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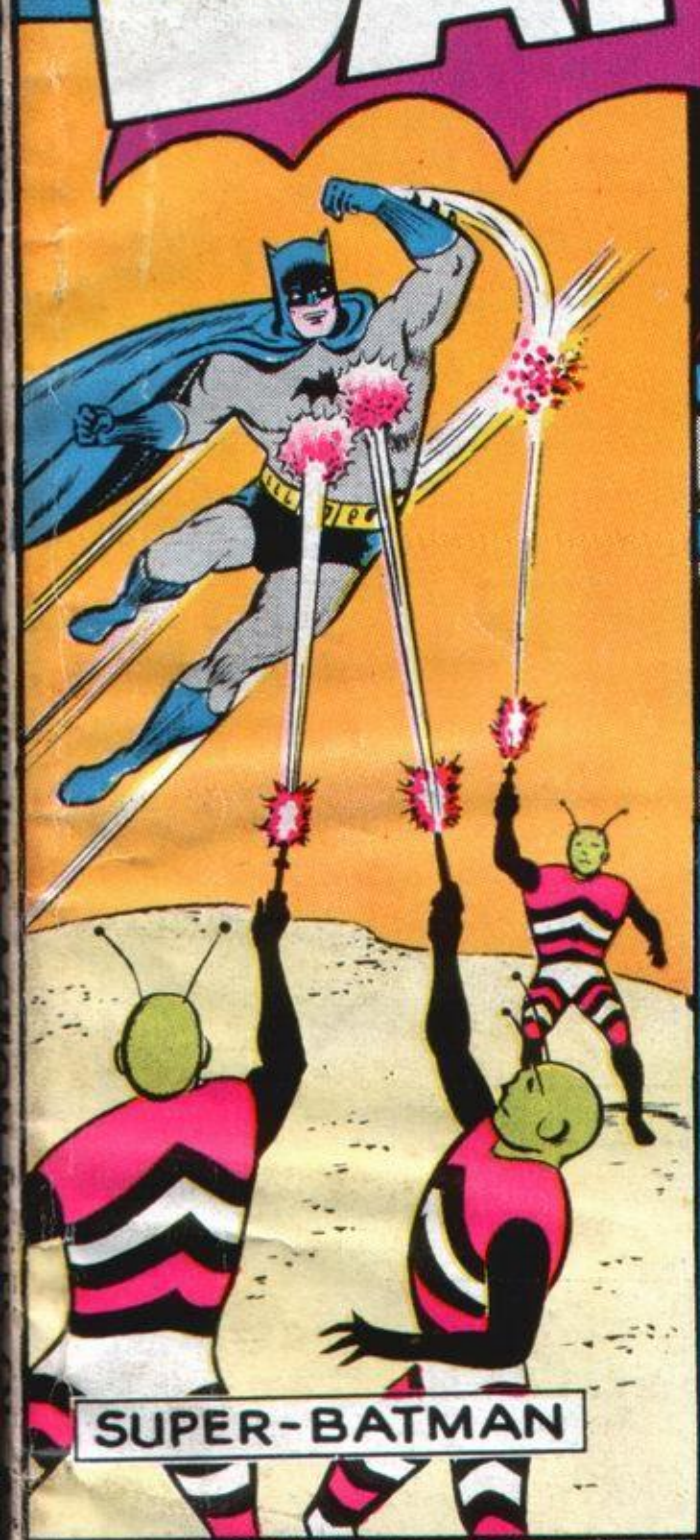

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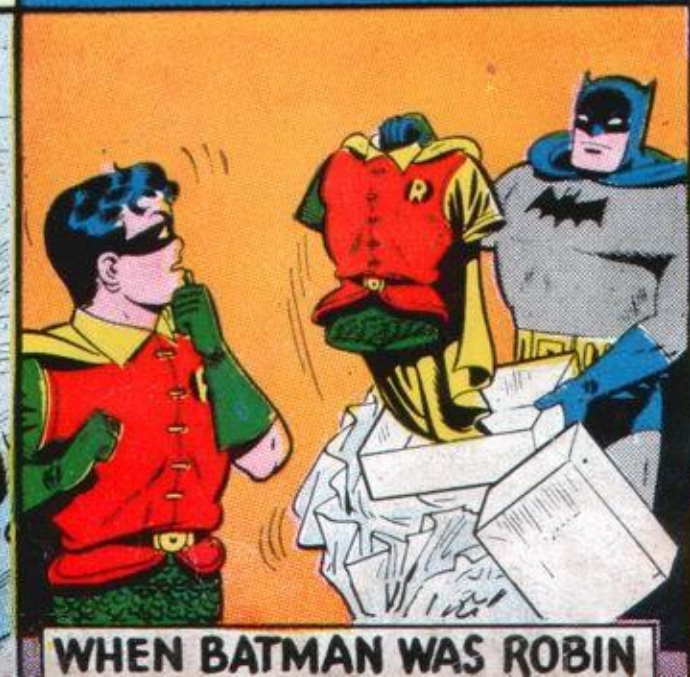

WHEN BATMAN WAS ROBIN

GIANT BATMAN ANNUAL

NO. 2

Batman and Robin's Most Thrilling Action Roles

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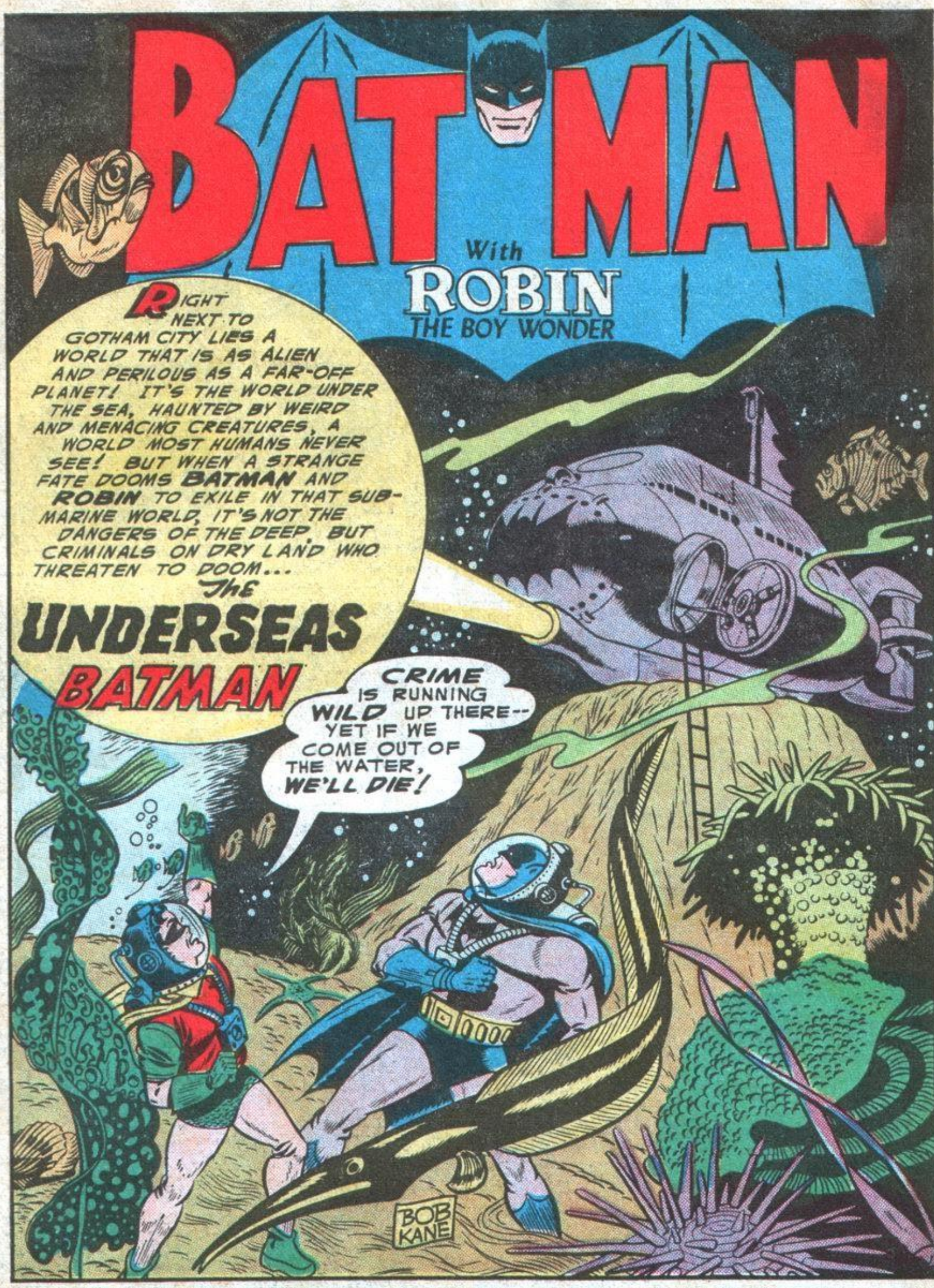

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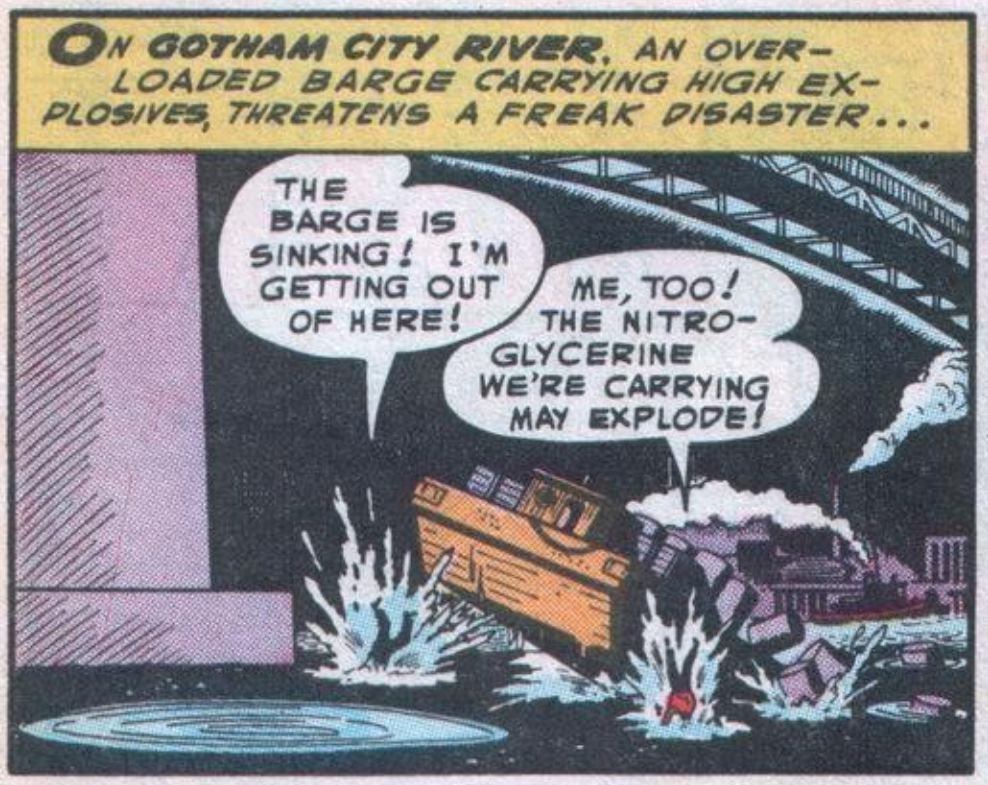
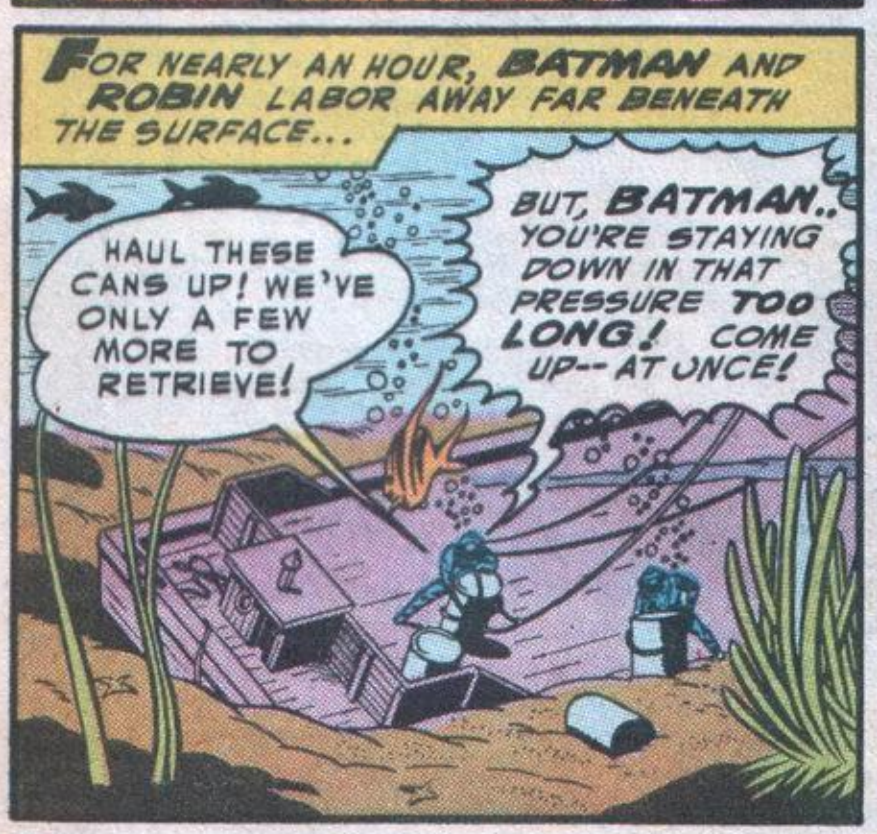

ON GOTHAM CITY RIVER, AN OVER-LOADED BARGE CARRYING HIGH EXPLOSIVES, THREATENS A FREAK DISASTER...
THE BARGE IS SINKING! I'M GETTING OUT OF HERE!
ME, TOO! THE NITRO-GLYCERINE WE'RE CARRYING MAY EXPLODE!

AND WHEN PERIL LOOMS, A FAMOUS SYMBOL SWEEPS THE SKY TO SUMMON BATMAN AND ROBIN -- SECRETLY BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS WARD, DICK GRAYSON...
THE BAT-SIGNAL, BRUCE! IT COULD BE ANOTHER OF THOSE PLATINUM ROBBERY-ATTEMPTS!
UNTIL WE CATCH "SLANT" STACY AND HIS PLATINUM BANDITS, WE'LL GET NO REST! LET'S GET INTO COSTUME-- FAST!

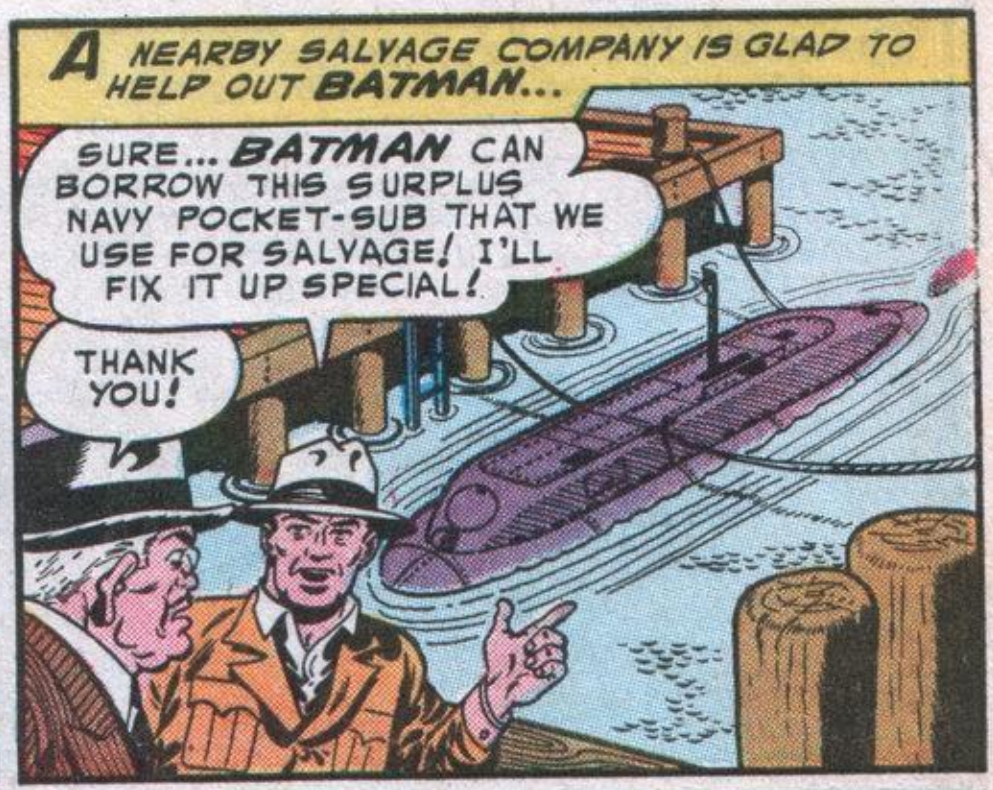
BUT IT IS A GREATER EMERGENCY WHICH HAS SUMMONED THE CAPED MAN-HUNTERS TO COMMISSIONER GORDON'S OFFICE...
IF THE CANS OF NITRO ON THAT SUNKEN BARGE DRIFT AND EXPLODE, THEY'LL DESTROY HALF THE WATERFRONT! BUT NO DIVER WILL RISK GOING DOWN TO RETRIEVE THEM!
ROBIN AND I HAVE PRACTICED DEEP-SEA DIVING! GET US A PAIR OF DIVING SUITS, AND WE'LL GO DOWN!

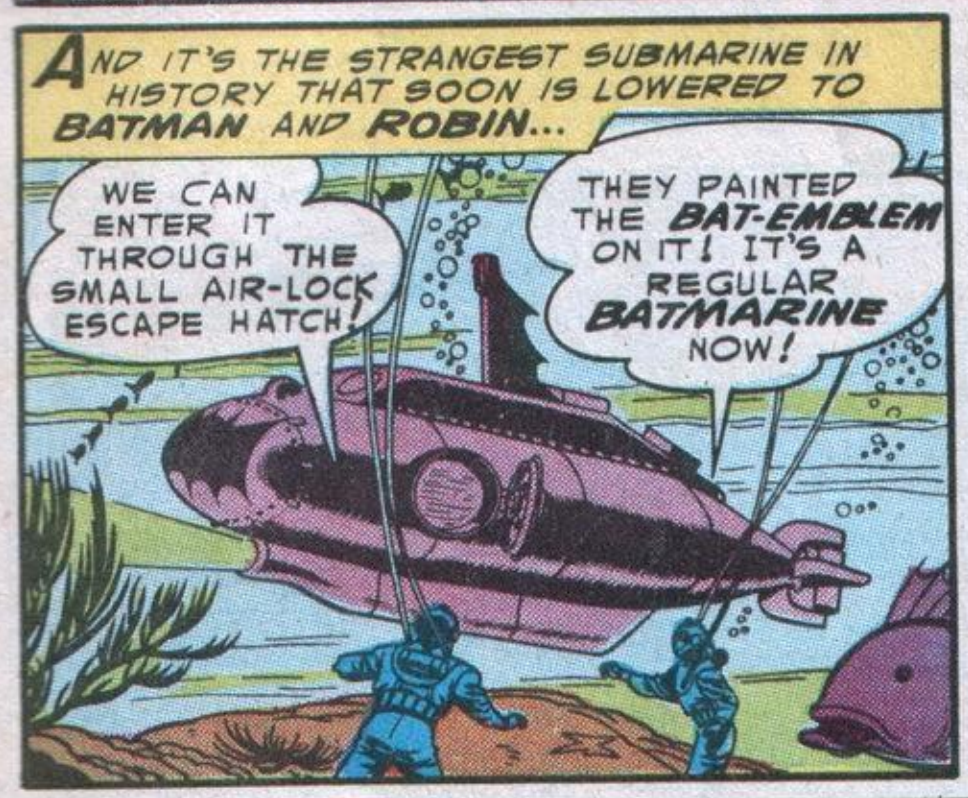
SOON, ON A BARGE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE RIVER...
TIE THE NITRO CANS ONTO THE ROPE SLINGS WE LET DOWN, AND WE'LL DRAW THEM UP CAREFULLY! BUT REMEMBER--DON'T STAY DOWN TOO LONG IN THAT PRESSURE!
THE PHONE WORKS FINE--I HEAR YOU! LOWER AWAY!


FOR NEARLY AN HOUR, BATMAN AND ROBIN LABOR AWAY FAR BENEATH THE SURFACE...
HAUL THESE CANS UP! WE'VE ONLY A FEW MORE TO RETRIEVE!
BUT, BATMAN.. YOU'RE STAYING DOWN IN THAT PRESSURE TOO LONG! COME UP--AT ONCE!

NO--WE MUST GET THESE LAST CANS, OR THEY'LL DRIFT AWAY AND DESTROY DOCKS AND BRIDGES!
BUT YOU'VE STAYED SO LONG DOWN THERE, YOU CAN'T COME UP NOW--OR YOU'LL DIE FROM THE "BENDS!"
THE "BENDS"--TERRIBLE PHYSICAL COLLAPSE THAT STRIKES DIVERS WHO RISE TO THE SURFACE TOO RAPIDLY! DOES THIS DOOM THE DYNAMIC DUO?

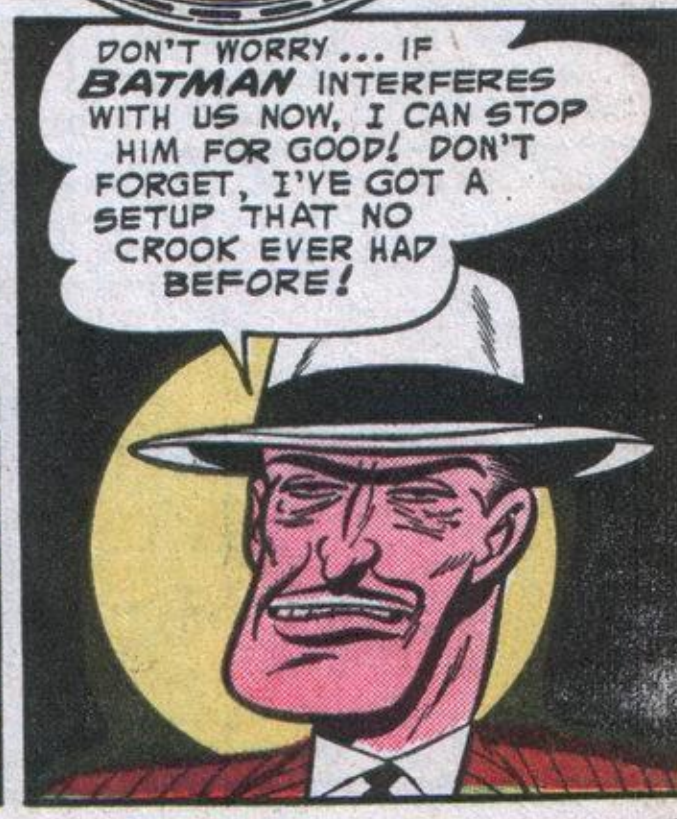
YOU MUST STAY UNDERSEA FOR TWO DAYS NOW, AND REDUCE THE PRESSURE GRADUALLY BEFORE YOU COME UP!
IN THAT CASE, YOU'LL HAVE TO GET US SOME SORT OF SUBMARINE, EQUIPPED WITH PRESSURE CONTROLS!

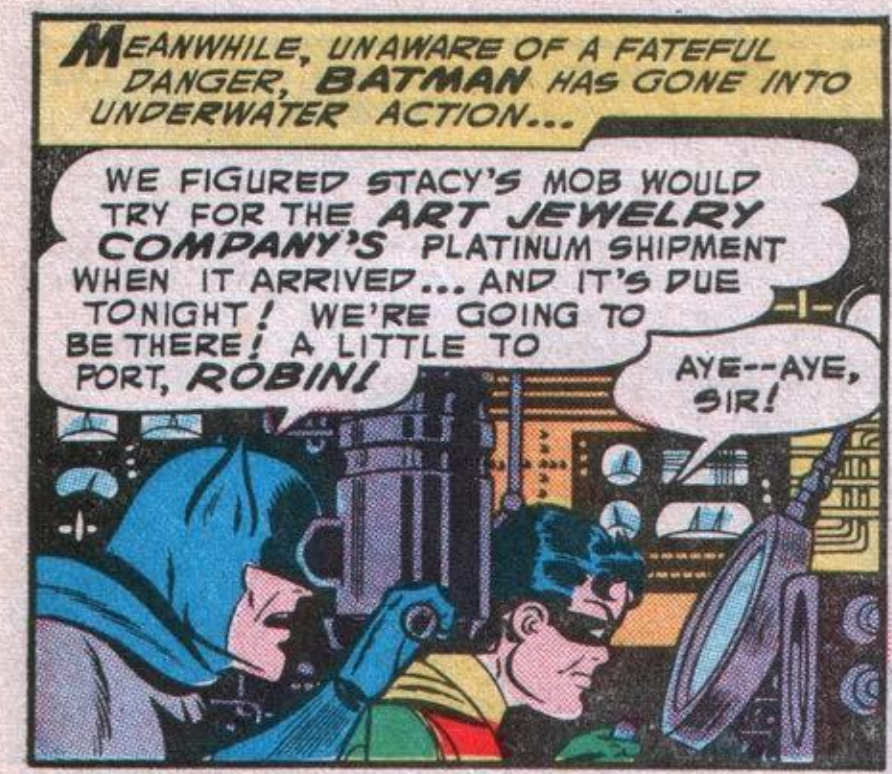

A NEARBY SALVAGE COMPANY IS GLAD TO HELP OUT BATMAN...
SURE... BATMAN CAN BORROW THIS SURPLUS NAVY POCKET-SUB THAT WE USE FOR SALVAGE! I'LL FIX IT UP SPECIAL!
THANK YOU!

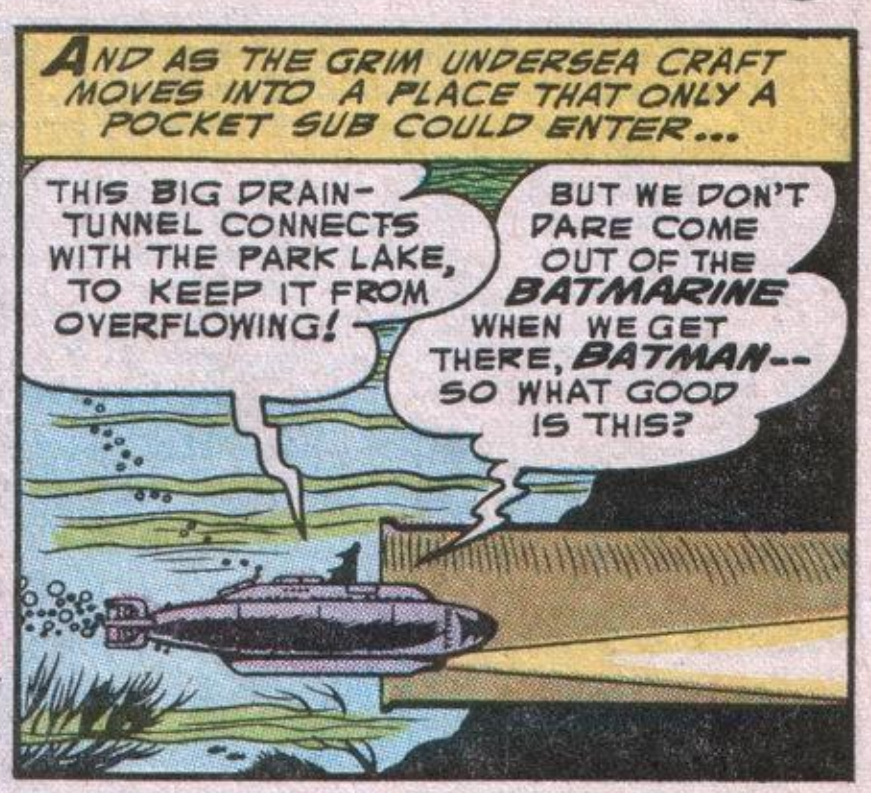

AND IT'S THE STRANGEST SUBMARINE IN HISTORY THAT SOON IS LOWERED TO BATMAN AND ROBIN...
WE CAN ENTER IT THROUGH THE SMALL AIR-LOCK ESCAPE HATCH!
THEY PAINTED THE BAT-EMBLEM ON IT! IT'S A REGULAR BATMARINE NOW!

SHORTLY, INSIDE...
WE'LL REDUCE THE AIR PRESSURE IN HERE SLOWLY, SO THAT IN A FEW DAYS, WE CAN EMERGE AGAIN!
WHAT'S BOTHERING ME, THOUGH, IS HOW'LL WE FIGHT CRIME FROM UNDERWATER? "SLANT" STACY'S PLATINUM BANDITS WILL BE ABLE TO RUN WILD NOW!

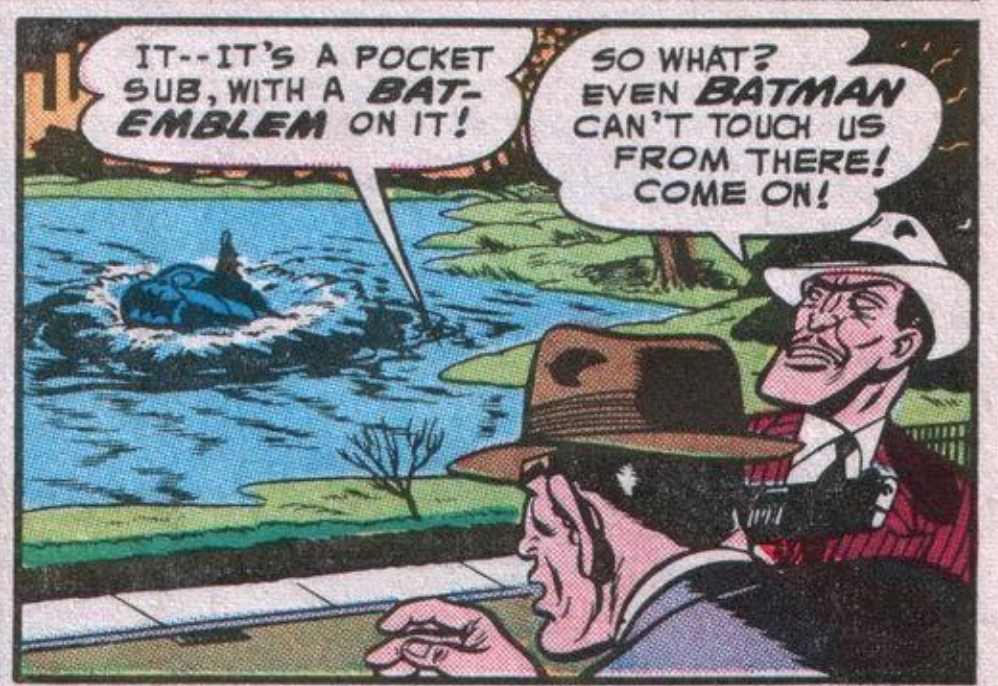
EXACTLY WHAT "SLANT" STACY, MASTERMIND OF A BANK SYNDICATE, THINKS, TOO...
NOW WE CAN STRIKE AT ALL THE PLATINUM HOARDS WE DIDN'T DARE TRY BEFORE! THE ART JEWELRY COMPANY'S SHIPMENT IS FIRST ON OUR LIST!
BUT BATMAN'S CLEVER, BOSS! HE MAY STILL TRY TO STOP US!
ART JEWELRY CO.


DON'T WORRY... IF BATMAN INTERFERES WITH US NOW, I CAN STOP HIM FOR GOOD! DON'T FORGET, I'VE GOT A SETUP THAT NO CROOK EVER HAD BEFORE!

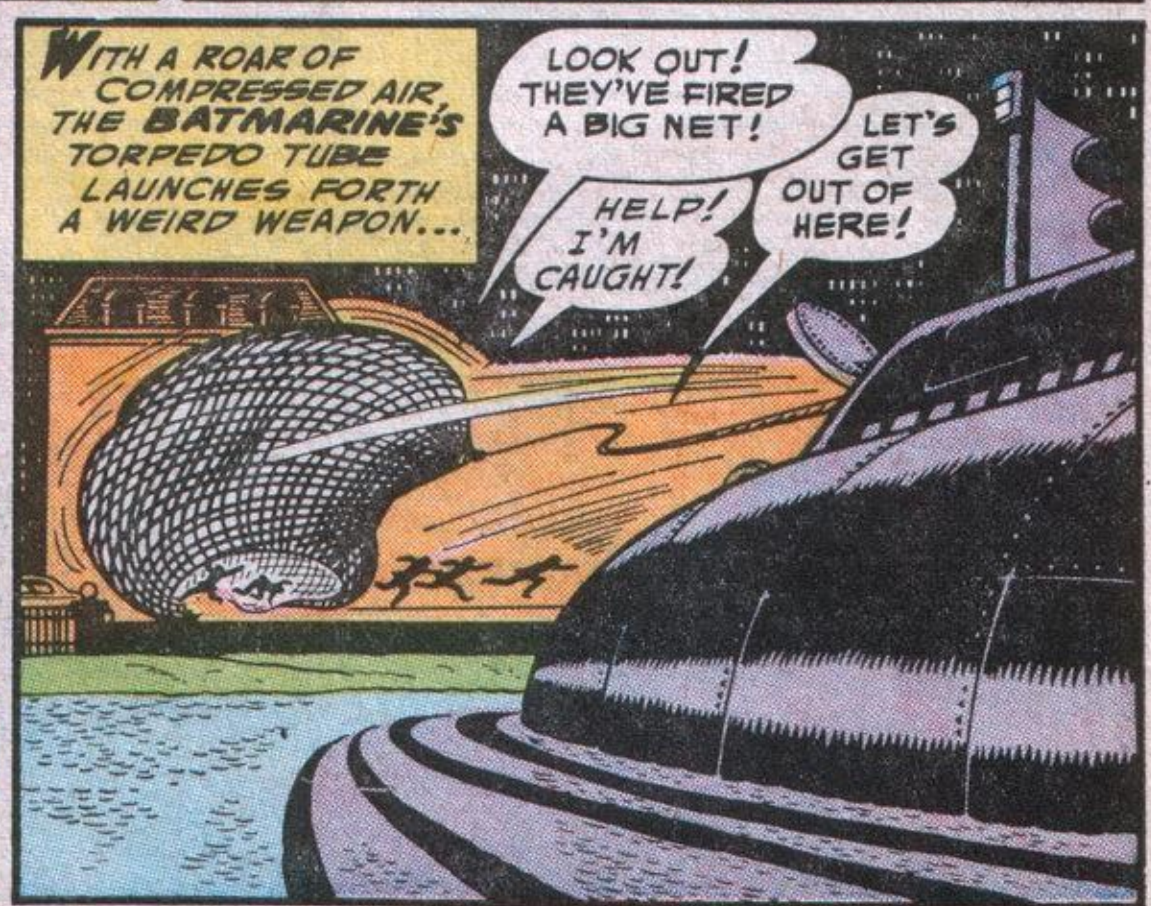

MEANWHILE, UNAWARE OF A FATEFUL DANGER, BATMAN HAS GONE INTO UNDERWATER ACTION...
WE FIGURED STACY'S MOB WOULD TRY FOR THE ART JEWELRY COMPANY'S PLATINUM SHIPMENT WHEN IT ARRIVED... AND IT'S DUE TONIGHT! WE'RE GOING TO BE THERE! A LITTLE TO PORT, ROBIN!
AYE--AYE, SIR!


AND AS THE GRIM UNDERSEA CRAFT MOVES INTO A PLACE THAT ONLY A POCKET SUB COULD ENTER...
THIS BIG DRAIN-TUNNEL CONNECTS WITH THE PARK LAKE, TO KEEP IT FROM OVERFLOWING!
BUT WE DON'T DARE COME OUT OF THE BATMARINE WHEN WE GET THERE, BATMAN-- SO WHAT GOOD IS THIS?

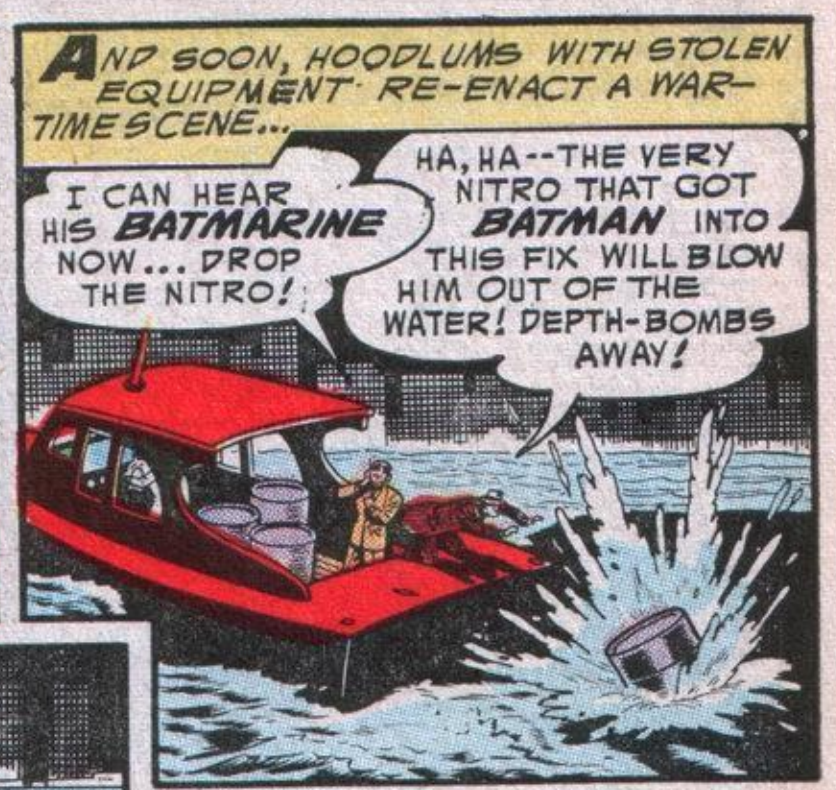
A GOOD QUESTION, ROBIN--FOR AS NIGHT FALLS, AND THE PLATINUM BANDITS STRIKE...
HA, HA... I WISH I COULD SEE BATMAN'S FACE WHEN HE HEARS ABOUT THIS!
WAIT, BOSS-- THERE'S SOMETHING OUT THERE IN THE LAKE!
JEWELRY CO.

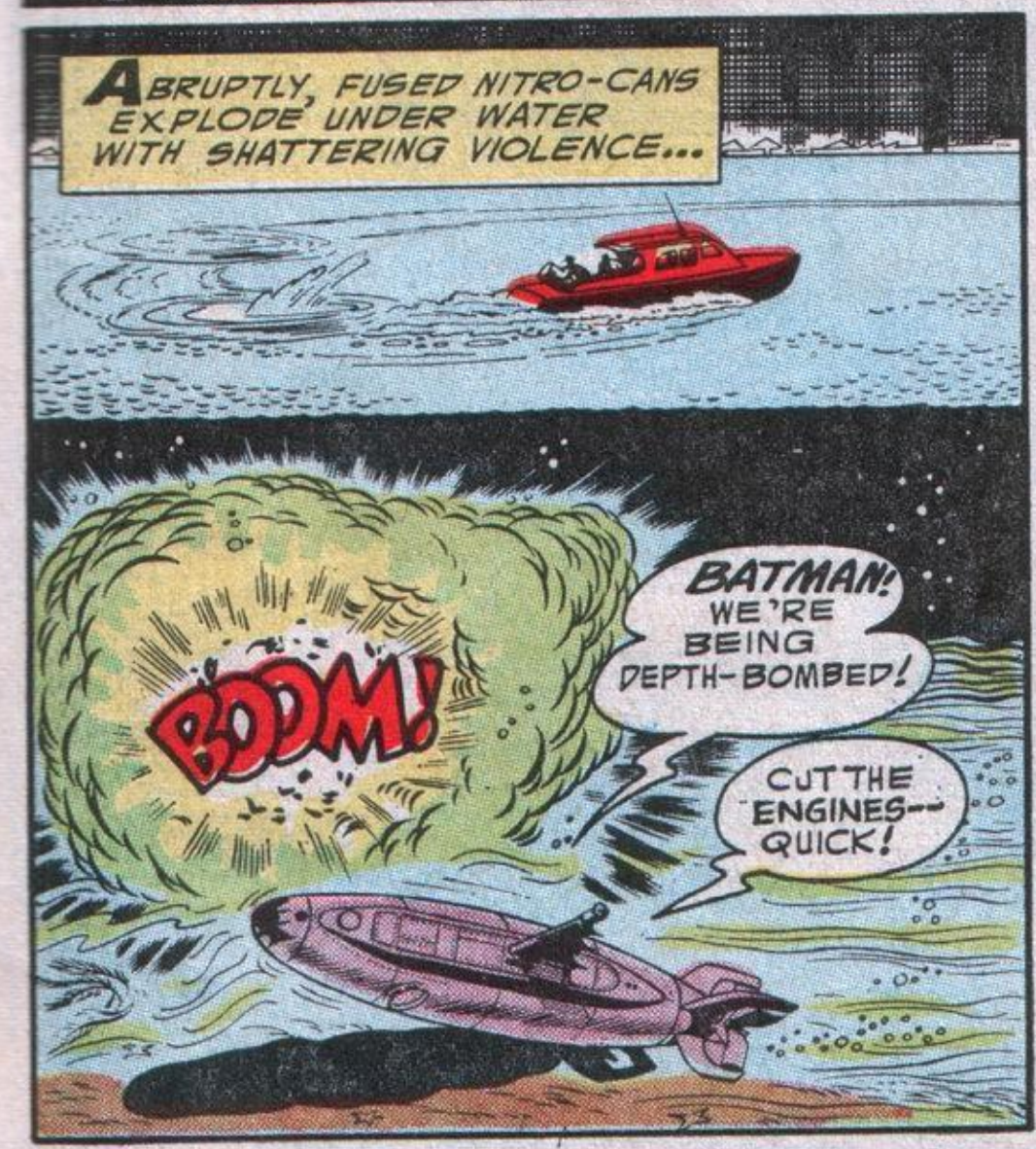

IT--IT'S A POCKET SUB, WITH A BAT-EMBLEM ON IT!
SO WHAT? EVEN BATMAN CAN'T TOUCH US FROM THERE! COME ON!

BUT BATMAN AND ROBIN HAVE RESOURCES THAT STACY HASN'T THOUGHT OF...
TORPEDO TUBE LOADED, SKIPPER-- WITH THAT SALVAGE NET FROM THE LOCKER, AS YOU ORDERED!
WE'RE ON TARGET-- STAND BY TO FIRE!


WITH A ROAR OF COMPRESSED AIR, THE BATMARINE'S TORPEDO TUBE LAUNCHES FORTH A WEIRD WEAPON...
LOOK OUT! THEY'VE FIRED A BIG NET!
HELP! I'M CAUGHT!
LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!

AFTERWARDS, ON ANOTHER STREET...
BATMAN BROKE UP THAT JOB--BUT HE WON'T BREAK UP ANY MORE! WE'RE GOING TO GET HIM AND HIS BATMARINE NOW!
IF YOU SUCCEED, GOOD! BUT IF YOU DON'T, MY BIG PLAN CAN'T FAIL AGAINST BATMAN!

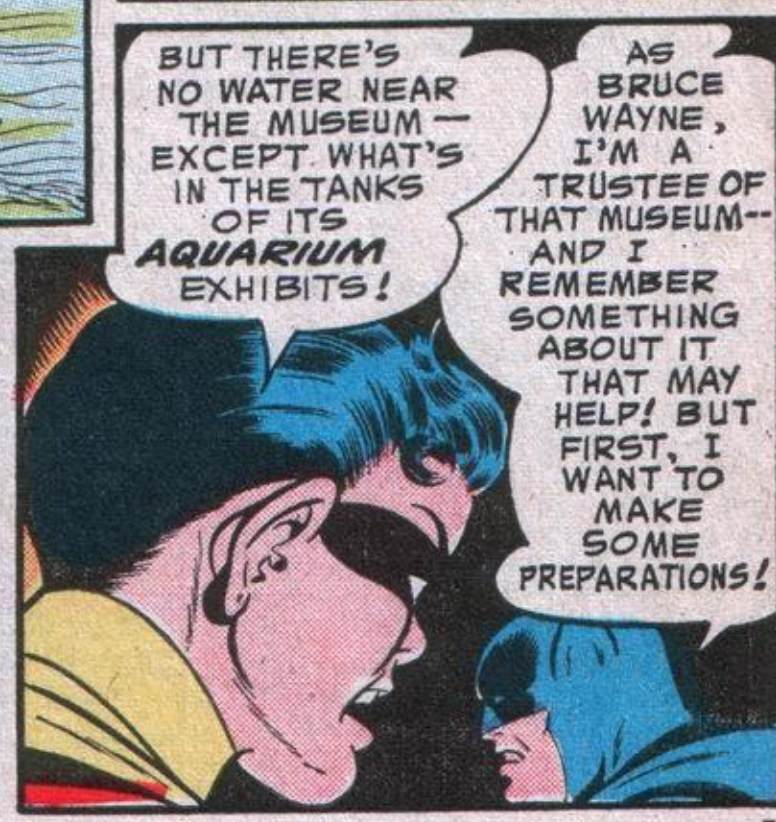

AND SOON, HOODLUMS WITH STOLEN EQUIPMENT RE-ENACT A WAR-TIME SCENE...
I CAN HEAR HIS BATMARINE NOW... DROP THE NITRO!
HA, HA--THE VERY NITRO THAT GOT BATMAN INTO THIS FIX WILL BLOW HIM OUT OF THE WATER! DEPTH-BOMBS AWAY!

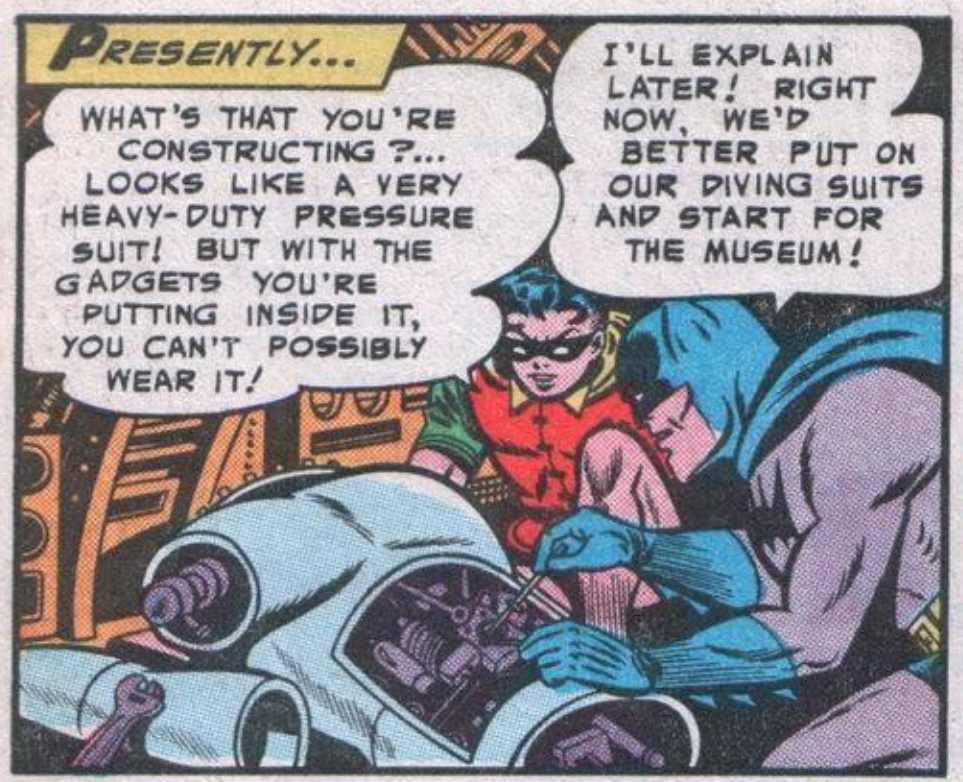

ABRUPTLY, FUSED NITRO-CANS EXPLODE UNDER WATER WITH SHATTERING VIOLENCE...
BOOM!
BATMAN! WE'RE BEING DEPTH-BOMBED!
CUT THE ENGINES--QUICK!

BOOM!
ANOTHER ONE!
THEY'RE TRACING US BY LISTENING TO OUR ENGINES! WITH THE ENGINES DEAD, WE'LL DRIFT DOWNRIVER WITHOUT THEIR HEARING US!

TENSE MOMENTS PASS--TILL FINALLY, THE ROCKING EXPLOSIONS CEASE...

THEY'VE DRIVEN US OUT TO SEA! AND WE FIGURED THEY'D TRY FOR THE NEW PLATINUM APPARATUS THE NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM IS EXHIBITING TOMORROW!
WE'VE GOT TO COVER THAT EXHIBITION, IN CASE THEY DO STRIKE HERE!


BUT THERE'S NO WATER NEAR THE MUSEUM — EXCEPT WHAT'S IN THE TANKS OF ITS AQUARIUM EXHIBITS!
AS BRUCE WAYNE, I'M A TRUSTEE OF THAT MUSEUM--AND I REMEMBER SOMETHING ABOUT IT THAT MAY HELP! BUT FIRST, I WANT TO MAKE SOME PREPARATIONS!


PRESENTLY...
WHAT'S THAT YOU'RE CONSTRUCTING ?... LOOKS LIKE A VERY HEAVY-DUTY PRESSURE SUIT! BUT WITH THE GADGETS YOU'RE PUTTING INSIDE IT, YOU CAN'T POSSIBLY WEAR IT!
I'LL EXPLAIN LATER! RIGHT NOW, WE'D BETTER PUT ON OUR DIVING SUITS AND START FOR THE MUSEUM!

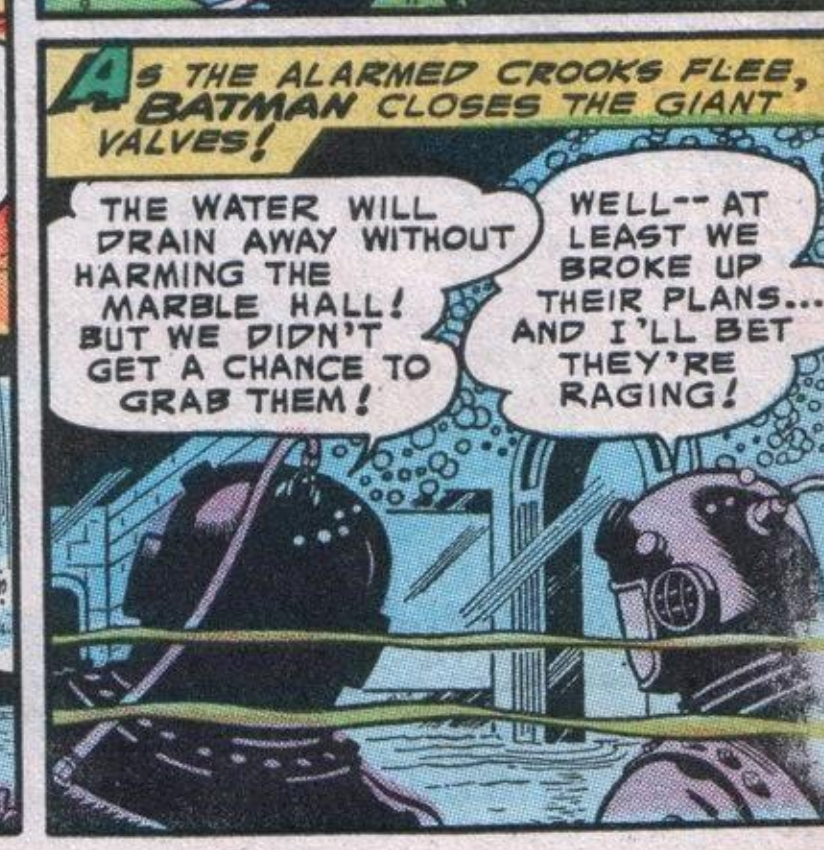
IN THE MEANTIME...
I'M NOT SURE WE DESTROYED THE BATMARINE WITH OUR DEPTH-BOMBS -- BUT ANYWAY, HE'S GOT NO WAY TO REACH THE MUSEUM!
DON'T WORRY... WHAT I HAVE IN MIND WILL RID US OF BATMAN FOREVER, IF HE KEEPS INTERFERING!

CAN THE DYNAMIC DUO REACH THE MUSEUM WITHOUT COMING OUT OF WATER? BATMAN HAS A WAY...
THE MUSEUM PUMPS IN SEA WATER FOR ITS AQUARIUM TANKS THROUGH THIS BIG IN-TAKE PIPE! THAT'S HOW WE'LL GET IN, TOO!

AND IN THE DARK PIPE, TWO STRANGE SHAPES SWIM FORWARD WITH THE RACING CURRENT...
CAN YOU HEAR ME, ROBIN? WE MUST SWIM UP INTO THE BRANCH INTAKE PIPE, OR WE'LL BE SUCKED ON INTO THE PUMPS!
YES, I HEAR YOU FINE ON OUR BELT-RADIO! I'LL BE RIGHT BEHIND YOU!

SQUEEZING UP THROUGH GREAT PIPES, THE DUO REACHES THE MARBLE AQUARIUM HALL IN THE BASEMENT OF THE GREAT MUSEUM...
THE PLATINUM APPARATUS IS IN THE NEXT EXHIBIT HALL! IF THEY TRY FOR IT, THEY'LL HAVE TO COME THROUGH HERE!
WOW! IN THIS TANK, I FEEL LIKE A FISH ON EXHIBIT MYSELF!

DRRR... AN OCTOPUS IS A FINE ROOMMATE! GET AWAY FROM ME!
DON'T FRIGHTEN IT, ROBIN! YOU KNOW HOW EVEN A SMALL OCTOPUS DEFENDS ITSELF! AND... CROUCH DOWN... SOMEONE'S COMING!



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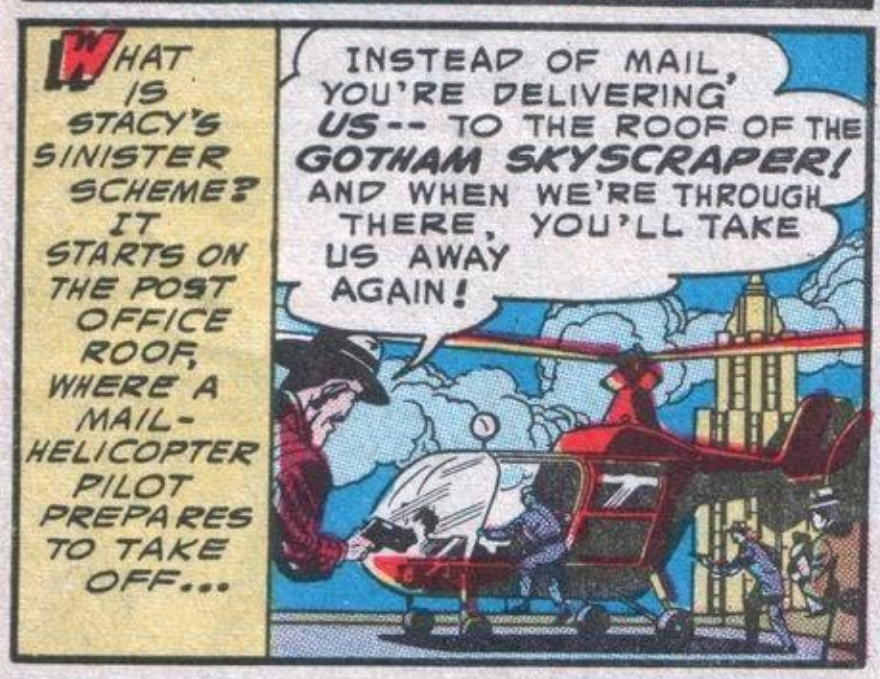

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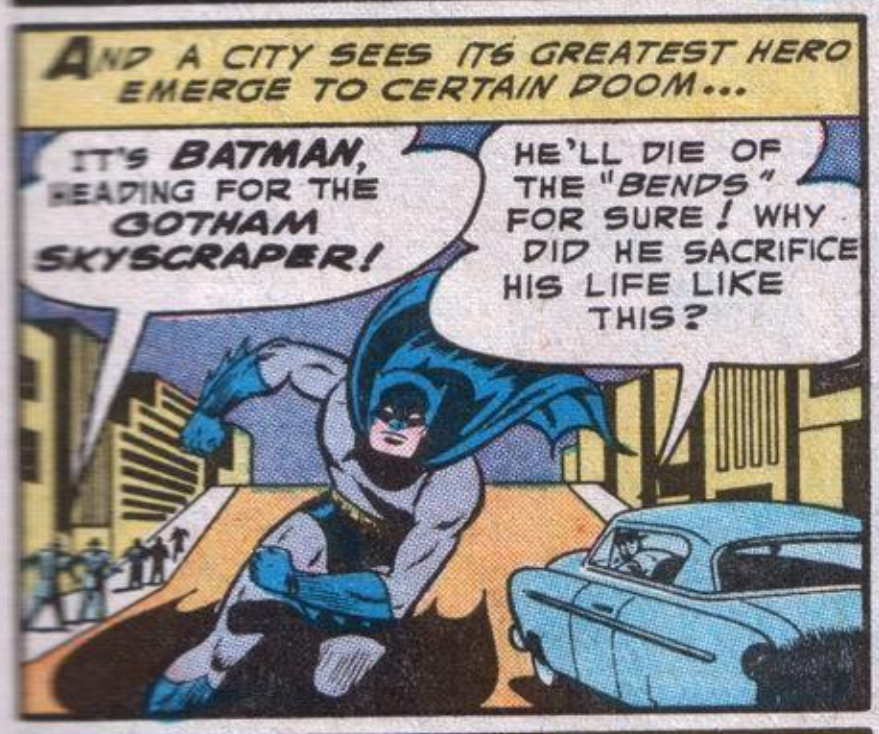
THEY'RE FLASHING A MESSAGE IN POLICE CODE! BANDITS BLASTING PLATINUM CORPORATION SAFE. STAIRS AND ELEVATORS BLOCKED!
STACY FIGURES WE CAN'T GET UP THERE TO STOP HIM! BUT I MUST ANSWER THAT CALL!

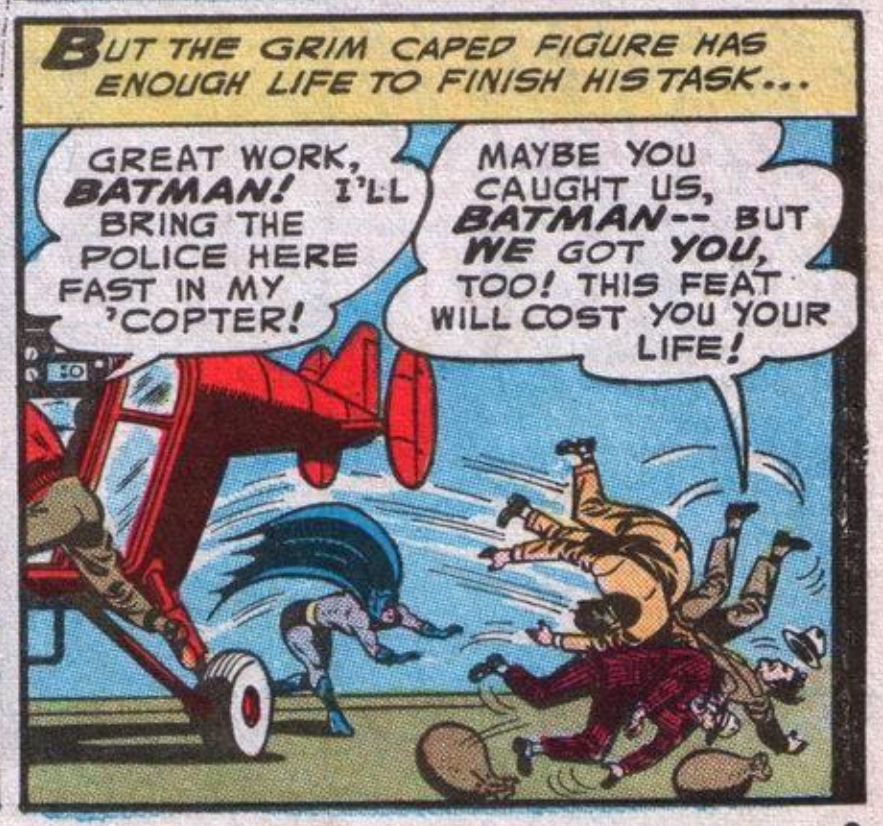
BATMAN, NO!! IF YOU LEAVE THIS SUB, IT'S DEATH FOR YOU! YOU KNOW THAT!
YES, YES-- I KNOW... I HAVE NO CHOICE!

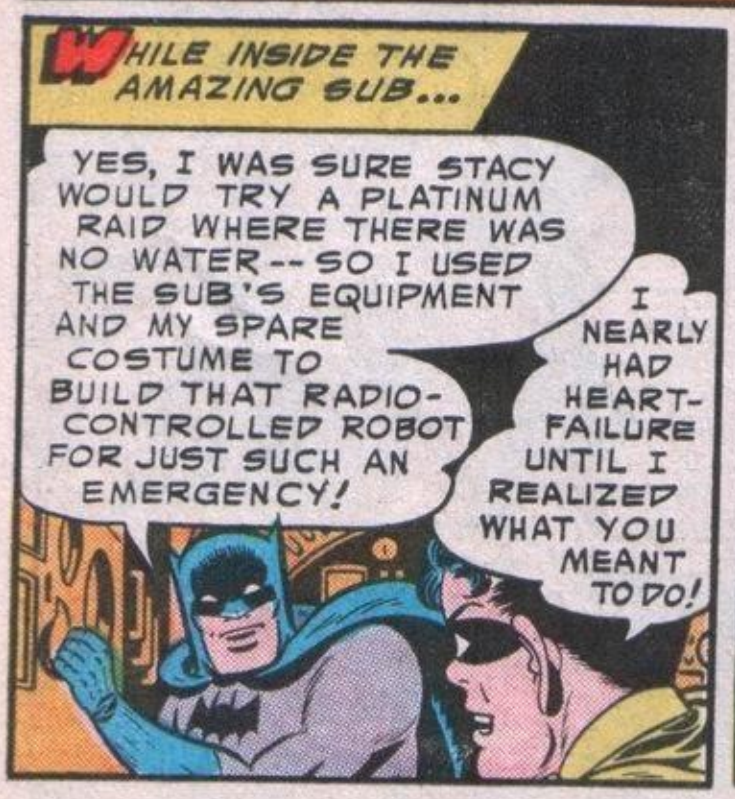
SO MOMENTS LATER, FROM THE TORPEDO-TUBE OF THE BATMARINE HURTLES A GRIM FIGURE...


AND A CITY SEES ITS GREATEST HERO EMERGE TO CERTAIN DOOM...
IT'S BATMAN, HEADING FOR THE GOTHAM SKYSCRAPER!
HE'LL DIE OF THE "BENDS" FOR SURE! WHY DID HE SACRIFICE HIS LIFE LIKE THIS?

HE'S CLIMBING TO THE ROOF-- THE ONLY MAN WHO COULD REACH IT BEFORE THEY ESCAPED IN THAT COMMANDEERED HELICOPTER!
BUT HE CAN'T LAST LONG... THE "BENDS" WILL KILL HIM ANY MINUTE!

BATMAN! HE CAME UP OUTSIDE THE BUILDING!
HE'S DOOMED! HE CAN'T LIVE FOR LONG NOW!


BUT THE GRIM CAPED FIGURE HAS ENOUGH LIFE TO FINISH HIS TASK...
GREAT WORK, BATMAN! I'LL BRING THE POLICE HERE FAST IN MY 'COPTER!
MAYBE YOU CAUGHT US, BATMAN-- BUT WE GOT YOU, TOO! THIS FEAT WILL COST YOU YOUR LIFE!



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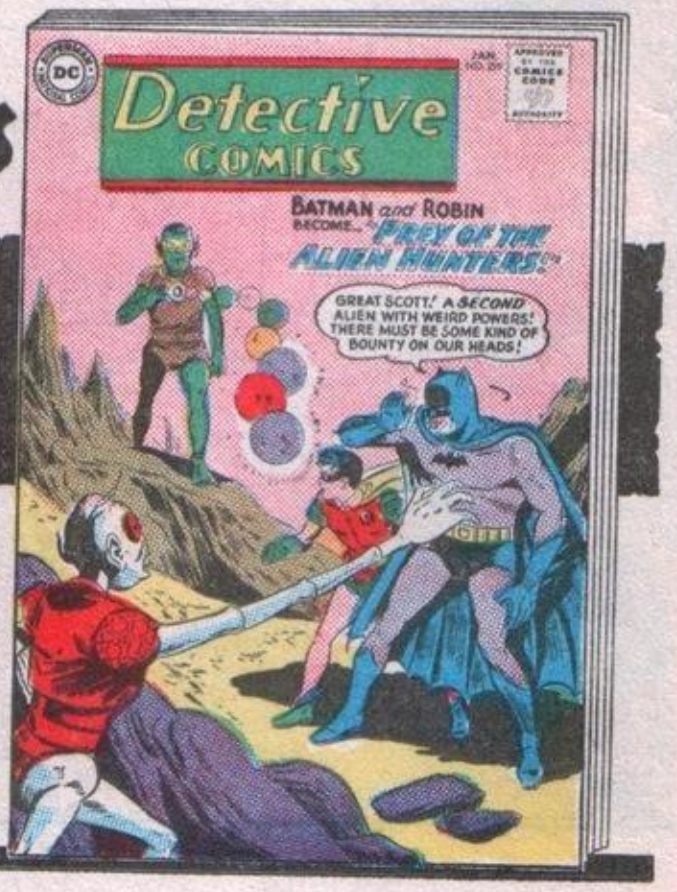

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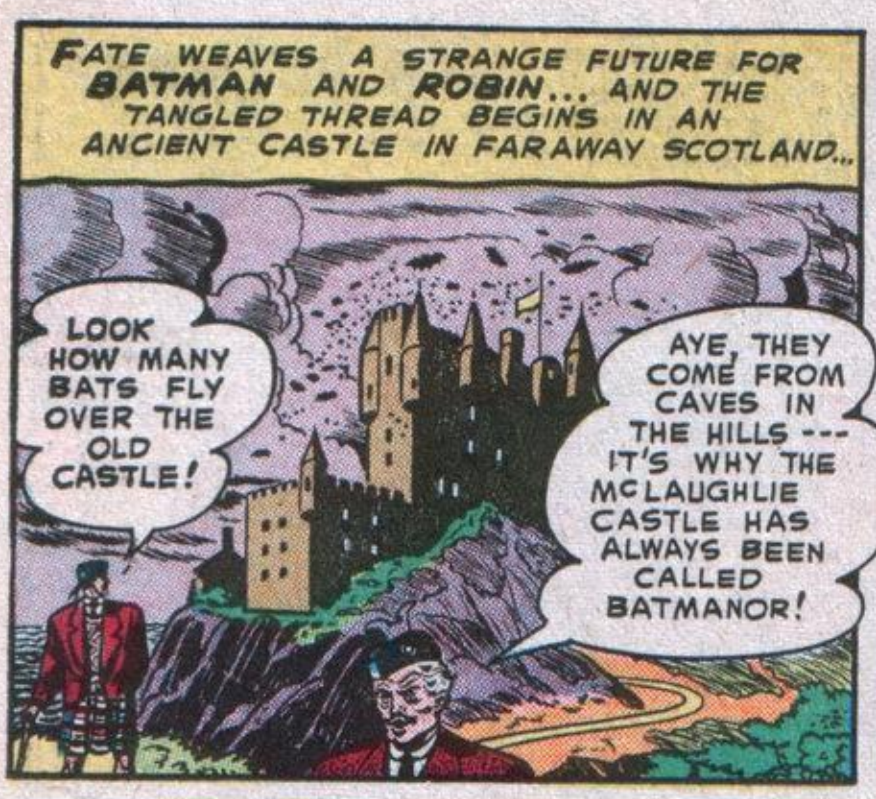
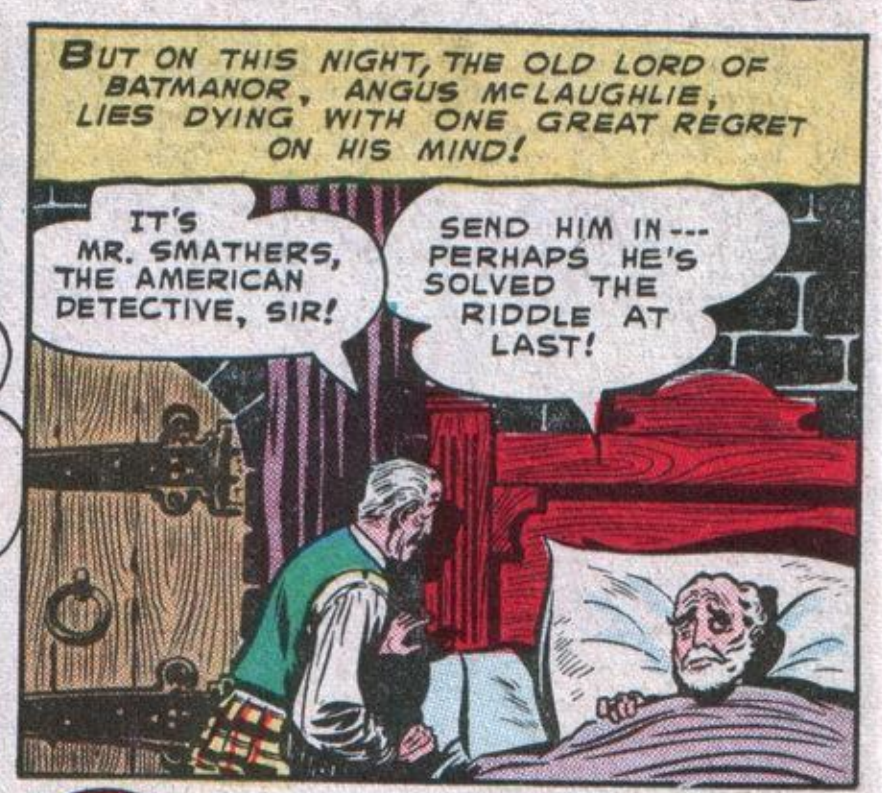
BATMAN
With
ROBIN
THE BOY WONDER
BATMAN AND ROBIN ARE FIGHTING THE LOCH NESS MONSTER!
VERY RARELY DO BATMAN AND ROBIN JOURNEY ABROAD TO CRACK A CASE, AND WHEN THEY DO, YOU CAN BE SURE IT'S ONE THAT CHALLENGES THEIR POWERS TO THEIR UTMOST. NOW, TO SCOTLAND THEY'RE SUMMONED, WHERE A CENTURIES OLD MYSTERY IS ENLIVENED WITH PRESENT-DAY PERIL, AND OUR FAMED LAWMAN BECOMES---
The LORD OF BATMANOR!
BOB KANE


FATE WEAVES A STRANGE FUTURE FOR BATMAN AND ROBIN... AND THE TANGLED THREAD BEGINS IN AN ANCIENT CASTLE IN FARAWAY SCOTLAND...
LOOK HOW MANY BATS FLY OVER THE OLD CASTLE!
AYE, THEY COME FROM CAVES IN THE HILLS --- IT'S WHY THE McLAUGHLIE CASTLE HAS ALWAYS BEEN CALLED BATMANOR!

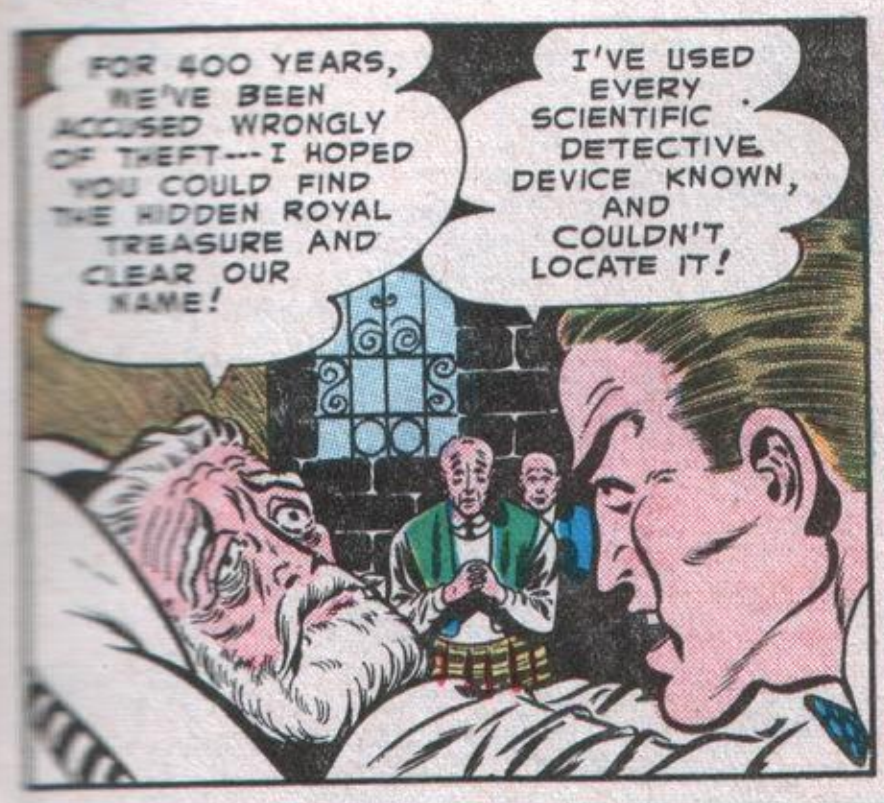

BUT ON THIS NIGHT, THE OLD LORD OF BATMANOR, ANGUS McLAUGHLIE, LIES DYING WITH ONE GREAT REGRET ON HIS MIND!
IT'S MR. SMATHERS, THE AMERICAN DETECTIVE, SIR!
SEND HIM IN --- PERHAPS HE'S SOLVED THE RIDDLE AT LAST!

BUT WHEN SAM SMATHERS, AMERICAN "SCIENTIFIC DETECTIVE," ENTERS...
I'M SORRY --- BUT ALL MY EFFORTS HERE HAVEN'T SOLVED THE McLAUGHLIE MYSTERY! AFTER ALL, WHO COULD SOLVE A MYSTERY OF FOUR CENTURIES AGO?
THEN THE FAMILY HONOR OF THE McLAUGHLIES WILL NEVER BE CLEARED OF THE CLOUD THAT'S RESTED ON IT SO LONG...

"...YES, IT WAS 400 YEARS AGO THAT THE McLAUGHLIE OF BATMANOR WAS ENTRUSTED WITH THE ROYAL GOLD!"
THE KING SENDS THIS GOLD, FOR YOU TO KEEP SAFE FOR HIM DURING THE WARS!
I'LL HIDE IT WHERE IT'LL BE SAFE UNTIL THE KING WANTS IT!

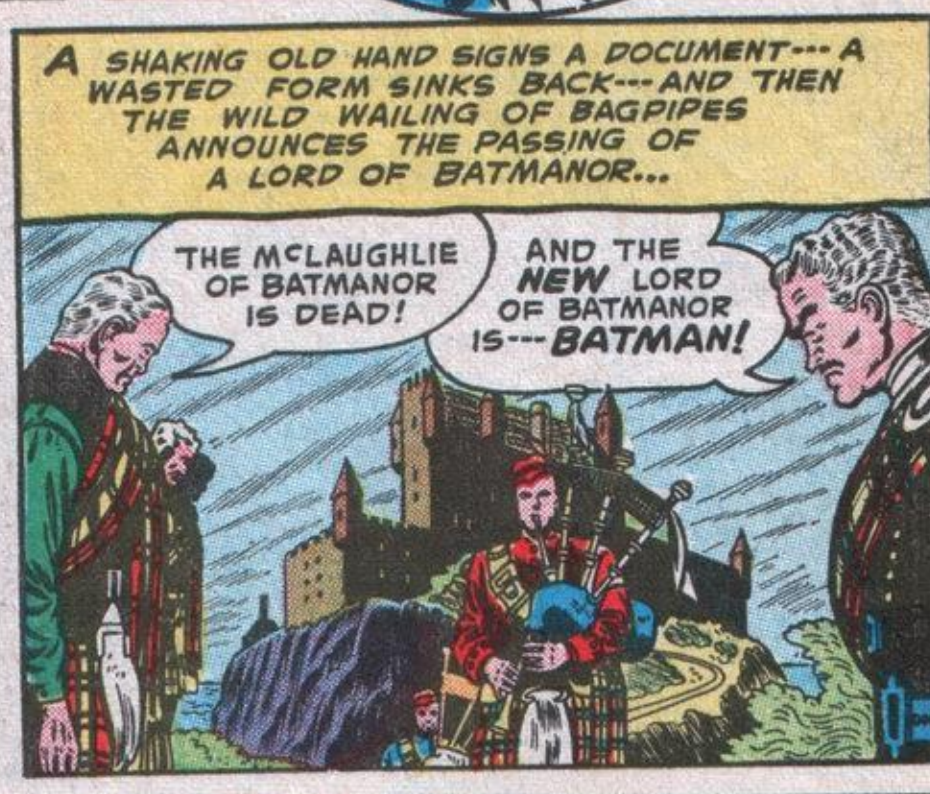
"BUT MY ANCESTOR HID IT TOO WELL --- FOR WHEN HE WAS KILLED IN THE WARS, THE SECRET OF THE HIDING PLACE DIED WITH HIM!"
BUT I DON'T KNOW WHERE MY FATHER HID IT FOR SAFEKEEPING --- I'VE SEARCHED EVERYWHERE AND CAN'T FIND IT!

"THUS WAS BORN THE SUSPICION THAT THE McLAUGHLIES HAD STOLEN IT!"
I'LL NOT FOREGATHER WITH THE McLAUGHLIES WHO STOLE THE KING'S TREASURE!
NOR I! NOR I!


FOR 400 YEARS, WE'VE BEEN ACCUSED WRONGLY OF THEFT--- I HOPED YOU COULD FIND THE HIDDEN ROYAL TREASURE AND CLEAR OUR NAME!
I'VE USED EVERY SCIENTIFIC DETECTIVE DEVICE KNOWN, AND COULDN'T LOCATE IT!

WAIT! THERE'S ONE MAN, ONE DETECTIVE, WHO COULD SOLVE THE ANCIENT RIDDLE--- BATMAN OF AMERICA!
BATMAN? BUT HE'D NEVER COME TO SCOTLAND ON THIS CASE!

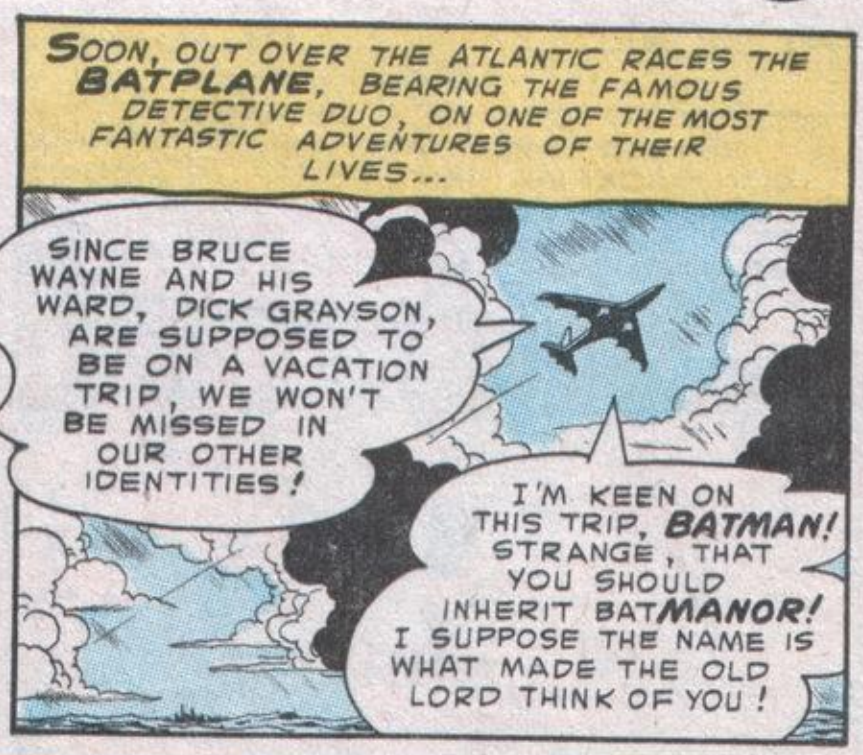
I'LL SEE THAT HE DOES! I'LL BEQUEATH THE CASTLE TO HIM--- AND AS LORD OF BATMANOR, HE'LL HAVE TO CLEAR THIS CLOUD FROM OUR FAMILY HONOR! AND HE'LL DO IT--- I KNOW IT!
BUT---

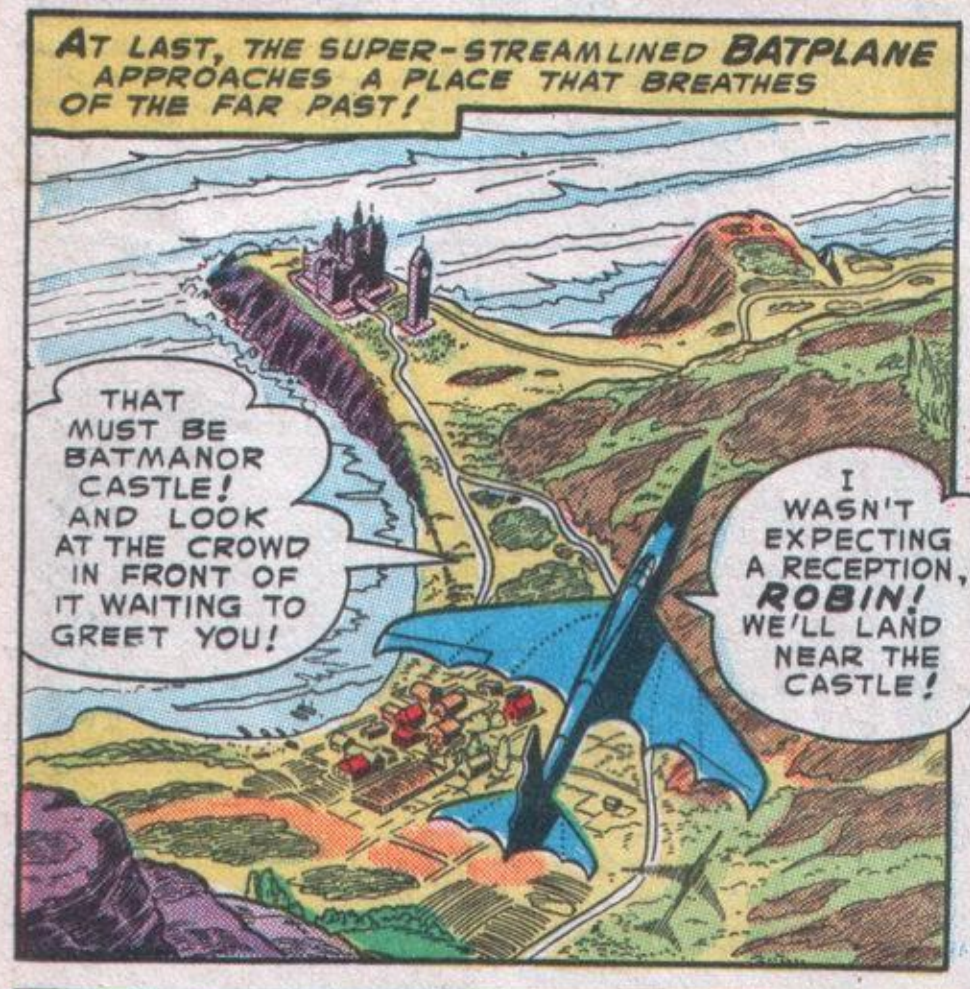

A SHAKING OLD HAND SIGNS A DOCUMENT--- A WASTED FORM SINKS BACK--- AND THEN THE WILD WAILING OF BAGPIPES ANNOUNCES THE PASSING OF A LORD OF BATMANOR...
THE McLAUGHLIE OF BATMANOR IS DEAD!
AND THE NEW LORD OF BATMANOR IS--- BATMAN!

THAT NIGHT, IN A NEARBY TOWN, SAM SMATHERS, ALLEGED DETECTIVE, SECRETLY TELEPHONES TO CERTAIN SHADY FRIENDS IN AMERICA!
GET OVER HERE TO SCOTLAND ON THE FIRST PLANE! THERE'S A FORTUNE WAITING. BUT I CAN'T GET IT OUT, MYSELF!

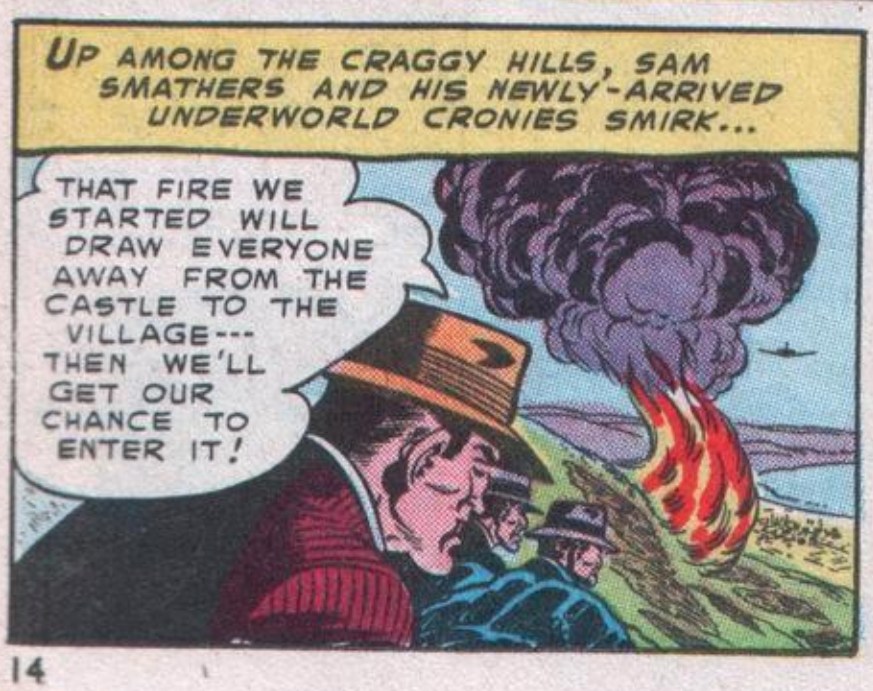
AND IN GOTHAM CITY, REPORTERS CROWD THE NEW HEIR TO BATMANOR--
ARE YOU LEAVING US TO CLAIM YOUR INHERITANCE?
YOU WON'T BE AWAY PERMANENTLY, WILL YOU?
I'LL HAVE A STATEMENT FOR YOU SOON! RIGHT NOW, I'M SEEING COMMISSIONER GORDON!

AND IN THE POLICE COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE...
FRANKLY, I FEEL OBLIGATED TO GO OVER THERE AND TRY TO SOLVE THAT OLD MYSTERY! APPARENTLY, THAT'S WHY THE CASTLE WAS LEFT TO ME!
I UNDERSTAND, BATMAN... AND SINCE YOU'VE CLEANED UP GOTHAM CITY'S UNDER-WORLD PRETTY WELL RIGHT NOW, THERE'S NO REASON YOU CAN'T GO!


SOON, OUT OVER THE ATLANTIC RACES THE BATPLANE, BEARING THE FAMOUS DETECTIVE DUO, ON ONE OF THE MOST FANTASTIC ADVENTURES OF THEIR LIVES...
SINCE BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS WARD, DICK GRAYSON, ARE SUPPOSED TO BE ON A VACATION TRIP, WE WON'T BE MISSED IN OUR OTHER IDENTITIES!
I'M KEEN ON THIS TRIP, BATMAN! STRANGE, THAT YOU SHOULD INHERIT BATMANOR! I SUPPOSE THE NAME IS WHAT MADE THE OLD LORD THINK OF YOU!

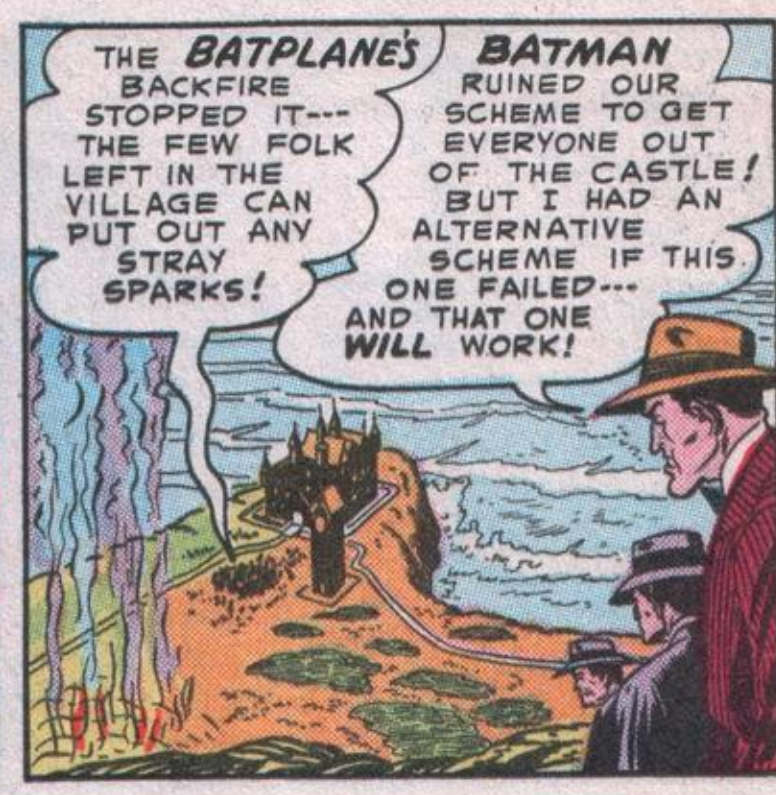

AT LAST, THE SUPER-STREAMLINED BATPLANE APPROACHES A PLACE THAT BREATHES OF THE FAR PAST!
THAT MUST BE BATMANOR CASTLE! AND LOOK AT THE CROWD IN FRONT OF IT WAITING TO GREET YOU!
I WASN'T EXPECTING A RECEPTION, ROBIN! WE'LL LAND NEAR THE CASTLE!

BUT SUDDENLY A TERRIFYING SIGHT...
LOOK, THE DRY HEATHER'S ON FIRE!
IT'LL CROSS THE NARROW ROAD AND BURN UP OUR WHOLE VILLAGE BEFORE WE CAN GET THERE!


UP AMONG THE CRAGGY HILLS, SAM SMATHERS AND HIS NEWLY-ARRIVED UNDERWORLD CRONIES SMIRK...
THAT FIRE WE STARTED WILL DRAW EVERYONE AWAY FROM THE CASTLE TO THE VILLAGE--- THEN WE'LL GET OUR CHANCE TO ENTER IT!

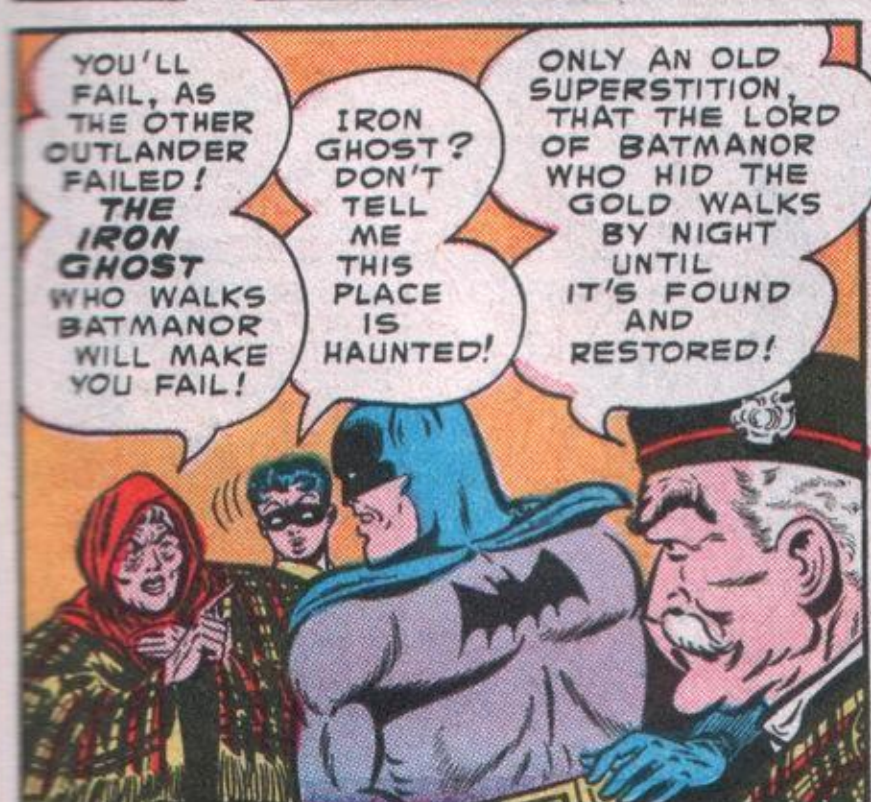
BUT THE BATMAN HAS REACTED SWIFTLY TO THE EMERGENCY...
THAT FIRE WILL NEVER STOP AT THAT NARROW ROAD!
NO, BUT A BACKFIRE ABOVE THE ROAD WOULD DO IT!

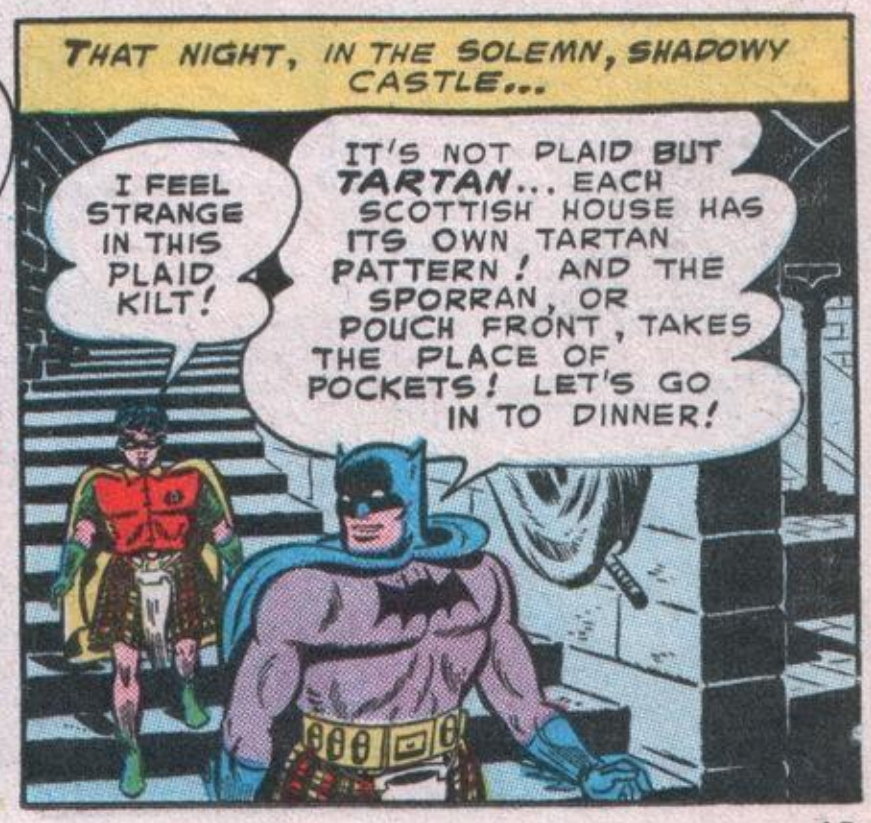
AS THE BATPLANE DIPS, ITS FLAMING JETS GO INTO ACTION...
THE ROAD ITSELF KEEPS OUR BACKFIRE FROM SPREADING TOWARD THE VILLAGE! IT'LL BURN OFF A STRIP THAT THE MAIN FIRE CAN'T CROSS!

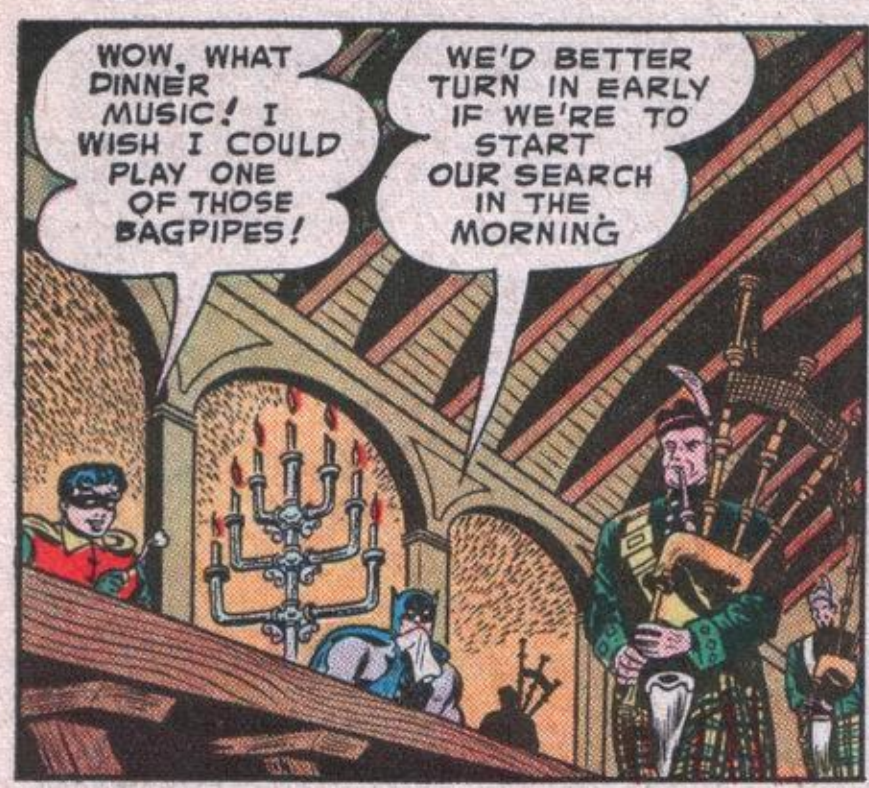

THE BATPLANE'S BACKFIRE STOPPED IT--- THE FEW FOLK LEFT IN THE VILLAGE CAN PUT OUT ANY STRAY SPARKS!
BATMAN RUINED OUR SCHEME TO GET EVERYONE OUT OF THE CASTLE! BUT I HAD AN ALTERNATIVE SCHEME IF THIS ONE FAILED--- AND THAT ONE WILL WORK!

HE SAVED OUR VILLAGE!
WELCOME, BATMAN!

AYE, WE ALL FEEL YOU'LL BE ABLE TO REMOVE THE CLOUD FROM THE NAME OF BATMANOR, EVEN THOUGH YOUR FELLOW AMERICAN SLEUTH, MR. SMATHERS, FAILED!
I DON'T REMEMBER ANY DETECTIVE BY THAT NAME! ANYWAY, I'LL DO MY BEST---BUT GOLD LOST FOR FOUR CENTURIES WON'T BE EASY TO FIND!

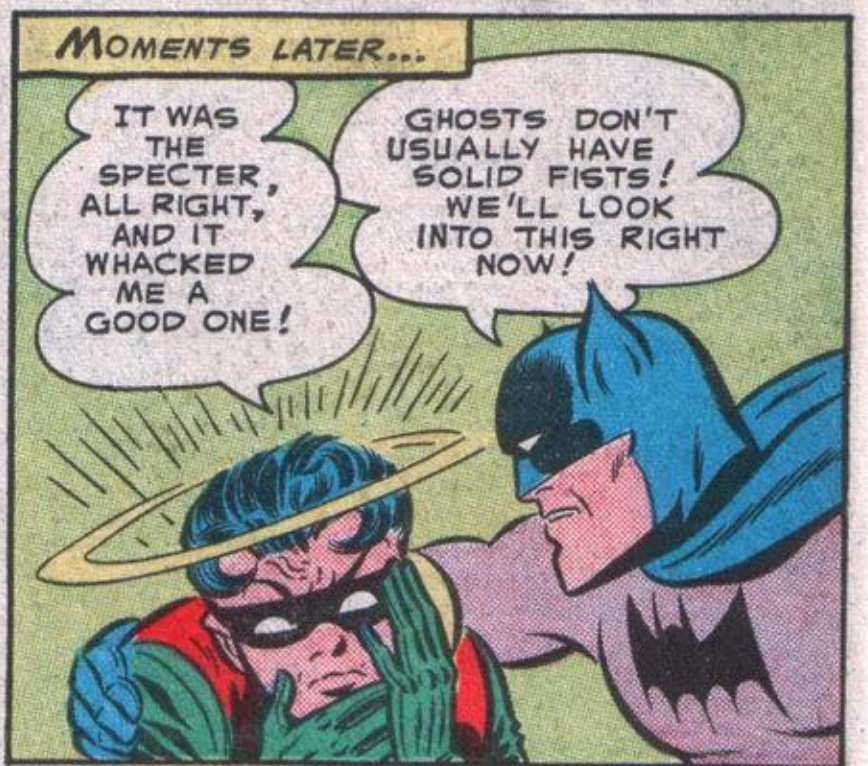

YOU'LL FAIL, AS THE OTHER OUTLANDER FAILED! THE IRON GHOST WHO WALKS BATMANOR WILL MAKE YOU FAIL!
IRON GHOST? DON'T TELL ME THIS PLACE IS HAUNTED!
ONLY AN OLD SUPERSTITION, THAT THE LORD OF BATMANOR WHO HID THE GOLD WALKS BY NIGHT UNTIL IT'S FOUND AND RESTORED!


THAT NIGHT, IN THE SOLEMN, SHADOWY CASTLE...
I FEEL STRANGE IN THIS PLAID KILT!
IT'S NOT PLAID BUT TARTAN... EACH SCOTTISH HOUSE HAS ITS OWN TARTAN PATTERN! AND THE SPORRAN, OR POUCH FRONT, TAKES THE PLACE OF POCKETS! LET'S GO IN TO DINNER!


WOW, WHAT DINNER MUSIC! I WISH I COULD PLAY ONE OF THOSE BAGPIPES!
WE'D BETTER TURN IN EARLY IF WE'RE TO START OUR SEARCH IN THE MORNING

LATER, WHEN THE BOY WONDER SLIPS FROM HIS ROOM...
I'D LIKE TO TRY OUT ONE OF THOSE BAGPIPES, AND--- WHAT'S THAT? THE IRON GHOST... IT'S REAL... BUT IT CAN'T BE!

YOU'RE NO GHOST, YOU'RE REAL...
OOF!

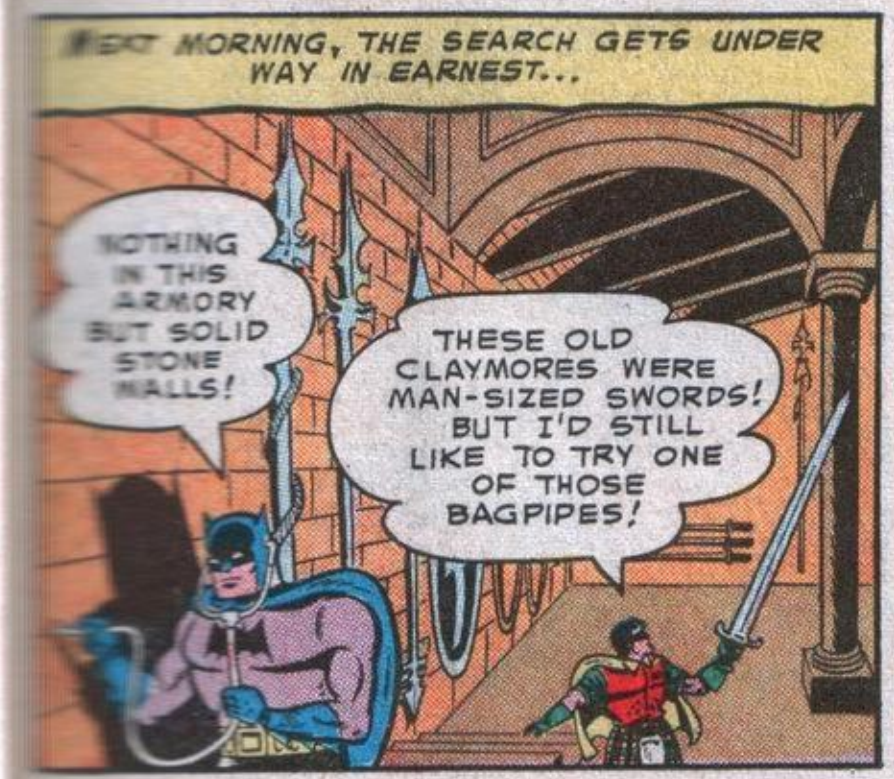

MOMENTS LATER...
IT WAS THE SPECTER, ALL RIGHT, AND IT WHACKED ME A GOOD ONE!
GHOSTS DON'T USUALLY HAVE SOLID FISTS! WE'LL LOOK INTO THIS RIGHT NOW!

I THOUGHT THE FACT THAT THIS PART OF THE WALL HAD NO DUST ON IT MIGHT MEAN A SECRET DOOR! THERE'S A PASSAGE GOING DOWN INSIDE THE WALL!
MAYBE THE GOLD'S HIDDEN DOWN THERE!

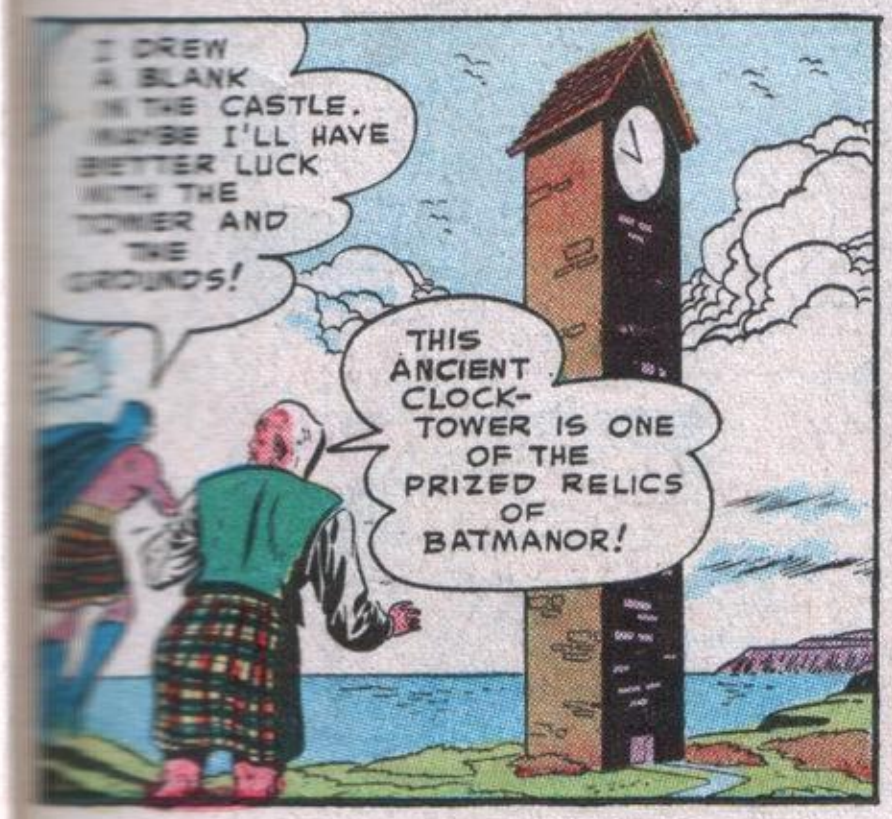
NO, SIR, EVERYONE KNOWS OF THIS OLD SECRET PASSAGE AND EVERY INCH OF IT WAS SEARCHED LONG AGO!
WE'LL HAVE A LOOK, ANYWAY!

IN THE GLOOMY STONE PASSAGE, SWARMING BATS INDICATE HOW BATMANOR GOT ITS NAME...
THE CORRIDOR GOES FROM BEHIND THE CASTLE, TO AN OLD ROAD!

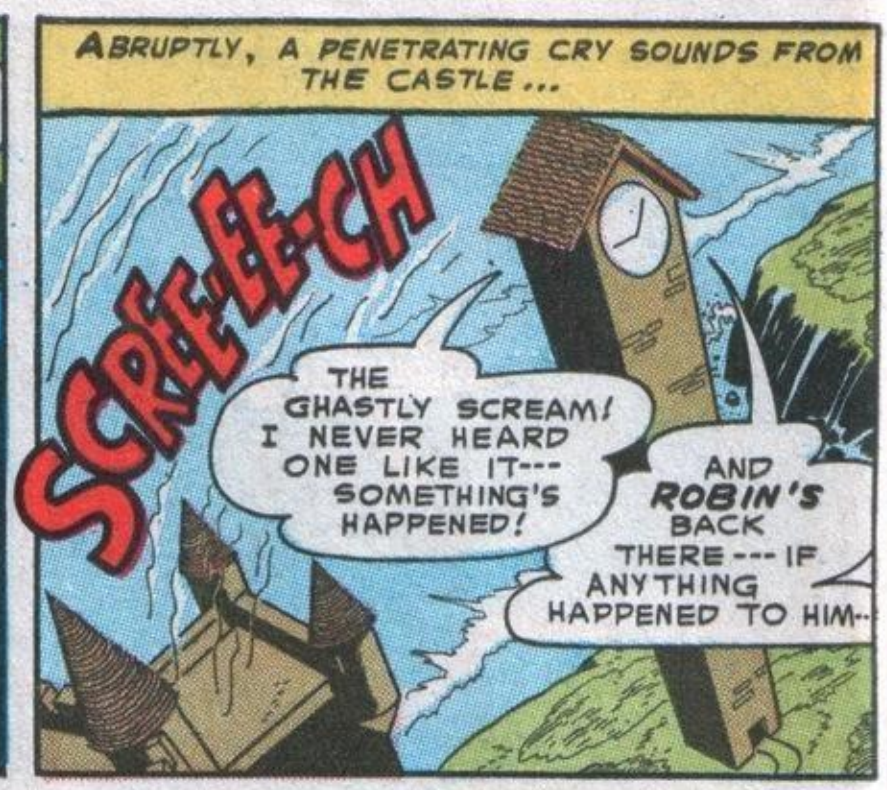
A CAR CAME HERE WITH THE "IRON GHOST, TURNED AROUND, AND WENT AWAY AGAIN! IT WAS A BRITISH CAR BUT THE DRIVER WAS AN AMERICAN! WELL, WE MIGHT AS WELL GO BACK TO BED!
WHAT'S THAT? HOW CAN BATMAN TELL A MAN'S NATIONALITY FROM HIS CAR TRACKS?

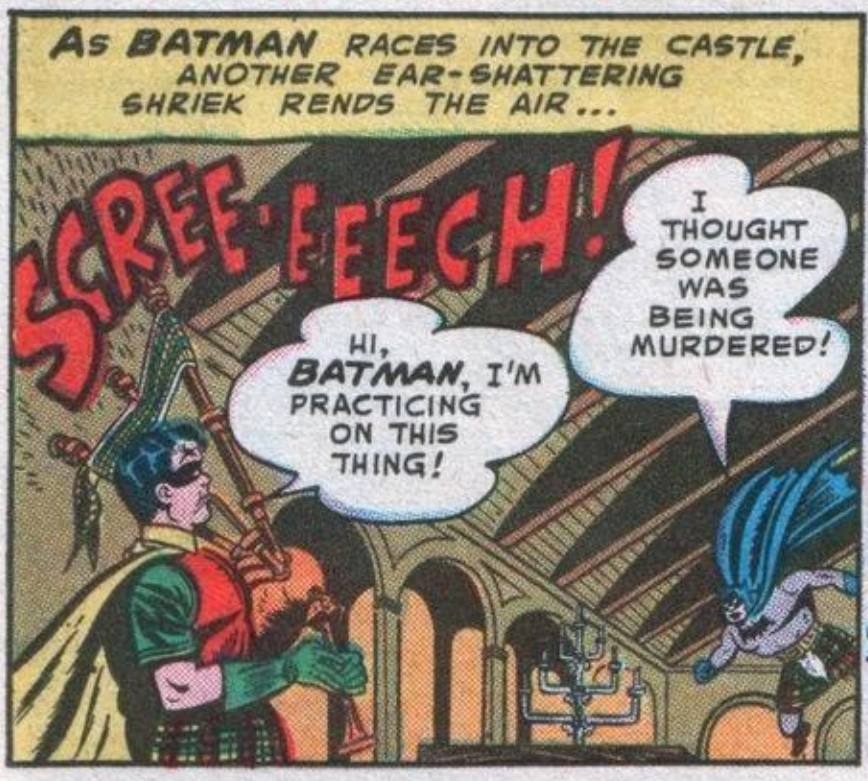

NEXT MORNING, THE SEARCH GETS UNDER WAY IN EARNEST...
NOTHING IN THIS ARMORY BUT SOLID STONE WALLS!
THESE OLD CLAYMORES WERE MAN-SIZED SWORDS! BUT I'D STILL LIKE TO TRY ONE OF THOSE BAGPIPES!

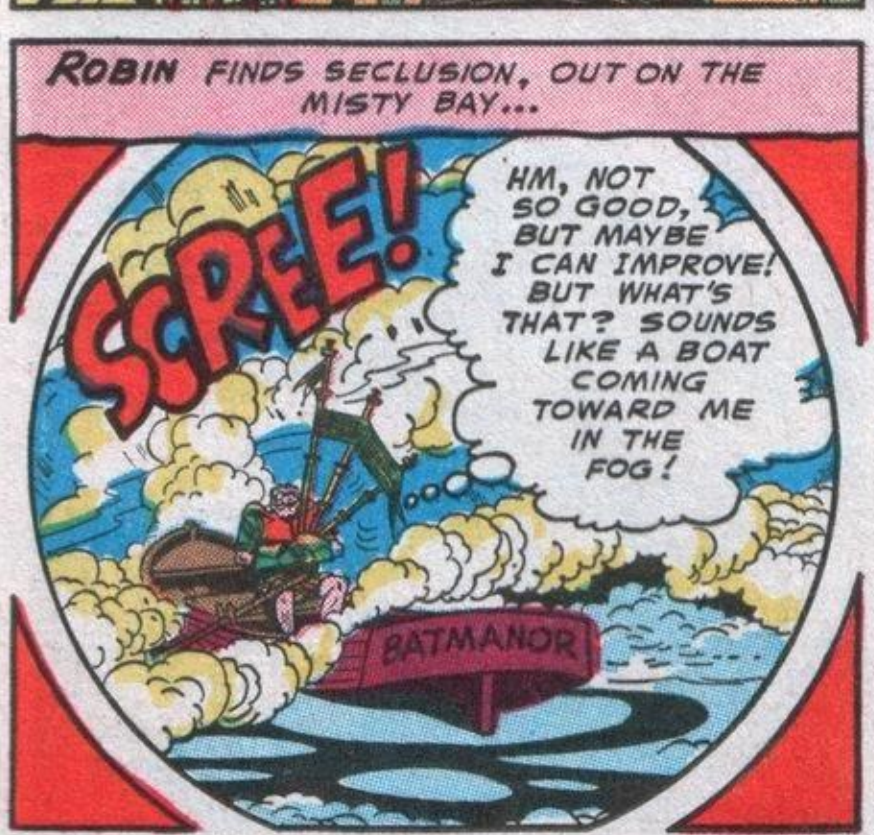
AND AT THE BOTTOM OF THE MOAT...
THERE'S NOTHING DOWN HERE!


I DREW A BLANK IN THE CASTLE. MAYBE I'LL HAVE BETTER LUCK WITH THE TOWER AND THE GROUNDS!
THIS ANCIENT CLOCK-TOWER IS ONE OF THE PRIZED RELICS OF BATMANOR!

THE GREAT CLOCK RUNS FOR MANY DAYS BEFORE THE GREAT WEIGHTS HAVE TO BE DRAWN UP AGAIN!
WITH ALL THESE PLACES SEARCHED FOR 400 YEARS, IT HARDLY SEEMS LIKELY THE GOLD IS STILL TO BE FOUND!







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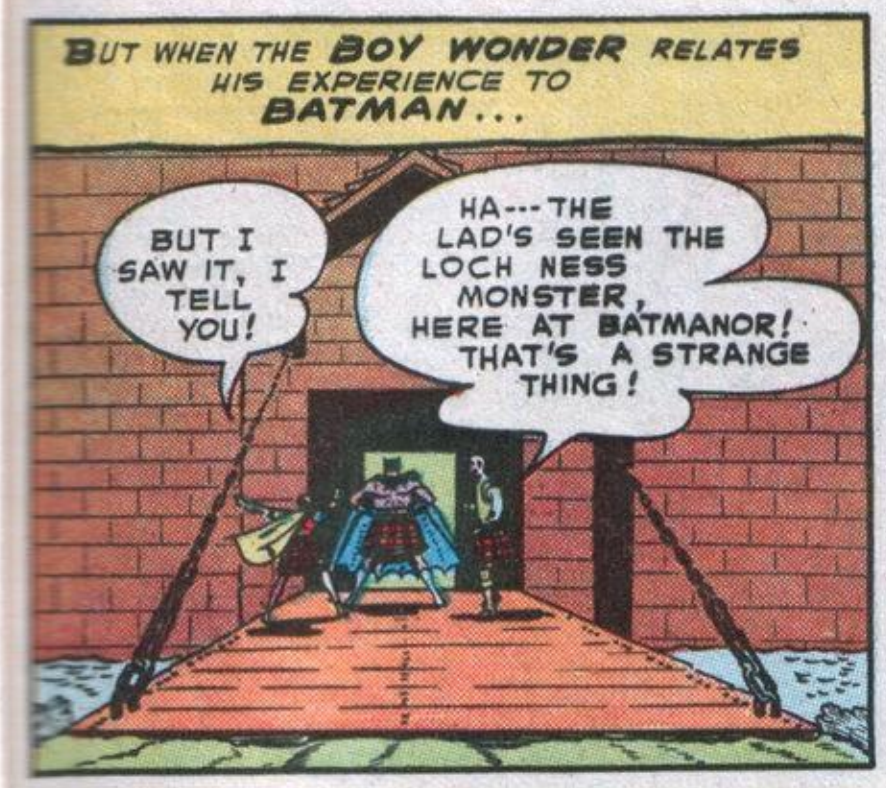
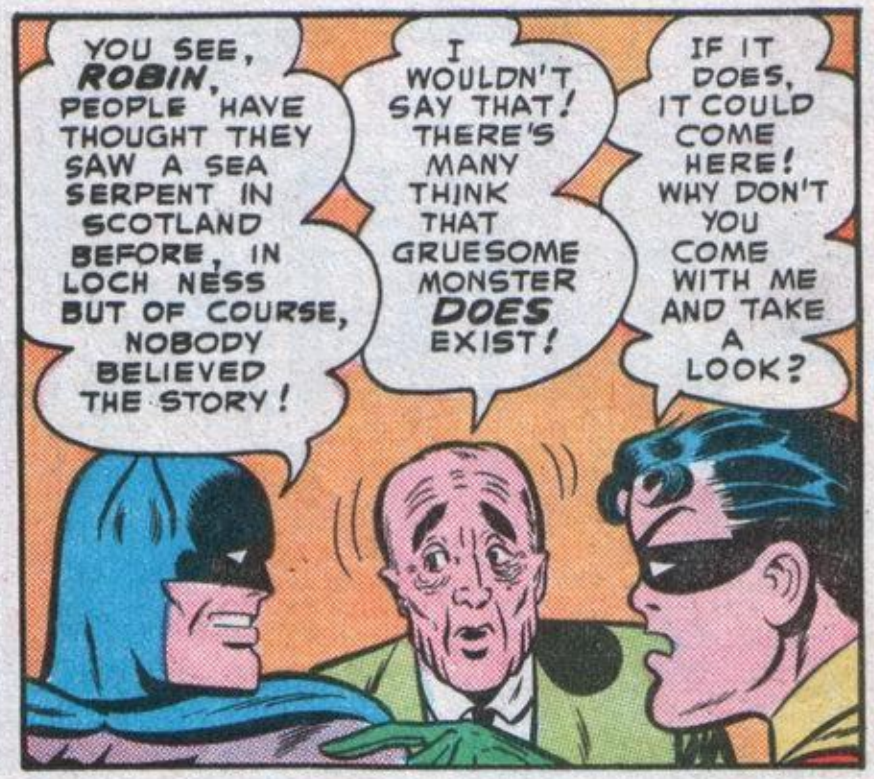

BUT WHEN THE BOY WONDER RELATES HIS EXPERIENCE TO BATMAN...
BUT I SAW IT, I TELL YOU!
HA--- THE LAD'S SEEN THE LOCH NESS MONSTER, HERE AT BATMANOR! THAT'S A STRANGE THING!


YOU SEE, ROBIN, PEOPLE HAVE THOUGHT THEY SAW A SEA SERPENT IN SCOTLAND BEFORE, IN LOCH NESS BUT OF COURSE, NOBODY BELIEVED THE STORY!
I WOULDN'T SAY THAT! THERE'S MANY THINK THAT GRUESOME MONSTER DOES EXIST!
IF IT DOES, IT COULD COME HERE! WHY DON'T YOU COME WITH ME AND TAKE A LOOK?

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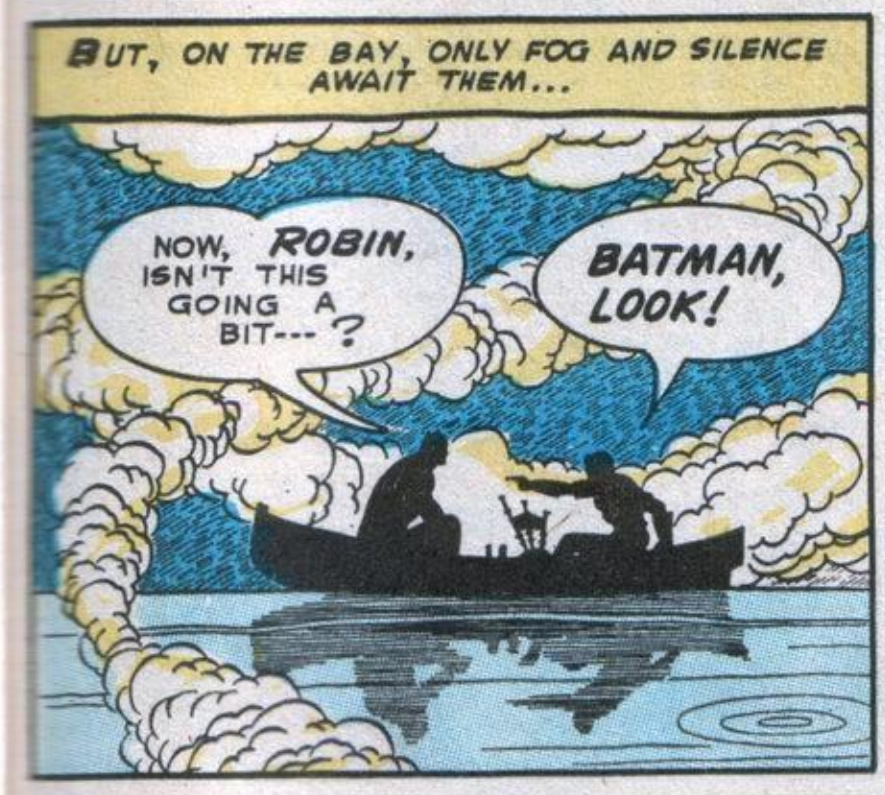
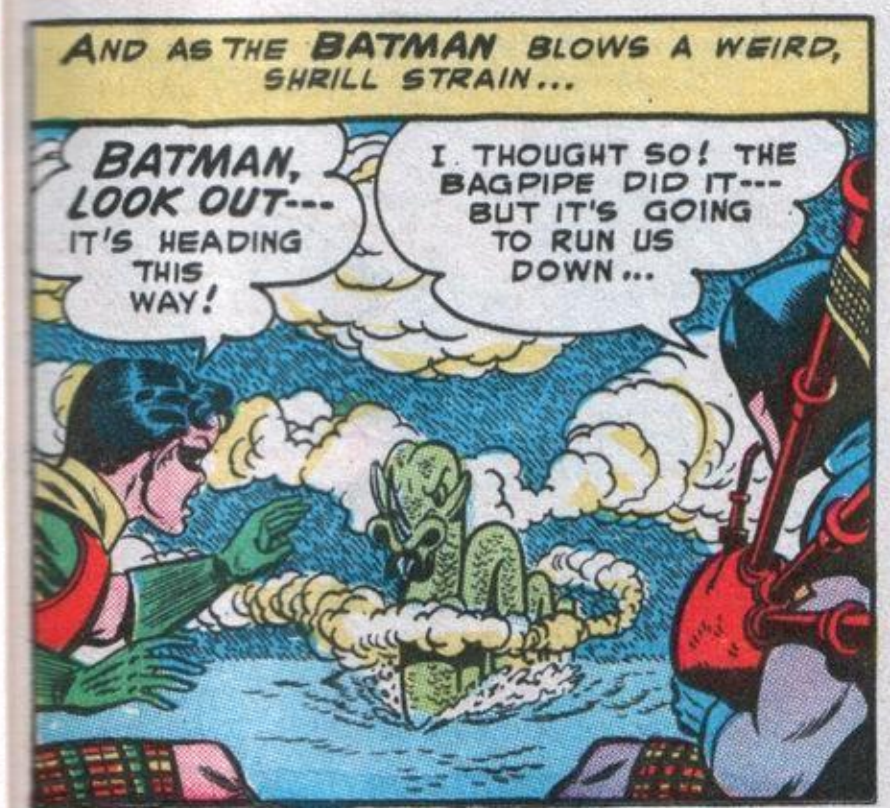
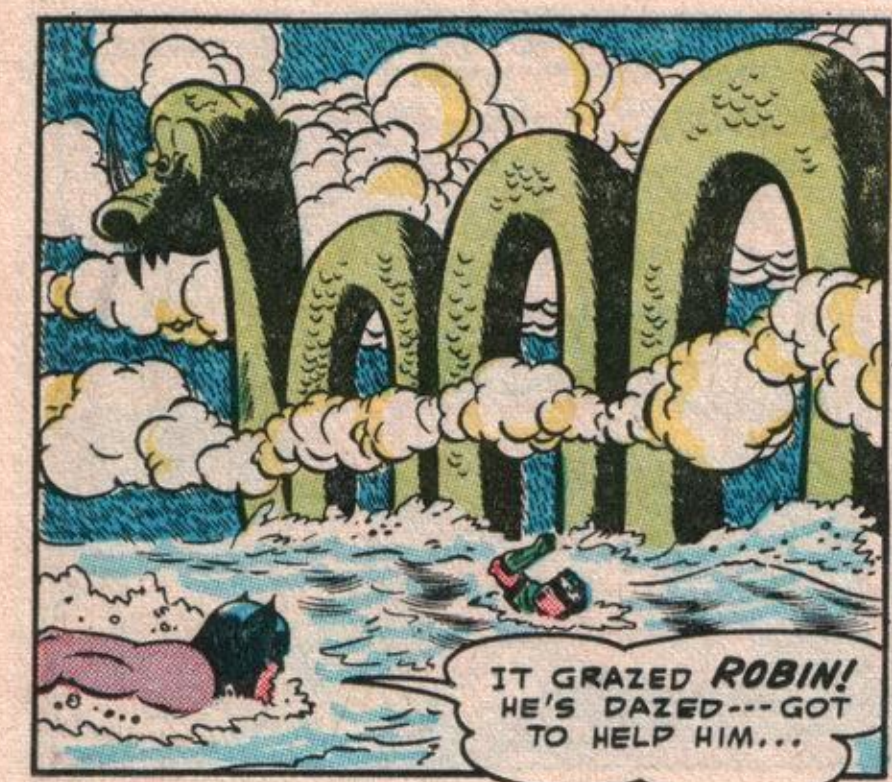

BUT, ON THE BAY, ONLY FOG AND SILENCE AWAIT THEM...
NOW, ROBIN, ISN'T THIS GOING A BIT---?
BATMAN, LOOK!

THERE IT IS--- AND IT'S HEADING TOWARD THOSE FISHING BOATS COMING IN FROM SEA!
BUT SUCH A BEAST CAN'T BE, UNLESS--- WAIT! YOU SAID YOU WERE PLAYING YOUR BAGPIPE WHEN IT CAME TOWARD YOU? GIVE ME THAT PIPE!

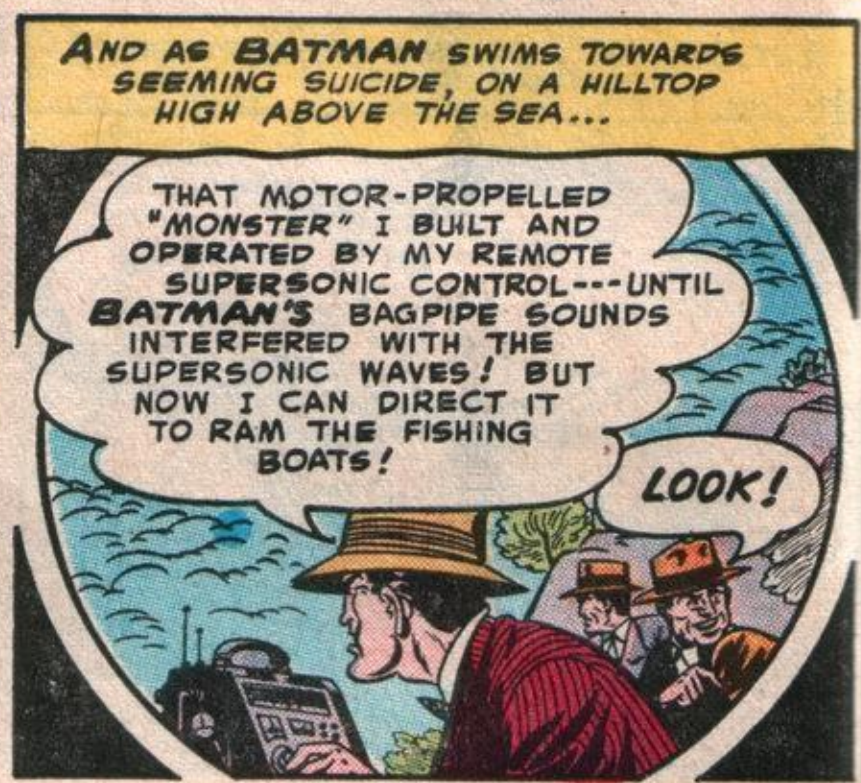

AND AS THE BATMAN BLOWS A WEIRD, SHRILL STRAIN...
BATMAN, LOOK OUT--- IT'S HEADING THIS WAY!
I THOUGHT SO! THE BAGPIPE DID IT--- BUT IT'S GOING TO RUN US DOWN...

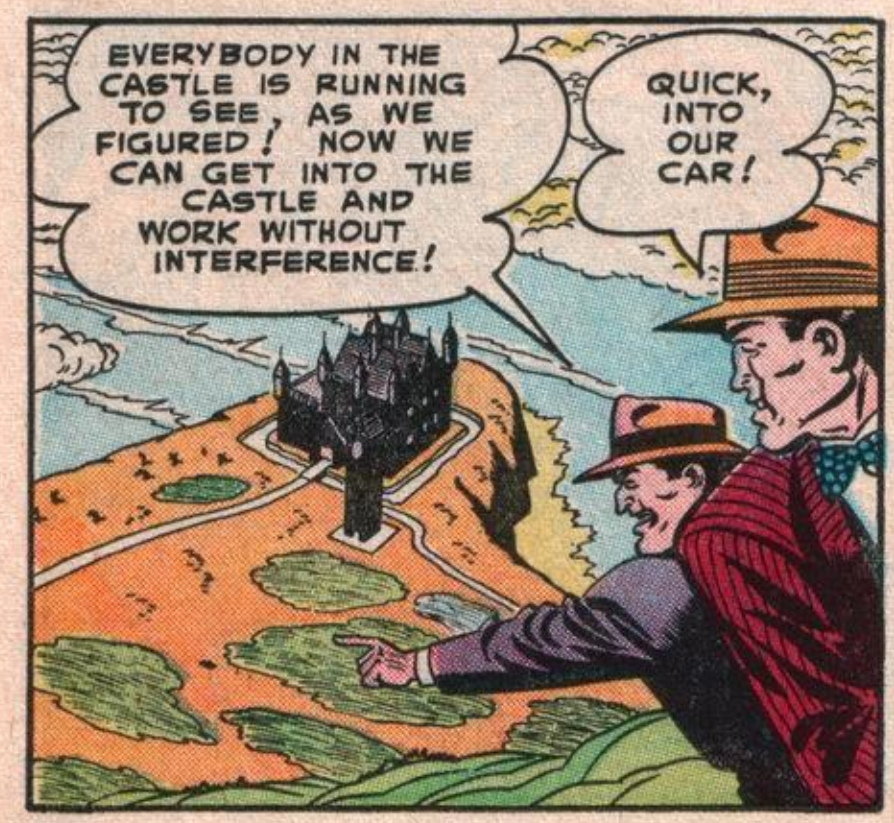
DIVE CLEAR, ROBIN!


IT GRAZED ROBIN! HE'S DAZED--- GOT TO HELP HIM...

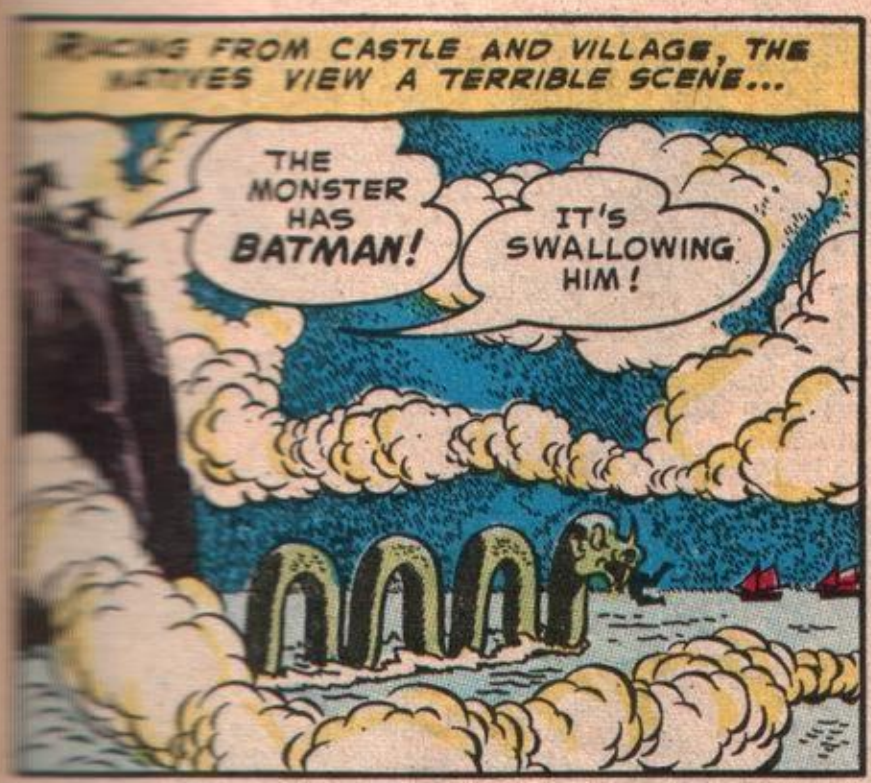
IT'S COMING BACK THIS WAY! I MUST INTERCEPT IT, BUT I CAN'T LET ROBIN DROWN! AH, THAT BAGPIPE--- IT'S FLOATING--- BY TYING ITS NECK, IT'D MAKE GOOD WATER-WINGS!

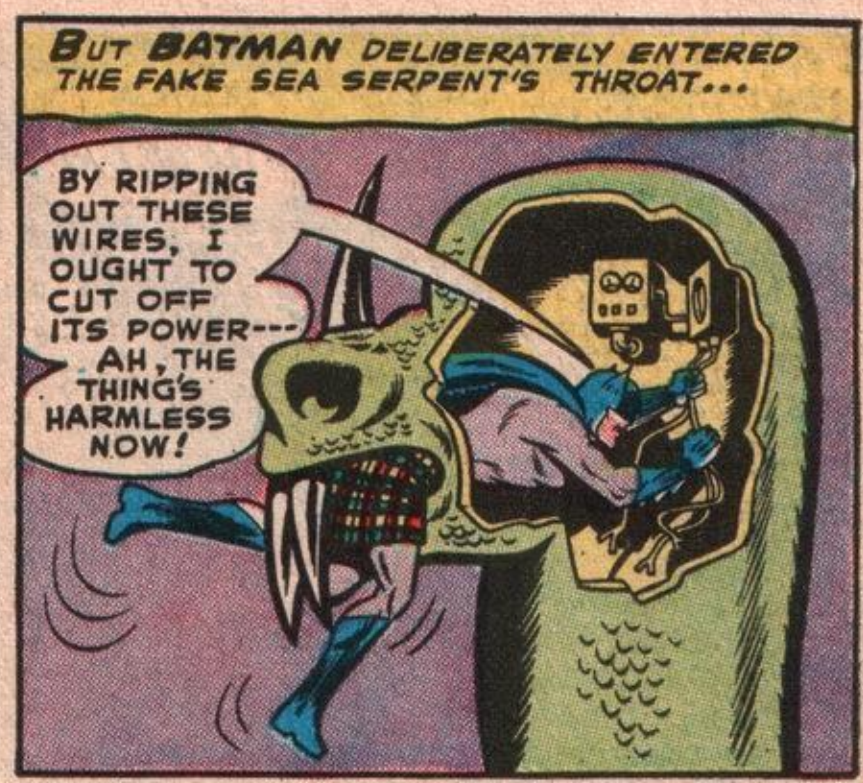
BATMAN WORKS AGAINST TIME. THEN...
THE BAGPIPE WILL HOLD UP ROBIN. HE'LL REGAIN HIS SENSES IN A FEW MOMENTS! BUT THAT THING IS HEADING FOR THE FISHING BOATS--- GOT TO STOP IT---


AND AS BATMAN SWIMS TOWARDS SEEMING SUICIDE, ON A HILLTOP HIGH ABOVE THE SEA...
THAT MOTOR-PROPELLED "MONSTER" I BUILT AND OPERATED BY MY REMOTE SUPERSONIC CONTROL---UNTIL BATMAN'S BAGPIPE SOUNDS INTERFERED WITH THE SUPERSONIC WAVES! BUT NOW I CAN DIRECT IT TO RAM THE FISHING BOATS!
LOOK!


EVERYBODY IN THE CASTLE IS RUNNING TO SEE, AS WE FIGURED! NOW WE CAN GET INTO THE CASTLE AND WORK WITHOUT INTERFERENCE!
QUICK, INTO OUR CAR!

MEANWHILE, BATMAN HAS REACHED THE "MONSTER" AND...
A MECHANICAL DUMMY, AS I SUSPECTED! A REAL SERPENT SWIMS BY RIPPLING ITS COILS UP AND DOWN---THIS ONE'S DIDN'T MOVE! BUT IT'LL SMASH THE FISHING BOATS IF I DON'T STOP IT!

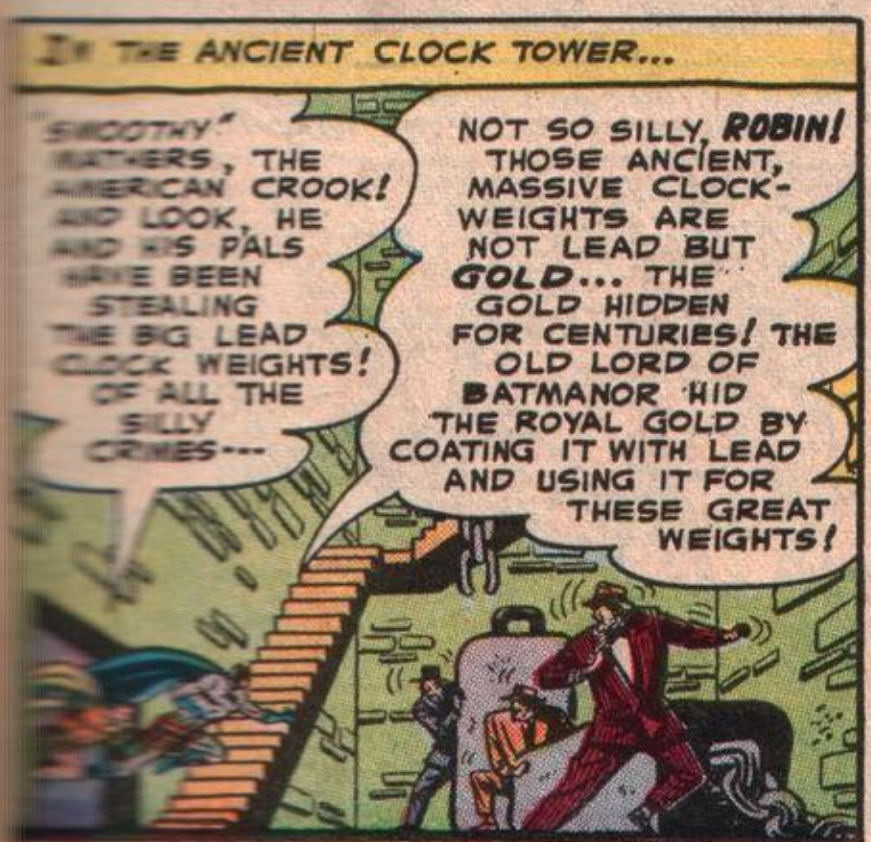

RACING FROM CASTLE AND VILLAGE, THE NATIVES VIEW A TERRIBLE SCENE...
THE MONSTER HAS BATMAN!
IT'S SWALLOWING HIM!


BUT BATMAN DELIBERATELY ENTERED THE FAKE SEA SERPENT'S THROAT...
BY RIPPING OUT THESE WIRES, I OUGHT TO CUT OFF ITS POWER--- AH, THE THING'S HARMLESS NOW!

NOW TO GET BACK TO ROBIN...

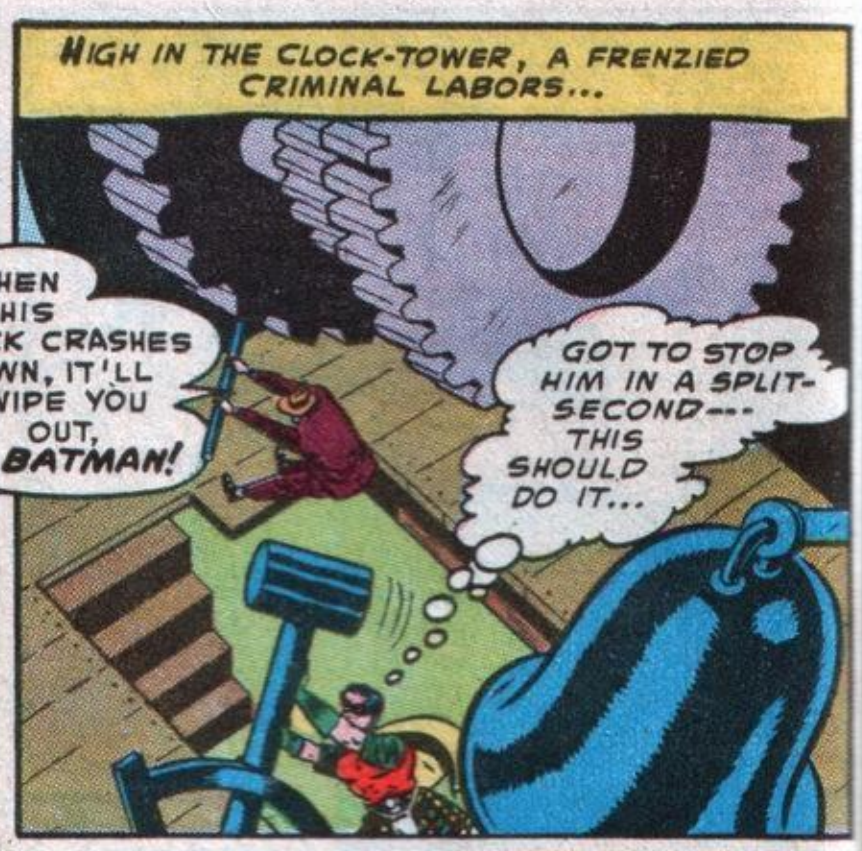
A SUPERSONIC-CONTROLLED MECHANICAL FAKE? BUT WHY---
QUICK, ROBIN, TO THE CASTLE! WE COULD BE TOO LATE TO CATCH THEM!

CATCH WHO? AND IF YOU'RE GOING BY THAT TOWER CLOCK, THERE'S NO HURRY, FOR IT'S WRONG BY HOURS!
THAT'S WHY I KNOW THERE IS NO TIME TO WASTE--- BECAUSE THAT CLOCK'S WRONG!


IN THE ANCIENT CLOCK TOWER...
"SMOOTHY" MATHERS, THE AMERICAN CROOK! AND LOOK, HE AND HIS PALS HAVE BEEN STEALING THE BIG LEAD CLOCK WEIGHTS! OF ALL THE SILLY CRIMES---
NOT SO SILLY, ROBIN! THOSE ANCIENT, MASSIVE CLOCK-WEIGHTS ARE NOT LEAD BUT GOLD... THE GOLD HIDDEN FOR CENTURIES! THE OLD LORD OF BATMANOR HID THE ROYAL GOLD BY COATING IT WITH LEAD AND USING IT FOR THESE GREAT WEIGHTS!

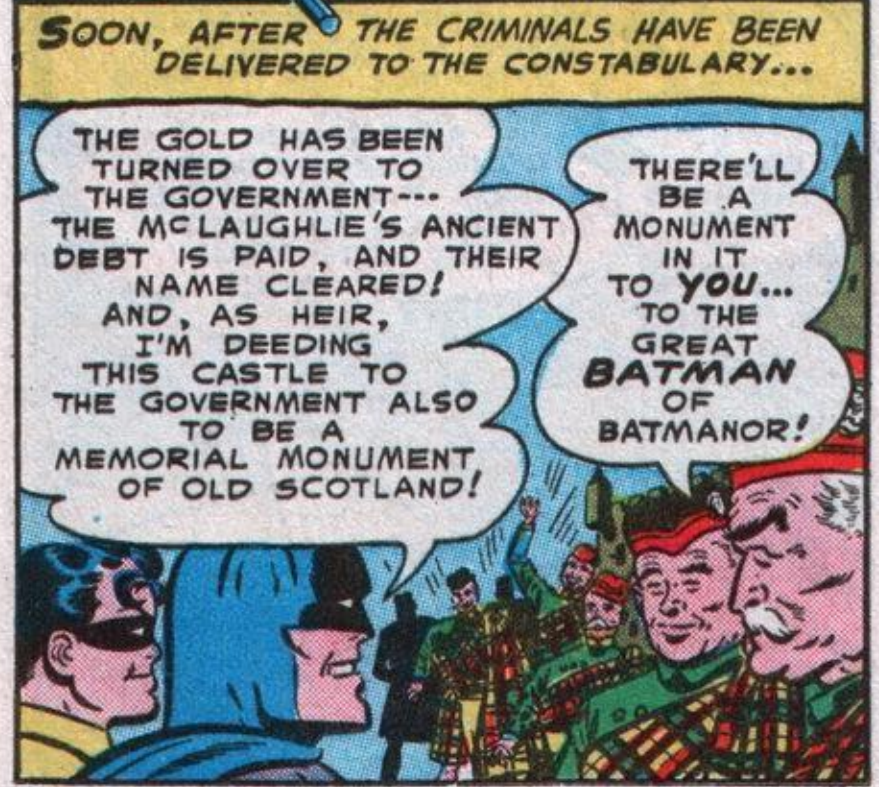
SO YOU FOUND OUT, LIKE ME, WHERE THE GOLD WAS!
YES---THAT ACID STAIN YOU LEFT IN THE TOWER MADE ME WONDER--- I EXAMINED THE WEIGHTS AND TESTED THEM WITH ACID INSIDE THEIR LEAD COATING, TOO! I WAS WAITING FOR YOU TO COME FOR IT TO TRAP YOU!

NEXT TIME YOU DRIVE A CAR IN SCOTLAND, DON'T DO IT ON THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE ROAD! ONE DRIVES ON THE LEFT SIDE HERE --- THAT'S HOW I KNEW THE "IRON GHOST" PROWLER WAS AN AMERICAN!
I'LL TAKE CARE OF YOU, BATMAN!


HIGH IN THE CLOCK-TOWER, A FRENZIED CRIMINAL LABORS...
WHEN THIS CLOCK CRASHES DOWN, IT'LL WIPE YOU OUT, BATMAN!
GOT TO STOP HIM IN A SPLIT-SECOND --- THIS SHOULD DO IT...

AND AS THE TREMENDOUS REVERBERATION BURSTS IN THE TOWER ROOM...
BONG!
THAT SOUND --- IT'S SPLITTING MY EARS!
THAT'S WHY I COVERED MY OWN! YOU'RE GOING WITH ME, MATHERS!

MOMENTS LATER...
GEE, WE OWE A LOT TO THAT CLOCK-GONG!
YES, ROBIN... AND THE CLOCK ITSELF TOLD ME THE CROOKS HAD COME FOR THE GOLD --- TO GET THE WEIGHTS, THEY HAD TO LOWER THEM TO THE GROUND AND THAT MADE THE CLOCK'S TIME WRONG BY HOURS! IT WAS THE TIP-OFF I'D HOPED TO FIND!


SOON, AFTER THE CRIMINALS HAVE BEEN DELIVERED TO THE CONSTABULARY...
THE GOLD HAS BEEN TURNED OVER TO THE GOVERNMENT --- THE McLAUGHLIE'S ANCIENT DEBT IS PAID, AND THEIR NAME CLEARED! AND, AS HEIR, I'M DEEDING THIS CASTLE TO THE GOVERNMENT ALSO TO BE A MEMORIAL MONUMENT OF OLD SCOTLAND!
THERE'LL BE A MONUMENT IN IT TO YOU... TO THE GREAT BATMAN OF BATMANOR!

AND LATER, AS THE BATPLANE WINGS HOMEWARD ACROSS THE ATLANTIC...
I TOOK IT ALONG TO PRACTICE --- IN OUR BAT-CAVE!
OH, NO... ANYTHING BUT THAT!
THE END

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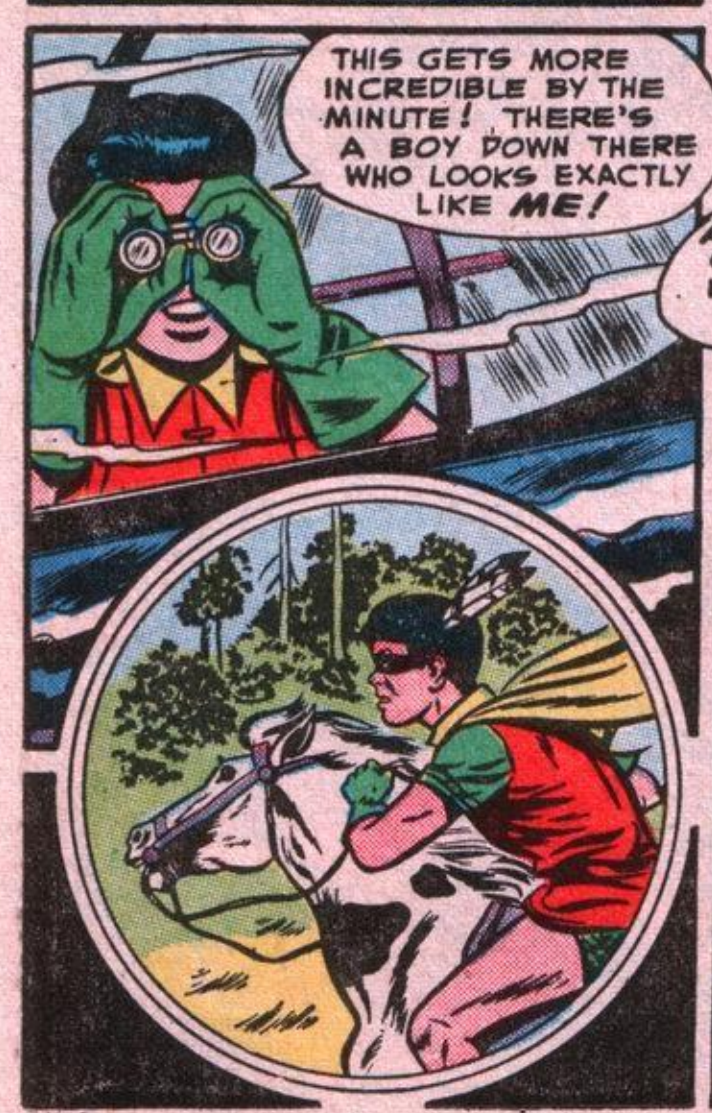
ONE NIGHT, AS THE FAMED BAT-PLANE SOARS OVER MOUNTAINOUS TERRAIN, FAR FROM GOTHAM CITY...
IN ABOUT TEN HOURS, WE'LL BE BACK HOME! I CAN'T SAY I WON'T BE GLAD!
SAME HERE! THESE DISTANT MISSIONS MAKE ME HOMESICK!

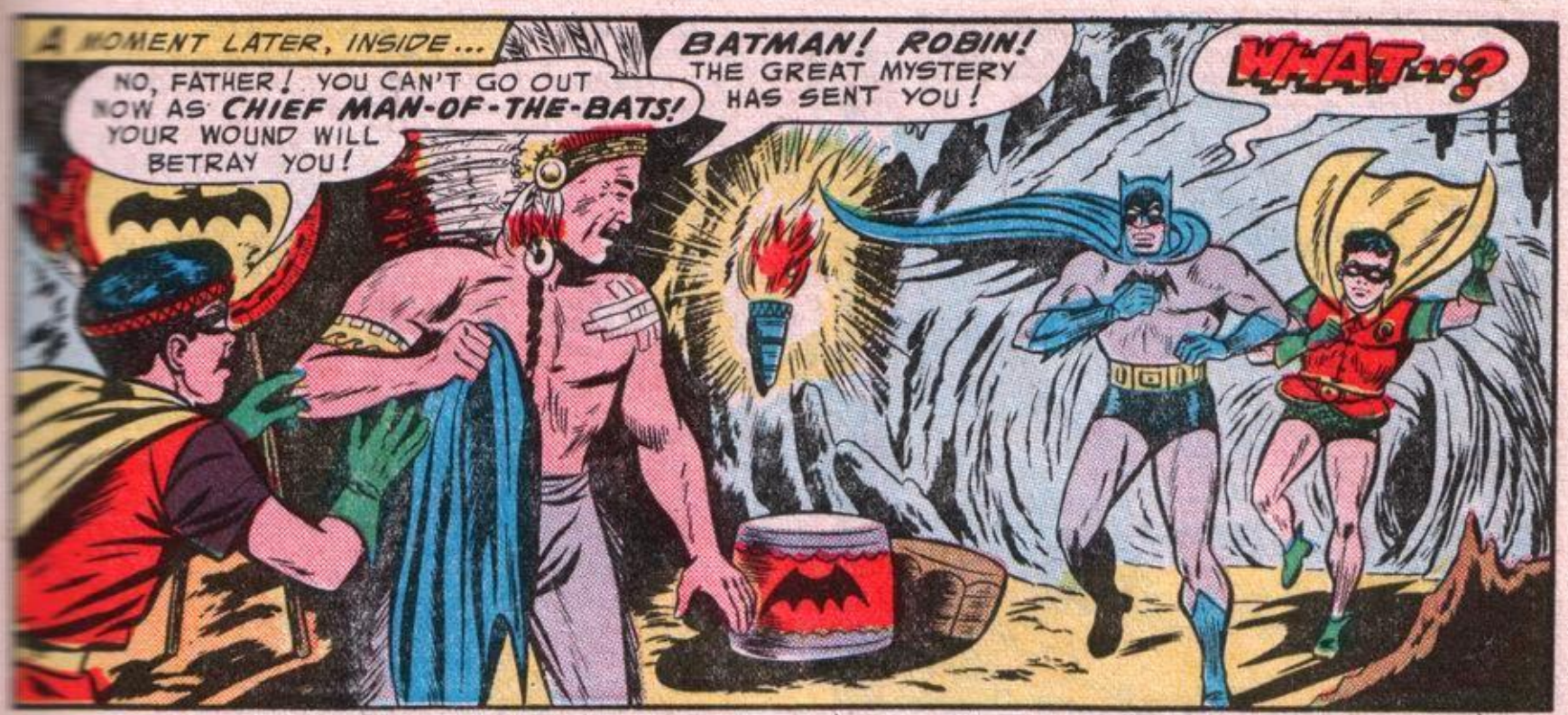
INSIDE ARE BATMAN AND ROBIN WITH THEIR MASKS FLUNG BACK, REVEALING THE FACES OF BRUCE WAYNE AND DICK GRAYSON...
GREAT GUNS! AM I SEEING THINGS? LOOK OVER THERE!

A BAT-SIGNAL... IN SMOKE! WHAT DO YOU MAKE OF IT?
WHAT ELSE CAN IT BE, EXCEPT SOMEONE SUMMONING US! BUT WHO?... AND WHY? TAKE A LOOK THROUGH THE BINOCULARS!


THIS GETS MORE INCREDIBLE BY THE MINUTE! THERE'S A BOY DOWN THERE WHO LOOKS EXACTLY LIKE ME!

STUNNED BY THESE SURPRISING EVENTS, THE CAPED CRIME-FIGHTERS HURRIEDLY LAND THE BAT-PLANE IN A SHELTERED CLEARING, AND...
A BAT-SIGNAL IN THE FORM OF SMOKE-- A BOY WHO LOOKS EXACTLY LIKE YOU, ROBIN... THIS CALLS FOR AN IMMEDIATE INVESTIGATION! COME ON!

AND DEEP IN THE WOODS, STILL ANOTHER SURPRISE... A CANOE BEARING A BAT-SYMBOL, AND A CAVERN NOT UNLIKE THEIR OWN BAT-CAVE!
BUT WHAT CAN THIS MEAN?
LISTEN... VOICES INSIDE THE CAVE! LET'S HAVE A LOOK!


A MOMENT LATER, INSIDE...
NO, FATHER! YOU CAN'T GO OUT NOW AS CHIEF MAN-OF-THE-BATS! YOUR WOUND WILL BETRAY YOU!
BATMAN! ROBIN! THE GREAT MYSTERY HAS SENT YOU!
WHAT...?

CHIEF MAN-OF-THE-BATS? I DON'T UNDERSTAND!
GREAT EAGLE IS MY REAL NAME, O BATMAN--AND THIS IS MY SON, LITTLE EAGLE! WE ARE OF THE SIOUX TRIBE! LONG HAVE WE PLAYED THE ROLES OF BATMAN AND ROBIN!
WHEN DRESSED AS YOU, I AM KNOWN AS CHIEF MAN-OF-THE-BATS AND MY SON AS LITTLE RAVEN! IN OUR WAR AGAINST CRIME, WE OPERATE HERE, FROM OUR OWN VERSION OF A BAT-CAVE!
AMAZING! BUT TELL ME--HOW WERE YOU WOUNDED?
VILLAINOUS BLACK ELK AND HIS RAIDERS HAVE BEEN TERRORIZING THE COUNTRYSIDE, AND WE HAVE BEEN TRYING TO PUT AN END TO THEM! BUT JUST TODAY...

"...BLACK ELK LED A RAID ON MY VILLAGE AND BEFORE I COULD SWITCH TO MAN-OF-THE-BATS, HIS SPEAR THRUST FOUND MY SHOULDER!"
HA, GREAT EAGLE! YOU CANNOT STAND BEFORE ME!
LONG HAVE I THOUGHT YOU AND MAN-OF-THE-BATS TO BE THE SAME PERSON! WELL, NOW WE SHALL SEE! IF MAN-OF-THE-BATS APPEARS WITH A WOUNDED SHOULDER, I SHALL THEN KNOW HIS TRUE IDENTITY!

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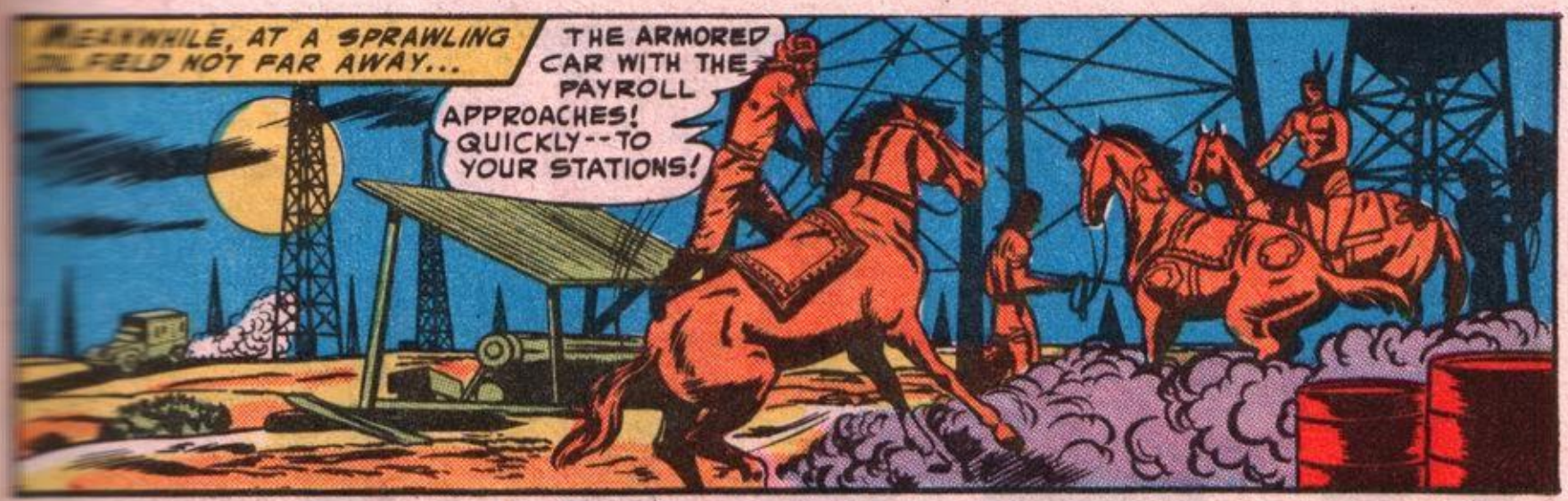

MEANWHILE, AT A SPRAWLING OIL FIELD NOT FAR AWAY...
THE ARMORED CAR WITH THE PAYROLL APPROACHES! QUICKLY--TO YOUR STATIONS!

A BOW TWANGS, THEN ANOTHER--AND ANOTHER...
POOF
FFT!
SSSSS

SWERVING, THE CAR SMASHES INTO THE BASE OF THE DERRICK...
THEY'LL NEVER CRACK THROUGH OUR ARMOR! LET 'EM HAVE IT!
CRASH

BUT BEFORE THE GUARDS CAN OPEN FIRE, FLAMING SHAFTS STREAK THROUGH THE GUN SLOTS...
YOW! ARROWS SATURATED WITH KEROSENE! THEY'RE SETTING THE CAR ON FIRE!

RUSHING OUT FRANTICALLY, THE GUARDS ARE QUICKLY SUBDUED...
NOW--THE PAYROLL! MAKE HASTE--BEFORE THE FLAMES CONSUME IT!

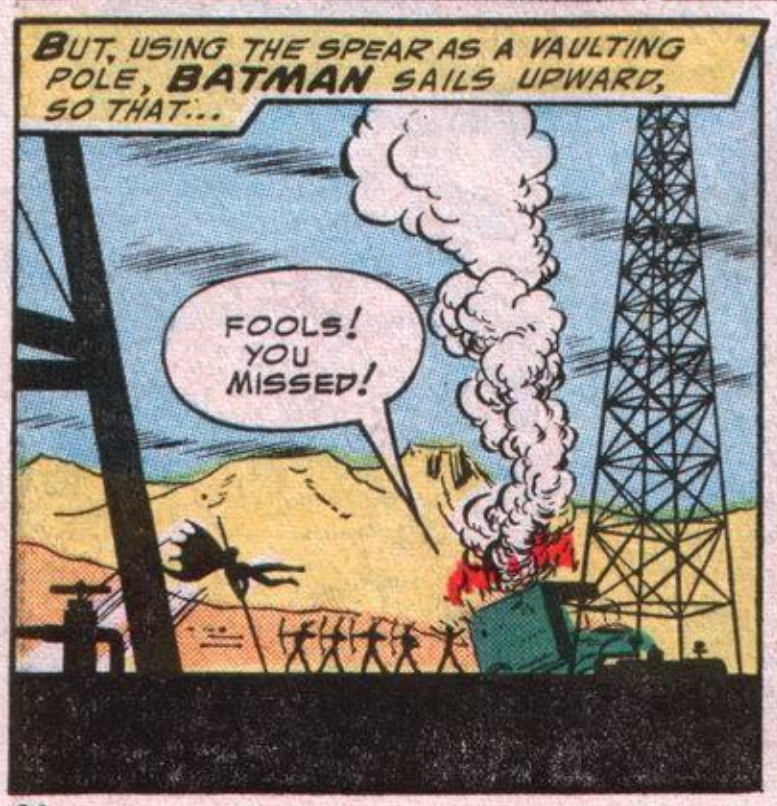
BUT, AT THAT MOMENT, ATTRACTED BY THE BLAZE BELOW, TWO FIGURES SWING FROM ONE OF THE TOWERING DERRICKS...
HERE WE GO OUR FIRST TEST AS INDIANS!
MAN-OF-THE-BATS! SLAY HIM!

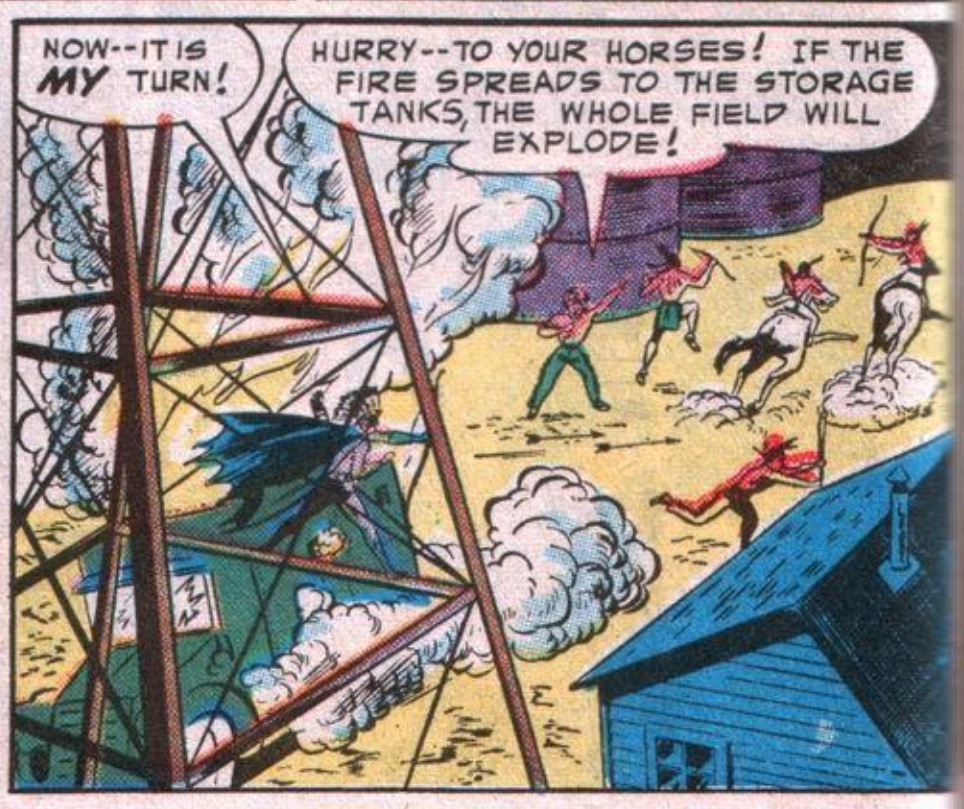
A SPEAR IN HIS BACK WILL SETTLE ALL! THEN I SHALL REVEAL WHAT I'VE ALWAYS SUSPECTED, THAT THEY ARE REALLY GREAT EAGLE AND LITTLE EAGLE!

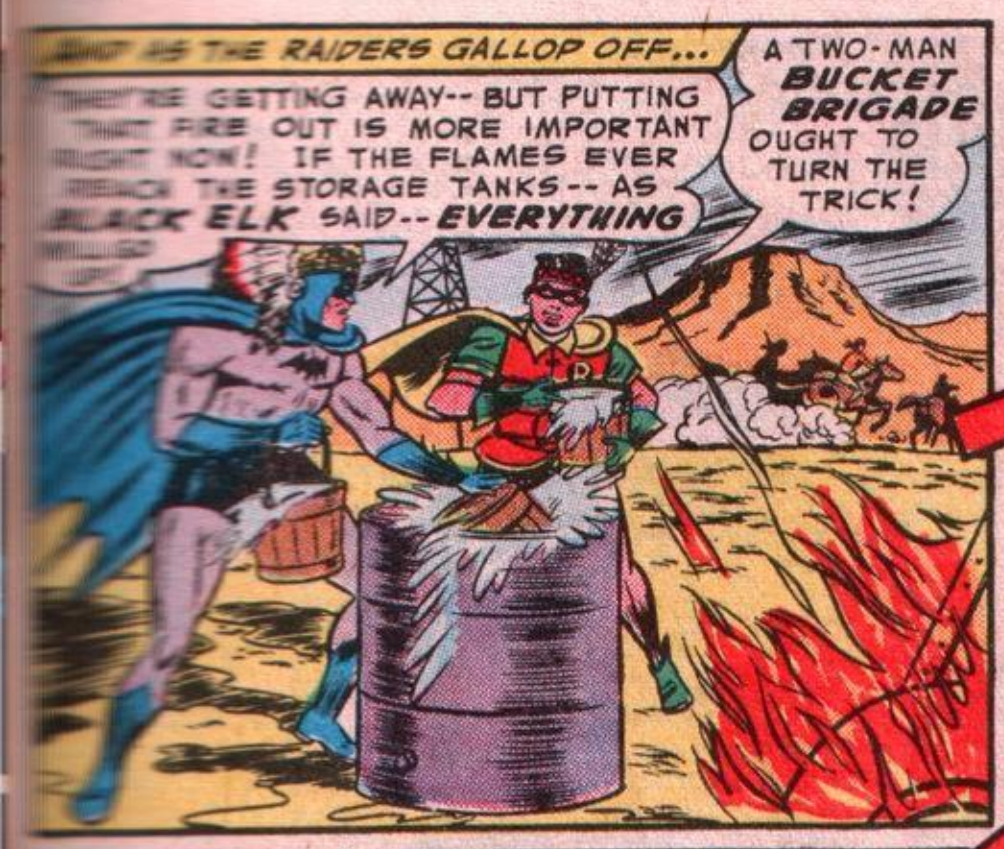
DIE MAN-OF-THE-BATS... ULLPS!

A HUNDRED ARROWS FOR HIM! HURRY!

FIRE!

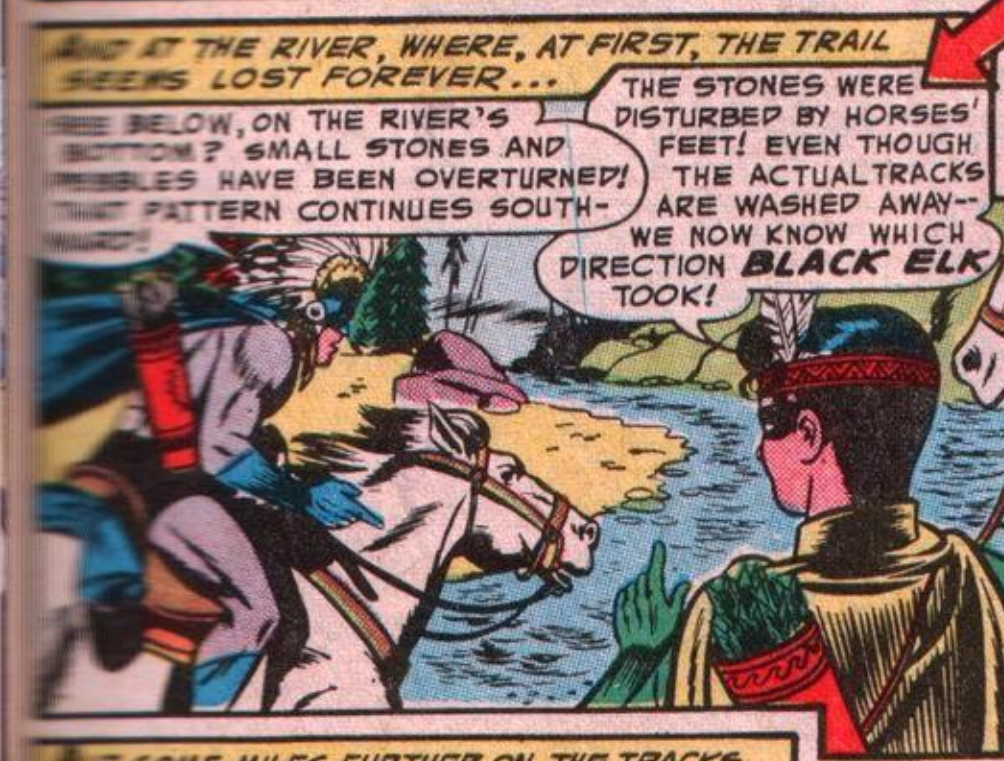

BUT, USING THE SPEAR AS A VAULTING POLE, BATMAN SAILS UPWARD, SO THAT...
FOOLS! YOU MISSED!


NOW--IT IS MY TURN!
HURRY--TO YOUR HORSES! IF THE FIRE SPREADS TO THE STORAGE TANKS, THE WHOLE FIELD WILL EXPLODE!

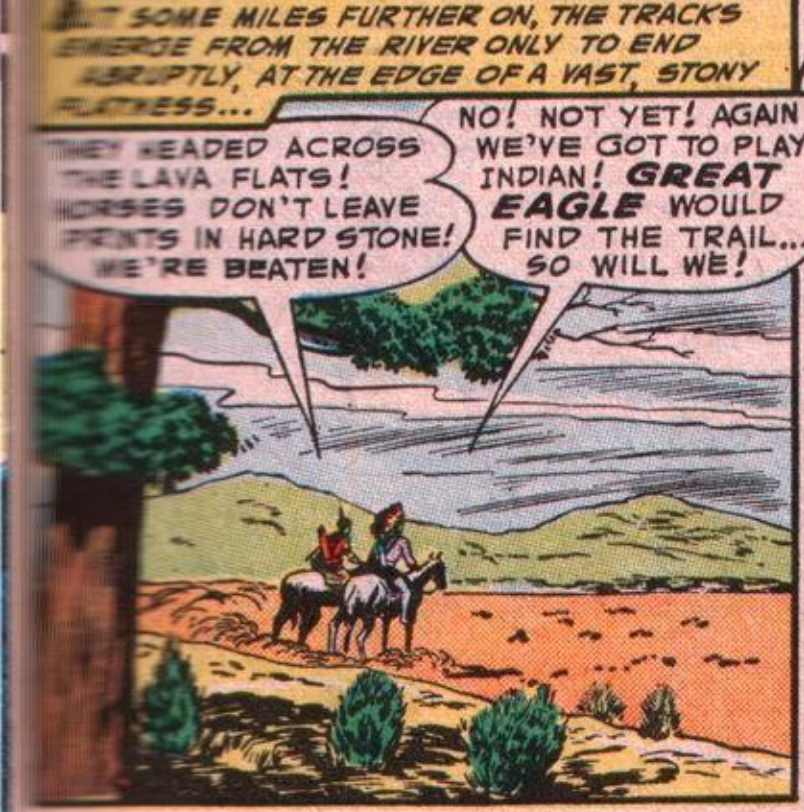

AND AS THE RAIDERS GALLOP OFF...
THEY'RE GETTING AWAY-- BUT PUTTING THAT FIRE OUT IS MORE IMPORTANT RIGHT NOW! IF THE FLAMES EVER REACH THE STORAGE TANKS-- AS BLACK ELK SAID-- EVERYTHING
A TWO-MAN BUCKET BRIGADE OUGHT TO TURN THE TRICK!

SHORTLY...
INJUNS--YOU SAVED THE PAYROLL! THANKS!
WE HAVE OTHER WORK NOW! WE ARE GOING AFTER BLACK ELK!

LATER, AS THEY SCAN THE NEARBY TERRAIN...
COME ON... WE'LL GET THE BATPLANE AND FOLLOW THEM!
NO! WE'VE GOT TO HANDLE THIS LIKE INDIANS--REMEMBER! HERE'S THEIR TRAIL-- HEADING SOUTH TOWARD THE RIVER!

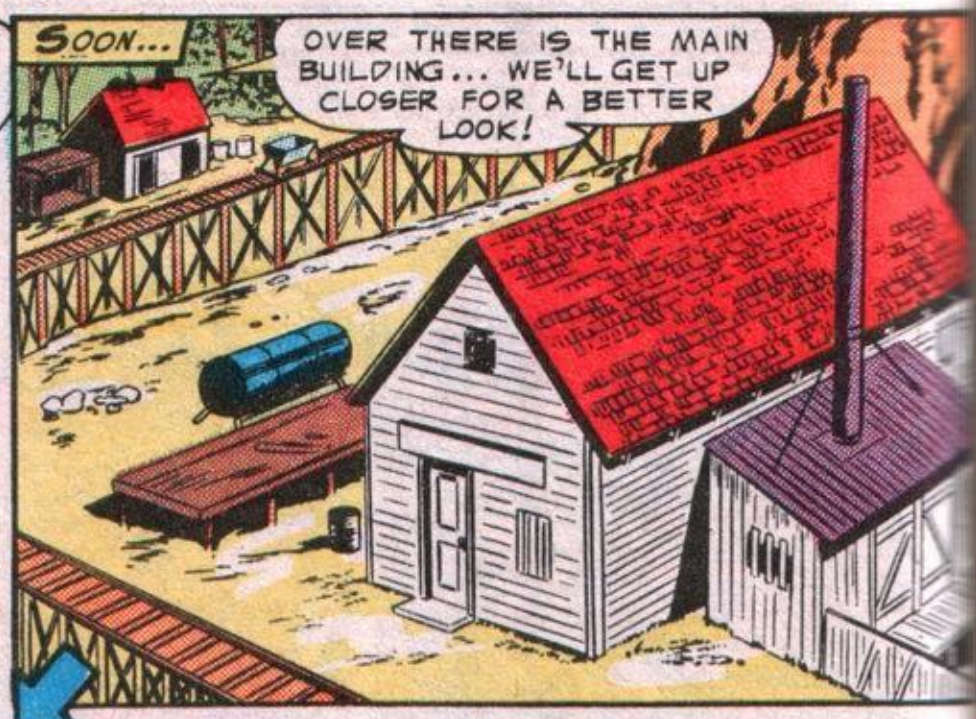

AND AT THE RIVER, WHERE, AT FIRST, THE TRAIL SEEMS LOST FOREVER...
SEE BELOW, ON THE RIVER'S BOTTOM? SMALL STONES AND PEBBLES HAVE BEEN OVERTURNED! THAT PATTERN CONTINUES SOUTH-
THE STONES WERE DISTURBED BY HORSES' FEET! EVEN THOUGH THE ACTUAL TRACKS ARE WASHED AWAY-- WE NOW KNOW WHICH DIRECTION BLACK ELK TOOK!

THEY'LL HAVE TO LEAVE THE RIVER SOMETIME... AND WHEN THEY DO, WE'LL BE ABLE TO PICK UP THEIR TRAIL AGAIN!

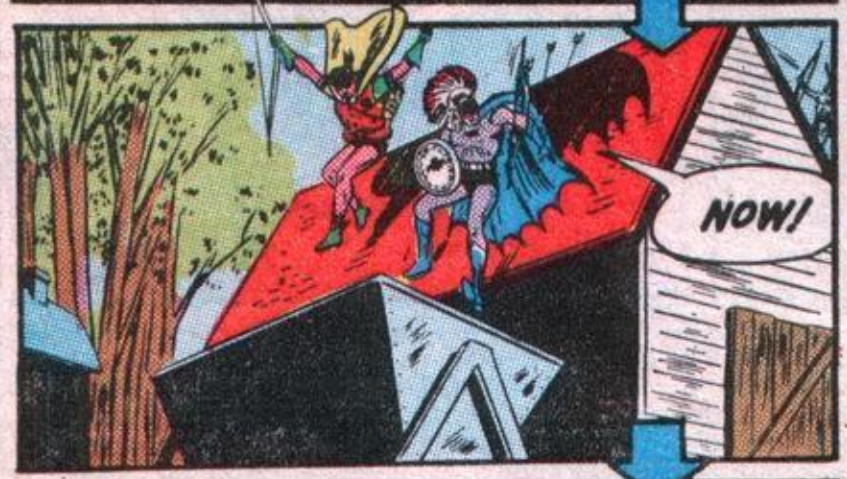

BUT SOME MILES FURTHER ON, THE TRACKS EMERGE FROM THE RIVER ONLY TO END ABRUPTLY, AT THE EDGE OF A VAST, STONY FLATNESS...
THEY HEADED ACROSS THE LAVA FLATS! HORSES DON'T LEAVE PRINTS IN HARD STONE! WE'RE BEATEN!
NO! NOT YET! AGAIN WE'VE GOT TO PLAY INDIAN! GREAT EAGLE WOULD FIND THE TRAIL... SO WILL WE!

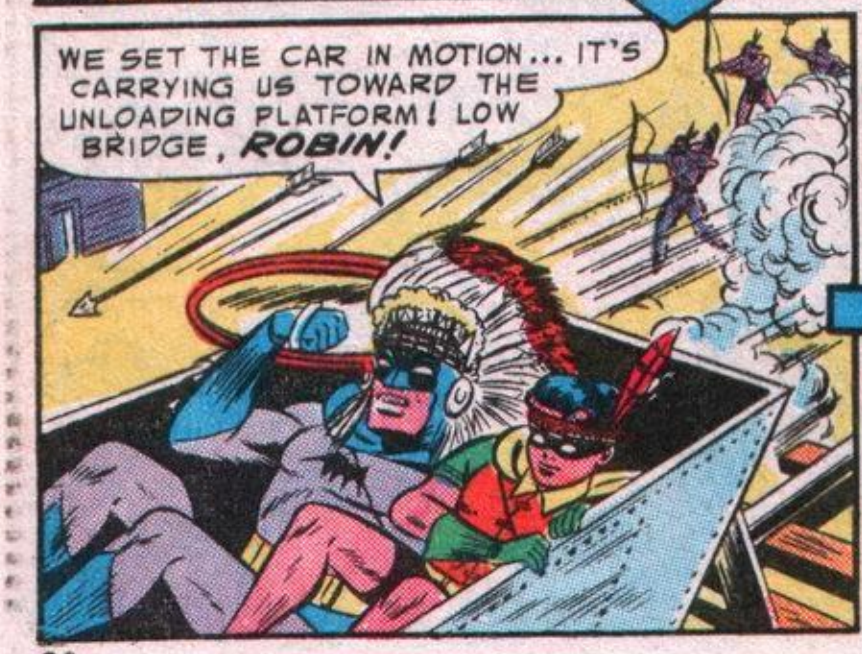
INDIAN PONIES DON'T WEAR HORSESHOES... BUT SEE THESE SMALL SCRAPINGS OF BONY SUBSTANCE? THAT WAS LEFT BY THE FEET OF THEIR HORSES!
THEN WE CAN STILL FOLLOW THEM! GREAT EAGLE SHOULD BE PROUD OF US FOR FIGURING THIS ONE OUT!

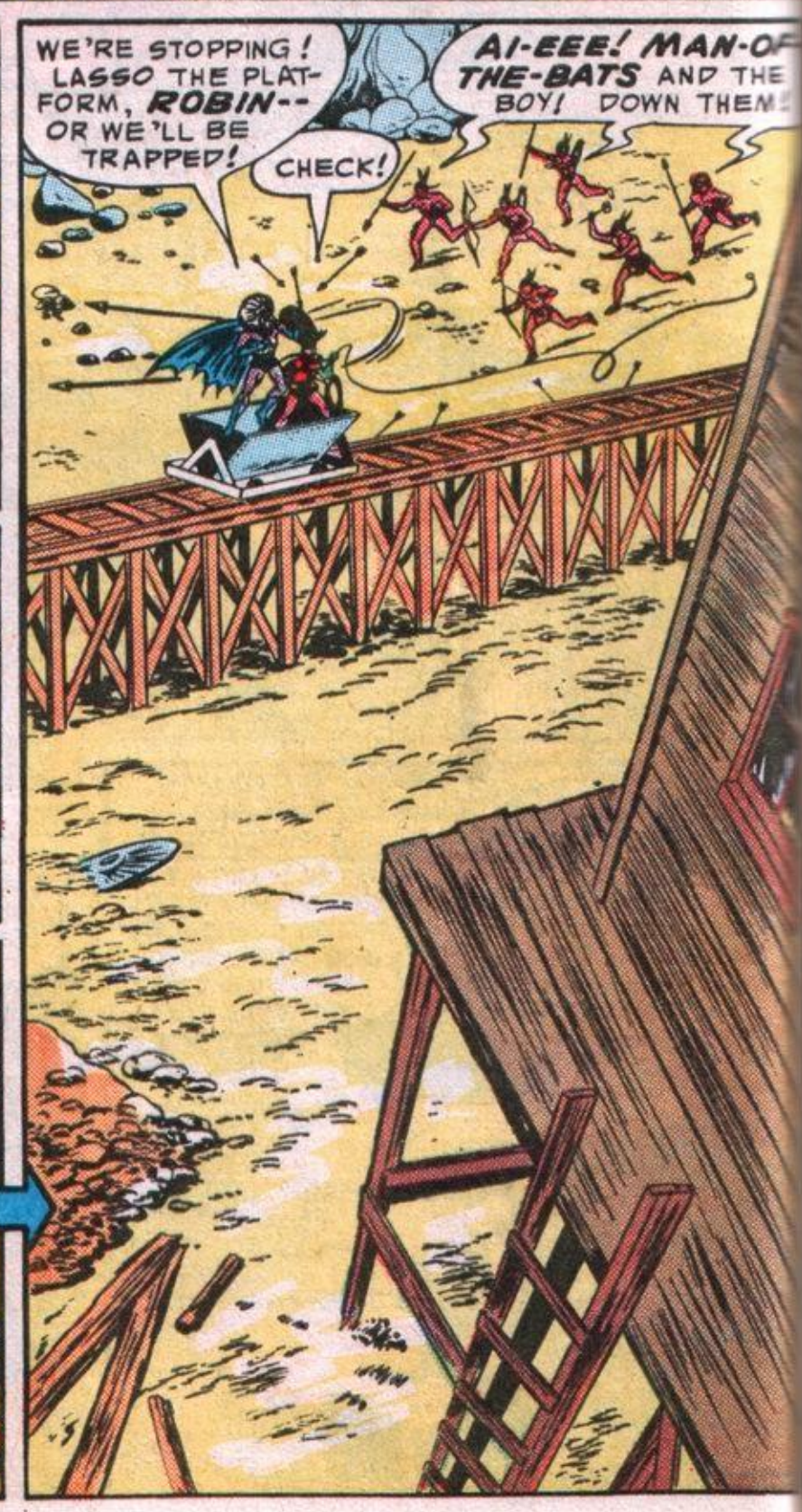
FINALLY, AS DAWN BREAKS...
THEIR TRAIL LEADS HERE-- TO AN OLD MINE! THIS, I THINK, IS BLACK ELK'S HIDEOUT!
LET'S GET UP ON ONE OF THE ROOFS AND HAVE A LOOK AROUND!


SOON...
OVER THERE IS THE MAIN BUILDING... WE'LL GET UP CLOSER FOR A BETTER LOOK!

BUT JUST THEN...
OH, OH-- THOSE SHADOWS... WE'VE GOT COMPANY! ACT LIKE WE DON'T SEE THEM... BUT GET READY TO DIVE FOR THAT CAR!
RIGHT... SAY WHEN!


NOW!


WE SET THE CAR IN MOTION... IT'S CARRYING US TOWARD THE UNLOADING PLATFORM! LOW BRIDGE, ROBIN!


WE'RE STOPPING! LASSO THE PLATFORM, ROBIN-- OR WE'LL BE TRAPPED!
CHECK!
AI-EEE! MAN-OF-THE-BATS AND THE BOY! DOWN THEM!

ALL RIGHT-- LET'S GO!

WE'RE SAFE FOR NOW--BUT THEY HAVE THE PLACE SURROUNDED! CAPTURE MEANS THE STRIPPING OFF OF OUR MASKS!
I KNOW! BUT THEY THINK WE'RE REALLY GREAT EAGLE AND LITTLE EAGLE... AND WE HAVE ONE TRICK LEFT!

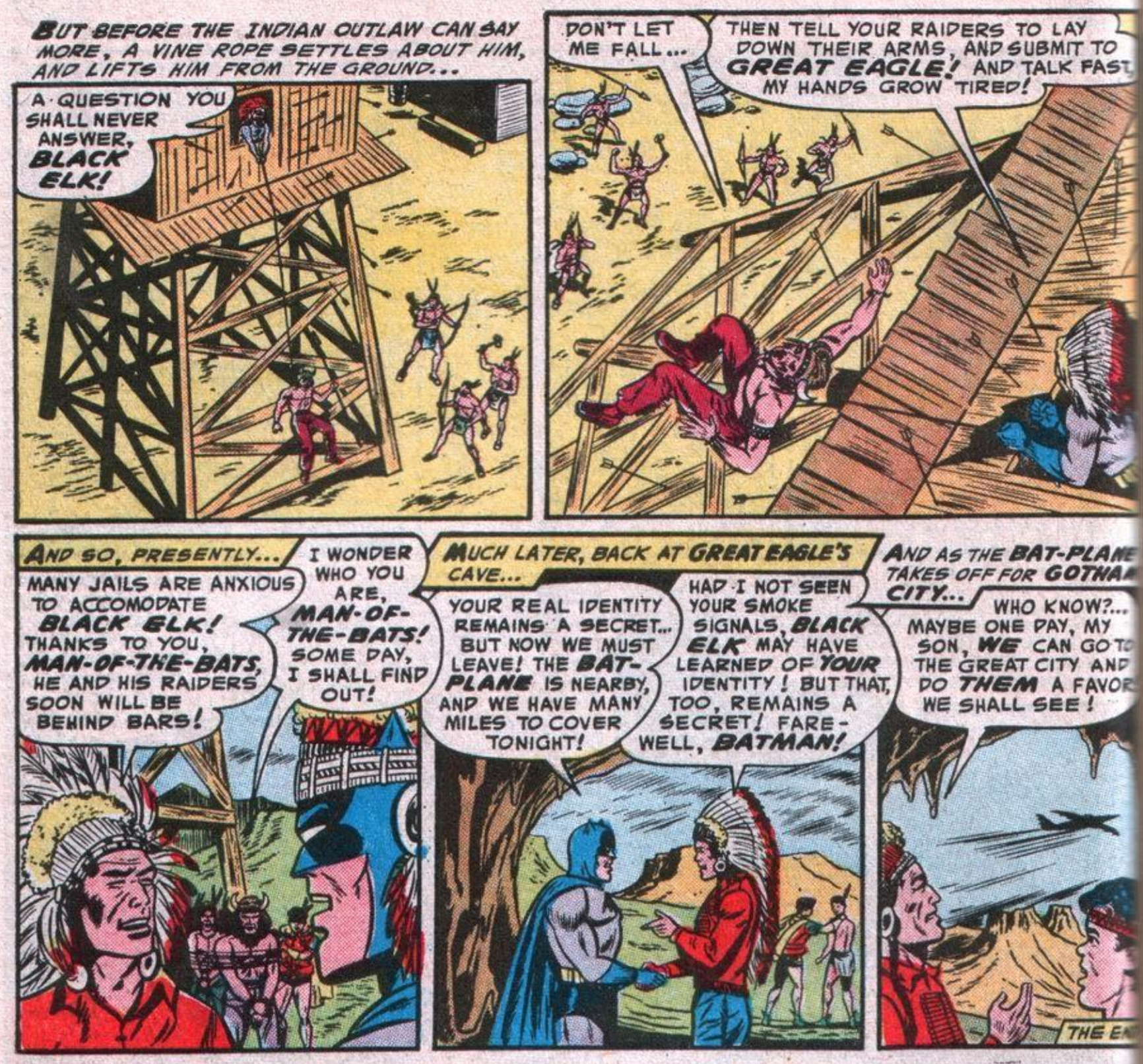
SWIFTLY, BATMAN REMOVES SOME TINY MISSILES FROM THE UTILITY BELT, AND...
SMOKE PELLETS! THAT'S OUR OUT!

AS THE PELLETS STRIKE THE FLOOR AND BURST, THICK CLOUDS BILLOW SKYWARD...
NOW, SOMEHOW, WE'VE GOT TO STALL THE RAIDERS! GET YOUR BOW AND ARROWS READY!

WE'VE GOT YOU, GREAT EAGLE! I KNOW THAT YOU AND MAN-OF-THE-BATS ARE ONE AND THE SAME!

ONLY ONE ARROW LEFT! AFTER THAT, IT'S CURTAINS! WE'VE PROTECTED GREAT EAGLE'S IDENTITY--BUT NOW WE'RE IN DANGER OF REVEALING OUR OWN!
LISTEN! THEY'RE SHOUTING ABOUT SOMETHING!

LOOK, O BLACK ELK! IT IS GREAT EAGLE HIMSELF! HE AND MAN-OF-THE-BATS CANNOT POSSIBLY BE THE SAME PERSON!
THEN WHO CAN MAN-OF-THE-BATS BE?



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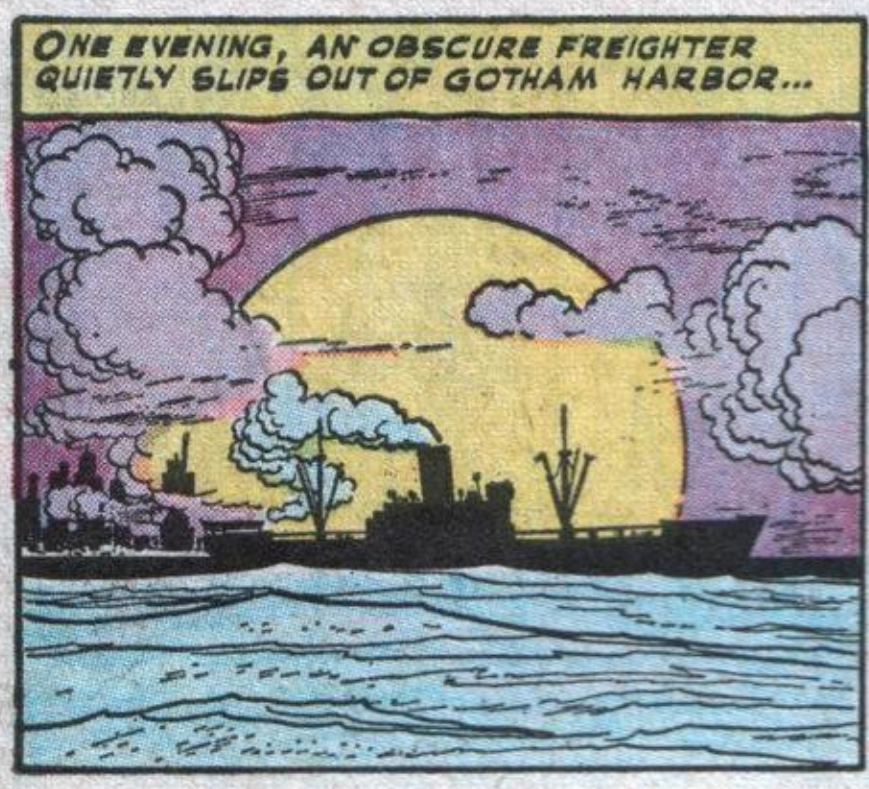
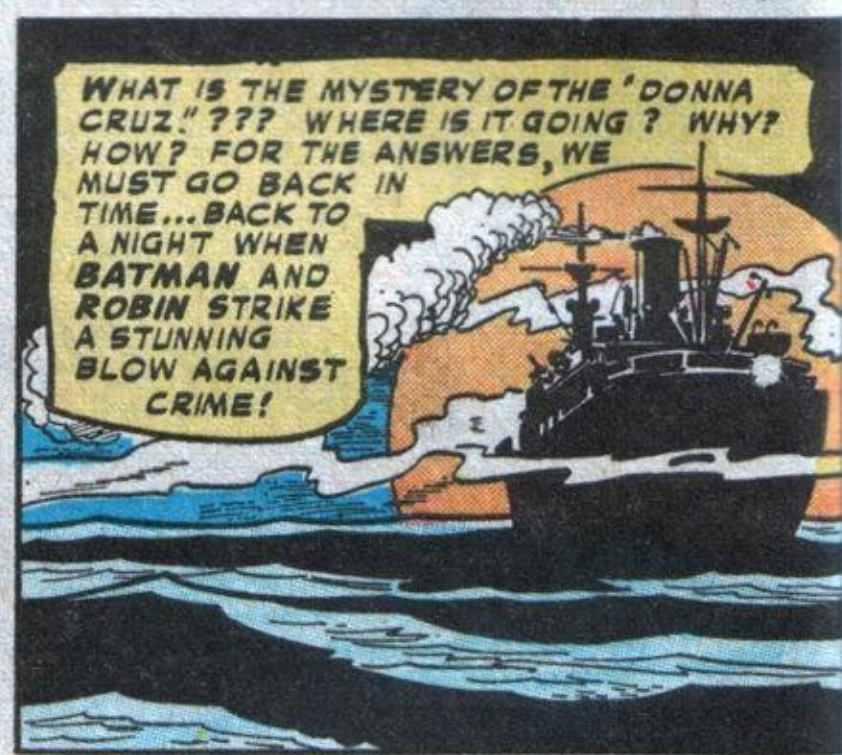
ON SALE EVERYWHERE!

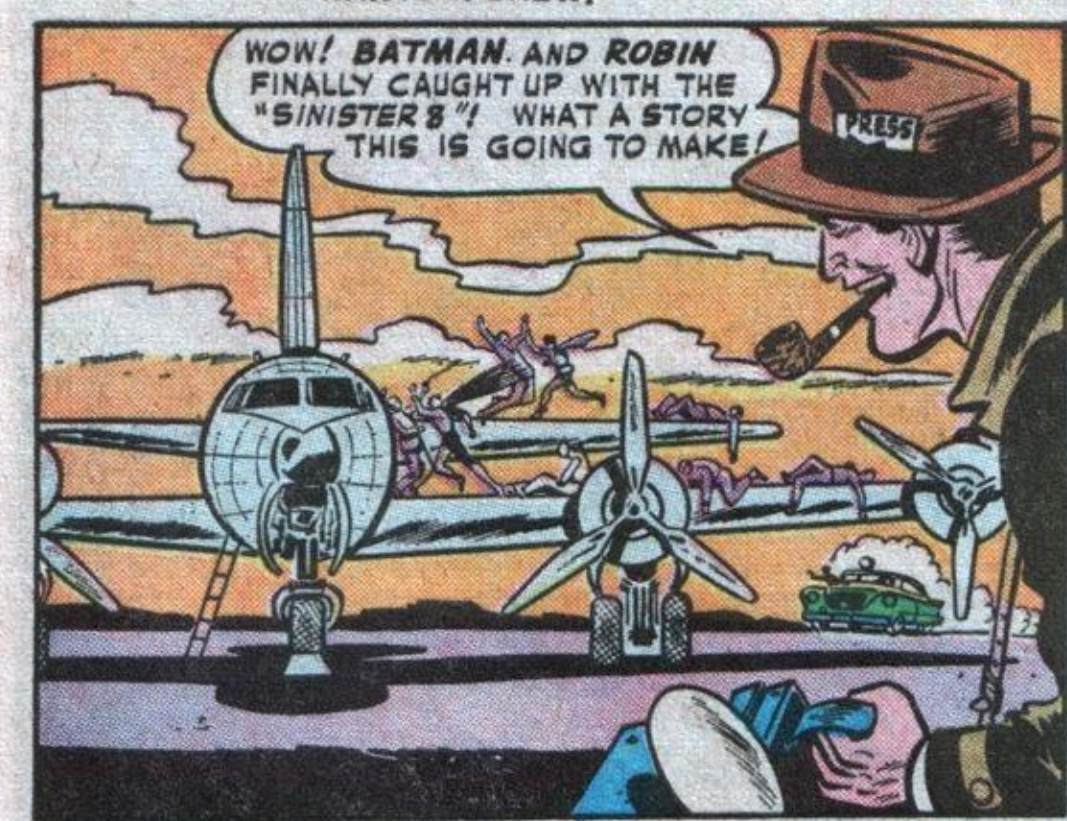
BATMAN
With
ROBIN
THE BOY WONDER
HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED HOW BATMAN WOULD FARE IF HE WERE CUT OFF FROM ALL HIS CRIME-FIGHTING EQUIPMENT... IF THE BATPLANE, THE UTILITY BELT, THE CRIME LAB... IF INDEED EVERYTHING WAS DENIED THE DYNAMIC DUO? HERE'S YOUR ANSWER ... IN ONE OF THE MOST AMAZING STORIES EVER TOLD! HERE ARE BATMAN AND ROBIN... STRANDED ON A JUNGLE ISLAND... AN ISLAND FRAUGHT WITH MAN-EATING WILD LIFE... AND THE 'SINISTER 8'... MOST DANGEROUS CRIMINALS IN THE WORLD! HOLD YOUR BREATH AS YOU READ THIS THRILLING ADVENTURE OF...
The JUNGLE BATMAN!
BOB KANE


ONE EVENING, AN OBSCURE FREIGHTER QUIETLY SLIPS OUT OF GOTHAM HARBOR...

CAN THIS BE BUT A ROUTINE SAILING? ON THE BRIDGE, THE CAPTAIN AND HIS MEN PEER INTENTLY AHEAD, NOT MAKING A MOVE...

BUT IF ONE WERE TO GET UP VERY CLOSE TO THAT CAPTAIN AND CREW, THIS IS THE STARTLING SIGHT HE WOULD SEE...
YES!! THESE ARE NOT MEN ... BUT DUMMIES! THIS IS A SHIP... WITH A PHANTOM CREW!


WHAT IS THE MYSTERY OF THE "DONNA CRUZ"??? WHERE IS IT GOING? WHY? HOW? FOR THE ANSWERS, WE MUST GO BACK IN TIME... BACK TO A NIGHT WHEN BATMAN AND ROBIN STRIKE A STUNNING BLOW AGAINST CRIME!


WOW! BATMAN AND ROBIN FINALLY CAUGHT UP WITH THE "SINISTER 8"! WHAT A STORY THIS IS GOING TO MAKE!
PRESS

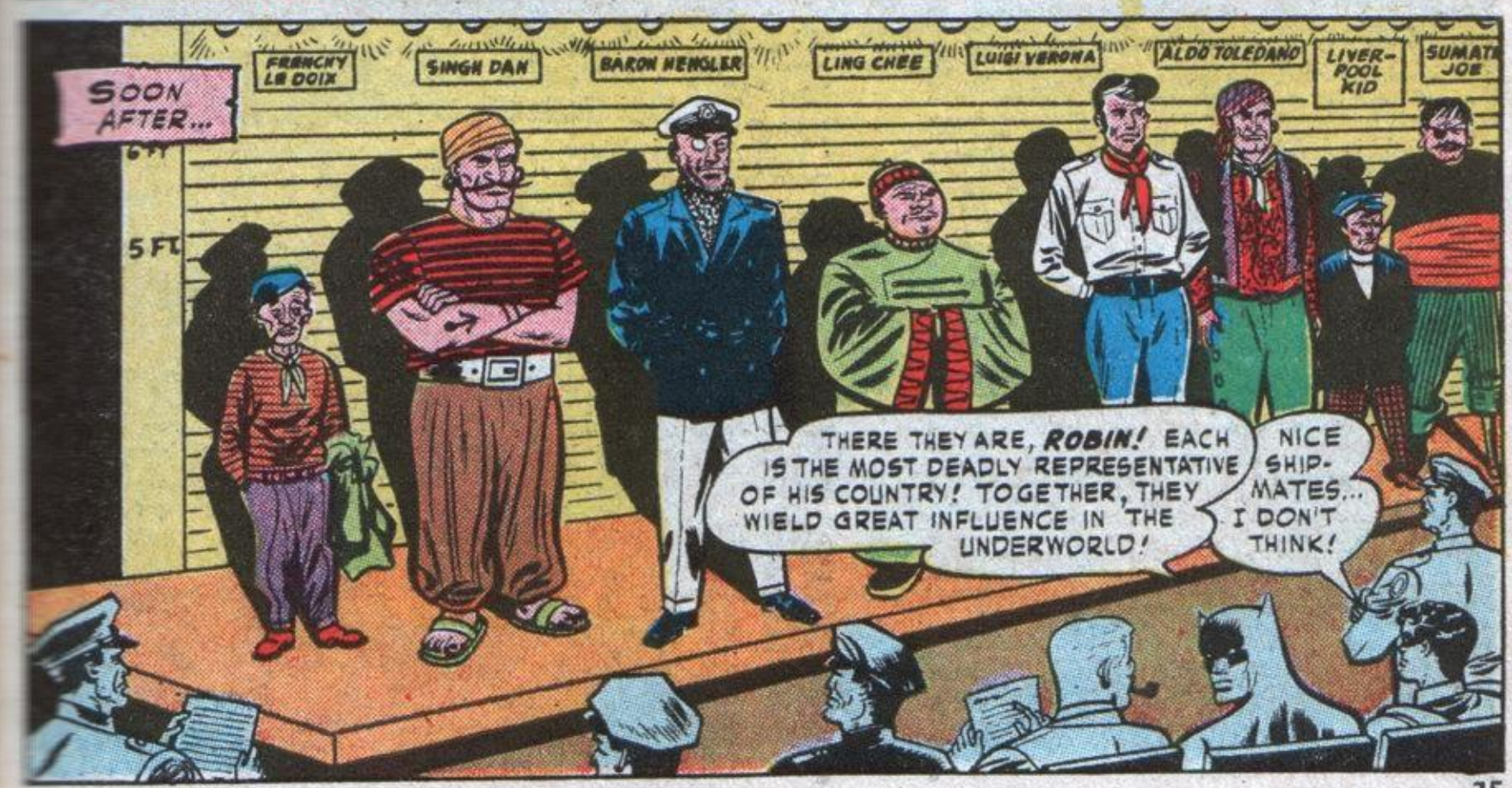
THAT DOES IT! THE EIGHT INTERNATIONAL CRIMINALS WHO BROKE OUT OF SATAN'S ISLAND WITH THE HELP OF THE WORLD-WIDE UNDERWORLD! AND NOW THEY'RE CAPTURED AGAIN!

NEXT DAY, AS COMMISSIONER GORDON SUMMONS BATMAN AND ROBIN TO A TOP-SECRET OFFICE AT THE GOTHAM CITY NAVY YARD...
THE NAVY HAS CONSENTED TO LEND US THEIR EXPERIMENTAL MODEL! WE'RE GOING TO USE IT TO DEPORT THE "SINISTER 8"!
A REMOTE-CONTROLLED SHIP?? BUT WHY??
RADOK REMOTE CONTROL VESSEL OPERATION

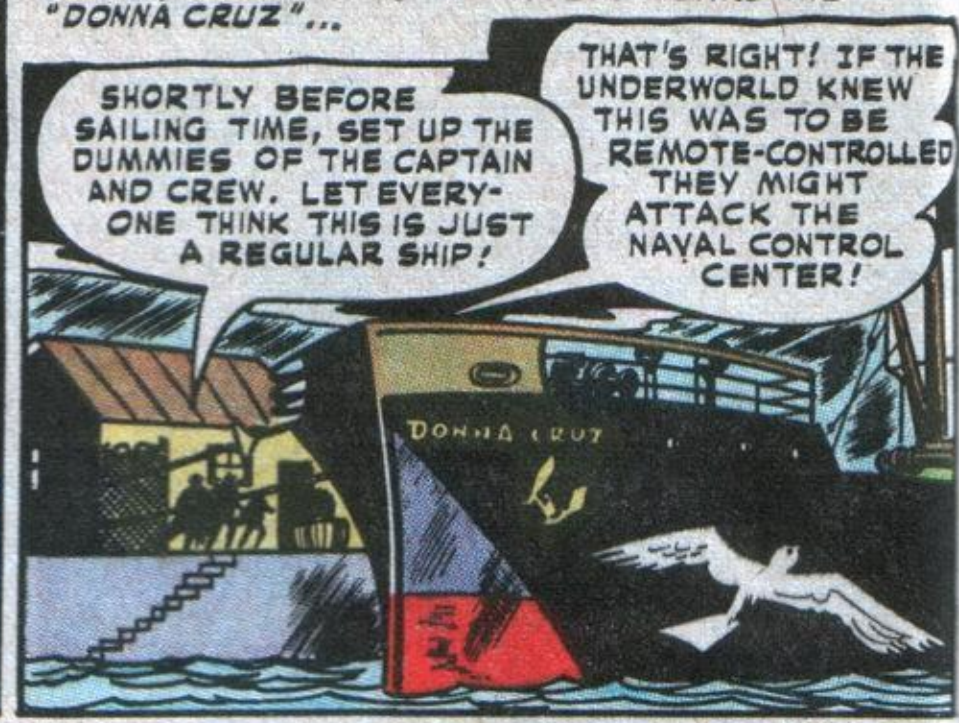
FRANKLY, BECAUSE NO CREW WILL DARE TAKE ON THE JOB! THE UNDERWORLD HAS SWORN THESE MEN WILL NOT BE RETURNED TO SATAN'S ISLAND! AND THE THREAT APPARENTLY CARRIES WEIGHT!
I SEE! AND SO YOU'LL SEND THEM ON A CREWLESS SHIP THAT'S OPERATED BY REMOTE CONTROL! A CLEVER IDEA!

YOU AND ROBIN WILL BE THE ONLY LAW AND ORDER ON THAT SHIP, BATMAN! THE PRISONERS WILL BE LOCKED IN THE BRIG... YOU'LL GIVE THEM THEIR FOOD AND WATER!
RIGHT! IT'S ABOUT TIME ROBIN AND I TOOK A LITTLE SEA JAUNT!

NEXT DAY, IN THE BAT-CAVE UNDERNEATH THE MANSION OF MILLIONAIRE BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS WARD, DICK GRAYSON...
SO THAT'S WHERE SATAN'S ISLAND IS! QUITE A TRIP!
SOUTH ATLANTIC OCEAN
YES! AND NOW LET'S GET INTO OUR BATMAN AND ROBIN COSTUME... AND MEET OUR CARGO OF HUMAN DYNAMITE!


SOON AFTER...
FRENCHY LE DOIX
SINGH DAN
BARON HENGLER
LING CHEE
LUIGI VERONA
ALDO TOLEDANO
LIVER-POOL KID
SUMATI JOE
6 FT
5 FT
THERE THEY ARE, ROBIN! EACH IS THE MOST DEADLY REPRESENTATIVE OF HIS COUNTRY! TOGETHER, THEY WIELD GREAT INFLUENCE IN THE UNDERWORLD!
NICE SHIP-MATES... I DON'T THINK!

SUDDENLY...
BATMAN... BAH! NO ONE WILL RETURN US TO SATAN'S ISLAND! ANYONE WHO TRIES WILL DIE!
QUIET, YOU! GET BACK IN LINE!


LATER, AS BATMAN AND ROBIN BOARD THE "DONNA CRUZ"...
SHORTLY BEFORE SAILING TIME, SET UP THE DUMMIES OF THE CAPTAIN AND CREW. LET EVERYONE THINK THIS IS JUST A REGULAR SHIP!
THAT'S RIGHT! IF THE UNDERWORLD KNEW THIS WAS TO BE REMOTE-CONTROLLED THEY MIGHT ATTACK THE NAVAL CONTROL CENTER!
DONNA CRUZ

BON VOYAGE, BATMAN! AND BE CAREFUL! YOU'VE GOT A TRICKY CARGO... AND YOU'RE RESPONSIBLE FOR $1,000,000 WORTH OF SECRET SCIENTIFIC EQUIPMENT!
DON'T WORRY, COMMISSIONER! WE'LL HANDLE IT ALL!

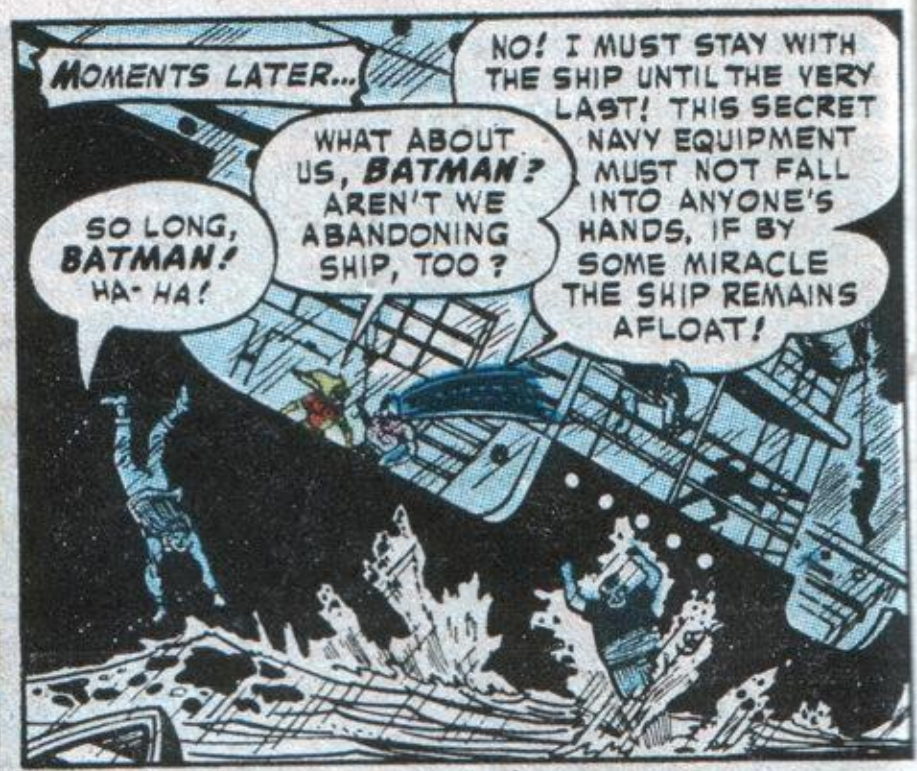
AND THAT EVENING, THE MOST POWERFUL POLICE GUARD IN GOTHAM CITY HISTORY ESCORTS THE PRISONERS TO THE "DONNA CRUZ"!
SO FAR, SO GOOD, ROBIN! THE POLICE HAVE GOT THEM HERE... NOW THE REST IS UP TO US!
WELL... LET'S GO DOWN AND WELCOME OUR GUESTS... WITH CHAINS!

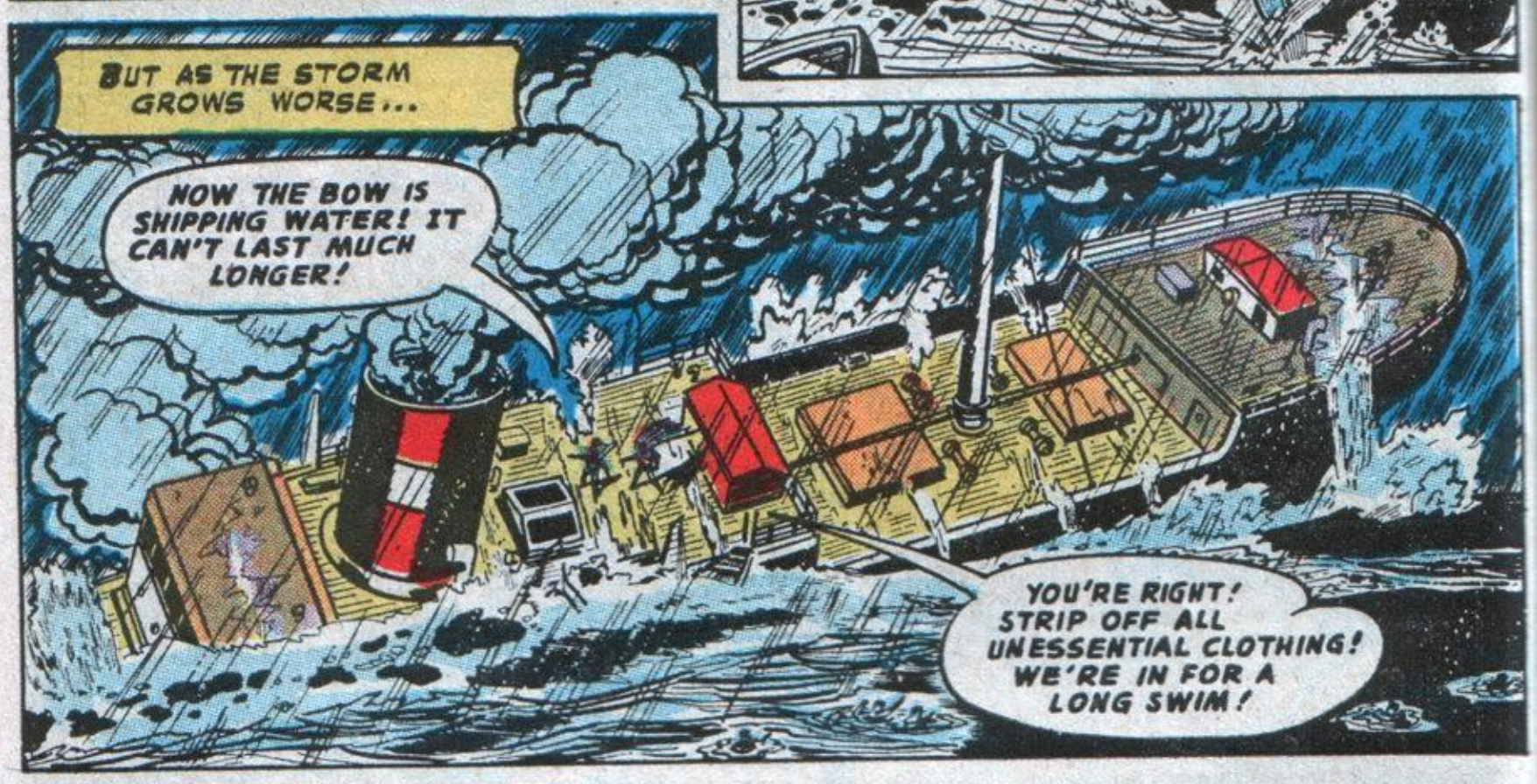
SOON AFTER...
WELL... WE'RE UNDER WAY! IT'S GOING TO BE A LONG TRIP SO YOU MIGHT AS WELL MAKE YOURSELVES AS COMFORTABLE AS YOU CAN!
MERCI, BATMAN! HEH, HEH! THEES WON' BE A BAD TREEP AT ALL! HEH-HEH!

THEY'RE LOCKED UP SECURELY... THEY HAVEN'T A CHANCE! YET STRANGELY, THEY'RE IN GOOD SPIRITS!
IT'S AS IF THEY KNEW SOMETHING THAT WE DIDN'T! I'VE GOT A FUNNY FEELING, BATMAN... THAT WE'RE IN FOR TROUBLE!

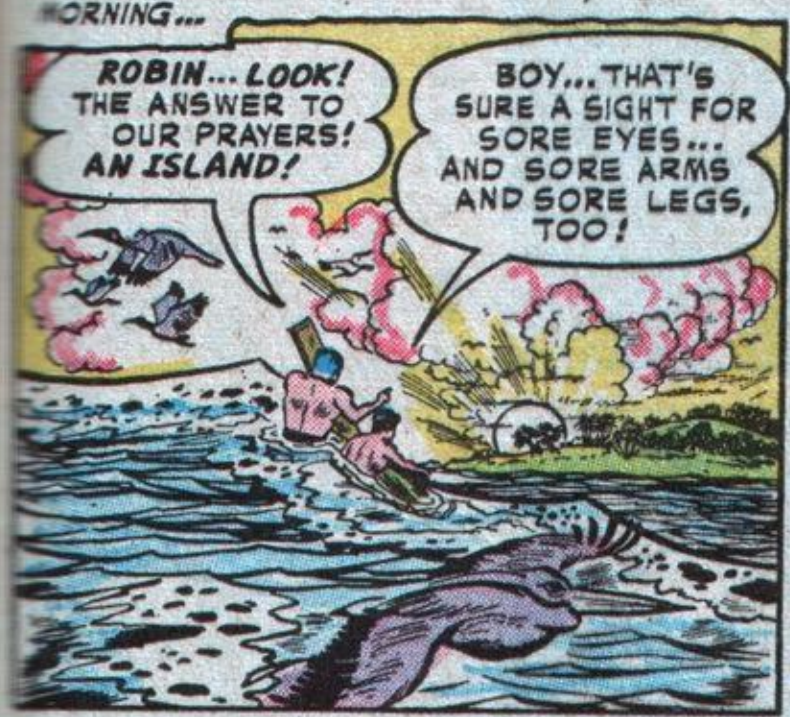
AND A FEW DAYS LATER, AS IF IN ANSWER TO ROBIN'S HUNCH, A SUBMARINE SLIPS IN BEHIND THE "DONNA CRUZ" CREEPING THROUGH CHOPPY, STORM-DRIVEN WATERS!
AH, SOON, ONE WELL-PLACED TORPEDO AND BATMAN WILL HAVE TO ABANDON SHIP! THEN WE'LL PICK UP ALL HANDS!
HURD! OUR VALVES ARE SHOT! WE CAN'T SURFACE! OUR ONLY CHANCE IS TO TURN FOR HOME... AND EACH MAN TO USE THE ESCAPE-HATCH WHEN WE'RE OFF-SHORE!
BUT WE CAN'T TURN BACK! OUR MISSION IS TO FREE THOSE PRISONERS! WE'LL BE KILLED IF WE FAIL!
BUT IF WE CAN'T SURFACE, HOW ARE WE GOING TO PICK THEM UP? I SAY... TURN BACK! BESIDES, THE STORM IS GETTING WORSE!
WAIT! I'VE AN IDEA! WE'RE NEAR THESE SMALL UNINHABITED ISLANDS. THE TIDE'S FAVORABLE... IT WOULD HELP SURVIVORS TO REACH THEM!
I GET IT! WE'LL TORPEDO THE SHIP ANYWAY! THE PRISONERS, ABANDONING SHIP, WOULD BE WASHED UP ON THE ISLANDS! WE'LL COME BACK AND GET THEM!
AND A FEW MOMENTS LATER...
BATMAN! A TORPEDO ... AIMED SQUARE FOR US! TURN THE SHIP!
BUT WE CAN'T! IT'S REMOTE-CONTROLLED... REMEMBER!
A DIRECT HIT! WHOEVER DID IT KNEW THE BRIG WAS IN THE STERN! THAT'S WHY THEY AIMED FORWARD!
AND THERE GOES OUR RADIO MAST! THEY THOUGHT OF EVERYTHING!
ALL AT ONCE!
BOOOM!!
NO TELLING HOW LONG THIS SHIP WILL LAST NOW, ROBIN! WHETHER WE LIKE IT OR NOT, WE'VE GOT TO FREE THE PRISONERS! WE CAN'T LET THEM DIE LIKE TRAPPED RATS!

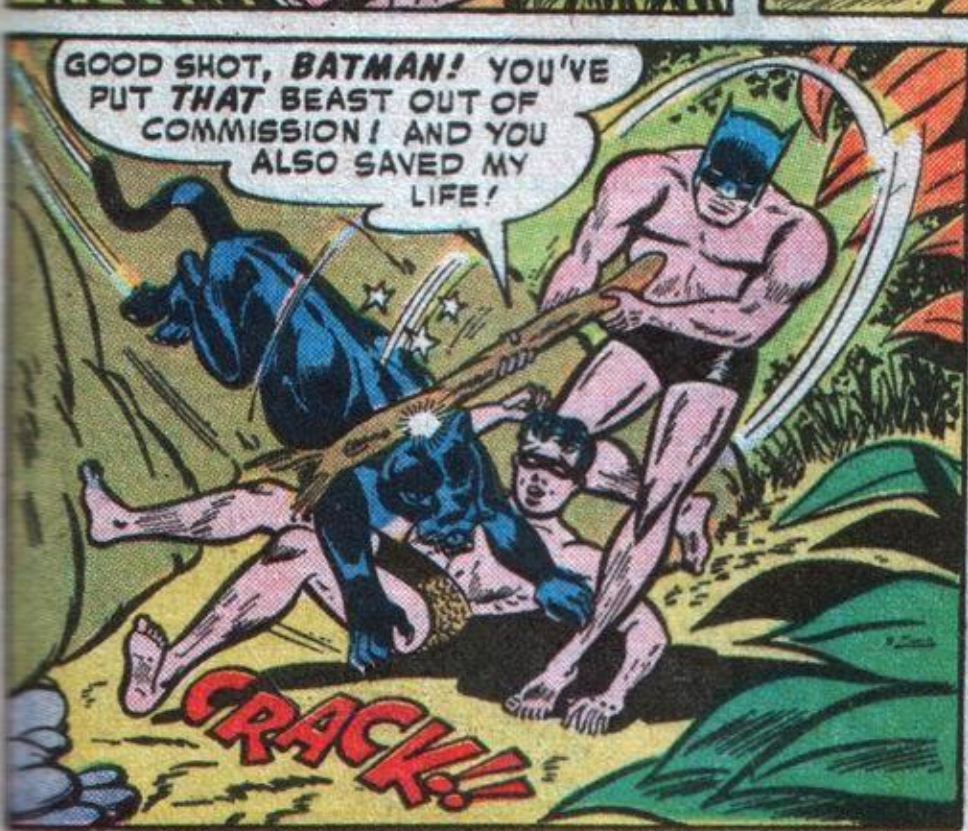
AND SHORTLY AFTERWARDS, A STRANGE DRAMA UNFOLDS--BATMAN AND ROBIN FORCED BY THEIR RIGID CODE OF ETHICS TO FREE THEIR DEADLY CARGO!





A MOMENT LATER... THE SADDEST SIGHT OF THE SEA... A ONCE-PROUD SHIP SLOWLY SETTLING TO A WATERY GRAVE...





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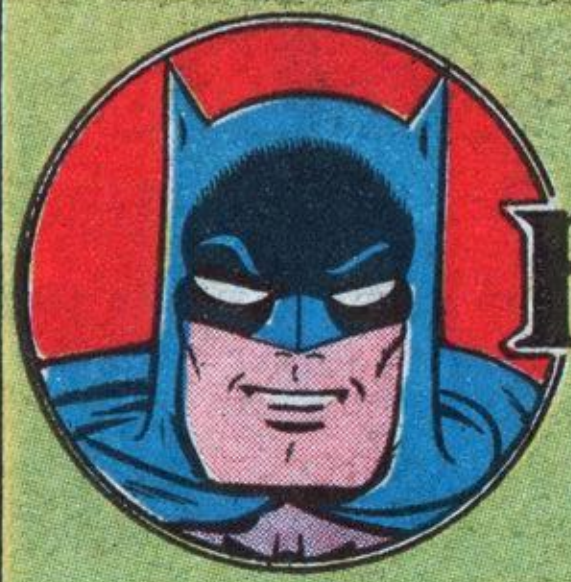

1962 BATMAN and ROBIN CALENDAR

1962 JANUARY 1962

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

1962 FEBRUARY 1962

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28			

1962 MARCH 1962

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
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1962 APRIL 1962

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1962 MAY 1962

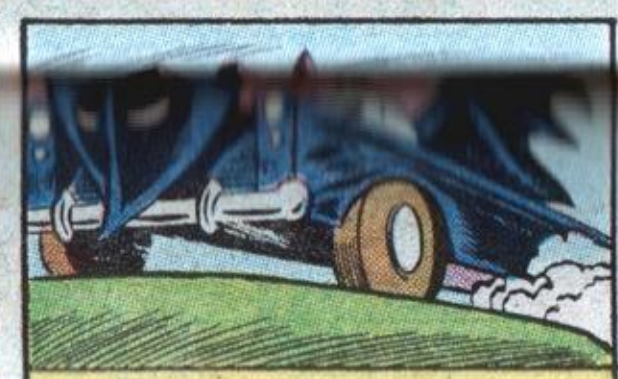
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT

1962 JUNE 1962

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT

1962 JULY 1962

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT



1962 AUGUST 1962

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1962 JUNE 1962

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1962 JULY 1962

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
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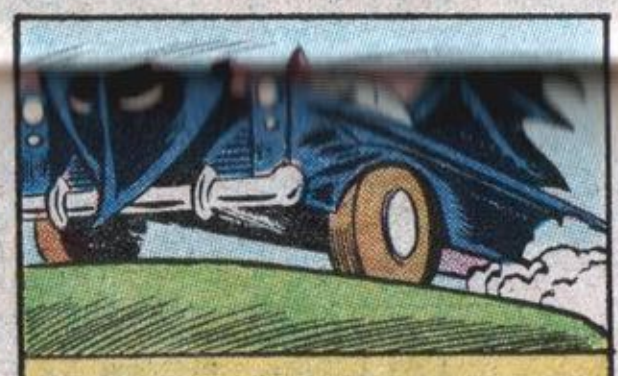

1962 AUGUST 1962

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1962 SEPTEMBER 1962

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
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1962 OCTOBER 1962

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
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1962 NOVEMBER 1962

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
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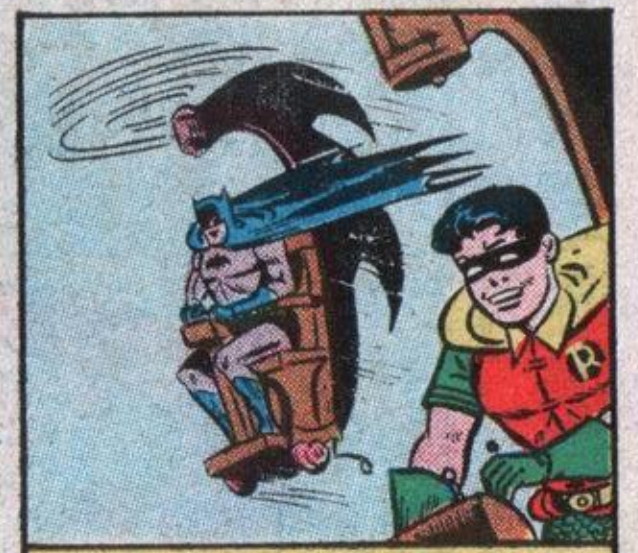

1962 DECEMBER 1962

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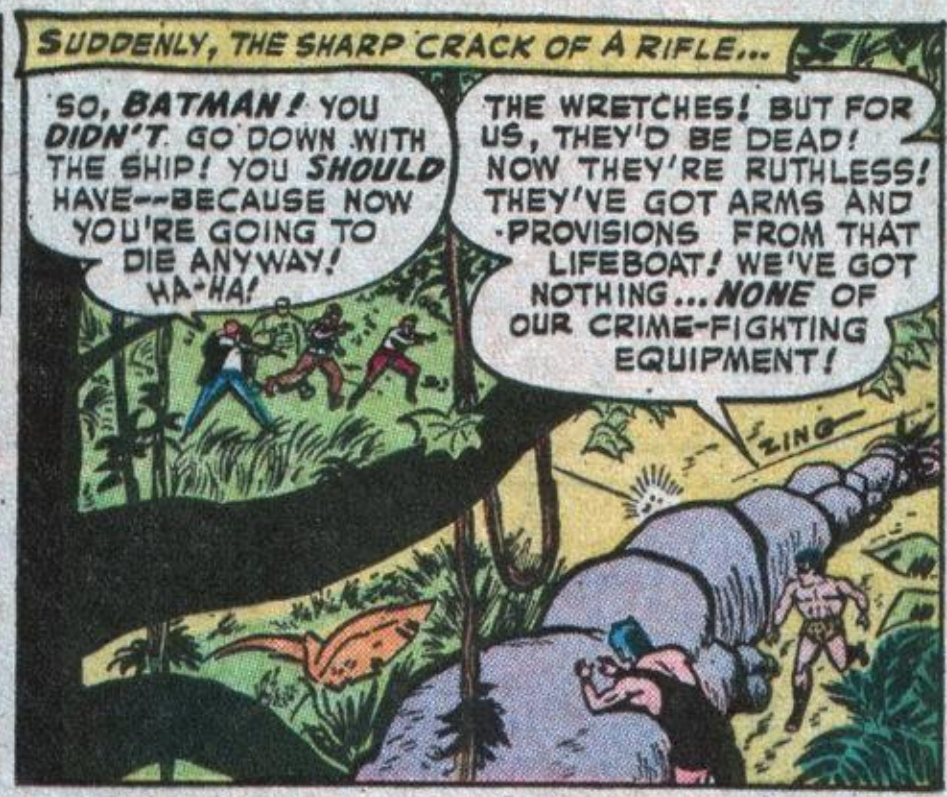
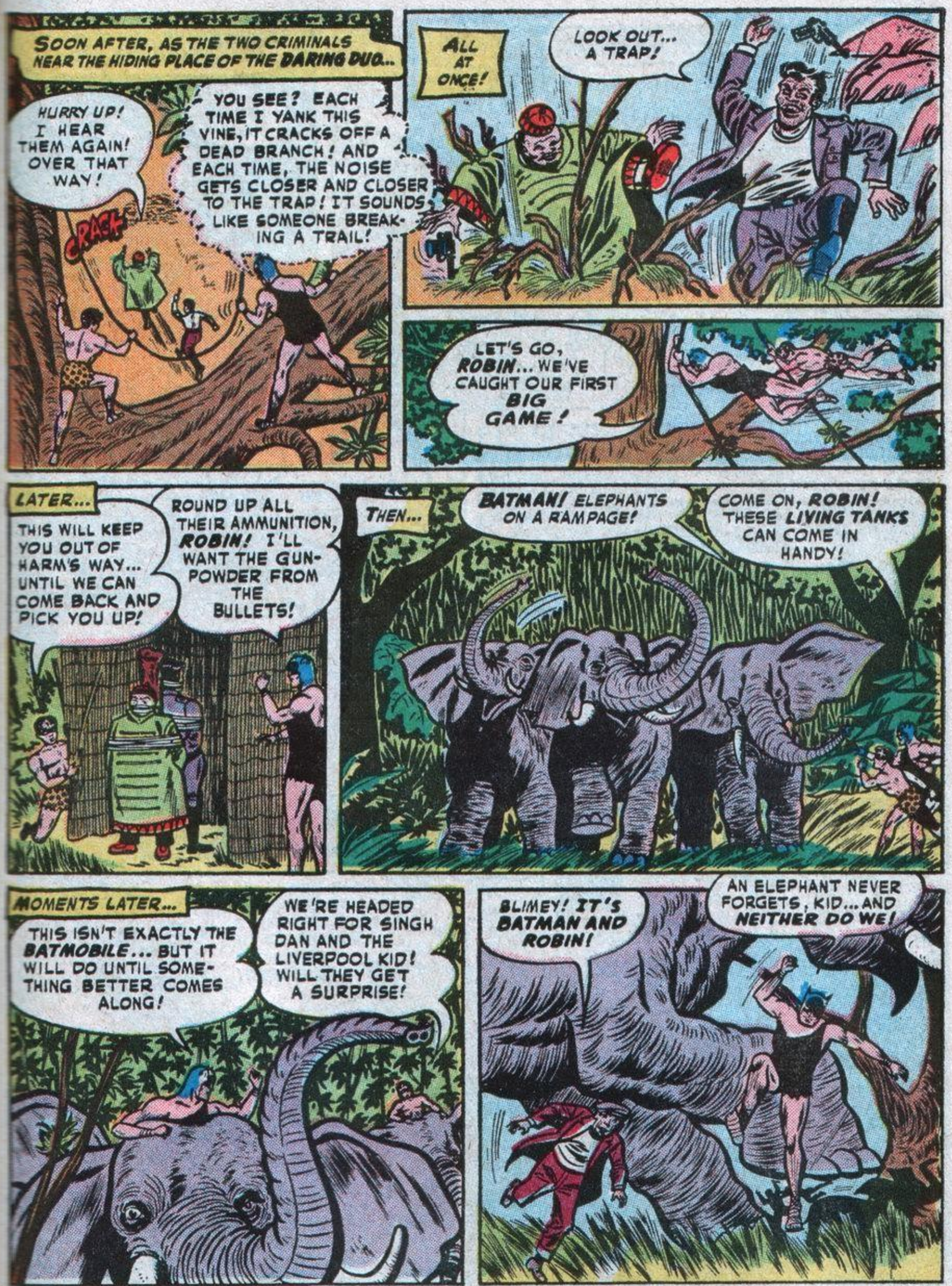
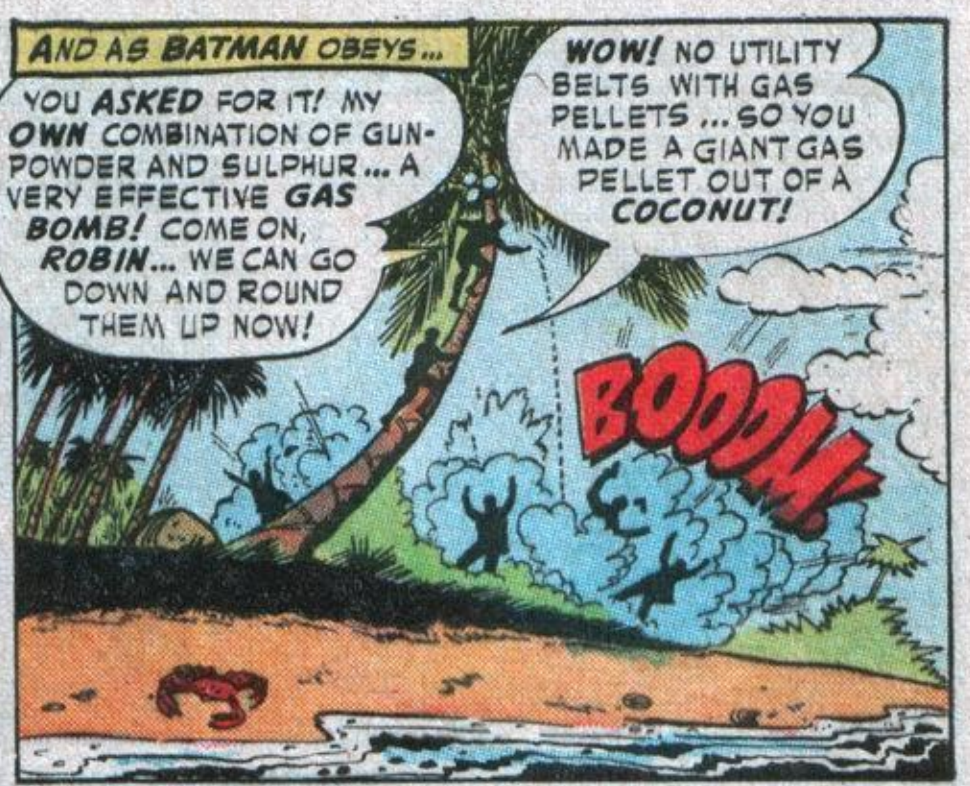
THEN, AS THE FAMED LAWMEN MOVE WITH THE SPEED OF LIGHTNING!




SOON AFTER, AS THE TWO CRIMINALS NEAR THE HIDING PLACE OF THE DARING DUO...
HURRY UP! I HEAR THEM AGAIN! OVER THAT WAY!
YOU SEE? EACH TIME I YANK THIS VINE, IT CRACKS OFF A DEAD BRANCH! AND EACH TIME, THE NOISE GETS CLOSER AND CLOSER TO THE TRAP! IT SOUNDS LIKE SOMEONE BREAKING A TRAIL!
CRASH
ALL AT ONCE!
LOOK OUT... A TRAP!
LET'S GO, ROBIN... WE'VE CAUGHT OUR FIRST BIG GAME!
LATER...
THIS WILL KEEP YOU OUT OF HARM'S WAY... UNTIL WE CAN COME BACK AND PICK YOU UP!
ROUND UP ALL THEIR AMMUNITION, ROBIN! I'LL WANT THE GUNPOWDER FROM THE BULLETS!
THEN...
BATMAN! ELEPHANTS ON A RAMPAGE!
COME ON, ROBIN! THESE LIVING TANKS CAN COME IN HANDY!
MOMENTS LATER...
THIS ISN'T EXACTLY THE BATMOBILE... BUT IT WILL DO UNTIL SOMETHING BETTER COMES ALONG!
WE'RE HEADED RIGHT FOR SINGH DAN AND THE LIVERPOOL KID! WILL THEY GET A SURPRISE!
BLIMEY! IT'S BATMAN AND ROBIN!
AN ELEPHANT NEVER FORGETS, KID... AND NEITHER DO WE!

AND AS THE TWO CRIMINALS ATTEMPT TO FLEE THROUGH A FIELD OF ANCIENT STONE CARVINGS...
THERE THEY ARE! LET'S CLIMB UP AFTER THEM!
NO! THESE SAPLINGS GIVE ME A BETTER IDEA!
READY, ROBIN! I'M SENDING YOU SPECIAL DELIVERY!
LET 'ER GO!
SUDDENLY, BATMAN RELEASES THE SAPLING, FLINGING ROBIN THROUGH THE AIR AS A HUMAN PROJECTILE...
THAT DOES IT! NOW LET'S PUT A CAGE AROUND THESE CHARACTERS, TOO!
GOOD AIMING, IF I SAY SO MYSELF! I ALWAYS WAS GOOD WITH A SLINGSHOT!
YES! AND REMIND ME TO INSPECT THESE SULPHUR DEPOSITS I SEE AROUND HERE!
A HALF HOUR LATER...
NICE KNIFE SINGH DAN WAS CARRYING. SO THOUGHTFUL OF HIM TO PROVIDE US WITH MATCHES, TOO!
STOP FOOLING WITH THAT COCONUT! LOOK... A SMALL SHIP IS HEADED RIGHT FOR THE ISLAND!
BUT THEN...
YES... A SHIP! OUR SHIP! HA, HA! WE'VE CAUGHT YOU JUST IN TIME!
COME DOWN! WE'D KILL YOU NOW EXCEPT THAT WE WANT YOU TO LEAD US TO THE ONES YOU CAPTURED!

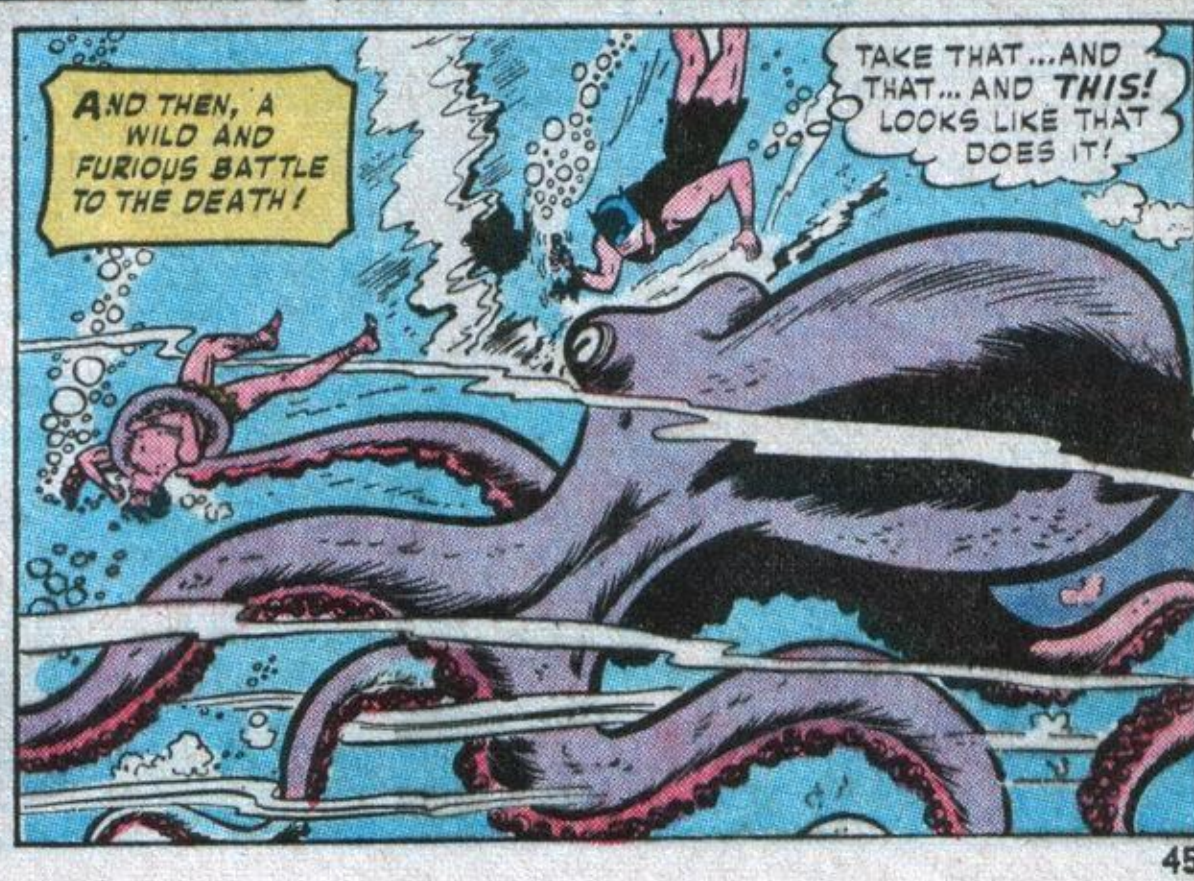
HA-HA! LOOK... BATMAN'S TRYING TO GET A DRINK OUT OF THAT COCONUT. LET'S SPOIL HIS FUN... LET HIM STAY THIRSTY! OUI?
YES! BATMAN! NO MORE OF THE SIMPLE PLEASURES FOR YOU! THROW DOWN THAT COCONUT!

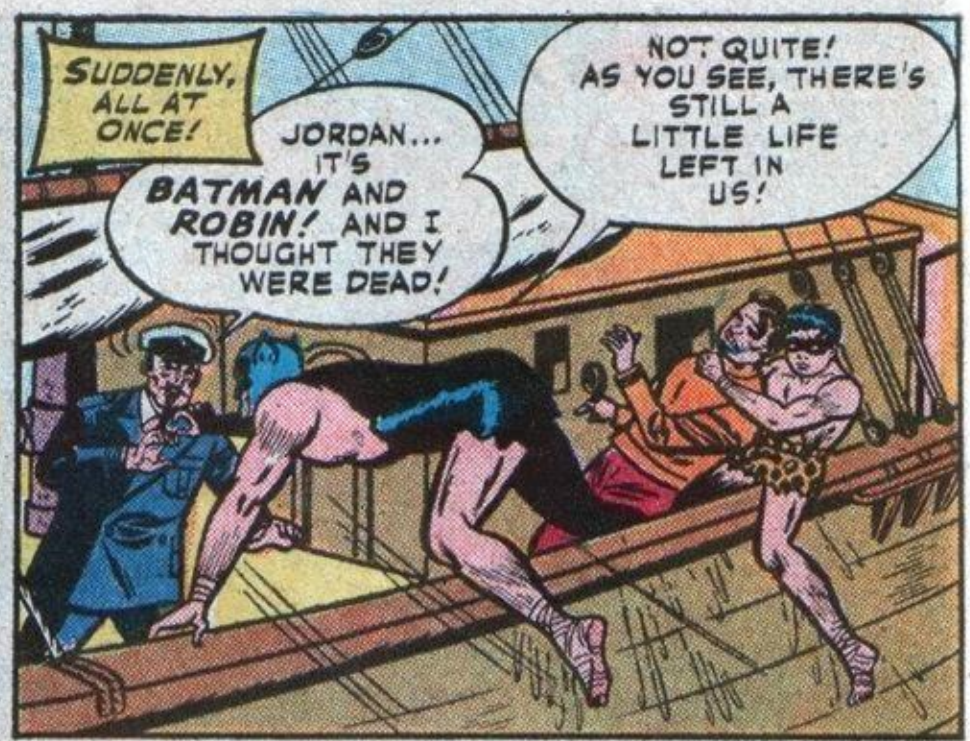

AND AS BATMAN OBEYS...
YOU ASKED FOR IT! MY OWN COMBINATION OF GUNPOWDER AND SULPHUR... A VERY EFFECTIVE GAS BOMB! COME ON, ROBIN... WE CAN GO DOWN AND ROUND THEM UP NOW!
WOW! NO UTILITY BELTS WITH GAS PELLETS... SO YOU MADE A GIANT GAS PELLET OUT OF A COCONUT!
BOOM!

SOON AFTER THE REMAINING FOUR DESPERADOES ARE LEFT BOUND AND GAGGED...
THAT YACHT IS DROPPING ANCHOR! LOOKS LIKE YOU AND I SHALL BE THE NEW CREW! READY FOR A LITTLE UNDER-WATER SWIM?
RIGHT! WE CAN SNEAK UP ON THEM WITHOUT EVER BEING DISCOVERED!

SLIPPING AROUND TO A POINT ON SHORE OUT OF VIEW OF THE YACHT, BATMAN AND ROBIN BEGIN THEIR LONG SWIM! BUT THEN...
A GIANT OCTOPUS! AND HE'S GOT ROBIN! IF I ONLY HAD SOME SORT OF WEAPON!!

ABRUPTLY, BATMAN'S SHARP EYES SPOT SOMETHING ON THE OCEAN FLOOR! A MOMENT LATER...
NEED ALL MY STRENGTH! (GRUNT) NO EASY TRICK... TO SMASH A BOTTLE UNDERWATER! AH! THERE SHE GOES!


AND THEN, A WILD AND FURIOUS BATTLE TO THE DEATH!
TAKE THAT... AND THAT... AND THIS! LOOKS LIKE THAT DOES IT!



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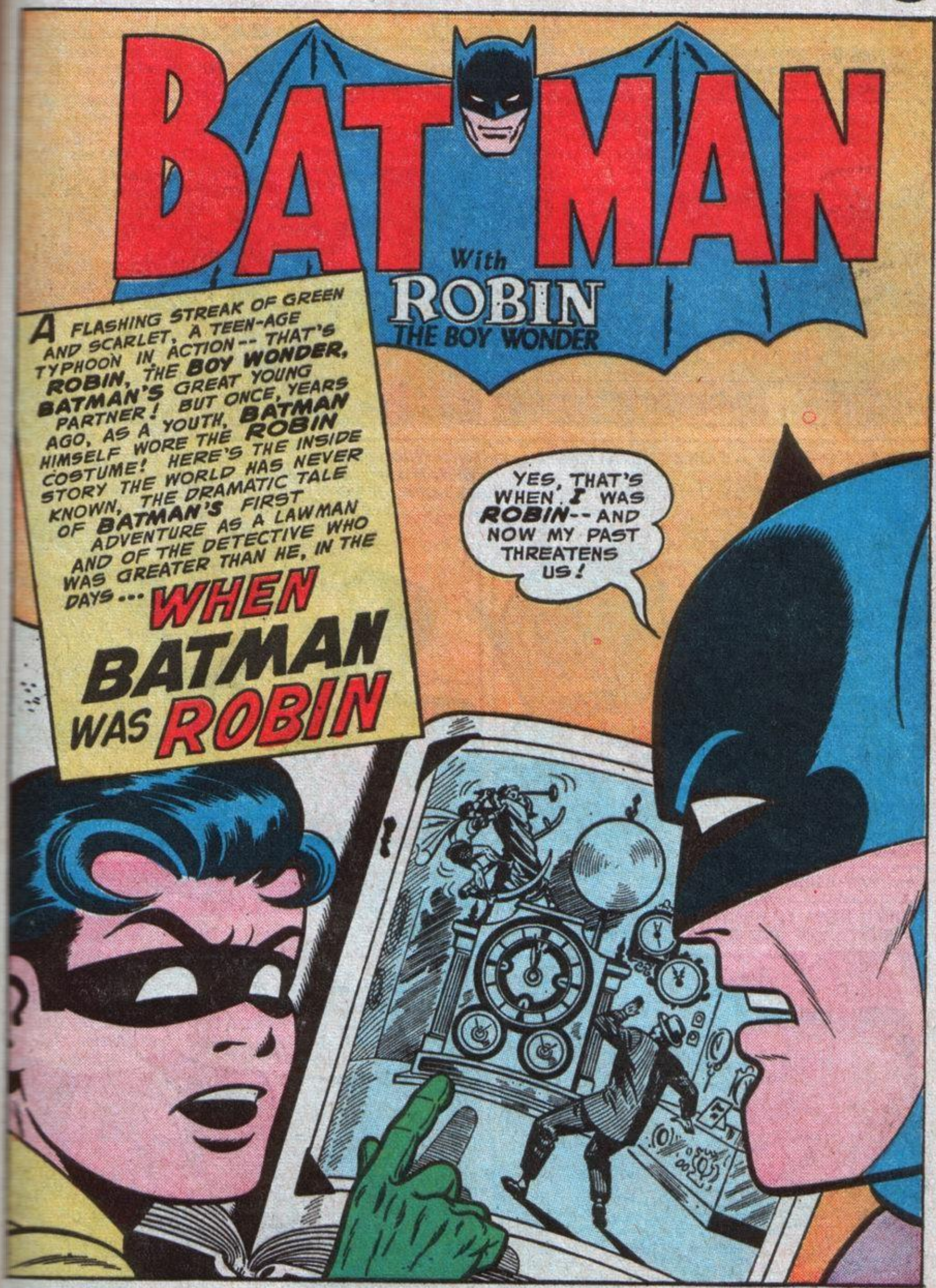
BATMAN
With
ROBIN
THE BOY WONDER
A FLASHING STREAK OF GREEN AND SCARLET, A TEEN-AGE TYPHOON IN ACTION -- THAT'S ROBIN, THE BOY WONDER, BATMAN'S GREAT YOUNG PARTNER! BUT ONCE, YEARS AGO, AS A YOUTH, BATMAN HIMSELF WORE THE ROBIN COSTUME! HERE'S THE INSIDE STORY THE WORLD HAS NEVER KNOWN, THE DRAMATIC TALE OF BATMAN'S FIRST ADVENTURE AS A LAWMAN AND OF THE DETECTIVE WHO WAS GREATER THAN HE, IN THE DAYS ... WHEN BATMAN WAS ROBIN
YES, THAT'S WHEN I WAS ROBIN -- AND NOW MY PAST THREATENS US!

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"IT HAPPENED YEARS AGO, WHEN I WAS IN MY TEENS. EVERY BOY IS A HERO-WORSHIPPER, AND MY IDOL WAS..."

HARVEY HARRIS IS A GREAT DETECTIVE, ALWAYS FIGHTING FOR THE LAW, FOR THE RIGHT! IF I COULD BE LIKE HIM WHEN I GROW UP--

Gotham Gazette 5¢
POLICE DETECTIVE HARVEY HARRIS NABS SKYWAY ROBBER
BRILLIANT SLEUTHING

"YES, IT WAS HARVEY HARRIS WHOSE ACHIEVEMENTS I LONGED TO IMITATE!"

BUT I'VE GOT TO LEARN, IF I'M EVER TO BATTLE LAW-BREAKERS AS HE DOES! I WONDER IF HE'D TEACH ME? HMM... MAYBE HE WILL IF I CONVINCE HIM I HAVE DETECTIVE ABILITY--

"MY PARENTS, ABROAD THAT SUMMER, HAD LEFT ME AT HOME WITH THE BUTLER AND MAID! SO I PUT MY YOUTHFUL PLANS INTO OPERATION..."

I'VE WATCHED MR. HARRIS FOR DAYS WITHOUT HIM SEEING ME -- WHEN I TELL HIM THAT, HE'LL SURELY ADMIT I'VE GOT SLEUTHING ABILITY!

"BUT THERE WAS ONE STUMBLING BLOCK!"

POLICE

NO -- I CAN'T LET HIM KNOW WHO I AM! HE MIGHT THINK WHAT I'M DOING IS DANGEROUS AND WANT TO DISCOURAGE ME! I'LL HAVE TO CONCEAL MY IDENTITY FROM HIM--

"THAT NIGHT, IN THE PRIVACY OF MY ROOM, I TOOK A FATEFUL STEP!"

THIS COSTUME -- IT'S FANCIFUL, BUT IT'LL CONCEAL MY IDENTITY FROM HIM! NOW TO CATCH HIM ALONE AFTER HE LEAVES HEADQUARTERS, AND ASK HIM TO TEACH ME!

"THAT WAS THE FIRST TIME I EVER WENT FORTH IN COSTUME -- AND I STEPPED INTO SOMETHING I HADN'T BARGAINED FOR!"

THAT'S FUNNY -- HE ISN'T FOLLOWING HIS USUAL ROUTE -- I WONDER -- IS HE TRAILING SOMEBODY?

"HE WAS--AS I LEARNED BY RUNNING AHEAD ACROSS THE LOW ROOFS! AND I LEARNED SOMETHING ELSE..."
THAT MUST BE THE MAN HARRIS IS TRAILING--BUT HE KNOWS HE'S BEING FOLLOWED, AND IS WAITING! I'VE GOT TO DO SOMETHING--FAST--
BELL
CLOTHING CO.

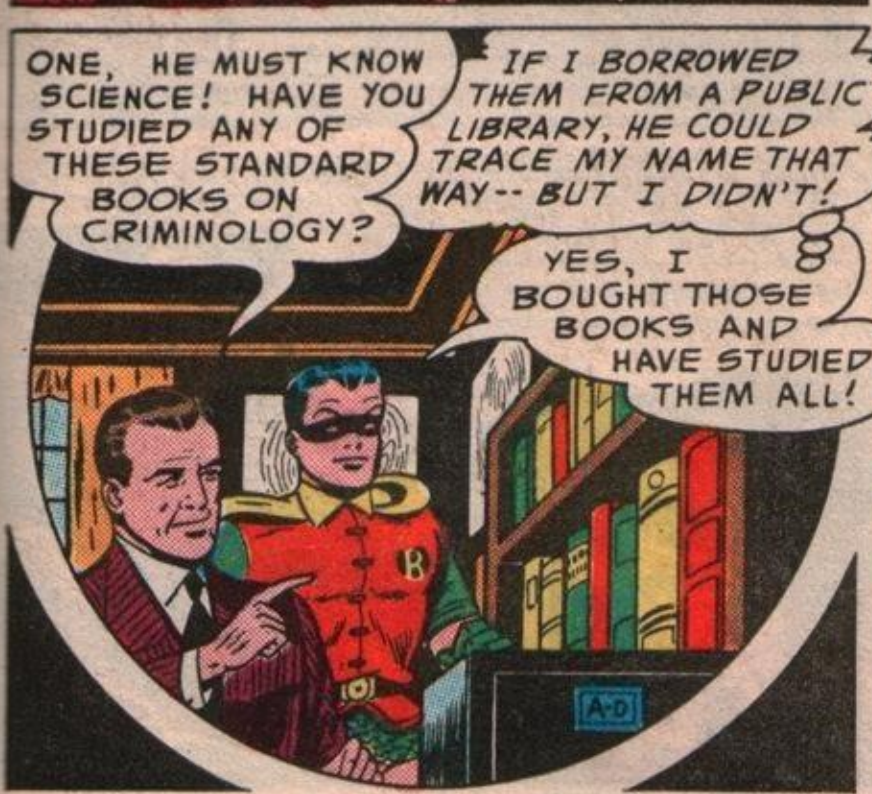
"I LEARNED THEN TO USE WHATEVER I COULD IN EMERGENCIES LIKE THAT ONE!"
THAT BIG TIN BELL ADVERTISING SIGN IS LIGHT AND WON'T HURT HIM, BUT IT'LL STOP HIM!
YOU THOUGHT YOU COULD TRAP ME, HARRIS, BUT--OOF!
BELL
CLOTHING CO

"I WAITED UNTIL THE POLICE HAD COME AND TAKEN THE MAN AWAY BEFORE I SPOKE TO MY HERO!"
WELL, YOUNG FELLOW, I OWE YOU A LOT! WHO ARE YOU?
I CAN'T LET YOU KNOW THAT, MR. HARRIS! BUT I KNOW WHO YOU ARE--THE GREATEST OF ALL DETECTIVES! AND I WANT TO BE YOUR PUPIL!

"I LEARNED LATER WHAT HARRIS FIRST THOUGHT OF ME!"
JUST AN EAGER YOUNGSTER, WHO THINKS HE'D LIKE TO BE A DETECTIVE! BUT IF I TURN HIM DOWN, HE'LL MAYBE GO OFF ON HIS OWN AND RUN RISKS--I'LL STRING HIM ALONG TILL I FIND OUT WHO HE IS, AND WARN HIS PARENTS!
WELL, MR. HARRIS?

I DO OWE YOU A DEBT--SO I'LL TEACH YOU SOMETHING ABOUT MY PROFESSION! HM, SINCE YOU'RE BRILLIANT AS A ROBIN REDBREAST IN THAT COSTUME, I'LL CALL YOU--ROBIN!
SWELL! WHAT DO I LEARN FIRST?

YOU'LL LEARN FIRST THAT DETECTIVE WORK IS NO LIGHT-HEARTED GAME, BUT A LIFE OF HARD WORK, OF LONELINESS, OF DANGER! AND SINCE I'M TO BE YOUR TEACHER, YOU'LL LEARN TO OBEY!
I--ULP--I'LL DO MY BEST!



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"MANY TIMES I'VE GONE ON LAW MISSIONS--BUT NOTHING WILL EVER MATCH THE THRILL OF THAT FIRST DRIVE WITH THE GREAT DETECTIVE!"

WHAT IS IT--A ROBBERY?

NO--ARTHUR MELLEN, A COLLECTOR OF VALUABLE BIG SHIP MODELS, SAYS RACKETEERS TRIED TO SELL HIM "COLLECTORS' INSURANCE" ON HIS MODELS! HE REFUSED--AND NOW HE BELIEVES THERE'S A PROWLER ON HIS GROUNDS!

"BY THE TIME WE REACHED MELLEN'S RIVERFRONT ESTATE, IT WAS DAWN--AND DISASTER HAD ALREADY STRUCK!"

TOO LATE--WHILE YOU DAWDLED ON THE WAY, SOMEONE CUT LOOSE MY PRICELESS MODELS AND SET THEM ADRIFT!

MAYBE I CAN STILL CATCH THEM FOR YOU!

"I WAS BURNING TO DISTINGUISH MYSELF ON MY FIRST MISSION!"

THIS MODEL WOULDN'T BEAR A MAN'S WEIGHT, BUT IT'LL BEAR MINE!

THAT BOY IN THE CRAZY COSTUME--WHAT'S HE DOING?

NO, WAIT--

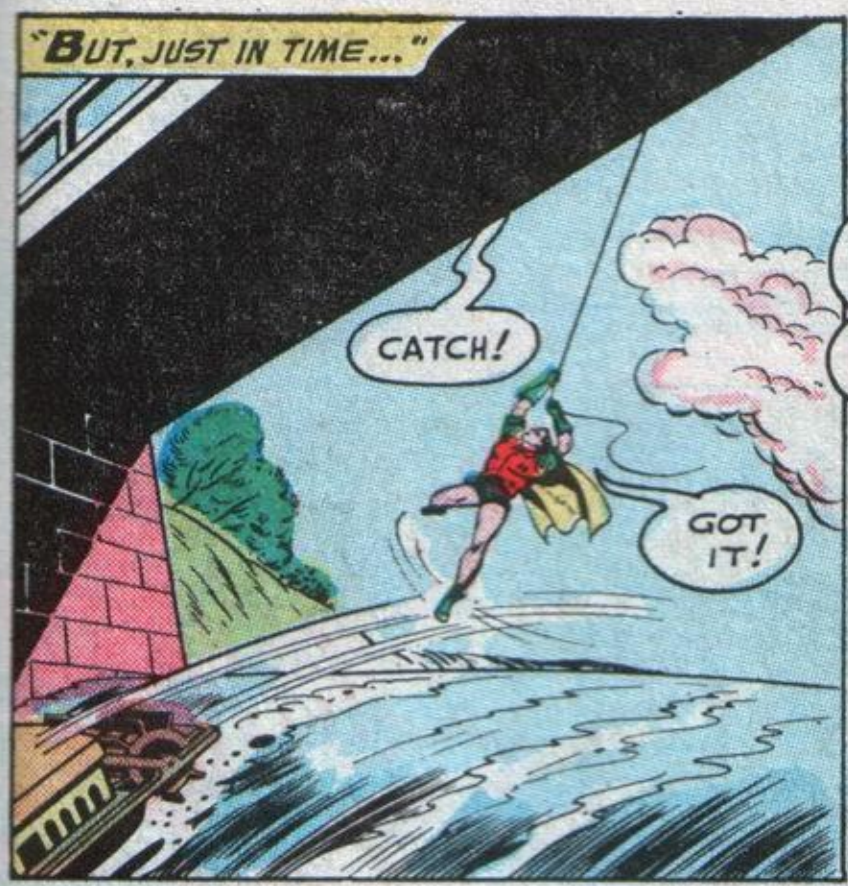
"USING A 'MISSISSIPPI STEAMBOAT' AS A PADDLE-BOARD, I RACED DOWN THE SWIFT CURRENT AFTER THE OTHER MODELS!"

I'M GAINING ON THEM! HARRIS WILL BE PROUD OF ME--

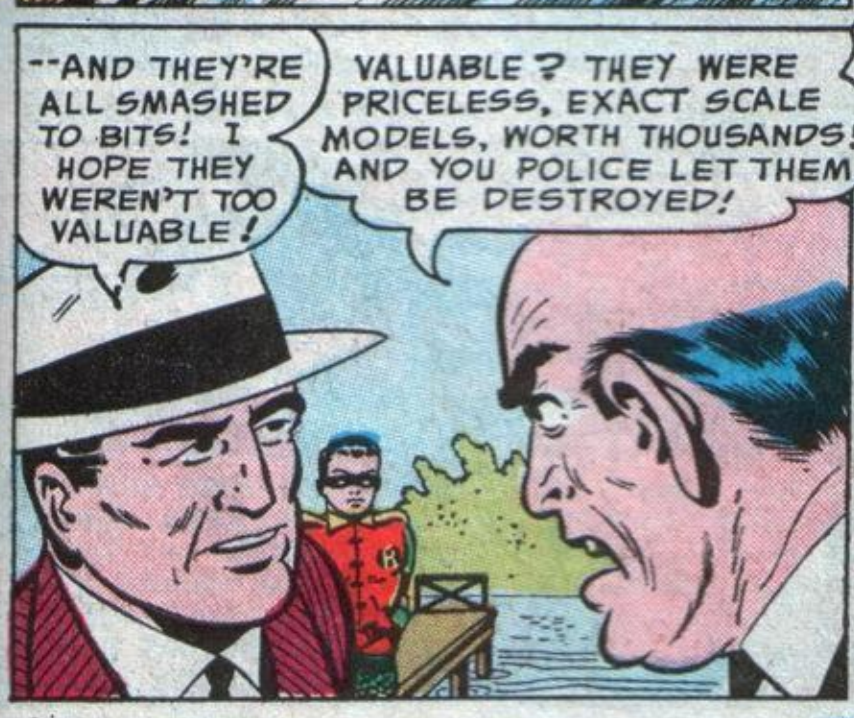
"BUT HARVEY HARRIS HAD RACED BACK TO HIS CAR AND WAS DRIVING DOWNRIVER AT TOP SPEED BECAUSE AHEAD OF ME--"

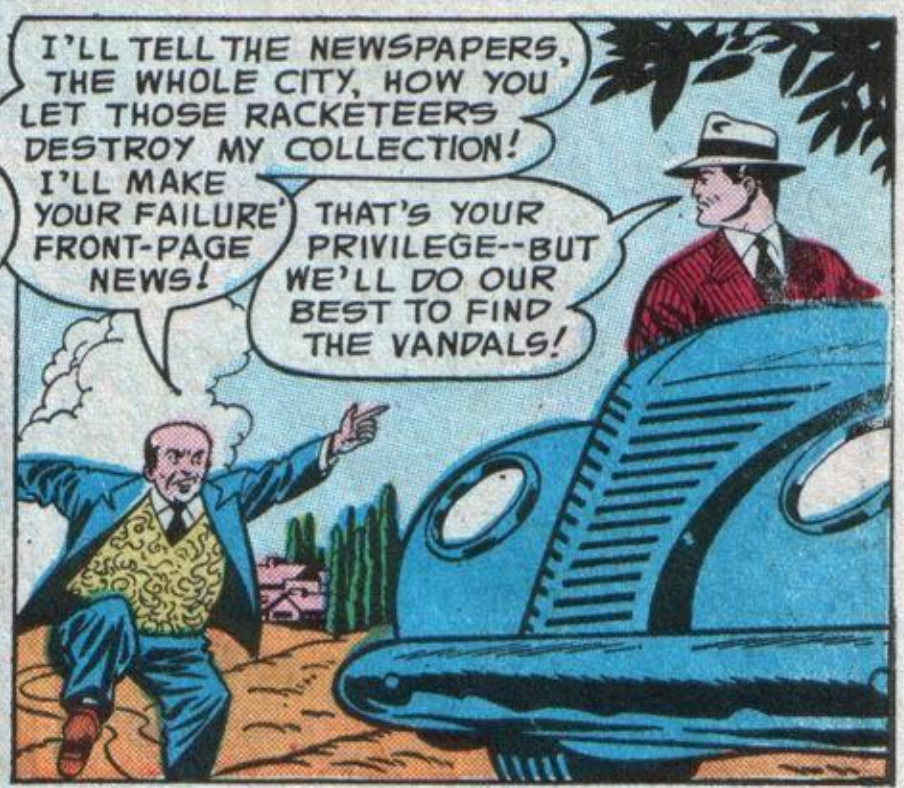
HE'LL BE CARRIED DOWN HERE IN A MOMENT--IF MY TOW-ROPE WILL REACH, I'VE A CHANCE--

NOW I SEE WHY MR. HARRIS TRIED TO STOP ME! LOOKS--LOOKS LIKE MY DETECTIVE CAREER ENDS RIGHT HERE--

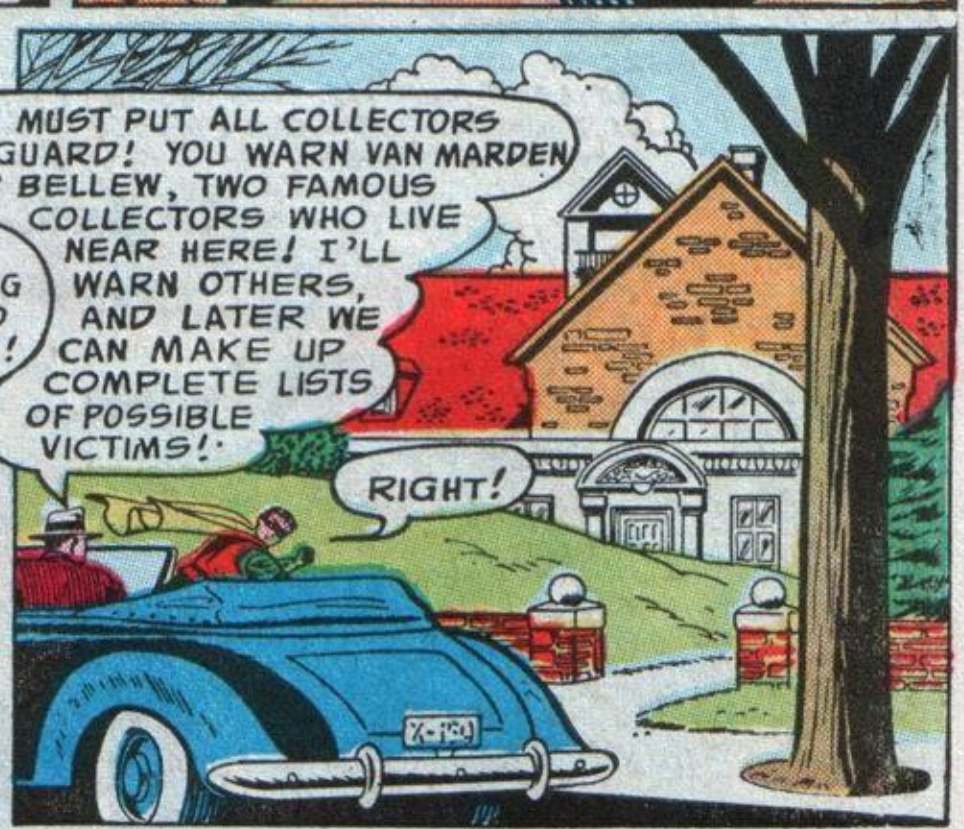

"BUT, JUST IN TIME..."
CATCH!
GOT IT!

"ONCE I WAS SAFE, HARRIS HURRIED TO THE FOOT OF THE FALLS--AND I FOLLOWED!"
NOTHING LEFT OF THE SHIP MODELS BUT THESE FRAGMENTS OF PLYWOOD!
YOU COULD HAVE BEEN DASHED TO BITS, TOO, FOR RUSHING INTO ACTION WITHOUT KNOWING WHAT'S AHEAD! WE'D BETTER TELL MELLEN WHAT HAPPENED TO HIS MODELS!

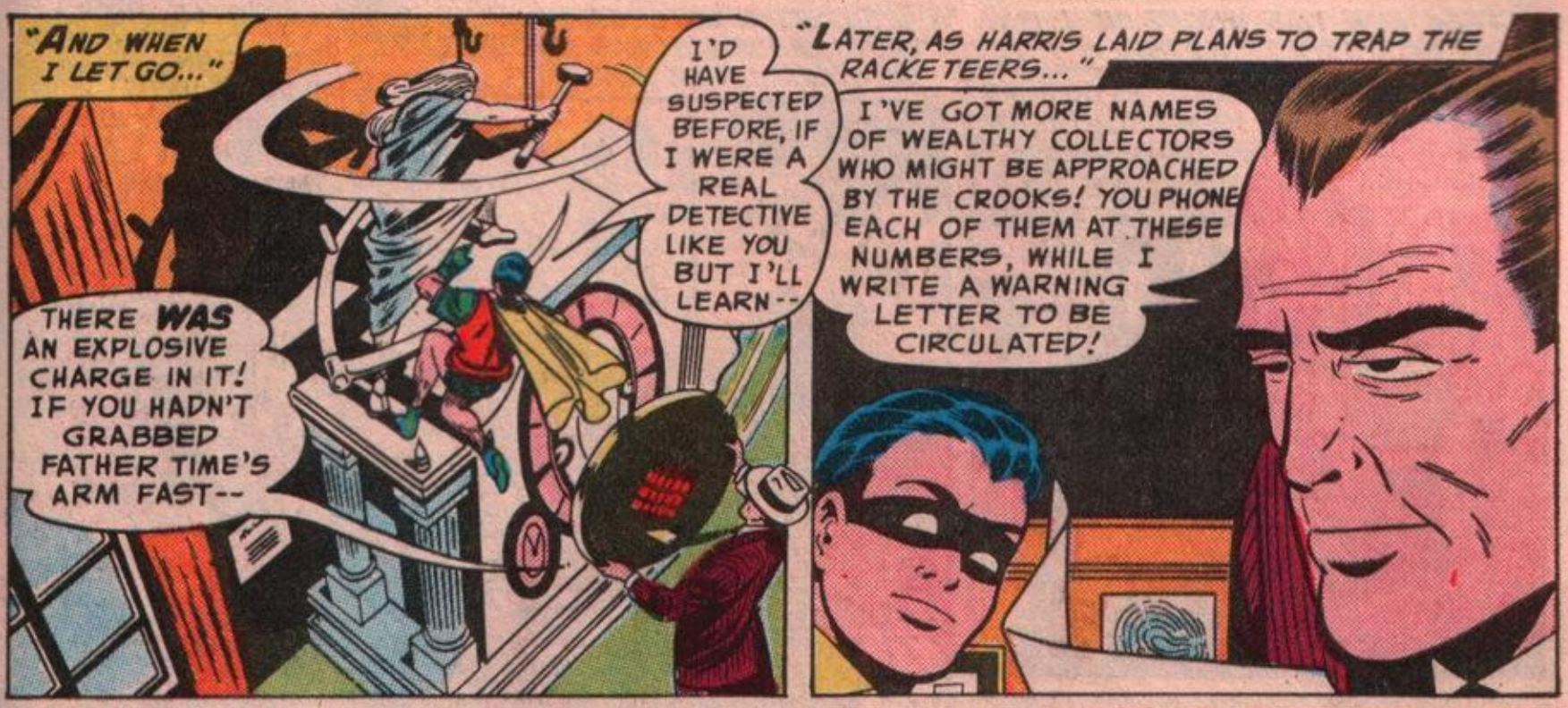

--AND THEY'RE ALL SMASHED TO BITS! I HOPE THEY WEREN'T TOO VALUABLE!
VALUABLE? THEY WERE PRICELESS, EXACT SCALE MODELS, WORTH THOUSANDS! AND YOU POLICE LET THEM BE DESTROYED!

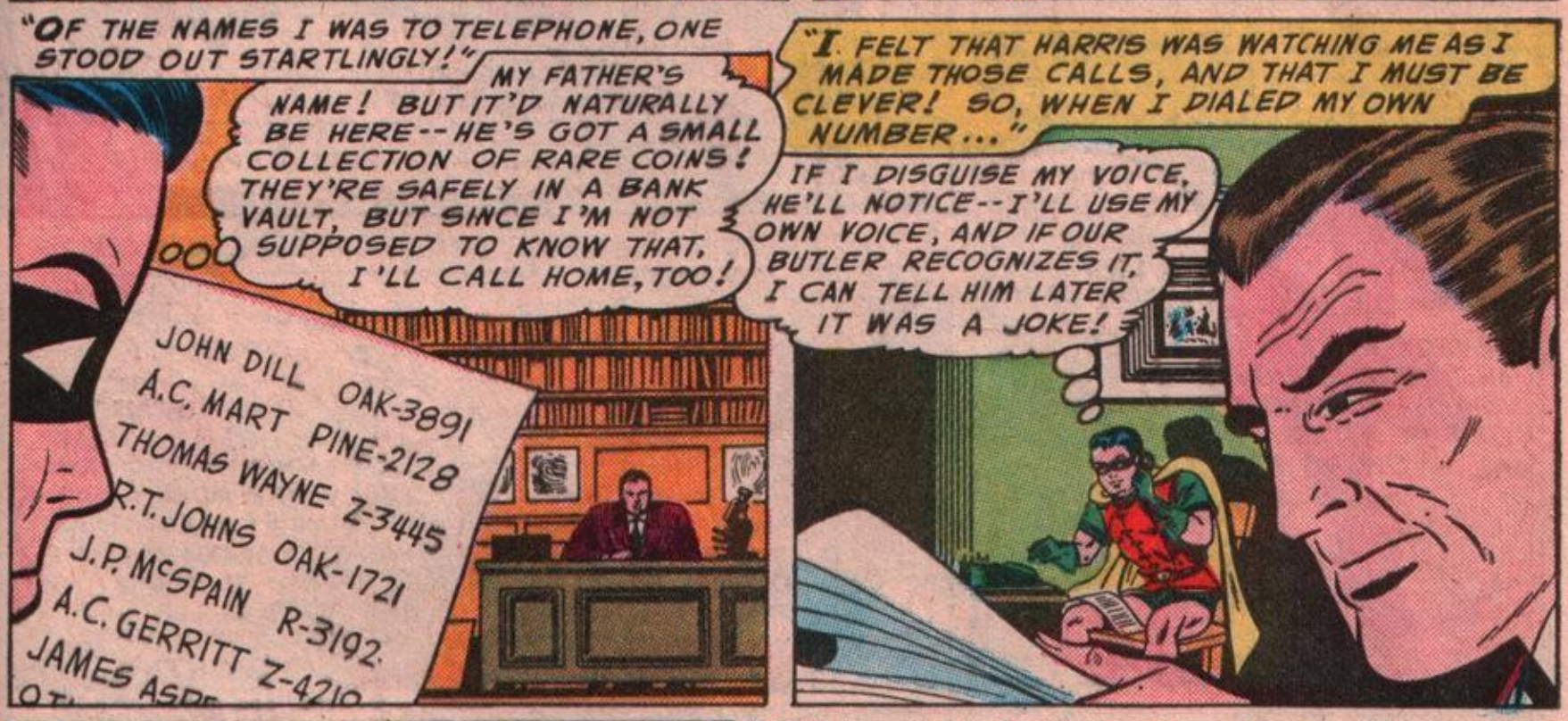

I'LL TELL THE NEWSPAPERS, THE WHOLE CITY, HOW YOU LET THOSE RACKETEERS DESTROY MY COLLECTION! I'LL MAKE YOUR FAILURE FRONT-PAGE NEWS!
THAT'S YOUR PRIVILEGE--BUT WE'LL DO OUR BEST TO FIND THE VANDALS!

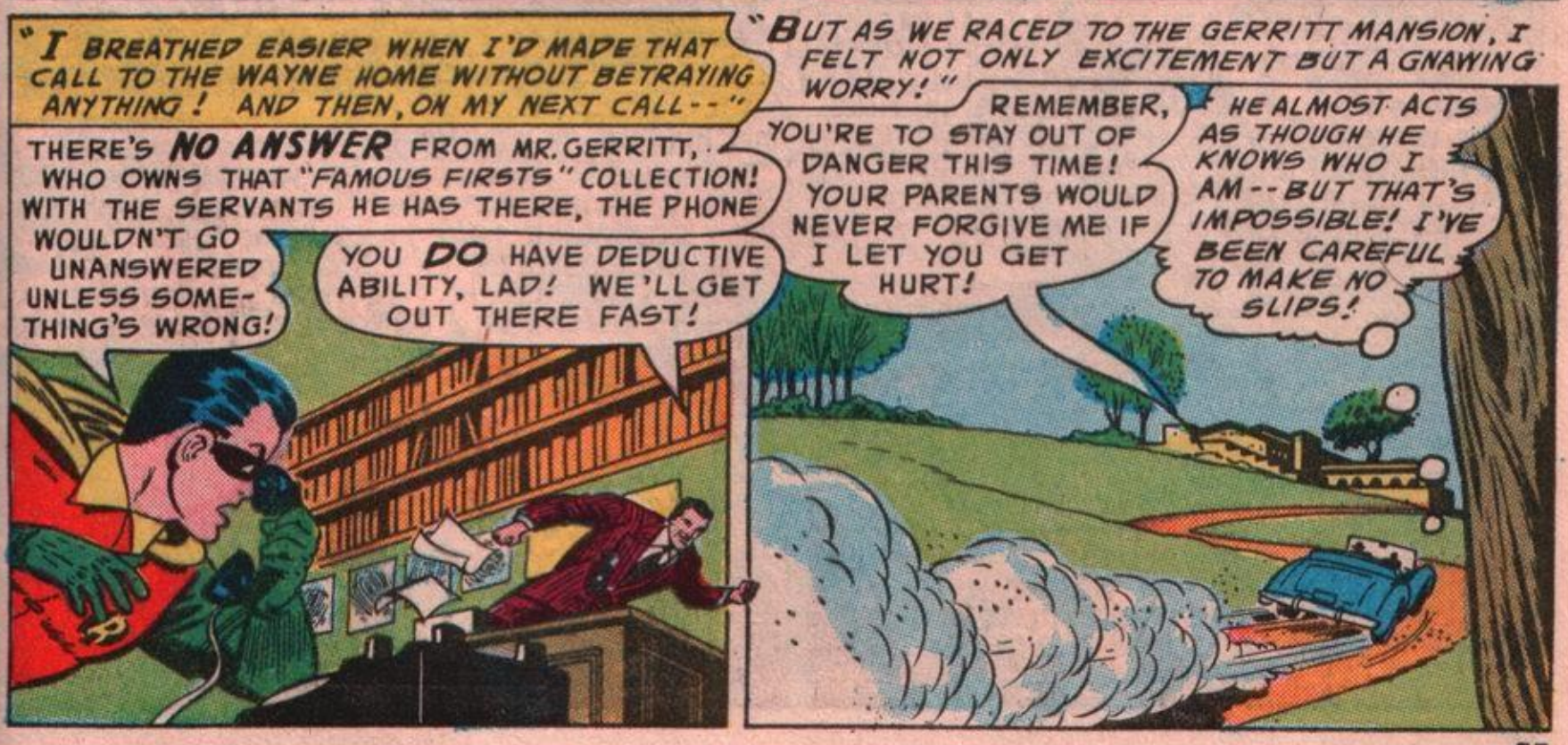
"I LEARNED THEN HOW SWIFTLY A GREAT DETECTIVE COULD THINK!"
THOSE SHIP MODELS WERE DESTROYED FOR JUST ONE REASON--TO FRIGHTEN OTHER COLLECTORS INTO BUYING "COLLECTORS' INSURANCE"! OTHER COLLECTIONS WILL BE VANDALIZED FOR THE SAME REASON, UNLESS WE PREVENT IT!
I'LL DO ANYTHING I CAN TO HELP YOU!

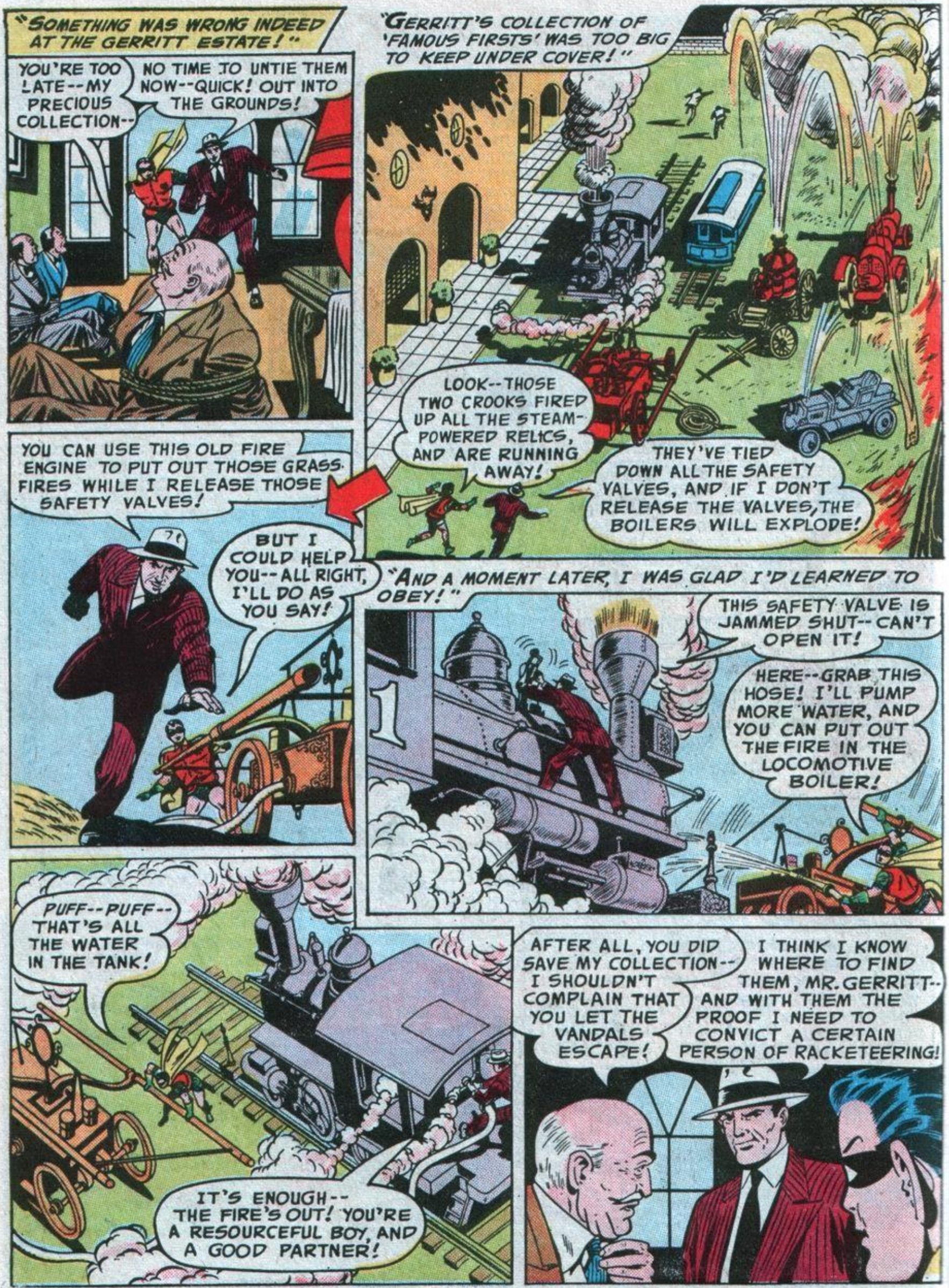

WE MUST PUT ALL COLLECTORS ON GUARD! YOU WARN VAN MARDEN AND BELLEW, TWO FAMOUS COLLECTORS WHO LIVE NEAR HERE! I'LL WARN OTHERS, AND LATER WE CAN MAKE UP COMPLETE LISTS OF POSSIBLE VICTIMS!
RIGHT!

"THEN, FOR THE FIRST TIME, I WAS ON MY OWN AS A LAWMAN--"
YES, I REFUSED TO BUY "COLLECTORS" INSURANCE" FOR MY COLORED GLASS TREASURES!
THEY COULD BE EASILY DESTROYED, MR. VAN MARDEN-- HAVE YOUR SERVANTS STAND GUARD!
AND NOW TO WARN THE OTHER COLLECTOR!
"MR. BELLEW HAD A FAMOUS CLOCK COLLECTION!"
I, TOO, REFUSED TO PAY THOSE RACKETEERS-- BUT MY BUTLER IS TOO OLD FOR GUARD-DUTY! WHAT SHALL I DO?
I'LL STAND GUARD MYSELF UNTIL YOU CAN HIRE A GOOD WATCHMAN!
"I THOUGHT I WAS DOING A FINE JOB!"
EVERY WINDOW AND DOOR... TIGHTLY SHUT-- NO ONE CAN GET IN WITHOUT MY KNOWING IT!
"BUT WHEN HARRIS FINISHED WARNING OTHERS, AND CAME TO JOIN ME--"
YOUR YOUNG ASSISTANT HAS DONE AN EXCELLENT JOB IN SECURING THE DOORS AND WINDOWS, MR. HARRIS!
THERE ARE MORE SUBTLE METHODS OF VANDALISM THAN BREAKING IN! TELL ME, HAVE YOU SHOWN ANYONE YOUR COLLECTION OR ADDED ANYTHING TO IT RECENTLY?
WHY, YES, I BOUGHT THIS FINE CLOCK ONLY LAST NIGHT WHEN IT WAS OFFERED ME AT A GREAT BARGAIN! THE METAL FIGURE OF FATHER TIME STRIKES THE GONG EACH DAY AT NOON!
THAT "BARGAIN" SEEMS COINCIDENTAL! THERE COULD BE AN EXPLOSIVE IN THAT GONG WHICH WOULD DESTROY YOUR WHOLE COLLECTION--
"I REALIZED IN A FLASH HOW STUPID I HAD BEEN! AND AS I SAW THAT BIG CLOCKWORK FIGURE BEGIN TO STRIKE THE HOUR..."
I'LL--HOLD IT BACK--BUT MACHINERY IS--STRONG--
ONE SECOND MORE AND I'LL GET THAT GONG AWAY!


"AND WHEN I LET GO..."
THERE WAS AN EXPLOSIVE CHARGE IN IT! IF YOU HADN'T GRABBED FATHER TIME'S ARM FAST--
I'D HAVE SUSPECTED BEFORE, IF I WERE A REAL DETECTIVE LIKE YOU BUT I'LL LEARN--
"LATER, AS HARRIS LAID PLANS TO TRAP THE RACKETEERS..."
I'VE GOT MORE NAMES OF WEALTHY COLLECTORS WHO MIGHT BE APPROACHED BY THE CROOKS! YOU PHONE EACH OF THEM AT THESE NUMBERS, WHILE I WRITE A WARNING LETTER TO BE CIRCULATED!


"OF THE NAMES I WAS TO TELEPHONE, ONE STOOD OUT STARTLINGLY!"
MY FATHER'S NAME! BUT IT'D NATURALLY BE HERE--HE'S GOT A SMALL COLLECTION OF RARE COINS! THEY'RE SAFELY IN A BANK VAULT, BUT SINCE I'M NOT SUPPOSED TO KNOW THAT, I'LL CALL HOME, TOO!
JOHN DILL OAK-3891
A.C. MART PINE-2128
THOMAS WAYNE Z-3445
R.T. JOHNS OAK-1721
J.P. McSPAIN R-3192
A.C. GERRITT Z-4210
JAMES ASP
"I FELT THAT HARRIS WAS WATCHING ME AS I MADE THOSE CALLS, AND THAT I MUST BE CLEVER! SO, WHEN I DIALED MY OWN NUMBER..."
IF I DISGUISE MY VOICE, HE'LL NOTICE--I'LL USE MY OWN VOICE, AND IF OUR BUTLER RECOGNIZES IT, I CAN TELL HIM LATER IT WAS A JOKE!


"I BREATHED EASIER WHEN I'D MADE THAT CALL TO THE WAYNE HOME WITHOUT BETRAYING ANYTHING! AND THEN, ON MY NEXT CALL--"
THERE'S NO ANSWER FROM MR. GERRITT, WHO OWNS THAT "FAMOUS FIRSTS" COLLECTION! WITH THE SERVANTS HE HAS THERE, THE PHONE WOULDN'T GO UNANSWERED UNLESS SOMETHING'S WRONG!
YOU DO HAVE DEDUCTIVE ABILITY, LAD! WE'LL GET OUT THERE FAST!
"BUT AS WE RACED TO THE GERRITT MANSION, I FELT NOT ONLY EXCITEMENT BUT A GNAWING WORRY!"
REMEMBER, YOU'RE TO STAY OUT OF DANGER THIS TIME! YOUR PARENTS WOULD NEVER FORGIVE ME IF I LET YOU GET HURT!
HE ALMOST ACTS AS THOUGH HE KNOWS WHO I AM--BUT THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE! I'VE BEEN CAREFUL TO MAKE NO SLIPS!


"SOMETHING WAS WRONG INDEED AT THE GERRITT ESTATE!"
YOU'RE TOO LATE--MY PRECIOUS COLLECTION--
NO TIME TO UNTIE THEM NOW--QUICK! OUT INTO THE GROUNDS!
"GERRITT'S COLLECTION OF 'FAMOUS FIRSTS' WAS TOO BIG TO KEEP UNDER COVER!"
LOOK--THOSE TWO CROOKS FIRED UP ALL THE STEAM-POWERED RELICS, AND ARE RUNNING AWAY!
THEY'VE TIED DOWN ALL THE SAFETY VALVES, AND IF I DON'T RELEASE THE VALVES, THE BOILERS WILL EXPLODE!
YOU CAN USE THIS OLD FIRE ENGINE TO PUT OUT THOSE GRASS FIRES WHILE I RELEASE THOSE SAFETY VALVES!
BUT I COULD HELP YOU--ALL RIGHT, I'LL DO AS YOU SAY!
"AND A MOMENT LATER, I WAS GLAD I'D LEARNED TO OBEY!"
THIS SAFETY VALVE IS JAMMED SHUT--CAN'T OPEN IT!
HERE--GRAB THIS HOSE! I'LL PUMP MORE WATER, AND YOU CAN PUT OUT THE FIRE IN THE LOCOMOTIVE BOILER!
PUFF--PUFF--THAT'S ALL THE WATER IN THE TANK!
IT'S ENOUGH--THE FIRE'S OUT! YOU'RE A RESOURCEFUL BOY, AND A GOOD PARTNER!
AFTER ALL, YOU DID SAVE MY COLLECTION--I SHOULDN'T COMPLAIN THAT YOU LET THE VANDALS ESCAPE!
I THINK I KNOW WHERE TO FIND THEM, MR. GERRITT--AND WITH THEM THE PROOF I NEED TO CONVICT A CERTAIN PERSON OF RACKETEERING!

"I THOUGHT I'D FOLLOWED EVERY STEP OF THE CASE CAREFULLY, BUT MY SURPRISE WAS GREAT WHEN..."

BUT THIS IS MR. MELLEN'S HOUSE! SURELY HE WOULDN'T DESTROY HIS OWN VALUABLE COLLECTION, JUST TO FRIGHTEN OTHERS!

THAT'S WHAT HE WANTED US TO THINK! BUT VALUABLE SCALE SHIP MODELS AREN'T MADE OF CHEAP PLYWOOD, SUCH AS YOU PICKED UP FROM THEIR WRECKAGE! I SUSPECTED HIM THEN--

--AND NOW I CAN PROVE IT!

WE WRECKED THE "FAMOUS FIRSTS" LIKE YOU SAID-- NOBODY'LL REFUSE TO BUY OUR "COLLECTORS' INSURANCE" NOW!

YOU CALL HEADQUARTERS! I CAN TAKE CARE OF THUGS LIKE THESE!

WHAT--? HOW--?

"LATER, I FELT MORE HUMBLE THAN I EVER HAD BEFORE!"

I MISSED THAT CLUE OF THE PLYWOOD, JUST AS I MISSED OTHER THINGS! I SEE NOW I'VE GOT A LOT TO LEARN!

SOMEDAY, YOU'RE GOING TO BE A GREAT DETECTIVE! BUT UNTIL YOU'RE A MAN, YOU NEED TO STUDY AND LEARN IN PREPARATION.

I WANT YOU TO WAIT UNTIL YOU'VE TRAINED YOURSELF FULLY, BEFORE YOU START A CAREER THAT CAN BE GREAT! WILL YOU PROMISE?

I PROMISE--AND TO SHOW I MEAN IT, I'LL SEND YOU THIS "ROBIN" COSTUME TO KEEP!

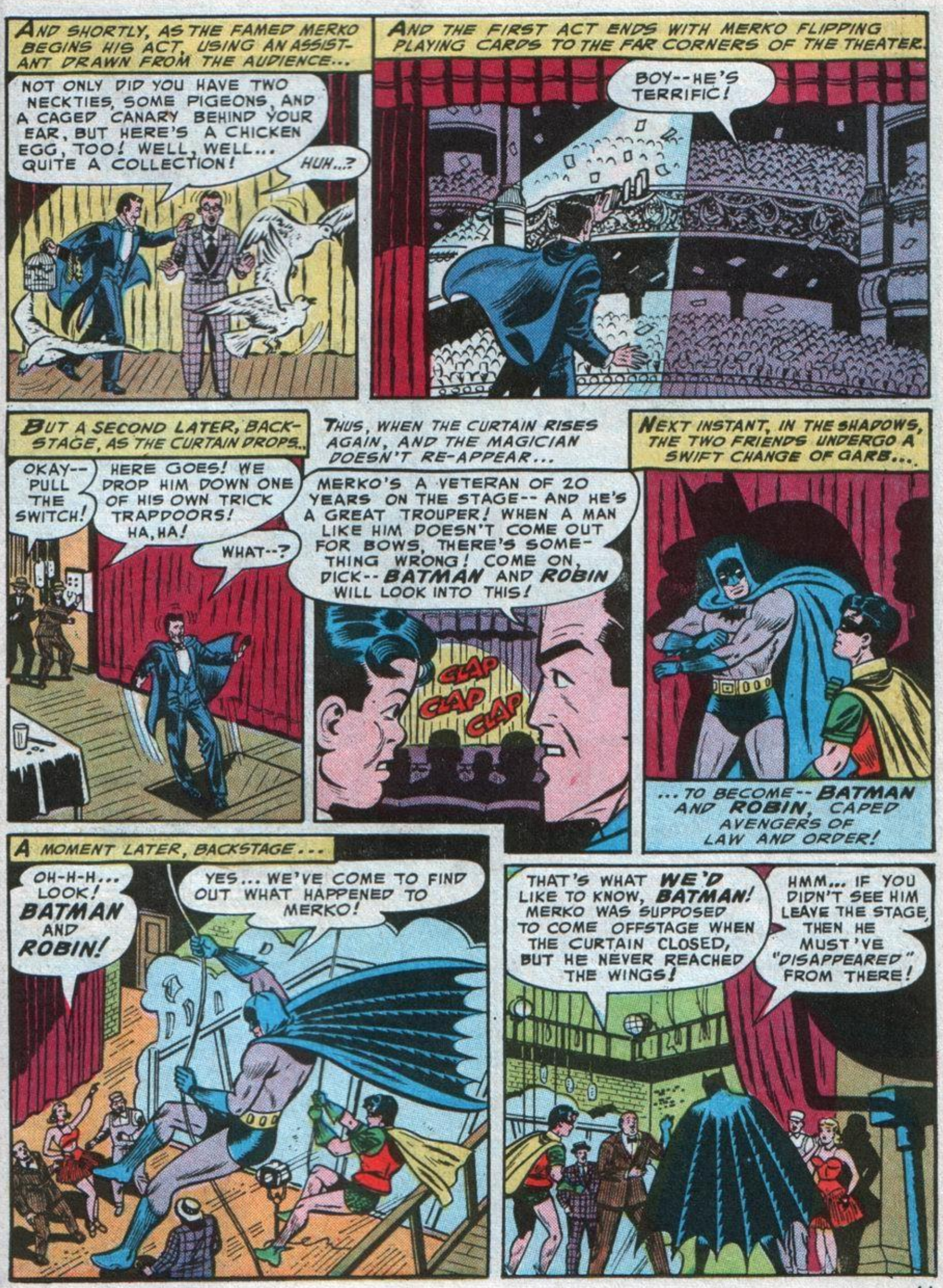
"AND I DID SO, ENDING MY FIRST LAWMAN EXPERIENCE! BUT I WAS STILL PROUD OF ONE THING--"

BUT I DID KEEP EVEN HARRIS FROM LEARNING MY IDENTITY! SO I KNOW NOW THAT WHEN I'M A MAN I CAN BE A LAWMAN AND CAN KEEP MY IDENTITY HIDDEN!

BUT, YEARS LATER IN OUR PRESENT DAY, BATMAN REALIZES THAT SOMETHING WENT WRONG IN THE PAST!
BUT THIS COSTUME -- AFTER ALL THESE YEARS, HARRIS SENT IT BACK TO BRUCE WAYNE! HOW DID HE KNOW I GREW UP TO BE BATMAN?
BATMAN-- LOOK-- THERE WAS A LETTER INSIDE THE COSTUME! MAYBE THAT EXPLAINS!
IT'S A LAST LETTER FROM HARVEY HARRIS AND IT SAYS, "BATMAN, I'VE LEFT ORDERS FOR THIS SEALED PACKAGE, YOUR OLD ROBIN COSTUME, TO BE SENT TO YOU AT YOUR BRUCE WAYNE HOME-- AFTER MY DEATH!"
AND SO, FROM BEYOND THE GRAVE, THE GREAT DETECTIVE OF THE PAST SPEAKS TO HIS FORMER PUPIL...
YOU SEE, I DID LEARN YOUR IDENTITY! YOU SLIPPED UP WHEN YOU SAID YOU HAD SEWED YOUR OWN COSTUME-- THERE'S ONLY ONE PLACE WHERE A BOY LEARNS TO SEW, WITH THE SAIL-STITCH YOU USED, AND THAT'S IN THE SEA SCOUTS!
I KNEW THAT IF YOU WERE A SEA SCOUT, YOU MUST HAVE HAD A WEALTHY FAMILY TO BUY SUCH EXPENSIVE BOOKS -- THAT NARROWED IT DOWN TO A FEW SUSPECTS! I PUT THE NAMES OF THOSE FAMILIES ON THE LIST I GAVE YOU TO TELEPHONE!
I WATCHED YOU, AND YOU DIALED ONE PHONE NUMBER-- THE WAYNE NUMBER--WITHOUT LOOKING AT THE LIST! THAT MEANT YOU KNEW THAT NUMBER ALREADY, YOUR OWN PHONE NUMBER--AND THAT YOU WERE BRUCE WAYNE!
AND HE ENDS, "I REALIZED THAT IF YOU WERE AWARE THAT I HAD LEARNED YOUR IDENTITY, YOU'D ALWAYS FEEL INSECURE, SO I NEVER TOLD YOU-- AND I WAS RIGHT, FOR YOU'VE SINCE BECOME THE GREATEST DETECTIVE OF ALL!"
HE WAS WRONG, ROBIN! HE-- THE ONLY MAN WHO EVER SOLVED MY IDENTITY-SECRET-- HE WAS A GREATER DETECTIVE THAN I!
THE END

BATMAN
WITH
ROBIN
MERKO... MASTER ESCAPE ARTIST, WIZARD OF ILLUSION! BEFORE THE EYES OF THOUSANDS, HE DUPLICATED THE INCREDIBLE FEATS OF HOUDINI, THURSTON -- AND THE BAFFLING FAKIRS OF FAR-OFF INDIA! BUT IN HIS BAG OF TRICKS WAS NO WAY OF ELUDING GANGLAND -- AND THAT'S WHERE BATMAN AND ROBIN, DAUNTLESS DUO OF GOTHAM CITY, TAKE UP ANOTHER CHALLENGE WITH CRIME, AND TURN A MASTERFUL TRICK OR TWO THEMSELVES IN THE BIZARRE CASE OF...
BATMAN the MAGICIAN!
BOB KANE

NIGHTTIME IN GOTHAM CITY, AS FOUR CROOKS RUSH FRANTICALLY INTO A WEST SIDE APARTMENT...
BOSS! BOSS! WE JUST HEARD THE MORIARITY GANG WAS HERE! WE CAME AS FAST AS WE COULD! WHAT HAPPENED?
MAYBE THE BOSS IS DEAD!
NOT DEAD, NO-- NOT YET THAT IS! BUT I MIGHT AS WELL BE! THE MORIARITY MOB BROUGHT A CHEMIST UP HERE-- AND THEY MANACLED ME WITH THIS CHAIN!
AW, THAT AIN'T NOTHIN', BOSS! WE CAN GET A SAW OR A TORCH AND HAVE YOU FREE IN NO TIME!
NO, NO, YOU IDIOTS! I TOLD YOU THEY HAD A CHEMIST WITH THEM! THESE CHAIN LINKS ARE HOLLOW-- AND FILLED WITH A HIGH EXPLOSIVE! IF THE CHAIN IS EVEN MOVED TOO MUCH, IT'LL BLOW ME SKY HIGH! STAY BACK!
MORIARITY'S GOT ME! HE SAID HE'D TIE MY HANDS-- AND HE DID! I'M HELPLESS... HELPLESS... UNLESS... WAIT! OVER THERE-- THAT POSTER!
WHAT IS IT, BOSS?
MERKO the GREAT! MASTER MAGICIAN SEE HIM PERFORM SEE HIS ESCAPES APPEARING FOR FIVE NIGHTS at the GOTHAM THEATER
MERKO-- A MAGICIAN AND ESCAPE ARTIST! GET IT?... HE COULD OPEN THESE LOCKS! SURE-- THAT'S THE ANSWER! BOYS, I WANT YOU TO PICK UP MERKO AND BRING HIM HERE!
SURE, BOSS... WE'LL NAIL HIM AT THE THEATER TONIGHT!
MERKO the GR
MASTER MAGICIA
NOW!
APPEARING FOR FIVE NIG
at the GOTHAM THEATER
SO LATER, AT THE GOTHAM THEATER, WHERE A VAST AUDIENCE HAS TURNED OUT, INCLUDING WEALTHY BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS YOUNG WARD, DICK GRAYSON...
GOLLY, BRUCE-- THIS SHOULD BE SOME EVENING! THERE'LL BE TEN ACTS!
AND FOR A VERY WORTHY CHARITY, DICK... THAT'S WHY I GOT TICKETS! BESIDES, I'M ANXIOUS TO SEE MERKO... HE'S A TOP MAGICIAN!


AND SHORTLY, AS THE FAMED MERKO BEGINS HIS ACT, USING AN ASSISTANT DRAWN FROM THE AUDIENCE...
NOT ONLY DID YOU HAVE TWO NECKTIES, SOME PIGEONS, AND A CAGED CANARY BEHIND YOUR EAR, BUT HERE'S A CHICKEN EGG, TOO! WELL, WELL... QUITE A COLLECTION!
HUH...?
AND THE FIRST ACT ENDS WITH MERKO FLIPPING PLAYING CARDS TO THE FAR CORNERS OF THE THEATER.
BOY--HE'S TERRIFIC!
BUT A SECOND LATER, BACKSTAGE, AS THE CURTAIN DROPS...
OKAY--PULL THE SWITCH!
HERE GOES! WE DROP HIM DOWN ONE OF HIS OWN TRICK TRAPDOORS! HA, HA!
WHAT--?
THUS, WHEN THE CURTAIN RISES AGAIN, AND THE MAGICIAN DOESN'T RE-APPEAR...
MERKO'S A VETERAN OF 20 YEARS ON THE STAGE-- AND HE'S A GREAT TROUPER! WHEN A MAN LIKE HIM DOESN'T COME OUT FOR BOWS, THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG! COME ON, DICK-- BATMAN AND ROBIN WILL LOOK INTO THIS!
CLAP CLAP CLAP
NEXT INSTANT, IN THE SHADOWS, THE TWO FRIENDS UNDERGO A SWIFT CHANGE OF GARB...
... TO BECOME-- BATMAN AND ROBIN, CAPED AVENGERS OF LAW AND ORDER!
A MOMENT LATER, BACKSTAGE...
OH-H-H... LOOK! BATMAN AND ROBIN!
YES... WE'VE COME TO FIND OUT WHAT HAPPENED TO MERKO!
THAT'S WHAT WE'D LIKE TO KNOW, BATMAN! MERKO WAS SUPPOSED TO COME OFFSTAGE WHEN THE CURTAIN CLOSED, BUT HE NEVER REACHED THE WINGS!
HMM... IF YOU DIDN'T SEE HIM LEAVE THE STAGE, THEN HE MUST'VE "DISAPPEARED" FROM THERE!

YOU'RE RIGHT... AND PROBABLY THROUGH THAT TRAPDOOR HE USES IN HIS ACTS! I'LL OPEN IT!
THAT MUST BE THE ANSWER... THE TRAPDOOR!

INTO THE SHADOWY MAZE OF CORRIDORS BELOW GOTHAM THEATER DROP THE TWO CRIME FIGHTERS...
WHOEVER GOT MERKO, HE HAS A HEAD START ON US! WE'LL HAVE TO MOVE FAST!

THERE'S AN OPEN DOOR! THEY MUST'VE FLED THROUGH THERE!

WE'RE TOO LATE! MERKO'S BEEN TAKEN!
YES--AND UNLESS THE SHOW GOES ON, THE CHARITY MONEY WILL HAVE TO BE TURNED BACK! HMM--THIS PRESENTS A PROBLEM!

MEANWHILE, AT THE GANG'S HEADQUARTERS...
WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS? FIRST YOUR MEN WHISK ME FROM THE THEATER, BRING ME HERE--AND MAKE ME CHANGE MY SHOES! I DEMAND...
YOU'LL DEMAND NOTHING, MERKO! YOU'LL DO AS YOU'RE TOLD! THE SHOES YOU'RE WEARING HAVE THICK RUBBER SOLES--THE SAME AS THE SHOES OF MY MEN! NOTE ALSO THE THICK RUBBER CARPETING WHICH I'VE JUST INSTALLED...

YOU SEE, THIS IS A VIBRATION-PROOF ROOM, MERKO--SPECIALLY BUILT TO SAVE MY LIFE! WITHIN THE LINKS OF THIS CHAIN IS A HIGHLY EXPLOSIVE CHEMICAL--AND THE SLIGHTEST VIBRATION WILL DETONATE IT AND BLAST US ALL SKY HIGH!
WHAT HAS ALL THIS TO DO WITH ME?

SO A FEW MINUTES LATER, THE CURTAINS PART -- AND BATMAN, DRESSED AS THE GREAT MERKO, APPEARS AMID THUNDERING APPLAUSE...

MY WORD! WHAT HAVE WE HERE?... A RABBIT?

I SAY--THERE IS STILL ANOTHER RABBIT... AND ANOTHER!

WONDERING HOW BATMAN WORKED THE TRICK? LOOK CLOSELY...
...AND YOU'LL SEE THAT THE RABBITS WERE CONCEALED IN THE TABLE! BATMAN REACHED THROUGH THE HAT--WHICH HAD A REMOVABLE TOP-- AND THROUGH A HOLE IN THE TABLE, AND DREW FORTH THE RABBITS!

AND NOW-- THE VERY FAMOUS, ALWAYS MYSTERIOUS INDIAN ROPE TRICK! HERE, RIGHT BEFORE YOUR EYES, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, I SHALL MAKE THIS COIL OF ROPE STAND STRAIGHT UP IN THE AIR!

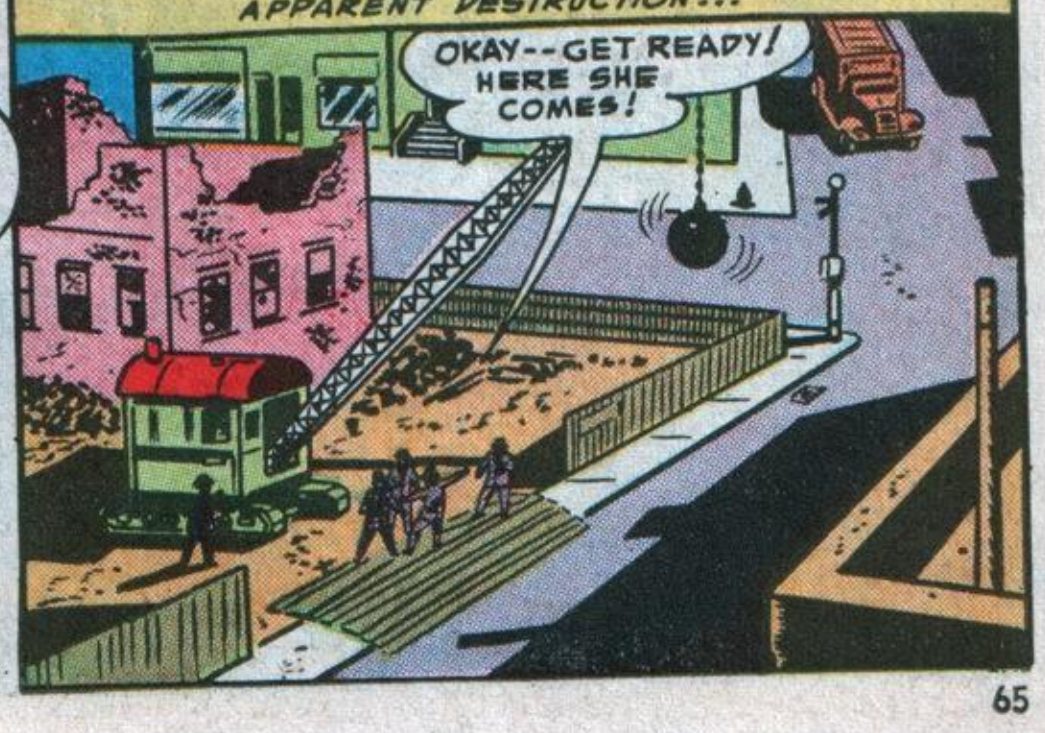
WHILE THE AUDIENCE GAZES SILENTLY, BATMAN GESTURES--AND, INCREDIBLY, THE ROPE BEGINS TO UNCOIL!
LOOK! IT'S ACTUALLY STANDING UP BY ITSELF!

AND HERE IS HOW **BATMAN**, USING MERKO'S PROPS, IMPROVISED THE FABULOUS TRICK...

MEANWHILE, AT THE GANG HEADQUARTERS, AN URGENT CALL COMES IN OVER THE PHONE...

AND AT THAT SAME TIME, IN THE THEATER, **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** HAVE BOWED FROM THE STAGE-- AND ONCE AGAIN BECOME THE CAPED CRIME-BUSTERS...

WHILE ON A STREET NEARBY, AN ARMORED CAR, BEARING THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS, SPEEDS TOWARD APPARENT DESTRUCTION...



AT THE APPROPRIATE MOMENT, THE DERRICK'S ARM SWINGS INTO MOTION -- AND THE GREAT IRON BALL LASHES OUT AT THE PUNY VEHICLE...
CLANG-G-G-G CRASH
WE GOT 'EM!

BUT BATMAN AND ROBIN HAVE HEARD THE GRINDING SOUND OF METAL AGAINST METAL -- AND AS THE CROOKS SCURRY FOR THE LOOT...
ALL RIGHT, ROBIN -- LET'S GO!

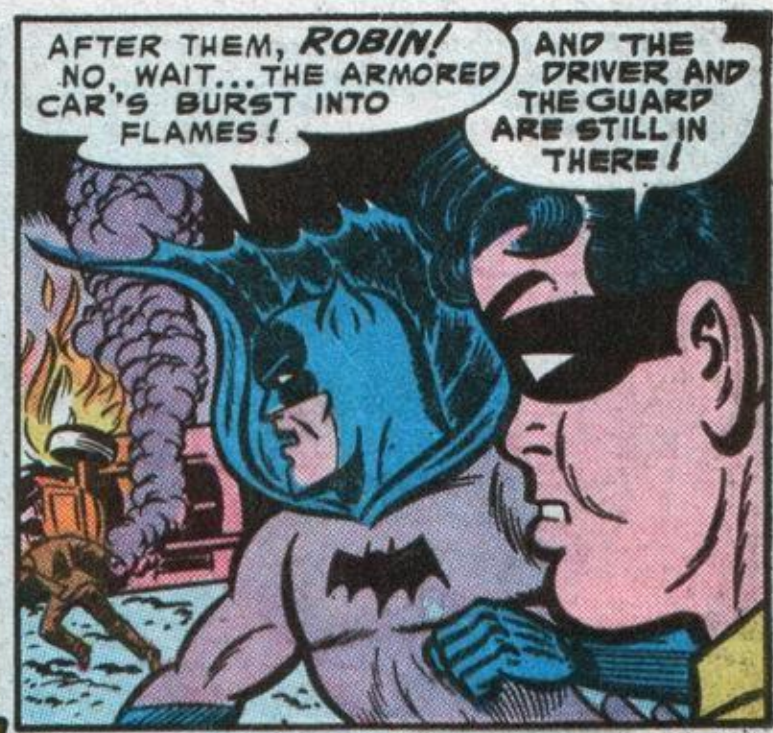
NEXT MOMENT...
LOOK! BATMAN AND ROBIN -- COMING TOWARD US!
BLAST 'EM!

HERE THEY COME!
THIS IS OUR STATION... WE'RE GETTING OFF!

WHACK

BATMAN! LOOK OUT!

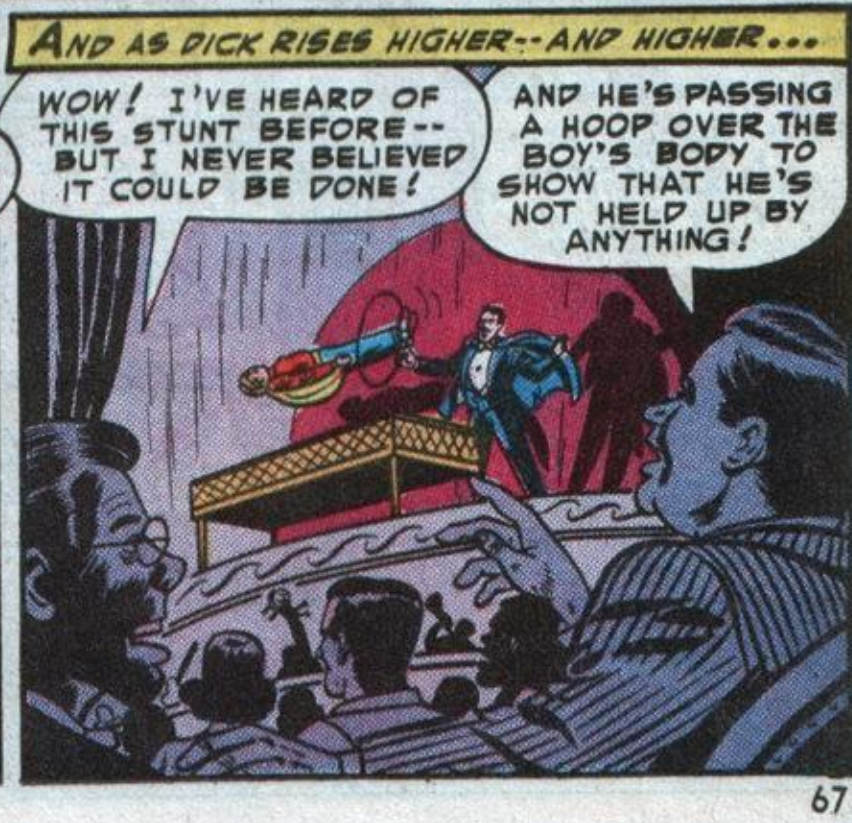
WHEW! AFTER SEEING WHAT HAPPENED TO THE ARMORED CAR, I'M IN NO MOOD TO GET HIT BY THAT THING!
RUN! IT'LL GET US!

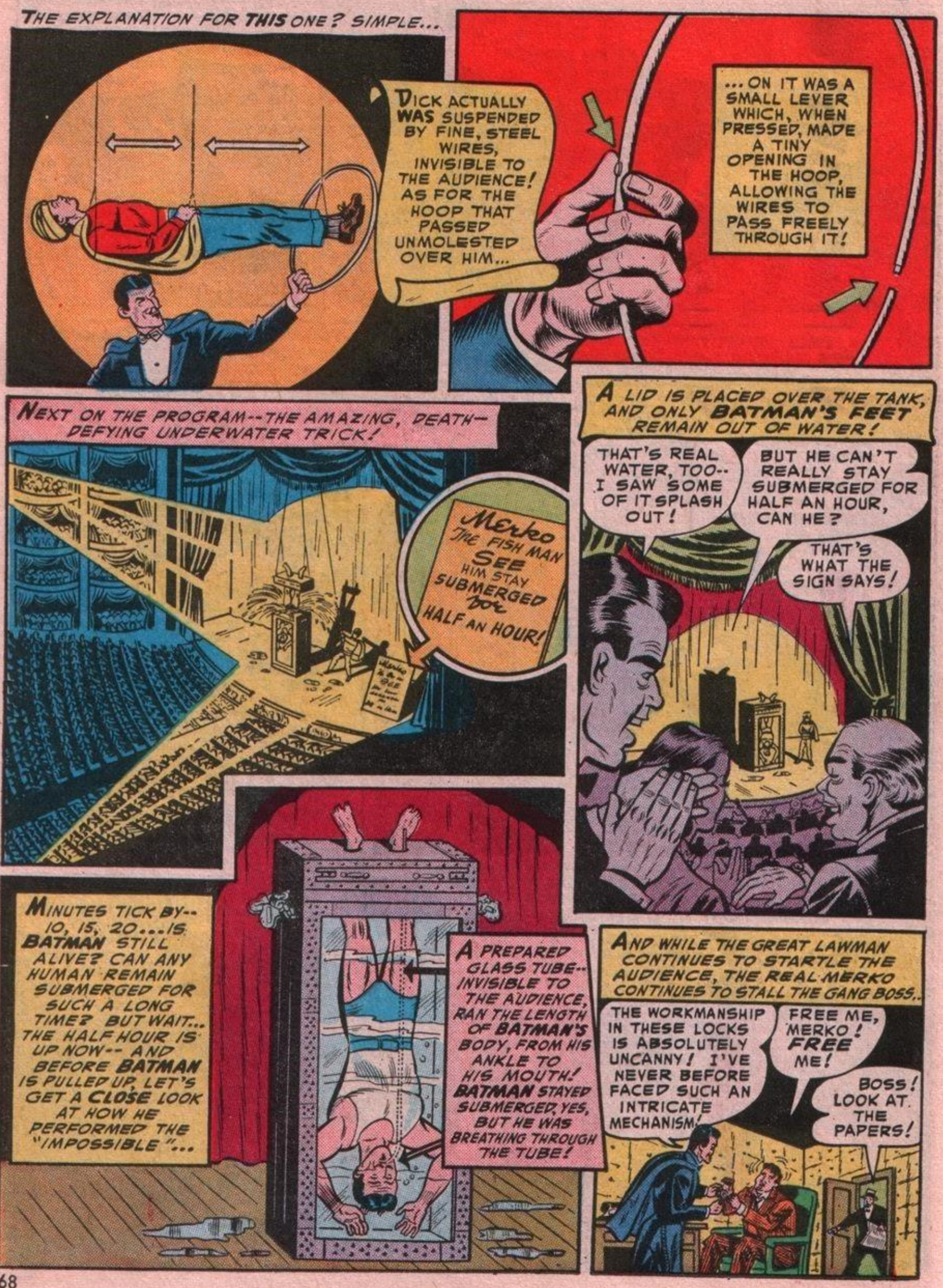

AFTER THEM, ROBIN! NO, WAIT... THE ARMORED CAR'S BURST INTO FLAMES!
AND THE DRIVER AND THE GUARD ARE STILL IN THERE!

THEY'RE UNCONSCIOUS-- BUT ALIVE! AND THE MONEY IS SAFE IN FIREPROOF STRONG BOXES!
I'LL GO GET AN AMBULANCE, BATMAN!

PRESENTLY, AS APPROACHING SIRENS ARE HEARD...
THE AMBULANCE-- TIME FOR US TO GO! WE'LL GET SET FOR TOMORROW NIGHT'S MAGIC SHOW!
YES... AND ALSO WORK OUT A PLAN TO LOCATE MERKO!
WHEEEEEE

ON THE FOLLOWING NIGHT, AT THE THEATER, THE DISGUISED BATMAN ATTEMPTS THE FAMOUS AND BAFFLING "SUSPENDED ANIMATION" TRICK...
RISE--RISE UP! RISE INTO THE AIR AND STAY SUSPENDED!
HE'S DOING IT! LOOK-- HE'S ACTUALLY RAISING THE BOY FROM THE TABLE, WITHOUT TOUCHING HIM!


AND AS DICK RISES HIGHER--AND HIGHER...
WOW! I'VE HEARD OF THIS STUNT BEFORE-- BUT I NEVER BELIEVED IT COULD BE DONE!
AND HE'S PASSING A HOOP OVER THE BOY'S BODY TO SHOW THAT HE'S NOT HELD UP BY ANYTHING!



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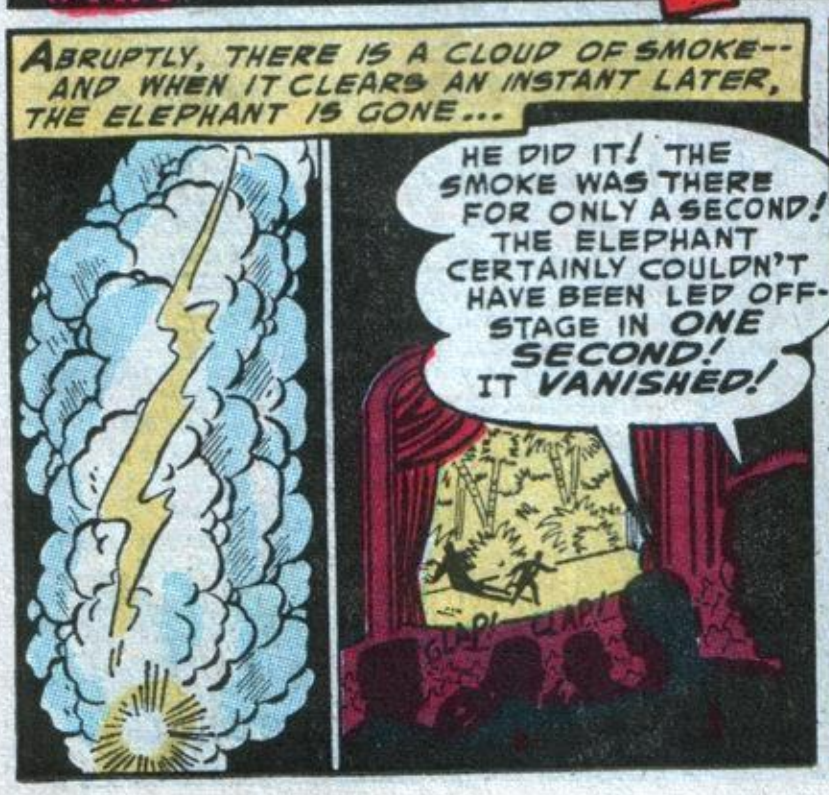
WHAT ?? BUT THAT CAN'T BE MERKO! MERKO IS RIGHT HERE WITH US! WHAT KIND OF GAG IS THIS?
OTHAM GAZETTE
MERKO BAFFLES AUDIENCES WITH AMAZING ILLUSIONS!

WAIT A MINUTE... I GET IT! BATMAN AND ROBIN WERE THE ONLY TWO WHO SAW YOU CAPTURE MERKO! IN ORDER TO KEEP THE SHOW GOING, BATMAN HAS TAKEN MERKO'S PLACE! SURE, THAT'S IT... AND YOU BOYS ARE GOING TO THAT THEATER TO KILL HIM, SEE? GET GOING!

AND THUS, UNAWARE OF THIS NEW TWIST OF FATE, BATMAN PREPARES FOR HIS NEXT-- AND MOST AMAZING--STUNT OF ALL... THE VANISHING ELEPHANT ACT!
HERE, BEFORE YOUR VERY EYES, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, MERKO IS GOING TO MAKE AN ELEPHANT VANISH-- VANISH ENTIRELY FROM SIGHT!

THE THEATER GROWS SILENT, AND THE WIDE-EYED AUDIENCE WATCHES IN FASCINATION AS BATMAN DROPS A TINY PELLET ON THE FLOOR...
"VANISHED?" HARDLY! BATMAN SIMPLY HAD A CURTAIN-- ON WHICH WAS PAINTED THE VERY SAME SCENE AS THE STAGE BACKDROP-- FALL IN FRONT OF THE ELEPHANT WHILE THE STAGE WAS FILLED WITH SMOKE! THIS MADE IT APPEAR AS IF THE ELEPHANT VANISHED, WHILE ALL THE TIME, HE WAS BEHIND THE CURTAIN!


ABRUPTLY, THERE IS A CLOUD OF SMOKE-- AND WHEN IT CLEARS AN INSTANT LATER, THE ELEPHANT IS GONE...
HE DID IT! THE SMOKE WAS THERE FOR ONLY A SECOND! THE ELEPHANT CERTAINLY COULDN'T HAVE BEEN LED OFF-STAGE IN ONE SECOND! IT VANISHED!

BUT ALL AT ONCE...
THERE HE IS!... GET HIM!
WHAT--?
BANG

RILED BY THE ROAR OF GUNFIRE, THE ELEPHANT CHARGES OUT...
YOW! RUN FOR YER LIFE! HE'LL CRUSH US!

THINKING IT PART OF THE ACT, THE AUDIENCE WATCHES IN FASCINATION, BUT TWO OTHER FIGURES SWITCH COSTUMES, AND...
CAUGHT UP WITH THEM JUST IN TIME! WE'LL JUST THUMB A FREE RIDE TO THEIR HIDEOUT--AND FIND MERKO!

THE CAR SPEEDS ACROSS TOWN, STOPS IN FRONT OF THE HIDEOUT, WHERE...
SURPRISE IS HALF THE BATTLE, THEY SAY... AND THESE CROOKS REALLY GOT A SURPRISE!
YOW! WHERE DID THEY COME FROM?

BUT ONCE INSIDE...
ANOTHER MOVE, BATMAN AND I'LL BLOW US ALL TO BITS! STAY BACK, I SAY-- STAY BACK! THE SLIGHTEST VIBRATION WILL SET OFF A HIGH EXPLOSIVE IN THE CHAIN'S HOLLOW LINKS!
DON'T MAKE ME LAUGH... THE CHAINS ARE HARMLESS!

SEE?
HUH? IT DIDN'T EXPLODE... IT DIDN'T! IT WAS A TRICK ALL THE TIME! MORIARITY TRICKED ME... HAD ME SWEATING BULLETS FOR NOTHING!
CRASH

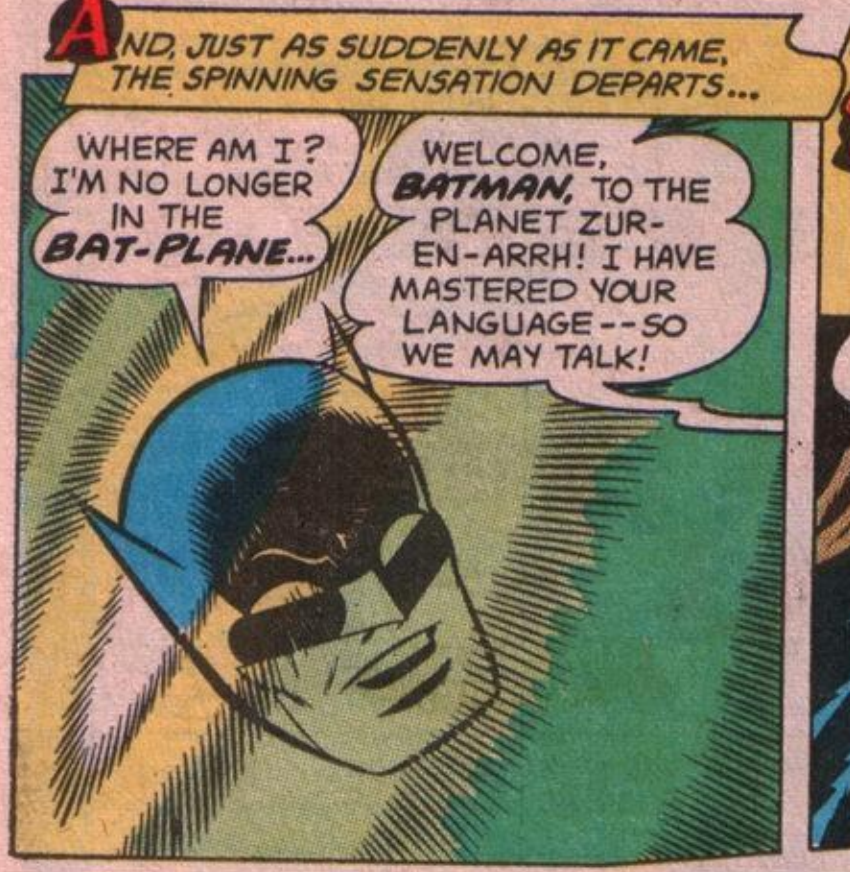
BUT... HOW DID YOU KNOW, BATMAN?
A RINGING TELEPHONE CAUSES VIBRATIONS, TOO! OBVIOUSLY, YOU AND YOUR GANG KEEP IN CONTACT BY PHONE, WHICH WOULD'VE DETONATED THE EXPLOSIVE BY NOW, HAD THERE REALLY BEEN ANY PRESENT! BUT NOW WE'LL JUST LEAVE THOSE CHAINS ON--UNTIL YOU GET TO HEADQUARTERS!
EVEN HOUDINI WOULD HAVE BEEN PROUD OF YOU, BATMAN! MAY I PRESENT YOU WITH AN HONORARY MEMBERSHIP TO THE MAGICIANS' SOCIETY?
THE END

BATMAN
With
ROBIN
THE BOY WONDER
BOB KANE
HE'S FAR FASTER THAN A SPEEDING ATOMIC-JET! WITH EASE, HE LEAPS OVER TOWERING BUILDINGS! RAY-BULLETS BOUNCE HARMLESSLY OFF HIS CHEST! IS IT A BIRD? A PLANE? NO--IT'S BATMAN! AND THIS TIME, THERE'S A HOST OF SURPRISES FOR THE CAPED CRIME-BUSTER OF GOTHAM CITY, AS HE EMBARKS UPON AN AMAZING OUT-OF-THIS-WORLD ADVENTURE TO BECOME...
BATMAN-- THE SUPERMAN OF PLANET X!

AT HIS MANSION, WEALTHLY BRUCE WAYNE ARISES IN THE DEAD OF NIGHT--AND, WHILE DONNING A FAMILIAR COSTUME, STARES ODDLY AT HIS SLEEPING WARD, DICK GRAYSON...
STRANGE... DICK AND I ALWAYS GO OUT TOGETHER--AS BATMAN AND ROBIN! WHY AM I GOING ALONE TONIGHT?

SOON, IN THE SLEEK BAT-PLANE...
WHERE AM I GOING... AND WHY? EVERYTHING SEEMS SO VAGUE...

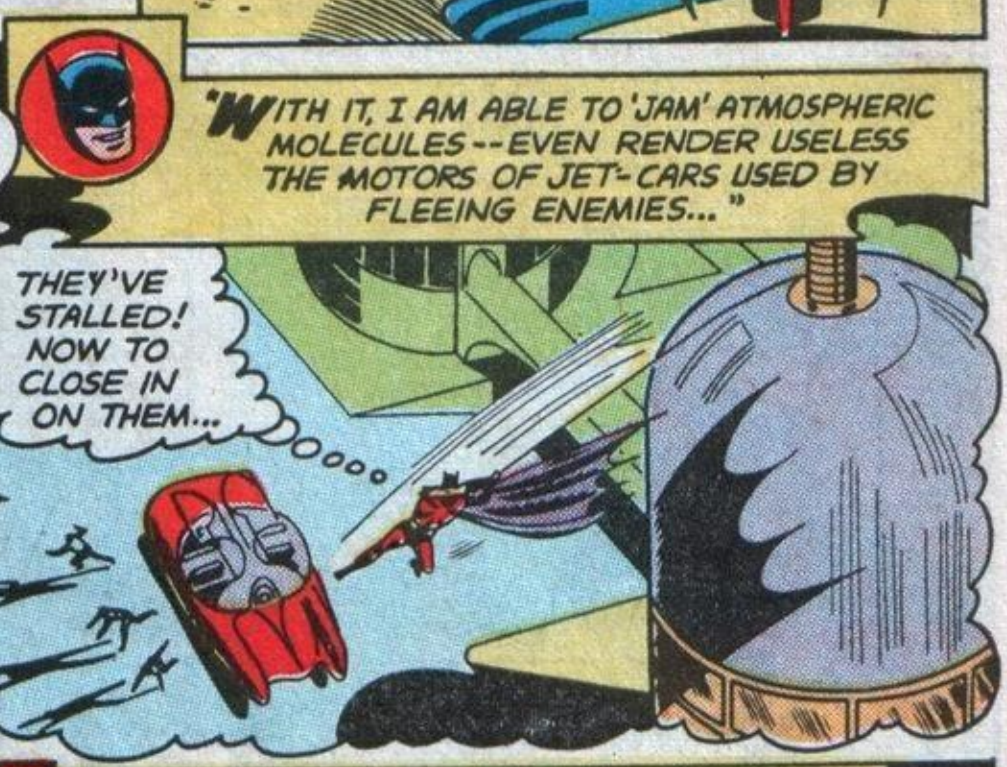
S-SOMETHING'S WRONG! WHAT'S HAPPENING TO ME? MY HEAD'S SPINNING...


AND, JUST AS SUDDENLY AS IT CAME, THE SPINNING SENSATION DEPARTS...
WHERE AM I? I'M NO LONGER IN THE BAT-PLANE...
WELCOME, BATMAN, TO THE PLANET ZUR-EN-ARRH! I HAVE MASTERED YOUR LANGUAGE--SO WE MAY TALK!

STUNNED, THE GREAT CRIME-FIGHTER STARES AT A STRANGE FIGURE--AN UNEARTHLY LIKENESS OF HIMSELF!
THE PLANET ZUR-EN-ARRH?
YES--LOCATED IN A STAR SYSTEM FAR FROM YOURS! I DOUBT IF YOUR ASTRONOMERS KNOW OF OUR EXISTENCE!

I BROUGHT YOU HERE BY TELEPORTATION--BODILY TRANSMISSION THROUGH SPACE! MY WORLD NEEDS YOU!
BUT THAT COSTUME YOU WEAR... YOU LOOK LIKE A FUTURISTIC VERSION OF ME!

TRUE... AND THAT'S BECAUSE I'M THE BATMAN OF ZUR-EN-ARRH! THROUGH A POWERFUL TELESCOPE, I'VE OBSERVED YOUR EVERY ACTION! IT INSPIRED ME TO PLAY THE SAME ROLE HERE!



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YOU'LL BE SURPRISED! WATCH WHEN I FIRE THIS POWERFUL RAY-GUN...
WAIT! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
BZZZZT!

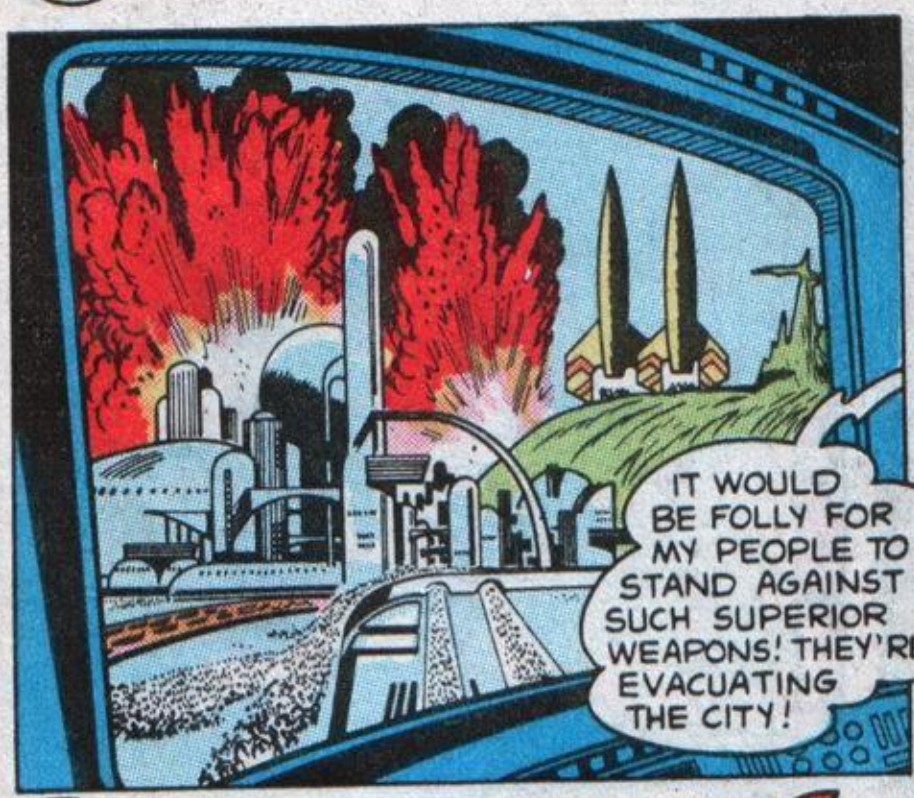
THESE RAY-BULLETS WOULD DESTROY ANYBODY ON OUR PLANET--BUT, OBSERVE... THEY BOUNCE OFF YOU!
FANTASTIC! WHY?

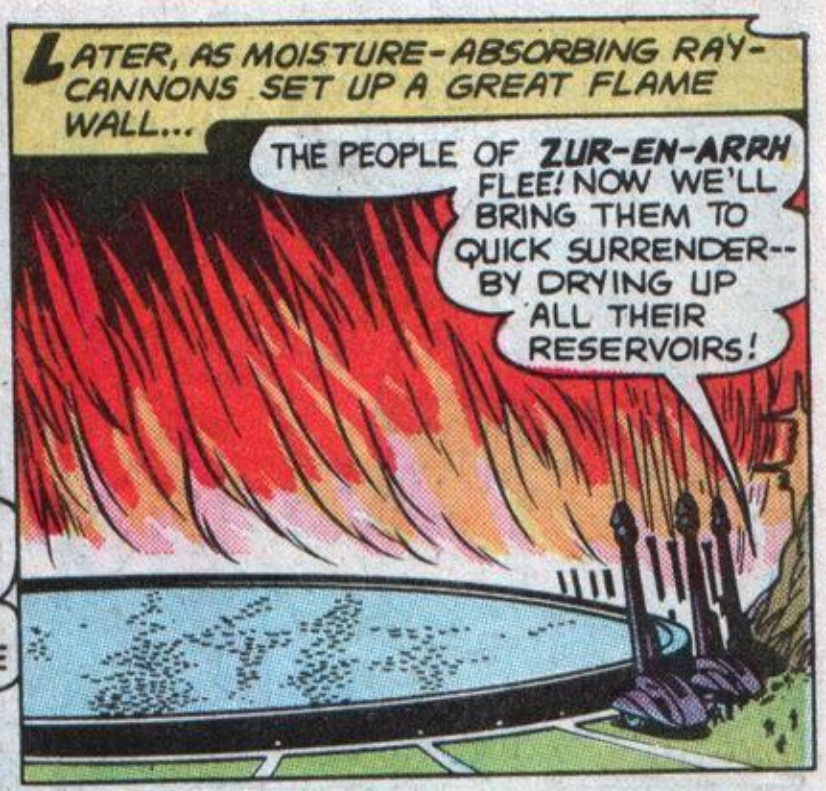
BECAUSE THE ELEMENTS IN YOUR WORLD MAKE YOUR PEOPLE A RACE OF SUPER-CREATURES, COMPARED TO US! HERE--TRY BENDING THIS METAL... ONE OF THE HARDEST ALLOYS KNOWN TO US!

I CAN TWIST IT LIKE TAFFY CANDY!
BUT NO MORTAL ON MY PLANET CAN DO THAT! NOW--COME OUTSIDE... I'LL SHOW YOU SOMETHING ELSE!

REQUESTED TO LEAP AS HIGH AS HE CAN, BATMAN SAILS FAR INTO THE AIR...
GREAT GUNS! I CAN FLY ALMOST LIKE A BIRD!
YES... OUR RELATIVELY WEAK GRAVITY IS NO MATCH FOR YOUR EARTHIAN MUSCLES!

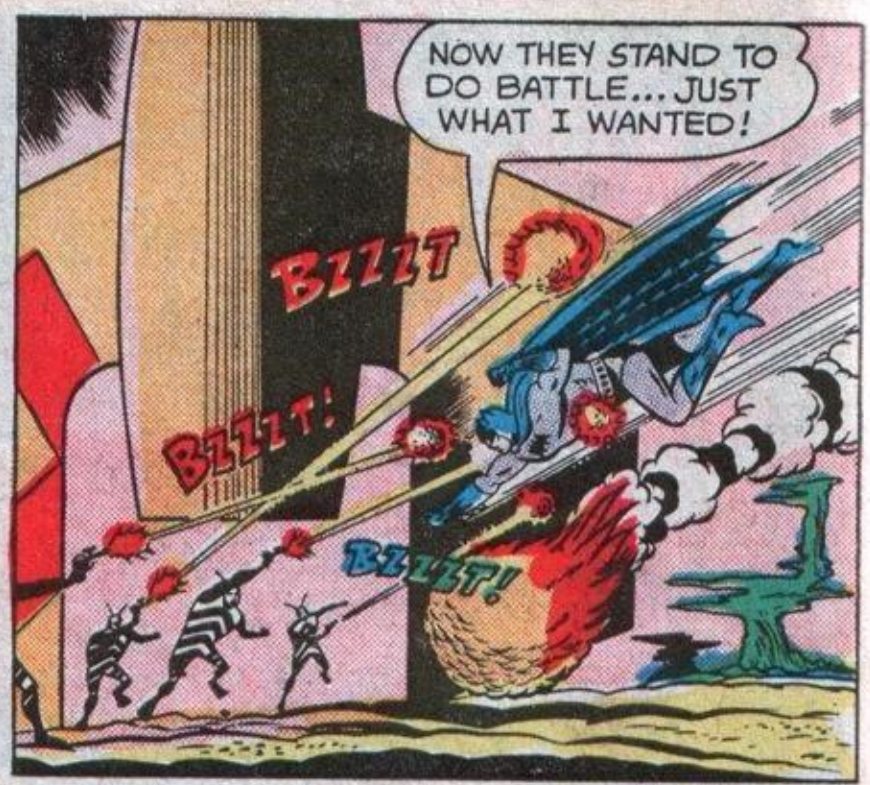
YOU'RE RIGHT! HERE ON YOUR PLANET, I BECOME LIKE MY FRIEND, SUPERMAN, ON EARTH!
WHICH IS MY REASON FOR SUMMONING YOU... AND NONE TOO SOON! ALREADY THE INVASION HAS STARTED! LISTEN...
KWHOOM!
BR-RRAM

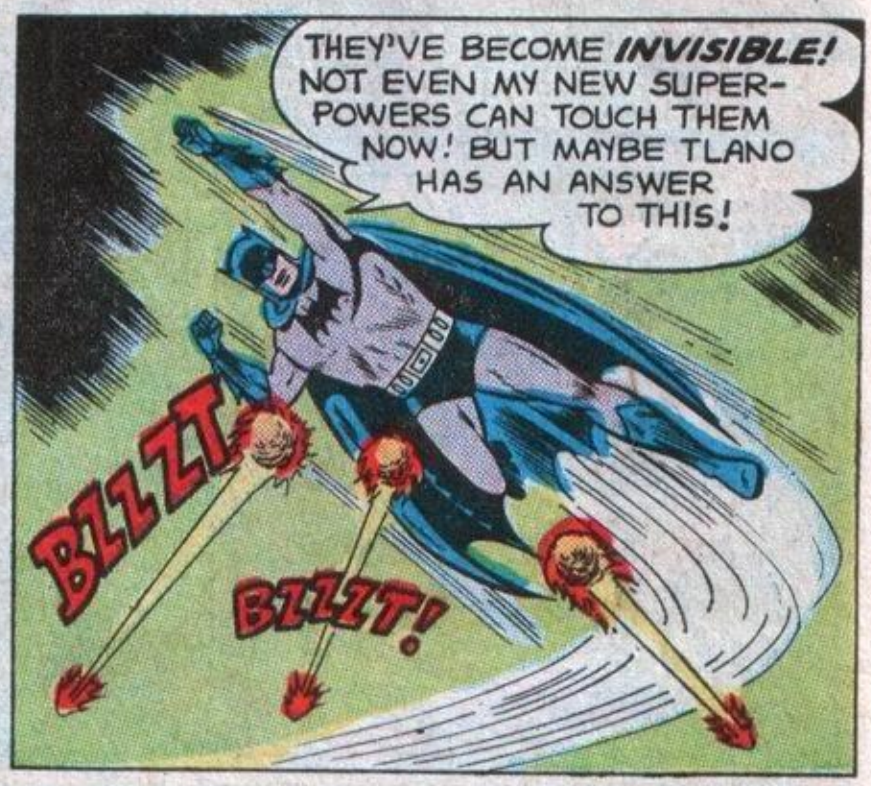

IT WOULD BE FOLLY FOR MY PEOPLE TO STAND AGAINST SUCH SUPERIOR WEAPONS! THEY'RE EVACUATING THE CITY!

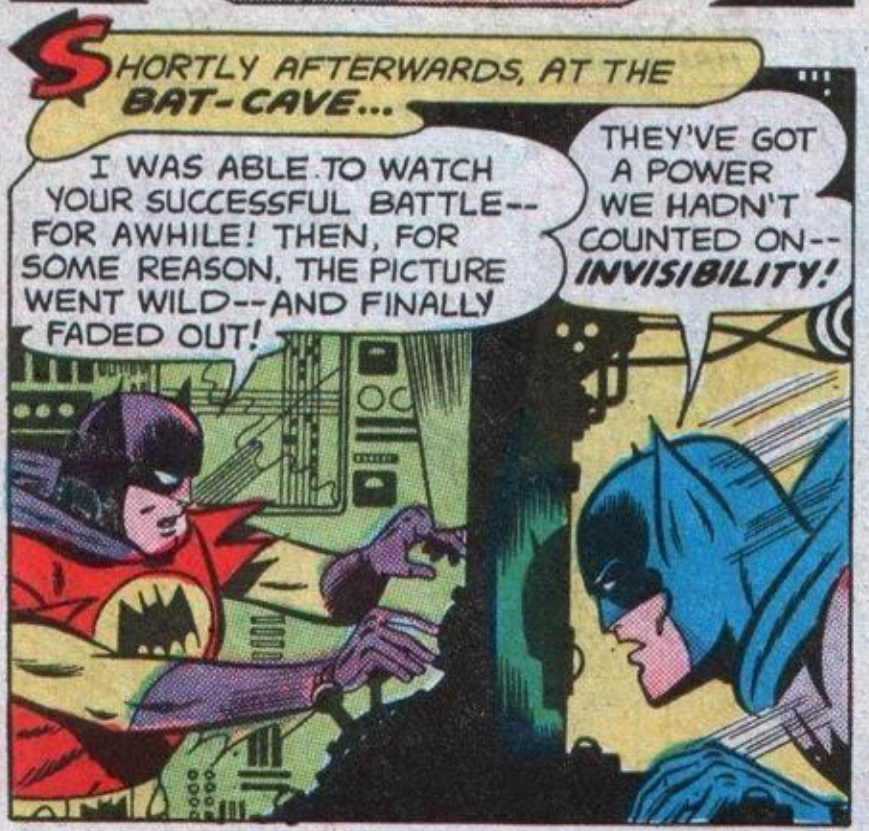

LATER, AS MOISTURE-ABSORBING RAY-CANNONS SET UP A GREAT FLAME WALL...
THE PEOPLE OF ZUR-EN-ARRH FLEE! NOW WE'LL BRING THEM TO QUICK SURRENDER-- BY DRYING UP ALL THEIR RESERVOIRS!

BUT, AT THAT MOMENT, AN INCREDIBLE FIGURE SOARS HIGH IN THE AIR, ABOVE THE RAY-BLASTS...
EH--? WHAT KIND OF CREATURE IS THAT?
SCORNFUL OF THE FIERY RAYS, THE CAPED FIGURE SMASHES RIGHT INTO THE VERY MOUTHS OF THE CANNONS...
WHAT AN EYE-OPENER IT WOULD BE FOR SUPERMAN TO SEE ME NOW!

FIERY NUCLEAR ORBS, CAPABLE OF DISINTEGRATING ANYTHING IN THEIR PATH, ARE UNLEASHED BY THE INVADERS...
WONDER HOW MY SUDDEN SUPER STRENGTH CAN STAND UP TO THOSE BABIES...?
I'LL SOON FIND OUT...
...BY PLAYING A GAME OF SUPER-GOLF!
POW







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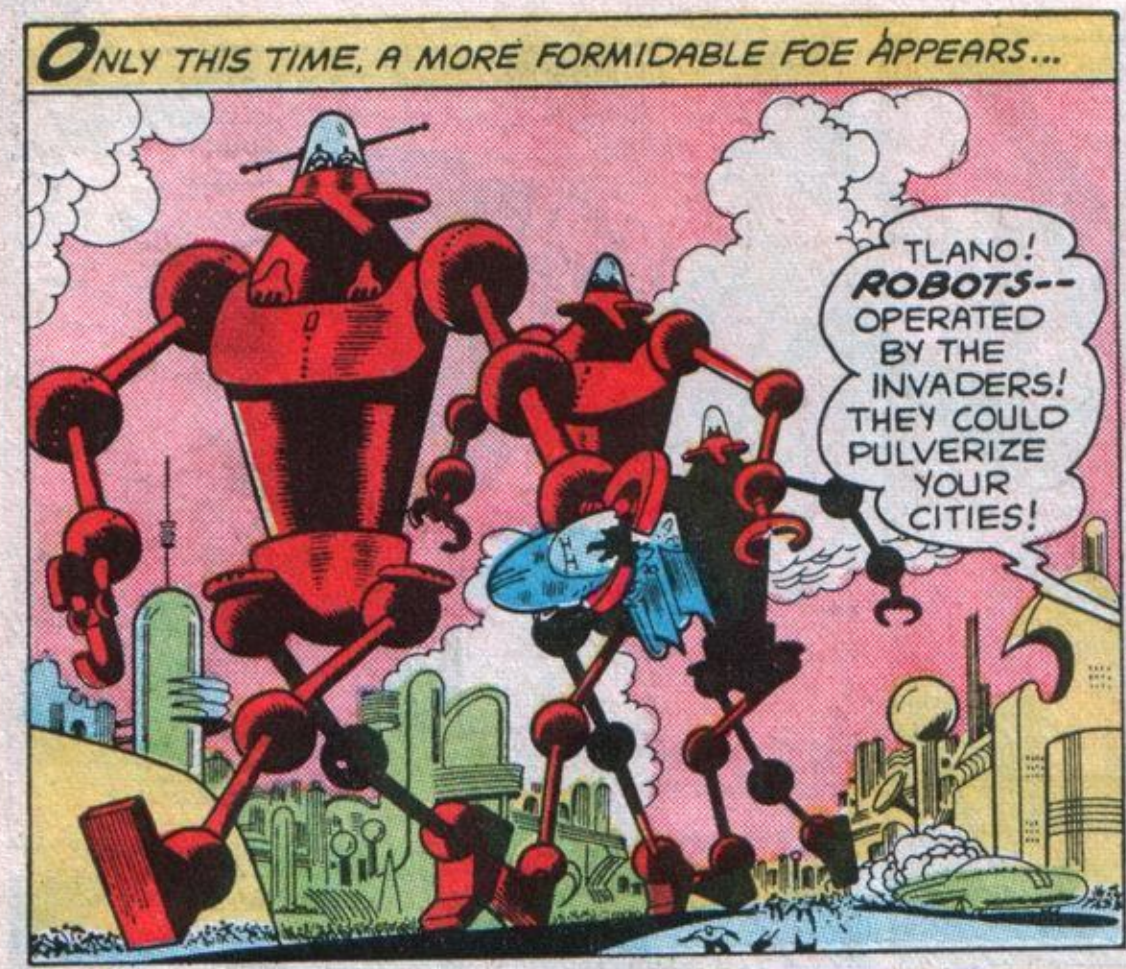
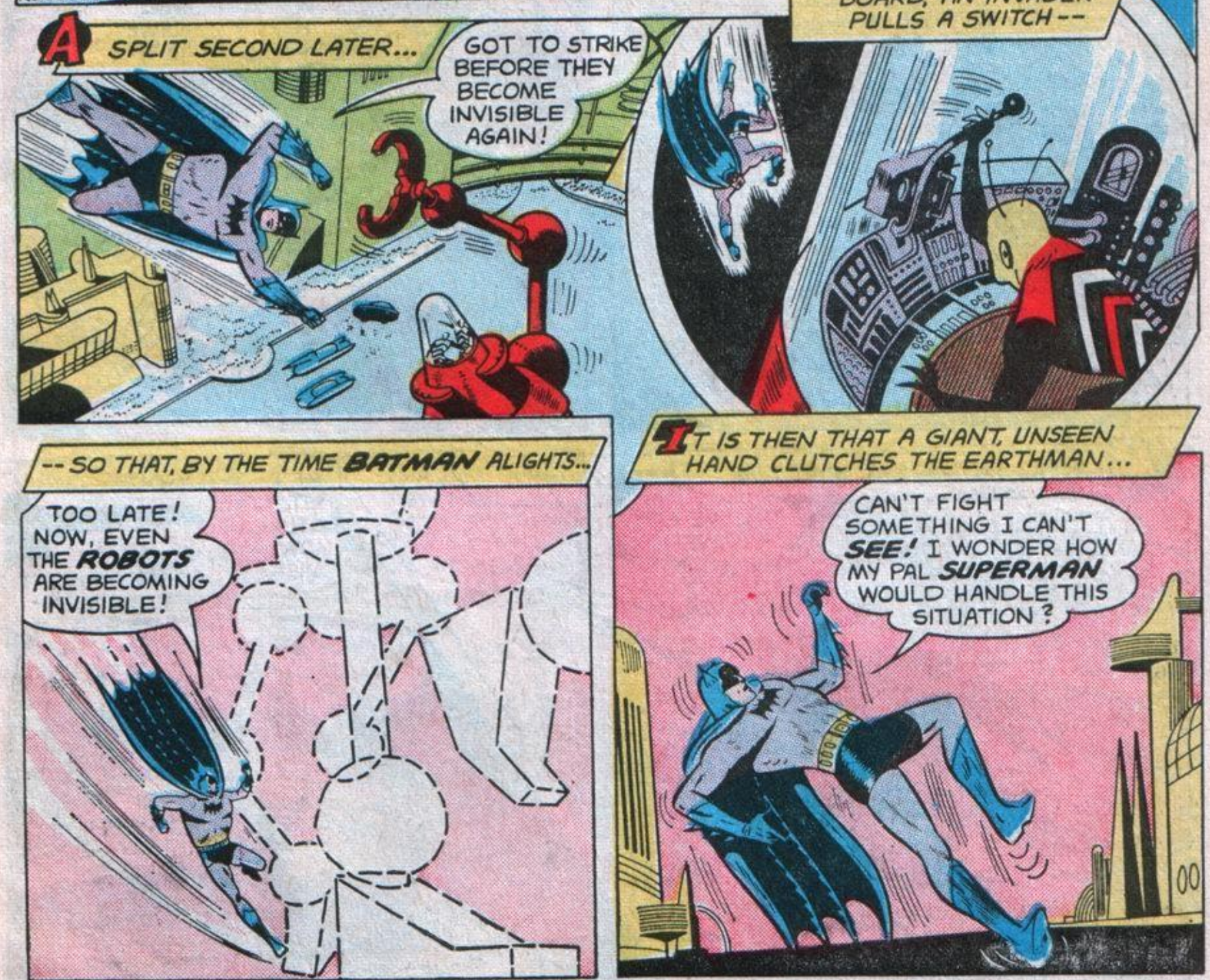
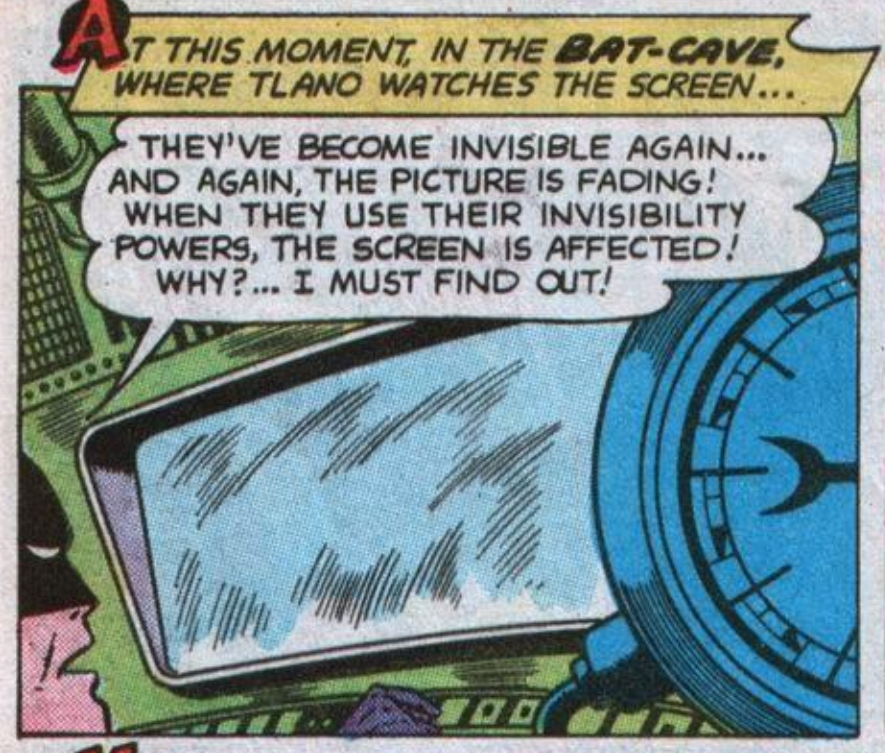

ONLY THIS TIME, A MORE FORMIDABLE FOE APPEARS...
TLANO! ROBOTS-- OPERATED BY THE INVADERS! THEY COULD PULVERIZE YOUR CITIES!

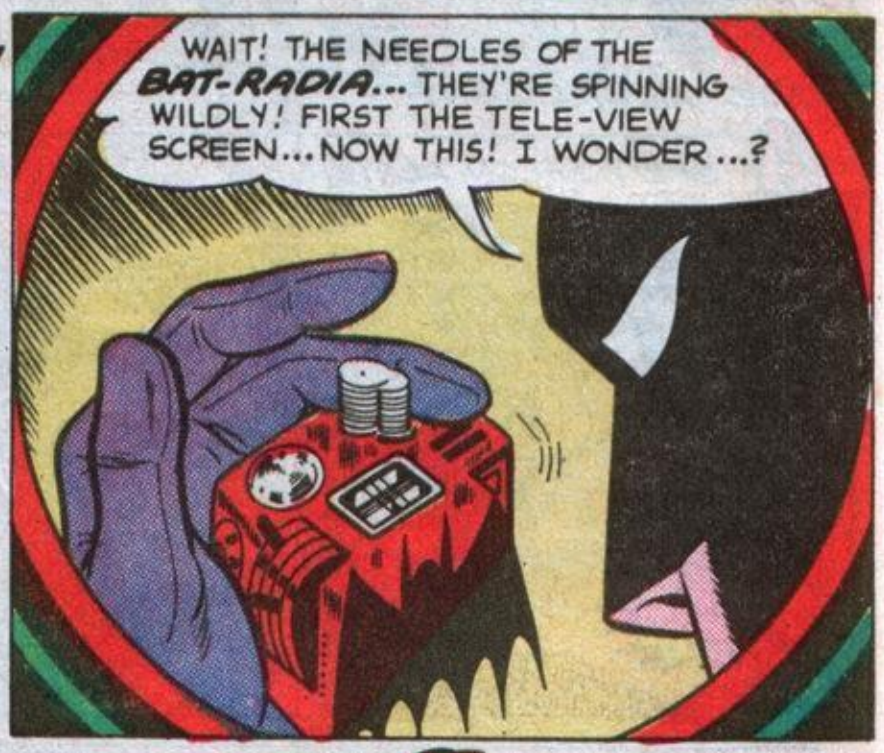
STAY HERE AND WORK ON A COUNTER-ACTION FOR THEIR INVISIBILITY, WHILE I TRY TO TACKLE THOSE ROBOTS!

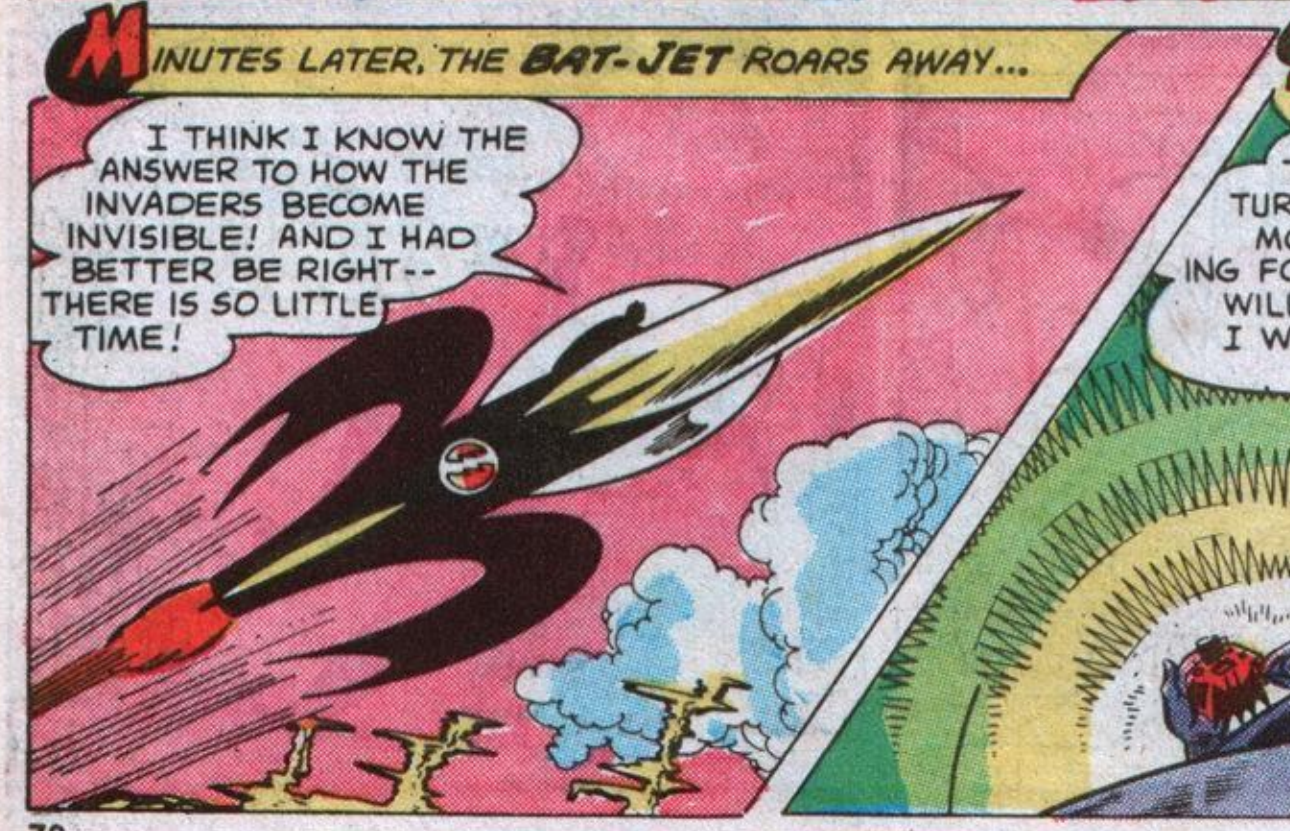

A SPLIT SECOND LATER...
GOT TO STRIKE BEFORE THEY BECOME INVISIBLE AGAIN!
BUT, AT HIS CONTROL BOARD, AN INVADER PULLS A SWITCH--
-- SO THAT, BY THE TIME BATMAN ALIGHTS...
TOO LATE! NOW, EVEN THE ROBOTS ARE BECOMING INVISIBLE!
IT IS THEN THAT A GIANT, UNSEEN HAND CLUTCHES THE EARTHMAN...
CAN'T FIGHT SOMETHING I CAN'T SEE! I WONDER HOW MY PAL SUPERMAN WOULD HANDLE THIS SITUATION?

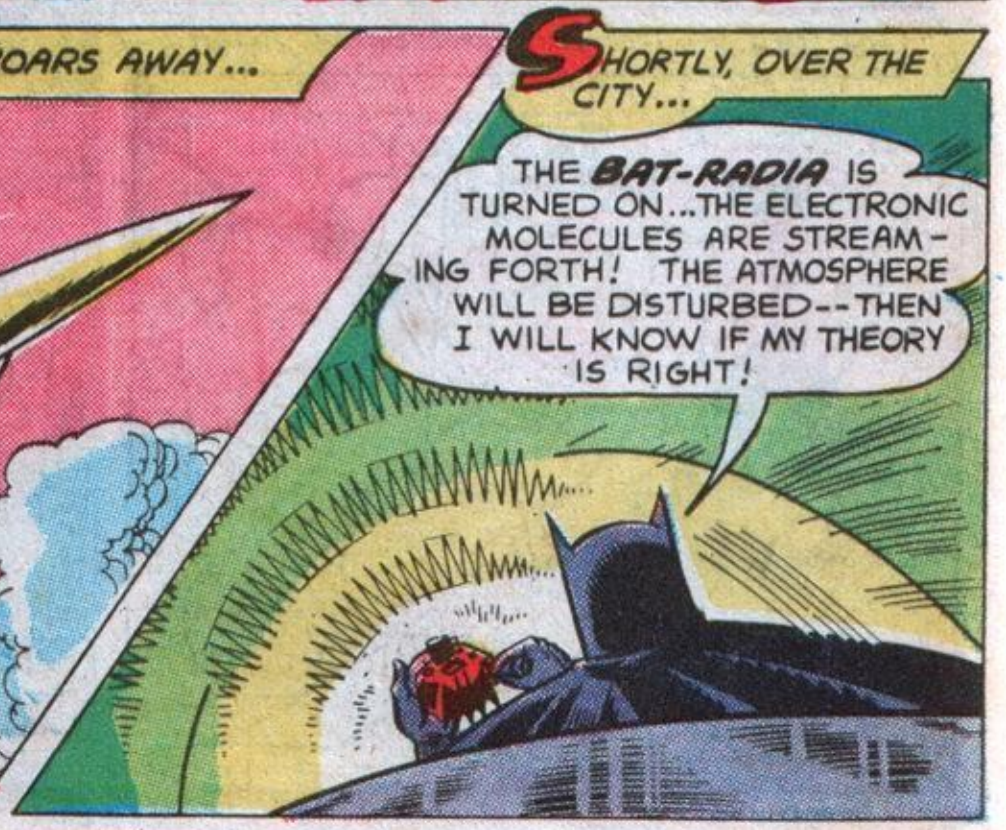
HO! WE WILL WRING THE VERY STRENGTH FROM THIS CREATURE -- THEN, WHEN HE IS WEAKENED, DESTROY HIM!

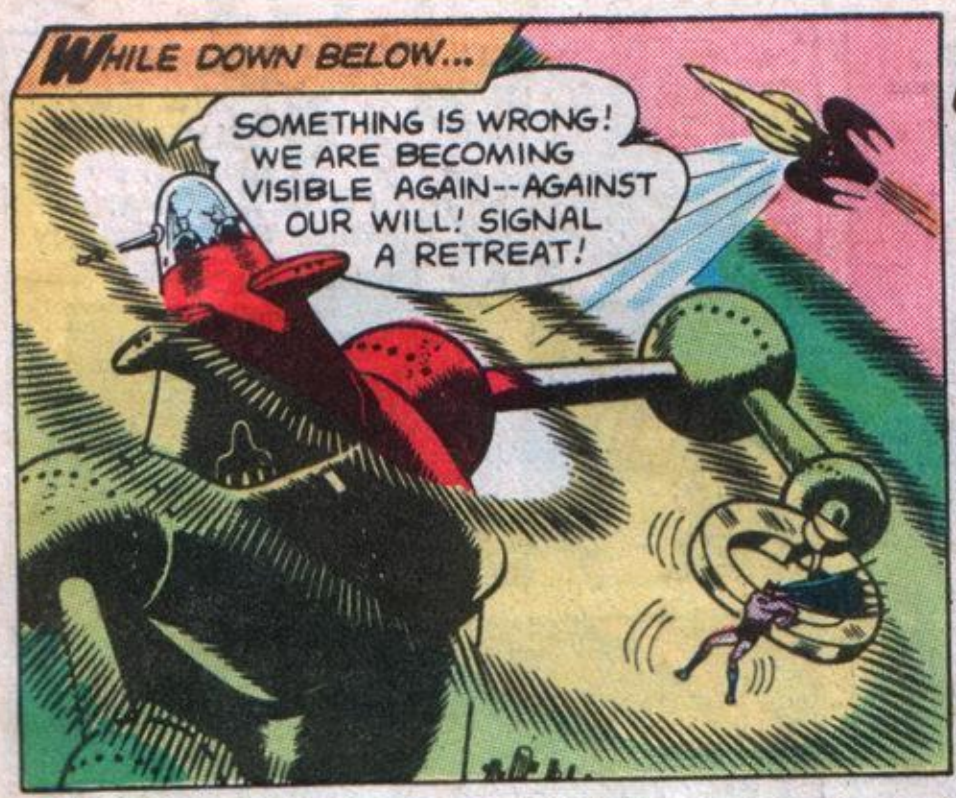
BUT THOUGH UNABLE TO SEE THE HUGE HAND WHICH CLUTCHES HIM, BATMAN CAN FEEL IT...
CLANG
A SUPER-PUNCH DID THE TRICK... THE HAND HAS LET GO!
BUT I'M STILL HELPLESS TO BATTLE THEM, WHILE I CAN'T SEE THEM!

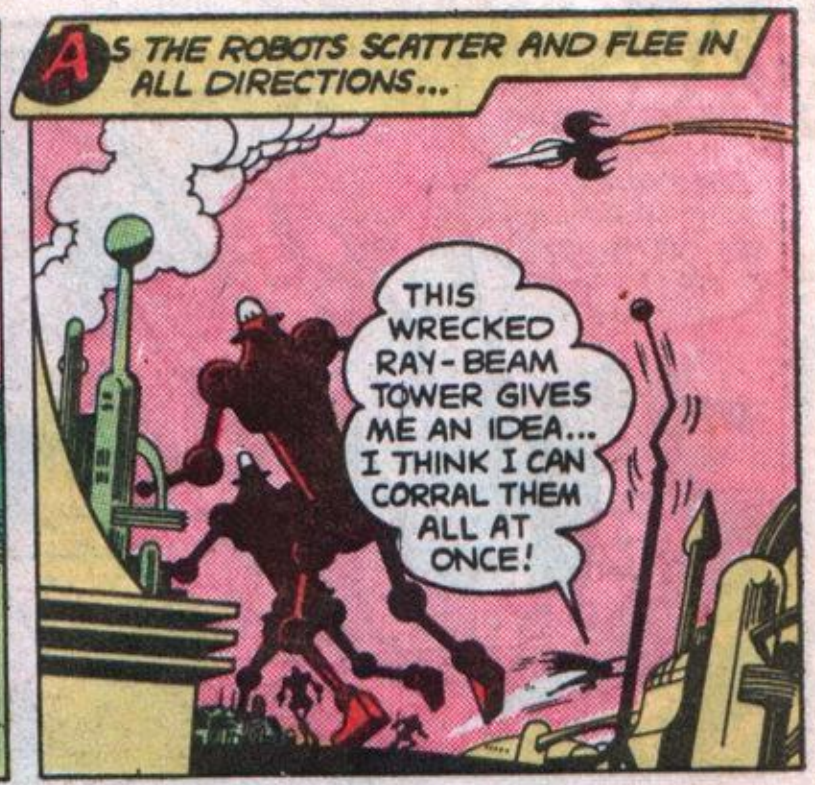

AT THIS MOMENT, IN THE BAT-CAVE, WHERE TLANO WATCHES THE SCREEN...
THEY'VE BECOME INVISIBLE AGAIN... AND AGAIN, THE PICTURE IS FADING! WHEN THEY USE THEIR INVISIBILITY POWERS, THE SCREEN IS AFFECTED! WHY?... I MUST FIND OUT!


WAIT! THE NEEDLES OF THE BAT-RADIA... THEY'RE SPINNING WILDLY! FIRST THE TELE-VIEW SCREEN... NOW THIS! I WONDER...?


MINUTES LATER, THE BAT-JET ROARS AWAY...
I THINK I KNOW THE ANSWER TO HOW THE INVADERS BECOME INVISIBLE! AND I HAD BETTER BE RIGHT -- THERE IS SO LITTLE TIME!


SHORTLY, OVER THE CITY...
THE BAT-RADIA IS TURNED ON... THE ELECTRONIC MOLECULES ARE STREAMING FORTH! THE ATMOSPHERE WILL BE DISTURBED -- THEN I WILL KNOW IF MY THEORY IS RIGHT!


WHILE DOWN BELOW...
SOMETHING IS WRONG! WE ARE BECOMING VISIBLE AGAIN--AGAINST OUR WILL! SIGNAL A RETREAT!

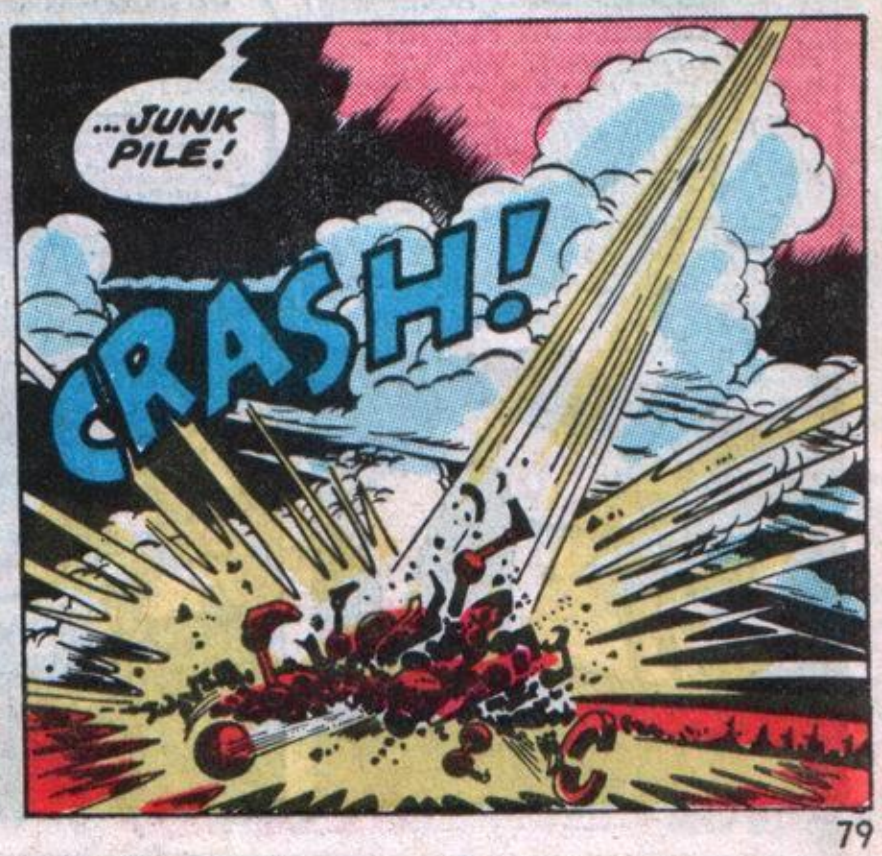

AS THE ROBOTS SCATTER AND FLEE IN ALL DIRECTIONS...
THIS WRECKED RAY-BEAM TOWER GIVES ME AN IDEA... I THINK I CAN CORRAL THEM ALL AT ONCE!

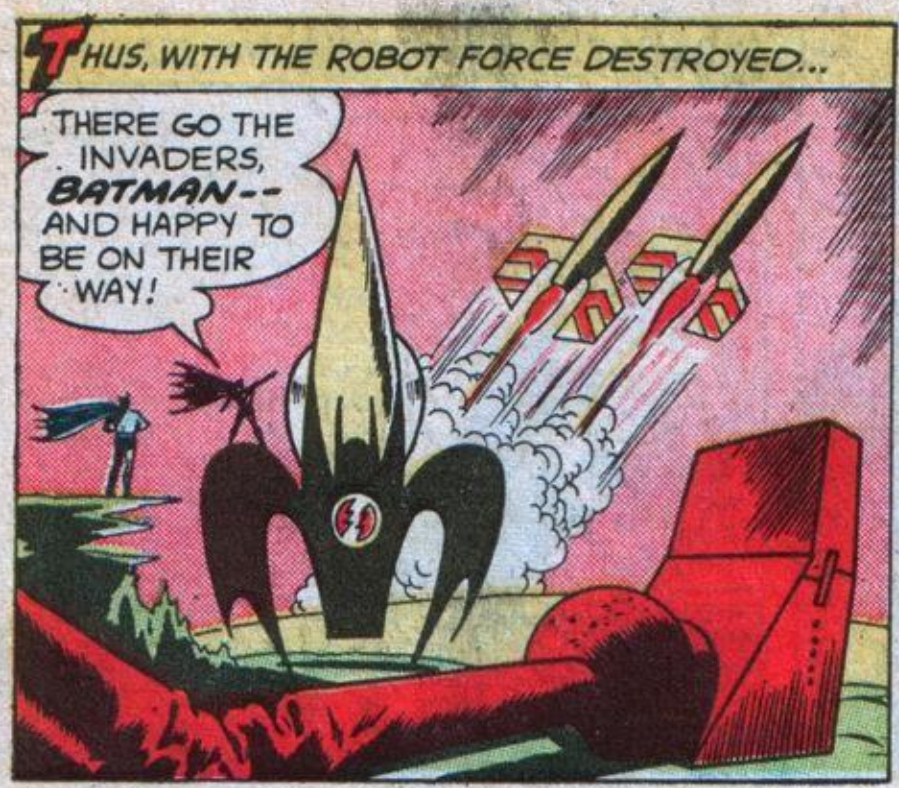
SUPER-STRONG FINGERS EASILY CRUSH THE TOWER-- AND, BY STRAINING THE METAL THROUGH HIS HANDS, BATMAN FASHIONS A LENGTH OF STRONG WIRE...
THIS STUNT OFTEN WORKS FOR SUPERMAN ON EARTH... NO REASON WHY IT CAN'T WORK FOR ME ON THIS PLANET!

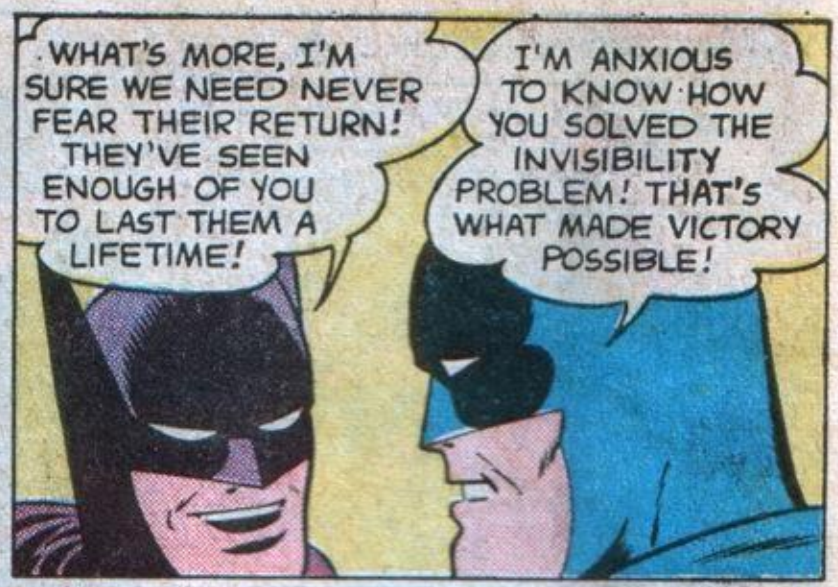
SOON, WITH A MILE-LONG "LARIAT," THE SUPER-BATMAN AGAIN TAKES TO THE AIR...
THIS SHOULD BE ONE OF THE BIGGEST ROUND-UPS ON RECORD!

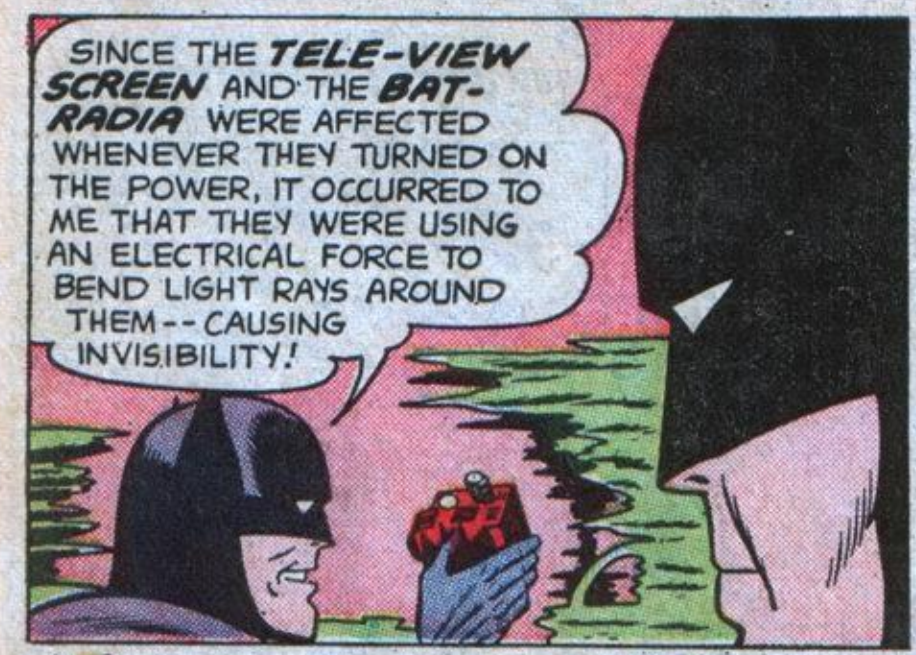
LASSOED AROUND THE ANKLES, THE ROBOTS CRASH TO THE GROUND...
FLEE! FLEE! TO THE ROCKET SHIPS!

THEN, AS A DIMINUTIVE BUT SUPER-POWERFUL FIGURE HOISTS THE METAL MONSTERS SKYWARD...
FOR THE COMPLETION OF THIS STUNT, WE'LL HAVE A...


...JUNK PILE!
CRASH!


THUS, WITH THE ROBOT FORCE DESTROYED...
THERE GO THE INVADERS, BATMAN-- AND HAPPY TO BE ON THEIR WAY!


WHAT'S MORE, I'M SURE WE NEED NEVER FEAR THEIR RETURN! THEY'VE SEEN ENOUGH OF YOU TO LAST THEM A LIFETIME!
I'M ANXIOUS TO KNOW HOW YOU SOLVED THE INVISIBILITY PROBLEM! THAT'S WHAT MADE VICTORY POSSIBLE!


SINCE THE TELE-VIEW SCREEN AND THE BAT-RADIA WERE AFFECTED WHENEVER THEY TURNED ON THE POWER, IT OCCURRED TO ME THAT THEY WERE USING AN ELECTRICAL FORCE TO BEND LIGHT RAYS AROUND THEM -- CAUSING INVISIBILITY!

THE ELECTRONIC-MOLECULAR SHOWER FROM THE BAT-RADIA OFFSET THEIR ELECTRIC FORCE, MAKING THEM VISIBLE AGAIN! BUT COME -- YOU MUST BE READY TO RETURN TO YOUR WORLD!
YES -- EVEN THOUGH IT HAS BEEN FUN PLAYING SUPERMAN ON YOUR PLANET!

LATER, AT THE BAT-CAVE...
I REALIZE YOU'D ACCEPT NO MORE THAN MY PLANET'S THANKS FOR WHAT YOU'VE DONE! BUT AT LEAST TAKE THE BAT-RADIA WITH YOU! IT WON'T WORK IN YOUR ATMOSPHERE -- BUT I'D LIKE IT TO BE IN YOUR TROPHY ROOM!
IT'LL BE A CONSTANT REMINDER OF ONE OF MY STRANGEST ADVENTURES!

TLANO THROWS A SWITCH -- AND, INSTANTLY, BATMAN IS BACK OVER GOTHAM CITY...
IN THE BAT-PLANE AGAIN! WHY, I'VE ONLY BEEN GONE FOR A FEW SECONDS -- WHICH WERE HOURS ON PLANET X!

IT WOULD BE FAR EASIER TO CONSIDER THIS A DREAM ... BUT HOW CAN I? FOR IN MY HAND, I HOLD THE BAT-RADIA!
THE END

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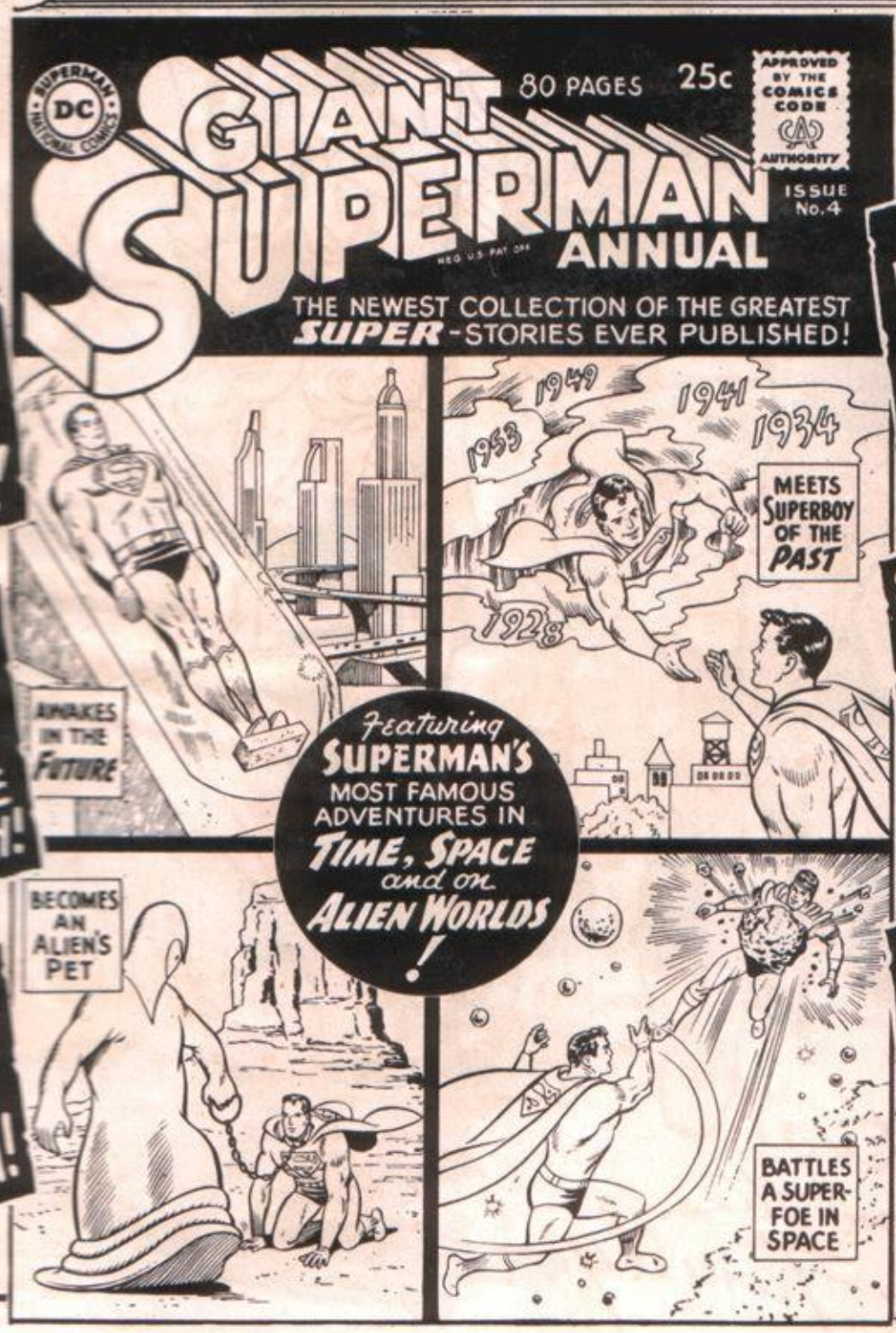

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