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Wonder Woman

SURPRISE STORY OF THE YEAR!

"WONDER WOMAN'S TRIPLE IDENTITY!"

Wonder Woman

By CHARLES MOULTON

ONE OF **WONDER WOMAN'S** MOST POWERFUL WEAPONS AGAINST GANGLAND HAS BEEN HER ZEALOUSLY-GUARDED SECRET IDENTITY! NOW, BY A DIABOLIC RUSE, THAT PRICELESS DUALITY HAS BEEN UNCOVERED! CAN **WONDER WOMAN**—BEAUTIFUL AS APHRODITE, WISE AS ATHENA, SWIFTER THAN MERCURY, AND STRONGER THAN HERCULES—OUTWIT A DEATH SENTENCE PASSED ON HER AND TWO INNOCENT IMPERSONATORS BY THE UNDERWORLD'S MOST RUTHLESS CHIEF? READ THE AMAZING ANSWER IN-------

"WONDER WOMAN'S *TRIPLE* IDENTITY!"

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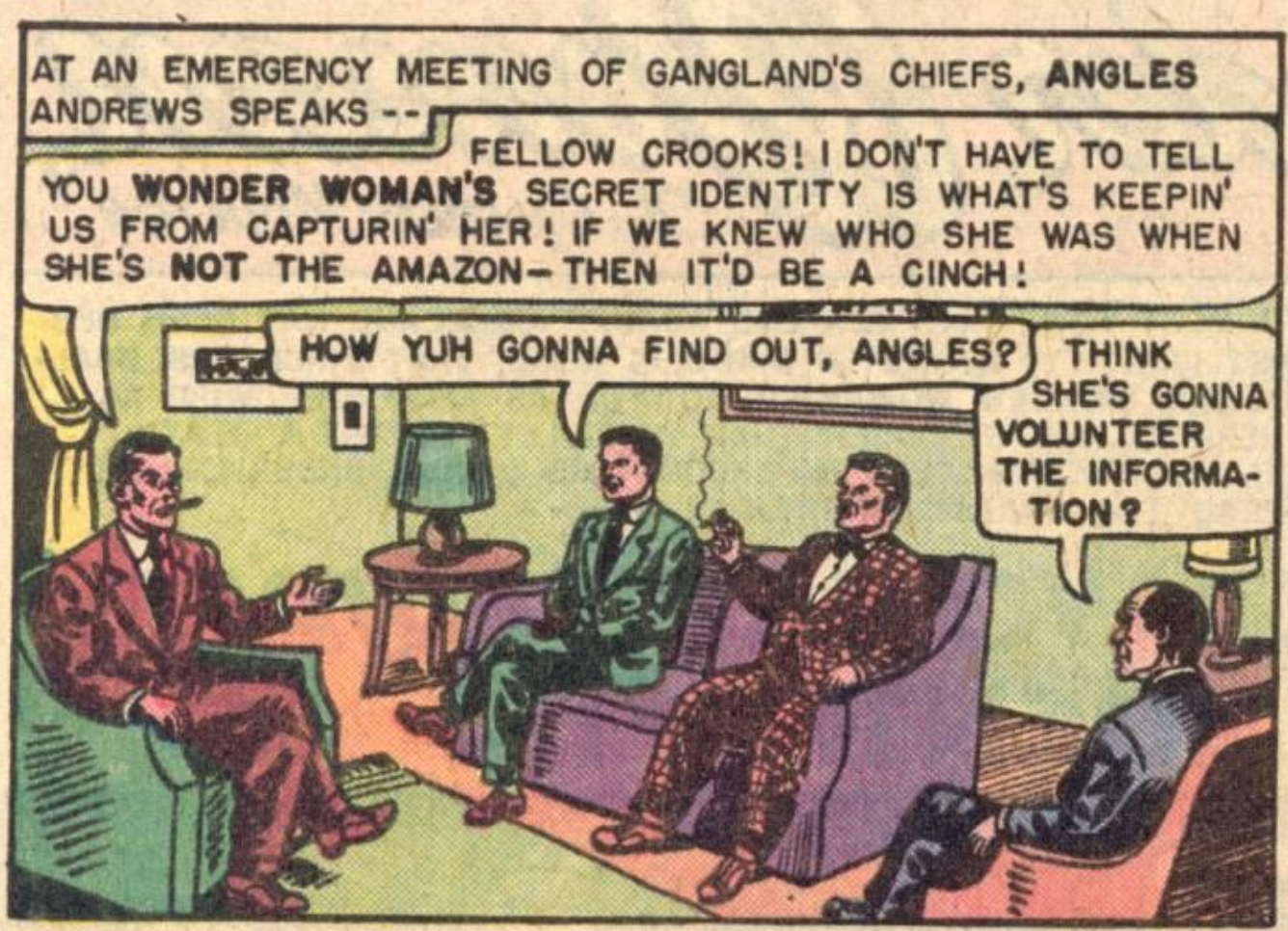
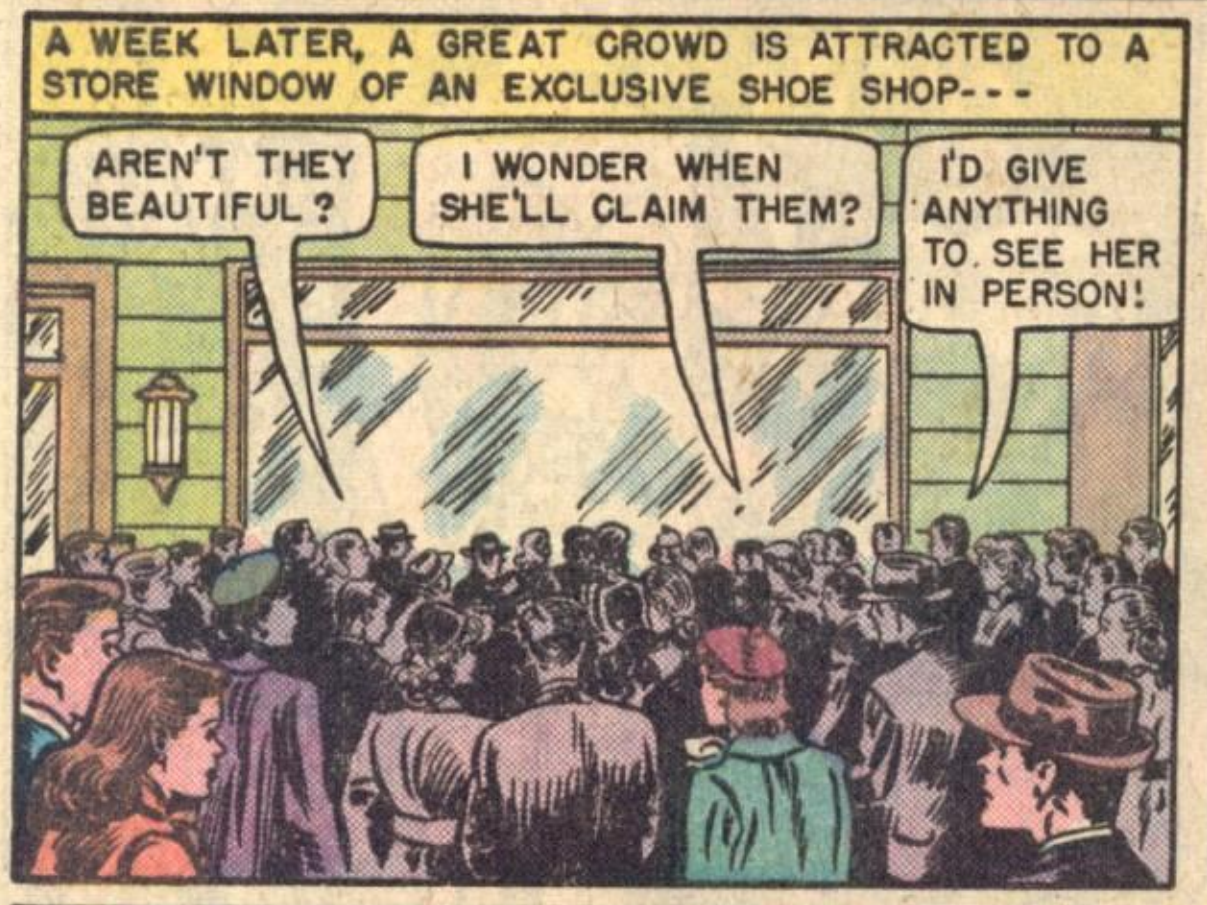
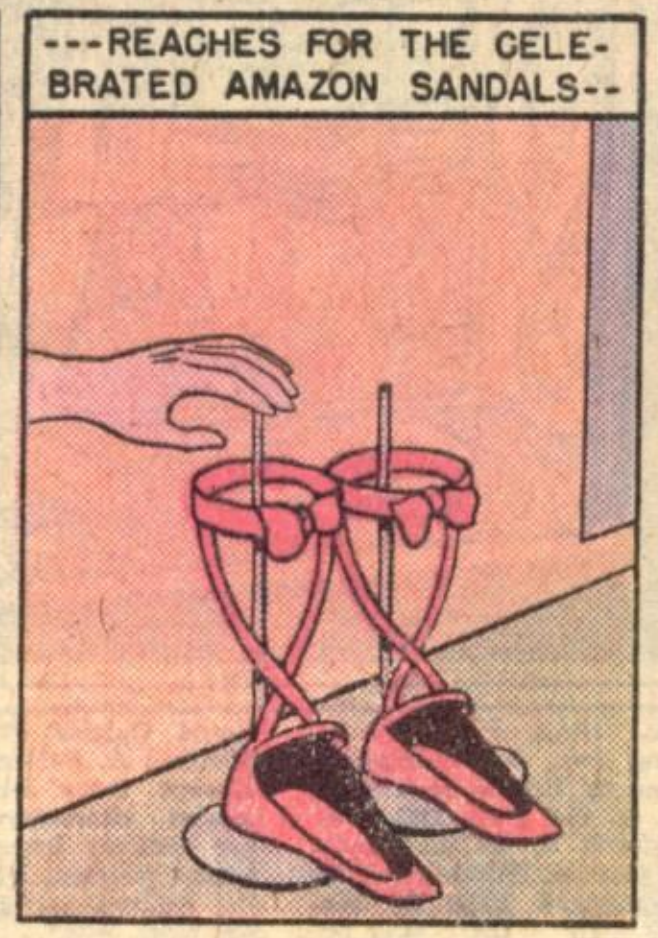

AT AN EMERGENCY MEETING OF GANGLAND'S CHIEFS, ANGLES ANDREWS SPEAKS --
FELLOW CROOKS! I DON'T HAVE TO TELL YOU WONDER WOMAN'S SECRET IDENTITY IS WHAT'S KEEPIN' US FROM CAPTURIN' HER! IF WE KNEW WHO SHE WAS WHEN SHE'S NOT THE AMAZON—THEN IT'D BE A CINCH!
HOW YUH GONNA FIND OUT, ANGLES?
THINK SHE'S GONNA VOLUNTEER THE INFORMATION?

YOU GUESSED IT, BLACKOUT! SHE'S GOIN' TO TELL US—WITHOUT KNOWIN' IT! NOW HERE'S MY ANGLE! BZZZ---BZZZ---


A WEEK LATER, A GREAT CROWD IS ATTRACTED TO A STORE WINDOW OF AN EXCLUSIVE SHOE SHOP---
AREN'T THEY BEAUTIFUL?
I WONDER WHEN SHE'LL CLAIM THEM?
I'D GIVE ANYTHING TO SEE HER IN PERSON!

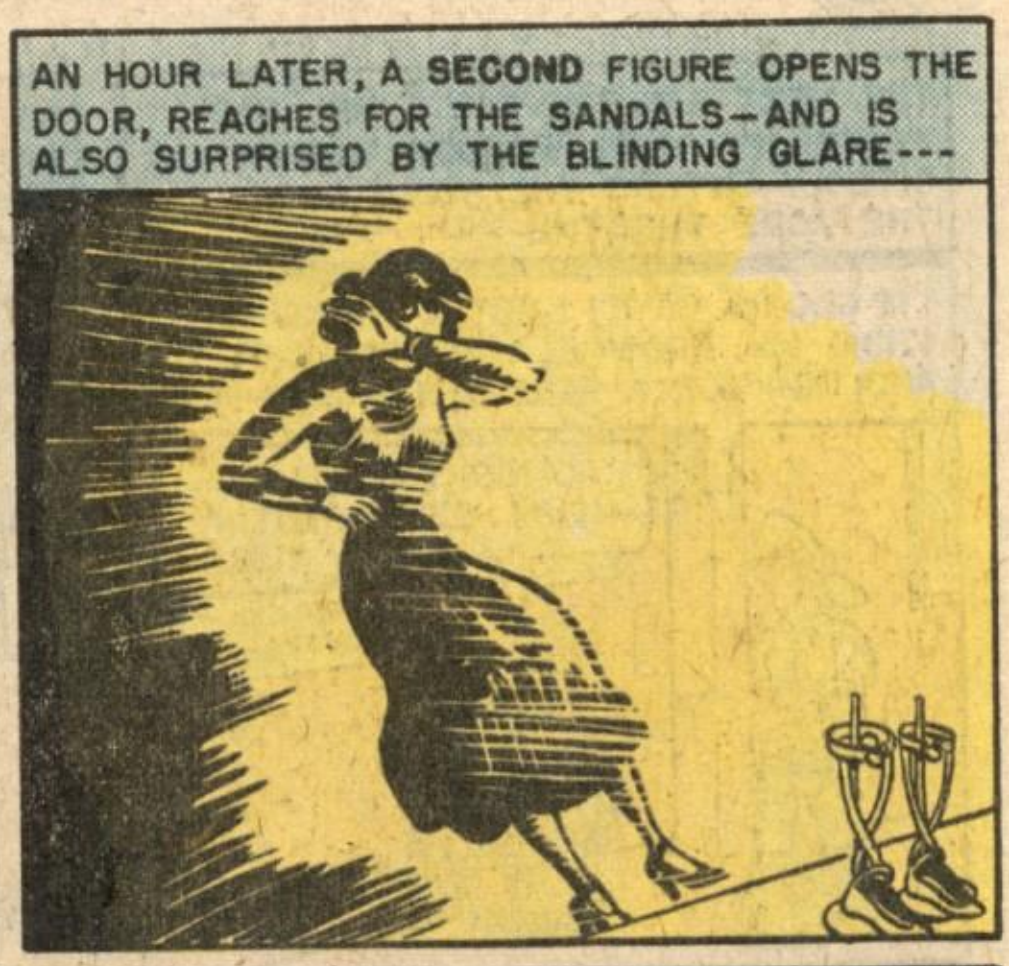
FOUND! WONDER WOMAN'S SANDALS! OWNER MAY CLAIM THEM ANY TIME SHE WISHES! OUR DOOR WILL ALWAYS BE OPEN FOR HER!

THE DAY PASSES WITHOUT WONDER WOMAN CLAIMING HER SANDALS---THEN, LATE THAT NIGHT, A HAND QUIETLY OPENS THE DOOR OF THE SHOE SHOP-


---REACHES FOR THE CELEBRATED AMAZON SANDALS--

—THEN DRAWS BACK STARTLEDLY WHEN A BLINDING FLASH ILLUMINATES THE WINDOW!

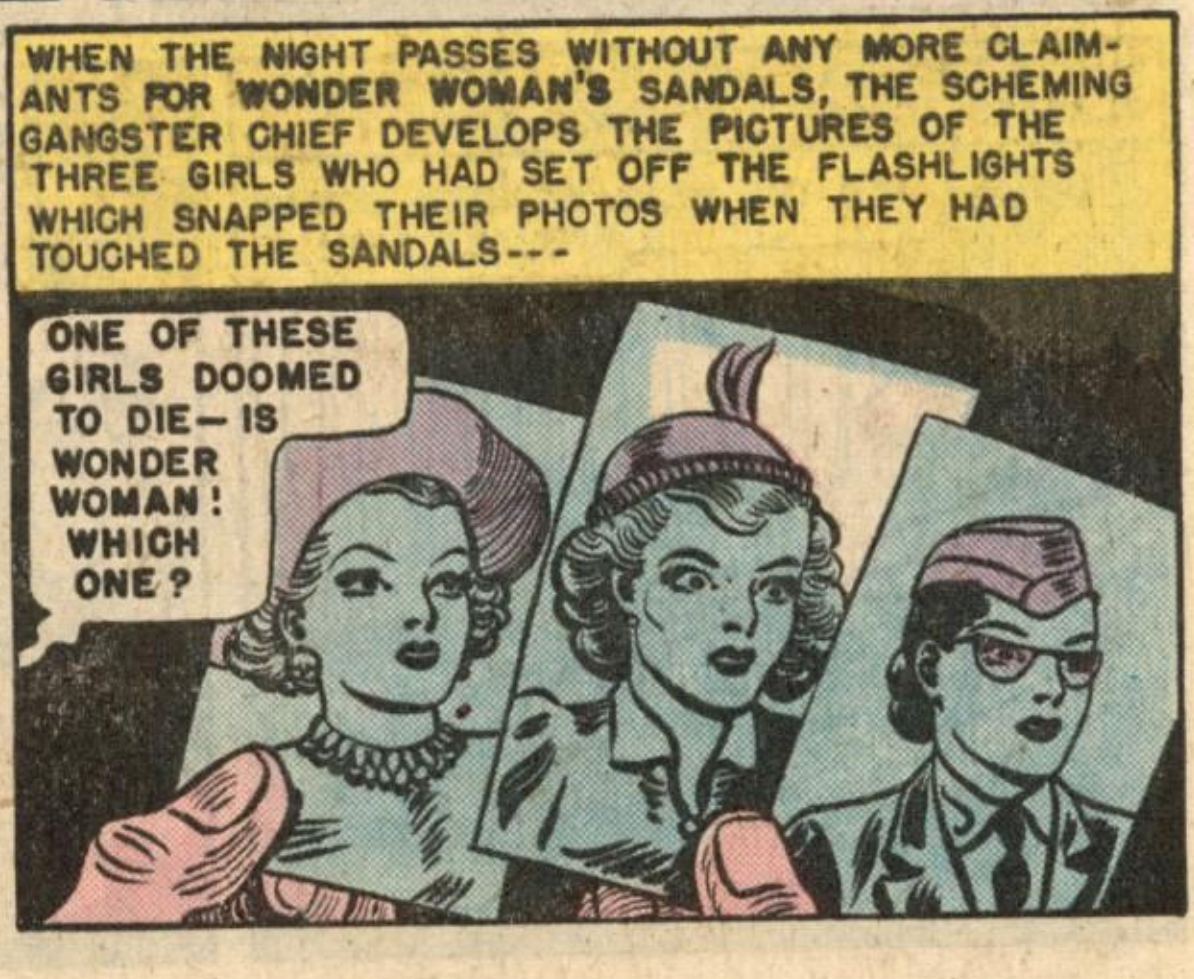
OUT FROM THE SHOE SHOP, WITHOUT THE SANDALS, FLEES THE FRIGHTENED FIGURE---


AN HOUR LATER, A SECOND FIGURE OPENS THE DOOR, REACHES FOR THE SANDALS—AND IS ALSO SURPRISED BY THE BLINDING GLARE---

BEFORE THE NIGHT IS OVER, A THIRD FEMININE FIGURE IS CAUGHT IN THE SPOTLIGHT WHEN SHE REACHES FOR WONDER WOMAN'S SANDALS!

AS THE THIRD VISITOR RACES FROM THE SHOP, HER HASTY EXIT IS WATCHED BY CRUEL, CALCULATING EYES---
THAT GAL DOESN'T KNOW IT--BUT SHE'S ALSO GOIN' TO BE TRAILED BY OUR BOYS UNTIL THEY FIND OUT EVERYTHIN' ABOUT HER!
GUESS YUH DIDN'T FIGURE ON THREE GALS SHOWIN' UP—TO CLAIM WONDER WOMAN'S SANDALS, DID YUH, ANGLES?

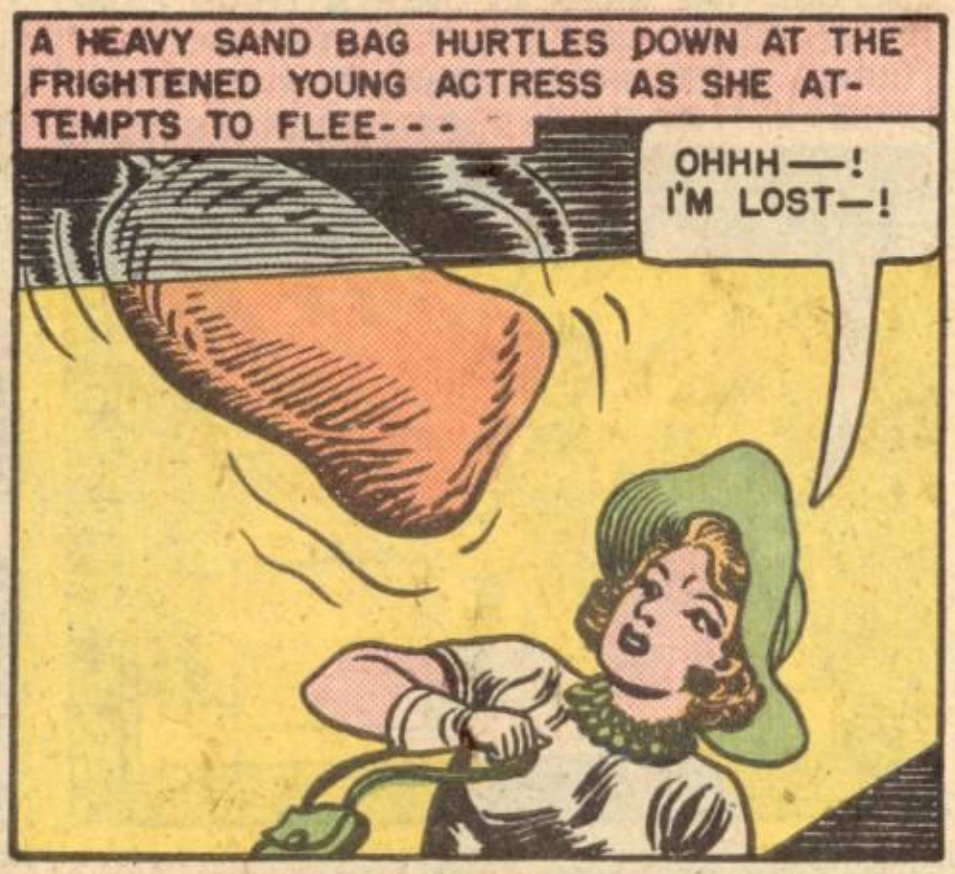
WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES IT MAKE? ONE OF 'EM'S BOUND TO BE WONDER WOMAN! WE'LL RUB OUT ALL OF 'EM--JUST TO MAKE SURE! GET THE ANGLE?
HO-HO! I SURE DO, ANGLES!

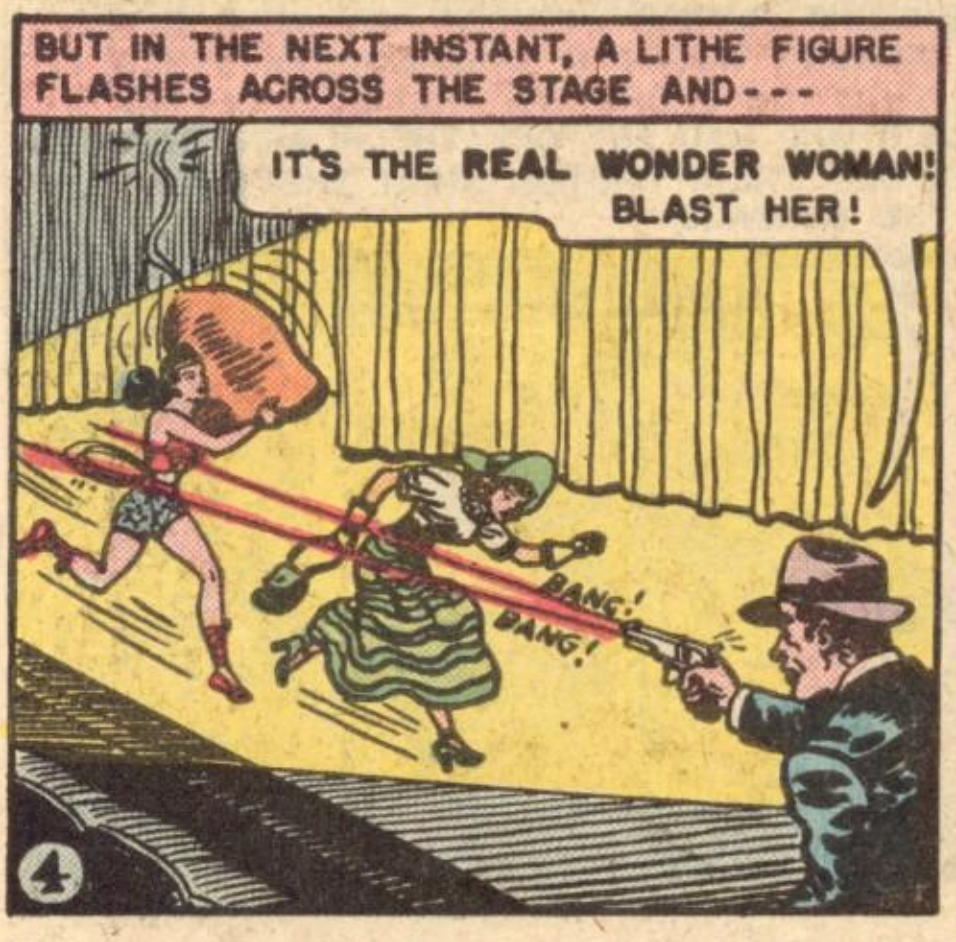

WHEN THE NIGHT PASSES WITHOUT ANY MORE CLAIMANTS FOR WONDER WOMAN'S SANDALS, THE SCHEMING GANGSTER CHIEF DEVELOPS THE PICTURES OF THE THREE GIRLS WHO HAD SET OFF THE FLASHLIGHTS WHICH SNAPPED THEIR PHOTOS WHEN THEY HAD TOUCHED THE SANDALS---
ONE OF THESE GIRLS DOOMED TO DIE—IS WONDER WOMAN! WHICH ONE?

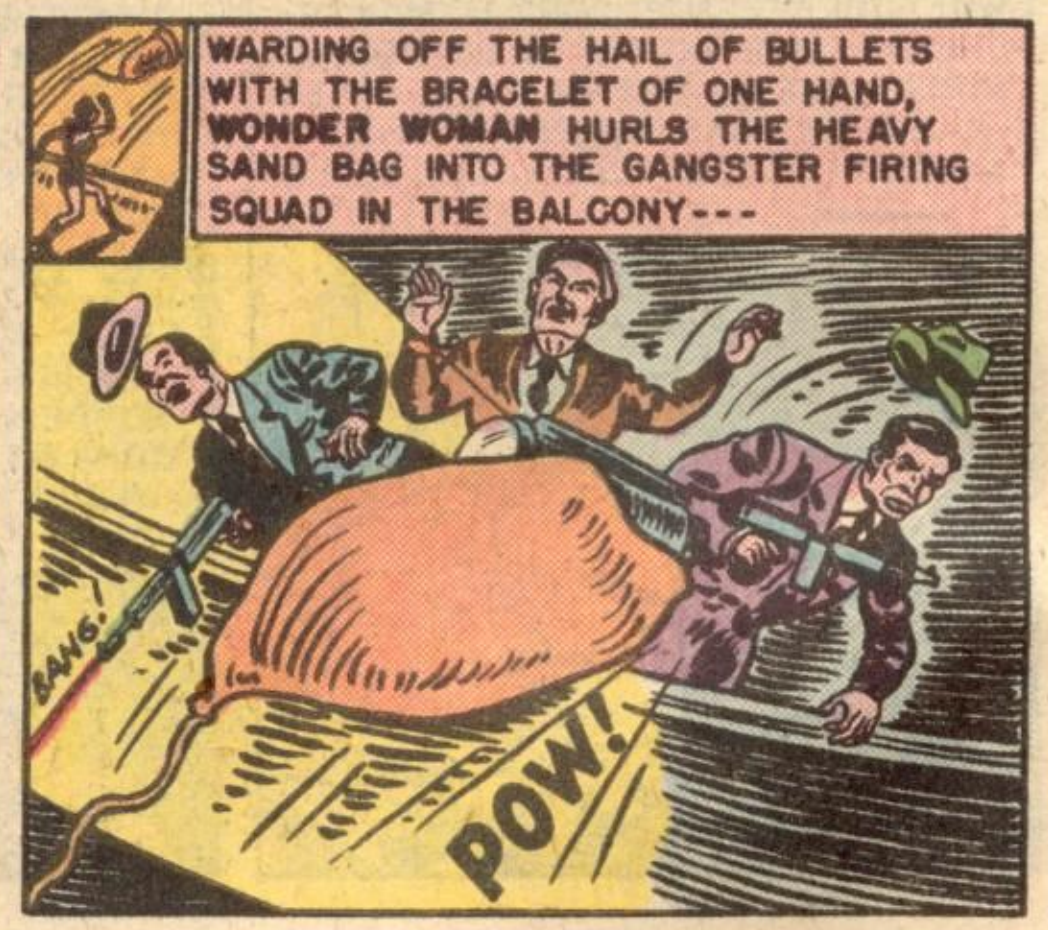
THE NEXT DAY, THE FIRST GIRL SUSPECTED OF BEING WONDER WOMAN EXCITEDLY ENTERS THE STAGE DOOR OF THE ACRE THEATRE---
I'M GLORIA GAYE! I GOT A PHONE CALL FROM MR. BROWNE, THE PRODUCER, TO AUDITION FOR A PART IN HIS NEW PLAY!
GO RIGHT ONSTAGE, MISS! HE'S EXPECTIN' YUH!
STAGE ENTRANCE

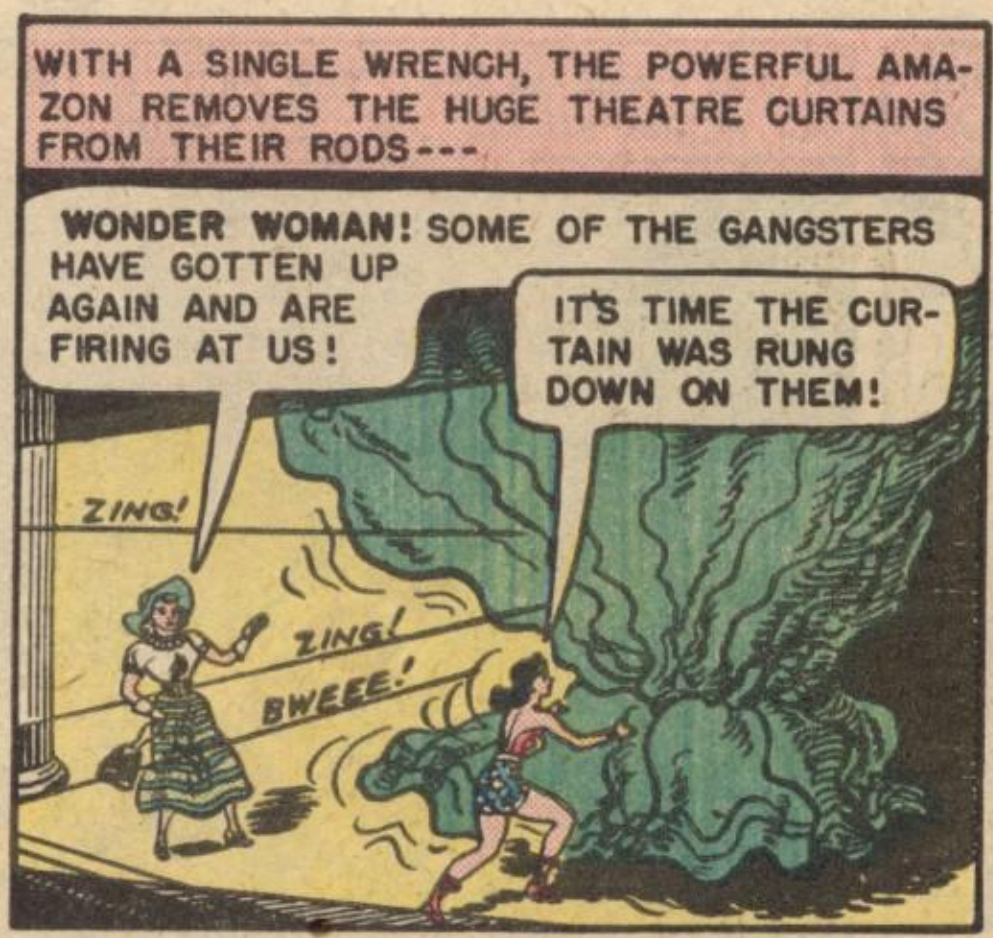
AS THE YOUNG ACTRESS HURRIES ONTO THE STAGE--SHE IS DAZED BY A SPOTLIGHT---
YOU SURE WALKED RIGHT INTO MY TRAP, WONDER WOMAN!
WONDER WOMAN-? THERE MUST BE SOME MISTAKE! I'M GLORIA GAYE-AN ACTRESS! -OH-I KNOW WHY YOU THINK I'M WONDER WOMAN!

IT MUST BE BECAUSE I TRIED TO CLAIM HER SANDALS! I ONLY DID IT FOR THE PUBLICITY! I THOUGHT IT WOULD HELP ME GET STARTED AS AN ACTRESS!
OHHH-GUNMEN IN THE BALCONY!


A HEAVY SAND BAG HURTLES DOWN AT THE FRIGHTENED YOUNG ACTRESS AS SHE ATTEMPTS TO FLEE---
OHHH—! I'M LOST—!

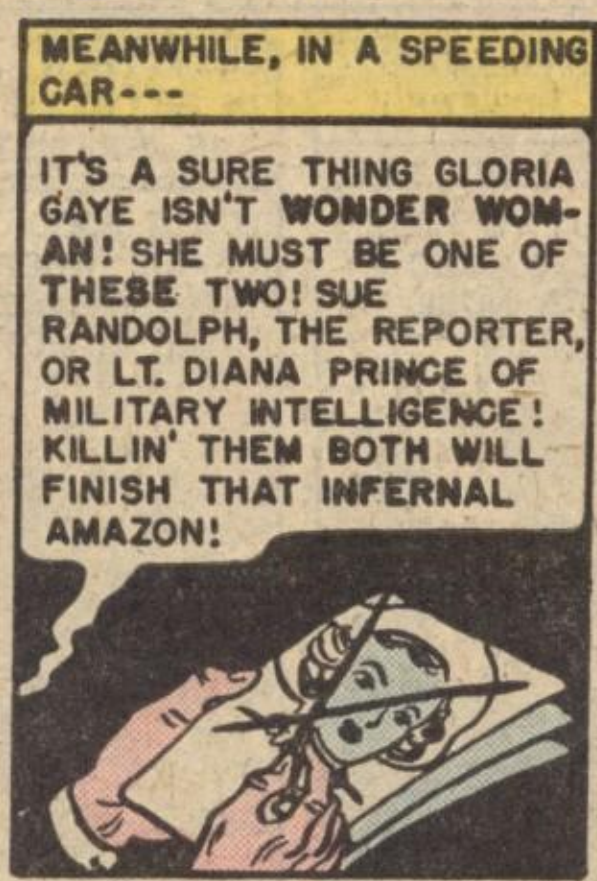

BUT IN THE NEXT INSTANT, A LITHE FIGURE FLASHES ACROSS THE STAGE AND---
IT'S THE REAL WONDER WOMAN! BLAST HER!
BANG!
BANG!


WARDING OFF THE HAIL OF BULLETS WITH THE BRACELET OF ONE HAND, WONDER WOMAN HURLS THE HEAVY SAND BAG INTO THE GANGSTER FIRING SQUAD IN THE BALCONY---
BANG!
POW!

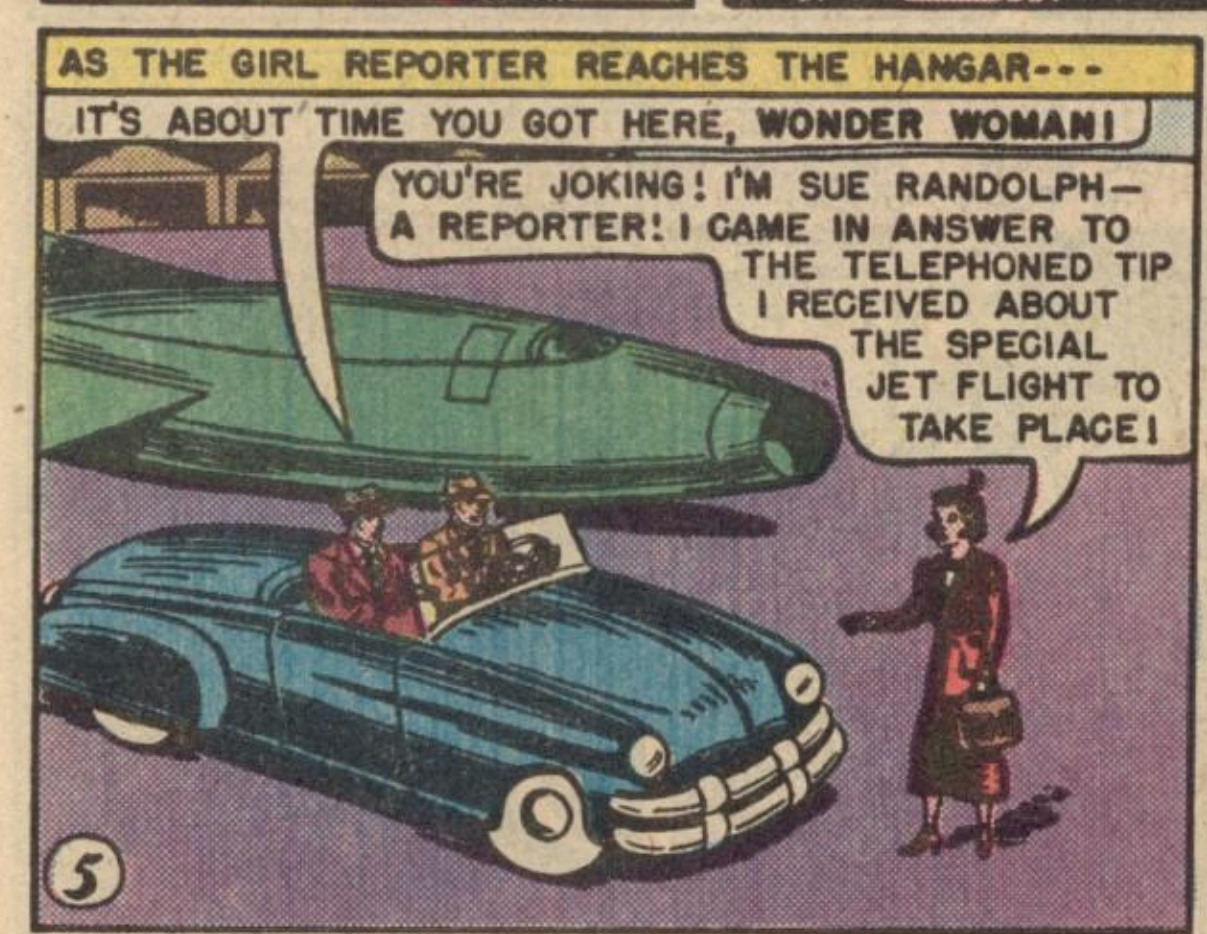

WITH A SINGLE WRENCH, THE POWERFUL AMAZON REMOVES THE HUGE THEATRE CURTAINS FROM THEIR RODS---
WONDER WOMAN! SOME OF THE GANGSTERS HAVE GOTTEN UP AGAIN AND ARE FIRING AT US!
IT'S TIME THE CURTAIN WAS RUNG DOWN ON THEM!
ZING!
ZING!
BWEEE!

LEAPING INTO THE BALCONY, WONDER WOMAN MUFFLES THE KILLERS IN THE MASSIVE CURTAINS---
THERE-! THEIR ACT OF BRUTE FORCE IS OVER! THEY'LL PLAY THE NEXT SCENE IN JAIL!
THUD!

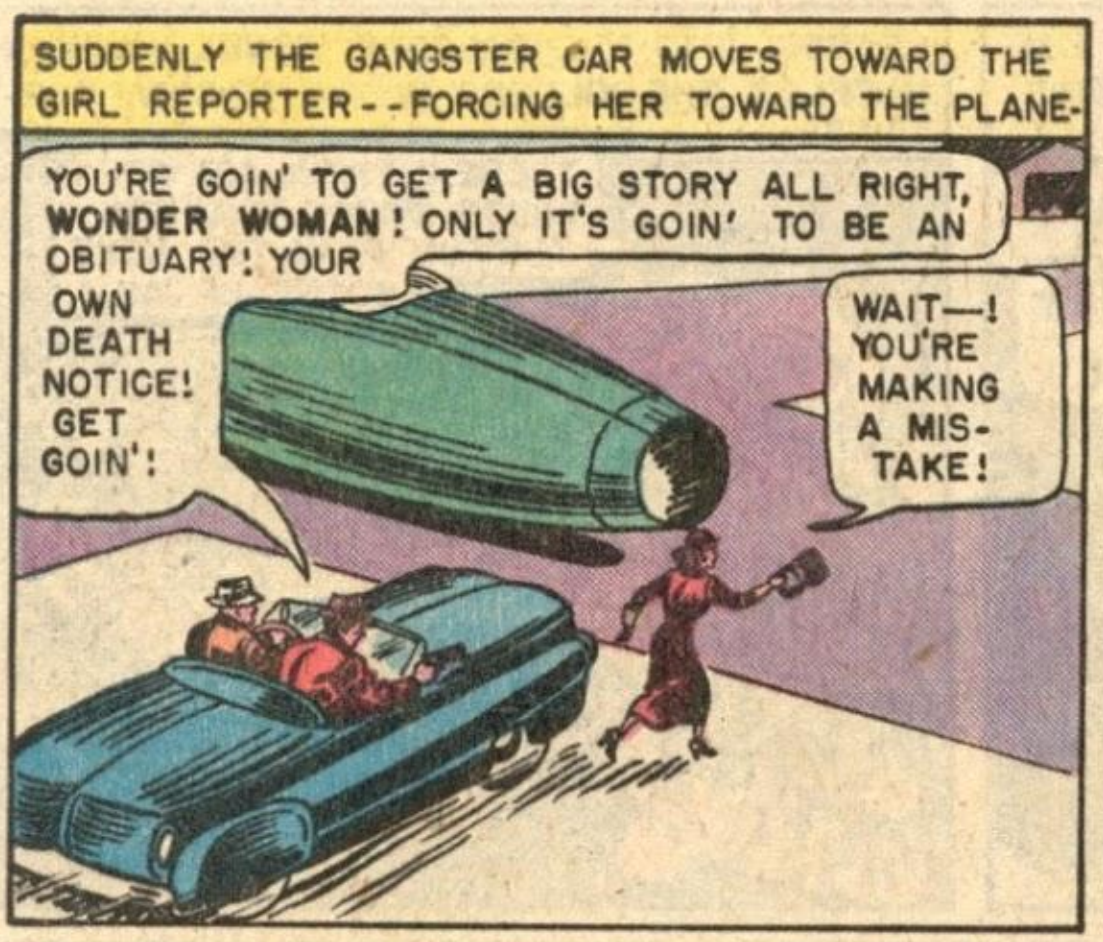
AFTER THE CRIMINALS ARE JAILED---
I'VE LEARNED MY LESSON! PLAYING WONDER WOMAN IS A ROLE FAR BEYOND ANYONE'S CAPABILITIES!


MEANWHILE, IN A SPEEDING CAR---
IT'S A SURE THING GLORIA GAYE ISN'T WONDER WOMAN! SHE MUST BE ONE OF THESE TWO! SUE RANDOLPH, THE REPORTER, OR LT. DIANA PRINCE OF MILITARY INTELLIGENCE! KILLIN' THEM BOTH WILL FINISH THAT INFERNAL AMAZON!

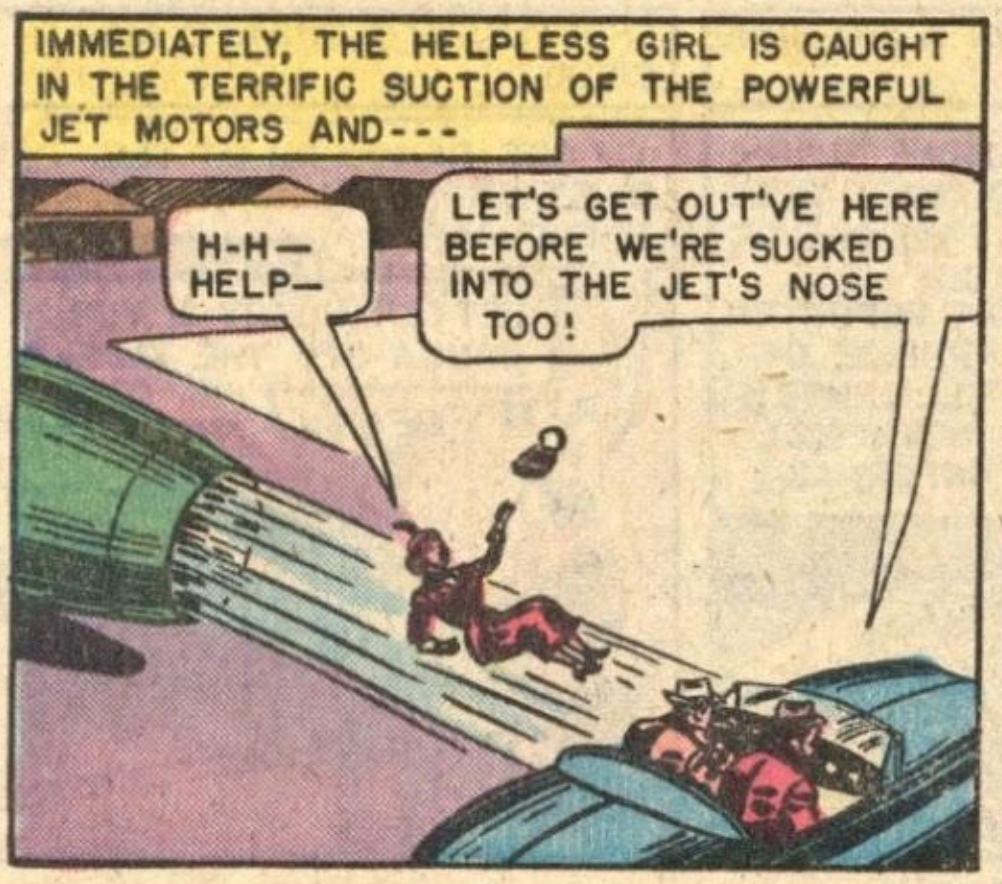
SHORTLY, AT A PRIVATE AIRFIELD---
I'M SUE RANDOLPH OF THE DAILY EXPRESS! HERE'S MY PRESS CARD!
BETTER HURRY IF YUH WANNA SEE THE TAKE-OFF!
AIR FIELD


AS THE GIRL REPORTER REACHES THE HANGAR---
IT'S ABOUT TIME YOU GOT HERE, WONDER WOMAN!
YOU'RE JOKING! I'M SUE RANDOLPH—A REPORTER! I CAME IN ANSWER TO THE TELEPHONED TIP I RECEIVED ABOUT THE SPECIAL JET FLIGHT TO TAKE PLACE!

WHY'D YOU GO AFTER WONDER WOMAN'S SANDALS THEN?
OHHH-YOU MEAN AT THE STORE? WHY--BECAUSE I THOUGHT IT WOULD MAKE A GOOD STORY!


SUDDENLY THE GANGSTER CAR MOVES TOWARD THE GIRL REPORTER--FORCING HER TOWARD THE PLANE-
YOU'RE GOIN' TO GET A BIG STORY ALL RIGHT, WONDER WOMAN! ONLY IT'S GOIN' TO BE AN OBITUARY! YOUR OWN DEATH NOTICE! GET GOIN'!
WAIT—! YOU'RE MAKING A MIS-TAKE!

AT THE SAME MOMENT, THE PILOT IN THE JET PLANE STARTS THE JET ENGINES---
WHOOOSH!


IMMEDIATELY, THE HELPLESS GIRL IS CAUGHT IN THE TERRIFIC SUCTION OF THE POWERFUL JET MOTORS AND---
H-H—HELP—
LET'S GET OUT'VE HERE BEFORE WE'RE SUCKED INTO THE JET'S NOSE TOO!

JUST THEN—AN INDOMITABLE FIGURE RACES IN BETWEEN THE DOOMED REPORTER AND THE IRRESISTIBLE FORCE OF THE JET---
IT'S A GOOD THING YOU LEFT WORD AT YOUR OFFICE WHERE YOU'D GONE, SUE!
WONDER WOMAN! THANK GOODNESS YOU'RE HERE! BUT CAN YOU SAVE US?

WITHSTANDING THE TERRIFIC SUCTION OF THE JETS, WONDER WOMAN HOLDS THE HELPLESS REPORTER WITH ONE HAND AND HURLS HER AMAZON LASSO AT THE PLANE WITH THE OTHER---

WITH A SINGLE TUG EVEN MORE POWERFUL THAN THE JETS, THE MIGHTY AMAZON FLIPS THE PLANE OVER---
THERE—! THE POWER IS OFF!

AS WONDER WOMAN FREES THE TRAPPED PILOT---
I WAS ONLY OBEYIN' ANGLES' ORDERS!
ORDERS TO KILL! THE LAW WILL DEAL WITH YOU FOR THIS!

AS **WONDER WOMAN** AND THE GIRL REPORTER EXIT POLICE H.Q. WHERE THE GANGSTER PILOT HAD BEEN JAILED---

I NEVER REALIZED HOW DANGEROUS IT WOULD BE FOR ANYONE TO TAKE YOUR PLACE, **WONDER WOMAN!** I'VE LEARNED **MY** LESSON!

POLICE

AND IN A SPEEDING CAR, ANOTHER NAME IS SCRATCHED OFF AN OMINOUS LIST---

WONDER WOMAN CAN'T BE IN TWO PLACES AT ONCE! THAT LEAVES SUE RANDOLPH OUT! AND LT. DIANA PRINCE IN! YEP! MY ANGLE PAID OFF! **SHE'S WONDER WOMAN!** ONCE WE KILL HER -- **WONDER WOMAN** IS FINISHED!

AT THAT SAME MOMENT, **WONDER WOMAN** MAKES A STARTLING CHANGE---

I'VE GOT TO APPEAR AS DI-AND AS **WONDER WOMAN** AT THE SAME TIME—TO DECEIVE ANGLES THAT HE'S WRONG--OR THE VALUE OF MY SECRET IDENTITY WILL BE LOST FOREVER!

CAN THE AMAZON PERFORM THE IMPOSSIBLE—AND APPEAR IN TWO PLACES AT ONCE?

THAT NIGHT, THE MILITARY INTELLIGENCE OFFICER HURRIES TO A DESERTED AMUSEMENT PARK WHERE---

I'M LT. PRINCE! ARE YOU THE MAN WHO PHONED IN THE TIP THAT YOU'VE DISCOVERED A SPY GANG HIDING HERE?

THAT WAS JUST A SCHEME TO GET YOU HERE, **WONDER WOMAN! INSIDE!**

FUN HOUSE HALL OF MIRRORS

INSIDE THE HALL OF MAGIC MIRRORS---

NOW LET'S SEE **WONDER WOMAN** RESCUE YOU—AND I'LL BELIEVE YOU'RE **NOT** THE INFERNAL AMAZON!

IF I DON'T FOOL THEM NOW—ALL IS LOST!

HALL OF MIRRORS

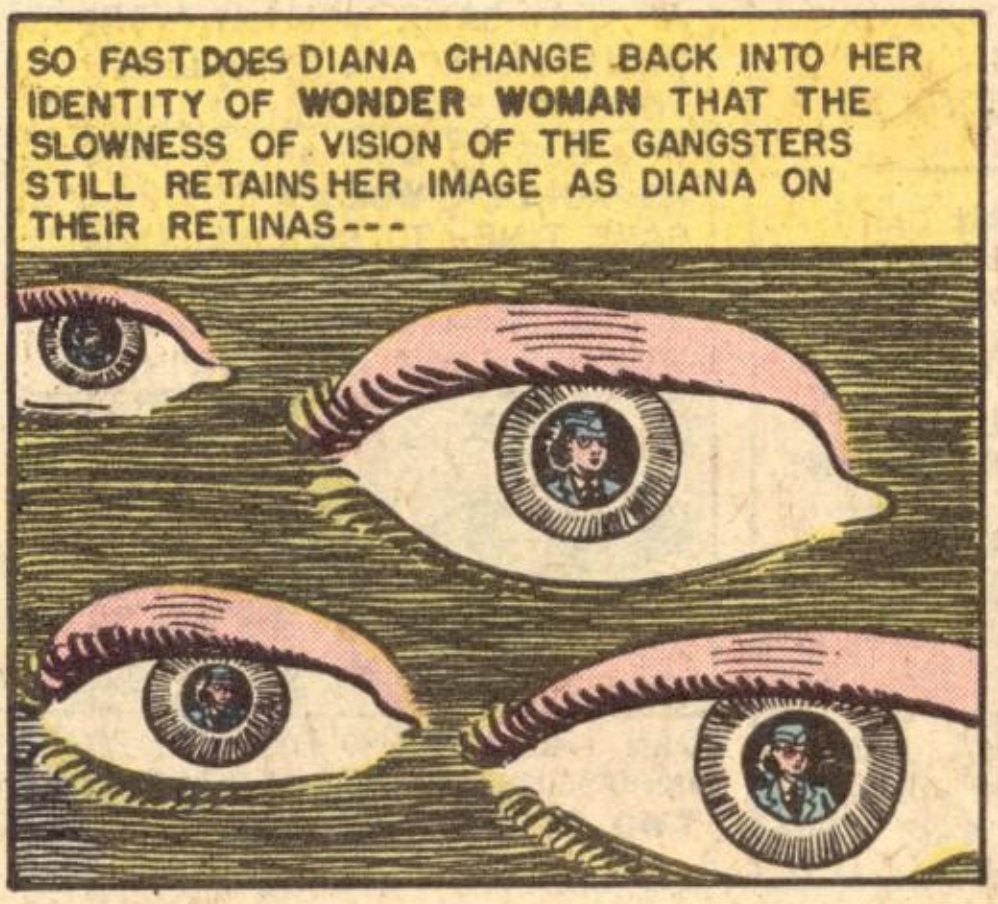
SUDDENLY, THE YOUNG LIEUTENANT TRIES TO FLEE---

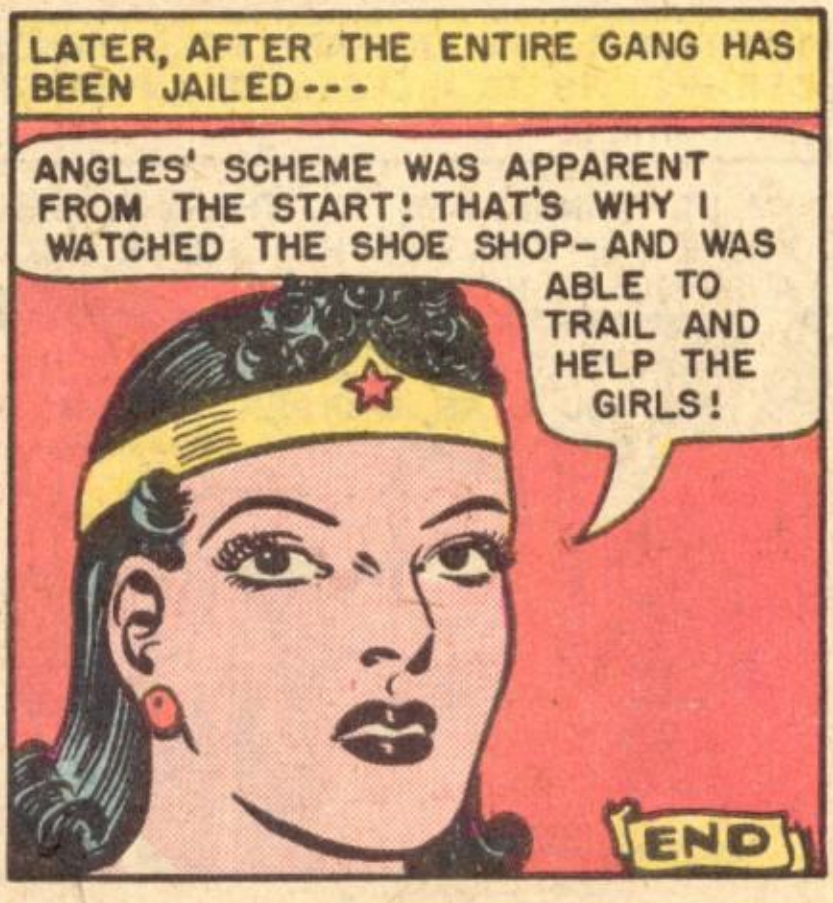
CRASH! CRASH! CRASH!

BANG! BANG! BANG!

SHE HASN'T GOT A CHANCE! BLAST 'ER!

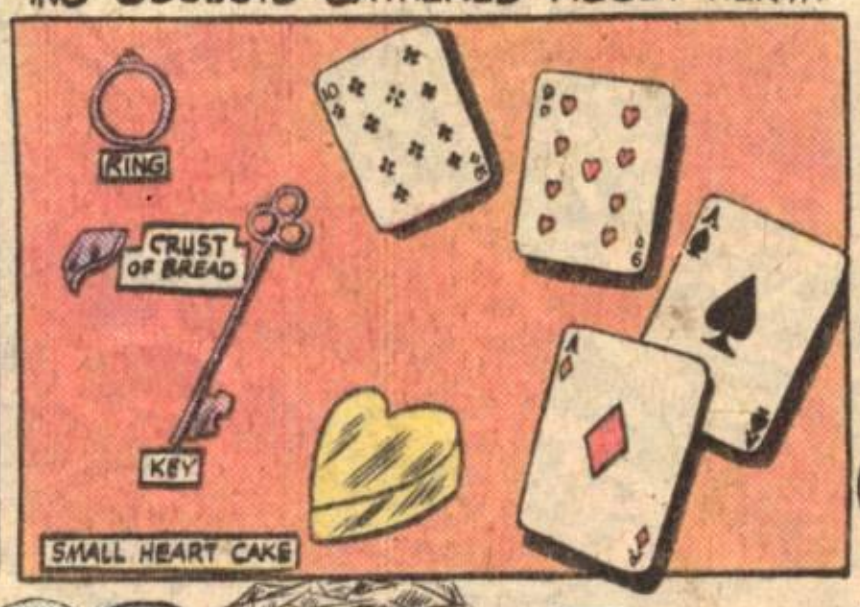
WITH SPEED FASTER THAN ANY HUMAN EYE CAN FOLLOW, DIANA CHANGES INTO **WONDER WOMAN**---





To the Boys and Girls of America--
THIS FAMOUS SYMBOL IS YOUR
SUPERMAN DC NATIONAL COMICS
GUARANTEE
OF THE BEST IN COMICS READING

HARVEST MOON



Wonder Woman

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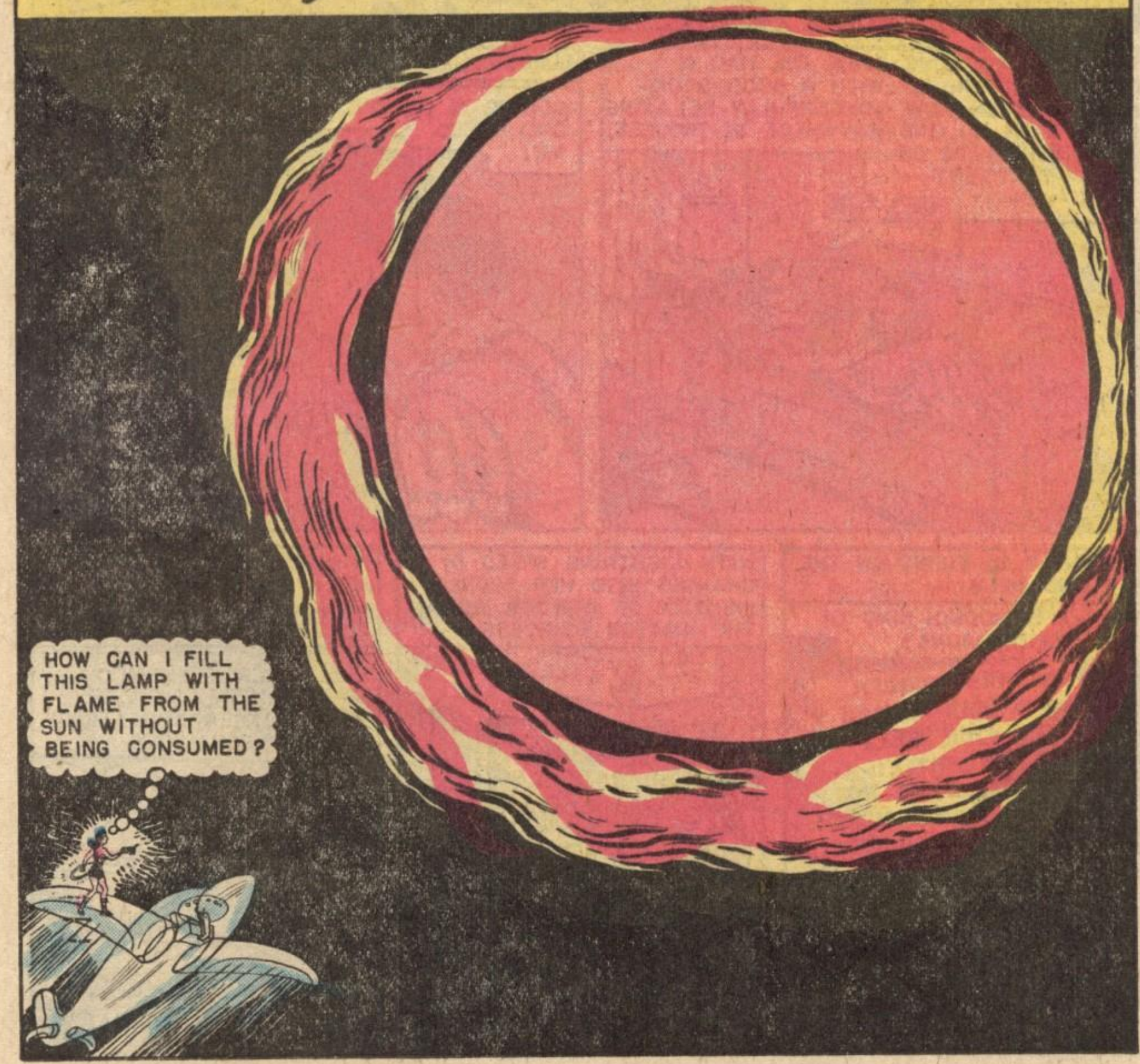
WONDER WOMAN—BEAUTIFUL AS APHRODITE, WISE AS ATHENA, SWIFTER THAN MERCURY, AND STRONGER THAN HERCULES—HAS OFTEN EMBARKED ON THE MOST AMAZING MISSIONS! BUT THIS TIME THE MIGHTY AMAZON MAID FLASHES INTO THE PERILOUS REACHES OF SPACE, ON A QUEST WHICH SEEMS DOOMED FROM THE START! FOR WONDER WOMAN MUST SNATCH FLAME FROM THE BLAZING SUN ITSELF, AND COSMIC DUST FROM A WANDERING COMET, IN THE BREATH-TAKING ADVENTURE OF ------

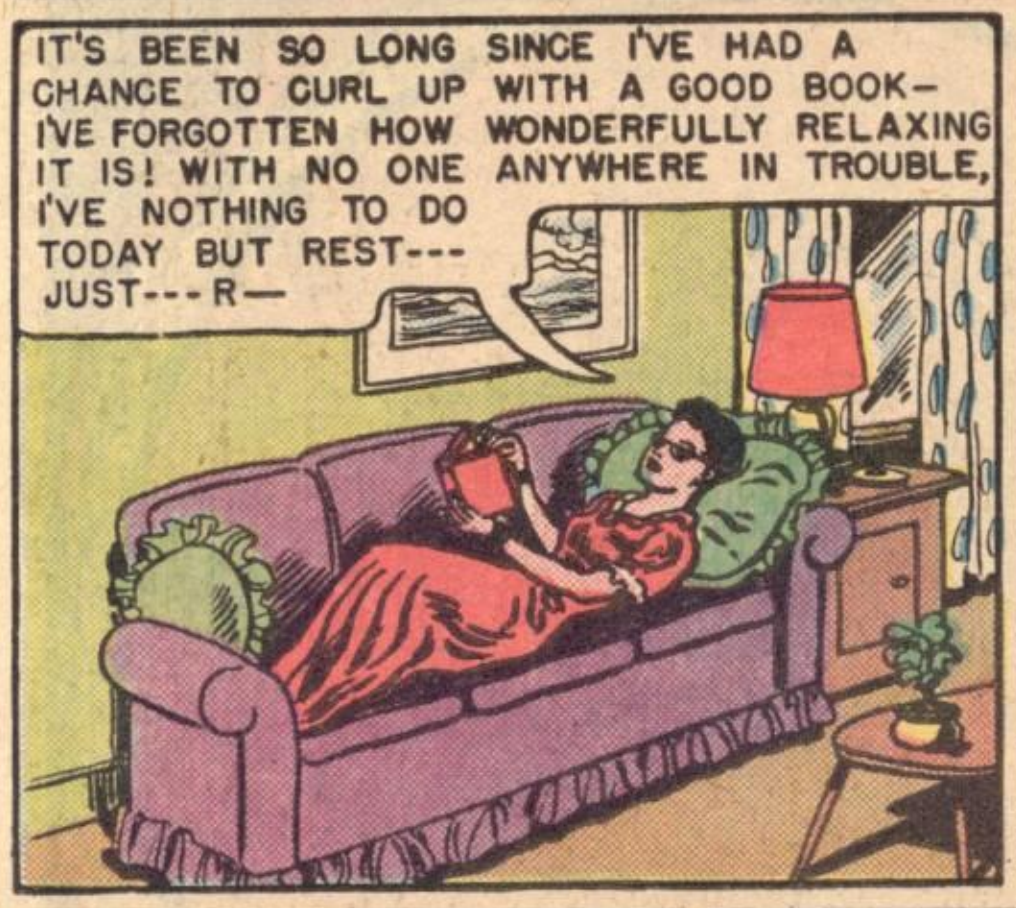
"LAMP of the LEPRECHAUNS!"



AS LT. DIANA PRINCE ENTERS HER APARTMENT, SHE HURRIES TO THE WINDOW AND---
THE SKY IS AS PEACEFUL AS IT COULD BE!

NOTHING'S HAPPENING ON THE STREETS EITHER! EVERYONE'S WALKING ALONG PEACEFULLY!

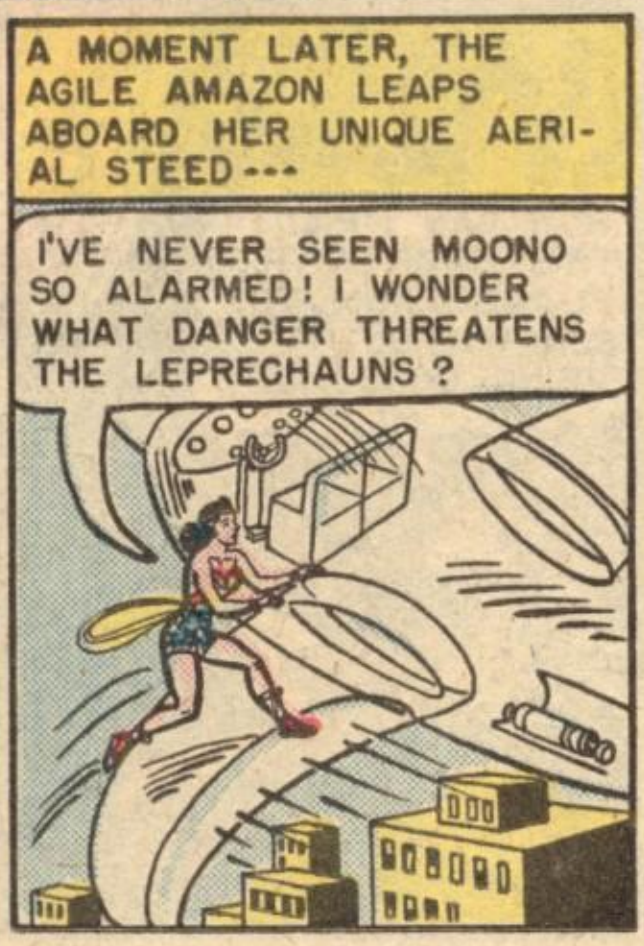
OPENING THE SECRET DOOR IN WHICH HER AMAZON MENTAL-RADIO IS CONCEALED---
NOT A SOUND FROM THE SET FROM ANYONE IN NEED OF MY HELP!


IT'S BEEN SO LONG SINCE I'VE HAD A CHANCE TO CURL UP WITH A GOOD BOOK— I'VE FORGOTTEN HOW WONDERFULLY RELAXING IT IS! WITH NO ONE ANYWHERE IN TROUBLE, I'VE NOTHING TO DO TODAY BUT REST--- JUST---R—

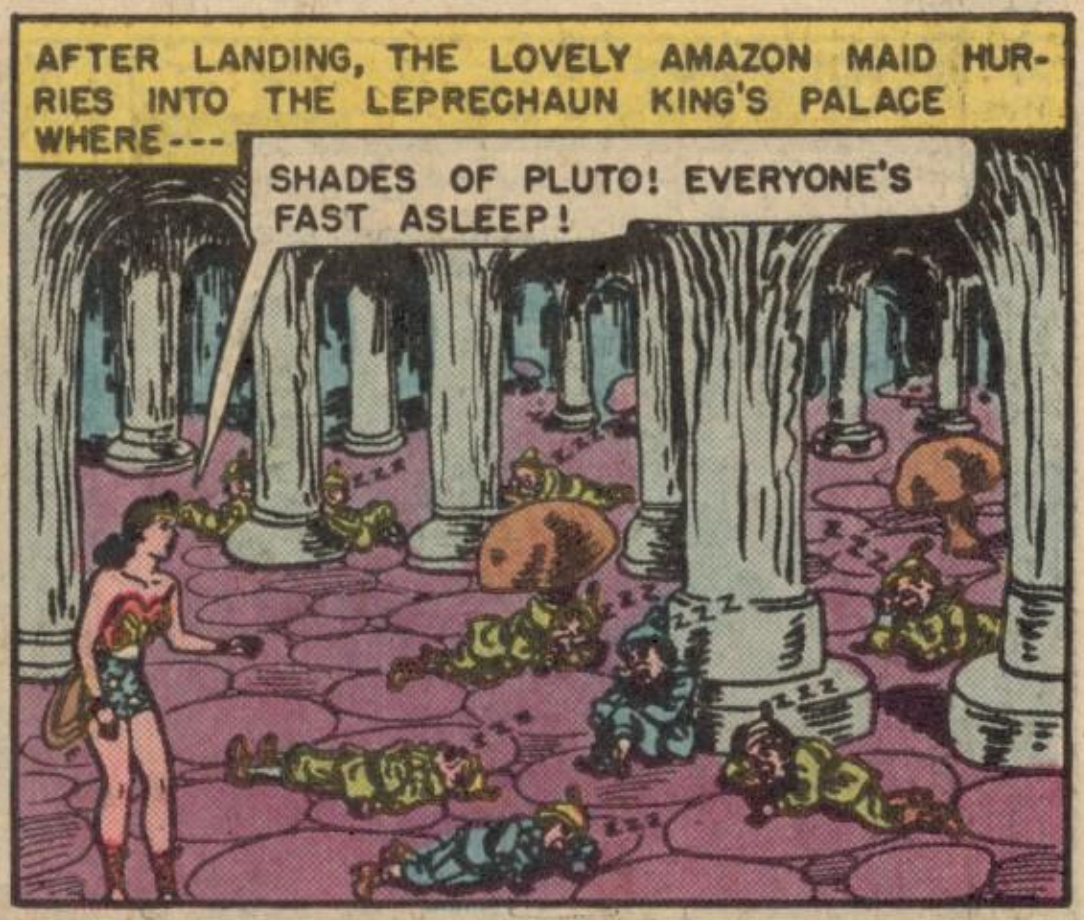
SUDDENLY---
EMERGENCY SIGNAL COMING IN ON THE MENTAL RADIO! SOMEONE NEEDS ME!
BZZZ BZZZ BZZZ!

INSTANTLY, DI TURNS ON THE SET AND SEES---
WHY—IT'S MOONO! KING OF THE LEPRECHAUNS!
CALLING WONDER WOMAN---NEED YOUR HELP URGENTLY!--- DARE NOT SAY MORE! ---HURRY!

WITH LIGHTNING SPEED DI CHANGES INTO HER SECRET IDENTITY OF WONDER WOMAN, THE AMAZON PRINCESS---
CALLING ROBOT PLANE!


A MOMENT LATER, THE AGILE AMAZON LEAPS ABOARD HER UNIQUE AERIAL STEED---
I'VE NEVER SEEN MOONO SO ALARMED! I WONDER WHAT DANGER THREATENS THE LEPRECHAUNS?

FASTER THAN THE SPEED OF LIGHT, WONDER WOMAN'S SILENT AMAZON PLANE CARRIES HER TO THE SECRET LAND OF THE LEPRECHAUNS---
THAT'S ODD! I DON'T SEE ANYONE AROUND TO GREET ME!


AFTER LANDING, THE LOVELY AMAZON MAID HURRIES INTO THE LEPRECHAUN KING'S PALACE WHERE---
SHADES OF PLUTO! EVERYONE'S FAST ASLEEP!

INTO THE THRONE ROOM WONDER WOMAN RACES, TO FIND---
KING MOONO! WHAT HAS HAPPENED? WHY IS EVERYONE ASLEEP?
BECAUSE THE FLAME--- IN OUR MAGIC LAMP---WHICH GIVES US OUR SPECIAL POWERS---HAS GONE---OUT!

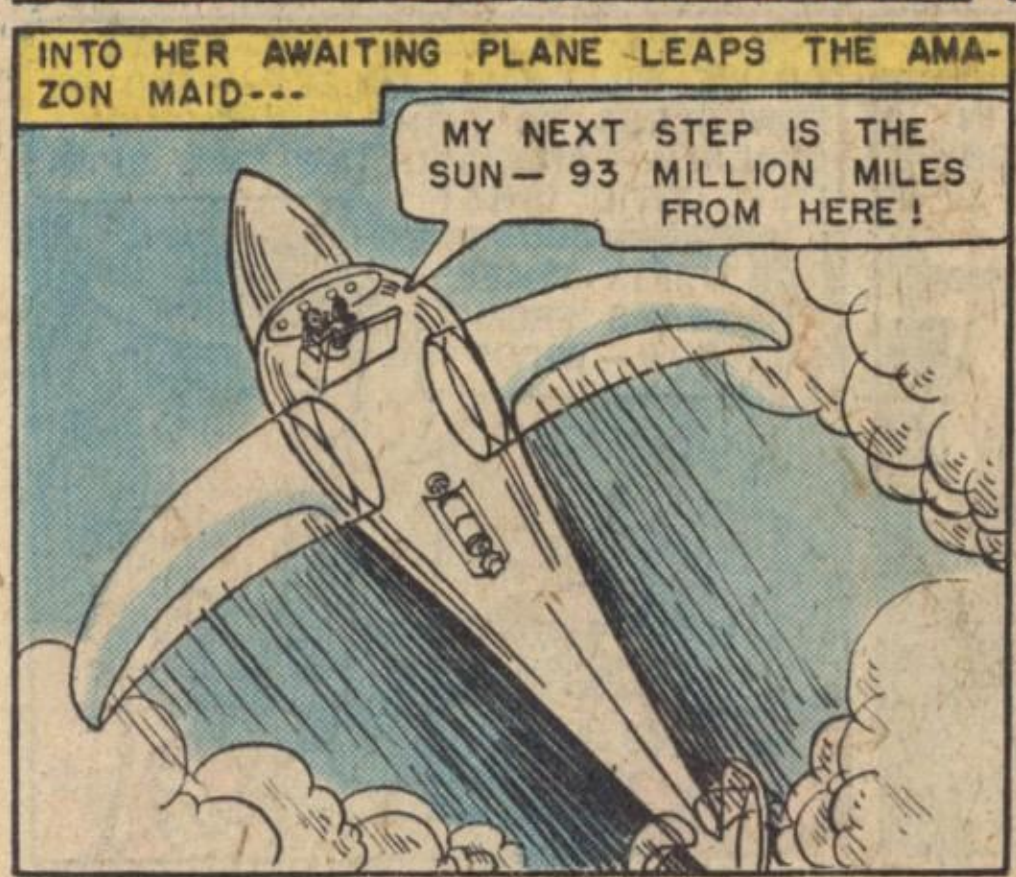
YOU MUST---REPLENISH THE FLAME---OR WE WILL FALL ASLEEP---AND BE POWERLESS TO FIGHT THE GNOMES, GOBLINS---AND ALL THE EVIL SPIRITS---UNTIL 1986!
THIRTY-THREE YEARS FROM NOW—WHY?

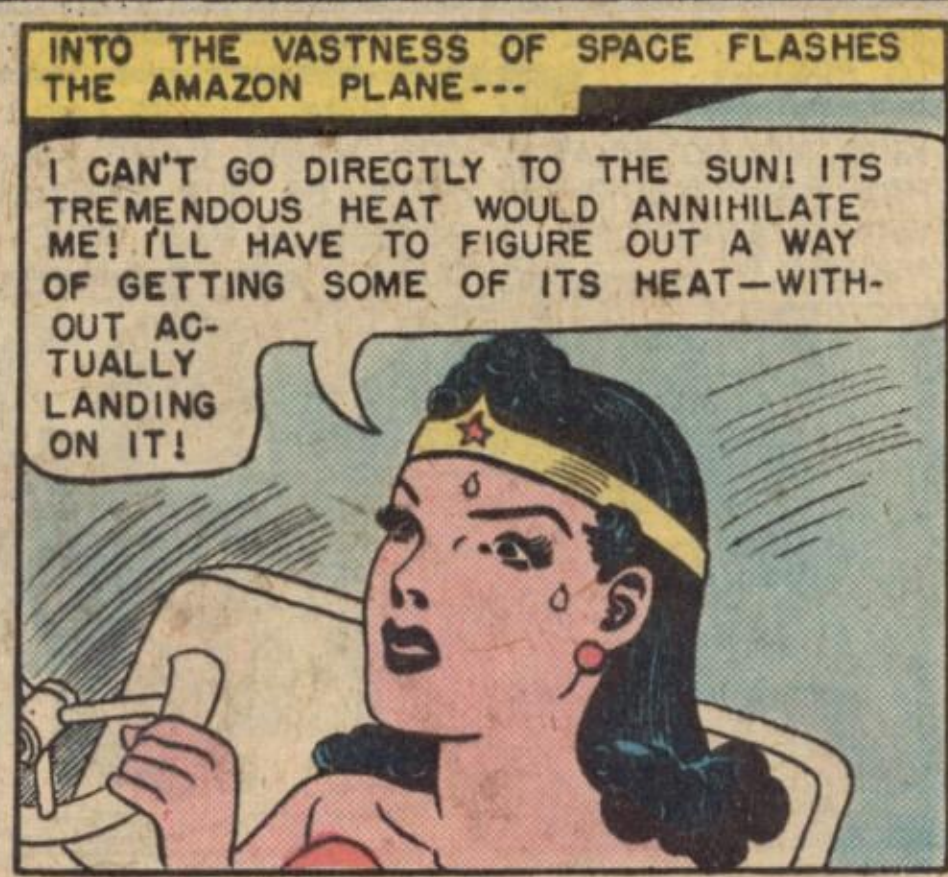
"THAT'S THE DAY---HALLEY'S COMET RETURNS TO EARTH---ON ITS SEVENTY-SEVEN YEAR ORBIT!"

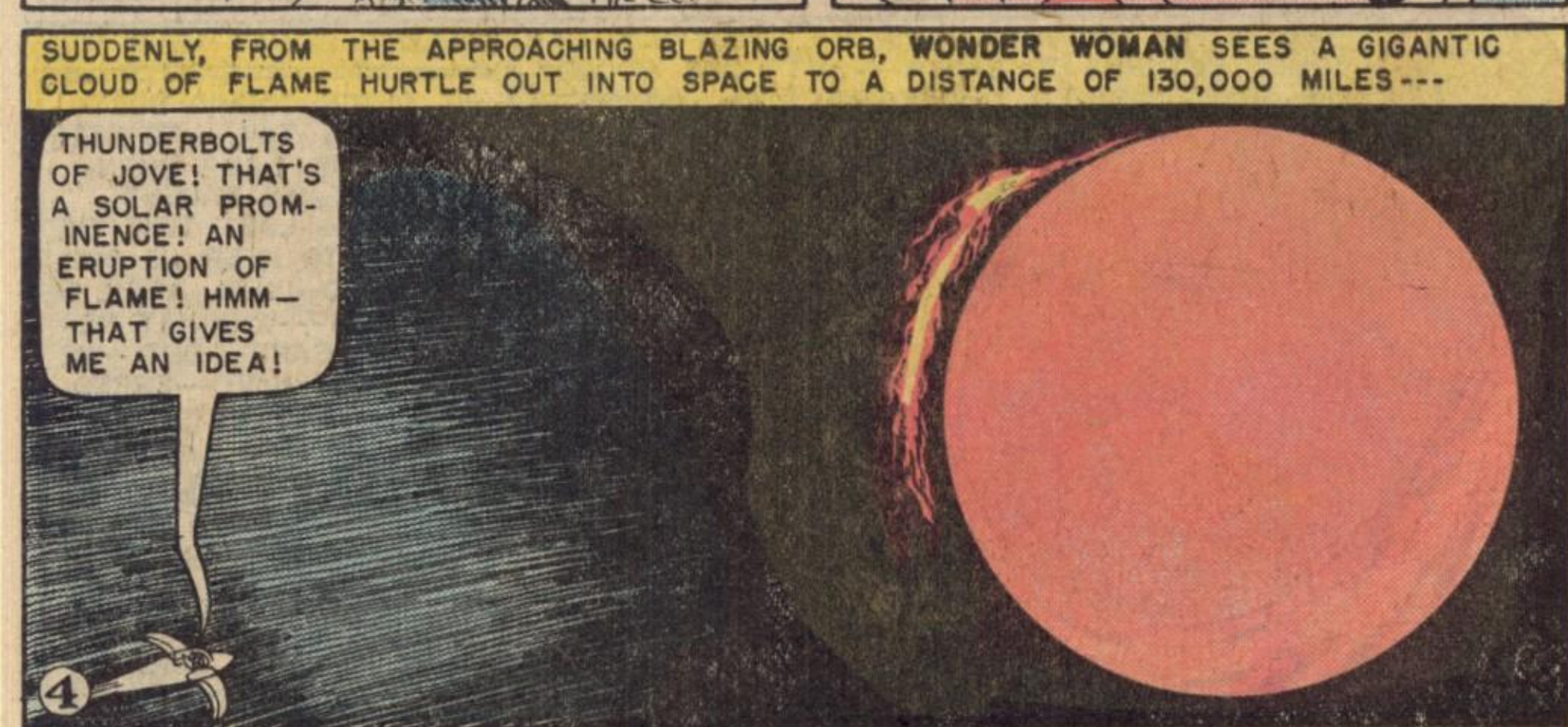
BUT HOW CAN HALLEY'S COMET HELP YOU, KING MOONO?
WE CATCH COSMIC DUST---FROM THE COMET'S TAIL---TO KEEP THE FLAME IN THE LAMP BURNING---WE THOUGHT WE CAUGHT ENOUGH---IN 1909---LAST TIME THE COMET PASSED---TO KEEP US SUPPLIED--UNTIL APRIL 29, 1986---WHEN IT REAPPEARS---BUT---WE MUST HAVE---ERRED ---AND WE'RE OUT OF IT---!

AS WONDER WOMAN TAKES THE LAMP FROM THE LEPRECHAUN KING---
DON'T WORRY, KING MOONO! I'LL TRAIL HALLEY'S COMET AND REPLENISH YOUR LAMP WITH COSMIC DUST FROM IT!
WAIT—! BEFORE THAT--- YOU MUST FILL THE LAMP---WITH SOLAR HEAT---FROM THE SUN! THE DUST WILL KEEP IT BURNING--- FOR SEVENTY-SEVEN YEARS!

HURRY---WONDER WOMAN--- HURRY--- BEFORE IT'S TOO---L--- L---


INTO HER AWAITING PLANE LEAPS THE AMAZON MAID---
MY NEXT STEP IS THE SUN— 93 MILLION MILES FROM HERE!

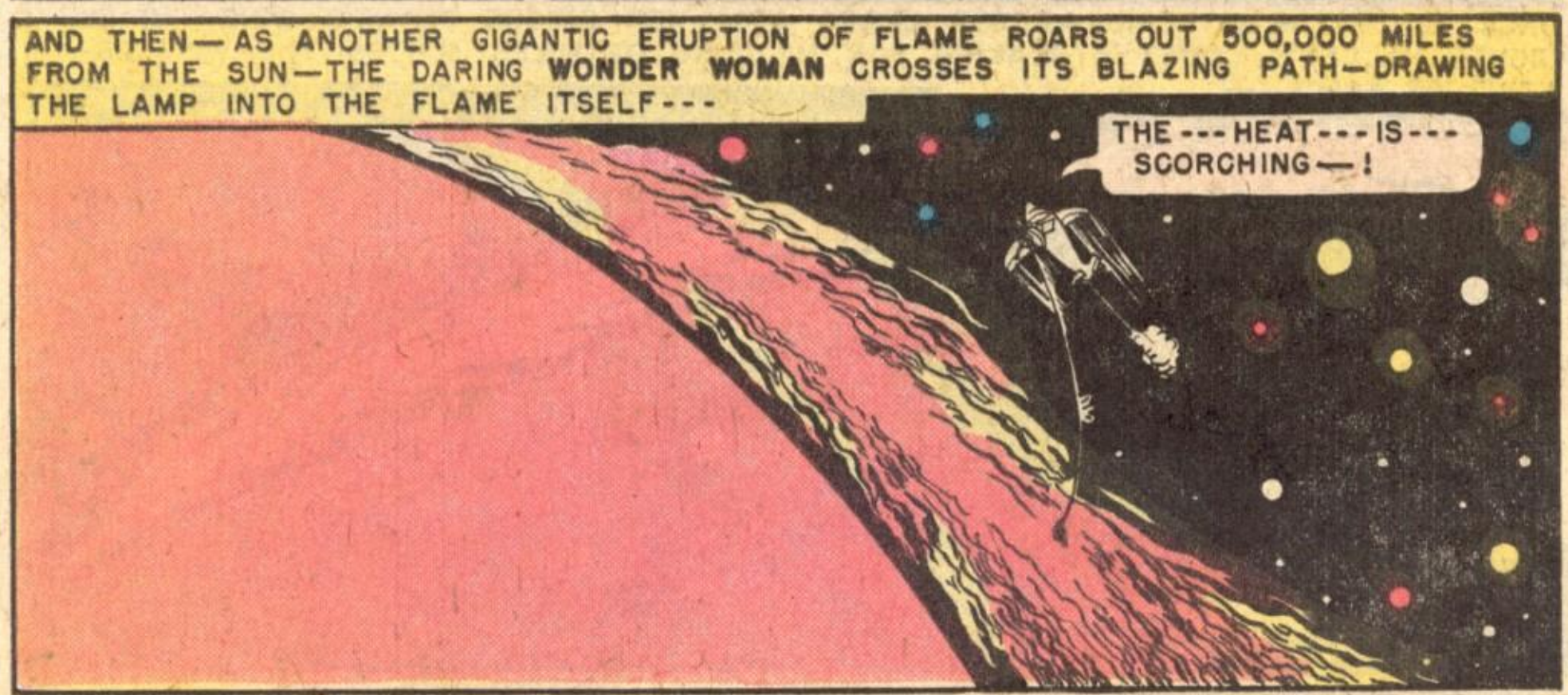

INTO THE VASTNESS OF SPACE FLASHES THE AMAZON PLANE---
I CAN'T GO DIRECTLY TO THE SUN! ITS TREMENDOUS HEAT WOULD ANNIHILATE ME! I'LL HAVE TO FIGURE OUT A WAY OF GETTING SOME OF ITS HEAT—WITHOUT ACTUALLY LANDING ON IT!


SUDDENLY, FROM THE APPROACHING BLAZING ORB, WONDER WOMAN SEES A GIGANTIC CLOUD OF FLAME HURTLE OUT INTO SPACE TO A DISTANCE OF 130,000 MILES---
THUNDERBOLTS OF JOVE! THAT'S A SOLAR PROMINENCE! AN ERUPTION OF FLAME! HMM— THAT GIVES ME AN IDEA!

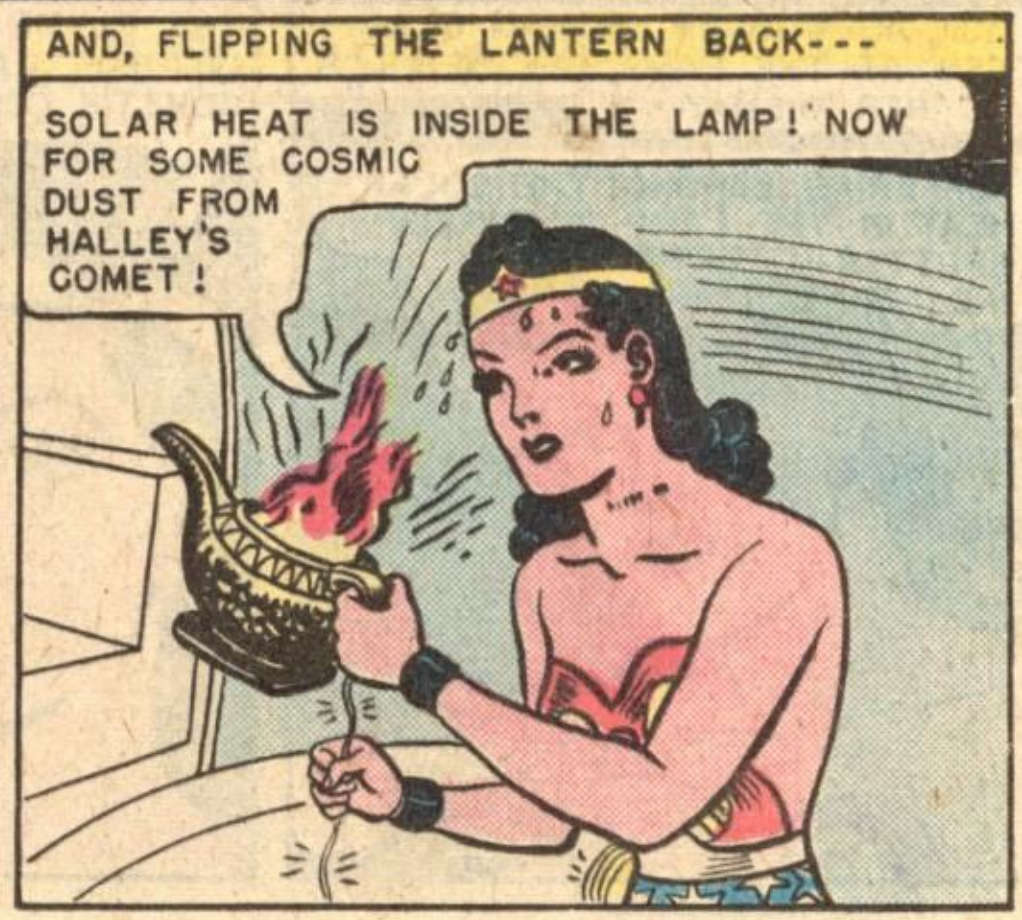
OUT ONTO THE WING OF HER PLANE LEAPS WONDER WOMAN, AND TYING THE LAMP TO HER AMAZON LASSO---
I'M STILL TOO FAR AWAY FROM THE SUN!

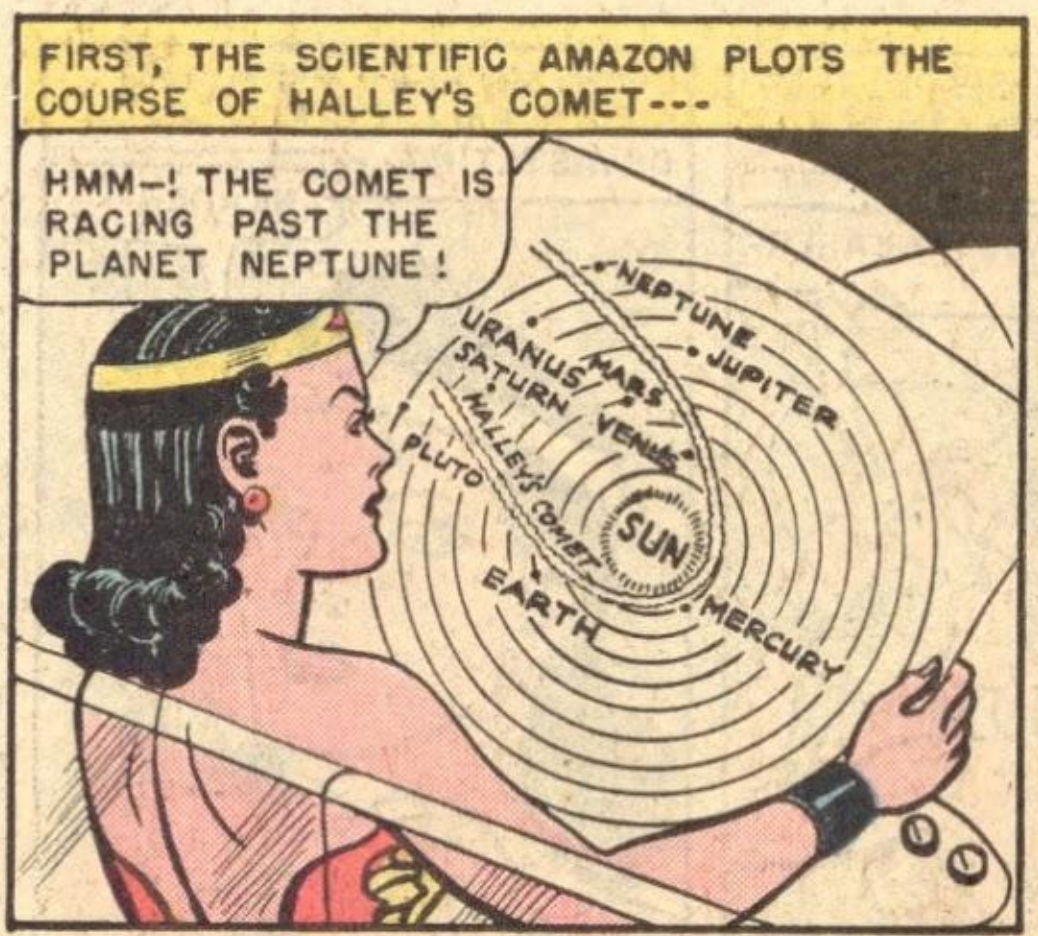
FAR OUT INTO SPACE THE MIGHTY AMAZON SWINGS THE LAMP---
I'VE GOT TO GET NEARER--NEARER---!

EVEN SO, HEAT FROM THE GREAT BALL OF FIRE IS DEVASTATING---
NEARER---


AND THEN—AS ANOTHER GIGANTIC ERUPTION OF FLAME ROARS OUT 500,000 MILES FROM THE SUN—THE DARING WONDER WOMAN CROSSES ITS BLAZING PATH—DRAWING THE LAMP INTO THE FLAME ITSELF---
THE---HEAT---IS---SCORCHING—!

FINALLY, THE STOIC AMAZON ORDERS HER UNIQUE PLANE AWAY FROM THE SHRIVELING STAR---
PLANE---REVERSE---COURSE---AT---TOP---SPEED!


AND, FLIPPING THE LANTERN BACK---
SOLAR HEAT IS INSIDE THE LAMP! NOW FOR SOME COSMIC DUST FROM HALLEY'S COMET!


FIRST, THE SCIENTIFIC AMAZON PLOTS THE COURSE OF HALLEY'S COMET---
HMM—! THE COMET IS RACING PAST THE PLANET NEPTUNE!
NEPTUNE
JUPITER
MARS
URANUS
SATURN
VENUS
HALLEY'S COMET
PLUTO
SUN
EARTH
MERCURY

THEN SHE ROCKETS IN ITS DIRECTION WITH IMAGINATION-STAGGERING SPEED---
I'M PASSING NEPTUNE! I SHOULD SOON BE SIGHTING THE COMET!

ONCE AGAIN THE INTREPID AMAZON LEAPS ATOP HER UNIQUE PLANE'S WING—AS SHE SIGHTS HALLEY'S COMET STREAKING FOR MILLIONS OF MILES ACROSS THE VAST REGIONS OF SPACE---
I'LL SWING THE LAMP INTO THE TAIL OF THE COMET AND DRAW COSMIC DUST INSIDE IT—THE SAME WAY I TOOK SOLAR ENERGY FROM THE SUN!

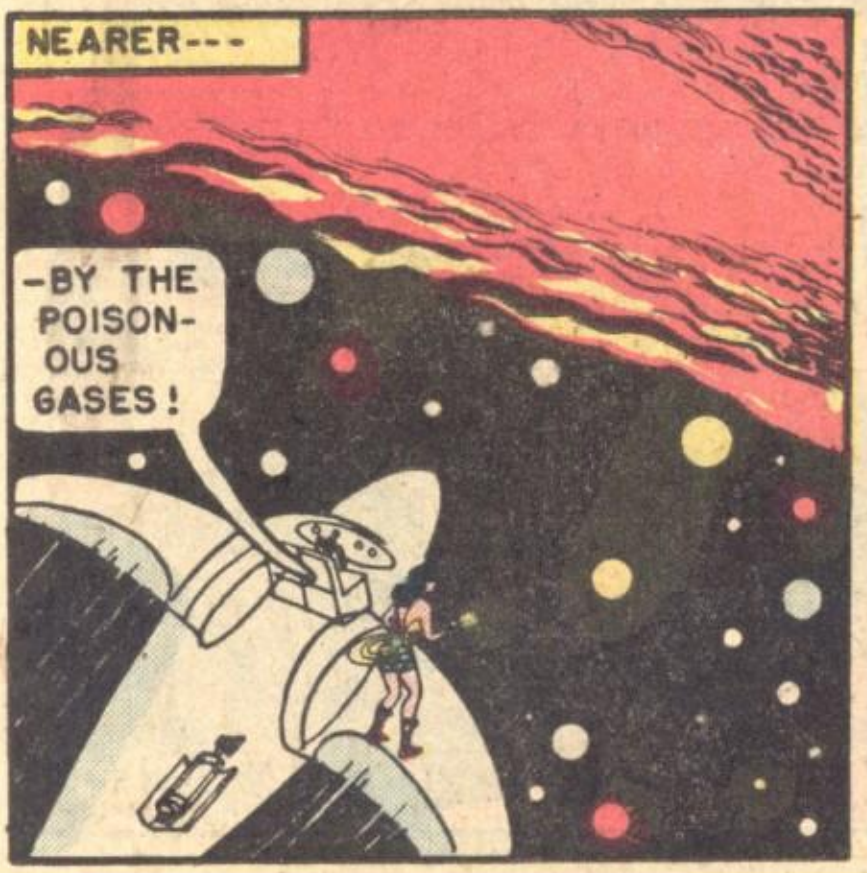
BUT, AS WONDER WOMAN GLANCES AT THE LAMP, SHE BEHOLDS TO HER DISMAY---
SUFFERING SAPPHO! THE SOLAR HEAT IN THE LAMP IS BARELY SPUTTERING!

THE FLAME IS GOING OUT FOR LACK OF THE COMET'S COSMIC DUST!

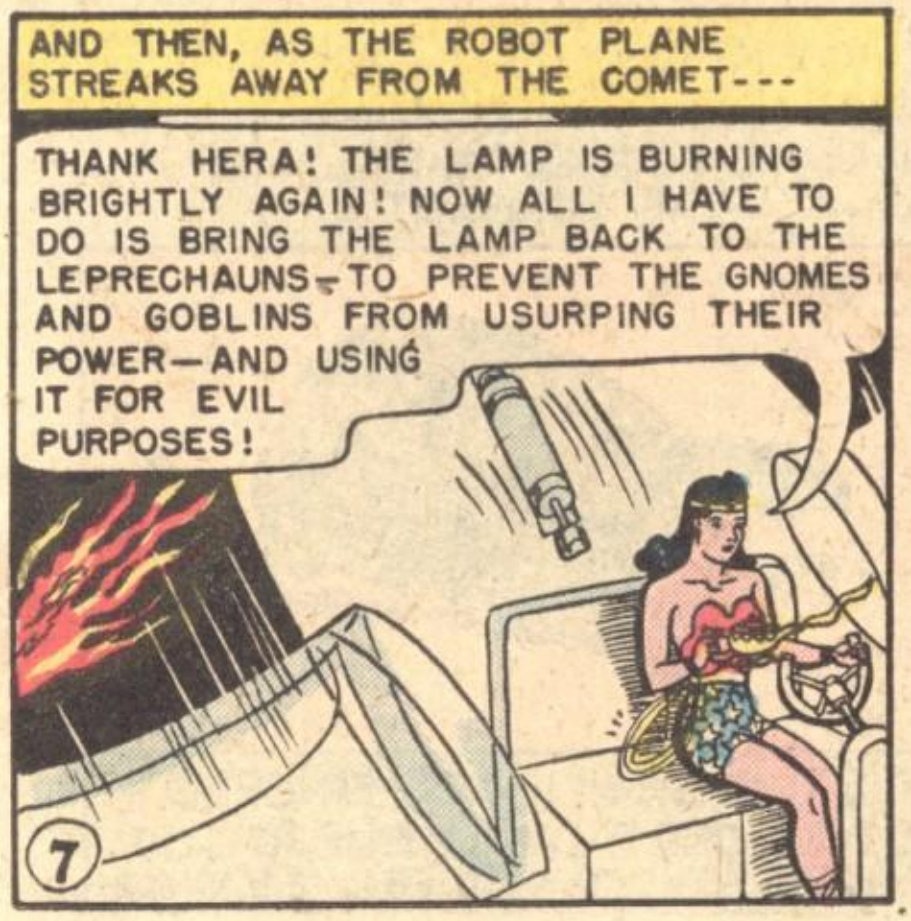
I CAN'T TAKE THE RISK OF NOT GETTING ENOUGH COSMIC DUST IN THE LAMP—BY SWINGING IT INTO THE COMET'S TAIL FROM A DISTANCE! I'LL HAVE TO RIDE DIRECTLY INTO THE COMET—HOLDING THE LAMP IN MY HAND!

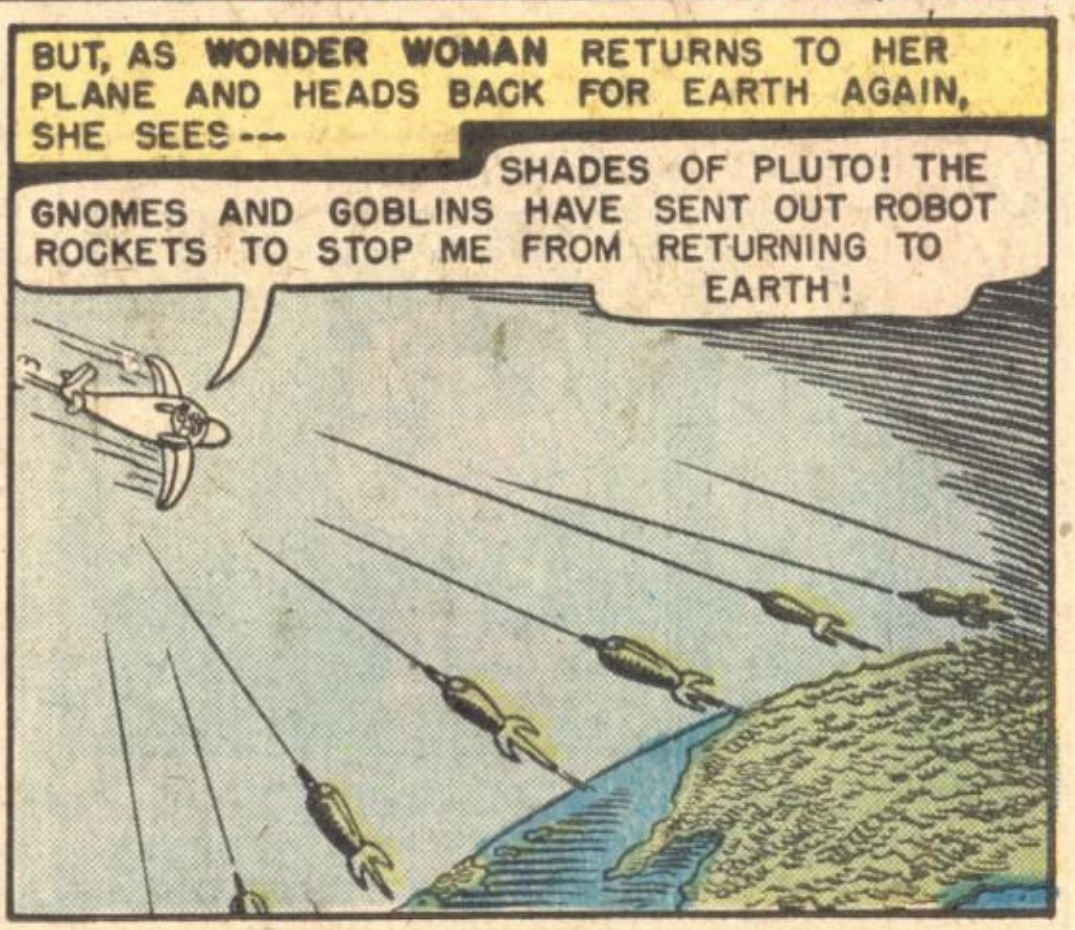
DIRECTLY TOWARD THE IMMENSE GASEOUS TAIL OF HALLEY'S COMET FLASHES THE INDOMITABLE WONDER WOMAN---
IF I RACE THROUGH THE COMET'S TAIL AT TOP SPEED—

NEARER---
—PERHAPS I WON'T BE HARMED—

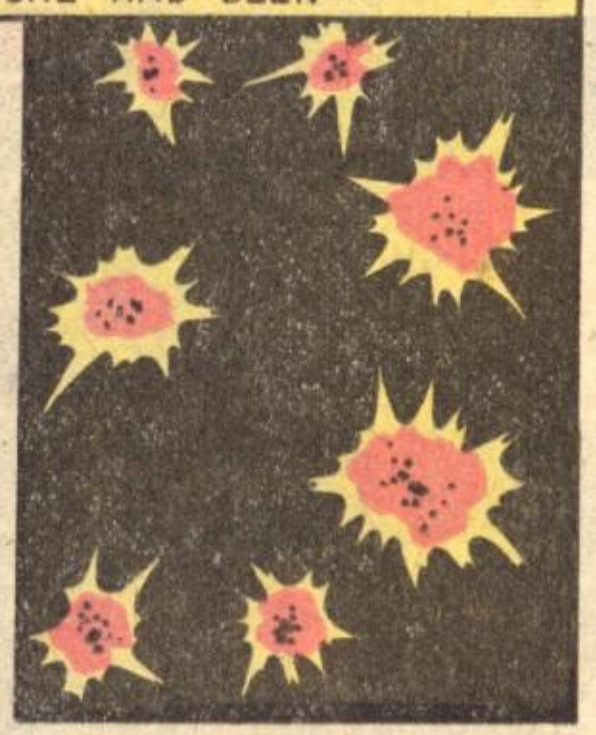

NEARER---
—BY THE POISON-OUS GASES!

IN A BLINDING INSTANT, THE FEARLESS AMAZON WHIZZES THROUGH THE VERY TAIL OF THE COMET —HOLDING THE LAMP IN HER HANDS TO RECEIVE THE VITAL COSMIC DUST---


AND THEN, AS THE ROBOT PLANE STREAKS AWAY FROM THE COMET---
THANK HERA! THE LAMP IS BURNING BRIGHTLY AGAIN! NOW ALL I HAVE TO DO IS BRING THE LAMP BACK TO THE LEPRECHAUNS—TO PREVENT THE GNOMES AND GOBLINS FROM USURPING THEIR POWER—AND USING IT FOR EVIL PURPOSES!


BUT, AS WONDER WOMAN RETURNS TO HER PLANE AND HEADS BACK FOR EARTH AGAIN, SHE SEES---
SHADES OF PLUTO! THE GNOMES AND GOBLINS HAVE SENT OUT ROBOT ROCKETS TO STOP ME FROM RETURNING TO EARTH!

INSTANTLY, THE DARING AMAZON SENDS HER UNIQUE PLANE FLASHING THROUGH SPACE AT SUCH DAZZLING SPEED—THAT SHE PASSES INTO ANOTHER DIMENSION—AND THE FIRE OF THE ENEMY SHIPS EXPLODES HARMLESSLY IN THE PLACE SHE HAD BEEN---



SOON AFTER, THE INGENIOUS **WONDER WOMAN** RETURNS TO HER OWN DIMENSION, AND LANDS IN LEPRECHAUN LAND---

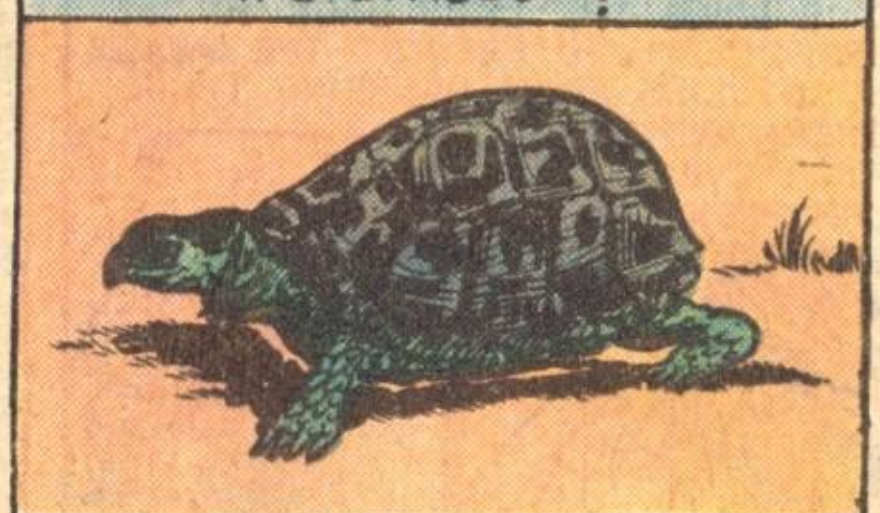
ONCE AGAIN, THE TIRELESS AMAZON MAID RETURNS TO HER OTHER IDENTITY AS DIANA PRINCE AND---

QUICK QUIZ

WHAT WAS THE FIRST PLASTIC?

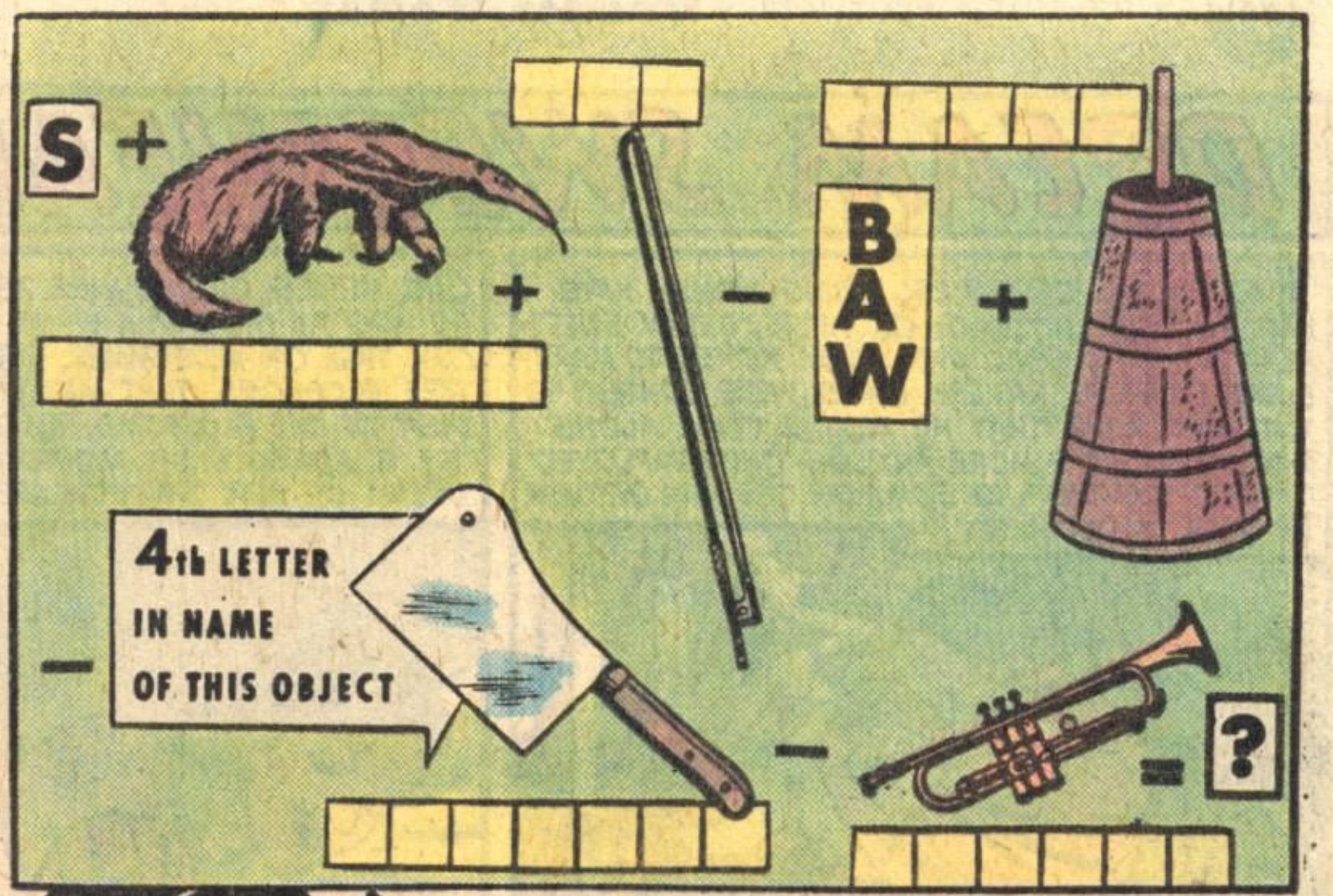
GLASS... BUT THE INVENTOR IS UNKNOWN BECAUSE IT WAS MADE BEFORE THE TIME OF RECORDED HISTORY.

WHICH LAND ANIMAL LIVES THE LONGEST?



THE TORTOISE! UNDER FAVORABLE CONDITIONS IT CAN LIVE UP TO 400 YEARS! SOME CROCODILES LIVE 300 YRS!

ADD AND SUBTRACT THE LETTERS AND THE LETTERS OF THE NAMES OF THINGS PICTURED, AS DIRECTED. THEN REARRANGE THE REMAINING LETTERS TO SPELL A 7 LETTER WORD. THE CARTOON WILL GIVE YOU A CLUE TO THE ANSWER!



The ANSWER

S + ANTEATER + BOW − BAW + CHURN − CLEAVER − CORNET = HUNTERS

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DREAM SWEETHEARTS

THROUGH THE CENTURIES, YOUNG WOMEN HAVE HAD FANCIFUL NOTIONS OF THEIR "DREAM SWEETHEARTS"--THE IDEAL MEN THEY HOPED TO MARRY SOME DAY. THE PATIENT GIRLS WERE CONTENT TO WAIT AND HOPE THAT HE WOULD COME ALONG SOON--BUT THE MORE ANXIOUS ONES EMPLOYED "MYSTIC CHARMS" TO SUMMON THE MAN OF THEIR DREAMS IMMEDIATELY...

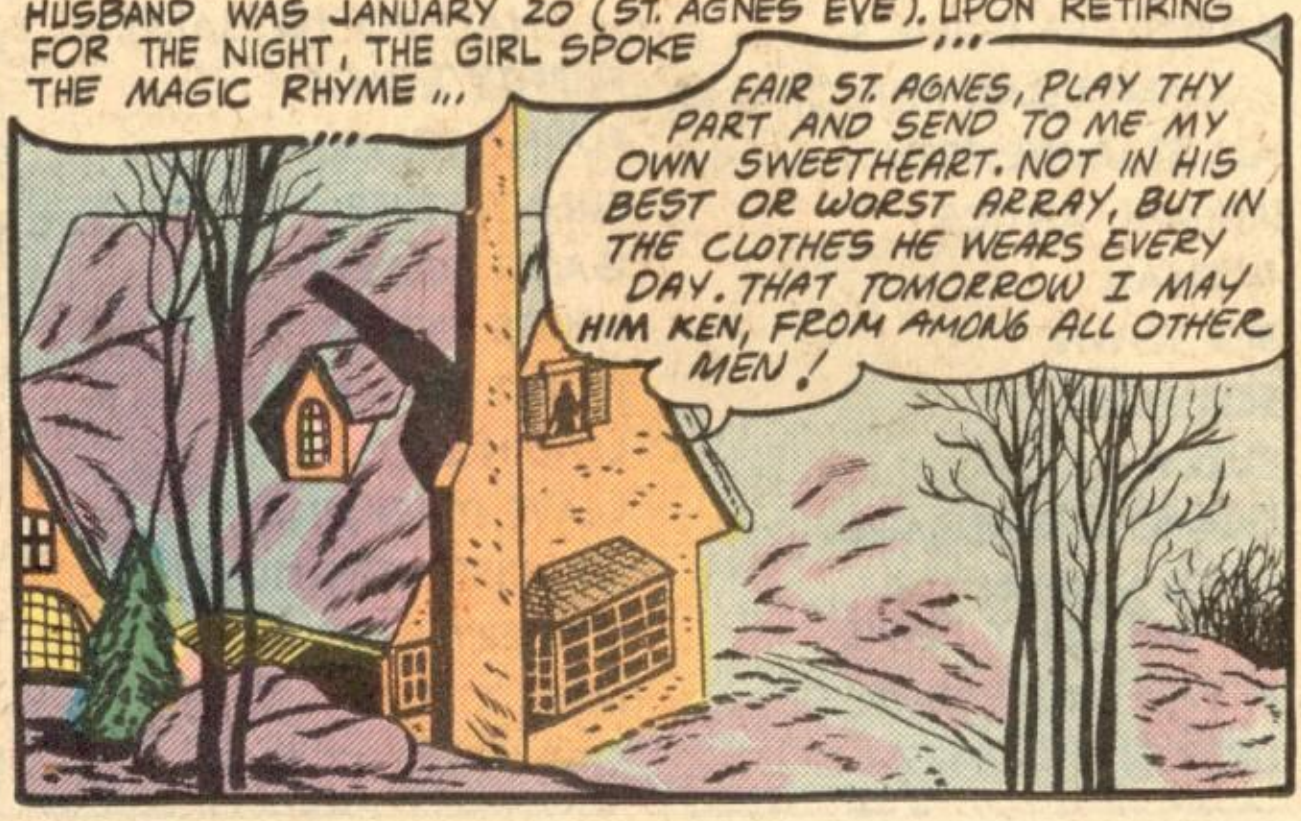
ONE METHOD OF DREAMING ABOUT A HUSBAND-TO-BE WAS TO SPREAD A WHITE CLOTH UNDER AN OAK TREE ON MIDSUMMER EVE, TO CATCH THE TREE BLOSSOMS THAT MIGHT FALL OVERNIGHT-THE DUST OF THE BLOSSOMS, PLACED UNDER A PILLOW THE FOLLOWING NIGHT, WOULD CAUSE A GIRL TO DREAM OF HER SWEETHEART...

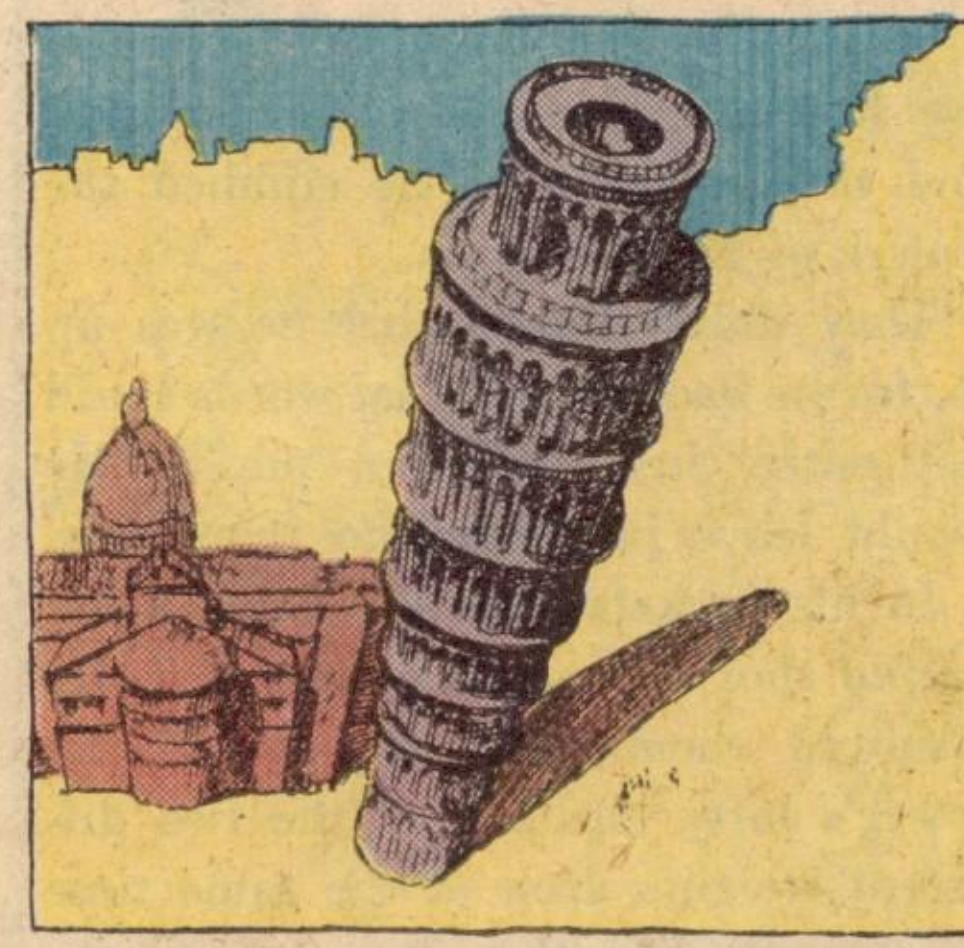
A SLICE OF WEDDING CAKE, DRAWN THREE TIMES THROUGH THE BRIDES WEDDING RING, AND THEN PLACED UNDER THE PILLOW OF AN UNWED GIRL, IS GUARANTEED TO BRING A DREAM VISION OF HER FUTURE HUSBAND-

OTHER GIRLS PLACED THEIR RELIANCE ON STICKING PINS THROUGH THE END OF A TALLOW CANDLE AND UTTERING THE FOLLOWING WORDS...

APRIL 24TH OF EVERY YEAR (ST. MARK'S DAY) AFFORDED GIRLS THE CHOICE OPPORTUNITY OF PLUCKING A SAGE LEAF FOR EVERY STROKE OF THE HOUR AT NOON, ENABLING THEM TO DREAM THAT NIGHT OF THE MAN THEY WOULD WED...

THE TRADITIONAL TIME FOR RITES TO REVEAL A WOMAN'S FUTURE HUSBAND WAS JANUARY 20 (ST. AGNES EVE). UPON RETIRING FOR THE NIGHT, THE GIRL SPOKE THE MAGIC RHYME...





The Amazing Leaning Tower

BECAUSE the people of Pisa wanted a tower as fine as the great bell tower of Venice, a mistake was finally corrected . . . an error which the world had blindly accepted for thousands of years.

Over twenty-two hundred years ago, the famed Greek thinker, Aristotle, had asserted that if one held two balls of the same composition, one large and the other small, the larger ball would reach the ground first if they were dropped from a height at the same moment.

Further, he had declared, if the larger of the balls was ten times heavier than the smaller one it would fall ten times as quickly.

In these modern days, when somebody makes a statement of that sort, experiments are immediately set up in order to prove the truth or distruth of the statement. However, in those days people didn't question the declarations of so great a man as Aristotle.

Instead of experimenting and letting Nature decide the truth or fallacy of an argument, they put blind faith in their chosen great and let *him* be their authority instead of Nature.

Many hundreds of years later, the Pisan architect, Bonanno, was commissioned to erect the campanile, now known the world over as the "Leaning Tower of Pisa." He built it on wooden piles that were driven into soft ground.

Not a firm foundation, you'll agree, to support a solid mass of Carrara marble. Bonanno found this out, too, when, after three stories of his masterpiece were completed, the whole structure started to heel over.

Here was a knotty problem. To tear down what had been already constructed on the instable subsoil—or to keep on building.

Bonanno chose to build. In the year 1174 he hit upon a brilliant conclusion, and today the completed tower

still stands to amaze the tourist. It is round, one hundred and eighty feet in height, and remains a splendid example of Romanesque architecture.

Its seven galleries of arches, supported by columns and topped by a smaller story, stand immediately back of the famous marble baptistry and cathedral in the heart of the old city of Pisa.

Yes, instead of pulling it down and starting over, Bonnanno went right on, but cleverly diminished the slope of the remaining stories so as to keep the center of gravity well within the walls.

To illustrate, if one dropped a line down from a certain point in the tower —called the center of gravity—which is equally balanced on all sides by the weight of the tower, that line would touch the ground *within* the foundations of the tower. If the line touched the ground somewhere *outside* the tower, it would fall.

Now we leap more than four hundred years ahead, once more. It is the time of Galileo, the great Italian physicist and astronomer.

He disagreed violently with Aristotle's law of falling weights—the law which had been a part of civilization for thousands of years. Galileo said that two weights would fall in just the same time, even though one was heavy and the other light.

For daring to think for himself he was mocked and derided. One day, looking at the "leaning" tower he got his inspiration. He assembled the other professors of the university and also the students. They trooped after him, and then watched as he climbed the Tower of Pisa.

They didn't know what he was up to, for he had decided that words could not enter their stubborn minds. He would leave judgement to their *eyes*.

In his pockets were concealed a ten pound shot and a one pound shot. He removed them when he got to the tower's lofty top. He let the two different weights drop at the same time . . . . *and together they struck the ground!*

Instead of realizing a new truth, the assemblage turned angrily on Galileo for daring to disagree with Aristotle. They jeered him at his lectures, and for daring to find out a truth, he finally had to leave Pisa.

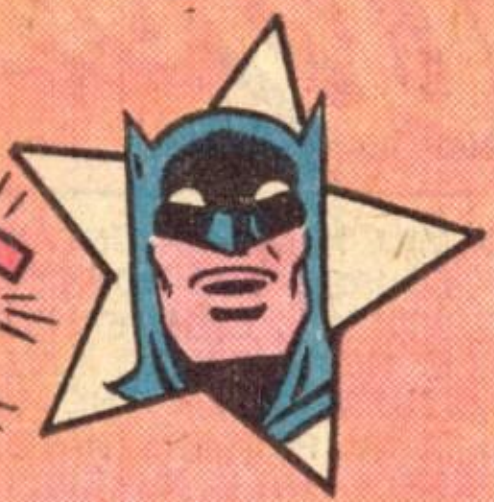
But something had been established which could not be shunted aside. In one of the strangest triple plays of all time—Aristotle to Bonanno to Galileo —the law of falling weights was, at long last, truthfully understood.

Also, added to our understanding, is the law of gravitation. For the same famed tower illustrates that everything gravitates, or is drawn, towards the earth. If the tower's weight were on one side it would fall—but it is perfectly balanced because, though it leans, its *pressure* is straight toward the earth.

Think of it. Three men who lived so long apart, and yet whose energies and thinking were so oddly combined through the ages. —*Charles King*

THE LINE OF STARS

PRESENTS



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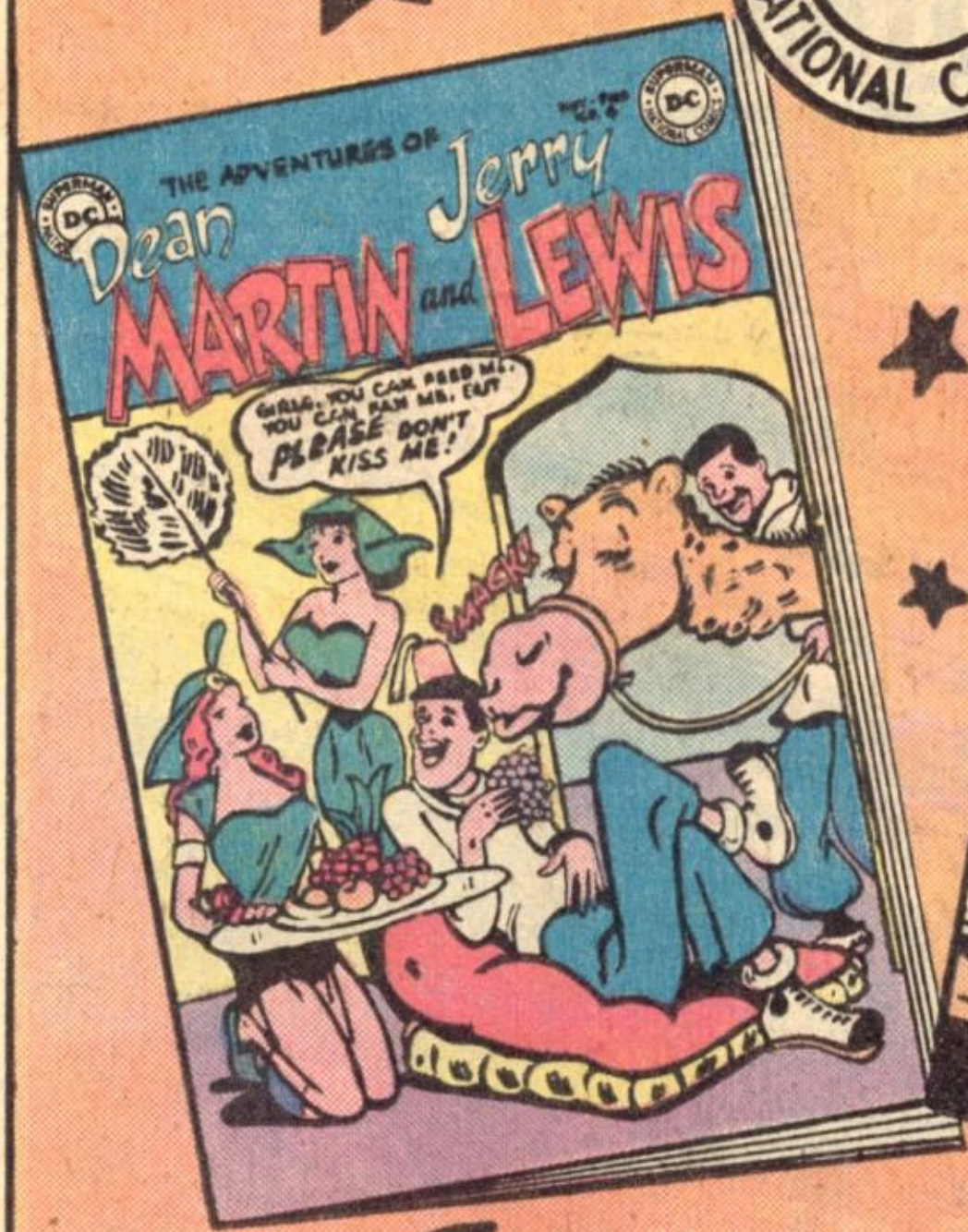

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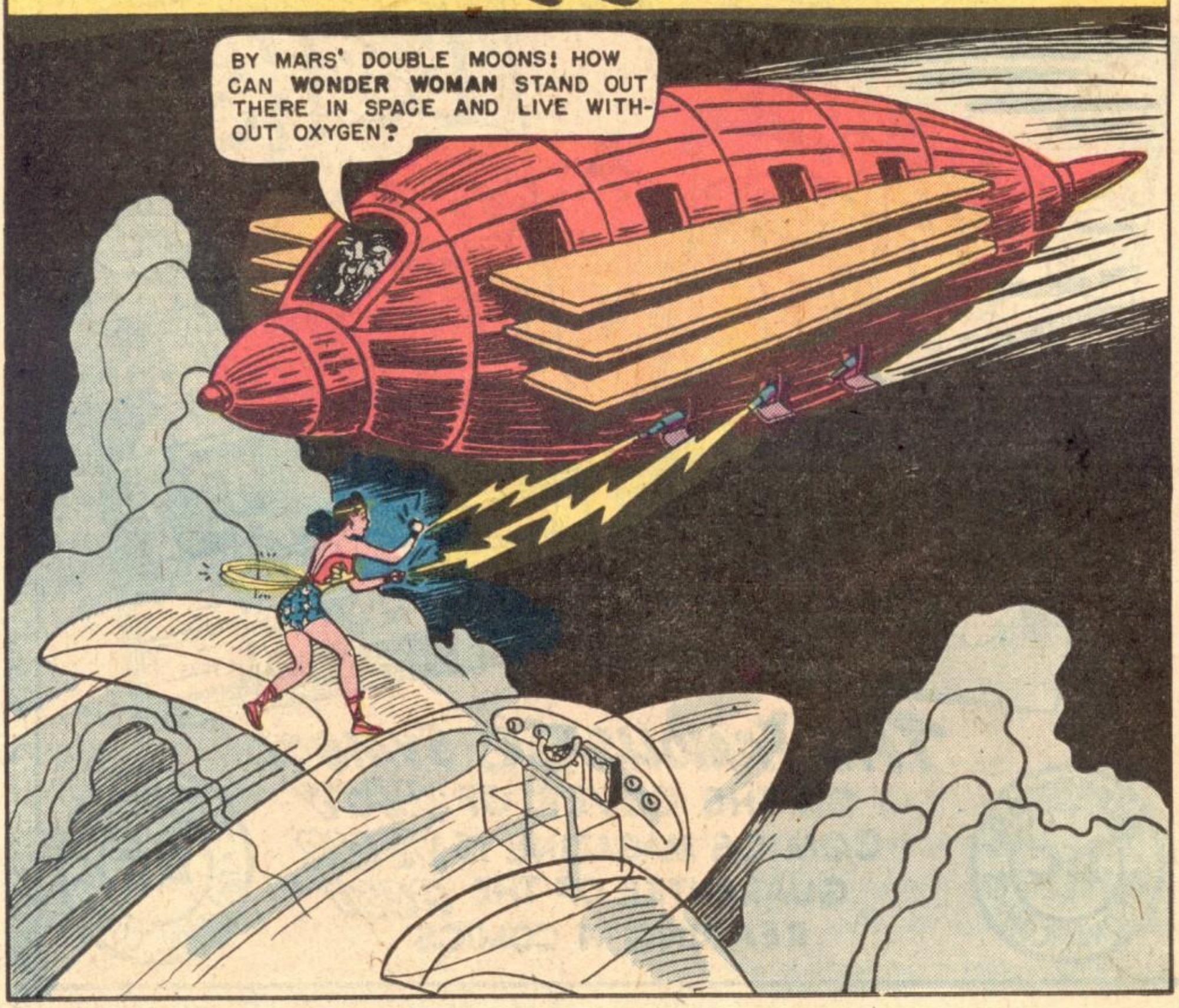
Wonder Woman

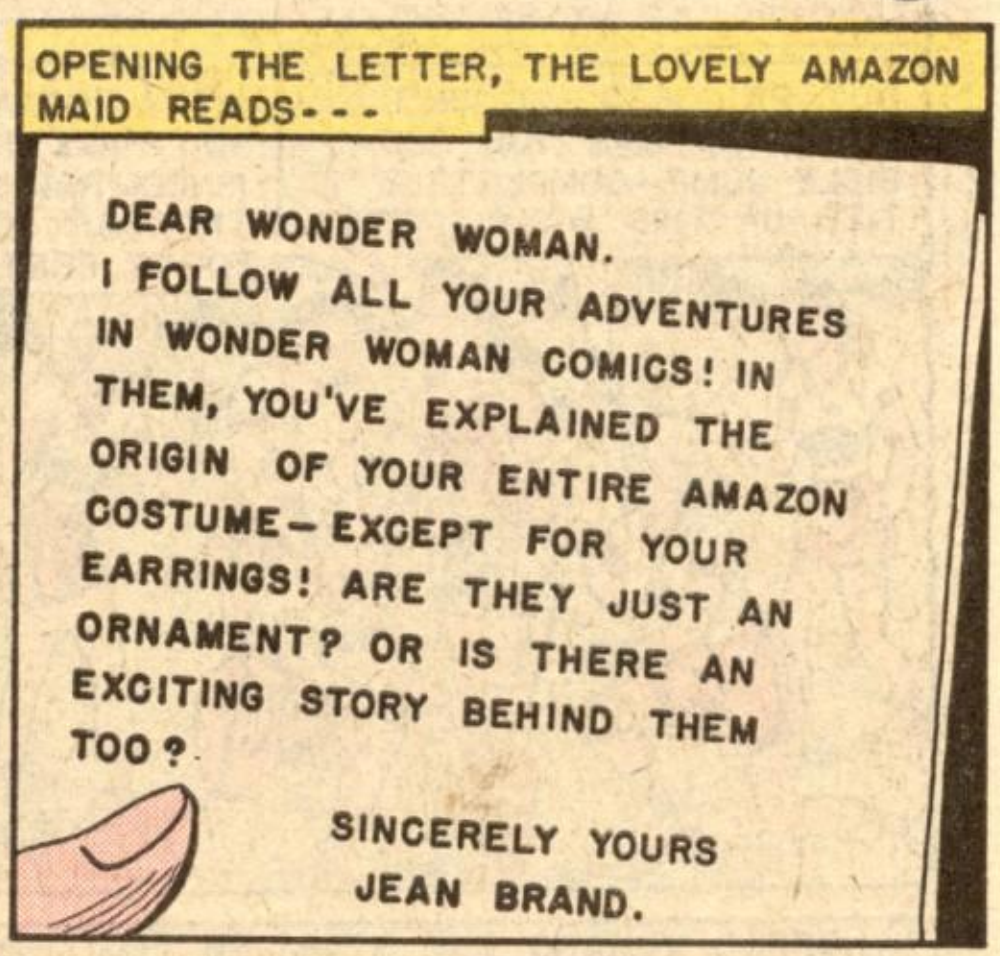
By CHARLES MOULTON

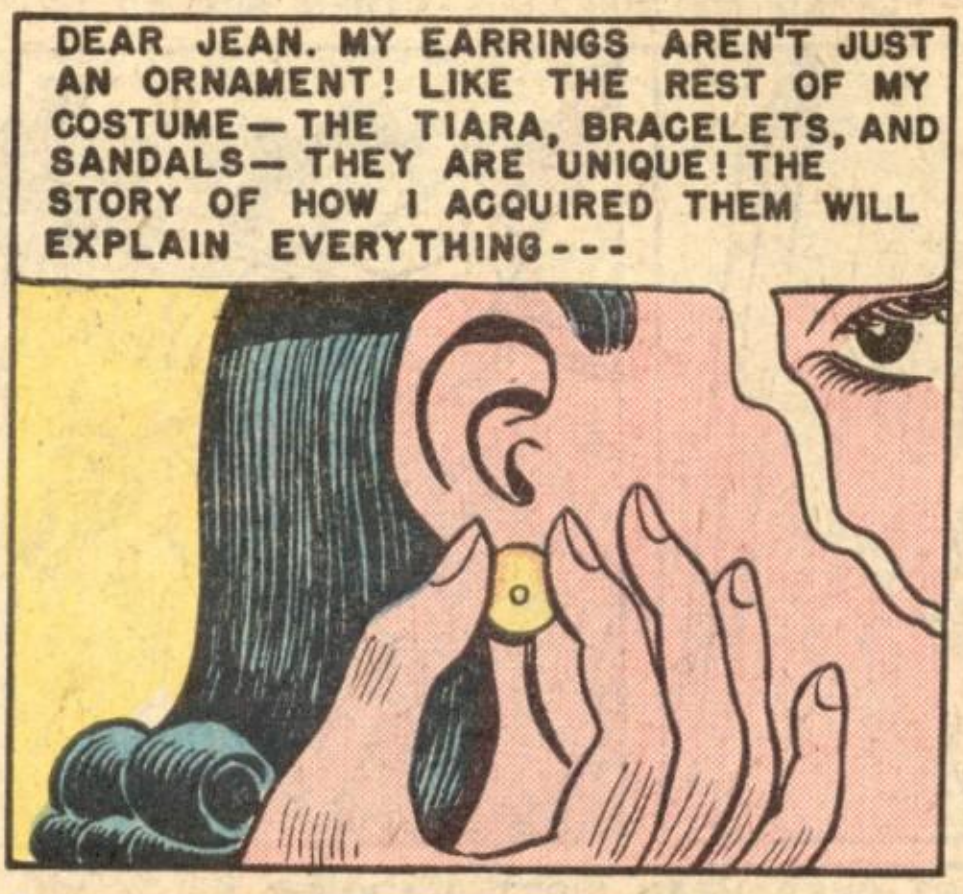
DO YOU KNOW ANYONE WHO CAN DO WITHOUT OXYGEN FOR MORE THAN A FEW MINUTES? OF COURSE YOU DON'T! AND YET **WONDER WOMAN** — BEAUTIFUL AS APHRODITE, WISE AS ATHENA, SWIFTER THAN MERCURY, AND STRONGER THAN HERCULES — SEEMS TO BE ABLE NOT ONLY TO LIVE, BUT TO COMBAT THE ENEMIES OF LIBERTY EVERYWHERE, WHETHER UNDER THE SEA, INSIDE THE EARTH, OR IN THE AIRLESS REGIONS OF SPACE! SO MANY READERS HAVE ASKED HOW IS THIS POSSIBLE, THAT THE AMAZON PRINCESS HERSELF WILL REVEAL THE STARTLING STORY BEHIND THIS PHENOMENA IN------

The SECRET of the AMAZON EARRINGS!

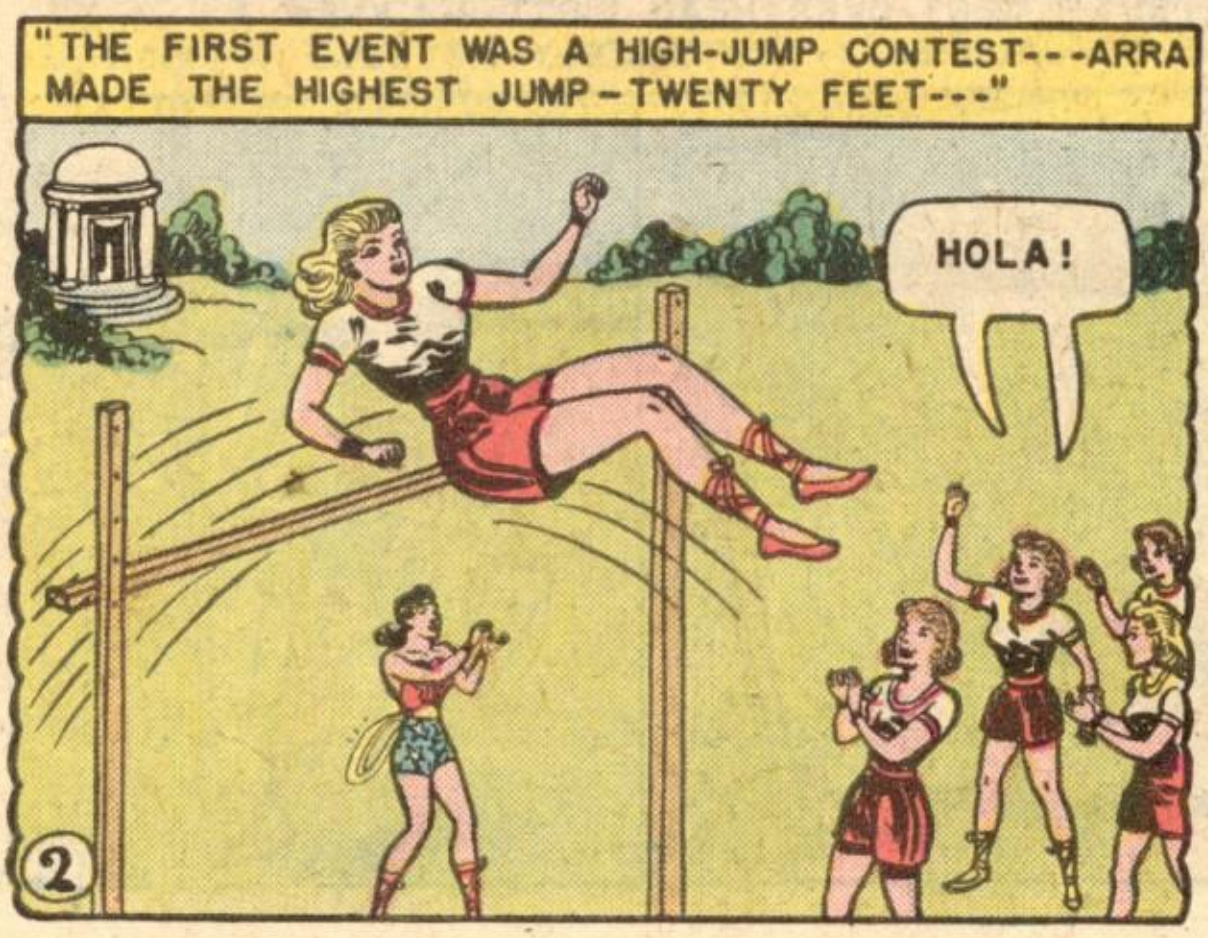


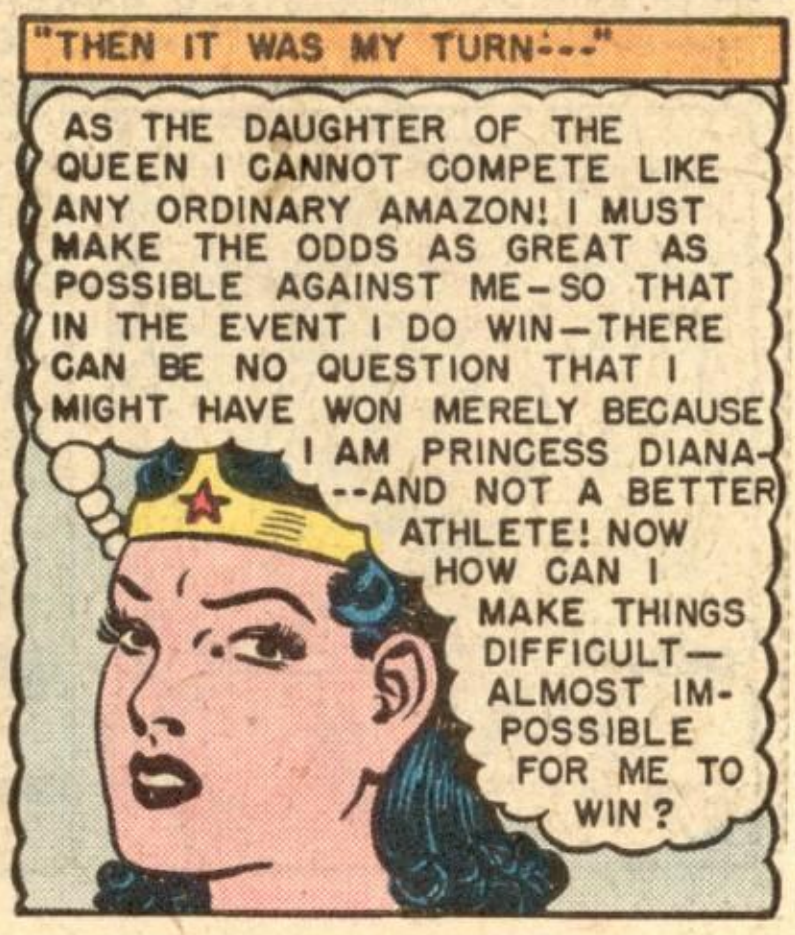
ONE AFTERNOON IN THE OFFICE OF THE AMAZON PRINCESS AT THE DAILY GLOBE, THE OFFICE BOY ENTERS WITH A LETTER-
THIS LETTER JUST CAME FOR YOU, WONDER WOMAN!
THANKS, HAL!

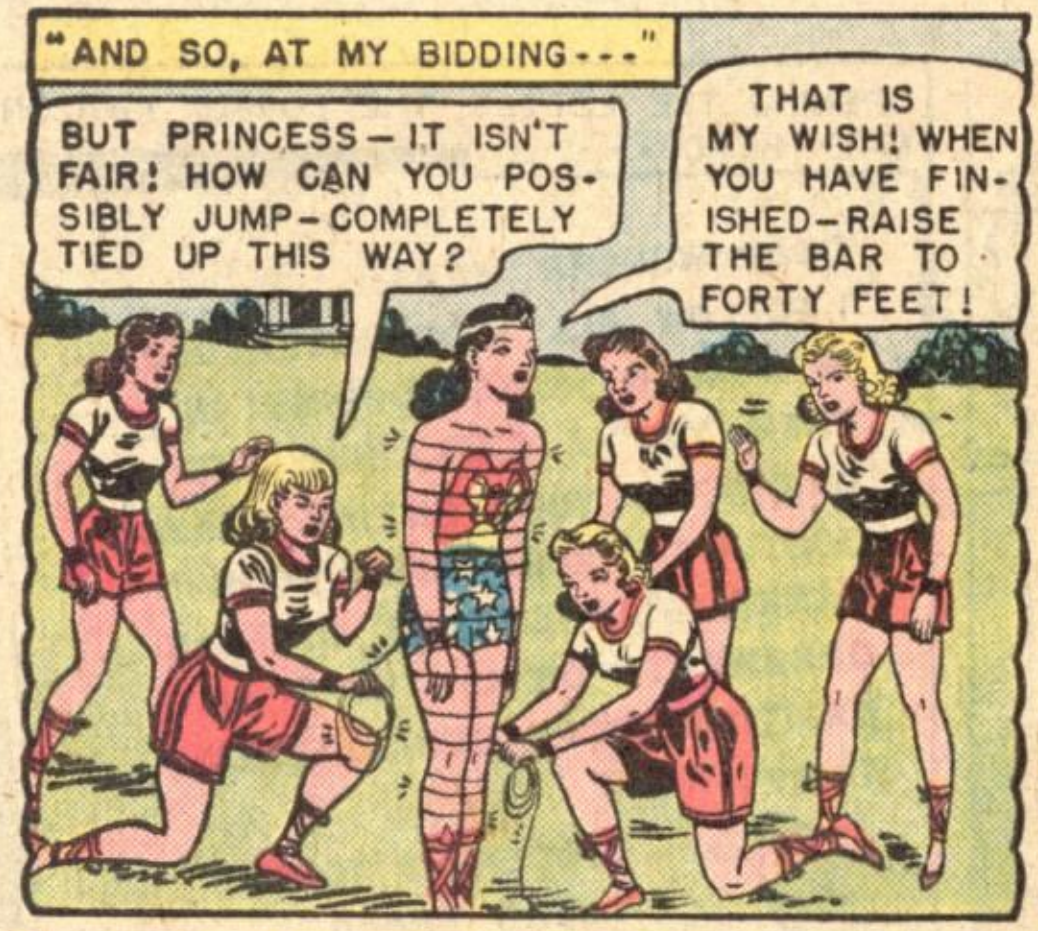

OPENING THE LETTER, THE LOVELY AMAZON MAID READS---
DEAR WONDER WOMAN. I FOLLOW ALL YOUR ADVENTURES IN WONDER WOMAN COMICS! IN THEM, YOU'VE EXPLAINED THE ORIGIN OF YOUR ENTIRE AMAZON COSTUME—EXCEPT FOR YOUR EARRINGS! ARE THEY JUST AN ORNAMENT? OR IS THERE AN EXCITING STORY BEHIND THEM TOO?
SINCERELY YOURS JEAN BRAND.


DEAR JEAN. MY EARRINGS AREN'T JUST AN ORNAMENT! LIKE THE REST OF MY COSTUME—THE TIARA, BRACELETS, AND SANDALS—THEY ARE UNIQUE! THE STORY OF HOW I ACQUIRED THEM WILL EXPLAIN EVERYTHING---

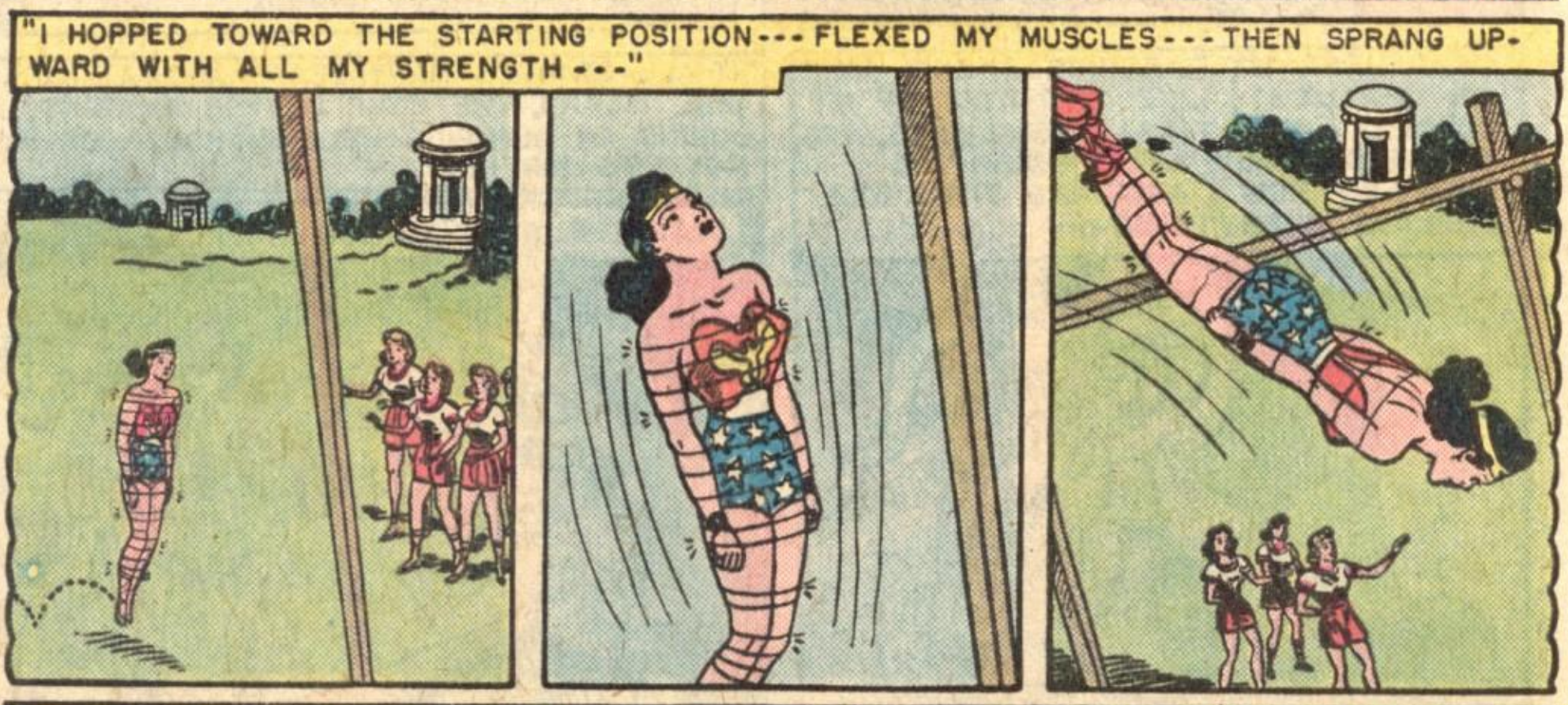
"IT ALL STARTED MANY YEARS AGO, AT PARADISE ISLAND, THE HOME OF THE AMAZONS, DURING AN OLYMPICS HELD IN HONOR OF MY MOTHER'S BIRTHDAY---"
MAY THE BEST AMAZON WIN!

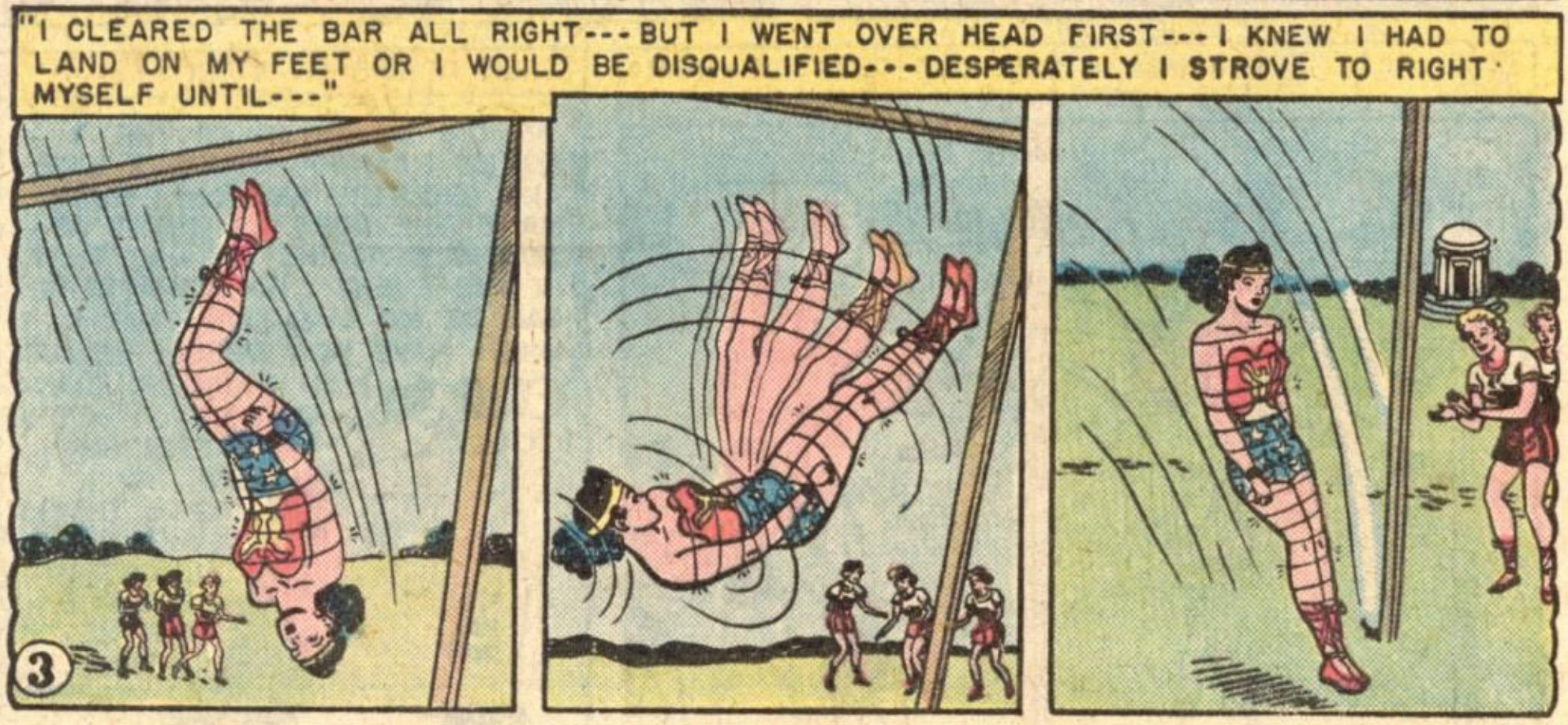

"THE FIRST EVENT WAS A HIGH-JUMP CONTEST---ARRA MADE THE HIGHEST JUMP—TWENTY FEET---"
HOLA!

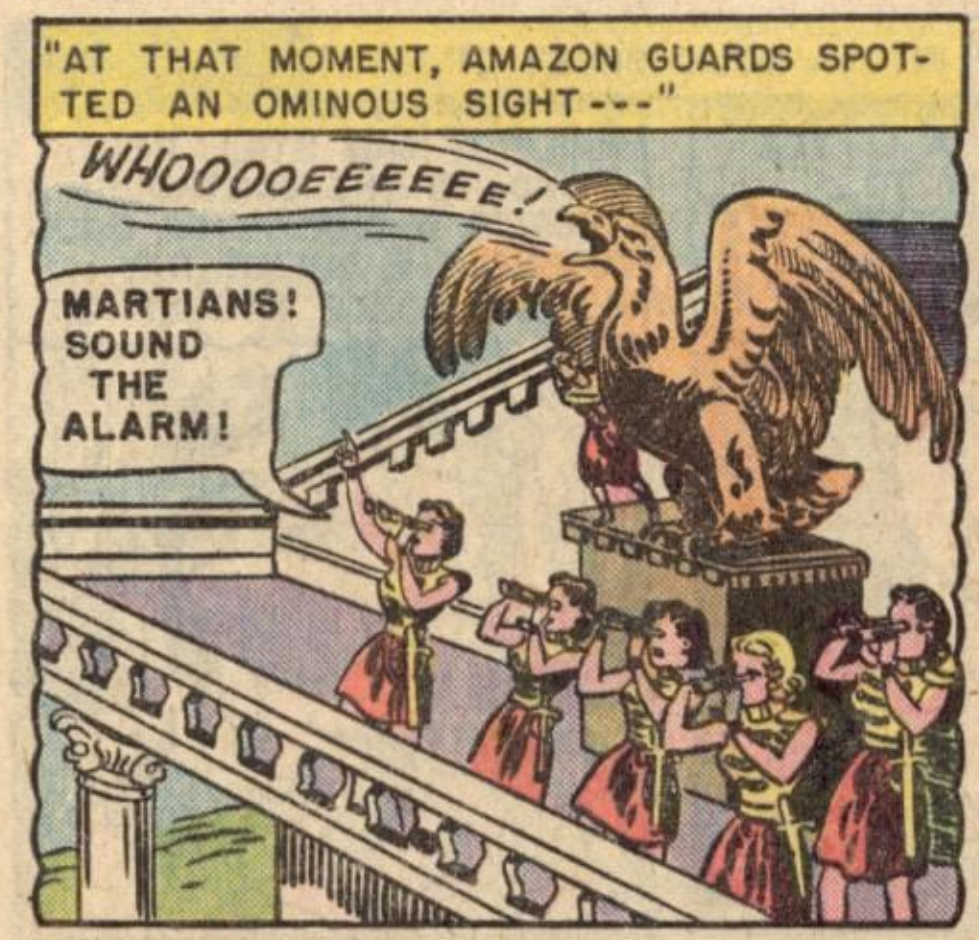

"THEN IT WAS MY TURN---"
AS THE DAUGHTER OF THE QUEEN I CANNOT COMPETE LIKE ANY ORDINARY AMAZON! I MUST MAKE THE ODDS AS GREAT AS POSSIBLE AGAINST ME—SO THAT IN THE EVENT I DO WIN—THERE CAN BE NO QUESTION THAT I MIGHT HAVE WON MERELY BECAUSE I AM PRINCESS DIANA---AND NOT A BETTER ATHLETE! NOW HOW CAN I MAKE THINGS DIFFICULT—ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE FOR ME TO WIN?


"AND SO, AT MY BIDDING---"
BUT PRINCESS—IT ISN'T FAIR! HOW CAN YOU POSSIBLY JUMP—COMPLETELY TIED UP THIS WAY?
THAT IS MY WISH! WHEN YOU HAVE FINISHED—RAISE THE BAR TO FORTY FEET!

"I COULD HEAR MY SISTER AMAZONS WHISPERING AS I PREPARED TO JUMP---"
FORTY FEET IS TWICE THE HEIGHT EVER JUMPED AT AN OLYMPICS!
I DON'T SEE HOW THE PRINCESS CAN DO IT!


"I HOPPED TOWARD THE STARTING POSITION---FLEXED MY MUSCLES---THEN SPRANG UPWARD WITH ALL MY STRENGTH---"


"I CLEARED THE BAR ALL RIGHT---BUT I WENT OVER HEAD FIRST---I KNEW I HAD TO LAND ON MY FEET OR I WOULD BE DISQUALIFIED---DESPERATELY I STROVE TO RIGHT MYSELF UNTIL---"

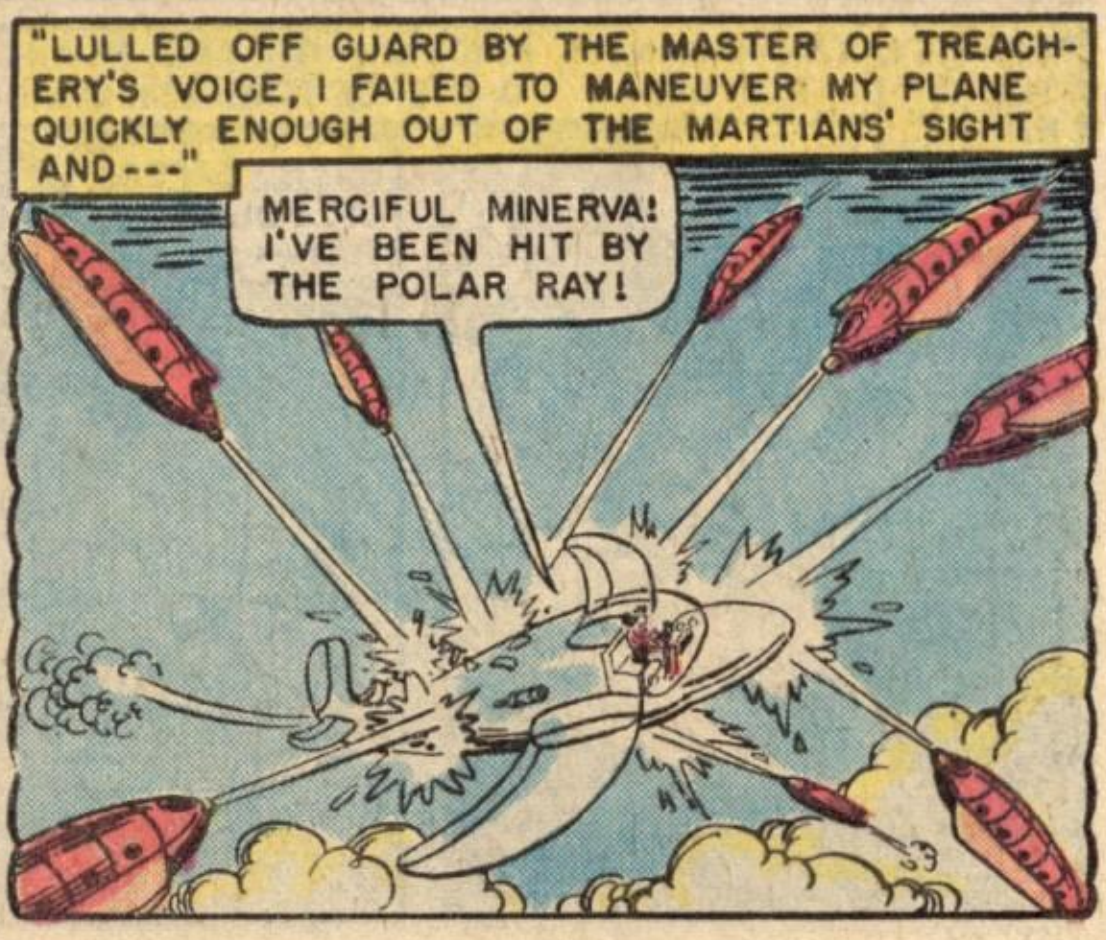

"AT THAT MOMENT, AMAZON GUARDS SPOTTED AN OMINOUS SIGHT---"
WHOOOOOEEEEEE!
MARTIANS! SOUND THE ALARM!

"THE OLYMPICS TEMPORARILY FORGOTTEN, WE ALL RUSHED FOR OUR AMAZON PLANES---"
WE MUST KEEP THEM OFF! REMEMBER- IF A MAN SETS FOOT ON THIS ISLAND—WE FORFEIT OUR HOME—BY APHRODITE'S LAW!

"AS I ZOOMED INTO THE AIR IN MY SILENT AMAZON PLANE- WITH A SPEED FASTER THAN LIGHT ITSELF---"
GREAT HERA! THE MARTIANS MUST HAVE PERFECTED SOME NEW SECRET WEAPON!

"FOR AS I GLANCED ABOUT ME—I COULD SEE TO MY HORROR THAT---"
MINE IS THE ONLY PLANE THEY HAVEN'T SENT DOWN OUT OF CONTROL! IT'S UP TO ME TO KEEP THEM FROM LANDING ON PARADISE ISLAND!

"SUDDENLY, THE DIABOLICAL FACE OF DUKE DECEPTION, THE MARTIAN INVASION LEADER, APPEARED ON MY OMNI-WAVE SCREEN---"
ONCE WE CATCH YOU IN OUR SIGHTS—OUR POLAR RAY WILL FREEZE YOU AND YOUR PLANE INTO A SOLID SHEET OF ICE—FORCING YOU DOWN—JUST LIKE THE OTHERS! THEN WE SHALL LAND AND TAKE OVER PARADISE ISLAND! WITH THE AMAZONS POWERLESS—MAN'S WORLD WILL FALL BEFORE US AT LAST! HO! HO! HO!


"LULLED OFF GUARD BY THE MASTER OF TREACHERY'S VOICE, I FAILED TO MANEUVER MY PLANE QUICKLY ENOUGH OUT OF THE MARTIANS' SIGHT AND---"
MERCIFUL MINERVA! I'VE BEEN HIT BY THE POLAR RAY!

"SWIFTLY, THE POLAR RAY BEGAN TO TURN ME INTO A SOLID SHEET OF ICE!"

"TRY THOUGH I DID, I COULDN'T MOVE A MUSCLE—BUT---"

"WITH MY BREATH I MANIPULATED THE SPEED CONTROL, SENDING MY AMAZON PLANE ROCKETING THROUGH SPACE AT TREMENDOUS SPEED---"

"FINALLY, THE GIGANTIC FRICTION OF THE PLANE'S SPEED GENERATED A HEAT THAT LITTLE BY LITTLE BEGAN TO PIERCE THE ICY SHROUD HURLED AROUND ME BY THE POLAR RAY---"

"FINALLY, MY WHIRLWIND FLIGHT THROUGH SPACE COUNTERACTED THE EFFECTS OF THE POLAR RAY, AND ONCE AGAIN I SAW DUKE DECEPTION'S EVIL FACE IN MY OMNI-WAVE SCREEN---"

YOUR MIGHTY EFFORT AVAILED YOU NOT, WONDER WOMAN! LOOK WHOM I HAVE FOR A PRISONER! WE CAPTURED HER IN MID-AIR WHEN SHE ATTEMPTED TO PARA-CHUTE FROM HER DISABLED PLANE!

MOTHER!

"AT THE MASTER OF TREACHERY'S COMMAND--"

UNLESS YOU WISH HARM TO COME TO THE QUEEN—BOARD MY SHIP IMMEDIATELY!

I OBEY IMMEDIATELY! PLEASE—PLEASE DO NOT HARM HER!

"DURING THE TIME IT TOOK ME TO TRANSFER FROM MY PLANE TO DUKE DECEPTION'S ROCKET SHIP---MY LUNGS STRAINED FOR OXYGEN IN THE AIRLESS EMPTINESS OF SPACE---"

IF I DON'T GET INSIDE SOON ENOUGH—{GASP-GASP} WHERE I CAN BREATHE SOME OXYGEN—{GASP-GASP}—I'LL SUFFO-CATE!

"I WAS SO DAZED FROM LACK OF OXYGEN, THAT BY THE TIME I MANAGED TO ENTER THE MASTER OF TREACHERY'S ROCKET SHIP, I WAS HELPLESS TO PREVENT HIM WHEN---"

QUICK—TIE HER WITH HER OWN LASSO! THAT WILL FORCE HER TO OBEY MY BIDDING!

YOU DON'T THINK—{GASP}—THAT I WOULD DO ANYTHING TO—{GASP}—ENDANGER MY MOTHER?

"SUDDENLY, BEFORE MY ASTONISHED GAZE---"

MY MOTHER—! NOT REAL—!

AIE! I'VE DECEIVED YOU WITH ONE OF MY ILLUSION IMAGES! AND AS LONG AS I HOLD YOUR LASSO--YOU ARE POWER-LESS--AND MUST OBEY ME!

HO! HO! HO!

THERE'S ONLY ONE PERSON WHO STANDS BETWEEN US—AND THE CONQUEST OF MAN'S WORLD! AND THAT IS YOU, **WON-DER WOMAN!** WE'VE CAPTURED YOU BEFORE! AND YOU'VE AL-WAYS ESCAPED! BUT AT LAST—I'VE DISCOVERED AN ABSOLUTE-LY POSITIVE WAY OF ELIMINATING YOU FOR-EVER!

"FORCED BY THE LASSO TO OBEY DUKE DECEPTION---"

INTO THAT SPACE CYLINDER, WONDER WOMAN!

BY APHRODITE'S LAW- I MUST OBEY ANYONE WHO MANAGES TO SEIZE MY LASSO FROM ME!

AND THEN, BEFORE MY HORRIFIED GAZE---"

WITHDRAW ALL OXYGEN FROM THAT CYLINDER! THE AMAZON IS A WONDER! SHE CAN WITHSTAND FIRE AND WATER! OVERCOME ANY OBSTACLE! BUT SHE CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT OXYGEN!

"AND SO, A FEW MOMENTS LATER, I WAS HURLED FORTH FROM THE ROCKET SHIP IN MY 'SPACE COFFIN'---"

THAT'S THE END OF WONDER WOMAN!

HO! HO! HO!

"AS MY 'SPACE TOMB' FLOATED WITHIN REACH OF THE ROCKET SHIP'S MAGNETIC FIELD—BECAUSE IT HADN'T BEEN DISCHARGED WITH ENOUGH FORCE TO BRING IT UNDER ANOTHER MAGNETIC FORCE---"

IF I BREAK OUT OF THIS TRAP—I'LL PERISH IN AIRLESS SPACE OUTSIDE! IF I REMAIN IN HERE—I'LL BE FINISHED TOO! SOMEHOW—I MUST PRODUCE OXYGEN—IN HERE! THIS IS ONE TIME MY METAL BRACELETS AND TIARA CAN'T HELP ME! WAIT—! METAL—HMM—THAT GIVES ME AN IDEA!

"FIRST, I BROKE OFF TWO TINY PIECES FROM MY TIARA"

C-C-CRACK!

"WITH THE PRESSURE OF MY FINGERS I SOFTENED THEM UNTIL I WAS ABLE TO SHAPE THEM INTO EARRINGS---"

"THEN I TOOK ONE OF MY BRACELETS, AND INTO THE TINY HOLE I HAD LEFT IN EACH EARRING----"

MY BRACELET CONTAINS FERRIC-OXIDE—IRON COMBINED WITH OXYGEN! I AM PRESSURING THAT OXYGEN INTO THE EARRING!

"BY THE TIME I HAD TRANSFORMED THE EARRINGS INTO OXYGEN CYLINDERS—I HAD BARELY ENOUGH STRENGTH TO FASTEN THEM INTO PLACE---"

GASP! GASP!

"BUT IN A FEW MOMENTS, THE OXYGEN IN THE EARRINGS REVIVED ME TO SUCH AN EXTENT THAT I WAS ABLE TO BREAK LOOSE FROM MY 'SPACE TOMB'---"

CALLING PLANE--- BANK AND DIVE AT MAXIMUM SPEED!

"NO SOONER HAD I RE-ENTERED MY ROBOT PLANE, THAN DUKE DECEPTION'S LIVID FACE FLASHED ON MY OMNI-WAVE SCREEN-"

YOU WON'T ESCAPE ME AGAIN, AMAZON! I'M GOING TO BLAST-RAY YOU OUT OF SPACE! ALL GUNNERS— FIRE!

"THE MASTER OF TREACHERY FORGOT THAT HIS TIRADE WARNED ME OF THE ATTACK THAT WAS TO FOLLOW- AND AS ANNIHILATING RAYS FLASHED AT ME FROM HIS SHIP— I TRIED TO OUTRACE THEM, BUT---"

SUFFERING SAPPHO! THE RAYS ARE MAGNETIC—THEY'LL FOLLOW ME UNTIL THEY STRIKE—UNLESS I CAN SHAKE THEM OFF!

"IN MY DESPERATE GYRATIONS TO ELUDE DEATH RAYS I WHIRLED NEAR THE INVADING ROCKET SHIP AND---"

THUNDERBOLTS OF JOVE! THE STRONGER MAGNETIC PULL OF THE ROCKET SHIP HAS ATTRACTED ITS OWN BLAST-RAYS BACK TO IT!

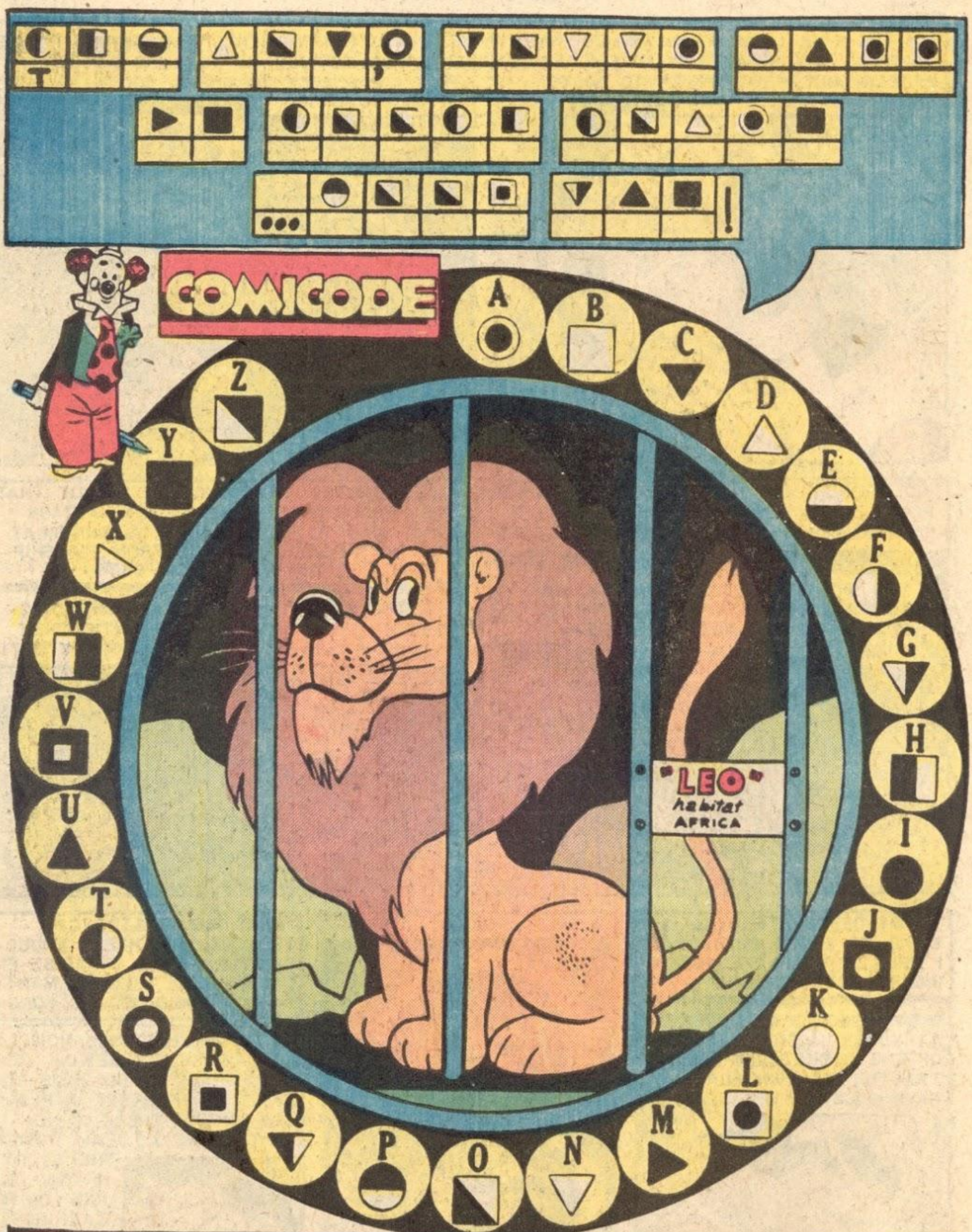
"A SPLIT SECOND LATER---"

BLAM!

"WITH THE MASTER OF TREACHERY'S THREAT ENDED- I RETURNED TO PARADISE ISLAND---AND THEN TO MAN'S WORLD---MENACED NO LONGER---"

MY EARRINGS NOW CONTAIN SELF-RENEWING OXYGEN, WHICH ENABLES ME TO EXIST INDEFINITELY IN PLACES WHERE THERE IS NO OXYGEN! WELL, JEAN, THERE'S THE STORY OF THE ORIGIN OF MY EARRINGS. SINCERELY YOURS— WONDER WOMAN!

END



THE SYMBOLS IN THE **COMICODE** REPRESENT LETTERS. THE LETTERS THEY REPRESENT ARE SHOWN IN THE CIRCLES. IN ORDER TO READ THE **COMICODE**, IT IS NECESSARY TO PRINT THE LETTERS FOR WHICH THE SYMBOLS STAND, IN THE SQUARES ABOVE. THE FIRST LETTER HAS BEEN INSERTED TO START YOU OFF. CAN YOU COMPLETE THE JOB ?