



THOUGH SHE DOESN'T WANT TO, THE
CHEETAH MUST KILL...

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COMICS
CODE
A

Wonder Woman



THE TIME IS 1943! THE PLACE IS WARTIME AMERICA...THE ONLY NATION THAT COULD PUT AN END TO HITLER'S TERROR!

INTO THE WORLD THAT MEN DROVE MAD WITH WAR SHE CAME--BEAUTIFUL AS APHRODITE...WISE AS ATHENA...STRONGER THAN HERACLES...AND SWIFTER THAN HERMES--TO SAVE MANKIND FROM ITSELF! INTO A WORLD WHERE WOMEN WERE "MERE WOMEN" CAME...

Wonder Woman

AND WOMANHOOD WOULD NEVER BE THE SAME AGAIN!



You are cordially invited to witness the death of Wonder Woman... at the hands--or more specifically...

THE CLAWS OF THE CHEETAH

SCRIPT: MARTIN PASKO / ART: JOSE DELBO & VINCE COLLETTA / COLORS: JERRY SERPE

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THE RUSTLING OF ELEGANT EVENING GOWNS... THE CLINKING OF EXQUISITE TABLEWARE... THE ECHOES OF FARNEST CONVERGATION WAFED TOWARD THE VAULTED CEILING:

THESE ARE THE SOUNDS OF A GALA DINNER AT THE WHITE HOUSE THIS WINTER EVE IN 1942...



BUT IT IS LESS A DINNER THAN A GESTURE OF APPRECIATION TO THE JUNIOR LEAGUE COMMITTEE FOR WAR WORK! THE HOSTS ARE PRESIDENT AND MRS. ROOSEVELT... AND THEIR GUESTS ARE THE HIGH AND THE MIGHTY--A GLITTERING ARRAY OF PROMINENT SOCIAL AND POLITICAL FIGURES...

FOREMOST AMONG THEM ARE THE MOST GLAMOROUS DEBUTANTE IN CHEVY CHASE-- HEIRESS PRISCILLA RICH...

...MAXWELL STANHOPE, POLITICAL COLUMNIST FOR THE WASHINGTON SENTINEL--AND A VEHEMENT ISOLATIONIST...

...WAR HERO--MAJOR STEVE TREVOR--AND HIS WAR DEPARTMENT SECRETARY, YEOMAN DIANA PRINCE...

--BUT I FEEL SO OUT OF PLACE HERE, STEVE...



YEAH--BUT SHE TURNED ME DOWN! SHE SAID SHE WOULDN'T WANT TO "UPSTAGE" THE PRESIDENT AT AN IMPORTANT FUNCTION! SOME GIRL, THAT WW, HUH?



...WHO ELSE BUT FDR WOULD INVITE MAXWELL STANHOPE TO DINNER-- EXCUSE ME A MOMENT, MAJOR?

--AFTER ALL THOSE ROTTEN THINGS THAT CRUMB'S WRITTEN ABOUT HIM?

BUT DO CONTINUE THE CONVERSATION WITHOUT ME--

--WHICH IS EXACTLY WHAT YOU'VE BEEN DOING ALL ALONG!



NO SOONER HAS DIANA LEFT THE STATE DINING ROOM THAN IT HAPPENS--THE GUESTS REALIZE WITH HORROR THAT AMONG THEM IS A WOULD-BE ASSASSIN...

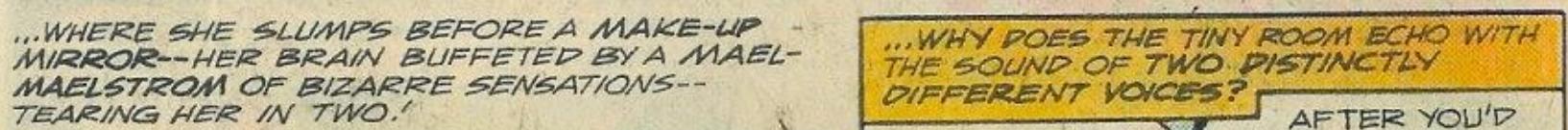
EVEN BEFORE THE SECRET SERVICE CAN ACT, THE MADMAN HAS DRAWN A RAZOR-SHARP STILETTO FROM HIS HOLLOW CANE!...

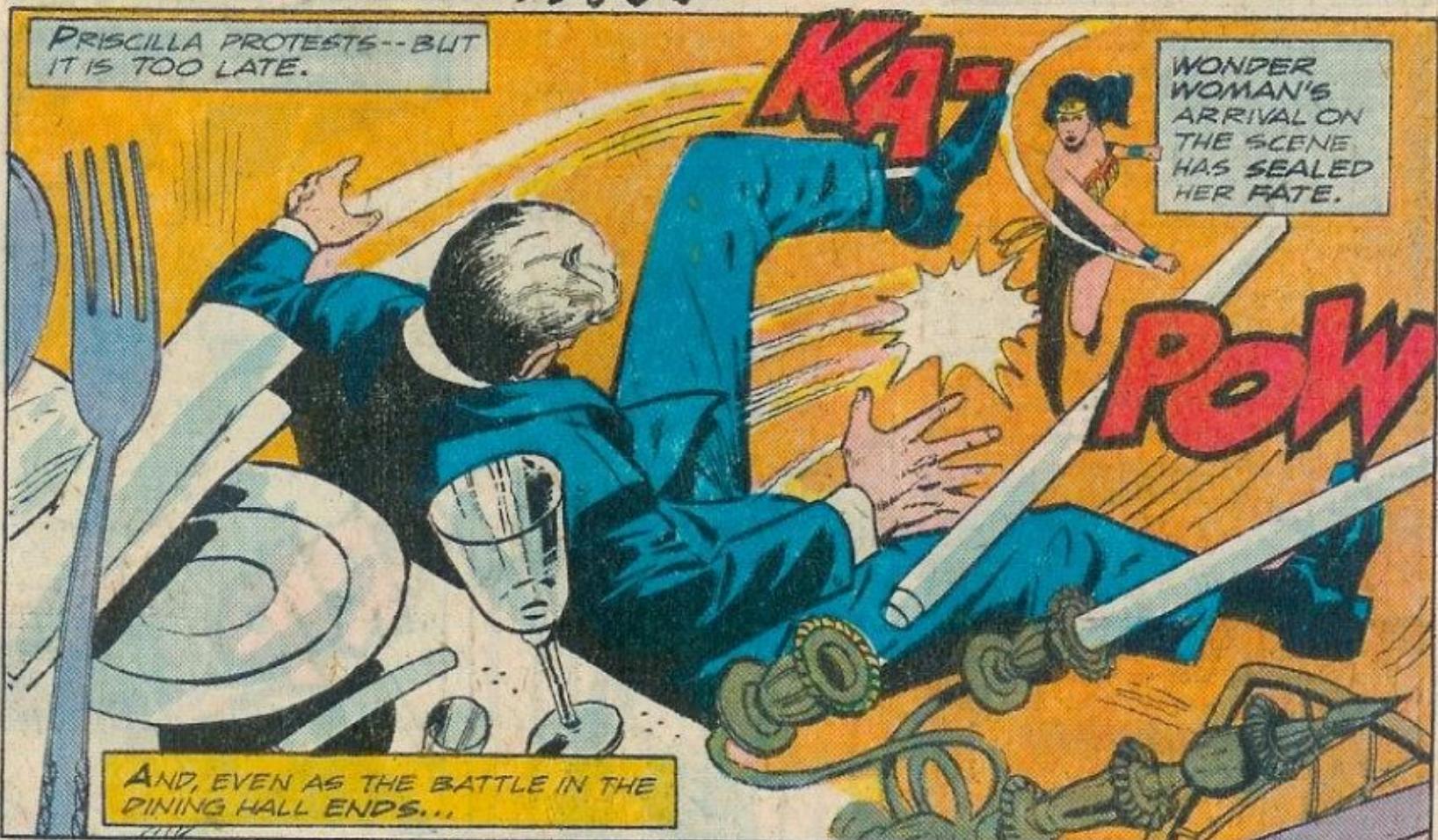


YOU'VE SULLIED YOUR HANDS WITH THE BLOOD OF INNOCENT AMERICANS FOR THE LAST TIME!

DEATH TO THE WARMONGER PRESIDENT!









PITY THOSE POOR TOURISTS! THEY ARE BLISSFULLY UNAWARE OF WHAT MISFORTUNE IS ABOUT TO DESCEND ON THEM...



INDEED--AND YOU'D BETTER COOPERATE, DARLINGS...UNLESS YOU'D LIKE TO BE SCRATCHED UP A BIT, TOO.

I WANT
EVERY
VALUABLE
YOU'VE
GOT!

--IN THIS
BAG--NOW!

WHAT'S
THIS?

SOUNDS
LIKE A
ROBBERY--!

BUT WHAT KIND OF
CRIMINAL WOULD BROADCAST
HER CRIME IN **BROAD**
DAYLIGHT?

A STUPID ONE, THAT'S WHAT KIND!

YET, IF THAT VOICE
BELONGS TO WHO I
THINK IT DOES --
STUPID SHE'S NOT!

SO I'M PROBABLY LEAPING
INTO A **TRAP**--BUT THAT
CAN'T BE HELPED!

THE CHEETAH--JUST
AS I THOUGHT! BUT
I MUST SAY I'M
SURPRISED AT YOU!

USING THAT
MEGAPHONE
WASN'T VERY
BRIGHT!

SURE
IT WAS,
HONEY...

SUDDENLY, THE CHEETAH
TOUCHES A TINY STUP ON HER
BIZARRE BRACELET--TO
UNLEASH A VOLLEY OF
CLAW-SHAPED DARTS!

--IN ORDER
TO GIVE YOU
...THIS!

...IN FACT, IT
WAS **DELIBERATE**!
IT WAS A
PERFECT WAY
TO ATTRACT
YOUR
ATTENTION--

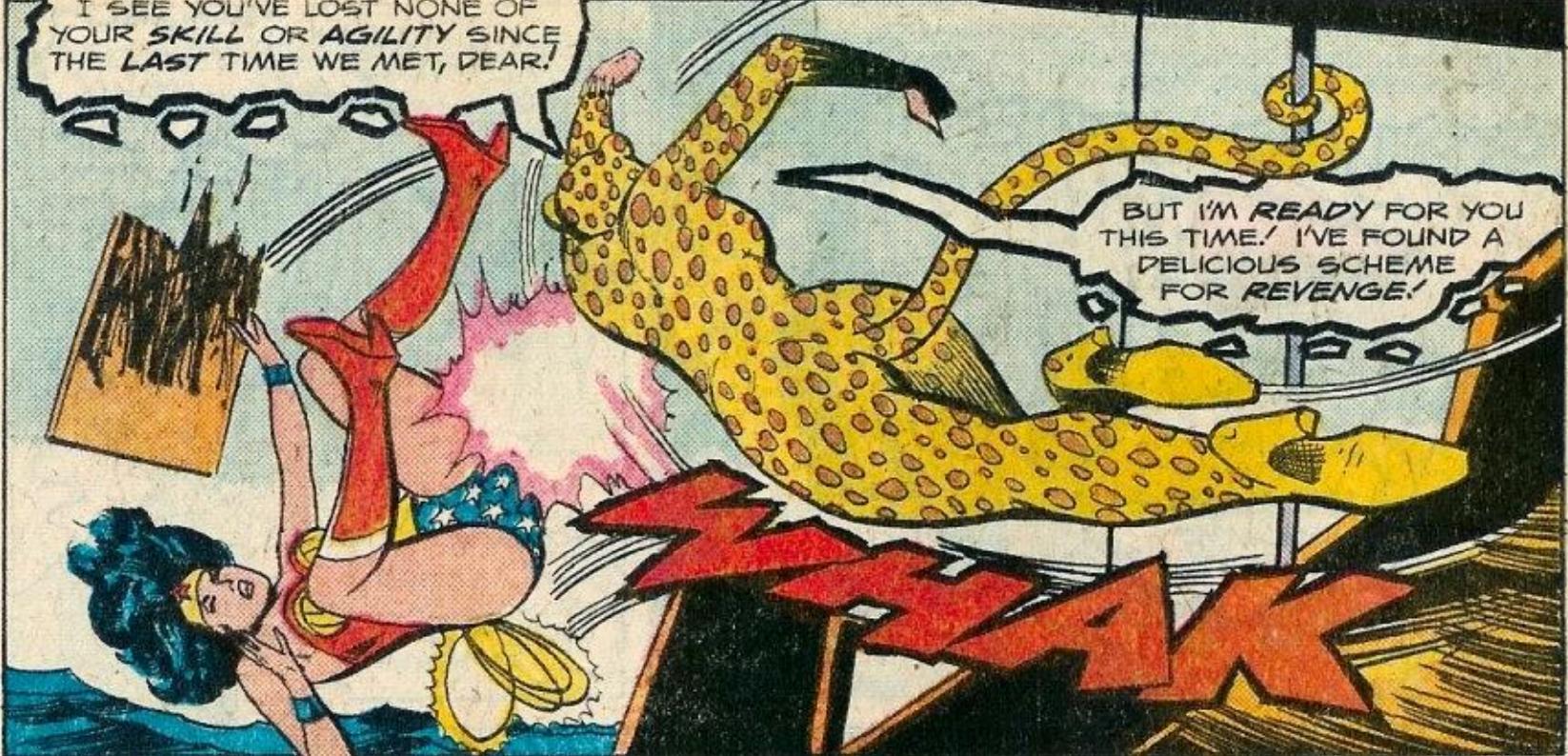
YOU LURED ME HERE--JUST
TO SHOW OFF YOUR LATEST
TOY? SORRY, "HONEY"...

...BUT
I'M NOT
IMPRESSIONED.

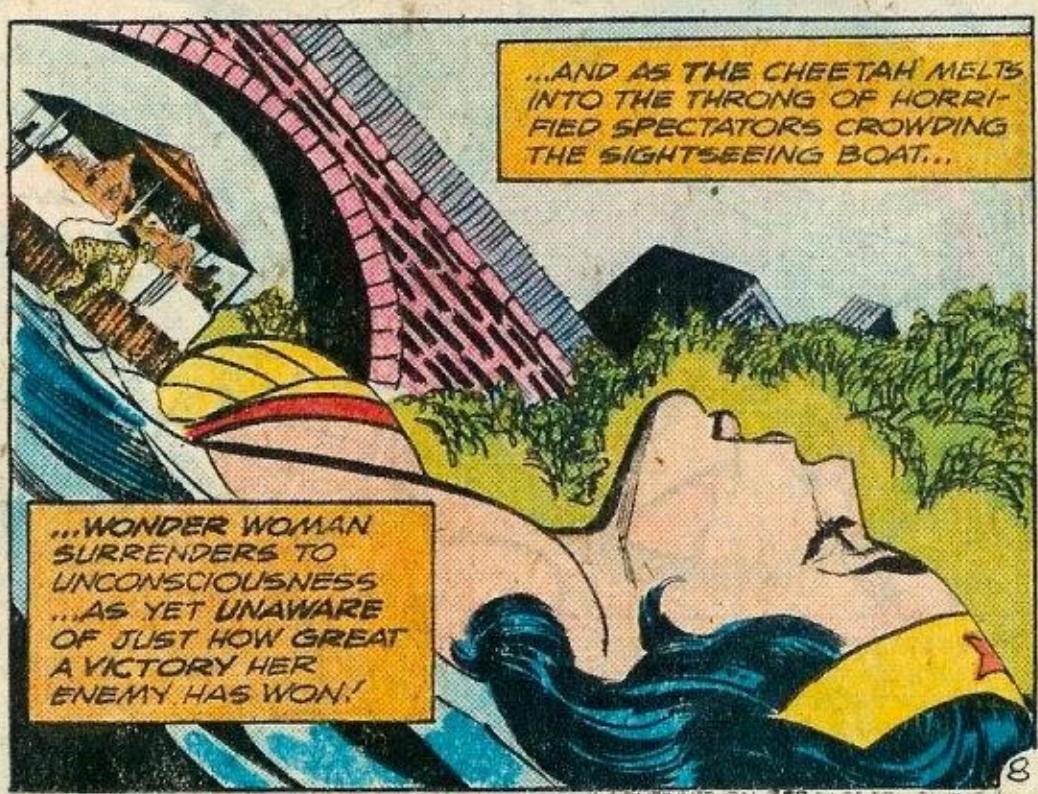
ZING
ZING
ZING

I SEE YOU'VE LOST NONE OF
YOUR SKILL OR AGILITY SINCE
THE LAST TIME WE MET, DEAR!

BUT I'M READY FOR YOU
THIS TIME! I'VE FOUND A
DELICIOUS SCHEME
FOR REVENGE!



THE AMAZON PRINCESS
CANNOT MOVE FAST ENOUGH--
ENABLING ONE OF THE CLAWLIKE
PROJECTILES TO FIND ITS MARK...



THAT NIGHT...

IT'S FINISHED--A
COMPREHENSIVE
LIST OF ALL THE
WACS AND WAVES
WORKING IN THE WAR
DEPARTMENT WHO
MATCH WONDER
WOMAN'S HEIGHT
AND BUILD!

TO LEARN HER
SECRET IDENTITY, I
NEED ONLY KEEP
THEM UNDER
SURVEILLANCE...

DOTTIE WOOLFOLK
CHARLOTTE MULTON
HARRIET PETER
MICHELLE JEKUNSKY
DIANA PRINCE
ROBERTA KAMIGHER
DENISE O'NEIL
CATHERINE FOSTER
MARY POSTE
SANDY RAE

...AIDED BY THESE SPECIAL
CONTACT LENSES!

AND TO THINK THE SILLY
GOOSE THOUGHT I WAS
ONLY TRYING TO KILL HER
WITH MY CLAWS!

NO--MY
PLAN IS
MORE
COMPLEX!

EVERY MAJOR
CASE OF
ESPIONAGE IN
AND AROUND
WASHINGTON IN
THE PAST FEW
MONTHS HAS BEEN
SOLVED BY
WONDER
WOMAN!

AND SHE'S
OFTEN SEEN IN
THE COMPANY OF
THAT ARMY MAJOR,
TREVOR!

IT'S ONLY LOGICAL TO
CONCLUDE THAT THE AMAZON
IS CLOSELY AFFILIATED
WITH THE WAR
DEPARTMENT!

FOR DAYS, SHE STALKS THE
STREETS OF WASHINGTON IN
DISGUISE--SPYING ON HER
LIST OF "SUSPECTS"...UNTIL...

I'VE DONE IT!
FOR ONLY
WONDER
WOMAN'S
FOREHEAD WOULD
SHOW THE
SCRATCH--

--WHERE MY CLAW
ETCHED THE
INDELIBLE INK
INTO HER
SKIN!

THE MARK
WHICH ONLY MY
INFRA-RED LENSES
REVEALS HAS
BETRAYED
DIANA
PRINCE!

WAR DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS,
THE FOLLOWING MONDAY...

A LETTER FROM
PRISCILLA RICH--
OF THE JUNIOR
LEAGUE COMMITTEE
FOR WAR WORK!

WHAT'S THAT,
PRINCE?

I SEE IT'S
FOR WONDER
WOMAN--SENT
IN CARE OF
THIS OFFICE.

THAT'S RIGHT. THEY WANT HER
TO APPEAR IN A PUBLIC SERVICE
FILM THEY'RE MAKING--A WAR
BONDS APPEAL.

ELSEWHERE, AT THAT MOMENT...

IT WAS A SIMPLE THING TO
SIGN PRISCILLA'S NAME TO
MY LETTER--ON THE JUNIOR
LEAGUE LETTERHEAD!

DIANA PRINCE
WILL BE SURE TO
READ IT...

...AND
THEREFORE,
SO WILL
WONDER
WOMAN!

"THIS FILM IS AN INNOCENT, PERFECTLY
LEGITIMATE VENTURE! BUT I WILL TURN IT
INTO A TRAP TO KILL WONDER WOMAN!
I'LL PLANT AN EXPLOSIVE IN THE CAMERA..."

QUIET
SOUND
TAKE

"... AND THE SIGN
WHICH WARNS THAT
THE CAMERA IS
'ROLLING' WILL
BE THE
DETONATOR!"

"WHEN THE AMAZON MUFFS HER
LINES OR THE DIRECTOR CALLS
'CUT,' THE CAMERA WILL STOP--
THE SIGN WILL BLINK OUT--
AND THEN..."

KABOOM

I'LL HAVE TO CAREFULLY
RECORD THE PLANS FOR
THE TRAP IN MY
DIARY--

...BUT WHAT SHE CANNOT
REALIZE IS THAT THERE IS NO
GUARANTEE IT WILL BE THE
CHEETAH WHO AWAKENS THE
NEXT MORNING...

--JUST AS I'VE
DONE WITH
EVERY STEP OF
MY SCHEME SO
FAR! I CAN
ALLOW
NOTHING
TO GO
WRONG!

YET SOMETHING WILL GO WRONG!
FOR EVEN THE CHEETAH MUST
SLEEP...

WHY--? WHERE THE LAST
AM I?
THING I
REMEMBER
IS BEING AT
THE WHITE
HOUSE--!

THAT COSTUME--!
NOT AGAIN--!

NO! NO!
IT'S TRUE--!
I'VE
BEEN THE
CHEETAH
AGAIN--FOR
DAYS! IT'S ALL
HERE IN HER
DIARY...

...HOW SHE'S
DISCOVERED
WONDER
WOMAN'S IDENTITY... AND
HOW SHE'S GOING TO
KILL HER!

DIARY

10
CONTINUED ON 5TH PAGE FOLLOWING.

OH... HOW MUCH SIMPLER LIFE WOULD BE IF WONDER WOMAN DIDN'T EXIST!

I WOULDN'T BE RESPONSIBLE FOR HER DEATH...

...AND MY DOUBLE-IDENTITY PROBLEM WOULD BE SOLVED--

?!HMM...

THUS, NEXT DAY...

THANK YOU FOR COMING ON SUCH SHORT NOTICE, YEOMAN PRINCE!

IT WAS MY PLEASURE, MISS RICH. BUT SINCE YOUR COMMITTEE WANTS WONDER WOMAN FOR ITS FILM...

...I DON'T UNDERSTAND HOW I CAN HELP YOU!

OH, BUT YOU WILL, DIANA! I'LL SHOW YOU HOW! LOOK!

BUT... I... DON'T SEE--UH... I...

JUST KEEP YOUR EYES ON THIS POCKET WATCH--!

JUST AS I SUSPECTED--SHE'S NEW TO THE WESTERN WORLD...

...AND SO VERY NAIVE! SHE'S PROBABLY NEVER EVEN HEARD OF HYPNOTISM!

LISTEN CAREFULLY, DIANA. LOOK BEHIND YOU--IN THE MIRRORS!

WHAT DID YOU SEE?

TWO REFLECTIONS.

YES... BUT ONE OF THEM IS ME... AS WONDER WOMAN...

BUT THAT'S ONLY AN HALLUCINATION! YOU AREN'T WONDER WOMAN!

WATCH--I'LL DESTROY THE WONDER WOMAN IMAGE...

...AND AFTER I DO, YOU'LL NEVER THINK YOU'RE HER AGAIN!

AND AS THE SOUND OF THE SHATTERING MIRROR ROUSES DIANA FROM HER HYPNOTIC SLUMBER...

YES... DELUSION... NEVER AGAIN...

WHA--WHAT... WAS I... SAYING--?

NOTHING MUCH-- JUST "GOODBYE!"

YES--GOODBYE TO WONDER WOMAN-- FOREVER!

FOREVER?
PERHAPS--BUT
CERTAINLY AT
LEAST A
WEEK...

I CAN'T UNDERSTAND IT'S AS IF
IT, PRINCE! SHE'S DROPPED
WONDER WOMAN OFF THE FACE
HAS VANISHED! OF THE EARTH!

IT'S PROBABLY
NOTHING TO
WORRY ABOUT,
STEVE!

MAYBE...

Washington Sentinel
WHERE IS
WONDER
WOMAN?

...BUT IT ISN'T LIKE HER TO SHIRK
RESPONSIBILITIES! SHE
PROMISED TO MAKE
THAT WAR BOND
MOVIE TODAY,
AFTER ALL!

I'M GOING
OVER TO THE
STUDIO...

WAIT, STEVE--
I'LL GO
WITH YOU!

PRESIDENTLY, STEVE AND DIANA
ARRIVE AT A LONG-DISUSED
MOVIE STUDIO IN DOWNTOWN
WASHINGTON...

SHE'S AN
HOUR
LATE, MISS
RICH!

I DON'T
THINK SHE'LL
SHOW, RALPH!

NO NEED TO DO
THAT! MAYBE I
CAN HELP YOU
INSTEAD!

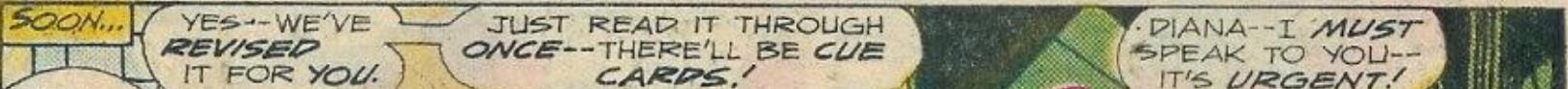
STEVE
TREVOR?
TERRIFIC!

MAYBE
WE SHOULD
FORGET THE
WHOLE THING!

I'D RATHER "SHOOT" A
WAR HERO
THAN SOME
BROAD IN
A SILLY
GET-UP,
ANYWAY!

OH, NO! IF TREVOR
STANDS IN FOR
WONDER WOMAN,
HE'LL BE
KILLED!

BUT I DON'T WANT
TO BE RESPONSIBLE
FOR ANYONE'S
DEATH!



STEVE'S IN TERRIBLE DANGER--AND ONLY WONDER WOMAN CAN SAVE HIM!

BUT WHY ARE YOU TELLING ME THIS?

WHY? BECAUSE... YOU'RE WONDER WOMAN!

ME--WONDER WOMAN? BUT THAT'S RIDICULOUS!

I WAS AFRAID YOU'D SAY THAT. I HATE TO DO THIS, DIANA... BECAUSE OF WHAT HAPPENS TO ME WHEN YOU BECOME WONDER WOMAN!

BUT I SEE YOU NEED A CONVINCER!

SWIFTLY, PRISCILLA EXTRACTS FROM HER HANDBAG THE CHEETAH'S WEAPON-BRACELET, AND...

GREAT, HERA!

SEE? YOU INSTINCTIVELY STRUCK THE BULLETS-AND-BRACELETS POSE--TO DEFEND YOURSELF!

WHY WOULD YOU DO THAT? UNLESS YOU KNEW THAT MY WEAPON FIRED PARTS-- BECAUSE YOU'D FACED THEM BEFORE--

--AS WONDER WOMAN? BY NEPTUNE'S TRIDENT, YOU'RE RIGHT!

I AM SHE! I-I MUST BE!

WITHIN SECONDS, THERE HAS BEEN A BLINDING FLASH, AND THEN...

ALL RIGHT, I'M WONDER WOMAN!

NOW WHAT?

BUT YOU'RE THE CHEETAH--THAT MUCH I'VE FIGURED OUT!

YES--BUT I HAVE NO MEMORY OF ANYTHING I DO AS MY OTHER SELF!

DON'T LOOK AT ME--THE CHEETAH SET THE TRAP! THERE'S A BOMB IN THE CAMERA THAT'LL EXPLODE WHEN THEY STOP FILMING! I DON'T KNOW HOW TO DEFUSE IT!

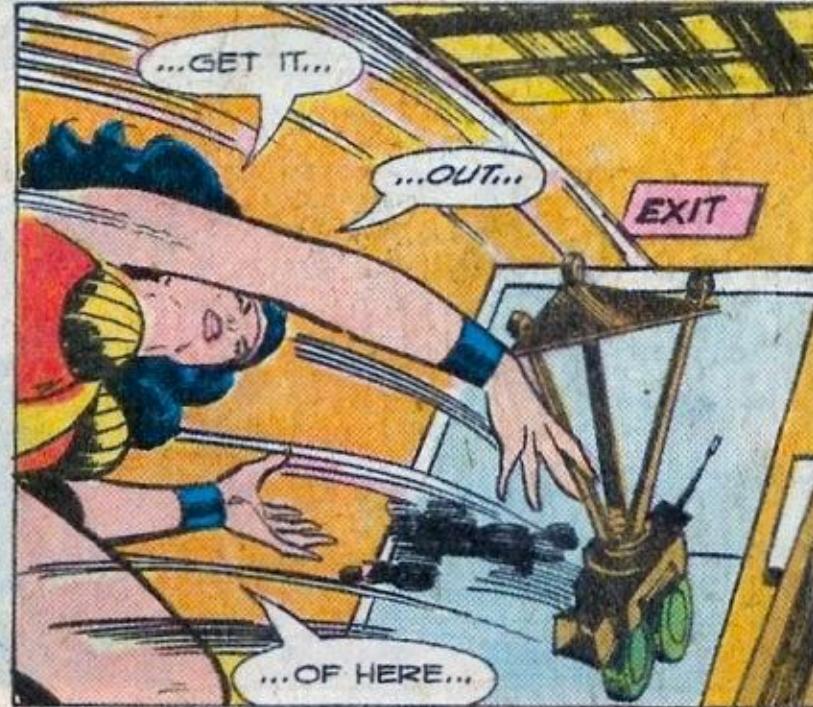
WITHOUT A MOMENT WASTED, THE AMAZON SPRINTS DOWN THE HALL-- FAILING TO NOTICE THE CHANGE PRISCILLA UNDERGOES...

...THE CHANGE--CAUSED BY THE REAPPEARANCE OF WONDER WOMAN--THAT SENDS THE CHEETAH LEAPING INTO PURSUIT OF THE AMAZON, FIRING HER CLAWS...





BUT DON'T
WORRY--NO
ONE WILL
BE HURT...



BADBOOM

THE SMOKE OF THE EXPLOSION HAS NOT YET CLEARED AS WONDER WOMAN TAKES OFF ONCE MORE--THIS TIME TO SETTLE MATTERS WITH HER NEWLY-AWAKENED ANTAGONIST...



...AND NOW,
DEARIE--
YOU DIE!



RELAX, PRISCILLA--I WON'T
LET ANYTHING TERRIBLE
HAPPEN TO YOU!

THAT WOULDN'T
BE QUITE FAIR,
AFTER ALL...

...YOU'RE NOT
RESPONSIBLE
FOR YOUR ACTIONS!
YOU'RE SICK...



THE PERSUASIVE INFLUENCE OF
WONDER WOMAN'S MAGIC
LASO FORCES PRISCILLA RICH
TO OBEY...

...AND THE MENACE
OF THE CHEETAH
IS ENDED! THIS,
SOME TIME
LATER...

WELL, PRINCE, I GUESS
WE'LL NEVER KNOW WHERE
WONDER WOMAN DISAPPEARED
TO LAST WEEK!

I'LL JUST HAVE
TO BE CONTENT TO
HAVE HER BACK--
AND HOPE IT
NEVER HAPPENS
AGAIN!

MAYBE, STEVE--
BUT IF IT DOES,
YOU MIGHT TRY
SPENDING MORE
TIME LOOKING
FOR HER!

WHO KNOWS?
MAYBE YOU
COULD HAVE
FOUND HER!

IN FACT, I WOULDN'T
BE SURPRISED
IF SHE'D BEEN
NEARBY ALL
THE TIME!

NEXT: THE TERRIFYING COMING OF
OSIRA--THE PEACEMAKER FROM THE
PYRAMID... IN WONDER WOMAN #251--
ON SALE THE 3RD WEEK IN FEBRUARY!



#L-640

Here we are with another letterless letters page in yet another edition of the "new-old" **WONDER WOMAN**. As of this writing, we are still awaiting reader response to the "new direction" introduced to this magazine in issue #229. We expect to be able to publish the first such letters in this department next issue.

So far, we've used this "vamp-till-ready" space to introduce you to the television counterparts of our amazing Amazon and her boyfriend—Lynda Carter and Lyle Waggoner, respectively. We thought that this time out we'd use this page to familiarize our newer readers with the creative personnel behind the Amazon Princess:

DENNY O'NEIL brings extensive experience as a writer and editor to his role as story-editor of **WONDER WOMAN**. For almost twelve years, Denny has been regarded by his colleagues in the comics field as one of the most talented writers working in the medium. He has scripted numerous DC features in addition to having worked, at various times, for Marvel, Charlton, and Warren. The 1970 incarnation of **GREEN LANTERN** co-starring **GREEN ARROW**—produced in collaboration with Julius Schwartz and Neal Adams—is one of the most frequently-awarded features in comics history.

Denny is very familiar with our favorite Amazon, having written several of her adventures as well as editing this magazine for several issues in 1971. But Denny's work extends far beyond the comic book field. He is the author of numerous short stories—published in **Amazing**, **Fantastic**, and **Ellery Queen's Mystery Magazine**, among other periodicals—and several books, among them a novel—**The Bite of Monsters**—and **The Secret Origins of the DC Super-Heroes**. He's been a contributor to numerous national magazines, including **Show**, **Penthouse**, **High Times**, **Viva**, **Publisher's Weekly**, and **Oui**. He is currently an editorial consultant for Ballantine Books.

A Taurus born in 1939, Denny makes his home in Manhattan's Greenwich Village, just a few blocks south of **MARTIN PASKO**.

Marty has been the scripter for the Amazing Amazon for over two years, having started as WW's regular writer with issue #218. The 23-year-old writer has been scripting for DC since 1973, after working as a newspaper columnist in his home town in New Jersey, and writing comics material and text features for a variety of publishers.

A former theatre student at Northwestern University, Marty keeps busy with a wide range of work in the entertainment field when not writing **SUPERMAN**, **WW**, or **THE METAL MEN**. He's directed over two dozen stage productions for university and little-theatre companies in New Jersey and Illinois, and acted in many more, as well as on spoken-word records and in educational films. After working as a production assistant and writer of advertising copy for several low-budget exploitation films, Marty is now at work on the screenplay for a

forthcoming feature film.

Marty isn't the only one of our creative team with a theatrical bent, for there have been acting stints in the pasts of both Denny O'Neil and inker **VINCE COLLETTA**. In fact, only a few short years ago, the handsome Mr. Collette came within a hair's breadth of landing a supporting role in the famous *Godfather* film.

These days find Vinnie extremely busy at DC Comics, where he displays his unique abilities both as Art Director for the DC line of super-stars and as one of the foremost inkers in the field. His work graces many of our titles regularly—including **STARFIRE**, **SUPERMAN FAMILY**, **ISIS**, and **YOUNG LOVE**—and many, many covers. Regular DC readers have enjoyed Vinnie's work for many years, and will probably remember him as the art director of several of our romance titles in 1972.

Vinnie, who is a native of Sicily and received his art training at the New Jersey Academy of Fine Arts, has worked for numerous comic book publishers since the early 1950's. His work elsewhere includes inking for Charlton and Dell, and most notably Marvel, to whose top features he lent his talents for several years.

So far you've met only three members of the regular team behind **WONDER WOMAN**. Your introduction to the fourth, and certainly most conspicuous—the gentleman who **pencils** our Amazing Amazon—will have to wait until next issue, in which his WW work debuts. That's right, this magazine will have a new regular artist beginning with issue 231; and his name is one that's sure to be familiar to many long-time DC readers—**BOB BROWN**! We'll save a comprehensive profile on Bob for next issue, when space will permit the treatment he so richly deserves, and we will welcome him aboard for what we hope will be a long and happy stay with the Amazon Princess.

And lest you think we're giving short shrift to **JOSE DELBO**, who's served **WW** long and well with his distinctive pencilling, let us say how sorry we are to see Jose go. Not that he's leaving DC! Not by a long shot. It's merely that his peerless pencilling is much in demand these days, and with **SUPERMAN FAMILY**, **TEEN TITANS** and many other assignments awaiting his attention, something had to give. The Wonder Woman feature—newly "promoted" to 18 appearances a year—became the logical candidate, as we prefer to have **one** artist depicting all of Diana's adventures, and Jose was just too busy to do so. We're certain that, in the near future, one or another of our titles, will provide you with the biography of Jose we are unable to supply here.

You've met most of us, and now we're eagerly awaiting the opportunity to meet some of **you**. We'll be opening part of next issue's **WONDER WORDS** to reader debate on the pros and cons of the 1943, Earth-II **WW**. But we can only do that if you send your comments to **WONDER WORDS**, c/o DC COMICS, 75 ROCKEFELLER PLAZA, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10019. And be sure to be with us next issue, when Bob Brown debuts as the illustrator of "Puzzle of the Pyramid Peacemaker!" One month from now!

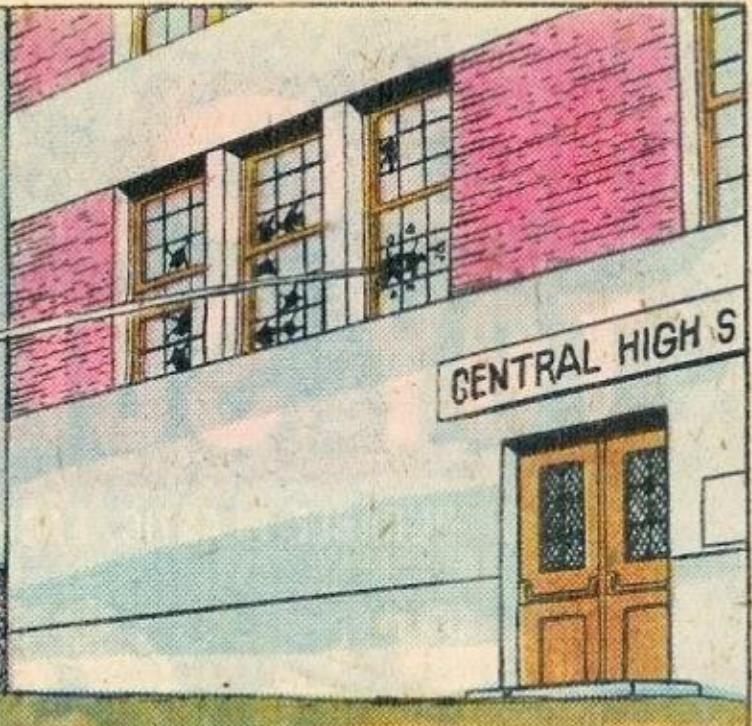
WORLD'S FINEST
COMICS

80 PAGES OF ALL NEW

EXCITEMENT

G.I. COMBAT

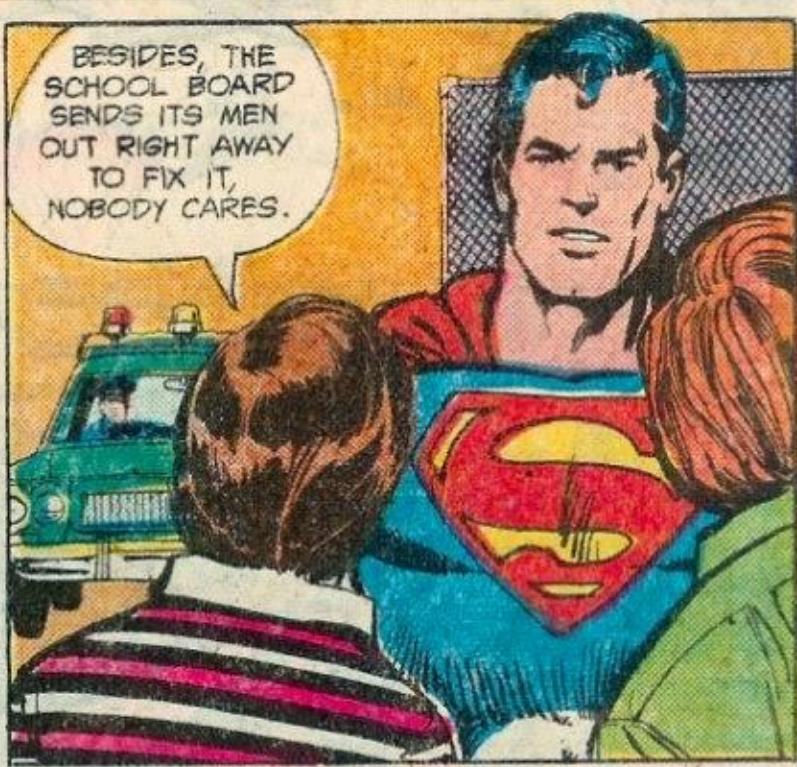
JUSTICE FOR ALL INCLUDES CHILDREN, 10



BOYS, YOU
KNOW THIS
IS WRONG.

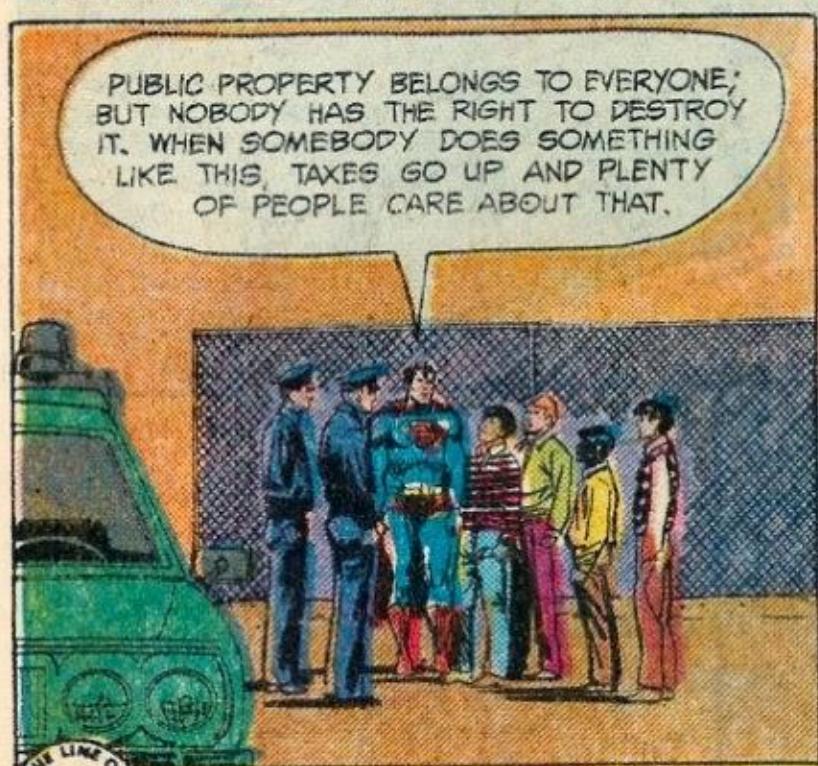
THIS IS A PUBLIC
SCHOOL. IT DOESN'T
BELONG TO ANYBODY.

BESIDES, THE
SCHOOL BOARD
SENDS ITS MEN
OUT RIGHT AWAY
TO FIX IT,
NOBODY CARES.



PUBLIC PROPERTY BELONGS TO EVERYONE;
BUT NOBODY HAS THE RIGHT TO DESTROY
IT. WHEN SOMEBODY DOES SOMETHING
LIKE THIS, TAXES GO UP AND PLENTY
OF PEOPLE CARE ABOUT THAT.

DESTROYING PUBLIC OR PRIVATE
PROPERTY IS CALLED VANDALISM
AND THAT'S AGAINST THE LAW. YOU
BOYS HAD BETTER COME WITH US.



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