



Wonder Woman v1 #271

DC Comics, September 1980

Story: Renewal on Paradise Island

Synopsis:

As Steves drop from the heavens,
Diana competes against her sistren for
the title of Champion!

Last of three parts, uh, and I don't have
part two. Anyone?

Huntress backup feature starts here!

Written by: Gerry Conway

Art by: Jose Delbo, Dave Hunt

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8

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WITH

THE

HUNTRESS!

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ALL NEW!
NO. 271
SEPT.

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BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

Wonder Woman™

YOU HAVE
WON THE
COMPETITION,
DAUGHTER!

THIS
COSTUME
IS NOW
YOURS!

I'M SORRY,
MOTHER-- BUT
**I DON'T
WANT IT!**

ANDRU & GIORDANO

WITNESS THE
ORIGIN OF
WONDER
WOMAN--
WITH A NEW
TWIST!



BECAUSE YOU
DEMANDED IT--
HERE COMES
THE
Huntress
IN HER OWN
MONTHLY
SERIES!

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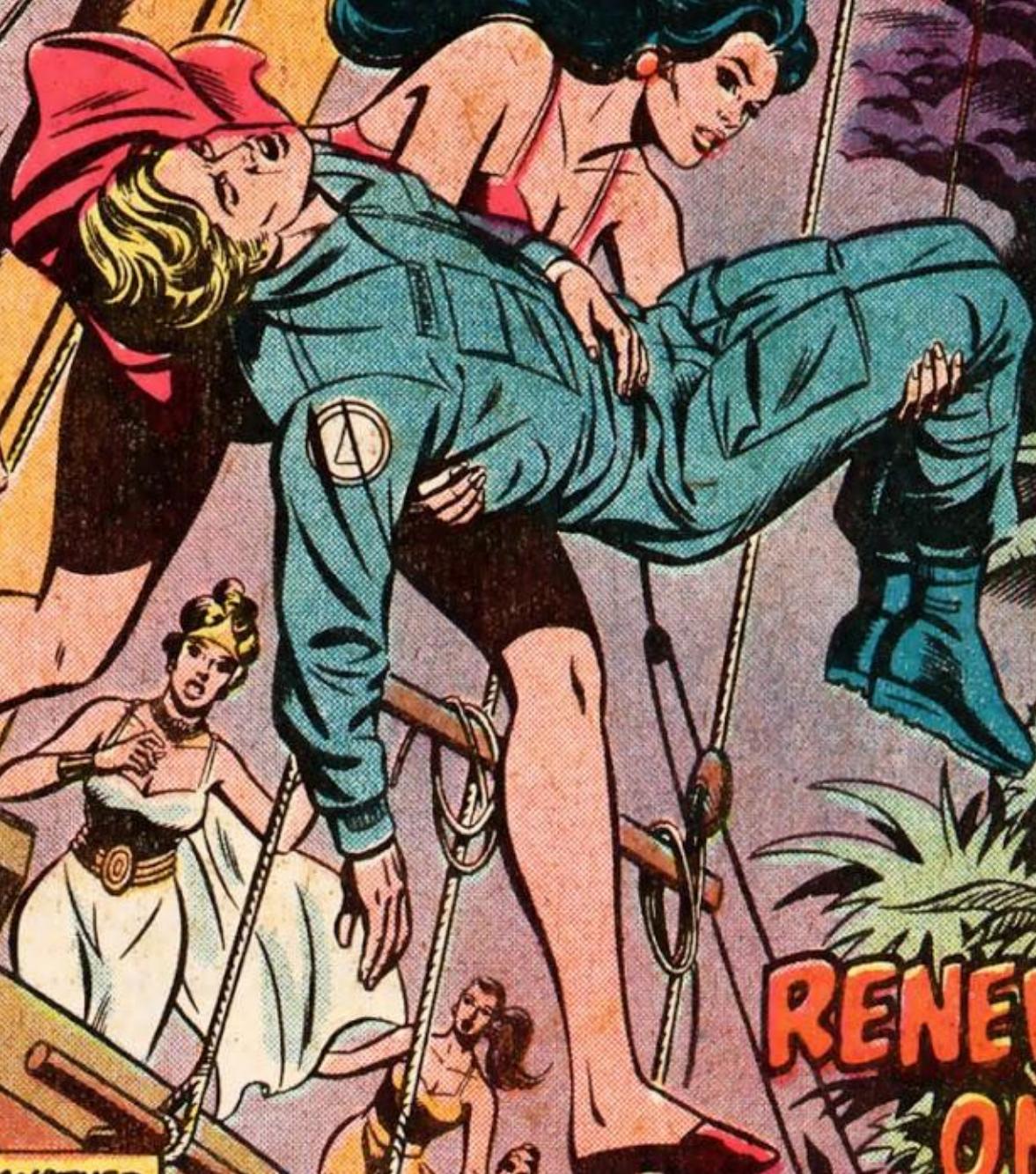
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Right. Down to the last detail.



LAST ISSUE, IT HAPPENED--
STEVE TREVOR RETURNED
FROM THE DEAD!

BUT IS THIS REALLY THE SAME
STEVE TREVOR WHOM PRINCESS
DIANA OF THE AMAZONS
RESCUED FROM THE WRECKAGE OF
A FIGHTER PLANE SO MANY
YEARS AGO?



OR HAS FATE TAKEN YET ANOTHER
TORTUROUS TURN IN THE SAGA OF
DIANA, DAUGHTER OF QUEEN
HIPPOLYTE, AND KNOWN IN MAN'S
WORLD AS...

RENEWAL ON PARADISE ISLAND

Wonder Woman

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WAS THAT--A MAN
IN PRINCESS DIANA'S
ARMS?

MOVING SO FAST--
THEY WERE ONLY A BLUR,
YET I COULD ALMOST
TAKE AN OATH THAT
IT WAS--

BUT NO, THAT'S
IMPOSSIBLE!

"THE MORTAL TREVOR
IS TWICE DEAD--

--AND NOT EVEN THE GOD
OF THE UNDERWORLD
WOULD BE SO CRUEL AS
TO RETURN HIM TO LIFE
YET A THIRD TIME!"

THE FATES MUST TRULY BE
LAUGHING AS THEY SPIN
THEIR WEBS OF DESTINY
THIS EVE.

HAD I NOT BEEN
ABOARD SHIP WHEN IT
OCCURRED, I'D NOT HAVE
BELIEVED IT!

TRULY IT STUNS) A JET STREAKS IN FROM
THE MIND, O QUEEN.
NOWHERE, CRASHING ONLY A
FEW HUNDRED FEET FROM OUR
SHIP, AND WHEN
DIANA
INVESTIGATES--

-- SHE
DISCOVERS AN
INJURED PILOT
NAMED COLONEL
STEVE
TREVOR!

"FOR A HEARTBEAT ONLY,
THEIR EYES MET AS HE
LAY DAZED UPON OUR
DECK, AND HE SEEMED
TO BE SEEING HER
FOR THE FIRST
TIME."

--AS SHE DID
ONCE BEFORE,
MANY YEARS
AGONE.
THIS IS AN
UNKIND
JEST. ONLY
YESTEREVE,
I PRAYED TO
APHRODITE--

--BEGGING THE
GODDESS OF LOVE
TO GRANT MY
DAUGHTER A PEACE-
FUL HEART!

"NOW SHE
BEARS HIM
TO THE
TEMPLE OF ATHENA,
GODDESS OF
WISDOM, TO
TREAT HIS
INJURIES--"

AND SO, APHRODITE
SUMMONED THE MISTS
OF NEPENTHE, TO
PROVIDE DIANA WITH THE
PEACE OF FORGET-
FULNESS.

BUT NOW,
THROUGH SOME
MAD QUIRK, HE
HAS RETURNED.

NO MORE DOES
SHE REMEMBER
HER PAST LIFE WITH
STEVE TREVOR--HER
HEART'S SLATE HAS
BEEN WIPEP
CLEAN.

SILENCE
ANSWERS...

INTERLUDE:

HALFWAY AROUND THE WORLD,
AS SUNLIGHT SPILLS LIKE MOLTEN
GOLD ACROSS MT. FUJI'S
EASTERN SLOPE, THE ANKARI
BULLET-TRAIN SPEEDS ON ITS
DAILY RUN BETWEEN TOKYO
AND KYOTO...

WHERE AMTRAK IS
SATISFIED WITH A FAST
35 MPH BETWEEN BOSTON
AND NEW YORK, THE
JAPANESE FEEL COMFOR-
TABLE ONLY AT 180 MPH--



--AND PERHAPS THAT'S WHY THE JAPANESE ARE THE NEW MERCHANT PRINCES OF THE WORLD, WHILE AMERICANS BUSY THEMSELVES WITH COST-OF-LIVING CLAUSES AND LOBBYING FOR A FOUR-DAY WORK WEEK.

KEN TOSHIBA IS A TYPICAL MODERN JAPANESE--HE WORKS HARD, AND FINDS MORAL IN HARD WORK.

UNFORTUNATELY FOR KEN TOSHIBA, HONORABLE HARD WORK CAN'T SAVE HIM FROM A RAPIDLY-APPROACHING DOOM.

BLEE-BLEE!

DOOM, IN THIS INSTANCE, IS DEFINED AS TWO BULLET-TRAINS TRAVELING AT 180 MILES AN HOUR IN OPPOSITE DIRECTIONS--

EEEEEY

--ON THE SAME TRACK!



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NEWEST NUMBER YUM!
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It's the newest Number Yum.
It blows big
beautiful bubbles.
And the yummy flavor lasts
a long, long, loooong time.



5 great flavors
and SUGARLESS.

SUDDENLY, OVER THE CRACKLE AND ROAR OF THE LIFTING FLAMES, AND THROUGH A SWELLING CLOUD OF OILY BLACK SMOKE, AN OBJECT APPEARS...



--AS A SURREPTITIOUS GLANCE WITHIN CONFIRMS:

OPERATION ACCOMPLISHED SUCCESSFULLY, HOLY ONE.

BOTH TRAINS ARE DESTROYED, AND THERE REMAINS NO EVIDENCE OF OUR TAMPERING!



I BELIEVE YOU WILL FIND IT EQUALLY--
AMUSING! HAHA-HA HA HA

END OF INTERLUDE

NOW, IT IS LATE EVENING ON PARADISE ISLAND, AND IN THE TEMPLE OF ATHENA--

--A TENSE PRINCESS DIANA OPERATES A PURPLE HEALING RAY, BATHING THE UNCONSCIOUS BODY OF STEVE TREVOR, HELD aloft and thus kept from touching the island's sacred soil by a subtle gravitational displacement beam.



I FEAR FOR OUR PRINCESS, CLEO. SHE DOESN'T KNOW THAT SHE MET AND LOVED THIS MAN BEFORE, AND HOW TRAGICALLY THEIR LOVE ENDED...

BUT--IS IT THE SAME MAN, ARTESIA? COULDN'T THIS BE A PLOT BY ONE OF DIANA'S ENEMIES?



"THAT'S WHAT THE QUEEN IS TRYING
TO LEARN AT THE TEMPLE OF APHRODITE.

"SHE SUFFERS
FOR HER--BUT
LOOK! HE'S
WAKING!"

WHAT IS IT ABOUT
THIS MORTAL THAT
SO--INTRIGUES
ME?

HE'S JUST A MAN,
WITH ALL A MAN'S
WEAKNESSES.
YET, EVEN SO...

AT FIRST, HIS VISION IS A BLUR, BUT THEN, GRADUALLY, SHADOWS AND SHAPES COME INTO SOFT FOCUS...FORM FEATURES...A FACE...AND WAKING, STEVE TREVOR SMILES...



I...THOUGHT I WAS
DREAMING, WHEN
I WOKE UP BEFORE.

BUT I WASN'T.
YOU ARE AN
ANGEL.

INSTINCTIVELY, SHE TAKES
HIS HAND IN HERS,
PRESSING IT TO
HER CHEEK...

...AND THEN SHE DRAWS
BACK, SHIVERING, FROM
AN EMOTION SHE
CANNOT NAME...

I REMEMBER
SOMETHING ELSE--
YOU SAVED MY
LIFE.

I'D LIKE TO...
THANK
YOU...



AS THE SUN'S LAST RAYS FADE TO THE WEST, IN THE TEMPLE OF THE GODDESS OF LOVE--

--A MOTHER PRAYS FOR HER DAUGHTER'S SOUL.

WHY HAS HE ENTERED OUR LIVES? WHERE DOES HE COME FROM?

IS HE STEVE TREVOR? HOW CAN HE BE? AND WHY ARE THE GODS TORMENTING US?

O APHRODITE, PLEASE TELL ME-- WHO IS THIS MAN?

THE COOL ALABASTER STIRS, AND APHRODITE SPEAKS...

HE IS STEVE TREVOR... AND YET HE IS NOT.

THIS STEVE TREVOR WAS BORN ON A PARALLEL WORLD, A WORLD LIKE OUR OWN, YET DIFFERENT IN SUBTLE WAYS.

ON HIS WORLD, HE WAS AN AIR FORCE TEST PILOT.

AN EXPERIMENTAL FLIGHT WENT WRONG--HE CRASHED THROUGH THE DIMENSIONAL BARRIERS...

--AND NOW HE IS STRANDED HERE, AMONG US. HE CANNOT RETURN, FOR EVEN I DO NOT KNOW FROM WHICH OF AN INFINITY OF WORLDS HE CAME.

BUT THERE IS
MORE. ON HIS
WORLD, HE
NEVER MET
YOUR DAUGHTER
DIANA.

THUS, BECAUSE
DIANA HAS
NO MEMORY
OF HER OWN
STEVE
TREVOR--

IT IS AS THOUGH
THEY WERE
MEETING FOR
THE FIRST TIME!

WHY IS THIS
HAPPENING,
APHRODITE?

THEY MUST SHARE A
GREAT DESTINY,
HIPPOLYTE.

TIME AND AGAIN, THOUGH
MAN HAS TORN THEM APART,
THEY HAVE SOMEHOW FOUND
EACH OTHER AGAIN. DARE
WE QUESTION SUCH FATEFUL
DEVOTION?

NO.

AND THIS
MEANS...

... THAT DIANA MUST RETURN
WITH TREVOR TO MAN'S
WORLD!

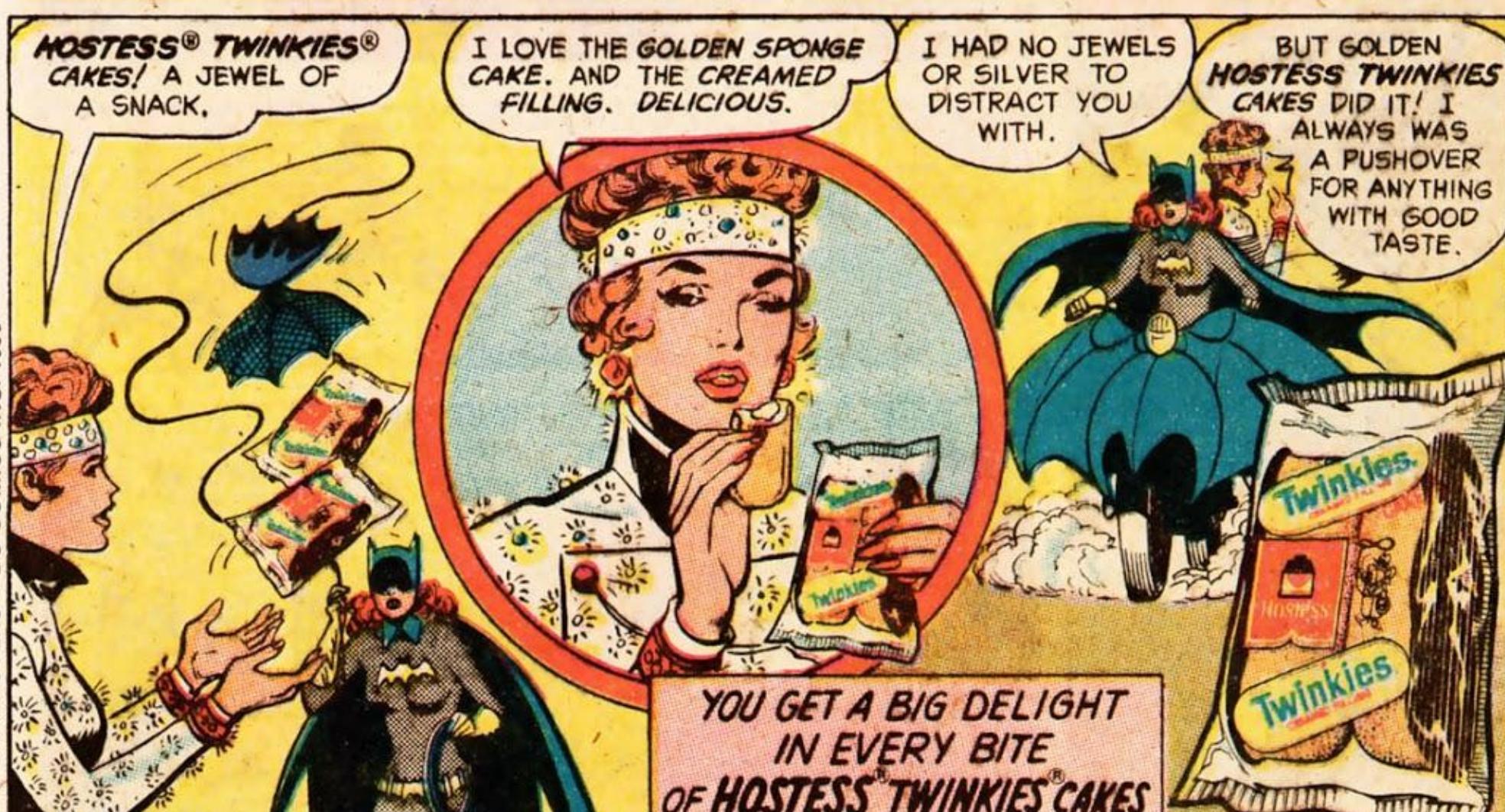
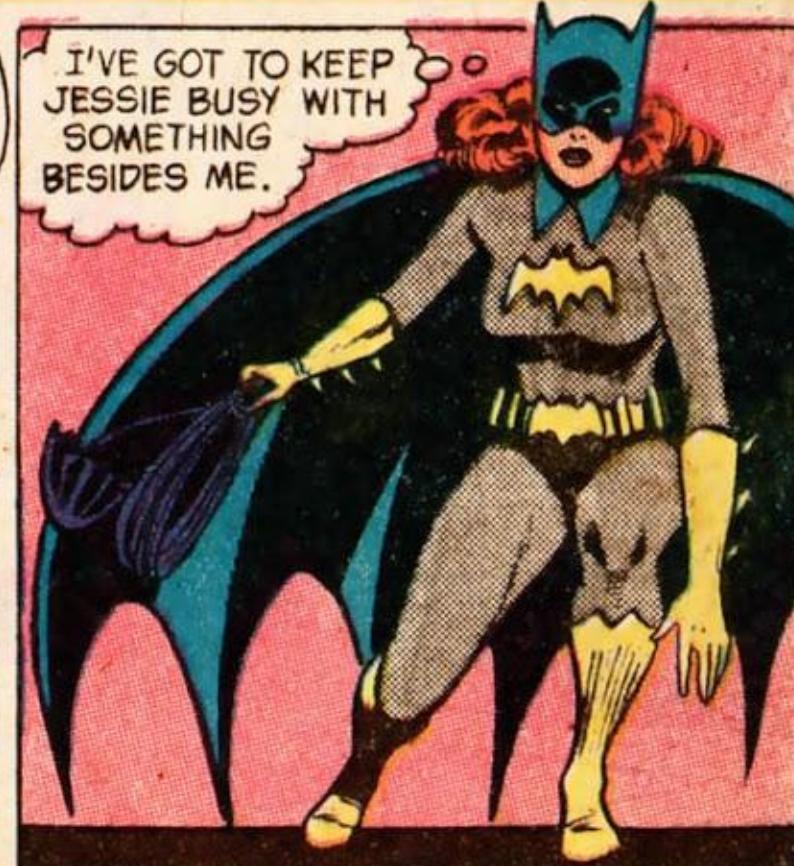
I WILL MAKE THE
PATH CLEAR FOR
THEM, BY AGAIN
SUMMONING THE
MISTS OF
NEPENTHE--

--AND THIS
TIME, I
WILL SEND
THEM
FORTH
ACROSS THE
PLANET--

--TO WRAP THE
WORLD IN A GENTLE
FOG OF
FORGETFULNESS--

--AND THUS CAUSE EVERY MAN, WOMAN, AND CHILD ON EARTH TO
FORGET THAT STEVE TREVOR EVER DIED, AND THAT YOUR DAUGHTER DIANA
EVER LOVED HIM...

BATGIRL, THE DARLING OF THE DARKNESS, CLASHES WITH JET-SET JESSIE, JEWEL THIEF EXTRAORDINAIRE.



YOU GET A BIG DELIGHT
IN EVERY BITE
OF HOSTESS® TWINKIES® CAKES

IN THIS WAY, IT TRUE, DIANA WILL
WILL BE AS IF REMEMBER
THEIR LIVES WERE HER PREVIOUS
STARTING LIFE IN MAN'S
DUE. WORLD, AS WILL THE
REST OF HUMANKIND,
INCLUDING HER COMRADES IN
THE JUSTICE LEAGUE.

YET, EVEN SO, IN A
WAY SHE WILL BE A
WOMAN RENEWED
BY HER RETREAT TO
PARADISE ISLAND...

...AND PERHAPS
HER TIME AMONG
HER AMAZON
SISTERS WILL
HAVE GIVEN HER THE
STRENGTH TO
REMAIN TRUE TO
THE FEMININE
IDEAL.

ONCE MORE, THE COOL
ALABASTER FALLS SILENT,
AS THE CURLING SMOKE
FADES, LEAVING A SCENT
IN THE AIR THAT IS
STRANGELY LIKE THE
SWEETNESS OF SPRING...

AS TO THAT, WE
WILL SIMPLY HAVE
TO WAIT... AND
SEE.

INTERLUDE:

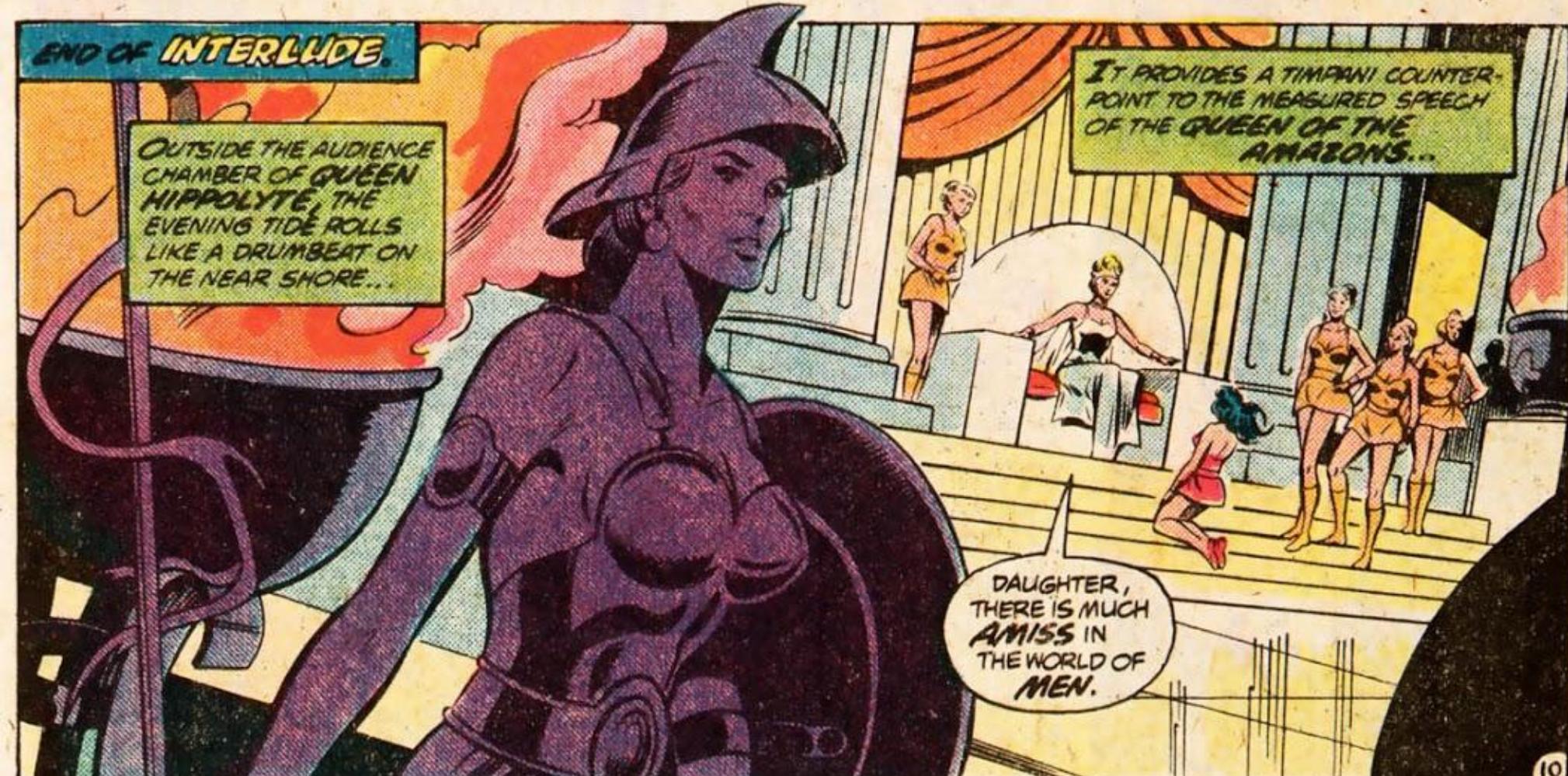
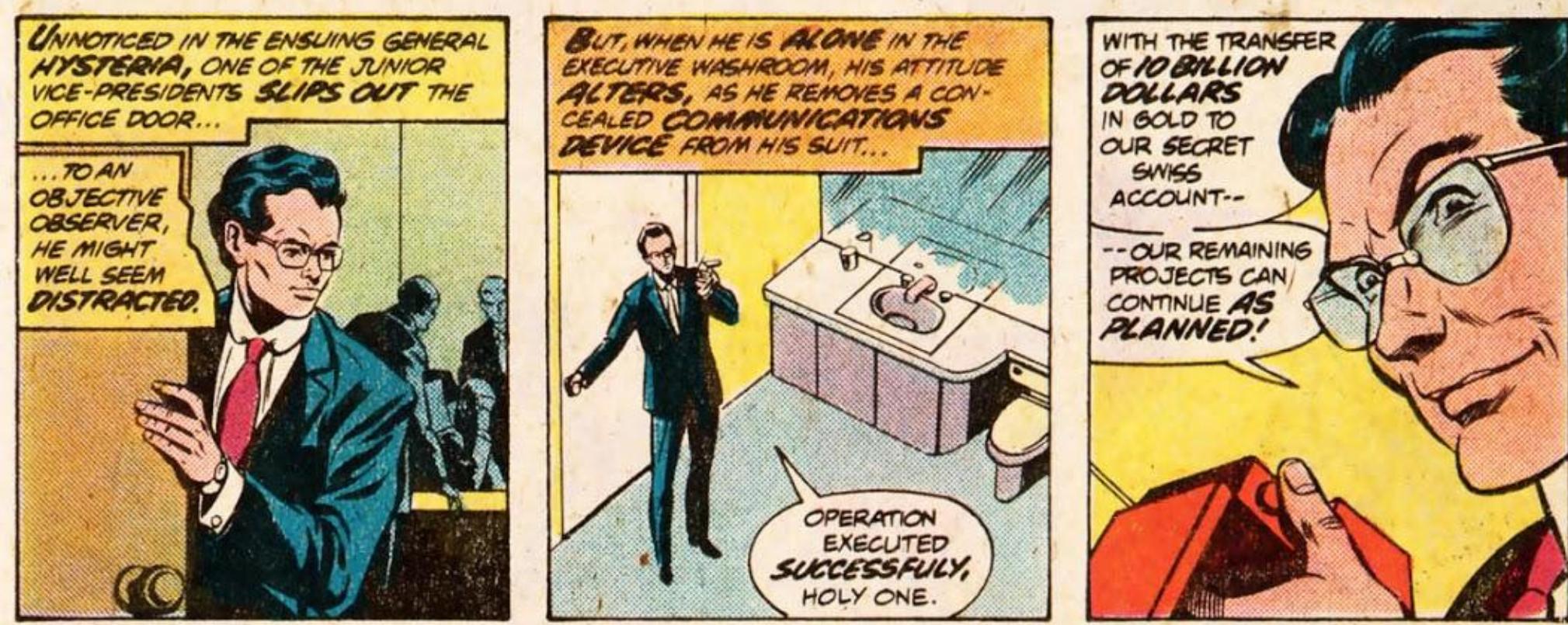
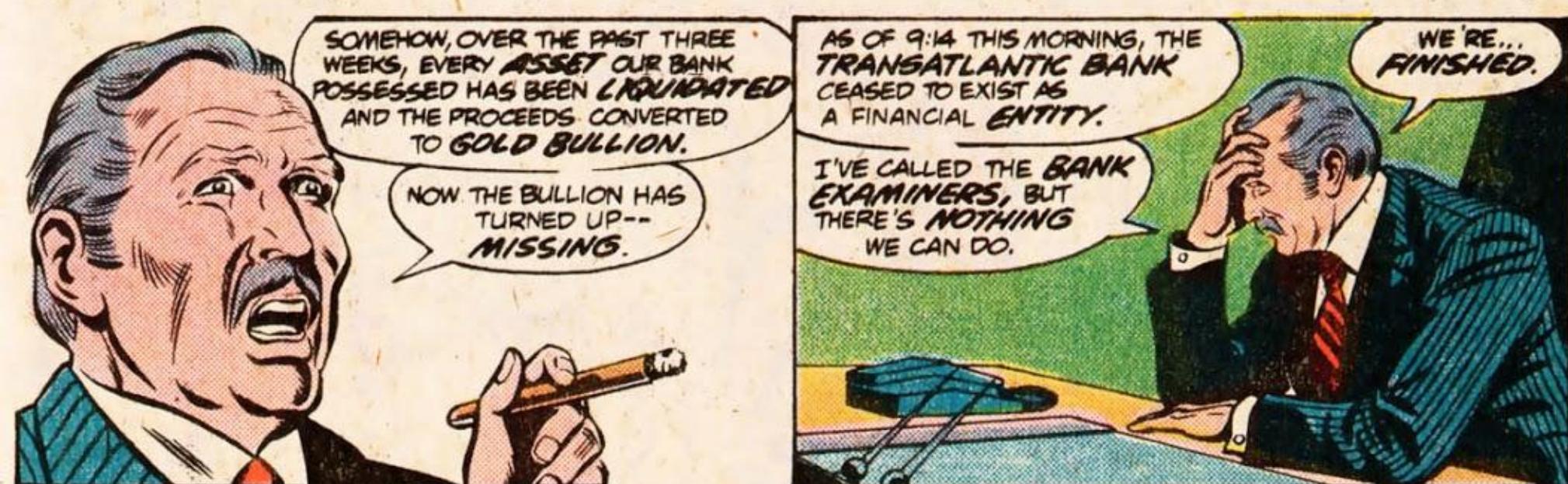
THE TRANSATLANTIC BANK,
NORMALLY A MOST
STAID INSTITUTION--

--BUT TODAY,
A SCENE OF
INSTITUTIONAL
MAVOC:

THESE FIGURES
CAN'T BE
RIGHT!
BUT IF THEY
ARE, HEAVEN
HELP US--

--WE'RE VERGING ON
BANKRUPTCY!

IF I MAY CORRECT
YOU, MR. CASEY, WE'RE
NOT VERGING ON
BANKRUPTCY--



WHEN YOU RETURNED TO US, WEEKS AGO, YOU SPOKE OF THE CASUAL CRUELTIES OF MAN'S WORLD.

YOU SAID YOU WERE NO LONGER SURE THERE WAS A **REASON** FOR THE TRAGEDIES YOU WITNESSED ALMOST EVERY DAY.

CAN THERE BE A REASON FOR MADNESS, MOTHER?

YOUR WORDS PUZZLED ME, DAUGHTER. AT FIRST, I THOUGHT THEY'D BEEN CAUSED BY WEARINESS AND PAIN.

YET, I KNOW YOU, AND I KNOW YOU WOULD NEVER DISTORT THE TRUTH, EVEN UNWITTINGLY.

...AND I CAUSED IT TO REVEAL THE **TRUTH** OF WHAT YOU TOLD.

AS YOU CAN SEE, IT SHOWS **WAR** IN DISTANT LANDS... **MADMEN** HOLDING THE REINS OF GOVERNMENT...

...HATRED EVERYWHERE... **VIOLENCE** AGAINST THE INNOCENT... **MASS INSANITY**... PERHAPS THE COMING OF A NEW DARK AGE!

I LOOKED, AND I KNEW THAT EVIL WAS INCARNATE IN THE WORLD.

ALL OF THIS, DAUGHTER, CANNOT BE MERE HAPPENSTANCE.

SO MUCH EVIL, SO MUCH MADNESS, MUST HAVE A **CAUSE**... AND A **CREATOR**.

MOTHER, YOU THINK SOMEONE HAS SECRETLY **CREATED** THESE CRISES?

THAT'S... FANTASTIC.

THE MAGIC SPHERE HAS CONFIRMED IT, DAUGHTER, THOUGH SOME NEAR-MYSTIC FORCE PREVENTS THE SPHERE FROM IDENTIFYING HIM WHO WOULD PLUNGE EARTH INTO ITS FINAL WAR.

THAT REMAINS FOR YOU TO DO.

YOU WANT ME TO RETURN TO MAN'S WORLD? TO THAT MADNESS? THAT HYPOCRISY?

MOTHER... I'VE NEVER REFUSED YOU ANYTHING... BUT I CAN'T GO BACK THERE...

I JUST CAN'T.

OH MY DAUGHTER, I'M SORRY, BUT SOON, YOU'LL HAVE NO CHOICE.

NONE SHALL BE EXEMPT FROM THESE GAMES, FOR WE ARE ALL THREATENED BY THE MENACE WHICH HAS BROUGHT THEM INTO BEING.

WITH MORNING COMES THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF A GREAT TOURNAMENT, A DAY OF GAMES DURING WHICH ONE AMAZON WILL PROVE HERSELF THE CHAMPION OF THE AMAZONS, AND THUS EARN THE RIGHT-- AND THE DUTY-- TO GO FORTH INTO THE WORLD OF MEN...

I CHARGE EVERY ONE OF YOU TO STRIVE FOR VICTORY TO THE BEST OF HER ABILITY.

THE BEST OF YOU WILL WIN.

MOTHER IS DOING THIS DELIBERATELY, FORCING ME TO COMPETE AS BEST I CAN.

SHE'S DEPENDING ON MY RESPECT FOR THE GAMES TO OVERCOME-- MY FEARS!

A FANFARE OF TRUMPETS, AND FROM THE GATHERED AMAZONS, A SHOUT GOES UP..

THE TOURNAMENT BEGINS, AND ALMOST AT ONCE--

-- DIANA ESTABLISHES HERSELF AS THE LEADER!

THOUGH THERE ARE MANY AND MARRED CHALLENGES TO HER LEAD AS THE DAY PROGRESSES, THE SUN CLIMBING EVER HIGHER OVER THE ISLAND'S PEARL-WHITE SANDS, DIANA REMAINS FOREMOST, IN SPITE OF HERSELF--

BUT WHAT IS IT I FEAR ABOUT MAN'S WORLD?

COULD IT BE THAT I FEAR-- MYSELF?

SELECTING THE VERY BEST OF THE AMAZONS BOTH IN SPORT AND COMBAT, UNTIL ONLY SHE AND TWO OTHERS REMAIN, HER CLOSER FRIEND: CLEO--

-- AND ARTESIA, WHOSE SKILLS AT STAFFS ARE ALMOST THE EQUAL OF MERS AT BULLETS AND BRACELETS!

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THEN, AS THE THREE OF THEM TURN TO THE FINAL CONTEST, A DUEL OF SWORDS, TIME SEEMS TO STAND STILL...

HOURS PASS IN THE LATE AFTERNOON SUNLIGHT, AS FIRST ONE, THEN ANOTHER, GAINS MOMENTARY ADVANTAGE...

BUT IN THE END, STRENGTH, SKILL, AND ENDURANCE PROVE THE WINNER--

--AND DIANA STANDS ALONE!



AND FOR A TIME, IT SEEMS THE CHEERING WILL NEVER FADE.



"WONDER
WOMAN!"



**EPilogue: THE MORNING OF
THE NEXT DAY...**

DON'T KNOW HOW
THOSE LADIES DID IT, CONSIDERING
THE WAY I CAME IN HERE, ALL
BROKEN UP-- BUT I FEEL
GOOD AS NEW!

CAN'T GET MY MIND
OF THAT ONE
WOMAN, THAT
PRINCESS.

HUH? WHO'S
THERE?

OH, RIGHT, YOU'RE THE
QUEEN. I'VE BEEN
WANTING TO **THANK**
YOU FOR--

IT IS I,
STEVE TREVOR...
HIPPOLYTE.

IF YOU WISH TO
THANK ME, THEN
DO ME **ONE** KINDNESS.

DON'T HURT
HER AGAIN.

IS THAT SO MUCH
FOR A MOTHER
TO ASK?

WHAT DO YOU MEAN,
"HURT HER AGAIN"?
HURT **WHO?** HEY, I
DON'T...

COULD
SHE HAVE
MEANT HER
DAUGHTER?

FEEL LIKE
I'VE KNOWN
HER SOMEWHERE
BEFORE, BUT
I CAN'T--

NAH. I WOULDN'T
HURT DIANA FOR
ALL THE **WORLD...**

THE AIR THIS MORNING IS CHILL
WITH A BREAKING FOG.

BREATH COMES IN FROSTY CLOUDS, AS
THE AMAZONS GATHER TO BID ONE OF
THEIR OWN FAREWELL.

Y'KNOW, ANGEL, I'D FEEL A LOT
SAFER IF I COULD **SEE** WHAT
WE'RE FLYING IN.

TRUST ME, COLONEL.
MY ROBOT PLANE MAY
BE **INVISIBLE**--

--BUT IT'S THE
MOST **DEPENDABLE**
JET YOU'VE EVER
FLown.

PRETTY **SURE** OF
YOURSELF, AREN'T
YOU, PRINCESS?

YES, I
SUPPOSE I AM.

IT'S TAKEN ME TIME, AND SOME PAIN,
BUT I UNDERSTAND MYSELF NOW,
AND I KNOW WHAT I BELIEVE IN.

FOR THE FIRST TIME
IN MANY YEARS, I AM
SURE OF MYSELF,
COLONEL TREVOR.

PLEASE,
CALL ME
STEVE.

GOODBYE, MY DAUGHTER. I PRAY
THAT APHRODITE IS **RIGHT**, AND THAT
YOUR DESTINY DOES INDEED LIE
WITH STEVE TREVOR.

I LOVE YOU,
DIANA.

MAY THE
GODS
SMILE ON YOU
BOTH.

ANY
PARTICULAR
PLACE YOU'D
LIKE TO GO, COLONEL
TREV--I MEAN,
STEVE?

ASLEEP?
THEN... SLEEP
WELL, STEVE
TREVOR.

WE'LL TALK
TOMORROW.

TOMORROW,
WE'LL HAVE ALL
THE TIME IN
THE WORLD...

FIN



SHE STALKS THE NIGHT LIKE A SLEEK JUNGLE CAT... BUT HERS IS A CONCRETE JUNGLE, AND HER PREY THE DEADLIEST OF MEN. FOR SHE IS...

The Huntress

INTO DARKNESS ONCE MORE



SHE STANDS QUIETLY BEFORE THE TWIN GRAVES, HER VOW ONCE MORE RUNNING THROUGH HER THOUGHTS, BUT TOO PAINFUL TO EVER AGAIN BE PUT INTO WORDS.

THE GRAVES ARE THOSE OF HER PARENTS: BRUCE WAYNE AND SELINA KYLE WAYNE; THE BATMAN AND THE CATHWOMAN RESPECTIVELY, BOTH DEAD AT CRIMINALS' HANDS.



OBVIOUSLY, THIS IS AN UNFAMILIAR WORLD... NOT THE ONE ON WHICH THE HEROES OF THE JUSTICE LEAGUE STAND PROUD, BUT A PLACE WE CALL EARTH-TWO, WHERE HELENA WAYNE NOW CARRIES ON HER FATHER'S DREAM...

CREATED AND CRAFTED BY PAUL LEVITZ & JOE STATON, STORYTELLERS
STEVE MITCHELL, INKER • BEN ODA, LETTERER • GENE D'ANGELD, COLORIST
LEN WEIN, EDITOR



NEED A
HAND MS.
WAYNE?

NO, CAROLE,
WE'LL BE
OKAY... I
THINK.

I SHALL NEVER
BE OKAY AGAIN,
HELENA.

CAN IT NOT? THREE OF
MY FINEST CREATIONS
BURNED TO ASHES BEYOND
ANY DREAM OF RESTORATION.

AND THIS WHILE THEY RESTED
ON THE WALL OF THE MUSEUM!
YOU MUST SUE THEM FOR ME!

EASY, WINSTON.
RELAX AND
TELL ME ALL
ABOUT IT.

IT CAN'T BE THAT BAD.

THREE PAINTINGS FROM
YOUR NEXT EXHIBIT, WINSTON?
THAT'S HORRIBLE!

BUT MUCH AS I DESPISE THAT
SORT OF VANDALISM, SUING
MUSEUMS FOR NEGLECTFUL
SECURITY ISN'T EXACTLY IN
MY LINE.

THERE ARE
A LOT OF
BETTER
LAWYERS
YOU COULD
GET.

PERHAPS
TRUE, BUT
YOU ARE
MY FRIEND,
HELENA!...

...AREN'T
YOU?

I'LL DO
SOMETHING,
WINNIE... I
PROMISE.

THANK YOU,
HELENA, MY
DEAR...

HELENA...?

HOW
PECULIAR!

IT STANDS ON THE EDGE OF A GREENSHARD, MASSIVE LIKE A
FORTRESS FROM A FORGOTTEN TIME, OR A PALACE OF KINGS...
BUT IT IS NOT DEDICATED TO POWER, OR RICHES, OR ANYTHING
TRULY OF THIS WORLD...

...SAVE BEAUTY
IN ALL ITS FORMS.

AND THAT MAKES ITS
FAILURE TO PRESERVE
THAT BEAUTY ALL THE
MORE BITTER...

THE BURGLAR ALARM SYSTEM GAVE ME NO TROUBLE, BUT IT SHOULD HAVE KEPT VANDALS OUT... OR LUNATICS.

AND OUTSIDE OF MADMEN OR KIDS WHO DON'T KNOW ANY BETTER, I CAN'T IMAGINE WHO'D WANT TO DO THIS.

EVEN THE TARP COVERING THE DAMAGE LOOKS UGLY.

GOD, I HATE THIS.
DO NOT TOUCH
BY ORDER OF
GOTHAM CITY POLICE DEPT.

BUT IF I'M GOING TO FIND WHO DID THIS TO WINNIE'S PAINTINGS, I HAVE TO LOOK AT THE EVIDENCE..

--NO MATTER HOW MUCH IT HURTS.

THE MONTHS WINNIE PUT INTO THESE... THE VISION...

...AND ALL THAT'S LEFT IS HIS NAME...

UGH...

Winston Pitt

AND WORST OF ALL, NO INSURANCE -- NO LAWSUIT -- NOTHING CAN EVER QUITE CAPTURE THOSE IMAGES AGAIN!

THE CITY SEEMS TO SIGH IN RELIEF AT NIGHTFALL, AS PEOPLE FLOW OUT TO THEIR HOMES...

WHAT A LOVELY HEIST! EIGHT CANVASES -- EACH AN EASY TWENTY GRAND!

HOW NICE OF THE BOYS TO THINK OF ME AS THEIR FENCE!

AYEE!!!

BUT FOR SOME, NIGHTFALL MEANS WORK HAS JUST BEGIN...

EVERYONE THINKS OF YOU, SIDNEY...

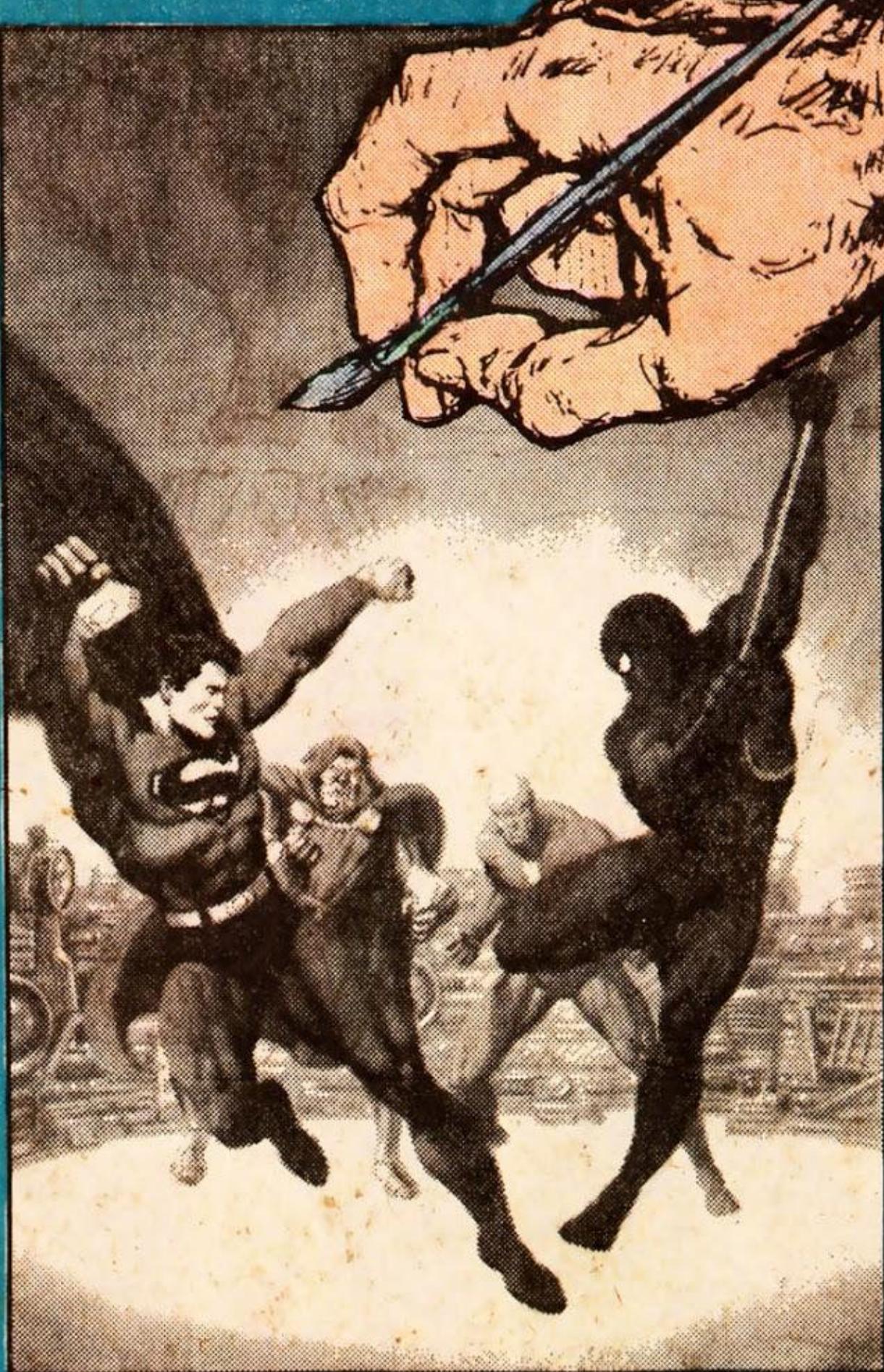




IT'S ALMOST READY!



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...AFTER ALL, YOU
ARE THE BEST FENCE
IN THE HOT ART
RACKET, AREN'T
YOU...?

H-HUNTRESS...

WH-WHAT
DO YOU WANT
WITH ME...?

I AIN'T NEVER
HURT NOBODY...

OH, I BELIEVE YOU,
SIDNEY. FOR THAT
MATTER, I'VE NEVER
HURT ANYONE
EITHER...

...UNLESS THEY
DESERVED IT.

I'M CLEAN, LADY
--HAVEN'T HEARD
A WORD ABOUT
IT!

REAL SHAME, TOO
--CAME JUST AS
THE PRICES FOR
PITT'S STUFF WAS
GOING WAY UP!
EVEN FORGERIE'S
OF HIS ART ARE
GETTING BIG
MONEY!

I SWEAR
IT!

NOW ABOUT
THOSE PITT
PAINTINGS
THAT GOT
TORCHED?

THAT'S ALL YOU
CAN TELL ME, SIDNEY?
WHAT A PITY!

NOW I WAS HOPING
A MAN AS WELL-
INFORMED AS YOU
ARE COULD BE OF
MORE HELP, BUT
I GUESS I WAS
WRONG.

WH-WHAT'RE
YOU DOING WITH
THAT KNIFE?

IT'S A PRESENT FOR
YOU, SIDNEY... TO
HELP YOU KEEP YOUR
HANDS CLEAN...

EEK!

...AND YOUR
EARS OPEN.

WHEW...

RIGHT,
SIDNEY...

I WENT BACK TO THE CEMETERY
TO THINK IT ALL OUT, BUT
THAT DIDN'T HELP.

I GUESS I SHOULDN'T LOOK TO DAD
AS AN ORACLE, WAITING FOR HIM TO
PROMPT ME FROM BEYOND
THE GRAVE.

TIME TO STAND ON MY
OWN TWO FEET AND
CRACK THIS...

...AND IT'S ALSO TIME
FOR THIS LADY LAWYER TO
SLIP BACK INTO HER APARTMENT FOR
SOME BEAUTY SLEEP!

GOODBYE, NIGHT AIR--SILK
SHEETS, HERE I COME!

AND ONCE
INSIDE...

HUH--? WHAT'S
THAT? A SOUND
AT THE DOOR?

AT THIS
HOUR!?!?

KREEK

OKAY, WHOEVER
YOU ARE--
COME ON IN!

EOW!

ER, HI, HELENA!

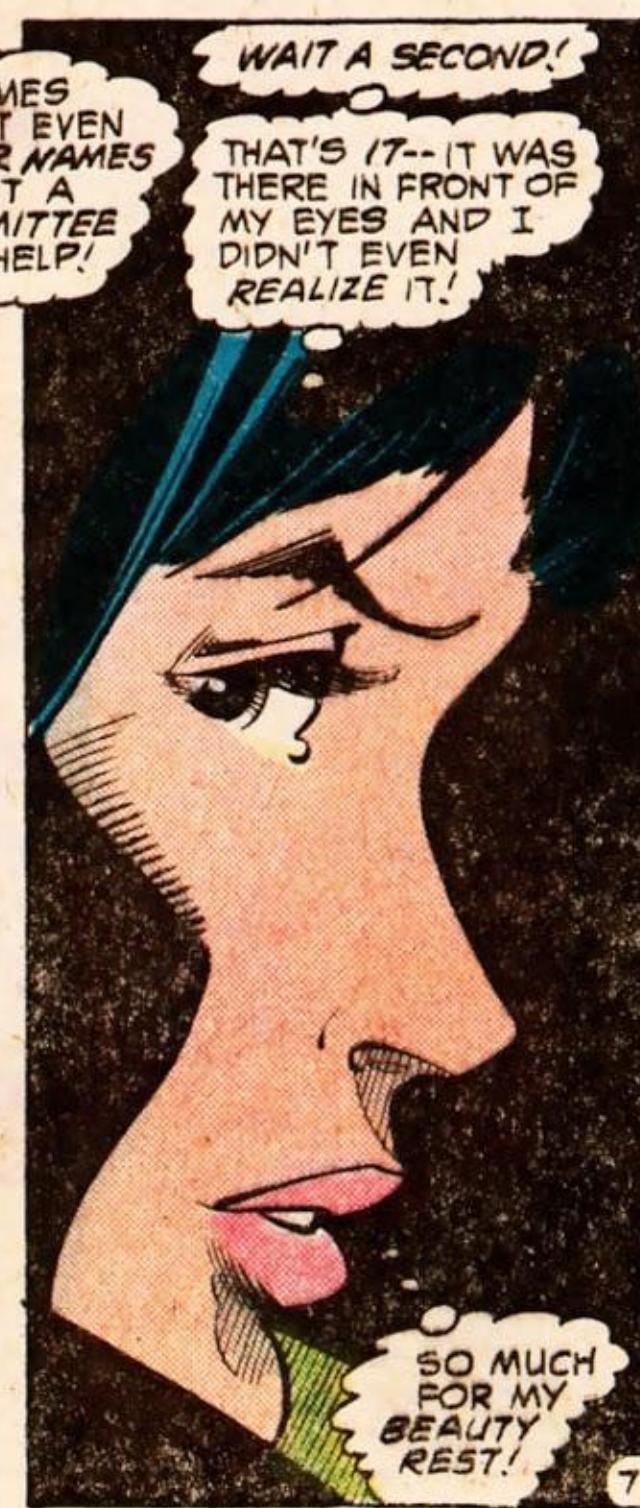
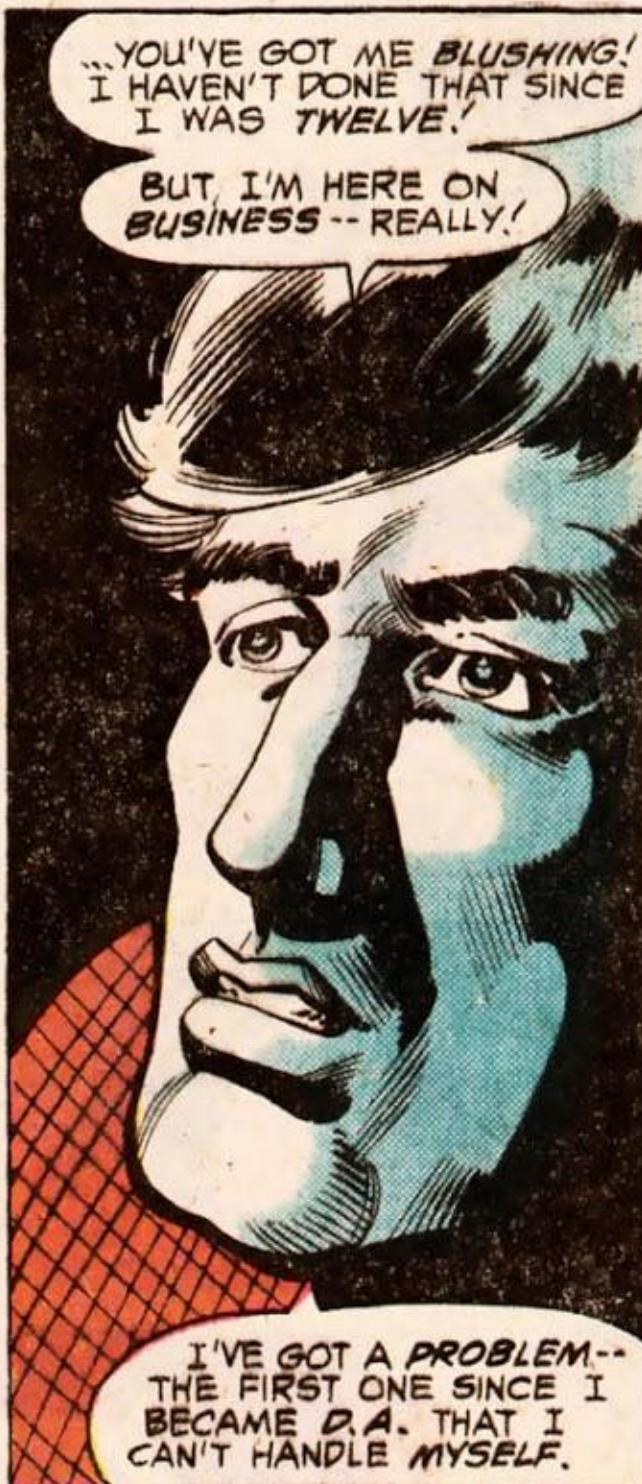
I GUESS YOU'RE
WONDERING WHY
I WAS AT YOUR
DOOR AT THREE
IN THE A.M.,
EH?

WHY, NO, HARRY. ACTUALLY,
I ALWAYS EXPECT THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY AT THIS HOUR.

YOU ARE STILL HARRY
SIMS--DISTRICT ATTORNEY
FOR GOTHAM'S SOUTHERN
DISTRICT, ARENT YOU?

YEAH, EXCEPT I
HAVE THE FEELING
MY NAME JUST
CHANGED TO MUD
IN YOUR BOOK.

CAN I EXPLAIN?



DAWN'S SHARP SUMMER LIGHT BREAKS OVER GOTHAM
--BUT AN EVEN BRIGHTER BEACON BURNS IN THE
HUNTRESS'S MIND...

... THE GLISTENING WHITE
LIGHT OF TRUTH DISCOVERED!

HOW COULD I HAVE
MISSED IT? IT WASN'T
WINSTON'S SIGNATURE
ON THE REMAINS
OF THAT
PAINTING--

--AND THAT
MEANS THE
PAINTING MUST
HAVE BEEN
A FORGERY!

THE WHOLE THING
WAS A SETUP--
BUT WHY?

THE MUSEUM
DOESN'T NEED
INSURANCE
MONEY--NOT
ON ONLY
THREE
PAINTINGS--

--AND IT'S QUITE A
LENGTH TO GO TO JUST
TO COVER UP A THEFT.

HMM... WHAT'S
THIS? A PARADE
OF GUARDS--
AND THE
CURATOR?

THE TIME LOCK ON
THE VAULTS WILL NOT
WAIT FOR US.

NOW, ADJUST THE
AIR CONTROLS -- WE
MUSTN'T DISTURB THE
STORAGE CATACOMBS
TOO MUCH SIMPLY TO
EXTRACT A FEW
PAINTINGS TO
REPLACE THE PITT
EXHIBIT!

BRISKLY,
GENTLEMEN, BRISKLY
-- WE CANNOT BE
LATE.

DO... NOT WORRY,
MISTER MUSEUM
MAN...

THUNK

YOU NOT TAKE OUT FEW
PAINTINGS. YOU TAKE OUT
EVERYTHING IN YOUR VAULT...

... AND YOU
GIVE TO
ME!

OH MY
GOD...

IT--IT'S SOLOMON
GRUNDY!

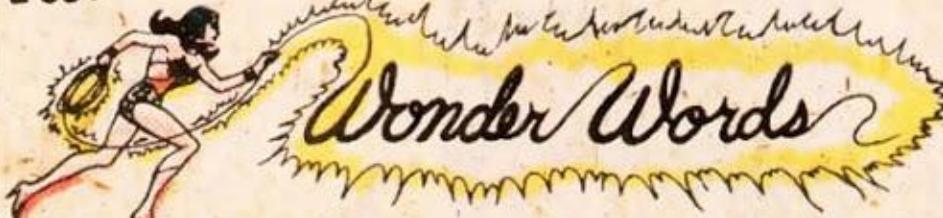
ALL OF A
SUDDEN, I FEEL
LIKE A
BANTAMWEIGHT
STEPPING
INTO THE
HEAVYWEIGHT
RING!

GOOD
HEAVENS!

NEED WE ADD...

TO BE CONTINUED!

NEXT ISSUE ON SALE DURING THE SECOND WEEK IN JULY



DC COMICS, INC. 75 ROCKEFELLER PLAZA NEW YORK, N.Y. 10019

Dear Readers:

What's better than having one super-heroine in a full-length adventure every month? Having an extra eight pages in a magazine to reintroduce one of the most popular super-heroines in recent years! Sure, we know we had to raise the price of this magazine to 50¢, but we wanted to make sure that you got something for that extra dime. That's why every 32-page DC comic now has 25 pages of story and art—and all new at that! This gives us the chance to bring you many of the features you've been asking for...like the Huntress! We thank you for buying this issue, even though it cost a bit more, but we hope you'll agree that it was worth the 10¢ and will continue to support us. And now, on to your letters...

Dear Editor:

I found *WONDER WOMAN* #266 to be much like #265, albeit marginally better. I suppose the similarity and improvement were almost inevitable, since both issues featured a 12-page *Wonder Woman* story and a 5-page *Wonder Girl* tale and the fact that both were two-parters ending in #266.

"The Uninvited" was a relatively standard lost land/lost society adventure, but it did have some nice touches. For instance, the devolution of aliens into dinosaurs was an unusual (though somewhat contrived) plot device. But I felt the few panels spent discussing the aliens' influence on human technological progress for their own benefit were wasted and inappropriate since it was so obviously a red herring (being dismissed out of hand by *Wonder Woman* as soon as it was brought up) and a dead end (i.e. it's not going to be dealt with any further.)

The *Wonder Girl* shortie accomplished about as much as can be expected from such abbreviated efforts. It rushed along, concentrating on a couple of gimmicks and came to an abrupt conclusion, but how much can you really stuff into five pages anyway?

I'm generally not in favor of the two stories per issue format since it makes each tale too short to be effective, but I suppose it's okay occasionally. Besides, I think these tales were utilizing previously developed material. My guess is that both were originally conceived for the 25-page format with the *WW* tale a full 25-pager and the *Wonder Girl* story a two-parter or longer length. Am I right or wrong?

T.M. MAPLE
Toronto, Ont.

Let's say you're about 10% right, T.M. The *Wonder Woman* story was originally planned for use as a two-parter in *ADVENTURE COMICS*, where *WW* appeared when it was a Dollar Comic. The *Wonder Girl* tales were written to fill out the two issues of this magazine in which those *WW* stories appeared. And speaking of two-stories-per-issue, we hope you'll find the best of both worlds now that we're back to 25 pages of story and art!—TPS

Dear Editor:

WONDER WOMAN #266 was great. The cover was eye-catching and the interior art was up to par. I particularly liked seeing *Wonder Girl* in action again and hope we'll see her once more. You started the new year off right...and if this is any indication of what's to come, 1980 is going to be a banner year for this magazine.

PHIL BRIERLEY
7436 East 49th Street
Tulsa, OK 74145

You can look for *Wonder Girl* to be back in action, Phil, but not necessarily in these pages. Watch for her in action with the all-new *TEEN TITANS*...coming soon to a comics dealer near you!—TPS

Dear Editor:

I stopped reading comic books when I was ten years old because they were "kid stuff". Eleven years later, I see that *Wonder Woman*, *Betty Boop*, *Rocky and Bullwinkle*, et al, are not for kids at all. It was an article in the *New York Times* that made me linger at the comic stand when I bought my Sunday paper. I'm pleased to see women among the medium's crime-fighting super-heroes, even though *Wonder Woman* has endured all these years. Nevertheless, the feminist *Wonder Woman* is a long-needed change from the big-bosomed, blonde and brainless stereotypes that glut television and the drugstore bookstand. The dialogue is great and I follow every word, particularly about the shortcomings of "man's world". And quoting Milton (#264)! Kid's stuff, eh?

IRENE BLAHO
1954 Yale Station
New Haven, CT 06520

We never said they were kid's stuff! We like to feel that there's something for everybody in a comic book...no matter what the age!—Ted P. Skinner.

LEN'S LINE-UP

ON SALE MAY 8th:

THE FLASH #289—It's showdown time for *Dr. Alchemy*, *Mr. Element* and the *Scarlet Speedster* in "The Good...the Bad...and the Unexpected" by Cary Bates, Don Heck and Frank Chiaramonte. Plus: *Firestorm* zooms into a new series by Gerry Conway!

JUSTICE LEAGUE #182—*Green Arrow* may have quit the *JLA* but they still need his help in "Reprise" by Gerry Conway, Dick Dillin and Frank McLaughlin. And *Hawkman* and *Elongated Man* join forces to solve "The Sun Queen Snatch" by Paul Kupperberg and Rodin Rodriguez.

ON SALE MAY 22nd:

HOUSE OF MYSTERY #284—"Ruby" is by J.M. DeMatteis and Noly Zamora; Bud Simons, Keith Giffen, and John Celardo present "King and the Dragon"; Bill Kelley and Jun Lofamia remain "Friends to the End"; and Carl Wessler and Jess Jodloman face "Deadly Peril at 20,000!"

UNKNOWN SOLDIER #243—How can the Faceless Warrior be in two places at once? Bob Haney, Dick Ayers and Gerry Talaoc show you in "Double Switch". Plus: *Dateline—Frontline* is back with "The Yanks are Coming" by Cary Burkett and Ric Estrada. And Bob Kanigher scripts a battle short-short.

ADVENTURE COMICS #475—*Aquaman* swims into the lead spot in this magazine in a "Scavenger Hunt" by J.M. DeMatteis; *Starman* finds himself "In Battle Joined" by Paul Levitz, Steve Ditko and Romeo Tanghal; and *Plastic Man* meets Even Steven in "Don't Get Mad, Get Even" by Martin Pasko, Joe Staton and Bob Smith.

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