



12¢

MAR.  
NO. 210



# BATMAN

IT'S ALL OVER,  
**BATMAN!**  
YOU JUST LOST THE  
**BATTLE OF  
THE SEXES!**



BATMAN FIGHTS  
THE LEGION OF FELINE FURIES!

# Enter the Revell Invisible Sweepstakes. Win a trip around the world on TWA! 3 weeks! For 3 people!



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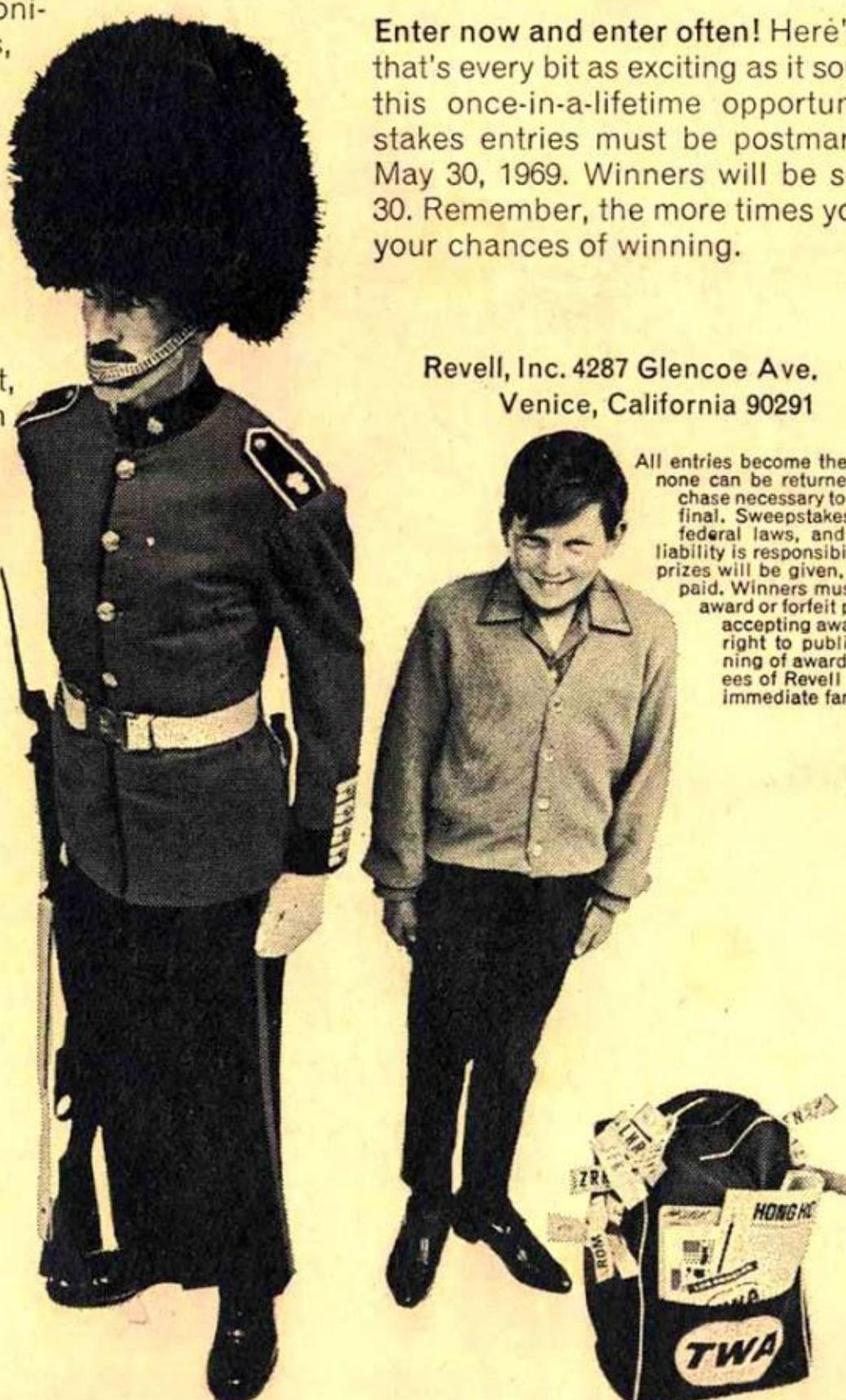
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# BATMAN

With ROBIN THE BOY WONDER

## "The Case of the PURR-LOINED Pearl!"

A DEVILISH DILEMMA ARISES WHEN A NEW BREED OF HELL-CAT SPAWNED BY THAT ARCH-FELINE FELON CATWOMAN PIERCES THE STILLY NIGHT WITH CAT-ATONIC CAT-ERWAULING, AS HER FELINE FURIES JOIN IN THE "BATTLE OF THE SEXES" TO OUTWIT AND BEFUDGLE THE CAPED CRUSADER IN ...



STORY BY:  
FRANK ROBBINS

ART BY:  
IRV NOVICK &  
JOE GIELLA

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NIGHT-- THE BATMOBILE SLOWLY CRUISES ON PATROL IN GOTHAM CITY...

THIS IS THE TENTH NIGHT IN A ROW WE'VE CASED HER NEW "FRONT" ENTERPRISE...

LISTEN, ROBIN... SELINA KYLE'S BEEN OUT OF JAIL OVER A MONTH--

SELINA Slenderizing Sailor

--AND SHE HASN'T MADE ONE FELINE MOVE TO COMMIT A CAT-MOTIVE CRIME AS-- CATWOMAN! INSTEAD, SHE OPENS A "SLENDERIZING SALON"-- WITH NO VISIBLE BUSINESS AS YET!

THAT'S WHY WE'VE ALSO BEEN CASING EVERY POSSIBLE CAT-TARGET IN TOWN THAT MIGHT LURE HER TO STRIKE! THE KITTY-KAT KLUB--

I TELL YOU-- AS A CAT SMELLS CATNIP-- I SMELL A "FRONT"!

THE CATTLE CLUB STEAK HOUSE-- THE COUGAR MOTOR SALES COMPANY...

AND, AS THEY ROUND A CORNER...

PSYCATELIC CIRCUS

LOOK, ROBIN-- IN FRONT OF THE PSYCATELIC CIRCUS--

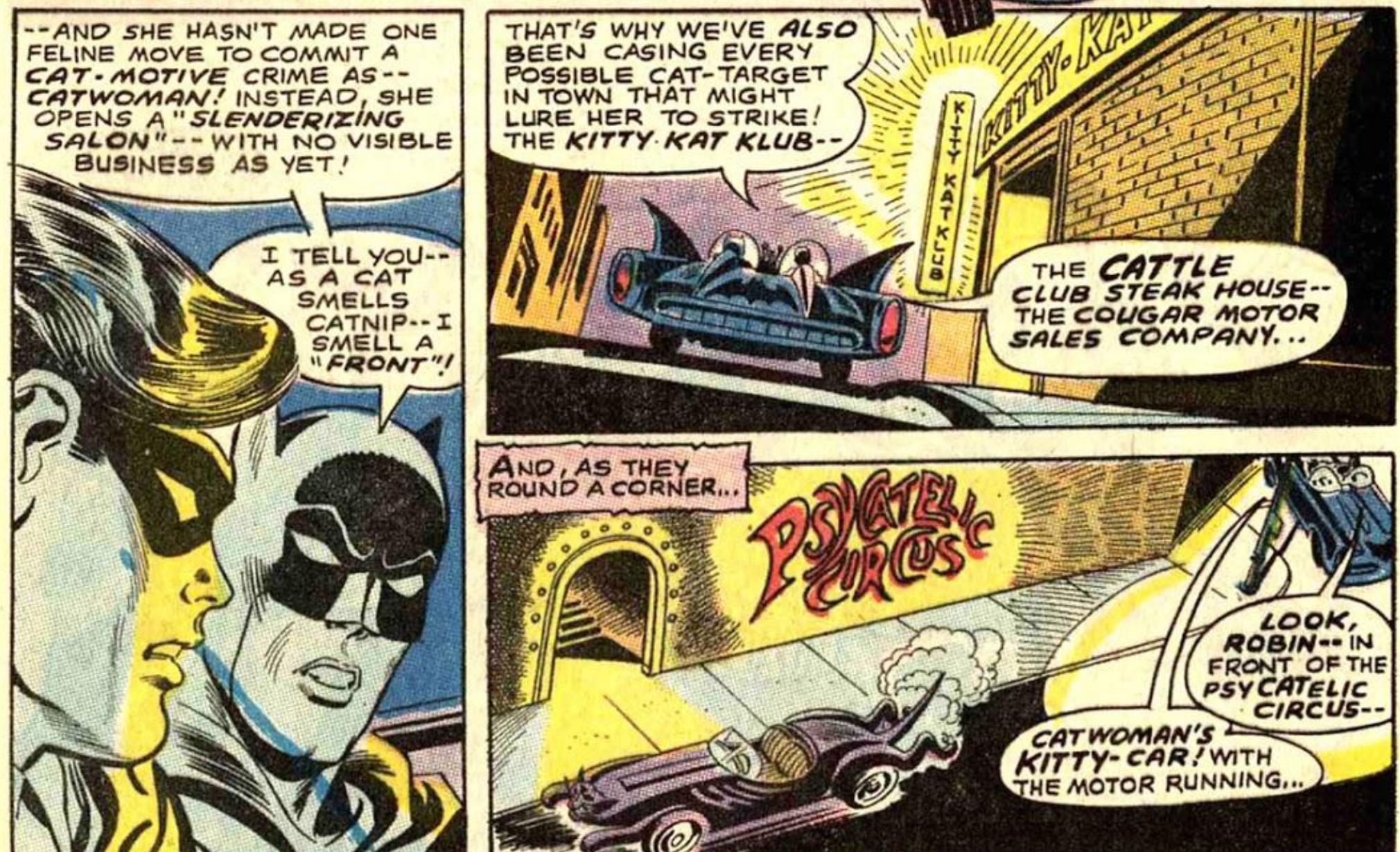
CATWOMAN'S KITTY-CAR! WITH THE MOTOR RUNNING...

SUDDENLY, BURSTING OUT OF THE POPULAR "IN" SPOT...

GOT THE GATE RECEIPTS! NOW FOR A FAST, FELINE FADE-OUT! WITH A TIGER IN OUR TANK!

MUST BE CATWOMAN'S BOYS ALL RIGHT! HOLD TIGHT, ROBIN-- WE'RE GOING TO CUT THEM OFF!

POW! POW!





OKAY, TOMCAT!  
TAKE US TO  
YOUR LEADER--  
**CATWOMAN!**

CAT...WHAT? YOU  
MUST BE ROCKY,  
**BATMAN!** WE'RE  
AN INDEPENDENT  
ENTERPRISE!

WE BOUGHT IT LEGIT-- SEE-- HERE'S  
FROM LAFFIN' LOUIE'S OUR RECEIPT!  
USED CAR LOT!

YE-AH...?  
THEN HOW  
COME YOU'RE  
USING HER  
**KITTY-CAR?**

**BATMAN**--HE'S TELLING  
IT LIKE IT IS! IS IT  
POSSIBLE...

...THAT  
**CATWOMAN'S**  
LIQUIDATING  
ALL HER CAT-  
CRIME  
CONTRAPCTIONS?  
CLOSING UP  
SHOP-- GOING  
**STRAIGHT?**

IS IT  
POSSIBLE?  
AT THIS  
MOMENT,  
BEHIND THE  
CLOSED  
DOORS OF  
THE  
**SELINA**  
**SLENDER-**  
**IZING**  
**SALON...**

...TO LURE THE  
**FAT CATS**  
NECESSARY TO  
START **CATWOMAN'S**  
NEW ENTERPRISE  
OFF TO A PURR-  
FECT CRIME!

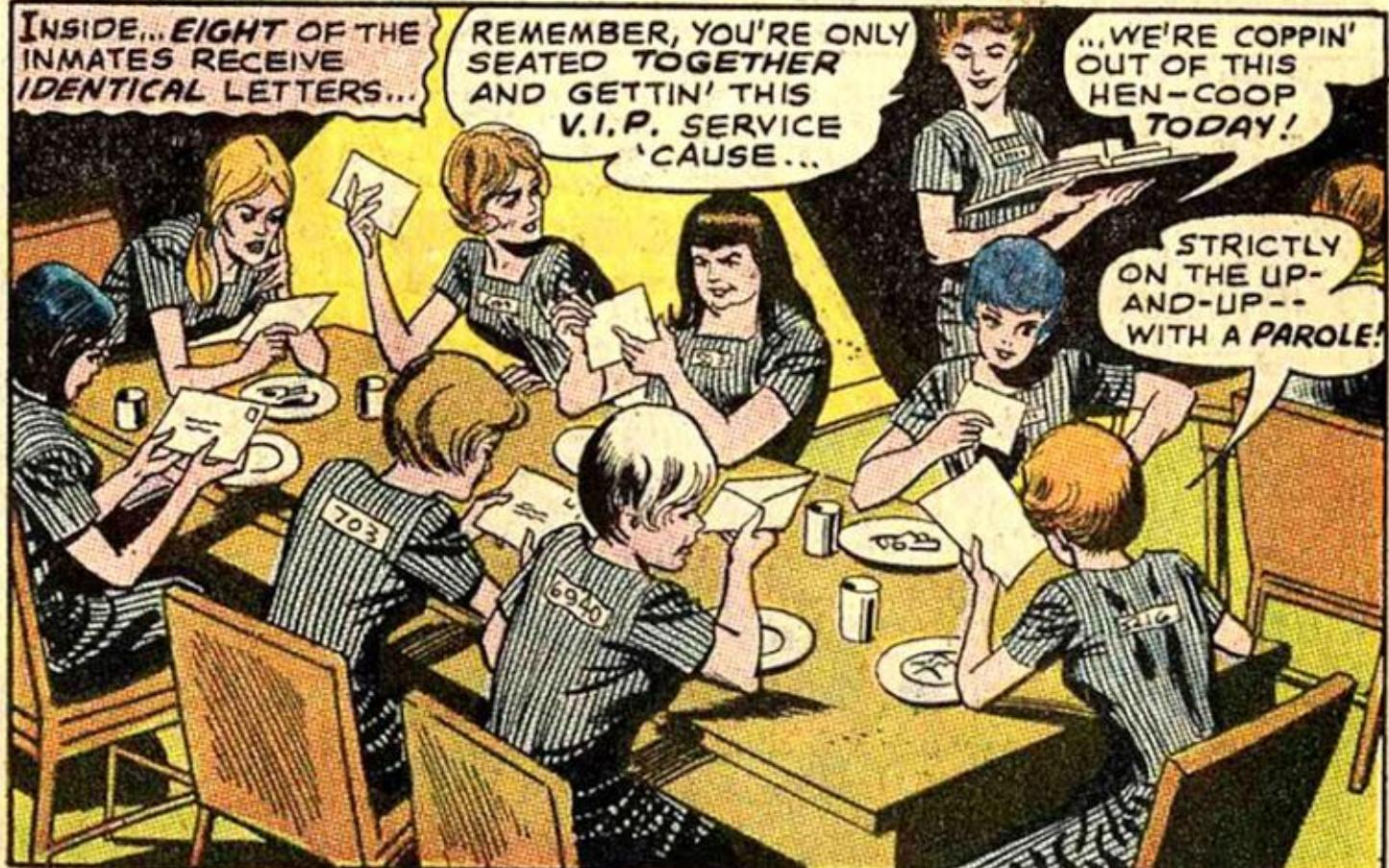
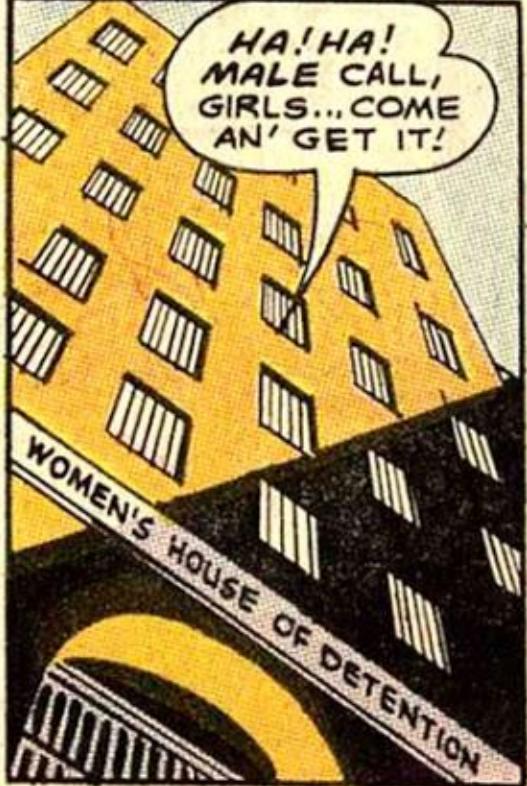
AND, MOMENTS LATER...

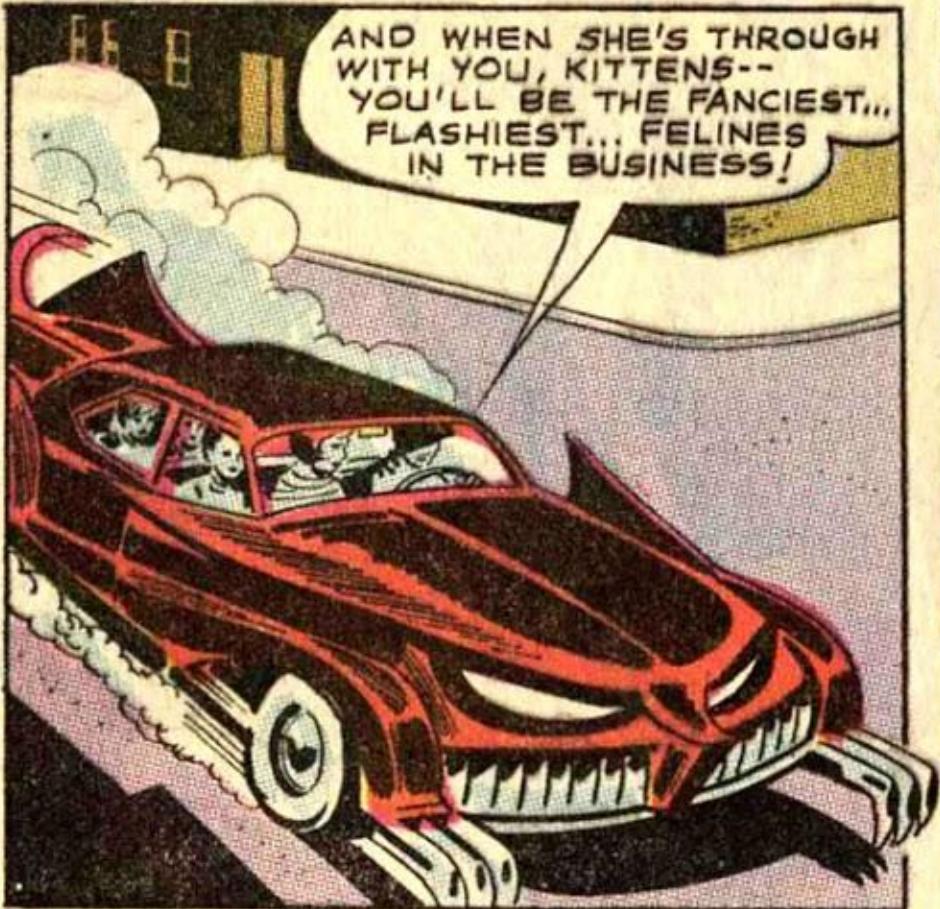
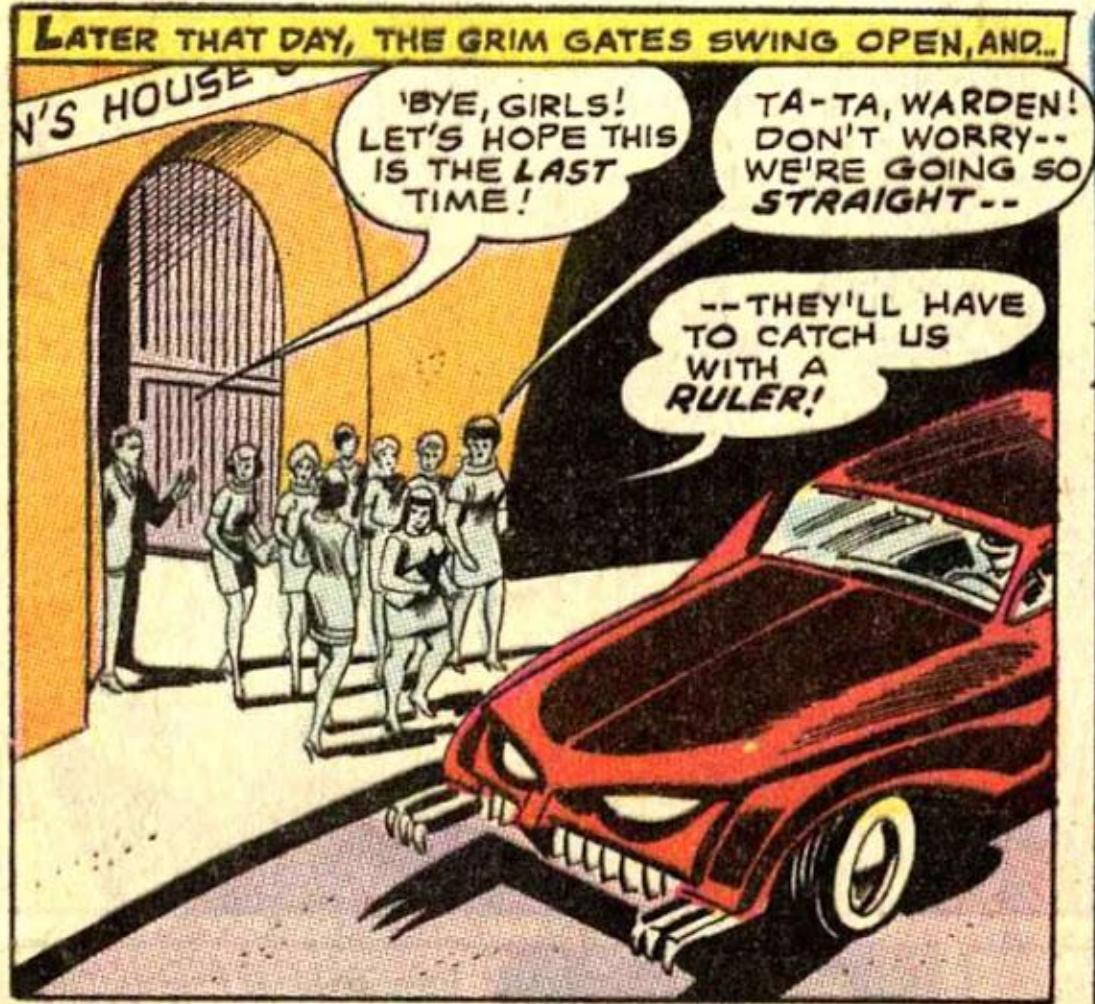
BY THIS TIME  
TOMORROW, A  
LITTER OF  
**FELINE FURIES**  
WILL BE BORN!

AND **CATWOMAN**  
WILL TRULY HAVE  
NINE  
LIVES!

LICK AWAY,  
**SLINKY**, PET...  
YOU'RE SEALING  
**BATMAN'S**  
FATE! THESE  
EIGHT  
INTRODUCTORY  
LETTERS SHOULD  
BE JUST THE  
"CREAM" I  
NEED...

THE NEXT DAY...AT A FOREBODING EDIFICE OUTSIDE GOTHAM CITY...

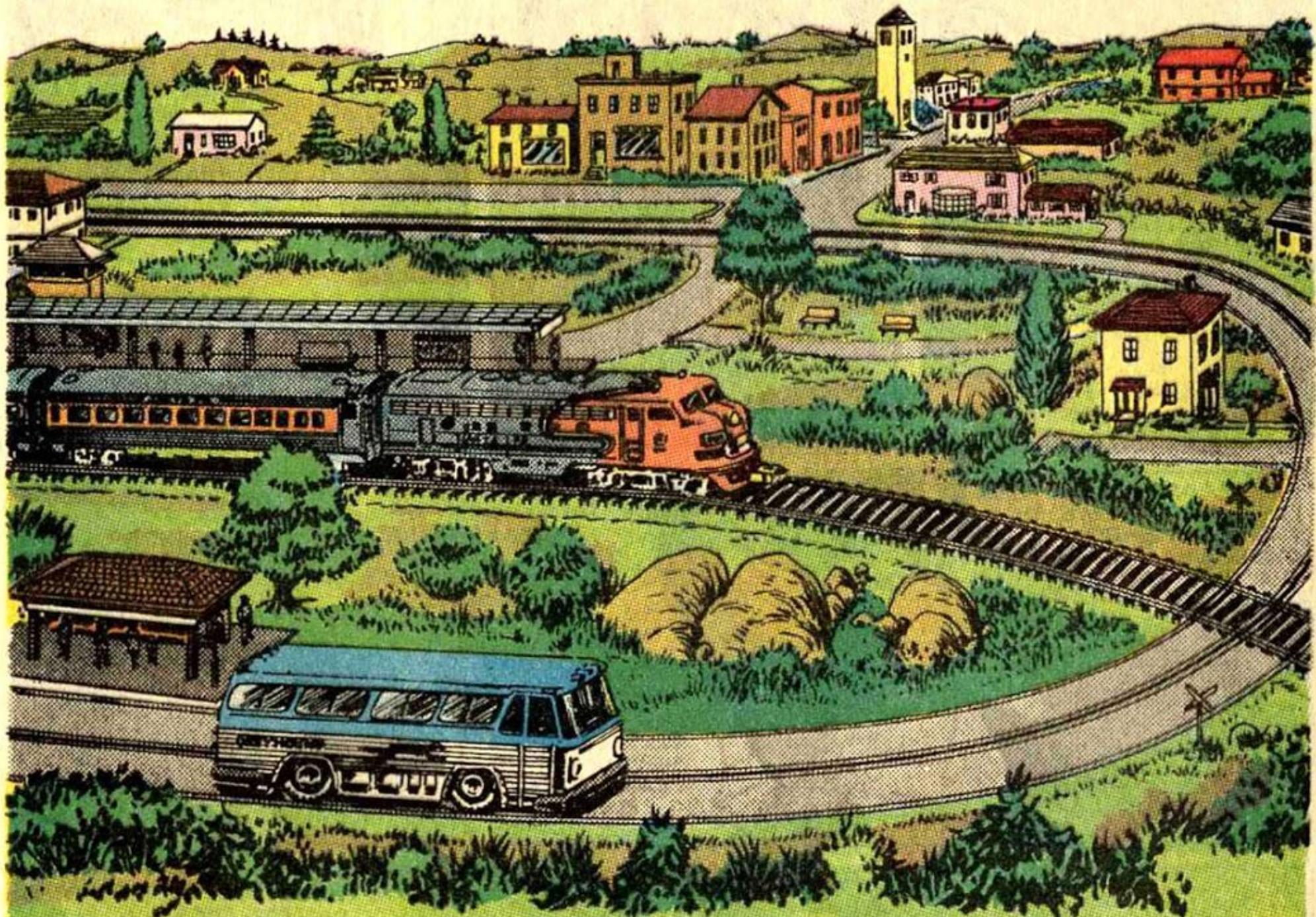




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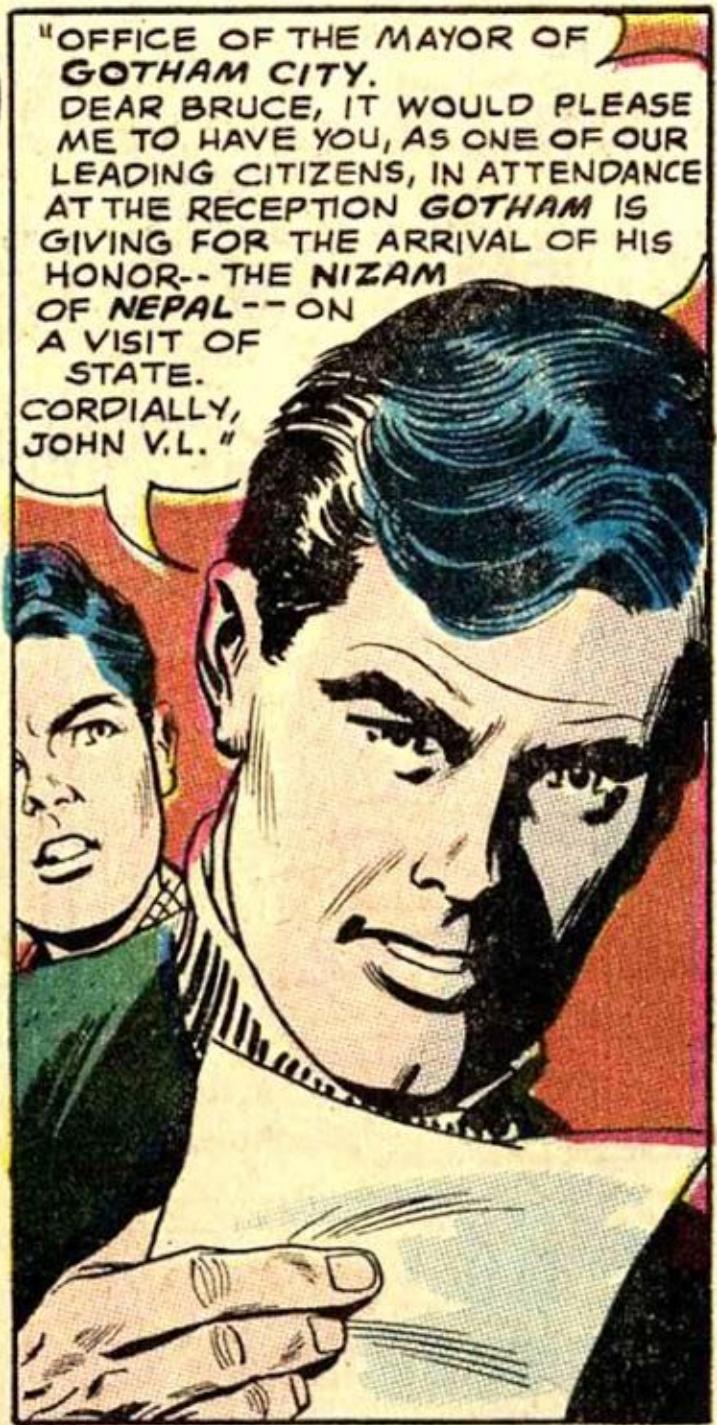
The World's Largest Manufacturer of Hobby Products

I'LL BELIEVE THAT--  
WHEN LEOPARDS  
LOSE THEIR SPOTS--  
AND **REAL** TIGERS  
GO IN FOR RUNNING  
GAS STATIONS!

UH-UH! SHE'S  
LYING LOW, SILENTLY  
STALKING--WAITING  
TO POUNCE! HER  
PREY--**REAL BIG**  
GAME!

WHAT IS  
IT, ALFRED?  
APPEARS TO BE  
OFFICIAL CITY  
BUSINESS, MASTER  
BRUCE, SIR!  
HAND-DELIVERED  
BY ONE OF  
COMMISSIONER  
GORDON'S MEN...

"OFFICE OF THE MAYOR OF  
**GOTHAM CITY**.  
DEAR BRUCE, IT WOULD PLEASE  
ME TO HAVE YOU, AS ONE OF OUR  
LEADING CITIZENS, IN ATTENDANCE  
AT THE RECEPTION GOTHAM IS  
GIVING FOR THE ARRIVAL OF HIS  
HONOR-- **THE NIZAM**  
OF NEPAL -- ON  
A VISIT OF  
STATE.  
CORDIALLY,  
JOHN V.L."



HMM, ARRIVING IN NINE  
DAYS! COULD THIS BE  
THE BIG EVENT  
**CATWOMAN** IS  
WAITING FOR?

ISN'T THE **NIZAM** THE  
POTENTATE WHO  
POSSESSES THE  
**POTALA PEARL**--  
THE MOST FANTABULOUS  
HUNK OF NATURAL  
NACRE IN THE ORIENT?

THE SAME! IT  
NEVER LEAVES  
THE TURBAN HE  
WEARS, EVEN TO  
BED!



BRUCE WAYNE HERE, COMMISSIONER! WHAT SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS HAVE YOU MADE FOR THE NIZAM'S STAY IN GOTHAM?

THE PICK OF GOTHAM'S FINEST GUARDING THE PRESIDENTIAL SUITE AT THE GOTHAM HILTON, BRUCE! WHY?

CATWOMAN'S GOT HER CLAWS OUT FOR THE NIZAM'S PEARL!

NOW--IF I WERE TO EXTEND THE HOSPITALITY OF WAYNE MANSION TO HIS HIGH POTENTATESHIP--

YES--THAT WOULD HAVE MORE PRESTIGE THAN THE HOTEL, AND BE EASIER TO PATROL!

ESPECIALLY IF YOU BRING IN BATMAN AND ROBIN ON THE CASE!

MOMENTS LATER, AFTER THE HOT-LINE PHONE RINGS...

WE'LL BE THERE WITH BELLS ON, COMMISSIONER--TO BELL THE CAT!

I CAN'T STAND THE SUSPENSE ANY LONGER! WHAT'S THE CAT-CLUE...WHAT?

WHAT DEVIOUS DEDUCTION HAS BRUCE USED TO DIG OUT A FRAIL FELINE FLAW IN THE FEEBLE TRAIL GIVEN TO HIM? CAN YOU GUESS BEFORE THIS ONE PAGE PAUSE (PAWS) IS OVER?

8

## CRAZY HORSE

Build him yourself! This '69 Mustang model kit is rarin' to go. The 428" Cobra Jet Engine would unleash 335 horses...if it were real! Revell's new model of the '69 Mustang takes only a few fascinating hours to build. And you can build him a variety of ways. Build him convertible or build him hard top. Build him stock or build him street modified (he has optional things like racing slicks and mag wheels). Build him Drag and hold on! He's less than \$2.00, wherever toys or hobbies are sold.

Send 35¢ for new 1969 color catalog of Revell kits.

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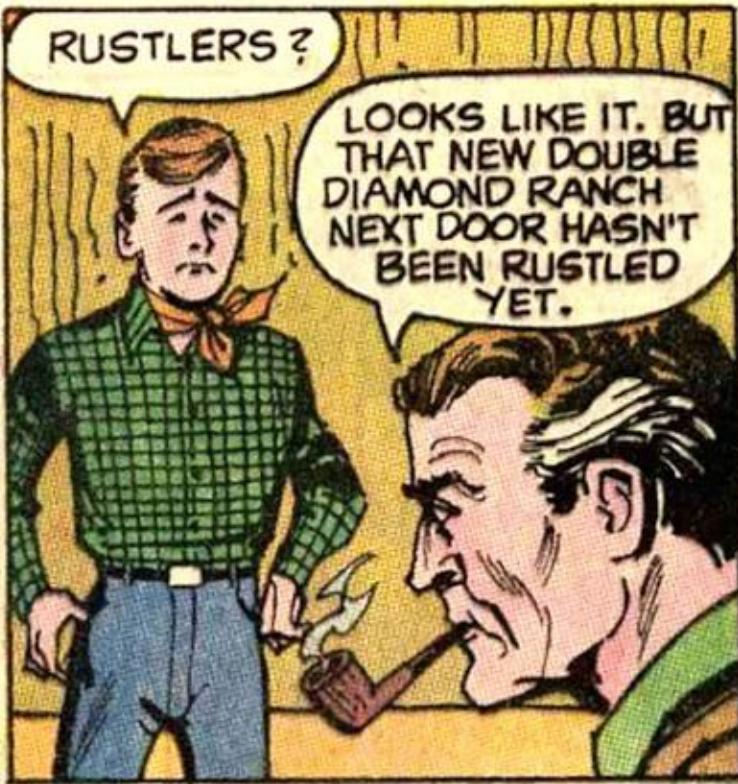
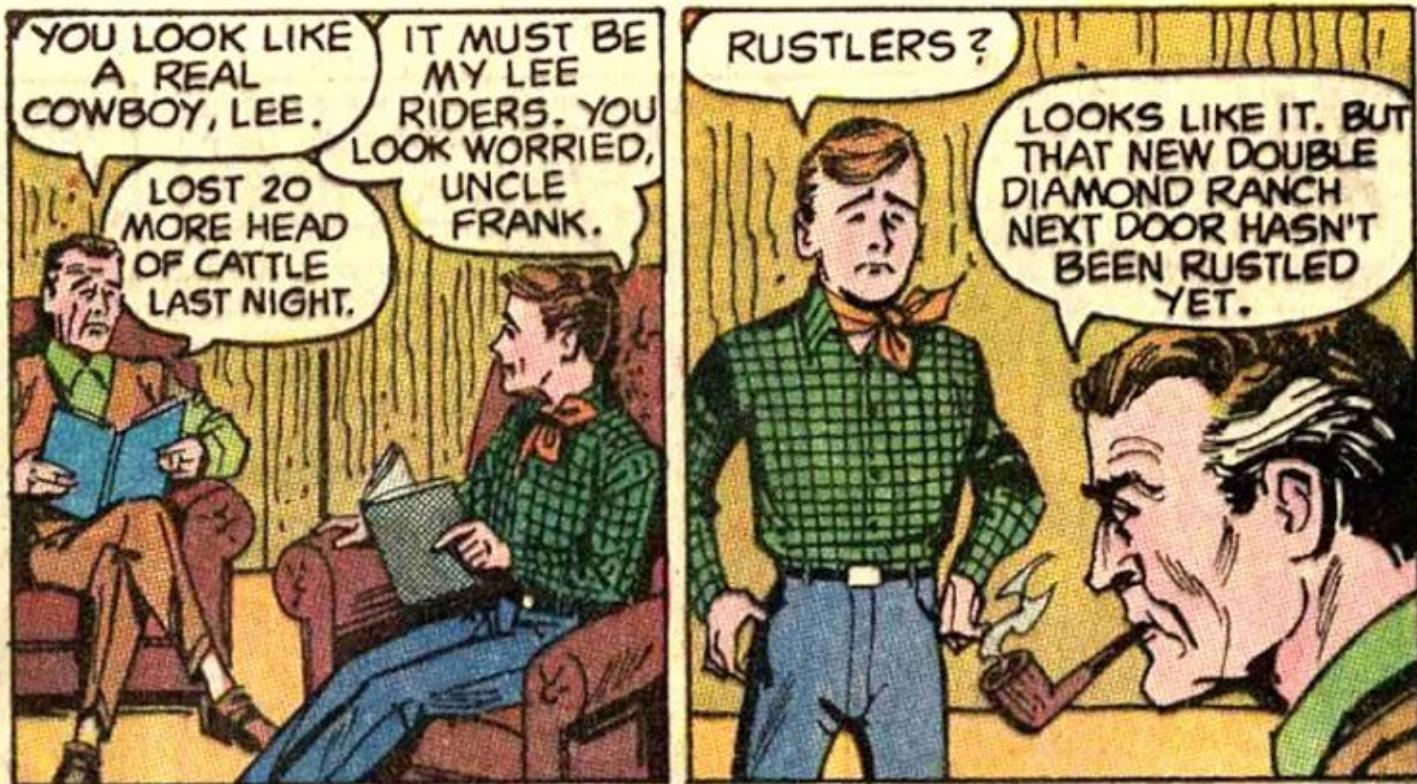


January Model of the Month  
1969 Ford Mustang

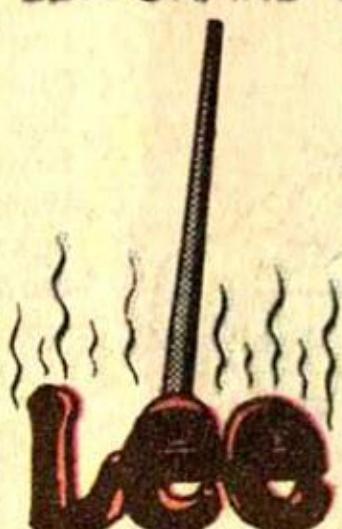


# Lee Rider in The Brand Rustlers

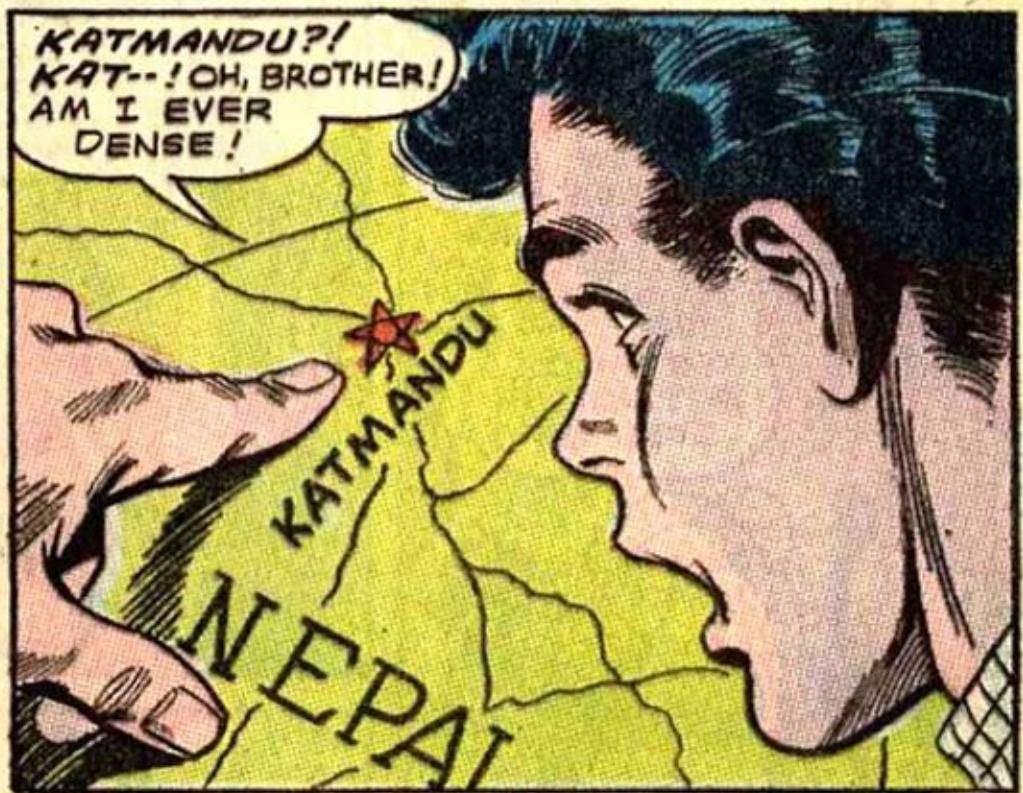
LEE RIDER VISITS HIS UNCLE FRANK'S BIG X RANCH.



BOYS! WEAR THE WESTERN PANTS THAT REAL COWBOYS WEAR - LEE RIDERS. THEY'RE TOUGH! THEY'RE CUT RIGHT! THEY HAVE THE GENUINE LEE BRAND ON EVERY PAIR.



# "The Case of the PURR-LOINED Pearl!" PART 2



IN PURR-SON!  
OTHERWISE  
KNOWN AS  
**SELINA KYLE**--  
YOUR  
HOSTESS!

KNEW  
I KNEW  
THAT  
TAG! GOOD  
OL' NUMBER  
102860--  
THE PRISON  
PET NO ONE  
EVER SAW!

RIGHT, **BIG BARBARA!**  
FROM MY ELITE  
SPOT IN "SOLITARY"  
I HAD AMPLE  
TIME TO VIEW  
ALL OF YOU  
WITHOUT BEING  
SEEN...

AND CAREFULLY  
SELECT EXACTLY  
THE EIGHT  
WITH THE  
REQUIRED  
TALENTS  
I NEEDED  
TO CAT-  
ALYZE  
MY NEW  
CAT-CREW -- THE  
**FELINE FURIES!**

WE ALL  
HAVE A  
COMMON  
CAUSE--  
A COMMON  
ENEMY...

MEN! IT WAS MEN  
WHO LED US  
ASTRAY--MEN WHO  
PUT US BEHIND  
BARS LIKE CAGED  
TIGERS!

NOW I GIVE YOU A  
CHANCE TO **STRIKE**  
BACK--WITH BARED  
FANGS AND CLAWED  
PAWS!

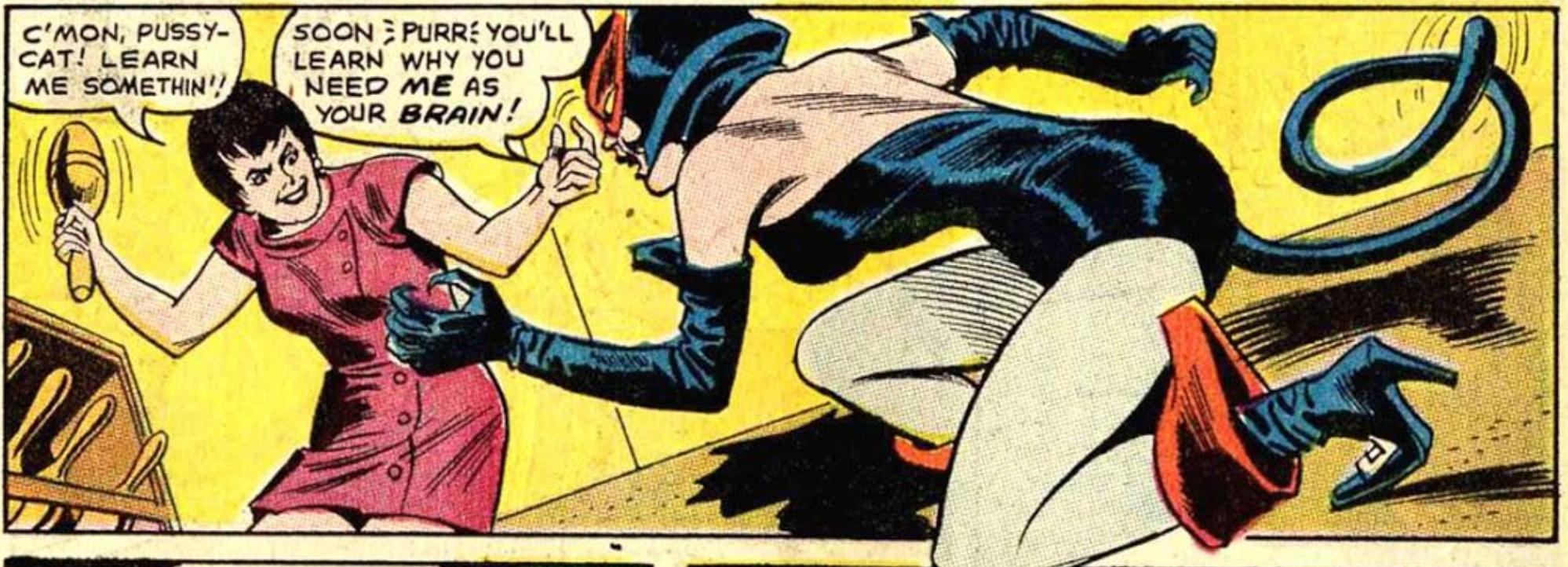
I'LL PUT YOU  
IN FIGHTING  
TRIM, TEACH  
YOU ALL MY  
TRICKS!

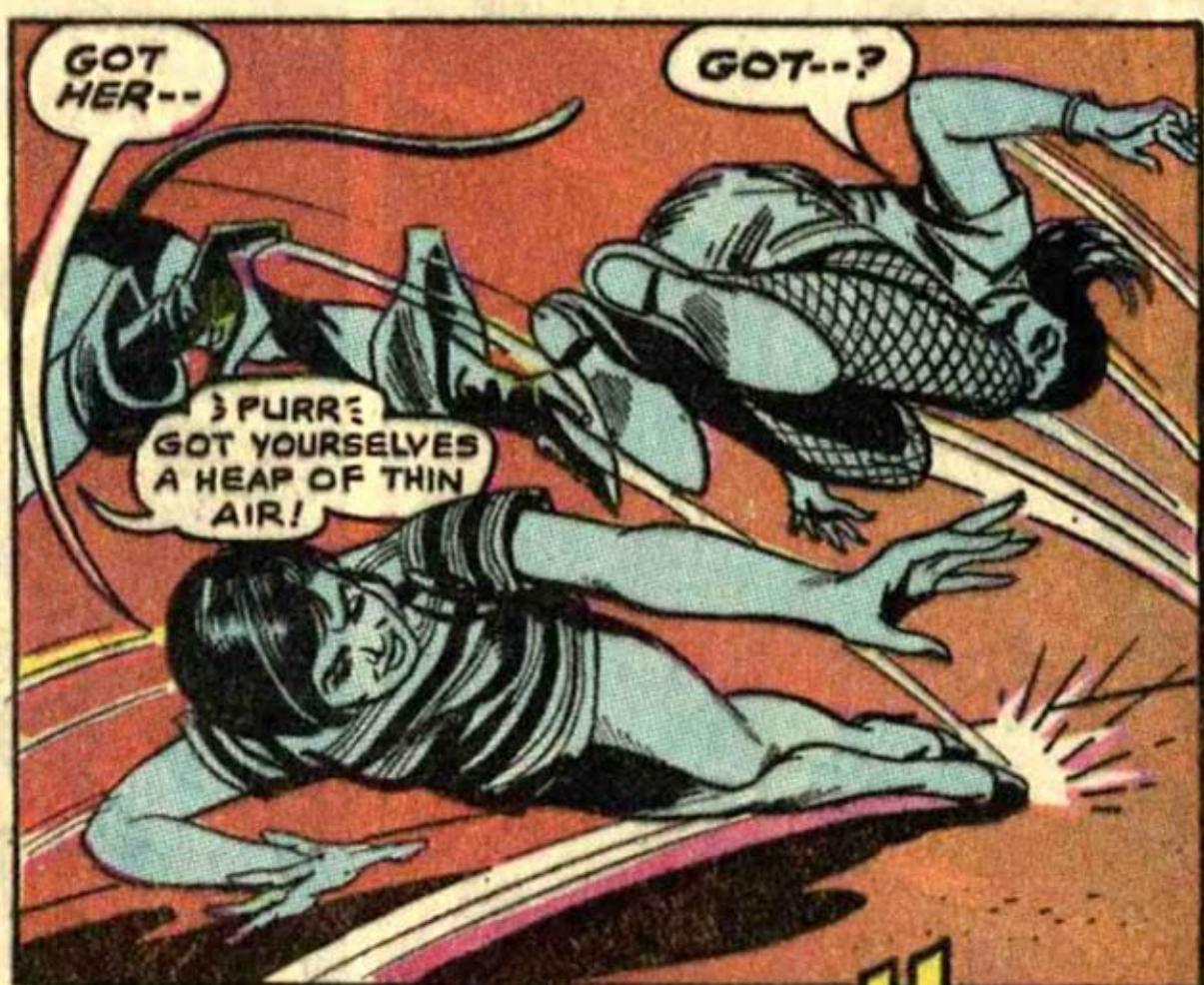
TOGETHER WE  
SHALL BE AS ONE  
**CAT WOMAN**--  
WITH NINE LIVES!  
YOU THE BODY--  
I THE HEAD!  
WHAT'S YOUR  
ANSWER?

I DON'T KNOW! SOME  
MEN I JUST DIG THE  
MOST!

AW, SHE'S JUST AN  
EX-CON, LIKE US!  
WHAT CAN SHE  
TEACH US WE DON'T  
ALREADY KNOW?

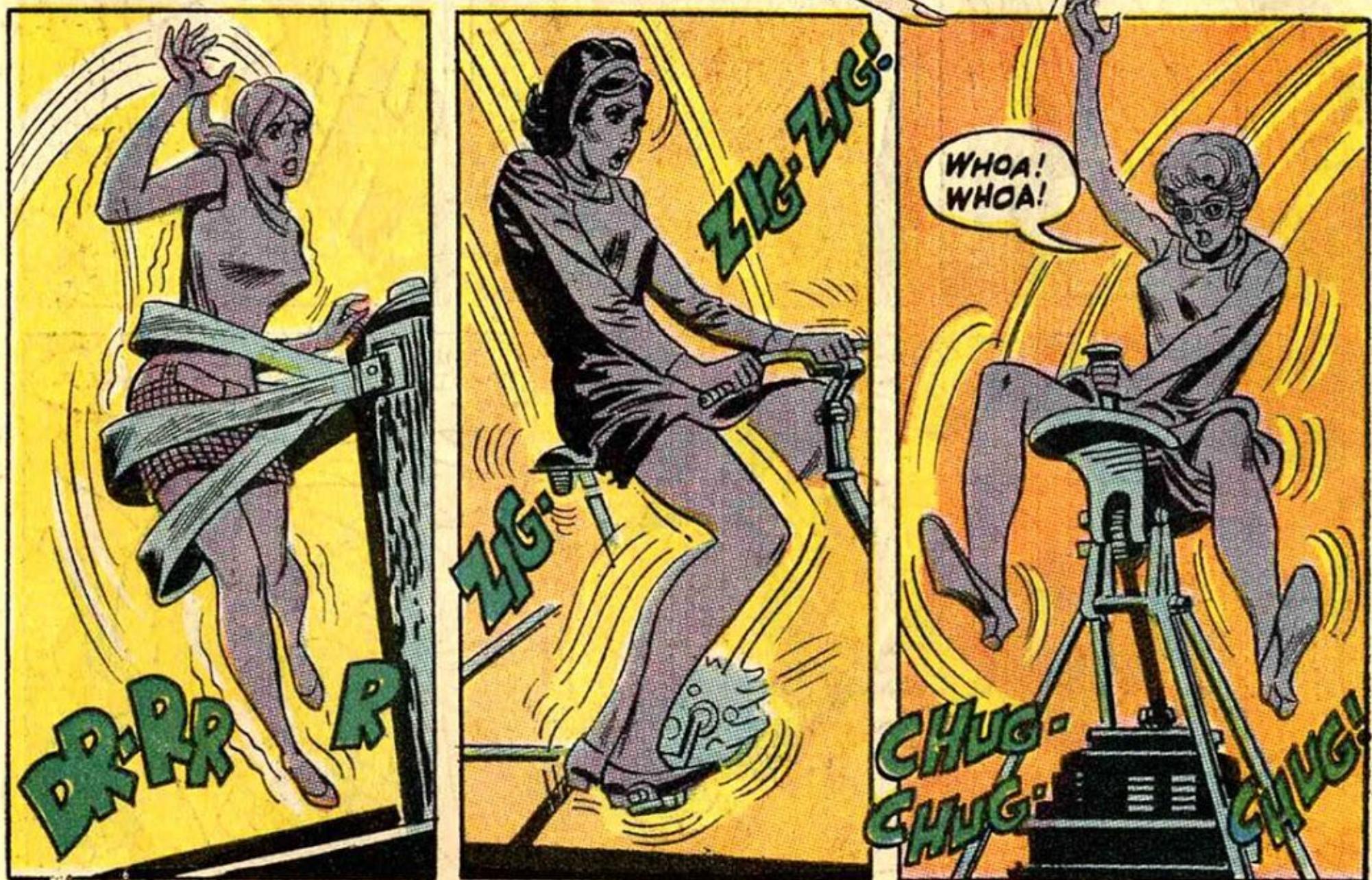
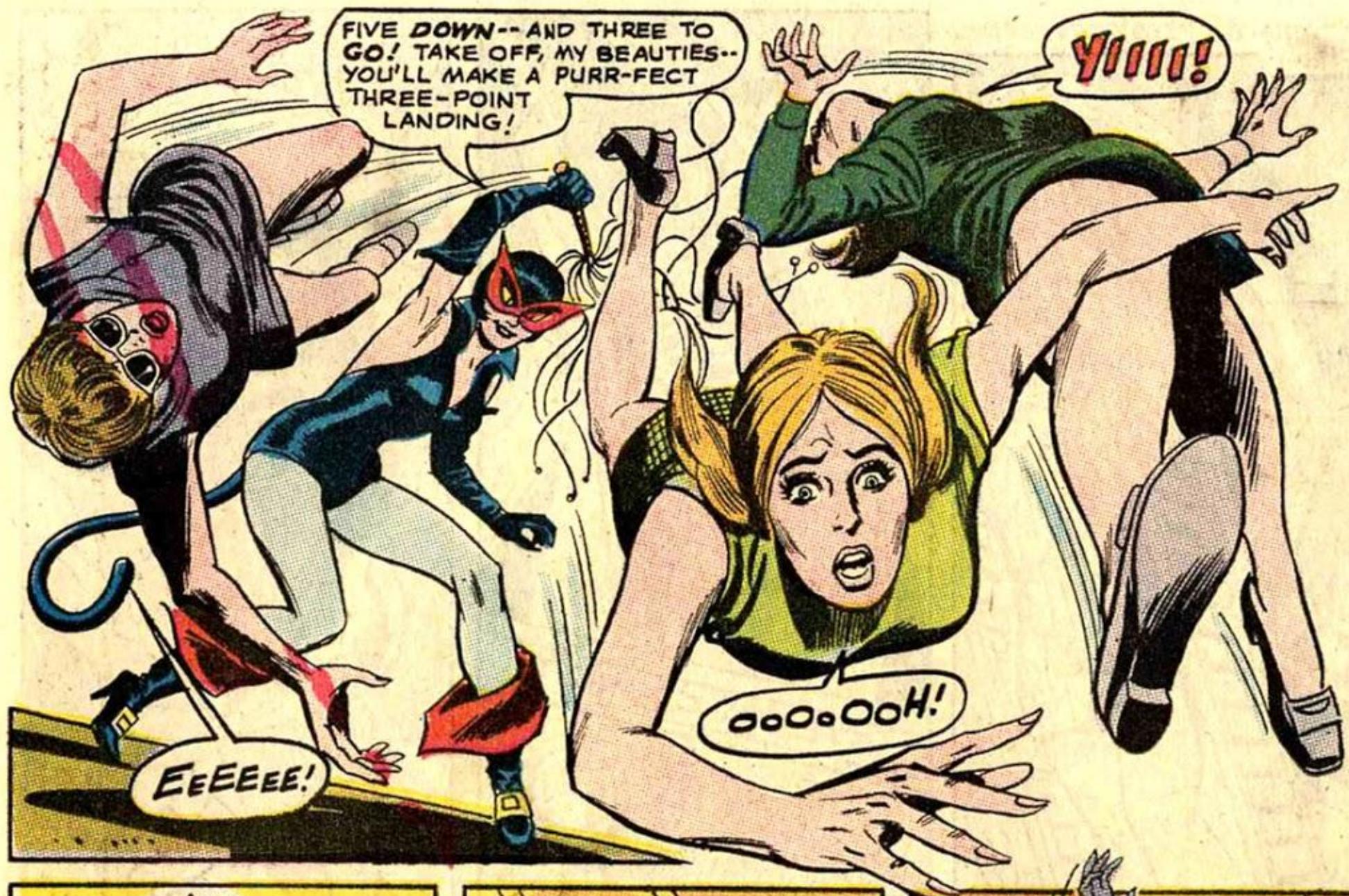
YE-AH! I LIKE  
T'SEE HER  
THROW ME  
FOR A LOSS!





AND THEN--THE ALLEY-CAT BRAWL  
IS ON...







QUICKLY, CATWOMAN DESCENDS TO HER CATAcomb-LAIR BENEATH THE SALON...

WELL, PURRE TWO CAN PLAY AT THAT CAT-AND-MOUSE GAME! ESPECIALLY, WHEN THE CATS OUTNUMBER THE MICE NINE-TO-TWO!

LET'S INSPECT OUR NEW FELINE FURIES, SLINKY!



SWITCHING ON HER TV MAGNA-MONITOR...

...THE OFFICIAL ENTOURAGE HAS JUST REACHED...

...WAYNE MANSION, WHERE BATMAN HOPES TO PREVENT ME FROM PURR-LOINING THE NIZAM'S PURR-ICELESS PEARL!

AH-H-A MOST PALATIAL RESIDENCE, TUAN WAYNE! I ALREADY FEEL AT HOME!

THANK YOU, YOUR LORDSHIP! AS YOU CAN SEE, EXTRAORDINARY SECURITY MEASURES WILL ENSURE YOUR SAFE VISIT!



LATER, AFTER  
THE OFFICIAL  
WELCOMERS  
HAVE LEFT...

YAWNE IT HAS BEEN A MOST  
AUSPICIOUS BEGINNING TO OUR  
TOUR OF YOUR FANTASTIC  
COUNTRY, TUAN WAYNE!  
BUT NOW, "WE" ARE  
TIRED...

UNDERSTANDABLY,  
SIR! YOU CAN REST  
ASSURED...OF AN  
ASSURED REST!

IN THE SHADOWS ACROSS FROM THE WAYNE ESTATE...

THE STAGE IS SET! THE NIZAM  
SLEEPS IN THE MASTER-  
BEDROOM--AND AS  
SOON AS ALL ARE  
ASLEEP...

HOW WILL  
EVEN THESE  
PURR-FECT  
FELINE FELONS  
PIERCE THE  
DEFENSES OF  
A POLICE  
CORDON AND  
DEFEAT THE  
BRILLIANT  
DEFENSIVE  
WITS OF  
BATMAN  
AND  
ROBIN?

...WE FELINE FURIES  
WILL PURR-PETRATE  
THE PURR-FECT  
CRIME!

PAWS NOW  
FOR TWO  
PAGES.

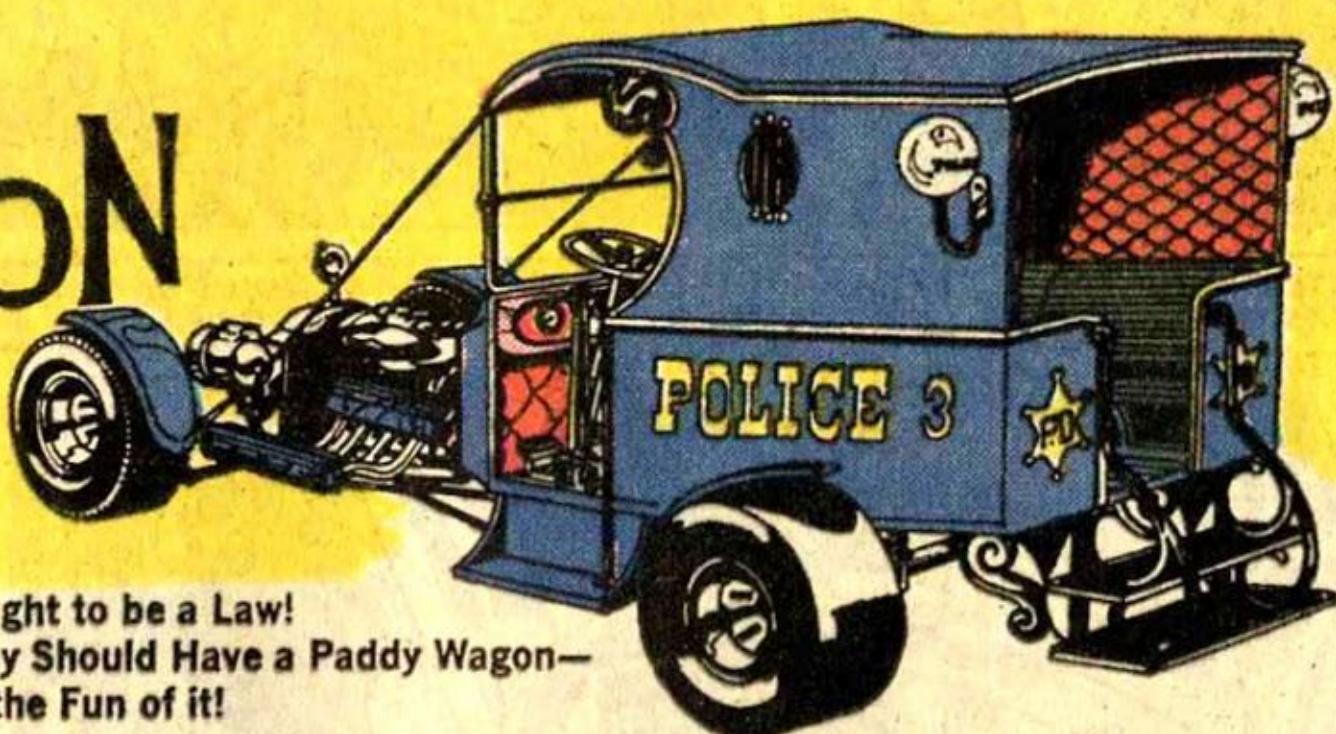
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# PADDY WaGON

The newest and grooviest FUN MACHINE in the  
Monogram exciting Rod and Drag model series!



There Ought to be a Law!  
Everybody Should Have a Paddy Wagon—  
Just for the Fun of it!



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**Monogram**  
quality hobby kits



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Get a Paddy Wagon at Your Favorite Store

# FREE!

## 1001 THINGS FREE!

A list that tells you where to send for free samples. Books, foreign stamps, coins, maps, showtickets, toys, films, posters, etc. They are yours for the asking. Hundreds of \$\$\$ worth of free offers.

No. F-12 ..... only 50c

3 lists ..... for only \$1.00



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### SURPRISE PACKAGE

Surprise packages that will give you a thrill. We guarantee you more than your money's worth. No. F-18 only 50c



### SECRET SPY SCOPE

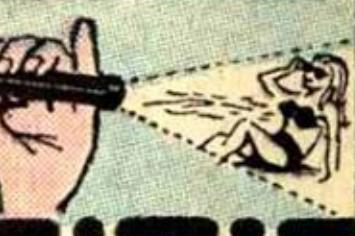
Full 6-power pocket pen-size field magnifier lets you 'peek' to your hearts content, watch sporting events, races. Incl 30-power full microscope to thrill naturalists. Full money back guarantee if not satisfied. No. F-25 ..... only \$2.98



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People will think your voice is coming from anywhere -- but from you! Instrument fits in your mouth, out of sight -- fool your teachers, friends, family. Free book on 'How to become a Ventriloquist'.

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only 25c



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No. F-17 only 20c



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BOX 826 NIAGARA FALLS, N.Y. 14302**

RUSH ME THE ITEMS LISTED BELOW. If I am not 100% delighted, I may return any part of my purchase after the 10 day free trial for full refund.

ITEM NO.	NAME OF ITEM	HOW MANY	TOTAL PRICE

I enclose \_\_\_\_\_ plus 15¢ postage and shipping in cash, cheque or money order.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

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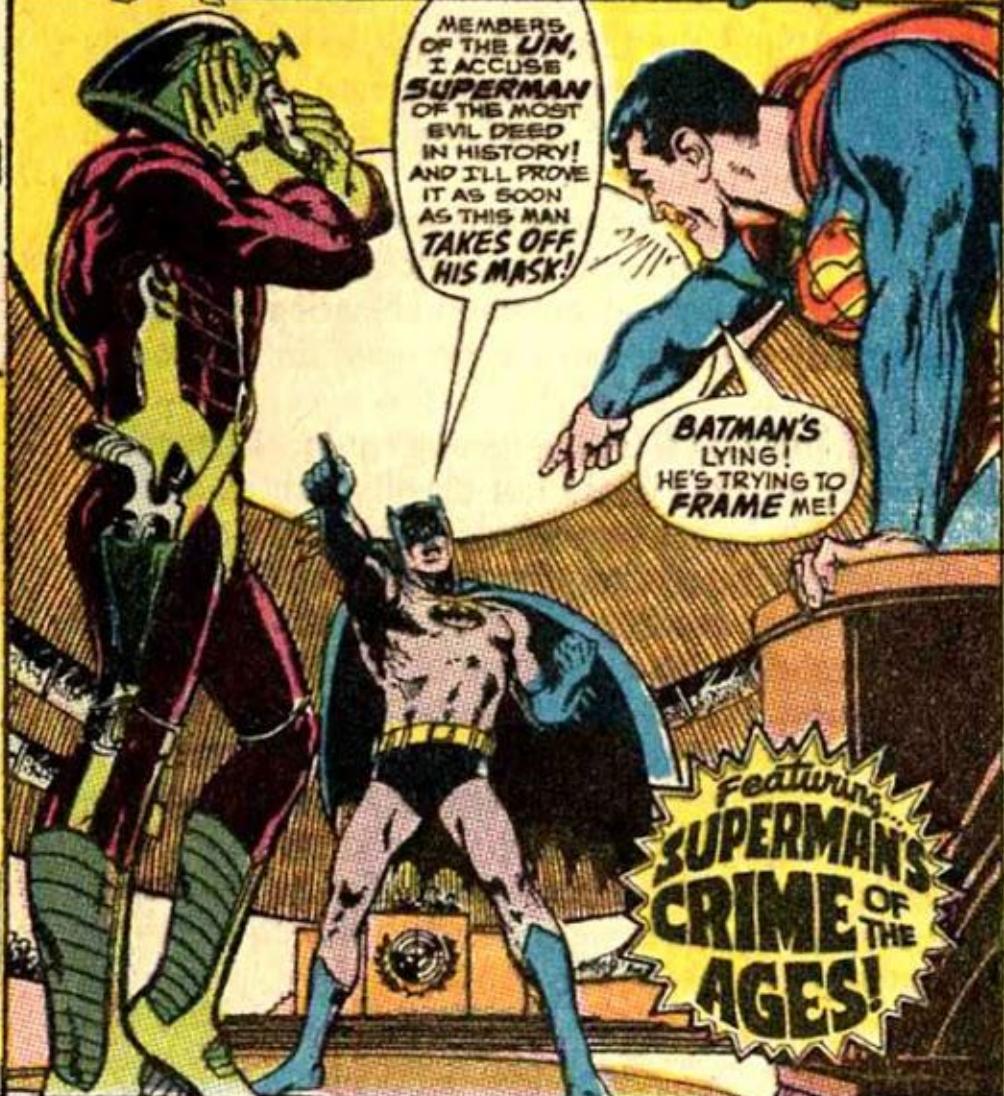
Enclose 10c for Catalogue.

# THE ACCUSED... **SUPERMAN!**

# THE ACCUSER... **BATMAN!**

## THE CHARGE A MAJOR CRIME AGAINST THE **HUMAN RACE!**

## YOU BE THE JURY



# LETTERS TO THE BATCAVE

Dear Editor:

*Stupendous!* — is the only word to describe Batman #206. It was, in my estimation, *the greatest Batman story ever written*. Perhaps the points I enjoyed most about "Batman Walks the Last Mile" were (1): the story took place for the most part at night, the proper setting for any Batman-and-Robin story; (2): Batman made a mistake! Panel 5, page 18, was terrific! He's human! (3): I saw a criminal go to the electric chair! This may seem rather morbid, but I am tired of seeing murderers simply getting a prison sentence. Some *do* go to the electric chair, and I was pleased to see that you brought out this point. Besides, if I were a citizen of Gotham City, I couldn't sleep at night knowing that the likes of Mr. Never were in Gotham Penitentiary with the "insecure" security at that place (recalling how many of Batman's arch-foes have managed to escape from that pen).

However, one thing disturbed me. After looking at the cover and reading the story, I wondered: Would DC ever stoop so low as to use one of your closest competitor's tricks by using a *misleading* cover? Here I pick up this comic mag expecting to see Batman in a perilous predicament—only to find it's a *criminal* in Batman-garb! Could DC ever commit such a grave sin against fandom? Then I realized your reason. At the end of the story, Mr. Never asked to die as Batman because he firmly believed that he was the Caped Crusader! Therefore, you were only respecting a dead man's last wish when you referred to him on the cover as *Batman*.

This story has my vote as the best story of the year!

— CAROLE-ANNE LOWE, Milford, Conn.

(After the many accusations of misleading covers leveled at us, what a pleasure to be complimented on a cover that at first sight figured to be grossly misleading, only to have it turn out in the story precisely the way as was cover-depicted! — Editor)

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Editor:

"Batman Walks the Last Mile" was an exceptionally entertaining script and my compliments to Frank Robbins, who apparently is diversifying his talents over an array of DC publications.

The Novick-Giella artwork was a winner all the way. The effect of the beautiful illustrations was highlighted by fine detail and good color combinations—colorful but not gaudy as can happen when operating on such a mode.

The Planner was a unique character in all respects, refreshingly so. One could not classify him as a thief, for clearly his intent was the demoralization and destruction of the Caped Crusader and his youthful counterpart. Even after reading the story I wasn't really sure what to formulate his accusation of "Batman brain" as. It's my guess the author planned this, intentionally leaving a void blanket of wonderment for the reader.

Actually, the story left several questions evident—but satisfy, if you will, the major one in my mind. Why did Never receive a death sentence? I'm no law expert but it seems I heard somewhere that only murder (not attempted) can draw such a verdict.

— RON JENNINGS, Coronado, Cal.

(Never was given the "hot seat" because the jury found him guilty of "premeditated murder" (that of Batman);

the fact that the victim turned out to be "the Cat-Crook . . . unarmed . . . gunned down in cold blood!" didn't negate the commission of "Murder One". — Editor)

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Editor:

Congratulations! I'm glad to see that the number of puns spurted by Batman and Robin has at last gone down. There were only about four puns in all of Batman #206, and I hope this downward trend will continue.

It amazes me how Commissioner Gordon could believe the Planner's accusation against Batman, in spite of BM's apparent failure to solve crimes. In the beginning of the story, the commissioner is standing right there while Batman takes apart the clues to discover the criminal's identity. He sees B&R showing him the method Big Squat used to make it seem as if he hadn't left the stage. And what about all the other times the Caped Crusader solved crimes in front of Gordon? Surely he did not think Batman knew about the crime in advance? He knows better than that. I guess all we can say is that in the shock, being only human, the Commissioner forgot all of the previous things that Batman did. How often we forget some favors others did for us!

It's too bad that Planner was killed off. He could have teamed up with Johnny Witts and really have given the *Bat-Guy* an Excedrin headache. But at least you killed him in a good way. All criminals (well, most of 'em) are mentally disturbed in some way. Planner's shock at being caught in spite of his superb brain, wouldn't help any. Add to that the knowledge that his "brilliant" career will end by means of the "chair" soon . . . well, who wouldn't go off his rocker?

In closing, I would like to say that I hope we get more of Batman losing his cool. It makes him more human.

— JOE RUSNAK, Montville, N.J.

(If Batman is to lose his cool, would it be all right if Commissioner Gordon were to get hot under the collar? — Editor)

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Editor:

Oh, no!! Not Frank Robbins! After his disastrous job on the September ish, I thought I had wasted my 12¢ when I saw his name credited to "Batman Walks the Last Mile!"

He started out with a dull, boring beginning, the only good thing being Batman's outstanding deductive work, worked his way into an exciting and suspenseful time in Part 3. How Robbins can do that, I don't know. The story was great.

Well, Mr. Robbins cut down on the "hip talk" and gave us a truly dramatic yarn. That full-length scene on the final page knocked me out of my seat!

By the way, thanks for bringing back the EXTRA column. If I ever have anything to complain about, or anything really great to say, I'll write to it.

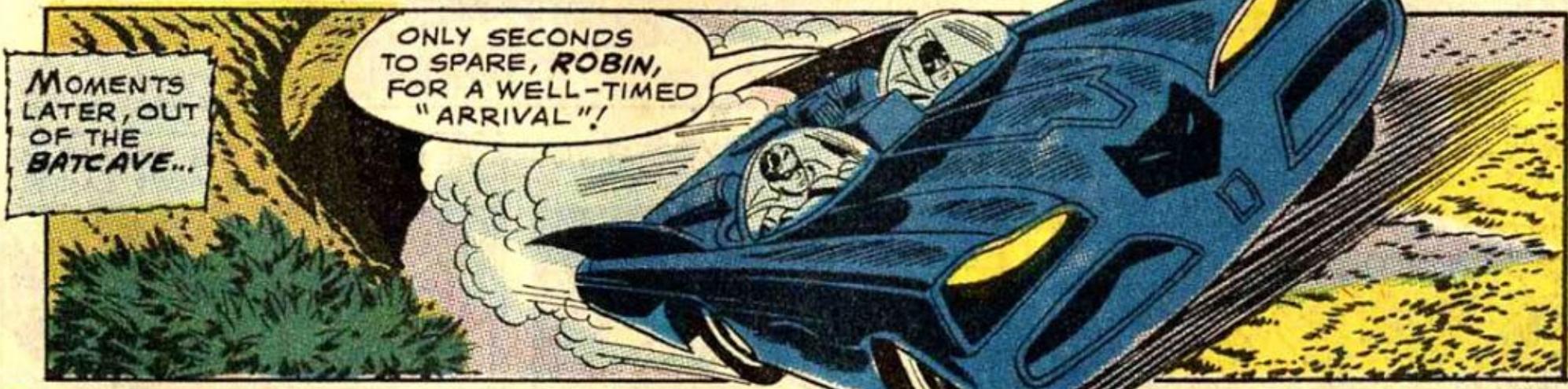
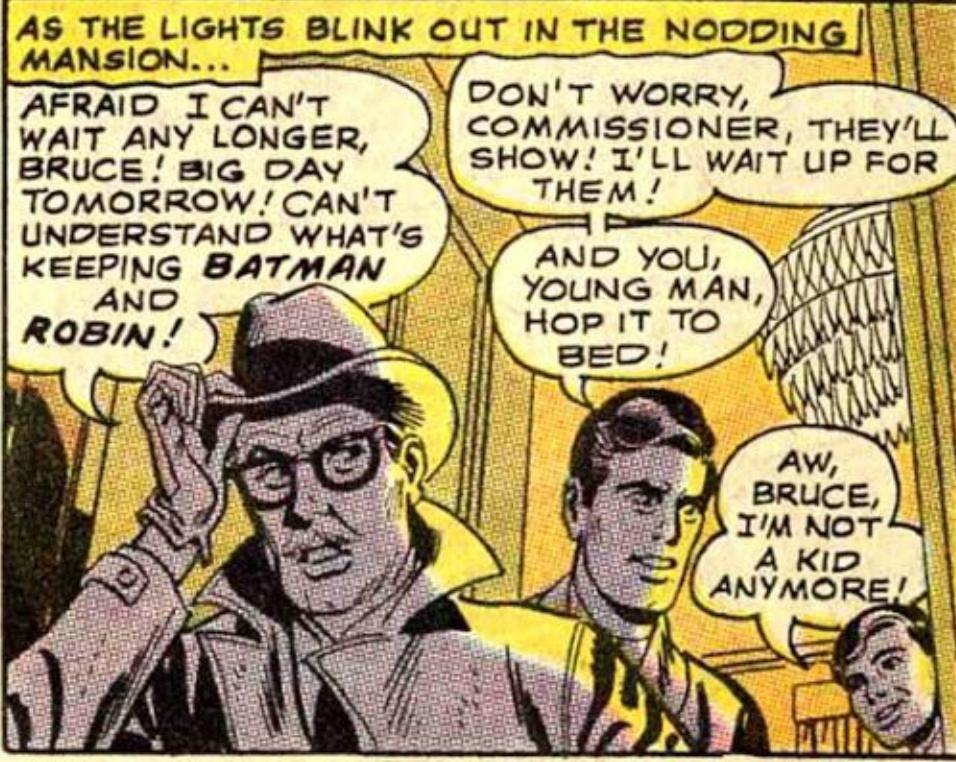
— STEVE GRABINSKY, Virginia Beach, Va.

(The EXTRA department will continue to appear whenever space and (editorial) time permit. There's an EXTRA in this issue — with Robbins monopolizing the discussion. It's recommended reading! — Editor)

\*\*\*\*\*

Address communications to LETTERS TO THE BATCAVE, National Periodical Publications, 909 Third Ave., New York, N.Y., 10022.

# "The Case of the PURR-LOINED Pearl!" PART 3



AS IF ON  
CAT'S PAWS,  
THE CATILLAC  
SILENTLY SPEEDS  
AROUND THE  
ESTATE WALLS...

ON YOUR MARK, MY FELINE  
FURIES! WE'RE ABOUT  
TO SPRING OUR DIVERSIONARY  
SURPRISE ON THE UNSUSPECTING  
MICE!

AND THEN,  
THE ROOF  
SLIDES BACK  
INTO THE  
WAITING  
TRUNK  
COMPARTMENT...

READY...  
SET...

WHEN I THROW  
THE SELECTION-  
EJECT LEVER...

WITHOUT SLOWING DOWN, CAT-  
WOMAN UNLEASHES HER  
SECRET WEAPON AT DISCREET  
INTERVALS!

AS ONE OF THE FELINE FURIES  
TOPS THE WALL IN A DEATH-  
DEFYING LEAP...

SHE DARTS INTO THE FOLIAGE AS  
A SECOND FELINE FURY LANDS.

...YOU GO  
OUT...ONE  
AT A TIME...  
HURLED BY  
MY CAT-APULT!



TAKE OVER,  
SULTRY  
SARAH!

MY PURR-  
LEASEURE,  
TIMID  
TRIXIE! I  
DIG MEN  
TH' MOST!



QUICKLY WHIPPING  
OUT HER  
CAT-O-NINE  
TAILS...

TRIPPED...!

A SWITC  
IN TIME SA  
NINE!

ZWTT!

CONTINUED ON THE FOLLOWING

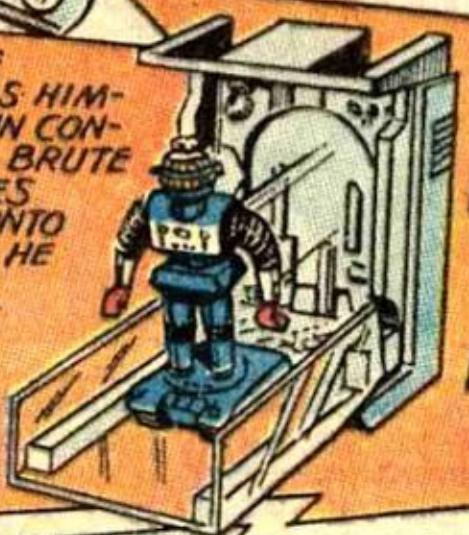
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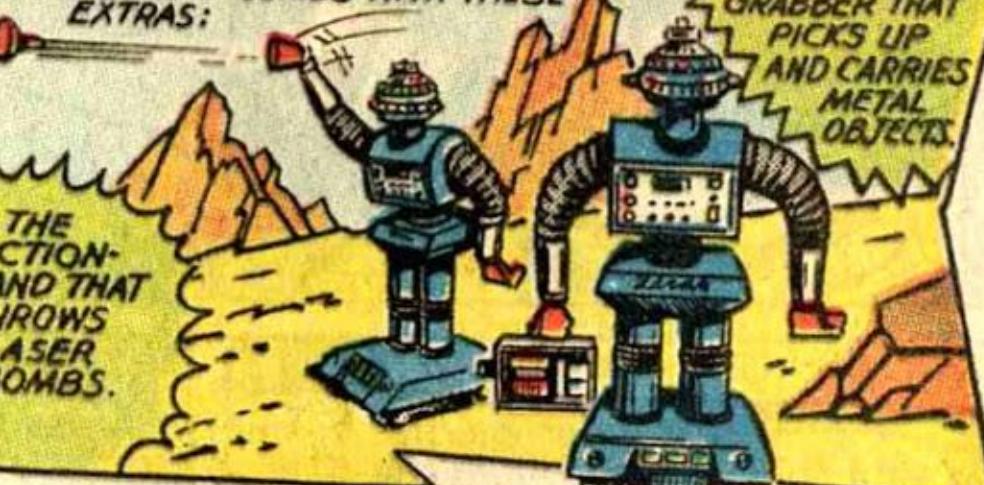
MOVING ACROSS THE  
LANDSCAPE, OVERRUNNING  
OBSTACLES, THESE AMAZING,  
FEARLESS AND POWERFUL  
AUTOMATONS HAVE BUT ONE  
PURPOSE... TO SERVE  
THEIR MASTERS--  
**YOU!**

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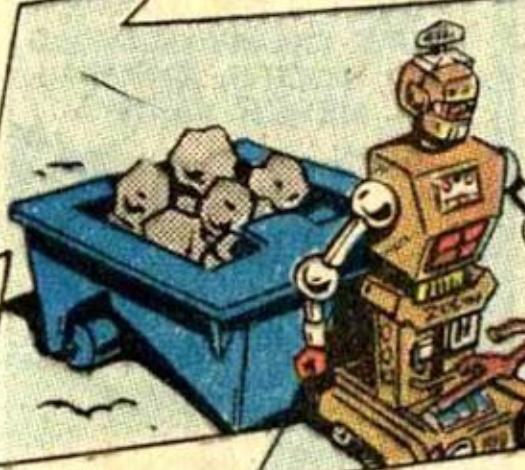


EACH ZEROID COMES WITH THESE EXTRAS:

THE ACTION-HAND THAT THROWS LASER BOMBS.



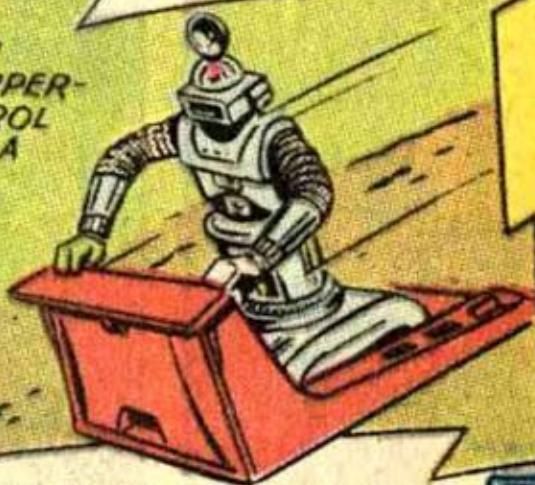
ZOBOR, THE BRONZE TRANSPORT ROBOT, HAS SPECIAL-DUTY GRABBING-HOOKS. HIS CONTROL STATION BECOMES A COSMOBILE FOR HAULING HEAVY LOADS.



NO TRANSPORTING JOB IS TOO TOUGH FOR ZOBOR.



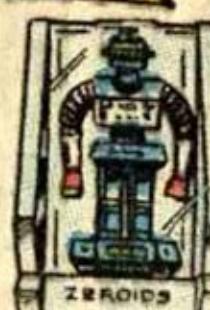
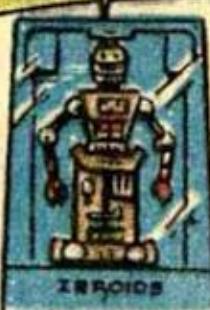
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THE ZERODIDS...  
BROUGHT TO EARTH BY

IDEAL

AT ANOTHER SECTION OF THE WALL...



AND, AT YET ANOTHER SPOT...



STOP HER! IT'S CATWOMAN!



MUST BE ONE OF HER CAT-TRICKS, ROBIN!

SHE GOT THROUGH! HOW..?

I'D BETTER STAND GUARD HERE--SO YOU TAKE HER!

IS THIS THE REAL CATWOMAN-- OR ONE OF HER FRAUDULENT FAKES?

YOU'VE SPRUNG ONE TRICK TOO MANY, MY FELINE FELON!

R-R-RROWR! SPTTT!

HA! WE DIDN'T THINK SO! FOR AROUND THE CORNER...

SPURR WITH SUCTION CUPS ON MY GLOVES AND BOOTS, BATMAN WILL NEVER KNOW...





\* A NEW WEAPON IN *CATWOMAN'S* GROWING  
ARSENAL! ELECTRONICALLY-ENHANCED LENSES  
THAT ENABLE HER TO SEE IN THE DARK LIKE HER  
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WITH CAT-LIKE DEFTNESS,  
CATWOMAN LIFTS THE PRECIOUS  
PEARL WITHOUT DISTURBING  
THE SLEEPING NIZAM! ...

SLEEP SOUNDLY, O WITLESS  
COURIER FROM 'HEE! HEE!'  
KAT-MANDU!



AS SHE STEPS AWAY, WITH EYES  
ONLY FOR HER PURR-LOINED  
PEARL, SHE FAILS TO SEE...



OH-H, I'M SORRY, KITTY! WE  
GIRLS HAVE TO STICK TOGETHER!

WHAT'S THIS? A YARN-  
TRAP TO TRIP ME UP--  
ARRANGED BY THAT  
SUPER-RAT...  
BATMAN?



LUCKILY, I  
JUST MISSED  
GETTING TANGLED  
IN THIS CAT'S  
CRADLE, ON MY  
WAY IN! TRICKY LAD,  
THAT CAD!



GROGGY, BUT  
ROUSED FROM  
HIS STUPOR BY  
THE FRIGHTENED  
KITTEH'S SCREAM,  
BATMAN  
REACHES OUT  
AND...

EEEEEEK!  
SPTTT!



WITH A FELINE SEVENTH SENSE,  
CATWOMAN BREAKS HER FALL  
WITH HER HANDS!

KRUNCH!

THE PURR-  
EARL?!

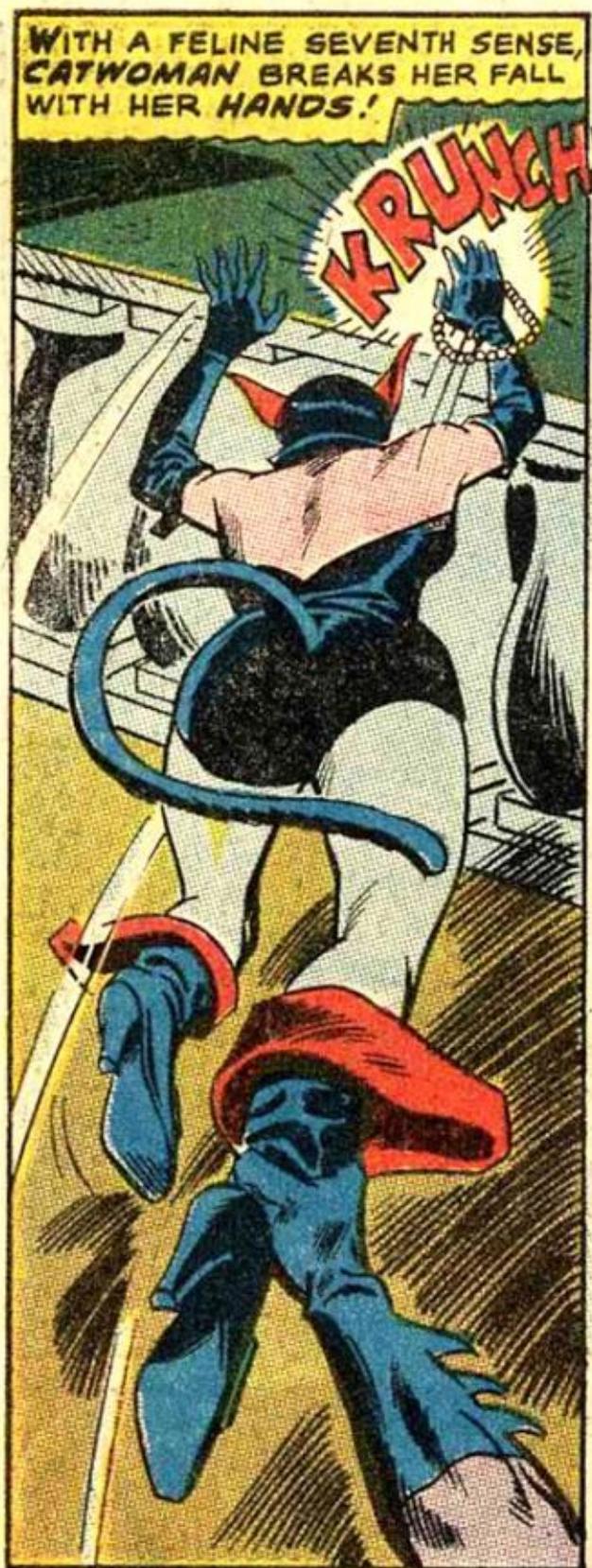
IT'S PHONEY!  
A PASTE  
REPLICA...!

PRECISELY!

YOU DIDN'T THINK  
I'D JUST LET YOU  
SLINK IN AND  
SLINK OUT--

YOU RAT-BAT!  
I'LL TEAR YOU  
INTO RIBBONS!

WHERE'S THE  
REAL PEARL?



IN A FRENZY, THE FRUSTRATED FELINE FRANTICALLY FLAYS AWAY AT THE DANCING BALL, AS THE SHREDDED STRANDS STRANGELY CLING TO HER RAPACIOUS CLAWS...

WHERE ISPTT:  
IS IT ARROW?

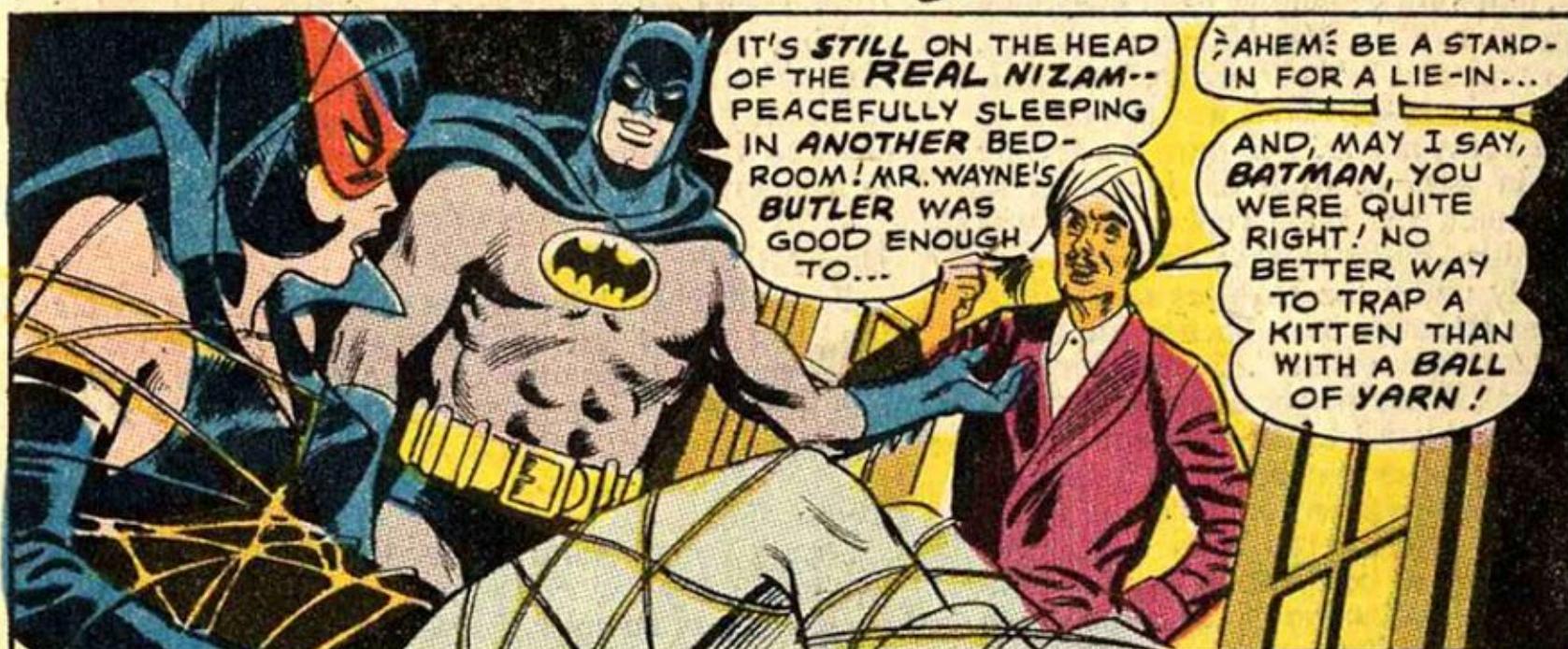


IN MOMENTS, CATWOMAN LIES HELPLESS, A VICTIM OF HER OWN GREED--IN A WEB OF HER OWN MAKING!

THE PEARL IS WHERE IT BELONGS! WHERE YOU CAN'T GET AT IT, SINCE I TOOK THE PRECAUTION TO WIND THAT YARN AROUND A CORE...

...OF THE STICKIEST PLASTIC GOO I COULD FIND!

:SPTT!: BUT WHERE--?

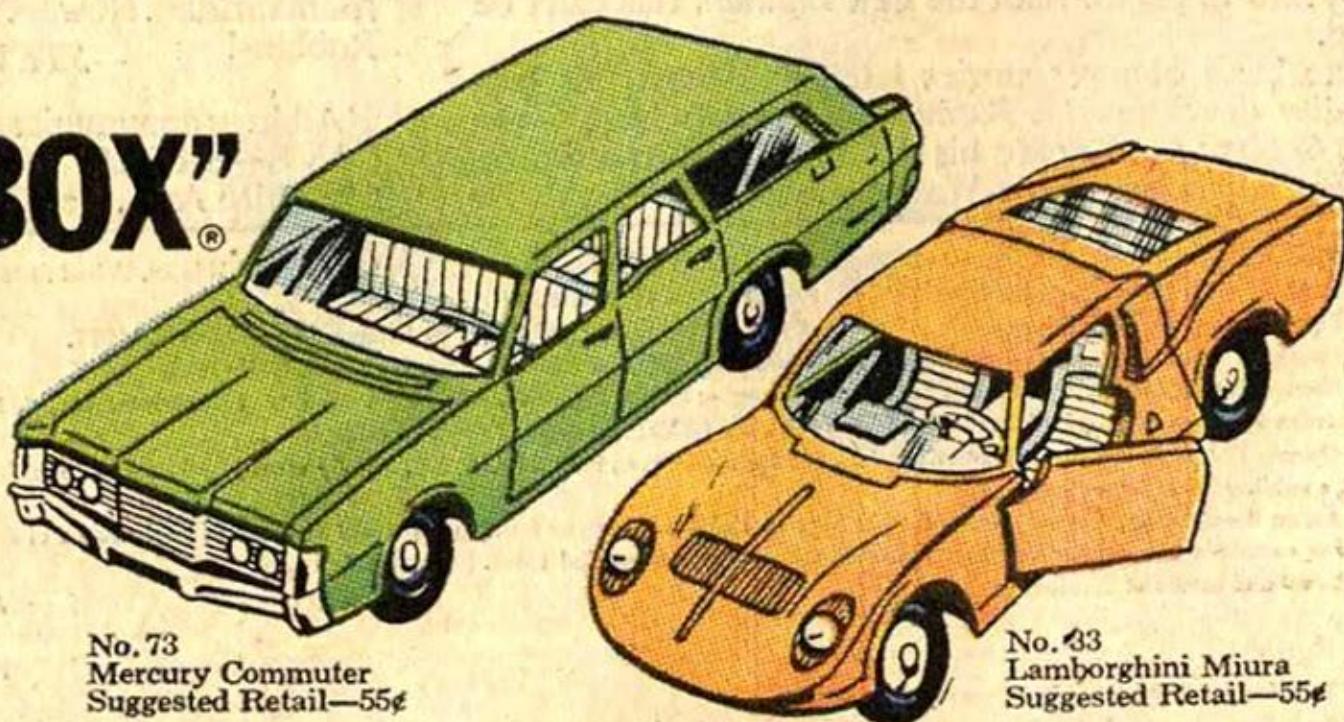


THEIR "HEAD"  
CUT OFF,  
THE  
REMAINING  
FELINE FURIES  
SURRENDER  
LIKE DOCILE  
KITTENS,  
BRINGING A  
FITTING  
FINALE TO  
THIS  
CAT-O-NINE  
TALES!

The End.

23

# NEW "MATCHBOX" MODELS OF THE MONTH.



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# LETTERS TO THE BATCAVE--EXTRA

Dear Editor:

Batman has long been my favorite comic mag character and very rarely do I have any major gripes about his handling. I wasn't overly fond of Gil Kane's interpretation of the *Caped Crusader* . . . but that soon departed. I protested the elimination of *Alfred* . . . but he's back. I disliked *Detective Patricia Powell* . . . but we've seen neither hide nor hair of the lady in lo these many years. So, I suppose the greatest gripe this reader has held against the name of *Batman* was the time I was almost hit by the *Batmobile* while walking by the 20th Century-Fox Studios. (Irony! I'd just purchased some of your competitor's comics and while waiting for the light to change, I'd decided to read all of the non-padded parts—finished with six seconds to spare!)

Thus, I am subtly leading up to my major gripe—*Frank Robbins*. Robbins is a good writer and DC was lucky to get hold of him. But whoever decided to put Robbins on *Batman* (and *Flash*) ought to turn in his *Superman of America* pin. A good character needs not only a good writer, but also the right writer. Robbins' writing isn't right—Robbins' writing reads rotten.

*Batman* is a creature of the night. You know that and I know that . . . but somebody forgot to take the message to Frank Robbins who seems to be interpreting the *Batman* character as a straight super-hero. To me, the name *Batman* means a fearless aid to law and order who prowls the streets of *Gotham City* and retains an aura of mystery . . . and aura which has been dwindling faster than Indians at a *Tomahawk-Ranger* meeting. This aura has been replaced by "personality" which is the worst substitution since *Star Trek* was pre-empted by some vintage Doris Day movie. This aura is a feeling which was present in *Batman* from his inception to around 1961 when much the same replacement was attempted and personified by *Batwoman*, *Bat-Mite*, *Bat-etc.* It returned briefly under the auspices of the new look but has faded as attempts have been made to replace it with a blatant "personality". In this case, it has amounted to making Bruce Wayne a semi-swinger.

I maintain that the *Batman* I know—the one originated 30 years ago—would never conform to a fad like the turtleneck sweater he was shown in, recently. Bruce is a mature adult and, for all intents, so's Dick Grayson. There is no need for pages to be spent on *Batman* himself—as Bruce Wayne or as *Batman* facing some crisis. The strongest element which *Batman* has going for him has always been plotting. Be it a rousing fight or a clever mystery, your staff has always been able to put a good story into 13 pages. With the new *Batman*, this can't be done.

The basis of most stories lately has been this personality development. *Batman* and *Robin* have "split up". *Batman* must prove his detecting skill to a doubting *Gotham City*. Bruce Wayne has gotten "married".

*Batman* has been "arrested". What in the name of Two-Face is wrong with *Batman* fighting crime, once in a while? His greatest struggles lately have been of the man-versus-society variety.

The most personality development can come from the least amount of attempt. In order to be effective, personality development must be subtle. It seems that all too-many comics readers (especially those who patronize the competition) see subtle personality development as a lack of any. Maybe they read your comics too fast . . . but I should hope that would be no reason for you—who have produced the best in comics for over 20 years—to begin to cater to an audience who has to have the meaning of every element in your comics explained at great length. Novick-Brown-Giella are supplying you with the best *Batman* art in a long time. Let's have some appropriate stories to go with it.

I'm talking about murder mysteries and *Penguin-Joker* battles. I'm talking about the *Batmobile* speeding through *Gotham* at midnight and the dark figure of *Batman* slipping out to fell a robber band . . . then slipping away into the darkness. I'm talking about *Gothamites* looking at *Batman* . . . and wondering who he is . . . where he comes from . . . what he's really like. I'm urgently talking about putting suspense, mystery, and—most of all—plots into *Batman*. Get the "super-hero" out, and the "detective" in!

— MARK EVANIER, Los Angeles, Cal.  
(If you were echoing the unanimous (or even majority) opinion on Robbins-a la Batman, we'd be all shook up. But such is not the case, we're relieved to say—or rather as say the follow-up critics, typical of scores upon scores of those who have written in a similar favorable vein.—Editor)

\* \* \* \* \*

Dear Editor:

Frank Robbins has given us some intriguing scripts in the latest four issues of *Batman* and *Detective*. He combines the most accurate touches of intrigue, mystery, and realism in his tales. Never before have I seen so many subplots and twists in *Batman* stories.

— BRADELY ANDERSON, Milwaukee, Wis.

Dear Editor:

I can't figure Frank Robbins out. First, he wrote a two-part story for *Flash* that was b-a-d. Then he did some *Batman* un-epics that were almost as bad. Then I read two new stories by him in the same week that are some of the best I've ever read: "Marital-Bliss Miss" (*Detective* 380) and "Batman Walks the Last Mile" (*Batman* 206). Now let's go for three in a row from Frank Robbins!

— STEVE CARLBERG, Shreveport, La.

\* \* \* \* \*

Address communications to LETTERS TO THE BATCAVE—EXTRA, National Periodical Publications, 909 Third Ave., New York, N.Y., 10022.

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386	386
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941,000	800,000

I certify that the statements made by me above are correct and complete. BERNARD KASHDAN, Business Manager.

she's all *Girl*...she's all *Super*..  
she's **SUPERGIRL!**



ON  
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JAN. 1<sup>st</sup>

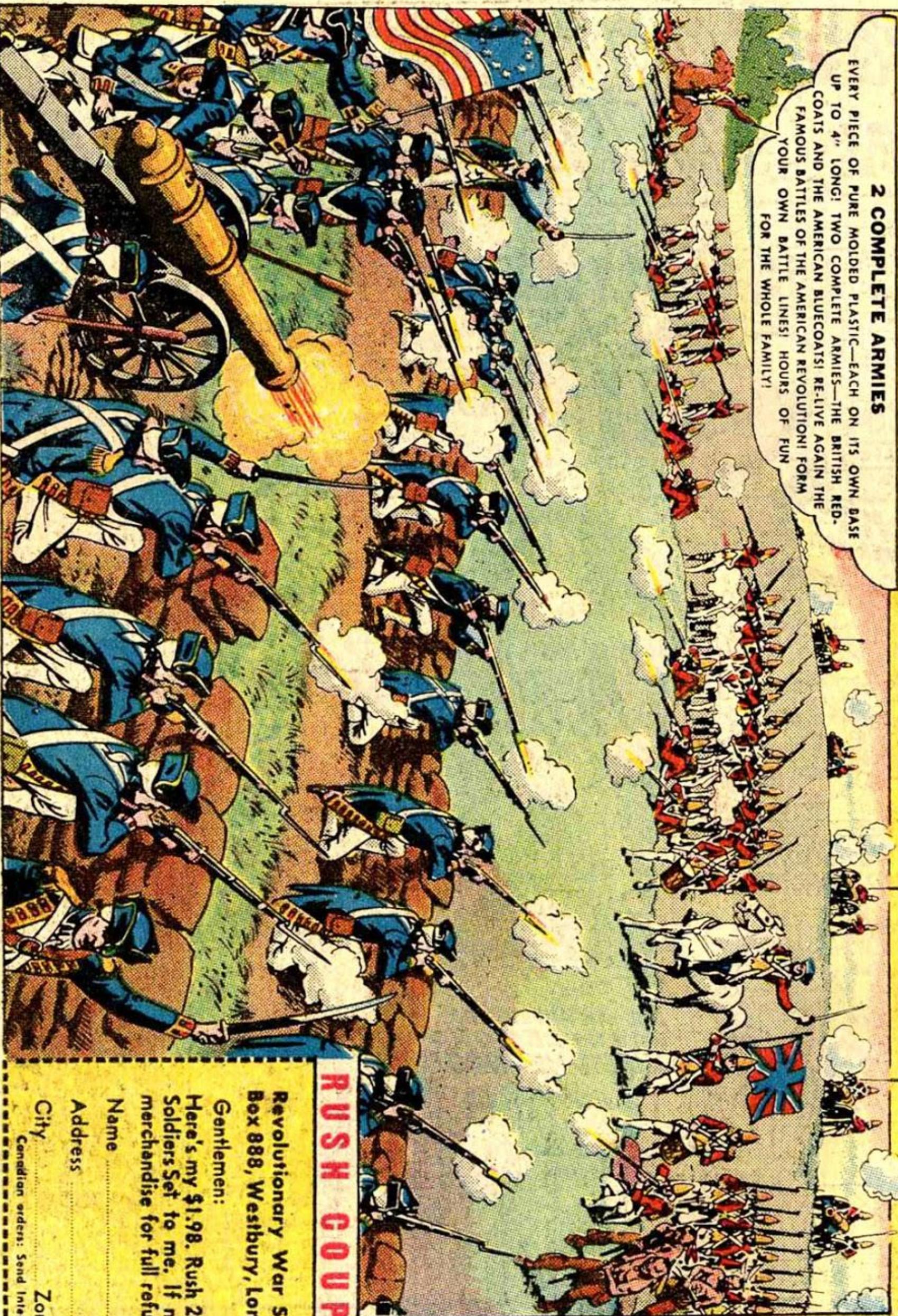
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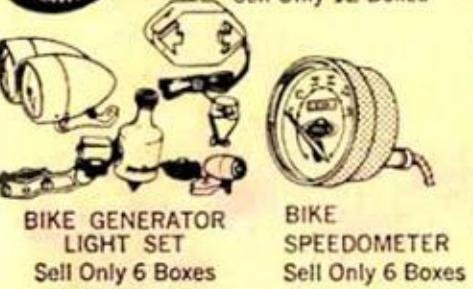
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SR. CHEMISTRY LAB  
Sell Only 7 Boxes



POLAROID  
SWINGER CAMERA  
Sell Only 16 Boxes



MINI-BIKE  
Sell Only 70 Boxes

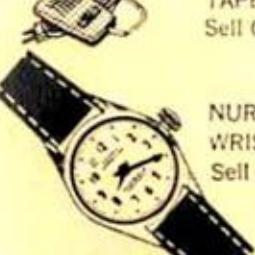
OVERNIGHT  
SLEEPING BAG  
Sell Only 7 Boxes



TRANSISTOR  
TAPE RECORDER  
Sell Only 12 Boxes



SR.  
MICROSCOPE LAB  
Sell Only 7 Boxes



NURSE'S  
WRIST WATCH  
Sell Only 6 Boxes



GIANT  
TELESCOPE  
Sell Only 12 Boxes

G.E. PHONOGRAPH  
Sell Only 12 Boxes



HI-RISER  
FUN BIKE  
Sell Only 24 Boxes



ELECTRIC BUILD-IT SET  
Sell Only 7 Boxes

CUT OUT • FILL IN • MAIL NOW • NO STAMP NEEDED

(PRINT CLEARLY)

FOLD  
on  
dotted line

SEAL  
(paste,  
staple  
or tape) ▾

FROM

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

FIRST CLASS  
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Windsor Locks  
Connecticut



BUSINESS REPLY MAIL  
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PICK THE PRIZES you'd like to have! Then join the Olympic Sales Club and see how easy it is to get these and other Famous Name Prizes! Or, keep BIG CASH PROFITS if you'd rather, \$1.00 for every box you sell! You get prizes or profits AT ABSOLUTELY NO COST TO YOU.

■ ALL YOU DO is sell Olympic's beautiful Everyday Selections — the lovely new Olympic All-Occasion Card and Note Ensemble for 1969, the All-Birthday Assortment, popular fast selling stationery assortments, smart gift wrappings and attractive gifts. Wherever you call, people will be thrilled with the new Olympic line — and the price of just \$2.75 a box will make sales a snap! Sell enough boxes to get the prize you select, or keep \$1.00 for each box sold.

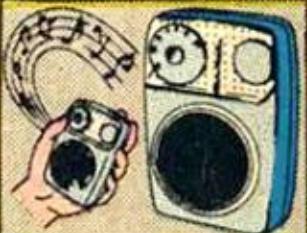
■ TO JOIN THE CLUB, fill in and mail the postcard. No postage is required! We'll send you — ABSOLUTELY FREE — the Olympic All-Occasion Sales Kit, Membership Card and FREE PRIZE CATALOG. You pay nothing! You owe nothing! Just show your sales kit to prospects — and start taking orders! Don't wait.

BE FIRST IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD — JOIN OLYMPIC NOW!

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COMPLETE FISHING OUTFITS



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BASKETBALL &amp; GOAL



"I sell American Seeds every year."

Joel Ballenger  
Washington



"It's an easy way to get money and prizes."

Mary Zimmerman  
Wisconsin



"They sell as fast as I can show them."

William Hanlin  
Missouri



CROQUET SET



GUITAR-AMP COMBO



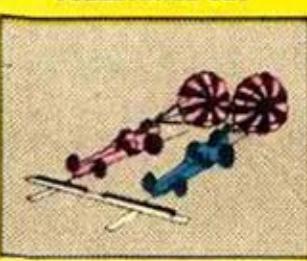
WRIST WATCHES



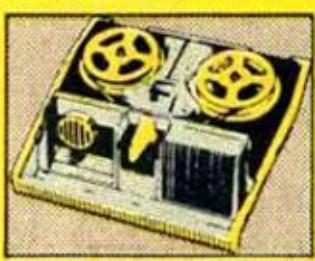
VOLLEYBALL SET



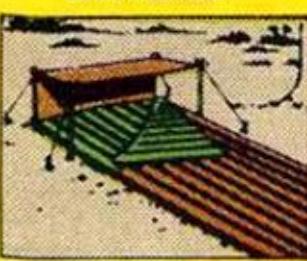
GIRL'S TRAVEL CASE



DRAG RACE SET



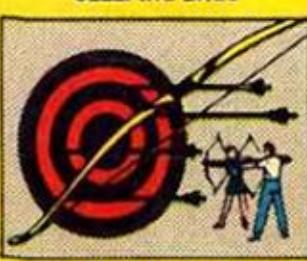
TAPE RECORDER



SLEEPING BAGS



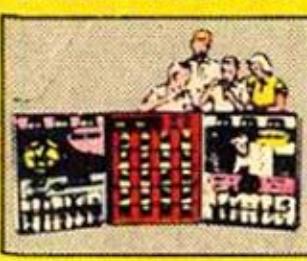
10-POWER TELESCOPE



COMPLETE ARCHERY SETS



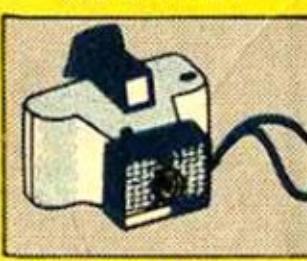
MODEL ROCKETRY



CHEMISTRY SETS



SPORT BIKES



POLAROID CAMERA



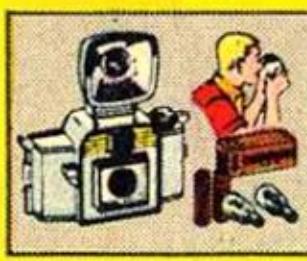
JR. TYPEWRITER



MICROSCOPE SETS



FOUR PLAYER BADMINTON



FLASH CAMERA OUTFITS

# MAKE MONEY GET PRIZES

## with Fast Selling American Seeds

Take your choice of 100 wonderful prizes. You can earn as many as you want. Most prizes shown here and many more in our Big Prize Book are given WITHOUT COST for selling just one 45-pack order of American Vegetable and Flower Seeds at 20c a pack. Some of the larger prizes require more sales or extra money as explained in the Big Prize Book.

### Send NO MONEY, We Trust You

Everybody wants American Seeds. They're fresh and ready to grow. You'll sell them quickly to family, friends and neighbors. Many boys and girls sell their packs in one day. You can too—and get your prize at once. Or, if you want money instead of a prize, keep \$3.00 for every 45-pack order you sell.

### USE THESE COUPONS ONLY

To order your seeds, fill out one of these coupons and mail in an envelope to:

**AMERICAN  
SEED CO.**

Dept. 934

Lancaster, Pa. 17604  
OUR 51st YEAR



**MAIL ONE COUPON TODAY  
Give the Other to a Friend**

AMERICAN SEED CO., Dept. 934 Lancaster, Pa. 17604

Please send me your Big Prize Book and one order of 45 packs of American Seeds. I'll sell them at 20c a pack, send you the money and choose my prize. Send seeds checked.

All Flower Seeds

Mixed Vegetable and Flower Seeds

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Town \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

AMERICAN SEED CO., Dept. 934 Lancaster, Pa. 17604

Please send me your Big Prize Book and one order of 45 packs of American Seeds. I'll sell them at 20c a pack, send you the money and choose my prize. Send seeds checked.

All Flower Seeds

Mixed Vegetable and Flower Seeds

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Town \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

## EXTRA!

\$3,000 GIVEN AWAY in  
our Promptness Contest  
in addition to the prizes  
and money you  
earn selling seeds.

Complete information  
is sent with  
your Big Prize  
Book and Seeds.



SAVE FOR COLLEGE OR SPEND IT NOW!



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