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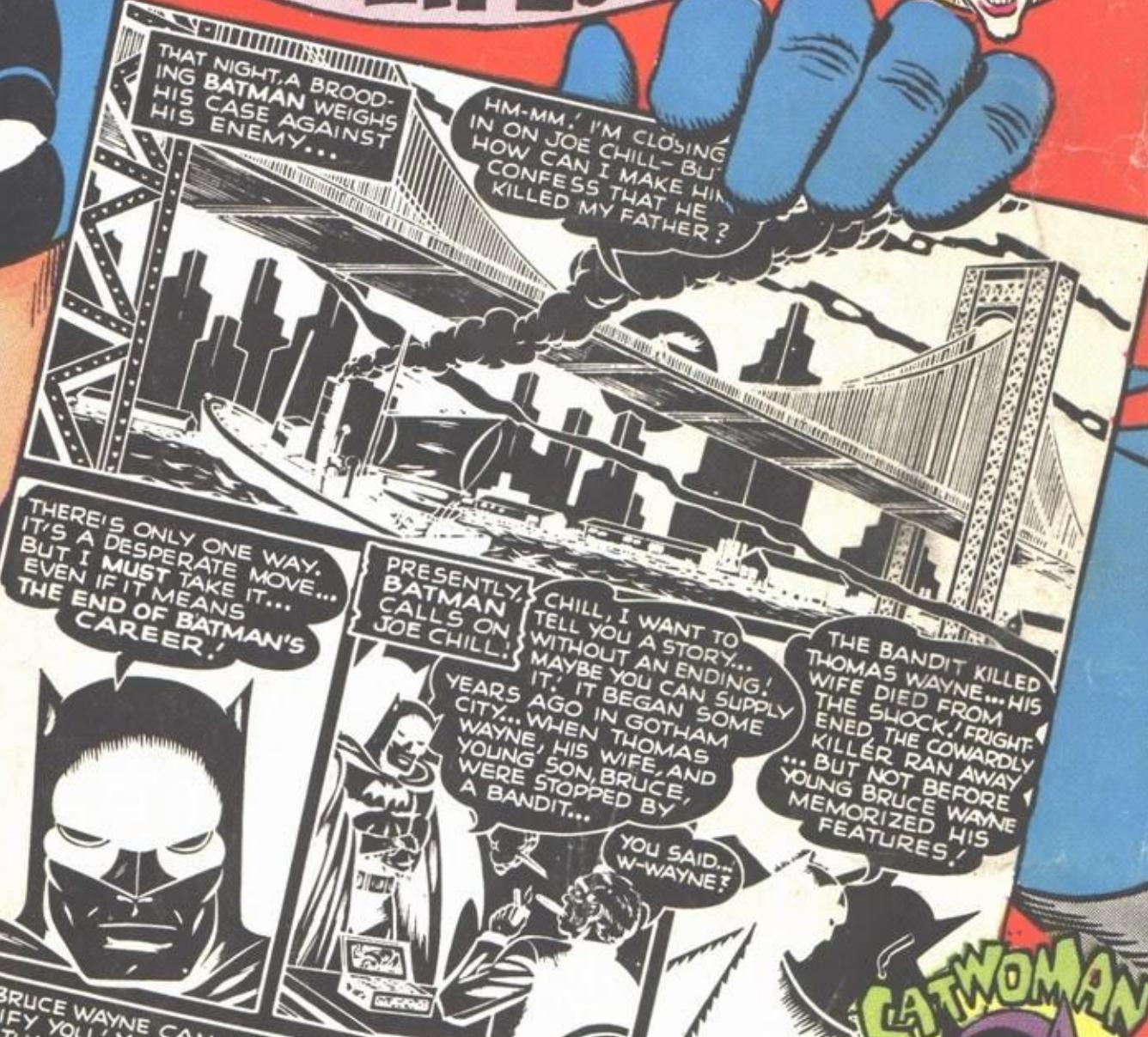
NO. 198

APPROVED
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AUTHORITY

BATMAN

ALSO IN THIS
SPECIAL
ALL-VILLAIN
ISSUE:

REMEMBER?
**THIS IS THE MOMENT
THAT CHANGED MY
LIFE!**



YES, BRUCE WAYNE CAN STILL
IDENTIFY YOU. YOU
WERE THAT KILLER!

HA! NO
JURY WOULD
BELIEVE WAYNE'S
IDENTIFICATION ACCURATE
AFTER ALL THESE YEARS!
YOU'RE BLUFFING!
BESIDES... HOW DO
YOU KNOW WHAT
REALLY HAPPENED?

I KNOW
BECAUSE I AM
THE SON OF
THE MAN YOU
MURDERED.
I AM BRUCE
WAYNE!!



PENGUIN



GIANT BAT-MAN

Another star collection of BATMAN and ROBIN'S Most Fantastic Foes

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From BATMAN No. 47 (June-July, 1948) comes the greatest epic of the entire Batman saga...the tale of the Caped Crimebuster's showdown with the man who murdered his parents!

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THE WEB OF THE SPINNERPage 29

From the past—BATMAN No. 129 (February, 1960)—flashes Batwoman, teaming with the Titanic Twosome to tackle that whirligig of crime, the Spinner!

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You've seen him battle Batman on TV! Now read the story of the first clash between False Face and the Cowled Crusader...from BATMAN No. 113 (February, 1958)!

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The bells are ringing...for wrong...when the Gong and his gang of goons strike...and come face-to-face with Batman and Robin! From BATMAN No. 55 (October-November, 1949)!

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BATMAN

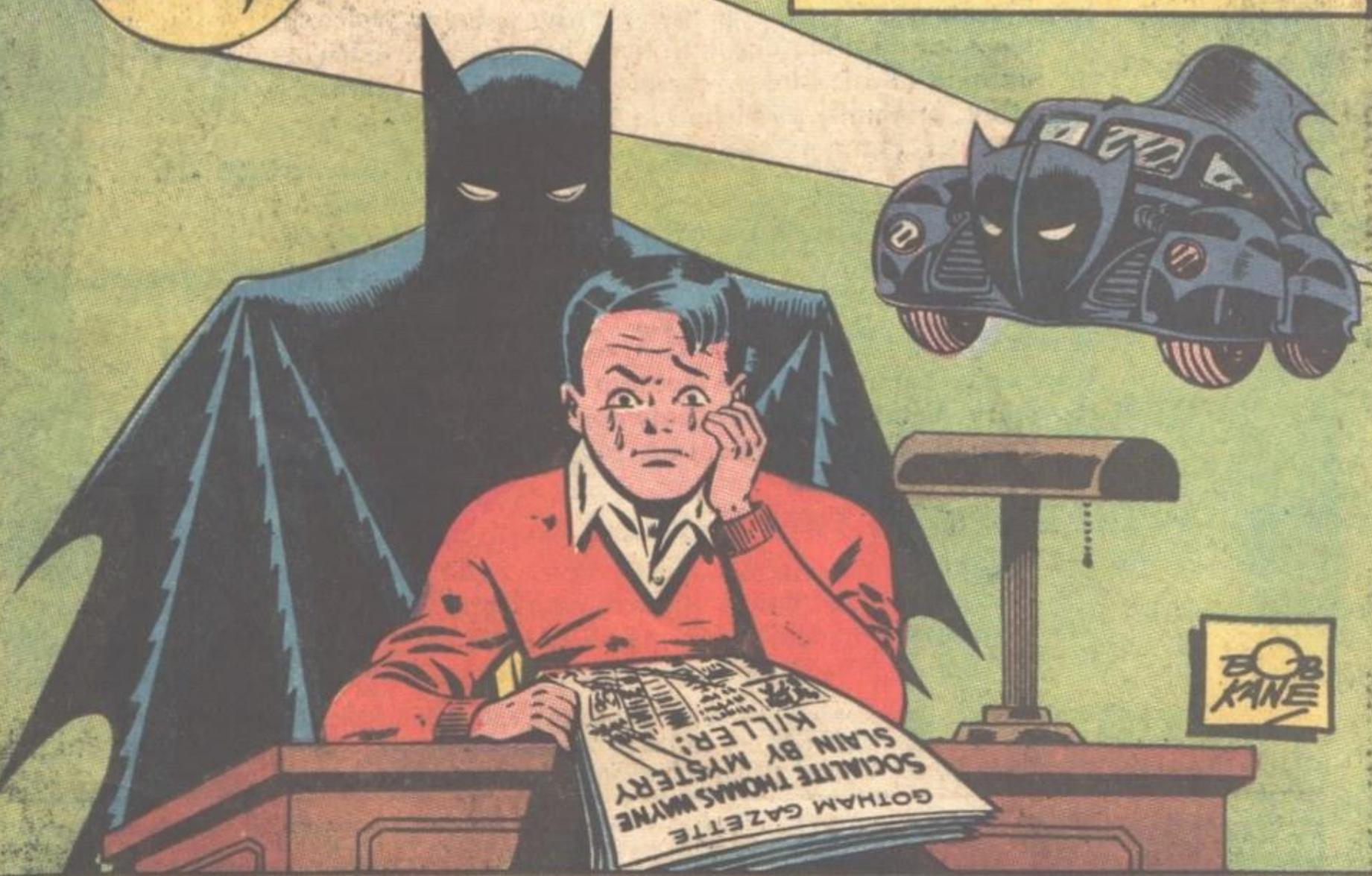
WITH
ROBIN

- THE BOY WONDER



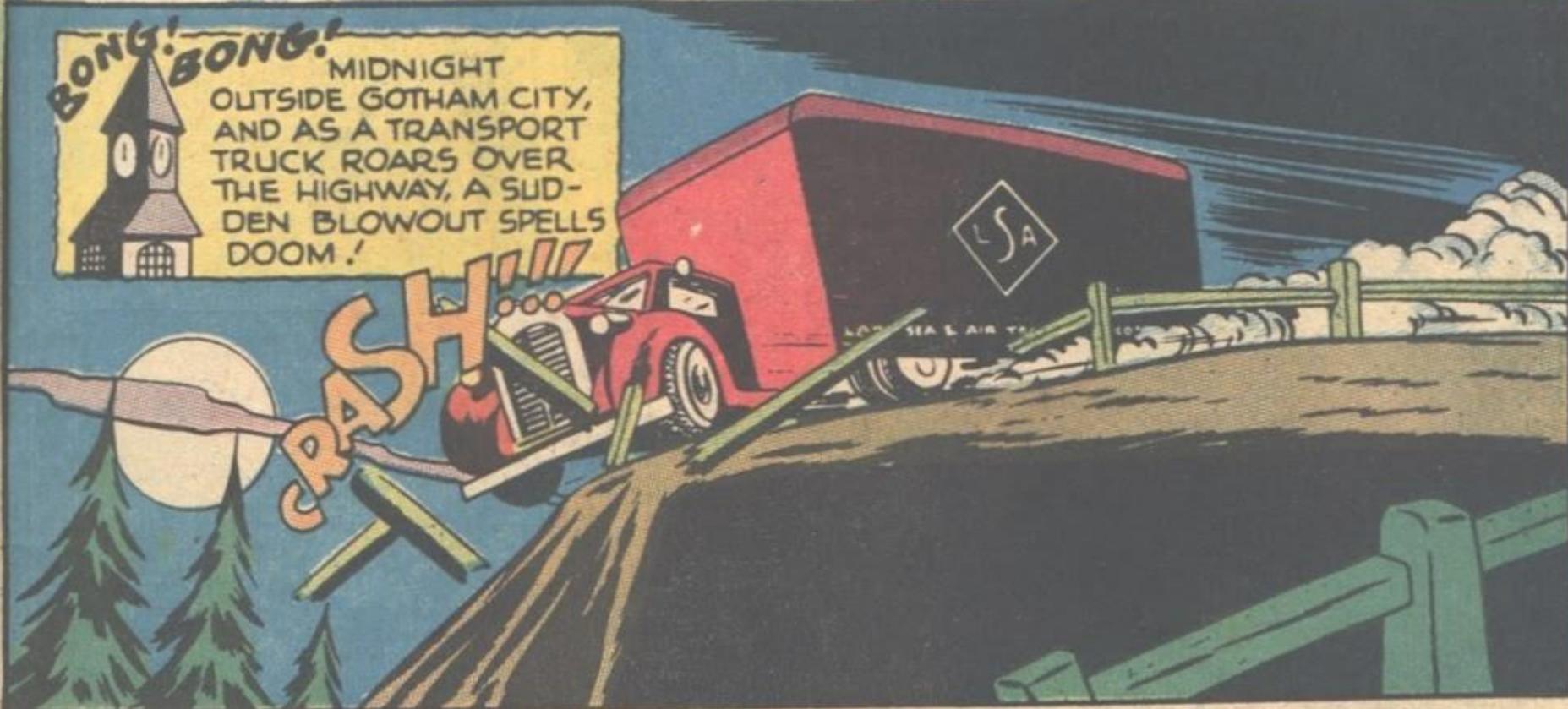
HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED WHY BRUCE WAYNE, A SOCIETY BLUE-BLOOD, CHOSE THE DANGEROUS CAREER OF BATMAN? WHAT MADE HIM BECOME A RELENTLESS, HARD-HITTING CRIME-FIGHTER? HOW DID HE TRAIN HIMSELF IN ATHLETIC AND SCIENTIFIC SKILL UNTIL HE BECAME THE NEMESIS OF THE JOKER, THE PENGUIN, CAT-WOMAN AND OTHER NEFARIOUS CRIMINALS OF OUR TIME? WHAT INSPIRED THE BATMOBILE AND THE BATPLANE? HERE IS THE ANSWER... THE INSIDE STORY OF A BOY WHO MADE A GRIM VOW... THE INSIDE STORY OF...

**"The Origin of
THE BATMAN!"**



BONG! BONG!

MIDNIGHT
OUTSIDE GOTHAM CITY,
AND AS A TRANSPORT
TRUCK ROARS OVER
THE HIGHWAY, A SU-
DEN BLOWOUT SPELLS
DOOM!

CRASH!!!

WITNESSES TO THE DISASTER ARE
BATMAN AND ROBIN, THE BOY
WONDER, HOMeward BOUND IN
THEIR STREAMLINED BATMOBILE,
AFTER AN EVENING OF CRIME-
SMASHING...

IT LOOKS BAD,
ROBIN. THAT TRUCK
FOLDED UP LIKE A
CHUNK OF
TINFOIL!



THE
DRIVER'S
DEAD. HE WAS
KILLED
INSTANTLY!



AS ROBIN ADVANCES
TOWARD THE STUMBLING
MAN TO HELP HIM...

ROBIN!
YOU AIN'T
TAKIN' ME
IN!



YOU MUST HAVE
A GOOD REASON
FOR FLASHING
THAT GUN! BETTER
TELL IT-FAST!



GIANT BATMAN



BUT, ROBIN, DAZED, UNWITTINGLY TRIPS BATMAN, AND DEATH HOVERS OMINOUSLY OVER THE CAPE MANHUNTER...

I'M MEASURIN'
YOU FOR A COFFIN,
BATMAN—RIGHT
NOW!

ABRUPTLY, A BULLET FROM NOWHERE CLIPS THE MURDEROUS THUG...



WE HEARD THE CRASH!
I DIDN'T WANT TO KILL THAT TRIGGERMAN,
BUT IT WAS HIM OR YOU.'

THE
RADIO
PATROL!

SAY, THIS IS "FEETS"
BORGAM! HE'S WANTED
FOR A MURDER IN THE
NEXT STATE! ALL STATE
TROOPERS WERE TO WATCH
FOR HIM IN CARS CROSSING
THE STATE LINE!

HMM.. CONTAINER
OF MILK... SANDWICHES...
CIGARETTES... ALL THE
COMFORTS OF HOME
IN THAT SECRET
COMPARTMENT.

A NEW
RACKET, EH?
SMUGGLING HOT
CROOKS ACROSS
THE LINE INTO
OTHER STATES!

IT'S OBVIOUS THE
DRIVER WASN'T
ALONE IN THIS SET-
UP! I WONDER IF THE
OWNER OF THE LAND-
SEA-AIR TRANSPORT
CO. IS TOP MAN?

THAT PROVES
THE DRIVER KNEW
HE WAS CARRYING
"FEETS".



AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS, COMMISSIONER GORDON SECURES QUICK INFORMATION..

THE REPORT SAYS THE NEW L.S.A. OWNER BOUGHT OUT THE OLD OWNER, FIRED THE OLD TRUCKERS AND HIRED A NEW STAFF. THE OWNER'S NAME IS JOE CHILL! HERE'S A RADIO-PHOTO OF HIM...



THAT FACE... AFTER ALL THESE YEARS... IT'S HE! THE FACE OF THE MAN WHO KILLED MY PARENTS.'



AND BATMAN'S THOUGHTS WHIRL HIM BACK TO A VIVID NIGHT MANY YEARS BEFORE... TO A NIGHT WHEN HE WAS WALKING WITH HIS PARENTS, THOMAS AND MARTHA WAYNE...

THIS IS A STICKUP! I'LL TAKE THAT NECKLACE YOU'RE WEARIN', LADY!

OH... NOT MY NECK-LACE...



THOMAS!

YOU HOODLUM!
DON'T YOU DARE
PUT A HAND ON
MY WIFE,
UHHH...

MAYBE
YOU'LL KEEP
QUIET... NOW!

THAT SINGLE BULLET REALLY KILLED TWO PEOPLE, FOR MARTHA WAYNE'S WEAK HEART STOPPED FROM THE SUDDEN SHOCK!

THEY'RE DEAD! YOU KILLED THEM... YOU KILLED MY MOTHER AND FATHER...

STOP LOOKIN'
AT ME LIKE
THAT!



SOMETHING ABOUT YOUNG BRUCE'S EYES MADE THE KILLER RETREAT... THEY WERE ACCUSING EYES THAT MEMORIZED HIS EVERY FEATURE... EYES THAT WOULD NEVER FORGET...



GIANT BATMAN

THE KILLER WAS NEVER FOUND, AND SOON AFTER, A YOUNG LAD MADE A GRIM PROMISE...

I SWEAR I'LL DEDICATE MY LIFE AND INHERITANCE TO BRINGING YOUR KILLER TO JUSTICE... AND TO FIGHTING ALL CRIMINALS! I SWEAR IT!

THE YEARS PASSED AS BRUCE WAYNE PREPARED FOR HIS CHOSEN CAREER!

WAYNE
THOMAS MARTHA
BORN
DIED
CURED
LIVED

HE MASTERED SCIENTIFIC CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION.

HE TRAINED HIS BODY TO SUCH PHYSICAL AND ATHLETIC PERFECTION THAT HE COULD PERFORM ANY DAREDEVIL FEAT...



THEN, ONE DAY HE WAS READY FOR HIS NEW ROLE.

CRIMINALS ARE A SUPERSTITIOUS, COWARDLY LOT, SO I MUST WEAR A DISGUISE THAT WILL STRIKE TERROR INTO THEIR HEARTS! I MUST BE A CREATURE OF THE NIGHT, LIKE A... A...

AND, AS IF IN ANSWER, A WINGED CREATURE FLEW IN THROUGH THE OPEN WINDOW!

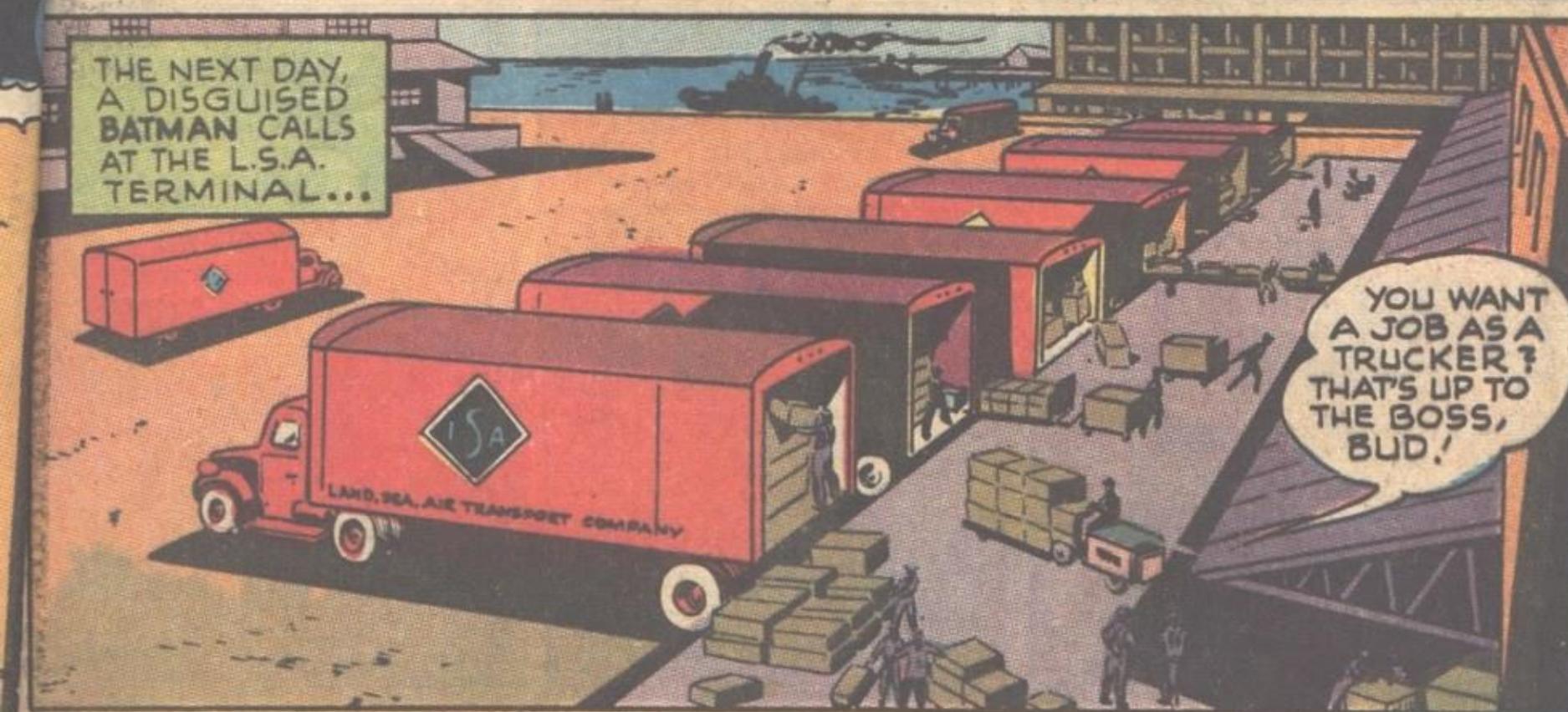
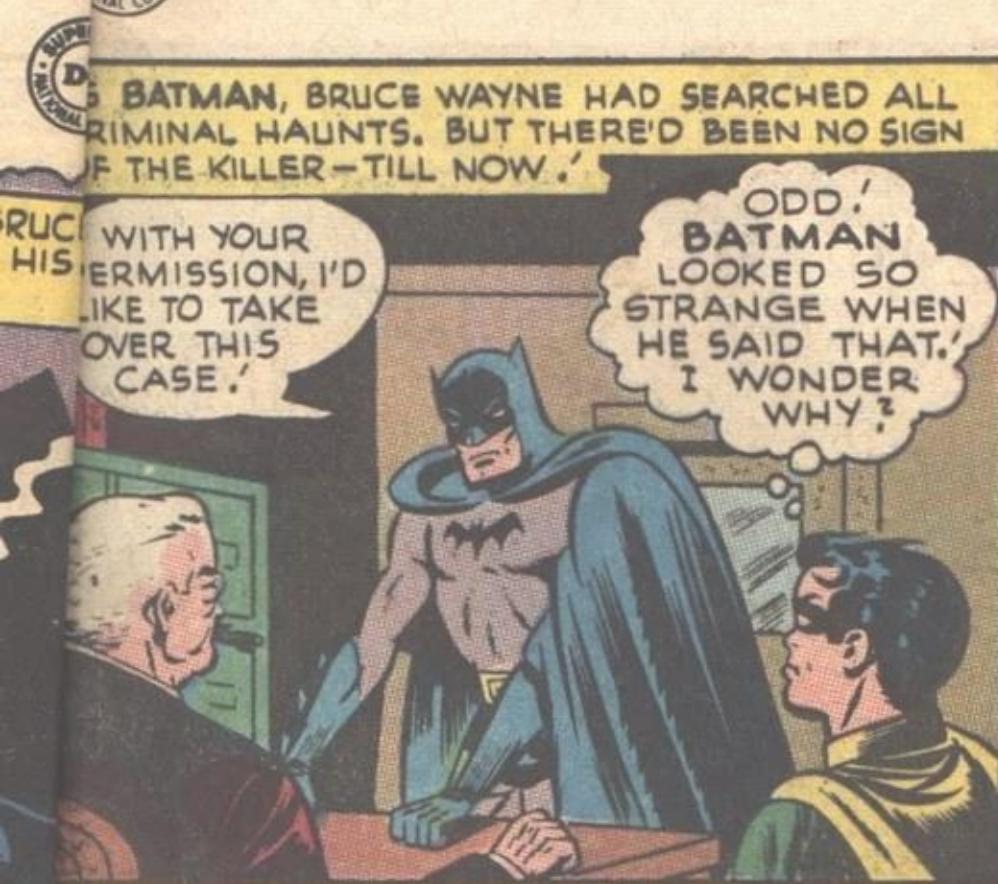
A BAT! THAT'S IT! IT'S LIKE AN OMEN! I SHALL BECOME A BAT!

THUS WAS BORN THIS WEIRD FIGURE OF THE SHADOWS... THIS AVENGER OF EVIL - THE BATMAN!



SOME DAY, I'LL FIND THE KILLER OF MY PARENTS... SOME DAY...

GIANT BATMAN



THAT NIGHT, BATMAN RIDES WITH THE POLICE HARBOR PATROL...

YES! RUN BY MONTY JULEP! HE HAS ALL HIS CREW COSTUMED LIKE OLDTIME MISSISSIPPI GAMBLERS! HIS SHOWBOAT PADDLES AROUND OUTSIDE THE LEGAL LIMIT SO WE CAN'T ARREST HIM!

SO THAT SHOWBOAT IS REALLY A GAMBLING SHIP, EH?



ONE HOUR LATER... ON THE GAMBLING SHIP, TWO SENTRY'S IDLE AWAY THE TIME...

PETE, I THINK I'LL TRY SOME TARGET PRACTICE ON THAT SEA GULL!

YOU SAP! THE SHOTS WOULD PANIC THE CHUMPS AT JULEP'S TABLES. PUT YOUR GUN AWAY!



A GOOD THING, TOO... FOR THE "SEA GULL" IS IN REALITY A UNIQUE CAMOUFLAGE UNDERWATER HELMET WORN BY BATMAN!



THEN, THE CHURNING STERNWHEEL CARRIES THE ACROBATMAN UNSEEN TO A TOP DECK!

TRICKY, BUT IT'S A SHORT-CUT TO THE WHEEL-ROOM!



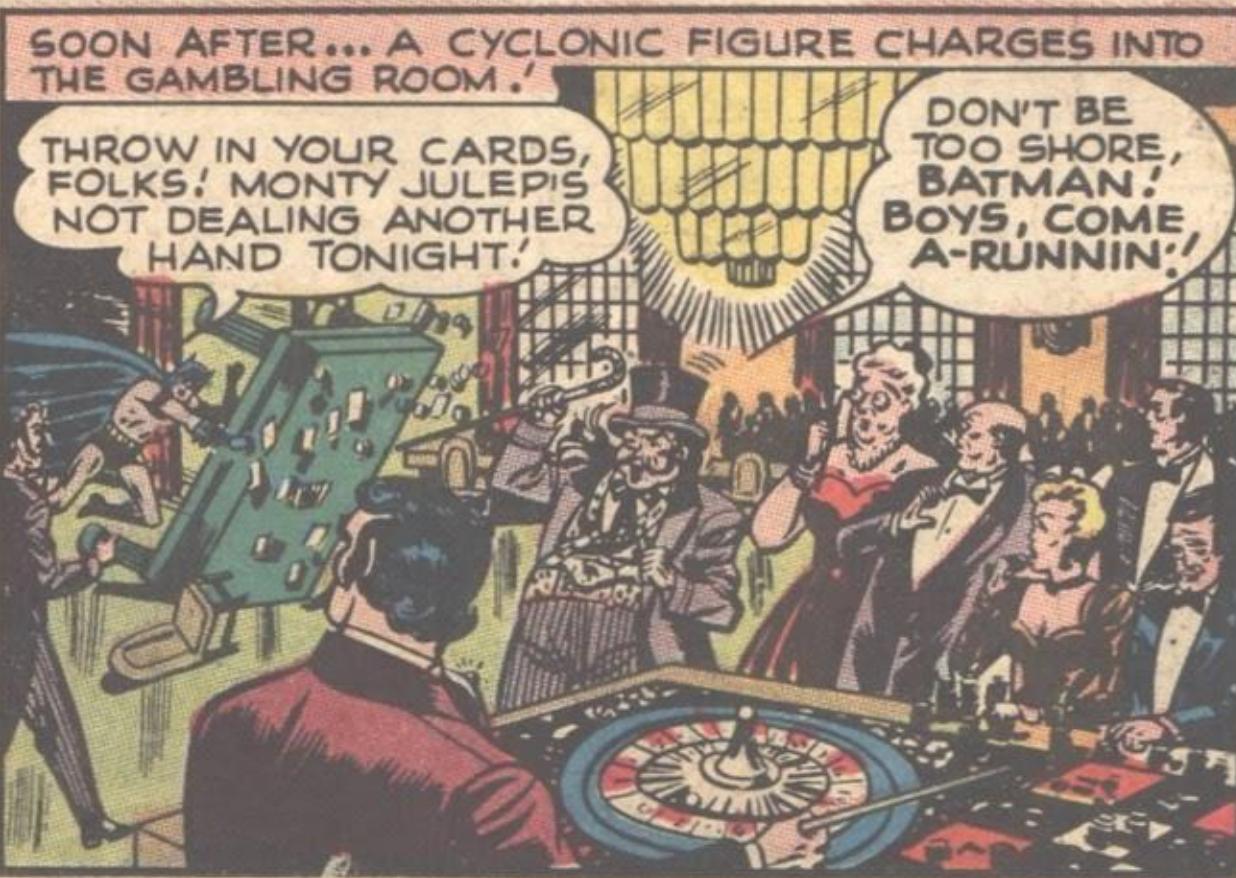
JUST A LITTLE MUTINY, CAPTAIN!



SOON AFTER... A CYCLONIC FIGURE CHARGES INTO THE GAMBLING ROOM!

THROW IN YOUR CARDS, FOLKS! MONTY JULEP'S NOT DEALING ANOTHER HAND TONIGHT!

DON'T BE TOO SHORE, BATMAN! BOYS, COME A-RUNNIN'!



WHERE ARE YORE EYES?
HIT HIM!

TELL HIM
TO STAND
STILL AND
WE'LL DO IT!

CASHING IN YOUR
CHIPS, JULEP?

THEN I'LL
GET HIM
MYSELF...
YII-!!

WITH ONE MIGHTY
HEAVE, BATMAN
WRENCHES UP THE
ROULETTE WHEEL...
AND IT BECOMES
A DISCUS!

WATCH THE
SPINNING
WHEEL,
FOLKS.

SUDDENLY—THE GLOW OF A SEARCHLIGHT
BRINGS EVERYONE TO THE DECK!

YOU CAIN'T
ARREST ME!
MY SHIP'S OUT-
SIDE THE LEGAL
LIMITS!

SURRENDER
IN THE NAME
OF THE LAW!

NOT ANYMORE!
I LASHED YOUR WHEEL
AND STAGED THIS FIGHT
SO YOU'D BE TOO BUSY TO
NOTICE YOUR BOAT WAS
TURNING INSIDE THE
LIMIT!

POLICE POUR ON DECK,
AND IN THE CONFUSION,
MONTY JULEP RACES
TO A SMALL MOTOR-
BOAT HIDDEN FOR
EMERGENCIES...

THEY AIN'T
GOIN' TO ARREST
ME! I'LL GET OUT
O' THIS STATE
MIGHTY FAST!



GIANT BATMAN



THAT NIGHT, A BROODING BATMAN WEIGHS HIS CASE AGAINST HIS ENEMY...

HM-MM! I'M CLOSING IN ON JOE CHILL - BUT HOW CAN I MAKE HIM CONFESS THAT HE KILLED MY FATHER?

THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY. IT'S A DESPERATE MOVE... BUT I MUST TAKE IT... EVEN IF IT MEANS THE END OF BATMAN'S CAREER!

PRESENTLY, BATMAN CALLS ON JOE CHILL!

CHILL, I WANT TO TELL YOU A STORY... WITHOUT AN ENDING! MAYBE YOU CAN SUPPLY IT. IT BEGAN SOME YEARS AGO IN GOTHAM CITY... WHEN THOMAS WAYNE, HIS WIFE, AND YOUNG SON, BRUCE, WERE STOPPED BY A BANDIT...

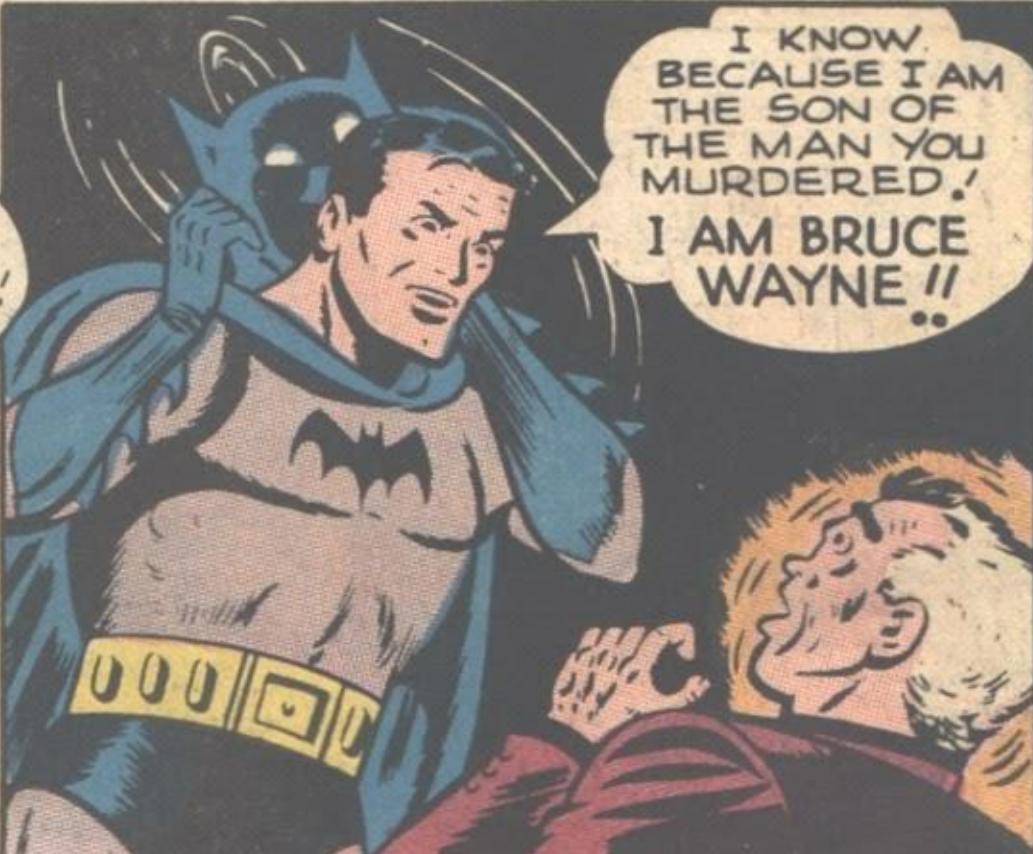
THE BANDIT KILLED THOMAS WAYNE... HIS WIFE DIED FROM THE SHOCK! FRIGHTENED, THE COWARDLY KILLER RAN AWAY... BUT NOT BEFORE YOUNG BRUCE WAYNE MEMORIZED HIS FEATURES!

YOU SAID... W-WAYNE?

YES, BRUCE WAYNE CAN STILL IDENTIFY YOU! YOU WERE THAT KILLER! ADMIT IT!

HA! NO JURY WOULD BELIEVE WAYNE'S IDENTIFICATION ACCURATE AFTER ALL THESE YEARS! YOU'RE BLUFFING! BESIDES... HOW DO YOU KNOW WHAT REALLY HAPPENED?

I KNOW. BECAUSE I AM THE SON OF THE MAN YOU MURDERED! I AM BRUCE WAYNE!!

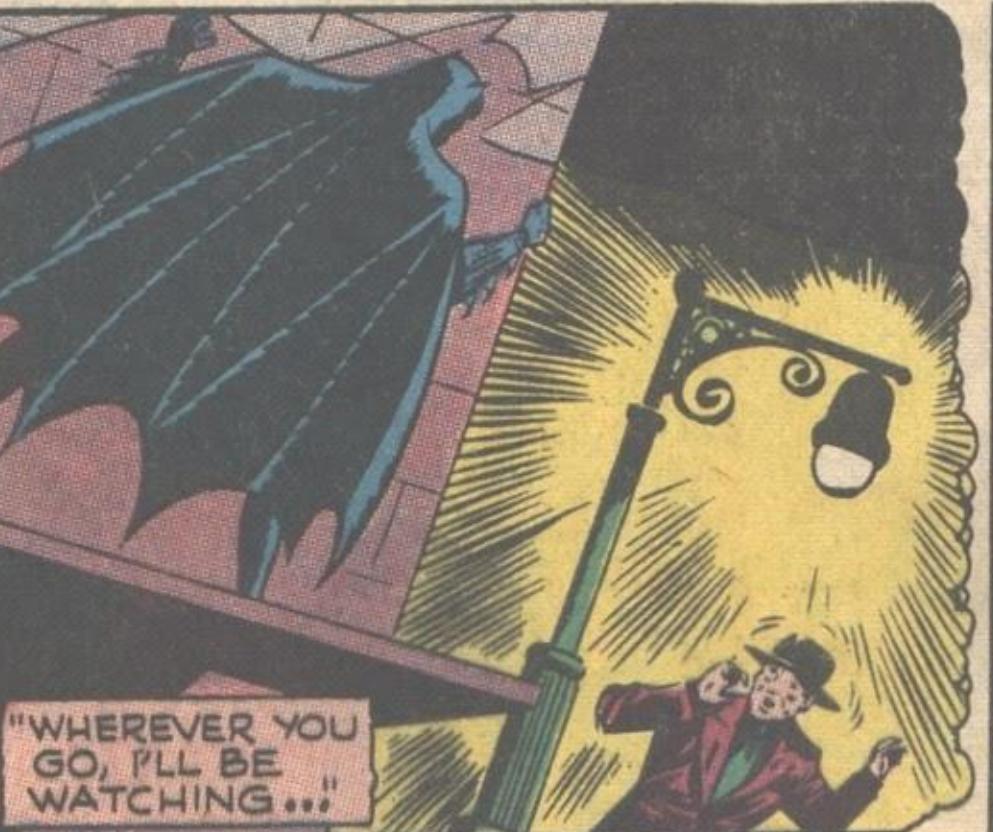


GIANT BATMAN



I BECAME BATMAN
BECAUSE OF WHAT YOU
DID AND I SWEARED I'D ARREST
YOU FOR IT SOME DAY! I
CAN'T PROVE YOUR GUILT,
BUT I'LL NEVER STOP
HOUNDING YOU UNTIL
I DO...

"WHATEVER YOU DO,
I'LL BE WATCHING..."



I'LL ALWAYS BE WATCHING...
AND SOMEDAY YOU'LL MAKE A
MISTAKE... AND I'LL BE THERE...
WAITING! REMEMBER
THAT-AND THIS!



AND WHEN BATMAN LEAVES...

WHAT'LL I DO? BATMAN
MEANS EVERYTHING HE SAID!
HE PROVED IT BY REVEALING
HIS IDENTITY! HE'LL GET
ME... UNLESS I KILL HIM
FIRST!



DESPERATE, CHILL RUNS TO THE REPAIR GARAGE
OF HIS TERMINAL...

LISTEN, BOYS... I NEED HELP BAD!
YEARS AGO, I KNOCKED OFF A GUY...
AN' NOW HIS SON IS AFTER ME!
THAT GUY'S SON IS THE BATMAN!
HE JUST TOLD ME!

YOU...
KNOCKED OFF
BATMAN'S
FATHER? YOU'RE
KIDDIN'!





ALMOST AS ONE MAN, THE HATE-CRAZED THUGS METE VENGEANCE TO THE CRIMINAL RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR DREADED NEMESIS!

BECAUSE OF YOU!

YOU'RE THE GUY!

YOU!

ONLY AFTERWARDS DOES COLD SANITY RETURN.

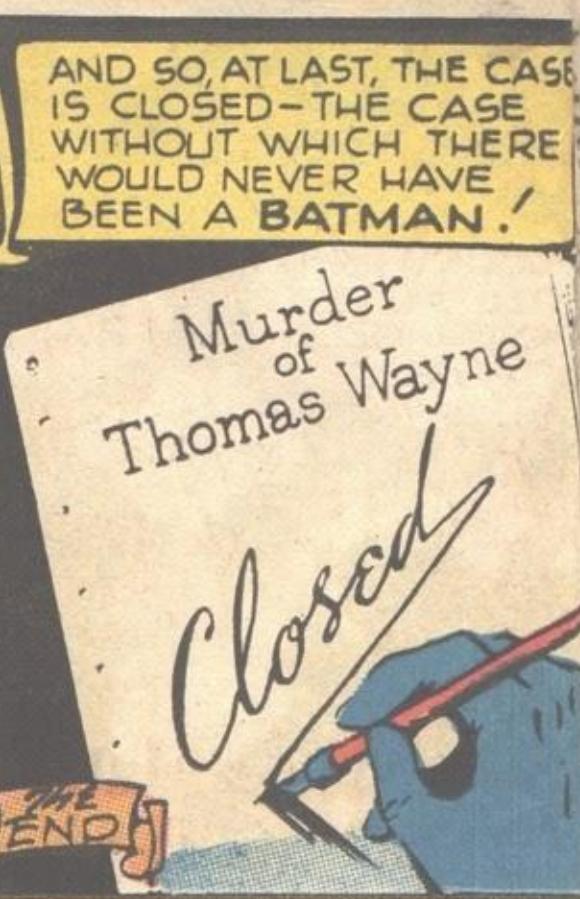
WE MUST'VE GONE TRIGGER-HAPPY! YOU GUYS REALIZE WHAT WE DID?

YEAH... WE PLUGGED CHILL BEFORE HE TOLD US BATMAN'S REAL NAME!



I HEARD THOSE SHOTS! NOW I'LL MAKE SURE YOU NEVER HEAR WHAT CHILL MIGHT SAY!







GIANT BATMAN



BATMAN

With
ROBIN
THE BOY WONDER

THAT EMPRESS OF THE UNDERWORLD, THE CATWOMAN, HAS CLAWED HER WAY TO SINISTER FAME BY HER CLEVER CAT-CRIMES! BUT THIS TIME, WHEN BATMAN AND ROBIN TRY TO TRAP THE PANTHERISH PRINCESS OF PLUNDER, THE ODDS ARE ALL AGAINST THEM---FOR THEY NOW FACE THE HUGE, FEARFUL FELINES OF THE FOREST WHERE SHE RULES AS---

"The JUNGLE
CAT-QUEEN!"

BOB
KANE

GIANT BATMAN

A PLANE MAKES A ROUTINE LANDING AT A SMALL GOTHAM CITY AIRPORT ---



--- AND ITS PILOT GETS A FEARFUL WELCOME!



BUT BEHIND THE PANTHER APPEARS AN EVEN MORE SINISTER FORM!

CATWOMAN! SAVE ME FROM THAT PANTHER!

I WILL-- BUT ONLY IF YOU GIVE ME THAT CASE OF DIAMONDS YOU WERE HIRED TO DELIVER TO THE GOTHAM JEWELERS COMPANY!

AND SECONDS LATER, A POWERFUL CRAFT ROARS AWAY INTO THE NIGHT!

AND NOW TO FLY TO MY SECRET HIDEOUT, WHERE NOT EVEN BATMAN CAN FIND US!



CATWOMAN STOLE THE DIAMOND SHIPMENT--- CALL THE POLICE!

SOON, AS THE ALARM GOES OUT, AN EERIE SIGNAL PIERCES THE NIGHT-SKY!

...ESCAPED IN FAST PLANE!

AND THERE'S THE BAT-SIGNAL! WE'RE WANTED AS BATMAN AND ROBIN!

LISTEN TO THAT POLICE FLASH-- IT'S CATWOMAN AGAIN!

A SWIFT CHANGE, AND PLAYBOY BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS MARD, DICK GRAYSON, BECOME BATMAN AND ROBIN THE BOY WONDER!

WE'LL GET THE BATPLANE OUT AND GO STRAIGHT TO THAT AIRFIELD!

SHE'LL BE GONE-- SHE STRIKES AS FAST AS THE CATS SHE LOVES!

AT THE AIRFIELD, BATMAN AND ROBIN HEAR AN INCREDIBLE STORY!

YOU SAY SHE USED A HUGE BLACK PANTHER IN HER ROBBERY? HOW COULD EVEN CATWOMAN CONTROL SUCH A BEAST?

IT'S UNCANNY! HMM--- IF WE HAD SOME CLUE TO WHERE SHE WENT, THE BATPLANE MIGHT STILL OVERTAKE HER!



THE TRAINED EYES OF THE WORLD'S GREATEST SLEUTHS DISCOVER WHAT OTHERS MIGHT HAVE MISSED!

6

THIS IS WHERE HER PLANE TOOK OFF-- YOU CAN SEE ITS WHEEL-MARKS!

THE DRIED MUD THAT FELL OUT OF HER TIRE-TREADS --- IT'S VOLCANIC CLAY OF A TYPE FOUND ONLY ON CERTAIN TROPICAL ISLANDS! COME ON, ROBIN!

PRESENTLY, THE MIGHTY BAT-PLANE'S JETS ROAR LOUDLY AS IT SCREAMS UP SKYWARD ON A TENUES TRAIL!

CATWOMAN HAS A START BUT MAYBE WE CAN OVERTAKE HER BEFORE SHE REACHES THOSE ISLANDS, ROBIN!

HMM... I KNOW SHE'S ALWAYS LIKED CATS, BUT I NEVER DREAMED SHE'D USE KILLER-CATS LIKE THAT PANTHER!

AS DAWN FLARES, THE BATPLANE HAS STREAKED FAR SOUTHWARD IN ITS GRIM PURSUIT!

HANG ON-- I'M GOING TO FORCE HER DOWN!

THAT'S HER PLANE-- HEADING TOWARD A LARGE ISLAND!

SO BATMAN TRAILED ME! WELL, HE'LL LEARN THAT THOSE WHO BOTHER CATS CAN GET SCRATCHED!

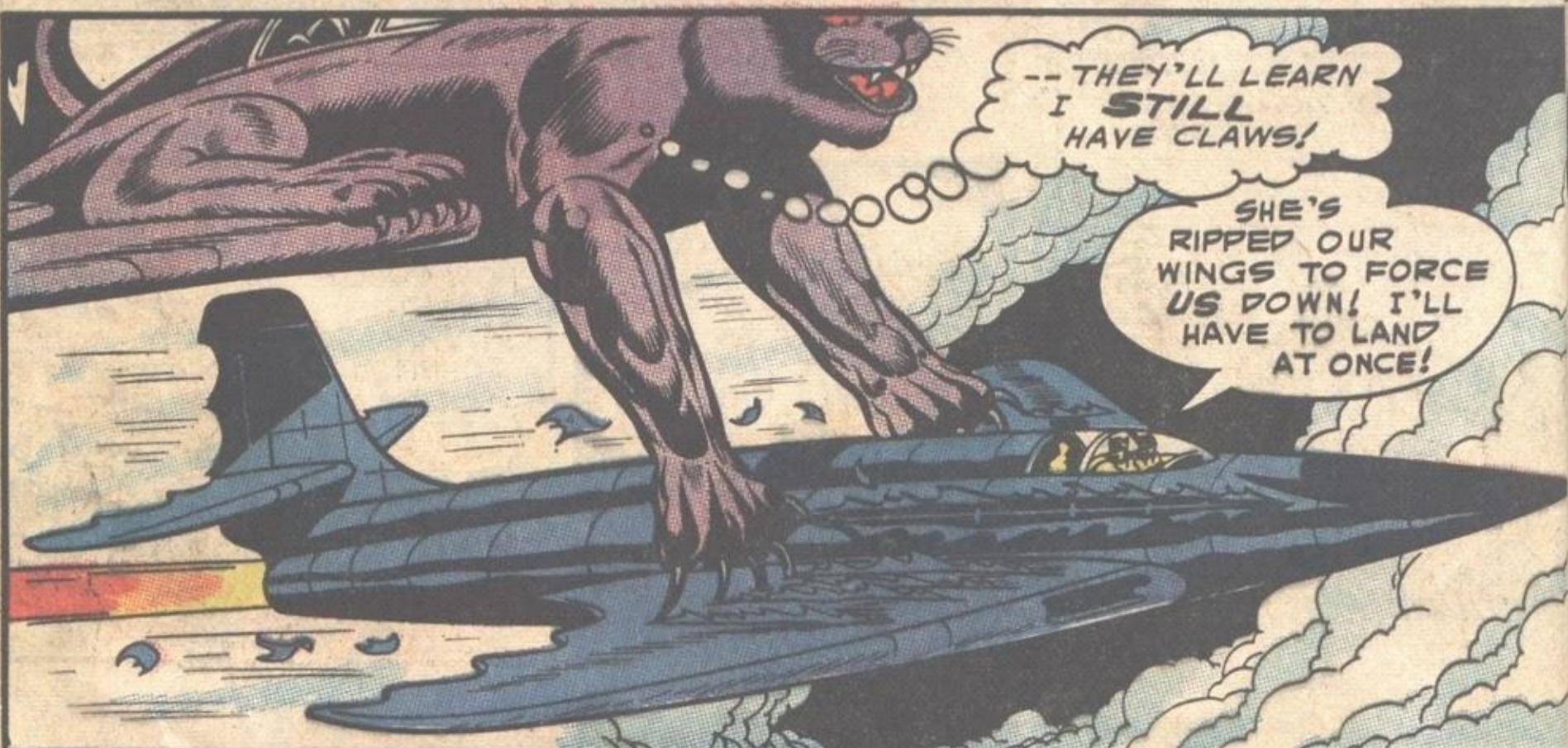
FROM THE CATWOMAN'S PLANE, GREAT RETRACTABLE STEEL CLAWS MECHANICALLY REACH FORTH!

NOW TO SUDDENLY THROTTLE DOWN AND LET THE BATPLANE ZOOM PAS CLOSE BENEATH ME, AND---



-- THEY'LL LEARN I STILL HAVE CLAWS!

SHE'S RIPPED OUR WINGS TO FORCE US DOWN! I'LL HAVE TO LAND AT ONCE!



GIANT BATMAN

DC
NATIONAL COMICS

SUPERMAN
DC
NATIONAL COMICS

WE'LL LAND HERE
AND REPAIR OUR WINGS
LATER, BUT FIRST, WE'LL
GET AFTER THE
CATWOMAN!

BATMAN,
I SAW WHAT
LOOKS LIKE
A MINE HERE!

PRESENTLY, THE CAPED
CRIME-FIGHTERS
ENTER THE HEART OF THE
TROPICAL JUNGLE ISLE!

WE'LL FIND OUT
WHAT THOSE
MINERS KNOW
OF CATWOMAN.
SHE MUST
HAVE A LAIR
HERE
SOMEWHERE!

LOOK!
NOT ONLY
PANTHER
TRACKS,
BUT LION,
LEOPARD
AND TIGER
TRACKS, TOO!
THEY MUST
HAVE BEEN MADE
BY HER PETS--
BUT HOW CAN
SHE HANDLE
SUCH FIERCE
BEASTS?

WELCOME,
BATMAN AND ROBIN!
I'M JOHN JARROW
AND THIS IS MY
SMALL DIAMOND-
MINE --- AND I'M
SURE GLAD
TO SEE YOU
TWO!

THEN
YOU
KNOW
THAT
CATWOMAN'S
HERE?

WITH HER
TERRIBLE
FELINES,
SHE'S USED
THIS ISLE
AS A CRIME-
BASE AND
WE'RE TOO
AFRAID OF
HER BEASTS
TO STOP
HER!

WE'RE AFRAID
SHE'S AFTER
THE DIAMONDS
WE MINE!
IF YOU
COULD
ONLY SET
A TRAP TO
PROTECT
US AGAINST
HER JUNGLE
CATS...

WE
CAN!

PRESIDENTLY...

IF
ANY
OF HER
BEASTS
COME
HERE,
THIS
NOOSE-TRAP
WILL CATCH
THEM!

YES,
CUTTING
THIS
TRIGGER-
ROPE THAT
HOLDS THE
TREE DOWN
WOULD TRAP
ANYTHING--

WHRRUP!

--EVEN
BATMAN
AND
ROBIN!

HA, HA--
NICE OF THEM
TO SET A
TRAP FOR
THEMSELVES! NOW
WE'VE GOT THEM!

BATMAN THESE MEN ARE CROOKS-- PROBABLY WORKING WITH **CATWOMAN**. WE STEPPED RIGHT INTO IT!

HERE'S OUR CHANCE TO GET RID OF OUR BIGGEST ENEMY! ALL TOGETHER-- WE'LL FIRE IN A VOLLEY!

STOP!

BUT WHY STOP US, **CATWOMAN**?

THEY'RE YOUR ENEMIES, TOO!

I'VE A BETTER IDEA! CUT THEM DOWN!

WHY NOT KNOCK THEM OFF AT ONCE?

I WANT THE PLEASURE OF HUNTING THEM DOWN, AS THEY HUNTED ME! TAKE AWAY THEIR UTILITY BELTS AND COSTUMES AND GIVE THEM JUNGLE CLOTHING SO THEY'LL HAVE NO TRICKS LEFT!

SOON, ANIMAL SKINS TRANSFORM THE DETECTIVE DUO INTO PRIMITIVE MEN OF THE JUNGLE!

I'LL GIVE YOU BOTH TEN MINUTES' START BEFORE I BEGIN TRAILING YOU WITH MY CATS! AND TAKING OFF YOUR MASKS WILL BE THE CLIMAX OF MY CHASE!

WHY, YOU FEMALE FELINE...

DON'T WASTE TIME, **ROBIN**. LET'S GO!

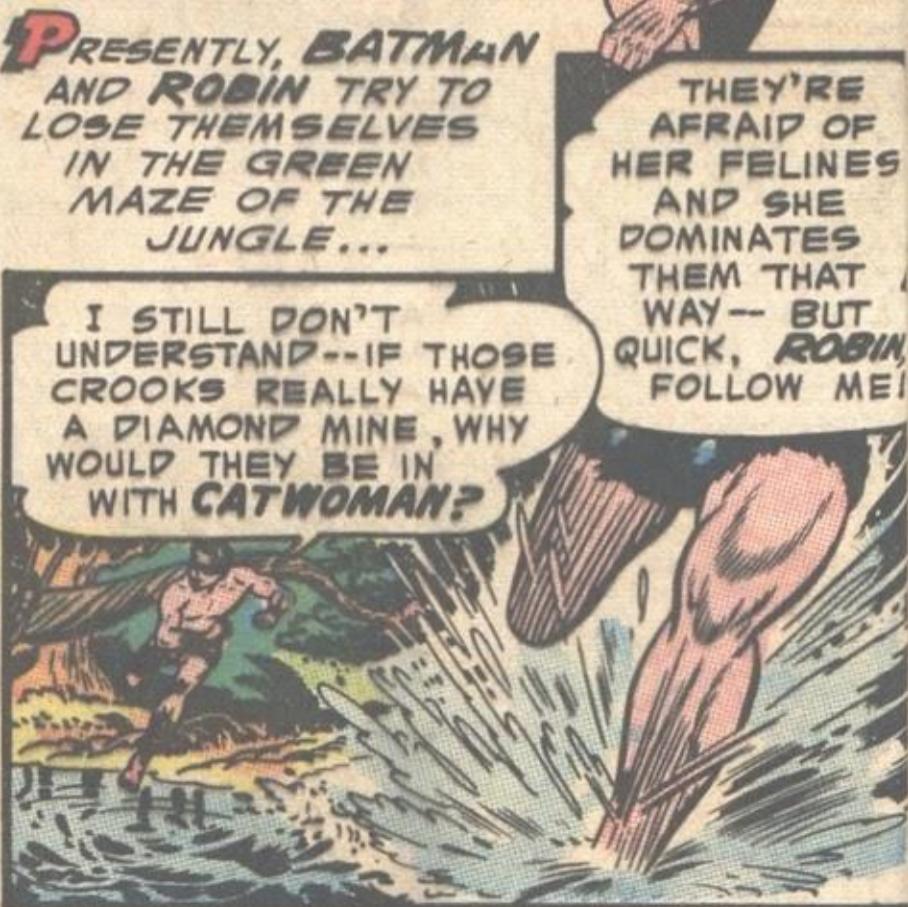
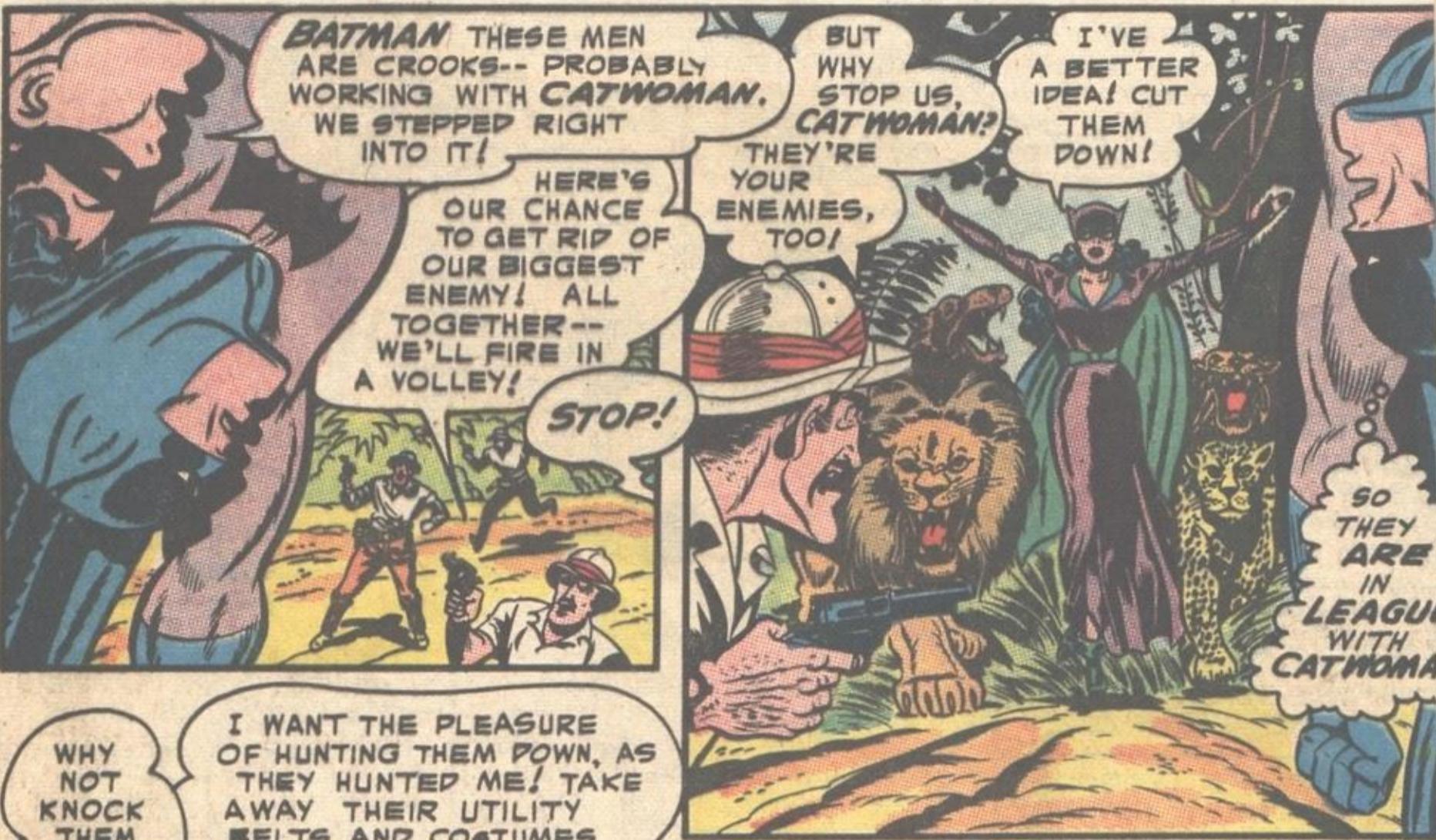
MY LITTLE PETS WILL ENJOY THIS HUNT!

A SWELL IDEA, **CATWOMAN**! I WISH I COULD SEE IT WHEN THOSE BEASTS OF YOURS TRACK THEM DOWN!

PRESENTLY, **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** TRY TO LOSE THEMSELVES IN THE GREEN MAZE OF THE JUNGLE...

I STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND--IF THOSE CROOKS REALLY HAVE A DIAMOND MINE, WHY WOULD THEY BE IN WITH **CATWOMAN**?

THEY'RE AFRAID OF HER FELINES AND SHE DOMINATES THEM THAT WAY-- BUT QUICK, **ROBIN**, FOLLOW ME!





GIANT BATMAN



AS SILENT AS TWO SHADOWS IN THE NIGHT, BATMAN AND ROBIN STEAL INTO THE SINISTER CAT-TEMPLE!

LIONS---TIGERS---LEOPARDS, THEY COULDN'T BE ALL NATIVE TO THIS ISLAND!

THEY'RE ANIMALS RAISED IN CAPTIVITY. ROBIN---WILD LIONS NEVER HAVE BUSHY MANES LIKE THOSE IN ZOOS! THAT EXPLAINS WHY SHE'S ABLE TO HANDLE THEM! COME ON---I WANT TO LOOK FOR SOMETHING!

PRESENTLY, SCOUTING AROUND THE AWESOME RUIN, BATMAN FINDS WHAT HE EXPECTED!

THESE ARE CIRCUS ANIMALS---BROUGHT HERE BY CATWOMAN! AND THAT GIVES ME AN IDEA! LISTEN, ROBIN---

I'LL BE READY--BUT BE CAREFUL, BATMAN! IF IT DOESN'T WORK---

I'M RELYING ON THE FACT THEY WERE CIRCUS ANIMALS, TO MAKE IT WORK!

A MOMENT LATER, A DRAMATIC FIGURE STRIDES INTO THE CATWOMAN'S NEW CATACOMB!

A CIRCUS TRAINER ALWAYS DISMISSES HIS ANIMALS WITH A VOLLEY OF FAST WHIP-CRACKS AND IT TOOK TO WORK ON THESE BEASTS!

AT THE CRACK OF THE LASH, THE STARTLED FELINES REVERT TO OLD TRAINING...

THEY MADE FOR THEIR CAGES AS BATMAN FIGURED---AND I CAN SHUT THEM IN!

CRACK!

BATMAN. ARE YOU MAD, TO COME HERE---

BUT A MORE DANGEROUS HUMAN FELINE REMAINS TO BE DEALT WITH!

YES, BATMAN! I BROUGHT TAME CIRCUS CATS HERE! YOU WERE CLEVER TO GUESS IT AND TRICK THEM, BUT NOT CLEVER ENOUGH!

JARROW AND HIS "MINERS" ARE YOUR CONFEDERATES, AND I THINK I KNOW WHAT YOU'VE BEEN UP TO!

UNKNOWN TO BATMAN, THE VERY CRIMINAL OF WHOM HE SPEAKS IS CLOSE AT HAND!

CATWOMAN FAILED TO GET HIM -- AND HE'S GOT HER! IF I SHOOT ONE OF THE DUO, THE OTHER MIGHT GET ME -- I'LL USE SOMETHING THAT WILL GET THEM BOTH!



RUTHLESS IN STRATEGY, THE EVIL JARROW UNLEASHES A THING OF TERROR...

THIS GORILLA MAY DESTROY CATWOMAN, TOO, BUT I DON'T CARE AS LONG AS IT GETS BATMAN AND ROBIN!



THEN, A CRY OF WARNING FROM BATMAN, BUT TOO LATE!

YOU CAN'T SAVE ROBIN-- THAT GORILLA IS A KILLER!



ROBIN'S UNCONSCIOUS, BUT IT'S DROPPED HIM-- NOW IT'S AFTER ME--

ALL ANIMALS FEAR FIRE-- MY ONLY CHANCE---

WHIRLING THE BURNING BRAND IN CIRCLES, BATMAN DRIVES BACK THE RAGING MONSTER!

IT'S RECOILING INTO ITS CAGE-- NOW TO SLAM THE DOOR QUICK!



BUT AS THE CAGE DOOR CLICKS SHUT UPON THE MIGHTY APE...

NICE WORK,
BATMAN-- BUT
I'LL TAKE OVER
NOW!

A GOOD THING I CAME TO MAKE SURE YOU'D GOT BATMAN!
I'M TAKING HIM DOWN TO THE MINE AND WE'LL MAKE CERTAIN HE'S DONE FOR THIS TIME!

I MUST RELEASE MY PETS AGAIN!



LEAVE THOSE CRITTERS HERE-- WE DON'T LIKE THEM! GOOD THING THE GORILLA GOT THE BRAT!

HE DOESN'T KNOW ROBIN'S ONLY STUNNED! I WON'T SAY ANYTHING... ROBIN IS NEAR THE FIRE AND THE BEASTS WON'T BOTHER HIM!

ONE SURE WAY TO GET RID OF HIM SO HE'LL NEVER BE FOUND--- TOSS HIM IN THE RIVER, TIED HAND AND FOOT!

WE'LL DO IT!



PUT HIS COSTUME BACK ON HIM SO IT WILL NEVER BE FOUND EITHER!

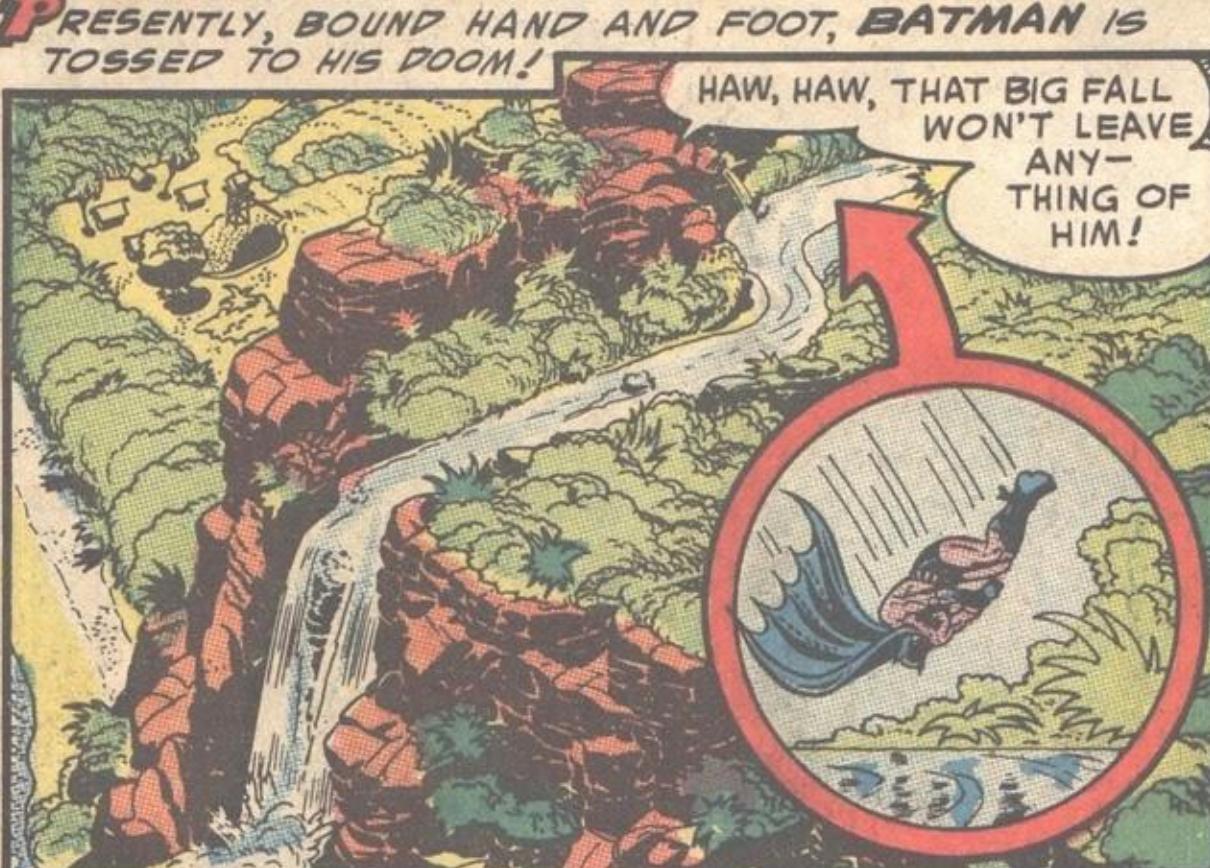
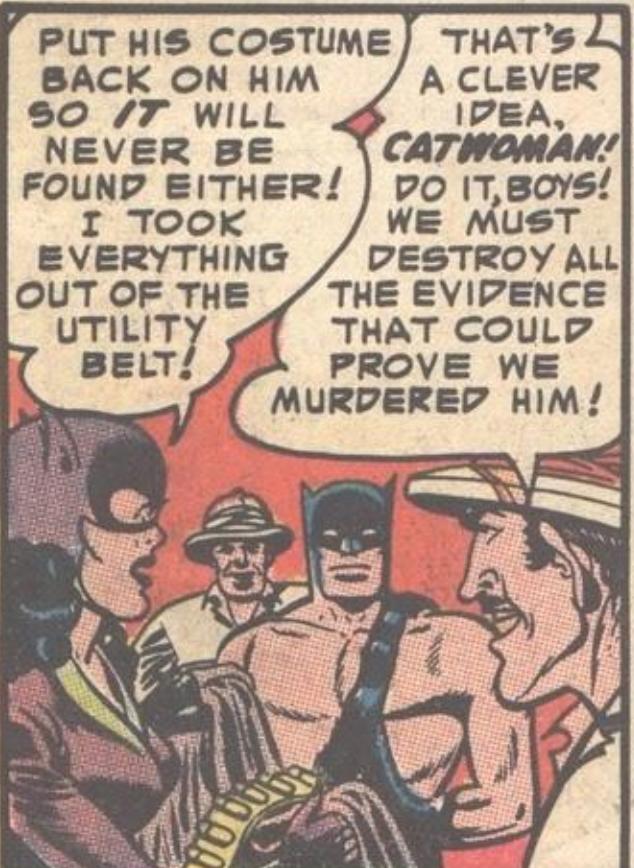
I TOOK EVERYTHING OUT OF THE UTILITY BELT!

THAT'S A CLEVER IDEA, CATWOMAN!

DO IT, BOYS! WE MUST DESTROY ALL THE EVIDENCE THAT COULD PROVE WE MURDERED HIM!

PRESENTLY, BOUND HAND AND FOOT, BATMAN IS TOSSSED TO HIS DOOM!

HAW, HAW, THAT BIG FALL WON'T LEAVE ANYTHING OF HIM!



MEANWHILE,
ROBIN
HAS AWAKENED
TO A REALITY
WORSE THAN A
NIGHTMARE!

WHAT--WHY, IT'S
A LION! THE
FIRE HAS BURNED
DOWN TO EMBERS
AND HE'S COME
TO SNIFF ME OVER!
MUST DO SOMETHING
TO GET
RID OF
HIM!

LACKING EVEN HIS UTILITY BELT
THE BOY WONDER MOVES HIS HAND
SLOWLY AND SOFTLY!

BY SLOWLY PRESSING
THIS PLANT DOWN SO
ITS GREEN TOP-
LEAVES ARE IN THE
HOT FIRE-
EMBERS --



THE BOY WONDER'S KEEN
EYES SOON DEDUCE WHAT
HAS HAPPENED WHILE HE WAS
SENSELESS!

JARROW'S AND CATWOMAN'S
FOOTPRINTS OVER
BATMAN'S HEADING
TOWARD THAT
MINE! THAT
MEANS THEY
FORCED HIM
AHEAD OF
THEM! I'VE
GOT TO GO
TO HIS
AID---



MEANWHILE, HURLED INTO THE
RAGING TORRENT WITH HANDS
AND FEET BOUND, **BATMAN**
HAS NOT SURRENDERED TO DESPAIR!

CATWOMAN SAID SHE TOOK EVERY-
THING OUT OF MY UTILITY-BELT,
BUT SHE SLIPPED UP! I CAN
FEEL MY SILKEN CORD AND
MY EMERGENCY KNIFE-
BLADE STILL IN IT! GOT
TO GET THE KNIFE.
OUT FAST AND CUT
MY WRISTS
FREE!



GIANT BATMAN

AS THE CURRENT SWEEPS HIM TOWARD THE WATERFALL OF DOOM, BATMAN WORKS SWIFTLY!

GOT MY HANDS FREE -- BUT I CAN'T SWIM OUT OF THIS TERRIFIC CURRENT IN TIME TO ESCAPE THE FALLS! ONLY ONE CHANCE -- THE SILKEN ROPE IN MY UTILITY BELT!

IF I CAN GET A NOOSE OF MY ROPE OVER A PROJECTING ROCK IN THE BOTTOM -- GOT IT! AND JUST IN TIME, FOR I'M RIGHT AT THE FALLS!

SECONDS LATER, CRIMINALS SEE THEIR GREATEST ENEMY APPARENTLY PLUNGE TO HIS DOOM!

THERE HE GOES, AND THAT FINISHES HIM! NO HUMAN BEING COULD SURVIVE THAT PLUNGE!

BATMAN GONE? IT-- IT SEEMS IMPOSSIBLE!

BUT THE SUPER-STRONG SILKEN ROPE HAS HELD, AND, UNSEEN BY WATCHING EYES, HAS CHECKED BATMAN'S FALL IN TIME...

THE ROPE HELD! NOW IF I SWING IN AND CUT LOOSE AT THE RIGHT MOMENT, I CAN LIGHT ON THOSE ROCKS AND GET UP TO SQUARE ACCOUNTS WITH THOSE THUGS!

BATMAN... GONE. AND I THOUGHT HE'D SAVE HIMSELF -- HE ALWAYS HAS IN THE PAST...

AND HE DID THIS TIME! I'LL JUST TIE YOU UP SAFELY WHILE I BREAK UP YOUR ACCOMPLICE RACKET FOR GOOD!

WHAT WAS LEFT OF MY ROPE CAME IN HANDY! NOW FOR THESE "DIAMOND MINERS"



GIANT BATMAN



SOON, IN ONE OF THE "MINE" BUILDINGS, BATMAN CONFIRMS HIS SUSPICIONS!

I THOUGHT SO! THEY GET STOLEN DIAMONDS FROM ALL OVER AND RE-CUT THEM-- THEN PRETEND THEY MINED AND CUT THE GEMS THEMSELVES!

YOUR NUMBER'S UP, BATMAN! OUTSIDE!

YOU'RE HARD TO KILL, BUT THIS TIME WE'LL MAKE SURE WITH BULLETS!

JARROW, LOOK OUT-- CATWOMAN'S BEASTS ARE STAMPEDING THIS WAY!

AND AS THE PANICKY CROOKS RECOIL FROM A JUNGLE STAMPEDE...

LOOKS LIKE I SENT MY "FRIENDS" HERE JUST IN TIME!

AND YOU'RE WELCOME! WE'LL JUST CAGE THESE HUMAN SPECIMENS NOW!

BUT MEANWHILE, A GREAT CAT HAS GONE LOYALLY TO ITS MISTRESS...

MY FAITHFUL PET-- YOUR SHARP CLAWS ARE HELPFUL NOW, THOUGH YOU DON'T KNOW IT!

AND WHEN THE DYNAMIC DUO FINISHES SECURING THE CROOKS, THEY GET AN AMAZING SURPRISE!

CATWOMAN! SHE'S GETTING AWAY, TO HER HIDDEN PLANE!

AND WE CAN'T FOLLOW TILL THE BATPLANE IS REPAIRED!

I GUESS SHE ESCAPES US FOR NOW, THOUGH WE'VE BROKEN UP HER CRIME-SCHEME!

FUNNY, THAT SHE ACCIDENTALLY LEFT THAT KNIFE-BLADE AND SILKEN CORD IN YOUR UTILITY BELT.. OR WAS IT AN ACCIDENT? SHE'S ALWAYS BEEN SOFT ON YOU!

THAT WAS NO ACCIDENT, ROBIN. MURDER ISN'T IN THE CATWOMAN'S HEART. SENTIMENT IS HER WEAKNESS-- AND THAT'S WHY WE'LL CATCH HER THE NEXT TIME!

The END.

GIANT

BAT MAIL

Dear Editor:

Your August, '67, GIANT BATMAN is the best yet! You've finally printed an entire issue of really old stories—none of them date after 1957, I'm sure, since that's when I started reading DC, and I haven't read one of these stories before. Please print the dates of original publication in the future.

—Nils Holman, Austin, Minn.

(For you and the innumerable others who requested them, we're putting that info on the contents page, starting with this issue. By the way, you'll find that all but two tales in this issue are pre-'57.—Ed.)

* * *

Dear Editor:

The latest GIANT BATMAN didn't rate as high as most previous ones with me. But I did enjoy very much the newspaper story, as well as "Mayor Bruce Wayne" and "The Flying Batman." Of all the recent issues, "Batman and Robin's Most Thrilling Mystery Cases" was my favorite theme. How about using it again? I understand the editor of the BATMAN GIANTS, Jack Schiff, is retiring. We readers will miss your excellent editorship, Jack. Thanks for many hours of reading enjoyment.

—Mark Dillman, Topeka, Kan.

(Jack has, indeed, retired from comic editing. We'll convey your best wishes to him. And we hope you'll be as loyal to us (meaning the new editor, E. Nelson Bridwell) as you were to him. Our next GIANT theme is already picked out, but we'll see about getting up another all-mystery issue in the near future.—Ed.)

* * *

Dear Editor:

Every Batman fan—well, almost every fan—knows the origin of Batman. The same is true of Robin, the Joker, and most other foes of the Dynamic Duo. But does the fan really learn the whole story? Most of the time we learn the origins via flashbacks. Though it may seem odd, I am going to use a comparison with the Mona Lisa. Which would you rather see, the real Mona Lisa or a duplicate? No matter how good the reproduction, it never quite measures up to the original. The same is true for the Batman stories. Which would you rather read, the original or the flashback? Why not a "Famous Firsts" issue, including the first Batman story from DETECTIVE, the first issue of BATMAN, the first appearance of Robin, and the introductions of the Joker, Penguin, Riddler and Catwoman, as well as the first syndicated newspaper story of Batman?

—Unsigned, Spencer, Iowa

(We'd like to do it, whoever you are, but some of the early stories simply aren't available, for one reason or another. If you're not satisfied with "The Origin of the Batman" in this issue, though, the original origin story has been reprinted in the paperback edition of BATMAN, published by Signet Books, and in Jules Feiffer's book, "The Great Comic Book Heroes." This latter volume also includes Batman's first duel with the Joker.—Ed.)

Dear Editor:

Please have another collection of Batman's and Robin's most fantastic foes. You might have Clayface, Two-Face, Signalman, Joker and Catwoman. Also, see if you can have a newspaper story of a good foe.

—Unsigned, Yamhill, Ore.

(Here it is—as you and so many others have requested. By the way, this makes two unsigned letters in a row. Will you fellows (or gals) remember to tell us who you are next time? Or are you just bashful?—Ed.)

* * *

Dear Editor:

I have enjoyed every one of your GIANT BATMAN issues. A possible theme for the future could be "Secrets of the Batcave." You could include stories about the Batmobile, Batplane, and other equipment. Keep up the wonderful tradition.

—Nick Minglis, Flushing, N.Y.

(Behold a prophet! You must have E.S.P., buddy, because that theme is exactly what we have in mind for the next 80 PAGE BATMAN! We have some real surprises coming up in that one, so, whatever you do, don't dare to miss it!—Ed.)

* * *

Dear Editor:

In No. 182, you promised a correspondent another Catwoman story. But did we get one? No, siree! We've waited through three more GIANTS, and not one of them had Catwoman! When do we get her?

—Wendy DeBare, New York, N.Y.

(The story was promised for the next all-villain issue, Wendy, and when DC makes a promise, we deliver! Here's the villain issue, and "The Jungle Cat-Queen" is featured. How's that for service?—Ed.)

* * *

Dear Editor:

No. 193 was terrific! The three stories I thought were best were "Ride, Bat-Hombre, Ride," "The Flying Batman," and "Mayor Bruce Wayne." But where was Robin? Some of the stories were like Batman and . . . ? The best story that really gave Robin some play was "Batman and the Vikings."

—Lester Hancock, Louisville, Ky.

(Sometimes we have to play Robin down a bit. On the other hand, there have been some solo missions by Robin, without Batman's help. You'll be seeing plenty of the Boy Wonder in every issue, don't worry. And now, one last reminder. Our address is: GIANT BATMAIL, National Periodical Publications, 575 Lexington Ave., New York, N.Y. 10022

BAT-MAN

With
ROBIN
THE BOY WONDER

LIKE A SPIDER, HE SPUN A WEB OF BANDITRY, WHICH ALMOST ENSNARED BATMAN AND ROBIN! AND ONLY WHEN BATWOMAN ENTERED THE CASE WERE THE CAPED CRIME-FIGHTERS ABLE TO TEAR OUT THE LAST STRAND IN...

the WEB of the **SPINNER**

GREAT SCOTT!
THE SPINNER SENT
A TITANIC TOP
AT US!

00000

BOB
KAEL



GIANT BATMAN



IN THE SECRET BAT-CAVE, TWO CRIME-FIGHTERS MAKE READY FOR AN EMERGENCY PATROL...

LET'S HOPE WE SPOT THE SPINNER TODAY, BRUCE!

RIGHT, DICK... AS BATMAN AND ROBIN, WE'VE GOT TO CHECK EVERY PLACE THAT DEALS WITH SPINNING OBJECTS!

SHORTLY, IN THE PLANT OF THE KOOL FAN COMPANY

AT LAST--THE SPINNER!... ATTEMPTING ANOTHER ROBBERY!

BATMAN AND ROBIN! STOP THEM!... DON'T LET THEM TAKE THIS PAYROLL RHINO AWAY FROM US!

A ROUNDHOUSE RIGHT SHOULD SEND YOU SPINNING, MR. SPINNER!

BUT, SUDDENLY, THE SPINNER FIRES A BIZARRE WEAPON...

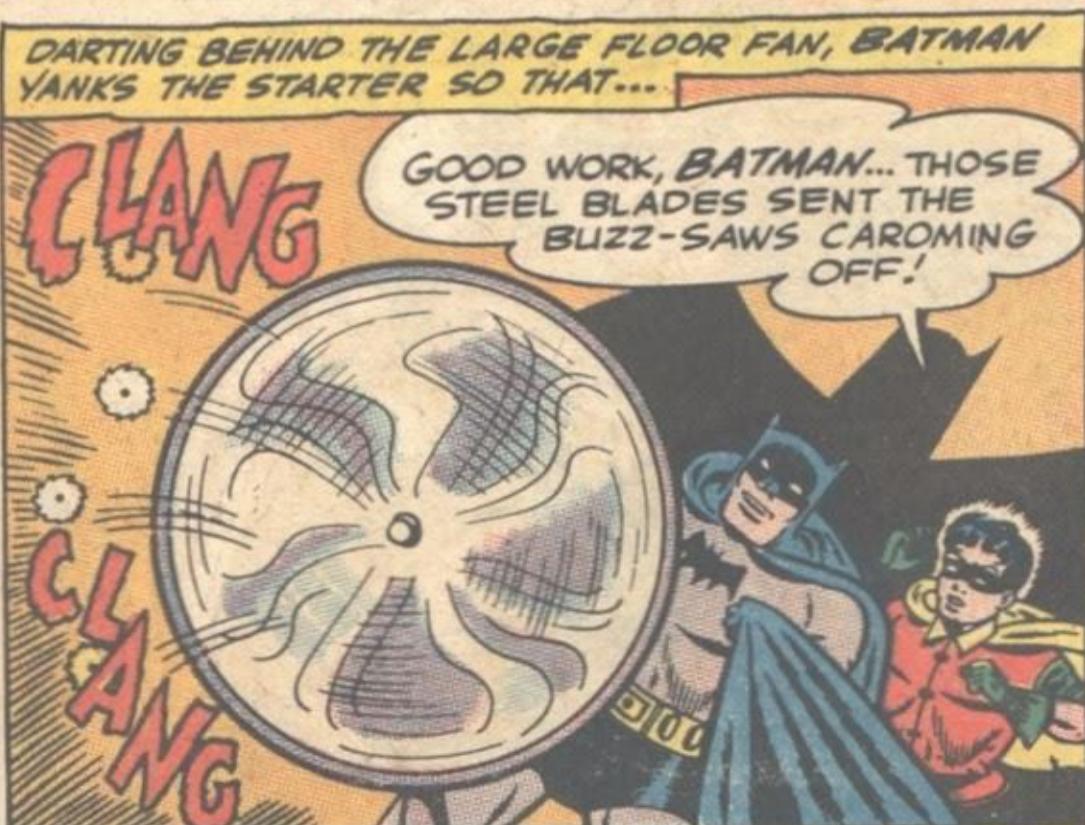
SPINNING BUZZ-SAWS! GET BEHIND THIS FAN, ROBIN--QUICKLY!

AND A CARTWHEEL LEAP SHOULD TAKE CARE OF THESE TWO!

UHHH!

DARTING BEHIND THE LARGE FLOOR FAN, BATMAN YANKS THE STARTER SO THAT...

CLANG
GOOD WORK, BATMAN... THOSE STEEL BLADES SENT THE BUZZ-SAWS CAROMING OFF!



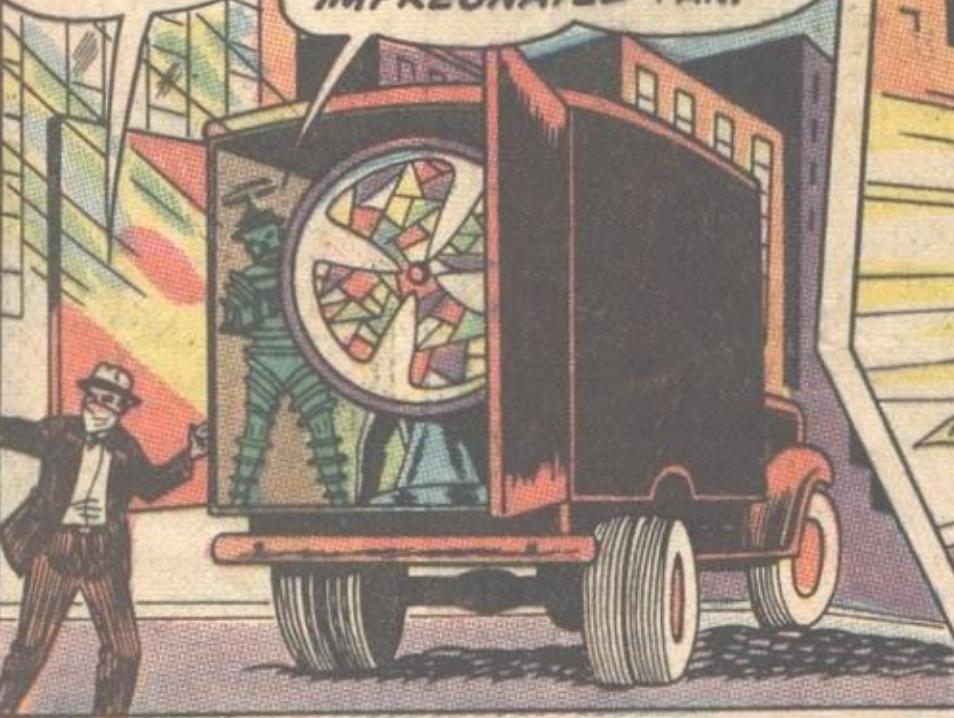
GIANT BATMAN



OUTSIDE, MOMENTS LATER, AT THE BANDITS' GETAWAY TRUCK...

HERE THEY COME AGAIN, SPINNER!

DON'T WORRY... I'M READY FOR THEM--WITH THIS GIANT, COLORED GLASS-IMPREGNATED FAN!



AND AS THE MIGHTY BLADES SPIN, REFLECTING DAZZLING BEAMS OF SUNLIGHT...

OW!... MY EYES!

C-CAN'T SEE...



BY THE TIME THEIR SIGHT RETURNS...

THEY'RE GONE! GOLLY-- IF WE COULD JUST FIND SOME CLUE TO THE SPINNER'S IDENTITY!

WE HAVE A CLUE NOW, ROBIN! REMEMBER HE USED THE WORD "RHINO?" THAT'S JOLIET PRISON SLANG FOR MONEY!



MEANWHILE, IN THE HOME OF KATHY KANE, WHO IS SECRETLY BATWOMAN, A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT INVESTIGATION GETS UNDERWAY...

THERE'S A MAN IN TOWN WHO CLAIMS TO HAVE MYSTIC POWERS THAT ENABLE HIM TO RECOVER LOST VALUABLES FOR PEOPLE! IT SOUNDS LIKE A RACKET TO ME... I'M GOING TO CHECK ON HIM!



LATER, IN THE SALON OF SWAMI YMAR...

SWAMI, I'VE MISLAIDED AN EMERALD BROOCH! COULD YOU TELL ME WHERE I MIGHT FIND IT?

I WILL TRY--BUT I DO NOT GUARANTEE SUCCESS! SOMETIMES, THE MISTS ARE TOO STRONG FOR ME TO SEE INTO THE CRYSTAL BALL!



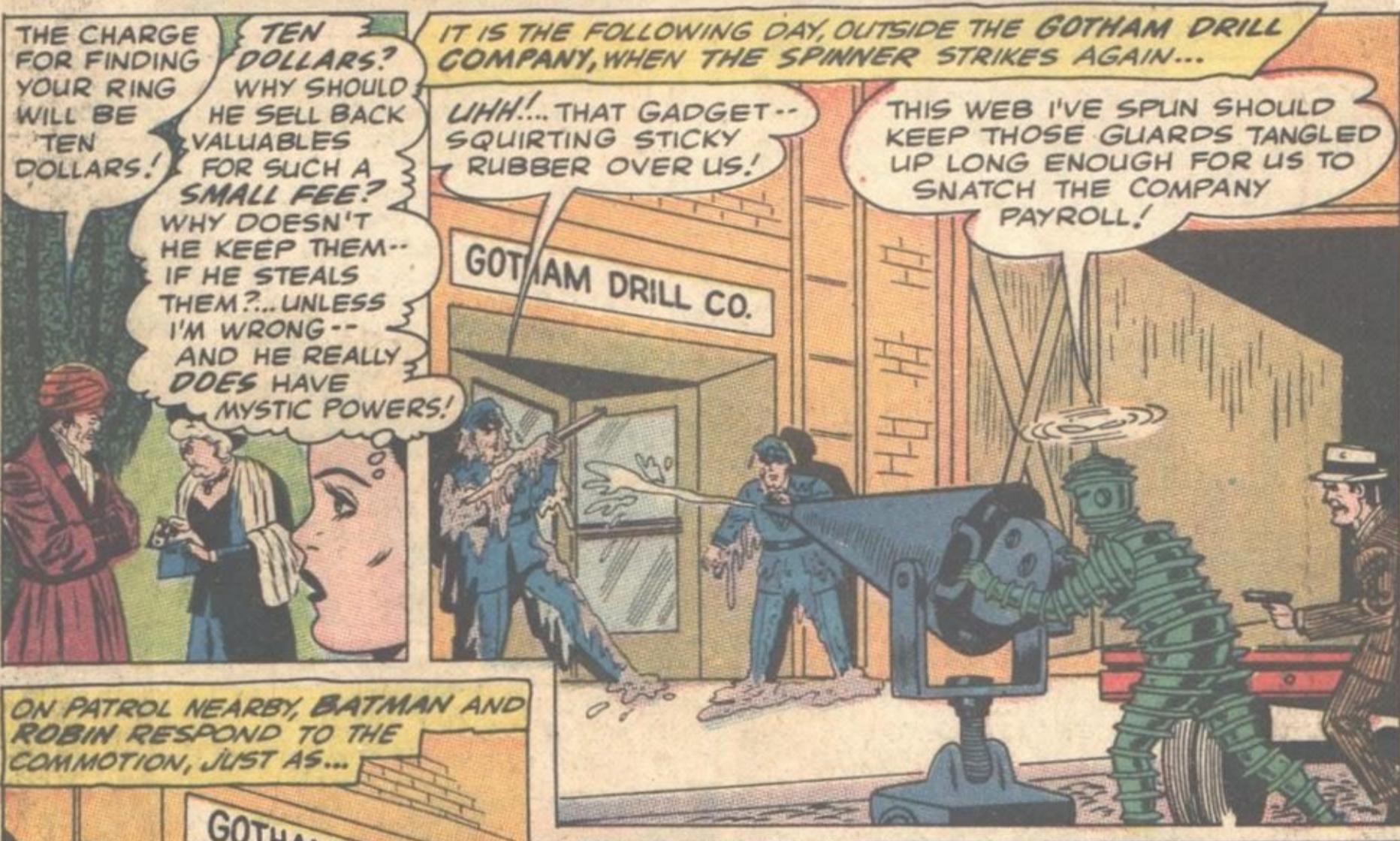
INDEED, AFTER A BRIEF ATTEMPT...

IT IS NO USE... THE MISTS HIDE THE TRUTH FROM ME!

JUST AS I SUSPECTED... HE'S A FAKE! THAT'S WHY HE COULDN'T SEE THAT MY BROOCH IS IN MY JEWEL BOX!



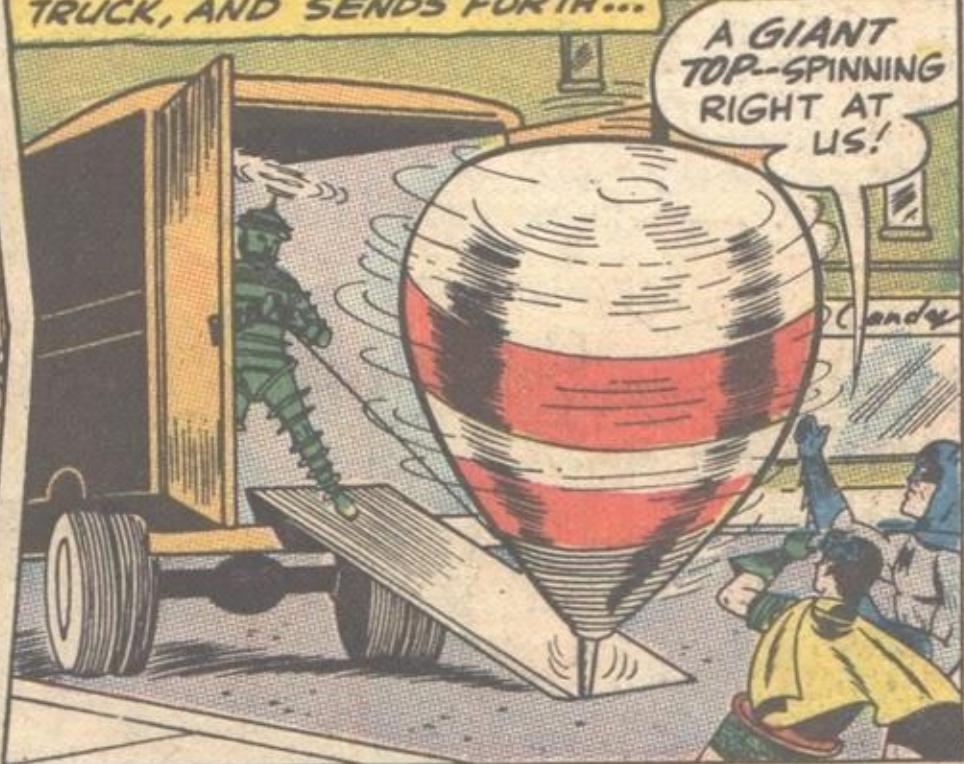
GIANT BATMAN



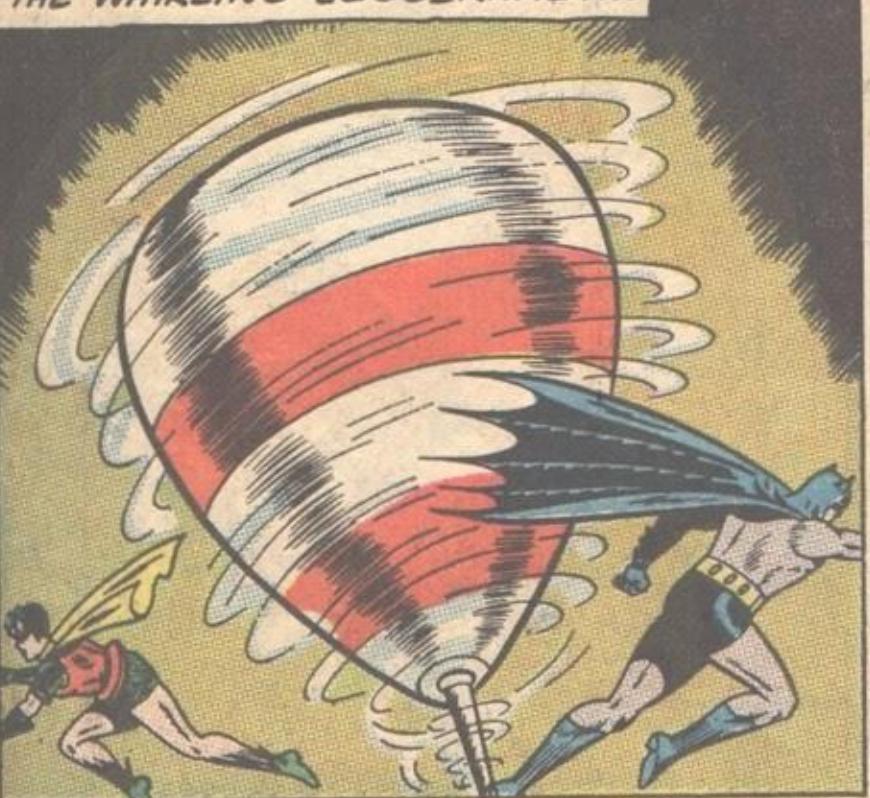
INSTANTLY, BATMAN LEAPS FORWARD--
SENDING THE REVOLVING DOOR SPINNING
ABOUT...



BUT THE SPINNER RECOVERS QUICKLY, LETS
DOWN THE RAMP OF HIS OPEN GETAWAY
TRUCK, AND SENDS FORTH...



JUST IN TIME, THE CRIME-FIGHTERS DODGE
THE WHIRLING JUGGERNAUT...



...WHICH CONTINUES ITS WILD COURSE DOWN
THE STREET...



SKILFULLY, BATMAN
MANEUVERS THE
BATMOBILE BEHIND
THE MIGHTY MISSILE
UNTIL...



UPON RETURNING TO THE SCENE OF THE CRIME...

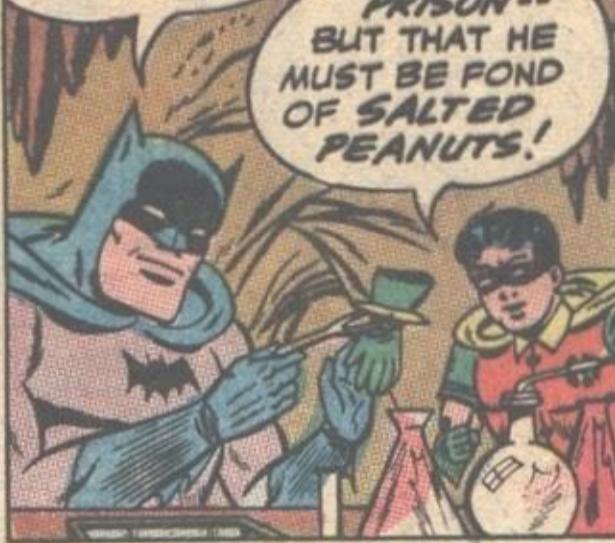
LOOK...IN ALL THE EXCITEMENT, A GLOVE SLIPPED OFF THE SPINNER'S HAND!

LET'S TAKE IT TO THE BAT-CAVE... I WANT TO ANALYZE THOSE STAINS ON THE FINGERTIPS!



LATER, IN THEIR SUBTERRANEAN LABORATORY...

THOSE STAINS ARE FROM PEANUT OIL... AND THERE ARE PARTICLES OF SALT ON THE GLOVE!



ANOTHER LEAD TO THE SPINNER'S IDENTITY! WE NOT ONLY KNOW HE WAS IN JOLIET PRISON-- BUT THAT HE MUST BE FOND OF SALTED PEANUTS!

AT THIS VERY MOMENT, BATWOMAN IS ALSO TRACKING DOWN A LEAD...

THE SWAMI DOESN'T HOLD HIS PERFORMANCE TILL LATER--SO HIS PLACE WILL BE DESERTED NOW! I'LL SEARCH AROUND--MAYBE FIND A CLUE TO HIS CRIME PLOT!



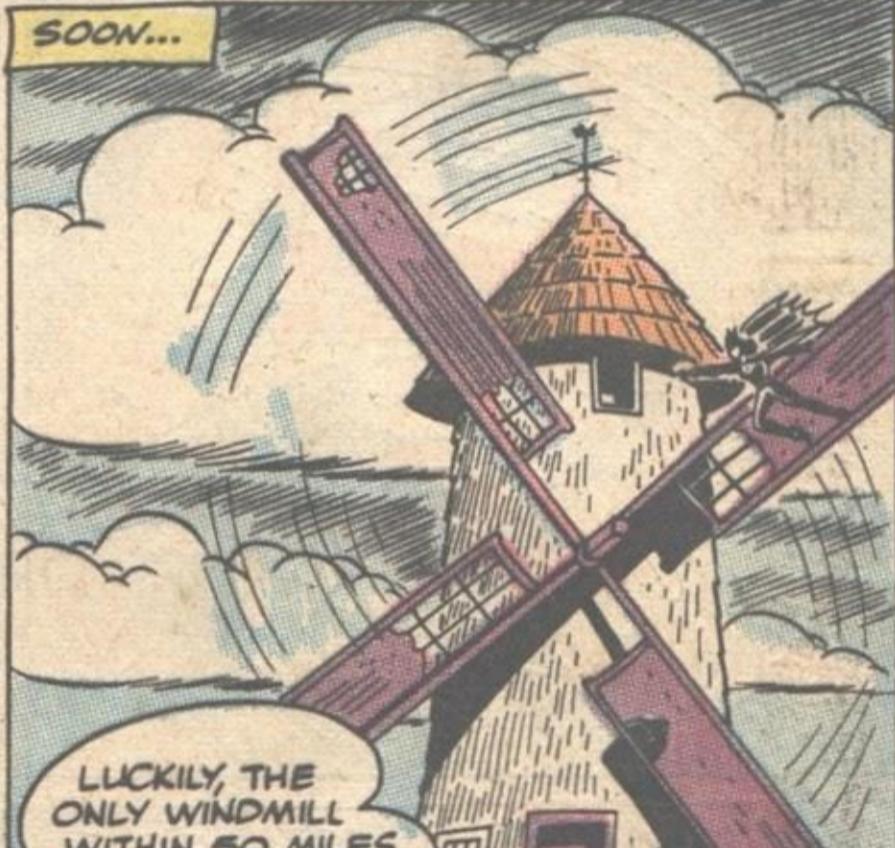
AFTERWARD, AS THE SWAMI AGAIN GREETES HIS VISITORS...

SWAMI, IF YOU'RE SO GOOD AT FINDING THINGS, WHY DON'T YOU HELP THE POLICE LOCATE THE SPINNER'S HIDEOUT?

DISBELIEVER, I ACCEPT YOUR CHALLENGE! I WILL LOOK INTO THE CRYSTAL BALL!



SOON...



THE MISTS ARE CLEARING! I SEE A WINDMILL... A WINDMILL ON A FARM. JUST OUTSIDE GOTHAM CITY!

WOW! I'M GOING TO PHONE POLICE HEADQUARTERS! BATMAN WILL WANT TO KNOW ABOUT THIS!



LUCKILY, THE ONLY WINDMILL WITHIN 50 MILES IS NEAR OUR MANSION! WE GOT HERE AHEAD OF THE POLICE!



LOOK!... THERE'S BATWOMAN-- RIDING UP TO THAT WINDOW!

GIANT BATMAN

AS BATWOMAN DROPS
INSIDE THE WINDMILL...

WH-AAT? THE SPINNER-- HERE?
GOOD THING WE SPOTTED YOU SNEAKING AROUND! WE KNOW HOW TO TAKE CARE OF YOU!

THUS, WHEN BATMAN AND ROBIN COME BURSTING IN...

GREAT SCOTT!
BATWOMAN-- TIED TO A BLADE OF THAT SPINNING FAN!

DON'T COME ANY CLOSER, YOU TWO, OR I'LL TURN THE FAN TO FULL SPEED -- AND BATWOMAN WILL BE DOOMED!



BUT NEXT INSTANT, HE SNATCHES A NEARBY PITCHFORK, WHICH HE HURLS WITH DEADLY AIM...

HE CAN'T OPERATE THAT LEVER NOW! LET'S MOVE, ROBIN!



GIANT BATMAN

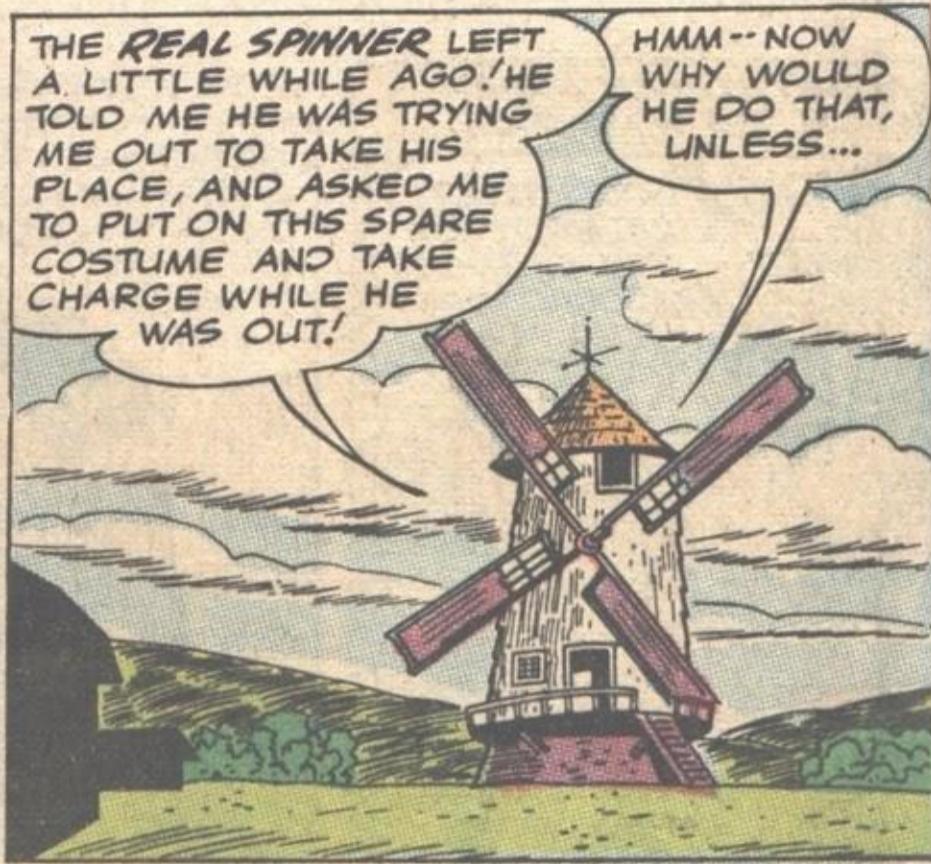
AND WHEN BATWOMAN IS FREED...

I REALIZE NOW, HOW THE SWAMI KNEW YOUR HIDEOUT! WHILE SEARCHING HIS PLACE, I SPOTTED A BILL OF SALE TO THIS FARM-- IN YOUR NAME! HE MUST'VE ALREADY LEARNED YOUR IDENTITY!

HOLD IT!... I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT A BILL OF SALE! I'M NOT EVEN THE SPINNER!

THE REAL SPINNER LEFT A LITTLE WHILE AGO! HE TOLD ME HE WAS TRYING ME OUT TO TAKE HIS PLACE, AND ASKED ME TO PUT ON THIS SPARE COSTUME AND TAKE CHARGE WHILE HE WAS OUT!

HMM-- NOW WHY WOULD HE DO THAT, UNLESS...



...WAIT! NOW I KNOW WHY THE SPINNER WANTED A STAND-IN, AND MADE OUT A PHONY BILL OF SALE! EVERYBODY OUT OF HERE-- QUICK!

SECONDS LATER, AS THEY GO DASHING TO SAFETY...

HUH? THE WINDMILL EXPLODED!

RIGHT... BECAUSE YOUR EX-BOSS PLANTED A TIME-BOMB INSIDE! HE WANTED YOUR BODY FOUND IN HIS COSTUME-- SO EVERYONE WOULD THINK THE SPINNER WAS DEAD!



AND WHEN THE POLICE ARRIVE...

SO THE SWAMI WAS RIGHT ABOUT THE SPINNER'S HIDEOUT!

BUT THE SPINNER IS STILL ON THE LOOSE... AND I THINK I KNOW WHERE TO FIND HIM!



PRESENTLY, IN THE SWAMI'S QUARTERS...

B-BATMAN!

OPEN THAT VALISE, ROBIN! I'LL BET YOU FIND THE SPINNER'S COSTUME AND STOLEN LOOT INSIDE!



SURE ENOUGH, A MOMENT LATER ...

YOU-YOU WERE
THE SPINNER,
TOO!

YES...I HAD A HIRELING
SNEAK INTO HOMES AND
HIDE VALUABLES, WHICH
I'D THEN "FIND!" BY BUILDING
A REPUTATION AS A SWAMI.
I COULD PRETEND TO FIND
THE SPINNER'S HIDEOUT WITH-
OUT AROUSING SUSPICION!

YOU THOUGHT I'D ARRIVE WITH THE
POLICE, AFTER AN "ACCIDENTAL"
EXPLOSION, TO FIND "PEANUTS" GILSON'S
BODY--AND THINK THE SPINNER WAS
DEAD! BUT I WAS NEARER TO THE
HIDEOUT THAN YOU FIGURED--AND
THAT HELPED TRIP YOU UP!

I PLANNED SO CAREFULLY--
SPEAKING JOLIET PRISON SLANG
AND LEAVING THAT GLOVE--SO THAT
WHEN YOU FOUND GILSON'S BODY,
YOU'D HAVE NO DOUBT HE WAS
THE SPINNER... AND I COULD
RETIRE SAFELY WITH THE LOOT
AND THE REWARD FOR BRINGING
ABOUT HIS CAPTURE!

YES--YOU THOUGHT YOU'D SPIN A WEB
OF DECEIT... BUT THE ONLY ONE CAUGHT
IN THE WEB WAS--THE SPINNER!

THE
END

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Complete SUNDAY NEWSPAPER SYNDICATED STORY

BATMAN ROBIN

IT'S A RARE DAY WHEN BATMAN AND ROBIN ARE NOT ON THE TRACK OF SOME MALFACTOR OR OTHER—AND THIS DAY IS NO EXCEPTION ...

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HE'S HEADING FOR THE POST-OFFICE. AND SO FAR, HE HASN'T ANY IDEA WE'RE TRAILING HIM.

BUT WHY CAN'T WE NAB HIM NOW?

BECAUSE HE'S TOO HOT TO HAVE COME OUT OF HIDING WITHOUT SOMETHING VERY SPECIAL UP HIS SLEEVE, AND I WANT TO FIND OUT WHAT!

I BELIEVE YOU HAVE A POST CARD FOR—

HOLY SMOKE! THE PENGUIN! THE POLICE—I'VE GOT TO CALL THE—!

UGH! TEAR-GAS!! GENERAL MY DEAR MAN, THE SERVICE HERE IS SLOW ENOUGH TO MAKE ANYONE WEEP! I SHALL HAVE TO HELP MYSELF!

NO ONE'S SPOTTED ME SO FAR. DON'T LIKE TAKING ON THIS JOB ALONE, BUT THIS IS ONE TIME I COULDN'T TRUST THE BOYS. IF THEY EVER LEARNED THE TRUTH—!

NOW, LET'S SEE! AH—HERE IT IS!

SNIFF-CHOKE!

OW—FOR CRYING OUT LOUD!

GENERAL IT'S I WHO SHOULD BE WEEPING! I'M NOT MAKING A CENT ON ALL THIS!

THAT'S BECAUSE YOUR SCENT HAS BEEN PICKED UP, PENGUIN!

CHEER UP! YOU'RE ABOUT TO BE SENT TO A NICE JAIL!

TRAPPED! IT'S POSITIVELY INDECENT!

YOU TOOK ALL THAT RISK JUST TO STEAL A CARD ADDRESSED TO OSWALD CHESTERFIELD COBBLEPOD? PLEASE, BATMAN! ARREST ME! BUT PLEASE DON'T MAKE ME ANSWER THAT!!





BATMAN

ROBIN

AFTER ALL YOUR LETTERS, OSWALD, ABOUT YOUR THRIVING UMBRELLA BUSINESS, I SIMPLY MUST SEE YOUR UMBRELLA SHOP!

GRACIOUS! HOW CAN I TAKE HER THERE WITHOUT BATMAN DISCOVERING MY HIDEOUT?

FOR THE SAKE OF THE PENGUIN'S VISITING AUNT WHO DOESN'T KNOW HE'S A CROOK, BATMAN HAS DEFERRED ARRESTING THE PENGUIN UNTIL AFTER HER VISIT. UNTIL THEN, HE MUST KEEP THE PENGUIN FROM ESCAPING...

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BOB KANE

BUS STOP

NOT FROM YOU, AUNTIE. BUT, WELL-FRIENDSHIP AND BUSINESS DON'T MIX. I DON'T THINK BATMAN SHOULD SEE IT.

I DECLARE! BATMAN JUST SAVED YOUR LIFE! WHAT INGRATITUDE! LEAD ON NOW, OSWALD, OR I'LL GIVE YOU SOMETHING TO REMEMBER!

SHORTLY AFTER... IS THIS IT? BUT THAT SIGN DOESN'T MAKE SENSE. I THOUGHT YOU WERE IN THE UMBRELLA BUSINESS.

ER—MY UMBRELLAS ARE SO GOOD I HAVE TO CAMOUFLAGE THE PLACE TO KEEP THE MOBS AWAY!

ICE-COAL

CLOSED FOR WINTER

A FINELY EQUIPPED SHOP LIKE THIS AND I'LL BET YOU HAVEN'T HAD A CUSTOMER IN MONTHS! OSWALD, I ALWAYS SAID YOU HAD NO HEAD FOR BUSINESS.

BUT, AUNTIE!

WELL—I'M DETERMINED TO HELP YOU! WE'LL START WITH A BIG ADVERTISED SALE AND GET RID OF ALL THIS OLD STOCK!

NO! DON'T TOUCH THAT UMBRELLA!

GOODNESS GRACIOUS! IT'S FULL OF BULLETS!

DON'T YOU KNOW IT'S BAD LUCK TO OPEN AN UMBRELLA INDOORS? CLOSE IT—QUICK!

OSWALD! WHAT KIND OF BUSINESS ARE YOU RUNNING HERE?

WHY-ER-AUNTIE—THAT UMBRELLA HAPPENS TO BE A NEW SECRET WEAPON I'M DEVELOPING FOR THE ARMY!

MEANWHILE ELSEWHERE IN GOTHAM...

I TELL YOU, STONEHEAD, I'M POSITIVE. I SEEN THE PENGUIN GOING AROUND WITH BATMAN IN BROAD DAYLIGHT. HE MUSTA TURNED STOOL PIGEON!

IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE ME OLD PAL WOULD TURN STOOLIE. BUT—THIS AIN'T NO TIME FOR SENTIMENT.

To my dear cell-mate,
Stonehead. The Penguin

ROUND UP THE BOYS! WE GOT BUSINESS AT THE PENGUIN'S UMBRELLA SHOP!

BATMAN

ROBIN

BECAUSE BATMAN HAS DEFERRED ARRESTING THE PENGUIN UNTIL HIS AUNT MIRANDA'S VISIT ENDS, CERTAIN CROOKS SEEING THEM TOGETHER, HAVE ASSUMED THAT THE PENGUIN HAS TURNED STOOL PIGEON.

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DA PENGUIN A STOOL PIGEON? (SIGH) WHAT A SHAME!

YEAH! I WISH I WAS WRONG, STONEHEAD!

LOOK! HE'S ALREADY GAWN OUTA BUSINESS! WHAT DID YOU CALL ME, YOUNG MAN?

COME OUTA THEM SKIRTS, PENGUIN! WE KNOW YA!

BIG SALE UMBRELLAS

I'LL TEACH YOU TO RESPECT A LADY, YOU FLANNEL-MOUTHED BABOON! CALL ME A PENGUIN, INDEED!

HE'S GETTIN' TOUGH! LET HIM HAVE IT, GUYS!

UMBRELLAS

MY OWN BUDDIES PICKING ON MY AUNT MIRANDA! THIS IS TOO MUCH!

I'M SEEIN' DOUBLE! IT MUST BE A DOUBLE-CROSS!

THE BATMAN! I-I THINK I GOT AN IMPORTANT APPOINTMENT IN CHINA!

NET PROFIT FOR THE DAY— ONE BULLY OF OLD LADIES!

OSWALD— DON'T YOU DARE CALL ME AN OLD LADY!

NOT BAD, THESE PENGUIN UMBRELLAS— WHEN THEY'RE ON OUR SIDE!

AFTER THE SMOKE OF BATTLE HAS CLEARED...

WELL—LOT'S OF EXCITEMENT IN THE BIG CITY, BUT DEAR ME—I'VE BARELY TIME TO CATCH MY TRAIN FOR HOME! OSWALD— COME HERE!

ER—YES— AUNTIE!

GOOD-BYE, OSWALD. BEHAVE YOURSELF. REMEMBER TO EAT LOTS OF FRESH VEGETABLES. AND—OH, YES—HELP YOUR FRIEND BATMAN TAKE THESE HOODLUMS WHERE THEY BELONG.

DON'T WORRY, MISS COBBLE-POT. HE'S COMING ALONG.

OOPS! BUT BATMAN— YOU SURELY DON'T INTEND TO JAIL ME NOW THAT I'VE HELPED YOU NAB THESE THUGS.

WHY, PENGUIN— HAVE YOU REALLY DECIDED TO TURN HONEST?

HONEST? ME? NOT A CHANCE! THERE ARE STILL 237 WAYS OF ESCAPING FROM JAIL I HAVEN'T TRIED OUT YET!

DON'T WORRY, OSWALD— ER—PARDON—PENGUIN! YOU'LL GET YOUR CHANCE TO TEST THEM!

The END

BATMAN

With
ROBIN
THE BOY WONDER

WHAT'S THIS?? BATMAN A CRIMINAL?? LEAVE IT TO THE JOKER, THAT CUNNING TRICKSTER OF CRIME, TO PULL THE IMPOSSIBLE OUT OF HIS HAT! YES--THE JOKER IS BACK--BACK WITH ALL HIS WICKED WILES TO THROW GOTHAM CITY INTO A TURMOIL--AND BATMAN AND ROBIN INTO THE ADVENTURE OF THEIR LIVES--IN THE STORY CALLED --

"The Crimes of BATMAN!"

HO
HA HA HA
HA HO HO HO
HA HA HA HA

WANTED



DEAD OR ALIVE!
BATMAN!
\$50,000 REWARD
WILL BE PAID TO THE
PERSON OR PERSONS
GIVING INFORMATION
LEADING TO THE ARREST
OR APPREHENSION OF
THIS CRIMINAL!

WANTED



DEAD OR ALIVE,
BATMAN.
\$50,000 REWARD
WILL BE PAID TO THE
PERSON OR PERSONS
GIVING INFORMATION
LEADING TO THE ARREST
OR APPREHENSION OF
THIS CRIMINAL!

BOB
KANE



ONE EVENING, AS THE FAMOUS CRIME-FIGHTERS, BATMAN AND ROBIN, PAUSE IN THEIR LAW-PATROL THROUGH GOTHAM CITY...

LOOK, BATMAN--
THE JOKER'S
CAR.

YES, HE'S FREE TO TRAVEL ABROAD, NOW THAT HE'S BEEN RELEASED FROM PRISON. APPARENTLY HE'S GONE STRAIGHT-- BUT IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE!

SUDDENLY, BATMAN GETS AN IDEA. AND MOMENT LATER...

JUST A LITTLE PRECAUTION! IF THE JOKER'S GOT ANY CRIME-PLANS UP HIS SLEEVE, MAYBE WE CAN LISTEN IN TO THEM!

RIGHT! THIS TINY MIKE AND SENDING SET WE'RE INSTALLING WILL PICK UP ANY WORDS SPOKEN IN THIS CAR! LET'S HOPE THE JOKER DOESN'T NOTICE IT!

AND LATER, IN THE BAT-CAVE...

Ho-Ho-Ho
HA-HA-

IT'S THE JOKER, BATMAN! HE'S GOTTEN INTO HIS CAR! LISTEN!

HO-HO-HO! SO THE COPS DON'T KNOW WHO PULLED THE GREGG JEWELRY ROBBERY!?? HA-HA! I DO! FIGURED IT OUT BY MYSELF!

THE WHOLE JOB--THE SAFE-CRACKING, THE GETAWAY-- ALL BEAR THE STAMP OF DINK DEVERS! THE COPS THINK HE DIED -- BUT HE'S RIGHT HERE IN TOWN, AT THE BLAKE HOTEL! HA-HA-HA!

GOSH, BOSS--I BET YOU'RE RIGHT!

MEANWHILE...

Ho-Ho-Ho-HA
HA HO

DINK DEVERS-- ALIVE! THEN THE JOKER'S RIGHT! IT WAS DEVERS' TYPE OF CRIME--FROM BEGINNING TO END!

COME ON, ROBIN! WE'RE OFF TO THE BLAKE HOTEL-- THANKS TO OUR FRIEND THE JOKER!

SHORTLY AFTERWARDS...

BATMAN! HOW DID YOU EVER FIGURE **THIS** ONE OUT--HOW DID YOU KNOW IT WAS **ME**?

OH, WE DIDN'T SOLVE **THIS** CASE! GOT A NEW MAN ON THE FORCE! A FELLOW NAMED THE **JOKER**!



AND NEXT MORNING, THE GOTHAM CITY NEWSPAPERS HAVE A FIELD DAY...



BUT WHILE ALL OF GOTHAM CITY CHUCKLES, THAT **CLOWN PRINCE OF CRIME, THE JOKER**, HAS LOST HIS SENSE OF HUMOR!

BATMAN HAS MADE A FOOL OF ME, BEFORE **ALL** OF GOTHAM CITY! IMAGINE! USING ME TO SOLVE A CRIME! TURNING THE **JOKER** INTO A **LAWMAN**!



I MUST SAVE FACE--BY TURNING THE TABLES ON BATMAN! I MUST MAKE BATMAN A CRIMINAL! HA-HA! THAT WOULD EVEN THE SCORE!



A FEW DAYS LATER, IN THE HOME OF MILLIONAIRE BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS WARD, DICK GRAYSON...

TIME FOR ME TO CHANGE INTO MY **ROBIN** IDENTITY. I'M TO SPEAK AT THE BOAT SHOW THIS AFTERNOON.

HAVE FUN! I'LL TAKE OVER ALONE AS **BATMAN**, SHOULD ANY CRIMES FLARE UP TODAY!



MEANWHILE, IN AN ALLEY NEAR THE HUGE GOTHAM AUDITORIUM WHICH ANNUALLY HOUSES THE BOAT SHOW...

SH THESE SOUTH AMERICAN SAILORS WERE TO BE THE GUESTS OF HONOR AT THE BOAT SHOW! DISGUISED AS THEM, WE SHOULD HAVE VERY LITTLE TROUBLE TRAPPING **ROBIN**! HO-HO-HO!



SHORTLY AFTERWARDS,
WITHIN THE IMMENSE
HALL ...

THERE'S ROBIN! I
KNEW HE WAS TO SPEAK HERE
TODAY! ALL RIGHT--GET YOUR
GAS-MASKS READY! IN A MOMENT
WE ATTACK! HA-HA!

ALL AT ONCE, AS THE
JOKER STRIKES WITH-
OUT WARNING! ...

UGH--
I FEEL
SICK!
I'M
DIZZY--
THIS WHOLE
PLACE MUST
BE ROCKING!

HO-HO-HO! A SPECIAL GAS WHICH
PRODUCES A STATE NOT UNLIKE SEA-
SICKNESS! HA-HA! HOW PERFECT
FOR A BOAT SHOW! AND NOW
TO GRAB ROBIN!

THAT EVENING, IN COMMISSIONER GORDON'S OFFICE
AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS...

THIS IS BAD, BATMAN!
A MESSAGE FROM THE JOKER--
HE HOLDS ROBIN PRISONER!
YOU'RE TO FOLLOW THESE IN-
STRUCTIONS--A CAR WILL
PICK YOU UP AND DELIVER
YOU TO THE JOKER'S
HIDEOUT!

ROBIN'S UTILITY BELT!
HE'S A PRISONER, ALL
RIGHT! I'LL HAVE TO
OBEY--TO SAVE THE
KID'S LIFE!

A MOMENT LATER,
BEFORE THE
STUNNED CROWD
CAN MOVE IN
PROTEST...

NOTHING LIKE A BOAT
RIDE NOW AND THEN, EH,
ROBIN? HA-HA-HA!
COME ON--LET'S GET
HIM TO THE HIDEOUT!

I'M GROGGY-
SICK! AND I
SURE PUT MY
FOOT IN IT THIS
TIME!

AND SOME TIME AFTER...

HERE HE IS, LADS!
THE MAN WHO IS GOING
TO MAKE CRIMINAL HISTORY
IN GOTHAM CITY! OUR OWN
BATMAN--WHO'LL BE AS
CROOKED AS WE!

TROUBLE! ROBIN'S
UNDER HEAVY GUARD--
ONE MOVE, AND HE'D
BE SHOT! I'LL HAVE TO
PLAY ALONG!

WELCOME!
HURRAH for BATMAN--
THE MASTER
CROOK!

WELCOME TO
GANGLAND'S
OWN
BATMAN!

HA-HA-HA! I COULD DESTROY YOU NOW, BATMAN--BUT THINK OF THE FUN I WOULD MISS! NO! FIRST I SHALL DISGRACE YOU-- BY MAKING YOU TURN CROOKED!

THIS IS MY PLAN! YOU SHALL CHEAT, STEAL AND KILL--IN THAT ORDER! AND EACH EVENT MUST BE WELL-PUBLICIZED SO THAT THE WORLD KNOWS OF YOUR GUILT! HO-HO-HO! FAILURE TO DO THIS WILL RESULT IN ROBIN'S DEATH!

YOU HAVE 24 HOURS, BATMAN, TO BECOME A CHEAT! HA-HA! MAKE IT GOOD!

THE FIEND! WHILE ROBIN'S IN HIS HANDS, HE HOLDS ALL THE CARDS. I MUST THINK OF SOMETHING!

THAT NIGHT, THE GREAT LAWMAN RESTLESSLY TUSSLES WITH HIS PROBLEM--AND BY MORNING A POSSIBLE SOLUTION PRESENTS ITSELF.

IT MIGHT WORK! FIRST I MUST CHECK ALL MY REMOTE CONTROL EQUIPMENT!

LATER THAT MORNING, ALL EYES IN GOTHAM CITY ARE GLUED TO THE SKIES--AS THE WELL-KNOWN BATPLANE SUDDENLY DEVELOPS SYMPTOMS OF TROUBLE!

LOOK! THE BATPLANE! AND SOMETHING'S WRONG!

IT'S CAUGHT FIRE! BATMAN WILL BE KILLED! JUMP, BATMAN--JUMP!

THEN, ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF TOWN...

HE MANAGED TO PILOT THE PLANE AWAY FROM THE CROWDED CITY--AND NOW HE'S JUMPED!

LEAVE IT TO BATMAN! HE'LL BE ALL RIGHT! HIS 'CHUTE WILL OPEN ANY MINUTE NOW!

BUT THEN, BEFORE THE HORRIFIED EYES OF THE SPECTATORS...

HIS 'CHUTE DIDN'T OPEN! HE'S A GONER SURE!

POOR BATMAN! COME ON-- LET'S GET A TRUCK AND GET OVER TO THOSE WOODS!

MEANWHILE, IN THE DENSE SECTION OF THE WOODS...

IT WORKED PERFECTLY! REMOTE CONTROL GUIDED THE PLANE ACCURATELY--AND HAD THE BATMAN DUMMY PARACHUTE OUT AT JUST THE RIGHT INSTANT! NOW TO COVER UP ALL THIS EVIDENCE!

AND A FEW MINUTES LATER...

LOOK! BATMAN'S ALIVE! HE'S SCRATCHED AND BRUISED--BUT HE'S ALIVE! IT'S A MIRACLE!

THE TREES MUST HAVE BROKEN HIS FALL! MAYBE HE HIT A SOFT SPOT--A BOG! ANYWAY--IT'S A GREAT DAY FOR GOTHAM CITY!

SOME TIME AFTER, IN THE CRIME CLOWN'S HIDEOUT

HA-HA! BATMAN HAS BUT TWO HOURS TO ACHIEVE THE FIRST OF HIS CRIMES! HE'D BETTER HURRY!

JOKER--THIS BOX JUST ARRIVED--IT'S FOR YOU!

AND AS THE JOKER OPENS THE BOX...

BATS! UGH! IT'S FROM THE BATMAN!

LOOK, BOSS--THERE'S A NEWSPAPER FRONT PAGE IN THAT BOX!

THEN, AS THE JOKER UNFOLDS THE NEWSPAPER PAGE...

I'VE BEEN TRICKED! OUTSMARTED! THIS ISN'T WHAT I INTENDED!

GOTHAM GAZETTE
BATMAN CHEATS DEATH!

LAWMAN PLUMMETS 2000 FEET TO EARTH WHEN 'CHUTE FAILS TO OPEN--WALKS AWAY FROM ACCIDENT.

Read for yourself, joker! I am now a CHEAT! I chute -- DEATH!

AND WHEN BATMAN ARRIVES AT THE JOKER'S HIDEOUT...

IF THEY'D ONLY PUT THOSE GUNS AWAY! ONE FALSE MOVE ON MY PART AND ONE OF THOSE TRIGGER-HAPPY HOODS MIGHT SHOOT ROBIN ON THE SPOT!

AH, IT'S BATMAN! NOW OUR GAME CAN CONTINUE. YES, BATMAN -- YOU OUTSMARTED ME -- BUT I MUST GIVE YOU CREDIT! IT WAS A MASTER STROKE WORTHY OF ME!

ROBIN'S LIFE IS STILL AT STAKE, BATMAN -- SO NOW YOU MUST STEAL! HA-HA! AND MAKE IT GOOD, BATMAN! IT MUST BE A THEFT THAT EARNS MY RESPECT -- OR ELSE! HO-HO-HO! AGAIN -- YOU HAVE 24 HOURS!

SOON AFTER, WHEN BATMAN HAS DEPARTED...

WHAT'S UP, BOSS? WE GOIN' ON A JOB?

HA-HA! YES! WE WILL ADD TO BATMAN'S PLIGHT! HE'LL BE CAUGHT BETWEEN TWO FIRES -- ONE, HIS DESIRE TO SAVE ROBIN BY FULFILLING MY ORDERS -- TWO, HIS RESPONSIBILITY TO GOTHAM CITY AS A LAWMAN!

LATER, IN THE WAYNE MANSION, AS BATMAN DISCUSSES THE SITUATION WITH HIS TRUST-WORTHY BUTLER, ALFRED...

BUT WHAT OF ROBIN, SIR? YOU HAVE ONLY 24 HOURS! YOU MUST SAVE HIM!

I KNOW, ALFRED! BUT I CAN'T IGNORE THE BAT SIGNAL! THIS IS UNDOUBTEDLY THE JOKER'S WORK! HE'S PULLING A CRIME TO ADD TO MY TROUBLES! BUT I'LL HAVE TO THINK OF SOMETHING.

LATER, AT HEADQUARTERS...

IT'S THE JOKER! HE BROKE INTO FARLEY'S DEPARTMENT STORE! HE'S PROBABLY AFTER THAT PLAYING CARD COLLECTION THEY HAVE ON DISPLAY!

FARLEY'S, EH? HMM! MAYBE THE JOKER ISN'T AS SMART AS HE THINKS HE IS!

AND AT THE DESERTED DEPARTMENT STORE... JUST AFTER CLOSING HOURS...

MY MEMORY WAS RIGHT! THE CARD COLLECTION IS NEXT TO THE SPORTING GOODS DEPARTMENT! NOW FOR SOME FUN!

IT'S BATMAN, BOSS! I THOUGHT YOU SAID HE'D BE TOO BUSY!

SPORTS

WEEKLY

10¢

PLAYING CARD
THE GREENE COLLECTION
PLAYING CARDS OF HISTORY

YOU'RE WASTING VALUABLE TIME,
BATMAN! REMEMBER ROBIN?

I'M NEVER WASTING
TIME WHEN I'M CHASING
YOU, JOKER! AH, GOLF!
JOIN ME IN A GAME,
JOKER?

GOLFING

IN THE NEXT
MOMENT...

YOU'RE A
MAN OF TRICKS,
JOKER! HOW IS
THAT FOR A
TRICK SHOT!?

WELL, WELL! JUST
WHAT THE DOCTOR
ORDERED!

CONFOUND HIM.
HE HIT A GOLF
BALL THAT SHAT-
TERED THE SUPPORTS
OF THAT CHANDEL-
IER!

CRASH

GRABBING MORE
GOLF BALLS,
BATMAN
USES THEM AS
MISSILES IN AN
IMPROPTU
SLING-SHOT
PROVIDED
BY THE
KNEE-
SUPPORTER!

THIS SUPPORTER IS FOR
A TRICK KNEE, JOKER!
BUT LOOK AT THE TRICKS
I CAN DO WITH IT!

MOMENTS
LATER...

FOOTBALL, JOKER! AND IN FOOTBALL,
THIS FORWARD PASS WOULD BE KNOWN
AS A TRICK PLAY!

TRICK SHOT--TRICK KNEE --
TRICK PLAY! HE'S DOWNED
MOST OF MY MEN! I'VE GOT
TO GET OUT OF HERE WHILE
I CAN!

FOOTBALL

TF

SOON AFTER...

THE JOKER ESCAPED--
BUT WITHOUT ANY LOOT
AND MOST OF HIS MEN! THIS NIGHT
WILL HOLD HIM FOR A WHILE! AND
NOW I MUST GIVE THE WHOLE STORY
TO THE PAPERS!

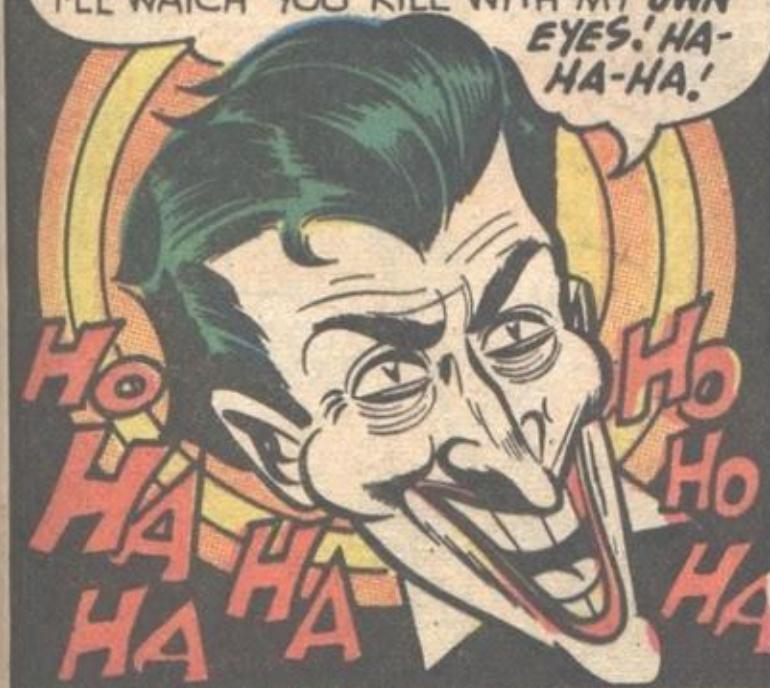


YOU MAY BE HAVIN' FUN
PLAYIN' GAMES, BOSS--
BUT I DON'T LIKE IT!
BATMAN'S GONNA
WRIGGLE OUT AGAIN--
AND THEN HE AND
ROBIN GO FREE!

DON'T BE SILLY!
I'LL ARRANGE IT
SO THAT HE CAN'T
WRIGGLE OUT--
HO-HO!



BUT LEST YOU GET ANY MORE OF YOUR
CLEVER IDEAS--I HAVE ONE OF MY
OWN! HA-HA! YOU'RE TO BE **MY**
TRIGGER-MAN ON A JOB TONIGHT!
I'LL WATCH YOU KILL WITH MY OWN
EYES! HA-HA-HA!



AND WHEN THE
PAPERS REACH
THE JOKER'S
HANDS...

Gotham Gazette

BATMAN STEALS JOKER'S THUNDER!

CRIME-TRICKSTER FOILED WHEN
LAWMAN DIPS INTO HIS OWN BAG
OF TRICKS!



HMM! AGAIN I UNDER-
ESTIMATED **BATMAN**! HE
HAS COMPLETED HIS **THEFT**
AS PER OUR BARGAIN! HE
REALLY **DID** STEAL MY
THUNDER! HE IS INDEED
A WORTHY ADVERSARY!

LATER... YOU'VE BEEN CLEVER, **BATMAN**!
YOU'VE **CHEATED** AND **STOLEN** AND
YET YOU'RE NOT A CRIMINAL! IT IS
STILL MY AIM TO **MAKE** YOU A
CRIMINAL! SO NOW YOU MUST
BECOME A **KILLER**!



HA-HA! COME ON, **BATMAN**--
IT'S **KILL** OR **ROBIN** GETS
KILLED TONIGHT! HA-
HA! HO-HO!

FOR A WHILE IT LOOKED
LIKE **BATMAN** MIGHT
OUTSMART THE JOKER.
BUT NOW...HE'S LICKED!
THE JOKER HOLDS ALL
THE CARDS!



SHORTLY AFTERWARDS... IN ANOTHER ROOM OF THE JOKER'S HIDEOUT...

REMEMBER, I GOT YOU COVERED, BATMAN! YEAH--AND I GOT YOUR UTILITY BELT, TOO!

HO-HO-HO! WHAT FUN WE'LL HAVE TONIGHT! WE'RE GOING TO THE CIRCUS, BATMAN! IN THESE COSTUMES WE'LL HAVE NO TROUBLE GETTING INTO THE OFFICE WHERE THE MONEY IS, HA-HA!

AND INSIDE THE HUGE GOTHAM SQUARE GARDEN WHERE THE CIRCUS IS ON DISPLAY...

SMART IDEA OF YOURS, BOSS! DRESSED AS CLOWNS, WE'VE GOT THE RUN OF THE PLACE! IT LOOKS LIKE WE'RE SHOWING BATMAN AROUND BACKSTAGE!



A MOMENT LATER...

HA-HA! IN A MOMENT, BATMAN--YOU'LL BE A KILLER! YOU'LL KILL THE CASHIER--WHILE WE ROB THE SAFE! HA-HA! BATMAN, THE KILLER! WAIT TILL THE PUBLIC HEARS OF THIS! HA-HA!

SAWDUST! JUST WHAT I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR!



SUDDENLY BATMAN'S HAND SNAKES OUT IN A SWIFT BACKHAND MOTION--SCOOPING SAWDUST INTO THE FACES OF THE JOKER AND HIS MEN...

SAWDUST! (COUGH; OUCH --MY EYES!)



A MOMENT LATER...

YOU WANTED ME TO KILL, JOKER! WELL, THIS ACT OUGHT TO KILL YOU! WAIT!

THEY CAN'T SHOOT, FOR FEAR OF HITTING THEIR LEADER! AND THE CROWD HERE WILL THINK THIS IS ALL PART OF THE SHOW! THEY WON'T BE FRIGHTENED!

DON'T SHOOT! YOU'LL HIT THE BOSS!

LOOK! IT'S BATMAN AND SOME CLOWNS! HA-HA! THIS MUST BE A SPECIAL ACT!



WOW!

LOOK AT BATMAN GO!

HURRAY FOR BATMAN!

THEN, AS BATMAN BARKS SOME SHARP ORDERS TO CIRCUS GUARDS BELOW...

"KILLER" BATMAN--
THAT'S ME, JOKER! I'M JUST GOING TO KILL TIME NOW, WHILE CIRCUS GUARDS ARE ROUNDING UP YOUR MEN!

DON'T LET GO, BATMAN-- PLEASE, DON'T LET GO!

LISTEN TO THEM ROAR, JOKER! I'M DOING JUST WHAT YOU WANTED--I'M A KILLER! I'M KILLING THE AUDIENCE! LISTEN!

WHAT'S THE MATTER, JOKER? THE PACE TOO KILLING? I'M THE "KILLER", REMEMBER? SO DON'T YOU BE A KILL-JOY!

WAHOO HURRAH YEEEEE BRAVO

WOW! BATMAN'S TERRIFIC!

ENOUGH'S ENOUGH! IT'S TIME TO KILL THIS ACT, JOKER! DON'T WORRY--YOU'RE HEADED FOR A NET--AND THEN YOU'RE HEADED FOR JAIL!

BUT THEN A BAD BREAK! AS BOTH MEN HIT THE NET, A FREAK BOUNCE SENDS THE JOKER OUT OF BATMAN'S GRASP!

HA-HA! YOU HAVEN'T GOT ME YET, BATMAN! AND NOW I'LL TAKE CARE OF YOU!

HA-HA! YOU'LL PAY FOR THIS NIGHT, BATMAN! A QUICK PHONE CALL TO MY HIDEOUT--AND ROBIN DIES!

HE'S GOT TOO BIG A LEAD! IF HE REACHES THE OFFICES, I'M SUNK! BY THE TIME I HUNT HIM DOWN, THAT PHONE CALL WILL BE MADE, AND ROBIN WILL BE DEAD!

GIANT BATMAN

HA-HA! HE WHO LAUGHS LAST, LAUGHS BEST! NOW TO FIND A PHONE!



ALL AT ONCE...

WAIT! WHAT'S THIS? CAN'T SEE A THING! THE LIGHTS! WHAT HAPPENED TO THE LIGHTS?



AND MOMENTS LATER, AS A LITHE FIGURE COMES HURTLING THROUGH THE DARKNESS ...

THE BATMAN!

SO WE MEET AGAIN! I THOUGHT THE DARKNESS WOULD SLOW YOU UP! WHAT HAPPENED TO THE LIGHTS? I KILLED THEM, JOKER! "KILLER" BATMAN, THAT'S ME! I KILLED THE LIGHTS --AT THE FUSE-BOX!



SHORTLY AFTERWARDS AT THE JOKER'S HIDEOUT...

LOOK--IT'S THE BOSS COMIN' BACK! I CAN'T WAIT TO HEAR HOW BATMAN MADE OUT AS A KILLER!



THEN, IN A BLINDING SURPRISE ATTACK...

HEY--THAT AIN'T THE JOKER! IT'S BATMAN WITH THE COPS! WE'RE SUNK!

SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING, ROBIN--GOT HERE AS SOON AS I COULD!

BOY-- ARE YOU A SIGHT FOR SORE EYES!



LOOK--THERE'S THE JOKER! AM I GLAD HE WASN'T ABLE TO FORCE YOU TO KILL TONIGHT!

OH, BUT I DID KILL--ALL NIGHT! AND I'VE JUST DONE IT AGAIN! BY FREEING YOU, AND CAPTURING THE JOKER, I'VE JUST KILLED TWO BIRDS WITH ONE STONE!



BAT-MAN

WITH
ROBIN
THE BOY WONDER

A MILLIONAIRE--AN INDIAN PRINCE--A POPULAR SINGER--THESE ARE BUT A FEW OF THE IDENTITIES A MASTER DISGUISE ARTIST ASSUMES, TO COMMIT HIS INCREDIBLE CRIMES! AND WHEN BATMAN AND ROBIN FIND HIS TRAIL, THEY, TOO, FALL VICTIMS TO...

THE MENAGE OF FALSE FACE

HA, HA... WITH MY THOUSAND-AND-ONE DISGUISES, YOU'LL NEVER CAPTURE ME, BATMAN!



IN THE HEART OF GOTHAM CITY, A WELL-DRESSED GENTLEMAN STRIDES INTO AN EXCLUSIVE JEWELRY SHOP...

I'LL TAKE THAT... THAT... AND THAT... GIFT-WRAPPED! QUICKLY NOW!

CERTAINLY... CERTAINLY, SIR! A BRILLIANT SELECTION, SIR!

SHORTLY...

GOOD GRIEF, MR. HELPLEWHITE! THAT CUSTOMER PURCHASED THE THREE MOST VALUABLE ITEMS IN THE STORE... AND LEFT WITHOUT PAYING!

NATURALLY, PARKER! THAT'S P.S. SMITHINGTON, THE ECCENTRIC URANIUM MILLIONAIRE!

HE ALWAYS SPENDS A FORTUNE HERE AND PAYS US AT THE END OF THE MONTH!



BUT EXACTLY TWO HOURS LATER, A SHOCKING SITUATION ARISES, AS...

WEMBLY, WHAT ON EARTH IS ALL THIS MUMBLING ABOUT MY BEING HERE EARLIER? I JUST REACHED TOWN-- MY CAR BROKE DOWN ON THE HIGHWAY!

B-BUT, MR. SMITHINGTON, YOU **WERE** HERE BEFORE! LOOK AT MY RECEIPT BOOK... YOU PURCHASED A FORTUNE IN GEMS-- ON CREDIT, AS USUAL!

WITHIN MINUTES, AT THE HOME OF WEALTHY BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS YOUNG WARD, DICK GRAYSON...

THE **BAT-SIGNAL**, BRUCE! THEY WANT **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** AT HEADQUARTERS!

LET'S GO, DICK!



SWITCHING TO THEIR CAPED CRIME-FIGHTING GARB, THE PAIR HASTENS TO THE OFFICE OF COMMISSIONER GORDON, WHERE...

ANOTHER IMPERSONATION BY FALSE FACE, BATMAN! THIS TIME, HE TOOK THE PLACE OF THE FAMOUS MILLIONAIRE, P.S. SMITHINGTON!

HMM... HE'S A VERSATILE DISGUISE EXPERT, COMMISSIONER! LAST TIME, HE WAS AN INDIAN PRINCE, AND HE GOT AWAY WITH SOME CROWN JEWELS!

AND THE TIME BEFORE THAT, HE POSED AS A FAMOUS HISTORIAN, AND MANAGED TO STEAL A PRICELESS RARE BOOK ON AZTEC CULTURE! ON OTHER OCCASIONS, HE'S BEEN AN ARCHITECT, A SCULPTOR AND WHAT-NOT!



WE'VE GOT TO UNMASK HIM ONCE AND FOR ALL, BEFORE HE... WHAT'S THAT--?

EMERGENCY SQUAD, ATTENTION! CROONER WALLY WESKIT TRAPPED IN HOTEL ELEVATOR! REPORT TO STATIONS!

EXCUSE ME, COMMISSIONER! THIS MAY BE OUR CHANCE!

EH--?



GIANT BATMAN



OUTSIDE, MOMENTS LATER...

ROBIN, IN EACH SITUATION, FALSE FACE ALWAYS MANAGED TO DETAIN HIS VICTIM WHILE HE PLAYED HIS PART! WESKIT'S SCHEDULED TO PLAY AT THE HAMPTON CLUB TODAY... JUST ABOUT THIS TIME!

I GET IT, BATMAN... IF YOU'RE RIGHT, FALSE FACE WILL BE "PLAYING" THERE IN WESKIT'S PLACE!

SOON AFTER...

THERE HE IS, BATMAN!

AND HE'S PLAYING HIS ROLE TO THE HILT!



WE'VE GOT HIM TRAPPED NOW... HE'LL NEVER ESCAPE THROUGH THAT CROWD!

IF HE OFFERS RESISTANCE, KEEP THE PEOPLE FROM PANICKING WHILE I SUBDU HIM, ROBIN!

IT'S BATMAN! ROLL OUT THE BARREL, MEN!



ABRUPTLY, TWO HOODLUMS SPRING ONTO THE DANCE FLOOR, AND...

HIS HENCHMEN ARE ALL READIED FOR ACTION!



BATMAN! THE DONATIONS BARREL-- THEY'RE PLANNING TO STEAL IT!

SO I SEE... BUT I'M RIGHT WITH THEM!



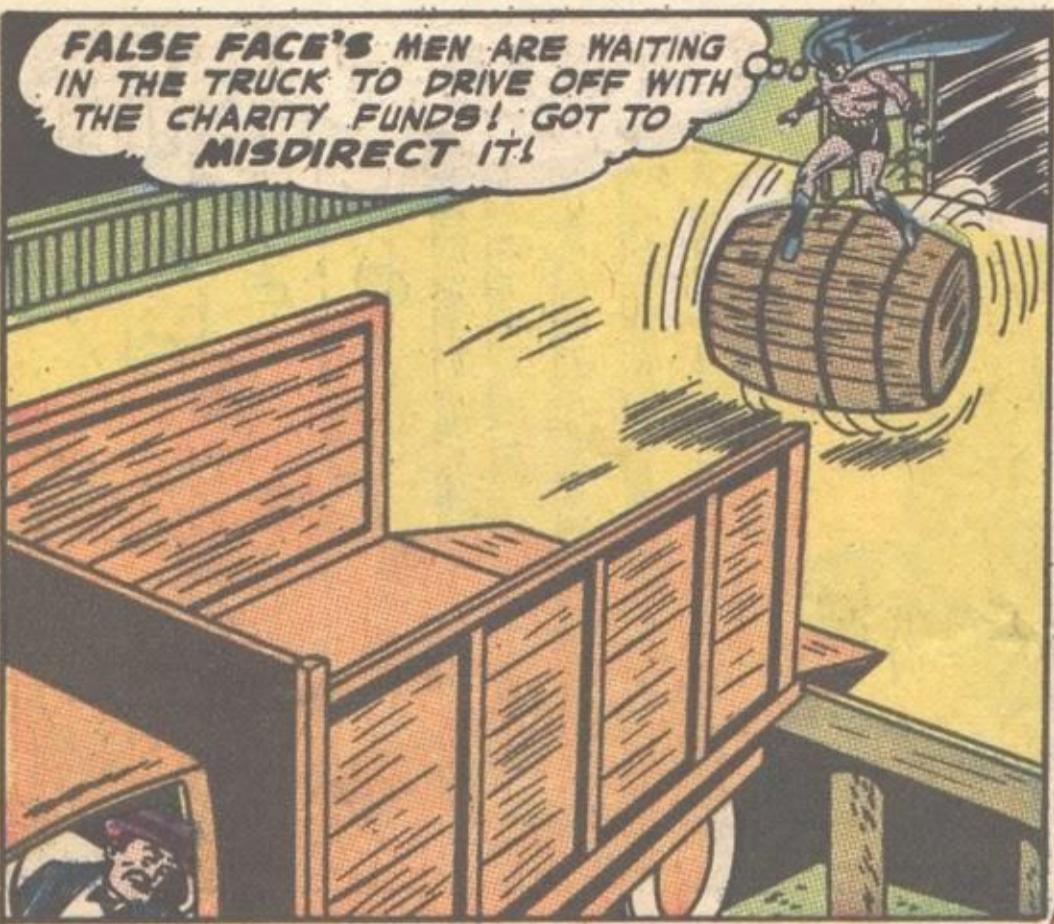


GIANT BATMAN



FALSE FACE'S MEN ARE WAITING IN THE TRUCK TO DRIVE OFF WITH THE CHARITY FUNDS! GOT TO MISDIRECT IT!

DEFTLY, BATMAN "WALKS" THE BARREL TO ONE SIDE IN THE NICK OF TIME...



THEN, AS ROBIN JOINS THE COWLED LAWMAN...

THERE GOES FALSE FACE!

HE CAN'T GET FAR IN THAT COSTUME! LOOKS LIKE HE'S TRYING TO SHED HIS WESTERN CHAPS!

YET, WHEN THE PAIR ROUND'S THE CORNER...

GONE! HE MUST HAVE HIDDEN IN ONE OF THE PARKED CARS!

WAIT! THAT DOORMAN'S UNIFORM... THE TROUSERS ARE IDENTICAL TO THE ONES FALSE FACE WAS WEARING BENEATH HIS CHAPS!



OF COURSE! A DISGUISE MASTER LIKE FALSE FACE WOULD BE A QUICK-CHANGE ARTIST ALSO! HE COULD HAVE PUT MAKE-UP ON WHILE RUNNING...



BUT, A MOMENT LATER...

GREAT CATS!

NO MAKE-UP ON HIS FACE... AND HIS MUSTACHE IS REAL!

PLEASE... PLEASE! WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS?



I'M SORRY, SIR! I'VE BEEN TRICKED... A CUNNING THIEF PLANNED FOR ME TO SUSPECT YOU!

OH...THAT'S ALL RIGHT, BATMAN! I REALIZE YOU WOULDN'T BOTHER ME WITHOUT A GOOD REASON!

GOSH, THIS FALSE FACE IS A REAL TRICKY CHARACTER!

YES, ROBIN, HE DELIBERATELY WORE TROUSERS SIMILAR TO THAT DOORMAN'S-- TO DELAY US AND GIVE HIM TIME TO ESCAPE!

PRESIDENTLY, AT A HIDEOUT ON THE OUT-SKIRTS OF TOWN...

WELL, BOSS, IT'S HAPPENED! I KNEW SOONER OR LATER BATMAN WOULD GET ON OUR TAIL! NOW HOW ARE WE GONNA OPERATE?

RELAX, PEBBLES! AFTER OUR NEXT JOB, BATMAN WILL BE FINISHED!



NEXT DAY, AS THE FAMED DUO WAITS AT HEADQUARTERS, AN EMERGENCY CALL COMES THROUGH...

ARTHUR CRANDALL, THE FAMED EXPLORER? WHAT'S THAT?...YOU'RE LOCKED IN YOUR GAME ROOM?

THE COMMISSIONER WANTS BATMAN TO PICK UP THE EXTENSION!



FROM THE COUNTRY'S FOREMOST EXPLORER COMES A FRANTIC PLEA...

IT'S TERRIBLE! SOMEONE HAS BARRED MY TROPHY ROOM DOOR! I CAN'T GET OUT-- AND IN TEN MINUTES, I'M DUE TO RECEIVE THE GOLDEN TIGER AT THE EXPLORERS' CLUB!

PLEASE REMAIN CALM, MR. CRANDALL. MY MEN WILL BE THERE RIGHT AWAY!



TEN MINUTES LATER, TWO CAPED FIGURES RACE UP TO THE FABULOUS EXPLORERS' BUILDING...

A CELEBRATED PERSONAGE TRAPPED-- AND HE WAS SCHEDULED TO RECEIVE A VALUABLE ITEM! IT'S FALSE FACE'S PATTERN OF CRIME, ROBIN! KEEP AN EYE PEELLED FOR HIS GANG OUT HERE!

AND INSIDE...

THE MEMBERS HAVE CHOSEN YOU TO BRING THE PRICELESS, GOLD AZTEC TIGER TO THE LONDON MUSEUM, AS AN AMERICAN DONATION OF GOOD WILL!

BATMAN-- GOOD!



SUDDENLY, THE "EXPLORER" DARTS FROM THE STAGE, AND...
GOOD GRIEF! WHAT'S HAPPENED TO CRANDALL?

HE'S AWARE THAT I'M ON TO HIS GAME!

YOU'VE UNCOVERED ONE OF MY DISGUISES, BATMAN, BUT YOU'VE STILL GOT TO DOWN ME... HA, HA!

HE'S CUNNING AND CONFIDENT-- HAVE TO BE CAREFUL!

HIGHER AND HIGHER, FALSE FACE LEADS BATMAN TO THE UPPER FLOORS OF THE MUSEUM...

YOU'LL NEVER CATCH ME... NEVER! HA, HA, HA!

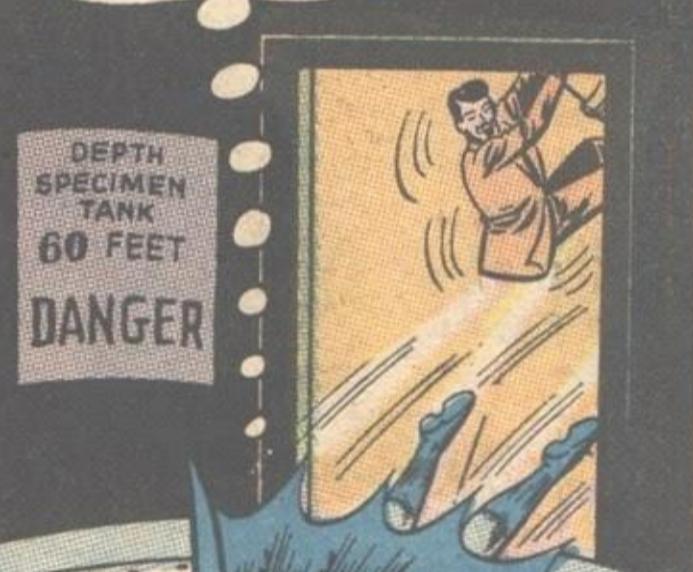


FINALLY, ON THE TOP LANDING...

HE'S REACHING FOR A WEAPON! MUST STOP HIM BEFORE HE CAN WIELD IT...

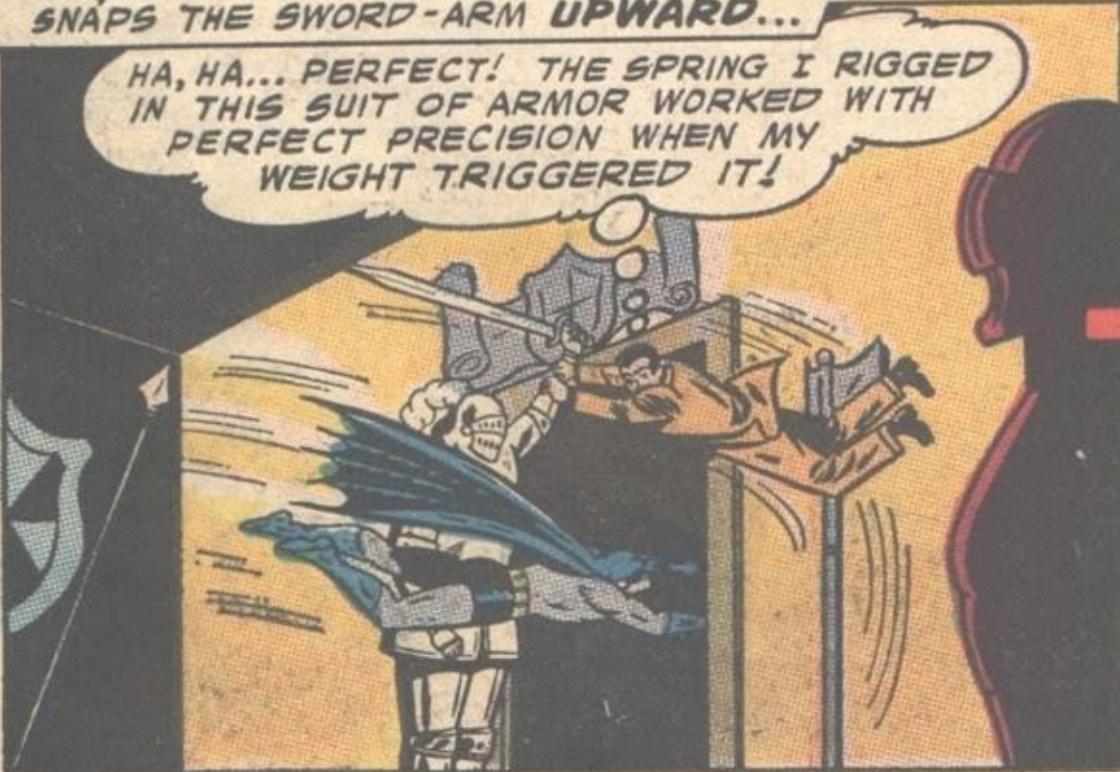
AND AS BATMAN PLUMMETS INTO A CIRCULAR ROOM...

A DEPTH TANK FOR SPECIMENS-- LIKE THE NAVY USES TO TRAIN SEA DIVERS! I'VE BEEN TRICKED TO FALL THROUGH ITS PROTECTIVE COVERING!



BUT, IN THAT SAME INSTANT, A MECHANICAL SPRING SNAPS THE SWORD-ARM UPWARD...

HA, HA... PERFECT! THE SPRING I RIGGED IN THIS SUIT OF ARMOR WORKED WITH PERFECT PRECISION WHEN MY WEIGHT TRIGGERED IT!



HA, HA... THE END OF BATMAN!
THE TANK'S EMPTY... NOBODY COULD
SURVIVE THAT FALL! MY MEN ARE
WAITING BELOW--THEY SHALL
WITNESS MY VICTORY OVER
CRIME'S ARCH ENEMY...
HA, HA, HA!



THUS, AWHILE LATER, AT AN EXIT IN THE BOTTOM
OF THE TANK...

GEE, FALSE FACE--
YOU REALLY DID IT...
YOU DEFEATED
BATMAN! LET'S
GET RID OF HIM
FAST!

NO! WE'LL UNMASK HIM
AT THE HIDEOUT AND
KEEP HIM AS A HOSTAGE!
LEAD THE WAY, MEN!



SOON...



THAT'S IT-- HEAD INTO THE
MAIN SEWER PIPE BEHIND
THE CLUB! HURRY!

AND, DOWN BELOW THE GROUND...

QUICKLY-- AROUND THAT SECOND
TURN... WE MUSTN'T WASTE TIME!



FINALLY... GOOD... NOW
WE'LL GET BATMAN
INTO OUR ABANDONED
QUARRY AND TAKE
CARE OF HIM FOR
GOOD!



MINUTES LATER, INSIDE
FALSE FACE'S LAIR...

NOW... NOW, AT LAST, WE
WILL KNOW THE SECRET
IDENTITY OF BATMAN!



BUT, AS THE COWL IS LIFTED...

ULP! THEIR FACES--THEY'RE
THE SAME! TH-THEY'RE
BOTH THE BOSS!



GIANT BATMAN

ABRUPTLY, AS THE HOODLUMS TURN ON THEIR SUPPOSED LEADER...

HE TRICKED US!
BATMAN'S TAKEN THE BOSS' DISGUISE!

= WHEW! JUST IN TIME!

GOOD WORK, ROBIN! MY UTILITY BELT-RADIO MESSAGE GOT THROUGH TO YOU FINE!

RIGHT, BATMAN... I HEARD EVERY ONE OF YOUR "DIRECTIONS," AS YOU TRAVELED HERE CARRYING THE REAL FALSE FACE!



AND SO, WHEN THE SUBDUED GANG HAS BEEN BROUGHT TO POLICE HEADQUARTERS...

BUT, BATMAN, WHEN YOU WERE LURED INTO THAT GIANT TANK, HOW DID YOU MANAGE TO OUTWIT FALSE FACE?

A COMBINATION OF THE STRONG PLASTIC PROTECTIVE COVERING AND SOME QUICK REFLEX ACTION DID IT FOR ME, COMMISSIONER GORDON!

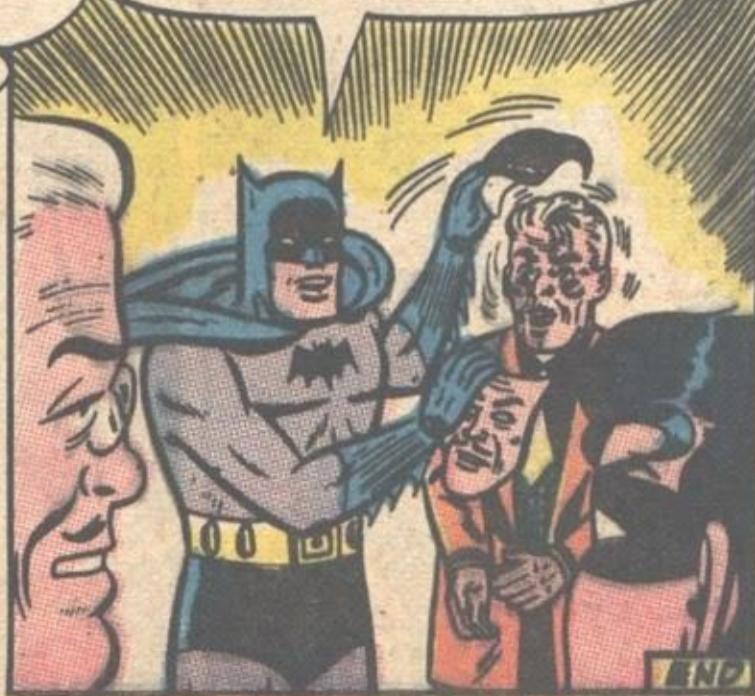


"THAT WAY, I WAS ABLE TO BRAKE MY FALL, AND SWING DOWN TO THE EMERGENCY TANK LADDER..."

NOW, IF I CAN REACH THE BOTTOM BEFORE FALSE FACE APPEARS, I'LL ROUND UP THE WHOLE GANG AND THEIR LOOT!

THE REST WAS EASY... I KNOCKED OUT FALSE FACE AND WITH MY UTILITY MAKE-UP KIT, I DISGUISED MYSELF AS CRANDALL, THE MAN FALSE FACE WAS IMPERSONATING!

HERE'S THE REAL FALSE FACE, COMMISSIONER... A NERVOUS, FRIGHTENED CRIMINAL!



BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN
-THE BOY WONDER-

FROM MORNING TILL MIDNIGHT,
BELLS RING THROUGH OUR EVERYDAY
LIFE! GAY WEDDING BELLS, SHRILL
FIRE BELLS, HARRIED AMBULANCE
BELLS, THEY ARE ALL ABOUT US!
THEY JINGLE, THEY CLANG, THEY
CHIME, THEY TINKLE... THEY ARE THE
SOUNDS WE LIVE WITH. BUT WHEN
BELLS BEGIN TO TOLL A KNELL OF
CRIME, THEN BATMAN AND ROBIN
HEAR A RINGING IN THEIR EARS
AS THEY BATTLE...

"The BANDIT of the BELLS!"



GIANT BATMAN



EVER SINCE HE COULD REMEMBER, ED PEALE HATED BELLS! AS A CHILD, HE HATED THE ALARM CLOCK BELL...

BRRRING RRRINNG

I WISH I COULD SLEEP ALL DAY! BUT THAT BELL ALWAYS WAKES ME UP!

BELLS! ALWAYS MAKING ME WORK... DO THINGS I DON'T WANT TO DO! BELLS... ALWAYS GIVING ME ORDERS, LIKE I WAS A SLAVE!

EVEN WHEN HE GREW UP, HE WAS DISCIPLINED BY BELLS... LIKE THE ONE HE HEARD WHEN HE HAD TO PUNCH A TIME CLOCK ON HIS FIRST JOB...

THEN ONE DAY PEALE'S BROODING THOUGHTS TOOK VIOLENT ACTION...

I WILL REBEL AGAINST BELLS! I WON'T OBEY BELLS... I'LL MAKE BELLS OBEY ME!

HA! HA! ALL THE BELLS MERGE WITH THE SOUND OF THE ALARM BELL! IT'S EASY WHEN YOU MAKE THREE FALSE ALARM CALLS!

A FIRE ENGINE... AN AMBULANCE... A PATROL CAR WERE USED AS A "SOUND COVER" FOR THE GONG'S FIRST CRIME!

THERE WAS THE SCHOOL BELL...

CLANG

CLANG

CLANG

HURRY UP! DON'T YOU HEAR ME?

YEAH... I HEAR... YOU AND THAT BELL!

HE READ ALL THERE WAS TO KNOW ABOUT BELLS, AND SOON HE WAS READY!

I'LL MAKE THEM DO EVIL, CRIMINAL THINGS! CRIME... YES... I'LL BECOME A BANDIT... AND I'LL CALL MYSELF—**THE GONG!**

RRR RRR BONG BONG BONG

CLANG!

BO BONG GLANG GLANG

BJEWELRY BON

GLANG! WEEEEE CLANG GLANG

BO BONG GLANG GLANG

BJEWELRY BON

HE GOT HIMSELF A GANG, AND ONE NIGHT, AFTER CLUBBING AN ELEVATOR STARTER...

GET GOING, MEN! BY RINGING THE STARTER'S BELL, I'LL SUMMON EVERY ELEVATOR OPERATOR DOWN! NOBODY WILL SPOT YOU CRASHING THE DIAMOND CUTTER'S OFFICE!



AND SOON THE CRIME ESCAPADES OF THE GONG MAKE HEADLINE NEWS...

HA! HA! I'VE GOT THE CITY IN THE PALM OF MY HAND. NOW TO RING FOR MY MEN AND TELL THEM MY NEXT JOB!



WE HEARD YOUR SIGNAL, BOSS! YOU WANT US?

YES... I'VE PLANNED ANOTHER "BELL" CRIME! SOON THE GONG WILL TOLL BAD NEWS FOR THE LAW AGAIN!



NEXT DAY... WITH THE GONG'S MEN DISGUISED AS A COAST GUARD CREW PATROLLING THE CITY HARBOR...

WE MUST BE RIGHT ON SCHEDULE WHEN THE FREIGHTER COMES IN! WE'D BETTER MAKE SURE OUR TIME IS RIGHT! CHECK WITH THOSE FISHERMEN!



HEY, BUD... GOT THE TIME?

SURE!
IT'S JUST
8 BELLS!

THAT DON'T MEAN NOTHIN' TO ME, BUB! WHAT'S THE TIME IN PLAIN ENGLISH?

WHY...
12 O'CLOCK!



HUH? A COASTGUARDS-MAN WHO DOESN'T KNOW THAT "8 BELLS" IS SHIP'S TALK FOR 12 O'CLOCK.

THAT'S THE FIRST THING A RECRUIT LEARNS! THAT MAN'S AN IMPOSTOR! DICK, SOMETHING TELLS ME THIS IS A CASE FOR BATMAN AND ROBIN!

YES, OF ALL PEOPLE, THE CRIMINALS CHOSE TO ASK THE TIME OF BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS YOUNG WARD DICK GRAYSON.

DANGEROUS SHOALS ALONG HERE, CAPTAIN!

THOSE BELL BUOYS WILL CHART A SAFE COURSE!

ELSEWHERE, A FREIGHTER MOVES CAUTIOUSLY, GUIDED THROUGH TREACHEROUS REEFS BY THE SIGNPOSTS OF THE SEA...

SUDDENLY, JAGGED ROCK TEARS INTO THE FREIGHTER'S HULL!

WE'VE HIT AN UNDER-SEA SHELF OF ROCK!

WUMP!

THOSE BELL BUOYS WERE OFF COURSE!

LOOK, CAPTAIN! COASTGUARD MEN! THEY'LL GIVE US A HAND!

AHOY, THERE! CLIMB ABOARD!

GUNS! WHAT..?

YEAH! MY GANG MOVED THOSE BELL BUOYS FROM THEIR ORIGINAL SPOTS THIS MORNING SO YOU'D CRASH HERE! BELL BUOYS, GET IT? ANOTHER BELL CRIME BY THE GONG!

ABRUPTLY, SILKEN ROPES WHIP OVERBOARD TO CARRY TWO LITHE FIGURES TO THE DECK...

MORE CARGO COMING ABOARD!

BATMAN AND ROBIN!

RUSH 'EM, MEN! WE'VE GOT 'EM OUTNUMBERED!

DON'T TRY TO BURN ME UP, PAL... I'VE ALREADY GOT A FIERY TEMPER!

SUDDENLY, THE FOUNDERING SHIP LISTS HEAVILY, THROWING THE CRIME-FIGHTERS OFF-BALANCE...

THAT DOES IT! LET'S DUMP 'EM OVERBOARD!

NOW... LOWER 'EM TO THE BUOY AND CUT IT *LOOSE*! KILL THAT BUOY LIGHT IN CASE THEY LAST TILL NIGHT! THEY'LL HAVE TO HOLD ON TO LIVE, BUT SOONER OR LATER THEY'LL GET TIRED, AND THEN--!

SOON AFTER, SET ADRIFF, THE BUOY RIDES THE CHOPPY WATERS TAKING BATMAN AND ROBIN ON A WILD SEA RIDE...

THIS WATER'S ROUGH! IF WE HAD OUR ROPES, WE COULD LASH OURSELVES TO THE BUOY!

IF... BUT OUR ROPES ARE BACK ON THE FREIGHTER!

ONE HOUR PASSES! THE ROLLING WAVES ROCK AND TOSS THE BUOY LIKE A BOBBING CORK AS THE RIDERS CLING DESPERATELY...

BATMAN... HANDS GETTING NUMB... I CAN'T HOLD ON MUCH LONGER...

YOU'VE GOT TO, ROBIN... WE'VE BEEN IN TIGHT SPOTS BEFORE... WE'LL BEAT THIS ONE YET... I HOPE!

I JUST REMEMBERED... BUOY LIGHTS CAN BE SEEN FROM GREAT DISTANCES BECAUSE BUOY LENSES ARE POWERFUL MAGNIFIERS! IF WE ONLY HAD SOMETHING TO BURN THROUGH THE LENS.

OUR CAPES ARE SOAKING WET. BE-SIDES, THEY'RE FIREPROOF. WHAT ELSE CAN YOU BURN HERE?

GIANT BATMAN



REMOVING A LARGE SLIVER, BATMAN DESCENDS AND HOOKS HIS LEGS ON THE BUOY'S IRON RINGS AND ...

MAYBE YOU DON'T KNOW IT, BUT IT'S TANKS OF ACETYLENE GAS THAT KEEP BUOY LIGHTS BURNING! I'LL GET THIS HATCH OPEN AND ...



ONE CONCENTRATED SPOT OF BLAZING SUNLIGHT HEATS THE INFLAMMABLE GAS AND IT SENDS UP A SPEAR OF FLAME.

YAHOO! THE ACETYLENE CAUGHT FIRE!

CLANG



NOT LONG AFTER, A LINER SPOTS THE BEACON'S LIGHT!

EH? A FLARE!
TWO FIGURES...
ON A BELL BUOY!



THAT NIGHT... THE NEWS MAKES BANNER HEADLINES...

GOTHAM GAZETTE
BATMAN AND ROBIN RESCUED AT SEA!

THE GONG,
NOTORIOUS CRIMINAL WHO
MAKES USE OF
BELLS IN HIS
CRIMES, AGAIN
RANG THE BELL
ON THE SEAS...

MEANWHILE, IN THE SUBTERRANEAN BATCAVE ...

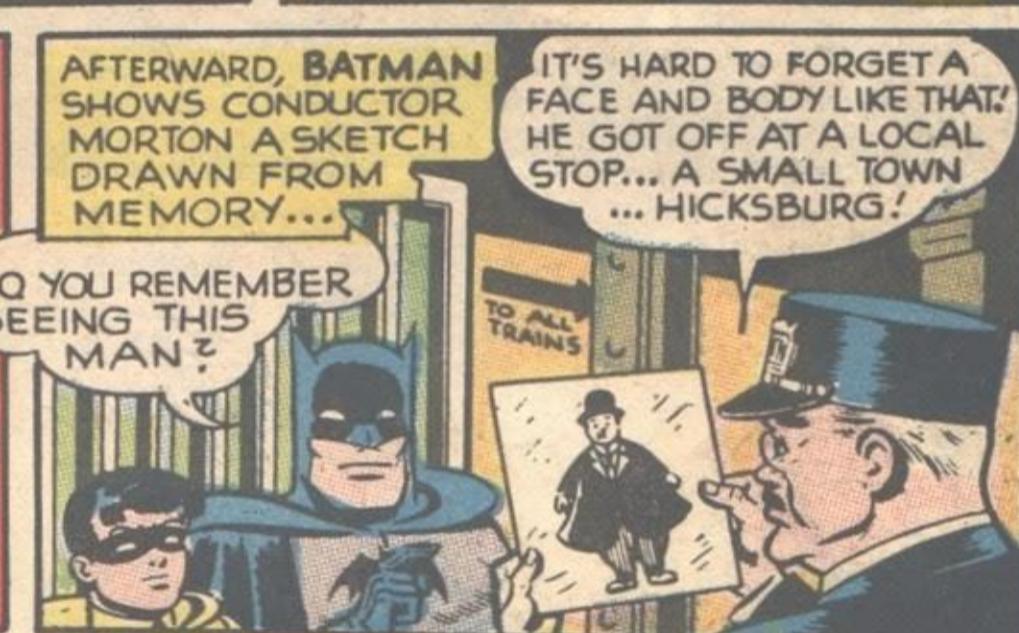
STRANGE! THERE'S A TINY BIT OF PAPER... OR CARDBOARD... INSIDE MY GLOVE.

IT FEELS GOOD TO GET INTO DRY CLOTHES AGAIN!



WHY...
IT'S SHAPED
LIKE A BELL...
A TINY BELL!





LATER, ALONE WITH HIS "HELPERS", THE GONG EXPLAINS...

AT ONE TIME, SUPERSTITIOUS PEOPLE ADDED GEMS AND VALUABLES TO A BELL WHEN IT WAS CAST... HOPING THE RICH TONES WOULD BRING THEM LUCK!

ONLY I KNOW THE TRUE HISTORY OF THIS BELL... FROM OLD RECORDS IT ONCE BELONGED TO A RICH BUT SUPERSTITIOUS FAMILY! THAT BELL IS CRAMMED WITH GEMS AND GOLD NUGGETS!

NO KIDDIN'!

SUDDENLY...
WHEN I SAW MEN WORKING IN A BELL TOWER, I HAD A HUNCH I'D FIND YOU!

WHAT...?
BATMAN! C'MON, BOYS... JUMP ON THE BELL! WE'LL RIDE DOWN OUT OF HERE!

GOT ROOM FOR ONE MORE ON THAT ELEVATOR?

HA! HA! SEE YOU ON THE WAY DOWN, BATMAN!

I'M COMING, BATMAN!

BUT NOT EVEN BATMAN'S FRAME CAN WITHSTAND THE SLAMMING WEIGHT AND...

LIKE A HUMAN BELL CLAPPER, ROBIN SWINGS OUT PAST THE PLUMMETING FIGURE ...

OOF! MY ANKLES!

NICE TIMING, ROBIN!

BUT THE GONG'S GANG REACHES THE GROUND FIRST AND ...

THAT SHOULD KEEP THE BATMOBILE OFF OUR TRAIL FOR AWHILE!

LATER, AFTER BEING WARNED BY BATMAN, THE POLICE REPORT BACK...

WE'VE GOT PATROLS ON EVERY ROAD, BUT NO SIGN OF THE TRUCK SO FAR!

A TRUCK THAT SIZE COULDN'T DISAPPEAR! IT MEANS THE TRUCK IS STILL IN TOWN... HIDDEN SOMEWHERE!

MEN, DOES HICKSBURG HAVE A SOUND FILM WITH THE CITY HALL BELL CHIMES ON IT?

SURE! WHY?

SOON AFTER, IN A LOCAL MOVIE THEATER...

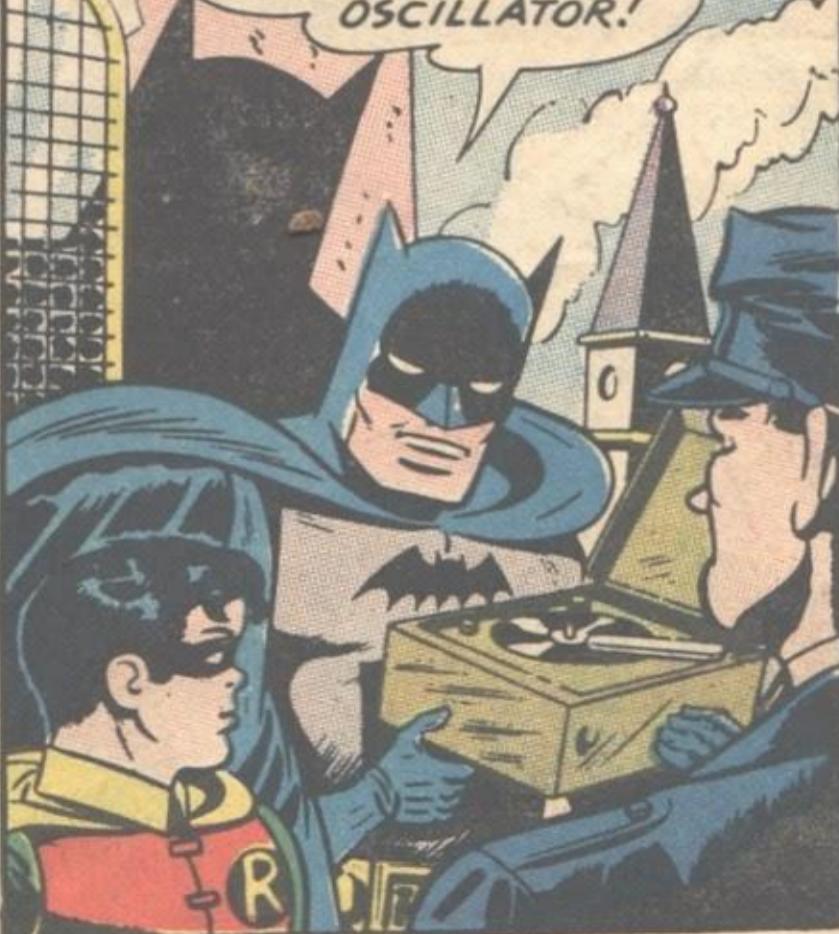
THE TOWN HISTORICAL COMMITTEE MADE THIS MOVIE OF THE MAYOR'S CAMPAIGN SPEECH!

ALL I'M INTERESTED IN IS HEARING THE PITCH OF THE CITY HALL BELL!



AFTERWARD, BATMAN EXPLAINS...

ALL OBJECTS RESPOND TO VIBRATIONS AND GIVE OFF A SOUND! I'VE RECORDED THE BELL'S SOUND AND HOPE TO TRACK IT DOWN WITH AN INSTRUMENT CALLED A VARIABLE SONIC OSCILLATOR!





GIANT BATMAN



LATER, ROBIN RETURNS WITH THE BATPLANE, AND FROM ABOVE BOMBARDS VARIOUS TOWN SITES WITH SOUND VIBRATIONS... AND AS THE WAVES BOUNCE OFF THEY ARE RECEIVED BY BATMAN!





GIANT BATMAN



SO THIS IS YOUR HIDEOUT! WHY DID YOU PICK A SMALL TOWN LIKE HICKSBURG?

BECAUSE IT'S QUIET! NO AMBULANCE BELLS, STREET CAR BELLS ... ONLY THE TOWN HALL BELL WHICH I INTENDED TO STEAL! YOU SEE... I HATE BELLS!

WORDS TUMBLE FROM THE BANDIT'S LIPS AS HE EXPLAINS HIS MORBID HATRED...

SO NOW YOU KNOW WHY I USE BELLS IN MY CRIMES! NOW THE BELLS OBEY ME! I'VE BECOME THE MASTER OF BELLS... YES, NO LONGER THEIR SLAVE ... BUT THEIR MASTER!

SO VIOLENT ARE THE GONG'S WORDS, THAT HIS CAPTORS ARE STUNNED FOR A MOMENT—AND THAT IS WHEN THE GONG STRIKES!

CRASH!!
STOP HIM!

WE'VE GOT HIM BOXED IN! THAT ALLEY BEHIND THE SHOOTING GALLERY IS A DEAD END!

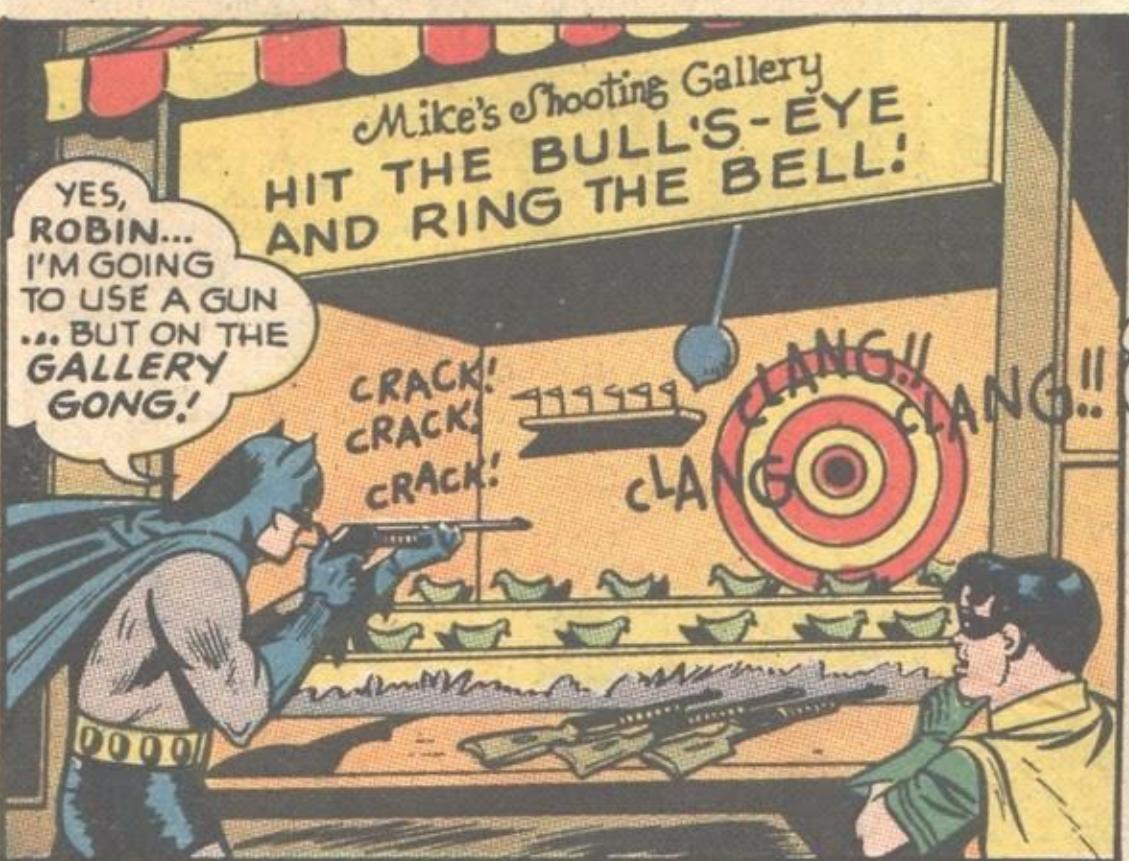
CAREFUL! HE'S ARMED! IF WE TRY TO RUSH HIM, SOMEBODY'S GOING TO GET SHOT.

SHOOTING GALLERY →
COME AND GET ME, COPPERS! WHO WANTS TO BE THE FIRST TO DIE?

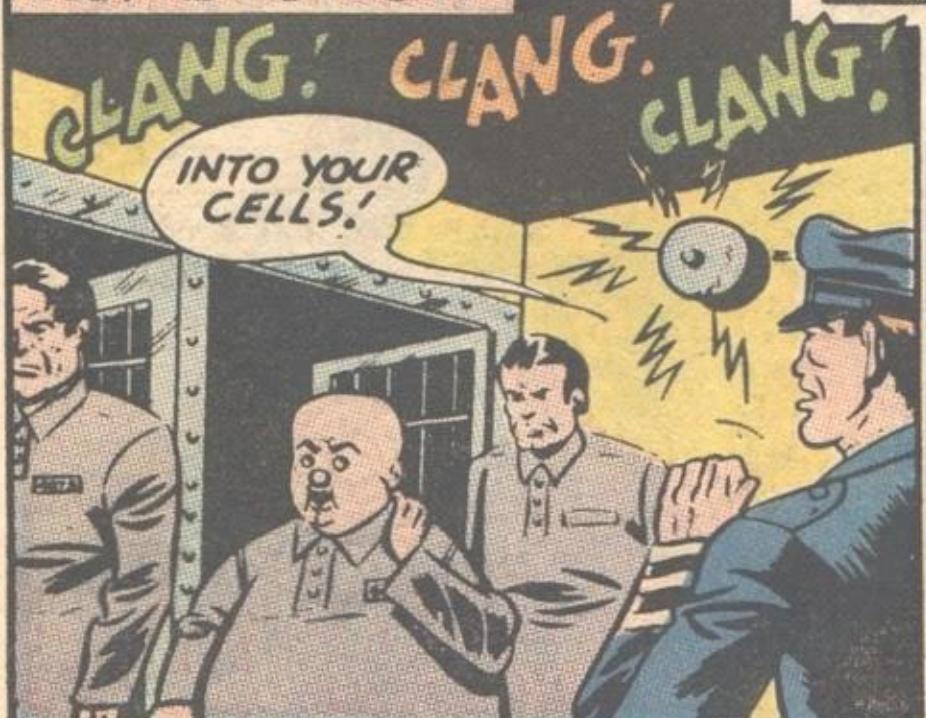
PING!

ROBIN, I THINK I'LL TRY OUT A GUN FROM THAT SHOOTING GALLERY.

YOU MEAN... YOU'RE GOING TO USE A GUN ON THE GONG?



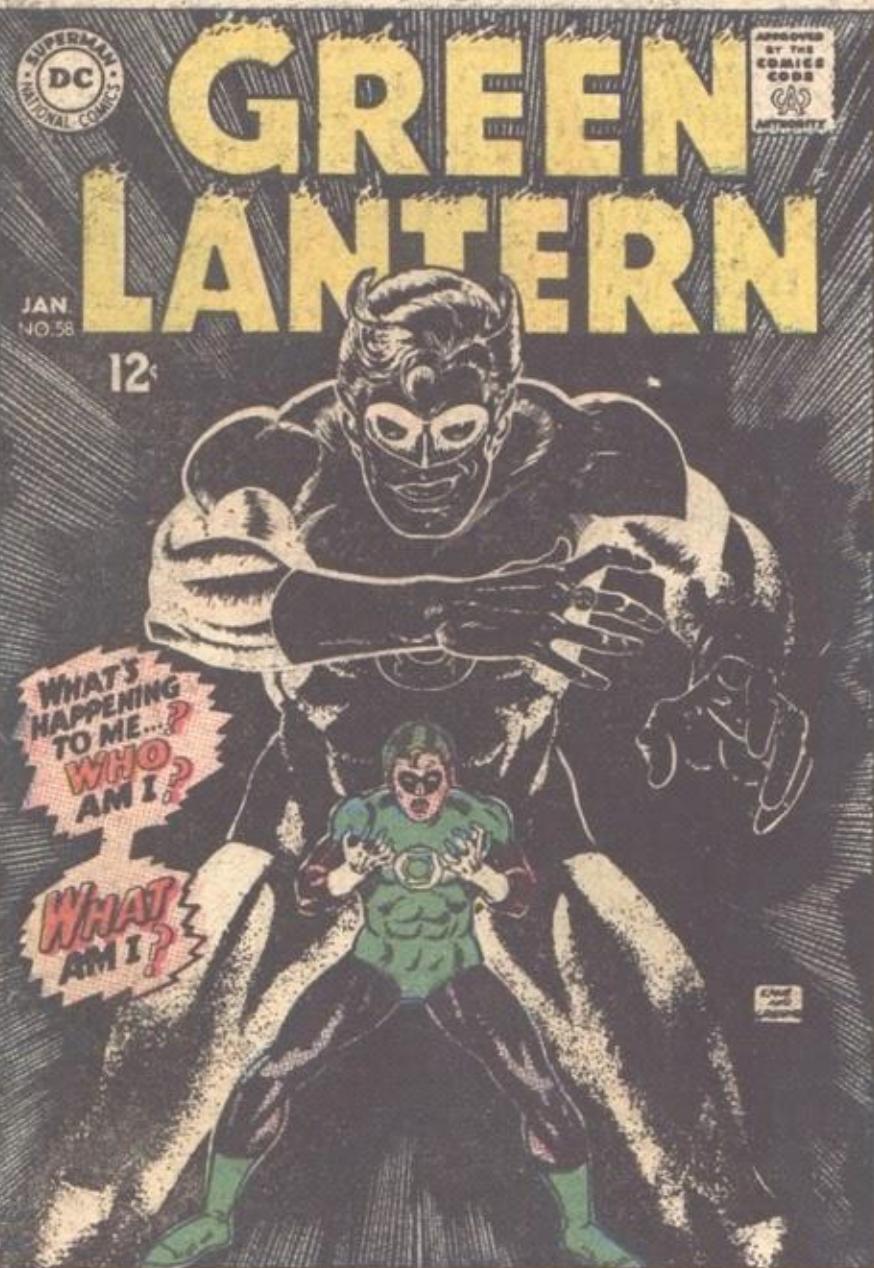
AND SO THE MAN WHO WOULDN'T OBEY BELLS RECEIVES IRONIC AND JUST RETRIBUTION!



DIRECT CURRENTS

Well, here we are again with the current crop of coming attractions from DC. Before launching into our previews, we just want to remind you to keep sending in gag ideas for our DIG WHAT'S COMING cartoons—and new titles, too, if you can dream 'em up. For every one that's used we'll award \$5 and—if it's a gag—the original art.

What's happened? Our HUMAN RUBBER-BAND loses his zing? Our HUMAN PRETZEL straightens out? Our FLEXIBLE FLYER unflexes? Yep, the slippery-est, slyest, slinky-est super-hero's mind goes blank! **PLASTIC MAN** forgets his name, but we guarantee you won't forget "THE UNFORGETTABLE WOT'S 'IS NAME!" **February, No. 8**, on sale Nov. 21. Stripped of his power ring, **GREEN LANTERN** finds himself in the toughest fight of his life—FOR HIS LIFE—when he becomes HIS OWN WORST ENEMY! How does it happen? You can find out by reading "PERILS OF THE POWERLESS GREEN LANTERN," in the EMERALD GLADIATOR'S **January** issue, **No. 58**, when it goes on sale, Nov. 23!



BATGIRL may fight like a male, but her thinking is strictly female! Imagine BATMAN'S and ROBIN'S dismay when the DOMINOED DAREDOLL calmly takes time out from a fight to dab on some make-up and tidy up her costume! It's all in "BATGIRL'S COSTUME CUT-UPS," featured in the **January** issue of **DETECTIVE**, **No. 371**, on sale Nov. 30!

How is it possible for a man to appear in two different places at the same time? How can a dead man be subjected to the terrible fate of dying again? You'll find the eerie answers in the chill-filled **February** issue of **THE SPECTRE**, **No. 2**! "DIE, SPECTRE! AGAIN—AND AGAIN—AND AGAIN!" On all newsstands Nov. 21.

"MY ENEMY... THE JUNGLE!" cries **BOMBA THE JUNGLE BOY**, as the very trees of his lifelong home turn against him—try to destroy him! And this is only ONE of the fantastic events that combine to make the **February** issue, **No. 3**, the greatest adventure yet of DC's newest hero, the magnificent master of the wilderness! on sale Nov. 21!

How does an issue of **THE INFERIOR FIVE** come into being? The writer asked the artist and the artist asked the editor, and HE asked the rest of the staff. . . and nobody seemed to know. But we did a story about it ANYWAY! Meet JACK MILLER, E. NELSON BRIDWELL, and other unbelievable characters in the **February** issue, **No. 8**, on sale Nov. 23.