



GODS OF GOTHAM: 2 OF 4

WONDER WOMAN

165
FEB 01

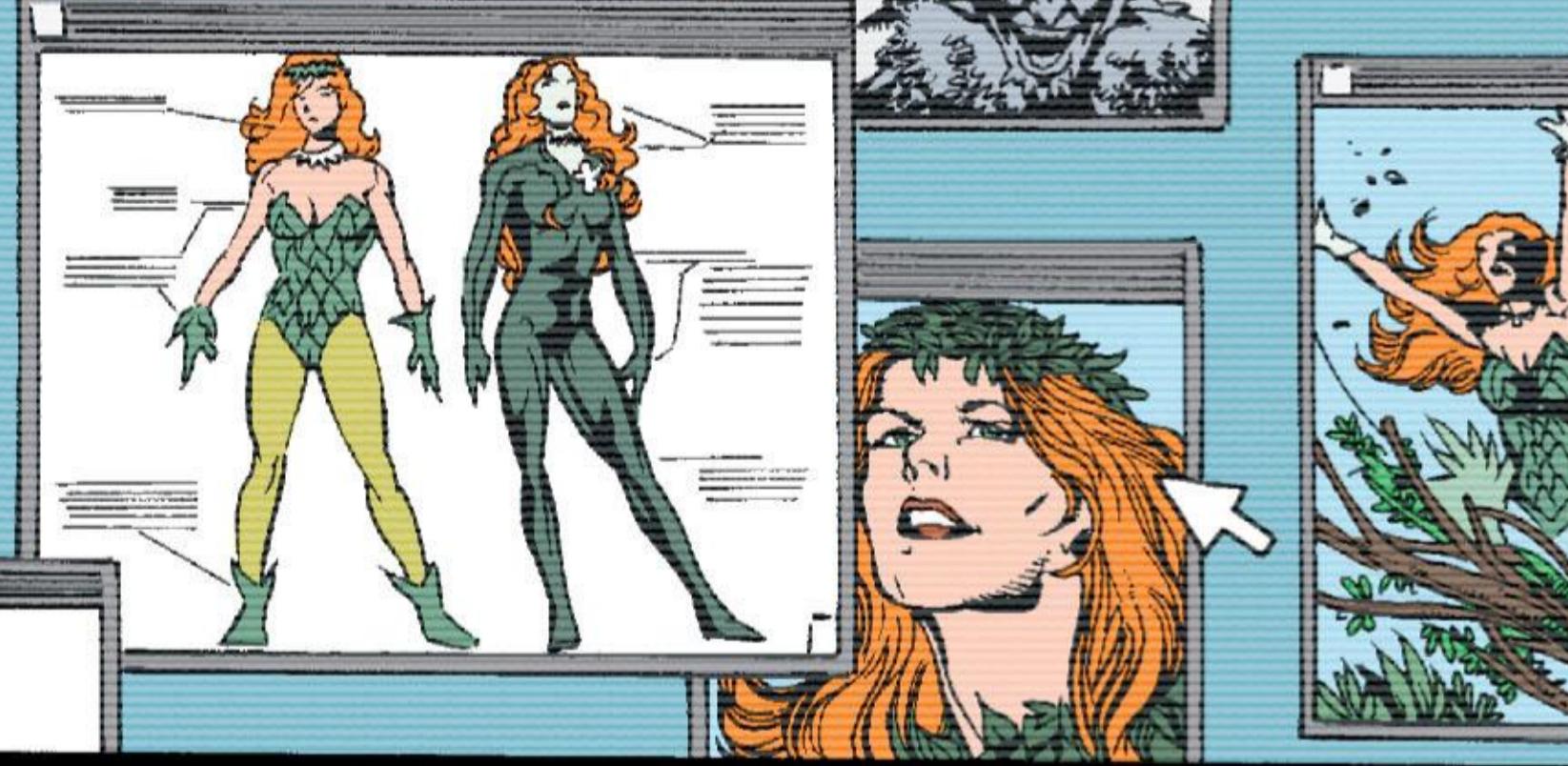
APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY



AH!

JIMENEZ
DEMATTEIS
LANNING

--THE SCIENTIFIC EXPERIMENTS OF JASON WOODRUE TRANSFORMED HER INTO POISON IVY, THE ELEMENTAL NEMESIS OF--



"...TWAS THE JEALOUS MISCHIEF OF ERIS THAT SPARKED THE FIRES OF THE GREAT TROJAN WAR, WHERE WARRIORS SUCCUMBED TO THE GODDESS OF DISCORD, AND GAVE HER POWER..."



HOW DELICIOUS THE STRIFE! HOW DELECTABLE THE CONFLICT!

MY GOLDEN APPLE HAS DONE ITS WORK WELL!



--USING HIS PSYCHOLOGICAL EXPERTISE FOR CRIMINAL GAIN, THE SCARECROW CONTINUES TO RELY HEAVILY ON HIS PHOBIA-INDUCING FEAR GAS--



"...SOON AFTER, STRIFE'S BROTHER PHOBOS 'TWOULD DANCE UPON THE ANCIENT BATTLEFIELDS OF EARTH, SOWING PANIC IN HIS WAKE, FOR HE WAS THE GOD OF FEAR..."

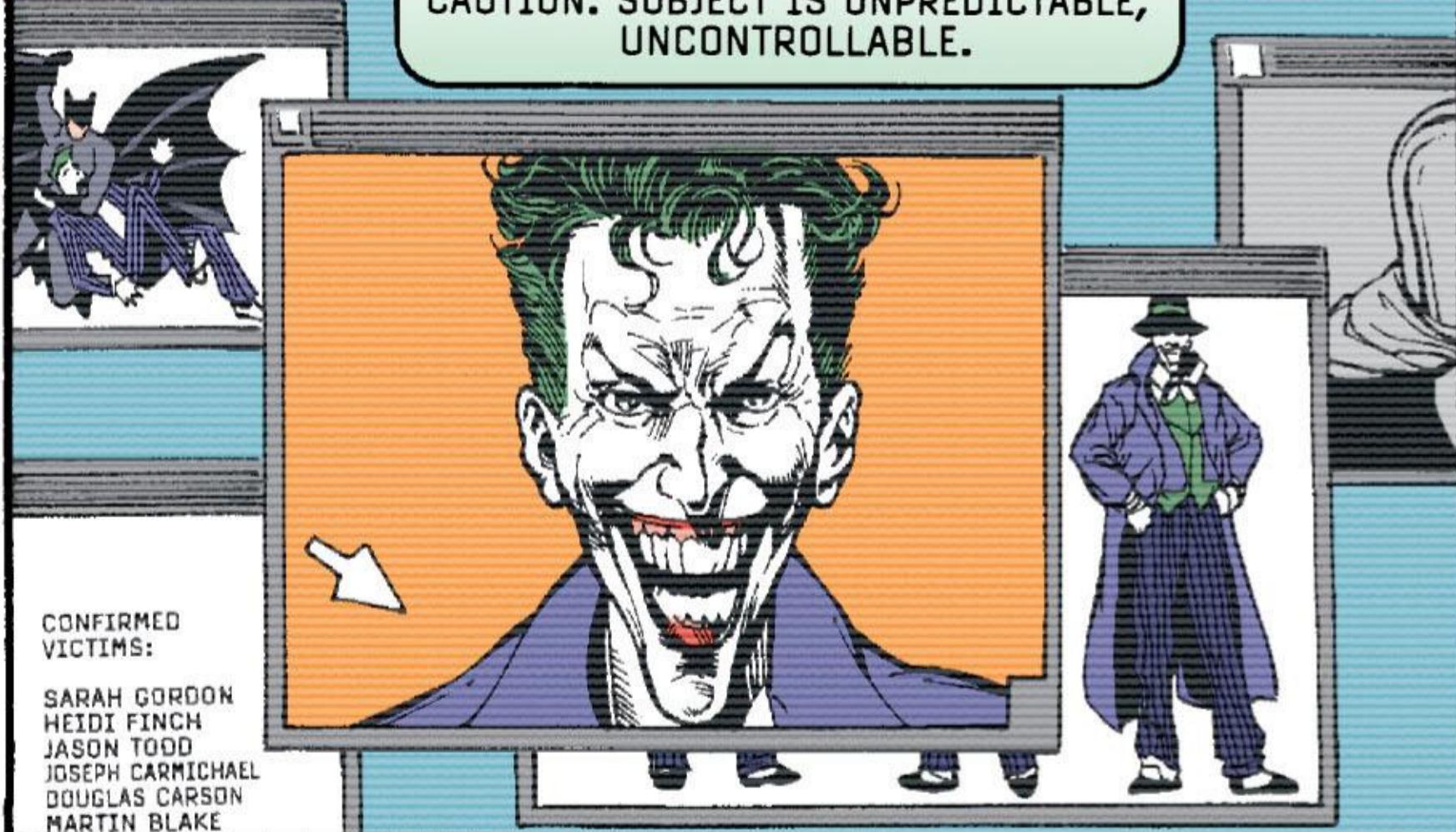


INDEED, SISTER! IT SEEMS THAT ALL MY EFFORTS TO FREE YOU --

-- AND OUR DEAR BROTHER FROM THE PITS OF THE DEATH-REALM, TARTARUS, HAVE BEEN WELL WORTH IT!

...BECAME THE HOMICIDAL MANIAC THE JOKER. HE HAS SINCE GONE ON TO MURDER HUNDREDS OF INNOCENTS IN THE PAST SEVERAL YEARS.

WARNING: HANDLE WITH EXTREME CAUTION. SUBJECT IS UNPREDICTABLE, UNCONTROLLABLE.



"...AND WOE BE TO THE VICTIMS OF CUNNING DEIMOS, FAVORITE CHILD OF ARES, GOD OF WAR, TILL HE WAS SLAIN BY THE MIGHTY PRINCESS OF AN AMAZON NATION, HIS REIGN AS THE GOD OF TERROR FOREVER ENDED..."



GOTHAM CITY:
BARBARA
GORDON,
ORACLE.

OH MY
GOD.
BRUCE...



PARADISE
ISLAND:
THE ORACLE,
PENELOPE.

GAEA
HELP US.
DIANA!



HOW ODD... HOW EXHILARATING...
TO HAVE **FUSED** OUR GODLY
ENERGIES WITH THE BODIES OF
THESE MORTAL CRIMINALS! AND
HOW **MARVELOUS** TO USE
THEIR SKILLS AND OUR
POWER...

...TO
DESTROY
THE TWO OF
YOU!

MY DEAR BATMAN! THE MORTAL
HOST I INHABIT IS **SQUEALING**
WITH DELIGHT AT THE SIGHT
OF YOU WRITHING AND
HELPLESS!

Oh, THE
TERRIBLE THINGS
THE JOKER WANTS
TO DO TO YOU!
AND HE **WILL**...
WHEN HIS TIME
COMES!

BUT DEIMOS
IS FAR MORE
INTERESTED IN
YOU, WONDER
WOMAN!

AFTER ALL
IT WAS YOU WHO
BEHEADED ME... SENT
MY SHADE SCREAMING TO
TARTARUS AND BITTER
JUDGMENT BEFORE
MINOS AND
AECUS...

...AND I
INTEND TO
RETURN THE
FAVOR!

BUT OF COURSE IT'S NOT MERE REVENGE THAT REMAINS OUR GOAL.
NO! WE THREE HAVE TAKEN THESE FORMS AND DESCENDED TO THIS CITY...

...IN ORDER TO TRANSFORM IT... IN OUR FATHER'S NAME!

"GOTHAM CITY WILL BE HIS EARTHLY CAPITAL -- HIS AREOPAGUS, WHICH REBUILDS ITSELF FROM THE REMAINS OF THE ORIGINAL, DRAWN FROM THE FARDEST REACHES OF OLYMPUS TO HERE, TO THIS PLANE BETWEEN WORLDS!"

"AND FROM THIS PLACE GREAT ARES AND HIS CHILDREN WILL SPREAD VIOLENCE AND RAGE, MADNESS AND WAR --

--ACROSS THE FACE OF THIS PLANET!"

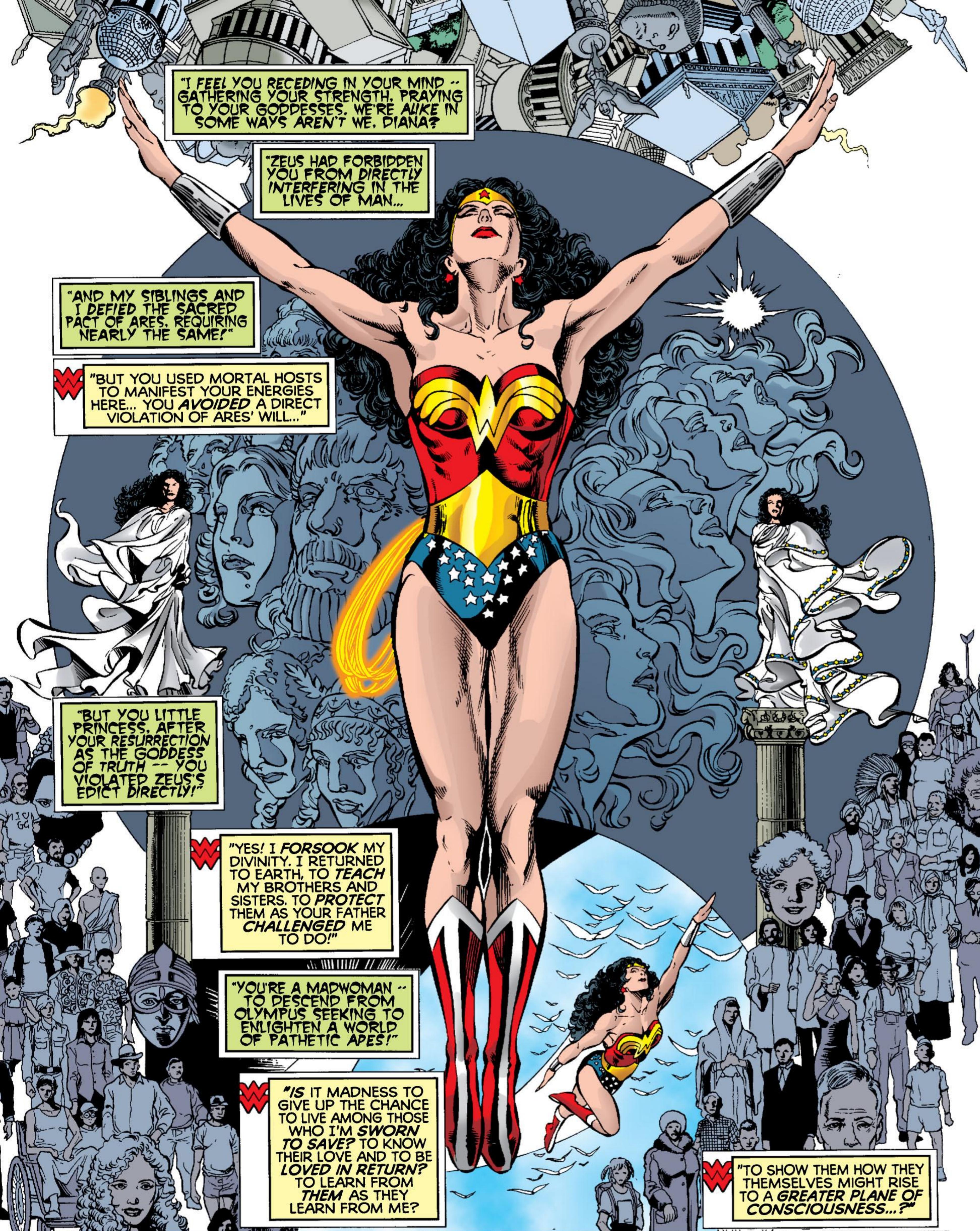


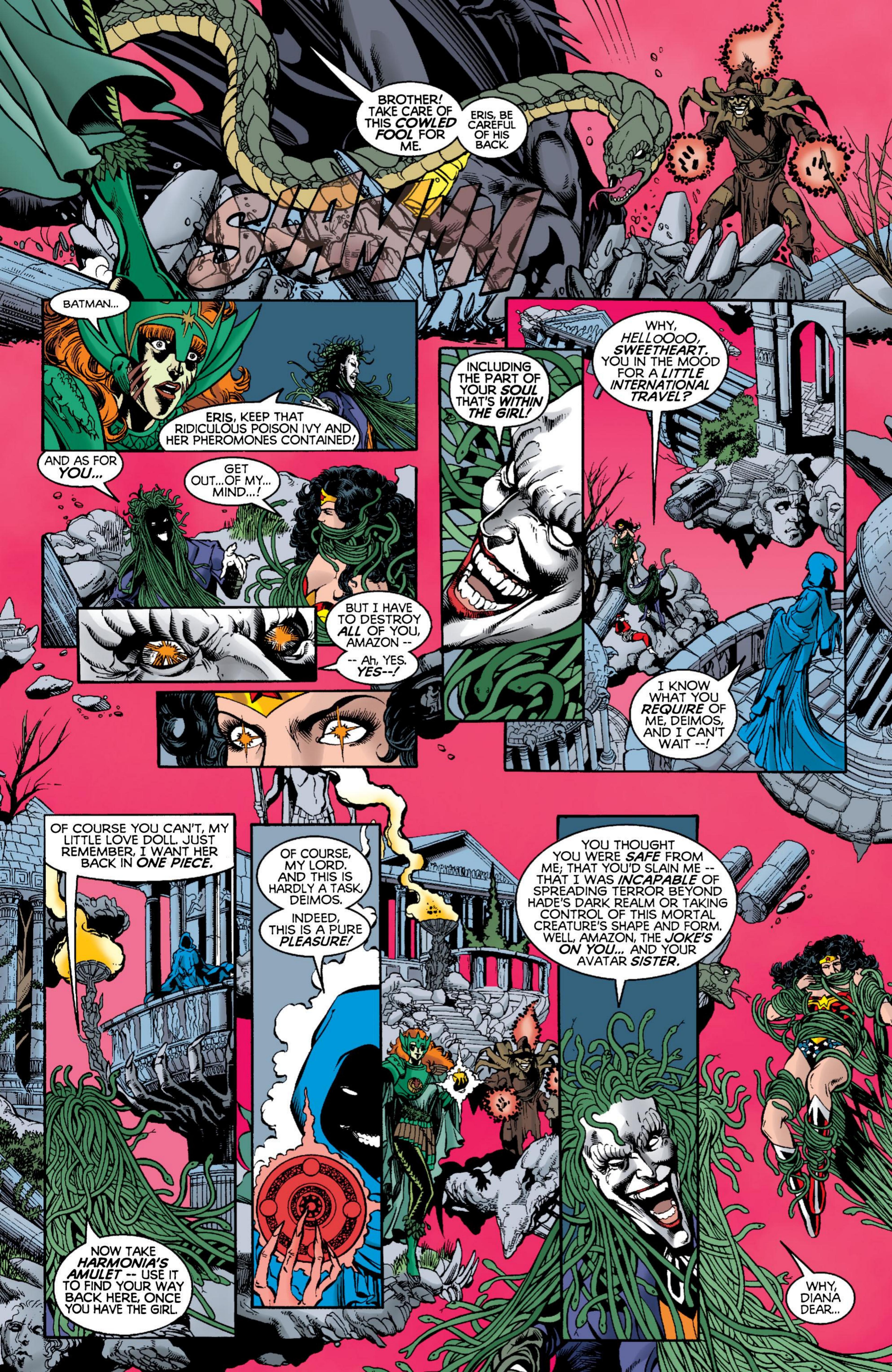
I SEE YOUR EYES, SWEET PRINCESS, ASKING THE SAME QUESTION THEY ALWAYS ASK: WHY?

AND I GIVE YOU THE SAME ANSWER I ALWAYS GIVE:

BECAUSE THAT IS WHAT WE WERE BORN TO DO!







...YOU'RE
NOT
LAUGHING.

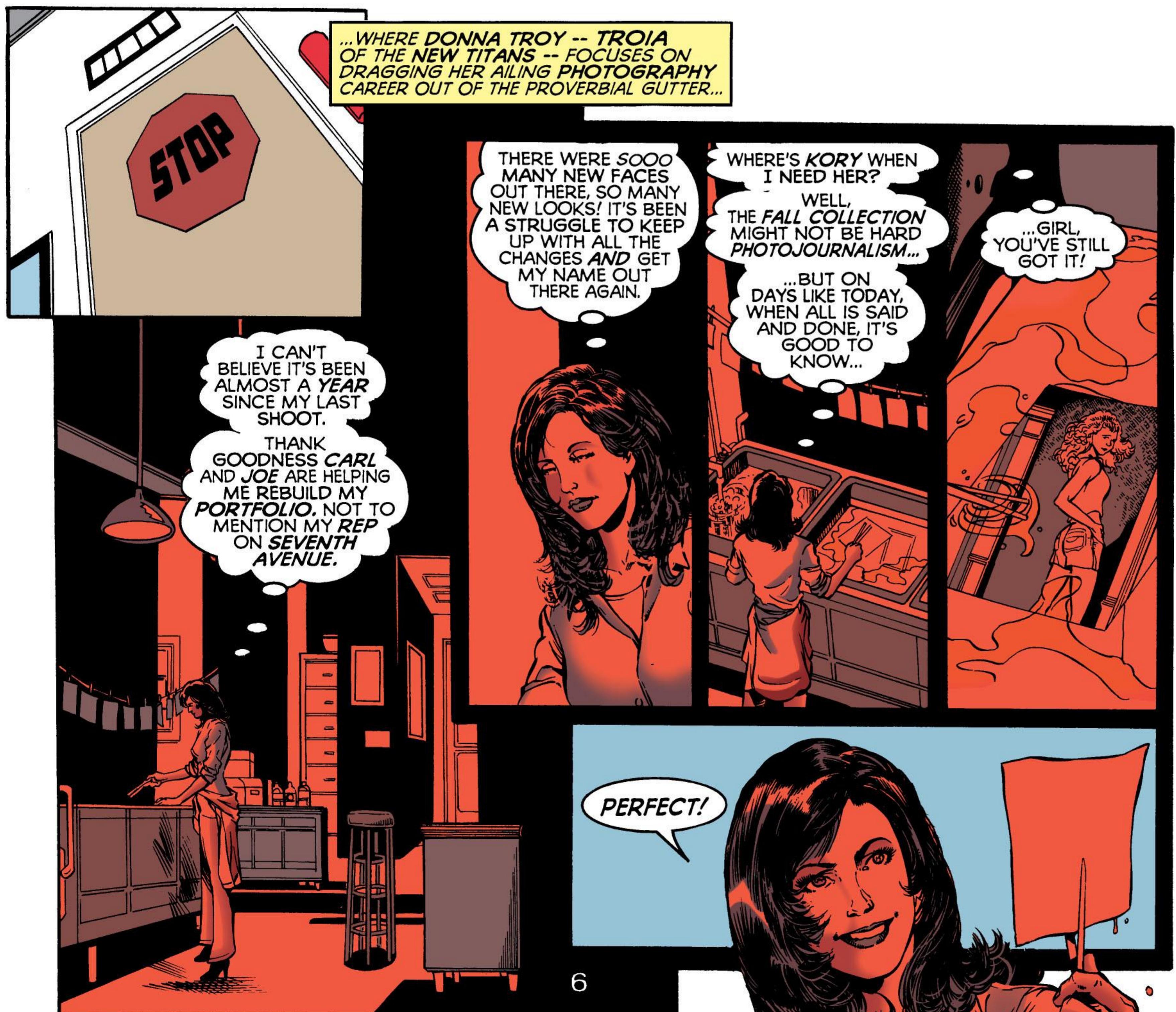
WONDER WOMAN

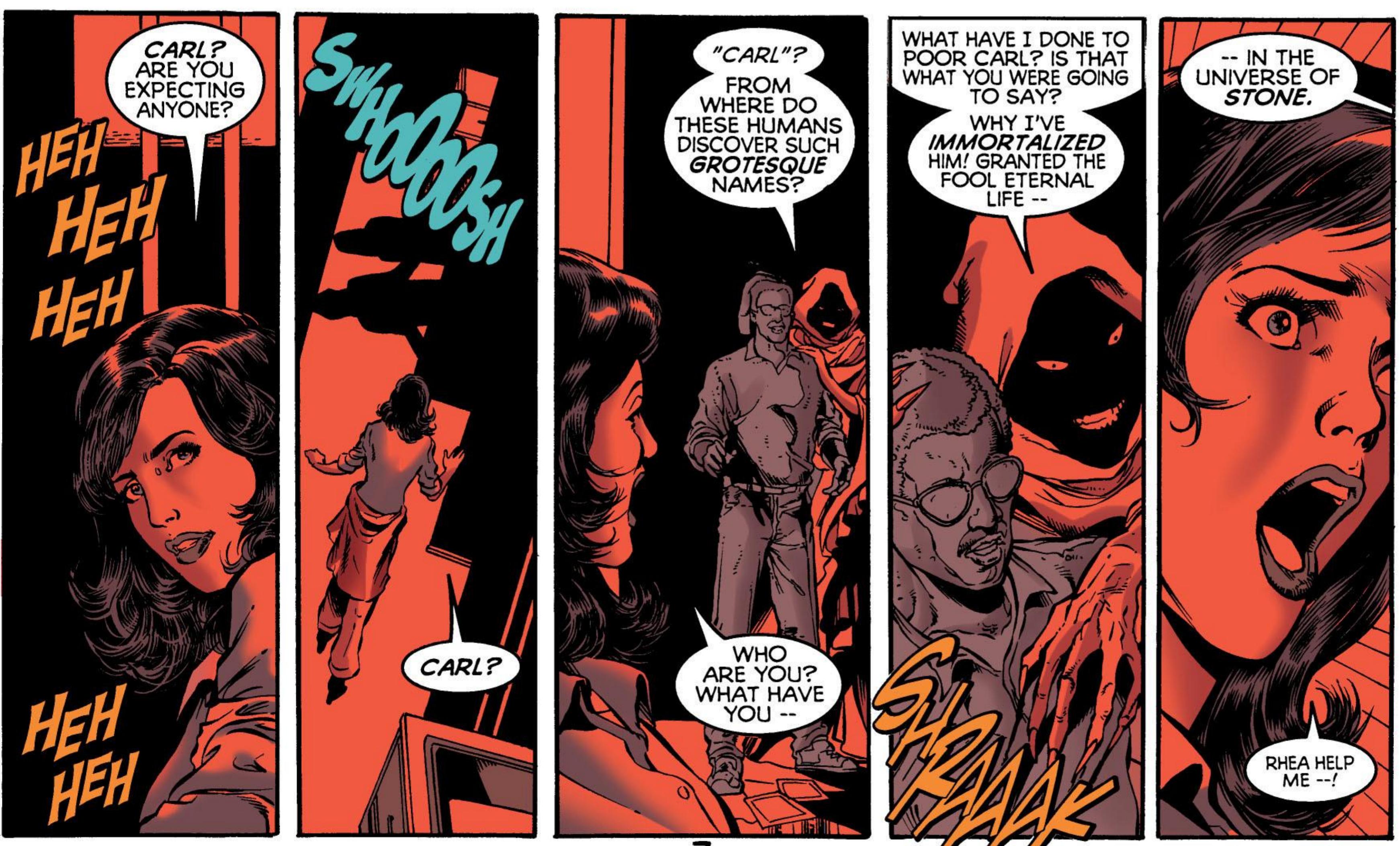
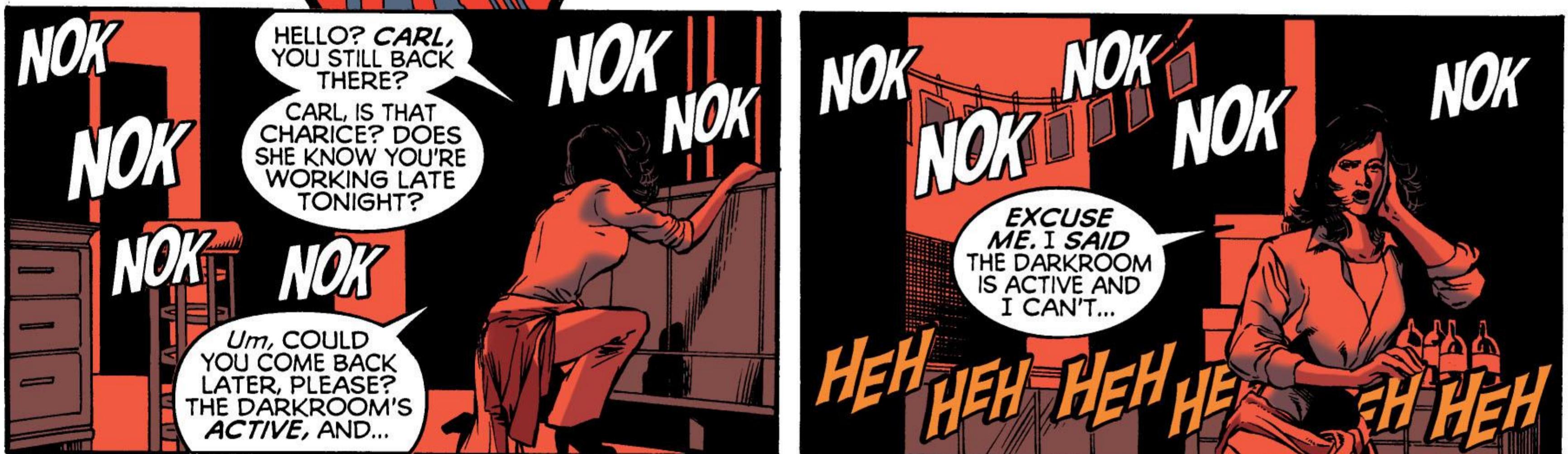
PART 2

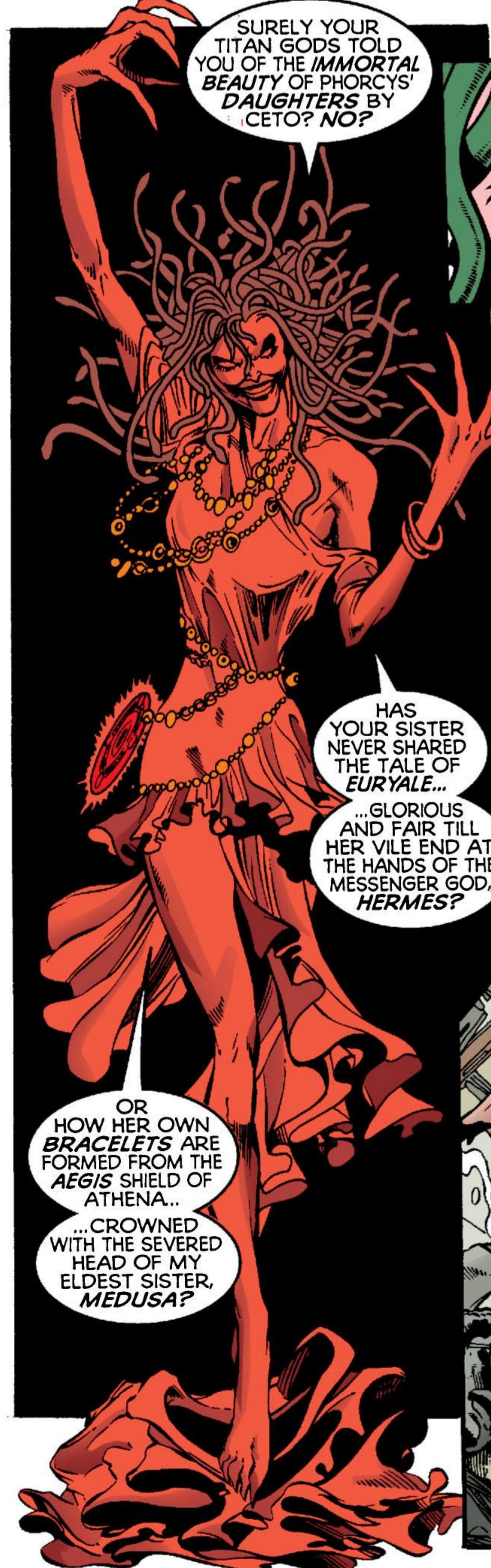
Gods of Gotham

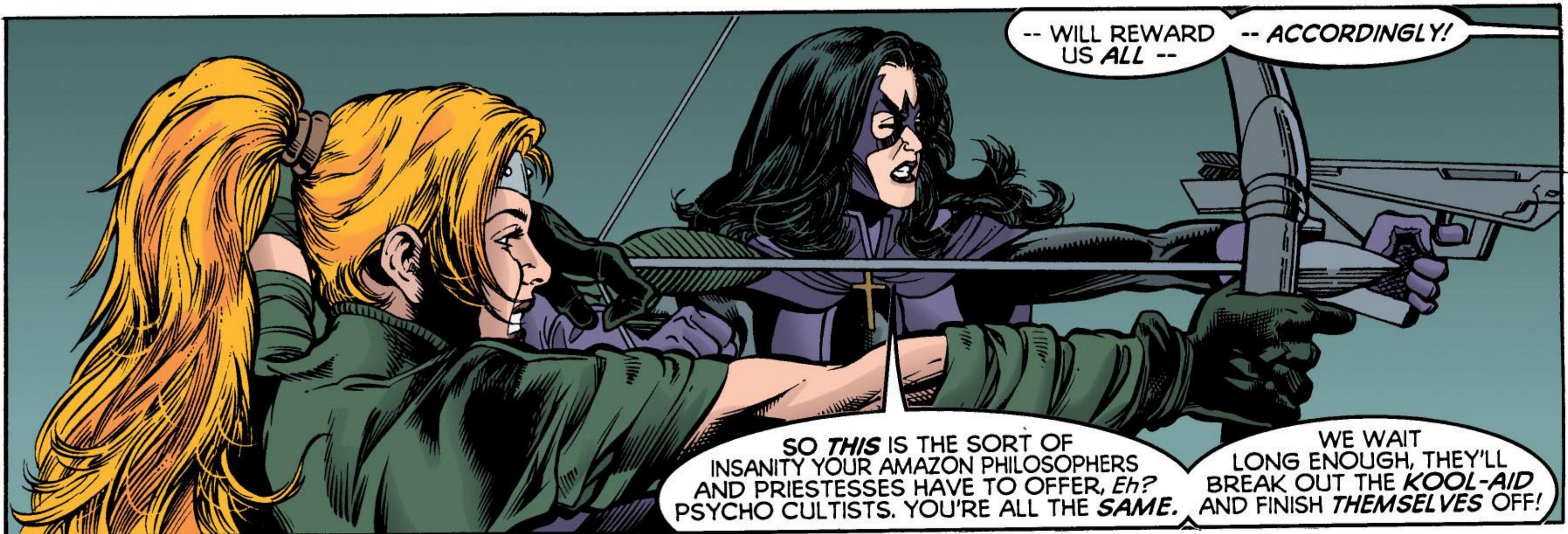
AVATARS

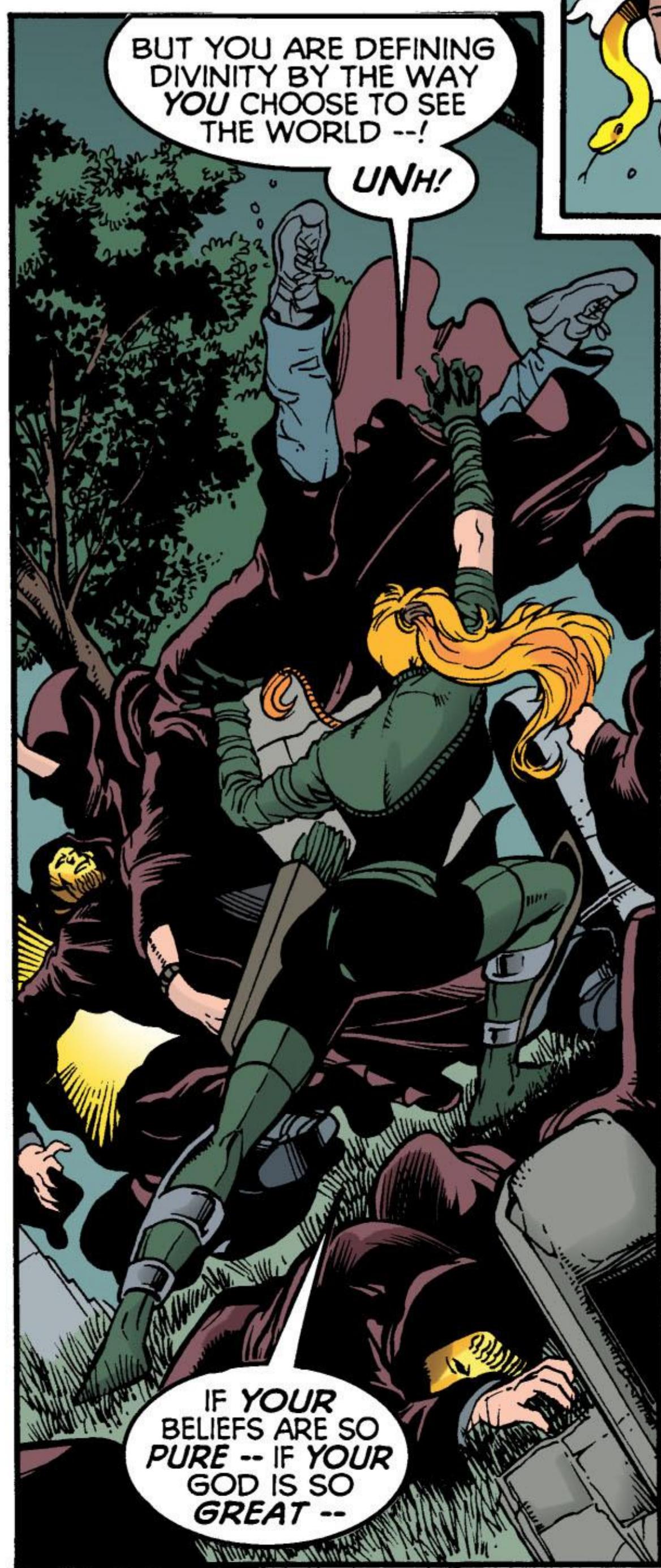
Phil Jimenez story & pencils J.M. DeMatteis co-scripter Andy Lanning inks Pam Rambo colors Jamison separations
Comicraft letters Tony Bedard editor Wonder Woman created by William Moulton Marston

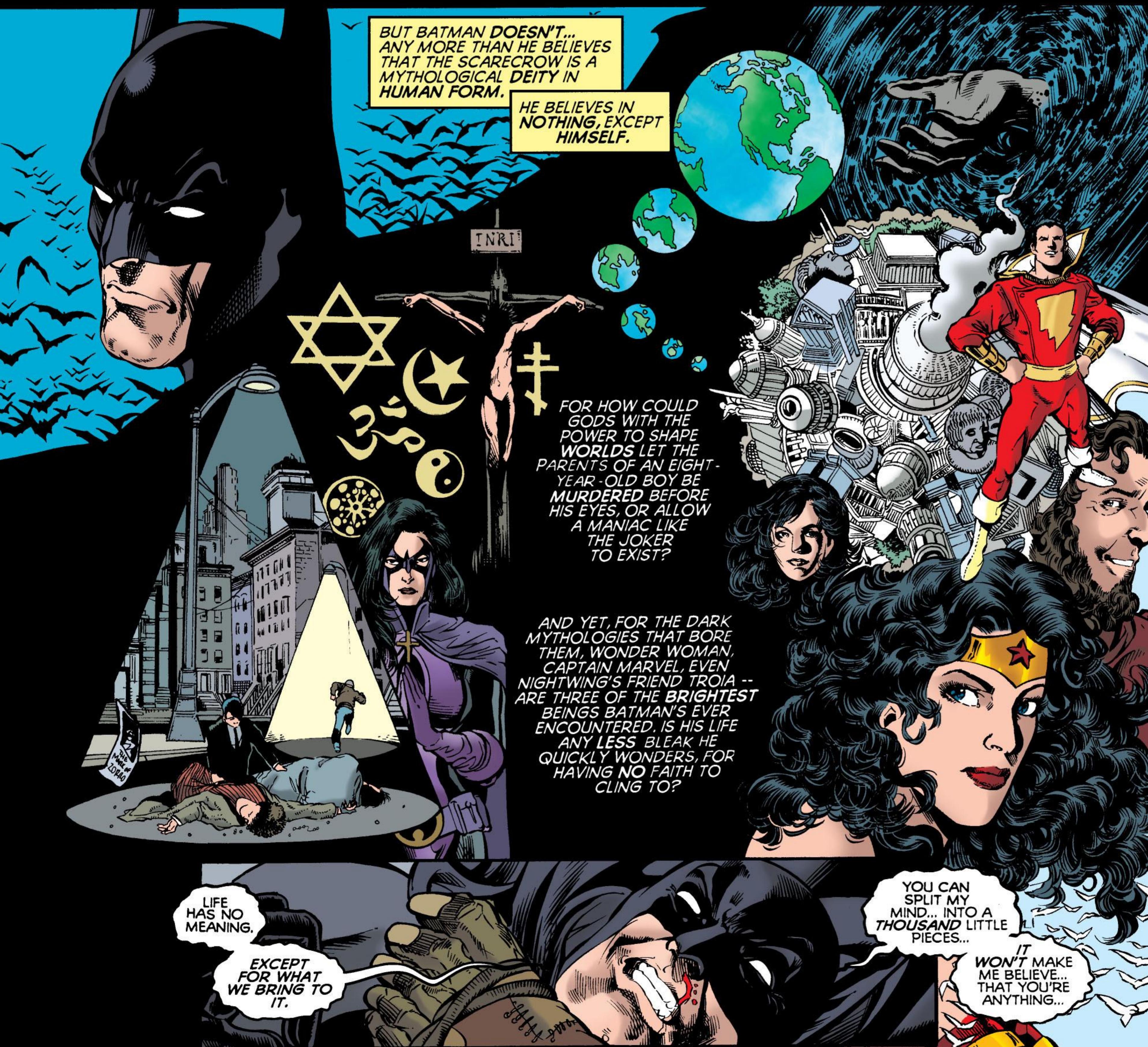


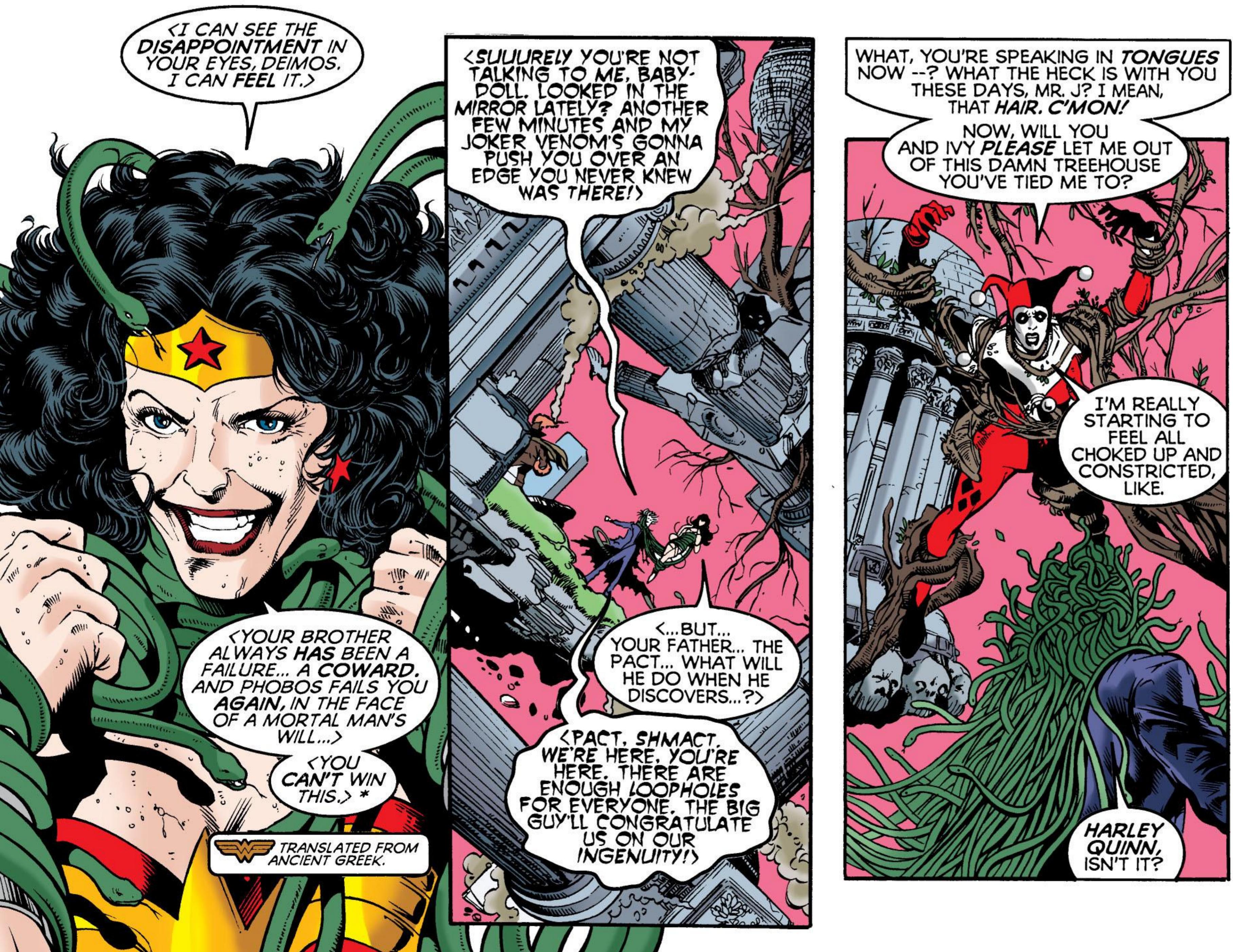


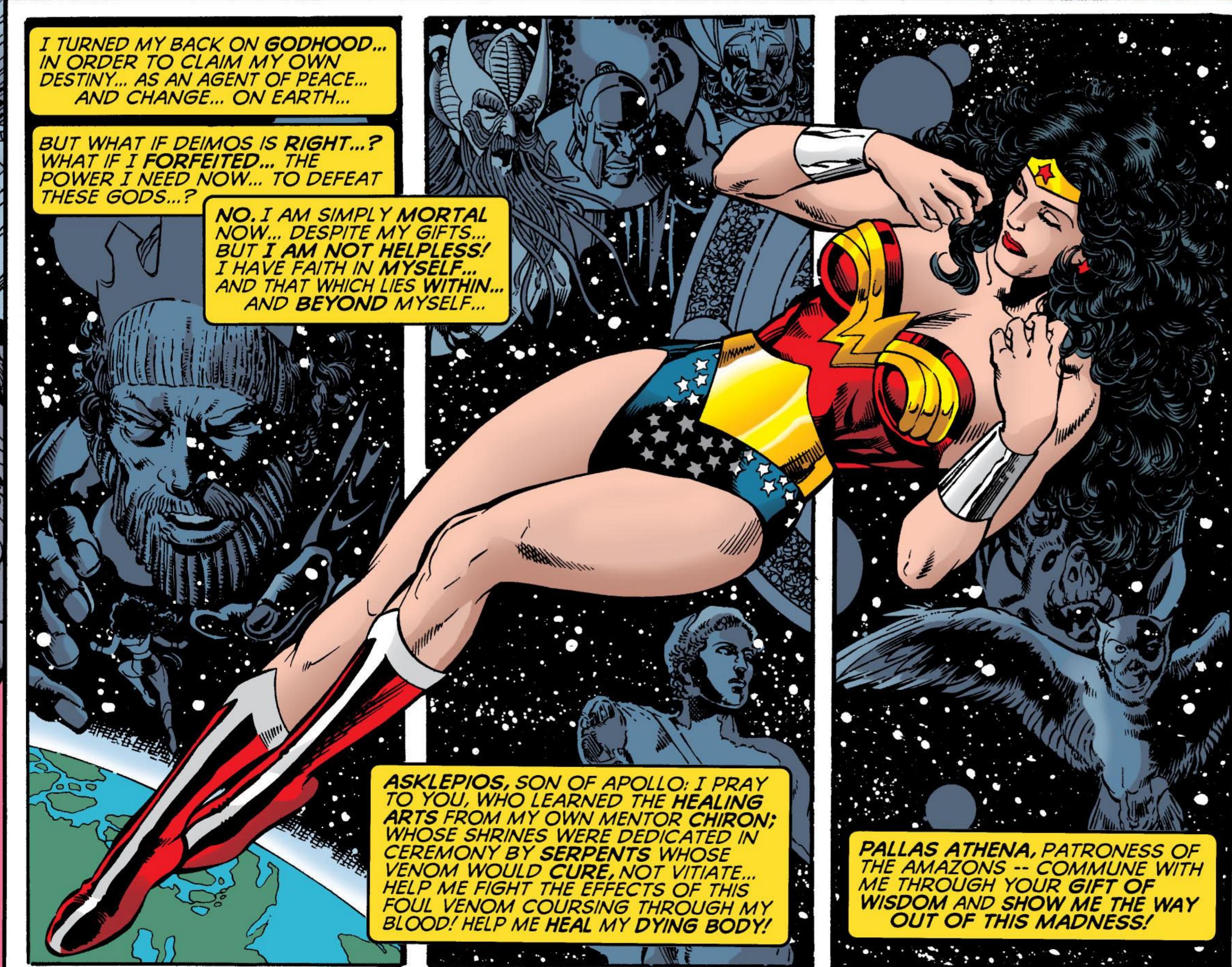


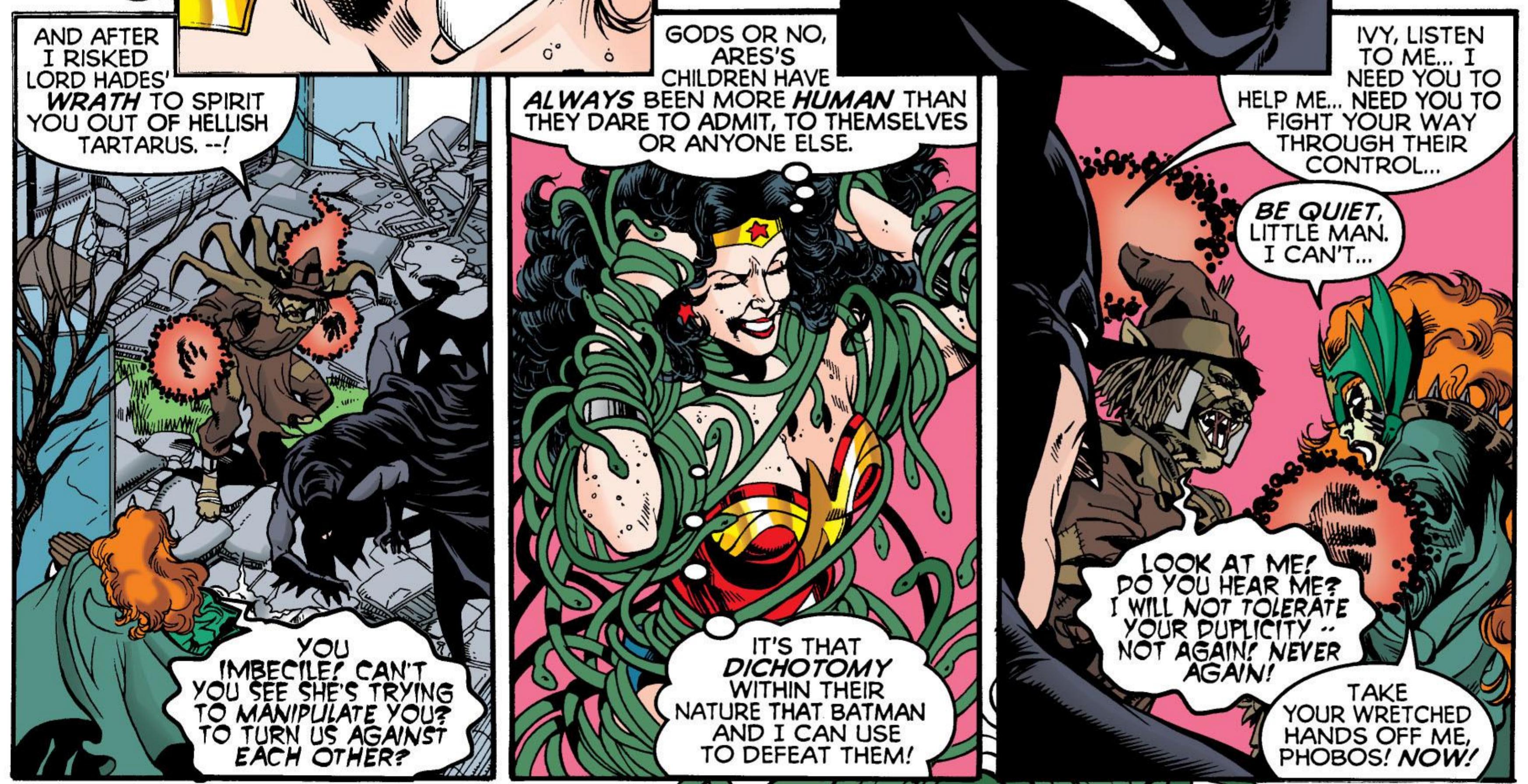
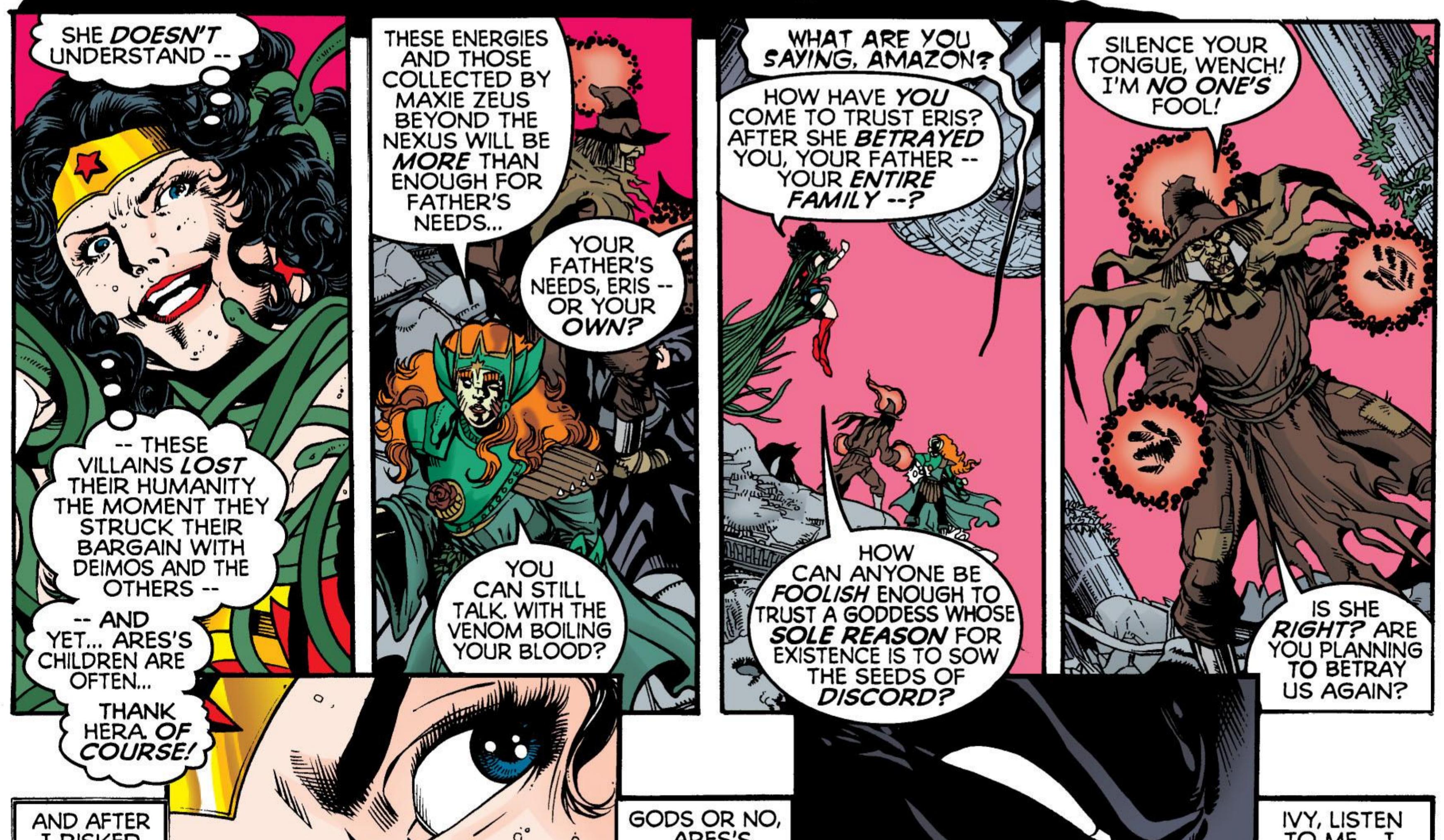
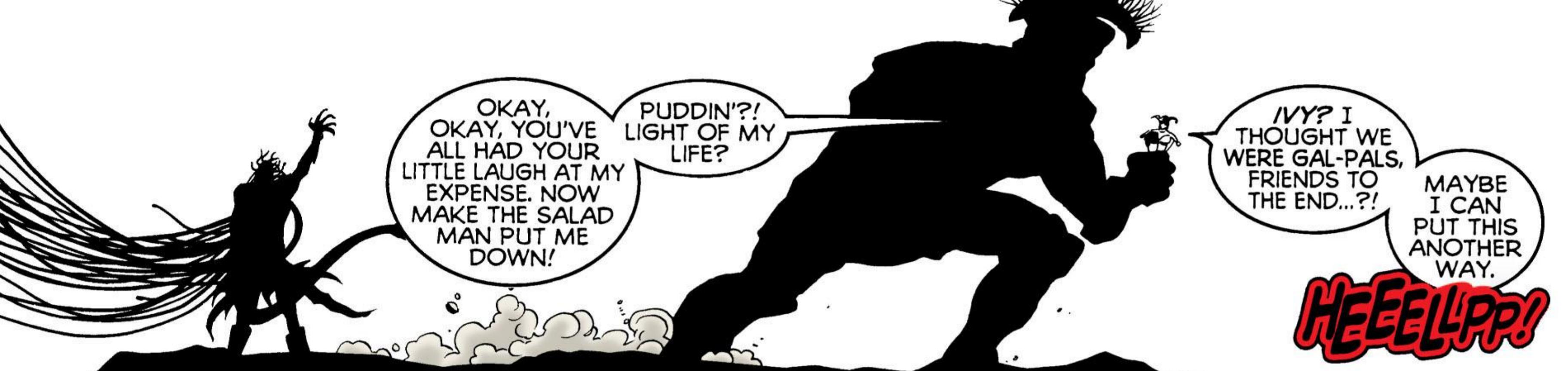












ARE YOU AFRAID, SCARECROW? YOU SHOULD BE.

BECAUSE IVY WILL BETRAY YOU WHEN SHE JOINS ME. AND THE JOKER WILL KILL YOU FOR LETTING THAT HAPPEN.

PHOBOS, YOU DOLT! HE'S BLUFFING, CAN'T YOU SEE THAT? JUST SMASH HIS MORTAL THROAT AND BE DONE WITH HIM!

ERIS, STRANGLE THEM BOTH, WOULD YOU?

... I... BATMAN?

PERFECT, HE'S PLAYING THEM AGAINST EACH OTHER, AS I HOPED... BOUGHT US TIME...

HAVEN'T YOU LEARNED YET? YOUR FATHER HAS ENTRUSTED ME WITH THE TASK OF STOPPING HIS MADNESS...

...AND I WON'T FAIL HIM --

-- THE WAY HIS CHILDREN HAVE!
BATMAN! NOW!

FWASCH

AGGGHH!

THANK GAEA... ASKLEPIOS HAS HEARD MY PRAYERS... THE VENOM IS FILTERING... THROUGH MY SYSTEM.

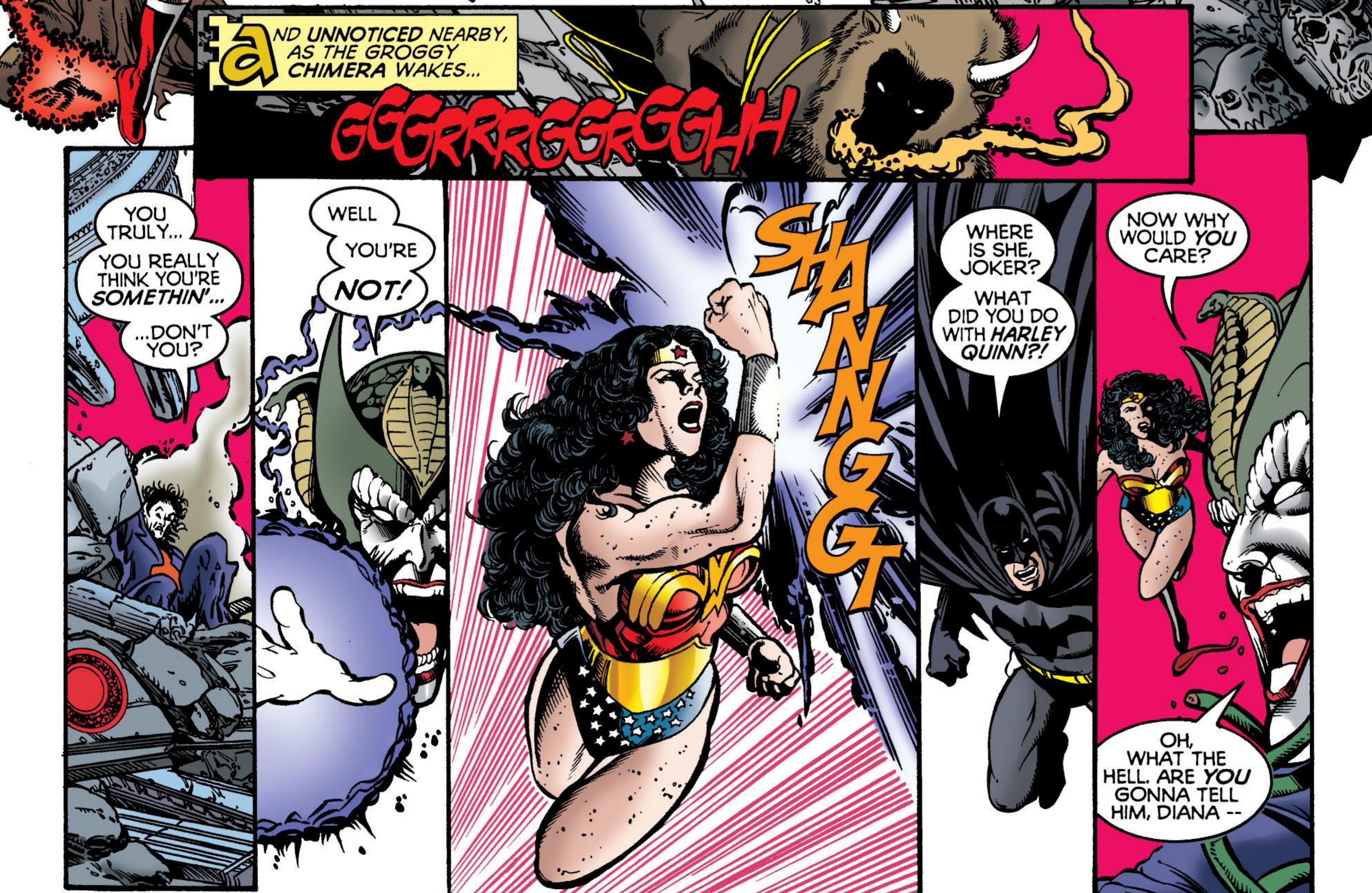
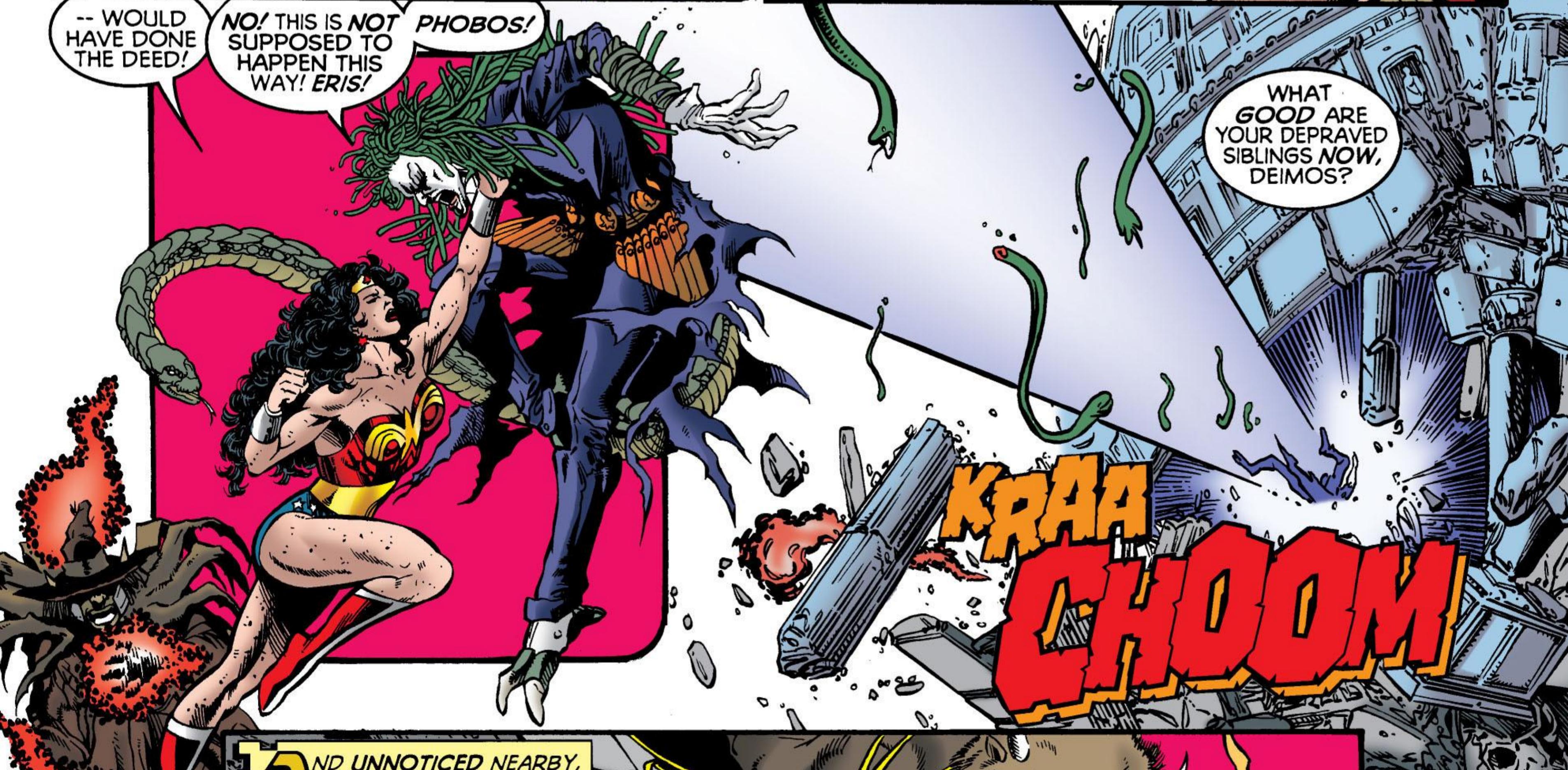
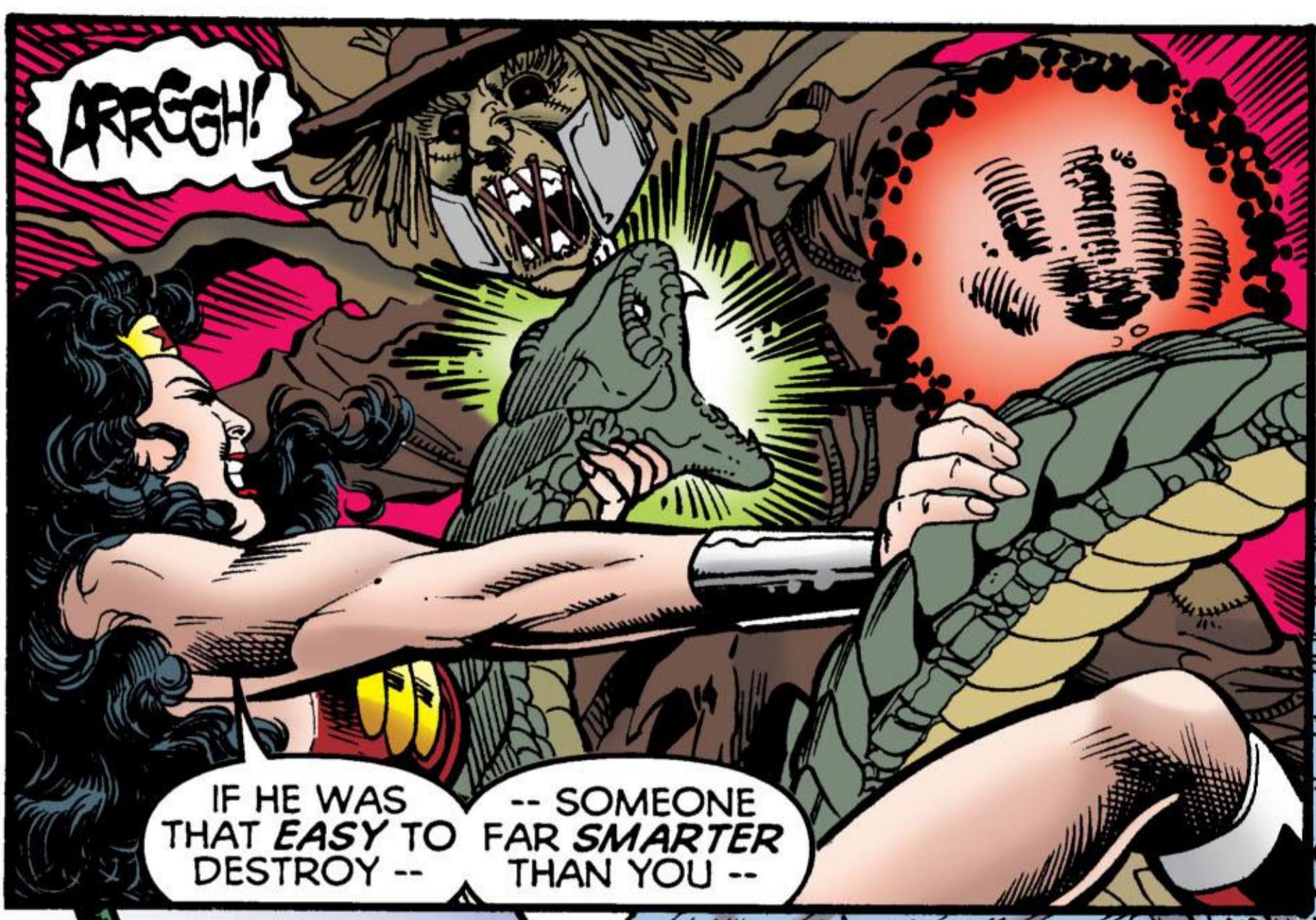
ERIS! STOP HER!

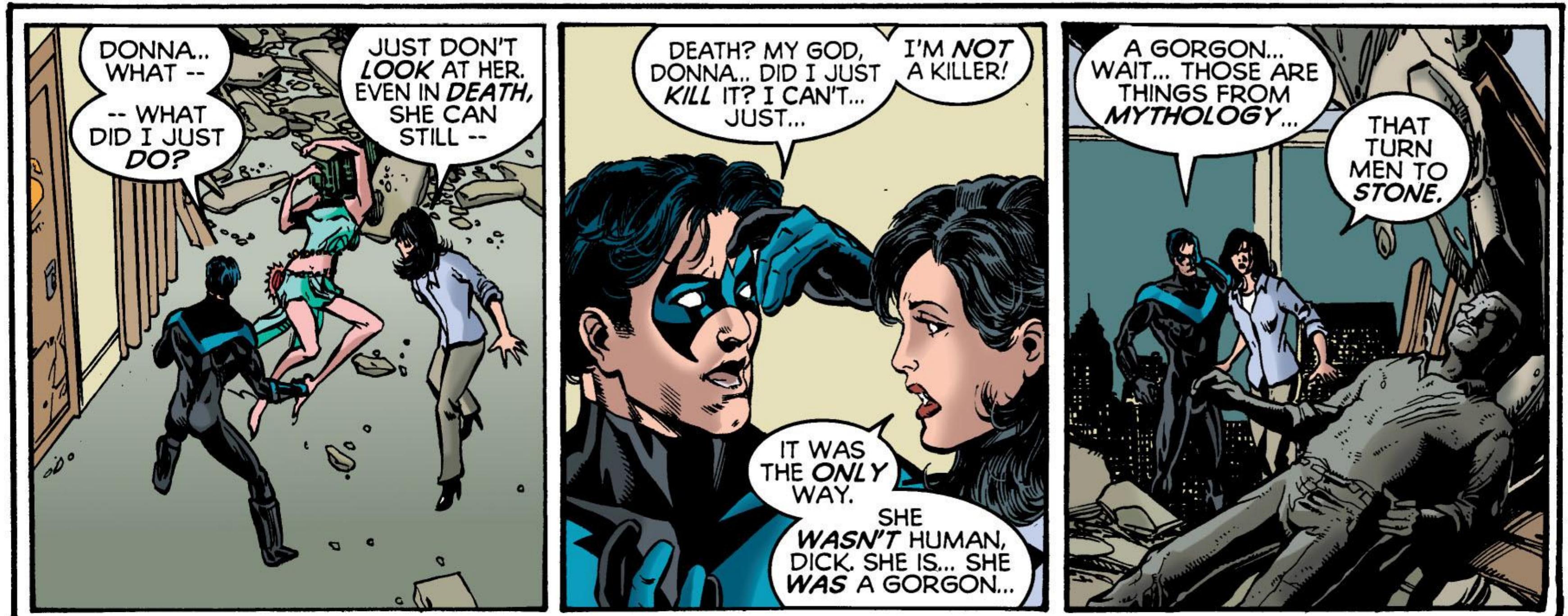
WHUNNF!

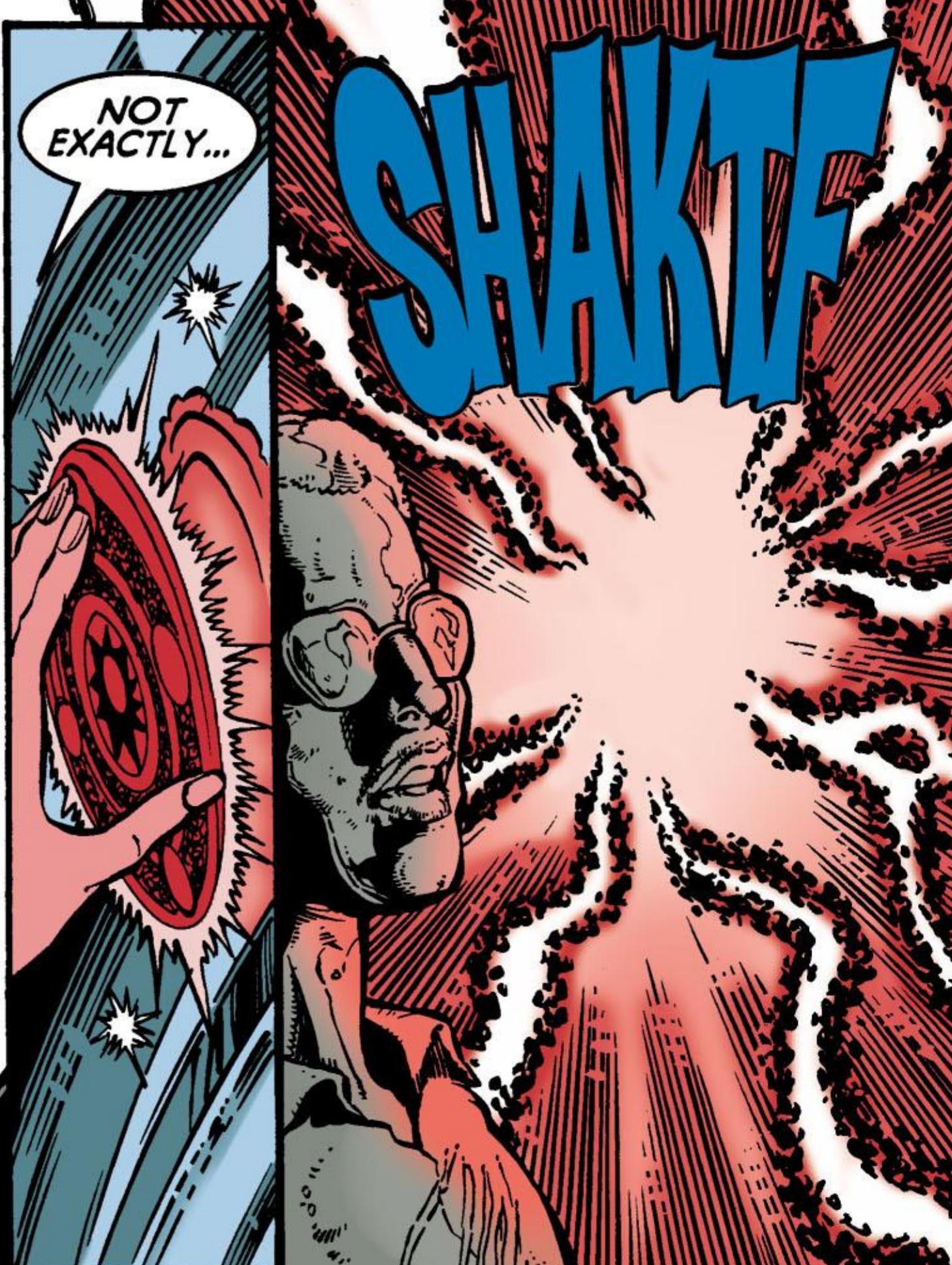
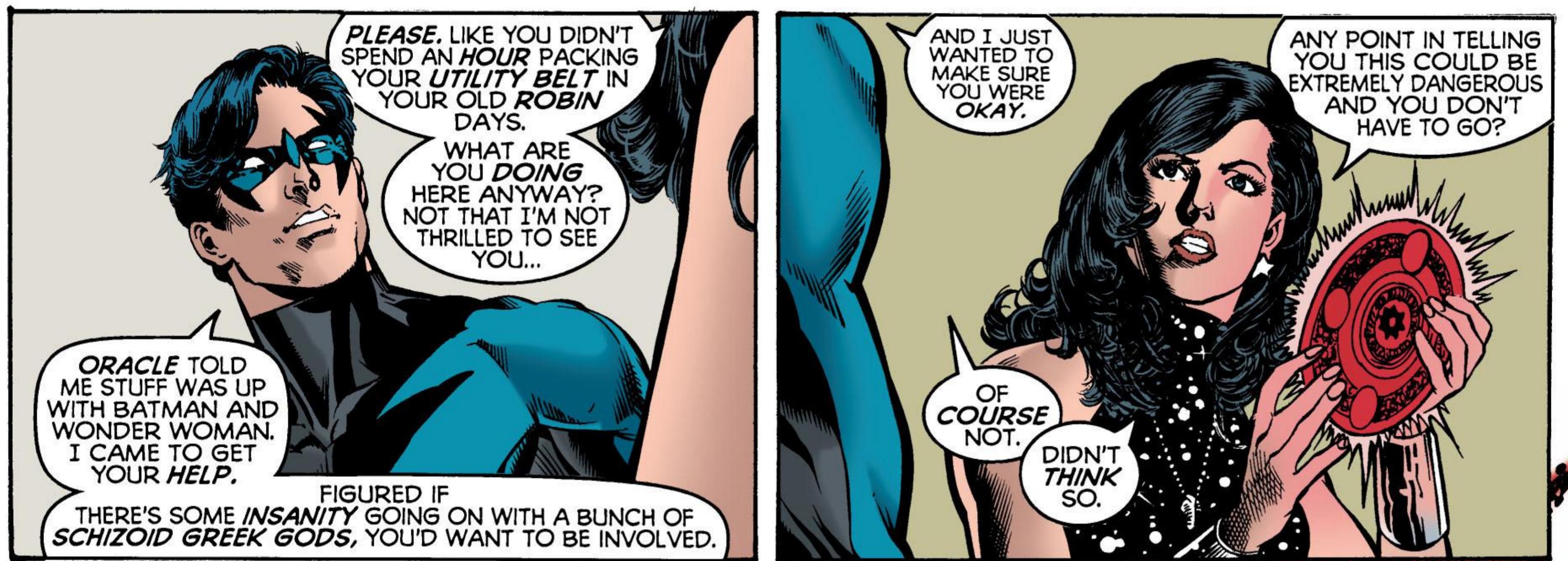
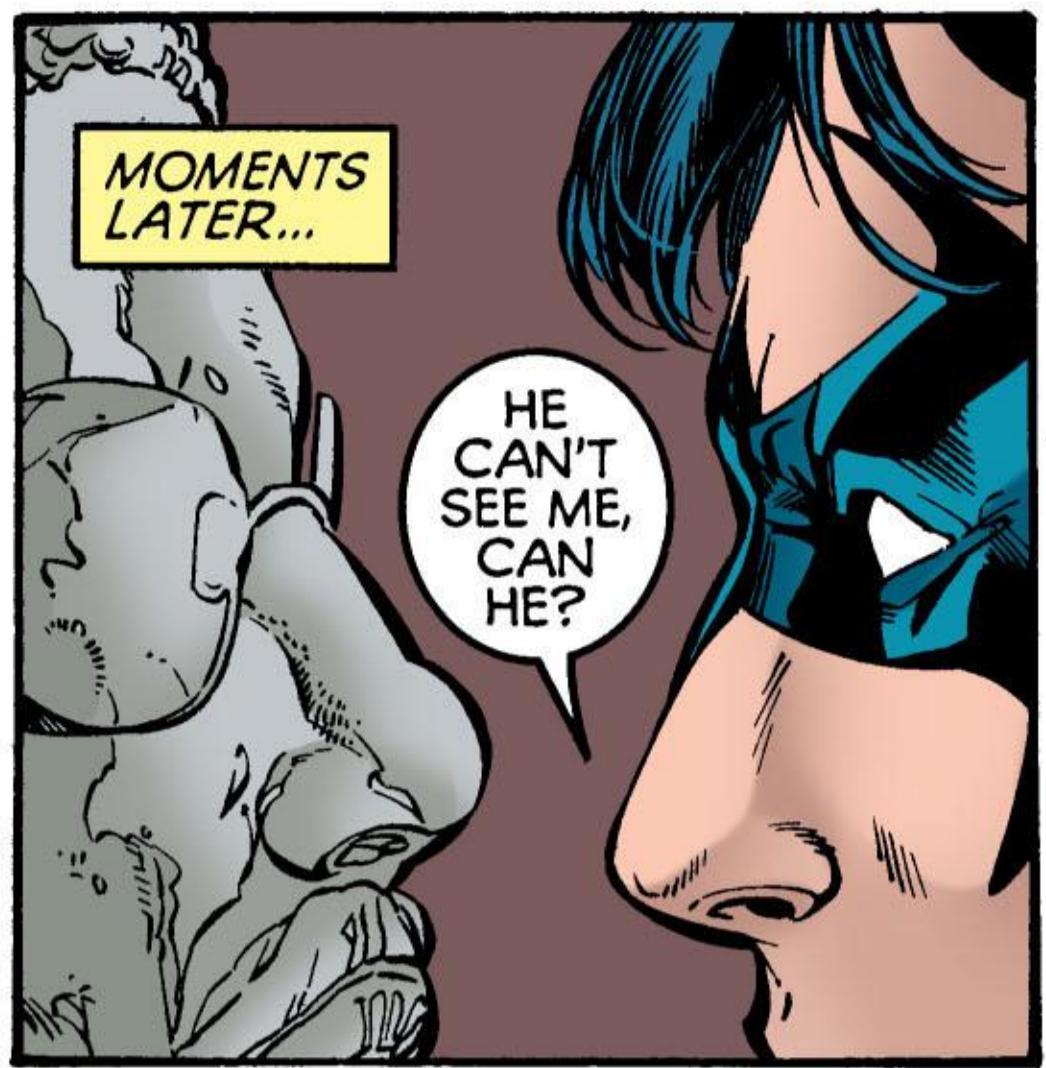
Oh, NOW YOU'VE DONE IT. NOW YOU'VE REALLY DONE IT.

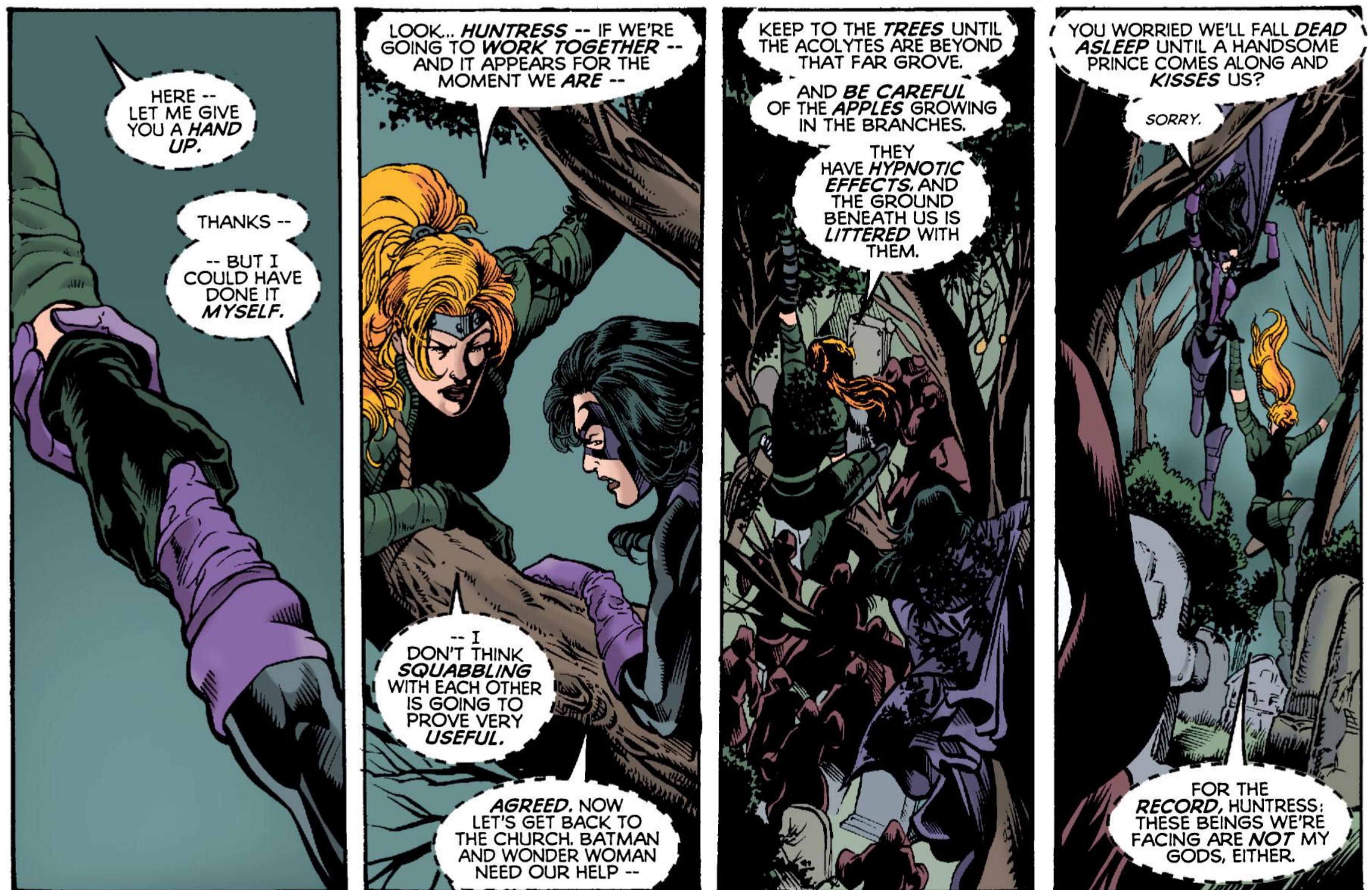
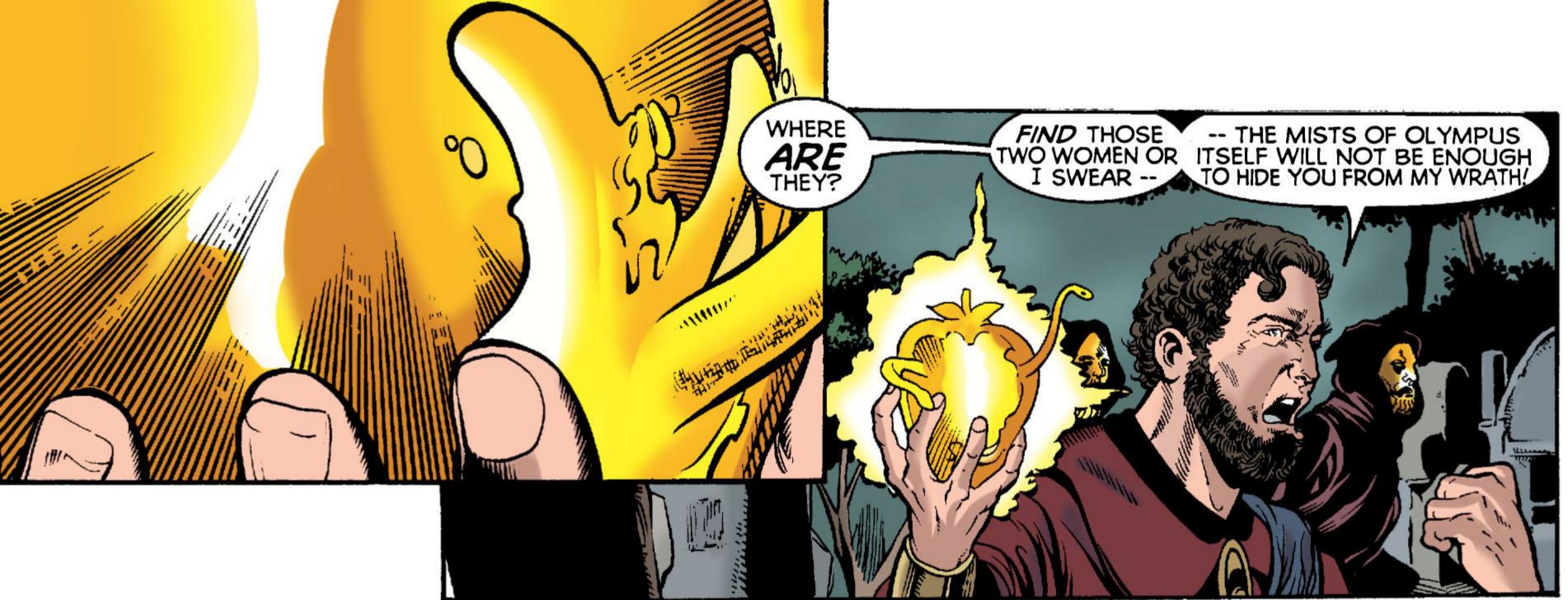
IT'S OVER, AMAZON.

BECAUSE YOU CAN'T BEGIN TO IMAGINE THE TERROR I'M GOING TO INFILCT ON YOU AS I WATCH YOUR MORTAL SOUL DIE!

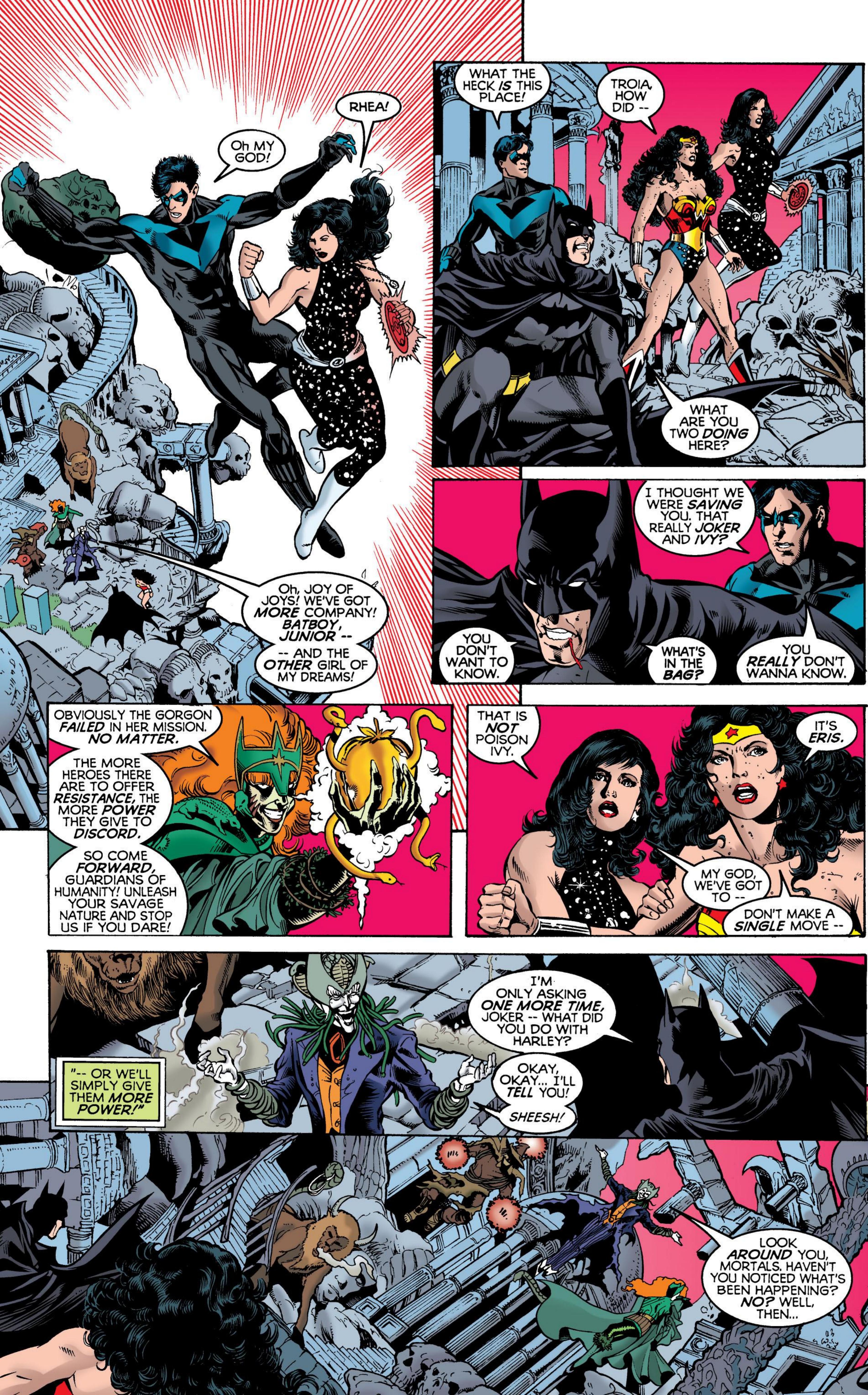












LET ME
SHOW
YOU!

BEHOLD THE
AREOPAGUS,
THE GREAT HILL
OF ARES!

IT'S BEEN
REBUILDING ITSELF
WITHIN ITS LIMBO, AND NOW
IT'S READY TO **PUSH** ITS WAY
THROUGH THE **NEXUS** OF THE
CHURCH WE'VE COMMANDEERED
AND **MERGE** WITH YOUR
PRECIOUS **GOTHAM CITY**,
THE WAY WE HAVE WITH
THESE MORTAL
VILLAINS.

BECAUSE
ARES WILL HAVE
A **NEW** HILL TO
WAGE HIS OFFENSIVE
AGAINST THE
PEOPLE OF
EARTH...

...AND HIS
THRONE WILL BE
IN THE HEART OF THE
MOST VILE, CORRUPT,
STRIFE-RIDDEN **CESS-**
POOL OF A CITY ON
THE **PLANET**!

AND AS FOR
HARLEY...

...WELL, REALLY,
THERE'S **NOTHING**
LIKE A GOOD OL'
FASHIONED **SACRIFICE**
TO BRING THE WAR
GOD TO EARTH, IS
THERE?

HAHAHA
HAHA!

NEXT:
ARES
DESCENDING!