



ALL NEW  
YOU COULD BE A WINNER IN THE  
SECOND **SUPERMAN** MOVIE CONTEST!

DETAILS INSIDE!

NOW  
**40¢**

# BATMAN

NO. 308  
FEB.

APPROVED  
BY THE  
COMICS  
CODE  
C.C.  
AUTHORITY

THIS IS  
THE MOMENT  
OF MY GREATEST  
**TRIUMPH!**

NOW THAT HE IS THE  
FROZEN SLAVE OF  
**MR. FREEZE**,  
WHAT CHILLING  
FATE AWAITS THE  
BATMAN--AND  
THE **WORLD?**

THE AIR IS CRISP THIS AUTUMN NIGHT,  
TREMBLING WITH THE PROMISE OF WINTER  
AND THE FIRST FALLING SNOW. TO  
MOST, IT IS A NIGHT TO BUNDLE UP THE  
COLLAR AND HURRY HOME TO A CRACKLING  
HEARTH--

--BUT TO THE DARK-CLAD FIGURE  
SWINGING HIGH AMONG THE MOONLIT  
TOWERS, IT IS JUST ANOTHER  
WORKING NIGHT--ANOTHER NIGHT  
OF THE TIRELESS HUNT!

ORPHANED AS A CHILD WHEN HIS  
PARENTS WERE KILLED BEFORE HIS EYES,  
BRUCE WAYNE TRAINED HIMSELF TO  
WAGE RELENTLESS WAR AGAINST CRIME  
AS THE DREAD AVENGER OF THE NIGHT...

CREATED  
BY:

BOB  
KANE

# THE BATMAN

OF ALL THE UNLIKELY  
NIGHTS FOR THE  
BATMAN TO COME  
PASSING BY MY  
WINDOW--!

I SHOULD CALL  
OUT TO HIM-- BEG  
HIM TO PROTECT ME  
--BUT IT'S TOO LATE!  
THE BATMAN CANNOT  
HELP ME!

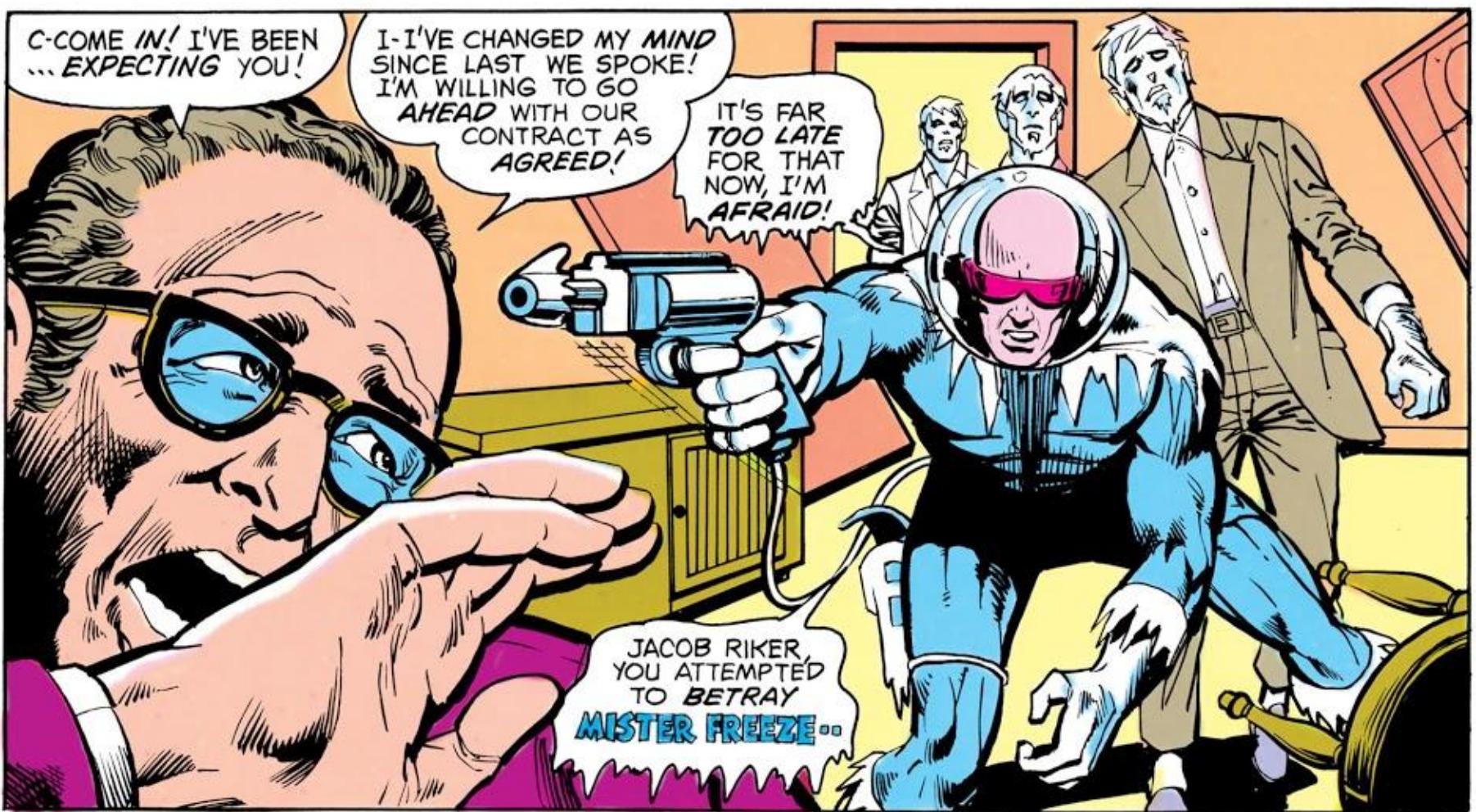
I DOUBT THAT  
EVEN GOD  
CAN HELP  
ME NOW!

"**THERE'LL BE A COLD TIME IN  
THE OLD TOWN TONIGHT!**"

LEN WEIN  
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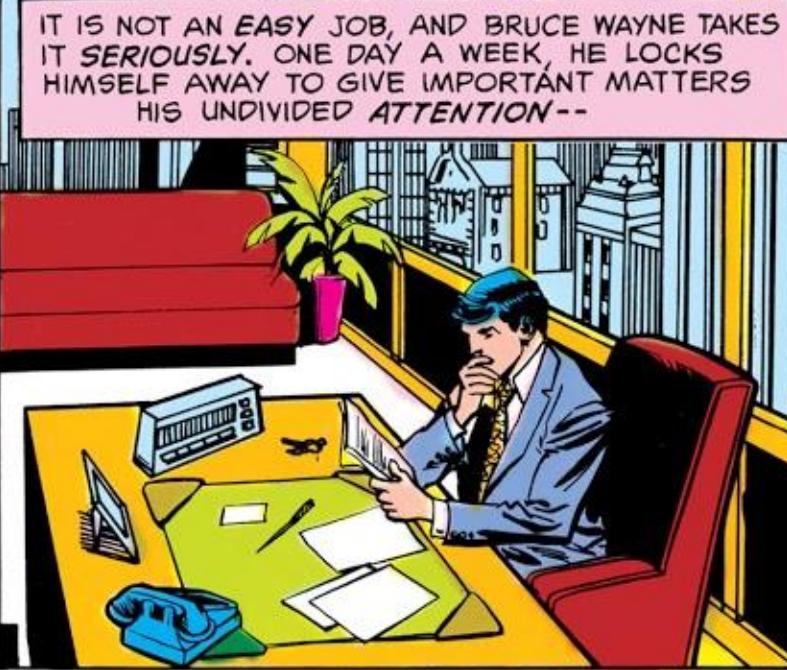
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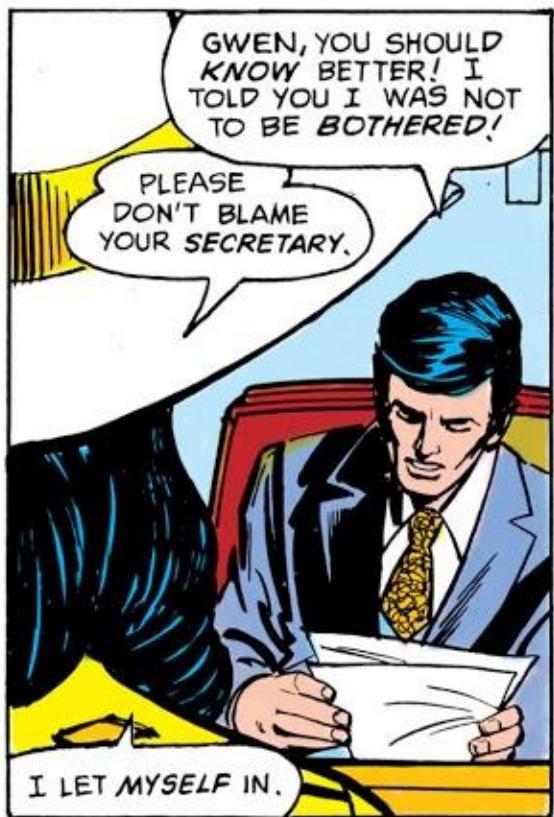
THE TOWERING WAYNE FOUNDATION BUILDING, LATE THE FOLLOWING AFTERNOON...



HERE, IN HIS GLEAMING, WELL-APPOINTED OFFICE, THE FOUNDATION'S NOTED CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD SITS HUNCHED OVER HIS WORK, CAREFULLY STUDYING DOCUMENTS WHICH COULD AFFECT THE LIVES OF THOUSANDS...



-- AND HEAVEN HELP ANYONE WHO DARES TO DISTURB HIM!



I'VE BEEN PAROLED, BRUCE--AND I INTEND TO DO SOMETHING POSITIVE WITH MY LIFE. THAT'S WHY I'VE COME TO YOU... BECAUSE OF OUR OLD ACQUAINTANCESHIP...

...AND BECAUSE I HAVE SOME MONEY I'D LIKE TO INVEST IN WAYNE ENTERPRISES.

--BUT I'M AFRAID WE DON'T MAKE A PRACTICE OF LAUNDERING DIRTY MONEY, MS. KYLE!

BELIEVE ME, BRUCE, THE MONEY IS CLEAN --THE REMAINS OF AN OLD INHERITANCE.

AND PLEASE... CALL ME SELINA.

I SEE--

LOOK, ASSUMING THE MONEY IS HONEST, IT STILL WOULDN'T BE RIGHT FOR THE COMPANY'S IMAGE TO ACCEPT--

YOUR IMAGE?!? WHAT ABOUT MY LIFE???

I'VE PAID MY DEBT TO SOCIETY, MISTER! DON'T I HAVE ANY RIGHTS ANYMORE?

I'VE MADE YOU A SINCERE OFFER! ARE YOU GOING TO TAKE IT?

SHE HAS A POINT.

IF I REJECT HER OFFER WITHOUT GIVING HER A CHANCE, AND SHE ENDS UP RETURNING TO HER LIFE OF CRIME--

--WON'T I BE RESPONSIBLE FOR SOMETHING I MIGHT'VE BEEN ABLE TO PREVENT?

ALL THINGS CONSIDERED, I DON'T REALLY HAVE ANY CHOICE!

ALL RIGHT, MS. KYLE--YOUR OFFER IS GRATEFULLY ACCEPTED.

I PROMISE YOU WON'T REGRET IT.

AND, BRUCE, THE NAME IS STILL SELINA.

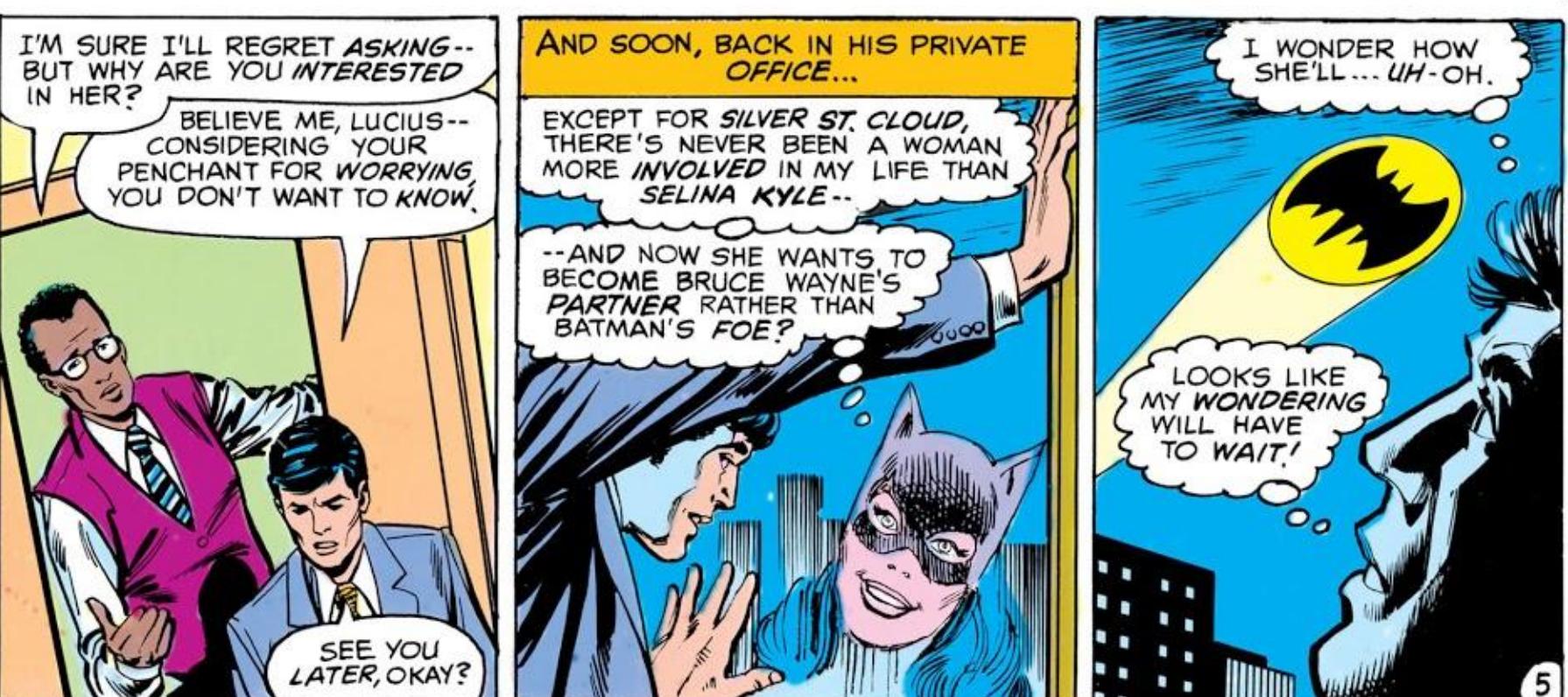
I'LL LET YOU GET BACK TO YOUR WORK NOW, BUT I'D LIKE TO DISCUSS THE SPECIFIC AREAS OF INVESTMENT.

SAY OVER DINNER SOME NIGHT NEXT WEEK?

I THINK I'D LIKE THAT...

...SELINA.

BRUCE WAYNE SITS SILENTLY WATCHING AS SELINA KYLE SLINKS GRACEFULLY OUT OF THE ROOM, A WISTFUL SMILE PLAYING AT THE CORNERS OF HER MOUTH...



WITHIN MOMENTS, BRUCE WAYNE HAS VANISHED -- AND IN HIS PLACE STANDS THE NIGHT-GARBED BATMAN, CROUCHED ON A NARROW BUILDING LEDGE --

-- DARK EYES CAUTIOUSLY STUDYING THE SPRAWLING STREETS BELOW!

IN THE SINCEREST SENSE OF THE WORD, THE DARKNIGHT DETECTIVE LOVES THIS CITY-- FEELING THE POUNDING PULSE OF IT AS IF IT WERE HIS OWN!

THEY ARE IRREVOCABLY ENTWINED, THE CITY AND THE MAN, EACH FULFILLING A DESPERATE NEED IN THE OTHER--

-- EACH SENSING THE OTHER'S SECRET SORROWS AND PRIVATE PAINS...

YOU SUMMONED ME, COMMISSIONER?

REGRETTABLY, YES.

I'M AFRAID WE'RE LIABLE TO NEED YOU, BEFORE ALL THIS IS DONE!

THERE ARE FACTIONS IN THE DEPARTMENT WHO'VE BEEN COMPLAINING THAT I TEND TO RELY ON YOU A LITTLE TOO OFTEN --

-- BUT THERE ARE JUST CERTAIN CASES THAT SEEM FAR MORE SUITED TO YOU THAN TO THE AVERAGE COP ON THE BEAT!

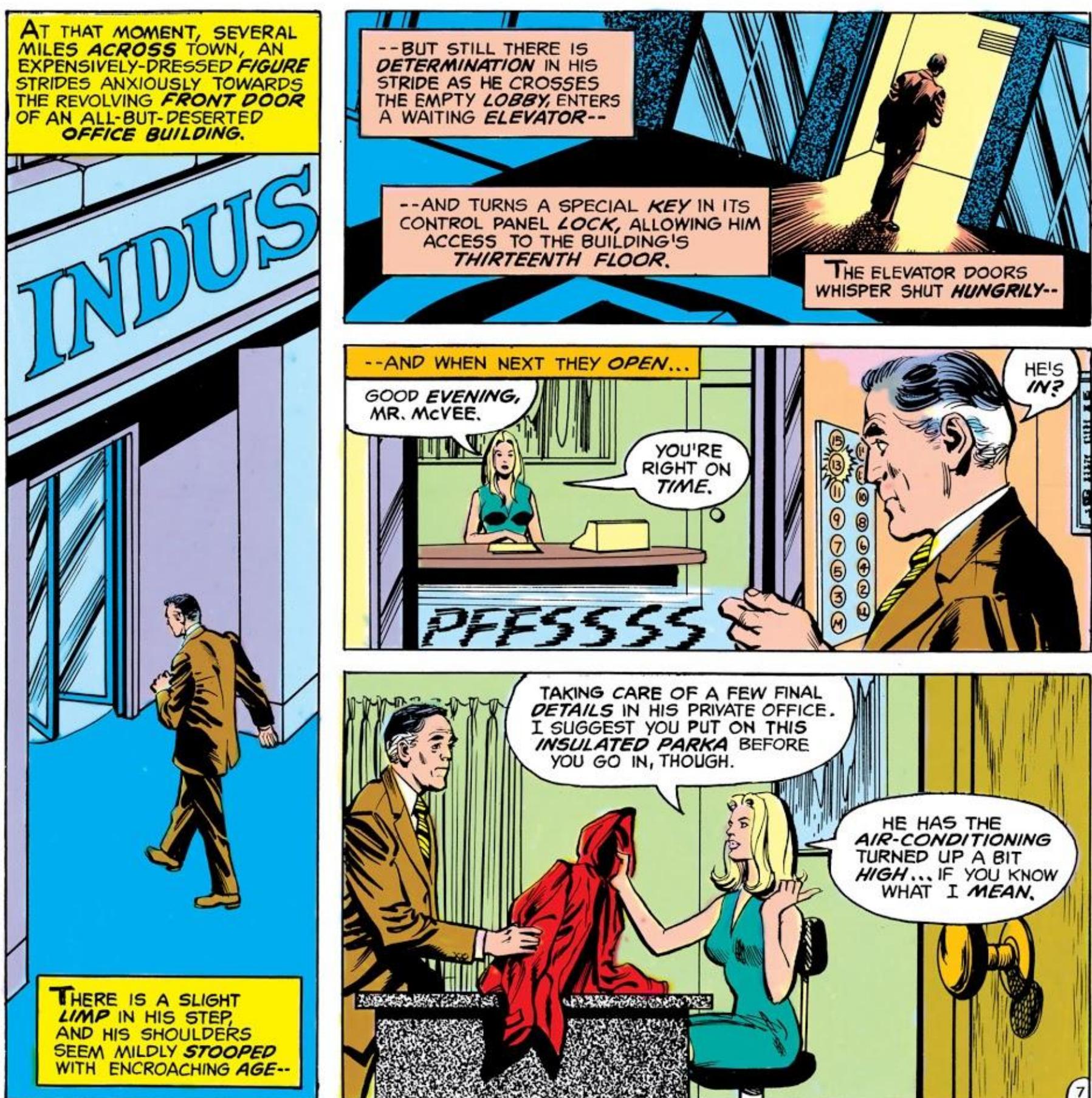
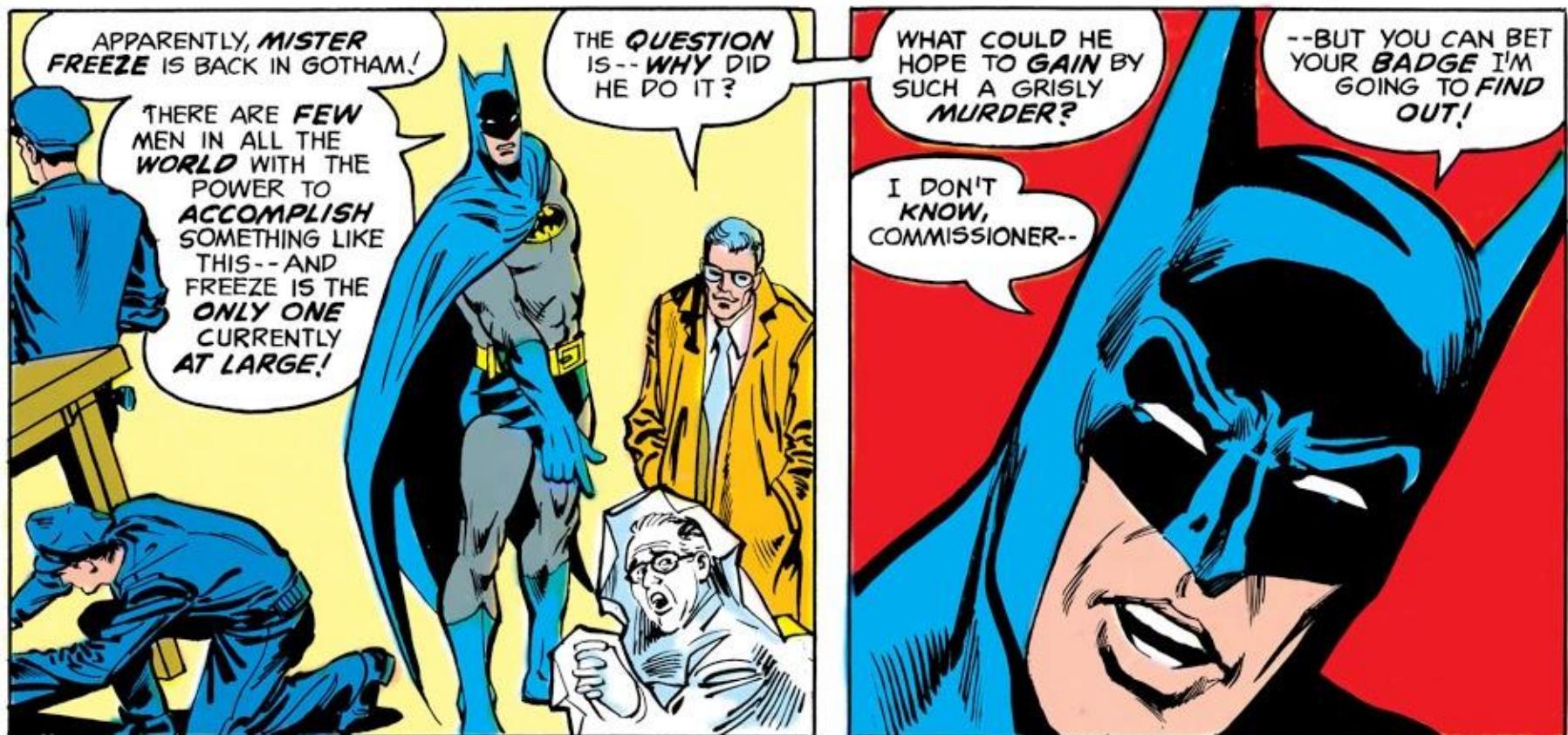
AND THIS, I TAKE IT, IS ONE OF THEM?

THIS ENTIRE FLOOR IS THE PRIVATE PENTHOUSE OF THE FINANCIER JACOB RIKER! WHEN HE DIDN'T SHOW UP AT HIS OFFICE TODAY, ONE OF HIS ASSOCIATES BECAME CONCERNED!

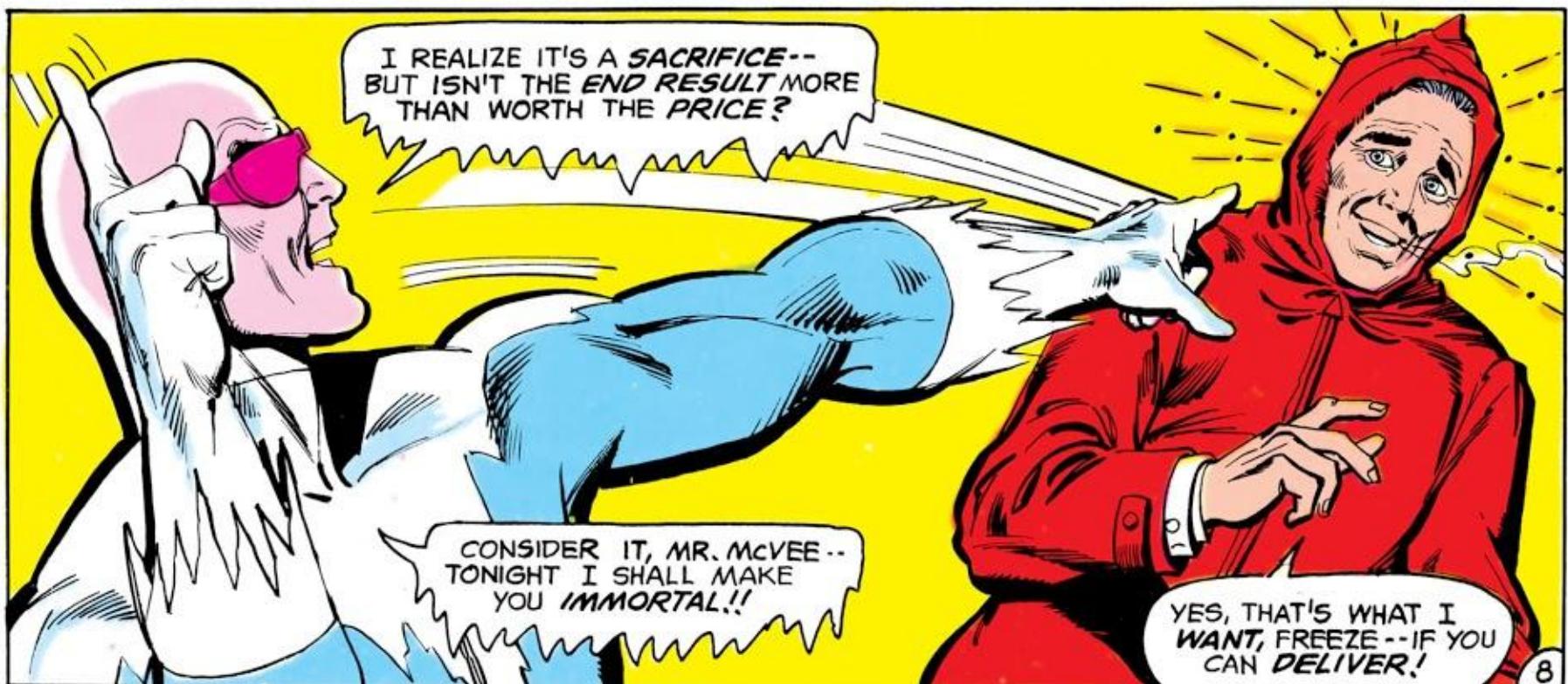
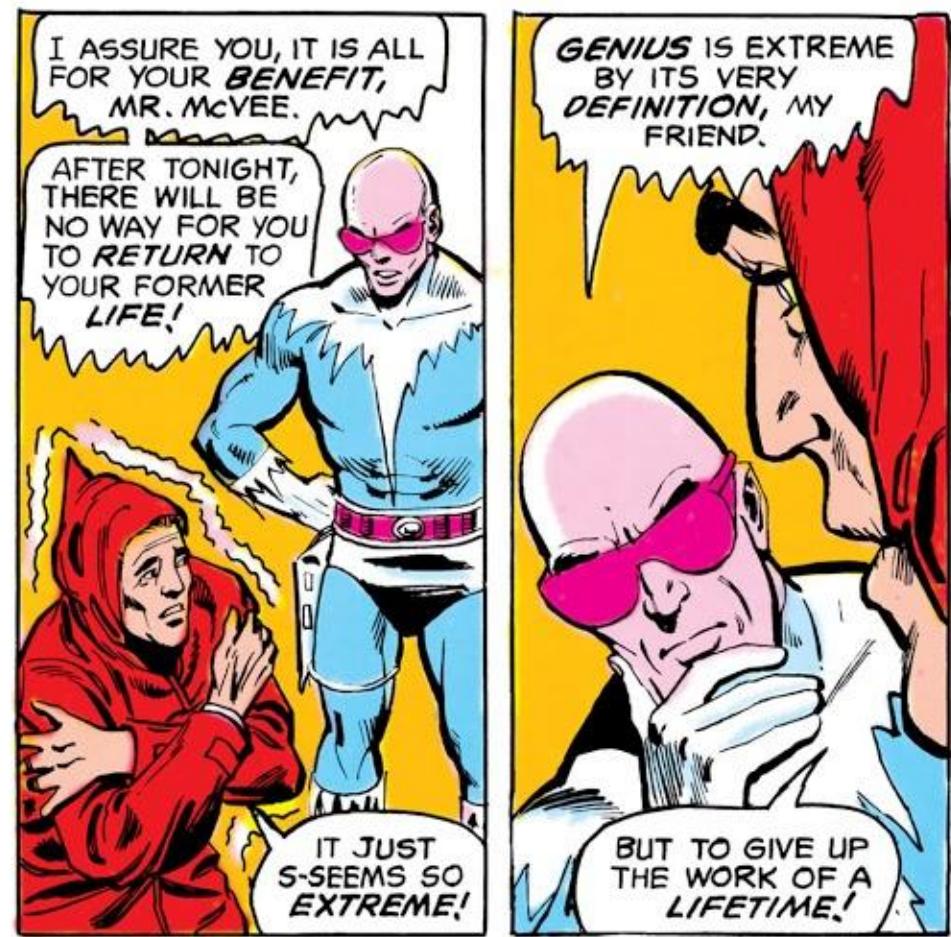
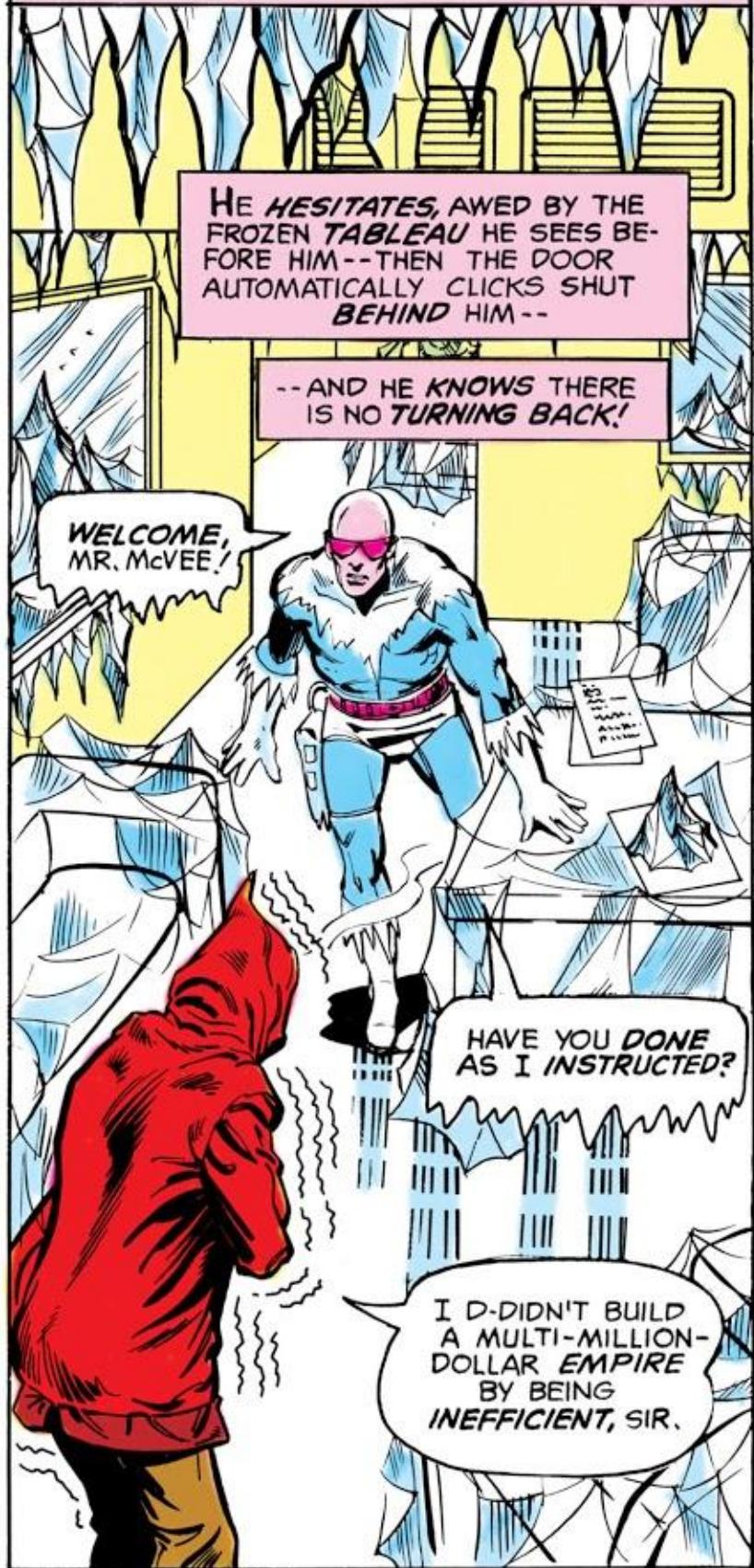
HE TRIED CALLING RIKER, AND WHEN HE GOT NO ANSWER, HE CAME HERE TO CHECK THINGS OUT--

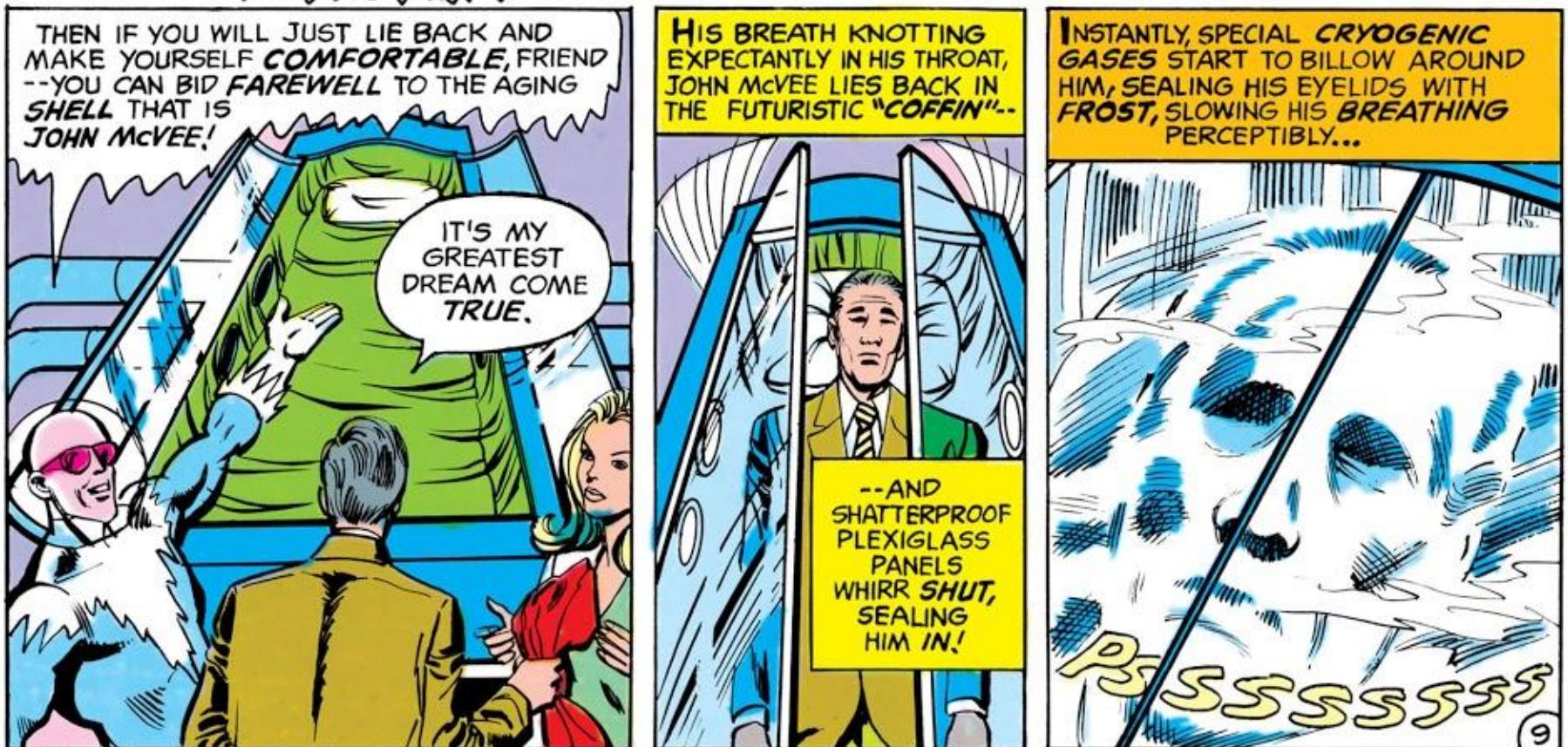
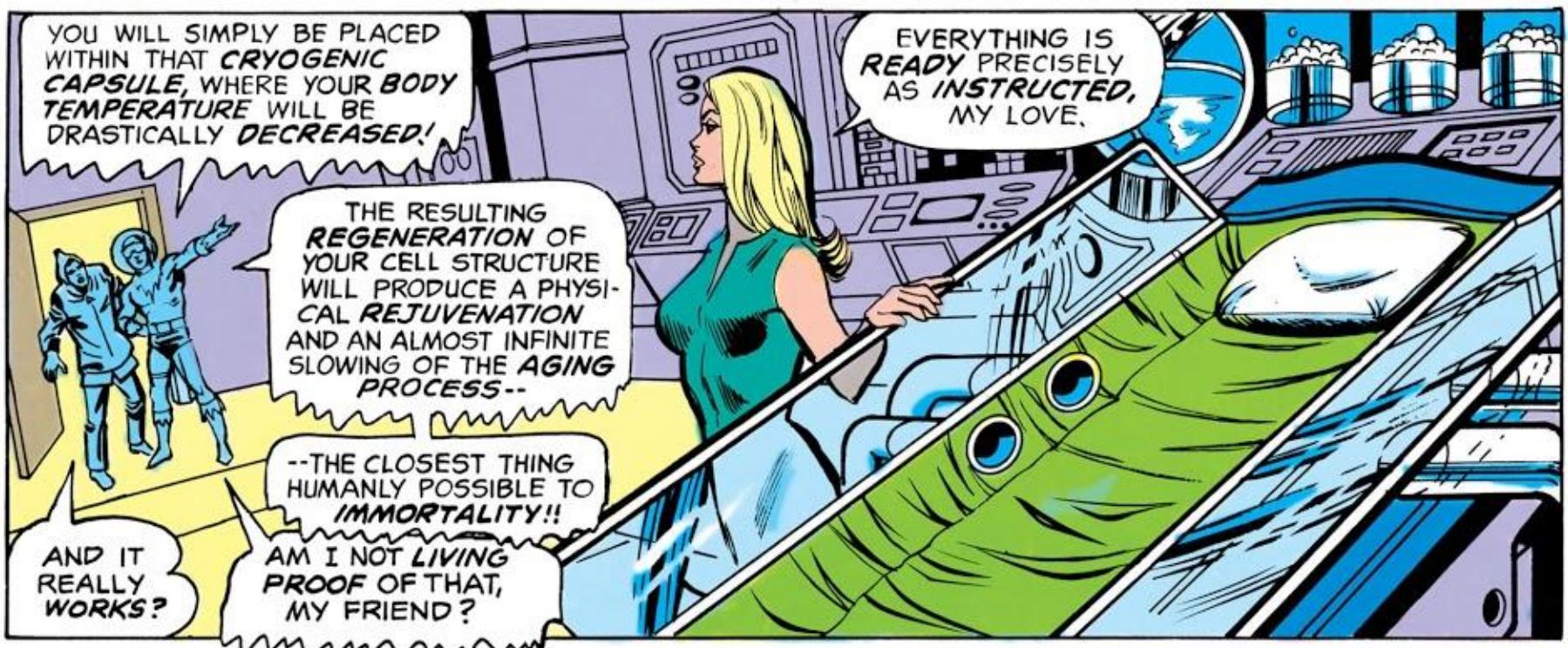
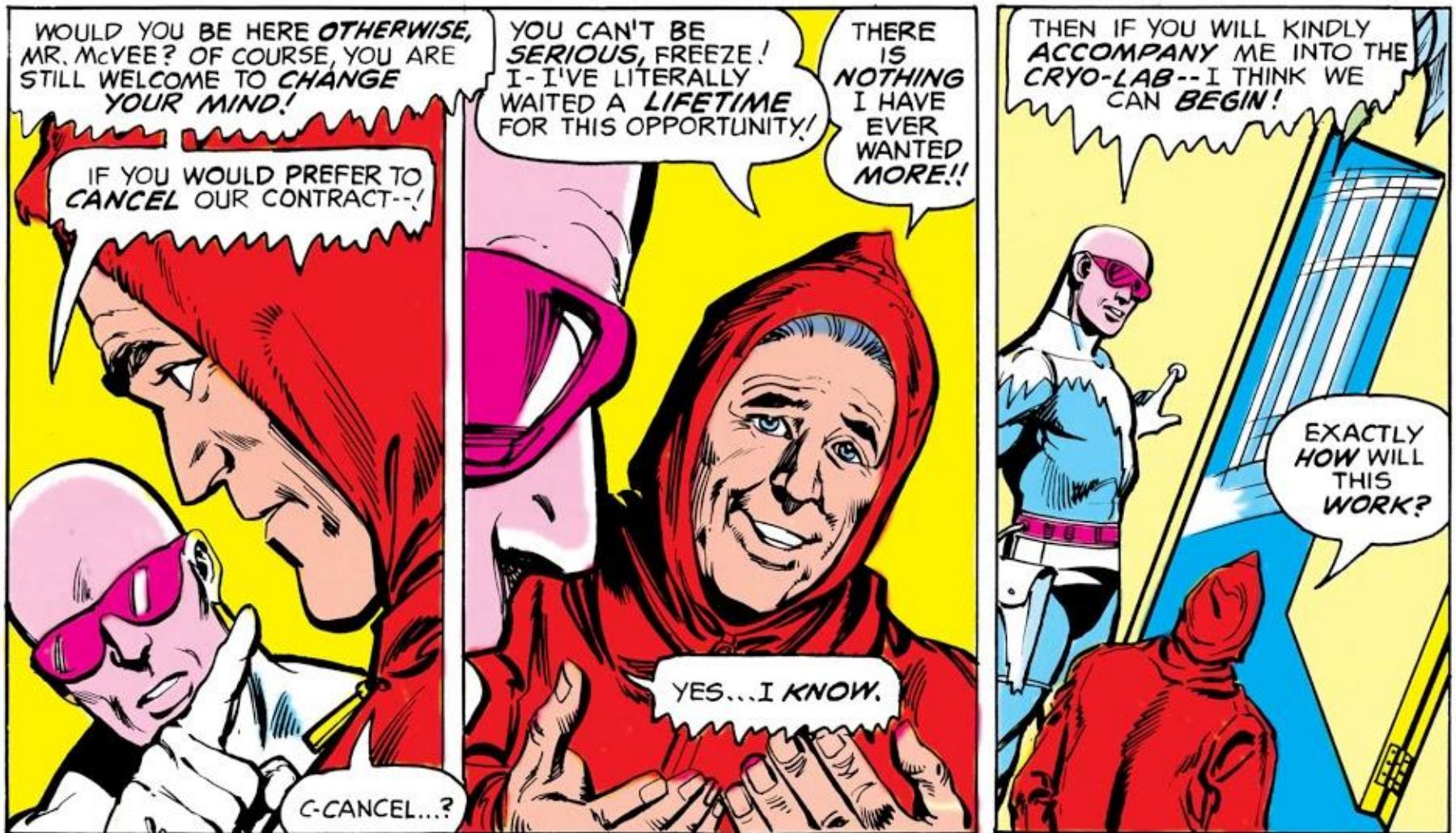
-- AND FOUND JACOB RIKER LIKE THIS!!

TAKE A LOOK AROUND-- THEN YOU TELL ME!



DONNING THE PARKA AS INSTRUCTED, JOHN MCVEE STEPS INTO THE INNER OFFICE--AND IS STUNNED BY A SUDDEN GUST OF AIR AS COLD AS AN ARCTIC WIND!





WITHIN SECONDS, THE FROST HAS COATED THE CAPSULE ENTIRELY, OBSCURING THE STATIONARY FORM WITHIN.



FOR SEVERAL MINUTES, THE ONLY SOUNDS WHICH CAN BE HEARD ARE THE HISS OF SWIRLING GASES, AND THE HUM OF ELECTRONIC CIRCUITRY--



--THEN, AT LAST, THE PLEXIGLASS PANELS WHIRR OPEN ONCE MORE TO REVEAL THE NEW JOHN MCVEE--



--A MAN WHOSE ONCE-AGING BODY IS QUITE A BIT YOUNGER NOW, SEVERAL INCHES TALLER, AND INFINITELY MORE POWERFUL BY FAR--

--BUT, ALAS, NO LONGER HUMAN!!



NO! MCVEE'S LIKE ALL THE OTHERS! HIS BODY HAS SURVIVED THE CRYONIC TREATMENT--BUT HIS BRAIN CELLS ARE IRREVOCABLY FROZEN!

HE'S BECOME LITTLE MORE THAN A LIVING ZOMBIE!



I'VE FAILED AGAIN--BUT EACH ATTEMPT BRINGS ME CLOSER TO PERFECTING MY PROCESS!

DON'T WORRY, DARLING--I HAVE FAITH IN YOU.

SOON, HILDE MY LOVE, YOU WILL BE ABLE TO JOIN ME IN MY SUB-ZERO EXISTENCE--AND YOUR BEAUTY SHALL ENDURE FOREVER!

BUT ONCE I'VE GAINED THE IMMORTALITY YOU'VE PROMISED ME, I WILL GLADLY STEP ON YOU LIKE THE OBNOXIOUS INSECT THAT YOU ARE!



WHILE, HALF A CITY AWAY,  
AT THE GOTHAM CITY BRANCH  
OF S.T.A.R. LABS...

-- AND IT TOOK NINE  
MEN TO HOLD OUR FRIEND  
HERE **STILL** LONG  
ENOUGH TO ADMINISTER  
THE **ANESTHESIA!**

NOT EXACTLY  
THE **LEAST**  
**VIOLENT**  
PATIENT  
WE'VE EVER  
HAD HERE,  
IS HE?

WELL, THERE REALLY WASN'T  
ANYTHING THEY COULD **DO** FOR  
HIM THERE -- EXCEPT KEEP  
HIM **CONTAINED**.

AT LEAST,  
HERE, WE  
HAVE A  
CHANCE OF  
RESTORING  
HIM TO  
NORMAL.

YEAH, THIS NEW  
RADIATION TREATMENT  
WILL EITHER CURE HIM--  
OR KILL HIM!

THE  
WAYNE  
FOUNDATION  
SEEMED ALMOST  
GLAD TO GET  
HIM OFF ITS  
HANDS!

\*AS IN SCIENTIFIC  
AND TECHNOLOGICAL  
ADVANCED RESEARCH.  
--J.S.

BUTTONS ARE **PRESSED**--AND INSTANTLY, THE  
SHROUDED FIGURE IS ENVELOPED IN CORUSCATING  
ENERGIES...

FOR SEVERAL SECONDS, NOTHING  
HAPPENS--THEN THE MASSIVE  
BODY BENEATH THE STERILE  
SHEET BEGINS TO WRITHE IN  
TERRIBLE AGONY--

STAGGERING TO ITS  
FEET, THE TOWERING  
FIGURE GOES **BERSERK**  
--LASHING OUT BLINDLY  
AT THE SOURCE OF ITS  
MIND-SHATTERING  
PAIN...

THEN, MOANING LIKE SOME  
LOST AND LONELY **CHILD**,  
THE FIGURE STUMBLERS  
FORWARD--

ARRGGH

KRAM

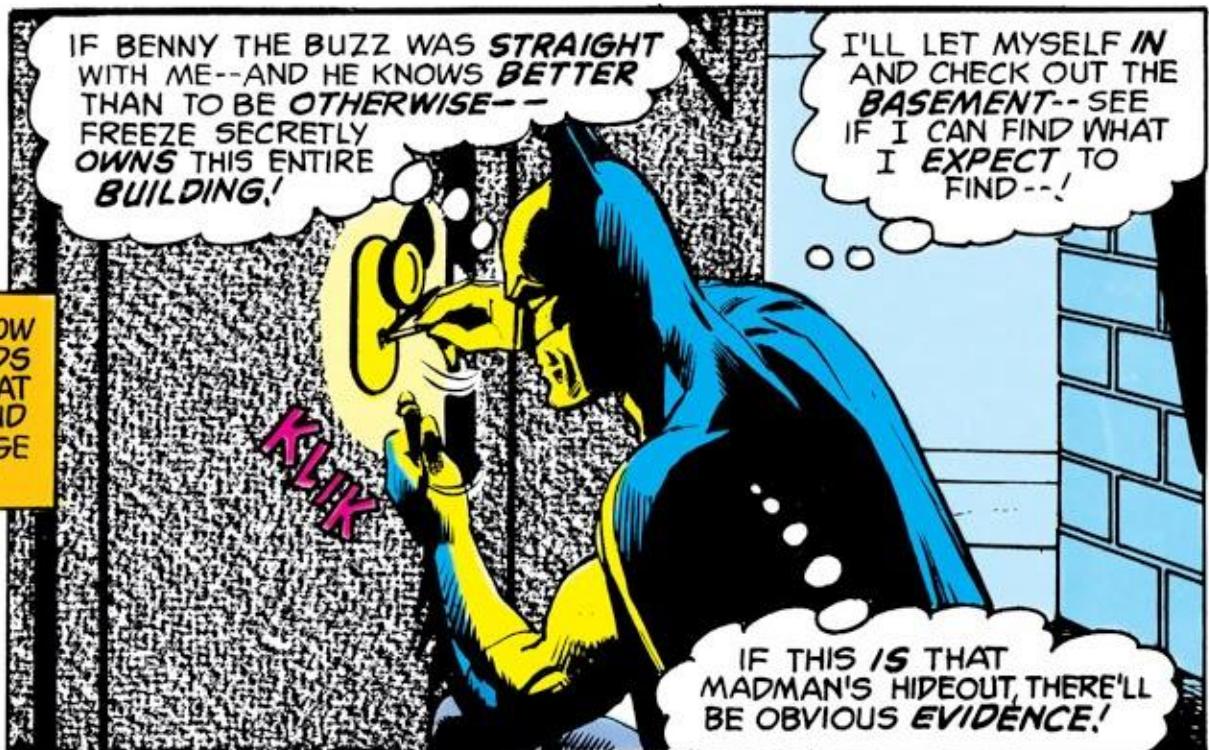
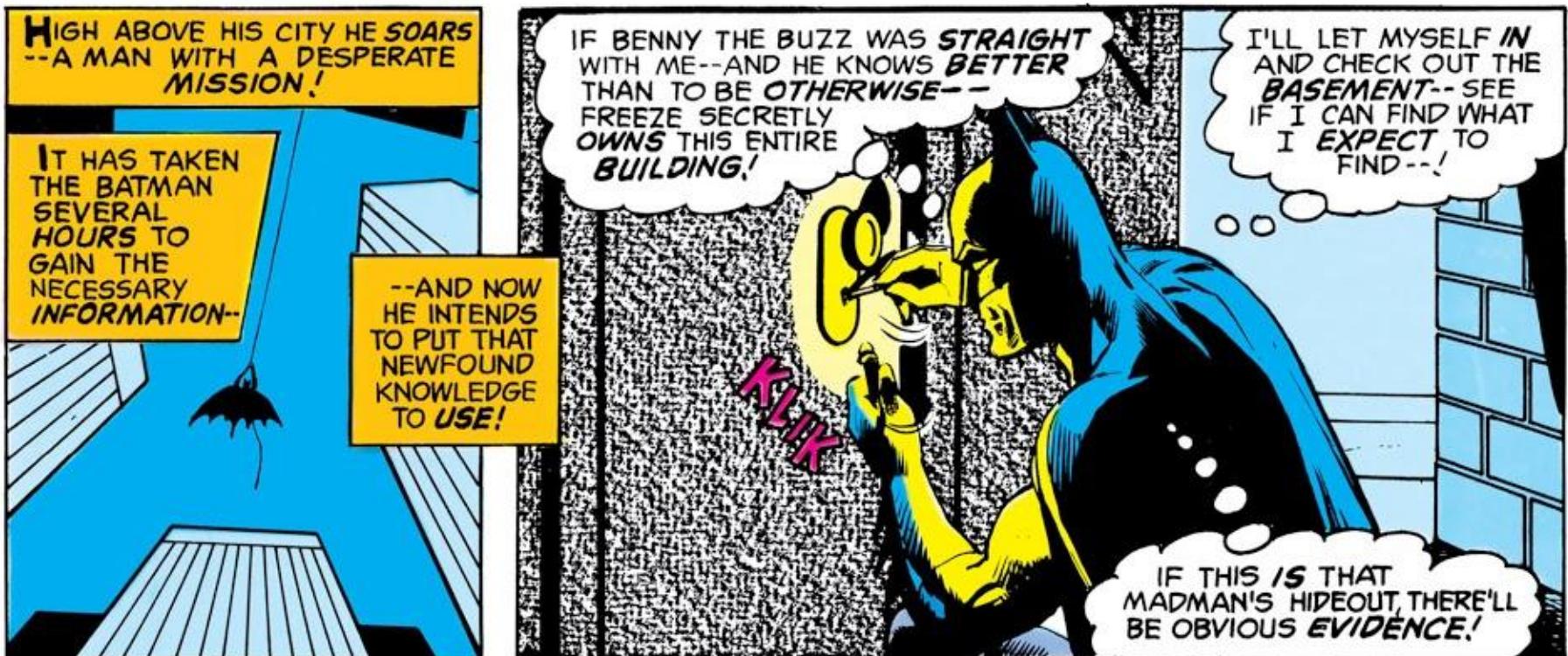
-- UNTIL IT  
**SUNDERS** ITS  
THICK METAL  
**BONDS** IN A FIT OF  
UNIMAGINABLE  
FURY!

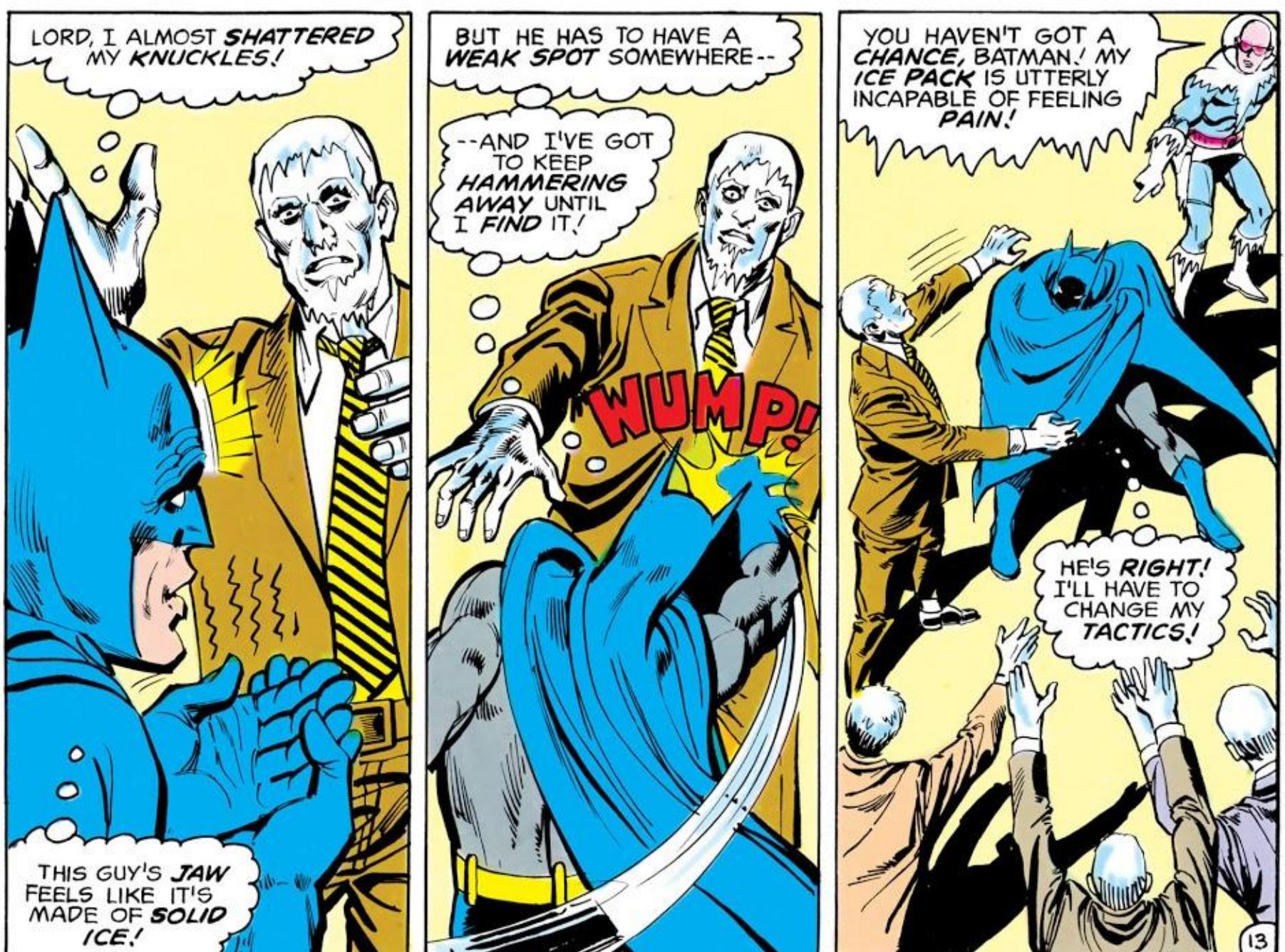
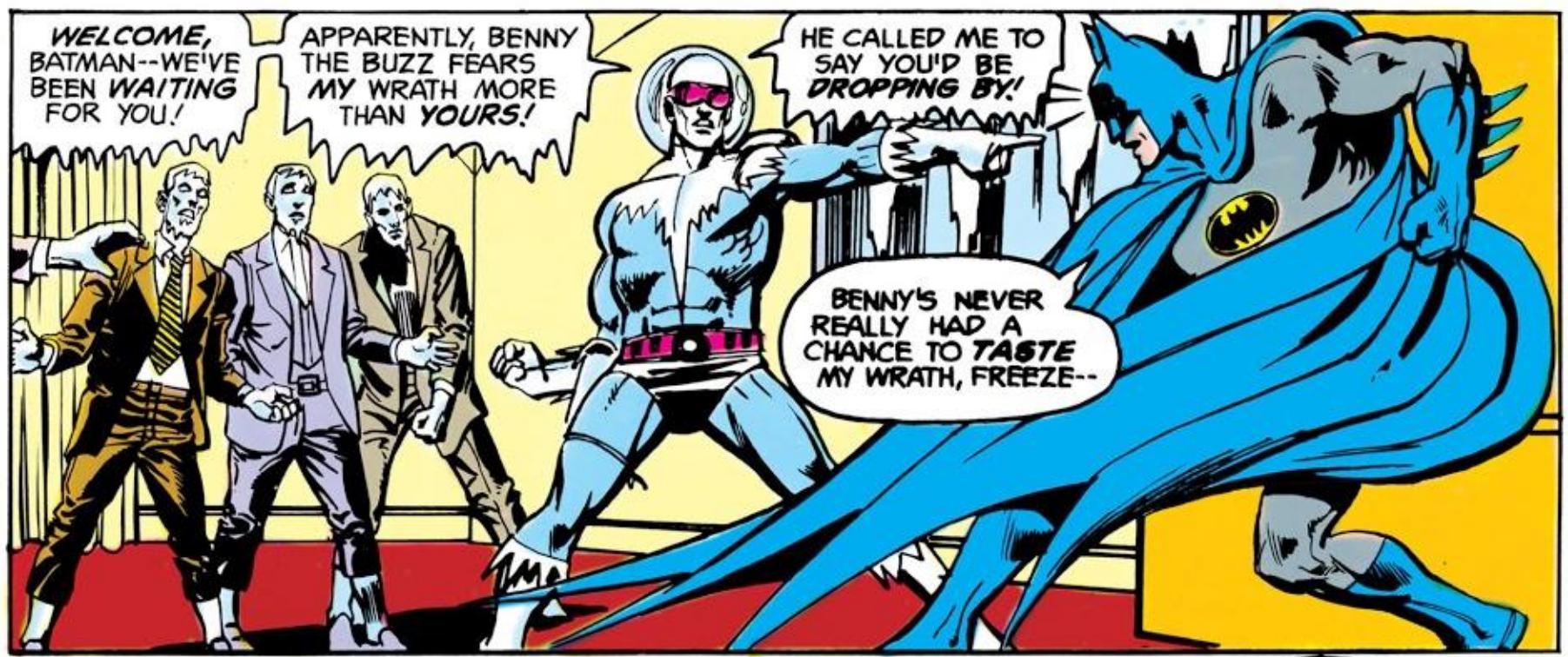
--AND FALLS  
FLAT ON ITS  
SHEET-COVERED  
FACE!

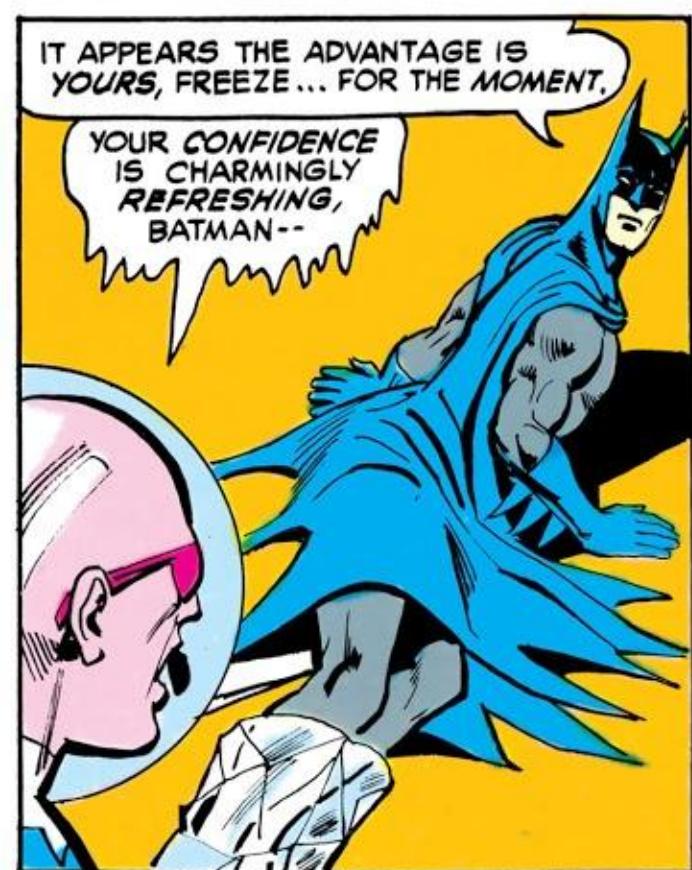
LOOKS LIKE YOU WERE  
RIGHT, FRANK. YOU SAID  
THE TREATMENT WOULD  
**CURE** HIM OR **KILL** HIM...

SNAP

WHOMP  
...AND,  
UNFORTUNATELY,  
IT DID THE **LATTER**!







THUS, SEVERAL MINUTES LATER, IN THE FRIGID FELON'S CONCEALED CRYO-LAB...

BELIEVE ME, BATMAN--YOU'RE WASTING YOUR **STRENGTH!** THAT PLEXIGLASS IS POSITIVELY **SHATTERPROOF!**

YOU'LL **REMAIN** WHERE YOU ARE-- UNTIL YOUR TREATMENT IS **COMPLETE!**

ARE YOU CERTAIN WE HAVE TO GO THROUGH WITH THIS, DARLING?

IT SEEMS LIKE SUCH A TERRIBLE...

...WASTE.



WHAT OTHER CHOICE DO I HAVE? IF I ALLOW LOW HIM TO GO FREE, THE BATMAN WILL DESTROY EVERYTHING I'VE STRUGGLED TO **BUILD** HERE!

EVER SINCE THE ACCIDENT WHICH TRANSFORMED ME INTO A **HUMAN ICICLE**, I'VE HAD TO STRUGGLE JUST TO SURVIVE!

I DIDN'T COMPLAIN-- I EVEN GREW TO APPRECIATE MY SPECIAL CONDITION! I COULD ENDURE ANYTHING...

...EXCEPT THE UNBEARABLE LONELINESS!

THEN YOU CAME INTO MY LIFE, HILDY-- AND GAVE ME HOPE AGAIN!

EVERYTHING I'VE DONE HERE HAS BEEN FOR YOU--



--SO THAT YOU CAN JOIN ME IN MY WINTRY WONDERLAND, AND REMAIN YOUNG WITH ME FOREVER!

IF YOU'D LIKE, YOU CAN CONSIDER BATMAN'S TREATMENT MERELY ANOTHER CONTRIBUTION TO THE CAUSE!

THE PRESS OF A BUTTON-- AND THE ROOM IS ONCE MORE FILLED WITH THE SIBILANT HISs OF FRIGID GASES!



AS BEFORE, THE CAPSULE GROWS THICK WITH FROST--

AS BEFORE, THE PLEXIGLASS PANELS FINALLY WHIRR OPEN--

--TO REVEAL, AS BEFORE, SOMETHING NOT QUITE HUMAN!

--AS THE DESPERATE SCRABBING OF ITS CAPTIVE GROWS FAINTER, THEN GROWS STILL.

PSSSSSS

LOOK AT HIM, HILDY--THE ONCE-INVINCIBLE BATMAN! HIS BODY IS AS PERFECT AS EVER--BUT HIS MIND IS A FROZEN RUIN!

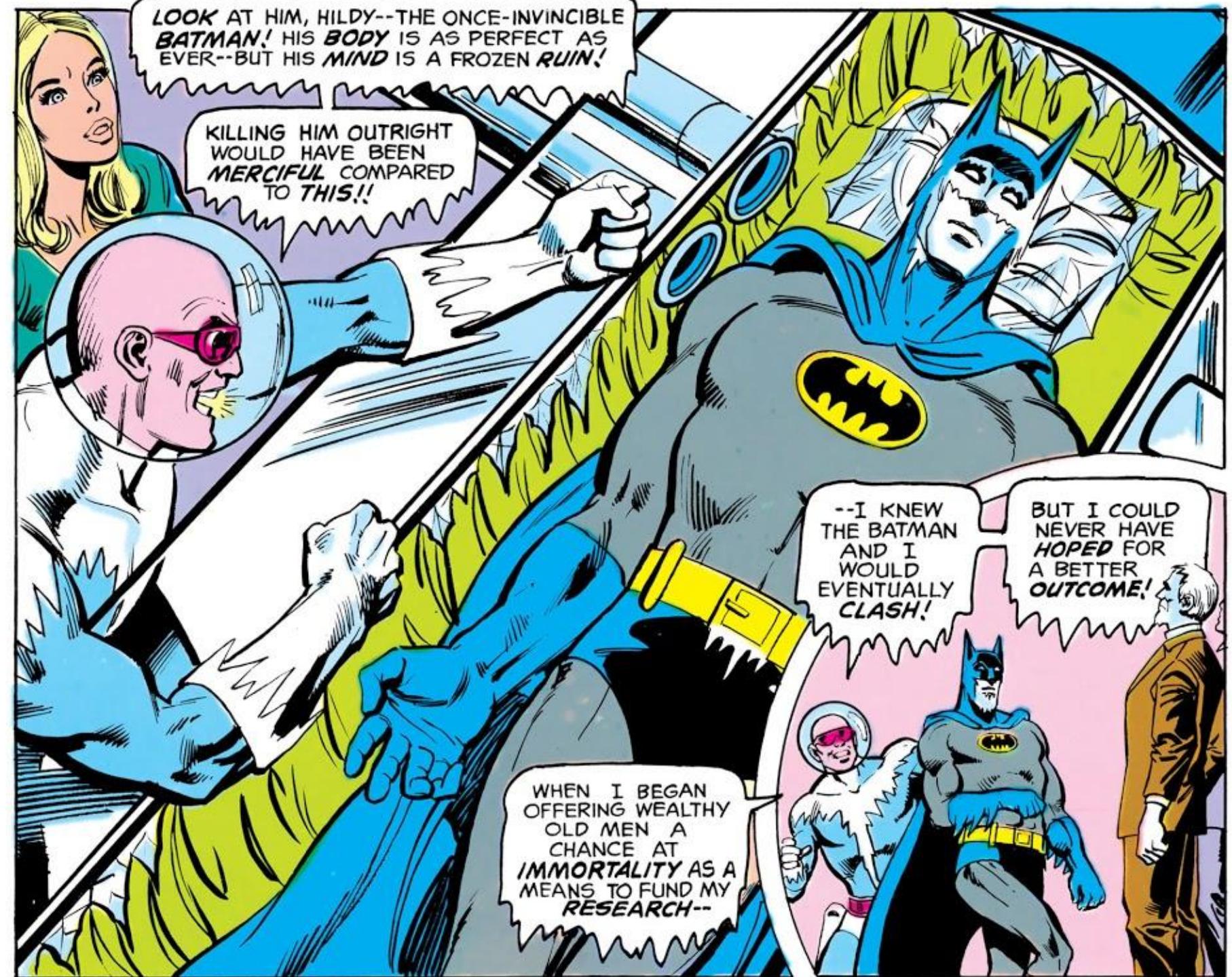
KILLING HIM OUTRIGHT WOULD HAVE BEEN MERCIFUL COMPARED TO THIS!!



WHEN I BEGAN OFFERING WEALTHY OLD MEN A CHANCE AT IMMORTALITY AS A MEANS TO FUND MY RESEARCH--

--I KNEW THE BATMAN AND I WOULD EVENTUALLY CLASH!

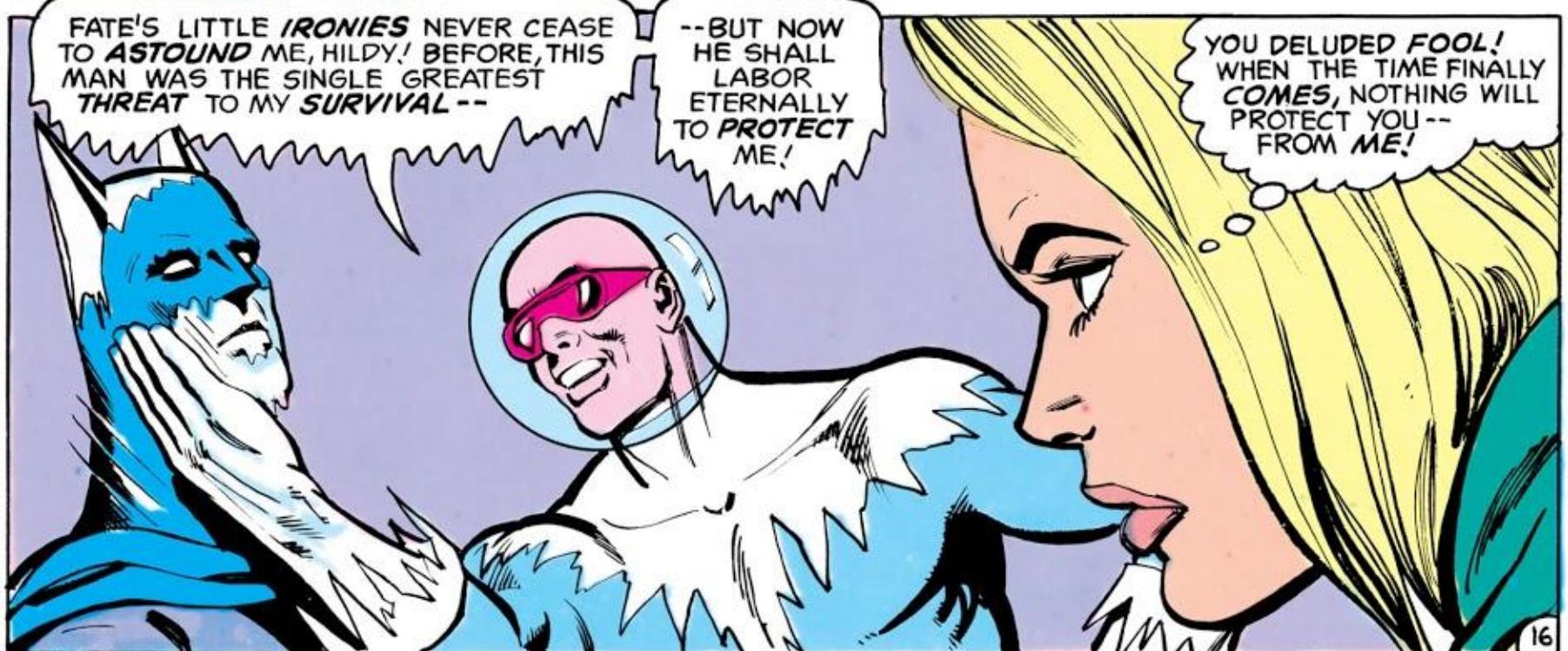
BUT I COULD NEVER HAVE HOPED FOR A BETTER OUTCOME!

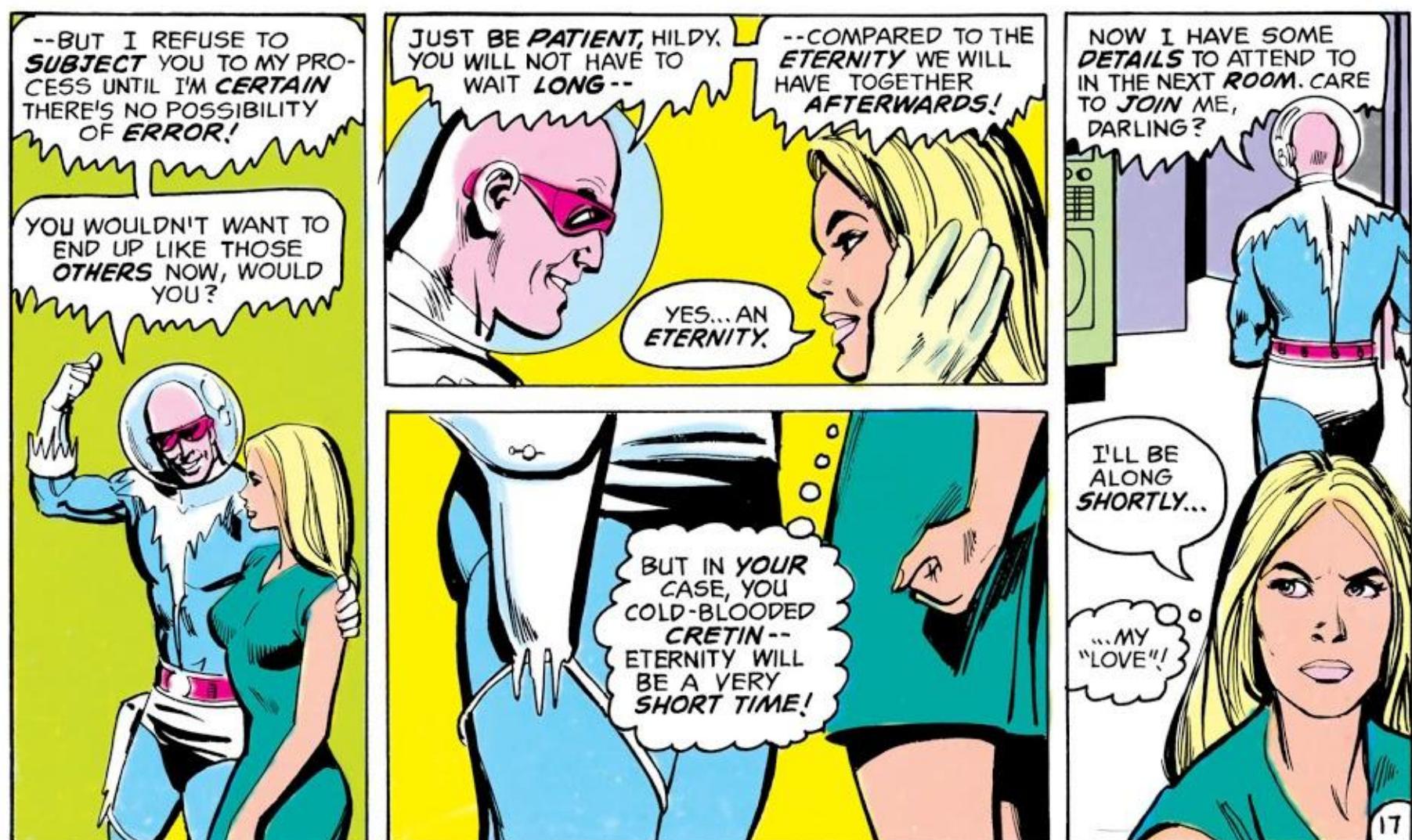
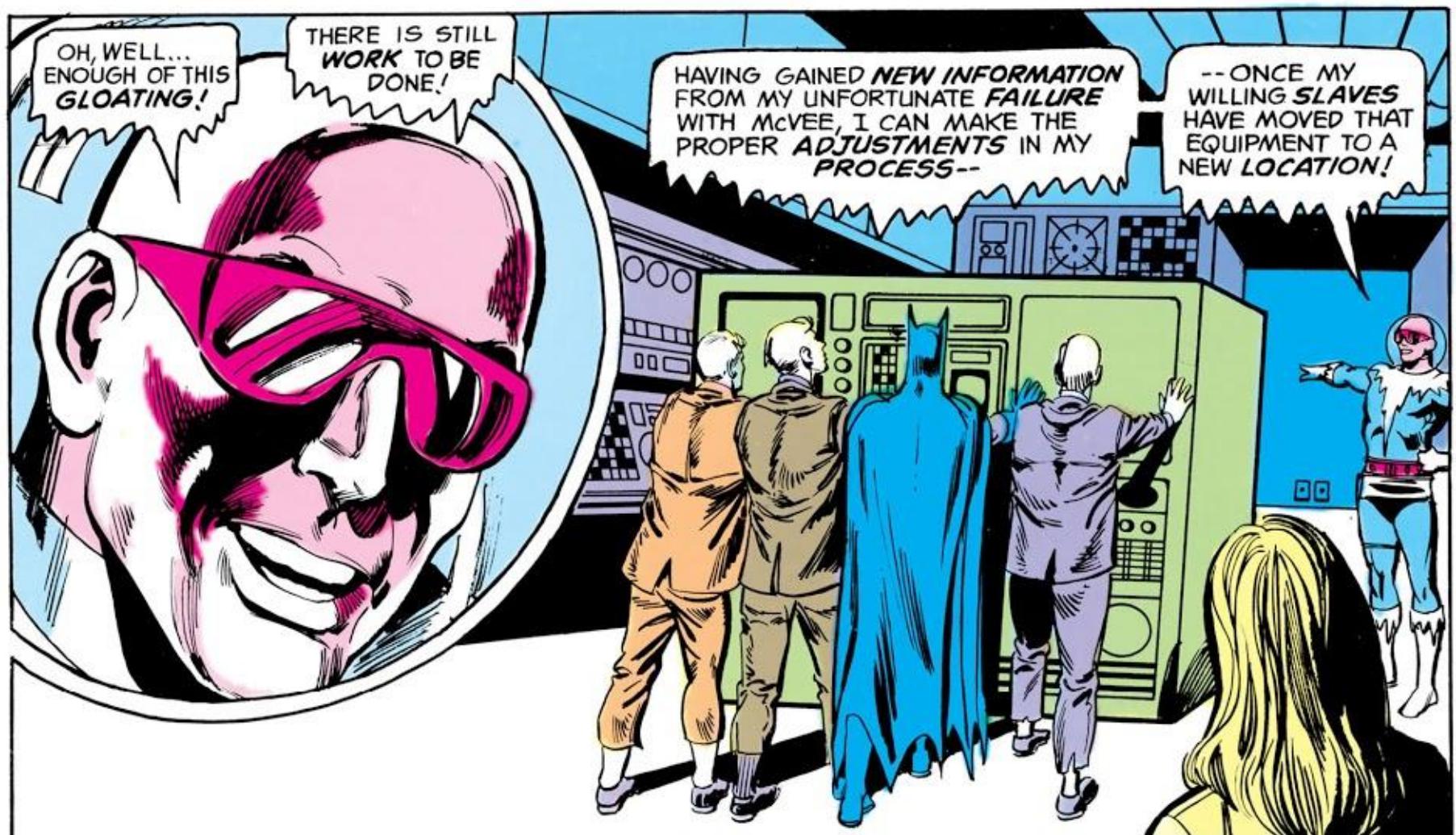


FATE'S LITTLE IRONIES NEVER CEASE TO ASTOUND ME, HILDY! BEFORE, THIS MAN WAS THE SINGLE GREATEST THREAT TO MY SURVIVAL --

--BUT NOW HE SHALL LABOR ETERNALLY TO PROTECT ME!

YOU DELUSED FOOL! WHEN THE TIME FINALLY COMES, NOTHING WILL PROTECT YOU -- FROM ME!





FOR A MOMENT, HILLY STANDS SILENTLY,  
LOST IN CHURNING THOUGHT--

--THEN HER GLANCE FALLS UPON  
THE UNMOVING **BATMAN**, AND...

IT'S REALLY  
RATHER  
**FUNNY**,  
YOU KNOW.

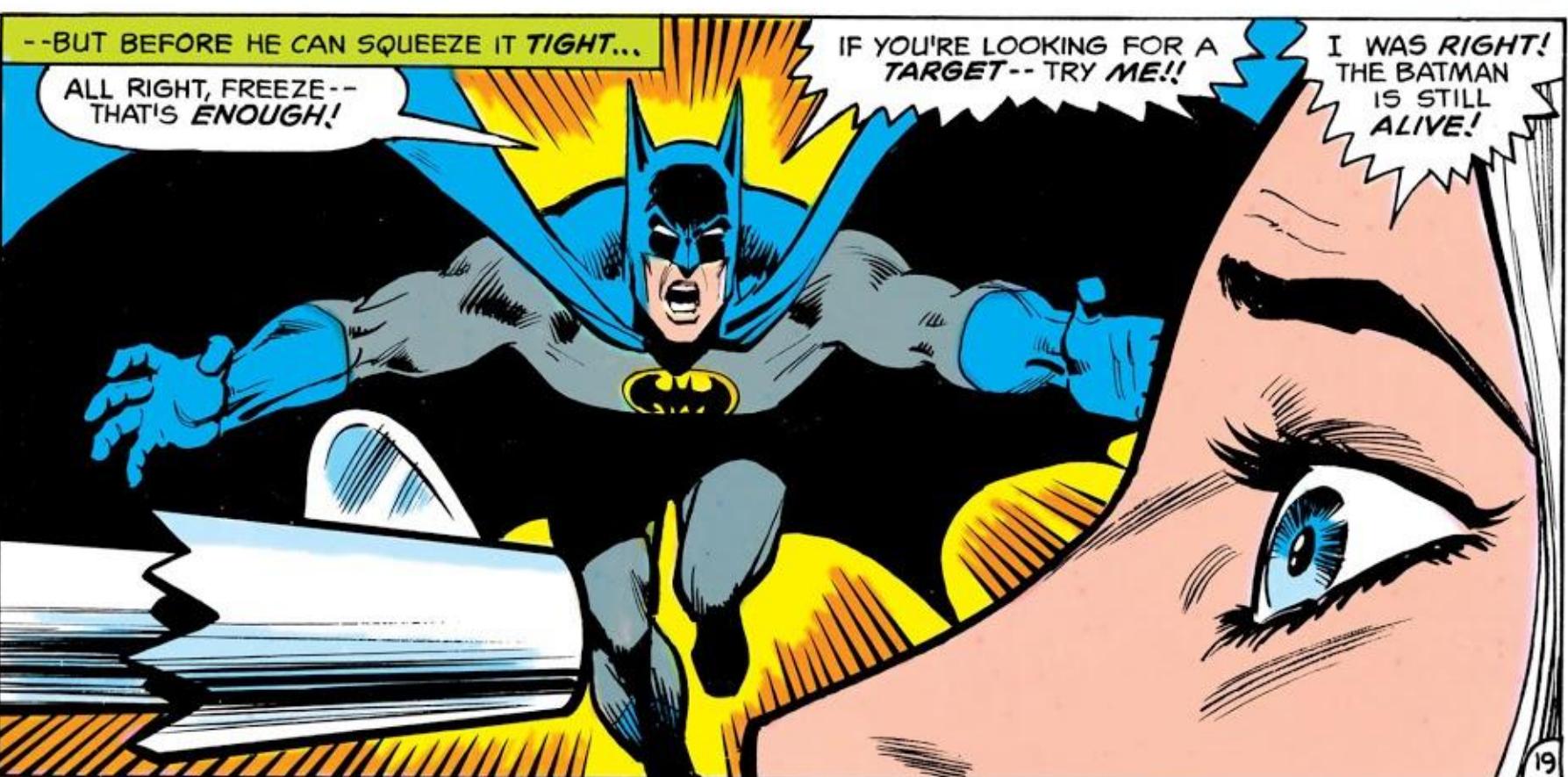
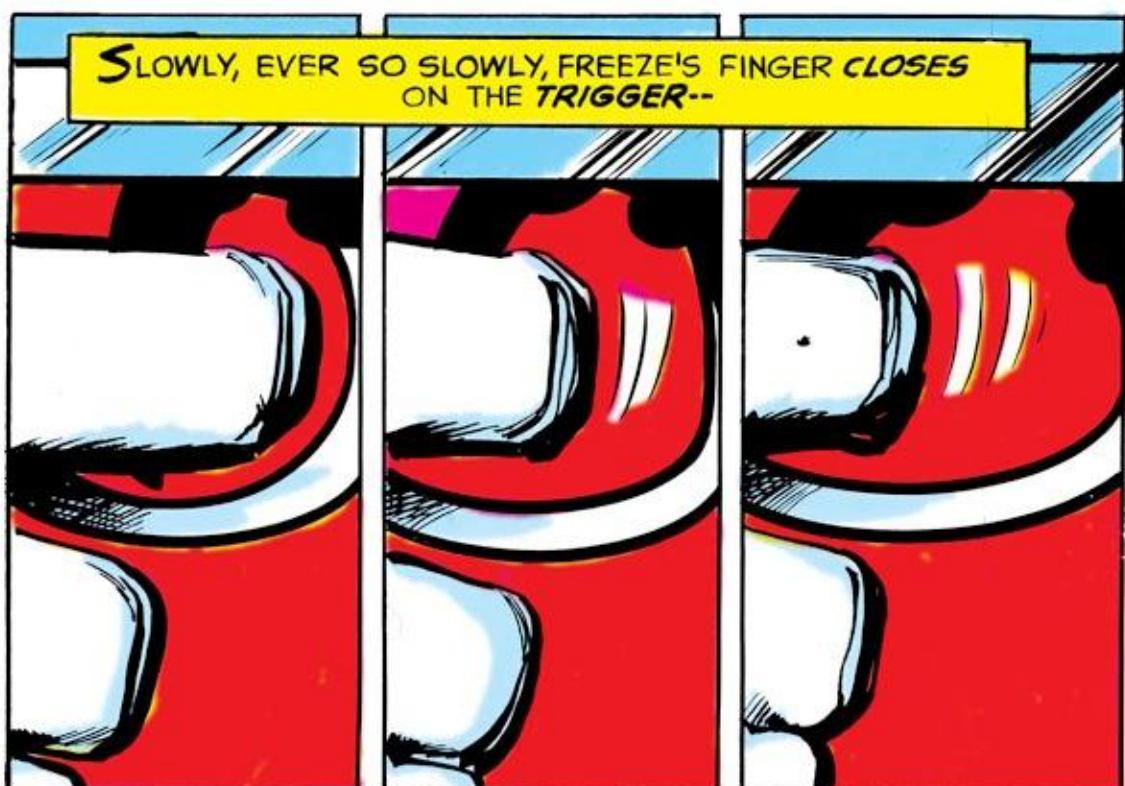
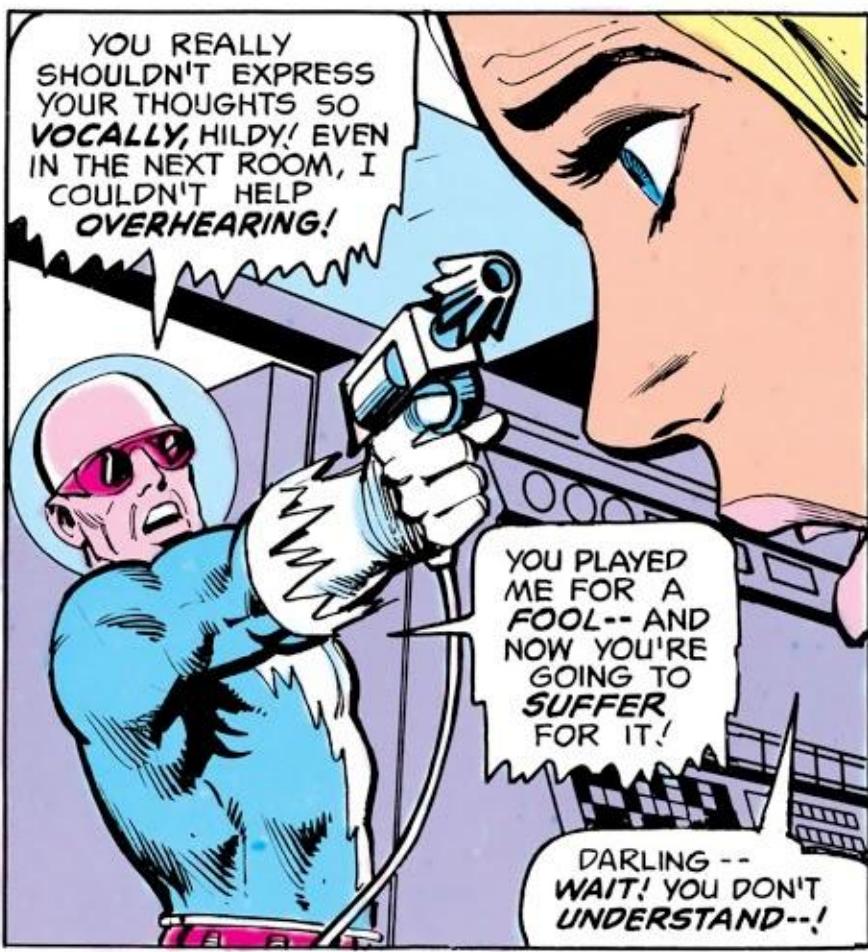
THAT BLIND FOOL  
HONESTLY BELIEVES  
I'M DOING ALL  
THIS FOR **HIM**!

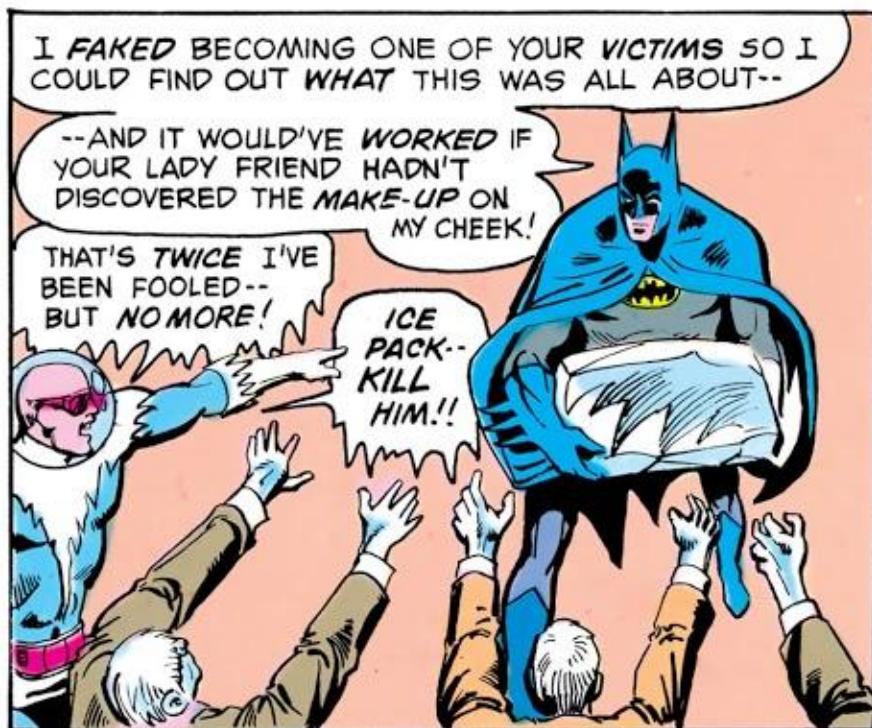
AS IF  
ANYONE  
COULD  
ACTUALLY  
**LOVE**  
THAT  
**ABOMINABLE  
SNOWMAN**!

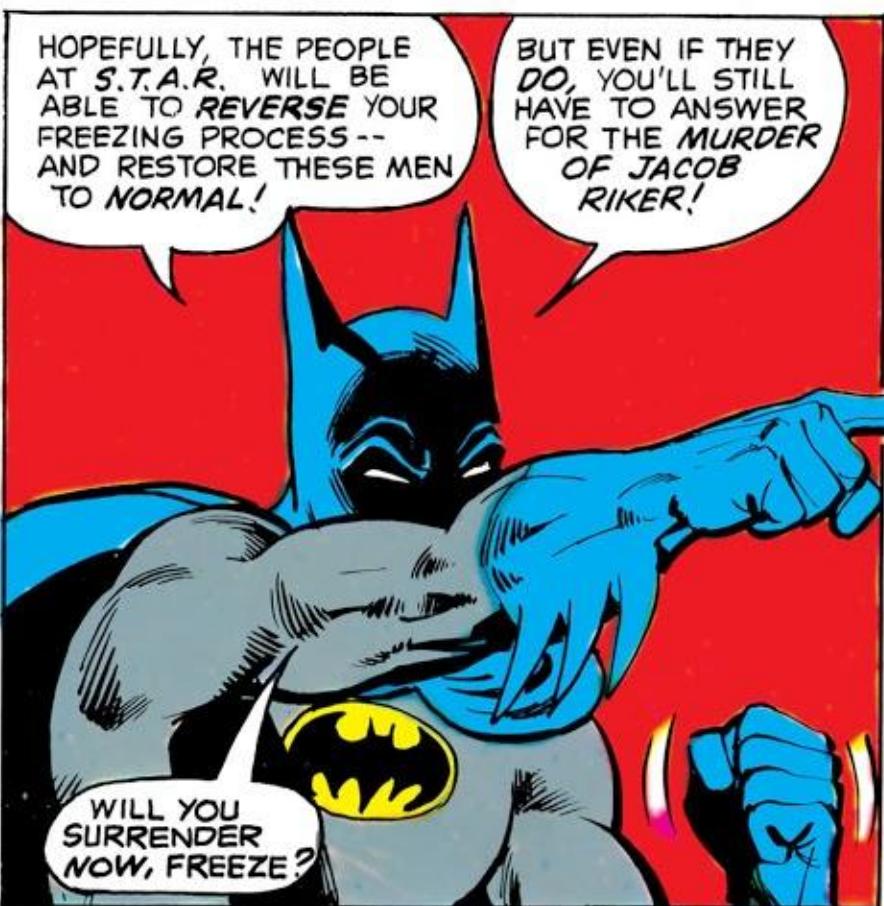
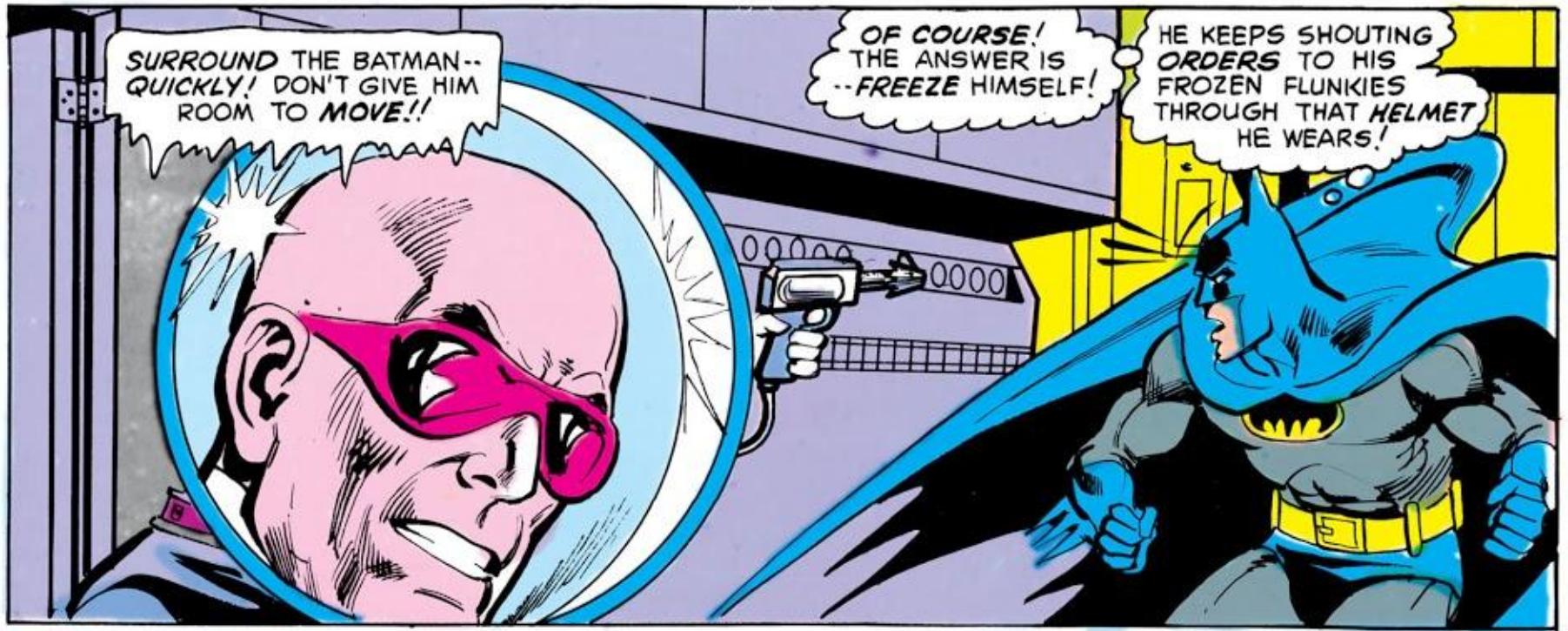
NOW IF HE WAS A  
LOT MORE LIKE  
**YOU**, HANDSOME--  
WHO KNOWS?

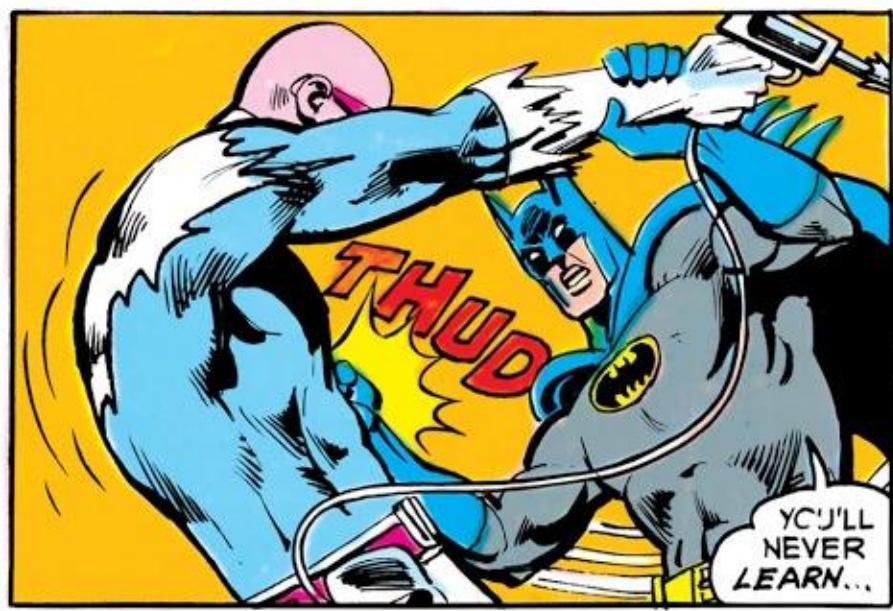
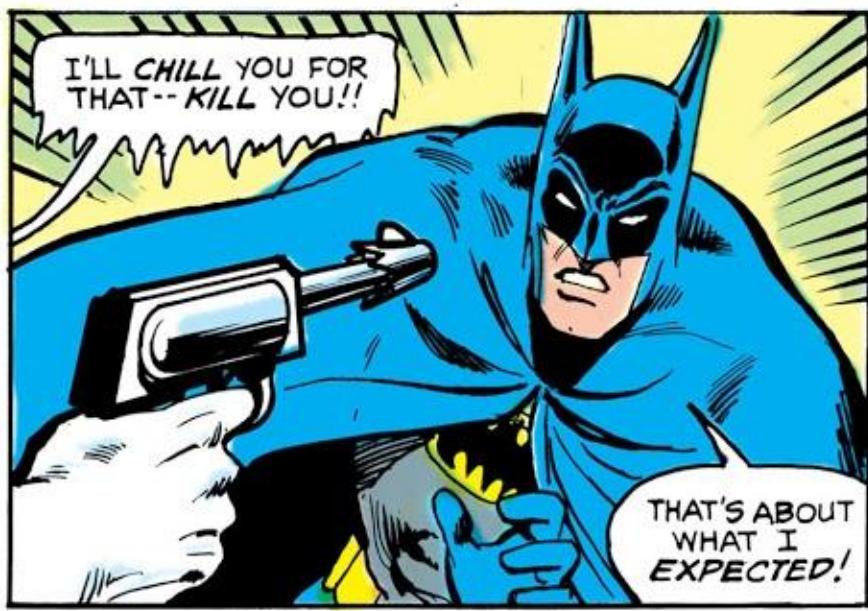
MAYBE HE'D  
ACTUALLY HAVE A  
**CHANCE**!













NEXT ISSUE: **HAVE YOURSELF A DEADLY LITTLE CHRISTMAS!**



**novus**  
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