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Wonder Woman®



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BEFORE...

MIRACLE. OH,
MIRACLE.

WONDER.

SHE'S
LEAVING
US.

I
KNOW.
SO SOON.
HOW COULD
IT BE SO
SOON?

SHE'LL...
...SHE'LL
COME BACK
TO US. I KNOW
SHE WILL.

PERHAPS,
PERHAPS WE
LOVED HER
TOO WELL.
BRING MY
ARTISANS, PLEASE,
PHILLIPUS.

OUR
DAUGHTER WILL
NEED SOMETHING
TO WEAR.



SHE IS THE
DAUGHTER OF THE
HUNTER'S MOON. SHE
WILL WEAR HER
CRIMSON.

CASSIOPEIA IS
HER CONSTELLATION,
THE W, THE CROWN, AND
WHITE-HOT STARS ON A
FIELD OF DEEP
BLUE.

AS ALWAYS,
WE TAKE FROM
ABOVE, AND NEVER
BELOW.

MY QUEEN.
I'M SORRY,
BUT WHY AM
I HERE?

I HAVE
A SPECIAL
TASK FOR
YOU, DEAR,
PASSIONATE
IO.

ATHENA REPRESENTS
OUR GODS, WATCHING
OVER US IN THE SHAPE OF
ANOTHER BEAUTIFUL FLYING
CREATURE.

YOU
ARE TO FORGE A
BREASTPLATE.

PLEASE.
PLEASE, CAN'T
YOU...
CAN'T
YOU MAKE HER
STAY?

MOTHERS
AND DAUGHTERS
MUST EVENTUALLY BE
PARTED, FORGEMISTRESS.
OR THEY ARE NOT
REALLY MOTHERS
AT ALL.

IT IS THE
WORST NIGHT
IN OUR TIME.
WE LOSE OUR
PRINCESS.

NO.
WE SIMPLY
GIVE HER BACK
TO THE SKY.

WRATH OF THE SILVER SERPENT

Part 2 of 3 BLOOD RED AND BONE DEEP

Written by GAIL SIMONE

Pencilled by NICOLA SCOTT and FERNANDO DAGNINO

Inked by DOUG HAZLEWOOD, WAYNE FAUCHER, and BIT

Additional digital inks by BRAD ANDERSON

Colored by BRAD ANDERSON

Lettered by TRAVIS LANHAM

Associate edited by SEAN RYAN

Edited by BRIAN CUNNINGHAM

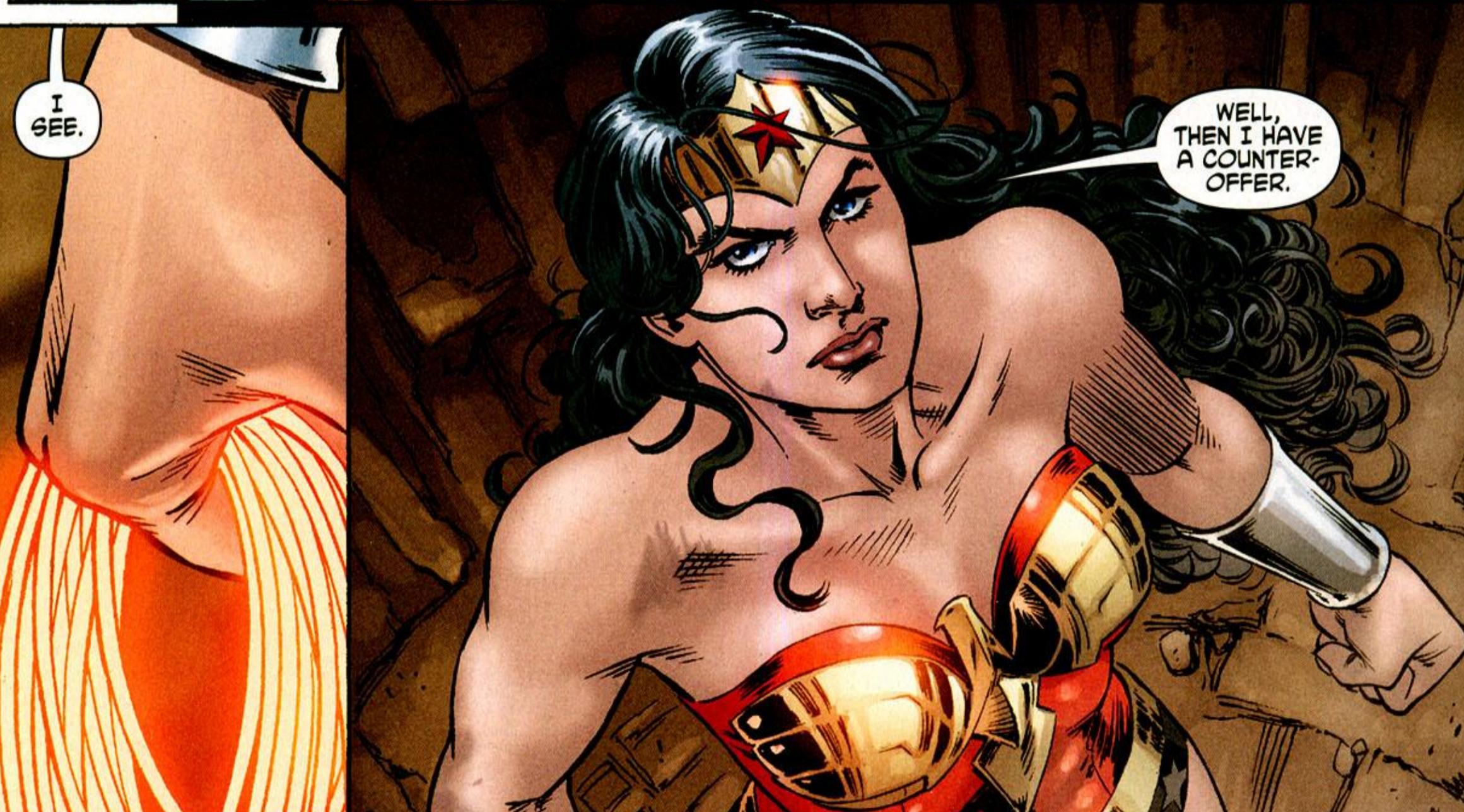
WONDER WOMAN created by
WILLIAM Moulton MARSTON

YOU HAVE
YOUR MOTHER'S
EYES.

I HAVE
MANY TRAITS
MY MOTHER
GAVE ME.

PERHAPS
I'LL IMPOSE
SOME UPON
YOU.

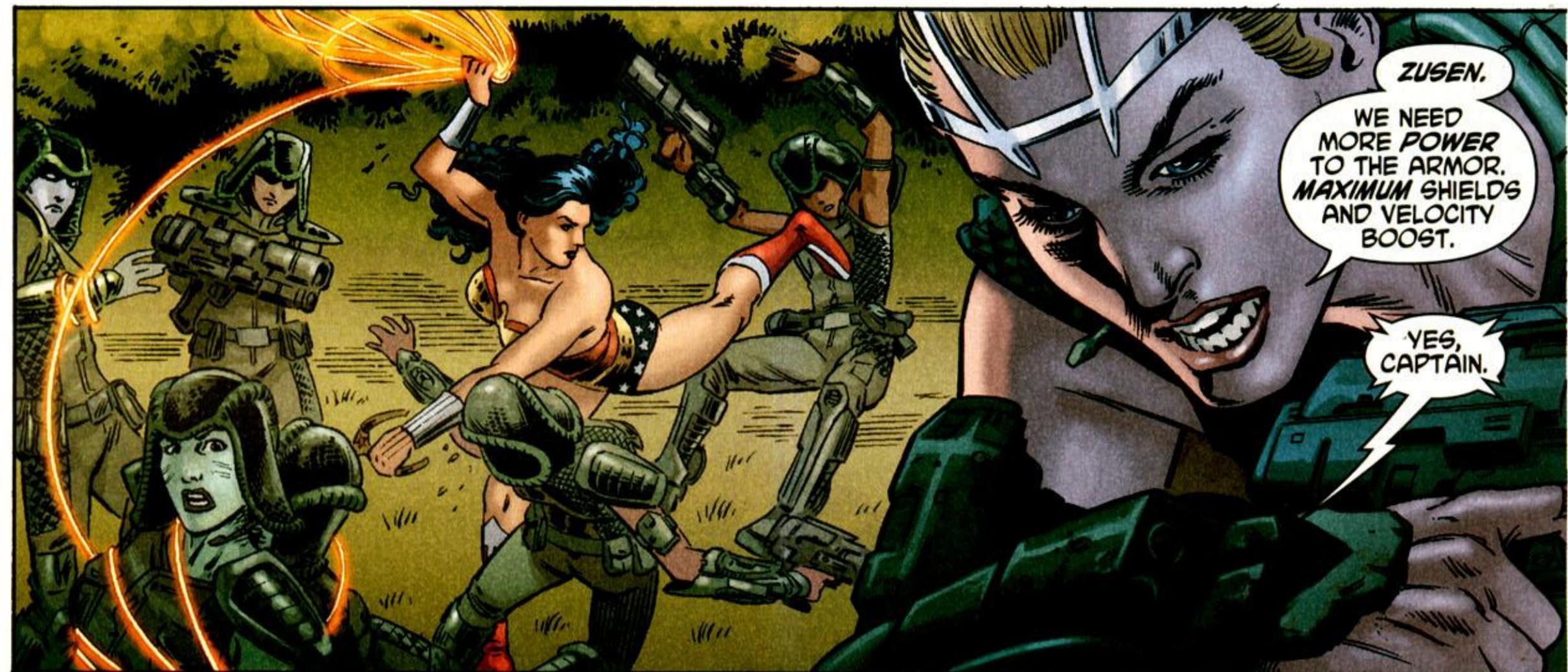


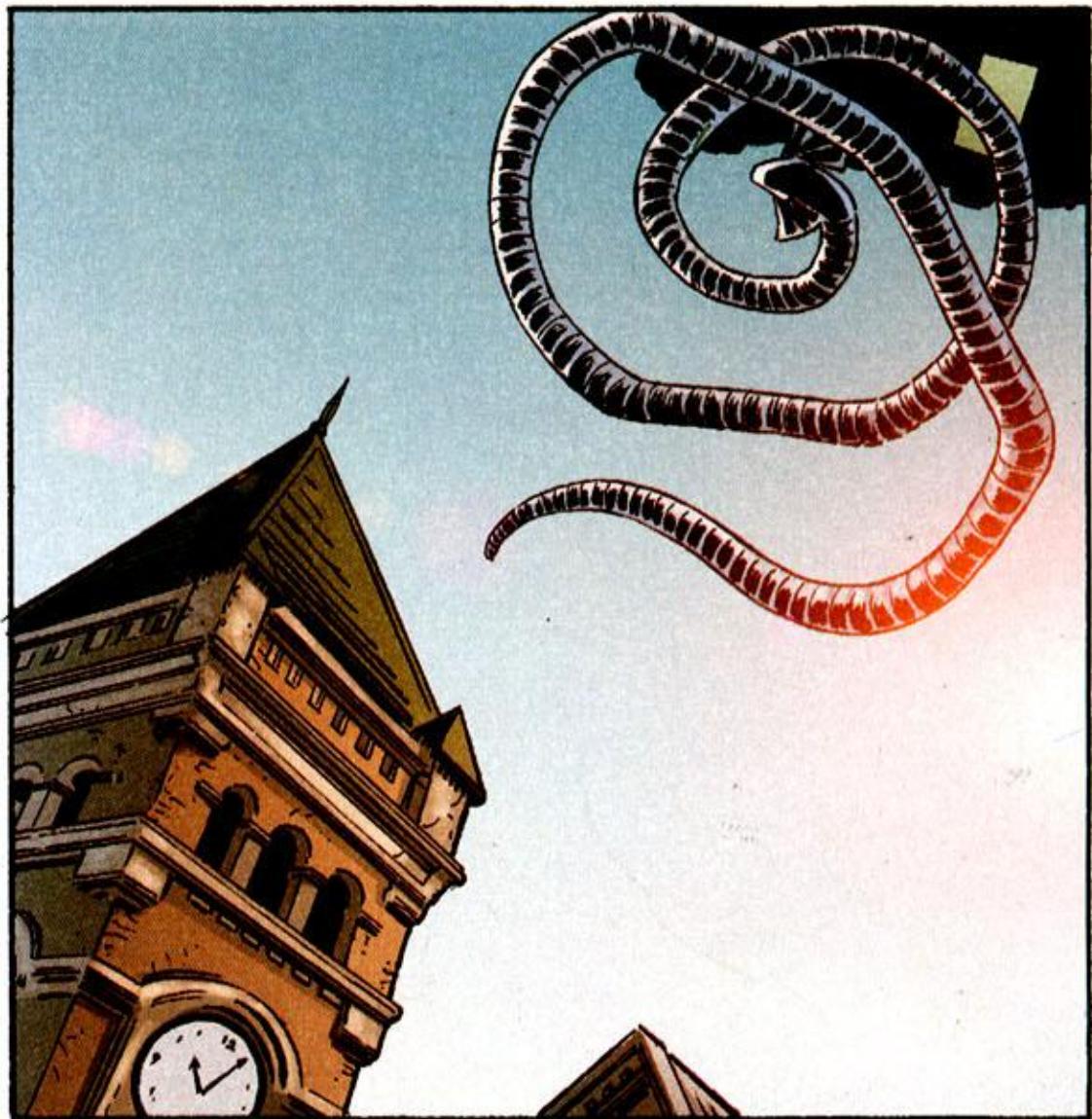


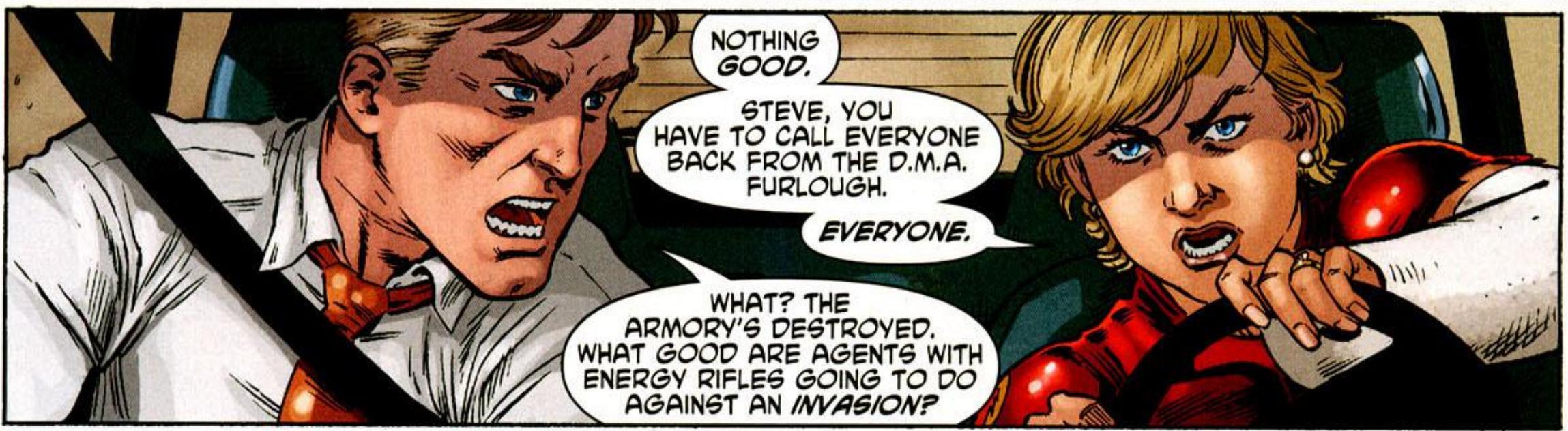


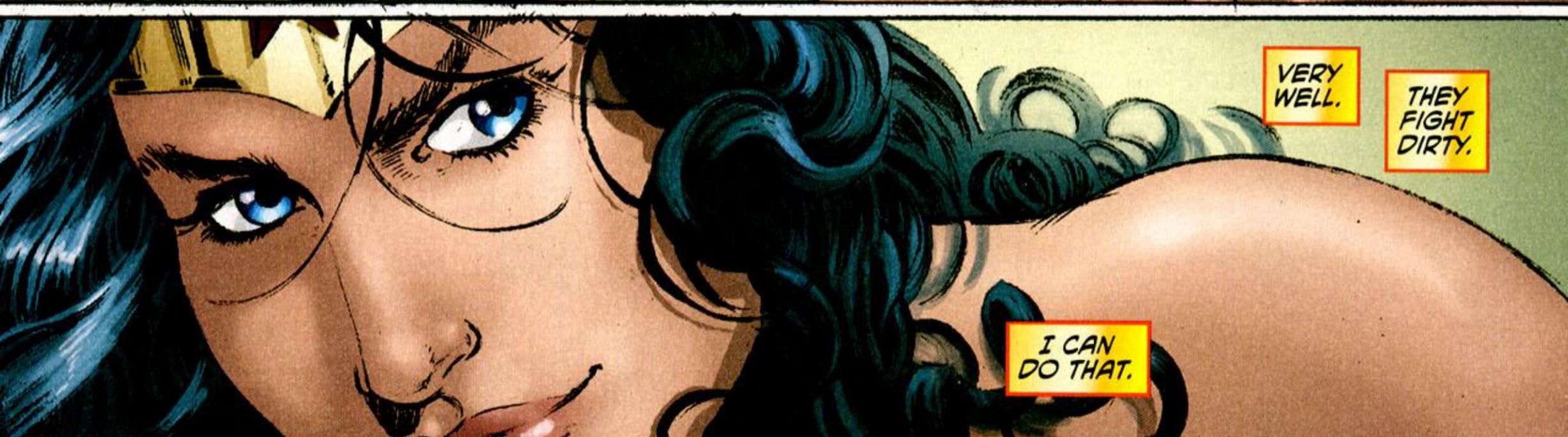
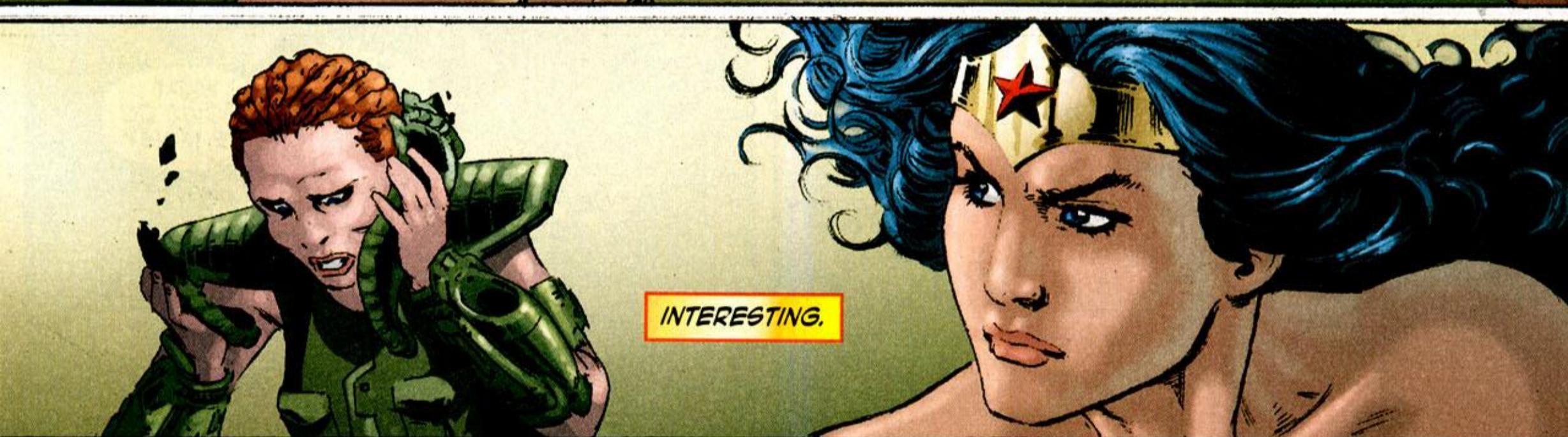
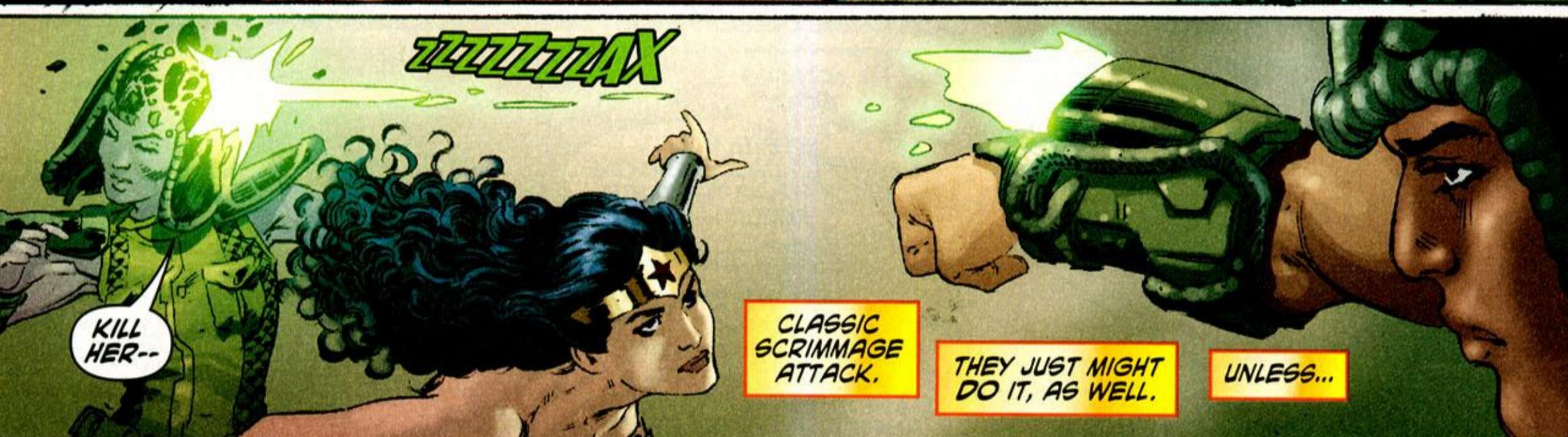
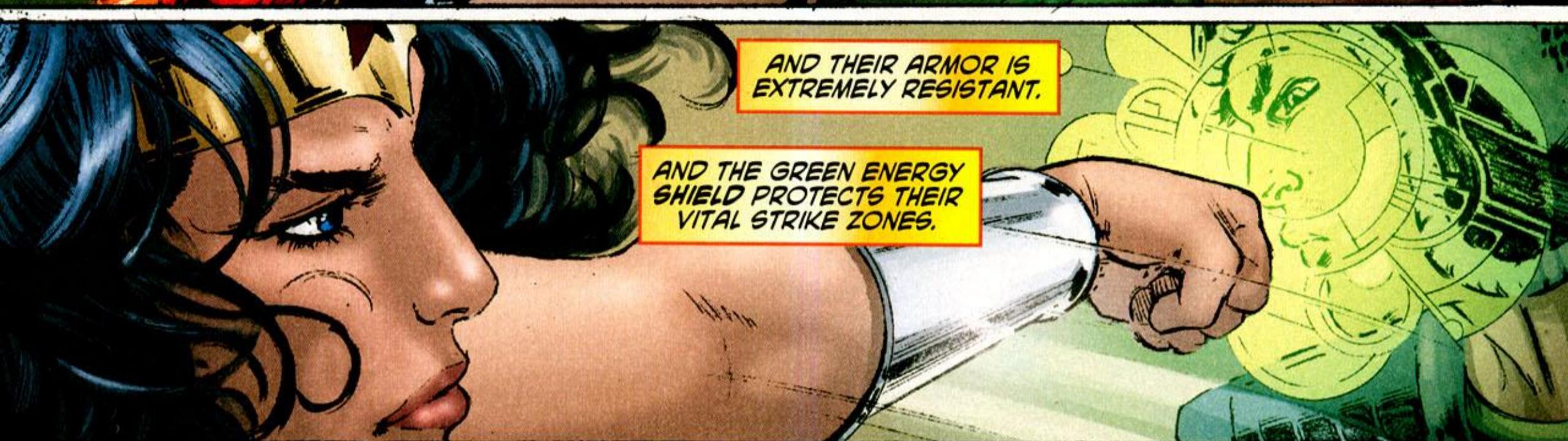


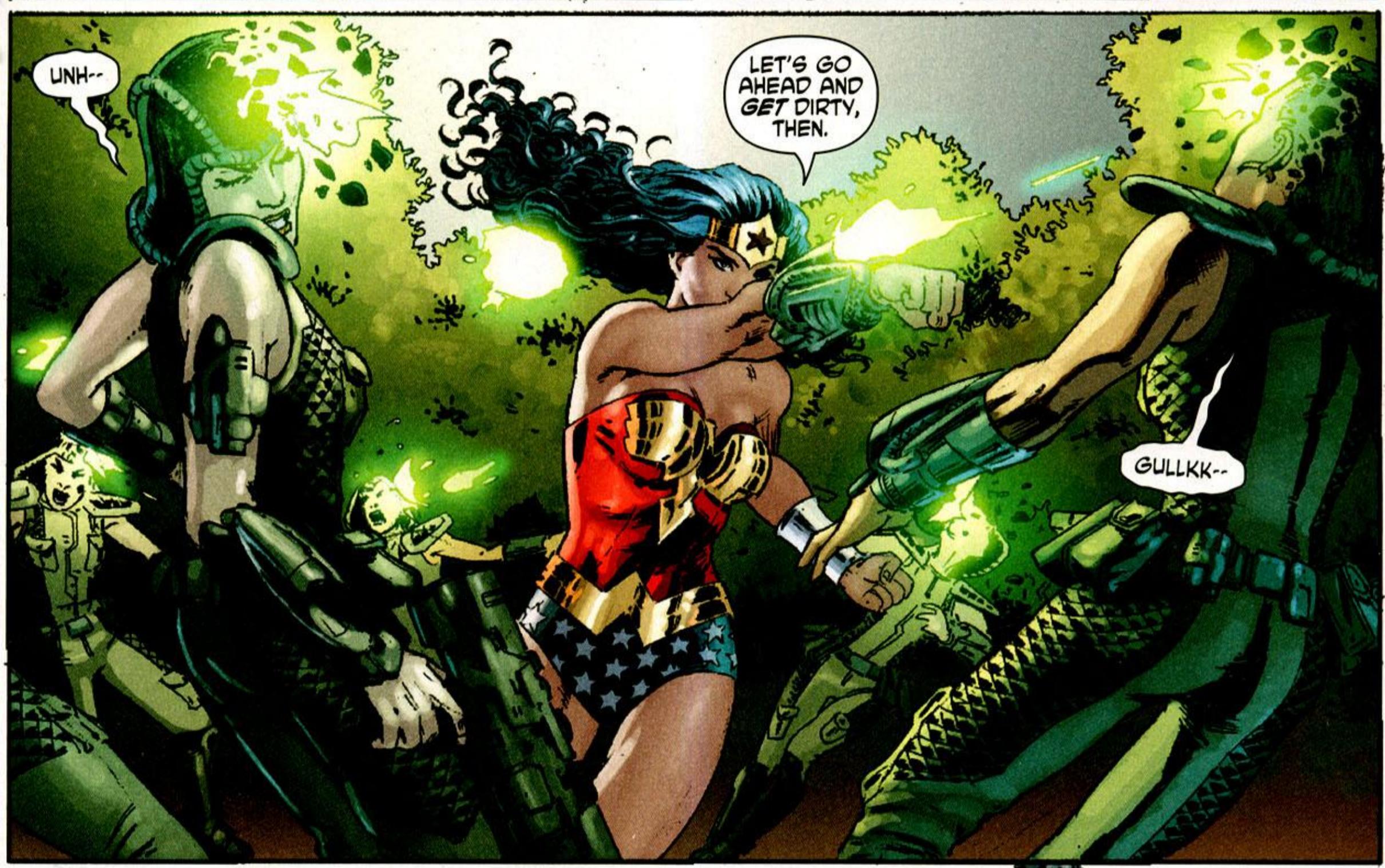


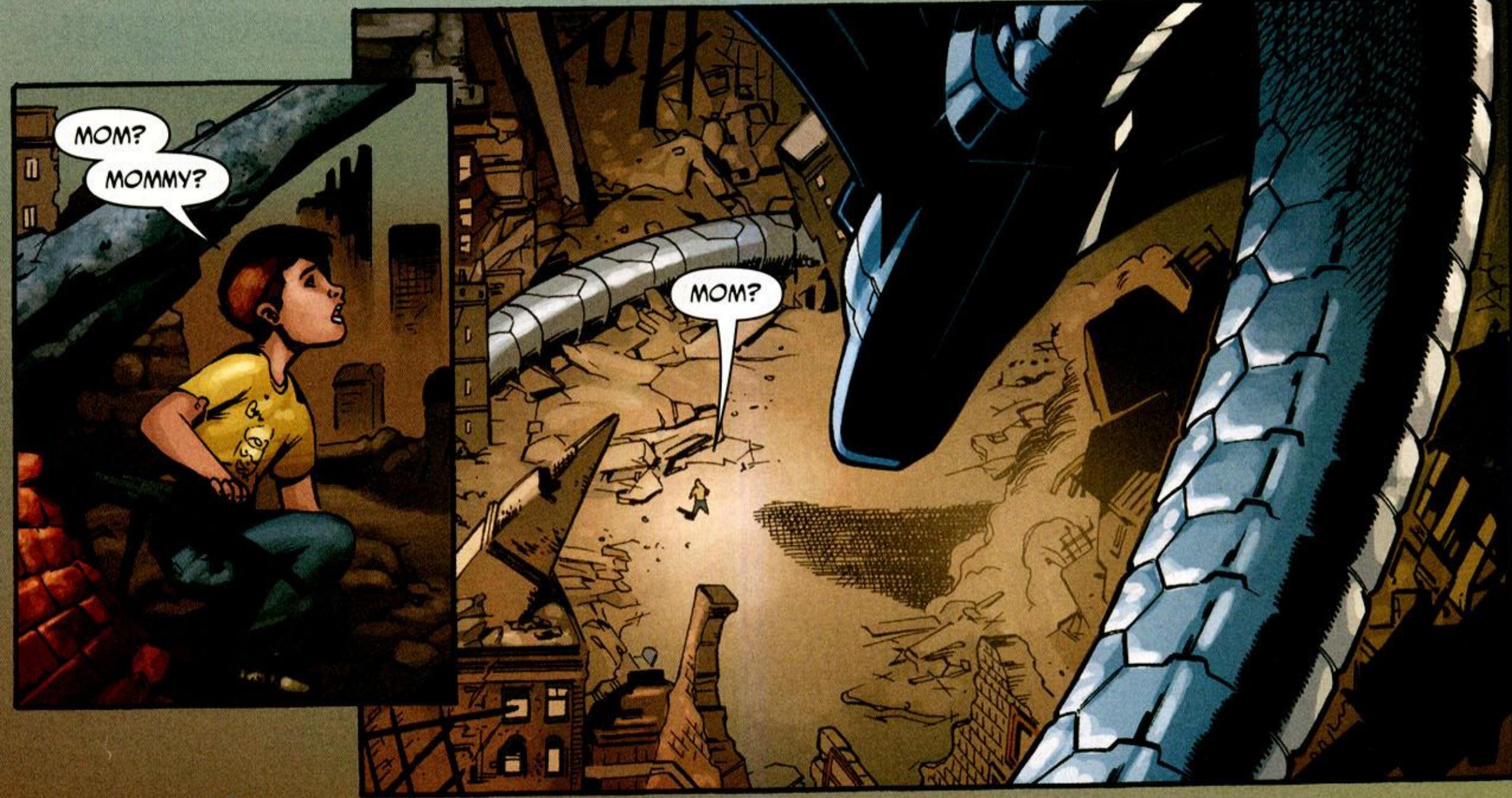




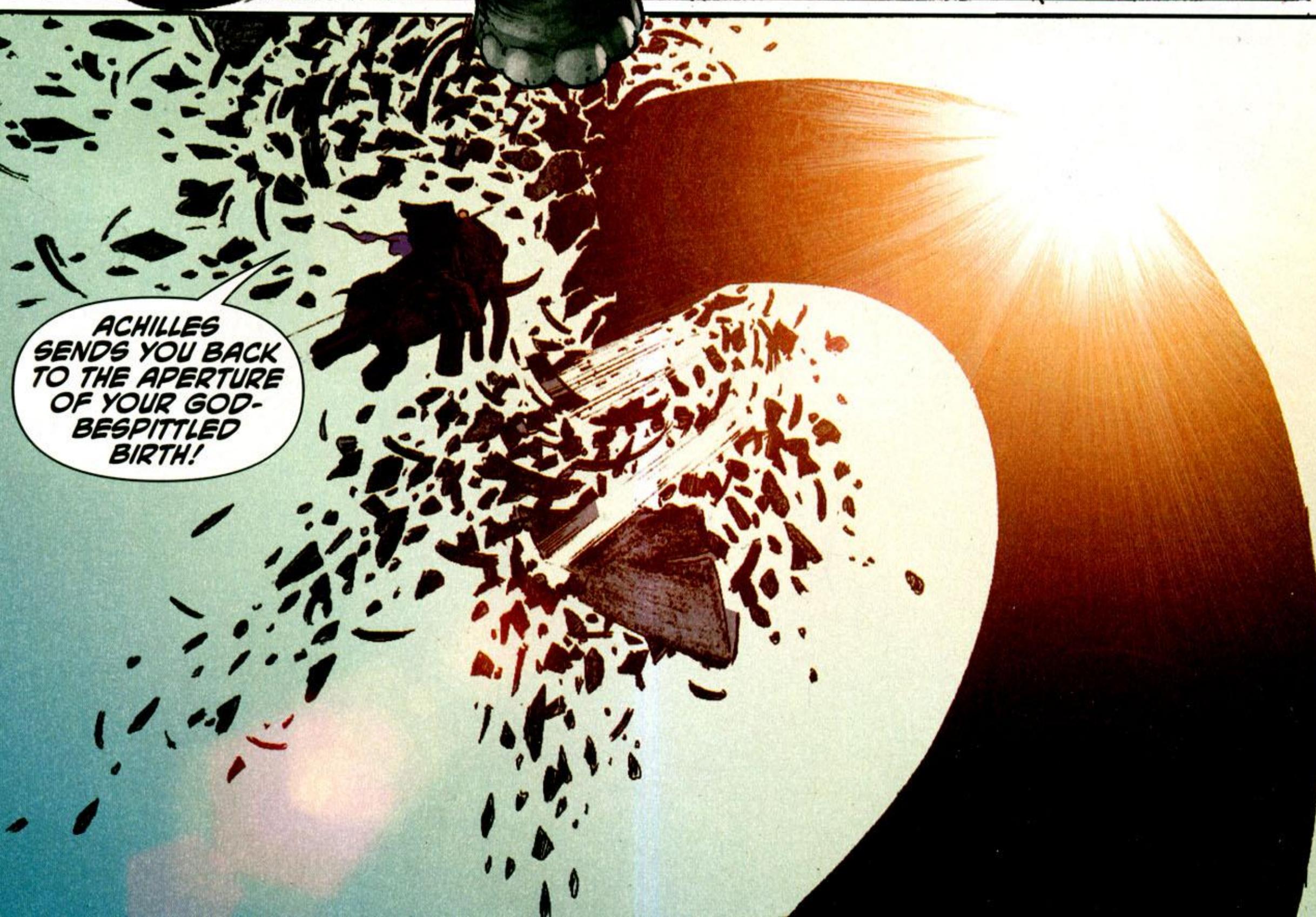


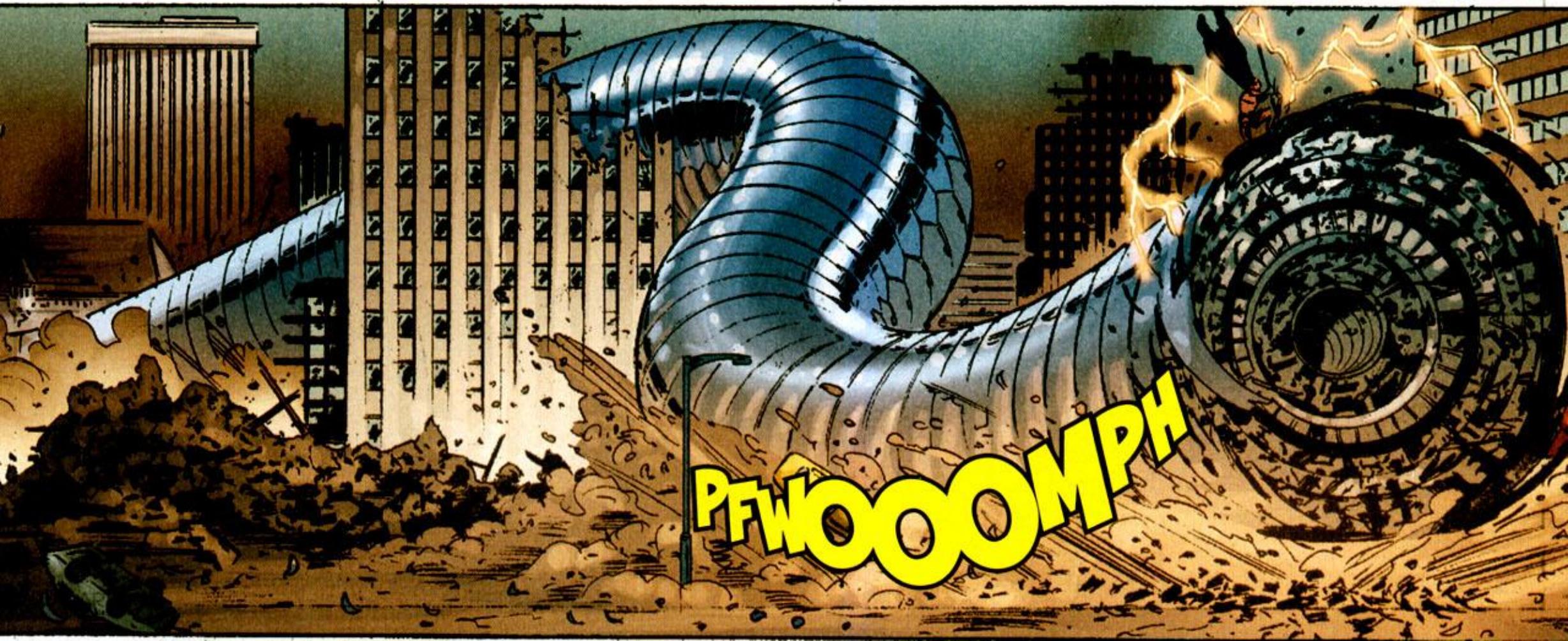
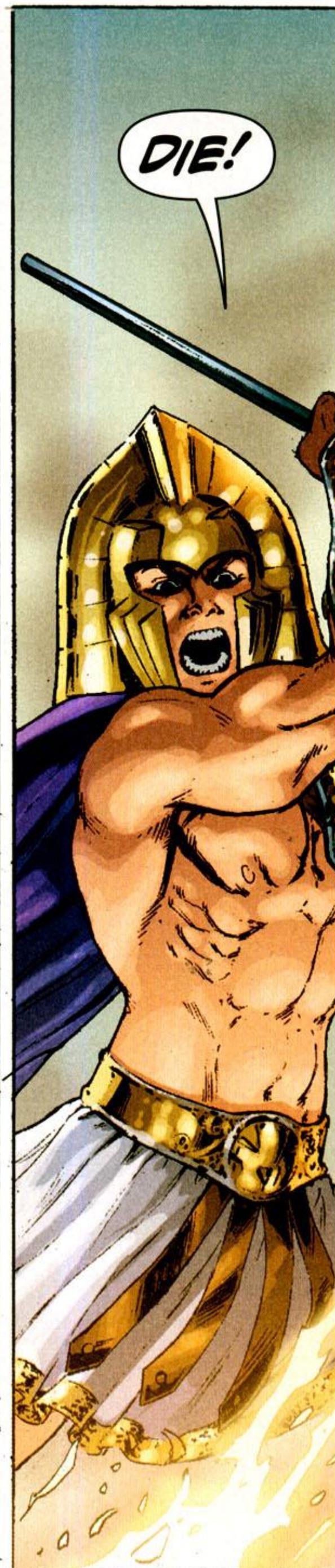
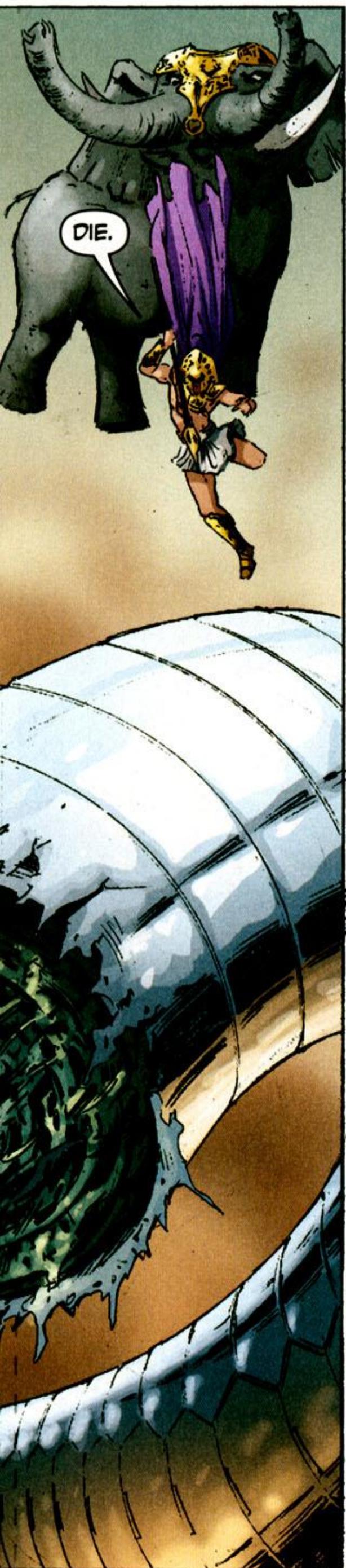






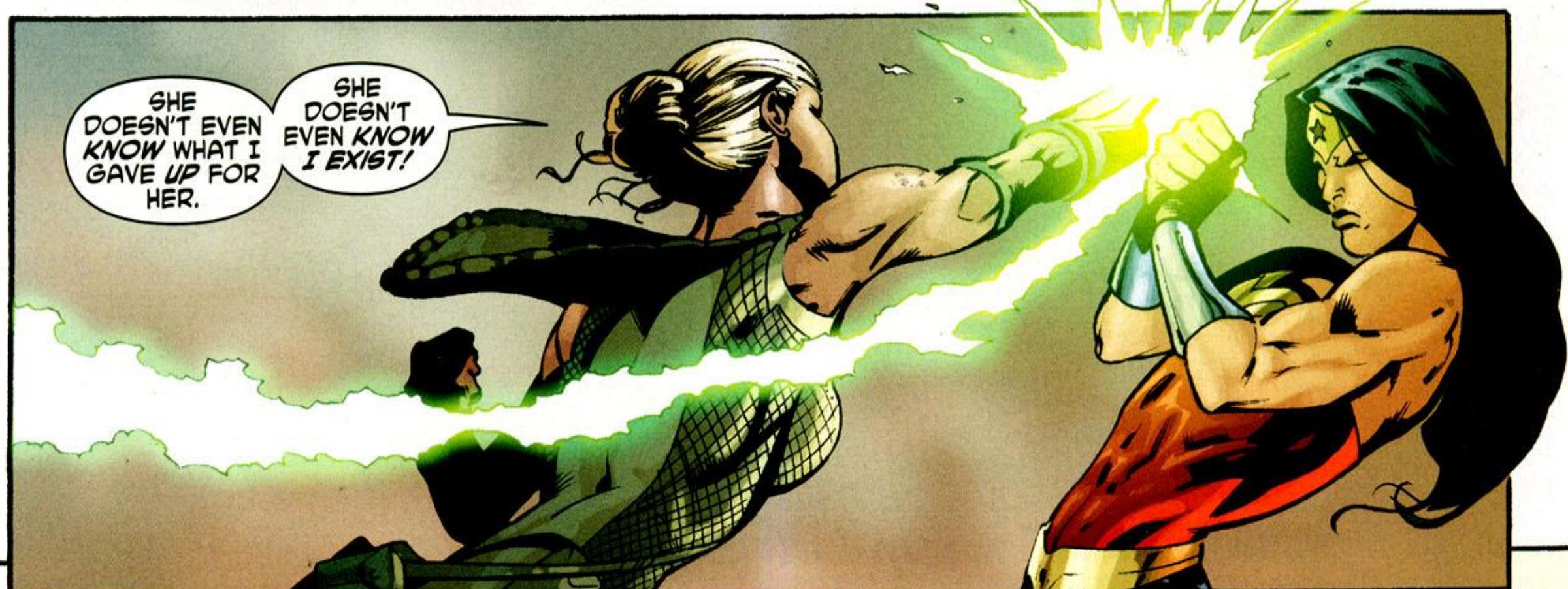
"I THINK WE'RE
FORGETTING THE ELEPHANT
IN THE ROOM."











I AM
RESPONSIBLE
FOR FEEDING AND
FUELING THAT
FLEET.

A PLANET'S
WORTH OF PEOPLE,
UNWELCOME
ANYWHERE.

"I KILLED THE
CAPTAIN WHO
KIDNAPPED ME.

"I MADE
US A
FORCE TO
FRIGHTEN
EVEN THE
OANS.

"THERE IS NO
SURRENDER.
THERE ARE NO
PRISONERS."

A LIFE
OF ENDLESS
MURDER?

I OFFER YOU
A WAY OUT.

THERE IS
NONE SAVE
DEATH. FOR
EITHER OF
US.

ALREADY MY
OFFICERS PLOT
TO MURDER ME.

A CHANCE TO
CONSOLIDATE
YOUR POWER,
CAPTAIN.

I APOLOGIZE
FOR MY LOSS OF
COMPOSURE.

I'M ORDERING
THE FLEET TO THIS
LOCATION.

YOU MAY
COME WITH US, IF
YOU LIKE, BEFORE
THE END.

YOUR LIFE IS
JOYLESS AND WITHOUT
EXPECTATION,
ASTARTE.

I OFFER YOU
SOMETHING IN
EXCHANGE FOR
MY HOME.

WHAT DO
YOU THINK
YOU COULD
POSSIBLY
OFFER ME,
CHILD?

"YOUR OFFICERS
BELIEVE YOU
GROW WEAK."

"SHOW THEM YOU'RE
STRONG. SHOW THEM HOW
YOU'VE DOMINATED THIS
WORLD COMPLETELY."

"ENTERTAIN THEM,
CAPTAIN ASTARTE."

"GIVE THEM
A DUEL."

LIEUTENANT SUZEN.
TAKE ARMSMISTRESS
ARAMIS AND READY THE
ARENA. UNLOCK HOLD
SEVENTEEN.

YOU'LL HAVE
TO HAVE SOME
CITIZENRY GEAR.
EVEN WITH YOUR
ABILITIES, YOU'LL
DIE TOO FAST
WITHOUT
THEM.

IT WOULD
WEAKEN
MY POSITION,
SHOULD THAT
OCCUR.

WE DON'T HAVE
TIME TO TEACH YOU
TO USE IT.

BUT IT
WOULDN'T MAKE
ANY DIFFERENCE
ANYWAY.

IF I WIN,
YOU LEAVE THIS
SYSTEM?

I
WOULD,
BUT YOU
WON'T.

AND THE
MOMENT YOU ARE
BEATEN...?

I SEND
EVERYTHING WE HAVE
AT YOUR PLANET.
WE KNOW
ABOUT YOUR
METAHUMANS.

IT WON'T
HELP.

CAPTAIN.

WHAT LIVES
IN HOLD SEVENTEEN?
WHAT IS IT I HAVE
TO KILL?

THE MOST
VICIOUS CITIZEN
SOLDIER WE'VE EVER
RAISED, CHILD.

EVERY CRUEL
IMPULSE EVER
IMAGINED.

HER NAME
IS THEANA.



NEXT: CUT FROM a POUND of FLESH



DICK GIORDANO 1932-2010

Artist. Editor. Teacher. Friend.

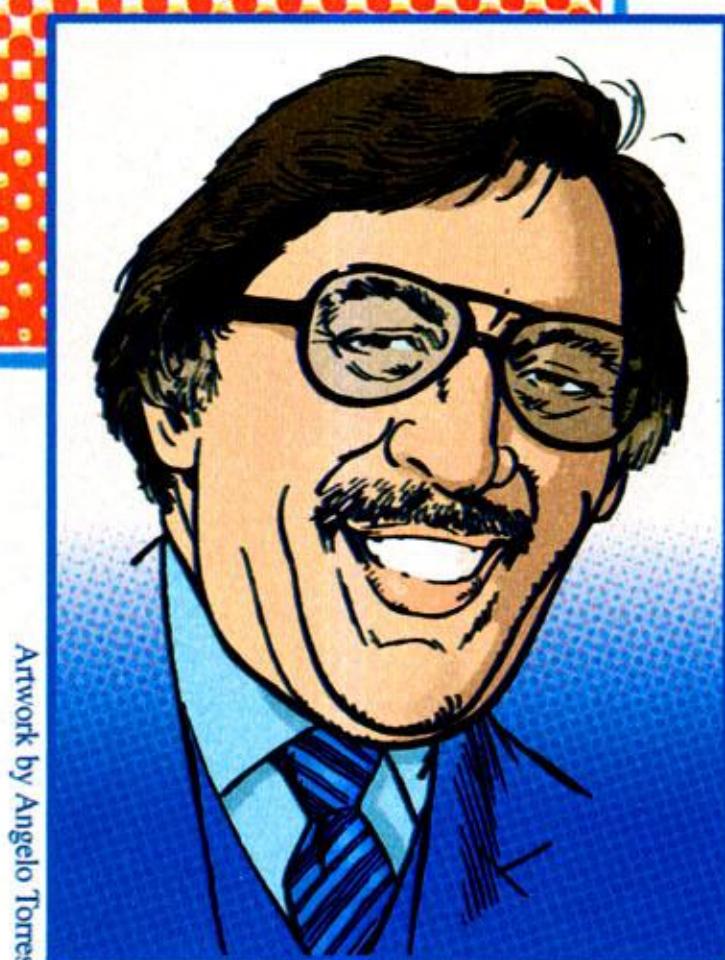
Dick Giordano loved comics. What the combination of words and pictures could do and say—as well as what the combinations of writers and artists could do and say WITH those words and pictures—showed Dick that his future was here.

Exposed to comics as a child during a bout with scarlet fever, Dick made it his lifelong business to work in and around the fantastic characters whose exploits helped him during that tough time.

First attending the High School of Industrial Art in Manhattan (which later became the High School of Art & Design), Dick learned the ins and outs of producing commercial art for the comics and advertising worlds of the 1950s. Landing his first job at *Charlton Comics* in 1952, Dick subsequently worked his way up to the position of Editor-in-Chief and forged early professional and personal relationships that would last a lifetime.

In 1967 Dick made the move to DC Comics where he developed a line of innovative new series. Bringing colleagues like **Steve Ditko**, **Steve Skeates** and **Jim Aparo** with him, he introduced DC's readers to the likes of **HAWK & DOVE**, an updated **AQUAMAN** and **THE CREEPER**.

Dick would take a short leave from our halls here at DC to form Continuity Associates in 1971 with artist and friend **Neal Adams**. Here they supplied commercial art to advertisers while still keeping their hand in the business of comic book art. In fact, Adams & Giordano's collaboration on **GREEN LANTERN** &



GREEN ARROW with writer **Dennis O'Neil** is still considered a milestone.

Returning to DC's staff in 1980, Dick was integral to the revitalization that DC (and comics in general) brought to the maturing readers of that decade. **Frank Miller's THE DARK KNIGHT RETURNS**, **Mike Barr & Brian Bolland's CAMELOT 3000** and **Alan Moore & Dave Gibbons's** landmark **WATCHMEN** all were presented to the world during Dick's years as Vice-President/Executive Editor. These titles and more helped change the face of comics—as well as the general public's opinions of comic book material.

Always returning to his favorite friends, Dick helped DC acquire the Charlton Comics characters—heroes like **CAPTAIN ATOM** and **BLUE BEETLE**—during this tour of duty, and these are characters who still thrive in the shared DC Universe. In fact, the Charlton characters directly inspired Moore & Gibbons during the creation of the **WATCHMEN**.

Dick Giordano left DC's staff in 1993 and continued to draw comics—even partnering with **Bob Layton** and, **David Michelinie** to start their own line called *Future Comics*.

When Dick left staff in 1993 **Dennis O'Neil**, **Archie Goodwin** and I took over as a three-

headed monster version of an Executive Editor—proving that Dick was working as hard as three guys.

Dick remains one of the most well-respected and beloved artists and editors who have ever worked in the comic book field. And he did share what he knew... teaching a wave of inkers in the '70s much of what he learned. People like **Klaus Janson**, **Terry Austin** and **Bob Wiacek** are tops in their work because of Dick's interest in helping others.

I met Dick myself in the early 1970s when I was a high school student at the High School of Art & Design. One Saturday Dick Giordano returned to his old alma mater and gave a lecture on the comic book field to any young artists with an interest in entering the business. He passed out packets with a sample script (from **BATMAN #210**, I remember) and told us to do three pages and he'd pick five kids for a private lesson UP AT DC COMICS!

I got picked! So thanks to Dick Giordano I was welcomed into DC's hallways and critiqued and encouraged and treated as a creator for the first time. Dick wanted everyone to enjoy his chosen profession—and to be a part of the future of comics.

When I graduated from college I worked at Marvel Comics as an editor. Despite Dick's encouragement I wasn't a good enough artist to compete with him or his trainees... but I could emulate what I saw as his style for the editorial department. And while few folks' demeanor could be as laid back as Dick's, I always approached creators and any problems with an eye towards being fair. Dick taught me to be fair.

When my time at Marvel was done... my associates managed to arrange an interview for me with Dick for a position DC had in editorial.

I got picked. And for the next seven years Dick taught me more about what comics can do. He was even one of the folks who let me kill Superman (it was for his own good, after all)... because he knew that somehow you could always come back to DC.

Even though Dick passed away on March 27th of this year... he's still here at DC in all of us who work here and in the characters who live here and in you, because every one of us is the future of comics according to Dick Giordano.

Mike Carlin

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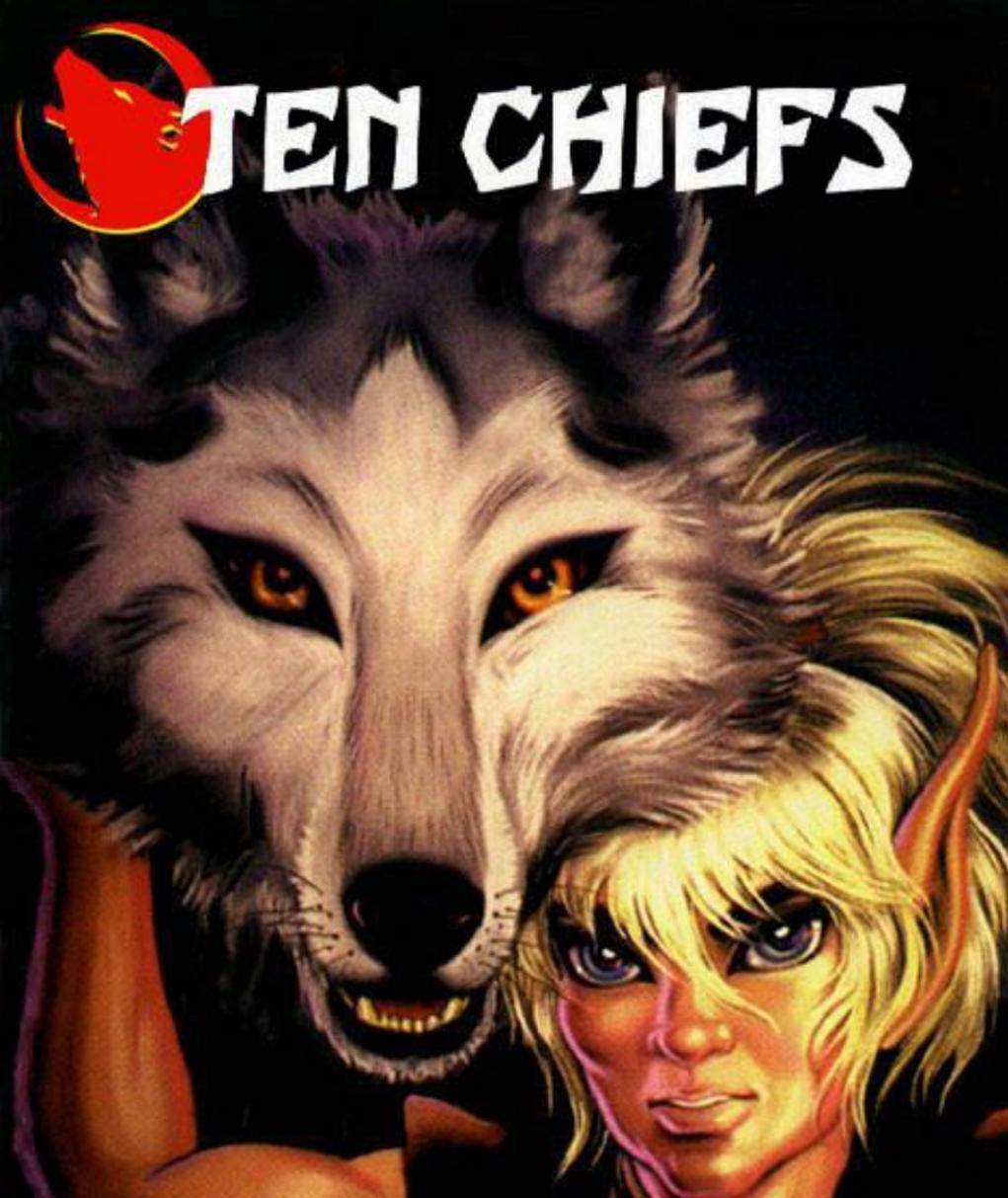


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