



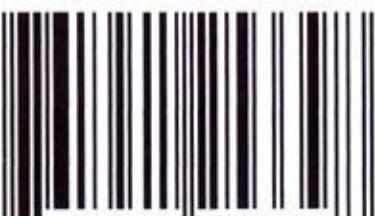
17
APR '08

GAIL
SIMONE
TERRY
DODSON
RACHEL
DODSON

Wonder Woman®

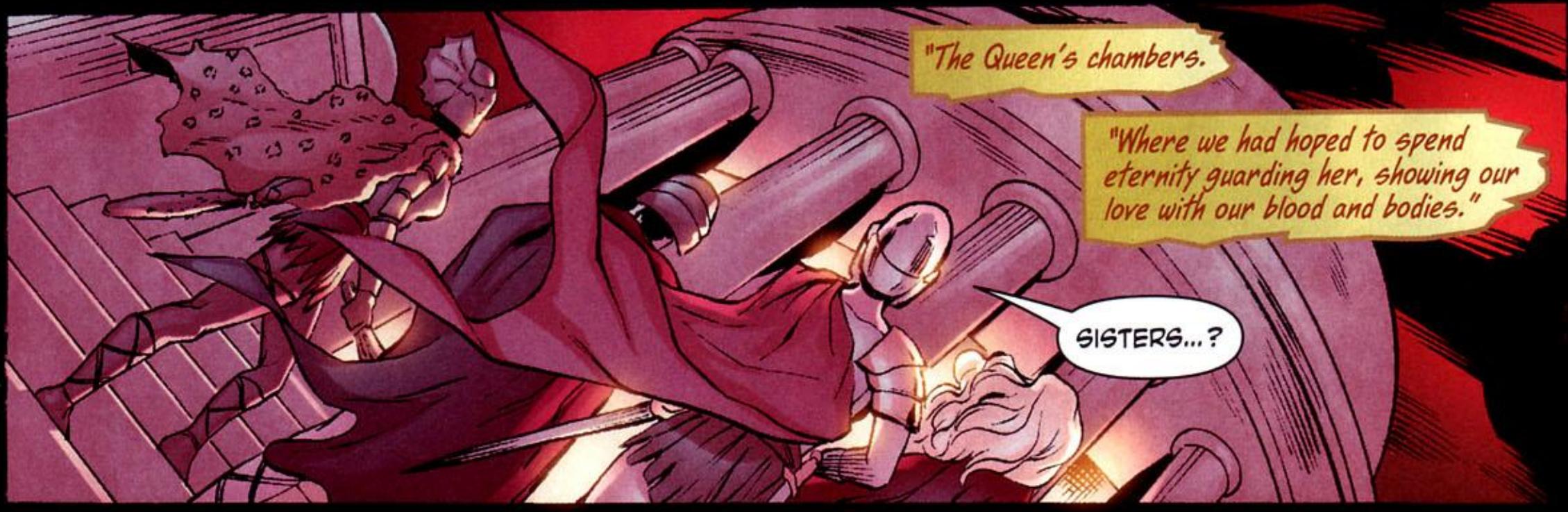
THE

CIRCLE
THE FINALE



WHAT YOU DO NOT YET
KNOW, CONTINUED...







"The tragedy and the bloodshed that followed, they were MY fault.

"Because I was WEAK."

"The Queen slumbered in earnest, exhausted from the day's ordeal. One does not take LIFE from the gods LIGHTLY."

"Would that I had had the strength to thrust that blade into the creature.

FORGIVE ME, MY QUEEN.

"Or saving that, into MYSELF."



"That the thing we hated and feared most, that we were CONVINCED would tear our tribe and island apart...





"We could have slain her on the spot. I know it."

ALKYONE!
YOU BETRAYED
ME!

MY...
MY QUEEN.
PLEASE.

"Pity the VOW we had made
kept us from DEFENDING
ourselves against her."

"And then
I saw
something
miraculous,
impossible.

"The child sat up.
The newborn."

"The first night of her life,
the first thing seen with
her open eyes, was her
mother drawing blood."

"She neither cried
nor turned away."

"So LIKE
her mother."

"Inexplicably...
I felt PROUD of her."

"And then Phillipus proved her mettle as a SOLDIER,
surprising us all for the final time that night."

AMAZONS!
KILL THE
TRAITOR!

ALKYONE...
WHAT ARE YOUR
ORDERS?

MY
ORDERS,
MYRTO?

WE ARE THE DAMNED,
AND WE WILL DO WHAT
AMAZONS DO WHEN THEY
HAVE NO HOPE LEFT.





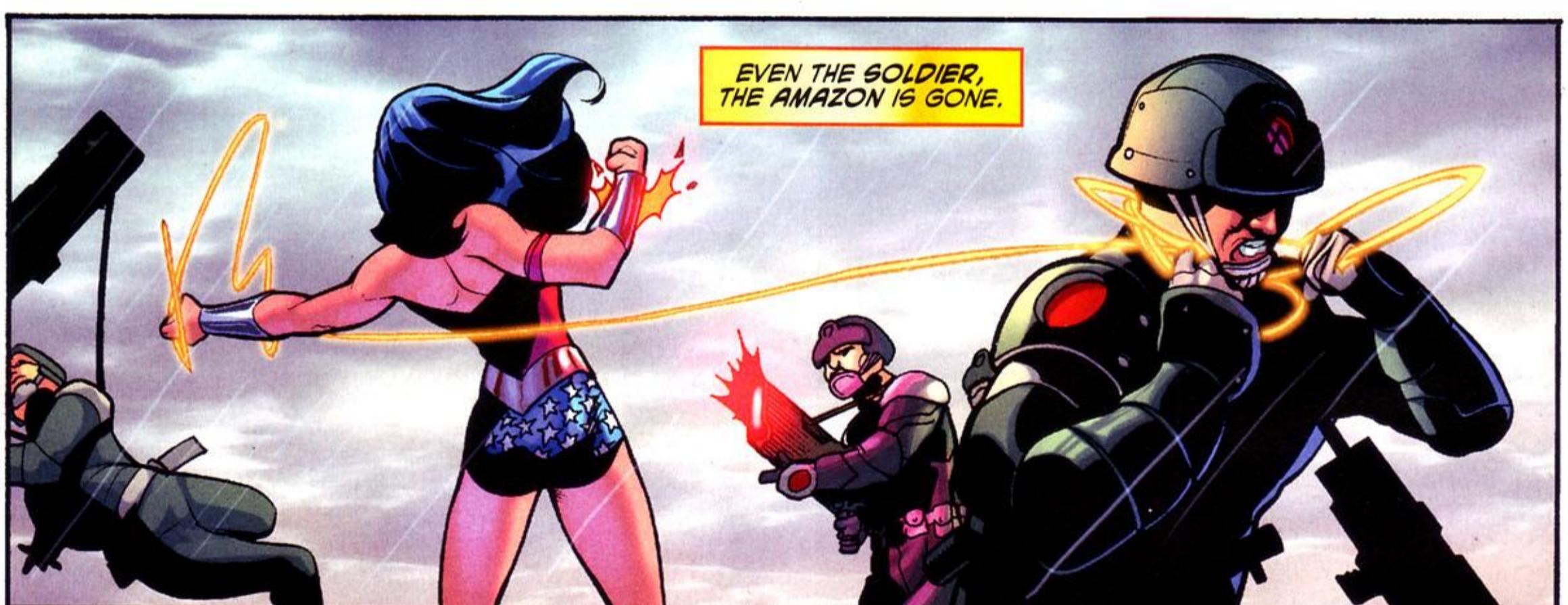
THE CIRCLE CONCLUSION

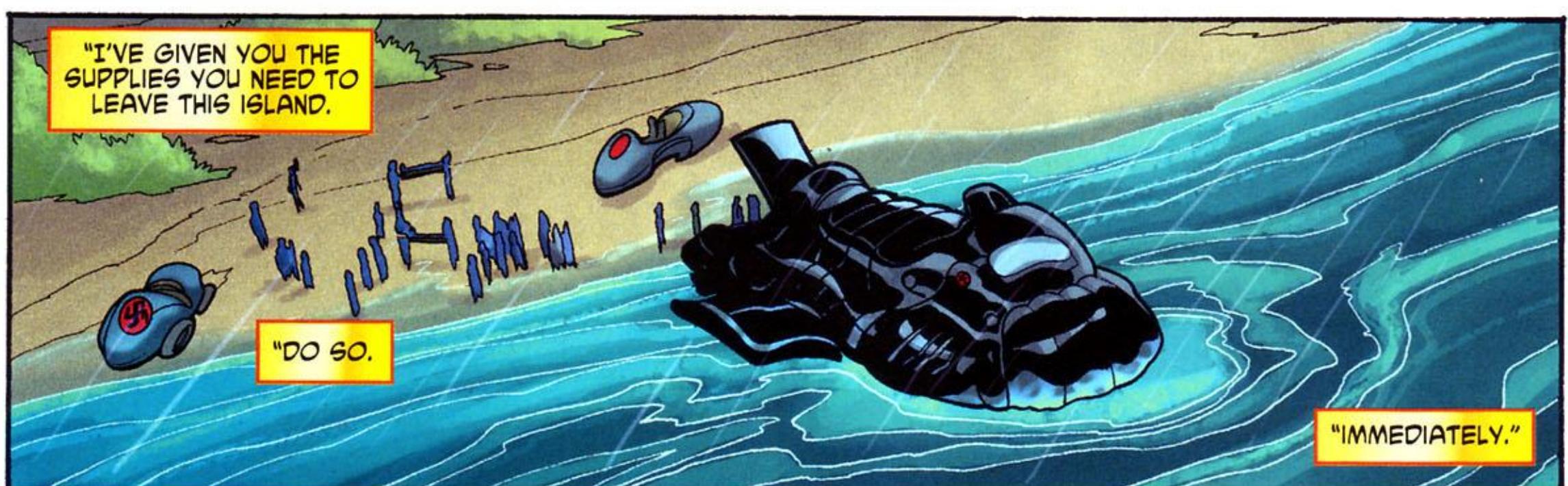
A TIME OF RECKONING

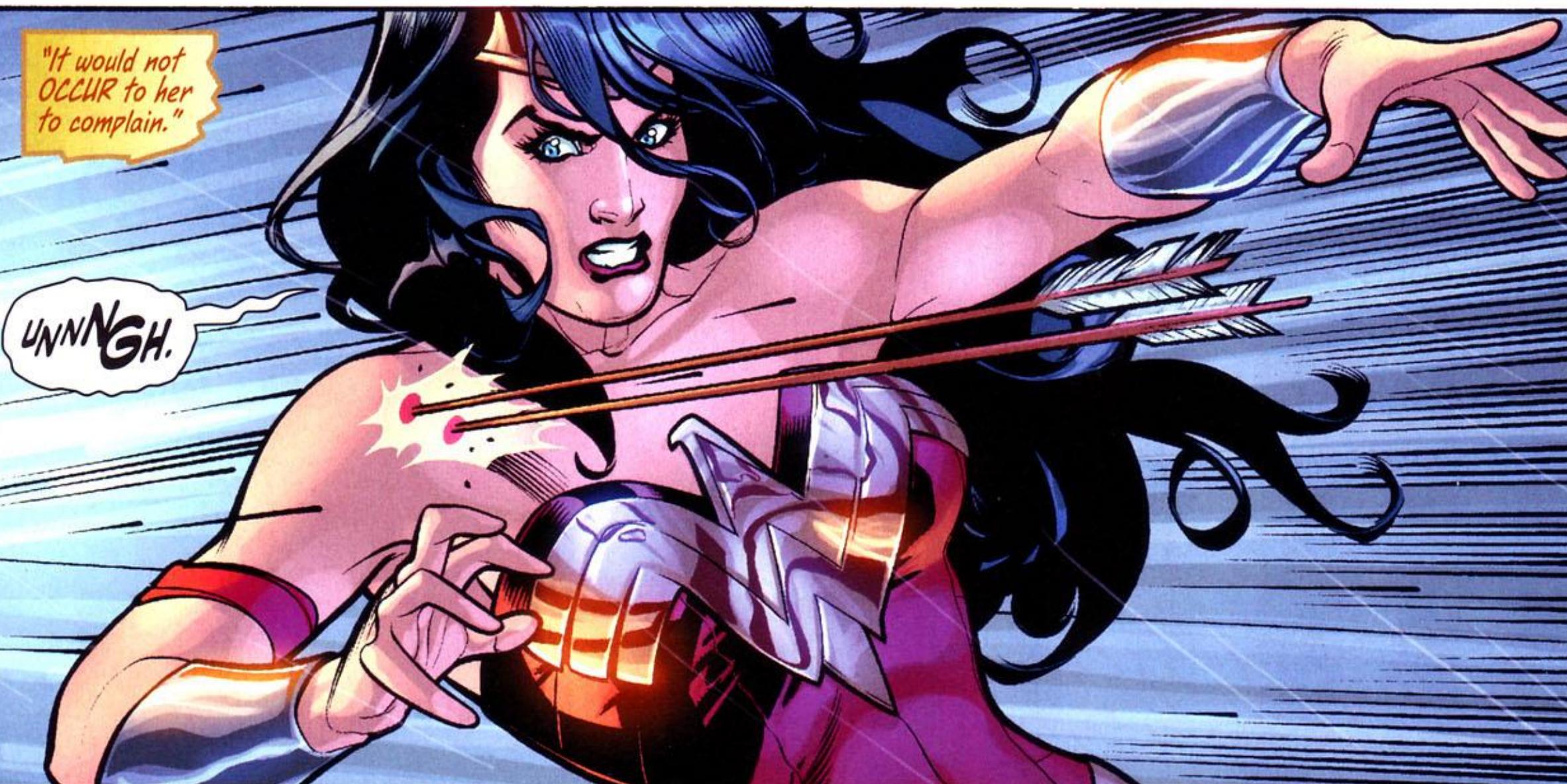
gail simone-writer
terry dodson &
ron randall-pencilers
rachel dodson &
randall-inkers

alex sinclair &
pete pantazis-colorists
rob leigh-letterer
nachie castro-assoc. editor
matt idelson-editor

wonder woman
created by
william moulton
marston







ARROWS?

THAT CAN PIERCE MY FLESH?
THAT I COULDN'T SEE COMING?

THEY SMELL OF
WILD MAGIC.

DRAGON.

WE'VE TAKEN YOUR
MOTHER. SHE IS OUR
RESPONSIBILITY, IN DYING,
AS SHE ONCE WAS IN
LIFE.

YOU ARE AWARE
OF THE SOUTHERN
BRIDGE?

YES.

WALK THE STATUARY PATH.
IF YOU RISE ABOVE IT, OR YOU LEAVE
IT, THE CEREMONY BEGINS EARLY.
DO YOU COMPREHEND?

THAT BRIDGE... IT LEADS TO
THE SITE OF A FUNERAL PYRE.

WHO IS THIS WOMAN?
SHE'S CLEARLY AMAZON.

IF YOU ALERT
YOUR GORILLA FRIENDS,
THE PYRE BECOMES A
SEPULCHER. DO YOU
COMPREHEND?

YES.

YOU DO NOT
KNOW OF OUR TRIBAL
BEGINNINGS. YOU HAVE
NO KNOWLEDGE OF WHAT
WE WERE BEFORE
CULTURE, BY FIRELIGHT
AND STEEL.

THERE ARE
FOUR OBSTACLES.
AMAZON OBSTACLES,
MYSELF INCLUDED.

SEE IF YOUR
WAY, YOUR WEAK,
POLITE WAY,
SURVIVES.

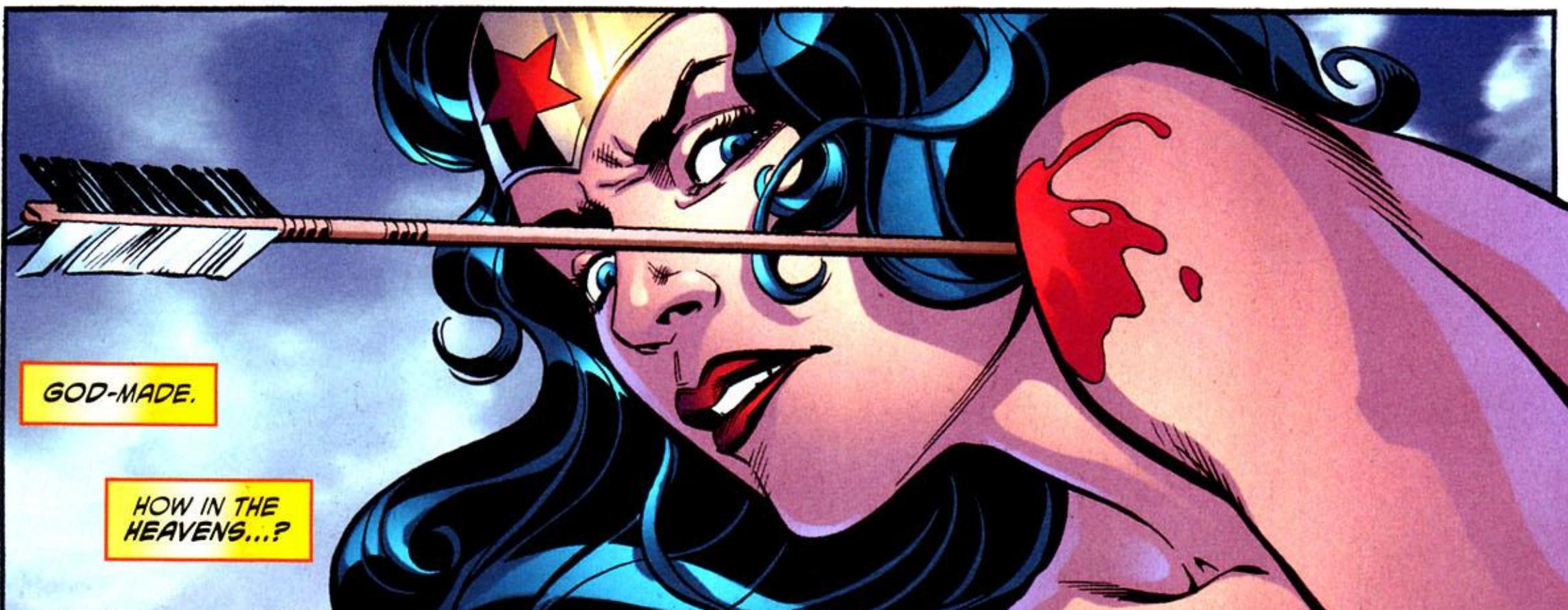
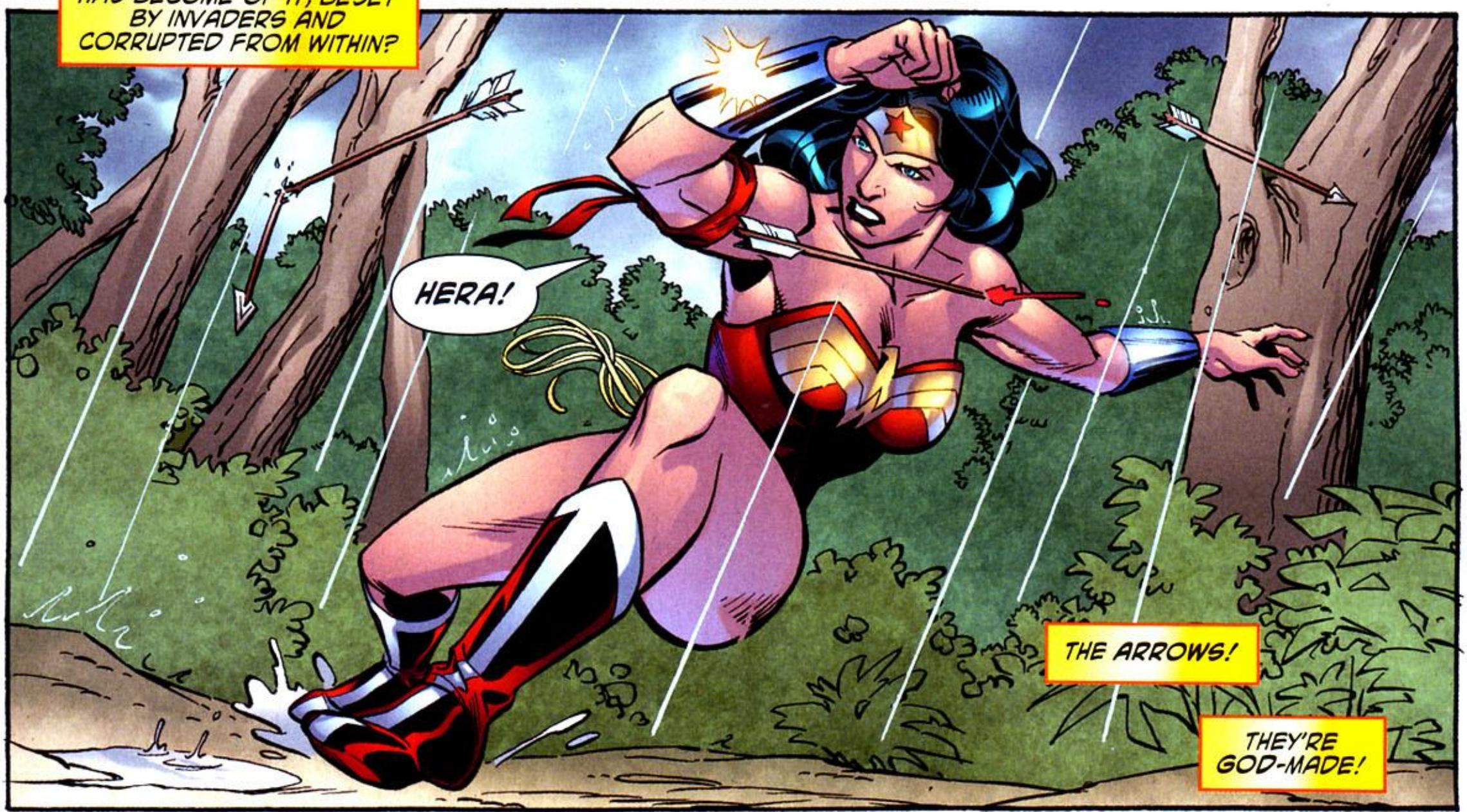
I'VE ONLY RECENTLY COME TO
UNDERSTAND WHAT BEING COLD
MEANS, BEING A NOVICE AS I AM
TO MORTAL FLESH.

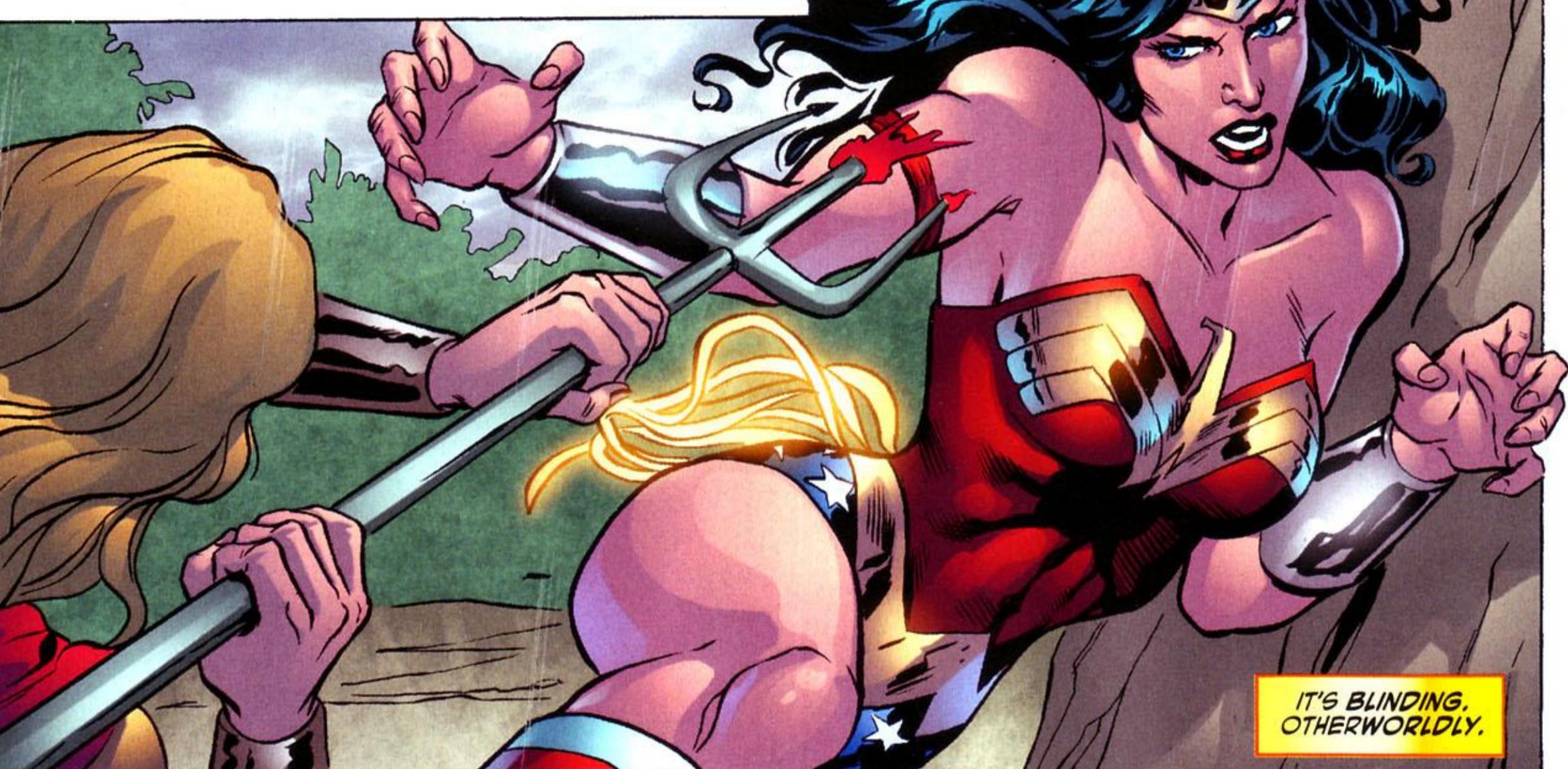
OR THE QUEEN
DIES, AND OUR ISLAND
WITH IT.

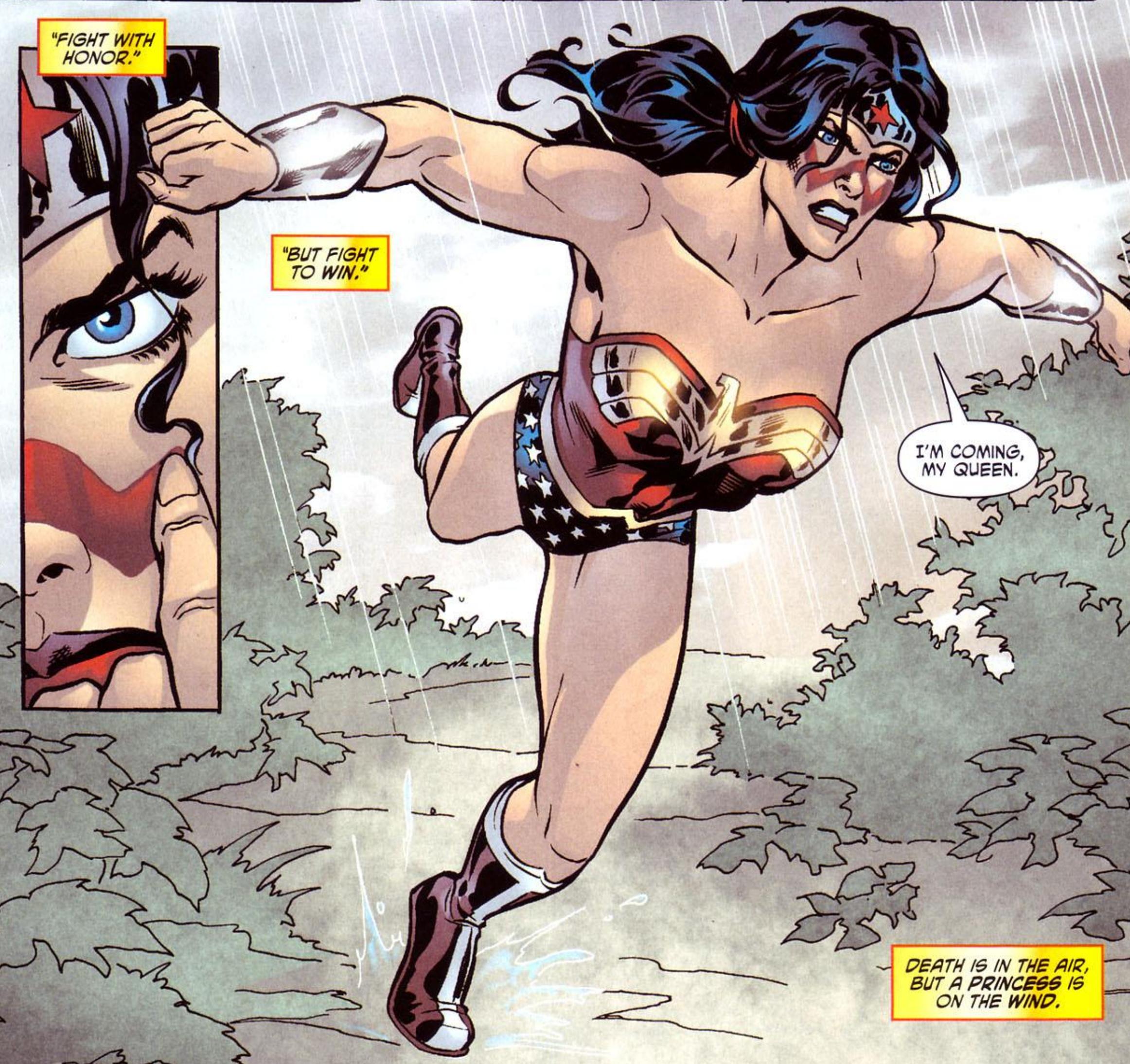
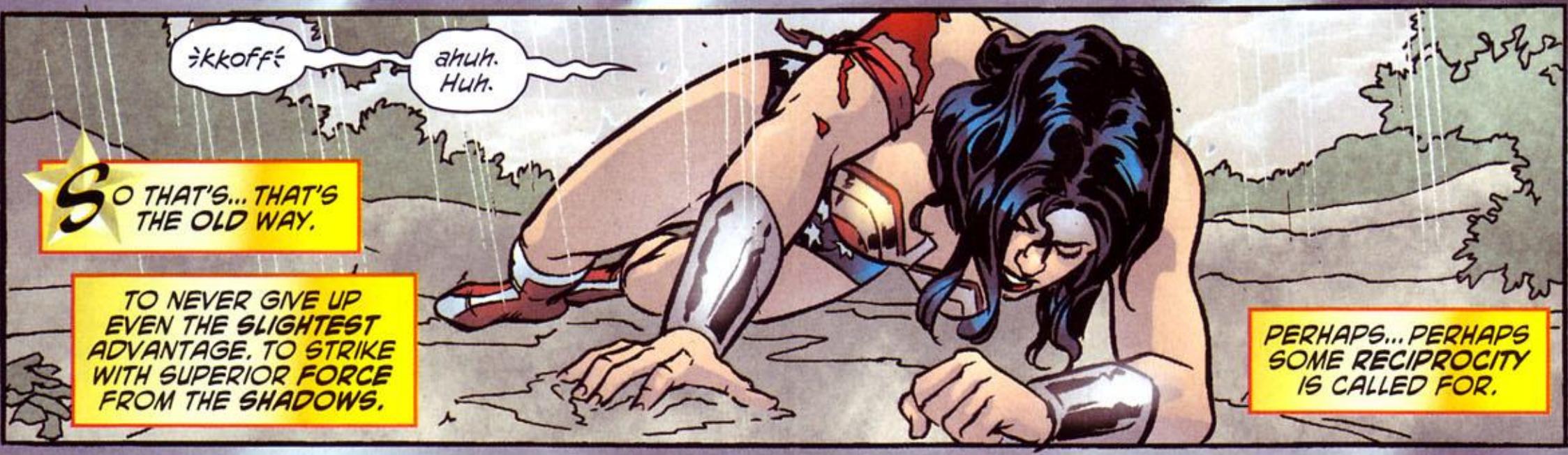
COLD.

BUT THIS IS A COLDNESS
OF THE HEART, AND HER
PASSING BRINGS NO
IMMEDIATE WARMING.

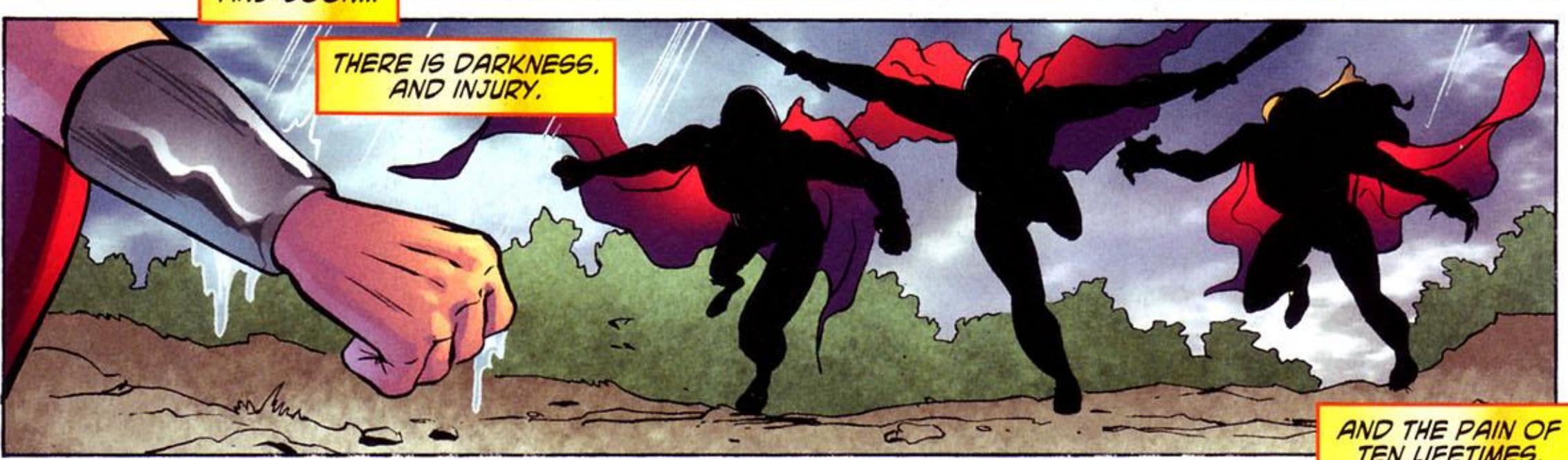
DEATH IS IN
THE AIR.











SOON, BUT
PERHAPS NOT
SOON ENOUGH...

COME NO
FURTHER! I'LL
BURN HER!

THE
AMAZONS
WILL START
ANEW.

I BROUGHT
YOU SOMETHING,
ALKYONE.

I KNOW
YOU'RE
BLUFFING.

I CAN
SEE YOU
WON'T HURT
HER.

LAY DOWN
YOUR SWORD,
AMAZON.



WILL YOU
DIE AT LAST,
DEMON?

YOU ARE
NOTHING BUT
A WHITTLE-BABY
COME TO LIFE!



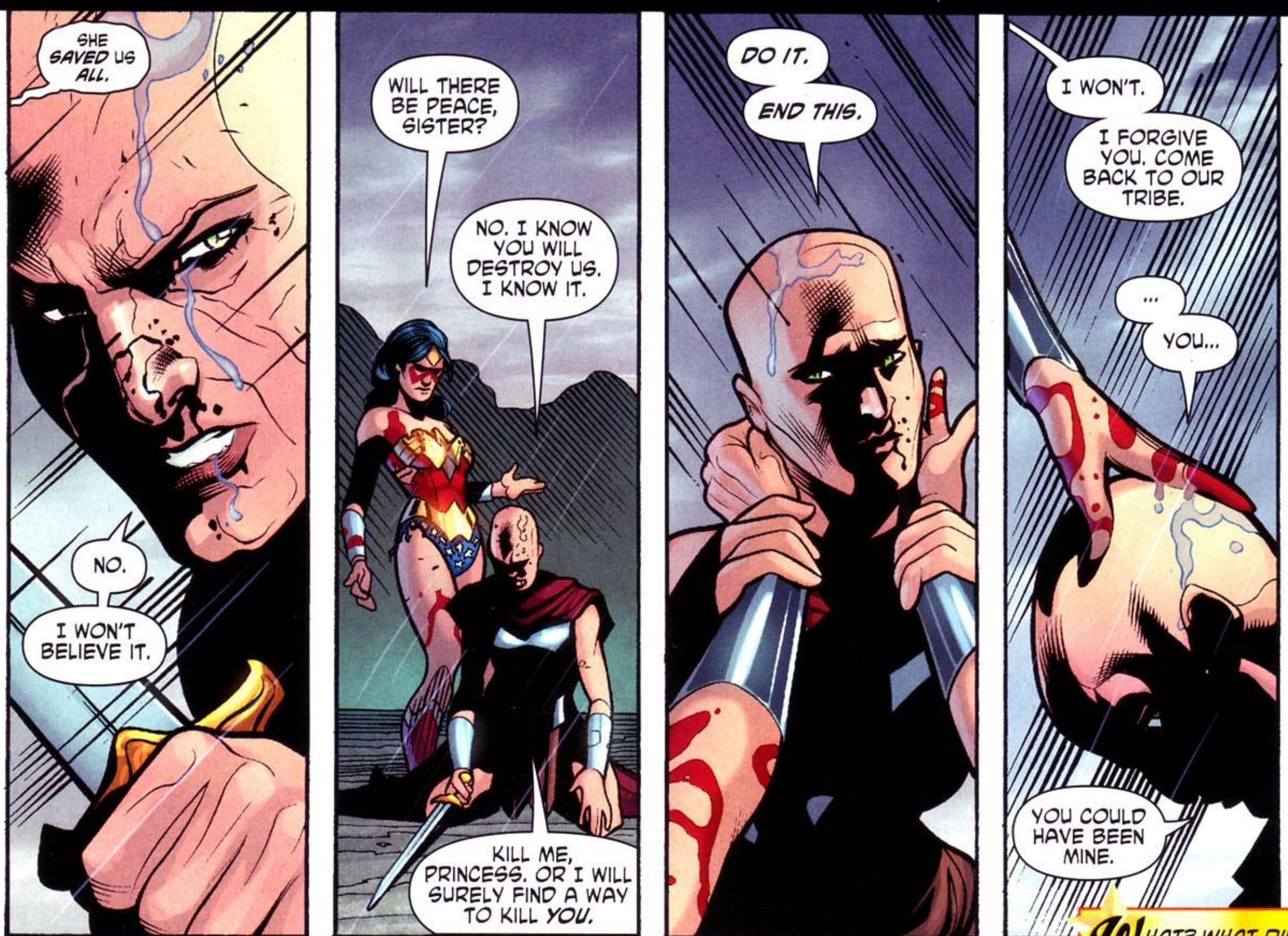
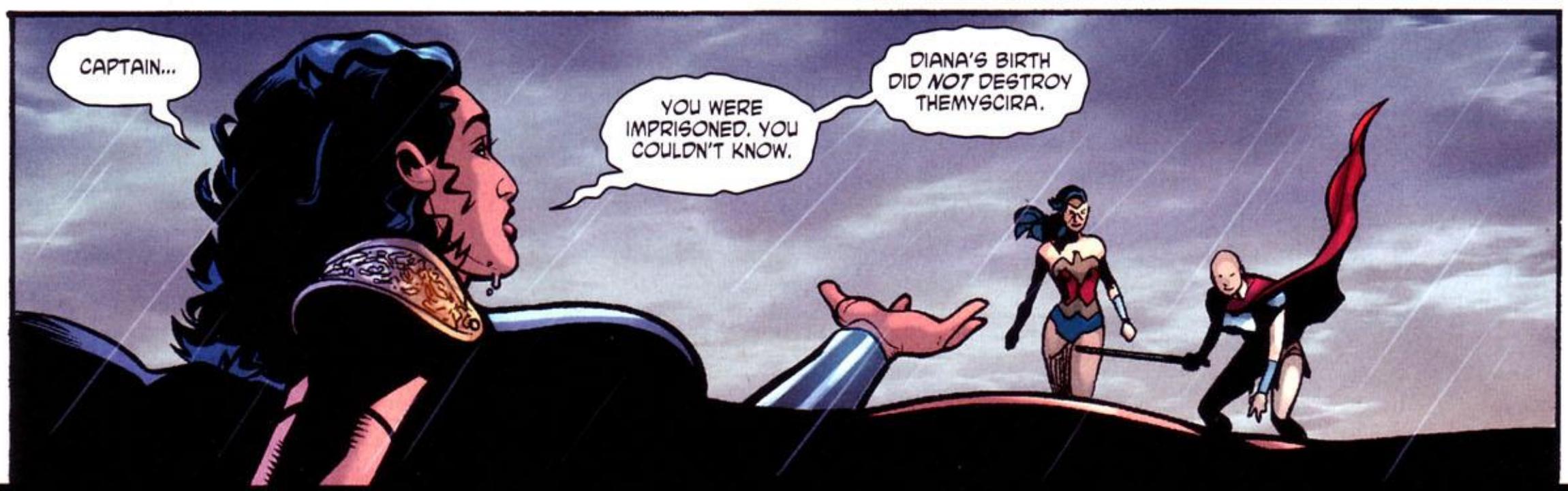
LET'S GET
SOMETHING
STRAIGHT HERE,
CAPTAIN.

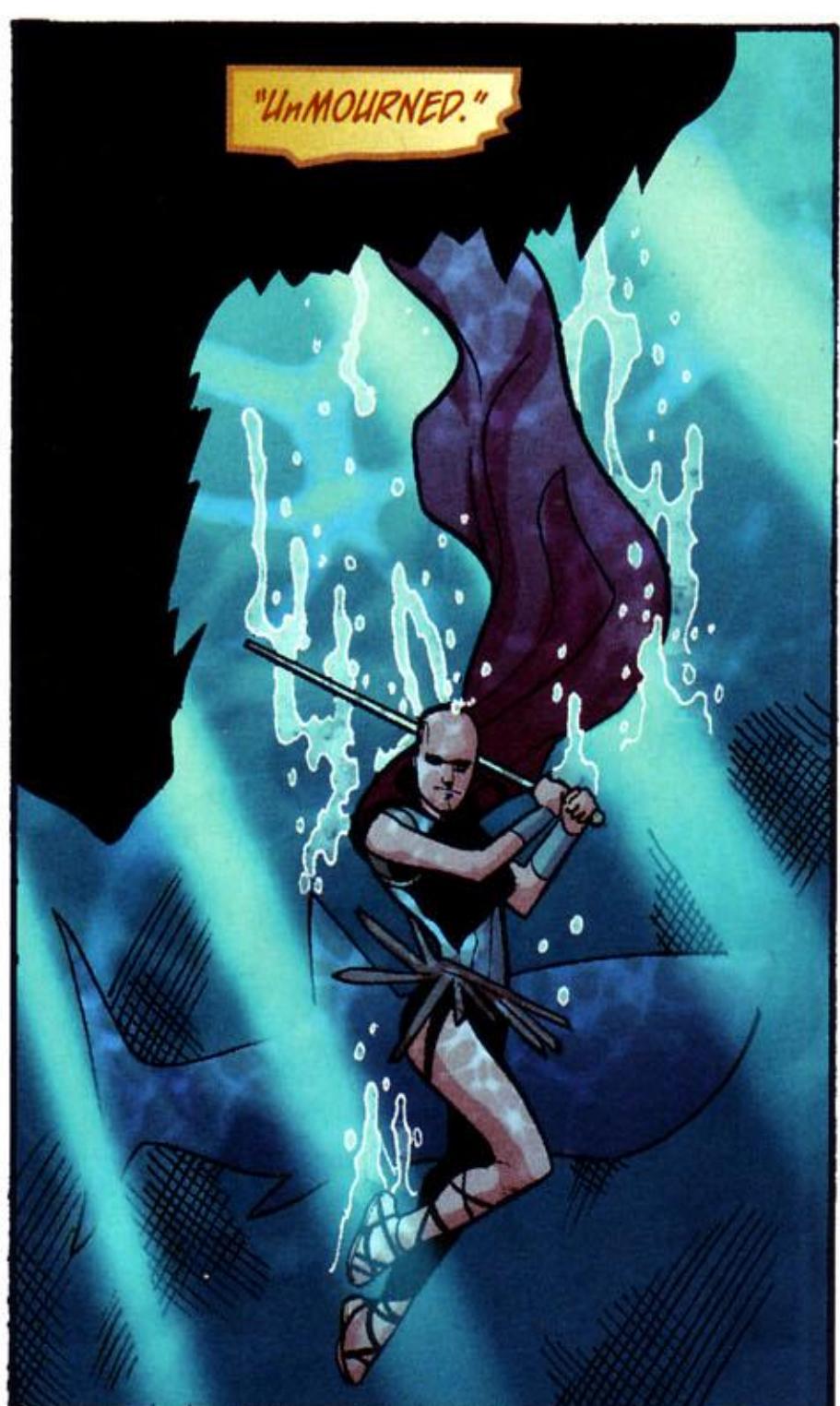
I AM NOT
A DOLL NOR
A PUPPET, NOR
A TOTEM.

I HAVE A
SOUL.

NOR WILL
I APOLOGIZE
FOR BEING
BORN.







9 SEARCHED FOR HOURS, BUT FOUND NO TRACE OF ALKYONE, OTHER THAN BLOOD IN THE WATER, FAR TOO MUCH BLOOD.

HER COMRADES WENT, UNREPENTANT, BACK TO THEIR CELLS. I THINK THEY WERE PROUD OF HER END.

LEAVING IS BITTERSWEET, AS SEVERAL OF MY NEW GORILLA FRIENDS HAVE CHOSEN TO STAY BEHIND.

WE WILL WATCH OVER THE QUEEN, PRINCESS.
RETURN WHEN YOU CAN.



MOTHER WILL RECOVER.
PHYSICALLY.

THE FIRST THING SHE
ASKED ME BEFORE
FALLING INTO SLUMBER
WAS WHY I BORE THE
STANDARD OF AN
OUTSIDER GOD.

AND SHE WISHED ME,
A DAY LATE, A
JOYOUS BIRTHDAY.

I TOLD HER HOW OUR OWN
GODS HAD ALMOST LET OUR
PEOPLE PASS FOREVER.

WHY DO WE CONTINUE TO WORSHIP
THEM? WHY DO WE BOW, AGAINST
ALL THEY HAVE DONE TO US?

"BECAUSE THEY GAVE ME
YOU, DAUGHTER," SHE SAID.

HELLO, MY
FRIENDS.

THANK YOU
FOR THIS.

DIANA!

AND CRIED IN
REMEMBRANCE.

OOF!

ETTA!

HEY,
YOU!

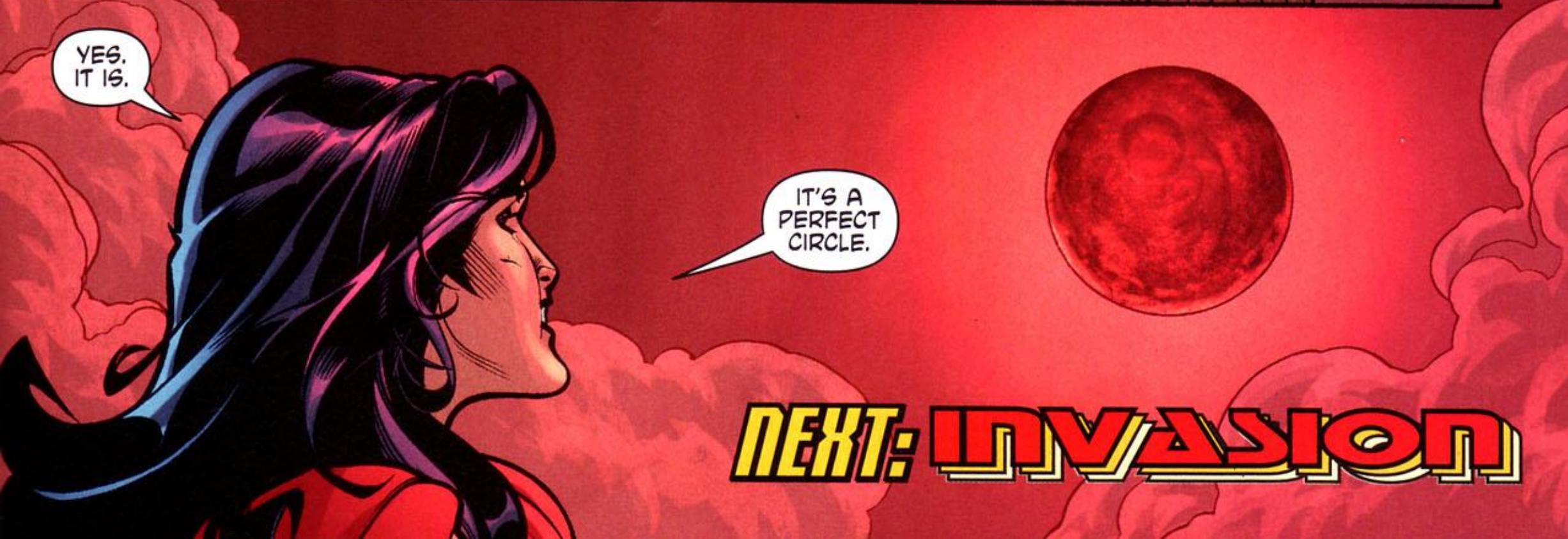
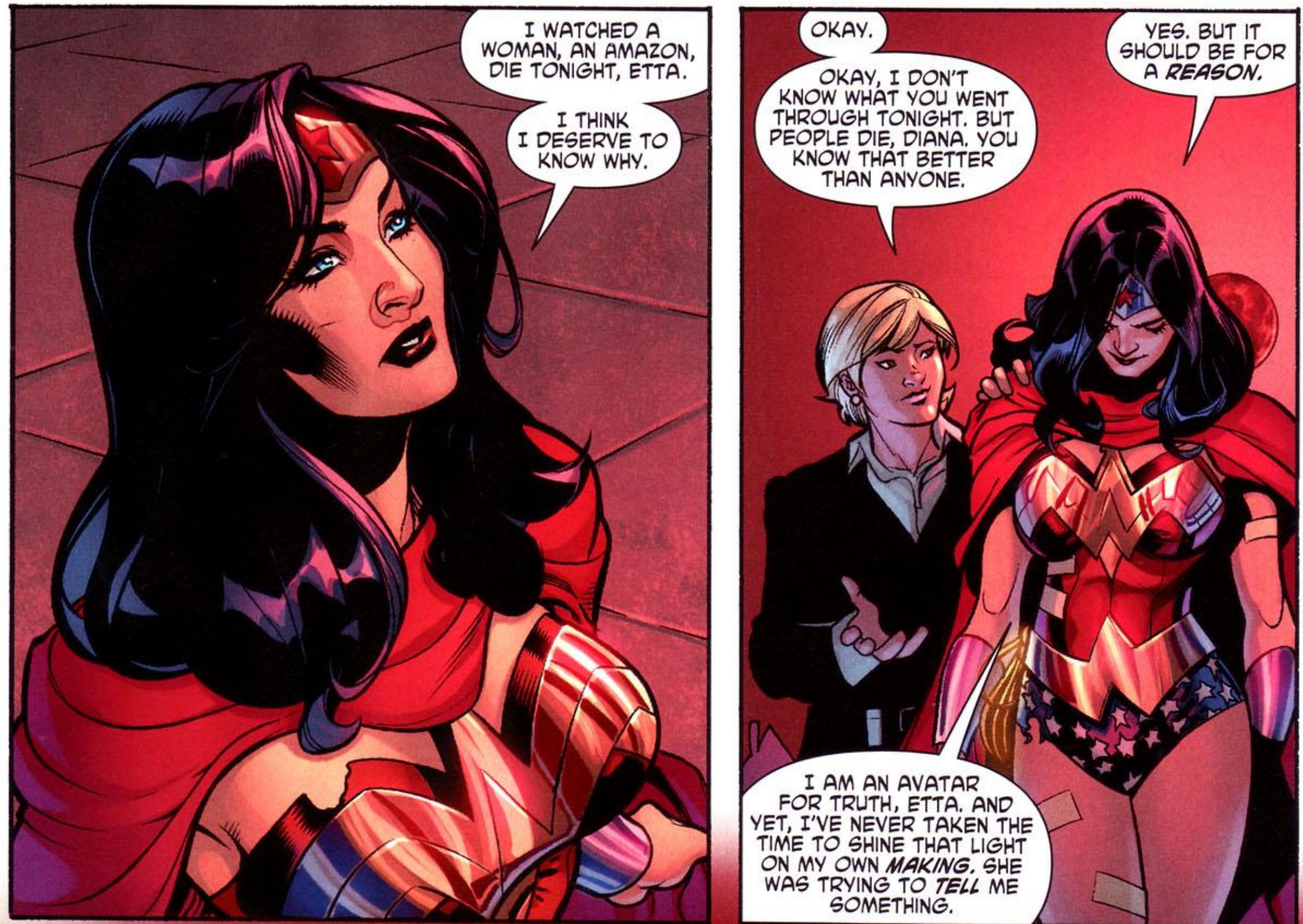
I GET THE JOB
AS YOUR UNOFFICIAL
ALIBI AND YOU
DISAPPEAR ON MY
FIRST DAY? IS THAT
HOW IT IS?

HEY, HEY,
THERE, KIDDIO.
YOU DON'T LOOK
SO GOOD.

CAKE! I HAD THREE
PIECES ALREADY. I'M A
LITTLE WIRED!!!

THANK YOU,
PLASTIC MAN.

I THINK
I NEED A BIT
MORE AIR FOR
A MOMENT.
ETTA?



100



new place
ME - A tim
time.
itorial for
very own
DO - A new bod
to call my
DW - My son bac



Well, here we are, the 100th weekly installment of DC Nation. Honestly, I didn't think we'd make it. And if you asked our Production Department, they'd probably agree. Granted we had a few columns push deadlines to the limit (actually, it was almost half), but I couldn't think of any other way to keep The Nation up to date with the latest and greatest information concerning all the goings-on in the DC Universe (okay, it was really three quarters). We teased and broke stories about your favorite characters, toured behind the scenes here in Editorial, and pulled the curtain back and spotlighted many of the other departments and people who make DC Comics great. So I bet you're wondering, what can you do special for the 100th column?

How about ZERO?

During the first half of last year the most-asked question at conventions was "What are you counting down to?" Naturally, we played it coy — we didn't want to announce FINAL CRISIS too far in advance — so instead we gave the easy answer, zero. Countdown Zero, when conceived, was the final chapter of the epic storylines running through COUNTDOWN TO FINAL CRISIS. Then, as the issue started to take shape, it became more apparent that this book was not an ending but a beginning of a story that would shape the DC Universe for years to come. And since we wanted a clear and final ending to COUNTDOWN, it was agreed that their stories would end with issue one and the zero issue would be the bridge to the events to come.

Enter **Grant Morrison** and **Geoff Johns**. Both were intimately involved in the planning of the DCU for 2008 and beyond, and both jumped at the chance to write the Zero issue. As the story took shape and its scope grew larger, it was clear that this story was not just a prelude to FINAL CRISIS, but a jumping-on point for the DC Universe itself. Out went Final Crisis Zero, and in came DC UNIVERSE ZERO.

DC UNIVERSE ZERO hits the stands Wednesday, April 30, bringing to a close our incredible streak of 104 consecutive issues of weekly comics. DCU ZERO, written by Grant Morrison and Geoff Johns, and featuring art by some of DC's finest, **George Perez, Carlos Pacheco, Tony Daniel, Aaron Lopresti** and more. I can't stress this enough: a book this essential should be in the hands of every true comics fan. And to make sure that happens, we've priced this issue at 50 cents!

Trust me on this, you should order your copies now, because a comic this important will be gone in a flash.

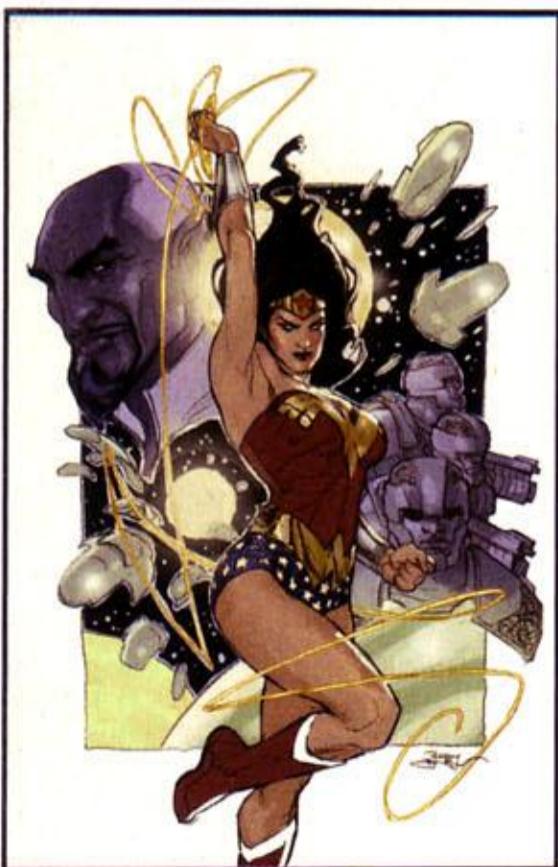
To be continued.

DD

DC NATION



For a complete list of this week's titles, sneak peeks, breaking news and more, visit us at dccomics.com



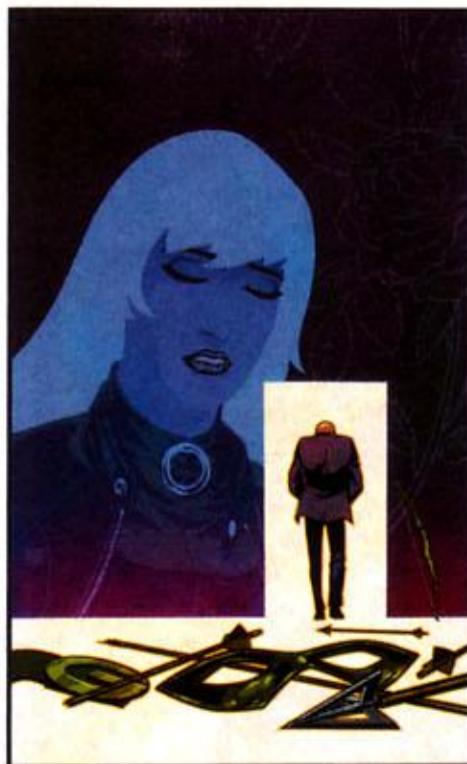
THE HOT LIST THIS WEEK



BOOSTER GOLD #0



GOTHAM UNDERGROUND #5



GREEN ARROW / BLACK CANARY #5

Next in...

WONDER WOMAN #18

Wonder Woman shows Nemesis an ancient Amazonian ritual. Oh, and some aggressive Khund show up.

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