

DC BATMAN

EXTRA!

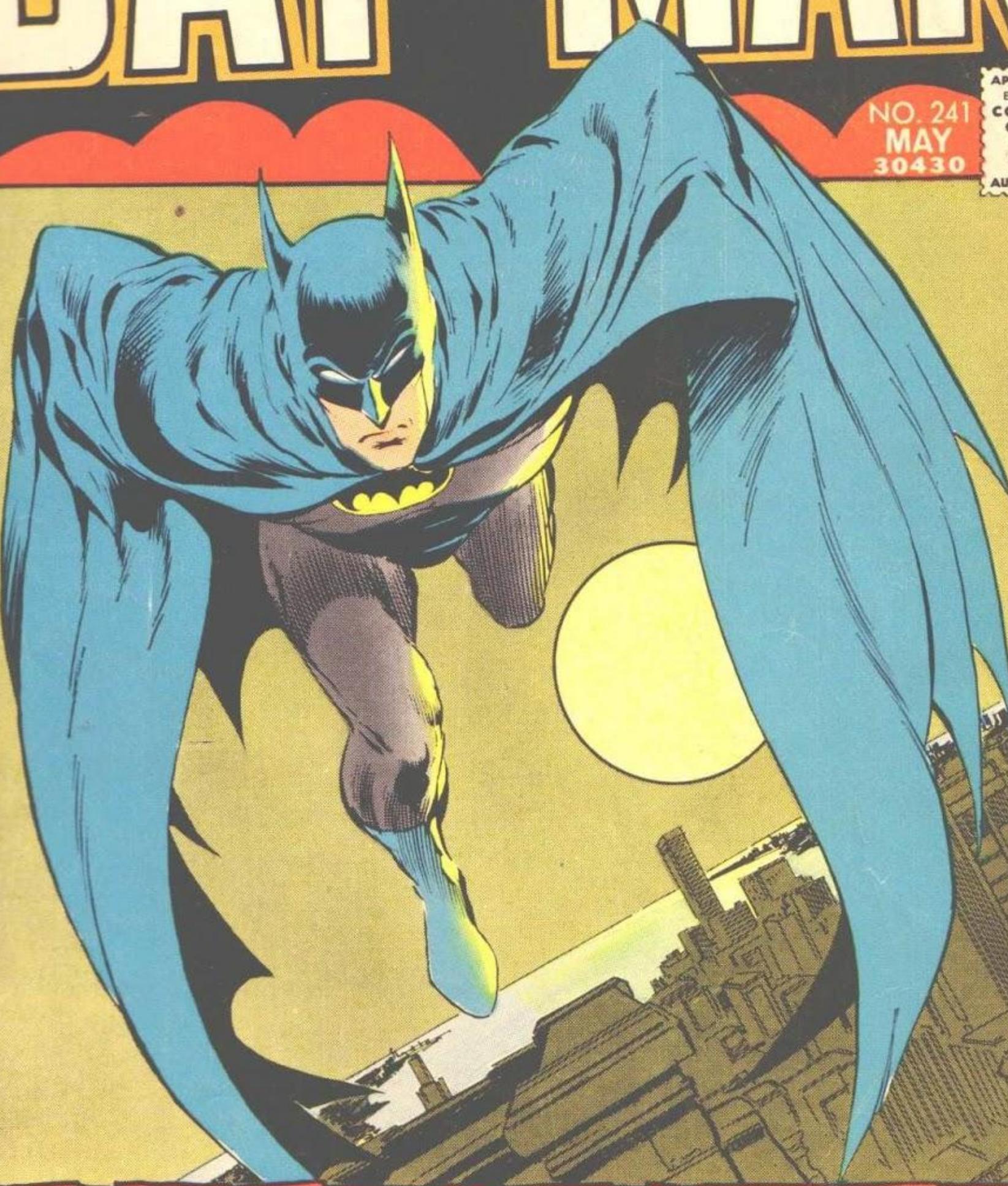
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52  
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25¢

# BATMAN

NO. 241  
MAY  
30430

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BY THE  
COMICS  
CODE  
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THERE ARE 8 MILLION PEOPLE IN GOTHAM CITY--  
AND UNLESS BATMAN FINDS THE RIGHT ONE...  
**"AT DAWN DIES MARY M<sup>AC</sup>GUFFIN!"**

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BIGGER AND BETTER

DC BATMAN

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BIGGER AND BETTER

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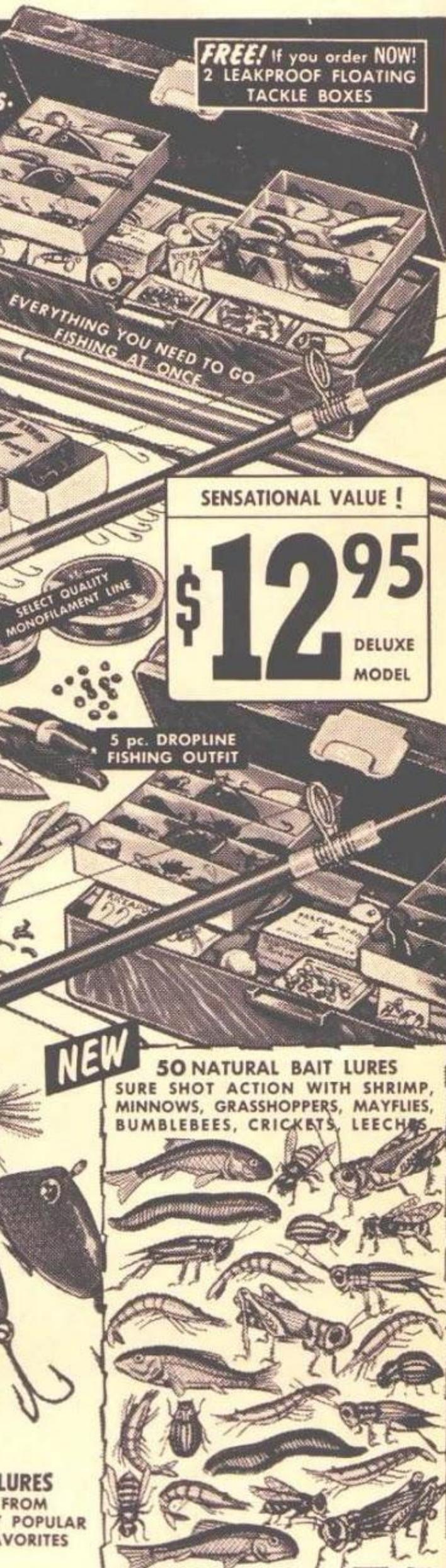
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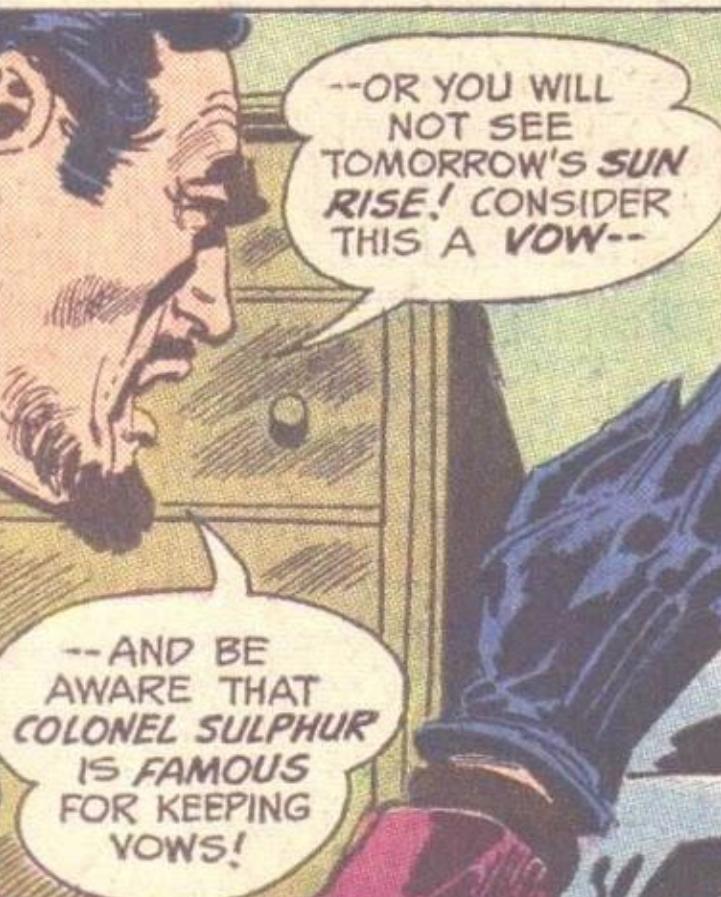
SOMEWHERE IN NIGHT-TIME GOTHAM CITY...

AHHH... THE BAT-SIGNAL!  
IT MUST MEAN YOUR HUSBAND  
HAS SUCCEEDED IN HIS  
...AH--CHORE!

THIS IS MARVELOUS!  
FOR IT MEANS THAT SOON,  
HE WILL DELIVER THE  
GOODS INTO MY HANDS--



YOU HAD BETTER HOPE HE WILL, MY DEAR--



S-1100

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SO IT HAS ALREADY  
BEGUN, THIS EXCURSION  
INTO DANGER!  
FOLLOW THE ...

...AS HE BATTLES FRIEND  
AND FOE TO SOLVE A  
MURDER -- BEFORE IT  
OCCURS!

# BATMAN

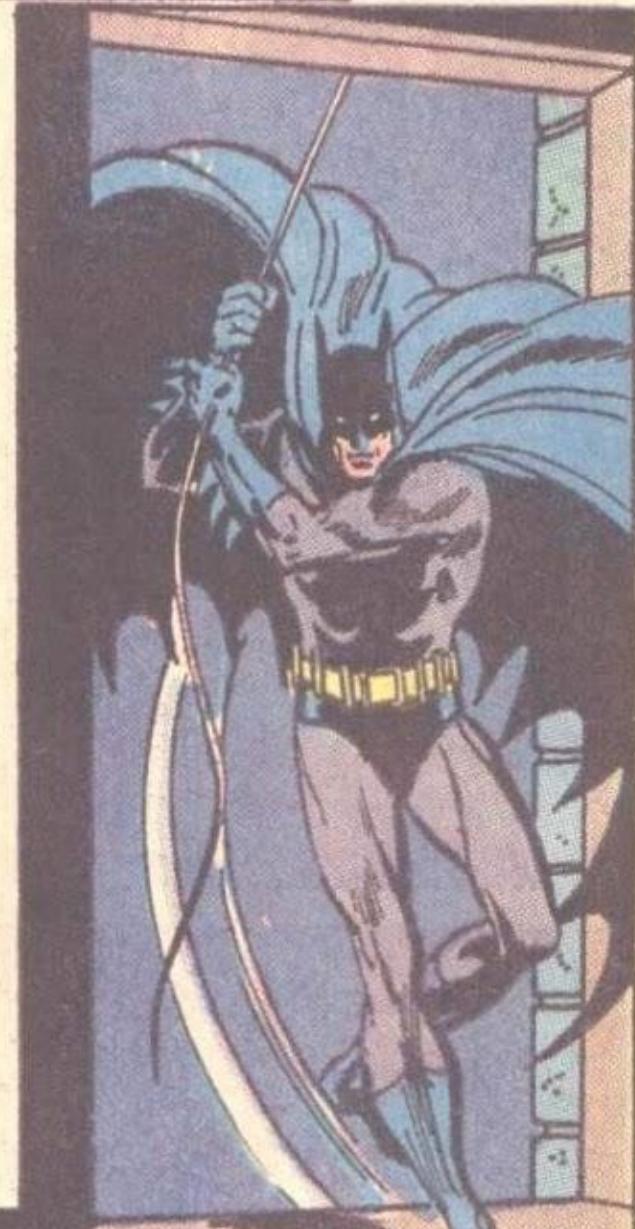
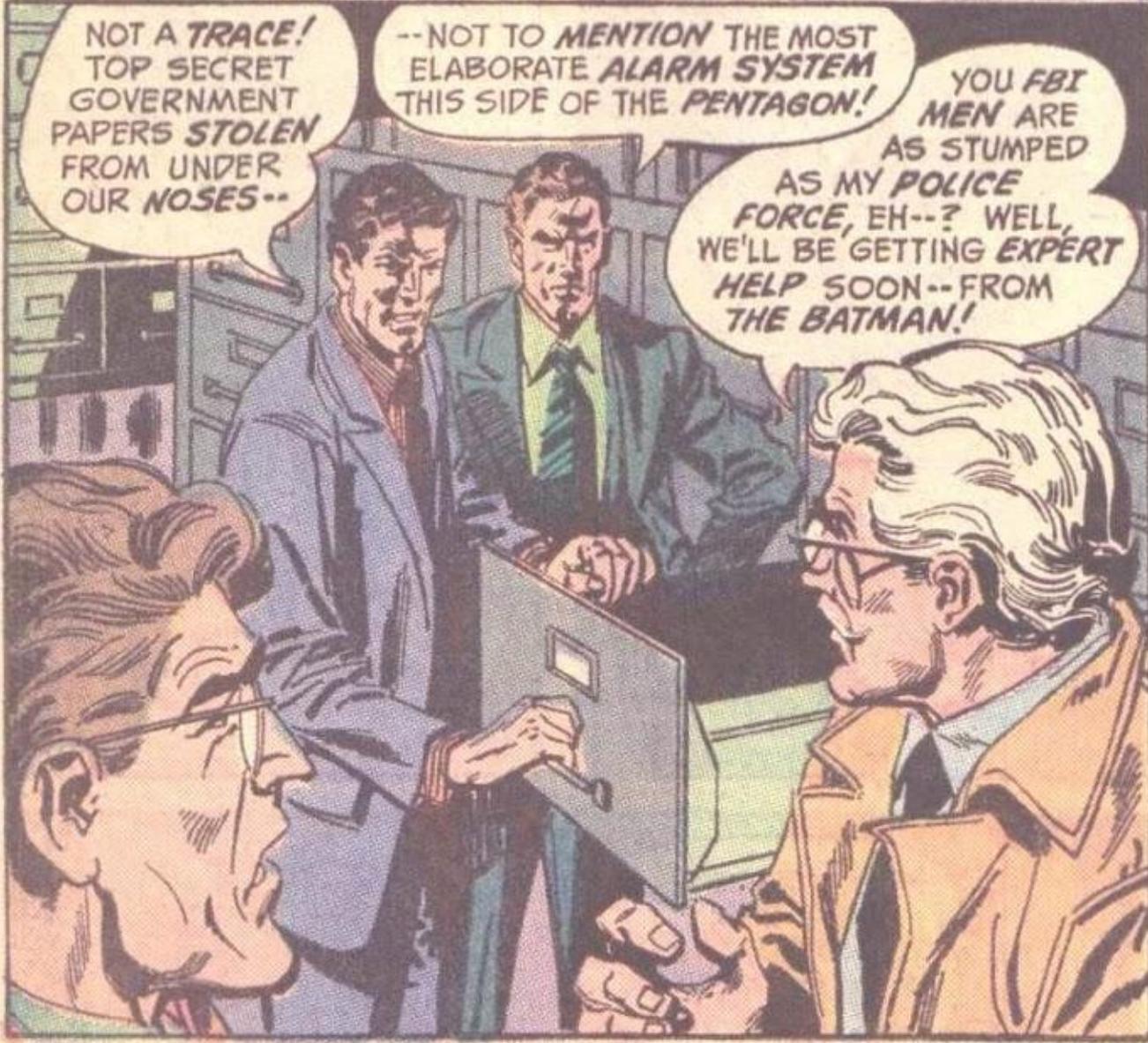
## "AT DAWN DIES Mary MacGuffin!"

STORY: DENNY O'NEIL — ART: IRV NOVICK & DICK GIORDANO

NOT A TRACE!  
TOP SECRET  
GOVERNMENT  
PAPERS STOLEN  
FROM UNDER  
OUR NOSES--

--NOT TO MENTION THE MOST  
ELABORATE ALARM SYSTEM  
THIS SIDE OF THE PENTAGON!

YOU FBI  
MEN ARE  
AS STUMPED  
AS MY POLICE  
FORCE, EH--? WELL,  
WE'LL BE GETTING EXPERT  
HELP SOON--FROM  
THE BATMAN!



COMMISSIONER, I  
MUST LODGE PROTEST AT  
YOUR BRINGING A MASKED  
GRANDSTANDER INTO  
IMPORTANT BUSINESS!

THAT PHONUS-BALONUS  
IS ONLY INTERESTED IN  
SHOWY CASES! THERE  
WON'T BE ENOUGH GLORY  
IN THIS ONE!

--NOT THAT I  
EXPECT HIM TO  
SHOW UP!



YOU WANTED ME,  
COMMISSIONER  
GORDON?

YES... WE  
HAVE A REAL  
BAFFLER! DOCUMENTS  
INVOLVING SECRET  
DIPLOMATIC  
RELATIONS ARE  
MISSING!

I ASSUME YOU  
DON'T HAVE ANY IDEA  
HOW THEY WERE  
TAKEN?

YOU'VE EXAMINED  
THE PREMISES!

YES--AND  
FOUND  
NOTHING...  
EXCEPT A  
SMALL BIT OF  
SILVER!

NOT ONE IDEA,  
BATMAN!

--I'M RATHER  
ALLERGIC TO NOISY  
CITY COMMISSIONERS!

click!

NOW...

...YOU  
WERE  
SAYING?

HERE IT IS...  
SINGLE CLUE!

--A FORMLESS  
HUNK OF  
METAL!

NOT MUCH  
TO GO ON!

NOT MUCH, MAYBE...  
BUT SOMETHING!

DO ME A FAVOR...  
FIND OUT IF  
ANYONE WHO  
WORKS HERE  
EVER ATTENDED  
THE PARIS  
SCHOOL OF  
DIPLOMACY!



MOMENTS LATER...

ACCORDING TO OUR OFFICE,  
THERE IS A PARIS GRAD  
ON THE STAFF...

IS MACGUFFIN  
EVER ALLOWED  
IN THIS  
FILING  
ROOM?

...HOWARD  
MACGUFFIN!  
ONE OF THE  
BRIGHTEST OF  
THE YOUNG  
DIPLOMATS!

WHY--NO!  
HIS DESK IS  
DOWNSTAIRS!

THEN WE  
HAVE OUR  
START! WRITE  
DOWN HIS  
ADDRESS--

I'LL QUESTION  
HIM AND PHONE  
YOU AT  
HEADQUARTERS!

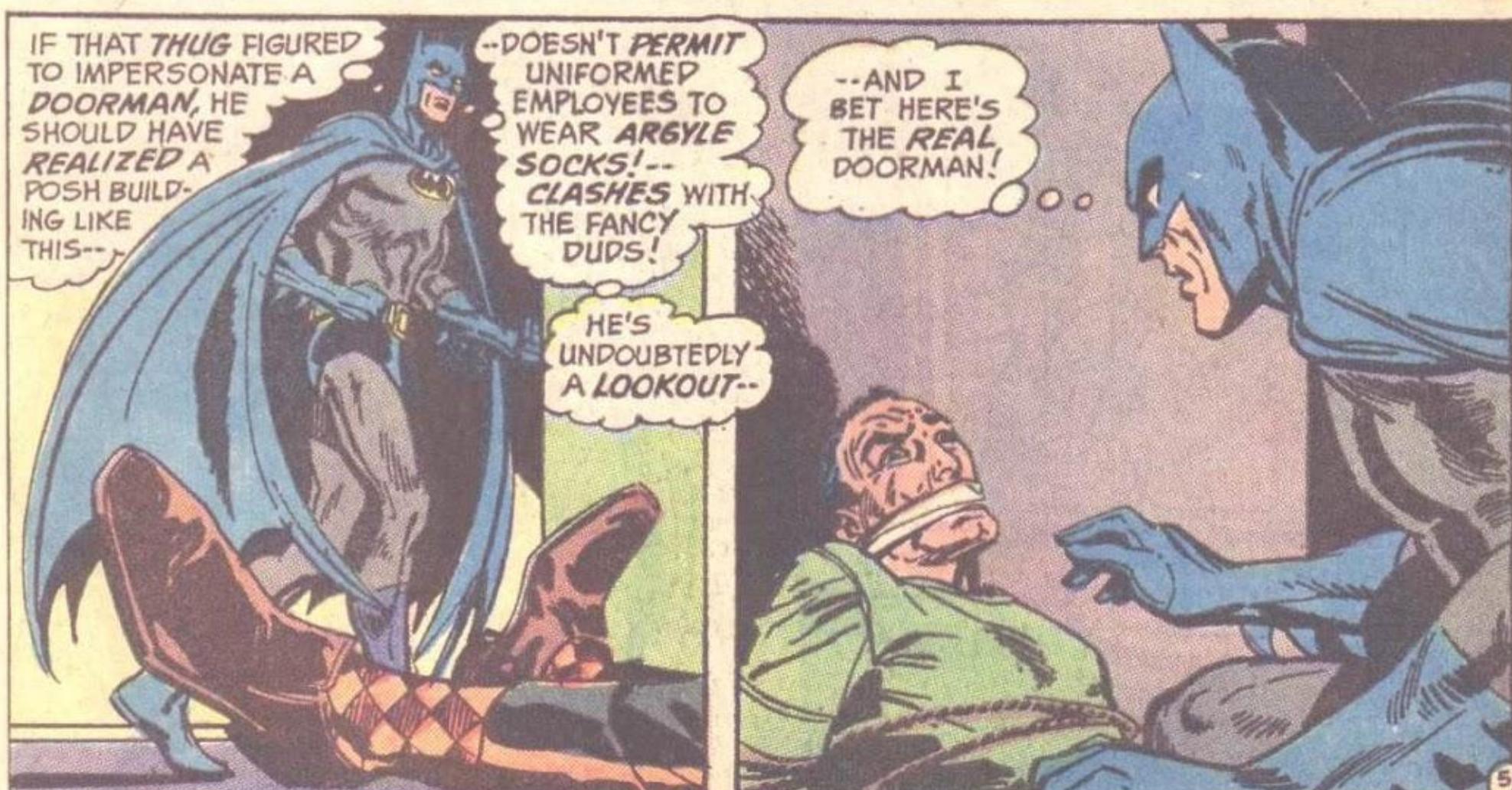
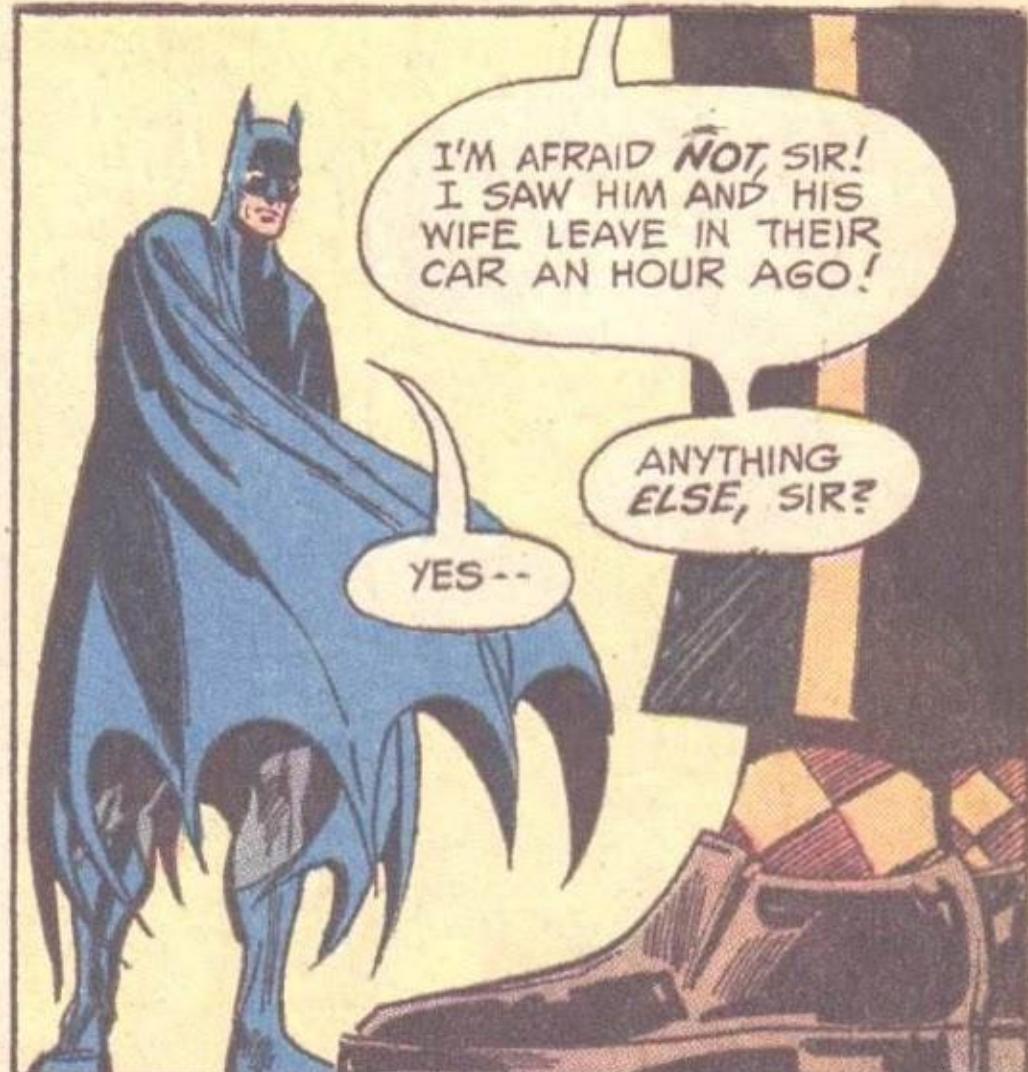
PROPERTY  
OF  
U.S.  
GOVERNMENT

IT COULD BE A COINCIDENCE... THAT  
A PIECE OF THE PARIS SCHOOL'S  
GRADUATING RING WAS FOUND  
AT THE SCENE --

-- AND THERE'S NO  
SENSE IN THROWING  
A LOT OF OFFICIAL  
SUSPICION ON  
A POSSIBLY  
INNOCENT  
MAN!

I REMEMBER  
READING ABOUT  
MACGUFFIN... SON  
OF A WEALTHY  
NEWPORT  
FAMILY--

-- WHICH EXPLAINS  
WHY HE LIVES **HERE**...  
IN THE CITY'S MOST  
**EXPENSIVE APARTMENT**  
**COMPLEX!**



IT WAS  
TERRIBLE!  
THREE OF  
'EM BUSTIN'  
IN... WITH  
GUNS! I'M  
SCARED...

EASY, OLD-  
TIMER!  
THEY'LL  
SOON PAY  
FOR MAN-  
HANDLING  
YOU!

I OUGHT TO DO A  
CREDITABLE JOB OF  
IMITATING THE HOOD'S  
VOICE! I'LL BUZZ  
THE MACGUFFIN PLACE  
ON THE INTERCOM AND--

HEY, LISSEN!  
THE BATMAN  
GOT PAST  
ME... HE'S  
ON THE  
WAY!

SWELL!  
WE'LL BE  
WAITIN'!

PLEASE...  
MUST YOU--  
MURDER?

YEAH, WE MUST,  
MAC! AN' YOU  
KNOW WHAT  
HAPPENS TO THAT  
PRETTY WIFE OF  
YOURS IF THERE'S  
ANY SLIP-UPS!

SO KEEP  
THE YAP  
BUTTONED!

THE SECOND HE  
STEPS IN--  
BLAST HIM!

--IN  
AND  
SWINGING!

I'M ALREADY  
IN, SCUM--

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## FOAMING SUGAR

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No. 549

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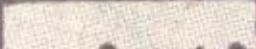
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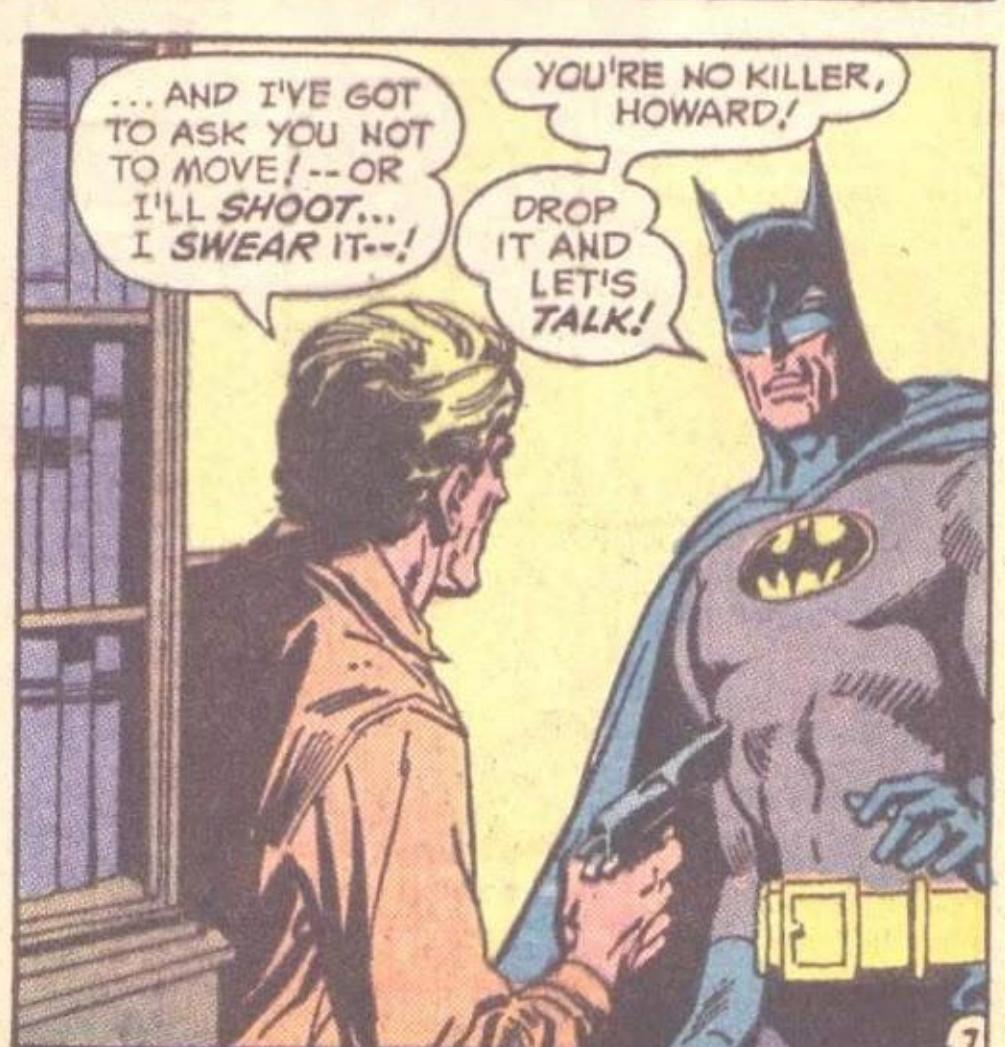
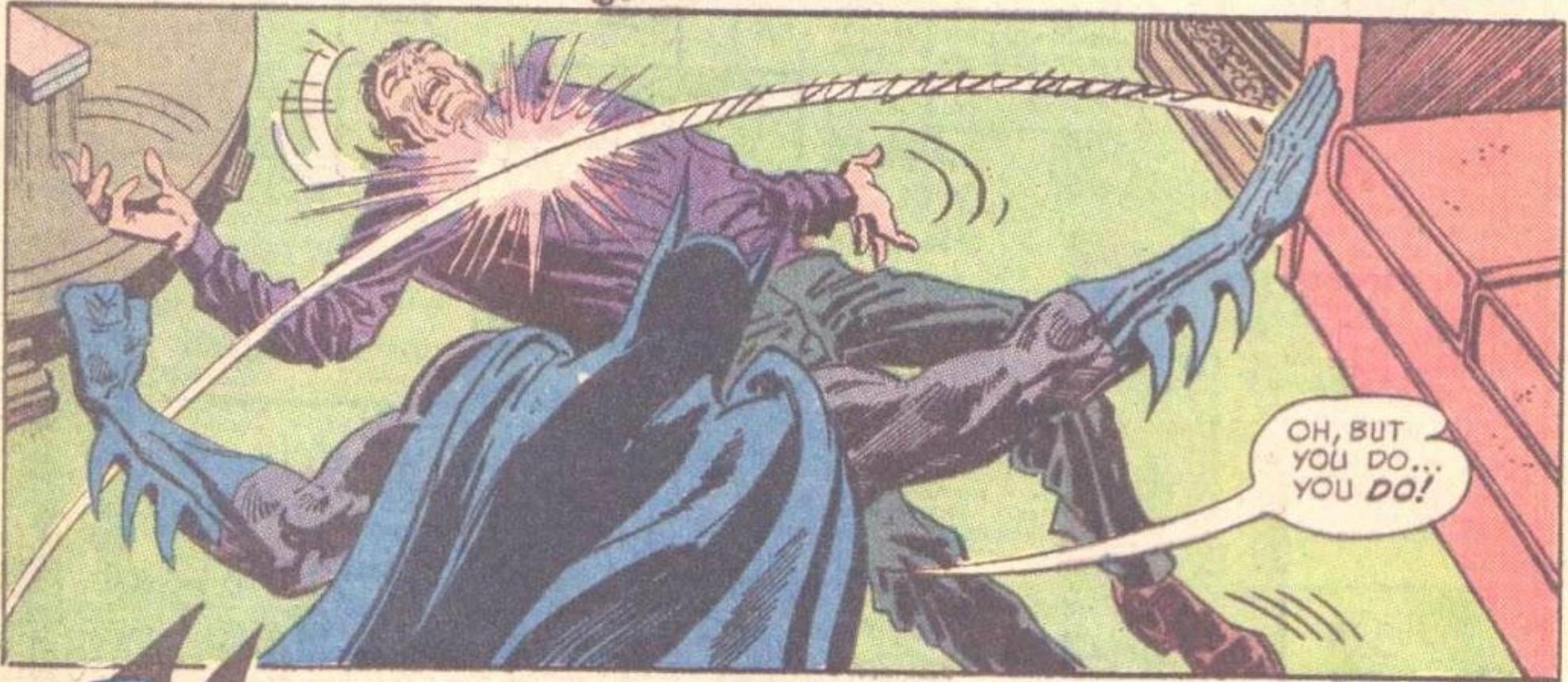
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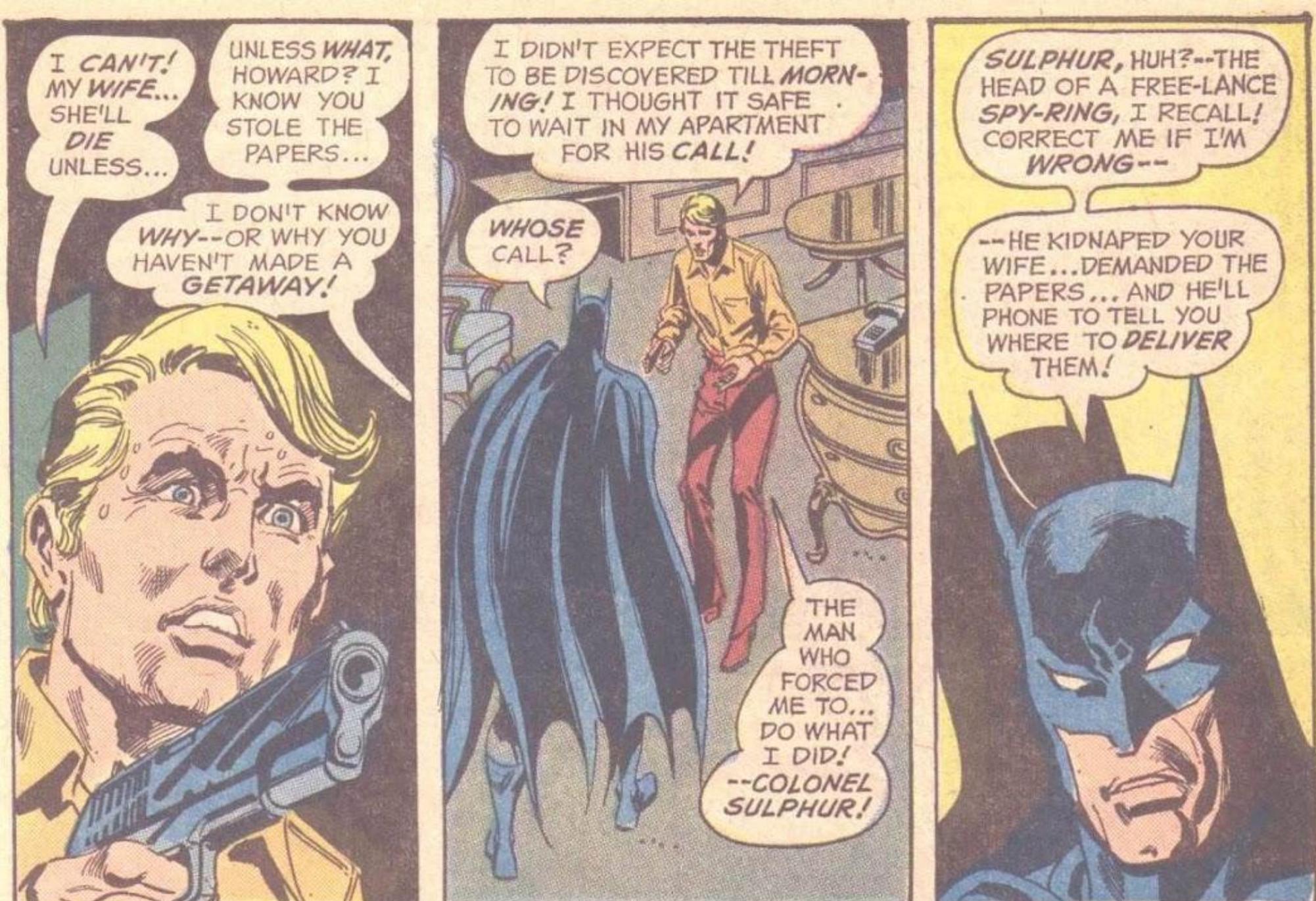
ZIP

KICKING,  
TOO! YOU'VE  
NOTICED?

I AIN'T  
SCARED  
O' YOU!

AN' I DON'T  
NEED NO GUN--





AHH... THIS I DOUBT! AS I DOUBT  
YOU'RE **REALLY HOWARD MACGUFFIN!**  
AM I PRIVILEGED TO SPEAK  
WITH THE ILLUSTRIOUS  
**BATMAN?**

YOU SEE... I GAVE  
MACGUFFIN A  
**PASSWORD** TO  
SAY--AND YOU  
DIDN'T!

AS A **RESULT**, I SHALL BE  
CHECKING OUT OF THESE UNSAVORY  
PREMISES SHORTLY-- LEAVING  
BEHIND A **CORPSE!**

IT'S BEEN A **PLEASURE**  
OUTWITTING YOU, **BATMAN!**  
**GOOD-BYE!**

SULPHUR...  
I HAVE A  
**BARGAIN--**

BLAST!  
HE HUNG UP!

YOU -- **BIG**  
**SHOT!** YOU'VE  
JUST **EXECUTED**  
MARY! I HOPE  
YOU'RE **PROUD...**

YOU WOULDN'T  
WAIT... YOU--

SHUT UP!  
I'VE GOT TO  
**THINK!**

SULPHUR SAID  
HE'D BE "CHECKING  
OUT"... MIGHT INDICATE HE'S  
IN A HOTEL! BUT WHICH... THERE ARE  
HUNDREDS IN GOTHAM!

NO TIME TO  
INVESTIGATE  
THEM ALL!

SOMETHING'S NAGGING  
AT THE BACK OF MY MIND... SOME  
**INDICATION** OF  
SULPHUR'S  
HIDE-OUT!

WHAT...  
WHAT?

CAN YOU ANSWER  
THE BATMAN'S  
QUESTION?

I MUST ASSUME, MARY, THAT THE GENTLEMEN I SENT TO ACCOMPANY YOUR SPOUSE ARE CAPTIVE! ERGO, I DEPART ALONE!

AT DAWN, I GO... AS, IN ANOTHER FASHION, DO YOU! MY WORD IS MY BOND--

--THUS, CHARMING AS YOU ARE, YOU MUST SUFFER FOR YOUR SPOUSE'S FAILURE!

AHHH... I SEE PUZZLEMENT IN THIS LOVELY FACE! YOU WONDER WHY I WAIT--

--I HAVE A FETISH ABOUT SUNRISE! I BELIEVE THE RISING OF THE SUN BRINGS ME LUCK!

THUS, TO ESCAPE PUNISHMENT, I COMMIT NO ACTS OF VIOLENCE EXCEPT DURING THE MORNING'S EARLIEST MINUTES!

DURING SUCH MINUTES, I CAN BE QUITE VIOLENT INDEED, AS YOU SHALL LEARN!

A PHYSICIAN ONCE TERMED ME INSANE--

--CORRECT VERDICT, I FEAR!

AHHH... I SEE BY MY EXCELLENT AMERICAN WATCH WE CAN EXPECT THE SUN WITHIN THE HOUR!

TO PASS THE TIME, YOU MAY ENJOY INSPECTING MY HAND... THE CONCEALED WEAPON MAKES IT MORE USEFUL THAN THE ONE I LOST!

I SHALL USE IT TO EFFECT YOUR... DEPARTURE FROM THIS WORLD!

MEANWHILE, IN DOWNTOWN GOTHAM, AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS, TWO MEN WORK FEVERISHLY-- DESPERATELY--TO NO AVAIL!

NO USE, BATMAN! SULPHUR'S THUGS AREN'T TALKING! THEY CLAIM THEY DON'T KNOW WHERE THEIR BOSS IS!

PROBABLY TELLING THE TRUTH... SULPHUR'S SHREWD! HE'D COVER HIS TRACKS...

...THE SUN RISES AT 6:03 TODAY! WE HAVE LESS THAN 48 MINUTES!



I'M AFRAID WE'RE WHIPPED! I'M ALSO AFRAID YOUR REPUTATION WILL BE BADLY DAMAGED WHEN THE NEWS GETS OUT!

DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND? I DON'T CARE ABOUT MY REPUTATION! NO, I KEEP THINKING OF THE WOMAN--

--HOW SHE'LL DIE ... BECAUSE I BLUNDERED! I DON'T WANT TO LIVE WITH THAT COMMISSIONER!

BUT I'LL HAVE TO... AND THE WORST PART IS, I'M SURE I'VE GOT THE ANSWER--!

WAIT...OF COURSE!

COMMISSIONER, I'VE JUST REMEMBERED-- WHAT I HAD TO REMEMBER!

SNAP!

# WOW!

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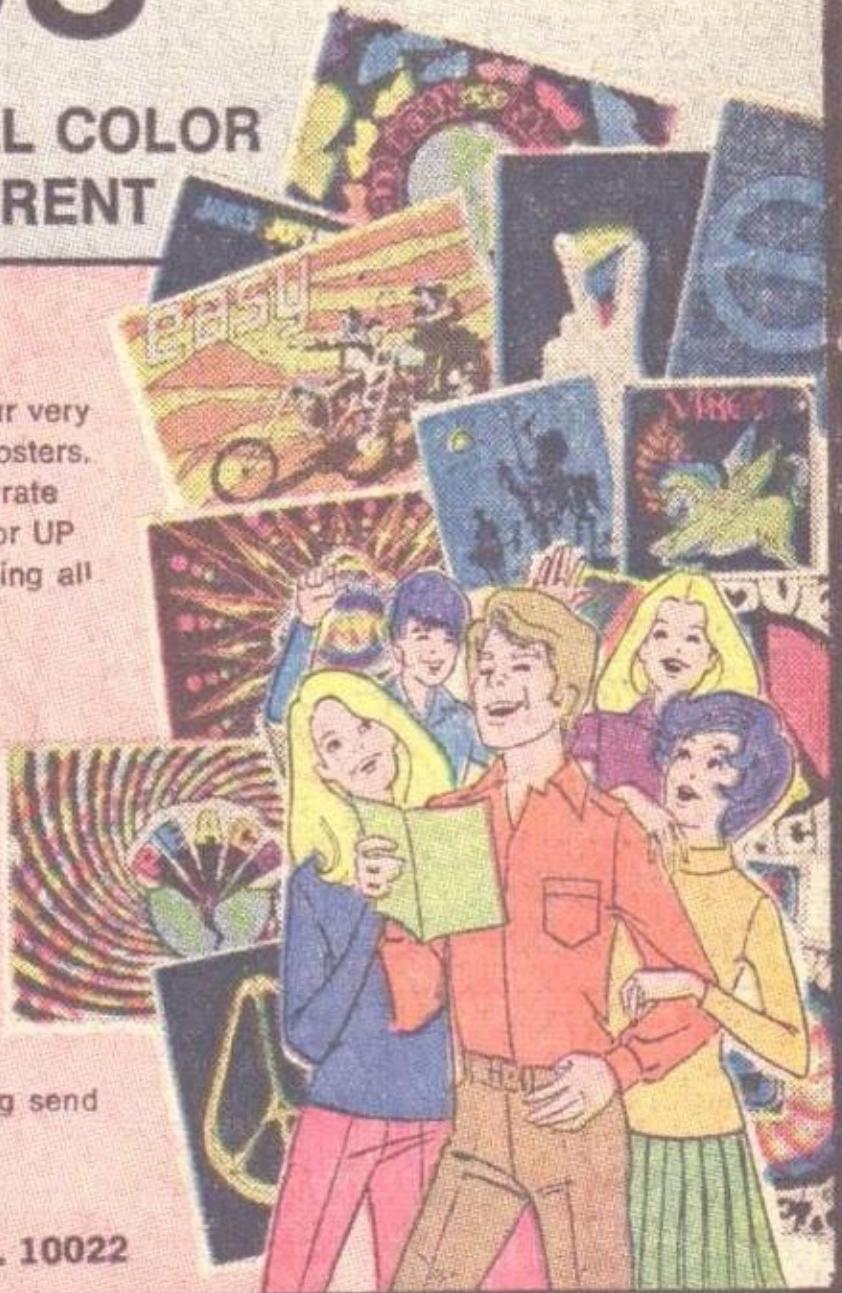
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MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: NATIONAL PERIODICAL PUBL. INC.

LET ME CHECK THIS  
MAP SHOWING THE  
LOCATIONS OF ALL  
THE CITY'S HOTELS--!

FIND THE THING  
YOU'RE LOOKING  
FOR, BATMAN?

I HAVE... I HOPE!  
EXCUSE ME... I HAVE  
EXACTLY 43  
MINUTES TO TRAVEL  
ACROSS TOWN!

43 MINUTES...  
TO SAVE MARY  
MACGUFFIN!

HOLD IT,  
BATMAN! YOU'RE  
NOT GOING  
ANYWHERE!

SAYS  
WHO?

SAYS MY  
SUPERIORS!  
YOU'RE DEALING  
WITH GOVERN-  
MENT BUSINESS!  
WE CAN'T PERMIT  
A PRIVATE CITIZEN  
TO INTERFERE!

THEN YOU  
ACCOMPANY ME--!

I WILL... EVENTUALLY! MY  
ORDERS ARE TO HOLD YOU  
TILL PROPER AUTHORITIES  
ARRIVE--

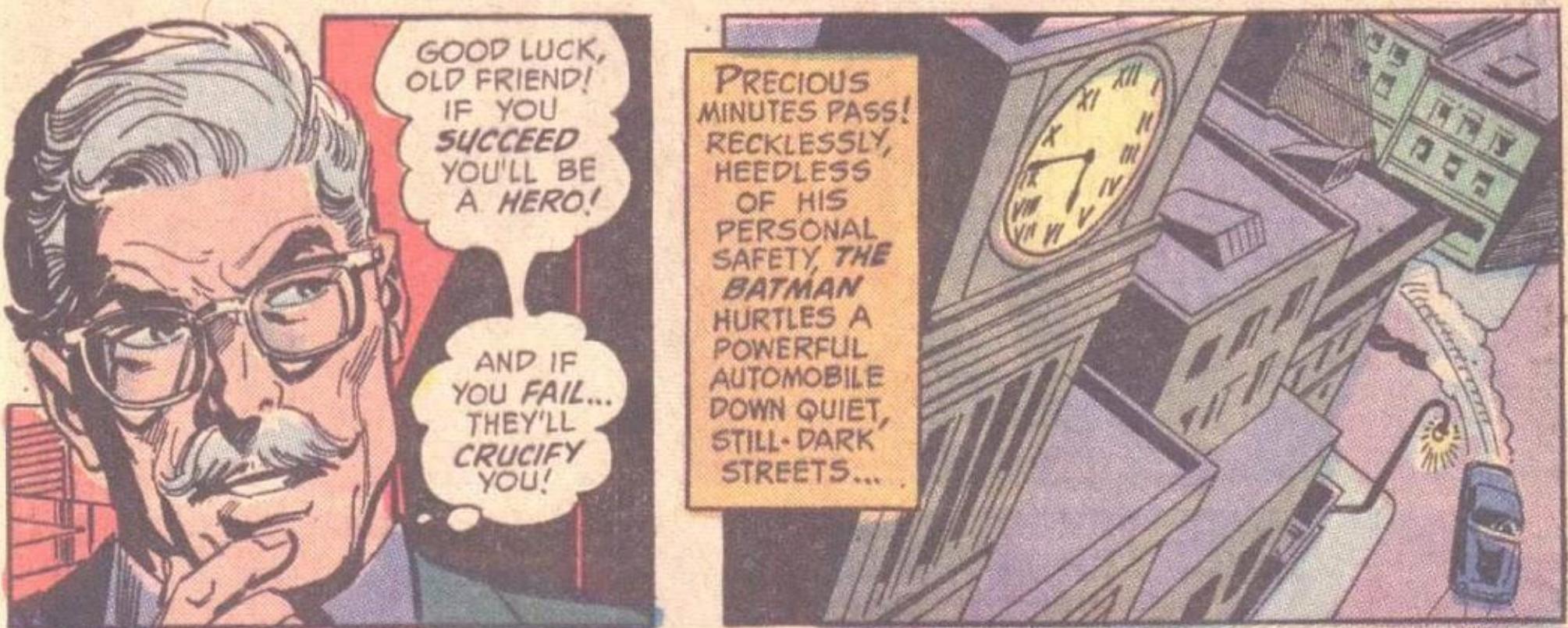
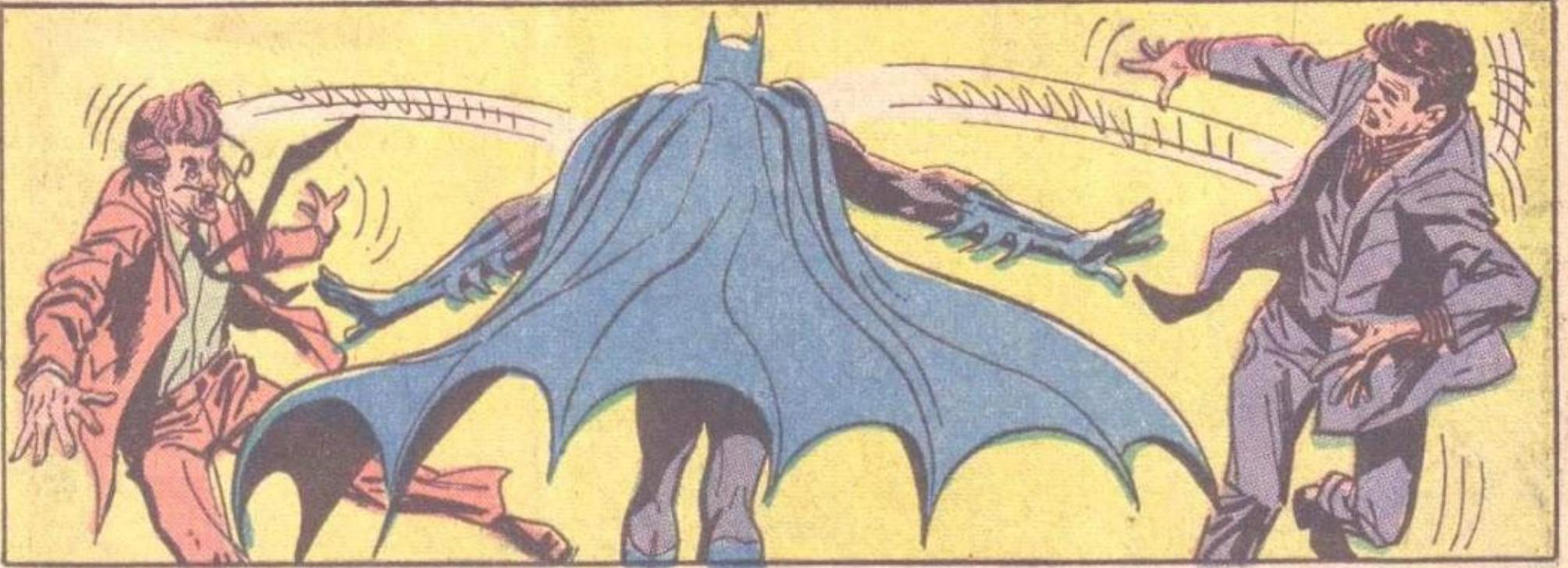
THEY SHOULD  
MAKE IT  
BEFORE  
EIGHT!

I  
CONVINCED  
WASHINGTON  
OF YOUR  
IRRESPONSI-  
BILITY!

MISTER... BY EIGHT, MARY MACGUFFIN  
WILL BE A HEAP OF COLD MEAT! I'M  
WALKING OUT... EITHER PAST YOU--  
OR OVER YOU!

STEP  
ASIDE!

COMM. GORDON



AND, ABOVE...

BEHOLD, MY DEAR!  
THE GLOW ON THE  
ROOFTOPS... SIGNALING  
THE END OF OUR  
ACQUAINTANCE!

IN A MOMENT, MY DAY  
WILL BEGIN... AND YOURS  
FINISH -- FOREVER! GAZE  
UPON THE FIRST RAYS  
OF THE SUN --

--FOR THEY ARE THE LAST  
THINGS YOU WILL SEE!  
FAREWELL, MY DEAR!



I AM AMAZED...  
HOW YOU CAUGHT  
ME IS A MYSTERY!

SIMPLE! I REMEMBERED  
DURING OUR PHONE  
CONVERSATION I  
HEARD AN ELEVATED  
TRAIN! I MERELY  
FOUND A HOTEL NEXT  
TO AN EL'S TRACKS!

MMMPH--

SUDDENLY... A BLADE SNAPS FREE AND THE  
SPY LUNGES, DRIVING STEEL DEEP INTO  
THE BATMAN'S BICEPS--



WITH SWIFTNESS RIVALING THE BATMAN'S OWN, HE FLINGS HIMSELF ACROSS THE SMALL SPACE, AND OUT--

HE'S ESCAPING... ONTO THE FIRE-ESCAPE!



HE HURT ME WITH THAT TRICK-HAND... GOT TO IGNORE THE INJURY--

--OR CHARGE A SECOND BLUNDER TO MY MORAL ACCOUNT!

GONE!  
HE COULDN'T HAVE REACHED THE STREET SO QUICKLY!



# YOU can manage in the Majors with **STRAT-O-MATIC** Baseball.

As a STRAT-O-MATIC Major League Manager, you'll make the actual game-deciding moves Houk, Hodges, Alston, Weaver and Murtaugh make. You'll decide when to pinch-hit, play the infield in, change pitchers, signal for hit-and-run, bunt or hit away. Only STRAT-O-MATIC BASEBALL brings you so realistically face-to-face with the decisions a Big League Manager makes on the playing fields.

You're always arguing with that guy down the block about who can manage a Big League team better. Well now you can settle that argument under as close to real game conditions as you can find this side of a Major League dugout. And have great fun doing it playing STRAT-O-MATIC Baseball, the real-to-life game that uses actual big league players according to their proven abilities. It's strictly up to YOU to manage your players — to pull them together under your leadership into the most powerful team possible.

You know your baseball. What to expect from clutch-hitting Roberto Clemente with men on base. How to pitch to Willie Mays with Willie McCovey on deck. How the good control pitchers like Fergy Jenkins seem to get stronger in the late innings while "wild men" like Nolan Ryan tire. In STRAT-O-MATIC it's up to you to get the most out of your players.

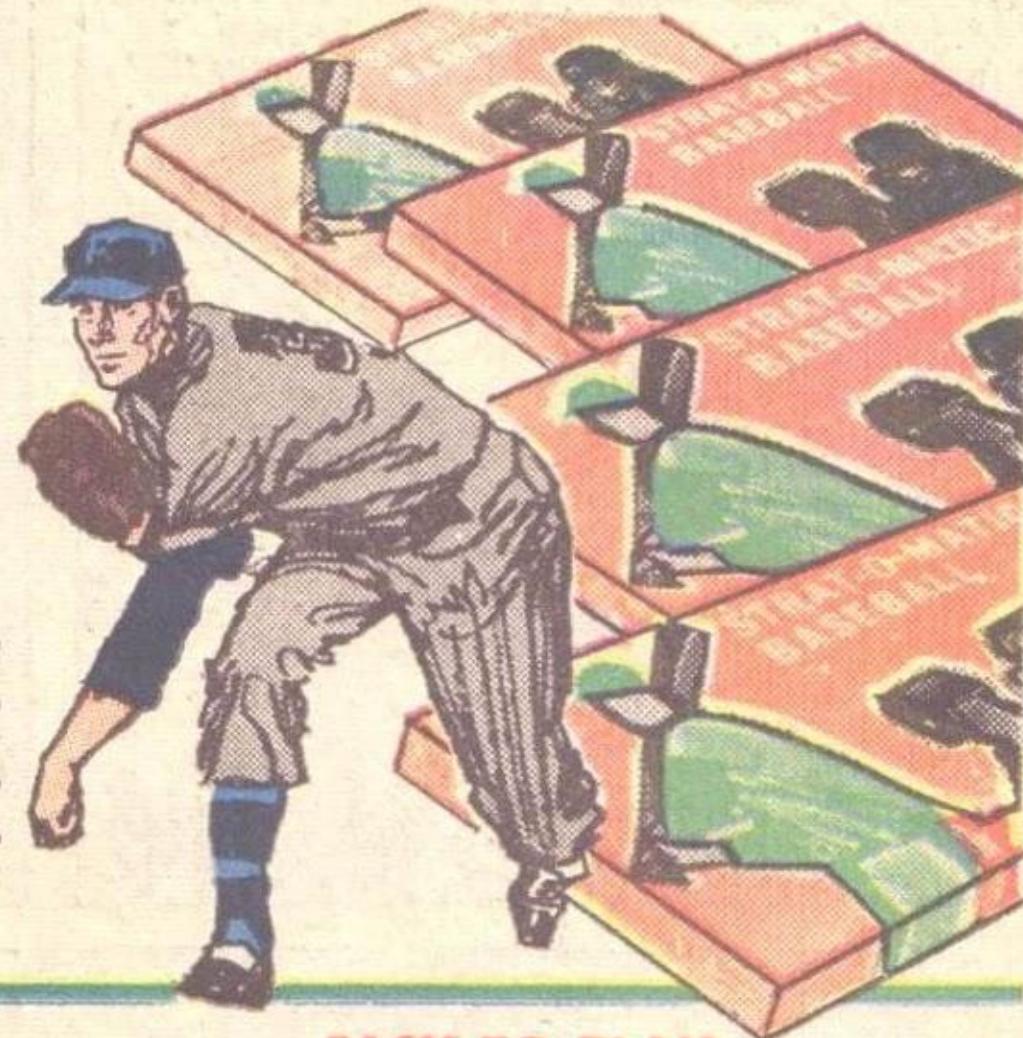
## DO THINGS YOUR WAY

As you watch a game on TV, aren't there times when you disagree with the manager's decision? When you'd hold Tom Seaver back an extra day to match the Cardinal's Ace, Bob Gibson. Well STRAT-O-MATIC is your chance to play Big League baseball YOUR way.

As a STRAT-O-MATIC Manager, if you make the right decisions, you're going to win. That's because we've taken every possible statistic on 480 Big League players and put them into a computer. All this vital information is brought together on an individual performance card for EACH player. In STRAT-O-MATIC, a player performs as he does on the field. Brooks Robinson makes those incredible plays at third. Frank Howard hits them out of sight.

**Big League  
Baseball...the  
STRAT-O-MATIC way**

Just fill in coupon for  
free brochure with samples



## EASY-TO-PLAY

Sounds complicated? It's not. The computer does all the hard figuring. Playing STRAT-O-MATIC is easy. It's only the decisions that are hard. Should you hit and run with Boog Powell at bat. It reduces the chances of a groundball Double Play. But you take a chance on the free-swinging Powell taking a whiff as the runner is cut down at second. It's YOUR decision in STRAT-O-MATIC.

STRAT-O-MATIC Baseball begins when you make up your lineup. Would you go with Manager Spanky Anderson's day-to-day lineup for Cincinnati? Or would you slot Pete Rose in the important third place in the order rather than as lead-off? When, as Yankee Manager, is it time to yank Stan Bahnsen? Do you bring in McDaniel or Aker?

## PLAY YOUR DREAM GAMES

Manage STRAT-O-MATIC against all the kids in the neighborhood. Play actual American and National League schedules. Play your inter-league "dream games" — Vida Blue on the mound for Oakland against the Mets with Tom Seaver. You can even pick your own ALL-STAR teams and manage them in a 7-game "World Series" rather than the inconclusive single game.

*If you like Big League Baseball, you'll love STRAT-O-MATIC. And just playing it will help you to become a "headier" player yourself. Fill in the coupon and we'll mail you a colorful brochure explaining STRAT-O-MATIC BASEBALL in detail. It's free and includes free samples.*

**STRAT-O-MATIC GAME CO., INC. Dept. 837  
82A South Bayles Avenue  
Port Washington, N.Y. 11050**

Please send me free brochure including samples  
of STRAT-O-MATIC Baseball.  
I enclose 10 cents to cover postage and handling.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_



AS THOUGH SUMMONED--  
BY SOME JUST FATE--  
A RAY OF THE SUN--

-- PIERCES THE GLOOM,  
TOUCHES A VILLAIN'S WEAPON --

-- AND JABS INTO  
HIS EYES...



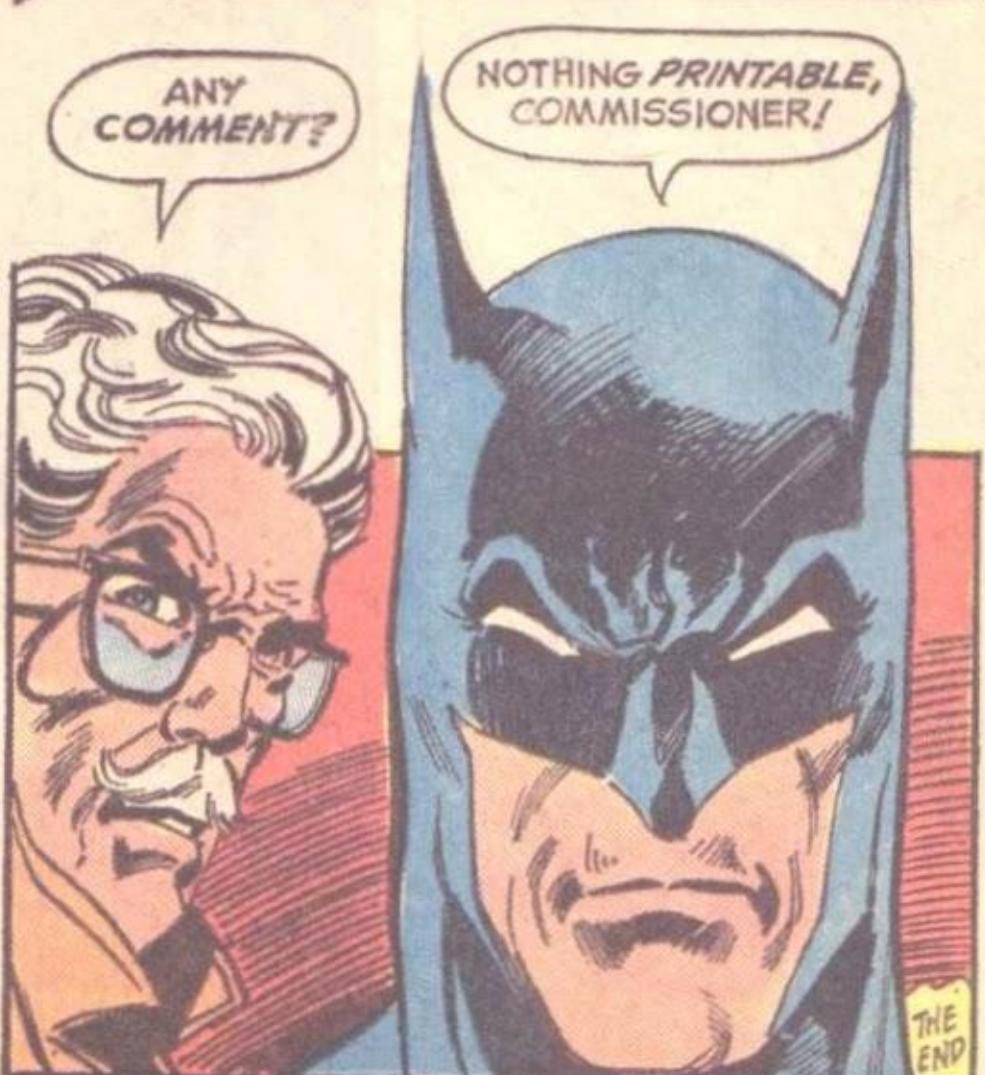


I'VE RECEIVED WORD FROM WASHINGTON... THOSE CLASSIFIED PAPERS MACGUFFIN TOOK--THE GOVERNMENT HAS DECIDED TO REVEAL THEM TO THE PUBLIC!

BY NOON, THE NEWS MEDIA WILL CARRY THE FULL TEXT OF THEM! SOME BIGWIG DECIDED THEY WEREN'T SO "DANGEROUS" AFTER ALL!

ANY COMMENT?

NOTHING PRINTABLE, COMMISSIONER!



NIGHT ENDS WITHOUT SLEEP AND  
THE MORNING YAWNS WEARILY...  
SUN AND SMOG BEGIN THEIR  
DAILY BATTLE FOR CONTROL OF  
THE STREETS OF GOTHAM...

STORY: MIKE FRIEDRICH - EDITOR: JULIUS SCHWARTZ  
ART: Rich Buckler

# ROBIN

THE TEEN WONDER

BEAUTIFUL  
MORNING--BUT I  
FEEL CAUGHT IN  
THE MIDST OF  
A VIOLENT  
**HELL-STORM--**

--DRAGGING  
ME TO AN  
UNKNOWN  
DESTINY!

BEING...  
TUGGED...  
BY AN  
IRRESISTIBLE  
**PSYCHIC  
FORCE--!**

TERRI!  
YOU--?

YES, ROBIN--  
IT WAS I WHO  
TELEPATHED  
TO YOU!

I...KNOW...YOU'VE  
HAD SUSPICIONS  
ABOUT ME--

--AND  
NOW IT IS  
TIME FOR  
THE TRUTH!

**SECRET  
of the PSYCHIC SIREN!"**

AWARENESS CAME TO  
ME AT A YOUNG AGE...

...THAT MY MIND  
WAS STRANGE--  
DIFFERENT--  
ENDOWED WITH  
MYSTERIOUS ABILITIES!

THEN, MONTHS AGO,  
I LEARNED OF A  
MENTAL "RELATIVE"--  
WITH SIMILAR  
POWERS! I  
HAD TO  
CONTACT  
HER!

BUT IN MY SEARCH, AS THE  
PSYCHIC VIBRATIONS BECAME  
STRONGER, I RAN INTO YOU!

FIRST AT HUDSON U--  
THEN AT THE VAN WINKLE  
COMMUNE--

FINALLY, IN  
YOUR LATEST  
ADVENTURE WITH  
RICK ASHER--!  
YOU ARE THE  
MENTAL LINK  
TO MY "RELATIVE"!!

M-ME--?!

LATER, IN A CHILDREN'S PLAY-  
GROUND NEAR HUDSON  
UNIVERSITY--

ONLY ONCE A  
MONTH ARE THE  
CONDITIONS  
RIGHT FOR  
CONTACT!

TONIGHT  
IS THE  
NIGHT--AND  
THIS IS THE  
SPOT!

YOU'RE  
SURE BEING  
MYSTERIOUS  
ABOUT ALL  
THIS, TERRI--

THAT IS  
HOW IT  
MUST  
BE!

I MUST  
EVEN  
CONCEAL  
MY "RELATIVE'S"  
IDENTITY!

IN TITAN HEADQUARTERS,  
AT MR. JUPITER'S COMPLEX...

LILITH?  
WHAT'S  
WRONG?

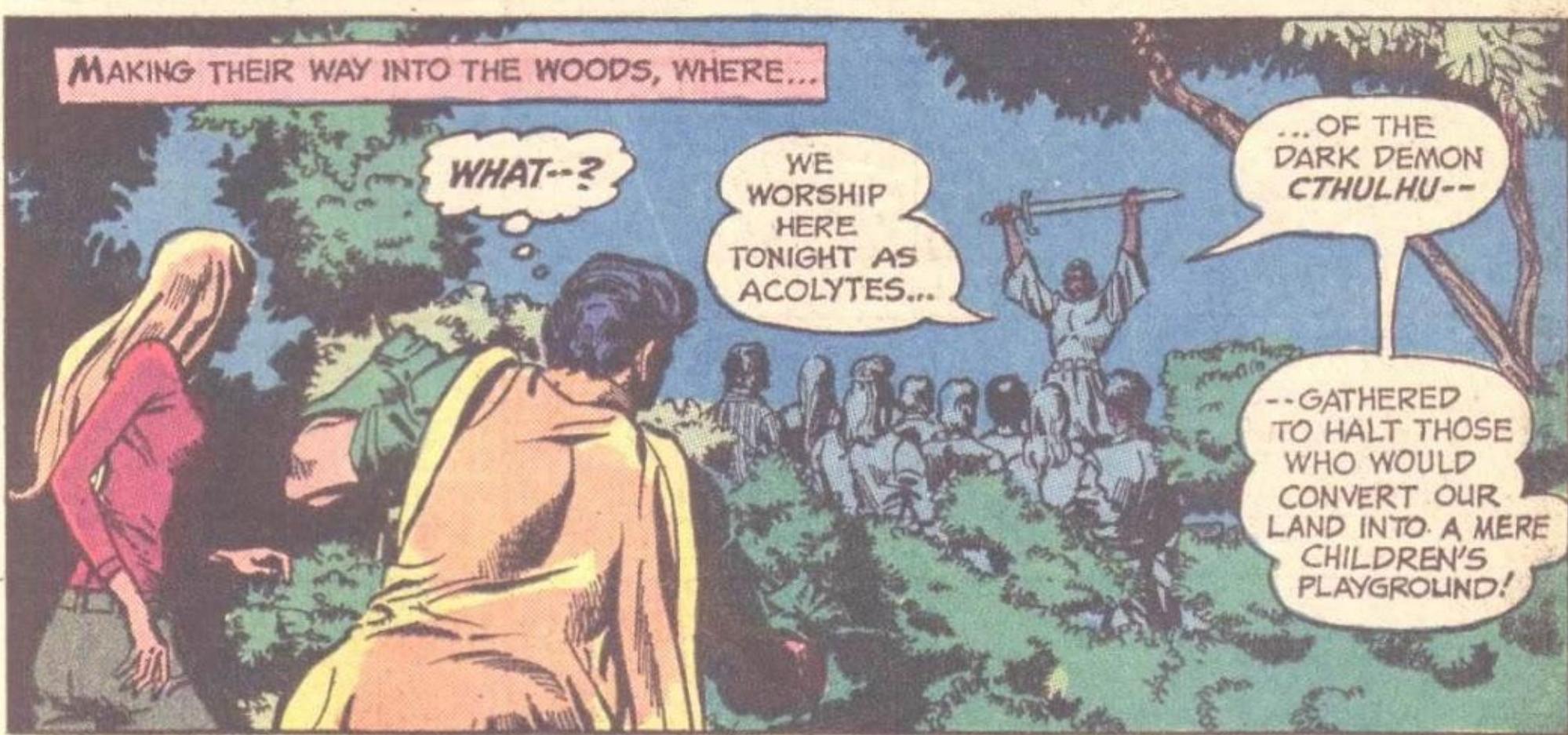
MY EXTRA-  
SENSORY  
PERCEPTION,  
KID FLASH--

--PICKING UP  
MENTAL RADIATION!  
SOMEONE'S TRYING  
TO MAKE CONTACT!

**IN SECONDS, MINDS ARE LINKED  
ACROSS AN ASTRAL PLANE, AND  
TWO LIVES ARE INSTANTLY SHARED!**



**MAKING THEIR WAY INTO THE WOODS, WHERE...**



**IN DECADES PAST, THE PROPHET  
LOVECRAFT GAVE US THE SACRED  
BOOK OF THE NECRONOMICON!**

**PEOPLE SCORNED OUR PROPHET,  
FORCING HIM TO COMMUNICATE HIS  
OCCULT KNOWLEDGE VIA THE PULP-  
FICTION MAGAZINES!**



# Any 14 of these

If you join now and agree to buy ten more records (at regular Club prices)



208363



210195



210179



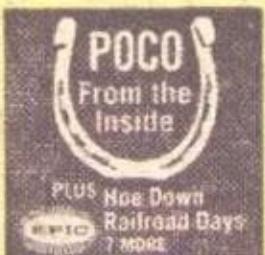
209239



210237



207522



209361



210245



COLUMBIA



Every Day I Have The Blues

209668



PLUS Can't Stand It 2 MORE

209114



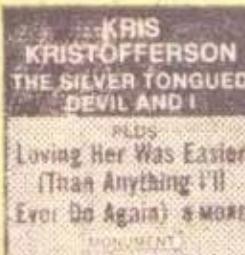
Change Partners Marianne 10 MORE

207373



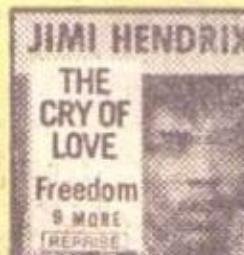
PLUS We've Only Just Begun 10 MORE

196444



PLUS Loving Her Was Easier (Than Anything I'll Ever Do Again) 8 MORE

207084



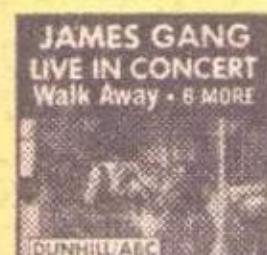
Freedom 8 MORE

201293



I'll Meet You Hallway 10 MORE

202135



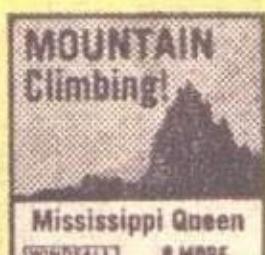
Walk Away + 6 MORE

209445



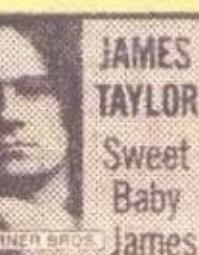
PLUS I Know I'm Losing You 6 MORE

206573



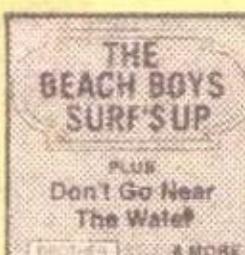
Mississippi Queen WINDFALL 8 MORE

201764



WARNER BROS.

188367



PLUS Don't Go Near The Water 8 MORE

208397



I'd Love to Change the World

207977



PLUS Wild World + 9 MORE

198911



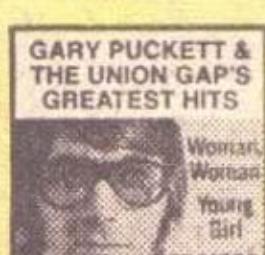
Get It On 8 MORE

204438



PLUS Wond'ring Aloud 3 MORE

203372



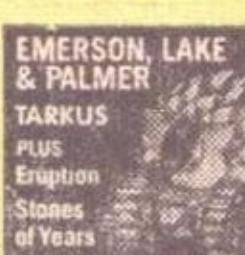
Woman Woman Young Girl 10 MORE

191742



FREEDOM MEANS Plus The Love We Had (Stays On My Mind) 8 MORE

208272



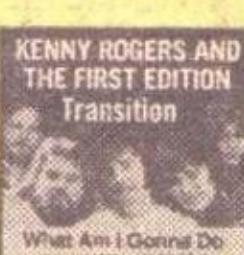
TARKUS PLUS Eruption Stones of Years 11 MORE

207076



Bridge Over Troubled Water PLUS El Condor Pasa 9 MORE

186809



Transition What Am I Gonna Do 9 MORE

208538



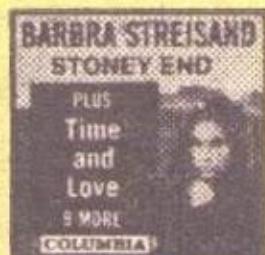
One Bad Apple PLUS Sweet and Innocent 8 MORE

201699



You've Made Me So Happy COLUMBIA 9 MORE

172411



PLUS Time and Love 8 MORE

200204



I Don't Know You Glendale Train 8 MORE

208306



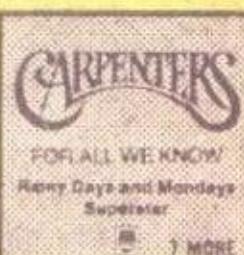
THEIR GREAT HITS Born to Be Wild Hey Lawdy Magic Carpet Mama Ride DUNHILL/ABC 8 MORE

201772



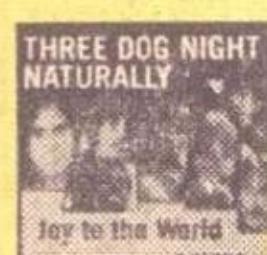
GOLDEN BISQUITS Eli's Coming Mama Told Me Easy to Be Hard 8 MORE DUNHILL/ABC

201780



For All We Know Happy Days and Mondays Superstar 7 MORE

203919



Naturally Joy to the World

DUNHILL/ABC 8 MORE

196709



PLUS • Carey • All I Want • River 8 MORE

206979



Sweet and Innocent Hey Little Girl 8 MORE

207100



PLUS Strange Kind of Woman 8 MORE

197954



PLUS Strange Kind of Woman 8 MORE

208348



ME AND BOBBY McGEE PLUS For the Good Times 10 MORE MONUMENT

199232



HOMEMADE DOUBLE LOVIN' 8 MORE

206409



I'm a Mover Fire and Water 8 MORE

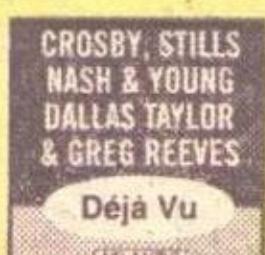
AM 8 MORE

208330



B.S.T.: 4 Go Down Gamblin' COLUMBIA 11 MORE

202713



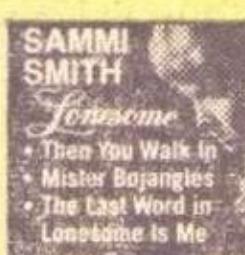
Dallas Taylor & Greg Reeves Déjà Vu ATLANTIC 8 MORE

188060



EVERYTHING IS BEAUTIFUL Gitarzan Ahab the Arab 8 MORE

207456



LONESOME • Then You Walk In • Mister Bojangles • The Last Word in Lonesome Is Me 8 MORE

207944



ODE LESS BELL TO ANSWER 8 MORE ATLANTIC

196717



PORTRAIT Ode Less Bell to Answer 8 MORE

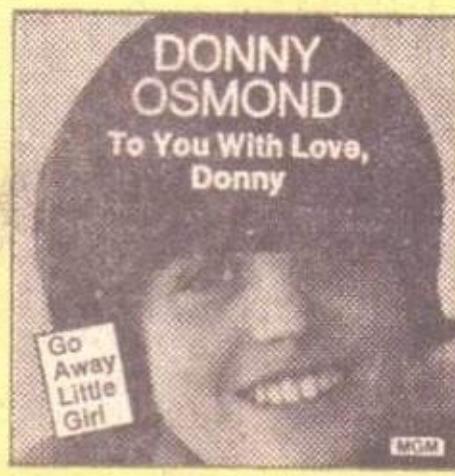
191205

# hit records FOR ONLY \$2.86

during the coming two years (you will have up to 300 records a month to choose from)



210229



210211



210203



209981



210153



209395



209973



209874



198986



207993



196246



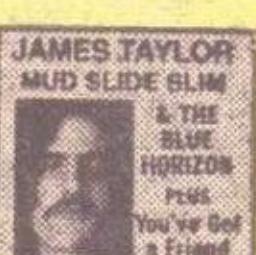
203539



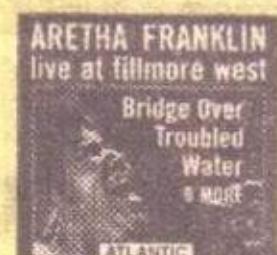
195727



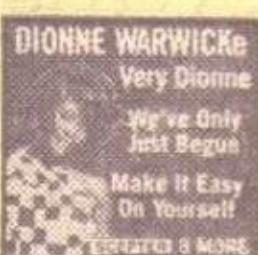
206144



202523



205526



201749

**2-RECORD SETS**  
each contains  
two records —  
yet each set  
counts as only  
one selection



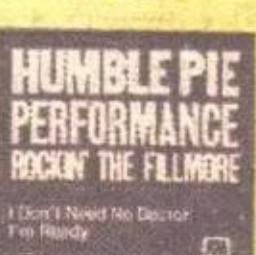
209148



210252



209726



210351

**You, it's true!** — if you join now, you may have ANY 14 of these records for only \$2.86. Just mail the application at the right, together with your check or money order for \$2.86. In exchange ...

**You agree to buy just ten records (at regular Club prices) in the coming two years** — and you may cancel membership at any time after doing so.

... will be opened upon enrollment ... and the records you order as a member will be mailed and billed at the regular Club price of \$4.98 or \$5.98 each, plus processing and postage. (Multi-record sets are somewhat higher.)

**You may accept or reject records as follows:** every four weeks you will receive a new copy of the Club's music magazine, which describes the regular selection for each musical interest ... plus hundreds of alternate selections.

In any month, just return the selection card provided by the date specified

... **If you want only the regular selection** for your musical interest, you need do nothing — it will be shipped to you automatically

... **If you want any of the other records offered**, just order them on the selection card and return it by the date specified

... **and from time to time** we will offer some special albums, which you may reject by returning the special dated form provided ... or accept by simply doing nothing.

**You'll be eligible for our bonus plan** upon completing your enrollment agreement — a plan which enables you to get one record of your choice free (only 25¢ for processing and postage) for every one you buy thereafter. Act now — fill in and mail the application today!

**COLUMBIA RECORD CLUB, Terre Haute, Indiana 47808**

I am enclosing check or money order for \$2.86 as payment for the 14 records below. Please accept my membership application. I agree to purchase ten records (at regular Club prices) during the coming two years, and may cancel membership any time thereafter. If I continue, I'll be eligible for your bonus plan.

Send these 14 records — I've enclosed check or money order for \$2.86


All records will be described in advance in the Magazine, sent every four weeks. If I do not want any record, I'll return the selection card by the date specified ... or use the card to order any record I want. If I want only the regular selection for my musical interest, I need do nothing — it will be sent automatically. From time to time, I'll be offered special albums which I may accept or reject by using the dated form provided.

**MY MAIN MUSICAL INTEREST IS (check one only):**

- |                                         |                                               |                                    |
|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Easy Listening | <input type="checkbox"/> Young Sounds         | <input type="checkbox"/> Jazz      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Country        | <input type="checkbox"/> Broadway & Hollywood | <input type="checkbox"/> Classical |

Mr. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Miss \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mrs. \_\_\_\_\_ (Please print) First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Initial \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have a telephone? (check one)  YES...  NO  
APO/FPO addresses: write for special offer

425/S72

(BS-Z) E14

YOU HAVE FOLLOWED ME BECAUSE YOU, TOO, SEEK A HIGHER POWER--

HERE IS THE POWER OF A DEMON --SEIZE IT! LET NOT OUR ENEMIES TAKE OUR HALLOWED LAND!

WE'VE GOT TO DO SOMETHING!--I SENSE THEY'RE DANGEROUS!

BUT THEY HAVEN'T BROKEN ANY LAWS! AND THIS IS PUBLIC PROPERTY--

WE CAN'T BUST AN ENTIRE GROUP BECAUSE THEY LIKE TO RECITE WEIRD CHANTS!



WHILE, A SHORT DISTANCE AWAY...

THIS IS AS FAR AS YOU TAKE ME, KID FLASH!



-- I'LL DO MY OWN INVESTIGATING! I KNOW YOU'D LIKE TO HELP, BUT...

I UNDERSTAND, LILITH! IT'S YOUR SHOW!-- TAKE CARE!



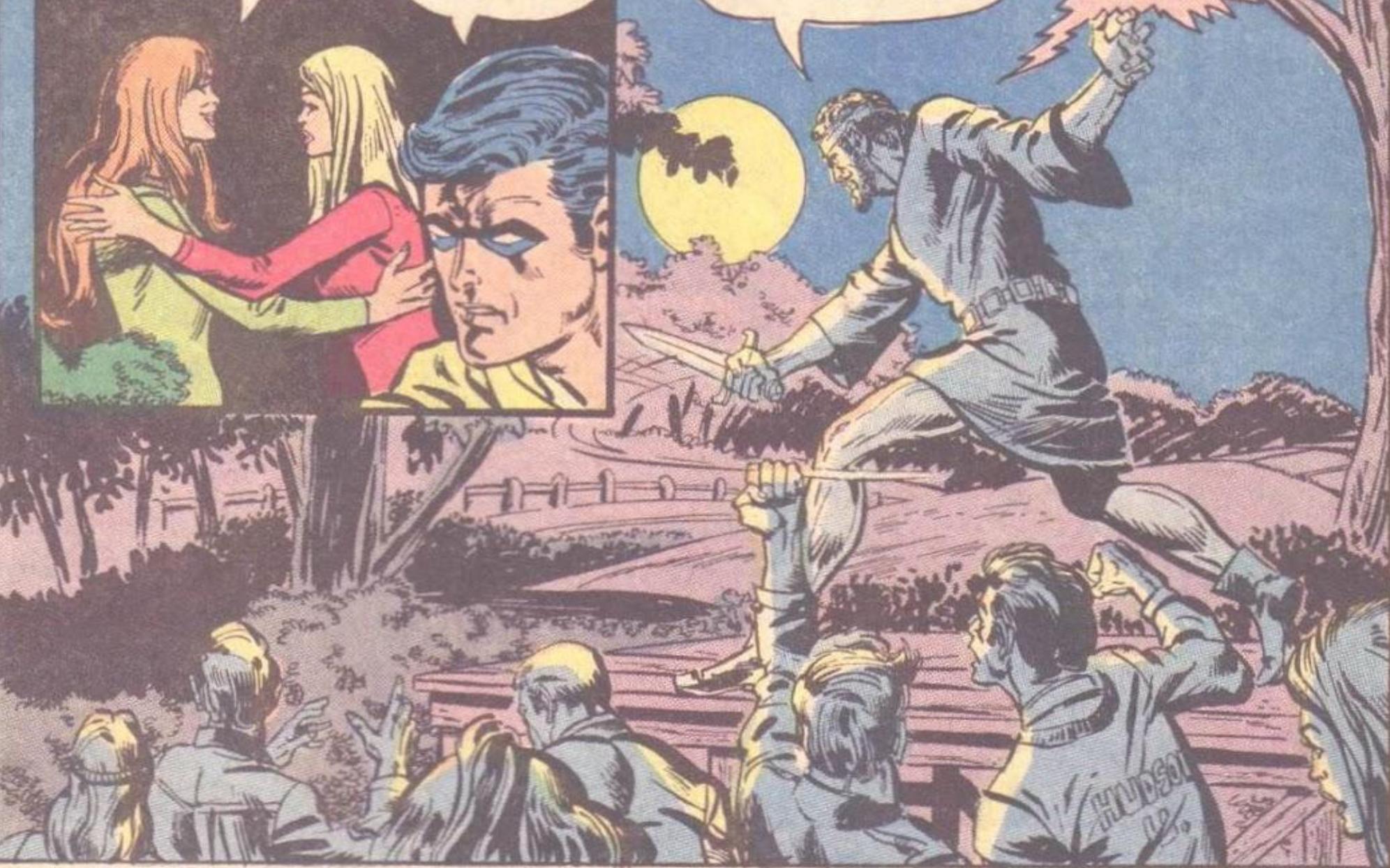
WHENEVER ROBIN  
WAS NEAR, MY MIND  
FELT SOMEONE  
REACHING OUT TO  
ME--BUT I NEVER  
COULD MAKE THE  
CONNECTION--!

YOU GIRLS  
BETTER PUT  
OFF YOUR  
SOCIALIZING!  
THAT CULT  
IS WORKING  
UP A  
**FRENZY!**

AND  
SUDDENLY...

HALT, MY FOLLOWERS,  
WE HAVE  
ENCROACHERS  
UPON OUR RITES!

KILL  
THE  
HERETICS!



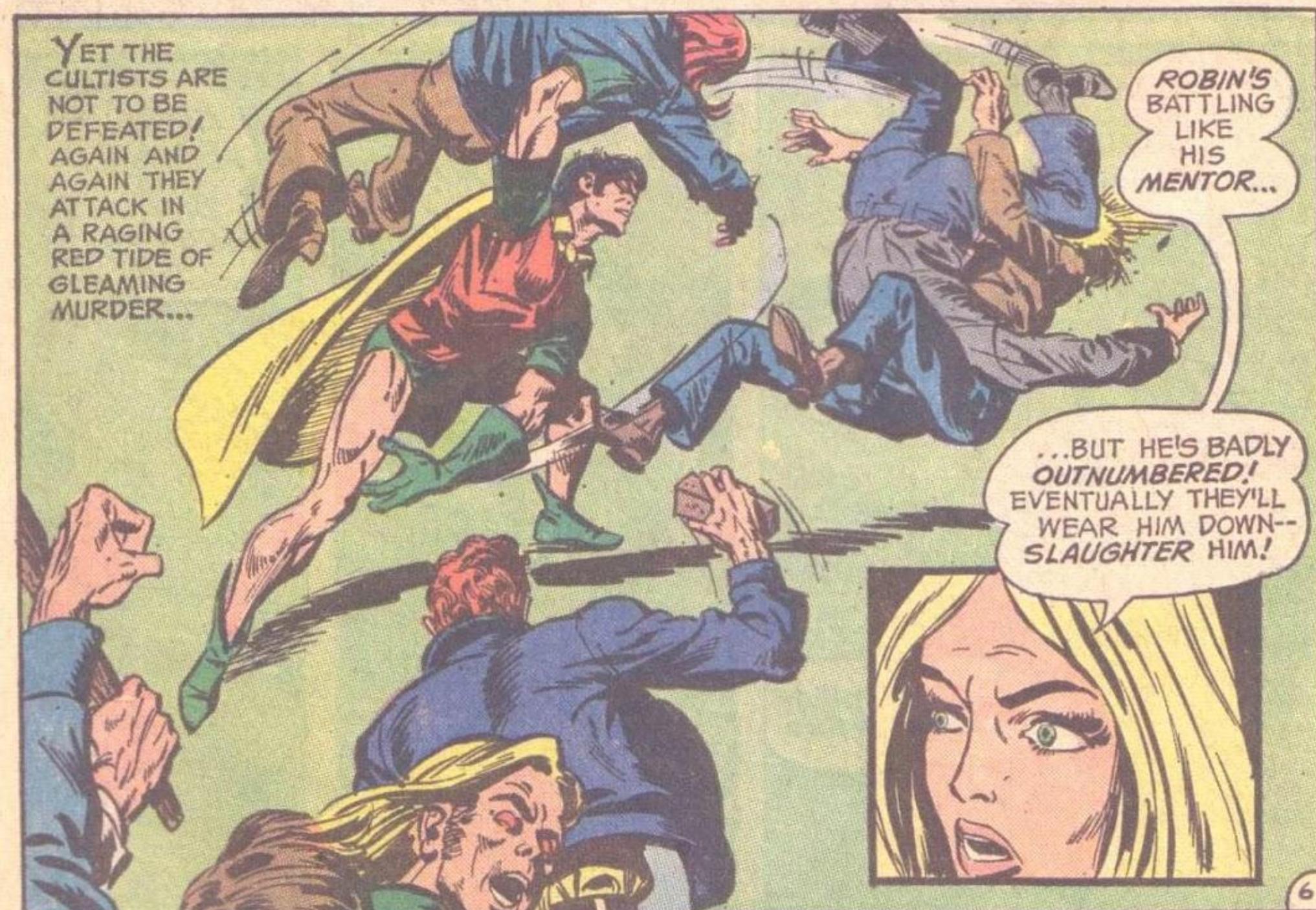
THEY HAVE  
DESECRATED  
OUR RITUALS!

THERE IS  
BUT ONE  
PUNISHMENT--

**--DEATH!**

THEIR EYES--  
BLAZING RED  
WITH  
FURY!

ROBIN!  
THEY'RE  
POSSESSED--  
BY A  
DEMON!  
LOOK AT  
THEM!



THEIR TREMENDOUS  
STRENGTH... MUST  
COME FROM THE  
OCCULT!

WE MUST  
UNITE OUR  
MINDS, TERRI!  
CHANNEL YOUR  
PSYCHIC MIGHT  
THROUGH MY  
EXTRA-  
SENSES...

THERE--  
'TIS  
DONE!

NOW WE MUST  
DIRECT THE UNIFIED  
FORCE AGAINST  
THE EVIL IN THE  
CULTISTS!

UUNNNH:  
THE  
STRAIN  
IS TOO  
HARD--  
MY MIND  
SWAMPED  
WITH  
POWER--  
TOO  
MUCH--

YOU'RE SIMPLY  
INEXPERIENCED  
IN THE USE OF  
YOUR POWERS,  
TERRI! TRY  
HARDER--

--FOR  
ROBIN'S  
SAKE!

I... I AM  
TRYING--  
BUT...

CAN'T...  
MAKE...

IT...  
OHHHHH

TERRI!!

BUT THE  
EFFECT  
IS FELT  
ELSEWHERE...

THE GIRLS  
CAME THROUGH  
JUST IN TIME!  
MY ATTACKERS  
SUDDENLY  
WEAKENED...

...AS IF FINALLY  
FEELING ALL THE  
BLOWS I  
HANDED  
'EM!

BUT  
THERE'S  
SOMETHING  
STRANGE  
STILL LINGERING  
AROUND  
HERE!

BETTER  
SPOT IT  
FAST--

AND OUT OF  
NIGHT'S SHADOWS  
COMES THE TEEN  
WONDER'S ANSWER...

I'VE ESCAPED  
NOTICE SINCE THE  
BEGINNING OF THE  
BATTLE--

THE  
ELDER  
GODS  
PROTECT  
ME...

THERE IS...  
DANGER!

...MUST  
USE  
POWERS...  
SAVE  
ROBIN...

...FROM  
DEADLY  
DANGER!

NEVER COUNT THE  
CULT OF CTHULHU  
OUT!

WUMP!

THERE'S...  
A MYSTERY  
HERE...

... IF ONLY I  
HAD THE TIME...  
AND A CLEAR  
HEAD...TO  
FIGURE IT  
OUT...

THE MIGHTY  
PRIMAL ONE  
GUIDES MY HAND--

-- HIS ARM SWINGS  
THE SWORD OF  
VENGEANCE!

CTHULHU BRINGS  
DEATH TO  
ALL!!

NEED WE SAY--  
MORE TO COME!!?  
BE WITH US NEXT ISSUE  
WHEN ROBIN REACHES  
HIS... "DEATH-POINT!"

# HIT like the CHAMPS!

... with  
**LOUISVILLE  
SLUGGER**  
Bats

Sizzle at the  
Plate with the NEW  
**ALUMINUM**  
Hot Bat!

16" LOUISVILLE SLUGGER MINIATURE BAT 60¢ EACH

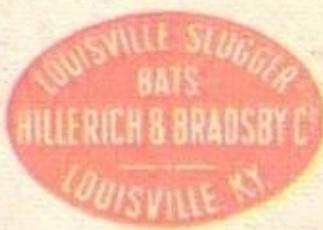
FAMOUS SLUGGER  
PEN-PENCIL SET  
in gleaming gift package  
(autographs of Carl Yastrzemski and Pete Rose  
only) 60¢ complete.

WILLIE STARGELL  
1971 N.L.  
Home Run King

TONY OLIVA  
1971 A.L.  
Batting Champion

BILL MELTON  
1971 A.L.  
Home Run King

**FAMOUS SLUGGER**  
YEARBOOK ready soon  
at your dealers. Get your  
copy from him or send 20¢  
direct to us (coin) to cover  
mailing.



**HILLERICH & BRADSBY CO.** • P. O. Box 506,  
Dept. BGB-2  
Louisville, Kentucky 40201

Please send me

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FROM THE HONORED CLASSIC ISSUE --  
BATMAN #5-- SPRING, 1941--  
COME DOWN MEMORY LANE with

# BATMAN

AND  
**Robin**  
-THE BOY WONDER-

BOB KANE

THERE IS A TIME WHEN JUSTICE IS BLIND, WHEN JUSTICE ERRS, THE TIME THE LONG ARM OF THE LAW POINTS AN ACCUSING FINGER AT AN INNOCENT MAN. THIS IS THE STORY OF SUCH A MAN... A MAN WHO, BECAUSE OF THE LAW'S WRONG JUDGMENT, ALMOST BECAME A CRIMINAL, BUT FOR THE TIMELY INTERVENTION OF THE BATMAN AND ROBIN, THE BOY WONDER. FOR, IT WAS THEY WHO GAVE HIM BACK HIS SELF-RESPECT AND WEDED OUT THE EVIL THAT WAS TO BE FOUND IN "THE CASE OF THE HONEST CROOK."



STORY: BILL FINGER  
ART: BOB KANE

A CRY CUTS SHARPLY THROUGH THE MIDNIGHT AIR. A THIEF FLEES IN PANIC FROM THE SCENE OF HIS CRIME; WHEN SUDDENLY AN INK-HUED FIGURE SLINKS OUT OF THE DEEP SHADOWS....

STOP--THIEF!



# A BATMAN CLASSIC



# A BATMAN CLASSIC

"THREE HARD-LOOKING MEN JUMPED OUT. ONE WALKED OVER TO ME...."

LISTEN, KID.  
THE COPS ARE  
ON OUR TRAIL.  
WE JUST  
PULLED A BIG  
JOB, AND WE WANNA  
TO KEEP THIS HOT  
CAR HERE FOR  
THE NIGHT!"

KEEP YOUR  
MOUTH SHUT, AND  
I'LL SLIP YOU A  
COUPLE HUNDRED  
BUCKS TOMORROW  
WHEN I GET  
THE CAR--  
OTHERWISE--

\$200?  
WE'D HAVE  
THE \$1000?  
ANN AND  
I COULD  
GET  
MARRIED!

"I MUST HAVE BEEN CRAZY  
BECAUSE I AGREED TO IT. EARLY  
THE NEXT MORNING, I RAN TO  
ANN'S HOUSE TO TELL HER THE  
GOOD NEWS...."

ANN, ANN--  
WE CAN GET  
MARRIED!  
I'LL HAVE  
THAT \$200  
BY TONIGHT!

BUT  
JOE--  
WHERE  
DID YOU  
GET  
IT?

"I COULDN'T LIE TO ANN. I TOLD  
HER THE TRUTH - AND BOY, DID  
SHE LACE IT INTO ME!"

IF YOU THINK I'M  
GOING TO START  
THE FOUNDATION  
OF OUR MARRIED  
LIFE ON THAT  
KIND OF MONEY,  
YOU'RE MISTAKEN,  
JOSEPH  
SANDS!

ALL  
RIGHT-  
ALL  
RIGHT,  
I WON'T  
TAKE  
THE  
MONEY....  
I  
PROMISE!

"I TOLD THE MOBSTER  
ABOUT IT THAT NIGHT  
WHEN HE CAME FOR HIS  
CAR. I COULD SEE HE  
DIDN'T LIKE THE IDEA...."

SO THAT'S  
HOW IT IS,  
MISTER. YOU  
DON'T HAVE TO  
WORRY-I WON'T  
TELL ANYBODY  
ABOUT THE  
JOB YOU  
PULLED?

OKAY-  
OKAY?  
JUST  
MAKE  
SURE  
O'  
THAT?

"I THOUGHT THAT WAS THE END  
OF THAT, BUT I WAS WRONG. THAT  
NIGHT, AFTER I TOOK ONE OF OUR  
PARKING PATRONS HOME AND WAS  
BRINGING HIS CAR BACK TO THE  
GARAGE TO BE PARKED OVERNIGHT...."

"I WAS PRETTY  
DAZED, BUT COULD  
TELL THAT ONE OF  
THE MEN FROM THE  
OTHER CAR WAS THE  
GANGSTER WHO HAD  
APPROACHED ME....  
SOMEBODY CALLED  
HIM MATTY!"

WHY DON'T WE PLUG  
IMF THAT'LL SHUT  
HIM UP?  
  
NO, THE  
BOSS DON'T  
LIKE THAT.  
WE JUST FIX  
HIM LIKE  
THIS....  
LIQUOR...  
SEE?

"THEN THEY HIT ME OVER THE HEAD WITH A  
GUNBUCK, AND STEPPING ON THE  
GAS, SENT THE CAR SPEEDING THROUGH  
THE STREET....."





# A BATMAN CLASSIC



"I WAS STILL UNCONSCIOUS, AND WITH NOBODY STEERING IT, THE CAR SWERVED AND CRASHED INTO A STORE...."

VIC'S BAR

**CRASH!**

"A COP PULLED ME OUT OF THE WRECK."

DRUNK--  
DRUNK  
AS A  
LORD?

"I WAS BROUGHT BEFORE A JUDGE WHO DECIDED TO MAKE AN EXAMPLE OF ME. OF COURSE, HE WOULDN'T BELIEVE MY STORY...."

YOU DRUNKEN DRIVERS ARE A PUBLIC MENACE. I'M GOING TO SENTENCE YOU TO TWO YEARS IN THE STATE PRISON!

YOU CAN'T! I WAS FRAMED, I TELL YOU! I WAS FRAMED!

OHHHH.

"ANN WAS WAITING FOR ME WHEN I GOT OUT. I WAS BROKE. THEY HAD TAKEN MY SAVINGS TO PAY FOR THE DAMAGES TO THE STORE AND THE CAR."

THE FIRST THING I'M GOING TO DO IS GET THAT GANGSTER WHO FRAMED ME TO GET ME OUT OF THE WAY!

NO-NO! THEY'LL KILL YOU! JOE, IF YOU FORGET ABOUT HIM I'LL MARRY YOU--MARRY YOU TODAY! PLEASE--FOR ME!

"A SWELL GIRL, ANN. I AGREED, AND WE WERE MARRIED AS SOON AS I GOT MYSELF A JOB."

....DO YOU, ANN DAVIS, TAKE THIS MAN TO....

"I GUESS WE THOUGHT ALL OUR TROUBLES WERE OVER THEN, BUT WE WERE WRONG. ONE DAY, MY BOSS CALLED ME INTO HIS OFFICE...."

I'VE JUST LEARNED YOU HAVE A PRISON RECORD. WE CAN'T ALLOW THAT IN THIS COMPANY. YOU'RE DISCHARGED.

"...AND IT WAS THE SAME WITH EVERY OTHER JOB. AS SOON AS THEY FOUND OUT I WAS ONCE IN JAIL...."

ARUMPHY IN VIEW OF YOUR PAST RECORD-- ARUMPH--

YEAH-- I KNOW-- I'M FIRED!

"....IT GOT SO I COULDN'T HOLD ANY JOB. WE WERE ALMOST FLAT BROKE THE DAY ANN FELL SICK...."

SHE'LL BE ALL RIGHT, DOC-- SHE'LL BE ALL RIGHT?

GET THIS PRESCRIPTION FILLED AND BUY THESE MEDICINES. THAT'LL DO IT!



# A BATMAN CLASSIC



"I GAVE THE DOCTOR OUR LAST TWO DOLLARS. I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT I WAS GOING TO DO ABOUT THE MEDICINES--"

ABOUT HOW MUCH DO YOU GUESS ALL THAT WILL BE?

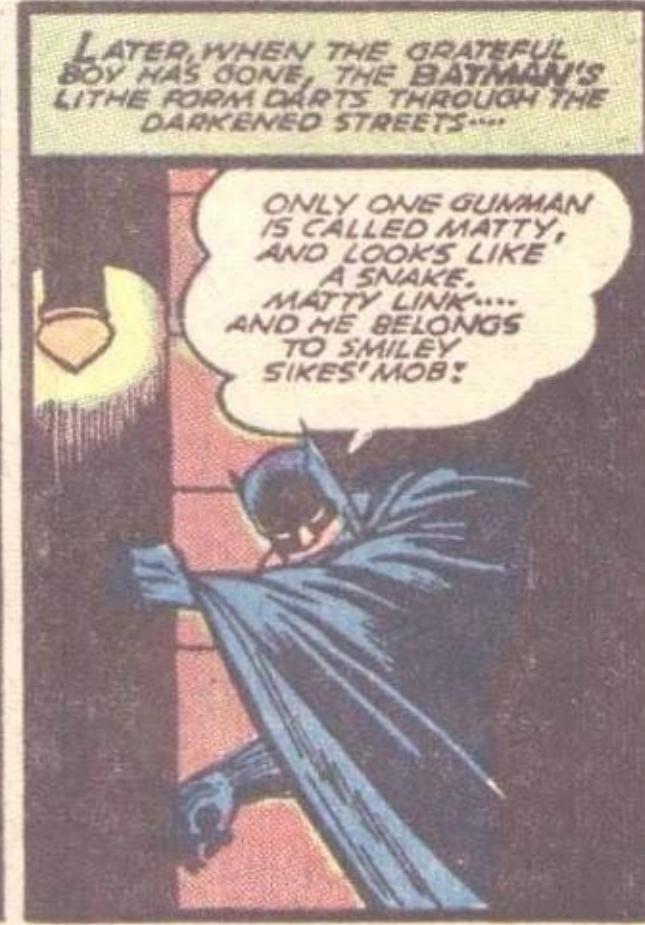
MM-I SHOULD SAY ABOUT-SIX DOLLARS!

"SIX DOLLARS...AS FAR AS I WAS CONCERNED, IT MIGHT HAVE BEEN SIX MILLION."

SIX DOLLARS TO SAVE ANN. WHERE CAN I GET SIX DOLLARS?....I CAN'T STEAL IT.... OR...OR CAN I?

THAT'S IT! I-I DIDN'T EVEN HAVE A GUN... I JUST SHOVED MY HAND IN MY POCKET! I-I'M SORRY MISTER, IF I...

I'LL FORGET ALL ABOUT IT. YOU DO THE SAME THING!



AS A MOBSTER STANDS GUARD BEFORE THE SANCTUM OF THE GANGLORD... SILENTLY, AN ARM OF STEEL ENCIRCLES HIS THROAT...



# A BATMAN CLASSIC



# A BATMAN CLASSIC





# A BATMAN CLASSIC



AFTER MATTY LEAVES....

I GOTTA HUNCH  
THE BATMAN  
IS GONNA TRY TO  
MAKE MATTY TALK.  
MAYBE MATTY  
OUGHTA TAKE  
A VACATION--  
A PERMANENT  
ONE!

YE-AH?

AND SO THE NEXT MORNING,  
BRUCE WAYNE, IN REALITY  
THE BATMAN, READS  
STARTLING NEWS....

I SHOULD HAVE  
EXPECTED THIS.  
SMILEY COVERS  
HIMSELF WELL!

HE SPEAKS WITH HIS YOUNG  
WARD, DICK GRAYSON, WHOSE  
OTHER SELF IS ROBIN, THE  
BOY WONDER?

DICK, I WANT  
YOU TO SEARCH  
MATTY LINK'S  
ROOMS. MAYBE  
YOU CAN DIG UP  
SOMETHING  
LINKING HIM  
AND SMILEY WITH  
JOE SANDS.

SURE  
THING,  
BRUCE?

MAYBE THE POLICE  
FOUND SOMETHING ON  
MATTY'S BODY--SO-O-O----  
I SHALL VISIT MY GOOD  
FRIEND, POLICE  
COMMISSIONER GORDON,  
AS BRUCE WAYNE,  
SOCIETY PLAYBOY--AND  
SEE WHAT I CAN  
FIND OUT!

NIGHT HAS THROWN ITS  
BLACK CLOAK OVER THE  
CITY. A SLIM FIGURE MOVES  
SWIFTLY AND SILENTLY UP THE  
FIRE-ESCAPE OF THE LATE  
MATTY LINK'S BOARDING  
HOUSE....

BUT ROBIN IS NOT THE ONLY  
ONE ABOUT TO SEARCH MATTY'S  
ROOM, FOR AT THAT  
MOMENT....

WHAT'S THE  
IDEA OF US  
SEARCHIN'  
THE PLACE  
ANYWAY?

SMILEY WANTS  
TA MAKE SURE  
THERE'S NOTHIN'  
HERE THAT  
MIGHT TIE HIM  
UP WITH THIS  
SANDS  
KID!

HEY--LOOK--  
A SHADOW--  
SOMEONE'S  
COMIN' UP THE  
FIRE  
ESCAPE!

DOUSE THE  
LIGHTS!  
LET'S DUCK  
IN ONE O'  
THESE  
CLOSETS.

CLICK!





# A BATMAN CLASSIC



THE SANDS OF TIME DROP SLOWLY. BRUCE HAS ALREADY REACHED HOME AND WAITS IMPATIENTLY FOR ROBIN'S RETURN.



IT'S LATE... HE SHOULD HAVE BEEN BACK HOURS AGO...



HASTILY, HE DONS HIS COSTUME. AN INSTANT LATER, HE SENDS THE WEIRD BATMOBILE STREAKING THROUGH THE CITY STREETS--



MOMENTS LATER, THE BATMAN STOPS BEFORE THE DOOR OF MATTY'S ROOM....

THE STRANGEST FEELING JUST CAME OVER ME. I-I SEEM TO DREAD OPENING THIS DOOR-



A TOUCH OF THE KNOB, AND THE DOOR SLOWLY SWINGS OPEN. LIGHT FROM THE HALL LAMP ILLUMINATES A SMALL, STILL FIGURE ON THE FLOOR!

ROBIN!



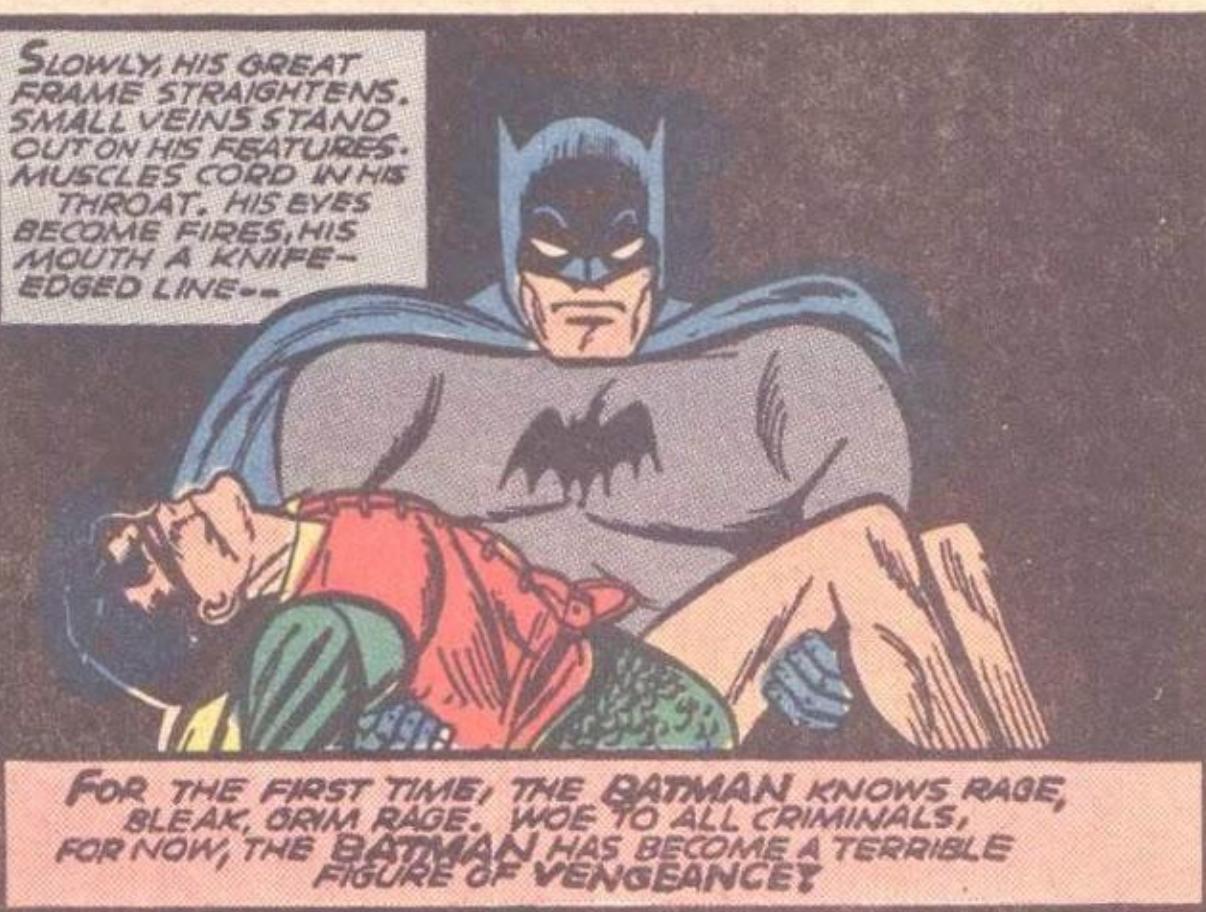
HIS HEAD... ALL BLOODY.... HE'S BEEN CLUBBED... CLUBBED TO DEATH! ROBIN'S DEAD??



THE BATMAN, MAN WHO HAS FACED A THOUSAND DANGERS, MAN OF STRENGTH AND WILL-POWER, NOW BENDS HIS HEAD AND WEEPS. ANGUISHED SOBS ARE TORN FROM HIM!



SLOWLY, HIS GREAT FRAME STRAIGHTENS. SMALL VEINS STAND OUT ON HIS FEATURES. MUSCLES CORD IN HIS THROAT. HIS EYES BECOME FIRES, HIS MOUTH A KNIFE-EDGED LINE--



FOR THE FIRST TIME, THE BATMAN KNOWS RAGE, BLEAK, ORIM RAGE. WOE TO ALL CRIMINALS, FOR NOW, THE BATMAN HAS BECOME A TERRIBLE FIGURE OF VENGEANCE!



# A BATMAN CLASSIC



THEN, AS HE PLACES ROBIN IN THE BATMOBILE ....

UH?....HE'S ALIVE...  
HE'S ALIVE!?  
I'VE GOT TO GET  
HIM TO A DOCTOR  
...A DOCTOR!

OOOOOH!

AN INSISTENT THUMPING ON HIS FRONT DOOR ROUSES A DOCTOR FROM SLEEP....

THIS BOY IS HURT....BADLY  
HE NEEDS AN OPERATION!  
HURRY!

WHY...  
SEE HERE....  
I CAN'T!

LISTEN...IF THIS BOY DIES BECAUSE YOU REFUSED TO OPERATE— I'LL COME BACK AND KILL YOU WITH MY BARE HANDS!

I'LL OPERATE....  
BUT NOT BECAUSE OF YOUR THREATS....  
BUT BECAUSE IT IS THE DUTY OF A DOCTOR TO COME TO THE AID OF ANYONE WHO NEEDS HIS SERVICES!

OKAY!...I'LL BE BACK LATER. I'VE GOT TO SEE A MAN NAMED SMILEY ABOUT SOMETHING!

A SECOND LATER, THERE IS THE ROAR OF A MOTOR....AND THE BATMOBILE LEAPS AWAY AND TEARS UP THE STREET LIKE A CYCLONE!

IN SMILEY'S RETREAT....

YEAH...AS SOON AS I SEEN HIM I KNEW IT WAS THAT ROBIN KID THAT WORKS WITH THE BATMAN!

NICE WORK!  
THAT'LL WARN HIM TO KEEP AWAY!

SMILEY!  
THE BATMOBILE JUST PULLED UP!

A SUDDEN TINKLING OF GLASS, A BULLET BORES INTO THE BATMAN'S SHOULDER, BUT MERE BULLETS CANNOT STOP THE BATMAN NOW....

THE GANG LORD HYSTERICALLY YELLS ORDERS AT HIS GUNMEN....

WATCH THAT DOOR KNOB—  
AS SOON YOU SEE IT TURN—  
FIRE THROUGH THE DOOR!

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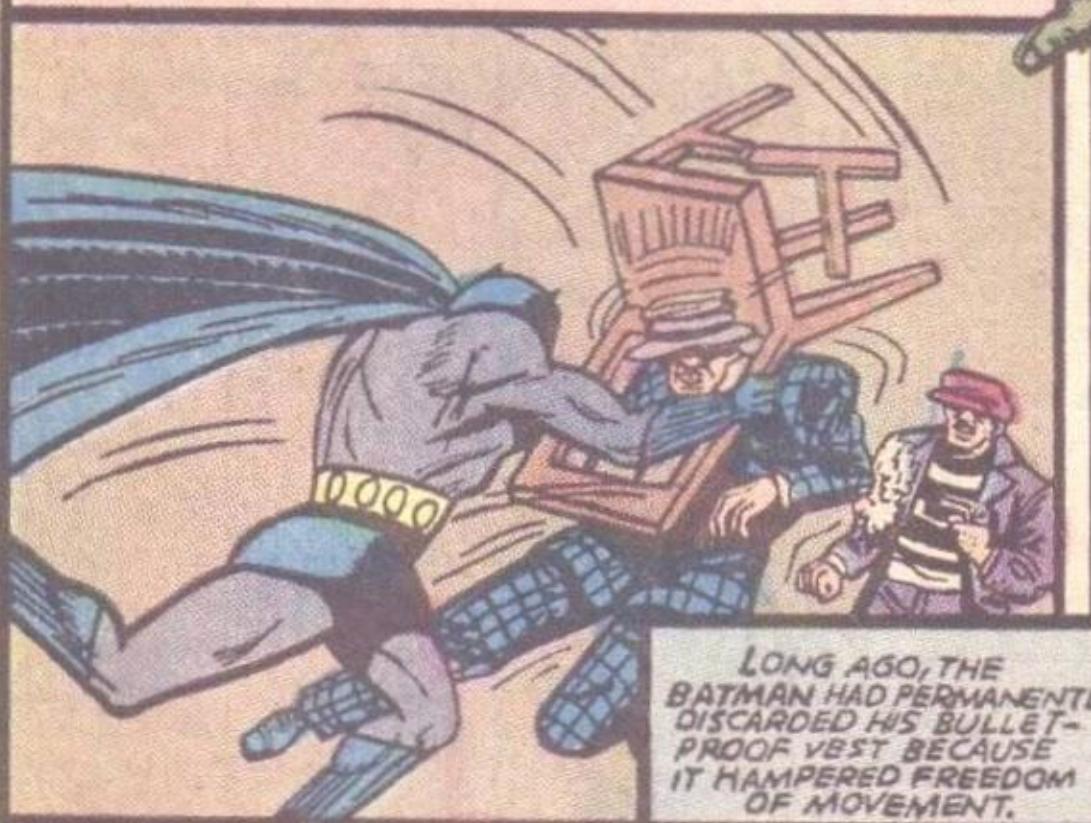
# A BATMAN CLASSIC



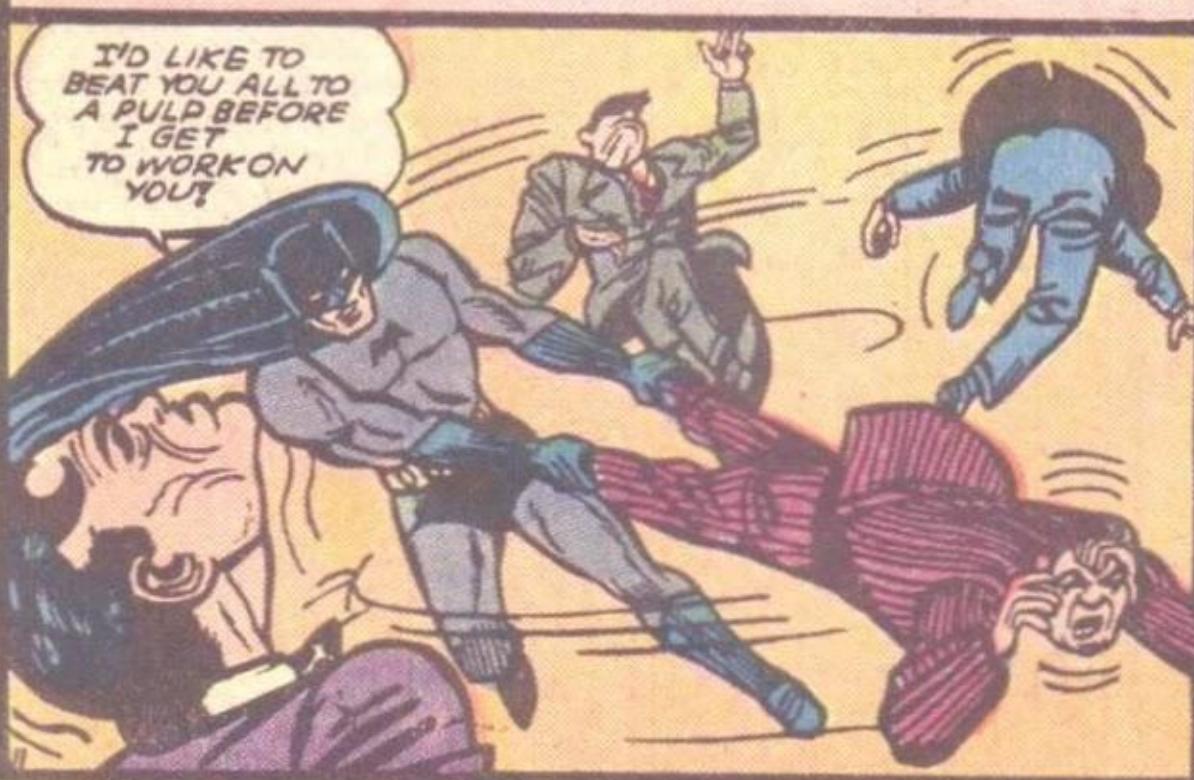
BUT THE BATMAN DOESN'T EVEN BOTHER WITH OPENING THE DOOR. THERE IS A CRASH....THE WOOD SPLINTERS AS HIS BROAD SHOULDERS SMASH THROUGH.....



ANOTHER BULLET LODGES IN THE BATMAN'S SHOULDER, BUT IT IS NO MORE THAN A FLEA BITE TO HIM NOW--



PICKING UP ONE HELPLESS THUG, THE BATMAN USES HIM AS A HUMAN BLUDGEON.



A BULLET SINGS ITS SONG OF DEATH AS IT HUMS PAST HIS EAR....



# A BATMAN CLASSIC

A BULLET SKIDS OFF THE BATMAN'S RIBS, BUT HE DOES NOT FALTER....

HA HA HA!

I'M GOING TO WIPE THAT SMILE OFF YOUR FACE!

AS SMILEY SEES THAT THE BATMAN ADVANCES IN THE FACE OF DEATH, HE GROWS NERVOUS, AIM'S HASTILY....

I KNOW ONE OF MY SHOTS HIT, BUT HE DOESN'T STOP. HE ISN'T HUMAN!

I'M GOING TO GET YOU, SMILEY!

UGH!

DRAGGING SMILEY TO HIS FEET, THE BATMAN BLASTS A VIOLENT UPPERCUT TO HIS CHIN....

NOT SMILING NOW, ARE YOU?

AND FOLLOWS UP WITH A TERRIFIC RIGHT CROSS....

ALMOST FORGOT MY ORIGINAL REASON FOR HUNTING YOU UP IN THE FIRST PLACE. I WANT A WRITTEN CONFESSION FROM YOU...ABOUT HOW YOU FRAMED JOE SANDS, OR BY GODFREY, I'LL...

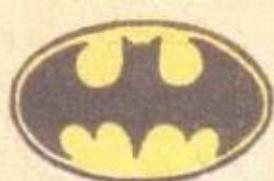
DON'T... DON'T HIT ME AGAIN! I'LL DO ANYTHING... BUT DON'T HIT ME!

THINK WE OUGHTA TAKE A SHOT AT THE BATMAN?

NOT ME? I AIN'T TACKLIN' WITH HIM TODAY!



# A BATMAN CLASSIC

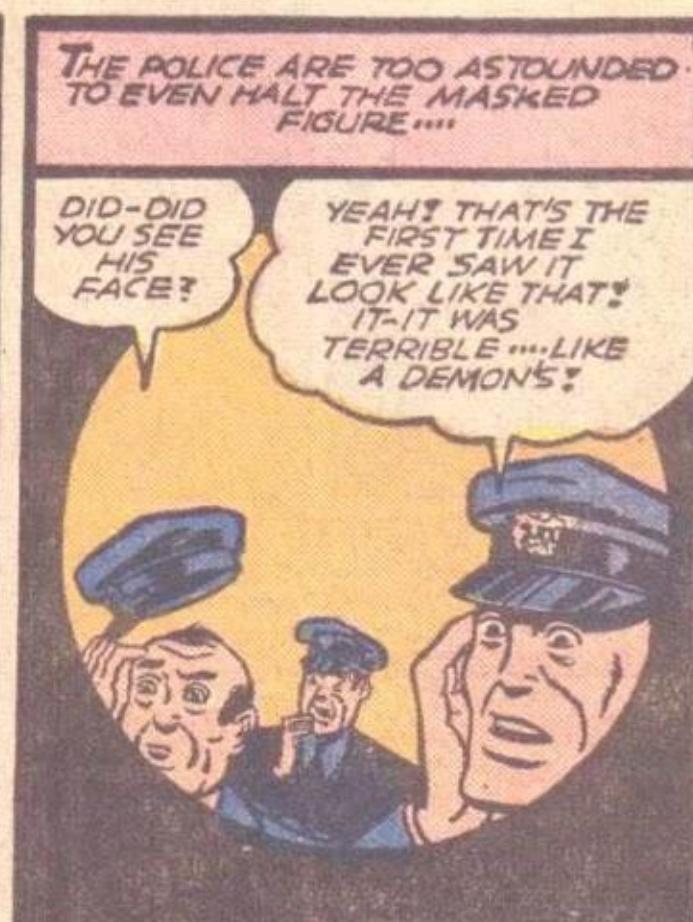


HERE....HERE'S  
SMILEY....AND HERE'S  
SOMETHING YOU  
MIGHT BE  
INTERESTED IN....  
A CONFESSION!

THE POLICE ARE TOO ASTOUNDED  
TO EVEN HALT THE MASKED  
FIGURE....

DID-DID  
YOU SEE  
HIS  
FACE?

YEAH! THAT'S THE  
FIRST TIME I  
EVER SAW IT  
LOOK LIKE THAT!  
IT-IT WAS  
TERRIBLE ....LIKE  
A DEMON'S!



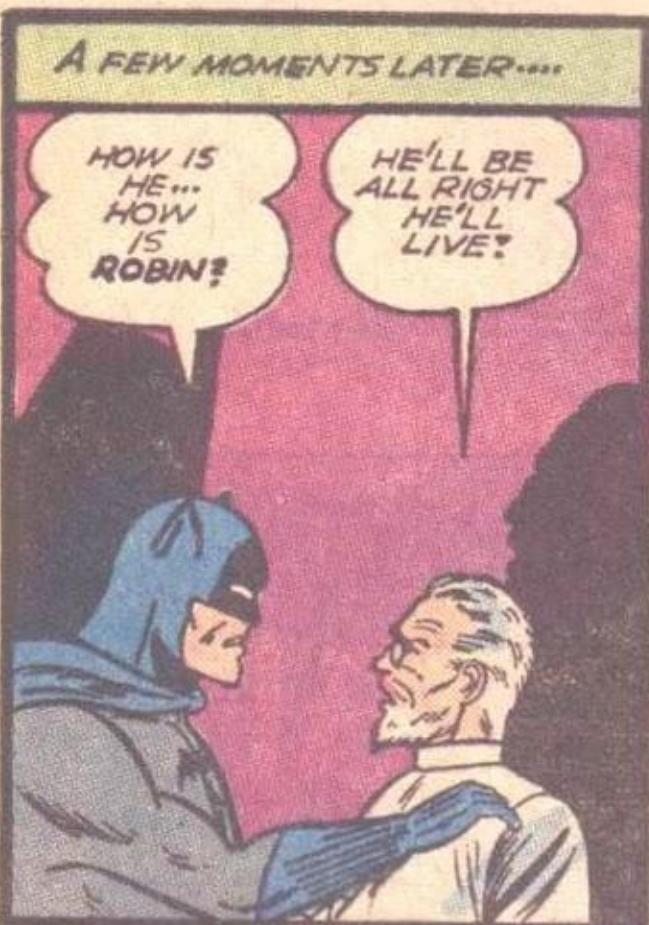
A FEW MOMENTS LATER....

HOW IS  
HE...  
HOW  
IS  
ROBIN?

HE'LL BE  
ALL RIGHT  
HE'LL  
LIVE!

I-I---I  
THINK  
I'M GOING  
TO BE  
ASISSY  
AND FAINT,  
DOC....  
SORRY!

"SISSY, AND FAINT"....  
I DON'T KNOW HOW HE  
KEPT GOING THE  
WAY HE DID....  
WITH THREE  
BULLETS IN  
HIM?  
AMAZING....  
AMAZING....



THE NEXT DAY....

I-I WAS  
TEMPTED TO  
LOOK AT YOUR  
FACE WHILE YOU  
WERE UNCONSCIOUS,  
BUT I DIDN'T. I  
LEFT YOUR COWL  
ON WHILE I  
OPERATED. YOUR  
IDENTITY IS STILL  
SECRET. IT'S  
BETTER THAT  
WAY!

DOCTOR....  
YOU'RE  
ALL RIGHT!

BY THE  
WAY....THOSE  
PEOPLE YOU  
WANTED ME  
TO GET IN  
TOUCH WITH ARE  
WAITING  
OUTSIDE?

THANK'S  
TO YOU,  
MY NAME IS  
CLEARED  
NOW AND  
ANN WILL  
BE ALL  
RIGHT!

....AND ME,  
I GAVE HIM  
A JOB IN  
MY STORE?  
HE IS A  
NICE  
BOY?

ALL'S  
WELL  
THAT  
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KALA... SHE-APE...  
FOSTER MOTHER OF**

**Tarzan?**

ON SALE MARCH 30



ALSO--JOHN CARTER OF MARS



## LETTERS to the BATMAN

Dear Editor:

"Night of the Reaper", an at-times stretched use of camp, great Adams/Giordano art, a somewhat flat plot, but nonetheless superior script, disappointing coloring, a fantastic Batman solo from 1940 and a fascinating chance to compare *The Batman* as he was first created and now, made *Batman*, #237 a somewhat head-spinning issue!

I'd sort of sworn off the "let's-analyze-the-mag-piece-by-piece" type of letter—or so I thought. Unfortunately, the latest *Batman* calls for just that!

The cover was detestable, even from a selling-appeal standpoint. One thing is its coloring. The Reaper should most definitely have had the purple togs he wore inside—white on white is blehh, even with black shadow. Also, with all three figures performing an action and giving off emphatic facial expressions, the scene becomes just too darn jumbled and confusing, especially for the average non-comix-freak-browser.

Inside, "Night of the Reaper" . . . This one's weird, and not necessarily the kind of weird Denny may or may not have intended. The plot was thin—an ex-Nazi P.O.W. seeks revenge on his camp master. Nazi war criminals, an idea from Harlan Ellison? Come on, Har! From me, maybe, I being a Nazi-as-villains freak, but it's been worked sooooo into the ground! Yes, the plot was thin and too camp by any normal standards—note I said *normal!* Because, in this instance, it all worked and worked well! Don't ask my why, it just did. It was all put together so skillfully, right down to Al Weiss tripping out on the floats!

The *Batman* reprint was superb! Imagine, *Batman* actually indifferent to, if not sanctioning a man's death (last page and panel), villain or not. FAR OUT! It was great as a *Batman* solo because, rather than a happenstance separation from *Robin*, at that time for all the world and *Batman* knew there would never be a *Robin*.

Final rating—in spite of flaws, an all-around cheer for one of the best issues of *Batman* this year.

JOHN D. WARNER, Santa Cruz, Ca.



Dear Editor:

After reading *Batman* #237's "Night of the Reaper" I spent three hours analyzing it, with the conclusion that it is one of the five best stories of the year. Denny O'Neil's handling of the Nazi war criminal plot is sheer perfection. His technique of in-depth characterization is remarkable. Dr. Gruener is a perfect example of the Hasidic saying: "He who feels no compassion will become insane!" The conflict between *Batman* and the doctor is a master-stroke of genius. The setting is *fantastic*; putting reality in fiction is a great idea. The Adams-Giordano artwork added a beautiful magic to each and every page of the story.

The (Untitled) *Batman* reprint was a great back-up story. It shows that the character has traveled full circle in 31 years, back to the way he was meant to be and should always be—a creature of the night!

WILLIAM G. LAKS, Poughkeepsie, N.Y.

(What this critic story-rates as "one of five best of the year" the next reviewer applauds as "the best Batman of all time!" —JS)

Dear Editor:

As I sit in front of my typewriter on All Hallows Day, I think to myself: this HAS to be the best *Batman* story of all time!

And what makes "Night of the Reaper" so great in my mind? Is it the setting, at fandom's greatest social event? Is it the fact that I recognized so many of the participants from the New York Con? Could it have been Adams' superlative renderings on so many pages? Or how about O'Neil's masterfully suspenseful plot, *The Batman's* self-accusing monologue on page 19 (I was beginning to wonder if he was ever going to realize that he was the cause of so many problems as well as the solution), the soul-searing final scene? On the other hand, it may have been the comic touches (Weiss' float-mania, the costumed fans, the hilarious dialogue on page 12 between O'Neil and "Thor").

More than likely, though, it was a little bit of all these that made "Night of the Reaper" the best *Batman* story I have ever read. *Batman* #237, an extraordinary end to an extraordinary year for *The Batman*, one of the most extraordinary characters of modern fiction!

ROBERT STRAUSS, St. Petersburg, Fla.

(We were hard-pressed to come up with an adverse report on the "Reaper", but we managed it—or did we? Judge for yourself! —JS)



Dear Editor:

"Night of the Reaper" had meaning, maturity, and message without the forced triteness of relevance which pervades so many comix today. It was quite refreshing to encounter comments on the human condition which were entertaining and effective without parading under the overworked "NOW" banners of ecology, war, or poverty. These causes are all vital, to be sure, and all have a place in your magazines, but they are also specifics which are dealt with constantly in the news media and as such are subject to a point of saturation.

*Batman's* feelings of guilt on page 19 were surprisingly well-handled. In two panels you show that he is a mortal man of human feelings, rather than going into the page-after-page soliloquy of self-doubt and melancholy which so many other titles (including some at DC) use in trying to make their heroes appear human. All-in-all, a first-rate issue.

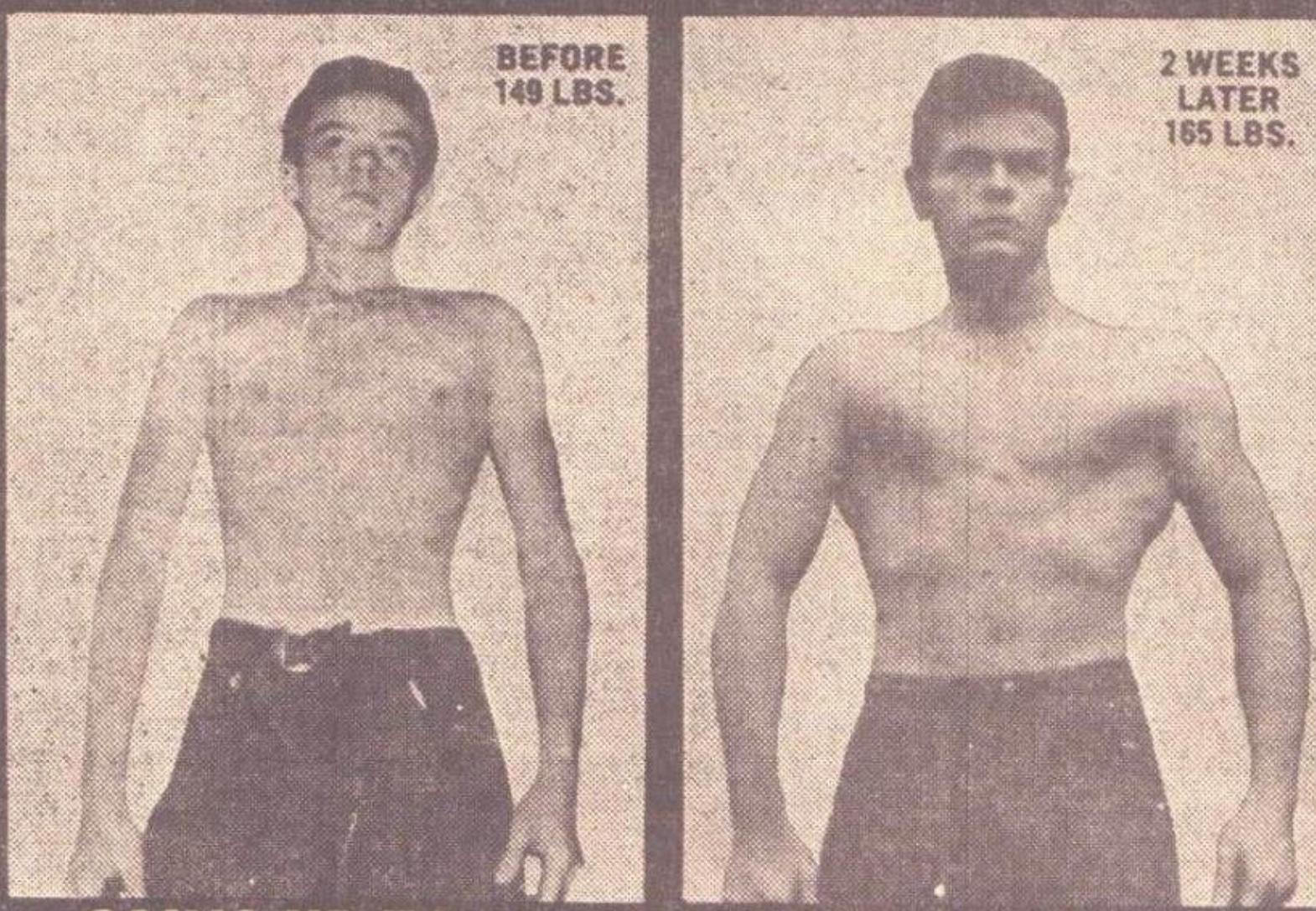
DAVID B. MICHELINIE, Louisville, Ky.



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