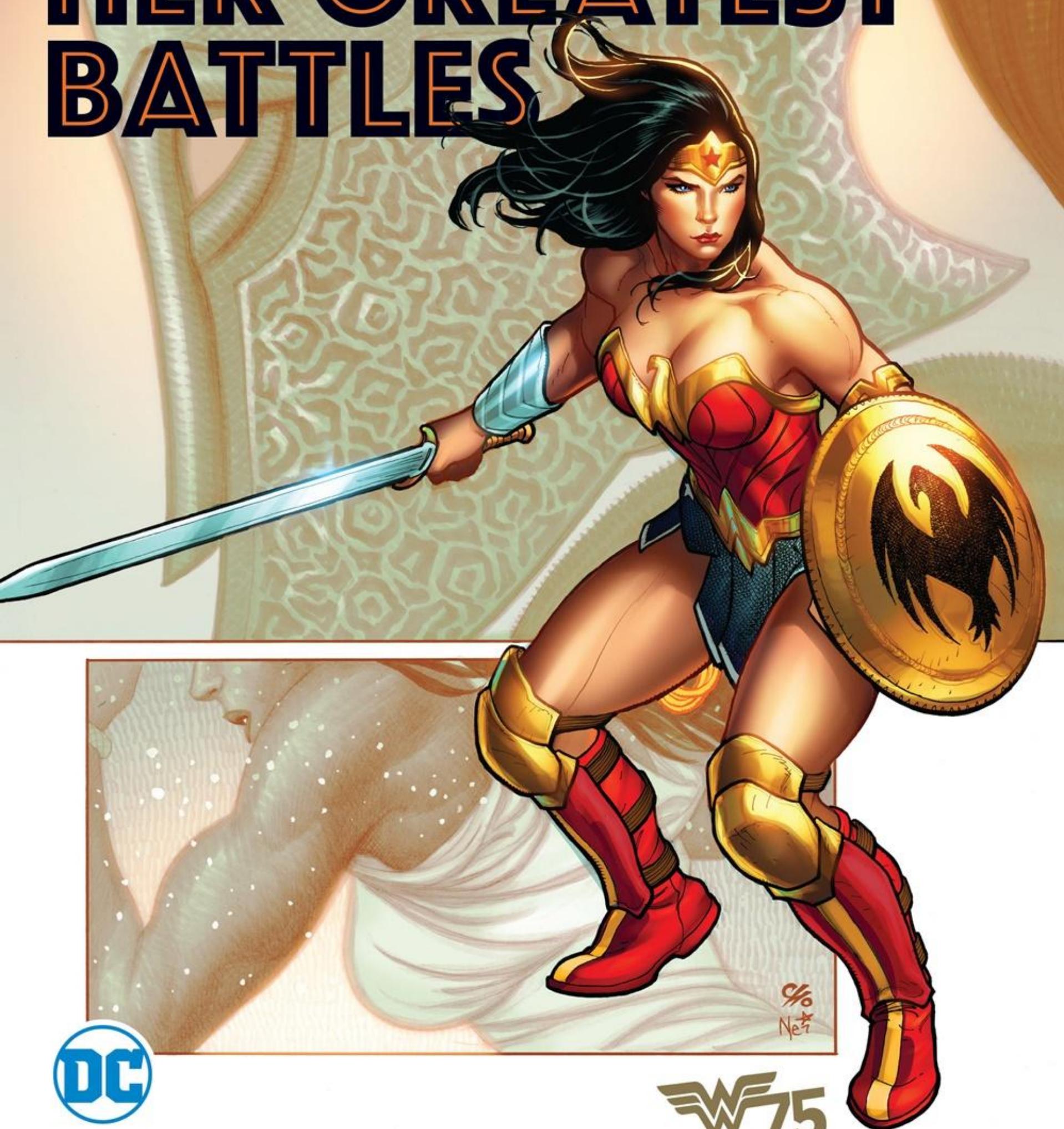


WONDER WOMAN

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W75

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Inks: Doug Hazlewood & Raul Fernandez, Colors: Brad Anderson

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from **WONDER WOMAN #23** (2013)

Script: Brian Azzarello, Art: Cliff Chiang

Colors: Matthew Wilson, Letters: Jared K. Fletcher

Cover: Cliff Chiang



"WE INTERRUPT OUR REGULAR PROGRAMMING TO BRING YOU A SPECIAL CHANNEL 35 NOW-NEWS BULLETIN! HERE IS ANCHOR-WOMAN CONNIE CONLEY IN OUR NEWSROOM WITH AN UPDATE REPORT..."

"REPORTS ARE STILL COMING IN CONCERNING THIS MORNING'S ASTONISHING TAKEOVER OF A FEDERAL MISSILE BASE BY A BAND OF RENEGADE MILITARY PERSONNEL LED BY AIR FORCE GENERAL SAMUEL TOLLIVER..."

"APPARENTLY, TOLLIVER AND HIS TROOPS HAD INSIDE HELP IN ACCOMPLISHING THEIR INFILTRATION--THOUGH NO SPECIFIC DETAILS ARE YET KNOWN. WE SWITCH YOU NOW TO CHALICEY STARK, LIVE IN WASHINGTON..."

SPECIAL NEWS BULLETIN TV5

"THANK YOU, CONNIE. A HURRIED PRESS CONFERENCE HAS BEEN CALLED HERE TO REPORT ON THE PRESIDENT'S RECENT EFFORTS TO DISSUADE GENERAL TOLLIVER FROM HIS PLANS TO LAUNCH A NUCLEAR MISSILE STRIKE DIRECTLY AT MOSCOW..."

"MISTER REAGAN HAS ATTEMPTED REPEATEDLY TO TALK WITH TOLLIVER, WHO CLAIMS CERTAIN KNOWLEDGE OF SOVIET PLANS TO LAUNCH A NUCLEAR FIRST STRIKE AGAINST AMERICA..."

"SINCE WE WERE NOT REACTING QUICKLY ENOUGH, ACCORDING TO TOLLIVER, HE CLAIMS HE HAS NO CHOICE BUT TO PROTECT AMERICA IN HIS OWN WAY. AT THIS TIME, TOLLIVER REFUSES TO RESPOND TO ANY FURTHER COMMUNICATION..."



"THOUGH MEETINGS WERE HELD EARLIER TODAY TO DEAL WITH THE TOLLIVER AFFAIR--WHICH GENERAL JOHN HILLARY CALLS THE ARES ASSAULT--THE GOVERNMENT HAS NO OFFICIAL STATEMENT FOR THE PRESS, AND THE RESULTS OF THE MEETINGS REMAIN UNKNOWN."

"MEANWHILE, RUMORS HAVE REACHED US THAT A RENEGADE SOVIET GENERAL AND HIS TROOPS HAVE NOW TAKEN CONTROL OF A RUSSIAN MISSILE SILO AT THIS TIME. THE SOVIETS HAVE REFUSED TO SUBSTANTIATE THESE RUMORS..."

"CHANNEL 35 WILL KEEP YOU INFORMED OF ANY LATE-BREAKING DEVELOPMENTS IN THIS DESPERATE SITUATION AS THEY OCCUR. MEANWHILE, WE NOW RETURN YOU TO 'ME AND THE CHIMP'..."



THE SCENE: THE AFOREMENTIONED BESIEGED AMERICAN MISSILE BASE...

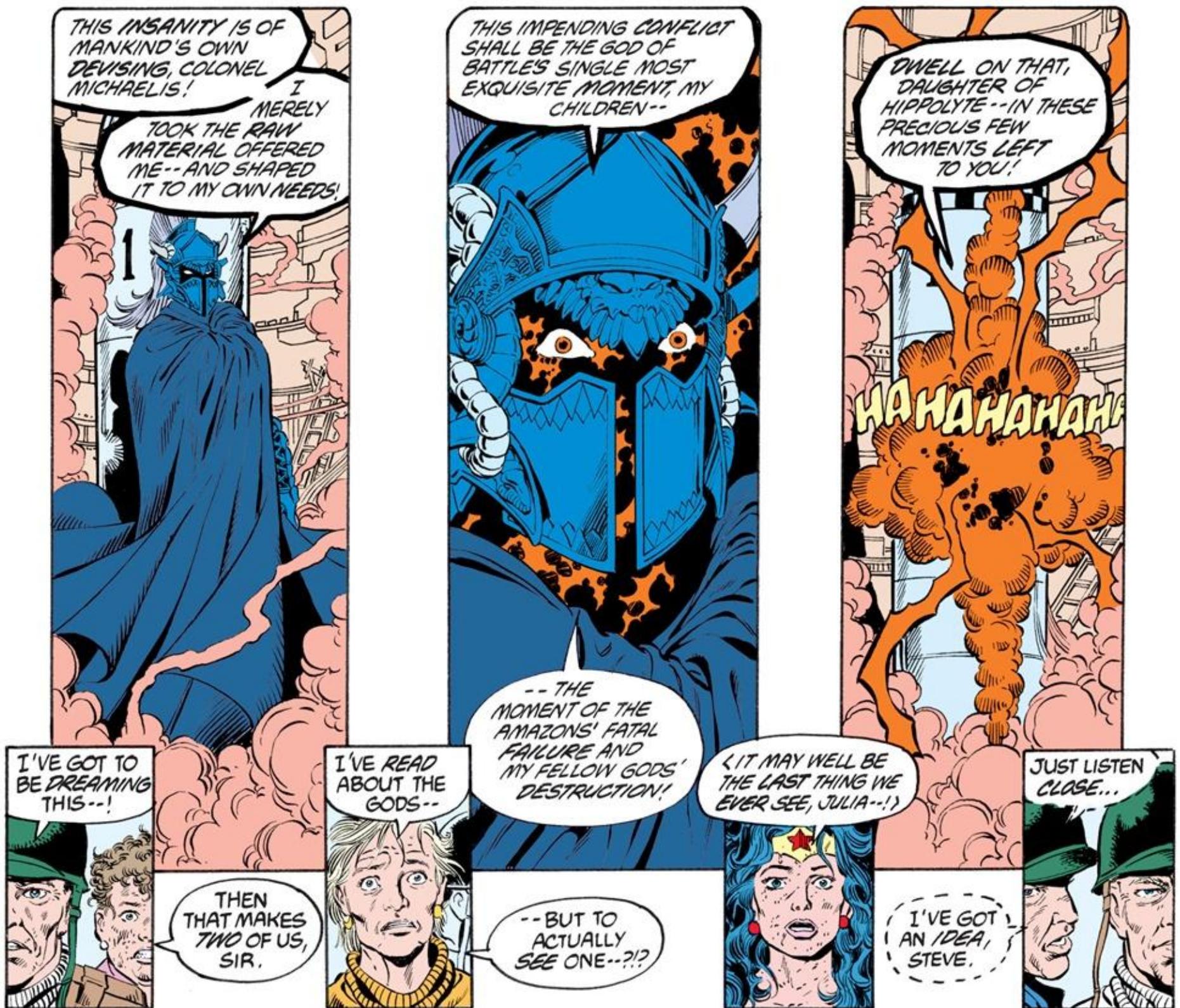
WITNESS, COLONEL STEPHEN TREVOR, THE COMING OF OUR MASTER, THE WAR-GOD ARES-- AT HIS MOMENT OF GREATEST TRIUMPH!

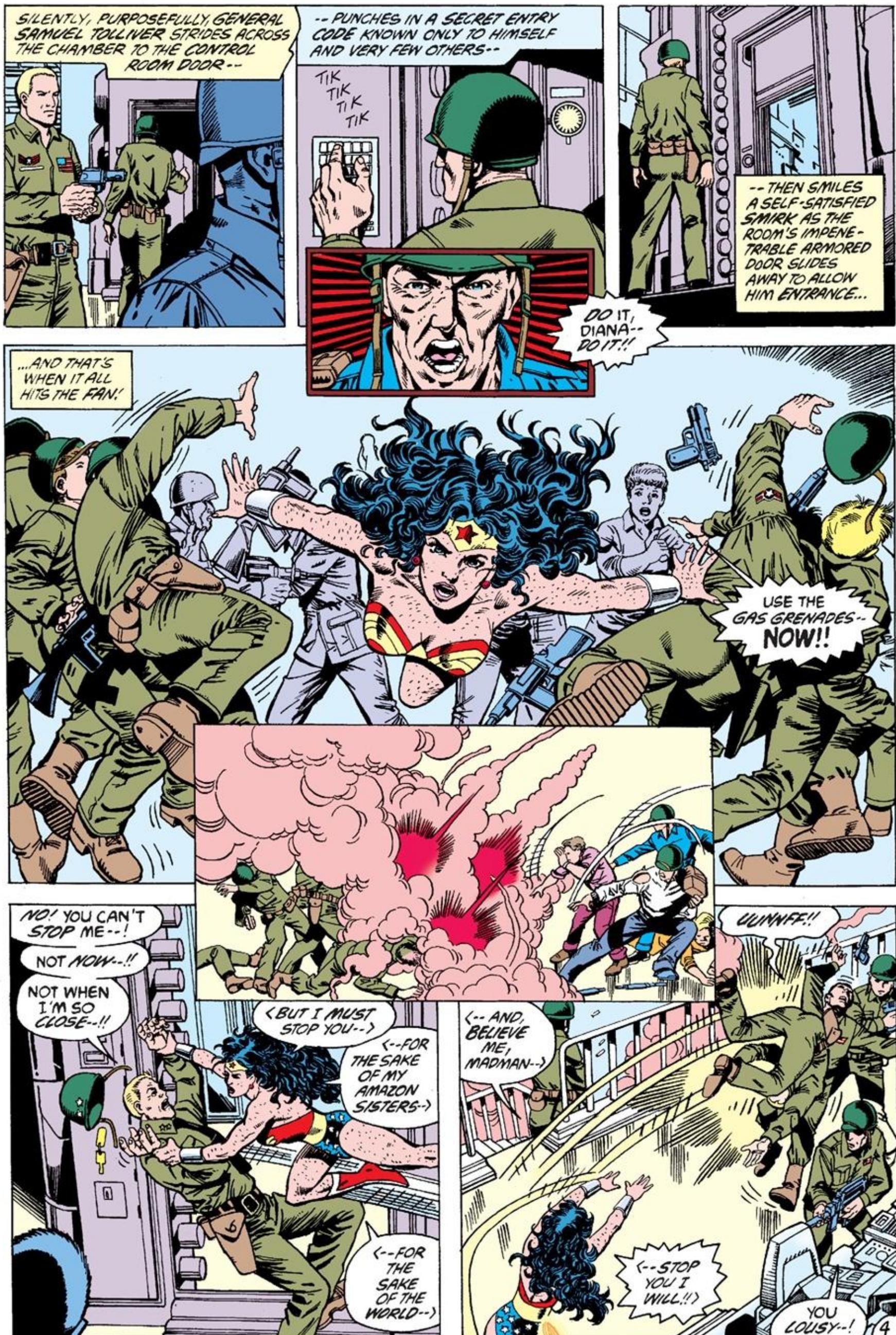
LOOK UPON HIS WORKS, YE MIGHTY-- AND DESPAIR!

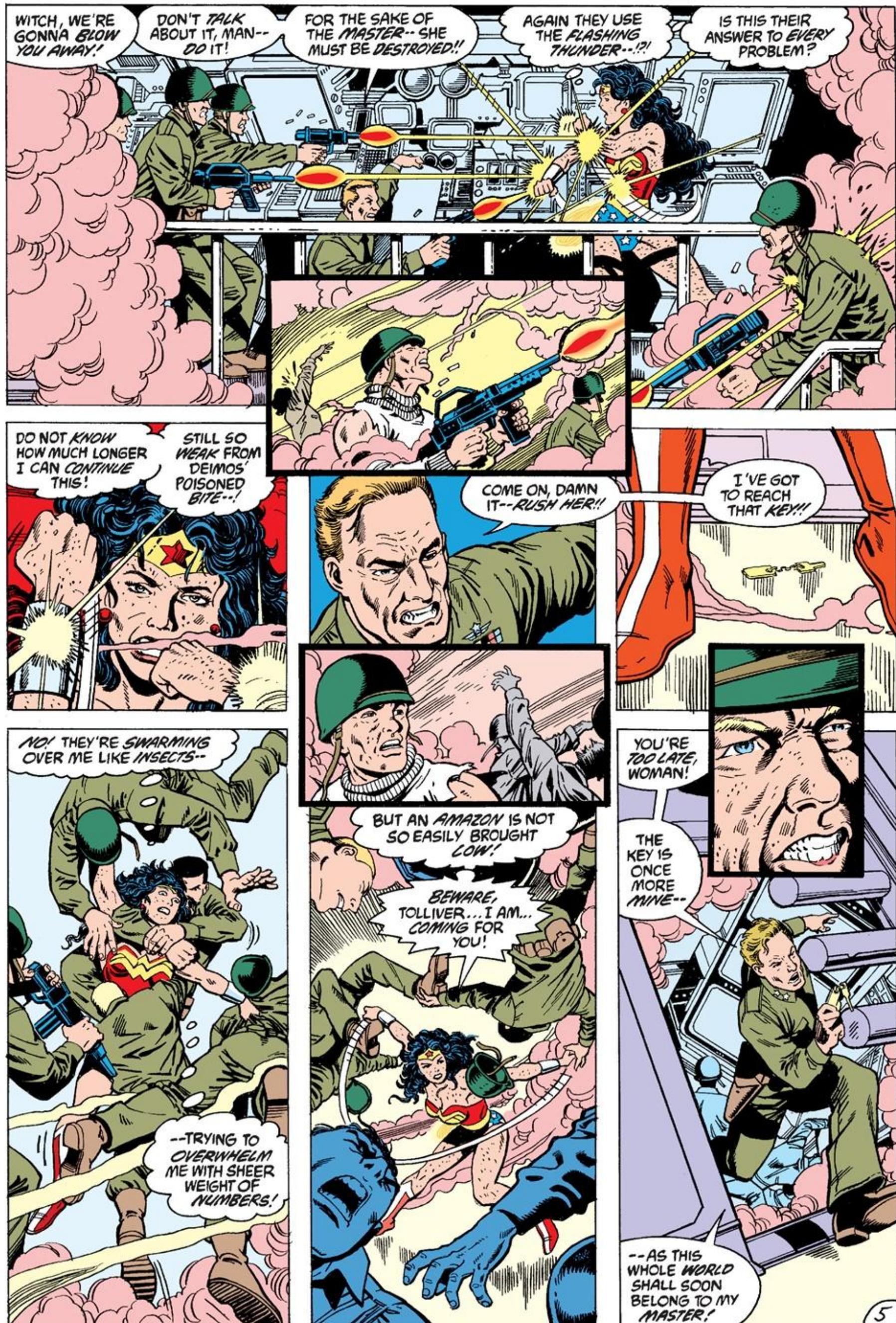
THIS JUST KEEPS GETTING MORE AND MORE INSANE!

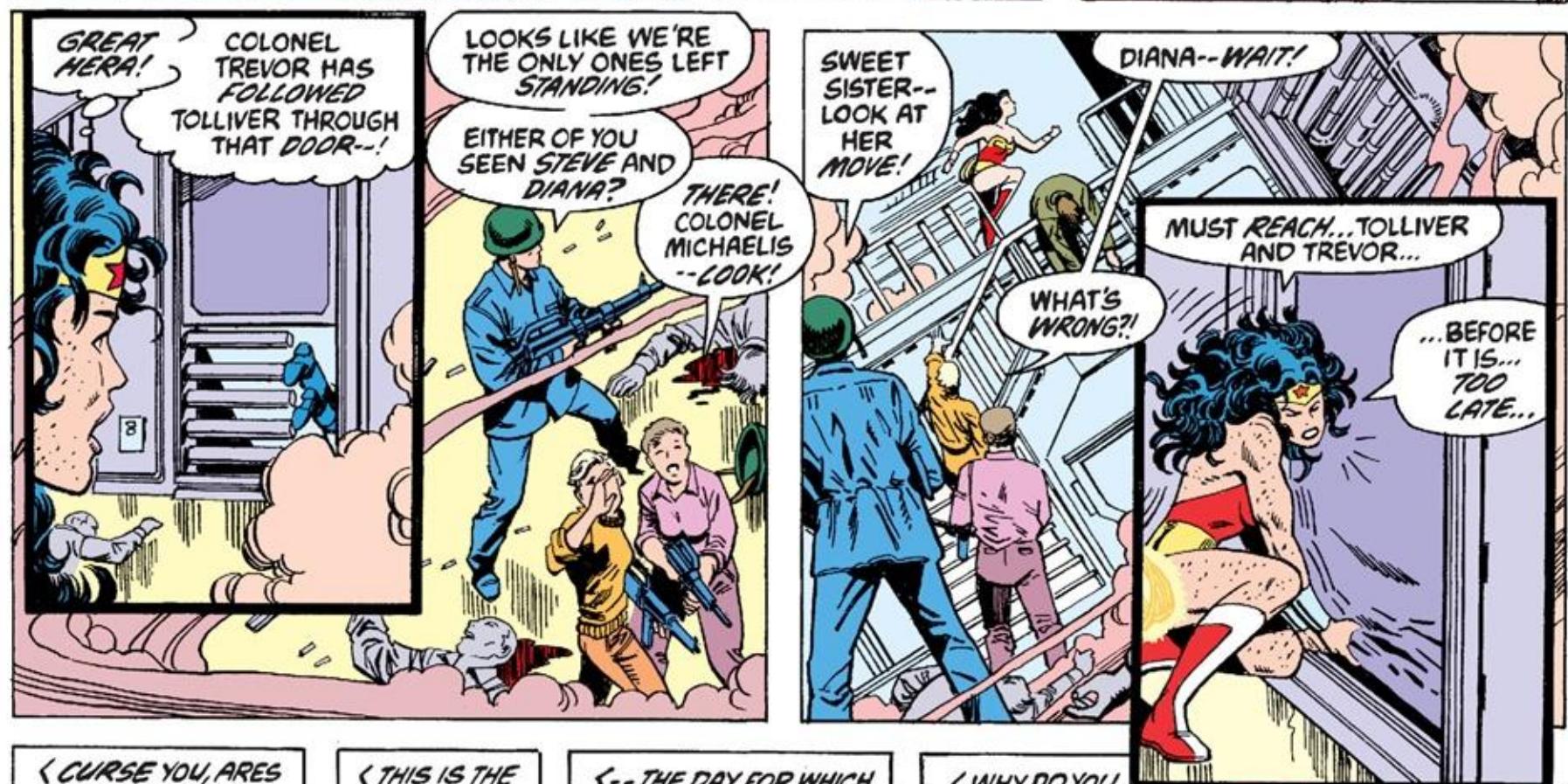
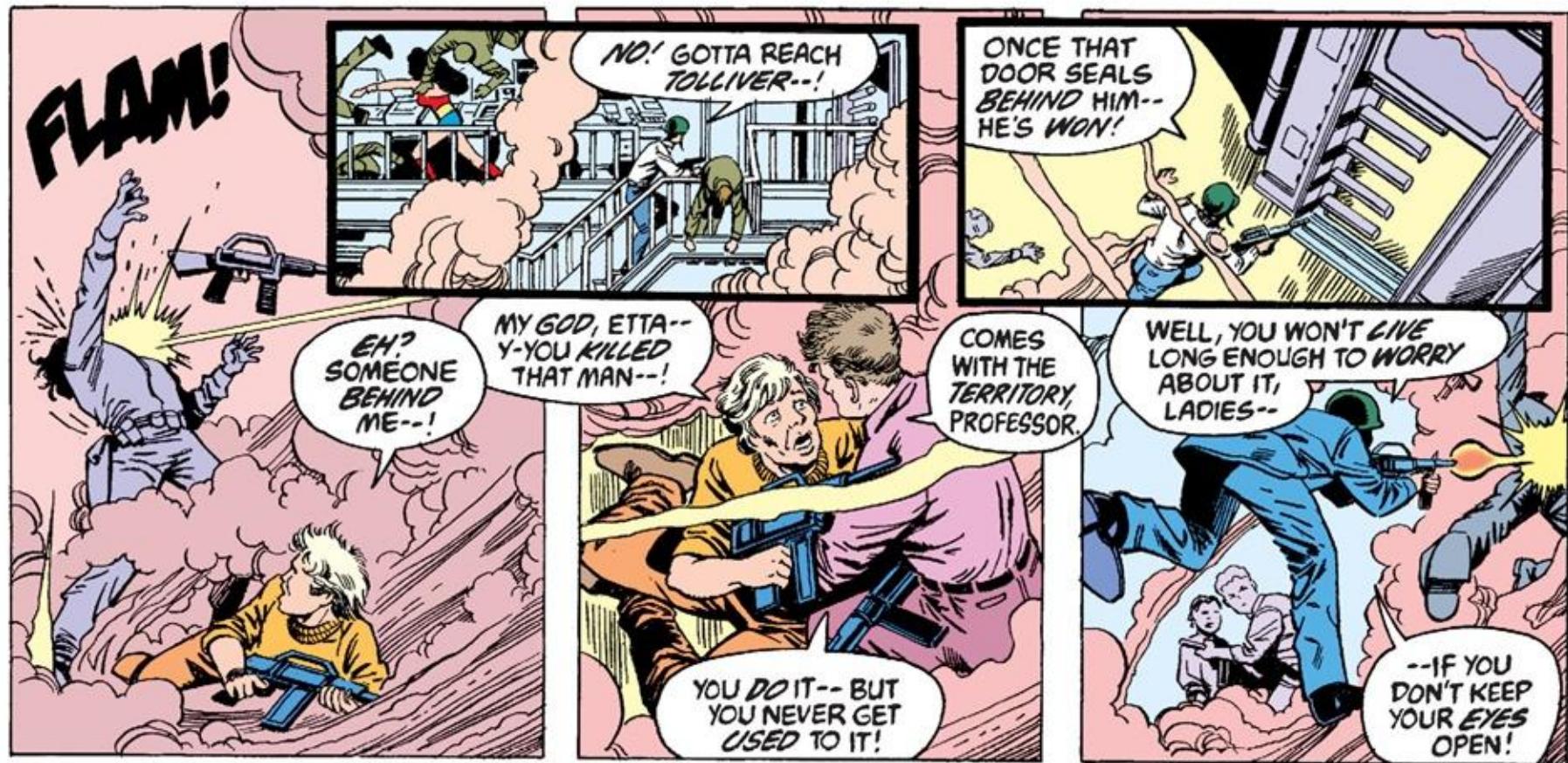
POWER

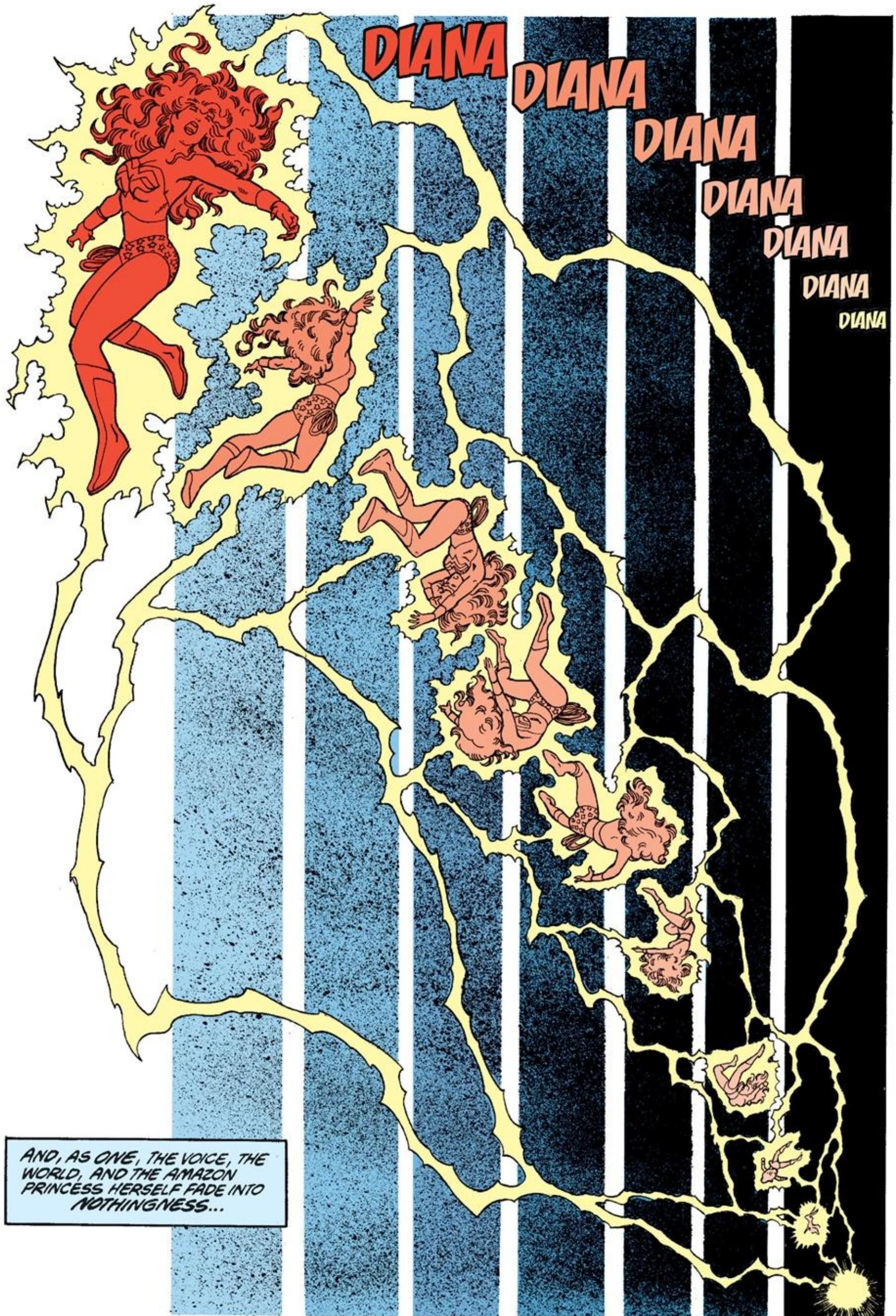
PLOT & PENCILS: GEORGE PÉREZ • SCRIPT: LEN WEIN
INKS: BRUCE PATTERSON • LETTERS: JOHN COSTANZA
COLORS: TATJANA WOOD • EDITING: KAREN BERGER











AND, AS ONE, THE VOICE, THE WORLD, AND THE AMAZON PRINCESS HERSELF FADE INTO NOTHINGNESS...



AT FIRST, THERE IS ONLY
THE DARKNESS, COMPLETE,
ALL-ENCOMPASSING--



--THEN COMES THE THUNDER--

--AND THE
BLINDING
BURSTS OF
LIGHT--



--THE RANDOM ERUPTIONS
OF EXPLOSIVE FORCE THAT
RUMBLE SAVAGELY THROUGH
THE SHADOWS--



--ECHOING LIKE THE CACKLE
OF DEMONIC LAUGHTER--



--AND ROUSING THE PRINCESS
DIANA FROM HER NUMBED
SLEEP--



--TO BEHOLD THE LIVING
EMBODIMENT OF NIGHTMARE--



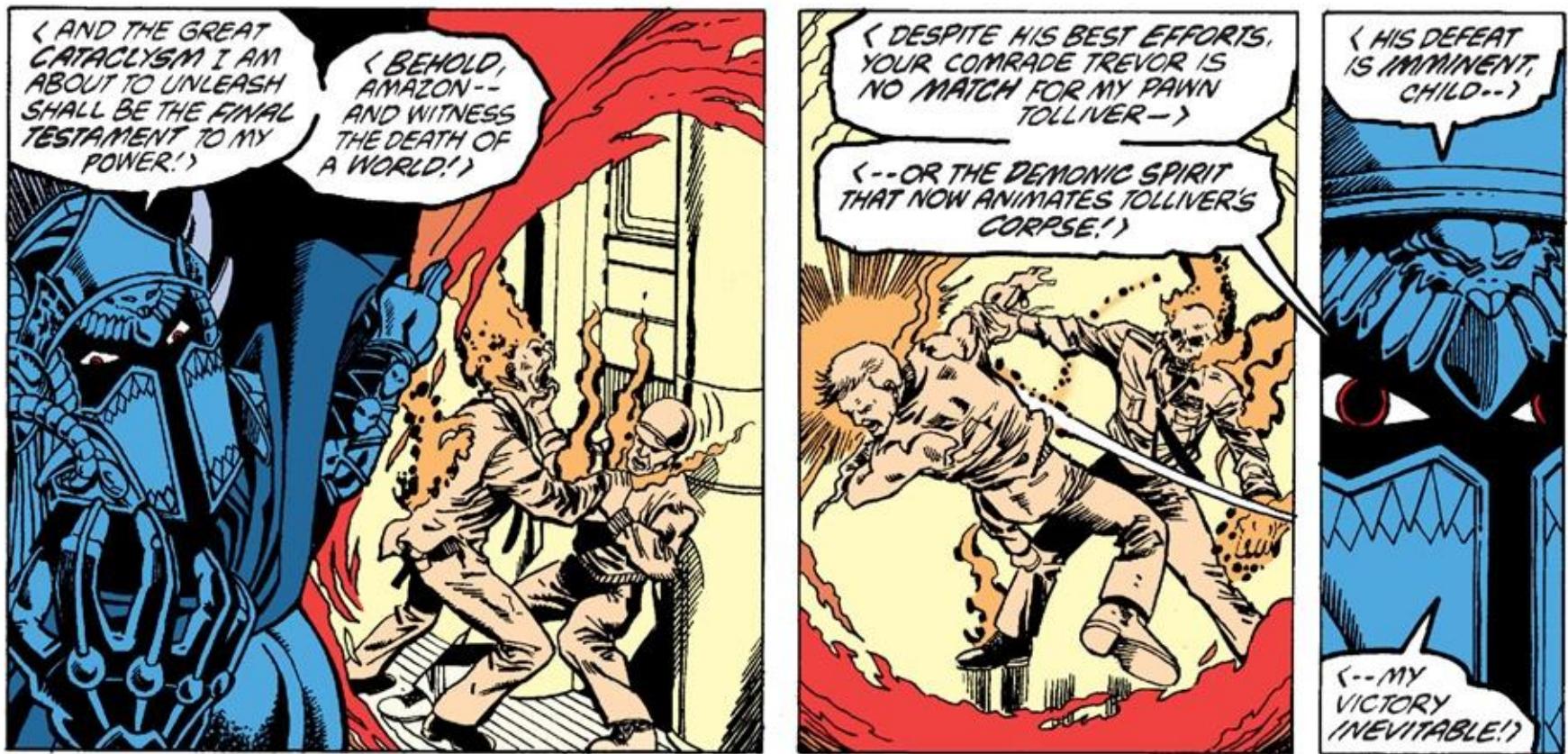
--THE BLACK, BLEAK,
BELLIGERENT VISAGE OF THE
WAR-GOD ARES--

--HE WHO IS NOW
POWER INCARNATE!

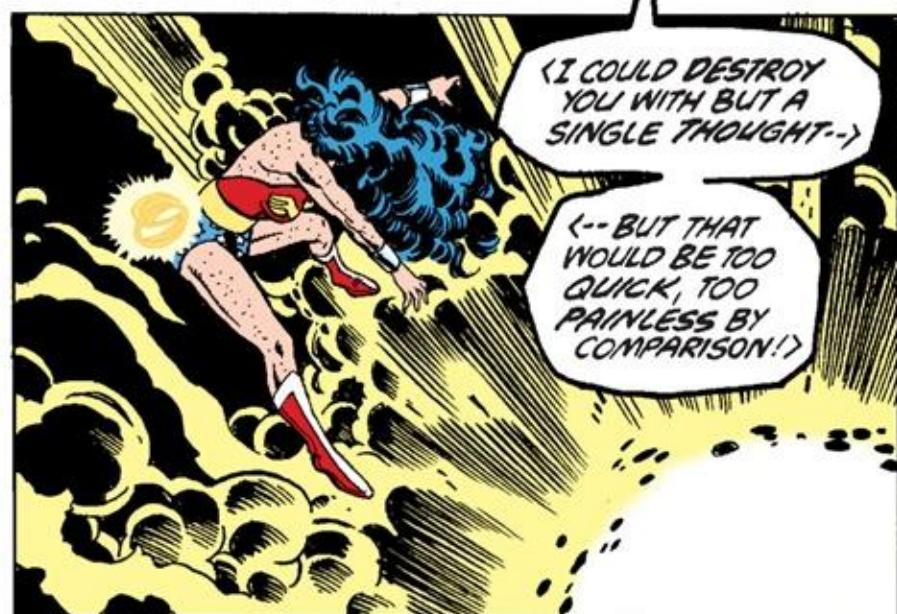
<YOU CHALLENGED
ME, AMAZON--
AND I HAVE
ANSWERED!>

<NOW STAND AND
FACE ME--
OR CRAWL
LIKE THE
COWARD
YOU ARE!>





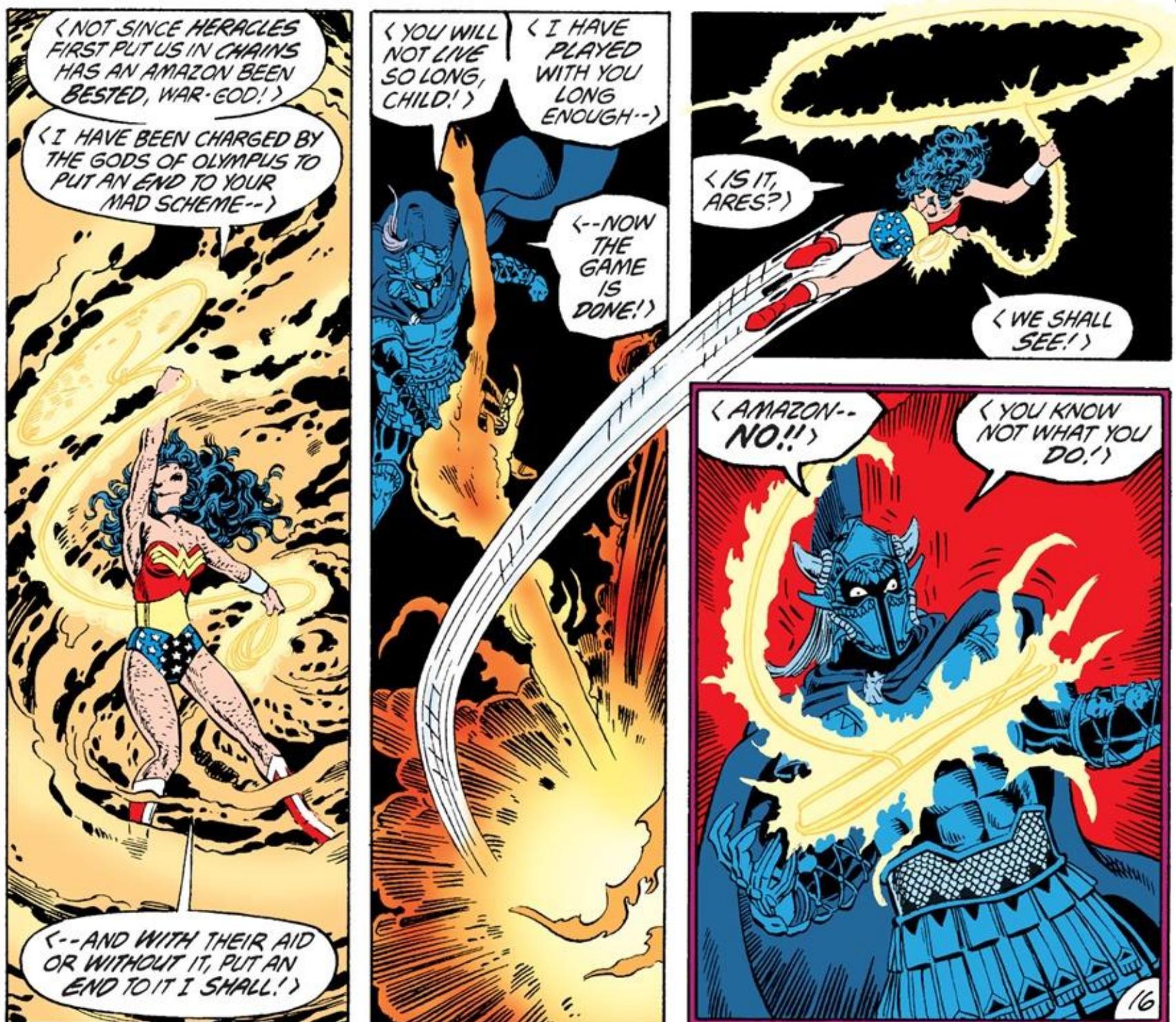














LIKE THE COILS OF SOME SURREAL SERPENT, THE STRANDS OF THE GOLDEN LASSO ENCIRCLE THE WAR-GOD'S TORSO--

-- GROWING TIGHTER, EVER TIGHTER, UNTIL ARES SCREAMS--

-- AND THE NETHER WORLD GOES SUDDENLY MAD --

-- ITS VIOLENT CONVULSIONS KNOCKING THE AMAZON PRINCESS BACK OFF HER FEET--

-- SENDING HER SPRAWLING, BARELY ALIVE...

AND SUDDENLY, ARES CAN SEE THE AWESOME MUSHROOM CLOUDS RISING SHROUD-LIKE OVER THE EARTH'S GREAT CITIES...

SUDDENLY, HE CAN FEEL THE HEAT FROM THE BLOSSOMING FIREBALLS STRIPPING FLESH FROM BONE, REDUCING BONE TO ASH--

--LAYING WASTE TO ALL THE WORLD!

FOR ONE BRIEF INCANDESCENT MOMENT, AS A FIERY TIDE SWEEPS RELENTLESSLY ACROSS THE LAND --

--ARES IS TRULY AND FINALLY MASTER OF THE WORLD--

--AND THEN HE IS ALONE--



--HIS KINGDOM A CHARRED AND SMOKING CINDER, DEVOID OF LIFE--



--AND THUS DEVOID OF PURPOSE...

AYE, ENVELOPED BY THE LASSO OF TRUTH, ARES SEES--TRULY SEES--THE ULTIMATE CONSEQUENCES OF HIS ACTIONS--



--AND, FOR THE FIRST TIME IN HIS IMMORTAL EXISTENCE, THE WAR-GOD WEEPS...



FOR, WITHOUT
THOSE ALIVE TO
WORSHIP HIM, ARES'
POWER SWIFTLY
WADES...

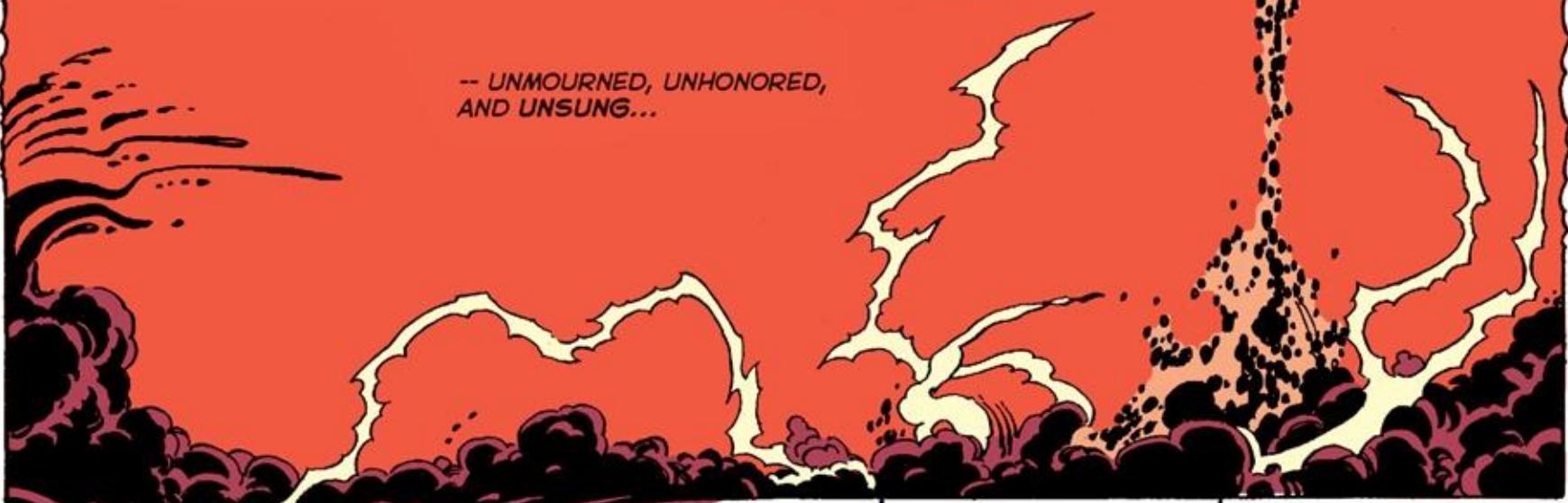
-- HIS GREAT PALACE
AREOPAGUS GROWING
MORE AND MORE
DECAYED...

-- UNTIL, AT LAST,
IT CRUMBLES INTO
NOTHINGNESS...



-- CARRYING THE WAR-GOD WITH IT DOWN
INTO THE VILE DUST WHENCE HE FIRST SPRUNG--

-- UNMOURNED, UNHONORED,
AND UNSUNG...



(NO...IT
CANNOT
BE...)

(MY DREAMS
OF GLORY...
ALL COME
AT LAST TO
THIS...?!)

(IT IS THE TRUTH,
MIGHTY ARES--
BELIEVE IT--!)

(FOR YOUR OWN
SAKE--FOR THE
SAKE OF US ALL--)

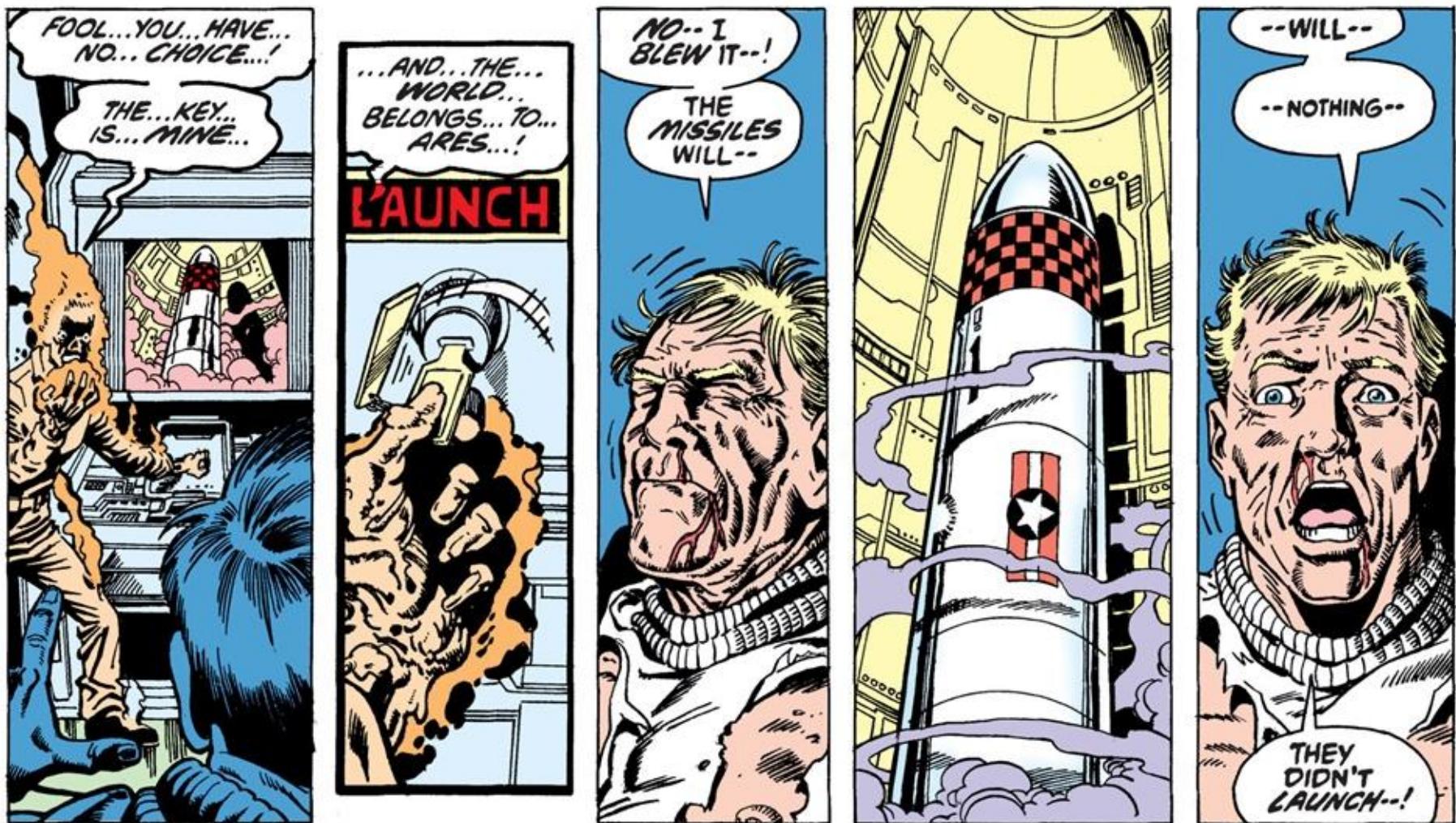
(--YOU MUST STOP
THIS MADNESS BEFORE
IT IS TOO LATE!!)

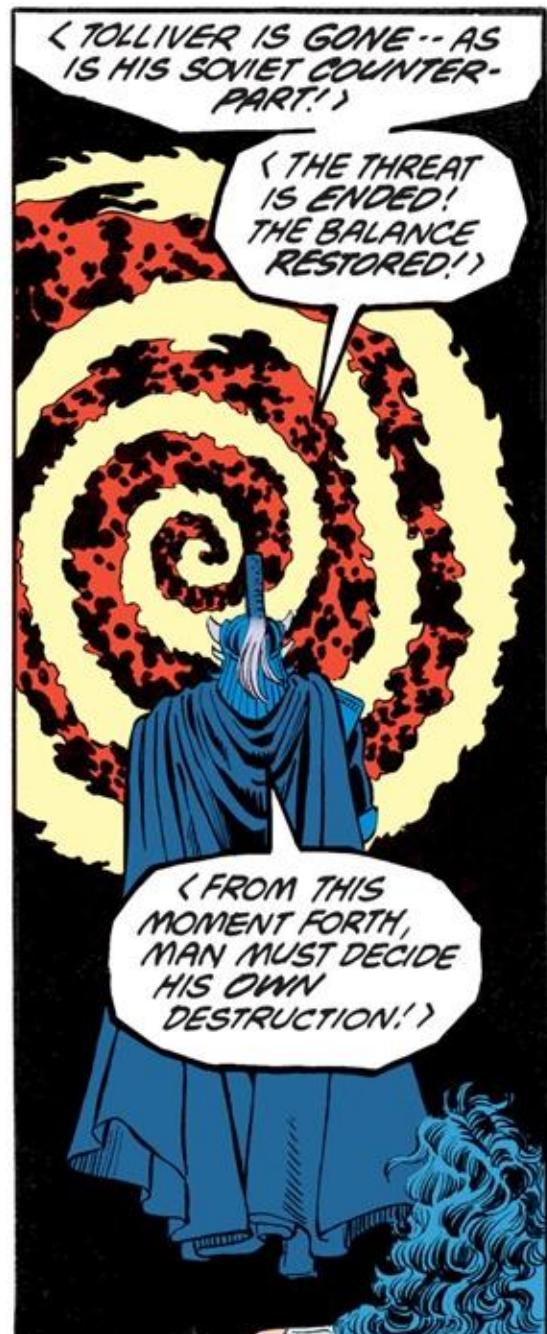
(AYE, CHILD--THERE
IS NO OTHER CHOICE!)

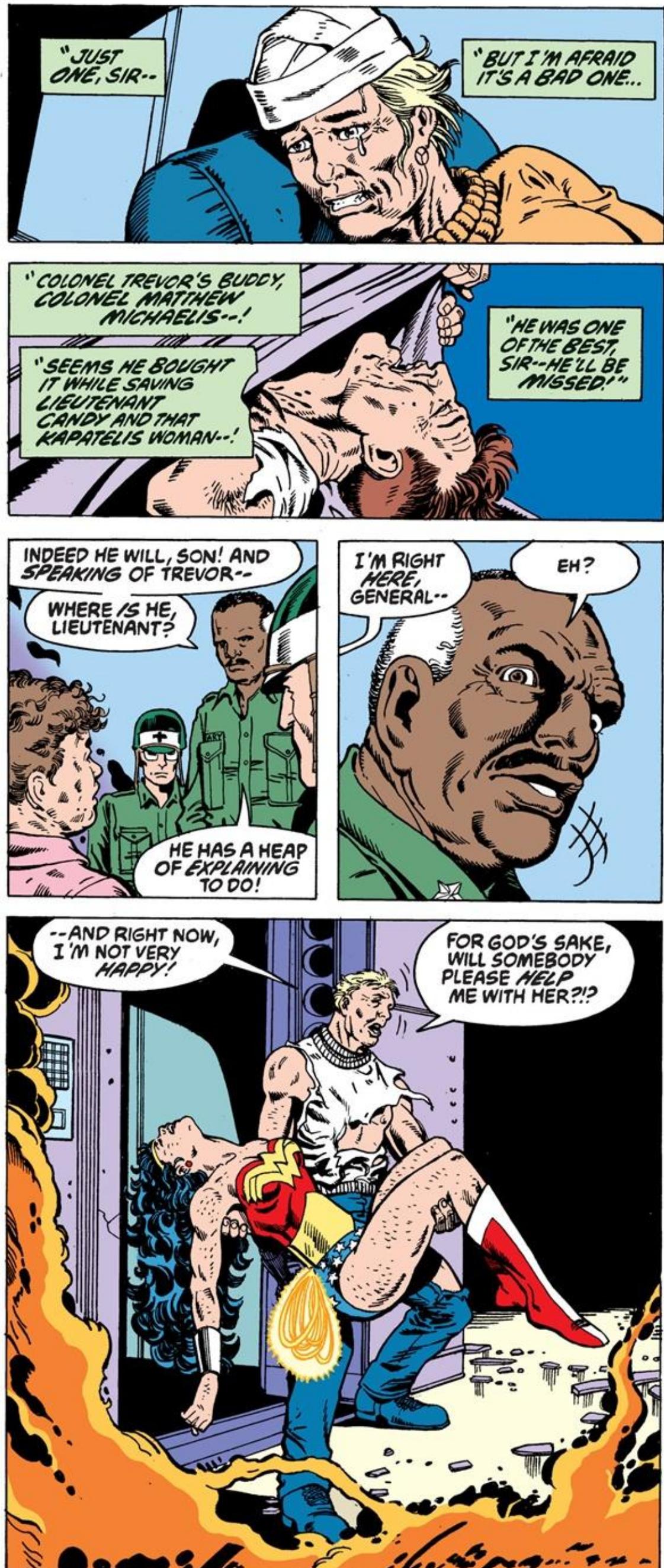
(HAND ME MY
DAUGHTER HARMONIA'S
TALISMAN!)

(AND LET
THE BALANCE
BE RESTORED!)











OGDEN NASH WROTE OF
THE "SOFT WING" OF
NIGHT...

...BUT HERE IN THE
MAMMADE CANYONS OF
GATEWAY CITY THE LONG
HOURS OF DARKNESS ARE
SELDOM EVER SOFT.



CONSIDER THIS PLACE--THE
GATEWAY CITY ZOO, ONCE
KNOWN THROUGHOUT THE
LAND FOR ITS AWE-
INSPIRING COLLECTION OF
WILD BEASTS FROM EVERY
CORNER OF THE WORLD...

...AS WELL AS ITS
INNOVATIVE AND
PROGRESSIVE HANDLING
AND TREATMENT OF THOSE
CREATURES.



ONCE, BUT NO MORE, A
DECade AGO AN EVER-
SHRINKING CIVIC BUDGET
FORCED THE CLOSING OF
THE ZOO...

MOST OF THE ANIMALS
WERE RECAPTURED, KILLED,
OR HAVE DIED WITH THE
PASSING OF THE LONG
YEARS.

AND SOME OF THOSE
URBAN MYTHS HAVE MORE
THAN A LITTLE BASIS IN
FACT.

HURH...

...AND A KEEPER, DRIVEN TO
MADNESS BY WHAT HE
FEARED WOULD BE THE
ULTIMATE FATE OF HIS
BELOVED CHARGES...

STILL, LEGENDS PERSIST
AROUND THIS STRANGE,
FEARSOME PLACE.

PASSED OUT
AGAIN. BEEN...
HANGING
UPSIDE DOWN
FOR MORE
THAN A DAY...

WHAT'S..?

...LET LOOSE ALL THE
CREATURES IN HIS CARE, TO
FEND FOR THEMSELVES IN
THIS ARTIFICIAL JUNGLE, AS
THEY WOULD IN THE WILD.



DIANA!

IN THE FOREST OF THE NIGHT

THE INVERTED GENTLEMAN
IS OFFICER MICHAEL R.
SCHORR OF THE G.C.P.D.

THE FERAL THING LEAPING
LIKE THE WILD CAT SHE SO
STRONGLY RESEMBLES
IS—OR MORE PROPERLY
WAS—BARBARA MINERVA,
WIDELY KNOWN AS
CHEETAH.

HER TARGET THIS EVENING,
AS ON MANY PRIOR
OCCASIONS, IS THE
AMAZON PRINCESS KNOWN
TO HER FRIENDS AND
FAMILY AS DIANA, AND TO
AN OFTEN ASTONISHED
WORLD AS...

**WONDER
WOMAN**

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WRITER-ARTIST

PATRICIA MULVIHILL
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JASON HERNANDEZ-
ROSENBLATT
ASSISTANT EDITOR

PAUL KUPPERBERG
EDITOR

WONDER WOMAN
CREATED BY
WILLIAM Moulton
MARSTON

LOOK OUT!!



IS IT THE ANGUISHED CRY OF HER FRIEND...

NO MATTER. STRIKE SHE DOES, BLINDLY, CLUMSILY...

...BUT WITH SUFFICIENT FORCE TO SEND CHEETAH ARCING OVER THE FOUL, FESTERING FLOOR OF THIS LION'S DEN.

KLOK!

...OR SOME DEEPER INSTINCTUAL DRIVE FOR SELF-PRESERVATION WHICH CAUSES WONDER WOMAN TO LASH OUT AT HER ATTACKER?

HER ATTACKER MOMENTARILY DISABLED, PRINCESS DIANA CALLS UPON THE LAST OUNCE OF HER AMAZON WILL TO FORCE HERSELF TO HER FEET...

...AND REVEALS TO MIKE SCHORR'S HORRIFIED GAZE THE REASON FOR HER SUDDEN DIFFICULTY.

DIANA!
GOOD LORD!
WHAT HAPPENED
TO YOUR
HAND...?!

I... DO NOT KNOW. I... STRUCK AT CHEETAH, BUT SHE ELUDDED MY BLOW. AND WHEN MY HAND IMPACTED ON THE CEMENT WALL...

...IT SHATTERED AS IF MADE OF BRITTLE CLAY!

BUT... WHAT OF YOU, MICHAEL? WE ALL FEARED YOU SLAIN.

YOU AND I PARTED IN THE EARLY HOURS OF THIS DAY. NOT LONG AFTER THAT YOUR SISTER, MAUREEN, CAME TO TELL ME YOU WERE MISSING.

FROM THE EVIDENCE AT THE SCENE I GUessed IT MIGHT BE CHEETAH WHO HAD TAKEN YOU, AND SEARCHING THE CITY I FURTHER GUessed SHE MIGHT COME HERE, TO THE OLD ZOO.

NO, SHE JUST GRABBED ME, RIGHT AFTER YOU LEFT... WHEN WAS IT? I'VE LOST TRACK OF TIME DOWN HERE.

IT WAS THE SHEEREST CHANCE THAT BROUGHT ME TO THIS CAGE, AND TO CHEETAH AND YOURSELF.*

UHHH.. IF YOU SAY SO, DIANA! AT LEAST YOUR POWERS DON'T SEEM TO HAVE BEEN AFFECTED BY YOUR INJURY. BUT...

*MOST OF IT HAPPENED LAST ISSUE -- NOW YOU'RE CAUGHT UP - PAUL

SPEAKING OF CHEETAH...

STAND BACK, MIKE. SHE IS MORE SAVAGE, MORE POWERFUL THAN THE LAST TIME WE MET...

"...BUT I MUST FIND A WAY
TO SUBDUER HER..."

LOOK
AT THESE
STORIES!

ALL OVER
GATEWAY
CITY
PEOPLE
HAVE BEEN
FOUND
HORRIBLY
MUTILATED,
AS IF THEY'D
BEEN
ATTACKED
BY SOME
WILD
BEAST!

THIS IS NOT PART
OF THE ARRANGE-
MENT WE NEGO-
TIATED, MR. CHUMA.

JUST "CHUMA",
MR. DEPAUL.
AS I HAVE
TOLD YOU, IN
MY PRESENT
CONDITION, I
HAVE NO NEED
FOR TITLES AND
HONORIFICS.

YOUR... PRESENT
CONDITION. YOU INSIST ON
MAINTAINING THIS FAIRY
TALE, DON'T YOU? EVEN
THOUGH YOU KNOW IT...
BOthers ME.

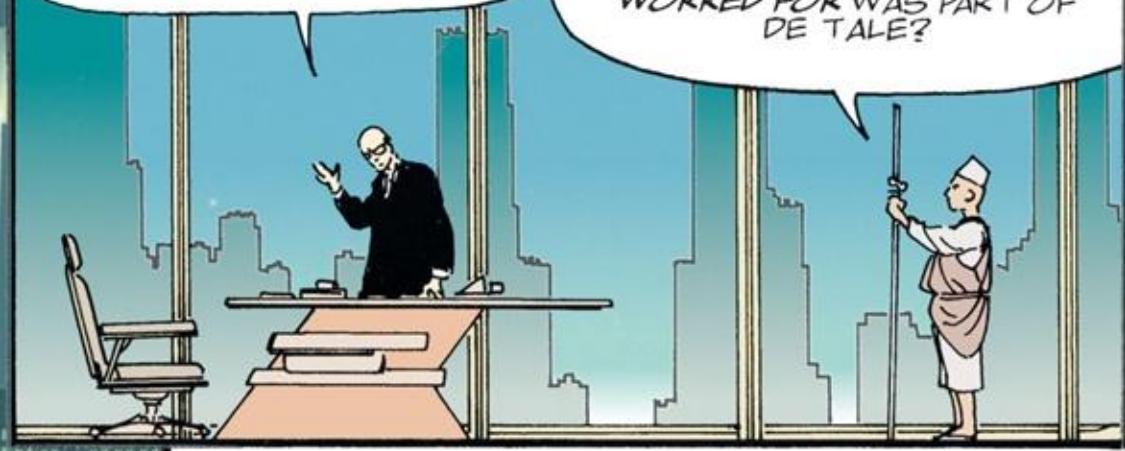


DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA HOW
PREPOSTEROUS THAT
SOUNDS, CHUMA? YOU
STAND THERE, HALE AND
HEARTY, CLEARLY HUMAN,
VERY MUCH ALIVE...

...AND YOU TELL ME YOU
WERE DEAD, AND THIS
MINERVA WOMAN MADE A
DEAL WITH THE DEVIL TO
BRING YOU BACK TO LIFE.

YOU LIVE IN A WORLD FULL
OF PEOPLE WHO FLY,
PEOPLE WHO COME FROM
OTHER PLANETS, PEOPLE
LIKE SUPERMAN, WHO HAVE
DEMSELVES COME BACK
FROM THE OTHER SIDE OF
DEATH'S DOOR...

...AND YOU CANNOT ACCEPT
AS SIMPLE FACT THE STORY
I TELL? NOT EVEN IF I TELL
YOU THE MAN YOU ONCE
WORKED FOR WAS PART OF
THE TALE?



WH-WHAT?!?

IT IS TRUE. LEX LUTHOR WAS SICK AND DYING
WHEN AN AGENT OF THE ONE CALLED NERON
APPROACHED HIM AND OFFERED RESTORED
YOUTH AND HEALTH IN EXCHANGE FOR HIS
SOUL.



"LUTHOR DID NOT BELIEVE HIMSELF TO HAVE A SOUL TO BARTER, AND SO HE ACCEPTED NERON'S OFFER.

"HE WAS ONE OF MANY.

"ANOTHER WAS MY MISTRESS. BARBARA MINERVA GAVE UP HER SOUL ON DE OFFER OF NERON TO RESTORE MY LIFE.

"SHE BELIEVED DAT I WAS DE ONLY ONE WHO COULD BRIDLE DE RAGING BEAST DAT WAS HER OTHER SELF.

"AT FIRST IT SEEMED ALL WOULD WORK OUT AS BARBARA HOPED IT WOULD.

"SHE STILL UNDERWENT DE TRANSFORMATION TO CHEETAH, BUT WITH MY HELP SHE WAS ABLE TO CONTROL IT ONCE MORE.

"DEN AS NOW, SHE WAS ABLE TO SENSE DE DARKNESS DAT SQUATS AT DE CENTER OF SOME MEN'S SOULS...

"...AND DEN AS NOW IT WAS ONLY DIS HUMAN REPULSE ON WHICH SHE PREYED.



"BUT WITH EACH NIGHT'S HUNT DE TRUE COST OF NERON'S BARGAIN BECAME MORE AND MORE APPARENT.

"WITH NO HUMAN SOUL TO ACT AS A BARRIER AGAINST DEM, THE MOST BASE AND SAVAGE OF HER ANIMAL INSTINCTS BEGAN SLOWLY TO OVERWHELM BARBARA MINERVA.



"MY INFLUENCE OVER HER WAS SUFFICIENT TO COMPEL HER TO RETURN EACH DAWN TO DE CAGE I HAD PREPARED FOR HER..."

"...BUT WHEN IT BECAME OBVIOUS A POINT HAD COME FROM WHICH DERE WOULD BE NO RETURN, NO TRANSFORMATION BACK TO HUMAN FORM..."

"...I SET ABOUT FINDING ANOTHER WAY TO CONTROL HER."

"AND I STRUCK UPON DE NOTION OF CONTACTING WONDER WOMAN, WHO I KNEW HAD COME RECENTLY TO DIS CITY!"



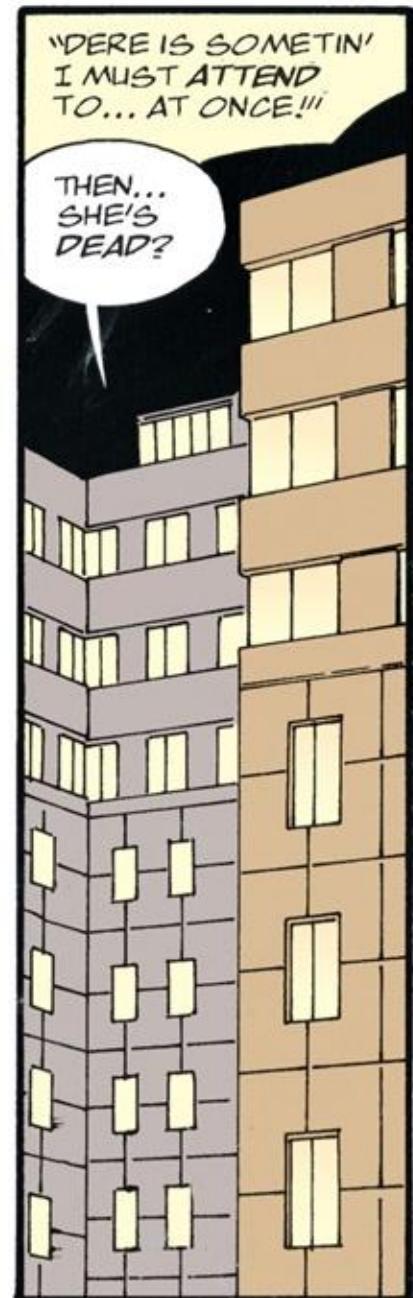
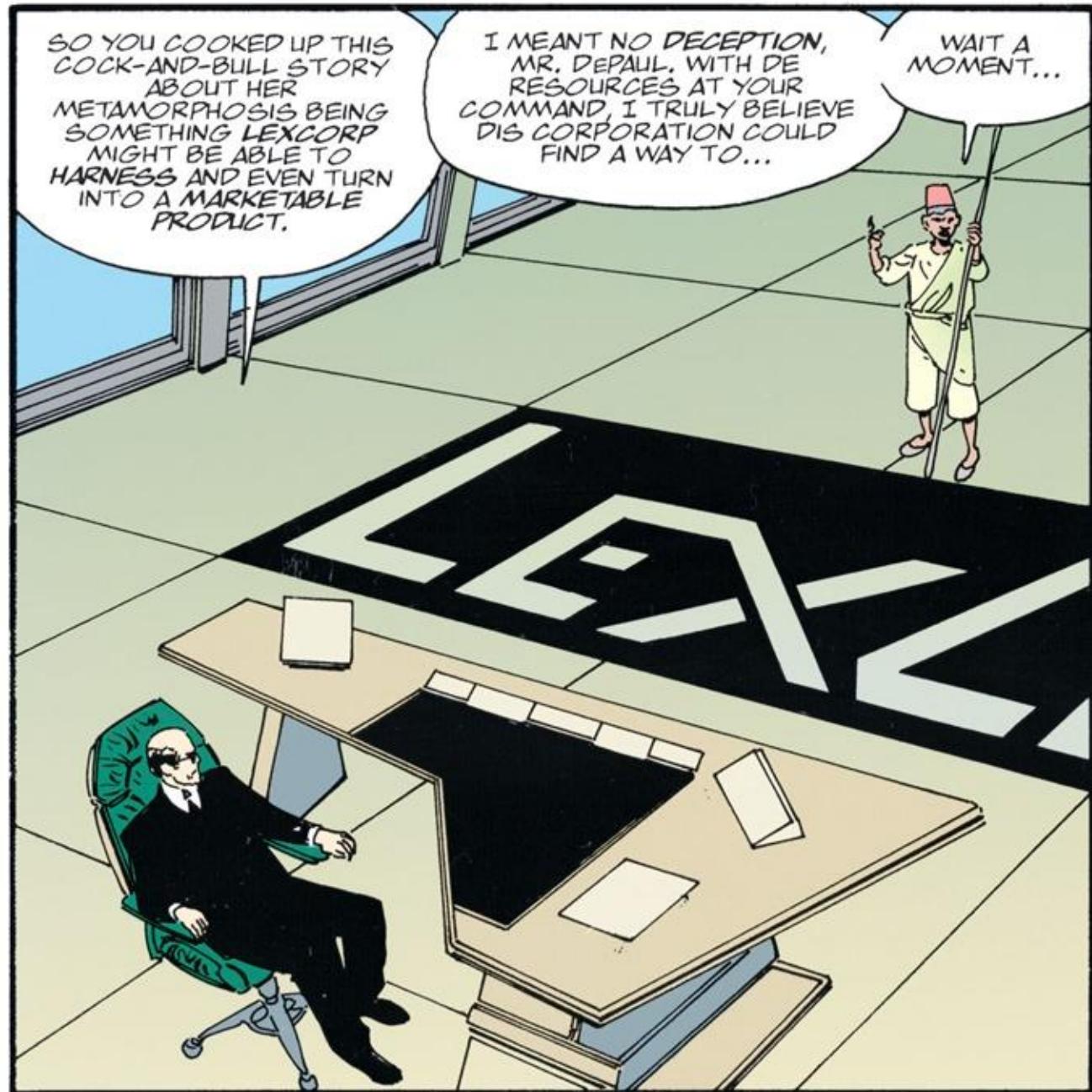
SO YOU COOKED UP THIS COCK-AND-BULL STORY ABOUT HER METAMORPHOSIS BEING SOMETHING LEXCORP MIGHT BE ABLE TO HARNESS AND EVEN TURN INTO A MARKETABLE PRODUCT.

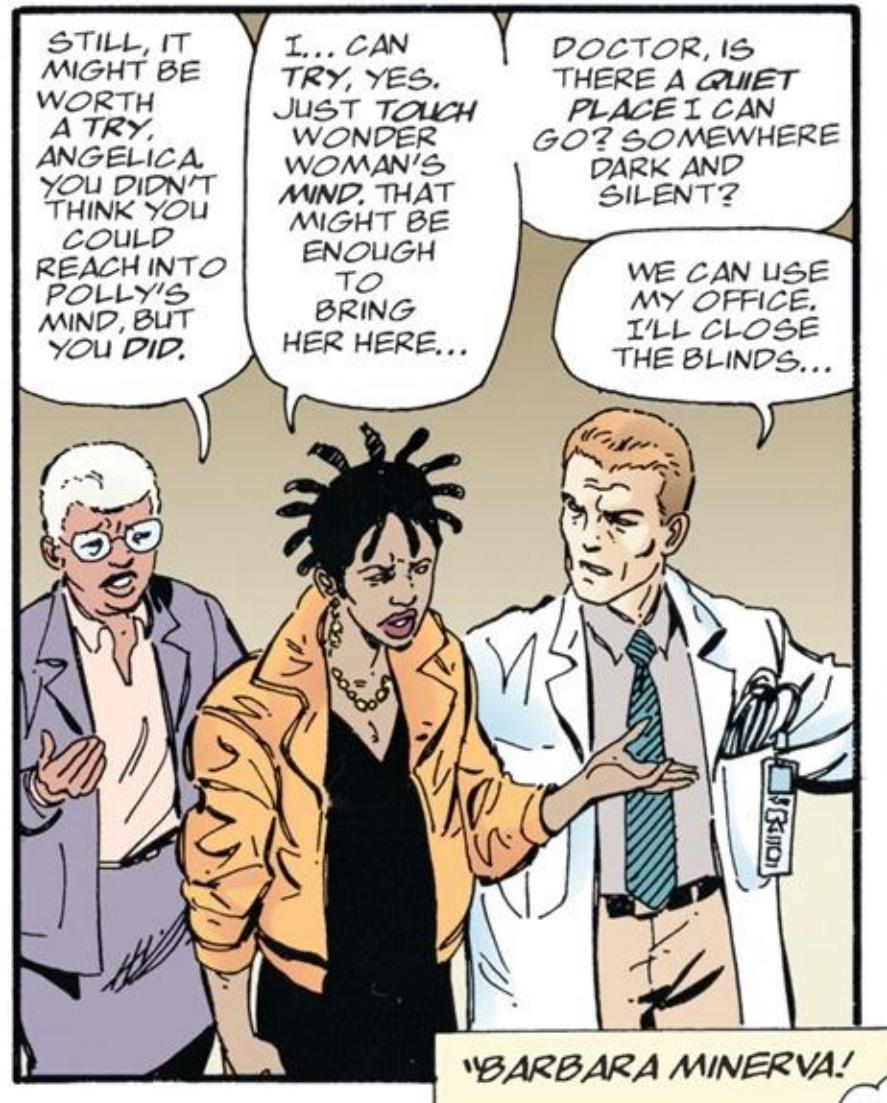
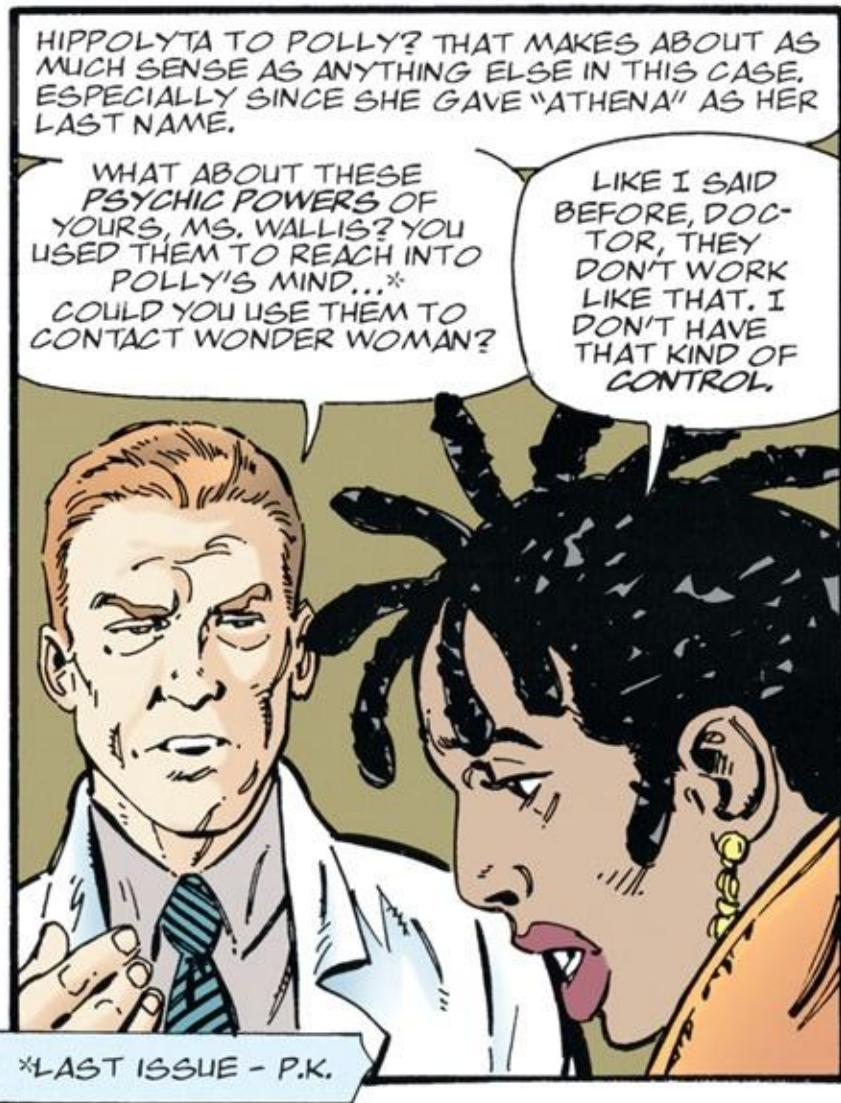
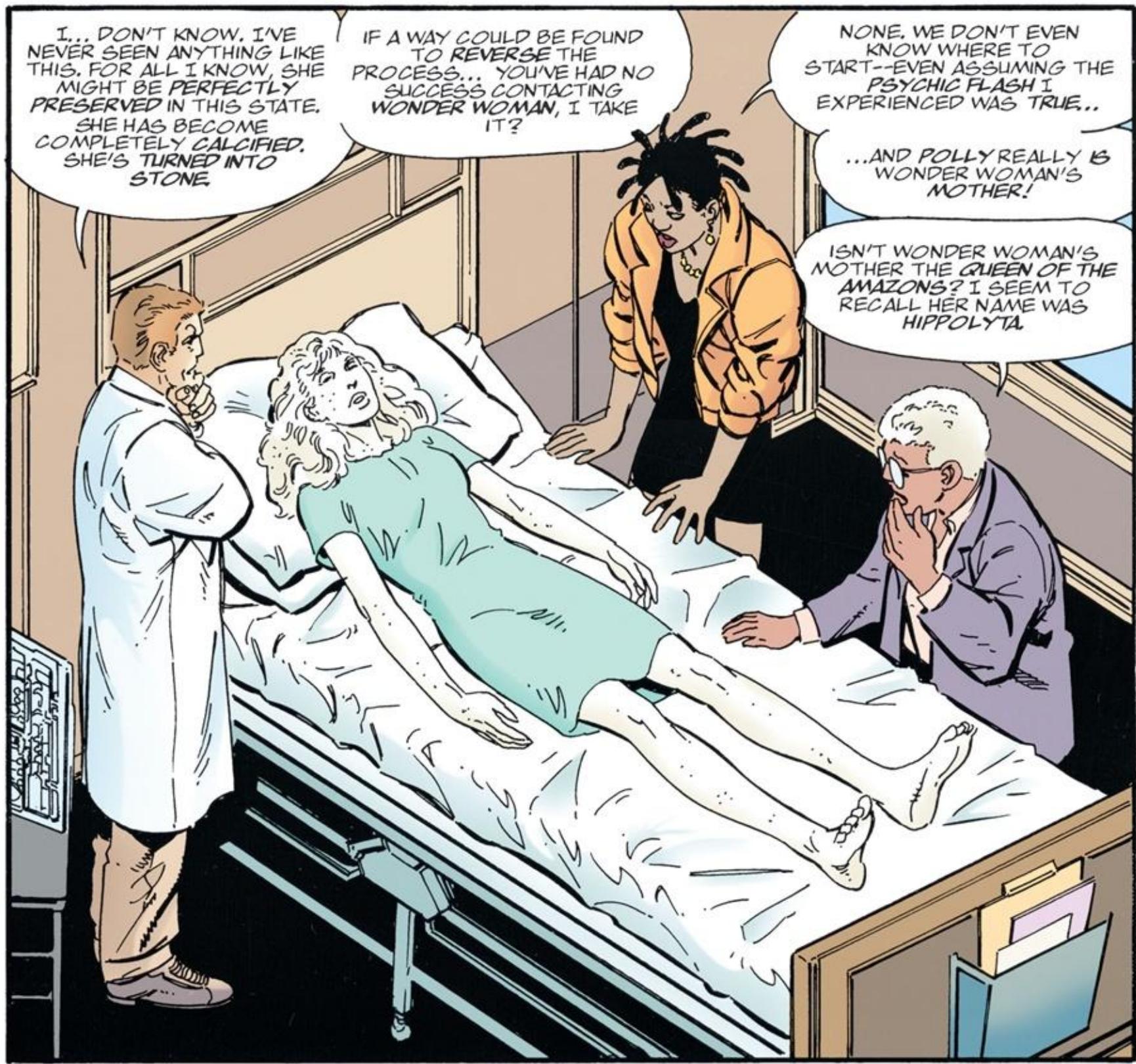
I MEANT NO DECEPTION, MR. DEPAUL, WITH DE RESOURCES AT YOUR COMMAND, I TRULY BELIEVE DIS CORPORATION COULD FIND A WAY TO...

WAIT A MOMENT...

"DERE IS SOMETIN' I MUST ATTEND TO... AT ONCE!!!

THEN... SHE'S DEAD?







BARBARA
MINERVA! STOP
THIS AT ONCE!

SHE IS DISTRACTED! I
MUST SEIZE THIS CHANCE
TO IMMOBILIZE HER
WITHOUT KILLING HER!



CHEETAH'S POWER IS
SUPERNATURAL, BUT FOR
ALL THAT SHE IS STILL
MORTAL. SHE HAS MORTAL
NEEDS.

AND
WITHOUT
AIR...



...SHE MUST
SUCCUMB.

YOU HAVE DONE WELL,
WONDER WOMAN. I KNEW
YOU WOULD BE DE ONE TO
HELP US.

HELP? YOU WANT DIANA TO
HELP YOU? YOU GOT AN
AWFUL FUNNY WAY OF
ASKING, BUDDY!

THERE IS MORE HERE THAN
MEETS THE EYE. FOR ONE
THING...



...THIS MAN IS DEAD."

ARE YOU SURE YOU WANT TO
DO THIS, DIANA? SHOULDN'T
WE BE GETTING YOU TO A
HOSPITAL? YOUR HAND...

IS BEYOND MODERN
MEDICAL SCIENCE TO DEAL
WITH, MIKE.

NO... THIS MUST BE DEALT
WITH FIRST. AND IF THE
GODS FAVOR ME, ONE
THING WILL PROVE
CONNECTED TO THE OTHER.

I CANNOT PROMISE DAT,
WONDER WOMAN. DERE IS
NO REASON I KNOW DAT DE
SPELL AFFLICTING BARBARA
MINERVA SHOULD HAVE HAD
DIS EFFECT ON YOU.



DERE! DE MANDALA
IS COMPLETED. DE
GREAT MAGICKS
ALREADY BESTIR
DEMSELVES.

YOU DO NOT
HAVE TO TAKE
PART IN THIS,
MIKE. THERE IS
STILL TIME
FOR YOU TO
STEP OUT OF
THE CIRCLE.

WELL, NOT ACCORDING TO
THIS GUY! HE SEEKS
CONVINCED THIS CHEETAH
DAME GRABBED ME FOR
SOME SPECIFIC REASON
BEYOND MY... FRIENDSHIP
WITH YOU.

NOT "CONVINCED," OFFICER
SCHORR, BUT IF DERE IS
ANY CHANCE AT ALL DAT YOU
ARE SOMEHOW PART OF
DIS, I CANNOT TAKE THE
RISK OF LEAVING YOU OUT
OF DE SPELL.

NOW,
GET
READY.
WHEN
DE
CHANGE
COMES
UPON
YOU...



"...DERE WILL BE NO
PREPARATORY WARNING!"

HOLY!!!

IT IS JUST AS CHUMA
DESCRIBED IT! THIS IS
WILDNESS THAT DWELLS
WHERE BARBARA'S SOUL
ONCE WAS!



SO... JUST HOW REAL DO I NEED TO TREAT THIS PLACE, DIANA? CAN I BRAIN MYSELF ON A BRANCH, OR CUT MYSELF ON A SHARP LEAF?

HERE IS THE PROOF, IF WE NEEDED ANY, THAT WE HAVE MOVED TO ANOTHER PLANE OF REALITY. MY HAND IS RESTORED.

HEY... WAIT A MINUTE, DIANA. DO YOU HEAR SOMETHING?

A LOW GROWL, FROM SOMEWHERE IN THE UNDER BRUSH.

CHUMA SAID THIS WOULD BE AS REAL AS ANY WORLD I HAD ENCOUNTERED. I SHALL TAKE HIM AT HIS WORD.

CHEETAH!

GET DOWN, DIANA!

GET READY, MIKE.

BLAM
BLAM





FIGHT BACK, MIKE!

YOU GOT IT!



GAH!!

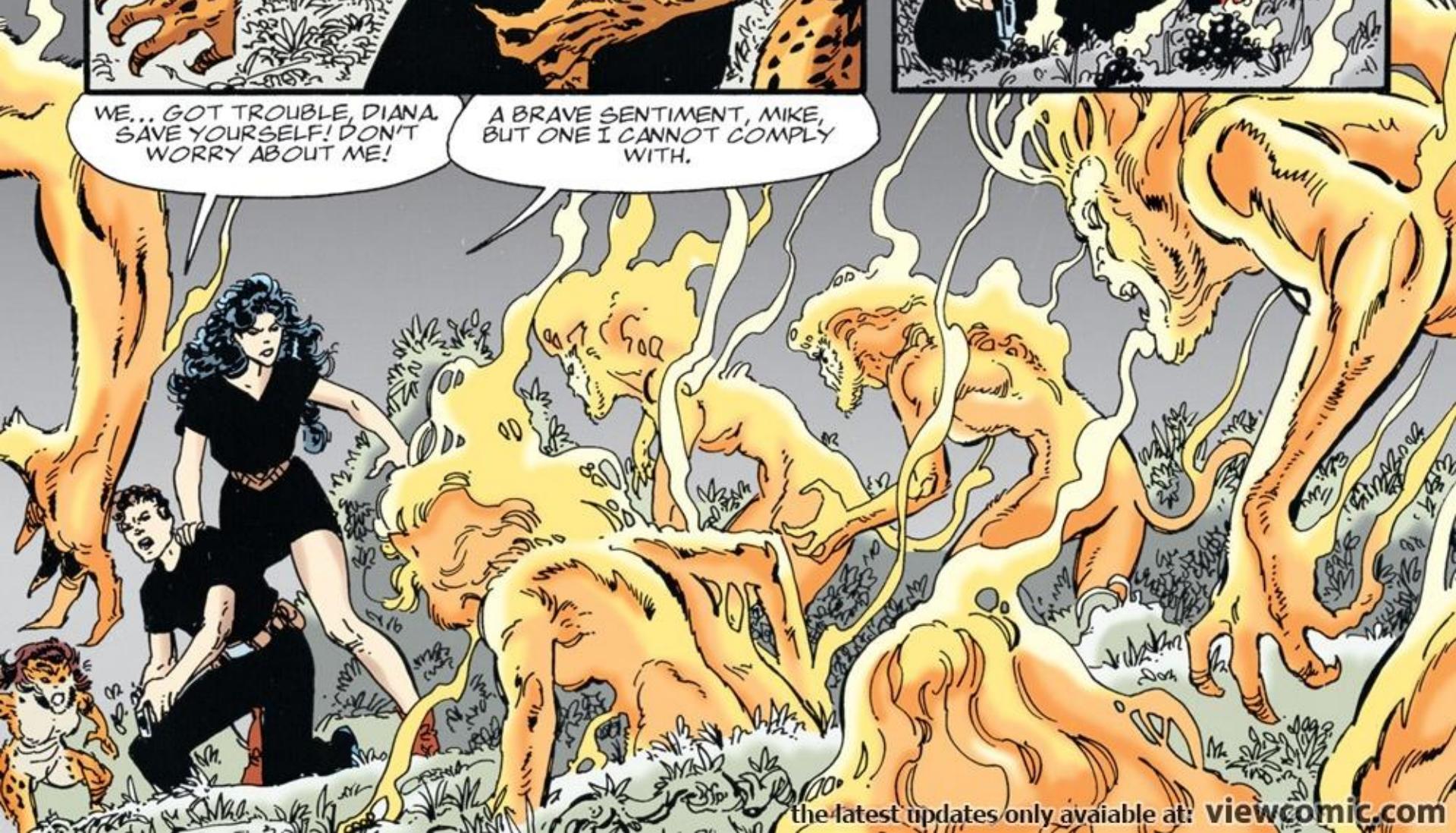
OW, THAT...
REALLY...
HURTS!

THE WOUND IS BAD.
POTENTIALLY MORTAL.
BUT... YOUR BLOOD...



WE... GOT TROUBLE, DIANA.
SAVE YOURSELF! DON'T
WORRY ABOUT ME!

A BRAVE SENTIMENT, MIKE,
BUT ONE I CANNOT COMPLY
WITH.



LET US SEE IF THESE CHEETAHS HAVE THE SAME LIMITATIONS AS THE REAL ONE!

THEY DO! I HAVE ALL MY ABILITIES HERE, AND CHEETAH ALL OF HERS. BUT APART FROM BEING ABLE TO APPEAR IN MULTIPLE FORMS...

THAT ONE... LITTLE EXTRA SEEMS LIKE... MORE THAN ENOUGH, DIANA!

CAN EVEN YOU FIGHT... A WHOLE FLOCK OF THOSE THINGS?

...SHE SEEMS TO HAVE NO ADDITIONAL POWERS!



I DO NOT KNOW, MIKE. BUT...

SOME WEEKS AGO I WAS ABLE TO DEFEAT THE ENCHANTRESS MORGANE LE FAY IN JUST SUCH A FANTASY ENVIRONMENT AS THIS.*

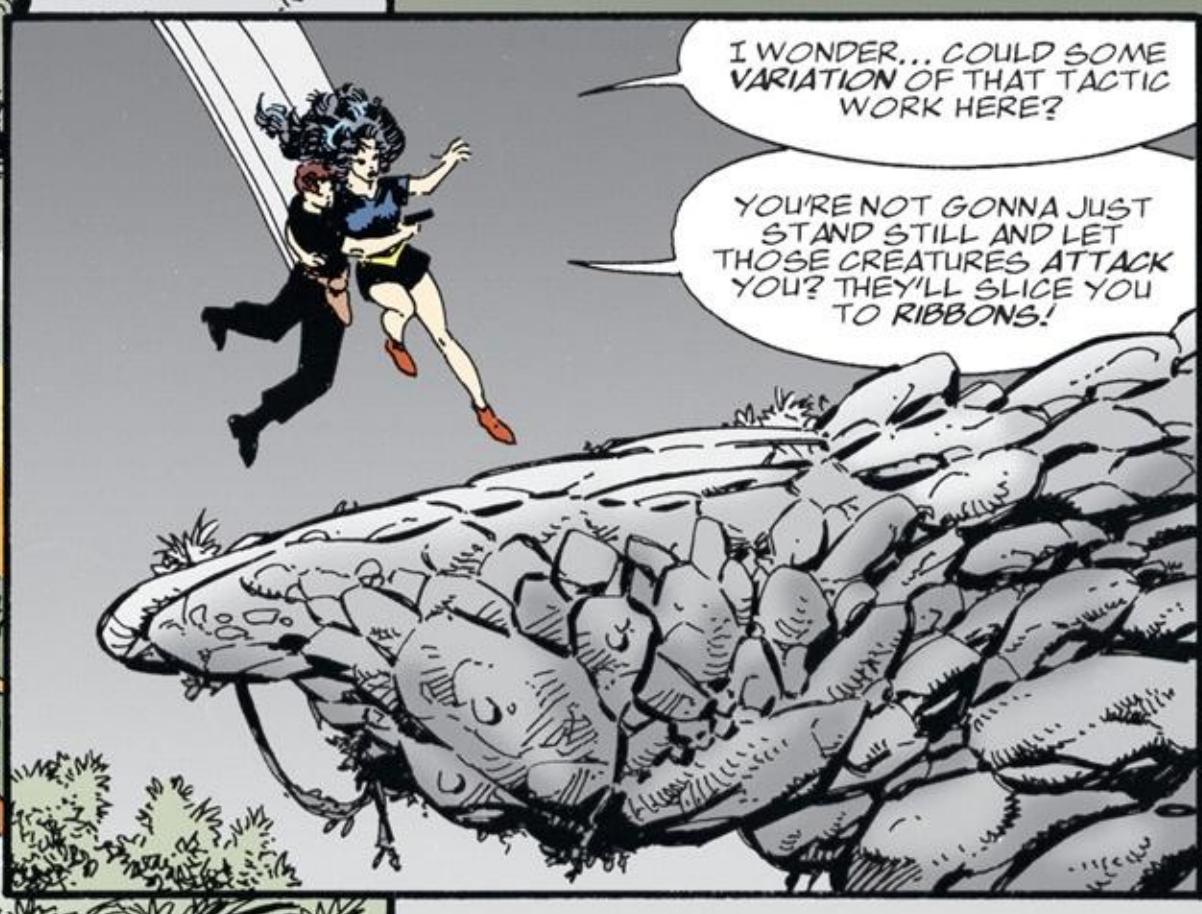
THERE THE ANSWER LAY IN DOING NOTHING, SO THAT LE FAY COULD NOT SIPHON OFF EACH OF MY ABILITIES AS I USED THEM.



*IN ISSUE 108, FOR THOSE WHO ARE KEEPING TRACK - PAUL

I WONDER... COULD SOME VARIATION OF THAT TACTIC WORK HERE?

YOU'RE NOT GONNA JUST STAND STILL AND LET THOSE CREATURES ATTACK YOU? THEY'LL SLICE YOU TO RIBBONS!





ABOVE ALL ELSE,
AS YOUR BODY
FAILED, YOU PRIDED
YOURSELF ON
YOUR INTELLIGENCE,
BARBARA.

USE THAT
INTELLIGENCE
NOW. IF ANY
SCRAP OF THE
WOMAN YOU
WERE SURVIVES
IN WHAT YOU
HAVE BECOME, USE IT.
FIGHT THE BEAST.

OH...!!

THIS IS CRAZY!
I DON'T KNOW
WHAT KIND OF
AMAZON LOGIC
DIANA THINKS
SHE'S USING
HERE...

...BUT
THOSE CATS
SEEM ABOUT
AS READY TO
REASON AS A
SLUG FROM A
.45.

THAT OLD BLACK GUY SAID
WE WOULD BE IN DANGER
HERE, NOT CHEETAH. WHICH
MEANS DIANA IS RISKING
HER LIFE ON SOMETHING
THAT PROB'LY WON'T DO
ANY GOOD ANYWAY!

AH...!



YOU HAVE THE POWER TO KILL ME, BARBARA. BUT IF YOU DO, YOU ABANDON BARBARA MINERVA, AND SURRENDER ALL TO THE CHEETAH.

DIANA KEEPS SAYING HER NAME, "BARBARA, BARBARA", LIKE SHE REALLY EXPECTS TO BE ABLE TO REACH INSIDE AND FIND A HUMAN BEING STILL ALIVE IN THAT MONSTER!

BUT ONE TWITCH TOWARD DIANA, AND I'M GONNA FIND OUT IF "BARBARA" HAS A BRAIN IN THAT MISSHAPE SKULL!

WELL, BARBARA? WHAT IS IT TO BE? YOUR WHOLE LIFE WAS DEDICATED TO LOGIC AND REASON. EVEN THE DEAL YOU MADE WITH NERON WAS DONE AS A RESULT OF THOUGHT AND REASONING.

YOU SACRIFICED YOUR SOUL, BUT YOUR MIND AND SOUL ARE NOT THE SAME THING.

THINK, BARBARA. REMEMBER WHO YOU ARE. REMEMBER WHAT YOUR LIFE HAS BEEN ABOUT.

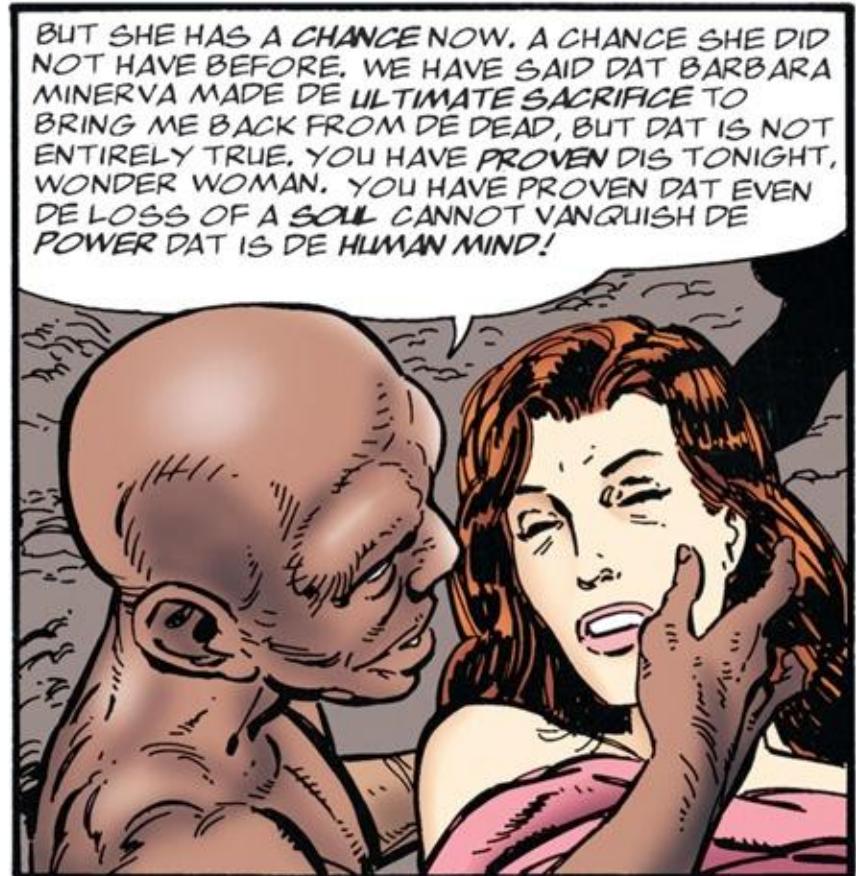
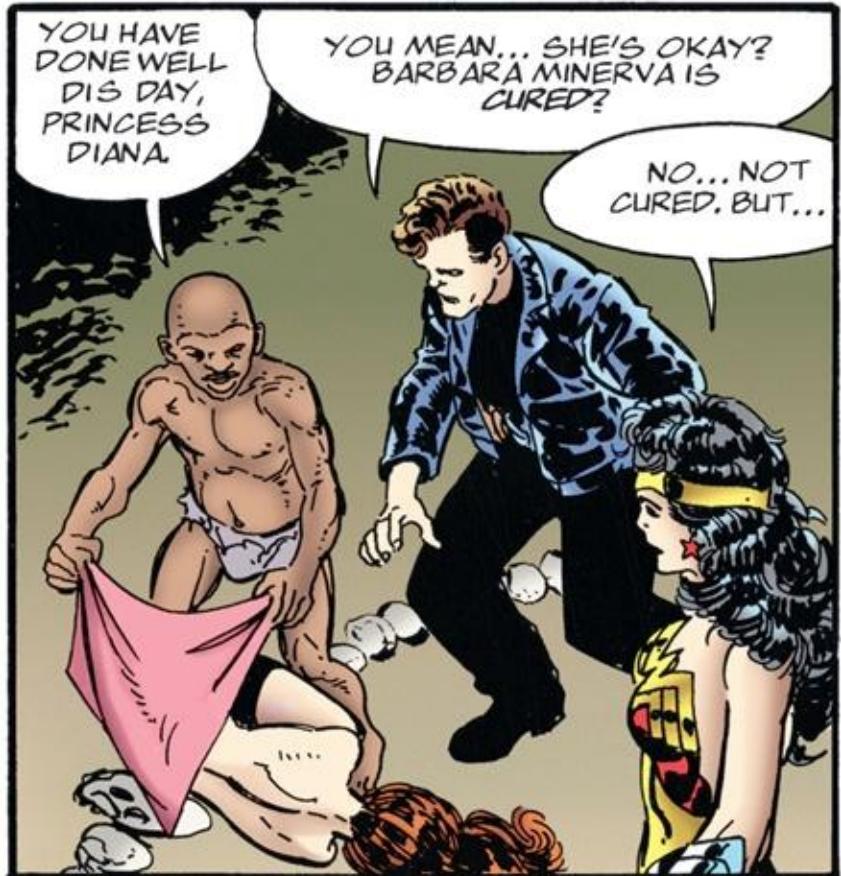
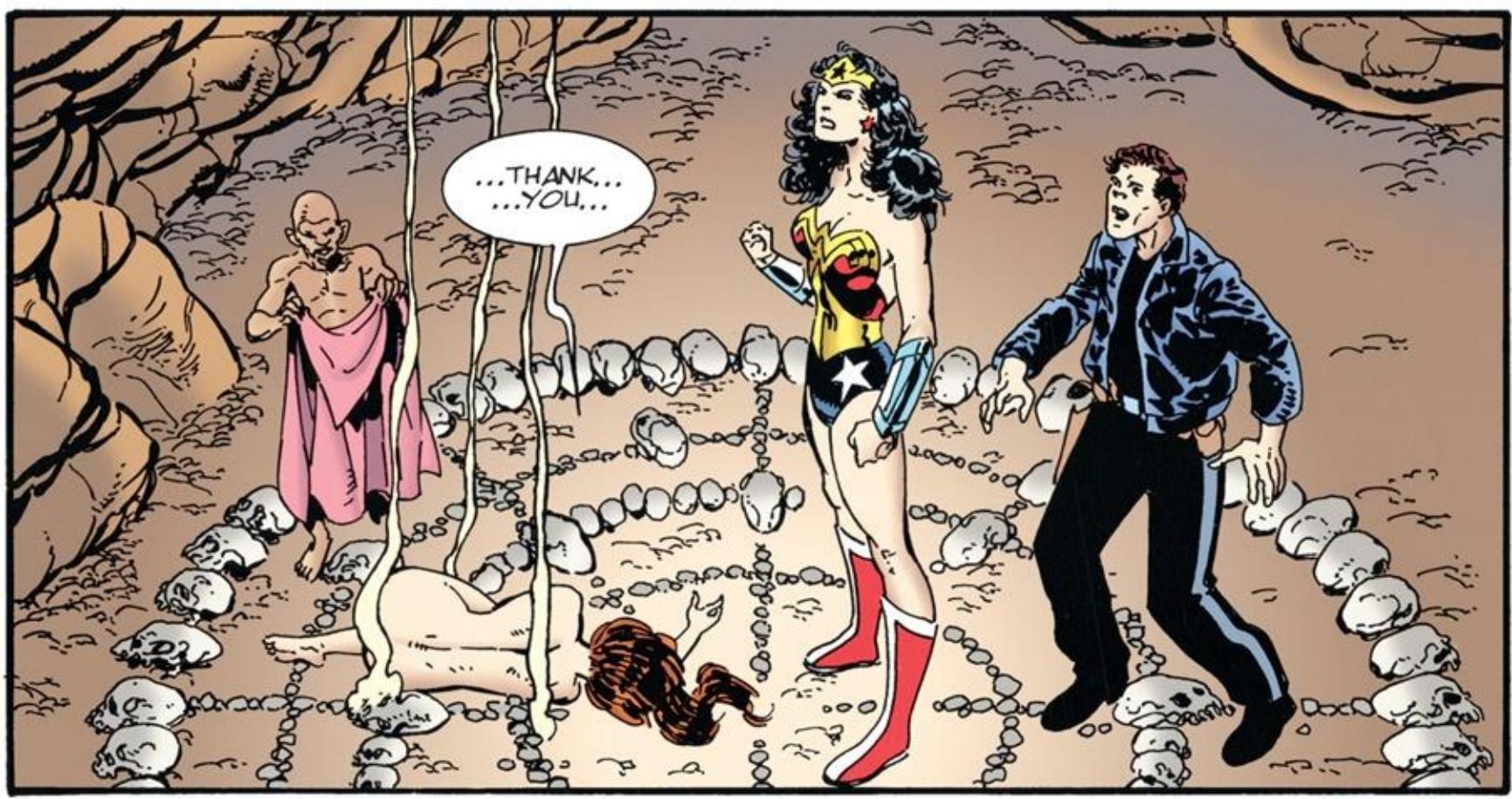
SOMETHING'S HAPPENING... CHEETAH LOOKS... DIFFERENT SOMEHOW.

HOLY COW! I THINK IT MAY BE WORKING!!

THAT'S IT, BARBARA. USE YOUR MIND. USE YOUR INTELLECT.

REMEMBER!





AN EPILOGUE, THEN, AND IN ITS OWN WAY A PROLOGUE.

THE TIME IS SIX HOURS LATER. THE PLACE IS DIANA PRINCE'S APARTMENT ON THE SECOND FLOOR OF THE HOUSE OF HER FRIEND AND EMPLOYER, HELENA SANDSMARK...

THIS IS... HORRIBLE, DIANA! YOU'VE BEEN THROUGH SO MUCH IN YOUR CAREER AS WONDER WOMAN, BUT NOTHING THAT LEFT YOU PERMANENTLY MAIMED!

GEEZ, DIANA, MOM'S RIGHT! NOT EVEN OUR FIGHT WITH THAT FAKE DOOMSDAY DID THIS KIND OF DAMAGE!

NO, CASSIE, IT DID NOT. AND YET, LOOKING BACK I THINK THERE WAS A CLUE THERE THAT SOMETHING WAS ALREADY AMISS.

A CLUE, DIANA?



YOU RECALL THAT I INJURED MY HAND IN THAT BATTLE, AND THAT THE INJURY TOOK MUCH LONGER TO HEAL THAN I MIGHT HAVE EXPECTED.

SURE! THAT WAS WHEN I INSISTED YOU SHOULD ALLOW ME TO GO ON BEING WONDER GIRL, TO TAKE UP THE SLACK FOR YOU!

AND THIS IS NO TIME TO BRING UP THAT NONSENSE, CASSANDRA! DIANA, WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO? IS THERE ANYTHING YOU CAN DO?



I AM NOT SURE, HELENA. EVEN AS WE SPEAK I CAN FEEL THE NUMBNESS CREEPING FURTHER UP MY ARM, AS THOUGH A TIME WILL COME WHEN MY WHOLE BODY REVERTS TO THE CLAY FROM WHICH MY MOTHER SHAPED IT!

YES, MIKE. IT IS NOT WIDELY KNOWN, BUT I WAS NOT BORN AS MORTALS ARE. MY MOTHER SCULPTED A BABY FROM THE CLAY OF THEMYSCIRA, AND THE GODS THEMSELVES BREATHED LIFE INTO THAT CLAY.

Y-YOU MEAN... YOU'RE REALLY SOME SORT OF... GOLEM ?? *

I CAME AS SOON AS I RETRIEVED YOUR MESSAGE, DIANA. WHATEVER IS HAPPENING TO YOU, WE MUST ACT QUICKLY TO DISCOVER THE CAUSE.

AND YOU WERE RIGHT TO THINK JASON BLOOD IS JUST THE MAN TO HELP YOU DO THAT!



...CLAY..?



*THE LIVING CLAY WARRIOR OF JEWISH FOLKLORE - P.K.
NEXT ISSUE: IT'S TEN YEARS SINCE COMIC READERS EVERYWHERE WERE INTRODUCED TO A NEW AND DARLINGLY DIFFERENT WONDER WOMAN.
JOIN US IN 30 DAYS FOR AN ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION, AND THE BEGINNING OF DIANA'S QUEST FOR THE ANSWERS THAT LIE BURIED IN HER PAST!



ZILOS

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YANKEE STADIUM,
THE BRONX.

CAN YOU
SEE ME? EURYALE?
CAN YOU SEE ME?
HUH? CAN YOU?

SHUT UP,
STHENO.

I'VE GOT
ABOUT A HALF
DOZEN SPELLS THAT
COULD SOLVE YOUR
SISTER'S PROBLEM,
EURYALE. ALL YOU
HAVE TO DO IS
ASK.

BONY SMART-CAM X27M T19ZX

YOU CAN
GRANT HER
SENSE?

I CAN SEAL
HER MOUTH FOR ALL
ETERNITY.

TEMPTING,
CIRCE-WITCH,
BUT I MUST
REFUSE.

SHE IS ONE
OF MY SISTERS,
AFTER ALL.

YOUR
LOSS.

MIND
YOUR
EYES.

ENERGON'-
OISTE!!

THERE'S
NO WAY FOR THE
BROADCAST TO BE
DISRUPTED?

THE SPELL
ENDS FIVE MINUTES
AFTER ONE OF THEM
IS DEAD.

TRUST ME,
I'VE DONE THIS TRICK
WITH THE TELEVISIONS
BEFORE.

WITH THE WORLD
AS HER WITNESS, MEDUSA
WILL SLAY WONDER WOMAN.
AND THEN...

...WELL,
IT'S A LIVE GLOBAL
TRANSMISSION,
EURYALE...

...I'D
ESTIMATE
YOU'LL HAVE
SOME FORTY
MILLION
VIEWERS
GLUED TO
THEIR SETS
FOR THIS
MOMENT OF
BREAD AND
CIRCUS-
ES.

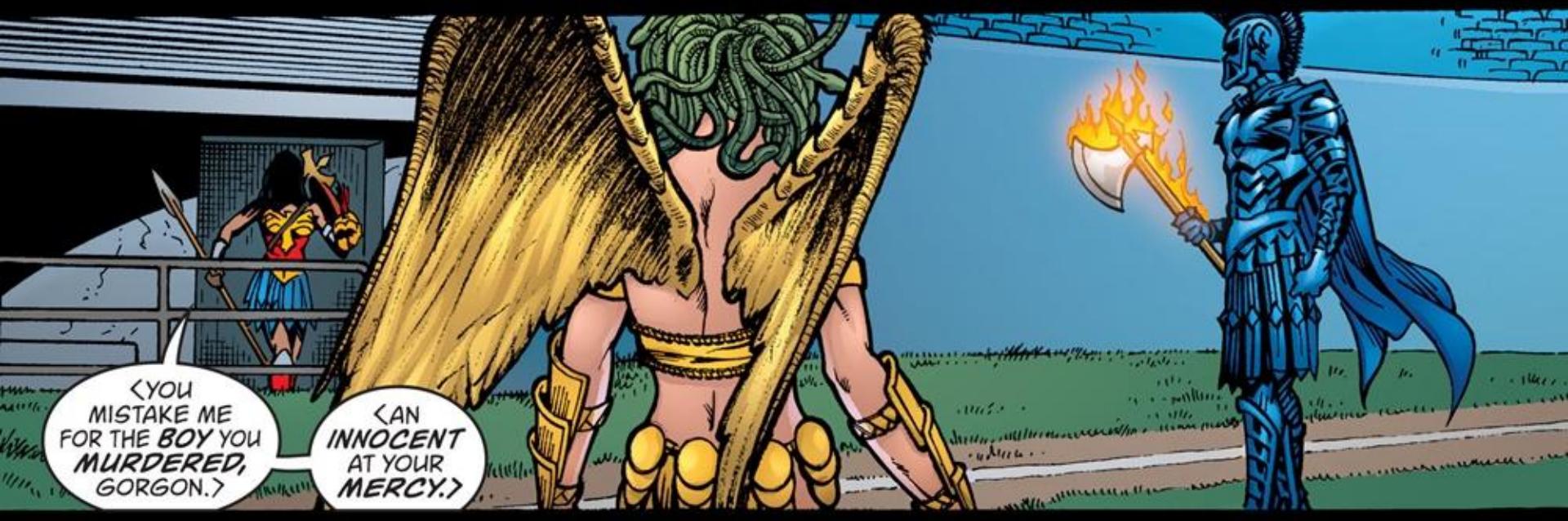
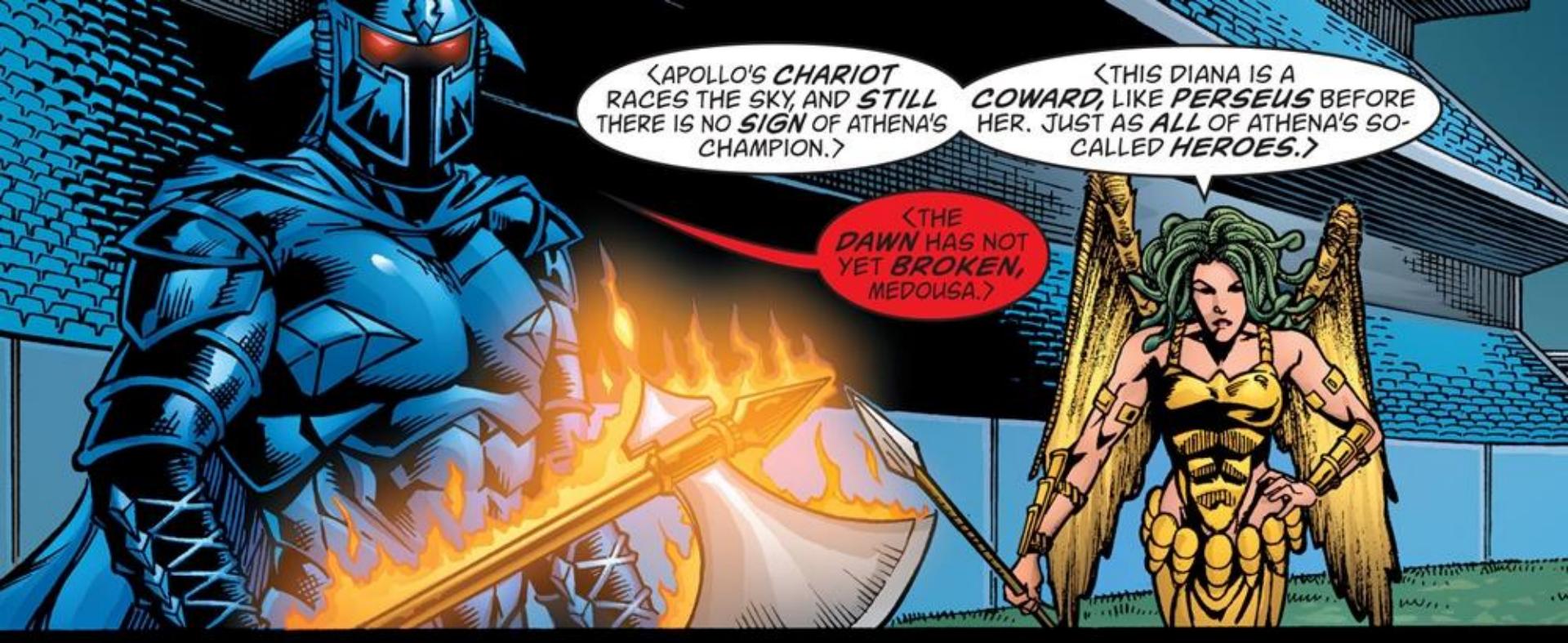
PITY THE FOOLS
WHEN YOUR SISTER TURNS
HER GAZE TO THE CAMERA,
AND THEY MEET HER
EYES.

ATHENA
KILLED THE
PITY IN US LONG
AGO, CIRCE-
WITCH.

SO
YOU KEEP
SAYING.
SEE
YOU ON
TV.

NOT ME,
WITCH.

NOT
ME.





ILA DENIES INVOLVEMENT... WAR RAGES

STRIKED

Conclusion

GREG RUCKA
script

DREW JOHNSON
pencils

RAY SNYDER
inks

RICHARD & TANYA HORNIE
colors

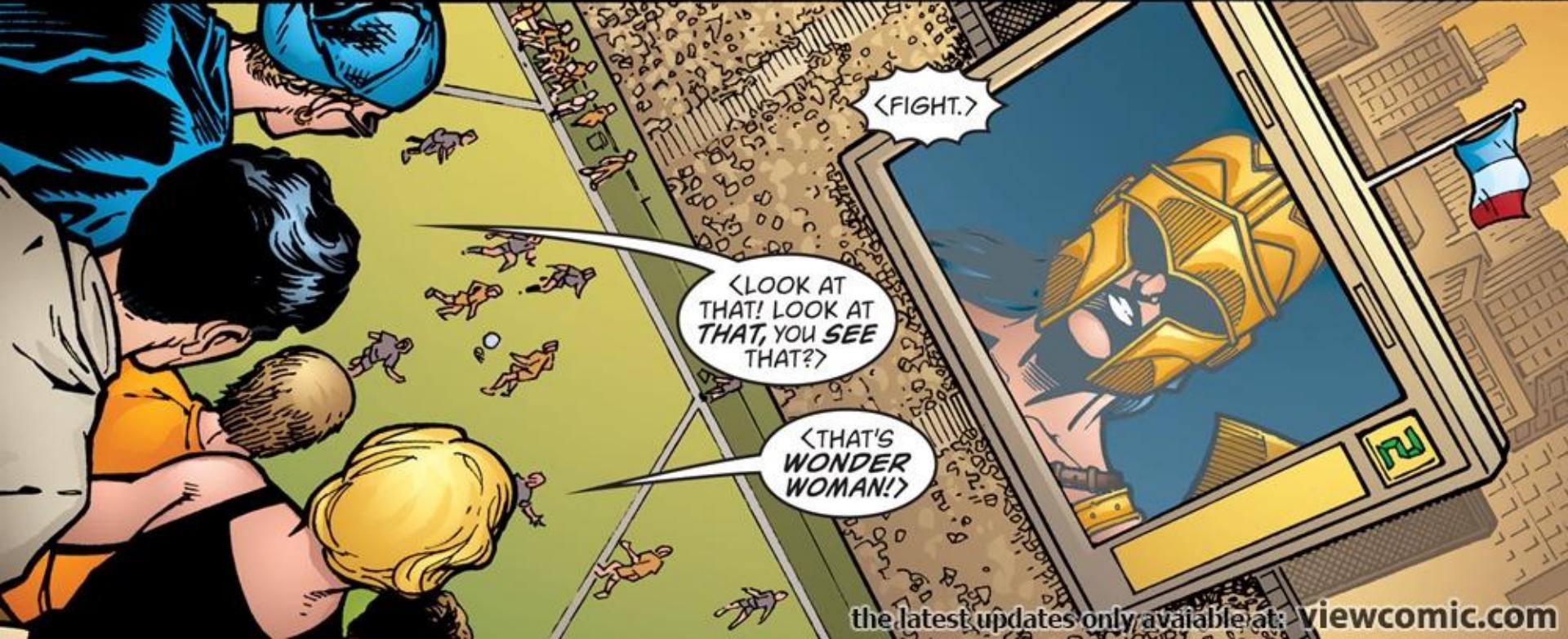
TODD KLEIN
letters

IVAN COHEN
editor

*Wonder Woman
created by
William Moulton
Marston*

Special thanks to Ron Randall

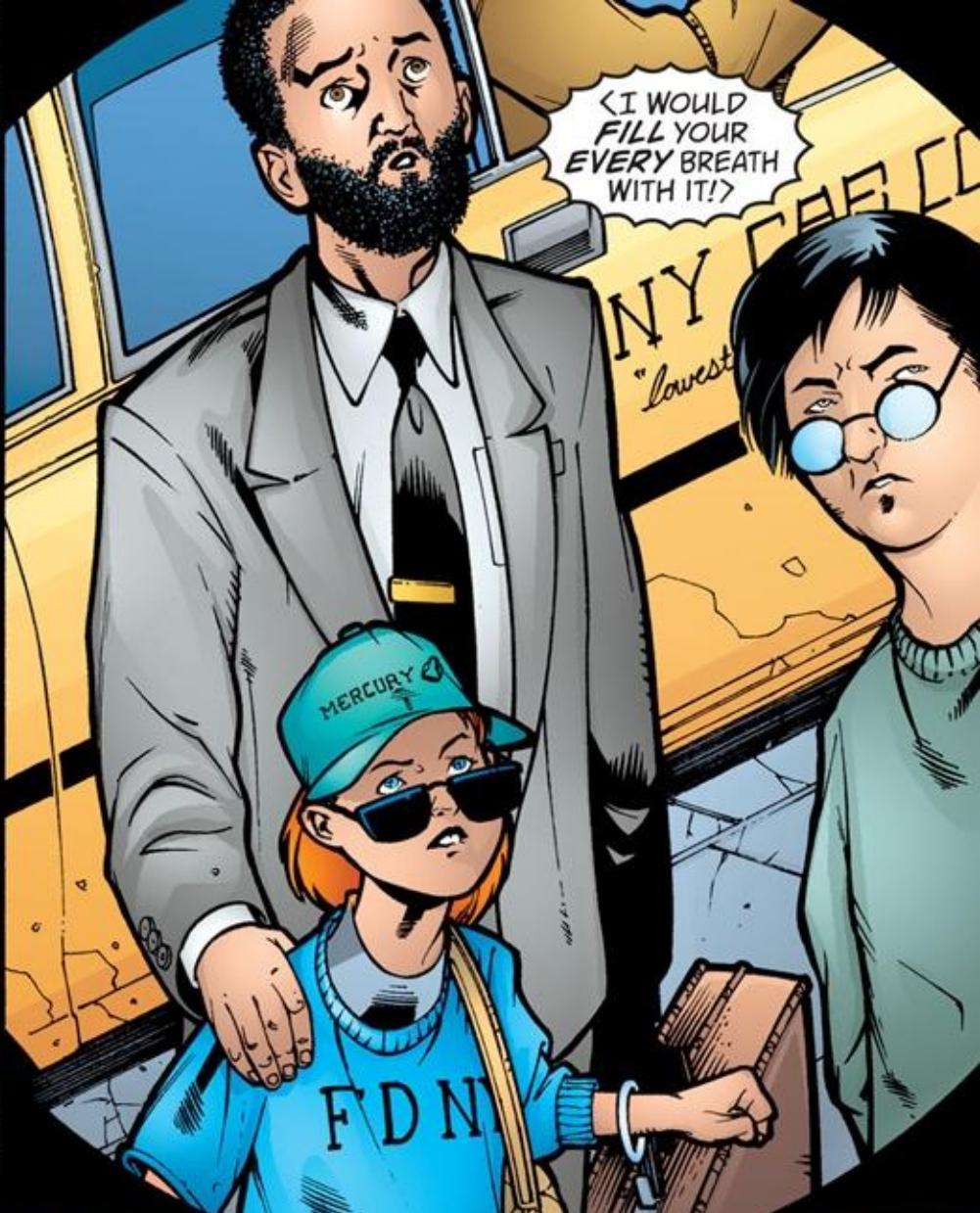
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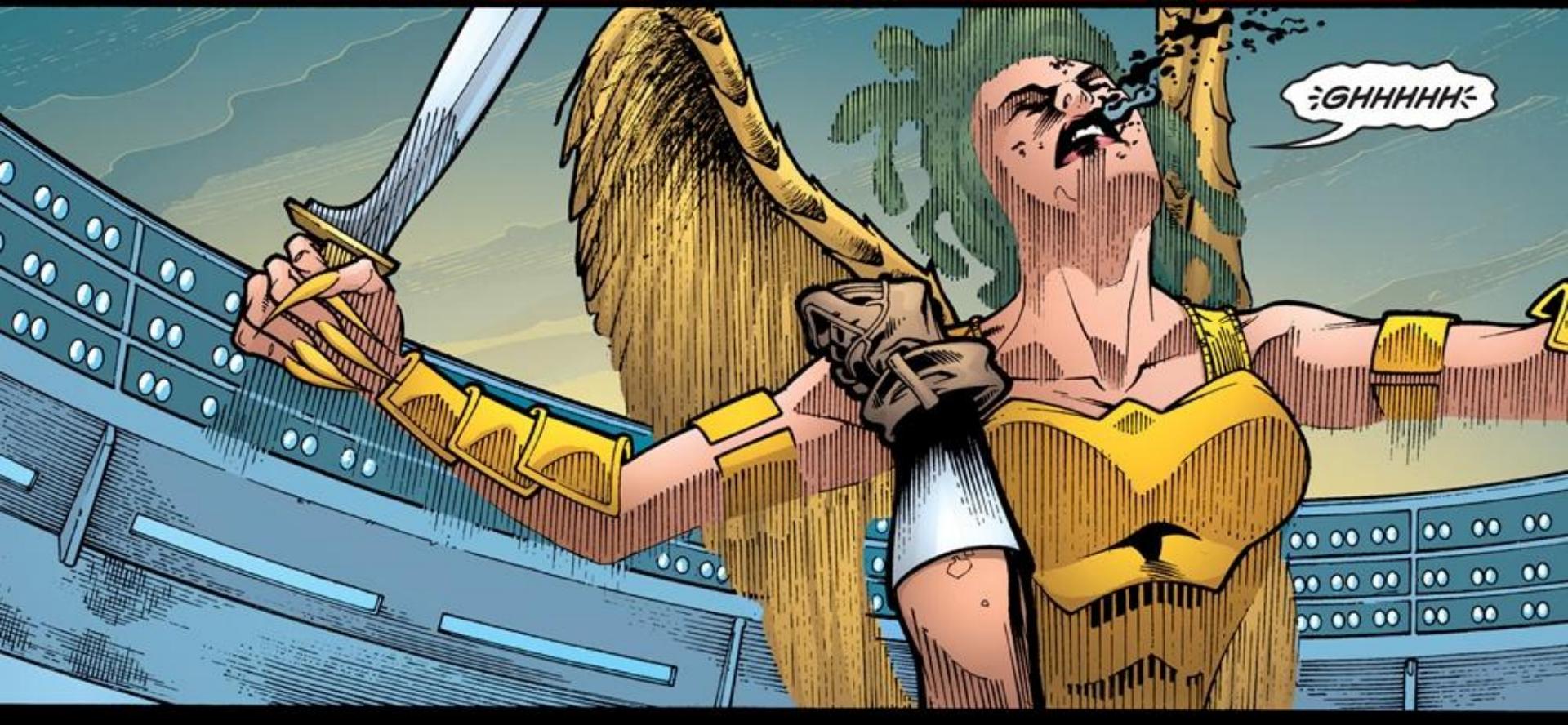






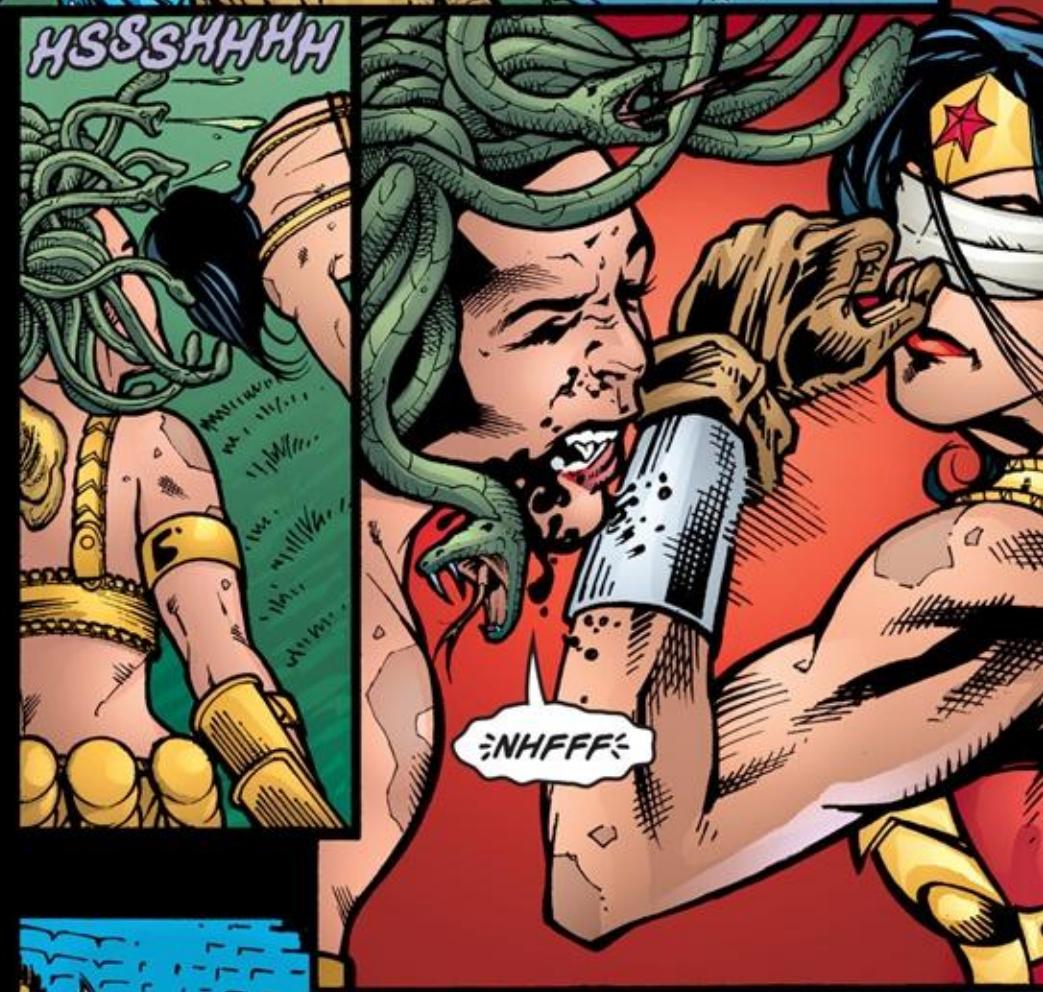








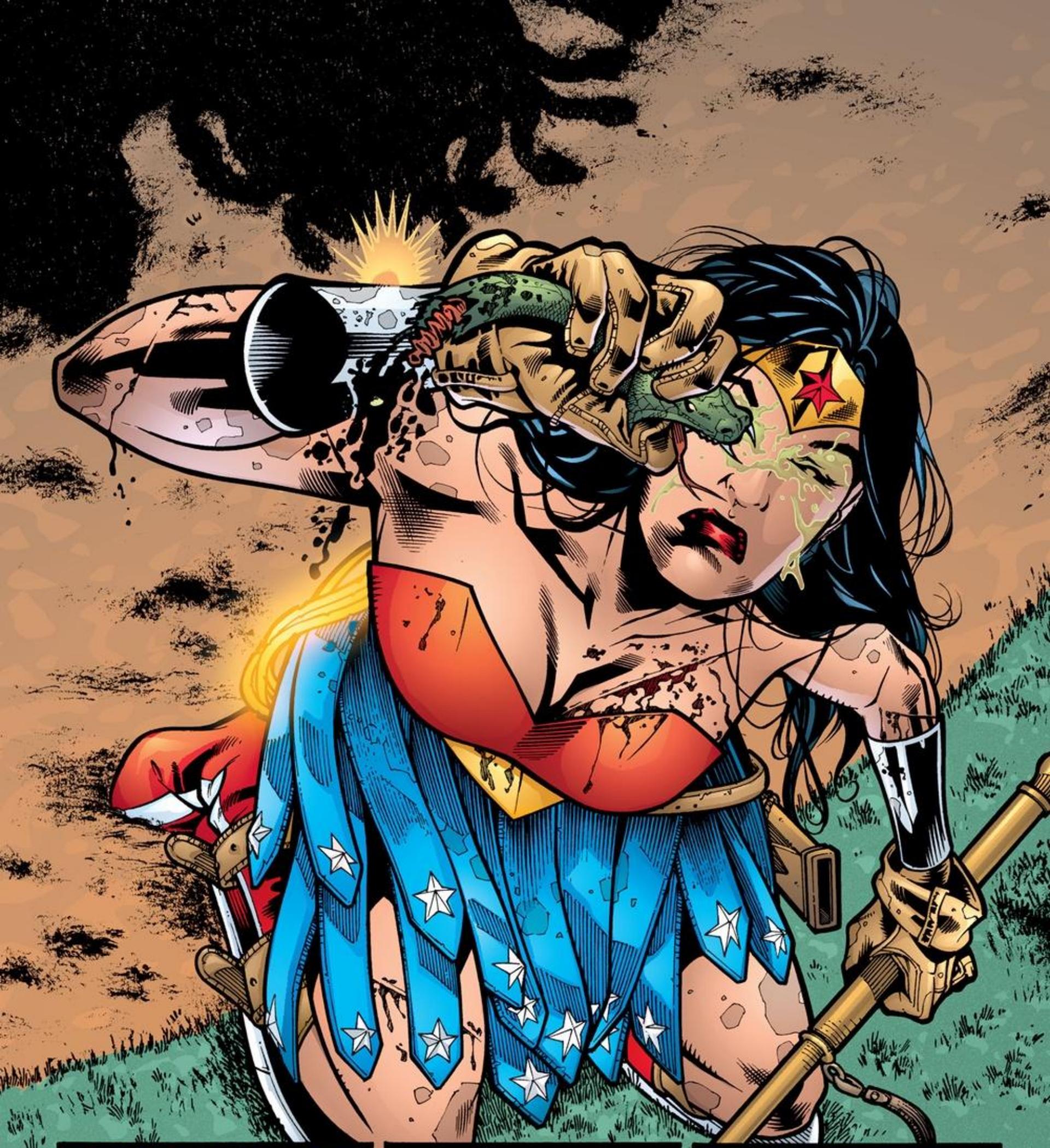


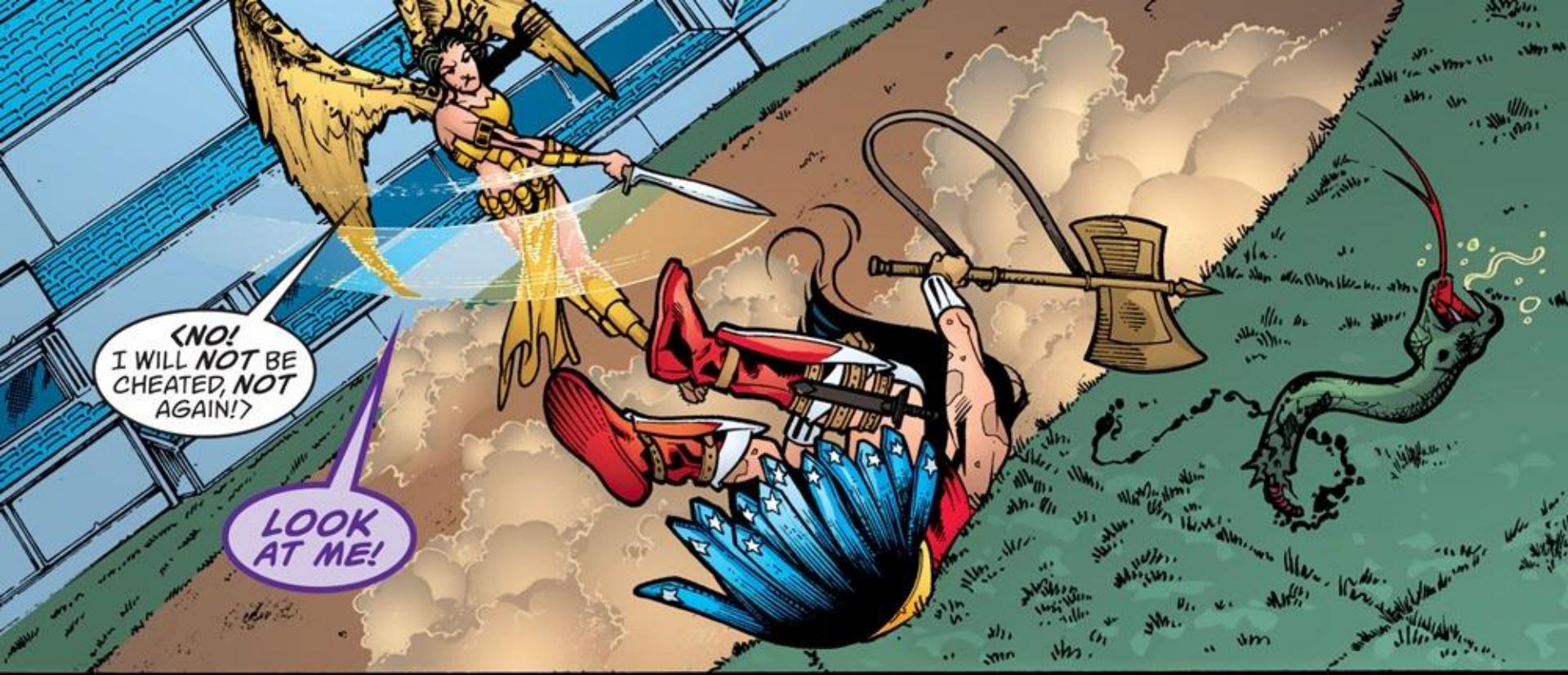












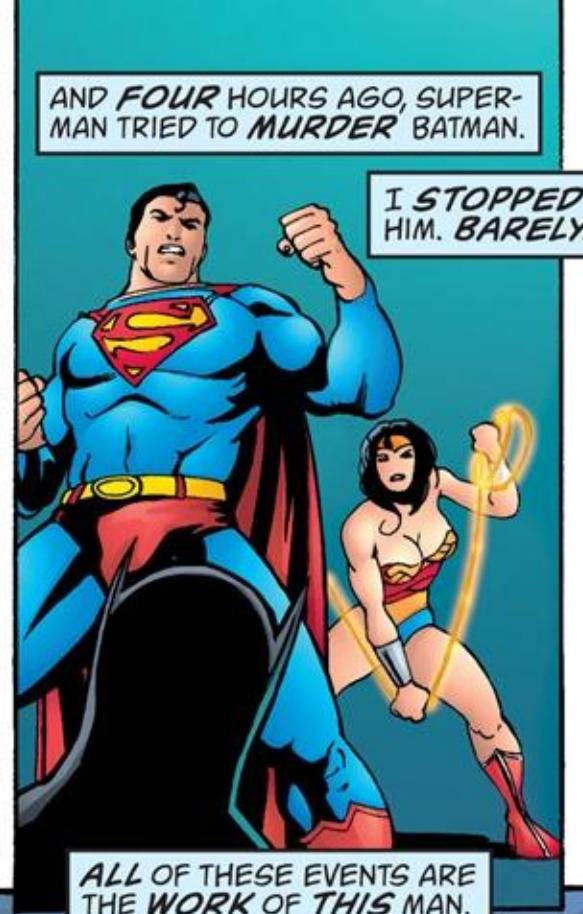


I WIN.

END



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SACRIFICE PART 4 of 4

GREG RUCKA
script

RAGS MORALES, DAVID LOPEZ, TOM DERENICK,
GEORGES JEANTY & KARL KERSCHL pencils

MARK PROPST, BIT, DEXTER VINES,
BOB PETRECCA & NELSON inks

RICHARD &
TANYA HORIE colors

TODD KLEIN letters

IVAN COHEN editor

Special Thanks to Eddie
Berganza and Geoff Johns

THIS IS MAX LORD.

HE CAN PUSH MINDS TO DO HIS BIDDING.

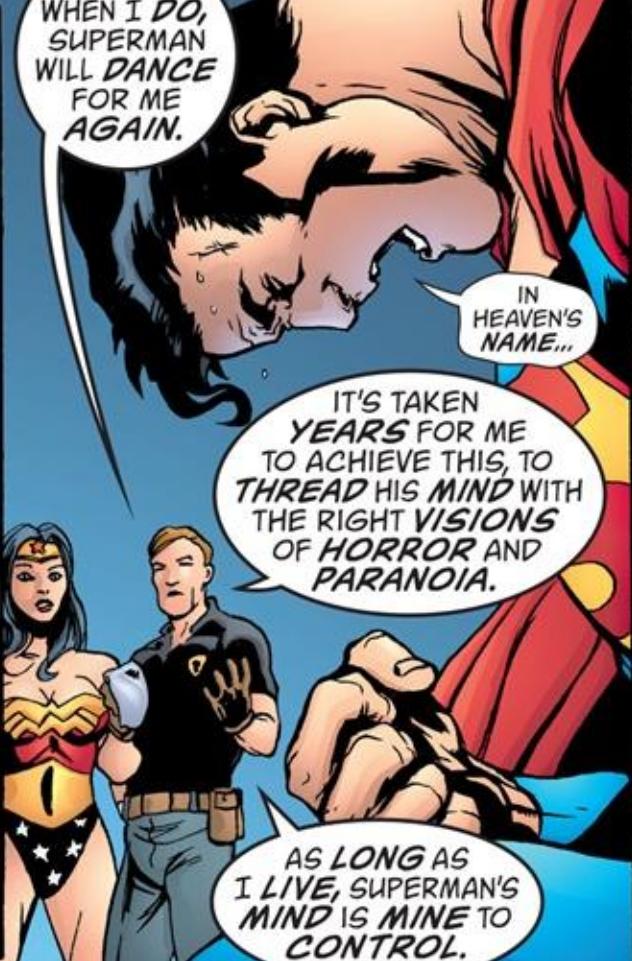
YOU'LL FORGIVE ME FOR SAYING IT, PRINCESS...

...BUT YOU LOOK GOOD ON YOUR KNEES...

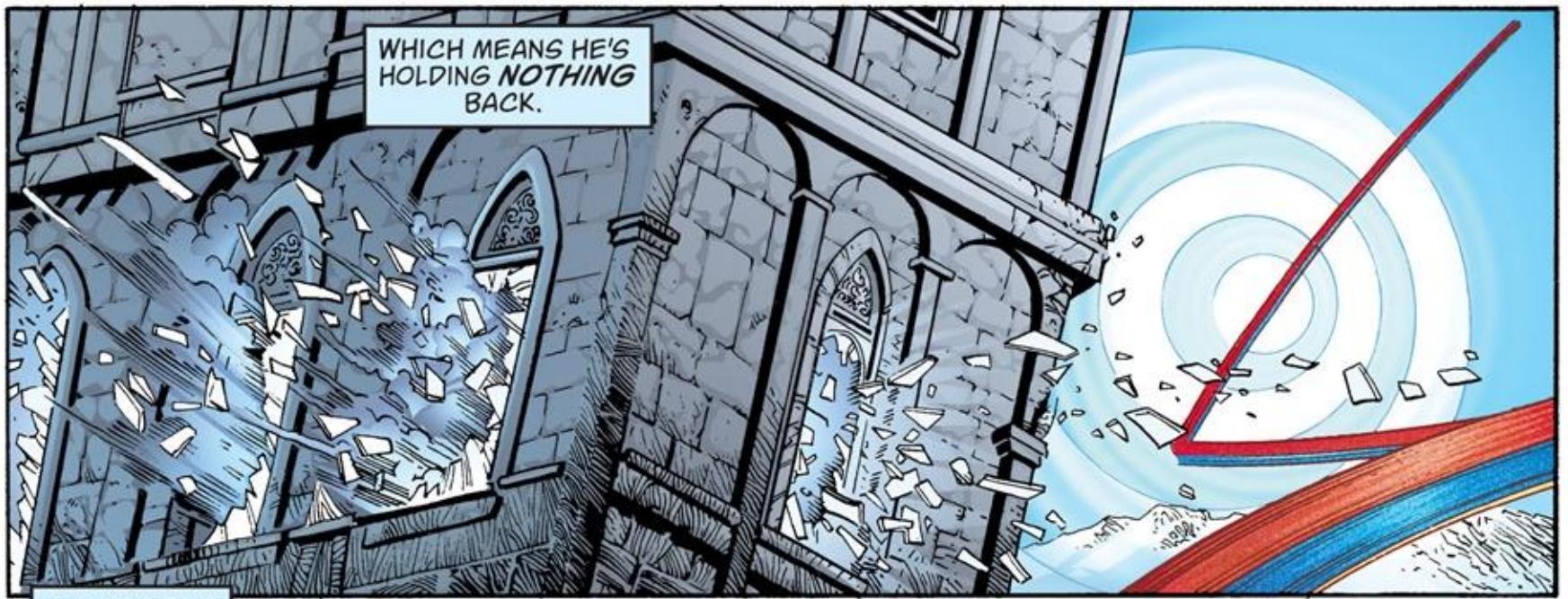
HE CONTROLS SUPERMAN...

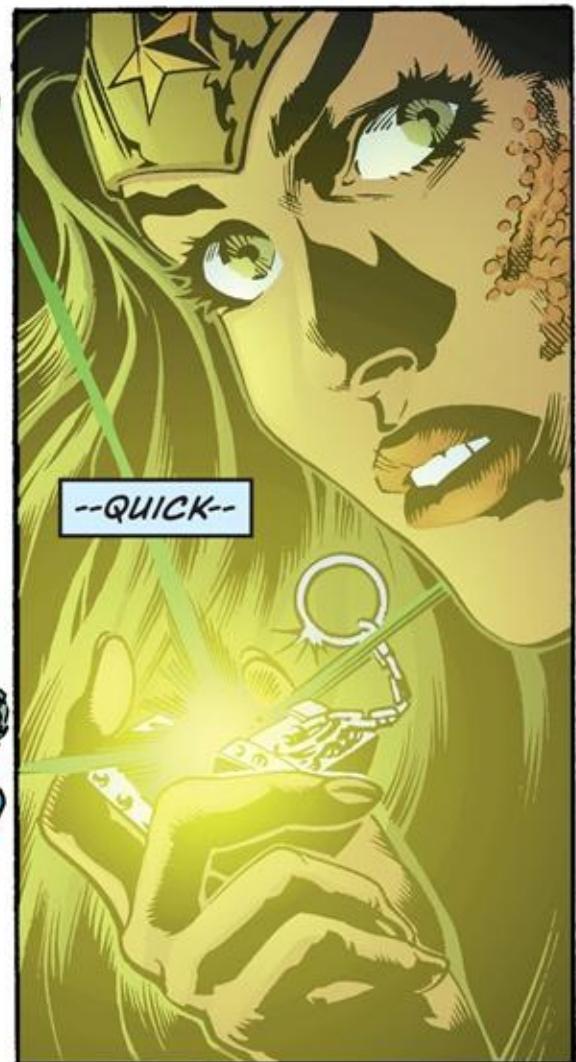
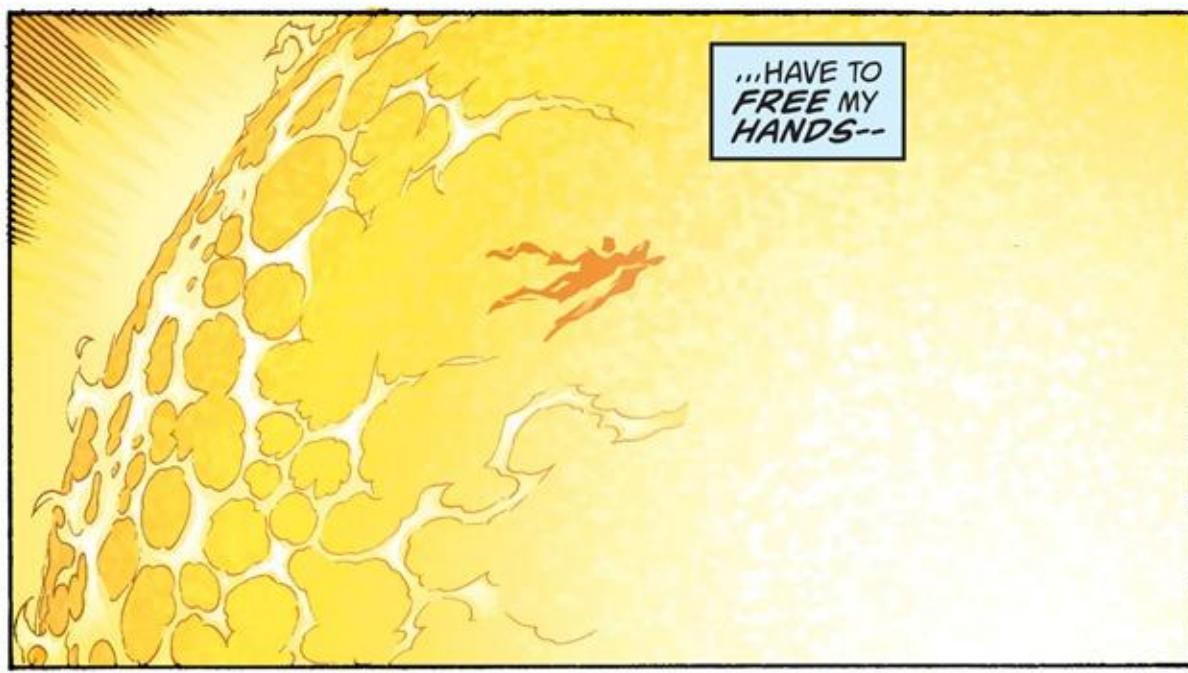


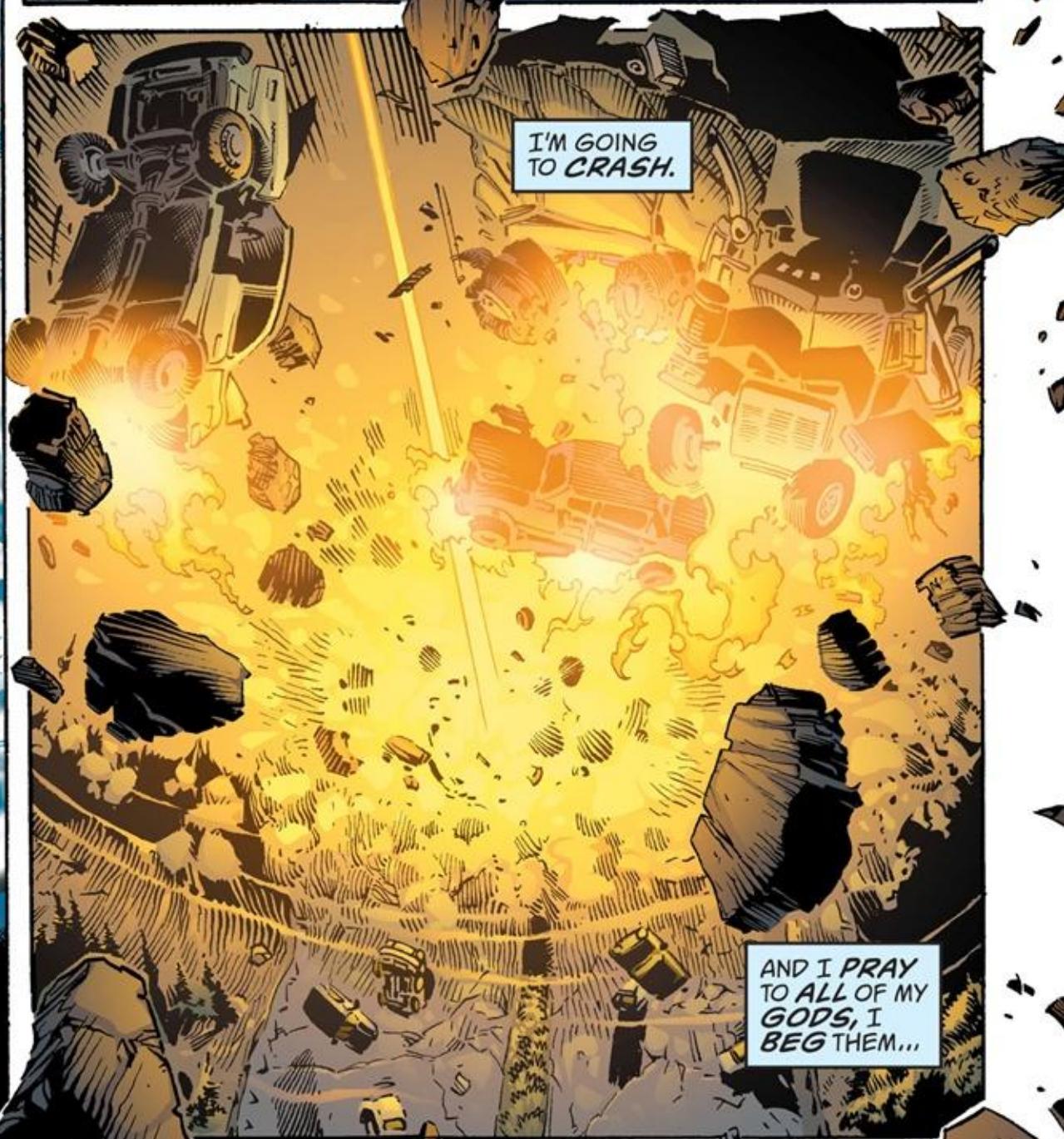
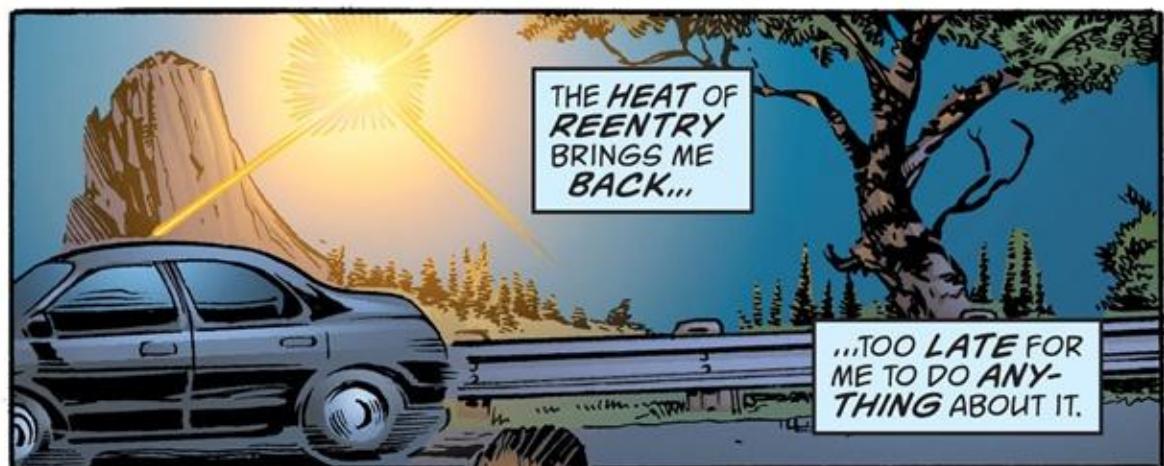










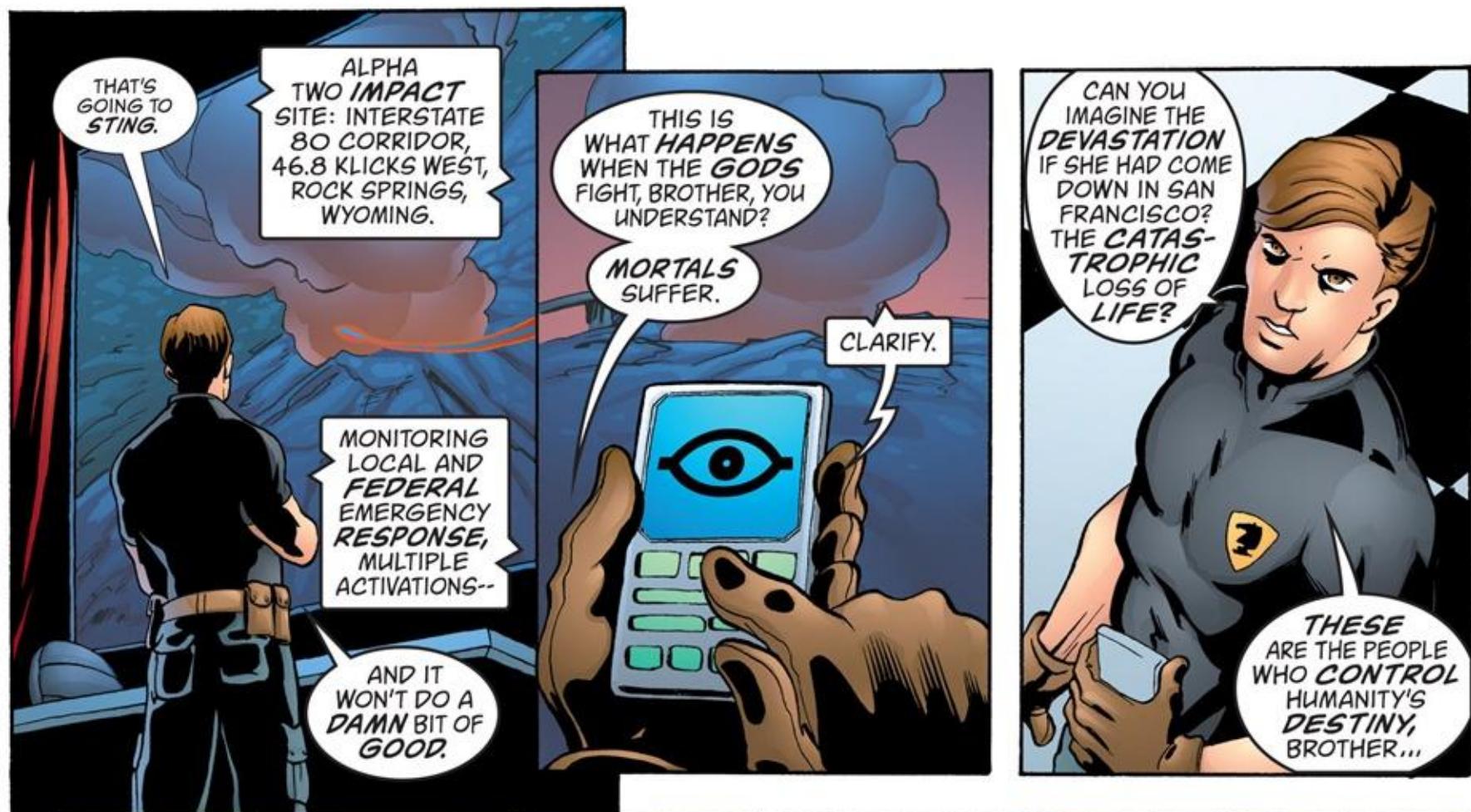




SPOON
SPORTS.

DEVIL'S TOWER
NEXT
EXIT

...LET IT BE
SOMEPLACE
DESERTED.



I FEEL THE EARTH...

...VIBRATE...

...WHAT YOU DID TO HER...

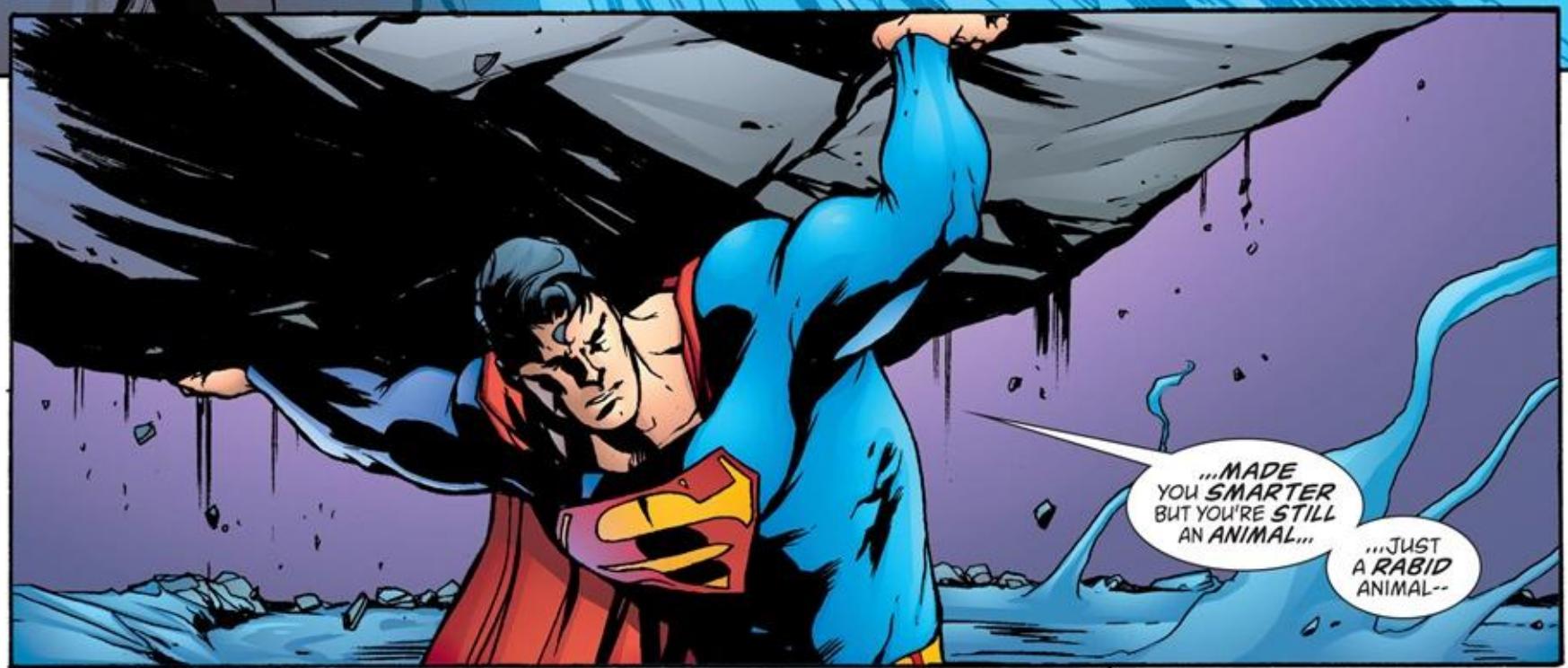
...HE WON'T STOP...

KAL... PLEASE...

...NEVER DO IT TO ANYONE, NEVER DO IT TO ANYTHING AGAIN...

...HE WON'T STOP UNTIL I'M DEAD.

...LISTEN TO MY WORDS, I AM NOT YOUR ENEMY--



...MADE YOU SMARTER BUT YOU'RE STILL AN ANIMAL...

...JUST A RABID ANIMAL--

--THAT
NEEDS TO BE PUT
DOWN...

HE IS SO
STRONG.

HE HAS
SO MANY
ABILITIES.

HIS SPEED AND HIS
STRENGTH AND HIS
INVULNERABILITY.

HIS VISION.

NOWHERE
TO HIDE...

NOWHERE
I CAN'T FIND
YOU...

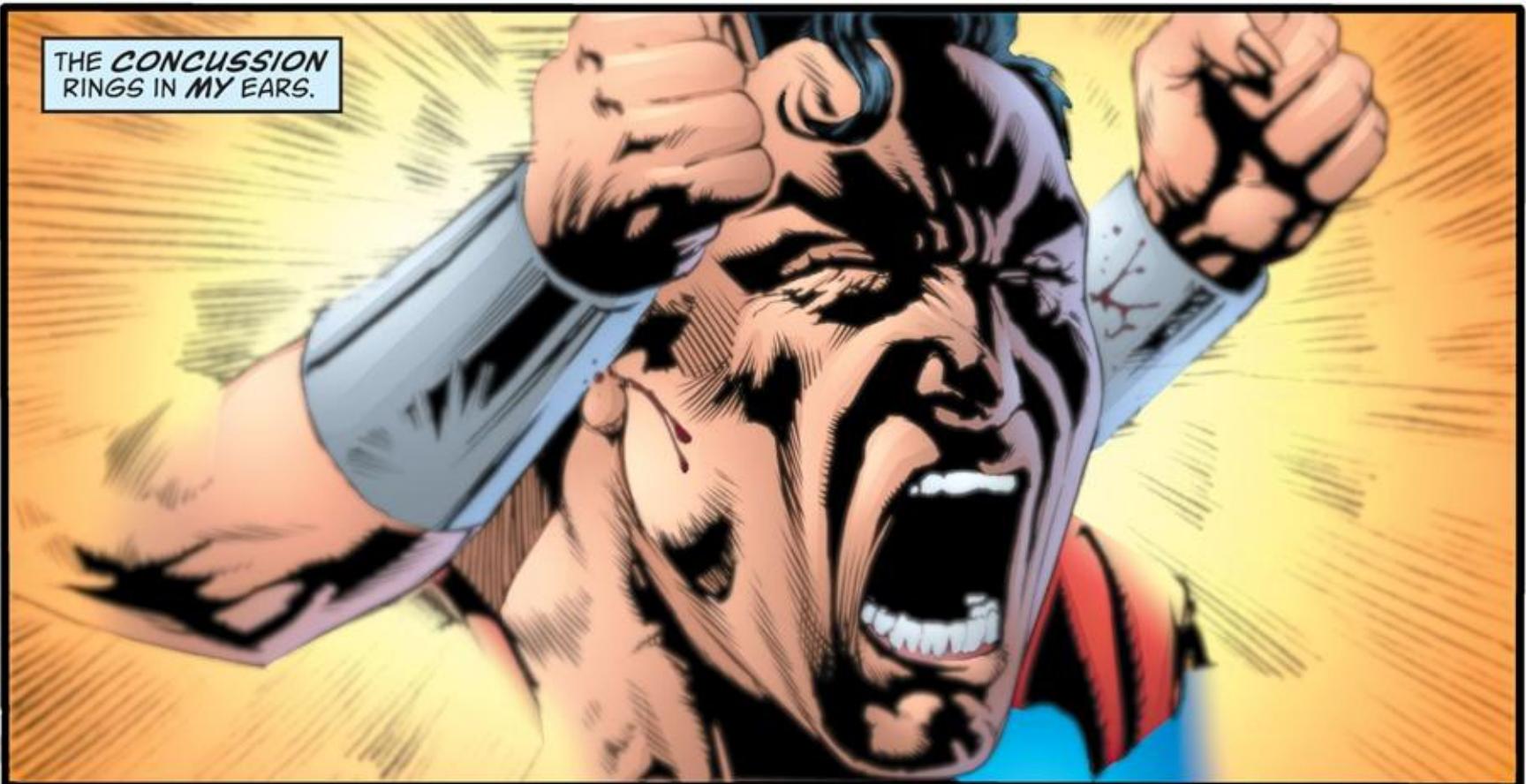
BUT EVERY STRENGTH
CAN BE TURNED TO A
WEAKNESS.

WHEN HE STOPS SPEAKING,
THAT'S WHEN I KNOW HE'S
USING HIS EARS.

SUPER HEARING.

GODS FORGIVE ME.

THE CONCUSSION RINGS IN MY EARS.



HNAA
AAAAA
AHHH!

GAEA ALONE KNOWS
WHAT IT DOES TO HIS.







THIS TIME, I'M
THE ONE WHO
SCREAMS.



THIS ISN'T
ABOUT HIM--



--IT'S ABOUT MAX...

...I HAVE TO
REACH MAX...



...WHICH MEANS I HAVE
TO SLOW KAL DOWN.



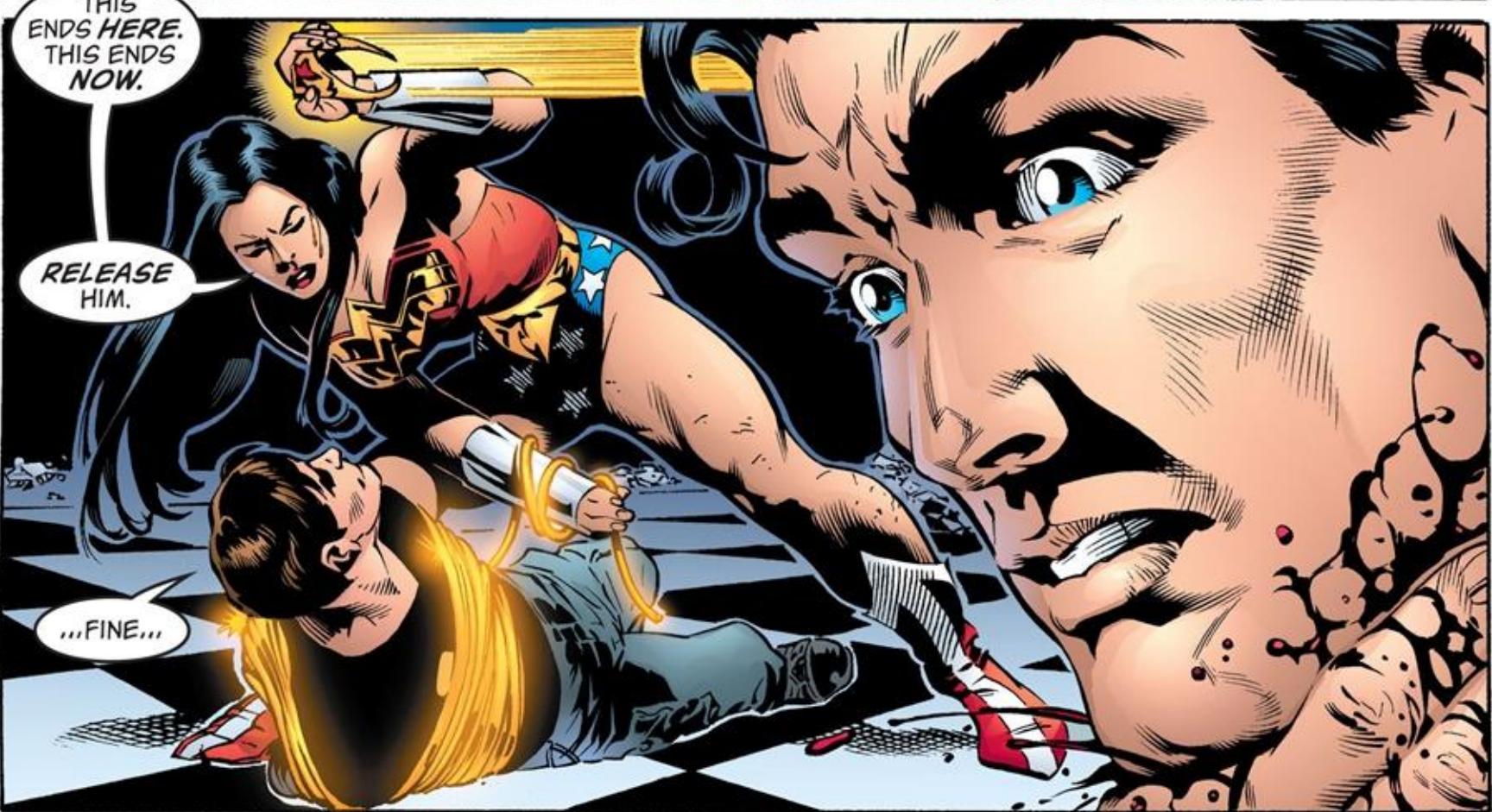
I JUST HAVE TO
SLOW HIM DOWN.

















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THALARION.

IN THE SHORT TIME SINCE
MY REBIRTH I HAVE NOT
SPENT A SINGLE SLUMBER
ON THIS ISLAND.

MY KINGDOM.
MY ISLAND.

MY CITY OF
CRYSTAL.

JASON AND
HIS CREW
WERE MEN
OF ACTION IN
THEIR PREVIOUS
LIVES. THEY
LOOK TO ME
FOR ANSWERS.

AND WISDOM,
NEVER MY STRONG
SUIT AT THE BEST
OF TIMES.

AND I AM LONELY. THEY
DO NOT UNDERSTAND
ME, AND I DO NOT
UNDERSTAND THE WORLD
BEYOND THESE SHORES.

BUT THE MISSION
THAT ZEUS GAVE
ME, THE NAME HE
CALLED ME BY.

WARKILLER.

THAT IS A
MISSION I STILL
BELIEVE IN.

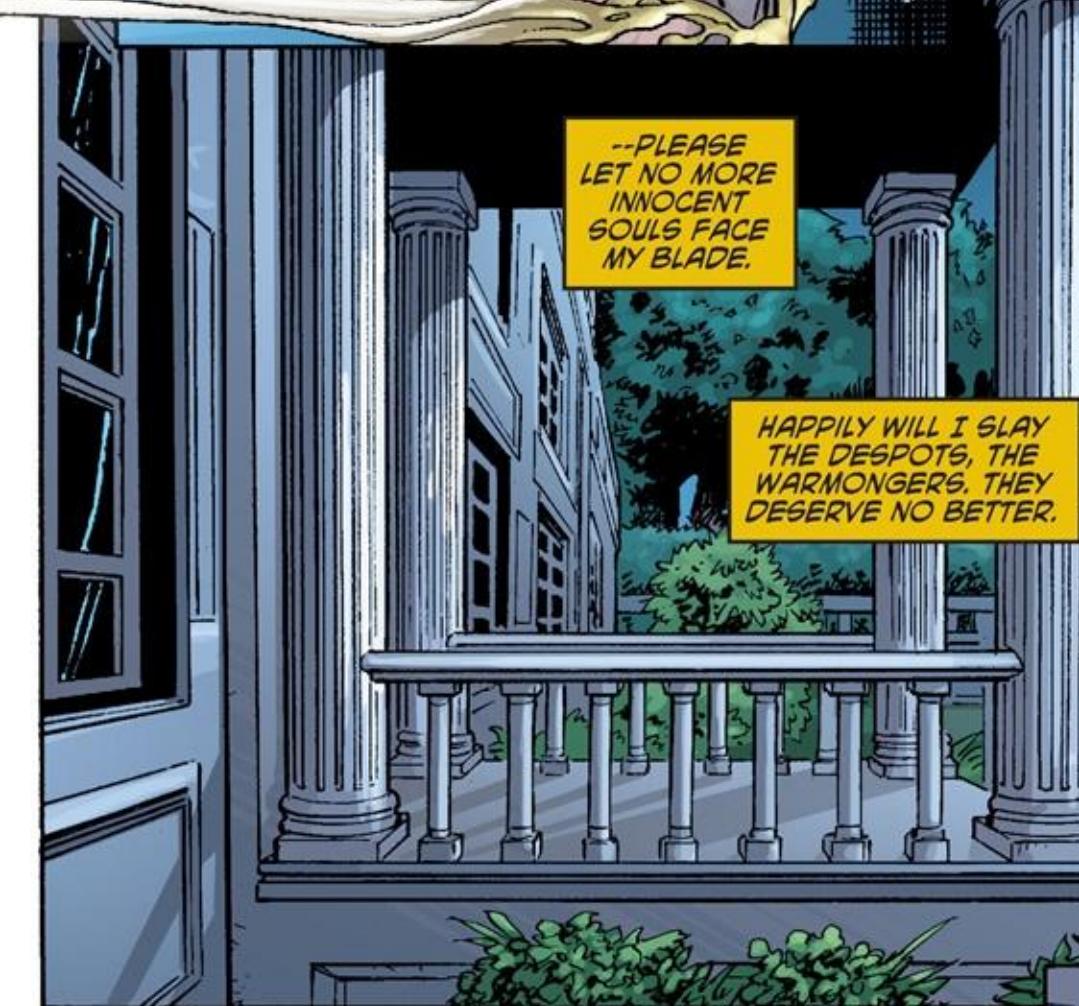
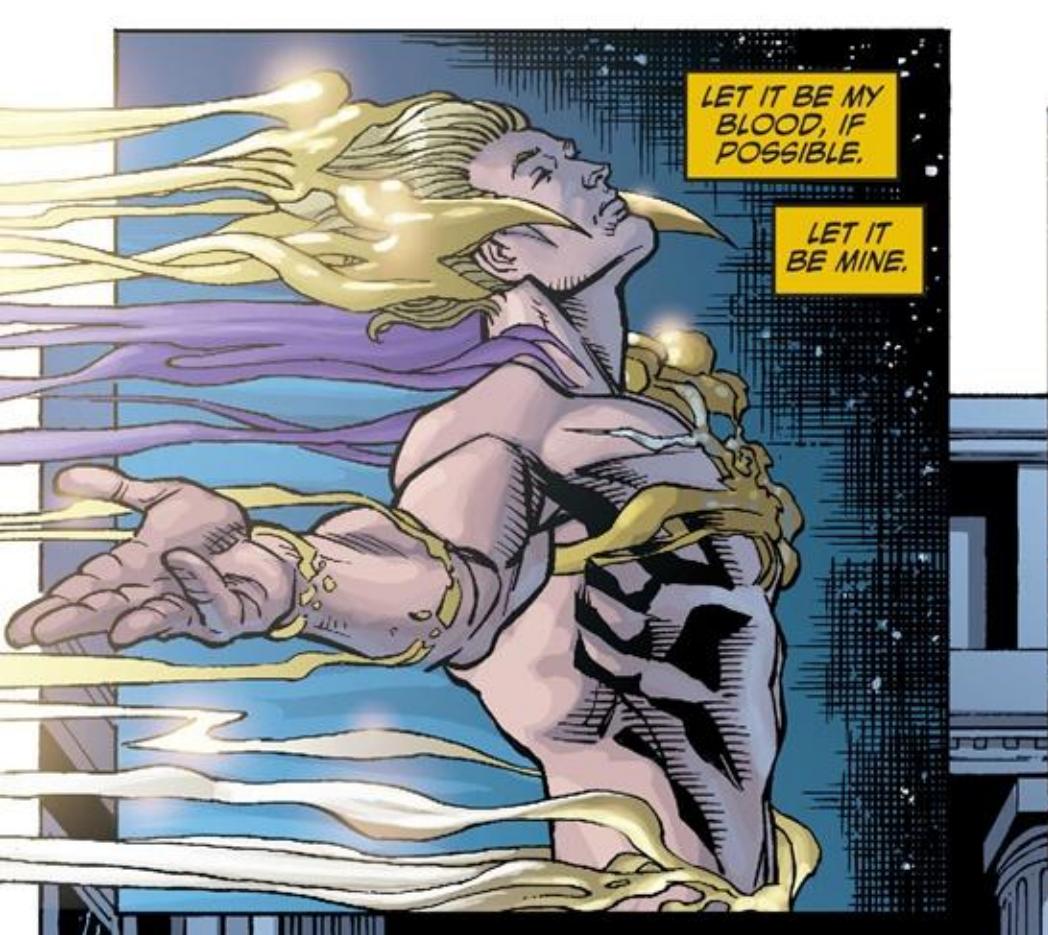
MYSIA.
COME.

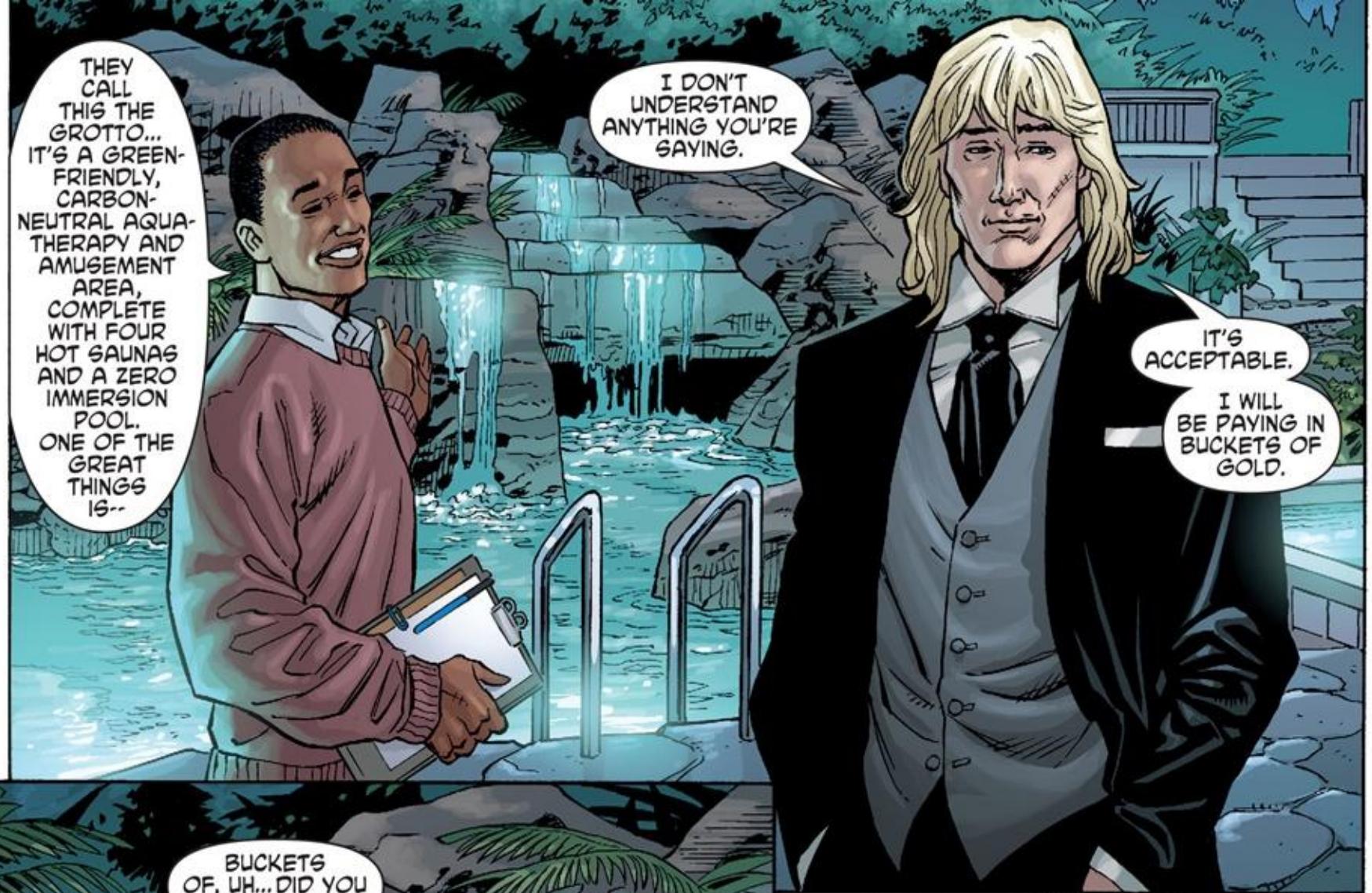
THERE IS
MUCH BLOOD
ON MY HANDS.



IF I MUST SPILL
A LITTLE BIT MORE
TO SHOW THESE
PEOPLE THE FUTILITY
OF WAR--

--SO
BE IT.





A MURDER OF CROWS PART TWO: throwdown

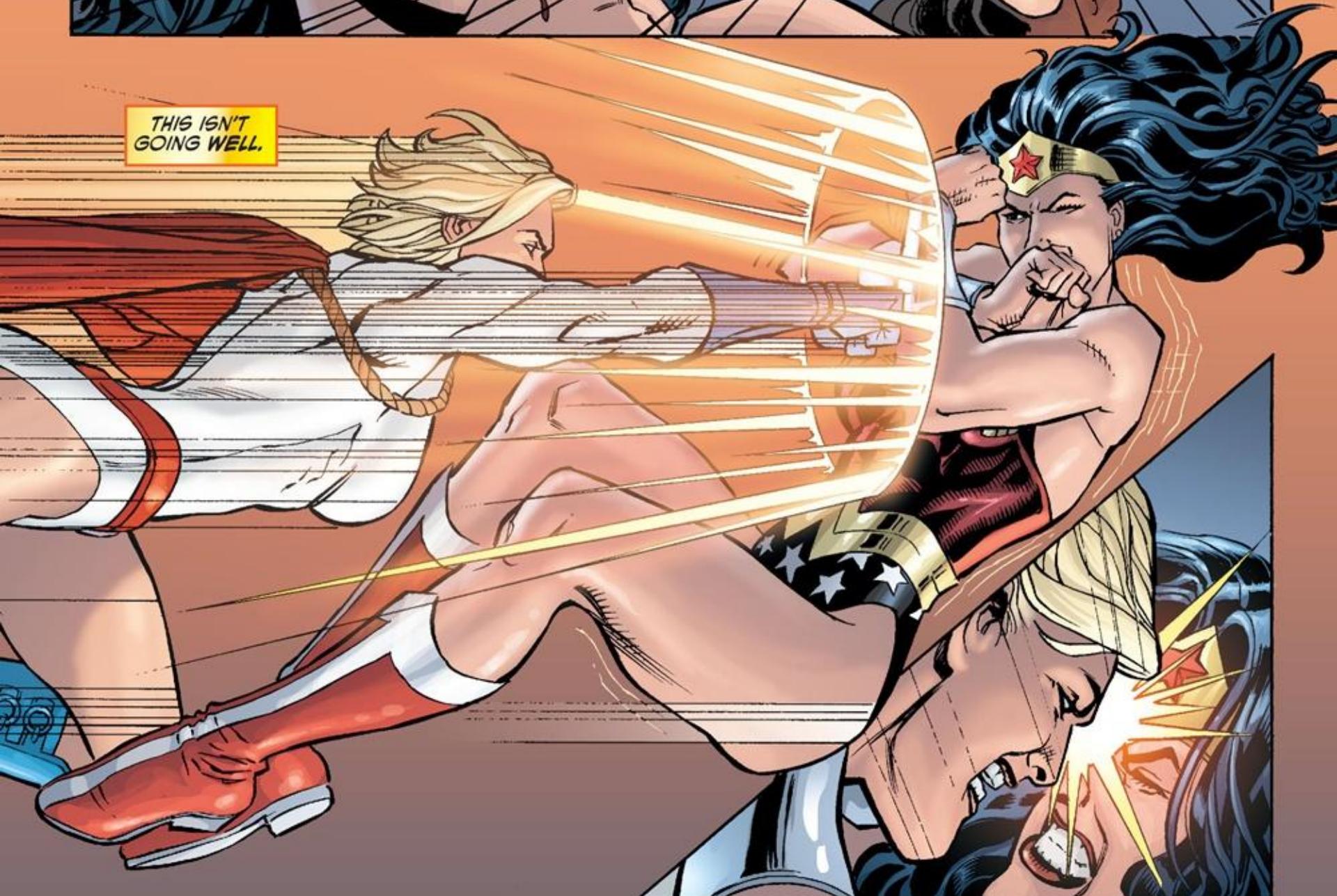
All things
considered...

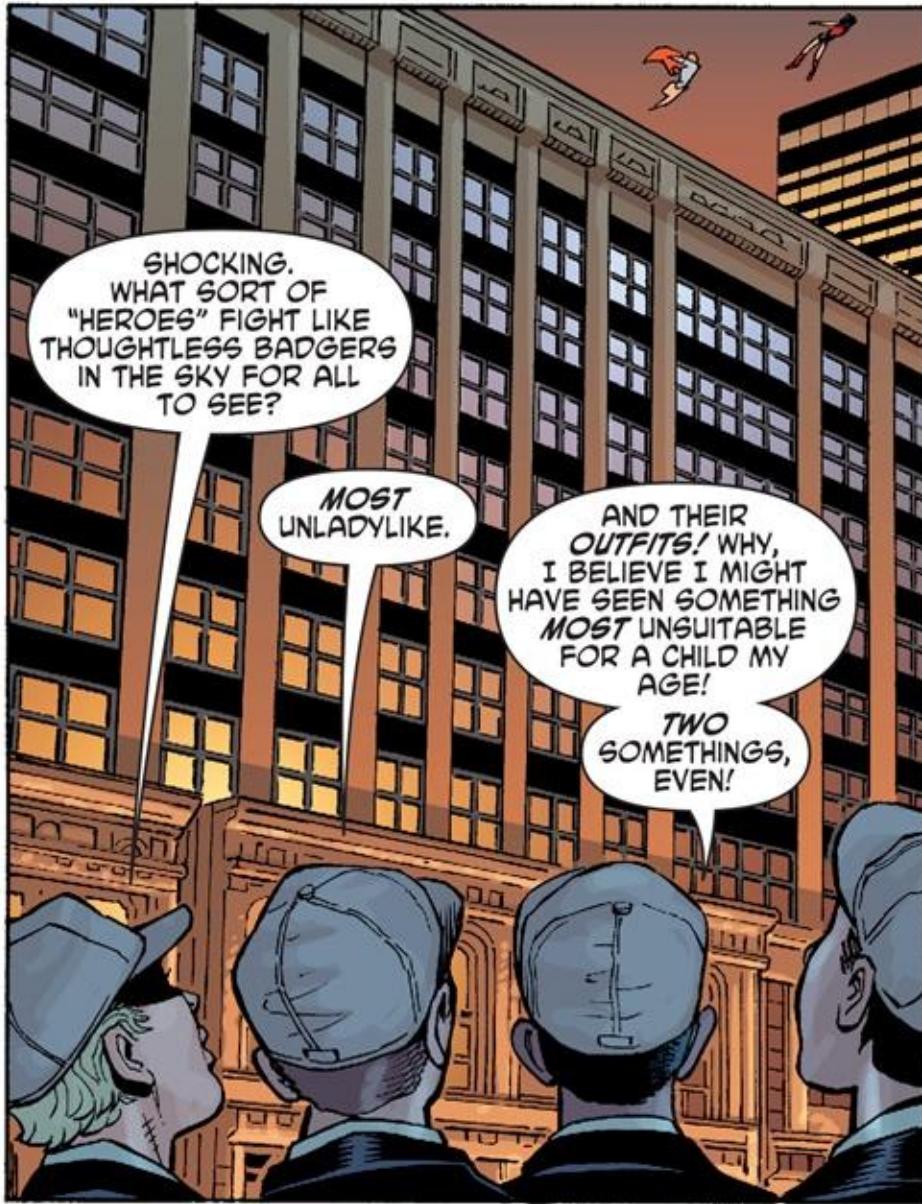
...I'D RATHER
BE BACK ON
THEMYSICRA.

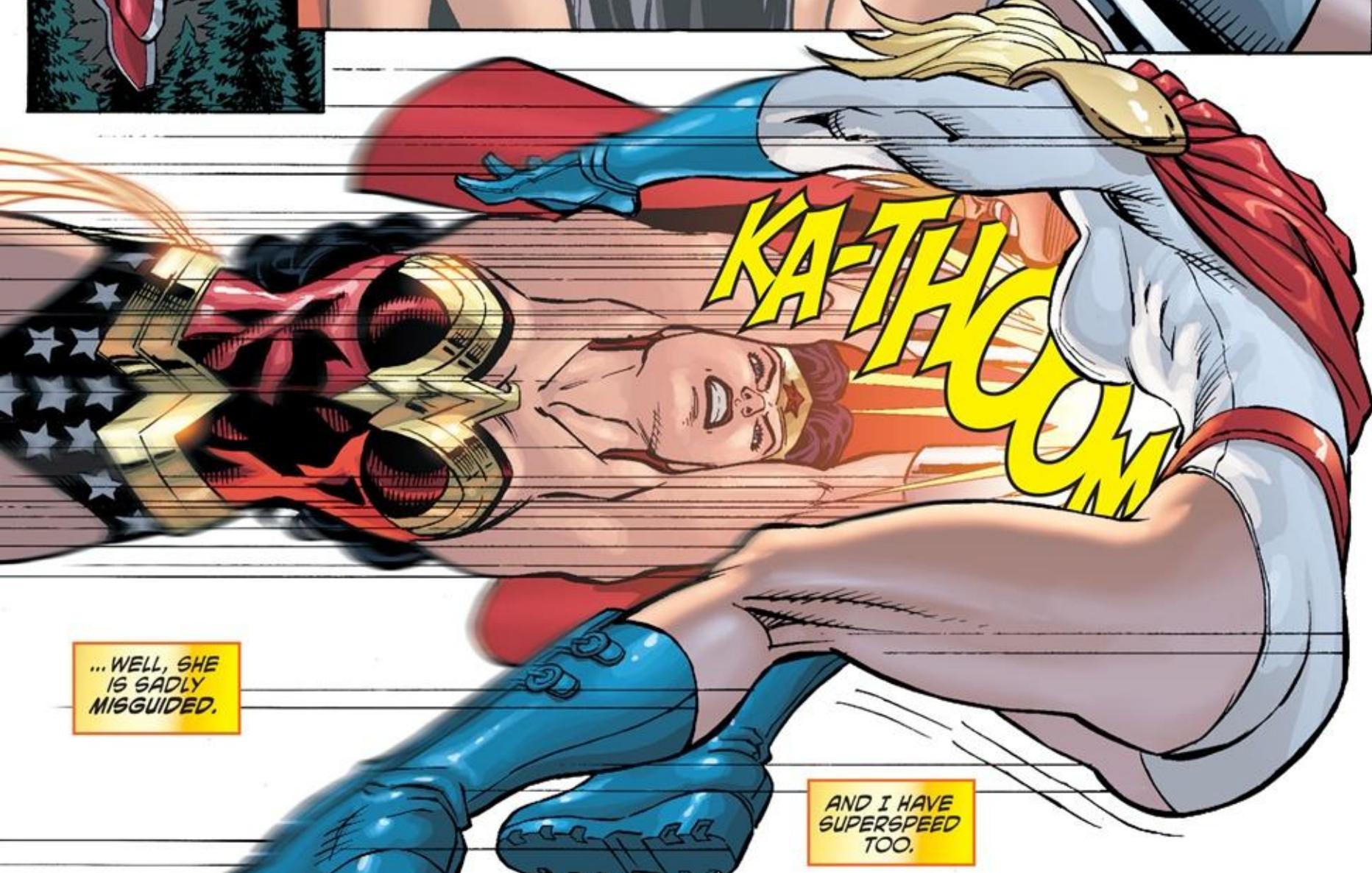
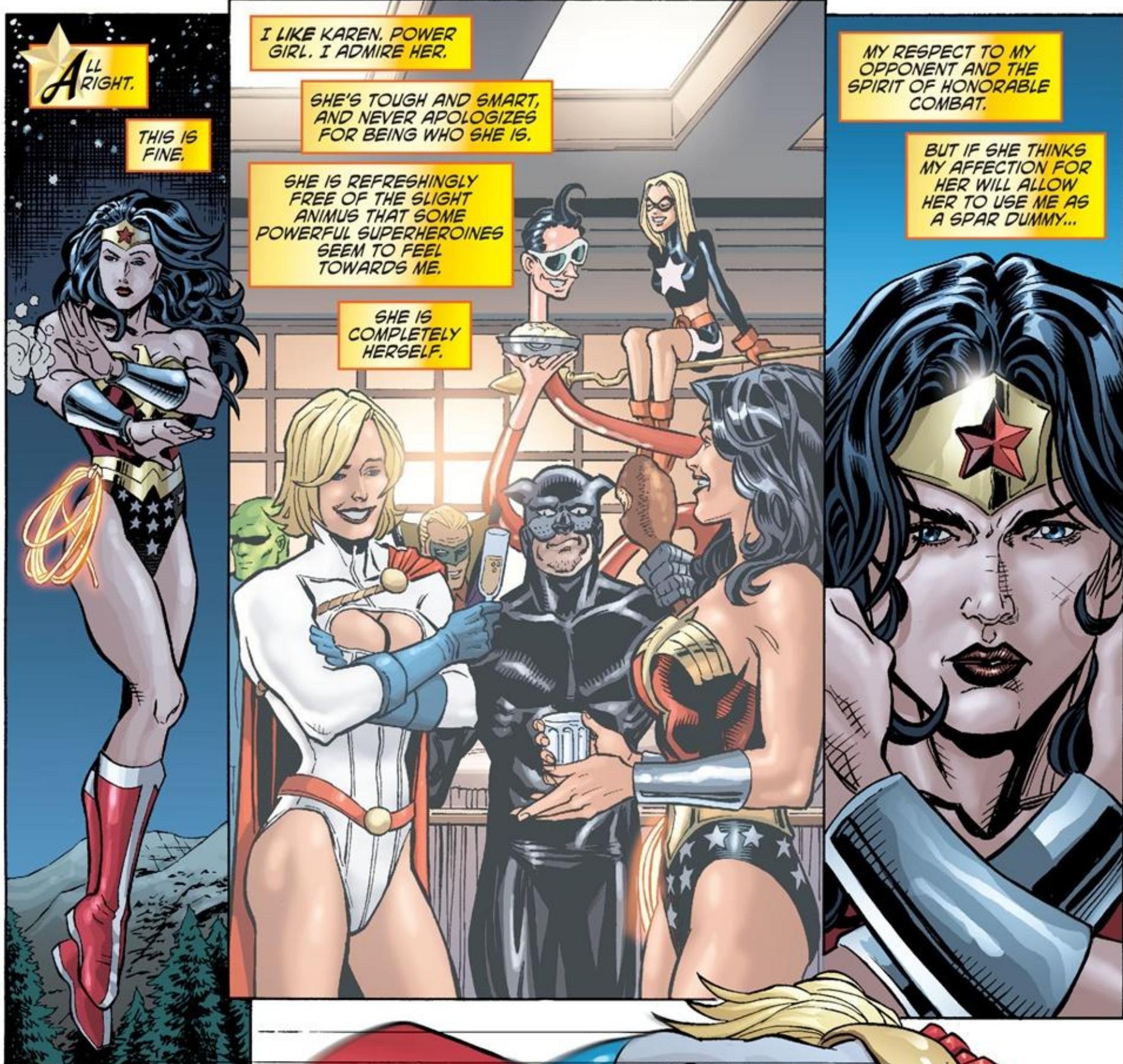
GAIL SIMONE · writer
CHRIS BATISTA & FERNANDO DAGNINO · pencils
DOUG HARLEWOOD & RAUL FERNANDEZ · inkers
BRAD ANDERSON · colorist
TRAVIS LANHAM · letterer
SEAN RYAN · associate editor
BRIAN CUNNINGHAM · editor

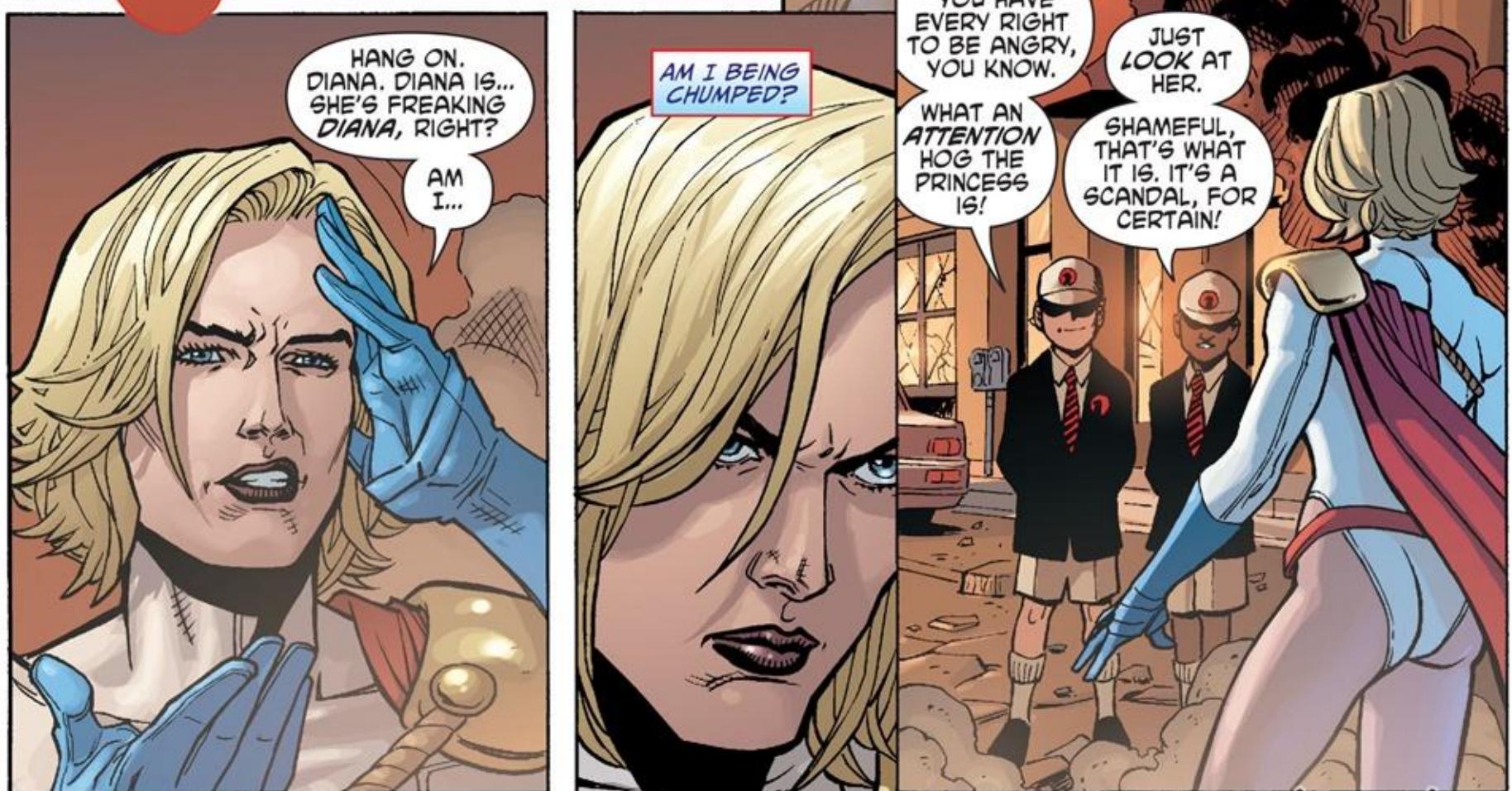
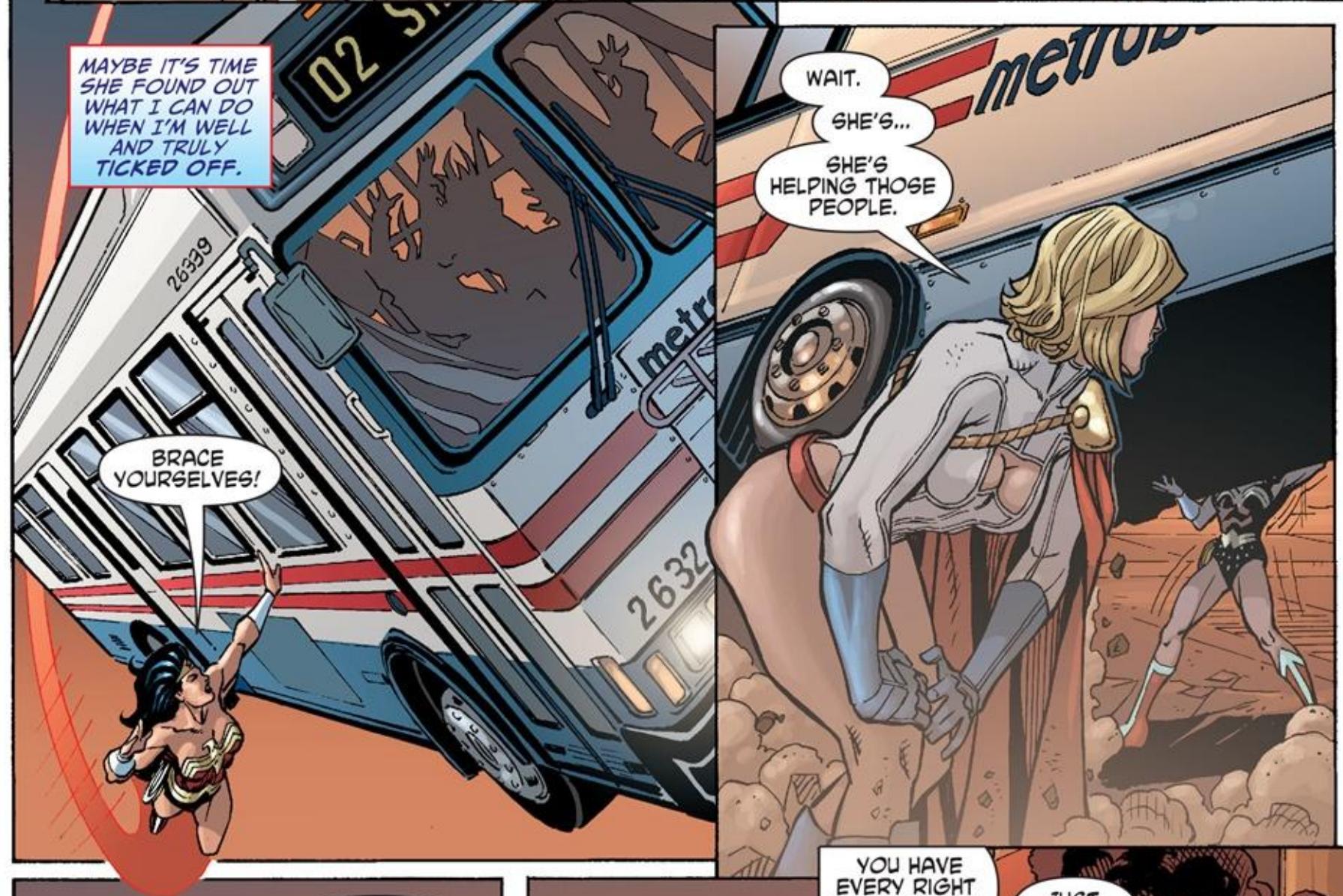
WONDER WOMAN created by WILLIAM MOULTON MARSTON

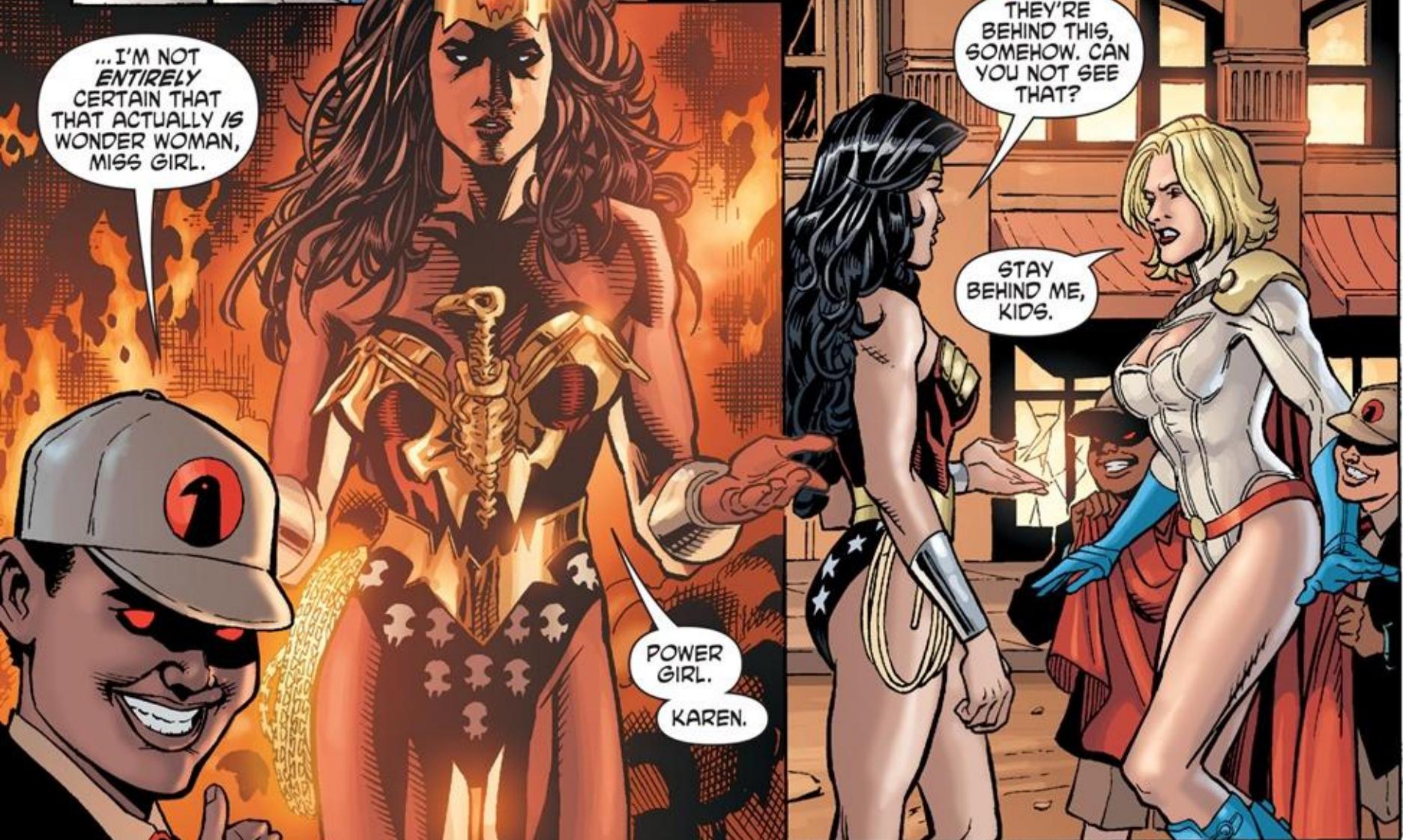
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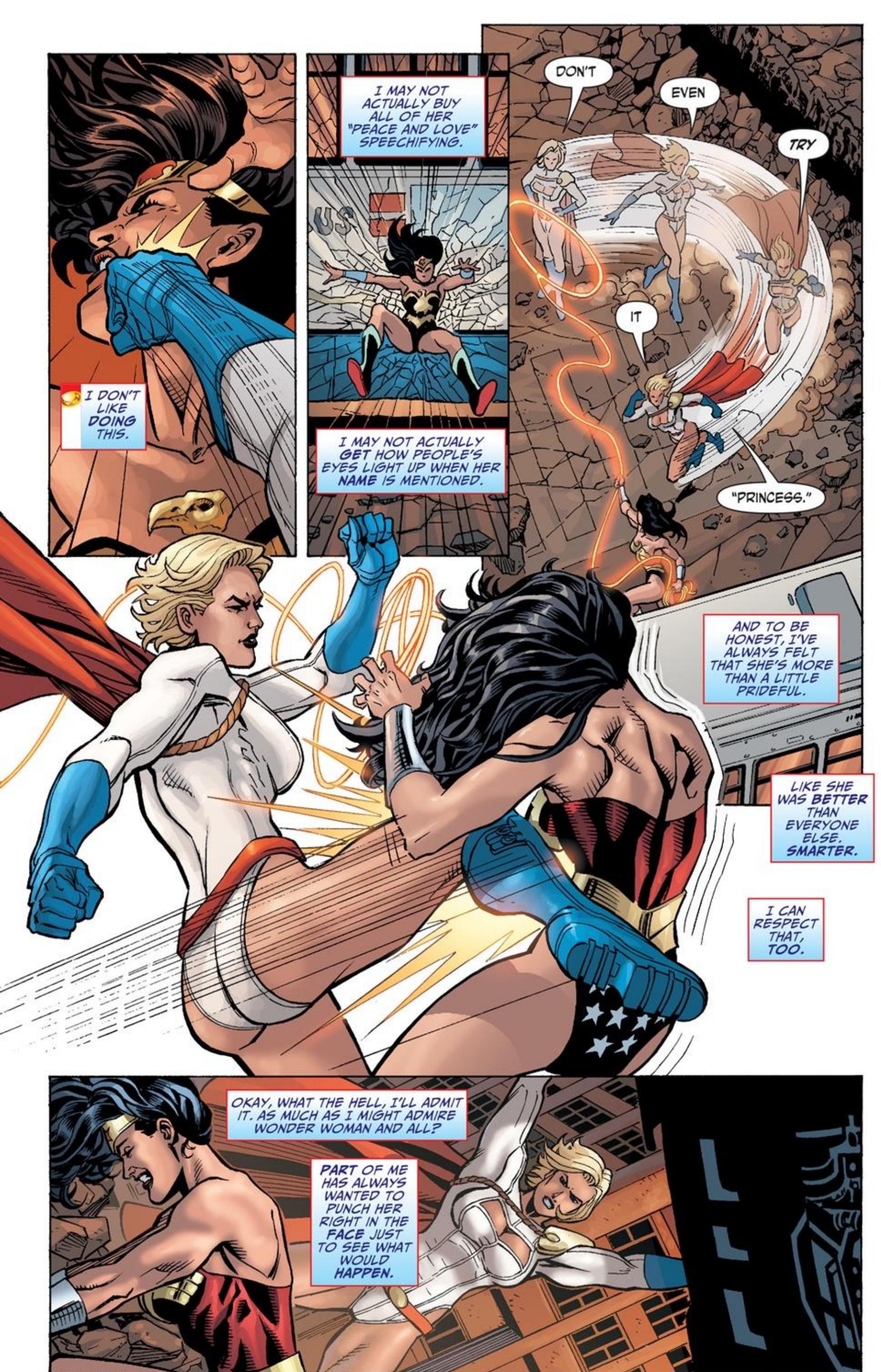




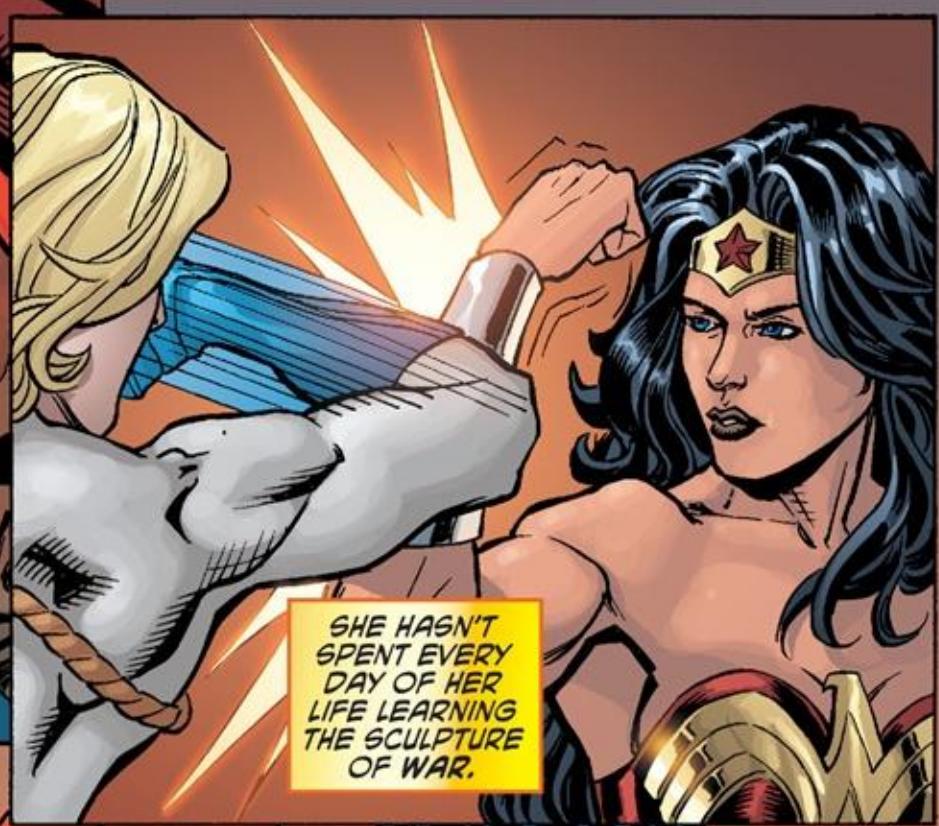




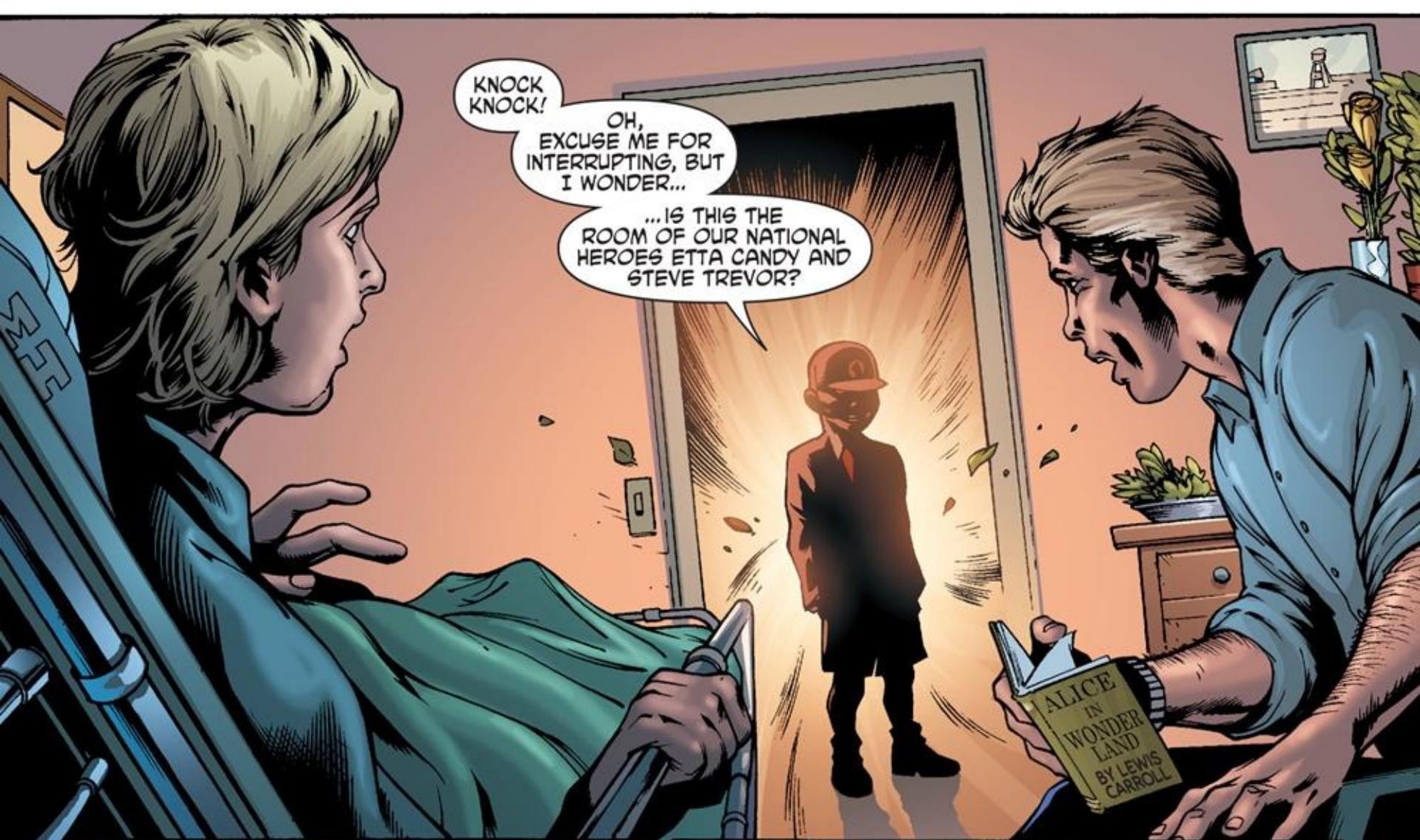
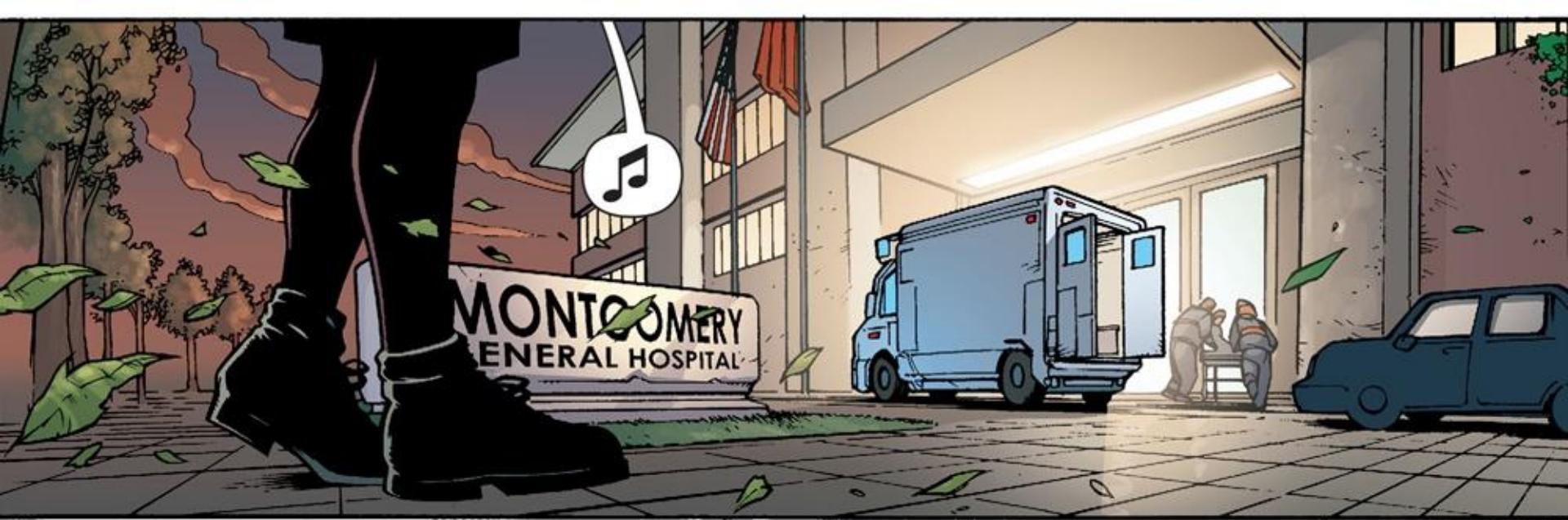




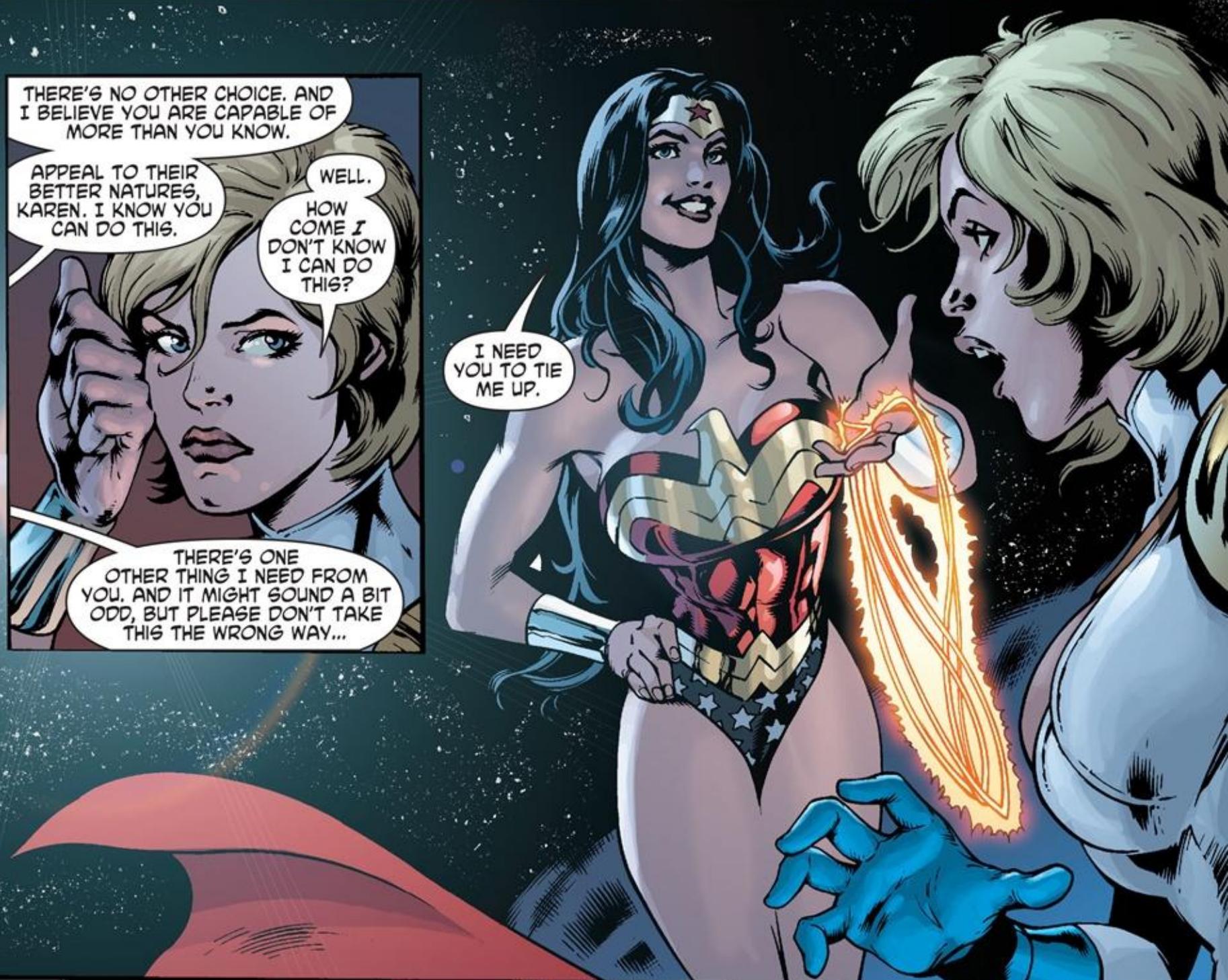
























WASHINGTON, D.C.



HAS
ANYONE SEEN
A HARPY?

DC COMICS PROUDLY PRESENTS

JUSTICE LEAGUE

PART THREE

GEOFF JOHNS WRITER

JIM LEE PENCILLER

SCOTT WILLIAMS INKER

ALEX SINCLAIR WITH HI-FI & GABE ELTAEB • COLORISTS

PATRICK BROSSEAU • LETTERER

JIM LEE & SCOTT WILLIAMS WITH

ALEX SINCLAIR • COVER

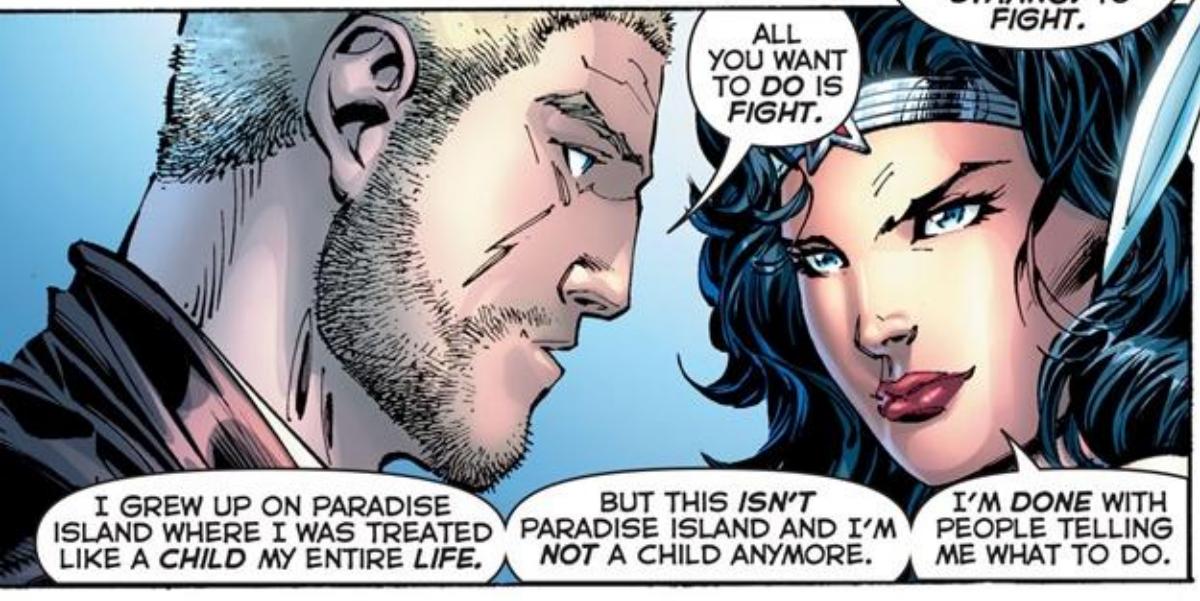
GREG CAPULLO & JONATHAN GLAPION WITH

FCO PLASCENCIA • VARIANT COVER

DARREN SHAN • ASSISTANT EDITOR

BRIAN CUNNINGHAM • EDITOR





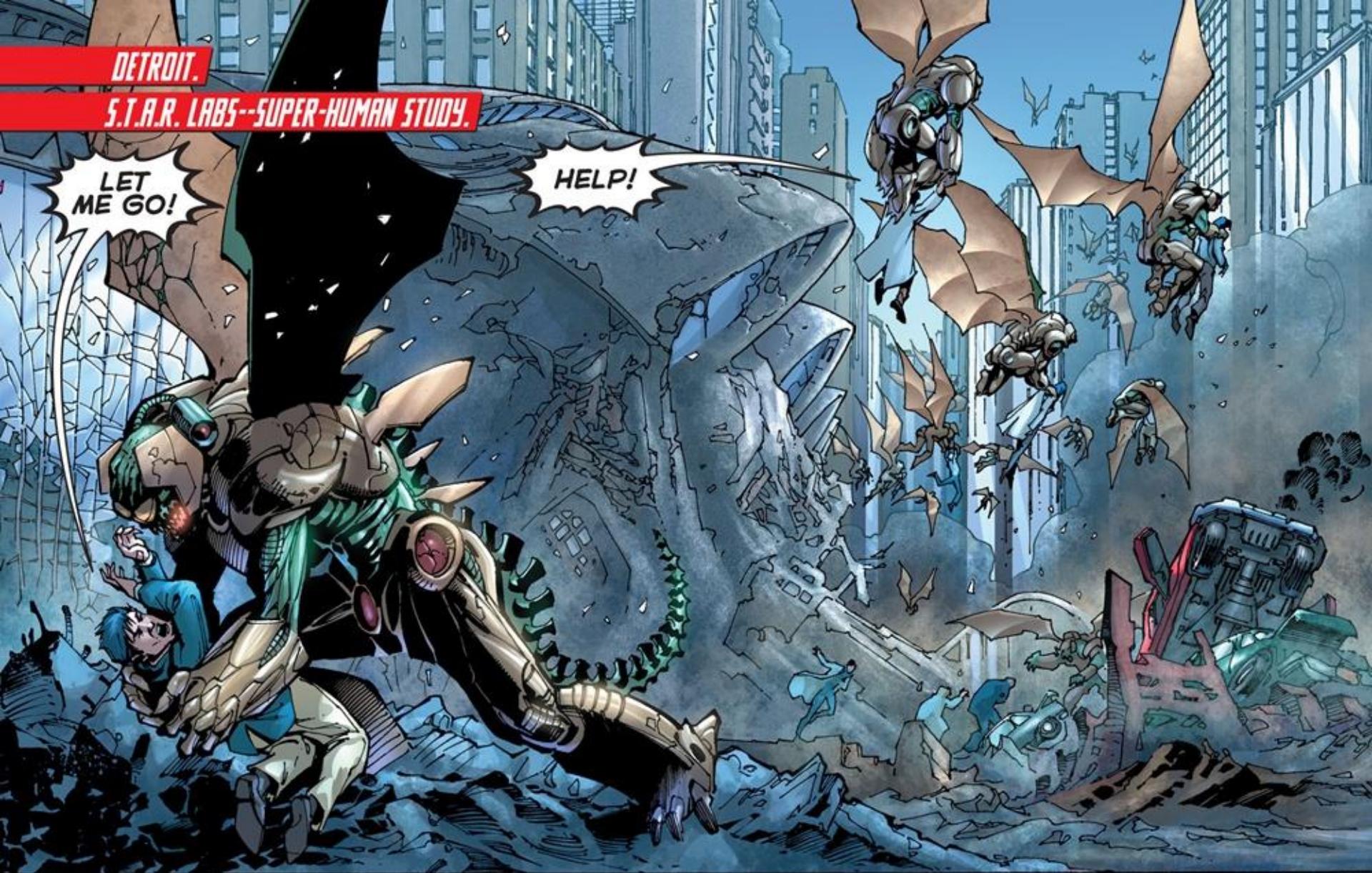


DETROIT.

S.T.R.R. LABS--SUPER-HUMAN STUDY.

LET
ME GO!

HELP!



PROFESSOR
IVO! THEY TOOK
PROFESSOR
IVO!

VICTOR!

SILAS!



DOCTOR STONE,
YOUR SON IS GONE!
HE IS GONE! WE
NEED TO GET OUT
OF HERE!

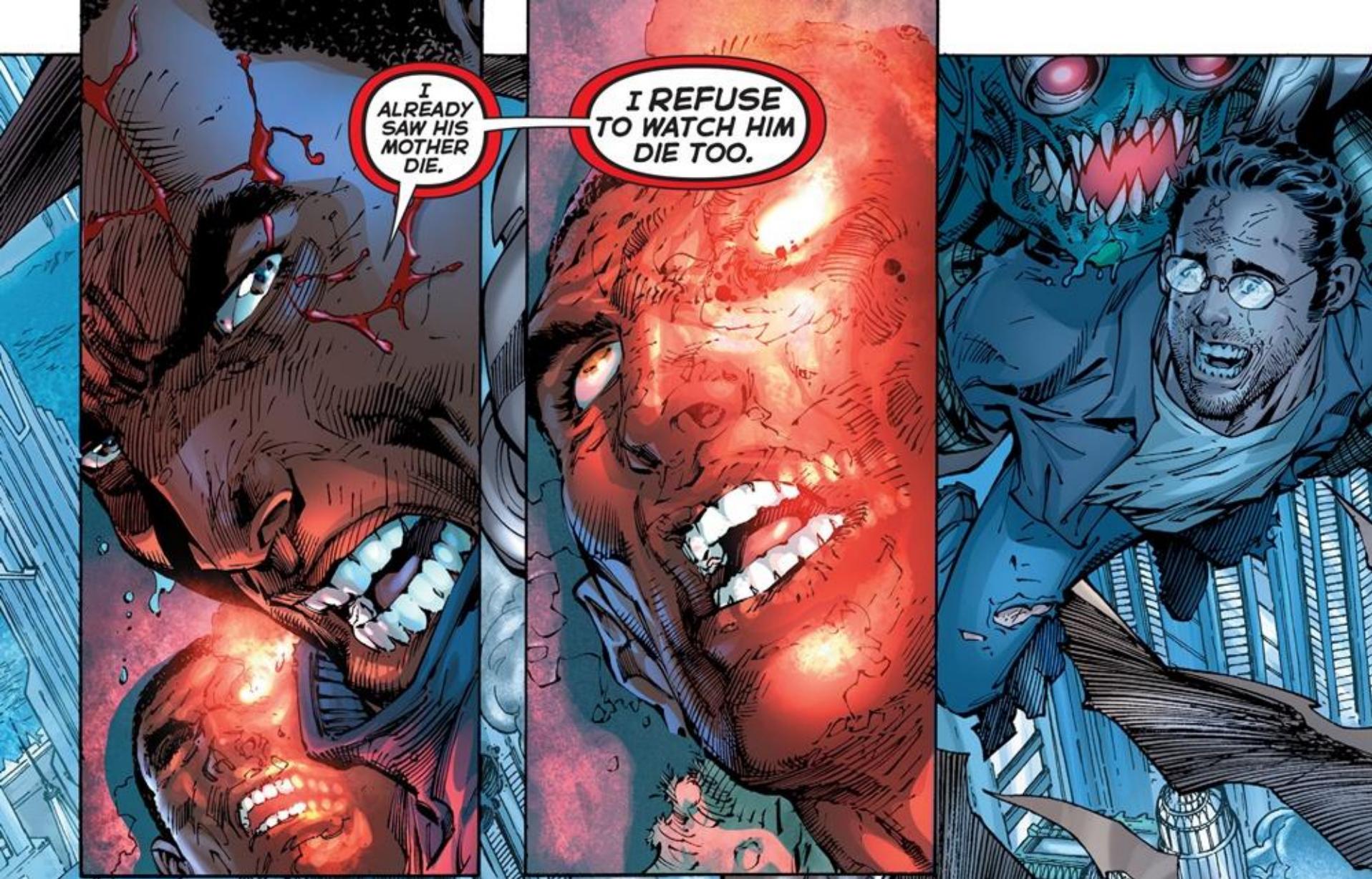
WE
NEED TO
GO!

I'M NOT
GOING
ANYWHERE,
THOMAS.

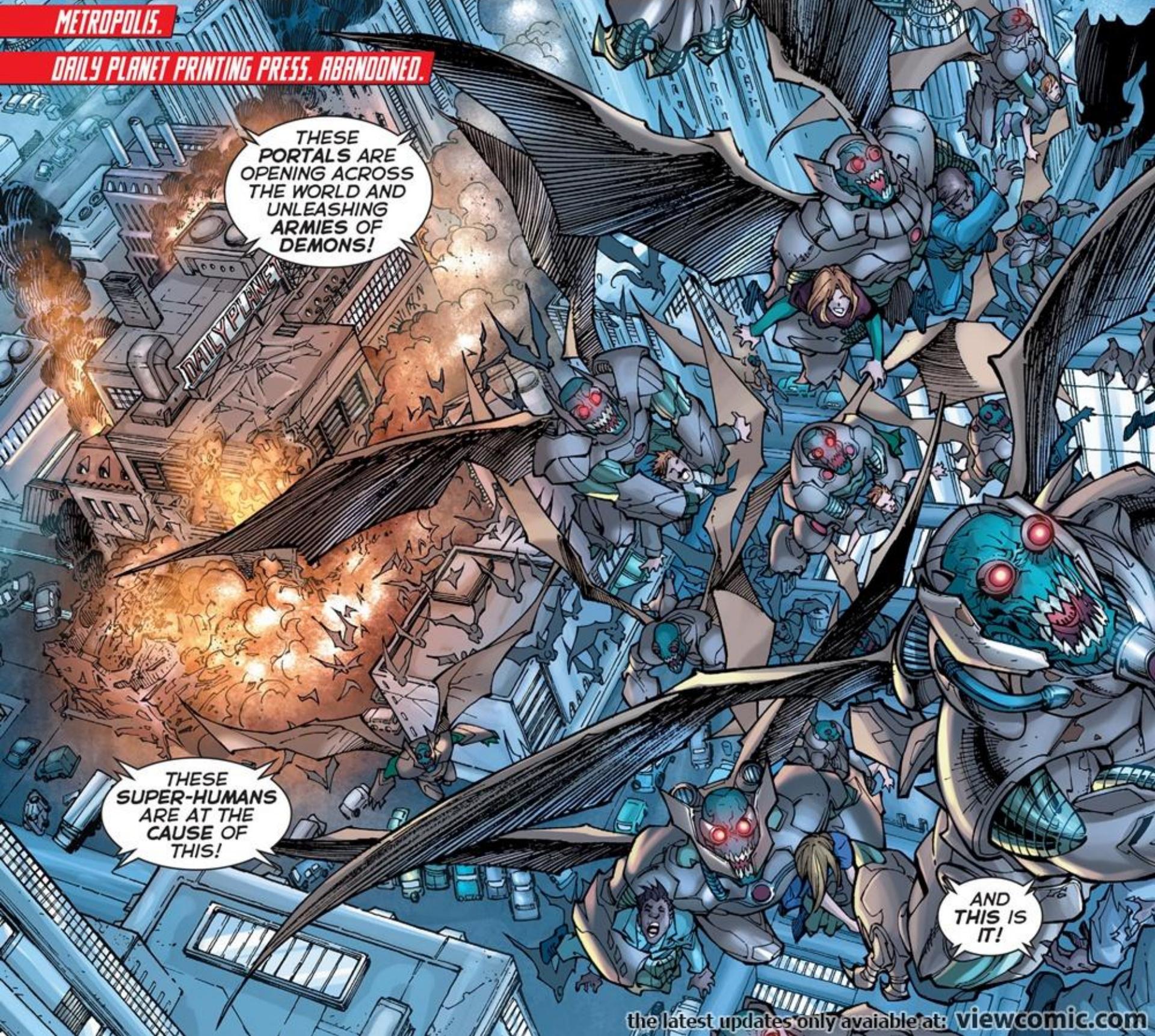
BUT--

DR THOMAS
MORROW

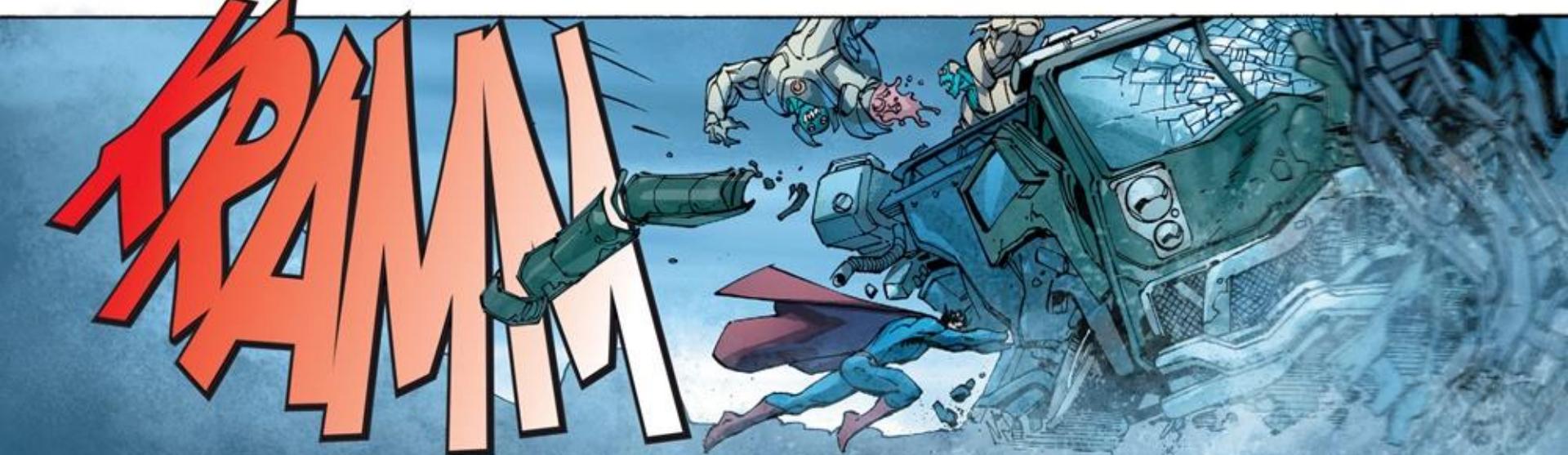
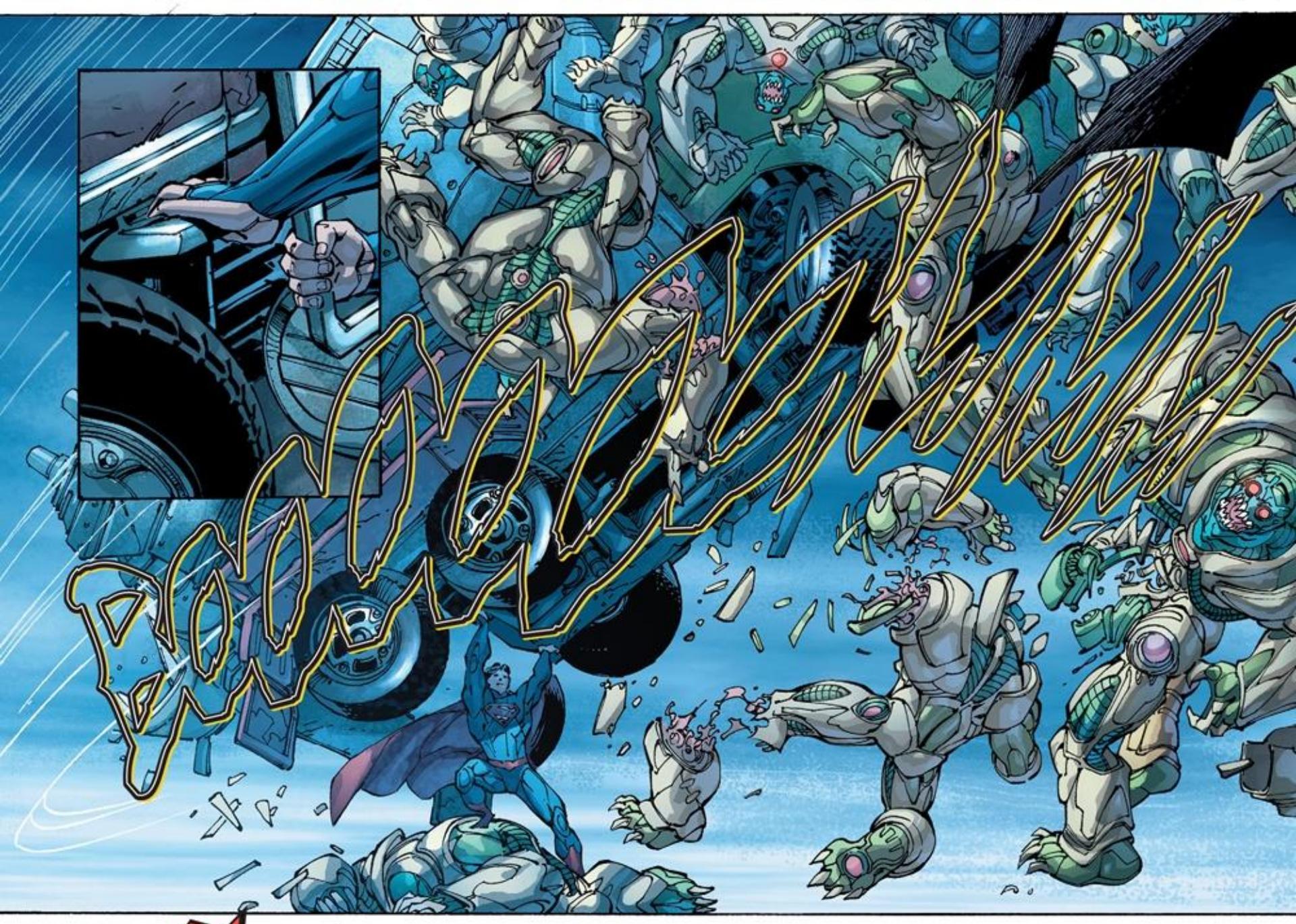




METROPOLIS.
DAILY PLANET PRINTING PRESS. ABANDONED.









WHERE ARE WE GOING?!

WE HAVE TO GET HIM INTO THE RED ROOM.

B-BUT I'M ONLY AN INTERN, DR. STONE. I'M NOT AUTHORIZED--

SECURITY IS OFF-LINE, SARAH. YOU CAN OPEN IT.

HNN!

THE GENERATOR SWITCH IS ON THE LEFT.

KLANZ

VUUMM

WOW.
FOR GOD'S SAKE, SARAH, DON'T TOUCH ANYTHING.

HELL, WE SHOULDN'T BE TOUCHING ANYTHING, SILAS.

LOCK THE DOOR BEHIND US. THERE'S A MANUAL SWITCH.

I'M NOT LEAVING YOU, VICTOR.

DON'T LEAVE ME.







IT'S... IT'S
INCREDIBLE...
HIS VITALS ARE
THERE, DR.
STONE.

HE'S
ALIVE!

D-DAD?

YES,
VICTOR.
I'M RIGHT
HERE.

IT
HU-HURTS.
IT... IT HURTS
SO B-BAD.

WHATEVER THAT ENERGY
IS, IT'S EATING HIM AWAY
FROM THE INSIDE OUT.

HIS HEART. HE'S
GOING INTO CARDIAC
ARREST. AND IT'S
RACING UP HIS
SPINAL CORD!

THEN WE
CAN'T
WAIT.

IT'S GOING
TO HURT. IT'S
NOT GOING TO
BE EASY, BUT--

ARGHHHH!!

BUT THE
RISK--?

WHAT CHOICE
DO I HAVE, MORROW?!
THIS ROOM CONTAINS
TECHNOLOGY RECOVERED
FROM ACROSS THE GLOBE.
I'VE STUDIED AND LOGGED
NEARLY EVERYTHING IN HERE.
I'VE TAKEN APART AND
REBUILT MOST OF IT.

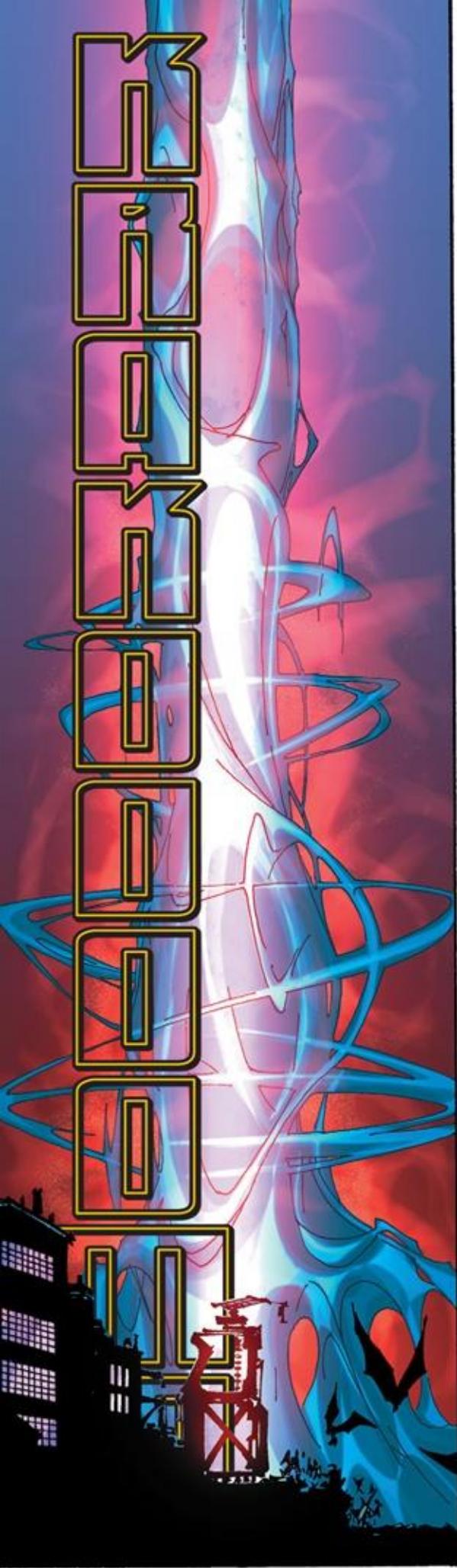
IT CAN SAVE
MY SON'S LIFE.

IT
HAS
TO.



YOUR LOGIN NAME
HERE FOR RECENT
BATTLES ON YOUR MINI
GRANTED ACCESS
BDR PAGE NOT FO
MENT COMMENT.COM
LOSE MAIL COMPOSE
MENT DAY # JUDGME
MENT COMMENT.COM
YOUR LOGIN NAME
HERE FOR RECENT







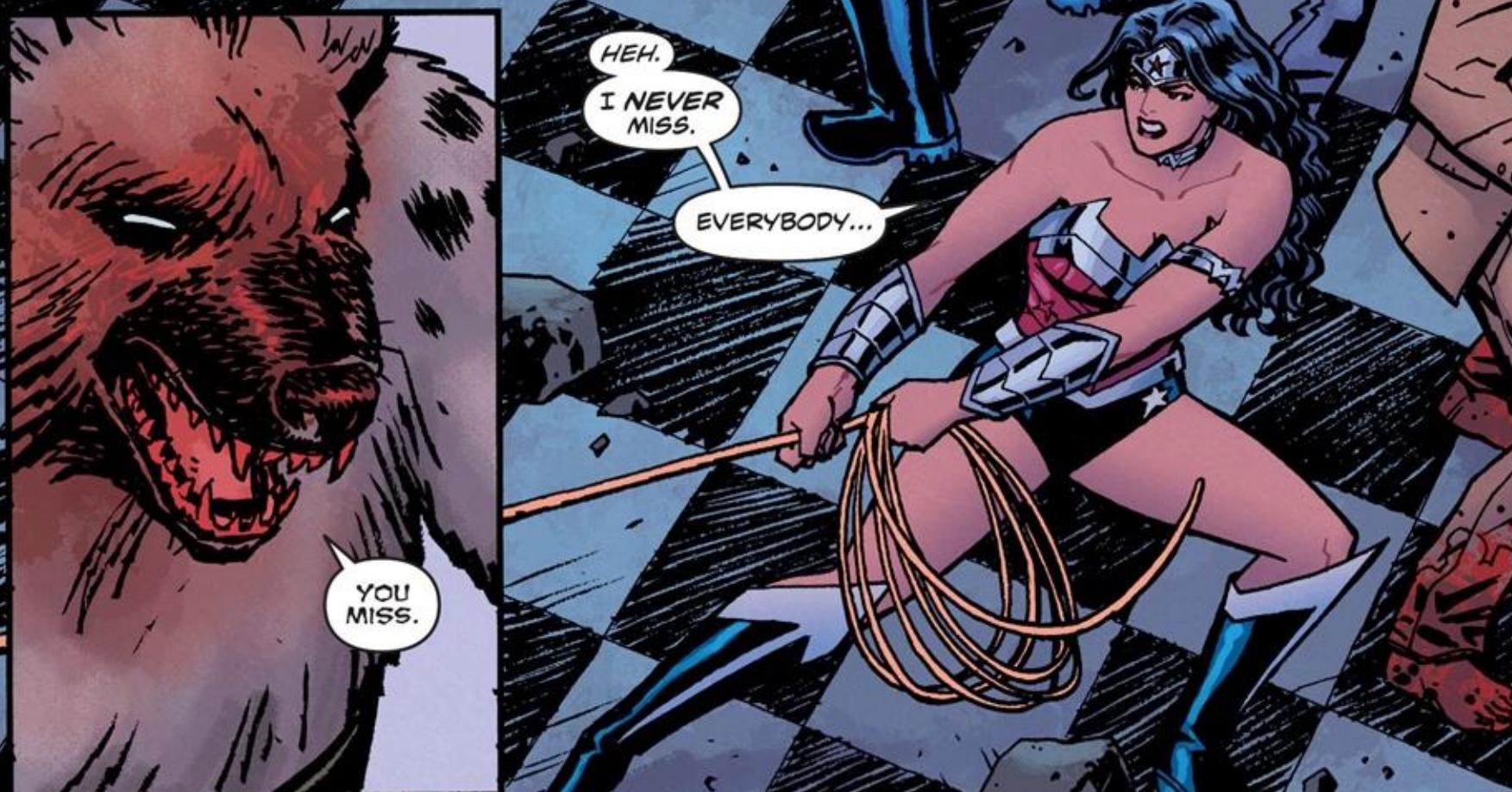
THEY
WERE IN
THE WATER
TOO.

SO
WHO'S IN
CHARGE
HERE?

I VOTE
ME.

END





WAHOOOM

DUCK!

GODDOWN

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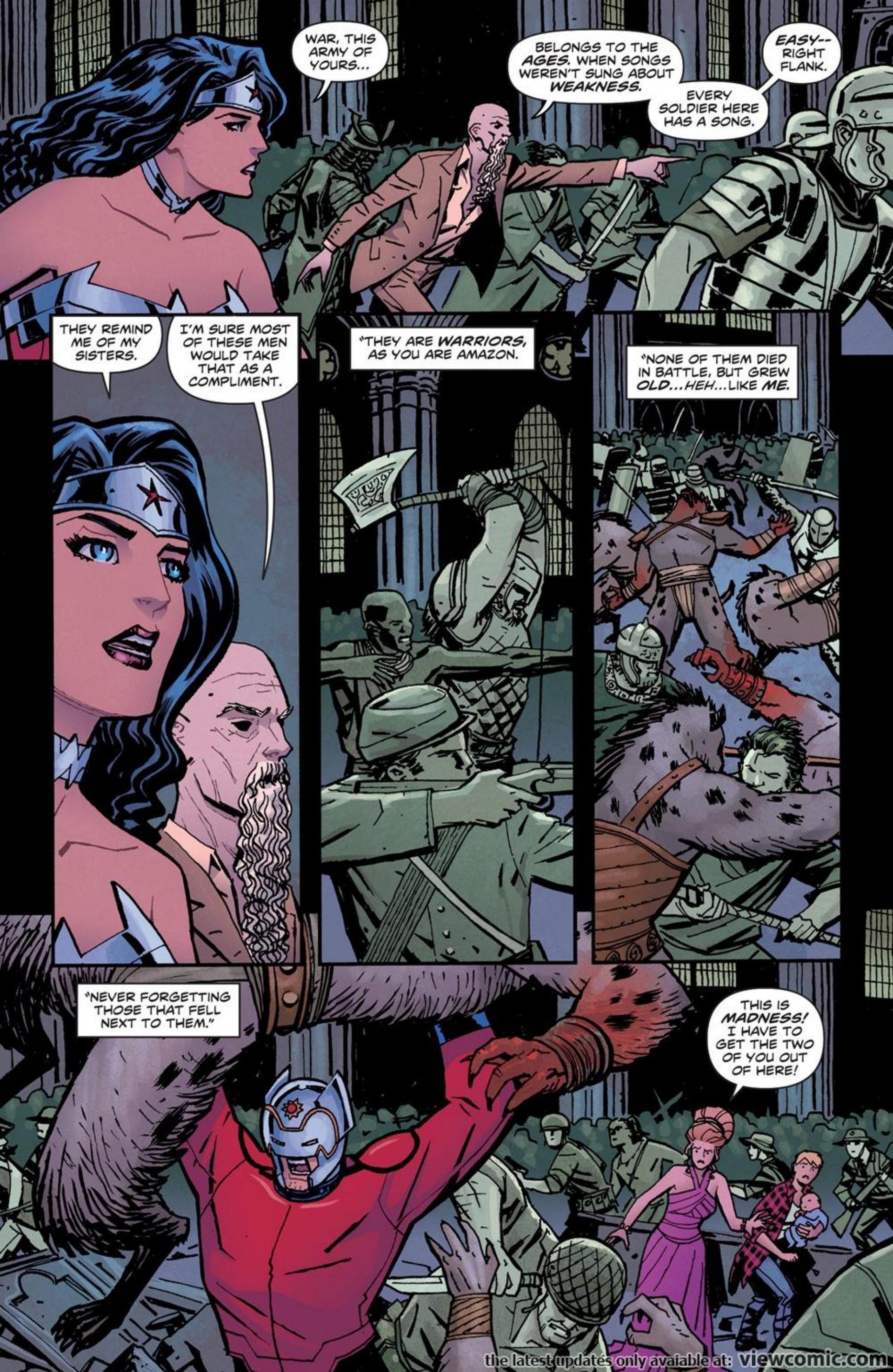
WONDER WOMAN created by
WILLIAM MOULTON MARSTON

YES, WONDER WOMAN...
FIGHTING FOR YOUR
FAMILY IS GOOD. BUT
WHAT'S BETTER...





ALL
OF THEM.













THOOM

WHATEVER HORRIBLE FATE ZEUS DAMNED YOU TO, IT WASN'T HALF OF WHAT YOU DESERVE!



YOU
JUST
DID.

GAZE AT
YOUR MIRROR...
SEE WHAT YOU'RE
CAPABLE OF...



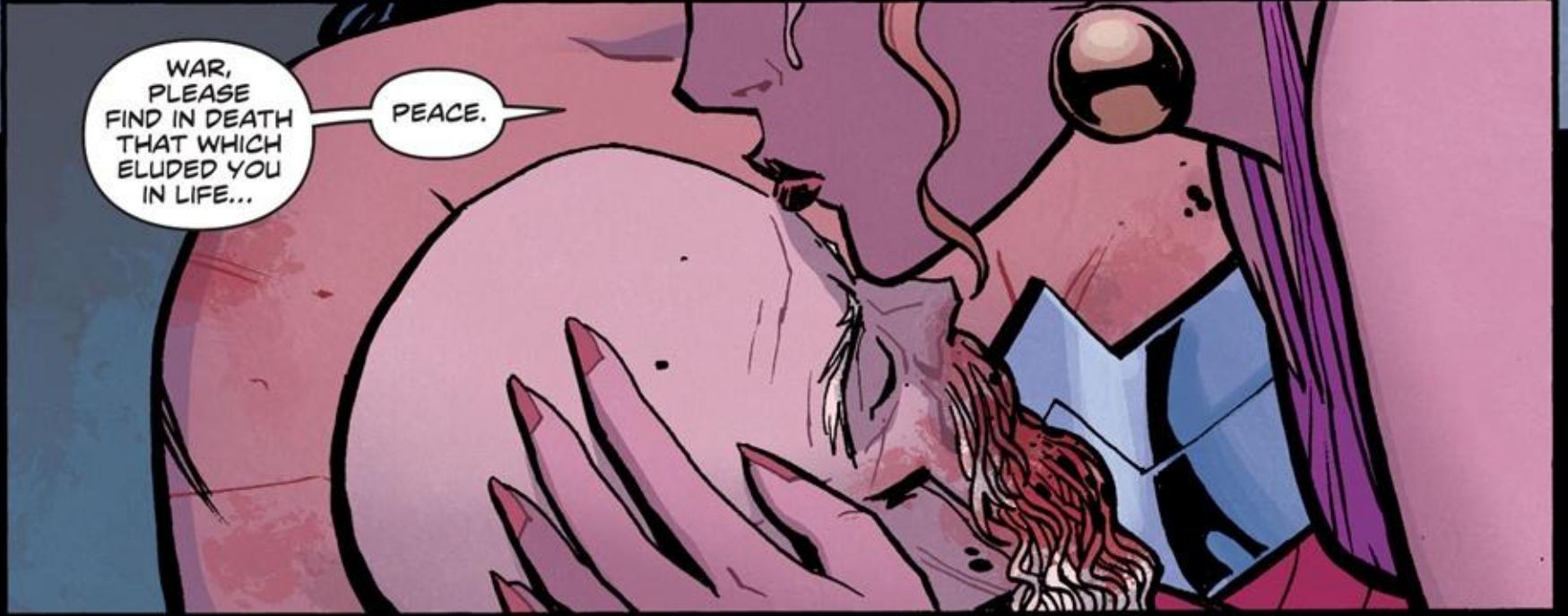
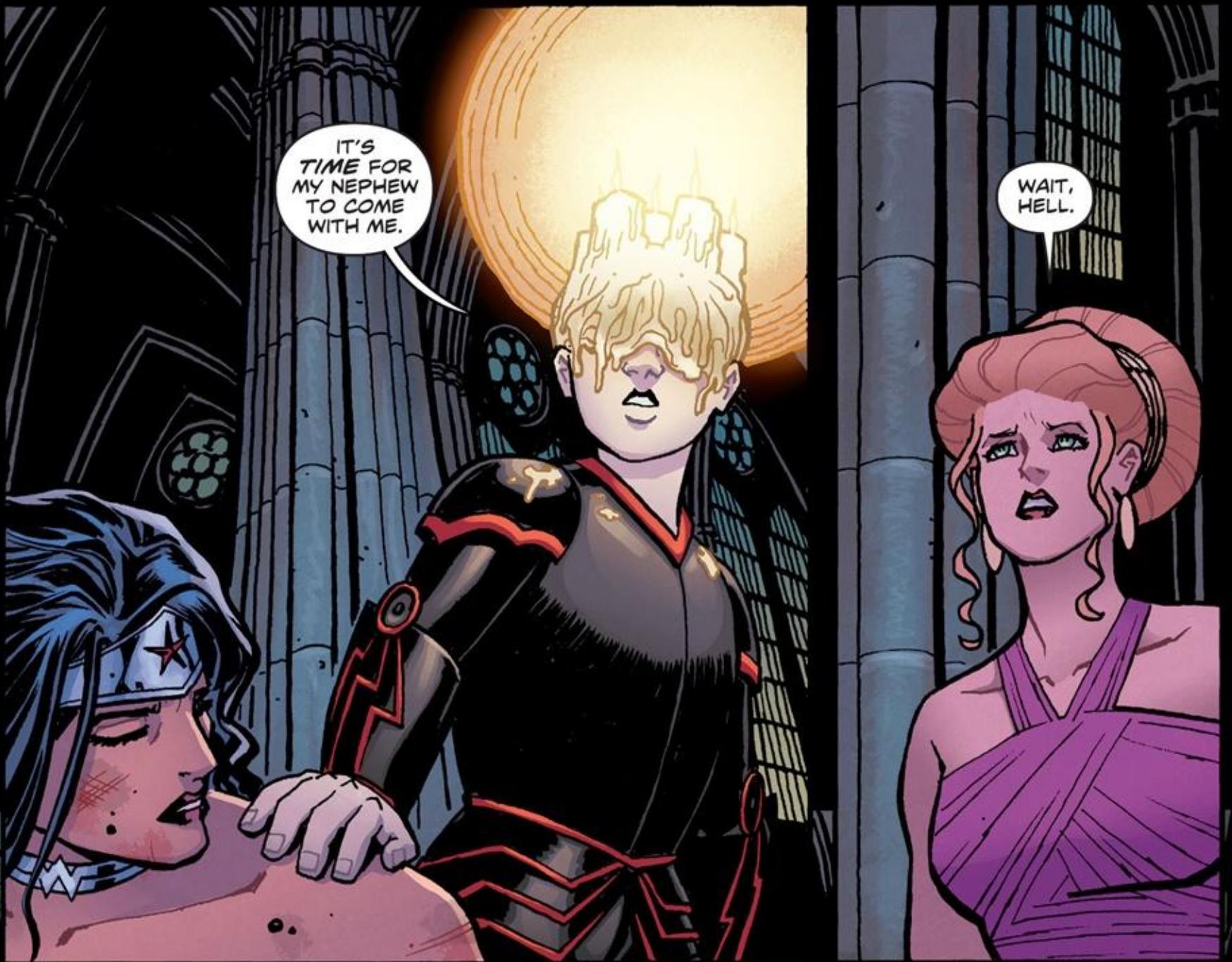
















END