

No.13

TEN  
CENTS

# BATMAN

REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.

OCT.  
NOV.



# BATMAN

WITH  
**ROBIN**

AUG U.S. PAT OFF

THE BOY WONDER -

WHAT IS THE GREATEST CRIME-CRUSH-ING COMBINATION OF ALL TIME? THAT'S EASY.. THE FIRM OF **BAT-MAN AND ROBIN, UNLIMITED**, EXPERTS IN MYSTERY AND ADVENTURE! A PERFECTLY CO-ORDINATED TEAM, THEY HAVE PUT COUNTLESS EVIL-DOERS BEHIND BARS AND SENT OTHERS TRUDGING THE LAST MILE TO THE DEATH HOUSE....

BUT NOW, INCREDIBLY THE PARTNERSHIP IS BROKEN! BIDDING A BEWILDERED **ROBIN** GOODBYE, THE **BATMAN** SETS OUT ALONE ON THE DANGER TRAIL! HOW WILL THE MIGHTY CHAMPION SUCCEED WITHOUT HIS LOYAL COMRADE? WHY WAS THEIR FRIENDSHIP BROKEN?

YOU WILL FIND THE ANSWER IN —  
**"THE BATMAN PLAYS A LONE HAND!"**

by  
**BOB KANE**



A SUITCASE IS PACKED IN THE BRUCE WAYNE HOME...



...AND DICK GRAYSON, BRUCE'S HITHERTO INSEPARABLE PAL, RECEIVES THE SHOCK OF HIS LIFE!



THAT'S ONE OF THE TROUBLES WITH YOU...YOU THINK LIFE IS FULL OF KIDDING. THIS TIME I'M DEAD SERIOUS!

GEE, BRUCE.. I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY!



I NEVER THOUGHT WE'D BREAK UP AFTER ALL OUR ADVENTURES... ALL THE TIMES WE'VE RISKED OUR LIVES TOGETHER, AND FOUGHT SIDE BY SIDE!

THAT'S ANOTHER REASON...

I'D BE FIGHTING CROOKS, AND HAVE TO WATCH OUT FOR YOU AT THE SAME TIME!

ULP!.. IF I'D KNOWN YOU FELT LIKE THAT....



FROM NOW ON YOU CAN GIVE MORE TIME TO SCHOOL WORK. IT ISN'T RIGHT FOR A KID LIKE YOU TO BE CHASING AROUND GETTING INTO FIGHTS!

YOU DON'T NEED TO SAY ANY MORE...

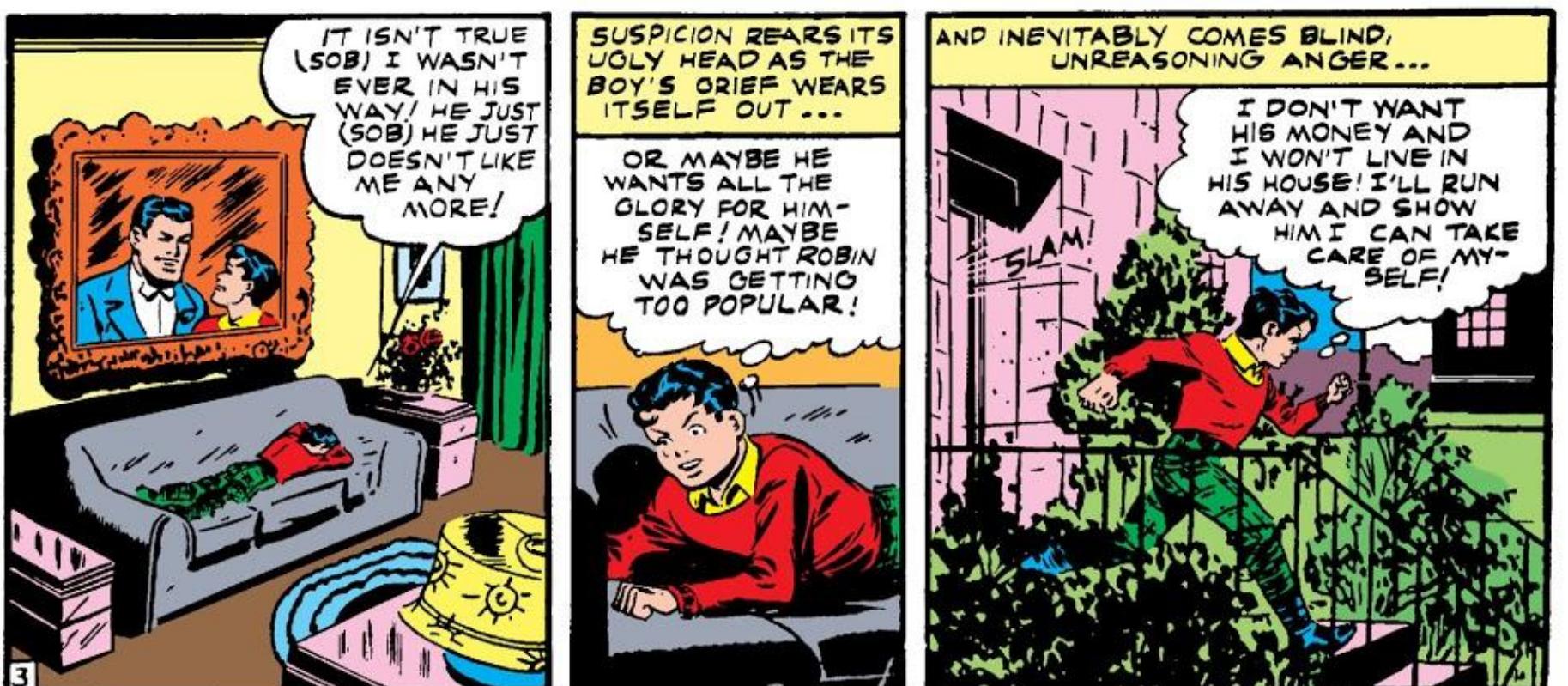
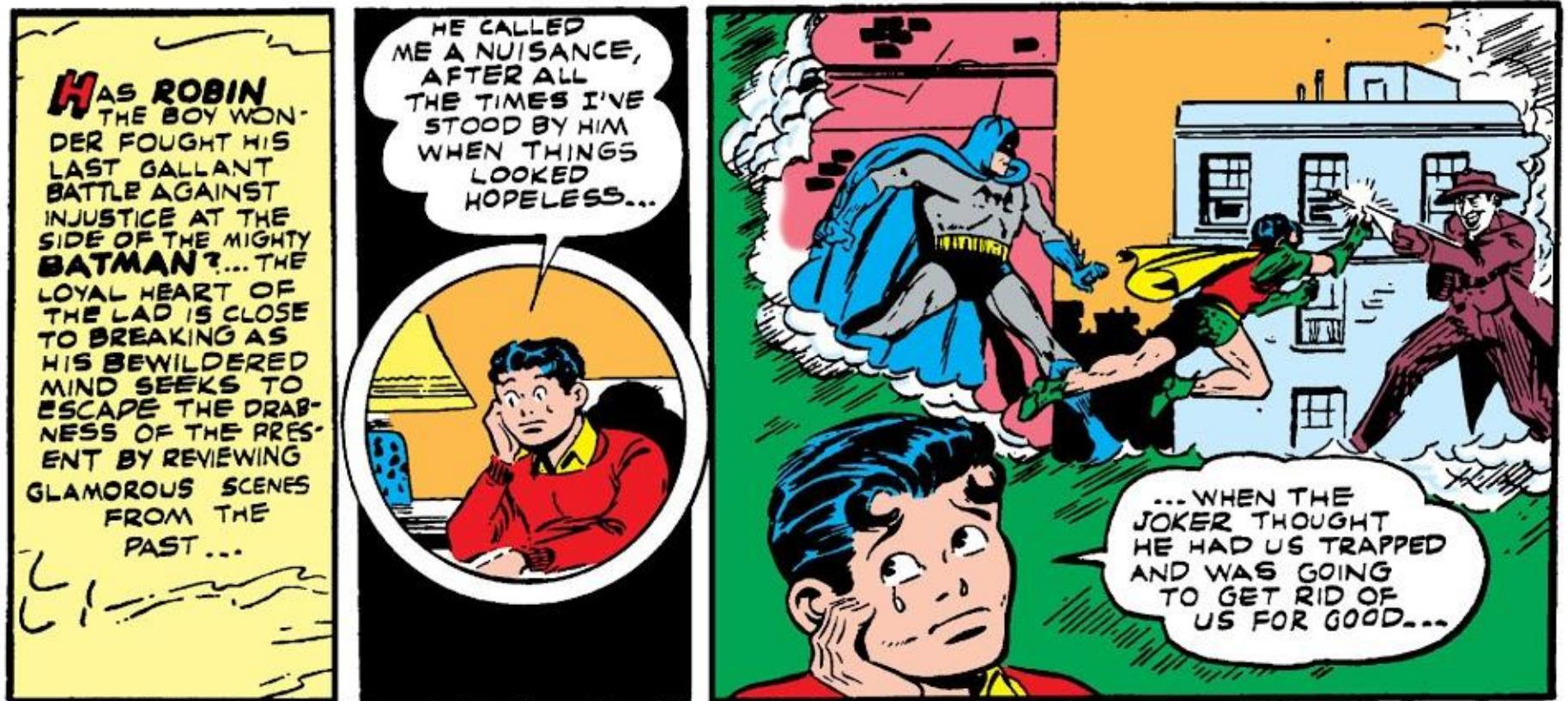
BUT WHEN DICK HAS LEFT THE ROOM ---

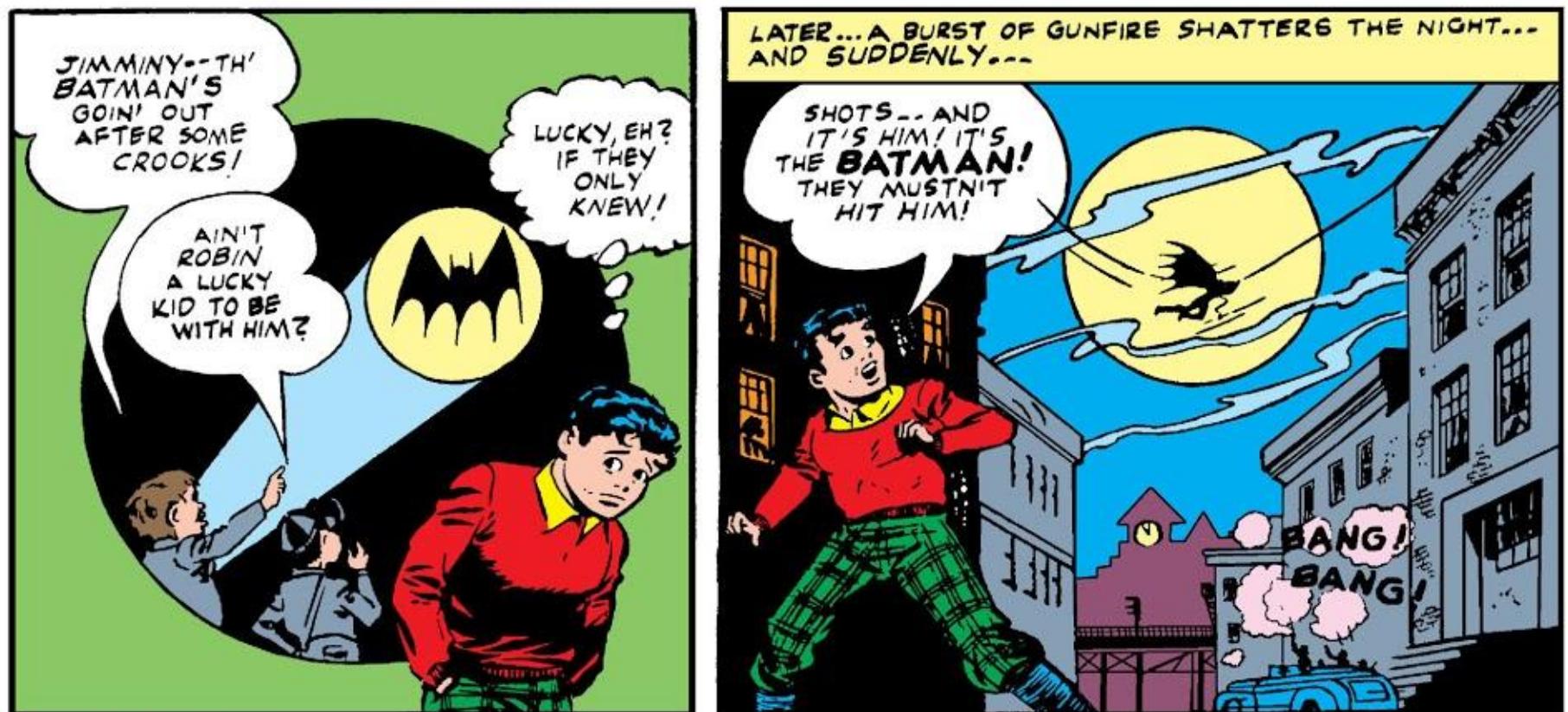
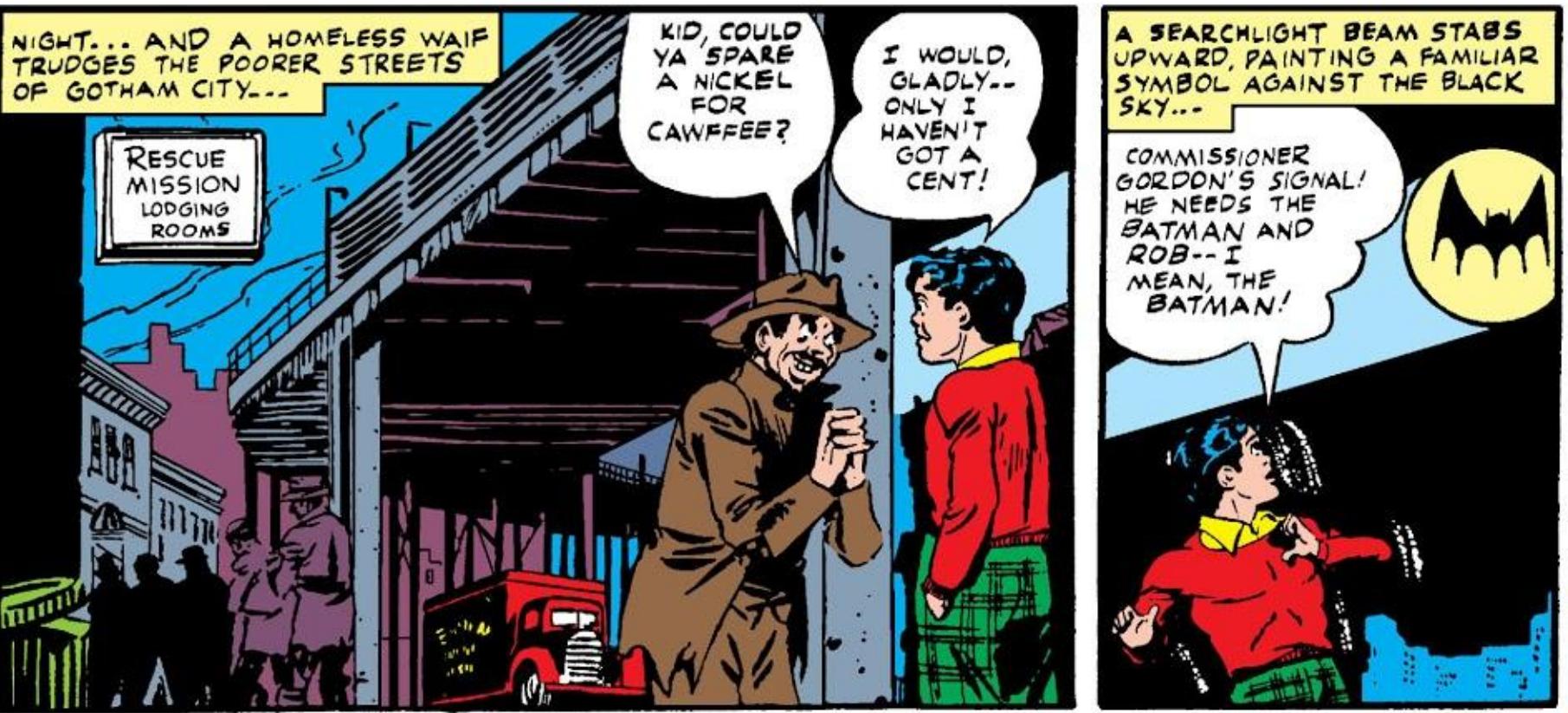
I DIDN'T LIKE TO SMASH IT, BUT I HAD TO MAKE THE KID UNDERSTAND... I'LL JUST KEEP THIS!

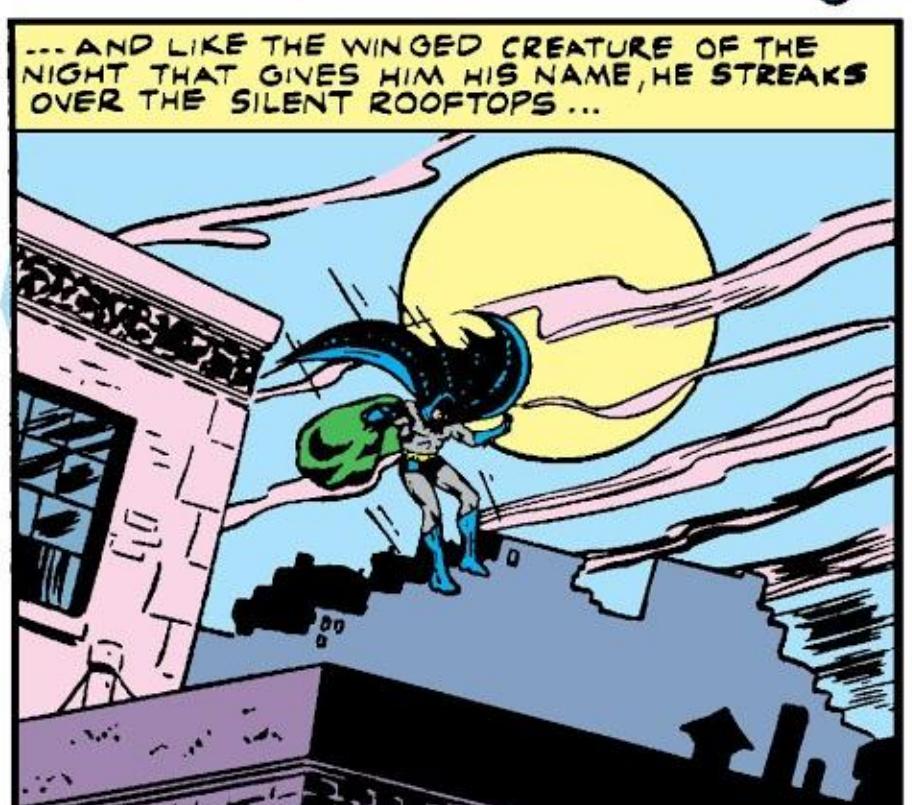
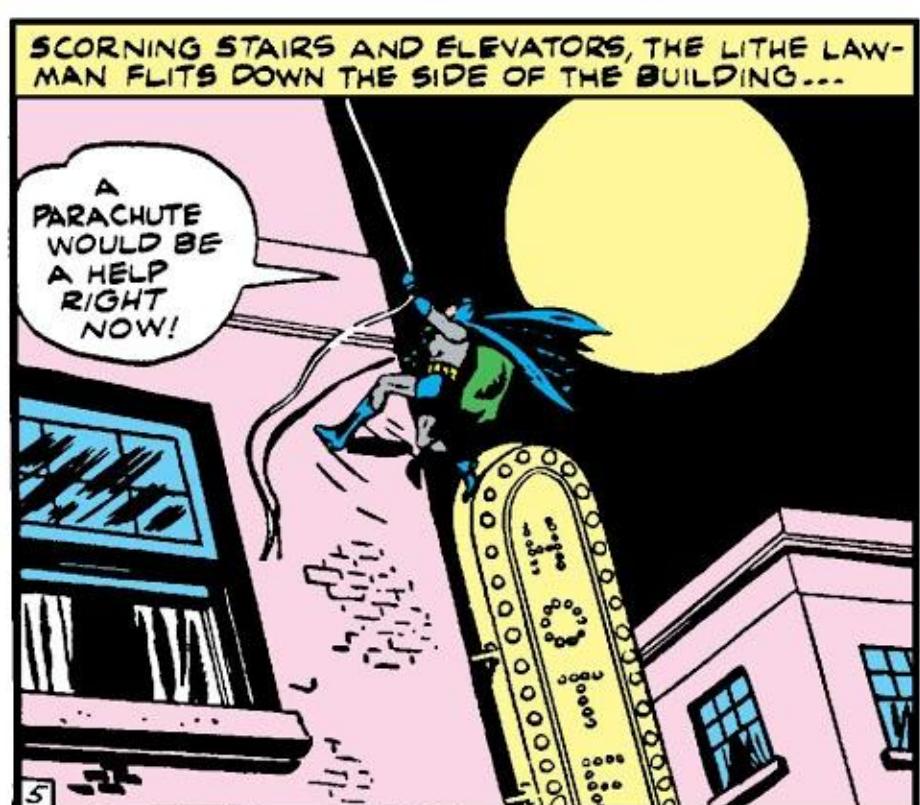
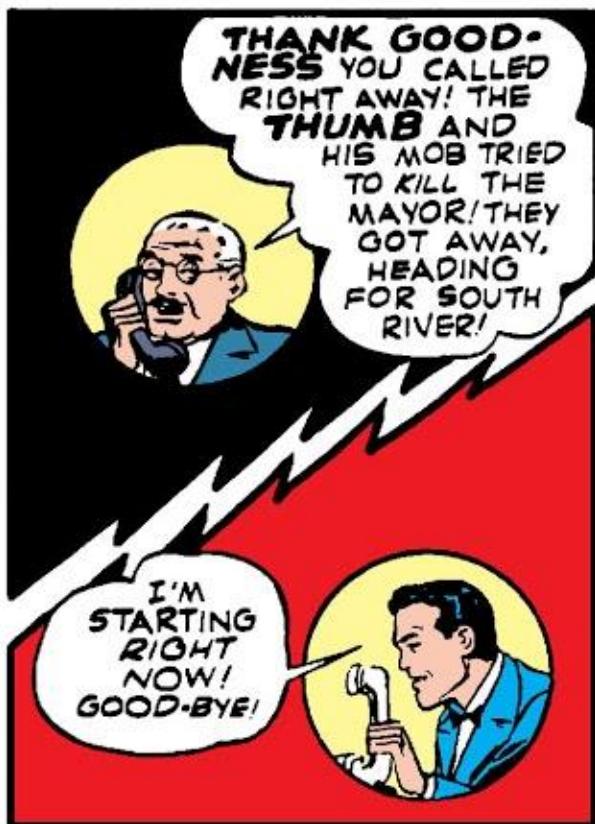
WELL, SO LONG, YOUNGSTER! I'VE LEFT MONEY TO TAKE CARE OF YOU---AND MAYBE WE'LL RUN ACROSS EACH OTHER AGAIN SOMETIME!

GOODBYE!





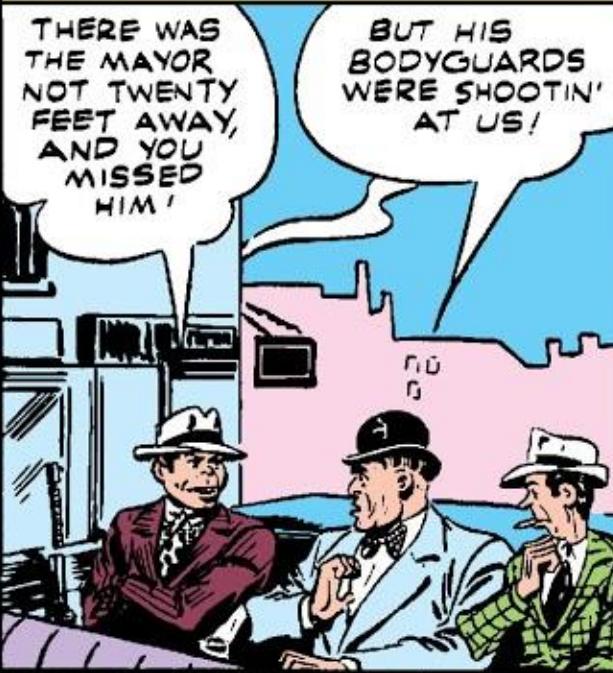




FROM A PRECARIOUS PERCH, HIS KEEN EYES SIGHT A SPEEDING VEHICLE ....



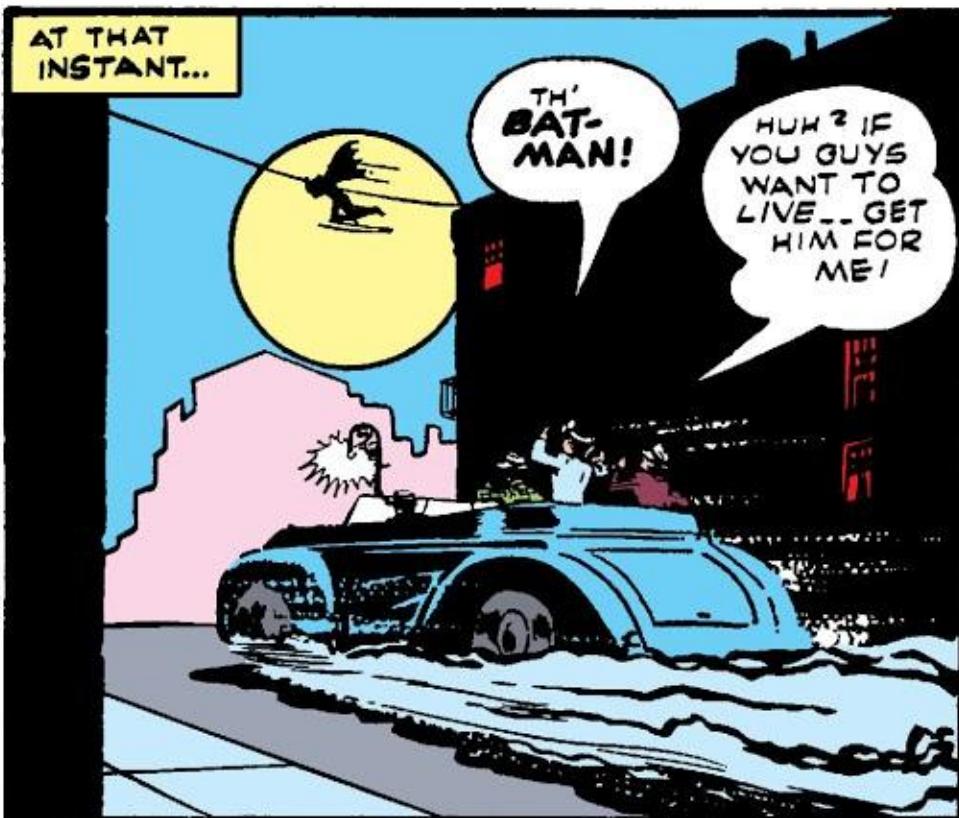
THE THUMB, DAPPER DESPERADO WHO SEEKS TO SPREAD A REIGN OF TERROR OVER GOTHAM CITY, SCOLDS HIS HENCHMEN...



NO ALIBIS! I'LL SHOW YOU HOW YOU SHOULD HAVE DONE IT!



AT THAT INSTANT...



IF HE'D ONLY STAY STILL FOR A MINUTE!



STOP THE CAR! THE KID IS THE ONE I REALLY WANT!

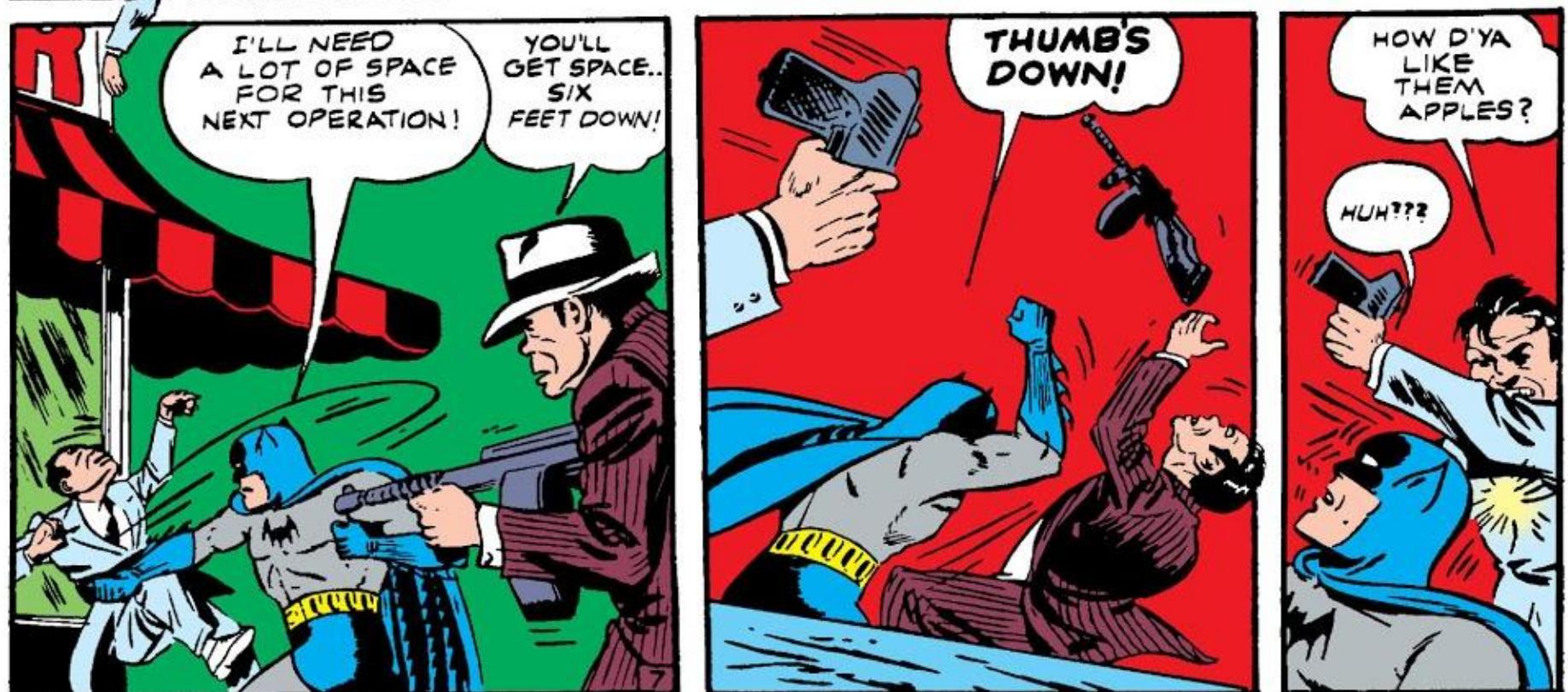
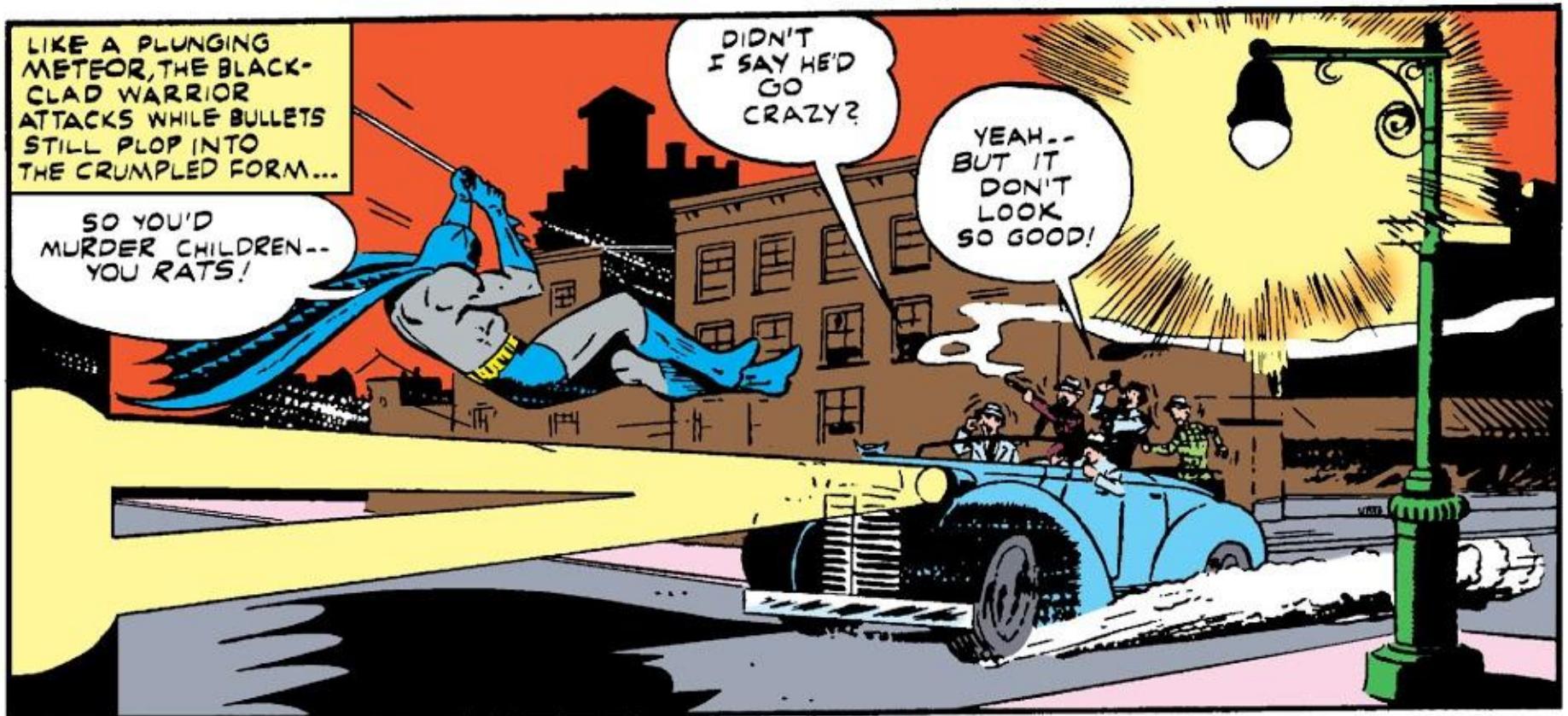
WITH TH' KID GONE, TH' BATMAN WILL GO CRAZY!



AS THE MACHINE GUN CHATTERS, THE SMALL FIGURE SHUDDERS, THEN DROPS SICKENINGLY!

I'D FEEL BETTER IF YOU'D GOT TH' BATMAN TOO!





BEFORE THE STUNNED CHAMPION CAN RE-COVER, THE THUMB AND HIS HIRELINGS HAVE FLED...

NO CHANCE OF CATCHING THEM--BUT I'LL FIND THEIR HIDEOUT IF IT TAKES A LIFETIME!

THAT SHOOTING WILL BRING THE COPS! STEP ON IT!

SLOWLY, THE BATMAN APPROACHES THE BULLET-RIDDLED FIGURE ON THE SIDEWALK...

KILLERS WHO WOULD DELIBERATELY MURDER A BOY DON'T DESERVE THE SLIGHTEST CONSIDERATION!

HIS MUSCULAR SHOULDERS SHAKE AS HE CRADLES THE STILL FORM IN HIS ARMS...BUT WHAT'S THIS? HE'S LAUGHING!!

TOWING THIS DUMMY BEHIND ME WITH A WIRE CERTAINLY FOOLED THEM! WHILE THEY BLASTED AT IT, I HAD A CHANCE TO TACKLE THEM BY SURPRISE!

THERE IS NO LAUGHTER IN THE SECRET STRONGHOLD OF THE THUMB, HOWEVER...

THE BATMAN WON'T GIVE US A MINUTE'S PEACE FROM NOW ON! I'LL NEVER GET THIS TOWN UNDER MY THUMB WHILE HE'S ALIVE!

YEAH--WE GOTTA POLISH HIM OFF--  
BUT HOW?

WE DON'T WANT ANOTHER FIGHT... HE CAN MOVE LIKE LIGHTNING AND HIT LIKE A THUNDERBOLT!

YA DON'T HAVE TO WISE US UP TO WHAT WE ALREADY KNOW!

I'VE GOT IT! WE'LL HAVE HIM PAY US A SOCIAL CALL!

HAVE YA GONE BATTY?

SNAP!

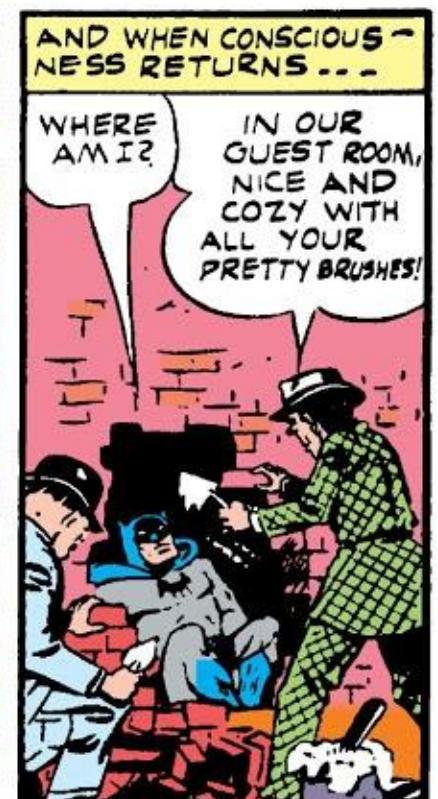
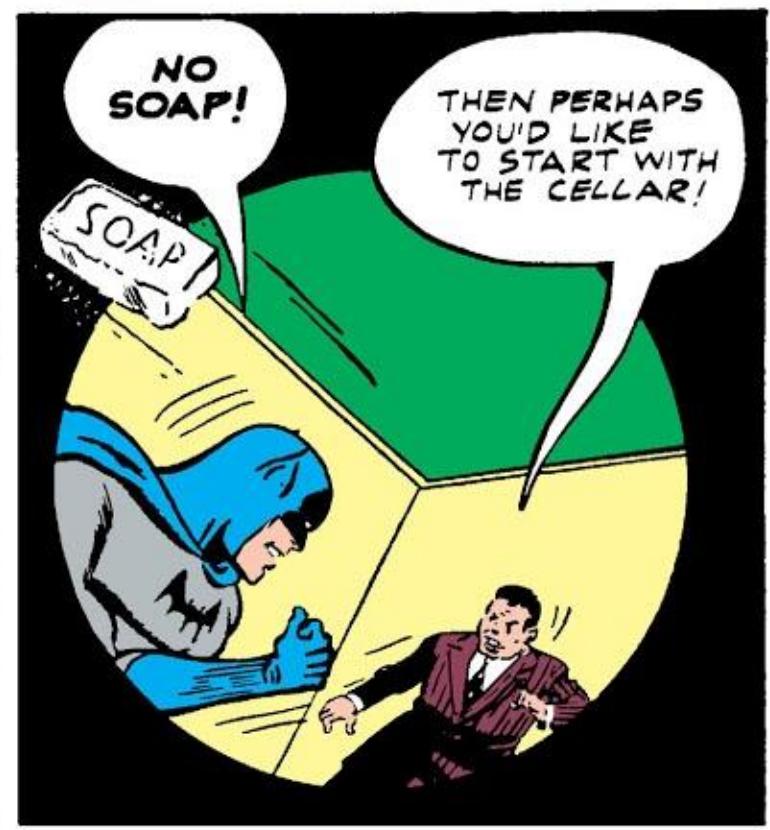
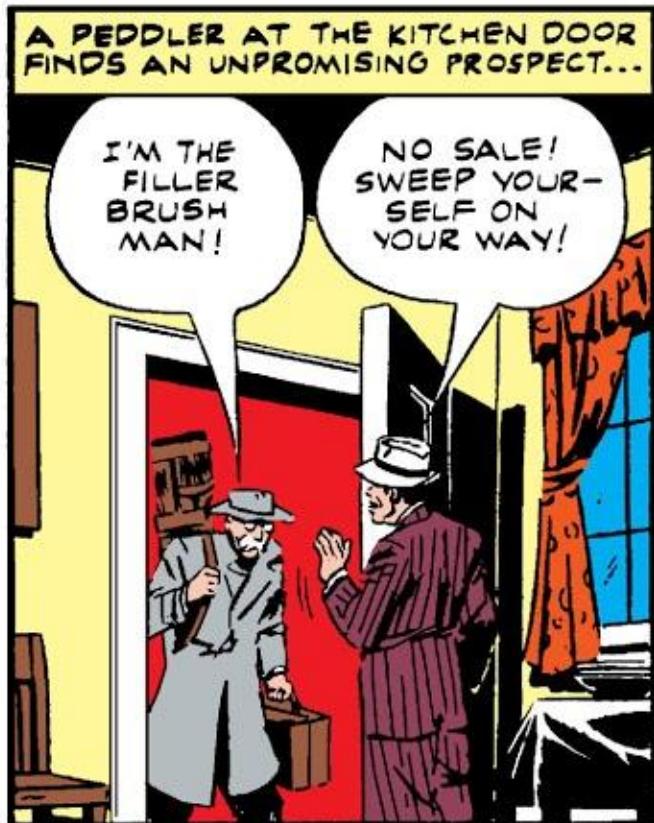
NEXT MORNING...

HMM! A TRAP, OF COURSE... BUT IT'S MY ONLY CHANCE TO LOCATE THE THUMB BEFORE HE CARRIES OUT ANY MORE OF HIS MURDEROUS SCHEMES!

ADVERTISEMENT  
BATMAN!  
INTERESTING INFORMATION  
AWAITS YOU AT  
44 ARDLES ST.  
...A FRIEND.

MEANWHILE, AT THE THUMB'S HIDEOUT, PREPARATIONS ARE MADE TO RECEIVE THE DISTINGUISHED VISITOR ...

TH' THUMB'S WATCHIN' THE BACK DOOR AN' MONK TH' FRONT, AN' I'M UP HERE IN CASE HE TRIES ANY AERIAL TRICKS--TH' POOR SAP AIN'T GOT A CHANCE!

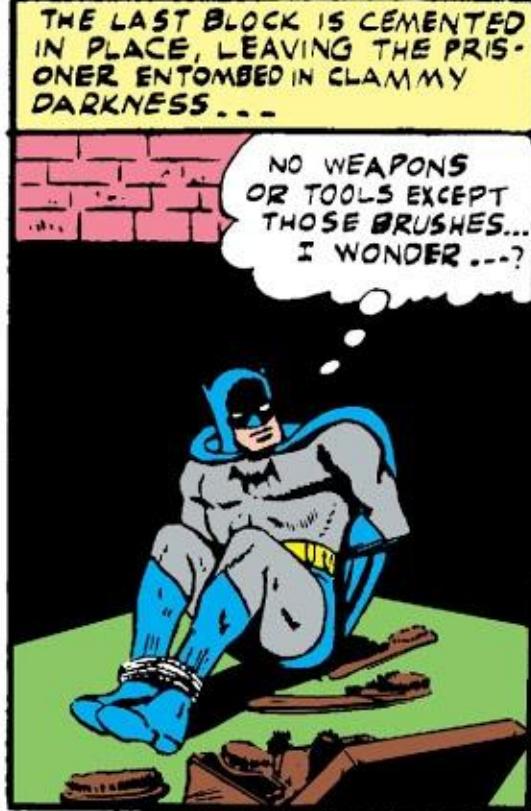


WHILE YOU'RE STARVING BY INCHES, REMEMBER THIS WOULDN'T HAVE HAPPENED IF YOU'D HEEDED MY WARNING!

THE LAST BLOCK IS CEMENTED IN PLACE, LEAVING THE PRISONER ENTOMBED IN CLAMMY DARKNESS...

THIS ONE HAS WIRE BRISTLES... IN TIME I SUPPOSE THEY'D OUT-LAST ROPE FIBERS...

NO WEAPONS OR TOOLS EXCEPT THOSE BRUSHES... I WONDER...?



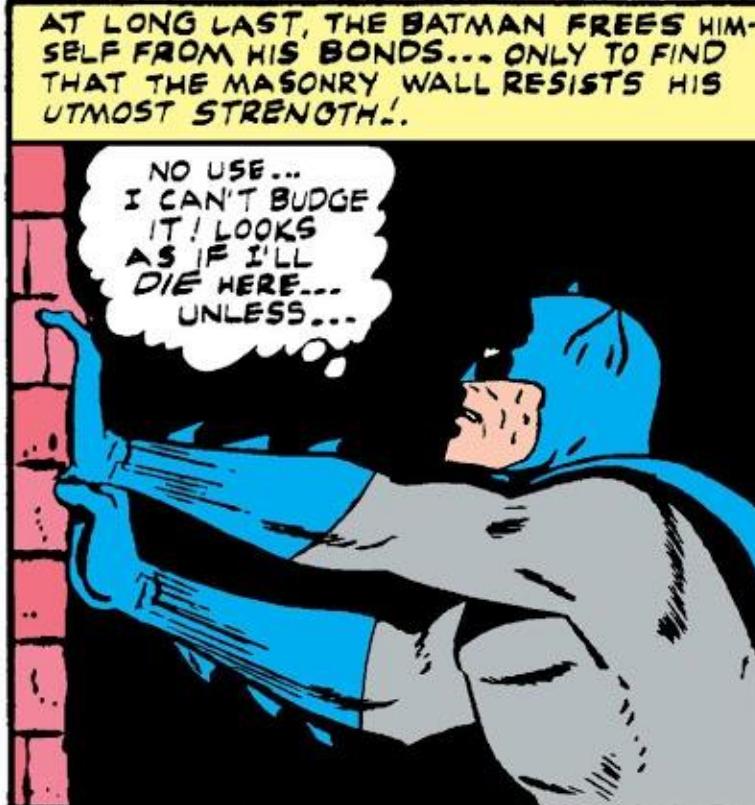
THEN BEGINS A SLOW, AGONIZING STRUGGLE...

WHEW! IF ONLY MY WRIST DOESN'T WEAR OUT BEFORE THE ROPE DOES...

AT LONG LAST, THE BATMAN FREES HIMSELF FROM HIS BONDS... ONLY TO FIND THAT THE MASONRY WALL RESISTS HIS UTMOST STRENGTH...

IN A DESPERATE LAST RESORT, HE TURNS TO HIS BELT BUCKLE RADIO.

I HATE TO CALL ROBIN AFTER WHAT HAPPENED YESTERDAY, BUT MORE LIVES THAN MINE DEPEND ON IT... BATMAN CALLING ROBIN!

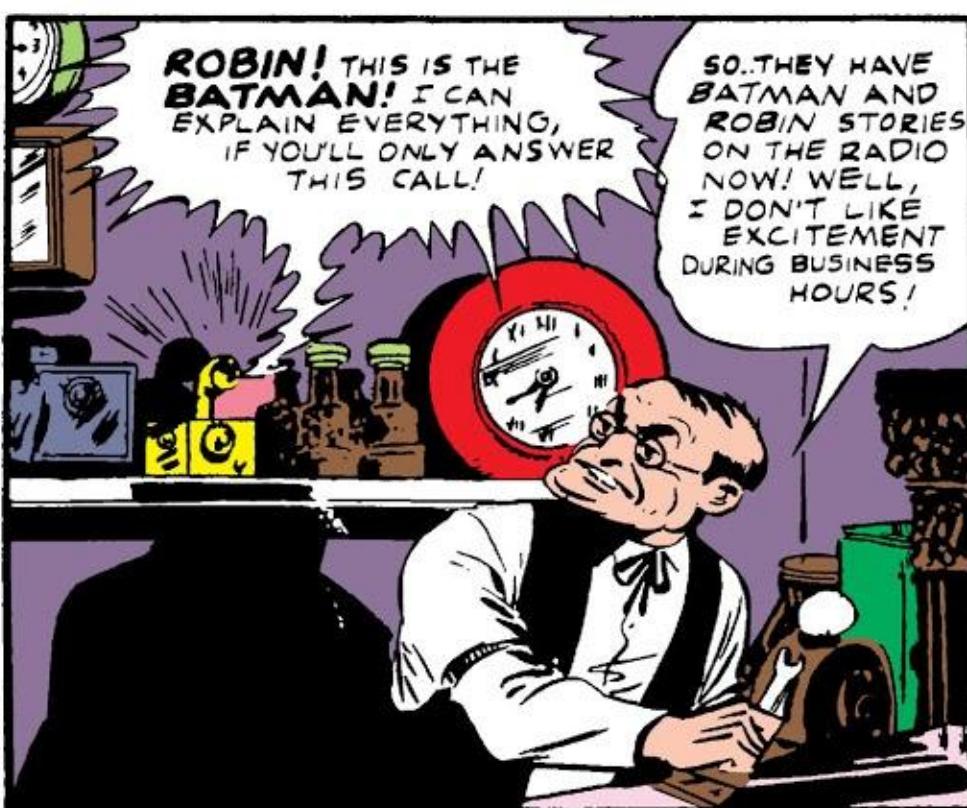


ROBIN! THIS IS THE BATMAN! I CAN EXPLAIN EVERYTHING, IF YOU'LL ONLY ANSWER THIS CALL!

SO... THEY HAVE BATMAN AND ROBIN STORIES ON THE RADIO NOW! WELL, I DON'T LIKE EXCITEMENT DURING BUSINESS HOURS!

NOW THINGS WILL BE MORE PEACEFUL!

---I'M IN TROUBLE IN A BASEMENT AT... CLICK!



FAR FROM THE SOUND  
OF THE PAWNED RADIO,  
THE BATMAN'S LAST  
HOPE TREADS A WEARY  
TRAIL OF DISAPPOINTMENT.

NOBODY'LL HIRE  
ME! IF I HAD THE  
BATMAN'S REC-  
OMMENDATION...  
BUT HE DOESN'T  
GIVE A  
HOOT ABOUT  
ME!



DISILLUSIONED AS THE BOY IS, HIS PULSE  
LEAPS AS HE OVERHEARS A FAMILIAR NAME.

HUH? THEY'RE  
TALKING ABOUT  
HIM!

HAW, HAW!  
I GET A KICK,  
WHEN I THINK  
HOW TH' THUMB  
FIXED TH' BAT-  
MAN!

HE WON'T  
MAKE NO  
MORE TROUBLE,  
BURIED IN  
THAT CELLAR!



OKAY... START  
WORKIN'... THE  
KITCHEN'S  
THIS WAY!-??

WITH HIM  
DEAD, WE'LL  
SQUEEZE  
MILLIONS  
OUTA THIS  
TOWN!

THE  
BATMAN...  
DEAD...

OH...  
NEVER  
MIND!



GRIEF AND SEARING ANGER BOIL  
WITHIN DICK'S BREAST AS HE  
TRAILS THE THUGS, A SMALL BUT  
DAUNTLESS AVENGER ---

HIS FIRST CASE  
WITHOUT ME TO  
HELP--AND HE  
FAILED! I'LL  
BET THAT OTHER  
KID LET HIM  
DOWN!



NO THOUGHT OF PERSONAL  
DANGER ENTERS THE LOYAL  
MIND OF ROBIN AS HE  
ENTERS UPON HIS HAZ-  
ARDOUS ROLE ---

THREE OF THEM...  
ALL ARMED! BUT  
IT DOESN'T MATTER  
MUCH IF THEY DO  
KILL ME, NOW  
THAT HE'S  
GONE...



THREE "WISE GUYS"  
GET THE SCARE  
OF THEIR  
CROOKED LIVES ...

I'M HERE TO  
EVEN THINGS  
UP FOR THE  
BATMAN!

HEY... I  
KILLED  
YOU  
MYSELF!

IT'S  
A  
GHOST!



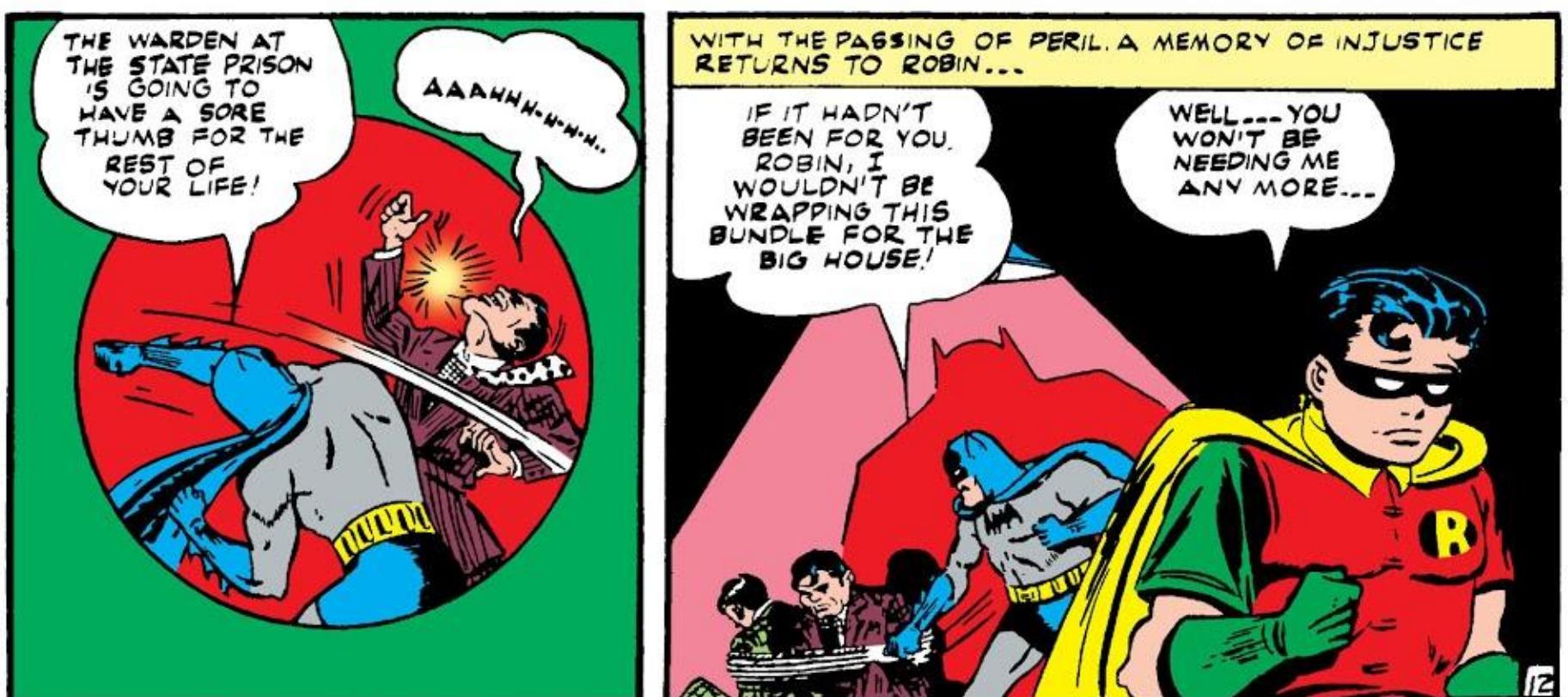
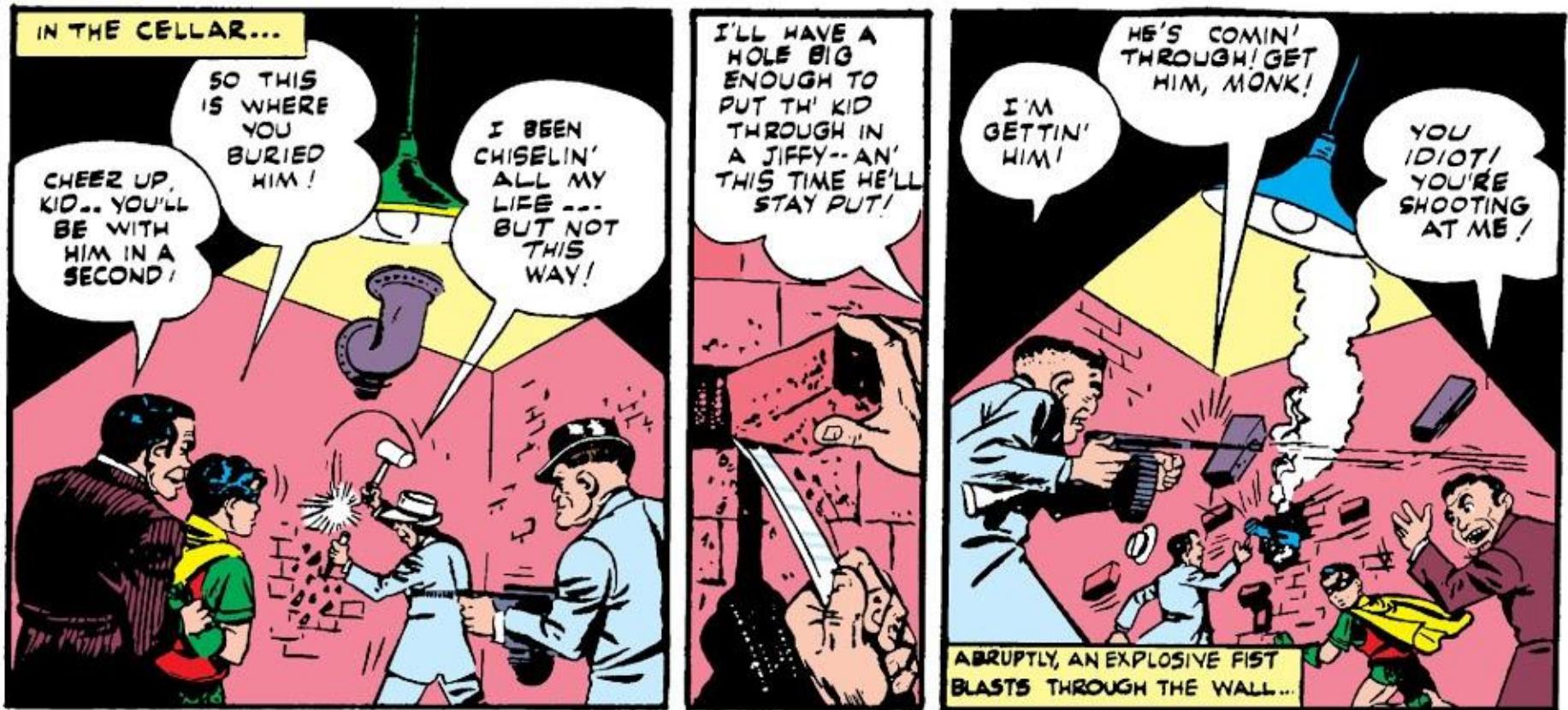
BUT BOYISH FURY IS HELPLESS AGAINST  
THE OVERWHELMING STRENGTH OF  
GROWN MEN--AND THE BATTLE  
LASTS ONLY SECONDS ---

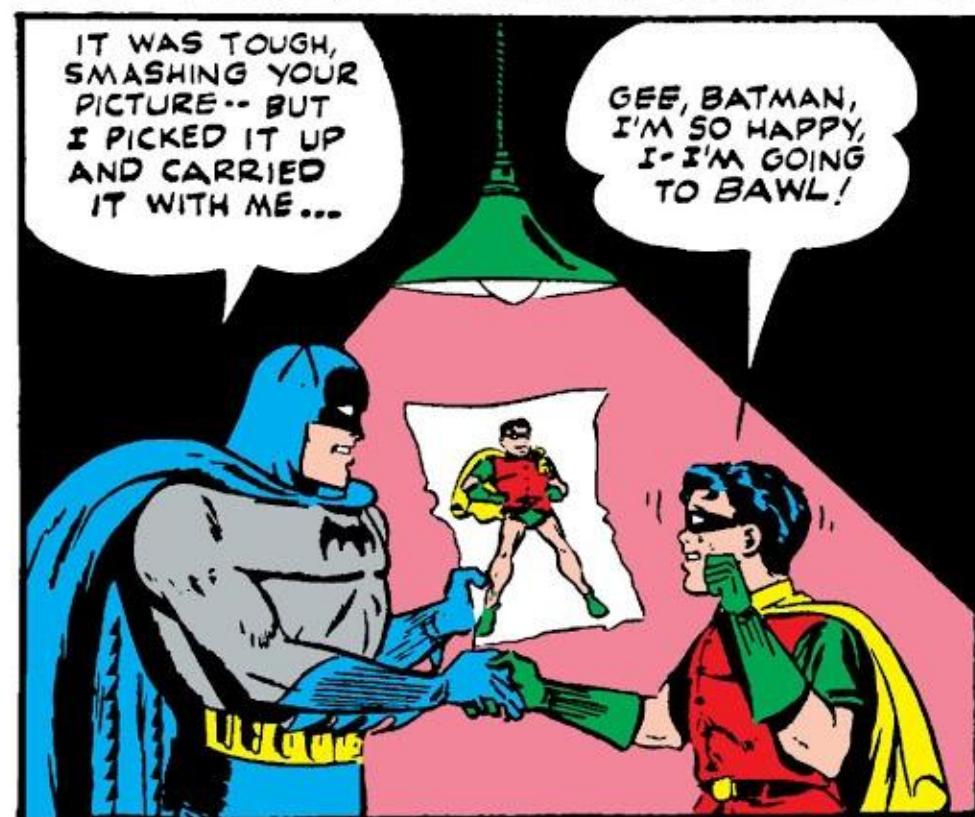
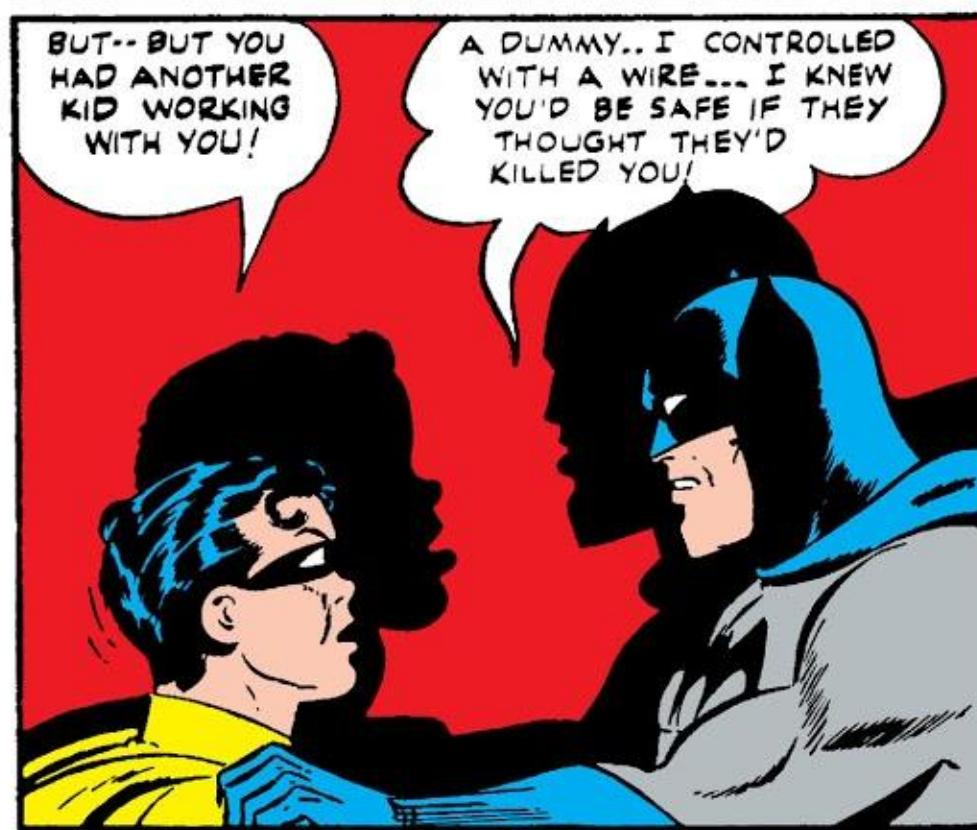
YOU  
LITTLE  
WILDCAT--  
YOU'VE FOUGHT  
YOUR LAST  
FIGHT!

WHY DON'T  
YOU FIGHT  
FAIR?

HE'S GOT  
A PUNCH  
LIKE A  
PILE-  
DRIVER!







# BATMAN

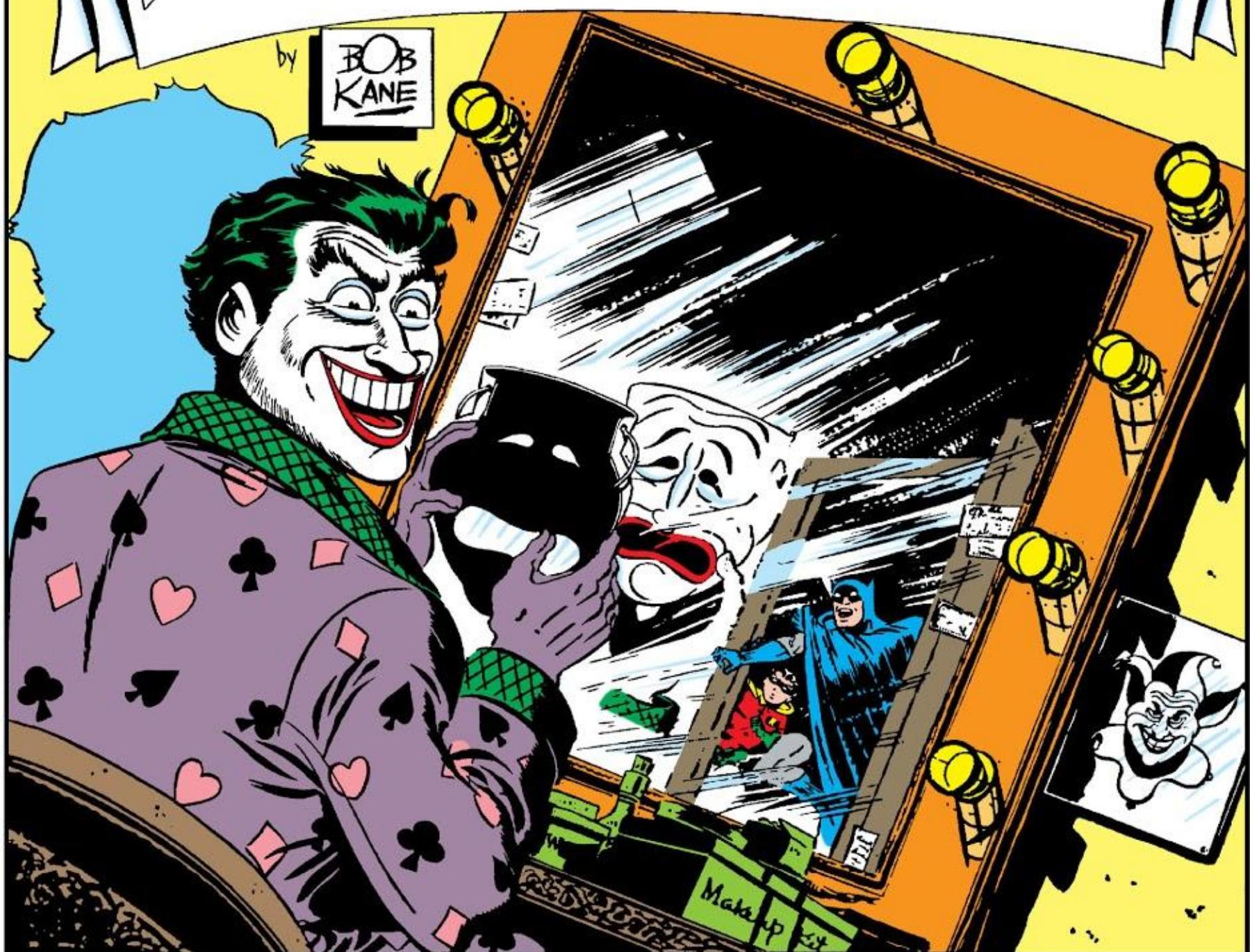
WITH  
**ROBIN**

REG. U.S. PAT. OFF.

TIME AND AGAIN, ONE MAN HAS PLAYED THE SAME MOCKING PART ON THIS STAGE OF LIFE -- THAT ARCH-FIEND OF LAUGHTER, THAT MASTER CLOWN .. THE **JOKER!** NOW, THE CRIME CLOWN STEPS OUT OF HIS ROLE, DONS THE MASK OF TRAGEDY, AND STALKS BEFORE FOOTLIGHTS TO MAKE PEOPLE CRY! ---- BUT THOSE TWIN SENTINELS OF THE LAW.. **BATMAN** AND HIS YOUNG AIDE, **ROBIN** .. EVER ALERT TO THE GRIM JESTER'S MADCAP PRANKS.. TAKE THEIR CUE AND MAKE THEIR DYNAMIC ENTRANCE FROM THE WINGS IN TIME TO STEAL THE SHOW IN THIS ---- "COMEDY OF TEARS!"

by

BOB  
KANE



EARLY ONE MORNING, AT THE HOME OF BRUCE WAYNE AND DICK GRAYSON

GOSH, WHAT A NIGHTMARE! I DREAMED I WAS FIGHTING THE JOKER!

YOUR DREAMS MAY SOON COME TRUE, DICK! THE JOKER'S LOOSE AGAIN!



PROPHETIC WORDS! FOR AT THAT VERY MOMENT THE GRIM JESTER IS GLOATING OVER THE NEWEST PRANK BORN OF HIS TWISTED BRAIN!

FOOLS! THEY CALL ME THE JOKER! BUT SOON THEY SHALL SEE ANOTHER SIDE OF ME!



THE NEXT DAY, GOTHAM CITY IS STARTLED BY A SENSATIONAL BARRAGE OF BRAZEN MESSAGES! DOWNTOWN...



AND IN STILL ANOTHER PART OF THE CITY...



NEXT DAY, LITTLE JOHNNY BLAKE LEAVES SCHOOL WITH A HAPPY GRIN...

BOY, OH BOY! THREE A'S THIS MONTH INSTEAD OF THREE D'S LAST TIME! GEE! WAIT'LL DAD SEES THIS!



MY FIRST SUCCESS IN MAKING PEOPLE CRY! HA! HA!

THAT SAME DAY, OLD JOE BRADY IS ABOUT TO CASH IN ON HIS FIRST DAY'S WORK IN A YEAR...

I GOT 100 PEOPLE IN THE SWANKY UPTOWN DISTRICT TO SIGN THIS PETITION TO HAVE THE PARK COMMISSIONER REMOVED! AND HIS RIVAL PROMISED ME FIVE CENTS A NAME!





AT THE CRIME CLOWN'S HIDEOUT, BRAWNY HENCHMEN ARE PUZZLED, TOO...

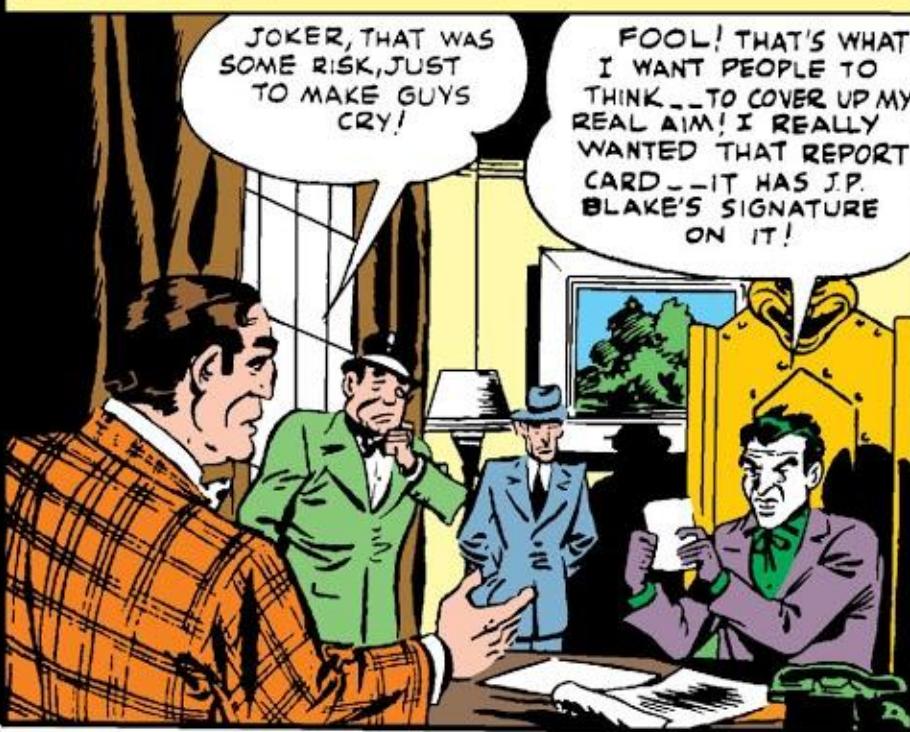
JOKER, THAT WAS SOME RISK, JUST TO MAKE GUYS CRY!

FOOL! THAT'S WHAT I WANT PEOPLE TO THINK... TO COVER UP MY REAL AIM! I REALLY WANTED THAT REPORT CARD -- IT HAS J.P. BLAKE'S SIGNATURE ON IT!

THIS PETITION HAS THE SIGNATURES OF WEALTHY, IMPORTANT MEN..., AND THE CHAUFFEUR'S REFERENCES ARE SIGNED BY OUR BEST CITIZENS! NOW DO YOU SEE?

I GET IT! WE'RE GOING TO FORGE CHECKS AND CASH IN, EH?

NO, NOTHING AS RISKY AS THAT! I HAVE OTHER PLANS! LISTEN...



LATER, AT COLOSSAL STUDIOS, WHERE A SELECTED GALA CROWD IS CELEBRATING THE FILMING OF THE FINAL SCENES OF A GREAT EPIC....

OKAY! J.P. BLAKE'S PASS IS GOOD ENOUGH FOR ME!



IT WORKED, JOKER! THAT FORGED PASS GOT US IN! GOOD THING THEY DIDN'T NOTICE THE TOMMY GUNS UNDER OUR COATS!

LET'S GET DOWN TO BUSINESS! FIRST, RAID THE DRESSING ROOMS OF THE STARS! THEN MEET ME ON THE LOT!

MEANWHILE, BACK AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS...

THE JOKER PULLED THOSE JOBS TO OBTAIN SIGNATURES, I TELL YOU!

WHAT CAN WE DO--

A SUDDEN INTERRUPTION...

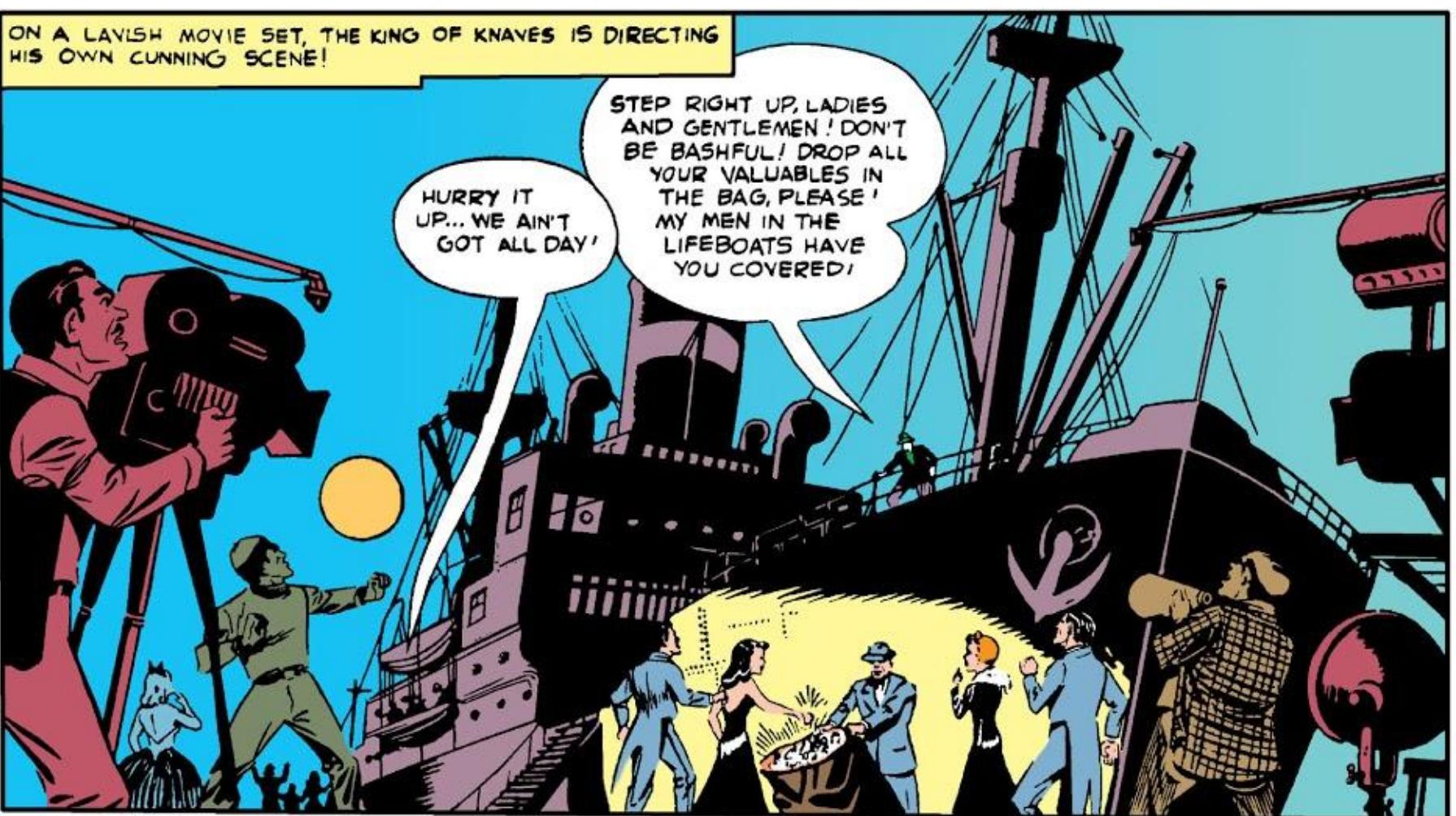
CHIEF, THE JOKER'S HOLDING UP THE COLOSSAL STUDIO'S CROWD! A GUARD MANAGED TO PHONE US!

SEE HOW IT FITS IN? LITTLE JOHNNY BLAKE'S FATHER IS VICE-PRESIDENT OF COLOSSAL! THEY FORGED HIS SIGNATURE!

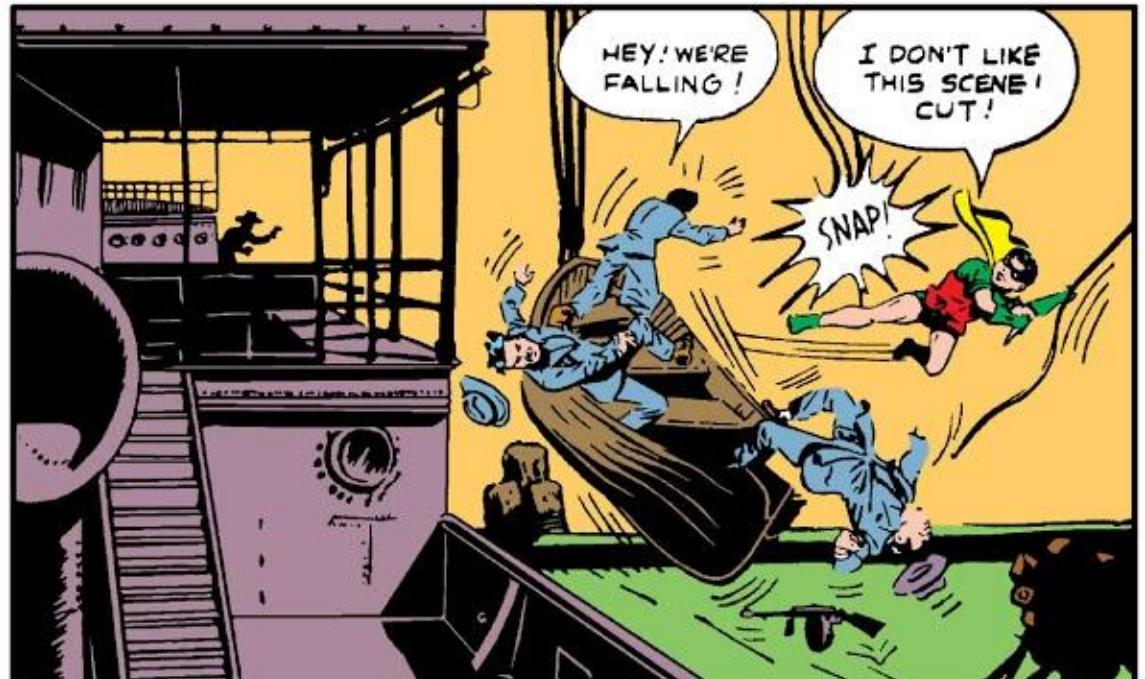
WHAT ARE WE WAITING FOR?



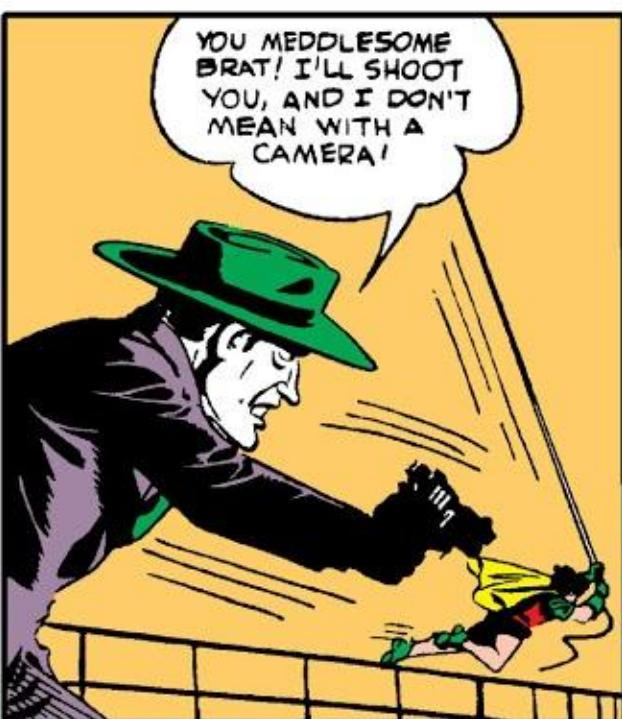
ON A LAVISH MOVIE SET, THE KING OF KNAVES IS DIRECTING HIS OWN CUNNING SCENE!



ABRUPTLY, LIKE A HUMAN PENDULUM, A SMALL CLOAKED FIGURE FLASHES DOWN FROM ABOVE!



YOU MEDDLESOME BRAT! I'LL SHOOT YOU, AND I DON'T MEAN WITH A CAMERA!

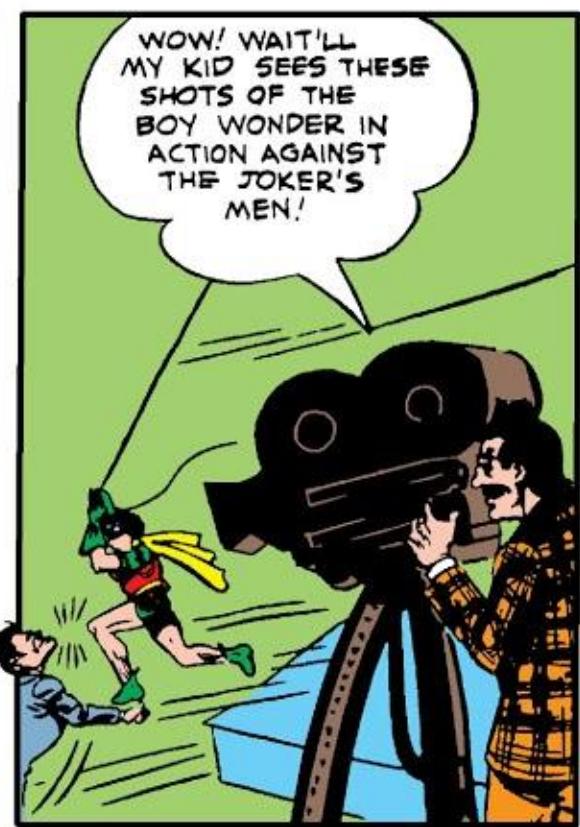
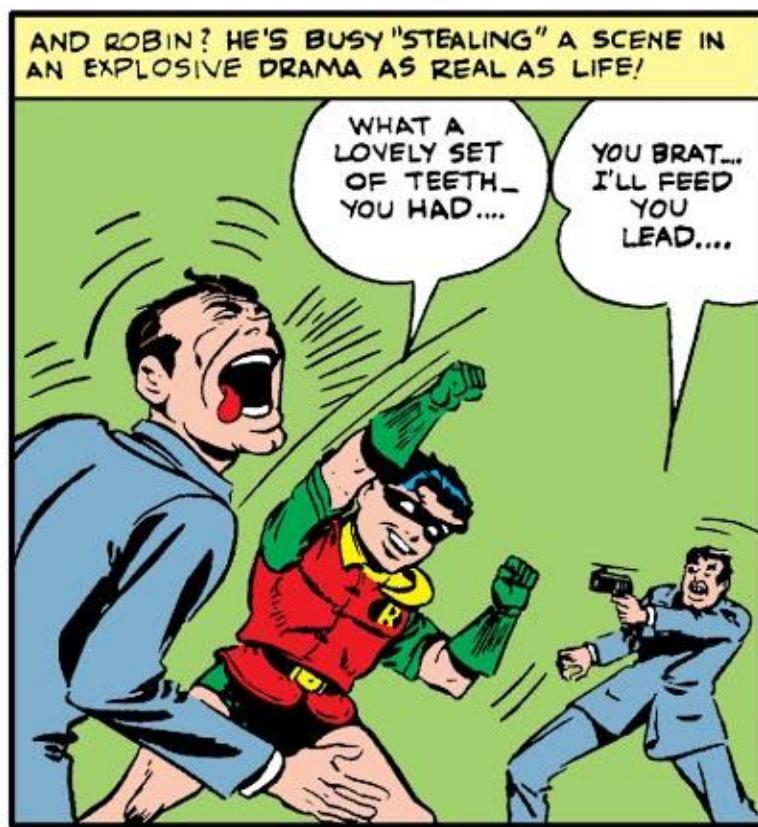


BUT THE HARLEQUIN OF HATE RECKONS WITHOUT HIS ARCH-NEMESIS!

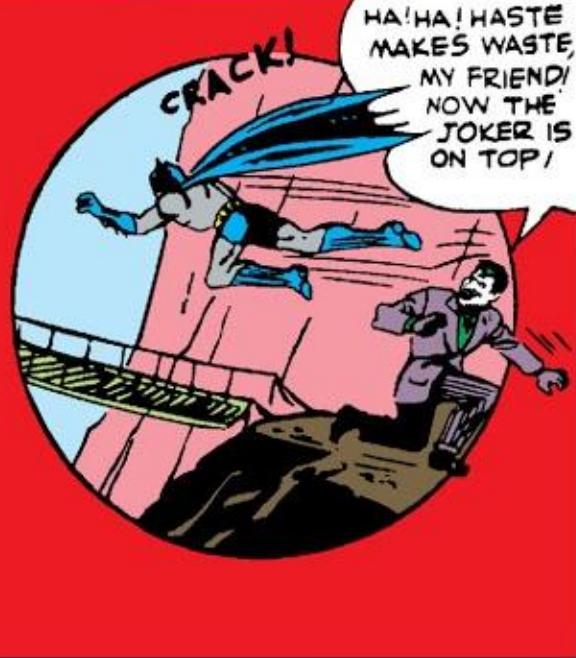


YOU COULD STAND MORE PUNCH IN YOUR SCENES, TOO!





PLUNGING FORWARD TOO SWIFTLY TO STOP HIMSELF, THE BATMAN TRIPS OVER THE SUDDENLY-CROUCHED FORM OF HIS ADVERSARY!



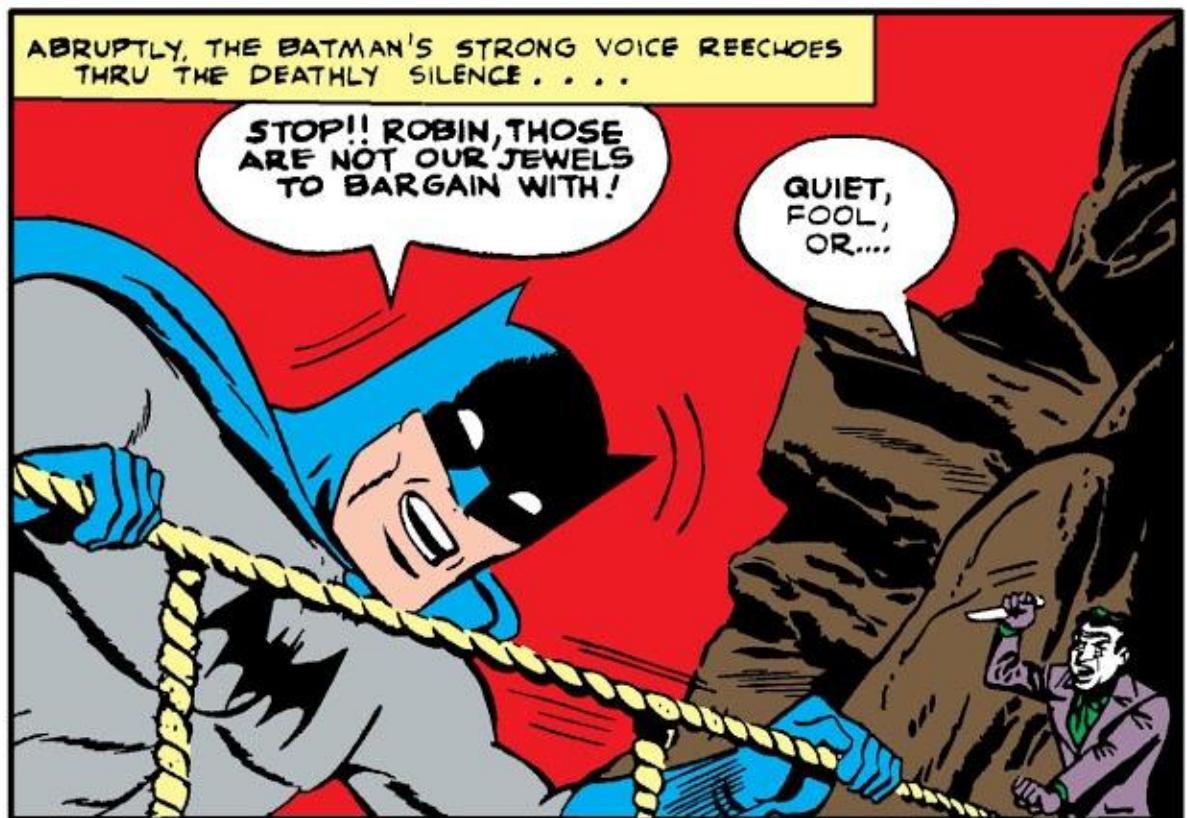
ACTING WITH LIGHTNING SPEED, THE CRIME CLOWN DELIVERS AN ULTIMATUM!



JOKER... YOU WIN THIS TRICK!



ABRUPTLY, THE BATMAN'S STRONG VOICE REECHOES THRU THE DEATHLY SILENCE . . .



WITHOUT A WORD, THE BAT-CAPED FIGURE LUNGES FORWARD... NOT AT THE JOKER... BUT INTO THE EMPTY SPACE OF THE YAWNING CHASM!



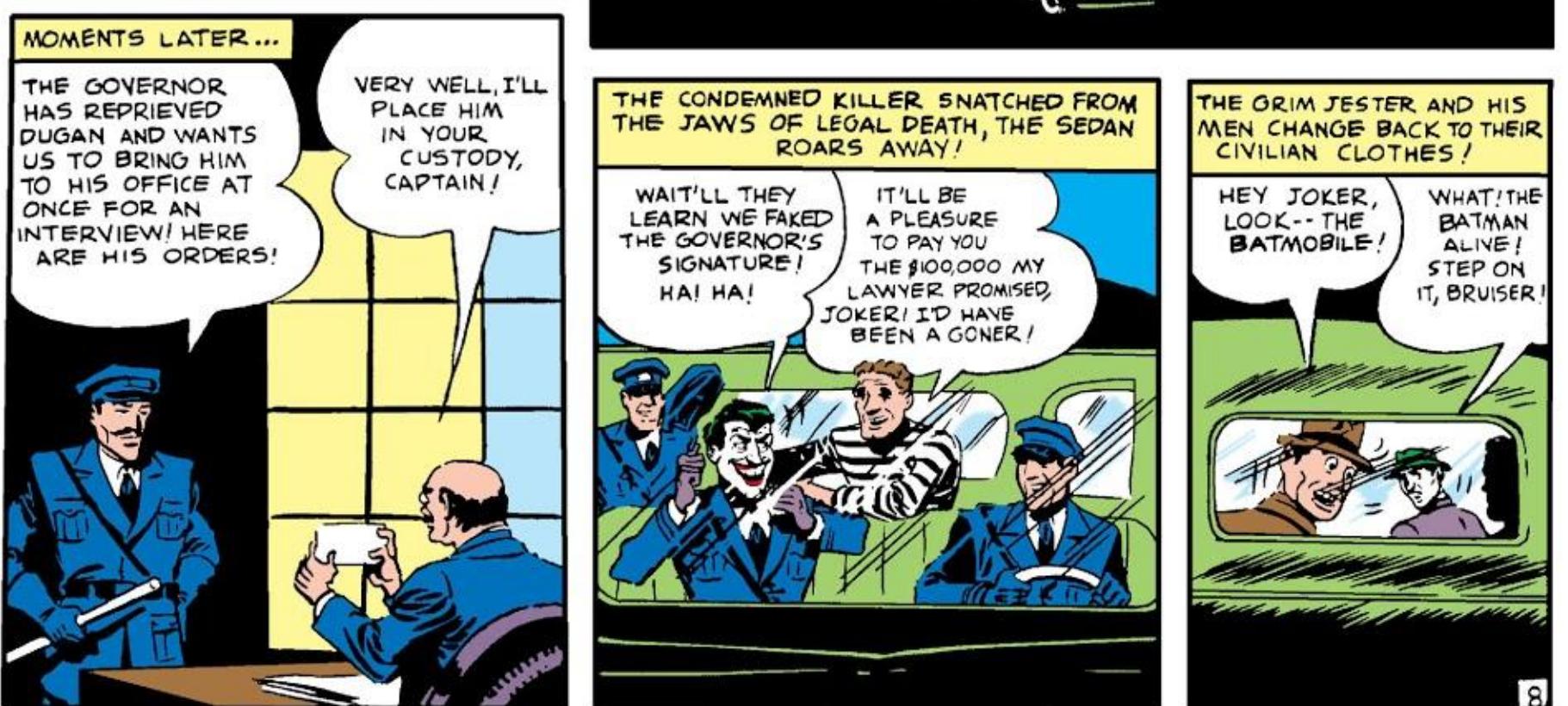
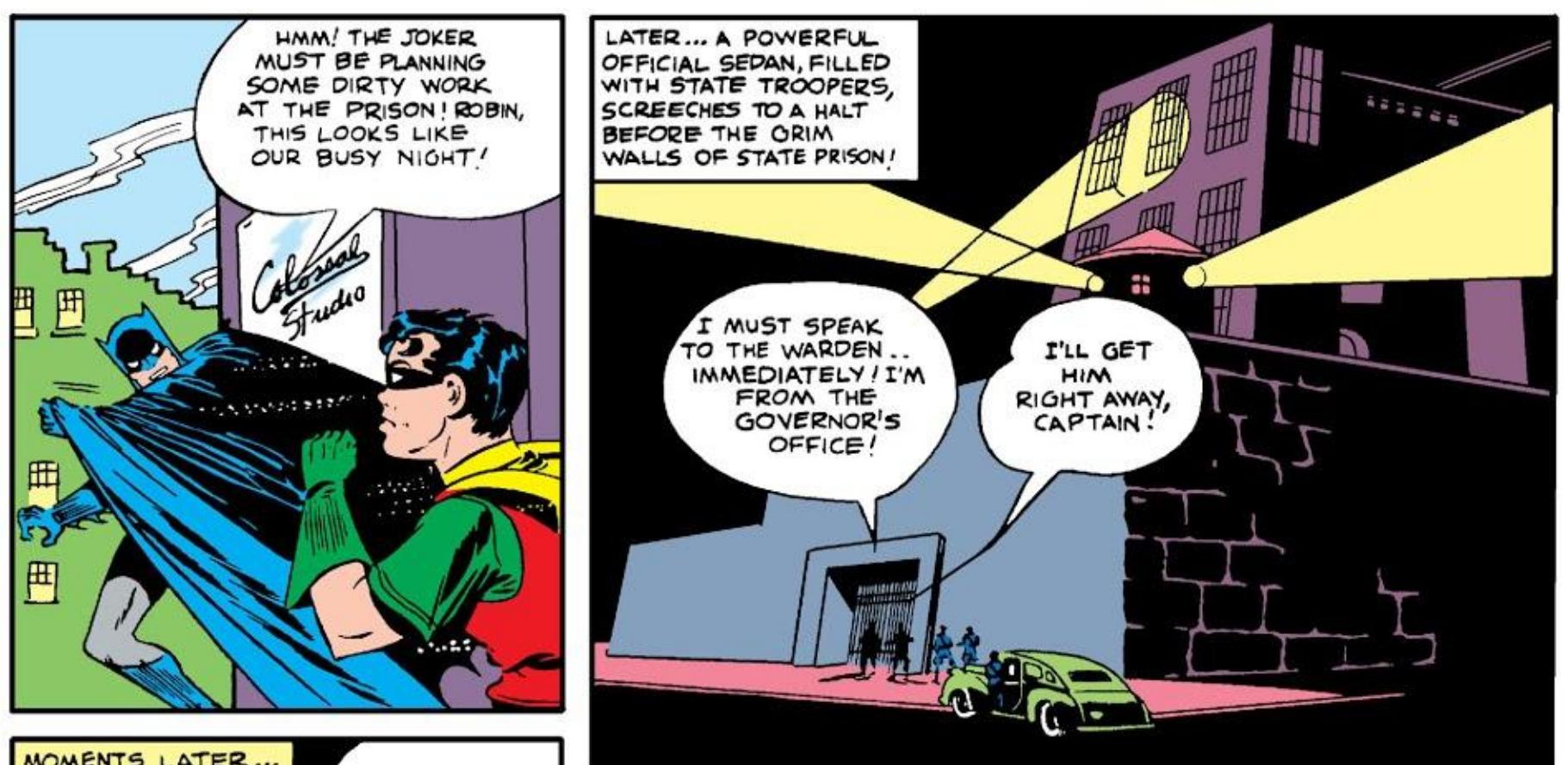
AND AS THE JOKER LEAPS AWAY... AN ANXIOUS BOY RACES TO THE RAVINE WITH A FEAR-STRANGLED HEART...

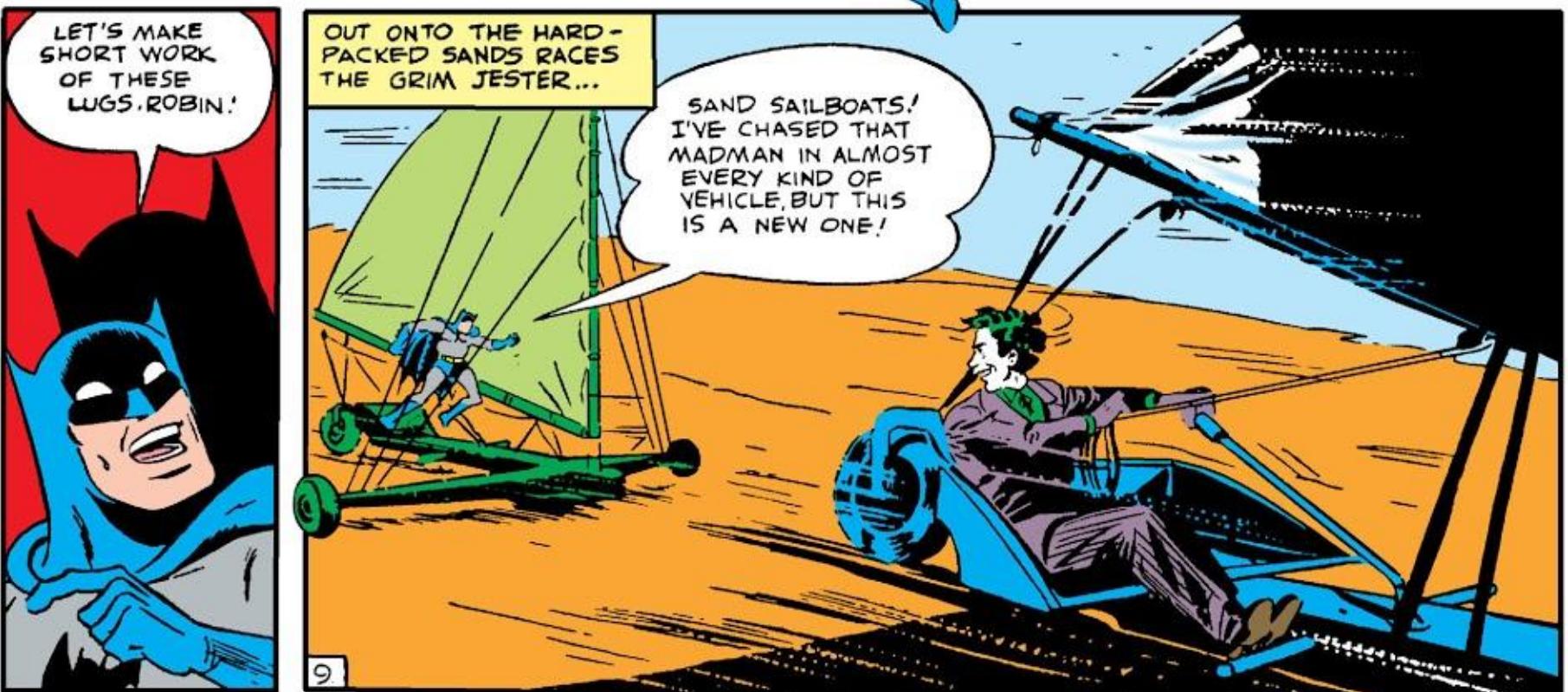
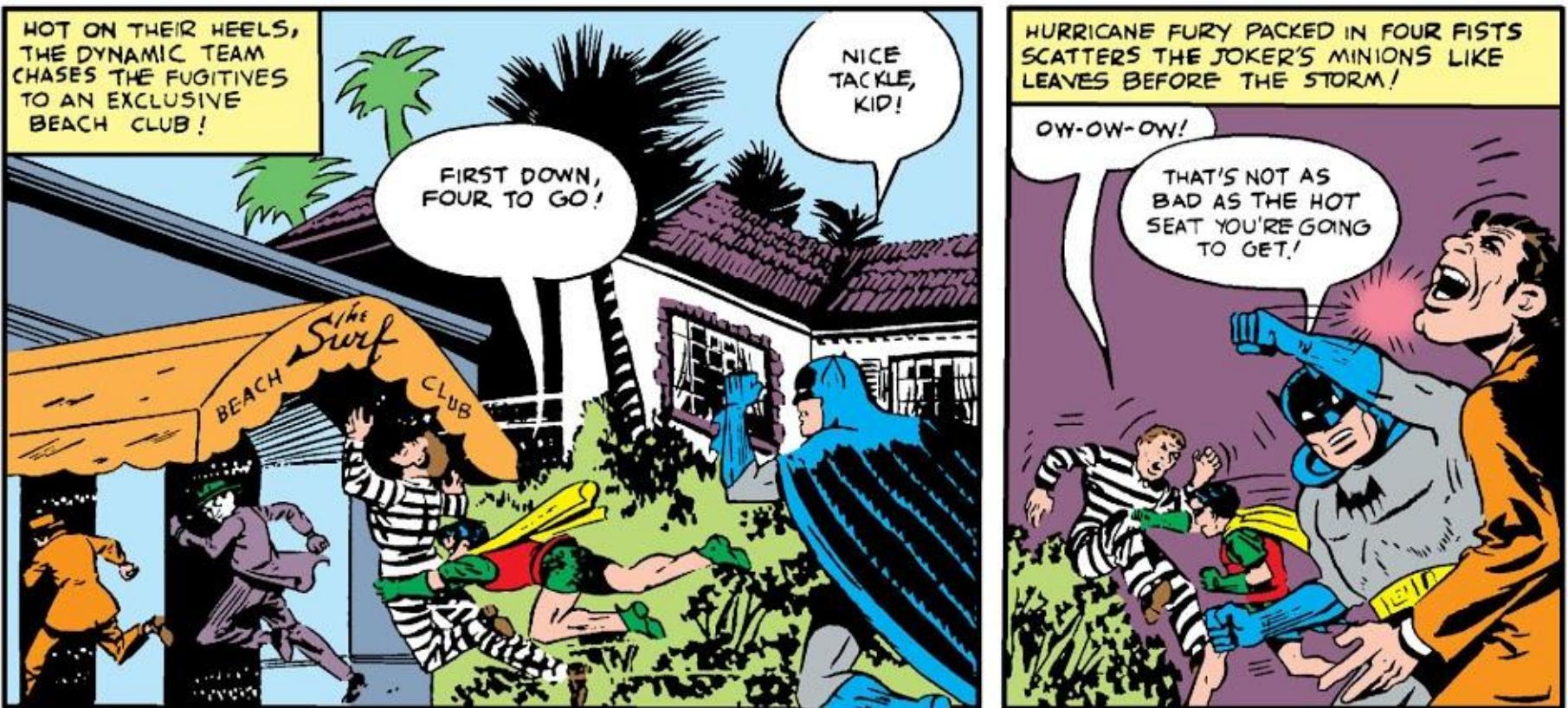
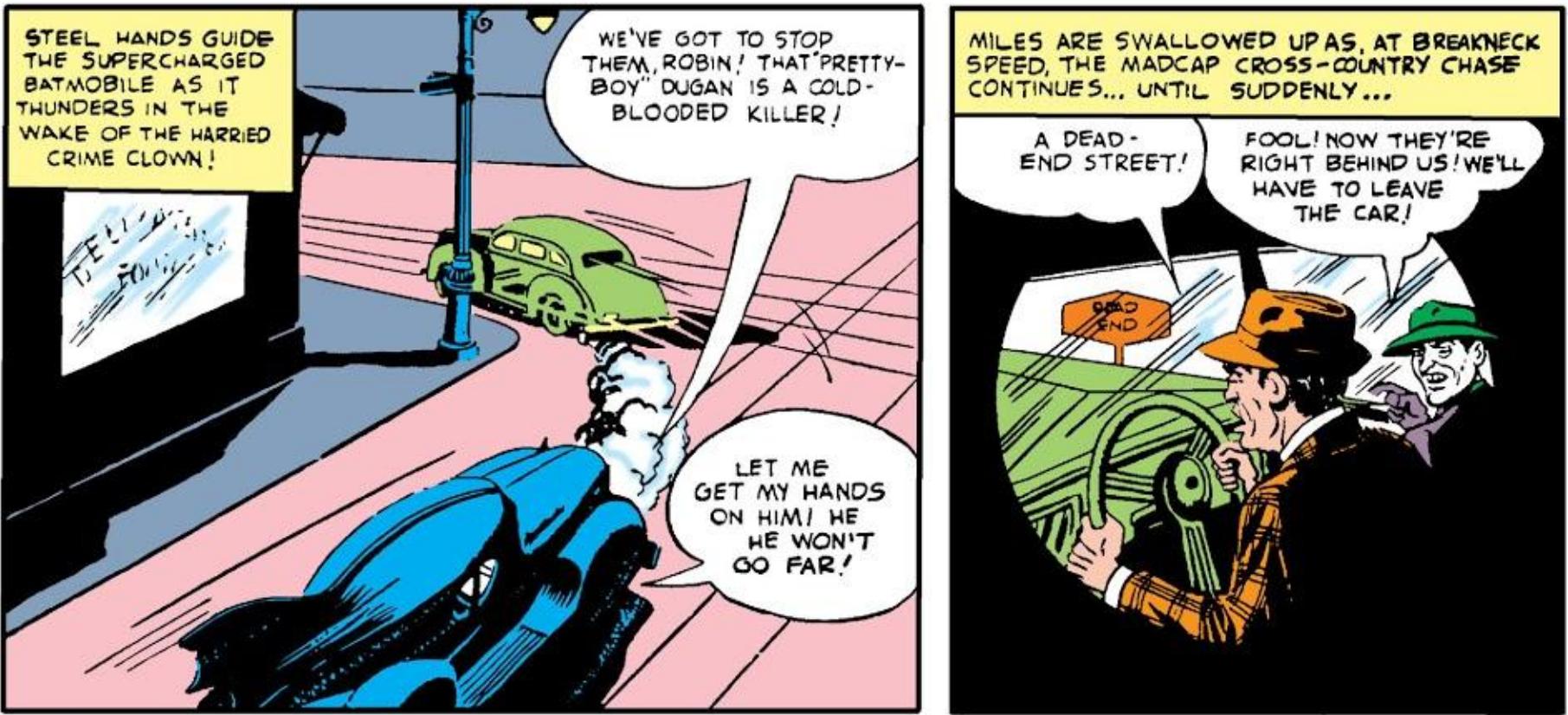
HE'S DEAD! I KNOW IT! OH, WHY DID HE DO IT? WHY?

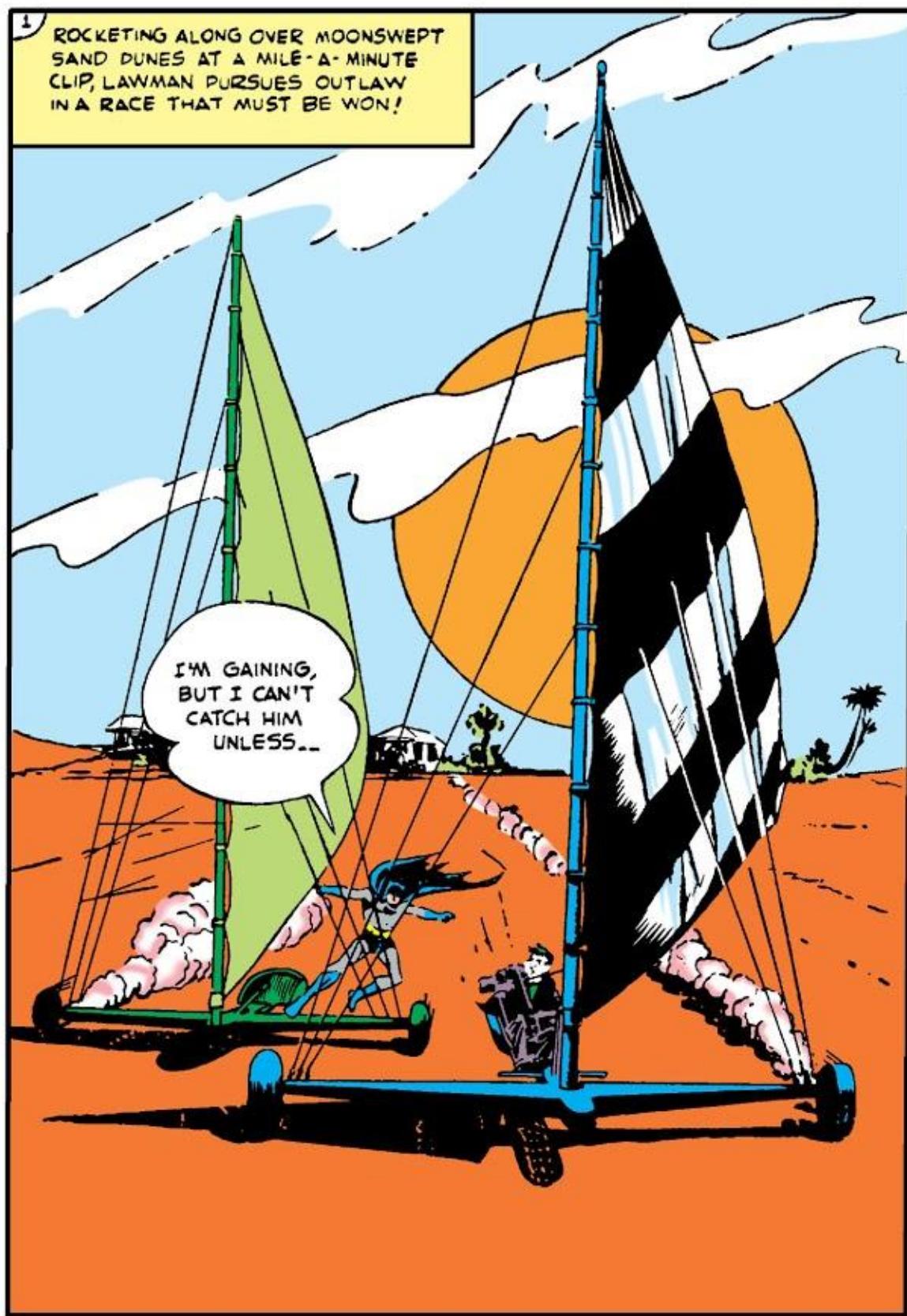


IS THIS THE END OF THE BATMAN? HAS A FOOLHARDY GESTURE WRITTEN FINIS TO THE CAREER OF CRIME'S GREATEST FOE???









SECONDS TICK BY, AND THEN A HEAD EMERGES FROM THE CHOPPY, WHITE-CAPPED WATERS... THE BATMAN'S!

WHEW! THAT WAS A CLOSE SHAVE! LOOKS LIKE THE JOKER DIDN'T COME UP FOR AIR!

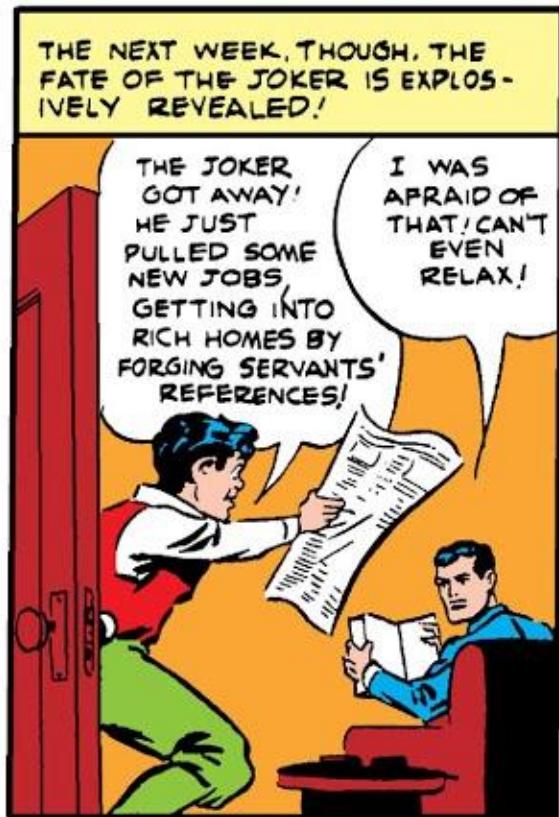
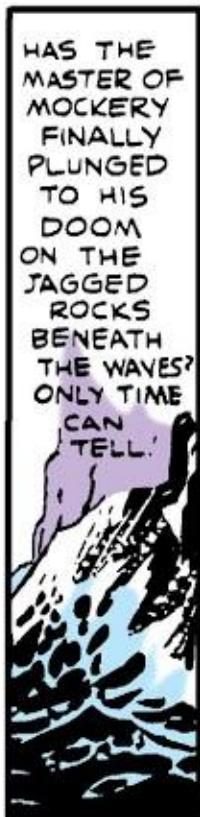
HAS THE MASTER OF MOCKERY FINALLY PLUNGED TO HIS DOOM ON THE JAGGED ROCKS BENEATH THE WAVES? ONLY TIME CAN TELL!

THE NEXT WEEK, THOUGH, THE FATE OF THE JOKER IS EXPLOSIVELY REVEALED!

I WAS AFRAID OF THAT! CAN'T EVEN RELAX!

HOW ARE WE GOING TO GO AFTER HIM NOW? WE DON'T KNOW WHAT HE'S GOING TO DO NEXT IN THIS COMEDY OF TEARS!

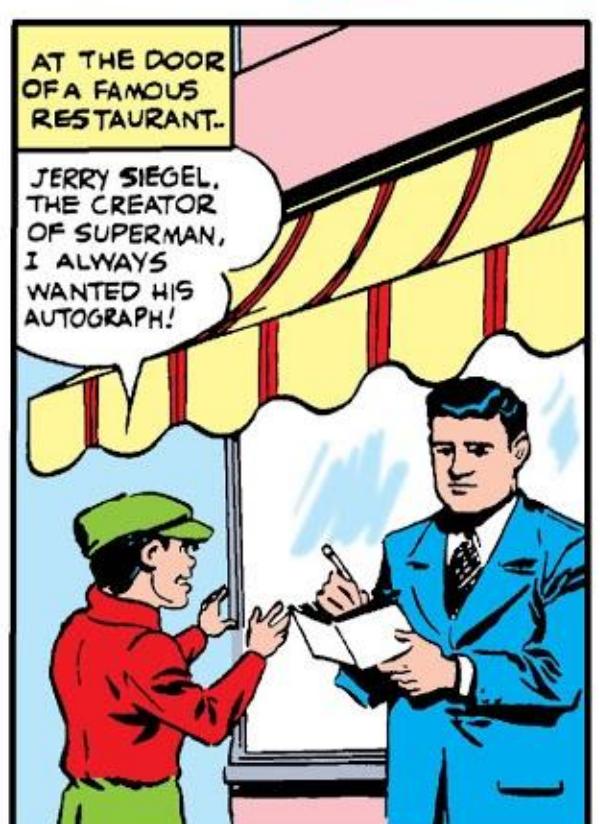
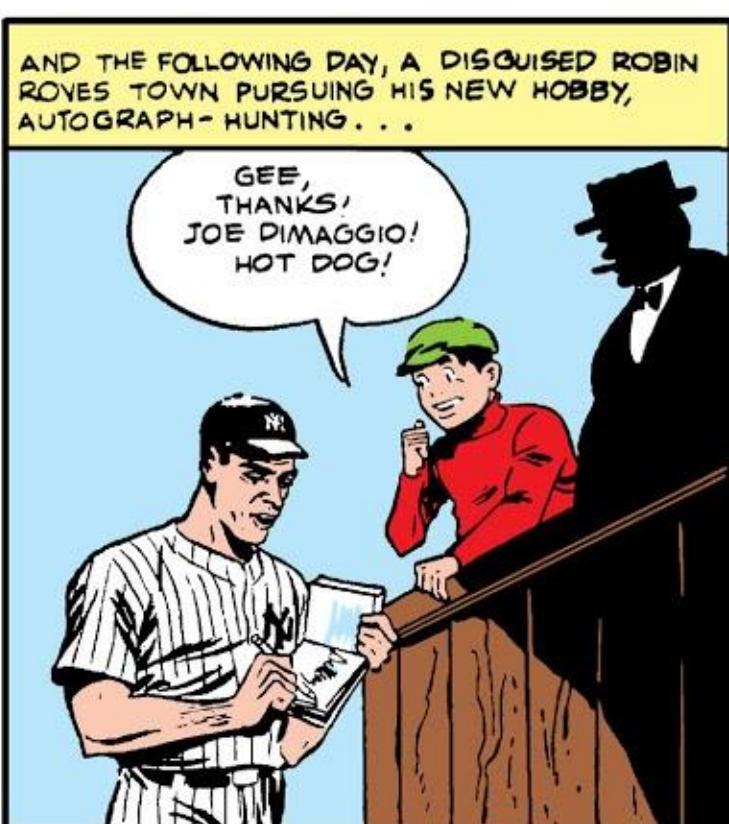
THEN WELL HAVE TO OFFER HIM SOME BAIT! I HAVE AN IDEA!



THAT EVENING, THE NEWSPAPERS...

AND THE FOLLOWING DAY, A DISGUISED ROBIN ROVES TOWN PURSUING HIS NEW HOBBY, AUTOGRAPH-HUNTING...

AT THE DOOR OF A FAMOUS RESTAURANT...

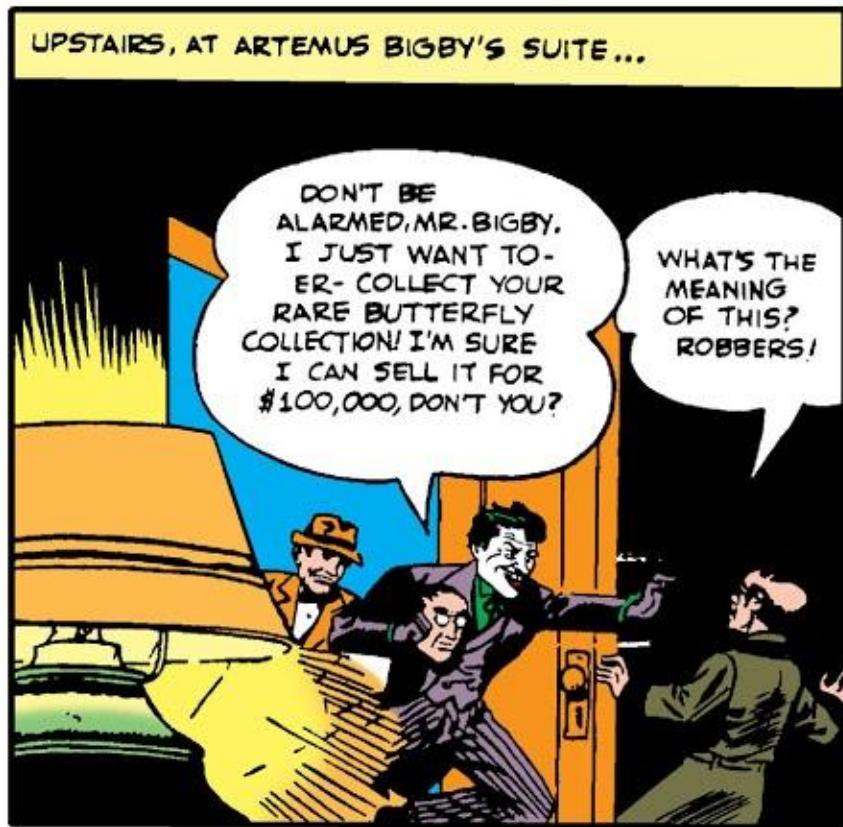


AND AT A DEPARTMENT STORE BOOK COUNTER...

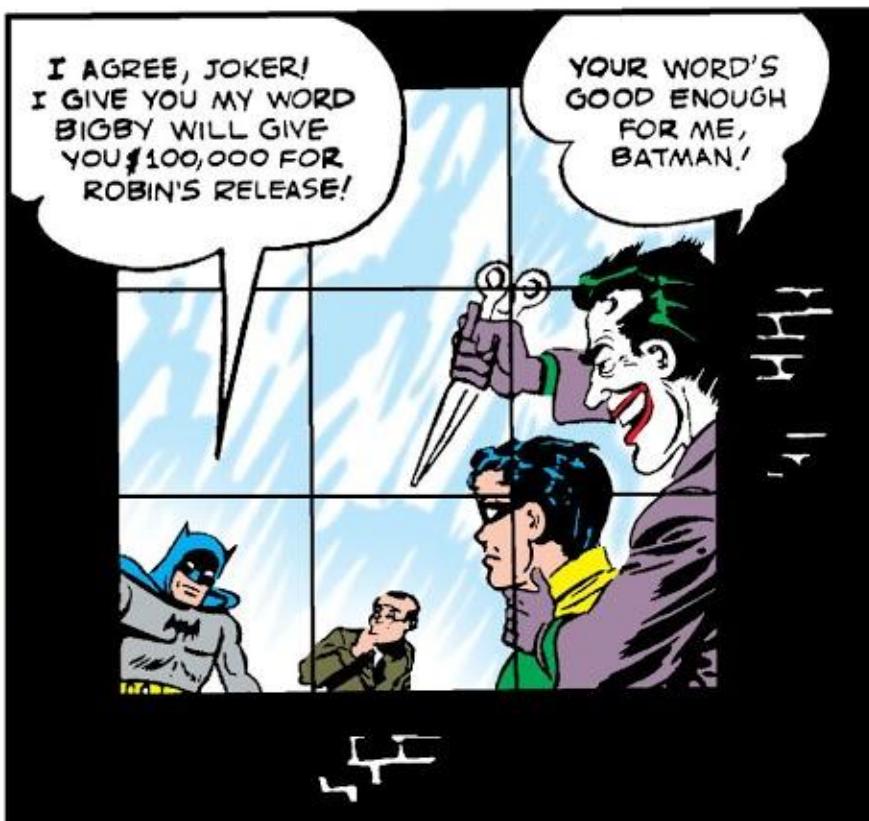
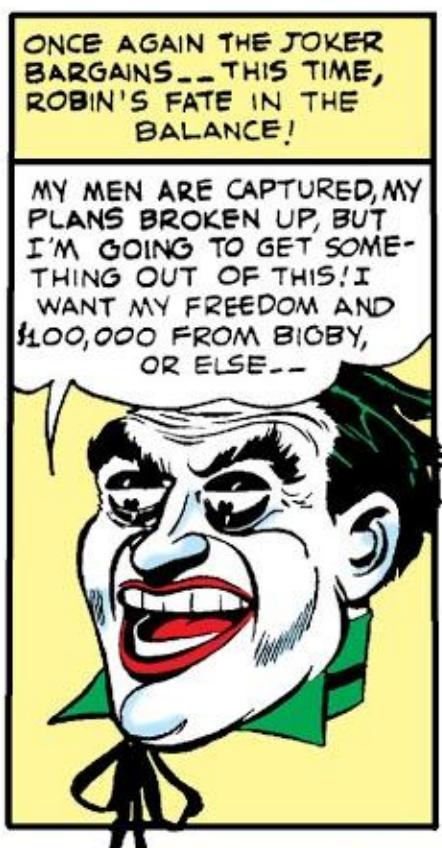
OUTSIDE, AMID THE JOSTLING CROWDS, A HAND SNAKES OUT AND...

IT WORKED! THE FISH BIT, ALL RIGHT! THERE'S ONLY ONE SIGNATURE IN THAT BOOK THE JOKER CAN REALLY USE -- THE OWNERS OF THE OTHERS ARE ALL GOING OUT OF TOWN!





HIS CRONIES SNARED AND CHLOROFORMED BY THE MEEK BUTTERFLY COLLECTOR, THE CORNERED CLOWN FIGHTS ON ALONE!



# BATMAN

WITH  
ROBIN

- THE BOY WONDER -

REG. U.S. PAT. OFF.

WHAT'S A STONE?  
JUST A BIT OF COLD ROCK,  
THAT'S WHAT YOU THINK!  
WE'LL TELL YOU OF A STONE... OF  
EXPRESSED HATE, REVENGE, EVIL! DO  
THEY SOUND EMOTIONLESS?  
AND HERE ALSO ARE STONES THAT  
MEANT NEW LIFE, NARROW ESCAPES  
FROM IMPENDING DOOM! CERTAINLY  
THESE ARE NOT DEAD STONES!  
AND AGAIN IN THIS TALE ARE  
STONES THAT BROUGHT ON DANGER,  
DOES THAT SEEM UNEXCITING TO YOU?  
THEN READ ON, LEARN HOW FATE  
CAST THE FIRST STONE  
THAT DECIDED A MAN'S LIFE  
AND BROUGHT ABOUT.....  
"THE STORY OF THE  
SEVENTEEN STONES!"

THE GOTHAM CITY PRISON YARD....

ROCKY GRIMES'S  
TWENTY-YEAR  
STRETCH IS UP  
TOMORROW!

YEAH.. THE GUY IS AS  
CRACKED AS THEM  
STONES HE HAMMERS!  
IMAGINE HIM PUTTIN'  
ON AN INNOCENCE ACT  
ALL THE TIME!

BOB  
KANE

THE NEXT DAY ROCKY GETS HIS RELEASE!

WARDEN, YOU STILL  
DON'T BELIEVE MY  
STORY THAT I'M  
**NOT** ROCKY GRIMES,  
THE GANGSTER!

I'VE HEARD YOU  
SAY THAT FOR  
TWENTY YEARS  
NOW! I KNOW  
YOU'RE ROCKY!  
**FINGERPRINTS  
DON'T LIE!**  
YOU'VE SERVED  
YOUR TIME! FORGET  
THE YARN!

SO A BEWILDERED MAN WALKS  
FROM BEHIND STONE PRISON  
WALLS TO THE STONE PAVEMENTS  
OF GOTHAM CITY!

ABRUPTLY, A CAR TIRE PASSES  
OVER THE END OF A LOOSE  
COBBLESTONE... AND FLIPS IT  
STRAIGHT AT THE MAN'S TEMPLE!



LATER... WHEN THE  
BLACK CURTAIN OF  
UNCONSCIOUSNESS  
LIFTS....

OH... MY HEAD! ---  
LEFTY SLADE... HE  
SLUGGED ME... I...  
WHAT HAPPENED  
TO MY HAIR?...  
AN' MY FACE  
WRINKLED  
---- OLD!

MY HEAD... SO  
DIZZY... BUT I  
REMEMBER NOW...  
**REMEMBER!**  
ME AND MY  
MOB... WE  
WERE HOLDING  
UP A BANK...  
I SHOT A  
GUARD....



IN HIS MIND'S EYE, THE MAN GOES BACK... BACK TO A  
**TWENTY YEARS AGO!!**



LATER... IN THE  
HIDEOUT...

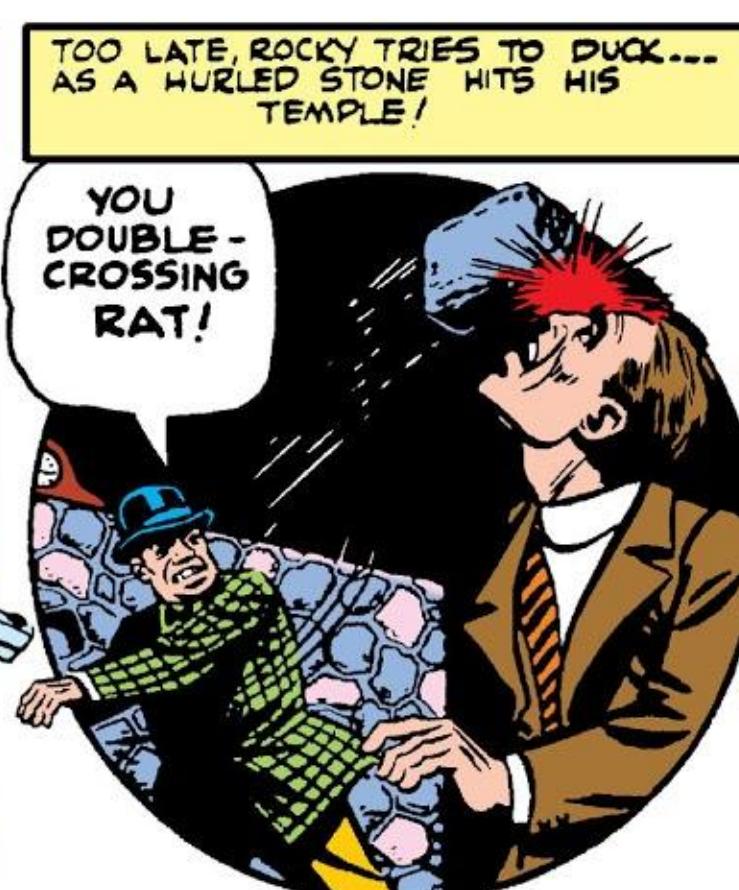
CHUMP! YOU  
HADDA GET  
SMART AN'  
BLAB YOUR  
NAME!

NOW EVERY  
COP  
IN THE  
COUNTRY  
WILL BE  
AFTER YOU!

YOU MEAN AFTER  
US! WE'RE ALL  
IN THIS TOGETHER.  
SQUEAL ON ME  
AND I'LL SQUEAL  
ON YOU GUYS!

TOO LATE, ROCKY TRIES TO DUCK...  
AS A HURLED STONE HITS HIS  
TEMPLE!

YOU  
DOUBLE-  
CROSSING  
RAT!





ROCKY BEGINS A CAMPAIGN OF VENGEANCE BY TRACKING DOWN HIS ONE-TIME MOB --- AND A WEEK LATER....

FIRST ON THE LIST IS LEFTY SLADE! HE'S A BIG-TIME CROOK NOW! A CROOK WOULD LIKE A KEY INTO PLACES -- SO HE GETS A KEYSTONE! HA/H/A/ THAT'S GOOD! A KEYSTONE!

NEXT DAY, AN OLDER, MORE EVIL LEFTY SLADE WAITS UNDER AN OLD-FASHIONED TENEMENT ARCHWAY!

WONDER WHO CALLED ME AND TOLD ME TO WAIT HERE FOR A TIP ABOUT AN EASY JOB?

HIGH ABOVE, A WIRE JERKS HARD AT THE ALREADY WEAKENED KEYSOME AND.. CRUSHING DOOM!



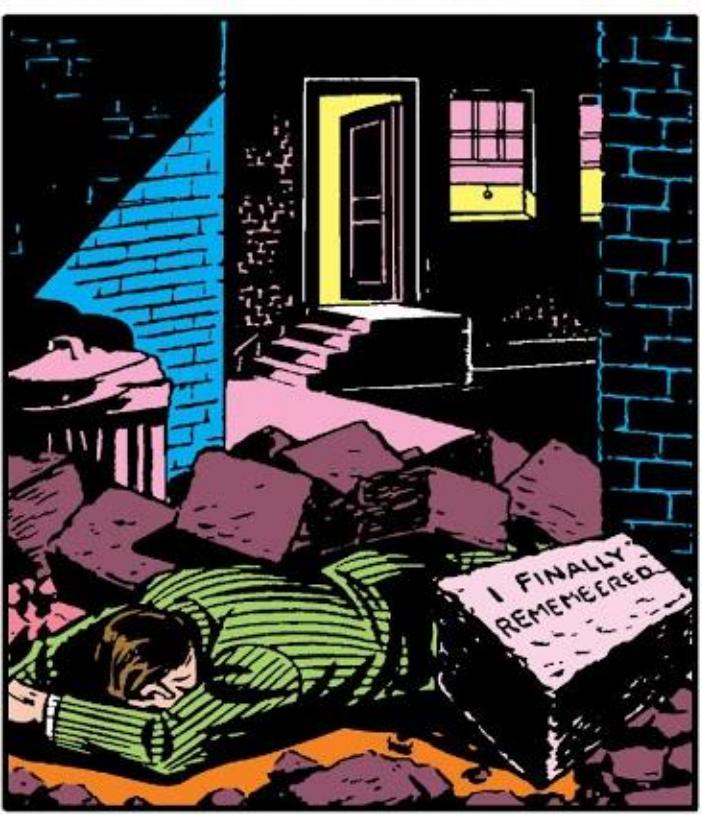
THAT NIGHT--AN EVIL LAUGH TWISTS ROCKY'S LIPS!

NEXT IS "FIN" GONZY! HE'S A LOAN SHARK NOW! PEOPLE ARE ALWAYS ON HIS HEAD FOR A TOUCH! I'LL GIVE HIM A TOUCH, TOO -- A TOUCHSTONE!

THE FOLLOWING DAY--- A DISGUISED ROCKY VISITS "FIN" GONZY, THE LOAN SHARK!

I'D LIKE TO HAVE A FEW BUCKS ON THAT GOLD WATCH!

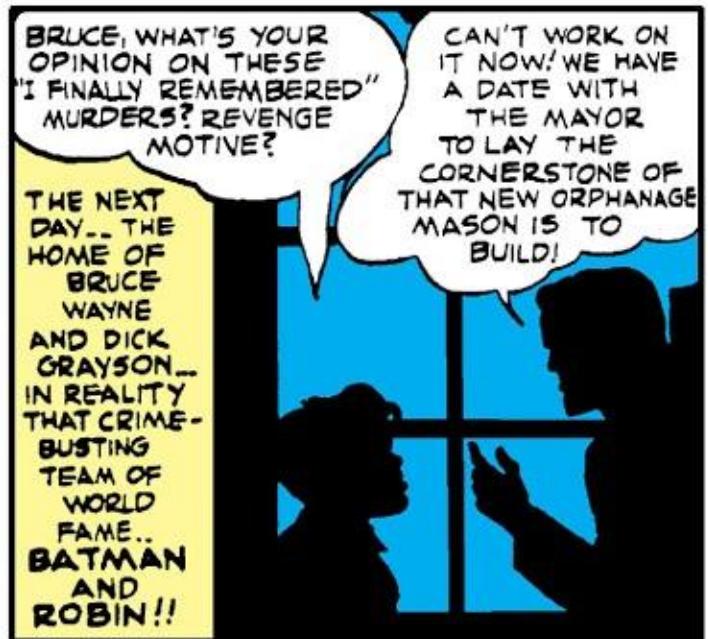
I'LL HAVE TO TEST IT! THIS IS BASANITE --- WHAT WE CALL A TOUCHSTONE! THE MARK IT LEAVES ON YOUR WATCH WILL TELL ME WHETHER IT'S PURE GOLD OR NOT!

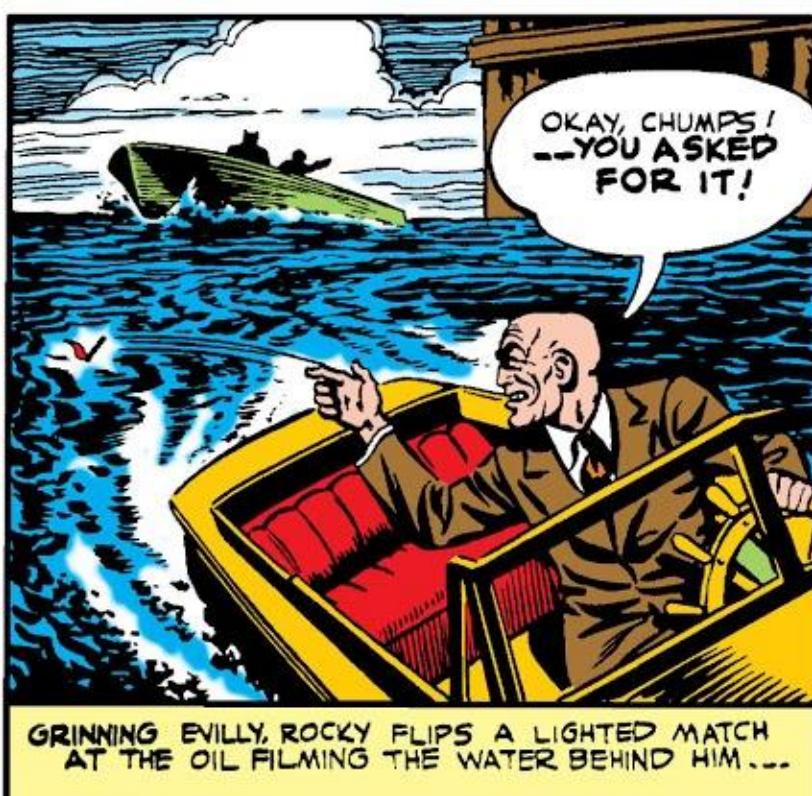


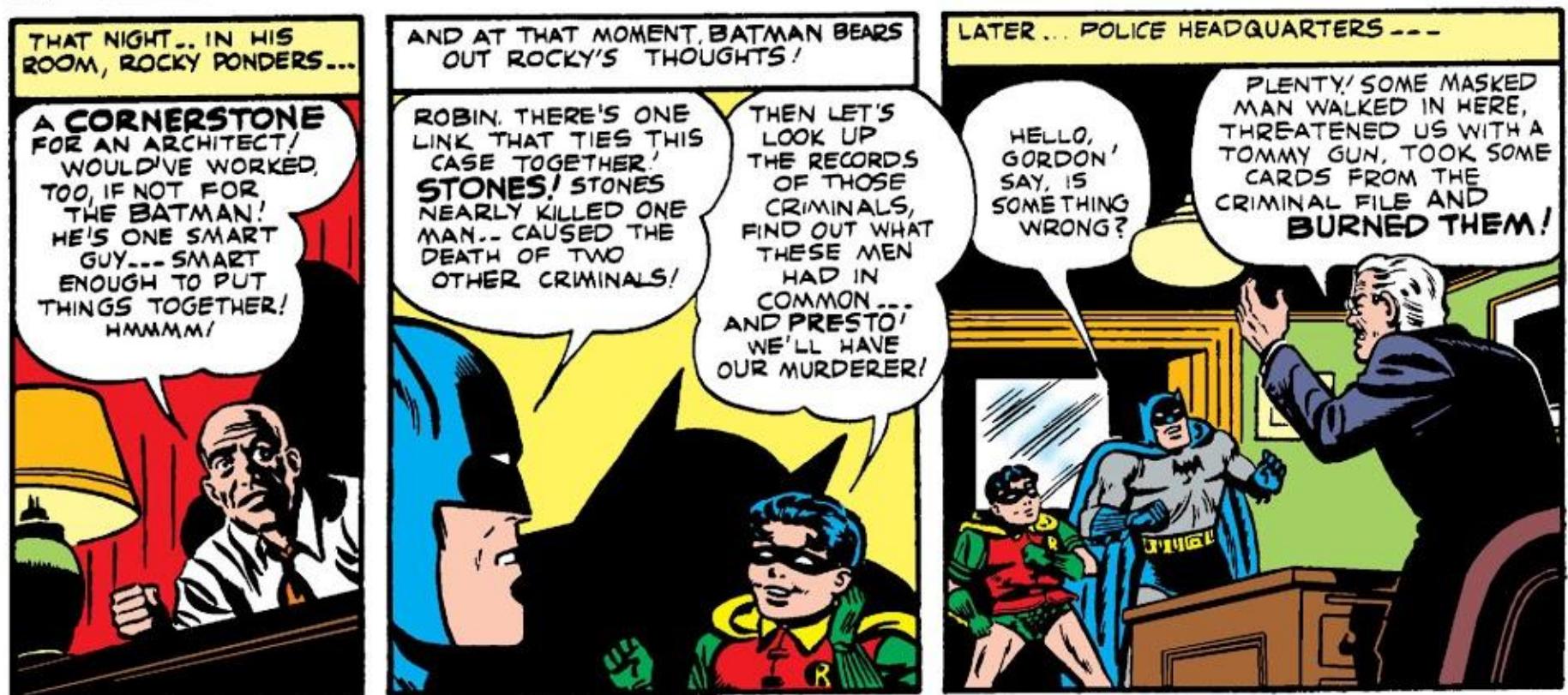
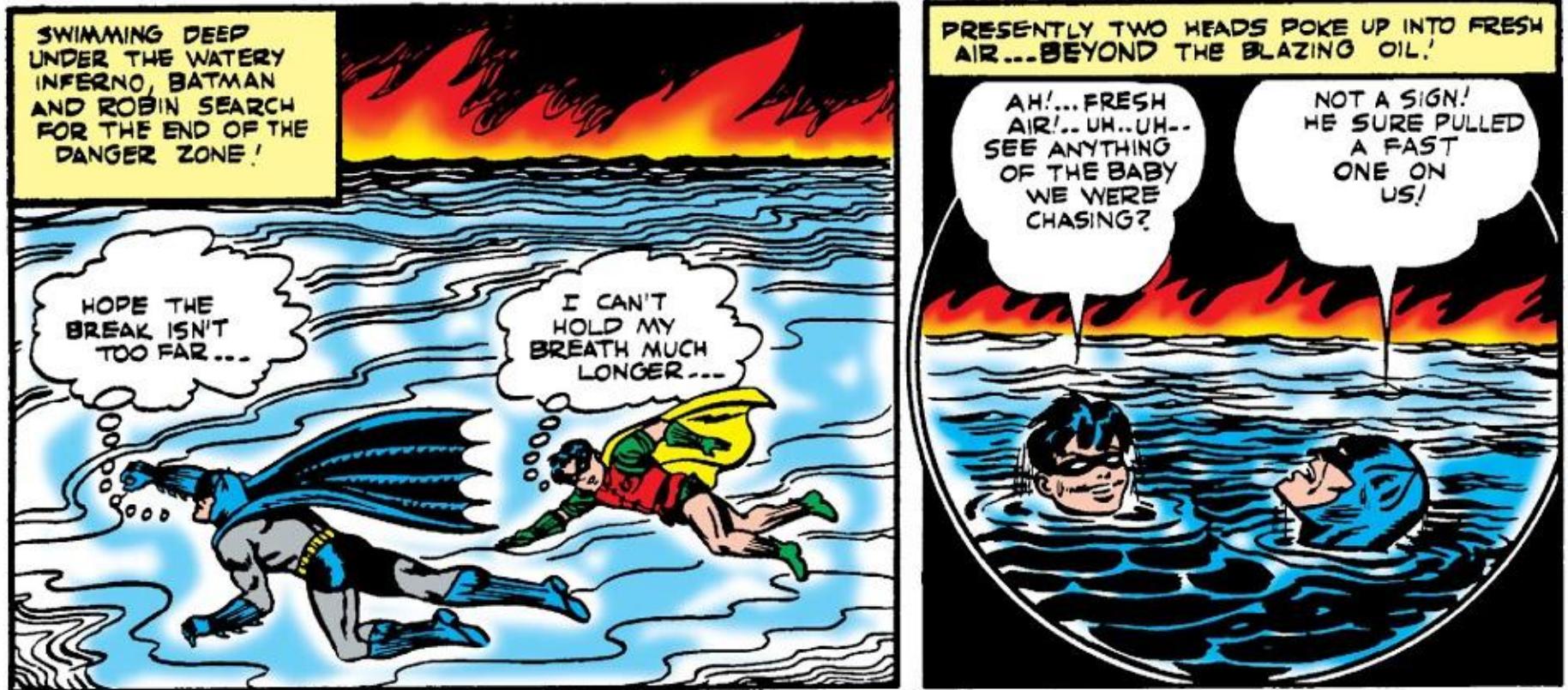
SUDDENLY ROCKY SHUCKS HIS DISGUISE, SEIZES THE TOUCHSTONE...

KNOW WHO I AM?  
ROCKY--YOUR OLD PAL, ROCKY!---  
AND, BROTHER,  
WHEN I GET  
THROUGH TOUCHING  
YOU, YOU'LL HAVE  
TO PAY --  
WITH YOUR LIFE!









THEN WE TAKE A  
NEWLY DISCOVERED CHEM-  
ICAL AND SPRAY IT  
INSIDE THE  
GLASS DOME!

NOW WE WAIT  
AND ALLOW THE  
RED SPRAY TO  
PERMEATE THE  
CHARRED CARDS  
INSIDE!

NEXT WE PHOTOGRAPH  
THE PAPER, USING INFRA-  
RED FILM PLATES!...  
AND THEN DEVELOP  
IT!

FINISHED! THE DEVELOPED PLATE  
SHOWS THE CARDS THEMSELVES  
COME OUT BLACK --- WHILE  
THE INK COMES OUT WHITE ---  
THAT'S BECAUSE THE INK DID  
NOT ABSORB THE  
CHEMICAL AS  
THE PAPER DID!

I'M GLAD I SAW  
THIS WITH MY OWN  
EYES! I NEVER  
REALIZED IT WAS  
POSSIBLE TO DO  
WHAT YOU DID!

YES, ROBIN.  
AND IT'S TIME  
CRIMINALS  
REALIZED  
THAT CRIME  
WILL OUT WHEN  
THEY START  
BUCKING THE  
SCIENTIFIC  
APPARATUS  
PITTED  
AGAINST  
THEM!

AFTER EXAMINING THE DATA  
ON THE CARDS ---

SO SLADE,  
GONZY,  
MASON AND  
TWO  
OTHERS  
NAMED  
BRENNER  
AND PARKS  
BELONGED TO  
A ROCKY  
GRIMES MOB  
TWENTY  
YEARS  
AGO!

YES, AND I'M SURE  
THEY WERE THE  
ONES WHO DUMPED  
ROCKY AT THE  
JAIL... ROCKY  
MUST BE OUT  
FOR REVENGE...  
AND OUT TO  
GET THE  
TWO OTHERS!

ACCORDING TO THIS  
FILE, PARKS WENT  
OUT WEST TO OPERATE  
A CONCESSION IN THE  
PETRIFIED FOREST...  
BRENNER WENT  
STRAIGHT, TOO,  
AND BECAME A  
DIAMOND-CUTTER!

THEN BRENNER'S  
THE MAN WHO  
IS TO CUT THE  
FAMOUS ONKER'S  
DIAMOND TONIGHT  
AT THE HOUSE  
OF JEWELS  
EXHIBIT IN TOWN!

ROCKY'S SURE TO  
TRY TO GET  
BRENNER FIRST!  
LET'S GO!

GOLLY!  
WE'VE NO  
TIME TO  
LOSE NOW!



THE HOUSE OF JEWELS EXHIBIT-- LYNX-EYED GUARDS WATCH THE AWE-STRUCK SPECTATORS VIEWING THE GREATEST COLLECTION OF GEMS TO BE GATHERED UNDER ONE ROOF!



OOOOh!  
HOW  
LOVELY!  
A RAINBOW  
OF JEWELS!

AND AT THE  
END OF THE  
RAINBOW IS  
A POT OF GOLD...  
GOLDEN TOPAZES!

LOOK! A  
MINIATURE  
TAJ MAHAL!  
AND THE  
WALLS INSIDE  
ARE INLAID  
WITH PRECIOUS  
GEMS!

BUT THE GREAT EVENT COMES WHEN THE FABULOUS ONKERS DIAMOND, WEIGHING 100 CARATS, IS ABOUT TO BE CLEAVED! A HUSH BLANKETS THE AUDIENCE!

...AND IF THE DIAMOND IS NOT CLEANLY SPLIT, IT MAY LOSE MOST OF ITS ORIGINAL VALUE -- SO LET'S HAVE ABSOLUTE SILENCE, PLEASE! THIS IS A TICKLISH JOB!

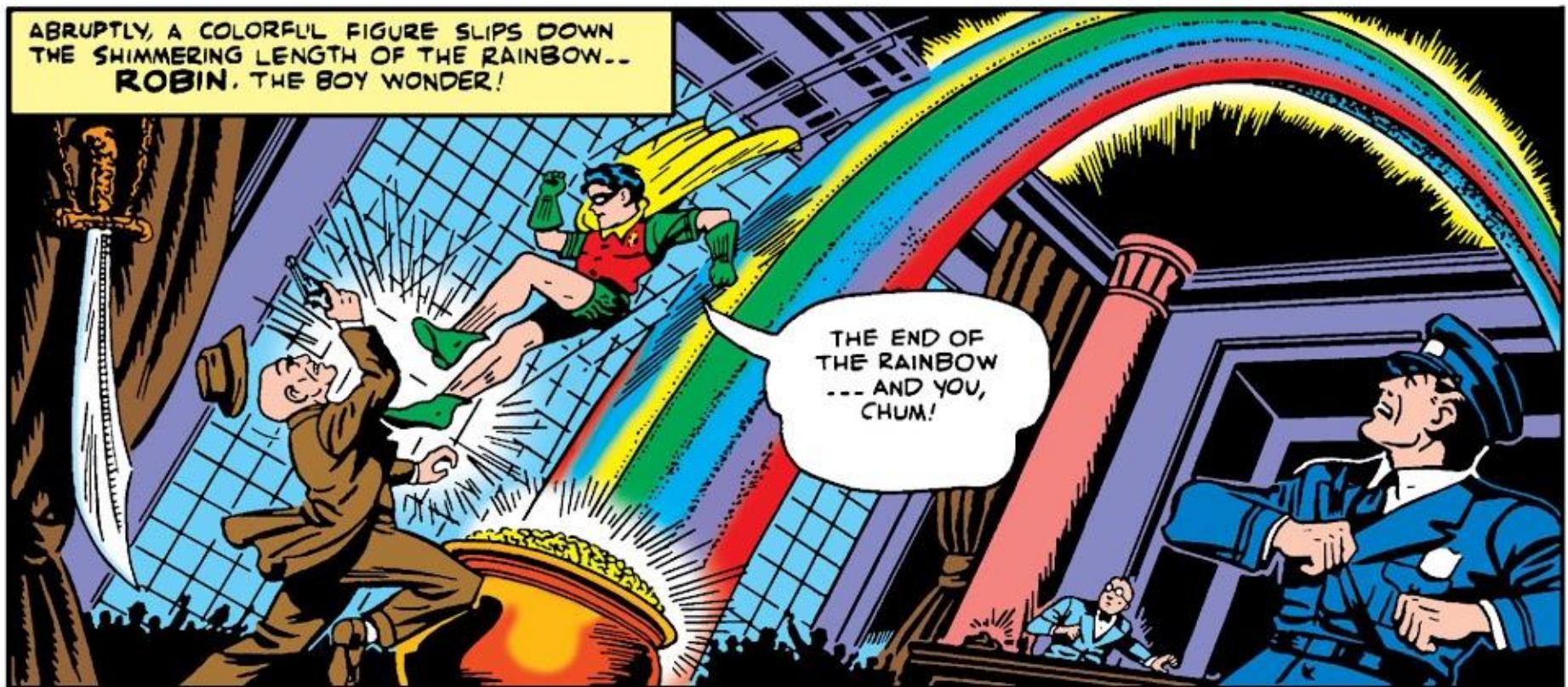


AS BRENNER'S HAND RAISES, POISED FOR THE STROKE THAT MEANS THE LIFE OR DEATH OF A DIAMOND, ANOTHER HAND IS RAISED, POISED FOR THE STROKE THAT MEANS LIFE OR DEATH... FOR BRENNER!

OKAY, PAL... IT'S THE BLOODSTONE FOR YOU!



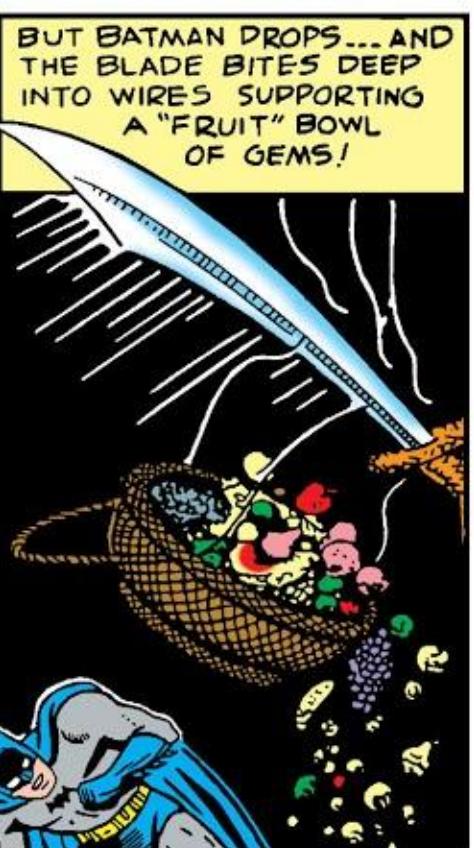
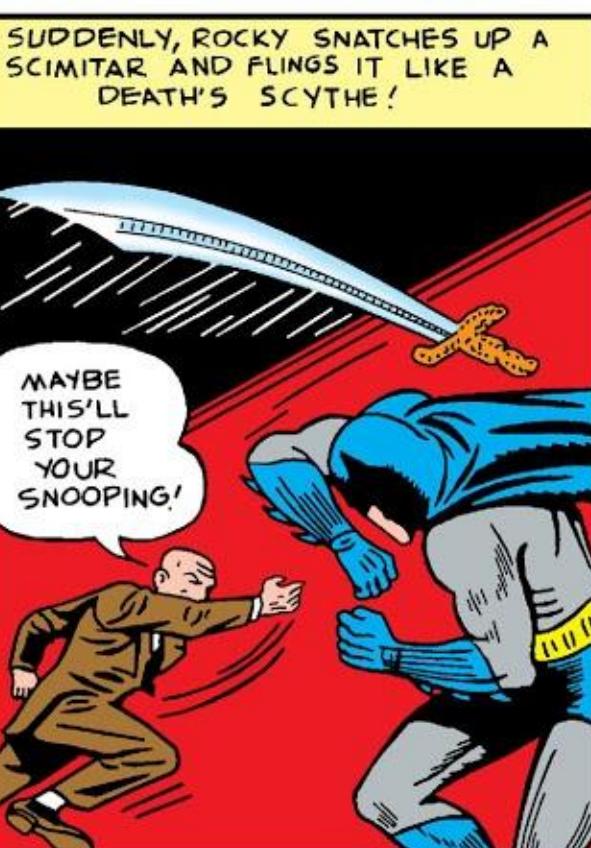
ABRUPTLY, A COLORFUL FIGURE SLIPS DOWN THE SHIMMERING LENGTH OF THE RAINBOW--  
ROBIN, THE BOY WONDER!

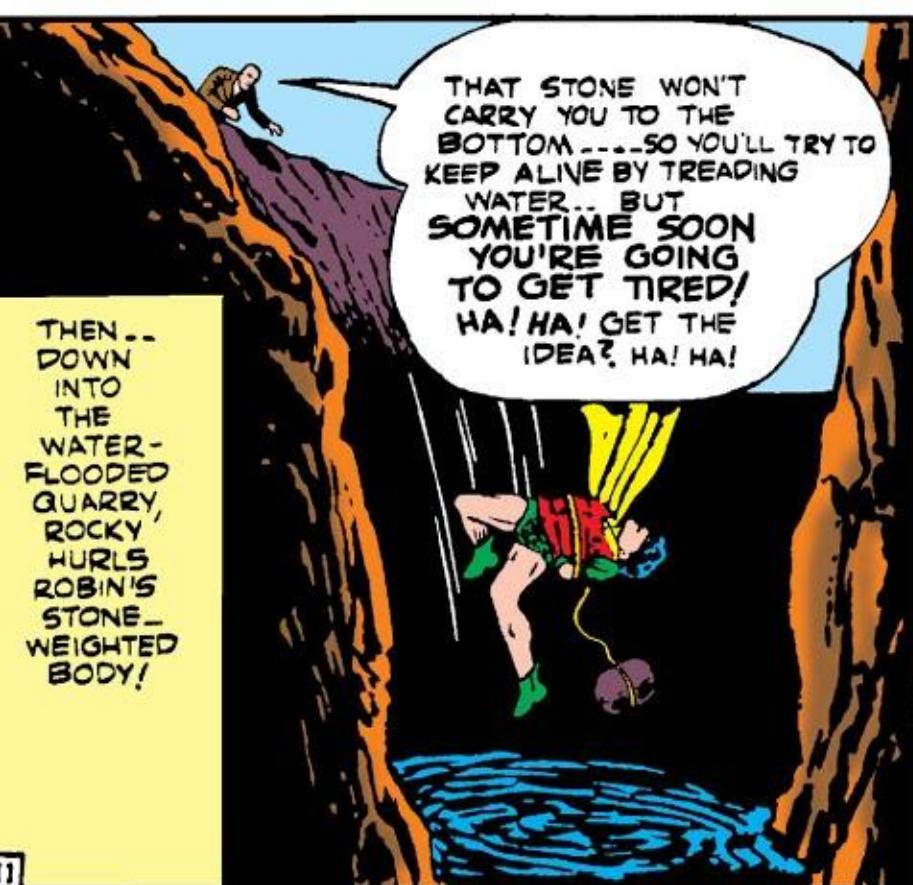


THE END OF  
THE RAINBOW  
--- AND YOU,  
CHUM!



YOU DEVIL!  
HOW DID YOU  
KNOW I'D  
BE HERE?





(COUGH-COUGH) STUFF'S  
GETTING THICK! (COUGH-COUGH)  
GOT TO THINK! (COUGH) THAT  
OLD GRINDSTONE ONCE USED  
TO SHARPEN TOOLS...  
MAYBE ...

STRAINING HIS LEGS, BATMAN HOOKS  
A FOOT ON THE GRINDSTONE'S BASE  
AND DRAGS IT NEAR... INCH BY  
INCH ---- UNTIL ----

THAT'S IT! (COUGH-COUGH)  
EVERYTHING LOOKS  
BLURRED... GETTING  
WEAK... (COUGH-COUGH)  
GOT TO WORK FAST TO  
SAVE MYSELF AND  
ROBIN...

A WHIR... A  
HARSH BUZZ...  
AND THE  
GRINDSTONE'S  
ROUGH EDGE  
SAWS AGAINST  
THE TAUT ROPES!

CAN'T KEEP THIS UP  
MUCH LONGER (PANT-PANT)  
WONDER WHAT'S HAPPENED  
TO BATMAN? (PANT-PANT)

MEANWHILE...  
ROBIN'S  
CHURNING  
LEGS KEEP  
HIM  
FROM  
DROWNING  
DEATH... BUT  
THE PLUCKY  
LAD IS  
GROWING  
WEAK!

SUDDENLY A HISSING ROPE  
COILS ABOUT THE  
LAD'S MIDDLE!

ROBIN, MY  
ARMS ARE TOO  
NUMB FROM  
BEING BOUND  
TO LIFT YOU  
ALL THE WAY...  
I'M GOING  
TO TRY  
SOMETHING...

LASHING THE  
FREE END OF  
THE ROPE ABOUT  
A HEAVY  
BOULDER,  
BATMAN  
PUSHES IT  
OVER THE  
EDGE!

THE HEAVY  
STONE DROPS  
AND ROBIN'S  
LIGHTER  
BODY IS  
JERKED  
OUT OF  
THE WATER  
TO  
ASCEND  
TO SAFETY!

A MOMENT LATER...

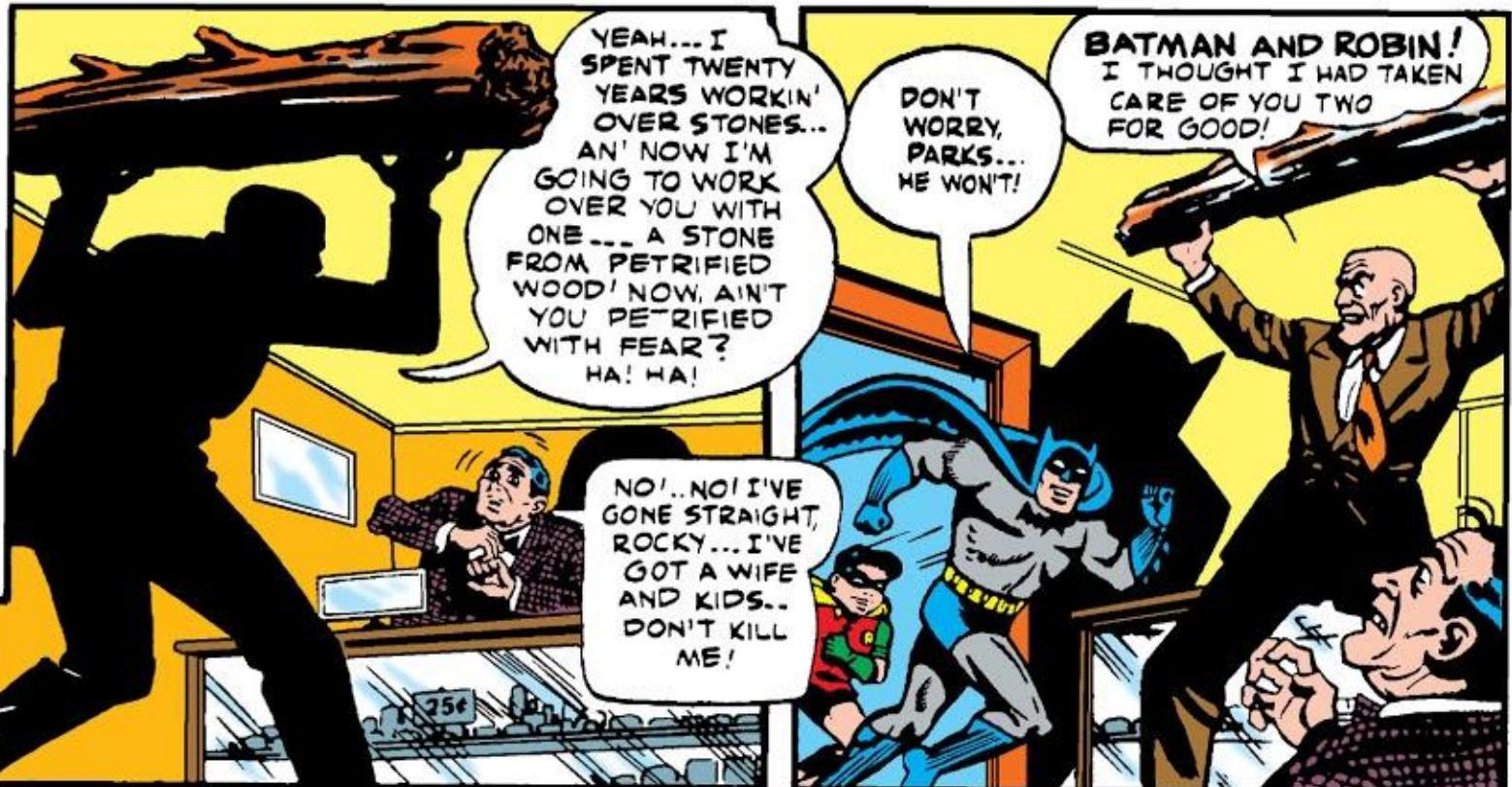
THAT WAS FAST  
THINKING! IT TOOK  
A STONE TO SAVE  
ME FROM DROWNING  
BY ANOTHER STONE!  
WHAT NEXT?

WOW!  
ELEVATOR...  
GOING  
UP!

NEXT WE  
GO TO THE  
PETRIFIED  
FOREST! NO  
DOUBT ROCKY'S  
GONE THERE  
TO GET PARKS,  
THE LAST OF  
HIS OLD MOB!  
C'MON, ROBIN ..  
WE'RE  
TRAVELING!

THE PETRIFIED FOREST... WHERE FALLEN TREES HAVE BEEN PETRIFIED... BY NATURE TURNED TO STONE!

IN HIS CONCESSION, PARKS HAS A SNARLING VISITOR...



A SUDDEN, SURPRISING LEAP CARRIES ROCKY THROUGH AN OPEN WINDOW AND INTO THE FOREST ITSELF!

C'MON, ROBIN! I WANT TO WIND UP THIS CASE!

IT'S ABOUT TIME!

WITH POWERFUL, DISTANCE-EATING STRIDES, BATMAN CLOSES THE GAP... AND, ATOP A STONE LOG BRIDGE, TANGLES WITH THE KILLER!

TALK'S CHEAP, "PAL!"

OKAY, PAL... I'M GONA BEAT YOUR FACE IN FOR YOU!

SUDDENLY THE SKIES DARKEN -- AND DOWN POURS THAT PHENOMENON OF NATURE... HAILSTONES!

AND SO IN THIS WEIRD FOREST OF STONE AS HAILSTONES PELT DOWN BATMAN LOCKS IN A LIFE AND DEATH STRUGGLE WITH ROCKY GRIMES

HA, THAT ONE HURT! NOW, THIS IS WHERE YOU GET YOURS!

BUT AS EAGER ROCKY CHARGES, HE SLIDES AND SLIPS ON THE HAILSTONES UNDER-FOOT... AND...

ONCE AGAIN, STONES... HAILSTONES... HAVE DECIDED ROCKY'S FATE!

AND SO, AS IT MUST TO ALL MEN, DEATH COMES TO ROCKY GRIMES... HE LIVED BY STONES.. AND DIED BY STONES...

---- AND FINALLY ENDED UP BENEATH ONE... A TOMBSTONE!

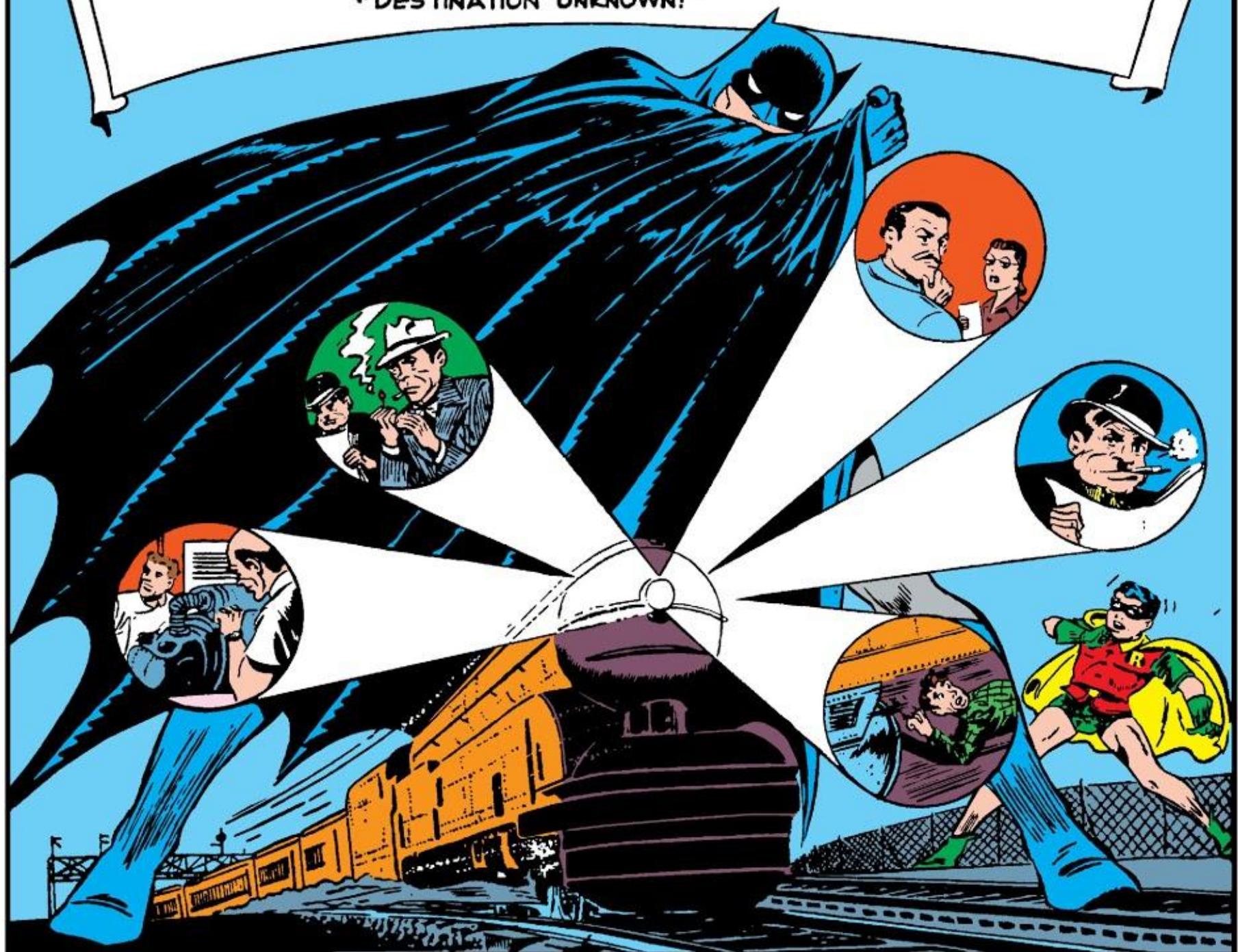
# BATMAN

WITH  
ROBIN

FEB 65 PAT OFF

ALL-L-L ABO-O-O-OARD FOR THE SURPRISE TRIP OF YOUR LIFE--  
WITH AS WEIRD AN ASSORTMENT OF FELLOW-PASSENGERS AS EVER RODE A CRACK  
TRANSCONTINENTAL FLYER! MEET THE TRAGIC YOUNG PRISONER BOUND FOR THE LETHAL GAS  
CHAMBER --- THE RICH AND RENOWNED "TRICKY-BUT-TRUE" MAN---THE STRANGELY SILENT FIGURE IN  
THE IRON LUNG...THE OVER-AMBITIOUS DETECTIVE...AND LAST BUT NOT LEAST, THE MYSTERIOUS HOBO  
RIDING THE RODS!...THE BELL CLANGS, THE WHISTLE SHRILLS, THE HAND OF FATE YANKS THE  
THROTTLE WIDE.. AND IT TAKES ALL THE STEELY NERVE AND SMASHING STRENGTH  
OF THE BATTING BATMAN AND THE DAREDEVIL ROBIN TO CHECK A ROARING  
DASH TO DISASTER IN THIS SUPER-SPEED STORY--

"DESTINATION UNKNOWN!"



THE GATEWAY TO ADVENTURE, IN  
GOTHAM CITY'S GRAND CENTRAL  
STATION---

I'M MR.  
CLAYBORN'S  
SECRETARY...  
HE'LL BE  
FURIOUS IF  
I MISS THE  
TRAIN!

NON-STOP TO  
CALIFORNIA ---  
LET ME SEE  
YOUR TICKET!

BEYOND, LIKE AN IMPATIENT DRAGON, THE WORLD'S MOST LUXURIOUS TRAIN  
JOLTS FORWARD AT THE CONDUCTOR'S SIGNAL....

-- BO-O-O-OARD!

AN IMPORTANT TRAIN CARRYING IMPORTANT  
PEOPLE -- SUCH AS CLYDE CLAYBORN,  
COLLECTOR OF ODDITIES, FAMED AS THE  
"TRICKY-BUT-TRUE" MAN---

NICE HAVING YOU WITH  
US, MR. CLAYBORN... IF I  
CAN DO ANYTHING TO MAKE  
YOUR TRIP  
ENJOYABLE...

IF YOU CAN FIND  
ME A STARTLING  
ODDITY BEFORE  
WE GET TO  
CALIFORNIA, I'LL  
GIVE YOU A \$1,000!

I'LL TRY... BUT  
NOTHING EVER  
HAPPENS ON  
THESE TRAINS!

MISS HIBBS,  
MAKE A NOTE...  
IT'S TRICKY BUT  
TRUE, THAT  
OF 2,117  
CONDUCTORS  
I'VE MET, NOT  
ONE HAS ADDED  
A NEW ODDITY  
TO MY  
COLLECTION!

LATER...

CLYDE CLAYBORN  
IS LOOKING FOR  
A NEW ODDITY...  
PERHAPS YOUR  
PATIENT IN  
THE IRON  
LUNG...

SORRY, MR.  
FORTESQUE  
CAN'T BE  
DISTURBED..

THE LEAST  
DISTURBANCE  
MIGHT KILL  
HIM!

HE'S IN A COMA--  
AND IF WE DON'T  
GET HIM TO THAT  
CALIFORNIA SPECIALIST  
IN A HURRY, HE  
MAY NEVER  
WAKE UP!

NOR IS MR. FORTESQUE THE ONLY  
PASSENGER OVER WHOM THE SHADOW  
OF DEATH LIES DARKLY ---

AN ODDITY? I'M  
ONE -- A MAN  
ABOUT TO BE  
SENT TO THE  
LETHAL GAS  
CHAMBER IN  
CALIFORNIA FOR  
A MURDER I DIDN'T  
COMMIT!

THEN YOU'RE  
JOHN KEYES,  
WHO ESCAPED  
FROM THAT  
CALIFORNIA  
PRISON! AND  
THIS IS--

DETECTIVE  
GUFFEY--AN'  
LIEUTENANT  
GUFFEY WHEN  
I GET BACK,  
FOR CATCHIN'  
THIS BIRD!

THANKS...  
BUT I  
STILL  
WANT AN  
ODDITY!

AT THE CITY LIMITS, AS THE TRAIN CRAWLS THROUGH A FREIGHT YARD, A PICTURESQUE FIGURE DARTS BETWEEN RUMBLING WHEELS...



A SECOND LATER...



HOW CAN I GET AN ODDITY FOR CLAYBORN WHEN THIS TRIP IS EXACTLY LIKE ALL THE OTHERS? LIFE IS PRETTY DULL FOR US RAILROAD MEN!

BUT LIFE IS NEVER DULL WHEN ONE LOOKS BENEATH THE SURFACE.. AS A BIT OF MIND-READING AT DINNER-TIME WILL PROVE...



AND THE MYSTERIOUS FIGURE BELOW....

HA, HA!  
IMAGINE ME  
A BIG SHOT  
RIDING THE  
RODS!

ON INTO GATHERING DARKNESS RUSHES THE TRAIN WITH ITS CARGO OF HUMAN FEARS AND WORRIES... AND STEALTHILY A SHADOW CREEPS OVER THE SWAYING TOPS OF THE COACHES...

THE NEXT INSTANT, AS THE ENGINEER TURNS...

WHA..?  
UH..  
YOU'VE BEEN  
WORKING  
TOO HARD...  
TAKE A  
NAP.



A PURPOSEFUL HAND PULLS AT THE THROTTLE, AND THE HUGE ENGINE CANNONBALLS AHEAD IN A SURGE OF POWER...



STABBING UPWARD THROUGH THE NIGHT, A DAZZLING FINGER OF LIGHT OUTLINES A WEIRD BLACK SHAPE AGAINST THE CLOUDS...

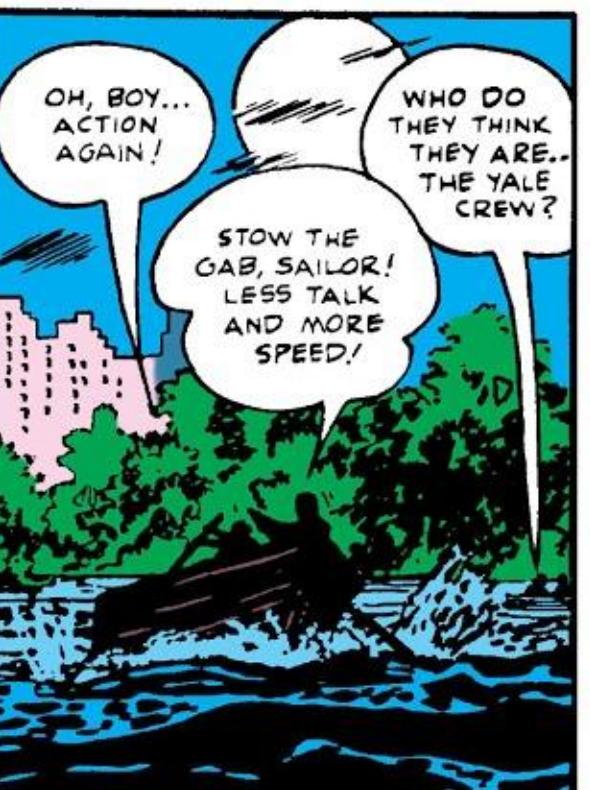
IT LOOKS LIKE A BAT!

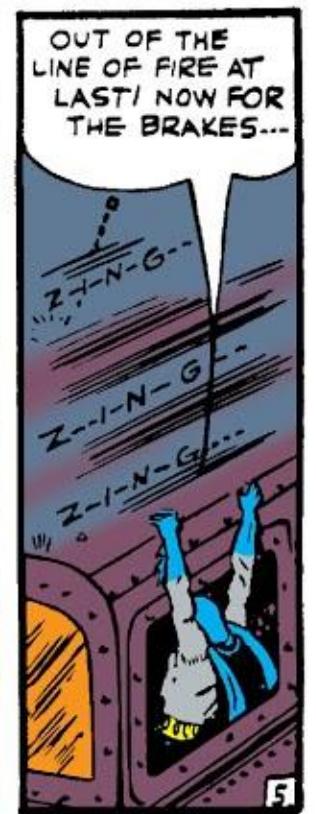
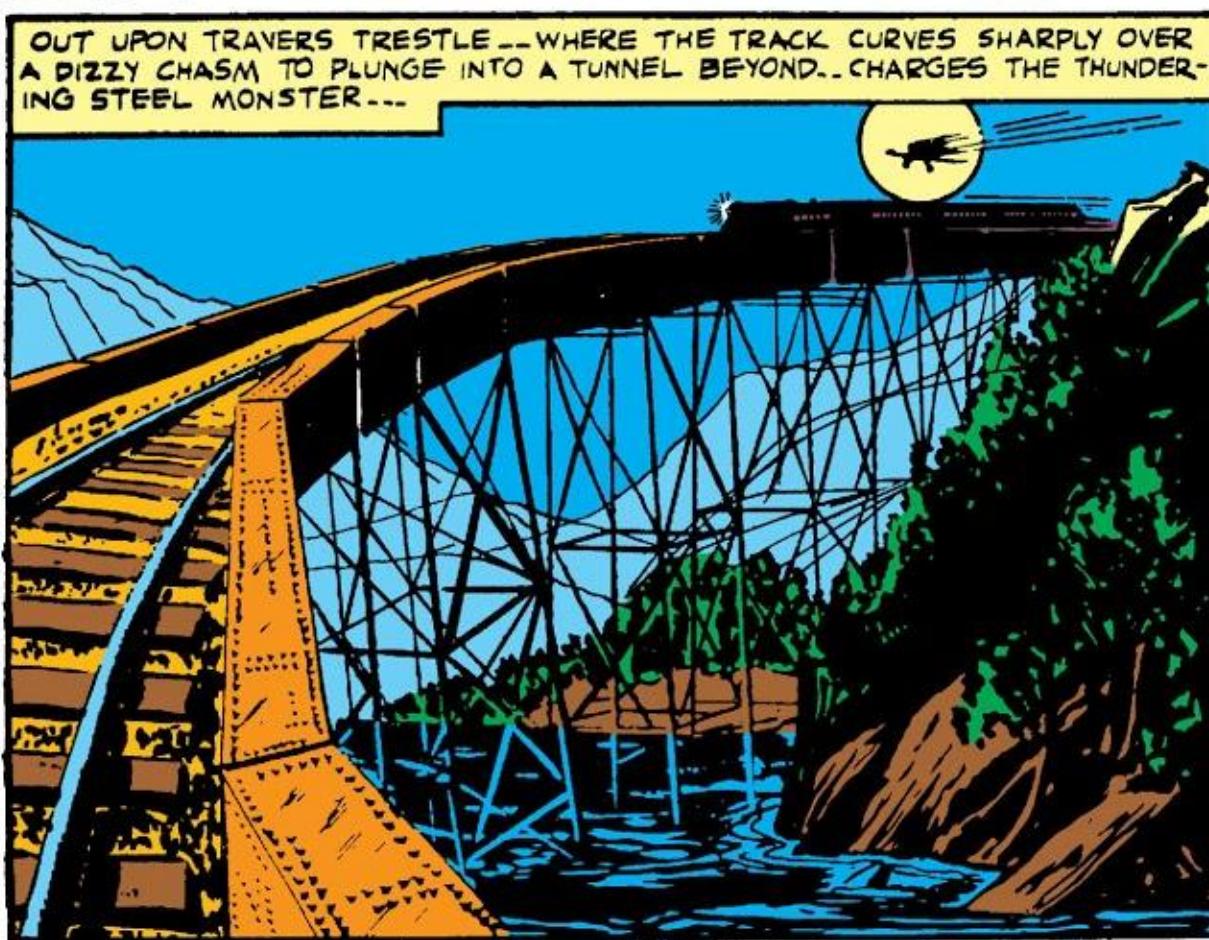
OF COURSE! THAT'S THE SIGNAL FOR THE BATMAN!

THE SYMBOL IS SIGHTED BY BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS YOUNG WARD, DICK GRAYSON, AS THEY ROW LEISURELY IN A PARK LAKE...

THIS IS THE LIFE! SOFT BREEZES, MOONLIGHT.. AND YOU TO DO ALL THE WORK!

TAKE A LOOK OVER YOUR SHOULDER, DICK.. THEN GRAB ONE OF THESE OARS!



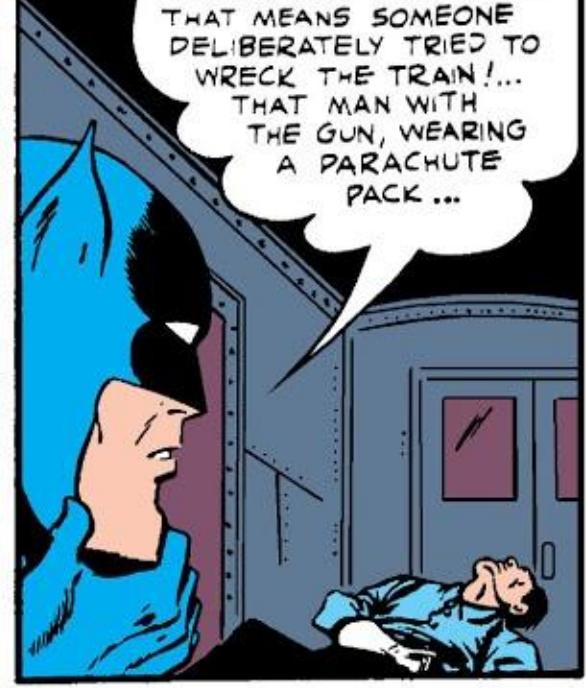


FIRST TO SHUT THE ELECTRIC CURRENT... NOW TO PUT ON THE AIR BRAKES.. GRADUALLY, SO THE WHEELS WON'T RIP UP THE TRACK!

METAL SHRIEKED DEAFENINGLY AS BRAKE SHOES GRIP... THE LONG TRAIN DANCES CRAZILY... BUT THE FLANGED WHEELS HOLD THE RAILS!

THE DANGER AVERTED, BATMAN TURNS AND FINDS...

THE MOTORMAN SLUGGED! THAT MEANS SOMEONE DELIBERATELY TRIED TO WRECK THE TRAIN!... THAT MAN WITH THE GUN, WEARING A PARACHUTE PACK ...



HIS BELT RADIO SPEEDS A MESSAGE TO THE SOARING ROBIN ...

GOPHER JUNCTION, ORDINARILY A WHISTLE STOP, TONIGHT IS THE SCENE OF TENSE EXCITEMENT...

BUT THE MYSTERY REMAINS AS DEEP AS EVER!



ALL I KNOW IS, I THOUGHT WE WERE GONE! WE STARTED RUNNING WIDE OPEN, AND EVERYBODY WAS SHAKEN UP, AND...

BUT IF THE ENGINEER WAS UNCONSCIOUS, WHO BROUGHT THE TRAIN IN SAFELY?



STILL FRIGHTENED BY THE RUNAWAY, THE PASSENGERS FORM A TALKATIVE GROUP ON THE STATION PLATFORM...



BUT ONE PASSENGER FLITS LIKE A FUGITIVE THROUGH SHADOWS AT THE FARTHER SIDE OF THE TRAIN...

CAN'T TAKE A CHANCE ON BEING SEEN... THINK I'LL HIDE BEHIND THESE OLD FREIGHTS...

ONLY TO ENCOUNTER ANOTHER FLITTING SHADOW, THE BATMAN.. WHO SWUNG FROM THE ENGINE A SECOND BEFORE IT GROUND TO A STOP!

HAVE YOU GOT A TICKET? OR SHOULD I PUNCH..?

BATMAN!... SO IT WAS YOU WHO BROUGHT THE TRAIN IN! YOU OUGHT TO GET A REWARD!

I DON'T TAKE REWARDS... BUT IF I DID, I MIGHT COLLECT ONE FOR TURNING YOU OVER TO THE AUTHORITIES!

NOT GUILTY, BATMAN! I WAS HANGING ONTO THE RODS, SCARED TO DEATH, WHEN WE HIT THE TRESTLE!

I HOPE HE BELIEVES ME!

WHEN A FELLOW'S DOWN AND OUT, I NEVER KICK HIM! I'LL TAKE YOUR WORD.. TILL I DO A LITTLE INVESTIGATING!

THEN WHY ARE YOU TYING ME UP?

SO I'LL KNOW WHERE TO FIND YOU IF I CHANGE MY MIND! YOU LOOK HONEST.. BUT TRAIN-WRECKING IS SOMETHING I CAN'T TAKE CHANCES WITH.... AH! THE BAGGAGEMAN'S OUT!

SHUCKING HIS FIGHTING GARB, THE BATMAN DISAPPEARS.. AND A MOMENT LATER BRUCE WAYNE STANDS AT THE TICKET WINDOW AT THE STATION...

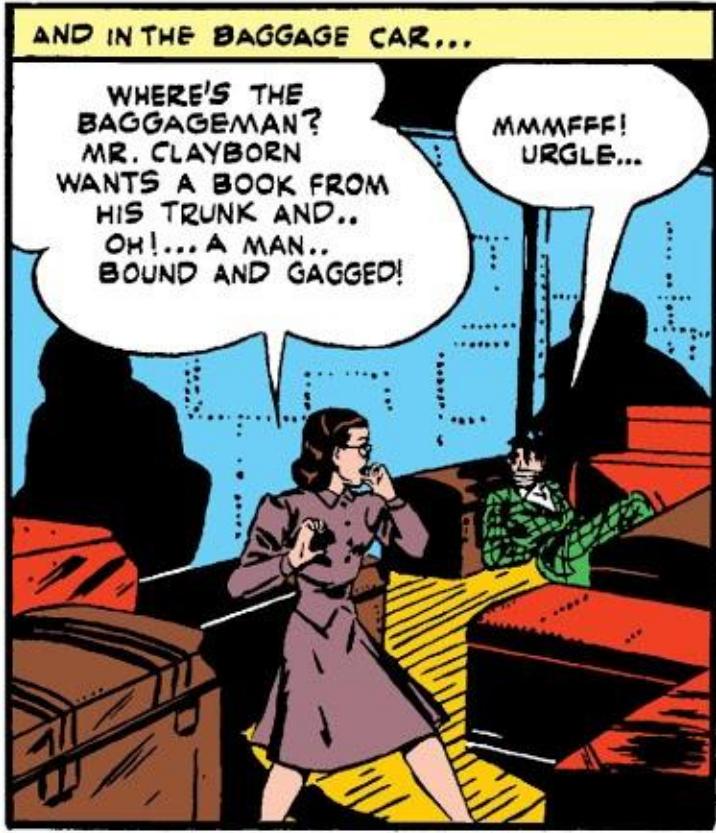
LUCKY FOR ME THIS TRAIN STOPPED HERE... I'LL TAKE A TICKET THROUGH TO THE END OF THE RUN!

HERE Y'ARE!

MEANWHILE, AT A MAGAZINE STAND, A YOUNG MAN SEEKS TO BE STOCKING UP FOR A LONG LITERARY SESSION...

I'LL TAKE THESE COMIC BOOKS!

GOLLY, KID.. AREN'T YOU GOIN' TO DO NOTHIN' BUT READ FROM HERE ON?



ONCE MORE THE BLACKNESS OF THE OPEN COUNTRY SWallows THE SPEEDING TRAIN... AND MENACE GATHERS LIKE A STORM-CLOUD...



THE BOASTFUL DETECTIVE GUFFEY IS "BLACKED OUT" ALSO...



SCOUTING THROUGH THE TRAIN IN HIS ROLE AS A SALESMAN OF EXCITING STORIES, ROBIN LOOKS AND LISTENS FOR INFORMATION...

HE WAS TIED,  
AND I'M NOT  
SURE I SHOULD  
HAVE SET HIM  
FREE.. HE LOOKED  
SO NICE, EVEN  
WITHOUT A  
SHAVE!

BUYA MAGAZINE,  
SIR?  
WHAT'S  
THIS? SOME-  
ONE TIED  
UP?  
YES, BOY! IT MAY  
GIVE ME  
AN ODDITY!



BUY A..  
HEY, ALL  
YOU HAVE  
TO DO IS  
SAY, NO!  
BEAT IT, BRAT!  
HERE WE'RE  
TRYING TO TAKE  
CARE OF A  
DYING MAN,  
AND EVERYBODY  
BARGES IN ON  
US!



READ ABOUT THE..  
OH, OH! THE  
DETECTIVE'S KNOCKED  
OUT, AND HIS  
PRISONER'S GONE!  
THIS IS BAD!



LATER... DICK FINDS BRUCE ALONE...  
AND...

... AND THAT'S  
ALL I COULD  
FIND OUT!  
OF COURSE,  
IF I'D BEEN  
BRIGHTER...

YOU'LL DO, FELLA..  
PROVIDING YOU TURN  
INTO ROBIN IN A  
HURRY AND FOLLOW  
ME TO MY COMPART-  
MENT!



AND ONCE MORE, GARBED IN THEIR MANTLED COSTUMES, THE BATMAN AND HIS BATTLING PAL RACE INTO ACTION...

BUT THAT'S  
WHERE THE MAN  
IN THE IRON LUNG  
IS.. POSSIBLY  
DYING!

SURE.. AND HIS  
NURSES WERE THE  
ONES WHO OBJECTED  
MOST STRENUOUSLY  
TO YOUR BOthering  
THEM, WEREN'T  
THEY?



DEATH HAS INDEED COME CLOSE TO THE MAN IN THE IRON LUNG...FOR THE NEXT INSTANT...

NOT OXYGEN.. POISON GAS! IN ANOTHER MINUTE, HE'D HAVE BEEN DEAD!

THE NURSES.. THEY'VE GONE! AND THE WINDOWS ARE OPEN!

THAT FELLOW WILL LIVE, AND THE NURSES COULDN'T HAVE JUMPED OFF AT THIS SPEED! I'M GOING UP ON TOP! YOU GO FORWARD AND SEE WHAT YOU CAN DO!

RIGHT!



CLAMBERING PRECARIOUSLY OVER THE SWAYING TOP OF THE COACH, THE BATMAN SIGHTS.. AND IS SIGHTED BY.. HIS QUARRY!

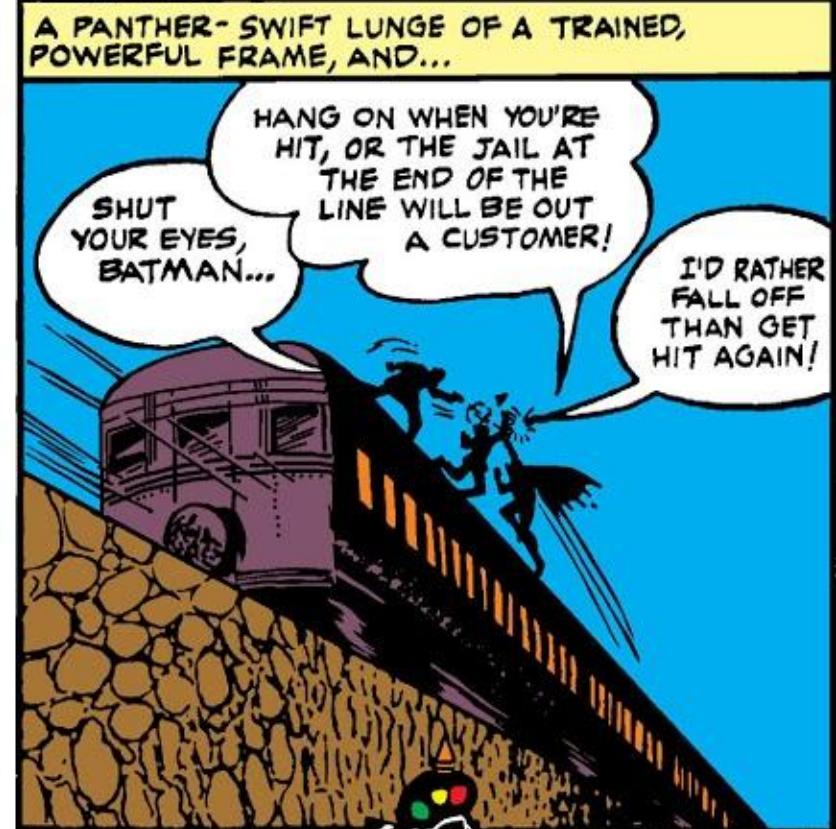
THE BATMAN AGAIN! I MISSED HIM BEFORE.. BUT THIS TIME I WON'T!

A PANTHER-SWIFT LUNGE OF A TRAINED, POWERFUL FRAME, AND...

BETTER SHOOT FAST, THEN, RAT!

HANG ON WHEN YOU'RE HIT, OR THE JAIL AT THE END OF THE LINE WILL BE OUT A CUSTOMER!

I'D RATHER FALL OFF THAN GET HIT AGAIN!



BUT NOT EVEN THE BATMAN'S LIGHTNING SPEED CAN OUTMATCH BLASTING LEAD.. AND THE CRIMINAL'S BULLET STRIKES WITH PILE-DRIVER FORCE!

...I GOT A SURPRISE FOR YOU!

OOHHH-H-H.. HE'S GOT ME...

CRACK!

A SHOT! AND THE BATMAN'S HIT! I.. I'VE GOT TO DO SOMETHING!



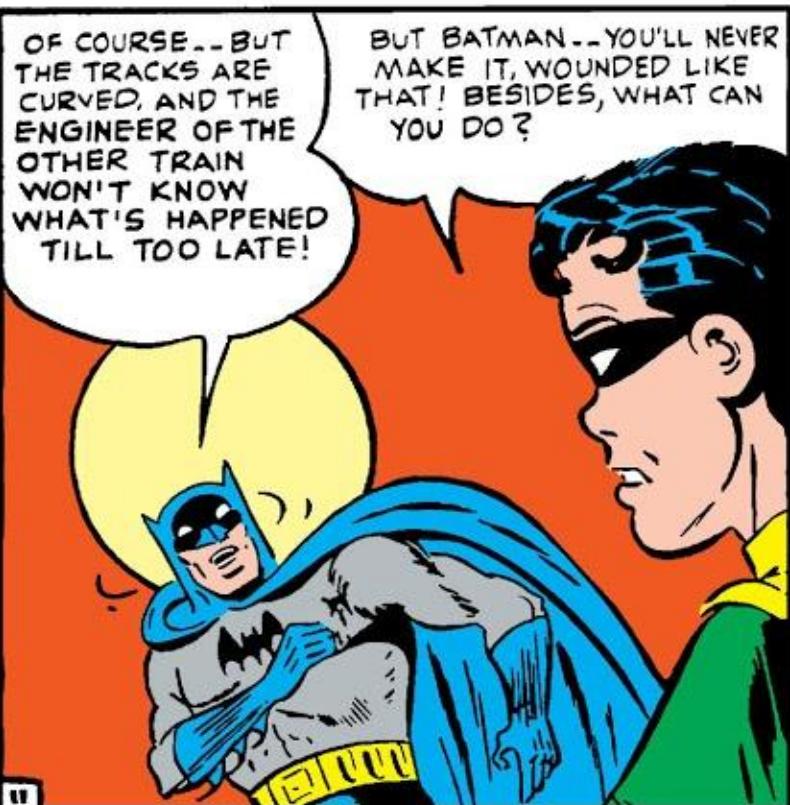
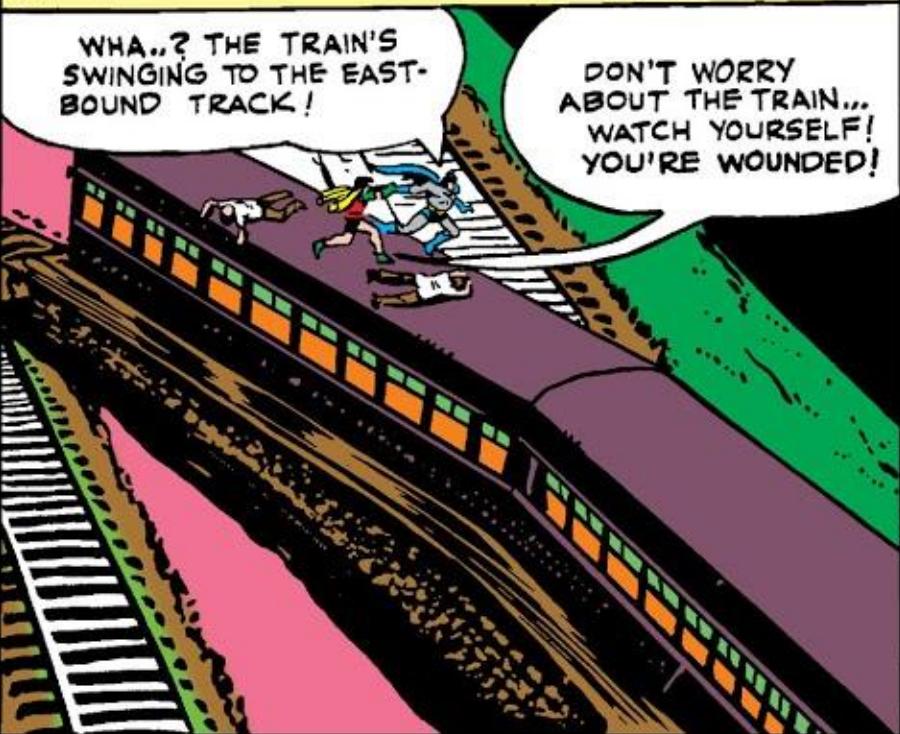
FAR TOWARD THE FRONT OF THE TRAIN, ROBIN HEARS THE BARK OF THE SHOT...



TURNING SHARPLY AND SNATCHING THE EXTENDED ARM OF A SEMAPHORE SIGNAL, THE BOY LETS THE TRAIN THUNDER BENEATH HIM...



SUDDENLY, A SICKENING LURCH OF THE TRAIN WARNS OF FRESH DANGER...



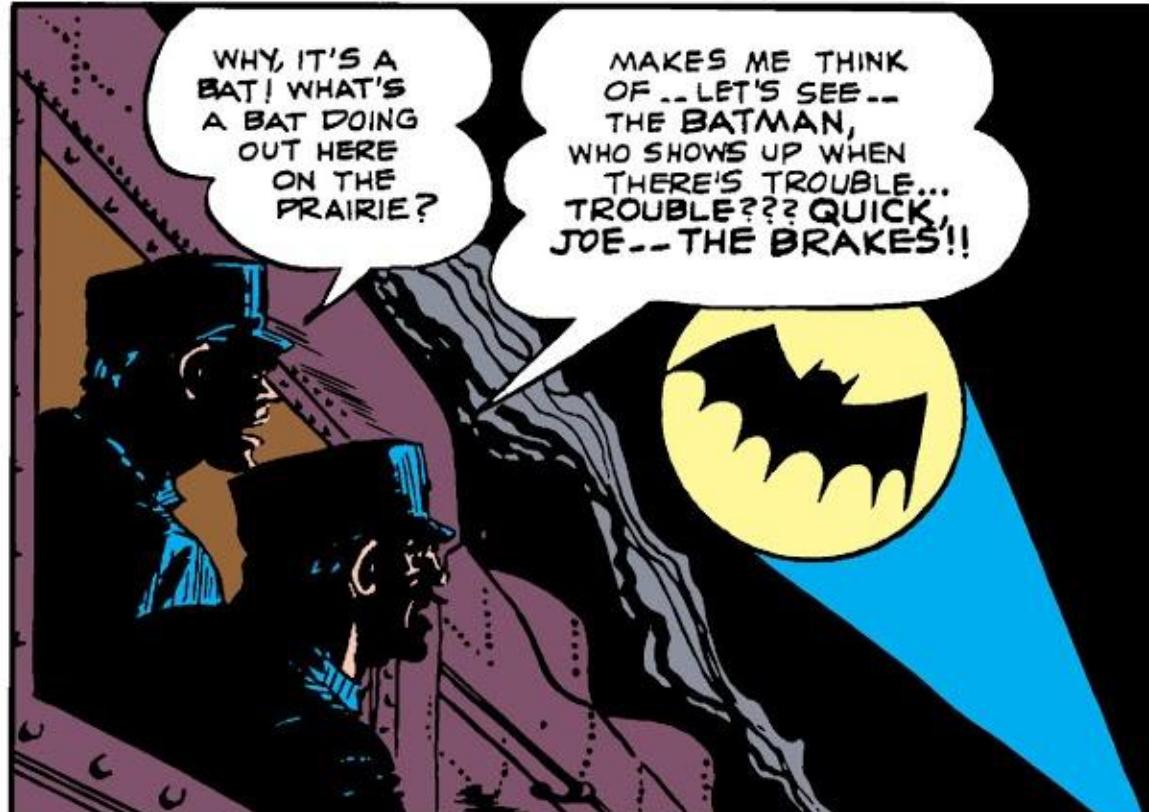
THE ENGINEER, HELPLESSLY AWARE OF THE PERIL, KNOWS NOTHING OF THE WOUNDED MAN FIGHTING A VALIANT BATTLE OVERHEAD...



NOW HE LOWERS HIMSELF TO THE COWCATCHER!...  
BUT WHAT DOES THAT MEAN, EXCEPT THAT BATMAN  
WILL BE THE FIRST TO DIE WHEN STEEL MEETS  
STEEL IN THUNDERING CHAOS?...



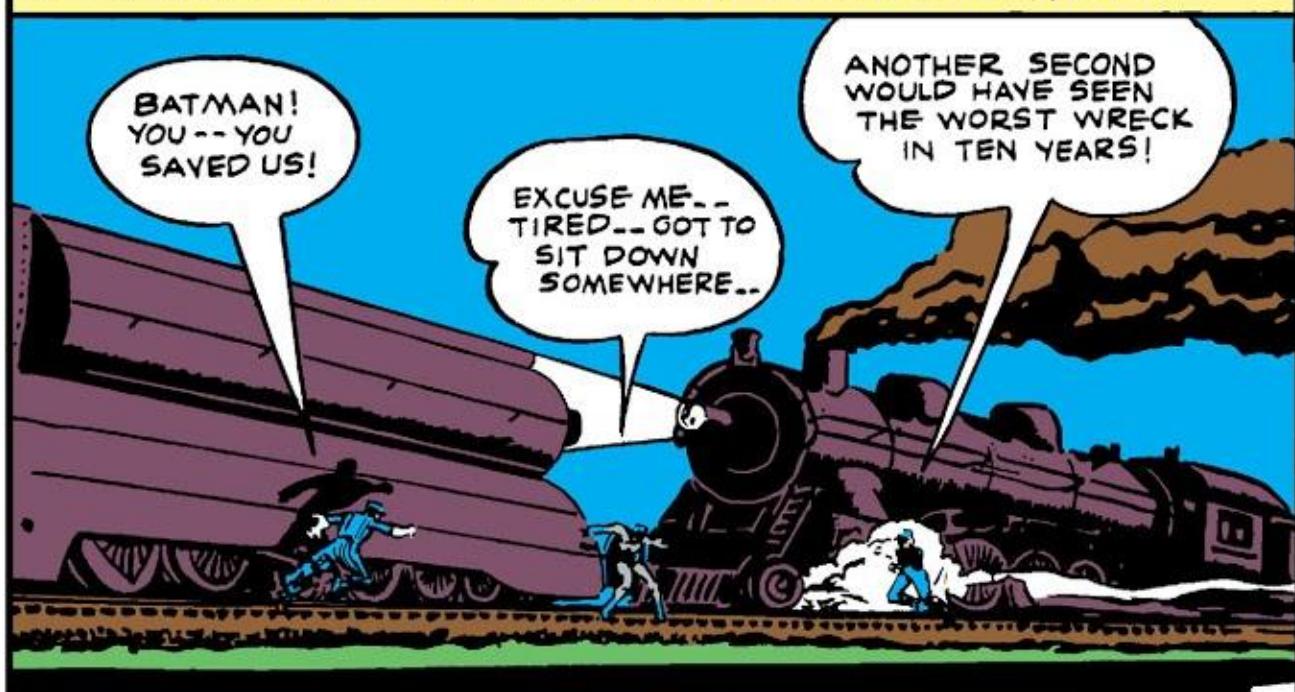
ABOARD THE EAST BOUND EXPRESS,  
THE ENGINEER BLINKS AT A STRANGE SIGHT ...



A BAT!... BUT BENEATH THE WEIRD SYMBOL, A MAN'S GRIM DETERMINATION KEEPS IT FLYING!



TWO THUNDERING DRAGONS SHUDDER AND SCREECH UNDER THE SQUEEZE OF AIR BRAKES... SHUDDER AND SLACKEN THEIR TERRIFIC SPEED...



"DESTINATION UNKNOWN." WE HAVE CALLED THIS STORY OF A GROUP OF VERY HUMAN BEINGS, ALL IN SEARCH OF SOMETHING.. AND NOW, AS REPORTERS FLOCK AROUND, LET US SEE WHETHER THEIR QUESTS WERE SUCCESSFUL..



JOHN KEYES, NO LONGER A MURDER SUSPECT, IS INTERVIEWED...

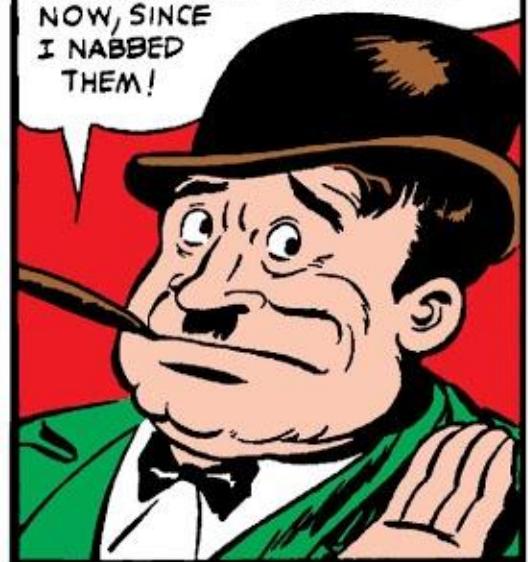
I TOLD THEM I WAS INNOCENT! I ESCAPED, WENT EAST--AND FOUND CERTAIN EVIDENCE WHICH I HOPE WOULD WIN ME A NEW TRIAL...

TODAY THE WHOLE WORLD WILL KNOW YOU WERE INNOCENT!



DETECTIVE GUFFEY, THE AMBITIOUS SLEUTH...

I CAUGHT KEYES, AND THOUGHT I'D GET PROMOTED FOR THAT-- BUT IT LOOKED BAD WHEN THOSE CROOKS SLUGGED ME, TOOK MY PRISONER! BUT ALL'S WELL NOW, SINCE I NABBED THEM!

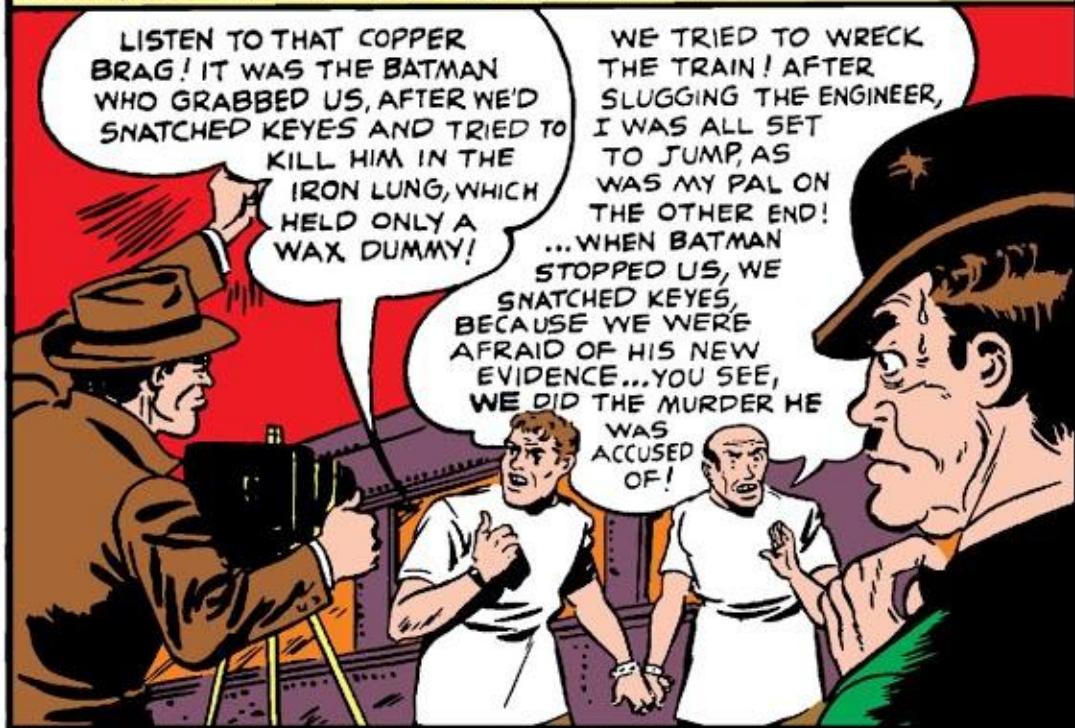


TRIGGER YURK AND BIFF BOLTON DIDN'T GET WHAT THEY WERE AFTER, BUT THEY'LL GET WHAT THEY DESERVE...

LISTEN TO THAT COPPER BRAG! IT WAS THE BATMAN WHO GRABBED US, AFTER WE'D SNATCHED KEYES AND TRIED TO KILL HIM IN THE IRON LUNG, WHICH HELD ONLY A WAX DUMMY!

WE TRIED TO WRECK THE TRAIN! AFTER SLUGGING THE ENGINEER, I WAS ALL SET TO JUMP, AS WAS MY PAL ON THE OTHER END!

...WHEN BATMAN STOPPED US, WE SNATCHED KEYES, BECAUSE WE WERE AFRAID OF HIS NEW EVIDENCE...YOU SEE, WE DID THE MURDER HE WAS ACCUSED OF!



AND LOOK WHAT WE HAVE HERE!

MISS HIBBS, IS IT TRUE THAT YOU'RE GOING TO MARRY THIS ER-- HOBO?

HOBIE? HE'S KEN THORNE, PRESIDENT OF THIS RAILROAD! HE GOT SICK OF HIS JOB AND DECIDED TO LOOK FOR ADVENTURE-- JUST AS I DID.. AND WE MET IN THE BAGGAGE COACH!



THE "TRICKY-BUT-TRUE" MAN'S WORRIES ARE OVER...

I'VE LOST A SECRETARY--BUT LOOK AT THE ODDITIES I'VE GOT! MILLIONAIRE TURNS HOBO, WINS WORKING GIRL! BATMAN SAVES TRAIN SINGLE-HANDED! CROOKS PLAN TO USE LIFE-SAVING IRON LUNG AS INSTRUMENT OF MURDER!

YOUR NEW RADIO PROGRAM SHOULD BE A WOW!

CLICK!



AS FOR THE BORED CONDUCTOR...

HO-HUM! WHAT A LIFE! FORTY YEARS OF CARTING FOLKS BACK AND FORTH--AND NOTHING EVER HAPPENS!



The End -