



WONDER WOMAN

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BY THE
COMICS
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PEREZ • WEIN

PATTERSON



FACE-OFF
AT
30,000
FEET!

TREVOR

THE
HISTORY
OF THE
DC
UNIVERSE
is must
reading

"THUNDERSTORMS
MAKE ME NERVOUS."

"THE LIGHT... THE
NOISE... LIKE
GUNSHOTS."

"WHEN I WAS A KID,
I THOUGHT GUNS
WERE MACHO."

"MAYBE THAT'S
WHY I JOINED
THE AIR FORCE."

"BUT IN THE MILITARY,
I SAW WHAT GUNS DO
TO PEOPLE. IT MADE
ME SICK."

"IT MADE ME GROW UP!"

THIS IS A
RESTRICTED
AREA, SIR.

MAY I SEE YOUR
CLEARANCE?

"NOT THAT I'M AFRAID
OF GUNS. I FACED
PLENTY IN 'NAM."

"WHAT I'M AFRAID OF IS
PUTTING LUNATICS
BEHIND THE TRIGGERS.
THREE YEARS AGO, I TOLD
THAT TO A CONGRESSIONAL
INVESTIGATION COMMITTEE."

"EVER SINCE THAT DAY,
LT. CANDY HAS BEEN
WORRIED ABOUT ME."

"I TOLD ETTA NOT TO
WORRY. THEY CAN'T
TOUCH ME. I'M A
GODDAMN WAR HERO!"



"SOMETIMES SHE ACTS
MORE LIKE MY MOTHER
THAN MY ATTACHE."

"BUT I DON'T TRUST
HIM, STEVIE," SHE SAID,
"AND I DON'T LIKE
LEAVING YOU WITH HIM!"

"SHE WAS TALKING ABOUT KOHLER--
GENERAL GERARD KOHLER. NOW
THERE'S A LUNATIC FOR YOU! I
TOLD THE COMMITTEE THAT."

"NOW, SUDDENLY, THE GENERAL
WANTS TO SEE ME--IN MY FLIGHT
SUIT--AT MIDNIGHT."

"WHAT DOES HE WANT WITH A
RENEGADE FLYBOY WHO HATES
HIS GUTS?"

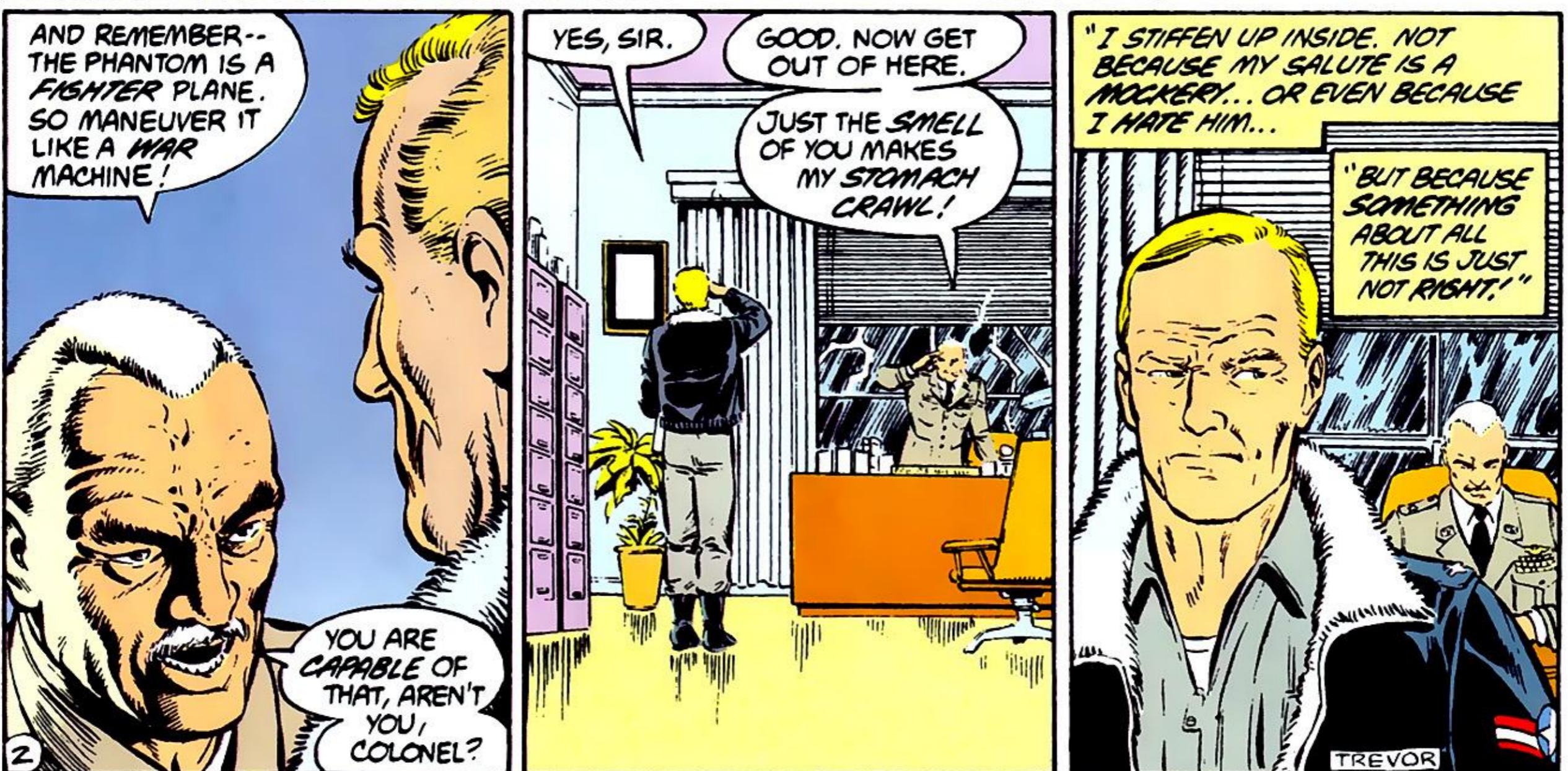
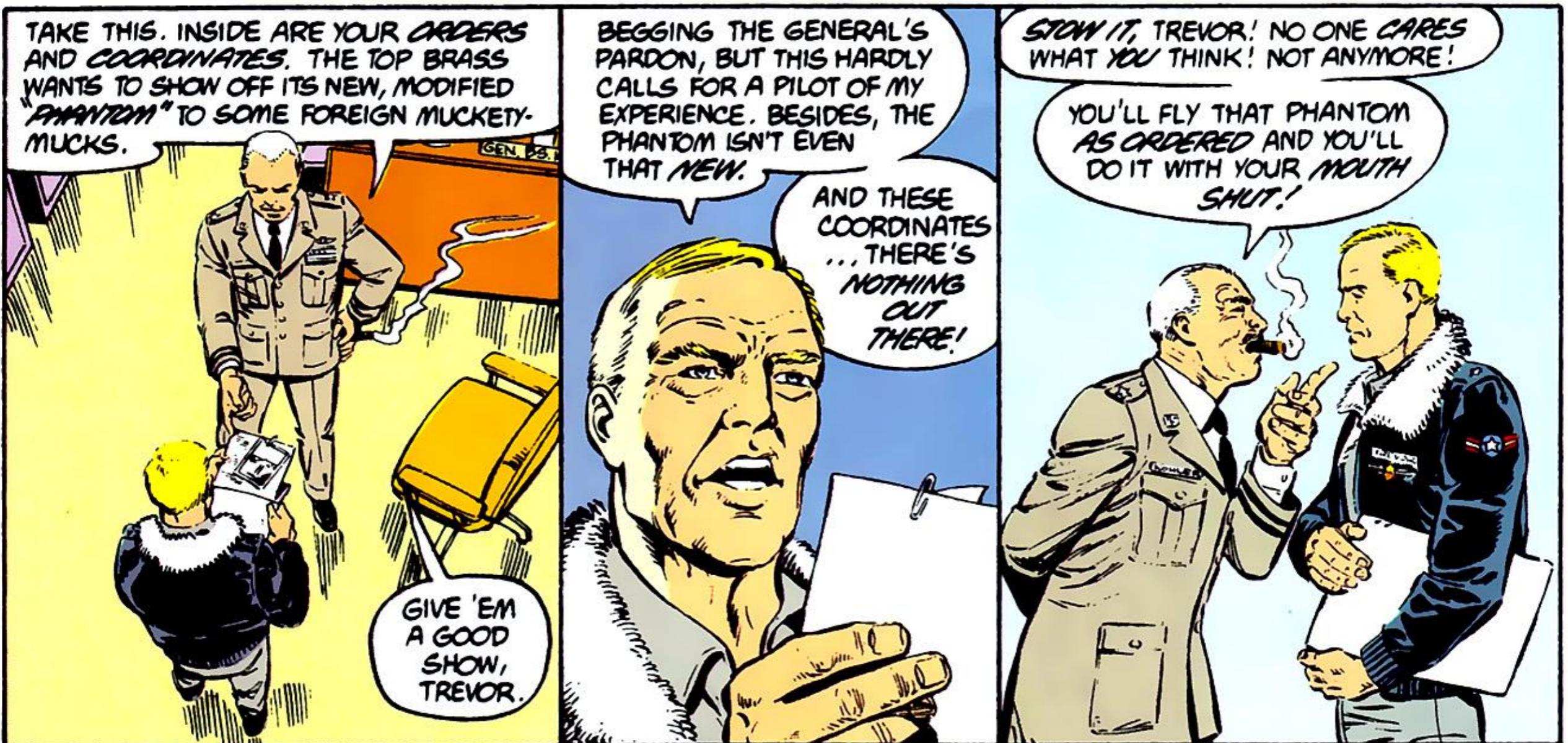
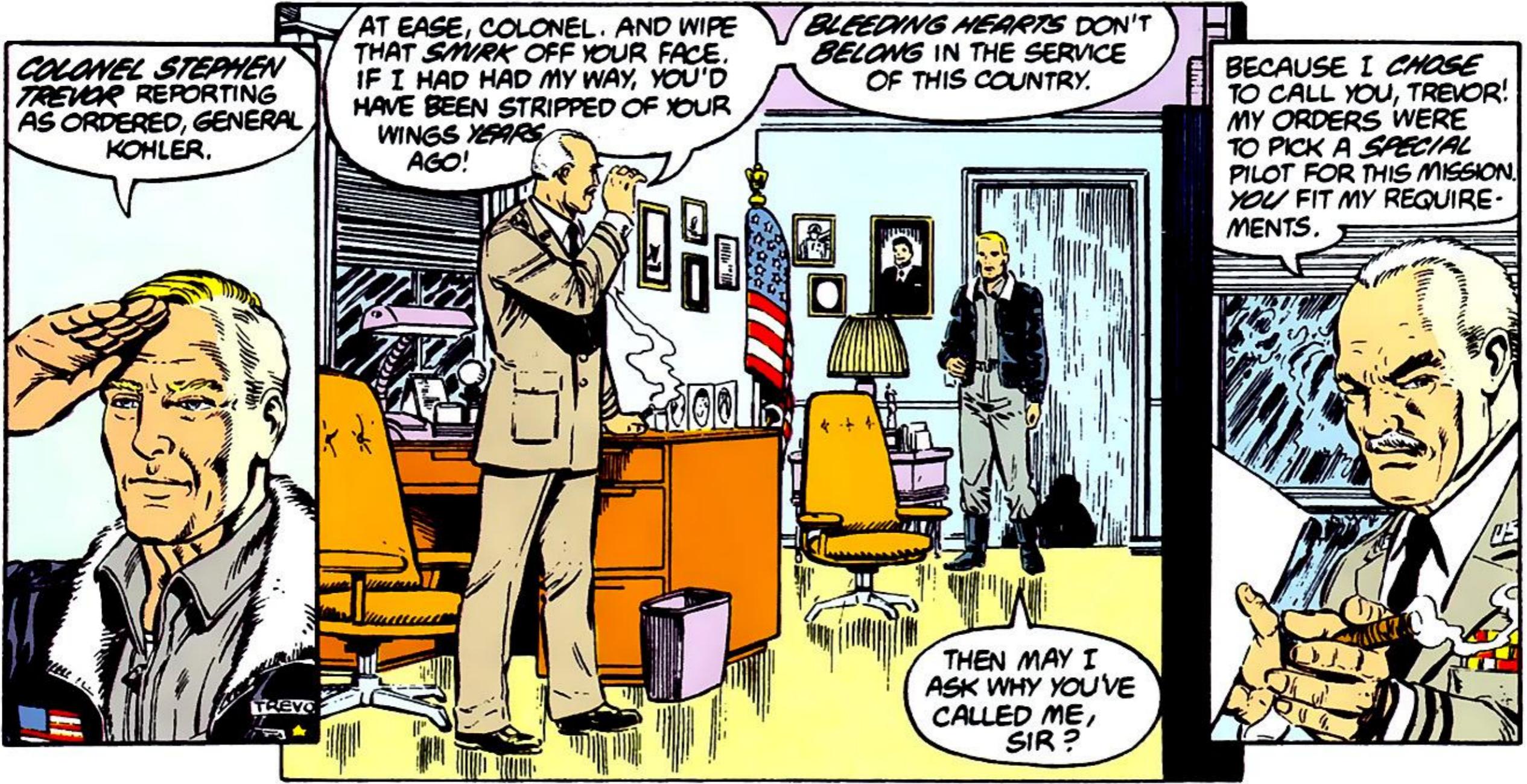


"FOR MY HONESTY, THEY LET
KOHLER SENTENCE ME TO A DESK.
THREE YEARS AGO."

"WHAT'S
HELP TO?"

SEND HIM
IN, SERGEANT.

WONDER WOMAN 2 (USPS 690-040). Published monthly by DC Comics Inc., 666 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10103. Second class postage paid at New York, NY and at additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to WONDER WOMAN, DC Comics Inc., Subscription Dept., P.O. Box 1308-F, Fort Lee, NJ 07024. Annual subscription rate: \$9.00. Outside U.S.A. \$11.00 in U.S. funds. Copyright © 1986 DC Comics Inc. All Rights Reserved. The stories, characters and incidents mentioned in this magazine are entirely fictional. All characters featured in this issue and the distinctive likenesses thereof are trademarks of DC Comics Inc. Advertising Representative: Print Advertising Representatives Inc., 356 Lexington Avenue, New York, NY 10017. (212) 391-1400. Printed in U.S.A. D.C. Comics Inc. A Warner Communications Company



"SOME WOULD SAY MY SUSPICIONS DON'T MATTER --
THAT ANY GOOD SOLDIER WOULD JUST FOLLOW ORDERS."

"BUT THERE AREN'T MANY GOOD
SOLDIERS UNDER THE THUMB
OF SOMEONE LIKE KOHLER."

"AND I'M SURPRISED THAT
WHEN WE WERE IN 'NAM..."

"...SOMEONE DIDN'T
FRAG HIM!"

CAPTAIN SLADE?
I UNDERSTAND YOU'RE
TO ACCOMPANY ME ON
THIS CHICKEN
ASSIGNMENT.

"CHICKEN"
ASSIGNMENT, SIR?

I AM DOING WHAT MY SUPERIOR
OFFICERS TELL ME, SIR! I
UNDERSTAND THAT I AM TO FOLLOW
YOUR DIRECTIVES WHILE IN THIS
AIRCRAFT.

I UNDERSTAND THAT THAT IS
THE GENERAL'S WISH.

THAT IS ALL I NEED TO UNDER-
STAND. IT IS ALL YOU NEED
TO UNDERSTAND...

...SIR!

"YEAH. THUNDERSTORMS
MAKE ME NERVOUS."

"AND SO DO
GUNG-HO
CO-PILOTS!"

THE HIGH-AND-MIGHTY
COLONEL TREVOR! A
DOVE IN A NEST OF
HAWKS!

A MAN
RULED BY NONE
BUT HIS OWN
CONSCIENCE.

ALL THAT WILL SOON
CHANGE, COLONEL! FOR
TONIGHT, I SHALL BREAK
YOUR ACCURSED WILL!

TONIGHT, YOU SHALL DO
THE BIDDING OF ARES,
GOD OF WAR!

"SURELY THE GODS MUST
BE IN TURMOIL THIS NIGHT!"

"THEIR AGONY
RENDS THE VERY
DARKNESS..."

"... AND RAGES LIKE SOME WILD
BEAST 'ROUND THE STATUE OF NOBLE
ARTEMIS!"

**"GRANT ME THE COURAGE OF THE
HUNTER, O SILENT ARTEMIS."**

FOR I AM FRIGHTENED BY THIS
NIGHT-- FRIGHTENED BY THE
MISSION I AM CALLED TO
PERFORM.

**FRIGHTENED THAT
I MIGHT FAIL!**

A FIRE IN THE SKY!

Greg Potter & George Pérez. Bruce Patterson. Costanza. Tatjana Wood. Karen Berger
Script, co-plotters, pencils *inks* *letters* *colors* *Editor*

PRINCESS DIANA LOOKS
UNEASY, QUEEN
HIPPOLYTE.

FOR TONIGHT, THE GODS
SHALL REVEAL TO YOUR
DAUGHTER THE NATURE OF
HER DREAD MISSION...

...A MISSION WHICH
WILL PIT HER AGAINST
A GOD GONE MAD!

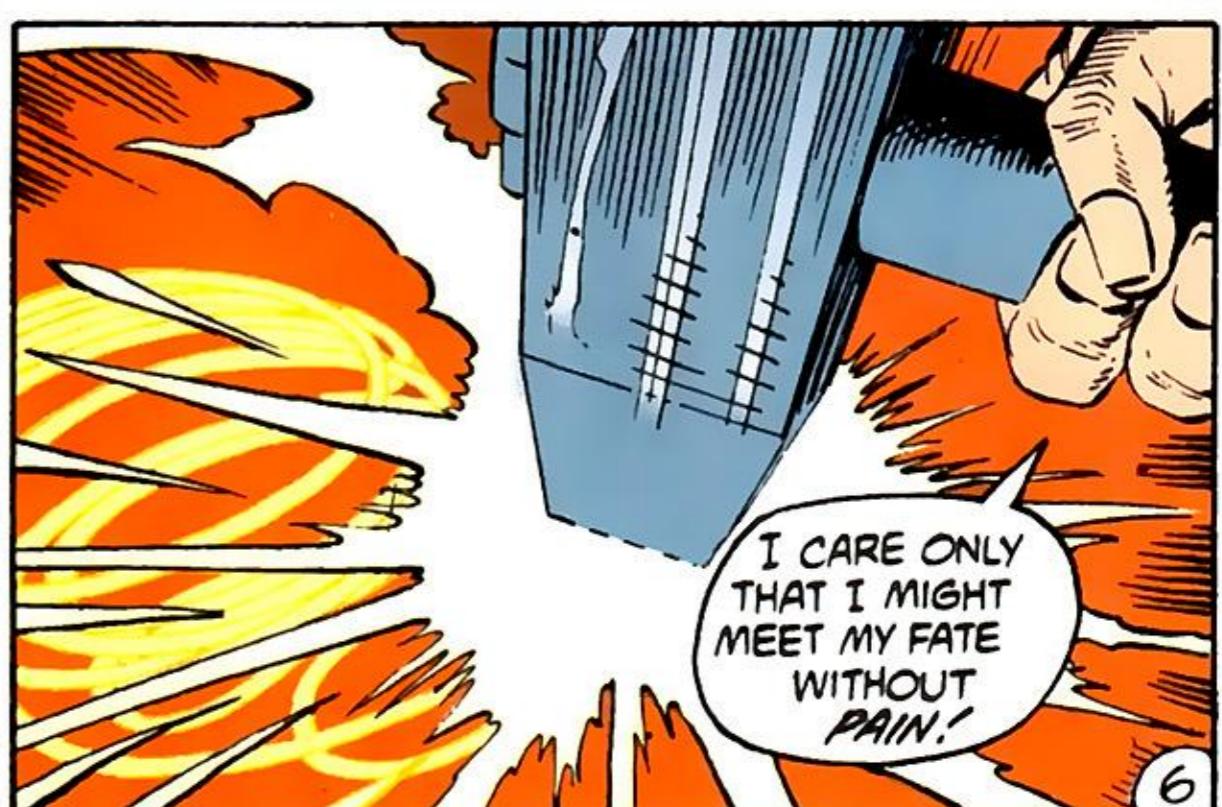
BUT TAKE HEART,
MY QUEEN, FOR
THE GODS HAVE
ALSO PROMISED HER
A SPECIAL WEAPON--
ONE WHICH SHALL AID
HER MIGHTILY IN BATTLE!

THOUGH WHAT KIND OF
WEAPON COULD AFFECT HER
FOUL ENEMY ARES, I CANNOT
GUESS.

DIANA HAS ACCEPTED
THE GODS' CALLING...

"...AND NOW, FOR
HER, THERE IS NO
TURNING BACK!"





HERE, THEN, ARTEMIS--TAKE YOUR
LASSO OF TRUTH.

I HAVE FORGED IT
FROM THE GIRDLE OF
GAEA HERSELF--

NOW DOES OUR
FATE REST IN THE
HANDS OF A CHILD.
AND YET, THIS IS
A CHILD WHOSE
LOVE FOR US
HAS NEVER
FALTERED!

"HERE IS THE
GREAT TASK--
TO SAVE US
FROM THE
HORROR..."

"...OF
OBVIOUS!"

-- SO THAT
NO GOD NOR
MORTAL MAY
EVER BREAK
ITS BONDS!

GREAT
HERA!

THAT BOLT--
AS IF FROM THE
HEART OF ARTEMIS
HERSELF! AND
UPON THE GROUND...

A ROPE OF
PUREST GOLD!
CAN THIS BE THE
WEAPON THE
GODS HAVE
PROMISED?

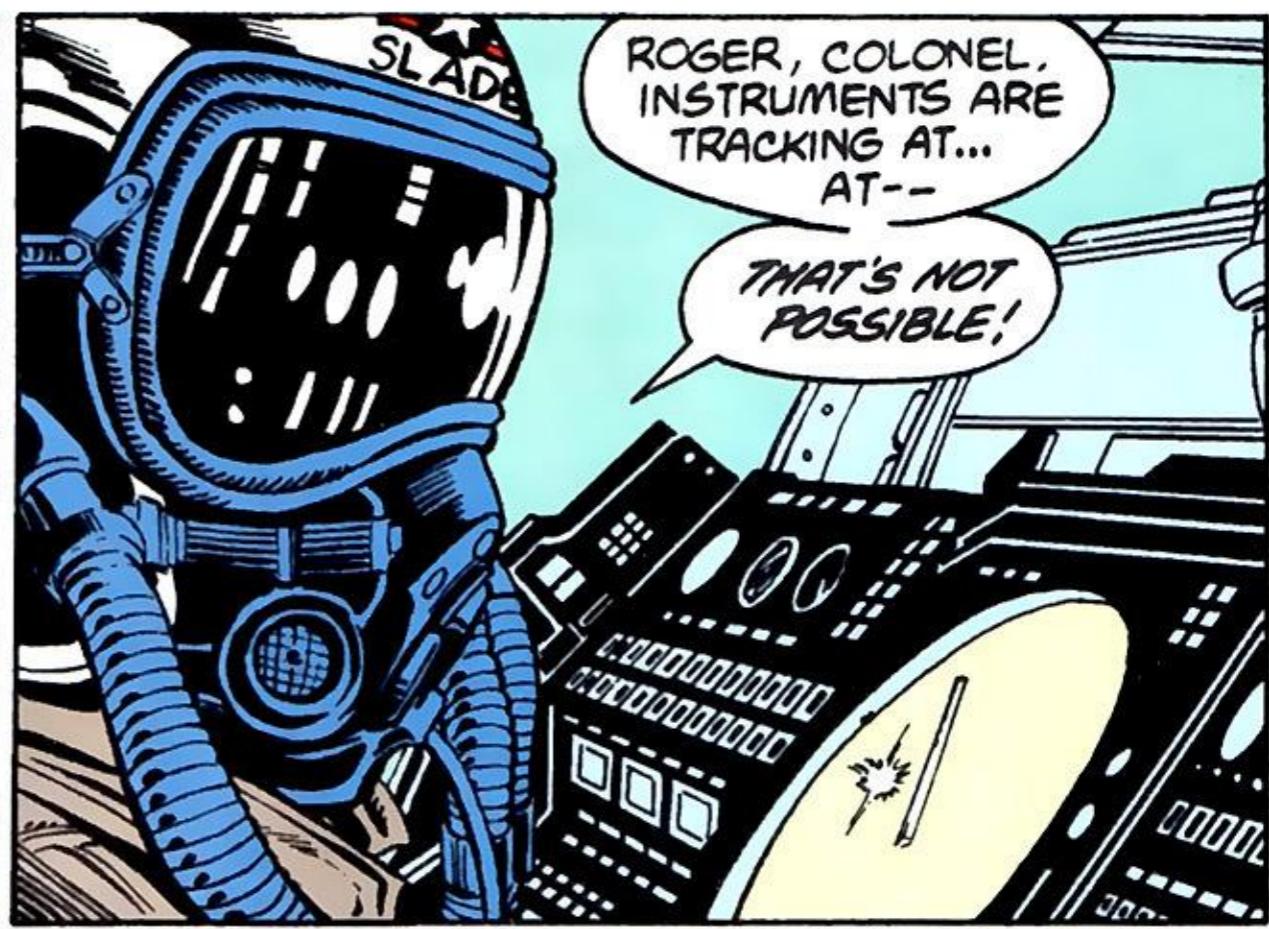
BY ATHENA'S MANTLE!
IT CANNOT BE! NOT
FOR CENTURIES HAS
ANY AMAZON LAID
EYES UPON HIM!

GREETINGS, PRINCESS
DIANA!

I AM HERMES,
MESSENGER OF
THE GODS!

INDEED
IT IS,
CHILD!





...LIKE BONES RATTLING WITHIN
A HOLLOW GRAVE...

...LIKE THE WINDS WHICH NOW
MOAN ABOVE THE ROTTING
CORPSE OF THIS ONCE
BEAUTIFUL HILLTOP!

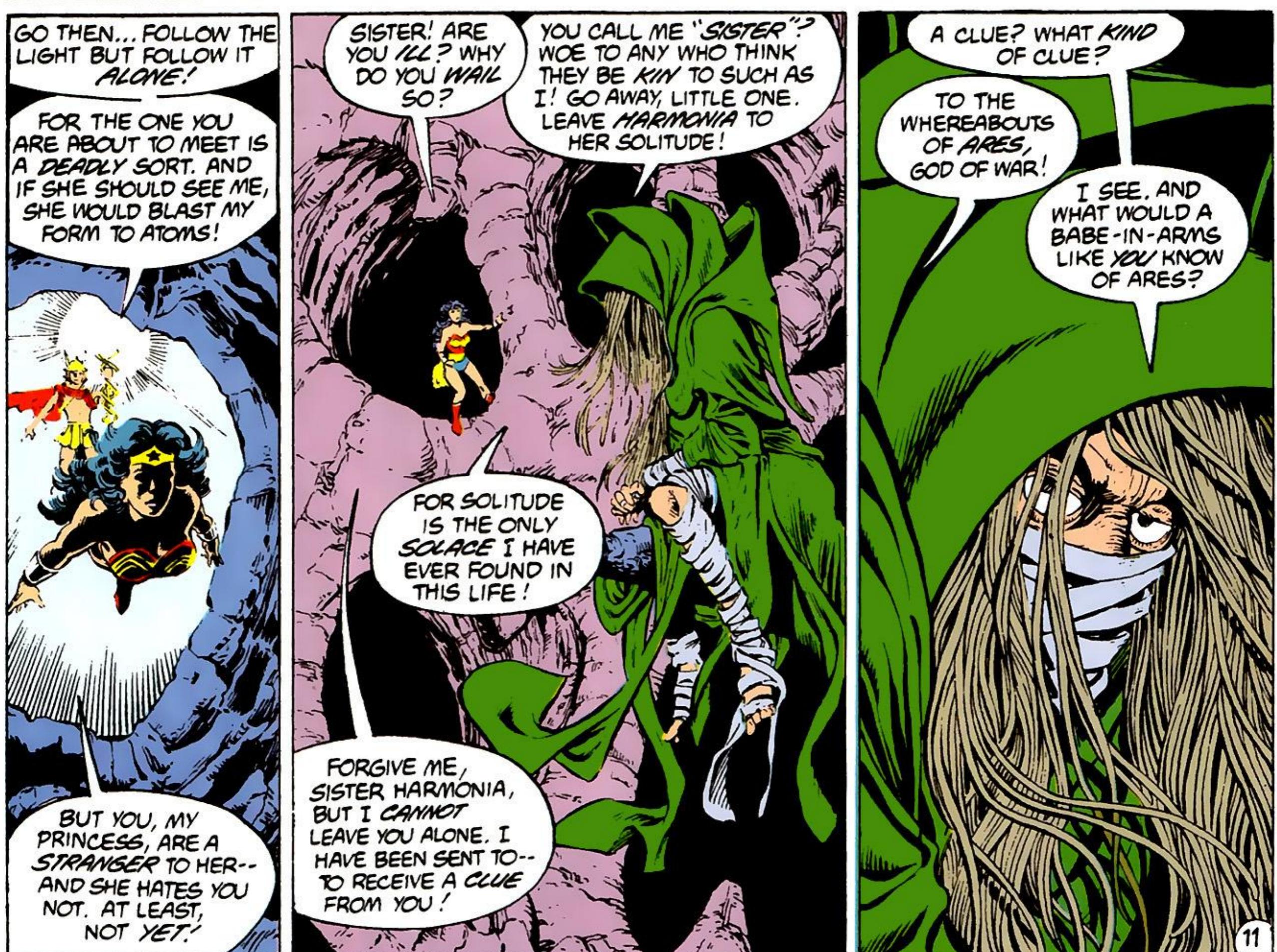
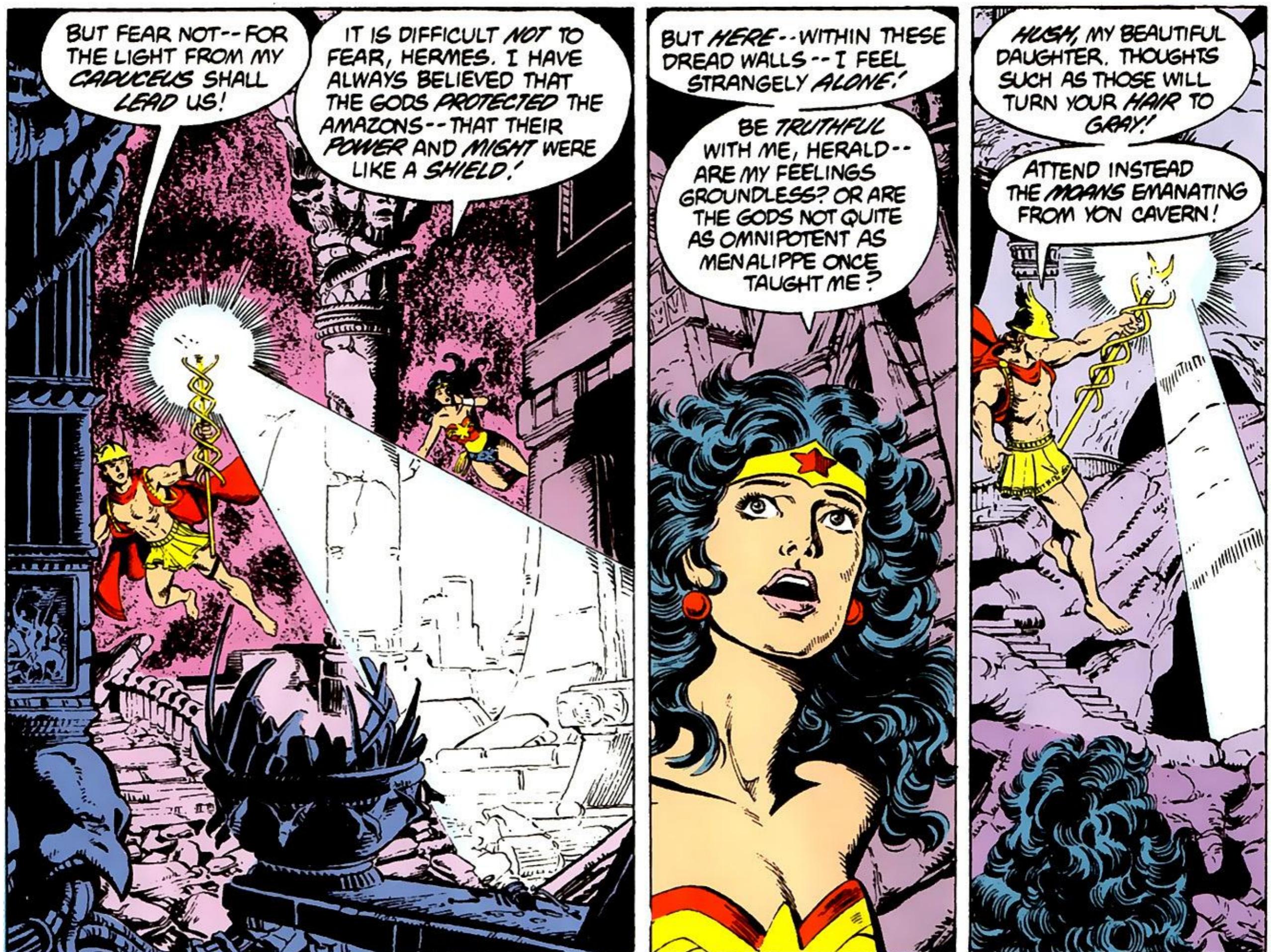
BY THE GODS, HERMES!
WHERE HAVE YOU BROUGHT ME?
AND WHAT DISASTER HAS
BEFALLEN THIS WRETCHED
PLACE?

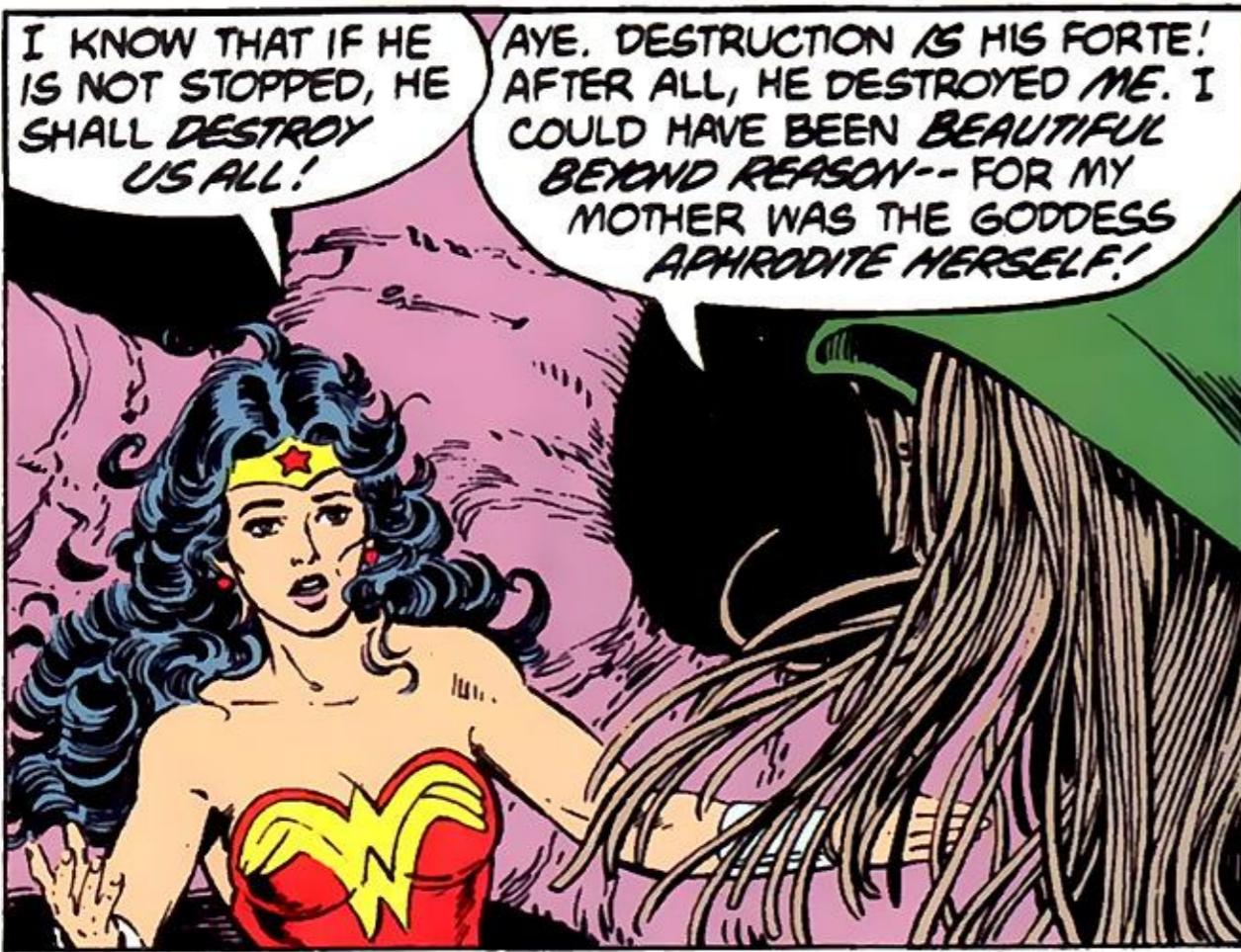
THE DISASTER IS CALLED
ARES, MY PRINCESS. FOR THIS
IS AREOPAGUS--ONCE THE
HOME OF THE WAR-GOD.

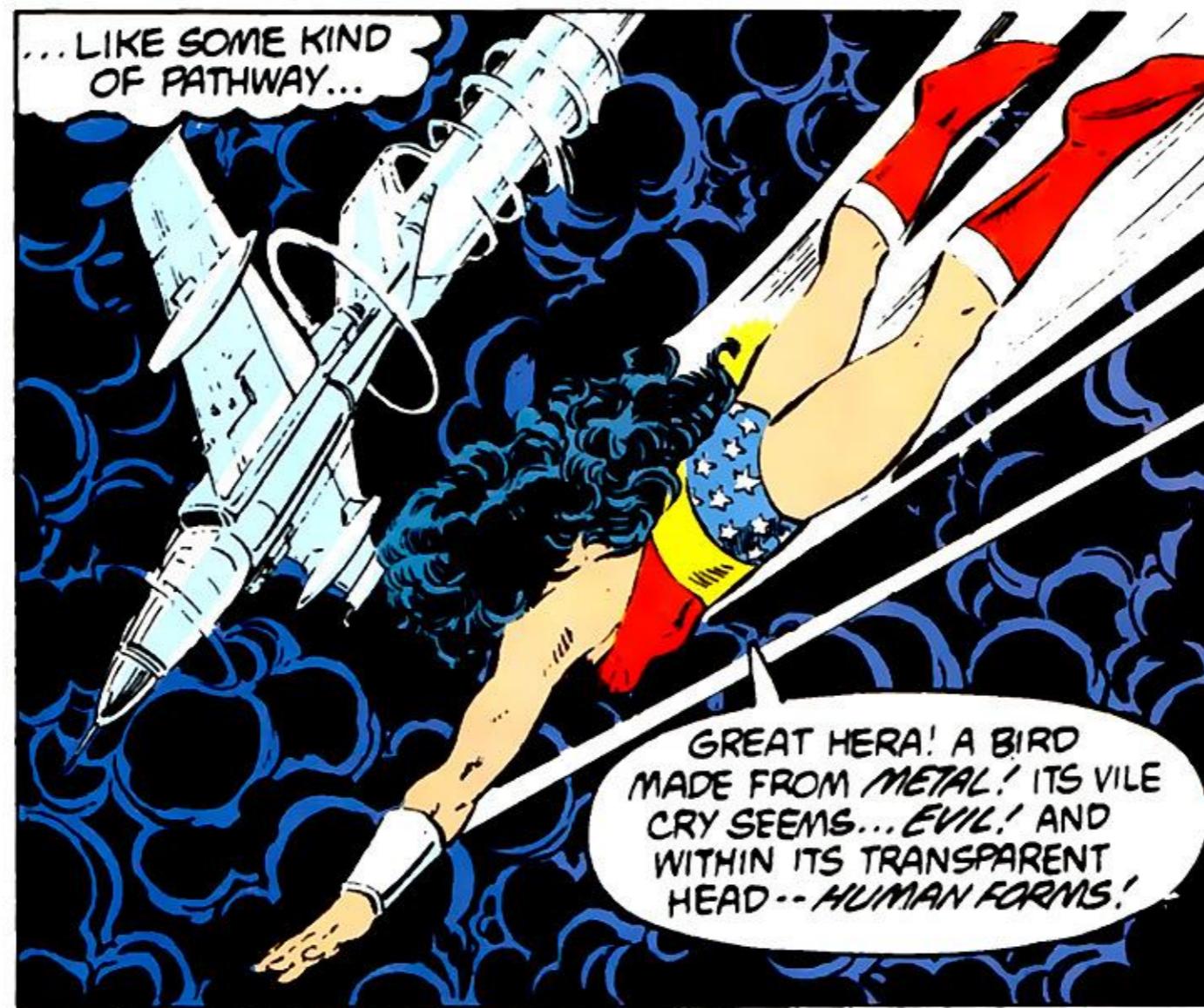
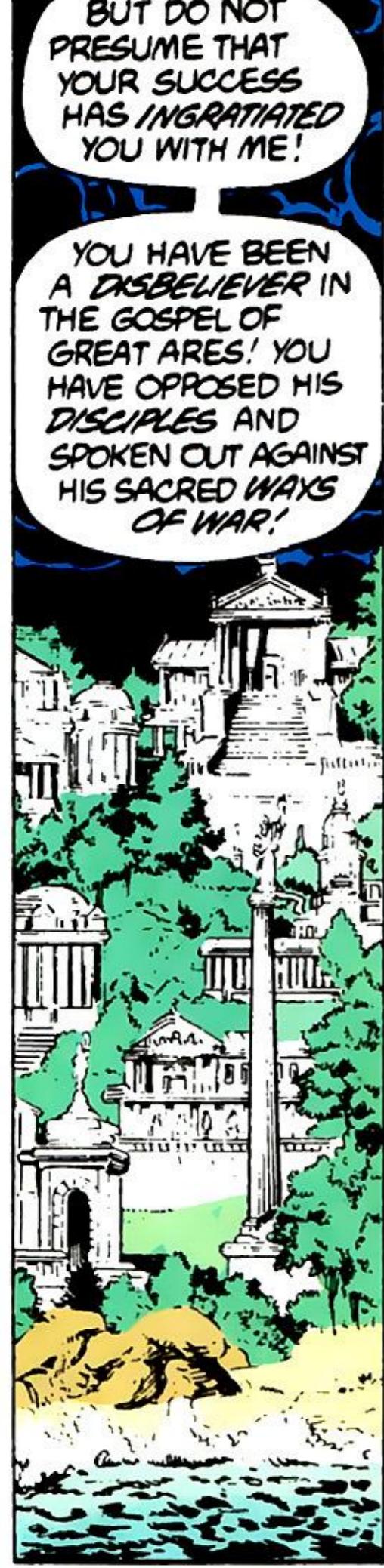
HIS
FETID
PRESENCE
TURNED THIS
HILL'S GRASS
TO STONE--
DECIMATED
ITS TREES--
FOULED
ITS AIR!

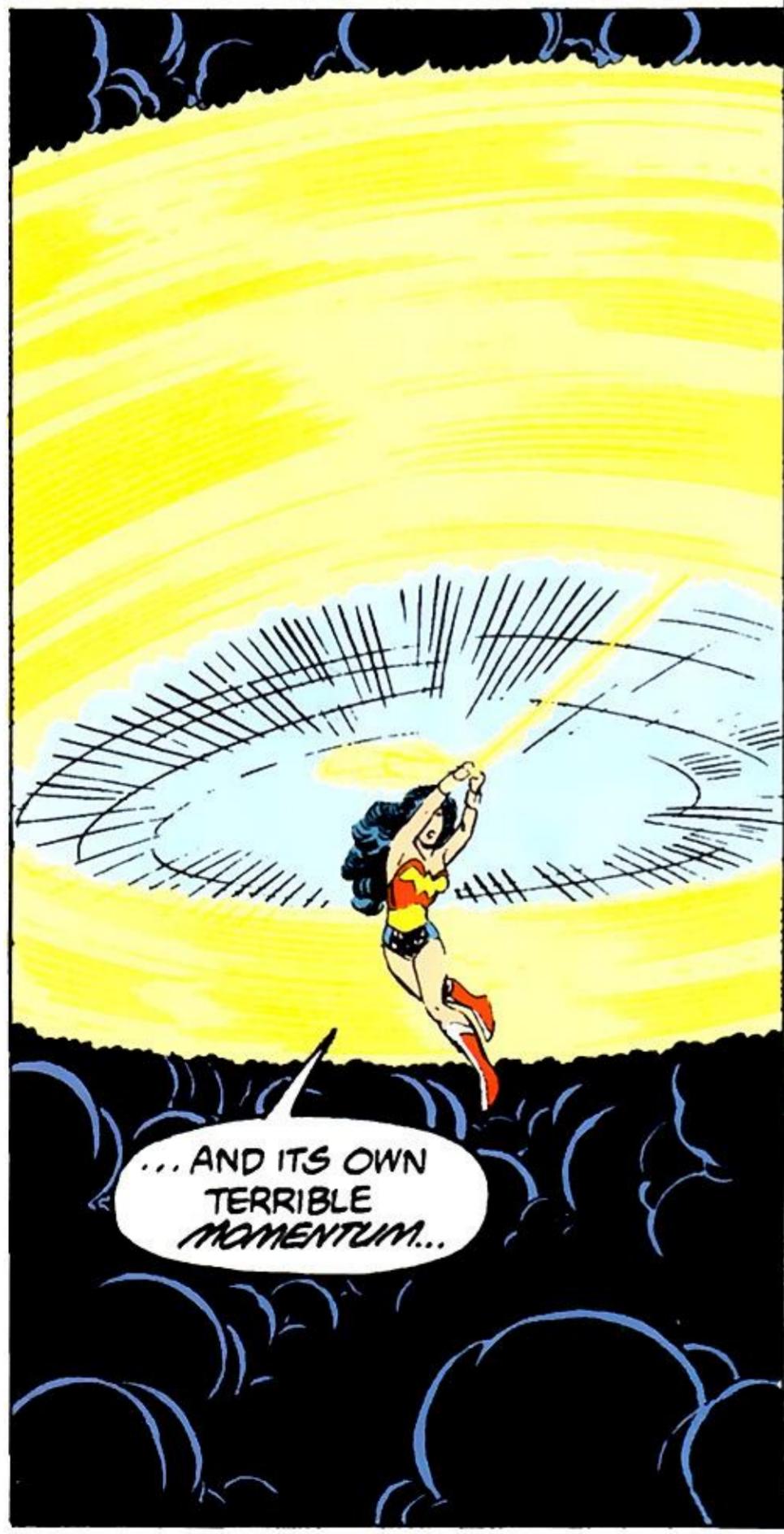
NOW, EVEN THE WALLS
OF ARES' OWN PALACE
LIE CRUMBLING IN THE WAKE
OF HIS DEPARTURE. FOR THE
GOD OF WAR HIDES SOME-
WHERE IN MAN'S WORLD--
PLOTTING THE DESTRUCTION
OF US ALL!

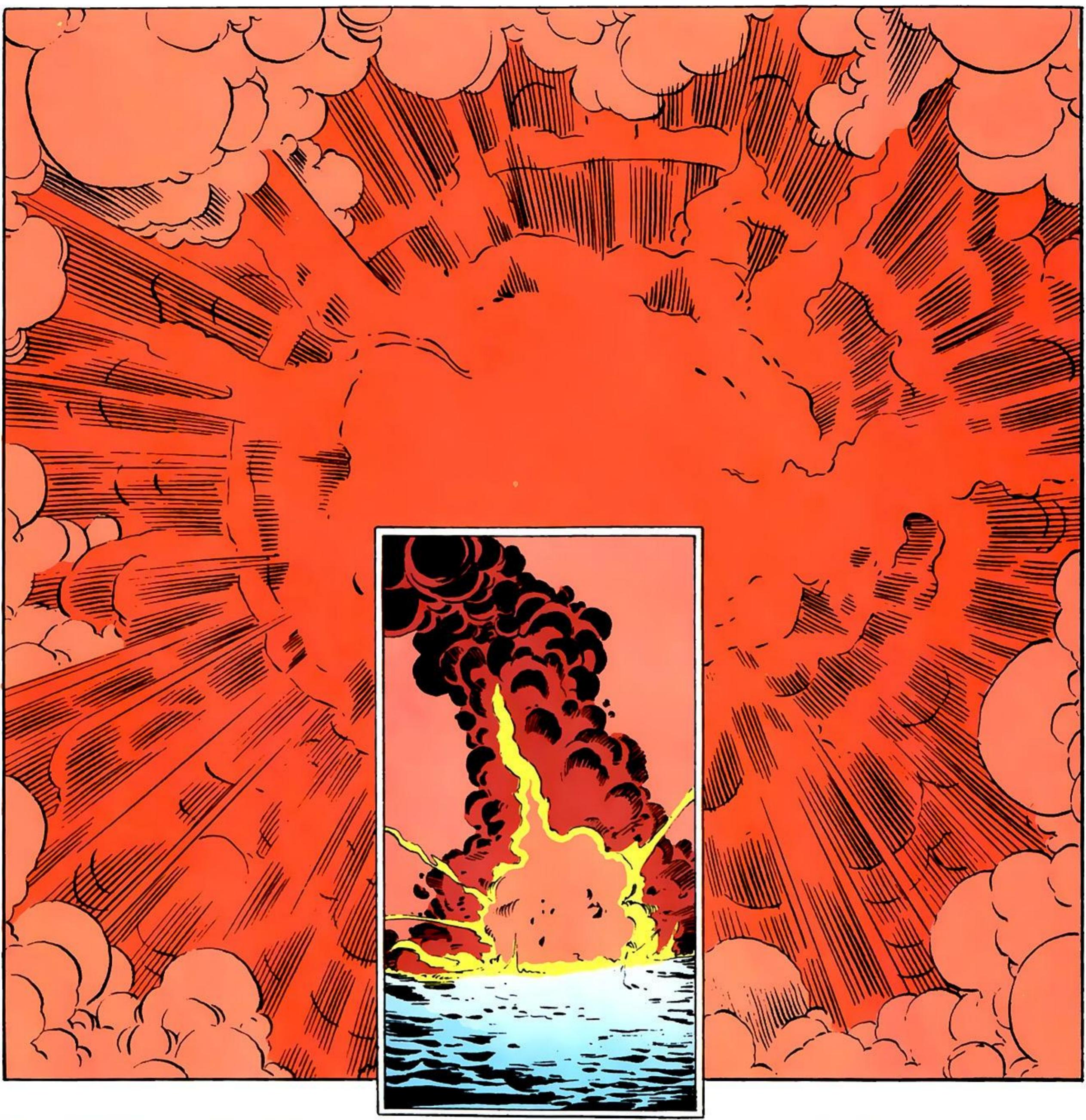
COME! IT IS
INTO THE MAW
OF THIS EVIL
PLACE THAT YOU
AND I MUST
GO!

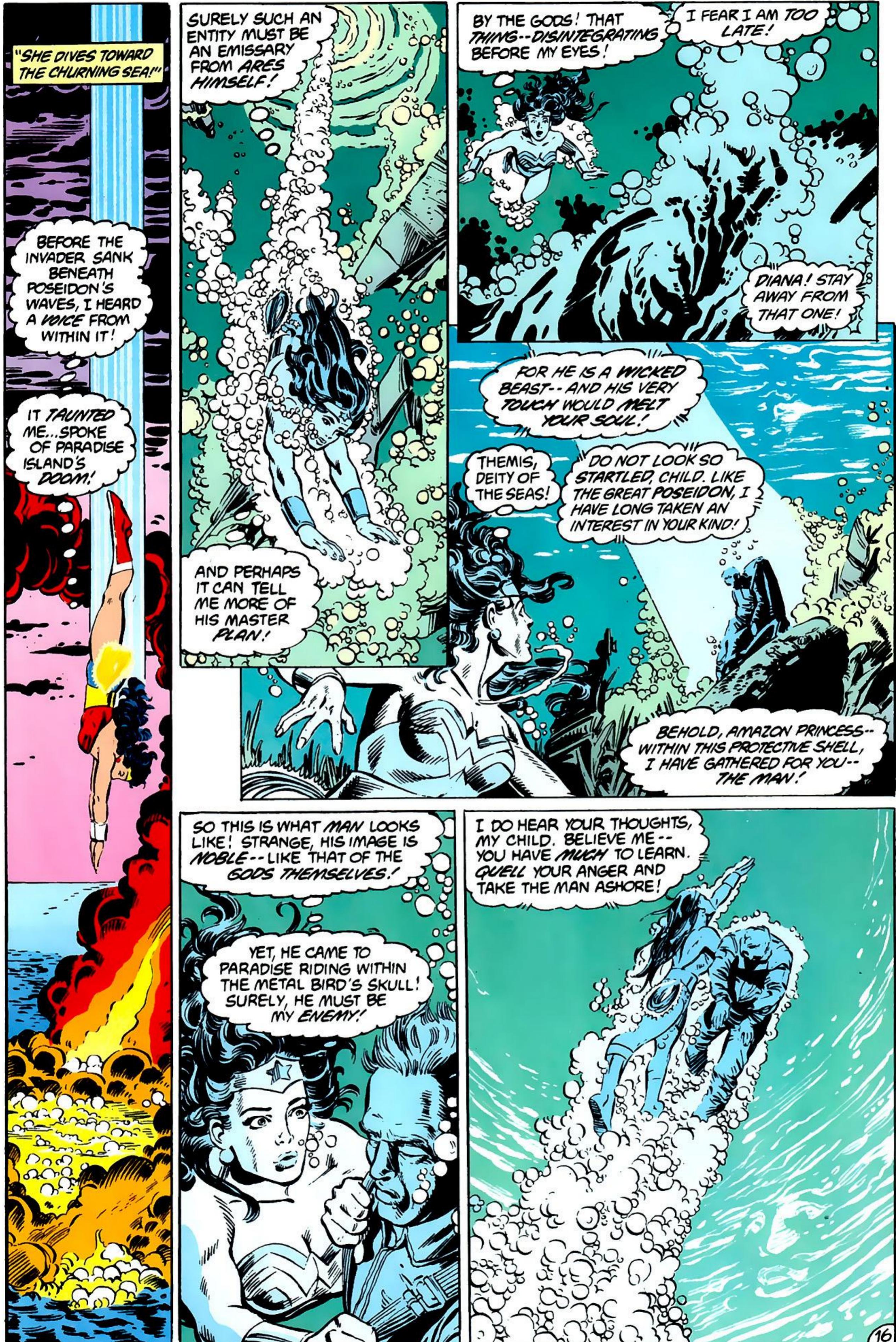


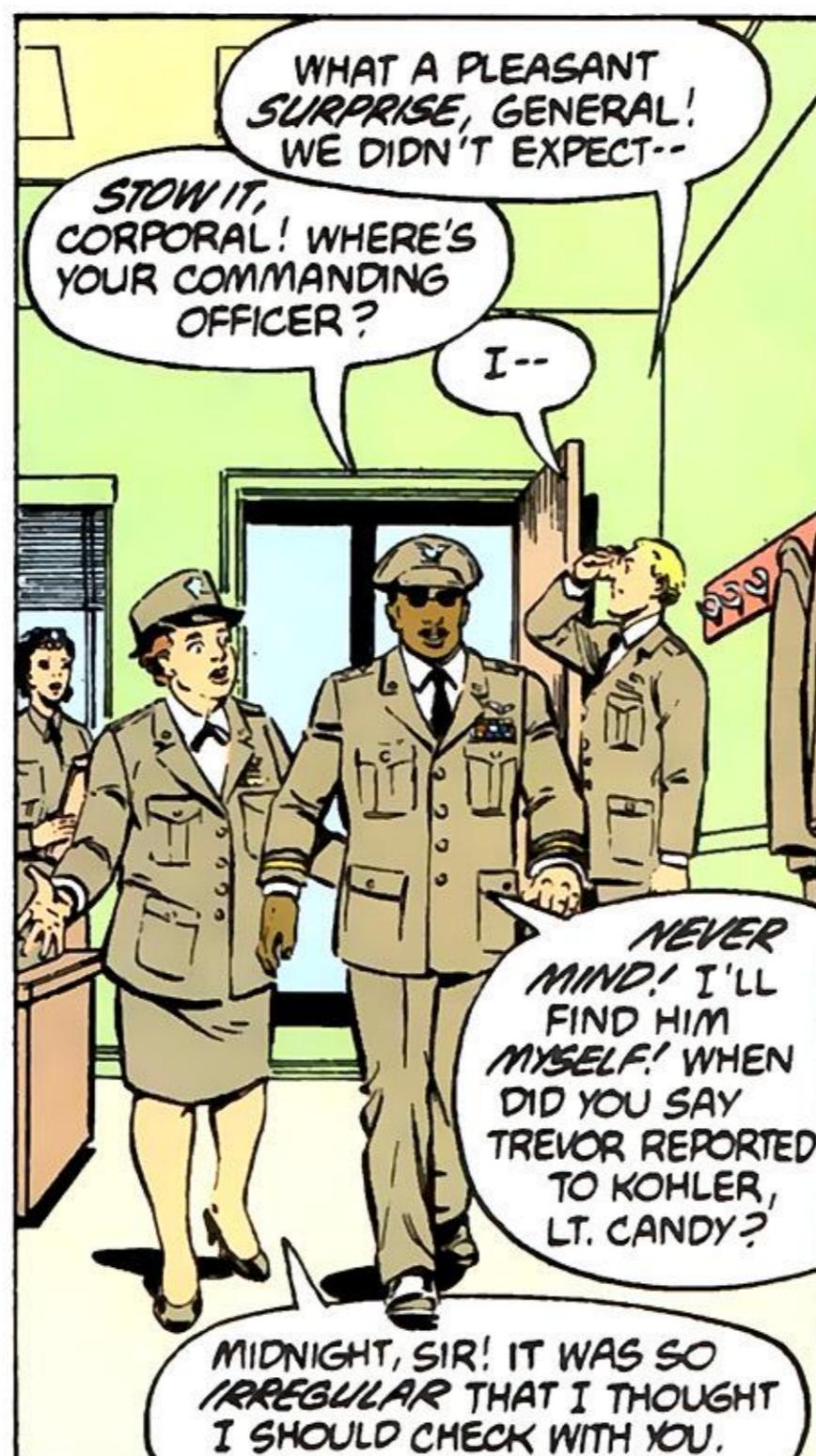
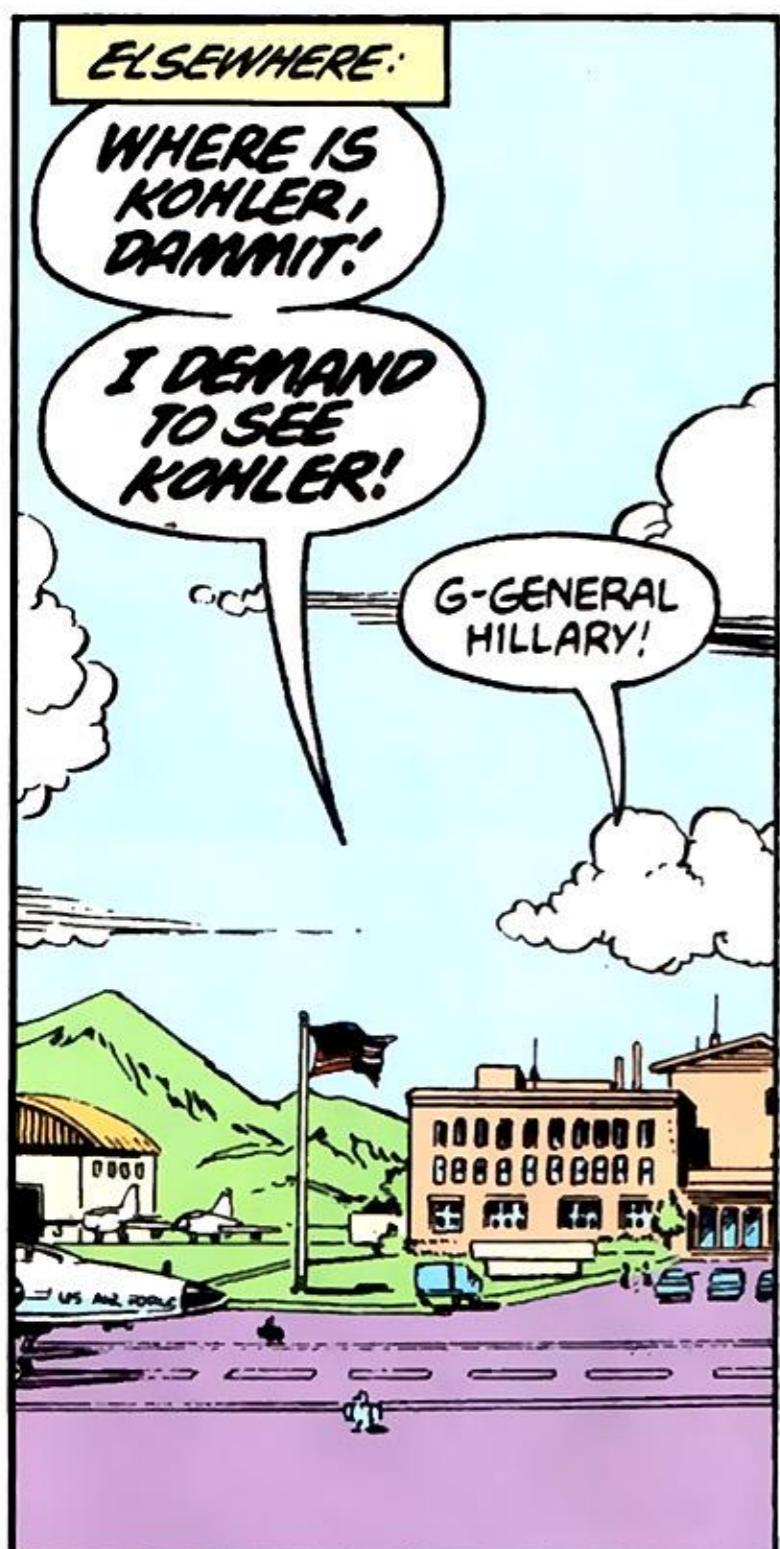












THE ISLAND OF HEALING--NOT TWENTY OAR-STROKES AWAY FROM PARADISE ISLAND.

HERE, CENTURIES AGO, THE AMAZONS BUILT A SHELTER--A PLACE WHERE THEY MIGHT, IF NEED BE, HOUSE SHIP-WRECK VICTIMS.

HERE, COME ALL WHO ARE IN PAIN, BE THEY AMAZON, ANIMAL...OR EVEN MAN!

WHY DO WE WASTE OUR BEST PHYSICIAN'S SKILLS ON THIS... CREATURE?
I SAY THROW HIM BACK INTO THE SEA!

SILENCE, PHILIPPUS!
WOULD YOU HAVE US MURDER A DEFENSE-LESS MORTAL?

SUCH VIOLENCE IS MAN'S WAY--NOT OURS!

I DO NOT UNDERSTAND, MOTHER. WE HAVE NEVER GIVEN MAN REASON TO HATE US. WHY SHOULD THEY NOW ATTACK OUR HOME?

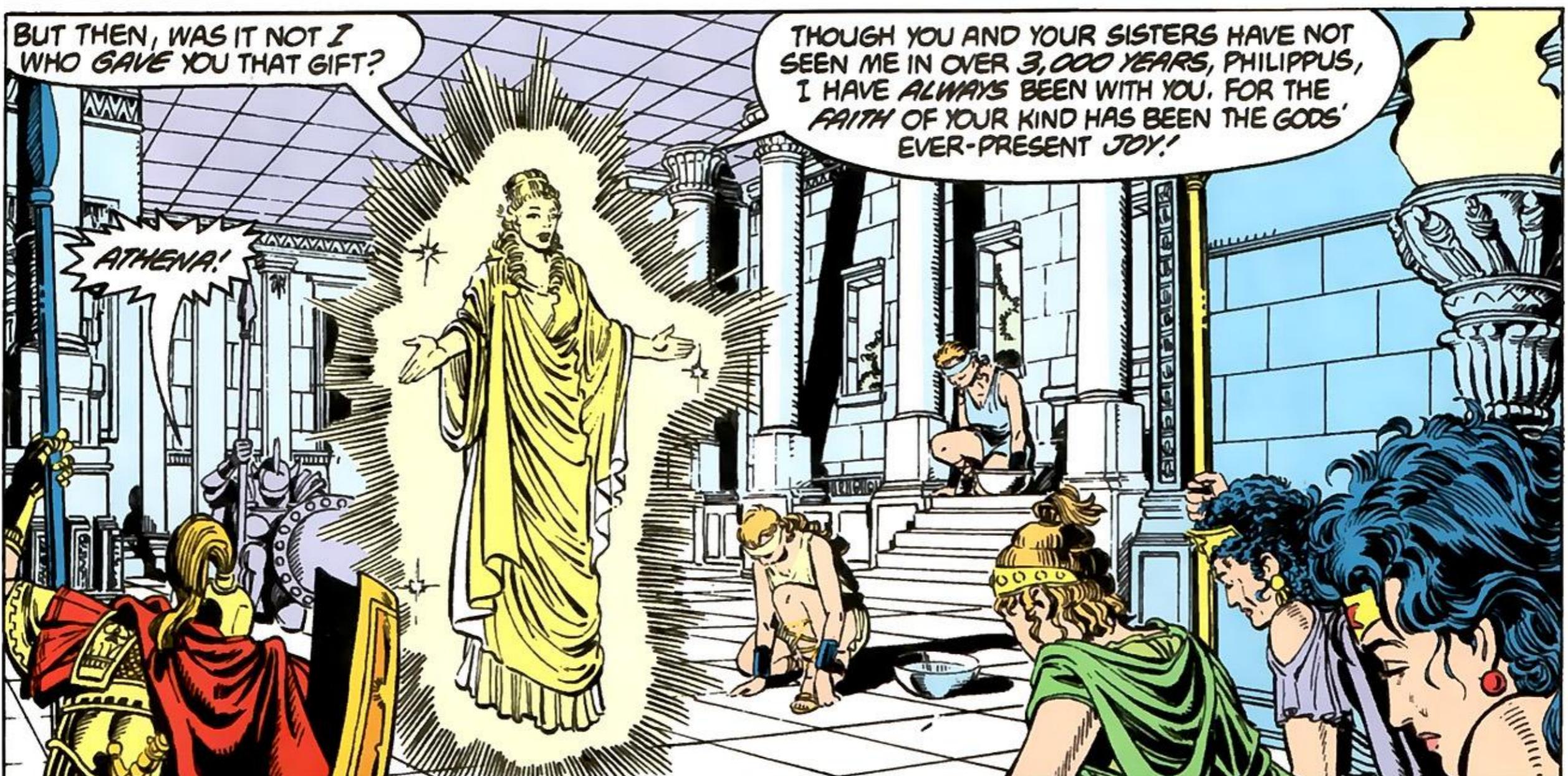
DO YOU NOT REMEMBER OUR HISTORY, MY DAUGHTER? MEN HAVE ALWAYS HATED US--BECAUSE WE WOULD NEVER BOW TO THEIR DOMINATION!

I WILL NEVER UNDERSTAND WHY WE SHOULD SAVE ANY MALE!

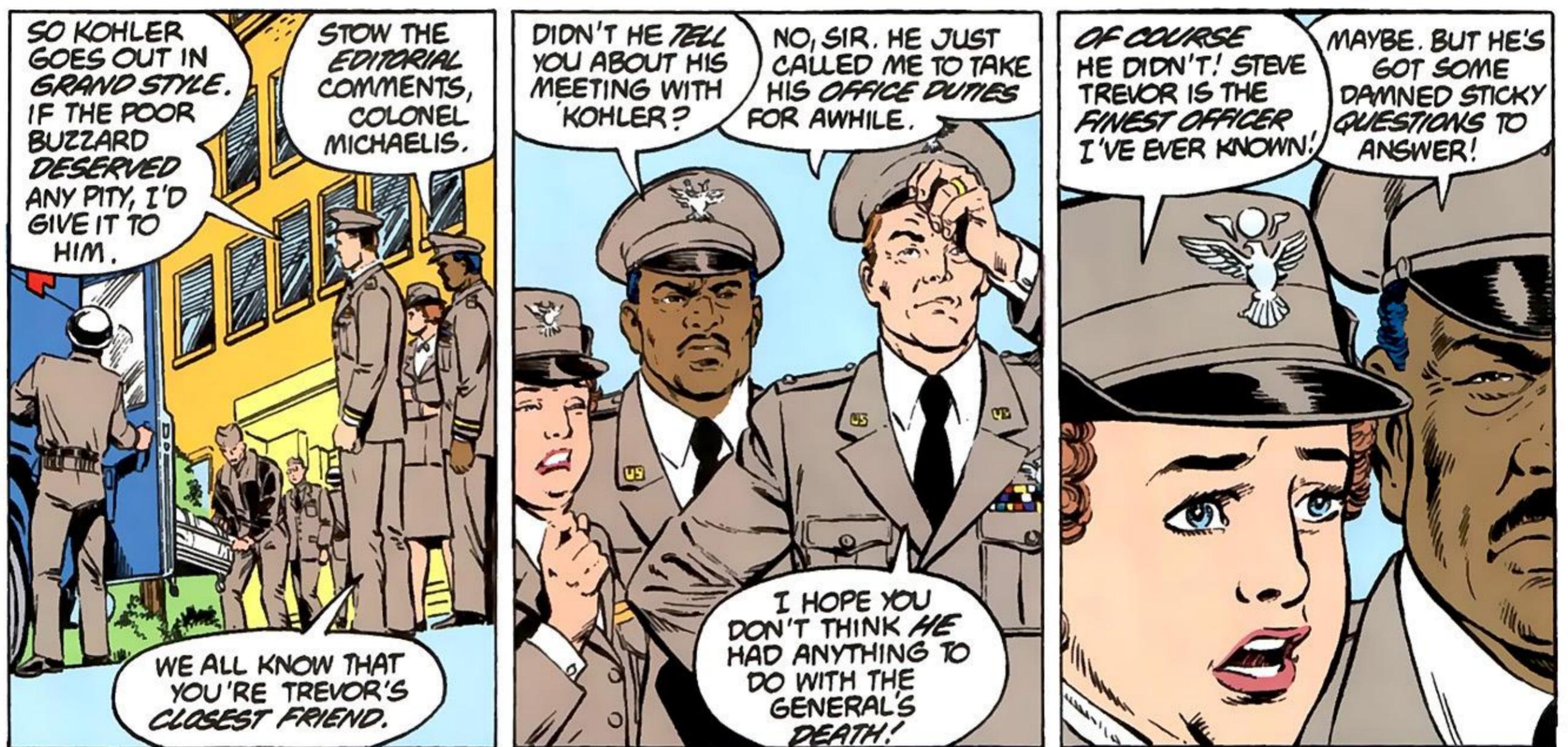
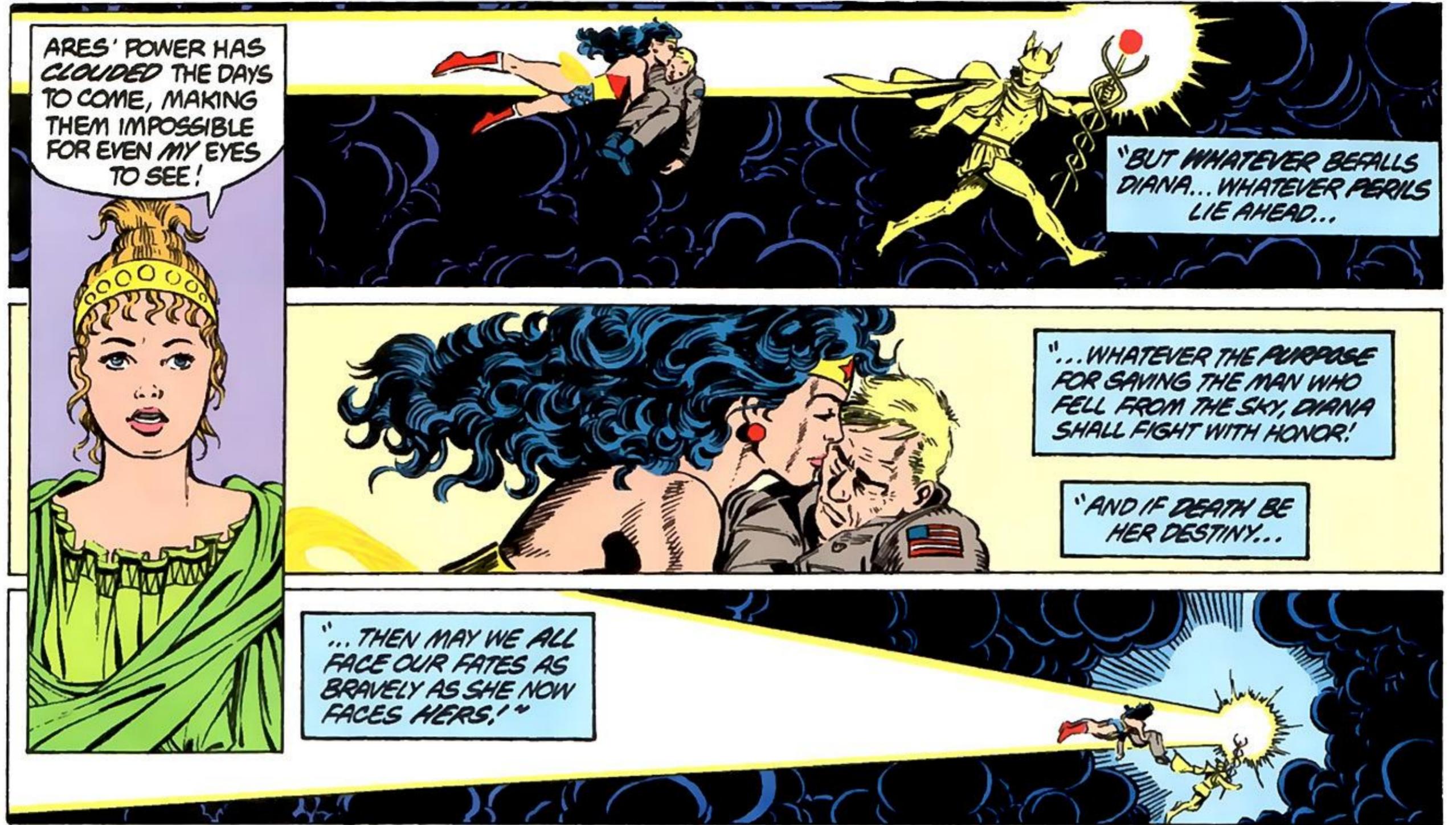
AYE! I REMEMBER--BECAUSE I WAS THERE! THE LAST MAN I LAID EYES UPON BOUND ME, FORCED HIS WILL UPON ME--AND THEN, SMILING, SPAT IN MY FACE!

BECAUSE DIANA TELLS US THAT IT IS THE GODS' WILL.

DO YOU NO LONGER TRUST THE GODS, PHILIPPUS?







AYE, BROTHER PHOBOS. STILL,
THERE ARE THOUSANDS MORE
WHOM WE CONTROL! THIS
PITIFUL AMAZON STANDS
NOT A CHANCE AGAINST US!

AGREED, DEIMOS! OUR FATHER
ARES MEANS TO RULE ALL HUMANITY!
AND WITH THE TWO OF US BY HIS
SIDE, HIS WISH SHALL CERTAINLY
BE FULFILLED!

SOON,
WE SHALL
CRUSH ALL
WHO
OPPOSE
HIM UNDER
OUR
HEELS...

... AND THE FIRST
TO FEEL OUR POWER
SHALL BE THE
PRINCESS DIANA!



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NEXT 8 "DEADLY ARRIVAL!"

I never really read comic books as a kid. Sure, I did make my way to Joe's Candy Store around the corner from my house every couple of weeks to buy an issue or two of *Archie* and his gang, and I do confess to reading "Love" comics when they were passed around my bunk on warm, summer nights at sleep-away camp, and maybe once or twice I might have read an old *SUPERBOY* or *Spider-Man* comic that my older brother had long since abandoned in his bookcase; but for all intents and purposes, my childhood comic book reading experiences were pretty unmemorable and limited, and virtually stopped after that innocent summer in Bunk 10.

Cut to about seven years later. One of my good friends, a budding writer, was beginning to submit story ideas and sample scripts to DC's mystery/horror titles. I remember going into a comic shop on Flatbush Avenue in Brooklyn with him, looking at all these weird comics in plastic bags on dusty shelves, and feeling absolutely befuddled by the whole experience. And, when I was shown *The Buyer's Guide*, and *The Comic Reader*, I was totally amazed that people actually read, reviewed, and collected comics. It was like an alien culture revealed to me; something that was very hard for me to relate to at the time.

Jump ahead another seven years to the present day: I've been working at DC for seven years (there's that number again), and have seen what I hope is the beginning of a new trend: comic book publishers producing more female-oriented magazines. Granted, we've all got a very long way to go, and I'm well aware that you can count such titles on just one hand; but considering the overwhelming majority of comics geared to and read by males, I'd like to be optimistic and think that the *AMETHYSTS*, *ANGEL LOVEs* and *Mistys* of this world are encouraging signs of things to come.

That brings me to the new *WONDER WOMAN*—a comic I feel serves as a great role model to young women, but also contains many elements that appeal



BY
KAREN BERGER

to males as well. *WONDER WOMAN* crosses the gender line.

Steeped in Greek mythology, abounding with powerful, wise, and ruthless gods and goddesses, it's a comic whose star is a heroic, sensitive woman, set on a mission of dire importance in today's world. This is Wonder Woman's first time away from an extremely sheltered home, and although she bravely faces epic struggles and dark, unspeakable challenges, I can't help but

wonder how difficult and harrowing it must be for her at times. Perhaps it's that inner strength in the face of adversity that appeals to me, or maybe it's the sensitivity with which she handles new people and new situations; or perhaps it's the universal approach and tone of the book that transcends the gap between the sexes. Come to think of it, it's probably all of the above.

We're having a great time producing this comic, and we hope that you're catching some of that special energy. For this *Wonder Woman* is truly special. And thinking back, if this comic were passed around my bunk 15 years ago, I might've looked at comics differently. I can only hope that in the here and now, a young woman's interest will be sparked by the new *Wonder Woman*, and that she'll pass it on to her boyfriend. Now, wouldn't that be a change!

On that note, I'll take my leave for this month. I'd like to personally thank all of you for reading and supporting this book. I hope that you'll drop us a line or three—not only with your comments on the stories, but also your thoughts on what types of comics might bridge the gap between male and female readers. So, until next month's epic battle against Ares' monstrous sons, take care everyone! See you soon—

Karen

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MINUTEMEN

KANG HAS NEVER SERVED ANY BUT **HIMSELF**. WHY SHOULD I **ACCEPT** SUCH AN OFFER, ESPECIALLY FROM AN UNKNOWN?

BUT WE ARE **NOT** UNKNOWN, GREAT KANG. YOU KNOW US WELL. AND WE KNOW YOU.

