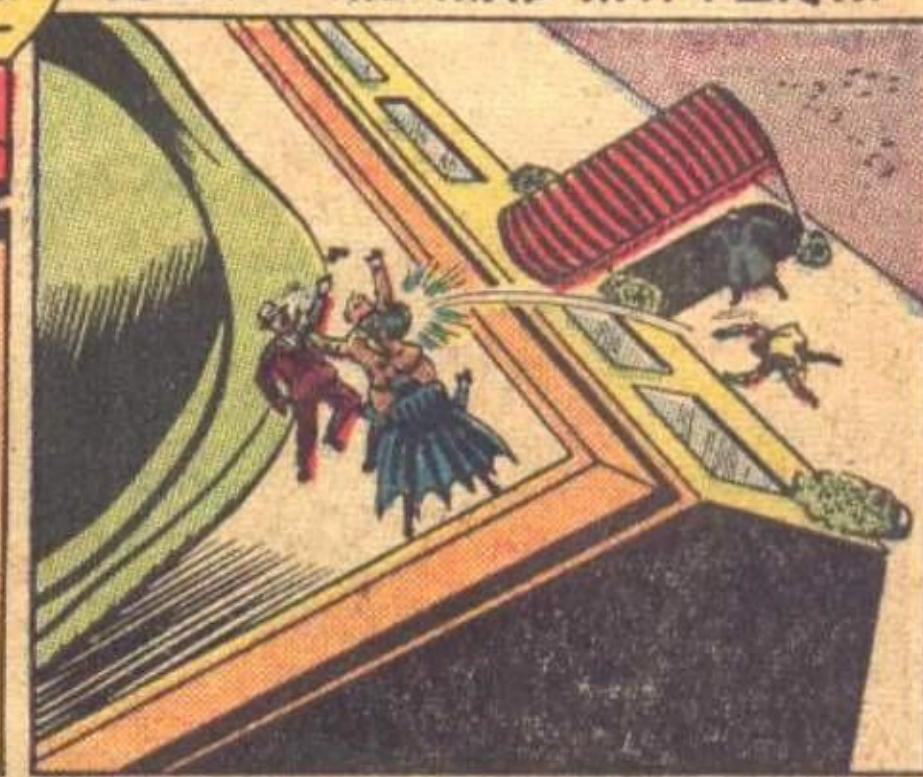
WHAT--?



HELPLESSLY, BATMAN WATCHES THE MAD HATTER'S HAND REACH FOR THE COWL THAT MASKS HIS SECRET IDENTITY...

BUT AT THE SAME INSTANT, ROBIN'S HAND ALSO REACHES--FOR THE GREEN HEADGEAR OF THE RESTAURANT'S DOORMAN...

A QUICK FLIP OF THE WRIST--AND IRONICALLY, A WELL-AIMED HAT BLOCKS THE MAD HATTER...



AS BATMAN USES THAT PRECIOUS MOMENT TO LOOSEN THE LOOP ABOUT HIM...

BUT WE WON'T BE IF WE DON'T GET OUT OF HERE FAST!

AND A WAITING GETAWAY CAR RESCUES THE CRIMINALS IN THE NICK OF TIME...



BATMAN'S FREE!

BATMAN ANNUAL



BOSS, DO YOU THINK BATMAN'S WISE TO YOU? NO! HE DOESN'T SUSPECT I'M THE MAD HATTER... AND THAT I'M AFTER HIS COWL! HE PROBABLY THINKS I'M JUST ANOTHER HOODLUM TRYING TO UNMASK HIM!

THE MAD HATTER'S THEORY IS CORRECT-- FOR SHORTLY AFTERWARD...

WHOEVER THAT MASKED CRIMINAL WAS, HE CERTAINLY TRIED TO EXPOSE YOUR SECRET IDENTITY!

LATER, IN HIS SECRET MUSEUM, THE FANATICAL HOBBY-ROBBER IS FORCED TO CHANGE HIS PLAN OF ACTION...

I SEE NOW... BATMAN'S TOO QUICK-- TOO CLEVER--TO DEAL WITH BY ORDINARY METHODS. SO INSTEAD OF TRYING TO SNATCH HIS COWL AWAY FROM HIM, I'LL HAVE TO TRICK HIM INTO REMOVING THE COWL HIMSELF!

HMM-- ACCORDING TO THE NEWSPAPERS, BATMAN IS DUE TOMORROW FOR ANOTHER SITTING AT THE STUDIO OF BRUMER, THE SCULPTOR...

NEXT DAY, AS THE UNSUSPECTING BATMAN KEEPS ANOTHER OFFICIAL APPOINTMENT...

HELLO, BRUMER-- HERE WE ARE AGAIN!

GOOD... NOW I CAN FINISH THE CARVING OF THE GRANITE STATUE OF YOU, WHICH THE CITY COMMISSIONED ME TO MAKE FOR THE NEW PARK!

IF MY PLAN WORKS, THEN BY TOMORROW NIGHT, BATMAN'S COWL WILL BE HANGING ON THAT HOOK!



BATMAN ANNUAL



BUT UPON TAKING THE POSE HE'D ASSUMED A WEEK BEFORE...

SOMEHOW, I CAN'T GET THE HEAD JUST RIGHT! IF I COULD BORROW YOUR COWL TO PUT ON THE GRANITE HEAD, I'D SEE WHERE I'M MAKING MY MISTAKE...

...AND IF YOU WENT INTO THAT DRESSING ROOM AND HANDED YOUR COWL FROM BEHIND THE DOOR, I COULDN'T SEE YOUR UNMASKED IDENTITY!

ALL RIGHT, AS LONG AS THERE IS NO RISK INVOLVED!



A FEW MINUTES LATER...



WHAT'S MORE, EVEN IF HE HEARS ME SUBDUCING ROBIN, HE WON'T DARE COME OUT OF THAT ROOM... OTHERWISE HE'D REVEAL HIS SECRET IDENTITY!

I'VE GOT HIM TRAPPED -- AND I'VE GOT HIS COWL!



ROBIN IS STILL BEWILDERED BY THE TURN OF EVENTS! MAYBE I CAN USE THAT TO MY ADVANTAGE...



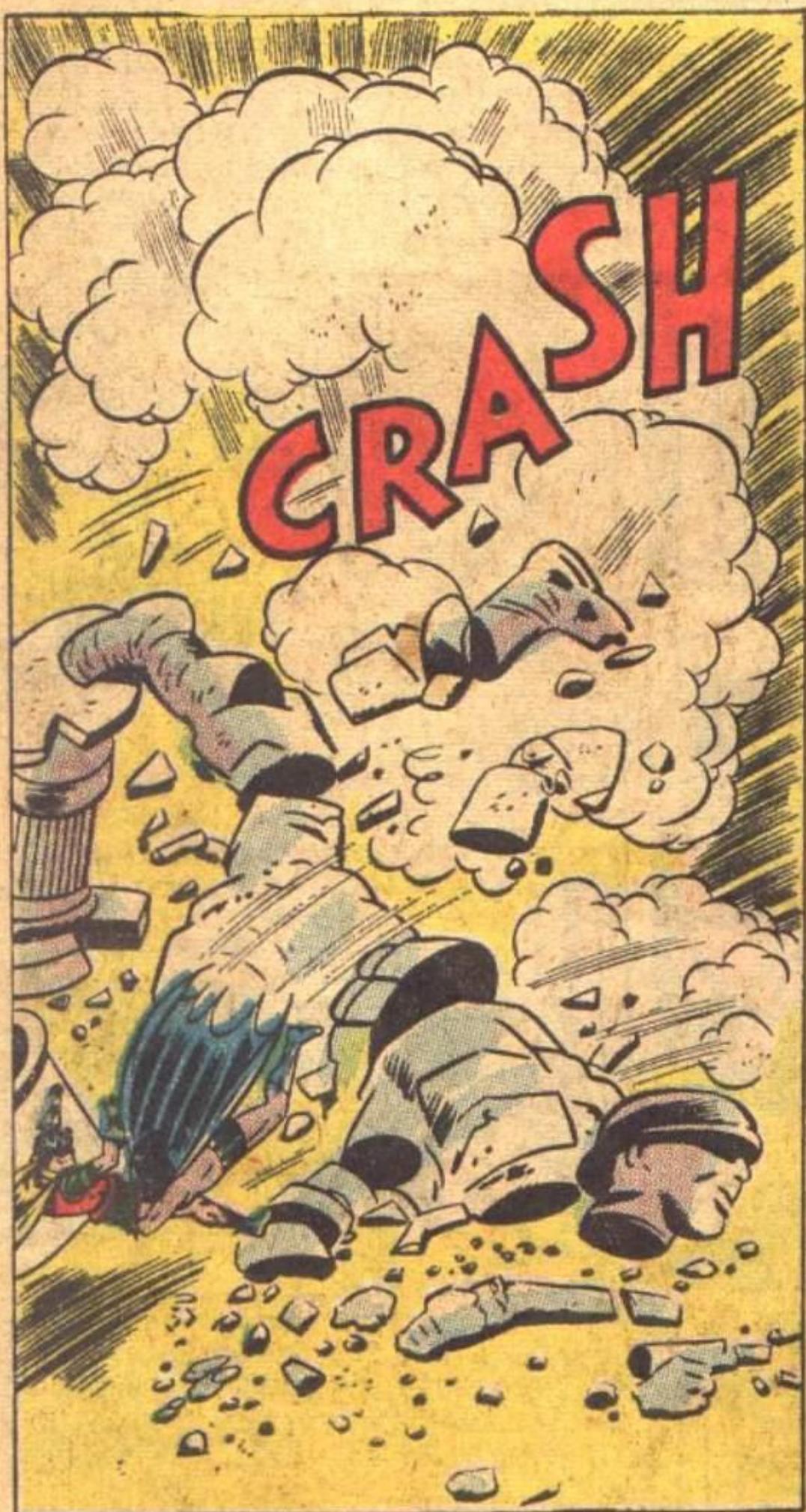
ROBIN! LOOK OUT!

WAITING UNTIL ROBIN HAS HIS BACK TURNED TO HIM, THE MAD HATTER PREPARES TO STRIKE, WHEN SUDDENLY...



BATMAN!
MASKED!





LATER, BATMAN SEARCHES FOR AND RELEASES THE REAL BRUMER...

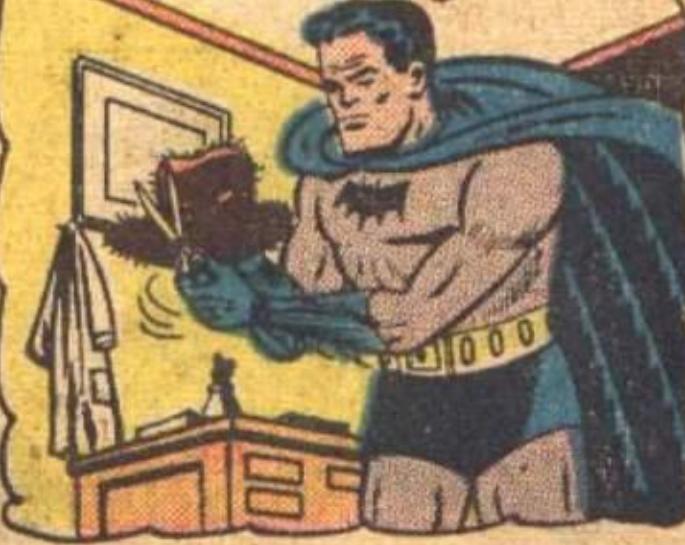
I SUSPECTED WHILE HE WAS TYING ME UP, HE BOASTED THAT HE WAS THE MAD HATTER!

HIS IDENTITY--AFTER I WAS IN THE DRESSING ROOM! I SUDENLY REMEMBERED HOW SOFT THE BALL OF HIS LEFT THUMB LOOKED!

"IF HE WERE A REAL SCULPTOR, HIS LEFT THUMB WOULD HAVE BEEN CALLOUSED FROM CONSTANTLY BRACING THE STONE CHISEL..."

"I COULDN'T LEAVE THE ROOM, UNMASKED, TO GET AT THE MAD HATTER--SO I QUICKLY CUT SOME EYEHOLEs IN MR. BRUMER'S HAT..."

BRUMER HAS A LARGE HEAD-SIZE, SO HIS HAT WILL EASILY SLIDE DOWN FAR ENOUGH TO COVER MY FACE!"



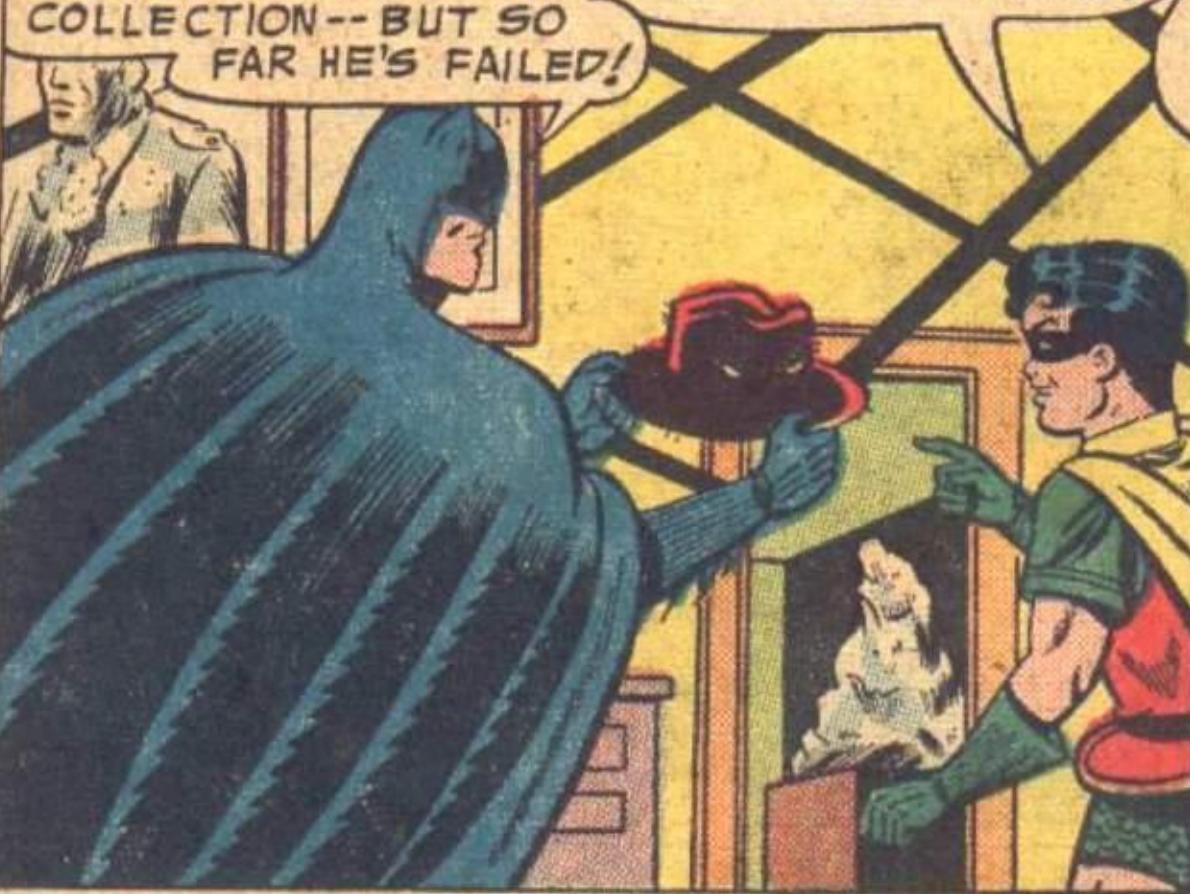
BATMAN ANNUAL

NOW WE KNOW THE MAD HATTER WANTS MY COWL FOR HIS HAT COLLECTION--BUT SO FAR HE'S FAILED!

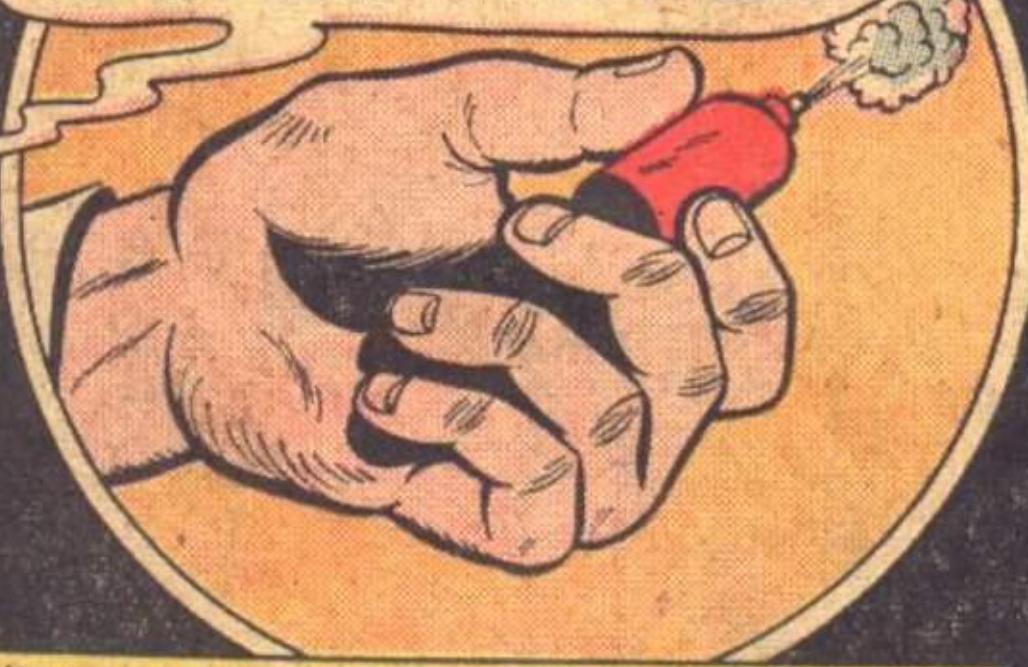
THAT'S BECAUSE WE'VE BEATEN HIM EVERY TIME--WITH A HAT!

BUT IN HIS SECRET MUSEUM, THE MAD HATTER SMILES CRAFTILY...

BATMAN DOESN'T KNOW IT, BUT I'VE ALREADY FIXED THINGS SO THAT NEXT TIME, HE'LL BE GLAD TO REMOVE HIS COWL AND GIVE IT TO ME!



YES... BATMAN NEVER SAW THIS TINY PLASTIC SPRAY BOTTLE THAT I HAD PALMED WHEN I REACHED FOR HIS COWL AT THE STUDIO!



HOW CAN THIS TINY BOTTLE POSSIBLY HAVE ANY EFFECT ON BATMAN'S BATTLE WITH THE MAD HATTER?

NEXT DAY, AS THE CAPED CRIME-BUSTERS KEEP AN APPOINTMENT AT A NEARBY ATOMIC ENERGY EXPERIMENTAL BUILDING...

THAT MAN IS A LAB WORKER! HIS WHITE SUIT AND HEAD COVERING ARE LINED WITH LEAD, TO PROTECT HIM FROM RADIATION!



LATER, AS THEY ENTER ANOTHER ROOM...

IN THIS LABORATORY, WE'RE TESTING THE VARIED CHEMICAL AND ELECTRICAL PROPERTIES OF COBALT!



BUT AS THEY LEAVE THE ROOM... AND I GREAT SCOTT! YOUR COWL IS GLOWING! SUPPOSE YOU WANT ME TO REMOVE MY COWL! OH, NO--THIS TIME YOUR TRICK WON'T WORK! GRAB HIM, ROBIN... IT'S THE MAD HATTER, IN DISGUISE!





BATMAN ANNUAL

NO, BATMAN,
HIS BEARD IS
REAL! HE'S
NOT THE
MAD HATTER!

AND LISTEN, ROBIN...
THAT GEIGER DEVICE
IS CLICKING! MY
COWL IS RADIO-
ACTIVE!

I'LL NEED SOMETHING TO
COVER MY IDENTITY BEFORE
I REMOVE MY COWL!

DON'T WORRY, BATMAN.
I'LL HAVE THAT LAB
WORKER BRING YOU A
HOOD, AND THEN HE'LL
TAKE YOUR COWL TO BE
DECONTAMINATED!



BUT SOME TIME LATER, AS THE
HOODED BATMAN WAITS IM-
PATIENTLY FOR THE RETURN OF
HIS COWL...

STRANGE... HE SHOULD
BE BACK BY NOW! IT DOESN'T
TAKE THIS LONG TO DE-
CONTAMINATE SMALL
OBJECTS!

PROFESSOR... TWO
MEN... KNOCKED ME
OUT... GRABBED
TWO HOOD
SUITS...

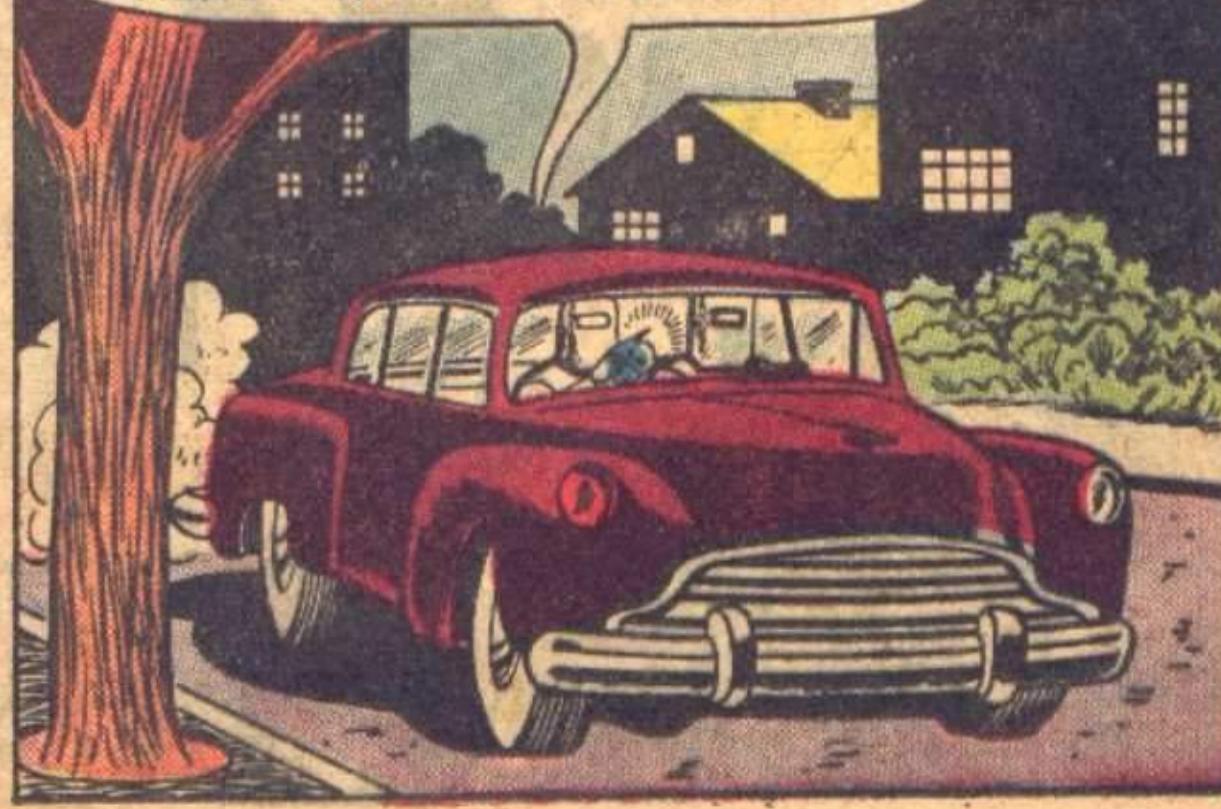
THAT HOODED MAN WHO TOOK MY
COWL--HE MUST HAVE BEEN
THE MAD HATTER! HE AND
HIS STOOGES ARE ESCAPING
WITH IT!



PROFESSOR, YOU MENTIONED
HAVING A NEWLY DEVELOPED
SUPER-SENSITIVE GEIGER
COUNTER HERE! I'D
LIKE TO BORROW IT!

OF COURSE,
BATMAN...

HA, HA... BATMAN DIDN'T KNOW THAT BEFORE
I ESCAPED FROM HIM AT THE STUDIO YESTER-
DAY, I MANAGED TO SPRAY, ON HIS COWL, A
CHEMICAL THAT I KNEW WOULD
REACT WITH COBALT FUMES!



BATMAN ANNUAL



THAT'S BECAUSE YOU KNEW HE WAS GOIN' TO THE ATOMIC PLANT TODAY, EH, BOSS?

EXACTLY! NOW, ALL WE HAVE TO DO IS DECONTAMINATE THE COWL AT THE HIDEOUT, AND I CAN ADD BATMAN'S COWL TO MY COLLECTION!

BUT AT THIS VERY MOMENT, WITH A GEIGER COUNTER INSTALLED IN THEIR BAT-PLANE, THE TWO LAWMEN CHECK ALL NEARBY HIGHWAYS...

NOTHING DOING YET, BATMAN...

JUST THEN...

LISTEN... THE NEARER WE GET TO THAT SEDAN BELOW, THE LOUDER THE GEIGER COUNTER CHATTERS!

THAT'S PROOF ENOUGH! THE MAD HATTER DOESN'T KNOW IT, BUT MY COWL IS GOING TO LEAD US RIGHT TO HIS HIDEOUT!

LATER, AFTER DECONTAMINATING THE COWL, THE MAD HATTER ENTERS HIS PRIVATE MUSEUM...

BATMAN'S COWL IS THE CROWNING TOUCH TO MY COLLECTION OF HATS!

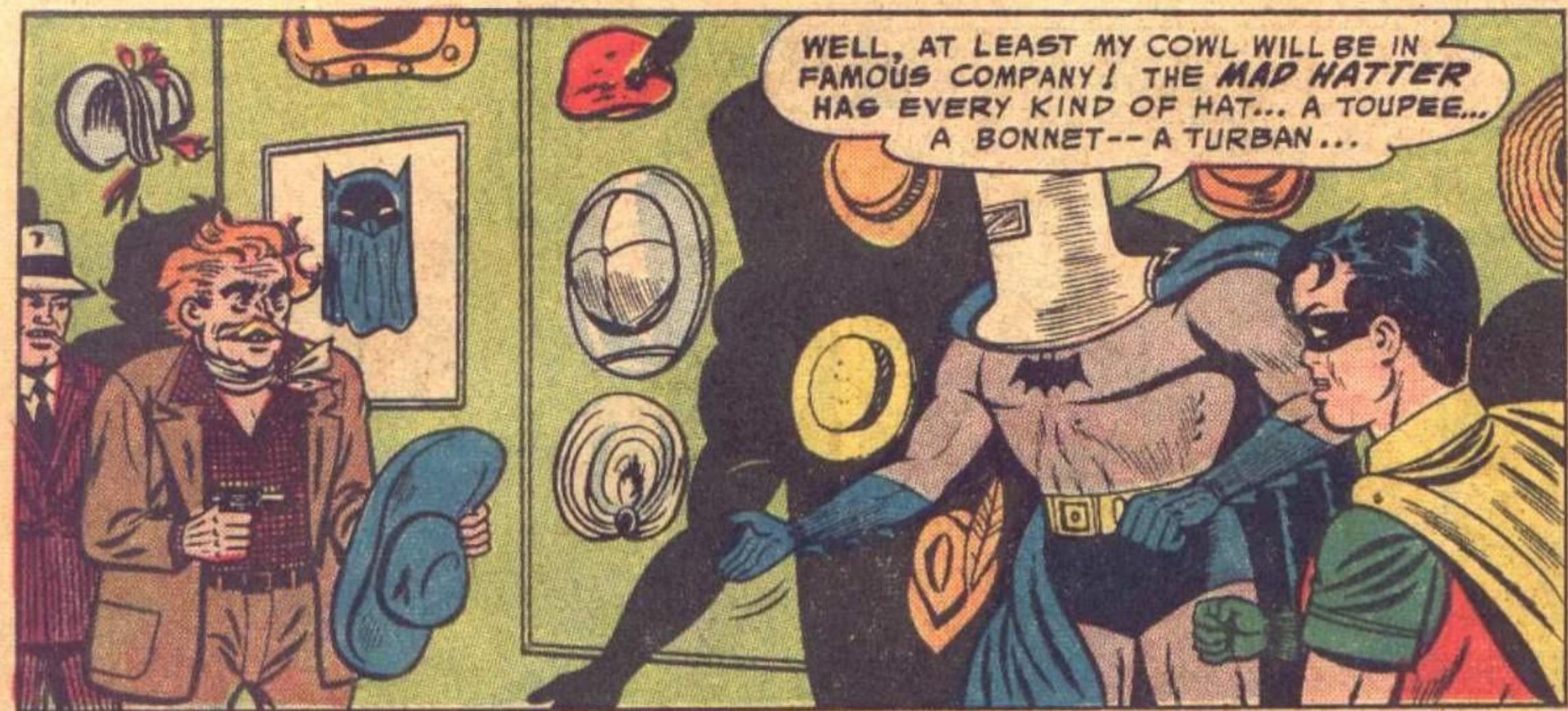
THAT'S A PRETTY BAD PUN, HATTER!

BATMAN!

THANKS TO NED DALTON'S TRICK HAT, I'VE GOT YOU STOPPED!

HOLD IT, ROBIN... LOOKS LIKE THE MAD HATTER GETS TO KEEP MY COWL AFTER ALL!







BATMAN

With
ROBIN

THE BOY WONDER

THE FIREFLY...

HARMLESS LITTLE CREATURE OF THE NIGHT, WHOSE PALE, COLD LIGHT HAS BAFFLED SCIENTISTS FOR CENTURIES! BUT NOT SO INNOCENT IS ITS *HUMAN* COUNTERPART--A NEW AND TERRIBLE NAME IN CRIME ANNALS--WHOSE AMAZING KNOWLEDGE OF FANTASTIC LIGHTING EFFECTS PROVIDES A SEEMINGLY UNBEATABLE WEAPON AGAINST ANY AND ALL WHO DARE CHALLENGE HIM... UNTIL *BATMAN* AND *ROBIN*, GRIM AND GALLANT PURSUERS OF EVIL-DOERS, SWOOP DOWN FROM THE NIGHT TO COMBAT THE MAN OF 1,000 LIGHTS, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS...

"The Human

FIREFLY!"

BOB
KANE



BATMAN ANNUAL



A GREAT THROG GATHERS AT THE HUGE GOTHAM THEATER TO SEE THE TOWN'S NEWEST MUSICAL SENSATION, "AQUA-MELODIES OF 1952!"

WELL! BRUCE WAYNE AND DICK GRAYSON.

GOOD EVENING, MR. AND MRS. CHADWYCKE.

I THOUGHT **NOTHING** COULD LURE BRUCE AWAY FROM THE COMFORTABLE TOWN CLUBS. DICK-- BUT I GUESS A GOOD MUSICAL CAN DO THE TRICK.

"GOOD MUSICAL." HMPF.
I'D RATHER HAVE SEEN A WESTERN MOVIE.'

INFLUENTIAL FRIENDS WENT TO A LOT OF TROUBLE TO GET US THESE TICKETS, DICK! BESIDES, IT'S SUPPOSED TO BE A REALLY GOOD SHOW! SHH-- I THINK IT'S CURTAIN TIME!

MEANWHILE, IN THE LIGHTING-EFFECTS CONTROL BOOTH, A SINISTER PLOT TAKES SHAPE...

I AM **MERELY** GARFIELD LYNN, WORLD'S FOREMOST LIGHTING-EFFECTS GENIUS! YES, I EXIST ON A MEAGER SALARY WHILE THOSE IDIOTS IN THE AUDIENCE COME HERE IN THEIR LIMOUSINES, THEIR FUR COATS--FLASHING RARE GEMS!

BUT WE'LL FIX 'EM TONIGHT, BOSS! DA BOYS HAVE ALL DESE USHERS' SUITS-- LIKE YA WANTED, AN' THEY'LL BE STANDIN' WHERE YA TOLD 'EM. IT'S ALL SET!

THEN, WITH A CRASH OF MUSIC, THE CURTAIN GOES UP ON "AQUA-MELODIES OF 1952."

THIS SCENE IS "BALLET OF THE DEEP!" TRICKY LIGHTING EFFECTS MAKE IT APPEAR TO BE UNDER WATER! REALISTIC, ISN'T IT?

I'LL SAY! AIR BUBBLES AND ALL!

SUDDENLY, BRILLIANT DANCING LIGHTS OF RED, ORANGE AND YELLOW PLAY THROUGH THE MOCK UNDER-WATER FOREST-- AND EVEN TO THOSE UP CLOSE RESEMBLES A REAL FIRE!

FIRE! FIRE!

THE STAGE IS ON FIRE!

THE PANIC SPREADS TO THE AUDIENCE...

THAT'S NO REAL FIRE," DICK! NOTICE -- THERE'S NO SMOKE!

MAYBE BATMAN AND ROBIN CAN DO SOMETHING-- BEFORE THESE PEOPLE KILL EACH OTHER IN A STAMPEDE!

A SURREPTITIOUS CHANGE OF COSTUME, AND TWO WINGED-LIKE FIGURES SWING TOWARD THE STAGE, SILHOUETTED AGAINST THE FIERY GLOW...

PHONEY FIRE IS RIGHT, BATMAN! BUT IT'S AMAZING HOW THOSE MOVING LIGHTS MAKE IT APPEAR REAL-- EVEN UP THIS CLOSE!

THERE'S A MICROPHONE IN THE WINGS! GET IT ON-STAGE FAST!

ABOVE THE DIN AND CLAMOR, BATMAN'S VOICE RINGS OUT, MOMENTARILY QUIETING THE FRANTIC CROWD...

ATTENTION! THERE'S NO FIRE! IT'S ONLY TRICK LIGHTING! SEE? IT HAS NO EFFECT ON US!

BATMAN'S RIGHT! IT'S NOT A REAL FIRE! IT'S A TRICK!

BUT THEN, A NEW TYPE OF PANIC STRIKES!

COME ON, ROBIN! THAT'S THE REASON FOR THE FAKE FIRE-- IT WAS A CAMOUFLAGE TO COVER UP ROBBERIES OF THE AUDIENCE!

MINE, TOO!

AND MY PURSE IS MISSING!

RUNNING TOWARD THE MAIN EXIT, THE DARING DUO THWARTS THE CRIMINALS' ESCAPE...

USHERS! USHERING OUT THE STOLEN LOOT!

I RECOGNIZE LINKY THOMAS-- FORMER "USHER" IN THE BIG HOUSE! GOING SOMEWHERE, LINKY?

ULLPS! BATMAN AND THE KID, ROBIN!

WHOMP!

I'LL TALK, BATMAN! I'LL TALK! WE'RE JUS' HIRED HANDS ON THIS ONE! THE BIG BOSS IS-- IS-- I-- I'M SHOT!

SOMEONE GOT LINKY FROM THE EXIT CORRIDOR-- AND THERE GOES THE SOMEONE DOWN THE STAIRS!

BLAM!



BATMAN ANNUAL



I MUST'VE BEEN
CRAZY TO SHOOT LINKY...
THEY'RE BOUND TO FIND
OUT I, GARFIELD LYNNS,
WAS BEHIND THAT JOB,
ANYWAY... WELL, CAN'T
WORRY ABOUT THAT
NOW... GOTTA GET
AWAY...

JUMP,
ROBIN!



THE CAR ZIGZAGS THROUGH A FEW BACK
STREETS AT THE CITY'S EDGE, THEN
ROARS INTO THE MOONLIT HILL COUNTRY...

WE'LL MAKE OUR MOVE
NOW! ONE OF THE REAR
WINDOWS IS OPEN --
I'LL SLIP DOWN
OVER THE SIDE...

THE CAR MAKES A
VERY INTERESTING
SHADOW IN THE MOON-
LIGHT! HMM... I'VE GOT
PASSENGERS!
BATMAN AND
ROBIN. HA!
I'LL FIX THOSE
TWO! THERE'S A
SHARP CURVE
UP AHEAD!

THE CAR ZIGZAGS THROUGH A FEW BACK
STREETS AT THE CITY'S EDGE, THEN
ROARS INTO THE MOONLIT HILL COUNTRY...

ATTEMPTING TO SWERVE SHARPLY AT
THE CURVE AND THROW THE TWO CAPE
FIGURES OFF, LYNNS SWERVES TOO
SHARPLY, AND CRASHES THROUGH THE
HIGHWAY GUARD RAIL...

THE RIVER... NOT FAR
DISTANT-- I CAN MAKE
IT... I'LL BE
FREE...



CONFUSED IT.
THE RIVER--
ONLY 20 YARDS
AWAY... BUT
THEY'LL FIND ME
... I'LL NEVER
MAKE IT... EH?
WHAT'S THAT?

BATMAN! LOOK!
A TINY GLOW
IN THE BRUSH.
OVER THERE.
IT LOOKS
LIKE A
CIGARETTE!

THE
KILLER,
MAYBE.
COME
ON.

THUS DO THE CAPE CRIME FIGHTERS
TURN ASIDE--AND THUS DOES GARFIELD
LYNNS MAKE HIS ESCAPE TO THE RIVER,
BUT NOT BEFORE OVERHEARING...

WE THOUGHT IT WAS THE
KILLER--SMOKING A CIGARETTE.
THE LIGHT WAS MADE BY
A FIREFLY!



SECONDS LATER, THE RIVER'S CURRENT CARRIES GARFIELD LYNN'S FAR DOWNSTREAM...

HA! SO A SIMPLE LITTLE FIREFLY SAVED ME! ITS LIGHT LURED BATMAN AND ROBIN OFF MY TRAIL! HA, HA! A REAL TWIST OF FATE! PERHAPS THAT'S MY LUCKY SYMBOL...THE FIREFLY!



FOR CENTURIES THAT LITTLE FELLOW HAS BAFFLED SCIENCE! LIKE ME, IT IS A **LIGHTING** GENIUS! AND NOW--IT SAVED MY LIFE! HA! WHAT AN INSPIRATION IT HAS GIVEN ME! GARFIELD LYNN'S IS GONE--FOREVER! BUT IN HIS PLACE IS ONE THEY SHALL NEVER FORGET!... ONE WHOM THEY SHALL KNOW AS THE FIREFLY!



TWO WEEKS LATER, IN A GOTHAM CITY APARTMENT...

I SEE THERE'S STILL NO SIGN OF GARFIELD LYNN'S. TOO BAD THAT HE GOT AWAY THAT NIGHT--WHEN WE WERE SO CLOSE TO NAILING HIM!

DON'T REMIND ME OF IT! I STILL FEEL SILLY GETTING FOOLED BY A COMMON LITTLE FIREFLY! ANYWAY, THEY HAVE LYNN'S FACE ON ALL THE POLICE POSTERS! THEY'LL GET HIM--SOONER OR LATER!



BUT MEANWHILE, OUTSIDE GOTHAM CITY, IN A CAVE SITUATED BENEATH A BARN...

HA! NEARLY COMPLETED! FOR YEARS I'VE USED THIS CAVE FOR SECRET LIGHTING EXPERIMENTS! NOW COMES MY MASTERPIECE!... SOMETHING NO OTHER MORTAL HAS DREAMED OF! HA, HA!



HO! WAIT TILL THEY GAZE UPON THE FIREFLY-- GENIUS OF INCREDIBLE LIGHTING EFFECTS! I'LL DAZZLE THEIR INFANTILE BRAINS!

NO IDLE WORDS ARE THESE, FOR THAT NIGHT AT THE GOTHAM CITY MUSEUM...



THE BOYS HAVE TAKEN THEIR PLACES! SHORTLY, THE MUSEUM WILL CLOSE, BUT BEFORE IT DOES I SHALL MAKE NOTHINGS OUT OF THEIR MASTERPIECE PAINTINGS, CONFFOUND THE LOT OF THEM, AND ESCAPE WITH A FORTUNE!



BATMAN ANNUAL



INSIDE...

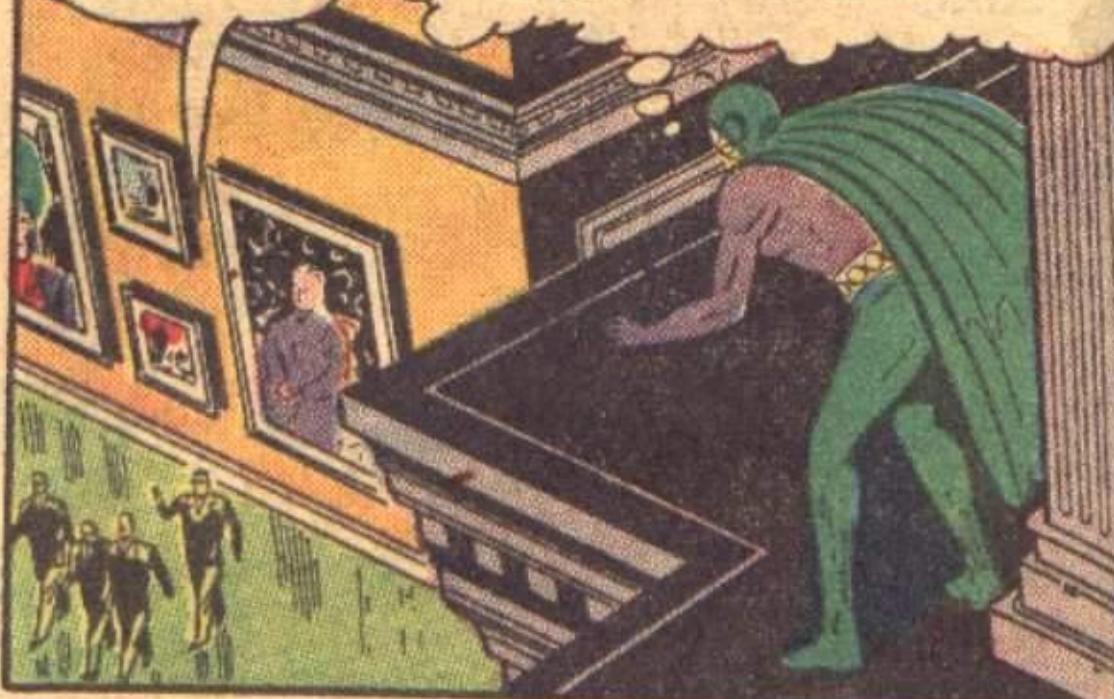
TWO VAN RHOH'S AND TWO VERNIER'S LOANED BY THE LOUVRE. THESE FOUR PAINTINGS, COMBINED, ARE WORTH NEARLY A MILLION DOLLARS!

THEY'RE BRILLIANT--BEAUTIFUL! AND VAN RHOH'S **COLORS** HAVE BEEN EQUALLED BY FEW OF THE GREAT MASTERS!



CLOSING TIME, FOLKS! EVERYBODY MUST LEAVE THE MUSEUM NOW!

BUT **NOT** BEFORE MY LITTLE GAME IS IN EFFECT! I HEREBY INTRODUCE MY **BLEACH LIGHT**, BAFFLER OF BAFFLERS!



WHAT THE GUARD SAW **BEFORE** THE LIGHT...

AS THE **FIREFLY** PRESSES A BUTTON ON HIS BELT, A STREAM OF LIGHT, UNSEEN BY THE GUARD, PLAYS OVER THE PAINTINGS--AND THE EFFECT IS TO ROB THE MASTERPIECES OF THEIR COLOR...



AND WHAT HE SEES AS THE LIGHT IS PLAYED ON THE PAINTINGS...



GREAT GUNS! THE PAINTINGS HAVE BEEN REPLACED WITH SOME ORDINARY BLACK AND WHITE ONES RIGHT UNDER MY NOSE! THE ORIGINALS, IN COLOR, HAVE BEEN **STOLEN**!

OF ALL THE NERVE-- SUSPECTING ME!

I'LL SPEAK TO THE DIRECTOR ABOUT THIS! IMAGINE-- EVEN **SUGGESTING** THAT I WOULD **STEAL**!

SORRY--BUT THESE ARE ORDERS, SIR. THERE WON'T BE ANY ACTUAL SEARCHING OF PERSONS--AN ELECTRIC RAY WILL REVEAL IF THE CANVASES ARE ROLLED UP AND HIDDEN UNDER ANYONE'S CLOTHES!

AS ALL VISITORS ARE ROUNDED UP...

THE GUARD FIRST PULLS A SWITCH, THEN BLOWS ON A WHISTLE, ALERTING THE OTHERS...

THEY'LL NOT GET AWAY! THIS ALARM REGISTERS AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS, AND NOW...



FOR A BRIEF MOMENT OR TWO, THE EXHIBIT ROOM IS LEFT "EMPTY"--BUT THEN, FIGURES SPRING FROM HIDING PLACES...

THE **BLEACH LIGHT** IS TURNED OFF--THE PAINTINGS ARE ONCE AGAIN THEIR VALUABLE, COLORFUL SELVES! GET THEM--QUICKLY, BEFORE THE GUARDS RETURN!

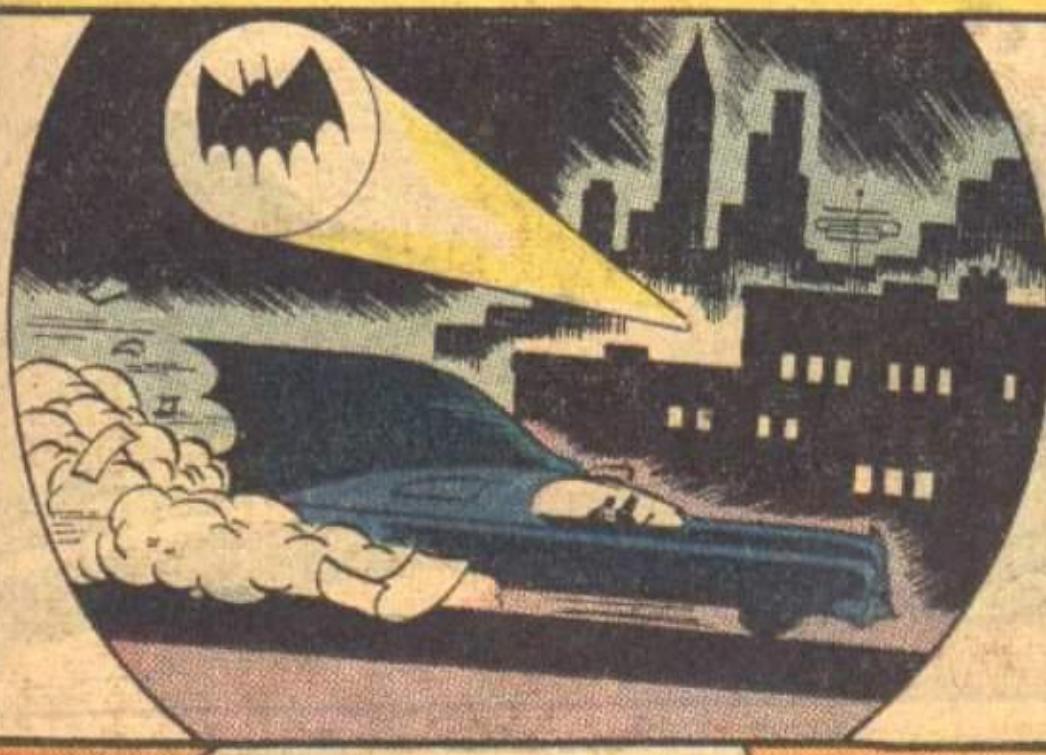
WHAT A STUNT, **FIREFLY**! HAW!



BATMAN ANNUAL



PRESENTLY, IN RESPONSE TO THE ALARM TRANSMITTED TO POLICE HEADQUARTERS, THE EERIE **BAT-SIGNAL** STABS THE SKY, SUMMONING THE DYNAMIC DUO TO THE SCENE IN THEIR POWERFUL **BATMOBILE!**



MEANWHILE...

HURRY, SNAILS!
EH? WHAT'S THAT?
SOMEONE'S
COMING!

WE'RE JUST
ABOUT
THROUGH,
BOSS!



NOT JUST "ABOUT"
THROUGH... BUT
COMPLETELY
FINISHED!

THOSE
TWO
AGAIN.
HA, HA!
THIS TIME
I'M
PREPARED!

WRONG!



RUNNING SWIFTLY INTO THE MUSEUM'S "ROOM OF CRYSTALS", THE MAN OF 1,000 LIGHTS PRESSES ANOTHER BUTTON ON HIS BELT AND PULLS A DAZZLING SURPRISE ON HIS PURSUERS...

LIKE LITTLE BOYS ON A SUMMER NIGHT, YOU'D PURSUE **THE FIREFLY**, EH? HA, HA! HERE'S "LIGHT" IN YOUR EYE, **BATMAN**, A BRILLIANT RED THAT BLINDS THE FOOLISH!

UH--
CAN'T
SEE...



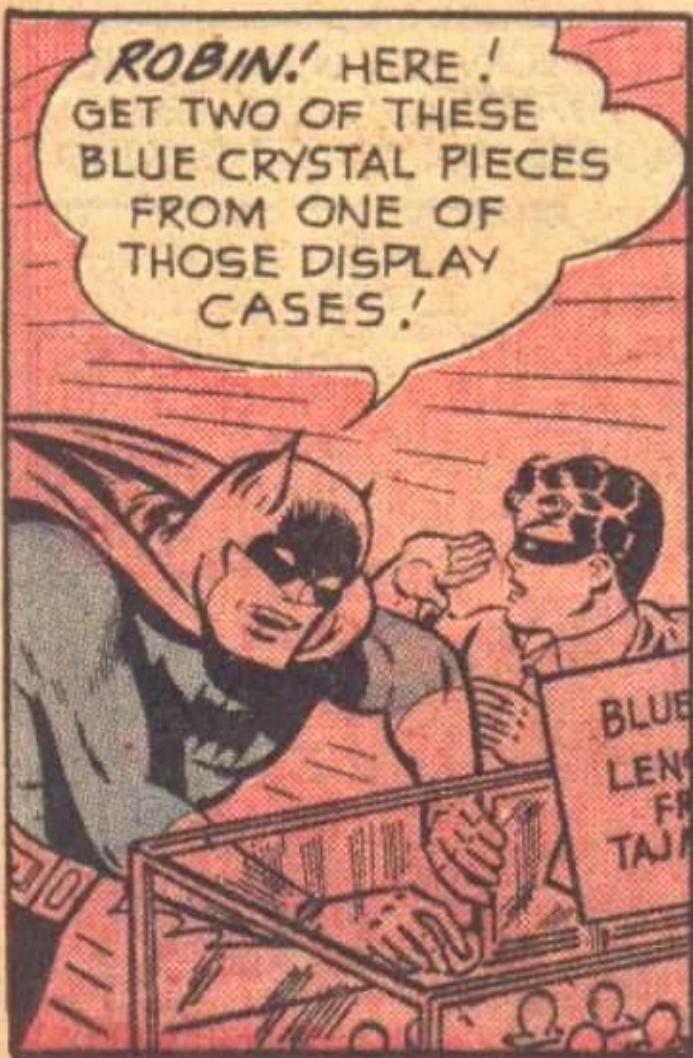
ROBIN! HERE!
GET TWO OF THESE
BLUE CRYSTAL PIECES
FROM ONE OF
THOSE DISPLAY
CASES!

NOW,
QUICKLY,
SECURE THEM
UNDER YOUR MASK--
OVER YOUR **EYES**!
THEY'LL SERVE AS
PROTECTORS
AGAINST THE
GLARE!

BLUE
LEN
F
TAI

MY LIGHT IS USELESS
NOW--BUT IT GAVE US
THE CHANCE TO
ESCAPE!

THERE
HE
GOES!



BATMAN ANNUAL

THE PAINTINGS?
WHERE ARE THE PAINTINGS?

THE GUARDS CAME IN WHEN **BATMAN** KNOCKED 'EM OUT O' OUR HANDS! WE HAD TO RUN FOR IT, BOSS! WE LEFT THE PICTURES BEHIND!

LOOK!
THE BAT-MOBILE'S AFTER US!

AH! AND SO IT IS! HEAD ONTO A MAIN STREET, WHERE THERE'S LOTS OF TRAFFIC! I STILL HAVE ANOTHER SURPRISE IN STORE FOR BOLD **BATMAN** AND THE SMART LAD!



THE GETAWAY CAR TURNS ONTO GOTHAM CITY'S MAIN STREET, AND THEN...

HA, HA! PLENTY OF TRAFFIC HERE! NOW WATCH! I AM THE ELECTRICAL EFFECTS GENIUS WHO CAN TURN DAYLIGHT INTO DARKNESS, AND VICE-VERSA! PUT YOUR PROTECTIVE GOGGLES ON, BOYS! HERE GOES!



SUDDENLY, THE WHOLE OF GOTHAM CITY SEEMS TO BE LIT UP BY BLINDING FLASHES OF LIGHTNING--WHILE TRAFFIC ZIGZAGS CRAZILY...



AND SUDDENLY...



ON THE FOLLOWING NIGHT, THE SINISTER **FIREFLY** GATHERS HIS COHORTS ON A ROCKBOUND SHORE...

WE CONKED DA GUY IN DA LIGHT-HOUSE, BOSS, AND DISCONNECTED THE BEACON CABLE! NO MORE LIGHT! I THINK I SEE IT OFF THERE TO THE SOUTH! HERE GOES!



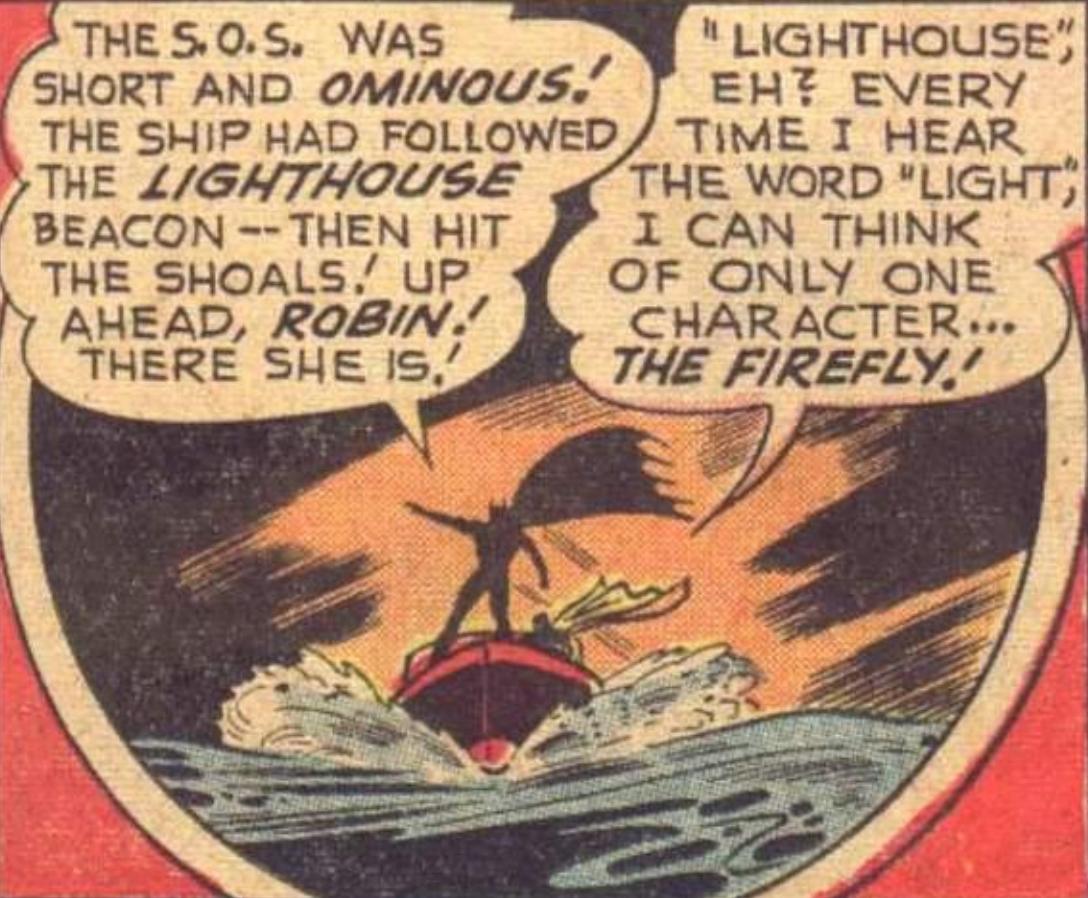
SUDDENLY, FROM THE AMAZING BELT,
A BRILLIANT BEAM PENETRATES
THE DARKNESS ABOVE THE WATERS...



DECOYED BY THE FALSE BEACON, THE SHIP CRASHES!



BUT THE SIGNAL HAS ALREADY RACED OUT OVER THE ETHER WAVES, AND ...



BATMAN ANNUAL

AMID THE CONFUSION, ONE FIGURE QUICKLY MAKES HIS WAY DOWNSHORE AND SCRAMBLES UPON THE ROCKY BEACH ...



THOSE TWO--
BLAST THEM!
THEY'VE DONE
IT AGAIN--
RUINED MY
PLANS!

NOW
THEY FOLLOW
ME! HA! WON'T
THEY LEARN THE
FOLLY OF PURSUING
THE FIREFLY! WELL--
LET THEM COME.
I AM NOT
UNPREPARED!

INSIDE THE
LIGHTHOUSE...

THE END OF THE
CHASE! THERE
HE IS BELOW!

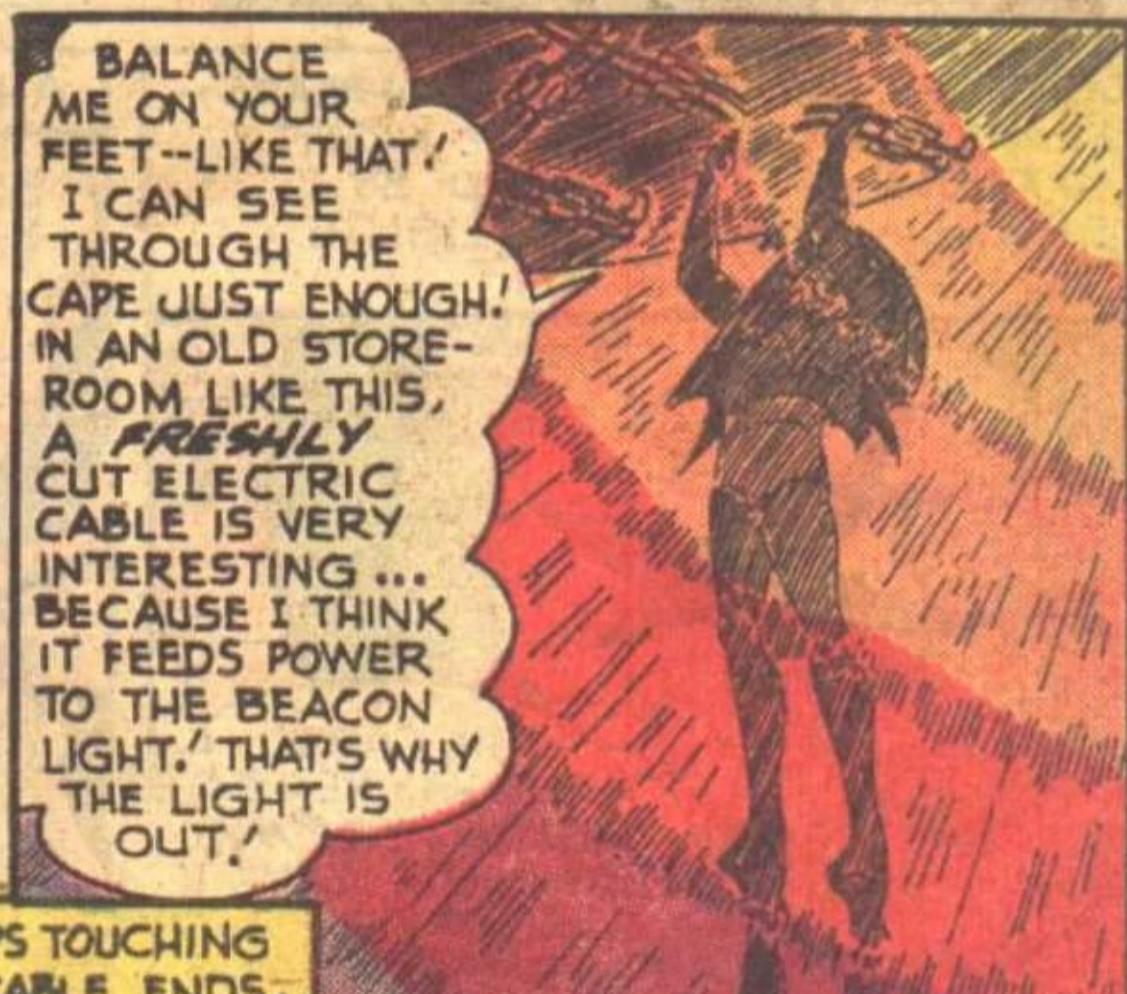
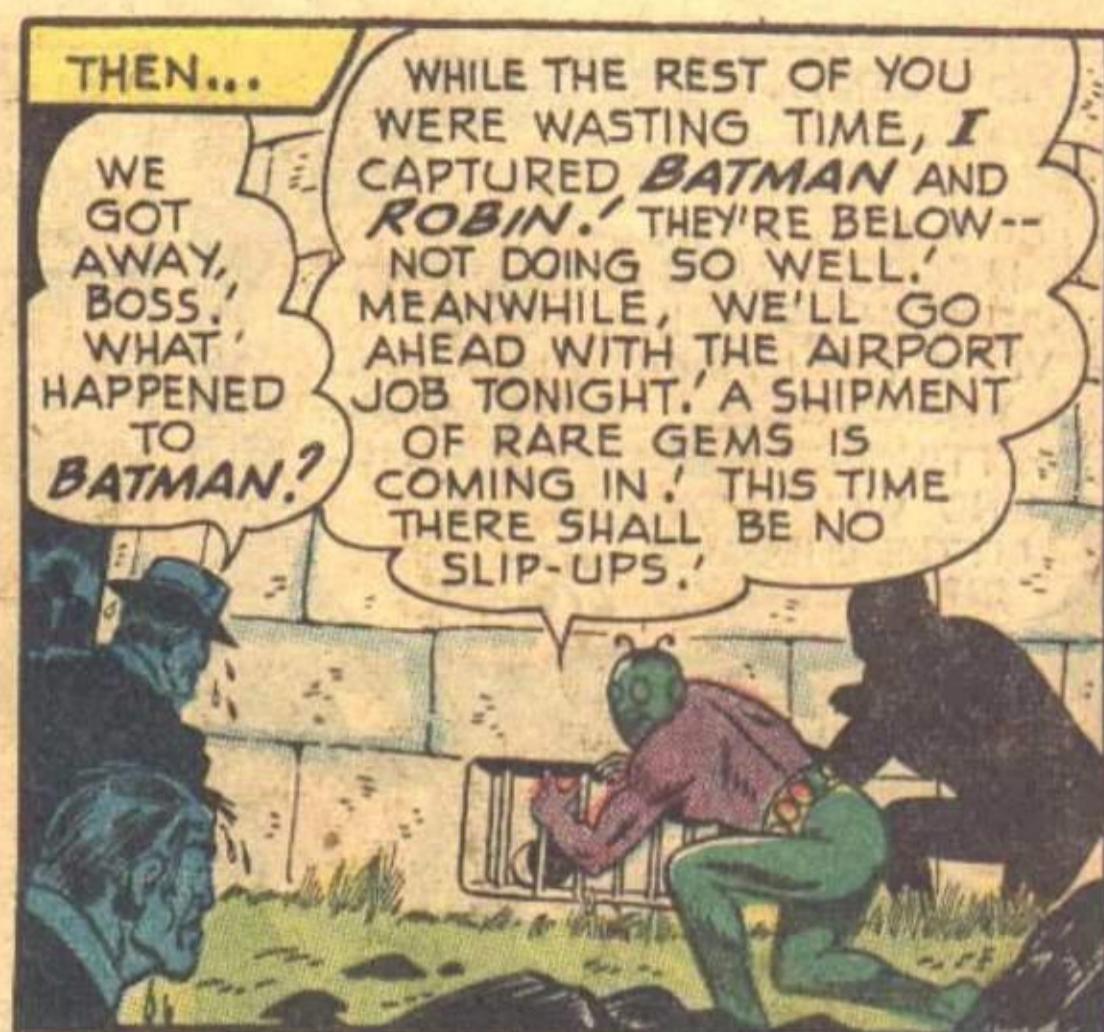
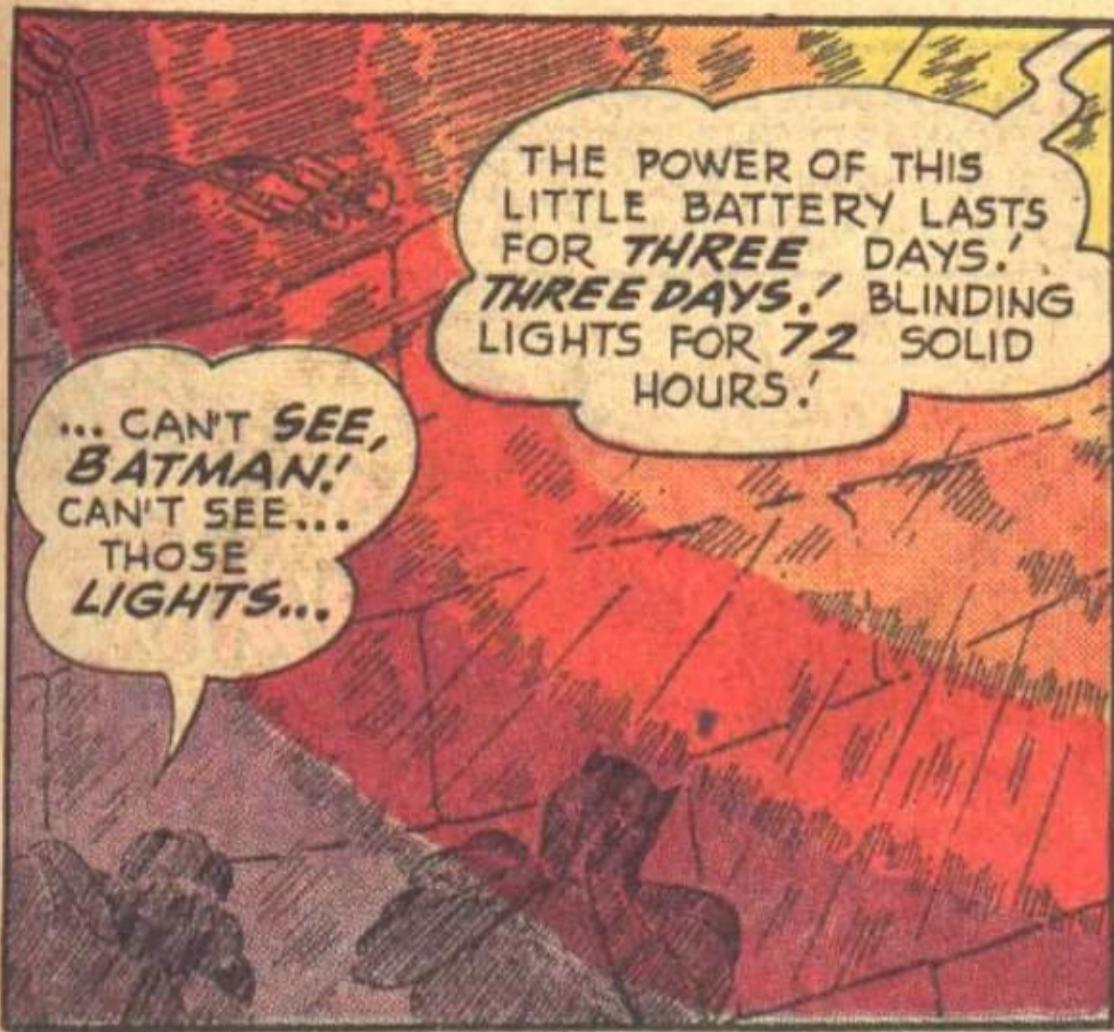
AND NOW--
THE LIGHT GOES
OUT ON THE
FIREFLY!

HA, HA! MERELY MY CAPE
WHICH YOU SAW BELOW, BATMAN!
YOU ARE IN THE OLD LIGHTHOUSE
STORE ROOM, FROM WHICH THERE IS
NO ESCAPE! NOW-- I'LL SHOW
YOU SOMETHING...

SLAM!

THE ROOM'S ONLY
TWO WINDOWS ARE
BARRED! QUITE A
JAIL, EH? AND SEE--
HERE IN MY HAND! THE
AMAZING
CYCLOPS
LIGHT!

SEE! I TURN THE
LIGHT ON -- BLINDING COLORS
OF THE RAINBOW!
BEAUTIFUL, AREN'T THEY?
UH-- BUT, ALAS, YOU CAN'T
SEE! HA, HA, HA!
TOO BAD!





BATMAN ANNUAL



AND THEN...

THE FIREFLY SAID HE HAD A DATE AT THE AIRPORT... WITH A SHIPMENT OF GEMS BEING FLOWN IN. VERY WELL, FIRST I'LL MAKE A PHONE CALL! THEN WE'RE GETTING THE BATPLANE-- AND WE'RE TAKING THIS LITTLE GIMMICK WITH US-- THE CYCLOPS LIGHT!



ALMOST AN HOUR LATER, A CARGO CRAFT SPEEDS TOWARD THE GOTHAM AIRPORT WHEN ABRUPTLY, FROM ABOVE, APPEARS AN AUTOGYRO--MACHINE GUNS BLAZING.

THAT'S IT-- SHOOT IT DOWN!

THAT'S OUR SIGNAL, BOYS-- DIVE! WE'VE GOT TO CLEAR OUT-- AND LEAVE THE SKIES TO BATMAN!



SUDDENLY, THE BATPLANE APPEARS-- FEARSOME THING OF THE NIGHT HEAVENS--ACCOMPANIED BY SPIRALING, BLINDING LIGHTS OF THE RAINBOW.



THE CARGO PLANE HAS RETREATED SAFELY, ROBIN! NOW WE'LL TAKE CARE OF THE FIREFLY'S AUTOGYRO! HANG ON!

AND IN THE AUTOGYRO...

BOSS! I'M BLINDED! I CAN'T SEE!

ME NEITHER!

HELP! MY EYES!

FOOLS! IDIOTS! WHY DIDN'T YOU BRING YOUR PROTECTIVE GOGGLES? BATMAN HAS TURNED THE TRICK ON US AGAIN!



ALL RIGHT, ROBIN! DROP THE "ANCHOR!" WE'VE GOT 'EM!

AYE, AYE, SIR! HERE GOES!



THEN, TEN MINUTES LATER, THE LAW SAYS FINIS TO THE FIREFLY'S BIZARRE ESCAPADES...

WELL, MR. FIREFLY, I THINK THIS MEANS THE END OF YOUR GLOWING CAREER!

YES, ROBIN. I THINK HE FORGOT ONE IMPORTANT LIGHT-- THE LIGHT THAT FAILED!



THE END

FF



BATMAN

With
ROBIN
THE BOY WONDER

EVERYONE HAS ALWAYS KNOWN THAT **BATMAN**, ARCH-ENEMY OF CRIME, IS THE GREATEST DETECTIVE IN THE WORLD! BUT NOW, INCREDIBLE AS IT MAY SEEM, A FAR GREATER DETECTIVE SUDDENLY APPEARS, A SUPER-SLEUTH OF SUCH TITANIC BRAIN-POWER THAT HE GIVES **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** ORDERS! AND THE DYNAMIC DUO FIND THEMSELVES, FOR THE FIRST TIME, FAR OUTCLASSED AS CRIME-FIGHTERS BY--

The MENTAL GIANT OF GOTHAM CITY!

BOB KANE

YOU KNOW MORE ABOUT DETECTIVE SCIENCE THAN WE DO, SO WE'LL FOLLOW YOUR ORDERS!





BATMAN ANNUAL



THE THREADS OF FATE GO BACK INTO THE PAST--- AND ONE OF BATMAN'S STRANGEST PERILS BEGAN YEARS AGO, WHEN YOUNG BARNEY BARROWS DECIDED TO BE A FOE OF CRIME...

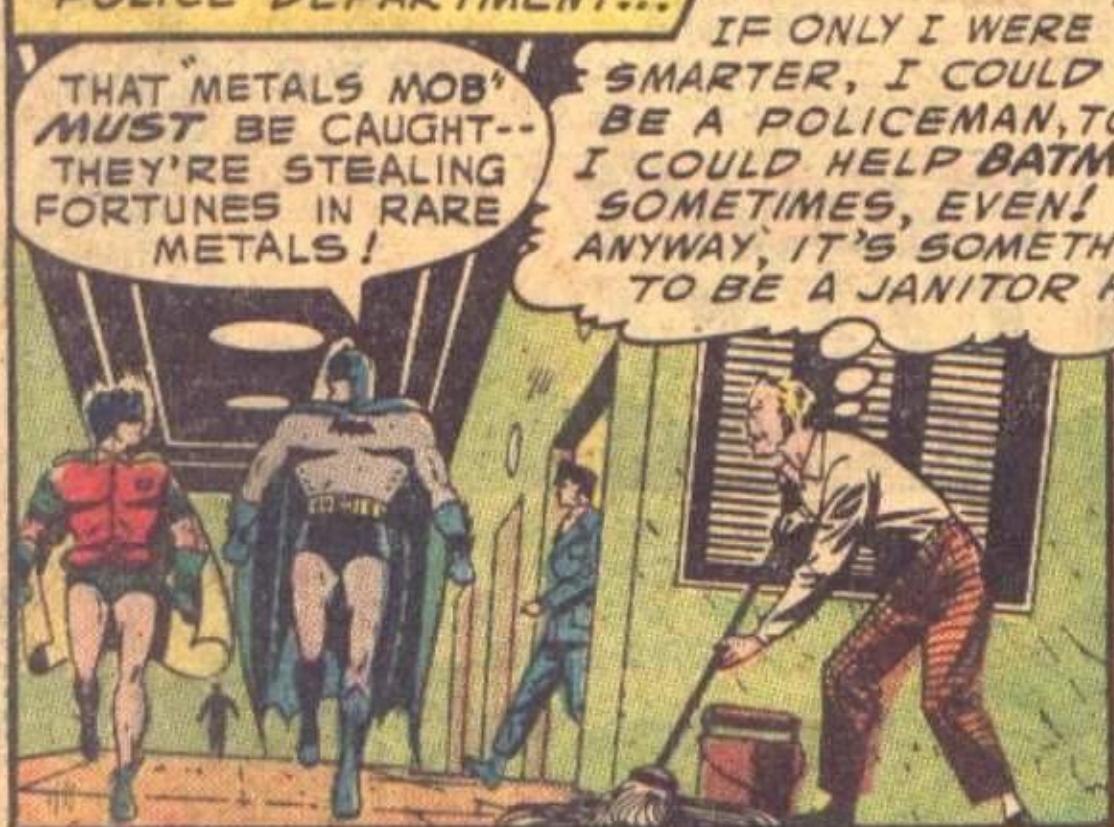
WHEN I GROW UP, I'LL BE A POLICEMAN LIKE HIM -- MAYBE EVEN A DETECTIVE! I HATE CROOKS--THEY KILLED MY BROTHER!



THERE IS ONE JOB THAT EVEN BARNEY BARROWS CAN FILL, AS AN ORDINARY CIVILIAN EMPLOYEE OF THE GOTHAM POLICE DEPARTMENT...

THAT 'METALS MOB' MUST BE CAUGHT-- THEY'RE STEALING FORTUNES IN RARE METALS!

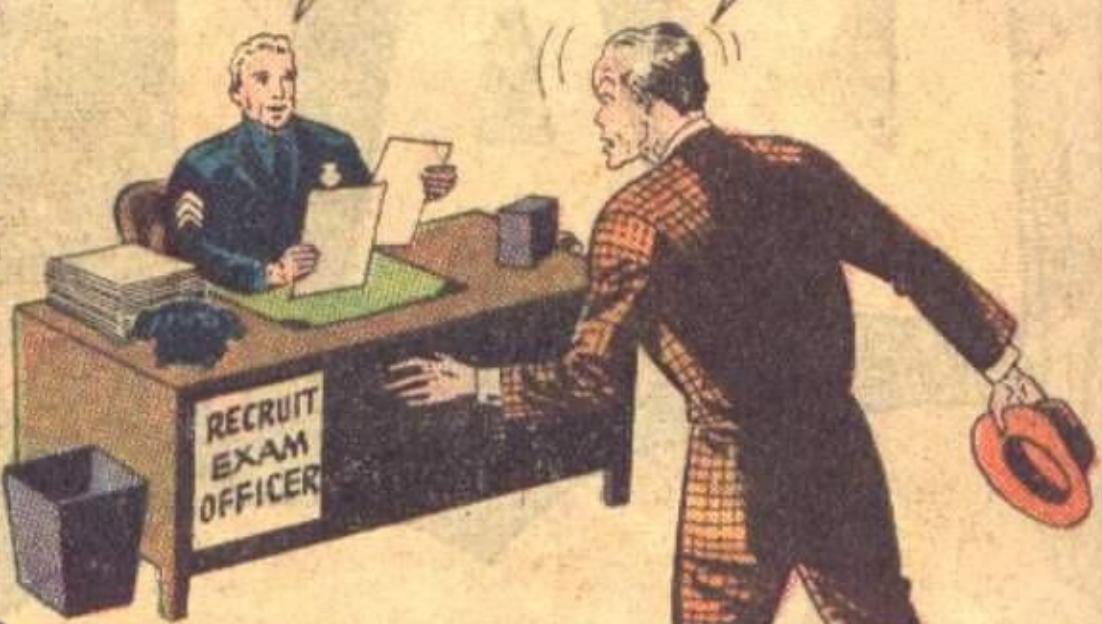
IF ONLY I WERE SMARTER, I COULD BE A POLICEMAN, TOO-- I COULD HELP BATMAN SOMETIMES, EVEN! BUT ANYWAY, IT'S SOMETHING TO BE A JANITOR HERE!



BUT, YEARS LATER, A LIFETIME AMBITION IS THWARTED...

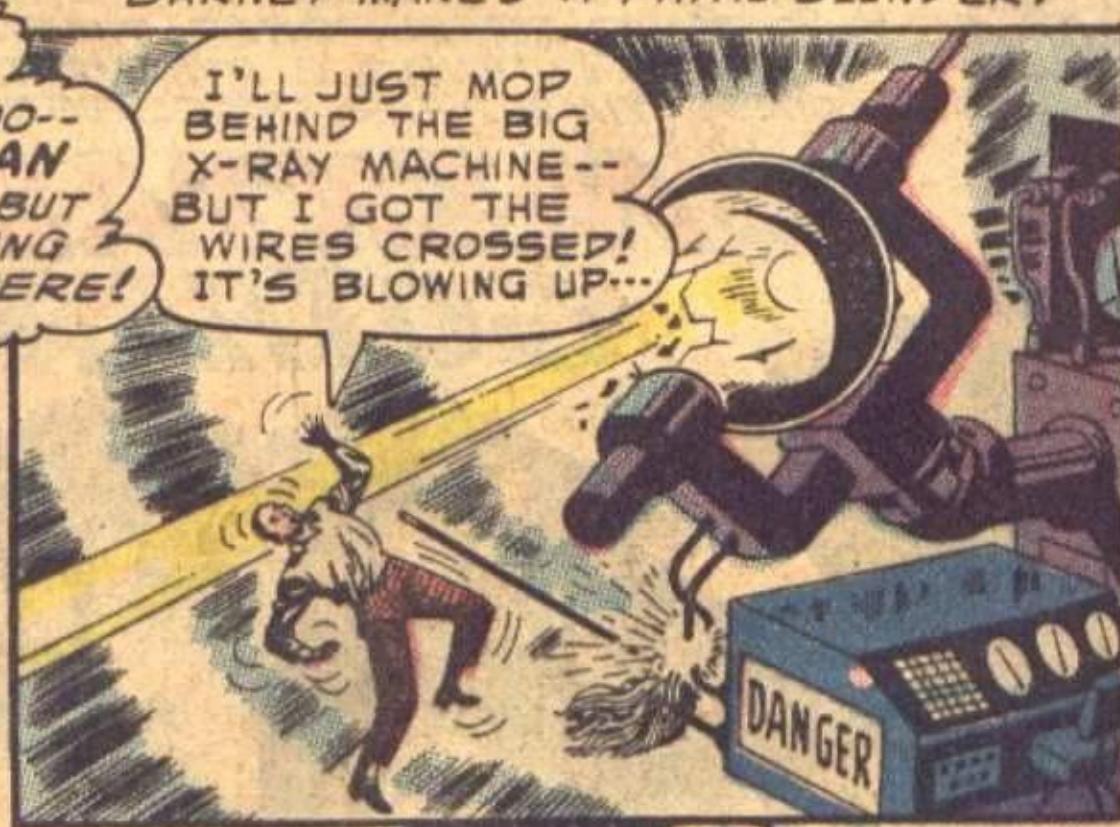
SORRY, BARNEY-- YOU CAN'T PASS THE MENTAL EXAMINATIONS! WE CAN'T USE YOU ON THE FORCE!

BUT I WANT TO SO MUCH--ISN'T THERE ANY JOB I COULD DO FOR THE POLICE?



BUT A JANITOR MUST BE INTELLIGENTLY CAREFUL, TOO-- AND IN THE EMPTY POLICE LABORATORY THAT NIGHT, BARNEY MAKES A FATAL BLUNDER!

I'LL JUST MOP BEHIND THE BIG X-RAY MACHINE-- BUT I GOT THE WIRES CROSSED! IT'S BLOWING UP...



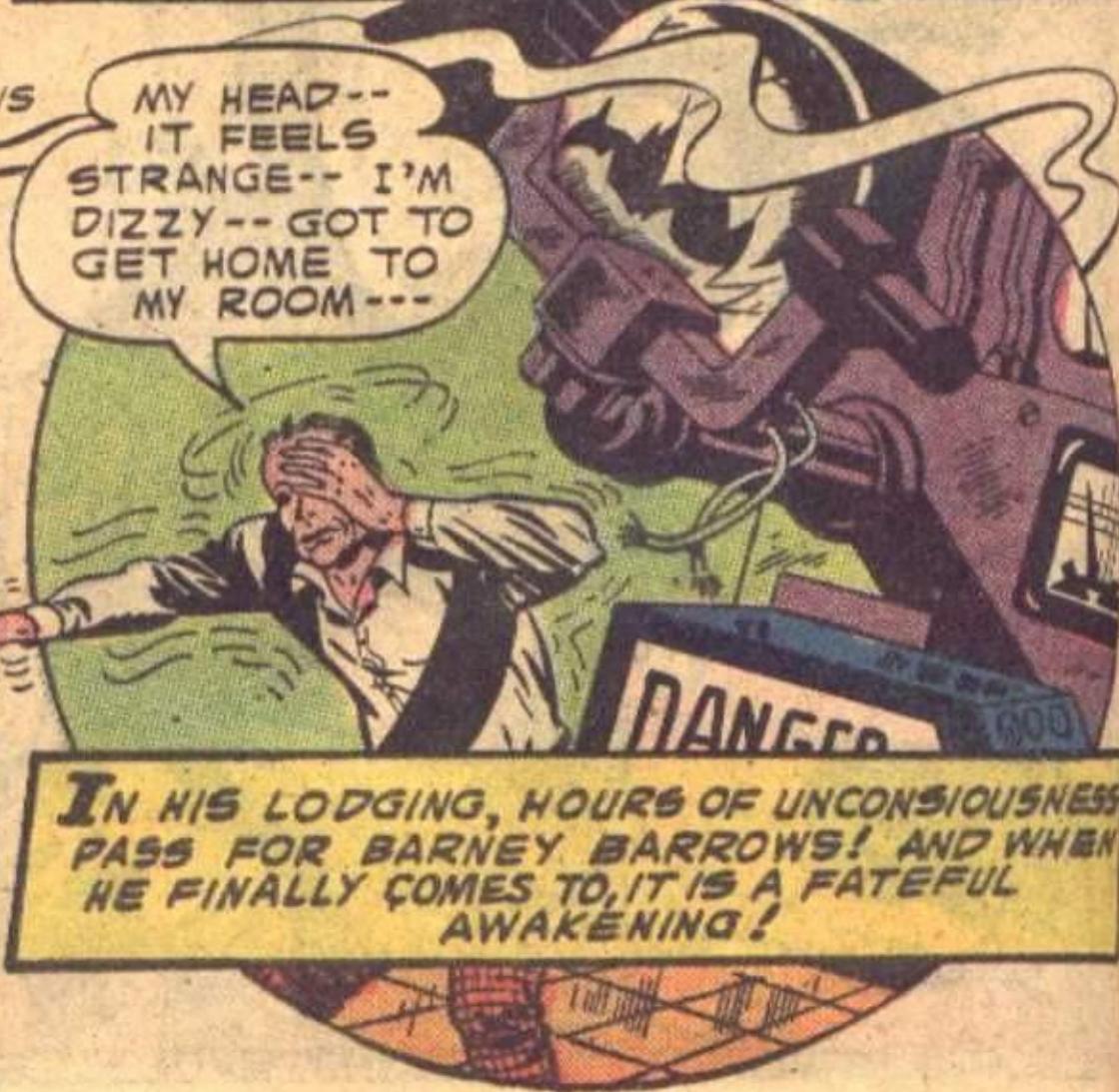
A FREAK EXPLOSION BLASTS THE UNLUCKY JANITOR WITH A TREMENDOUS BURST OF STRANGE RADIATION...

MY HEAD-- IT FEELS STRANGE-- I'M DIZZY-- GOT TO GET HOME TO MY ROOM---

THOSE RAYS--GOING THROUGH MY BRAIN-- OH!



IN HIS LODGING, HOURS OF UNCONSCIOUSNESS PASS FOR BARNEY BARROWS! AND WHEN HE FINALLY COMES TO, IT IS A FATEFUL AWAKENING!



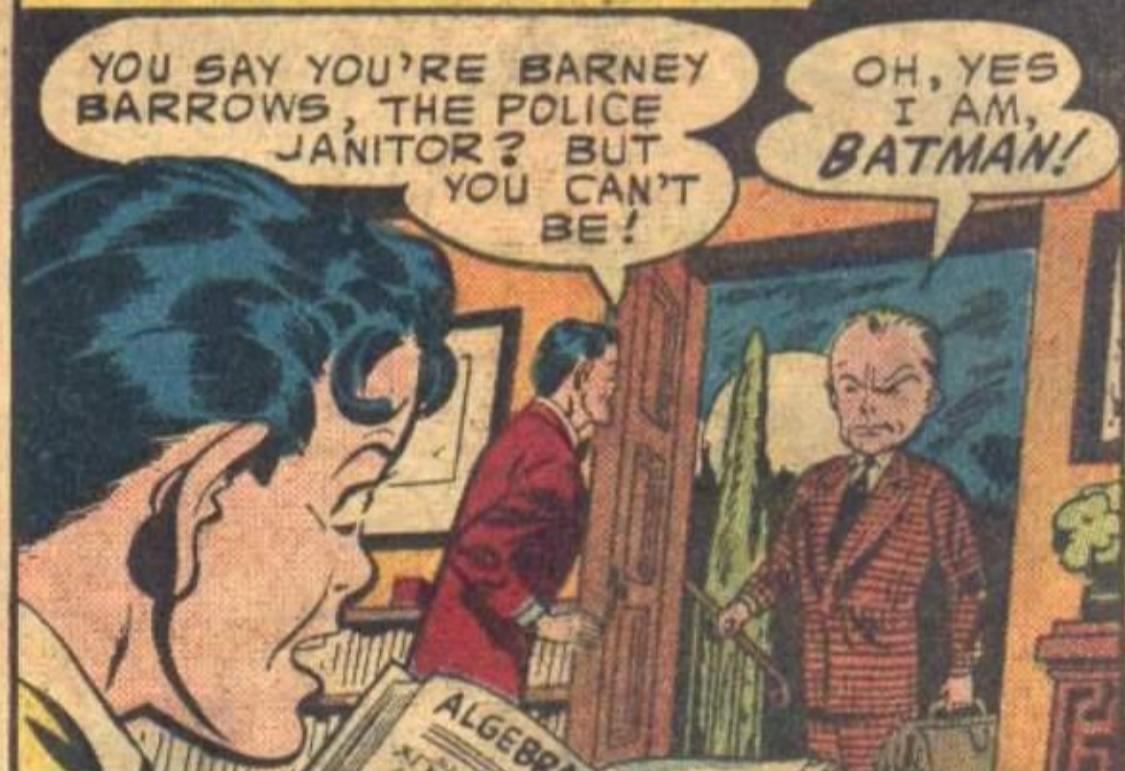
BATMAN ANNUAL



A SUPER-BRAIN FIRST SETS ITSELF TO SOLVE THE WORLD'S MOST BAFFLING MYSTERY!



LATER, AS BATMAN AND ROBIN RELAX IN THEIR EVERYDAY IDENTITIES OF BRUCE WAYNE AND DICK GRAYSON, A STRANGE VISITOR GIVES THEM THE SHOCK OF THEIR LIVES!



SO, AT LAST, THE GREAT SECRET OF BATMAN'S IDENTITY IS KNOWN--TO THE STRANGE, NEW MENTAL GIANT!

BATMAN ANNUAL



YOU DON'T
LOOK LIKE
BARNEY BARROWS--
YOU COULD
BE SOME
BRAINY
CROOK!

I'M BARNEY--BUT A
FREAK X-RAY EXPLOSION
REMOVED ALL INHIBITING
FACTORS ON BRAIN-
GROWTH--AND MINE HAS
GROWN SWIFTLY TO THE
MOST POWERFUL BRAIN
IN THE WORLD!

AS FOR BEING A CROOK, I HATE CROOKS!
I INTEND TO STAMP OUT ALL CRIME IN
GOTHAM CITY, AND I'LL USE YOU TWO
TO HELP ME! OBEY MY ORDERS, OR
I'LL EXPOSE YOUR IDENTITY!

I GET IT NOW--BARNEY'S
MIND HAS GROWN VASTLY,
BUT HIS AMBITION TO
FIGHT CRIME, HAS
REMAINED THE SAME!

FURTHERMORE, SO
YOU'LL GUARD MY SAFETY,
I'VE MAILED MY
MATHEMATICAL
PROOFS OF YOUR
IDENTITY SO THAT
THEY'LL BE FOUND
AND PUBLISHED
IF ANYTHING
HAPPENS TO
ME!

YOU
MAILED THE
SECRET OF
OUR IDENTITY--
TO WHOM?

THAT'S MY SECRET!
NOW GET OUT AND LET
ME GO THROUGH YOUR
FILES--MY BRAIN CAN
ASSIMILATE ALL YOUR
INFORMATION ON
CRIME QUICKLY!

COME ON,
ROBIN!

BATMAN, WHAT
ARE WE TO DO?
HE KNOWS OUR
SECRET--AND
THE WHOLE WORLD
MAY KNOW IT IF
SOMETHING
GOES WRONG!

WE'LL HAVE TO OBEY
HIS ORDERS! HE IS
FANATICALLY AGAINST
CRIME, AND HE DOES
HAVE A 'SUPER-BRAIN'
HMM--I WANT TO LOOK
UP SOMETHING IN THE
SCIENTIFIC ENCYCLOPEDIA!

SUCH CASES OF FREAK
BRAIN-GROWTH HAVE
HAPPENED A FEW
TIMES IN THE PAST--
AND LOOK WHAT
HAPPENED IN
EACH CASE!

BUT IF THE SAME
THING HAPPENS IN
BARNEY'S CASE,
IT'LL BE DISAS-
TROUS TO US--
FOR HOW CAN WE
THEN RECOVER HIS
LETTER EXPOSING
US?

WHAT FRIGHTENING FORECAST ABOUT THE
SUPER-BRAINED BARNEY IS SO FATEFUL TO
THE DUO?

BATMAN ANNUAL



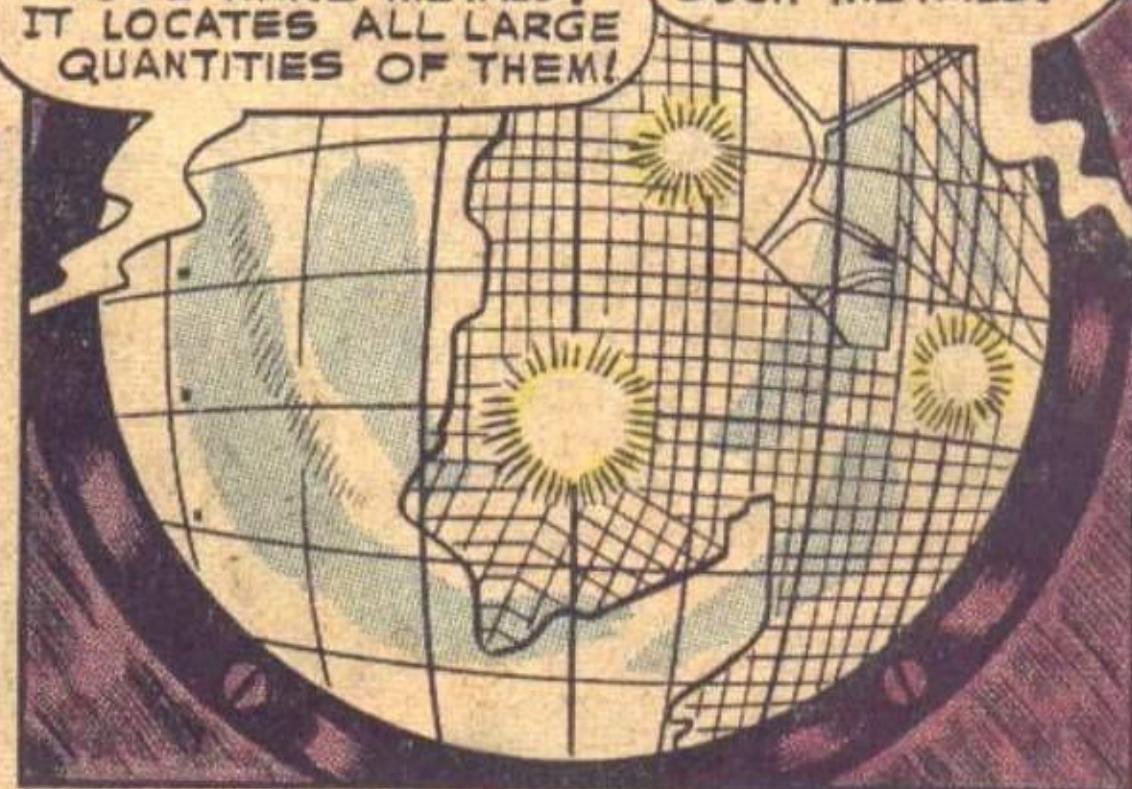
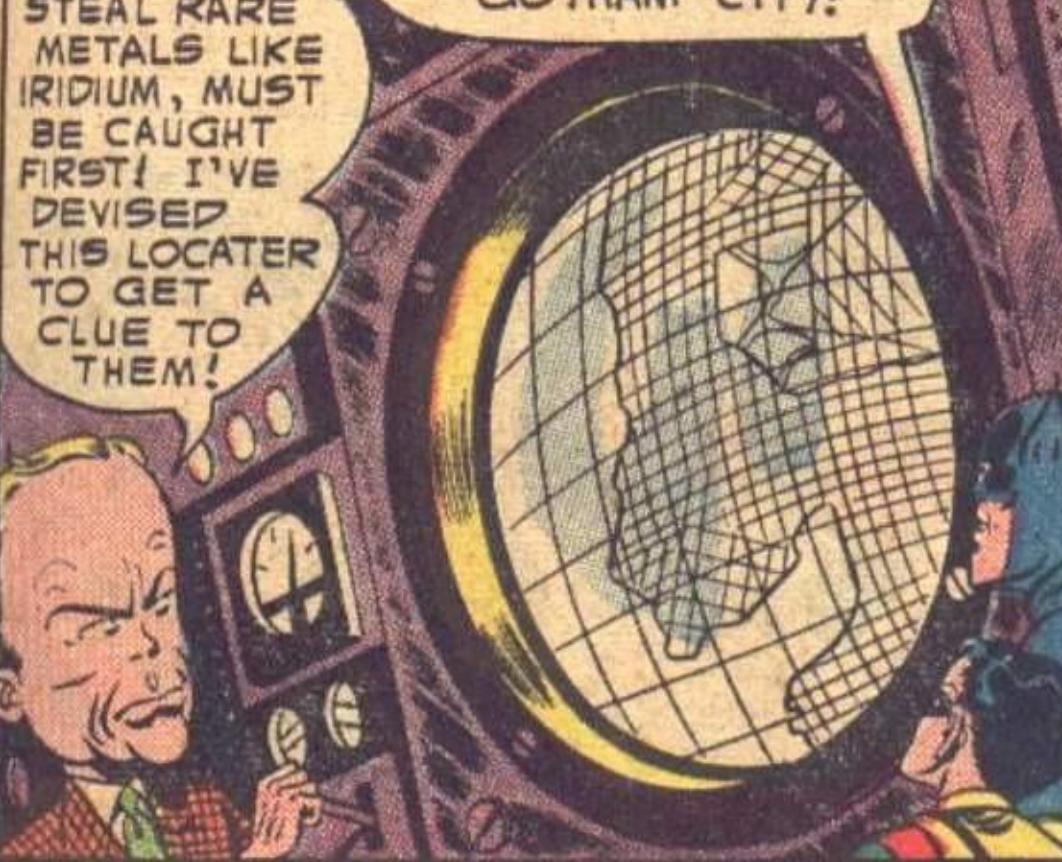
MEANWHILE, THE MENTAL GIANT HAS
BEGUN HIS OWN CAMPAIGN AGAINST CRIME!

THE "METALS
MOB," WHO
STEAL RARE
METALS LIKE
IRIDIUM, MUST
BE CAUGHT
FIRST! I'VE
DEvised
THIS LOCATER
TO GET A
CLUE TO
THEM!

IT LOOKS LIKE A RADAR-
SCREEN COVERING
GOTHAM CITY!

IT'S A SUPER-
RADAR, SENSITIVE
TO IRIDIUM, TANTALUM,
TUNGSTEN AND ALL
THOSE RARE METALS!
IT LOCATES ALL LARGE
QUANTITIES OF THEM!

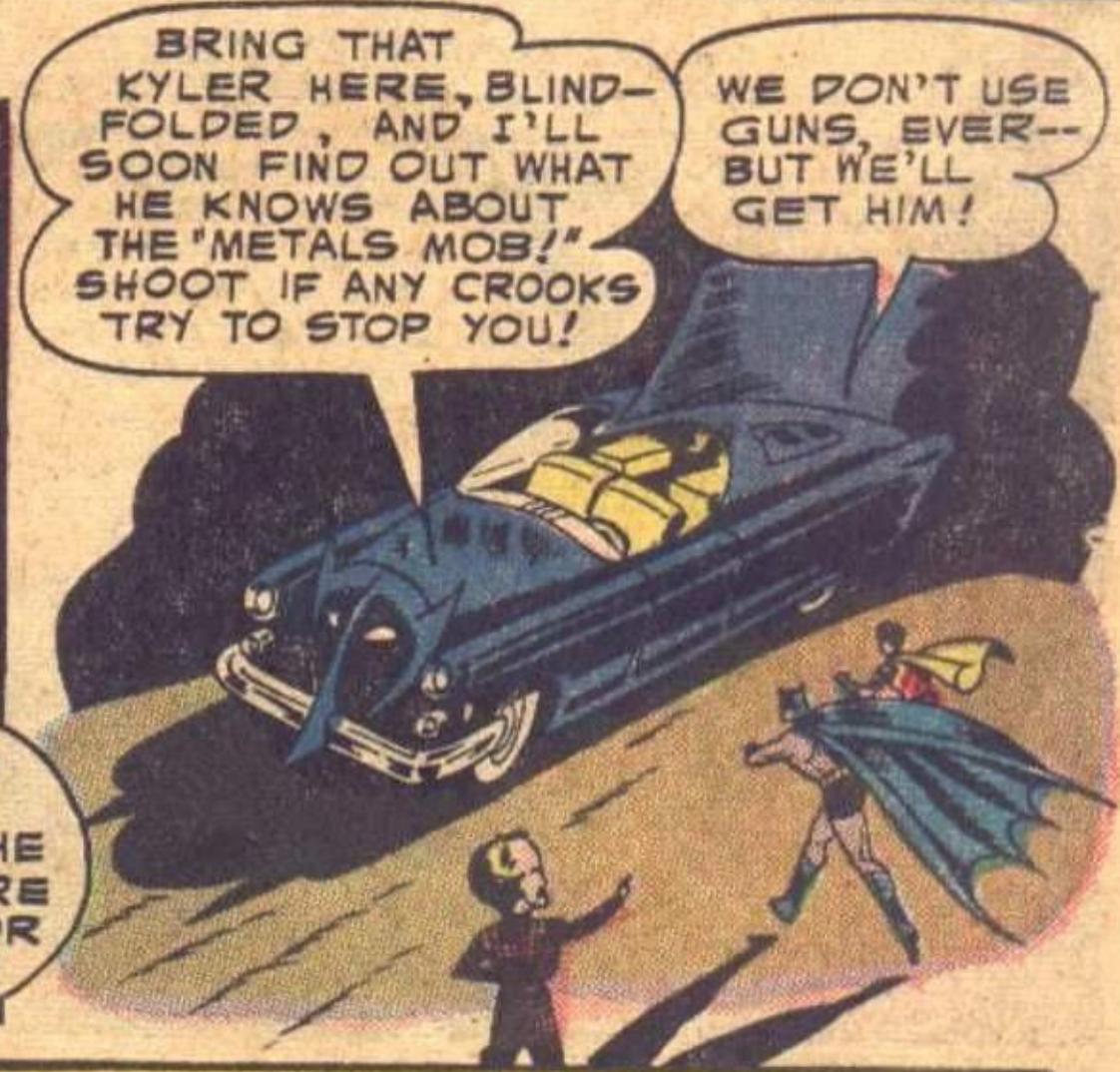
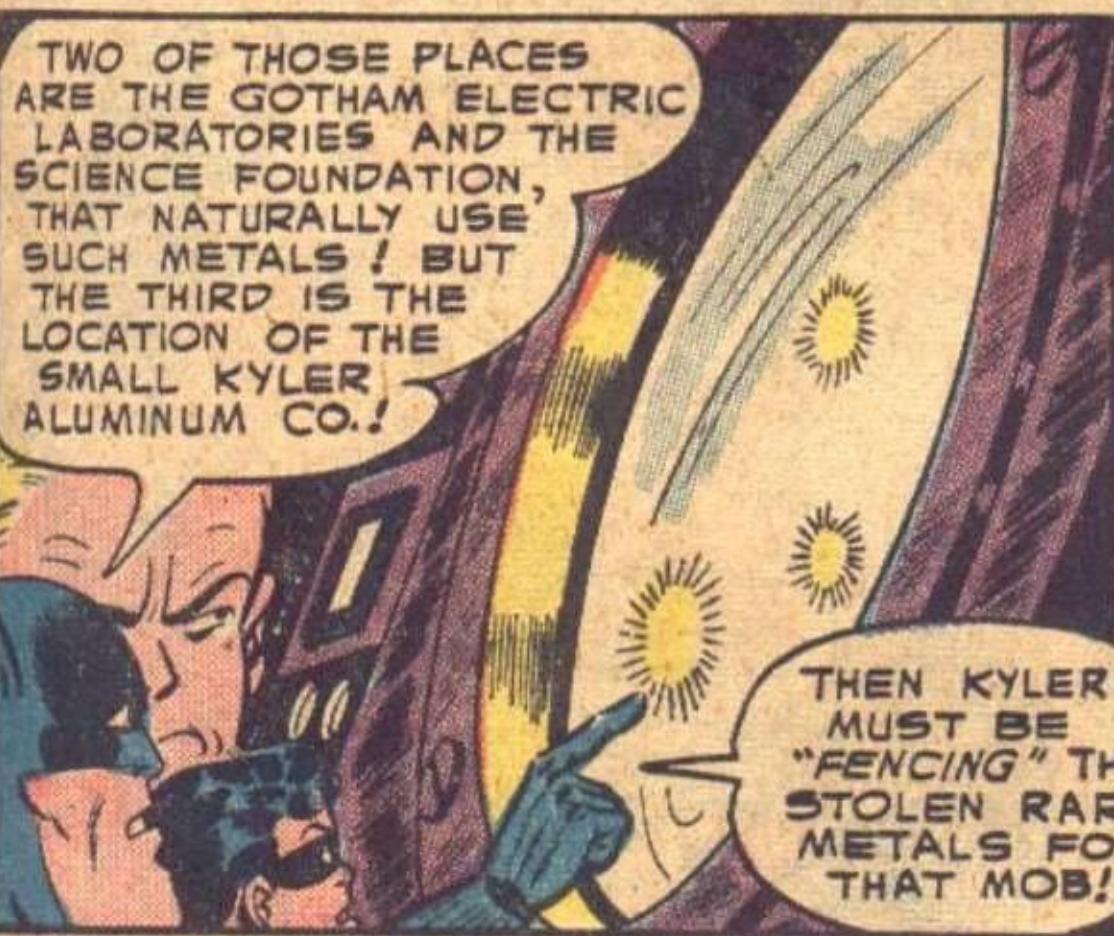
LOOK, IT SHOWS
THREE PLACES
WHERE THERE ARE
BIG AMOUNTS OF
SUCH METALS!



TWO OF THOSE PLACES
ARE THE GOTHAM ELECTRIC
LABORATORIES AND THE
SCIENCE FOUNDATION,
THAT NATURALLY USE
SUCH METALS! BUT
THE THIRD IS THE
LOCATION OF THE
SMALL KYLER
ALUMINUM CO.!

BRING THAT
KYLER HERE, BLIND-
FOLDED, AND I'LL
SOON FIND OUT WHAT
HE KNOWS ABOUT
THE "METALS MOB!"
SHOOT IF ANY CROOKS
TRY TO STOP YOU!

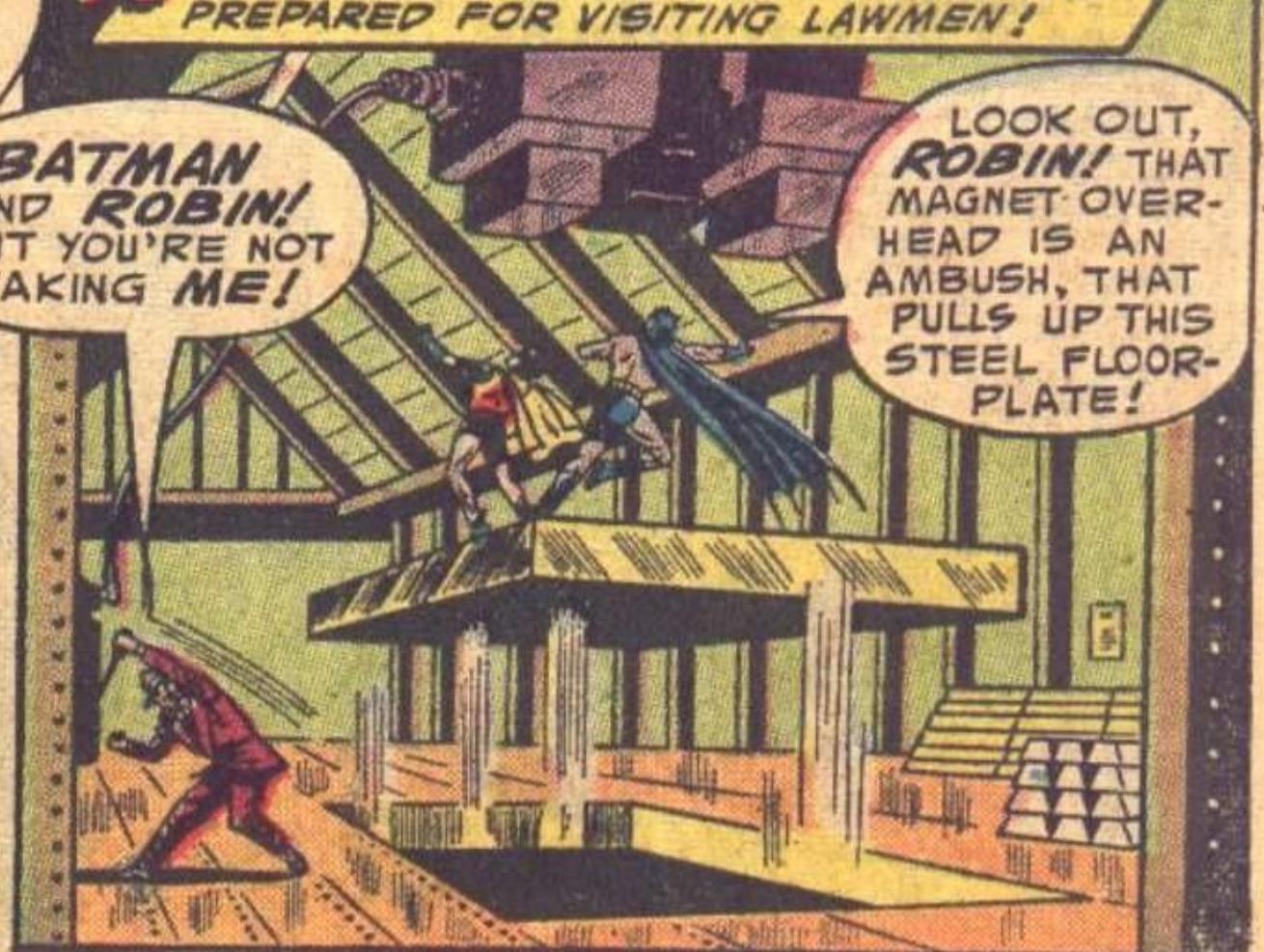
WE DON'T USE
GUNS, EVER--
BUT WE'LL
GET HIM!



HE REALLY IS A
MENTAL GIANT, BUT
SO RUTHLESS AGAINST
CROOKS THAT WE
MUST CATCH THOSE
METALS THIEVES
BEFORE HE
DOES!

I CAN'T FORGET
WHAT THE
ENCYCLOPEDIA
SAID ABOUT
CASES LIKE
BARNEY'S --
AND THAT
LETTER THAT
COULD EXPOSE
US!

A GUILTY "FENCE" OF RARE METALS IS
PREPARED FOR VISITING LAWMEN!



LOOK OUT,
ROBIN! THAT
MAGNET OVER-
HEAD IS AN
AMBUSH, THAT
PULLS UP THIS
STEEL FLOOR-
PLATE!

BATMAN ANNUAL

EVEN AS HE IS PULLED OFF HIS FEET,
BATMAN HURLS THE BATARANG
FROM HIS UTILITY BELT!

THAT CUT THE
MAGNET-WIRES--
GRAB HIM!

WE'D BETTER TAKE
HIM RIGHT BACK TO
THE BATCAVE
AS BARNEY
ORDERED!

YOU TAKE HIM,
ROBIN-- THERE
SHOULD BE SOME CLUE
TO THE "METALS MOB"
HERE AND I'M GOING
TO FOLLOW THEIR TRAIL
IN MY OWN WAY!

SOON, WHEN A BLINDFOLDED, "FENCE"
IS TAKEN BACK INTO THE BATCAVE...

HANDCUFF HIM INTO
HIS CHAIR SO I CAN
QUESTION HIM!
BUT WHERE'S
BATMAN?

HE STAYED
TO SEARCH
KYLER'S WARE-
HOUSE, FOR ANY
CLUES TO THE
"METALS MOB!"

BATMAN HAS NO
BUSINESS INVESTIGATING
ON HIS OWN-- I'LL CATCH
THAT MOB SCIENTIFICALLY
WITHOUT THE NEED
OF BATMAN'S
TRICKS! YOU
TELL BATMAN BY
BELT-RADIO I ORDER
HIM TO RETURN!

ER-- ALL
RIGHT--!

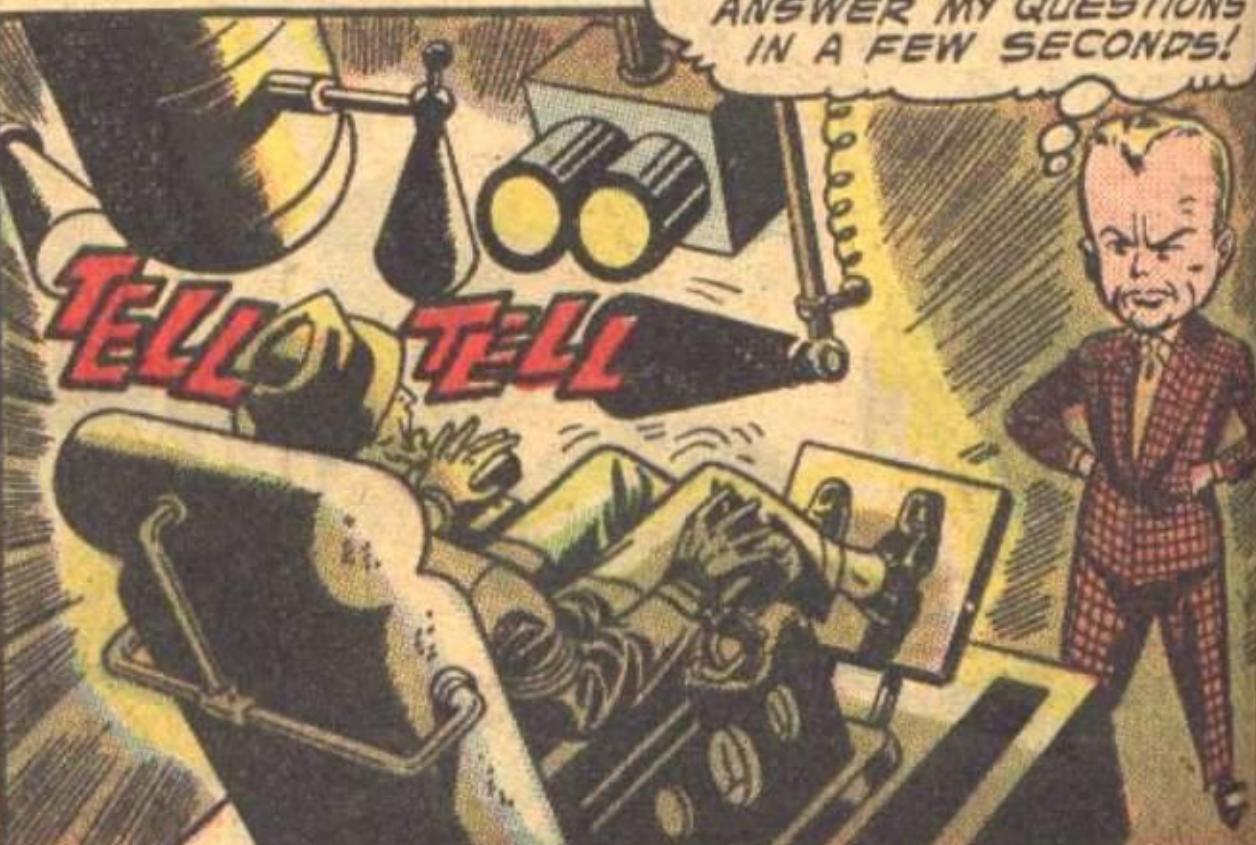
BUT OUTSIDE THE LABORATORY,
A WORRIED BOY WONDER
PAUSES WHEN HE HEARS A
STRANGE APPARATUS!

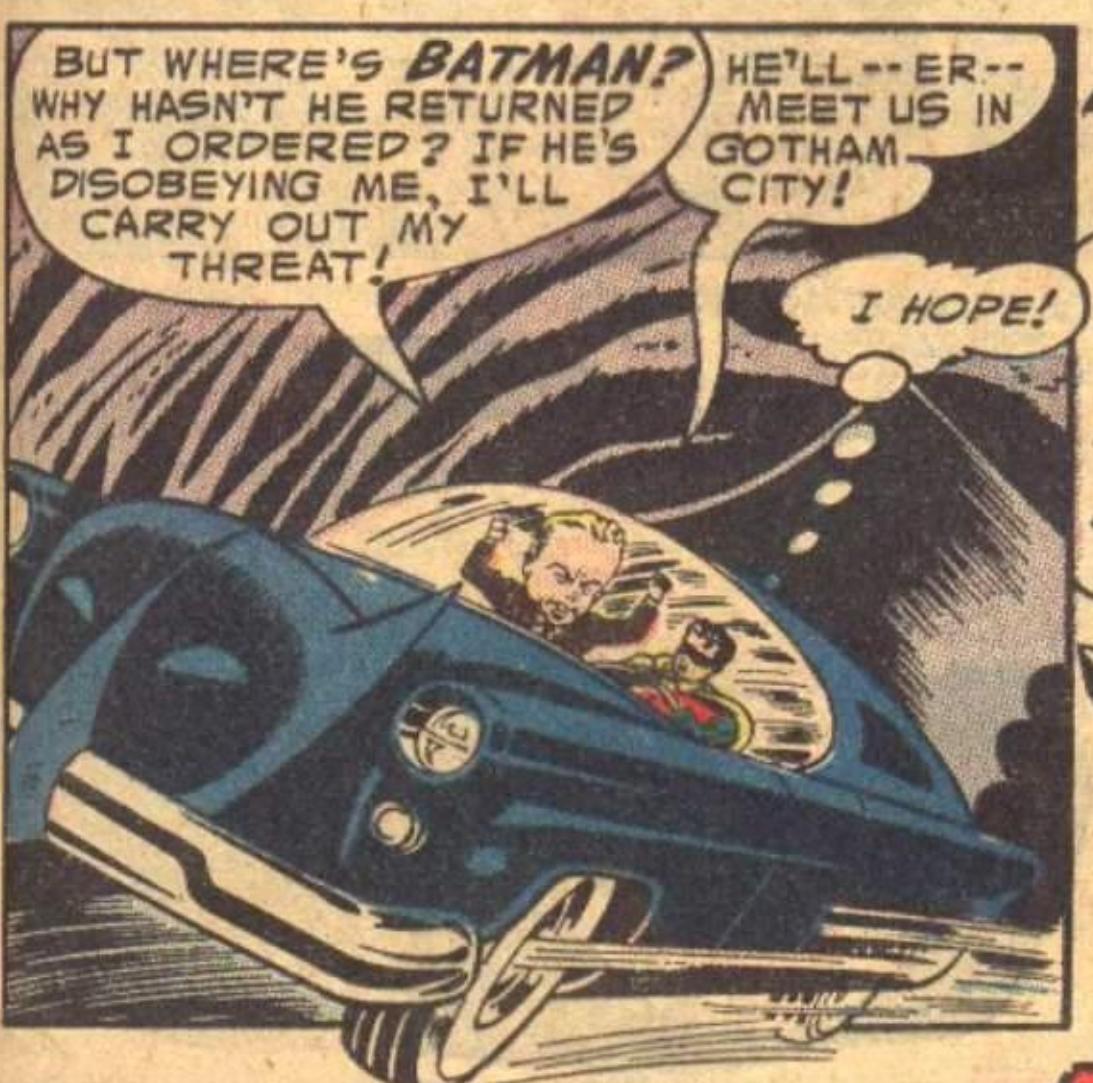
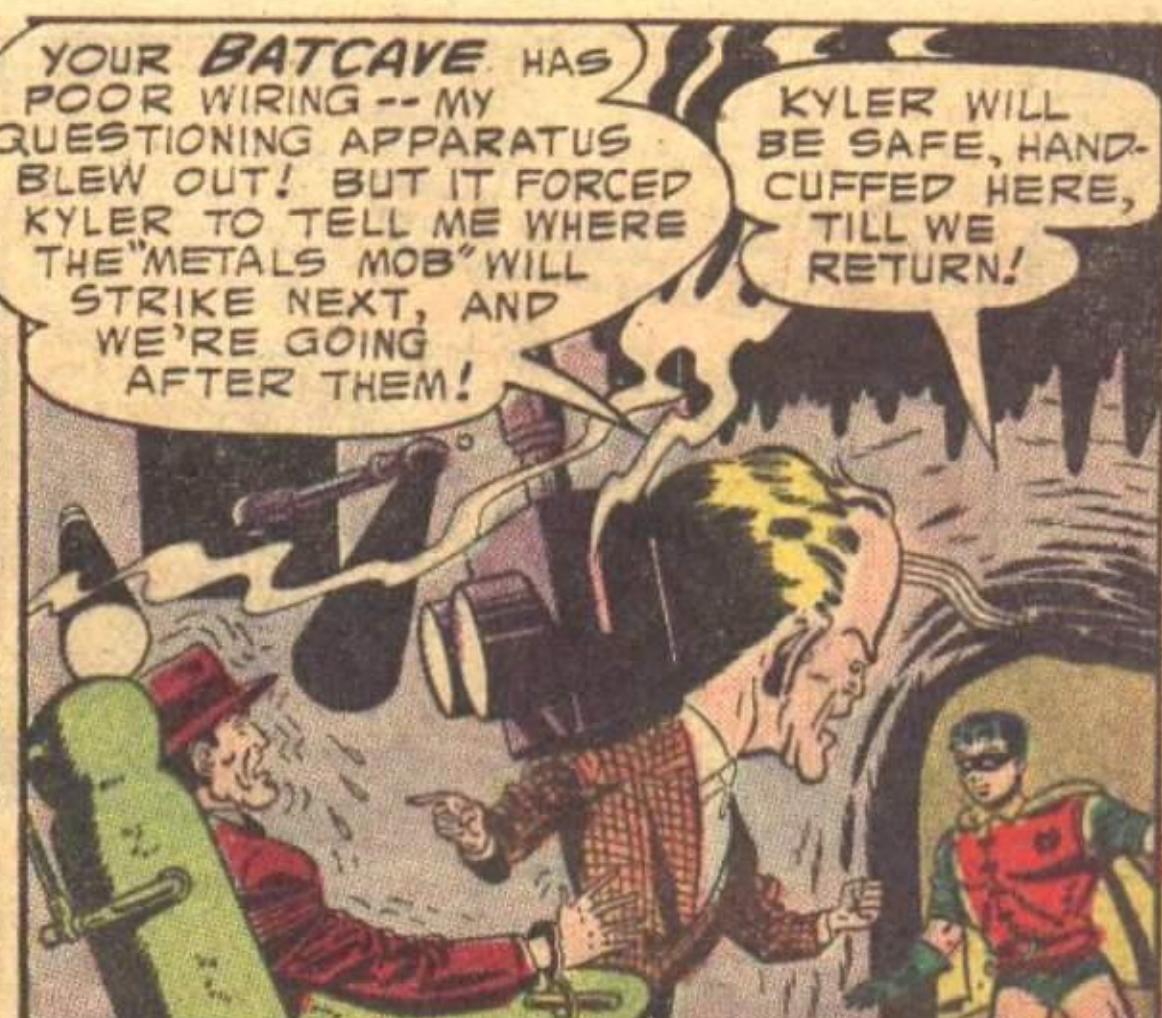
BZZ--HMM--
TELL-TELL--
TELL!

WHAT'S HE
DOING IN THERE?
I'D BETTER
HAVE A LOOK--

I T'S A WEIRD APPARATUS
INDEED THAT THE MENTAL
GIANT IS USING-- A QUESTION
AND-ANSWER MACHINE!

THIS MACHINE,
WITHOUT HARMING
HIM PHYSICALLY, WILL
WEAR DOWN HIS MENTAL
RESISTANCE! HE'LL
ANSWER MY QUESTIONS
IN A FEW SECONDS!





BATMAN ANNUAL



BUT WHAT KIND OF A TRAP ARE YOU SETTING?

I'LL SHOW YOU! GET INTO THE CONTROL-CAGE WITH ME!

WHEN THE CROOKS ENTER, THIS ARTIFICIAL LIGHTNING WILL HIT THEM! WE'LL BE SAFE HERE IN THIS INSULATED CAGE!

NO, THAT'S FATAL! YOU CAN'T!

ANOTHER WORD OF DISOBEDIENCE, AND I'LL EXPOSE BOTH YOU AND BATMAN!

I CAN'T LET THOSE CROOKS BE DESTROYED-- I'LL HAVE TO STOP BARNEY EVEN IF IT MEANS EXPOSURE!

BUT BATMAN, TOO, PLANS TO AVERT A RUTHLESS PLAN!

I CAN'T LET THE MOBSTERS GO IN THERE TO THEIR DEATH-- BUT NEITHER MUST THEY ESCAPE! HMM... THERE'S ONE METHOD I CAN USE--

THE CAPE CRIME-CRUSHER SLIPS JUST INSIDE THE BUILDING ENTRANCE-- TO CUT OUT A PAPER DOLL!

EXIT

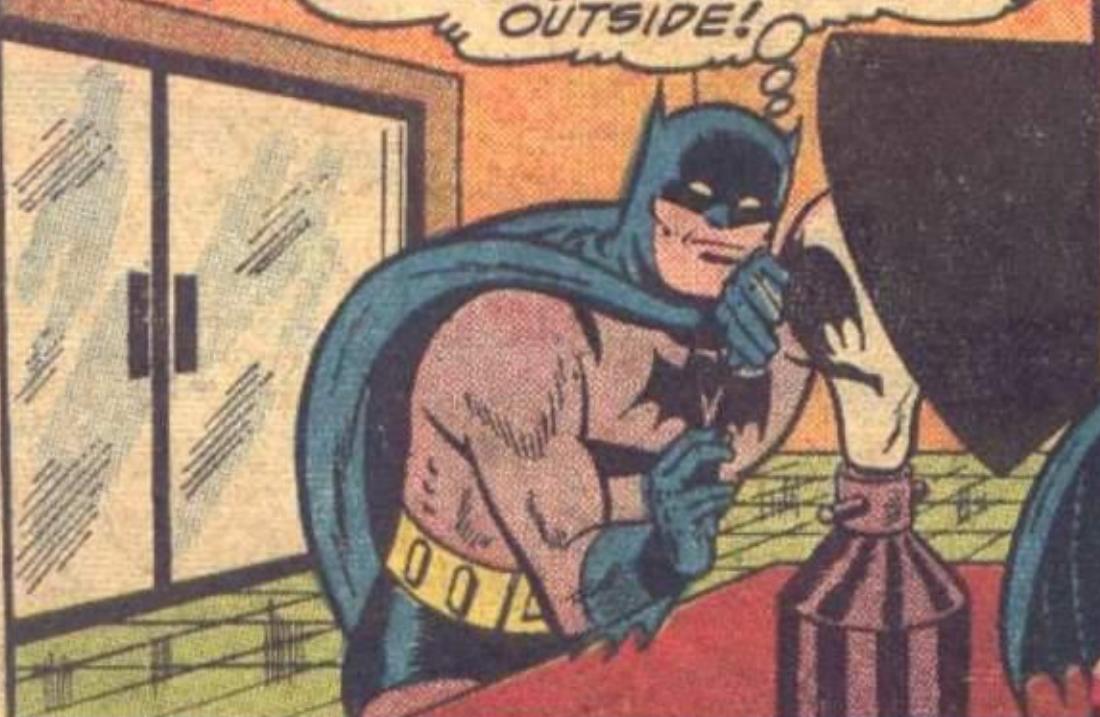
THIS LITTLE BLACK-PAPER SILHOUETTE I CUT OUT SHOULD DO THE TRICK! NOW TO WAIT OUTSIDE!

THE BATMAN HAS NOT LONG TO WAIT...

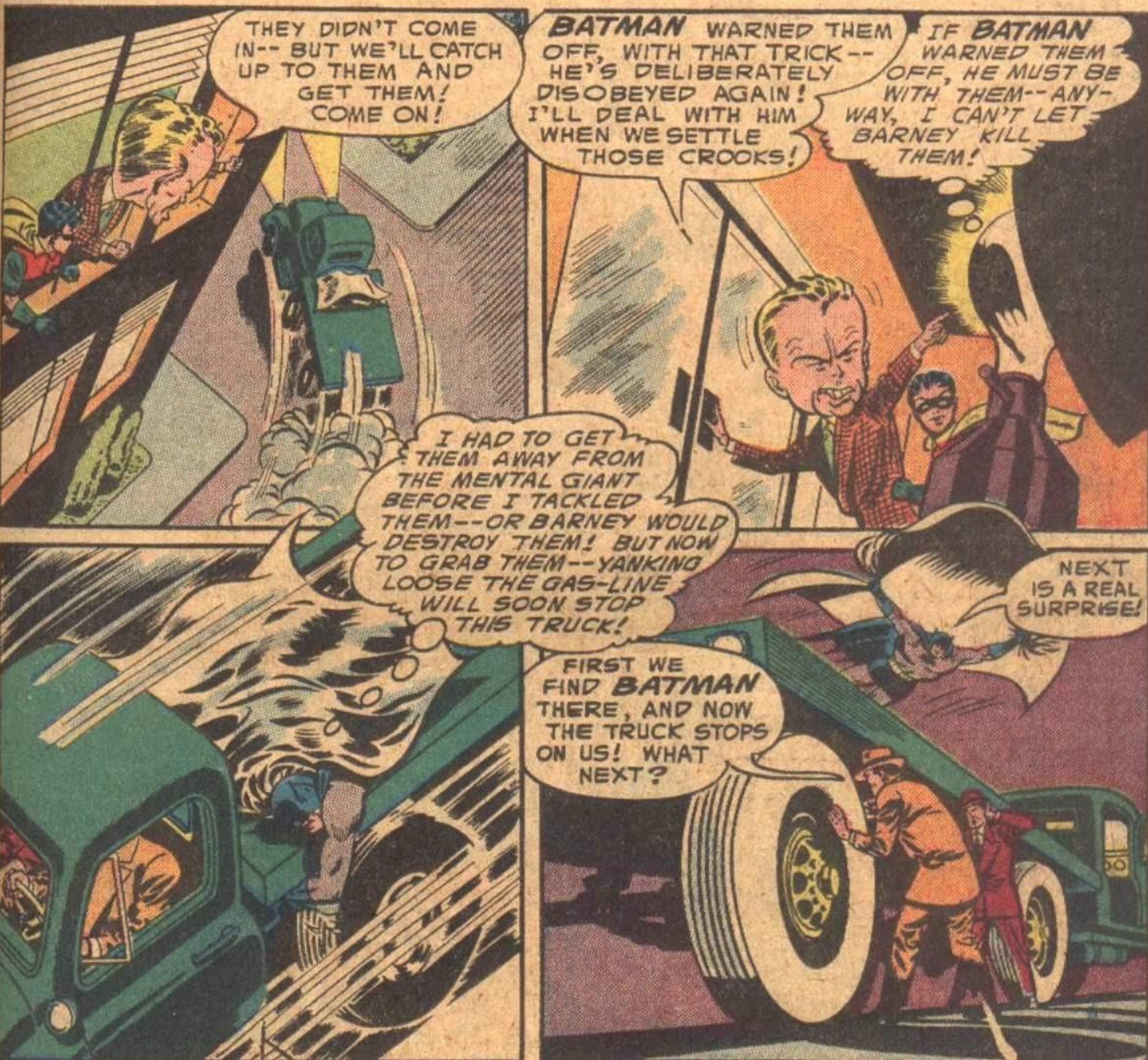
MY CHANCE TO SLIP INTO THE BACK OF THIS TRUCK-- THEY'LL TAKE ME AWAY, INSTEAD OF LOOT!

GOTHA
Labora

LOOK OUT!
BATMAN'S INSIDE THE DOOR! GET AWAY, QUICK!



BATMAN ANNUAL



BATMAN ANNUAL



BUT, AS THE MENTAL GIANT RAGES, THERE'S A SUDDEN STRANGE CHANGE...

MY HEAD-- IT FEELS STRANGE-- WHAT'S HAPPENING TO ME?

CATCH HIM, HE'S GOING TO COLLAPSE! WE'LL TAKE HIM BACK TO THE BATCAVE!

AS HOURS PASS, THE WEIRD CHANGE DEEPENS!

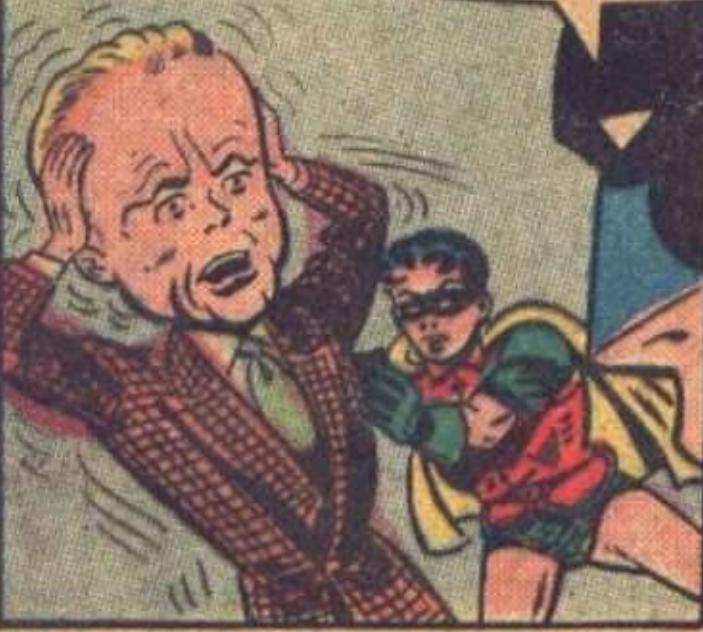
HE'S BEEN UNCONSCIOUS FOR HOURS-- AND HIS HEAD IS GETTING SMALLER!

YES, WHAT THE SCIENTIFIC ENCYCLOPEDIA TOLD US OF OTHER SUCH FREAK CASES IS HAPPENING--

THE SUDDEN FREAK BRAIN GROWTH IS ONLY TEMPORARY, AND SOON REVERTS TO NORMAL!

WE'LL TAKE HIM BACK TO HIS LODGINGS-- THE HISTORY OF SUCH CASES SHOWS HE'LL REMEMBER NOTHING OF WHAT HE DID OR LEARNED WHEN HE WAS SUPER-BRAINED!

BUT THE LETTER EXPOSING US THAT HE MAILED TO SOMEONE ELSE WILL STILL EXIST!



BUT, IN BARNEY BARROWS' LODGINGS...

BARNEY MAILED THAT LETTER WITH OUR SECRET IN IT-- TO **HIMSELF!** I FIGURED HE MUST HAVE, FOR ONLY IF HE DIDN'T REAPPEAR TO CLAIM IT WOULD POLICE, INVESTIGATING HIS DISAPPEARANCE, FIND AND OPEN IT!

BATMAN AND ROBIN HERE?

WHY -- WHAT HAPPENED TO ME? I CAN'T REMEMBER ANYTHING BUT AN ACCIDENT WHEN I WAS SWEEPING OUT!

YOU'VE BEEN UNCONSCIOUS, BARNEY -- BUT YOU'LL BE ALL RIGHT NOW! YOU CAN GO BACK TO YOUR JANITOR JOB TOMORROW!



WHEW, I NEVER WANT TO MEET A MENTAL GIANT AGAIN-- EVEN IF HE DOES FIGHT CRIME!

BARNEY WILL NEVER BE THAT SMART AGAIN -- BUT I THINK WE CAN HELP HIM FULFILL AN AMBITION!

LATER... BATMAN GOT THE COMMISSIONER TO LET ME WEAR THIS POLICE UNIFORM, WHILE I SWEEP OUT-- JUST LIKE A REGULAR POLICEMAN! HE'S A WONDERFUL DETECTIVE!

STRANGE, THAT BARNEY WILL NEVER KNOW HE HIMSELF WAS ONCE THE SUPER-DETECTIVE OF ALL TIME!



THE END

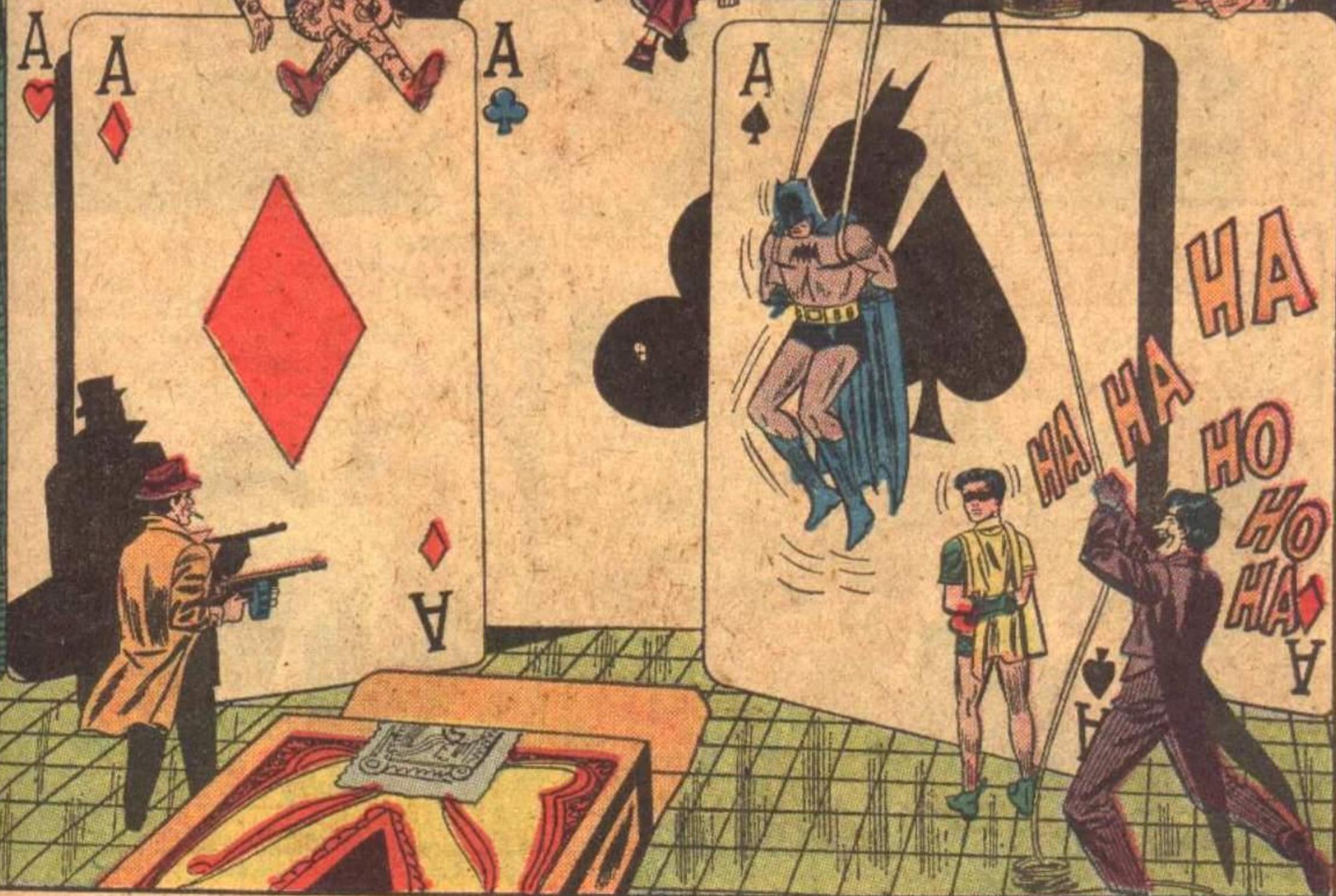


BATMAN AND ROBIN

BOB
KANE

"The JOKER'S ACES!"

TRUST THE **JOKER**--THAT BIZARRE JESTER OF CRIME-- TO FIND A NEW AND INGENIOUS WAY TO PLAGUE THE LIVES OF **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**! FOR NOW THE CUNNING CRIME-KING ADDS NEW MEN TO HIS FAMED GANG OF THIEVES--NEW MEN WITH **SPECIAL SKILLS** DESIGNED TO THROW ALL OF GOTHAM CITY INTO AN UPROAR--AND TO HEAP SCORN UPON THE VAUNTED **DARING DUO**! YOU'LL MEET THEM ALL--ONE MORE DANGEROUS THAN THE NEXT--IN THE STORY CALLED--





BATMAN ANNUAL



ONE EVENING, IN THE BIZARRE HIDE-OUT OF GOTHAM CITY'S MOST NOTORIOUS CRIMINAL--THE JOKER...

BOY, I NEVER SAW YOU FEELING SO GOOD, JOKER! SOMETHING MUST BE COOKING!

HA-HA! HO-HO! I'LL SAY THERE IS! BATMAN'S GOOSE IS COOKING! HA-HA! HO-HO-HO!



THE SINISTER LAUGH RINGS LOUDLY THROUGH THE JOKER'S HALLS--AND THEN...

TWO OF THE NEW MEN HAVE ARRIVED, JOKER! SHOULD I SEND 'EM IN?

YES! YES! HA-HA! NOW I'M READY TO BAFFLE GOTHAM CITY--AND MAKE A FOOL OF BATMAN! HO-HO!

SAAY! THE WAY THE JOKER'S ALL HEPPED UP ABOUT HIS NEW CAPER, I BET HE'S IMPORTED SOME REAL TOUGH AND RUGGED CHARACTERS!

YEAH! I CAN'T WAIT TO SEE THESE NEW HOTSHOT CROOKS!



AND THEN, AS THE JOKER'S MEN STUDY THE NEW GANG MEMBERS, THEIR EYES POP WITH AMAZEMENT...

JOKER, WHAT IS THIS ?? THIS GUY'S SO SKINNY, A STIFF WIND WOULD BLOW HIM OVER!

AND THIS GUY'S PRACTICALLY BLIND! ARE YOU OFF YOUR ROCKER, BOSS ??



HO-HO! SEE--YOU ARE BAFFLED ALREADY! DON'T WORRY, THESE MEN ARE SPECIALISTS FOR SPECIAL JOBS! MORE ARE ON THE WAY! INCLUDING BRUCE WAYNE, BATMAN'S DEAR FRIEND!

HA-HA-HA!



BATMAN ANNUAL



NEXT DAY, THE CUNNING HARLEQUIN OF CRIME PUTS HIS BOLD PLAN INTO ACTION!

THERE IT IS, BOYS--RIPE FOR LOOTING! THE HOME OF DANNY FARROW--THE MILLIONAIRE RADIO COMIC! HA-HA! WE'LL SEE WHICH COMIC HAS THE LAST LAUGH!

BUT JOKER! EVERYBODY KNOWS FARROW'S PLACE IS DEFINITELY BURGLAR-PROOF!

FARROW'S AN ECCENTRIC--A BUG ON PRIVACY! THOSE WALLS CAN'T BE SCALED--HIGH-VOLTAGE PANELS WOULD KILL A MAN.

AND THERE ARE ELECTRIC EYES EVERYWHERE! EVEN A HELICOPTER COULDN'T GET IN WITHOUT SETTING OFF A DOZEN ALARMS!



IN ANSWER, THE JOKER LEADS HIS MEN TO A NEARBY STREAM!

SEE THAT? IT'S AN OLD SEWER PIPE--NO LONGER IN USE--WHICH RUNS RIGHT INTO THE CELLAR OF FARROW'S HOME!

BUT WHAT GOOD IS THAT? NO ONE COULD GET THROUGH THAT PIPE.



OH, NO? HA-HA! WHAT WOULD YOU SAY IF I TOLD YOU THAT BRICE, OUR SKINNY FRIEND, COULD DO IT? THE ONLY MAN IN THE WORLD WHO COULD!

HA-HA!

WOW! NOW EVERYTHING'S BEGINNING TO MAKE SENSE!



AND THAT EVENING...

LOOKIT HIM GO! IF I DIDN'T SEE IT, I'D NEVER BELIEVE IT!

REMEMBER, BRICE! ONCE IN THE CELLAR, GET TO THE FUSE BOX! THROW THE MAIN SWITCH! THAT WILL RENDER THE WALLS HARMLESS--AND WE'LL SCALE THEM!



AND SCARCELY A HALF HOUR LATER...

HA-HA! THERE GO THE LIGHTS--HE MADE IT! COME ON, MEN--OVER WE GO!





BATMAN ANNUAL



THEN...

THE JOKER!
AND I THOUGHT I WAS
INVULNERABLE TO
BURGLARY!

HA-HA-HA! THE JOKE'S ON
YOU THIS TIME, MR. COMIC! I'M
SURE YOU'LL ACCEPT THE SUB-
STITUTION OF MY PICTURE FOR
THIS SPOT ON YOUR WALL!
HO-HO!



MEANWHILE, IN ANOTHER MILLIONAIRE'S
HOME ALL IS QUIET AND SERENE. HERE,
SOCIALITE BRUCE WAYNE RELAXES
WITH HIS WARD, YOUNG DICK GRAYSON...

THAT WAS A
GOOD GAME OF
HANDBALL YOU GAVE
ME, DICK--A REAL
WORKOUT! AHHH--
THIS ULTRA-VIOLET
FEELS GOOD!

NOTHING LIKE
IT--AFTER EXERCISE
AND A SHOWER!
IT'S JUST SHEER
PLEASURE!



BUT THEN...

OH-OH! LOOKS
LIKE YOU SPOKE TOO
SOON! THERE'S THE
BAT-SIGNAL--CALL-
ING **BATMAN** AND
ROBIN!

AND THAT MEANS
--HERE WE GO
AGAIN!



SWIFTLY, THE LAWMEN DON THEIR AWESOME UNIFORMS!
AND, AFTER CONFERRING BRIEFLY WITH COMMISSIONER GORDON, THEY RUSH TO THE FARROW HOME.

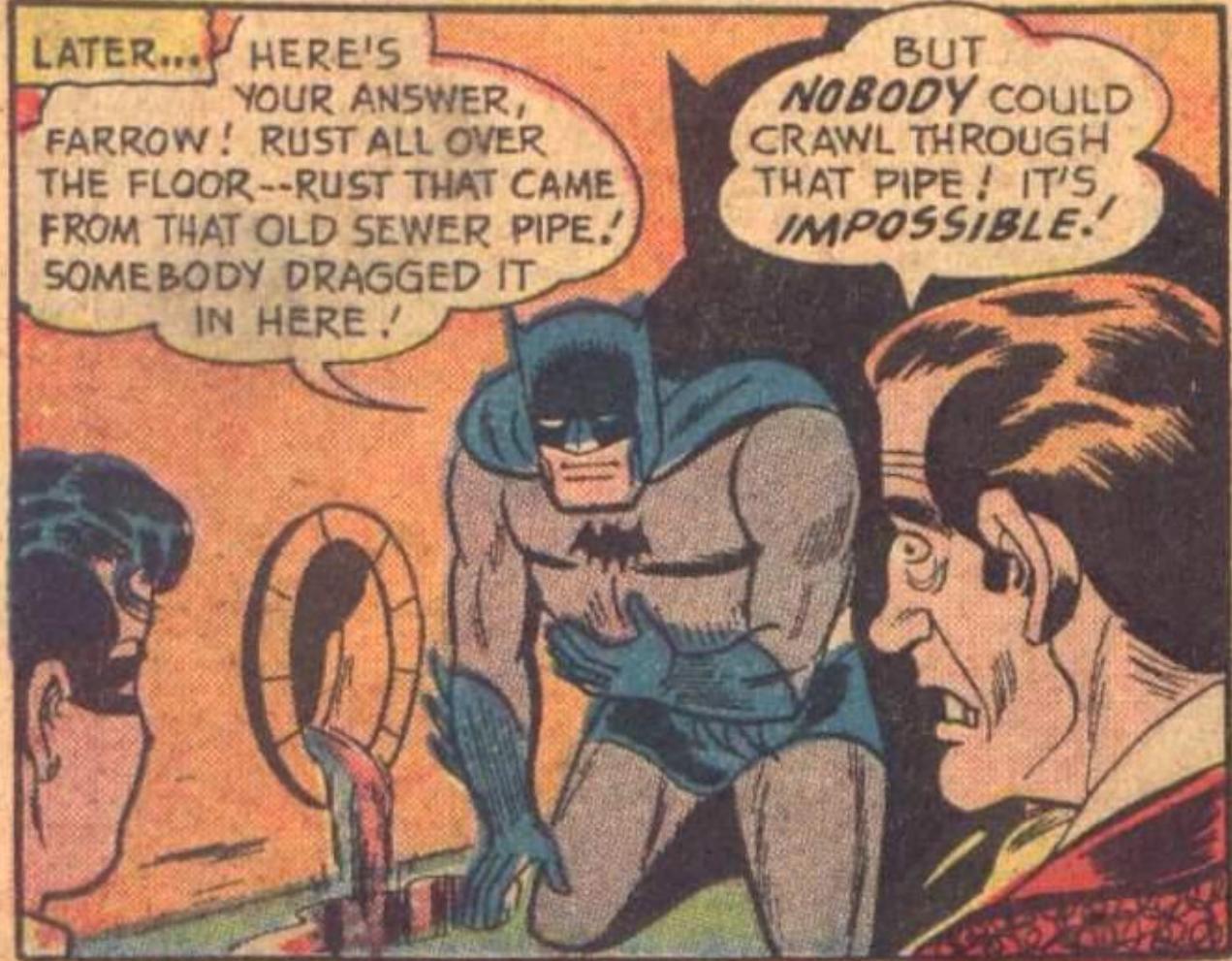
SO THE JOKER IS
ACTIVE ONCE MORE! HMM--
I WAS WONDERING WHEN
HE'D START IN AGAIN
WITH HIS MADCAP
TRICKS!

TRICK'S IS RIGHT!
HOW HE EVER GOT IN
HERE IS THE **NEATEST**
TRICK OF ALL TIME!
AND I WISH I **KNEW**
HOW HE DID IT!



LATER... HERE'S
YOUR ANSWER,
FARROW! RUST ALL OVER
THE FLOOR--RUST THAT CAME
FROM THAT OLD SEWER PIPE!
SOME BODY DRAGGED IT
IN HERE!

BUT
NOBODY COULD
CRAWL THROUGH
THAT PIPE! IT'S
IMPOSSIBLE!



YOU'VE GOT ONE THING TO LEARN, FARROW!
WHEN THE **JOKER** IS IN
ACTION, YOU FORGET
ABOUT THE WORD
IMPOSSIBLE!

BATMAN,
I SMELL
TROUBLE! IF I
KNOW THE **JOKER**,
THERE'S MORE OF
THIS **TRICKY** STUFF
TO COME!



BATMAN ANNUAL



NEXT EVENING, AS THE JOKER SURVEYS HIS FABULOUS HOARD OF ILL-GOTTEN GAIN...

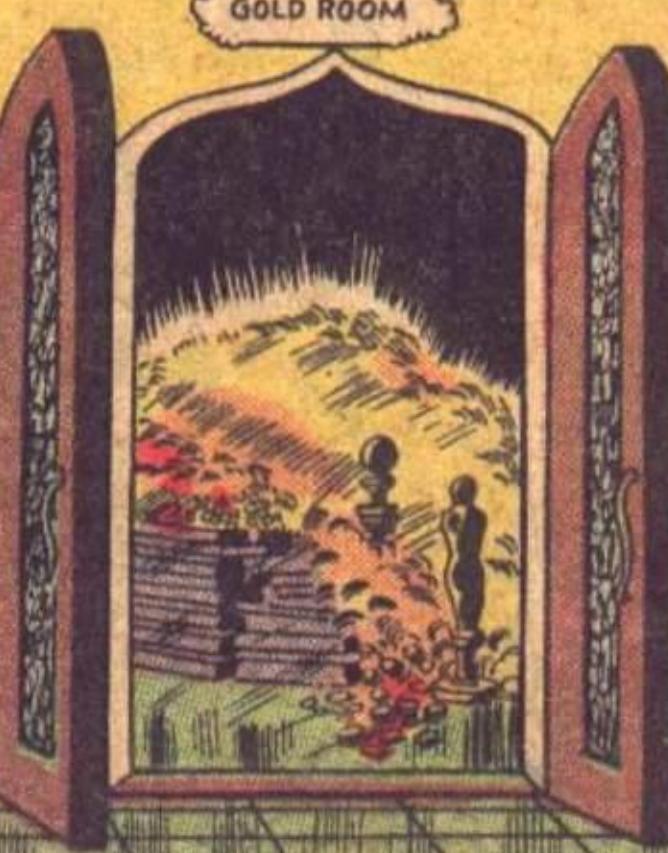
JEWEL ROOM

GOLD ROOM

CURRENCY ROOM

HMM! MY SUPPLY OF CURRENCY--**COLD CASH**-- COULD STAND REPLENISHING! BRING HOPKINS TO ME--THE NEW MAN WITH THE THICK EYE-GLASSES!

RIGHT, JOKER!



HOPKINS, I'M ARRANGING FOR YOU TO BE EMPLOYED IN THE TRUMP PLAYING CARD COMPANY FACTORY! HO-HO! WAIT TILL YOU HEAR MY PLAN!

IT BEATS ME! I DON'T SEE HOW THAT LITTLE GUY CAN HELP US!



A FEW DAYS LATER...

HA-HA-HA! GET YOUR FIREPROOF EQUIPMENT READY! WHEN THAT BUILDING BLAZES, WE'LL TAKE OUT THE PAYROLL IN THE CONFUSION! HO-HO!

BUT THEY'RE ALERT TO FIRES HERE, JOKER! EVERYONE ENTERING THE BUILDING IS INSPECTED-- BECAUSE THE PLASTICS THEY USE ARE SO INFLAMMABLE!



I KNOW HOPKINS IS SUPPOSED TO START THE FIRE--BUT HE'LL NEVER MAKE IT! THEY STRIP EVERYONE OF MATCHES, LIGHTERS-- EVEN PLAIN METAL!

HO-HO-HO! LEAVE IT TO HOPKINS-- AND MY PLAN!



AND AT THAT VERY MOMENT, WITHIN THE FACTORY...

HA-HA! THEY SEARCHED ME THOROUGHLY-- BUT FORGOT MY EYE-GLASSES! STRONG AS A MAGNIFYING GLASS-- TO CONCENTRATE THE SUN'S RAYS-- AND START A BLAZE!





BATMAN ANNUAL



SUDDENLY, THE CAULDRON ERUPTS INTO FLAME—MOMENTS LATER, THE WHOLE FACTORY IS ABLAZE!

HA-HA! ONLY THE JOKER CARD WILL SURVIVE THIS BLAZE! MY CALLING CARD -- MADE OF ASBESTOS! HO-HO-HO!

CASHIER

WHAT A SNAP THIS IS! WE'RE CLEANIN' UP!

MOMENTS LATER, AS THE DARING DUO RACES TO THE SCENE OF THE CRIME!

THAT POWERFUL, EAR-SPLITTING LAUGH! IT COULD ONLY BELONG TO THE JOKER!

WORSE LUCK! WE'LL NEVER SPOT HIM IN ALL THIS SMOKE!

AND WHEN THE FIRE HAS SUBSIDED...

BUT WE TAKE SUCH PRECAUTIONS! I DON'T SEE HOW THE FIRE COULD HAVE STARTED! IT'S IMPOSSIBLE!

THAT WORD AGAIN, ROBIN! IT'S BECOMING THE JOKER'S LATEST TRADEMARK!

HA HA HA HO HO HO HA

NEXT DAY, AS THE JOKER AND HIS MEN DON DISGUISES...

BUT WHAT'S THIS NEW MAN, BAKER, GOING TO DO? YOU DIDN'T TELL US, JOKER!

NO! HO-HO! IT'S SO WONDERFUL, I WANT TO SURPRISE YOU, TOO! HO-HO!

SOON AFTER, AS THE DISGUISED CRIME CLOWN MINGLES WITH THE CROWDS ATTENDING THE KNAPP JEWEL EXHIBIT...

OKAY, BAKER-- WHEN WE CREATE THE DIVERSION, YOU GET THAT KNIFE!

JEWELLED KNIFE
OPALS EMERALDS
RUBIES

AND THEN...

HIT ME, WILL YOU!

LOOK OUT!
A FIGHT!
HELP!

WOW! BAKER IS A SWORD-SWALLOWER!
WHAT AN IDEA,
JOKER!



BATMAN ANNUAL

MOMENTS LATER, AS THE JOKER AND HIS MEN LEAVE THE EXHIBIT...

SORRY, BUT WE HAVE TO EXAMINE CLOSELY EVERYONE WHO LEAVES. RULES OF THE EXHIBIT, YOU KNOW...

OKAY--THIS GUY'S CLEAN! NEXT!

HA-HA! A RARE FEAT--THE WAY BAKER CAN HOLD THAT KNIFE IN HIS THROAT!

TOO LATE IS THE THEFT DISCOVERED! AND LATER, WHEN BATMAN AND ROBIN ARRIVE...

BUT EVERYONE LEAVING HERE WAS CAREFULLY SEARCHED! THE KNIFE MUST STILL BE HERE SOME PLACE!

WHOEVER TOOK IT LEFT THIS LITTLE CARD. I DON'T UNDERSTAND IT--ALL IT SAYS IS "FIRST"!

JEWELLED KNIFE
OPALS EMERALDS
RUBIES

I'M AFRAID THAT LITTLE CARD SAYS **EVERYTHING**! "FIRST" WOULD REFER TO THE **FIRST LETTERS** OF THE WORDS OF THAT SIGN! ANAGRAMMED, THEY SPELL **JOKER**!

AND THAT MEANS THE JOKER HAS PULLED ANOTHER TRICK! SOMEHOW HE'S SPIRITED THAT KNIFE OUT OF HERE!

AFTERWARDS, AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS...

THE JOKER'S **REALLY** MAKING **FOOLS** OF US THIS TIME! WE AREN'T EVEN ON TO HIS **METHODS** YET!

AND I SUPPOSE THE NEWSPAPERS ARE PANNEING US AGAIN! OH, WELL--MIGHT AS WELL READ THEM AND WEEP!

JEWELLED KNIFE
OPALS EMERALDS
RUBIES

AND THEN...

GOTHAM GAZETTE

JOKER STRIKES AGAIN!
CLOWN OF CRIME PULLS
ANOTHER TRICK OUT OF HAT!

POLICE AND
BATMAN BAFFLED
BRITISH CLOWN COLLECTOR
RENTS GOTHAM CITY HOME
HERE ON INDEFINITE STAY.
P.W. RALEIGH HOPES TO ADD
TO HIS FAMED COLLECTION
OF IMMORTAL CLOWNS.

LOOK! A STROKE OF LUCK! P.W. RALEIGH IS IN TOWN--AND HE'S ONE MAN WHO'S **SURE** TO INTEREST THE JOKER!

AND HOW!
HIS **CLOWN COLLECTION** WILL HAVE THE **JOKER**, DROOLING.

OKAY--WE'LL BAIT THE TRAP!
CONTACT RALEIGH IMMEDIATELY,
BATMAN! IF NECESSARY,
LIVE WITH HIM 24 HOURS A DAY!

RIGHT,
COMMISSIONER!
OKAY, ROBIN--
TAKE HER UP!

BATMAN ANNUAL

MEANWHILE, AT THE JOKER'S HIDEOUT...

HEY, JOKER—HOW ABOUT THIS **BRUCE WAYNE** CHARACTER!? WHEN DO WE USE HIM?

IN GOOD TIME--IN GOOD TIME! HA-HA-HA! FIRST, I AM READY WITH ANOTHER OF MY SPECIAL ACES--TO HELP ME LOOT THE **RALEIGH CLOWN COLLECTION!** HO-HO!

BUT, BOSS! THEY'LL BE **LOOKIN'** FER YOU TO TRY THAT! YOU'LL NEVER GET AWAY WITH IT!

HO-HO! OH, BUT I WILL! I HAVE JUST THE PERSON FOR THE JOB! SEND IN DOOLEY, THE NEW ARRIVAL!

ALL EYES LIGHT ON THE NEWCOMER! AND THEN A STIR RUSTLES THROUGH THE CROWD!

WELL, HOW DO YOU LIKE THAT! A DAME!

I DON'T LIKE THIS! DAMES IS TROUBLE! YOU CAN'T TRUST 'EM!

AND NOT BAD LOOKIN', EITHER!

HA-HA HA HA

HO HO

ALL AT ONCE, TO EVERYONE'S AMAZEMENT!

NOT A "DAME"! HO-HO! JUST THE BEST **FEMALE IMPERSONATOR** IN THE WORLD. MEET HOP DOOLEY--WHO'LL SOON BE KNOWN AS **MRS. P.W. RALEIGH!** HA-HA!

AT THE JOKER'S ORDERS, I'VE BEEN STUDYING MRS. RALEIGH FOR SOME TIME! EVEN WENT TO EUROPE! I'VE GOT HER DOWN PAT.

GETTING A WOMAN TO IMPERSONATE MRS. RALEIGH WOULDN'T WORK, BECAUSE THE PLAN CALLS FOR SOME **HE-MAN** ACTION, ONCE DOOLEY GETS INSIDE THE RALEIGH HOUSE! HA-HA! NOW LISTEN...

A FEW NIGHTS LATER, IN THE HOME OF P.W. RALEIGH, ADORNED WITH GIANT PAINTINGS OF PUCK, FALSTAFF, PAGLIACCI AND OTHER FAMOUS CLOWNS OF HISTORY...

I'M GRATEFUL FOR YOUR PROTECTION, **BATMAN**--BUT I HOPE YOU'RE NOT OVERDOING IT! I DON'T SEE HOW MY WIFE CAN DO HER SHOPPING, WITH ALL THE POLICE YOU HAVE GUARDING HER!

SHE'LL DO, ALL RIGHT. WHY, THE POLICE CAN CARRY HER BUNDLES!



BATMAN ANNUAL



JUST THEN...

WHY,
DARLING,
BACK SO
SOON?

ALL THOSE POLICEMEN!
IT WAS SO EMBARRASS-
ING! I GAVE THEM
THE SLIP, AND CAME
HOME! I DIDN'T EVEN
HAVE TIME FOR MY
MANICURE!

HMM...

SUDDENLY BATMAN TRIPS AND FALLS AGAINST MRS. RALEIGH!

BEG PARDON—SO CLUMSY OF ME!
WAIT! THIS ISN'T MRS. RALEIGH!
JUST AS I THOUGHT—A WIG, AND
A MAN UNDERNEATH.

ROBIN--
LOOK! THE
JOKER AND
HIS MEN!

WE'VE RUINED HIS TRICK!
THIS HANDBAG IS FILLED
WITH GAS CAPSULES!
IN ANOTHER MINUTE,
DOOLEY WOULD HAVE
RENDERED US ALL
HELPLESS!

BATMAN!
SOMETHING'S
GONE
WRONG!

DESPERATELY, THE JOKER ATTEMPTS TO FLEE—BUT
THE SWIFT-FOOTED LAW MEN RACE TO THE ATTACK!

LET'S STOP THIS CLOWNING AROUND,
JOKER! YOU'VE TRAPPED YOURSELF IN
A DEN OF FOOLS!

PING!

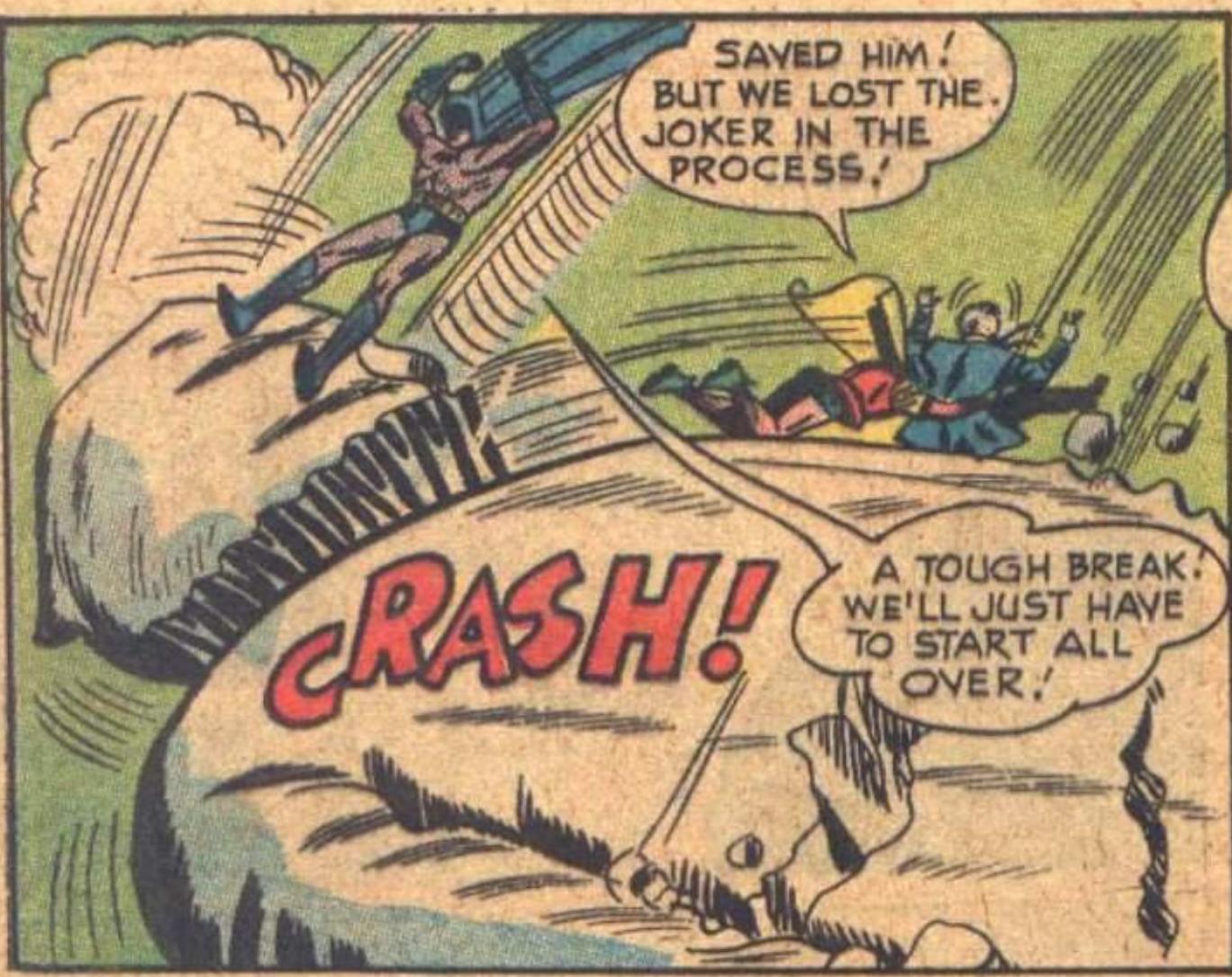
CONFOUND YOU, BATMAN!
YOU HAVEN'T GOT ME
YET!

SUDDENLY, THE CRIME CLOWN LEAPS WILDLY FOR THE WALL!
THEN...

YOU MAKE A BEAUTI-
FUL PICTURE, JOKER! OH-OH!
RALEIGH'S IN TROUBLE!

BATMAN!
RALEIGH'S
FROZEN WITH
TERROR! THAT
STATUE WILL
CRUSH HIM!

BATMAN ANNUAL



IN ANSWER, THE JOKER TAKES A TIME-WORN NEWSPAPER FROM
MIS SCRAPBOOK. THEN...



SOON AFTER...THE JOKER'S HIDEOUT...

HO-HO! HOW ABOUT A
QUICK FLIGHT TO BERMUDA
TONIGHT, WAYNE!? THEN
WE'LL RETURN BY BOAT--
FIRST CLASS!
HA-HA!

WHEN WE COME
BACK, WE'LL BE
BRINGING IN A
FORTUNE IN
DIAMONDS! AND
YOU'RE GOING TO
SMUGGLE
THEM IN!

HA-HA! AS WE DOCK, WE'LL OPEN
A PORT-HOLE! YOU'LL USE A
SLINGSHOT, WAYNE, TO SHOOT
THE DIAMONDS, ONE AT A TIME,
SOME 200 YARDS ACROSS THE
WATER INTO AN OPEN WINDOW
OF A SMALL BOAT I'VE
CHARTERED!

A TERRIFIC IDEA!
IT CAN'T BE SPOTTED--
AND NOBODY'LL BOTHER
WITH A SMALL BOAT
THAT'S NEVER LEFT
ITS MOORING!



BATMAN ANNUAL



THE NEXT DAY, IN THE MAIN SALON OF THE LINER "BERMUDA SAND" AS IT PLOWS THROUGH THE SEAS TOWARD GOTHAM CITY...

WOW! THIS SHIP SURE IS ROLLING!

YOU FOOL-- YOU'VE SHATTERED A CRYSTAL LAMP! I KNOW YOUR GAME-- YOU'RE TRYING TO FOCUS ATTENTION ON US! ONE MORE TRICK-- AND DICK GRAYSON DIES!

CRASH

AND NEXT MORNING, AS THE "BERMUDA SAND" EASES INTO HER HARBOR...

HA-HA! ALL RIGHT, WAYNE --HERE'S THE POUCH OF DIAMONDS! AND THERE'S YOUR TARGET--THAT SMALL YACHT ACROSS THE WAY!

START FIRING! HO HO!

GOSH, BOSS--YOU'RE SURE A SMART GUY! PULLIN' THIS OFF RIGHT IN FRONT OF THE HARBOR POLICE! HAW!

THEN, AS BRUCE LETS FIRE WITH THE FIRST MISSILE FROM HIS SLINGSHOT...

OOPS! THAT ONE SLIPPED OUT OF MY HANDS! YOU SHOULD HAVE LET ME HAVE MORE PRACTICE, JOKER!

LISTEN, WAYNE! NO MORE SLIPS! THOSE DIAMONDS ARE EACH WORTH A FORTUNE!

A MOMENT LATER...

GOOD SHOT, WAYNE! I GOT THE SIGNAL, BOSS! WAYNE FIRED THE DIAMOND RIGHT THROUGH THEIR WINDOW!

HA-HA! THAT'S MORE LIKE IT! ALL RIGHT, WAYNE --KEEP GOING--KEEP GOING! HO-HO!

ALL AT ONCE...

BOSS! SOMETHING'S GONE WRONG! THE SHIP'S CRAWLIN' WITH COPS --AND THEY'RE HEADED THIS WAY!

WHAT?

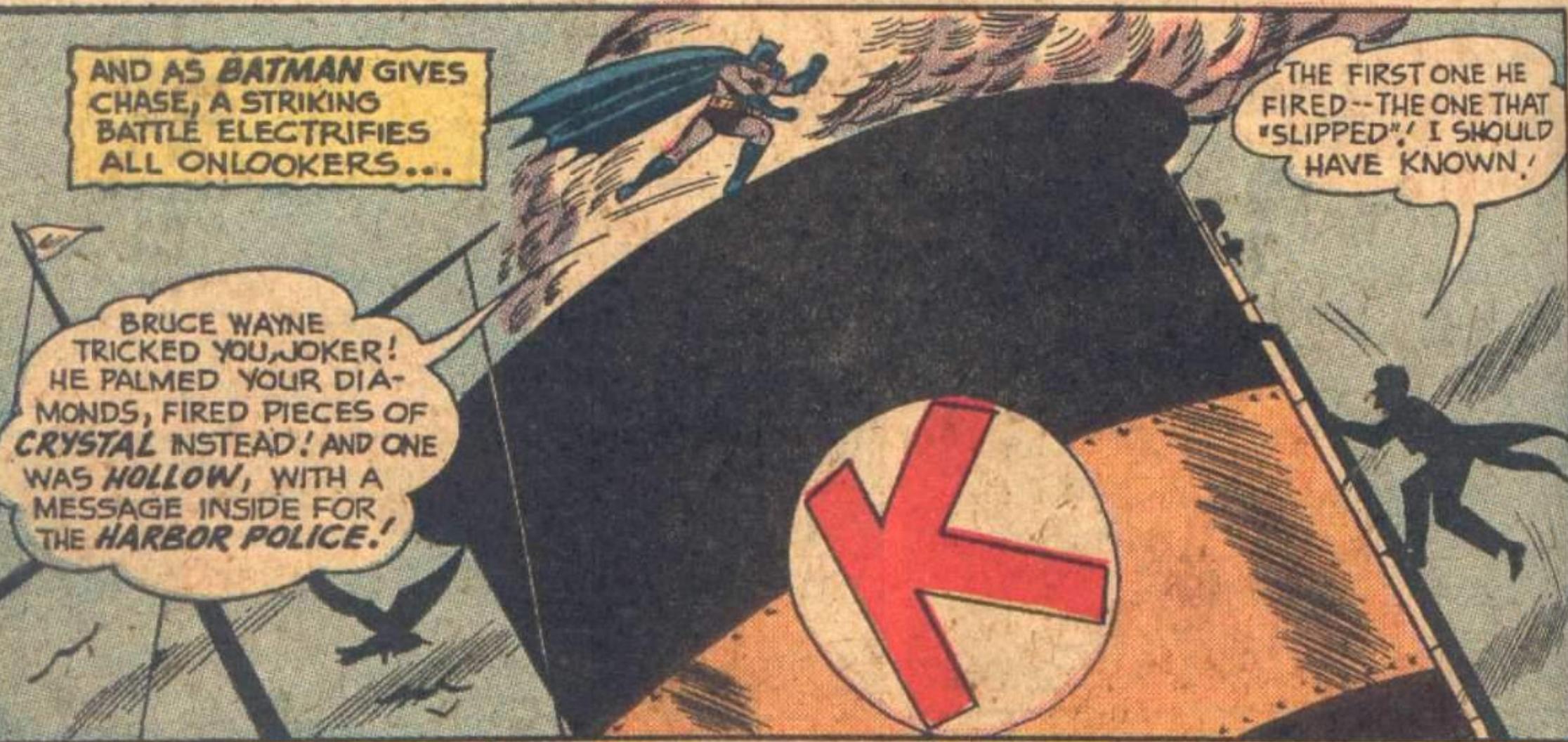
THE CHANCE TO ESCAPE I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR!

A SPLIT-SECOND CHANGE OF GARB--AND THEN BATMAN RACES INTO ACTION!

WE'VE GOT THE GANG, BATMAN-- BUT THE JOKER GAVE US THE SLIP!

THERE HE IS-- THE JOKER! ATOP THE FUNNEL!

BATMAN ANNUAL

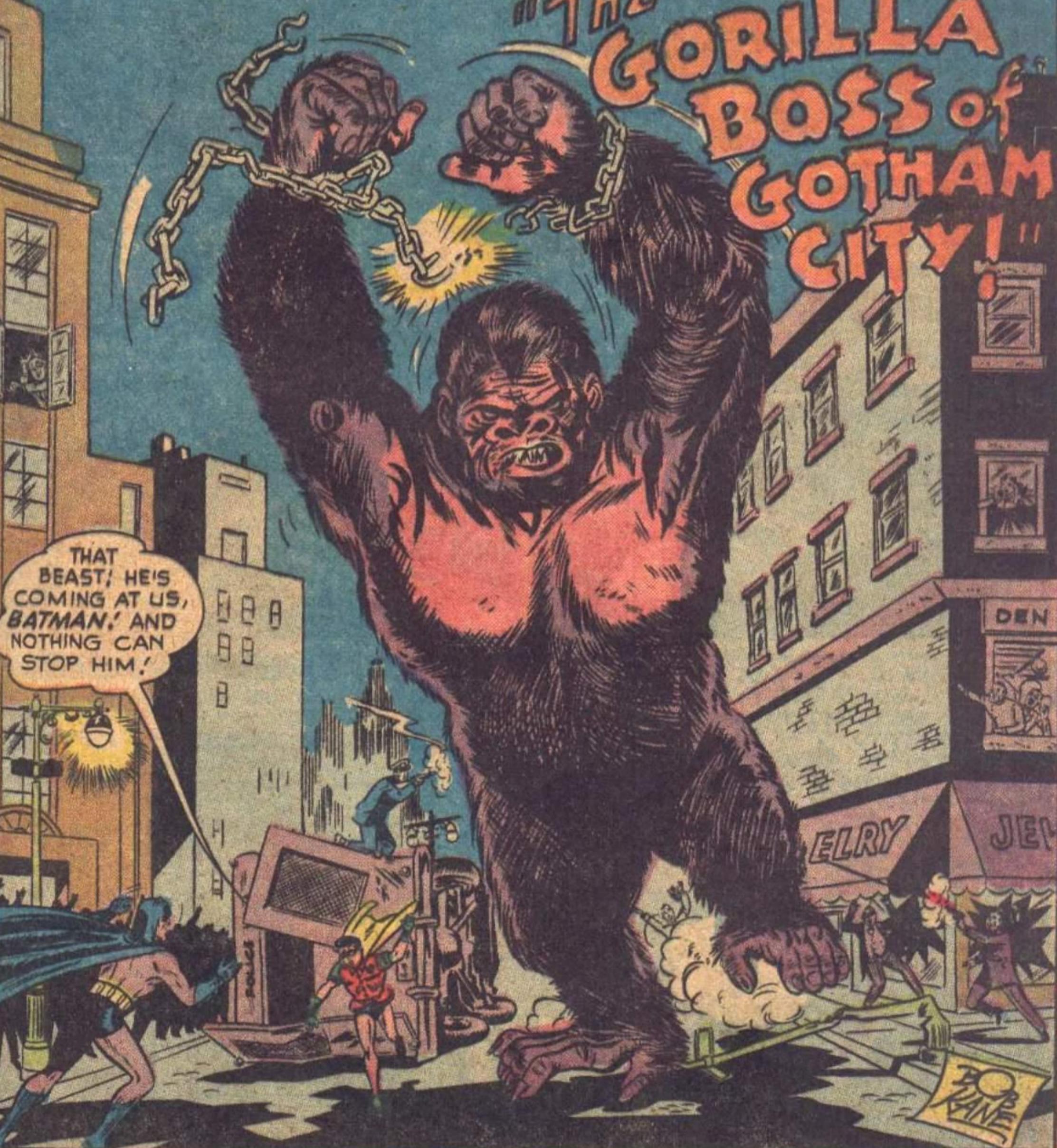




BATMAN AND ROBIN

THIS IS THE AMAZING STORY OF THE WORLD'S LARGEST GORILLA. ONCE HE RULED THE JUNGLE, A MIGHTY KING OF THE CONGO. THEN, AS THE RESULT OF AN INCREDIBLE SCIENTIFIC EXPERIMENT, HE IS GIVEN THE MIND OF A CUNNING CRIMINAL. AND BATMAN AND ROBIN THE BOY WONDER MUST FACE THE MOST BIZARRE OPPONENT OF THEIR CAREERS... A BEAST WITH BRAINS AND BRAWN... WHEN THEY TACKLE --

"THE GORILLA BOSS OF GOTHAM CITY!"



BATMAN ANNUAL



AS DARKNESS EMBRACES THE GOTHAM STATE PRISON, OFFICIALS PREPARE FOR A GRIM DEATH HOUSE DRAMA...

BEING WITNESS AT AN EXECUTION IS ALWAYS AN UNPLEASANT TASK--BUT SOMEONE HAS TO DO IT! BESIDES, IF ANYONE EVER DESERVED THE GAS CHAMBER, IT'S BOSS DYKE!

AND INSIDE THE GRAY WALLS, THE LEADING ACTOR IN THIS DRAMA PREPARES FOR THE ROLE HE CAN PLAY BUT ONCE...

FOR A GUY WHO'S ABOUT TO WALK THE LAST MILE, YOU SURE ARE CHIPPER, DYKE!

HA! I'VE LEARNED THERE'S A WAY TO FIX ANYTHING--EVEN THE **BIG RAP!** JUST WATCH ME! RIGHT NOW I WANT TO DIG INTO THE TURKEY AND CRANBERRY SAUCE--IT'S **SUPPOSED** TO BE MY LAST MEAL! HA! HA!

HEY! I ALMOST FORGOT. I WANT THIS NOTE DELIVERED TO SQUEAKY CLEMENTS. HE'S DOIN' TIME IN THE MAIN CELL BLOCK!

HA, HA! THIS IS SOME GAG. DYKE'S NOTE IS A REMINDER TO SQUEAKY TO PAY UP THE TEN GRAND HE OWES HIM.

CAN YOU IMAGINE A GUY GOIN' TO THE GAS CHAMBER AND REMEMBERING TO DUN A PAL FOR AN OLD DEBT? IT'S... IT'S ALMOST AS IF HE DIDN'T BELIEVE THIS WAS REALLY HIS FINISH!

INEXORABLY THE HOURS PASS! AND THEN, THE FATAL MOMENT ARRIVES! AT THE END OF A HALL, A GREEN DOOR OPENS AND CLOSES --AND A KILLER PASSES THROUGH TO MEET HIS DATE WITH DOOM...

BATMAN ANNUAL



AT THIS MOMENT, IN THE FAMED BAT-CAVE, UNDERGROUND DEPOSITORY OF A THOUSAND CRIME-FIGHTING SECRETS, BATMAN AND ROBIN CLOSE ANOTHER CHAPTER IN THEIR PERPETUAL BATTLE AGAINST THE UNDERWORLD...

IT'S JUST MIDNIGHT, BATMAN. I GUESS NOW WE CAN FILE BOSS DYKE AWAY FOR GOOD!



REMEMBER, ROBIN, HOW DYKE ALWAYS IGNORED ANY LOOT UNDER A THOUSAND DOLLARS? IT WAS HIS WAY OF SHOWING CONTEMPT FOR SMALL-TIME JOBS!

AND I UNDERSTAND HE ACTED THE SAME WAY EVEN IN PRISON! WELL, HIS BIG SHOT DAYS ARE OVER AS OF THIS MINUTE!



BUT LATER, IN ANOTHER PART OF GOTHAM CITY...

WE'VE GOT DYKE'S BODY OUTSIDE, DOC. THE STATE TURNED IT OVER TO US 'CAUSE IT WAS HIS LAST REQUEST!

QUICK! BRING IT INTO THE LABORATORY. IT'S ALREADY AN HOUR SINCE THE EXECUTION. WE HAVEN'T MUCH TIME.



PRESENTLY...

I'VE DONE IT! DYKE'S BRAIN IS REACTING TO THE STIMULANT! IT'S ACTUALLY LIVING AGAIN, FUNCTIONING NORMALLY! BUT NOW FOR THE MOST FANTASTIC STEP OF ALL! IS THE GORILLA READY?



I DRUGGED HIS FOOD JUST LIKE YOU SAID, DOC. I'LL WHEEL IN HIS CAGE.

THEN, GIFTED HANDS, WARPED BY AN EVIL CAUSE, MOVE DEFTLY IN THE SILENT ROOM...

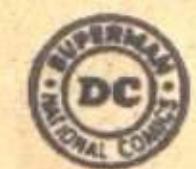


HE'S TOO HEAVY TO MOVE ONTO THE TABLE, I'LL PERFORM THE OPERATION IN THE CAGE! NOW LEAVE ME! I MUST HAVE NO DISTRACTIONS WHILE I PERFORM THE MOST STARTLING OPERATION IN MEDICAL HISTORY!



CAN I DO IT?
CAN I ACCOMPLISH AN OPERATION WHICH WILL STUN THE WORLD?

BATMAN ANNUAL



ANXIOUS MOMENTS PASS, AND THEN...

THE EXPERIMENT IS OVER. I TRANSPLANTED DYKE'S BRAIN INTO THE GORILLA'S SKULL. NOW ONE OF THE WORLD'S SHREDEST CRIMINAL MINDS IS IN THE BODY OF THIS MAMMOTH BRUTE!

GIVE THE GORILLA PAPER AND PENCIL, DOC. IF HE CAN WRITE, WE'LL KNOW THAT THE BOSS'S BRAIN IS ACTUALLY DIRECTING IT!

THE GORILLA'S COMING TO! HE'S PUTTING THE GIANT PENCIL TO PAPER? HE'S WRITING! THE OPERATION IS A SUCCESS!

THE NOTE! WHAT DOES IT SAY, DOC?

JUST WHAT DYKE SAID BEFORE HE WAS EXECUTED. HE'S GOING TO USE THIS APE'S BODY FOR CRIME, AND ONCE HE'S AMASSED A FORTUNE... WAIT! HE DIDN'T TELL ME THIS BEFORE!

NO! NO! I CAN'T REVEAL THE REST! WHAT HE WANTS ME TO DO IS TOO MUCH! I REFUSE!

WHAT EVIL PROMISE HAS THIS SINISTER MIND, EMBODIED IN A MONSTER, WRUNG FROM HIS UNWILLING VICTIM? TO FIND OUT, LET US TAKE A CLOSE LOOK AT THE NOTE HELD IN THE RENEGADE SCIENTIST'S TREMBLING HAND...

When I give the order, you will transfer my brain to Batman's body, and place his brain in the gorilla!

WOW! HERE'S A NEW ONE, BRUCE! INSTEAD OF CRACKING A SAFE, SOME CROOKS WALKED OFF WITH IT!

AND SOME NIGHTS LATER, WE SEE THE UNSUSPECTING VICTIM OF THIS SHOCKING SCHEME IN HIS ROLE AS WEALTHY BRUCE WAYNE AS HE CHATS WITH HIS YOUNG WARD, DICK GRAYSON...

YES, DICK, I SAW THE POLICE REPORTS ON THAT. THEY'RE STILL TRYING TO FIGURE OUT HOW IT WAS MOVED.

BATMAN ANNUAL



SUDDENLY, AN AWESOME BEAM OF LIGHT FLASHES ACROSS THE NIGHT SKY AND...

NO TIME TO SPECULATE ON IT FURTHER, DICK! THERE'S THE BAT-SIGNAL -- THERE'S A CALL OUT FOR BATMAN AND ROBIN!

A SWIFT CHANGE OF COSTUME, A RACE ACROSS THE SLEEPING CITY, AND PRESENTLY...

THE HOSPITAL'S RADIUM SUPPLY! IT'S BEEN STOLEN! SOMEHOW THE CRIMINAL MADE OFF WITH THE GIANT LEAD RADIUM CONTAINER! I CAN'T FIGURE HOW IT WAS MOVED!

BATMAN! COMMISSIONER GORDON! LOOK ON THE ROOF! THERE'S A LONE FIGURE! WHY...WHY...IT'S SOME KIND OF GIANT!



THERE'S OUR CRIMINAL, BATMAN! A GIANT GORILLA-- PROBABLY THE LARGEST EVER SEEN IN THIS COUNTRY! IT'S UNBELIEVABLE!



LIKE ACROBATS IN SOME DARING FEAT, THE TWO CRIME-BUSTERS GAIN THE ROOFTOP WHERE...

HE'S HEADED FOR THAT BRICK WALL WHICH SEPARATES THE BUILDING, BATMAN! WE'VE GOT HIM CORNERED!

CAREFUL, ROBIN! THIS IS NO ORDINARY CRIMINAL--HE SEEMS TO HAVE THE STRENGTH OF TEN MEN!



THEN, BATMAN MAKES A LIGHTNING DECISION...



ABRUPTLY, THE GIANT APE ABANDONS THE TOWER AND FLEES...

BATMAN! HE SAW WHAT YOU WERE DOING! HE STOPPED AND IS RACING OFF INTO THE DARK! BUT HOW COULD AN ANIMAL UNDERSTAND THAT THE ELECTRIC CABLE MEANT DANGER? IT'S INCREDIBLE!



HE HAS THE EDGE OVER US IN STRENGTH, ROBIN, BUT AT LEAST WE CAN OUTWIT HIM. I'LL TAKE THIS ELECTRIC CABLE FROM THE HOSPITAL SIGN AND TOUCH IT TO THE METAL FRAME--THE WATER HE'S STANDING IN WILL GROUND HIM! HE SHOULD GET QUITE A JOLT!

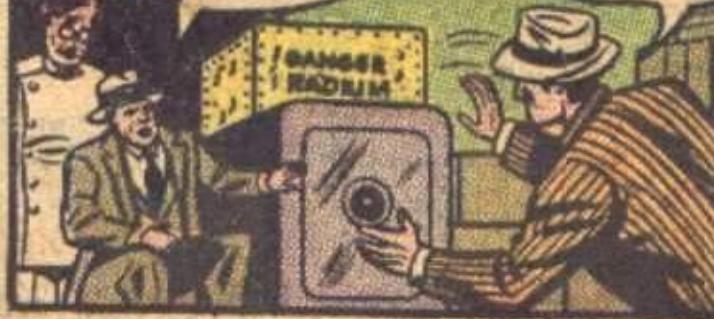


SHORTLY AFTER, IN A DESERTED WAREHOUSE NEAR THE RIVER...

THE GORILLA--I MEAN, DYKE-- HAS ONLY BEEN WORKIN' A WEEK, SOME DEAL, BUT WITH THE RADIUM HE BROUGHT HORTON! IN TONIGHT, HIS LOOT'S ALREADY WORTH A QUARTER OF A MILLION! SOME DEAL, EH, GOPHER?

YEAH! US LOCKED UP HERE WITH THE LOOT!

TAKIN' ORDERS FROM THAT GIANT APE--IT'S WEIRD! I CAN'T STAND IT ANY LONGER, HORTON! I'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE!



TAKE IT EASY, GOPHER! YOU CAN'T BREAK THE LOCK, AND IF DYKE CATCHES YOU TRYING TO ESCAPE...



IF I COULD JUST MANAGE TO PICK THIS LOCK, I... DYKE! I... I WAS ONLY KIDDING! I DON'T WANT TO LEAVE! HONEST! I LIKE IT HERE!



PRESENTLY...

DYKE'S GOT GOPHER TIED UP FOR PUNISHMENT! NOW HE'S WRITING A NOTE! WHAT'S IT SAY, DOC?



IT'S... IT'S FOR ME! IT SAYS, "WHEN I'VE GOT A MILLION IN LOOT, PERFORM THE NEXT OPERATION!" YES, DYKE, I'LL DO IT! I PROMISE--EVEN THOUGH IT'S THE MOST HORRIBLE SCHEME EVER CONCEIVED!

AND LATER, AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS...

BUT, BATMAN! THE CONTAINER WITH THE RADIUM WAS STORED WITH A NUMBER OF OTHER ITEMS! ONLY A HUMAN COULD HAVE SELECTED THE RIGHT ONE!

NEVERTHELESS, COMMISSIONER GORDON, THE CRIMINAL WAS A GIANT GORILLA -- BOTH ROBIN AND I SAW HIM!

BUT HE WAS A MOST UNUSUAL GORILLA. HE SEEMED TO RECOGNIZE THE POWER OF ELECTRICITY! ANOTHER THING--HE COULD HAVE CRUSHED US WITH ONE BLOW, BUT INSTEAD HE RAN AWAY. I WONDER WHY?

IT'S INCREDIBLE!



NEXT DAY, AS THE DYNAMIC DUO PATROLS THE CITY IN THE POWERFUL BATMOBILE...

WE'VE BEEN TOURING THE CITY SINCE COMMISSIONER GORDON PUT THE POLICE FORCE ON EMERGENCY DUTY WITHOUT...

BATMAN, LOOK! THE IRON GATE ON THAT BANK GARAGE -- THE BARS ARE BENT LIKE WIRE!

MOMENTS AFTER...

THERE'S THE GORILLA, BATMAN!

AND LOOK AT THE GUARDS, ROBIN! HE'S KNOCKED THEM UNCONSCIOUS AND TAKEN AWAY THEIR GUNS-- JUST AS A HUMAN CRIMINAL WOULD TRY TO DO!

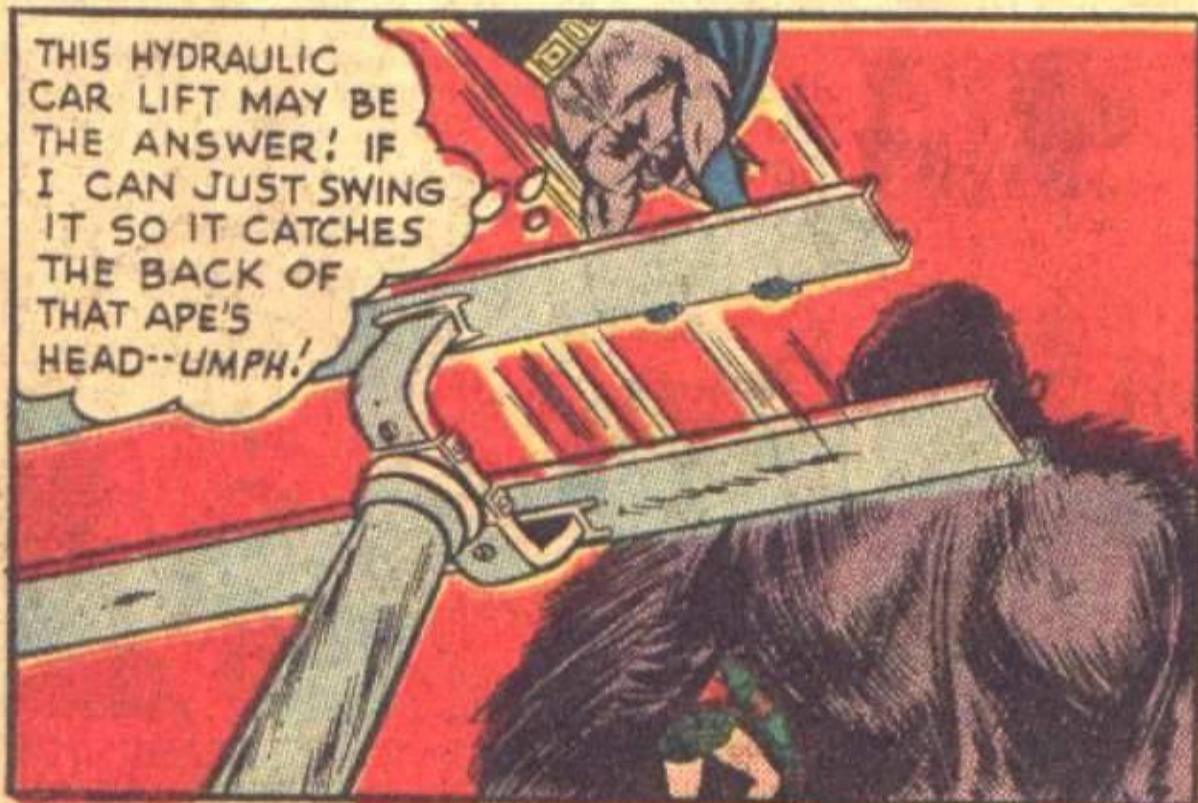




BATMAN ANNUAL



THIS HYDRAULIC CAR LIFT MAY BE THE ANSWER! IF I CAN JUST SWING IT SO IT CATCHES THE BACK OF THAT APE'S HEAD--UMPH!



BUT BEFORE BATMAN CAN RACE TO THE SIDE OF HIS STUNNED COMPANION, A MASSIVE, HAIRY HAND REACHES FOR THE HYDRAULIC LIFT, AND ...

THE GORILLA! HE USED HIS MASSIVE STRENGTH TO SPIN THE LIFT SO FAST, I DAREN'T LET GO! I'D BE THROWN AGAINST THE CONCRETE WALLS!



AFTERWARDS...

WHILE I WAS SPINNING, THE GORILLA HAD TIME TO GET AWAY. AMAZING THAT A BEAST COULD FIGURE OUT THAT TACTIC!

HERE'S SOMETHING EVEN MORE AMAZING, BATMAN!

THAT APE TOOK A COUPLE OF BUNDLES OF THOUSAND DOLLAR BILLS. BUT HE LEFT THESE TENS, TWENTIES, AND HUNDREDS SCATTERED AROUND!

BATMAN! REMEMBER? THAT WAS BOSS DYKE'S OLD TRICK -- HIS TRADEMARK!

HMM... NO ORDINARY ANIMAL COULD BE TRAINED TO DO THE THINGS THIS APE HAS DONE, ROBIN. WE MUST LEARN THIS CREATURE'S SECRET-- BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!



BATMAN ANNUAL

MEANWHILE, BACK AT THE WAREHOUSE...

WITH THIS HAUL, THE TOTAL'S JUST SHORT OF A MILLION, DOC. ONE MORE JOB SHOULD DO THE TRICK.

THAT MEANS HE'LL SOON BE CALLING ON ME AGAIN. DYKE, PLEASE! WON'T YOU RECONSIDER? DON'T MAKE ME DO IT.'

HE'S SHAKING HIS HEAD! YOU LOSE, DOC. YOU'RE GONNA HAVE TO DO IT-- WHATEVER IT IS.

NEXT NIGHT, IN THE BAT-CAVE...

I'M STUDYING THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN INSTINCT, POSSESSED BY ALL ANIMALS, AND REASONING POWER, POSSESSED ONLY BY MAN, ROBIN. FROM HIS BEHAVIOR, THAT APE MUST BE DIRECTED BY A HUMAN MIND!

MAYBE WE'LL LEARN NOW, BATMAN. THERE'S THE EMERGENCY SIGNAL--THE APE'S BEEN SIGHTED ON THE SOUTH SIDE! LET'S GO!

MOMENTS LATER,
THE ENRAGED BEAST
THROWS GOTHAM
CITY INTO WILD PANIC...

RUN FOR
YOUR LIVES...
WE'LL ALL BE
KILLED!

THERE HE COMES--
OUT OF THAT JEWEL-
RY STORE! THE POLICE
WILL MOW HIM DOWN!

IT'S FANTASTIC,
BATMAN! BULLETS
HAVE LITTLE EFFECT
ON HIM! HE'S TURN-
ING OVER THE POLICE
CAR AND NOW--
NOW HE'S HEAD-
ING FOR US!

WITH GIANT STRIDES, THE SEEMINGLY INVULNERABLE MONSTER BEARS DOWN UPON THE DARING DUO...

BATMAN!
NO!

UGH!



SECONDS LATER...

NO! DON'T SHOOT! HE'S GOT BATMAN!

THAT'S RIGHT! WE CAN'T TAKE A CHANCE. WE MIGHT HIT THE MAN INSTEAD OF THE BEAST.

HE'S HEADING FOR THAT MANHOLE COVER. HE'LL ESCAPE THROUGH THE UNDERGROUND CONDUITS!

THE INFURIATED BEAST RIPS UP THE MANHOLE COVER...

ESCAPING THROUGH THE GLOOMY UNDERGROUND LABYRINTH, THE HUGE, HULKING FIGURE SPEEDS WITH HIS UNCONSCIOUS VICTIM--CARRYING HIM TO A FATE NO MAN HAS EVER UNDERGONE BEFORE...

AND SOON AFTER...

I...I SEE YOU'RE READY, DYKE! THIS IS THE MOMENT I'VE BEEN DREADING! BUT I HAVE NO CHOICE EXCEPT TO OBEY!

THEN, IN A CRUDE OPERATING ROOM, A STUNNING SCENE IS ENACTED...

I DON'T GET IT, DOC! THE BOSS IS LETTING YOU PUT HIM TO SLEEP! HOW COME?

THIS IS THE SECOND PART OF DYKE'S PLAN. NOW THAT HE HAS A MILLION FROM CRIMES COMMITTED AS AN APE, HE WILL RETURN TO A HUMAN BODY--BATMAN'S!

AND FOR LAUGHS, DYKE INSISTS I PUT BATMAN'S BRAIN IN THE GORILLA!

HA! I GET IT! EVERY COP IS LOOKIN' FOR THE APE! IF THEY CATCH HIM, THEY'LL DESTROY HIM OR CAGE HIM!

THIS SCHEME IS TOO HORRIBLE! I'M GETTING OUT!

NO YOU DON'T, DOC! I LIKE THE BOSS'S IDEA! IMAGINE! DYKE WILL BE BATMAN AND BATMAN WILL BE AN APE! HA, HA!

BATMAN ANNUAL



I'LL BE OUTSIDE THIS DOOR, AND YOU DON'T LEAVE ALIVE UNLESS THE OPERATION'S A SUCCESS! NOW GET GOIN'!

Y-YES, HORTON! WHATEVER YOU SAY!

SILENT MOMENTS PASS--AND THEN...

I'VE FINISHED! DYKE'S BRAIN IS NOW IN BATMAN'S BODY AND BATMAN'S MIND IS IN THE GORILLA! COME ON! LET'S GET BATMAN--I MEAN DYKE OUT OF HERE BEFORE THE APE COMES TO!

ERRAASH!

THE GORILLA! HE REGAINED CONSCIOUSNESS SOONER THAN I EXPECTED! HE'S GONE!

AND BATMAN'S BODY IS MISSING! THAT MEANS THE APE, DIRECTED BY BATMAN'S BRAIN, HAS DYKE IN HIS POWER.

SHORTLY AFTER, IN ANOTHER PART OF THE CITY...

DON'T SHOOT! YOU MAY HIT BATMAN! BESIDES, BULLETS DON'T SEEM TO STOP THIS GORILLA! HMM... THERE'S JUST ONE WAY TO SAVE BATMAN!

A RACE TO THE BAT-CAVE--AND MOMENTS LATER, THERE IS A ROAR IN THE GOTHAM SKY AND...

THE BAT-PLANE'S AUTOMATIC PILOT WILL TAKE ME OVER THE TARGET! NOW IF I CAN GRAB BATMAN AS I SWING BY-- IT'S A LONG CHANCE, BUT I MUST TAKE IT!



MEANWHILE, ON THE STREET, FAR BELOW...

LOOK! THE APE WITH BATMAN'S BRAIN HAS CRASHED! AND ROBIN SAVED THE BOSS! THIS IS EVEN BETTER THAN I FIGURED!

WAIT TILL THE KID LEARNS BATMAN'S BODY NOW IS DIRECTED BY DYKE'S BRAIN, IF THE BOSS EVER DECIDES TO TELL HIM.

BUT SUDDENLY, "DOC" MAKES A LIGHTNING MOVE TO REVEAL...

BATMAN!
HOW DID YOU...
UGH!

YOU'LL GET A FULL EXPLANATION BEFORE YOU START YOUR PRISON TERM!

SOCK



LATER...

BUT, BATMAN WHOM DID I SAVE?

HE'S COMING TO NOW! I REMOVE THIS BATMAN MASK AND-- MEET "DOC" WILLARD! HE WAS A BRILLIANT SURGEON UNTIL HE WAS KICKED OUT FOR MALPRACTICE TEN YEARS AGO.



AND LATER, IN THE BAT-CAVE...

YOU SEE, I CAME TO IN TIME TO HEAR DOC EXPLAIN THAT DYKE WANTED HIM TO PUT MY BRAIN IN THE GORILLA'S BODY AND THAT THE CRIMINAL'S BRAIN WOULD GO INTO MINE! BUT I PRETENDED TO REMAIN UNCONSCIOUS...



"...AND WHEN DOC APPROACHED TO ADMINISTER THE ANAESTHETIC..."

UMPH! THAT WILL HOLD THE GOOD DOCTOR FOR A BIT! NOW I'LL PUT HIS OUTFIT ON OVER MINE AND DRESS HIM IN THE PLASTIC BATMAN COSTUME I KEEP IN MY UTILITY BELT! AS DOC, I'LL GET PAST HORTON AND HIS GUN!



BUT I DIDN'T EXPECT THE GORILLA TO REVIVE SO SOON! WHEN HE DID, DYKE--HIS BRAIN STILL IN THE GORILLA, OF COURSE--SAW DOC, DRESSED AS BATMAN, AND MUST HAVE THOUGHT THE OPERATION HAD BEEN UNSUCCESSFUL! ENRAGED, HE RUSHED OUT WITH HIM TO DESTROY HIM!

THE WHOLE EXPERIENCE DROVE DOC MAD. HE'S UNABLE TO EXPLAIN TO MEDICAL AUTHORITIES HOW HE TRANSFERRED DYKE'S BRAIN TO THE APE. PERSONALLY, I THINK IT'S JUST AS WELL! YOU KNOW, BATMAN--I THINK GOTHAM CITY WILL SLEEP EASIER TONIGHT ...I KNOW I WILL!!

The END



BATMAN ANNUAL

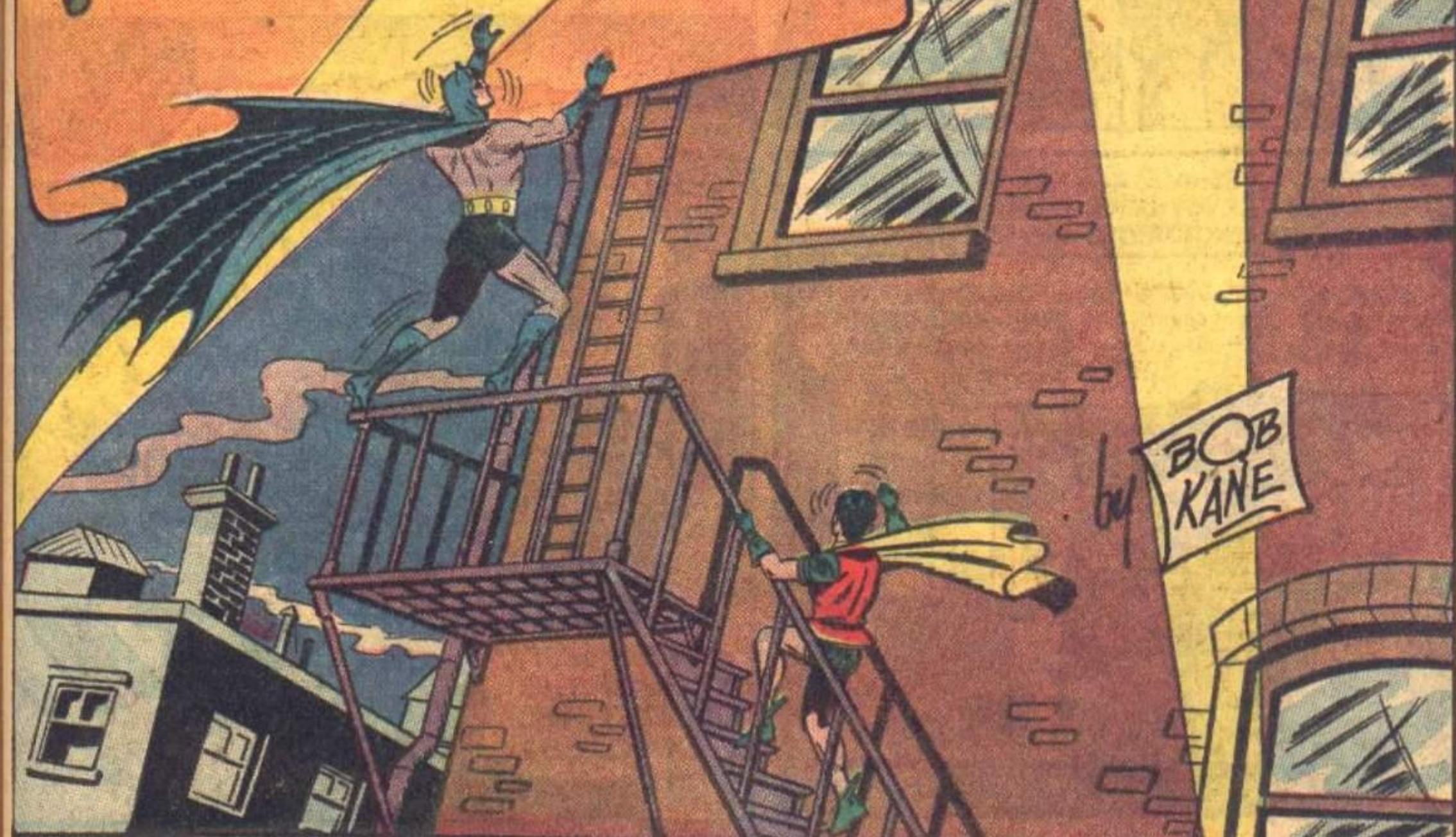


BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN
- THE BOY WONDER -

He's Back! THAT BIZARRE CRIMINAL, THAT MODERN JEKYLL-HYDE, RETURNS WITH HIS DOUBLE-DEALING BANDITRY TO TERRORIZE GOTHAM CITY--AND ONCE AGAIN THE TWO-FISTED BATMAN AND ROBIN COME FACE TO FACE WITH TWO-FACE! BUT THERE ARE TWO SIDES TO EVERY STORY, AND ESPECIALLY TWO-FACE'S STORY! THEREFORE, YOU WILL BE DOUBLY SURPRISED WHEN YOU READ THE FANTASTIC REASONS FOR...

"THE NEW CRIMES of TWO-FACE!"





BATMAN ANNUAL



IN THE REHEARSAL STUDIO OF "TRUE CRIME TELEVISION PLAYHOUSE", HOPEFUL ACTORS APPLY TO THE CASTING DIRECTOR...

GENTLEMEN, OUR NEXT PLAY WILL FEATURE THE STORY OF **TWO-FACE!** SOME OF YOU MAY REMEMBER HOW THE FACE OF OUR EX-DISTRICT ATTORNEY, HARVEY DENT, WAS SCARRED IN AN ACCIDENT! THE MENTAL SHOCK MADE DENT BECOME A CRIMINAL, UNTIL PLASTIC SURGERY GAVE HIM A NEW FACE AND HELPED HIM TO REFORM!



ONE WEEK LATER, BACKSTAGE JUST BEFORE CURTAIN TIME...

PLACES, EVERYBODY!
LIGHTS--CAMERAS ALL SET?
JOE, LET'S GET ROLLING!



THE CURTAIN RISES--AND ACTORS RECREATE THE SCENE WHEN HARVEY DENT, FIGHTING D.A., WAS PROSECUTING A NOTORIOUS GAMBLER...

YOUR HONOR, **THIS** WAS FOUND ON THE SCENE OF THE CRIME! A **TWO-HEADED SILVER DOLLAR**--"LUCKY" MORONY'S GOOD LUCK PIECE!



PAUL SLOANE--YOU'RE HANDSOME AND THE IMAGE OF HARVEY DENT! YOU'LL DO FINE! REMEMBER, STUDY YOUR ROLE--GET INTO THE CHARACTER OF THE MAN YOU'RE PORTRAYING--I WANT YOU TO **LIVE** THE PART.



THEN, OVER MILLIONS OF TELEVISION SETS...

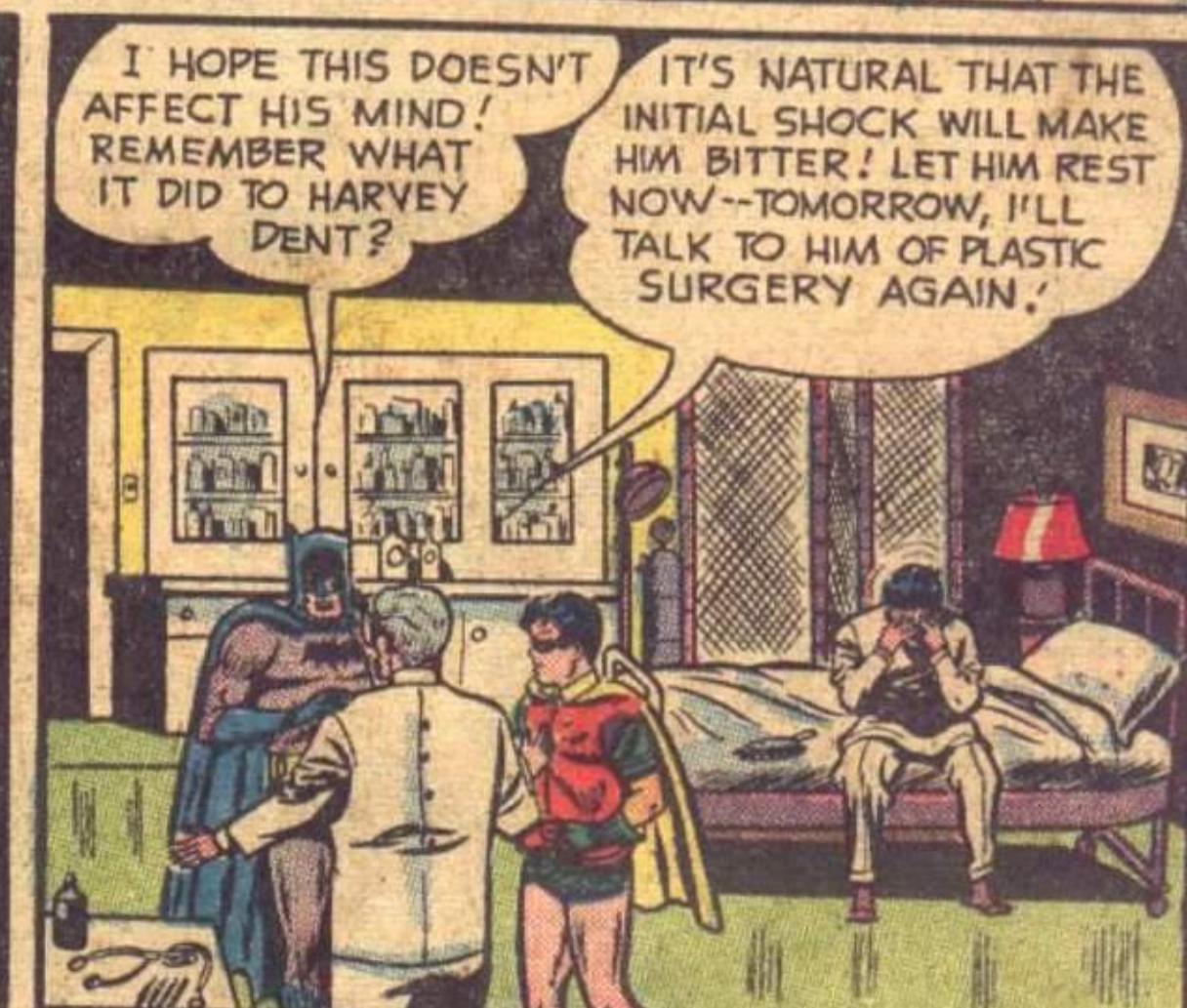
GOOD EVENING! TONIGHT, "TRUE CRIME PLAYHOUSE" BRINGS YOU THE INCREDIBLE STORY OF **TWO-FACE!** AND, AS A PUBLIC SERVICE, **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** ARE HERE IN PERSON TO RECREATE THEIR REAL-LIFE ROLES IN THIS FAMOUS CASE! AND NOW--**ON WITH THE PLAY!**



THEN, AS SLOANE TURNS FOR A CAMERA CLOSE-UP, A FREAK ACCIDENT OCCURS!



BATMAN ANNUAL



BUT THE SHOCK HAS AFFECTED SLOANE'S MIND TO A GREATER DEGREE THAN IMAGINED...

MORONY'S SILVER DOLLAR! IT HAS TWO FACES--CLEAN AND HANDSOME AS MY FACE ONCE WAS! I'LL MAKE ONE OF ITS FACES UGLY, EVIL LIKE MINE!

THUS, EVEN THOUGH HE IS UNAWARE OF IT, SLOANE BEGINS TO *LIVE* THE PART OF TWO-FACE...

A COIN WITH TWO FACES--LIKE MINE! WHICH FACE WILL TURN UP WHEN I FLIP THE COIN?

THE EVIL SIDE WINS! CRIME WINS! FROM THIS DAY ON, THIS TWO-FACED COIN WILL BE THE SYMBOL OF TWO-FACE!

MY NAME IS NOT SLOANE! I AM THE LIVING JEKYLL-HYDE--A MAN TO BE FEARED! FROM THIS DAY ON, THE WORLD WILL KNOW OF ME AND THE NEW CRIMES OF TWO-FACE!

ALMOST EXACTLY THE WORDS OF THE REAL TWO-FACE, LEARNED FROM THE TV SCRIPT HE HAD MEMORIZED!



BATMAN ANNUAL



LATER, THE NURSE TELLS OF SLOANE'S MAD ACTIONS...

JUST AS I FEARED! THE FACT THAT HE'S STUDIED HIS "TWO-FACE" ROLE SO LONG--PLUS THE MENTAL SHOCK--HAS MADE SLOANE REALLY BELIEVE HE IS TWO-FACE.'



HEADLINES SOON SHOUT THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS, WHILE THE BATMOBILE CEASELESSLY PATROLS THE STREETS...

GOTHAM GAZETTE

SECOND TWO-FACE STILL AT LARGE; POLICE ON LOOKOUT FOR MAD ACTOR

ROBIN, UNDOUBTEDLY SLOANE WILL IMITATE THE KIND OF CRIMES THE ORIGINAL TWO-FACE COMMITTED. THEY WERE ALWAYS BASED ON HIS PERSONAL SYMBOL--THE NUMBER TWO!



AND AS BATMAN HAS PREDICTED, THAT VERY NIGHT TWO-FACE SLOANE ROBS THE SAFE OF A BICYCLE COMPANY...

HA-HA! HOW FITTING TWO-FACE SHOULD ESCAPE WITH ONE OF THE MANUFACTURER'S TWO-WHEELED VEHICLES!



THE NEXT NIGHT, HAVING RECRUITED A HELPER, TWO-FACE PLOTS HIS SECOND CRIME.

THE MAIL CAR IS CARRYING A SWORD DESTINED FOR THE GOTHAM MUSEUM--AN ANCIENT TWO-EDGED SWORD, ITS HILT ENCRUSTED WITH GEMS!



SOON AFTER, BATMAN HEARS OF THE ROBBERY ON THE POLICE RADIO ALARMS...

...SINCE TWO-FACE ESCAPED ONLY A FEW MINUTES AGO, HE CANNOT BE TOO FAR AWAY! WATCH ALL HIGHWAYS! SET UP ROAD-BLOCKS! SEARCH ALL CARS!

FOLLOWING HIS HUNCH, BATMAN RACES THE BATMOBILE ALONG THE RAILROAD TRACKS, AND SOON...

BATMAN! LOOK!



A TWO-EDGED SWORD--STOLEN FROM A VEHICLE RUNNING ON TWO RAILS! THE TWO PATTERN AGAIN! I'VE A HUNCH TWO-FACE WON'T BE ESCAPING IN AN AUTO, BUT IN ANOTHER TWO-WHEELED VEHICLE!



WE'LL BY-PASS THE POLICE ROAD-BLOCK ON A TWO-MAN VEHICLE--A RAILROAD HAND-CAR!

BATMAN ANNUAL



IT TAKES TWO TO
MAKE A FIGHT! LET'S
TAKE THEM, BATMAN!

AS IF SHOT FROM A
DOUBLE-BARRELED
GUN, THE TWO FIGURES
BLAST INTO THEIR
QUARRY!

BAH! STAND STILL AND
I'LL MAKE TWO OF YOU!

WITH CATLIKE AGILITY,
BATMAN SWERVES
AS A GLEAMING
BLADE Hisses PERIL-
OUSLY CLOSE...

SNATCHING UP A RUSTY, DISCARDED SECTION
OF RAIL, **BATMAN** PARRIES THE NEXT HACK-
ING THRUST!

HOW APPROPRIATE WE
TWO, WITH OUR DUAL
LIVES, SHOULD FIGHT
A DUEL! HA! HA!

THIS OBSESSION
WITH THE SYMBOL
TWO HAS REALLY
TAKEN CONTROL OF
SLOANE'S MIND!

GOT TO END
THIS! I'LL MAKE
TWO-FACE
DOUBLE UP--
AND THEN GIVE
HIM A QUICK
ONE-TWO
PUNCH!

OOMPH!

MOMENTS
LATER,
BATMAN
BENDS OVER
THE REVIVING
ACTOR...

PLEASE LISTEN TO ME! YOU'RE PAUL
SLOANE--AN ACTOR! YOU'RE NOT
TWO-FACE! WE WANT TO HELP
YOU! WE WANT YOU TO UNDERGO
PLASTIC SURGERY! YOUR FACE
CAN BE AS HANDSOME AS
BEFORE! DO YOU UNDER-
STAND?

PLASTIC
SURGERY?
YES--YES--I'LL
BE HANDSOME--
PEOPLE WON'T
SHUN ME...



RELIEVED BY TWO-FACE'S AGREEMENT, BATMAN AND ROBIN ARE CAUGHT OFF-GUARD BY A TREACHEROUS SURPRISE ATTACK!

YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE TRUSTED MY WORD! IT'S ONLY NATURAL TWO-FACE WOULD DOUBLE-CROSS YOU!



WHEN THE MANHUNTERS AWAKEN, IT IS THEY WHO ARE CAPTIVE...

A LOT O' GUYS IN PRISONS ARE GONNA BE GLAD WHEN THEY HEAR I KNOCKED OFF BATMAN AND ROBIN!

NO, BLINKY! MY COIN WILL DECIDE! IF THE GOOD SIDE COMES UP, THEY LIVE--BUT IF THE BAD SIDE COMES UP, THEY DIE!



THE COIN SPINS HIGH, DROPS INTO THE PALM--AND IN THAT PALM RESTS THE FATE OF BATMAN AND ROBIN!

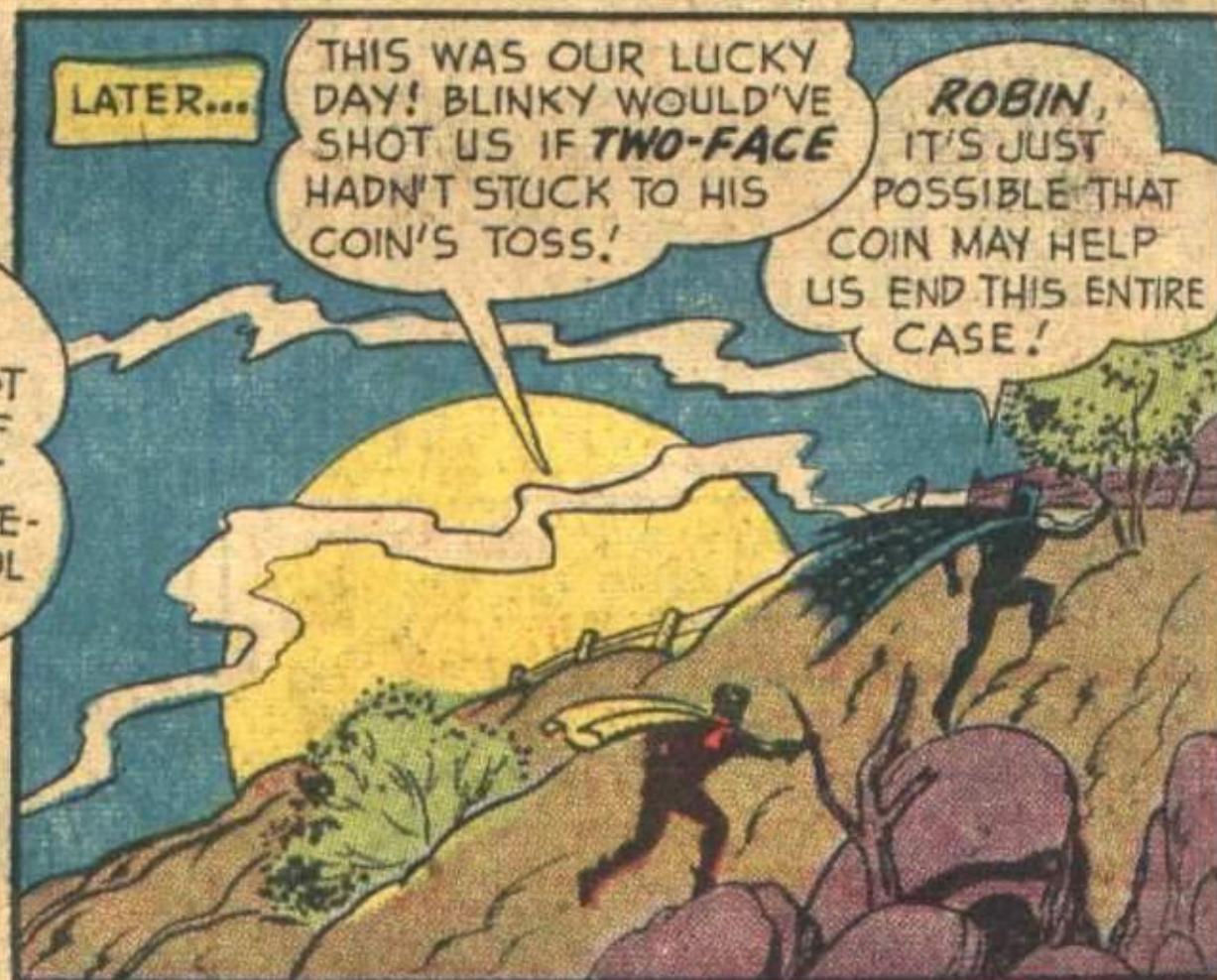
AGH! THE GOOD SIDE WON! BUT YOU DOUBLE-CROSSED 'EM ONCE--WHY DON'T YA DOUBLE-CROSS 'EM AGAIN AND LET ME BUMP 'EM OFF ANYWAY?

TRUE, I'VE GONE BACK ON MY WORD--BUT NEVER AGAINST THE DECISION OF MY COIN! THAT COIN IS MY TRADE-MARK--THE SYMBOL OF TWO-FACE!



LATER... THIS WAS OUR LUCKY DAY! BLINKY WOULD'VE SHOT US IF TWO-FACE HADN'T STUCK TO HIS COIN'S TOSS!

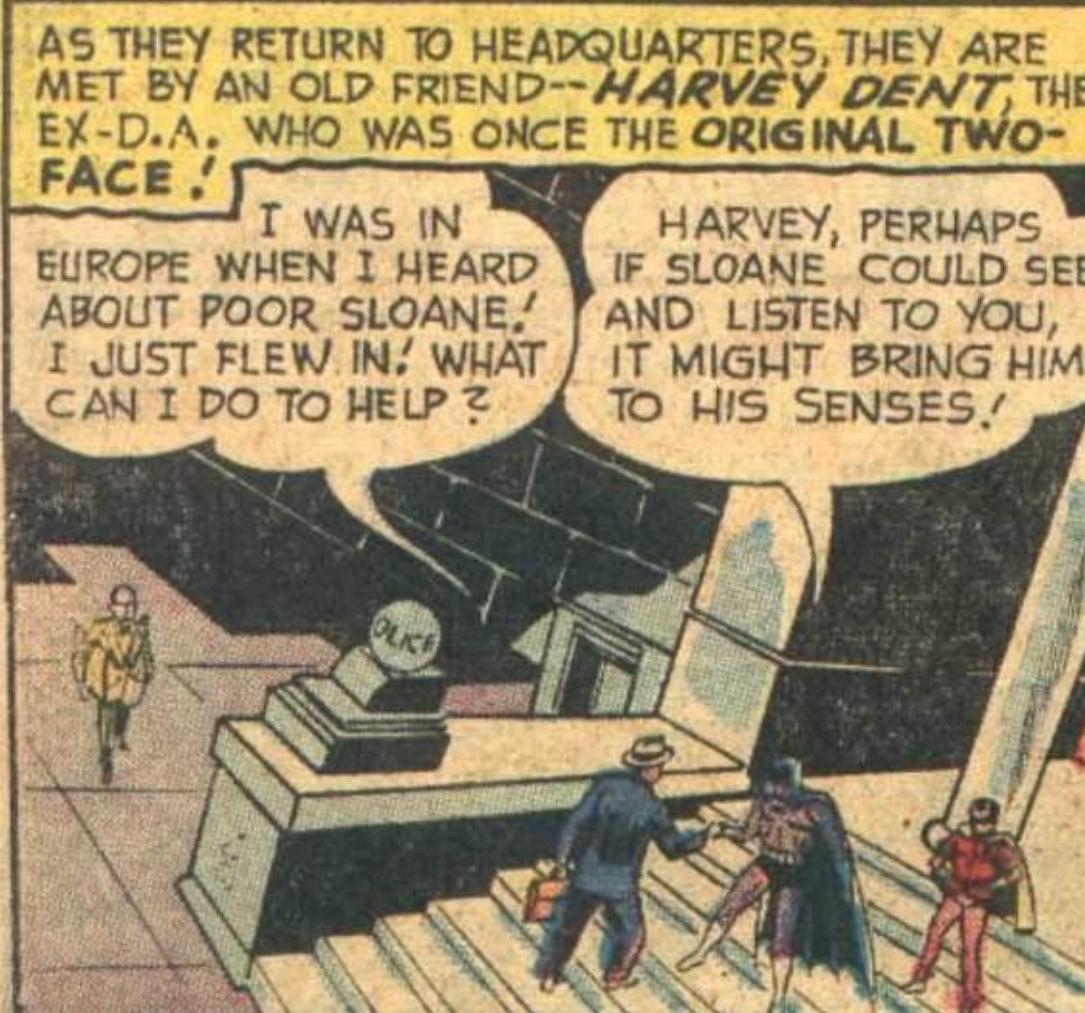
ROBIN, IT'S JUST POSSIBLE THAT COIN MAY HELP US END THIS ENTIRE CASE!



AS THEY RETURN TO HEADQUARTERS, THEY ARE MET BY AN OLD FRIEND--HARVEY DENT, THE EX-D.A. WHO WAS ONCE THE ORIGINAL TWO-FACE!

I WAS IN EUROPE WHEN I HEARD ABOUT POOR SLOANE! I JUST FLEW IN! WHAT CAN I DO TO HELP?

HARVEY, PERHAPS IF SLOANE COULD SEE AND LISTEN TO YOU, IT MIGHT BRING HIM TO HIS SENSES!



THAT VERY NIGHT, ALL TELEVISION NETWORKS ARE GIVEN OVER TO AN EMERGENCY BROADCAST...

SLOANE, WHEREVER YOU ARE, LISTEN HIS FACE... TO ME! LOOK AT MY FACE! SEE HOW PLASTIC SURGERY RESTORED MY FEATURES! IT CAN BE THE SAME FOR YOU! YOU'LL BE PAUL SLOANE, THE HANDSOME ACTOR YOU ONCE WERE!

THE WAY MINE USED TO BE... HANDSOME... UNSCARRED...



WILL THE PLEAS OF THE MAN WHO WAS ONCE TWO-FACE HELP REFORM THE SECOND TWO-FACE?



BATMAN ANNUAL



BUT THE BROADCAST HAS THE **REVERSE** EFFECT -- FOR IT ONLY INFURIATES THE UNFORTUNATE MAN'S TWISTED THOUGHTS!

BAH! THEY DISGUISED AN ACTOR TO LOOK LIKE ME! THEY'RE TRYING TO **TRICK** ME! THERE IS ONLY **ONE TWO-FACE** -- AND I AM HE!

THIS GUY'S NUTS, BUT AS LONG AS HE THINKS UP GOOD JOBS, I'M STICKIN' WITH HIM!

SMASH!

AND SO, **TWO-FACE** AGAIN TURNS TO HIS TRADE-MARK CRIMES, BASING ALL ON THE TOSS OF HIS TWO-FACED COIN!

A NICE HAUL OF PAID ADMISSIONS FOR A **DOUBLE-HEADER** GAME!

PARKING

TICKETS

DOUBLE HEADER
BASEBALL GAME
TODAY

AND WHEN THE SCARRED SIDE WINS AGAIN, A **DOUBLE-FEATURE** MOVIE HOUSE IS ROBBED!



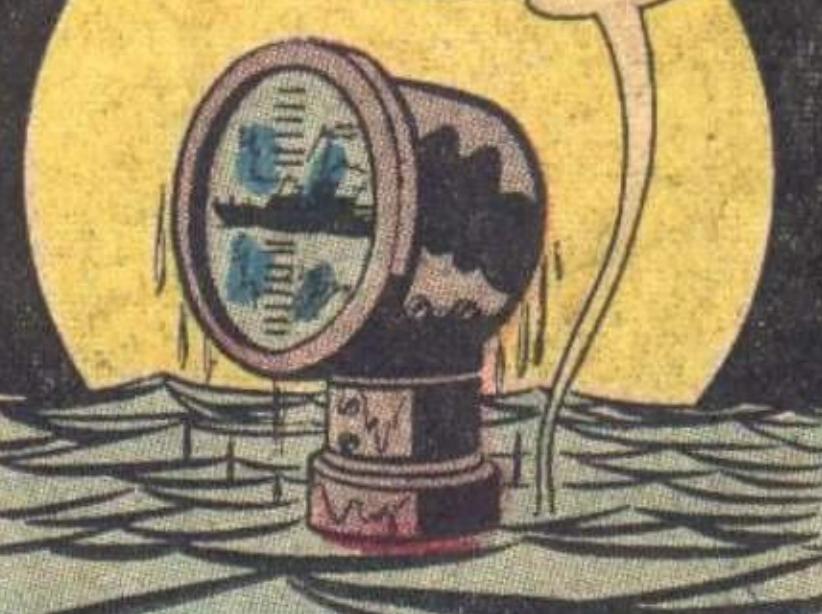
AND THEN TO HEADQUARTERS COMES NEWS OF ANOTHER STRANGE ROBBERY...

LISTEN TO THIS -- A MIDGET SUBMARINE WAS STOLEN FROM A MILITARY EXHIBIT!

A TWO-MAN SUB! IT'S A **TWO-FACE** JOB! HE PROBABLY NEEDS THAT SUB FOR A WATER ROBBERY! THAT MEANS **ROBIN** AND I WILL DO SOME WATER PATROLLING IN THE **BAT-PLANE**!

AFTERWARD, FROM UNDER THE GOTHAM RIVER, A SUBMARINE PERISCOPE SCANS A SLOW-MOVING CRAFT.

I CAN SEE OUR QUARRY ON THE FERRY! PREPARE TO **SURFACE**!



MOMENTS LATER, AFTER BOARDING THE FERRY...

YOU'RE PROFESSOR HODGE OF THE GOTHAM ZOO! YOU'RE CARRYING THE EGG OF AN AMAZON JUNGLE BIRD SO RARE IT'S NEVER BEEN BRED IN CAPTIVITY! I WANT THAT EGG!

B-BUT I'VE ONE **ONE** EGG! IT'S NOT LIKE YOU TO STEAL SOMETHING UNLESS **TWO** OF SOMETHING IS INVOLVED!

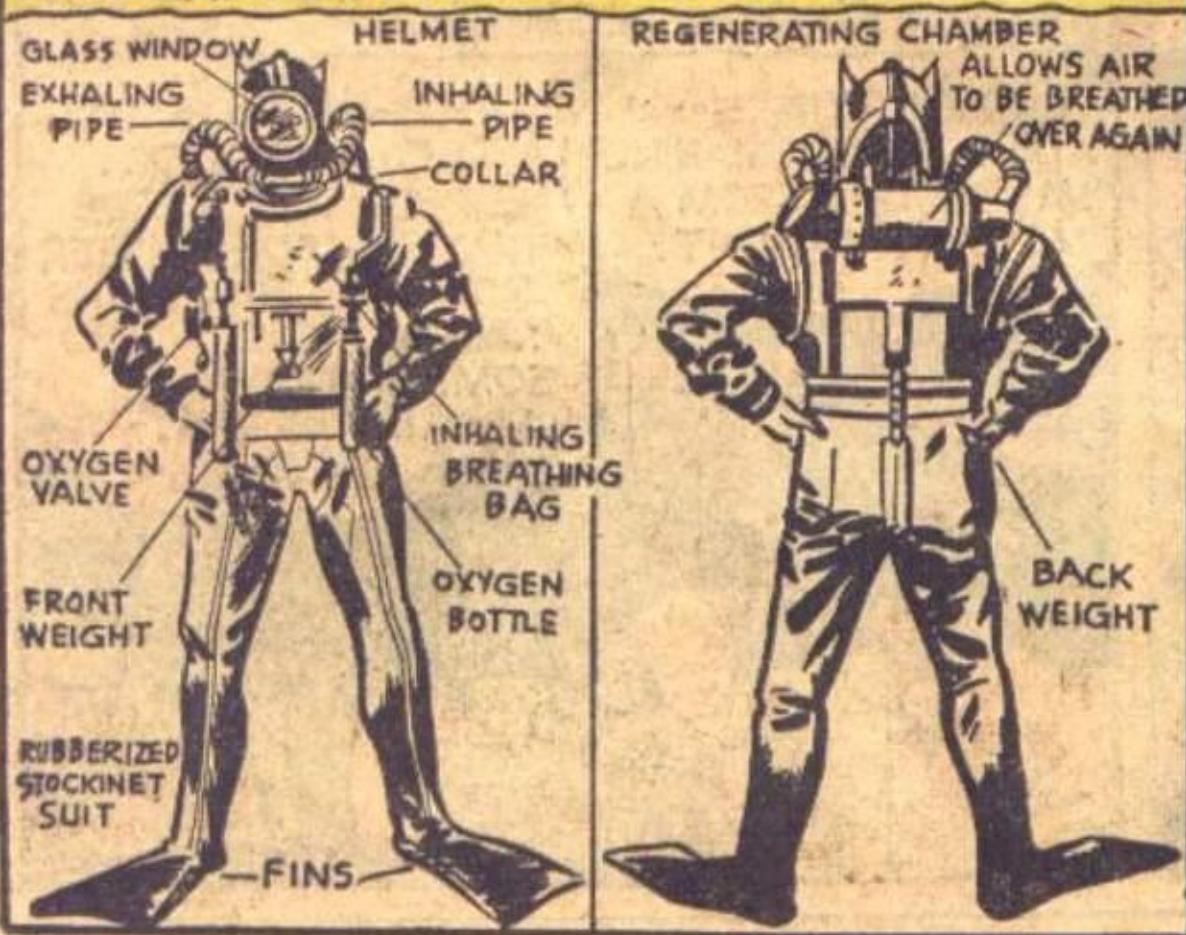


HOW CAN **TWO-FACE** STEAL A SINGLE EGG, AND YET FULFILL HIS THEME OF SYMBOLIC CRIMES ALWAYS BASED ON **TWO**? CAN YOU GUESS?

I'VE INSIDE INFORMATION FROM SOMEONE WHO CANDLED THAT EGG! THAT SINGLE EGG HAS A DOUBLE-YOLK--WHICH MEANS IT WILL HATCH TWO RARE AND EXTREMELY VALUABLE BIRDS INSTEAD OF ONLY ONE!



BATMAN'S "FROG MAN" DIVING SUIT--FIRST USED BY NAVY MEN TO SWIM UNOBSERVED TO DISCONNECT GERMAN UNDERWATER MINES AND PREPARE THE WAY FOR INVASION ON D-DAY!



LIKE SOME BIZARRE UNDERWATER CREATURE, BATMAN MOVES UNDER THE SURFACE WITH THE WEB-FOOTED SURENESS OF A GIANT FROG!



NOW I'LL HITCH A RIDE AND LET THE SUB TAKE ME RIGHT TO TWO-FACE'S HIDEOUT!

THEN, AS THE TWO BANDITS REENTER THEIR TWO-MAN SUB...

I'VE JUST SPOTTED THE SUB! GET STARTED, BATMAN! THEY'RE SUBMERGING!

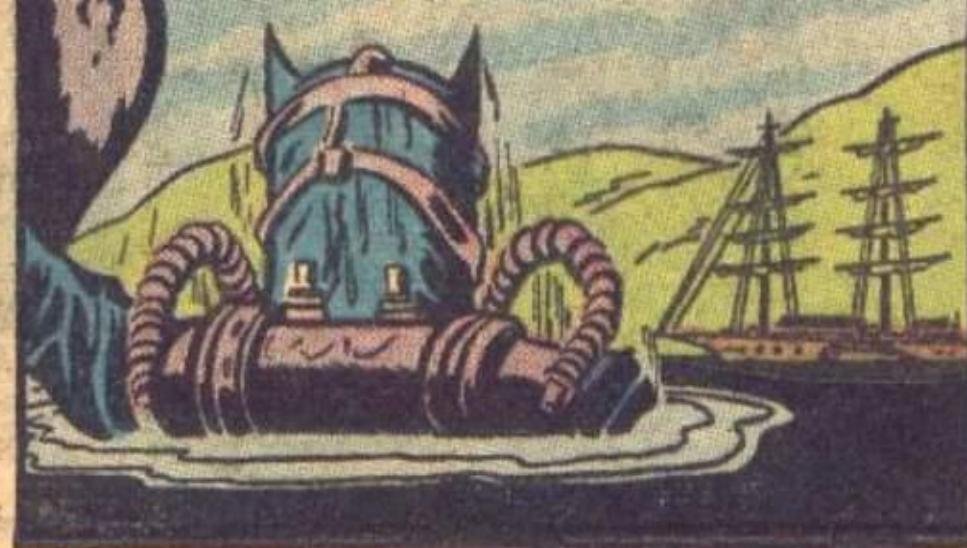
TAKE THE CONTROLS, ROBIN! IT'S A GOOD THING WE MADE PLANS FOR JUST SUCH AN EMERGENCY! BATMAN IS GOING TO BECOME A "FROG MAN!"

AN INSTANT LATER, BATMAN DIVES FROM THE BATPLANE...



AND SO, BECAUSE BATMAN HAS DOUBLED AS A "FROG MAN," HE FINALLY TRACKS DOWN THE LAIR OF TWO-FACE!

EVERYTHING ACCORDING TO PATTERN-- TWO-FACE'S HIDEOUT IS AN OLD TWO-MASTED SCHOONER!





BATMAN ANNUAL



LATER, AS BLINKY WALKS THE DECK ALONE, A FIST SEEMS TO COME OUT OF NOWHERE...

THAT TAKES CARE OF BLINKY! NOW I'LL TIE HIM UP AND HIDE HIM SOMEWHERE! MY PLAN WON'T WORK UNLESS I'M ALONE WITH TWO-FACE!

SMACK

SOON AFTER...

BATMAN!
WHERE DID
YOU COME
FROM?

WHAT'S MORE
IMPORTANT IS, WHERE
YOU'RE GOING!

GRAPPLING LIKE SAVAGE CAVEMEN, THE TWO THRASH ABOUT THE CABIN FLOOR...

BUT TWO-FACE SEEMS TO GAIN THE ADVANTAGE, AND THEN...

HAH! YOUR STRENGTH IS GREATLY OVER-RATED, BATMAN!

SPLAT

AND SO, ONCE AGAIN BATMAN'S FATE RESTS ON THE TOSS OF A COIN!

WELL, BATMAN, WHAT SHALL IT BE THIS TIME? WILL YOU LIVE OR WILL YOU DIE? WILL THE GOOD SIDE OF THE COIN WIN OR WILL IT BE THE BAD SIDE?

WAIT!
WHAT IF THE COIN STANDS ON EDGE?

WILL YOU AGREE TO GIVE YOURSELF UP AND SUBMIT TO PLASTIC SURGERY, IF THE COIN STANDS ON EDGE?

OF COURSE I AGREE TO WHAT-EVER THE COIN DECIDES--BUT YOU'RE A FOOL! IT'S A MILLION-TO-ONE THAT THE COIN WILL NEVER STAND ON EDGE! HA! HA!

APPARENTLY, BATMAN HAS STAKED EVERYTHING ON A MILLION-TO-ONE CHANCE. WILL HE WIN--OR LOSE? WATCH THE SPINNING COIN!

THE COIN TWIRLS HIGH, THEN SPIRALS DOWN LIKE A GLEAMING COMET...

...IT HITS THE FLOOR, BOUNCING, ROLLING...

...AND FINALLY COMES TO REST-- STANDING ON EDGE!

REMEMBER YOUR PROMISE! YOU CAN'T GO BACK AGAINST THE DECISION OF THE COIN THAT IS YOUR SYMBOL!

YES--YES-- YOU WIN, BATMAN! IT'S INCREDIBLE-- THAT COIN STANDING ON EDGE, IT WOULDN'T HAPPEN AGAIN IN A MILLION TRIES-- BUT IT HAPPENED ONCE--FOR YOU!

LATER, AFTER DELIVERING BLINKY TO JAIL, AND TWO-FACE TO A PROMINENT SURGEON...

A MILLION-TO-ONE, AND YOU WON! THAT IS CRAZY LUCK!

CRAZY LIKE A FOX! I KNEW TWO-FACE WOULD DECIDE MY FATE ON THE TOSS OF A COIN, JUST AS HE DID ONCE BEFORE-- THAT'S WHY I LET HIM "CAPTURE" ME!

WHILE WE WERE GRAPPLING, I LIFTED HIS COIN FROM HIS POCKET, AND SUBSTITUTED THIS COIN I'D ALREADY PREPARED! WATCH MY COIN...

I HOLLOWED OUT THAT COIN SO THAT THE WEIGHT IS ALWAYS IN ONE PLACE ON THE EDGE! IT JUST CAN'T FALL FACE UP!

YOU WON AGAINST TWO-FACE WITH TWO COINS! BATMAN, YOU WERE TOO SMART FOR HIM-- TWO SMART FOR HIM!



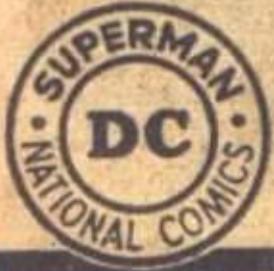
The END

Follow the ADVENTURES of BATMAN and ROBIN

In Every issue of

Detective COMICS

ON SALE EVERYWHERE!



BATMAN and ROBIN BECOME VICTIMS OF... THE WIZARD OF DOOM!



BAT MAN

With
ROBIN
THE BOY WONDER

LOOKED IN A MIRROR LATELY? MOST PEOPLE SEE ONLY A REFLECTION OF THEMSELVES-- BUT ON ITS SILVERY SURFACE FLOYD VENTRIS SAW THE REFLECTION OF THE MANY FACES OF CRIME! HERE IS THE CASE HISTORY OF ONE OF THE MOST BIZARRE CRIMINALS EVER TO CHALLENGE BATMAN AND ROBIN THE BOY WONDER. HE PULLED ONE SENSATIONAL COUP AFTER ANOTHER-- AND HE DID IT ALL WITH MIRRORS! FOLLOW HIS DUEL WITH THE LAW IN--

THE **MYSTERIOUS MIRROR- MAN!**



BATMAN ANNUAL

IN GOTHAM CITY, THE ANNUAL FUND DRIVE TO COMBAT JUVENILE DELINQUENCY IS HELPED BY ITS BIGGEST BOOSTERS-- BATMAN AND ROBIN!

WELL, MR. WELDON? HOW ABOUT A CONTRIBUTION FROM GOTHAM CITY'S BIGGEST NEWSPAPER PUBLISHER TO HELP THIS CAUSE?

SURE, BATMAN! I'LL DONATE \$25,000 IF YOU'LL WRITE AN ARTICLE FOR MY PAPER ABOUT YOUR CAREER AS BATMAN!

\$25,000! HMM... THAT WOULD KEEP A LOT OF KIDS OFF THE STREET! IT'S A DEAL!

FINE! TRY TO GET THE ARTICLE DONE IN A DAY OR TWO! I'LL PRINT IT AS A SPECIAL FEATURE!



ELSEWHERE, AS A NEW INMATE ENTERS THE STATE PRISON...

THIS WAY, VENTRIS--THE DOC'S GOT TO GIVE YOU A ROUTINE EXAMINATION BEFORE WE ASSIGN YOU TO A CELL!

OKAY, OKAY!



HEY--!

OF ALL THE CLUMSY GUYS....!

A
FOE
RSLN
HICKS
BSMIQR
LEISG
PENH

SORRY,
GUARD!
I
SLIPPED!

THEY SAY ONE GETS SEVEN YEARS' BAD LUCK FOR BREAKING A MIRROR! JUST WHAT THE JUDGE HANDED YOU! COINCIDENCE, EH, VENTRIS?



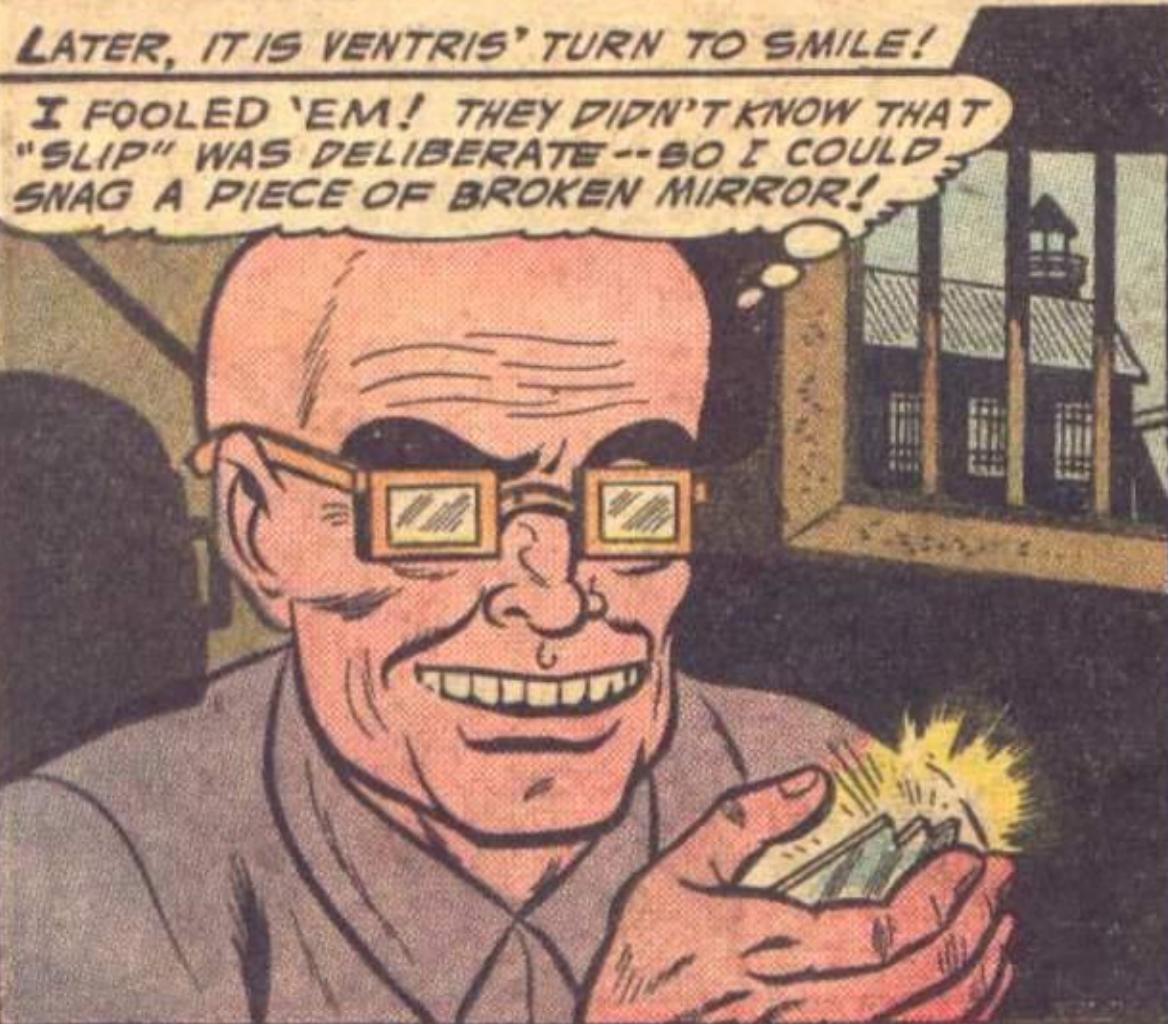
LATE THAT NIGHT, THE RISING SCREAM OF THE PRISON SIREN WARNS OF A CRASHOUT!

IT'S VENTRIS!
I'VE GOT HIM PIN-POINTED!

KEEP THAT LIGHT ON HIM! I'LL WING HIM!

LATER, IT IS VENTRIS' TURN TO SMILE!

I FOOLED 'EM! THEY DIDN'T KNOW THAT "SLIP" WAS DELIBERATE--SO I COULD SNAG A PIECE OF BROKEN MIRROR!



BATMAN ANNUAL



SOON, THE MIRROR-MAD CRIMINAL ESTABLISHES A BIZARRE HIDEOUT TO WHICH HE SUMMONS THE UNDERWORLD...



BATMAN ANNUAL

YOU SEE IT? THE DUMMY'S COWL-COVERED FACE! SO IF BATMAN INTERFERES, I'LL WORK THIS GIMMICK TO LEARN HIS TRUE IDENTITY! THEN I'LL PUT HIM OUT OF BUSINESS FOREVER!



AND ELSEWHERE, IN THE HOME OF BRUCE WAYNE, SOCIALITE, AND HIS YOUNG WARD, DICK GRAYSON, THE TRUE FACE OF BATMAN IS REFLECTED IN ANOTHER KIND OF MIRROR!

I'M ALL SHAVED, DICK! READY FOR A PATROL RUN OVER GOTHAM CITY?

SURE, BRUCE! THE BATPLANE'S ALL SET TO GO!



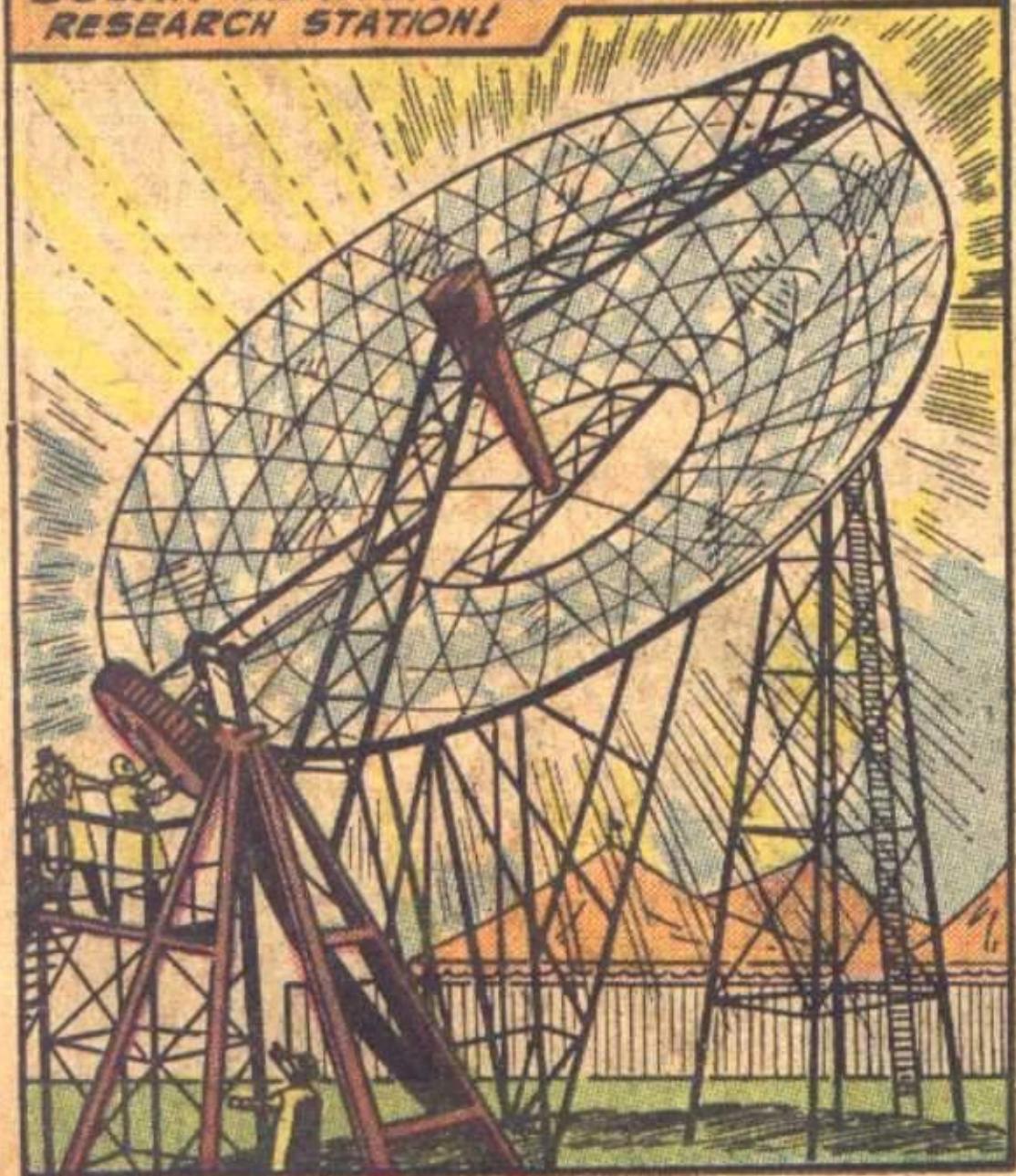
SIMULTANEOUSLY, AT AN OUTDOOR CARNIVAL SHOW, THE LARGE ICE SKATING RINK MYSTERIOUSLY BEGINS TO THAW...

WH-WHAT'S HAPPENING? THE ICE IS MELTING!

WHEW! GETTING HOT SUDDENLY! WHAT'S CAUSING IT?



THE ANSWER--THE MIRROR-MAN MOB HAS FORCIBLY TAKEN OVER A COLOSSAL SOLAR MIRROR FROM A NEARBY ARMY RESEARCH STATION!



LOOK BELOW, ROBIN--SOMEBODY REFLECTING CONCENTRATED SOLAR HEAT AT THE SKATING RINK!

YES, BATMAN! THEY'RE COUNTING ON ROBBING THE BOX-OFFICE DURING THE CONFUSION!



A FLIPPED SWITCH--AND THE INGENIOUSLY EQUIPPED BATPLANE EMITS AN EVER-GROWING TRAIL OF SMOKE!

THAT STOPS

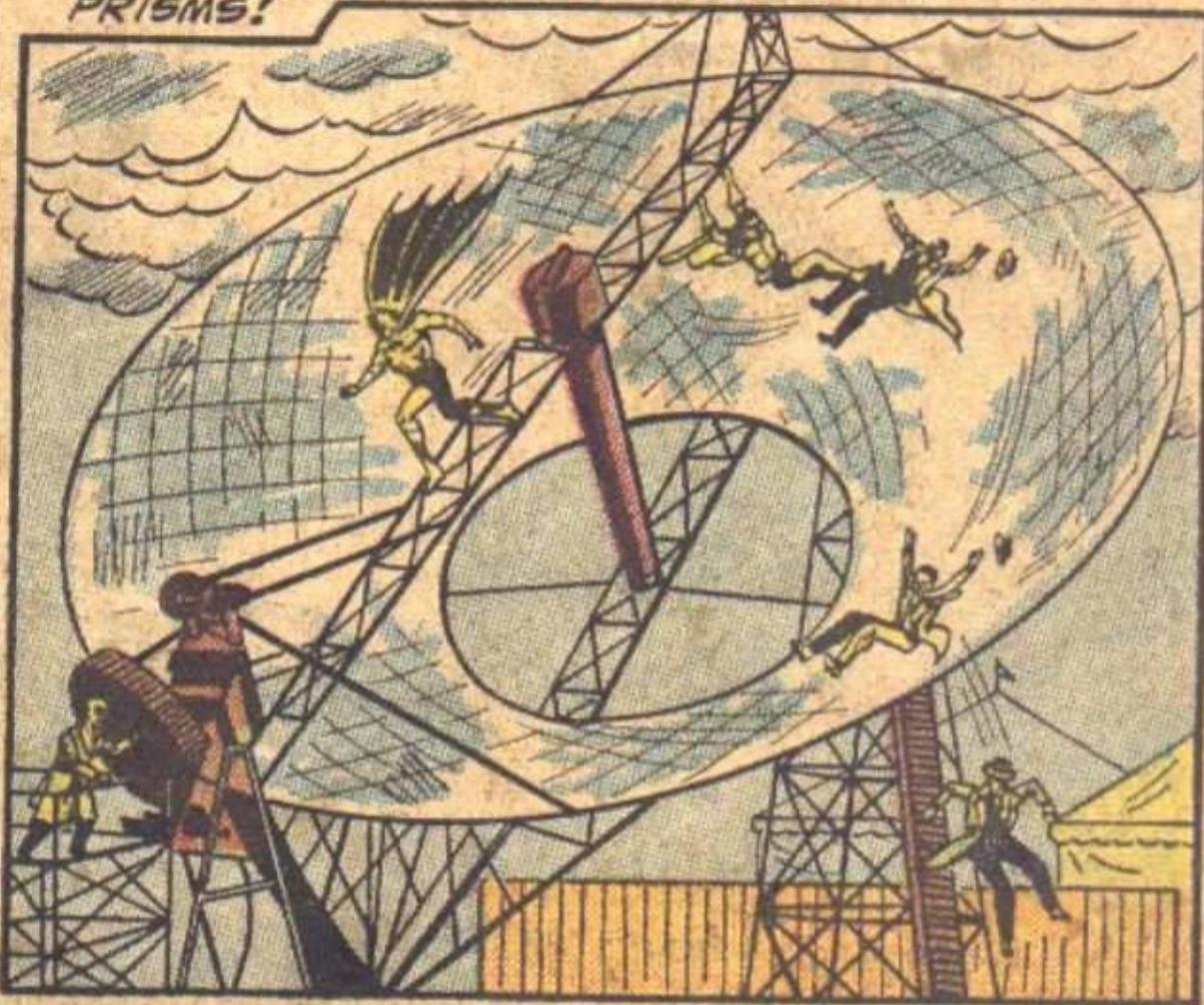
THEM! THEY CAN'T USE A SOLAR MIRROR ON A "CLOUDY" DAY, CAN THEY, ROBIN?



I'VE SET THE **BATPLANE'S** STABILIZERS!
LET'S PUT THE FEAR OF THE LAW INTO
THOSE CROOKS!



LIKE HUMAN SPIDERS, THE RETREATING MOBSTERS
SCALE THE WEBLIKE STRUCTURE OF SOLAR
PRISMS!



THE ONE CALLED **MIRROR-MAN** IS
ESCAPING! HOLD THE FORT, **ROBIN**--
I'M GOING AFTER THEIR BOSS!

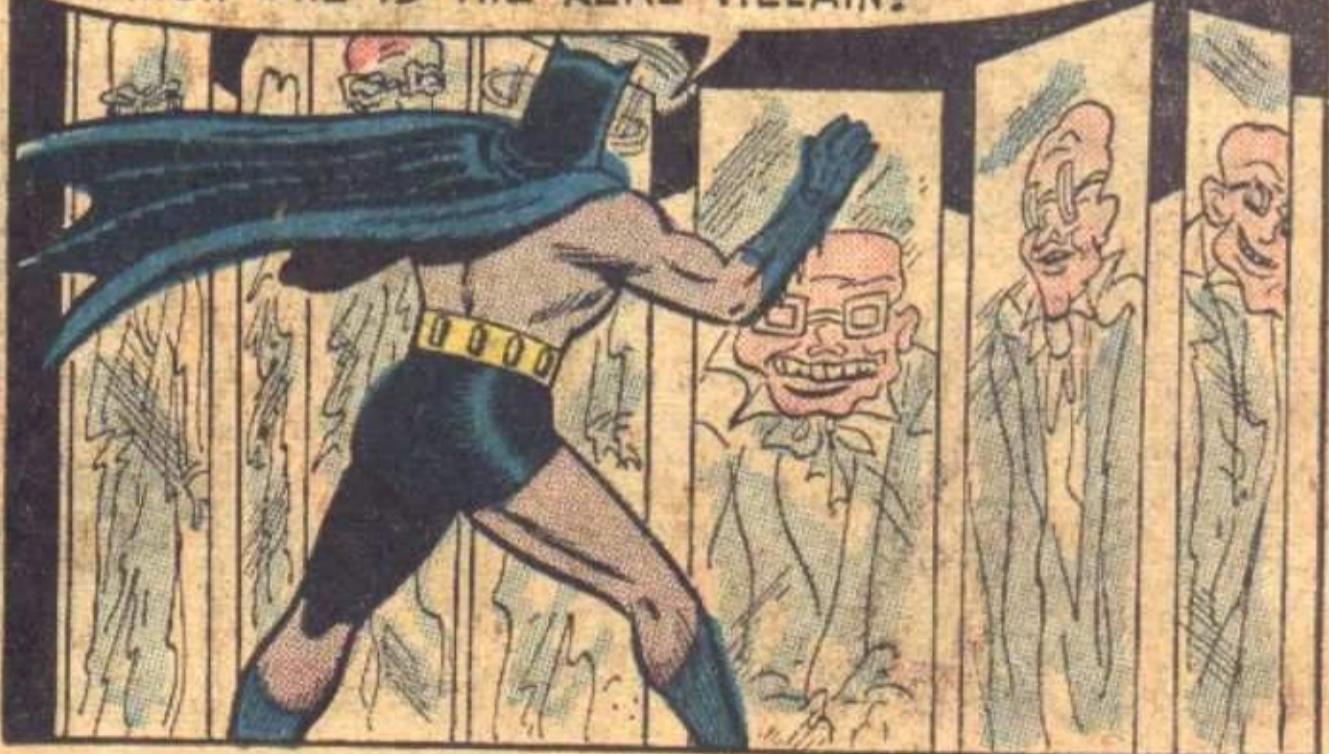


YOU LED ME A
FANCY CHASE,
BUT I'VE GOT
YOU BOXED
IN NOW!

SURE, BATMAN--
YOU'VE GOT ME 3
RIGHT WHERE
I WANT YOU!

BUT, INSIDE THE HOUSE OF MIRRORS, BATMAN
FACES A NIGHTMARE KALEIDOSCOPE OF MOCKING
MIRRORMEN!

ONE MAN-- DISTORTED BY THE
REFRACTION OF THE "CRAZY" MIRRORS INTO AN
ARMY OF FREAKISH **MIRRORMEN**! BUT,
WHICH ONE IS THE REAL VILLAIN?



BATMAN ANNUAL



I'VE GOT THAT OVER-RATED CRIME-BUSTER DIZZY! NOW, WHILE HE'S OFFGUARD, I'LL USE MY X-RAY MIRROR AND SEE WHO HE REALLY IS!



BUT JUST AS MIRROR-MAN IS ABOUT TO SEE THROUGH BATMAN'S MASK WITH THE AID OF HIS X-RAY DEVICE, SUDDENLY...

BATMAN!
SO HERE
YOU ARE! I
WAS GETTING
WORRIED!



BLAST
THAT
ROBIN!
HE MADE
BATMAN
TURN HIS
HEAD! I
WHAT...?
WON'T GET
ANOTHER CHANCE
NOW! I'D BETTER
ESCAPE--BUT
PRONTO!



MIRROR-MAN'S DISAPPEARED IN THE CROWD! NO USE CHASING HIM NOW!

ALL BECAUSE
I CAME
BUSTING
IN! I'M
SORRY,
BATMAN!

DON'T BE SORRY, ROBIN! YOU DON'T KNOW IT, BUT YOU JUST SAVED BATMAN'S SECRET IDENTITY FROM EXPOSURE TO CRIMINAL EYES!

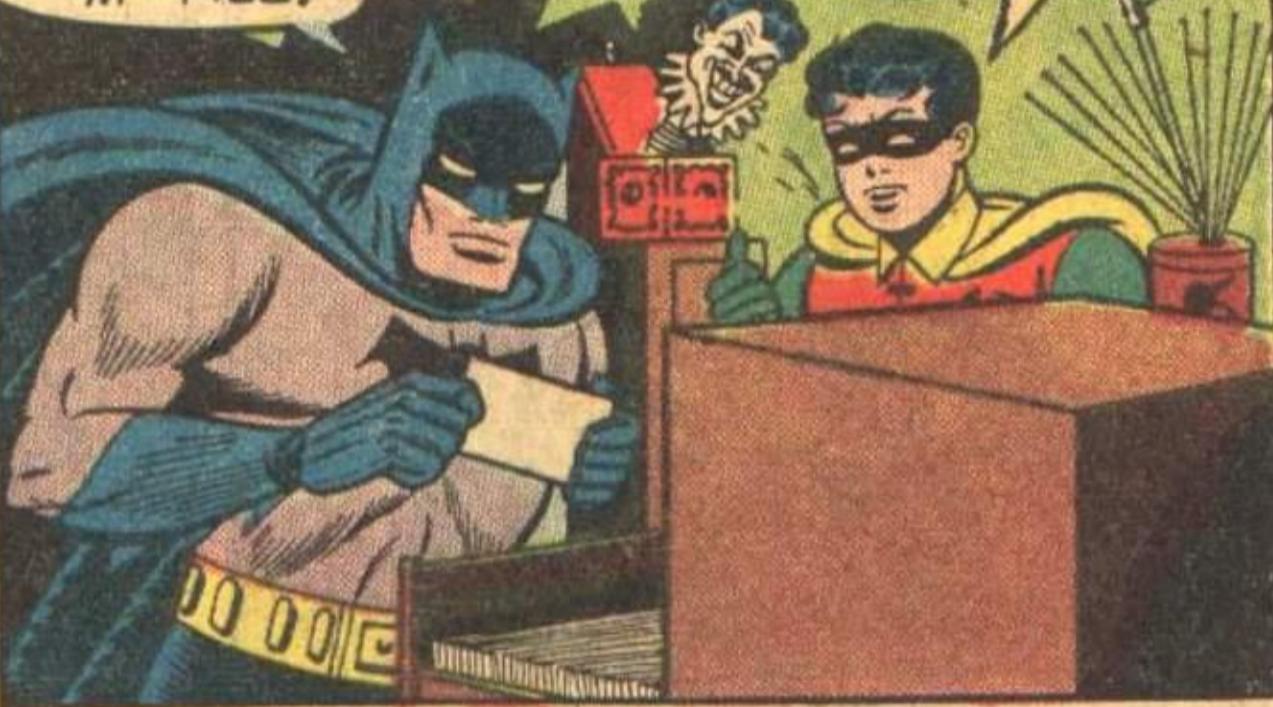
AND IN THE BIZARRE BANDIT HIDEOUT...

TOO BAD, BOSS!
TOUGH LUCK
THAT TIME!
BUT THERE'S ALWAYS A
NEXT TIME--AND THEN
I'LL SEE WHO'S HIDING
BEHIND BATMAN'S
MASK!



ELSEWHERE, IN THAT SUBTERRANEAN SANCTUM, THE BATCAVE, BATMAN PLANS A COUNTER-OFFENSIVE!

THAT MIRROR-MAN IS TRICKY! I'D SURE LIKE TO
LET'S SEE--FIRST
WE'LL LOOK IN THE
"M" FILE!



YOU KNOW, SOMETIMES THE BEST STRATEGY IS TO MIRROR A CROOK'S THOUGHTS!

IN OTHER WORDS,
IF YOU WANT TO
CATCH A CROOK,
YOU'VE GOT TO
THINK LIKE A
CROOK!



HERE'S SOMETHING! THE GREAT TELESCOPIC MIRROR IS BEING DELIVERED TO MT. MALADOR OBSERVATORY--TONIGHT! IF I WERE A CROOK I'D GRAB IT FOR RANSOM MONEY!

IT'S A PERFECT "MIRROR" CRIME!
THAT MIRROR COST A FORTUNE TO MAKE!



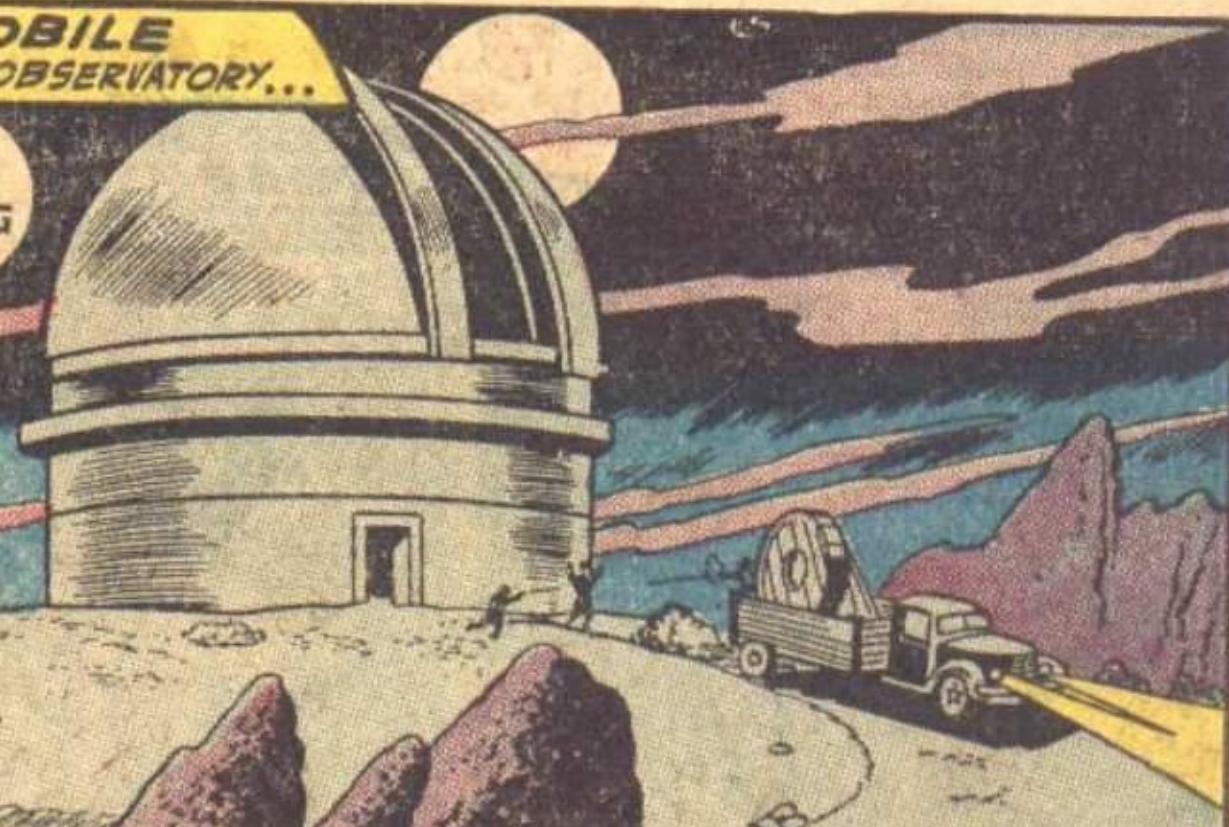
BATMAN ANNUAL



THAT NIGHT-- AS THE POWERFUL BATMOBILE ROARS TOWARD THE ISOLATED MOUNTAIN OBSERVATORY...

BATMAN-- YOUR HUNCH WAS RIGHT! THE MIRROR-MAN MOB HAS "KIDNAPPED" THE OBSERVATORY'S MIRROR!

SIT TIGHT, ROBIN-- WE'RE MOVING IN!

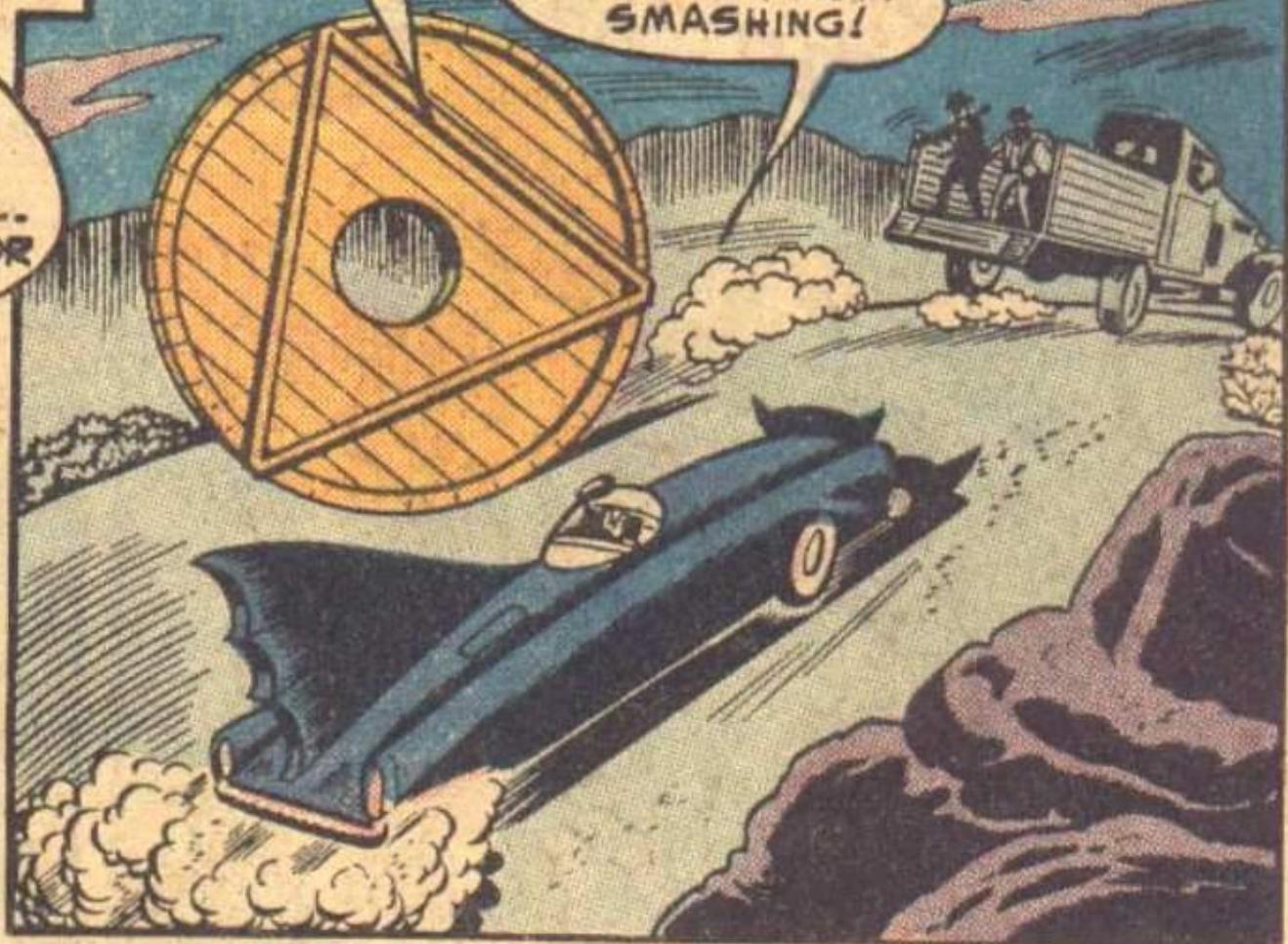
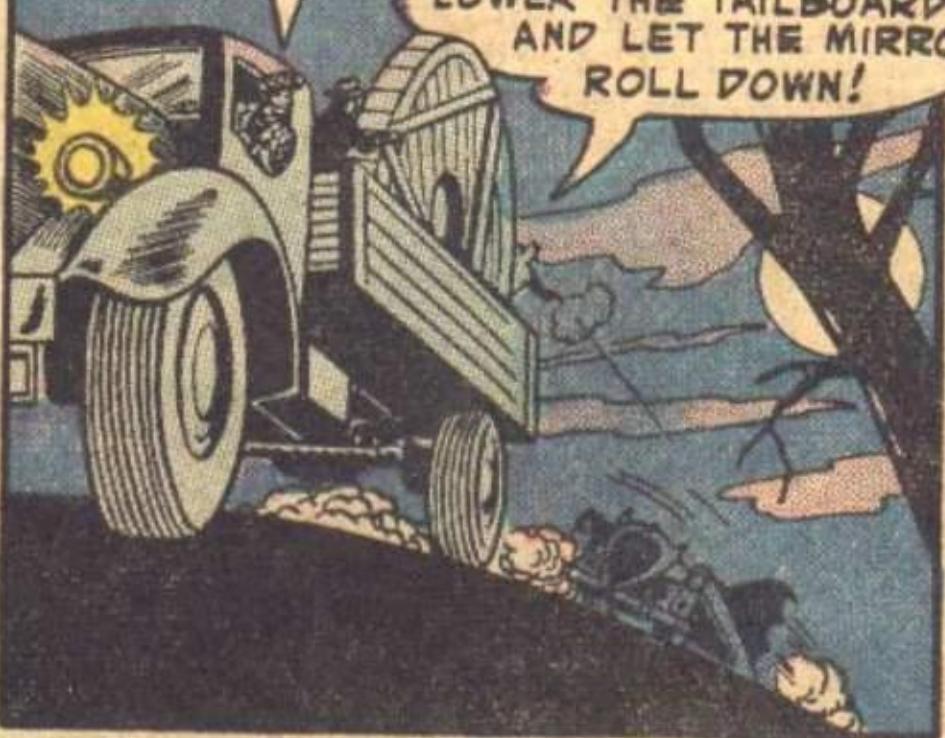


BOSS, WE CAN'T OUTRUN THE BATMOBILE IN THIS HEAP!

WE'LL HAVE TO SACRIFICE THE MIRROR IN ORDER TO STALL BATMAN! LOWER THE TAILBOARD-- AND LET THE MIRROR ROLL DOWN!

THE MIRROR'S LOOSE! IT'S ROLLED RIGHT PAST US!

THAT CUNNING FOX! MIRROR-MAN KNOWS THE OBSERVATORY NEEDS THAT MIRROR BADLY-- AND THAT WE'LL TRY TO STOP IT FROM SMASHING!



NOW THE BATMOBILE RACES PARALLEL TO THE ROLLING DISC AS ROBIN GOES TOPSIDE!

GOOD THING THAT MIRROR WAS CRATED FOR AN EMERGENCY! IT'S CUSHIONED BETWEEN LAYERS OF SHOCK-PROOF MATERIAL!

UH-HUH! AND THE STRONG CRATE BOARDS KEEP IT ROLLING SMOOTHLY!

ONE ROBIN-- TAKING OFF-- AND I WISH I HAD WINGS!



WITH SUPERB ACROBATIC SKILL, ROBIN'S CHURNING LEGS KEEP HIM RACING ATOP THE SWIFT-ROLLING DISC!

ROAD'S LEVELING OFF-- SPEED WILL SLACKEN-- GIVE ME THE CHANCE TO GUIDE THIS MIRROR-- JUST LIKE A GIANT HOOP--





BATMAN ANNUAL



OKAY-- MANAGED TO STEER IT WITH MY FEET-- RIGHT INTO THE MARSH WATER! WIPE OFF, IT'LL BE AS GOOD AS NEW!



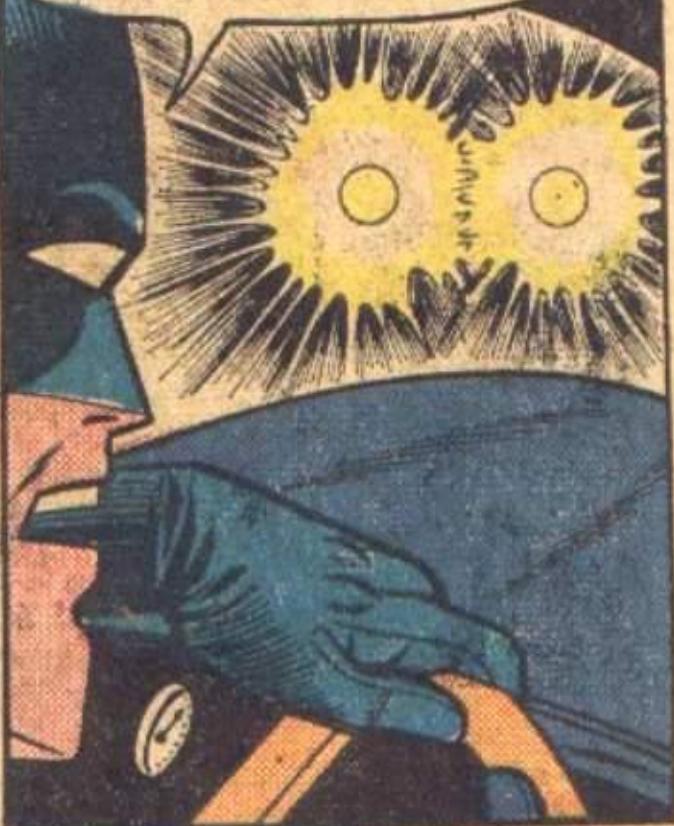
MEANWHILE, AFTER LEAVING THE BOY WONDER TO HIS JOB, BATMAN REV'S THE SUPER-CHARGED BAT-MOBILE AFTER THE LUMBERING BANDIT TRUCK...

I'LL CUT ACROSS THEM AT THE NEXT TURN!



SUDDENLY--

GREAT SCOTT! HEAD-LIGHTS OF A CAR-- COMING STRAIGHT AT ME! GOT TO AVOID A HEAD-ON CRASH!

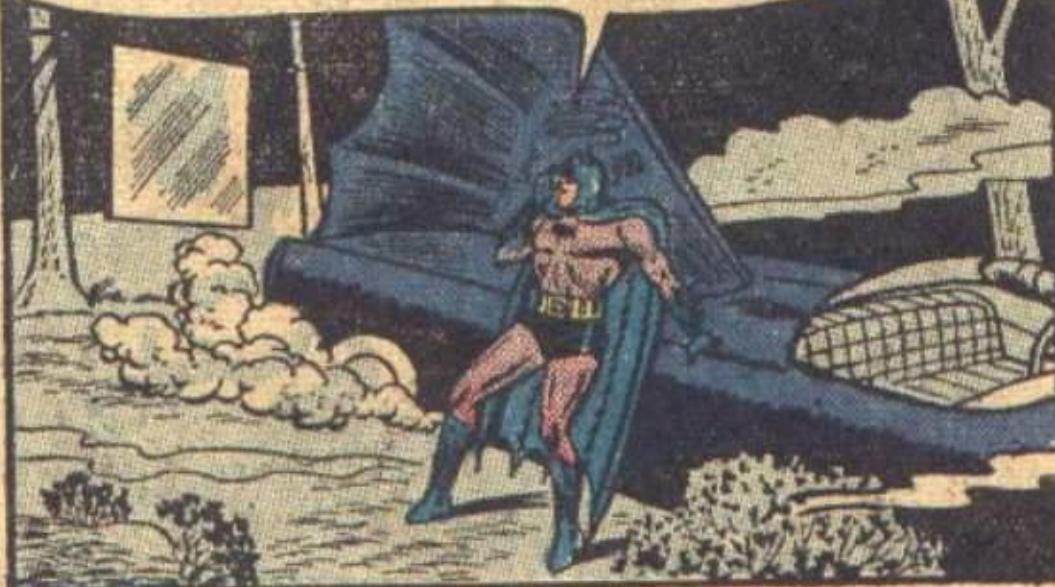


CRASH

SCREE-EECH!

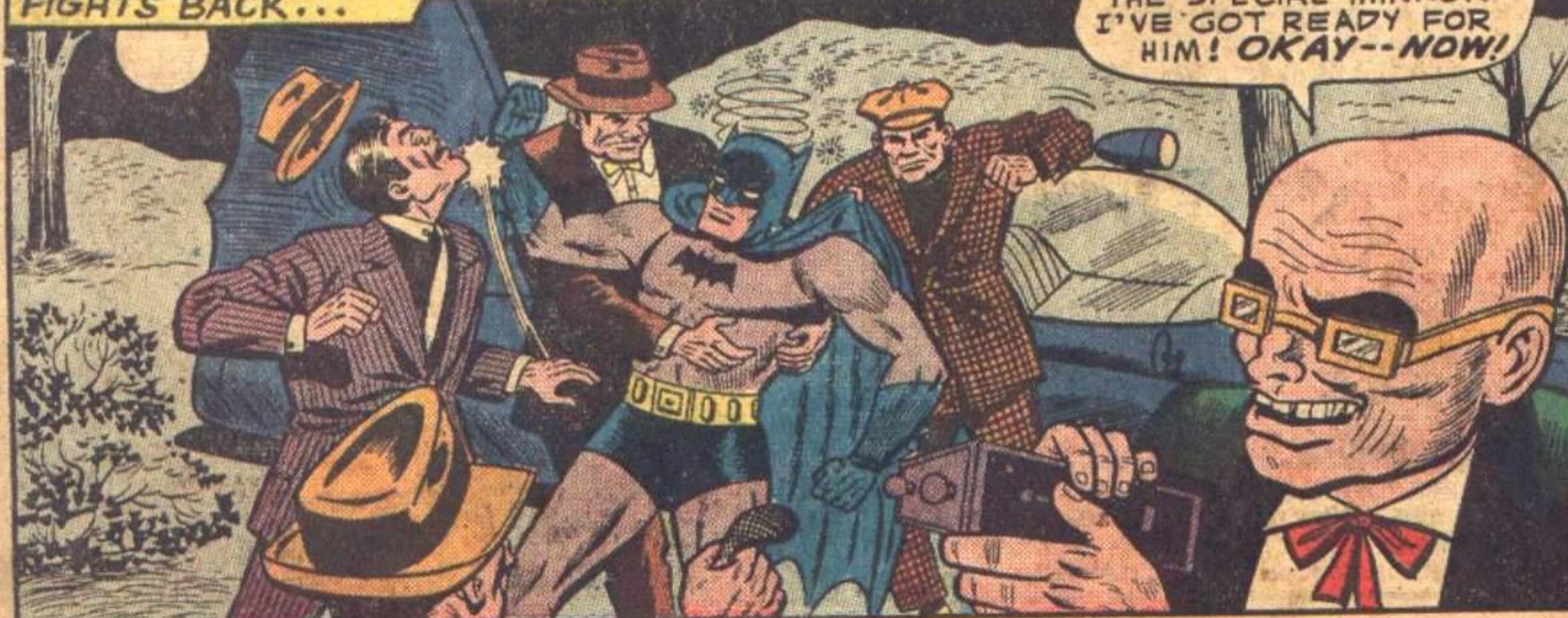
EXPECTING TO SEE ANOTHER CAR, THE SHAKEN BATMAN ONLY SEES TRICKERY!

THERE WAS NO CAR! THE BATMOBILE'S HEADLIGHTS WERE REFLECTED--IN A LOWERED MIRROR--WORKED BY A MIRROR-MAN MOBSTER, PLANTED THERE IN CASE OF TROUBLE!



SUDDENLY, MIRROR-MAN'S HENCHMEN LEAP OUT AT THE DAZED AND SHAKEN BATMAN, WHO DESPERATELY FIGHTS BACK...

KEEP HIM BUSY, YOU AMATEURS! YOU KNOW THE SPECIAL MIRROR I'VE GOT READY FOR HIM! OKAY-- NOW!



BATMAN ANNUAL



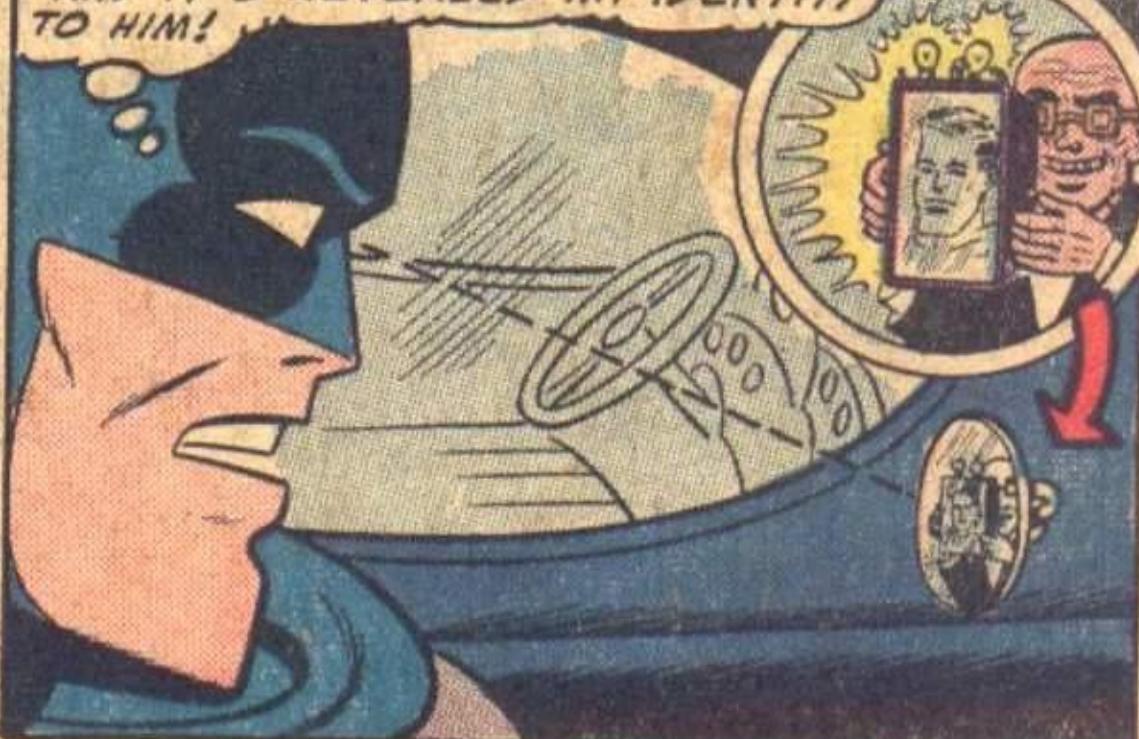
AND SO, TO MIRROR-MAN ALONE COMES THE TRUTH OF ONE OF THE WORLD'S MOST CAREFULLY KEPT SECRETS!

I KNOW THAT FACE! BATMAN IS REALLY THE VERY SOCIAL MR. BRUCE WAYNE!



BUT, IRONICALLY, SIMULTANEOUSLY, A MIRROR--THE BATMOBILE'S SIDE-VIEW MIRROR--REFLECTS THE X-RAY EXPOSURE TO BATMAN'S EYES, TOO!

GREAT SCOTT! MIRROR-MAN'S INVENTED SOME KIND OF X-RAY MIRROR--AND IT'S REVEALED MY IDENTITY TO HIM!



JUST THEN -- THE HUM OF AN APPROACHING VEHICLE!

A PROWL CAR--LOADED WITH COPS--COMING FAST!

BOYS, OUR BEST CHANCE OF ESCAPE IS TO SPLIT UP AND TAKE TO THE WOODS! MEET ME AT THE HIDEOUT TOMORROW MORNING-- AND I'LL HAVE IMPORTANT NEWS FOR YOU!



BATMAN, I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT NEED HELP, SO I FLAGGED A PROWL CAR! YOU OKAY NOW?

YES--NOW--BUT I WON'T BE TOMORROW MORNING UNLESS WE WORK FAST!



LATER, IN THE BAT-CAVE, BATMAN EXPLAINS...

THE IMPORTANT THING IS THAT MIRROR-MAN DOESN'T KNOW I SAW THE X-RAY REFLECTION! I CAN USE THAT KNOWLEDGE IN MY BEHALF!

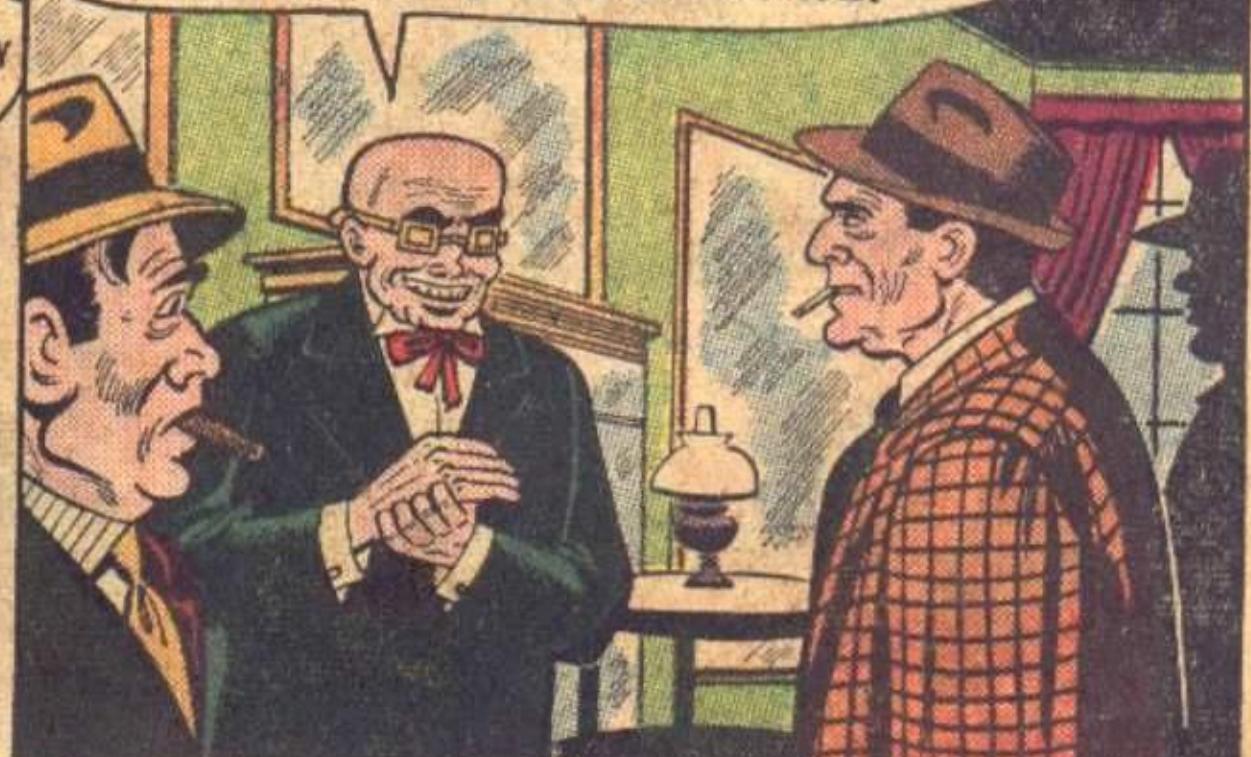
BUT, BRUCE-- HE'S PROBABLY GOING TO TELL THEM YOUR IDENTITY IN HIS HIDEOUT TOMORROW MORNING! WHAT CAN WE DO?



ONE MAN KNOWS THE SECRET NOW-- BUT HIS HIDEOUT IS UNKNOWN TO BATMAN! YET, BATMAN HOPES TO DEFEAT HIM! HOW? CAN YOU GUESS?

MORNING! AS HIS MEN GATHER EAGERLY, MIRROR-MAN MAKES HIS TRIUMPHANT REVELATION!

HERE IT IS, BOYS! BRACE YOURSELVES! BATMAN'S OTHER IDENTITY IS NONE OTHER THAN-- BRUCE WAYNE!



BATMAN ANNUAL



BUT THE REACTION IS NOT ONE THAT MIRROR-MAN EXPECTS! HIS EXPOSE IS GREETED WITH SCORN!

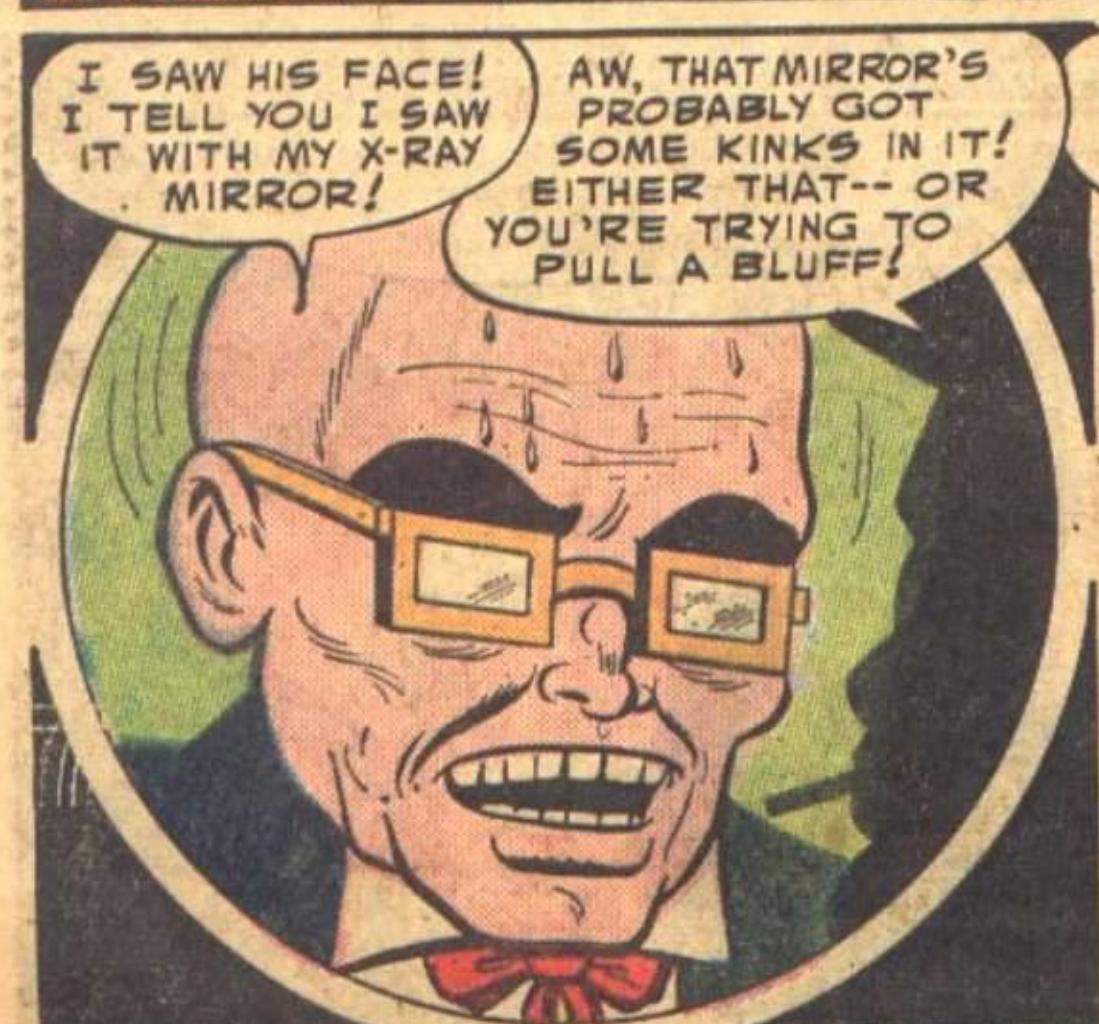
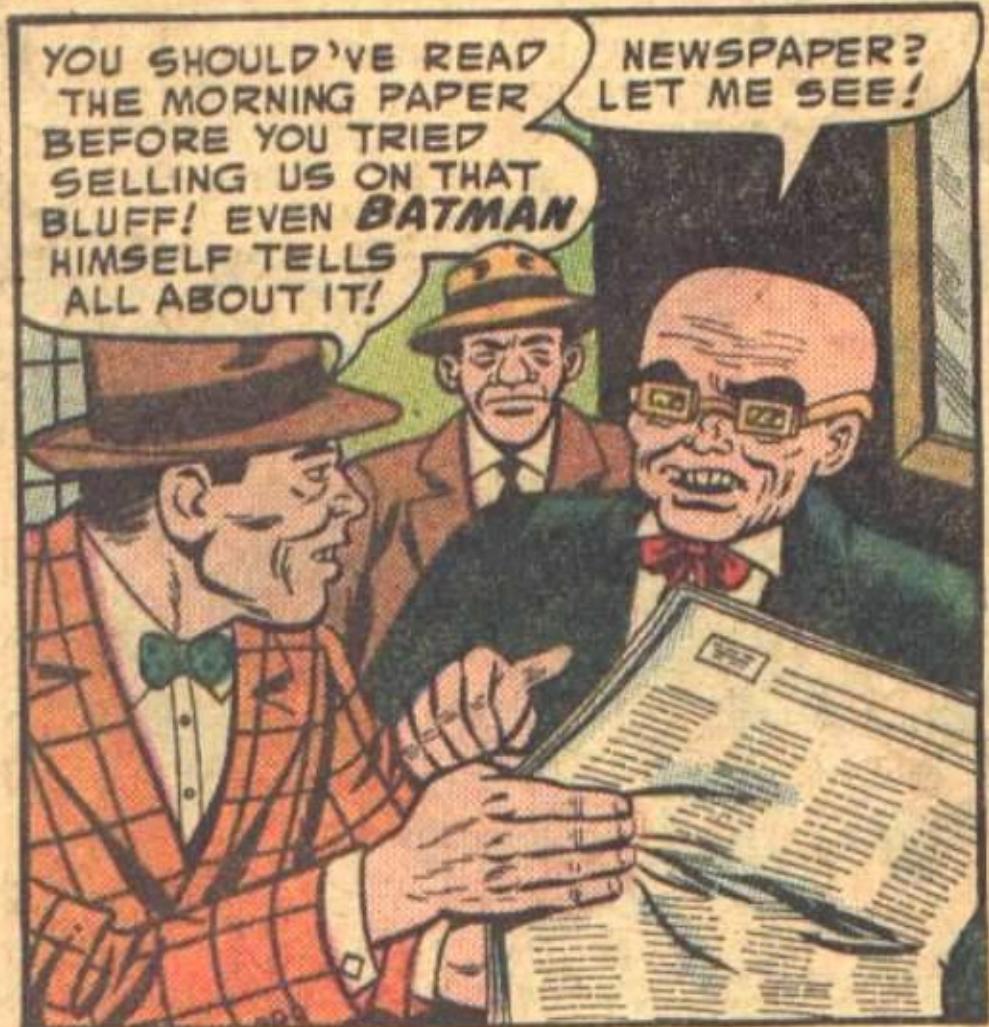
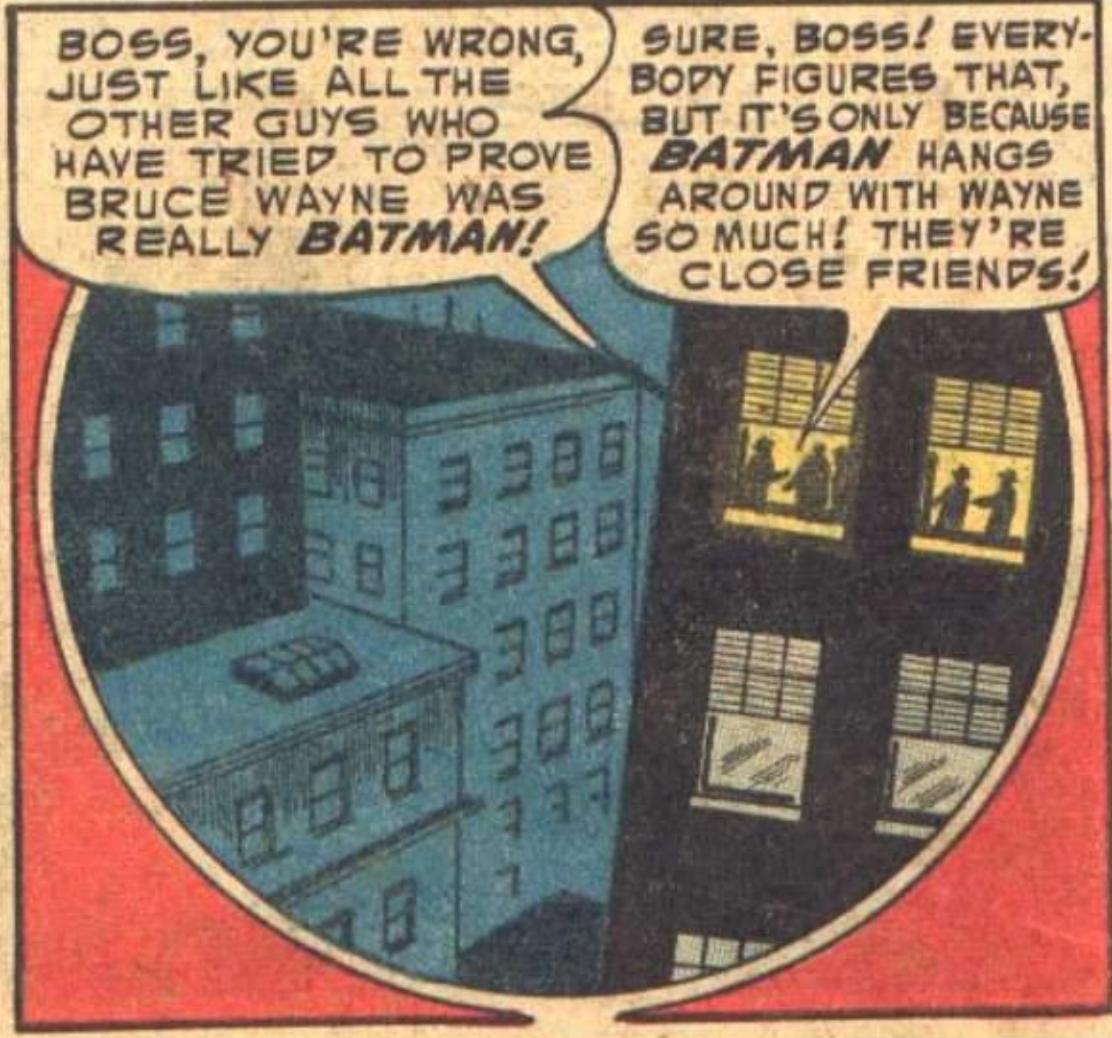
BRUCE WAYNE?
OH, NO! NOT
THAT AGAIN!

YOU TRYIN'
TO BE A
COMEDIAN,
BOSS?

THAT GAG
IS REALLY
TIRED!

BOSS, YOU'RE WRONG,
JUST LIKE ALL THE
OTHER GUYS WHO
HAVE TRIED TO PROVE
BRUCE WAYNE WAS
REALLY BATMAN!

SURE, BOSS! EVERYBODY FIGURES THAT,
BUT IT'S ONLY BECAUSE
BATMAN HANGS
AROUND WITH WAYNE
SO MUCH! THEY'RE
CLOSE FRIENDS!

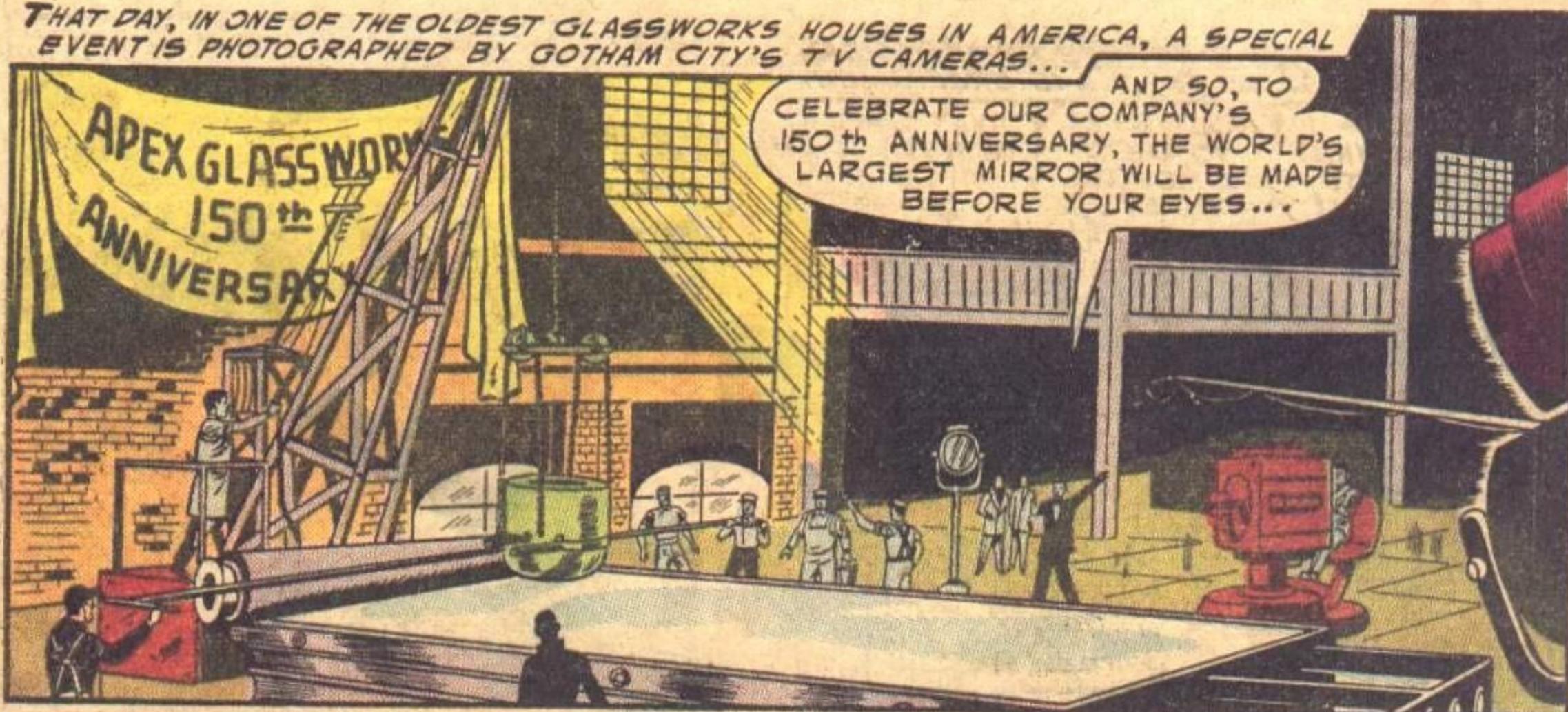




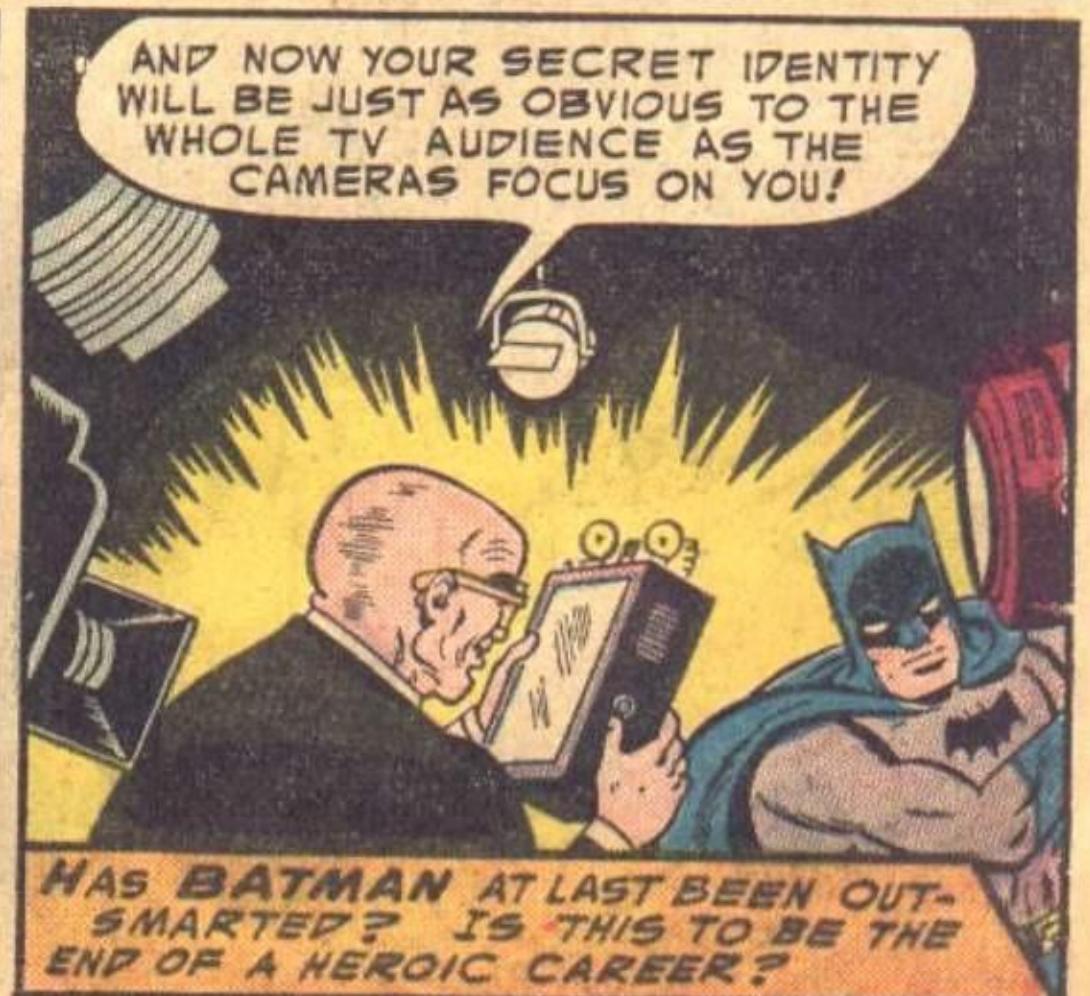
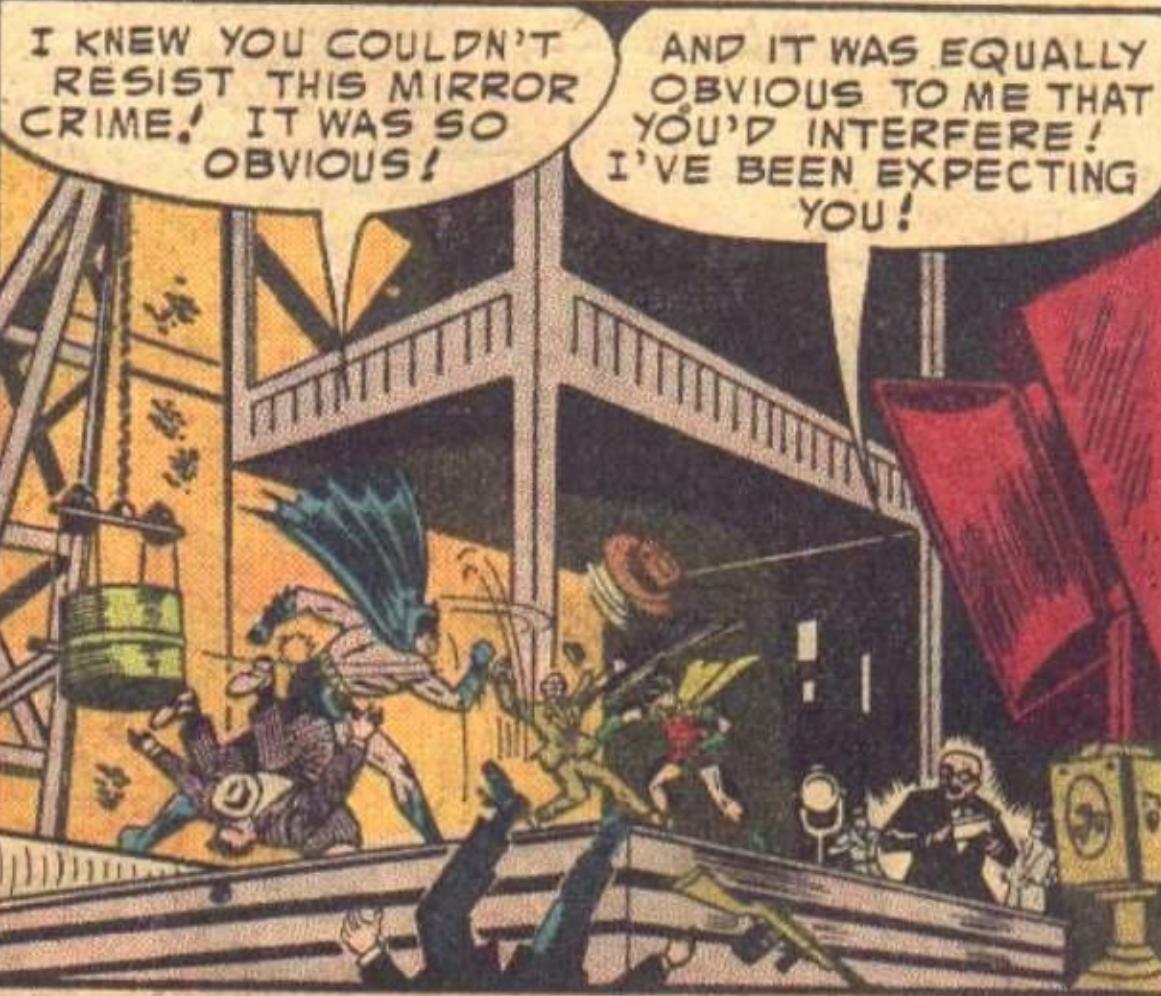
BATMAN ANNUAL



THAT DAY, IN ONE OF THE OLDEST GLASSWORKS HOUSES IN AMERICA, A SPECIAL EVENT IS PHOTOGRAPHED BY GOTHAM CITY'S TV CAMERAS...



AND SO, TO
CELEBRATE OUR COMPANY'S
150th ANNIVERSARY, THE WORLD'S
LARGEST MIRROR WILL BE MADE
BEFORE YOUR EYES...





BATMAN ANNUAL



THIS--THIS IS THE FACE SEEN BY MILLIONS OF VIEWERS!

IT'S SO DISTORTED, SO UGLY! THAT CAN'T BE BATMAN'S FACE!

NO! MUST BE SOME INTERFERENCE ON THE PICTURE TUBE!

SURE! BETCHA BATMAN'S GOT A MOVIE ACTOR FACE!

SO STUNNED IS MIRROR-MAN BY THAT FACE, THAT HIS OWN FACE IS NOW EASILY STUNNED BY BATMAN'S FIST...

NOW YOUR FACE IS DISTORTED!



LATER, AFTER THE MOB IS JAILED...

YOU OUTSMARTED MIRROR-MAN COMPLETELY--EVEN BY WRITING THAT BRUCE WAYNE-BATMAN STORY AND GETTING IT TO THE PAPERS IN TIME FOR THE MORNING EDITION!

I PROMISED TO WRITE A STORY FOR THAT \$25,000 DONATION TO OUR DELINQUENCY FIGHT FUND, AND I DID!

THAT NEWSPAPER STORY WAS PURE PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE! IT FORCED HIS MEN INTO NOT BELIEVING BRUCE WAYNE IS BATMAN--AND IT FORCED MIRROR-MAN INTO TRYING TO PROVE IT!



AND BECAUSE I ANTICIPATED HIS NEXT MOVE, I WORE A HOOD MADE OF "CRAZY" MIRRORS THAT DISTORTED MY FEATURES SO THEY WERE UNRECOGNIZABLE!

YOU TURNED A MIRROR TRICK AGAINST MIRROR-MAN!

MEANWHILE...
I TELL YOU BRUCE WAYNE IS BATMAN--AND ONE DAY I'LL CRASH OUT AND PROVE IT!

SURE, BRUCE WAYNE IS BATMAN--AND I'M NAPOLEON!



The End.

KRYPTON, the world where SUPERMAN was born, LIVES AGAIN!

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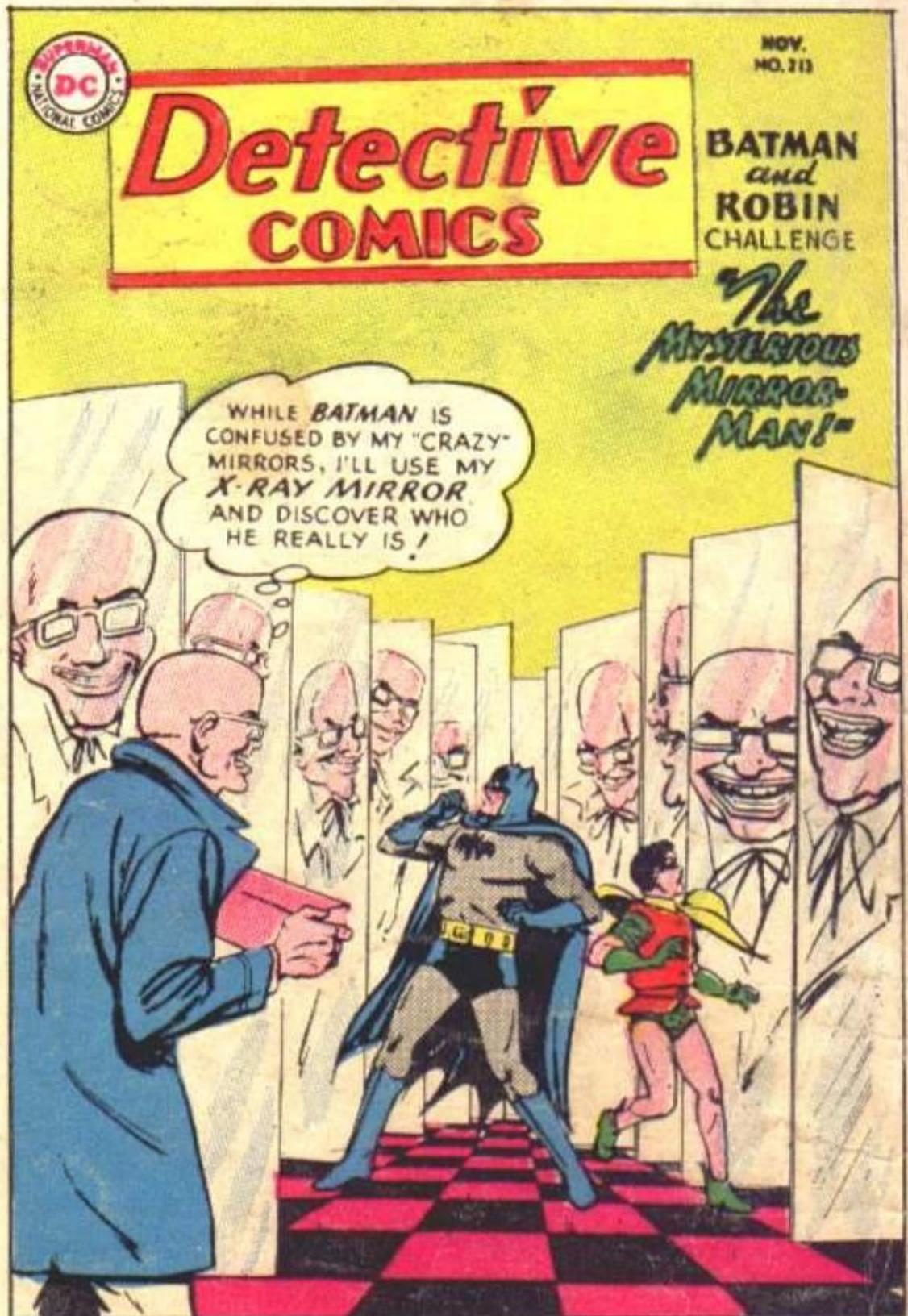
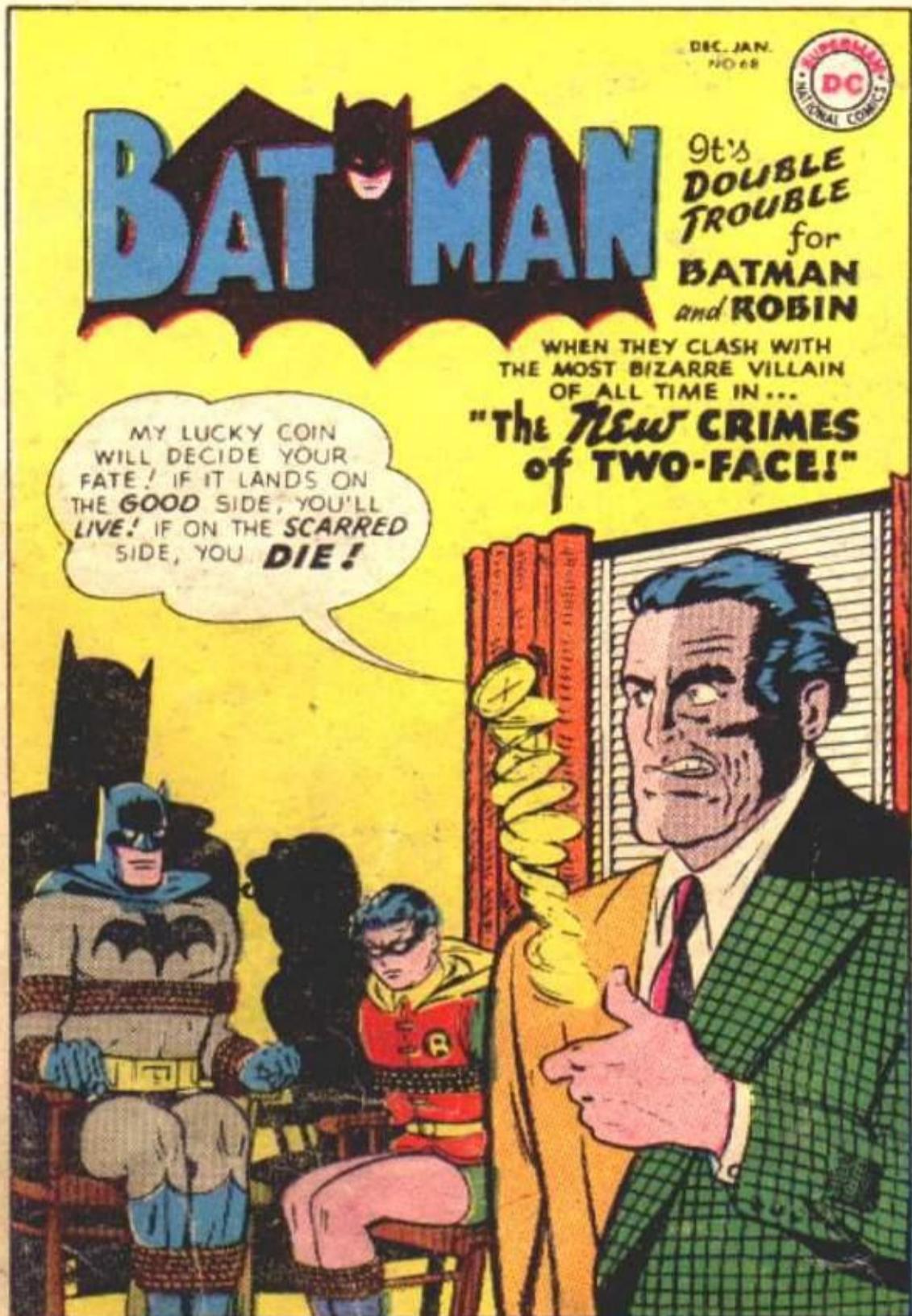
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