

SUPERMAN  
DC  
NATIONAL COMICS

12¢

# BATMAN

APPROVED  
BY THE  
COMICS  
CODE  
  
AUTHORITY

MAY  
NO. 147

THE STORY OF THE YEAR!  
**"BATMAN BECOMES  
BAT-BABY!"**



For the  
**BEST**

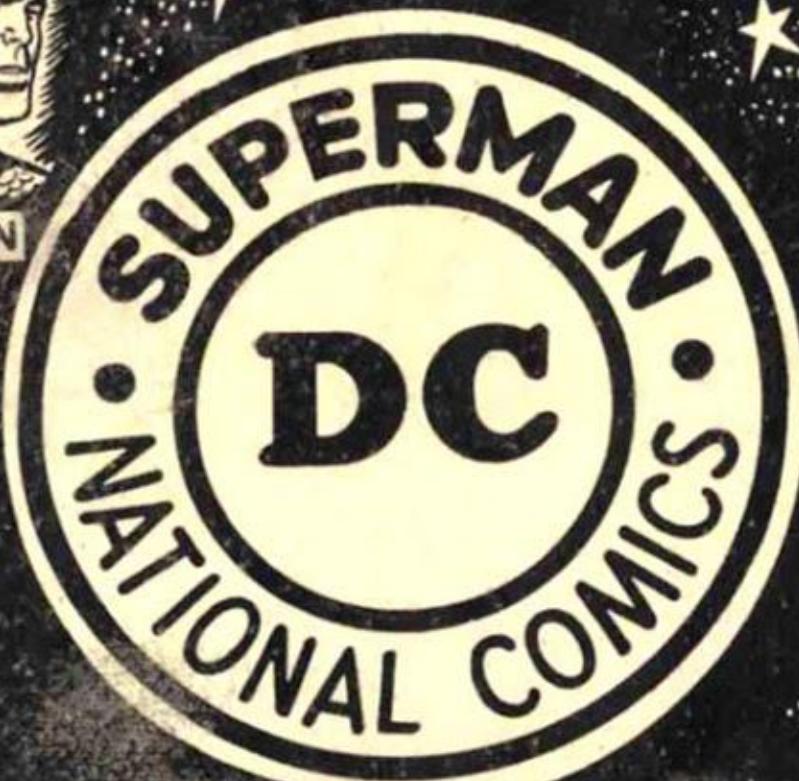
*in* COMICS  
ENTERTAINMENT



GREEN  
LANTERN



AQUAMAN



SUPERMAN



BATMAN



FLASH



BOB HOPE



JERRY LEWIS



FOX & CROW

LOIS  
LANE



JIMMY  
OLSEN

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by the Comics Code Authority



SUGAR 'N SPIKE

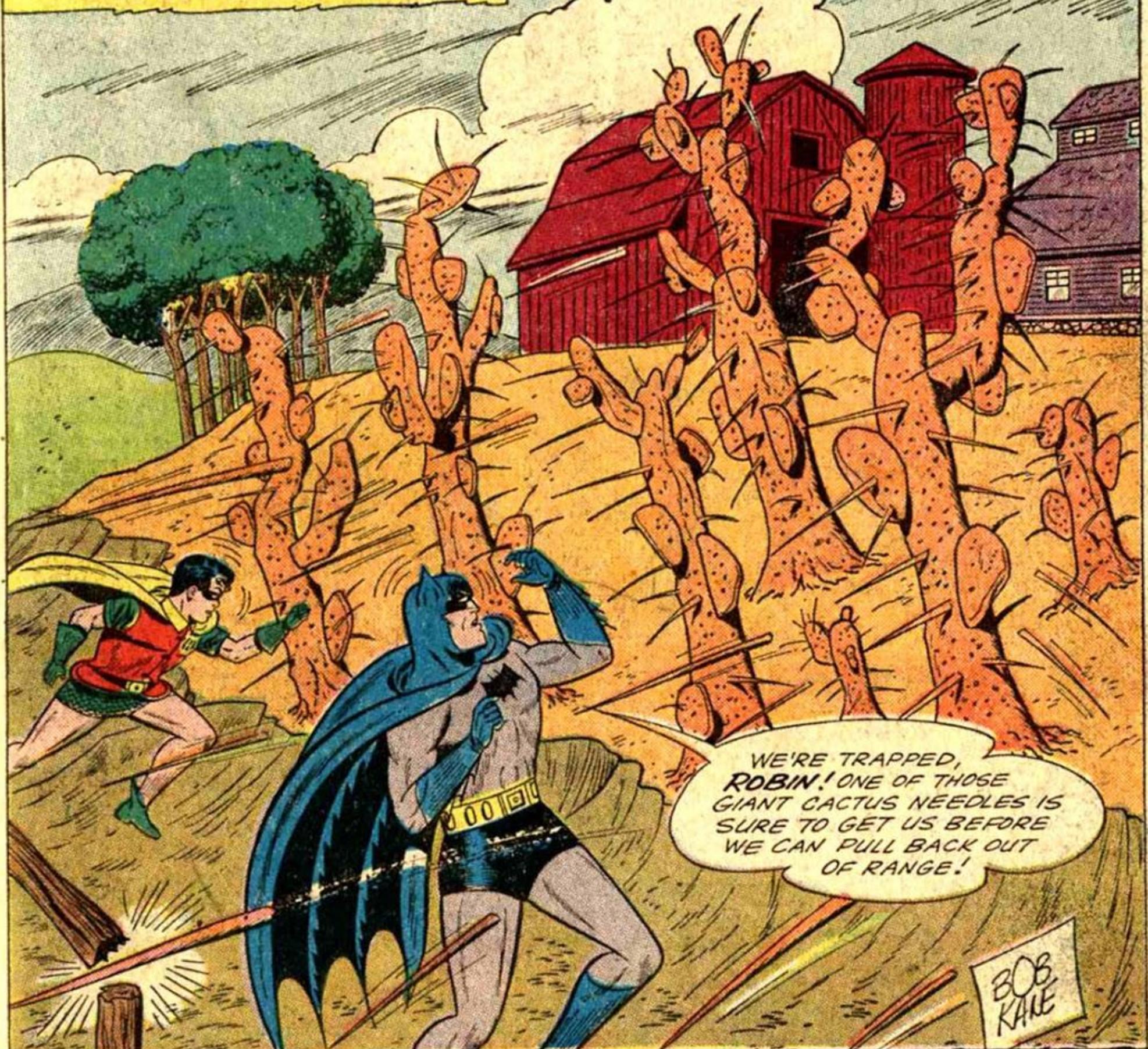


NO BOTANIST HAD EVER SEEN THE LIKES OF THESE STRANGE, MYSTERIOUS GROWTHS... NOR COULD ANY SCIENTIST ANTICIPATE THE TERRIBLE PROPERTIES OF THEIR FEARFUL FRUIT! NEVER BEFORE HAD BATMAN AND ROBIN BATTLED AGAINST SUCH ODDS, AS THEY STROVE TO CAPTURE THE ELUSIVE CRIMINALS BEHIND...

## THE PLANTS of PLUNDER

# BATMAN

WITH  
**ROBIN**  
- THE BOY WONDER -



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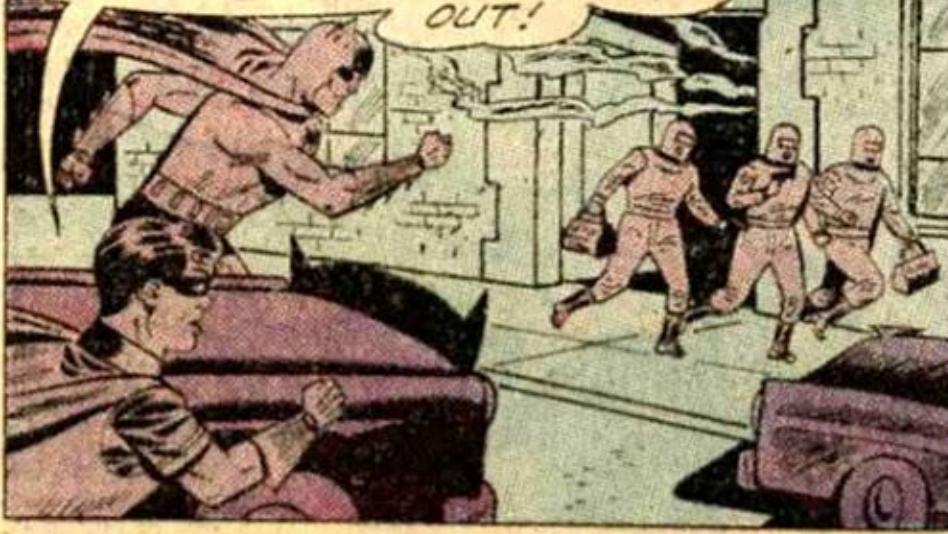


# BATMAN



A STARTLING SIGHT GREETS BATMAN AND ROBIN, ONE NIGHT, AS THEY PATROL GOTHAM CITY...

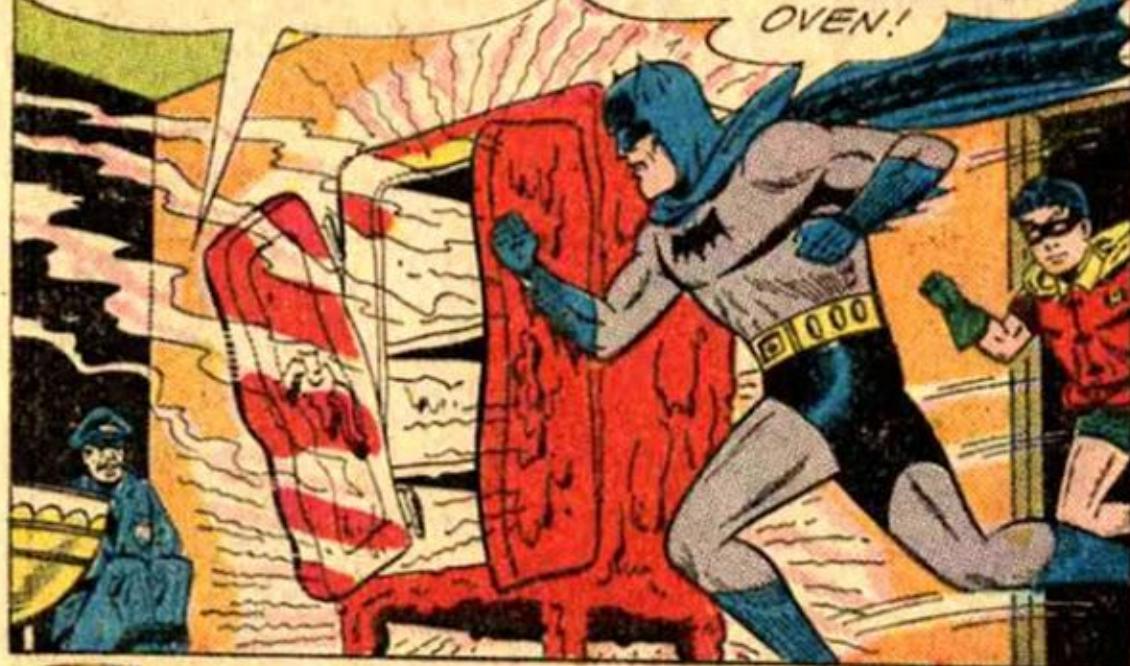
SMOKE COMING FROM THE BUILDING OF ORIENTAL JEWEL IMPORTERS... AND BANDITS IN ASBESTOS SUITS RUSHING OUT!



FORCED TO ABANDON THE FIGHT, THE PAIR RUSHES INSIDE, WHERE...

H-HELP ME! THE HEAT... IT'S MORE THAN I CAN STAND!

THE WATCHMAN... HAVE TO GET HIM OUT FAST! THIS PLACE IS LIKE AN OVEN!



BUT AS THEY INTERCEPT THE FLEEING FIGURES...

HELP! H-E-L-P!

OH-OH... SOMEONE TRAPPED INSIDE THE BUILDING!



LATER, AFTER POLICE AND FIREMEN ARRIVE...

FEEL BETTER NOW? TELL ME-- HOW'D THOSE CROOKS CRACK THE VAULT?

WITH HEAT! THEY MELTED IT!



"I WAS COMING OUT AFTER MAKING A ROUTINE CHECK WHEN THEY GRABBED ME..."

YOU'RE WASTING YOUR TIME! THAT VAULT WILL TAKE HOURS TO CRACK WITHOUT A BLOWTORCH!

IT WON'T BE, ONCE THE SEEDS HE'S DROPPING INTO THAT POT GET GOING!



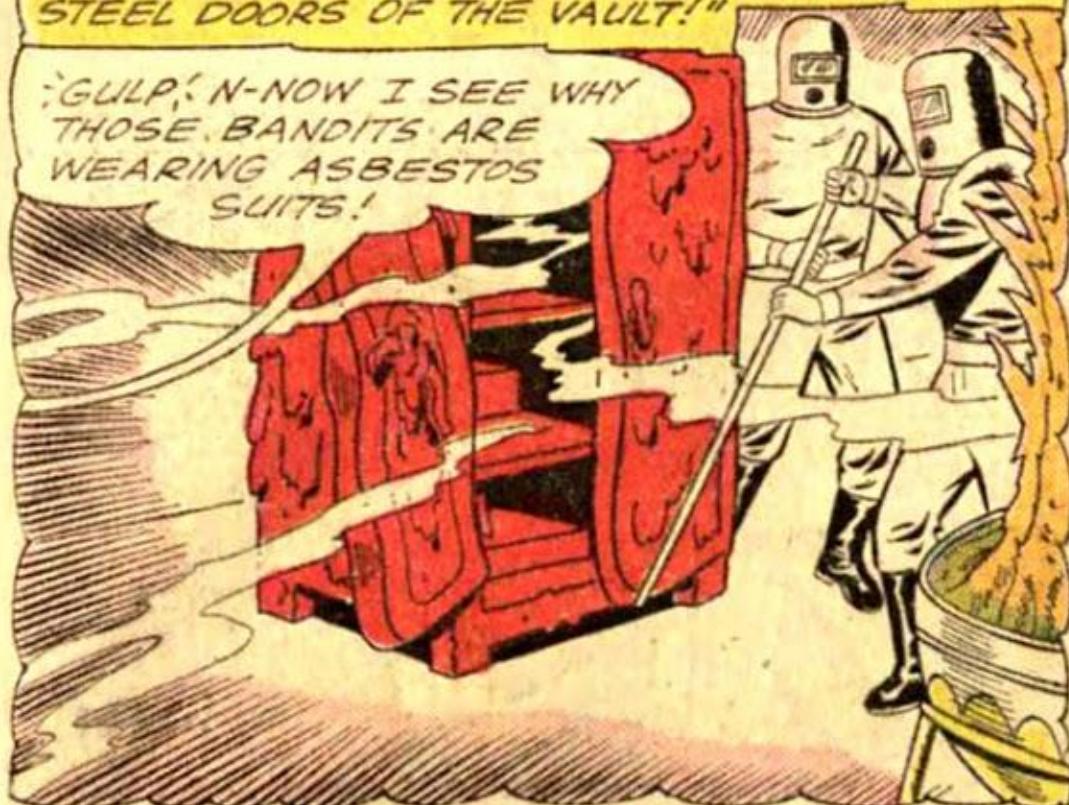
"AND THEN, RIGHT BEFORE MY EYES..."

JEHOSEPHAT! SOME CRAZY THING IS GROWING OUT OF THE POT-- PUSHING THE WHOLE PALM TREE OUT BY THE ROOTS! S-SOME KIND OF UNBELIEVABLE PLANT... B-BUT WHAT'S IT FOR?



"IN MERE SECONDS, THE PLANT BEGAN SENDING OUT WAVES OF HEAT THAT BUCKLED THE STEEL DOORS OF THE VAULT!"

"GULP! N-NOW I SEE WHY THOSE BANDITS ARE WEARING ASBESTOS SUITS!"



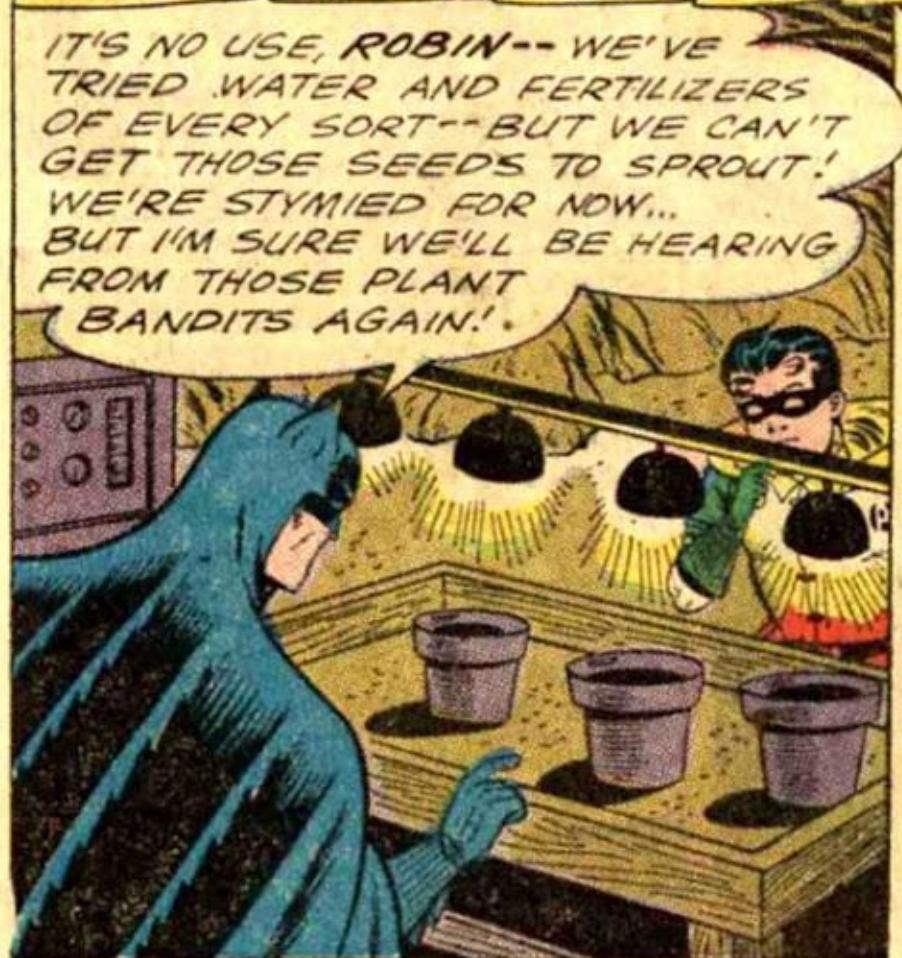
FOLLOWING THE WATCHMAN'S AMAZING STORY, BATMAN AND THE POLICE EXAMINE THE VAULT MORE CLOSELY...

HMM... NOTHING BUT BLACKENED DIRT LEFT IN THIS POT--AND, ON THE FLOOR HERE, SEEDS... BUT OF A KIND I'VE NEVER SEEN BEFORE! THAT FIGURES-- SINCE THEY PRODUCED A PLANT NEVER SEEN BEFORE!



LATER, IN THE BAT-CAVE CRIME LAB...

IT'S NO USE, ROBIN-- WE'VE TRIED WATER AND FERTILIZERS OF EVERY SORT--BUT WE CAN'T GET THOSE SEEDS TO SPROUT! WE'RE STYMIED FOR NOW... BUT I'M SURE WE'LL BE HEARING FROM THOSE PLANT BANDITS AGAIN!.



BATMAN'S WORDS ARE FULFILLED THE VERY NEXT DAY, WHEN...

EXPLODING GAS PODS  
ON GIANT PLANT HIDE  
GEM-BANDIT GETAWAY



AFTERWARD, IN RESPONSE TO AN URGENT CALL FROM POLICE COMMISSIONER GORDON...

BATMAN-- WE FOUND THIS AMNESIA VICTIM WANDERING AROUND THE STREETS AN HOUR AGO! HE DOESN'T KNOW WHO HE IS OR WHERE HE'S FROM, BUT WE FOUND THESE IN HIS POCKETS!



SEEDS!... AND THOSE GREENISH ONES MATCH THE ONES WE FOUND AT THE JEWEL IMPORTERS!



JUST THEN...

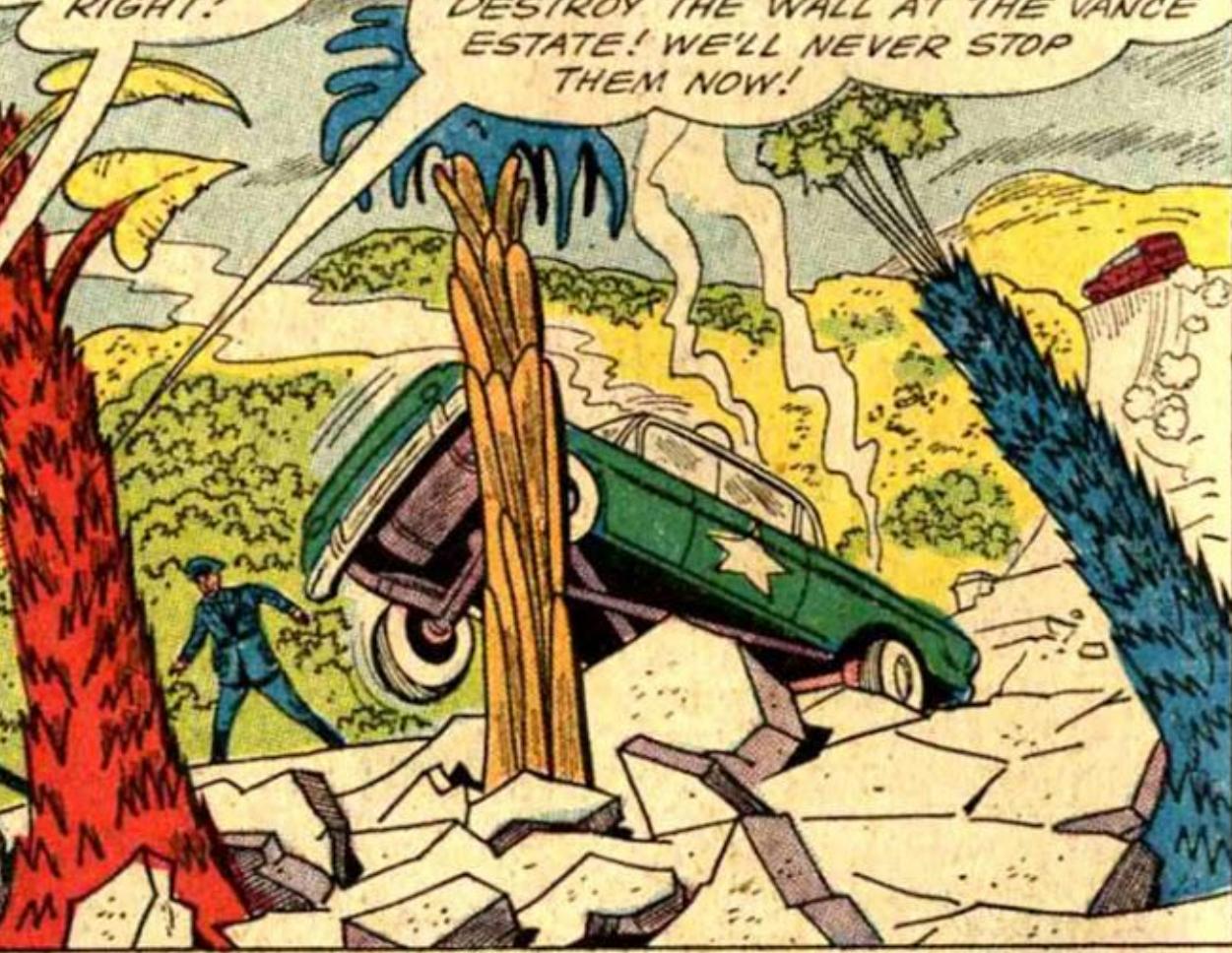
THE GIANT PLANT  
EMERGENCY PATROL BANDITS  
TO COMMISSIONER AGAIN!  
GORDON! BANDITS COME ON,  
SMASHED VANCE ROBIN--  
ESTATE WALLS WITH MAYBE  
GIANT PLANTS-- THIS TIME  
ESCAPED WITH ART WE CAN  
OBJECTS IN STOLEN CATCH  
STATION WAGON UP WITH  
DOWN THEM!



SWIFTLY, THE BATMOBILE ROCKETS OUT TO THE GET-AWAY ROUTE, WHERE...

GREAT SCOTT!  
WHAT HAPPENED?  
YOU MEN ALL  
RIGHT?

LUCKILY--YES! THOSE BANDITS  
STOPPED US BY RIPPING UP THE  
ROAD WITH THE SAME QUICK-  
GROWING PLANTS THEY USED TO  
DESTROY THE WALL AT THE VANCE  
ESTATE! WE'LL NEVER STOP  
THEM NOW!



THAT SIDE ROAD, THERE, WOULD  
ORDINARILY BE A GOOD SHORT-CUT  
TO HEAD THEM OFF--BUT IT'S  
IMPASSABLE NOW! THE WOODEN  
BRIDGE OVER BYRD  
CREEK WAS BURNED  
OUT LAST WEEK!

I KNOW--BUT  
THERE'S A CHANCE  
WE CAN MAKE IT  
ANYWAY!



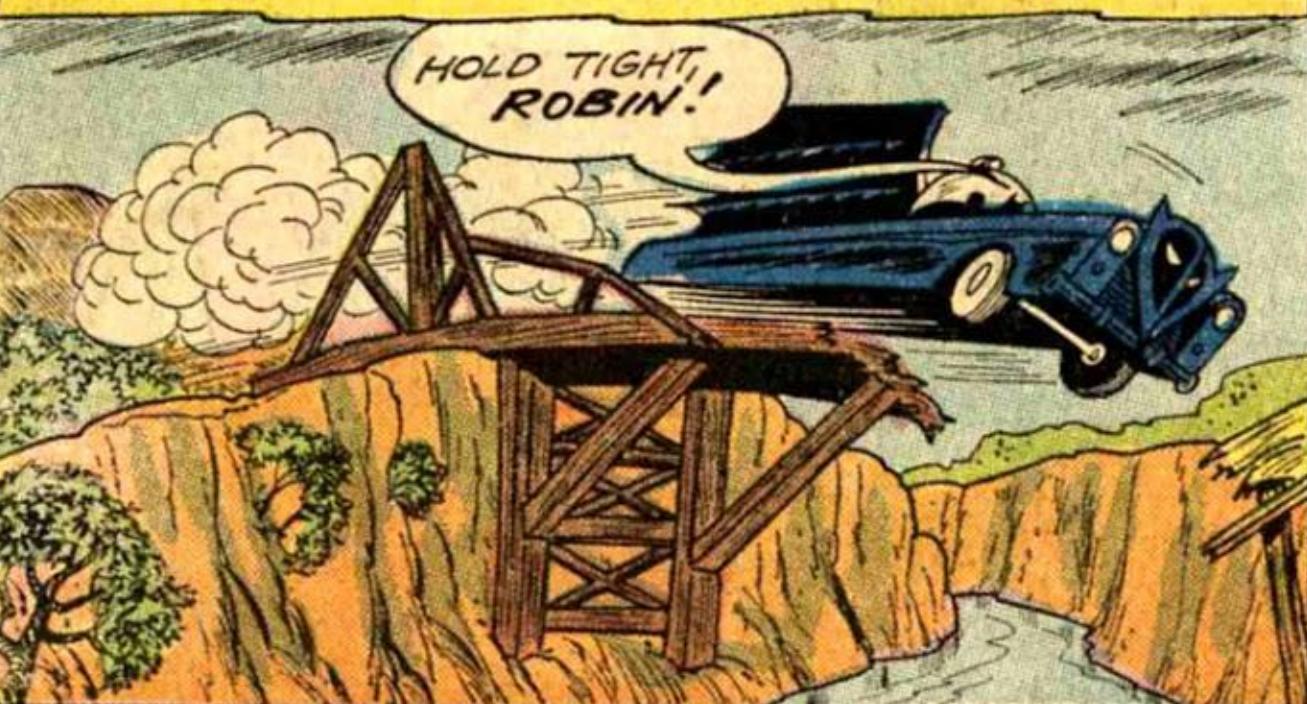
FOLLOWING A ROUGH BUT SAFE  
LANDING--A FAST RIDE TO THE  
HIGHWAY INTERSECTION,  
JUST AS...

THERE THEY  
ARE! BUT  
THEY'VE  
SPOTTED US,  
AND ARE  
SWINGING  
AROUND INTO  
THAT SIDE  
ROAD!

EXACTLY WHAT  
I WAS HOPING!  
THAT ROAD  
LEADS TO A  
DEAD END  
AT THE  
WABASH  
CREEK  
WATERFALL!  
THEY CAN'T  
GET AWAY  
FROM US NOW!

RACING DOWN THE SIDE ROAD, BATMAN GUNS THE  
POWERFUL BATMOBILE TOWARD THE RUINED BRIDGE...

HOLD TIGHT,  
ROBIN!





# BATMAN



AND WHERE THAT ROAD NARROWS TO A FOOTPATH...

THEY ABANDONED THEIR GETAWAY CAR, AND RAN DOWN THE GORGE! BUT THEY'LL SOON BE CUT OFF BY THE WATERFALL AROUND THE TURN THERE! COME ON, ROBIN-- WE'VE GOT THEM CORNERED THIS TIME!

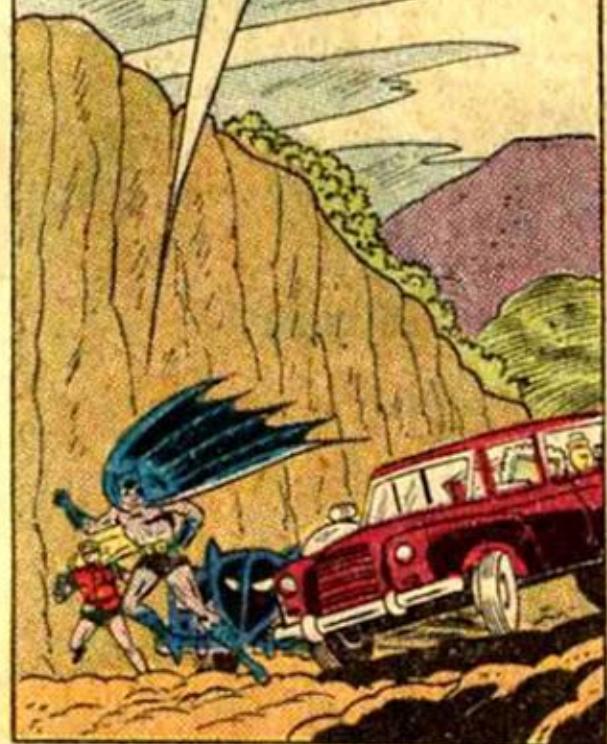
BUT, SOME YARDS DOWN THE THIN TRAIL...

ANOTHER GIANT PLANT ... SHOOTING OUT DEADLY NEEDLES, LIKE ARROWS! HOW'LL WE EVER GET BY THAT?

HMM-- THERE'S ONLY ONE THING WE CAN TRY...

WITH BAT-ROPE, THEY LASSO AN OVERHANGING ROCK, AND...

'WHEW! THAT ONE MISSED ME BY A HAIR!



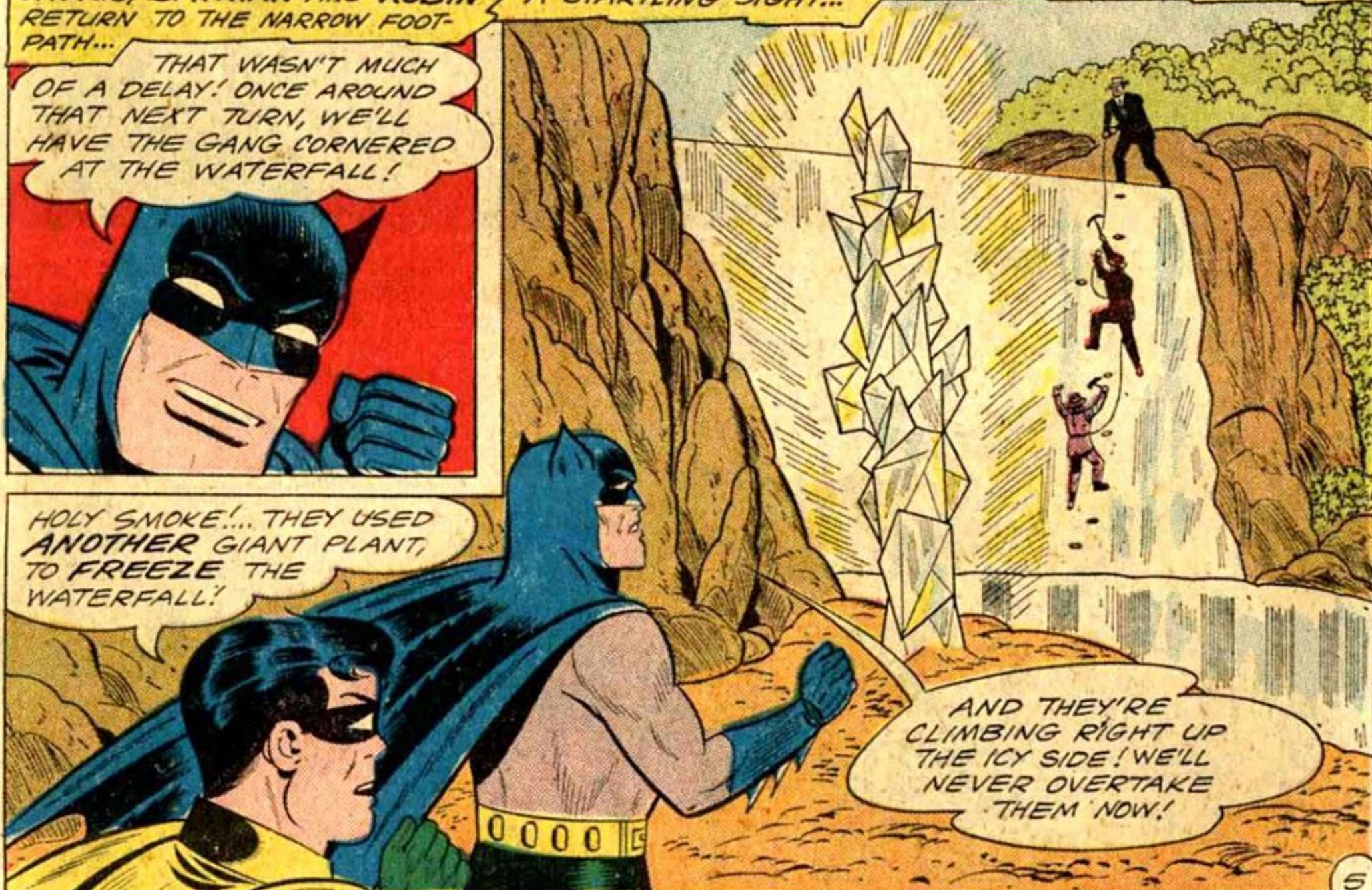
SAFELY PAST THE MENACING CACTUS, BATMAN AND ROBIN RETURN TO THE NARROW FOOTPATH...

BUT ROUNDING THE TURN, THE CRIME-FIGHTERS GAPE AT A STARTLING SIGHT...

THAT WASN'T MUCH OF A DELAY! ONCE AROUND THAT NEXT TURN, WE'LL HAVE THE GANG CORNERED AT THE WATERFALL!

HOLY SMOKE!... THEY USED ANOTHER GIANT PLANT, TO FREEZE THE WATERFALL!

AND THEY'RE CLIMBING RIGHT UP THE ICY SIDE! WE'LL NEVER OVERTAKE THEM NOW!





# BATMAN



LATER, WHILE DRIVING BACK TO COMMISSIONER GORDON'S OFFICE...

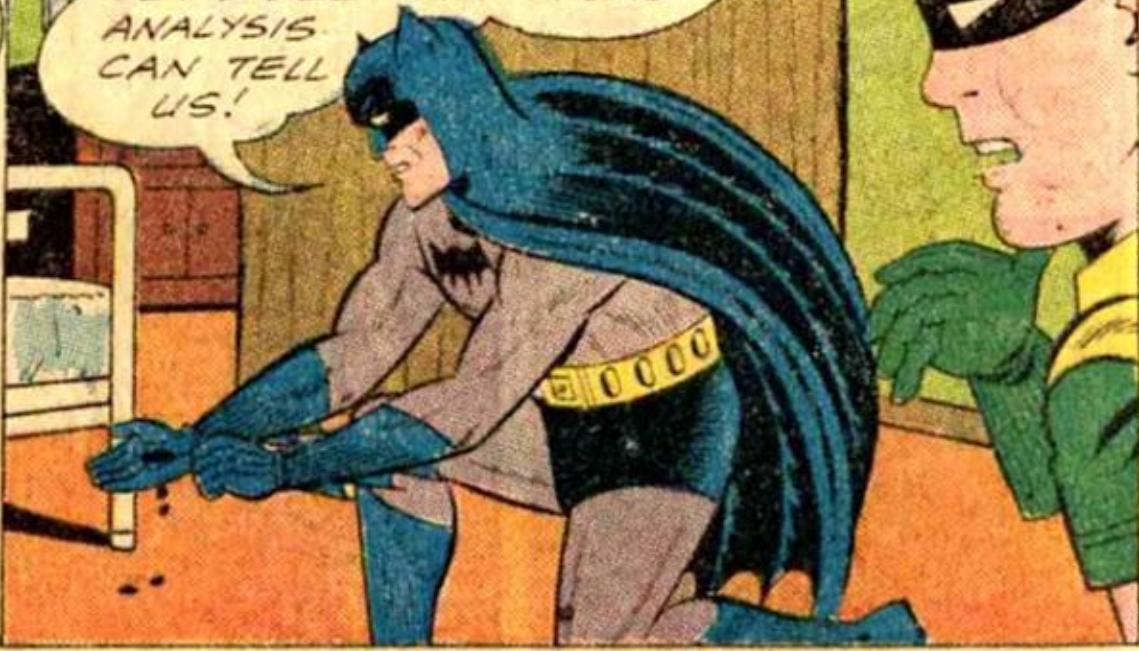
CALLING BATMAN! BANDITS CRACKED HOSPITAL WALL WITH STRANGE PLANT! AMNESIA VICTIM KIDNAPPED!

THEY ACTED QUICKLY, ROBIN! THE AMNESIA VICTIM WAS THE ONE LINK I WAS COUNTING ON, TO LEAD TO THE SOLUTION OF THIS CASE!



SOON AFTER, WHILE CHECKING FOR CLUES IN THE HOSPITAL ROOM ONCE OCCUPIED BY THE AMNESIA VICTIM...

HMMM-MUD?... ON THIS SPOTLESS HOSPITAL FLOOR? IT MUST COME FROM ONE OF THE BANDITS' SHOES! LET'S SEE WHAT A LAB ANALYSIS CAN TELL US!



SHORTLY, IN A MOUNTAINOUS AREA ABOVE GOTHAM CITY...

WE FOUND PARTICLES OF LAVA IN THAT MUD... AND THIS MOUNTAIN IS THE ONLY EXTINCT VOLCANIC FORMATION IN THIS AREA! THAT ABANDONED FARMHOUSE, WAY UP ABOVE, COULD MAKE AN IDEAL HIDEOUT!



INDEED, INSIDE THAT VERY FARMHOUSE...

WE'RE SOON GONNA NEED MORE OF THAT LIQUID PLANT STIMULANT, AND YOU'RE GONNA HAVE TO MAKE IT, SEE? NO STALLING--TRY TO REMEMBER!

BUT I CAN'T REMEMBER... I--I CAN'T!



JUST THEN...

BOSS--I SPOTTED BATMAN AND ROBIN SNEAKING UP THIS WAY!

WHAT? QUICK--WE'LL STOP 'EM WITH ANOTHER CACTUS PLANT!

OW-W! MY HEAD!



RUSHING OUTSIDE, THE THUGS HASTILY PLANT THEIR STRANGE SEEDS...

THESE GIANT CACTI WILL SPRING UP JUST AS BATMAN AND ROBIN GET CLOSE! THEY WON'T HAVE TIME TO RETREAT BEFORE THE DEADLY NEEDLES GET THEM!



BUT AT THAT INSTANT, ON THE STEPS OF THE FARMHOUSE...

EVIL EARTHLYS! THAT ACCIDENTAL BLOW ON MY HEAD RESTORED MY MEMORY! BY MENTAL COMMAND, I HAVE RESUMED MY NORMAL APPEARANCE!

HUH? THAT CLOTHING ON THE STEPS... IT BELONGS TO HIM! HE--HE'S REALLY AN ALIEN!

IN THAT SAME MOMENT...

GIANT CACTI AGAIN!... AND WE'RE TOO CLOSE TO RETREAT OUT OF RANGE, BEFORE THOSE NEEDLES GET US!

BUT SUDDENLY...

NEVER WILL I ALLOW MY SEEDS TO BE PUT TO SUCH WICKED USE!

THE ALIEN'S HELPING BATMAN AND ROBIN! THIS GUN WILL FINISH HIM!

WHAT?? SO THAT'S THE ANSWER!

NOT BEFORE THIS BATARANG FINISHES YOU!

OW!

NOW TO "PLANT" A COUPLE OF FISTS-- WHERE THEY'LL DO THE MOST GOOD!

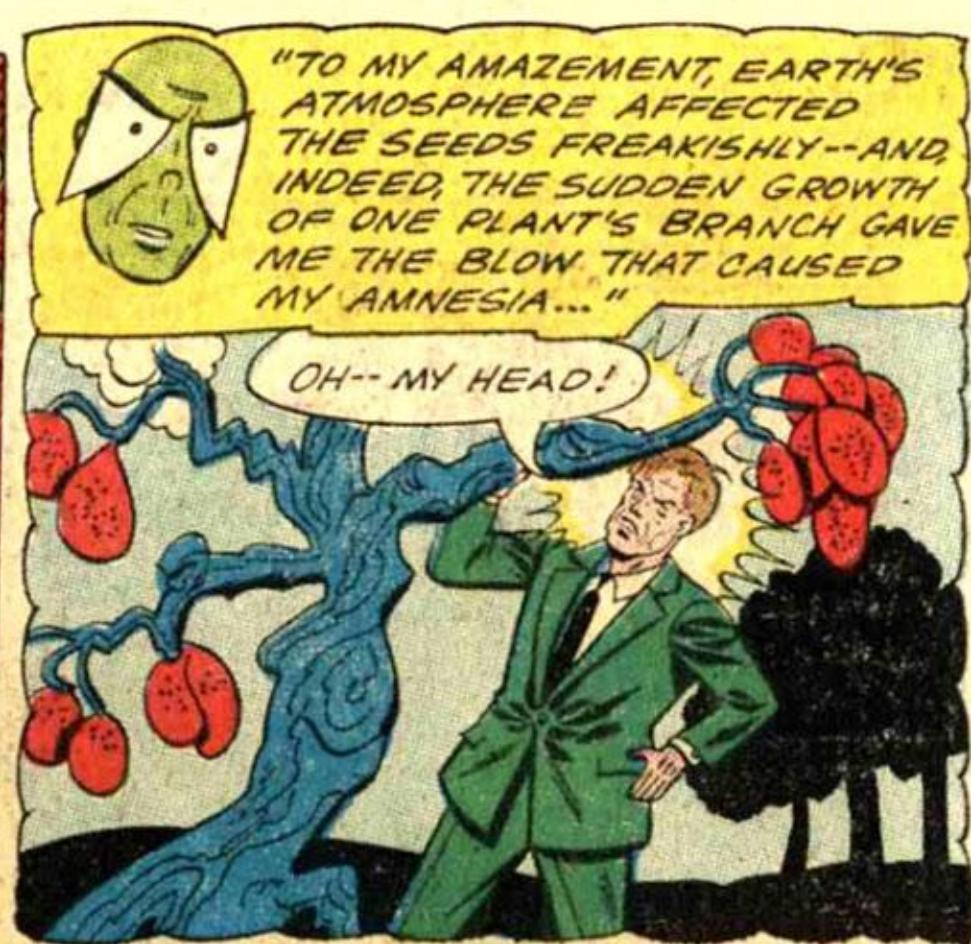
LATER, WITH THE GANG HANDCUFFED...

YOU SAY, ON YOUR PLANET  
YOU'RE A SCIENTIFIC  
FARMER?... AND YOU  
CAME HERE TO TEST  
YOUR SEEDS. UNDER  
EARTHLY GROWING  
CONDITIONS?

YES -- BUT I  
FIRST ASSUMED  
AN EARTHLING'S  
APPEARANCE, TO  
AVOID ATTRACTING  
UNDUE ATTENTION!

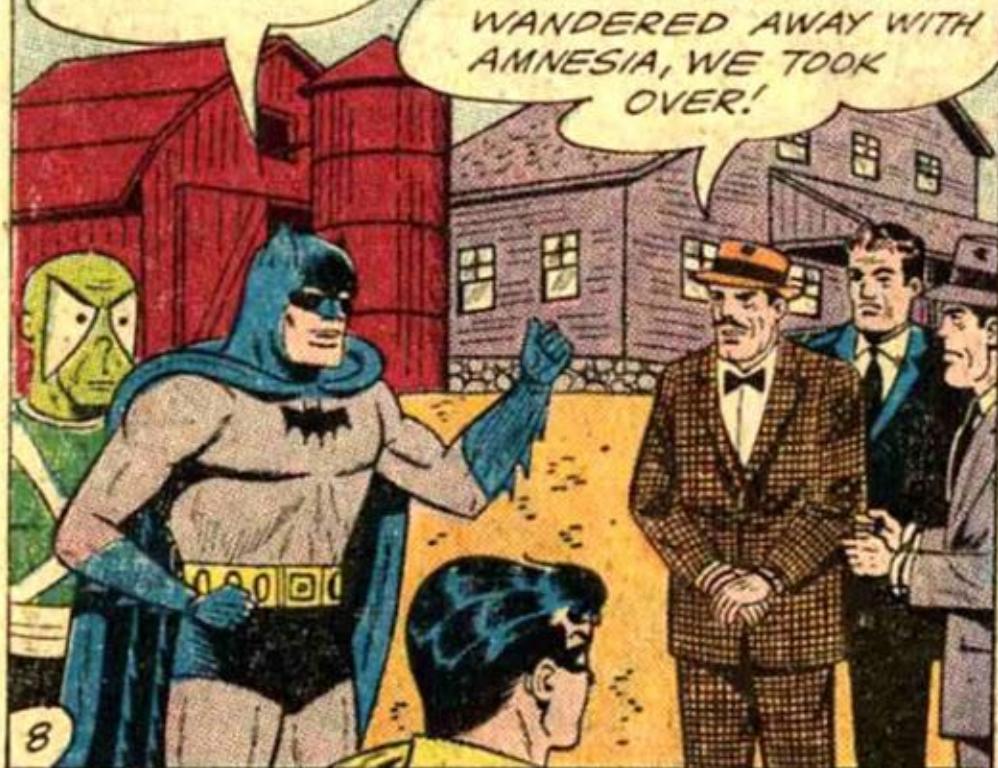
"TO MY AMAZEMENT, EARTH'S  
ATMOSPHERE AFFECTED  
THE SEEDS FREAKISHLY--AND,  
INDEED, THE SUDDEN GROWTH  
OF ONE PLANT'S BRANCH GAVE  
ME THE BLOW THAT CAUSED  
MY AMNESIA..."

OH-- MY HEAD!



AND YOU HAD YOUR  
HIDEOUT IN THE  
BARN NEARBY,  
DIDN'T YOU?

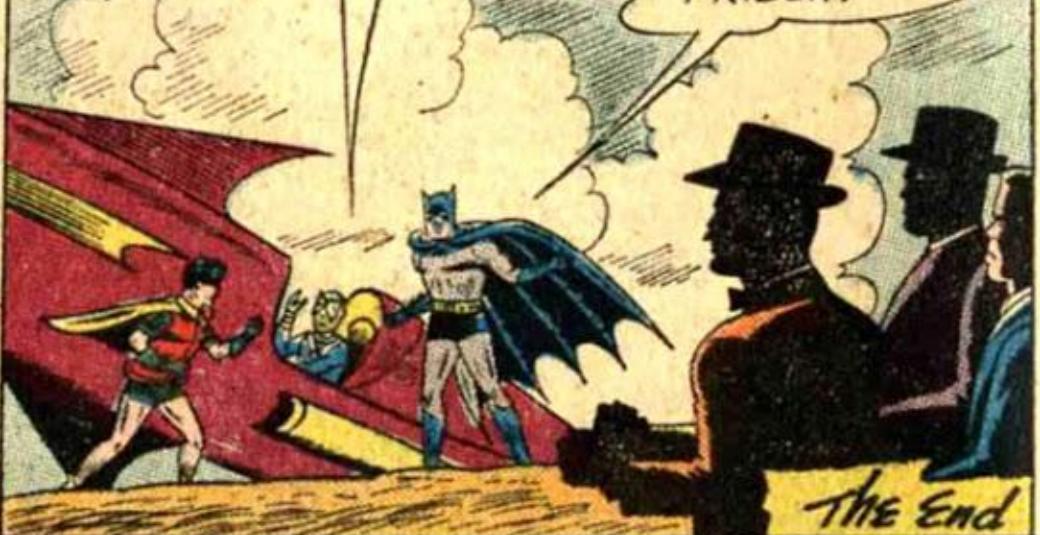
YEAH! WE SECRETLY  
WATCHED HOW THE GUY  
GREW THOSE CRAZY  
PLANTS--SO WHEN HE  
WANDERED AWAY WITH  
AMNESIA, WE TOOK  
OVER!



AFTERWARDS, WHEN THE ALIEN RETRIEVES  
HIS SPACECRAFT, HIDDEN IN A NEARBY  
CAVERN...

FAREWELL,  
BATMAN... I AM  
DEEPLY SORRY MY  
PLANTS CAUSED SO  
MUCH TROUBLE!

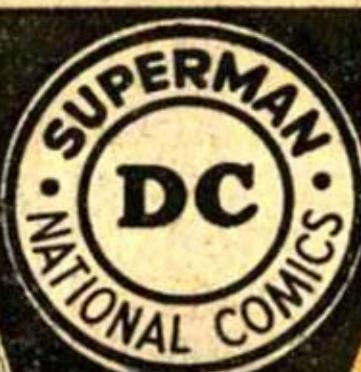
ON THE CONTRARY--  
WITHOUT YOUR  
HELP, WE MIGHT  
NOT HAVE HARVESTED  
THIS FINE CROP  
FOR THE STATE  
PRISON!



8

The End

THIS FAMOUS SYMBOL  
IS YOUR  
*Guarantee*  
OF THE **BEST**  
IN COMICS  
READING



BATMAN AND ROBIN  
SCOUR VICTIMS OF  
MADDOCK  
MURKACE

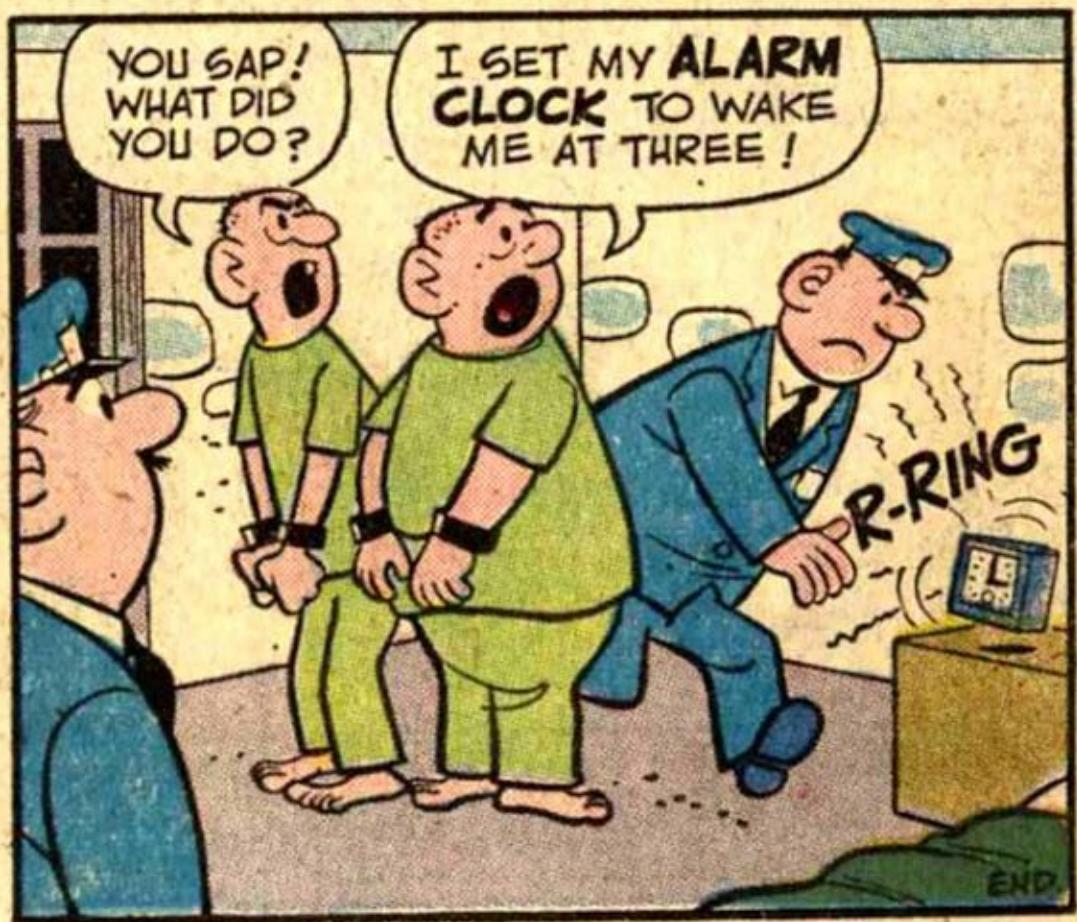
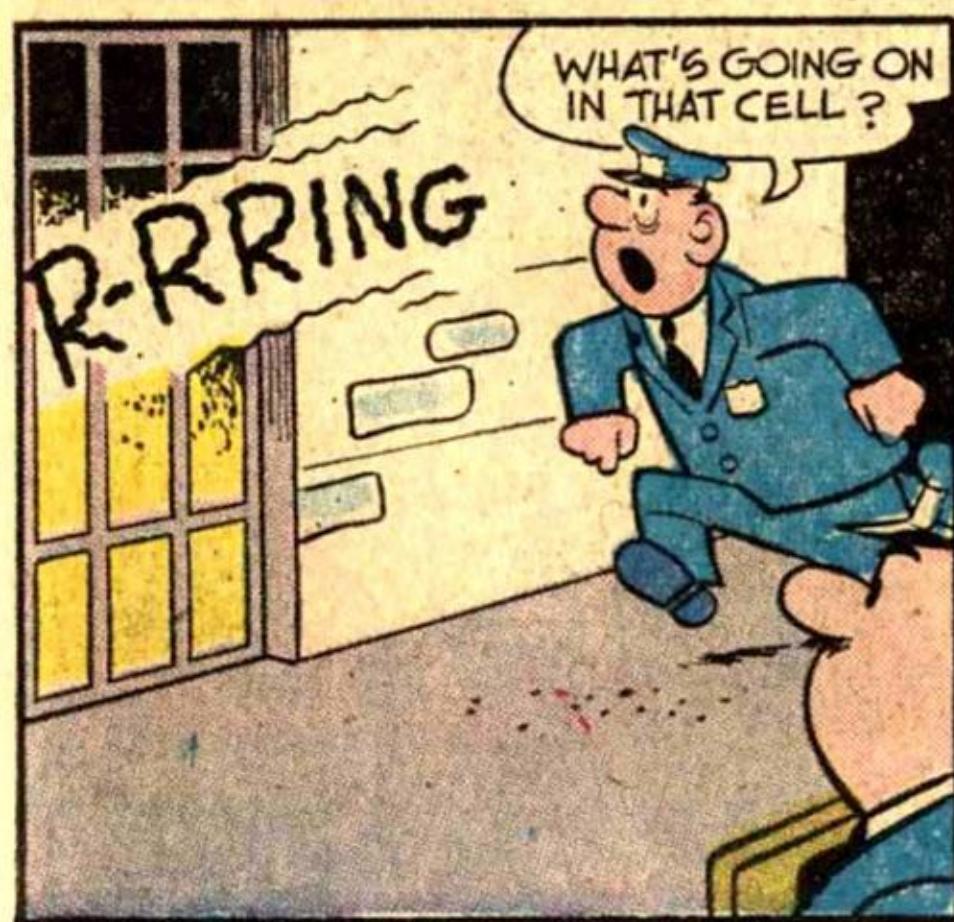
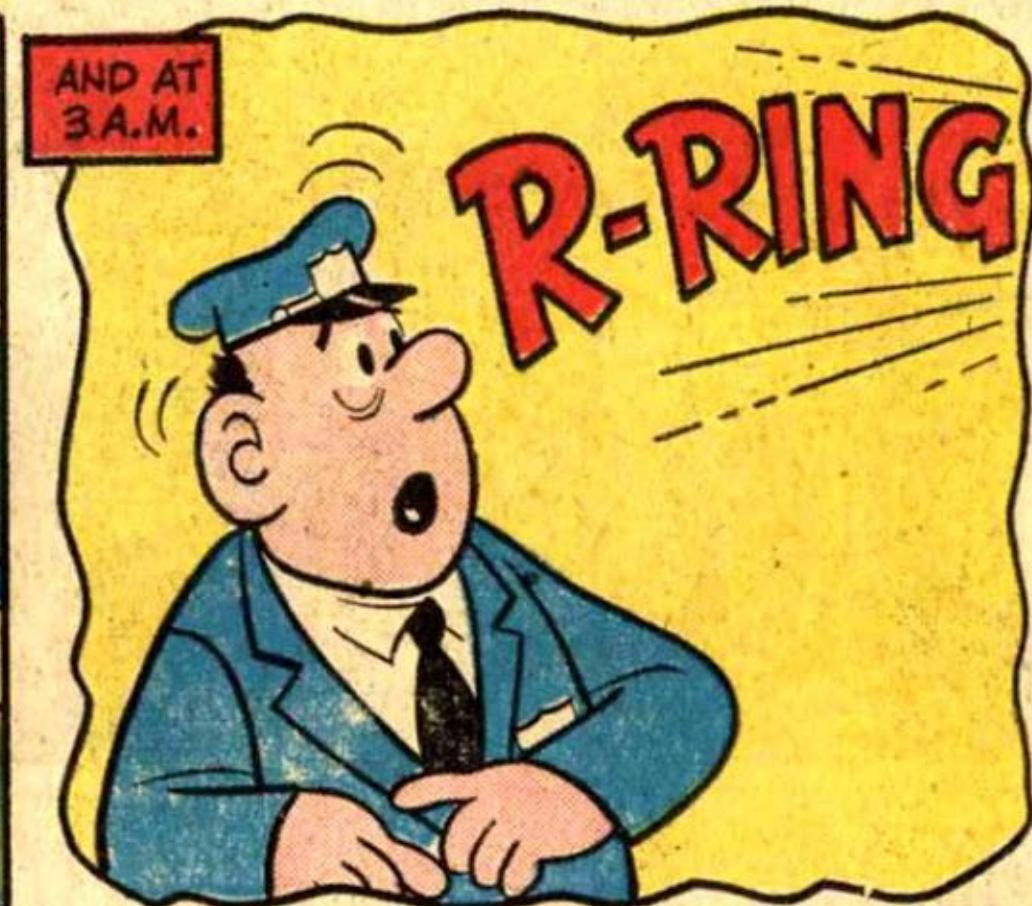
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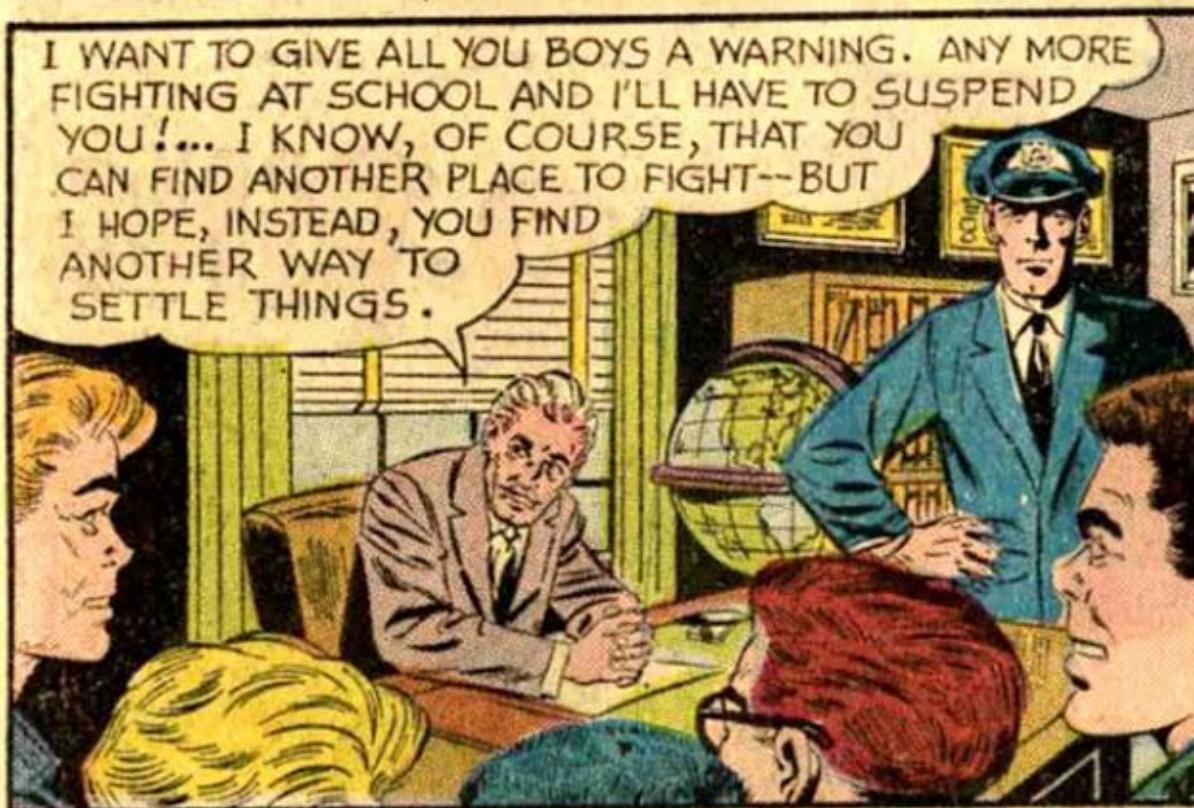


NOW ON  
SALE

NOW ON  
SALE



# TIME-OUT for TALK!



WINNING A PEACE IS HARDER THAN WINNING A FIGHT. EVERYONE MUST WORK AT IT!

# JUST ONE SECOND!

THAT'S THE TIME  
IT TAKES  
FOR ...

The RHEA  
(FASTEST BIRD ON TWO FEET)  
TO RUN 60 FEET!

The CHEETAH  
(SPEED KING OF THE ANIMAL WORLD)  
TO DASH 100 FEET!

The DUCK HAWK  
(FASTEST FLYING BIRD)  
TO WHIZ 260 FEET!

A LIGHTNING BOLT  
TO TRAVEL 186,234 MILES!

# The FLASH

WORLD'S FASTEST HUMAN

CAN MOVE FASTER IN ONE SECOND THAN  
ALL THESE SPEEDS-- **COMBINED!**

READ HIS WHIRLWIND ADVENTURES  
IN THIS ISSUE



NOW  
ON  
SALE!

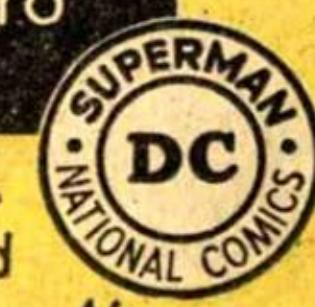
# The TRIPLE LIFE of GREEN LANTERN!



In the 20th CENTURY  
Ace Test Pilot Hal Jordan  
lives a double life as  
GREEN LANTERN,  
the Emerald Champion  
of Justice!

Yet SIMULTANEOUSLY--  
in the 58th CENTURY--  
the SAME GREEN LANTERN  
is the Mightiest Hero  
of this era!

Don't miss this issue for  
the startling secret behind  
GREEN LANTERN'S  
Triple Identity!



NOW  
ON  
SALE!



# BATMAN



# BATMAN

With  
ROBIN  
THE BOY WONDER

OF ALL THE HOBBIES, BRIGGS' WAS PROBABLY THE STRANGEST, BECAUSE HE COLLECTED BUILDINGS! THEN, AMID THESE STRUCTURES, TWO SEARCHES BEGAN--A PERILOUS MANHUNT AND A TREASURE HUNT, WHICH FINALLY ENDED WHEN BATMAN AND ROBIN DECRYPTED THE STRANGE CLUE THAT REVEALED...

## The SECRET of MYSTERY ISLAND!



## BATMAN

IN HIS SWANK APARTMENT, A DYING MILLIONAIRE UTTERS HIS LAST WORDS...

BOSS, WHAT ABOUT THE TREASURE? IT AIN'T FAIR TO ME AND THE BOYS WHO WORKED SO HARD FOR YOU... IF YOU TAKE THE SECRET OF IT WITH YOU!

YOU'RE RIGHT, CATLIN! TAKE THIS KEY... IT WILL OPEN THE SAFE! IN IT IS A LETTER... THAT WILL TELL YOU WHAT TO DO...

LEAVING, CATLIN IS UNAWARE THAT THE CONVERSATION HAS BEEN OVERHEARD BY TWO CAPE FIGURES ON THE BALCONY...

THIS PROVES WHAT WE SUSPECTED--THAT BRIGGS NOT ONLY WAS AN ARCHITECT, BUT THE HEAD OF A CRIMINAL GANG--AND CATLIN WAS HIS ASSISTANT!

THAT "TREASURE" IS PROBABLY STOLEN GOODS! IF WE TRAIL CATLIN, HE'LL LEAD US TO IT!

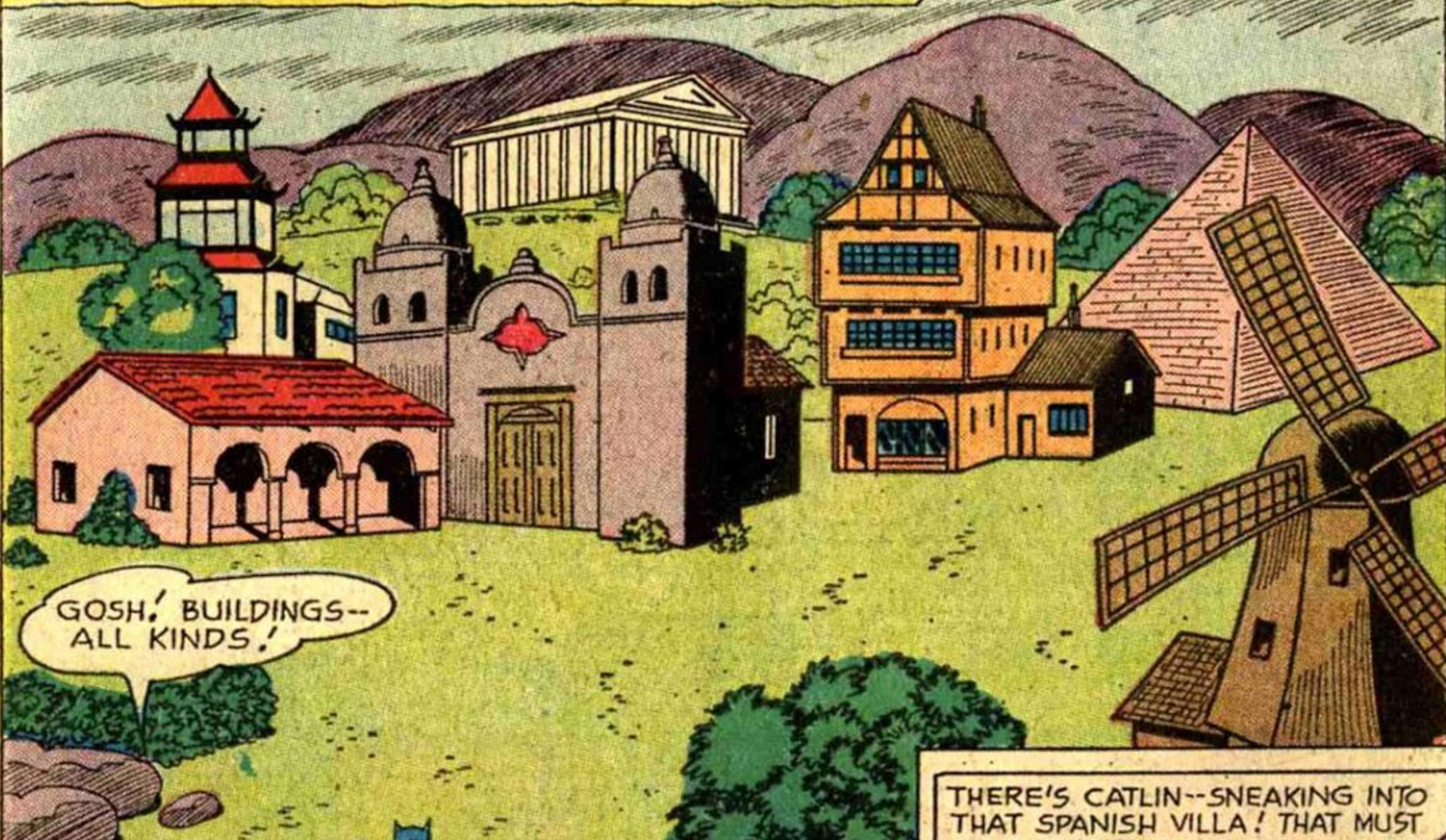
SOMETIME LATER, THE BAT-PLANE WINGS SILENTLY AFTER A SPEEDING LAUNCH...

LOOK, BATMAN -- HE'S HEADING FOR THAT ISLAND! IT MUST BE THE PLACE BRIGGS MENTIONED BEFORE HE DIED!

WE'LL LAND SECRETLY AND THEN SEE WHERE CATLIN GOES!



ON LANDING, THE MANHUNTERS VIEW A STUNNING SETTING...



GOSH! BUILDINGS-- ALL KINDS!



I ONCE HEARD, BRIGGS HAD AN INTERESTING HOBBY FOR AN ARCHITECT! HE COLLECTED BUILDINGS FROM VARIOUS COUNTRIES! HE BOUGHT THEM--AND HAD THEM TRANSPORTED HERE, BRICK BY BRICK, STONE BY STONE!

THERE'S CATLIN--SNEAKING INTO THAT SPANISH VILLA! THAT MUST BE WHERE THE SAFE IS!



INSIDE, JUST AS HE OPENS THE SAFE...

THE TREASURE  
WILL BE ALL MINE  
AND --  
HUUH? HOKE--  
DANNY!

WE KINDA'  
FIGURED YOU'D  
TRY TO DOUBLE-  
CROSS US --SO  
WAITED FOR  
YOU!

WAIT, BOYS! WE'RE  
ALL PART OF THE  
SAME GANG! THERE'S  
PLENTY OF TREASURE  
FOR ALL OF US!  
THIS LETTER WILL  
TELL US WHERE  
TO FIND IT!

OKAY--  
BUT NO  
TRICKS!  
WHAT'S  
THE  
LETTER  
SAY?

"A SERIES OF CLUES  
WILL LEAD YOU TO  
THE TREASURE. THE  
FIRST CLUE IS IN THE  
**NORMAN INN!** A  
TWIST WILL REVEAL  
THE SECOND CLUE  
TO YOU!"

AS THE CAPED CRIME-BUSTERS EAVESDROP...

PSST! THE REFLECTIONS OF BATMAN  
AND ROBIN! THEY'RE BEHIND  
THAT SIDEBOARD!



ON SIGNAL, THE GANGSTERS ACT--CATCHING THE  
PAIR BY SURPRISE!



STUNNED, THE WIND SLAMMED OUT OF THEM, BATMAN AND  
ROBIN ARE SWIFTLY BOUND TO PILLARS IN A PATIO...

HMM! IF CATLIN ONLY KNEW  
HE'S GIVEN US A CHANCE TO  
BREAK FREE...

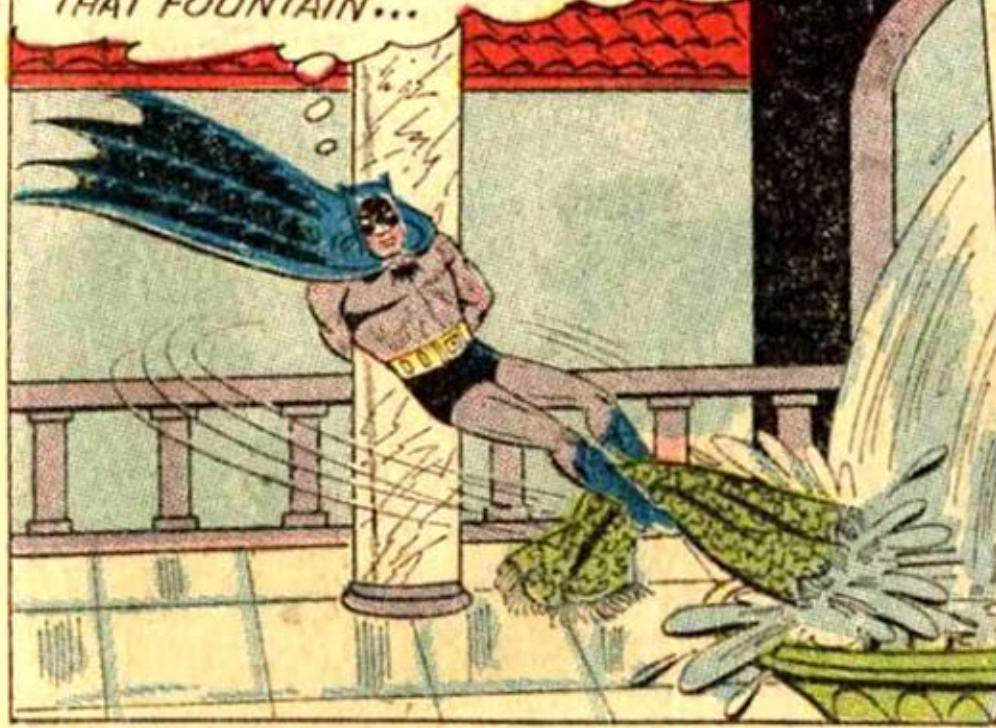




# BATMAN

NO SOONER DOES THE GANG LEAVE...

BECAUSE THIS MARBLE PILLAR IS SMOOTH,  
I CAN GRIP THE SHAWL BETWEEN MY FEET--  
AND WHIP IT AT THE POOL--WHERE PART  
OF IT WILL SOAK UP WATER FROM  
THAT FOUNTAIN...



THEN, PULLING THE SHAWL TOWARD HIM, BATMAN  
SLIDES HIS ARMS DOWN THE SLICK MARBLE PILLAR,  
AND...

NOW I'LL SQUEEZE WATER OUT TO  
SOAK THE THONGS! BECAUSE  
LEATHER STRETCHES WHEN WET,  
I'LL SOON BE ABLE TO SLIP OUT  
OF THE THONGS AND FREE  
YOU, ROBIN!

INSIDE THE OLD INN...

SOON AFTER...

THERE'S THE NORMAN  
INN!

CATLIN'S GOT A HEAD START  
ON US! WE'LL HAVE TO  
DECIPHER EACH CLUE FAST,  
OR HE'LL BEAT US TO THE  
TREASURE!



CATLIN'S ALREADY GONE!  
WHAT ABOUT THE CLUE IN  
THE LETTER? IT SAID,  
"A TWIST WILL REVEAL THE  
SECOND CLUE TO YOU."

HMM ! THAT  
WINE BARREL  
SPIGOT ! A  
SPIGOT HAS TO  
BE TWISTED !



AS BATMAN TURNS THE SPIGOT... YEAH!

A SECRET PANEL-- HIDING  
HOKE AND DANNY!

THANKS FOR LETTING  
US OUT! AFTER WE TAKE  
CARE OF YOU, WE'LL FIND  
THAT DOUBLE CROSSING  
CATLIN!



BUT EVEN AS THE GUNMAN'S FINGER  
TIGHTENS ON HIS TRIGGER...





# BATMAN\*



AT THE SAME TIME ...

I GUESS YOU'D CALL THIS  
A COUNTER-ATTACK!



HANDCUFFED, THE TWO THUGS ARE HERDED  
INTO THE SECRET ROOM...

CATLIN CROSSSED US! WHILE  
WE WERE READING THIS CLUE,  
HE JUMPED OUT AND  
CLOSED THE PANEL ON US!  
HE WANTS THE TREASURE  
FOR HIMSELF!

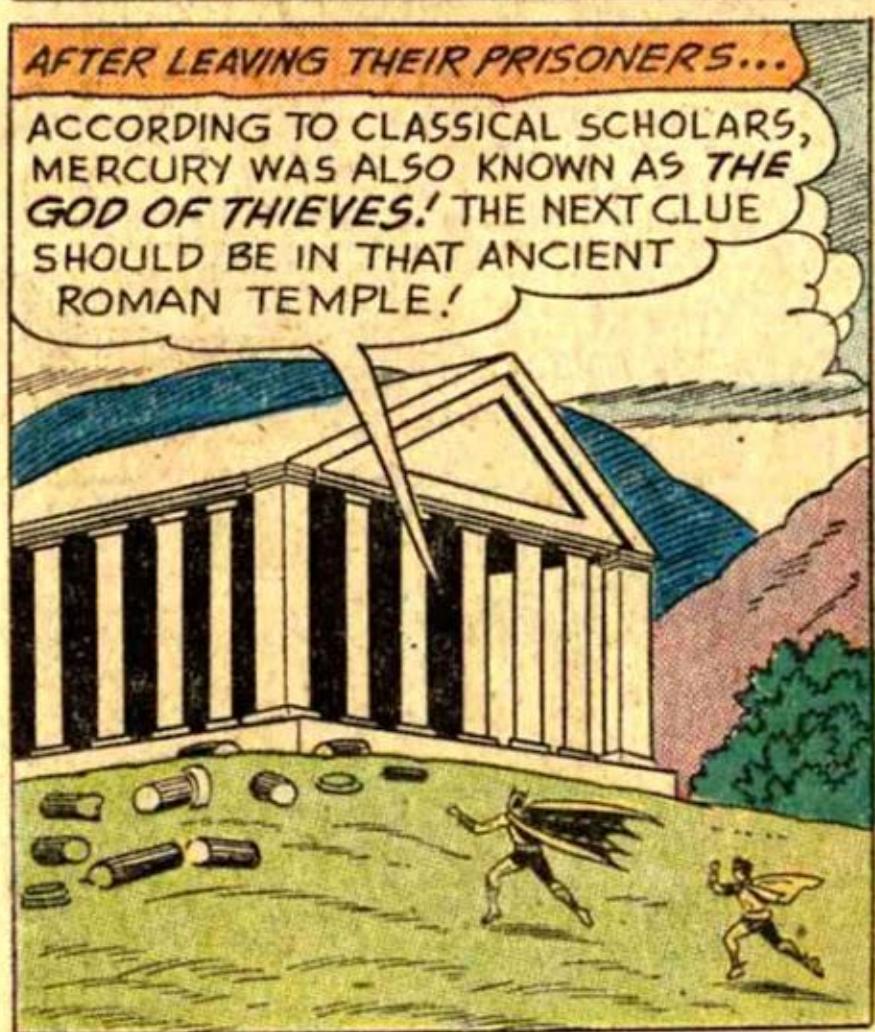
IF I'M RIGHT,  
HE MAY  
NEVER GET  
IT!

THE GOD OF  
THIEVES POINTS  
TO THE NEXT  
CLUE



AFTER LEAVING THEIR PRISONERS...

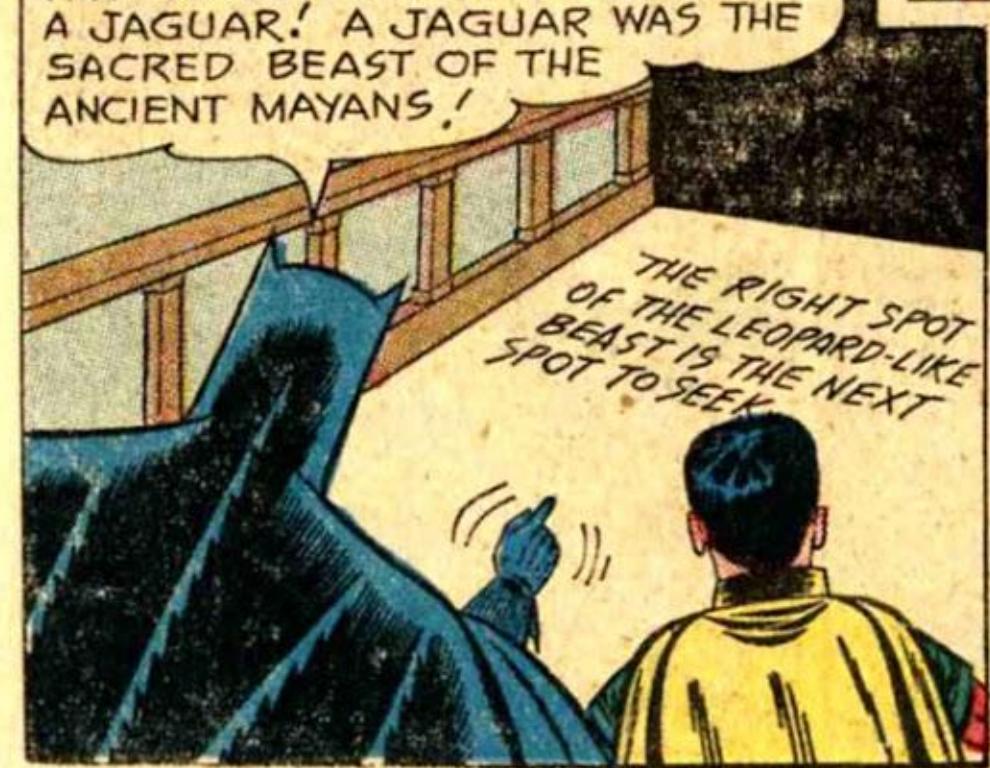
ACCORDING TO CLASSICAL SCHOLARS,  
MERCURY WAS ALSO KNOWN AS THE  
GOD OF THIEVES! THE NEXT CLUE  
SHOULD BE IN THAT ANCIENT  
ROMAN TEMPLE!



INSIDE... "THE GOD OF THIEVES POINTS TO THE  
NEXT CLUE." MERCURY IS POINTING  
TO THAT BALUSTRADE! THE CLUE IS  
PROBABLY WRITTEN UP THERE  
SOMEWHERE! LET'S GO!



HMM! A LEOPARD-LIKE BEAST!  
THAT COULD MEAN A CHEETAH OR  
A JAGUAR! A JAGUAR WAS THE  
SACRED BEAST OF THE  
ANCIENT MAYANS!



THE RIGHT SPOT  
OF THE LEOPARD-LIKE  
BEAST IS THE NEXT  
SPOT TO SEEK.

I'M GLAD YOU FREED YOURSELF, BATMAN!  
I COULDN'T FIGURE OUT THAT  
CLUE--AND I WAS HIDING WHEN  
YOU CAME IN!

BATMAN!





# BATMAN



AS ROBIN STANDS ROOTED,  
TOO DAZED TO MOVE...

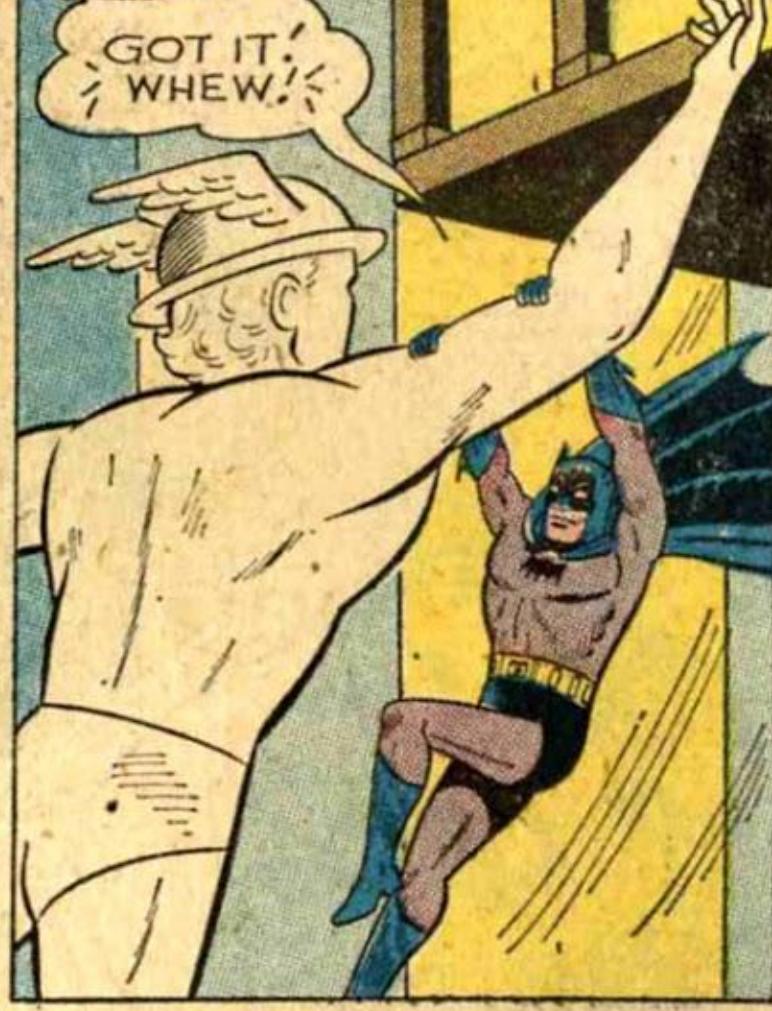
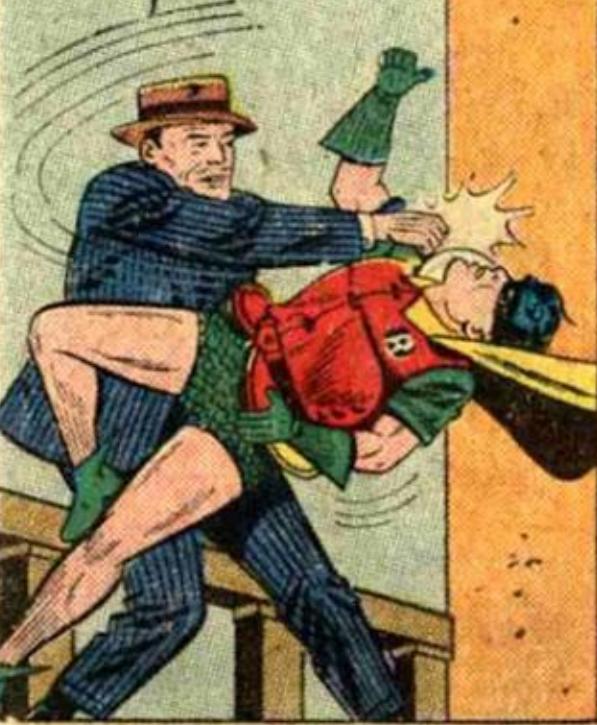
THAT SETTLES THE  
TWO OF YOU! NOW  
I'LL SCRAM OUT  
OF HERE!

MEANWHILE, WHAT OF BATMAN  
PLUNGING TO HIS DOOM?

ONLY ONE HOPE!  
IF I MISS -- I'M A  
GONER!

STEEL-STRONG HANDS THRUST OUT,  
AND --

GOT IT!  
WHEW!

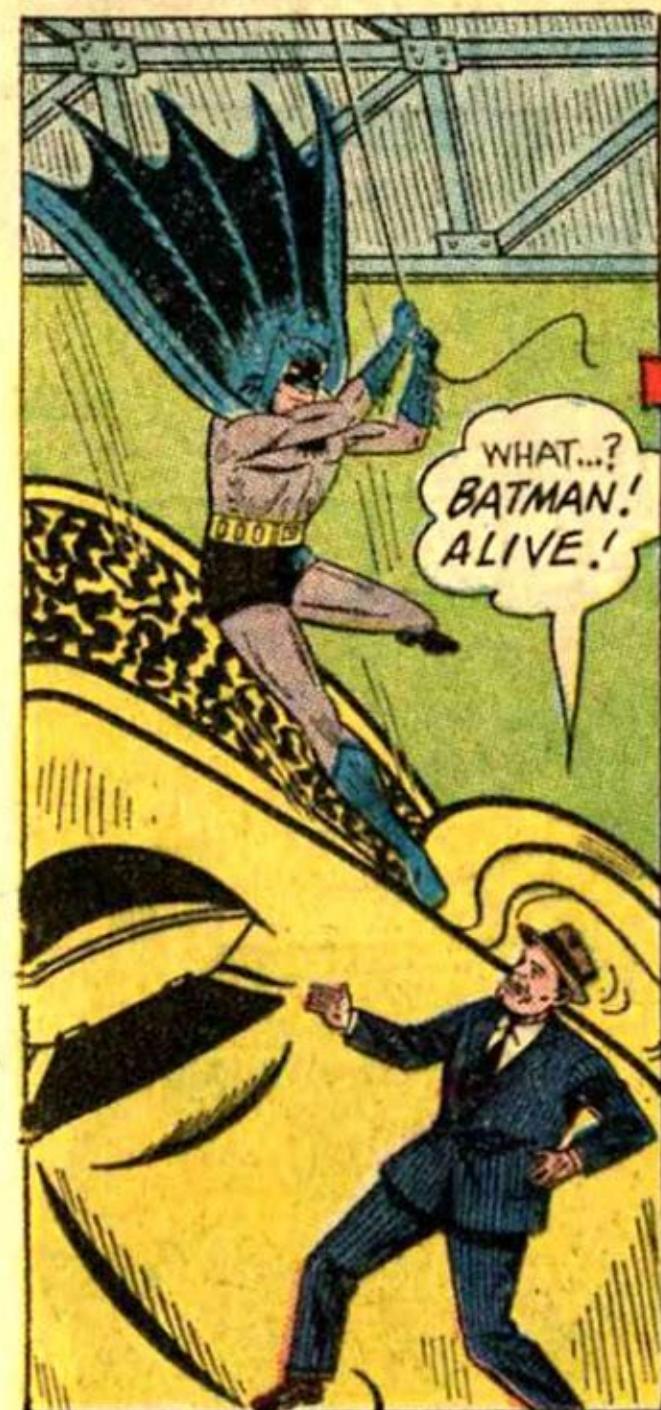


RETURNING, BATMAN SWIFTLY  
REVIVES ROBIN AND...

CATLIN'S PROBABLY  
LEARNED THE NEXT CLUE!  
WE'VE GOT TO HURRY!

SHORTLY, INSIDE THE MAYAN TEMPLE...





MINUTES LATER...

BRIGGS DOUBLECROSSED ME! "LOOK INTO THE EYE OF BUDDHA FOR HAPPINESS AND THE TREASURE!"  
BAH!

HMM! I WONDER...? IF I'M RIGHT, THE BUDDHA'S PORCELAIN EYE CAN REFLECT AN OBJECT IN THIS ROOM--AND I KNOW WHAT IT IS.'

CLIMBING UP, BATMAN SWINGS THE GIANT EYE SHUT AND GAZES AT ITS SHINING SURFACE TO SEE...

JUST AS I THOUGHT! THE EYE REFLECTS THE CHINESE PAINTING OF A BAT ON THE OPPOSITE WALL!

SHORTLY, BATMAN MOVES THE PAINTING, AND A SECTION OF THE WALL SLIDES OPEN TO REVEAL AN AMAZING SIGHT...

NOW WE KNOW! BRIGGS WAS THE HEAD OF A RING THAT STOLE THE PAINTINGS FROM THE LOUVRE AND OTHER ART MUSEUMS.'

GOSH! BUT HOW DID YOU GUESS THE TREASURE WOULD BE BEHIND THIS PARTICULAR WALL?

THE WORD "HAPPINESS" SUGGESTED A SECRET CLUE! AND TO THE CHINESE, THE BAT IS A SYMBOL OF

HAPPINESS!

IT'S A FITTING ENDING TO THIS CASE! A BAT-- AND A BATMAN-- SOLVED THE MYSTERY OF THE HIDDEN TREASURE!

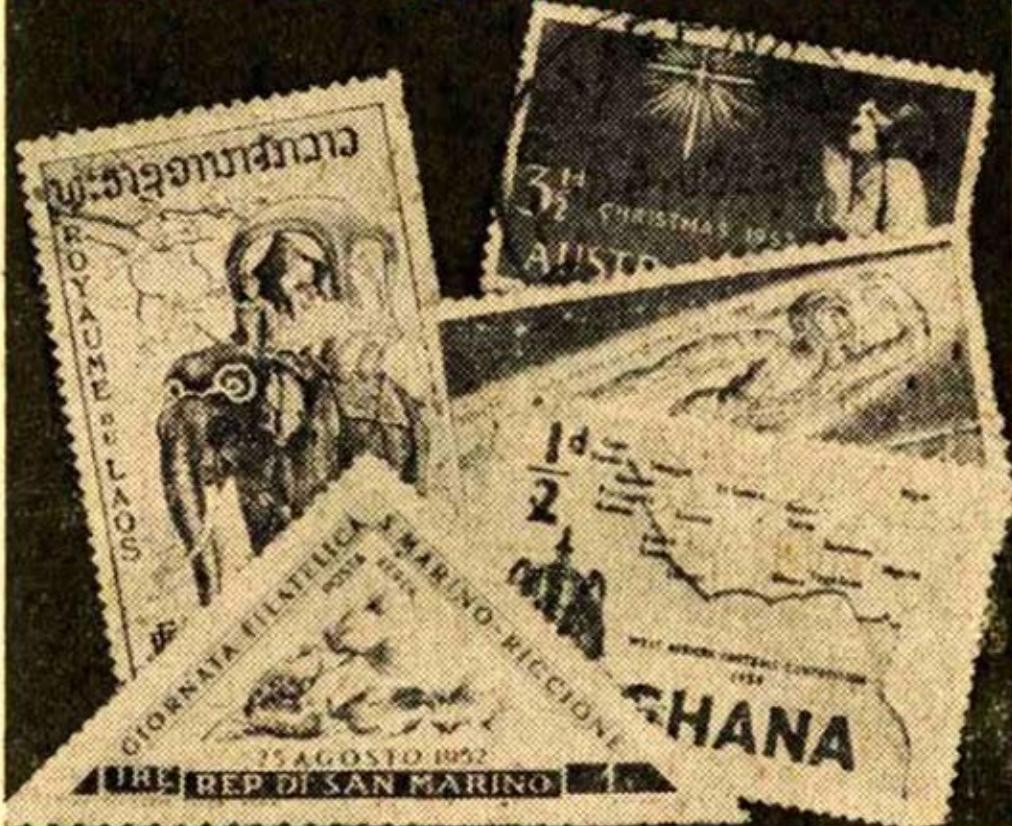
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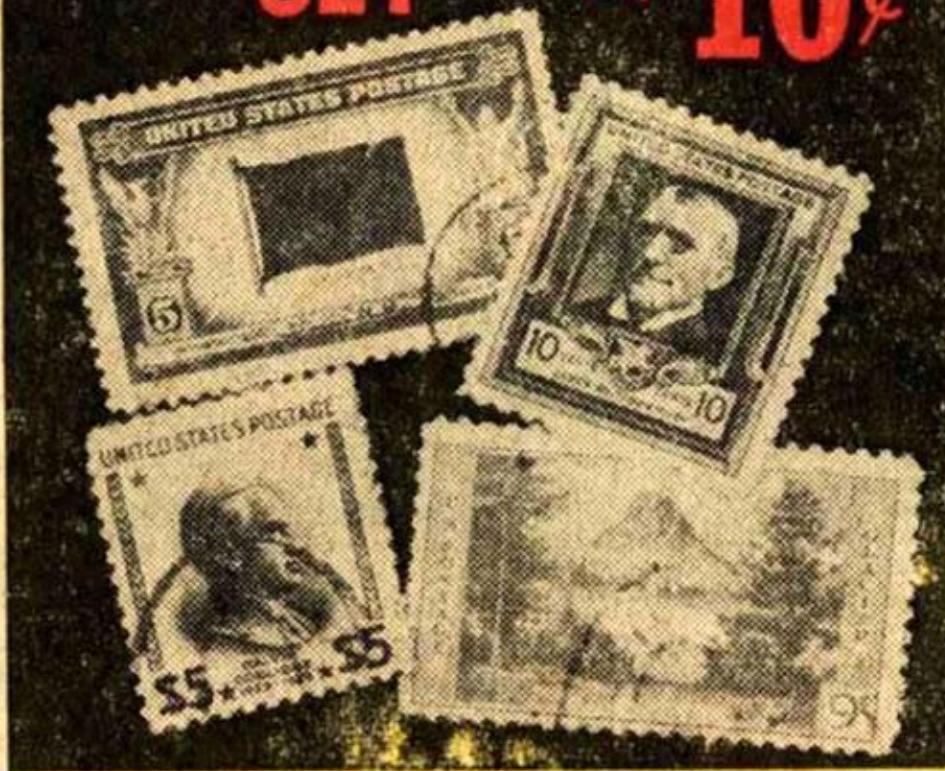
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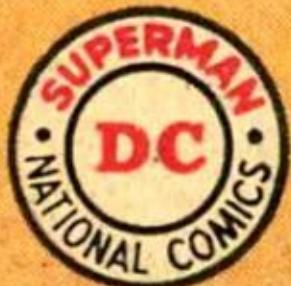
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# Letters to the BAT-CAVE



**Dear Editor:** In your last "LETTERS" page, you described how BATMAN uses ultra-violet light to bring out substances that are invisible to the naked eye. Isn't infra-red light used for this same purpose?

Pamela Drake, New York, N. Y.  
(Definitely. Hidden substances that don't respond to ultra-violet light often show up under infra-red, and vice versa.—Ed.)

\* \* \*

**Dear Editor:** I certainly enjoyed your story in which THE SECOND BATMAN AND ROBIN TEAM matched wits with "THE SON OF THE JOKER!" Any story about THE JOKER is fine with me. Keep 'em coming.

Mervin Lowery, Concord, N. H.

(Thanks for the kind words, Merv. All our readers seem to enjoy JOKER adventures. You'll next be seeing BATMAN'S arch-enemy in the JUNE issue of BATMAN COMICS, No. 148—where he manages to unmask the caped crime-fighter! Small wonder that we're calling this tale, "THE JOKER'S GREATEST TRIUMPH!"—Ed.)

\* \* \*

**Dear Editor:** When investigating a crime, the police often have trouble getting a good description of the criminal, because every witness seems to get a different impression. Yet, when BATMAN and ROBIN witness a crime, they never seem to disagree on the crook's appearance. How did they develop this talent for precise identification?

Don Kelly, Winston-Salem, N. C.

(The caped crime-fighters developed this ability the same way all law enforcement officers do—by practicing in their everyday life, on ordinary people, according to a standard pattern. Generally, the method is to observe your subject from top to bottom, both for physical appearance and clothing worn, while making note of general characteristics such as age, height, weight, etc. In other words, the first place their eyes alight on is the head, noting the color of the crook's hair, the hat

he wears; from there, they move down along the face, noting the complexion and general shape, the formation of the ears, the color of the eyes, if possible; and then to his shirt and tie, his coat, trousers, socks and shoes, all the while keeping alert for unusual characteristics, such as scars, mannerisms, etc. Naturally, it isn't always easy to observe every one of these factors, but BATMAN and ROBIN have found this system most effective.—Ed.)

\* \* \*

**Dear Editor:** When BATMAN and ROBIN investigate crimes, do they ever use stool pigeons? It seems to me a few good "stoolies" would be a great help to them.

Mary Moody, San Francisco, Cal.

(Naturally, BATMAN and ROBIN wouldn't neglect any lead they could get in a criminal investigation—but, as any lawman will tell you, the professional stool pigeon is not so reliable an informant as many people seem to think. That's why the caped crime-fighters have no "stoolies" in their employ. Often as not, the stool pigeon works both sides of the law, selling information to both the police and criminals, making him a risk as well as an unreliable source. On the other hand, BATMAN and ROBIN do have many devoted friends in strategic places—waiters, newsstand proprietors, cab drivers—who are always happy to help them out.—Ed.)

\* \* \*

**Dear Editor:** A good, old-fashioned murder mystery is my favorite type of story, especially when BATMAN and ROBIN are the sleuths. Let me know when you'll be giving us another one.

Lyle Wingate, Chelsea, Mass.

(We think the one in the MAY issue of DETECTIVE COMICS, No. 303, is real good but hardly "old-fashioned." In fact, it's just the opposite, because the murder occurs in a fabulous replica of a future world—and it is there that BATMAN and ROBIN must solve the "MURDER IN SKYLAND!"—Ed.)



BATMAN



ACME  
TIRE CO.

# BATMAN

WITH  
**ROBIN**

- THE BOY WONDER -

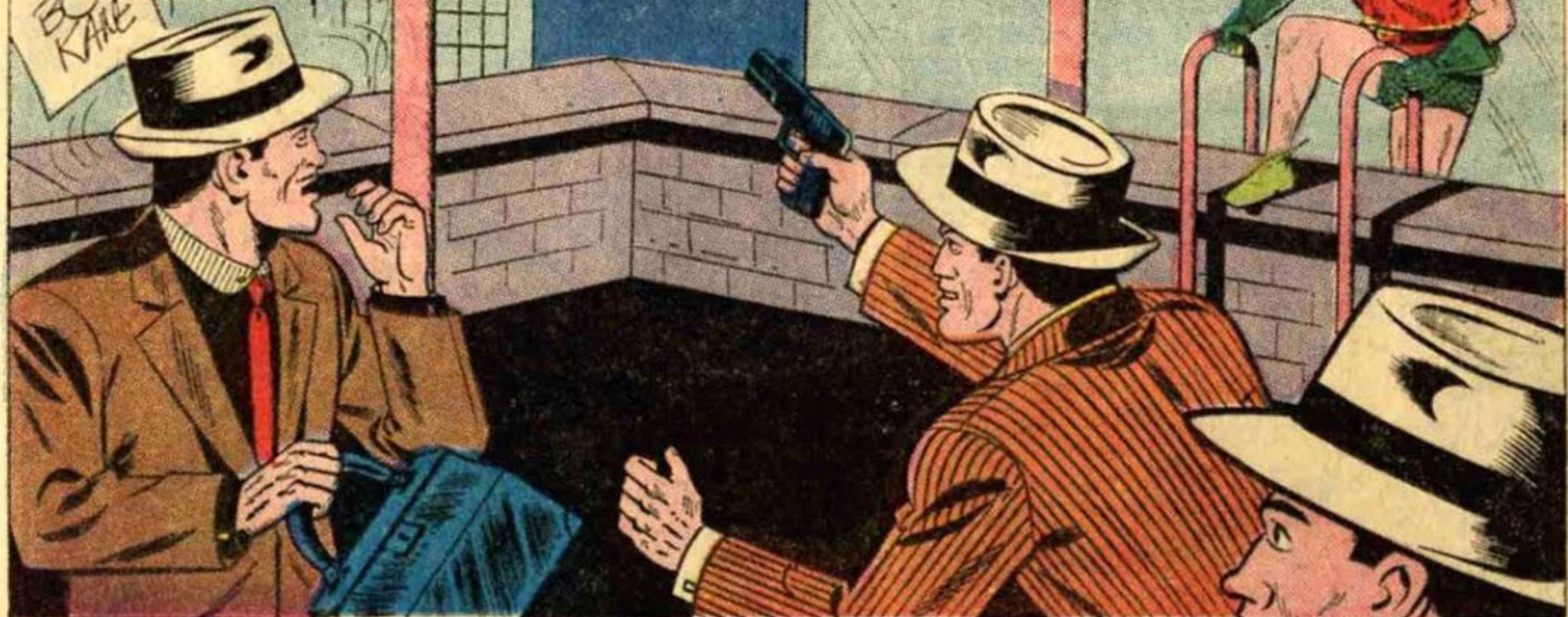
IMAGINE BATMAN AS A FOUR-YEAR OLD! IMAGINE BATMAN THE SIZE OF A CHILD--AND HAVING TO OVERCOME THIS HANDICAP IN ORDER TO GO ON FIGHTING CRIME! YES--THIS IS EXACTLY WHAT OCCURS, WHEN GANGLAND TAKES REVENGE UPON ITS GREAT ENEMY, AND LAUGHS MOCKINGLY WHEN...

## BATMAN BECOMES BAT-BABY

IT'S ROBIN--  
AND BAT-  
BABY!

BAT-BABY FLEW  
UP HERE--BY  
CLINGING TO THAT  
ADVERTISING  
BALLOON!

BOB  
KANE





# BATMAN

NIGHTFALL--AND ON A ROOFTOP, TWO CAPED FIGURES WAIT TENSELY...

WHOEVER TIPPED US OFF TO THIS HIDEOUT WAS CERTAINLY RIGHT! THERE'S NAILS FINNEY AND HIS GANG!

NOW MAYBE WE'LL RECOVER THE FORTUNE IN GEMS THEY STOLE FROM THE GOTHAM JEWELRY STORE TWO DAYS AGO!

MOMENTS LATER...

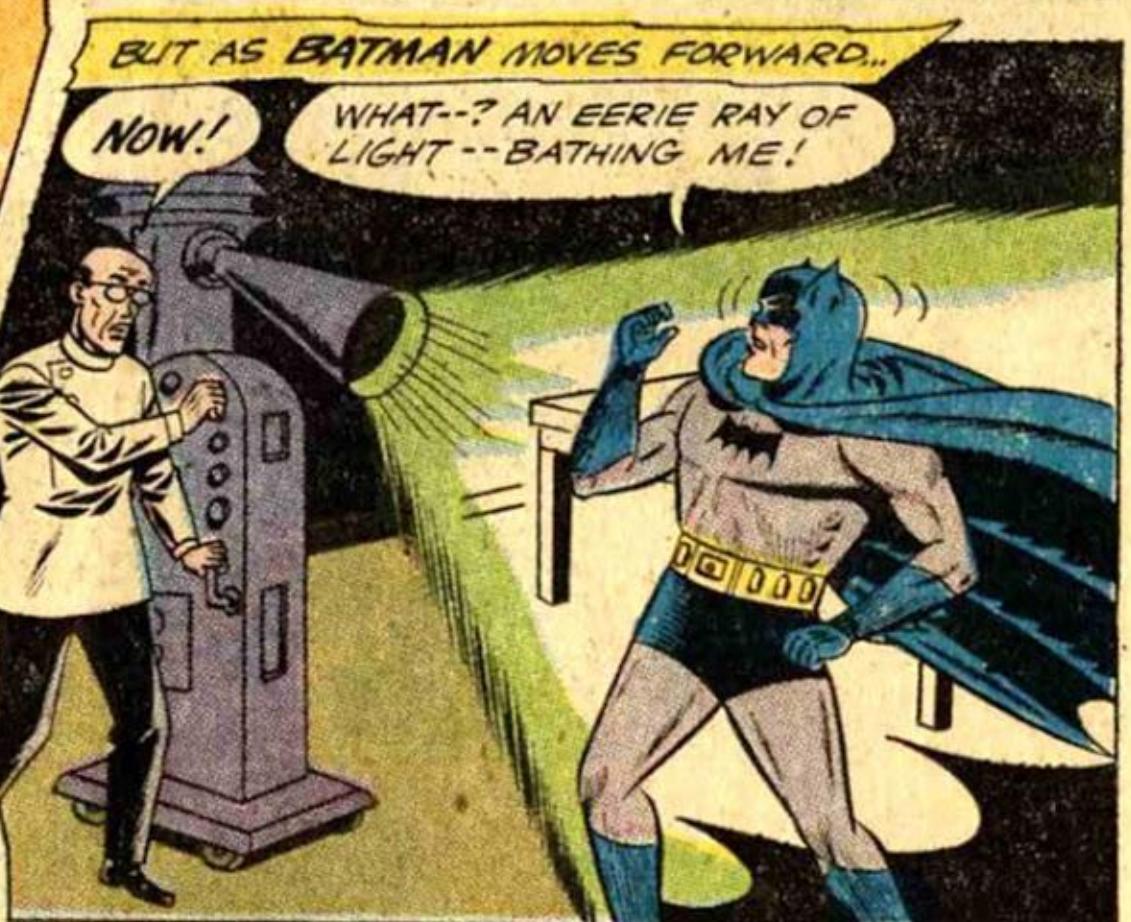
BATMAN AND ROBIN!

WELL, WELL--LOOK WHO'S PART OF THIS GANG... GARTH, THE RENEGADE SCIENTIST! QUITE A CREW, EH?



OOF!

LET'S NOT WASTE ANY TIME WITH 'EM, ROBIN!

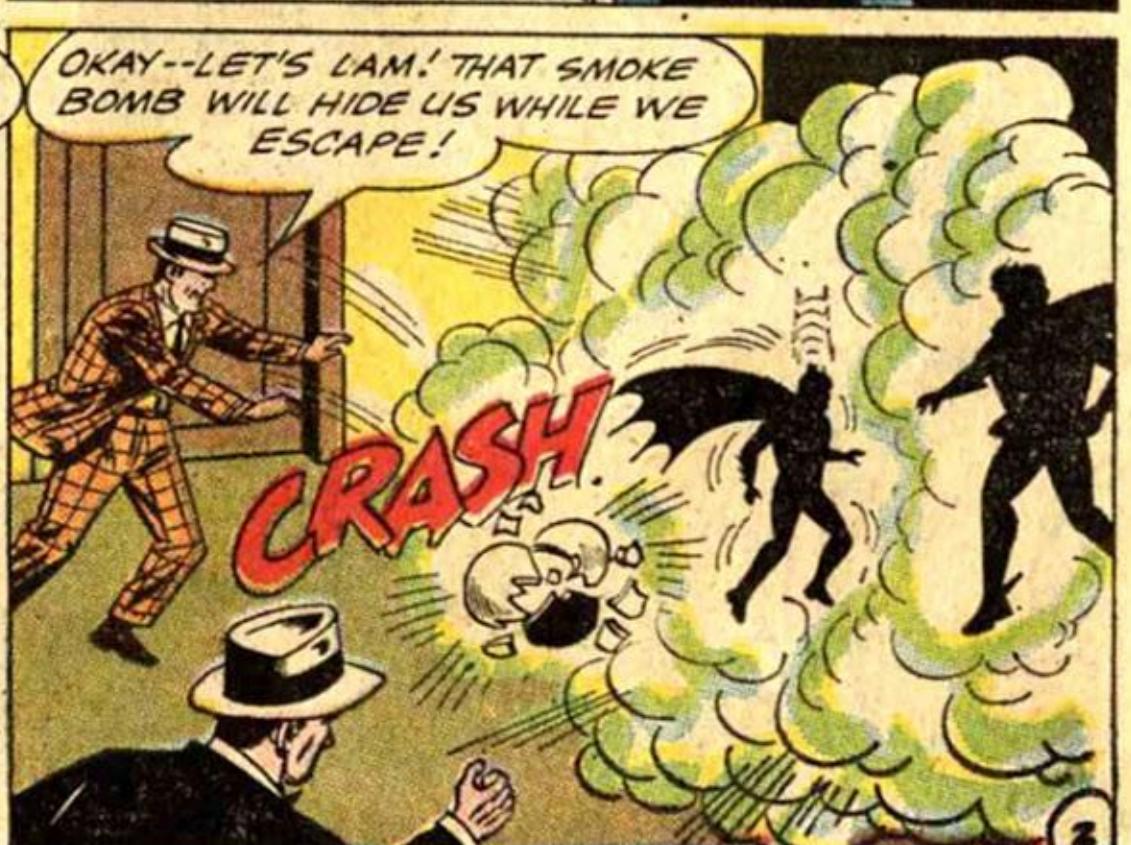


G-GOLLY!... BATMAN!... YOU'RE SHRINKING!

THE PROCESS IS TAKING EFFECT! IN A FEW MOMENTS, IT WILL BE COMPLETE!



OKAY--LET'S C'MON! THAT SMOKE BOMB WILL HIDE US WHILE WE ESCAPE!



WHEN THE SMOKE FINALLY CLEARS...

B-BATMAN! GULP!  
YOU LOOK LIKE A  
LITTLE CHILD!

THAT MACHINE... SOME-  
HOW, IT'S ABLE TO  
REVERSE GROWTH!



NAILS LED US INTO A TRAP! HE ALWAYS  
SWORE TO Avenge HIMSELF, AND HE DID  
IT -- BY HIRING GARTH TO INVENT A  
MACHINE THAT WOULD MAKE  
YOU LIKE... LIKE THIS!



I'D BETTER CARRY  
YOU TO THE BAT-  
MOBILE! YOU CAN'T  
WALK WHILE YOUR  
COSTUME IS SAGGING  
ALL ABOUT  
YOU!

ROBIN-- I NEVER  
THOUGHT THERE'D  
BE A TIME WHEN  
YOU'D HAVE TO  
CARRY ME IN YOUR  
ARMS LIKE A BABY!



SOME TIME LATER, PHOTOGRAPHS COME TO THE  
EDITOR'S DESK AT THE GOTHAM GAZETTE...

ACCORDING TO THIS LETTER, GARTH HAD A  
CAMERA HIDDEN IN HIS MACHINE -- AND IT  
PHOTOGRAPHED BATMAN! MUCH AS I HATE  
TO DO IT, I MUST PRINT THESE PHOTOS!  
THE PUBLIC HAS A RIGHT  
TO THE TRUTH!



SO IT IS THAT THE WORLD SOON LEARNS OF  
BATMAN'S STRANGE FATE...

- GOTHAM GAZETTE -  
GANGLAND TURNS  
BATMAN INTO BABY

CRIMINAL  
SCIENTIST  
USES RAY  
THAT REVERSES  
BATMAN'S  
GROWTH!

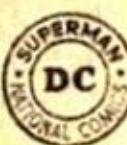
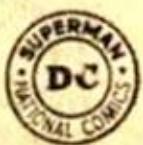
AND EVERYWHERE, GOOD CITIZENS TAKE THE  
NEWS UNHAPPILY...

THIS IS TERRIBLE...  
POOR BATMAN!

BATMAN CAN'T FIGHT  
CRIME ANY MORE NOW!  
HIS CAREER IS FINISHED!



# BATMAN



AND IN NAILS FINNEY'S HIDEOUT...

OTHER GANGSTERS TRIED TO KILL BATMAN--BUT, WITH GARTH'S HELP, I STOPPED HIM IN A BETTER WAY!

INSTEAD OF MAKING A DEAD BATMAN INTO A MARTYR--WE'VE MADE A LIVE BATMAN INTO A LAUGHING STOCK... HA, HA!

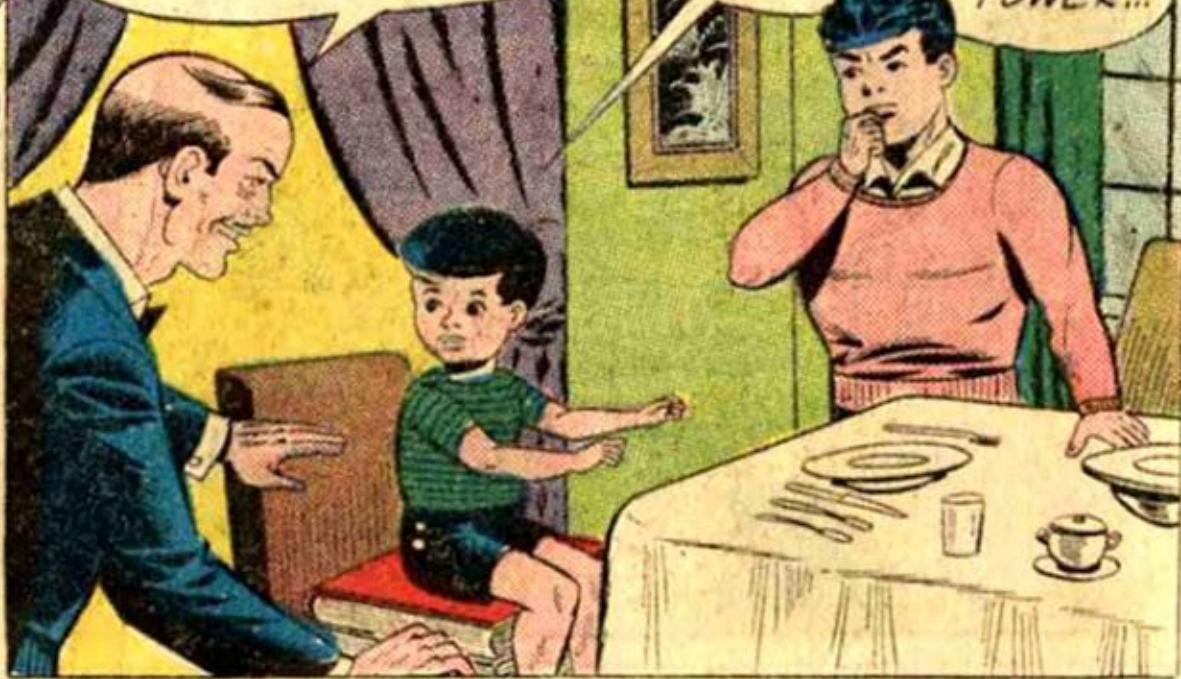


MEANWHILE, IN THE WAYNE MANSION...

THANK YOU, ALFRED!

WITH THOSE TELEPHONE BOOKS UNDER YOU, YOU'LL BE ABLE TO REACH THE TABLE NOW, SIR!

SIGH! IF ONLY I COULD GET MY HANDS ON GARTH'S MACHINE, AND REVERSE ITS POWER...



LATER, WHILE EXPERIMENTING IN THE GYM...

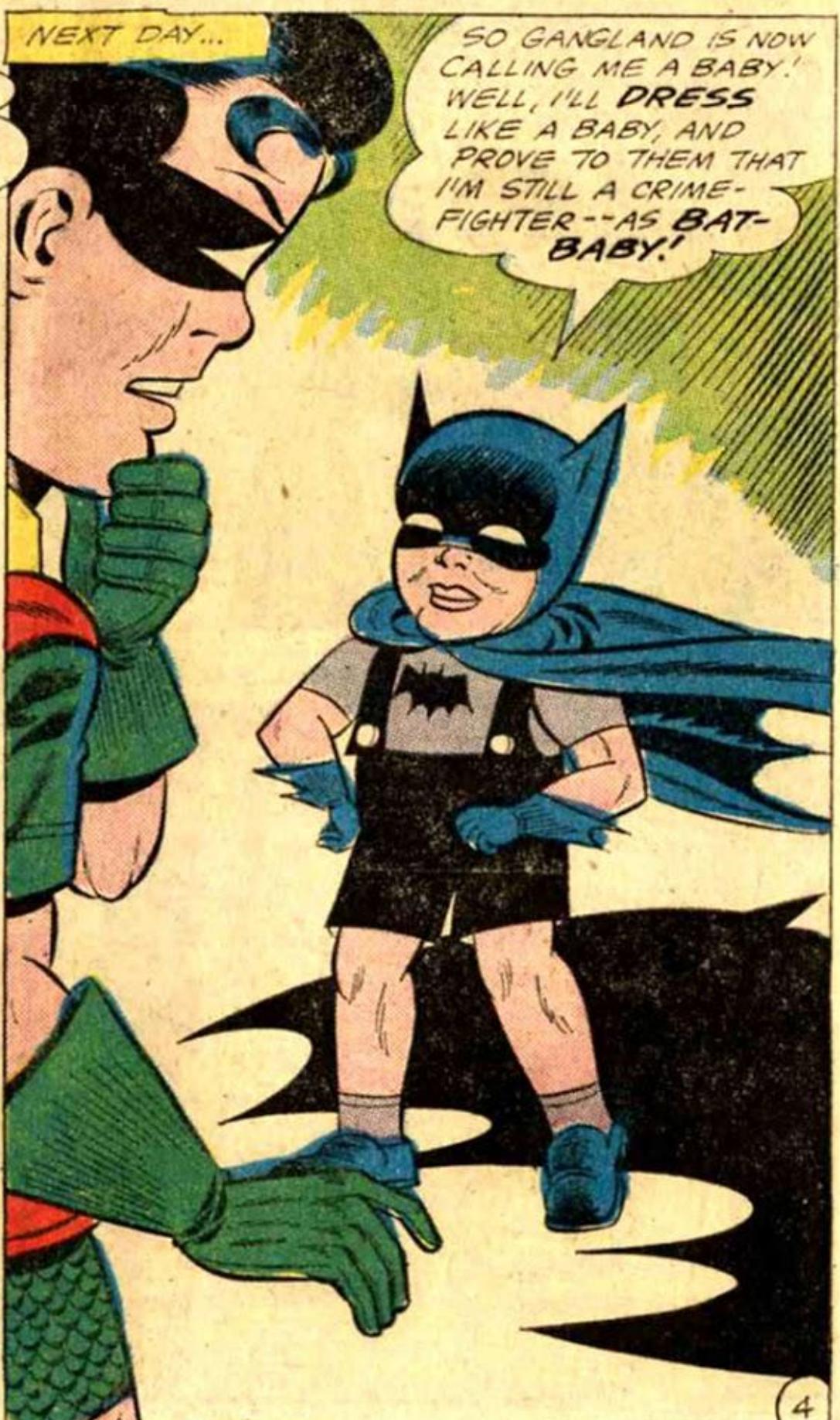
FORTUNATELY, THERE WAS ONE FLAW IN GARTH'S MACHINE! I STILL NOT ONLY THINK LIKE AN ADULT--I ALSO RETAIN MY ADULT STRENGTH!

GOSH... IT'S AS IF YOUR STRENGTH WAS CONDENSED--PUT IN A SMALLER PACKAGE!



NEXT DAY...

SO GANGLAND IS NOW CALLING ME A BABY! WELL, I'LL DRESS LIKE A BABY, AND PROVE TO THEM THAT I'M STILL A CRIME-FIGHTER--AS BAT-BABY!



I'M GOING INTO RIGID TRAINING--SO I CAN ADJUST TO MY NEW SIZE--AND THEN HUNT FOR GARTH AND HIS RAY MACHINE! ONLY THAT MACHINE CAN RESTORE ME TO ADULT SIZE AGAIN!



# BATMAN



THAT NIGHT, AS THE UNIQUE TEAM OF BAT-BABY AND ROBIN  
PATROL THE STREETS...

HELP! THREE BANDITS--GOING  
UP THAT FIRE ESCAPE!

THEY'RE  
GOING TO MAKE  
THEIR GETAWAY OVER  
THE ROOFTOP!



AS THE CRIME-FIGHTERS  
RUSH UP THE FIRE ESCAPE  
IN PURSUIT...

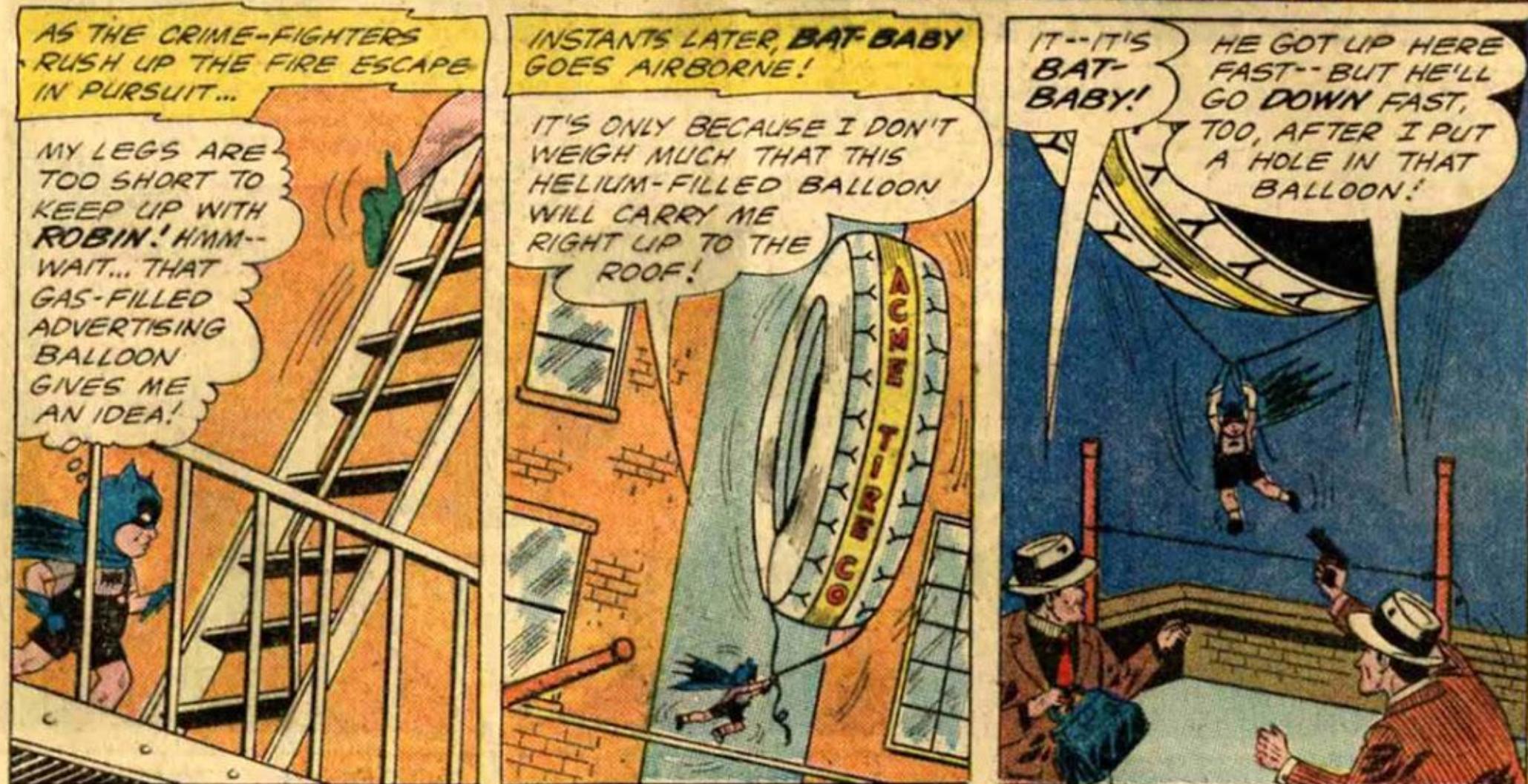
MY LEGS ARE  
TOO SHORT TO  
KEEP UP WITH  
ROBIN! HMM--  
WAIT... THAT  
GAS-FILLED  
ADVERTISING  
BALLOON  
GIVES ME  
AN IDEA!

INSTANTS LATER, BAT-BABY  
GOES AIRBORNE!

IT'S ONLY BECAUSE I DON'T  
WEIGH MUCH THAT THIS  
HELIUM-FILLED BALLOON  
WILL CARRY ME  
RIGHT UP TO THE  
ROOF!

IT--IT'S  
BAT-  
BABY!

HE GOT UP HERE  
FAST--BUT HE'LL  
GO DOWN FAST,  
TOO, AFTER I PUT  
A HOLE IN THAT  
BALLOON!

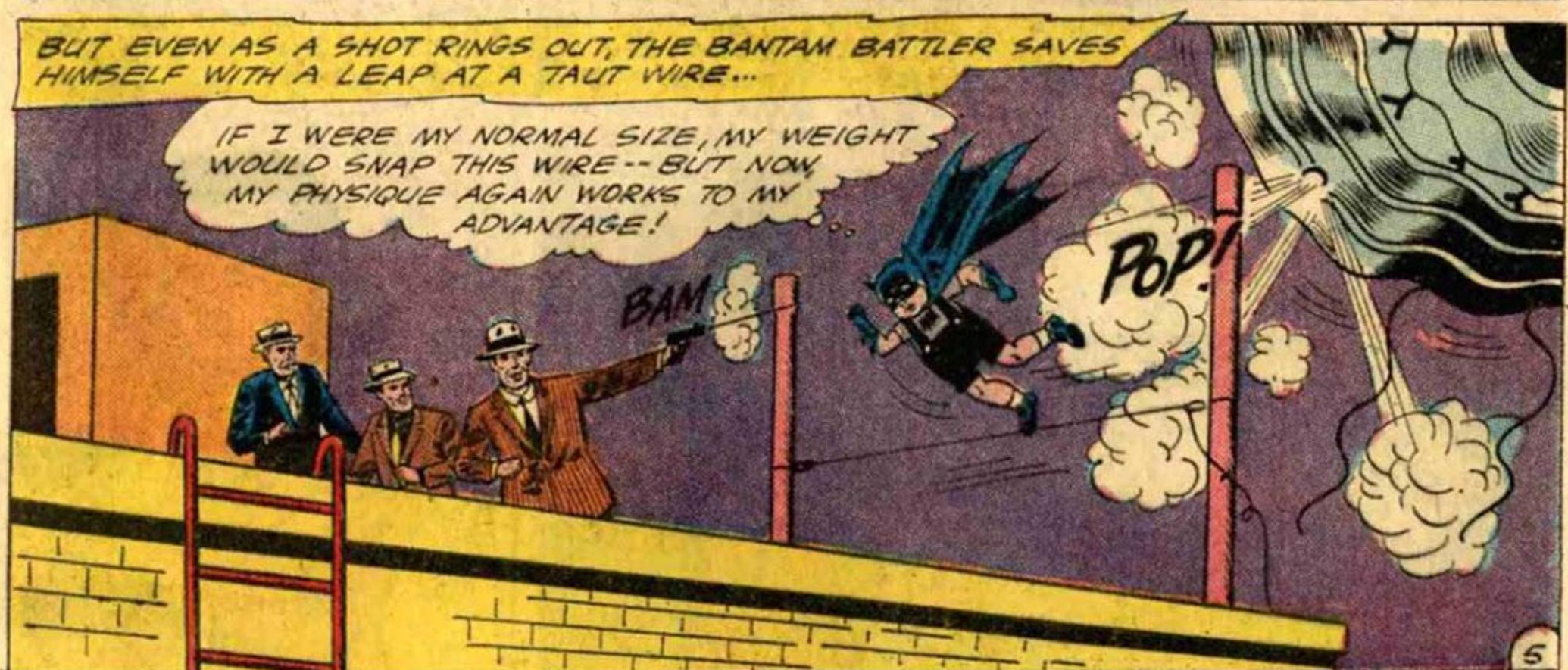


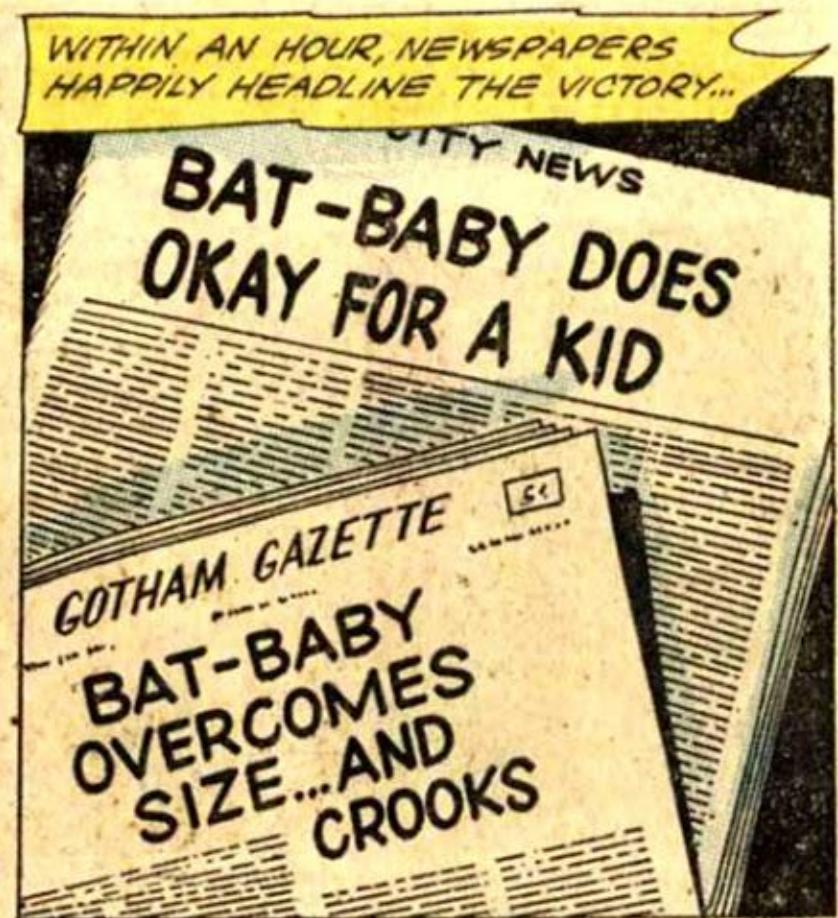
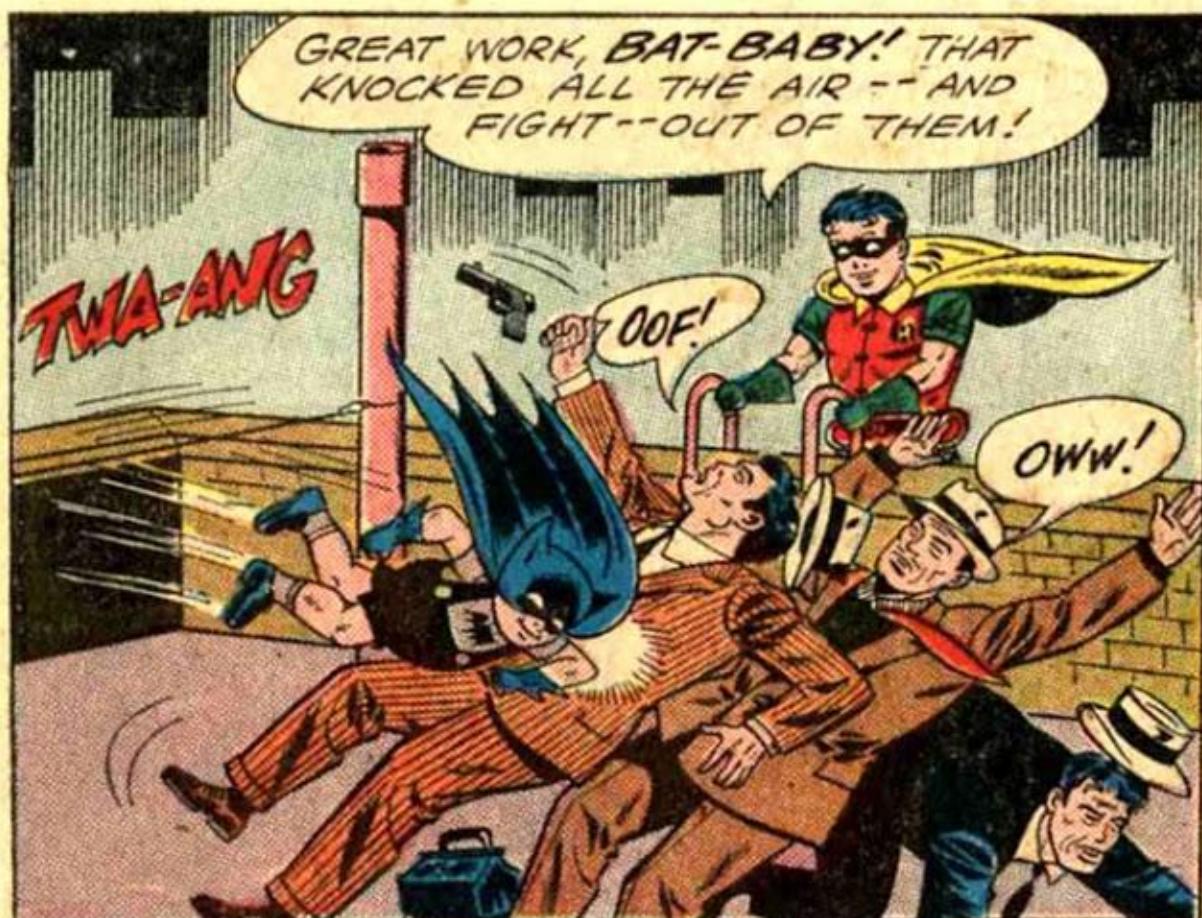
BUT EVEN AS A SHOT RINGS OUT, THE BANTAM BATTLER SAVES  
HIMSELF WITH A LEAP AT A TAUT WIRE...

IF I WERE MY NORMAL SIZE, MY WEIGHT  
WOULD SNAP THIS WIRE--BUT NOW,  
MY PHYSIQUE AGAIN WORKS TO MY  
ADVANTAGE!

BAM

POP!





AS KATHY EXITS INDIGNANTLY...

SHE FELL FOR IT!  
GOOD THING YOU HAD  
THAT CARDBOARD  
CUTOUT PREPARED  
IN ADVANCE!

SHE'S SO  
ANGRY, SHE'LL  
STAY AWAY FROM  
HERE FOR QUITE A  
WHILE! WHEN I'M  
ADULT SIZE AGAIN,  
I'LL EXPLAIN THAT THE  
"GIRL" SHE SAW WAS  
A COUSIN!

TROUBLE IS, YOU'LL NEVER  
BE ADULT SIZE AGAIN,  
UNLESS WE LOCATE GARTH  
WITH HIS MACHINE! HE  
AND NAILS MUST BE  
STAYING UNDERCOVER  
UNTIL THEY CAN SNEAK  
OUT OF THE COUNTRY!

BUT THEY WON'T  
LEAVE UNTIL  
THEY CAN SELL  
THEIR STOLEN  
GEMS TO A  
FENCE! THAT'S  
WHY THE POLICE  
ARE SECRETLY  
KEEPING TABS ON  
EVERY FENCE IN  
TOWN!

LATER, IN THE OFFICE OF POLICE  
COMMISSIONER GORDON...

I JUST GOT A TIP  
THAT SWAP  
SMITH IS  
GETTING TOGETHER  
EVERY DOLLAR  
HE CAN PUT HIS  
HANDS ON!

HMM... A  
FENCE WOULD NEED  
PLENTY OF MONEY  
TO BUY THOSE  
STOLEN GEMS! THIS  
MEANS SWAP SMITH  
MIGHT BE GOING TO NAILS'  
TRANSACTION!

AFTERWARD, IN A PLAYGROUND OPPOSITE  
THE SHOP THAT IS THE FRONT FOR SWAP SMITH'S  
ILLEGAL PURCHASES...

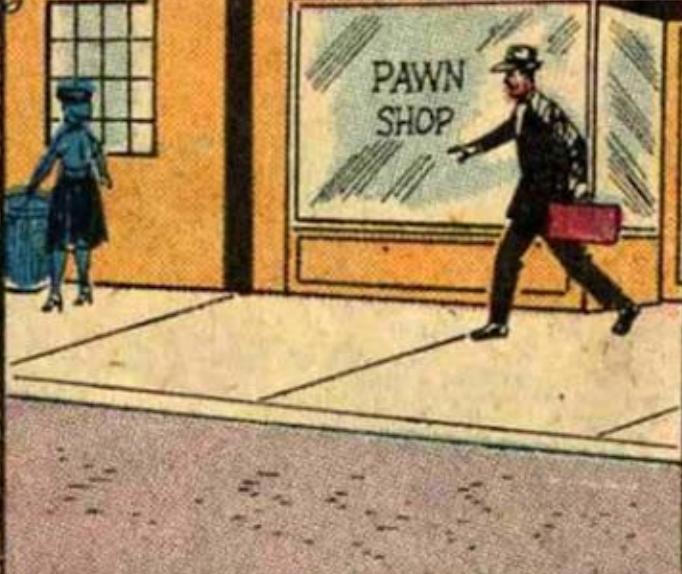
GARTH WOULD BE ON THE LOOKOUT  
FOR PLAINCLOTHES POLICE, ROBIN OR  
BAT-BABY... BUT HE WON'T  
SUSPECT JUST ANOTHER  
CHILD HERE!

BEFORE LONG...

AH... THERE GOES SMITH--  
IN A HURRY! I'LL NEVER  
KEEP UP WITH THOSE  
LONG LEGS OF HIS!

SHORTLY...

GOOD THING I CACHED A PAIR  
OF SKATES IN THE PARK, FOR  
JUST SUCH AN EMERGENCY!  
AS SOON AS HE REACHES  
NAILS' HIDEOUT, I'LL NOTIFY  
ROBIN BY BELT-RADIO!





# BATMAN



LATER, IN A STORAGE WAREHOUSE, AFTER THE TWO FLIP OPEN THE SKYLIGHT...



DESPERATELY, ROBIN PRETENDS TO RETREAT BEFORE THE ONCOMING HOODLUMS--BUT, SUDDENLY...



IN ONE FELL SWOOP TWO NORMAL-SIZED CRIME-FIGHTERS MOP UP THE GANG!



9

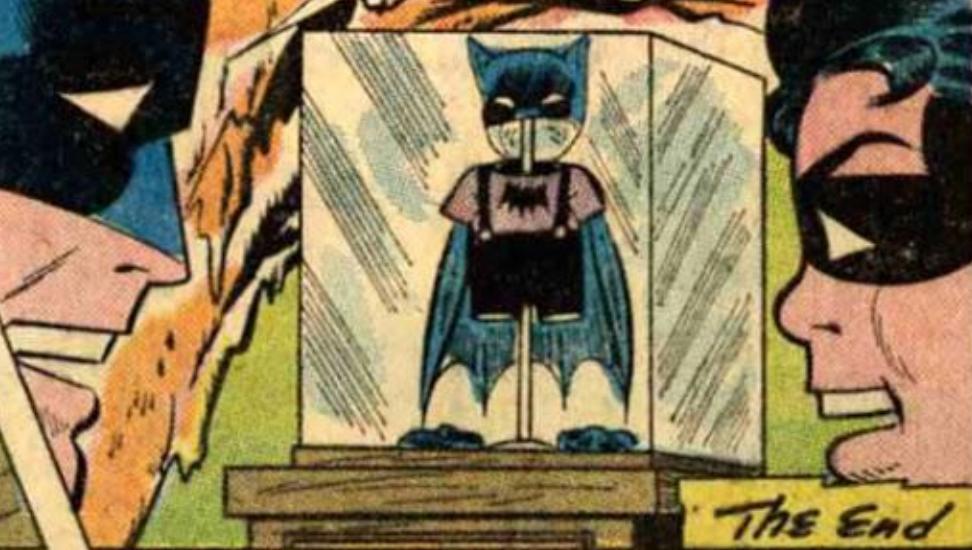
TENSE MOMENTS ELAPSE--TILL FINALLY...

ULP!... YOU TURNED ON THE RAY! Y-YOU'RE FULL-SIZE AGAIN!



THAT NIGHT, THE BATCAVE'S FAMED TROPHY ROOM HAS A NEW ADDITION...

JUST A REMINDER--OF A BRIEF CHILDHOOD!



The End

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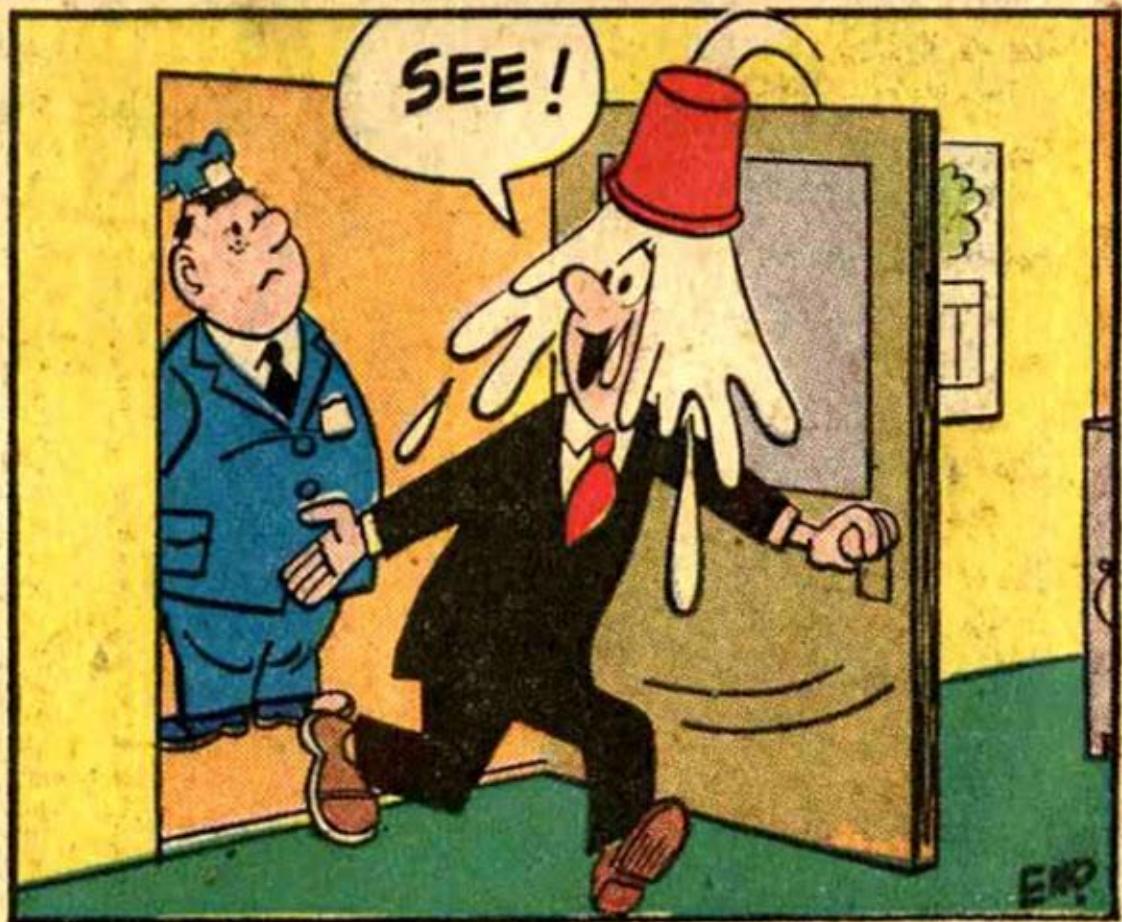
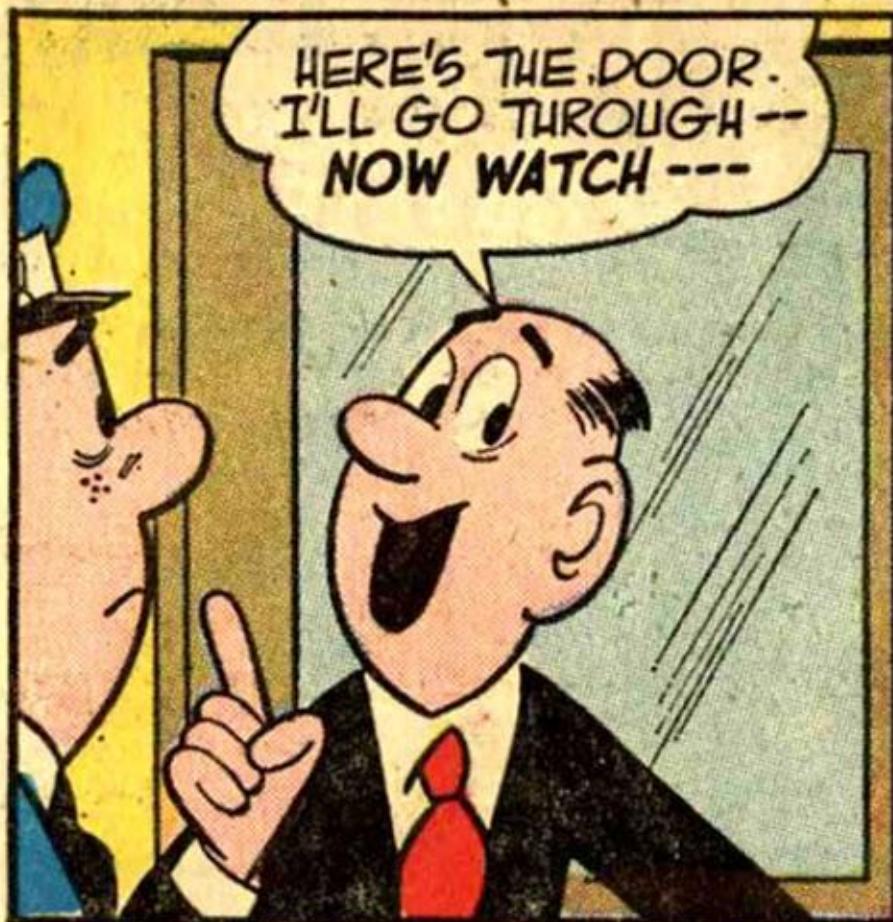
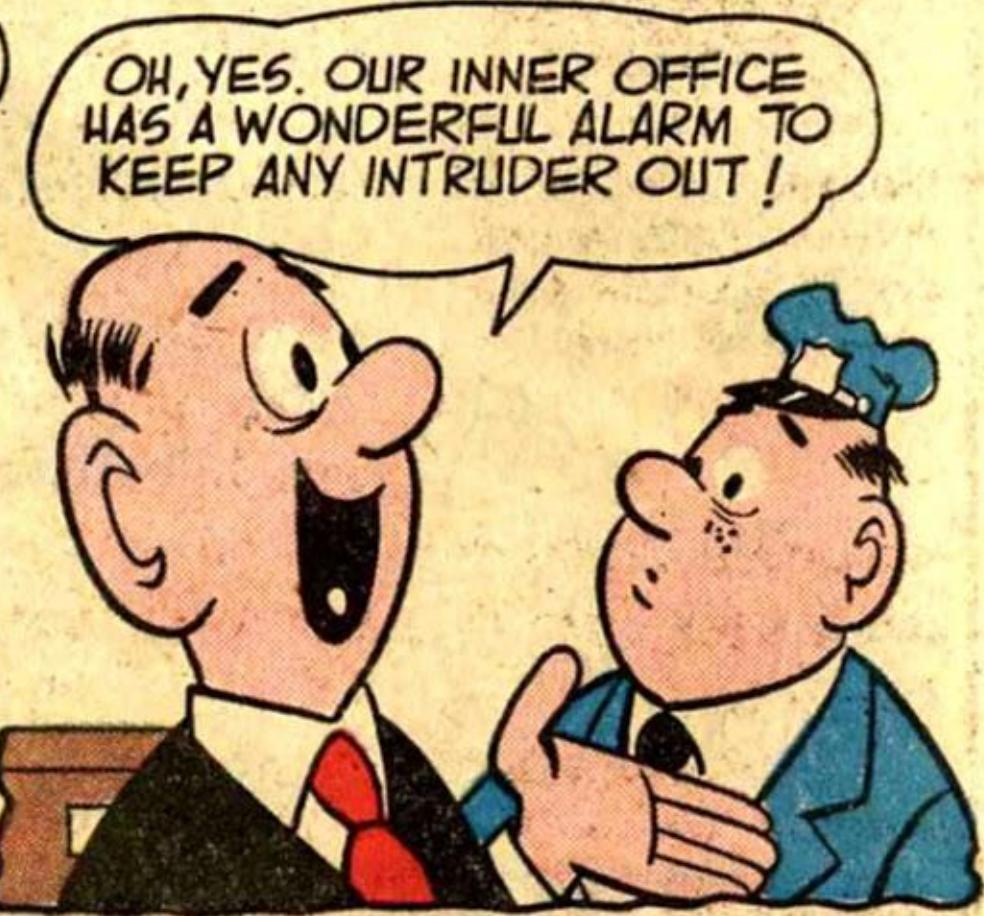
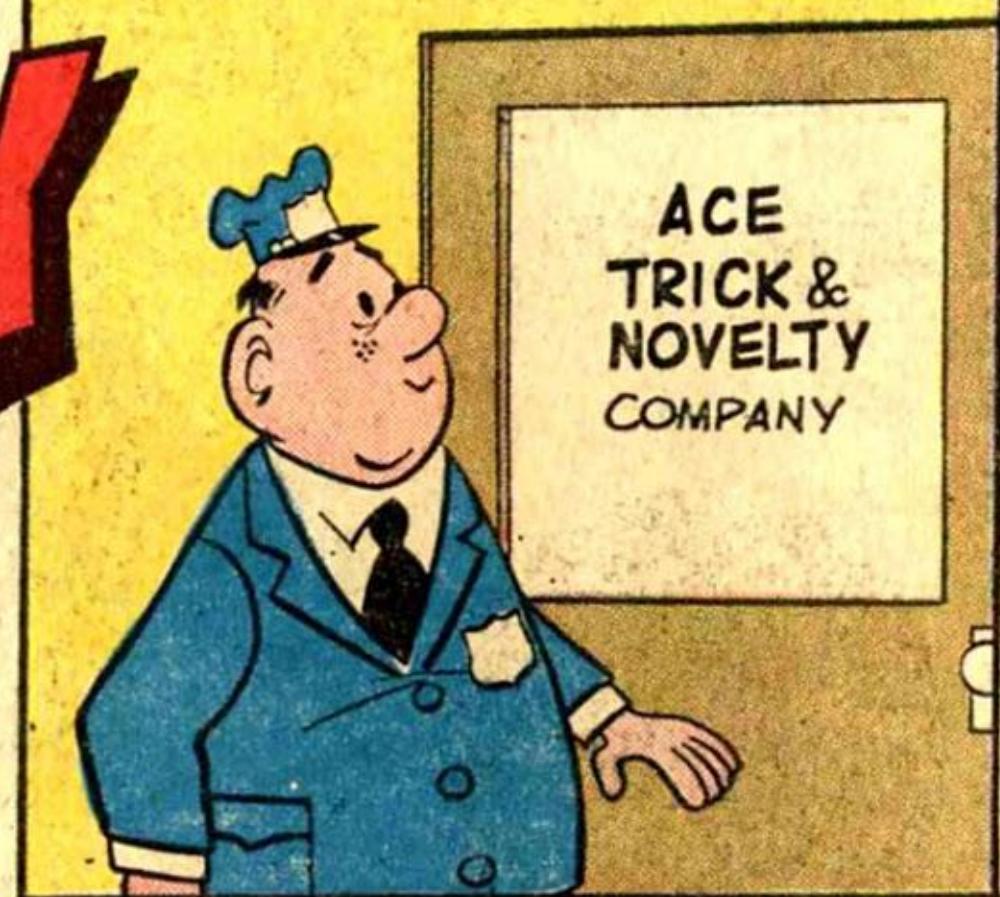




# BATMAN



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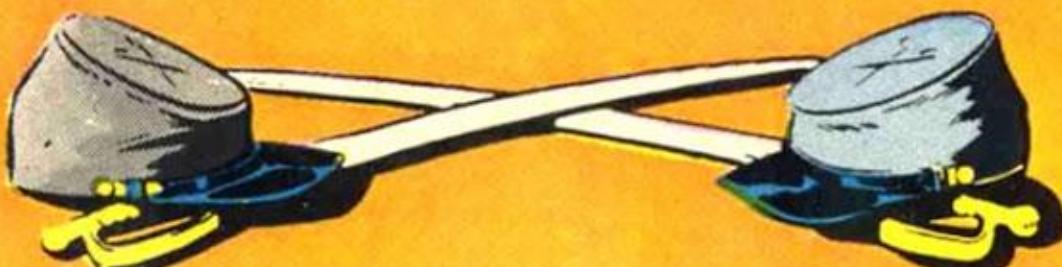
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