

Extra! "MYSTERY OF MADCAP ISLAND!"

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COMICS
CODE
C.A.P.
AUTHORITY



BATMAN

DEC.
NO. 160

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GIMMICK GANG
IS AN ALIEN, AND
HE'S ELECTRIFIED
BATMAN!

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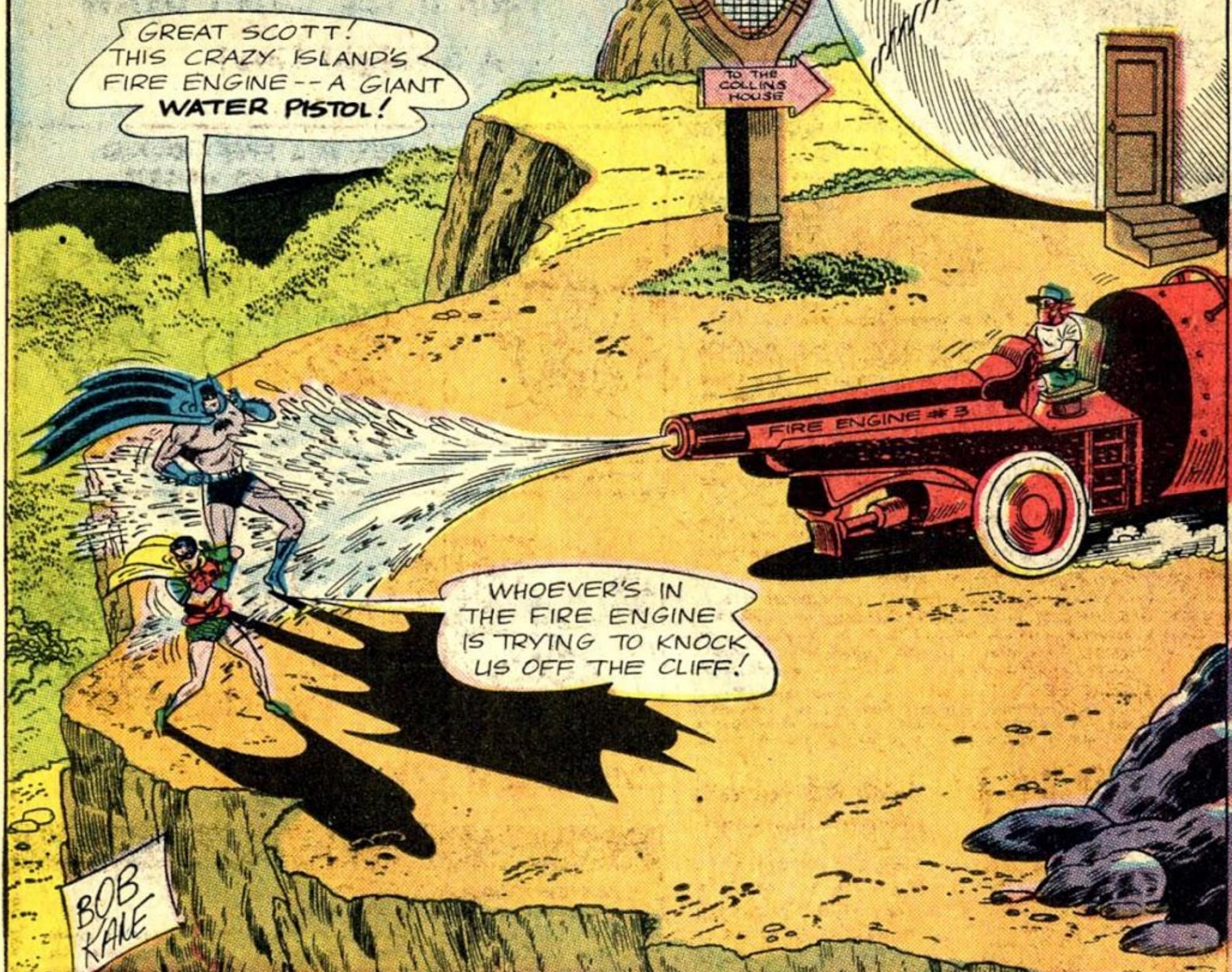
SOMEWHERE IN WATERS NOT FAR FROM GOTHAM CITY, LIES AN ISLAND DOTTED BY THE MOST BIZARRE STRUCTURES EVER SEEN! AND IT IS AMONG THESE FANTASTIC DWELLINGS THAT DANGER LURKS, WAITING FOR BATMAN AND ROBIN -- DANGER THAT STRIKES SWIFTLY AND SUDDENLY, UNTIL THE RENOWNED CRIME-FIGHTERS FLUSH OUT A DEADLY KILLER, AND FINALLY SOLVE...

the MYSTERY OF MADCAP ISLAND

BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN

-THE BOY WONDER-



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BATMAN



IN GOTHAM CITY, BATMAN GRILLS A BUYER OF STOLEN GOODS...

THIS IS PART OF THE LOOT STOLEN BY THE GREEN HOOD GANG! WHO SOLD IT TO YOU? TALK!

O-OKAY! I-- I GOT IT FROM ED KILEY!



SHORTLY, THE CRIME-FIGHTERS RAID THE APARTMENT OF THE GANGSTER, BUT...

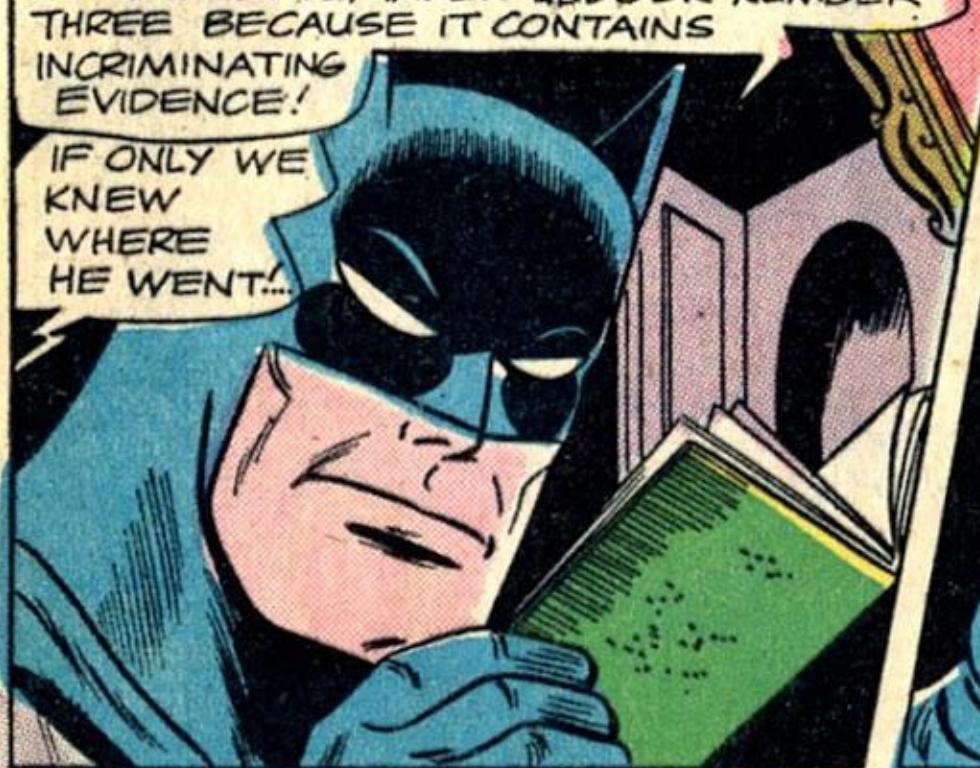
EMPTY! KILEY MUST'VE HAD A TIP THAT WE WERE COMING! THIS OPEN SAFE--IT HAS ACCOUNT BOOKS--NUMBERED FROM ONE TO FOUR! BUT THE NUMBER THREE LEDGER IS GONE!



UPON EXAMINING THE LEDGERS...

NOTHING MUCH IN THESE LEDGERS! BUT KILEY MUST'VE TAKEN LEDGER NUMBER THREE BECAUSE IT CONTAINS INCRIMINATING EVIDENCE!

IF ONLY WE KNEW WHERE HE WENT...

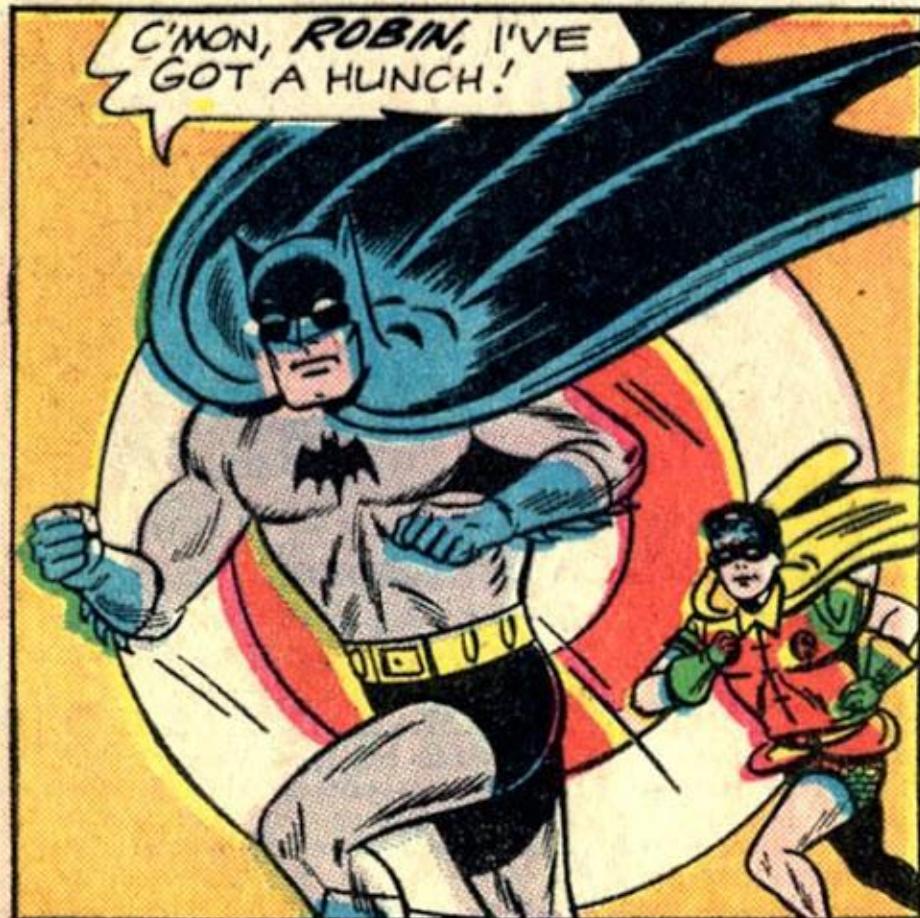


THEN, UPON SEARCHING THE SAFE, BATMAN FINDS A SLIP OF PAPER UPON WHICH IS A STRANGE DRAWING...

AN ARK-- LIKE NOAH'S ARK--WITH AN X NEXT TO IT-- AND A SQUIGGLY LINE BELOW! WHAT'S IT MEAN?



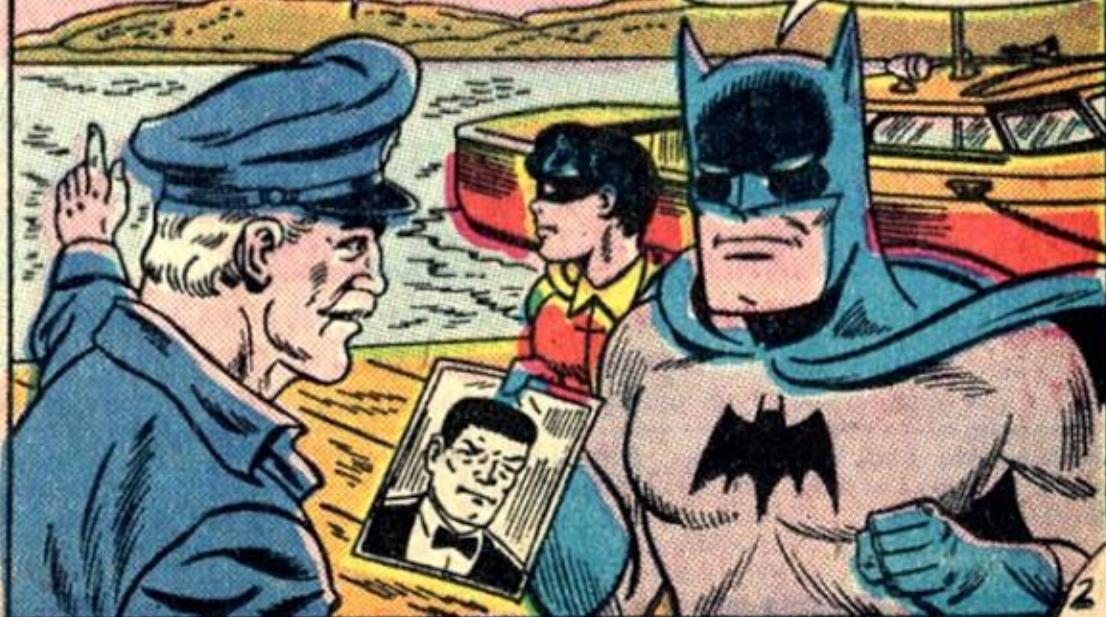
C'MON, ROBIN, I'VE GOT A HUNCH!



SOON, AT A WATERFRONT BOAT DOCK...

SURE, BATMAN-- I SAW HIM! HE RENTED A MOTOR LAUNCH FROM ME JUST A FEW MINUTES AGO!

THEN MY HUNCH WAS RIGHT! HE'S GONE TO MADCAP ISLAND!



SHORTLY...

MADCAP ISLAND?... WHERE ECCENTRIC RICH PEOPLE HAVE THOSE CRAZY SUMMER HOMES?

YES... IT STARTED WHEN A MANUFACTURER BUILT HIMSELF A HOME THAT SYMBOLIZED HIS BUSINESS FIRM! GRADUALLY, OTHERS DID THE SAME--JUST FOR LAUGHS!



LATER, THEIR CRAFT PULLS INTO A COVE...

HOLY SMOKE! THAT HOUSE -- IT'S AN ARK -- JUST LIKE THE ONE ON THE DRAWING WE FOUND!

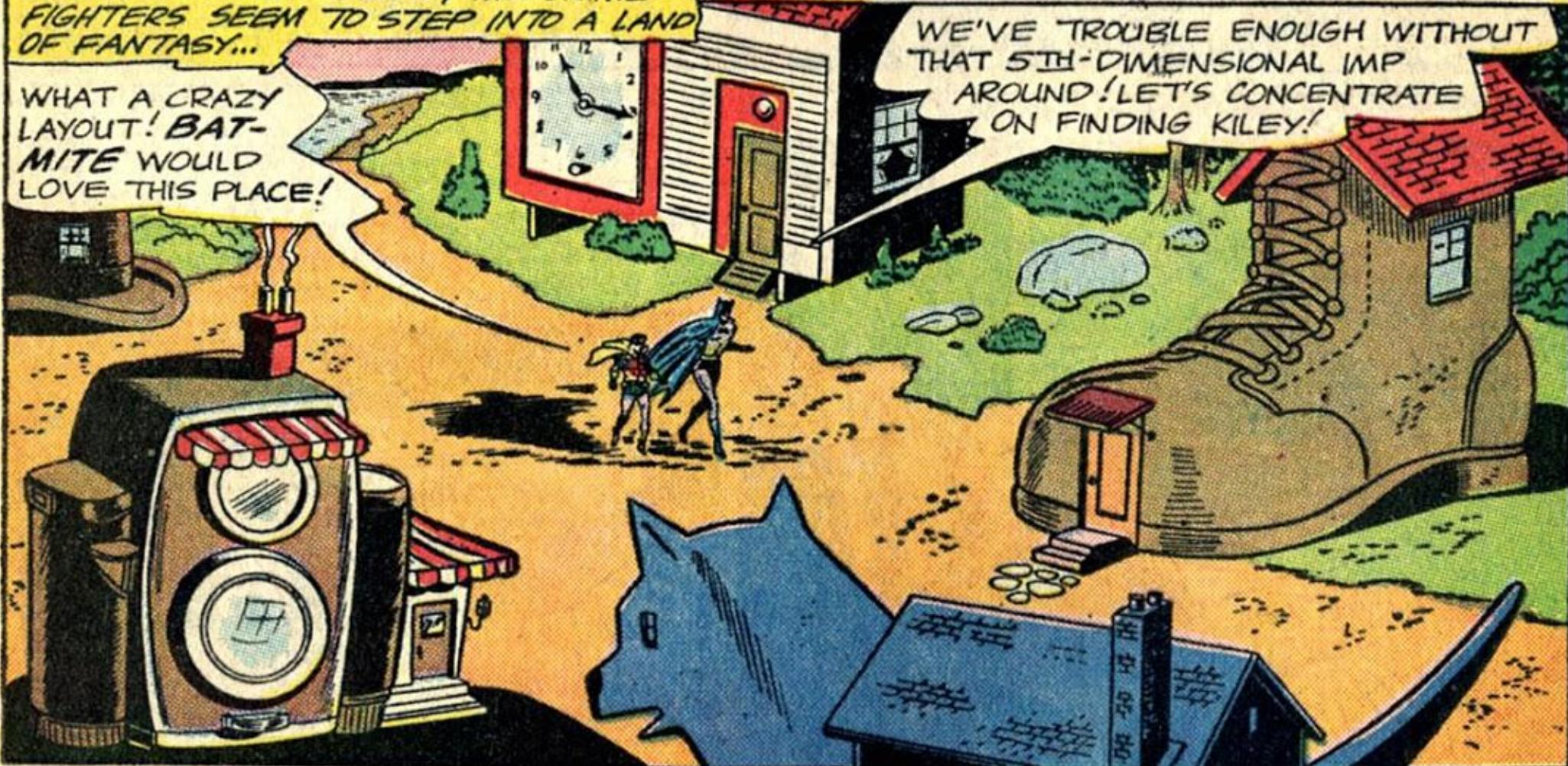
RIGHT! I REALIZED MAD-CAP ISLAND WOULD BE THE LIKELY PLACE TO HAVE ONE! THE DRAWING WAS A MAP SHOWING AN ISOLATED COVE WHERE KILEY COULD ANCHOR HIS LAUNCH IN SECRET!



STEPPING ON THE ISLAND, THE CRIME-FIGHTERS SEEM TO STEP INTO A LAND OF FANTASY...

WHAT A CRAZY LAYOUT! BAT-MITE WOULD LOVE THIS PLACE!

WE'VE TROUBLE ENOUGH WITHOUT THAT 5TH-DIMENSIONAL IMP AROUND! LET'S CONCENTRATE ON FINDING KILEY!



I NEVER FIGURED KILEY WAS SMART ENOUGH TO RUN A BIG OPERATION LIKE THE GREEN HOOD GANG!

HE'S NOT! KILEY IS HERE TO GIVE THAT LEDGER TO HIS BOSS! SOMEBODY ON THIS ISLAND IS LIVING TWO SECRET LIVES... AS RESPECTABLE BUSINESSMAN-- AND GANG LEADER!



THERE'S KILEY NOW! COME ON!





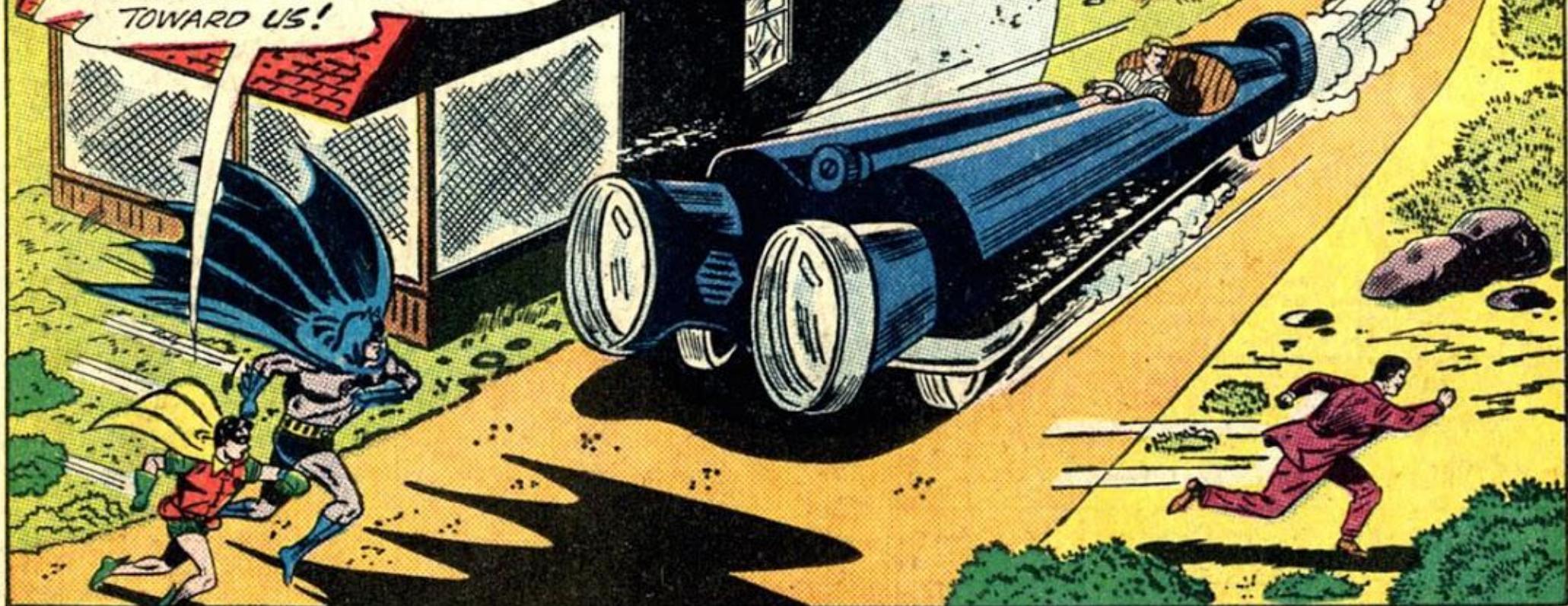
BATMAN



BUT AS THE CRIME-FIGHTERS DASH TOWARD THE NOVEL DWELLING,
SUDDENLY...

A GIANT PAIR OF

BINOCULARS--COMING
TOWARD US!



BATMAN AND
ROBIN?

Wow!

SCREECH

W-WHAT IS THAT THING?
MY CAR! I HAD IT TRICKED UP TO REPRESENT MY LINE OF BUSINESS! I'M BENSON--
OF BENSON BINOCULARS!
Y-YOU STARTLED ME--POPPING UP FROM NOWHERE LIKE THAT!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

TRYING TO CATCH A CRIMINAL WHO ESCAPED BECAUSE YOUR CAR BLOCKED US! NOW WE'LL HAVE TO ALERT EVERYONE HERE TO BE ON THE WATCH FOR HIM!

AN ESCAPED CRIMINAL -- HERE? WONDERFUL! A LITTLE EXCITEMENT IS JUST WHAT MADCAP ISLAND NEEDS! COME WITH ME!

HEY--IT'S A GORILLA!

NOT REALLY! IT'S JUST A MOVIE PROP WE GOT FROM A PICTURE STUDIO! WATCH!





BATMAN



AS BENSON PRESSES A BUTTON ON THE PROP GORILLA...

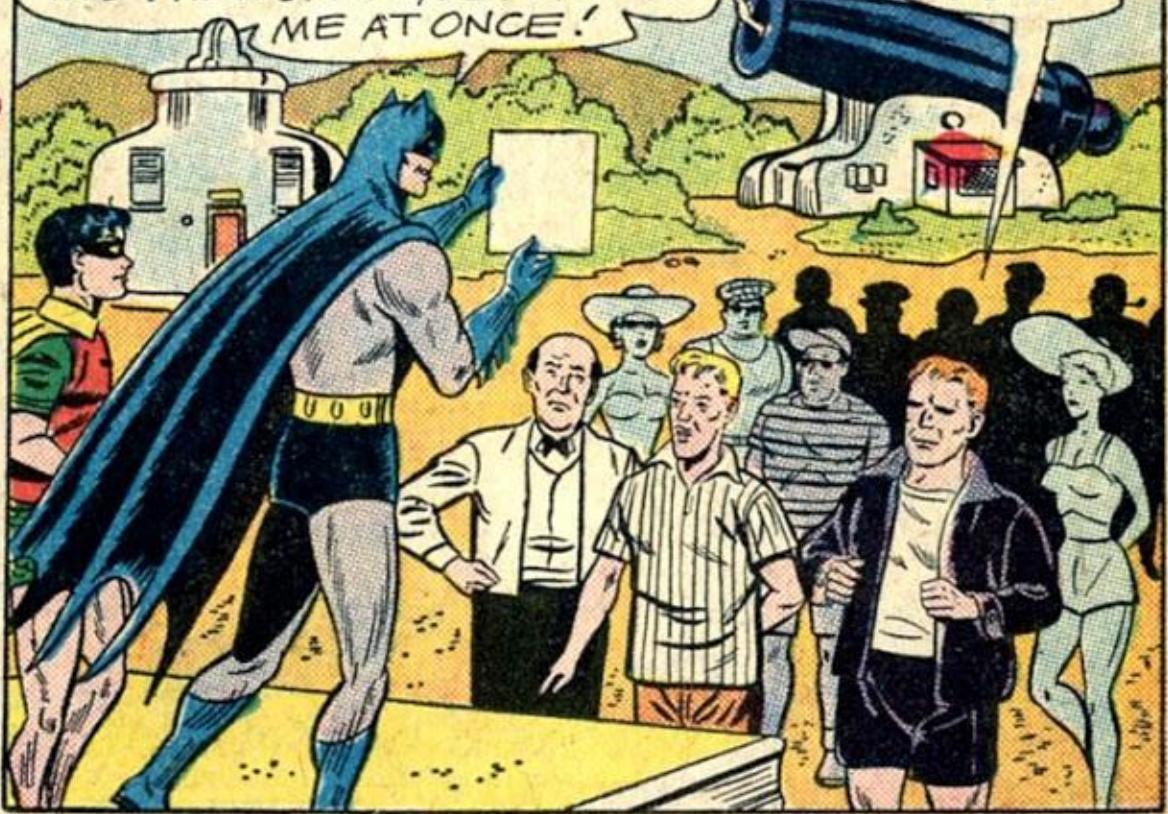
WHEN THE GORILLA DRUMS ON ITS CHEST, THE SOUND CAN BE HEARD ALL OVER THE ISLAND! THIS IS OUR "ALARM"!



SHORTLY, AFTER MADCAP ISLAND'S RESIDENTS GATHER...

...AND REMEMBER, IF YOU SEE THE MAN ON THIS PHOTOGRAPH, REPORT TO ME AT ONCE!

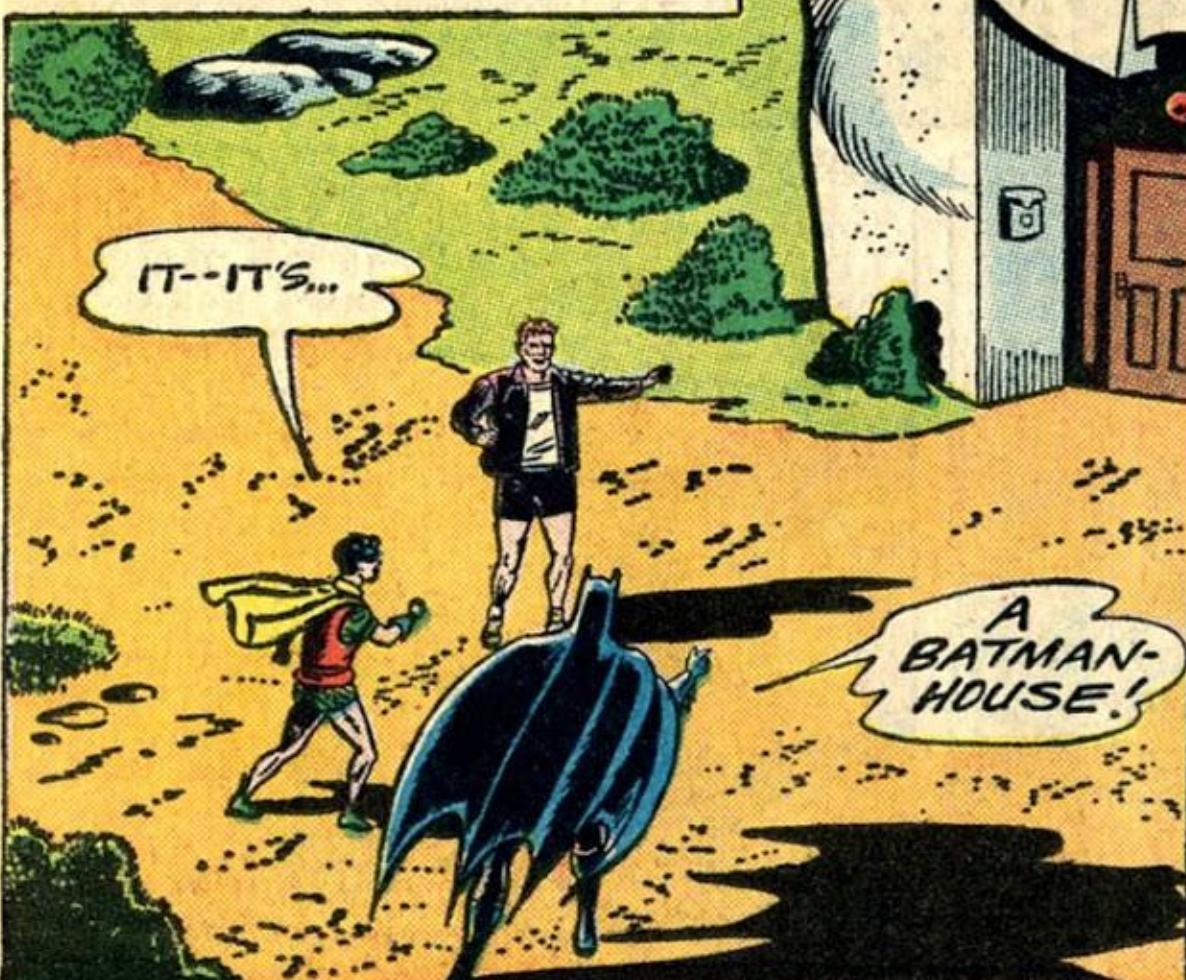
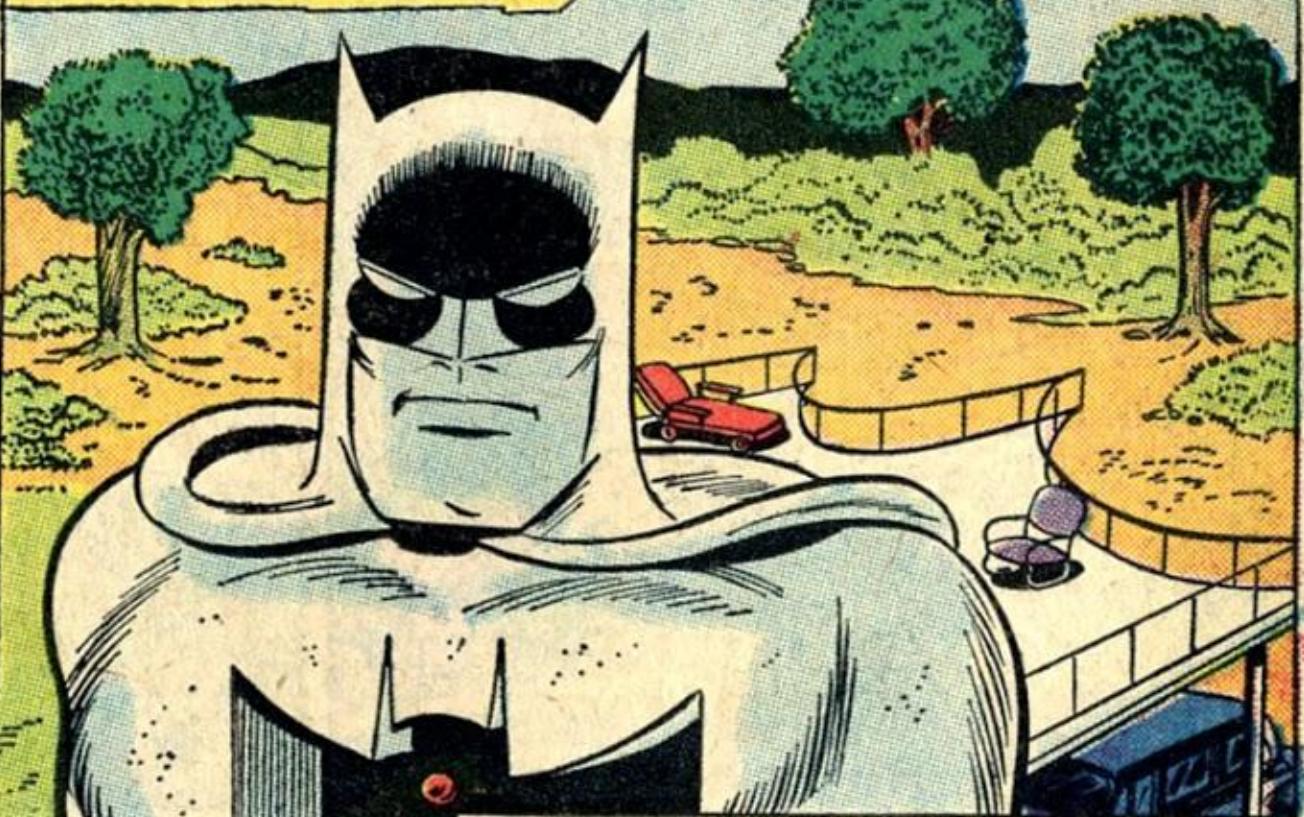
OH BOY! THIS SOUNDS LIKE FUN!



BATMAN, I'M JASON REID-- DISHWARE MANUFACTURER! I HAVE A SURPRISE FOR YOU! I WANT YOU TO SEE SOMETHING!

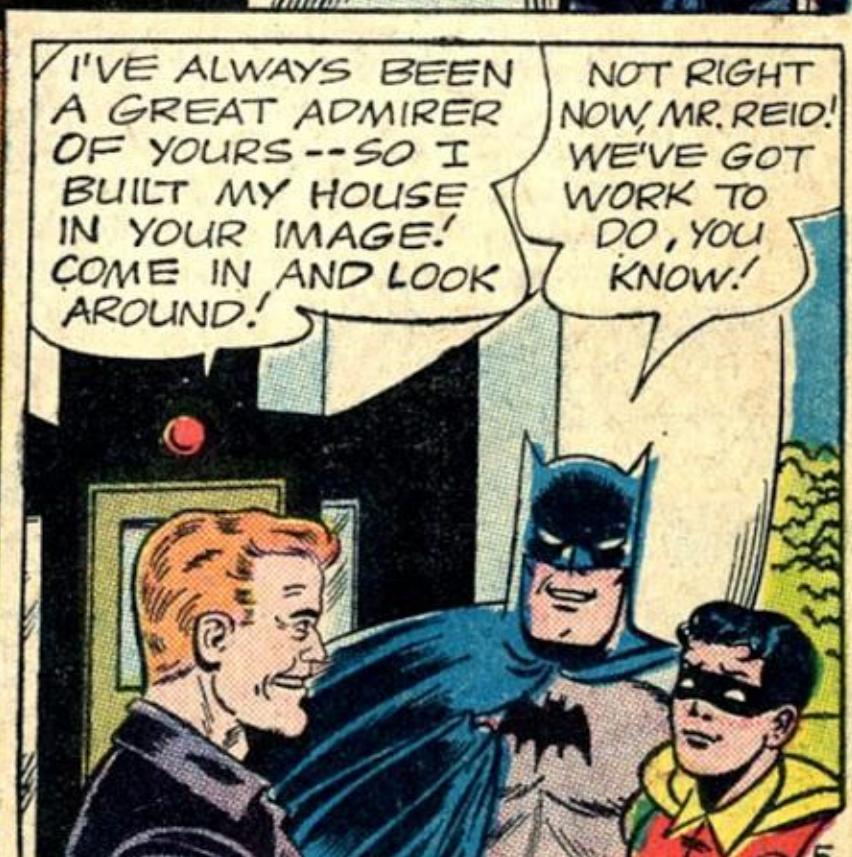


NOT FAR AWAY, REID LEADS THE CRIME-FIGHTERS TO AN UNEXPECTED SIGHT...



I'VE ALWAYS BEEN A GREAT ADMIRER OF YOURS--SO I BUILT MY HOUSE IN YOUR IMAGE! COME IN AND LOOK AROUND!

NOT RIGHT NOW, MR. REID! WE'VE GOT WORK TO DO, YOU KNOW!





BATMAN



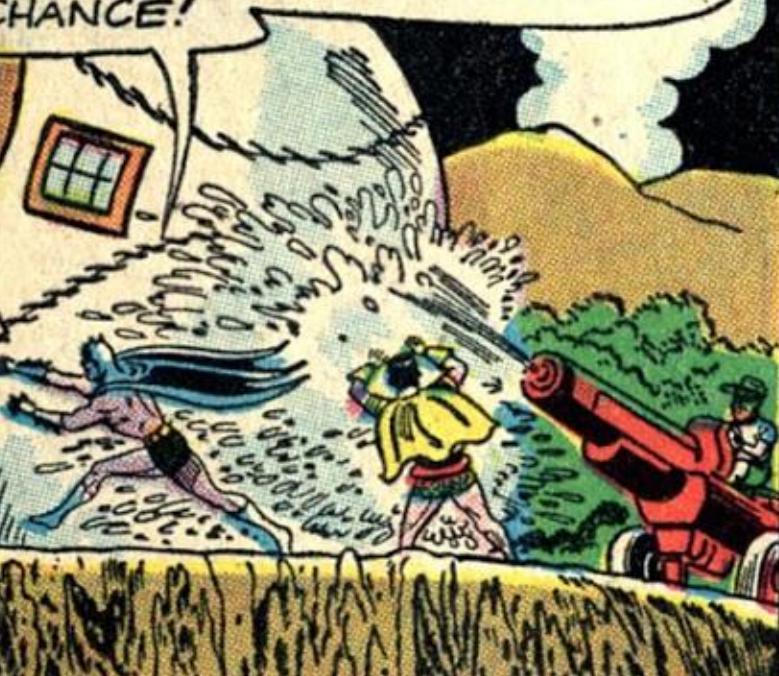
LATER, AS THE CRIME-FIGHTERS CONTINUE THEIR SEARCH--SUDDENLY...

GREAT SCOTT! ONE OF THIS CRAZY ISLAND'S EMERGENCY FIRE ENGINES--A GIANT WATER PISTOL!

WHOEVER'S IN THE FIRE ENGINE, IS TRYING TO KNOCK US OFF THE CLIFF!

AS THE POWERFUL STREAM OF WATER DRIVES THEM BACK...

THAT ROAD-MARKER TO THIS SPORTS-EQUIPMENT MANUFACTURER'S HOUSE-- IT'S OUR ONLY CHANCE!



LUNGING AT THE GIANT TENNIS RACQUET, BATMAN WRENCHES IT LOOSE-- JUST AS THE WATER DRIVES THEM OVER THE EDGE, AND...

WHEW! JUST AS I HOPED-- THE STRINGS OF THE RACQUET CAUGHT ON JUTTING ROOTS AND ROCKS-- STOPPING OUR FALL! NOW WE CAN CLIMB UP AND GRAB THAT MASKED MAN!



BUT AS THEY DO...

BENSON'S BINOCULARS
CAR! THE MASKED MAN IS SPEEDING AWAY IN IT!

YES-- HE KNOWS THE CAR IS FASTER THAN THE FIRE ENGINE! IT COULD BE BENSON-- OR SOMEBODY ELSE! AND MANY RESIDENTS WEAR BATHING TRUNKS AND T-SHIRTS!



HE MUST'VE BEEN THE GANG BOSS-- TRYING TO KILL US BEFORE WE COULD GRAB KILEY AND THE LEDGER!

HMM. GREASE ON THE SEAT WHERE THE MAN'S BARE LEGS RESTED ON IT! HE HAD SUN-TAN OIL ON HIS LEGS!





BATMAN



SHORTLY, THEY COME UPON THE GETAWAY VEHICLE AGAIN...

BENSON!

OH, HELLO! WHAT GOES ON? SOMEBODY STOLE MY CAR!

THAT COULD BE A HANDY EXCUSE--IF BENSON IS THE SECRET GANG BOSS! IT WAS BENSON'S CAR THAT BLOCKED US FROM GRABBING KILEY WHEN WE FIRST CAME TO THIS ISLAND!



SUDDENLY...

A GUN SHOT! IT CAME FROM BART'S SODA SHOP!



UPON DASHING INTO THE STORE... KILEY--HE WAS HERE! I DISCOVERED HIM HIDING IN THE BACK OF MY SHOP!

BART, WHAT HAPPENED?



LUCKILY, I SAW LIGHT GLITTER ON KILEY'S REVOLVER AS HE FIRED A SHOT AT ME--AND I DUCKED IN TIME! THEN HE RAN OUT THROUGH THE BACK ENTRANCE!



SWIFTLY, BATMAN AND ROBIN COMB THE AREA BEHIND THE SHOP, BUT...

NO SIGN OF KILEY NOW!

ONE THING'S CERTAIN--KILEY HASN'T DARED TO CONTACT HIS BOSS YET--NOT WITH EVERYONE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR HIM.



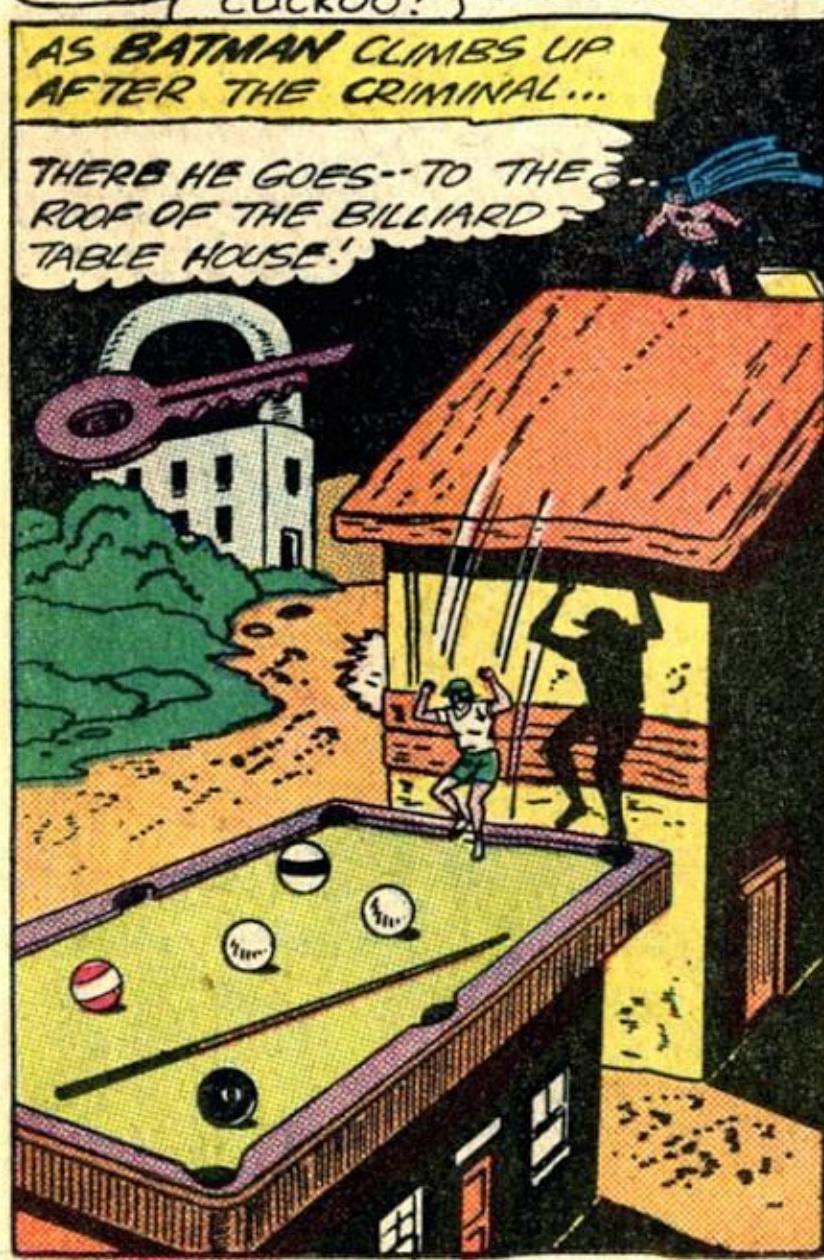
AN HOUR PASSES, AND AS BATMAN AND ROBIN PASS NEAR MADCAP ISLAND'S UNUSUAL TOWN HALL...

THAT'S ODD! THE CLOCK IS SOUNDING BEFORE THE HOUR! SOMETHING MUST BE WRONG WITH THE MECHANISM!





BATMAN



CONTINUED ON 2nd PAGE FOLLOWING... 18.

CASEY

THE COP

HENRY
BOLTHOFF

HMM...



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PREFER IN FUTURE ISSUES OF THIS MAGAZINE,
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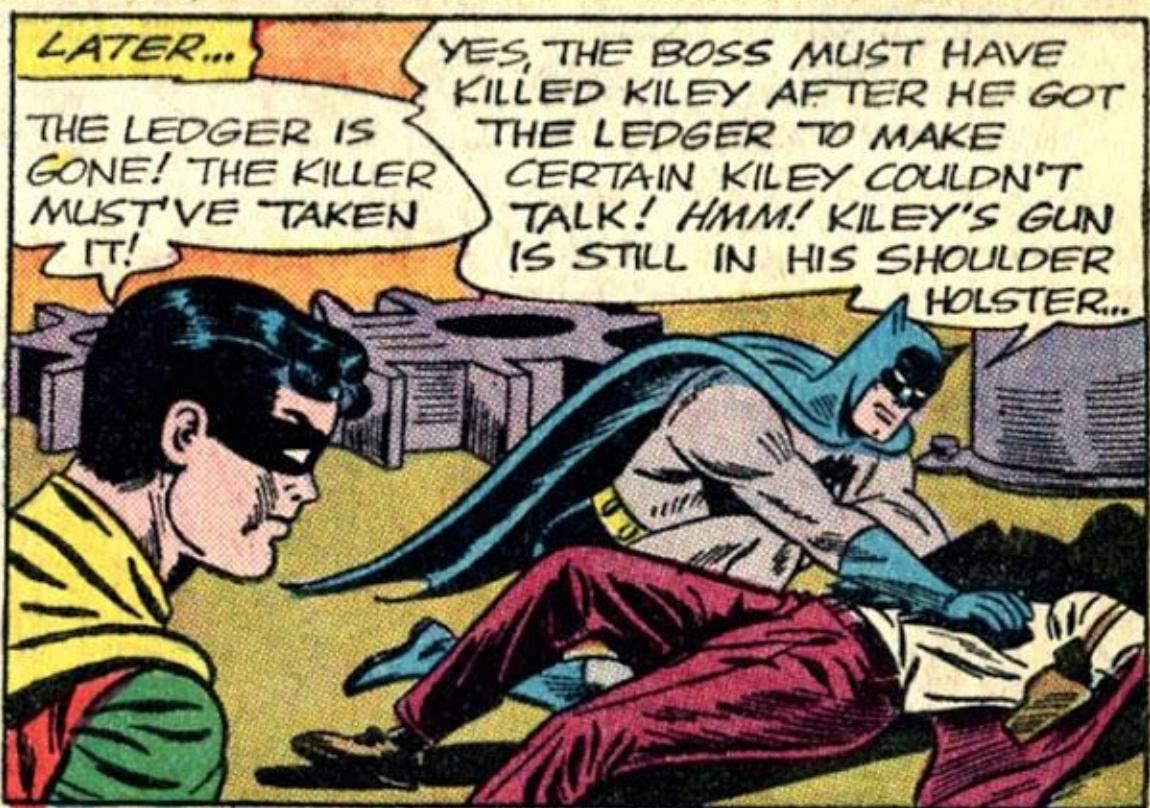
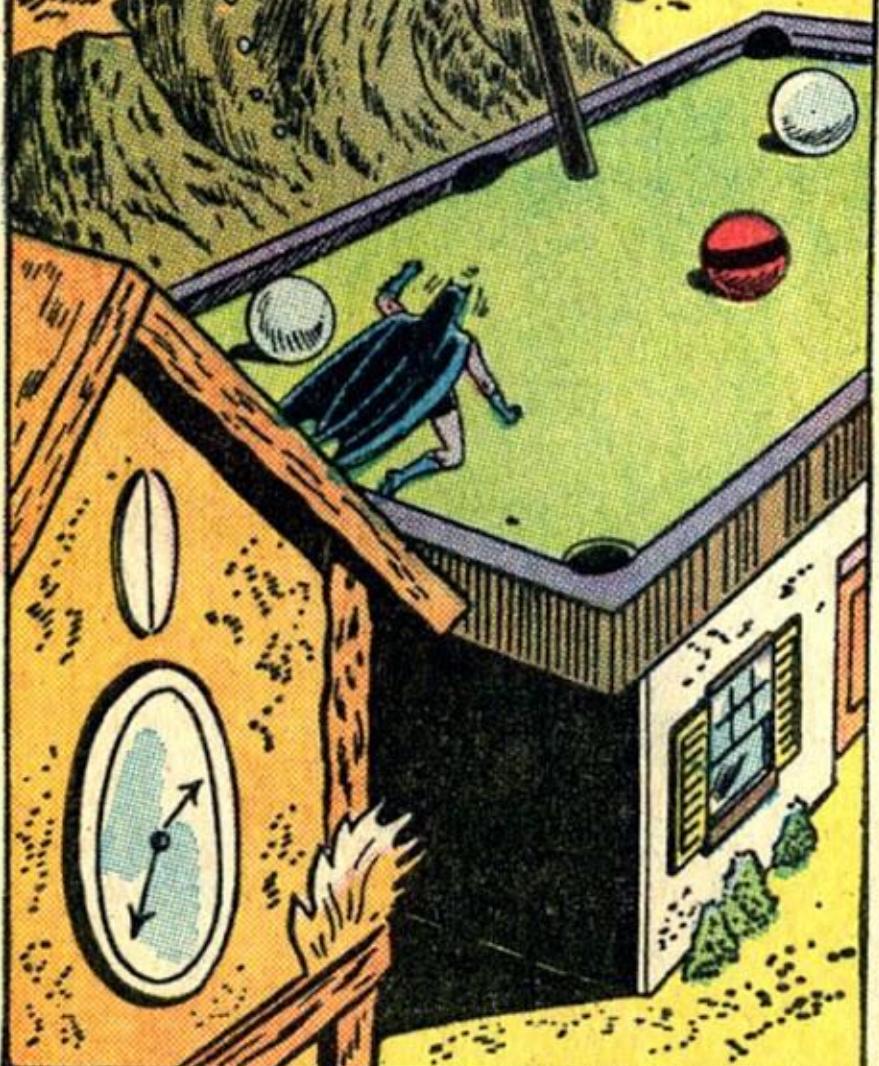
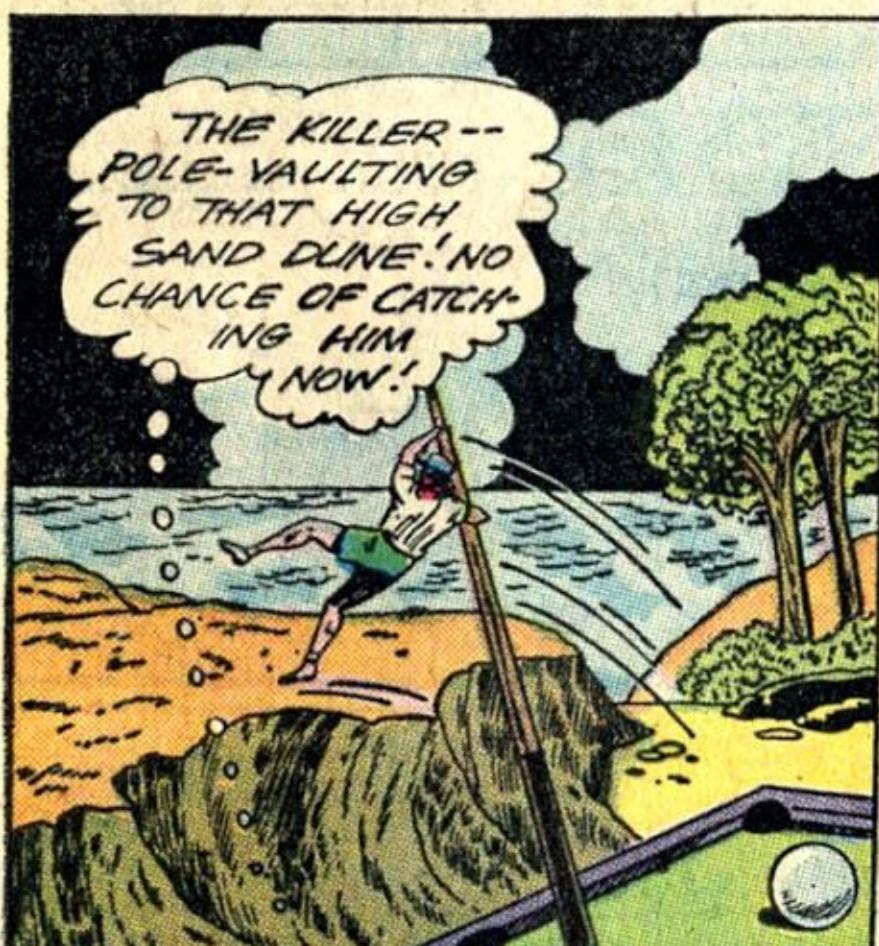
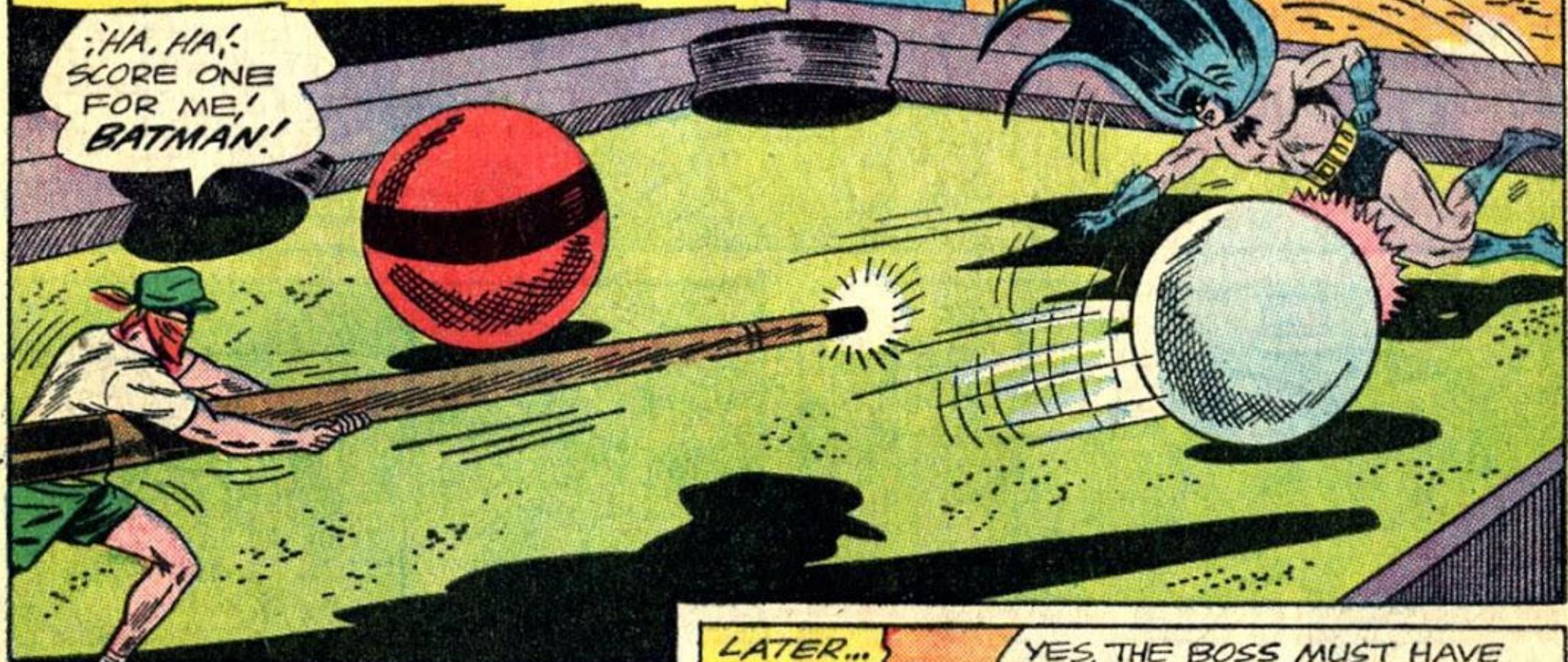
A
BOOK-LENGTH
SPECTACULAR!

ON SALE OCT. 29th



BATMAN

JUST AS BATMAN'S FEET TOUCH THE ROOF, THE GIANT BILLIARD BALL CAROMS INTO HIM WITH STUNNING FORCE...



BATMAN

THAT NIGHT, A FURTIVE FIGURE MOVES ABOUT WARILY...



SHORTLY, THE FIGURE ENTERS A HOUSE AND, IN AN UPSTAIRS STUDY, STANDS REVEALED AS...

BART! YOU'VE GOT THE LEDGER! YOU KILLED KILEY!

YEAH! WHEN I DISCOVERED KILEY HIDING IN MY SHOP, WE STRUGGLED! HIS GUN SHOT MISSED ME! I KNOCKED HIM OUT AND HE DROPPED THE LEDGER! WHEN I SAW YOUR NAME IN IT, I THOUGHT FAST! I HID KILEY'S BODY IN MY SHOP, AND LIED TO BATMAN!



THEN YOU KILLED KILEY, AND SNEAKED HIS BODY TO THE CLOCK; FAR AWAY FROM YOUR SHOP SO BATMAN WOULDN'T SUSPECT YOU!

YEAH! I FIGURED ON SELLING YOU THE LEDGER AFTER BATMAN LEFT THE ISLAND! BUT NOW HE'S GETTING TOO CLOSE TO THE TRUTH!



I NEED GETAWAY MONEY--AND YOU'LL PAY PLENTY FOR THIS... HUH?... BATMAN AND ROBIN!

THANKS FOR LEADING ME HERE, BART! WE'VE HEARD ALL WE NEED TO KNOW!



NOW WE'VE GOT KILEY'S KILLER...

AND KILEY'S BOSS!



YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE TOLD ME YOU SAW "LIGHT GLITTER ON KILEY'S REVOLVER"! ONCE I SAW KILEY'S GUN, I KNEW YOU'D LIED! IT WAS A COMMANDO GUN-- AND ALL COMMANDO GUNS WERE PAINTED DULL BLACK SO NO LIGHT WOULD GLITTER FROM THEM DURING SNEAK NIGHT RAIDS!



UNEXPECTEDLY... REID! HE WAS ONLY FAKING UNCONSCIOUSNESS! ROBIN, GUARD BART! I'M GOING AFTER REID!



BLAST YOU! YOU OUT-SMARTED ME WHEN I TRIED TO KILL YOU WITH THE WATER PISTOL AT THE CLIFF-- BUT NOT THIS TIME!

I KNEW BART WASN'T OUR ATTACKER AT THE CLIFF-- BECAUSE OF THE SUN-TAN OIL! A SHOP-KEEPER LIKE BART DIDN'T HAVE TIME TO GO SUN-BATHING!



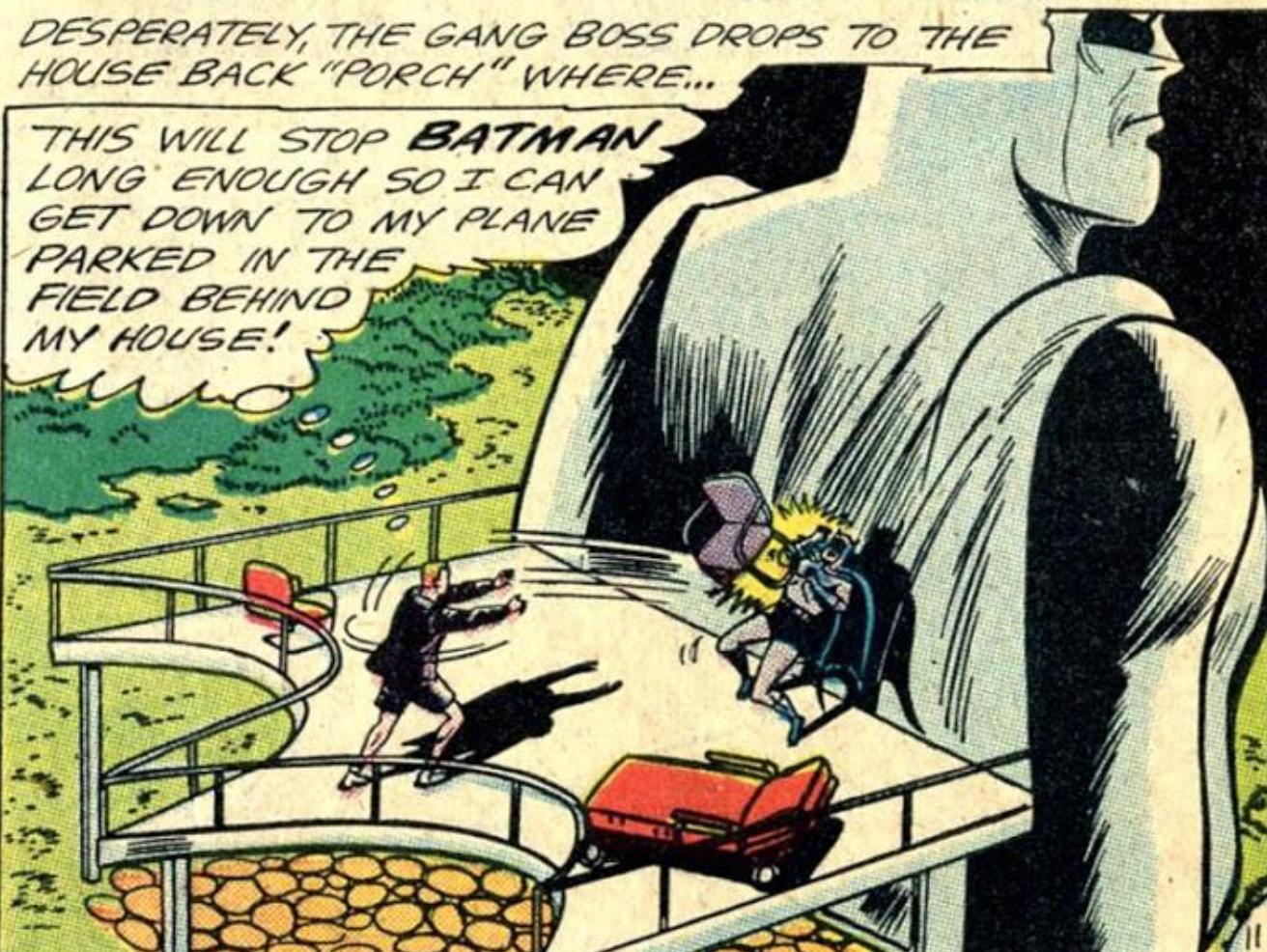
ON THE "HEAD" OF THE BATMAN-HOUSE, A BIZARRE BATTLE BEGINS!

YOU'LL NEVER TAKE ME!

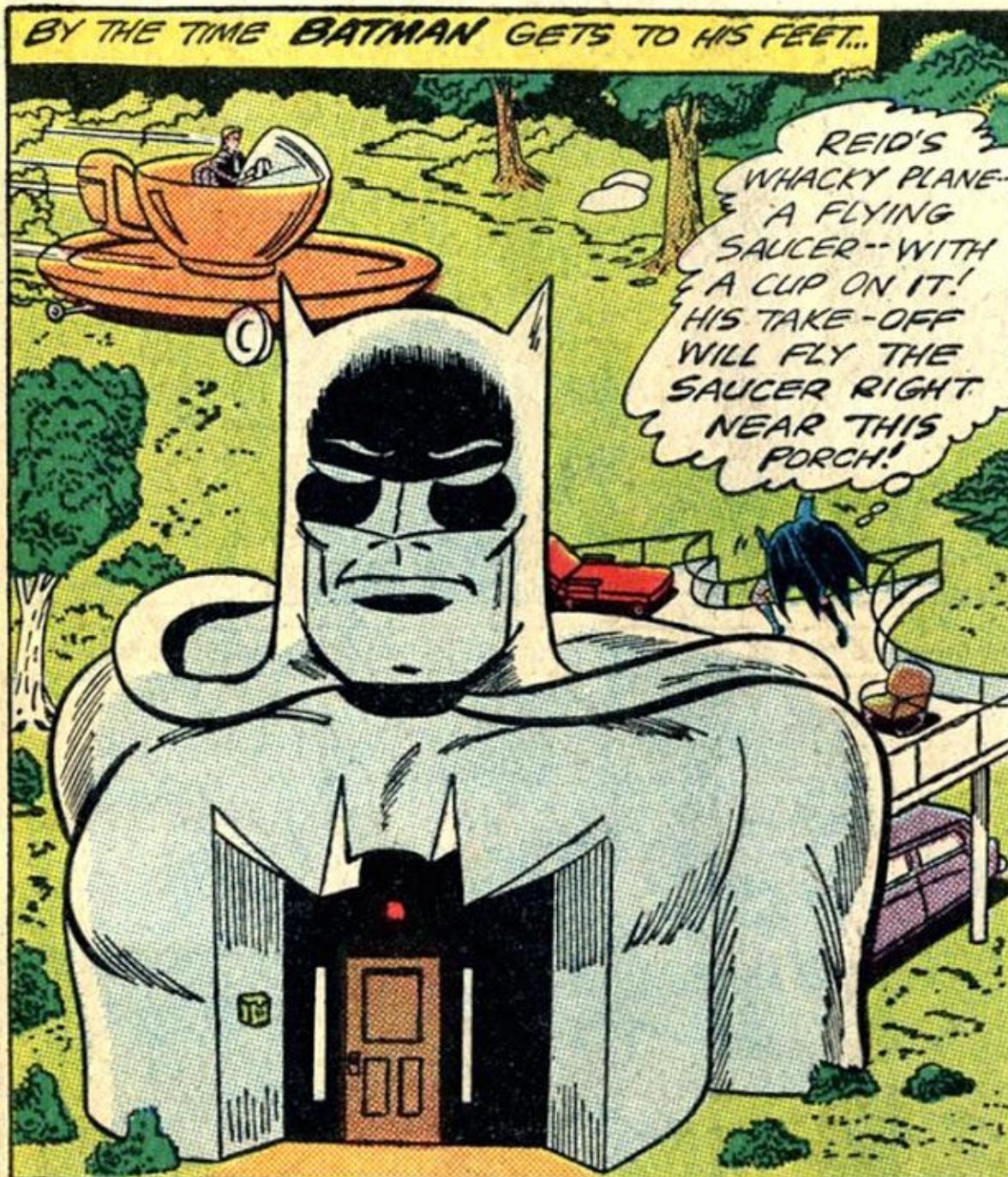


DESPERATELY, THE GANG BOSS DROPS TO THE HOUSE BACK "PORCH" WHERE...

THIS WILL STOP BATMAN LONG ENOUGH SO I CAN GET DOWN TO MY PLANE PARKED IN THE FIELD BEHIND MY HOUSE!



BATMAN



LATER... YOUR PLAN WORKED, **BATMAN!**
ONCE YOU SHOWED THE DIME TO THE TOWN GOSSIP AND SAID THAT YOU'D FOUND IT INSIDE THE CLOCK, YOU KNEW THE NEWS WOULD GET AROUND TO BART!

YES--I TOLD THE TOWN GOSSIP THAT THE DIME MUST'VE BEEN DROPPED BY THE KILLER--AND THAT IT WAS A CLUE I'D FIGURE OUT SOONER OR LATER!

BART, I KNEW YOU'D PANIC AND CONTACT THE GANG BOSS FOR QUICK GETAWAY MONEY! BUT YOU NEVER DROPPED THAT COIN! I TRICKED YOU WITH A DIME I FIXED MYSELF WITH A LITTLE RED NAIL POLISH!

I--I DON'T UNDERSTAND...?



IF A SHOP-KEEPER WANTS TO START HIS JUKE BOX PLAYING, HE USES WHAT IS CALLED A "HOUSE COIN"! WHEN THE JUKE BOX IS EMPTIED, HE RETRIEVES HIS OWN COIN BECAUSE IT HAS AN IDENTIFYING MARK--A DOT OF RED NAIL POLISH ON IT!



LATER, AFTER THE CRIMINALS ARE JAILED...



REID WAS PRETTY CUNNING! HE FIGURED NOBODY WOULD EVER SUSPECT A GANG BOSS WHO LIVED IN A BATMAN-HOUSE!

YES, AND NOW HE'LL LIVE IN ANOTHER KIND OF HOUSE--ONE THAT HAS BARS ON IT!

13

END

HAWK-A-A-A!

That's the ringing cry that summons the bold **BLACKHAWKS** to daring action against bizarre foes!

ORDER OF THE DAY

"MENACE OF THE MOLECULE MAN!"
"TALES OF THE BLACKHAWK EMBLEM!"

Two BIG STORIES!

BLACKHAWK 10c
"MENACE OF THE MOLECULE MAN!"
and "TALES OF THE BLACKHAWK EMBLEM!"

SACRE BLEU!
HE HAS USED HIS MOLECULE-SMASHER ON BLACKHAWK!

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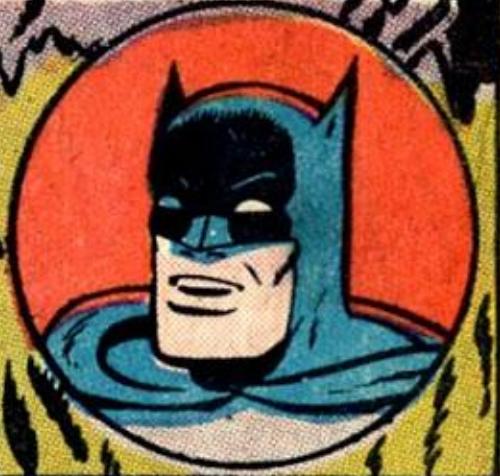
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- "CASE of the GOTHAM CITY SAFARI!"
 - "CREATURE from the GREEN LAGOON!"
 - "The DANGER CLUB!"
 - "MYSTERY of the FOUR BATMEN!"

ON SALE EVERYWHERE... NOV. 14th



Letters to the BAT-CAVE



Dear Editor: Your July DETECTIVE COMICS, No. 317, was another masterpiece. The cover story, "Secrets of the Flying Bat-Cave," was great. The art seemed particularly good. I appreciated and liked the part Rookie Joe Arno had in the story. He just didn't sit around like a lot of people in some stories, but led himself and Batman into a lot of action (which a story has to have to be a hit with me). The John Jones story was good, too. I like all Manhunter stories, and this one was no exception. BATMAN No. 157 was another great issue. I don't know which story I liked better. The cover story with Mirror Man was great—I like Mirror Man almost as much as the Joker and Penguin. The second story was good, but I don't think the Jackal was worthy of the title, "Villain of the Year." I hope you keep stories like these coming.

Ray Cardinal, Oak Lawn, Ill.

Dear Editor: In BATMAN No. 157, "Villain of the Year" was terrific. I have heard of a man with two identities such as Bruce Wayne and Batman, and Clark Kent and Superman, but in this story you have a man with three identities! "The Hunt for Batman's Identity" was especially good. I have never seen Mirror Man before, and now that I have, I think he's terrific. That trick with Alfred was smart thinking.

Louis Gilio, Whitestone, N. Y.

Dear Editor: I have just finished reading the Aug. issue of DETECTIVE COMICS. Could you tell me how Cat-Man escaped the underground rapids? Are there going to be more issues with Cat-Man? By the way, I thought Batwoman knew who Batman was; and I didn't know Batwoman had a trophy room. Keep up the marvelous work.

Jimmy Gray, El Paso, Texas

(Previous stories have established that Batwoman doesn't know Batman's real life identity; also, Batwoman has a trophy room in her underground headquarters. As for Cat-Man, yes, we intend to have him back soon. He escaped the rapids in the first story, and he will have to escape the boat explosion in the Aug. issue in order to appear again. There's a hint that he has nine lives like a cat—and the answer to the mystery will be found in "The Strange Lives of Cat-Man," coming up in the Mar. issue.—Ed.)

Dear Editor: I just loved your Aug. WORLD'S FINEST, No. 135. Please have more of those super-length stories. The Superman-Batman story was excellent, and the Aquaman story was very good, too.

Gary Joel Harris, San Francisco, Calif.

Dear Editor: In WORLD'S FINEST No. 135, panel 3, you colored Superman's costume green! I am sorry to complain, but I needed an excuse to compli-

ment you on your fine story, "Menace of the Future Man."

Jim Gartland, Poughkeepsie, N. Y.
(Quite a few readers wrote in about this color mistake, and about another more serious one at the end of the story, showing the robots in full color when they were supposed to have the color drained out of them. We often have no control over mistakes like these that occur in the color engraving of the magazines.—Ed.)

* * *

Dear Editor: The latest BATMAN ANNUAL, No. 5, was the greatest. My favorites were "Rip Van Batman" and "Phantom Batman." In Aug. WORLD'S FINEST, "Menace of the Future Man" was about the best Superman-Batman team-up I have ever read. In BATMAN, "The Hunt for Batman's Identity" was the second Batman story with an old villain. "Return of the Penguin" was the first. Could you give me a wrap-up of the coming Batman stories?

Steve Joseph Sullivan, Oklahoma City, Okla.
(Another old villain is coming back in the Feb. BATMAN, "New Crimes of the Mad Hatter," together with a sensational Bat-Mite story, "The Bat-Mite Hero." The current Dec. WORLD'S FINEST has another super-length adventure which we think is even more sensational than the "Future Man" story, and another expanded Green Arrow thriller (Aquaman alternates with Green Arrow in every issue). In DETECTIVE COMICS for Dec., you have a real treat in "The Menace of the Batman Genie," and for the Jan. issue a new villain with amazing gimmicks, "The Zodiac Master."—Ed.)

* * *

Dear Editor: I have just read BATMAN ANNUAL No. 5, and I think it was very good. I was thinking for your next Annual why don't you star Batman's family? It would be about Bat-Mite, Batwoman, Bat-Girl, Bat-Hound, Alfred the butler, etc. Do you think I have a good idea?

Peter Pappas, Providence, R. I.

(We must think it's a good idea—because we have such an Annual slated for No. 7. But in the works right now is the next BATMAN ANNUAL, No. 6, on sale about the middle of Nov., which features "Batman and Robin's Most Thrilling Mystery Cases." Another reader, Donald Petrone, of Brockton, Mass. was the first one to anticipate this theme and even suggested some of the stories we had selected. Hats off to Donald, and to you, too, Peter!—Ed.)

Please address all mail to: Letters to the Bat-Cave, National Periodical Publications, 575 Lexington Avenue, New York 22, N. Y. Because of the large volume of mail received, we cannot always answer all letters; so please understand if your questions do not receive personal replies.

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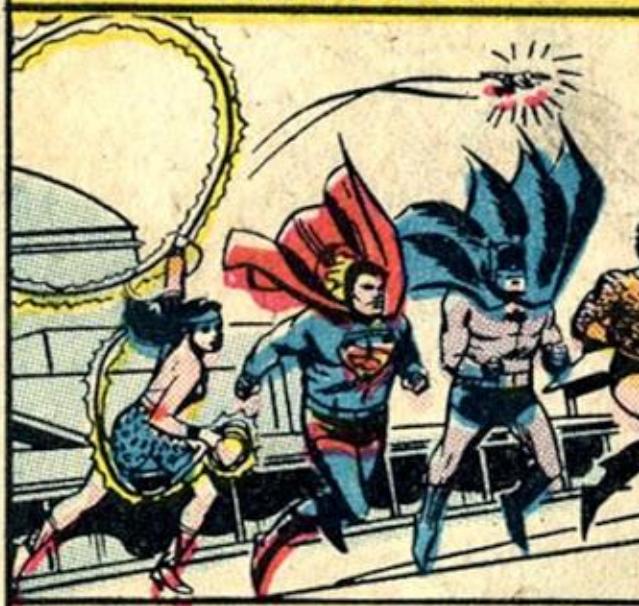
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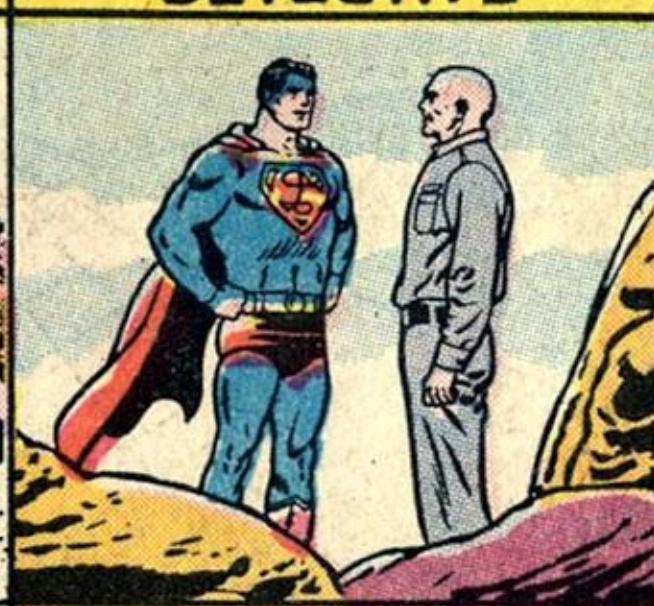
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BATMAN

With
ROBIN
THE BOY WONDER

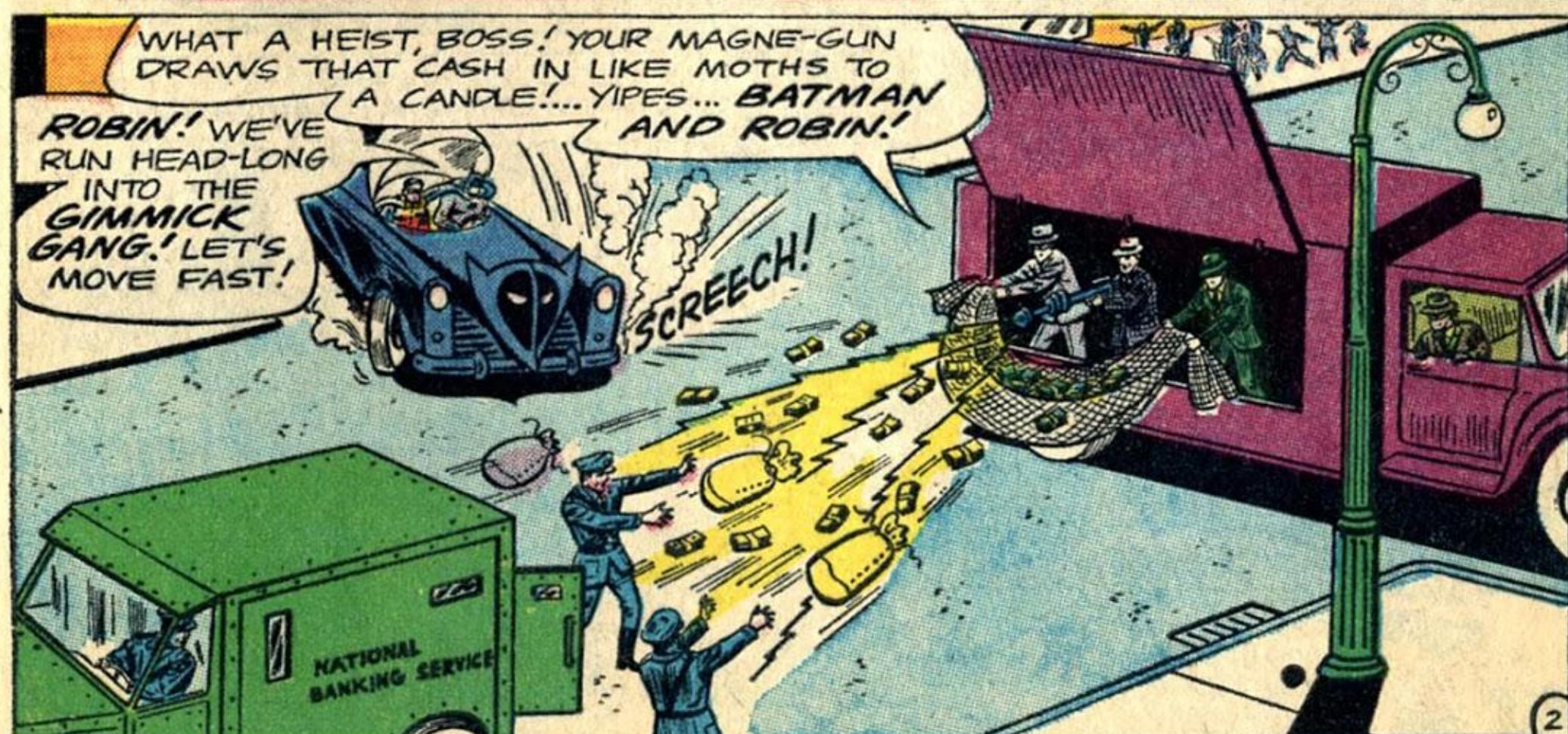
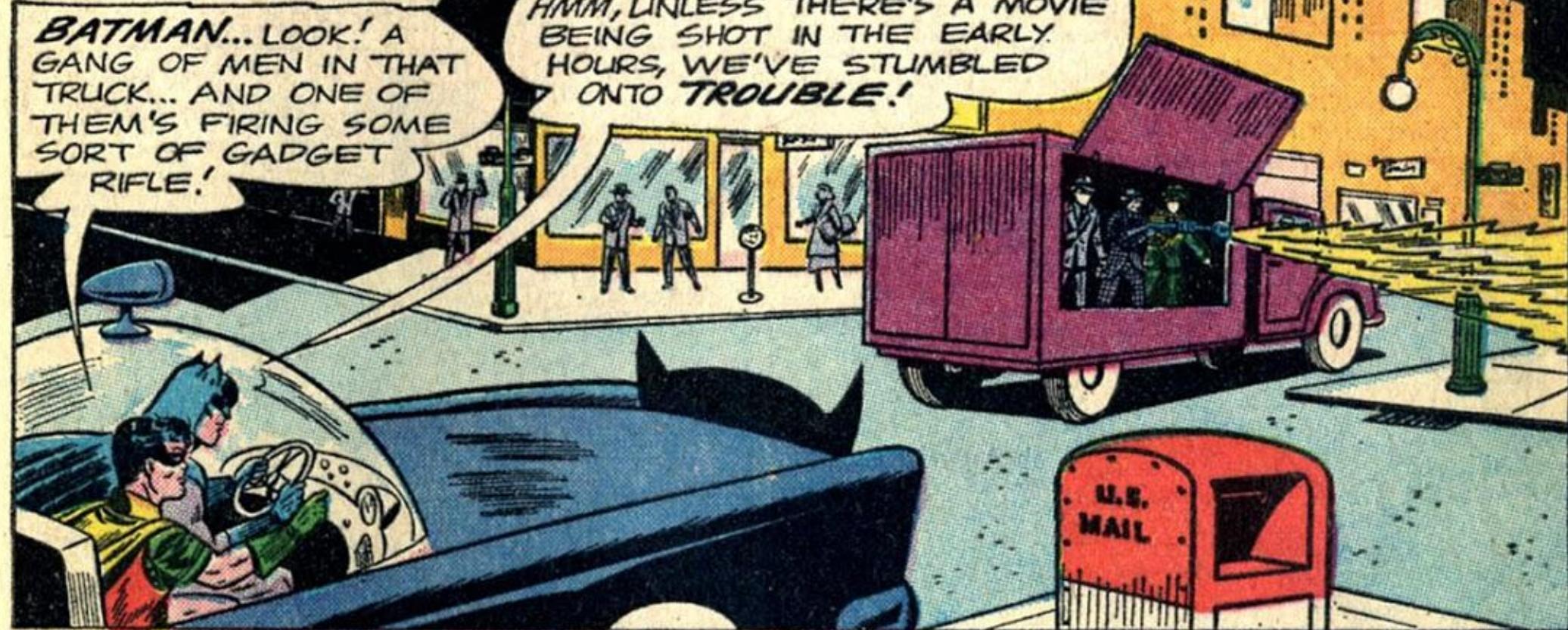
the ALIEN BOSS of GOTHAM CITY

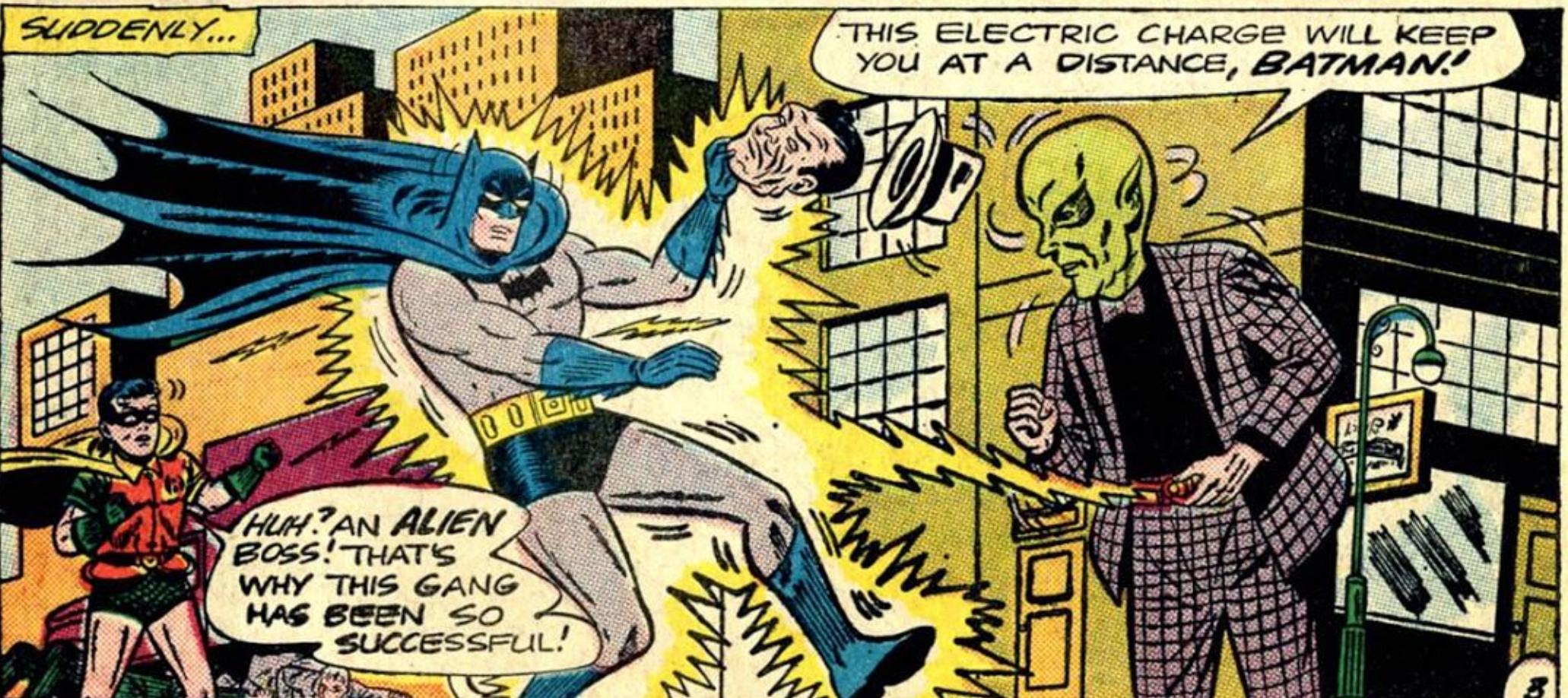
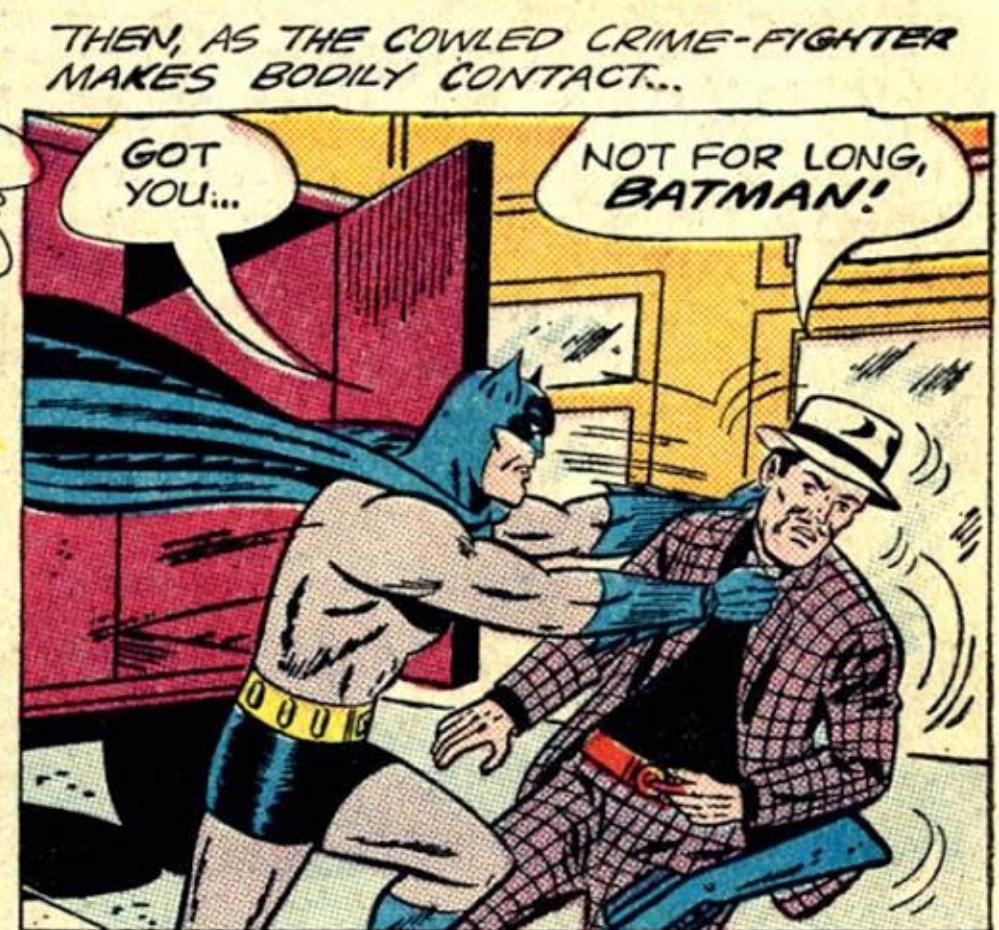
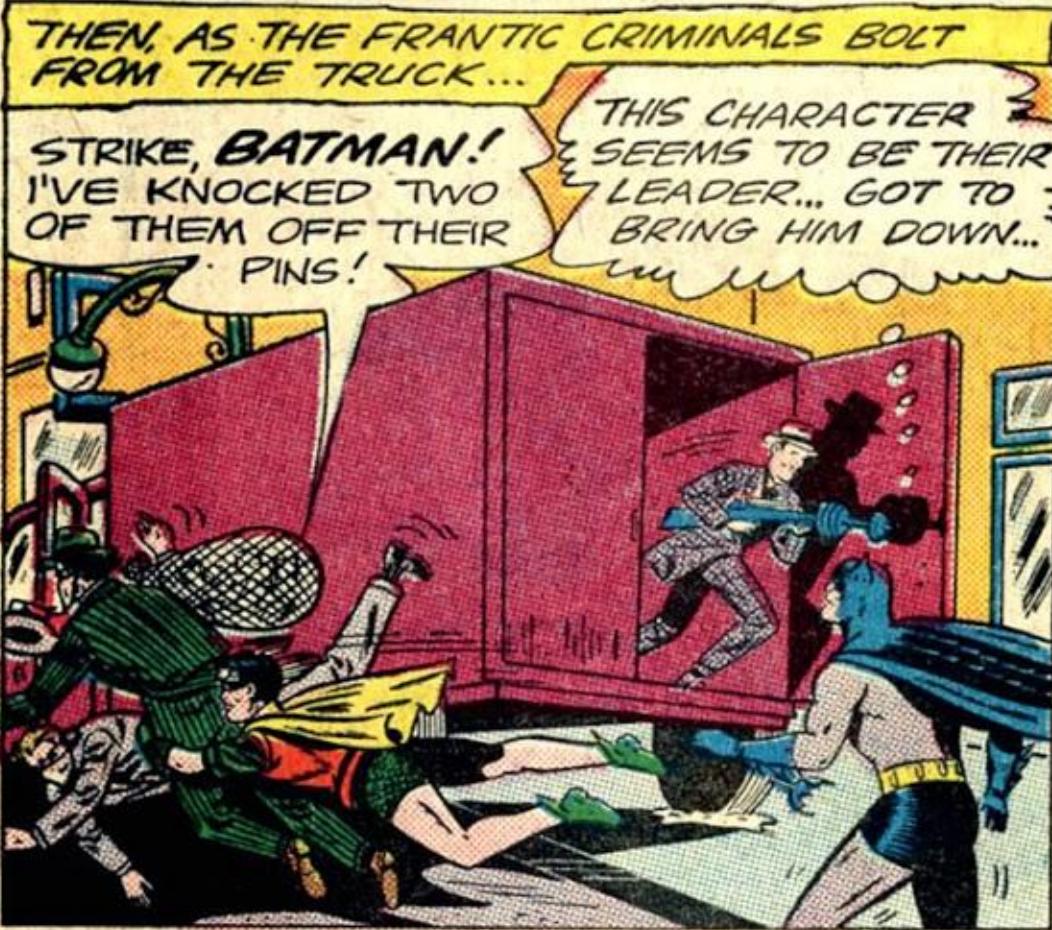
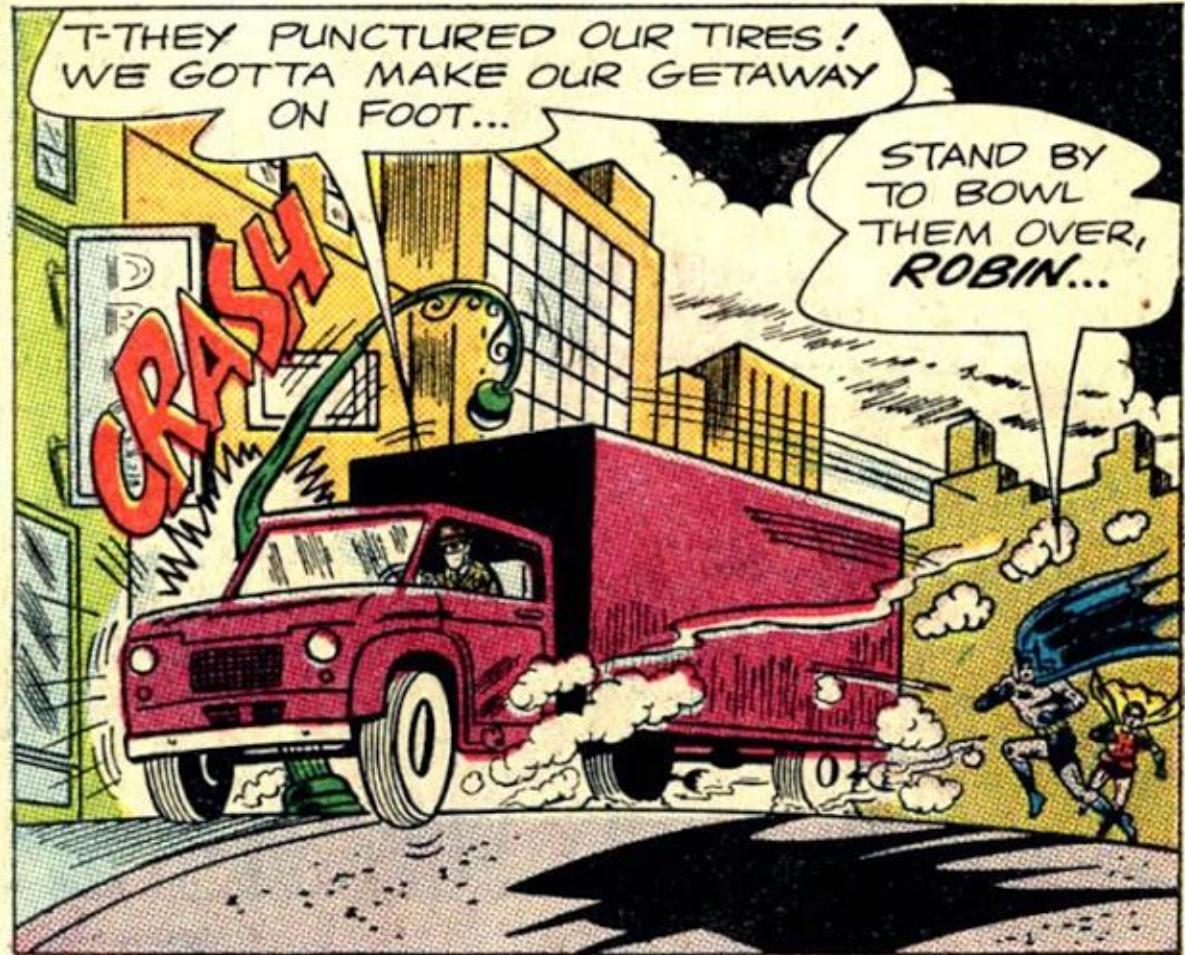
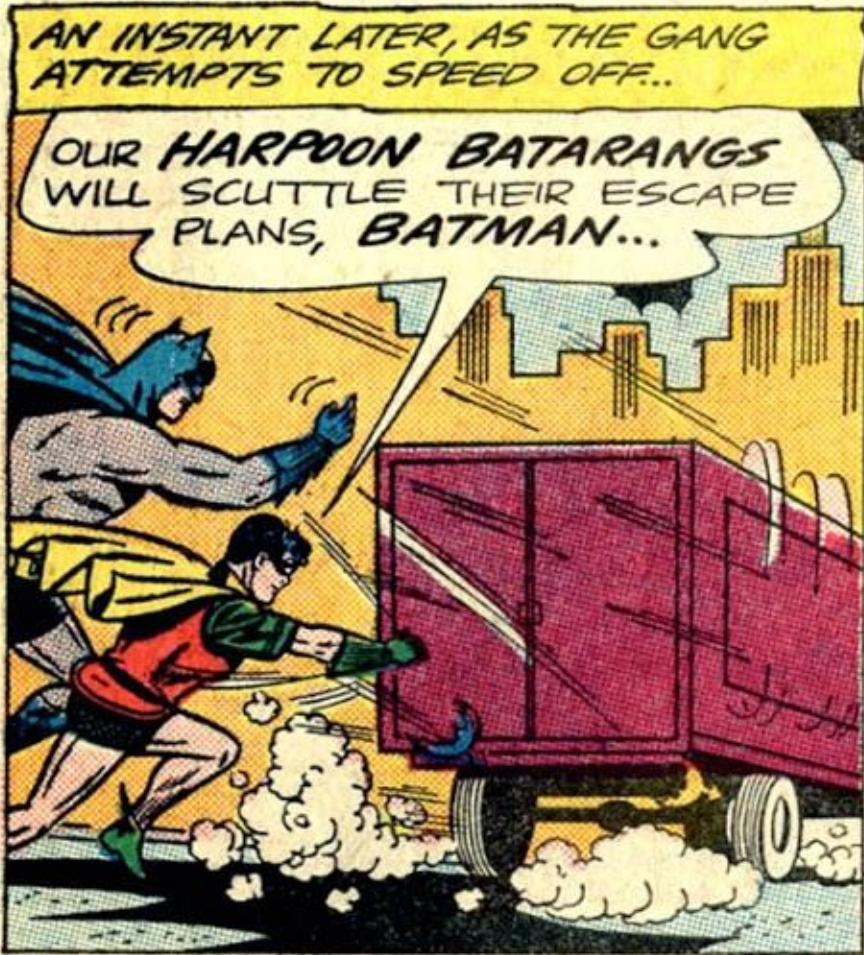
AT GOTHAM AIRPORT, STARTLED EXPRESSIONS CROSS THE FACES OF SOCIALITE BRUCE WAYNE AND YOUNG DICK GRAYSON AS...

AFTER A QUICK COSTUME CHANGE, BATMAN AND ROBIN ARE SOON PROWLING GOTHAM STREETS...



BUT AS BATMAN WHIPS THE HIGH-POWERED BATMOBILE ABOUT A CORNER...





BATMAN



AS ROBIN RACES TO HIS DAZED PARTNER'S SIDE...

I... THOUGHT I SAW...
AN ALIEN FACE!

YOU DID, BATMAN! YOUR
HAND ACCIDENTALLY SNATCHED
HIS HUMAN MASK OFF WHEN
HE USED THAT SHOCK
GIMMICK!

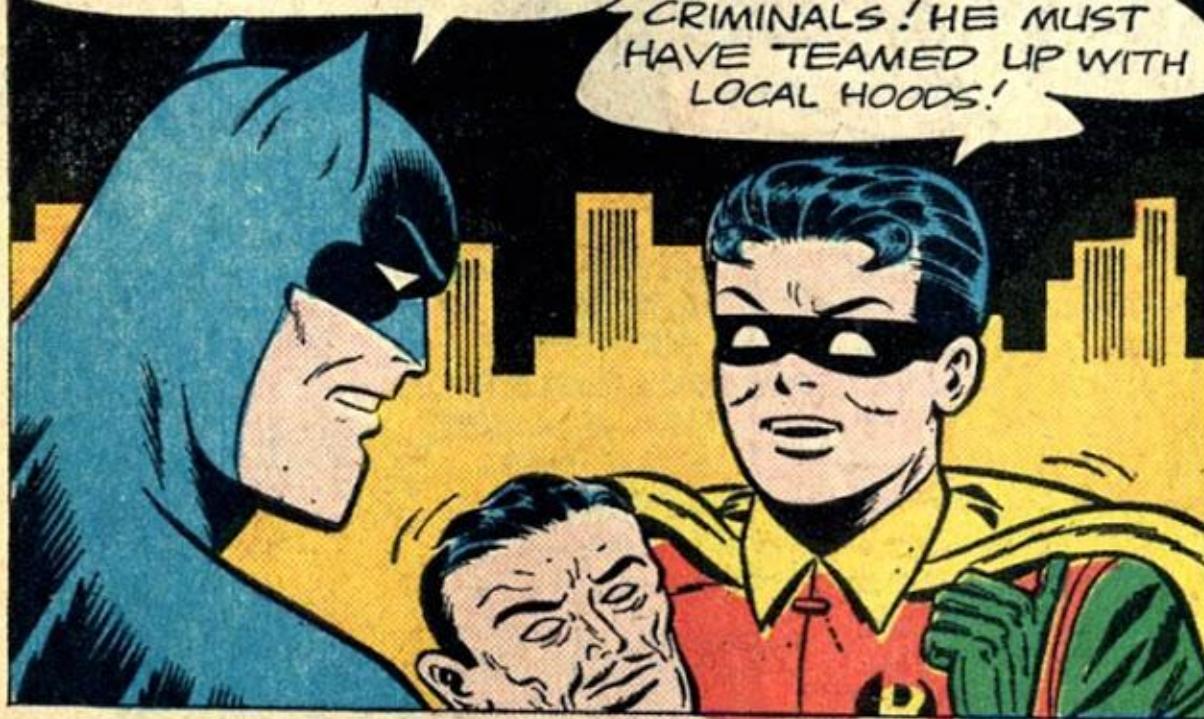


FINALLY, WHEN BATMAN IS NORMAL AGAIN...

THAT ALIEN'S GOING
TO BE REAL TROUBLE!

BUT HIS HENCHMEN
SOUNDED LIKE EARTH
CRIMINALS! HE MUST
HAVE TEAMED UP WITH
LOCAL HOODS!

I KNOW... AND THERE ARE ONLY
TWO GANGS OPERATING IN
GOTHAM RIGHT NOW! I'M GOING
TO CALL THE SUSPECTED
LEADERS IN FOR QUESTIONING!



MEANWHILE, JUBILANT HOODS GATHER
AT A DOWNTOWN HIDEOUT...

GOSH, AN ALIEN MASTERMIND
LEADING MY GANG! WE SURE
WERE LUCKY WHEN YOU WALKED
IN ON US, LIDO!

ULP! W- WHERE DID THAT
COME FROM? IT'S GOTTA BE
A GAG... BUT... BUT NOBODY
KNOWS THIS HIDEOUT! WHO
ARE YOU?



AND JUST HOW DID SUCH A BIZARRE
COMBINE OF CRIMINALS COME TO BE?
LET US TURN TIME BACK SEVERAL DAYS...



BATMAN



BE STILL, EARTHLY! I AM LIDO... COME FROM ANOTHER PLANET TO HELP YOU! FOR I TOO AM A CRIMINAL! COME... FOLLOW ME!

S-SURE... SURE... LIDO...



THE ALIEN FROM ANOTHER WORLD LED THE BEWILDERED TRIO TO A REMOTE WOODS OUTSIDE OF GOTHAM WHERE...

WHILE ESCAPING THE POLICE OF MY PLANET JUST A FEW HOURS AGO, I CRASHED... HERE!

B-BUT HOW'D YOU FIND US... AND WHY?



I CAME UPON THIS DISCARDED NEWSPAPER IN THE WOODS AND KNEW YOU WOULD BE MY ALLY! AS FOR LOCATING YOUR HABITAT...

I PUT YOUR PICTURE IN MY PHOTO FINDER. THE PHOTOGRAPH WAS THUS SYNCHRONIZED WITH YOUR LIVING SELF AND TRANSMITTED A RADIO SIGNAL THAT LED ME TO YOU!

WOW! WHAT A GADGET! MY BOYS COULD DO BIG THINGS WITH THAT!

PRECISELY! WITH MY ADVANCED SPACE DEVICES AND YOUR KNOWLEDGE OF VALUABLES ON THIS PLANET, WE SHALL BECOME AN INVINCIBLE COMBINE!



SUSPECTED GANG BOSS TOD GARRETT VISITS NITE CLUBS



AND THIS WAS CREATED THE INCREDIBLE "GIMMICK GANG"!



THERE IS NO NEED FOR THESE EARTH CLOTHES NOW THAT MY TRUE IDENTITY IS KNOWN! THIS **BATMAN** IS DANGEROUS... BUT NO MATCH FOR ME!



NEXT MORNING, GARRET AND HIS CRIMINAL RIVAL, BART CULLEN, ARE SUMMONED TO COMMISSIONER GORDON'S OFFICE WHERE...

ALIEN BOSS? NEVER HEARD ANYTHING ABOUT HIM! ASK CULLEN-- HE AND HIS BOYS ARE OUTA THIS WORLD, ANYHOW! HA, HA!

CLAM UP, COMMEDIAN! LISTEN, COMMISSIONER-- THE ALIEN'S NEWS TO ME...



BUT I WOULDN'T TALK... EVEN IF I DID KNOW SOMETHING!

THAT'S THE ATTITUDE I EXPECTED FROM YOU TWO! ALL RIGHT, YOU CAN LEAVE -- BUT DON'T THINK YOU'RE FOOLING ANYBODY!

WELL, THOSE RIVAL GANG LEADERS WERE NO HELP! AND WE HAVE NOTHING ON THEM!

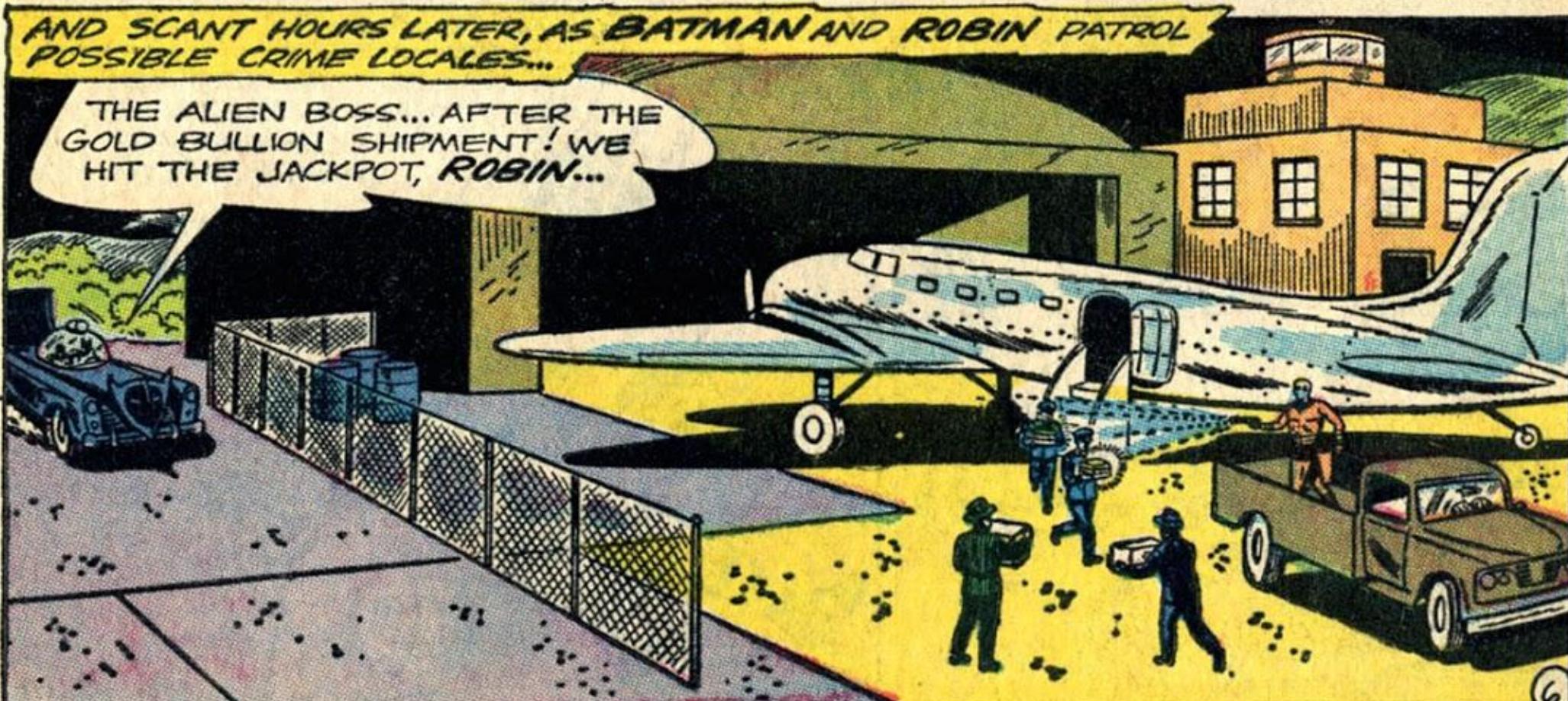
DON'T WORRY, ROBIN!

SOONER OR LATER THE GIMMICK GANG WILL STRIKE AGAIN! AND WE'RE GOING TO BE AROUND WHEN IT DOES!



AND SCANT HOURS LATER, AS BATMAN AND ROBIN PATROL POSSIBLE CRIME LOCALES...

THE ALIEN BOSS... AFTER THE GOLD BULLION SHIPMENT! WE HIT THE JACKPOT, ROBIN...





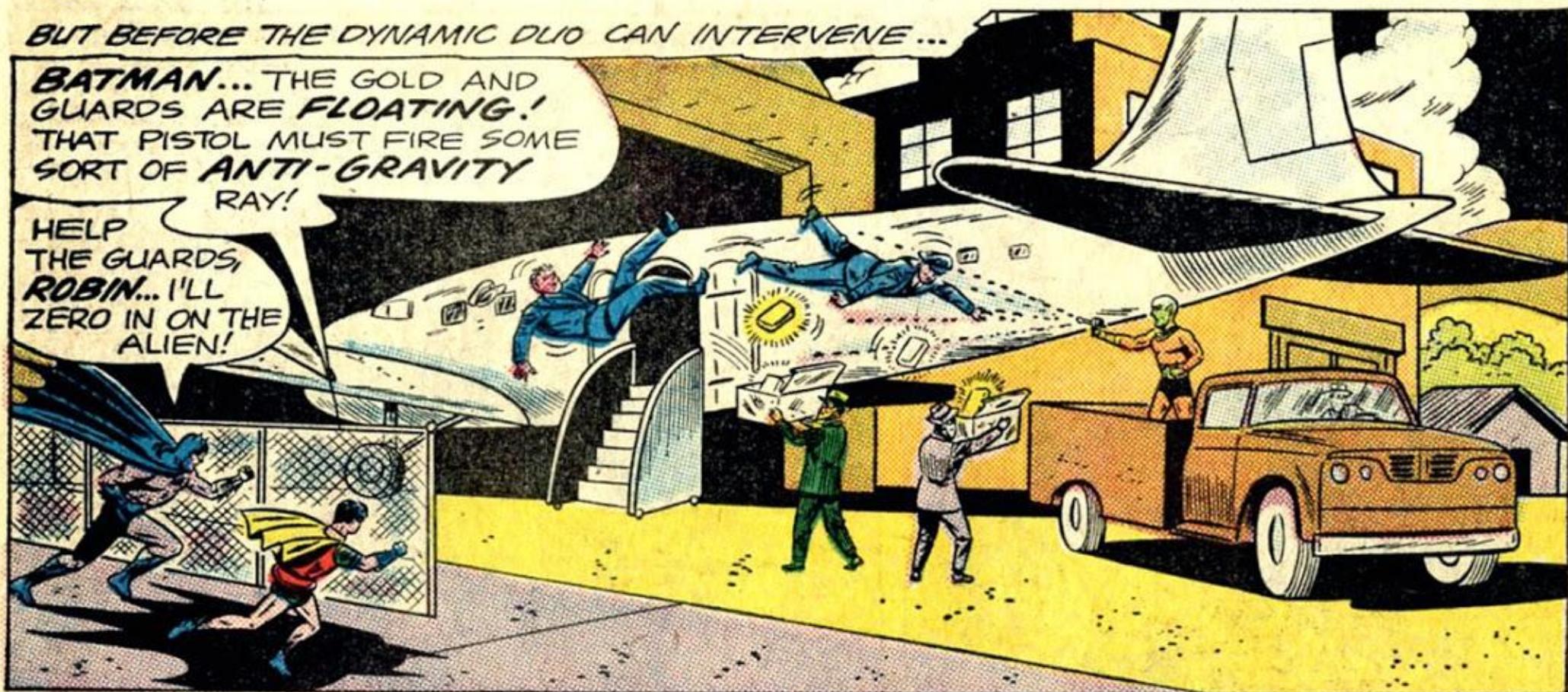
BATMAN



BUT BEFORE THE DYNAMIC DUO CAN INTERVENE...

BATMAN... THE GOLD AND GUARDS ARE **FLOATING!** THAT PISTOL MUST FIRE SOME SORT OF **ANTI-GRAVITY RAY!**

HELP THE GUARDS, **ROBIN...** I'LL ZERO IN ON THE ALIEN!



FRANTICALLY, THE BOY WONDER LEAPS FOR THE TWO FORMS FLOATING IN MID-AIR...

'HA, HA! LET BATMAN'S YOUNG PAL HAVE THE GUARDS... WE'RE GETTING THE GOLD!

ROBIN! I'LL GIVE HIM A DOSE OF MY FLOAT RAY!



SUDDENLY...

GOT TO MOVE NOW... BEFORE HE FIRES AT ROBIN...

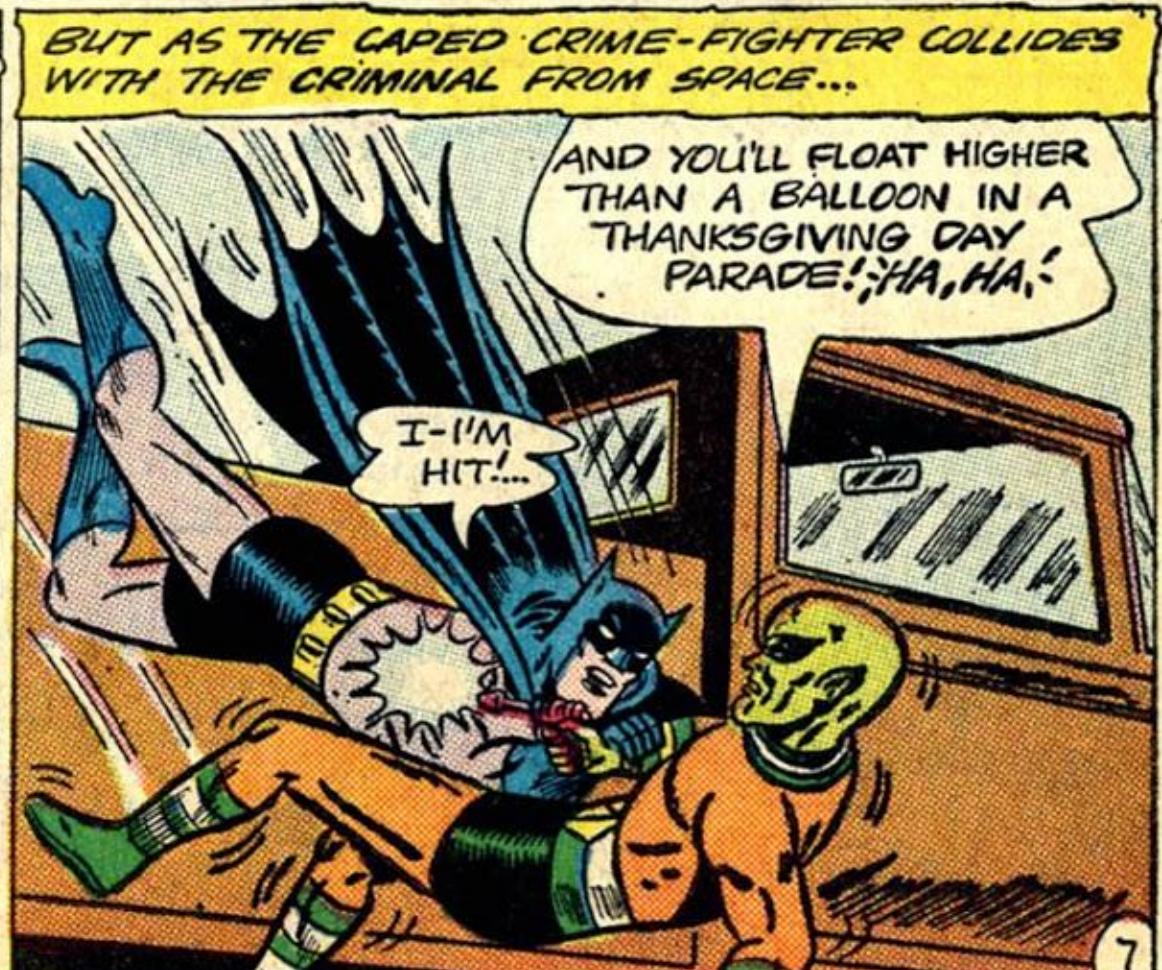
BATMAN!



BUT AS THE CAPED CRIME-FIGHTER COLLIDES WITH THE CRIMINAL FROM SPACE...

AND YOU'LL FLOAT HIGHER THAN A BALLOON IN A THANKSGIVING DAY PARADE! HA, HA!

I-I'M HIT!



BATMAN



LIKE SOME BIZARRE FANTASY IN OUTER SPACE, BODIES BOBBLE HELPLESSLY IN MID-AIR! THEN... TRAGEDY THREATENS...

'HA, HA,' YOU'VE REALLY BLOWN BATMAN SKY-HIGH, BOSS!

A STRONG GUST OF WIND... IF I DON'T SECURE MYSELF I'LL DROP TO CERTAIN DEATH WHEN THE ANTI-GRAVITY RAY WEARS OFF!

THEN, A DEFT TOSS BY THE AIR-BORNE BATMAN, AND...

MADE IT... BUT ROBIN AND I ARE HELPLESS UNTIL THE RAYS' POWER WEARS OFF...



FINALLY, WHEN NORMAL WEIGHT RETURNS TO THE CRIME-FIGHTING TEAM...

YOU DID A GREAT JOB SAVING THOSE GUARDS, ROBIN...

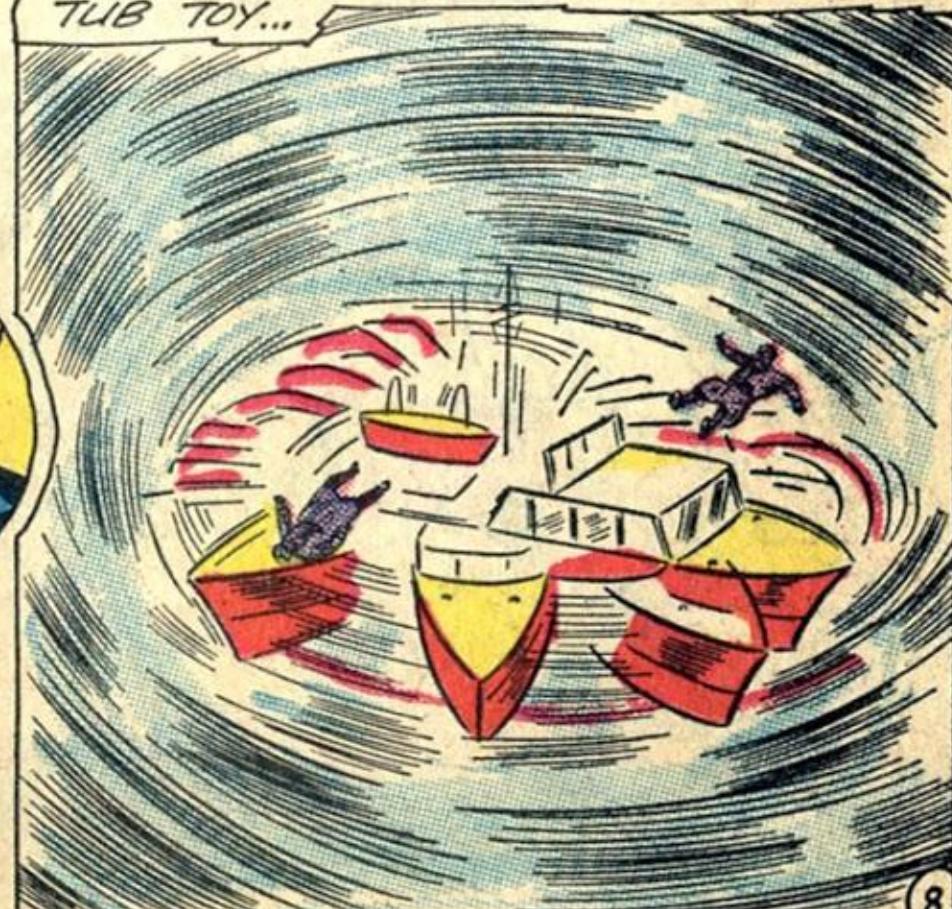
THANKS, BATMAN! BUT, GOSH, THAT ALIEN IS SURE RUNNING RINGS AROUND US WITH HIS SPACE GADGETS! WONDER WHEN WE'LL TANGLE AGAIN?



THE NEXT MORNING IN GOTHAM BAY, ROBIN'S QUESTION IS ABOUT TO BE ANSWERED IN STARTLING FASHION AS...

FASTER, FASTER! SOME MYSTERIOUS FORCE SPINS THE BOAT LIKE A BATH-TUB TOY...

GREAT SCOTT! PRINCE KALI'S ANCHORED CRUISER TWIRLING AS IF CAUGHT IN A 'WHIRLPOOL... GOT TO CALL SHORE!'





BATMAN



WHILE BELOW...

THAT DOES IT--THE GUARDS HAVE BEEN SPLUN OFF THE BOAT! NOW, WE'LL BOARD AND SEIZE THE PRINCE'S JEWEL COLLECTION!



MINUTES LATER, AS THE DYNAMIC DUO RESPONDS TO A STARTLING REPORT...

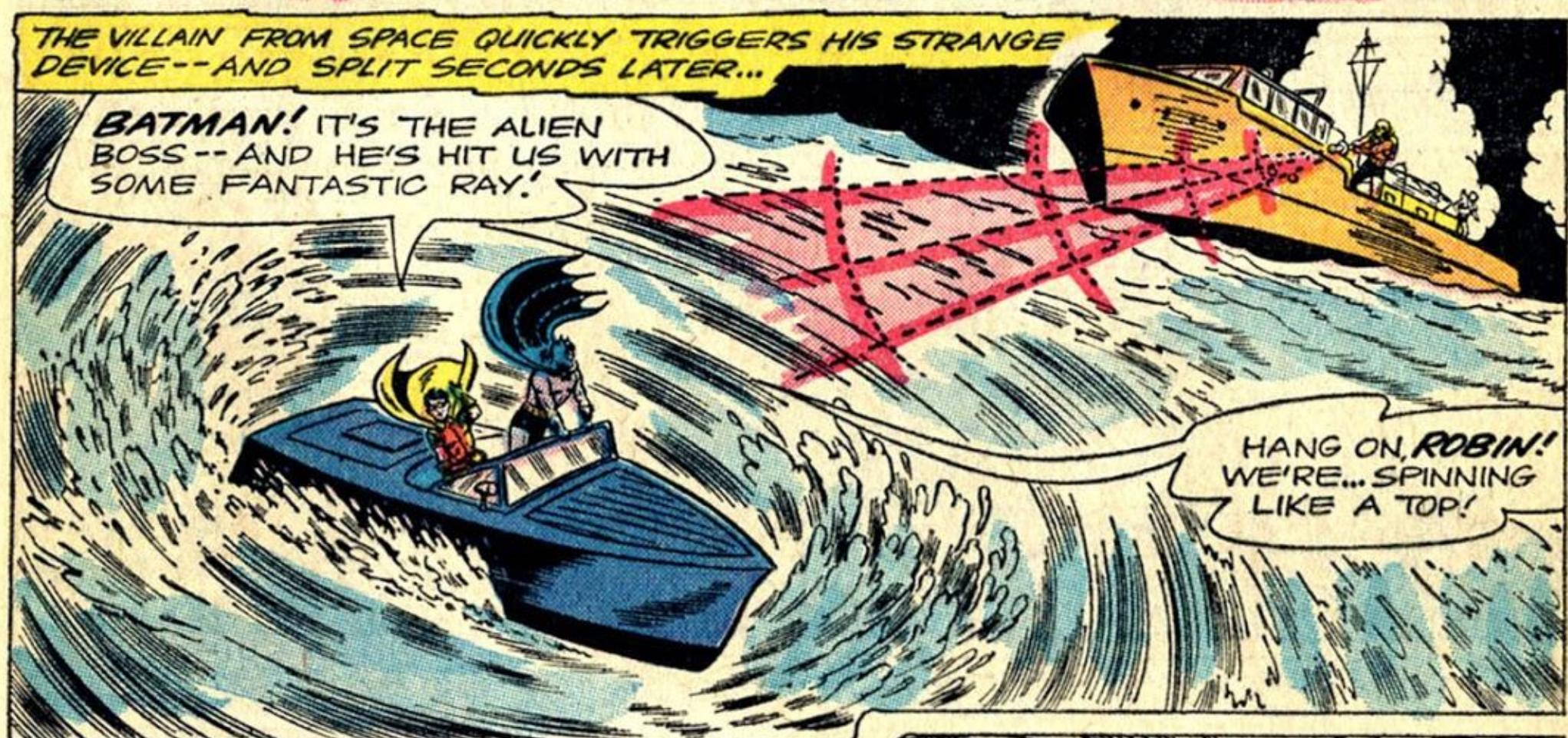
NO SIGN OF ANY WHIRLPOOL, BATMAN! AND THE PRINCE'S CRUISER SEEMS OKAY... BUT THOSE MEN IN THE WATER LOOK LIKE GUARDS!

THE EARTHLING CRIME-FIGHTERS AGAIN! MY WHIRL-RAY WILL SINK THEIR HOPES...



THE VILLAIN FROM SPACE QUICKLY TRIGGERS HIS STRANGE DEVICE--AND SPLIT SECONDS LATER...

BATMAN! IT'S THE ALIEN BOSS--AND HE'S HIT US WITH SOME FANTASTIC RAY!

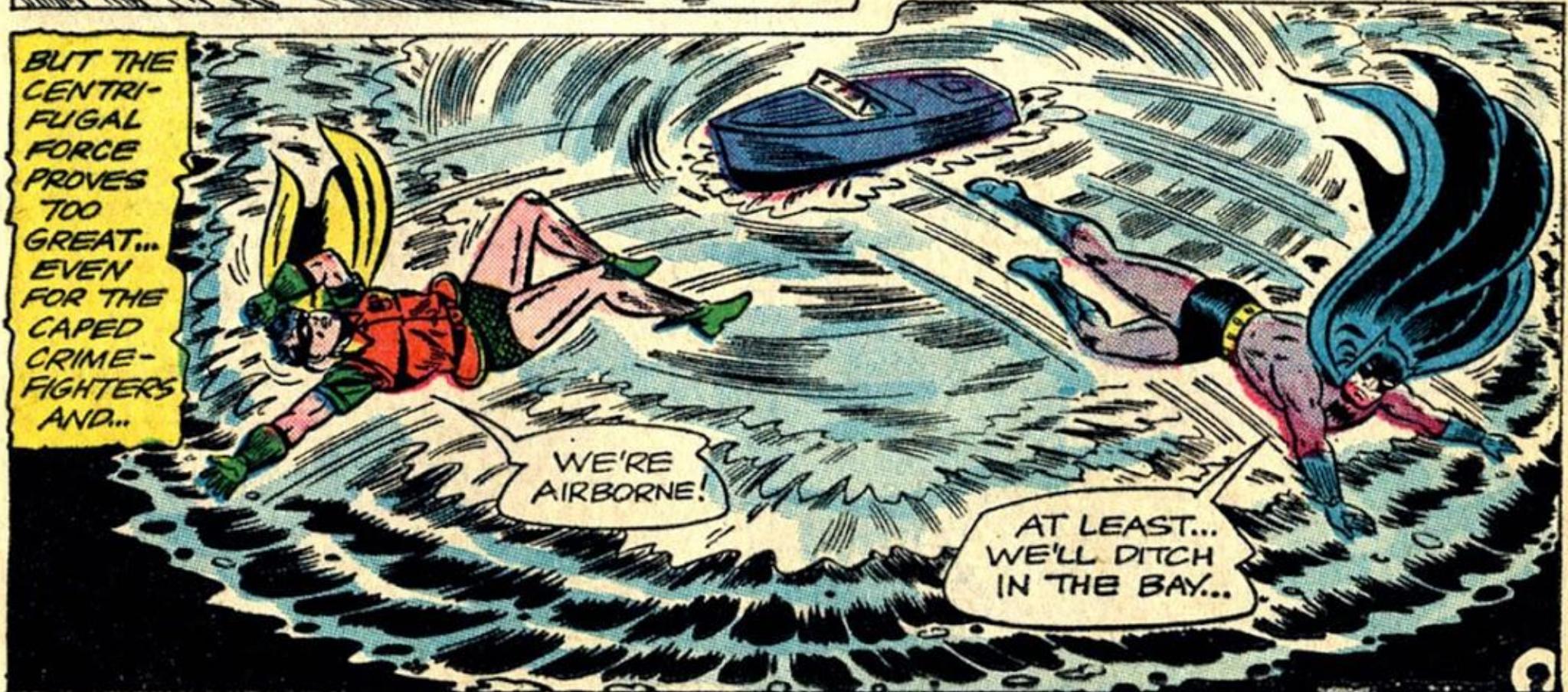


HANG ON, ROBIN! WE'RE... SPINNING LIKE A TOP!

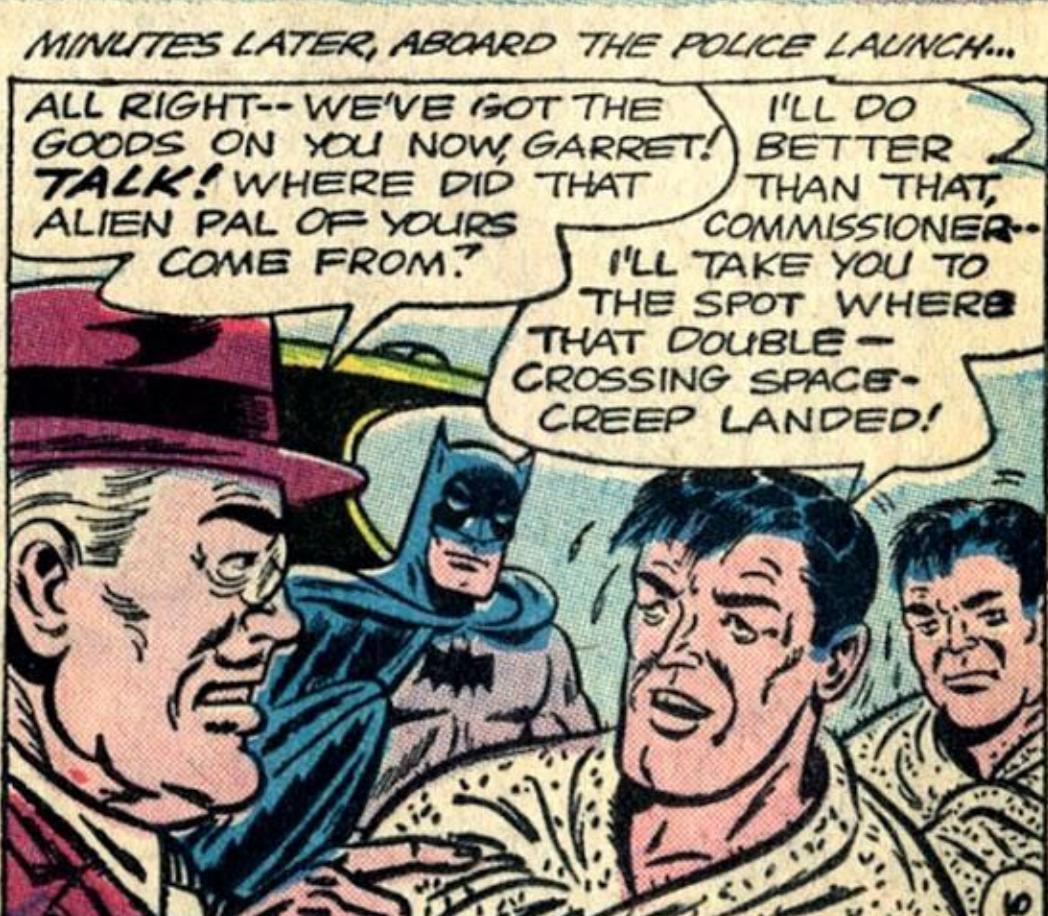
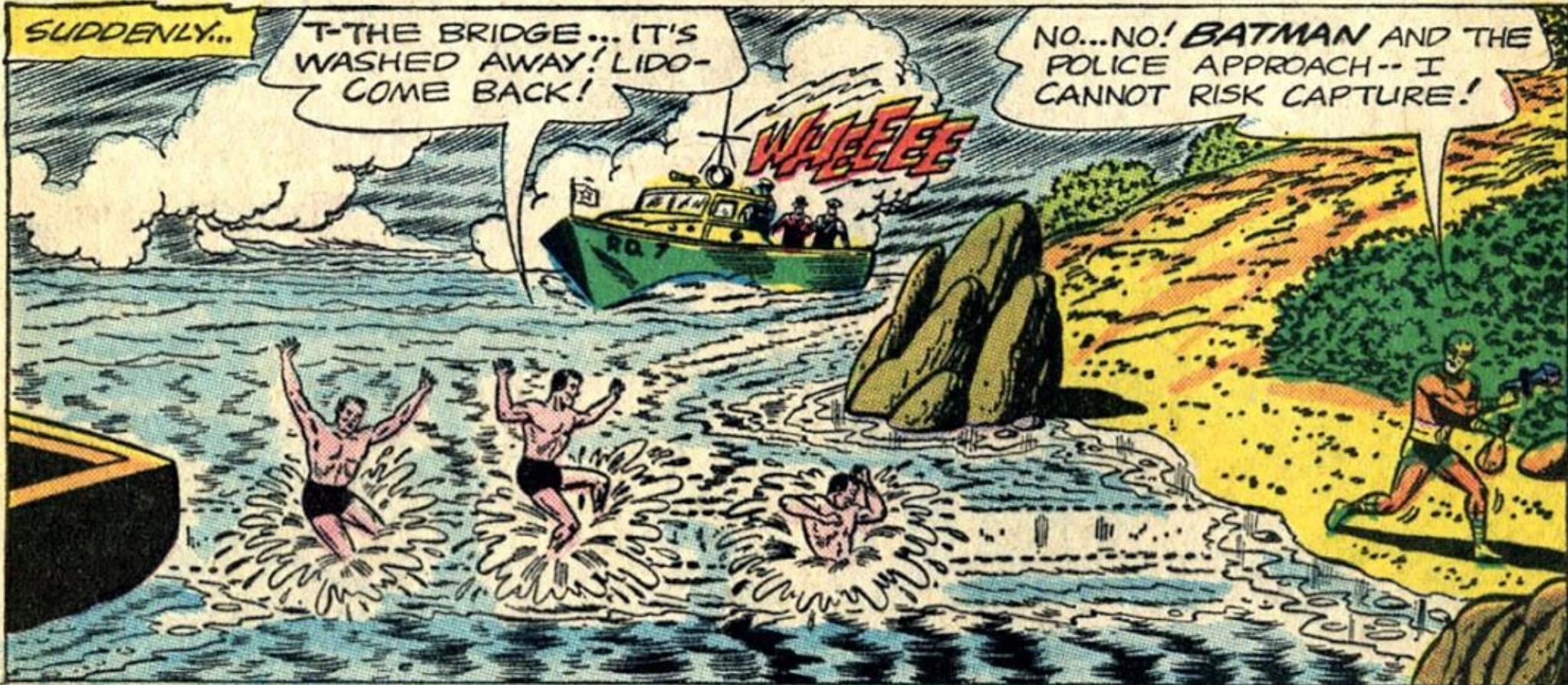
BUT THE CENTRIFUGAL FORCE PROVES TOO GREAT... EVEN FOR THE CAPED CRIME-FIGHTERS AND...

WE'RE AIRBORNE!

AT LEAST... WE'LL DITCH IN THE BAY...



AND WHEN THE DYNAMIC DUO SURFACES...





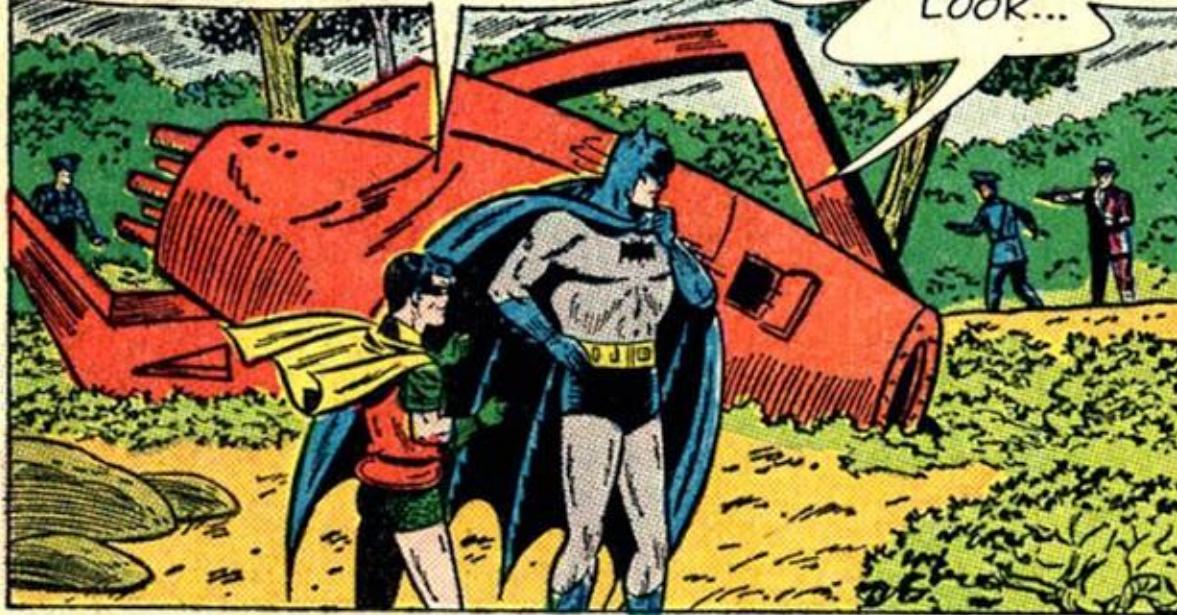
BATMAN



AND LESS THAN AN HOUR LATER...

WELL... AT LEAST WE KNOW HOW OUR ALIEN BOSS GOT HERE! AND AFTER HE CRASH-LANDED, HE TOOK ALL HIS EQUIPMENT WITH HIM!

YES... AND NO TRACE OF A CLUE, ROBIN! HMM... THERE SEEMS TO BE A SECTION OF THE SHIP MISSING! LOOK...



IT... LOOKS AS IF ANOTHER UNIT OF THE SHIP WAS ATTACHED, BATMAN! COULD IT HAVE BEEN AN ESCAPE CAPSULE OF SOME KIND...?

APPARENTLY! AND IF THAT IS TRUE... ROBIN, A NUMBER OF THINGS ARE BEGINNING TO MAKE SENSE TO ME NOW! LISTEN...



THAT NIGHT, AT GANG BOSS CULLEN'S HOME...

H-HUH...? AN ALIEN!

INDEED, EARTHLING--THE SAME ALIEN YOU IMPERSONATED TO BECOME THE ALIEN BOSS OF GOTHAM CITY!



WHEN YOU CAME UPON MY SPACESHIP, YOU STOLE MY DEVICES AND FLED! YOU DIDN'T KNOW THAT I WAS NEARBY... WOUNDED AND OBSERVING YOU!

T-THAT'S RIGHT! I WOULDN'T HAVE TAKEN THE DEVICES IF I'D KNOWN YOU WERE THERE AND ALIVE--HONEST!



LIAR! I HAD TO WAIT UNTIL MY WOUNDS HEALED BEFORE I COULD APPROACH YOU! NOW, YOU WILL PAY FOR YOUR DECEIT!

PLEASE... WAIT! WE CAN WORK THIS OUT! I'LL TAKE YOU IN AS A PARTNER... SHARE EVERYTHING I MANAGED TO ROB WHILE IMPERSONATING YOU!



SEE... ALL THE LOOT'S HERE! AND HALF OF IT'S YOURS-- JUST COME AND GET IT...



SHORTLY, CULLEN WHIRLS--BUT AS HE DOES SO... THE ALIEN--

W-WHA... ROBIN!

AND JUST IN TIME TO STOP YOU FROM DOUBLE-CROSSING MY PARTNER, CULLEN! OKAY, BATMAN!...

BATMAN IN DISGUISE! I'VE BEEN TRICKED INTO A CONFESSION...

REVEALING THE STASHED LOOT! BUT... HOW DID YOU GET ONTO ME?

WHEN I SUSPECTED THE REAL ALIEN MIGHT HAVE ABANDONED THE SPACESHIP IN AN ESCAPE CAPSULE BEFORE IT REACHED EARTH, I FIGURED A HUMAN WAS IMPERSONATING HIM!



I WAS SURE WHEN I RECALLED A REMARK YOU MADE AT THE AIRPORT ABOUT US FLOATING "HIGHER THAN A BALLOON IN A THANKSGIVING DAY PARADE!"

NO ONE BUT AN EARTHTMAN WOULD HAVE BEEN FAMILIAR WITH THAT!

AND WHEN I SPOTTED YOU DELIBERATELY DESTROYING THAT LIQUID BRIDGE TO BRING ABOUT THE GARRET GANG'S CAPTURE, I KNEW IT HAD TO BE AN ARCH-ENEMY OF HIS!

THAT ADDED UP TO ONE MAN-- YOU, CULLEN, HIS CHIEF RIVAL!



12

THE END

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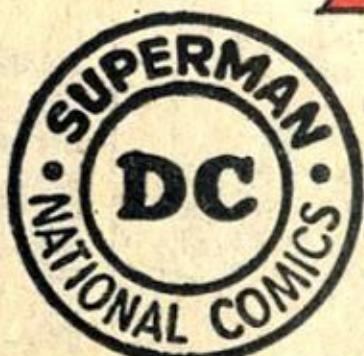
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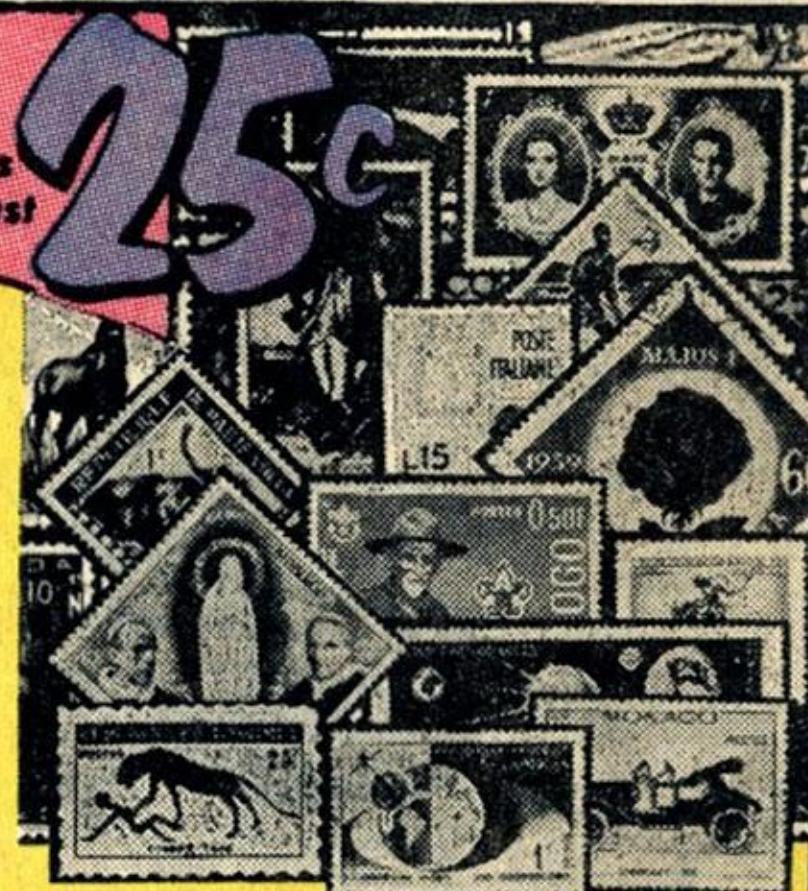
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INTERCHANGEABLE BATTLE EQUIPMENT...

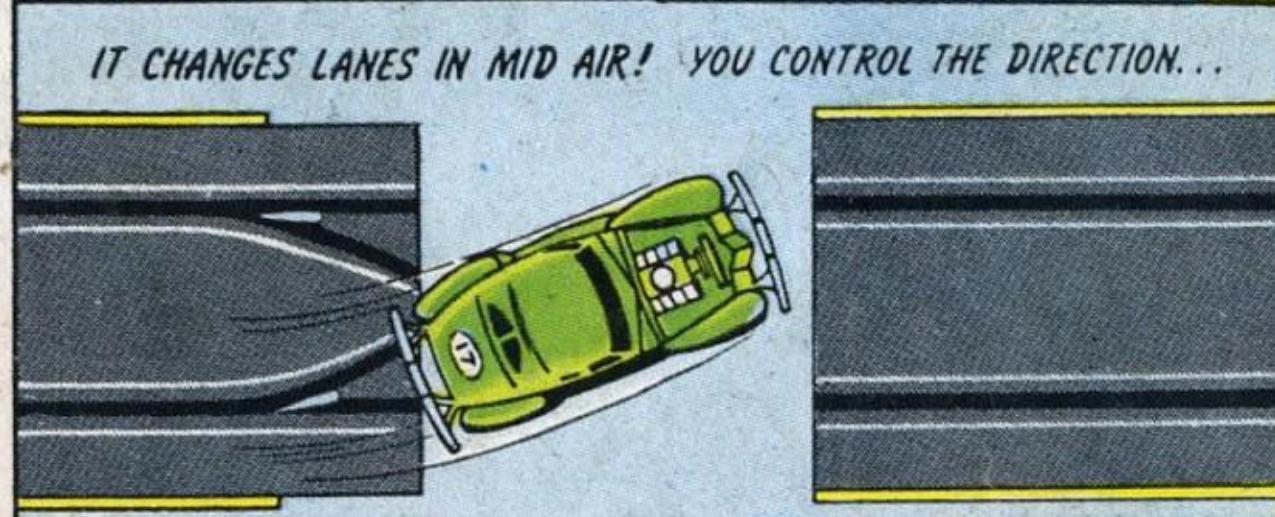
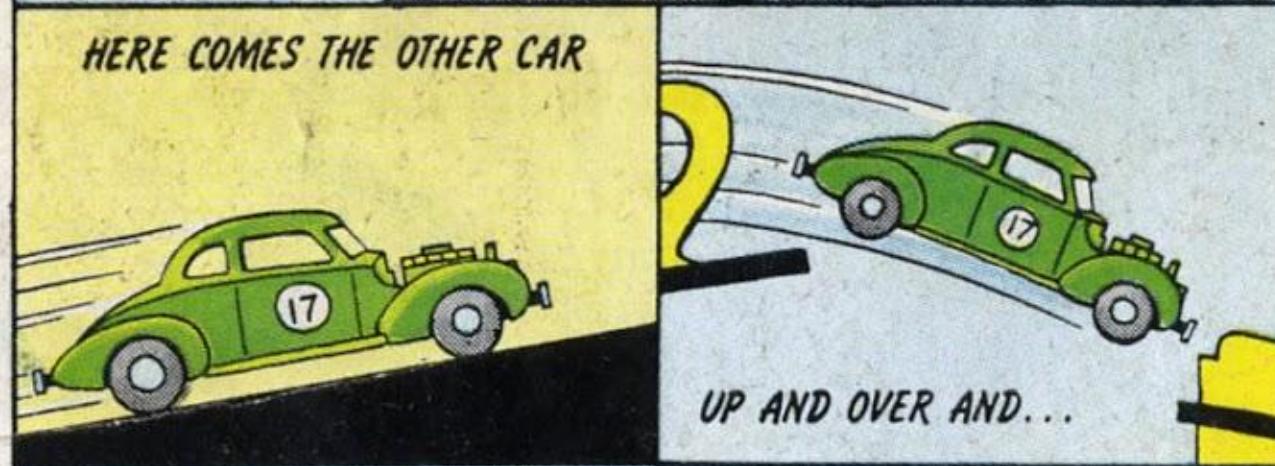
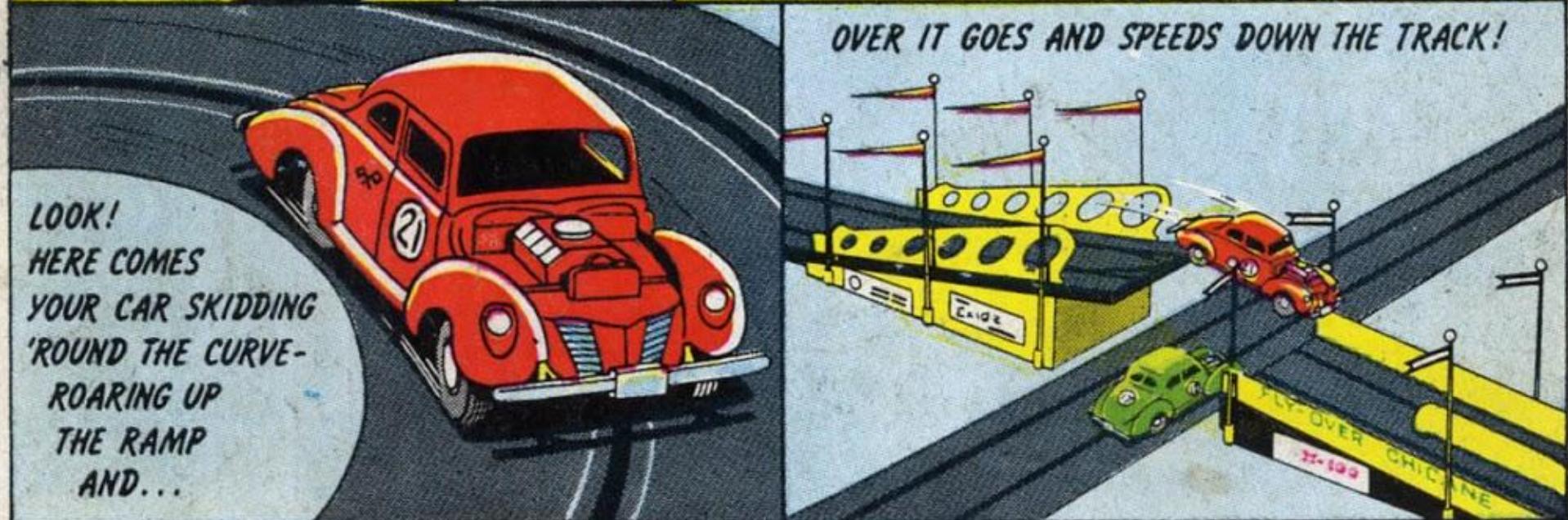
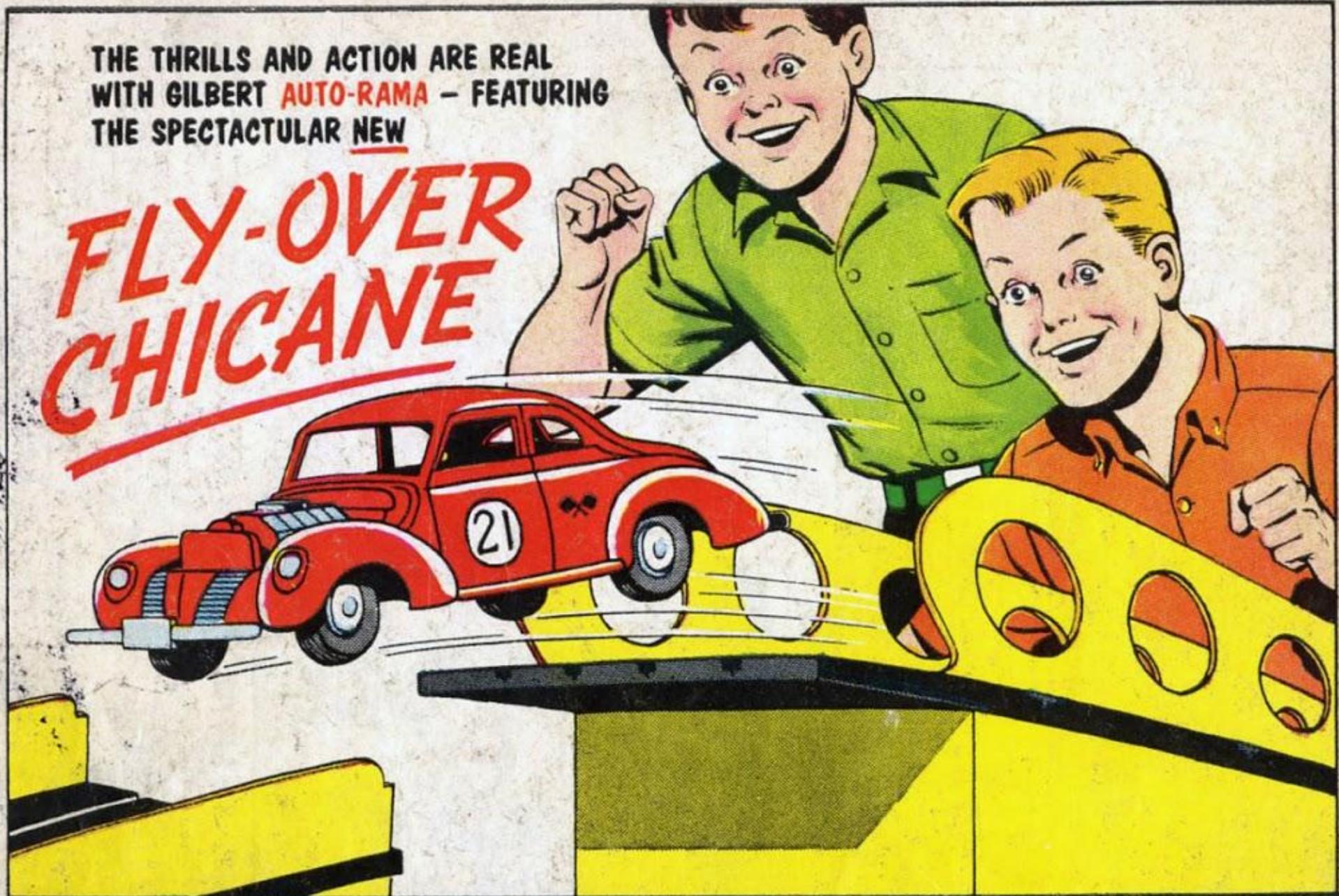
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