SUPERMAN DC NATIONAL COMICS

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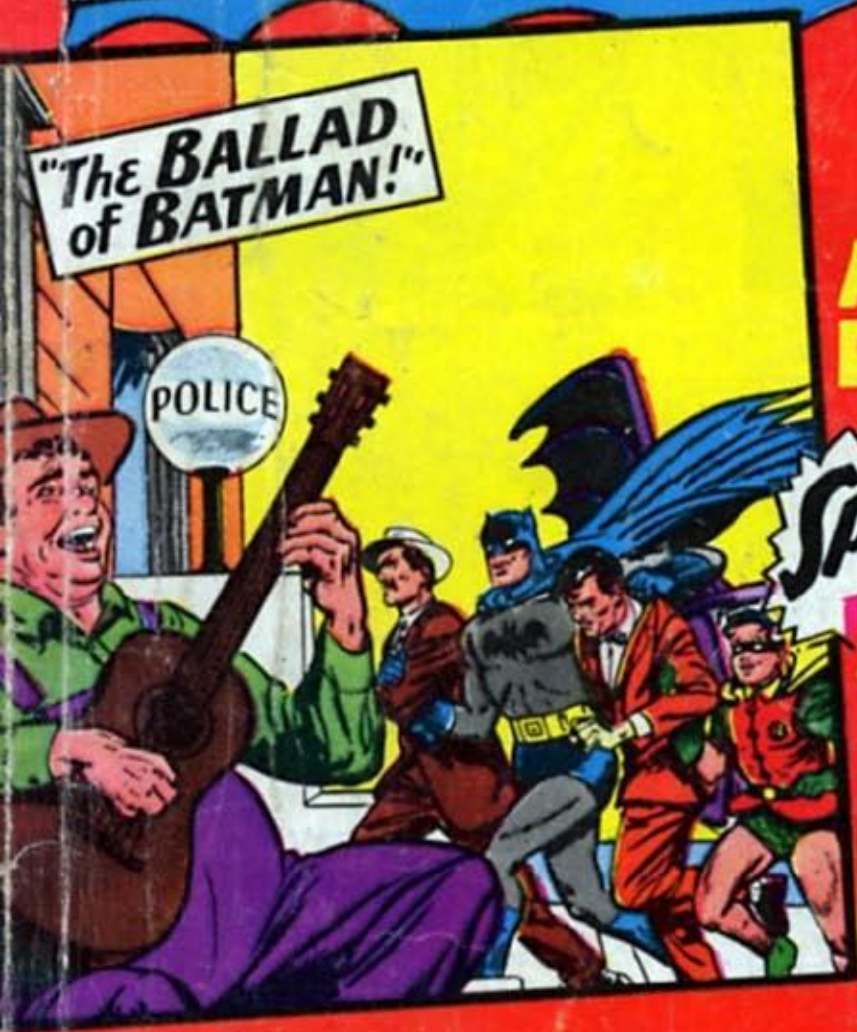
BATMAN

An ALL-STAR COLLECTION of The BEST of BATMAN!



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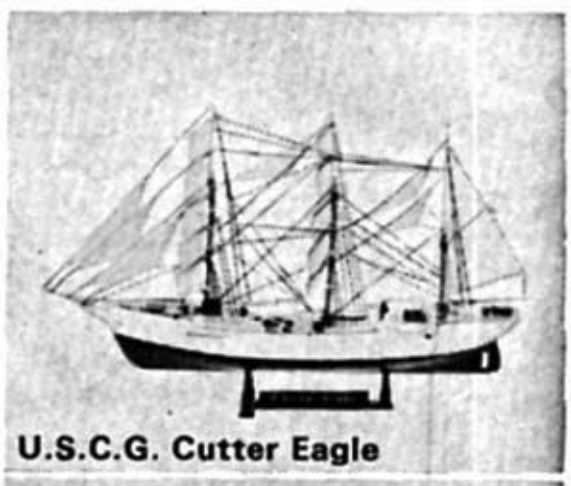
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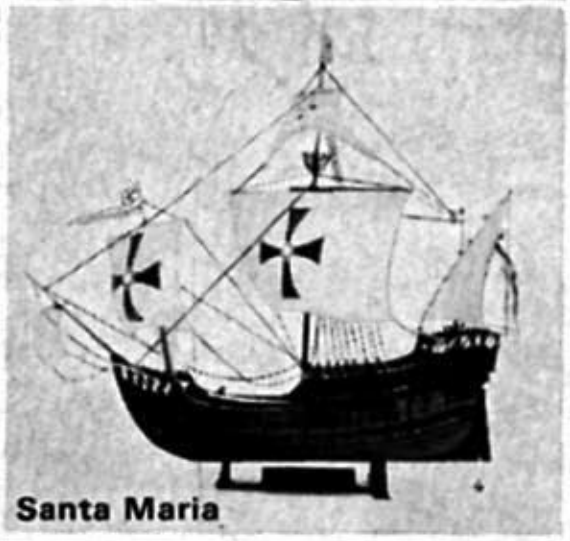
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GIANT BATMAN

An All-Star Collection of THE BEST of BATMAN

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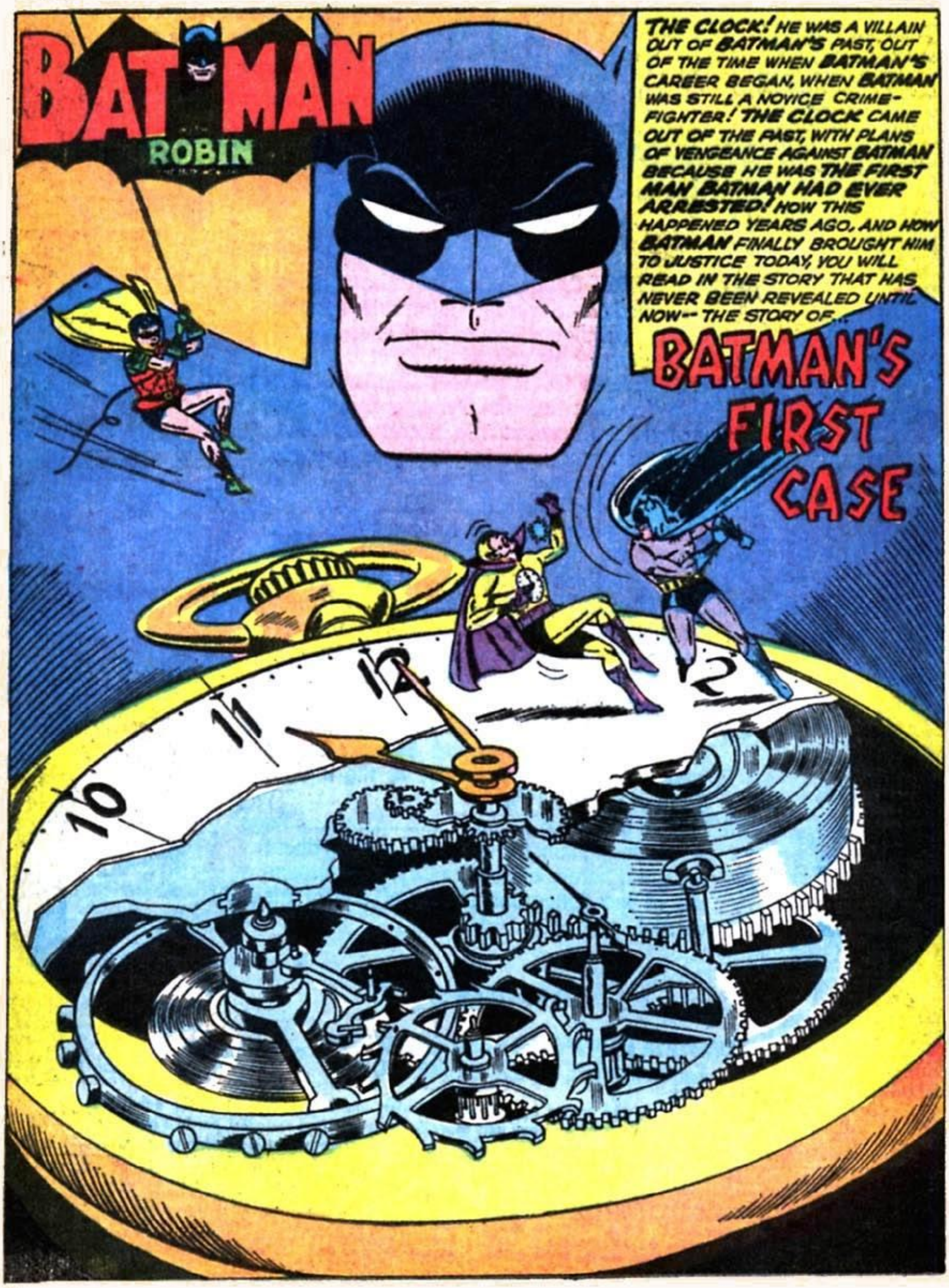
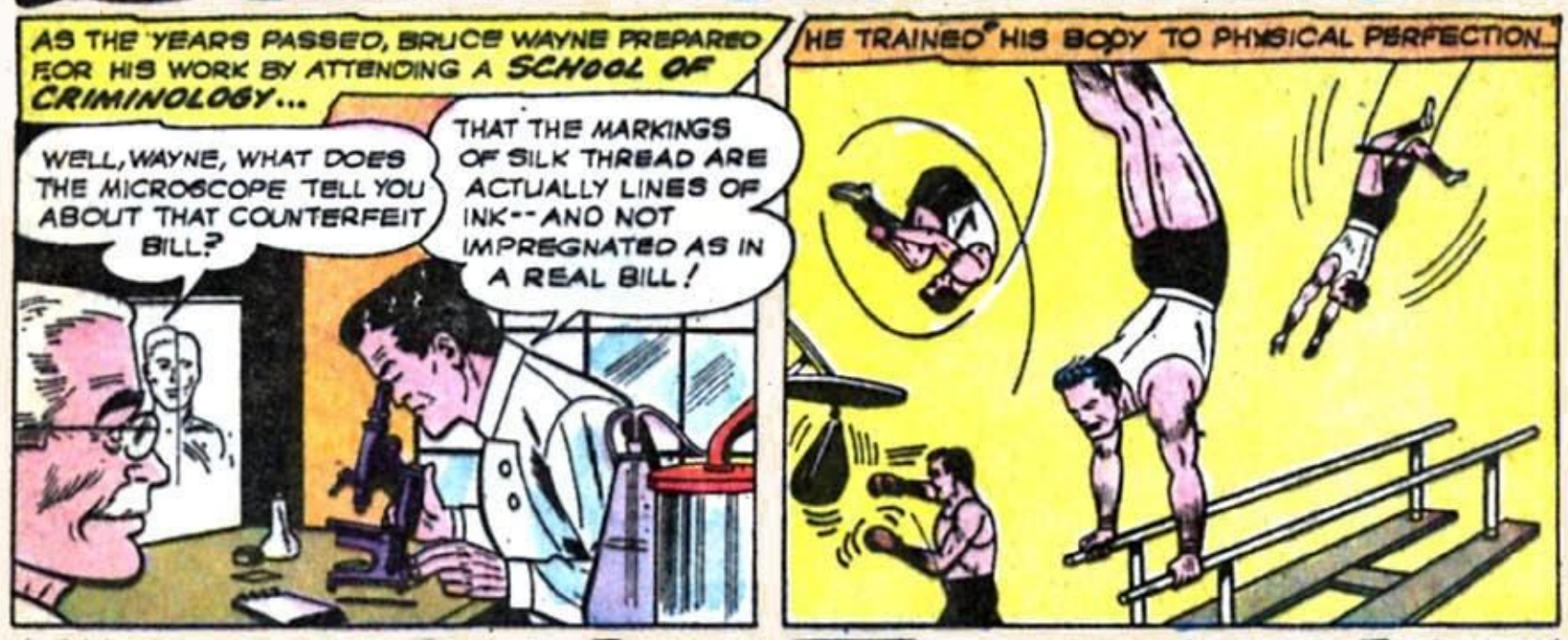

BATMAN
ROBIN
THE CLOCK! HE WAS A VILLAIN OUT OF BATMAN'S PAST, OUT OF THE TIME WHEN BATMAN'S CAREER BEGAN, WHEN BATMAN WAS STILL A NOVICE CRIME-FIGHTER! THE CLOCK CAME OUT OF THE PAST, WITH PLANS OF VENGEANCE AGAINST BATMAN BECAUSE HE WAS THE FIRST MAN BATMAN HAD EVER ARRESTED! HOW THIS HAPPENED YEARS AGO, AND HOW BATMAN FINALLY BROUGHT HIM TO JUSTICE TODAY, YOU WILL READ IN THE STORY THAT HAS NEVER BEEN REVEALED UNTIL NOW-- THE STORY OF...
BATMAN'S FIRST CASE

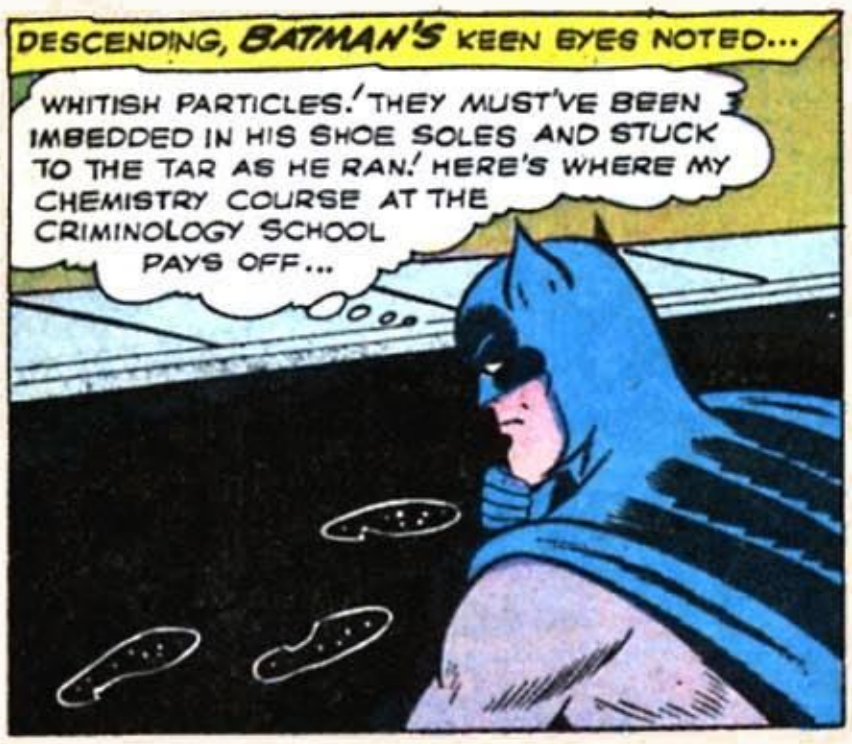
AT EXACTLY NOON, IN GOTHAM CITY PARK, BATMAN AND ROBIN, THE BOY WONDER, ARE HONORED GUESTS AT AN IMPORTANT CIVIC FUNCTION...
NOW I TAKE GREAT PRIDE IN UNVEILING THE NEWEST ADDITION TO OUR PARK'S STATUARY--THE BATMAN CLOCK!
BUT AS THE DRAPERY FALLS AWAY...
AT EXACTLY 3 P.M. I, THE CLOCK, WILL CLIMAX MY CLOCK CRIMES BY DESTROYING BATMAN!
GREAT SCOTT! A THREAT AGAINST BATMAN'S LIFE!
AND THEN, AS IF IT IS SYMBOLIC OF BATMAN'S DOOM...
LOOK OUT! THE STATUE'S COLLAPSING!
ABOVE THE CRASHING DIN, A MOCKING VOICE IS HEARD...
A TIMER, THAT RELEASED ACID, DESTROYED YOUR STATUE--BUT I'VE A MORE FITTING DEATH ARRANGED FOR YOUR TIMELY DEMISE AT THREE!
EVEN AS THE DYNAMIC DUO CHARGE FORWARD, THE CLOCK LEAPS TO A HIDDEN MOTORCYCLE AND ROARS AWAY...
NO USE, BATMAN--HE PLANNED HIS GETAWAY PERFECTLY!
ROBIN, I'VE SEEN THAT FACE BEFORE--A LONG TIME AGO...
NOW I REMEMBER! IT WAS BACK AT THE START OF MY CAREER--MY FIRST CASE...

BATMAN'S THOUGHTS FLASH BACK TO THE TIME HE WAS A YOUNGSTER, STROLLING WITH HIS PARENTS – WHEN AN ARMED MAN APPROACHED...
THIS IS A STICKUP, MISTER! I'LL TAKE THAT NECKLACE YOU'RE WEARING, LADY!
NO YOU WON'T!
BUT AS BRUCE'S FATHER BRAVELY ATTACKED, THE PANICKY BANDIT FATALLY SHOT HIS PARENTS...
GET BACK-- GET BACK!
BLAM BLAM
NIGHTS LATER, THE GRIEVING BOY MADE A VOW TO THE MEMORY OF HIS PARENTS...
I PROMISE THAT I'LL DEDICATE MY LIFE TO FIND AND BRING YOUR KILLER TO JUSTICE --AND TO FIGHT ALL CRIME!


AS THE YEARS PASSED, BRUCE WAYNE PREPARED FOR HIS WORK BY ATTENDING A SCHOOL OF CRIMINOLOGY...
WELL, WAYNE, WHAT DOES THE MICROSCOPE TELL YOU ABOUT THAT COUNTERFEIT BILL?
THAT THE MARKINGS OF SILK THREAD ARE ACTUALLY LINES OF INK--AND NOT IMPREGNATED AS IN A REAL BILL!
HE TRAINED HIS BODY TO PHYSICAL PERFECTION...

THEN CAME THE DAY HE WAS READY FOR HIS CHOSEN CAREER OF CRIME-FIGHTING...
I'LL NEED A DISGUISE THAT WILL INSTILL FEAR IN CRIMINALS! I MUST BE A CREATURE OF THE NIGHT... BUT WHAT--?
AS IF IN ANSWER, A WINGED SHAPE FLEW INTO THE ROOM...
A BAT! IT'S LIKE AN OMEN! I SHALL BECOME A BATMAN!

THUS WAS BORN A WEIRD FIGURE OF NIGHT--THE BATMAN!
A THIEF -- SNEAKING INTO THAT WAREHOUSE! UNTIL I FIND MY PARENTS' KILLER, I'LL FIGHT CRIME AS IT OCCURS!
GOTHAM SILV
AND THEN BATMAN SWUNG INTO HIS FIRST CASE IN SPECTACULAR FASHION...
I'M GLAD I ADDED THIS SILKEN ROPE TO MY EQUIPMENT!
HUH? A MAN IN A STRANGE BAT COSTUME!
THEN BATMAN STRUCK HIS FIRST BLOW AT CRIME!
I GIVE UP, MISTER! MY LEG--I CAN'T MOVE IT! I THINK I BUSTED IT WHEN I FELL!
I'LL TAKE A LOOK AT IT!
BUT AS BATMAN BENT FORWARD...
YOU CHUMP! YOU FELL FOR AN OLD TRICK--AND NOW YOU'RE GONNA TAKE ANOTHER FALL!
WHAT...?!!
WHEN BATMAN RECOVERED...
HE'S ESCAPING ACROSS THAT SECTION OF STREET THAT WAS RECENTLY TARRED!


DESCENDING, BATMAN'S KEEN EYES NOTED...
WHITISH PARTICLES! THEY MUST'VE BEEN IMBEDDED IN HIS SHOE SOLES AND STUCK TO THE TAR AS HE RAN! HERE'S WHERE MY CHEMISTRY COURSE AT THE CRIMINOLOGY SCHOOL PAYS OFF...

SOMETIME LATER, THE EXULTANT BATMAN HAD TRACKED DOWN HIS QUARRY...
THOSE WHITISH PARTICLES WERE THE MINERAL KNOWN AS THALLIUM-- AND THALLIUM IS USED IN THE MANUFACTURE OF GLASS! SO HIS HIDEOUT MAY BE THIS ABANDONED GLASSWORKS!
Gotham Glass Works
FOR RENT

WARILY, BATMAN SLIPPED INTO THE BUILDING--BUT...
I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT TRAIL ME HERE-- SO I KEPT WATCH FROM A WINDOW!

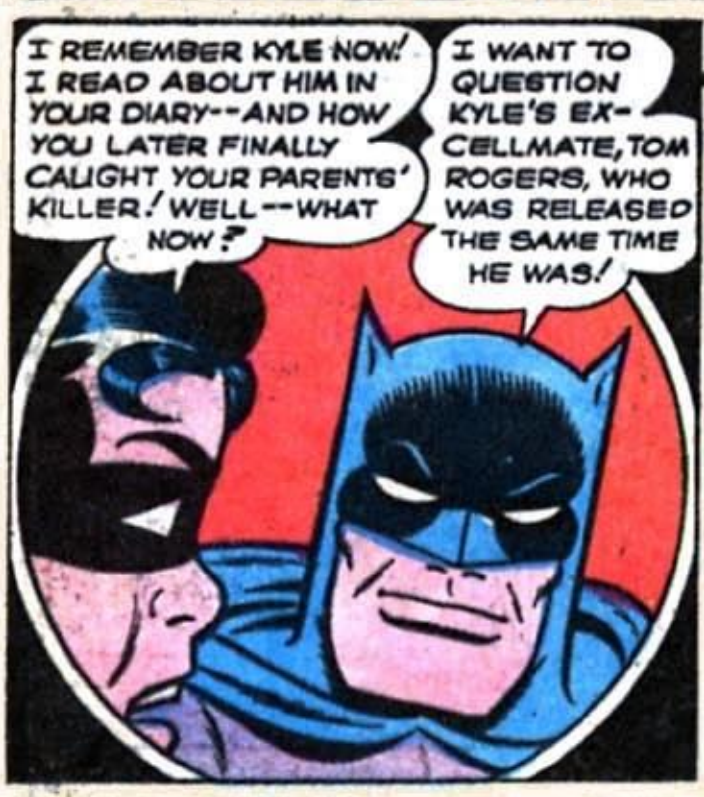
LATER, LEFT BOUND IN THE BASEMENT...
I LEARNED MY SECOND LESSON! NEVER UNDERESTIMATE A CRIMINAL! NOW, HOW DO I GET LOOSE? HMM--THAT PAIL OF ROUGE USED TO GRIND AND POLISH GLASS...

ROLLING ALONGSIDE THE BUCKET BATMAN THRUST HIS HANDS INTO THE RED POWDER...
IT'S SO FINE, IT WILL BE ALMOST LIKE OILING THESE ROPES SO THAT THEY'LL BECOME SLIPPERY ENOUGH TO SLIDE OFF!

LATER, UPSTAIRS, THE CRIMINAL SAW...
THE MASKED GUY! HE GOT AWAY! BUT HE WON'T GET AWAY FROM MY GUN!

BUT TO HIS ASTONISHMENT, AS HE FIRED, THE FIGURE SEEMED TO SHATTER!
CRASH!
W-WHAT...?!!
SPLINTER!
BAM! BAM!
TINKLE!

SUDDENLY, AS A SECOND BATMAN LEAPED FROM BEHIND...
HUH? ANOTHER ONE!
NO--THERE'S ONLY ONE BATMAN! I WAS AFRAID YOU MIGHT HEAR ME BEHIND YOU, SO I HAD TO GET YOU OFF-GUARD FIRST!
WHAT YOU SHOT AT WAS A FULL-LENGTH MIRROR WHICH REFLECTED MY IMAGE FROM THE DOORWAY IN WHICH I WAS STANDING BEHIND YOU! I PUT THAT MIRROR THERE TO DRAW YOUR FIRE AWAY FROM ME! WHO'S THE CHUMP NOW, CHUMP?


I REMEMBER KYLE NOW! I READ ABOUT HIM IN YOUR DIARY--AND HOW YOU LATER FINALLY CAUGHT YOUR PARENTS' KILLER! WELL--WHAT NOW?
I WANT TO QUESTION KYLE'S EX-CELLMATE, TOM ROGERS, WHO WAS RELEASED THE SAME TIME HE WAS!

LATER, BATMAN INTERVIEWS THE EX-CONVICT...
SURE I CAN TELL YOU ABOUT KYLE! I REMEMBER WHEN ME AND OTHER CONS USED TO GO TO THE PRISON LIBRARY TO LEARN A TRADE THAT WOULD HELP US GO STRAIGHT, KYLE WOULD LAUGH AT US!

"KYLE BOASTED THAT HE'D NEVER GO STRAIGHT, NOT HIM..."
YOU FOOLS--STUDYING HOW TO HANDLE HONEST JOBS! I'M LEARNING ALL ABOUT CLOCKS--AND HOW TO USE 'EM TO GET EVEN WITH BATMAN!
CLOCKS? WHY CLOCKS?
CLOCK ALARMS

BECAUSE BATMAN MADE ME DO TIME IN PRISON!

ANOTHER BIT OF INFORMATION BY THE PRISON WARDEN SUPPLIES THE MISSING LINK IN THE PUZZLE...
SURE, BATMAN-- I CAN TELL YOU EXACTLY WHEN IT WAS THAT KYLE WAS FIRST BROUGHT HERE YEARS AGO! IT WAS AT EXACTLY THREE O'CLOCK!
THAT'S IT-- THE REASON FOR HIS REVENGE! HE WANTS TO KILL ME AT THAT HOUR BECAUSE THAT'S THE TIME HE STARTED SERVING HIS PRISON TERM!

AND, AT THAT MOMENT, IN THE BIZARRE HIDEOUT OF KYLE, ALIAS THE CLOCK...
OTHER CONS USED TO KID ME BECAUSE I WAS THE FIRST CRIMINAL BATMAN ARRESTED! I'LL SHOW THEM! I WAS BATMAN'S FIRST CASE--AND I'LL BE HIS LAST, TOO!
TICK! TOCK!
TICK! TOCK!

LATER, WHILE PATROLLING THE CITY, BATMAN AND ROBIN SIGHT ANOTHER TIMELY CHALLENGE FROM THE CLOCK...
"THE TINIEST CLOCK CRIME!" WHAT CAN HE MEAN BY THAT?
IT IS TIME FOR ME TO MAKE THE TINIEST CLOCK CRIME
GOTHAM WATCH CO.

MEANWHILE, DISGUISED AND POSING AS A REPORTER, THE CLOCK IS TAKEN ON A TOUR OF THE WATCH COMPANY IN THAT VERY BUILDING...
YOU MIGHT TELL YOUR READERS THIS LITTLE-KNOWN FACT--BEFORE A WORKER IS HIRED IN A WATCH FACTORY, HE MUST UNDERGO A GALVOMETER TEST TO DETERMINE HIS ACID CONDITION--FOR TOO MUCH ACID QUICKLY RUSTS AND DAMAGES WATCH WORKS!

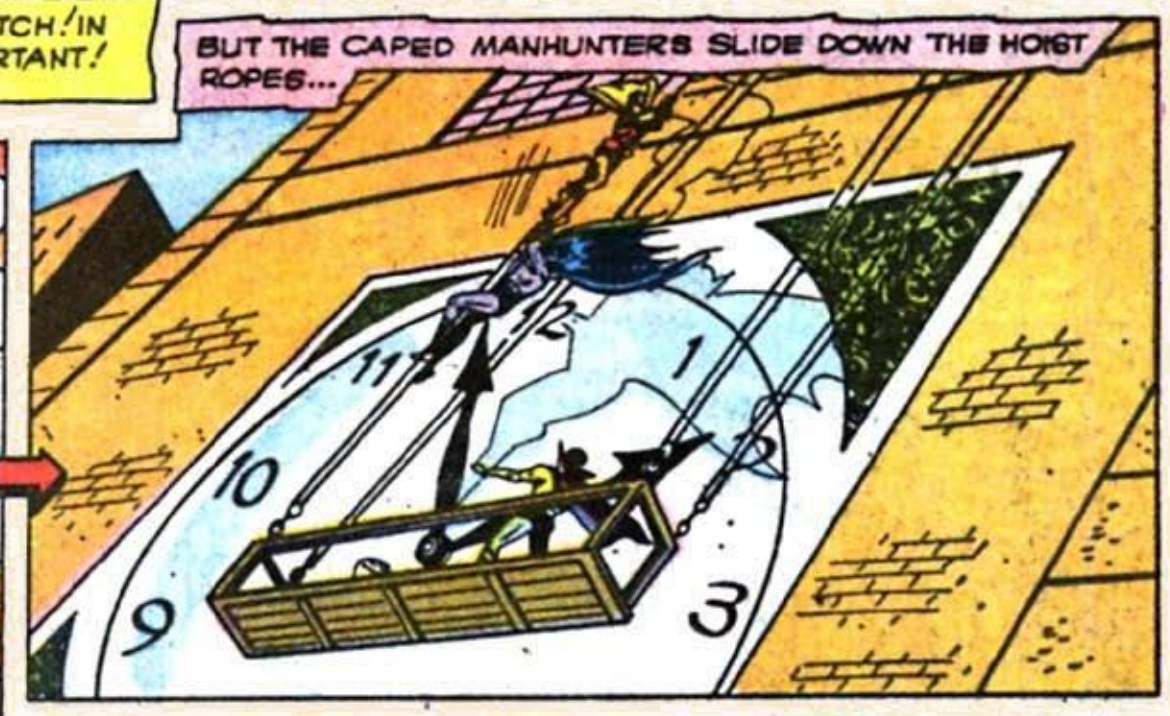
ABRUPTLY EMPTYING HIS COAT POCKETS, THE CLOCK STRIKES!
AFRAID OF ACID, EH? THEN HOW ABOUT ORANGE PEELS? THERE'S PLENTY OF ACID IN THEM!

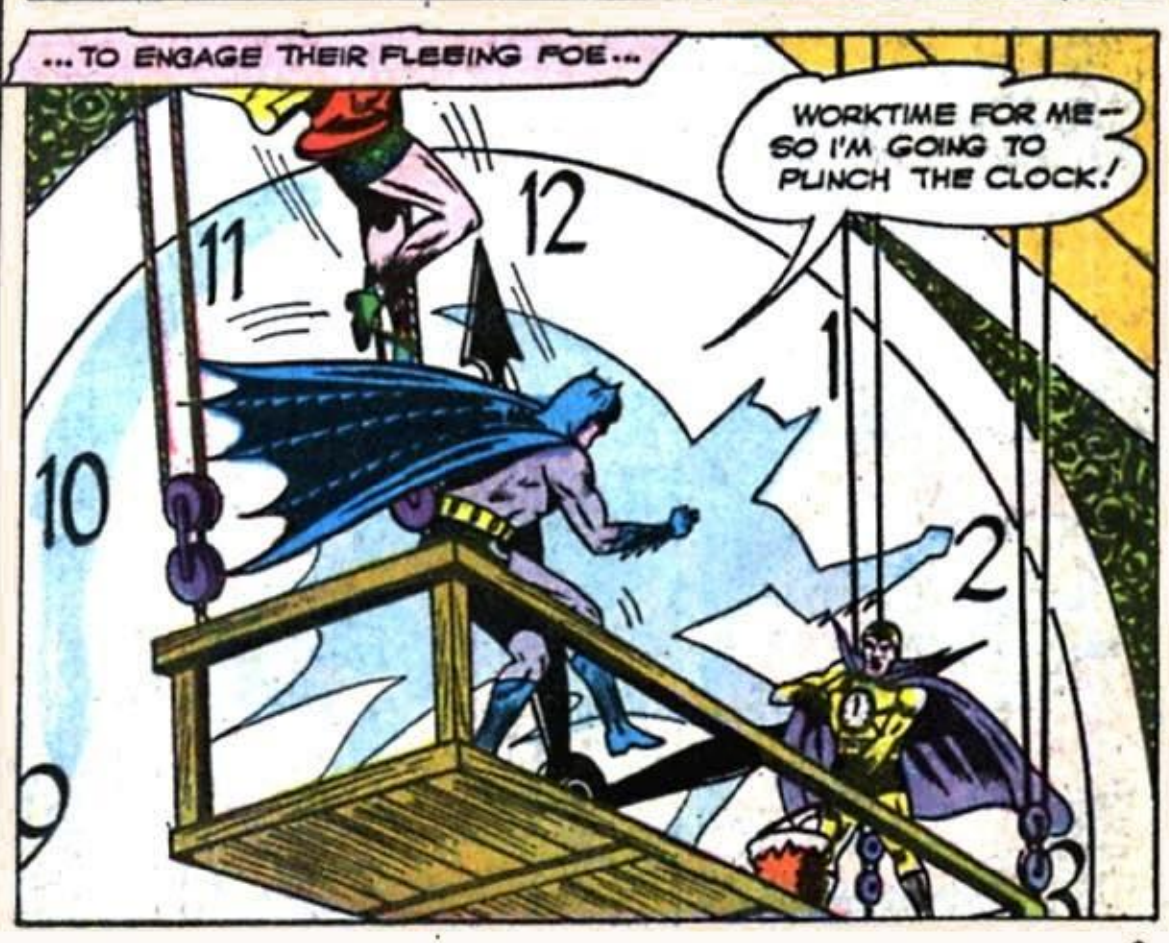
AS THE WORKERS FRANTICALLY GATHER UP THE ORANGE PEELS, THEY ARE UNAWARE THAT THE CLOCK IS MAKING USE OF THE TIME...
WHILE THEY'RE BUSY, I'LL HAVE ENOUGH TIME TO SCOOP UP THESE TINY WATCH SCREWS!

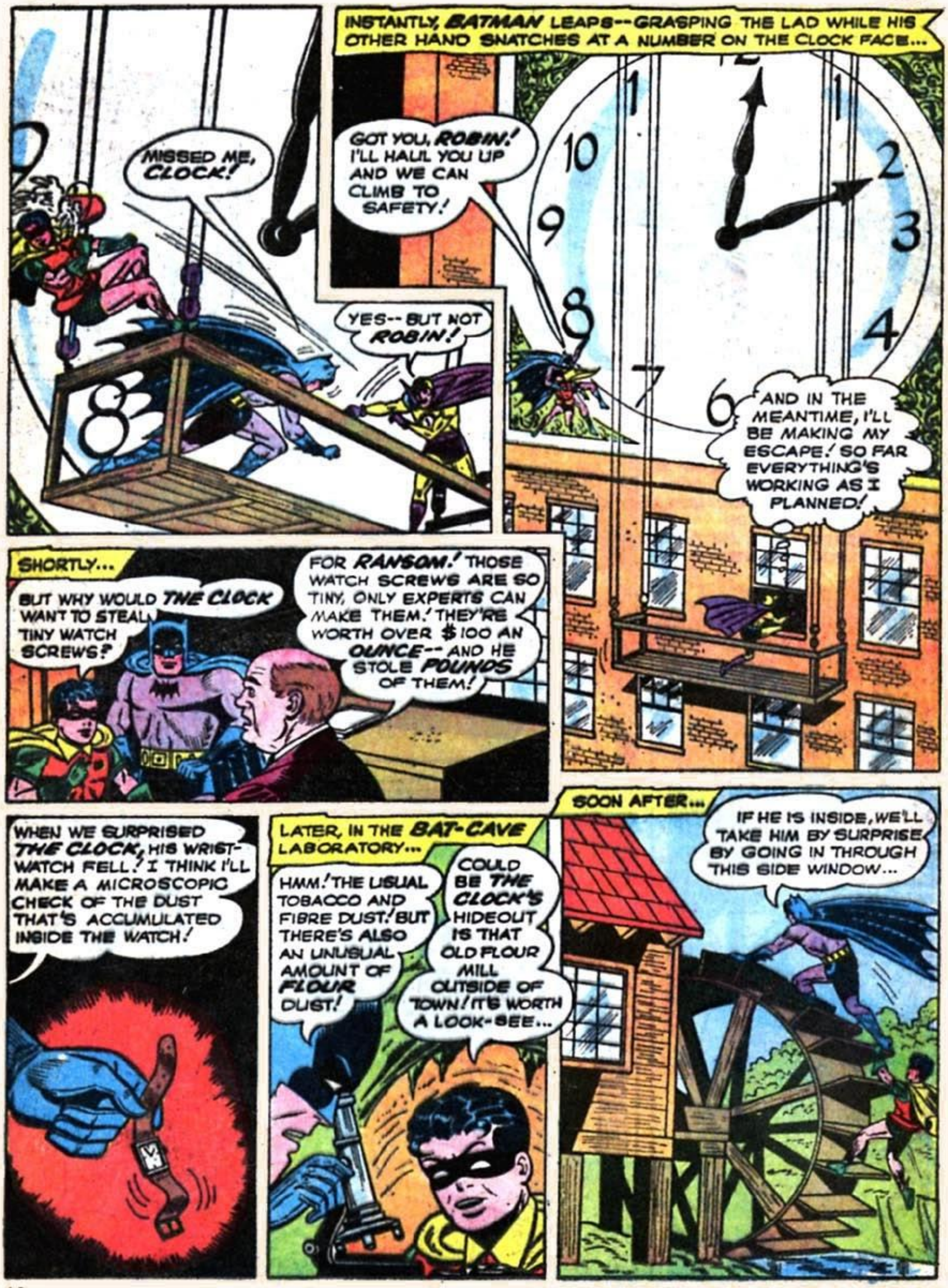
BUT, SUDDENLY, TWO CAPED FIGURES MAKE A TIMELY ENTRANCE!
LOOK! BATMAN, YOU SURPRISED HIM SO MUCH, HE DOESN'T HAVE TIME ON HIS HANDS ANY MORE -- NOT EVEN ON HIS WRIST!
WATCH THAT FALLEN WRISTWATCH! IN TIME, IT WILL PROVE MOST IMPORTANT!

ABRUPTLY, THE CLOCK TURNS AND...
HOLY SMOKE! HE'S GOING THROUGH THE WINDOW!
CRASH!

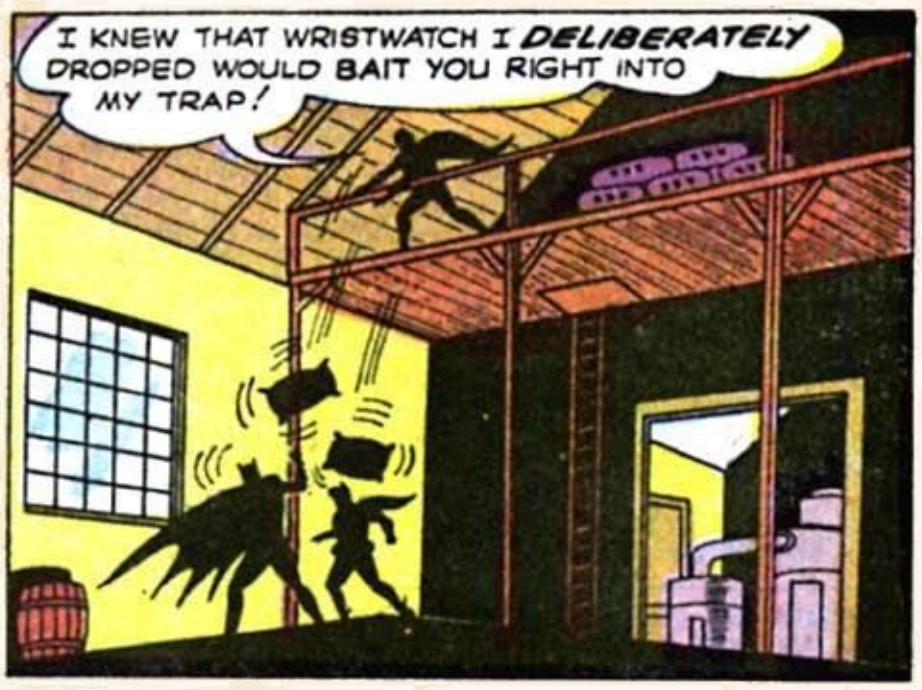
BUT...
I ALWAYS PLAN MY CRIMES WITH CLOCK-WORK PRECISION! NOW I'LL LOWER THIS SCAFFOLD TO ANOTHER FLOOR AND ESCAPE!


BUT THE CAPED MANHUNTERS SLIDE DOWN THE HOIST ROPES...


...TO ENGAGE THEIR FLEEING FOE...
WORKTIME FOR ME-- SO I'M GOING TO PUNCH THE CLOCK!

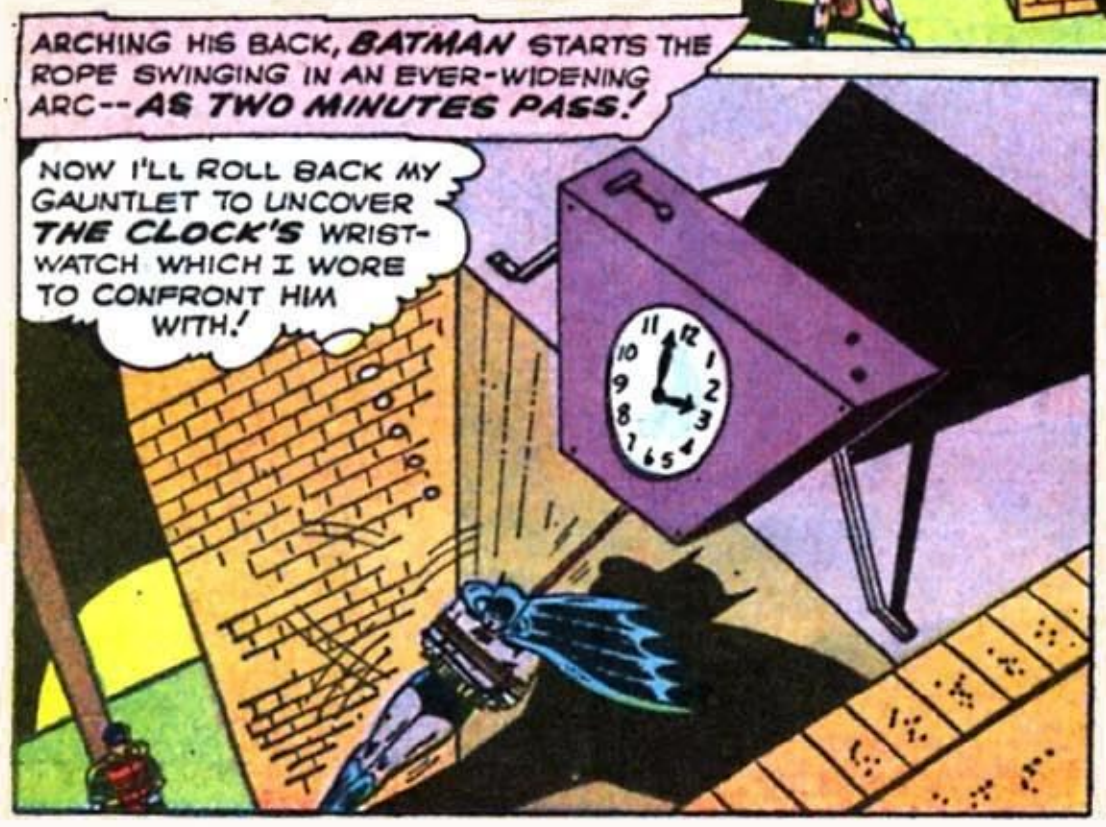

MISSED ME, CLOCK!
INSTANTLY, BATMAN LEAPS--GRASPING THE LAD WHILE HIS OTHER HAND SNATCHES AT A NUMBER ON THE CLOCK FACE...
GOT YOU, ROBIN! I'LL HAUL YOU UP AND WE CAN CLIMB TO SAFETY!
YES--BUT NOT ROBIN!
AND IN THE MEANTIME, I'LL BE MAKING MY ESCAPE! SO FAR EVERYTHING'S WORKING AS I PLANNED!
SHORTLY...
BUT WHY WOULD THE CLOCK WANT TO STEAL TINY WATCH SCREWS?
FOR RANSOM! THOSE WATCH SCREWS ARE SO TINY, ONLY EXPERTS CAN MAKE THEM! THEY'RE WORTH OVER $100 AN OUNCE--AND HE STOLE POUNDS OF THEM!
WHEN WE SURPRISED THE CLOCK, HIS WRIST-WATCH FELL! I THINK I'LL MAKE A MICROSCOPIC CHECK OF THE DUST THAT'S ACCUMULATED INSIDE THE WATCH!
LATER, IN THE BAT-CAVE LABORATORY...
HMM! THE USUAL TOBACCO AND FIBRE DUST! BUT THERE'S ALSO AN UNUSUAL AMOUNT OF FLOUR DUST!
COULD BE THE CLOCK'S HIDEOUT IS THAT OLD FLOUR MILL OUTSIDE OF TOWN! IT'S WORTH A LOOK-SEE...
SOON AFTER...
IF HE IS INSIDE, WE'LL TAKE HIM BY SURPRISE BY GOING IN THROUGH THIS SIDE WINDOW...

BUT AS THEY STEP INSIDE...
WHAT...?!! AN ALARM CLOCK!
BRR-ING


I KNEW THAT WRISTWATCH I DELIBERATELY DROPPED WOULD BAIT YOU RIGHT INTO MY TRAP!

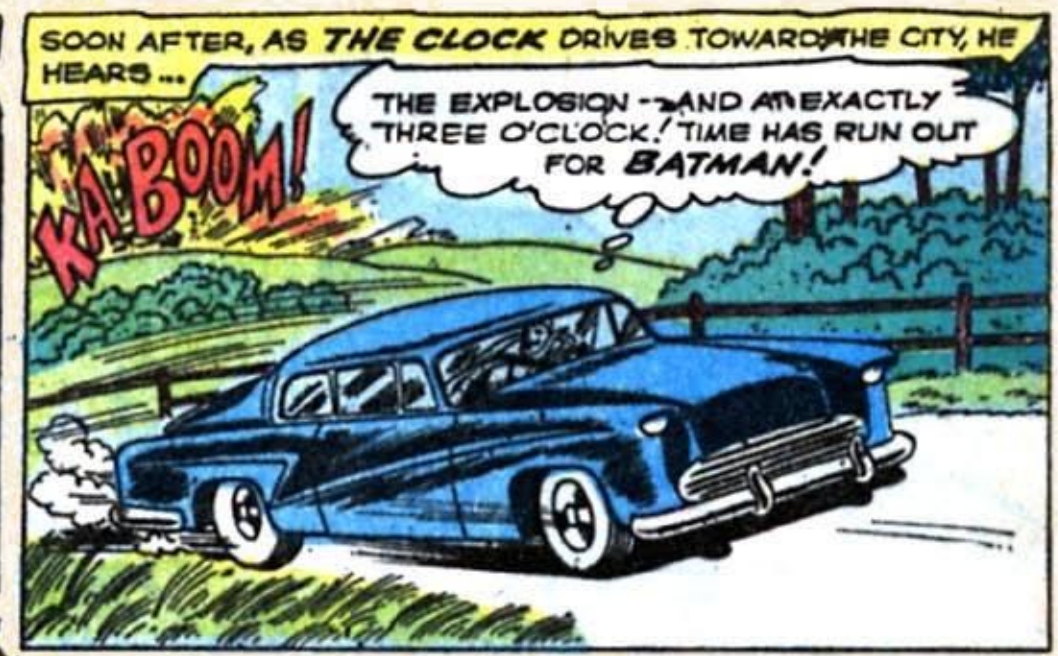
WHEN BATMAN REGAINS CONSCIOUSNESS...
YEARS AGO, AT EXACTLY THREE O'CLOCK, YOU, BATMAN, STOLE TIME FROM MY LIFE -- AND IN EXACTLY FIVE MINUTES THAT CLOCK WILL EXPLODE AND TAKE ALL THE TIME LEFT IN YOUR LIFE! GOOD BYE, BATMAN -- FOREVER!

AS THE CLOCK DEPARTS, BATMAN FACES DEATH! ONE MINUTE PASSES!
BATMAN -- IF ONLY I COULD GET FREE -- BUT I CAN'T BUDGE!
EASY, ROBIN -- I'VE KILLED TIME BEFORE -- BUT I'M NOT GOING TO LET TIME KILL ME! HMM! THESE UPRIGHT SIDE WALLS ARE MADE OF BRICK! I'VE GOT AN IDEA...


ARCHING HIS BACK, BATMAN STARTS THE ROPE SWINGING IN AN EVER-WIDENING ARC -- AS TWO MINUTES PASS!
NOW I'LL ROLL BACK MY GAUNTLET TO UNCOVER THE CLOCK'S WRIST-WATCH WHICH I WORE TO CONFRONT HIM WITH!

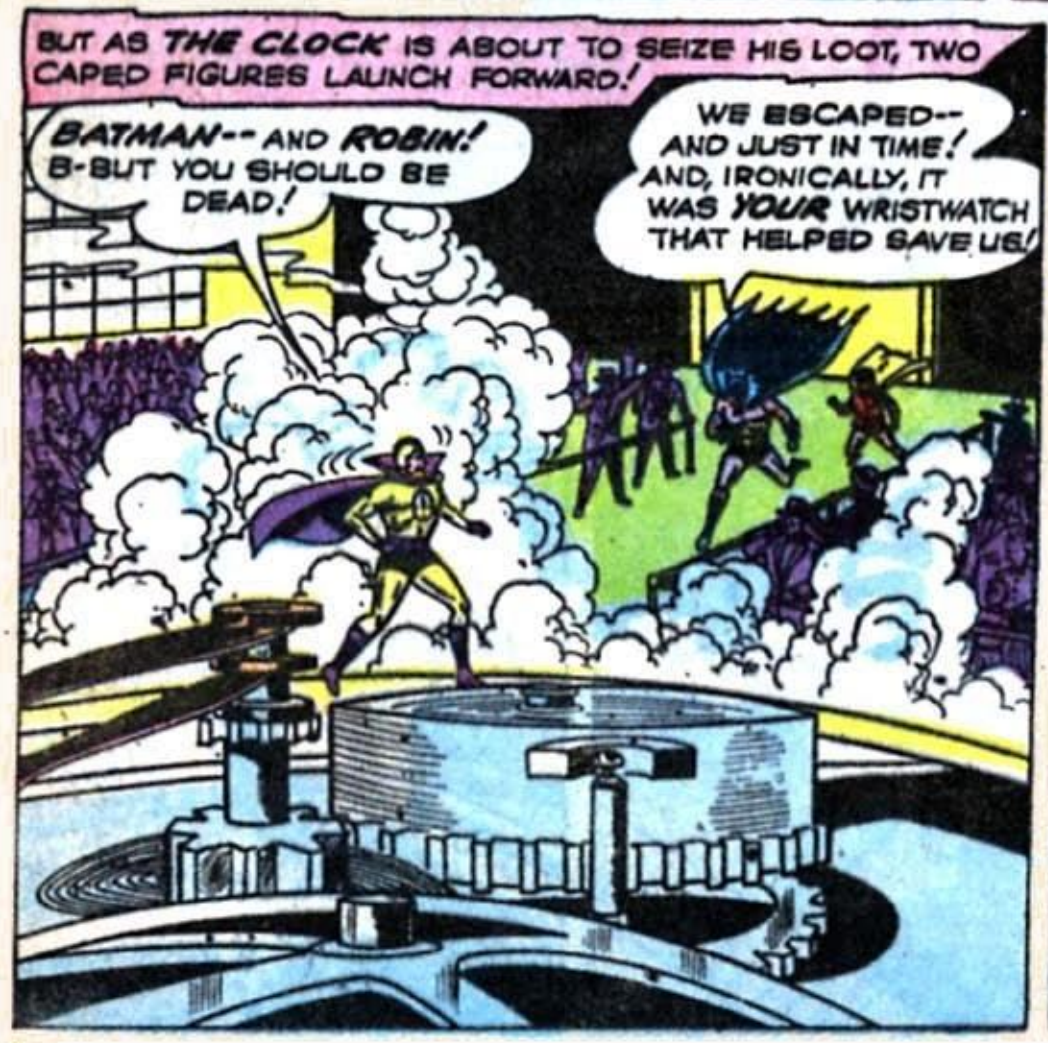
AND AS BATMAN'S SWINGING FIGURE REACHES A WALL, THE UNCOVERED WRISTWATCH CRYSTAL SHATTERS AGAINST THE BRICK!
CRACK

IN A RACE AGAINST TIME, BATMAN EXTRACTS A SHARD OF BROKEN CRYSTAL AND SAWS AT THE TAUT ROPE--AS THREE MINUTES PASS!

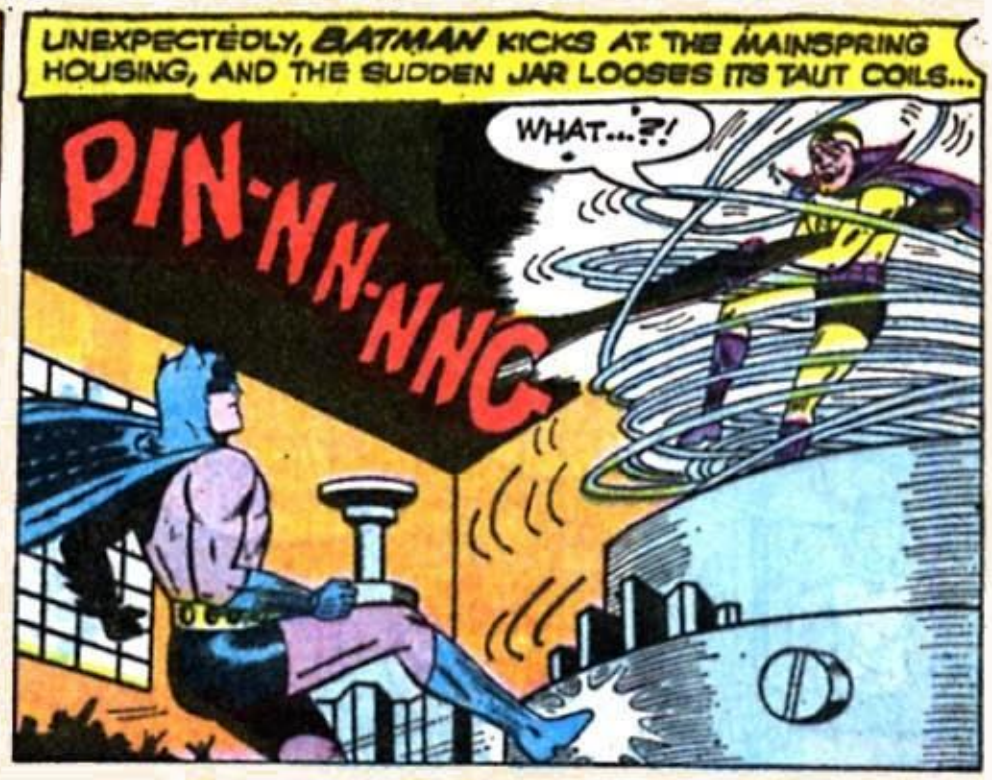

SOON AFTER, AS THE CLOCK DRIVES TOWARD THE CITY, HE HEARS...
KA-BOOM!
THE EXPLOSION--AND AT EXACTLY THREE O'CLOCK! TIME HAS RUN OUT FOR BATMAN!

SOMETIME LATER--AT GOTHAM CITY'S CLOCK FAIR, WHERE A CROWD VIEWS A GIANT CUTAWAY MODEL OF A POCKET WATCH!
...AND BECAUSE THIS WATCH IS AN EXACT REPLICA, IT CONTAINS REAL JEWEL MOVEMENTS! NATURALLY, SINCE THE GEMS ARE LARGE, THEY ARE MOST VALUABLE!

SUDDENLY, A LARGE CUCKOO CLOCK STRIKES THE HALF-HOUR, AND...
I'M NO CUCKOO! I'M TOO SMART TO BE CAUGHT--NOT EVEN BY BATMAN! THIS SMOKE CAPSULE WILL START ENOUGH CONFUSION FOR ME TO GRAB THOSE JEWELS!
CU-COO
CU-CU
CU-COO


BUT AS THE CLOCK IS ABOUT TO SEIZE HIS LOOT, TWO CAPED FIGURES LAUNCH FORWARD!
BATMAN--AND ROBIN! B-BUT YOU SHOULD BE DEAD!
WE ESCAPED--AND JUST IN TIME! AND, IRONICALLY, IT WAS YOUR WRISTWATCH THAT HELPED SAVE US!

SWIFTLY, THE CLOCK WRENCHES LOOSE A GIANT HOUR HAND, AND...
HA! A PERFECTLY TIMED SWING!



For the MOST in THRILLS...

GO-GO-GO

SUPERMAN DC NATIONAL COMICS

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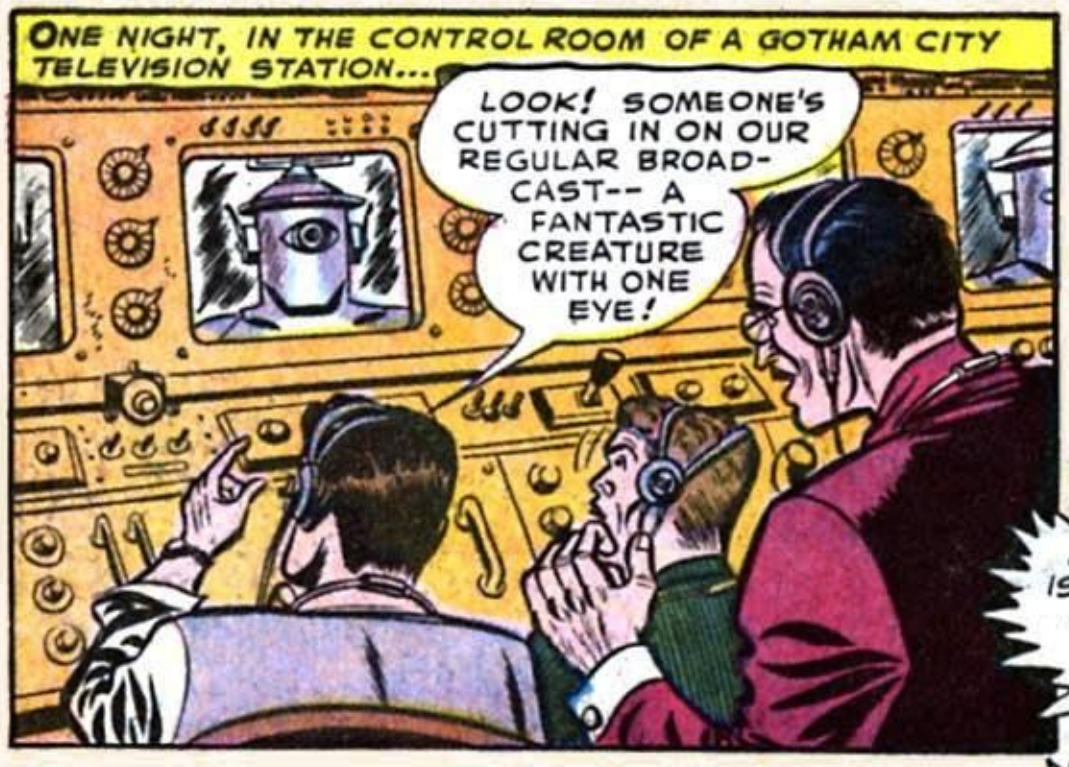
BATMAN AND ROBIN
SILENTLY, THE PEOPLE OF GOTHAM WAIT BEFORE THEIR TELEVISION SETS-- NEVER DARING TO TURN THEM OFF! FOR, AT ANY MOMENT, WHEN THEY LEAST EXPECT IT, ANOTHER SHOCKING SCENE, RIPPED FROM LIFE ITSELF, WILL SWEEP BEFORE THEIR STUNNED EYES! YES... NO PERSON OR PLACE IS IMMUNE FROM THE PROBING STARE OF THIS MAMMOTH EYE WHICH PENETRATES THE DARKEST CORNERS OF THE CITY'S LIFE! AND EVEN BATMAN AND ROBIN CANNOT ESCAPE THE MERCILESS GAZE OF...
The PHANTOM EYE of GOTHAM CITY
THE POLICE ARE TAKING THOSE CROOKS AWAY, ROBIN! NOW I CAN RETURN TO MY IDENTITY AS BRUCE WAYNE!
BATMAN! WAIT! THAT EYE! IT...IT'S WATCHING EVERYTHING WE DO!
92nd ST
BOB KANE


ONE NIGHT, IN THE CONTROL ROOM OF A GOTHAM CITY TELEVISION STATION...
LOOK! SOMEONE'S CUTTING IN ON OUR REGULAR BROADCAST-- A FANTASTIC CREATURE WITH ONE EYE!

THEN, BEFORE THE STUNNED EYES OF THE TELEVISION ENGINEER...
ATTENTION, GOTHAM CITY! THIS IS THE PHANTOM EYE! YOU ARE ABOUT TO SEE AN ACTUAL CRIME. IT WILL BE COMMITTED BEFORE YOUR VERY EYES! WATCH!

AND, IN A MILLION HOMES, VIEWERS SIT TRANSFIXED BY A SHOCKING SCENE...
DAD, LOOK! THAT MAN'S BEING HELD UP!
AND THAT "PHANTOM EYE," WHOEVER HE IS, SAYS IT'S THE REAL THING!
BATMAN

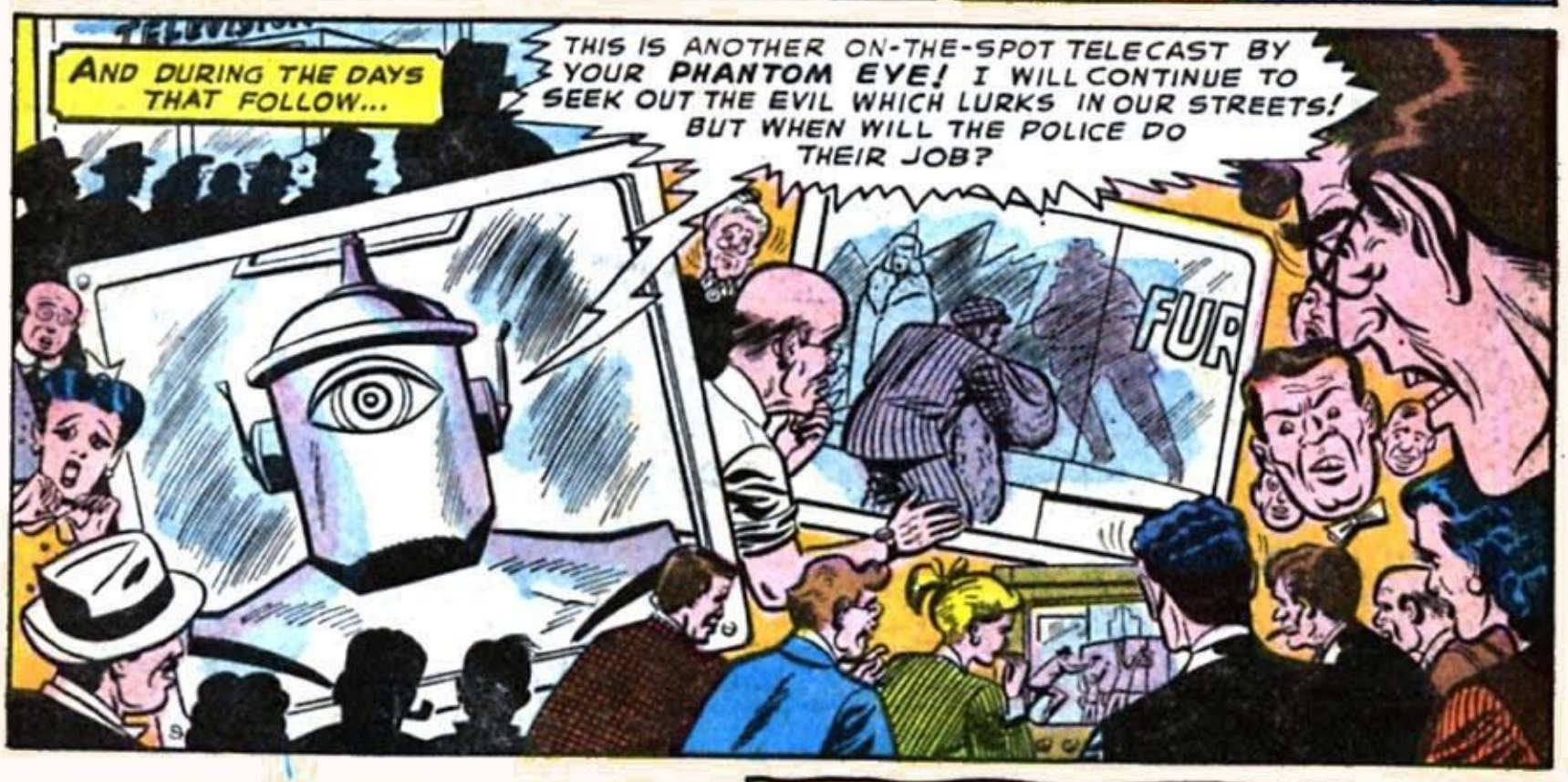
YES, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, YOU'VE JUST SEEN FOR YOURSELVES THAT THE STREETS OF GOTHAM ARE UNSAFE FOR LAW-ABIDING CITIZENS. BUT WHERE ARE THE POLICE? AND WHERE ARE BATMAN AND ROBIN?

AND AS THE STRANGE VOICE HURLS ITS CHALLENGE FROM A MILLION LOUDSPEAKERS, IN THE HOME OF WEALTHY BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS YOUNG WARD, DICK GRAYSON...
WATCH YOUR TV SETS CLOSELY, FOLKS, FOR WHEN YOU LEAST EXPECT IT, I WILL RETURN AGAIN WITH ANOTHER ON-THE-SPOT TELECAST OF CRIMINALS IN ACTION!
WHAT DO YOU SUPPOSE IT IS, BRUCE? A PUBLICITY STUNT FOR SOME NEW CRIME SHOW?

THAT'S A POSSIBILITY, DICK! BUT I RECOGNIZED THE SECTION OF TOWN WHERE THE SCENE TOOK PLACE. WE'D BEST GET THERE AS BATMAN AND ROBIN AND INVESTIGATE!

AFTER A SWIFT CHANGE IN THE SECRET BAT-CAVE, THE POWERFUL BATMOBILE ROCKETS THE DYNAMIC DUO TO THE SCENE, AND THEN...
IT'S ALL TRUE, BATMAN! THERE'S THE MAN WHO WAS HELD UP, AND COMMISSIONER GORDON IS QUESTIONING HIM!
POST NO BILLS
POLICE

BATMAN, WHO IS THIS PHANTOM EYE AND HOW DID HE GET TO THE SCENE OF THE CRIME WHILE IT WAS HAPPENING?
THERE'S NO SIGN OF HIM OR ANY TV EQUIPMENT AROUND HERE NOW, COMMISSIONER. I WONDER IF HE'LL KEEP HIS PROMISE AND APPEAR AGAIN?


AND DURING THE DAYS THAT FOLLOW...
THIS IS ANOTHER ON-THE-SPOT TELECAST BY YOUR PHANTOM EYE! I WILL CONTINUE TO SEEK OUT THE EVIL WHICH LURKS IN OUR STREETS! BUT WHEN WILL THE POLICE DO THEIR JOB?
FUR

SO IT IS THAT, LIKE SOME UNCONTROLLED FIRE, A NEW FAD SWEEPS THE CITY. IN A TYPICAL HOME...
JIM, PLEASE! WE'RE HAVING DINNER!
WE MUST KEEP THE TV SET IN VIEW-- WHO KNOWS WHEN THE PHANTOM EYE WILL BREAK IN WITH ANOTHER SENSATIONAL BROADCAST?

AND IN EVERY NEWSPAPER OFFICE...
DO WE HAVE TO LOOK AT THAT KID SHOW, ED?
I WANT THIS SET LEFT ON AT ALL TIMES. PHANTOM EYE IS THE HOTTEST STORY IN TOWN, AND WE NEVER KNOW WHEN HE MAY BREAK INTO A REGULAR TELECAST!

AND IN A SWANK PENTHOUSE WHERE SOCIALITE BRUCE WAYNE IS VISITING...
BRING THE SET ON TO THE TERRACE, JAMES. I DON'T WANT TO BE AWAY FROM IT FOR A SECOND!
THE PHANTOM EYE HAS THE WHOLE TOWN EXCITED. WISH I COULD FIGURE OUT HOW HE GETS TO THOSE CRIMES BEFORE THE POLICE!
SUDDENLY, THE SMARTLY DRESSED GROUP IS HUSHED INTO SILENCE AS A FAMILIAR FIGURE LOOMS ON THE IMAGE SCREEN...
ATTENTION, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN! THIS IS THE PHANTOM EYE. NOW WITNESS WITH ME ANOTHER SHOCKING SCENE OF LAWLESSNESS!
CROOKS HIJACKING VALUABLE RACE HORSES! I RECOGNIZE THAT HIGHWAY! MUST MAKE SOME EXCUSE TO LEAVE, AND GO THERE AS BATMAN!
BUT SUDDENLY, AN AMAZING PICTURE FREEZES BRUCE WAYNE...
LOOK, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN! IT'S BATMAN! HE'S FINALLY ARRIVED IN TIME TO HALT A CRIME!
SOMEONE'S MASQUERADING AS BATMAN AND ATTACKING THE CRIMINALS! BUT WHY? AND WHO IS HE?
BUT THERE IS AN EVEN MORE STUNNING SCENE TO FOLLOW, FOR...
LOOK! ONE OF THOSE CROOKS HAS RIPPED OFF BATMAN'S MASK!
AND SO IT IS THAT MILLIONS SEE WHAT APPEARS TO BE THE GREATEST SCOOP IN TELEVISION HISTORY-- THE UNMASKING OF "BATMAN"...
I RECOGNIZE HIM! IT'S BYRON KING, THE MILLIONAIRE BIG-GAME HUNTER! AND TO THINK HE'S REALLY BATMAN!

WELL, I... ER... BETTER GET BACK AND SEE HOW MY WARD, DICK, IS GETTING ON WITH HIS HOMEWORK!
BYRON KING MASQUERADING AS BATMAN! BUT HE'S ONE OF THE LEADING CITIZENS OF GOTHAM! WHY IS HE IMPERSONATING ME? I MUST FIND OUT!

AND PRESENTLY, AFTER SWITCHING TO HIS ROLE AS THE FAMED LAW-MAN...
GORDON RUSHED GUARDS TO KING'S ESTATE BECAUSE HE'S AFRAID THAT NOW THAT THE UNDERWORLD BELIEVES HE'S BATMAN KING'S LIFE IS IN DANGER. BUT THIS MASQUERADE MUST END!

YOU'LL NEED ALL THE PROTECTION WE CAN GIVE YOU NOW THAT THE UNDERWORLD KNOWS YOU'RE REALLY BATMAN, MR. KING.
THANKS, COMMISSIONER. I'VE ALREADY NOTIFIED MY SON, BUDDY, WHO'S REALLY ROBIN. HE'S IN A SECRET PLACE WHERE HE'LL BE SAFE!

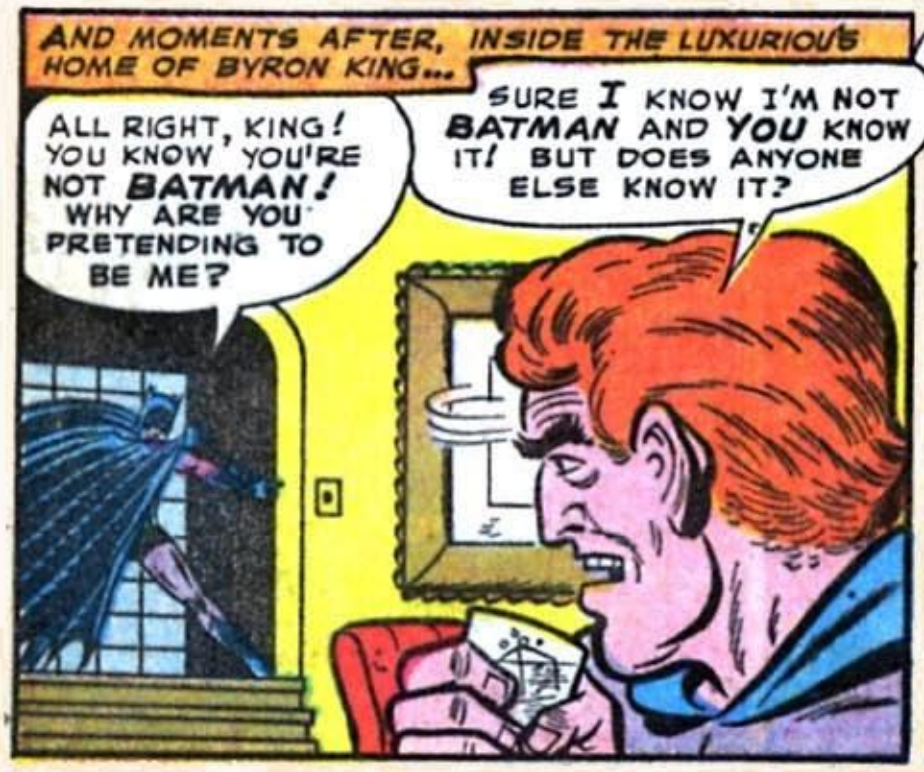
SUDDENLY...
I KNEW THE UNDER-WORLD WOULD STOP AT NOTHING TO REACH ME NOW THAT THEY KNOW MY IDENTITY! LOOK! ONE OF THEM IS TRYING TO GET IN DISGUISED AS BATMAN!
DON'T LET ANY-ONE NEAR THIS HOUSE! IF THEY DON'T STOP, SHOOT!

HMM... IF I TRY GOING THROUGH THOSE GUARDS, THE POLICE THEMSELVES MIGHT UNMASK ME. YET I MUST REACH BYRON KING, AND LEARN WHAT HE'S UP TO.

BEING HUNTED BY THE POLICE IS A NEW EXPERIENCE FOR ME. HMM... THE EXIT FROM THIS GREENHOUSE IS RIGHT IN FRONT OF KING'S HOME. IF I COULD JUST GET THROUGH IT WITHOUT BEING SEEN! BUT THE GLASS IS TRANS-PARENT!

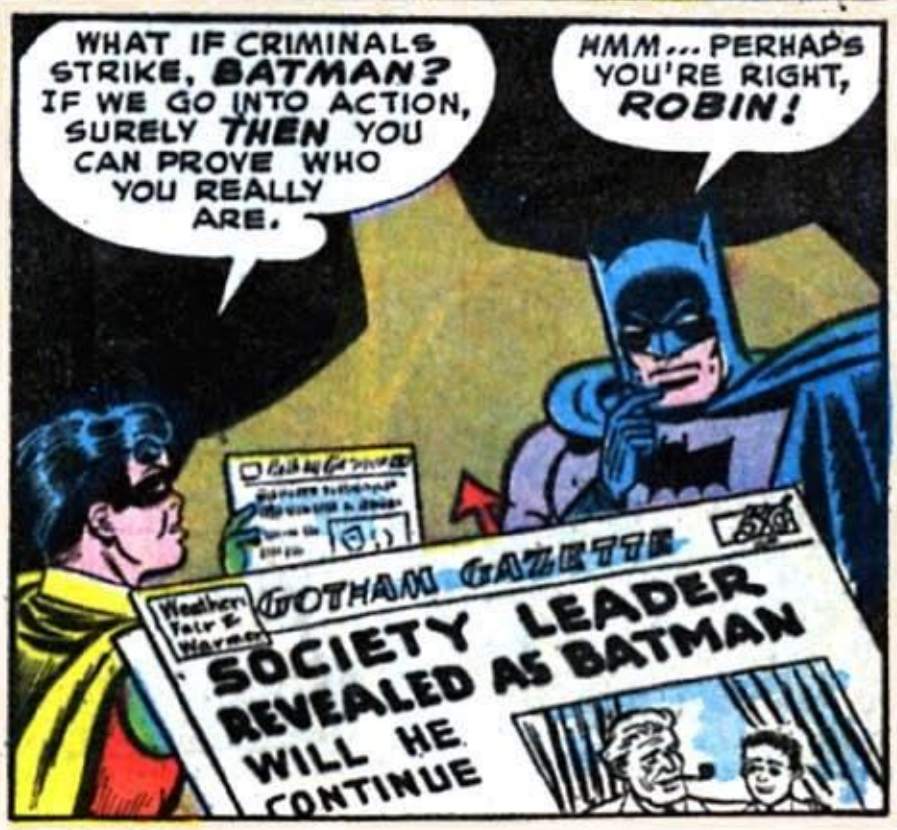
BUT IF I TURN THE GREENHOUSE HEATING SYSTEM ON FULL BLAST, IT MAY SOLVE MY PROBLEM!
CLICK
ON
OFF

THE EXTRA HEAT INSIDE THE GREENHOUSE ALONG WITH THE COOL AIR OUTSIDE DID THE TRICK! IT CAUSED THE GLASS WINDOWS TO FOG! NO ONE CAN SEE IN HERE NOW!


AND MOMENTS AFTER, INSIDE THE LUXURIOUS HOME OF BYRON KING...
ALL RIGHT, KING! YOU KNOW YOU'RE NOT BATMAN! WHY ARE YOU PRETENDING TO BE ME?
SURE I KNOW I'M NOT BATMAN AND YOU KNOW IT! BUT DOES ANYONE ELSE KNOW IT?

SIR, MR. EX-BATMAN, I'M REPLACING YOU. AND IF YOU'D LIKE TO EXPOSE ME, GO AHEAD! JUST TRY TO PROVE THAT YOU'RE REALLY BATMAN. HA, HA!

LATE THAT NIGHT, IN THE BAT-CAVE...
I DON'T GET HIS GAME, ROBIN. HE'S A MILLIONAIRE, A PILLAR OF GOTHAM SOCIETY, AND YET HE PULLS A TRICK LIKE THIS! WHY?


WHAT IF CRIMINALS STRIKE, BATMAN? IF WE GO INTO ACTION, SURELY THEN YOU CAN PROVE WHO YOU REALLY ARE.
HMM... PERHAPS YOU'RE RIGHT, ROBIN!
GOTHAM GAZETTE
SOCIETY LEADER REVEALED AS BATMAN
WILL HE CONTINUE

SOME NIGHTS LATER, AS THE SLEEK BATMOBILE PATROLS THE CITY STREETS...
THINGS HAVE SURE BEEN QUIET LATELY, ROBIN. EVEN THAT PHANTOM EYE HASN'T HAD A TV SHOW IN DAYS!
DON'T SPEAK TOO SOON, BATMAN! THERE'S SOMETHING SUSPICIOUS GOING ON AT THE ARMS PLANT RIGHT NOW!
GRANT FIREARMS COMPANY

BUT AT THIS INSTANT, ON A NEARBY ROOFTOP...
TELEVISION VIEWERS OF GOTHAM! ATTENTION! THIS IS THE PHANTOM EYE BREAKING IN WITH ANOTHER ON-THE-SPOT CRIME REPORT!

AND SO, ON THE CITY'S SCREENS, ONCE AGAIN AN UNSCHEDULED CRIME DRAMA IS PERFORMED...
YOU DISARMED US, BATMAN! BUT YOU PICKED THE WRONG PLACE TO DO IT! THERE'S ENOUGH ARTILLERY IN THIS ARMS PLANT TO BLAST YOU OUT OF GOTHAM!

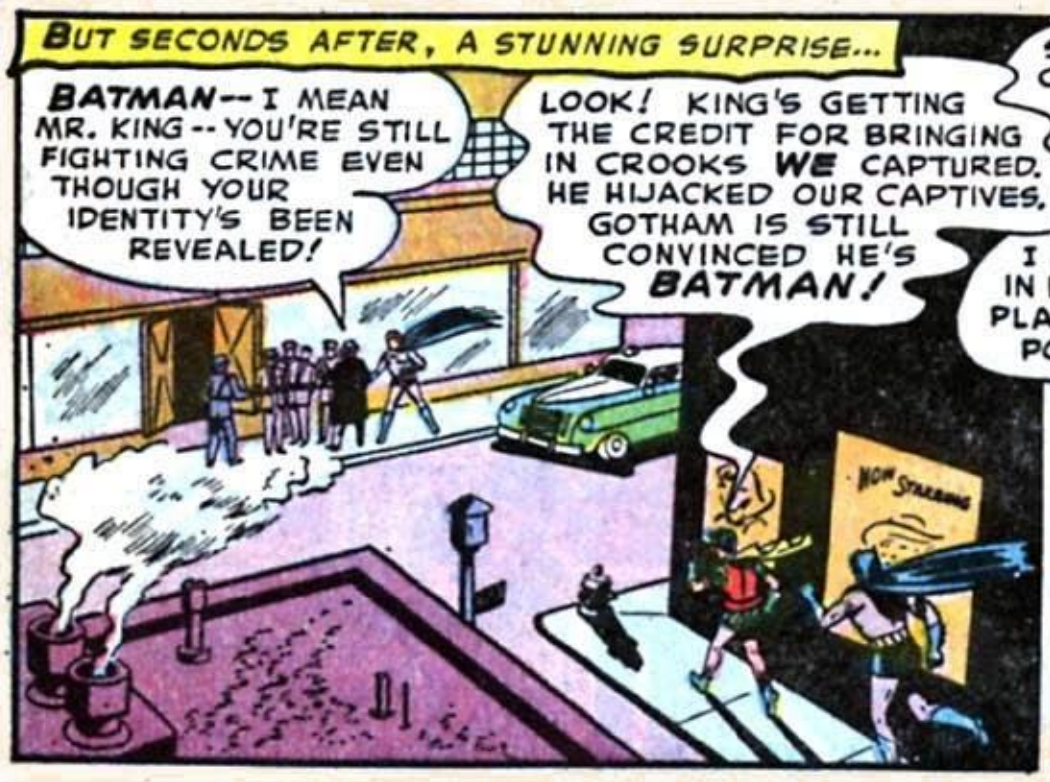
BELIEVE IT OR NOT, ROBIN, WE COULDN'T BE IN A SAFER SPOT! YOU'LL SEE WHAT I MEAN IN A MINUTE!
THOSE CROOKS FLED INTO THE ARMS PLANT WHERE THERE ARE HUNDREDS OF GUNS! SHOULD WE WALK RIGHT IN AND CONFRONT THEM THIS WAY, BATMAN?

REMEMBER, ROBIN, THAT IN ANY PLACE WHERE GUNS ARE STORED OR MANUFACTURED, ALL AMMUNITION IS LOCKED UP! ALL THESE GUNS ARE HARMLESS!
CLICK
CLICK

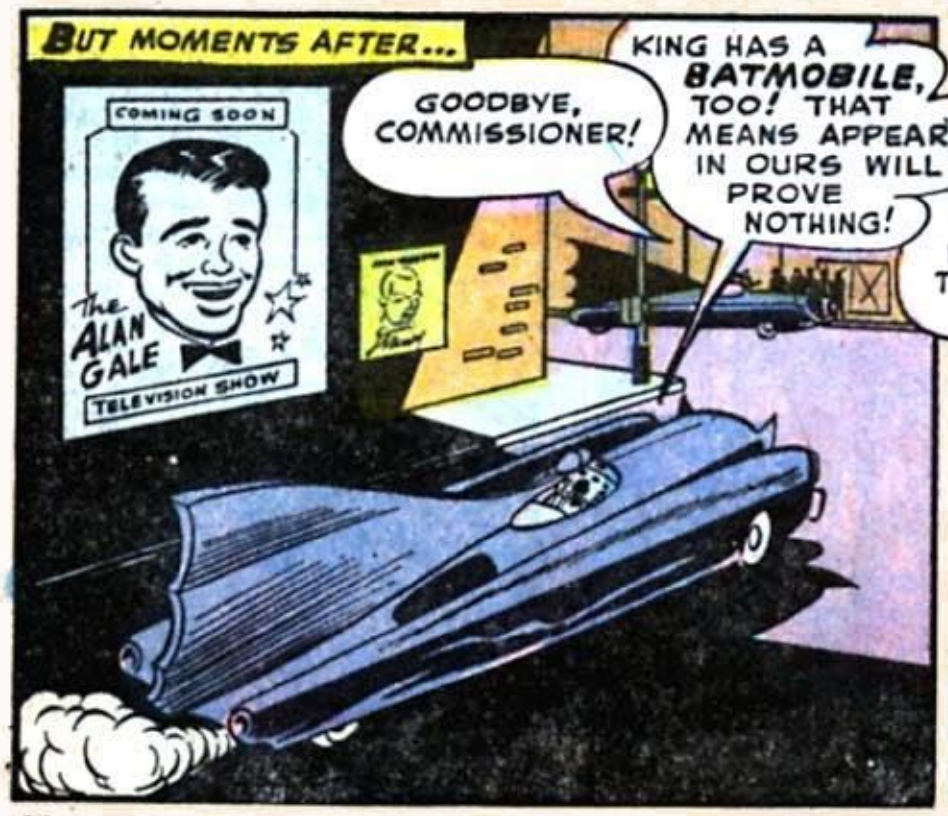
PRESENTLY...
BATMAN, LOOK! A TV CAMERA! THE PHANTOM EYE MUST HAVE TELECAST THIS WHOLE SCENE!
IT'S QUITE A COINCIDENCE THAT HE SHOULD BE ON HAND WHENEVER THERE'S A CRIME. I'LL TIE THESE TWO CHARACTERS UP. THEN I WANT A WORD WITH THE PHANTOM EYE!

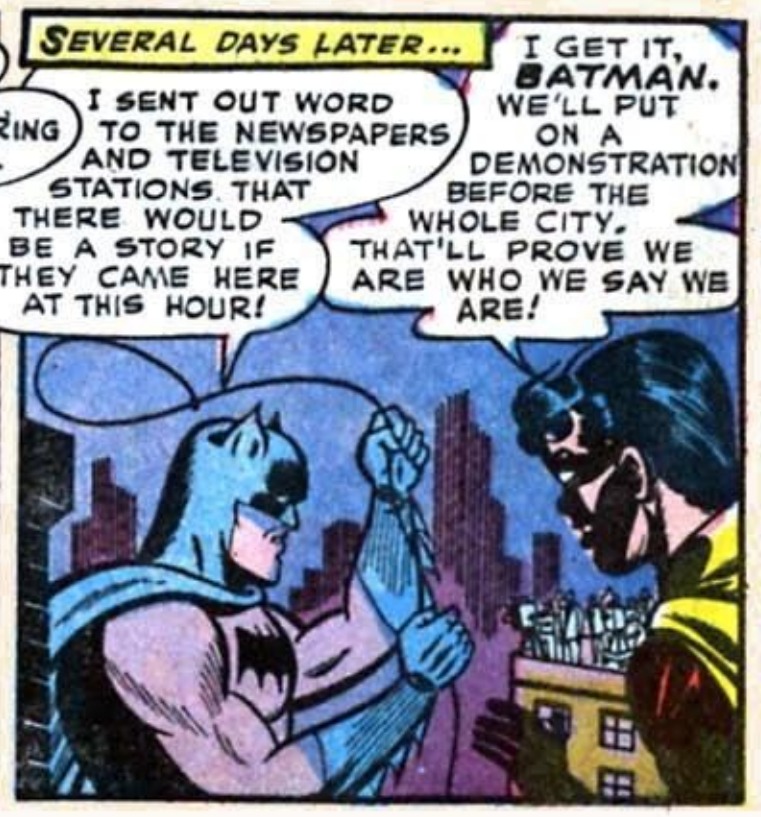
MOMENTS AFTER...
THERE'S THE TV CAMERA! BUT THE PHANTOM EYE IS GONE!
CAN'T CATCH UP WITH HIM NOW! LET'S GO BACK, AND TURN THOSE CROOKS OVER TO THE POLICE!

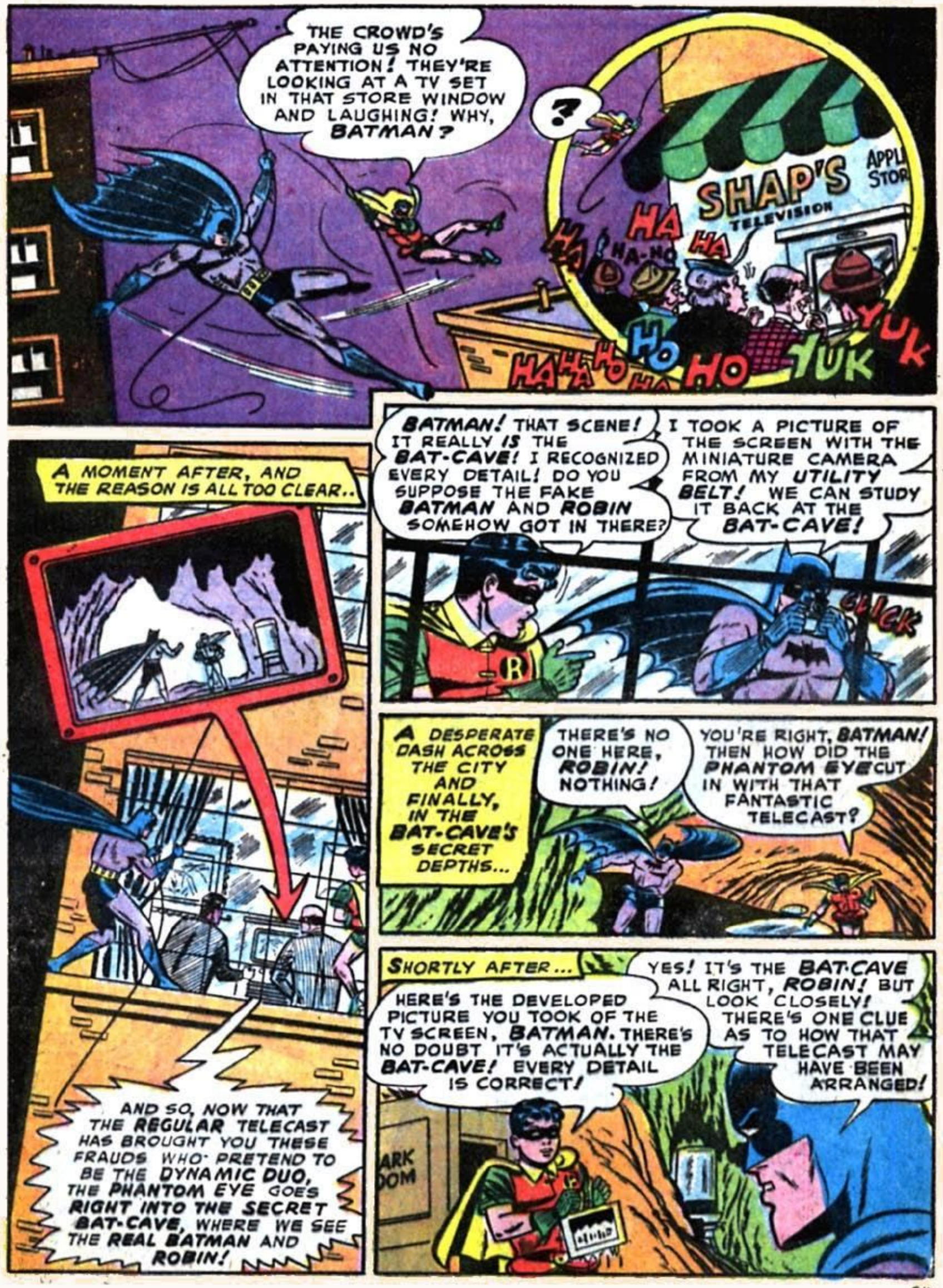
MILLIONS OF TELEVIEWERS MUST HAVE SEEN US IN ACTION AGAINST THOSE CROOKS. AFTER THE POLICE CHECK BYRON KING'S WHEREABOUTS, THEY'LL KNOW HE'S NOT THE REAL BATMAN!

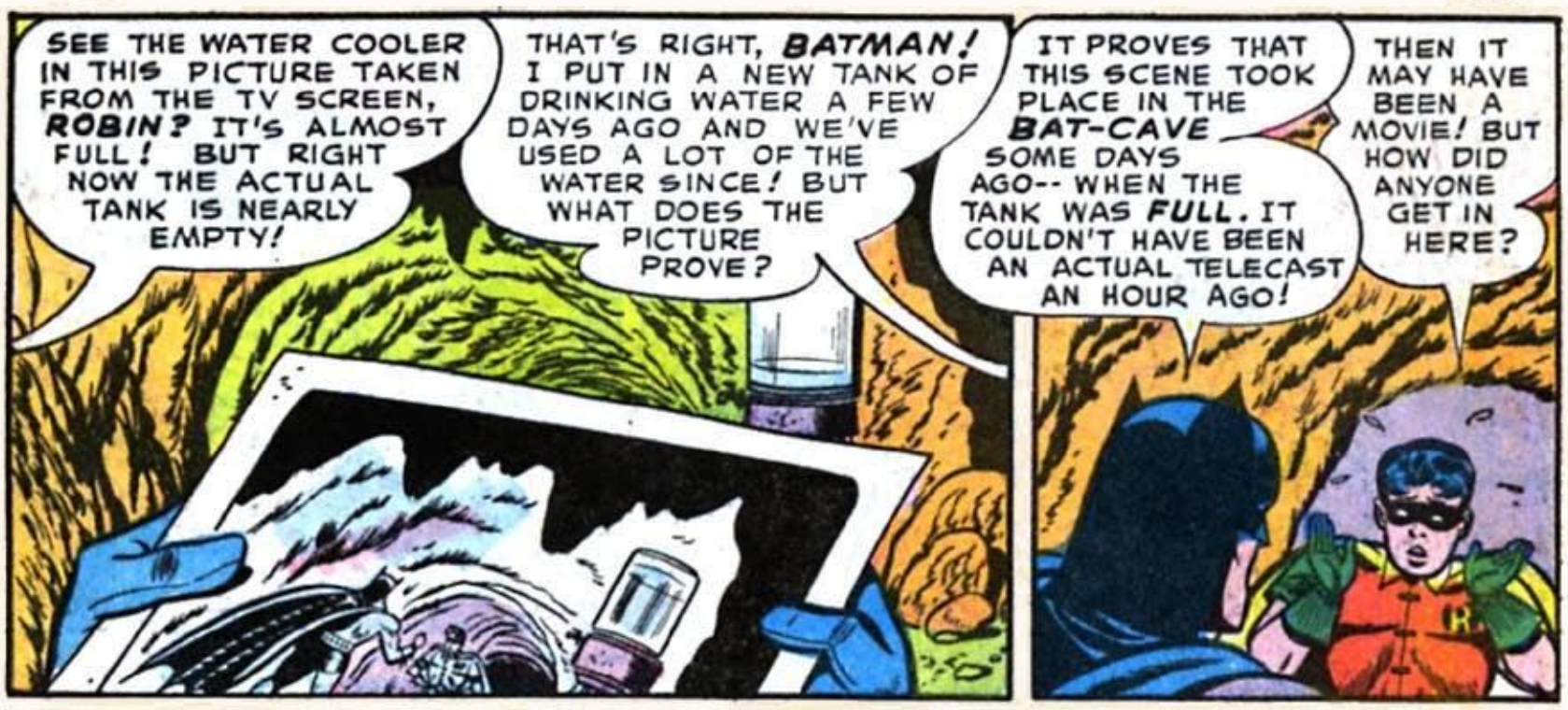

BUT SECONDS AFTER, A STUNNING SURPRISE...
BATMAN -- I MEAN MR. KING -- YOU'RE STILL FIGHTING CRIME EVEN THOUGH YOUR IDENTITY'S BEEN REVEALED!
LOOK! KING'S GETTING THE CREDIT FOR BRINGING IN CROOKS WE CAPTURED. HE HIJACKED OUR CAPTIVES. GOTHAM IS STILL CONVINCED HE'S BATMAN!
NOW STREAMING

SORRY MY SON, BUDDY, COULDN'T WAIT, COMMISSIONER GORDON. BUT SINCE IT'S BEEN REVEALED THAT HE'S ROBIN, I WANT HIM TO STAY IN HIS SECRET HIDING PLACE AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE!
QUICK, LET'S GET THE BATMOBILE! MAYBE THAT'LL CONVINCE THE POLICE WHO WE ARE!


BUT MOMENTS AFTER...
GOODBYE, COMMISSIONER!
KING HAS A BATMOBILE, TOO! THAT MEANS APPEARING IN OURS WILL PROVE NOTHING!
COMING SOON
The ALAN GALE TELEVISION SHOW

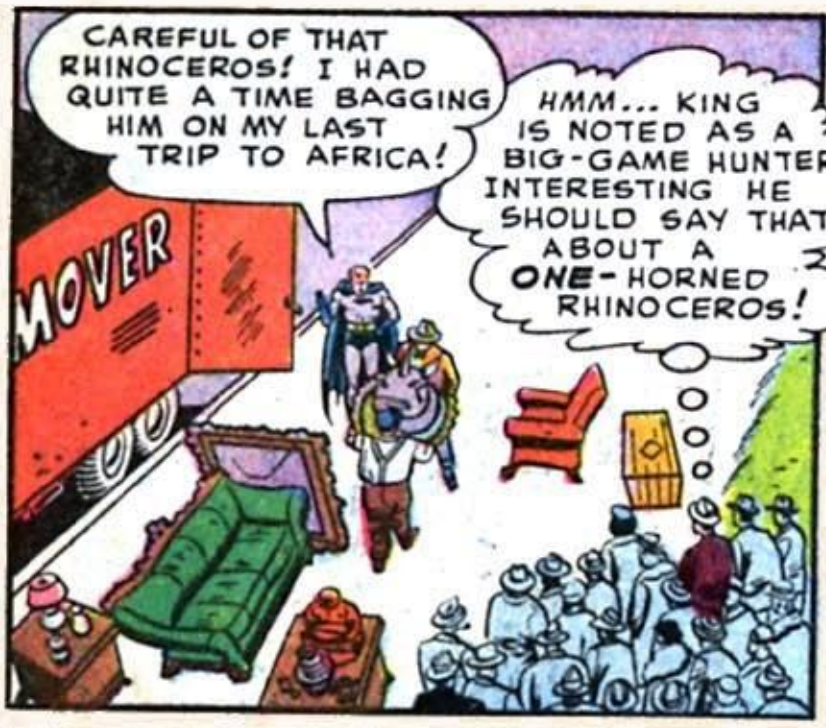

SEVERAL DAYS LATER...
I SENT OUT WORD TO THE NEWSPAPERS AND TELEVISION STATIONS THAT THERE WOULD BE A STORY IF THEY CAME HERE AT THIS HOUR!
I GET IT, BATMAN. WE'LL PUT ON A DEMONSTRATION BEFORE THE WHOLE CITY. THAT'LL PROVE WE ARE WHO WE SAY WE ARE!


THE CROWD'S PAYING US NO ATTENTION! THEY'RE LOOKING AT A TV SET IN THAT STORE WINDOW AND LAUGHING! WHY, BATMAN?
?
SHAP'S TELEVISION
HA HA HA-HO HA HO HO HO YUK YUK
BATMAN! THAT SCENE! IT REALLY IS THE BAT-CAVE! I RECOGNIZED EVERY DETAIL! DO YOU SUPPOSE THE FAKE BATMAN AND ROBIN SOMEHOW GOT IN THERE?
I TOOK A PICTURE OF THE SCREEN WITH THE MINIATURE CAMERA FROM MY UTILITY BELT! WE CAN STUDY IT BACK AT THE BAT-CAVE!
CLICK
A MOMENT AFTER, AND THE REASON IS ALL TOO CLEAR..
AND SO, NOW THAT THE REGULAR TELECAST HAS BROUGHT YOU THESE FRAUDS WHO PRETEND TO BE THE DYNAMIC DUO, THE PHANTOM EYE GOES RIGHT INTO THE SECRET BAT-CAVE, WHERE WE SEE THE REAL BATMAN AND ROBIN!
A DESPERATE DASH ACROSS THE CITY AND FINALLY, IN THE BAT-CAVE'S SECRET DEPTHS...
THERE'S NO ONE HERE, ROBIN! NOTHING!
YOU'RE RIGHT, BATMAN! THEN HOW DID THE PHANTOM EYE CUT IN WITH THAT FANTASTIC TELECAST?
SHORTLY AFTER...
HERE'S THE DEVELOPED PICTURE YOU TOOK OF THE TV SCREEN, BATMAN. THERE'S NO DOUBT IT'S ACTUALLY THE BAT-CAVE! EVERY DETAIL IS CORRECT!
YES! IT'S THE BAT-CAVE ALL RIGHT, ROBIN! BUT LOOK CLOSELY! THERE'S ONE CLUE AS TO HOW THAT TELECAST MAY HAVE BEEN ARRANGED!

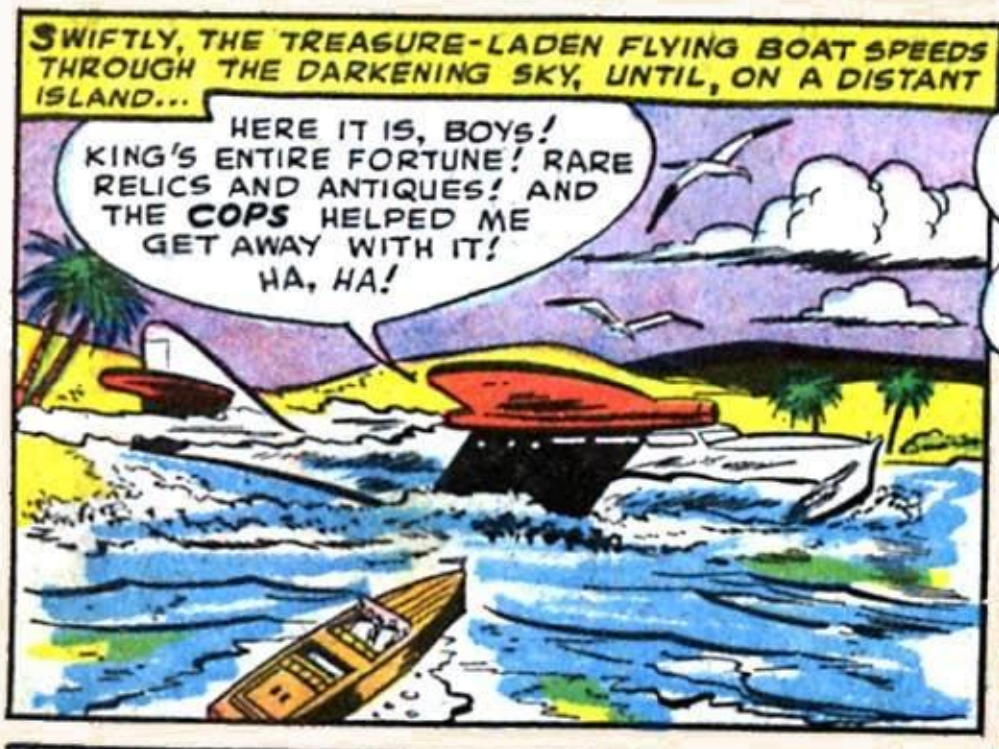

SEE THE WATER COOLER IN THIS PICTURE TAKEN FROM THE TV SCREEN, ROBIN? IT'S ALMOST FULL! BUT RIGHT NOW THE ACTUAL TANK IS NEARLY EMPTY!
THAT'S RIGHT, BATMAN! I PUT IN A NEW TANK OF DRINKING WATER A FEW DAYS AGO AND WE'VE USED A LOT OF THE WATER SINCE! BUT WHAT DOES THE PICTURE PROVE?
IT PROVES THAT THIS SCENE TOOK PLACE IN THE BAT-CAVE SOME DAYS AGO-- WHEN THE TANK WAS FULL. IT COULDN'T HAVE BEEN AN ACTUAL TELECAST AN HOUR AGO!
THEN IT MAY HAVE BEEN A MOVIE! BUT HOW DID ANYONE GET IN HERE?

THAT WAS ACTUALLY YOU AND I IN THE BAT-CAVE SO NOBODY COULD HAVE BEEN HERE AT THE TIME WITHOUT US KNOWING IT! HERE WE ARE! THERE ARE SIGNS SOMETHING WAS MOUNTED ON THE BATMOBILE!
I GET IT! THE PHANTOM EYE MUST HAVE ATTACHED A MINIATURE SELF-GRINDING MOVIE CAMERA TO THE BATMOBILE WHILE WE WERE AT THE ARMS PLANT AND RETRIEVED IT AND THE FILM WHEN WE TOOK OUT THE BATMOBILE TO PATROL THE CITY!
HMM... FOR SOME REASON THE EYE DOESN'T WANT ME TO PROVE THAT I'M BATMAN AND THAT KING ISN'T! THERE MAY BE A TIE-UP BETWEEN THOSE TWO!

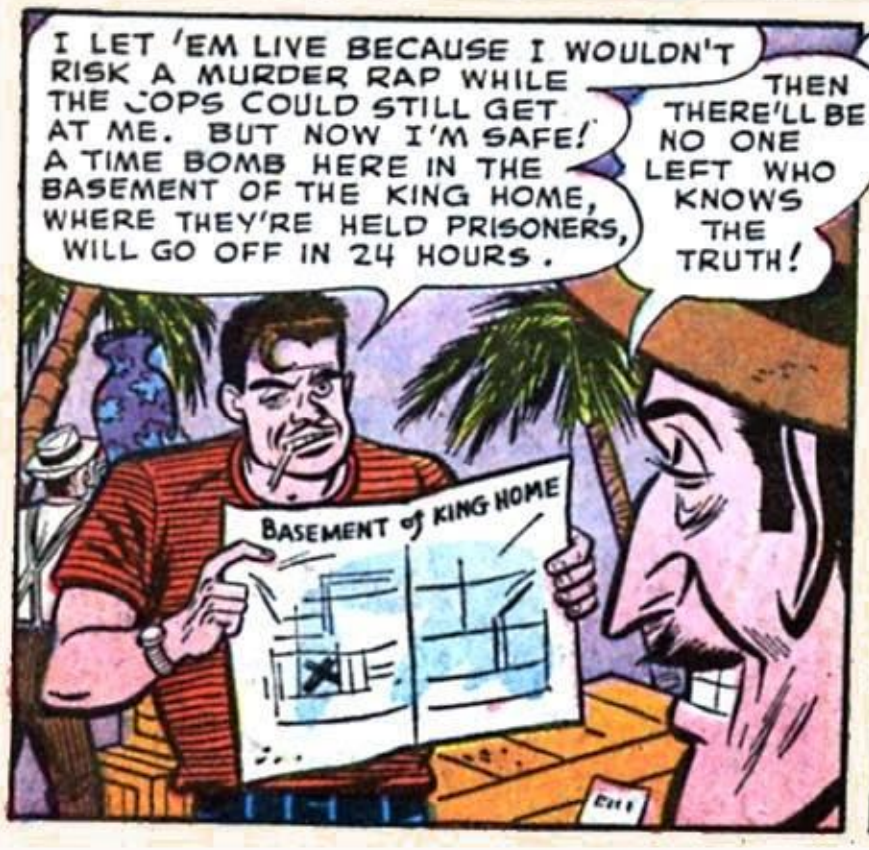
SOON AFTER, AT THE HOME OF BYRON KING...
I CAN GET A CLOSER LOOK AT THINGS HERE AS BRUCE WAYNE THAN AS BATMAN AND... SAY! WHAT'S GOING ON? KING SEEMS TO BE MOVING OUT OF HIS MANSION!
I APPRECIATE THE COOPERATION OF THE POLICE IN HELPING ME WITH MY PLAN, COMMISSIONER. I'M TAKING MY VALUABLES TO A SECRET PLACE! MY SON IS ALREADY THERE AND WE'LL BOTH START NEW LIVES UNDER DIFFERENT NAMES AND WITH CHANGED APPEARANCES! PLASTIC SURGERY, YOU KNOW!
YOU'RE WISE, MR. KING! YOU'D NEVER REALLY BE SAFE HERE SINCE YOUR IDENTITIES HAVE BEEN REVEALED!


CAREFUL OF THAT RHINOCEROS! I HAD QUITE A TIME BAGGING HIM ON MY LAST TRIP TO AFRICA!
HMM... KING IS NOTED AS A BIG-GAME HUNTER! INTERESTING HE SHOULD SAY THAT ABOUT A ONE-HORNED RHINOCEROS!
MOVER

AND SOME HOURS LATER, AT A LONELY POINT ALONG THE COAST...
POLICE PLANES WILL CRUISE THE COAST TO SEE THAT YOU'RE NOT FOLLOWED, MR. KING. WE'LL MISS BATMAN AND ROBIN IN GOTHAM CITY! BUT GOOD LUCK WHEREVER IT IS YOU'RE GOING!
THAT MUST REMAIN A SECRET. GOOD-BYE, COMMISSIONER GORDON!


SWIFTLY, THE TREASURE-LADEN FLYING BOAT SPEEDS THROUGH THE DARKENING SKY, UNTIL, ON A DISTANT ISLAND...
HERE IT IS, BOYS! KING'S ENTIRE FORTUNE! RARE RELICS AND ANTIQUES! AND THE COPS HELPED ME GET AWAY WITH IT! HA, HA!

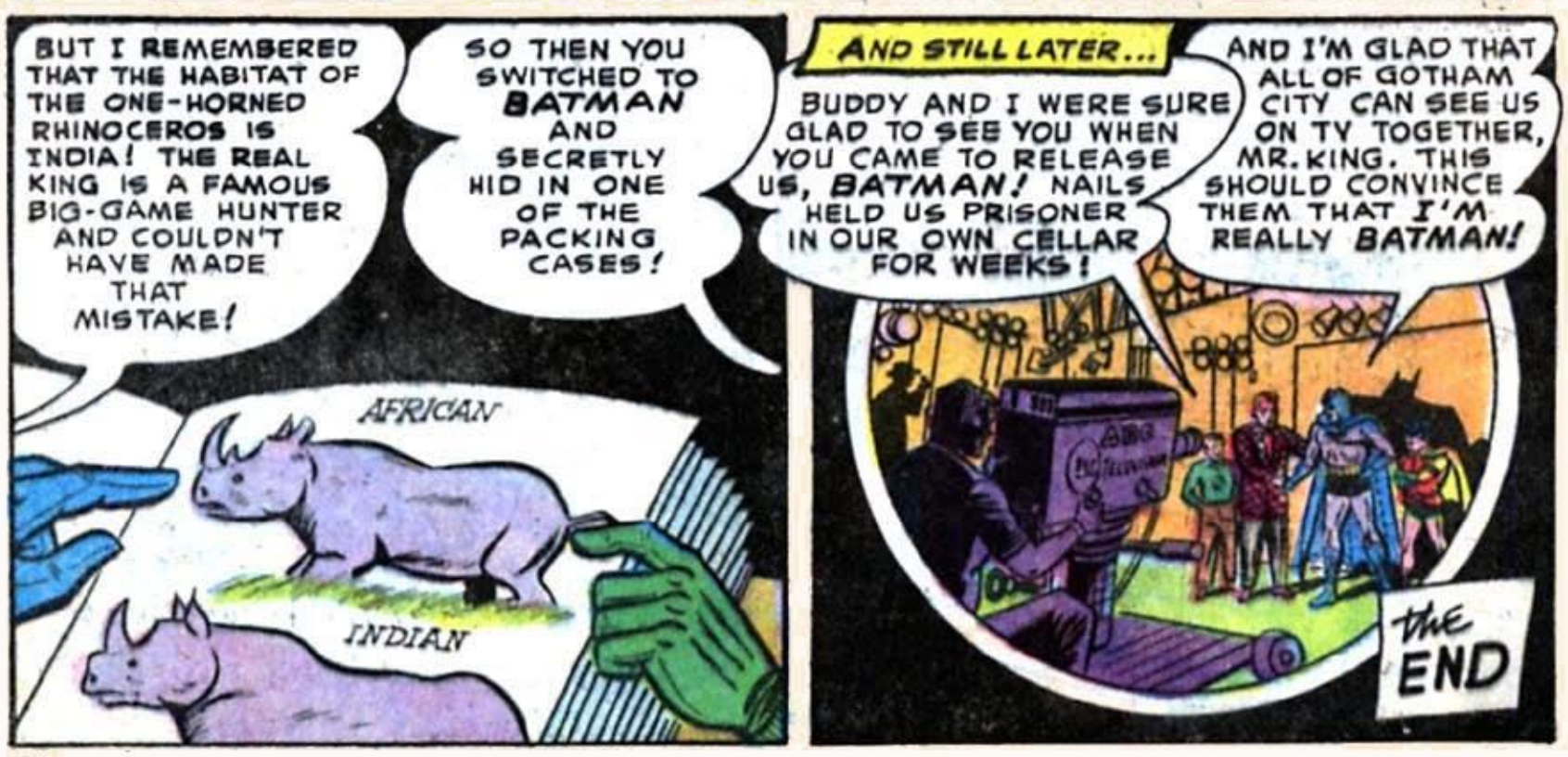
THEN A SURPRISE MOVE...
HUMPH! IT'S GOOD TO GET THIS KING DISGUISE OFF! I WAS BEGINNING TO FORGET THAT I'M REALLY NAILS RILEY!
WHAT ABOUT THE REAL KING AND HIS SON, NAILS? WHAT'S GONNA HAPPEN TO THEM?


I LET 'EM LIVE BECAUSE I WOULDN'T RISK A MURDER RAP WHILE THE COPS COULD STILL GET AT ME. BUT NOW I'M SAFE! A TIME BOMB HERE IN THE BASEMENT OF THE KING HOME, WHERE THEY'RE HELD PRISONERS, WILL GO OFF IN 24 HOURS.
THEN THERE'LL BE NO ONE LEFT WHO KNOWS THE TRUTH!
BASEMENT of KING HOME

HERE'S YOUR "PHANTOM EYE" COSTUME, NAILS! WITH THE "EYE" ROUTINE, YOU CERTAINLY MADE SURE YOU WERE ACCEPTED AS BATMAN WHILE DISGUISED AS BYRON KING!
AND THE REAL BATMAN WAS KEPT OUT OF MY HAIR BECAUSE HE WAS TOO BUSY TRYING TO PROVE WHO HE WAS! HA, HA!

THOSE CRIMES WE STAGED FOR THE "EYE" TELECASTS WENT GREAT! TOO BAD WE HAD TO SACRIFICE A COUPLE OF OUR OWN BOYS ON THE ARMS PLANT JOB.
BUT THEY WEREN'T IN ON MY REAL SCHEME, SO THEY CAN'T BLAB TO THE COPS! WE'RE SAFE! HA, HA!
AND YOU'RE THE ONLY TWO LEFT WHO KNOW THE STORY! BUT I'LL REMEDY THAT! THEN ALL OF KING'S FORTUNE WILL BE MINE!
NAILS! NO, NO! WE'RE YOUR PALS!
BUT SUDDENLY...
THERE'S SOMEONE ELSE WHO KNOWS YOUR STORY, NAILS! I HAD TO WAIT UNTIL YOU REVEALED WHERE THE REAL BYRON KING WAS HIDDEN! BUT NOW, I CAN NAB YOU!
BATMAN!

HOLD ON! YOU LIKE TO BE ON TV, NAILS! THERE'S A NEW SHOW ANXIOUS FOR YOUR TALENTS -- IT'S CALLED "THE ROGUE'S GALLERY!"
AND AFTERWARDS, IN THE BAT-CAVE...
YOU SAY YOU KNEW THAT IT WAS A PHONEY BYRON KING WHO WAS MOVING AWAY ALL THOSE VALUABLES! BUT HOW, BATMAN?
AS BRUCE WAYNE, I HEARD "KING" SAY HE'D SHOT A ONE-HORNED RHINOCEROS IN AFRICA!


BUT I REMEMBERED THAT THE HABITAT OF THE ONE-HORNED RHINOCEROS IS INDIA! THE REAL KING IS A FAMOUS BIG-GAME HUNTER AND COULDN'T HAVE MADE THAT MISTAKE!
SO THEN YOU SWITCHED TO BATMAN AND SECRETLY HID IN ONE OF THE PACKING CASES!
AFRICAN
INDIAN
AND STILL LATER...
BUDDY AND I WERE SURE GLAD TO SEE YOU WHEN YOU CAME TO RELEASE US, BATMAN! NAILS HELD US PRISONER IN OUR OWN CELLAR FOR WEEKS!
AND I'M GLAD THAT ALL OF GOTHAM CITY CAN SEE US ON TV TOGETHER, MR. KING. THIS SHOULD CONVINCE THEM THAT I'M REALLY BATMAN!
THE END

ON the GO with MOTORIFIC!®

FRED AND LARRY ARE TESTING THEIR MOTORIFIC CARS ON THE BIG, NEW **MOTORIFIC TORTURE TRACK.**

THESE ARE THE RUGGED TESTS ALL NEW CARS HAVE TO FACE.

MY THUNDERBIRD'S REVVING UP ON THE **HORSEPOWER TEST!**

MY STING RAY'S IN THE **MOTOR TEST**...LISTEN TO THAT ROARING SOUND!

ROARRRR

HEY, THE **CORNERING TEST** IS MAKING MY CAR DIZZY!

...AND WHEN THE CARS RACE OVER THE TWIN-LEVEL **PERFORMANCE TEST**...

WATCH OUT FOR THE HAIRPIN CURVES!

FRED AND LARRY QUICKLY SNAP TOGETHER A NEW LAYOUT, ONE OF DOZENS THEY CAN MAKE WITH THE **TORTURE TRACK.**

WHEW! I MADE IT THROUGH THE **CRASH TEST!**

CRASH!

LARRY'S CAR NEATLY SWINGS OVER THE **SPRING TEST.**

WOW! THAT WAS CLOSE!

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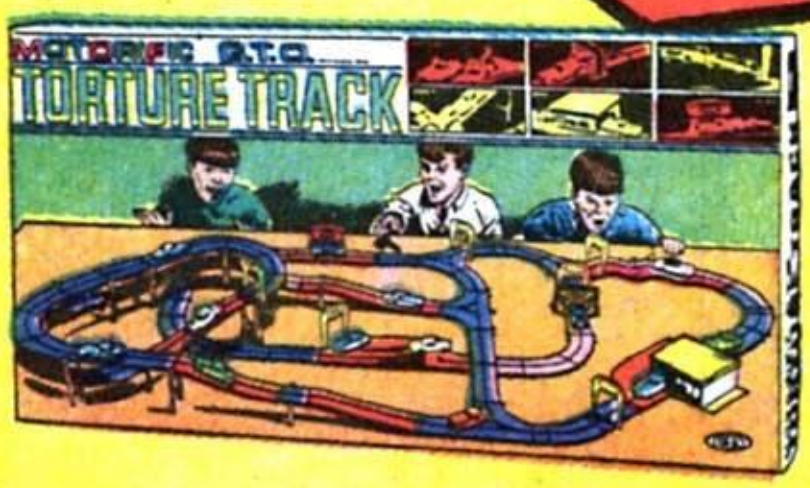

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MOTORIFIC... it's terrific. It's IDEAL

BATMAN
With ROBIN THE BOY WONDER
"BATMAN IS DEAD!" READ THE NEWSPAPER HEADLINE, AND ROBIN KNEW THIS WAS NO DREAM OR HOAX! FOR FATE HAD GIVEN HIM A BRIEF GLIMPSE OF THE FUTURE, WHERE HE DISCOVERED THAT HIS SENIOR PARTNER WAS LIVING OUT...
the LAST DAYS of BATMAN
MY BLADED BOLO WILL SLICE YOUR ROPE IN TWO, BATMAN.
IT'S ALL COMING TRUE! BATMAN WILL DIE NOW, JUST AS THE NEWSPAPER OF THE FUTURE SAID!
BOB KANE

IT IS NIGHTTIME IN GOTHAM CITY, WHEN A FATEFUL MEETING OCCURS...
SO YOU SEE, PROFESSOR NICHOLS, UNLESS WE CAN TRAVEL BACK IN TIME AND GAIN NEW EVIDENCE, JOHN KIRK'S CAREER IS RUINED!
I UNDERSTAND, BATMAN! KIRK IS THE BEST CURATOR THE GOTHAM ART MUSEUM HAS EVER HAD! LET'S HOPE MY TIME MACHINE CAN SAVE HIM!

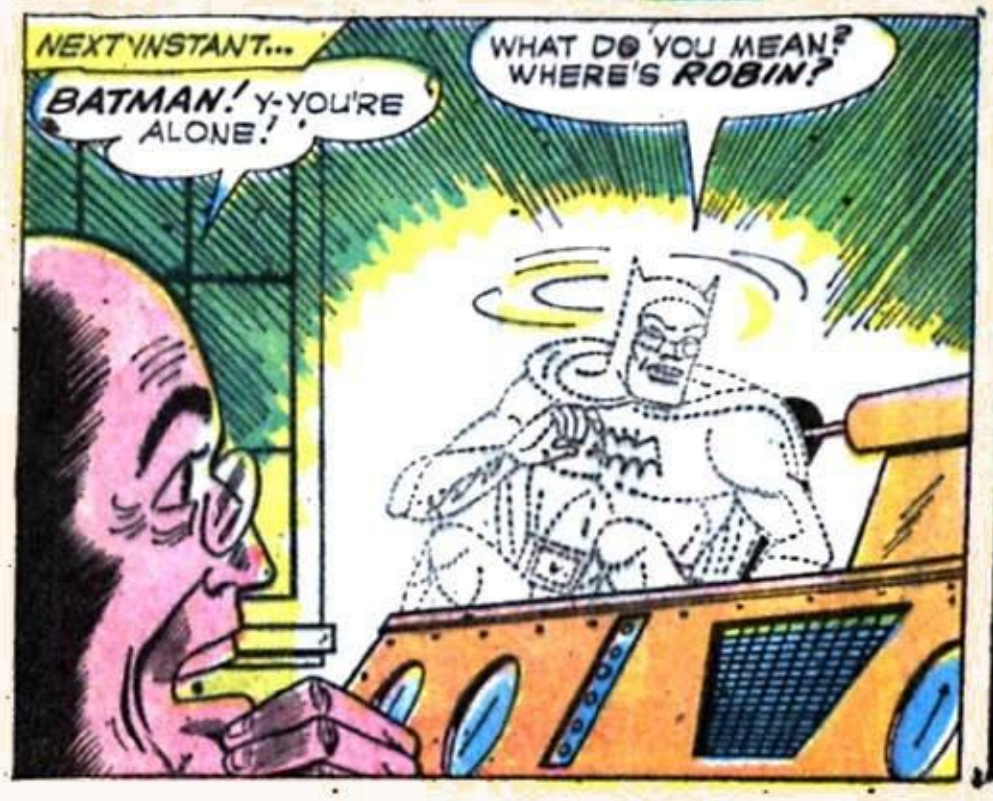
AS THE TWO VISITORS TAKE THEIR PLACES IN THE AMAZING MECHANISM...
THE MACHINE IS SET FOR THE YEAR 1642, IN THE CITY OF VENICE, ITALY! REMEMBER, IN EXACTLY ONE HOUR, YOU WILL BE RETURNED TO THIS ROOM! GOOD LUCK!

A MOMENTARY SWIRL--A SPLIT SECOND OF DARKNESS--FOLLOWED BY A SUDDEN AWAKENING IN...
17TH CENTURY VENICE... IT'S MAGNIFICENT, BATMAN!
YES--BUT WE'VE NO TIME TO BE TOURISTS, ROBIN... WE MUST FIND THE STUDIO OF VERILLO, THE FAMED PAINTER!

OVER THE ROOFTOPS THEY SPEED, SAFE FROM CURIOUS EYES...
BATMAN, WHY DID THE MUSEUM COMMITTEE CHARGE THAT KIRK DELIBERATELY BOUGHT A FORGED PAINTING?
BECAUSE THE PAINTING WAS NEVER LISTED AMONG VERILLO'S WORKS! WE'VE GOT TO FIND OUT WHY!

A LONG, HURRIED SEARCH FINALLY BRINGS THEM TO THE GREAT ARTIST'S STUDIO, WHERE...
YOU ARE FOOLISH TO BUY THIS WORTHLESS PAINTING, SIGNOR BERI! I AM SO ASHAMED OF IT, I WON'T EVEN LIST IT AMONG MY WORKS!
AH--THERE'S OUR PROOF! A FAMOUS ART DEALER LIKE SIGNOR BERI PROBABLY LISTED THE PAINTING IN HIS RECORDS! THIS BREAK CAME JUST IN TIME... OUR HOUR IS UP!

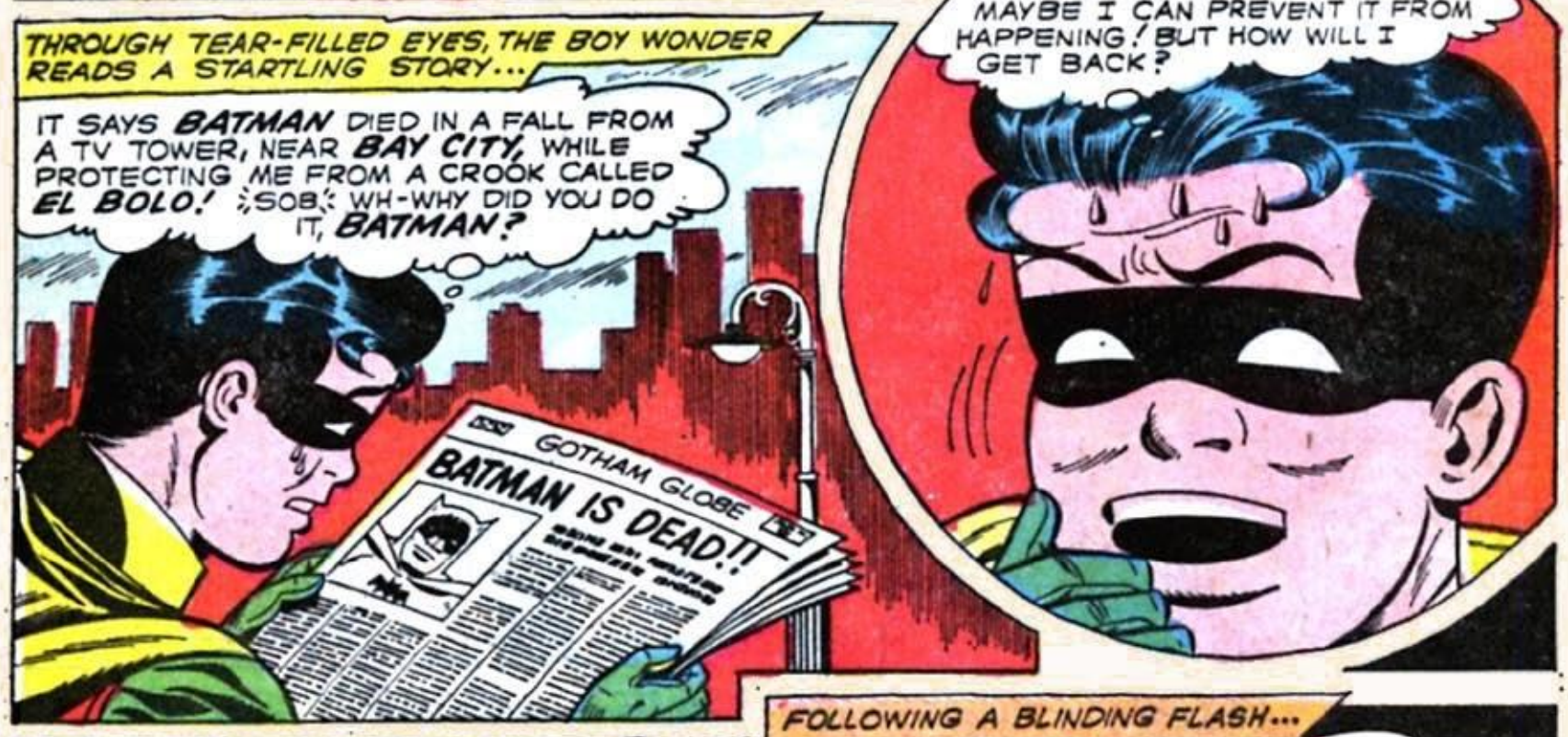
BUT JUST AS PROFESSOR NICHOLS SETS THE TIME MACHINE IN REVERSE MOTION...
GOOD GRIEF--A FREAK BOLT OF HEAT LIGHTNING STRUCK MY HIGH VOLTAGE LINE! WILL IT CAUSE ANY BAD EFFECTS?
CRACKLE


NEXT INSTANT...
BATMAN! Y-YOU'RE ALONE!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN? WHERE'S ROBIN?

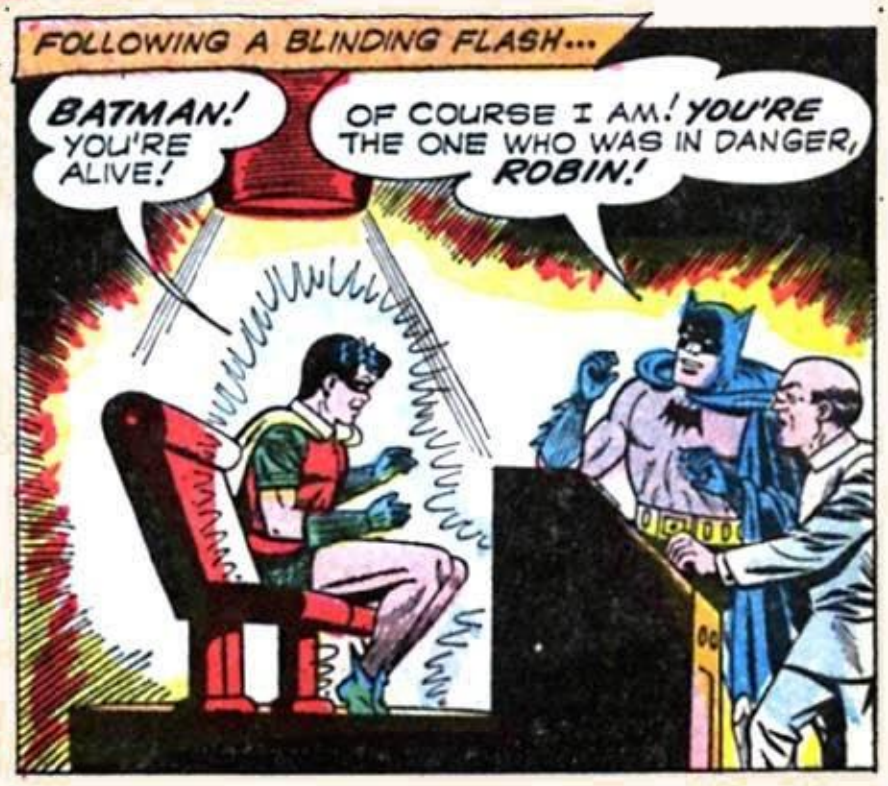
THE ANSWER LIES ON A BUSY THOROUGHFARE IN DOWNTOWN GOTHAM CITY...
WHEW! WHAT A HEADACHE! THE PROFESSOR'S MACHINE MUST'VE SLIPPED A COG... DEPOSITED ME HERE INSTEAD OF -- GOLLY! LOOK AT THAT!

THAT DATE... FEBRUARY 9TH... THAT'S THREE DAYS FROM NOW! SOMEHOW, THE TIME MACHINE SHOT ME INTO THE FUTURE! WHAT AN EERIE FEELING!
FAIR
WEDNESDAY FEB. 9TH... WEATHER

JUST THEN...
EXTRA! BATMAN DIES! SACRIFICES LIFE FOR ROBIN! READ ALL ABOUT IT!
WHAT--?
GOTH
BATMAN IS


THROUGH TEAR-FILLED EYES, THE BOY WONDER READS A STARTLING STORY...
IT SAYS BATMAN DIED IN A FALL FROM A TV TOWER, NEAR BAY CITY, WHILE PROTECTING ME FROM A CROOK CALLED EL BOLO! ;SOB; WH-WHY DID YOU DO IT, BATMAN?
GOTHAM GLOBE
BATMAN IS DEAD!!
WAIT! IF I'M THREE DAYS IN THE FUTURE--AND IF I CAN GET BACK TO THE PRESENT--MAYBE I CAN PREVENT IT FROM HAPPENING! BUT HOW WILL I GET BACK?

A PROBLEM ABOUT TO BE SOLVED, BACK IN PROFESSOR NICHOLS' LABORATORY...
THE MACHINE IS REPAIRED... NOW LET'S HOPE IT CAN SEARCH OUT ROBIN AND BRING HIM BACK TO US!
CLICK


FOLLOWING A BLINDING FLASH...
BATMAN! YOU'RE ALIVE!
OF COURSE I AM! YOU'RE THE ONE WHO WAS IN DANGER, ROBIN!

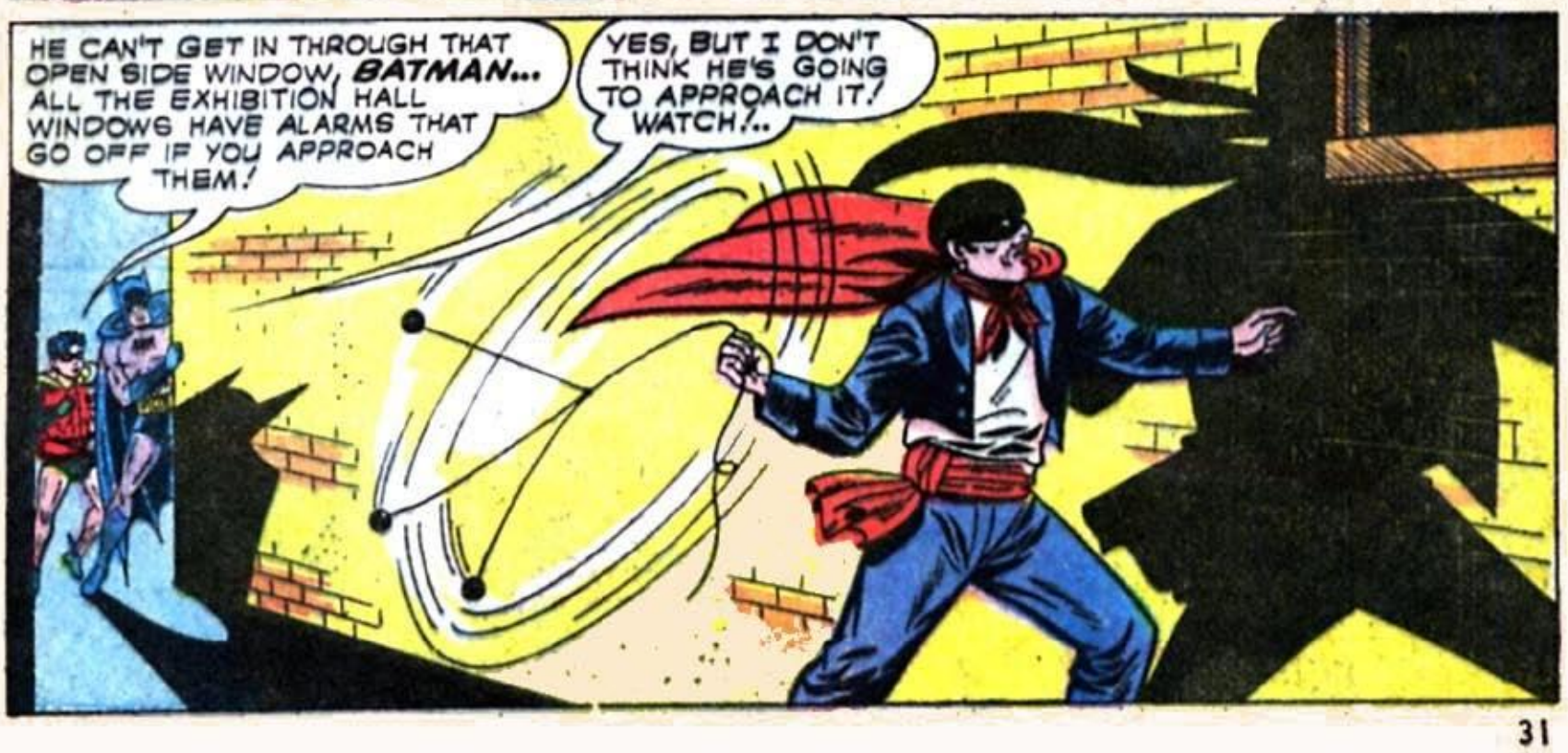
WHERE WERE YOU? WHAT HAPPENED?
I...UH...I'M NOT SURE! MY HEAD ACHES... LET'S GO HOME, BATMAN!
I CAN'T TELL HIM THE TRUTH... NOTHING COULD PREVENT HIM FROM SACRIFICING HIS LIFE FOR ME!

LATER, EN ROUTE HOME IN THEIR FAMED BATMOBILE...
SO YOU WANT US TO TAKE A THREE-DAY VACATION, EH, ROBIN?
GOOD!
OKAY--PROVIDED THERE'S NOTHING IMPORTANT TO DO!
THAT WILL KEEP HIM SAFE FROM BAY CITY AND SOMEONE CALLED EL BOLO!

BUT AT THAT MOMENT...
CALLING BATMAN! URGENT... REPORT TO COMMISSIONER GORDON AT ONCE!
OH, OH-- LOOKS LIKE WE'LL BE POSTPONING THAT VACATION, ROBIN!

INDEED, AT THE COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE...
I WANTED TO ALERT YOU, BATMAN-- A REAL SLIPPERY CROOK HAS JUST HIT TOWN... AN INTERNATIONAL JEWEL THIEF WHO CALLS HIMSELF-- EL BOLO!
EL BOLO? OH, NO... WE CAN'T POSSIBLY LEAVE GOTHAM CITY NOW!

AND ON THE VERY NEXT EVENING, AS THE DUO KEEPS VIGIL OVER A POSSIBLE CRIME SITE...
THERE HE IS, ROBIN! I FIGURED A CROOK LIKE EL BOLO WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO RESIST THIS JEWELRY SHOW! LET'S GET HIM!
GOOD! IF WE GRAB HIM HERE TONIGHT, IT'LL MEAN BATMAN CAN'T DIE CHASING HIM, TWO DAYS FROM NOW, IN BAY CITY!
RARE GEMS EXHIBIT


HE CAN'T GET IN THROUGH THAT OPEN SIDE WINDOW, BATMAN... ALL THE EXHIBITION HALL WINDOWS HAVE ALARMS THAT GO OFF IF YOU APPROACH THEM!
YES, BUT I DON'T THINK HE'S GOING TO APPROACH IT! WATCH!..

WITH A DEFT FLIP OF THE WRIST...
WOW! HE THREW THAT BOLO INSIDE WITH A WIRE ATTACHED, AND NABBED A CASE OF JEWELS!
THAT'S THE PROOF WE NEED... LET'S GRAB HIM!

AND AS THE SOUND OF RUNNING FEET ALERTS EL BOLO...
THERE HE GOES, OVER THAT WIRE FENCE!
THAT WON'T GET HIM VERY FAR...

BUT JUST AS THE CRIME FIGHTERS PREPARE TO MOUNT THE METAL FENCE...
WAIT, ROBIN! THAT BOLO HE THREW IS ELECTRICALLY CHARGED! THERE'S HIGH VOLTAGE RUNNING THROUGH THAT FENCE!
BZZZZ
¡HA, HA! ADIOS, SEÑOR BATMAN!

THUS STYMIED, BATMAN AND ROBIN SEARCH ABOUT FOR A POSSIBLE LEAD...
LOOK, BATMAN... A TRAIL OF BLUE AND RED PARTICLES!
HMM... LOOKS LIKE COLORED SAWDUST! ONLY ONE PLACE USES THAT-- A CIRCUS!

HMM... CLAY BROTHERS' CIRCUS DOES A CHARITY SHOW EACH YEAR AT THIS TIME!
SURE... IT'S A REAL SWANK AFFAIR! LOTS OF MINK COATS AND DIAMONDS... EL BOLO'S SPECIALTY!

BUT WAIT... THAT CIRCUS IS HELD IN BAY CITY! WE CAN'T GO THERE, BATMAN!
WHY NOT? STRANGE, ROBIN... EVER SINCE THAT TIME TRIP, YOU'VE BEEN A BUNDLE OF NERVES! COME ON NOW-- WE'VE GOT A JOB TO DO... IN BAY CITY!

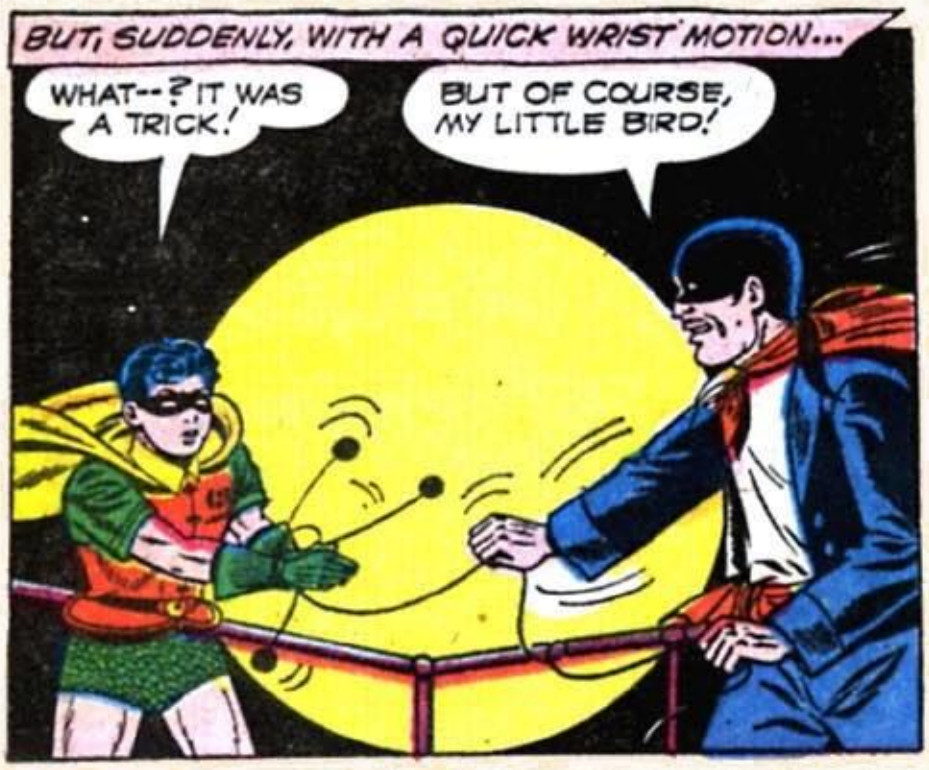
SO THE FOLLOWING NIGHT, WITH A BLARE OF CALLIOPE AND TATTOO OF DRUMS...
AND NOW, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, A NEW MEMBER OF OUR COMPANY-- THAT SHARPSHOOTER FROM SOUTH OF THE BORDER, SEÑOR LOPEZ! AND KEEP YOUR EYE ON THE CANNON FOR THE FLYING LAMBERTIS!
LITTLE DOES THE RINGMASTER REALIZE THE TRUE IDENTITY OF "SEÑOR LOPEZ"...
HA, HA! WHEN I RELEASE THIS SLEEPING GAS BOLO, IT WILL KNOCK OUT THE WHOLE AUDIENCE! THEN I SLIP ON MY GAS MASK AND COLLECT A FEW DIAMONDS!
BUT THE "FLYING LAMBERTIS" HAVE ANOTHER PLAN...
EH?... BATMAN AND ROBIN!
RIGHT...WHEN THE MANAGER TOLD US HE'D HIRED A NEW BOLO MASTER, WE HAD NO TROUBLE FIGURING OUT THE REST!
BOOM!
AS THE DYNAMIC DUO COMES BOUNDING BACK FROM THE NET, HOWEVER...
LOOK OUT, ROBIN!... HE'S GOT A SMOKE BOLO!
CHOKE! CAN'T SEE...WHERE ARE YOU, ROBIN?
I'M HERE, BATMAN COUGH! BUT EL BOLO GOT AWAY!

BY THE TIME THEY RACE OUTSIDE...
HE STOLE A CIRCUS TRUCK FOR HIS GETAWAY!
THAT SHOULDN'T BE HARD TO TRAIL!
DIRECTED BY PEOPLE WHO SAW THE COLORFUL VEHICLE, BATMAN AND ROBIN SOON REACH A LONELY, DESERTED ROAD...
THE TRUCK DISAPPEARED... THERE'S NOTHING BUT THAT CLIFF AHEAD!
AND A TV TOWER-- JUST THE WAY THE NEWSPAPER REPORTED IT! OH, BATMAN, HOW CAN I KEEP YOU FROM MEETING YOUR FATE?
DANGER! CLIFF AHEAD
LOOKS LIKE HE RODE OFF THE CLIFF...AND HE COULDN'T POSSIBLY HAVE SURVIVED THAT CRASH!
YOU'RE RIGHT... THAT MEANS OUR JOB IS DONE! LET'S GET OUT OF HERE, BATMAN!

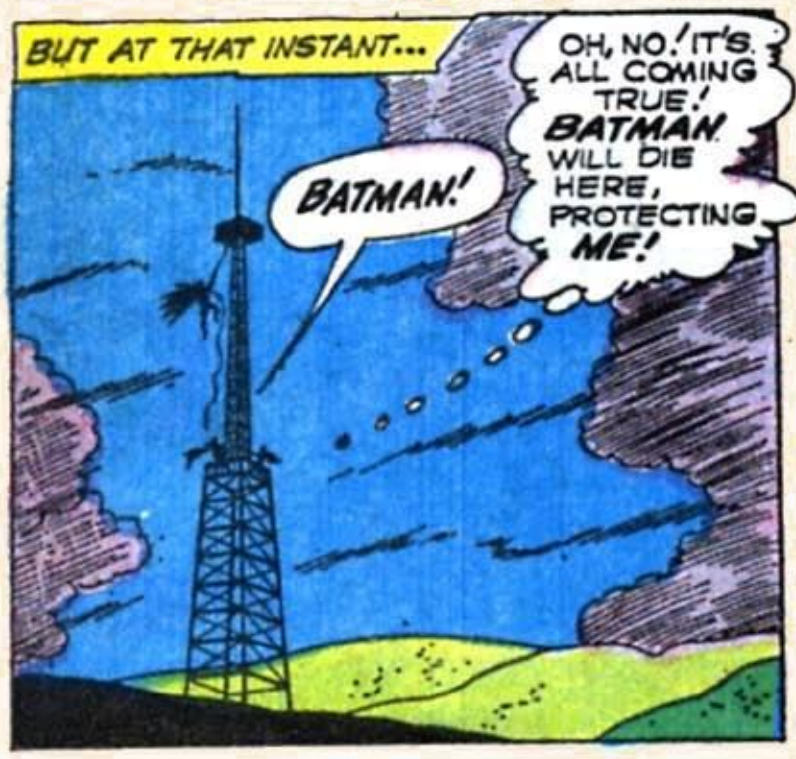
HMM--WAIT... FOOTPRINTS GOING AWAY FROM THE CLIFF! THAT MEANS EL BOLO PUSHED THE TRUCK OVER AND IS PLAYING DEAD! HE'S HIDING OUT SOMEWHERE IN THE AREA! I'LL RETURN HERE TOMORROW--ALONE... ROBIN IS STILL TOO NERVOUS FROM THAT TIME TRIP!

BUT THE FOLLOWING DAY, IT IS ROBIN, NOT BATMAN, WHO MOUNTS THE TV TOWER...
I KNOW EL BOLO IS ALIVE, BECAUSE THE NEWSPAPER OF THE FUTURE SAID HE FOUGHT BATMAN HERE--TODAY! BUT BATMAN STILL THINKS HE'S DEAD-- SO I'LL DO THE FIGHTING!

EL BOLO! YOU PICKED YOURSELF A GOOD HIDEOUT!
ROBIN! YOU FOUND ME OUT! VERY WELL... I SURRENDER! HERE, I HAND OVER MY WEAPON TO YOU!


BUT, SUDDENLY, WITH A QUICK WRIST MOTION...
WHAT--? IT WAS A TRICK!
BUT OF COURSE, MY LITTLE BIRD!

WELL, I'M GLAD IT WAS I YOU CAPTURED -- NOT BATMAN! HE'S MORE IMPORTANT TO THE WORLD -- SO DO WHATEVER YOU WANT WITH ME!
COURAGEOUSLY SPOKEN... NOW, WE SHALL SEE HOW BRAVE YOU REALLY ARE!


BUT AT THAT INSTANT...
BATMAN!
OH, NO! IT'S ALL COMING TRUE! BATMAN WILL DIE HERE, PROTECTING ME!

LOOK OUT, BATMAN!... HE'S GOT A BLADED BOLO! IF IT HITS YOUR ROPE, IT'LL SLASH IT IN TWO!
CORRECT, SEÑOR ROBIN... AND EL BOLO NEVER MISSES!

THE WHIRLING BLADES FLY THROUGH THE AIR, AND...
SNAP!

Y-YOU'VE KILLED HIM! YOU KILLED BATMAN!

WHILE DOWN BELOW, WHERE A CROWD HAS GATHERED...
WOW! BATMAN FALLING TO HIS DOOM! I'VE GOT TO PHONE THIS INTO MY PAPER -- AT ONCE!

The MOST NOTORIOUS VILLAINS IN THE UNIVERSE VOTE...

THUMBS DOWN for BATMAN...

WHEN THE CAPED CRUSADER FIGHTS A GLADIATORIAL DEATH-DUEL WITH SUPERMAN!

THE SIGN TO KILL HAS BEEN GIVEN... WILL THE MAN of STEEL EXECUTE HIS BAT-BUDDY?

YOU'LL FIND THE ANSWER IN...

CONSTRUCT-ALL

featuring the Riv-A-Matic gun! Put up a crane, a bridge, a steam shovel, a rocket! You get everything you need—beams, gussets, bearings, connectors, rivs, axles, pulley, wheels—hundreds of pieces in all. So get Construct-All in your choice of three tremendous sizes—BY TRANSOGRAM, WHERE THE FUN COMES FROM.

Make 'em move with the Construct-All Power Pak with remote control*

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Complete SUNDAY NEWSPAPER SYNDICATED STORY

BATMAN
ROBIN
by BOB KANE
HIS CRIMINAL REPUTATION AT STAKE BECAUSE OF WIDELY PUBLICIZED CRIMES OF "THE SPARROW", THE JOKER, FAMED FOE OF THE BATMAN, HAS JUST ENGINEERED A SUCCESSFUL JAIL BREAK...
GENTLEMEN—NOW THAT I'M BACK, THE MYTH OF THIS MYSTERIOUS SPARROW'S SUPERIORITY IN CRIME SHALL BE ABRUPTLY SHATTERED!
IT'S ME—MINCEMEAT MULLIGAN. I GOT A MESSAGE FER DA JOKER.
MY BOSS, THE SPARROW, SENT ME TO BRING YA TO THE HIDEOUT. THE SPARROW THINKS YOU GOT TALENT AND WOULD LIKE TO PLACE YA IN THE ORGANIZATION!
WHAT COLOSSAL NERVE! SHOW THIS FOOL OUT—ON HIS EAR!!
PRESENTLY, IN ANOTHER PART OF TOWN...
AND DA JOKER DID NOT TAKE KINDLY TO YER OFFER, SPARROW. I THINK HIS PRIDE WUZ HOIT.
I'LL SHOW THAT GRINNING COMEDIAN! I'LL MAKE HIM A PUBLIC LAUGHING-STOCK FOR REFUSING ME!
THAT EVENING, AT BRUCE WAYNE'S HOME...
IT'S THE BATSIGNAL, MAWSTER BRUCE!
HURRY, DICK. I WONDER WHICH OF THOSE TWIN MENACES IT'S ABOUT—THE JOKER OR THE SPARROW?
SHORTLY AFTER...
IT CAME THROUGH THE WINDOW TEN MINUTES AGO!
Dear Batman: At precisely 10 tonight, I will steal Sascha Dreibitz' Stradivarius as he plays before a full house at the Concert Hall. Affectionately, THE JOKER.
I'VE POSTED MEN ALL AROUND THE CONCERT HALL. EVEN PLANTED A FEW IN THE ORCHESTRA. HE'LL NEVER GET AWAY WITH IT.
JUST THE SAME, HE'LL TRY. THE JOKER ALWAYS KEEPS HIS WORD. I'LL BE THERE, IN ANY CASE...
LATER...
I DON'T UNDERSTAND. ALREADY FIVE PAST TEN AND NO JOKER! IT ISN'T LIKE HIM!
MAYBE HE REALIZED HE BIT OFF MORE THAN HE COULD CHEW THIS TIME..
BATMAN—A LITTLE LAUNDRY WAS JUST HELD UP AROUND THE CORNER. THE THIEF GOT AWAY WITH EIGHT SHIRTS. AND HE LEFT THIS!
THE JOKER'S CARD! BUT—BUT I CAN'T BELIEVE IT. UNLESS HE REALLY LOST HIS NERVE!
WHY NOT? IT'S HAPPENED TO OTHER CROOKS. HE MUST'VE GOTTEN COLD FEET ON THE WAY AND PICKED ON SOMETHING NEARBY INSTEAD.
HA-HA! MAYBE HE DIDN'T WANT TO MAKE A PUBLIC APPEARANCE IN A DIRTY SHIRT!
Gotham Gazette
JOKER GETS COLD FEET, SCORNS STRAD FOR CLEAN SHIRTS!
LAUNDRY STICK-UP IS ANTI-CLIMAX TO SPREE OF MAJOR CRIME
I'VE BEEN FRAMED! I NEVER SENT THAT NOTE! I WASN'T NEAR THAT LAUNDRY! THE SPARROW! HE'S TRYING TO MAKE A FOOL OF ME! I'LL SETTLE WITH HIM IF IT'S THE LAST THING I DO!!

BATMAN AND ROBIN
THROUGH A SPURIOUS NOTE SIGNED "THE JOKER" WHICH THREATENS A MAJOR CRIME THAT DOESN'T MATERIALIZE, THE SPARROW MAKES A LAUGHING STOCK OF THE JOKER WHO NOW PLANS REVENGE ON HIS UNKNOWN COMPETITOR IN CRIME...
STEAL THE HIGGLEY SIGN! BUT THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE. MAYBE THIS NOTE'S A PHONY, TOO!
HM- I'M AFRAID ONLY THE JOKER WOULD THINK OF SOMETHING SO FANTASTIC!
Gotham Gazette
JOKER NOTE DENIES PREVIOUS CRIME THREAT
BLAMES SPARROW, PROMISES THEFT OF GIANT GOTHAM SQUARE NEON SIGN!

SHORTLY AFTER...
THE ONLY WAY HE CAN GET AT THIS SIGN IS FROM THE ROOF HERE AND OUR MEN ARE COVERING ALL THE BUILDING ENTRANCES.
HIGGLEY'S BUBBLE GUM
I'M NOT SO SURE HE'LL TRY IT THAT WAY. SEEMS TOO OBVIOUS.

EVEN IF HE TRIES A HELICOPTER LANDING FROM THE AIR, WE'RE READY FOR THAT TOO.
HM-PRETTY THOROUGH PREPARATIONS UP HERE. GUESS YOU WON'T NEED US. LET'S GO, ROBIN.
HUH? WHERE?

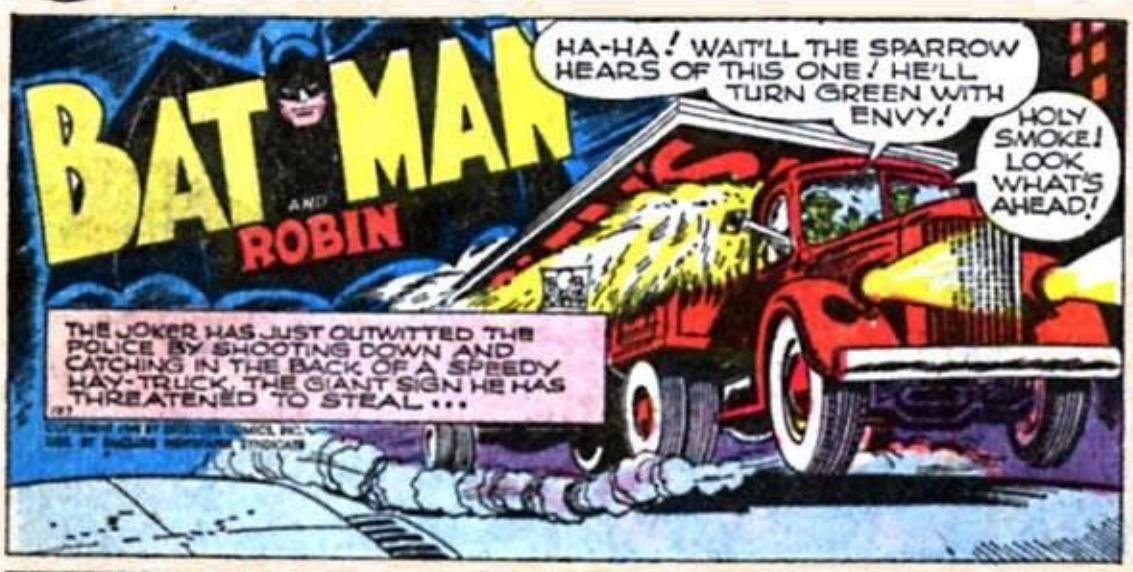
PERSONALLY, I DON'T THINK THE JOKER'LL GO NEAR THAT ROOF- EITHER FROM THE AIR OR THROUGH THE BUILDING. NO- TO STOP HIM, I'M GOING TO NEED AN ANTI-TANK TRAP!

IN ONE HOUR, WE START. AND WHEN OUR PRODIGIOUS FEAT IS ACCOMPLISHED, THE SPARROW WILL REALIZE HOW GROSSLY HE'S UNDERESTIMATED ME!

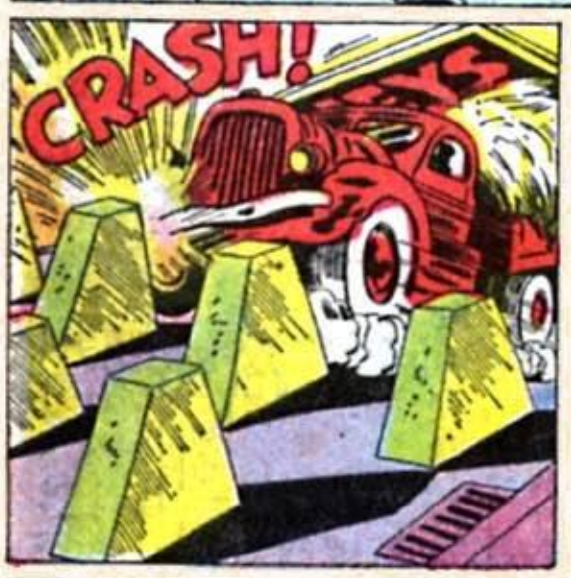
ONE HOUR LATER AS A HUGE TRUCK SPEEDS ALONG THE ONE-WAY STREET FRONTING THE HIGGLEY BUILDING...
LOOK AT THAT HAY TRUCK TEARING ALONG DOWN THERE. THE DRIVER MUST BE OFF HIS TOP!

KEEP THE SPEED STEADY, SNAKE-EYES. WE DON'T WANT THAT SIGN TO LAND ON OUR HEADS!

HA-HA! PERFECT! STEP ON IT, SNAKE-EYES!
HIGGLEY'S


BATMAN AND ROBIN
HA-HA! WAIT'LL THE SPARROW HEARS OF THIS ONE! HE'LL TURN GREEN WITH ENVY!
HOLY SMOKE! LOOK WHAT'S AHEAD!
THE JOKER HAS JUST OUTWITTED THE POLICE BY SHOOTING DOWN AND CATCHING IN THE BACK OF A SPEEDY HAY-TRUCK, THE GIANT SIGN HE HAS THREATENED TO STEAL...

YOUR BRAKES! USE YOUR BRAKES, YOU FOOL!!
C-CAN'T! GOING TOO FAST TO STOP IN TIME! GET SET FOR A CRASH!


CRASH!

BATMAN! HOW'D YOU MANAGE TO GET HERE!?
THAT'S EXACTLY HOW I'D HAVE DONE IT MYSELF IF I WANTED TO STEAL THAT SIGN. SO— I PLANTED THIS ANTI-TANK TRAP AT THE END OF THIS ONE-WAY STREET!

YOU'VE CUT YOUR FINAL CAPER, YOU GRINNING JACKANAPES!

HEY!
COME ON—I COULDN'T BEAR TO SEE TALENT LIKE YOURS WASTING IN SOME STUFFY OLD JAIL!

FOR THE LOVE OF PETE! DID YOU SEE THAT?
THE JOKER RESCUED BY A BEAUTIFUL BLONDE! WHO IS SHE?

YOU GORGEOUS CREATURE! HOW CAN I EVER THANK YOU? IF I'D BEEN CAUGHT BY BATMAN, THE SPARROW WOULD NEVER HAVE STOPPED CROWING!

BUT NOW—THANKS TO YOU—I CAN STILL SHOW THAT SWELL-HEADED FOUR-FLUSHER THAT THE JOKER NEVER FORGETS AN INJURY. BY THE WAY—WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

THEY CALL ME— "THE SPARROW!"
OH...

BATMAN AND ROBIN
ABOUT TO BE CAPTURED BY BATMAN, THE JOKER IS RESCUED BY A BEAUTIFUL BLONDE WHO TURNS OUT TO BE HIS UNKNOWN COMPETITOR IN CRIME—"THE SPARROW!"
YOU—YOU'RE THE SPARROW? THE ONE WHO TRIED TO MAKE ME RIDICULOUS WITH THAT LAUNDRY GAG? WHY—IF YOU WERE A MAN, I'D—
WHY, JOKER—IS THAT HOW YOU SHOW YOUR GRATITUDE?

GRATITUDE! YOU EXPECT GRATITUDE? WHY, YOU ONLY RESCUED ME IN ORDER TO GROW OVER ME—TO MAKE ME RIDICULOUS! LET ME OUT!

LAUGH ALL YOU WANT, BUT I'LL HAVE THE LAST—HUH?
DO YOU THINK I'D WASTE MY TIME RESCUING A GRINNING IDIOT LIKE YOU UNLESS I HAD SOME USE FOR YOU? NOW GET BACK IN HERE—AND BEHAVE! I'VE GOT BIG PLANS FOR YOU!

LATER, IN AN ABANDONED SAWMILL, AS THE SPARROW SEEKS TO PERSUADE THE STUBBORN JOKER TO WORK FOR HER...
YOU CAN'T DO THIS TO ME! YOU CAN'T RIDICULE ME WITH THIS MELODRAMATIC CORN! YOU VILLAIN—ER—VILLAINESS!
GIVE UP THE MORTGAGE—ER—I MEAN, AGREE TO WORK FOR ME AND YOU'RE FREE. TEE-HEE!

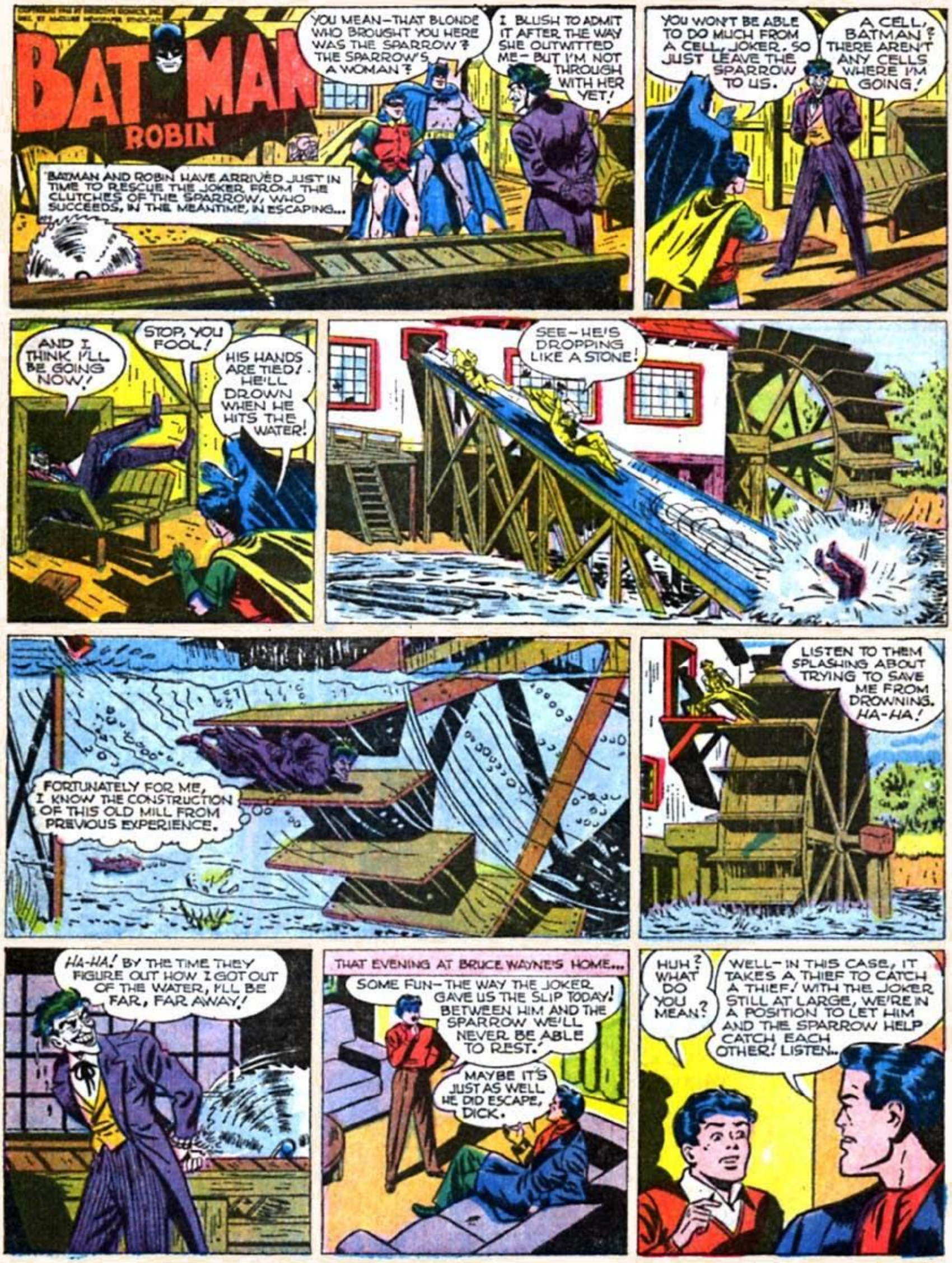
LOOKS HOPELESS. THAT MIDGET CAR COULD'VE TAKEN ANY OF SIX ROADS FROM HERE.
MIDGET CAR? SAY—I SAW ONE COME BY AND TURN UP THAT ROAD, BATMAN.

WHAT'S THE USE? THAT CAR COULD'VE TURNED IN AT ANY HOUSE ALONG HERE.
TRUE, BUT IN CASE IT DIDN'T, AT THE SPEED WE'RE TRAVELING, THERE'S STILL A SLIM CHANCE OF CATCHING UP WITH IT.

HELP! HELP!
UH-UH! SOMEONE CALLING FOR HELP!
HAVE TO FORGET ABOUT THE JOKER! LET'S GO!

IT'S BATMAN AND ROBIN! THEY'RE COMING UP!
WHAT? THE COPS MAY BE RIGHT BEHIND THEM. QUICK—OUT THE BACK WAY! LEAVE THE JOKER THERE. NO TIME TO RELEASE HIM NOW!

BATMAN! QUICK! SAVE ME!
THE JOKER! HA-HA-HA-HA! WHAT A SITUATION FOR YOU TO BE IN! NEXT TIME YOU'LL STAY AWAY FROM STRANGE BLONDES!


BATMAN
ROBIN
BATMAN AND ROBIN HAVE ARRIVED JUST IN TIME TO RESCUE THE JOKER FROM THE CLUTCHES OF THE SPARROW, WHO SUCCEEDS, IN THE MEANTIME, IN ESCAPING...
YOU MEAN—THAT BLONDE WHO BROUGHT YOU HERE WAS THE SPARROW? THE SPARROW'S A WOMAN?
I BLUSH TO ADMIT IT AFTER THE WAY SHE OUTWITTED ME—BUT I'M NOT THROUGH WITH HER YET!
YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO DO MUCH FROM A CELL, JOKER. SO JUST LEAVE THE SPARROW TO US.
A CELL, BATMAN? THERE AREN'T ANY CELLS WHERE I'M GOING!
AND I THINK I'LL BE GOING NOW!
STOP, YOU FOOL!
HIS HANDS ARE TIED! HE'LL DROWN WHEN HE HITS THE WATER!
SEE—HE'S DROPPING LIKE A STONE!
FORTUNATELY FOR ME, I KNOW THE CONSTRUCTION OF THIS OLD MILL FROM PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE.
LISTEN TO THEM SPLASHING ABOUT TRYING TO SAVE ME FROM DROWNING. HA-HA!
HA-HA! BY THE TIME THEY FIGURE OUT HOW I GOT OUT OF THE WATER, I'LL BE FAR, FAR AWAY!
THAT EVENING AT BRUCE WAYNE'S HOME...
SOME FUN—THE WAY THE JOKER GAVE US THE SLIP TODAY! BETWEEN HIM AND THE SPARROW WE'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO REST.
MAYBE IT'S JUST AS WELL HE DID ESCAPE, DICK.
HUH? WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
WELL—IN THIS CASE, IT TAKES A THIEF TO CATCH A THIEF! WITH THE JOKER STILL AT LARGE, WE'RE IN A POSITION TO LET HIM AND THE SPARROW HELP CATCH EACH OTHER! LISTEN...

BATMAN
ROBIN
WITH THOSE TWO COMPETITORS IN CRIME, THE JOKER AND THE SPARROW STILL AT LARGE, BATMAN PLANS TO HAVE THEM HELP CATCH EACH OTHER. AND, AT THE SPARROW'S NEST...
HMM... THIS IS MY CHANCE TO PROVE WHO'S KINGPIN AROUND HERE—OR SHOULD I SAY QUEENPIN!
Gotham Gazette
JOKER NOTE THREATENS THEFT OF ARCHIVES FROM MELBON LIBRARY

HE'D BE CRAZY TO TRY IT, BATMAN. HE WON'T HAVE A CHANCE.
JUST THE SAME, I'VE A HUNCH HE WILL. NOW—IF YOU'LL EXCUSE US—WE'VE PLANS OF OUR OWN...

LATER THAT DAY...
LOOK!
GRAB HIM!

THINK YOU COULD SURPRISE US WITH A CORNY APPEARANCE LIKE THAT? YOU'RE LOSING YOUR GRIP, JOKER!
HA! HE'S SO MAD HE WON'T EVEN SPEAK TO US!

HE DIDN'T DO SO WELL—BUT HE'S MAKING IT EASIER FOR ME. NOW THAT THEY'VE GOT HIM, THE COPS ARE LEAVING. WILL HE BURN UP WHEN HE LEARNS HOW HE PAVED THE WAY FOR ME!

DON'T LET THIS GUN UPSET YOU, GENTLEMEN. I FORGOT MY LIBRARY CARD, AND THERE ARE A COUPLE OF BOOKS I SIMPLY MUST HAVE!
D-DON'T SHOOT!

SO YOU THOUGHT YOU'D HUMILIATE ME AGAIN, SPARROW! NOW IF YOU'LL JUST DROP YOUR GUN—
THE JOKER!! B-BUT—YOU WERE JUST ARRESTED! I JUST SAW IT!!

HA-HA! THAT WAS MY DECOY! SOME INNOCENT FOOL I HIRED TO DROP DOWN THE FIREPLACE DISGUISED AS ME. JUST A STUNT TO REMOVE THE COPS. POOR FELLOW—HE DIDN'T EVEN KNOW WHAT HE WAS DOING IT FOR!

LET'S GO!
BATMAN!
A TRAP!

BUT HOW COME YOU WERE STILL HIDING HERE IF YOU THOUGHT I WAS CAUGHT?
BECAUSE I WAS EXPECTING THE SPARROW TOO! YOU SEE—I SENT THAT THEFT THREAT TO THE PRESS, JOKER, FIGURING YOU'D REGARD IT AS—

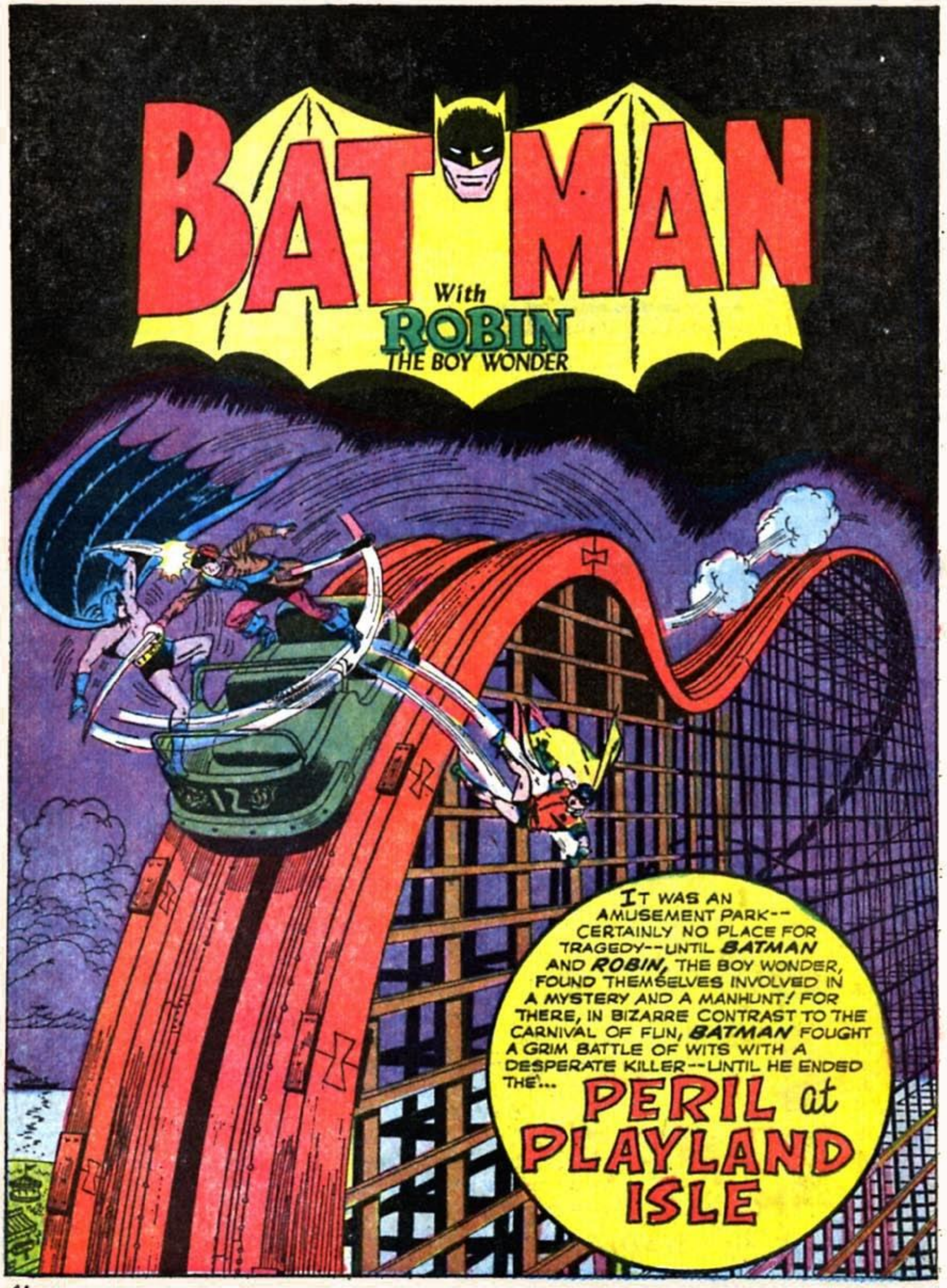
—ANOTHER SPARROW EFFORT TO HUMILIATE YOU. I KNEW THAT WOULD MAKE YOU GO THROUGH WITH IT. AND I KNEW THE SPARROW WOULD TRY TO STOP YOU! AND I GUESSED RIGHT! SO—ALL'S WELL THAT ENDS IN A CELL FOR YOU TWO!

Hey, Bud...there's the train we rode out in Disneyland!
TOYS & HOBBYS
Here Now! OFFICIAL SANTA FE & DISNEYLAND HO TRAIN SETS
Wow! You're right! Bet you that dad will go for that as much as us!

Yes, boys... it's authentic right down to the rivets...and your dad's been a TYCO fan for years.
See, Bud? I told you.
How 'bout a catalog?

TYCO Road Race Sets! The year's hottest for action...speed...thrills!
IF YOUR DEALER IS OUT OF STOCK ON TYCO CATALOGS, SEND 25¢ TO DEPT. CTC, TYCO, WOODBURY HTS, N.J. 08097
Make it...
TYCO®
IT'S SO MUCH MORE FUN TO OWN THE VERY BEST!

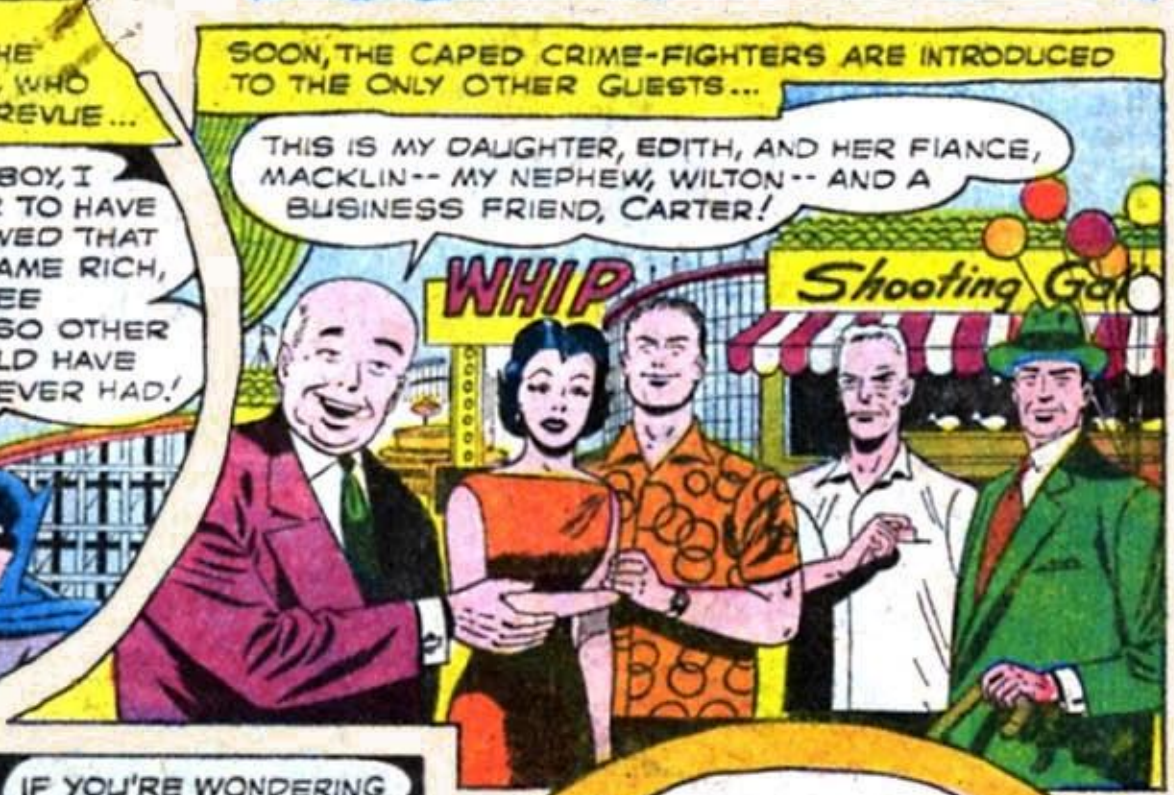
ELECTRIC S.O.S.
With buzzer and light!
TELEGRAPH SET
NOW- You can actually send & receive your own special messages -and in secret code if you wish! You'll find this wonderful Telegraph Set so much fun & so useful. It's easy to assemble & exciting to operate. Yes - you get all the parts you need to build this sturdy, professional-looking set. Comes complete with both buzzer & light-units for loud or secret code messages. Excellent as a danger warning or for other emergencies. Indeed- this is a remarkably instructive set-one that you & your friends & family will use & enjoy for a long, long time! PLUS FREE -The complete International "Morse" code for you to learn to send and receive.
ONLY 1.98 POST PAID
S.O.S.
S.O.S.
It's Scientific!
It's Educational!
It's Useful!!
It's a Terrific School Science Project!
Great for Scouts!
Helpful in Emergencies!
SEND FOR YOUR SET TODAY!
MAIL TODAY!
TELEGRAPH-DEPARTMENT 612
P.O. BOX 397-ROCKVILLE CENTRE, N.Y. 11570
SEND ME MY TELEGRAPH SET COMPLETE WITH BUZZER & LIGHT UNITS FOR WHICH I HAVE ENCLOSED $1.98 ☐
SEND ME TWO (2) SETS TO MAKE THE 'DEAL PAIR FOR SENDING & RECEIVING WITH A PARTNER ONLY $3.75 ☐
SATISFACTION GUARANTEED-NO C.O.D.'s-(PLEASE PRINT)
NAME
ADDRESS
CITY STATE ZIP
CANADIAN AND FOREIGN ADD 35¢ PER SET. U.S. INT'L. MONEY ORDER.


BATMAN
With
ROBIN
THE BOY WONDER
IT WAS AN AMUSEMENT PARK--CERTAINLY NO PLACE FOR TRAGEDY--UNTIL BATMAN AND ROBIN, THE BOY WONDER, FOUND THEMSELVES INVOLVED IN A MYSTERY AND A MANHUNT! FOR THERE, IN BIZARRE CONTRAST TO THE CARNIVAL OF FUN, BATMAN FOUGHT A GRIM BATTLE OF WITS WITH A DESPERATE KILLER--UNTIL HE ENDED THE...
PERIL at PLAYLAND ISLE

ON A PRIVATE YACHT, BATMAN AND ROBIN, THE BOY WONDER; CRUISE TOWARDS THE NEWLY-COMPLETED PLAYLAND ISLE...
IS THE JOB FINISHED, CAPTAIN?
YES, BATMAN! THE WORKMEN HAVE GONE! THE ONLY PEOPLE ON THE ISLAND NOW ARE MR. BARDEN AND A FEW GUESTS!

IMAGINE, ROBIN-- CHARLES BARDEN BOUGHT AN ENTIRE AMUSEMENT SETUP FROM A CARNIVAL OWNER AND HAD IT MOVED FROM GOTHAM BEACH TO HIS ISLAND -- AND IT'S ALL GOING TO BE FREE FOR CHILDREN!

LATER, THEY ARE GREETED BY BARDEN, THE BENEVOLENT MILLIONAIRE, WHO HAS INVITED THEM TO A PREVUE...
WHEN I WAS A BOY, I WAS TOO POOR TO HAVE FUN -- SO I VOWED THAT IF EVER I BECAME RICH, I'D PROVIDE FREE AMUSEMENTS, SO OTHER CHILDREN COULD HAVE THE FUN I NEVER HAD!

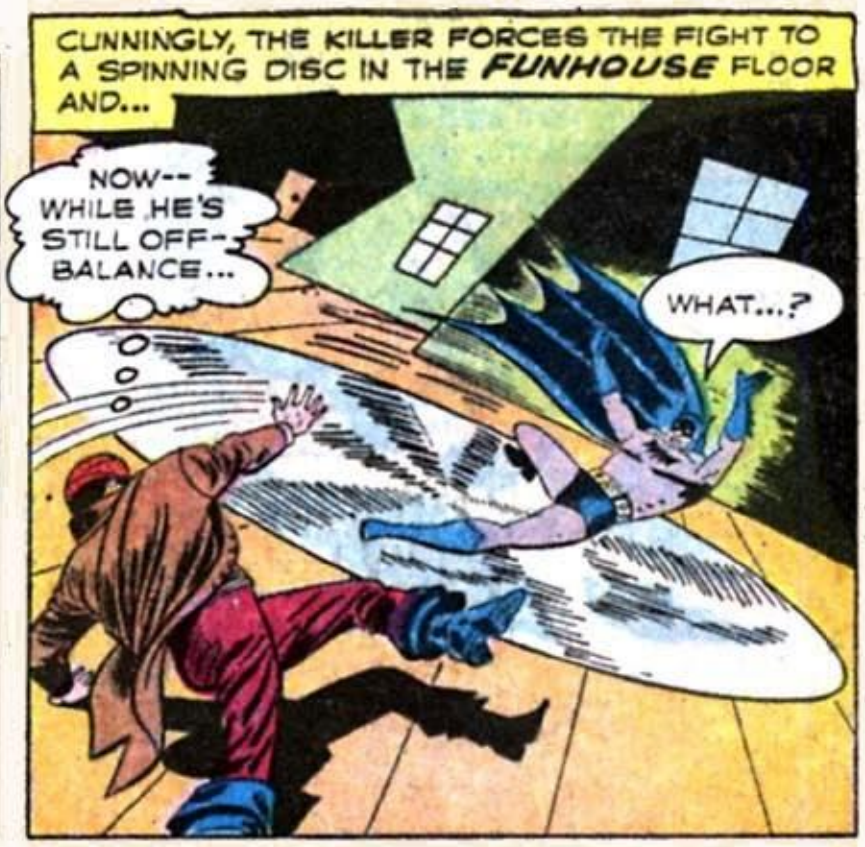

SOON, THE CAPED CRIME-FIGHTERS ARE INTRODUCED TO THE ONLY OTHER GUESTS...
THIS IS MY DAUGHTER, EDITH, AND HER FIANCE, MACKLIN -- MY NEPHEW, WILTON -- AND A BUSINESS FRIEND, CARTER!
WHIP
Shooting Gal

AND HERE IS PETE CONN! HE OWNED THIS CARNIVAL AT GOTHAM BEACH UNTIL I BOUGHT IT FROM HIM! HE SUPERVISED THE REBUILDING OF IT HERE!
IF YOU'RE WONDERING WHY I SOLD IT, BATMAN, MY DOCTOR ORDERED ME TO RETIRE BECAUSE I HAVE A BAD HEART!

LET'S GO, CONN-- IT'S TIME TO CHECK THE RIDES! WE WANT TO MAKE SURE EVERYTHING IS IN WORKING ORDER FOR THE CHILDREN TOMORROW! WE'LL START WITH THE FUNHOUSE!

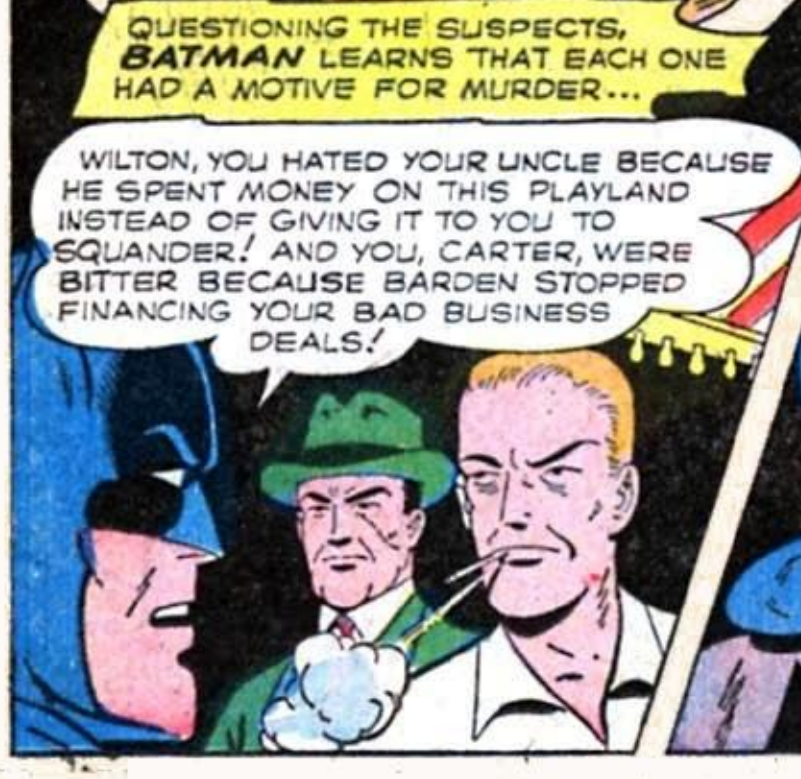
LATER, AS BATMAN AND ROBIN WANDER ABOUT, SIGHTSEEING...
HURRY, BATMAN-- MR. BARDEN WANTS TO SEE YOU RIGHT AWAY! HE'S WAITING FOR YOU!
BUT THE FUNHOUSE HAS BECOME A SITE FOR GRIM TRAGEDY!
HO! HO!
BARDEN'S DEAD! HE WAS SHOT!
OHHH!
WE GOT HERE SO FAST, THE KILLER MAY NOT HAVE HAD TIME TO ESCAPE! LET'S SPLIT UP AND SEARCH THE PLACE!
RIGHT! I'LL GO THIS WAY!
I'LL TRY THE NEXT FLOOR!
?
AS BATMAN ENTERS A WAX WORKS, ONE FIGURE SUDDENLY COMES TO LIFE...
THE KILLER-- IN A PIRATE COSTUME, TO DISGUISE HIS IDENTITY!
INSTANTLY, BATMAN PUSHES A FIGURE...
AND AS HE GRAPPLES WITH HIS ATTACKER, THE FUNHOUSE FLOOR ABRUPTLY TILTS, SPILLING THE COMBATANTS DOWN A SLIDE...

DOWN THEY TUMBLE -- TO ALIGHT BEFORE THE TRICK MIRRORS...
I'VE GOT TO GET BATMAN OFF-GUARD SOMEHOW!


CUNNINGLY, THE KILLER FORCES THE FIGHT TO A SPINNING DISC IN THE FUNHOUSE FLOOR AND...
NOW-- WHILE HE'S STILL OFF-BALANCE...
WHAT...?

THIS WILL GIVE ME JUST ENOUGH TIME TO GET AWAY!

LATER, WHEN THE TRIO MEETS AGAIN, AND BATMAN EXPLAINS WHAT HAPPENED...
BUT WHO COULD IT HAVE BEEN?
ONE OF THE GUESTS, ROBIN! I'M GOING TO QUESTION THEM NOW!


QUESTIONING THE SUSPECTS, BATMAN LEARNS THAT EACH ONE HAD A MOTIVE FOR MURDER...
WILTON, YOU HATED YOUR UNCLE BECAUSE HE SPENT MONEY ON THIS PLAYLAND INSTEAD OF GIVING IT TO YOU TO SQUANDER! AND YOU, CARTER, WERE BITTER BECAUSE BARDEN STOPPED FINANCING YOUR BAD BUSINESS DEALS!

YOU, MACKLIN -- YOU WERE BITTER, TOO, BECAUSE BARDEN REFUSED TO LET YOU MARRY HIS DAUGHTER UNTIL YOU FINISHED COLLEGE!
THAT'S TRUE! MAC FELT IT WAS UNFAIR FOR US TO WAIT TWO YEARS -- BUT HE WOULDN'T KILL FATHER FOR THAT!

LATER, A SHADOWY FIGURE SLIPS THROUGH THE FUNHOUSE AND, REMOVING THE HAT FROM THE ROBOT-CLOWN EXAMINES IT...
EMPTY! THEY'RE GONE! ONLY ONE PERSON COULD HAVE TAKEN THEM! TO GET THEM, I MAY HAVE TO STRIKE AGAIN!
SOON AFTER...
WHERE TO NOW?
TO HAVE A TALK WITH CONN, WHO'S WAITING FOR US IN THE MAINTENANCE SHACK NEAR HERE! HE MAY KNOW WHY BARDEN SENT FOR US!
BATMAN! HELP! HELP!
THE KILLER! HE'S ATTACKING CONN!
BUT AS THE MANHUNTERS CLOSE IN, THEIR QUARRY TURNS AND FLEES...
HE'S STARTED THE ROLLER COASTER! C'MON-- WE'LL TAKE THE CAR BEHIND HIS!
BUT, BATMAN, WHAT GOOD WILL THIS DO? HIS CAR WILL ALWAYS BE AHEAD OF OURS!
BY THE TIME WE REACH THE CREST OF THE STEEP HILL, HE WILL BE ALREADY RIDING DOWN ON THE OTHER SIDE-- BUT THE OTHER SIDE CURVES BELOW THE CREST-- RIGHT UNDER OUR CAR...
MOMENTS LATER, AS THE KILLER'S CAR ROCKETS DOWNHILL...
WHAT...?!!

AS THE CAR THUNDERS ALONG THE RAILS...
ROBIN-- GET BACK-- I CAN HANDLE HIM ALONE!

BUT, OVEREAGER, ROBIN BECOMES VICTIM OF THE MAN'S DESPERATE FURY, AND A VICIOUS BLOW SENDS HIM REELING BACK...
ROBIN!

AND AT EYE-BLURRING SPEED, BATMAN LEAPS AFTER THE YOUNGSTER...
I'VE GOT YOU! IT'S ALL RIGHT, ROBIN! I'VE GOT YOU!

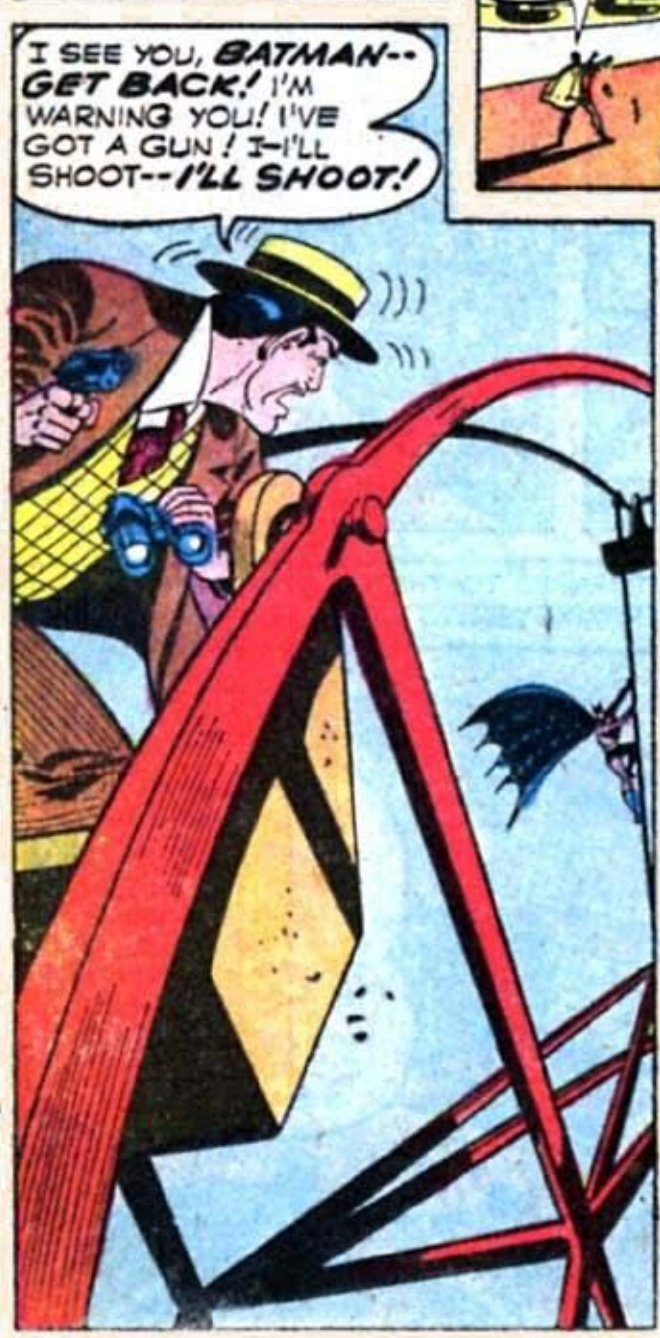
AND BY THE TIME BATMAN PULLS ROBIN TO SAFETY...
HE'S GETTING AWAY-- AND IT'S ALL MY FAULT! SORRY, BATMAN!
FORGET IT, ROBIN! COME ON-- LET'S SEE CONN AND FIND OUT WHY THE KILLER WAS AFTER HIM!

BUT RETURNING TO THE SHACK, THEY FIND ANOTHER MYSTERY...
PROBABLY HIDING SOMEWHERE-- AFRAID THE KILLER MIGHT TRY AGAIN! CONN MUST KNOW WHAT BARDEN KNEW! THAT'S WHY HIS LIFE IS IN JEOPARDY! WE MUST FIND CONN AND GET HIM TO TALK!
HE'S GONE!

WAIT A MOMENT! AN EMPTY BINOCULAR CASE! NOW WHY WOULD CONN TAKE BINOCULARS WITH HIM TO WHEREVER HE'S HIDING--UNLESS HE WANTS TO WATCH FOR THE KILLER FROM A HIGH SPOT?

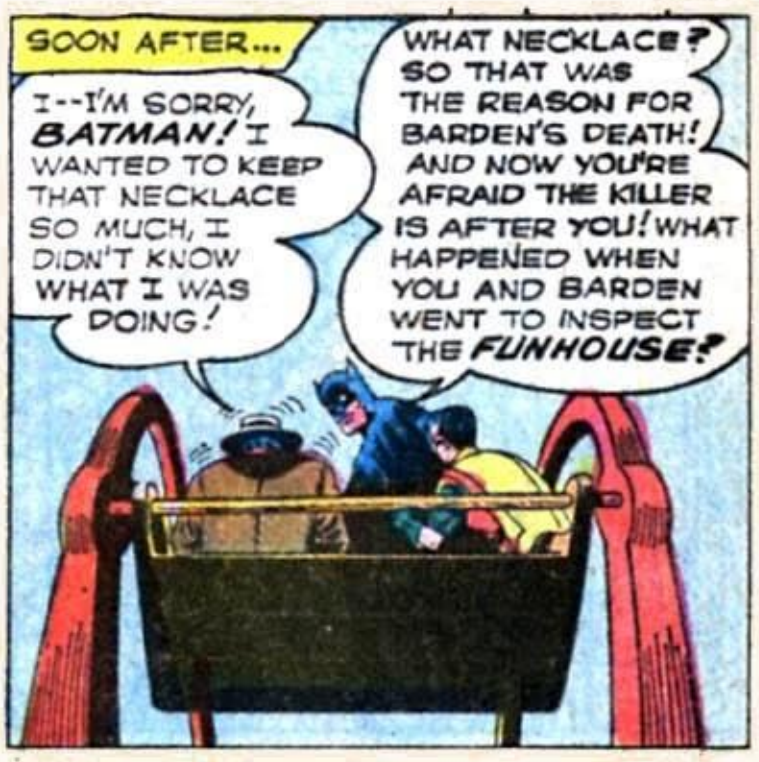
IT WOULDN'T BE THE PARACHUTE DROP! CONN COULDN'T HIDE UP THERE!
THEN IT WOULD HAVE TO BE IN THE TOP GONDOLA OF THE FERRIS WHEEL! HE'S BOUND TO SPOT ME GOING UP, SO HERE'S WHAT WE'LL DO!

MOMENTS LATER, A HUMAN FLY SCALES THE GIRDERS OF THE FERRIS WHEEL...


I SEE YOU, BATMAN--GET BACK! I'M WARNING YOU! I'VE GOT A GUN! I-I'LL SHOOT--I'LL SHOOT!

SUDDENLY, ROBIN MAKES THE WIDE SWING FROM THE PARACHUTE DROP TO THE NEARBY FERRIS WHEEL...
BATMAN'S PLAN WORKED! CONN WAS SO BUSY WATCHING BATMAN, HE DIDN'T NOTICE ME!

THAT TAKES CARE OF YOUR GUN! COME ON UP, BATMAN -- I'VE GOT HIM!
ROBIN!


SOON AFTER...
I--I'M SORRY, BATMAN! I WANTED TO KEEP THAT NECKLACE SO MUCH, I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT I WAS DOING!
WHAT NECKLACE? SO THAT WAS THE REASON FOR BARDEN'S DEATH! AND NOW YOU'RE AFRAID THE KILLER IS AFTER YOU! WHAT HAPPENED WHEN YOU AND BARDEN WENT TO INSPECT THE FUNHOUSE?

"WE WERE CHECKING THAT BIG ROBOT-CLOWN'S COSTUME, WHEN SUDDENLY BARDEN NOTICED SOMETHING HIDDEN INSIDE THE HAT..."
I'VE GOT TO SHOW IT TO BATMAN! GET HIM, AND DON'T MENTION IT TO ANYONE! WHILE YOU'RE DOING THAT, I'LL PUT IT BACK IN THE HAT UNTIL HE GETS HERE!
A DIAMOND NECKLACE! IT MUST BE WORTH A FORTUNE!

"WHEN WE FOUND BARDEN DEAD, I DECIDED TO KEEP QUIET..."
I WON'T TELL BATMAN ABOUT THE DIAMOND NECKLACE! WITH THE MONEY I CAN GET FOR IT, I'LL BE RICH ENOUGH TO RETIRE IN STYLE!

AND WHEN WE SPLIT UP TO LOOK FOR THE KILLER, YOU DOUBLED BACK AND TOOK THE NECKLACE! WHERE IS IT NOW?
I HID IT IN ANOTHER PLACE! IN THE JOINT... OH, MY HEART...

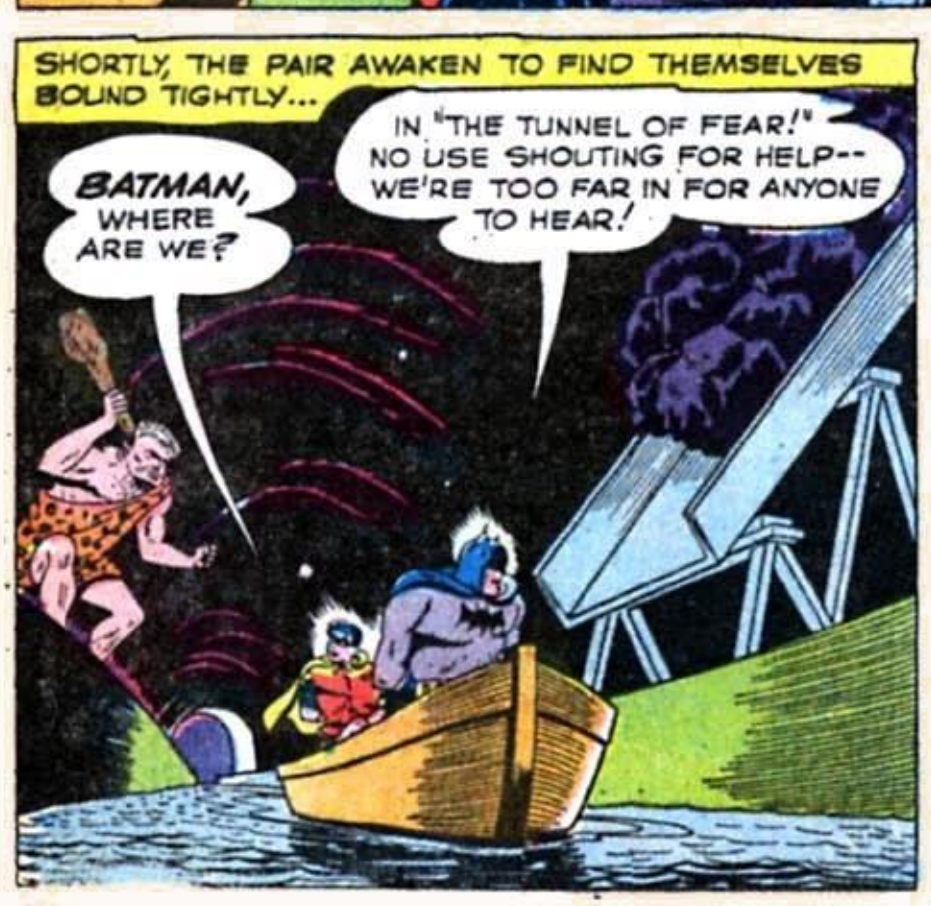
SUDDENLY, CONN SLUMPS...
ALL THIS EXCITEMENT WAS TOO MUCH FOR HIS WEAK HEART!
NOW HE'S DEAD -- AND THE SECRET OF THE NECKLACE'S HIDING PLACE IS GONE WITH HIM!

BUT HE DID TELL US THE HIDING PLACE, ROBIN! HE SAID "IN THE JOINT"! "JOINT" IS SHORT FOR "JUICE-JOINT"-- CARNIVAL SLANG FOR AN ICE CREAM SODA FOUNTAIN!

SOON, AFTER SEARCHING THE ICE CREAM STAND...
THE NECKLACE-- HIDDEN IN THE DRY ICE!
RECOGNIZE IT, ROBIN? THE NECKLACE STOLEN FROM THE VAN DORF MANSION BY THE GANG OF JEWEL THIEVES PLAGUING GOTHAM CITY LATELY!

AS THE CRIME-FIGHTERS TALK, THEY ARE UNAWARE OF A FURTIVE FIGURE CREEPING CLOSER BEHIND THEM...
BUT WHY WOULD THE VAN DORF NECKLACE BE HIDDEN IN A CARNIVAL OUTFIT?
I THINK I'M BEGINNING TO UNDERSTAND!

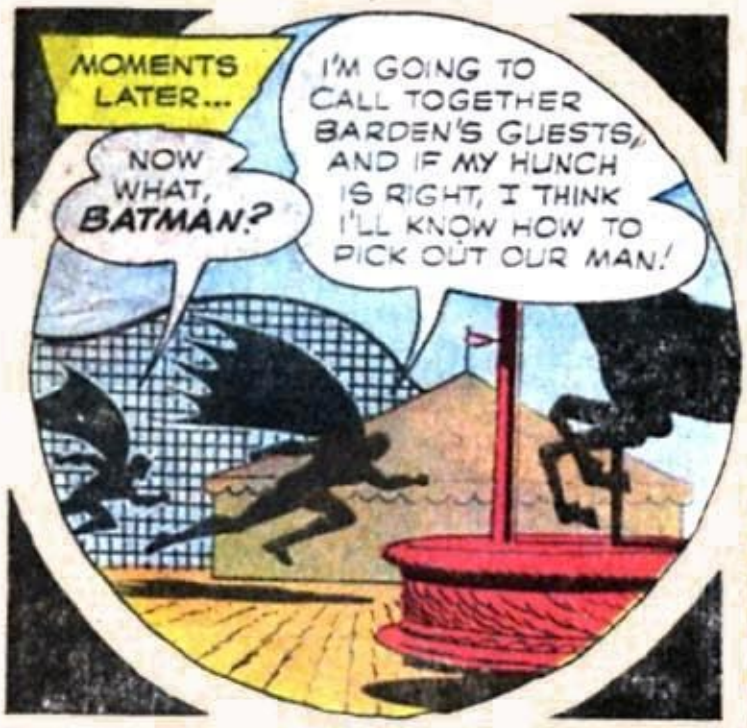
A CLUB DESCENDS, AND...
I KNEW IF I FOLLOWED THEM THEY'D LEAD ME TO THE NECKLACE! NOW I'D BETTER TIE THEM UP AND HIDE THEM...


SHORTLY, THE PAIR AWAKEN TO FIND THEMSELVES BOUND TIGHTLY...
BATMAN, WHERE ARE WE?
IN "THE TUNNEL OF FEAR!" NO USE SHOUTING FOR HELP-- WE'RE TOO FAR IN FOR ANYONE TO HEAR!

WE'RE DRIFTING TOWARD THE GENGHIS KHAN FIGURES! WE HAVE A CHANCE--IF I CAN MANAGE TO STAND UP!

STRUGGLING TO AN ERECT POSITION, BATMAN MANAGES TO HOP OVER THE CRAFT, ONTO THE SIDE...
WHEW! MADE IT!

NOW--I'LL JUST SAW MY BONDS ON THAT CUTLASS, THEN FREE ROBIN!


MOMENTS LATER...
NOW WHAT, BATMAN?
I'M GOING TO CALL TOGETHER BARDEN'S GUESTS, AND IF MY HUNCH IS RIGHT, I THINK I'LL KNOW HOW TO PICK OUT OUR MAN!

WHEN THE SUSPECTS GATHER...
I'VE CALLED YOU HERE TO ANNOUNCE THAT ONE OF YOU IS THE MURDERER--AND I KNOW WHO HE IS!
YOU KNOW WHO KILLED MY FATHER?

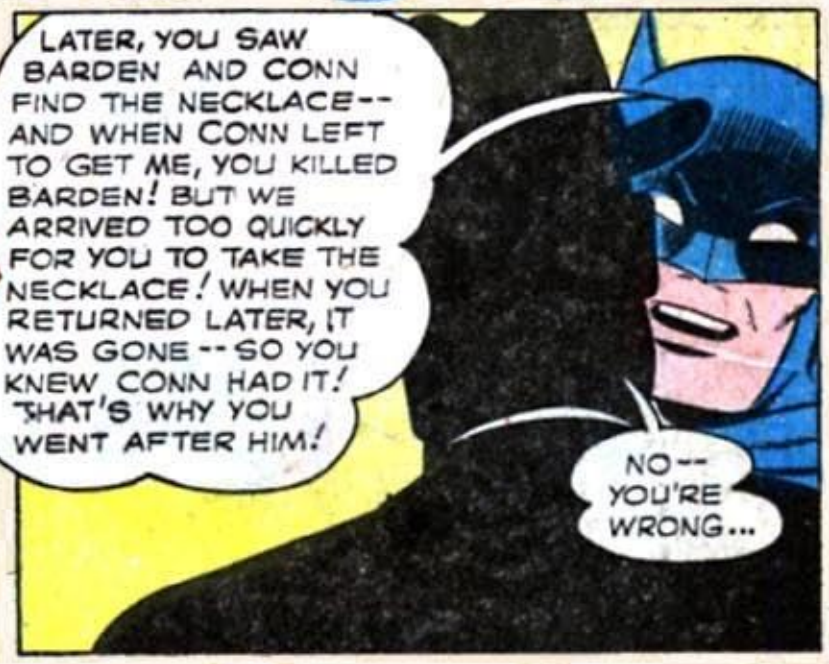
YES! YOU, CARTER--YOU MURDERED BARDEN!
ME? THAT'S RIDICULOUS! WHY WOULD I WANT TO DO THAT?

IT ALL FITS! YOU MUST BE THE SECRET BOSS OF A GANG OF JEWEL THIEVES--AND BECAUSE YOU WANTED TO KEEP YOUR IDENTITY A SECRET FROM YOUR OWN GANG, YOU ARRANGED FOR THEM TO HIDE THEIR LOOT IN THE HAT OF THE LAUGHING CLOWN IN THE FUNHOUSE!

"YOU'D MINGLE WITH THE PATRONS IN THE FUNHOUSE, AND WHEN NOBODY WAS LOOKING, YOU'D EXTRACT THE LOOT..."
A PERFECT SETUP! AFTER I SELL THIS BRACELET, I'LL PAY OFF THE GANG BY HIDING MONEY UNDER THE HAT FOR THEM TO PICK UP! THAT WAY, IN CASE THE GANG IS EVER CAUGHT, THEY CAN'T EVER IDENTIFY ME TO THE POLICE!

"BUT ON THE DAY AFTER THE THEFT OF THE VAN DORF NECKLACE, YOU GOT A SHOCK WHEN YOU WENT AS USUAL TO GOTHAM BEACH..."
SORRY, MISTER -- THE PLACE IS CLOSED! IT'S BEEN SOLD TO CHARLES BARDEN, WHO'S GOING TO MOVE THE WHOLE SETUP TO HIS PRIVATE ISLAND!
LUCKILY, I KNOW BARDEN! I'LL GET MYSELF INVITED TO THE ISLAND AND RECOVER THE NECKLACE BEFORE IT'S DISCOVERED!

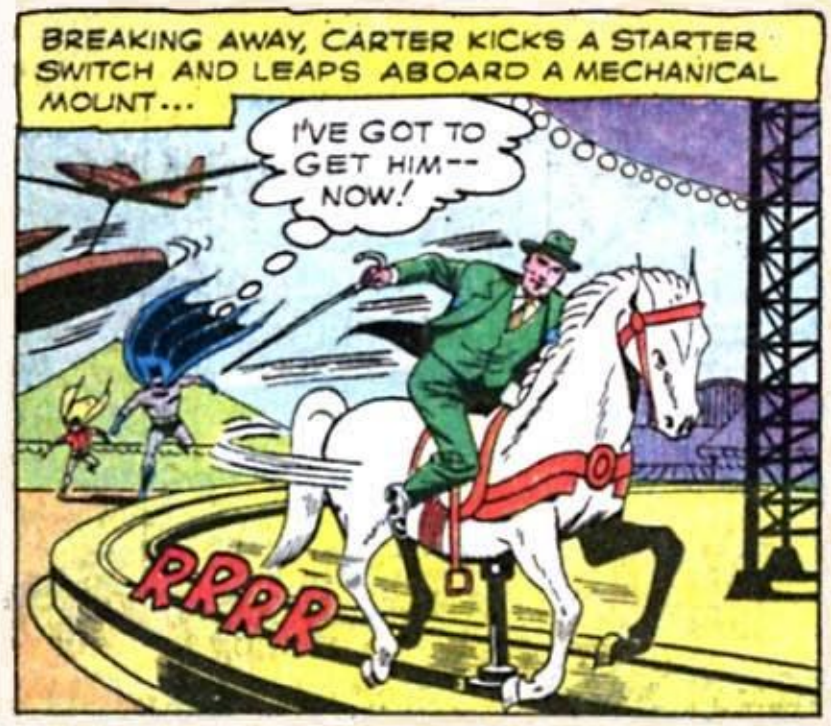
AFTER ROBIN AND I ARRIVED, YOU HEARD BARDEN SAY HE WAS GOING TO CHECK THE FUNHOUSE! YOU WERE AFRAID HE MIGHT FIND THE NECKLACE!

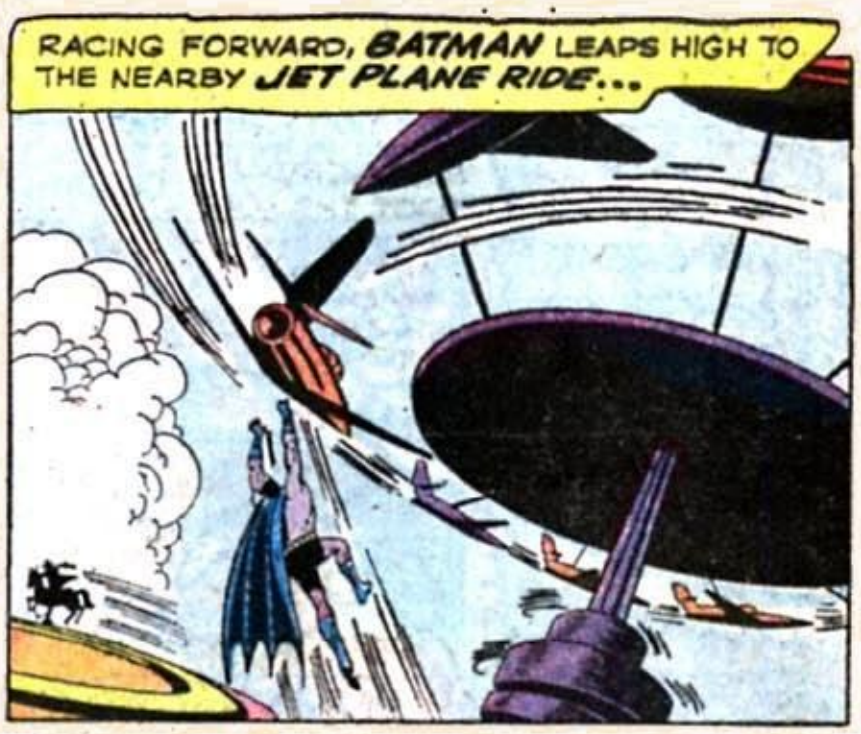

LATER, YOU SAW BARDEN AND CONN FIND THE NECKLACE -- AND WHEN CONN LEFT TO GET ME, YOU KILLED BARDEN! BUT WE ARRIVED TOO QUICKLY FOR YOU TO TAKE THE NECKLACE! WHEN YOU RETURNED LATER, IT WAS GONE -- SO YOU KNEW CONN HAD IT! THAT'S WHY YOU WENT AFTER HIM!
NO -- YOU'RE WRONG...

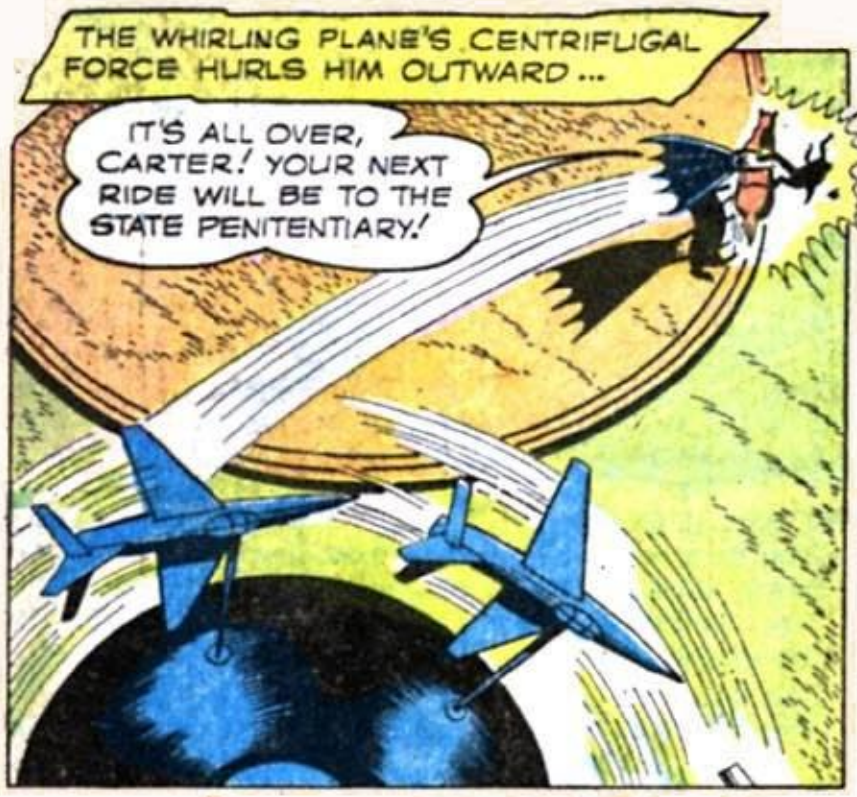
YOU CAN'T PROVE ANYTHING YOU'VE SAID!
YES, I CAN -- BY THESE BURN MARKS ON YOUR FINGERTIPS -- BURNS YOU GOT WHEN YOU PAWED THROUGH THE DRY ICE TO GET AT THE NECKLACE IN THE FREEZER WHERE CONN HAD HIDDEN IT!

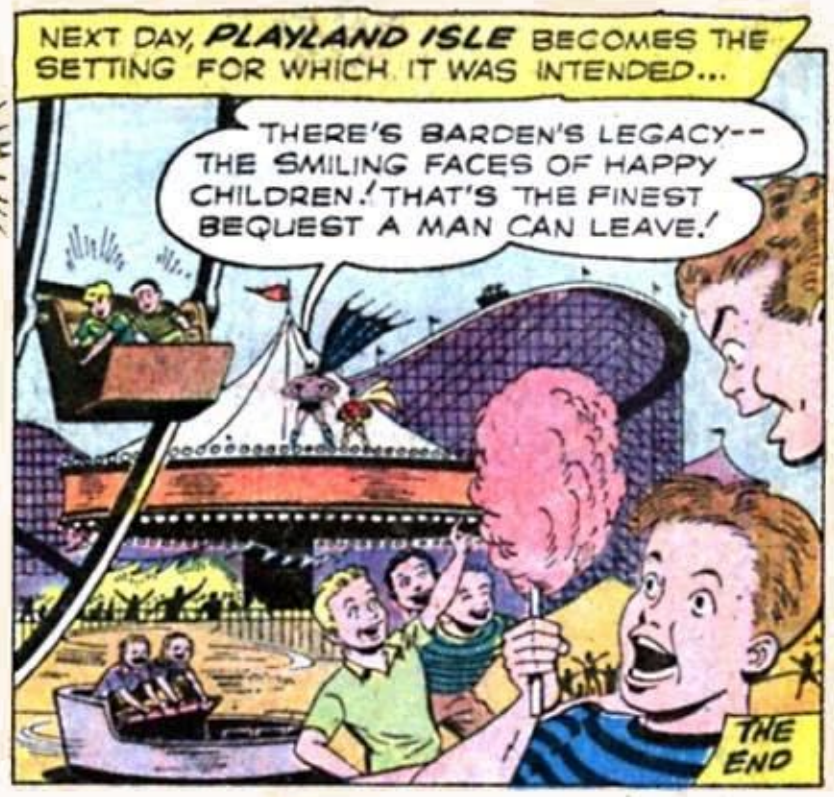
WHEN DRY ICE TOUCHES FLESH, IT LEAVES A FROST-BITE SIMILIAR TO A BURN! NOW, CARTER -- HAND OVER THE NECKLACE!

BATMAN -- LOOK OUT! IT'S A SWORD-CANE!
I'M LEAVING HERE, BATMAN -- DON'T TRY TO STOP ME!



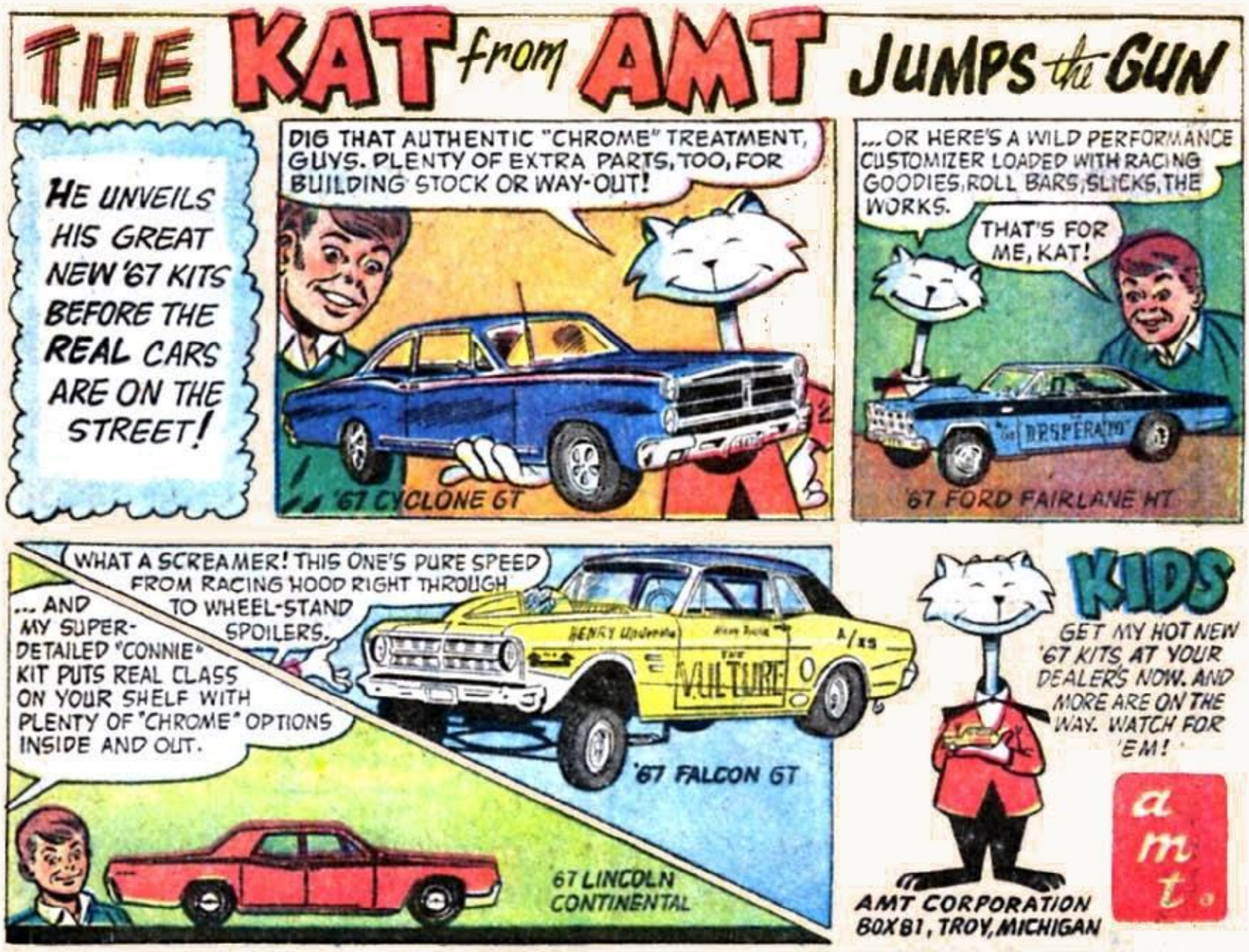






For the MOST in THRILLS... GO-GO-GO

SUPERMAN DC NATIONAL COMICS



DIRECT CURRENTS

Now, if you don't mind, we'll interrupt this great DC mag for a few sneak previews of titles to come. If you let any of these goodies slip past you, don't say the old Electrician didn't alert you to watch for 'em!

SGT. ROCK of EASY COMPANY reaches his boiling point and flips his lid in the explosive battle saga—"ONE KILL TOO MANY!" It headlines the December issue of **OUR ARMY AT WAR, No. 174**, which goes on sale Oct. 4.

Back again in the **January ATOM**—and it's about TIME—is CHRONOS, the clockwork crook, battling the WORLD'S SMALLEST SUPER-HERO in "THE TIME-STANDSTILL THEFTS!" It's **No. 28**, and it hits the newsstands Oct. 4.

"WHO IS THE TRAITOR AMONG US?" is the question needling the **CHALLENGERS OF THE UNKNOWN**, who also face two guest-villains, the IRON DICTATOR and the DIMENSION MAN! **January, No. 53**, on sale Oct. 4.

Coming in the December **BATMAN, No. 188**, is a fantastic new villain who almost brings justice to a standstill with a startling new gimmick—"THE ERASER WHO TRIED TO RUB OUT BATMAN!" on sale Oct. 20.

You dare not miss the year's most shocking tale, "HALF-MAN, HALF-MACHINE," plus two other suspenseful stories, "WEIRD PASSENGER IN CABIN 13" and "ELEVATOR TO NOWHERE," in **January's UNEXPECTED! No. 98**, on sale Oct. 11.

The HAUNTED TANK begins a blockbuster of a fight in ONE war and then finds itself in ANOTHER one! It's the startling "BATTLE OF TWO WARS," coming in the **January G.I. COMBAT, No. 121**, on sale Oct. 11.

Conserve every ounce of your energy for **BLACKHAWK No. 227, December**, featuring "THE PERILOUS POSITIVE-NEGATIVE MAN!" He'll leave you gasping—as will CHOP-CHOP, star of the DETACHED SERVICE DIARY! On sale Oct. 11.

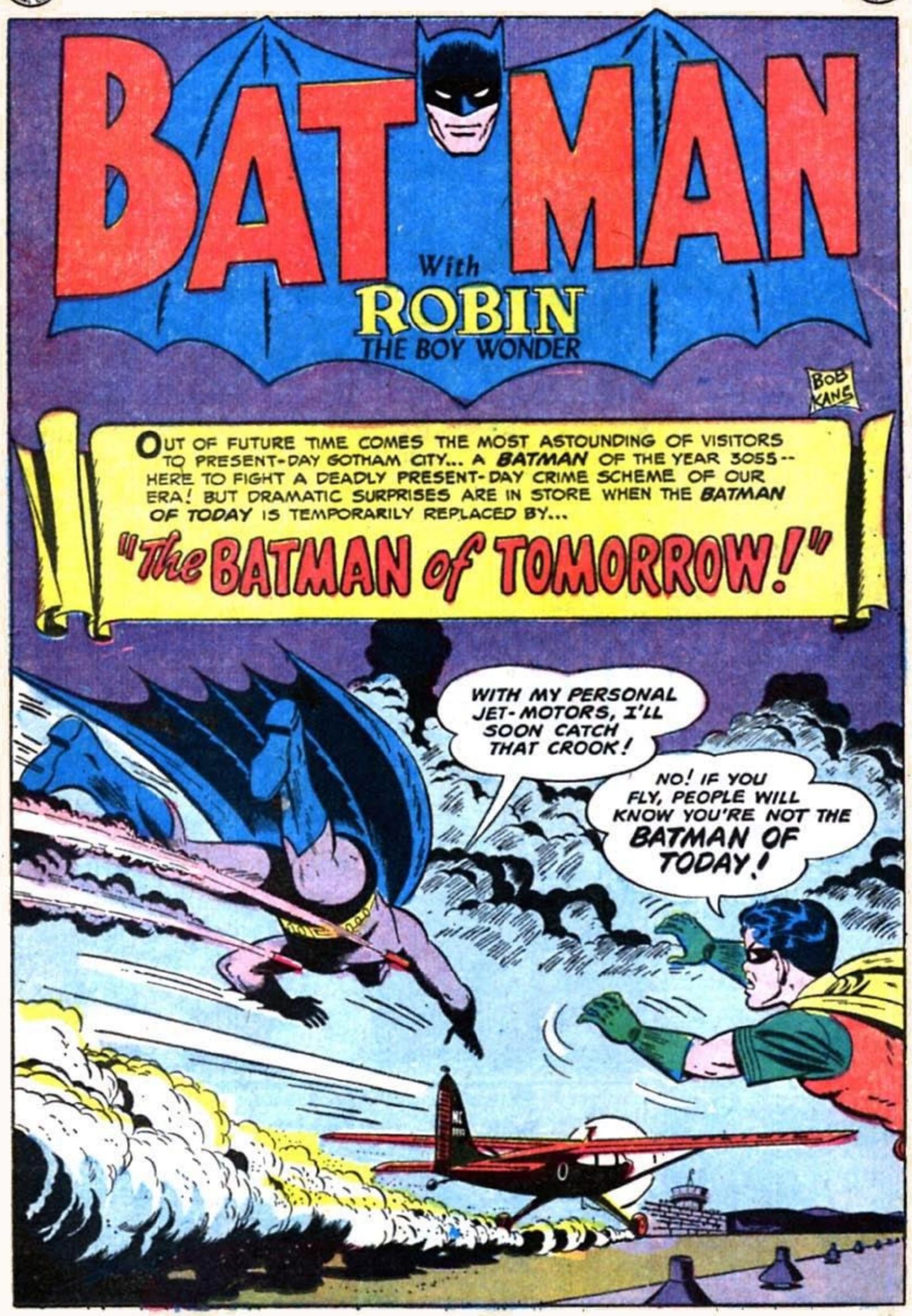
A long-lost manuscript by EDGAR ALLAN POE—and the RAVEN created by this same master of eerie mystery—haunt **HAWKMAN** as he falls victim to the "RUSE OF THE ROBBING RAVEN!" **January Issue, No. 17**, on sale Oct. 13.

Meet TEMPUS, the villain whose mystic clocks predict the exact times of DISASTERS! Can **JIMMY OLSEN** and his pal, SUPERMAN, stop these cataclysmic prophecies from coming true? **December Issue, No. 98**, on sale Oct. 13.

Straight out of the country's most popular TV show catapults the DAZZLER—a startling criminal whose powers not even **GREEN LANTERN** can match! He's in the **December Issue, No. 49**, on the stands Oct. 13.

An American sailor and his mortal enemy have to forget the war if they expect to come out alive together, in . . . "SECRETS DIE ON MONSTER ISLAND!" **January STAR SPANGLED WAR STORIES, No. 130**, on sale Oct. 18.

Ring the bells for the joyous return of GREAT-GREAT-GREAT GRAMPA PLUMM, who joins our happy half-pints in "THE COWBOY SANTA CLAUS," a book-length belly-laff in **January's SUGAR AND SPIKE, No. 68**, on sale Oct. 18.


BATMAN
With
ROBIN
THE BOY WONDER
BOB KANE
OUT OF FUTURE TIME COMES THE MOST ASTOUNDING OF VISITORS TO PRESENT-DAY GOTHAM CITY... A BATMAN OF THE YEAR 3055 -- HERE TO FIGHT A DEADLY PRESENT-DAY CRIME SCHEME OF OUR ERA! BUT DRAMATIC SURPRISES ARE IN STORE WHEN THE BATMAN OF TODAY IS TEMPORARILY REPLACED BY...
"The BATMAN of TOMORROW!"
WITH MY PERSONAL JET-MOTORS, I'LL SOON CATCH THAT CROOK!
NO! IF YOU FLY, PEOPLE WILL KNOW YOU'RE NOT THE BATMAN OF TODAY!

A PERPLEXING PROBLEM FACES BATMAN AND ROBIN, ONE NIGHT, WHEN THEY RETURN TO THEIR SECRET BAT-CAVE...
THREE SUCCESSFUL ROBBERIES AND IN EACH CASE, THE CROOKS HAD INSIDE HELP!
YET WE CAN'T FIND OUT WHO HELPED THEM!

EVEN IN THEIR EVERYDAY IDENTITIES AS PLAYBOY BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS WARD, DICK GRAYSON, THE CRIME-CRUSHERS' WORRY PERSISTS...
I'M AFRAID THAT HOSPITAL BENEFIT BALL, TOMORROW NIGHT, WILL BE THEIR NEXT TARGET!
I KNOW... AND FORTUNATELY, I'LL BE THERE, TOO -- AS BRUCE WAYNE!

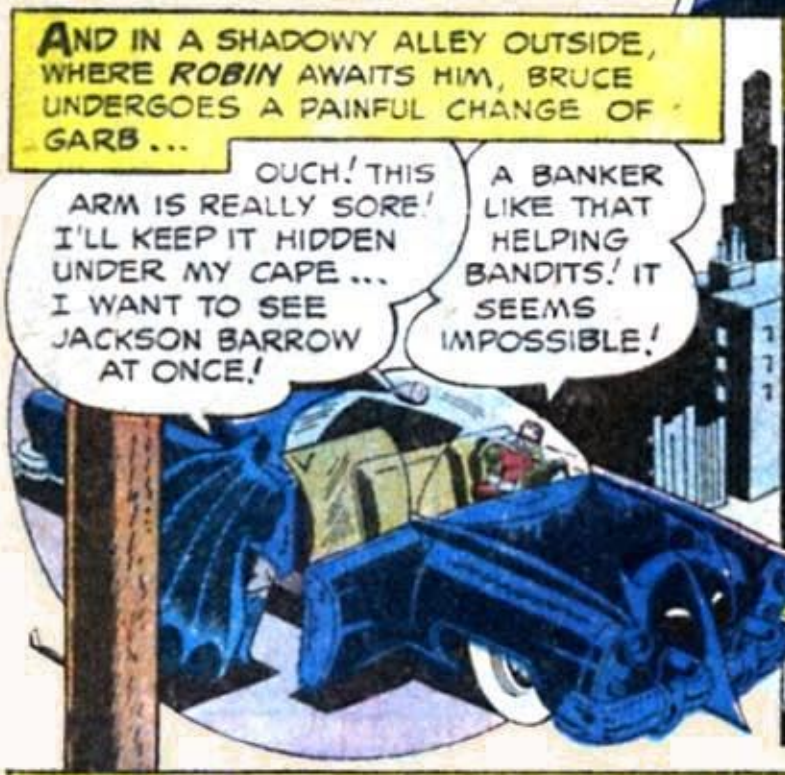
A BRILLIANT GATHERING, AMONG WHOSE GUESTS IS A SOCIETY "IDLER" WHOM NONE SUSPECTS TO BE A LEGENDARY LAWMAN...
Model OF NEW HOSPITAL
I SEE I'M NOT NOTABLE ENOUGH TO RATE A PHOTO!
VICKI VALE, HERE TO COVER THE BALL FOR VUE MAGAZINE! SHE'LL GET SOME REAL NEWS-PICTURES IF THOSE CROOKS STRIKE!
HELLO, BRUCE — SEE YOU LATER!

JUST THEN...
LOOK OUT! THE BIG HOSPITAL MODEL IS ROLLING DOWN ON US!
WHAT-? NO TIME TO CHANGE TO BATMAN! MUST STOP IT BEFORE IT CRUSHES THE PEOPLE BELOW!
GOT IT! BUT I CAN'T LET GO -- AND THOSE THUGS SUDDENLY POPPED UP TO GRAB THE GUESTS' JEWELS!
OKAY -- WE'VE GOT ENOUGH! LET'S BEAT IT!

THUS, BY THE TIME PANIC CEASES...
BRUCE, YOU'VE SAVED MANY LIVES -- BUT YOU'RE HURT!
WORSE THAN THAT, THE JEWEL THIEVES ESCAPED! FUNNY... THEY SEEMED TO KNOW EXACTLY WHEN THE MODEL WOULD ROLL DOWN AND CAUSE ALL THAT COMMOTION!

THAT MODEL COULD HARDLY HAVE TIPPED OVER ACCIDENTALLY! VICKI, YOU WERE TAKING PHOTOS AT THE TIME... MAYBE ONE OF THEM REVEALS SOMETHING!
I'LL SOON FIND OUT! YOU GET YOUR ARM TREATED, AND I'LL HAVE THE FILMS DEVELOPED AT ONCE!

SOME TIME LATER, IN THE OFFICES OF VUE MAGAZINE...
LOOK WHAT THIS BLOWN-UP PICTURE SHOWS... JACKSON BARROW, WEALTHY BANKER WHO WAS AT THE BALL, TIPPING OVER THE MODEL!
WOW! I'M GOING TO FIND BATMAN AND TELL HIM ABOUT THIS BEFORE I TAKE MY BAD ARM HOME, VICKI!
VUE


AND IN A SHADOWY ALLEY OUTSIDE, WHERE ROBIN AWAITS HIM, BRUCE UNDERGOES A PAINFUL CHANGE OF GARB...
OUCH! THIS ARM IS REALLY SORE! I'LL KEEP IT HIDDEN UNDER MY CAPE... I WANT TO SEE JACKSON BARROW AT ONCE!
A BANKER LIKE THAT HELPING BANDITS! IT SEEMS IMPOSSIBLE!

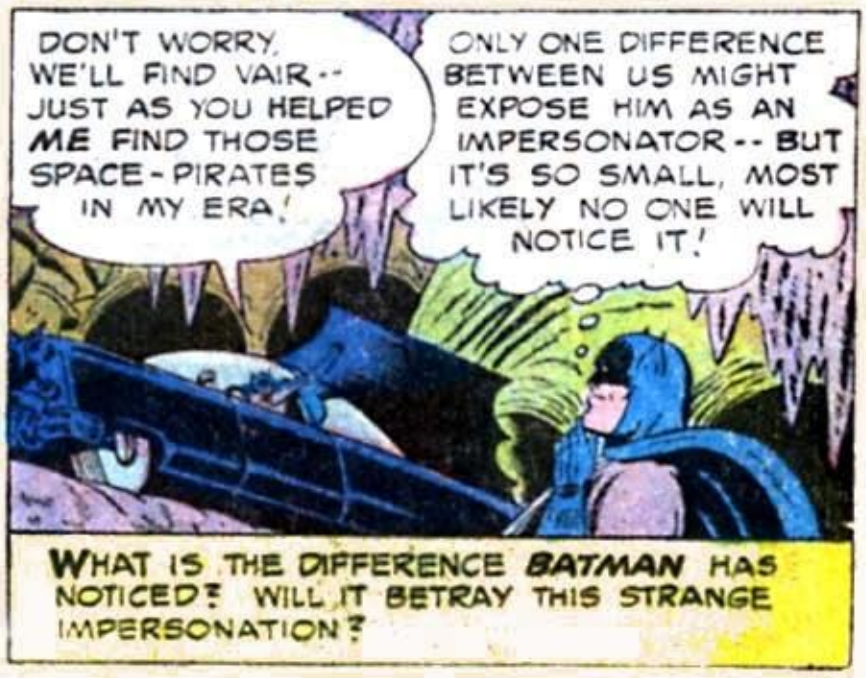
IT IS IMPOSSIBLE, AS JACKSON BARROW SOON PROVES...
YOU'VE PROVED YOU WERE NEVER AT THE BALL, BUT YOU WERE DECOYED DOWNTOWN BY A PHONY CALL -- WHICH MEANS A DOUBLE OF YOURS WAS THERE, MR. BARROW!
BATMAN, QUICK -- HERE COMES VICKI! SHE MUSTN'T SEE YOU!

SWIFTLY, THE TWO BEAT A HASTY RETREAT...
THAT WAS CLOSE! IF VICKI GLIMPSED MY SPRAINED ARM, SHE'D KNOW I'M BRUCE WAYNE! IT SEEMS SHE'S GOING TO FOLLOW UP THIS STORY!
THEN THE "INSIDE" HELP THIS MOB USES ARE DOUBLES CREATED BY DISGUISE WHO CAN GET INTO THE PLACES THEY ROB!

AFTERWARD, IN THE BAT-CAVE'S CRIME LAB...
ACCORDING TO OUR FILES, ONLY ONE MAN COULD CREATE SUCH DOUBLES... MARTIN VAIR, THEATRICAL MAKEUP EXPERT, WHO WENT TO PRISON FOR THEFT BUT ESCAPED BY MEANS OF A DISGUISE! HE MUST BE THE MAKEUP MAN FOR THE MOBS!
THEN WE'VE GOT TO HUNT DOWN VAIR!

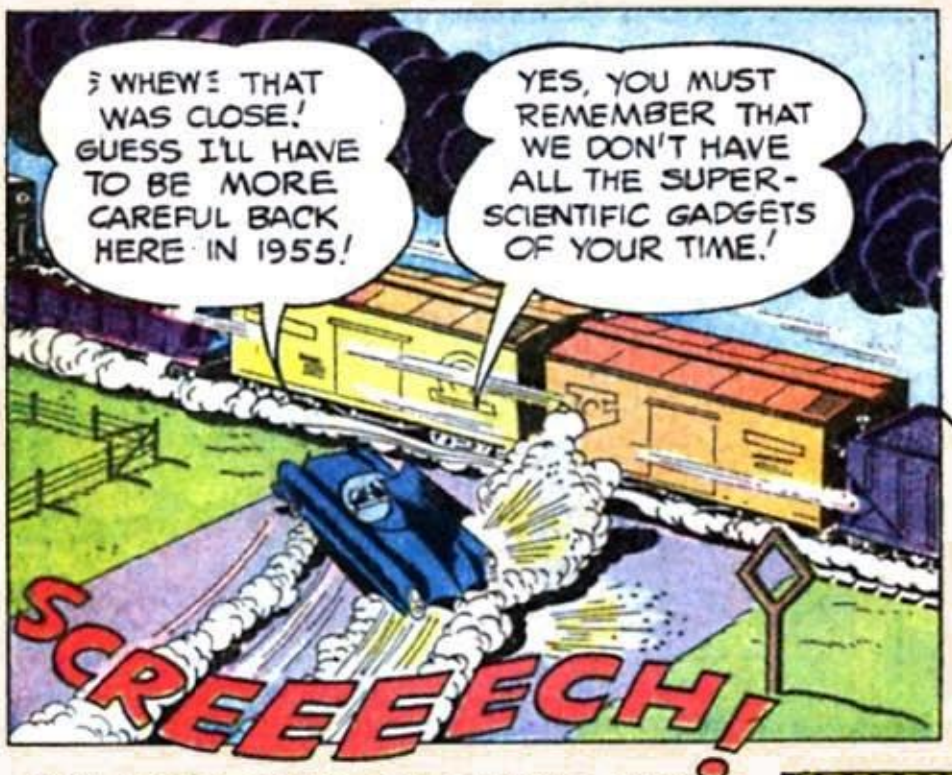
TROUBLE IS, I CAN'T GO AFTER VAIR WITH VICKI SNOOPING ON THIS CASE! SHE'D DISCOVER MY BAD ARM, AND MY IDENTITY WOULD BE EXPOSED!
IF ONLY WE COULD SUBSTITUTE SOMEONE FOR YOU, WITHOUT REVEALING YOUR IDENTITY TO THAT PERSON!
WAIT -- THERE'S SOMEONE ALREADY KNOWS YOUR IDENTITY AND WHO COULD TAKE YOUR PLACE TILL YOUR ARM'S BETTER... BRANE TAYLOR!
YOU MEAN THAT BATMAN FROM THE FUTURE?
"SURE! REMEMBER HOW HE CAME IN HIS TIME-MACHINE FROM THE 31ST CENTURY SEEKING YOUR HELP..."
"HE HAD COME FOR MY HELP AT FIRST..."
YES, THERE'S A BATMAN AND ROBIN IN THE YEAR 3054, TOO! I STUDIED ACCOUNTS OF YOUR EXPLOITS AND TRAINED MYSELF AND MY YOUNG NEPHEW TO FIGHT AGAINST CRIME THE SAME WAY!
MY ROBIN WAS INJURED, SO I NEED THE ORIGINAL ROBIN TO HELP ME IN AN IMPORTANT CASE!
I'LL DO IT! I'LL GO BACK WITH YOU!
MY BAT-SHIP HAS ROUNDED THEM UP ON THIS ASTEROID, WITH YOUR HELP!
ALWAYS READY TO HELP ANOTHER BATMAN!
"AND I'LL ALWAYS REMEMBER THE CHASE FOR SPACE-CRIMINALS, IN WHICH I -- AND LATER YOU -- HELPED BRANE TAYLOR..."
INSTEAD OF YOUR BAT-CAVE, WE HAVE OUR SECRET BAT-BELFRY! YOU SEE, WE LIVE MUCH IN THE SKY AND SPACE!
I -- I JUST CAN'T BELIEVE MY EYES!
"NEVER WILL I FORGET THAT STRANGE WORLD OF THE BATMAN OF TOMORROW..."

SO THE BATMAN OF TOMORROW SOON STARTS FORTH WITH THE ROBIN OF TODAY ON A GRIM CHASE...



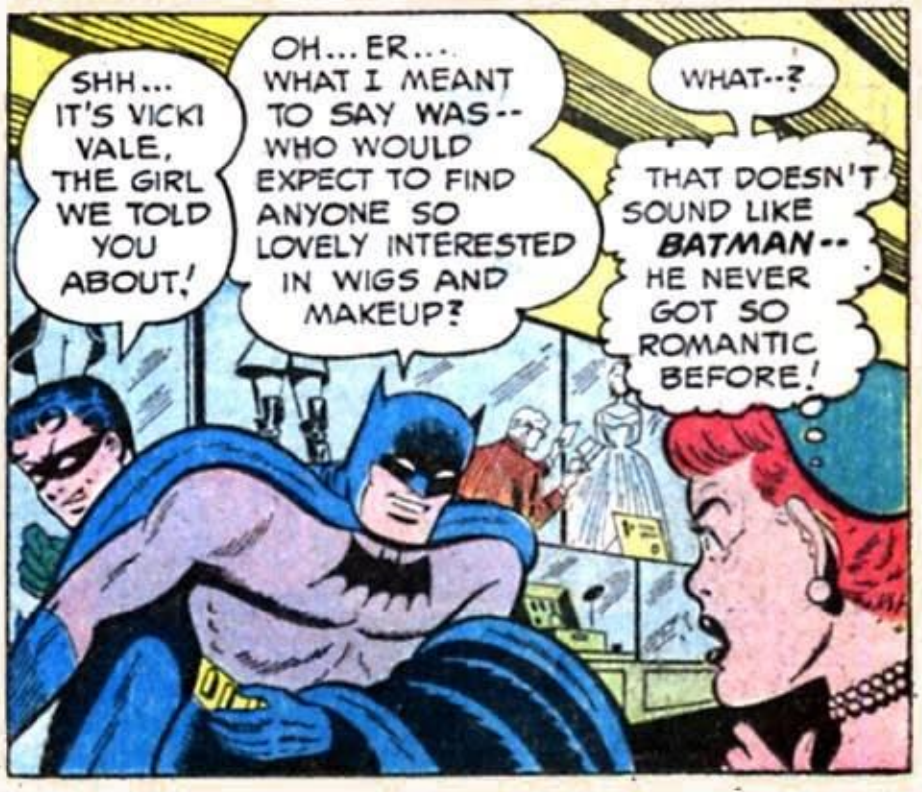
WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BATMAN HAS NOTICED? WILL IT BETRAY THIS STRANGE IMPERSONATION?

LATER, AS THE BATMOBILE HURTLES TOWARD GOTHAM CITY, WITH A MAN OF THE FUTURE AT ITS WHEEL...
THIS OLD-FASHIONED GASOLINE CAR ISN'T MUCH LIKE OUR ATOMIC AUTOS-- BUT IT'S FAST!
LOOK OUT! THERE'S A FREIGHT TRAIN CROSSING THE ROAD UP AHEAD!
OH, I'LL JUST USE THE JET-ASSISTS TO JUMP OVER THAT OBSTACLE! BUT-- WHERE'S YOUR JET-ASSIST LEVER?
WE DON'T HAVE SUCH FUTURISTIC DEVICES ON TODAY'S CARS! HOLD ON...OUR ONLY HOPE IS TO SKID AROUND!

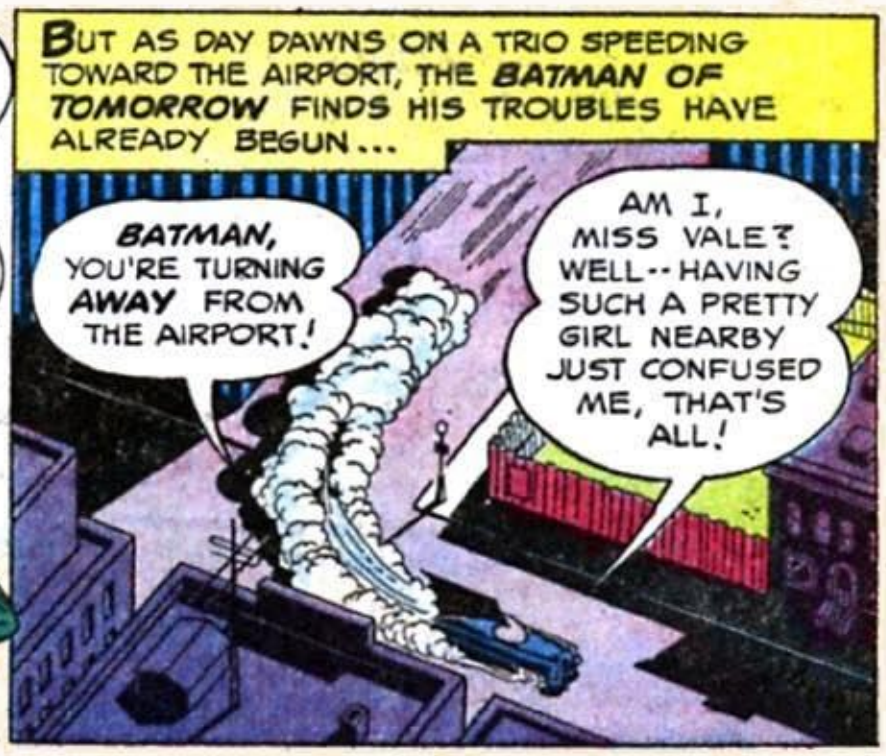

WHEW! THAT WAS CLOSE! GUESS I'LL HAVE TO BE MORE CAREFUL BACK HERE IN 1955!
YES, YOU MUST REMEMBER THAT WE DON'T HAVE ALL THE SUPER-SCIENTIFIC GADGETS OF YOUR TIME!
SCREEEECH!

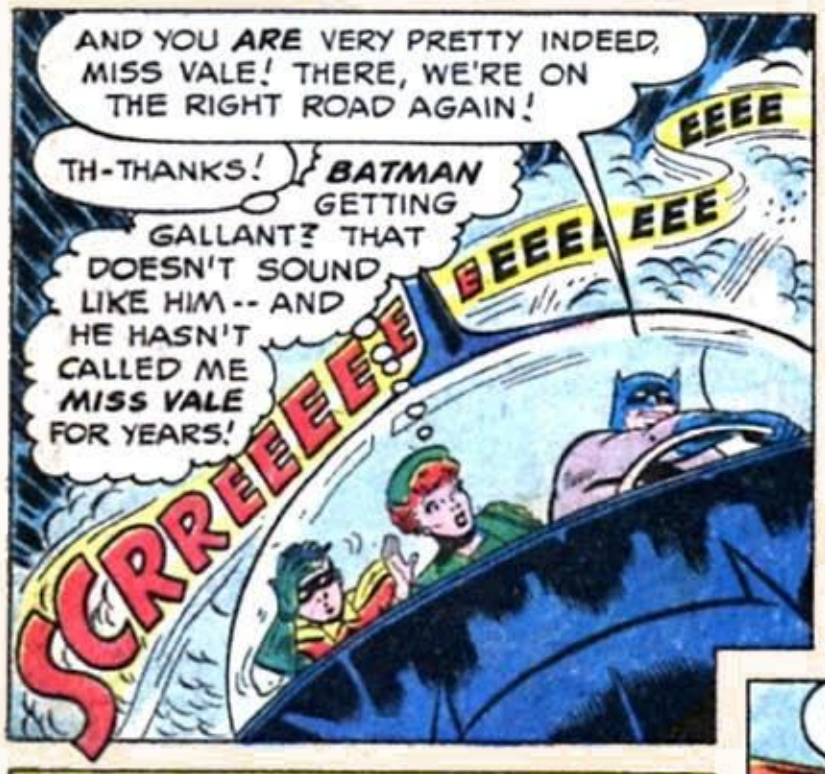
SHORTLY, WHEN THEY REACH THE CITY...
YAIR MUST BUY HIS MAKEUP MATERIALS HERE-- THE LARGEST THEATRICAL SUPPLY COMPANY IN GOTHAM CITY!
I SEE THEY STAY OPEN AT NIGHT, FOR THEATRICAL TRADE!
THEATRICAL COSTUMES AND MAKEUP SUPPLY CO.

AND INSIDE, VAIR'S PRISON "MUG-SHOT" GETS AN INSTANT RESPONSE...
YES, THAT MAN BOUGHT SUPPLIES AND A COSTUME RECENTLY! I'LL CHECK OUR SALES SLIP!
SO! YOU HAD THE SAME IDEA I DID TO TRAIL THIS MAKEUP CROOK!
WHO-?


SHH... IT'S VICKI VALE, THE GIRL WE TOLD YOU ABOUT!
OH... ER... WHAT I MEANT TO SAY WAS-- WHO WOULD EXPECT TO FIND ANYONE SO LOVELY INTERESTED IN WIGS AND MAKEUP?
WHAT--?
THAT DOESN'T SOUND LIKE BATMAN-- HE NEVER GOT SO ROMANTIC BEFORE!

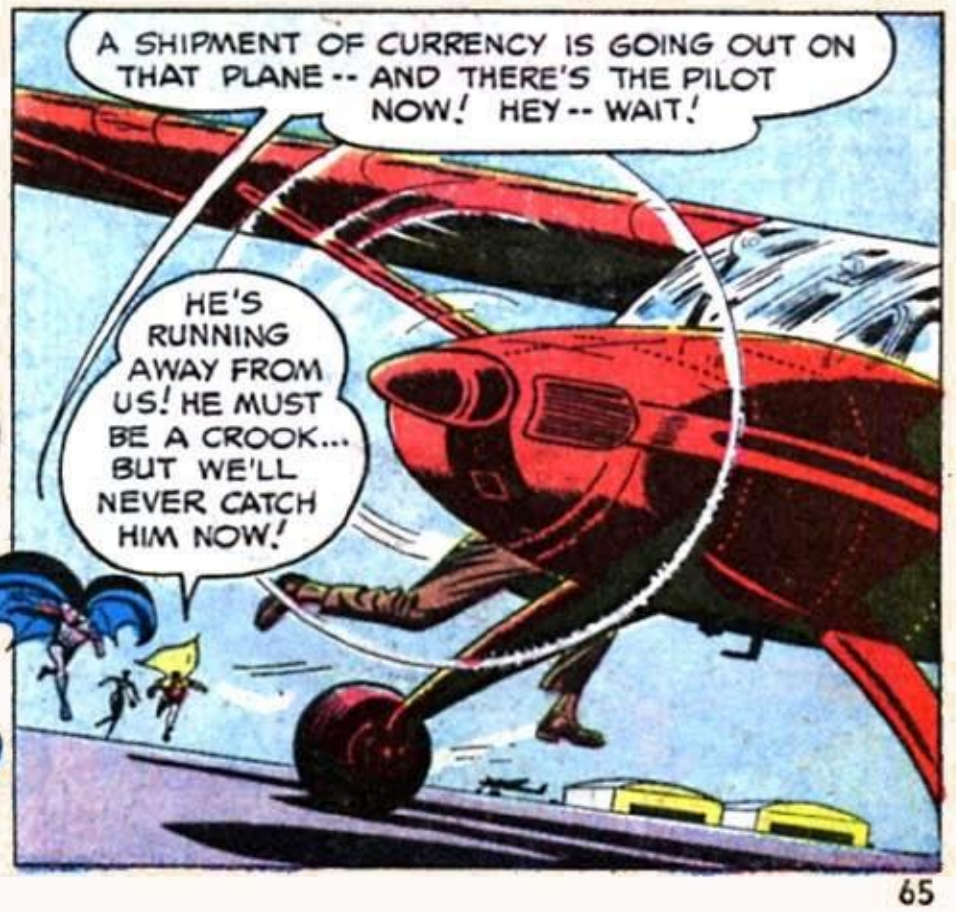
THE LAST PURCHASE THAT MAN MADE WAS A FLYER'S COSTUME!
THEN HE'S HELPING ON ANOTHER "INSIDE" CRIME! WE'D BETTER CHECK ON ANY VALUABLE PLANE-SHIPMENTS AT THE AIRPORT!
AND I'M GOING WITH YOU!

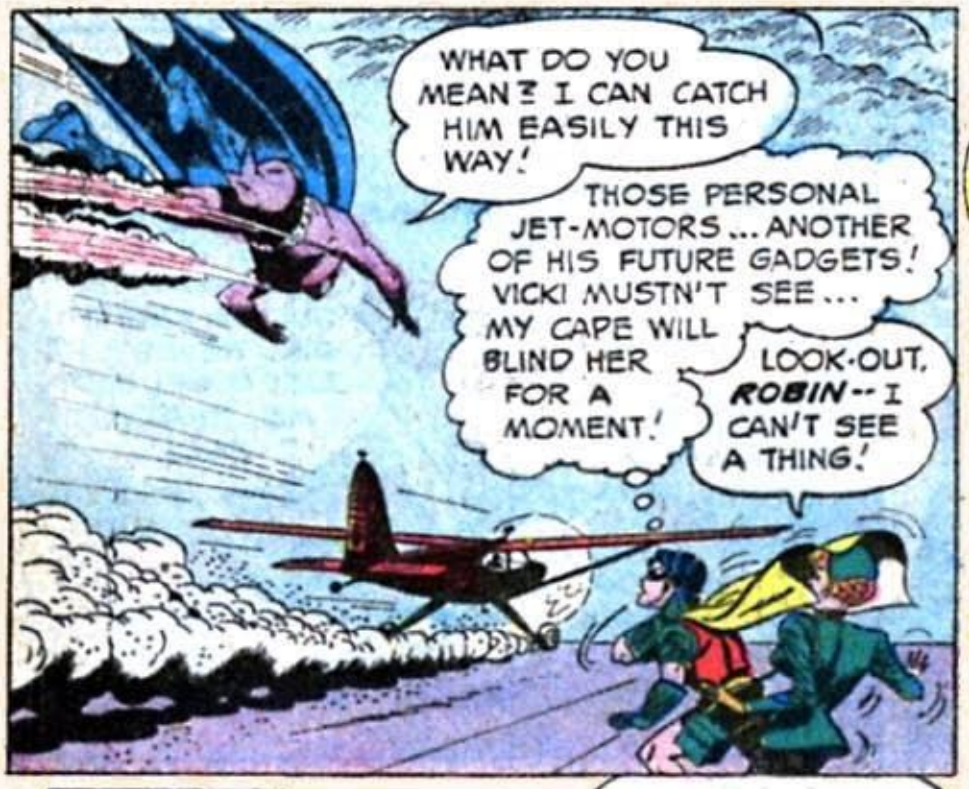

BUT AS DAY DAWNS ON A TRIO SPEEDING TOWARD THE AIRPORT, THE BATMAN OF TOMORROW FINDS HIS TROUBLES HAVE ALREADY BEGUN...
BATMAN, YOU'RE TURNING AWAY FROM THE AIRPORT!
AM I, MISS VALE? WELL-- HAVING SUCH A PRETTY GIRL NEARBY JUST CONFUSED ME, THAT'S ALL!


AND YOU ARE VERY PRETTY INDEED, MISS VALE! THERE, WE'RE ON THE RIGHT ROAD AGAIN!
TH-THANKS! BATMAN GETTING GALLANT? THAT DOESN'T SOUND LIKE HIM-- AND HE HASN'T CALLED ME MISS VALE FOR YEARS!
SCRREEEEE!
EEEE
EEE
EEEE

AND UPON REACHING THEIR DESTINATION...
ROBIN, HE JUST DOESN'T SEEM LIKE BATMAN TO ME! ARE YOU SURE HE'S NOT ANOTHER IMPOSTOR THAT VAIR'S MAKEUP HAS SUBSTITUTED FOR BATMAN?
NO, NO-- HE'S REALLY BATMAN!
AND HE IS, TOO-- THE REAL BATMAN OF 3055! ONLY I WISH HE WASN'T SUCH A LADIES' MAN RIGHT NOW!

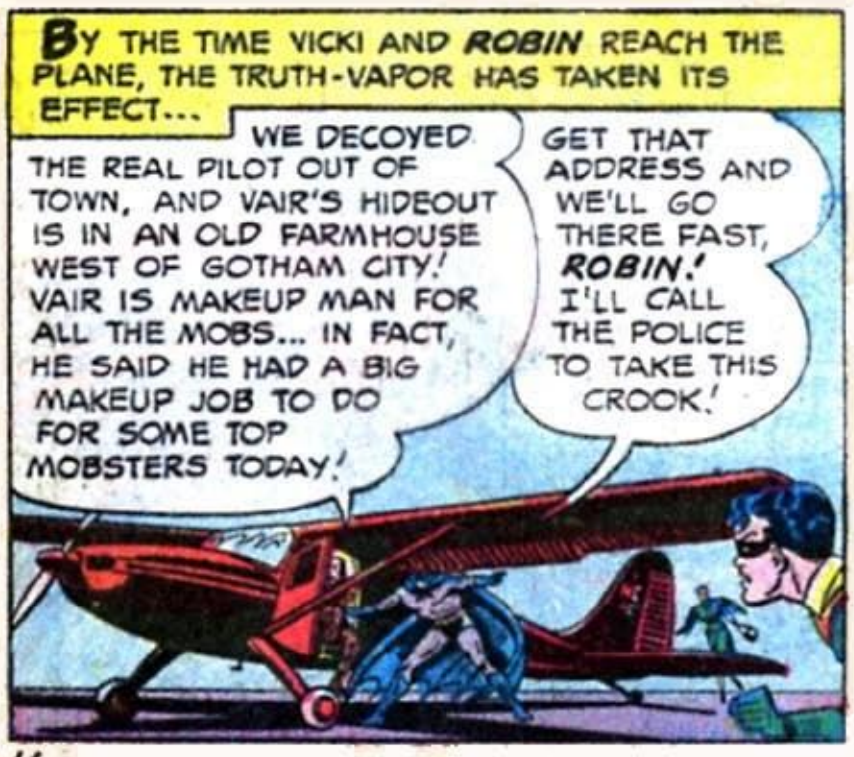
VICKI'S SUSPICIONS, HOWEVER, ARE NOT SO EASILY OVERCOME...
I'M STILL NOT CONVINCED-- BECAUSE I'VE ALSO NOTICED SOMETHING ELSE ABOUT HIM, AND I THINK I CAN PROVE FROM IT WHETHER OR NOT HE'S REALLY BATMAN!
ROBIN-- HURRY UP! WE'RE JUST IN TIME!


A SHIPMENT OF CURRENCY IS GOING OUT ON THAT PLANE-- AND THERE'S THE PILOT NOW! HEY-- WAIT!
HE'S RUNNING AWAY FROM US! HE MUST BE A CROOK... BUT WE'LL NEVER CATCH HIM NOW!


WHAT DO YOU MEAN? I CAN CATCH HIM EASILY THIS WAY!
THOSE PERSONAL JET-MOTORS... ANOTHER OF HIS FUTURE GADGETS! VICKI MUSTN'T SEE... MY CAPE WILL BLIND HER FOR A MOMENT!
LOOK-OUT, ROBIN -- I CAN'T SEE A THING!

AND BY THE TIME VICKI CAN SEE AGAIN...
WHY -- HOW DID HE OVERTAKE THE PLANE, ROBIN?
WELL... ER... DIDN'T YOU REALIZE HE COULD GET HIS ROPE ONTO IT BEFORE IT GOT AWAY?

NEXT MOMENT, INSIDE THE PLANE...
YOUR ATTEMPTED ESCAPE MADE YOU LOOK LIKE A CROOK -- AND THIS WIG PROVES IT! WHERE'S THE REAL PILOT YOU'RE IMPERSONATING?
BATMAN! HOW COULD YOU OVER-TAKE -- OOF!
AFTER HALTING THE PLANE...
I WON'T TALK -- I... HEY! WHAT'S THAT?
JUST A LITTLE THROAT-SPRAY, TO LOOSEN THE TONGUE!
HE WON'T KNOW IT'S OUR FUTURE TRUTH-VAPOR THAT MAKES IT IMPOSSIBLE TO LIE!


BY THE TIME VICKI AND ROBIN REACH THE PLANE, THE TRUTH-VAPOR HAS TAKEN ITS EFFECT...
WE DECOYED THE REAL PILOT OUT OF TOWN, AND VAIR'S HIDEOUT IS IN AN OLD FARMHOUSE WEST OF GOTHAM CITY! VAIR IS MAKEUP MAN FOR ALL THE MOBS... IN FACT, HE SAID HE HAD A BIG MAKEUP JOB TO DO FOR SOME TOP MOBSTERS TODAY!
GET THAT ADDRESS AND WE'LL GO THERE FAST, ROBIN! I'LL CALL THE POLICE TO TAKE THIS CROOK!

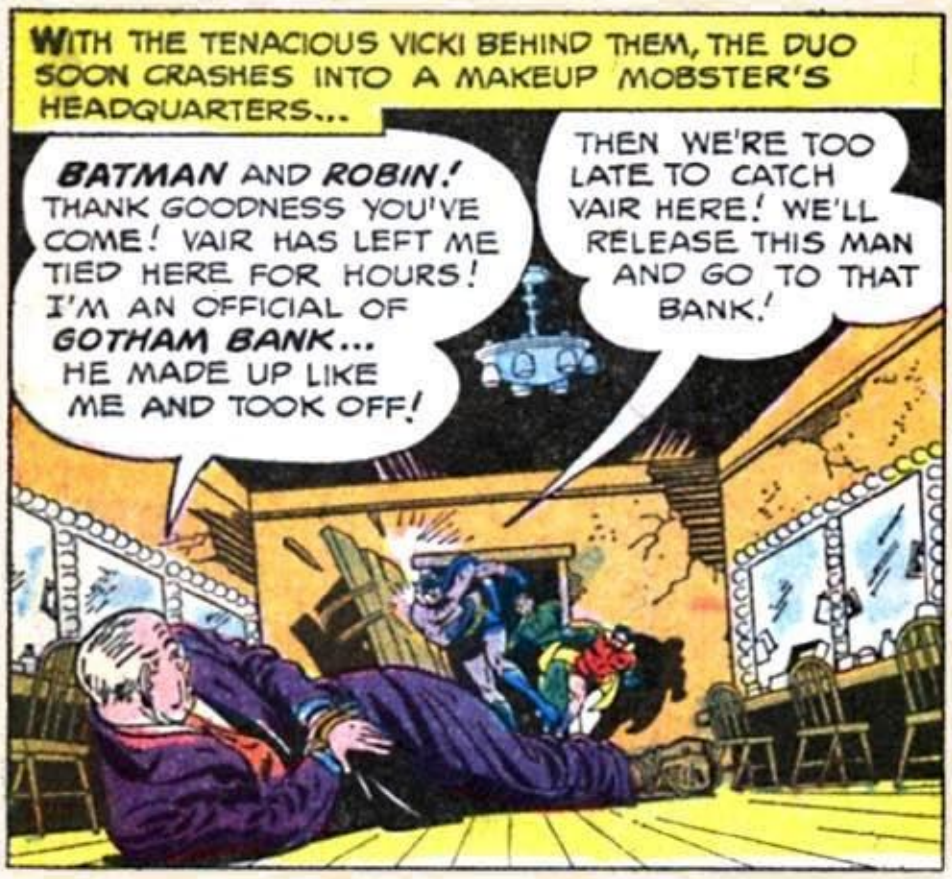
BUT ROBIN FIRST SEIZES A MOMENT ASIDE TO MAKE A WORRIED CALL OF HIS OWN, TO THE BATMAN OF TODAY!
-- AND VICKI SUSPECTS HE'S AN IMPOSTOR AND SAYS SHE'LL PROVE IT!
THERE'S ONLY ONE THING SHE COULD HAVE NOTICED THAT MIGHT PROVE IT! MY ARM'S RECOVERING FAST -- I'LL TRY TO HANDLE THIS!

SOON, NEAR AN ISOLATED FARM-HOUSE OUTSIDE GOTHAM CITY...
VICKI, WON'T YOU GO HOME? THIS COULD BE DANGEROUS IF VAIR'S INSIDE!
I STILL THINK YOUR BATMAN'S AN IMPOSTOR, AND I WON'T LEAVE! NOW HOW CAN WE GET INTO THAT HOUSE WITHOUT VAIR SEEING US?

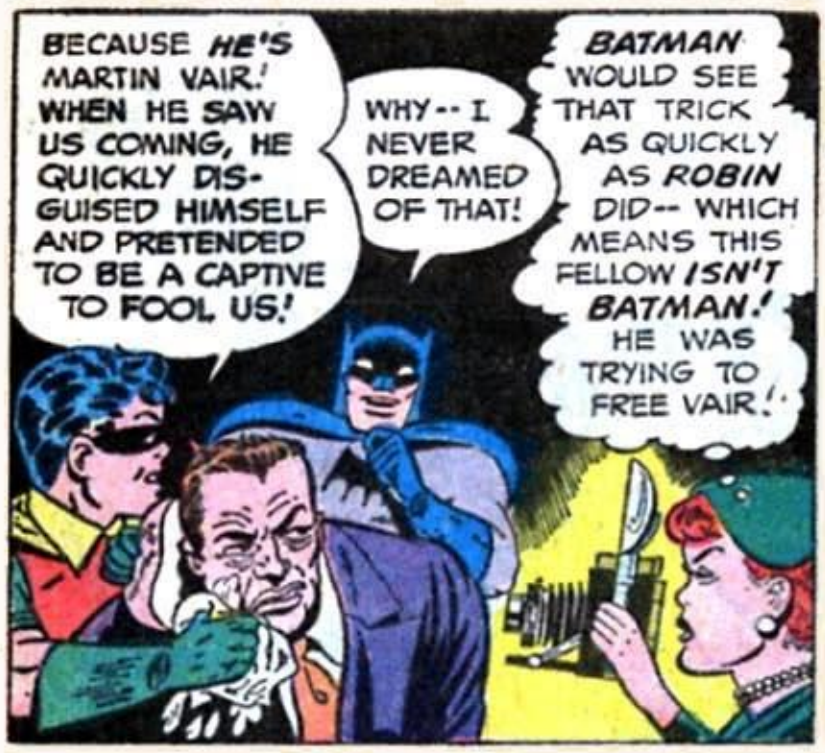
THE BATMAN OF TOMORROW HAS HIS OWN IDEAS ABOUT THAT...
I'LL USE MY INVISIBILITY-REFRACTOR TO GET IN THERE -- THE SAME WAY I GOT TO THE CHIEF OF THOSE ASTEROID PIRATES!
NO--!

SHE'S COMING! QUICK--BECOME VISIBLE AGAIN, WHEN SHE'S NOT LOOKING, OR SHE'LL CATCH ON TO EVERYTHING!
ROBIN, WHERE'S BATMAN? HAS HE SLIPPED AWAY TO WARN VAIR?

WHEW! THAT'S BETTER! BUT VICKI HAS GIVEN US AWAY, SO WE MIGHT AS WELL RUSH THE HOUSE.
TOO BAD... WITH MY PERSONAL JETS, I COULD BE THERE IN A SECOND!


WITH THE TENACIOUS VICKI BEHIND THEM, THE DUO SOON CRASHES INTO A MAKEUP MOBSTER'S HEADQUARTERS...
BATMAN AND ROBIN! THANK GOODNESS YOU'VE COME! VAIR HAS LEFT ME TIED HERE FOR HOURS! I'M AN OFFICIAL OF GOTHAM BANK... HE MADE UP LIKE ME AND TOOK OFF!
THEN WE'RE TOO LATE TO CATCH VAIR HERE! WE'LL RELEASE THIS MAN AND GO TO THAT BANK!

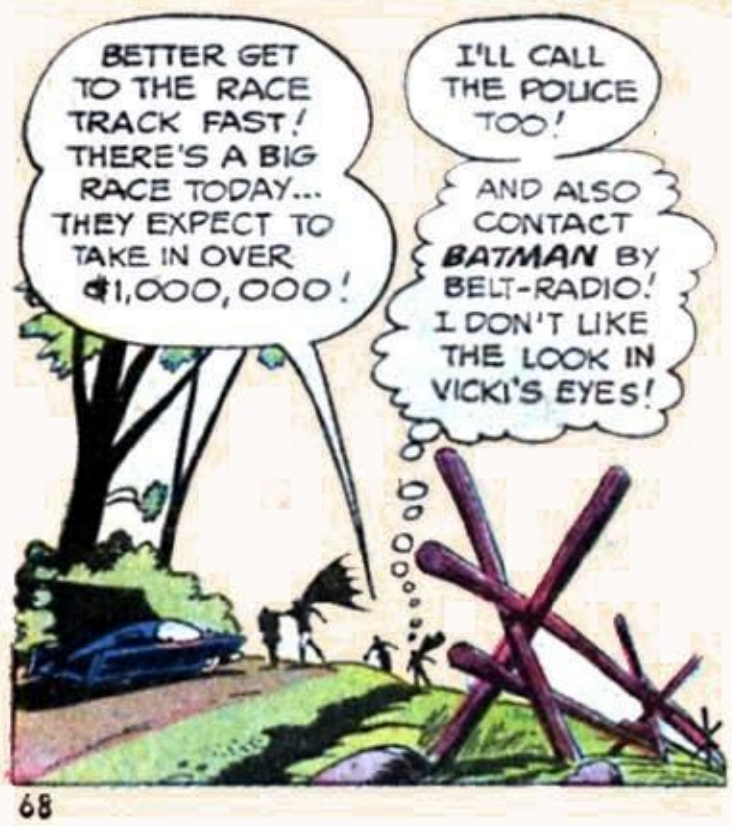
WAIT A MINUTE, BATMAN! NOTICE THE TEETH-MARKS ON THOSE WRIST-BONDS? THEY MEAN HE TIED HIMSELF UP, AND PULLED THE CORDS TIGHT WITH HIS TEETH!
BUT WHY WOULD A BANK OFFICIAL DO THAT?


BECAUSE HE'S MARTIN VAIR! WHEN HE SAW US COMING, HE QUICKLY DISGUISED HIMSELF AND PRETENDED TO BE A CAPTIVE TO FOOL US!
WHY-- I NEVER DREAMED OF THAT!
BATMAN WOULD SEE THAT TRICK AS QUICKLY AS ROBIN DID-- WHICH MEANS THIS FELLOW ISN'T BATMAN! HE WAS TRYING TO FREE VAIR!

YOU MADE UP MOBSTERS FOR A BIG JOB TODAY! WHAT WAS IT?
I'M NOT TALKING!
TSK, TSK... CAN'T USE MY TRUTH-VAPOR IN FRONT OF MISS VALE!

A HASTY SEARCH OF THE MAKEUP STUDIO FINALLY YIELDS A CLUE...
THESE PHOTOS--SMEARED WITH FRESH MAKEUP... HE USED THEM TONIGHT AS MODELS! HE DISGUISED CROOKS AS THESE MEN!
BUT THERE'S NO WAY OF TELLING WHO THEY ARE!

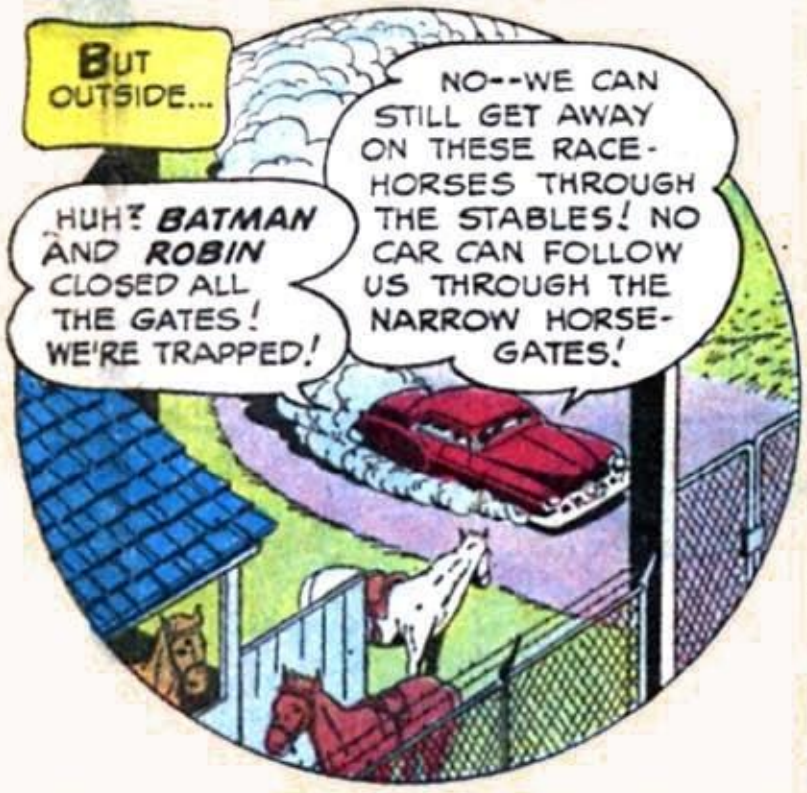
YES THERE IS! THEY'RE OFFICIALS OR EMPLOYEES OF GOTHAM RACE TRACK! SEE THE LITTLE TRACK-BADGES EACH ONE WEARS?
THAT CLINCHES IT! BATMAN WOULDN'T HAVE MISSED THAT-- SO HE IS AN IMPOSTOR! I'LL EXPOSE HIM!


BETTER GET TO THE RACE TRACK FAST! THERE'S A BIG RACE TODAY... THEY EXPECT TO TAKE IN OVER $1,000,000!
I'LL CALL THE POLICE TOO!
AND ALSO CONTACT BATMAN BY BELT-RADIO! I DON'T LIKE THE LOOK IN VICKI'S EYES!

PRESENTLY, AT THE GREAT RACE TRACK...
CLOSE AND LOCK ALL THE GATES, AND LET NO CAR LEAVE. THAT'LL PREVENT A GETAWAY!
WE'LL DO IT AT ONCE, BATMAN! NO CAR WILL LEAVE!
GOTHAM RACE TRACK

SECONDS LATER, IN THE TRACK OFFICES...
STOP THOSE MEN -- THEY'RE CROOKS!
ARE YOU JOKING? THEY'RE SOME OF OUR MOST TRUSTED OFFICIALS WHO HANDLE THE RECEIPTS!

THEY'RE NOT! THEY'RE IMPOSTORS, DISGUISED BY A MAKEUP EXPERT!
VAIR MUST'VE SQUEALED ON US -- BUT THIS'LL BLOCK THEM TILL WE GET AWAY IN OUR CAR!
TO GATES


BUT OUTSIDE...
HUH? BATMAN AND ROBIN CLOSED ALL THE GATES! WE'RE TRAPPED!
NO--WE CAN STILL GET AWAY ON THESE RACE-HORSES THROUGH THE STABLES! NO CAR CAN FOLLOW US THROUGH THE NARROW HORSE-GATES!

THEY'RE GETTING AWAY ON HORSES! QUICK, BATMAN -- WE CAN RUN THEM DOWN ON HORSES OURSELVES!
BUT I'VE NEVER RIDDEN SUCH A BEAST! NOBODY RIDES SUCH ANIMALS IN THE 31ST CENTURY! STILL -- I'LL TRY!

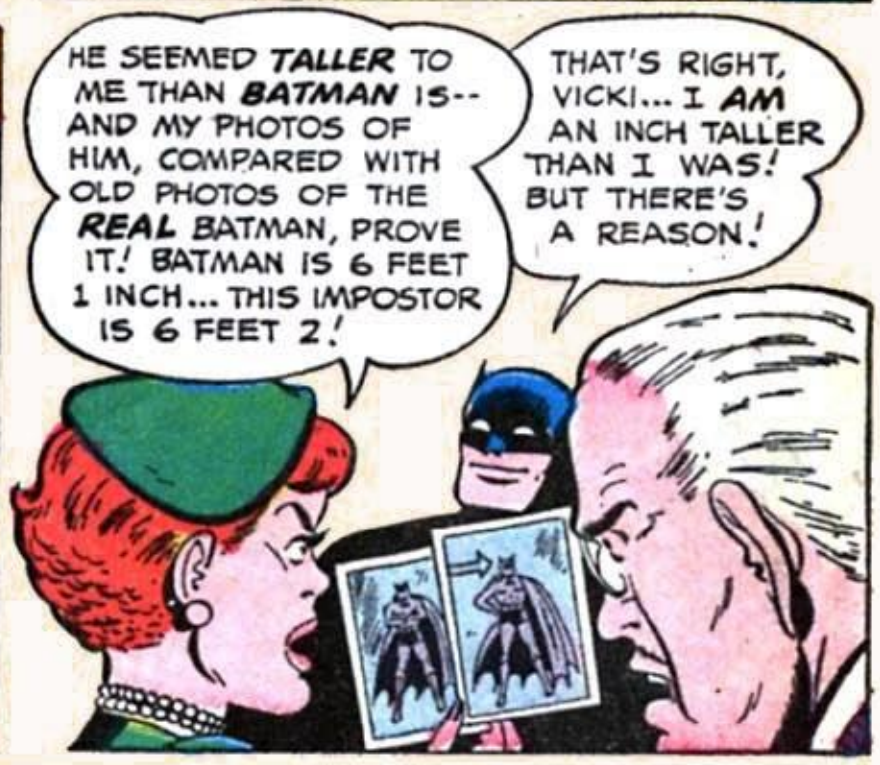
IT'S A VALIANT TRY -- BUT A MAN WHO'S AT HOME IN SPACE SHIPS FINDS A HORSE A FEARSOME THING...
THIS TERRIBLE BEAST IS RUNNING ME RIGHT INTO THE FENCE! I DON'T KNOW HOW TO STEER IT, AND IT CAN'T JUMP THAT FENCE!
YOUR PERSONAL JET-MOTORS ARE YOUR ONLY CHANCE!

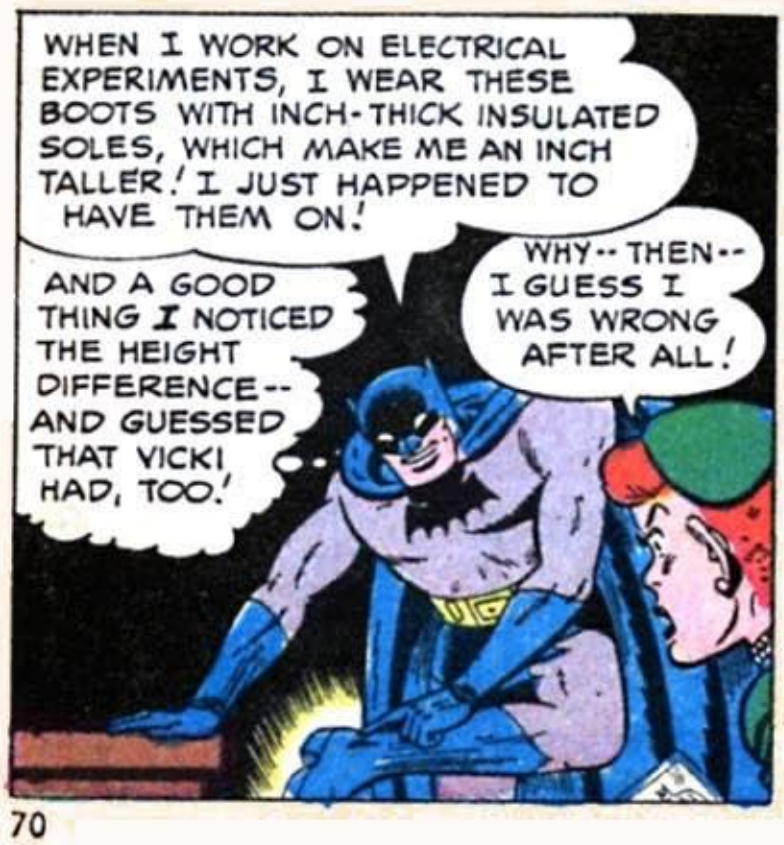
AND AS POWERFUL JETS THRUST DOWNWARD...
MADE IT!
IN A WAY, IT'S A PITY NO ONE'S AROUND TO SEE THAT JUMP! IT'S A WORLD'S RECORD!

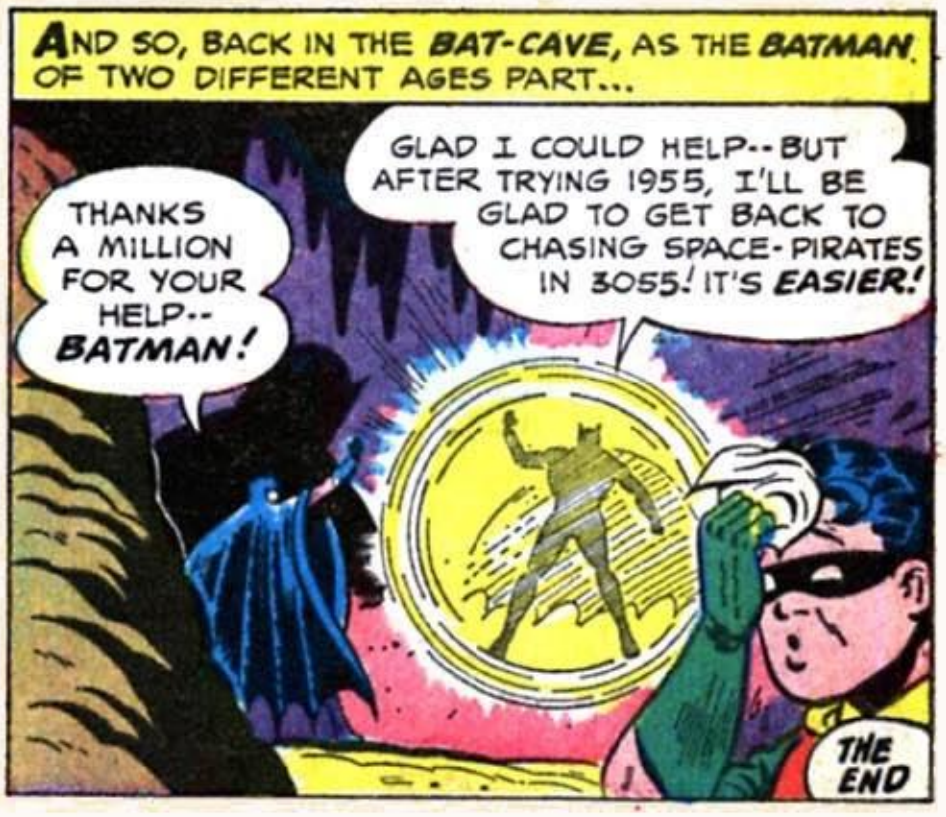
NEXT MOMENT, AS TWIN AVENGERS THUNDER DOWN ON FLEEING HOODS...
WE'VE KNOCKED THEM OFF THEIR HORSES! THEY'RE TOO GROGGY TO TRY ANYTHING ELSE!
AND SO AM I... I'M FALLING OFF!

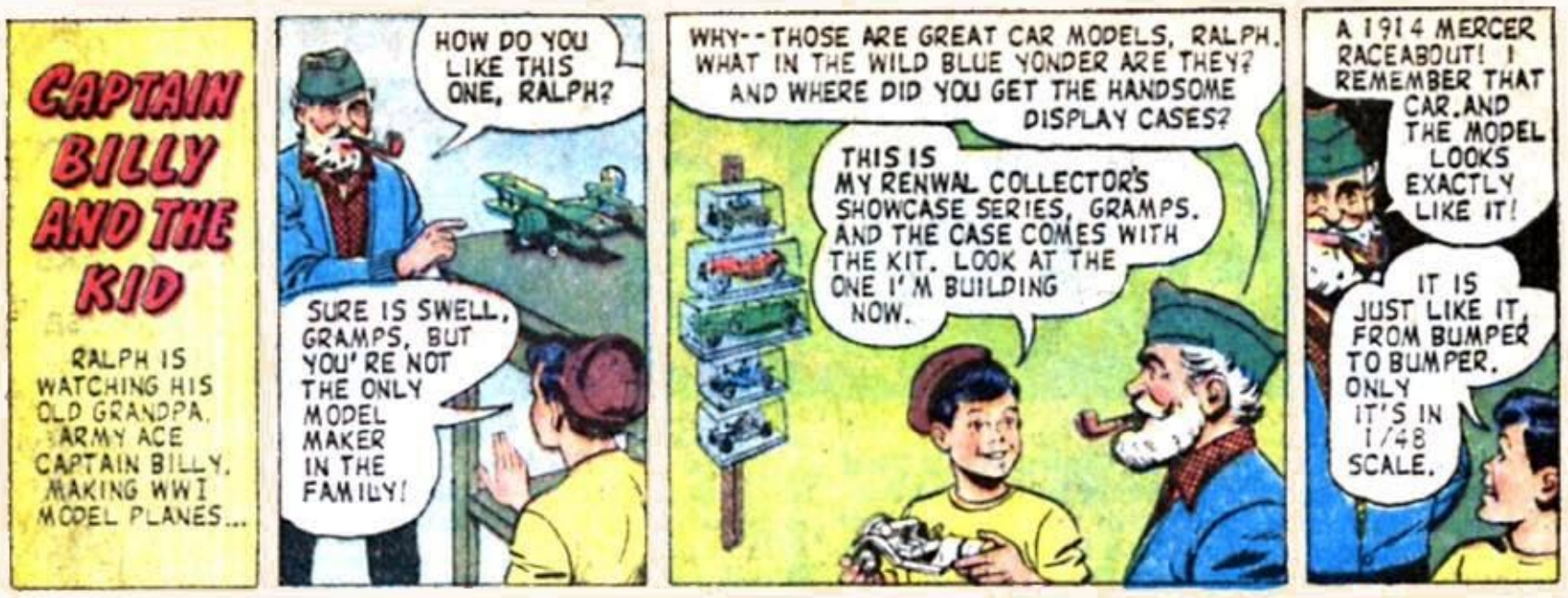
BATMAN OF 1955! IS YOUR ARM BETTER?
YES -- THANKS TO YOUR SCIENTIFIC MASSAGE! I GOT ROBIN'S CALL, AND I'M JUST IN TIME TO TAKE OVER AGAIN! YOU'LL FIND THE BAT-PLANE IN THOSE TREES... SEE YOU IN THE BAT-CAVE LATER!

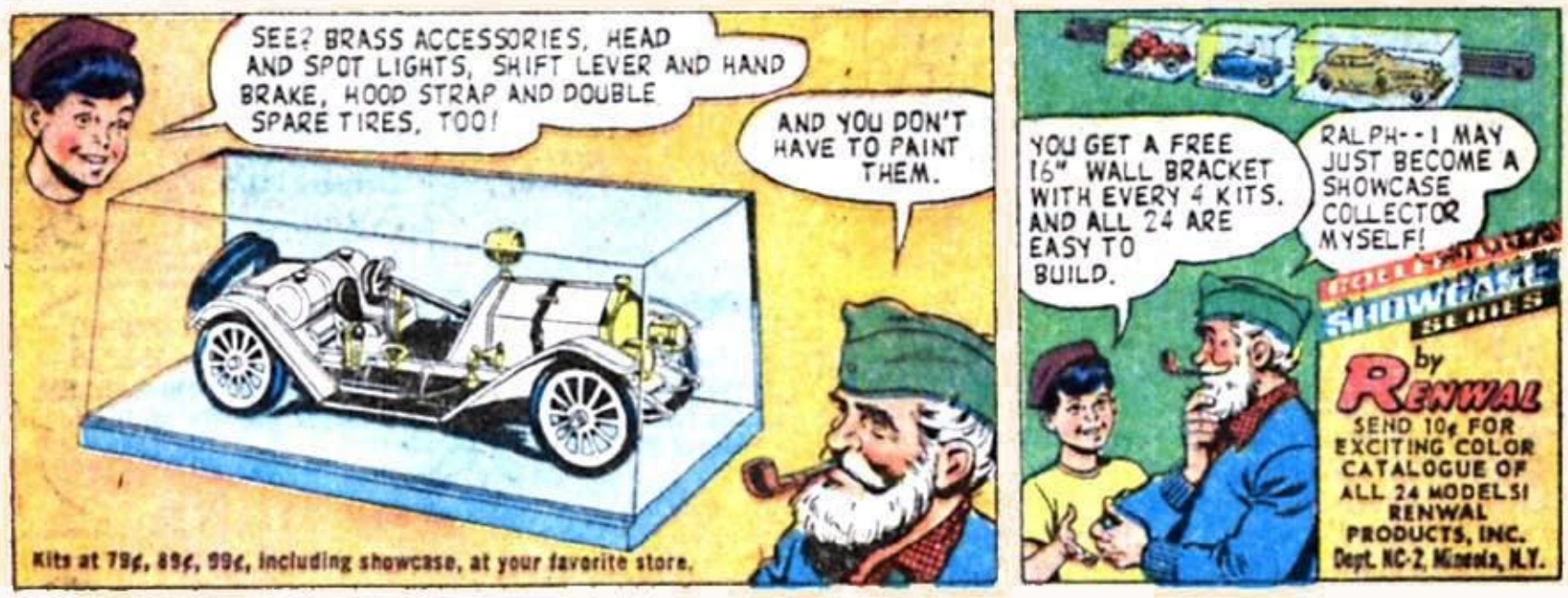
BUT AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS, SOME TIME LATER, VICKI VALE MAKES A SHATTERING ACCUSATION...
THEY WERE THE SAME MOBSTERS WHO PULLED THOSE OTHER MAKEUP ROBBERIES -- SO WE GOT THEM ALL! GOOD WORK, BATMAN!
WAIT, COMMISSIONER GORDON -- THAT ISN'T BATMAN! HE'S AN IMPOSTOR HIMSELF, AND I CAN PROVE IT!
SQUAD ROOM

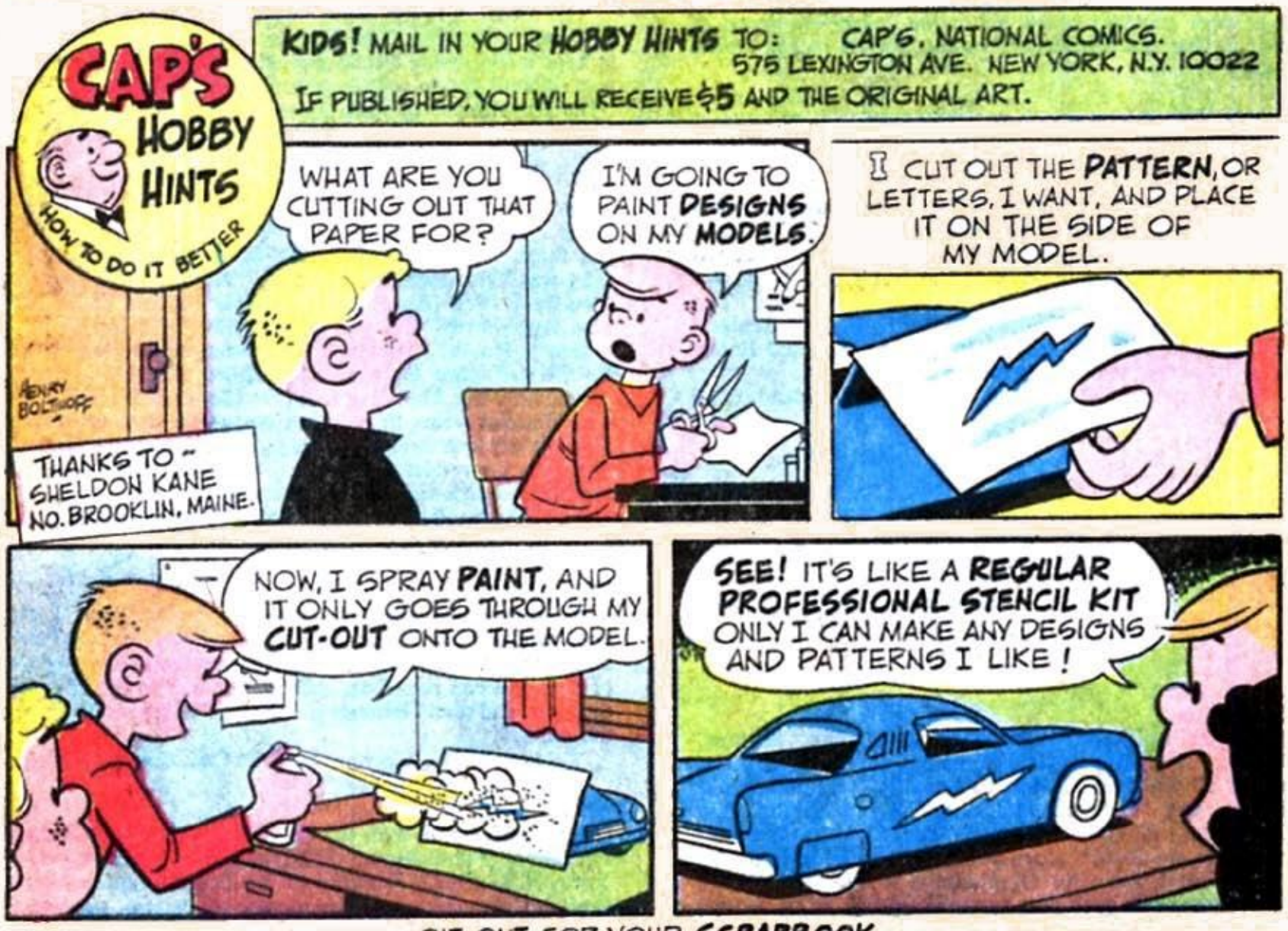

HE SEEMED TALLER TO ME THAN BATMAN IS -- AND MY PHOTOS OF HIM, COMPARED WITH OLD PHOTOS OF THE REAL BATMAN, PROVE IT! BATMAN IS 6 FEET 1 INCH... THIS IMPOSTOR IS 6 FEET 2!
THAT'S RIGHT, VICKI... I AM AN INCH TALLER THAN I WAS! BUT THERE'S A REASON!


WHEN I WORK ON ELECTRICAL EXPERIMENTS, I WEAR THESE BOOTS WITH INCH-THICK INSULATED SOLES, WHICH MAKE ME AN INCH TALLER! I JUST HAPPENED TO HAVE THEM ON!
AND A GOOD THING I NOTICED THE HEIGHT DIFFERENCE -- AND GUESSED THAT VICKI HAD, TOO!
WHY -- THEN -- I GUESS I WAS WRONG AFTER ALL!


AND SO, BACK IN THE BAT-CAVE, AS THE BATMAN OF TWO DIFFERENT AGES PART...
THANKS A MILLION FOR YOUR HELP -- BATMAN!
GLAD I COULD HELP -- BUT AFTER TRYING 1955, I'LL BE GLAD TO GET BACK TO CHASING SPACE-PIRATES IN 3055! IT'S EASIER!
THE END







CUT OUT FOR YOUR SCRAPBOOK

GIANT BATMAN

Dear Editor:
I felt I just had to write a comment about the latest Giant Batman—G24—"The Strange Lives of Batman and Robin." I was somewhat disappointed to see that there was no newspaper syndicated story. But a worthy replacement was the story out of Batman's Case Book. I enjoyed "The Experiment of Professor Zero" immensely. "The Joker Batman" was really a change of pace. It struck me as odd to see the Joker pursuing Batman, and Alfred's bewilderment was amusing. "The Rainbow Batman" was a good mystery story, and the reason why Batman wore different colored costumes was so obvious I'm surprised I hadn't guessed it.

Jerry Mills, Harbor City, Calif.

• • •

Dear Editor:
In the Aug. issue of the Giant Batman, I loved the story of the Joker Batman. But if the Joker was Batman, he must have remembered the secret identity of Batman. So what happened then?

David Gellman, L.I., N.Y.

(At the end of the story, when both the Joker and Batman became normal again, Dr. Rayburn says that Batman won't remember anything of his life as the Joker—implying, of course, that the same thing would happen to the Joker. —Ed.)

• • •

Dear Editor:
I just finished reading the latest Giant Batman, and I enjoyed every moment. "The Rainbow Batman," I think, was the best. I kept wondering why he always changed suits, but I didn't dare look at the last page, because I knew it would spoil the whole story. No. 2 was "The Joker Batman," then "Batman, Junior and Robin Senior," "Batman, Robot," "Villain of 100 Elements," and finally "The Experiment of Prof. Zero."

Boris Menart, Cleveland, Ohio

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Dear Editor:
I just read No. 182 Giant Batman. It was great. I think "The Experiment of Prof. Zero" was the best. I liked all the other stories, also.

Frank Mazza, Torrance, Calif.

• • •

Dear Editor:
I've just finished reading the latest Giant Batman. Terrific! That story from Batman's Case Book was the best of all the Giant Batman stories you've published. I also enjoyed "Batman, Junior and Robin Senior" and "The Villain of 100 Elements." "The Rainbow Batman" and "Batman, Robot" were good, but not as good as the others. But I was very disappointed in the Joker story. Usually, a story with the Joker is always exciting and breath-taking.

Bruce Kronenberg, Rockaway, N.J.

(Once again, we find a difference of opinion on which stories are liked best, as the letters above indicate, as well as the ones below. We found a sharp difference particularly on "The Joker Batman."—Ed.)

• • •

Dear Editor:
I must compliment you and your staff on the latest Giant Batman. "The Joker Batman" was superlative. "Batman, Robot" and "The Villain of 100 Elements" were excellent. The rest were also very good.

Gregory Pigna, Plainfield, N.J.

• • •

Dear Editor:
The 80 page Giant Batman No. 182 (or G24) was just great. "The Rainbow Batman" was Bat-terrific. It was very clever of Batman to wear those costumes to cover up for Robin. And I can't forget the Batman special about Prof. Zero.

Stephen Phillips, New York, N.Y.

• • •

Dear Editor:
The art work in the latest Giant Batman was excellent, as usual. I thought "The Rainbow Batman" was superb. It kept me guessing all the way. I'm also glad Dick Grayson (Robin) got in a little action *off* duty. I also thought "The Experiment of Prof. Zero" was colossal.

Mike Schnittker, Auburn, Ala.

• • •

Dear Editor:
I think the best story in the 80 page Giant Batman G24 was "The Rainbow Batman." The plot was superb! You have Dick (Robin) Grayson lose the use of his left arm temporarily, and you think, "How will he go into action as Robin?" Then you take the attention away from Robin and have Batman wear those different colored constumes, but Aha! You still give the readers clues as to why Batman wears those other costumes, such as having Robin's left arm straight down in most of the panels. And you gave the readers a chance to see what Batman would look like in different kinds of costumes.

Joseph Lenius, Chicago, Ill.

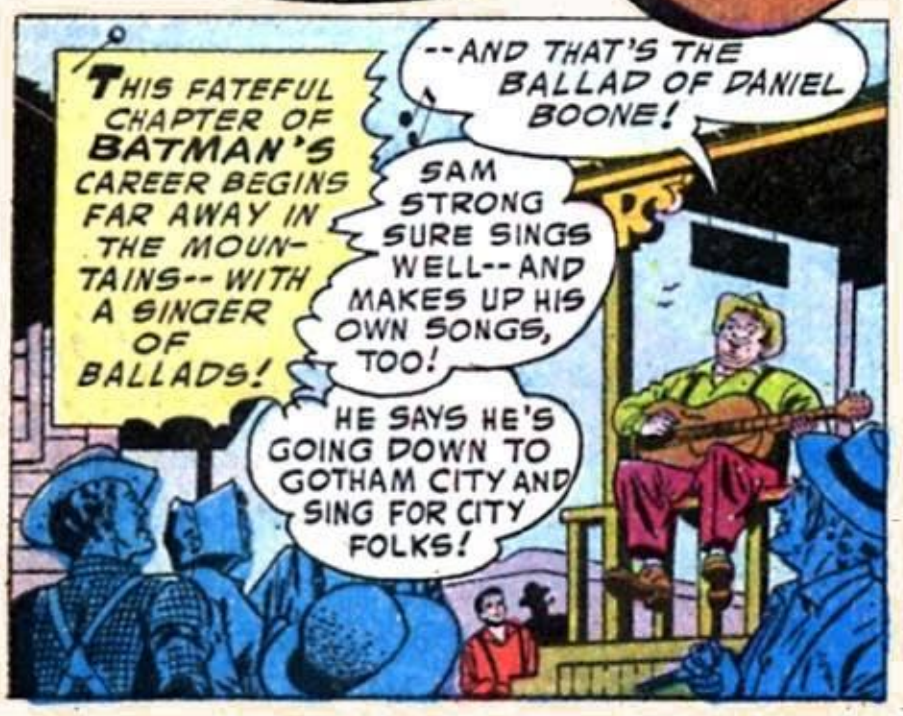
• • •

Dear Editor:
All your Giant Batman issues are great. When I get one, this is what happens. First, my heart leaps to my mouth in joy. Then I dig deep into my pockets for every bit of change I can round up, race all the way to the counter to buy it, and then I become a Rip van Winkle until I finish the comic.

John Cali, Campbell, Calif.

(Please address all mail to: GIANT BATMAN, National Periodical Publications, 575 Lexington Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10022. Because of the large volume of mail received, we cannot always answer all letters, so please understand if your questions do not receive personal replies.—Ed.)

BATMAN
With
ROBIN
THE BOY WONDER
IT WAS ONLY A SONG BY A WANDERING SINGER--BUT IT CONQUERED GOTHAM CITY AND FATEFULLY CHANGED LIVES! FOR THIS SONG WAS A BALLAD OF THE GREAT HEROES OF THE CITY, BATMAN AND ROBIN! AND LITTLE DID THE MODERN MINSTREL WHO COMPOSED IT DREAM THAT HE WAS STARTING SOMETHING THAT WOULD ADD VERSES OF DRAMA AND DANGER TO...
THE BALLAD OF BATMAN
By SAM
Like the
Robin was
struck like lightning at evil
Then
beneath
When there came


THIS FATEFUL CHAPTER OF BATMAN'S CAREER BEGINS FAR AWAY IN THE MOUNTAINS--WITH A SINGER OF BALLADS!
--AND THAT'S THE BALLAD OF DANIEL BOONE!
SAM STRONG SURE SINGS WELL--AND MAKES UP HIS OWN SONGS, TOO!
HE SAYS HE'S GOING DOWN TO GOTHAM CITY AND SING FOR CITY FOLKS!

SHORTLY, ON A DAY OF DESTINY, SAM STRONG REACHES THE GREAT METROPOLIS OF HIS DREAMS!
AT LAST--THE PLACE I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO COME TO! HERE I CAN SING MY GREATEST BALLAD!

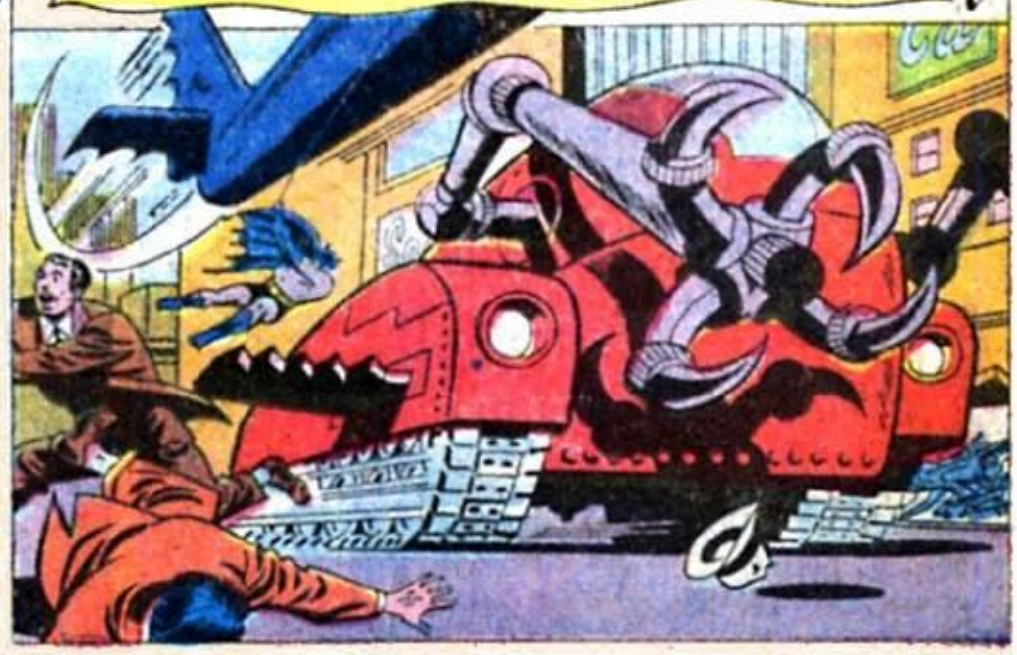
AND IN HIS OWN QUAINT WAY, THE MOUNTAIN MINSTREL BRINGS GOTHAM CITY A NEW SONG!
I'VE ALWAYS HAD ONE GREAT HERO -- I'VE READ ABOUT HIS FEATS FOR YEARS AND I'VE WRITTEN A BALLAD ABOUT HIM!
PA

LIKE THE WIND, LIKE THE SHADOWS, LIKE BIRDS IN FLIGHT, BATMAN AND ROBIN CAME THROUGH THE NIGHT--
WHY, IT'S A BALLAD ABOUT BATMAN!
THAT MOUNTAIN SINGER'S BALLAD OF BATMAN WOULD BE A KNOCKOUT ON TELEVISION! WE'LL GET HIM TO BROADCAST!

AND SOON, A GREAT CITY RELIVES ITS MEMORIES OF ITS MIGHTIEST HEROES AS THE "BALLAD OF BATMAN" ROLLS FORTH!
NONE KNEW FROM WHERE THEY CAME NOR WHEN, BUT THEY STRUCK LIKE LIGHTNING AT EVIL MEN!

"THEIR FACES WERE MASKED, THEIR NAMES UNKNOWN, AS THEY FOUGHT GREAT PERILS, ALL ALONE!"
Gotham FIREWORKS CO.

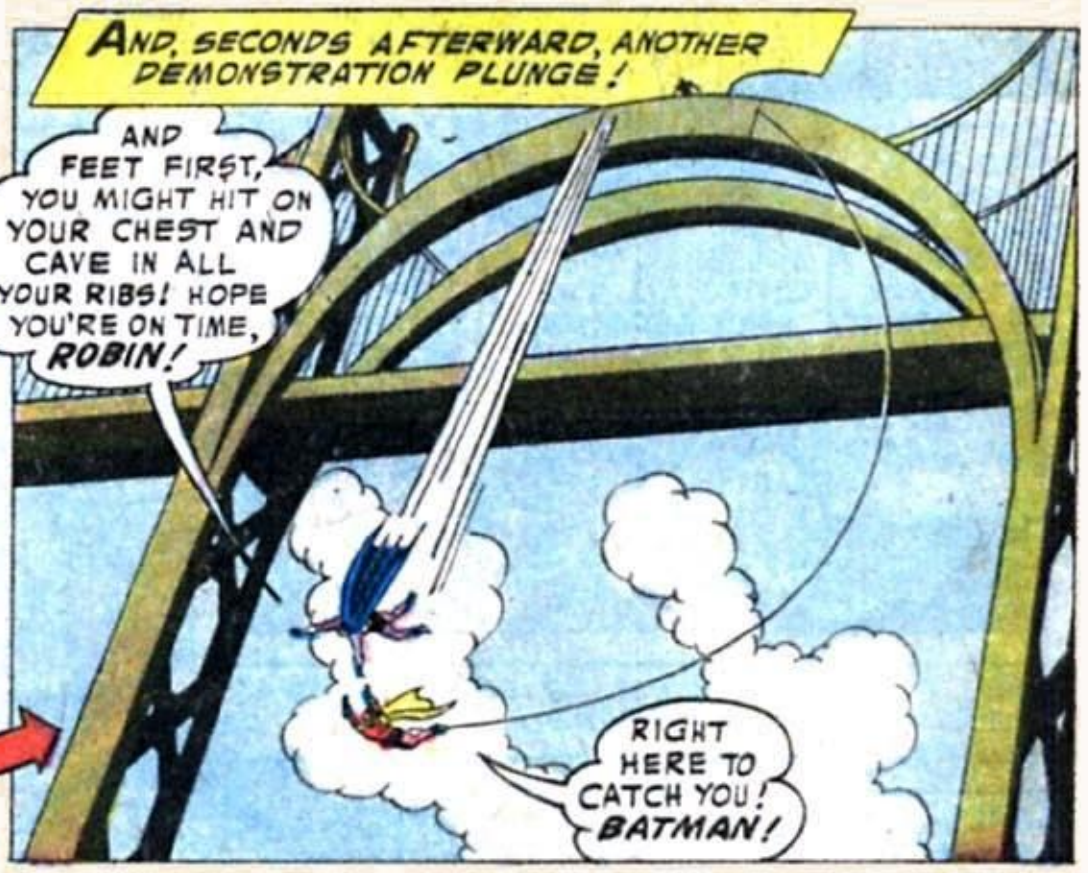
"IN THEIR BATMARINE BENEATH THE SEA, THEY SOUGHT THE CLUES TO A MYSTERY!"


"WHEN THERE CAME THE ROBOT-MACHINE OF CRIME, BATMAN STOPPED IT JUST IN TIME!"

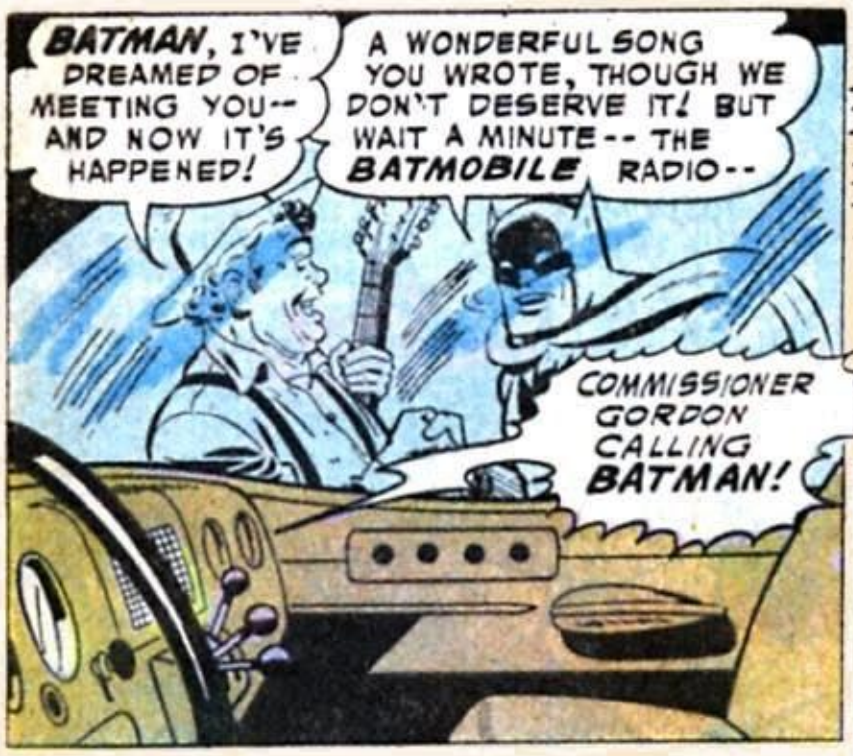
"AND FEARFUL TO ALL THE LAWLESS STILL, IS THE THUNDERING ROAR OF THEIR BATMOBILE!"
"AND WHILE HIS SIGNAL LIGHTS THE SKY, THE FAME OF BATMAN WILL NEVER DIE!"
WONDERFUL! WHAT A STIRRING BALLAD!
AND SAM STRONG IS SOON THE NEW SENSATION AS A GREAT CITY SINGS THE "BALLAD OF BATMAN"!
YOU MEAN, YOU'RE GIVING ALL THE PROCEEDS FROM YOUR "BALLAD" TO CHARITY?
SURE-- I DON'T WANT TO PROFIT BY MY TRIBUTE TO BATMAN!
BUT TWO PEOPLE AT LEAST ARE SOON TIRED OF THE NEW SONG-HIT!
--THEIR FACES WERE MASKED, THEIR NAMES UNKNOWN--
THAT BALLAD IS A SWELL TRIBUTE BUT IT MAKES ME FEEL SELF-CONSCIOUS!
PEOPLE WILL TIRE OF IT IN TIME-- IN THE MEAN-TIME, WE'VE GOT TO ANSWER THIS URGENT CALL!
A TENSE PROBLEM ON LOFTY GOTHAM BRIDGE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DUO'S HURRY...
BATMAN, WE'RE IN A SPOT! THAT YOUNG WOULD-BE DAREDEVIL SAYS HE'S GOING TO DIVE-- AND FROM THIS HEIGHT, IT COULD BE FATAL!
HE'S ONLY WAITING FOR A BIGGER CROWD TO SEE HIM-- BUT SAYS HE'LL DIVE AT ONCE IF WE TRY TO GRAB HIM!
WE'LL TRY TO STOP HIM-- I'VE AN IDEA!
DON'T TRY TO GRAB ME OR I'LL DIVE NOW, BATMAN! BUT I'D RATHER THAT A BIGGER CROWD SAW MY GREAT FEAT!

AND A MOMENT LATER...

AND, SECONDS AFTERWARD, ANOTHER DEMONSTRATION PLUNGE!

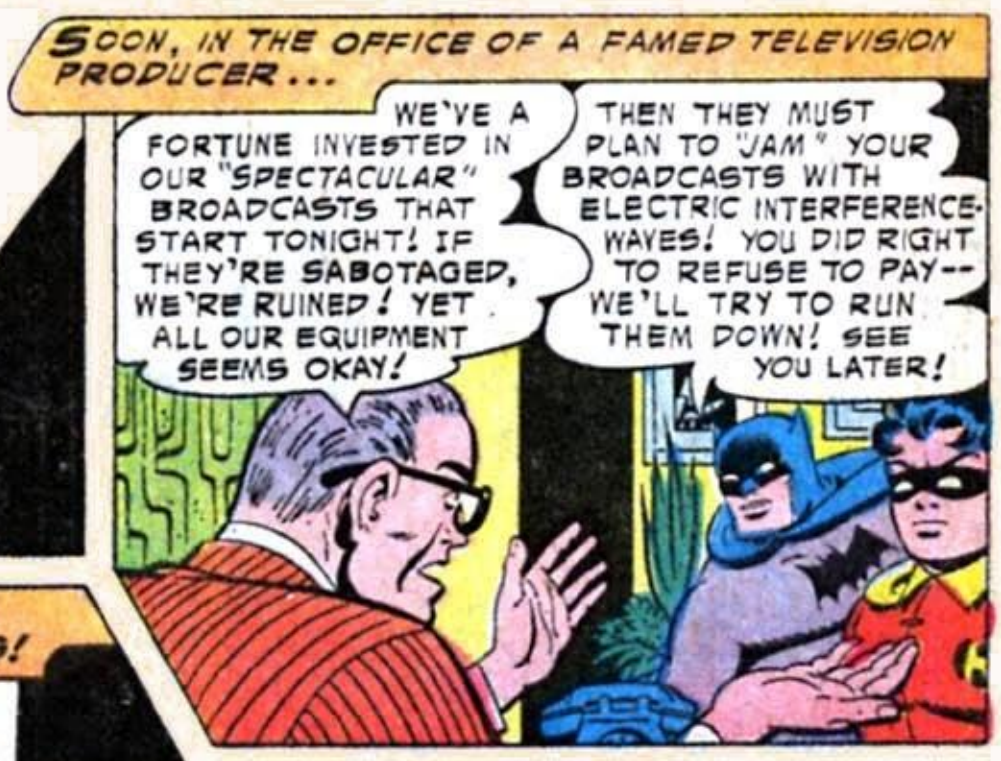


AND OF THE CROWD THAT HAS WATCHED BATMAN'S QUICK-WITTEDNESS AND SKILL, SAM STRONG IS THE MOST ENTHUSIASTIC!


BATMAN, I'VE DREAMED OF MEETING YOU-- AND NOW IT'S HAPPENED!
A WONDERFUL SONG YOU WROTE, THOUGH WE DON'T DESERVE IT! BUT WAIT A MINUTE-- THE BATMOBILE RADIO--
COMMISSIONER GORDON CALLING BATMAN!

YES, TELEVISION PRODUCER JOHN MARTIN SAYS RACKETEERS THREATENED TO SABOTAGE HIS MILLION-DOLLAR TV SPECTACULARS IF HE DOESN'T PAY PROTECTION MONEY!
A NEW RACKET, THAT! WE'LL CHECK WITH MARTIN AT TV CENTER! GOOD-BYE, STRONG--WE'LL SEE YOU LATER!

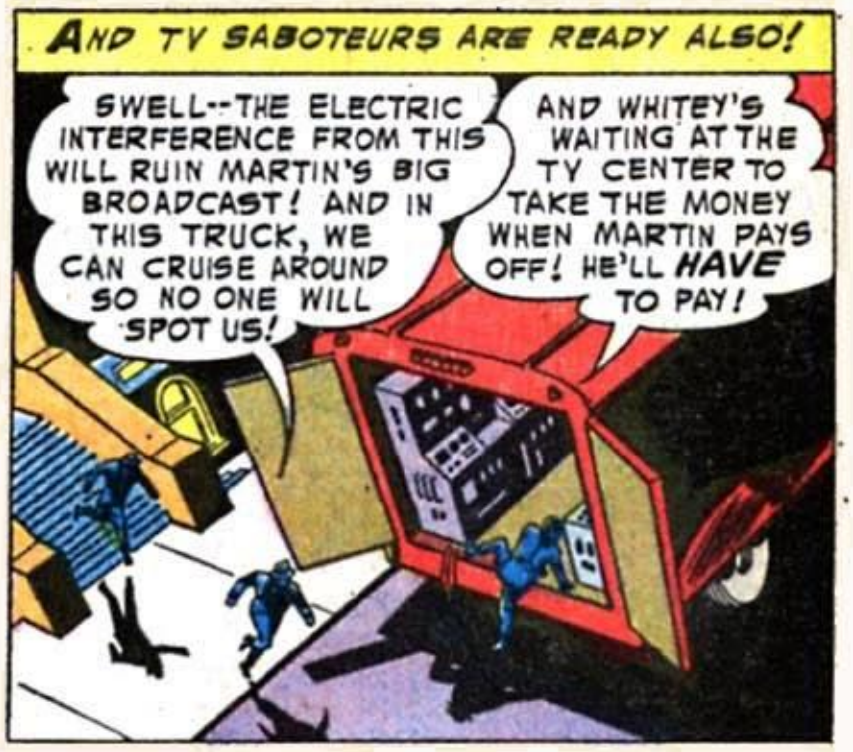
HE'S GOING INTO ACTION AGAIN! MAYBE I CAN GET NEW VERSES FOR THE BALLAD, IF I CAN SEE WHAT HE DOES!


SOON, IN THE OFFICE OF A FAMED TELEVISION PRODUCER...
WE'VE A FORTUNE INVESTED IN OUR "SPECTACULAR" BROADCASTS THAT START TONIGHT! IF THEY'RE SABOTAGED, WE'RE RUINED! YET ALL OUR EQUIPMENT SEEMS OKAY!
THEN THEY MUST PLAN TO "JAM" YOUR BROADCASTS WITH ELECTRIC INTERFERENCE-WAVES! YOU DID RIGHT TO REFUSE TO PAY-- WE'LL TRY TO RUN THEM DOWN! SEE YOU LATER!

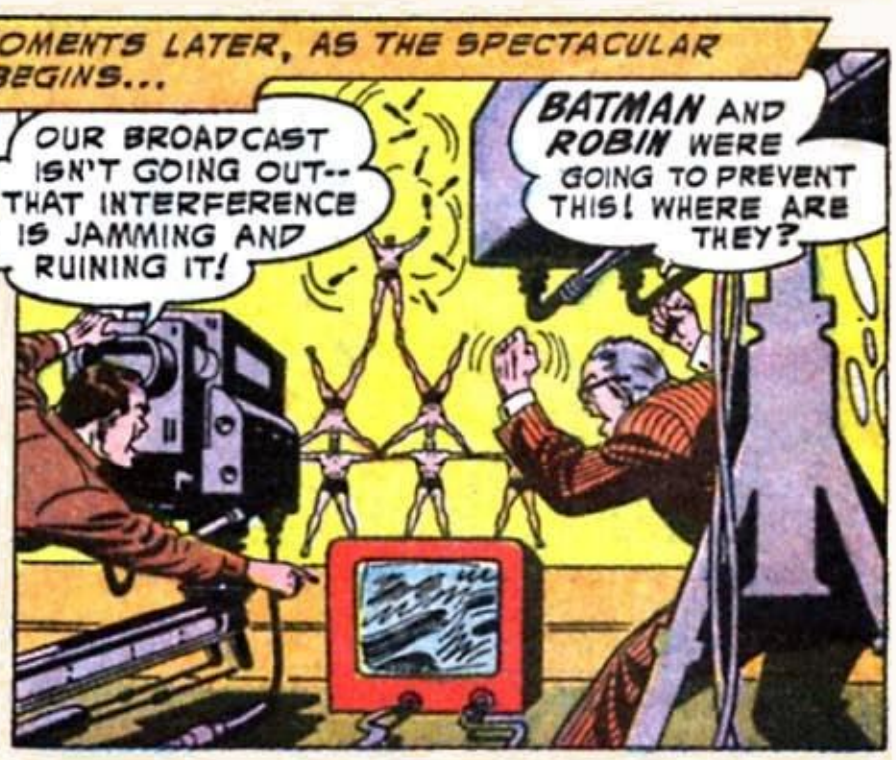
THE RESOURCES OF A MODERN TELEVISION CENTER ARE ENORMOUS!
THIS LONG-RANGE DETECTOR AND SPECIAL DIRECTIONAL LOOP-EQUIPMENT WILL SUPPLEMENT YOUR OWN EQUIPMENT!
I'LL DRIVE THE BATMOBILE AROUND INTO THE ALLEY SO NO ONE WILL SEE US LOAD THIS STUFF!

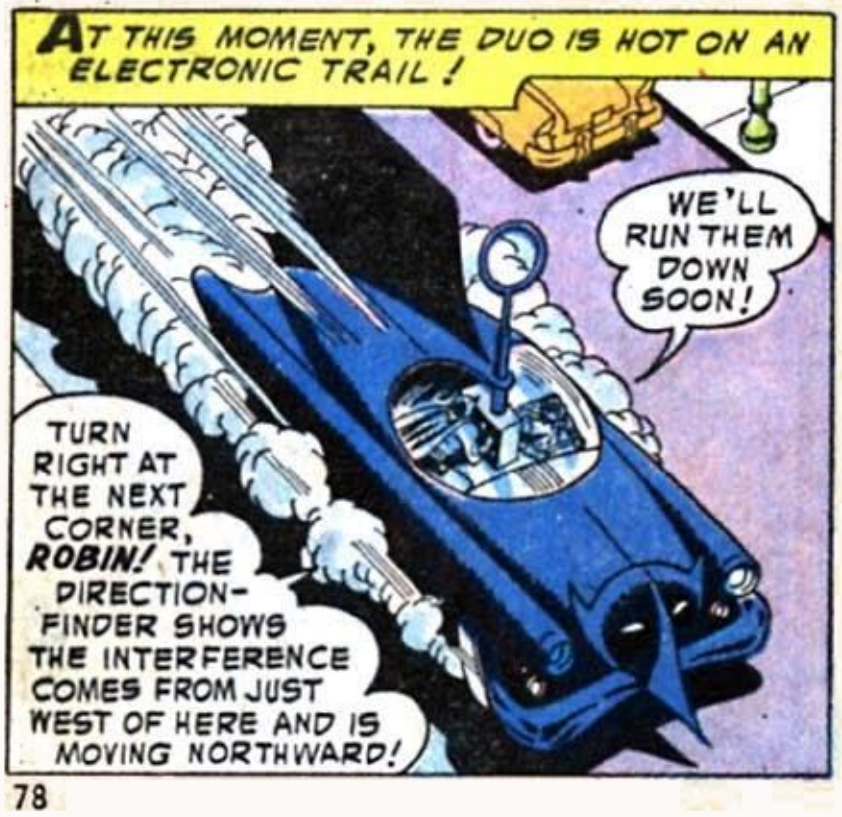
BUT HERO-WORSHIPPING SAM STRONG IS NOT SO EASILY EVADED!
GEE, WHAT A MAN! WONDER WHAT THAT STUFF IS THEY'RE TOTIN'? WHATEVER IT IS, THERE'S A GOOD REASON WHY BATMAN IS USING IT, THAT'S SURE!
TV

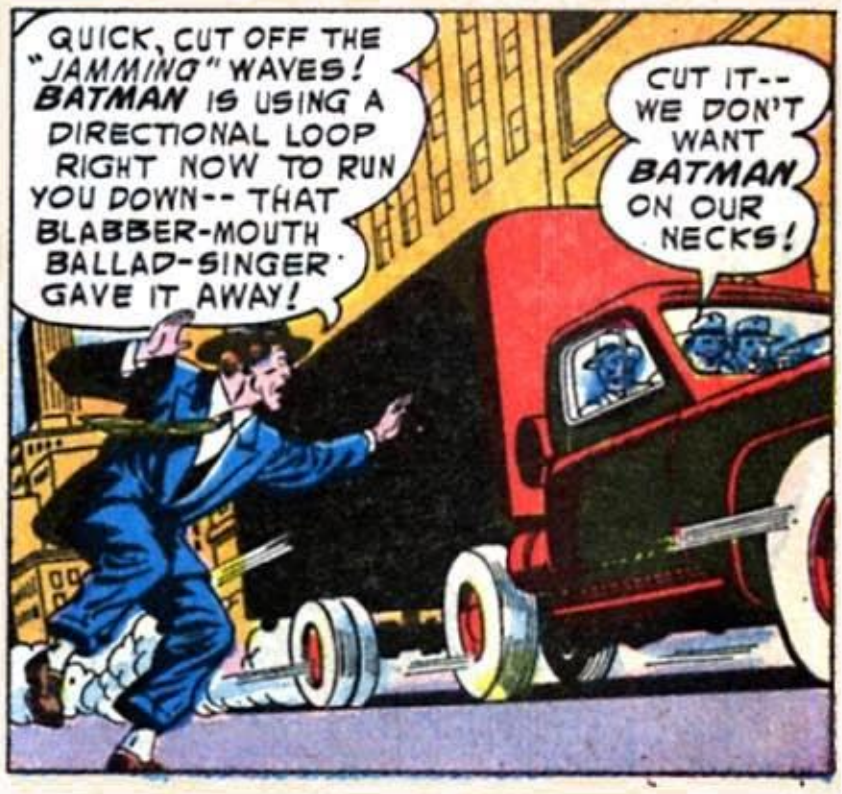
IN THE HIDDEN BATCAVE UNDER THE WAYNE MANSION, BATMAN AND ROBIN WORK FAST!
THE SPECTACULAR IS DUE TO START IN TWENTY MINUTES!
IT'S TIME ENOUGH-- WE'LL BE READY IF THOSE RACKETEERS TRY TO RUIN THE BROADCAST!

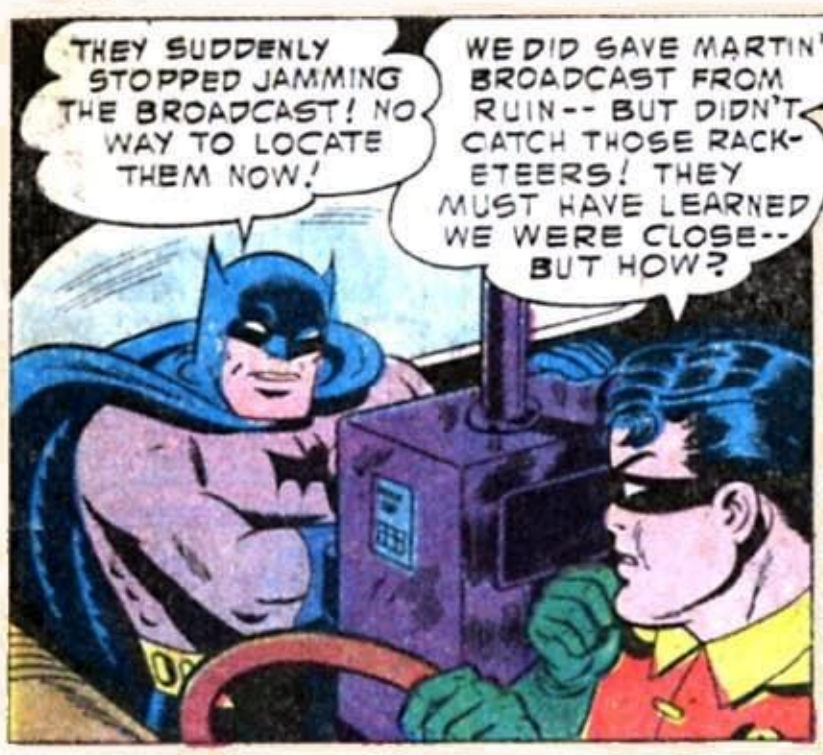

AND TV SABOTEURS ARE READY ALSO!
SWELL--THE ELECTRIC INTERFERENCE FROM THIS WILL RUIN MARTIN'S BIG BROADCAST! AND IN THIS TRUCK, WE CAN CRUISE AROUND SO NO ONE WILL SPOT US!
AND WHITEY'S WAITING AT THE TV CENTER TO TAKE THE MONEY WHEN MARTIN PAYS OFF! HE'LL HAVE TO PAY!

WITH SCIENCE TO AID THEM, THE DAUNTLESS PAIR, WILL TRACK SABOTEURS TO THEIR FARTHEST LAIR! SEARCHING THEM OUT WITH A LOOP OF STEEL, CRUISING THE NIGHT IN THE BATMOBILE!
LOOP OF STEEL? SAY, I'D BETTER WARN THE BOYS ABOUT THIS FAST!
TV Center


MOMENTS LATER, AS THE SPECTACULAR BEGINS...
OUR BROADCAST ISN'T GOING OUT-- THAT INTERFERENCE IS JAMMING AND RUINING IT!
BATMAN AND ROBIN WERE GOING TO PREVENT THIS! WHERE ARE THEY?


AT THIS MOMENT, THE DUO IS HOT ON AN ELECTRONIC TRAIL!
WE'LL RUN THEM DOWN SOON!
TURN RIGHT AT THE NEXT CORNER, ROBIN! THE DIRECTION-FINDER SHOWS THE INTERFERENCE COMES FROM JUST WEST OF HERE AND IS MOVING NORTHWARD!


QUICK, CUT OFF THE "JAMMING" WAVES! BATMAN IS USING A DIRECTIONAL LOOP RIGHT NOW TO RUN YOU DOWN-- THAT BLABBER-MOUTH BALLAD-SINGER GAVE IT AWAY!
CUT IT-- WE DON'T WANT BATMAN ON OUR NECKS!


THEY SUDDENLY STOPPED JAMMING THE BROADCAST! NO WAY TO LOCATE THEM NOW!
WE DID SAVE MARTIN'S BROADCAST FROM RUIN-- BUT DIDN'T CATCH THOSE RACKETEERS! THEY MUST HAVE LEARNED WE WERE CLOSE-- BUT HOW?

THAT QUESTION IS ANSWERED WHEN THE DUO GOES BACK TO TV CENTER!
DID YOU HEAR MY LATEST BALLAD VERSE ABOUT YOUR "LOOP OF STEEL," BATMAN? EVERYBODY SEEMED TO LIKE IT!
I'M BEGINNING TO UNDERSTAND NOW! BETTER COME IN WITH US AND TELL US ABOUT THAT VERSE, SAM!

SOON, IT'S A DEJECTED BALLAD-SINGER WHO LEARNS WHAT HE'S DONE!
I WRECKED YOUR PLANS-- AND ALL I WANTED TO DO WAS MAKE MY BALLAD ABOUT YOU BETTER!
IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT, SAM!
YOU SAVED THIS BROADCAST, BATMAN, AND THEY'LL BE TOO SCARED TO TRY JAMMING TOMORROW'S!

YOU WON'T BE SAFE FROM THEIR RACKET UNTIL THEY'RE BEHIND BARS! WE'LL BAIT THEM OUT-- AND SAM STRONG CAN HELP US DO IT!
HELP YOU, BATMAN? I'D SURE DO ANYTHING!

ALL YOU NEED TO DO IS SING ONE MORE VERSE ABOUT A MISSION ROBIN AND I ARE GOING ON TOMORROW NIGHT! I CAN'T TELL YOU MUCH ABOUT IT, THOUGH!
SHUCKS, IT'S AN HONOR TO MAKE UP NEW VERSES ABOUT YOUR DOIN'S, BATMAN.

AND SO, NEXT EVENING, AS SAM STRONG SINGS AGAIN...
♪♪ OUT OVER THE SEA, AS THE SHADOWS FALL, BATMAN FLIES TO ANSWER A CALL! ♪
THAT GABBY BALLAD-SINGER HAS TIPPED BATMAN'S HAND AGAIN! HE'S HAD TO LEAVE TOWN-- WE'RE SAFE TO HIT MARTIN'S BROADCAST TONIGHT!
TV Center

AND OUT OVER THE SEA, INDEED...
WE'RE TEN MILES OUT AT SEA, ROBIN, AND NOW WE'RE TURNING BACK!
I GET IT! THIS FLIGHT WAS JUST SO SAM WOULD BE TELLING THE TRUTH IN HIS BALLAD!

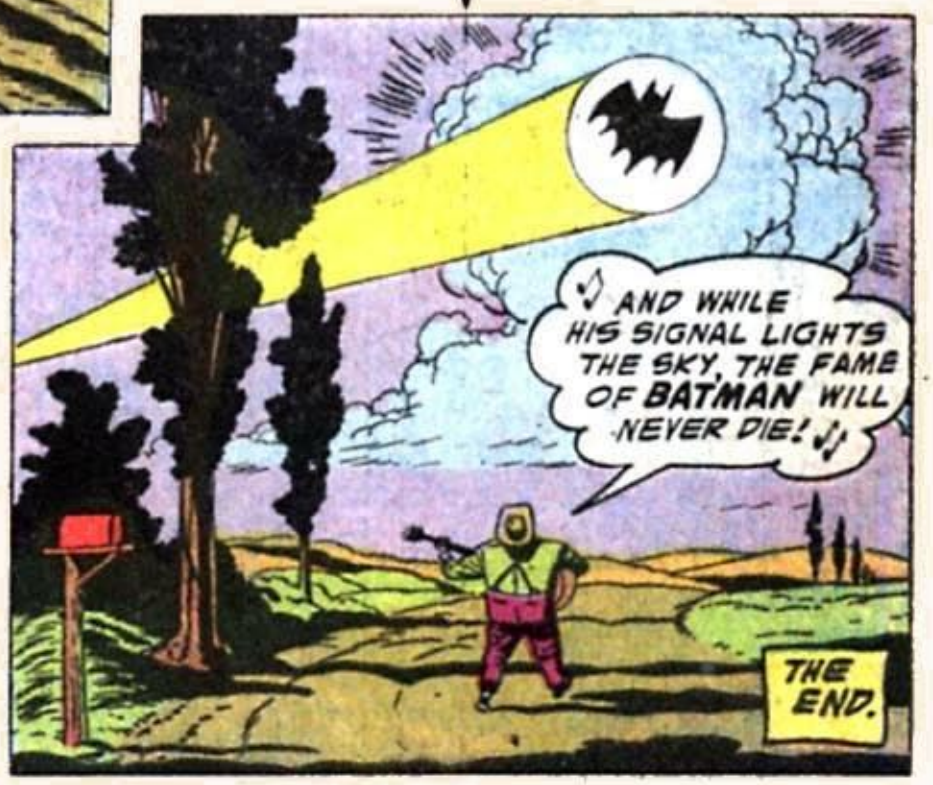
I'M CRUISING LOW OVER THE MID-TOWN SECTION ON HELI-COPTERS-- GET ANY-THING?
YES! STRONG INTERFERENCE WAVES FROM A POINT ON MIDWAY BOULEVARD! SAM'S BALLAD DECOYED THEM OUT AND THEY'RE TRYING TO RUIN ANOTHER BROAD-CAST!

THE BATPLANE! THAT HILLBILLY SINGER HAD IT WRONG-- BATMAN HASN'T LEFT TOWN!
BUT WE'RE LEAVING! GET GOING!

BUT SOON, ON A COUNTRY ROAD, REMORSELESS PURSUIT CLOSES DOWN...
THE BATPLANE USING ITS JETS TO KICK UP THE DUST ON THIS ROAD! CAN'T SEE-- GOT TO STOP--

AND AMID CHOKING DUST-CLOUDS, TWO GRIM SHAPES CLOSE IN!
YOU WANTED PROTECTION MONEY BUT YOU'LL GET ONLY PROTECTION-- INSIDE A NICE, PROTECTED PRISON!

LATER...
SURE, I'M GOING HOME, BATMAN-- BUT I'LL NEVER FORGET YOU!
WE'LL NEVER FORGET HOW YOU HELPED US, SAM! NOR YOUR GREAT SONG!


♪ AND WHILE HIS SIGNAL LIGHTS THE SKY, THE FAME OF BATMAN WILL NEVER DIE! ♪
THE END.

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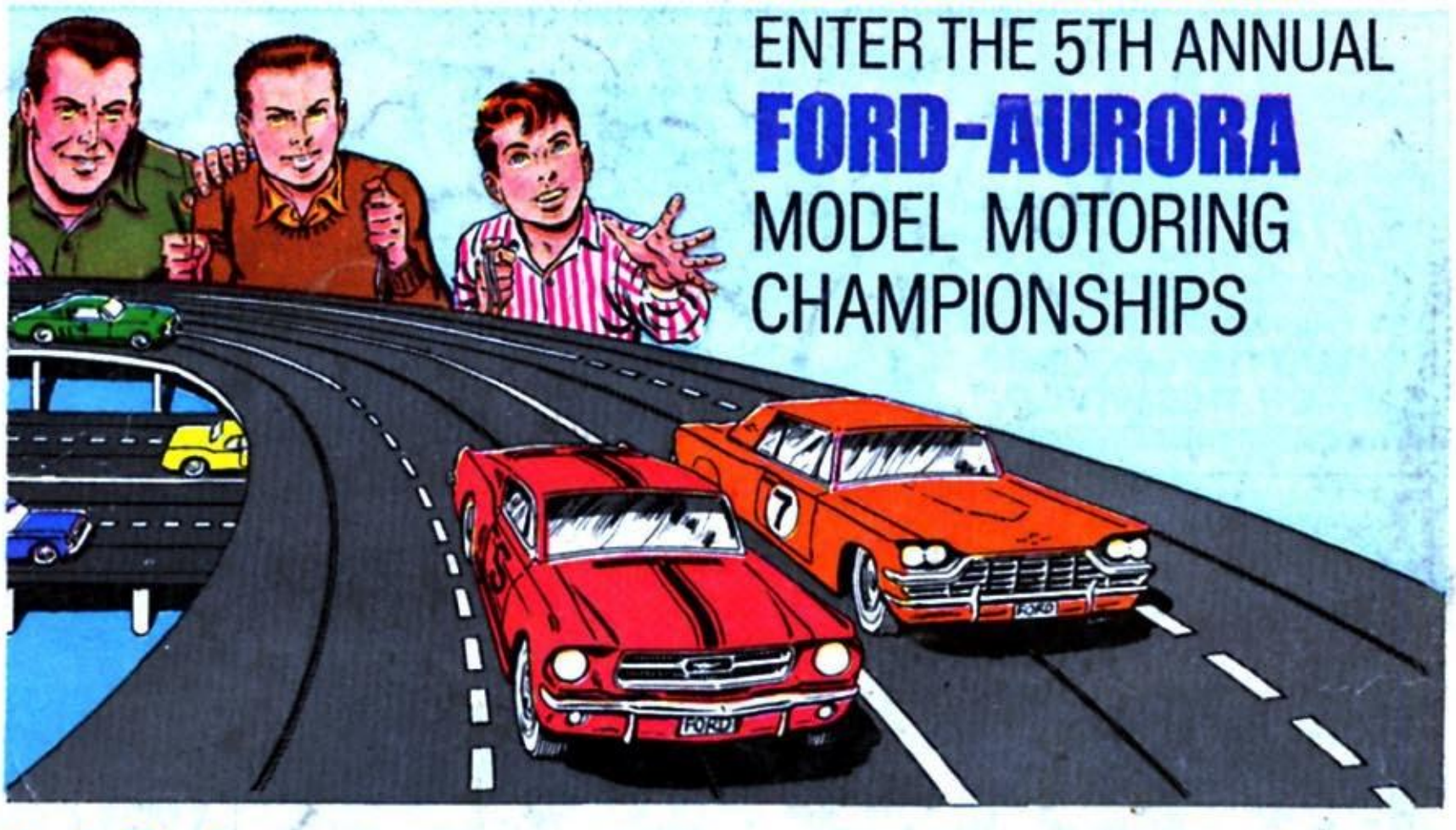

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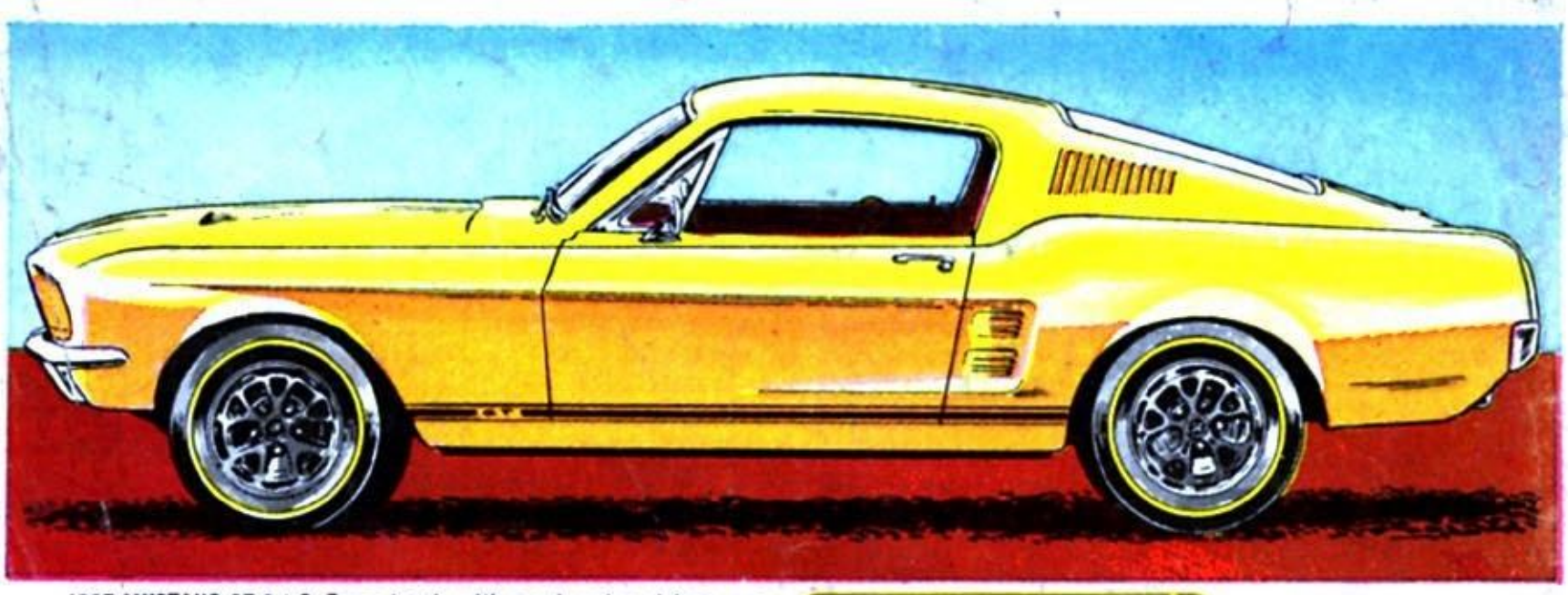

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