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SUPERGIRL

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SUPERMAN

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"THINGS BEST LEFT FORGOTTEN"

PETER DAVID, WRITER • LEONARD KIRK, PENCILLER •
CAM SMITH, INKER • PAT PRENTICE, LETTERER •
GENE D'ANGELO, COLORIST • DIGITAL CHAMELEON, SEPS •
MAUREEN MCTIGUE, ASST. • MIKE MCAVENNIE, EDITOR



I TOLD
YOU! I TOLD
YOU!!!

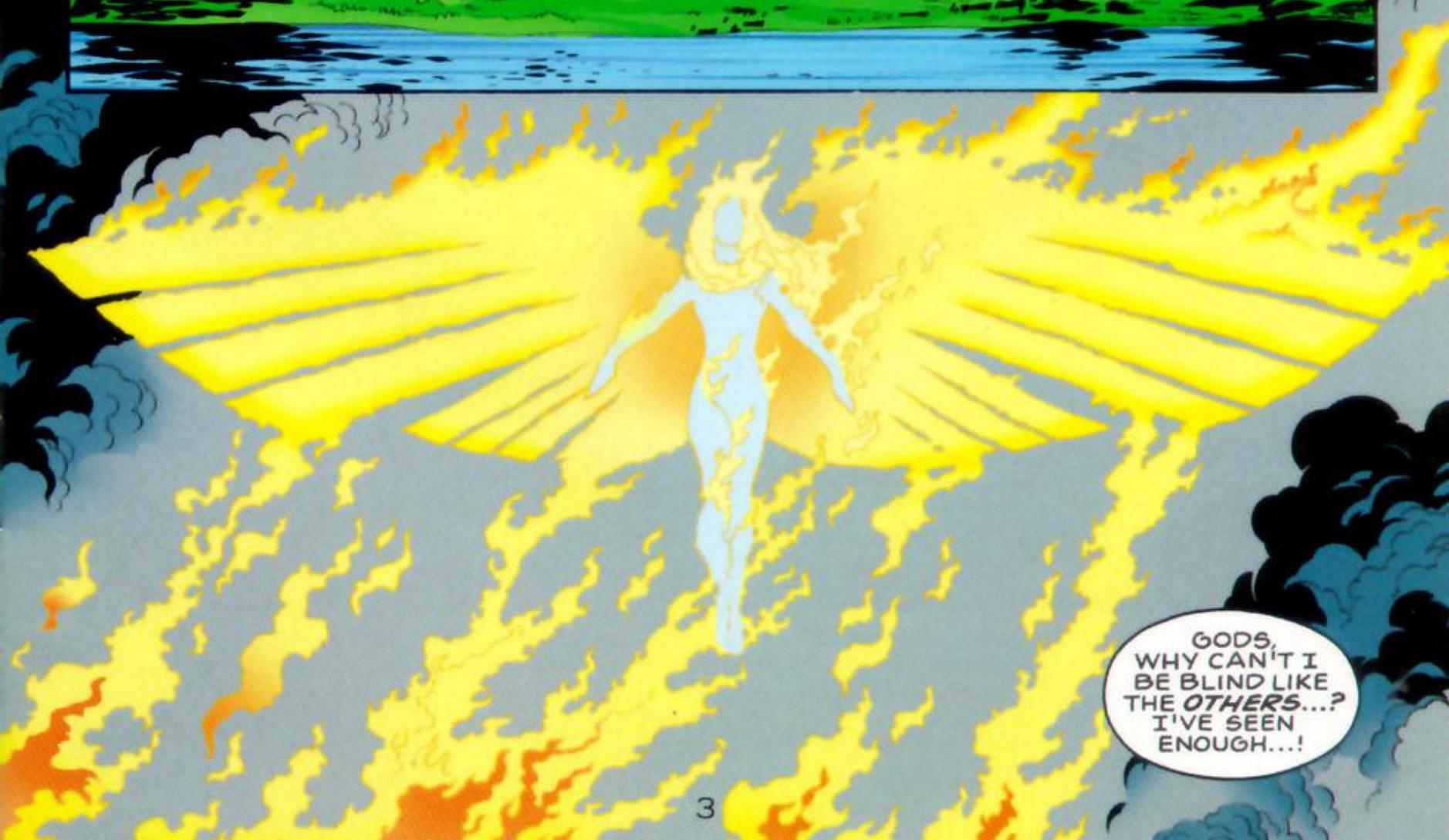
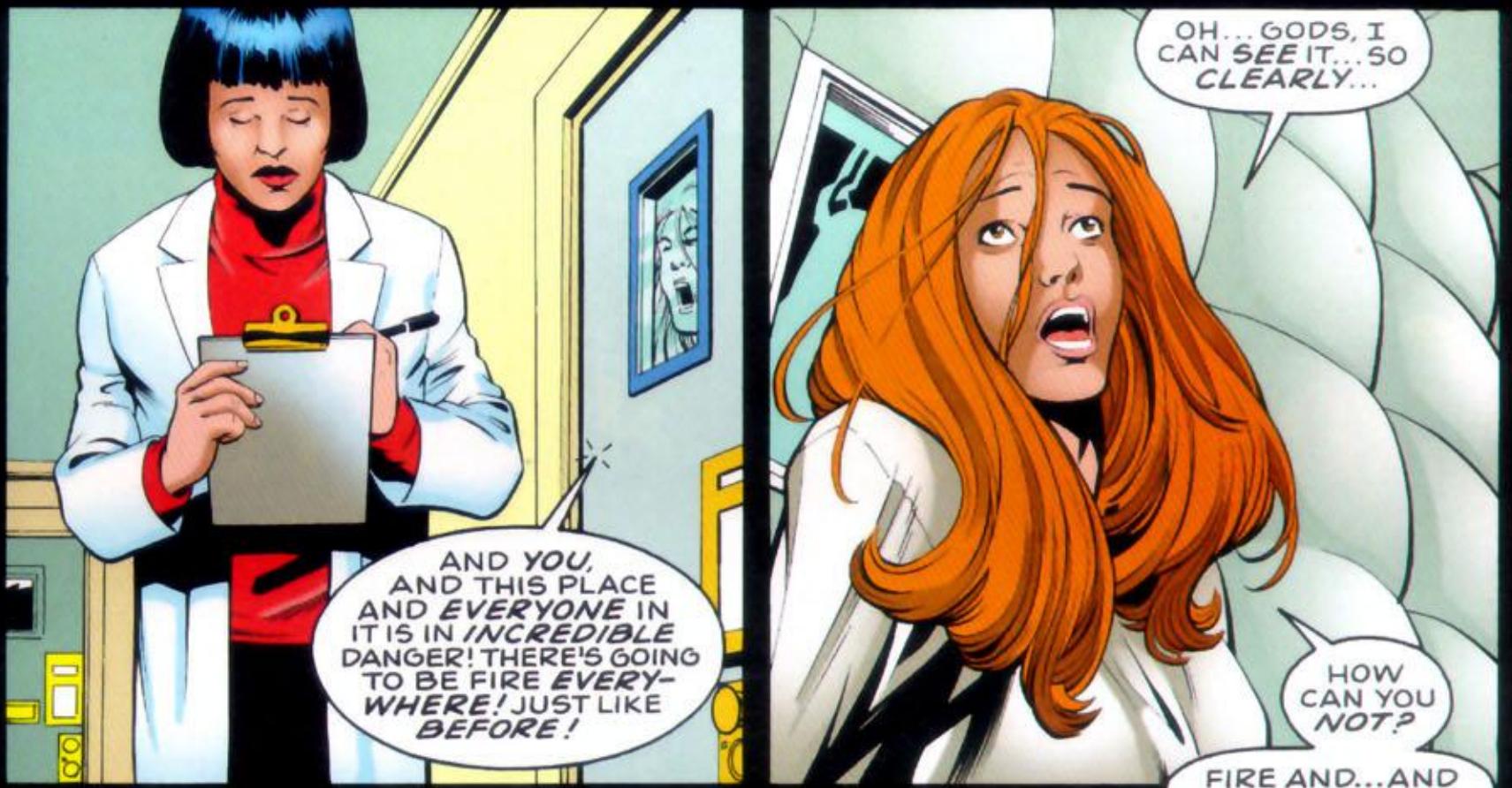
WHY DIDN'T
YOU LISTEN?!
WHY WOULDN'T
HE LET YOU
LISTEN?!

DAMN YOU,
PHOEBUS! DAMN
YOU TO HADES FOR
LETTING THEM DIE
WHEN I COULD
HAVE SAVED
THEM!!!

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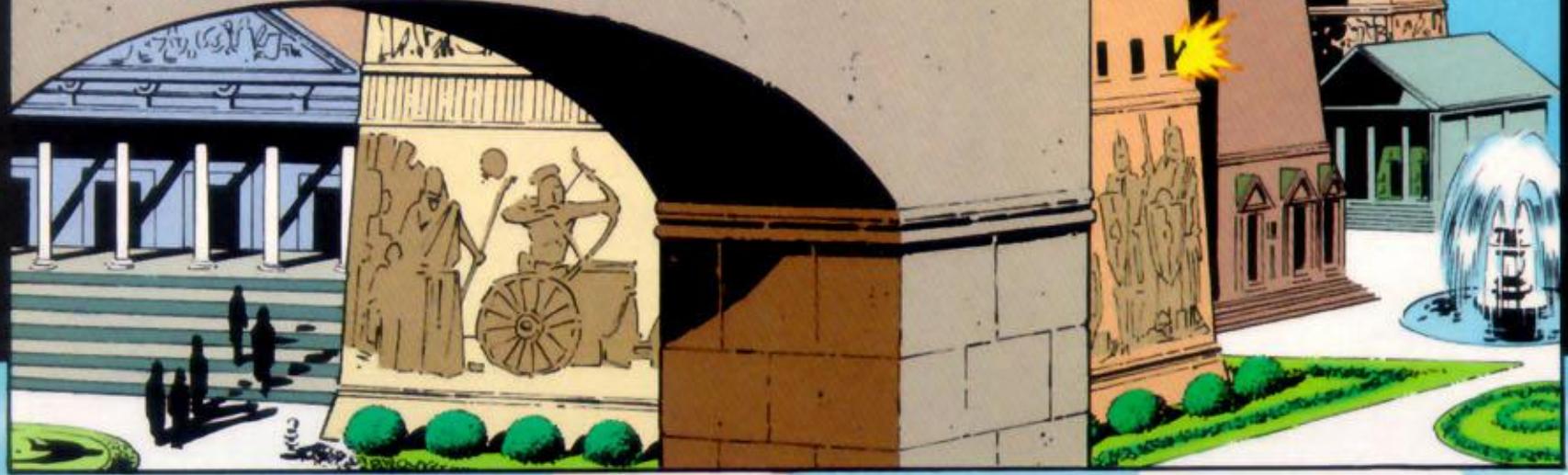
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ILION TOWERS MENTAL HEALTH RESORT



Come on, Linda.
Focus! Get your
mind and body
working **together**!

You're needed to
help fight these...
"Millennium Giants."
Can't carry any
clutter in my mind...

...except...



Nuts. I still can't get
past what Dad told me
just a few hours ago.
How can I be expected
to?! My whole life
had a subtext I never
suspected...!



Good thing *Pa* was there
as well when dad told me.
I don't know how I would
have handled it on my own...



FRED AND

I HAVE BEEN
TALKING, LINDA,
AND WELL... IT WAS
MY SUGGESTION
THAT HE TELL
YOU THIS.

I FELT YOU
HAD A RIGHT
TO KNOW, AND
HE AGREED.



MOM'S
AN...AN
ALCOHOLIC?
BUT...BUT
I NEVER
KNEW.

HOW COULD
I NOT KNOW
SOMETHING
LIKE THAT?
JEEZ!

YOU
GUYS MET
IN A BAR,
DIDN'T YOU?
THAT'S WHAT
YOU TOLD
ME...!



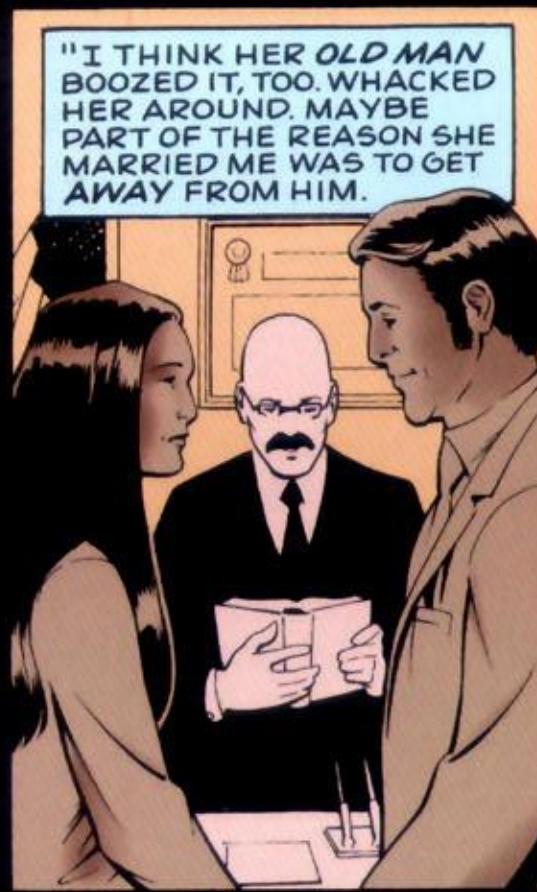
YES, I
KNOW, HONEY.
BACK IN THE OLD
DAYS, WE CLOSED
OUT A FEW BARS,
YOUR MOM
AND I.

BUT
IT NEVER
OCCURRED
TO ME THAT
THERE WAS A
PROBLEM.

"WE LOVED GOING OUT, DOING THE TOWN. I'D FINALLY FOUND A GIRL I COULD PARTY WITH."

"I THINK HER OLD MAN BOOZED IT, TOO. WHACKED HER AROUND. MAYBE PART OF THE REASON SHE MARRIED ME WAS TO GET AWAY FROM HIM."

"BUT I GOT OLDER, MORE 'SOBER,' SO TO SPEAK... WHILE HER DRINKING ESCALATED. SHE LOST JOBS BECAUSE OF IT. HAD STASHES EVERYWHERE."



"I REALIZED SHE NEEDED HELP BUT SHE WOULDN'T DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT."

AND... AND WHAT HAPPENED?

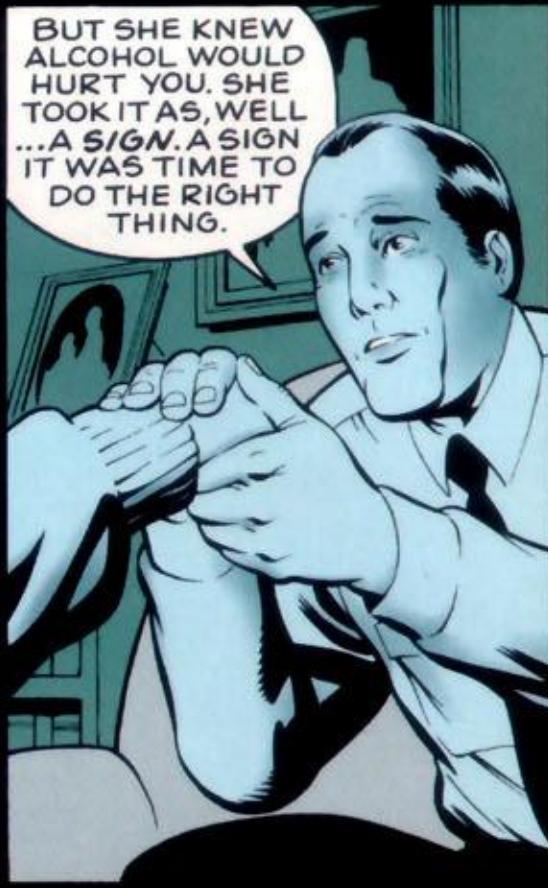
BUT SHE KNEW ALCOHOL WOULD HURT YOU. SHE TOOK IT AS, WELL... A SIGN. A SIGN IT WAS TIME TO DO THE RIGHT THING.



"FINALLY, I WALKED OUT. I'D HAD ENOUGH. WE WERE PRETTY MUCH THROUGH."

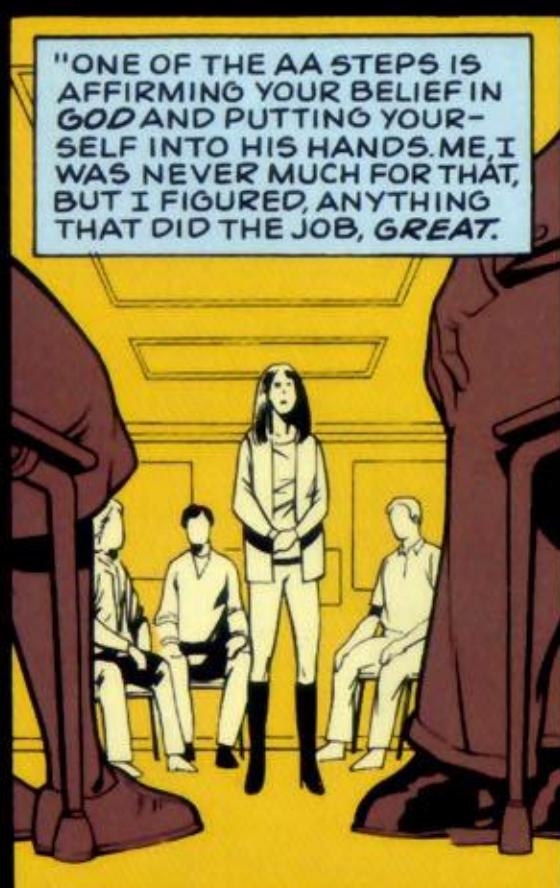


YOU DID. YOUR MOTHER DISCOVERED SHE WAS PREGNANT A COUPLE WEEKS AFTER I'D LEFT HER. SHE WOULDN'T HAVE AN ABORTION, DIDN'T BELIEVE IN IT.



"ONE OF THE AA STEPS IS AFFIRMING YOUR BELIEF IN GOD AND PUTTING YOURSELF INTO HIS HANDS. ME, I WAS NEVER MUCH FOR THAT, BUT I FIGURED, ANYTHING THAT DID THE JOB, GREAT."

"YOUR MOTHER EMBRACED IT COMPLETELY. BECAME THE SINGLE MOST DEVOUT WOMAN I'VE EVER KNOWN."



"WASN'T EASY AT FIRST. SHE WANTED THE BOOZE SO BAD IT JUSTATE HER UP. BUT SHE NEVER LOST SIGHT OF THE GOAL."



"THE MOMENT SHE SAW YOU, LOOKED INTO YOUR LITTLE FACE... SHE KNEW EVERYTHING HAD BEEN FOR THE BEST. IT WAS LIKE YOU WERE HER *LIFELINE*, LINDA."



SO... WHEN SHE BELIEVED THAT *LIFELINE* WAS CUT... SHE JUST... JUST...



OH LORD, I NEVER SHOULD HAVE SAID ANYTHING. NEVER SHOULD HAVE TOLD --!



YOU DID THE *RIGHT* THING!





My two fathers.
I love them *both*.

I wonder if I'm
ever going to
see them again.



Because I've just found
my *target*... Cerne of
the Millennium Giants,
relentlessly trudging
along and destroying
whatever he encounters
without even *noticing* it.

Maybe I can *browbeat*
him into submission
with a severe *scolding*.



Oh, no. Oh jeez, no.



With all the recreations of the *Titanic* these days, we certainly don't need another one.



That's how it is all over the world. These ...these things stomp around, uncaring of their environment...



...Destroying whatever they encounter without caring...



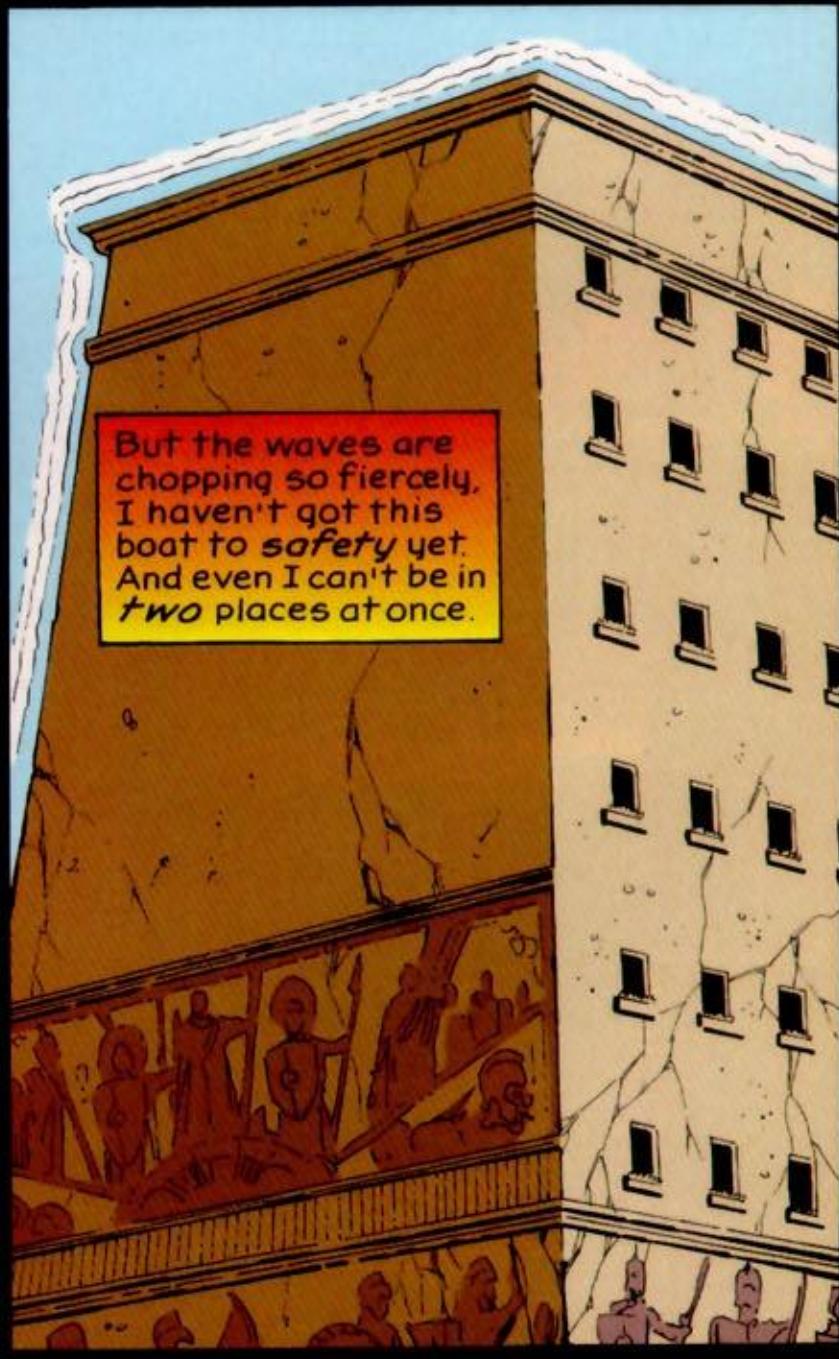
...Or perhaps they're not truly evil. It could be we don't even register on them.

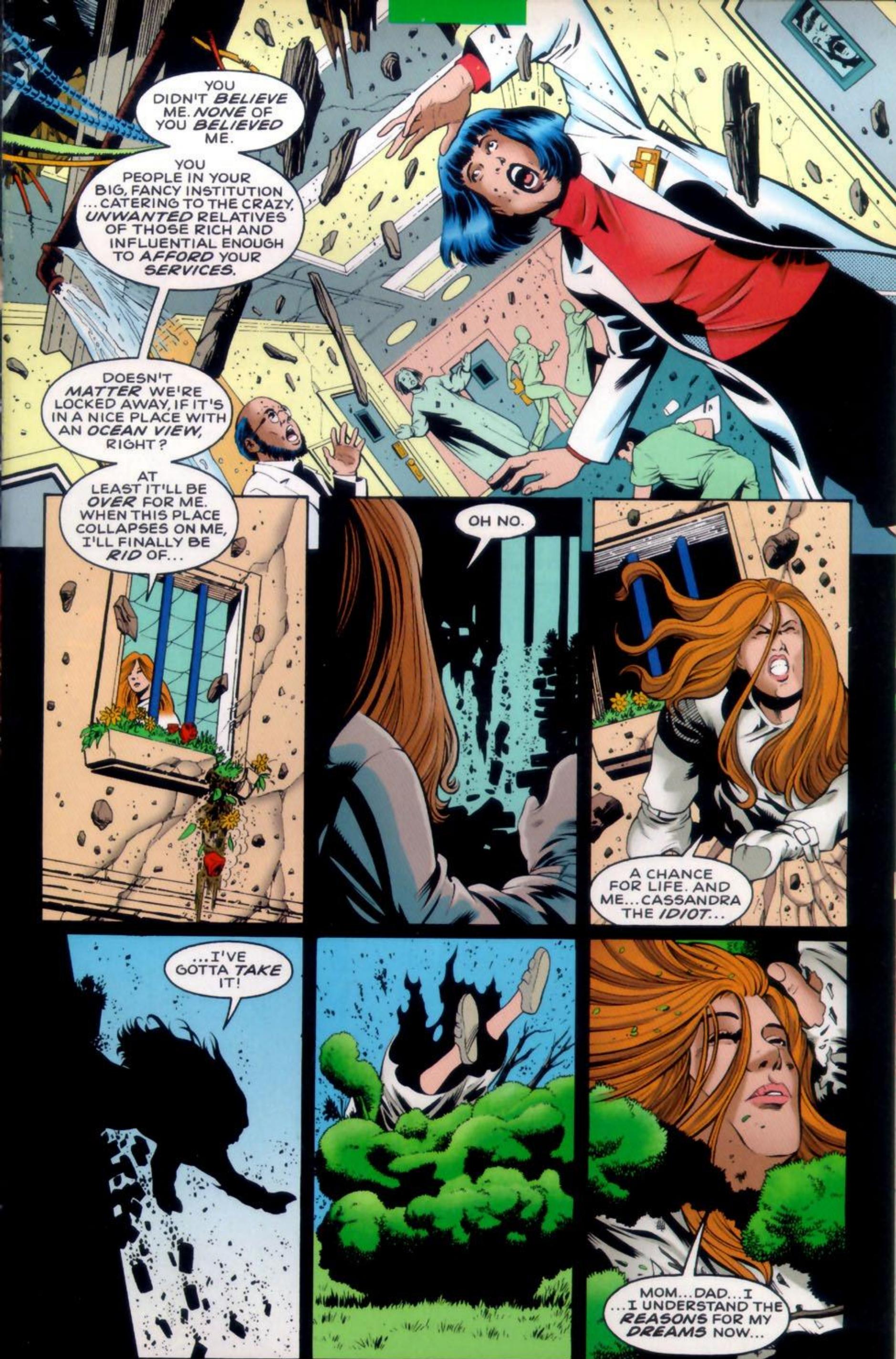


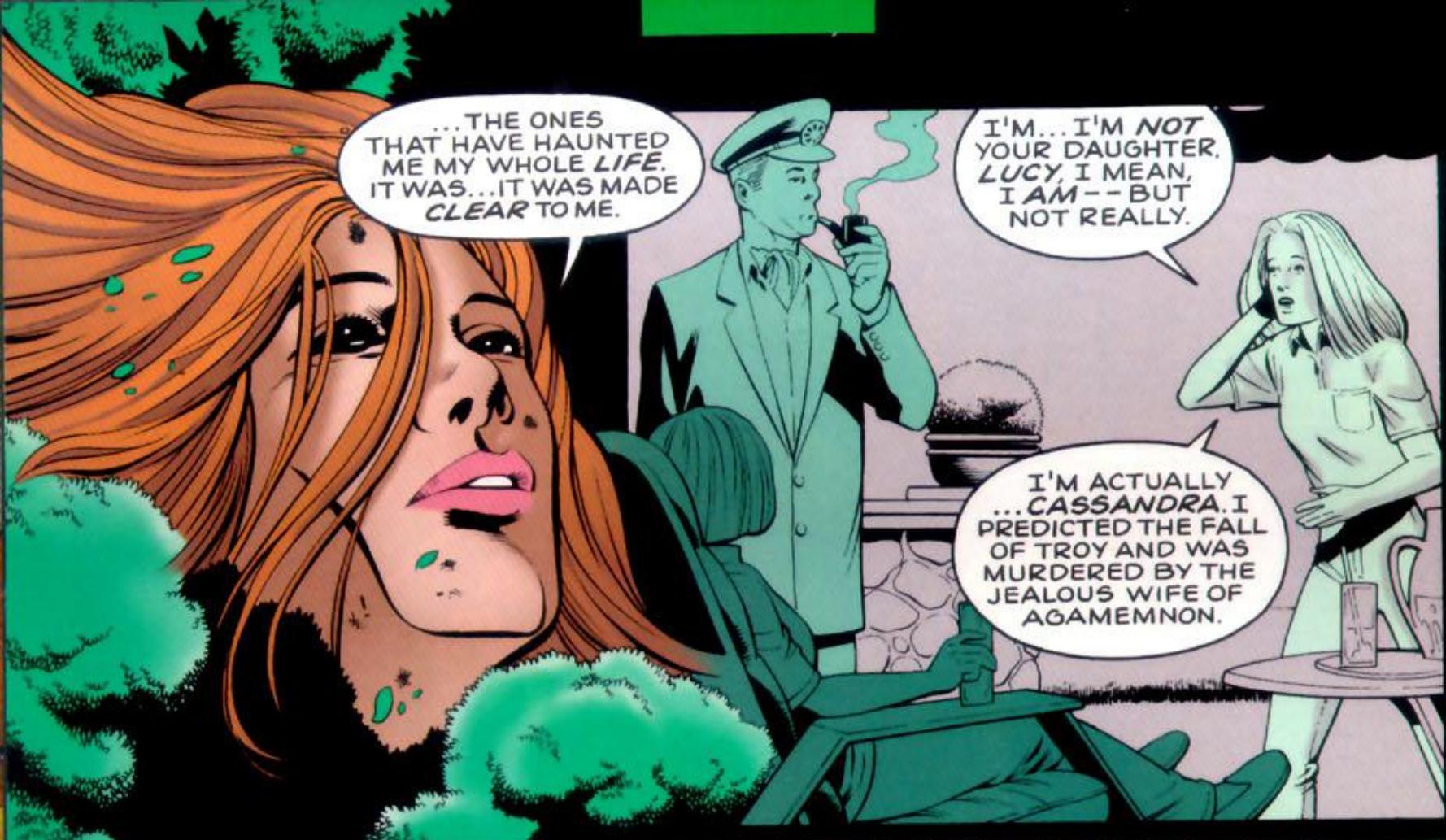
Maybe if they knew what was happening because of them, they'd...

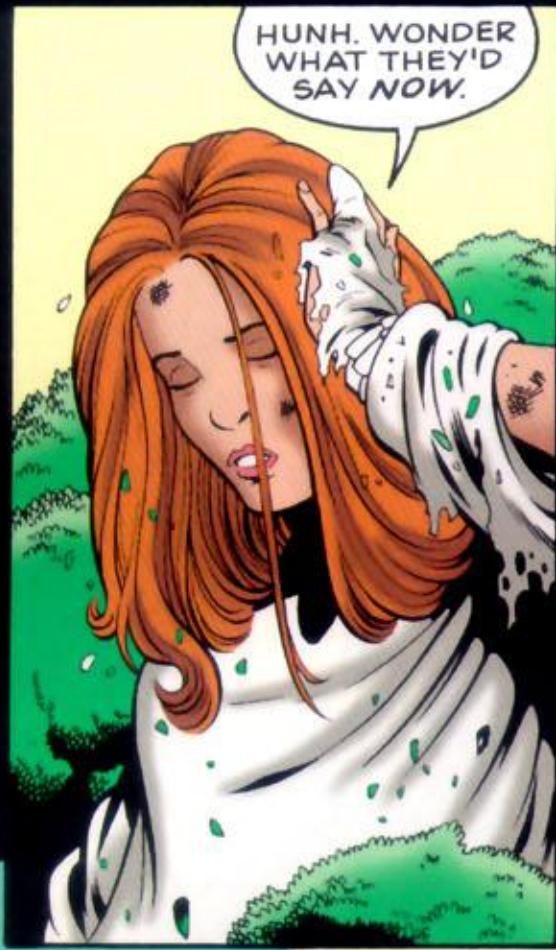


They'd pull back...go home...watch their step...something.









Okay. Now that the ocean liner's safely out of range, let's take a stab at that giant walking hot rock.

Maybe a combination of Flame vision and a TK blast will have...



...no discernible effect.

All right. Full strength against his horns, then... maybe I can lift him skyward or slow him down or...

This is ridiculous.

Some celestial warrior I am. He shrugged me off like I was less than nothing.

How come Roma Downey never has to put up with stuff like this?



I feel my wings starting to burn in my back...but it's not unpleasant, like that first time.*

It's as if they know what to do.



Know how to fight this...this whatever it is.

* SUPergirl #17.



Wings, I...I sure hope you know what you're do--





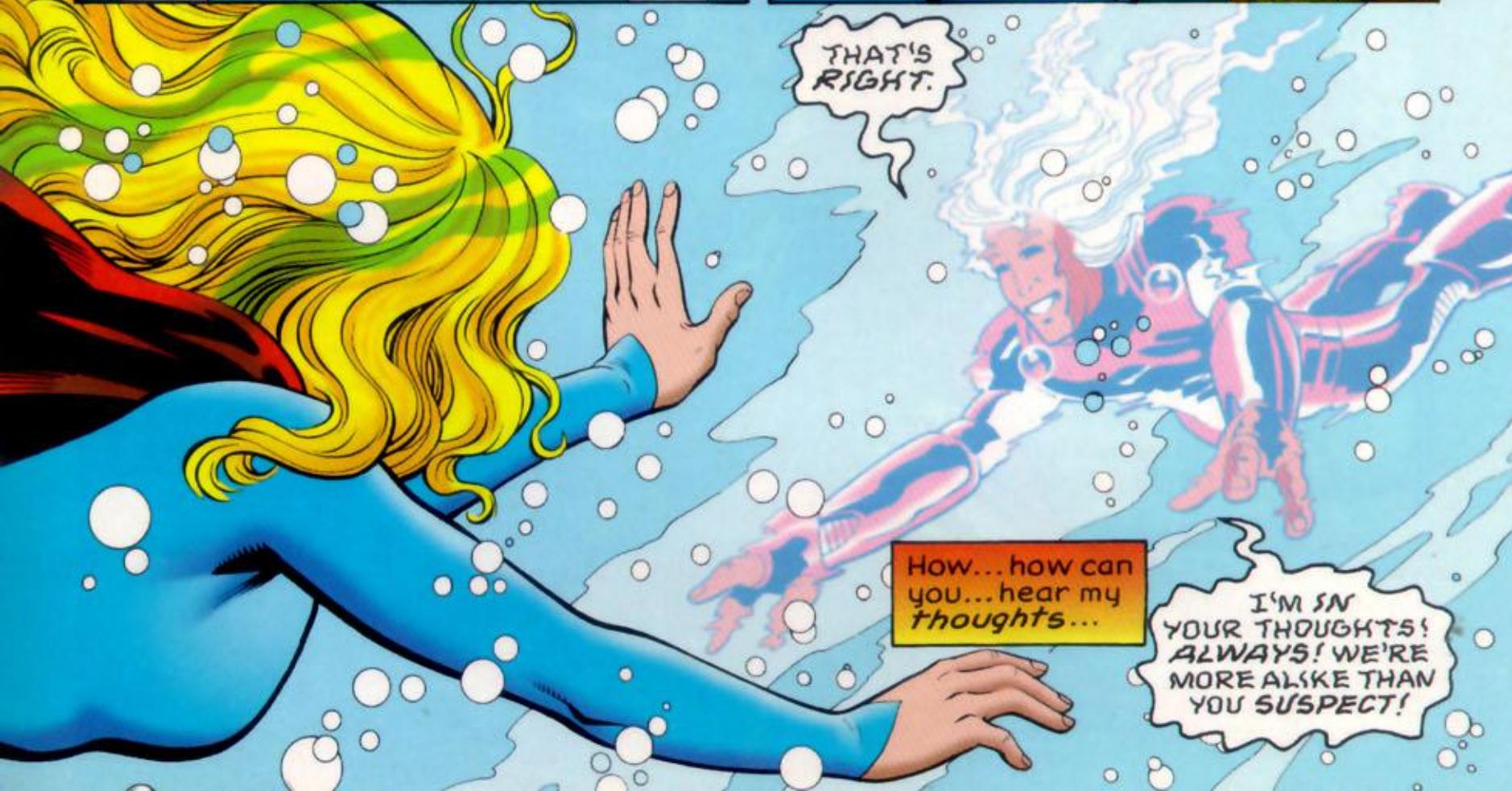


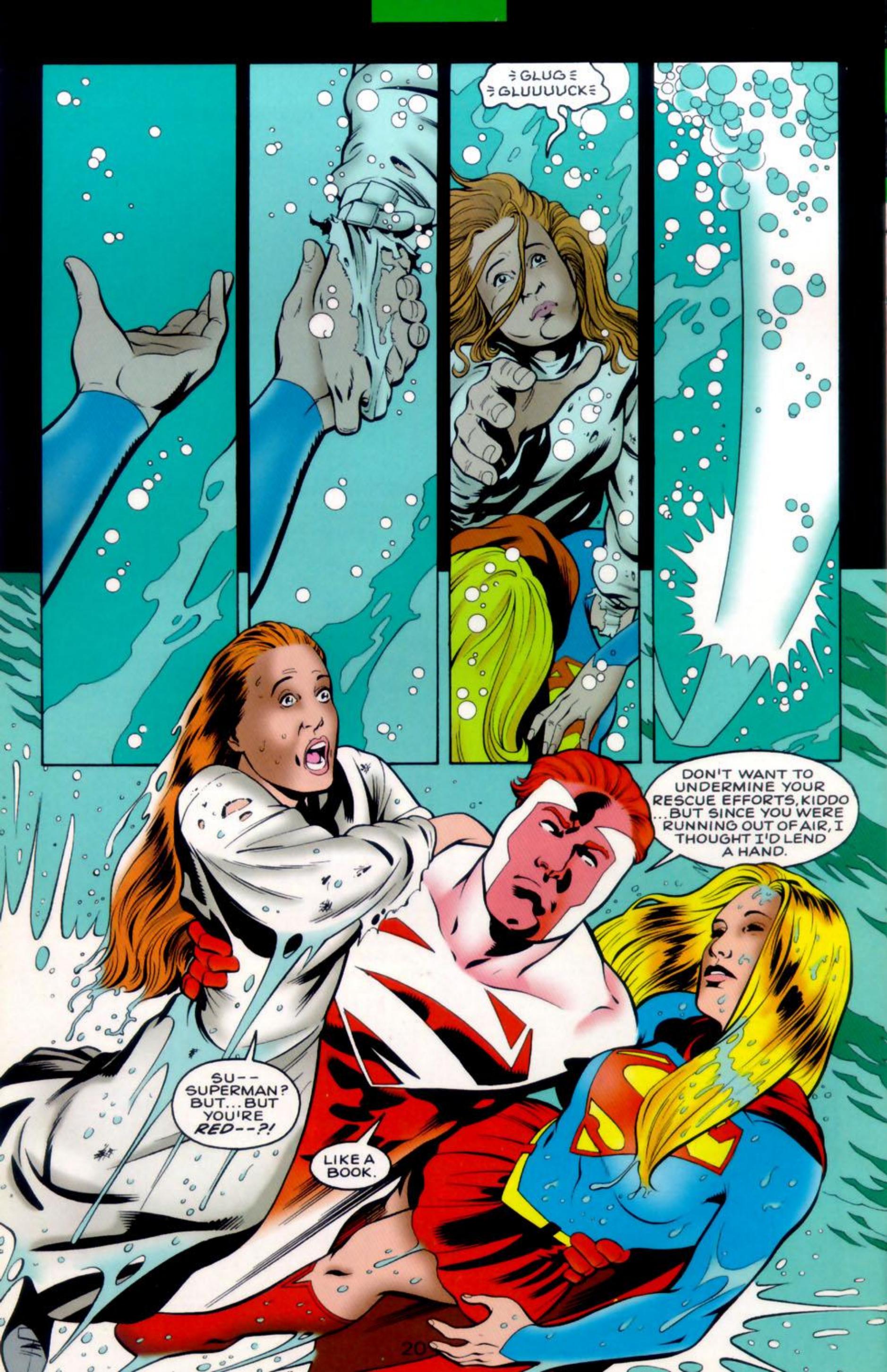
Wanted to take him over... communicate ... something...!



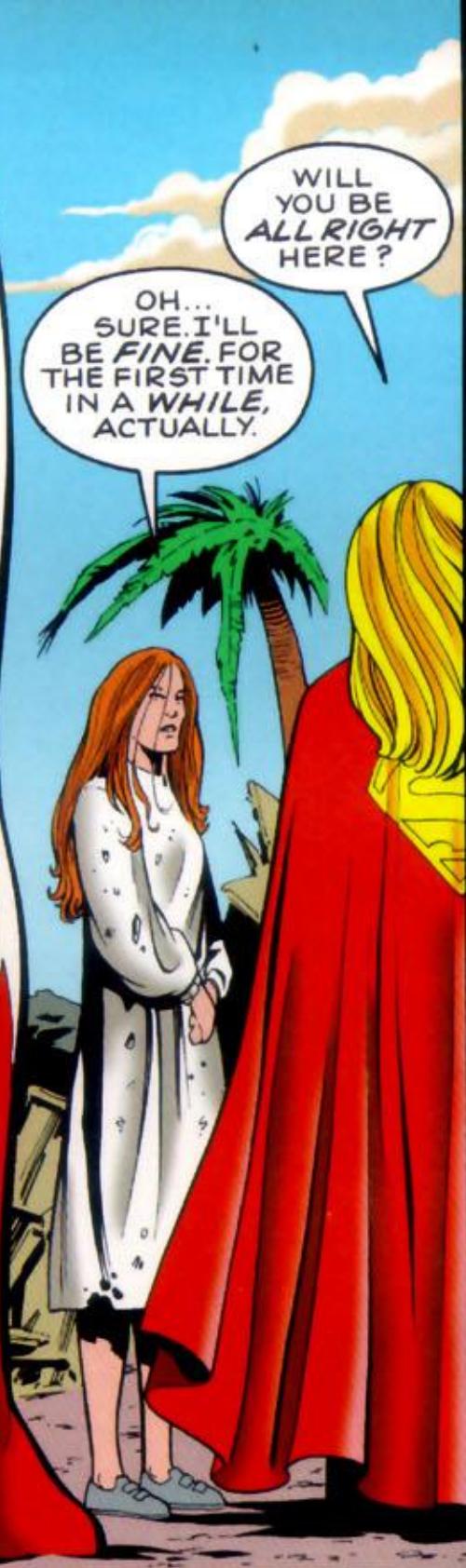
Got to get out ...before it's...











Welcome back to another exciting episode in the life of the Girl of Steel! How about issue #15, you say? Well, on with the comments!

Dear Eddie:

"Knock knock."
"Who's there?"
"Arielia."
"Arielia who?"

"It's arielia big mess that Supergirl has found this time." Look, don't blame me for that bad joke. Peter David got me started.

Poor Supergirl. She just can't catch a break. Her parents rejected her again, her escape with Dick Malverne to Charlotte was cut off by the Extremists, and a mystery villain can stop her with naught but a shadow. At least Power Girl has shown up to lend a hand, but I found Kara's harsh "bedside manner" less than comforting. Still, Power Girl and Supergirl should be a real handful for the Extremists as long as they can avoid the shadow of the mastermind.

One of penciller Leonard Kirk's strengths is his uncanny ability to suggest plot enhancements with pictures such as the pile of tissues on page 10, panel one which indicated that Linda has been crying a lot! In the lettercolumn, Jacob Gilbert compared Kirk's layouts to Gene Colan's, but I see a marriage of Greg Land and Stuart Immonen in Leonard's work. Comparisons are fun if imprecise, so let's just leave it at Leonard Kirk, shall we? And of course we readers won't miss penciller Gary Frank as long as Gary continues with his fantastic covers!

Writer Peter David was often irrepressible with humorous touches such as the backfiring knock-knock joke and Linda snickering when Dick described his own driving as "faster than a speeding bullet." Peter often tugged at our heartstrings with Mattie's guilt over her brother and Sylvia's loss of faith. Does Sylvia's problem have anything to do with the aftereffects of the Genesis Godwave problem?

ROGE FASTFINDER
FUTURE, MARYLAND

Well, Roge, the Godwave affected many members of the DC Universe, but Sylvia Danvers wasn't one of them. Power Girl, however, was. Her new weakness caught readers by surprise, so we figured we'd let you know what happened. PG was nailed by the Godwave, giving her a weakness to any natural material, like the tree branch that went through her shoulder.



Dear Team Supergirl:

How did he do it? How did Peter David fit so many unique, interesting, and entertaining subplots into SUPERGIRL #15? I had to go back and count the pages to convince myself that this was a single-sized issue. Great job, Peter!

Well, Linda has finally revealed her other self to her parents, but it appears that it was a mistake to do so. Fred and Sylvia's reaction to this revelation was understandable and very in character for them, but still disappointing.

Especially when you compare how well Ma and Pa Kent handled the same news. In all fairness, though, I guess Martha and Jon do have a bit of experience with this type of situation.

Before I sign off, I have a few questions about this month's issue of SUPERGIRL.

1) Will Supergirl gain any other abilities like her flame vision?

2) Dick seems pretty smitten with Linda, but how does she feel about him? Considering the men Supergirl/Linda have dated before, Dick would be a pleasant change.

3) Is Twilight a new character? I have an odd feeling that I've seen her before, but maybe it's just because her costume obscures her features.

That's it for me this month. Thanks to you all for making SUPERGIRL the best comic to ever grace a newsstand.

ADAM LAWSON
HC-89 BOX 760
BARBOURVILLE, KENTUCKY 40906

Let's take a look at those questions, Adam:

1) Supergirl is discovering new and interesting things about herself these days, and we'd count her fire wings as a new power.

2) Both Supergirl and Linda have had their fair share of bad dates, and things are looking up...for both of them! Linda is quite attached to Dick Malverne, and Supergirl has her eye on a certain equine co-star. Talk about double-dating!

3) This story is Twilight's first appearance, but not her last.



Dear SUPERGIRL:

I am constantly amazed at how well this book has progressed. Issue #15 was no different.

The characterization with Linda and her parents will prove to be one of the book's high points. Ma Kent is right, and Sylvia and Fred will come to grips with it in their own time. I only hope that when they do, they will meet the Kents.

Is Maxwell Lord still Lord Havoc? I'm glad to see the Extremists again. As a bonus, Power Girl's gonna be here next issue. Yah!

I'm also very much enjoying Linda's relationship with Dick. I hope we will continue to see him. Maddie's presence is also wonderful! The supporting cast here is probably the best in comicdom.

Keep up the incredible work.

STEVEN LEITMAN
CHICAGO, IL

These Extremists, Steven, were robot duplicates of the original Extremists, so Maxwell Lord doesn't have the dual identity in our story. A lot of people have been very glad about the Power Girl appearance, so we'll see what we can do about another visit.



Dear SUPERGIRL crew:

Just read #15, and wanted to share a few

thoughts with you. Sorry about the numbered points, but it was the easiest way of sorting my thoughts out.

1) Supergirl's mother's reaction to her big secret was one of the most believable I've seen, but please don't drag it out too long. There are enough dysfunctional families in comics these days as it is.

2) I don't know where you found Leonard Kirk, but I love his rendition of Power Girl. Finally, the Atlantean Amazon has her traditional muscles, chiseled chin and massive chest back again. I know it sounds sexist, but I just believe that a character's classic physical appearance should remain consistent regardless of who draws her, and that sylph-like figure who guest-starred in AQUAMAN a few months back just wasn't Kara. Suspension of disbelief only goes so far, right?

3) It's good to see the Extremists again, but I'm a little confused about what they were doing in that museum. As I recall, Dreamslayer cannibalized the other defunct Extremist robots for parts to repair Lord Havoc, and Havoc later reappeared apparently possessed by the spirit of the late Maxwell Lord and working for the Kilg%re. So, how did Tracer, Gorgon and Dr. Diehard come to be whole again, and if this is the original Havoc, what happened to Max Lord? Care to clarify?

4) Any chance of Linda's getting a cat called Streaky?

TONY INGRAM
37 TREMAINE RD., ANERLEY
LONDON SE20 7UA
ENGLAND

Those are some interesting questions, Tony. Let's see what we can do for you:

1) As you know by now, Fred Danvers accepts his daughter's recent change while his wife, who took her anguish to the next level, climbed back into a bottle which she had previously so successfully fought off.

2) Every artist has his own style and so his own interpretation of a character when that character comes across in a plot. We are constantly asked to suspend our disbelief in comics, and the artwork is not treated differently.

3) These Extremists were part of a museum display, the robot Extremists. These robots were brought to life by the power of Twilight, the new villain introduced in this story arc.

4) Streaky, huh? Well, not for this Supergirl, but the animated Supergirl — Kara En-Zee, over in next month's SUPERGIRL ADVENTURES — has a cute little yellow cat that goes by that name.

Dear people:

I'll admit that the Extremists have never really grabbed me, thus affecting my enjoyment of the main plot. The "We're Back" scene was nicely effective in a grisly sort of way, though.

And it's interesting that Power Girl is coming to Linda's aid since pre-Crisis Power Girl was essentially the Earth-twin Supergirl. It's real nice to see those two working together.

I liked a lot of the subplots better than the main story, though. The developments with Linda's parents are interesting, seeing them try to deal with something that has clearly shaken their core beliefs. And seeing Maddie beginning to heal was nice.

I still don't like the god kid, but maybe once his purpose has been explored a bit more I'll like him better.

No real flaws in this issue and a few nice gags (especially the "Knock knock" gag), so recommended overall.

ANDY E. NYSTROM
VICTORIA, B.C.
CANADA

Thanks for the kind words, Andy. Hope you like what's going on with Wally's development.



Dear SUPERGIRL people:

This certainly has been a rough couple of issues for Linda as Linda. Martha Kent's suggestion that she tell her folks about her other identity was a good one, but as we saw, not everyone reacts to the same news the same way. The Kents had decades to get used to the idea of Clark having his powers; the Danverses were asked to accept in a few hours the fact that their daughter wasn't really who they thought she was. Not the easiest of transitions to make.

Sylvia especially looks like she's going through a Job-like crisis of faith. Her comment to Rev. Varvel of "Either there isn't a God, or if there is he doesn't care a damn for us" is pretty honest.

Fred, on the other hand, looks like the one who's going to have the hardest time adjusting to Linda's secret. I wonder what's going to happen if Linda ever gets the courage to tell Maddie or Cutter or some of her other friends. It's lucky that the first person she ever revealed her secret to was someone who had a similar secret: Mary Bromfield, a.k.a. Mary Marvel, back in SUPERGIRL PLUS.

Now for some questions/requests:

1) Who is Power Girl? I hate to show my ignorance, but she is someone I'm

not familiar with.

2) Bring back Mary Marvel, and team her and Linda with Jesse Quick.

3) Will we ever find out more about Wally?

4) Speaking of team-ups: How about having Access show up and having Linda/Supergirl teaming up with the Fantastic Four? (Love to see Linda and Sue Storm, a.k.a. The Invisible Woman, team up.)

5) Are you guys ever going to bring Superman back to normal? (Not a Supergirl question, but I thought I'd throw it in on the side.)

Until Supergirl is turned into an energy being,

SCOTT MCCLENNY
NEWPORT, WASHINGTON

You are probably not alone in your surprise in the drastic difference between Fred's and Sylvia's reactions to their daughter's revelation, Scott. We'll all have to wait and see how far Sylvia falls until she can pull herself back up. Who knows? Maybe Wally will figure out how to help her. Now, your other questions:

1) Power Girl is of Atlantean descent, from before the city went under the ocean. She is super-strong, with flight abilities, though she recently received — via the Godwave — a vulnerability to natural materials. She has been a member of Infinity Inc. and the Justice League and is presently a member of Sovereign Seven.

2) We'll see what we can do about this (though we do like to call Mary Captain Marvel).

3) More than you can imagine.

4) That would be interesting, but we're not planning too many intercompany crossovers right now.

5) You don't think Superman's normal? What's normal?

Maureen McTigue
—not as normal as I hope I am

NEXT ISSUE:

Is Comet the good guy we all think he is? Fracture, an intergalactic bounty hunter, is hot on Comet's tail and Supergirl is a bit torn about whether she should aid her new ally. By Peter, Leonard, Cam, Pat, Gene, Mike and new assistant editor Frank Berrios.

Cover by those big-shots Ron Frenz, Leonard Kirk, José Marzan, Jr. and Patrick Martin.

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