



**THE CONTEST BEGINS!**

# WONDER WOMAN

WONDER WOMAN

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BY THE  
COMICS  
CODE  
 AUTHORITY

LOEBS  
DEODATO

BOLLAND





I've lived my life in Pirate-ways,  
My eyes against the wind,  
But I would give up all I am.  
To Homeward gaze again.

--BERYL SAMUALS

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# Homeward Gazings

EMPTY. SILENT.

THERE SHOULD BE SWIMMERS  
HERE, THIS TIME OF DAY, AND  
WATER-BEARERS AND...

A FLASH  
OF LIGHT?

SHE HAD FOUGHT THE HADES-  
SPAWNED HORDES OF CIRCE  
TO FREE THEMYSIRA FROM  
HER ENCHANTMENTS... BUT  
IF NO ONE WAS LEFT ALIVE,  
WHERE WAS THE VICTORY?



VIOLENCE ON  
THEMYSICRA?  
WHAT MADNESS  
WAS THIS?

SHE HAD HEARD  
LEGENDS OF THE  
BATTLES THE  
AMAZONS HAD  
FOUGHT, OF  
COURSE. BUT TO  
ACTUALLY BE  
ATTACKED HERE...!

THIS WAS AMAZONIAN CRAFTING.  
PERHAPS ENEMIES HAD SEIZED THE  
ISLAND. IT HAD VANISHED FOR MONTHS.  
ANYTHING MIGHT HAVE HAPPENED.

SOMEONE HAD STOOD HERE...  
SOMEONE WHO WANTED HER  
DEAD. A WOMAN...

FOOTFALLS. SOMEONE  
WAS COMING.



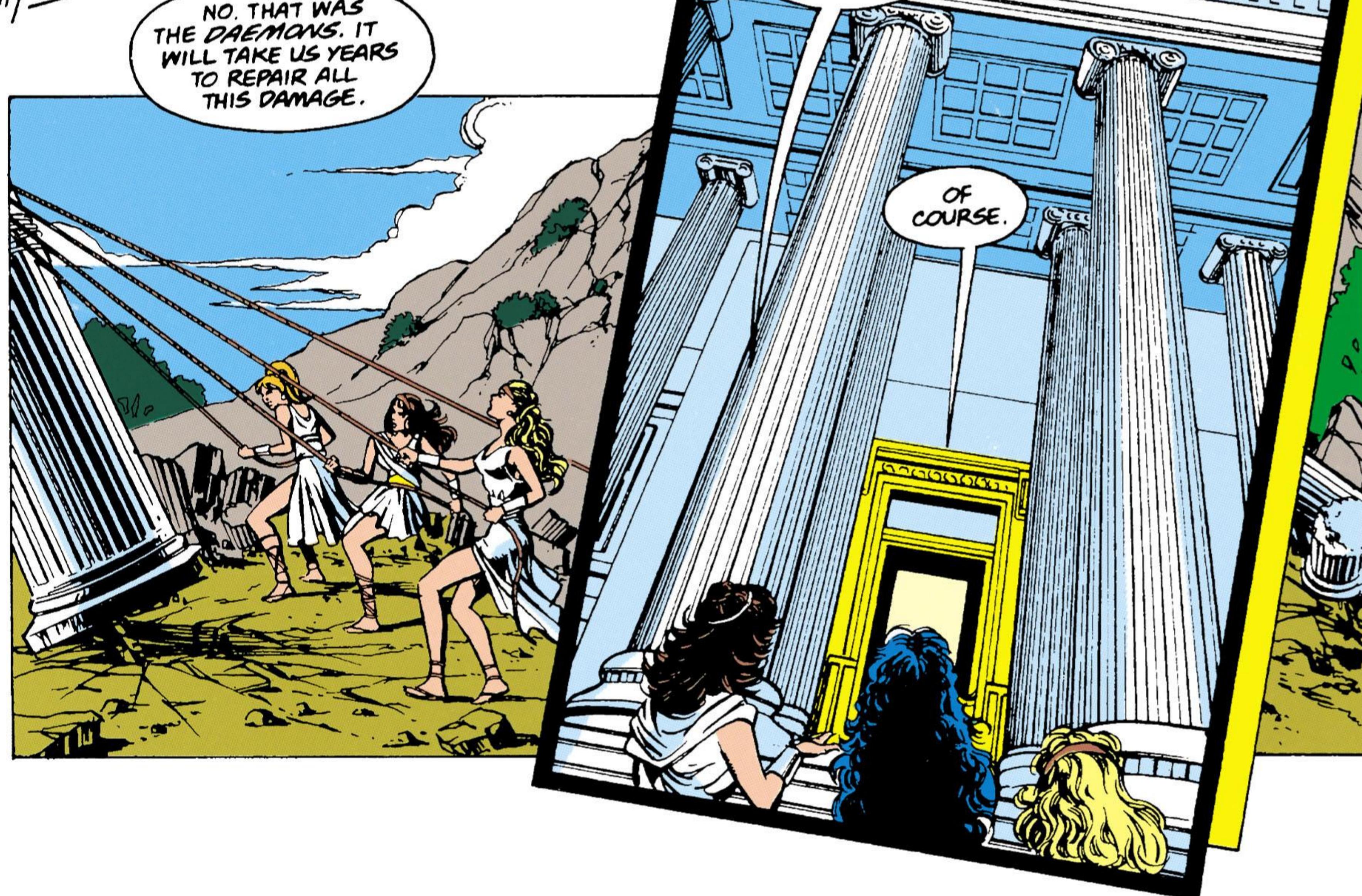
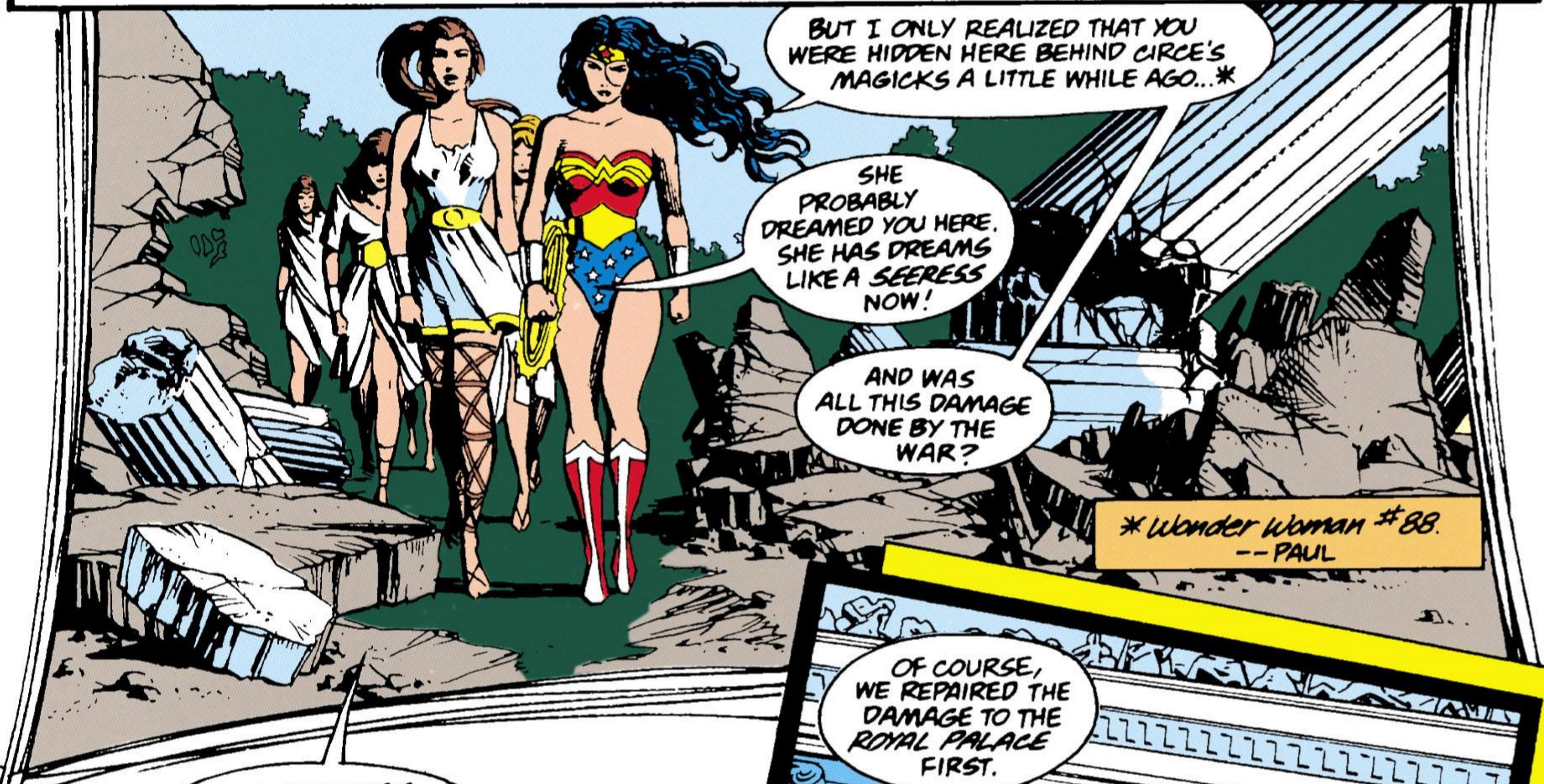
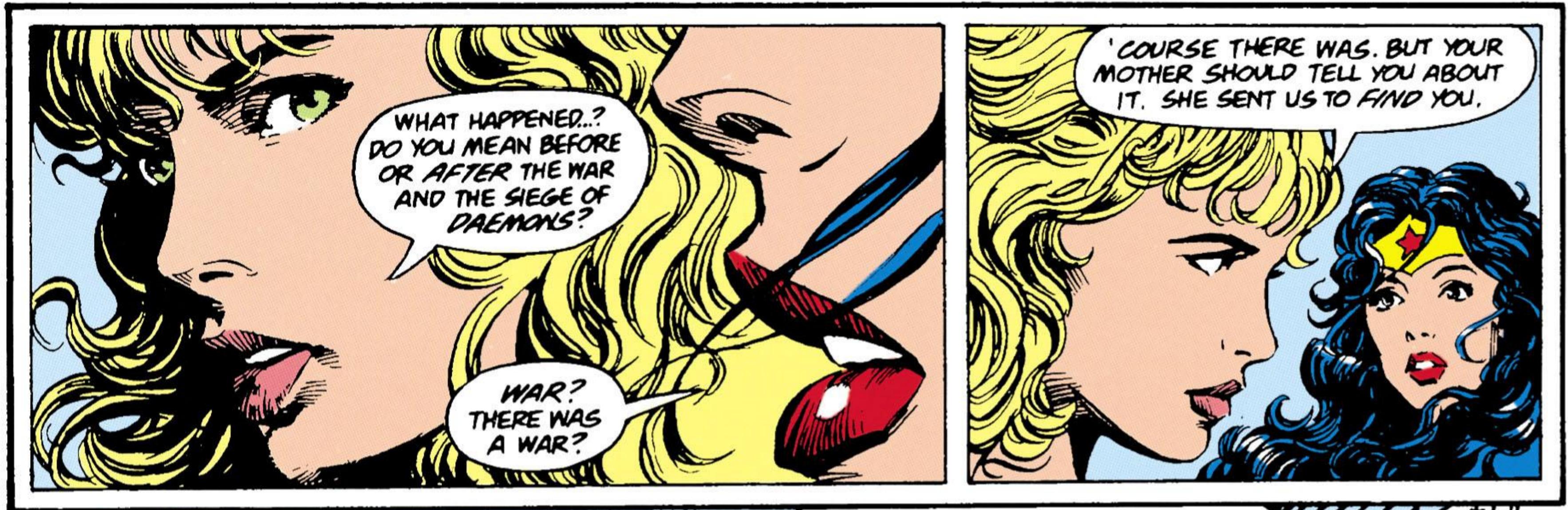
DIANA!

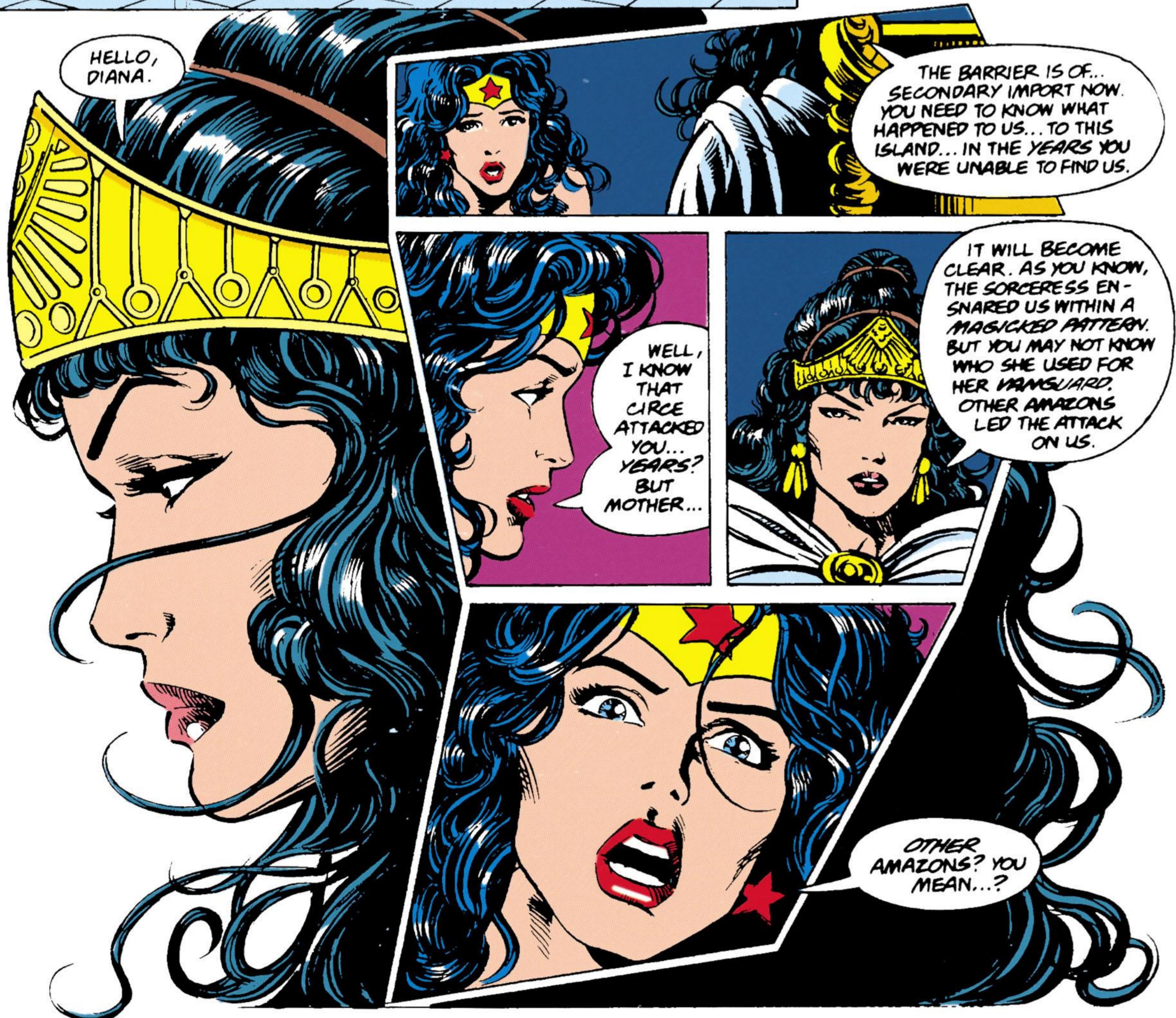
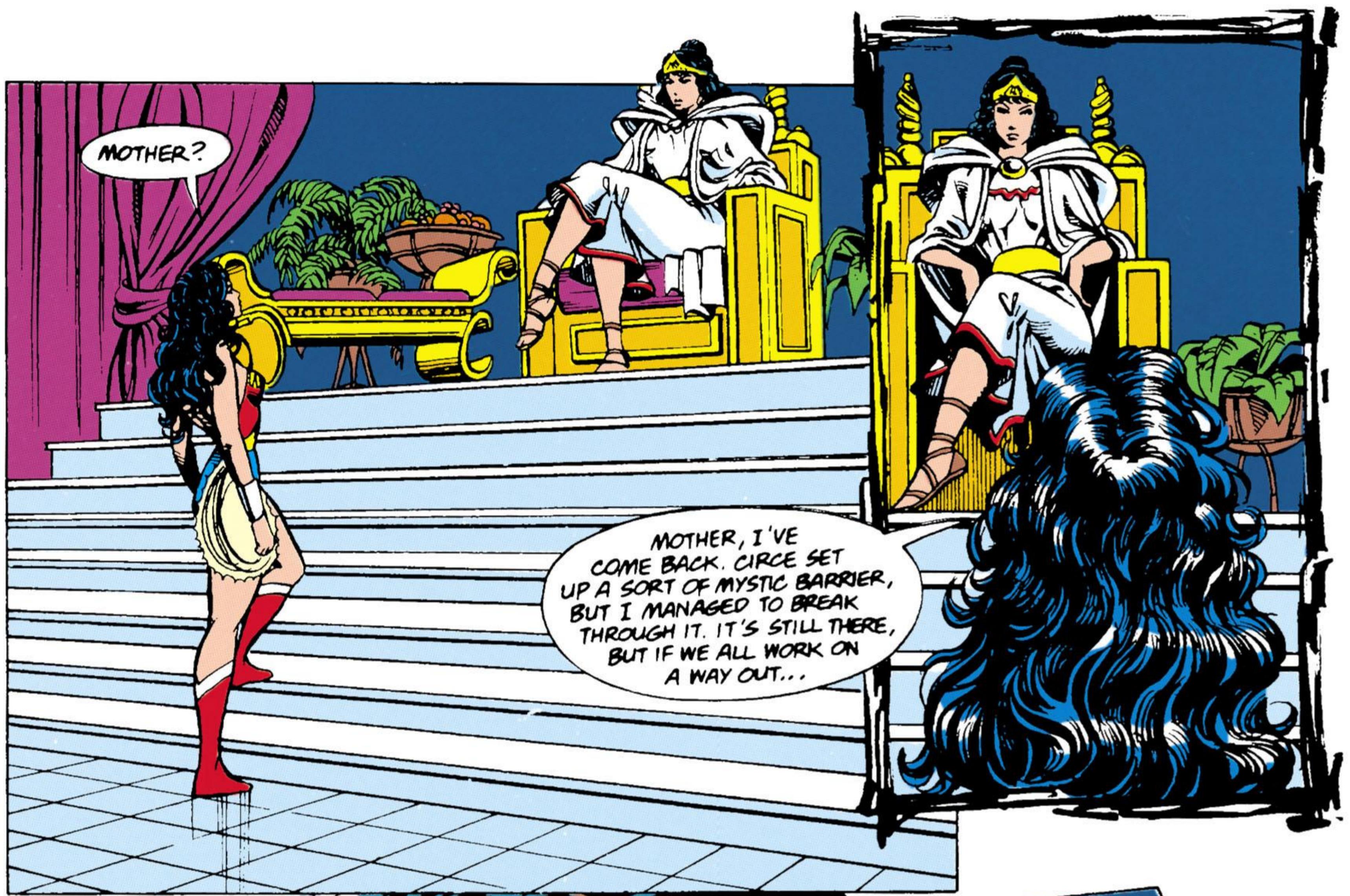
PRINCESS!

YOU'VE  
COME! YOU'VE  
SAVED US!

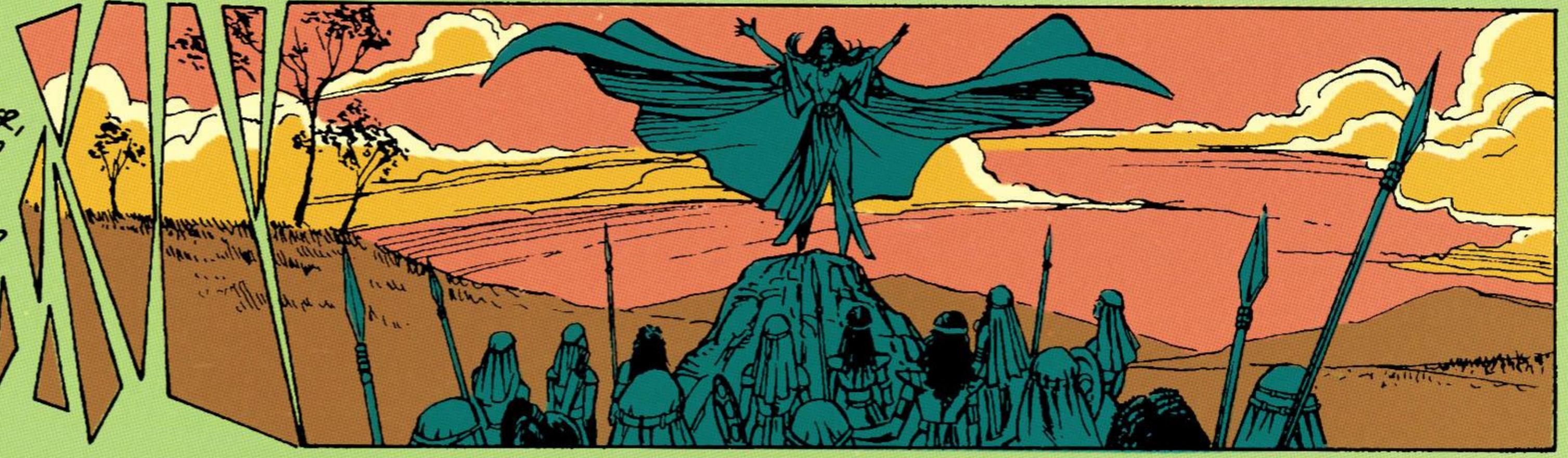


MALA! HELEN!  
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?  
WHAT HAPPENED  
HERE?





YES, THE TRIBE, LED BY MY POOR SISTER, WHO WENT INTO PATRIARCH'S WORLD AND WAS CORRUPTED BY ITS VIOLENCE AND HATREDS.



FOR TOO LONG THEY HAD BEEN SEPARATED FROM US, THEIR DIFFERENCES GROWING... THEIR LONELINESS TURNING TO RESENTMENT... THEIR ENVY TURNING TO RAGE!



WHAT DID CIRCE OFFER THEM? REVENGE? TERRITORY? WE WILL NEVER KNOW, EXACTLY. BUT IT WORKED. THEY AGREED TO BE HER CREATURES.



THEY STILL HAD TRADITIONS ABOUT THE CITY... AND ITS SECRET VULNERABILITIES...



WE WERE CAUGHT UTTERLY OFF-GUARD, LIKE SHEEP. AS WE HAD BEEN SO MANY YEARS BEFORE BY HERCULES' MEN...

AND THE SLAUGHTER BEGAN.

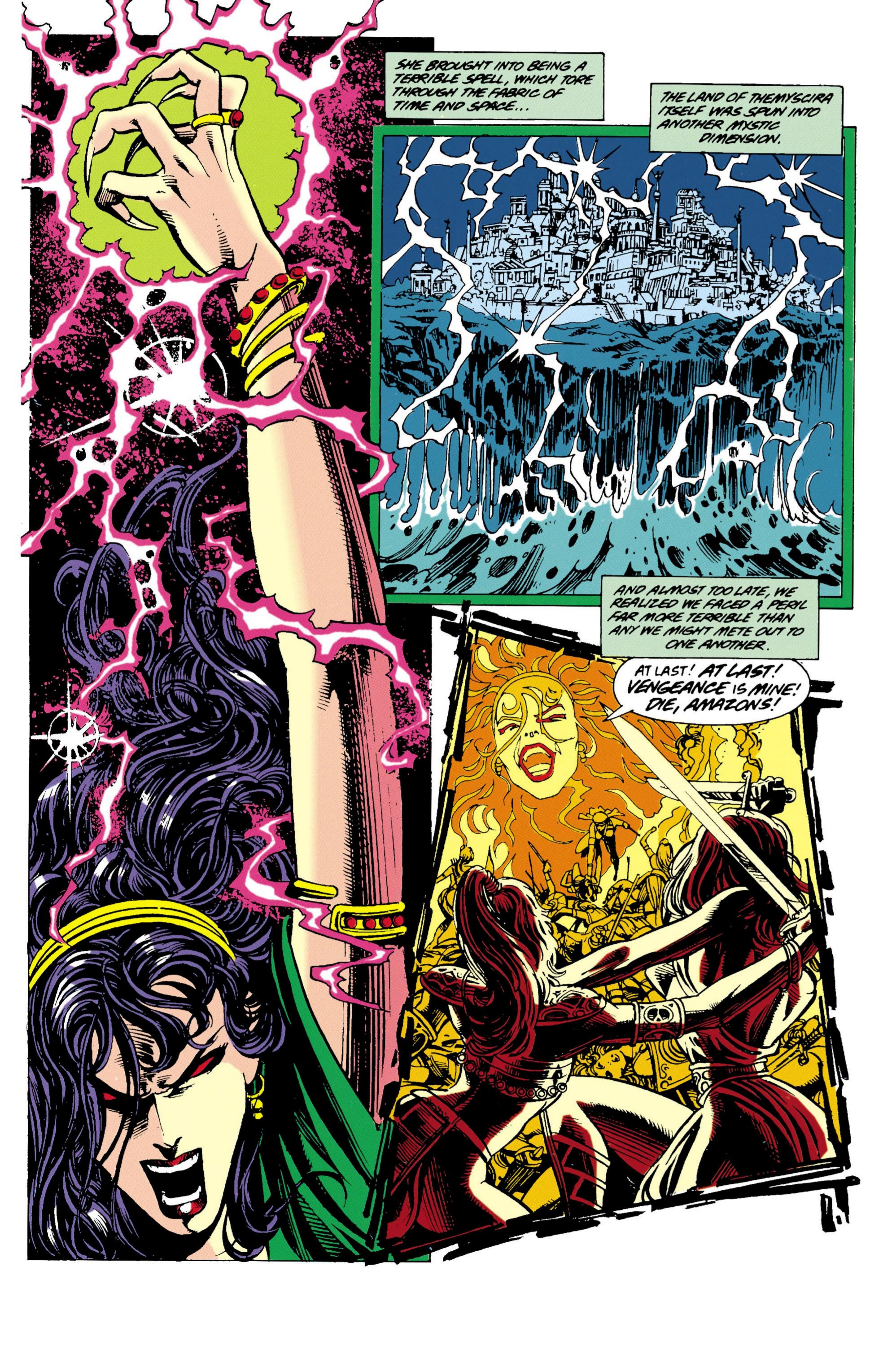


THE BATTLE LASTED WITHOUT STOP FOR TWO DAYS.

THERE WAS HARDLY ONE AMAZON ON EITHER SIDE WITHOUT A WOUND. AFTER THE INITIAL SURPRISE, WE WERE EVENLY MATCHED AND NEITHER SIDE COULD FIND AN ADVANTAGE.

ALL OF OUR COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT WAS FUSSED, DOUBTLESS BY CIRCE. NOTHING REMAINED FOR US BUT TO CONQUER... OR DIE.

BUT THAT WAS ONLY THE FIRST PART OF CIRCE'S PLAN. SHE HAD NEVER INTENDED TO PLAY FAIR, EVEN WITH HER ALLIES. SHE MEANT THERE TO BE NOT ONE AMAZON LEFT ALIVE AFTER THAT DAY.



SHE BROUGHT INTO BEING A  
TERRIBLE SPELL, WHICH TORE  
THROUGH THE FABRIC OF  
TIME AND SPACE...

THE LAND OF THEMYSCIRA  
ITSELF WAS SPUN INTO  
ANOTHER MYSTIC  
DIMENSION.

AND ALMOST TOO LATE, WE  
REALIZED WE FACED A PERIL  
FAR MORE TERRIBLE THAN  
ANY WE MIGHT METE OUT TO  
ONE ANOTHER.

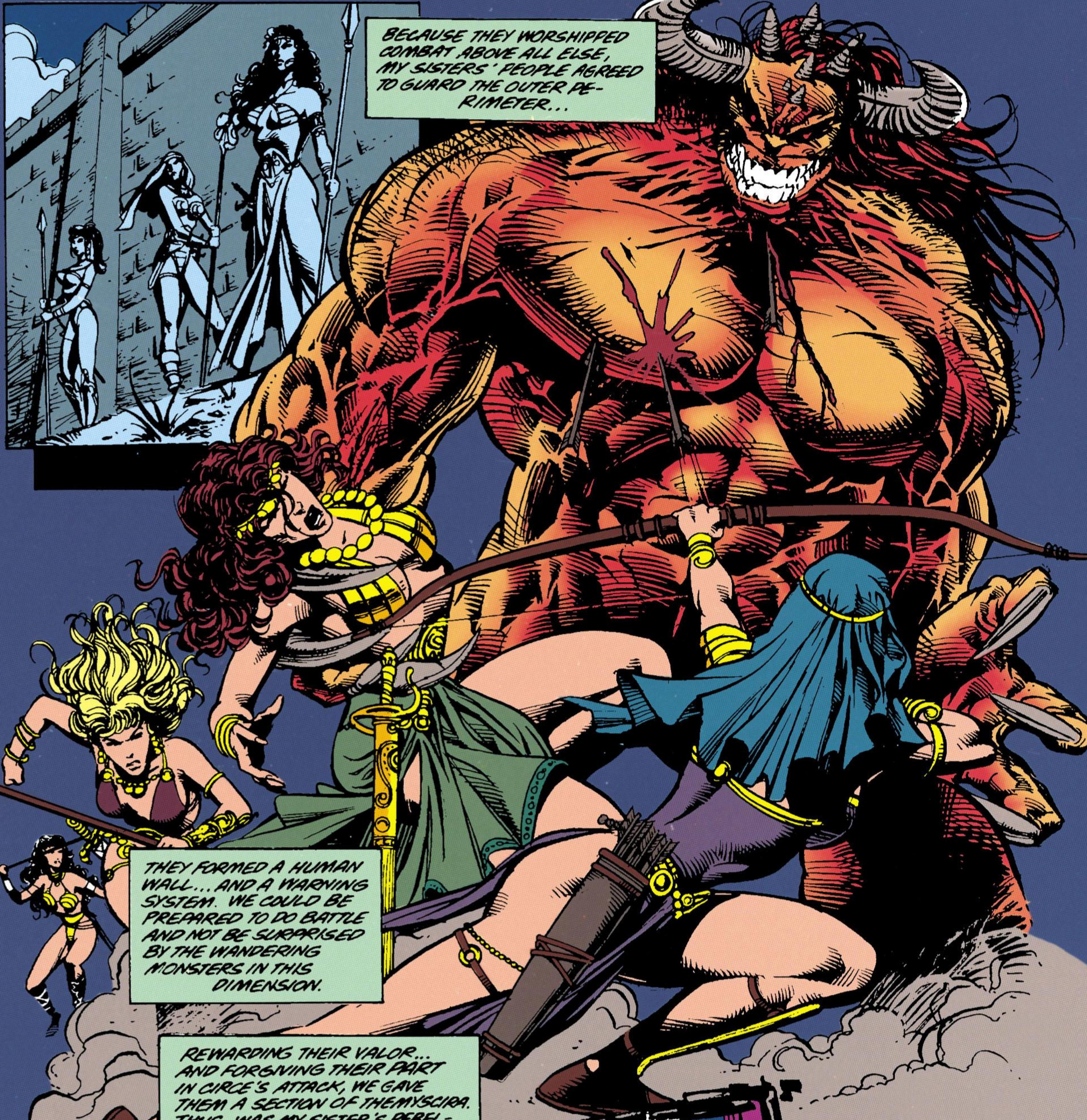
AT LAST! AT LAST!  
VENGEANCE IS MINE!  
DIE, AMAZONS!

CIRCE HAD TRANSPORTED US TO A DIMENSION OF MONSTERS. IT WAS A TERRIBLE DOOM, FORCING US TO DIE, NOT IN CLEAN BATTLE, BUT AT THE POISONED CLAWS OF DAEMONS!

FORMER ENEMIES NOW FOUGHT TOGETHER, BOUND BY COMMON BLOOD AND HUMAN FEAR...

THE CREATURES WERE MORTAL. THEY COULD BE SLAIN.

WE SLEPT IN SHIFTS, SHARED BATTLE LIKE SISTERS, AND CAME AT LAST TO KNOW A MEASURE OF TRUST IN ONE ANOTHER. THE SIEGE LASTED FOR WEEKS, BUT, AT LAST, THE MONSTERS BROKE... AND RAN. WE HAD PAID A TERRIBLE PRICE, BUT NEVER AGAIN WOULD THEY BE SO BOLD.



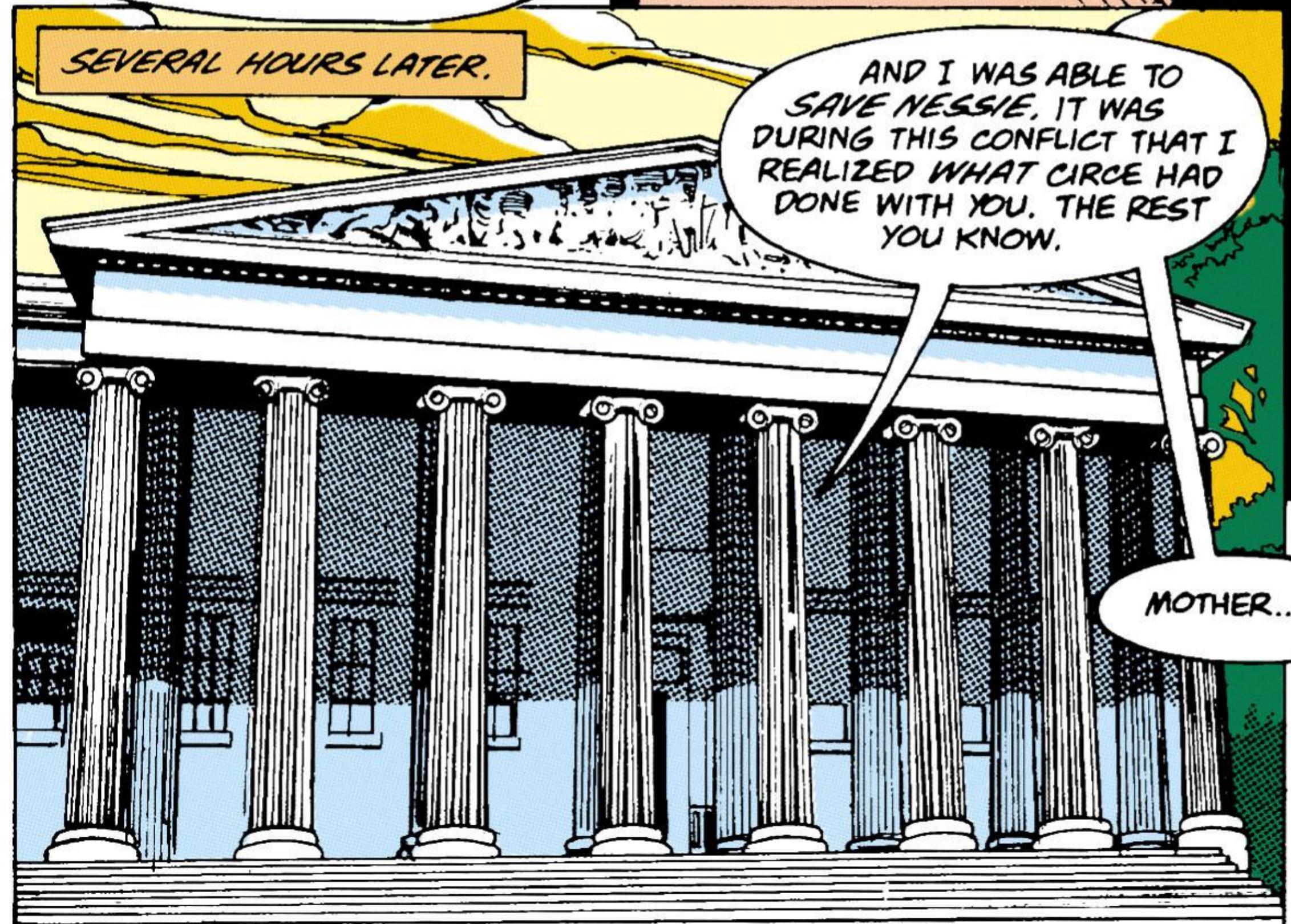
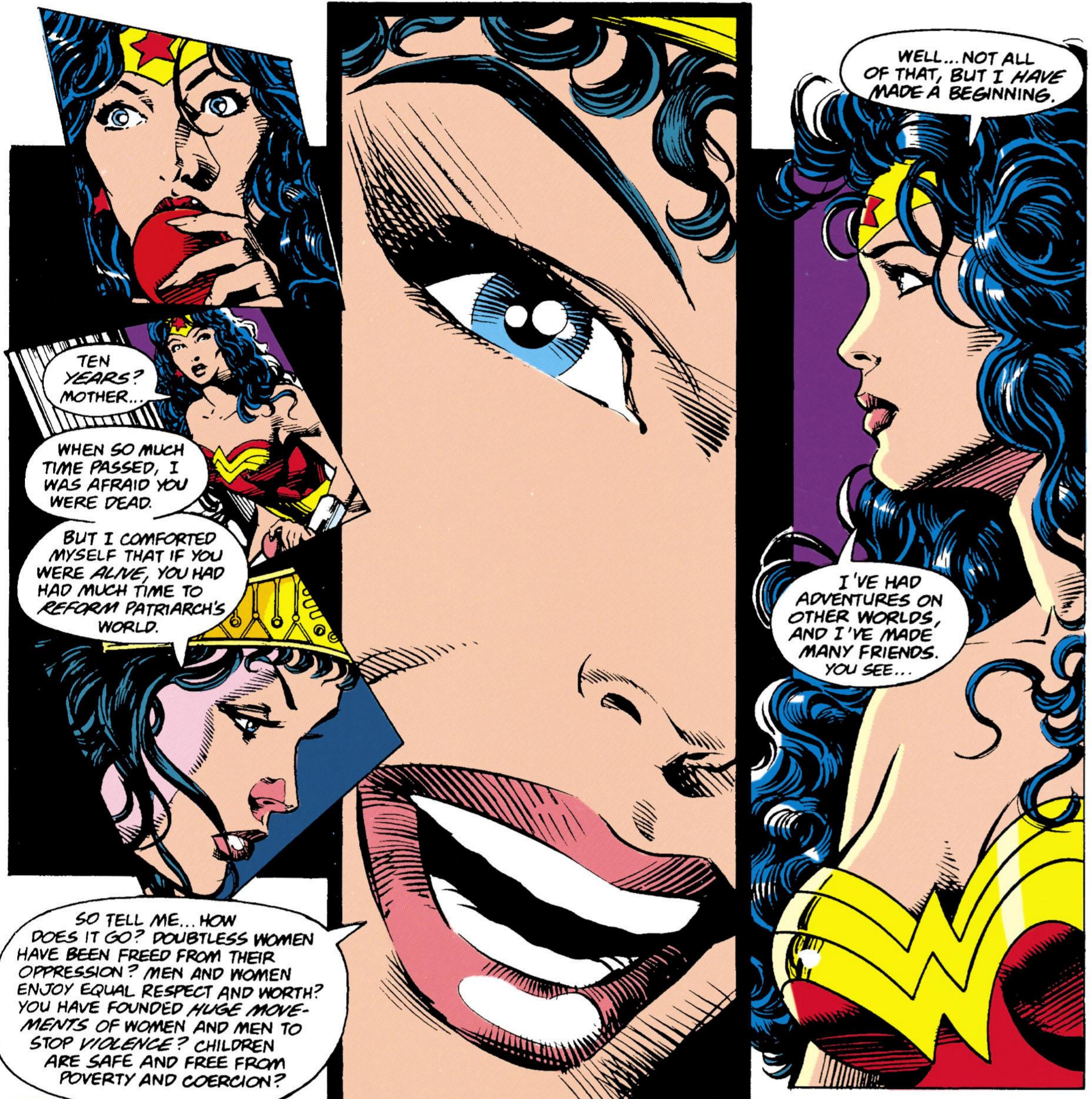
BECAUSE THEY WORSHIPPED COMBAT ABOVE ALL ELSE, MY SISTERS' PEOPLE AGREED TO GUARD THE OUTER PERIMETER...

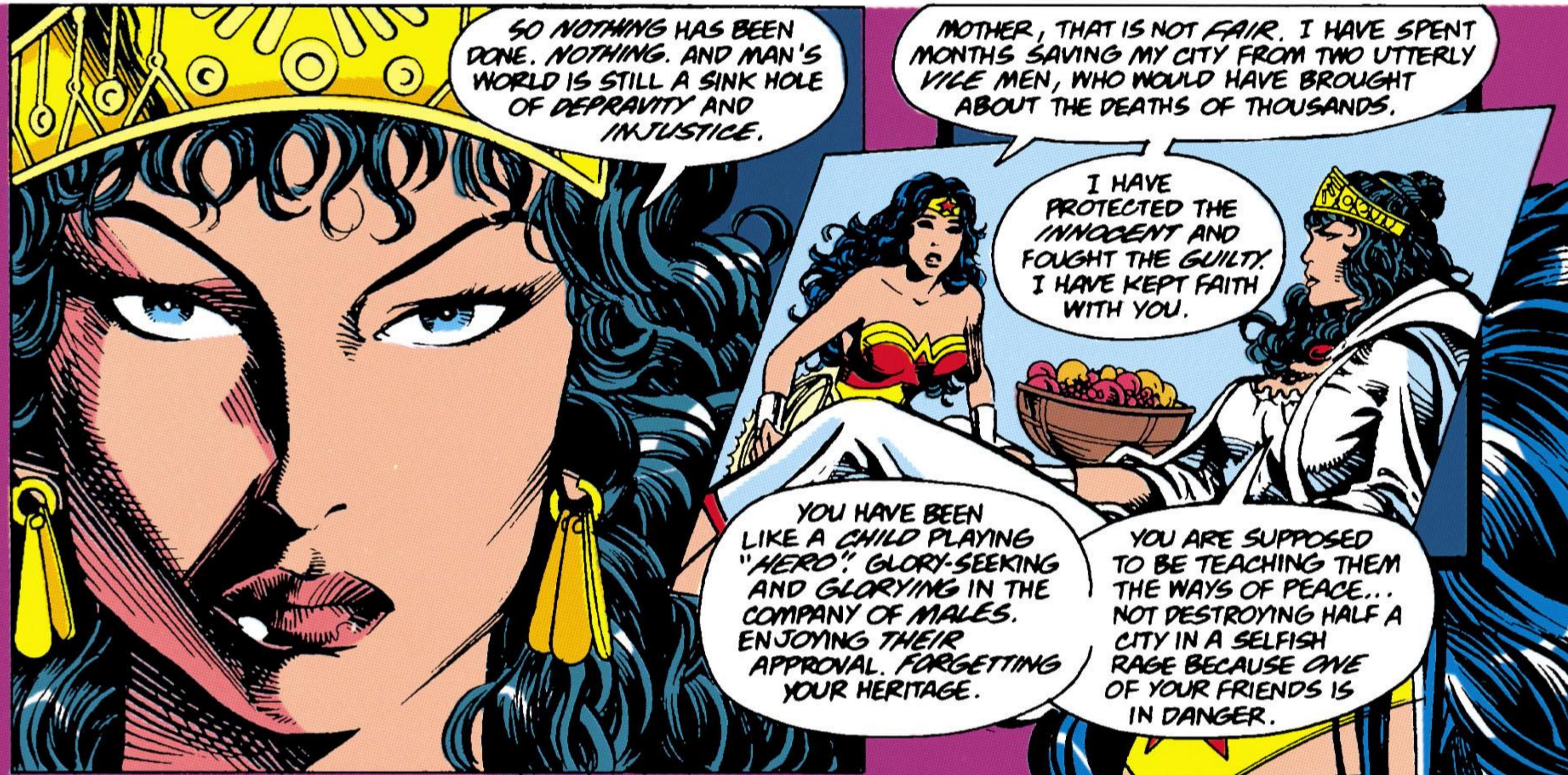
THEY FORMED A HUMAN WALL... AND A WARNING SYSTEM. WE COULD BE PREPARED TO DO BATTLE AND NOT BE SURPRISED BY THE WANDERING MONSTERS IN THIS DIMENSION.

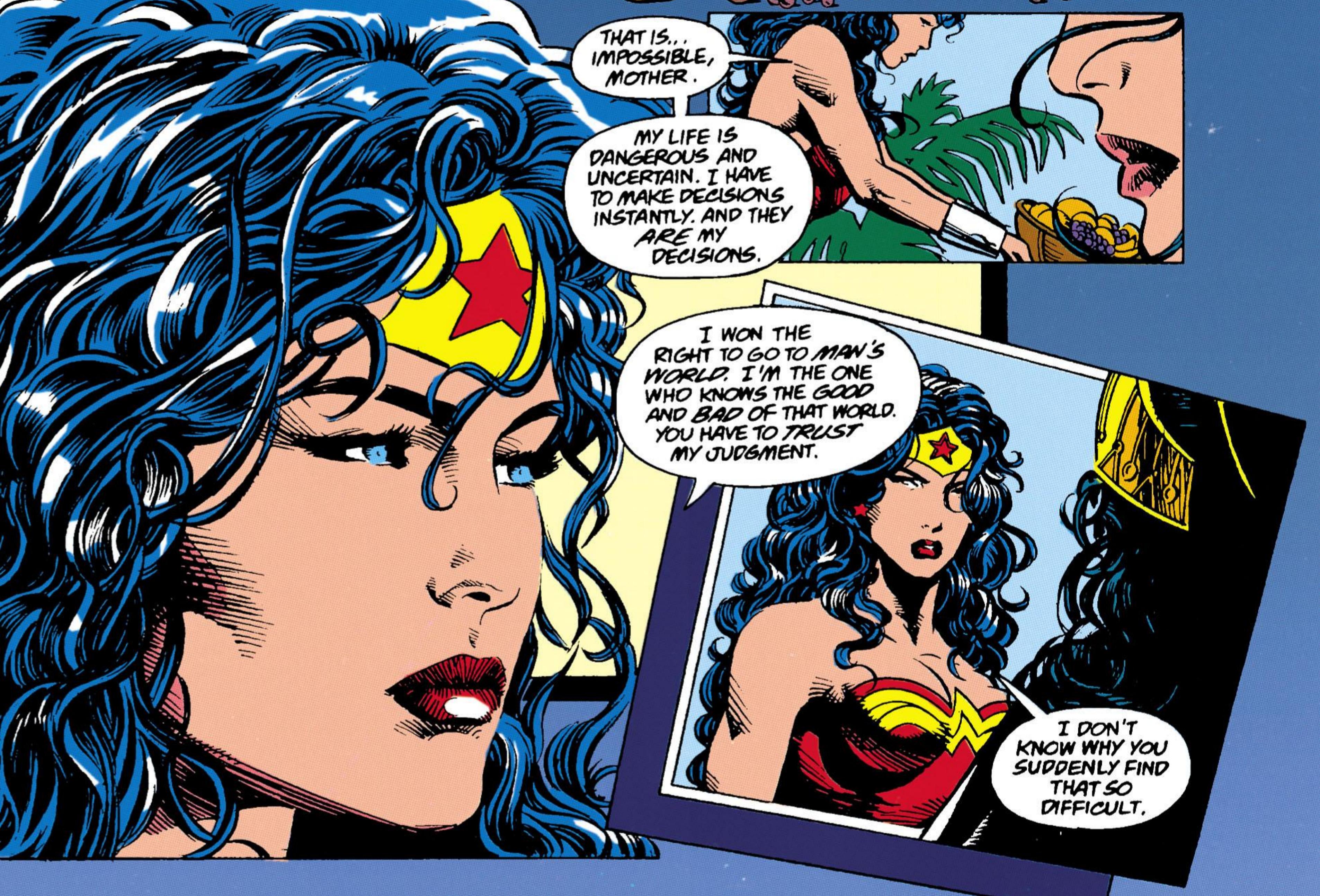
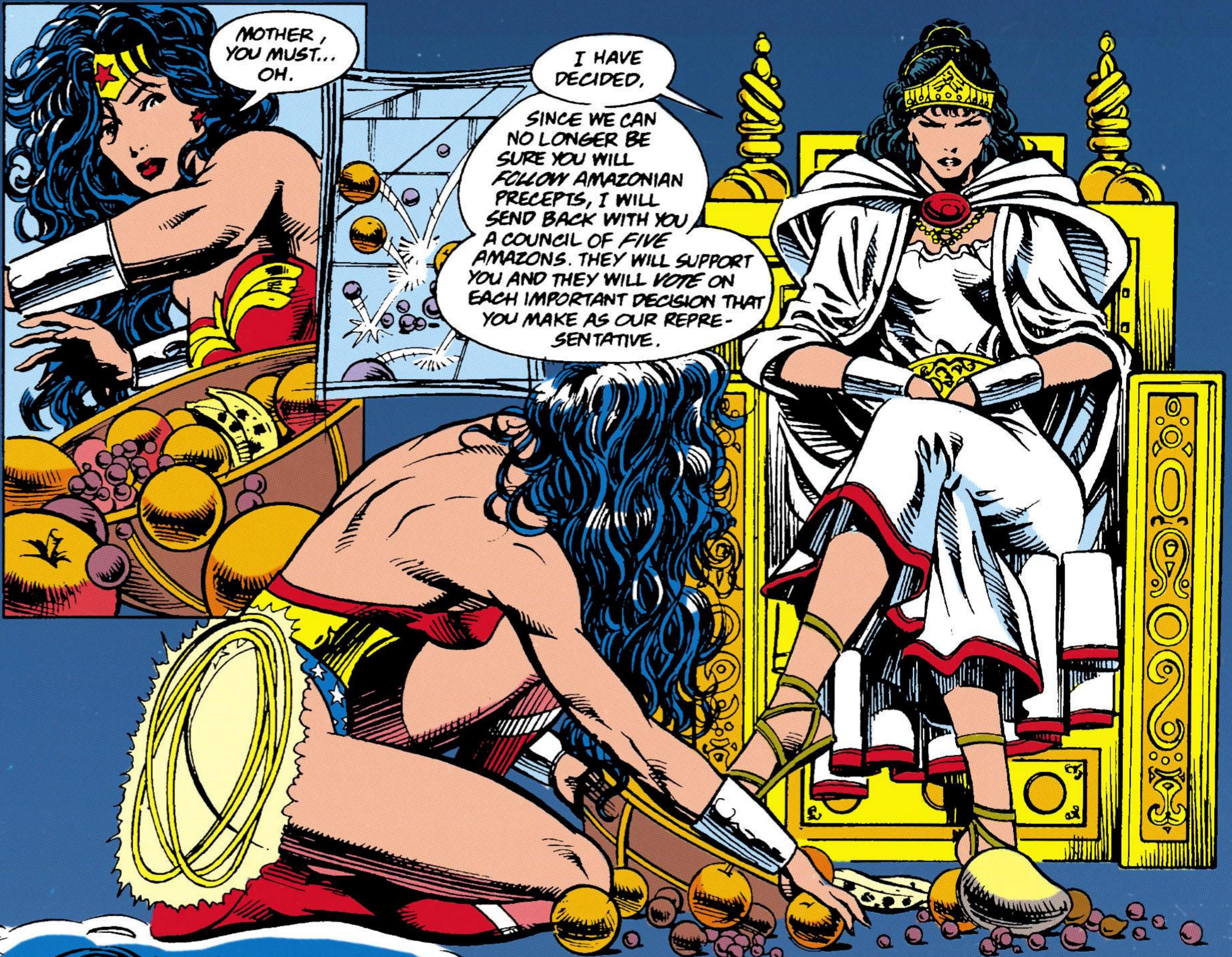
REWARDING THEIR VALOR... AND FORGIVING THEIR PART IN CIRCE'S ATTACK, WE GAVE THEM A SECTION OF THEMYSCIRA. THUS, WAS MY SISTER'S REBELLION UNDONE... AND THE AMAZON RACE REUNITED.

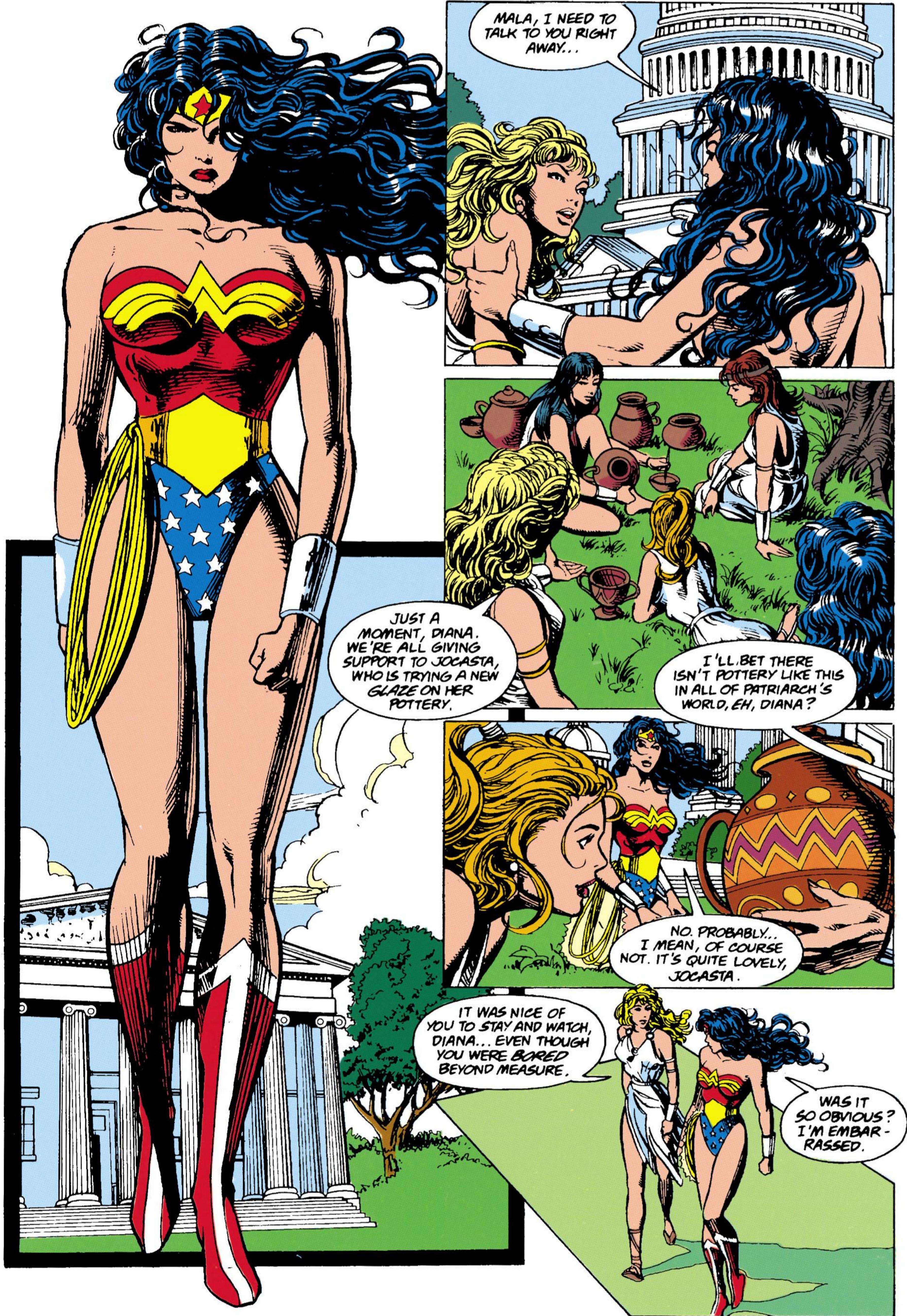
THAT SEEMS LIKE SO MUCH TO HAVE HAPPENED IN THE MONTHS SINCE YOU VANISHED.











I USED TO LOVE TO WATCH JOCASTA'S POTTERY-MAKING. NOW, IT SEEMS VERY...

SLOW? WELL, WE ARE ALL IMMORTAL, DIANA. AND YOU'RE NOT. TIME IS OUR FRIEND.

LOOK, IT'S NOON AND HADJA IS COMING BY WITH THE WATER, JUST AS SHE ALWAYS DOES. EVEN WITH THE SIEGE AND THE MONSTERS, NOTHING EVER CHANGES HERE. IT'S COMFORTING.

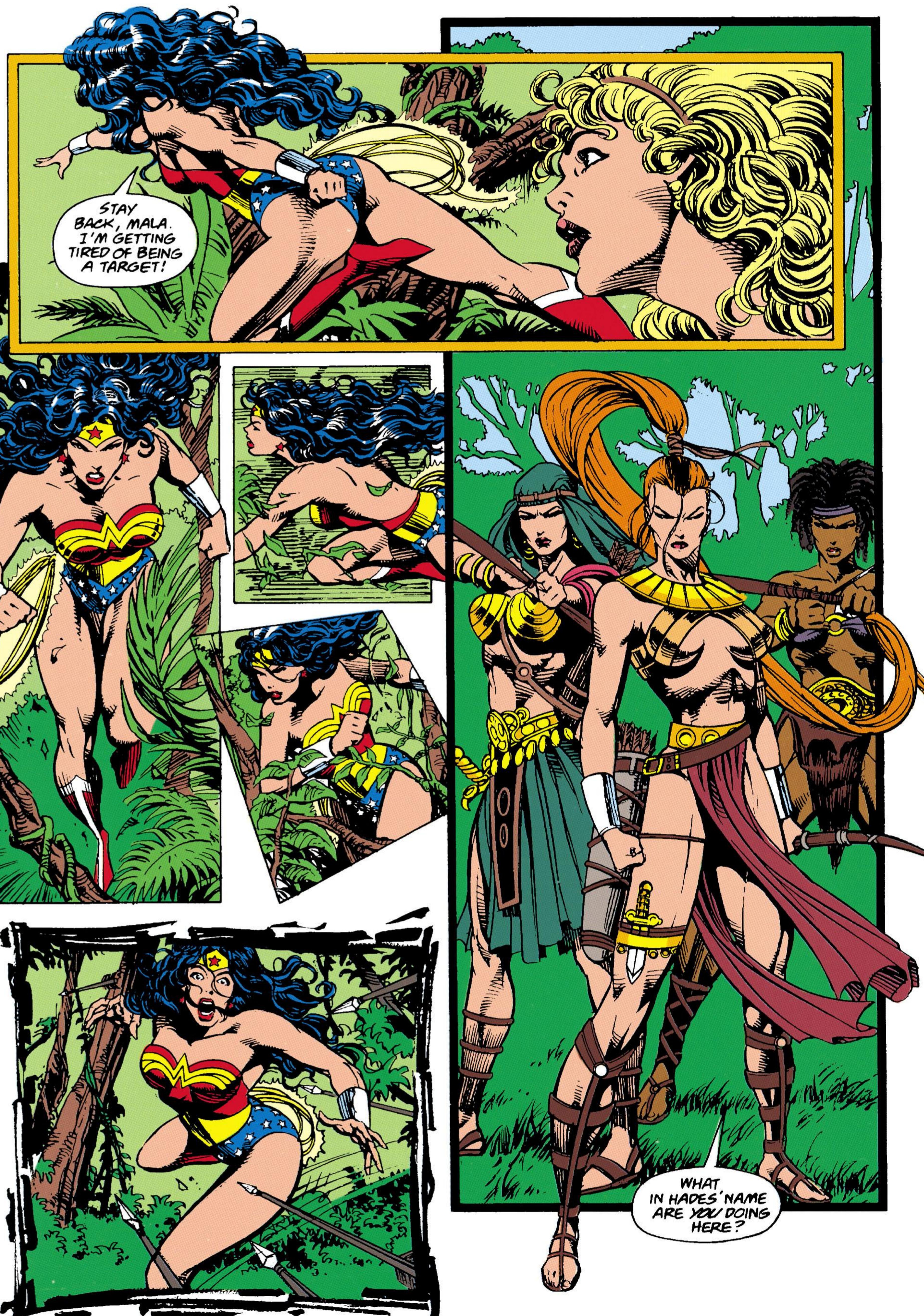
THIS IS MY FAVORITE SPOT. I USED TO SIT BY THIS CEDAR AND RUB THE WORN PLACE ON ITS TRUNK AND JUST THINK ABOUT THINGS.

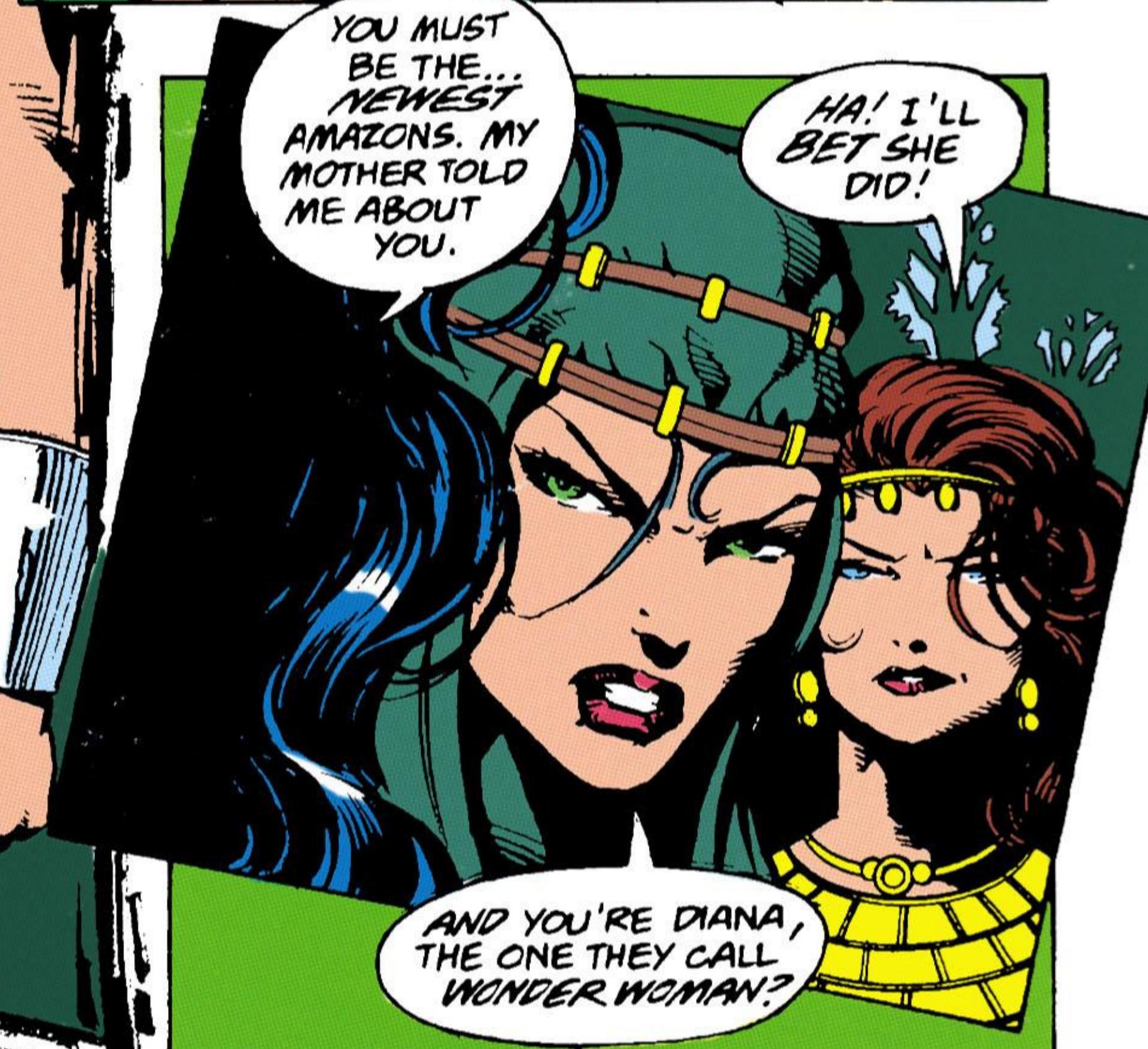
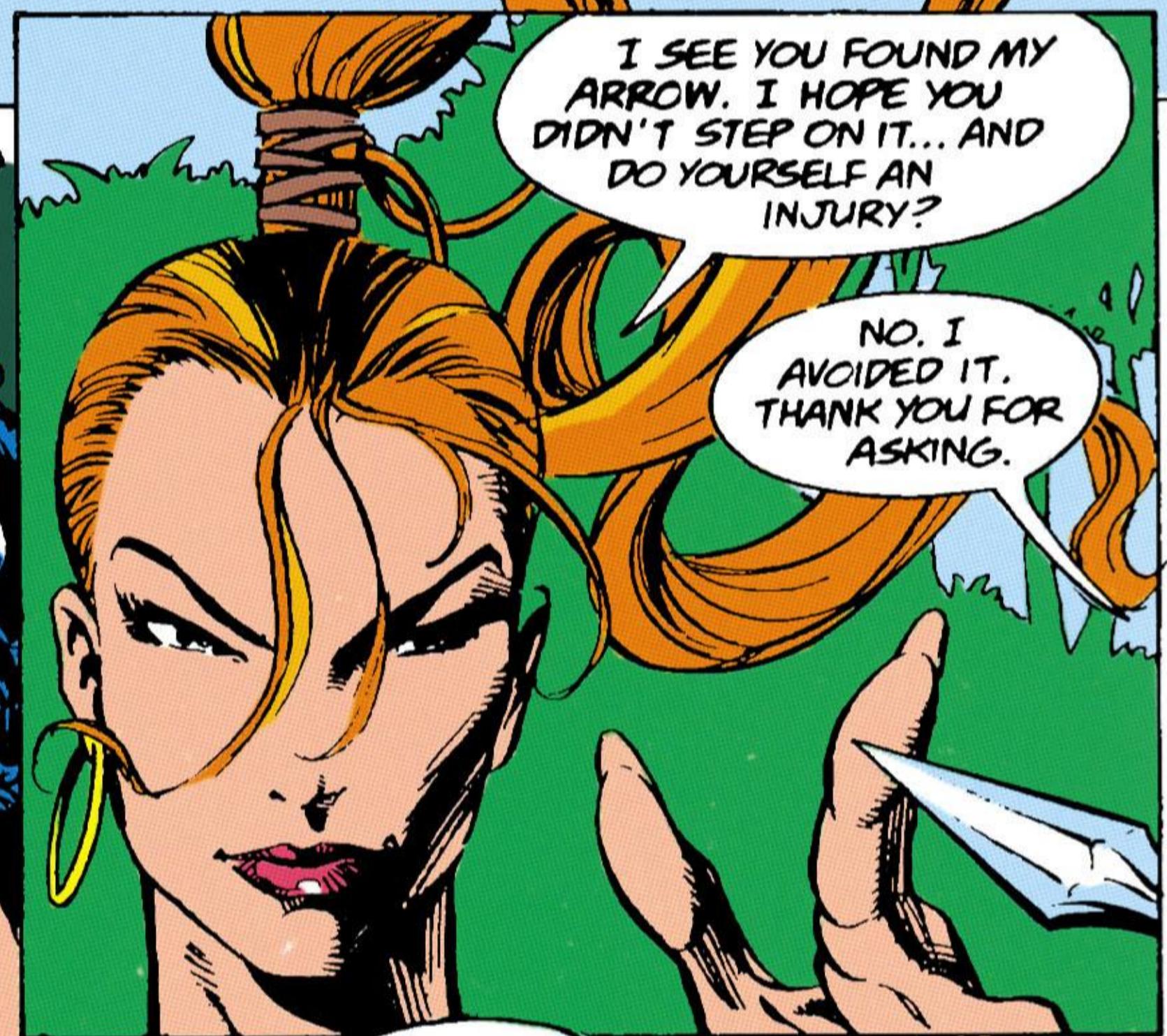
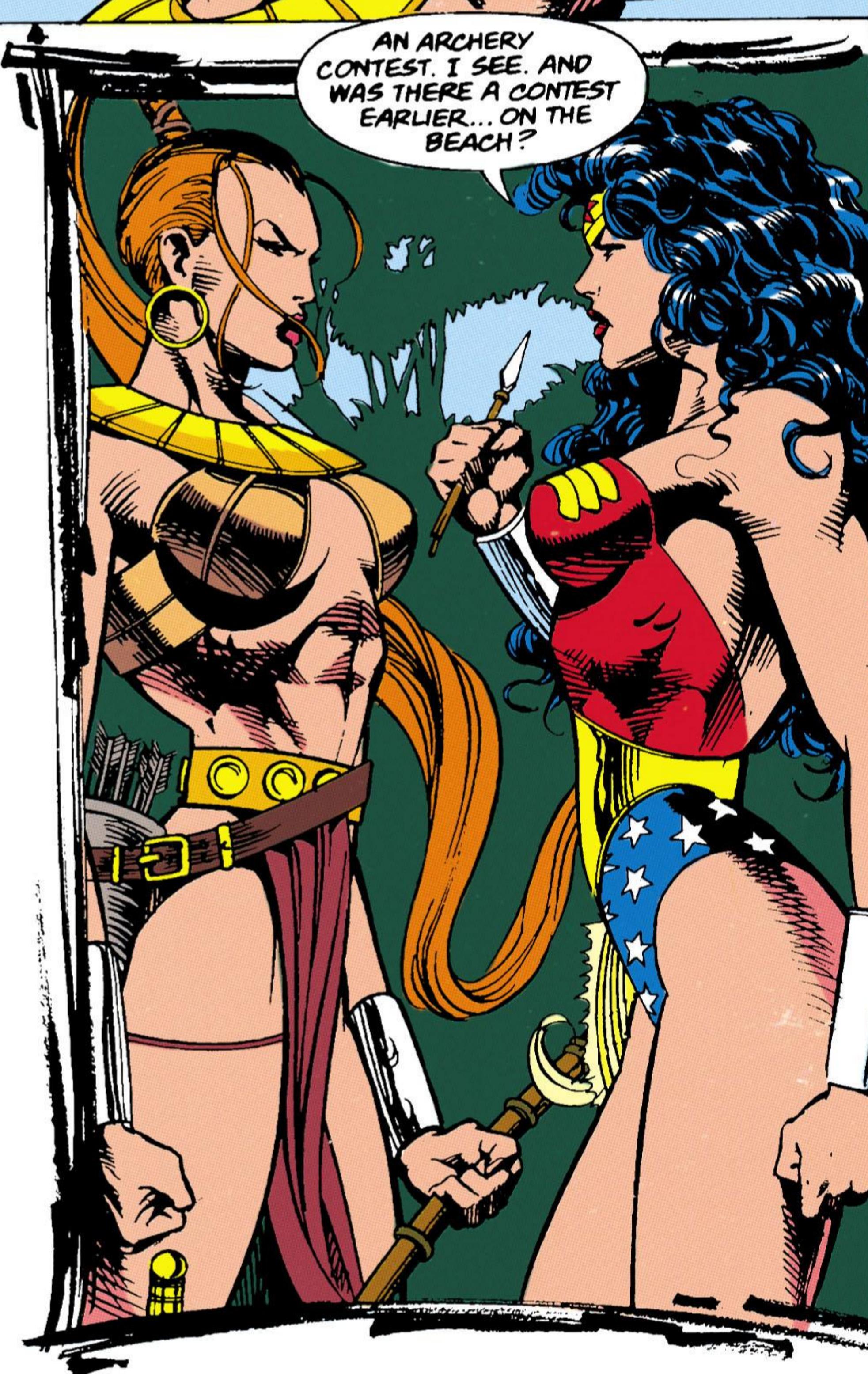
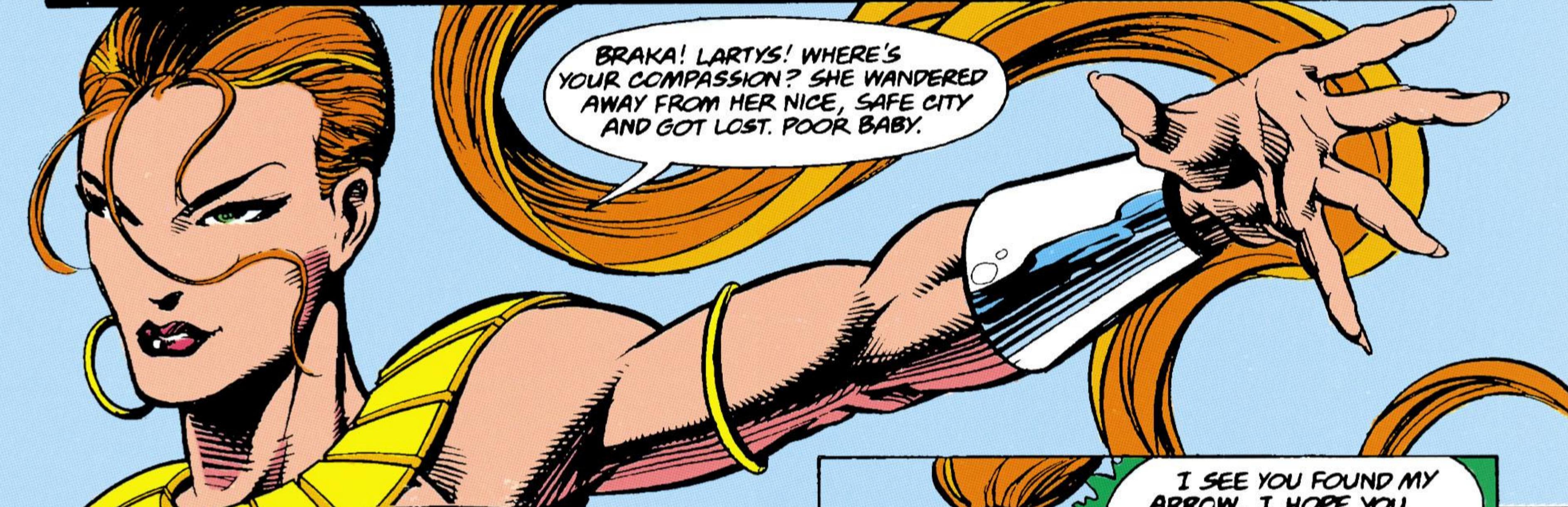
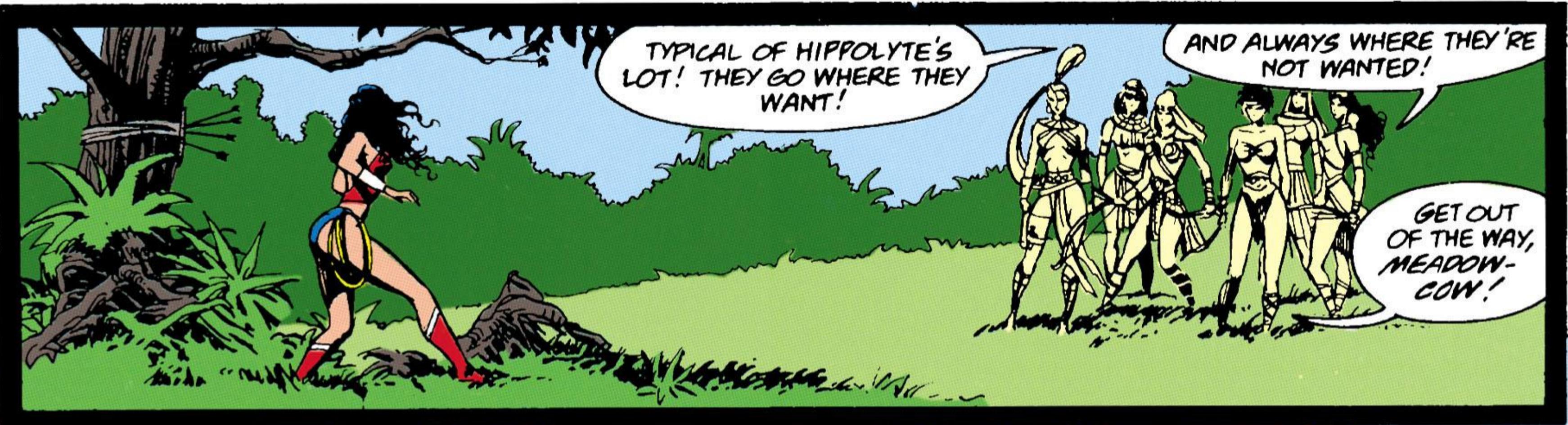
FUNNY. IT'S SO MUCH... SMALLER THAN I REMEMBER.

YOU SEEM DIFFERENT, DIANA. MORE CONFIDENT, MORE IMPATIENT, TOO. I HARDLY KNOW YOU...

**THUNK**





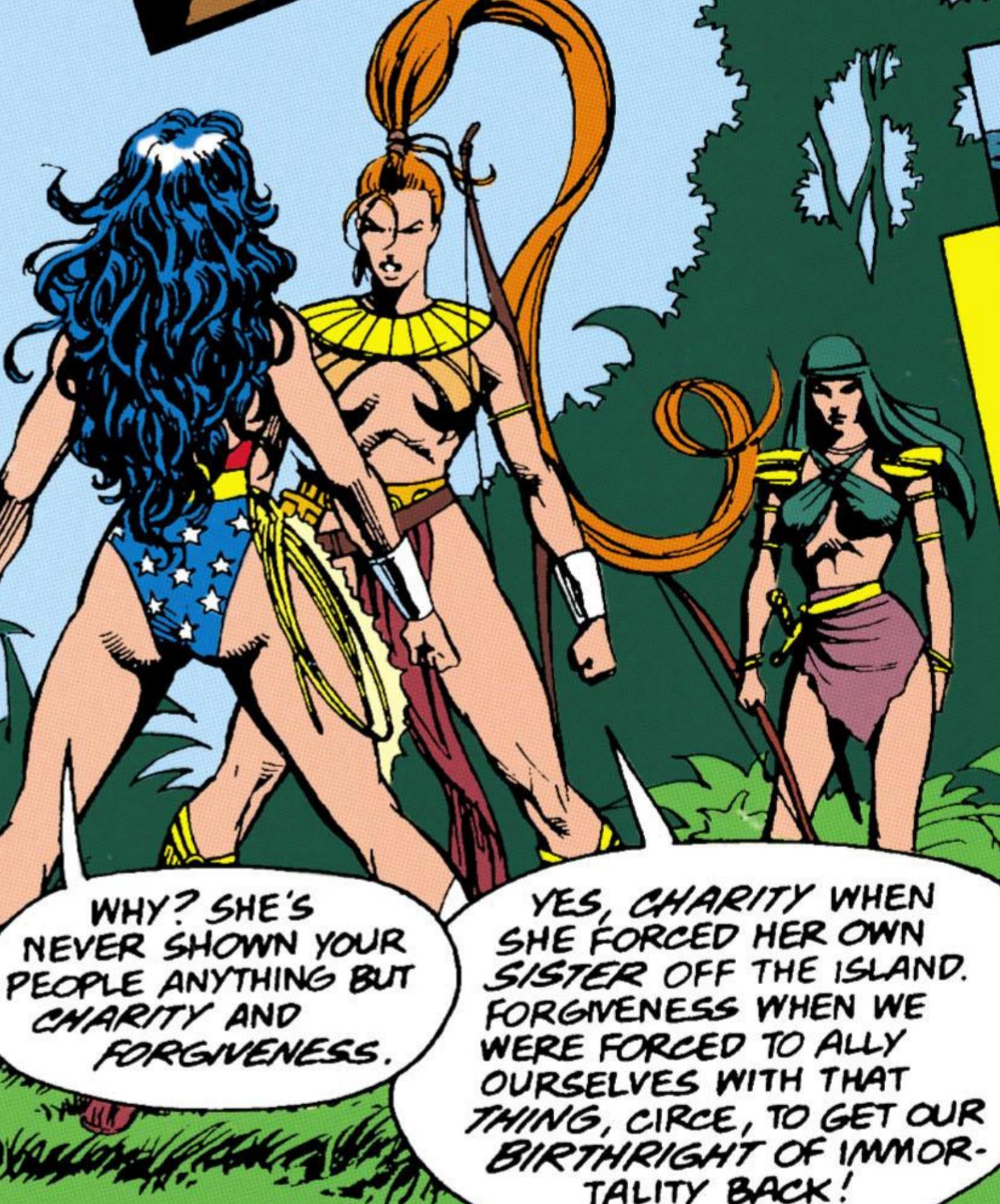
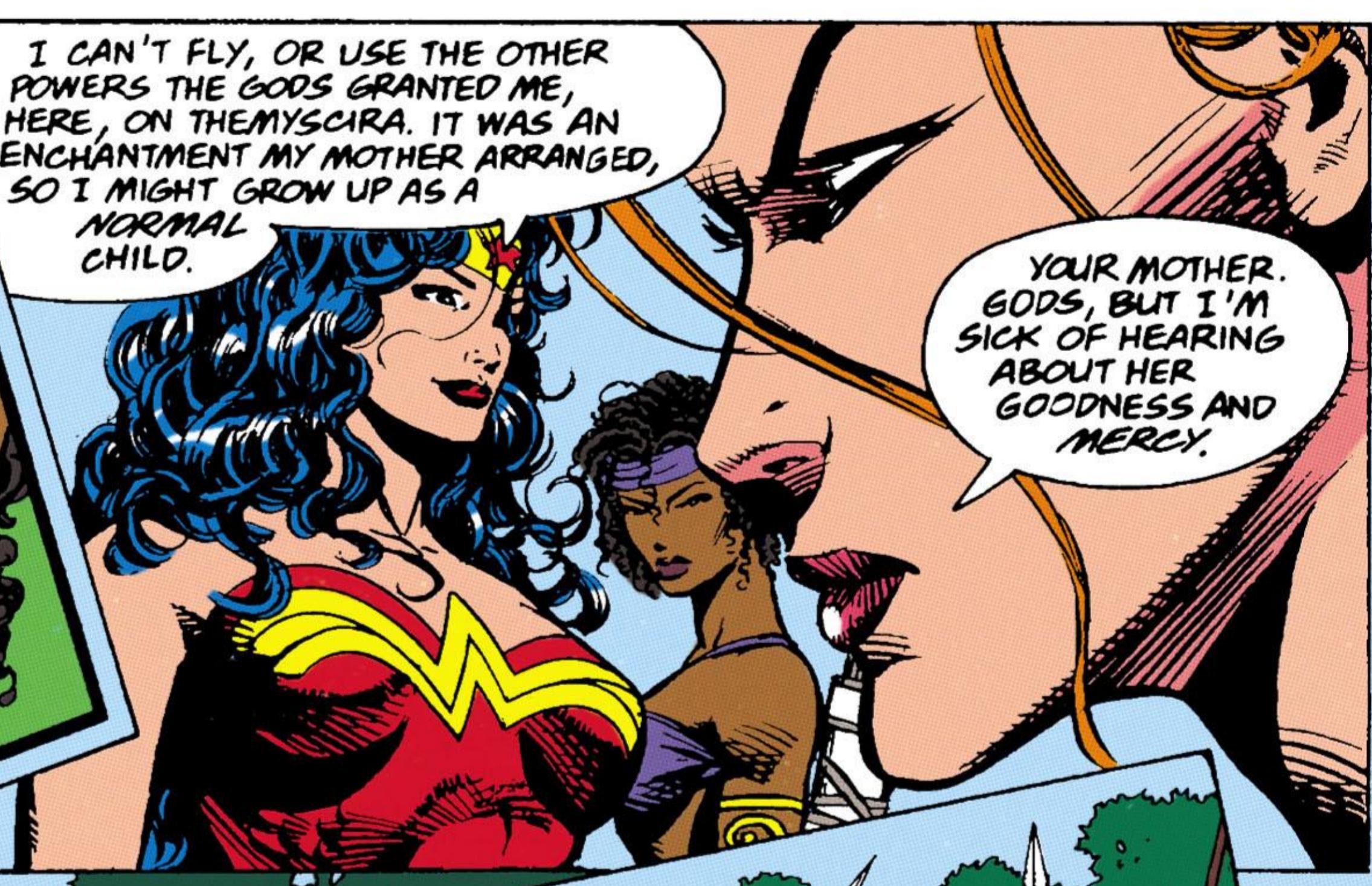


AND YOU'RE DIANA,  
THE ONE THEY CALL  
WONDER WOMAN?

WE'VE ALL HEARD ABOUT THE GREAT DIANA, OF COURSE. WHY DIDN'T YOU FLY IN HERE? I'D HAVE LIKED TO SEE THAT.

I CAN'T FLY, OR USE THE OTHER POWERS THE GODS GRANTED ME, HERE, ON THEMYSCIRA. IT WAS AN ENCHANTMENT MY MOTHER ARRANGED, SO I MIGHT GROW UP AS A NORMAL CHILD.

YOUR MOTHER. GODS, BUT I'M SICK OF HEARING ABOUT HER GOODNESS AND MERCY.

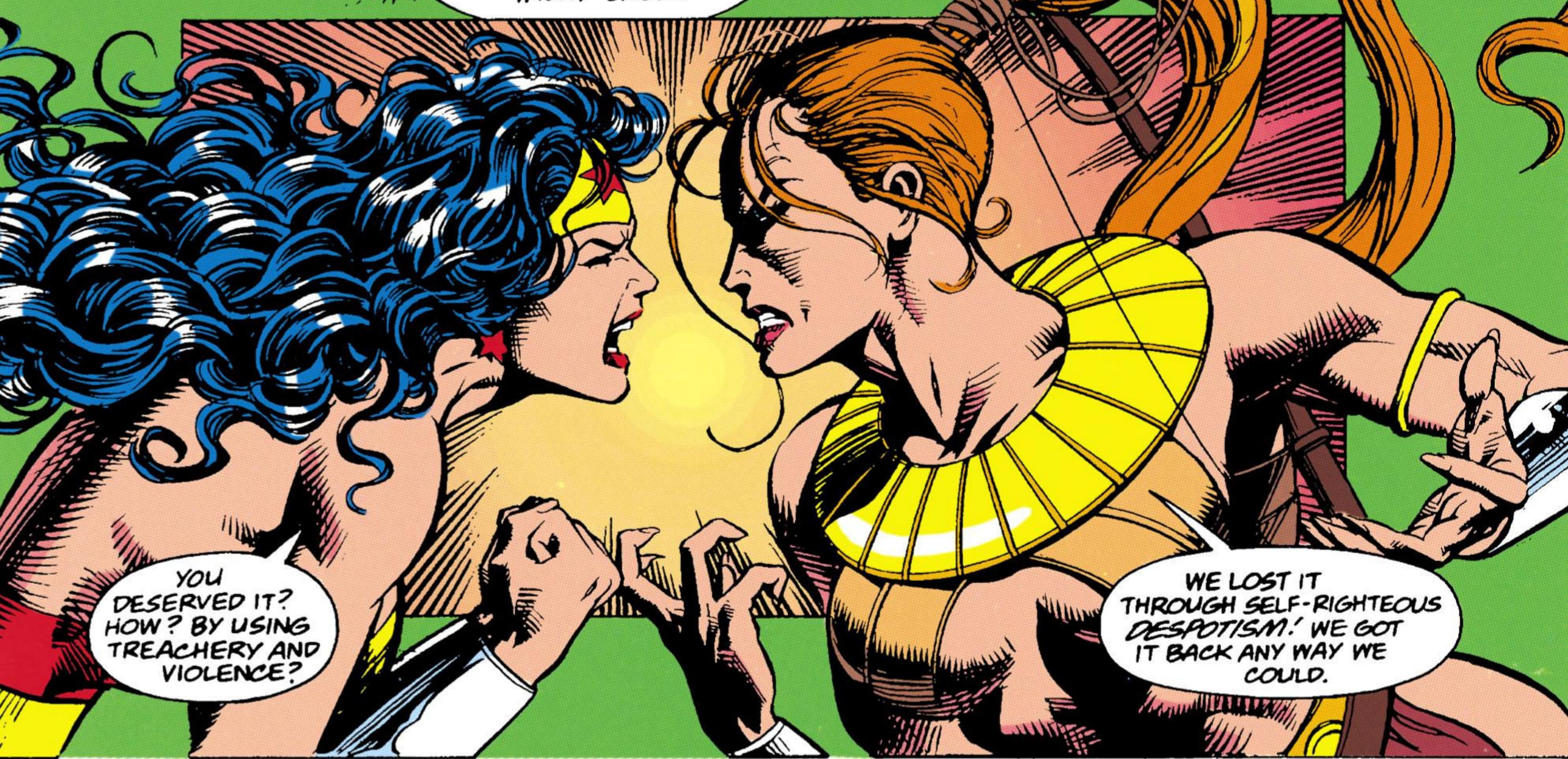


WHY? SHE'S NEVER SHOWN YOUR PEOPLE ANYTHING BUT CHARITY AND FORGIVENESS.

YES, CHARITY WHEN SHE FORCED HER OWN SISTER OFF THE ISLAND. FORGIVENESS WHEN WE WERE FORCED TO ALIY OURSELVES WITH THAT THING, CIRCE, TO GET OUR BIRTHRIGHT OF IMMORTALITY BACK!

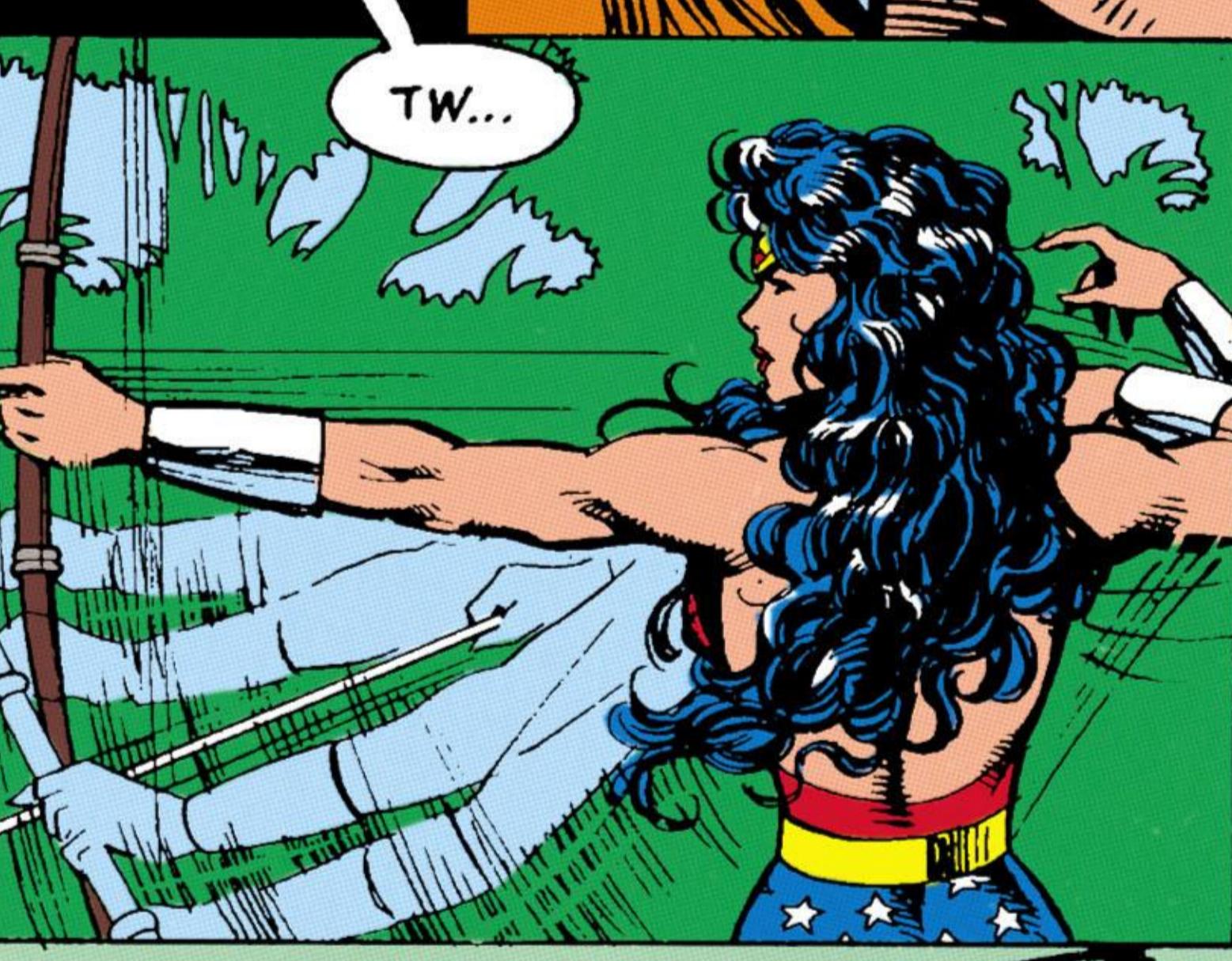
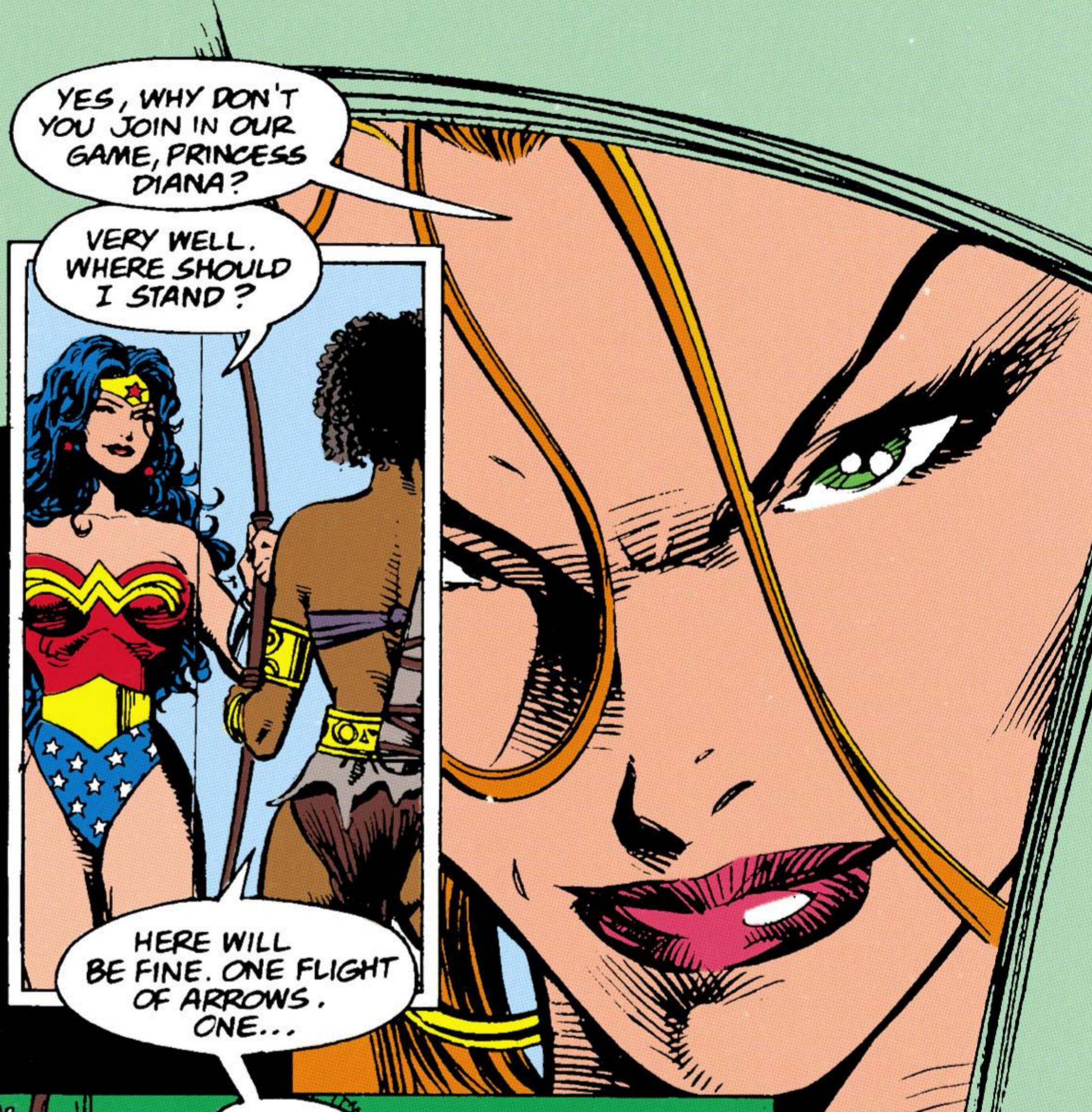
AND AFTER WE LOST TWO THIRDS OF OUR SISTERHOOD FIGHTING THE MONSTERS OF THIS PLACE, TO KEEP THE SOFT, PEACE-LOVING CITIZENS OF THEMYSCIRA SECURE...

HER CHARITY GAVE US THE WILDEST AND MOST DESOLATE QUARTER OF THE ISLAND, WHEN BY BLOOD WE DESERVED IT ALL!



YOU DESERVED IT? HOW? BY USING TREACHERY AND VIOLENCE?

WE LOST IT THROUGH SELF-RIGHTEOUS DESPOTISM! WE GOT IT BACK ANY WAY WE COULD.



NOT A BAD SHOT...  
IF SPEED COUNTED.  
ANOTHER FLIGHT,  
PRINCESS?

A MOMENT, ARTEMIS. THE  
RESEMBLANCE IS SO...

I HAD HEARD  
OF YOU, DIANA, OF  
COURSE. BUT I ALWAYS  
ASSUMED YOU WOULD  
LOOK LIKE YOUR  
MOTHER...

DIANA!

DIANA, YOU HAVE TO  
COME QUICKLY! YOUR  
MOTHER... GASP... AND THE  
COUNCIL... THEY'VE  
CALLED FOR A NEW  
CONTEST...

THEY WANT  
TO CHOOSE A  
NEW WONDER  
WOMAN!

To be  
Continued

FROM THE WRITER OF  
BIRDS OF PREY & SECRET SIX

# GAIL SIMONE

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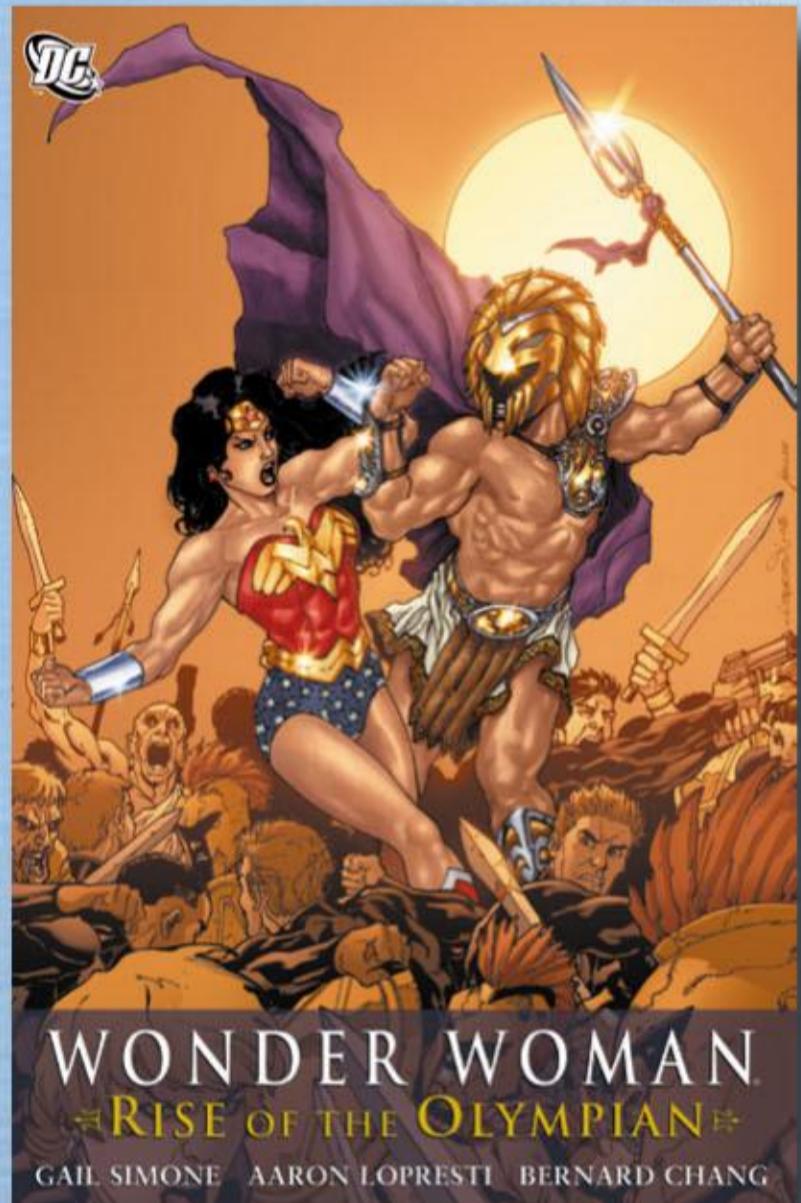
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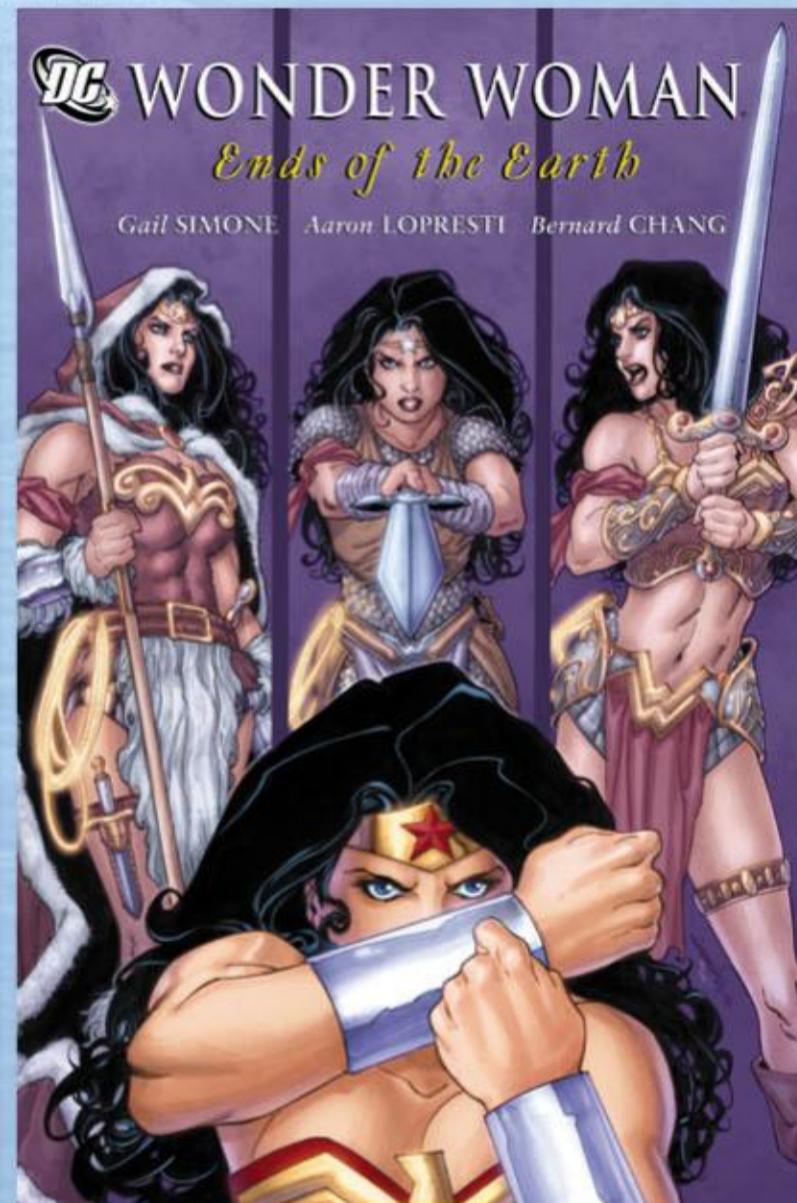


WONDER WOMAN:  
RISE OF THE OLYMPIAN



with  
**AARON LOPRESTI**  
& **BERNARD CHANG**

WONDER WOMAN:  
ENDS OF THE EARTH



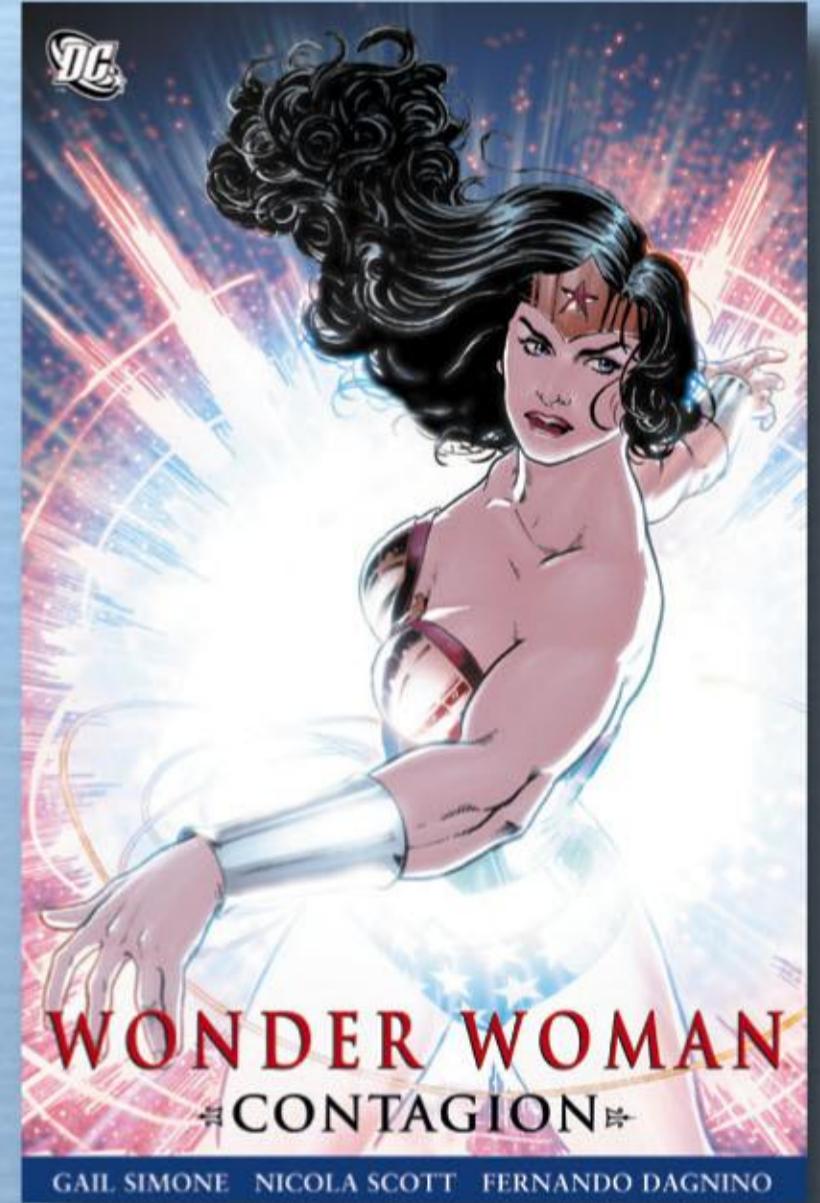
with  
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& **BERNARD CHANG**

WONDER WOMAN:  
WARKILLER



with  
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