

BATMAN
No. 44

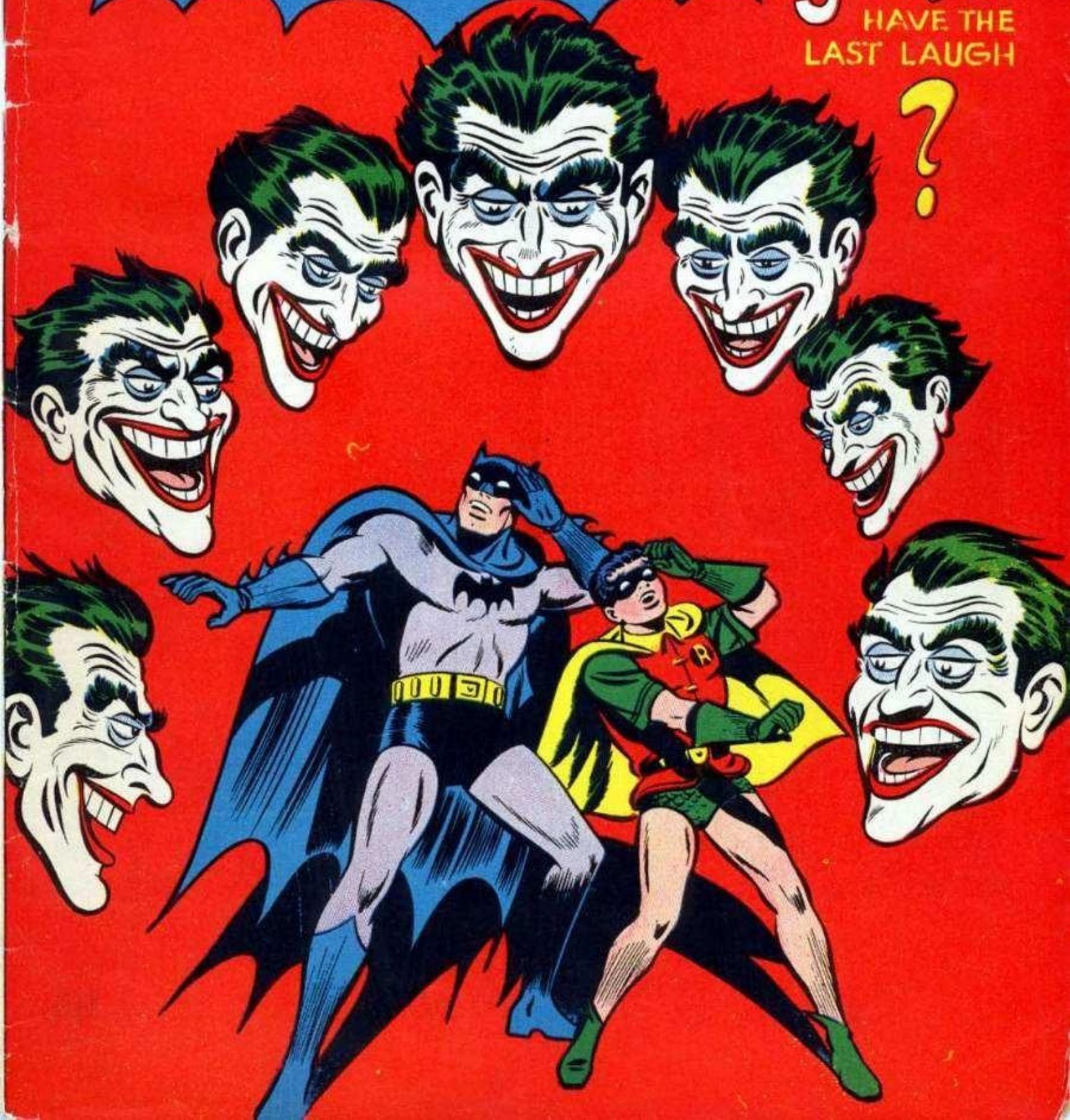
DEC...JAN.
TEN CENTS



BAT MAN

A 52 PAGE
MAGAZINE

Will The
Joker
HAVE THE
LAST LAUGH



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BATMAN

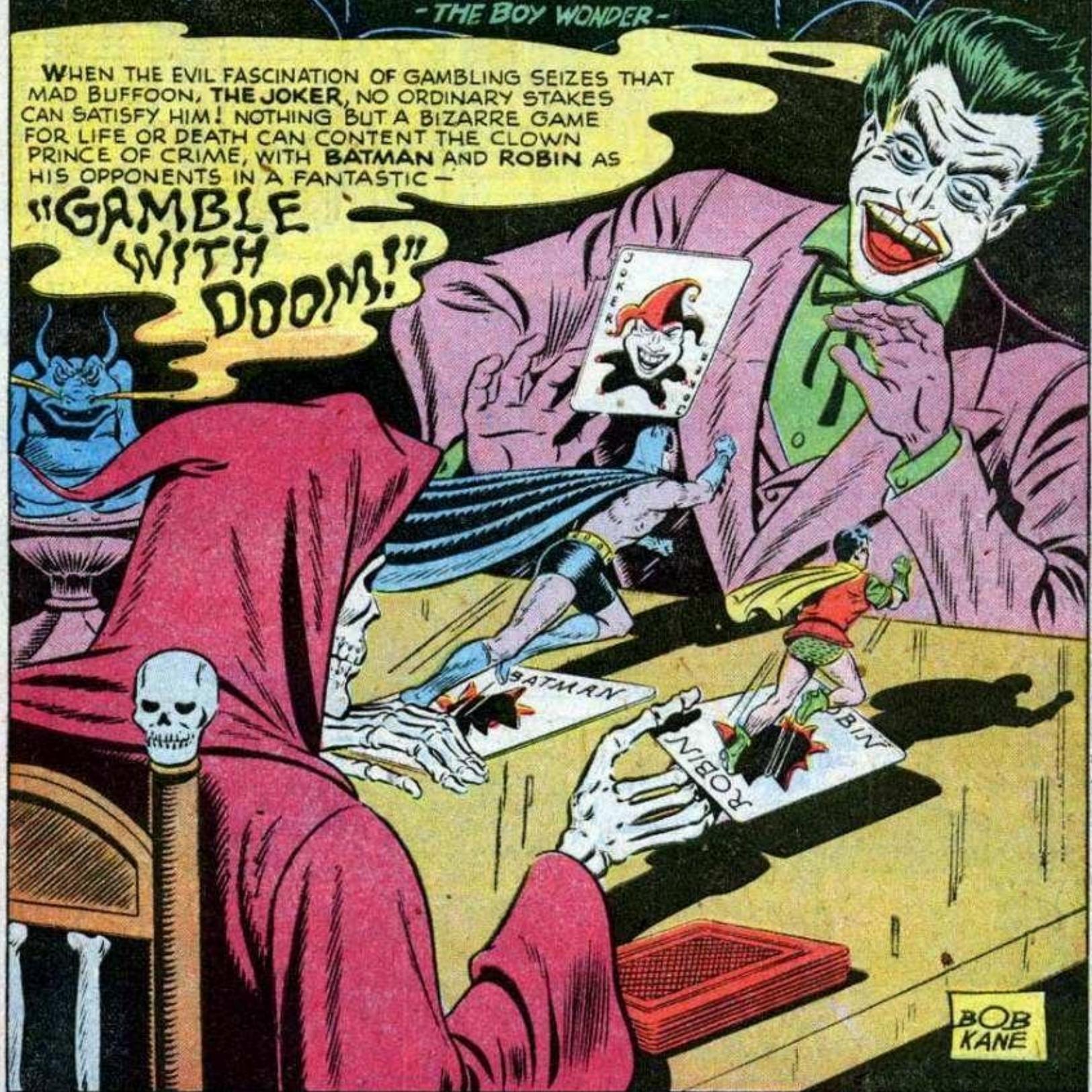
REG. U.S. PAT. OFF.

WITH ROBIN

-THE BOY WONDER-

WHEN THE EVIL FASCINATION OF GAMBLING SEIZES THAT MAD BUFFOON, THE JOKER, NO ORDINARY STAKES CAN SATISFY HIM! NOTHING BUT A BIZARRE GAME FOR LIFE OR DEATH CAN CONTENT THE CLOWN PRINCE OF CRIME, WITH BATMAN AND ROBIN AS HIS OPPONENTS IN A FANTASTIC —

"GAMBLE
WITH
DOOM!"



BOB
KANE

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BATMAN

A HIDDEN, ILLEGAL GAMBLING HOUSE...



... HAS A STARTLING NEW CLIENT!

IT'S THE JOKER!
THIS IS JUST A SOCIAL VISIT,
FOLKS! I WANT TO GAMBLE
SOME OF MY LOOT—I MEAN,
MY EARNINGS!



LADY FORTUNE SMILES ON THE HARLEQUIN OF HATE!
AT THE ROULETTE WHEEL...

THIRTEEN WINS AGAIN!

HA, HA! WHO
SAID THIRTEEN
WAS UNLUCKY!

IT'S SURE LUCKY
FOR YOU, JOKER!

AT THE
DICE
TABLE....

ANOTHER SEVEN! YOU
WIN AGAIN!

HA, HA, HA! THIS IS
EASIER THAN STEAL-
ING! HA, HA!



YOU'VE BROKEN THE BANK!
YOU'VE WON EVERY CHIP
IN THE HOUSE!

TOO BAD! IT
ENDS MY
WINNING,
STREAK.

LATER, AT THE
JOKER'S UNIQUE
HIDEOUT...

LEWIS, I'M SO
THRILLED WITH GAMBLING THAT I'M
GOING TO PLAY A SUPER-GAME.
BATMAN WILL BE MY OPPONENT
AND **REAL LIVES** WILL BE THE
STAKES!



THAT
WOULD
BE SUPER-
GAMBLING,
BOSS!

BATMAN

EVENINGS AFTERWARD, AN EERIE SIGN STABS GOTHAM CITY'S NIGHT SKY!

BRUCE - THE BAT SIGNAL!

TIME FOR US TO FORGET WE'RE DICK GRAYSON AND BRUCE WAYNE AND BECOME - BATMAN AND ROBIN!

PRESENTLY, IN COMMISSIONER GORDON'S OFFICE...

THIS MAN LEWIS CLAIMS TO HAVE VALUABLE INFORMATION FOR YOU.

I'LL TAKE YOU TO THEM - IF YOU PROMISE ME THE REWARD!

LET'S GO! THAT RADIUM IS BADLY NEEDED!

BATMAN, I CAN LEAD YOU TO THE TWO CROOKS WHO STOLE THAT HOSPITAL RADIUM SHIPMENT.



LATER, A POWERFUL SPEEDBOAT HEADS OUT TOWARD A SMALL ISLAND...

BATMAN, THE RADIUM THIEVES ARE HIDING IN THAT HOUSE!



BUT INSIDE THE ISLAND-MANSION...

THE JOKER! THIS IS A TRAP!

HA, HA, HA! AND NOW I'LL SPRING IT!



A NEW TWIST - JACKPOT HITS MAN!

BONG



AFTER THE DYNAMIC DUO RECOVERS FROM THE STUNNING TRICK...

HERE ARE THE RADIUM THIEVES—DREW AND LANE! I CAPTURED THEM—BUT THEY HAD BURIED THEIR RADIUM LOOT ELSEWHERE!

GEE, BATMAN, IF WE'D KNOWN THAT WAS HOSPITAL RADIUM WE WOULDN'T HAVE STOLEN IT!

BATMAN, I'LL GAMBLE WITH YOU FOR THESE TWO AND THEIR RADIUM SECRET.

IT'S NO DEAL, JOKER. I NEVER GAMBLE!

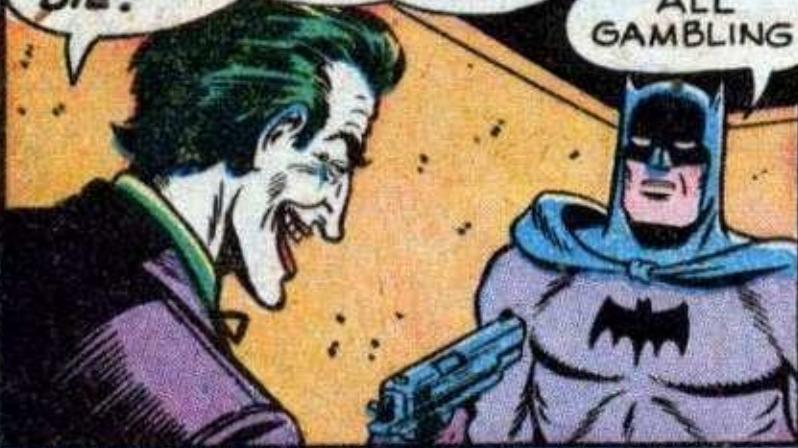


WIN THREE TIMES AND YOU WIN THEIR LIVES AND THE RADIUM SECRET! IF YOU LOSE, THEY DIE!

BUT I TOLD YOU, I HATE ALL GAMBLING!

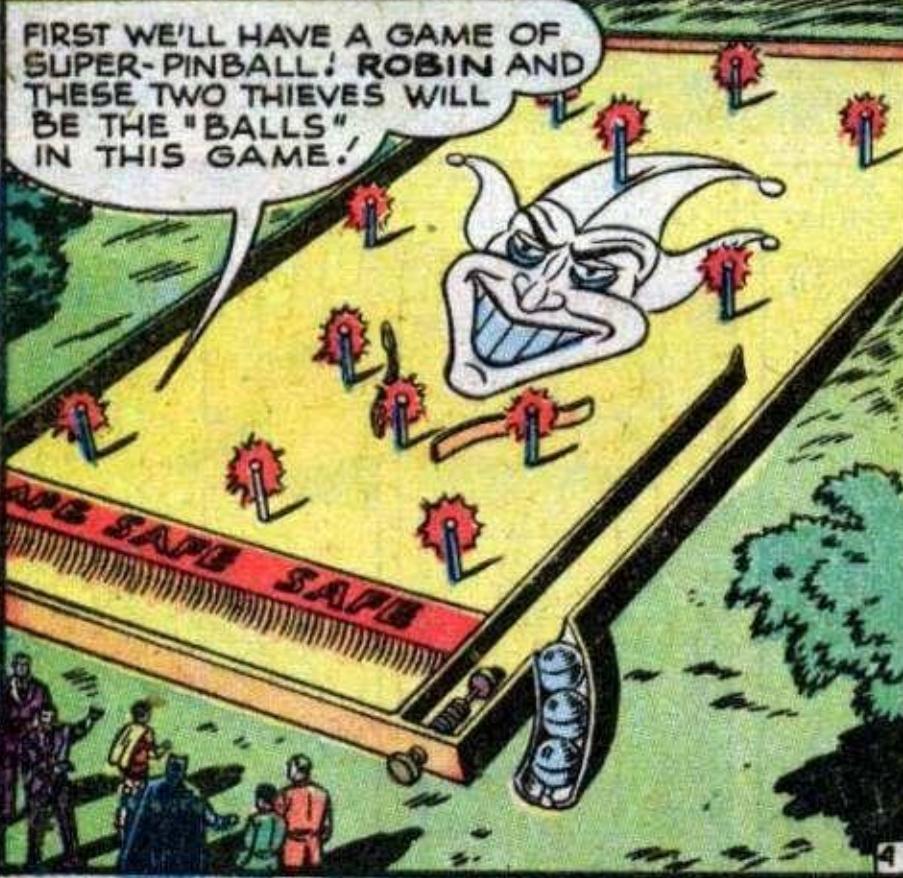
REFUSE AND I'LL FINISH THEM AND ROBIN NOW—AND YOU LOSE THE HOSPITAL'S RADIUM!

THE FIEND! I'LL HAVE TO BET MY SKILL AGAINST HIM, TO SAVE THREE LIVES AND THE RADIUM!



SOON—THE DIABOLICAL GAME OF DEATH BEGINS!

FIRST WE'LL HAVE A GAME OF SUPER-PINBALL! ROBIN AND THESE TWO THIEVES WILL BE THE "BALLS" IN THIS GAME!

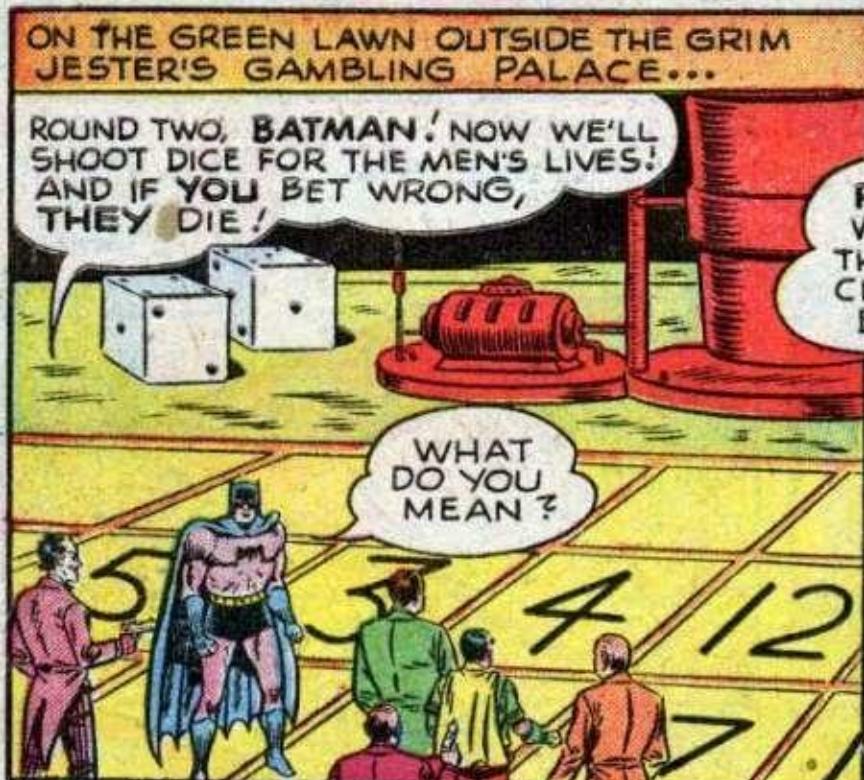
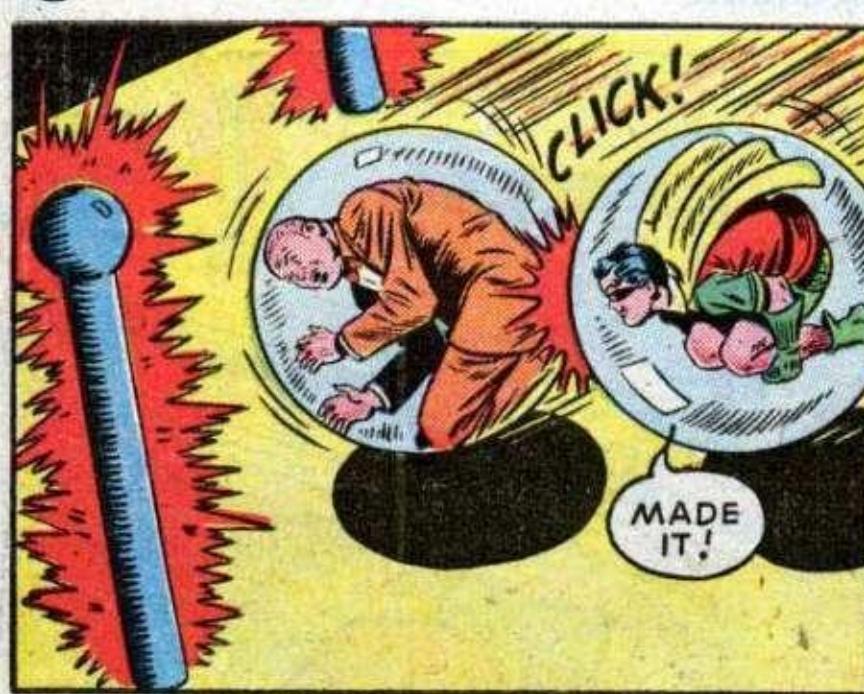


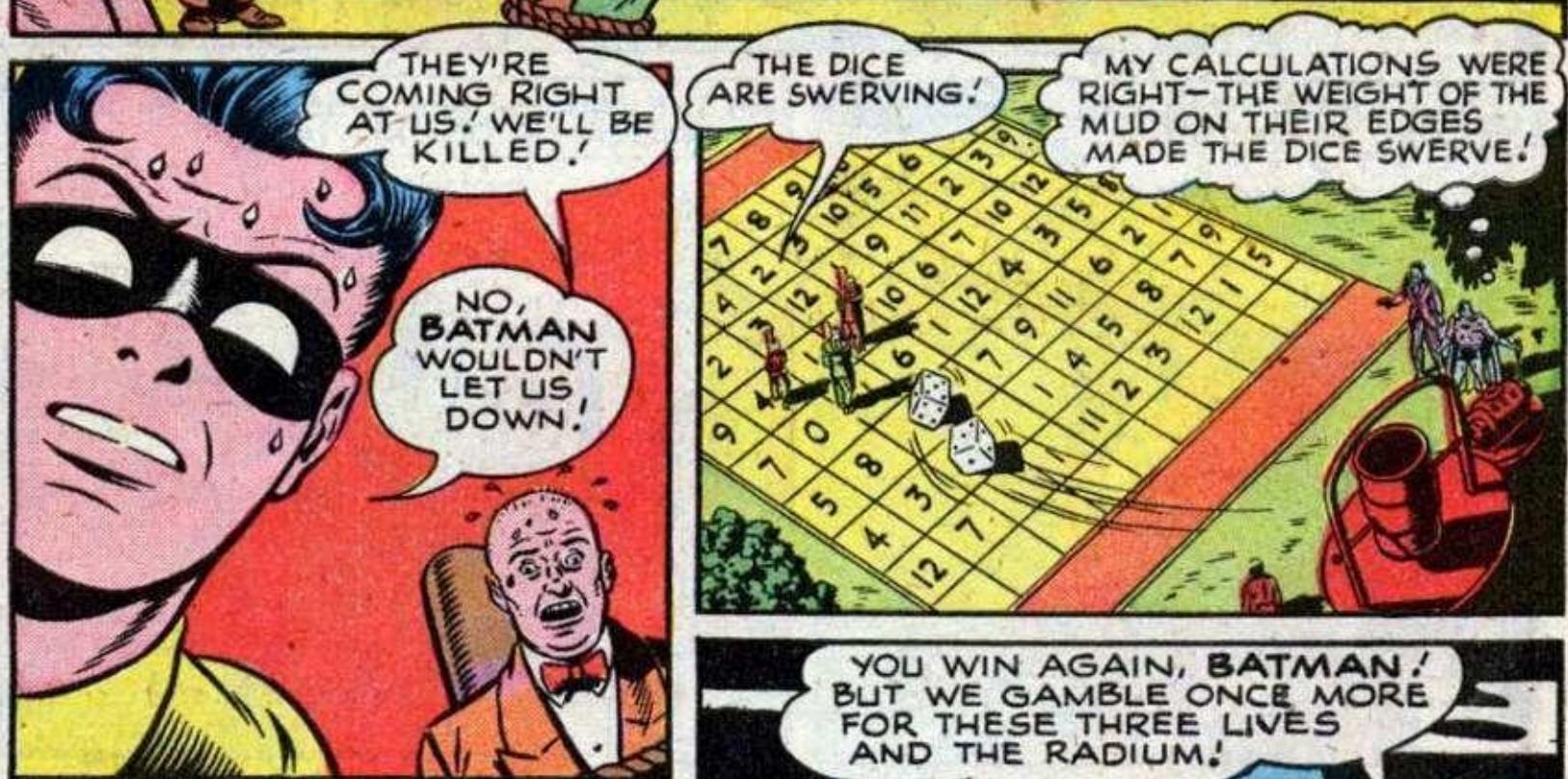
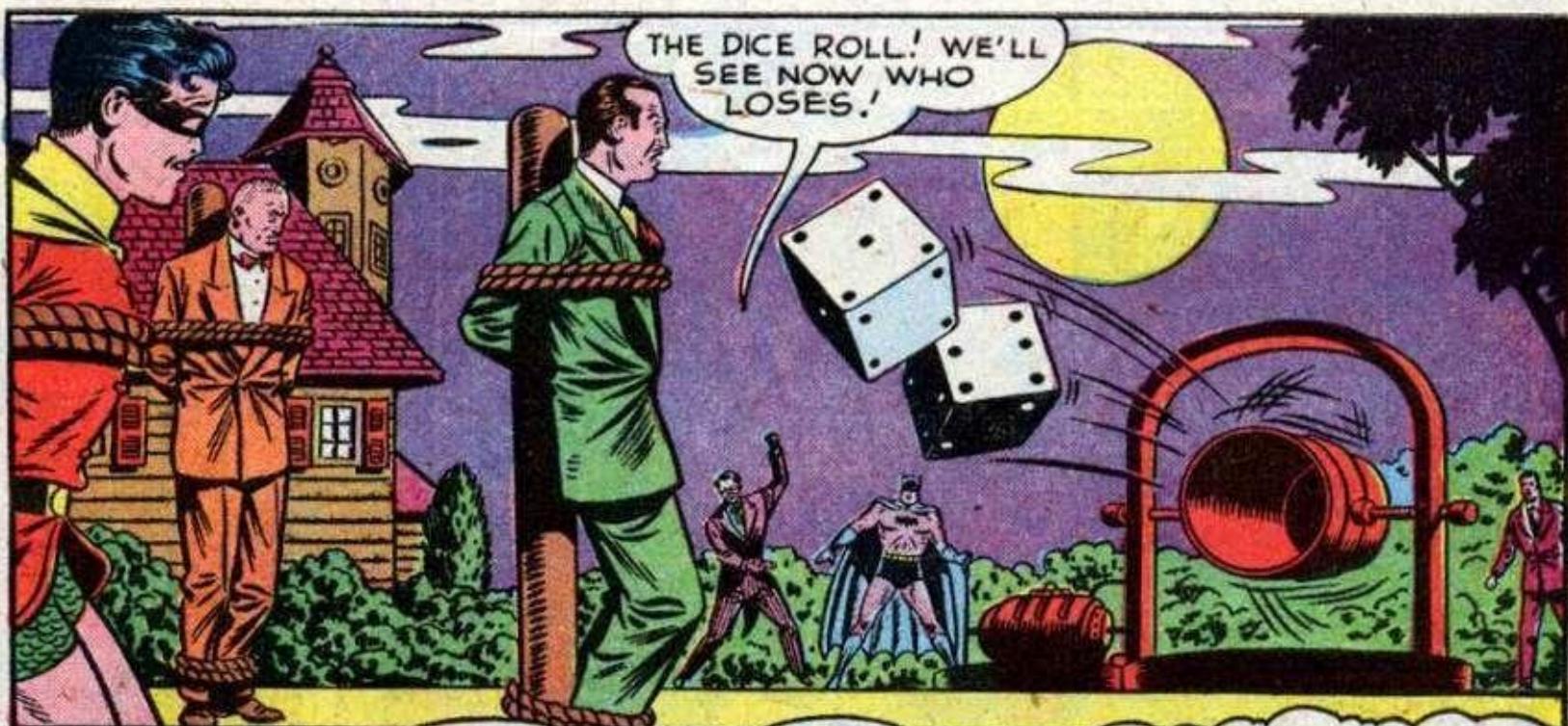
THE "PINS" ARE LIVE WIRES! AND EACH PLASTIC BALL IS WIRED—if IT TOUCHES A "PIN," THE MAN INSIDE WILL BE ELECTROCUTED! START PLAYING, BATMAN!



AIMING WITH PRECISION, BATMAN RELEASES THE GREAT PLUNGER AND THE PLASTIC SPHERE WITH ITS HUMAN PRISONER ROLLS UP THE GIANT PINBALL BOARD!







BATMAN



BATMAN

A QUIVERING HAND TOUCHES AN OMINOUS CARD ...



... AND THE HIDDEN DOOR OF ESCAPE SWINGS OPEN!

BATMAN GUessed RIGHT! QUICK, BEFORE THE GAS OVER-COMES US!



JOKER, I'VE WON THE THREE GAMBLES FOR THE THIEVES' LIVES AND THE RADIUM! ARE YOU GOING TO STICK TO YOUR BARGAIN?

NOT YET! YOU AND I HAVE ONE FINAL GAMBLE TO MAKE!

YOU'RE GOING TO GAMBLE FOR YOUR OWN LIFE NOW— AGAINST MINE!

I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN YOU'D RING IN AN EXTRA TRICK!



MEANWHILE...

NOT SO FAST! YOU THREE ARE GOING BACK IN THERE!

SO THE JOKER IS WELSHING ON HIS GAMBLE! I MIGHT HAVE KNOWN IT.



FORCED BACK THROUGH THE DOOR, ROBIN SUDDENLY SLAMS IT...

WHA-WHAT?

HATE TO SLAM THE DOOR IN YOUR FACE, BUT—

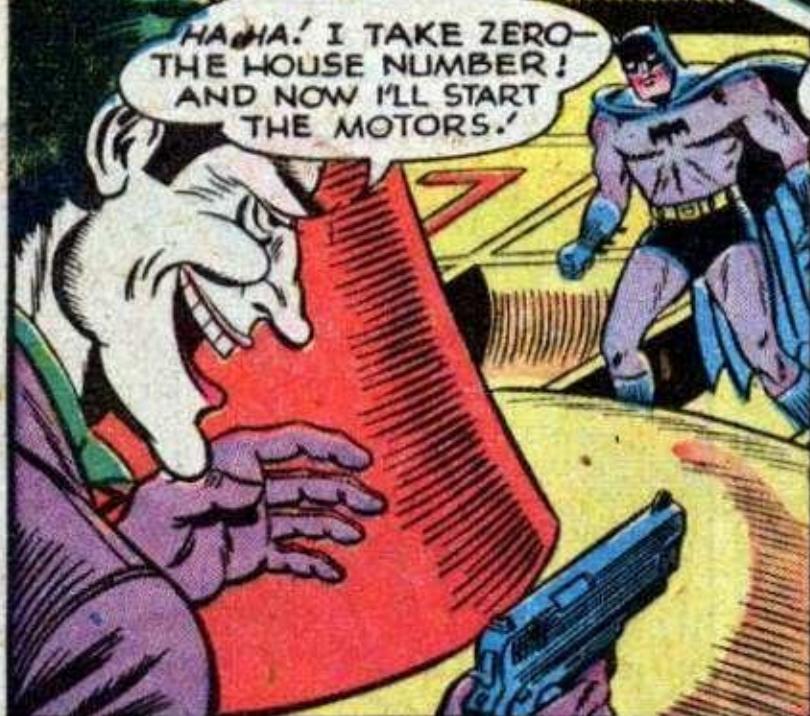


-YOU SHOULD HAVE KNOCKED, LIKE THIS!

WHILE ELSEWHERE...



HA-HA! I TAKE ZERO—
THE HOUSE NUMBER!
AND NOW I'LL START
THE MOTORS!



IF THAT MASSIVE METAL BALL FALLS IN YOUR SLOT,
IT WILL KILL YOU!
IF IN MINE, IT WILL KILL ME!

IF I KNEW HOW HE HAD THIS WHEEL FIXED...



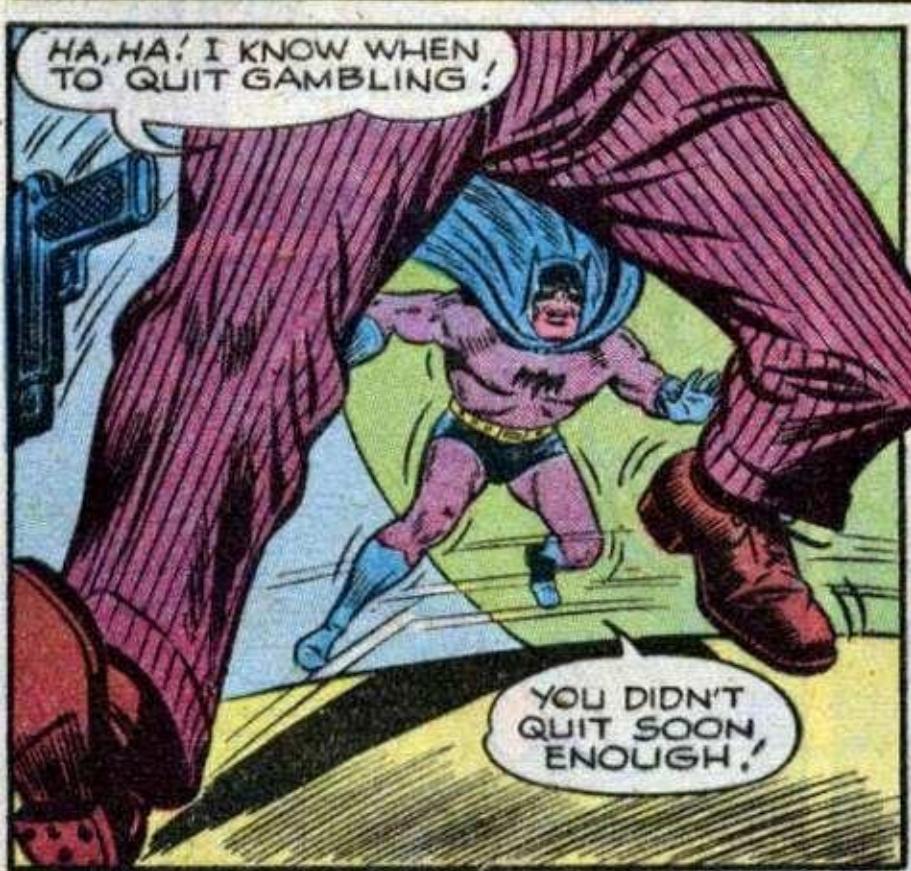
'ROUND AND 'ROUND SPINS THE GREAT WHEEL, WITH LIFE THE PRIZE AND DEATH THE PENALTY!

THIS WIRE ALONG THE SIDE MUST "FIX"
THE WHEEL! IF I COULD TEAR THEM OUT...

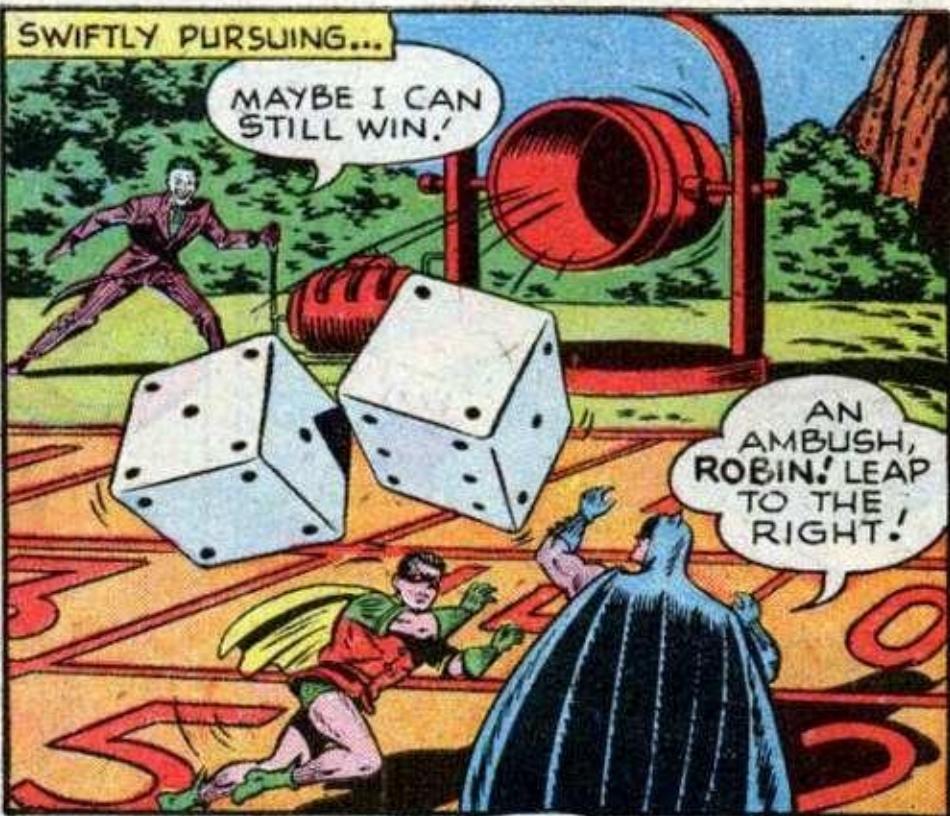
HA, HA!
YOUR NUMBER NEARLY CAME UP THAT TIME!



BATMAN



BATMAN





BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN
- THE BOY WONDER -

BOB KANE

THIS IS THE STORY OF BILL JORDAN, AN ORDINARY BOY WHO DREAMED OF LIVING A LIFE OF THRILLS AND DANGER. BUT A CRUEL FATE RULED THAT BILL'S DREAMS WERE NOT TO COME TRUE—THAT HE WAS DOOMED TO A DULL AND UNEXCITING LIFE IN A MUSEUM—UNTIL HE CROSSED THE PATH OF BATMAN AND ROBIN.

THE BOY WONDER AND LEARNED THAT HE, LIKE THEM, WAS—

"BORN FOR ADVENTURE!"

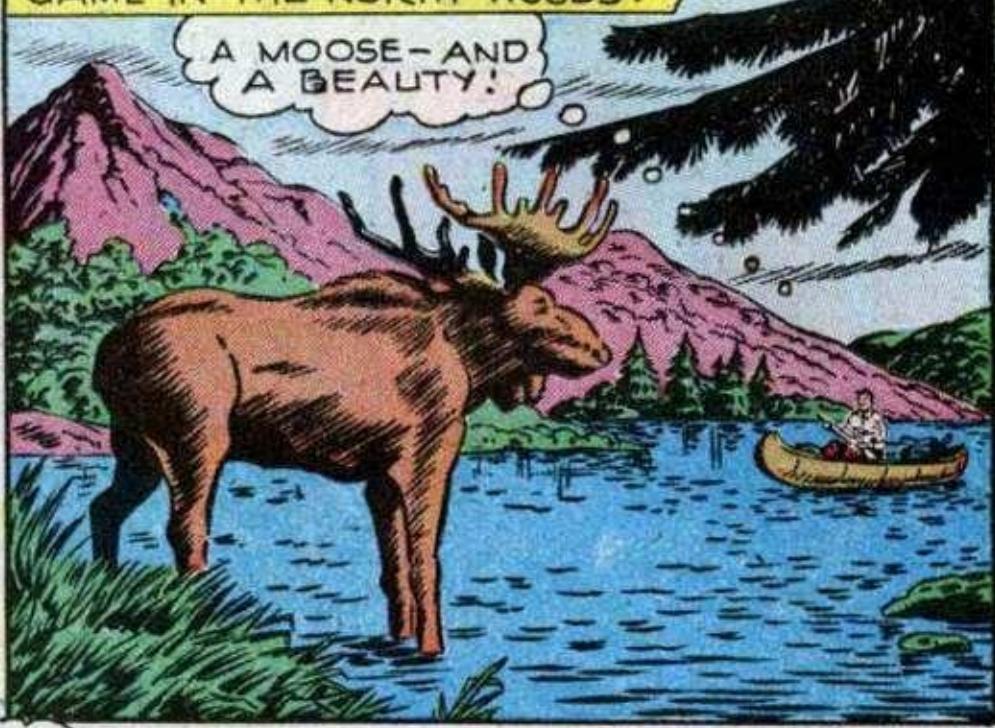


BATMAN

DC PUBLICATIONS
BILL JORDAN ALWAYS DREAMED OF BEING AN EXPLORER. AS A BOY, HE WOULD RISK HIS NECK TO CLIMB A DIZZY CLIFF...



DURING SUMMER VACATIONS, BILL HUNTED WILD GAME IN THE NORTH WOODS.



THE YEARS ROLLED BY, AND THE OLDER BILL GREW, THE MORE HE DREAMED OF FAR-OFF PLACES...



ON THE DAY OF HIS GRADUATION FROM GOTHAM UNIVERSITY...



NEXT DAY AT THE NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM...



THIS IS BRUCE WAYNE, WHO SPONSORED MY TRIPS.

YOUR CREDENTIALS ARE FINE, JORDAN! IF OUR DOCTOR PASSES YOU, YOU'RE ALL SET!

HE'LL PASS! HE LOOKS AS HEALTHY AS AN ATHLETE!



BATMAN

IN THE OFFICE OF THE EXPEDITION'S DOCTOR, ALL GOES WELL—TILL AN ELECTROCARDIOGRAPH TEST IS MADE!

HMM... NOT SO GOOD!

BUT THERE CAN'T BE ANYTHING WRONG WITH MY HEART!

I'M AFRAID THERE IS, BILL! NO EXCITEMENT FOR YOU!

IT'S A SHAME, BUT THE DOCTOR IS RIGHT!



MY CAREER'S OVER BEFORE IT'S BEGUN! I'VE WASTED YEARS GETTING READY FOR—NOTHING!

YOUR TRAINING WON'T BE WASTED, SON. I'LL GIVE YOU A JOB HERE IN THE MUSEUM.



IT WILL BE ALMOST THE SAME WORK YOU'D DO IN THE JUNGLE, EXCEPT FOR THE RISKS!

IT WON'T SEEM THE SAME—BUT THANKS! I'LL DO MY BEST!



DAYS LATER, AS SOCIALITE BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS YOUNG WARD, DICK GRAYSON TAKE A STROLL...

SOME MUSEUM, BRUCE! ZOO, BOTANICAL GARDEN... WHAT WILL LAMARR FIND IN AFRICA THAT ISN'T RIGHT HERE?

ZOO
BOTANICAL GARDENS

CATALOGING THE AFRICAN SECTION, JORDAN? IT'S AN IMPORTANT JOB!

NOT VERY THRILLING, THOUGH! I WISH I HAD BEEN THE MAN TO DISCOVER THESE TROPHIES.



BATMAN

I KNOW HOW JORDAN FEELS! IF BATMAN AND ROBIN WEREN'T BUSY ON A MAN-HUNT, I'D LOVE TO GO TO AFRICA!

NO VACATIONS, FELLA, TILL WE TRAP THE CRIMINAL WE'RE AFTER—THE GLOBE-TROTTER!

REX LAMARR FIELD DIRECTOR

IN PARIS...

SHALL I CARVE A MAP OF MY ROUTE ON YOUR FACE WITH THIS SWORD, SO YOU'LL KNOW WHERE TO LOOK FOR ME NEXT?

SACRE BLEU! C'EST LE GLOBETROTTER!

THE GLOBETROTTER, INFAMOUS FUGITIVE, HAS BLAZED A TRAIL OF FANTASTIC FELONIES AROUND THE WORLD! IN CEYLON...

AI-EE! THEY HAVE STOLEN THE UNTOUCHABLE RUBY!

HO-HO! THE POLICE WILL FIND ME UNTOUCHABLE, TOO!

FROM SANDY HOOK TO SINGAPORE MY "QUICK-FREEZE" GAS HAS DISCOURAGED THE CURIOUS! PROP HIM BESIDE THE DOOR, BOYS!

HE'LL BE STIFF AS A BOARD FOR 15 MINUTES! WHO'LL GUESS WE'RE PULLING A JOB WITH A COP STANDING OUTSIDE?

A CLEVER RUSE, WHICH MIGHT HAVE WORKED—EXCEPT THAT THE BATMOBILE IS ON THE PROWL!

HERE'S HANNEGAN! WONDER IF HE'S SEEN ANYTHING SUSPICIOUS ON HIS BEAT?

BATMAN



MIKE!... HE'S ALIVE.—
BREATHING NORMALLY—
BUT UNCONSCIOUS!

BATMAN—THE
TRANSOM'S
SMASHED!

A MOMENT LATER...

I'LL HAVE IT
OPEN IN A
SECOND!

JIGGERS—
THE
BATMAN!

A LUCKY SHOT CAUSES THE CAPED CRIMEFIGHTER'S DOWNFALL!

WHAT—?

SOME SHOOTING!
NOBODY CAN STOP US!

HOW DO YOU LIKE SWALLOWING YOUR WORDS ON AN UPSET STOMACH?

FANCY A CHILD OPPosing THE GLOBETROTTER, WHO HAS ELUDED THE POLICE OF THE WORLD.

NO TIME TO FINISH WITH THE SAFE! THE COP'LL WAKE UP ANY MINUTE!

SOMETHING TO REMEMBER ME BY—
TILL WE MEET AGAIN!

WHEN THE DYNAMIC DUO REACHES THE STREET...

MIKE! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

YEAH! SORT OF DIZZY,
BUT I'LL PHONE IN FOR HELP! THOSE GUYS BEAT IT INTO THE PARK!



BATMAN

IN A STRETCH OF PARK BEHIND THE MUSEUM...

THINK HE LOOKS SUSPICIOUS, BATMAN?

ANYBODY PROWLING IN THE PARK RIGHT NOW IS SUSPICIOUS! UP YOU GO!



HUH? BATMAN!
EASY—I'M NO CROOK. MY NAME'S BILL JORDAN AND I'VE BEEN WORKING LATE AT THE MUSEUM!



SO ROBBERS ARE HEADED THIS WAY? I THOUGHT I HEARD A COMMOTION OVER NEAR THE ZOO! ANIMALS CAN SENSE TROUBLE!

AS A STUDENT OF NATURAL HISTORY, YOU SHOULD KNOW!



IT'S THE ZOO WATCHMAN—UNCONSCIOUS AND BOUND.

HE'LL REGAIN CONSCIOUSNESS SOON, BUT WE CAN'T WAIT! WE'RE ON THE RIGHT TRACK, ANYWAY!



NO JUNGLE ROVER COULD TRAIL MORE EXPERTLY THAN THIS.

AH! BROKEN TWIGS—AND FOOTPRINTS POINTING TOWARD THE MUSEUM!

AS A BIG-GAME HUNTER, JORDAN, YOU'RE DOING FINE!



AND AT THE MUSEUM...

TIE THE GUARD

AND TAKE HIS KEYS! THEY'LL SEARCH THE PARK—but WHO'LL THINK OF LOOKING FOR US INSIDE HERE?

WHAT'S MORE, WE CAN LOOT THE PLACE!



IN THE MUSEUM'S
VAST "HALL OF
PREHISTORIC LIFE..."

THESE STUFFED
DUMMIES ARE ALL
GLARING AT ME!
IT GIVES ME THE
WILLIES!

LET'S NOT GET
JITTERY! WE'RE AS
SAFE AS IF WE WERE
ON A DESERT
ISLAND!



GEE—I CAN'T
SHAKE OFF THE
FEELING THAT IT'S
JUST ABOUT TO
GRAB ME!

YIIS!
IT'S GOT
ME!

HUH?
WHERE'D
HE COME
FROM?

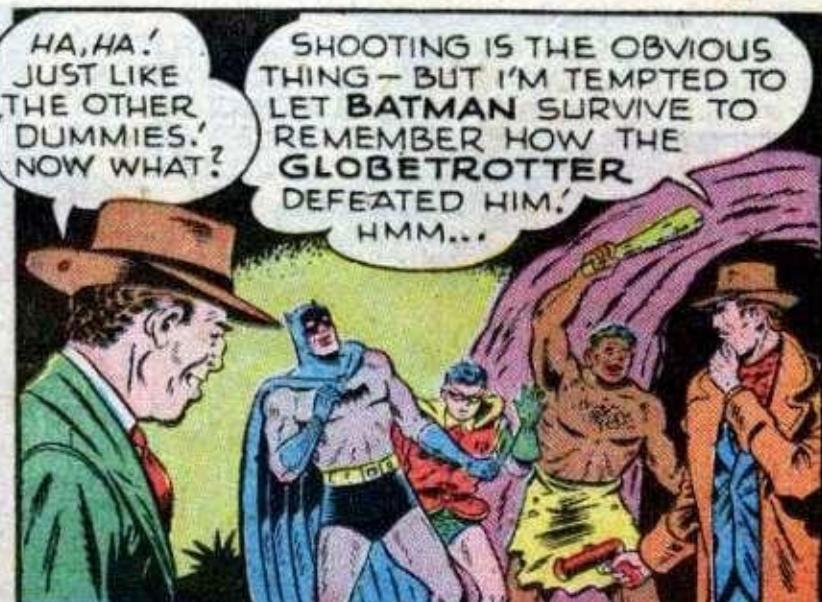


CAVEMEN NEVER
USED GUNS—AND
NEITHER SHOULD
YOU!

I'LL FIX THIS
ONE—UH-HH...

JORDAN!... I TOLD HIM
TO KEEP OUT OF THIS.
HIS HEART WON'T
STAND IT!





BATMAN





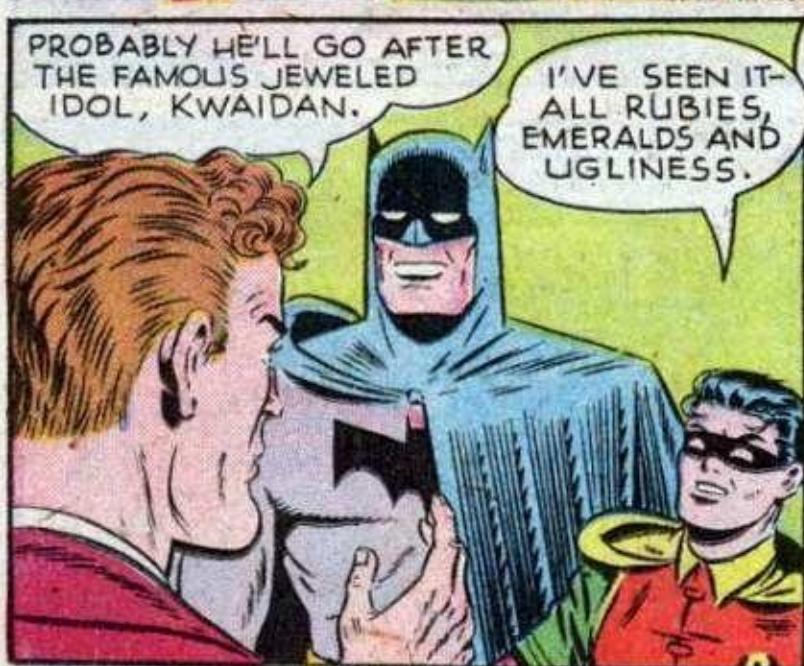
THE DEADLY SPEARS STRIKE—AND ARE FOILED!



A HASTY COUNCIL OF WAR FOLLOWS...



PROBABLY HE'LL GO AFTER THE FAMOUS JEWELLED IDOL, KWAI DAN.



IS IT? I'VE READ OF STRANGE THINGS HAPPENING IN THE JUNGLES, AND I HAVE IDEAS OF MY OWN ABOUT SOME OF THEM! HMM...

SAVAGES BELIEVED IT HAD THE POWER TO CHANGE MEN INTO ANIMALS! THAT'S SILLY OF COURSE...



JORDAN LEADS THE WAY TO THE MUSEUM'S BOTANICAL SECTION, WHERE EXOTIC BLOOMS EXUDER A HEAVY FRAGRANCE...



BATMAN



IN ANOTHER PART OF THE VAST BUILDING, THE VILLAINS HAVE ALREADY FOUND THE GROTESQUE, JEWELED IDOL...

THESE RUBIES SHINE LIKE THERE WAS A FIRE INSIDE!

ANYBODY COULD MAKE A MONKEY OUT OF ME WITH GEMS LIKE THIS! AND SPEAKING OF FIRE, LOOK-SMOKE! IT SMELLS FUNNY... MAKES ME FEEL FUNNY, TOO...



MONKEY, DID I SAY?... MONKEY? CHRRR! CHRRR!

NOW YOU'RE ACTING LIKE A DONKEY!... HUH? I'M GETTING DIZZY...





WITHIN THE IDOL'S HOLLOW SHELL, WHERE ONCE SAVAGE WITCH-DOCTORS CROUCHED...

MY TRICK'S GOT ALL OF THEM! YOU'LL FIND THE MONKEY AND THE DONKEY FAIRLY REASONABLE—BUT NOT THE GORILLA!

I STILL SAY IT'S BLACK MAGIC, JORDAN!

CHEEP CHEEP!

FIRST TIME I EVER HAD A CROOK EATING OUT OF MY HAND!

THE BIG FELLOW LOOKS AS IF HE'D LIKE TO EAT ME!



IT'S ONE OF NATURE'S MOST AMAZING TRICKS! WHEN YOU BURN THE DATURA FASTUOSA DRUG, ITS SMOKE DRUGS MEN SO THEY THINK THEY'RE ANIMALS! WITCH DOCTORS USE THIS TRICK OFTEN!

FROM NOW ON, I GUESS, THIS EX-GORILLA WON'T DO ANY MORE GLOBE-TROTTING THAN I WILL!

NOT AS MUCH! SOMETHING TELLS ME YOU'RE GOING TO DO PLENTY, JORDAN!



BATMAN



Your favorite crime-busting team — BATMAN AND ROBIN also appear in DETECTIVE COMICS and WORLD'S FINEST COMICS

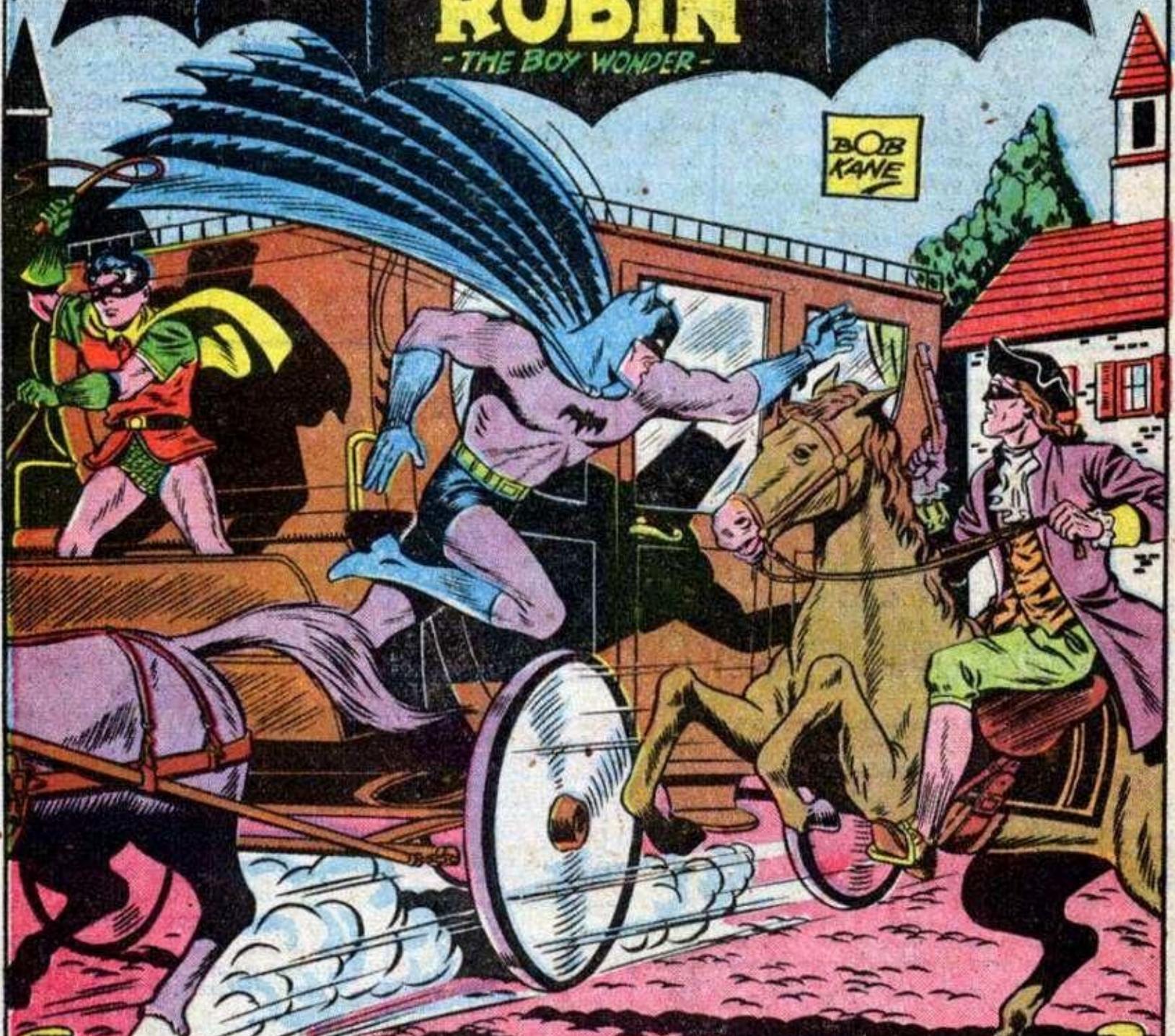


BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN

- THE BOY WONDER -

BOB
KANE

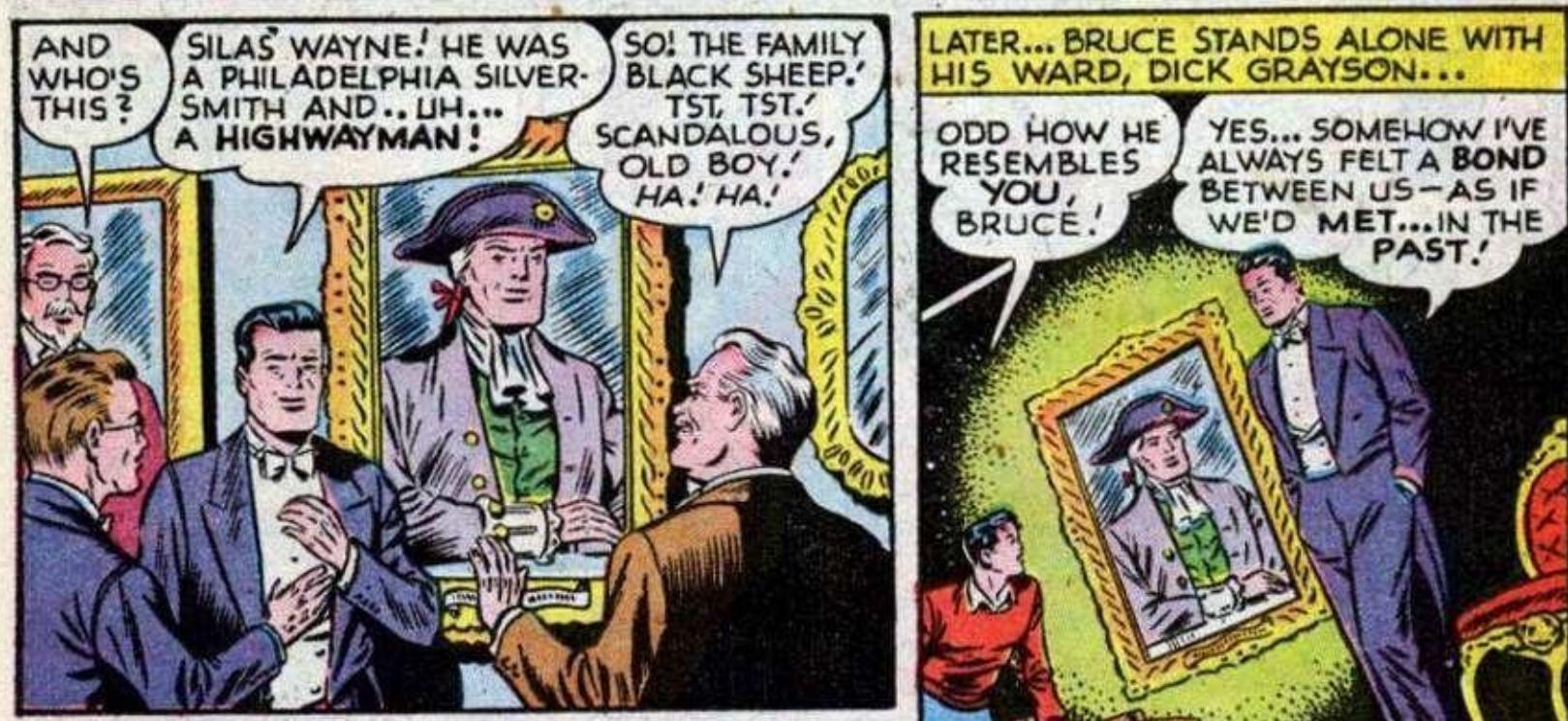


SUPPOSE ONE OF YOUR ANCESTORS WAS THOUGHT TO BE A THIEF—BUT YOU DIDN'T BELIEVE IT? SUPPOSE YOU WANTED TO PROVE YOUR ANCESTOR'S INNOCENCE—EVEN IF IT MEANT PLAYING DETECTIVE A HUNDRED YEARS BACK IN TIME? IMPOSSIBLE, YOU SAY? THEN BRACE YOURSELF... FOR ONE MAN DID JUST THAT! THAT MAN WAS BRUCE WAYNE... ALIAS THE BATMAN! YES, CRIME MARCHES BACKWARD AS BATMAN PLUNGES ACROSS THE CHASM OF TIME INTO A WORLD OF YESTERDAY TO BECOME...

"THE FIRST AMERICAN DETECTIVE!"

BATMAN

IN THE PALATIAL HOME OF SOCIALITE BRUCE WAYNE... (IN REALITY, THE BATMAN!)... GUESTS VIEW THE PORTRAITS OF BRUCE'S ANCESTORS...



LATER...

WAIT! SUPPOSE...
YOU PROVE SILAS
WAS A HIGH-
WAYMAN?

WELL... THEN AT
LEAST I'LL KNOW
THE TRUTH!



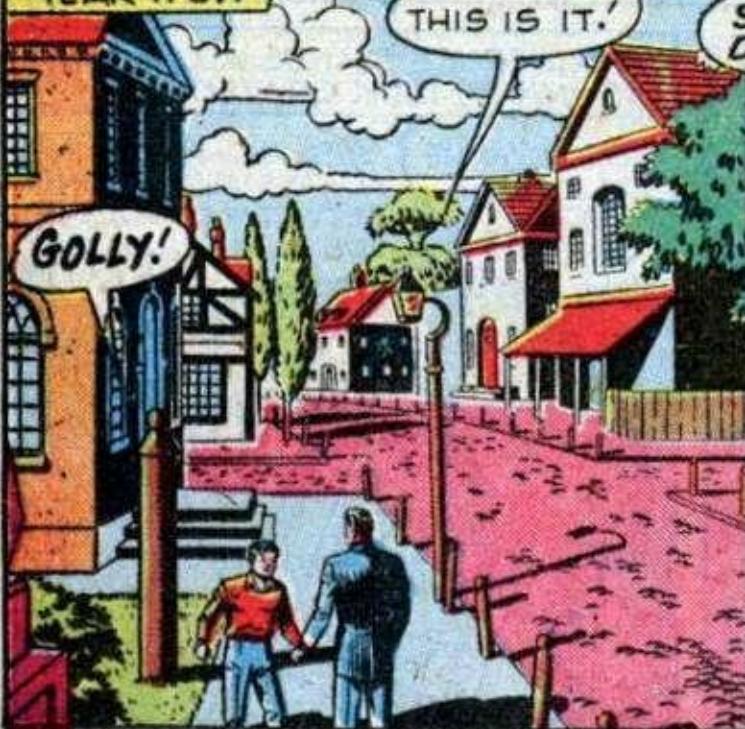
SOON... IN A DARKENED ROOM...

THE PRESENT IS FADING...
YOU ARE GOING BACK...
BACK TO ANOTHER
CENTURY!....



THEN... THE SENSATION OF RUSHING
THROUGH DARK SPACE... AND ABRUPTLY—
THE DAYLIGHT OF PHILADELPHIA IN THE
YEAR 1787!

THIS IS IT!

STAND AND
DELIVER!

SUDDENLY... THE CLATTER OF HOOFs... A HOARSE
CRY...

HIGHWAYMEN!
DO YOU THINK
IT'S SILAS?

IF IT IS—WE'LL
FIND OUT AS
BATMAN AND
ROBIN!



OUTER GARMENTS DISCARDED, THE DYNAMIC
DUO TACKLES THEIR NEWEST CASE—DECades
BEFORE THEY WERE BORN!

UH!
I AM
UN-
HORSED!

AND
UNSTABLE!AND YOU'RE
UNWARY!



BATMAN

A SUBSIDIARY
OF DC COMICS

LATER... FREE AGAIN!

DOCTOR FRANKLIN,
WE'RE NOT REALLY
ACTORS!

I KNEW THAT! BUT
YOUR EYES SHOW
HONESTY—IF YOU
WEAR MASKS, YOU
MUST HAVE A GOOD
REASON!



STRANGE! THERE IS AN
ANGRY CROWD BEFORE
THE SHOP OF SILVER-
SMITH SILAS
WAYNE!

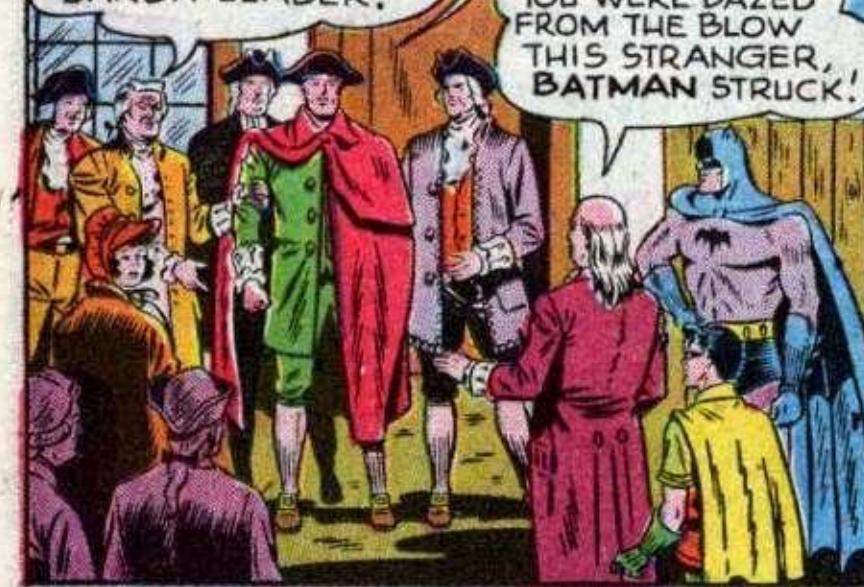
SILAS WAYNE!
MY ANCESTOR!



DOCTOR, WE FOUND
SILAS IN HIS SHOP,
WEARING THE MASK
AND CLOAK OF THE
BANDIT LEADER!

SOMEONE
DRESSED ME THUS!
I WAS CLUBBED!

PERHAPS
YOU WERE DAZED
FROM THE BLOW
THIS STRANGER,
BATMAN STRUCK!



DO YOU DENY STOLEN
SILVERWARE, BEARING
MY FAMILY CREST, IS IN
YOUR SHOP?

NO! BUT SOMEONE
PUT THE SILVER
THERE TO INJURE
ME!



IF SILAS IS RIGHT, SOMEONE
CAME THROUGH THE BACK
ENTRANCE TO PLANT THE
SILVER! LET'S LOOK!

SILAS WAYNE
SILVERSMITH

SILAS WAYNE



A FOOTPRINT... IN THE MUDDY SPOT
NEAR THE WELL! GET SOME CASTING
PLASTER FROM THE SHOP, ROBIN —
OUR WORK HAS BEGUN!





ABRUPTLY, A COACH DRAWS UP AND...

QUICK! WE SET THE FIRE TO DRAW THE CROWD FROM HERE!

INSIDE, LEADER! WE COME TO RESCUE YOU!



THE DOOR SLAMS SHUT AND THE COACH RATTERS AWAY!

SO SILAS REALLY IS A HIGHWAY-MAN!

I'VE DEDICATED MY LIFE TO CATCHING CRIMINALS—AND I'LL CATCH HIM—EVEN IF HE IS MY ANCESTOR!



LOOK! APPARENTLY SOMEONE'S EXPERIMENTING WITH BALLOON FLIGHT! HISTORY RECORDS THE FIRST FLIGHT IN 1793 —



THERE IT GOES—HEADING FOR THAT OLD WINDMILL!



— SO OURS WILL BE OFF THE RECORD! THERE GO THE WEIGHTS! WE'RE RISING!

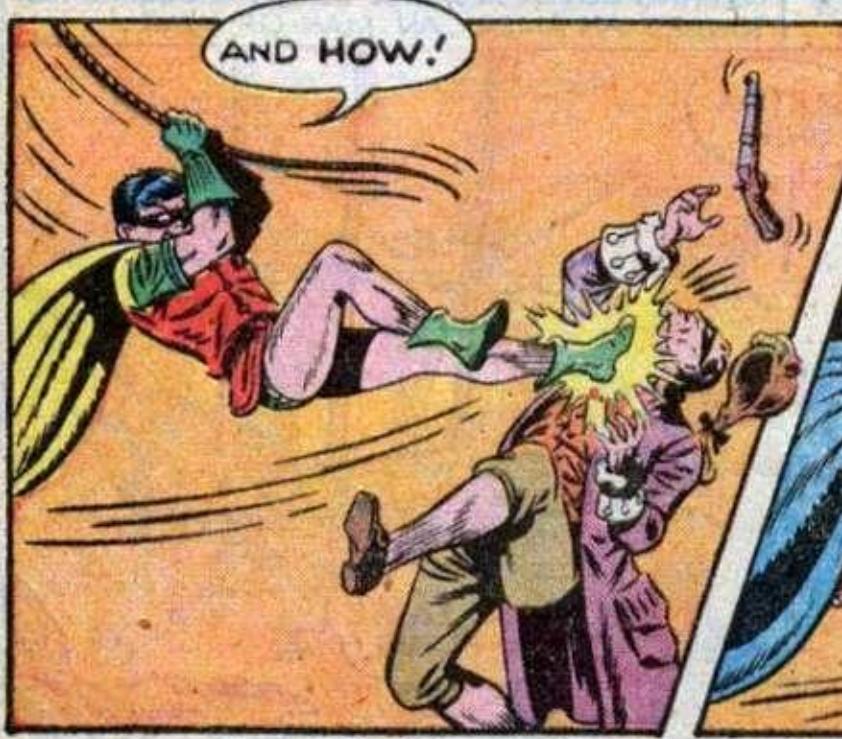
NOW WE'LL SEE WHERE THE COACH GOES—FROM THE AIR!



A TOUCH OF THE AIR-VALVE—GAS HISSES OUT—AND THE GIANT BAG LOWERS QUIETLY AND UNSEEN!

CAUGHT YOU OFF-GUARD, EH, GUARD?





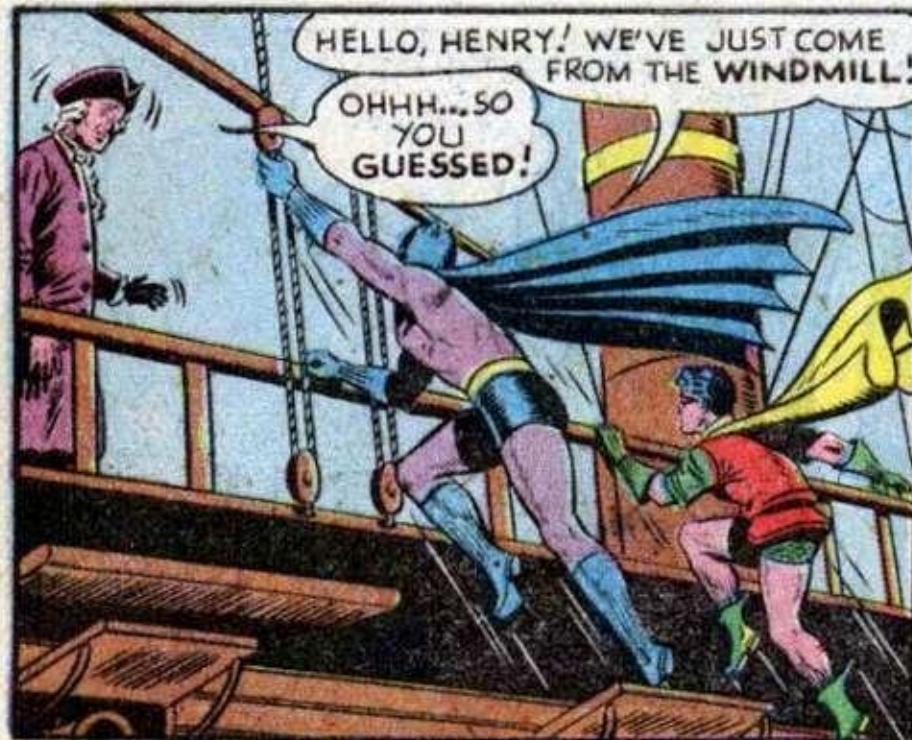
BATMAN



ABRUPTLY, BATMAN CONCEIVES HIS PLAN...



BATMAN



BATMAN

REMOVING THE TORY'S BOOT,
BATMAN INDICATES THE
OBVIOUS SIMILARITIES.

EVERY MARKING MATCHES! THIS
PROVES HENRY GANT PUT HIS
OWN SILVER IN SILAS'
SHOP!

THAT IS NO
PROOF THAT
I AM THE
HIGHWAY-
MAN!

NO... BUT YOUR
FINGERPRINTS
WILL PROVE
THAT!

WHAT ARE...
FINGER-
PRINTS?



REMEMBER, THIS
IS THE YEAR 1787
...AND FINGER-
PRINTS WERE NOT
OFFICIALLY USED
IN CRIMINAL
IDENTIFICATION
UNTIL 1903.'

ON OUR FINGER-
TIPS ARE MILLIONS
OF TINY PORES THAT
FORM A PATTERN IN
A SPECIFIC RIDGE-
AND-FURROW
DESIGN.

HMM-MM! BUT IS
IT NOT POSSIBLE
FOR TWO PEOPLE
TO HAVE SIMILAR
FINGERPRINTS?

ACCORDING TO A MATH-
EMATICIAN, IT'S
BEEN SHOWN THAT
THERE IS ONLY ONE
CHANCE IN SIXTY-
FOUR MILLION.



DOCTOR FRANKLIN,
THIS IS WITCHCRAFT!

I LEARNED LONG SINCE THAT
PEOPLE CRY "WITCHCRAFT"
WHEN THEY ARE IGNORANT
AND AFRAID OF KNOWLEDGE!



PRESENTLY, THE NEWLY-INKED
PRINT AND THE HIGHWAYMAN'S
PRINT ON THE ACCOUNT BOOK
ARE VIEWED.



THE PRINTS ARE IDENTICAL!

BATMAN

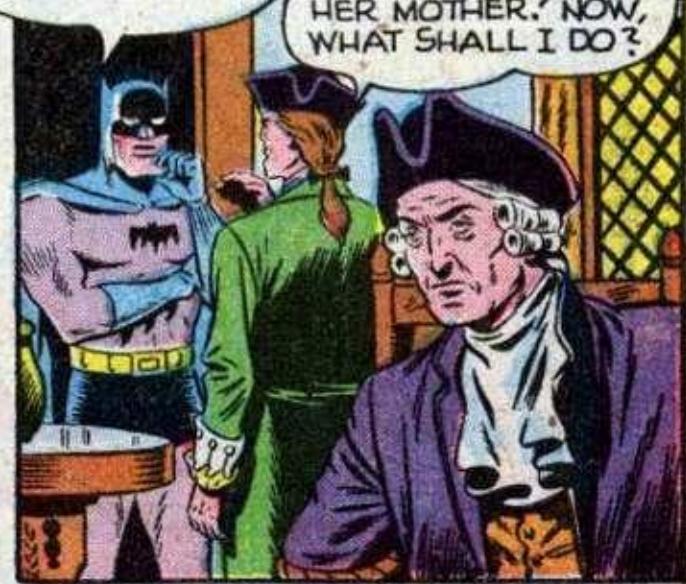
THE REAL VILLAIN MAKES A BREAK FOR IT!

A NICE TACKLE,
SILAS!

A NICE PUNCH,
BATMAN!

SILAS, I'VE A FEELING
YOU SUSPECTED
HENRY WAS THE
HIGHWAYMAN!

YES, BUT I KEPT
SILENT FOR MARTHA'S
SAKE! THE DISGRACE
WOULD HAVE KILLED
HER MOTHER! NOW,
WHAT SHALL I DO?



YOU MUST MARRY MARTHA TONIGHT AND GO TO
NEW YORK! I WILL SAY YOU WERE PARDONED!
HENRY WILL RETURN HOME, A FREE MAN—ON
THE PROMISE THAT HE SAYS NOTHING OF THIS
TO HIS AILING MOTHER!



YOU WILL SHOW MY LETTER EXPLAINING
YOUR INNOCENCE TO MARTHA WHEN
HER MOTHER DIES—BUT ONLY THEN!

I WILL HIDE IT—AND SOME DAY—
TRUTH WILL SEEK THE LIGHT!



AS SILAS LEAVES, SUDDENLY BATMAN
REMEMBERS...

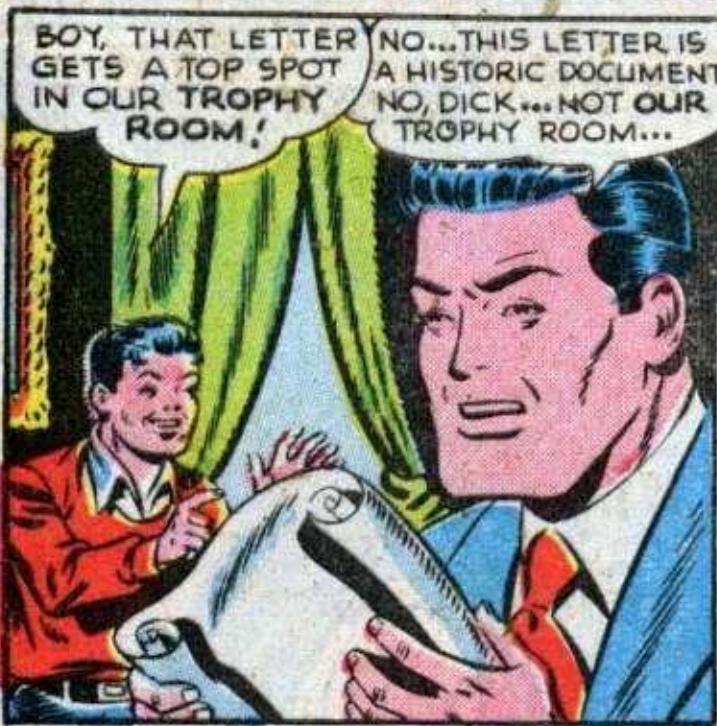
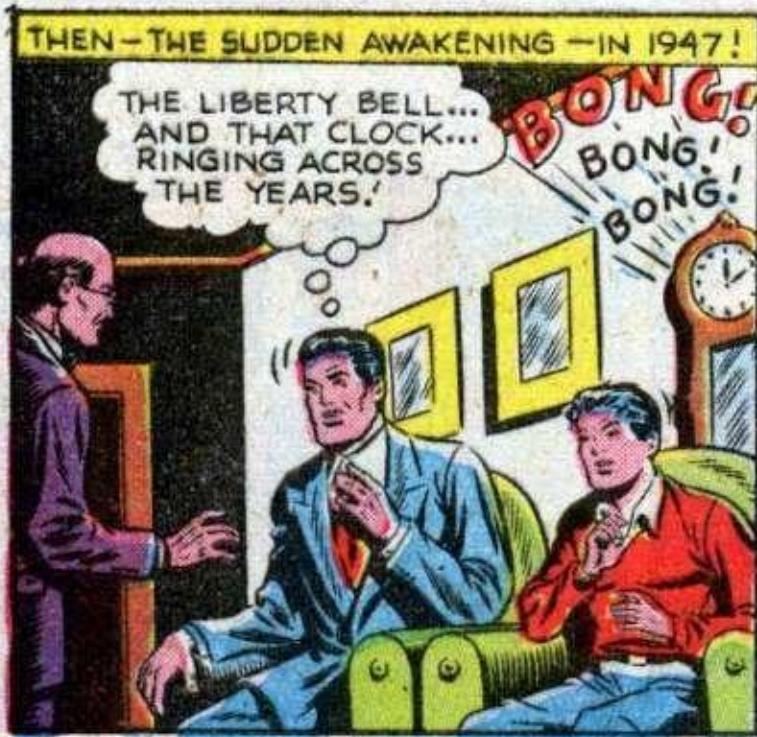
WE ALMOST FORGOT TO
FIND WHAT WE CAME FOR! THE PROOF!
SILAS! WHERE WILL YOU HIDE THE
PROOF?

AND THEN—

EVERYTHING'S
GETTING DIM—
SLIPPING AWAY!

LISTEN! I CAN HEAR THE
LIBERTY BELL AGAIN...FROM
A LONG DISTANCE...





SEE ROBIN THE BOY WONDER SMASH CRIME SINGLEHANDED
Each month in **STAR-SPANGLED COMICS**