



Wonder Woman v1 #269

DC Comics, July 1980

Story: Return to Paradise Island

Synopsis:

Diana, mourning Steve, and tired of that crazy ol' 'Man's World', returns to her hometown of idyllic Paradise Island, FLA to recharge.

Written by: Gerry Conway
Art by: Jose Delbo, Bob Smith and Wally Wood!!

32 images + nfo + .sfv + .par
150 dpi, 1200 pixels wide



THIS IS THE *END--AND THE BEGINNING--FOR*

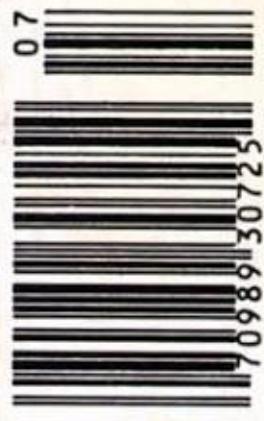
Wonder Woman™

**THE
ALL-
NEW**

I'VE HAD
MY FILL OF
THE EVILS OF
MAN'S WORLD!



AS OF
NOW--I
QUIT!



THE
DINGO KIDS
MEET
O.J. SIMPSON

IT'S O.J. SIMPSON BREAKING OFF TACKLE! HE'S AT THE 40, THE 30. HE'S GOING ALL THE WAY. IT'S A TOUCH DOWN!



LATER ... IN THE LOCKER ROOM
WOW! O.J. SIMPSON! AW, A LET'S GET HIS SUPERSTAR LIKE AUTOGRAPH! HIM WOULDN'T NOTICE US...



HEY! WITH THOSE DINGO BOOTS, YOU GUYS LOOK LIKE SUPERSTARS! O.J.! HOW'D YOU KNOW WE WERE WEARING DINGO'S?



MAN, IT'S EASY! NOBODY PUTS LEATHER TOGETHER LIKE DINGO! I WEAR DINGO'S MYSELF!



YOU WEAR DINGO'S, O.J.!



SURE! I'VE GOT TO PUT SOMETHING SPECIAL ON MY FEET AFTER A GREAT GAME.

HEY, O.J.
HOW ABOUT AN AUTOGRAPH?



FOR THE DINGO KIDS ?
YOU BET !

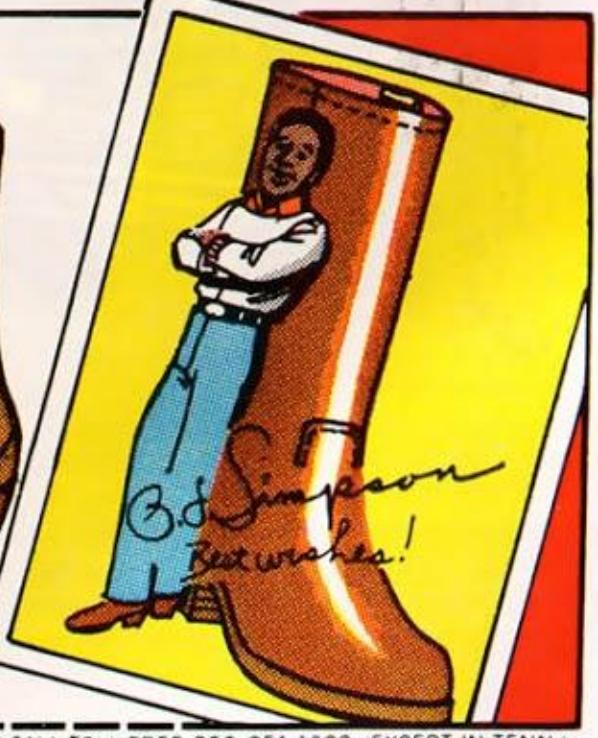


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Wonder Woman

IT'S ALL SO HORRIBLY FAMILIAR BY NOW: A CROWDED SUBWAY PLATFORM AT RUSH HOUR, THE THUNDER OF AN APPROACHING TRAIN, THE SUDDEN THRUSTING OF ANONYMOUS HANDS, AND THE SUBSEQUENT TERRIFIED SCREAM...

BUT THIS TIME, THERE'S A DIFFERENCE: THIS TIME, ONE OF THE STUNNED COMMUTERS IS A WOMAN NAMED DIANA PRINCE...



GERRY CONWAY & JOSE DELBO
WRITER PENCILLER
BOB SMITH & WALLY WOOD
INKERS
BEN ODA JERRY SERPE
LETTERER COLORIST
LEN WEIN - EDITOR

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ALL EYES ARE
ON THAT FALLING
STUDENT...

...SO NO ONE
WILL SEE DIANA
PRINCE DISAPPEAR
INTO A WHIRLING
MAGIC LASO...

...AND REAPPEAR
--AS WONDER
WOMAN!

I HAVE ONLY SECONDS
TO ACT! THE BOY'S
SCRAMBLING TO GET
AWAY-- I CAN'T HURL
HIM TO SAFETY--

--SO I
HAVE TO
STOP THIS
TRAIN!

O MERCIFUL
MINERVA, GIVE
ME STRENGTH--!

SHREEEK

--DON'T LET
ME FAIL!



SKTOOM

WOWSA! THAT'S THE SORT OF STUNT I USED TO THINK ONLY SUPERMAN COULD DO!

WHY? JUST BECAUSE HE'S A MAN?

YOU OKAY, YOUNGSTER?

HE'S A LITTLE SHAKEN, OFFICER ... BUT HE'LL LIVE...

...NO THANKS TO THOSE THREE WOULD-BE KILLERS!

WONDER WOMAN, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

CAPTURING SCUM, OFFICER.

THESE YOUNG PUNKS WERE THE ONLY PEOPLE IN A POSITION TO SHOVE THIS BOY...

MY MAGIC LASO WILL FORCE A CONFESSION FROM--

YOU GOT PROOF?

UH-HUH, LADY. NO D.A.'D EVER PROSECUTE ON A FORCED CONFESSION.

THEN THERE ARE WITNESSES, AN ENTIRE PLATFORM OF--

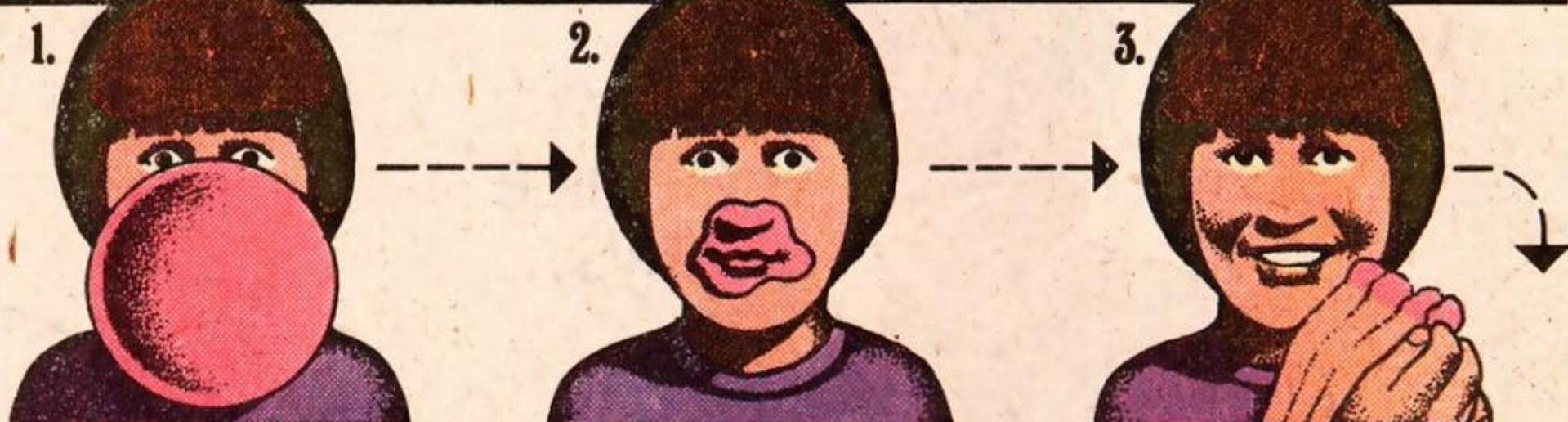
--WITNESSES?



DUSK SMOULDERS IN THE WESTERN SKY A SHORT TIME LATER AS A WORLD-WEARY DIANA PRINCE COMPLETES HER INTERRUPTED HOMeward JOURNEY...



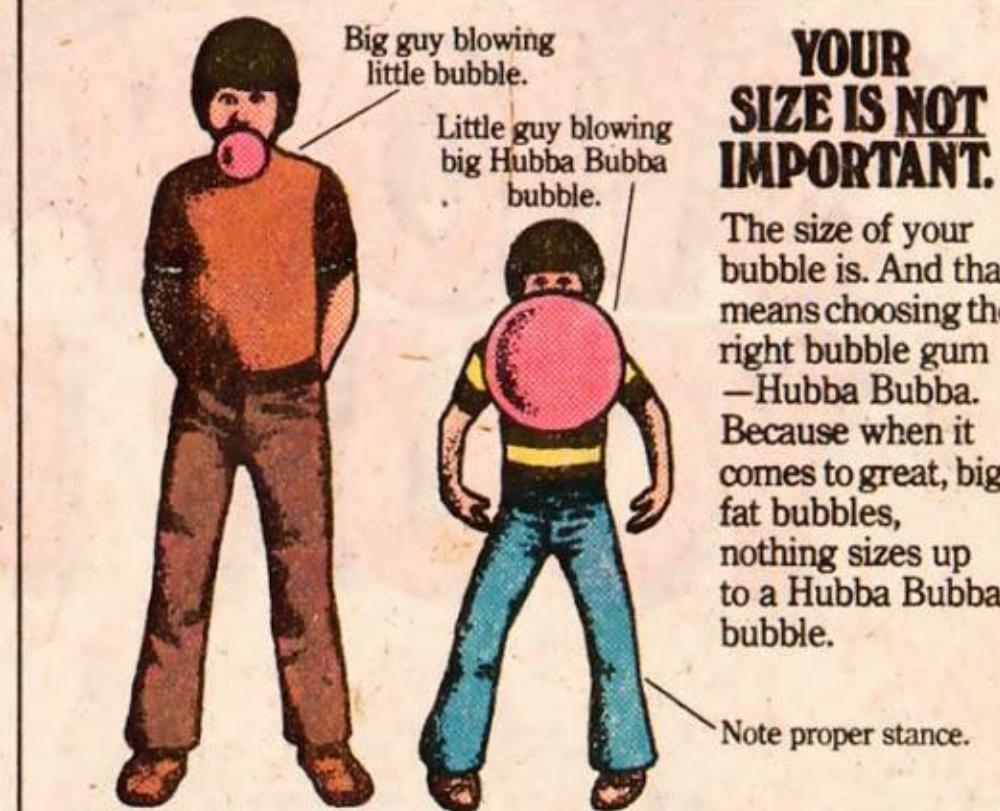
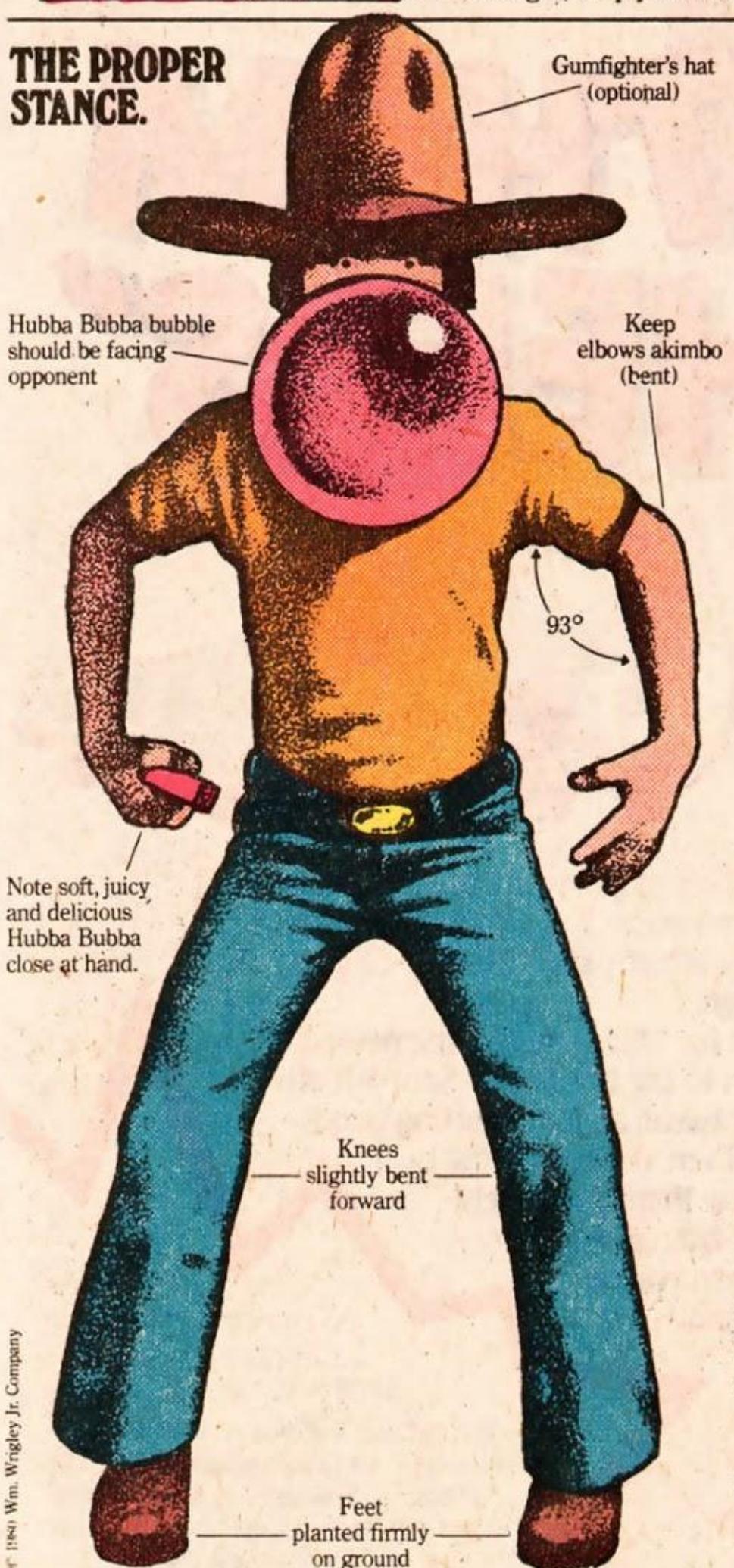
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THE PROPER STANCE.



YOUR SIZE IS NOT IMPORTANT.

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Note proper stance.

ACCEPT NO SUBSTITUTES.

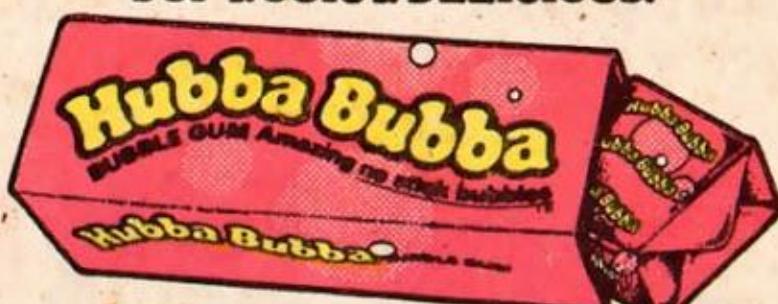
This boy did. And now instead of wearing a smile, he's wearing a paper bag over the bubble gum stuck to his face. Definitely not soft and juicy Hubba Bubba Bubble Gum. Does Hubba Bubba really work? Absolutely! Hubba Bubba is gumfighter tested and approved.

DADGUM MY BUBBLEGUM!



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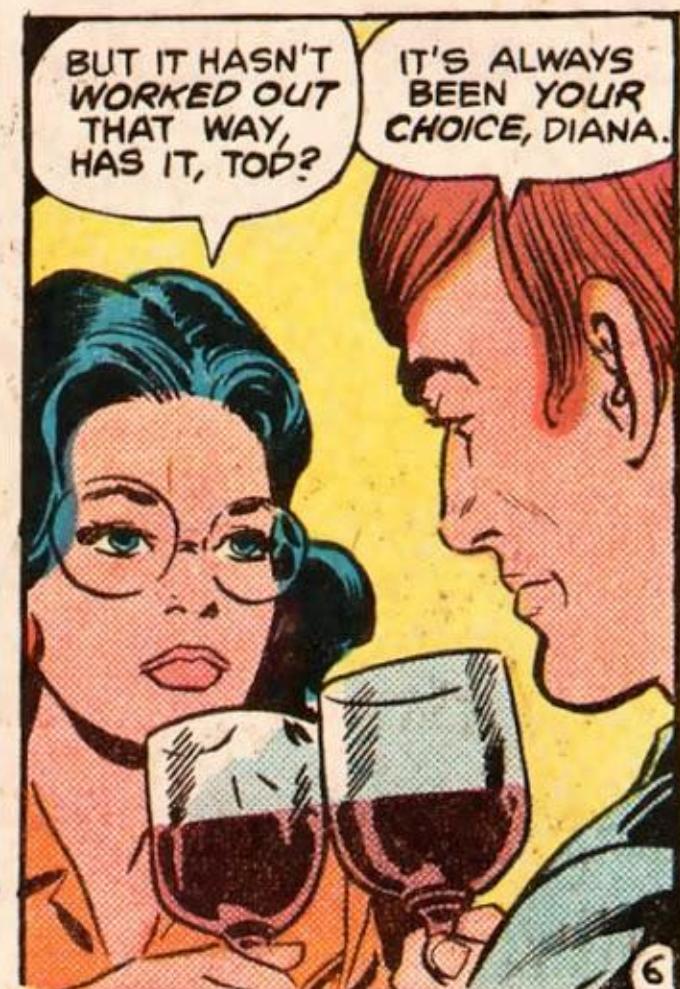
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THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT YOU... YOUR SENSE OF SELF... THE WAY YOU MOVE, THE WAY YOU TALK... THAT'S ATTRACTED ME.

I THINK I COULD LOVE YOU, DIANA.

BUT I'M NOT REALLY SURE ... YOU WANT TO BE LOVED.

THAT FIRST NIGHT, YOU KISSED ME. I THINK IT'S MY TURN.

WHY COULDN'T I HAVE MET YOU YEARS AGO?

DON'T SAY IT.

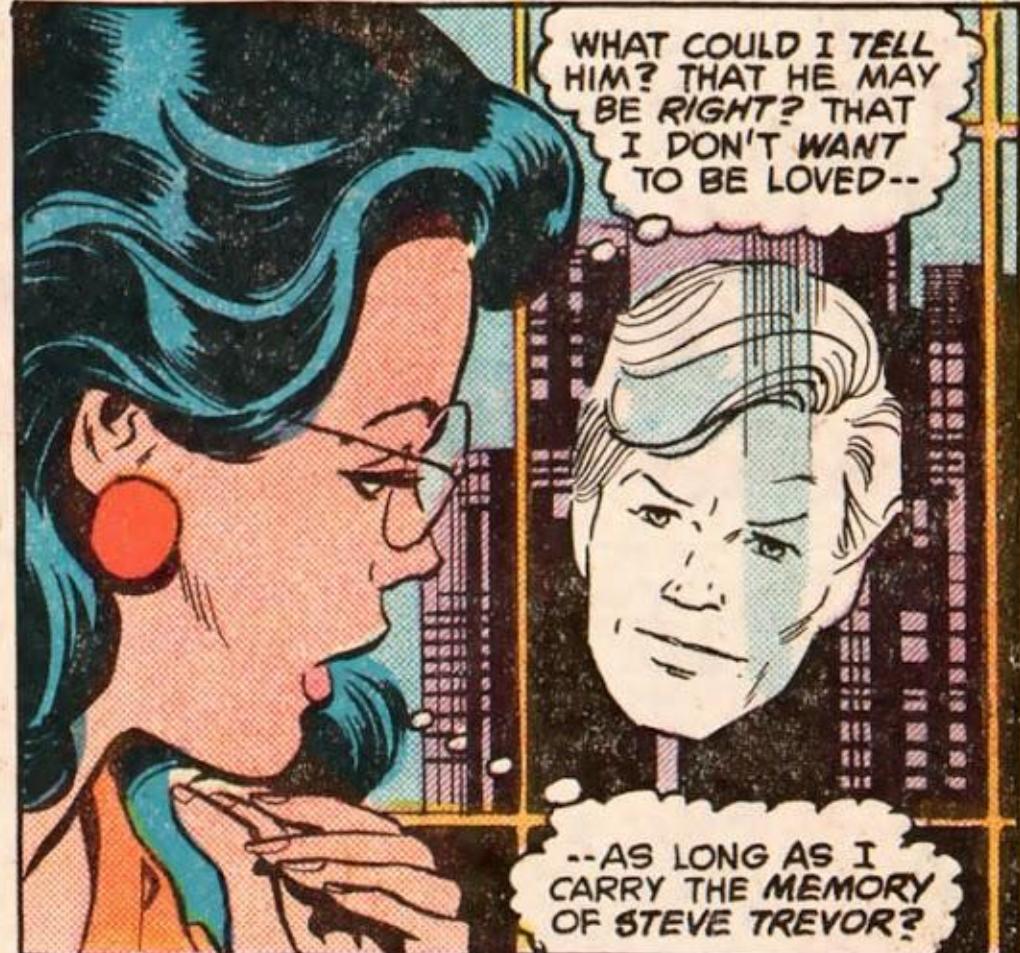
IF I HAD--



MAYBE WE'LL NEVER BE LOVERS... BUT I HOPE WE'LL ALWAYS BE FRIENDS.

CALL ME IF YOU NEED ME BUT IN THE MEANTIME...

... PLEASE TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF. YOU'RE SPECIAL.



WHAT COULD I TELL HIM? THAT HE MAY BE RIGHT? THAT I DON'T WANT TO BE LOVED--

--AS LONG AS I CARRY THE MEMORY OF STEVE TREVOR?



STEVE'S DEATH... MY NEW FRIENDSHIP WITH MIKE BAILEY AT NASA... AND THEN MIKE'S EXPOSURE AS A TRAITOR...

IT'S LEFT ME A PSYCHIC BASKET CASE!

I HAVE TO TAKE MY MIND OFF EVERYTHING THAT'S HAPPENED... PERHAPS SOME TV...

... FIGHTING CONTINUED IN THE SOUTH AMERICAN DICTATORSHIP OF SAN SEBASTIANO TODAY, WITH REBEL FORCES RECEIVING THEIR WORST CASUALTIES SINCE THE WAR BEGAN.

IN LOCAL NEWS TONIGHT...



... GOVERNMENT CONSUMER TESTING REVEALS THAT MOST OF THE NATION'S LEADING COMPACT CARS CANNOT SURVIVE A HEAD-ON COLLISION AT 25 MILES PER HOUR. AUTOMAKERS REFUSE COMMENT ON THESE LATEST FINDINGS.



ALSO ON THE NEWSFRONT, A LOOK AT CALIFORNIA'S DISASTROUS HOLLYWOOD BLVD. FIRE, WHICH CLAIMED EIGHTEEN LIVES TODAY.



... THE FIFTH MAJOR FIRE DISASTER IN LOS ANGELES SINCE BUDGET CUTS EARLIER THIS YEAR...

AND IN TENNESSEE, ANOTHER DEADLY CHEMICAL FREIGHT-CAR DERAILMENT, THREATENING THREE TOWNS...



... WAR IN EAST AFRICA...



... AIRPLANE CRASH...

... HUNDREDS KILLED...

... PRESIDENT REFUSES TO RESPOND...

... EMBASSY PERSONNEL CAPTURED BY STUDENTS...

... ACCIDENTAL RADIATION SPILLAGE...

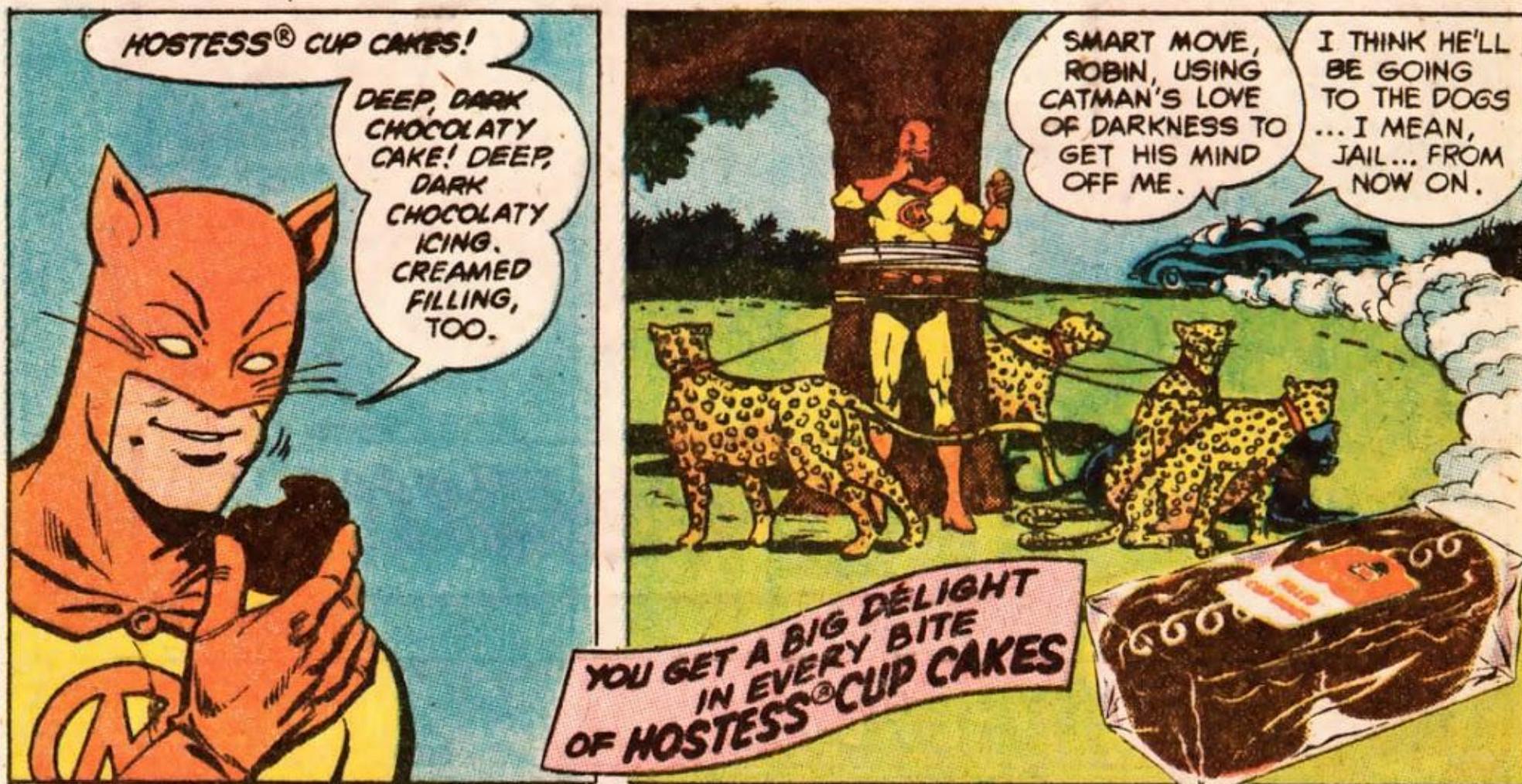
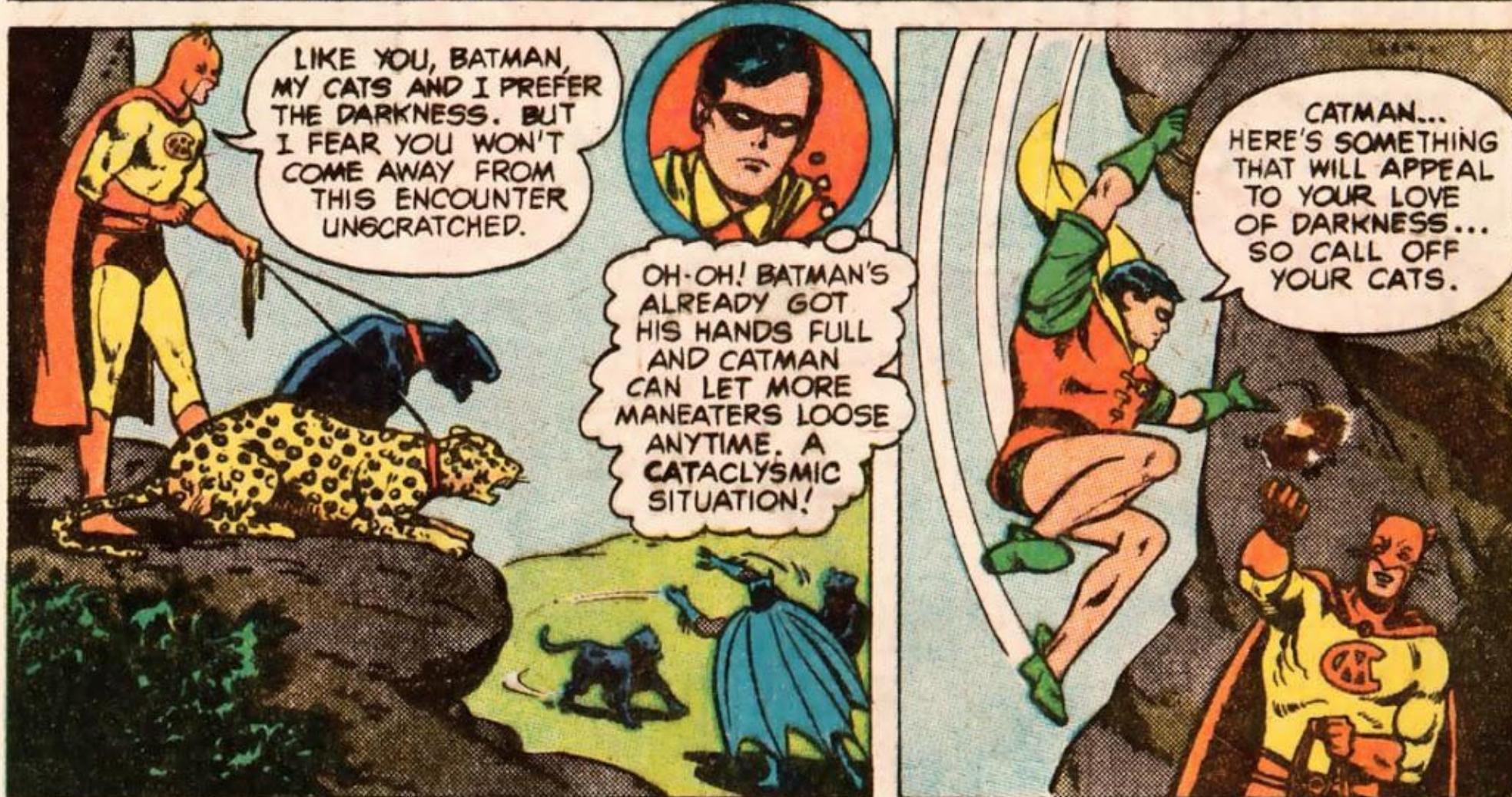
... ALL-TIME OIL COMPANY PROFITS...

... SILK STOCKING MURDERER...

BATMAN

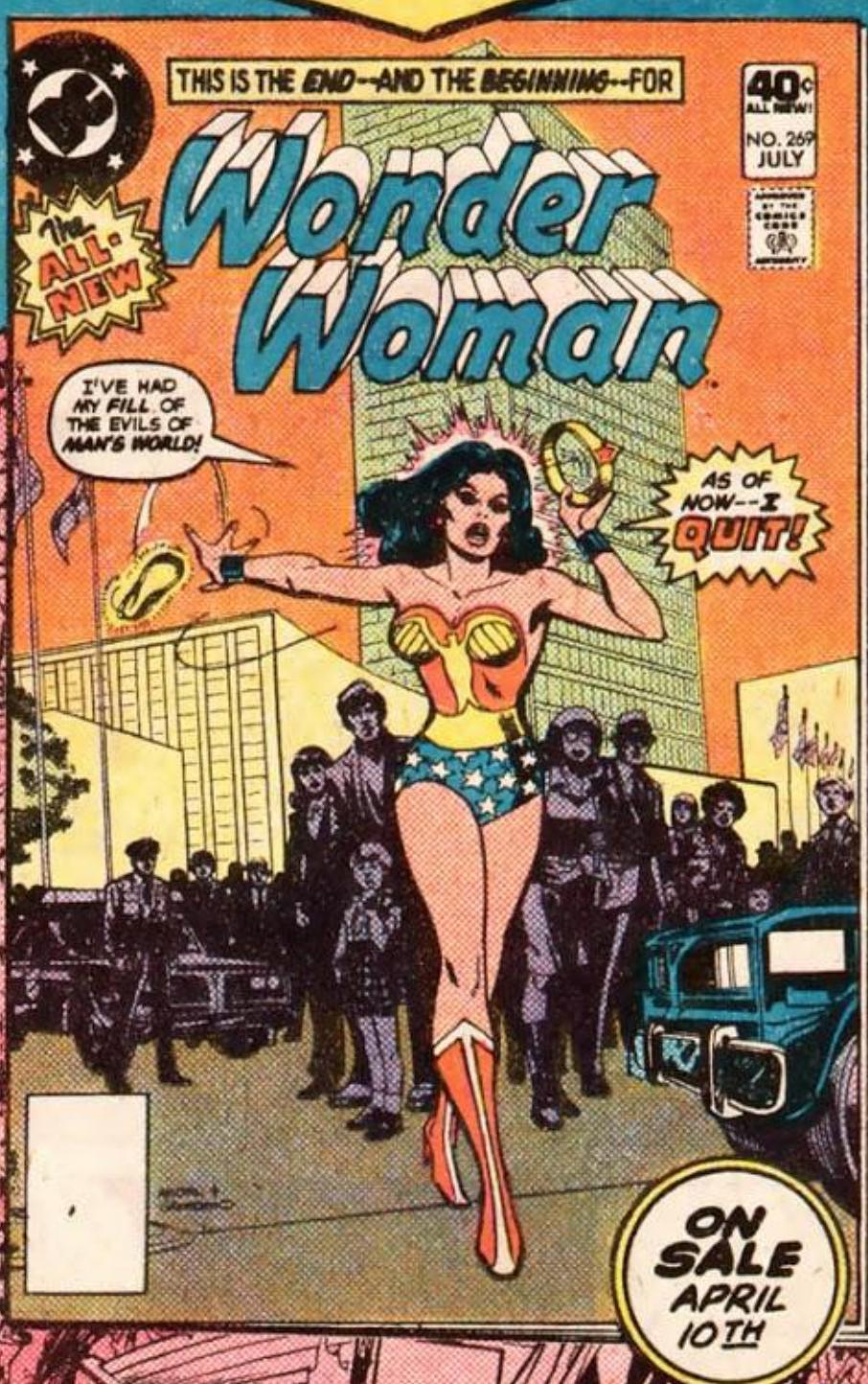
IN CATMAN ON THE PROWL

SOMETHING TELLS ME MY OLD ENEMY, THE CATMAN IS ON THE PROWL TONIGHT.



THIS IS ONLY THE BEGINNING FOR THE ALL-NEW *Wonder Woman!*

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OF THE AMAZING
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ADVENTURE
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FORGET!

AND AS IF
THAT ISN'T
ENOUGH,
HERE COMES

The Huntress!

IN HER
OWN
MONTHLY
SERIES!

DC

WHERE THE ACTION KEEPS ON COMING!

THE NIGHT AIR IS A
RELIEF, COOL, AND ODD
FOR NEW YORK, CLEAN...

EVEN SO, IT CAN DO
LITTLE TO CLEANS
THE HORROR FROM
THIS WOMAN'S MIND...

SINCE HER
ARRIVAL IN
MAN'S WORLD
YEARS AGO, SHE
HAS STRUGGLED
TO COME TO
TERMS WITH ITS
CASUAL EVIL, ITS
UNNECESSARY
CRUELTY...

FOR A TIME, HER
LOVE FOR STEVE
TREVOR MADE
THE HORROR
EASIER TO BEAR...

...BUT STEVE IS
DEAD, A MAN
SLAIN NOT JUST
ONCE, BUT TWICE,
AS THOUGH THE
WEAVERS OF FATE
HAD SOME SPECIAL
REASON FOR HIS
DEATH ...

ONCE, SHE BELIEVED
THERE WAS A
REASON FOR ALL
TRAGEDIES...

NOW, SHE IS NO LONGER
QUITE SO SURE.

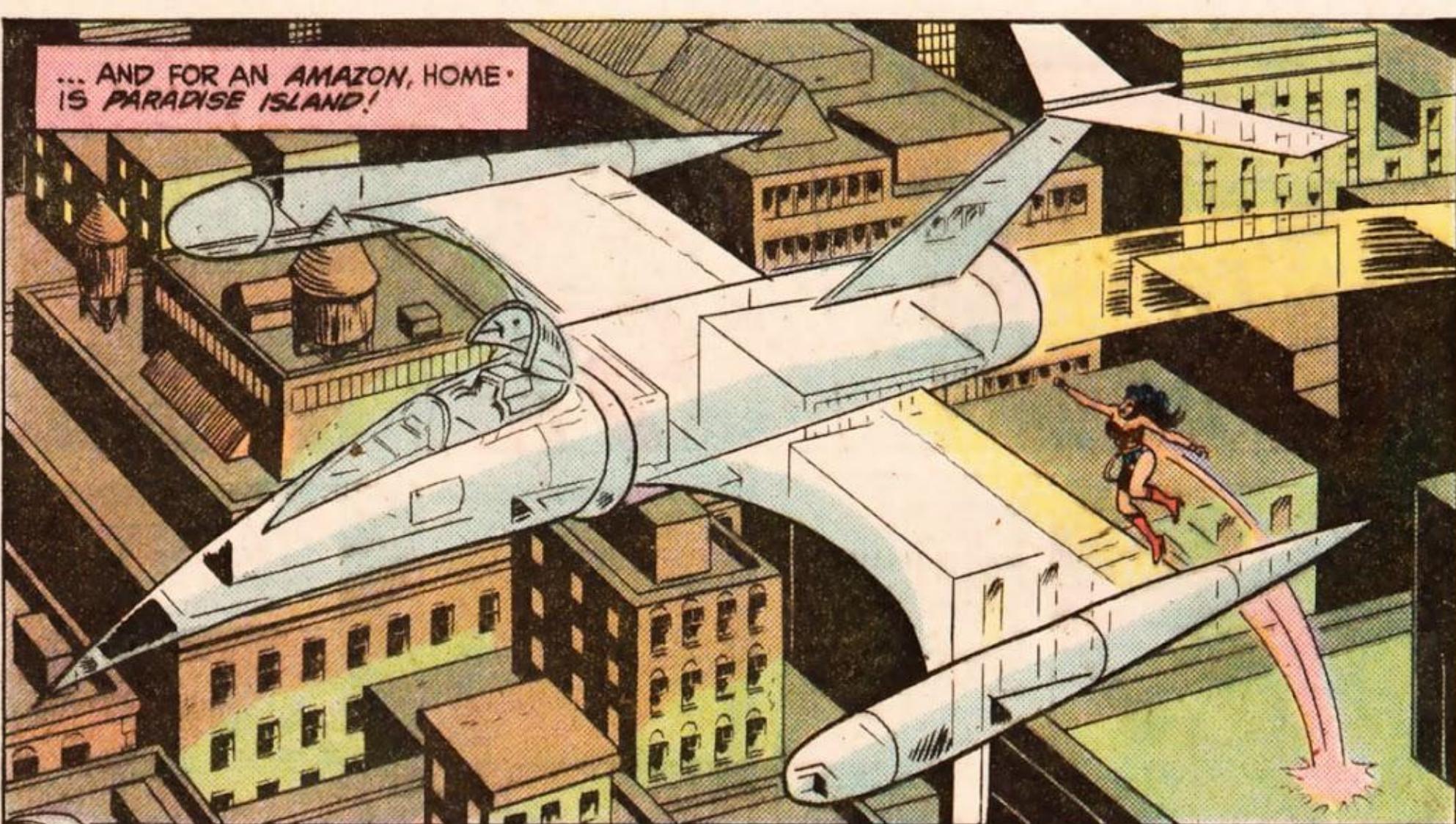
SHE IS
SURE,
HOWEVER,
OF ONE
THING...

...THIS WORLD IS HER WORLD NO MORE...

NOTHING HOLDS
HER HERE.

SHE WANTS TO
GO HOME...

... AND FOR AN AMAZON, HOME
IS PARADISE ISLAND!



MOONLIGHT SPILLS
A CREAMY WHITE
FROTH OVER THE
WAVES THAT SWELL
BENEATH THE SILENT
INVISIBLE JET, AND
THE SOUND OF THE
OCEAN IS LIKE A
MURMURING SIRENS'
SONG...

"WELCOME HOME," THE
SEA SEEMS TO SAY,
"WELCOME HOME..."

AND IN THE *DISTANCE*,
A CLOUD-COVERED
HORIZON OPENS UP TO
REVEAL MOUNTAINS
PAINTED BLUE BY
STARLIGHT RISING FROM
THE OCEAN LIKE SOME
SMOKY DREAM...

HIDDEN FROM
HUMAN SIGHT
BY FOG AND
MIST, THE
ISLAND SHOWS
ITSELF TO ITS
PRODIGAL
DAUGHTER...
AND NOW,
FAMILIAR
BUILDINGS COME
INTO VIEW, OF
A STYLE LAST
SEEN IN CLASSICAL
GREECE...

... AND STANDING BEFORE THE
BUILDING, FAMILIAR FIGURES...

MOTHER ...

DIANA?

CHILD,
YOU SEEM
DISTRESSED.

HAS SOMETHING
HAPPENED TO--

NO, NO...
NOTHING
HAPPENED--

-- AND EVERYTHING'S
HAPPENED! I'VE
REALIZED I CAN'T
LIVE OUT THERE.

EVERY DAY, EVERY
HOUR THAT I SPEND
APART FROM YOU
AND PARADISE ISLAND...
MAKES THIS REALEST OF
WORLDS SEEM LIKE A
FADING DREAM!

...YET IF THIS
IS A DREAM,
THEN I PRAY
TO THE
GODDESS
APHRODITE
THAT IT MIGHT
CONTINUE
FOREVER!

HAVE YOU
RETURNED TO
US, THEN? NO
MORE WANDERING
AMONG MORTALS?

PERHAPS ALL LIFE
IS BUT A DREAM,
MY DAUGHTER...

YOU NEED TO ASK? I
MAY BE HIPPOLYTE,
QUEEN OF THE AMAZONS
... AND YOU, A PRINCESS...

...BUT I WILL ALWAYS
BE YOUR MOTHER,
ABOVE ALL, AND
THIS ISLAND WILL
FOREVER REMAIN
YOUR HOME AND
REFUGE!

GENTLY, AT FIRST...
THEN WITH SHOCKING
FORCE, THE LAND SEEMS
TO RISE BENEATH THEIR
FEET, STILLING ALL
CONVERSATION...

AS THE LAND
SUBSIDES
AGAIN, DIANA
TURNS
QUESTIONING
EYES TO HER
MOTHER--

-- AND AGAIN, THE
ISLAND HEAVES...

... AS A THUNDERING
ECHOES BENEATH
THE STARS...

MOTHER,
I...

CONTINUED ON 3RD PAGE FOLLOWING.

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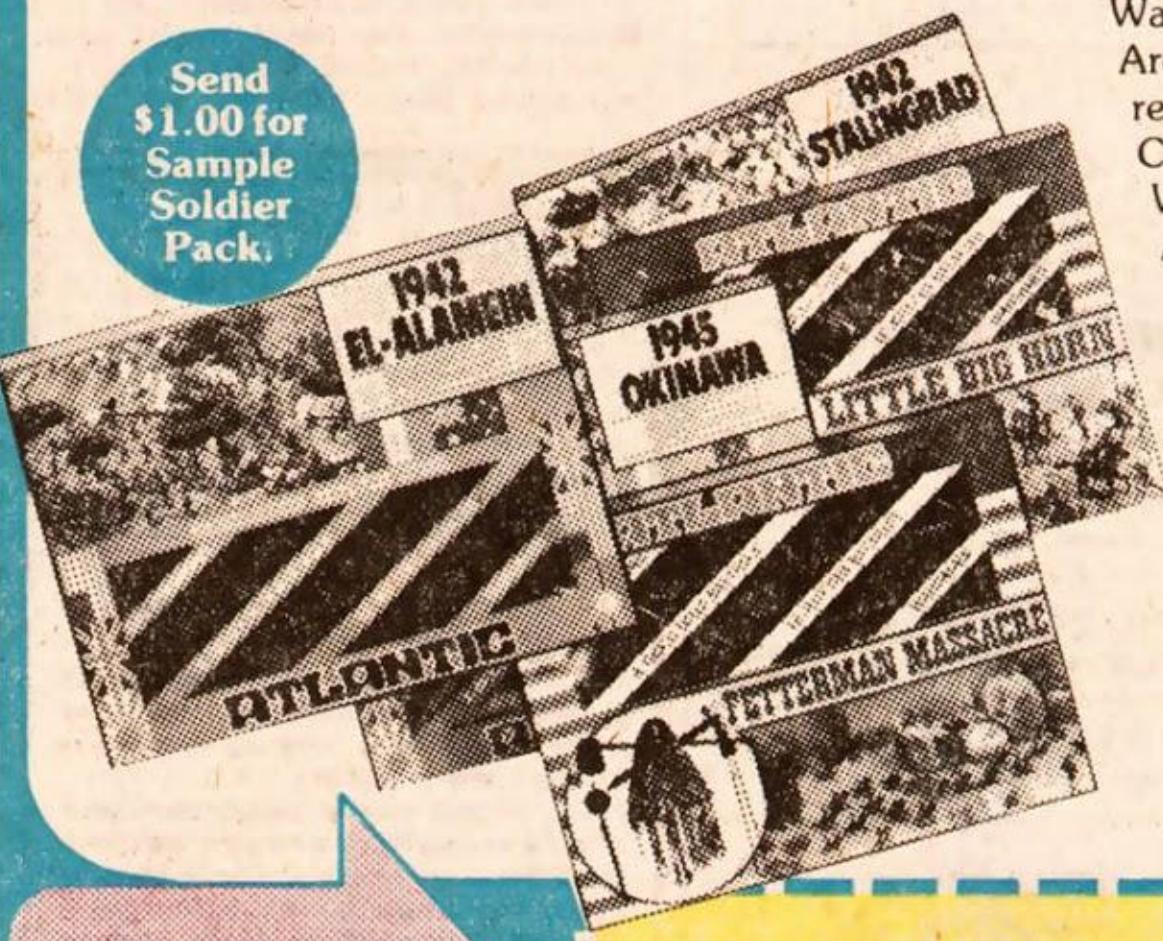
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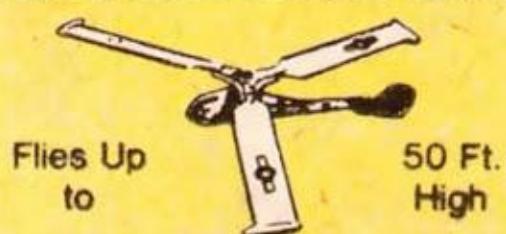
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THAT'S WHAT'S HAPPENING, SISTER!

A FORTNIGHT AGO, VOLCANIC ERUPTIONS STARTED TO APPEAR OFF THE SHORES OF PARADISE ISLAND, EACH EXPLOSION GREATER THAN THE ONE BEFORE...

--AS THOUGH THE SEA BOTTOM WERE TRYING TO TEAR ITSELF APART AROUND US!

AND HERA HELP US, THIS IS THE MOST POWERFUL ERUPTION OF ALL!

BTOOM!

IF THE EXPLOSIONS CONTINUE, ASH AND LAVA WILL COVER THE ISLAND...

...BURYING US ALIVE!

THEN WE HAVE TO SEAL THAT VOLCANO-- AND OPEN A SAFETY VALVE FOR THE SUB-SURFACE PRESSURE TO BLOW OFF SOMEWHERE, OUT TO SEA!

CLEO, YOU AND THE OTHERS-- STAY BACK!

ASH IS THICK AND BLACK IN THE AIR, CHOKING AND BLINDING AS THE DARING YOUNG AMAZON MAKES HER WAY TO THE VOLCANIC SPOUT...

MAGIC LASO SPINNING OVERHEAD, SHE MOVES FORWARD, PLANNING TO LOOP THE SPOUT AND DRAW IT SHUT--

--WHEN SOMETHING SHRUGS INSIDE THE FLAME AND SMOKE...

SOMETHING IMPOSSIBLE--

THUMP

...BUT
NONETHELESS
ALL TOO REAL!

THUNDERBOLTS
OF FATHER
ZEUS!

IT'S A
SALAMANDER!
A GIGANTIC
SALAMANDER!

THE SALAMANDERS ARE A
MAGICAL REPRESENTATION OF FIRE
... BUT WHAT IS IT DOING HERE? IS
PARADISE ISLAND UNDER MAGICAL
ATTACK?

IF SO, IT
WOULD EXPLAIN
A GREAT DEAL.

WHAT CAN
WE DO? HOW
CAN WE
FIGHT IT?

ONE THING IS
CERTAIN ... I WAS
FALLING INTO MAN'S
TRAP WHEN I
SOUGHT TO DEAL
WITH THE MENACE
ALONE!

STAND BY
ME, MY
SISTERS!

WHAT WE
AMAZONS
MUST DO...

-- WE MUST
DO TOGETHER!

NOW, TOGETHER,
PULL -- PULL
FOR YOUR LIVES!

LOOK AT THE
WAY ITS CLAWS
MELT STONE!
IT'S A LIVING
MASS OF HEAT...

HSSSSSH

...AND IF WE CAN JUST DRAG
IT DOWN THE LAVA SLOPE... TO
THE EDGE OF THE SHORE--

HISSESS

HSSSSRRR

PULL -- FOR
YOURSelves, FOR
YOUR SISTERS, FOR
OUR HOME AND
OUR QUEEN!

NEVER
DESPAIR!
HAVE
COURAGE--
HAVE
STRENGTH--

IT'S FIGHTING!
IT UNDERSTANDS
WHAT WE'RE TRYING
TO DO!

YOU CAN, ARTESIA
... AND YOU MUST!

REMEMBER YOUR
HERITAGE! YOU'RE AN
AMAZON, CHOSEN BY
ATHENA AND
APHRODITE
FOR AN
IMMORTAL
LIFE!

DIANA,
WE CAN'T
HOLD ON!

-- AND NOW,
PULL!

PULL, MY
SISTERS!

PULL!



HSSSSSE

SHOOOM!

WHEN IT TOUCHED THE
WATER -- IT EXPLODED!

ALL OF ITS ELEMENTAL
HEAT WAS RELEASED IN
ONE INSTANT! WATER
WAS THE ONE SURE
DEFENSE AGAINST
THE SALAMANDER
... THANK NEPTUNE
FOR THE SEA!

AND NOW, IF THE
TWO OF YOU WILL HELP
WE HAVE A VOLCANO
TO SEAL...

YOU'LL PUT YOUR **STAMP OF APPROVAL** ON DC'S **ADDED ATTRACTIONS!**

ADAM STRANGE



APPEARING IN
GREEN LANTERN

AIR WAVE



APPEARING IN ALTERNATING ISSUES OF
ACTION COMICS

THE ATOM



BATMAN AND ROBIN



APPEARING IN
BATMAN

AQUAMAN



APPEARING IN
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COLLECT THEM ALL!**

THE HUNTRESS



APPEARING IN
WONDER WOMAN

FIRESTORM



APPEARING IN
THE FLASH

OURMAN?



WHATEVER HAPPENED TO...

SARGON
THE SORCERER?



APPEARING IN
DC COMICS PRESENTS

CONGORILLA?
(AND OTHER HEROES)



THESE DC STARS CAN'T BE LICKED--

NEMESIS
A NEW HERO



APPEARING IN
THE BRAVE
AND THE BOLD

THE
WONDERTWINS



APPEARING IN ALTERNATING ISSUES OF
SUPER FRIENDS

JACK O'LANTERN
HERO OF IRELAND



THE SERAPH
HERO OF ISRAEL



SCALPHUNTER



APPEARING IN
JONAH HEX

-BUT YOU'RE BOUND TO BE STUCK ON THEM!

WORLD OF
KRYPTON
AND OTHER SURPRISES



APPEARING IN
SUPERMAN

KRYPTO
THE SUPERDOG



APPEARING IN ALTERNATING ISSUES OF
SUPERBOY

THE MISADVENTURES OF
SUPERBABY



OMAC



APPEARING IN
WARLORD

ENEMY ACE



APPEARING IN
UNKNOWN SOLDIER

EPILOGUE

I LOOKED FOR YOU WHEN I AWOKE, DIANA.

THE SILKS OF YOUR BED WERE UNTouched FOR A MOMENT, I THOUGHT YOU'D LEFT US AGAIN...

IS SOMETHING WRONG, MY DARLING? IS THERE SOMETHING YOU HAVEN'T TOLD ME... ANOTHER REASON FOR YOUR RETURN?

YOU KNOW ME SO WELL, DON'T YOU, MOTHER?

...AND THEN I REMEMBERED HOW YOU USED TO ENJOY WALKING THE SHORE JUST BEFORE DAWN.

IT'S STEVE. I THOUGHT... IF I CAME HOME, I'D BE ABLE TO FORGET...

OH, MY DEAR CHILD, DON'T YOU KNOW THAT THE HEART CAN NEVER FORGET?

THE WOUNDS MAY HEAL... BUT THE MEMORY WILL ALWAYS REMAIN.

CRY, MY DARLING. LET THE TEARS COME. IF I COULD BEAR THIS SORROW FOR YOU, I WOULD, BUT ALL I CAN DO IS PRAY FOR YOU TO APHRODITE...

PERHAPS SHE'LL HEAR MY PRAYER, AS SHE DID SO LONG AGO, WHEN I PRAYED FOR A DAUGHTER TO HOLD AND LOVE.

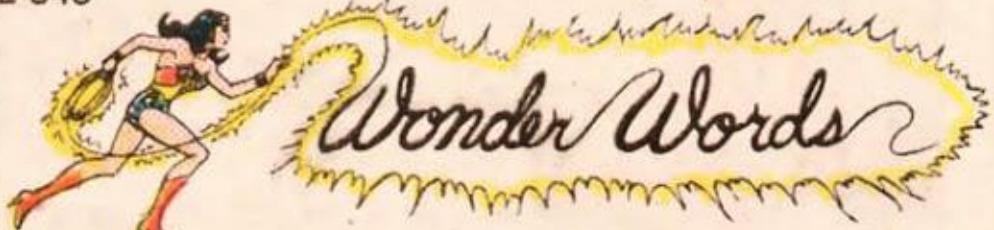
AND PERHAPS, BETWEEN US, THE GODDESS AND I MAY FIND A WAY TO HEAL YOUR HEART'S WOUND...

...BY PUTTING STEVE TREVOR OUT OF YOUR MIND AND MEMORY FOREVER!

MOTHER... I LOVED HIM SO MUCH...

NEXT ISSUE: **RENEWAL!**

ON SALE
MAY 8TH!



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

Dear Editor:

Well, at least *WONDER WOMAN* #264 seems to be a step in the right direction. The story ran logically and smoothly instead of being haphazard with no true meaning. A whole lot more of the *Prime Planner* and his organization and capabilities was shown, enough so that for the first time, I want to see this plot thread grow.

We were also shown the further adventures of *Wonder Woman* trying to find out what information the government has on her. Plus we got the answer to the meaning of that bizarre title: "A Bomb in the Bird is Worth Two in the Band".

El Gaucho earned some respect and proved that he is formidable enough to face *Wonder Woman*. His plan to kill the senator was well-calculated, even though his male ego underrated WW's capabilities. His capture should get things rolling towards the showdown with the *Prime Planner* and then open the way for a new career for Diana Prince. (Perhaps she could reopen her dress boutique from a few years back and work with people like *Jonny Double* against the villainy of *Kobra*.)

Finally, what progress has been made on the revival of *SENSATION COMICS* as a team-up vehicle for *Wonder Woman*? Every letter column seems to have something about it, but what action is *DC* taking?

KENT A PHENIS
1082 Sherwood Court #603
Greenwood, IN 46142

To put it simply, none! There are no plans for a revival of *SENSATION* despite the number of letters my predecessor ran in these pages. The thing that would probably spark thought in that direction would be a strong increase, saleswise, in the interest in *THIS* magazine—indicating that the readers would be open to a second WW magazine.—TPS

* * * * *

Dear Group:

Not bad. Not particularly thrilling, but *Wonder Woman's* battle with *El Gaucho* was a reasonably passable super-heroic event. The *Prime Planner*, as a continuing threat, is interesting, particularly with the baddies he seems to have at his disposal.

But *Wonder Woman* herself has seemed more and more a caricature lately. Her infuriation at not being given the government security files would have been in character when she first came to Man's World, but she has served for years as a government agent and should by now know the ins and outs of the bureaucracy.

Give WW a direction. Make her an intelligence operative again and give her a supporting cast. I've heard you plan on bringing back Steve Trevor and Etta Candy. How about General

Darnell (an older man with a crush on Diana, not WW), *Jonny Double* (the private eye who also is fond of Diana, not WW), and Diana's boutique partner, *Cathy*. Please make Diana Prince as important a character as she was during the *I-Ching* period, sharing the limelight now with her Amazon identity.

I would also like to see meetings between *Wonder Woman* and her two "sisters": her real sister *Nubia* and her adopted one, *Donna (Wonder Girl) Troy*.

And a lot of old WW foes could be brought back and worked in more closely with the accepted Earth-1 scene. *Minister Blizzard* might team up with *Captain Cold*. The *Cheetah* could, perhaps, gain the powers of a real cheetah, making her a more formidable foe for WW. And such super-villains as *Golden Glider*, *Star Sapphire*, or *Fal Tal*, leader of the "Harpies" would work well against the Amazon too.

In short, #264 was passable, but not overly exciting. Excite me, people.

AL SCHROEDER III
3608 Richland Avenue
Nashville, TN 37205

With the *Cartel* out of business, Gerry and Len have turned their attention to giving *Wonder Woman* a new direction and solidifying her life. Stick with us, Al, and we promise to excite you.—TPS

* * * * *

Dear Wondrous Ones,

I love comic books for many reasons. Sure, the usual—escapism, fantasy, nostalgia. But I also like them because they are educational. I'm a twenty-three year old English teacher who, thanks to your four-color masterworks, knows a lot of intriguing things far removed from the boundaries of more traditional, mainstream literature. Your works are full of science, mythology and so much more.

For example, in *WONDER WOMAN* #264, you used the South American rheas, a bird species I had never encountered before.

But beyond all that, the comic books reflect life. The story of *Wonder Woman* is, in so many basic and truly important ways, the story of each of us as we struggle for identity and the fullness of humanity in a world that is rarely easy to deal with. We are one with our Amazing Amazon as she suffers those "slings and arrows" of life.

Thank you for your insights and the joy your work brings to us.

STEPHEN M. RICHMOND
PO Box 234
Milan, IN 47031

And thank you for your letter, Stephen. We wish we had such open-minded teachers when we were in school.—TPS

* * * * *

Dear Wonder People:

If letters are addressed to the editor of *WONDER WOMAN*, Ross Andru, what's Nellie Rooke doing answering them?

DAN QUIGLEY

2006 W. Algonquin Road #14C
Mt. Prospect, IL 60056

The same thing I'm doing now that Len Wein has taken over as editor—acting as an editorial assistant. And it's a pleasure for me to be on this side of the page after some years out there in reader-land.—Ted P. Skinner

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SUPERMAN STARRING
ACTION COMICS

THE DC FEATURE PAGE

Q: Where did *Chronos* first appear?—Floyd McGee. A: This enemy of the Tiny Titan debuted in *THE ATOM* #3.

Q: How did *Blackhawk* get his powers?—Jerome James. A: He doesn't have any, except that he is a superb fighting man and pilot.

Q: Is George Reeves dead?—George Foulkes. A: Yes, the man who played *Superman* on TV committed suicide over twenty years ago.

Q: Is *Kid Flash*'s origin the same as *Flash*'s?—Freddie Mack. A: Pretty much. Both were splashed with chemicals which were struck by a bolt of lightning.

Q: If there is an Earth-2 and a Krypton-2, could there possibly be a Thanagar-2 as well?—John Merullo. A: Considering the similarities between the parallel universes it is more than likely.

Q: Where is the Hall of Justice?—David Collins. A: In Gotham City.

Q: Does gold kryptonite merely cancel the effects of a yellow sun on a Kryptonian or does it also negate his gravity-born strength?—Unsigned. A: It cancels all of a Kryptonian's super-powers, regardless of their source.

Q: If you were wearing *Superman*'s costume and someone tried to stab you, could they?—Markham Wong. A: No, the suit is as indestructible as *Superman*.

Q: Will *Red Tornado* have his own comic



book?—Gene Underwood. A: No, but he's got a solo feature coming up in *DETECTIVE COMICS* #492.

Q: What comic did *Supergirl* first appear in?—James Purdy. A: *ACTION COMICS* #252.

Q: What issues of *JUSTICE LEAGUE* were 100-pagers?—Bobby. A: #'s 110-116.

Q: What are the names of the *Metal Men*?—John Green. A: Platinum (Tina),

Iron, Gold, Mercury, Lead, and Tin.

Q: Will I be notified when my subscriptions run out?—Walt West. A: You'll be notified far enough in advance to renew without missing an issue.

Q: Where does *Green Lantern* put his power ring when he is Hal Jordan?—Jeff Fox. A: It's on his finger, invisible.

Q: In *WORLD OF KRYPTON* #2, *Superman* is shown trapped on his native world. In what issue did this originally occur?—Jeff Metzner. A: *SUPERMAN* #141.

Q: In what issue did *Ferro Lad* die?—Patrick Reynolds. A: *ADVENTURE* #353.

Q: Who is *Green Arrow*'s greatest enemy?—Mike Ruggiero. A: GA has fought a number of baddies, but I don't think any one qualifies as his arch-foe.

Q: Is Neal Adams doing any comic book work currently?—Jim Hopkins. A: Not that I know of.

Q: Will Mike Grell be doing *Green Lantern* again?—Todd Geyer. A: Not in the near future.

Q: What is the secret identity of the Earth-2 *Green Lantern*?—Tim Poisson. A: Alan Scott.

Q: How can I get a copy of the new *SUPERMAN VS. SPIDER-MAN* book?—Bob Burke. A: Watch for ordering instructions when the book is ready for publication later this year.

Comics fans who aspire to become pros are often discouraged, and tempted to give up. They should take a lesson from Cary Bates, one of comics' best writers, and one of the first to make the jump from fan to pro!

Born in Pittsburgh, Cary's family moved to Ohio when he was eleven. By that time, though, Cary had already become a fan of the character whose life he was later to shape—*Superman*. "I was a big fan of the Superman TV show, it was my favorite," says Cary. "I even had a Superman costume, I wore it all the time." Intrigued by the television exploits of the Man of Steel, Cary began reading Superman comics. It was during this time that Cary realized his future profession was that of comic book artist! "I spent years swiping art from comics," shrugs Cary. "I don't have any real artistic talent, but it helps to tell a story visually."

In a way, though, it was Cary's art talent that got him into pro comics. In 1963, Cary drew up a number of suggested cover layouts and submitted them to DC editors Mort Weisinger and Julius Schwartz. Weisinger liked one of Cary's ideas—a caged, miniature Super-

dc profiles number 60 *CARY BATES*

man suspended between a gloating Luthor and Brainiac—and used it for a cover. "I didn't get paid money," Cary recalls. "In those days, they gave me the original art to the cover." Cary continued to submit cover ideas, and in 1966, decided to write a script from one of his own ideas. It was a *WORLD'S FINEST* story, which was accepted; Cary soon followed it up with a *Superman* story. About that time, Cary entered college, and worked his way through with one of the most unusual occupations on record: Cary paid tuition by putting *Superman* through his paces!

Upon graduation, in 1971, Cary moved to New York City and began writing for DC full-time. Since then, he's not only scripted the adventures of *Superman*, but

those of *The Flash*, *Justice League*, *Superboy* and *The Legion of Super-Heroes*, as well as many other DC characters.

But comics are not Cary's only writing interest. In 1974, Cary sold a treatment for a James Bond movie. His treatment was not used for the final version of the film, but it was his first success outside of comics, and led him to try other film ideas. Cary's had success there, too—an Australian company will soon be producing one of Cary's as-yet untitled "horror-love stories". Cary also writes for Warren magazines.

What does Cary Bates say about becoming a success in your chosen field? "No matter how much editors try to discourage you, keep plugging away...keep knocking on doors. That applies to anything, not just comics." Solid advice from a man who has fashioned a comic book career for himself, despite massive obstacles. Now he's setting his sights on the world of film, and if he follows his own advice, we have no doubt he'll make it. Look out, Hollywood—here comes Cary Bates!—Mike W. Barr

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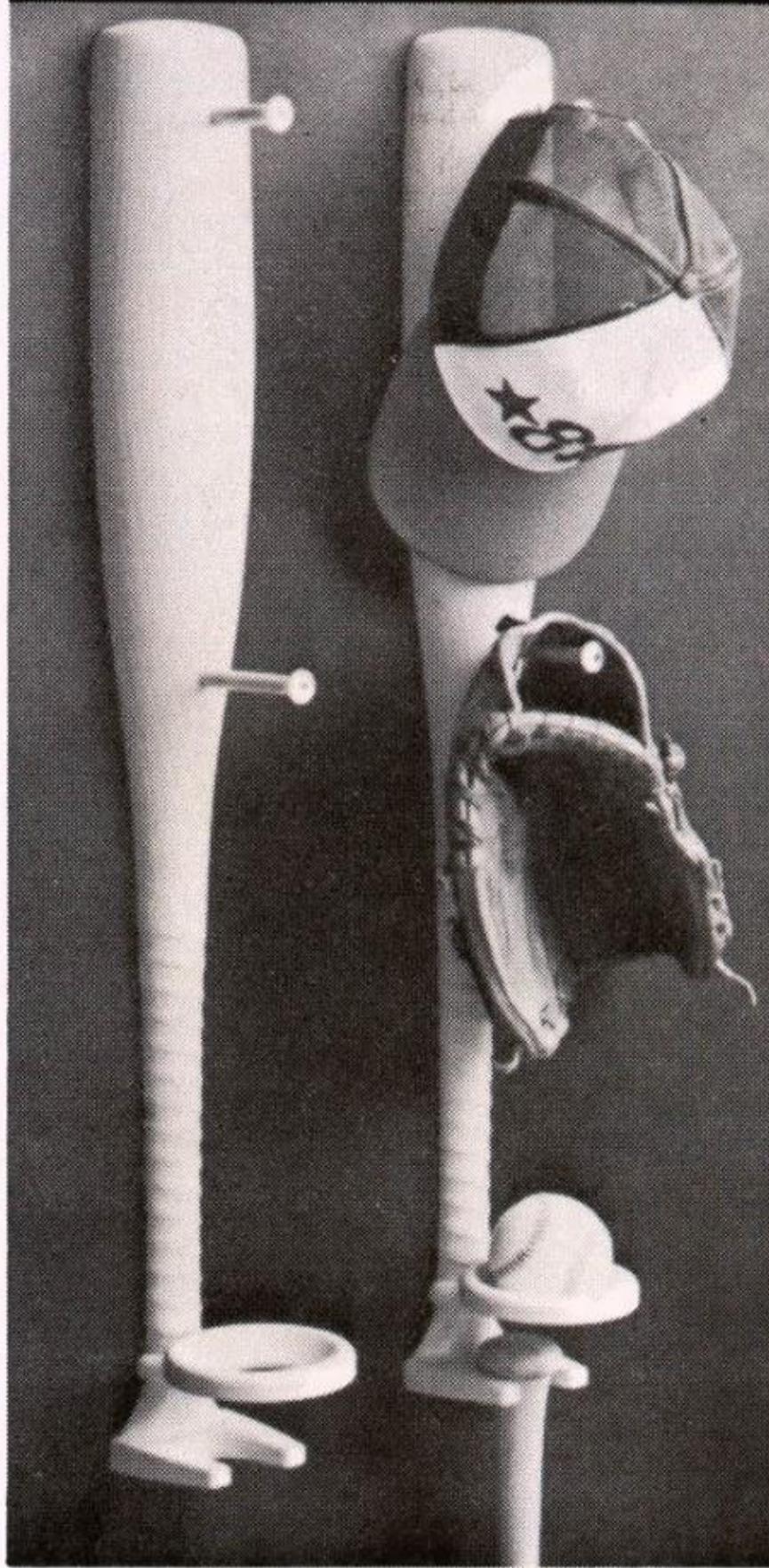
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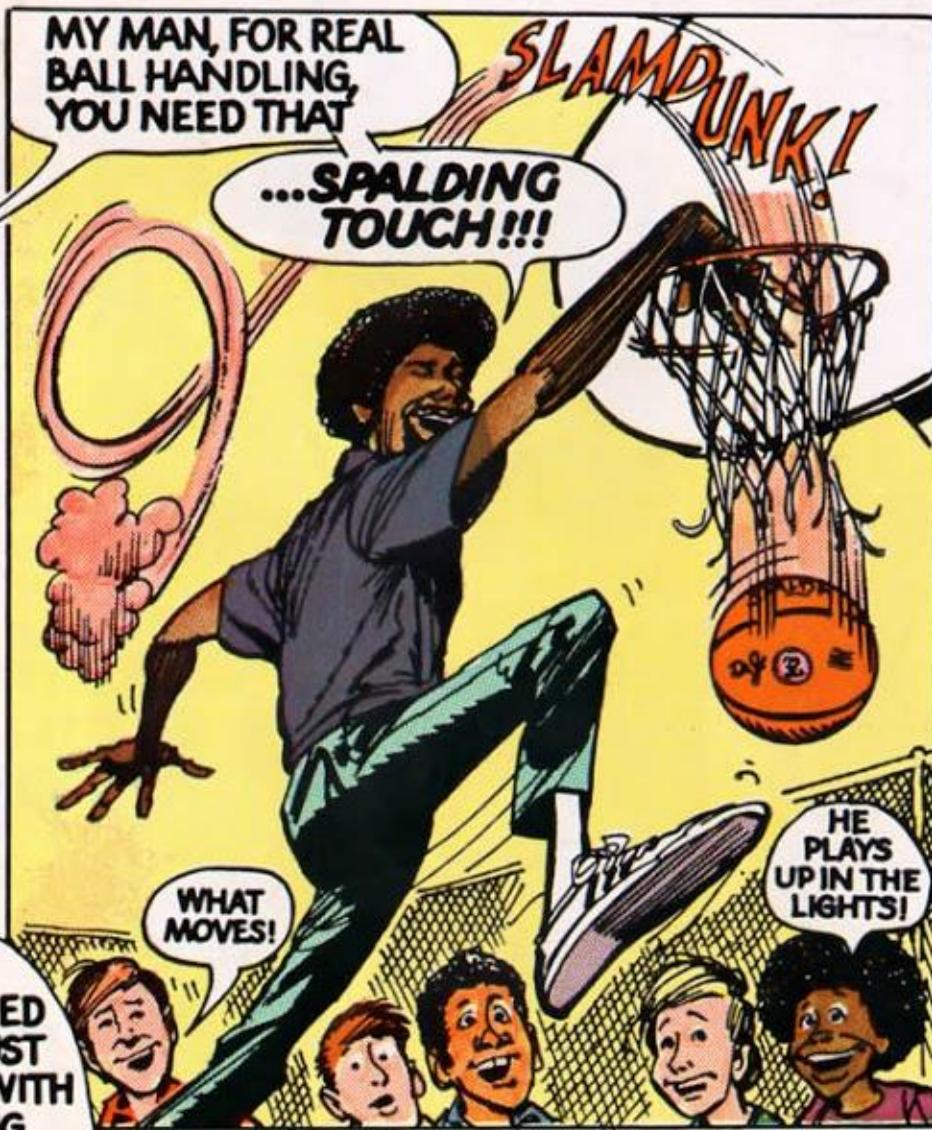
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