

**DC**  
SUPergirl

**20c**

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APPROVED  
BY THE  
COMICS  
CODE  
C.C.  
AUTHORITY

# SUPERGIRL



GIVE YOURSELF UP, SUPERGIRL!  
LET US PUT YOU AWAY BEFORE  
YOUR TERRIBLE MEDUSA-  
POWER TURNS MORE INNOCENT  
VICTIMS TO STONE!

YOUR GAZE ALREADY  
TRANSFORMED HAWKMAN  
INTO STONE! WE CAN'T LET  
YOU DOOM ANYONE ELSE!

ONCE—THE MOST ADORED AND  
ADMIRE HEROINE ON EARTH—  
THE MIGHTY GIRL OF STEEL  
DISCOVERS OVERNIGHT  
SHE'S SUDDENLY BECOME  
THE MOST DEADLY  
FEMALE WHO EVER  
LIVED! SEE WHAT  
HAPPENS WHEN  
SUPergirl IS  
CURSED BY...

# "A HEAD-FULL OF SNAKES!"

STORY: CARY BATES

ART: ART SAAF

R-282

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LATE AFTERNOON AT VANDYRE U.--WHERE A CHILLING THREAT CAN BE HEARD IF YOU LISTEN CLOSELY ENOUGH...

I DON'T FEAR YOU, WRETCHED WOMAN!

EVEN THOUGH GAZING UPON YOUR FACE IS LIKE PEERING INTO HELL ITSELF!



YOU ARE A FOOL, PERSEUS! SOONER OR LATER YOU'LL LOOK INTO THE EYES OF MEDUSA--AND THEN YOU'LL BE FOREVER TURNED TO STONE!

NO MORE--



NO MORE FOR TODAY, THAT IS! WE'LL HAVE A FINAL RUN-THROUGH TOMORROW!

YOU AND LINDA CAN TAKE OFF, MITCH!

GREAT!

I'LL SAY! AFTER THREE ACTS, I CAN'T WAIT TO TAKE THIS MEDUSA MASK OFF!



MAKING A BEAUTIFUL GIRL LIKE YOU THE UGLY MEDUSA IS DEFINITELY NOT TYPE-CASTING!

THANKS, MITCH!

AFTER ALL THESE WEEKS OF PLAY REHEARSAL, I THINK MITCH IS FINALLY NOTICING ME! ABOUT TIME!

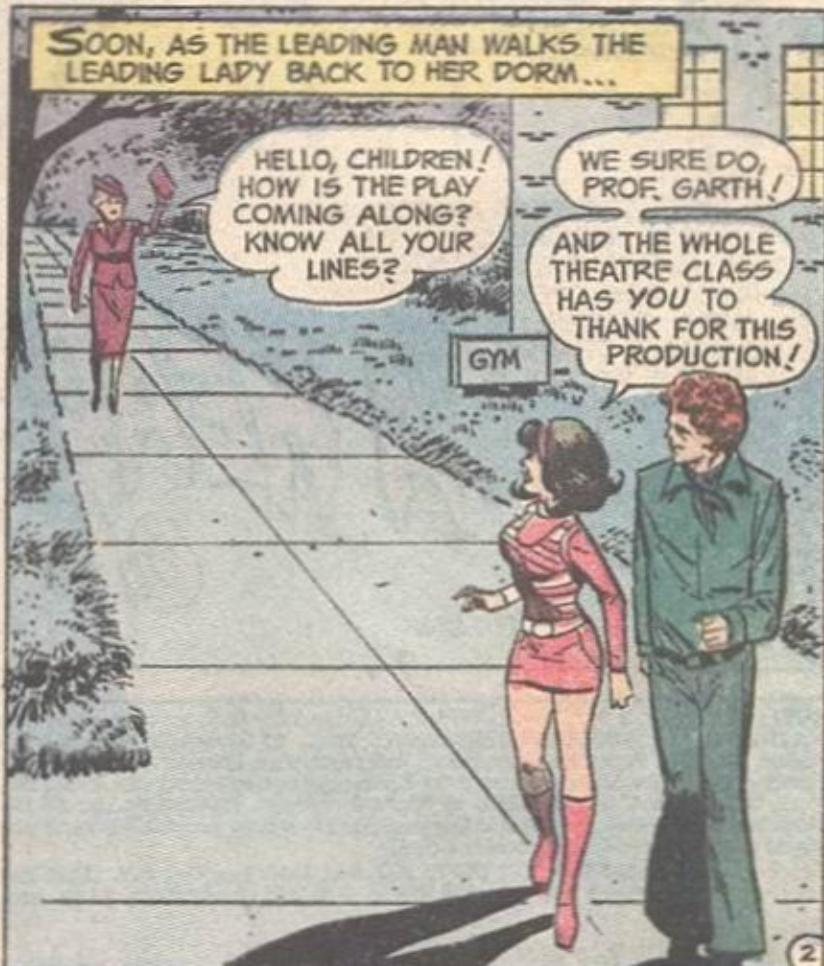


SOON, AS THE LEADING MAN WALKS THE LEADING LADY BACK TO HER DORM...

HELLO, CHILDREN! HOW IS THE PLAY COMING ALONG? KNOW ALL YOUR LINES?

WE SURE DO, PROF. GARTH!

AND THE WHOLE THEATRE CLASS HAS YOU TO THANK FOR THIS PRODUCTION!





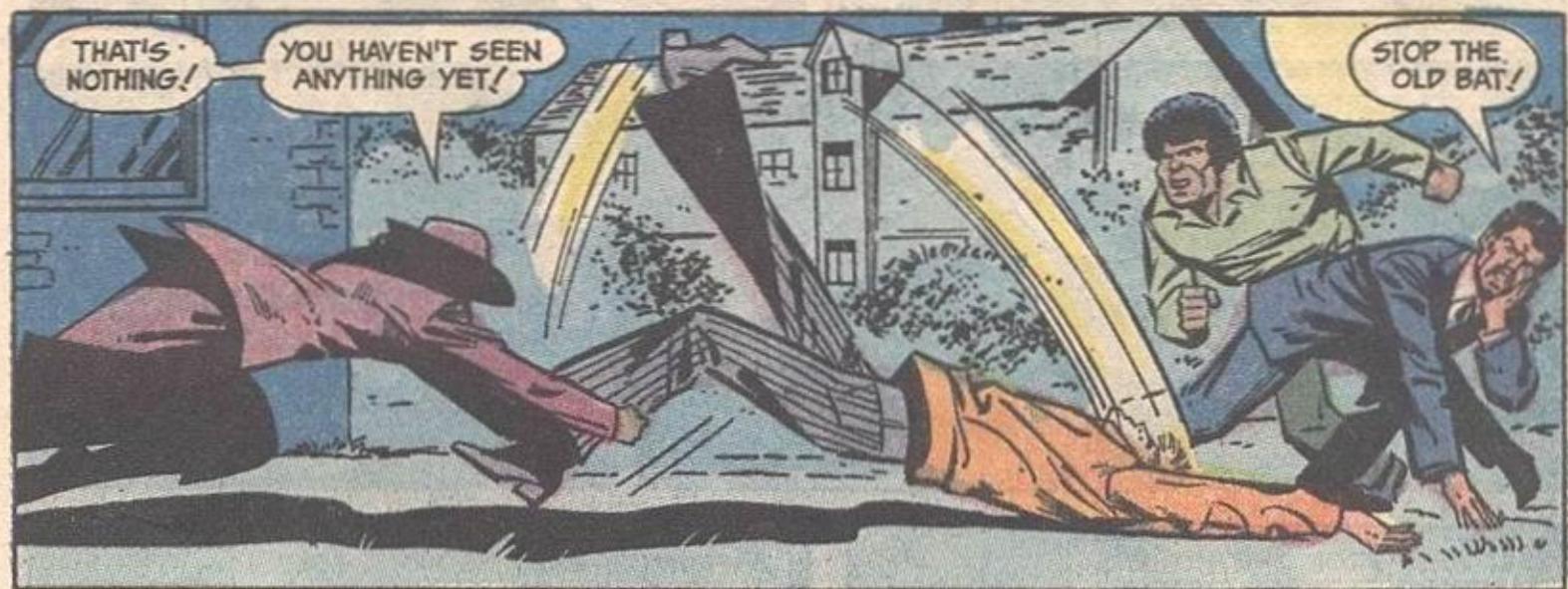
MEANWHILE - BEHIND THE DORM, WHILE MITCH SEARCHES FOR HIS LOST LEADING LADY...

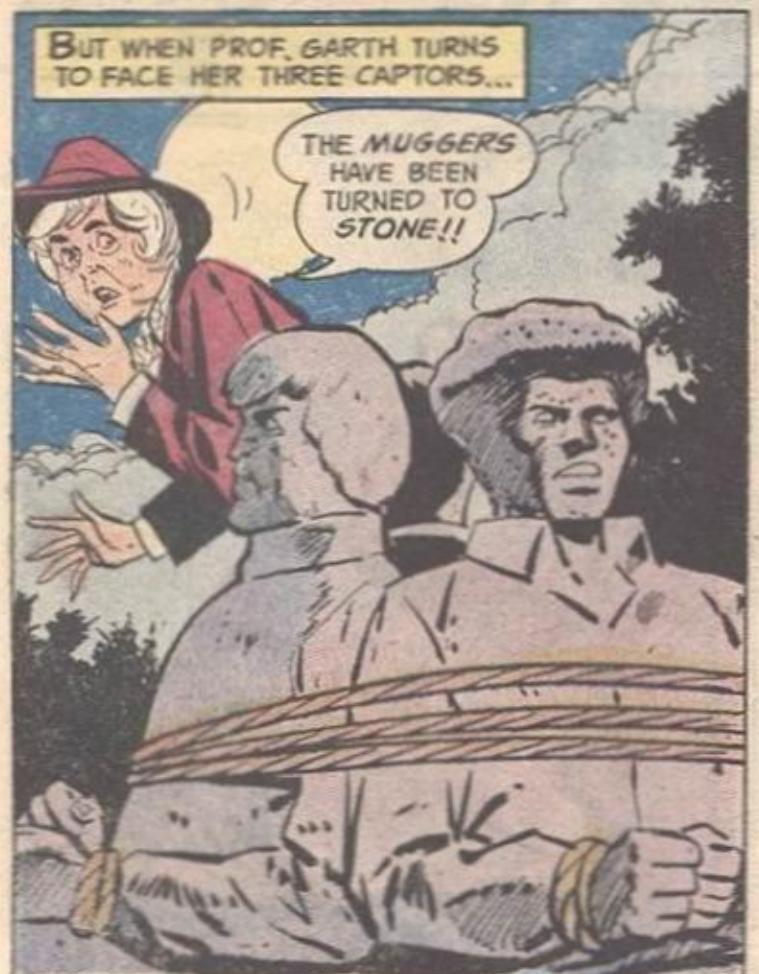
THE VAND'RE CAMPUS HAS BEEN PLAGUED WITH SEVERAL MUGGINGS THE PAST FEW WEEKS... BY A CITY-GANG THAT DECIDED TO GO TO COLLEGE!

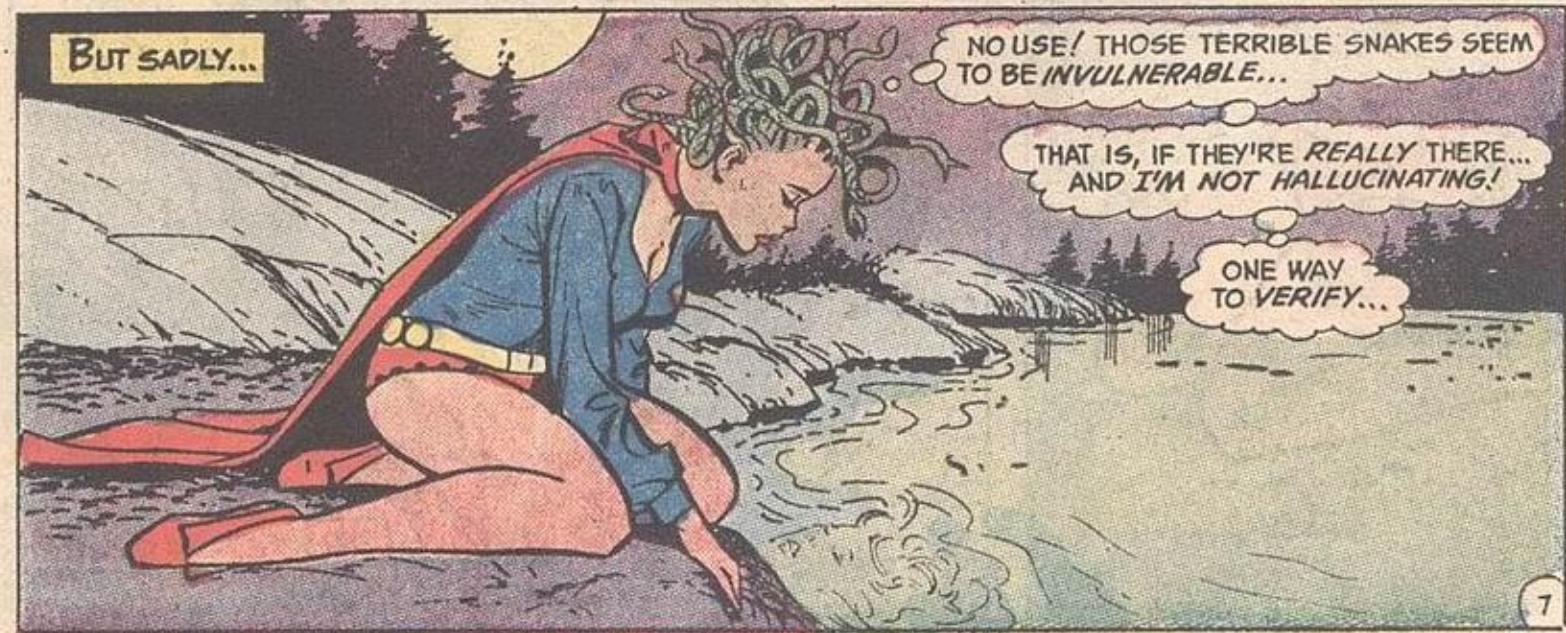
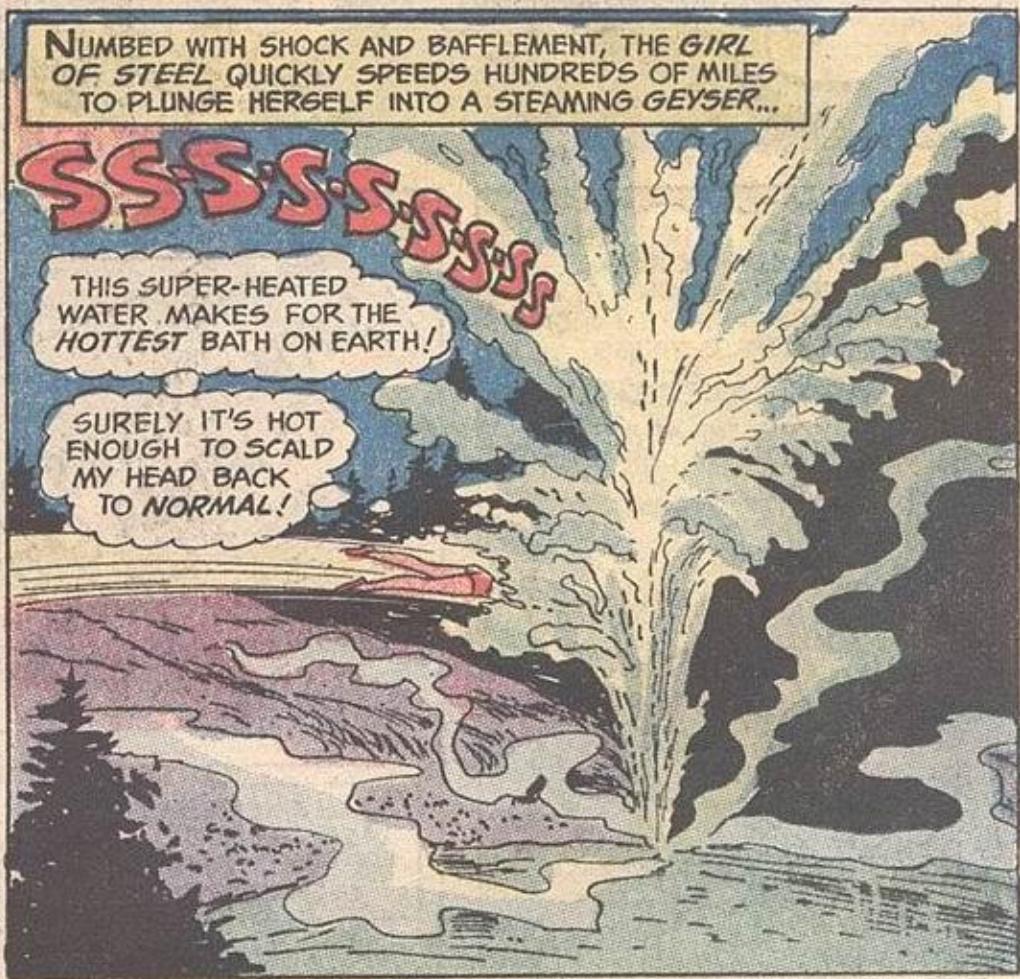
NOW THEY'RE ABOUT TO BE EXPELLED...

-BY SUPERGIRL!









ONCE AGAIN SHE CALLS UPON HER AMAZING SUPER-VISION-- SCANNING ACROSS MANY MILES, BACK TO VANDYRE U...

NO DOUBT ABOUT IT--SOLID AS A ROCK, ALL THREE OF THEM!

THEN, CRAZY AS IT SOUNDS-- THE PROF'S THEORY MUST BE TRUE! IT'S THE ONLY EXPLANATION!

I'M AFRAID SO, OFFICERS! SUPERGIRL HAS BECOME A TRUE MEDUSA! CAPABLE OF TURNING ANYONE TO STONE!



THAT CINCHES IT, THEN! THIS NIGHTMARE IS FOR REAL... AND ANYONE WHO LOOKS AT MY FACE WILL BE TURNED TO STONE. LIKE THOSE THREE THUGS!

I'VE B-BEOME THE M-MOST DANGEROUS WOMAN ON EARTH!



SOON THE HORRIFYING NEWS SPREADS AROUND THE WORLD...



AN EMERGENCY TASK-FORCE FROM THE JUSTICE LEAGUE OF AMERICA...

ALL THE OTHER MEMBERS AGREED... SUPERRGIRL MUST BE IMPRISONED FOR HER OWN SAFETY...

AND THE SAFETY OF OTHERS!

SHE'S A THREAT TO EVERY PERSON ON EARTH! SHE MUST SURRENDER TO US!



PART 2

"A HEAD-FULL OF SNAKES"!

MEANWHILE—A TURBANED GIRL OF MIGHT LEAVES THE FABULOUS ARCTIC FORTRESS OF SOLITUDE...



SUDDENLY, A CHILL TELEPATHIC VOICE INVADES THE SUPER-HEROINE'S MIND...

OF COURSE YOU COULDN'T, SUPERGIRL!

FOR NO POWER ON EARTH CAN SAVE YOU FROM THE CURSE OF THE VIPERS!



BUT BEFORE SHE CAN INVESTIGATE FURTHER...

UP AHEAD-- THERE SHE IS! SUPERGIRL!

SMART THINKING, BATMAN... HAVING US CHECK SUPERMAN'S FORTRESS FOR HER!



GIVE YOURSELF UP TO US, SUPERGIRL! THE JUSTICE LEAGUE WILL FIND A CURE TO YOUR PROBLEM!

BATMAN... GREEN LANTERN... HAWKMAN... LISTEN TO ME!

I MUST TACKLE THIS CRISIS ALONE... MY OWN WAY! IT'S THE ONLY HOPE I'VE GOT!



WE DON'T WANT TO  
FIGHT YOU, SUPERGIRL!  
DON'T FORCE US  
INTO COMBAT!

PLEASE--  
DON'T  
INTERFERE--  
NOT NOW!

NOT WHEN  
I'M SO CLOSE  
TO FINDING  
OUT WHAT  
CHANGED ME  
THIS WAY!

AND THEN, WITHOUT WARNING...

AS A FIERCE SUPER-  
POWERED STRUGGLE ENSUES...

THE NEXT MOMENT...

WE DISTRACTED HER  
LONG ENOUGH FOR  
HAWKMAN TO MAKE HIS  
SURPRISE ATTACK!

IT'S NO USE, HAWKMAN!  
YOU CAN'T HOLD ME BACK!  
I'M STRONGER THAN YOU!

HAWKMAN! DON'T LOOK--  
TOO LATE!—I'VE TURNED  
HIM TO STONE!

IF ONLY  
THE OTHERS  
LOOKED  
AWAY  
IN TIME--

OOFF!  
IT WORKED,  
LANTERN!

GREAT STARS!  
YOUR TURBAN—it's  
COMING LOOSE!

--BUT THEY DIDN'T!  
BATMAN AND GREEN  
LANTERN ARE  
FALLING THROUGH  
THE AIR—  
SOLID-ROCK!

## BEHIND THE SCENES

AT THE



## COMIC WORLD

It's time for a historical look at one of DC's most interesting features—a group of super-heroes who have been fighting for 15 years to earn a permanent home in one of our magazines.

### THE LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES

The Legion was born in the April, 1958 issue of Adventure Comics (#247) when Superboy traveled through time to the future to join a club of super-beings. Editor Mort Weisinger never intended them to become regular supporting characters, but the demand for the Legion was so great that he had to bring them back dozens of times in the next few years, to play bit parts in practically every one of the Superman family magazines that he edited, from Action to Jimmy Olsen. Even in the days before most comics had letters pages, the Legion had a large band of supporters, which seemingly grew along with the super-hero club (It had grown from three members to about 15). Finally, they got their chance at a series of their own . . .

The Bizarros (Anyone out there remember Superman's imperfect double and his family?) had worn out their welcome as the back-feature in Adventure Comics, so the Legion took over with #300 in September, 1962, with Superboy soloing in the lead story, as he had for over 15 years.

The Legion's supporters were not going to settle for a mere back-feature; within a year, they had boosted the sales of Adventure issues with the Legion on the cover so much that our favorite super-stars took over the book—first as a 17-page cover feature, and then with book-length tales in a magazine re-titled *Adventure Comics featuring Superboy and The Legion of Super-Heroes!* The Legion held onto that slot until 1969 when Supergirl took over Adventure and they moved to the back of Action Comics, as they took another step backward on their long odyssey.



When Weisinger retired in 1971, Murray Boltinoff picked up the Legion for his stable of characters and featured them in the back of Superboy, picking former fans Cary Bates and Dave Cockrum (a life-long Legion freak) to handle the creative chores.

The masses of Legion fans still weren't happy;

they insisted that DC give the Legion its own mag again. Everyone at the office thought that they deserved another chance, too, so a Legion reprint mag was published to test the sales potential. It succeeded, and if you pick up a new issue of Superboy, you'll find that it's now *Superboy and The Legion of Super-Heroes*. The Legion has come full circle again, and I hope they stay around another 15 years!

FLASH! The lives of the Legionnaires will be changed drastically by the events that are going to take place in *Superboy* #200, so no Legion fan can dare to miss that one! Watch *Direct Currents* for the exact on-sale date!

\* \* \* \*

A few months ago, I wrote a *Behind The Scenes* column which talked about the Comic Art Convention, and I mentioned a few things about comic fans. Since then, I've received a number of letters asking more about the world of these people, and how to get involved in fandom. This month, then, let's take a long look at . . .

### COMIC FANS!



Comic fans are people who can tell you every issue of every comic that Superman ever appeared in, who drew it, and what the title of the story was. They know the date that the new comics are due at their newsstands, and which ones are due out in any given week. They've been known to spend up to \$500 for a copy of an old comic book, and deals for whole collections often run into thousands of dollars. They publish magazines about comics, ranging from news to unpublished stories by professional artists like Neal Adams or Berni Wrightson.

Conventions of fans take place all the time, all over the country. Regular monthly "cons" are held in New York City and Boston, and larger, annual affairs, are held in most major cities. If you want to enter the world of fandom, that's the best place to do it! A complete listing of conventions is unavailable, but a good list is available for a stamped, self-addressed envelope from Phil Seuling, 621 Avenue Z, Brooklyn, New York 11223.

It's a bit harder to get a hold of a list of quality fan magazines, however, I'll steer you in the direction of two of the most popular ones, and you can go from there. The first, if the truth be known, is my own magazine. (Secret identity revealing time, folks!) *The Comic Reader*, which is the TV Guide for the comics industry, is available from a hack named Paul Levitz at Post Office Box #23, Brooklyn, New York 11203. If you're more interested in reading comics than reading about comics, try *The Menomonee Falls Gazette*, a weekly newspaper composed entirely of comic strips, including Golden Age episodes of Superman and Tarzan, and strips by DC greats like Frank Robbins, Neal Adams, Doug Wildey, and an editor by the name of Archie Goodwin. Write for details to Post Office Box 255, Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin, 53051.

All this should start you on a career as a comic fan if that's what you're interested in. It's a wonderful world, and a lot of fun, and I hope you'll become a part of it.

—Paul Levitz

EYEBLINKS LATER, AFTER A THREE-WAY  
SUPER-SPEED RESCUE...

"CHOKE! THREE  
OF THE WORLD'S  
MOST GALLANT  
HEROES... NOW  
LIFELESS STATUES  
BECAUSE OF ME!"

"NOT ONLY MUST I  
FIND A WAY TO  
CURE MYSELF... I  
MUST BRING MY  
VICTIMS BACK  
TO LIFE AS WELL!"

"IMPOSSIBLE—  
IT'S THAT TELEPATHIC  
SUPergirl!"

"IT'S THAT TELEPATHIC  
SUPergirl!"

"THE ONLY PERSON  
YOU'LL BRING BACK  
TO LIFE IS ME—  
YOU FOOL!"

"WHO ARE YOU?"

"WHY HAVE YOU  
TRANSFORMED ME  
INTO A HORRIBLE  
MENACE?"

"MY IDENTITY IS MY SECRET!  
AS FOR THE SNAKES—  
THEY'RE PART OF THE ANCIENT  
DREAD CURSE I'VE PLACED  
UPON YOU!"

"IF YOU DIE WITHIN THE NEXT 8 HOURS—  
MY MENTAL SPIRIT WILL BE ABLE TO ENTER  
YOUR BODY AS SOON AS YOUR SPIRIT LEAVES IT!"

"THUS I SHALL BECOME  
FAR MORE DEADLY THAN  
I WAS MANY YEARS AGO..."

"...I SHALL BECOME  
A SUPER-GORGON!"

"GORGON! IN GREEK MYTHOLOGY, THERE  
WERE THREE DAUGHTERS OF THE SEA-GOD  
PHORCUS... ALL WITH HIDEOUS FACES AND  
SNAKES FOR HAIR! AND THE MOST TERRIBLE  
WAS MEDUSA! THAT MUST MEAN—"

"YES, SUPergirl...  
I AM MEDUSA'S  
GHOST!!"

"BUT THE KNOWLEDGE WILL DO YOU NO GOOD—  
FOR YOU HAVE NO WAY OF KNOWING WHERE  
MY SECRET TOMB IS HIDDEN!"

"AND BESIDES, YOU'LL BE TOO BUSY TO  
LOOK— SINCE YOU'LL SOON BE MEETING  
A VIOLENT DEATH!"

THE MAID OF MIGHT TAKES TO THE SKIES...

SO—THE MEDUSA GHOST SAYS A VIOLENT DEATH IS IN STORE FOR ME? BUT THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE! SHE MUST KNOW NO FORCE ON EARTH CAN HARM ME!

BUT SHE'S ALSO RIGHT—I CAN'T STRIKE BACK IF I DON'T KNOW WHERE SHE'S ENTOMBED!

HOWEVER... I KNOW SOMEONE WHO OWES ME A FAVOR... SOMEONE WHO JUST MIGHT BE ABLE TO HELP UNCOVER THAT GHASTLY GORGON'S HIDING PLACE!

AT THAT MOMENT, IN A MEN'S DORM ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE CAMPUS...

HEY—WHAT'S WITH MITCH?

HE WAS FINE—THEN ALL OF A SUDDEN... HE TOOK OFF LIKE A WILD MAN!

VANDYRE MUSEUM  
DEPT.

SCANT MOMENTS LATER, AT THE VANDYRE MUSEUM...

SORRY, SON! THE MUSEUM'S CLOSED TILL TOMORROW!  
I CAN'T LET YOU IN!

I CAN--  
AND I  
MUST!

AND INSIDE--AFTER RUSHING THROUGH THE ANCIENT GREECE EXHIBIT...

THERE IT IS... EVERYTHING I'LL NEED!

EVERYTHING I'LL NEED FOR MY UPCOMING RETURN BATTLE WITH THE HORRENDOUS MEDUSA!

THOUSANDS OF YEARS AGO, I RECEIVED MY HELMET FROM PLUTO, MY SWORD FROM MERCURY, AND MY SHIELD FROM MINERVA!

BUT THIS TIME, I CAN'T COUNT ON THE GODS FOR MY WEAPONS! JUST MY MAGIC!

PERSEUS,  
SON OF JUPITER.

WHILE IN THE OFFICE OF STARTLED PROFESSOR GARTH...

WHAT YOU'VE TOLD ME IS UTTERLY AMAZING, SUPERGIRL--TO THINK THE MEDUSA SPIRIT STILL THRIVES!

IS THIS THE AREA ON THE MAP YOU MENTIONED?

YES! THOSE CATACOMBS ARE SIMILAR TO THE FAMOUS ONES THAT CRISS-CROSS UNDERNEATH THE HILLS OF ROME! THAT NETWORK WAS DISCOVERED NEAR THE SITE OF MOUNT OLYMPUS JUST RECENTLY!

IT'S MY ACADEMIC GUESS THE MEDUSA'S TOMB IS SOMEWHERE IN THERE!

THEN--I'M OFF TO THE OLYMPIAN CATACOMBS! MY ONLY HOPE OF DEFEATING MEDUSA IS TO UNCOVER HER TOMB!

BE CAREFUL, SUPERGIRL! OTHERS AREN'T AS UNDERSTANDING AS I! REMEMBER, THE REST OF THE WORLD STILL CONSIDERS YOU A FRIGHTFUL MENACE THAT HAS TO BE STOPPED!

AS SUPERGIRL SOARS SWIFTLY THROUGH NORTHERN SKIES—THE PROFESSOR'S WARNING SOON RINGS TRUE...

LOOK...  
SUPergirl  
AT TWELVE  
O'CLOCK!

YOU'RE RIGHT!  
IT IS HER!

QUICKLY--REVERSE COURSE--BEFORE WE GET CLOSE ENOUGH TO SEE HER MEDUSA HEAD!



END PART TWO

AS THE FIERY-WILLED WARRIOR ATTACKS,  
SUPergirl quickly sums up the dilemma...

PART  
3



BUT THE TROUBLE IS... PERSEUS' GHOST  
IS CONVINCED I'M THE TRUE MEDUSA!  
HE DOESN'T KNOW WE'RE BOTH ON  
THE SAME SIDE!

DIE  
AGAIN,  
CURSED  
GORGON!



YOUR SWORD  
ALMOST KILLED  
ME!

OF COURSE! YOU FORGET, MY  
WEAPONS ARE MAGICAL...  
WHICH MEANS NOT EVEN YOUR  
SUPER-POWERS ARE IMMUNE  
TO THEM!



UH-OH! HE'S  
RIGHT--MY  
INVULNERABILITY  
WON'T PROTECT  
ME FROM  
MAGIC!

PERSEUS IS TRYING TO BEHEAD ME AT THE  
NECK... THE SAME WAY HE KILLED THE REAL  
MEDUSA CENTURIES AGO IN ANCIENT GREECE!

HO! YOU'RE  
BETTER AT  
COMBAT THAN  
YOU ONCE  
WERE, GORGON!

I'M NOT THE MEDUSA!  
WHAT WILL IT TAKE  
FOR ME TO GET  
THROUGH TO YOU?



OFF WITH THIS SCARLET TURBAN, MEDUSA! WHY CONCEAL THE VILE SERPENTS WE BOTH KNOW ARE THERE?

WHY IS PERSEUS TAKING SUCH A RISK-- UNCOVERING THE SNAKES WHEN ONE GLANCE AT THEM COULD PETRIFY HIM?

BUT WHEN THE MAID OF MIGHT TAKES A CLOSER LOOK AT HER OPPONENT'S SHIMMERING SHIELD ...

SO THAT'S WHAT HE'S UP TO!  
HE WANTS ME TO SEE MY OWN REFLECTION IN HIS SHINY SHIELD-- SO I'LL TURN MYSELF TO STONE!

A CLEVER STUNT--

-- BUT NOT QUITE CLEVER ENOUGH!

SORRY, PERSEUS! LOOKS LIKE THIS IS THE ONLY WAY I CAN GET YOU TO SEE THINGS MY WAY!

I YIELD!  
I YIELD!  
DON'T MAKE ME GAZE AT YOUR NIGHTMARISH FACE!

STRUGGLE AS HE MAY, THE SPIRIT OF THE ANCIENT GREEK WARRIOR CANNOT DEFY THE STRENGTH OF THE GIRL OF STEEL...

LOOK AT ME,  
PERSEUS...  
LOOK!

NO! YOU'LL GAIN NOTHING BY TURNING THIS POOR LAD'S BODY TO STONE!

AND AS HIS  
HORRIFIED  
EYES GAZE  
UPON  
SUPergirl's  
FACE...

NO! I BEG YOU--  
DON'T MAKE ME--  
--LOOK!

BUT WHILE THE PANIC-  
STRICKEN MITCH'S EYES  
WIDEN WITH FEAR...

WE SHIFT TO  
THE HILLS AND  
RUINED TEMPLES  
OF GREECE...

NO PLAN COULD  
BE BETTER  
CONCEIVED  
THAN MINE!

WHEN I PLACED THE MEDUSA CURSE  
UPON SUPergirl's HEAD... I KNEW IT  
WOULD ANGER MY ETERNAL FOE, PERSEUS,  
INTO POSSESSING A MORTAL LADY'S BODY!

FOR  
PERSEUS  
LIVES ON  
AS A  
GHOST,  
LIKE ME!

THOUGHTS WELL HIDDEN FROM  
THE OUTSIDE WORLD, NESTLED  
DEEP WITHIN THE AGE-OLD  
OLYMPIAN CATACOMBS BUILT  
EONS AGO BY THE ANCIENT GREEKS...

AND I KNOW MY HOT-HEADED  
NEMESIS WELL ENOUGH TO  
PREDICT THAT HE'D MISTAKE  
SUPergirl FOR ME-- THINKING  
SHE WAS THE REAL MEDUSA!

SO, WHEN PERSEUS SLAYS  
SUPergirl WITH HIS MAGIC  
SWORD... HE'LL UNWITTINGLY  
ENABLE ME TO POSSESS HER  
BODY AND BECOME A  
SUPER-MEDUSA!

THEN I'LL BE IMMORTAL...  
AND INVINCIBLE! NOT EVEN  
PERSEUS-- OR THE REST  
OF THE WORLD-- WILL DEFY  
ME THEN!

I'LL SUMMON FORTH THE  
SPIRITS OF MY SISTERS  
AND WE GORGONS WILL  
RULE THE EARTH!

A BRUPTLY-- THE AGELESS SERENITY  
AND SILENCE IS DRAMATICALLY  
INTERRUPTED...

CRASHH!



SUPergirl!

HOW DID YOU FIND OUT  
ABOUT THESE SECRET  
CATACOMBS?!



WHERE ELSE COULD YOU BE, MEDUSA?

NOW THAT I'VE UNCOVERED YOUR TOMB-- I WANT YOU TO SEE THE LATEST VICTIM YOUR EVIL HAS CLAIMED!



QUICKLY, SUPERGIRL TAKES OFF AND RETURNS WITH A STIFF, UNMOVING HUMAN STATUE...

THIS SLAB OF STONE WAS ONCE A YOUNG MAN! HIS NAME WAS MITCH BAXTER... AND HE NEVER HARMED A LIVING THING WHILE HE WAS ALIVE!

THIS GRUDGE-FIGHT BETWEEN YOU AND PERSEUS SNUFFED THE LIFE OUT OF HIM!



CONTROL YOURSELF, SUPERGIRL! YOU'RE LETTING YOUR EMOTIONS RUN AWAY WITH YOU! DO YOU WANT TO SPEND YOUR LAST MOMENTS IN TEARS?

MY, MOMENTS AREN'T ALMOST UP, MEDUSA-- BUT YOURS ARE!



WHEN I GET THROUGH WITH YOU, YOU'LL BE BURIED UNDER TONS OF LUNAR ROCK ON THE MOON! LET'S SEE HOW MANY SPELLS YOU CAN CAST FROM THERE!

YOU'LL NEVER KNOW, SUPERGIRL--



--BECAUSE YOU'LL NEVER LAY EVEN ONE FINGER ON ME!

WH—ENSNARED BY SOME SORT OF GIANT WEB--!



BUT WHEN THE MAID FROM KRYPTON EXERTS HER FANTASTIC STRENGTH TO RIP THE STICKY, GLISTENING THREADS APART...

OMIGOSH! I—I CAN'T BREAK THROUGH THIS WEB... NO MATTER HOW MUCH I STRAIN MY SUPER-MUSCLES!

NATURALLY, SUPERGIRL! THE WEB IS THE WORK OF MY MAGIC-- AND IN SPITE OF YOUR POWERS, YOU'RE AS HELPLESS AS A POOR, UNFORTUNATE INSECT!



THE DEMONIC SPIDERS I CONJURED UP ARE SPINNING THE WEB AROUND YOU TIGHTER AND THICKER--

--UNTIL THERE WILL BE NOTHING LEFT OF YOU BUT A LIFELESS SHELL!

=GASP= THAT'S FOR SURE! EVERY INCH OF MY BODY IS BEING SLOWLY STRANGLED!

AND THEN-- IT BEGINS WITH A FAINT CRACKLING, LIKE THE SOUND OF PEELING PLASTER--AS THE MEDUSA-GHOST BEHOLDS A SIGHT BEYOND BELIEF...

I'LL SAVE YOU, SUPERGIRL!

?/? THIS CANNOT BE! NO ONE CAN RETURN TO THE LIVING--AFTER BEING TURNED TO STONE!

TRUE, WICKED ONE! BUT I WAS NEVER PETRIFIED! SUPERGIRL CONVINCED ME SHE WAS ON MY SIDE AND WE CONCOCTED THIS SCHEME TOGETHER!

AND YOUR MAGIC WEB CANNOT DEFY MY MAGIC SWORD!

A FEW SLASHES LATER, AS SUPERGIRL STEPS FREE OF THE LETHAL THREADS...

IT'S ALL OVER, MEDUSA! YOU MIGHT'VE BEEN ABLE TO DEFEAT US SEPARATELY--

-BUT AS A TEAM WE'RE TOO MUCH FOR YOU!

NOT IF I PETRIFY BOTH OF YOU BY REVEALING MY FACE!

BUT THE NEXT SPLIT-INSTANT...

? WHEW-- IF IT WEREN'T FOR THAT FREAK CAVE-IN, WE'D BE A PAIR OF STATUES NOW! WHAT SHEER LUCK!

SOME "LUCK"--



--I SET OFF THAT CAVE-IN AT THE LAST SECOND WITH A QUICK SUPER-CLAP OF MY HANDS!

SUPergirl! YOUR HAIR... I THINK IT'S STARTING TO...

THEN MEDUSA'S SPELL IS REALLY BROKEN! THAT MEANS ALL THE PEOPLE I TURNED TO STONE--INCLUDING THE JLA-- SHOULD BE BACK TO NORMAL ALSO!



WHAT ARE YOU UP TO NOW, SUPergirl?

THE MEDUSA MAY HAVE BEEN A DEAD SPIRIT-- BUT THOSE LETHAL SNAKES WE BARELY SAW WERE VERY MUCH ALIVE!

MUST FIND THEM AND DISPOSE OF THEM!



HOWEVER, WHEN THE DEBRIS HAS BEEN CLEARED AWAY...

MEDUSA STILL GETS THE LAST LAUGH! UNDERNEATH HER TOMB WAS HIDDEN A LARGE SNAKE PIT, FILLED WITH HUNDREDS OF SERPENTS!

NOW I'LL NEVER FIND THE MEDUSA-SNAKES!



IT'S A GOOD THING YOU FORCED ME TO LOOK AT YOU, SUPergirl-- TO SEE THAT YOU REPLACED YOUR CAPE-TURBAN AFTER I RIPPED IT OFF!

IT WAS THE ONLY WAY I COULD PROVE TO YOU THAT I WAS A FRIEND AND NOT A FOE!



SUDDENLY, SUPergirl's MYTHOLOGICAL ALLY PLUMMETS THROUGH THE AIR, FLIGHTLESS...

HELP!...I'M FALLING... FALLING!

I EXPECTED THIS! THE PERSEUS SPIRIT MUST'VE JUST LEFT MITCH'S BODY, NOW THAT THE MEDUSA'S VANQUISHED - MITCH IS HIMSELF AGAIN!



W-WAS I ACTUALLY FLYING, SUPergirl? AND WHY AM I WEARING THIS STRANGE UNIFORM?

HAVE I GOT A NEW CHAPTER OF GREEK MYTHOLOGY TO TELL YOU, MITCH!





# SUPER FE-MAIL

R-298

Dear Editor:

You say you want our thoughts on SUPERGIRL's new magazine. Well here's mine: It's FANTASTIC! In Adventure Comics she never got her share of publicity, and she really does deserve it.

In SUPERGIRL #1 she was great, and has been that way ever since. Zatanna is great, too . . . I hope she backs up all of SUPERGIRL's adventures.

I have one other compliment. Please tell your artists they're real cool! No matter what situation SUPERGIRL's in she's always posed gracefully!

—Diane Stemmler, Warren, Michigan

Dear Diane:

Your message has already been passed on to our artists, Art Saaf and Vince Colletta. They thank you! And so do we. Keep reading and enjoying!

\* \* \* \*

Dear Editor:

SUPERGIRL #4 was undoubtedly the best of the first four issues of this magazine. In Adventure Comics she was playing SUPERGIRL the Relevant, and the first three issues of her own title found her in the role of SUPERGIRL the Detective. A good start for an actress, this role-switching! With issue #4 she looks like she's back to SUPERGIRL the Super-Heroine again, involved in the clever stories that distinguish Superman-Family magazines from all others in the field.

"The Borrowed Brain" was really something else! At last SUPERGIRL's human side shows up again, after a great flaring up in Adventure Comics #424. This SUPERGIRL issue is surely one D.C. magazine that takes advantage of the big comics-revolution of the past three years. It takes the best feature of the relevant era . . . characterization and human insight . . . and mixes it with the stuff that made old comics entertainment. I hope David (the Scavenger) isn't forgotten. SUPERGIRL has a very few stock villains to worry about, and hunting a villain she loves would make things very interesting. Why not try bringing him back, super-powered or not?

On P. 1 the author's name is given as "Gary Bates." Any relation to Cary? Like maybe the same person?

The art was really great . . . and I mean that! I've seen just about every SUPERGIRL artist (from Swan, Mooney, Schaffenberger, and others), but I can honestly say that Art Saaf and Vince Colletta are the best . . . by a mile!

—Bob Rodi, Oak Brook, Illinois

Dear Bob:

There are so many people in the world . . . so why should SUPERGIRL (or any of the Superman family, for that matter) always keep worrying about "stock" characters? This would be limiting her perspective on the world, and it would also be limiting our view of how she copes with different types of problems. It would tend to make her unrealistic, which is just what you mention you like to see

avoided in comics. We agree with you . . . characterization and human insight ARE precious to SUPERGIRL, and for that reason we will NOT listen to your suggestion.

"Gary" Bates doesn't exist, except as a typographical error. He and Cary Bates are in reality one and the same person (Oops . . . now I went and blew Cary's secret identity).

And finally . . . We know Saaf and Colletta are the best. That's why they're drawing the adventures of the Maid of Might! Just the same, it's nice to hear praise from fans.

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Dear Editor:

I enjoyed "The Borrowed Brain" in SUPERGIRL #4, and thought that even though similar stories had been done in comics before, you handled this one beautifully. The dynamic interior artwork and the very powerful cover made this issue a classic to me. Thanks!

—Sam Kirkland, San Francisco, California

Short and to the point, right? And we thank you, Sam. But as an interesting contrast of readers' reactions, how's about the following?

\* \* \* \*

Dear Editor:

"The Borrowed Brain" was just so-so, and there are a number of inconsistencies. For instance: If SUPERGIRL's blood is as indestructible and invulnerable as SHE is, two things would have happened. (1) Her blood would have been rejected as a strange, alien blood-type, and would not have been accepted into David's bloodstream. Or (2) even if it was accepted into his bloodstream, the Kryptonian blood would have killed David. Mortal blood vessels and a human heart could never take the strain of having indestructible blood coursing through them at the incredible speeds at which blood usually travels. Now THAT should have been the ending of the story!

—Helen Benson, Washington, D.C.

Dear Helen:

If you're not a medical student, then you've missed your calling! Unfortunately, you're wrong. From past experience (Superman has saved the life of Lois Lane and others via super-transfusions), SUPERGIRL knows her blood affects the bodies of Earthmen as a super-vitamin, fortifying all cells it comes in contact with, and destroying all disease germs in the process. So the recipient of the Kryptonian blood finds himself super-healthy and super-strong. If you don't believe me, just ask David. On second thought, I doubt that he'd answer you, being somewhat embittered over the catch . . . namely, these wonderful effects are only temporary!

—Allan Asherman,  
Editorial Assistant