



BATMAN

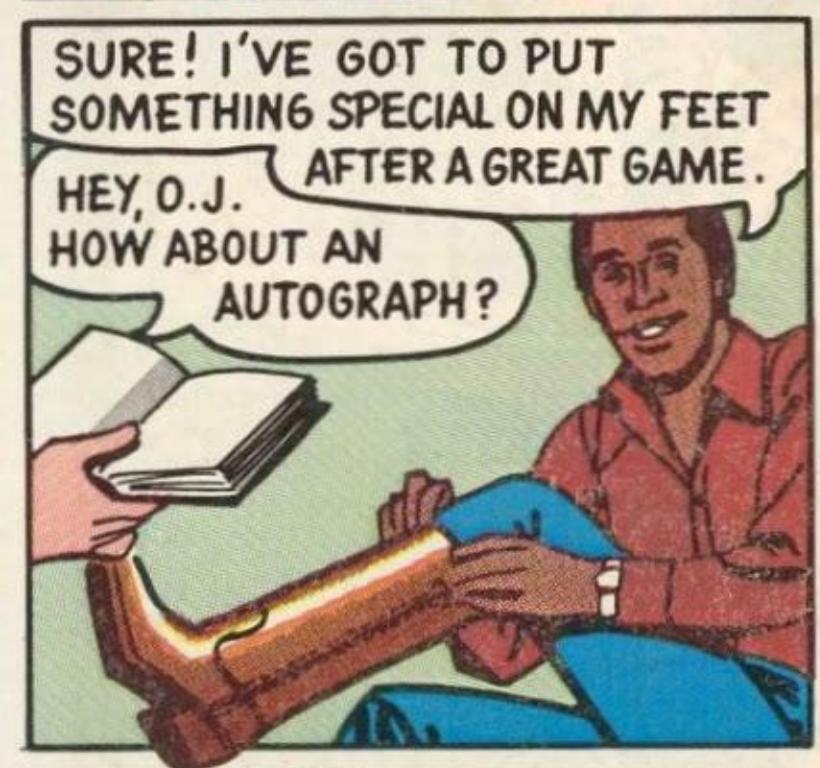
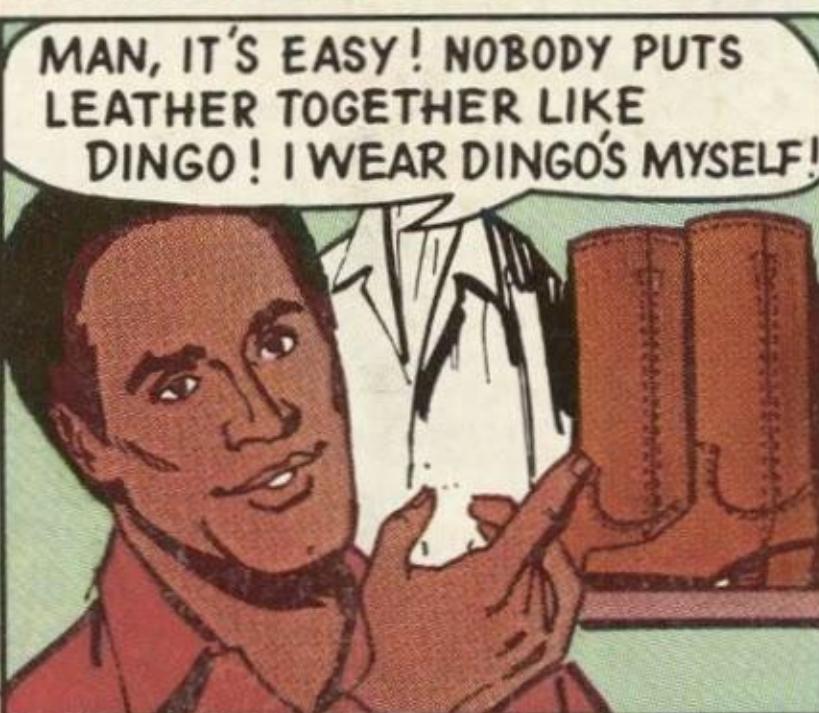
40¢
ALL NEW!
NO. 325
JULY

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TONIGHT: COMMISSIONER MUST DIE!





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dingo®

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

BATMAN

CREATED BY

BOB KANE



DEATH-TWENTY STORIES HIGH

ROGER MCKENZIE: GUEST WRITER * IRV NOVICK and STEVE MITCHELL: ARTISTS
MILT SNAPINN: LETTERER * ADRIENNE ROY: COLORIST * PAUL LEVITZ: EDITOR

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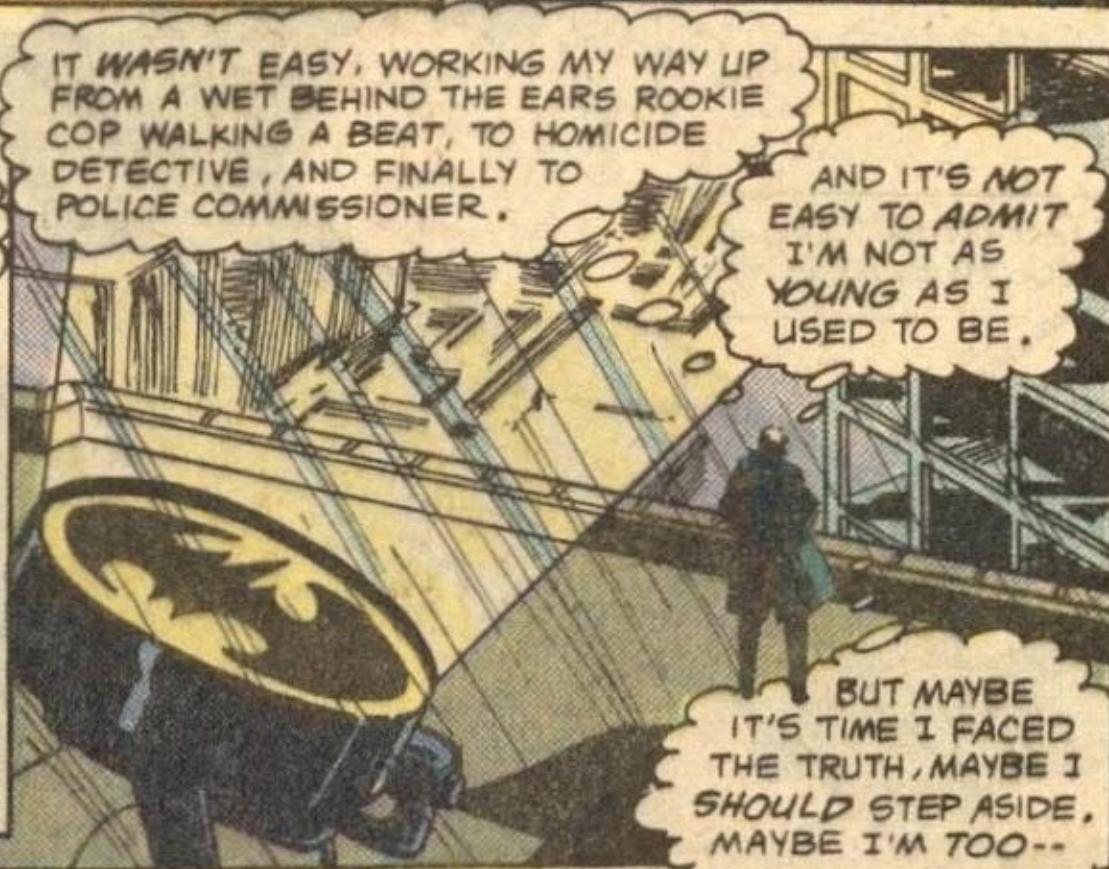
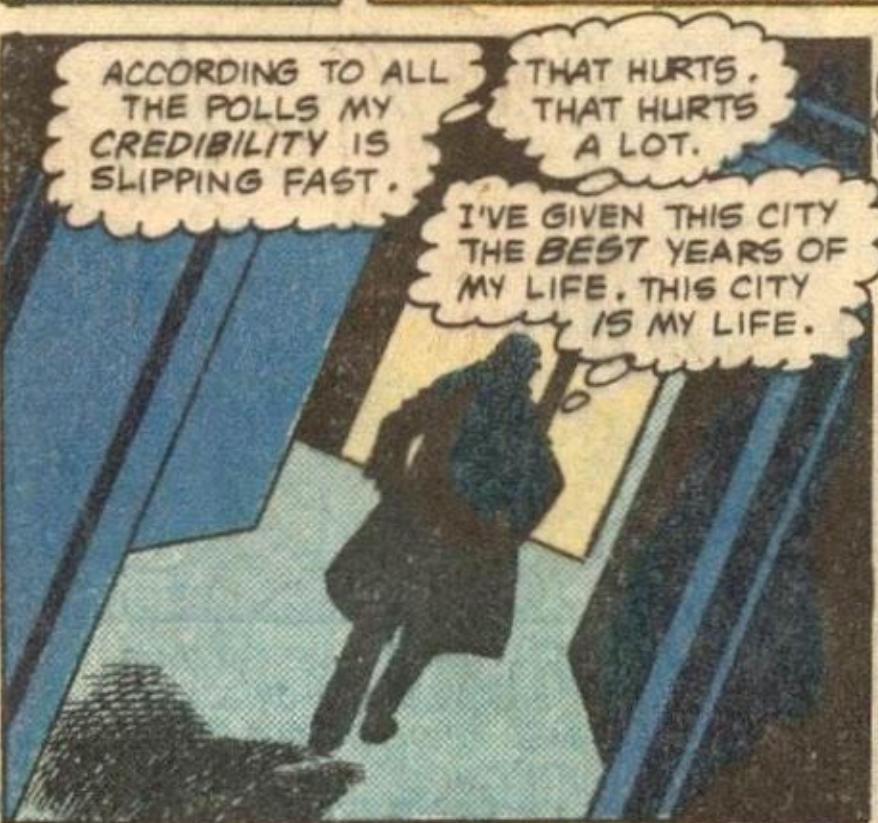
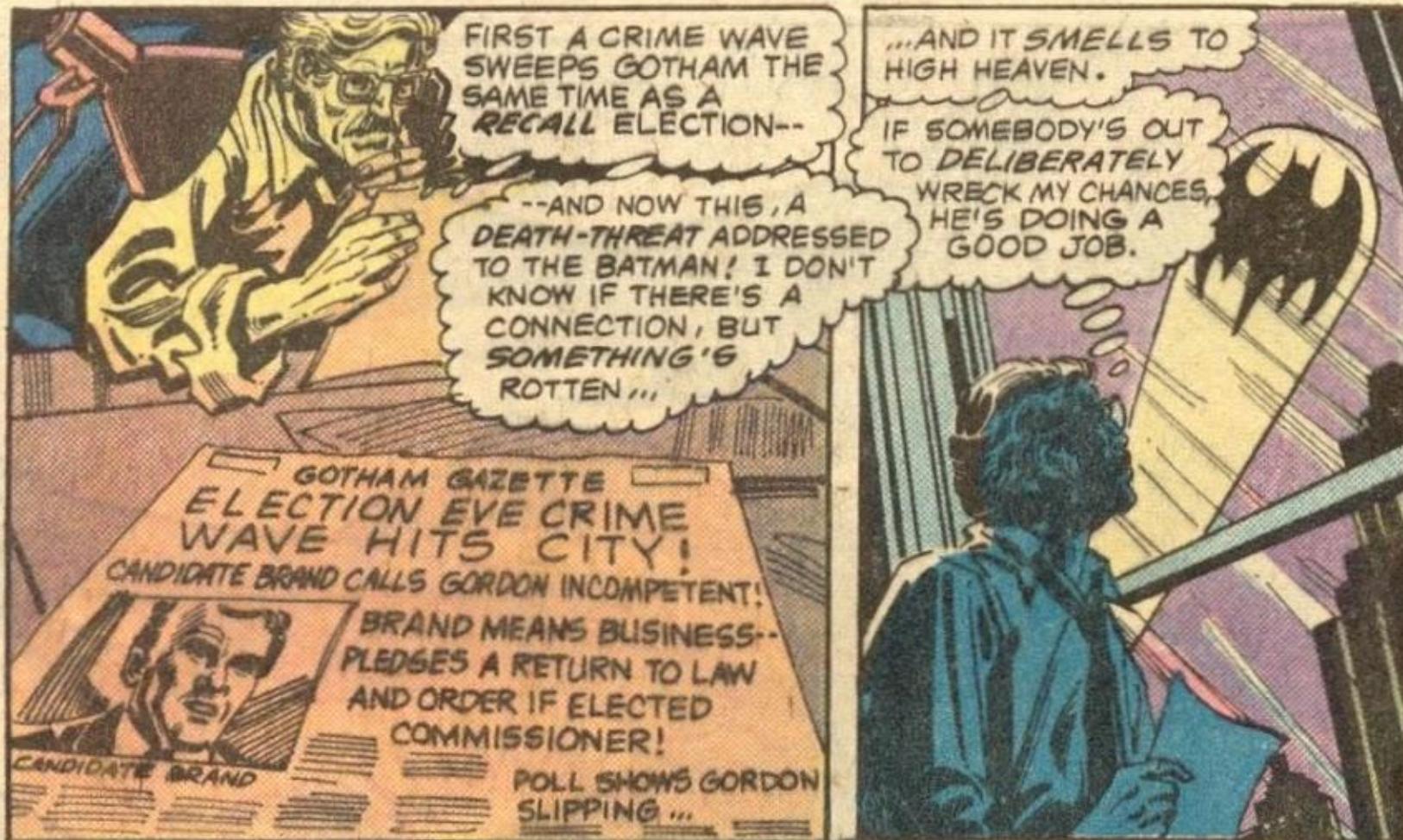
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FOR ANSWERS
WE MUST GO
BACK NEARLY
24 HOURS TO
POLICE HEAD-
QUARTERS...



... WHERE A
TROUBLED COM-
MISSIONER GOR-
DON BURNS THE
MIDNIGHT OIL.





THAT'S THAT! NOW
I'D BETTER GIT OUTTA
HERE BEFORE --

YOU'RE PROBABLY
THINKING YOU'D
BETTER GET OUT
OF HERE BEFORE
IT'S TOO LATE,
RIGHT?

B-BATMAN!

WELL, IT'S
ALREADY TOO
LATE,
PUNK.

AND YOU
WON'T BE
NEEDING
THIS.

THE ONLY THING YOU'RE
GOING TO SHOOT OFF NOW
IS YOUR MOUTH.

I WANT
ANSWERS,
PUNK.

THEY RACE ACROSS RAIN-
SLICKENED STEEL GIRDERS,
THE HUNTER AND THE HUNTED.

ONE RUNS
IN FEAR.

THE OTHER IS FEAR.

WH-WHY DON'T
HE STOP? GOD,
WHY DON'T HE
STOP?

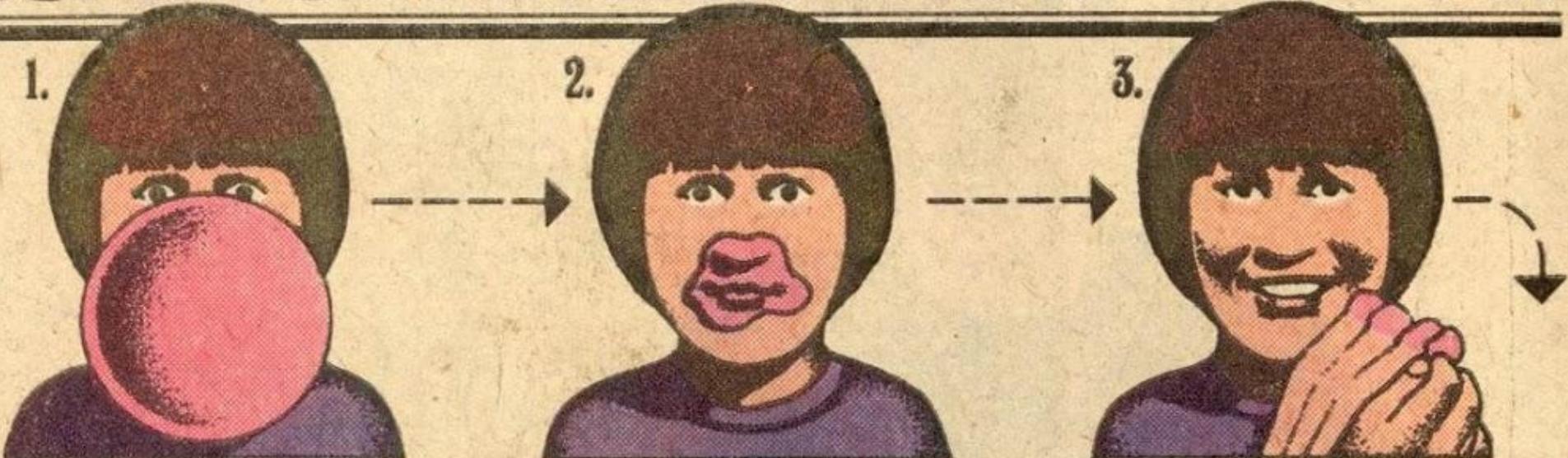
I KEEP PUMPIN' THE LEAD
AT 'IM, BUT HE JUST KEEPS
COMIN' AND COMIN', WHAT
KIND'A MAN IS HE?

SOME SAY HE
ISN'T A MAN
AT ALL.

THEY CLAIM HE IS A DEMON, A DARK,
DREAD DEMON OF VENGEANCE THAT
PROWL'S THE SHADOWS OF GOTHAM.

AND THEY SWEAR BY ALL
THAT'S HOLY...AND MUCH
THAT ISN'T...THAT NOTHING
OR NO ONE EVER ESCAPES
THE BATMAN.

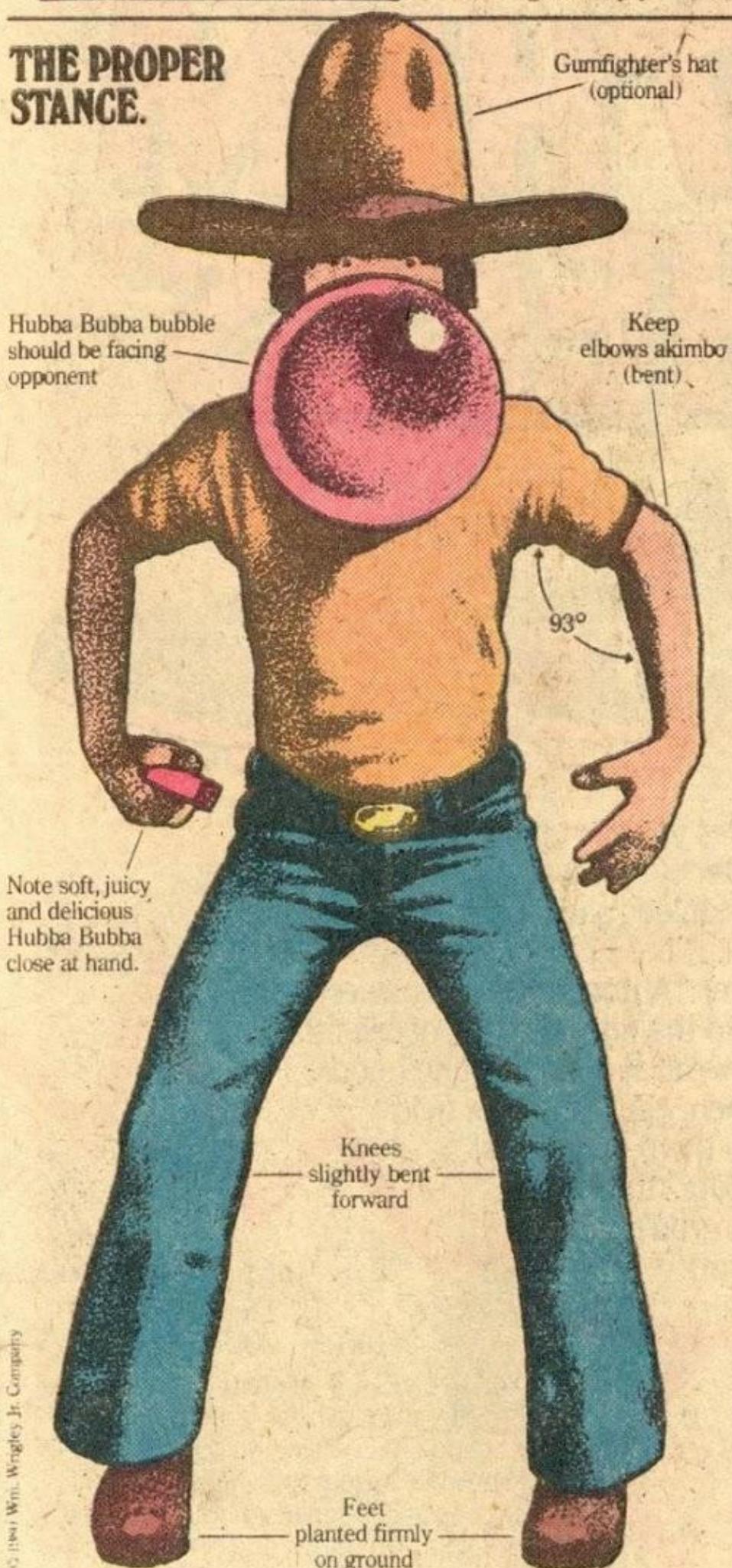
GUMFIGHTING DO'S AND DON'TS.



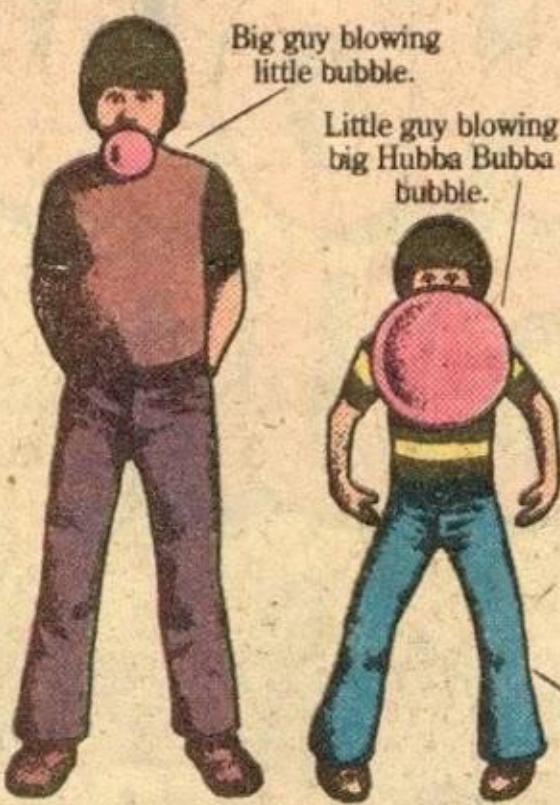
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THE PROPER STANCE.



Geographic availability may vary.

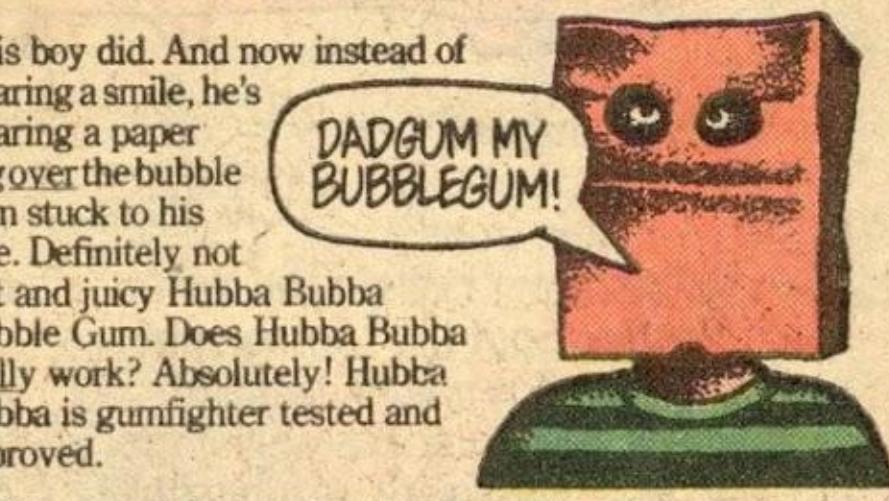


YOUR SIZE IS NOT IMPORTANT.

The size of your bubble is. And that means choosing the right bubble gum—Hubba Bubba. Because when it comes to great, big, fat bubbles, nothing sizes up to a Hubba Bubba bubble.

ACCEPT NO SUBSTITUTES.

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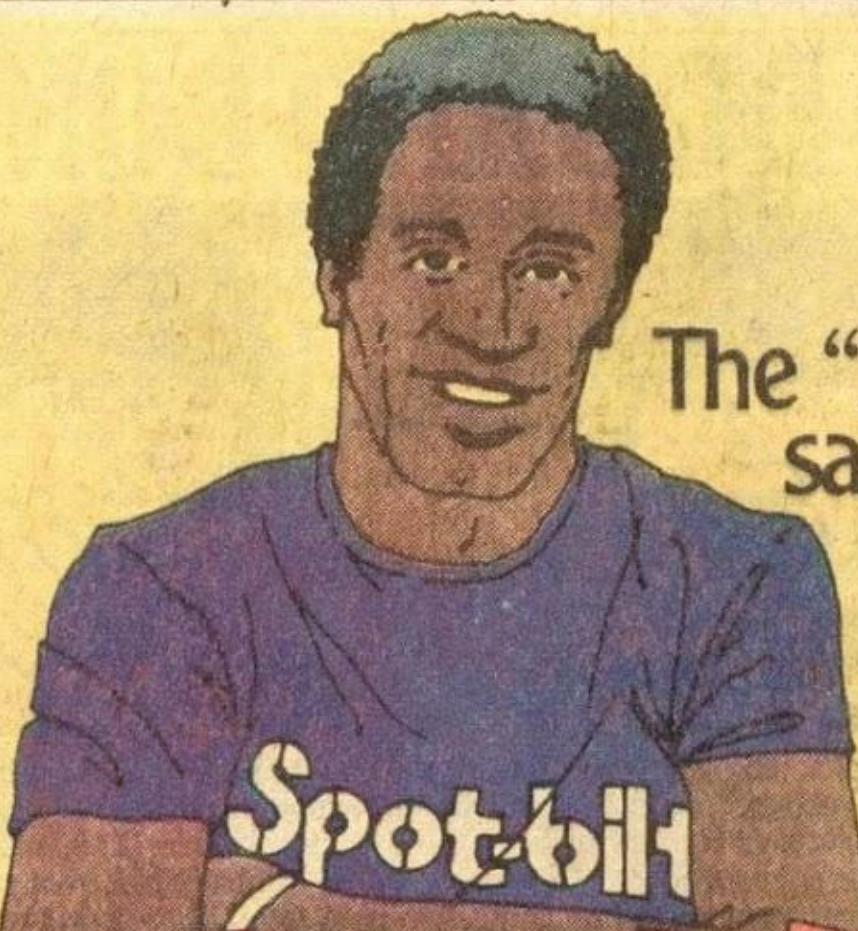


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IN THAT RESPECT,
AT LEAST, THEY
ARE RIGHT.

POW! POW!
POW!

STAY
BACK!

TIME TO COME OUT
OF YOUR GILDED
CAGE AND SING
TO ME.

I'M NUMBER ONE
ON SOMEBODY'S
HIT PARADE. I WANT
TO KNOW WHO'S
CALLING THE
TUNE.

END OF
THE LINE,
PIGEON.

JUST STAY
AWAY FROM
ME!

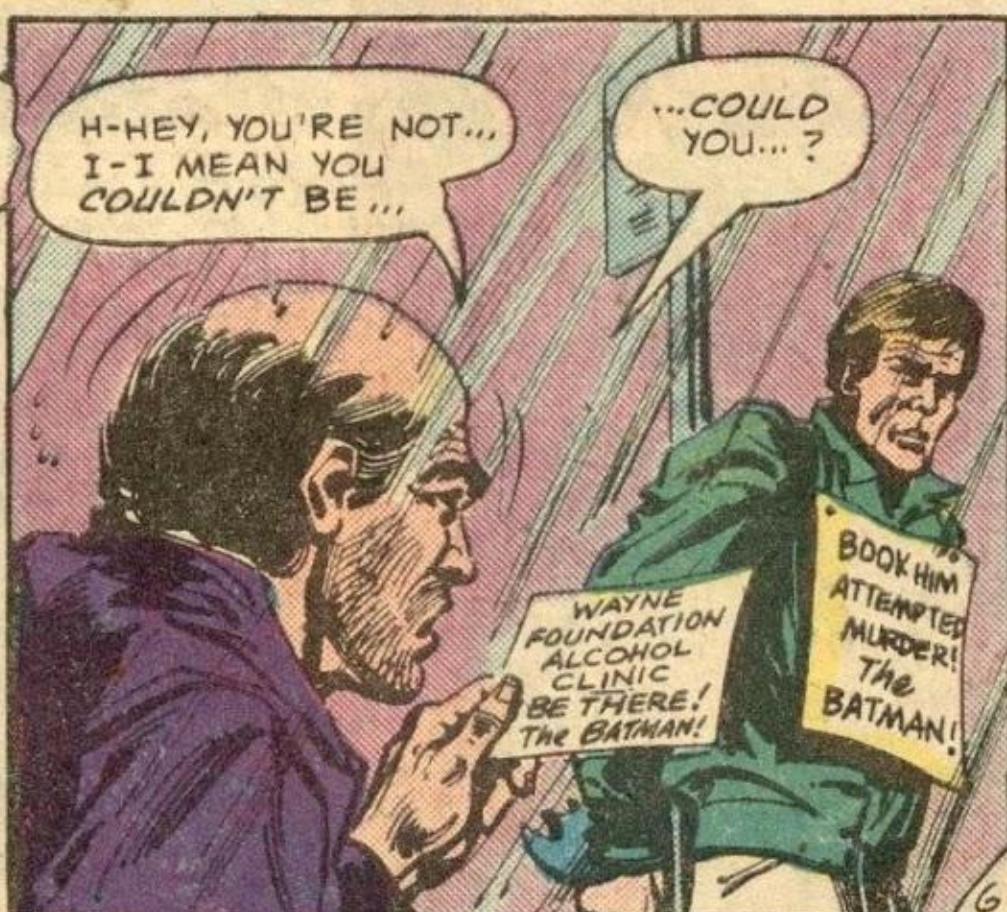
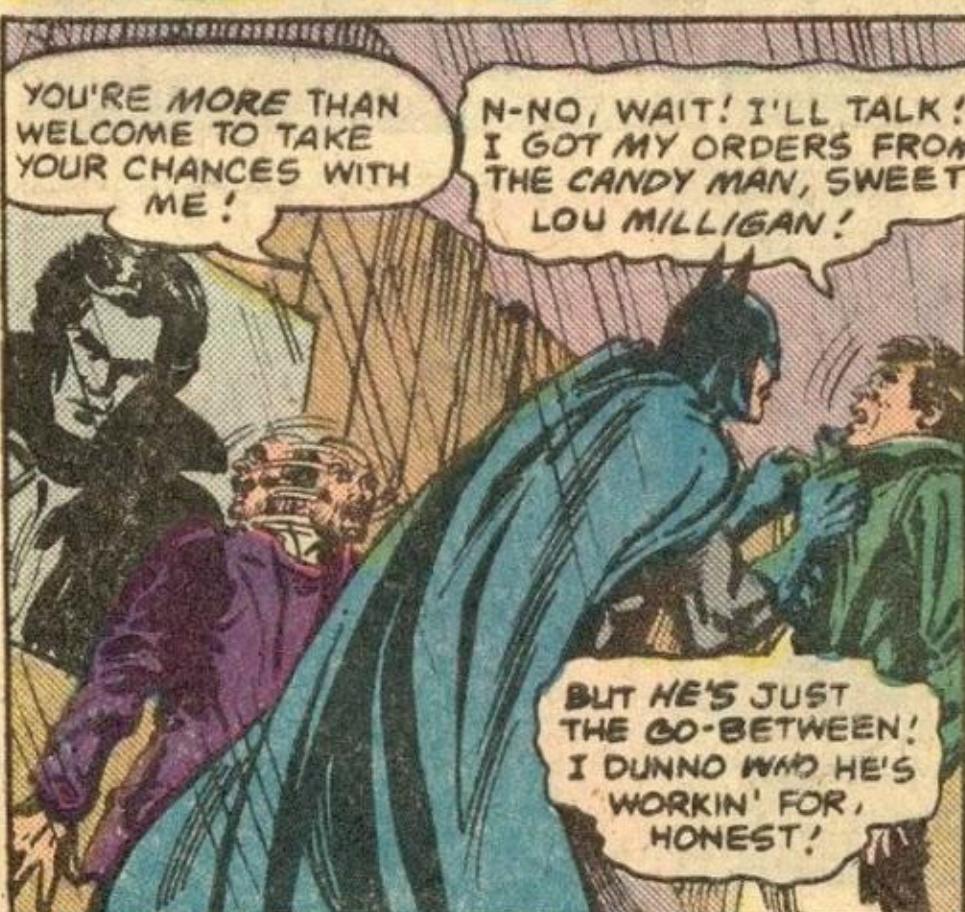
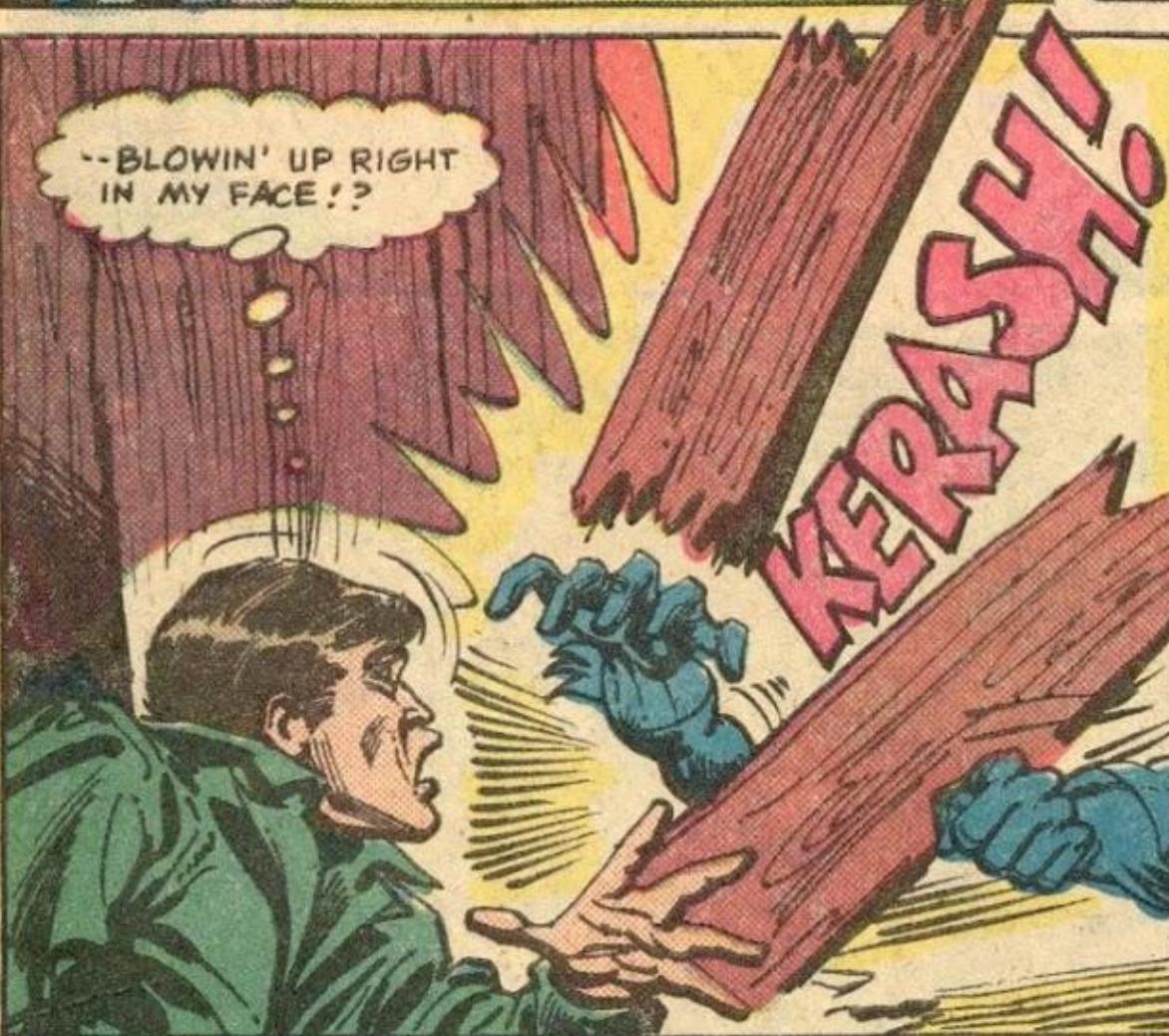
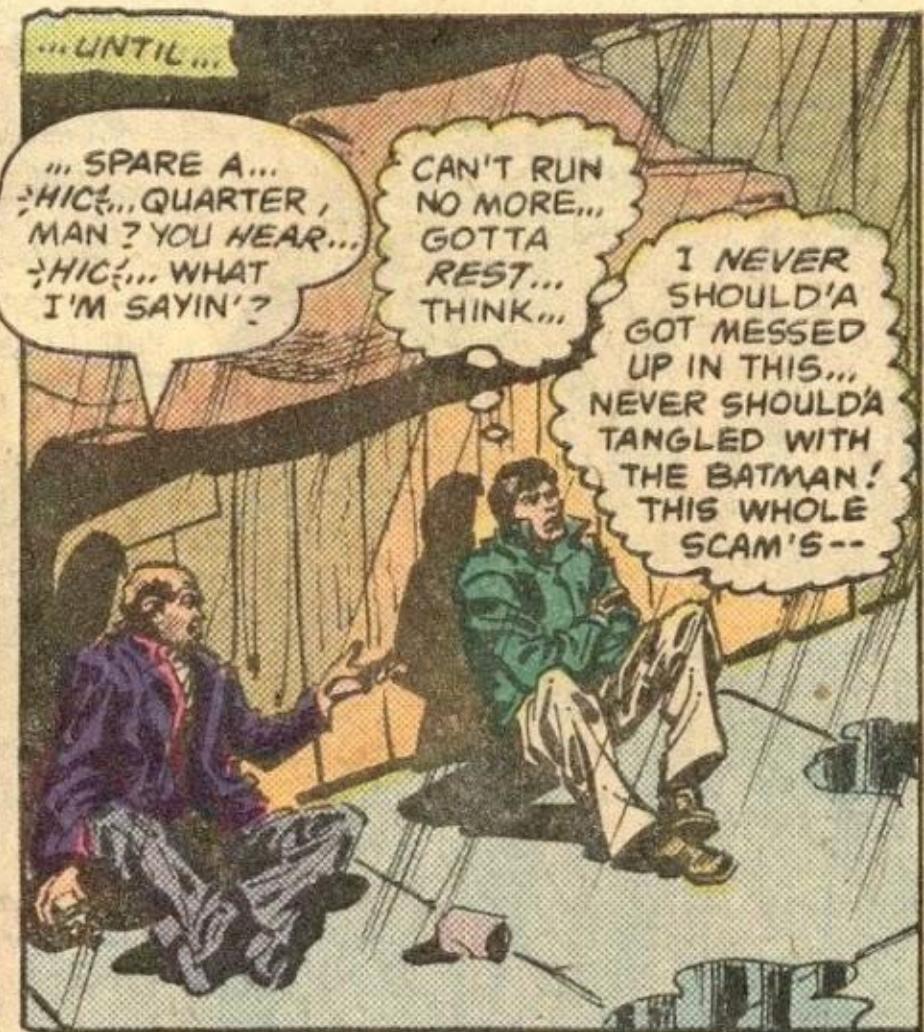
CLANG!

YOU
AIN'T
HUMAN!

BUT HUMAN OR
NOT, THIS'LL
STOP--

--HUH?

5



THE NEXT MORNING...

ROUGH NIGHT,
COMMISSIONER?

MURDER.

POLICE HEADQUARTERS

ACM
GLASSES

EASY...
EASY...

IF THERE'S
ANYTHING I
OR THE WAYNE
FOUNDATION
CAN DO--

I APPRECIATE
THAT, BRUCE.
RIGHT NOW I
CAN USE ALL
THE SUPPORT
I CAN GET.

I SEE
WHAT YOU
MEAN.

THAT'S IT, MR. BRAND.
SMILE.

MY PLEASURE,
PARKER. HOW'S
THIS?

I'LL SAY ONE
THING FOR BRAND,
HE'S GOT
CHARISMA.

COMMISSIONER, IS THERE
ANY TRUTH TO THE RUMOR
YOU'RE THINKING OF WITH-
DRAWING FROM THE
ELECTION?

ARE YOU GOING
TO RETIRE?

WHAT?!

GOTHAM NEEDS YOU,
OLD FRIEND. MORE
THAN YOU COULD
EVER KNOW.

COMMISSIONER, IN RECENT WEEKS, CRIME
HAS REACHED NEAR-EPIDEMIC PROPORTIONS
IN GOTHAM.

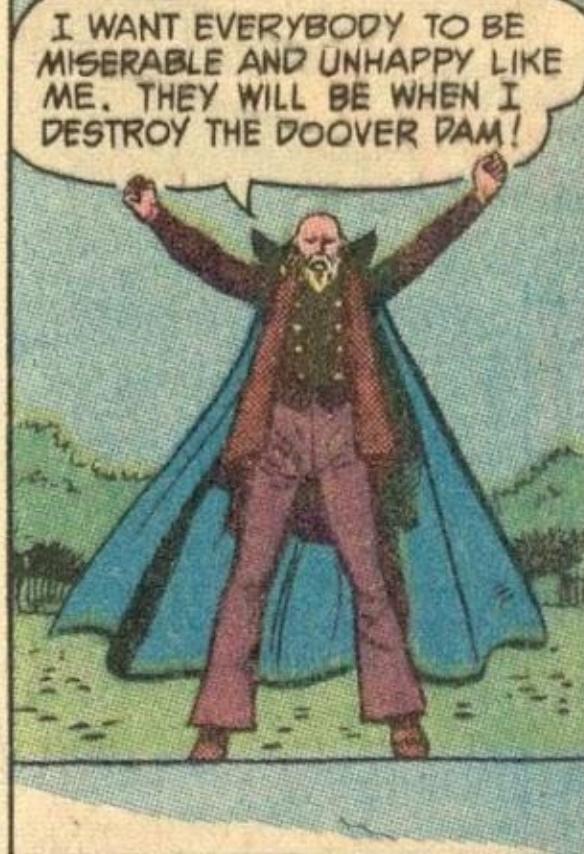
WHAT MEASURES,
IF ANY HAVE YOU
TAKEN TO COMBAT
THIS PROBLEM?



THE FLASH™ A FLASH IN THE DAM

I WANT EVERYBODY TO BE MISERABLE AND UNHAPPY LIKE ME. THEY WILL BE WHEN I DESTROY THE DOOVER DAM!

THE DESTROYER WILL BLAST THE DAM TO PIECES... UNLESS I GET THERE FIRST.



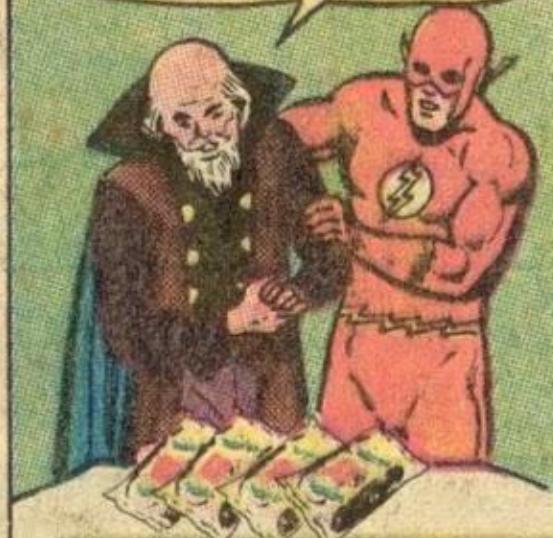
YOU FORGOT TO INCLUDE ME IN YOUR PLANS, DESTROYER.



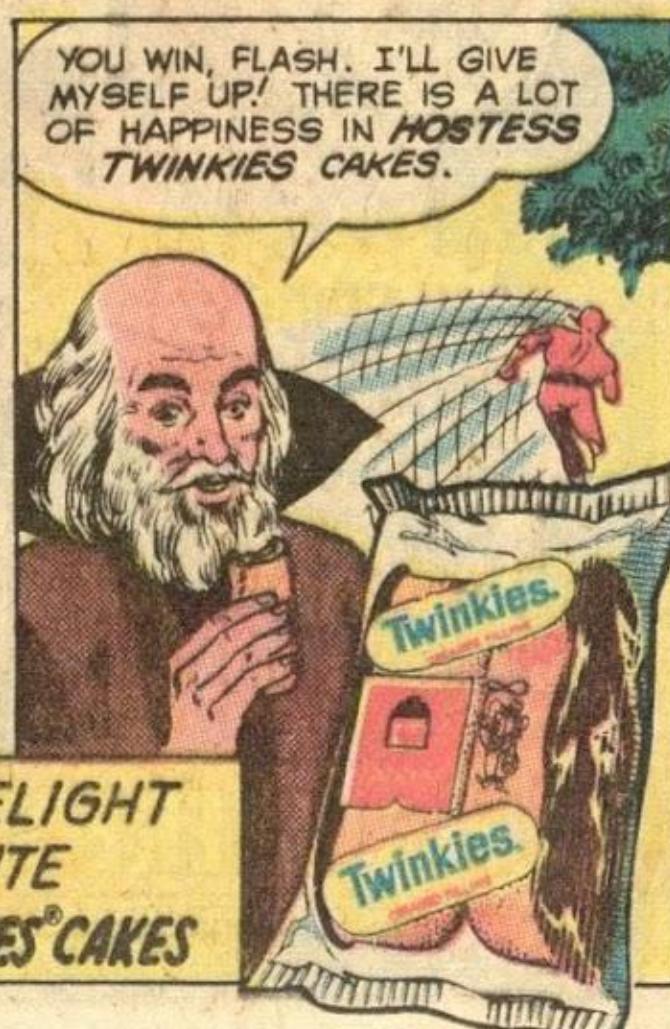
THE TROUBLE WITH YOU, DESTROYER, IS YOU'VE NEVER LEARNED TO ENJOY THE LITTLE THINGS IN LIFE....



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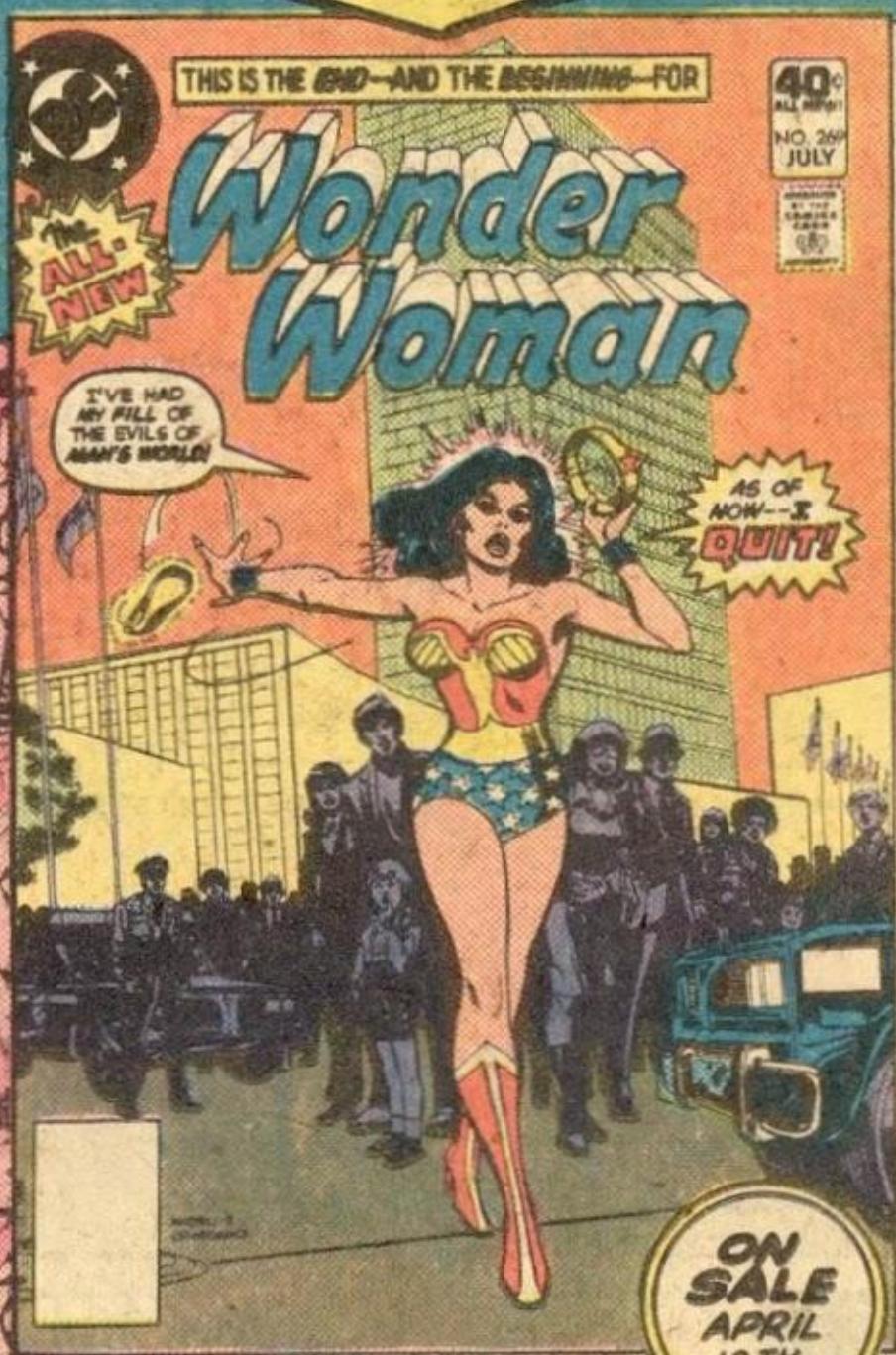
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AMAZON PRINCESS
FOREVER!



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MAY
8TH

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ADVENTURE
YOU'LL NEVER
FORGET!



ON
SALE
APRIL
10TH

AND AS IF
THAT ISN'T
ENOUGH,
HERE COMES

The Huntress!

IN HER
OWN
MONTHLY
SERIES!

FEATURING
COMICDOM'S
TOP CREATIVE
TALENTS!

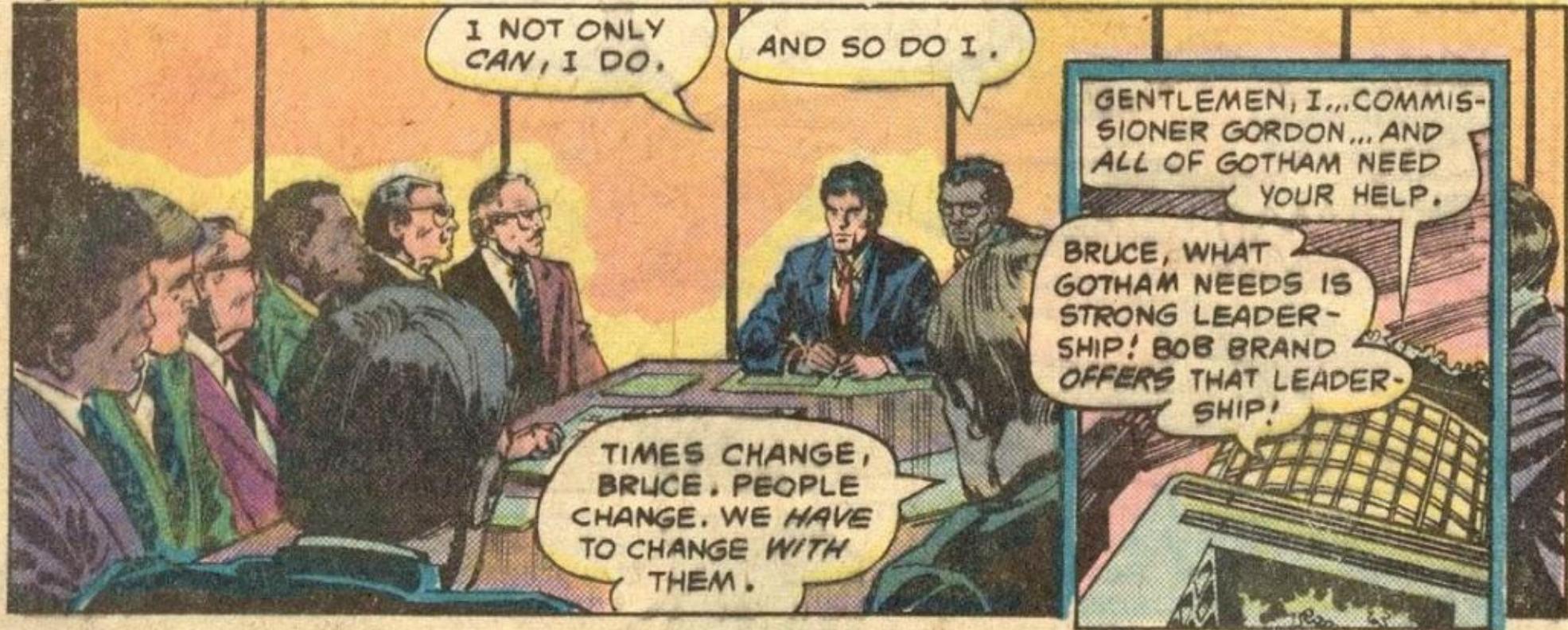


ON
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JUNE
12TH

WHERE THE ACTION KEEPS ON COMING!







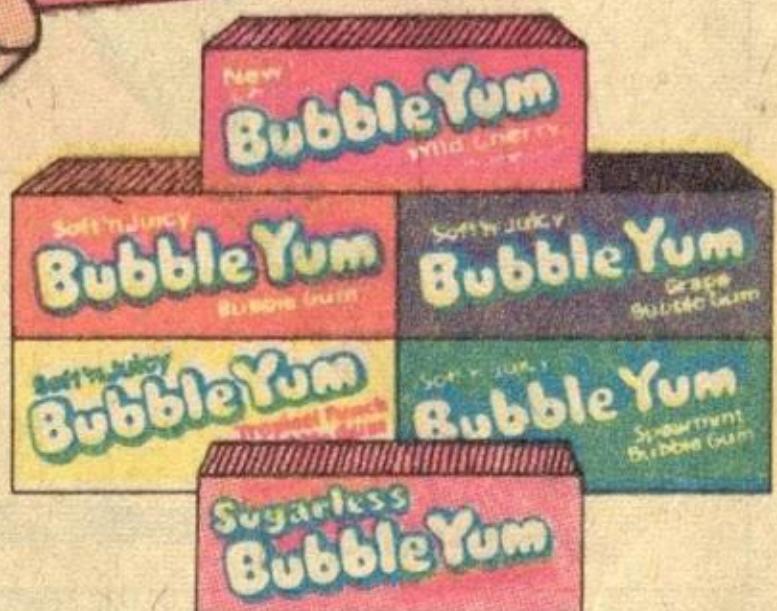
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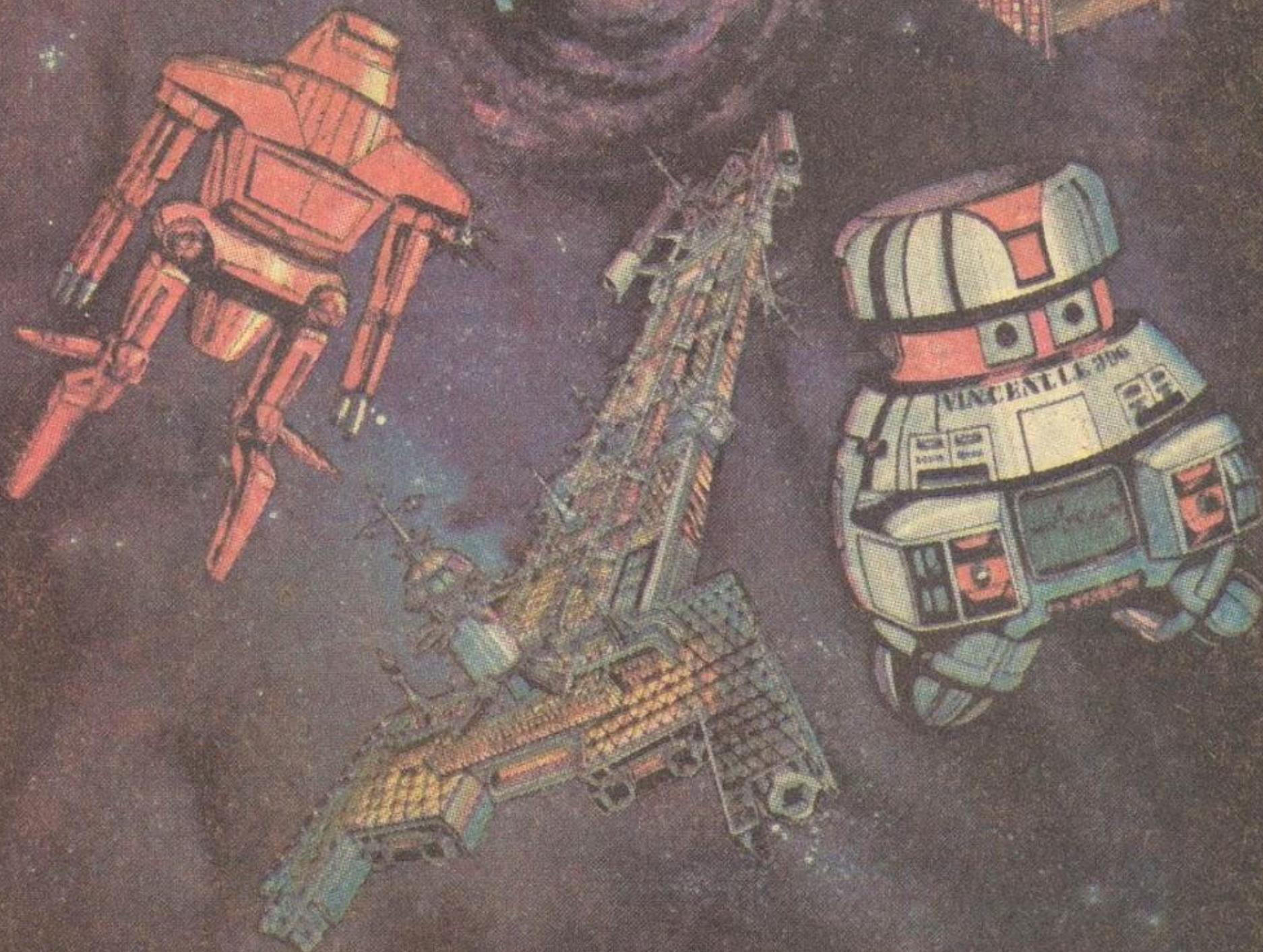
THEY'RE
UP AGAINST
THE VILLAINY OF
DOCTOR DOOM
AND THE
PARASITE!

THEY GET
A LITTLE
HELP FROM
WONDER
WOMAN
AND THE
INCREDIBLE
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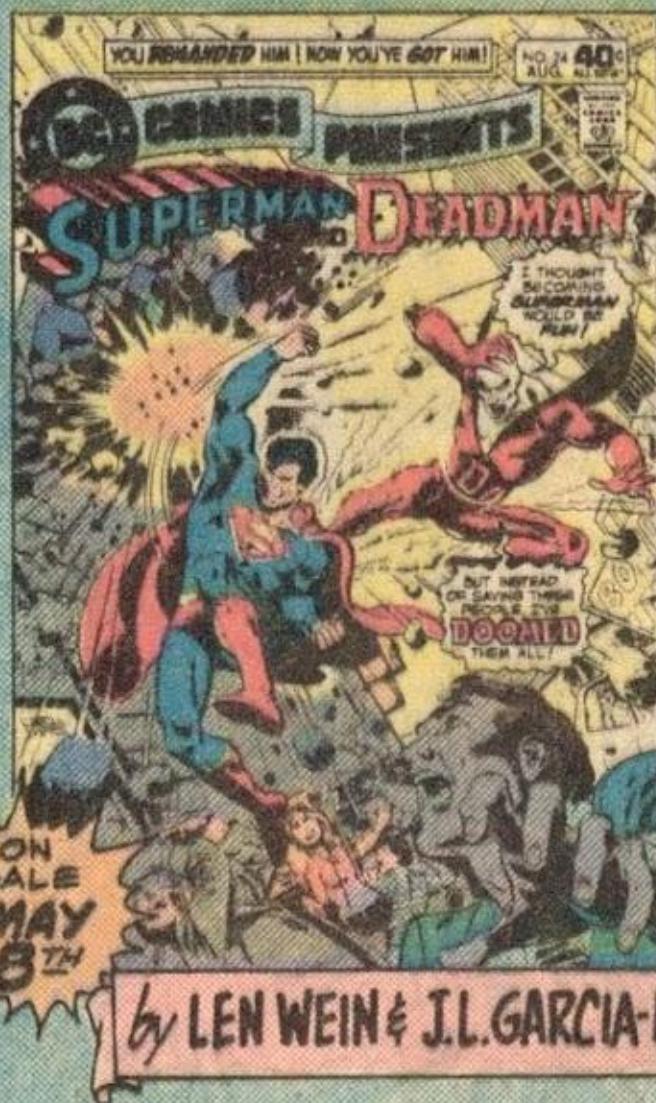
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ON
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APRIL
10TH

by DENNY O'NEIL & JOE STATON



ON
SALE
MAY
8TH

by LEN WEIN & J.L. GARCIA-LOPEZ

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The Legend of the BATMAN Continues...

THE CONCLUDING ISSUES OF AN EPIC OF EXTRAORDINARY EXCITEMENT!

THE COLLECTOR'S ITEM OF 1980

by Len Wein & Jim Aparo



LATER,
ON THE
WATERFRONT

THOUGHT I
SMELLED
SOMETHIN'.
WHAT'S HE
DOIN' HERE?

BEATS ME.

LISSEN, BUDDY, WHY DON'TCHA
GO LOOK FOR TROUBLE
SOMEWHERE ELSE.

YOU'RE BAD FOR
BUSINESS, KNOW
WHAT I MEAN?

LENNY, LOOK!
THIS'S OUR
BIG CHANCE!

YOU CRAZY?
PUT THAT AWAY!
HE'S GOT A THING
ABOUT GUNS!

I'M MURDER
FOR BUSINESS,
KNOW WHAT
I MEAN?

MILLIGAN OWNS
THIS DIVE AND I
OWE HIM. WHERE
IS HE?

UP--UP--UP!

"UPSTAIRS..."

COME RIGHT ON
IN, BATMAN! AS
YOU CAN SEE, I
EXPECTED YOU!

CANDYMAN, I DON'T HAVE
THE TIME OR THE DISPOS-
ITION TO PLAY GAMES
WITH YOU!

WHUMP!

J-JUST EASE
OFF, MAN!
EASE OFF!

I-IT WAS
BRAND! BOB
BRAND!

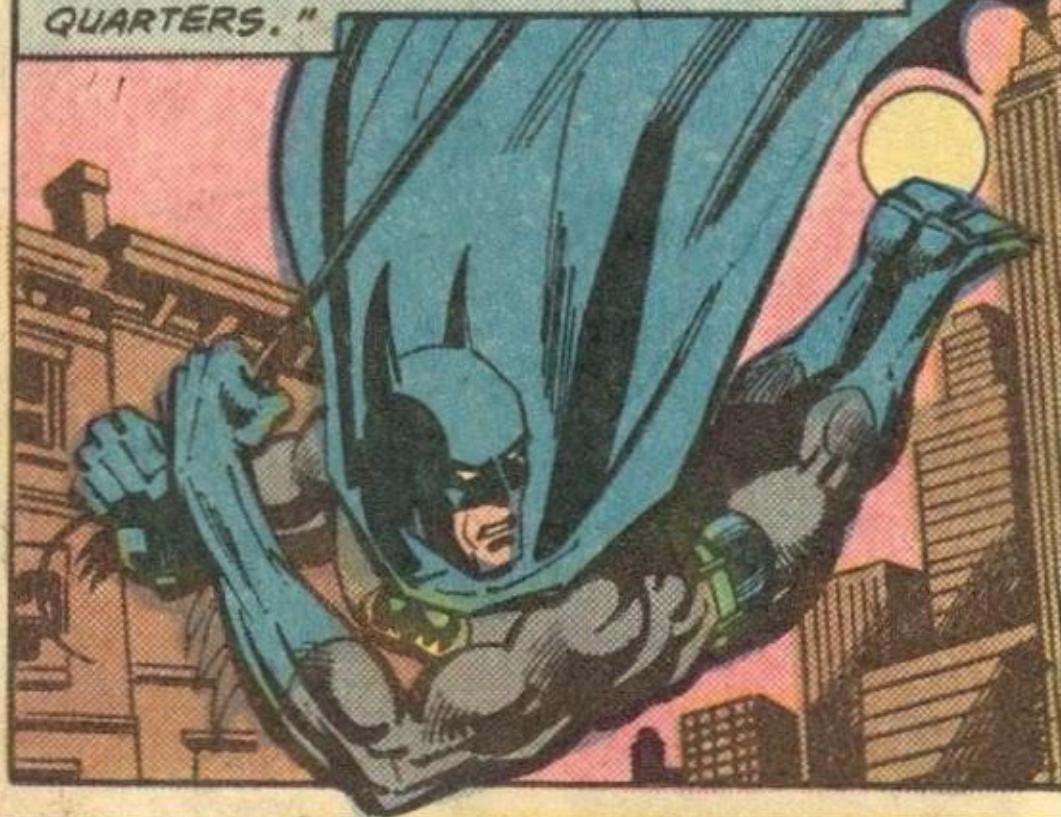
AND I DON'T THINK YOU'VE
GOT THE BRAINS OR THE
COURAGE TO PUT A CONTRACT
OUT ON ME. I WANT TO KNOW
WHO DID.

I'LL BE BACK FOR YOU, CANDY-MAN, AND THAT'S A PROMISE.

SO FAR,
SO GOOD.
HE DOESN'T
SUSPECT A
THING.

SUCKER.

"IT'S A SAFE BET THE FOOL'S HEADING STRAIGHT TO BRAND'S CAMPAIGN HEAD-QUARTERS."



"AND IT'S A SURE BET HE WON'T LEAVE THERE ALIVE!"

BRAND, I WANT TO TALK TO YOU.

FACE TO FACE.

THE BATMAN GLIDES ACROSS THE ROOM, A SHADOW AMONG SHADOWS, HIS EVERY SENSE ALERT.



THEN...



HE'S BEEN SHOT! HE'S DEAD!



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AND SO
ARE YOU,
BATMAN.

DON'T TRY ANY-
THING FANCY.
KEEP YOUR HANDS
WHERE I CAN
SEE THEM. I
KNOW YOUR
REP--

--I DON'T
INTEND
TO GIVE
YOU EVEN
THE SLIGHTEST
CHANCE.

YOU DIDN'T
GIVE HIM
A CHANCE
EITHER.

I GAVE HIM EVERY CHANCE.
I GAVE HIM GOTHAM ON A
SILVER PLATTER. ALL HE
HAD TO DO WAS PLAY ALONG
WITH ME.

CLICK!

JUST LIKE BRAND,
HAMILTON?

BRAND WAS A FOOL!
WHEN HE FOUND OUT
I WAS BEHIND THE
CRIME WAVE THAT HAD
DISCREDITED GORDON,
HE THREATENED TO
EXPOSE ME, EVEN IF
IT MEANT DESTROYING
HIM!

DON'T YOU SEE, BATMAN?
I COULDN'T LET HIM
LIVE ANYMORE THAN
I CAN LET YOU LIVE,
NOW! OR GORDON,
FOR THAT MATTER!

THAT'S THE BEAUTIFUL
PART, BATMAN! I'M
NOT GOING TO KILL
GORDON! YOU ARE!

LOOK, BATMAN! HE'S
WAITING FOR YOU
AT POLICE HEAD-
QUARTERS!

CALL HIM.
TELL HIM...
HEHHEH...
TELL HIM
YOU'RE GOING
TO BE LATE!

HAMILTON,
YOU'RE
SICK--

NO, JUST
PRACTICAL!

THE PHONE'S DEAD!

THAT'S RIGHT, BATMAN!
ALL THE PHONES ARE
DEAD! EVERYONE AND
EVERYTHING THAT
STOOD IN MY WAY
ARE DEAD...

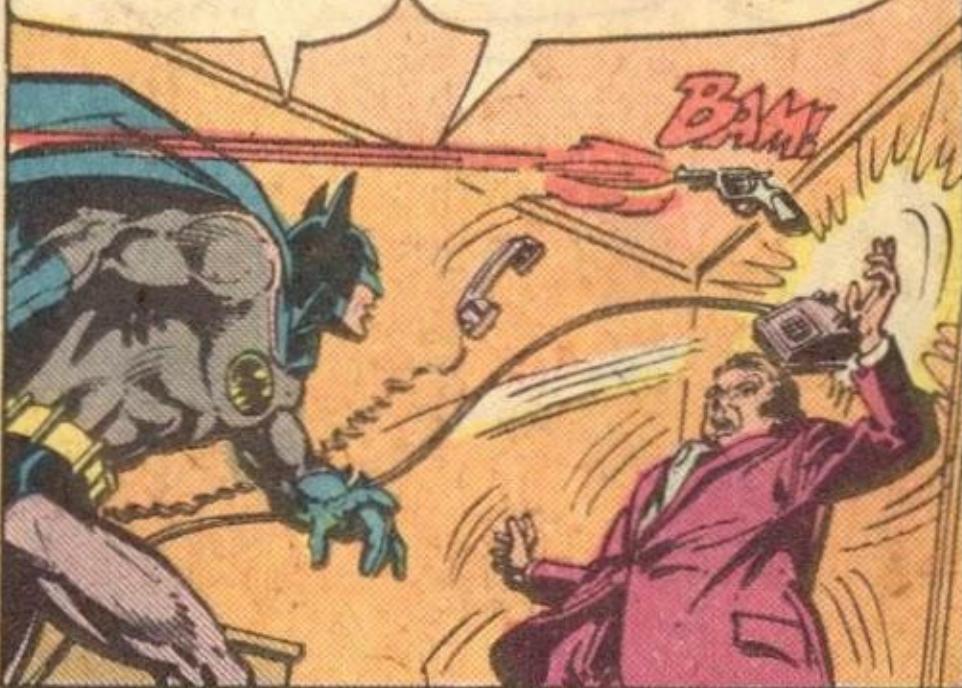
...OR DYING...

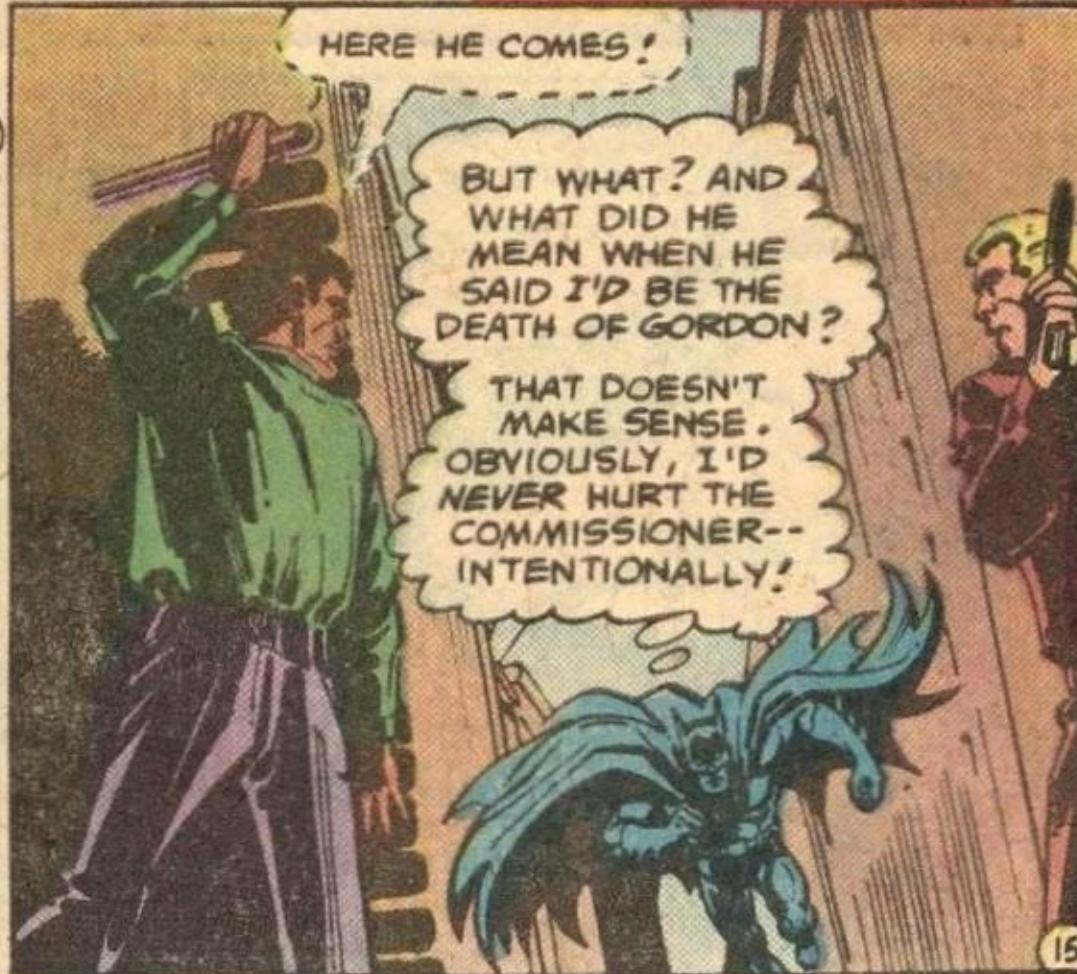
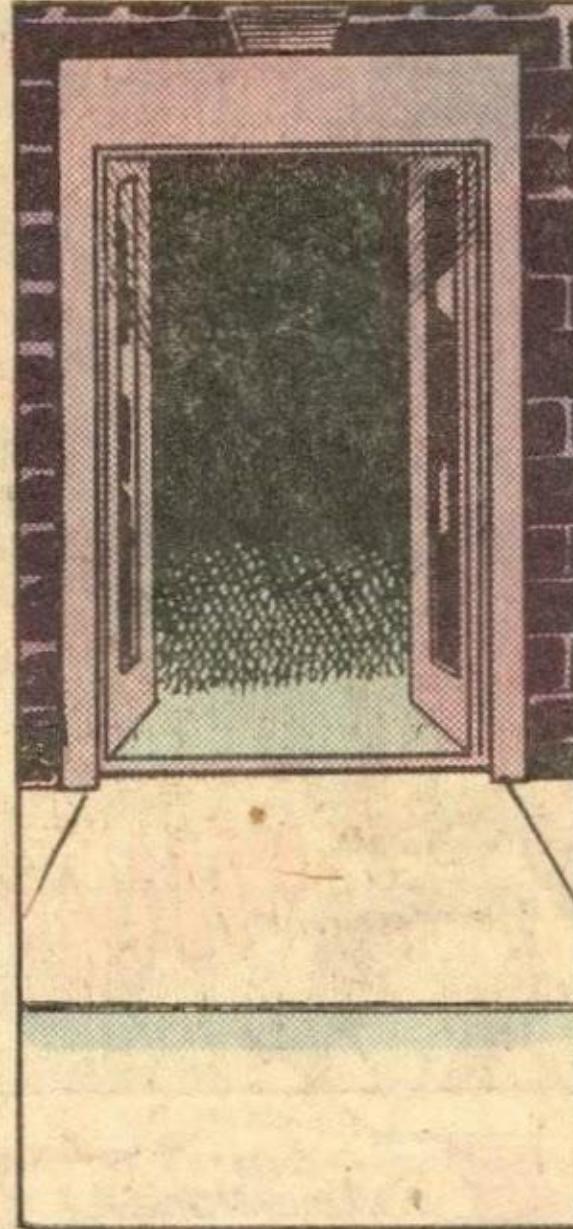
I DON'T THINK SO,
HAMILTON! I'VE
HEARD JUST
ABOUT ENOUGH!

TELL ME WHAT YOU'VE
GOT PLANNED FOR
GORDON. IT'LL GO
EASIER FOR YOU.

N-NO--! YOU'RE
TRYING TO TRICK
ME! TO TRIP ME
UP!

HAMILTON!
LOOK OUT!





BUT WHAT IS THERE
ABOUT THE BATMAN THAT
COMMISSIONER GORDON
AND I SHARE IN COM--

OF
COURSE,
THAT'S
IT!

THE BAT-SIGNAL! IF
THOSE "REPAIRMEN" I
SAW THIS MORNING
WERE ACTUALLY
WORKING FOR
HAMILTON --

IF I'M WRONG, I'LL APOLOGIZE
LATER! RIGHT NOW THERE'S
NOT A SECOND TO LOSE!

--DIE
COMMISSIONER!

GET OFF THE
ROOF, OR YOU'RE
GOING TO --

N-NO... FORCE OF
BLAST... PUSHED
ME TOO FAR!

I CAN'T
REACH
GORDON!

Remember How Many Times You Felt LEFT OUT

Because You Were BROKE!

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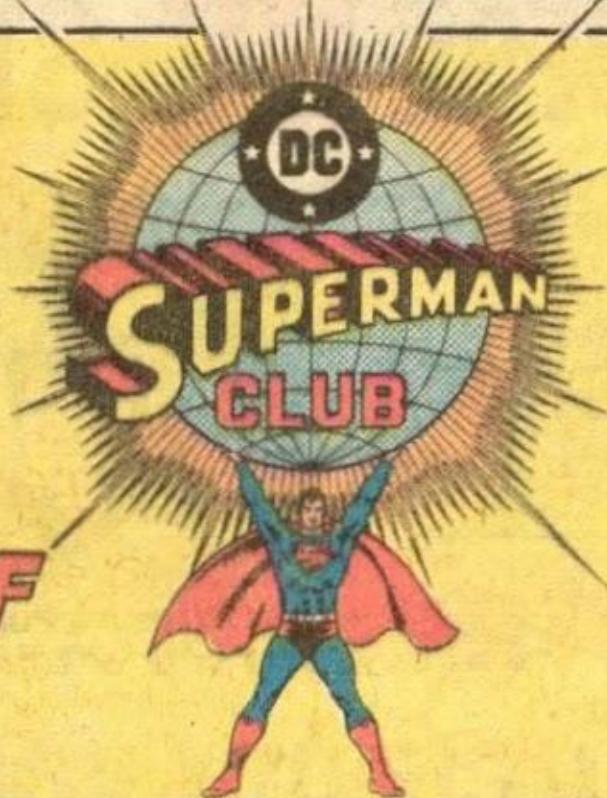
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THE FLASH

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SARGON
THE SORCERER?



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THE SERAPH
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JONAH HEX

-BUT YOU'RE BOUND TO BE STUCK ON THEM!

WORLD OF
KRYPTON
AND OTHER SURPRISES



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SUPERMAN

KRYPTO
THE SUPERDOG



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SUPERBOY

THE MISADVENTURES OF
SUPERBABY
(AND OTHER SURPRISES)



OMAC



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WARLORD

ENEMY ACE

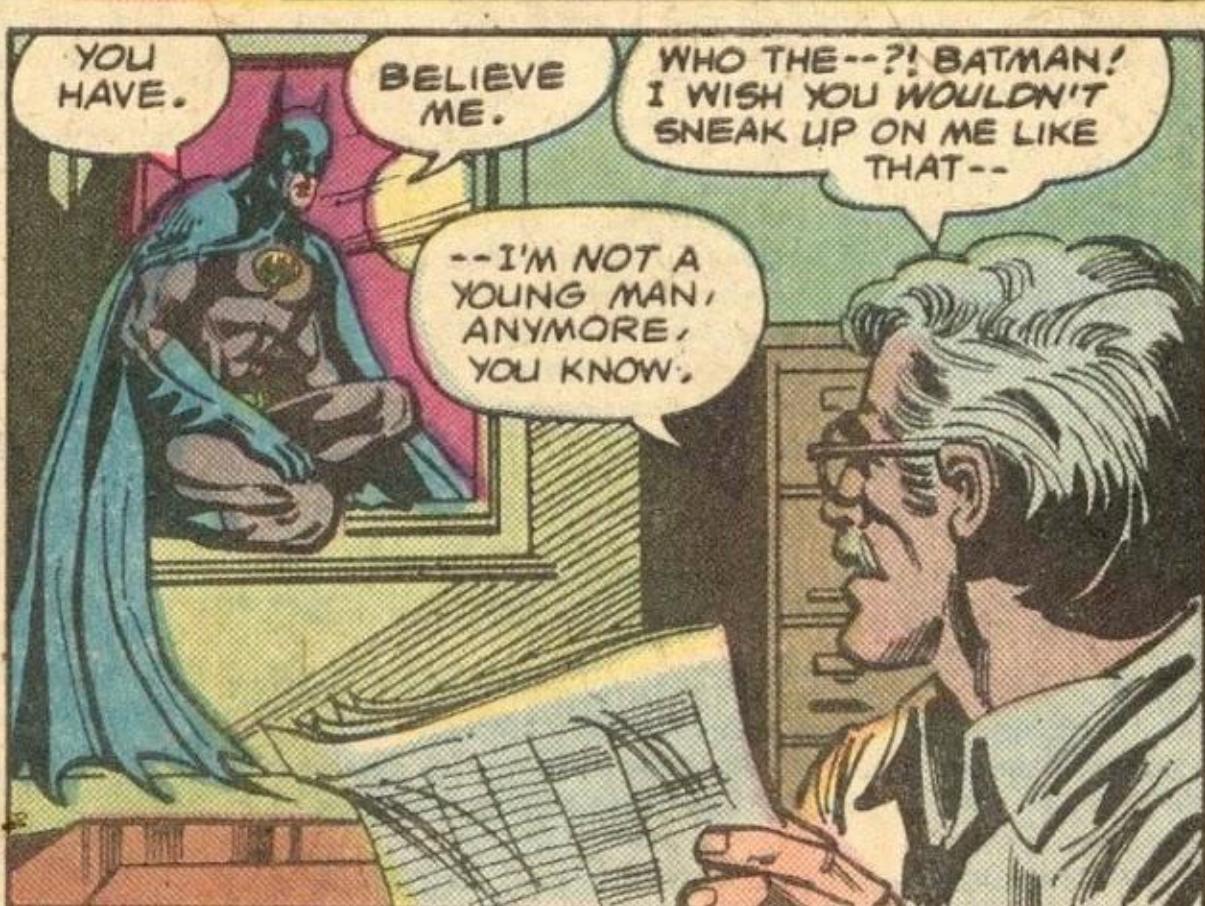


APPEARING IN
UNKNOWN SOLDIER



EPILOGUE: WE HAVE ALL OUR ANSWERS NOW. EXCEPT ONE. IT COMES A WEEK LATER...

WELL, THE ELECTION'S OVER. I JUST HOPE I'VE DONE THE RIGHT THING, I --



NO, I TAKE THAT BACK, OLD FRIEND.

THE DAY YOU CEASE TO SURPRISE ME ...

...THAT'S THE DAY I RETIRE!

NEXT

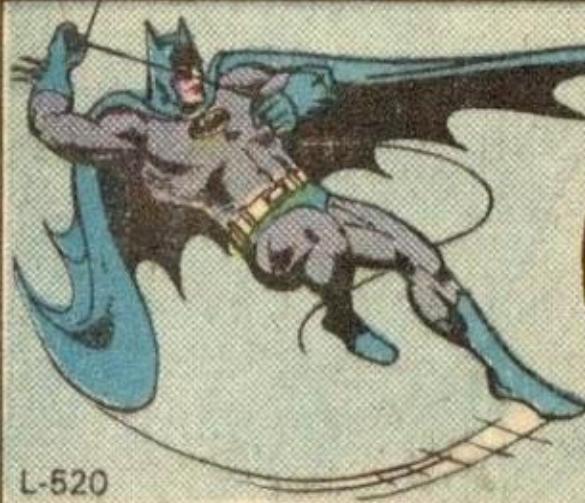
GOTHAM GAZETTE
GORDON REELECTED
CRIME RING BROKEN

BIZARRE PLOT
BY HAMILTON
UNCOVERED



"INTO
THE
KINGDOM
OF THE
MAD!"

ON SALE
SECOND
WEEK IN MAY!



L-520

BAT SIGNALS

c/o DC COMICS, INC.
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Dear Editor,

While your associate editor is rummaging through the DC vaults for more beautiful Berni Wrightson/Batman covers, like the one on BATMAN #320, I would like to compliment you and Denny on the skillful way that you insinuated the "theme" of the seven sins into an otherwise cut-and-dried murder mystery.

Cardinal Ramirez's fanatical derision of the new order of priests immediately pegged him as the obvious suspect, and therefore the first to be dismissed by me, but I never stopped to consider the other major exponent in the "Inquisitor" cast—Lieutenant Sanchez A.K.A. the Inquisitor.

This issue was full of surprises, and also struck a nostalgic chord with the Shadow-inspired mailing address of the Caped Crusader's.

Jeffrey Lowndes
809 Sunset St.
Scranton, Pa. 18509

Credit for the Berni Wrightson cover discovery rests with the man who bought it in the first place, Julie Schwartz, who also preserved it against the day when it might come in handy. Interestingly, Berni's unusual signature threw off our usual corps of art detectives to the degree that some gave up entirely, while one correspondent praised Garcia Lopez for its "Adams-like detail" on Batman's face!—PL

Dear Denny—

"Who ever heard of a mailman delivering at night?!" is what a lot of your LOCers on Batman #320 are going to chortle. "Mistake, mistake!"

'Not so!' the Levitz-replier will retort. 'Special Delivery mail is delivered virtually anytime.—And The Batman, busy crime-buster that he is, would surely have arranged to get his clippings sent Special Delivery rather than await the snail-paced regular rounds.'

"But his mailbag was loaded with other stuff, too!" comes the return chortle. 'Don't forget: it's an office building. A lot of companies have special delivery service for their night shift to take care of, don't they?'

"Okay—but how did Batman know he should swing past at that specific moment, to take the envelope?" 'He didn't. See his shadow on the splash page. He was concealed in the hallway, having been in the building for some other purpose, no doubt. He merely slipped out and re-entered thru the window to save the Sigerson cover. So therel'

Gideon Smith
11421 Notre Dame
Cleveland, OH 44104

Only a single reader wrote in to complain about the night delivery, but we thank you for your valiant defense nonetheless ... and while we're on the subject of thanks, we'd like to use our editorial privilege to make an awkward segue and thank both Roger McKenzie and Steve Mitchell for their fill-in services on this issue. Regular writer Len Wein returns next month with the denouement of Bruce and Selina's relationship, and regular inker Frank McLaughlin really will be back soon...even though his "brief" sojourn on GREEN LANTERN has kept him from these pages for far longer than we dreamed possible.—PL

Dear Editor,

Batman #320 was absolutely the pits. The story should have been in an issue of Detective instead of Batman. Though I did think the cover was really good. I'm still trying to figure out who did it. It was really unique. Whoever did it, I'd tell Jenette to give 'em a raise so he doesn't go over to your MARVELous competition.

The plot of the Inquisitor seemed like Justice Wargrave's murder plot in Agatha Christie's "And Then There Were None". (Or if you prefer "Ten Little Indians".) Though while I am still mad at Denny for killing off Batwoman (I don't think that I will ever be able to forgive you. I wish that you would tell me why she was killed?), this issue was rather good. (If you think this letter is confusing so far, wait 'till you finish it.) Though, while I read the issue twice, I still didn't understand it. I know he was killing them in the order of the seven capital sins, but why did he decide to kill priests? That is rather sick, isn't it. You could of picked models or maybe even millionaires. That would of been interesting.

The Irv Norvick/Bob Smith was much better than last issue. And last issue's art was absolutely fantastic. The Batman never looked better, especially page 7, panel 7, page 9, panel 1, page 16, panel 5, and page 17, panel 4. All those panels were exceptional.

Well, that is all for now, though I am anxiously awaiting the next issue. Just keep the good work in this mag!!!!!!!

Matthew Kurtz

116 Valley View Dr.
Butler, PA 16001

We certainly do think the choice of killing priests was sick, but then, we admit to believing that murder is always the act of an unbalanced mind. And as to similarities to Christie's classic, you've lost us entirely. We're long-time fans of the Grande Dame of the murder mystery, but we really can't see the parallels in any significant sense.

The one of your criticisms we do buy into wholeheartedly is the feeling that the story might have been better off in Detective, and we take that as a compliment to the thematic tone Denny's set for that mag. However, when deadlines required the pinch-hitting, we handed Denny's tale to Irv and had Cary Burkett's fill-in given to Don Newton for Detective, and if there was an error, it was purely ours, not the writers'.—PL

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT! Because of the success of THE WORLD OF KRYPTON last spring, DC proudly announces a new mini-series of extraordinary interest to Batman fans. In two weeks, copies of the first of three issues of THE UNTOLD LEGEND OF THE BATMAN will arrive at your local newstand or comics shop.

This mini-series will reveal all the secrets of the Batman, including the previously untold story of the years of his training. Because we want these to be outstanding comics, we've put together a special creative team: Len Wein will be doing the writing, and X-MEN artists John Byrne and Terry Austin will be doing the interior artwork. Covers will be by Jose Luis Garcia Lopez, and all three issues will contain extra pages beyond the usual for a 40¢ comic.

We think it's a gem, and we hope you'll keep your eyes peeled for it.

THE DC FEATURE PAGE

Q: Where did *Chronos* first appear?—Floyd McGee. A: This enemy of the Tiny Titan debuted in *THE ATOM* #3.

Q: How did *Blackhawk* get his powers?—Jerome James. A: He doesn't have any, except that he is a superb fighting man and pilot.

Q: Is George Reeves dead?—George Foulkes. A: Yes, the man who played *Superman* on TV committed suicide over twenty years ago.

Q: Is *Kid Flash*'s origin the same as *Flash*'s?—Freddie Mack. A: Pretty much. Both were splashed with chemicals which were struck by a bolt of lightning.

Q: If there is an Earth-2 and a Krypton-2, could there possibly be a Thanagar-2 as well?—John Merullo. A: Considering the similarities between the parallel universes it is more than likely.

Q: Where is the Hall of Justice?—David Collins. A: In Gotham City.

Q: Does gold kryptonite merely cancel the effects of a yellow sun on a Kryptonian or does it also negate his gravity-born strength?—Unsigned. A: It cancels all of a Kryptonian's super-powers, regardless of their source.

Q: If you were wearing *Superman*'s costume and someone tried to stab you, could they?—Markham Wong. A: No, the suit is as indestructible as *Superman*.

Q: Will *Red Tornado* have his own comic

Comics fans who aspire to become pros are often discouraged, and tempted to give up. They should take a lesson from Cary Bates, one of comics' best writers, and one of the first to make the jump from fan to pro!

Born in Pittsburgh, Cary's family moved to Ohio when he was eleven. By that time, though, Cary had already become a fan of the character whose life he was later to shape—*Superman*! "I was a big fan of the Superman TV show, it was my favorite," says Cary. "I even had a Superman costume, I wore it all the time." Intrigued by the television exploits of the Man of Steel, Cary began reading Superman comics. It was during this time that Cary realized his future profession was that of comic book—artist! "I spent years swiping art from comics," shrugs Cary. "I don't have any real artistic talent, but it helps to tell a story visually."

In a way, though, it was Cary's art talent that got him into pro comics. In 1963, Cary drew up a number of suggested cover layouts and submitted them to DC editors Mort Weisinger and Julius Schwartz. Weisinger liked one of Cary's ideas—a caged, miniature Super-



book?—Gene Underwood. A: No, but he's got a solo feature coming up in *DETECTIVE COMICS* #492.

Q: What comic did *Supergirl* first appear in?—James Purdy. A: *ACTION COMICS* #252.

Q: What issues of *JUSTICE LEAGUE* were 100-pagers?—Bobby. A: #'s 110-116.

Q: What are the names of the Metal Men?—John Green. A: Platinum (Tina),

Iron, Gold, Mercury, Lead, and Tin.

Q: Will I be notified when my subscriptions run out?—Walt West. A: You'll be notified far enough in advance to renew without missing an issue.

Q: Where does *Green Lantern* put his power ring when he is Hal Jordan?—Jeff Fox. A: It's on his finger, invisible.

Q: In *WORLD OF KRYPTON* #2, *Superman* is shown trapped on his native world. In what issue did this originally occur?—Jeff Metzner. A: *SUPERMAN* #141.

Q: In what issue did *Ferro Lad* die?—Patrick Reynolds. A: *ADVENTURE* #353.

Q: Who is *Green Arrow*'s greatest enemy?—Mike Ruggiero. A: GA has fought a number of baddies, but I don't think any one qualifies as his arch-foe.

Q: Is Neal Adams doing any comic book work currently?—Jim Hopkins. A: Not that I know of.

Q: Will Mike Grell be doing *Green Lantern* again?—Todd Geyer. A: Not in the near future.

Q: What is the secret identity of the Earth-2 *Green Lantern*?—Tim Poisson. A: Alan Scott.

Q: How can I get a copy of the new *SUPERMAN VS. SPIDER-MAN* book?—Bob Burke. A: Watch for ordering instructions when the book is ready for publication later this year.

dc profiles number 60 *CARY BATES*

man suspended between a gloating Luthor and Brainiac—and used it for a cover. "I didn't get paid money," Cary recalls. "In those days, they gave me the original art to the cover." Cary continued to submit cover ideas, and in 1966, decided to write a script from one of his own ideas. It was a *WORLD'S FINEST* story, which was accepted; Cary soon followed it up with a *Superman* story. About that time, Cary entered college, and worked his way through with one of the most unusual occupations on record: Cary paid tuition by putting *Superman* through his paces!

Upon graduation, in 1971, Cary moved to New York City and began writing for DC full-time. Since then, he's not only scripted the adventures of *Superman*, but

those of *The Flash*, *Justice League*, *Superboy* and *The Legion of Super-Heroes*, as well as many other DC characters.

But comics are not Cary's only writing interest. In 1974, Cary sold a treatment for a James Bond movie. His treatment was not used for the final version of the film, but it was his first success outside of comics, and led him to try other film ideas. Cary's had success there, too—an Australian company will soon be producing one of Cary's as-yet untitled "horror-love stories". Cary also writes for Warren magazines.

What does Cary Bates say about becoming a success in your chosen field? "No matter how much editors try to discourage you, keep plugging away...keep knocking on doors. That applies to anything, not just comics." Solid advice from a man who has fashioned a comic book career for himself, despite massive obstacles. Now he's setting his sights on the world of film, and if he follows his own advice, we have no doubt he'll make it. Look out, Hollywood—here comes Cary Bates!—Mike W. Barr

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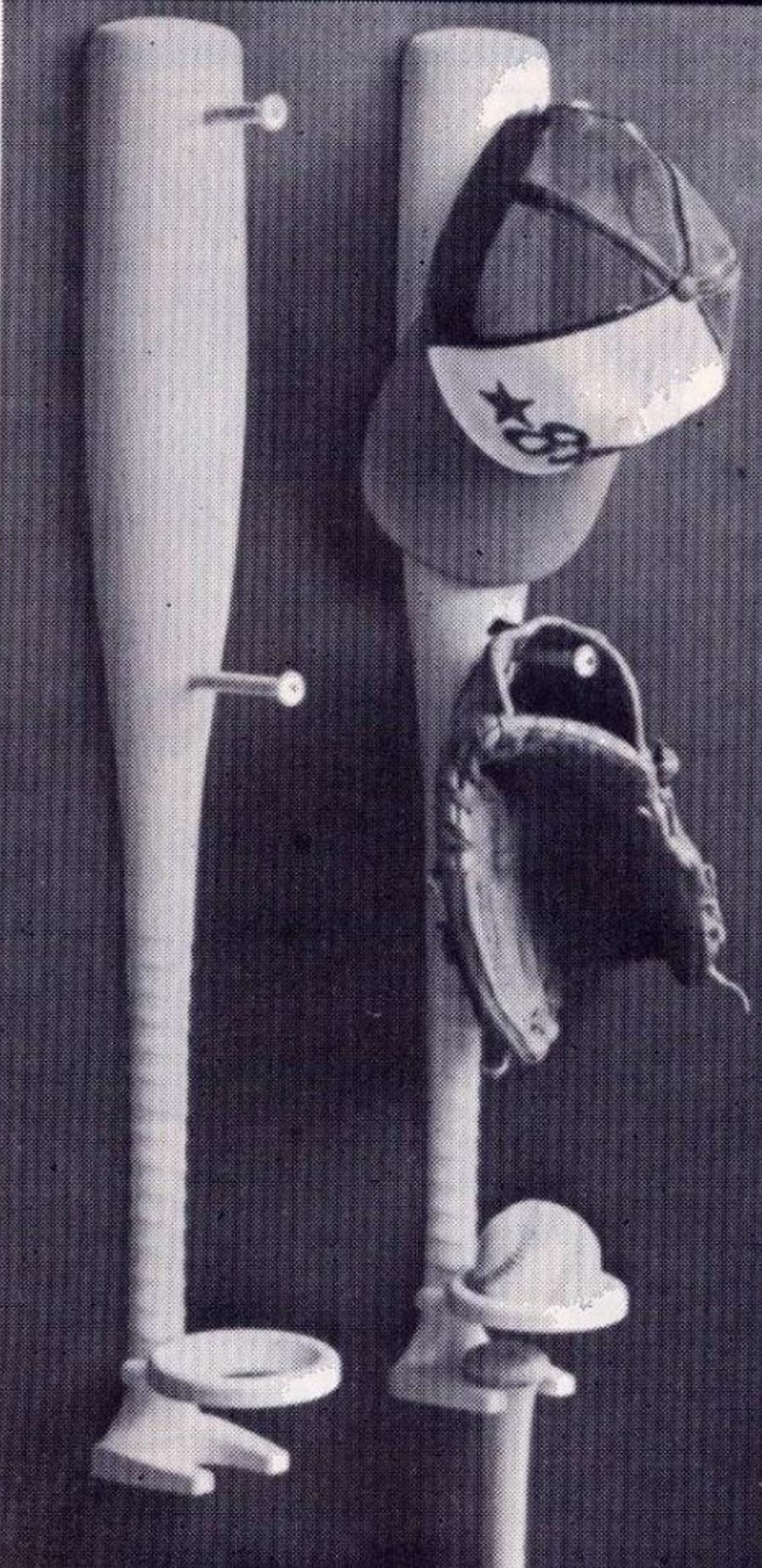
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RUBBER BALL
LIKE I GREW UP
WITH.

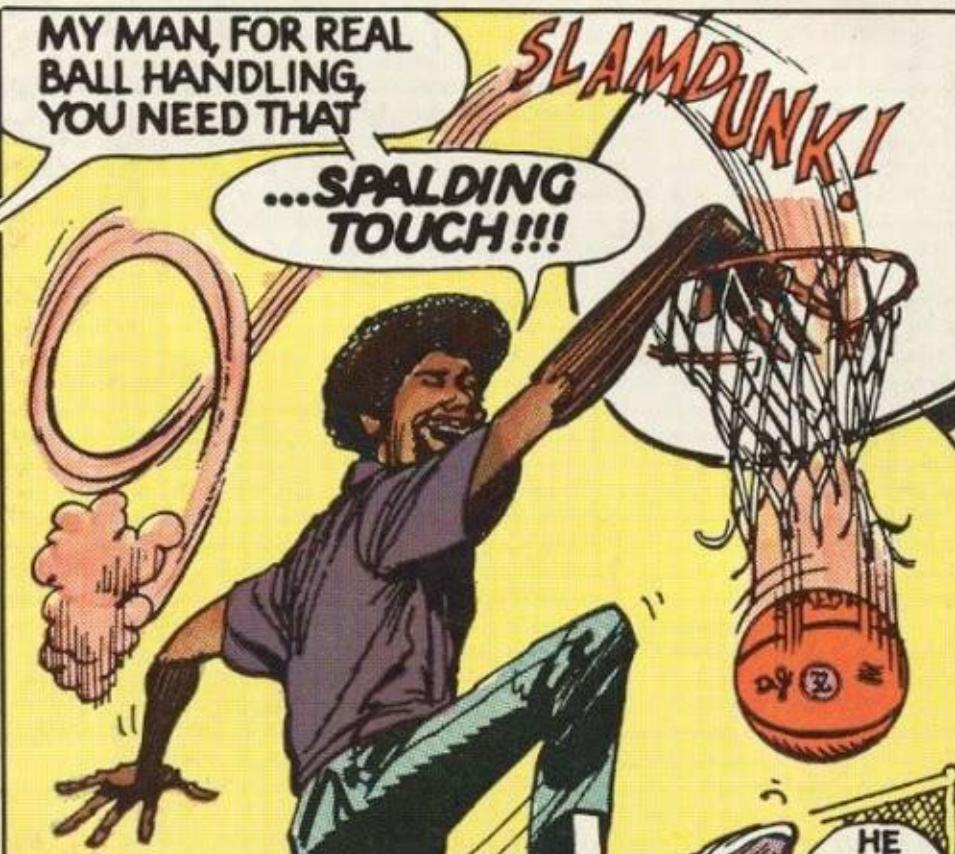
YEAH,
THOSE
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AW, WHAT
DIFFERENCE
CAN THE
BALL MAKE?

MY MAN, FOR REAL
BALL HANDLING,
YOU NEED THAT

...SPALDING
TOUCH!!!

SLAM DUNK!



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DON'T NEED
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