



12¢

# BATMAN

APPROVED  
BY THE  
COMICS  
CODE  
C.A.  
AUTHORITY

MAR.  
NO. 146

"The DEADLY  
CURSE of  
KORABO!"

THAT GIANT HAND--  
IT'S GRABBED UP  
**BATMAN** AND IS  
PULLING HIM INTO  
THE LAKE!



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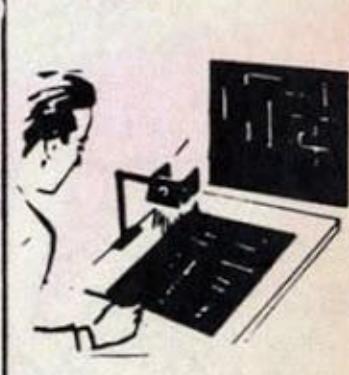
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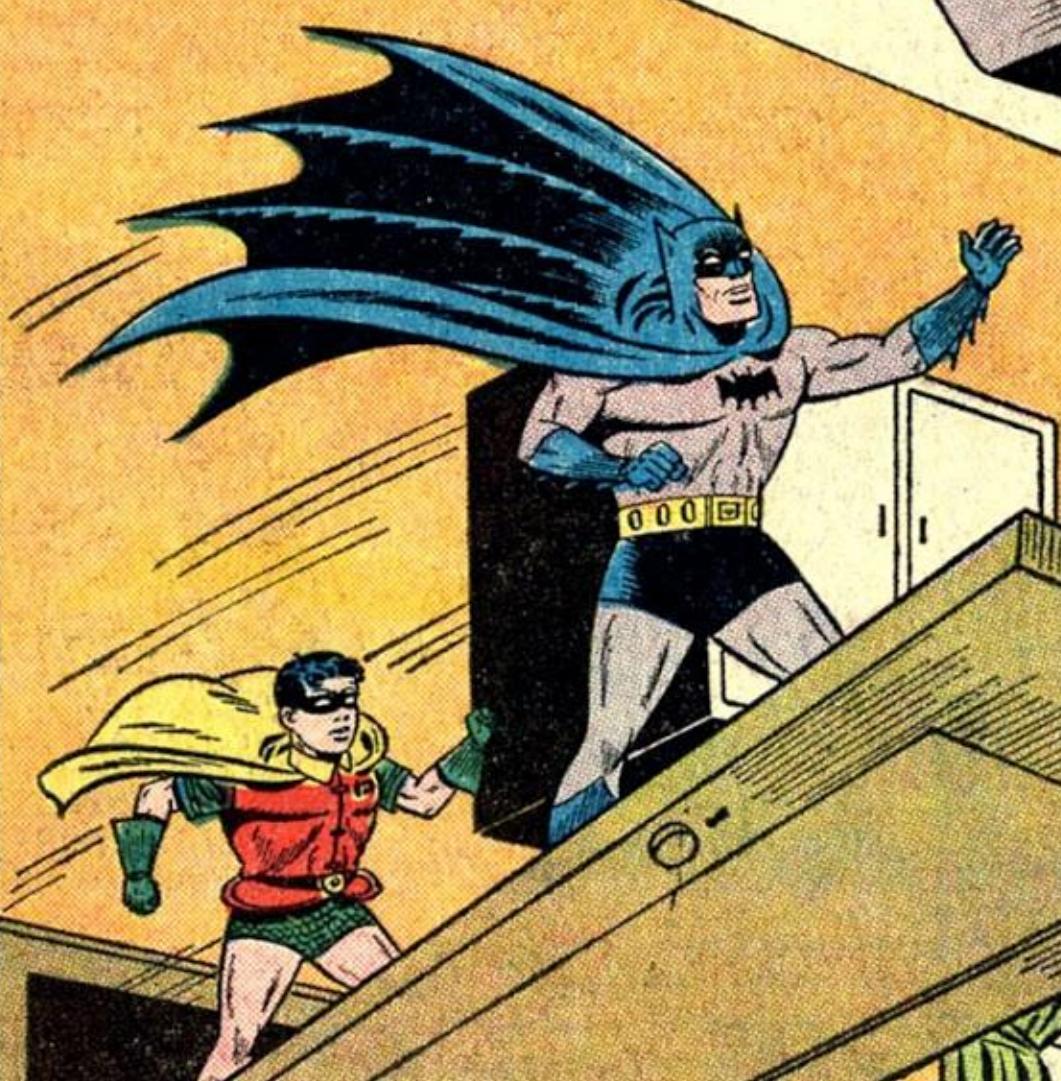
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# BATMAN

WITH  
**ROBIN**  
THE BOY WONDER

A NEW BAT-MITE ADVENTURE



WHAT HAPPENS WHEN BATMAN AND ROBIN SUDDENLY ACQUIRE STRANGE POWERS? HOW DOES IT AFFECT THEIR WAR ON CRIME? AND, EVEN MORE IMPORTANT, WHAT EVENTS FOLLOW WHEN A GROUP OF CROOKS ARE ALSO ENDOWED WITH...

## BATMAN AND ROBIN'S MAGICAL POWERS

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ONE EVENING, AS THE BATMOBILE HURLES THROUGH GOTHAM CITY STREETS, IN RESPONSE TO THE BAT-SIGNAL...

ROBIN! LOOK! THAT ADVERTISING FIGURE GONE BERSERK... THREATENING THAT MAN WHO ISN'T EVEN AWARE OF HIS DANGER!

SEE THE MOVIE OF THE YEAR

THE METALLIC MARTIAN FOREST

SCREECH

IN THE BAREST FRACTION OF AN INSTANT, BATMAN'S BAT-ROPE SNAKES OUT AND LOOPS OVER THE THEATER MARQUEE...

IF I CATCH IT JUST RIGHT, WITH ENOUGH FORCE, I'LL BE ABLE TO TOPPLE IT OVER!

BATMAN! THAT THING COULD HAVE CRUSHED ME! Y-YOU SAVED MY LIFE!

MAYBE I CAN REPAY YOU! I AM ANTURA... A STUDENT OF MAGIC! YEARS AGO, MY RESEARCHES REVEALED TO ME A STRANGE AND ANCIENT VERSE, SAID TO GIVE POWERS TO ANYONE TO WHOM IT WAS RECITED! I COULD NEVER FIND ANYONE WORTHY OF SUCH POWERS, BUT NOW...

...I KNOW I CAN TRUST YOU AND ROBIN WITH THEM, SO... IN THE NAME OF THE MYSTIC SECRET KINGS,

I GIVE YOU POWER OVER MANY THINGS! OVER STEEL AND ROPE AND RUBBER AND WOOD, THIS MAGIC CHARM WILL WORK ITS GOOD!

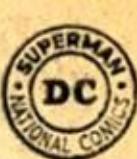
NOW, YOU HAVE SWAY OVER THOSE ELEMENTS! COMMAND, AND THEY OBEY!

YOU CAN'T REALLY BELIEVE THAT, CAN YOU? DO YOU

MEAN THAT IF I SAID TO THAT STEEL STATUE, "COME HERE," IT WOULD...

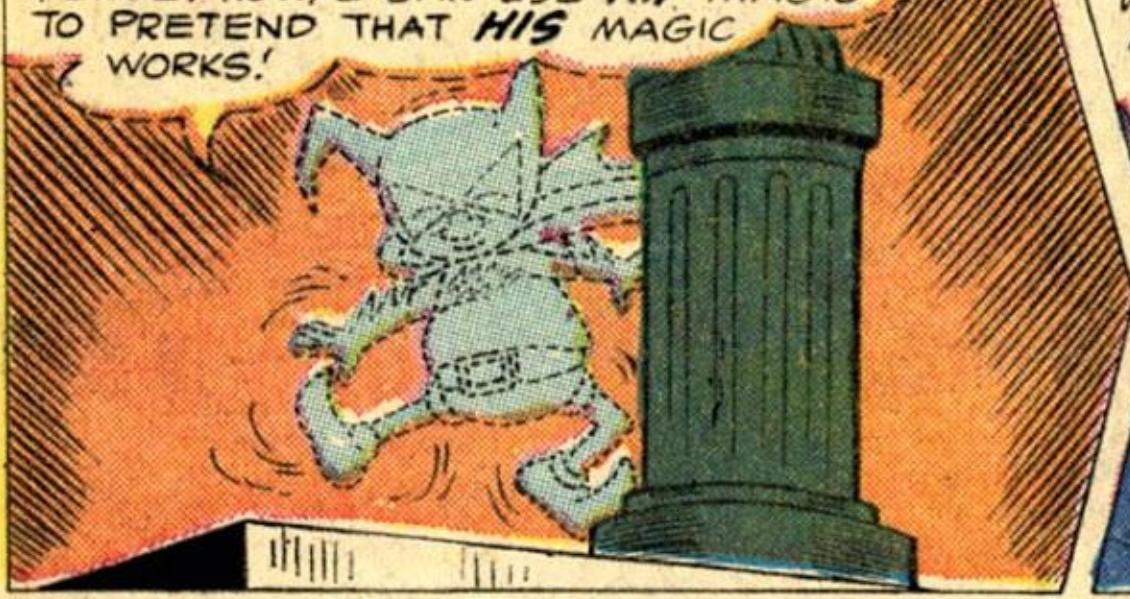


# BATMAN

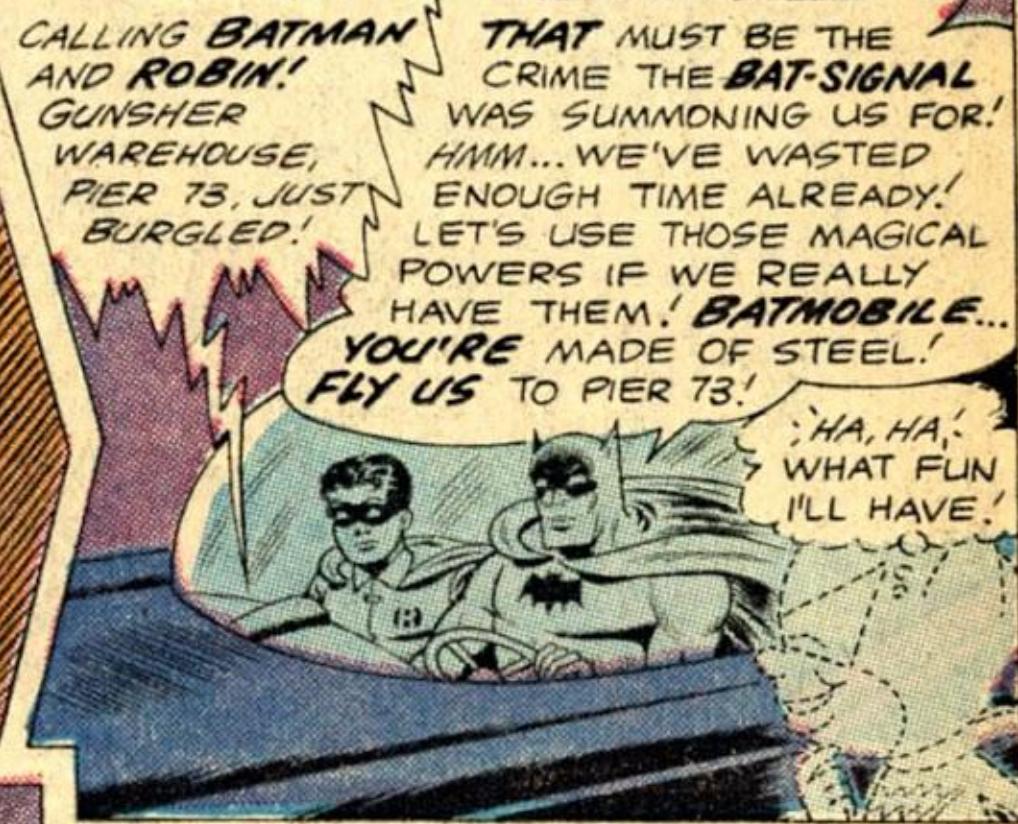


MEANWHILE, AN ELF-LIKE FIGURE LURKS INVISIBLY IN THE BACKGROUND...

AAAHH... HOW LUCKY THAT I HAPPENED TO POP INTO THIS DIMENSION JUST WHEN ANTURA WAS RECITING HIS SILLY LITTLE VERSE! NOW, I CAN USE **MY** MAGIC TO PRETEND THAT **HIS** MAGIC WORKS!



YES, INDEED IT'S **BAT-MITE**, THAT FANTASTIC LITTLE IMP FROM ANOTHER DIMENSION... WHOSE GREATEST PLEASURE IS WATCHING **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** PERFORM PICTURESQUE DEEDS!

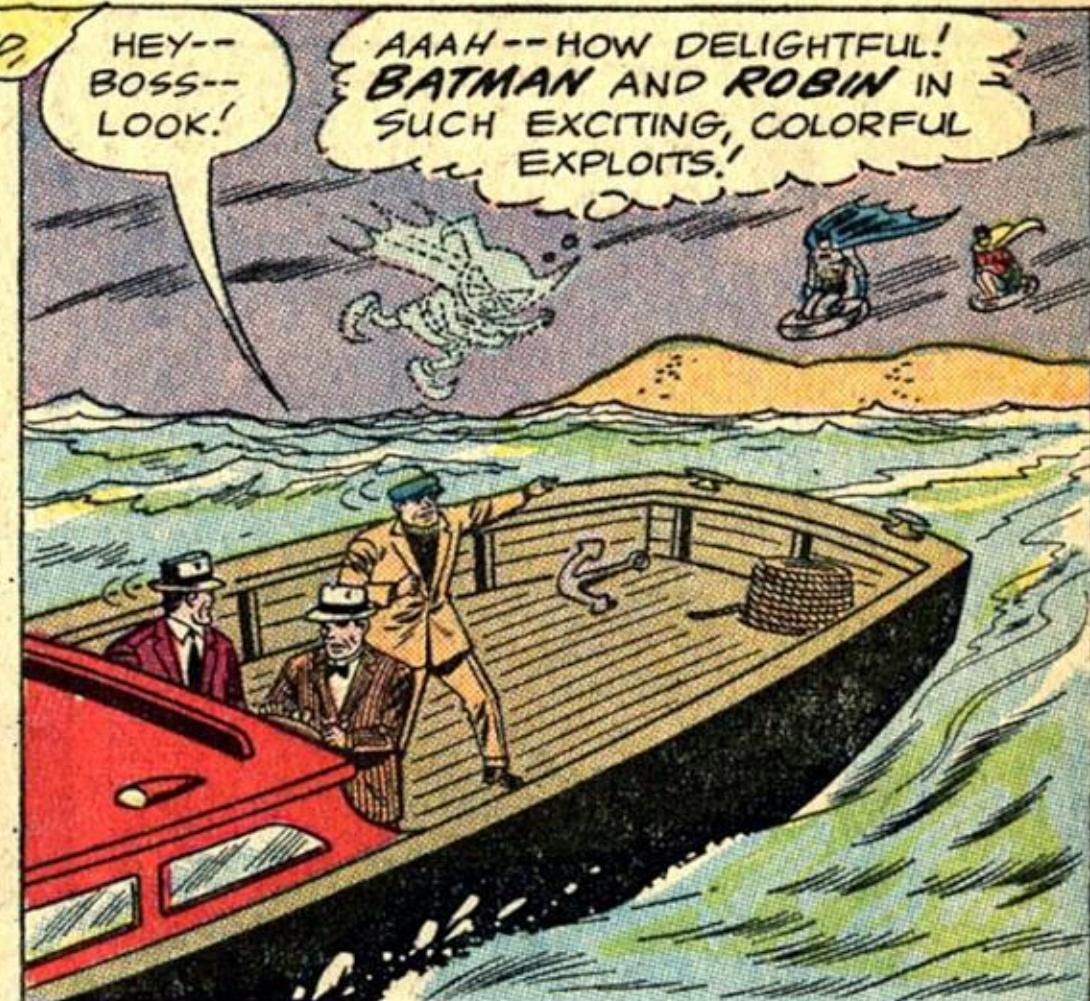


SECONDS AFTERWARD... A QUICK COMMAND, AND...

I'LL CUT 'EM OFF IN FRONT, AND YOU COME IN FROM THE REAR!

HEY--  
BOSS--  
LOOK!

AAAHH-- HOW DELIGHTFUL!  
BATMAN AND ROBIN IN  
SUCH EXCITING, COLORFUL  
EXPLOITS!



THEN...

TIME FOR YOU TO RETIRE!

WRAP AROUND THEM, ROPE!



IT SURE IS CONVENIENT HAVING MAGICAL POWERS... BUT IT'S FANTASTIC! I STILL CAN'T BE SURE I'M NOT DREAMING!



THEN, AS PRESS PHOTOGRAPHERS GAPE AND AIM THEIR LENSES...

WONDERFUL!  
JUST WONDERFUL!



## BATMAN

AND NEXT MORNING, WHEN BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS YOUNG WARD, DICK GRAYSON, SECRETLY BATMAN AND ROBIN, READ THEIR PAPER...

GREAT SCOTT! WE'D BETTER SEE ANTURA RIGHT AWAY! WHEN THE UNDERWORLD FINDS OUT HE CAN CONFER POWERS, THEY'LL BECOME INTERESTED! HE SHOULD NEVER HAVE SPOKEN TO REPORTERS!

GOODNESS! I NEVER THOUGHT OF THAT!

DAILY EDITION  
BATMAN AND ROBIN EMPLOY MAGICAL POWERS

ANTURA STATES:  
MY SECRET VERSE  
IS RESPONSIBLE

INSTANTS LATER, AT ANTURA'S APARTMENT...

NO ANSWER! LET'S BREAK IN, ROBIN! I'M WORRIED!

OKAY! I'LL--BUT WAIT! THAT DOOR IS WOOD! I'LL JUST COMMAND IT TO OPEN!

AND, AS THE DOOR SWINGS SILENTLY AJAR...

NO SIGN OF HIM!

BATMAN! LOOK--HERE! ON THE NEWSPAPER!

THAT ARROW AFTER OUR NAMES... ALMOST AS IF THE SYMBOL IS A MESSAGE TO US!

I'VE SEEN THAT SYMBOL BEFORE! IT'S USED ON MAGICAL ASTROLOGICAL CHARTS AND SIGNIFIES TAURUS, THE BULL!

DAILY EDITION  
BATMAN AND ROBIN →  
EMPLOY MAGICAL POWERS

ANTURA SAYS:  
MY SECRET VERSE  
IS RESPONSIBLE

ANTURA IS A STUDENT OF MAGIC! MAYBE HE LEFT THAT AS A MESSAGE TELLING WHERE TO FIND HIM! IF CROOKS BROKE IN, AND HE OVERHEARD WHERE THEY WERE TAKING HIM...

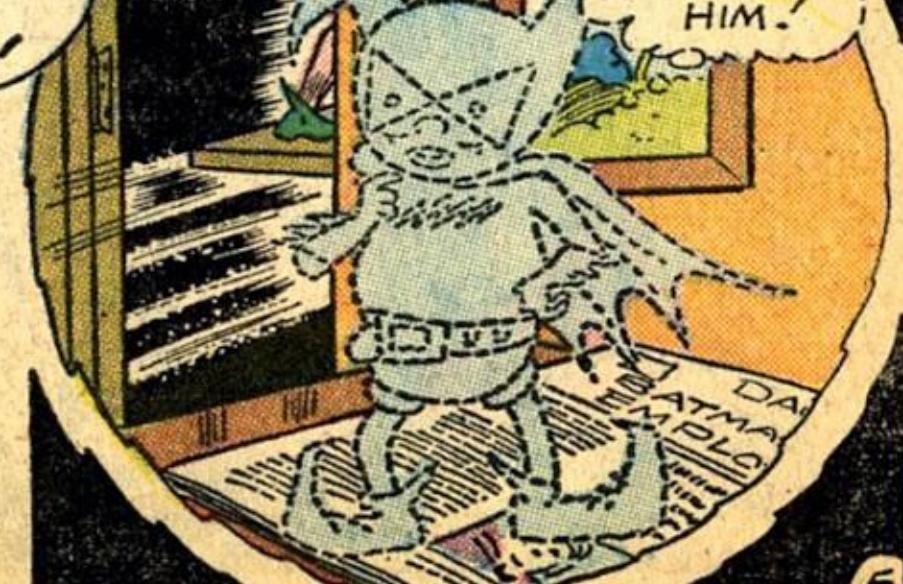


I'VE GOT IT!

THE HIPPODROME... WHERE RODEOS AND BULL WRANGLING EVENTS WERE ONCE HELD! DOOR OF WOOD... TAKE US THERE!

DEAR ME, IF THAT NICE MAN IS IN TROUBLE, IT'S MY FAULT! I'D BETTER GO THERE AND HELP HIM! I'LL SEE THAT BATMAN'S MAGIC COMMAND WORKS... BUT

I'LL GET THERE BEFORE HIM!



SHORTLY, IN A STORAGE ROOM OF THE GIANT HIPPODROME BUILDING...

YOU HEARD ME, ANTURA! SAY THAT POEM THAT WILL GIVE US THE POWERS!

NEVER! MY ENCHANTED VERSE WILL BE USED ONLY FOR GOOD!

HMM... WHAT AN IDEA I HAVE!... I'LL USE MY MAGIC TO WHISK ANTURA BACK TO HIS APARTMENT-- BUT BEFORE THAT...

THEN...

IN THE NAME OF THE MYSTIC SECRET KINGS, I GIVE YOU POWER OVER MANY THINGS! OVER STEEL AND ROPE AND RUBBER AND WOOD, THIS MAGIC CHARM WILL WORK ITS GOOD!

HUH? TH-THE WORDS SEEM TO BE COMING FROM ME, BUT I'M NOT SAYING A THING!



FOLLOW ME! IN THERE! AN EXHIBIT ROOM... WITH ALL KINDS OF THINGS WE CAN USE NOW THAT WE HAVE MAGIC POWERS!

A MOMENT AFTERWARD, BAT-MITE'S MAGIC SENDS ANTURA SAFELY BACK HOME, AND...

HUH? ANTURA--GONE! BUT FOR SOME REASON, HE GAVE US THOSE MAGIC POWERS BEFORE VANISHING!

AND A GOOD THING, TOO! HERE COME BATMAN AND ROBIN!

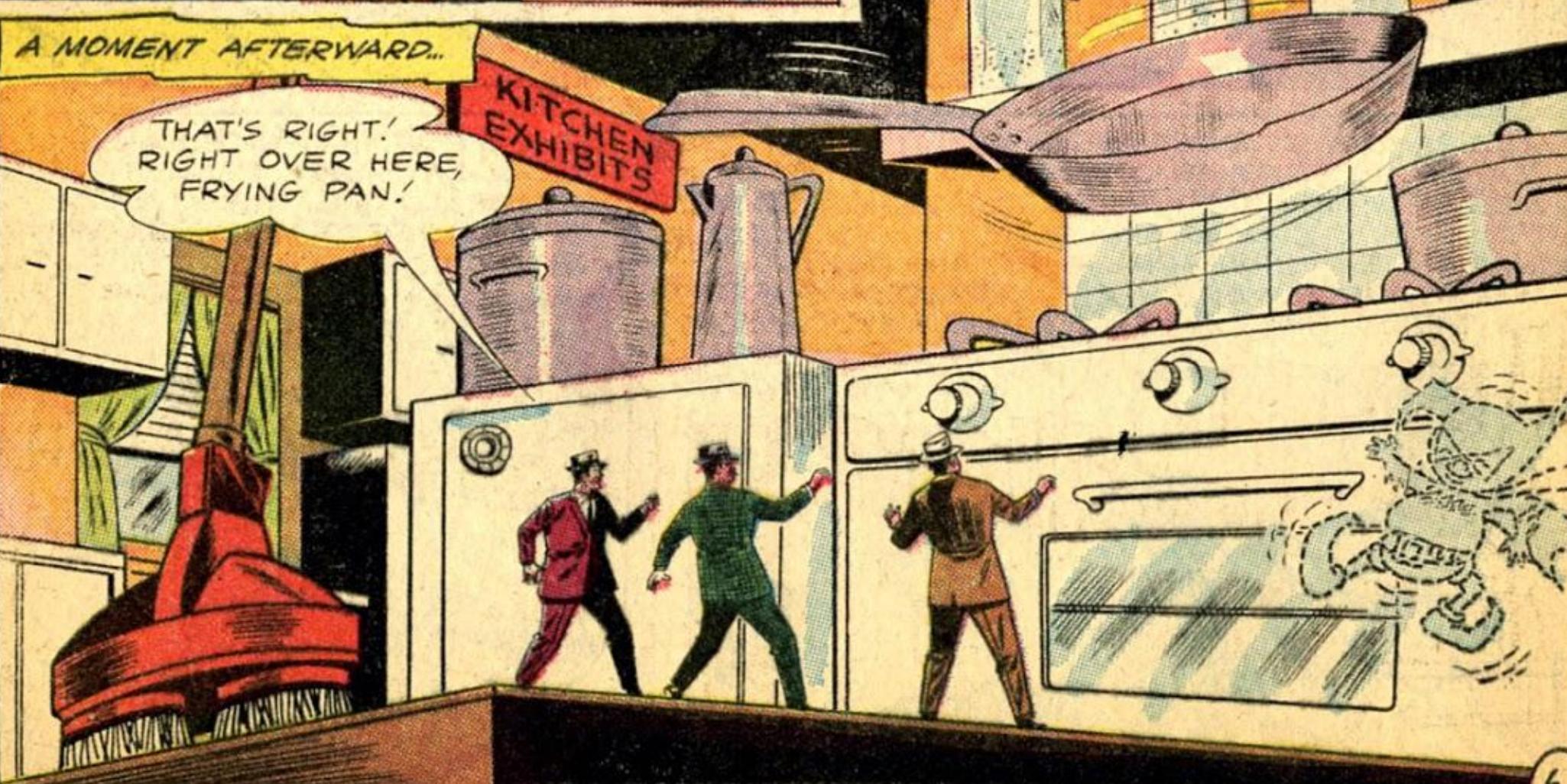
AAAHH, WHAT SPORT THIS WILL BE!



A MOMENT AFTERWARD...

THAT'S RIGHT! RIGHT OVER HERE, FRYING PAN!

KITCHEN EXHIBITS





# BATMAN



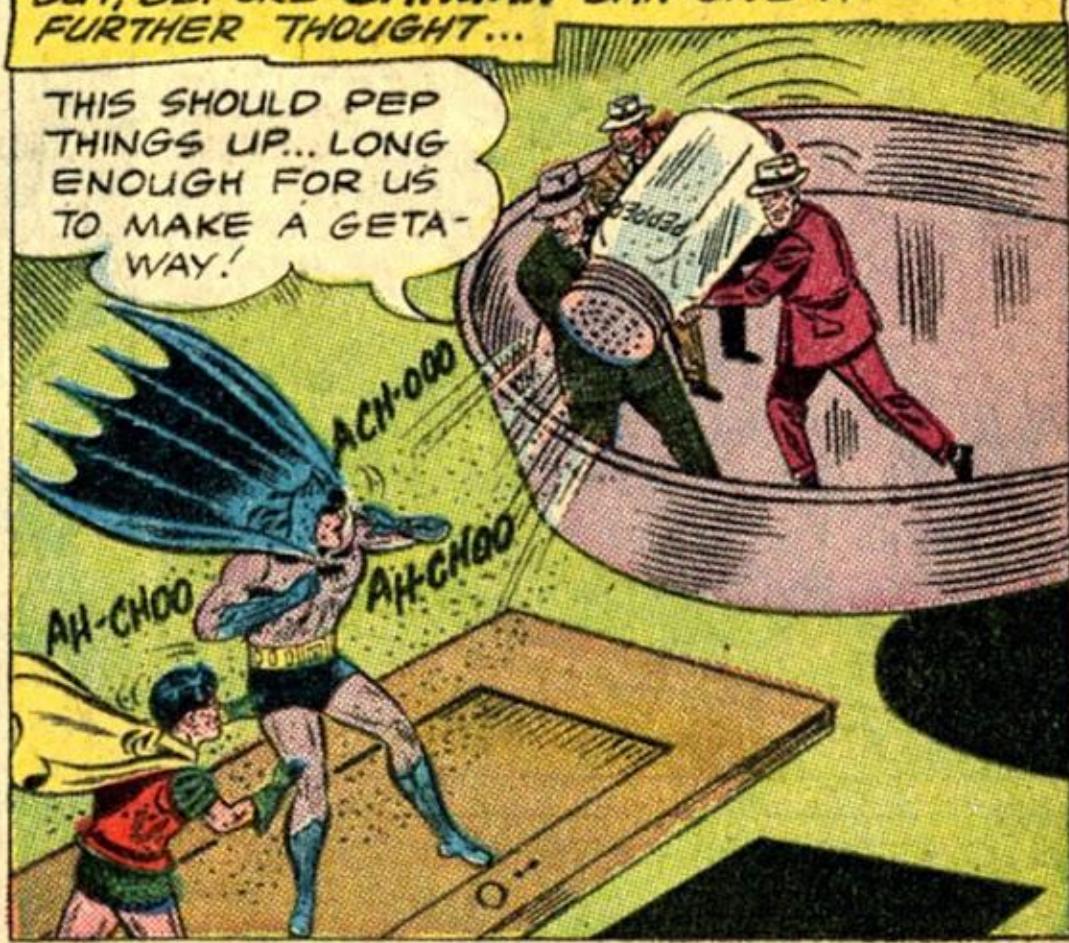
SO, A MOMENT LATER...

WH-WHAT? ANTURA GAVE THEM POWERS? BUT THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE! HE'D NEVER HAVE TIPPED US OFF TO WHERE HE WAS IF HE PLANNED TO DO THAT! I...I DON'T UNDERSTAND!



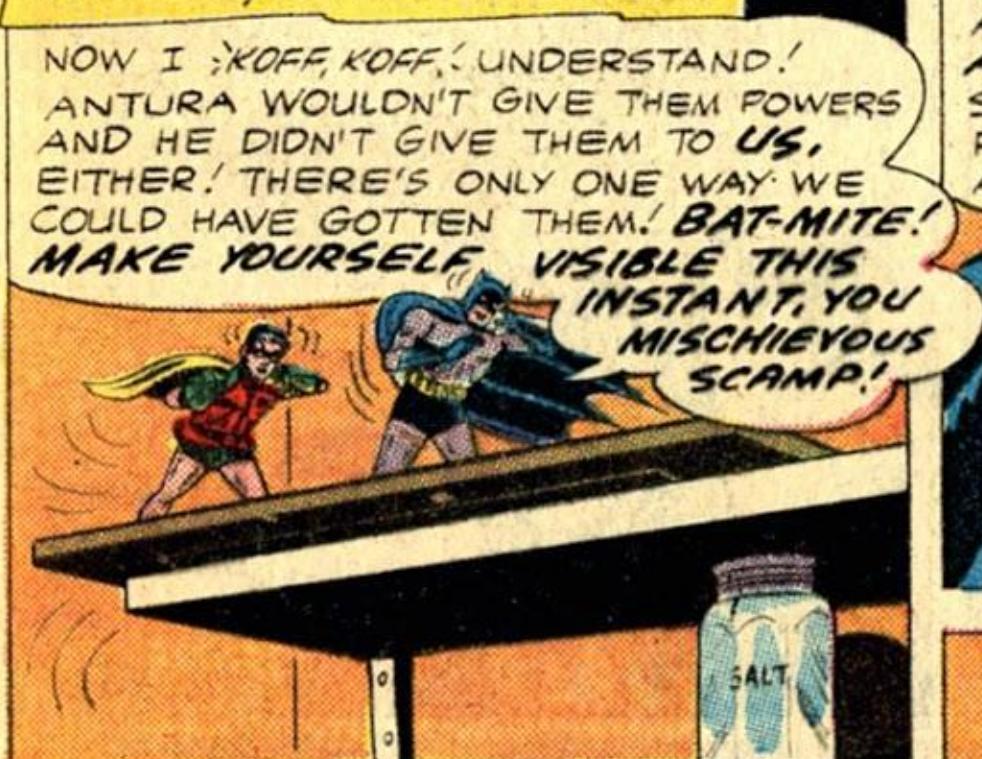
BUT, BEFORE BATMAN CAN GIVE IT FURTHER THOUGHT...

THIS SHOULD PEP THINGS UP... LONG ENOUGH FOR US TO MAKE A GETAWAY!



HOWEVER, AT THAT INSTANT...

NOW I 'KOFF, KOFF,' UNDERSTAND! ANTURA WOULDN'T GIVE THEM POWERS AND HE DIDN'T GIVE THEM TO US, EITHER! THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY WE COULD HAVE GOTTEN THEM! BAT-MITE! MAKE YOURSELF VISIBLE THIS INSTANT, YOU MISCHIEVOUS SCAMP!



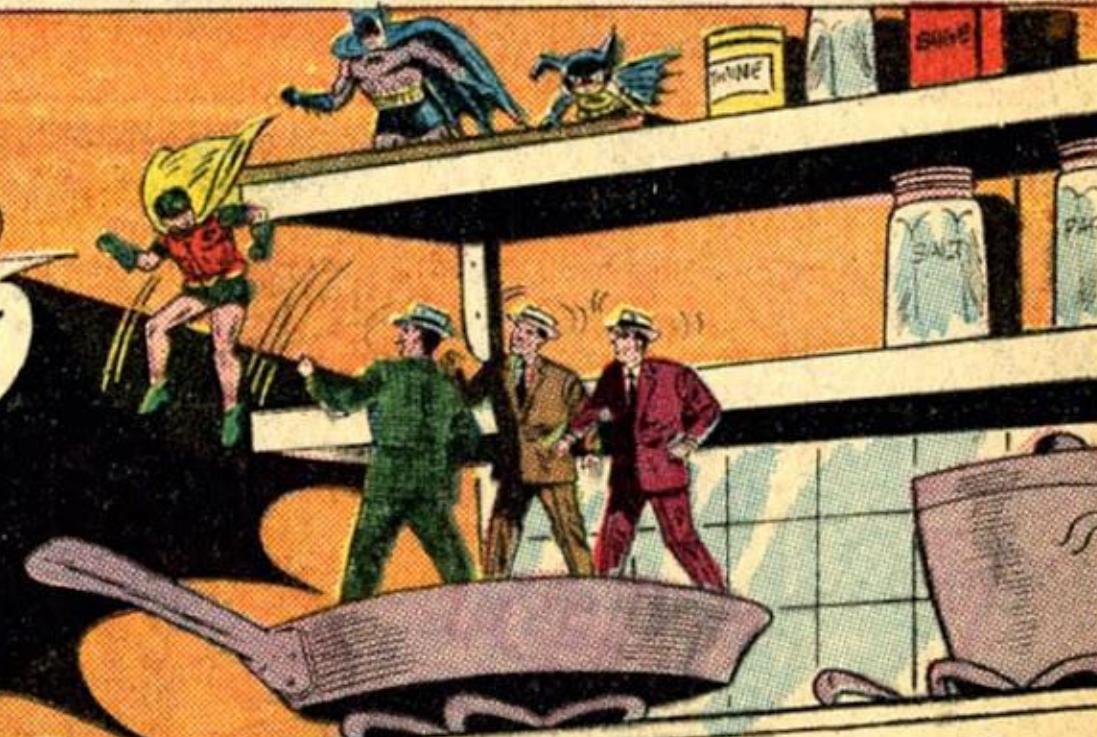
AAAHH--SO THERE YOU ARE! AREN'T YOU ASHAMED OF YOURSELF? NOW STOP INTERFERING AT ONCE!

I... I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT, BATMAN! I'LL USE MY MAGIC TO RETURN THINGS AS THEY WERE!



SO, AS THE GIANT FRYING PAN RETURNS TO THE STOVE WITH ITS CRIMINAL CARGO...

NOW, YOU'RE ON YOUR OWN! NO MORE "MAGIC" FOR YOU OR US! YOU'RE GOING...





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BATMAN ADVENTURES**  
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WORLD'S FINEST and  
DETECTIVE  
COMICS

**"The CONDEMNED  
BATMAN!"**

**"This looks like the end  
of BATMAN'S CAREER!"**

# "INNOCENT!"

JUDGED THE COURT OF  
GREEN LANTERNS  
OF THE UNIVERSE!

# "GUILTY!"

PROTESTED  
GREEN LANTERN  
OF EARTH!

WHAT WOULD **YOUR** VERDICT  
BE IF YOU SERVED AS A  
MEMBER OF THE JURY AT...

"*The STRANGE TRIAL of  
GREEN LANTERN!*"

APPEARING IN THIS EXCITING ISSUE

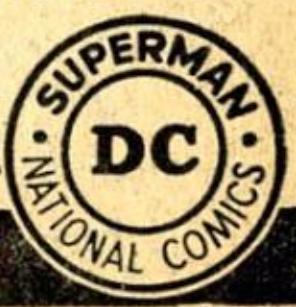


**GRODD--**  
**the SUPER-GORILLA--**  
**is BACK!**

...BACK TO TAUNT HIS ENEMY  
**The FLASH** WITH THE  
GREATEST STUNT OF HIS CAREER...  
MAKING IT **IMPOSSIBLE** FOR THE  
**SCARLET SPEEDSTER** TO GET  
CLOSE ENOUGH TO FIGHT HIM!

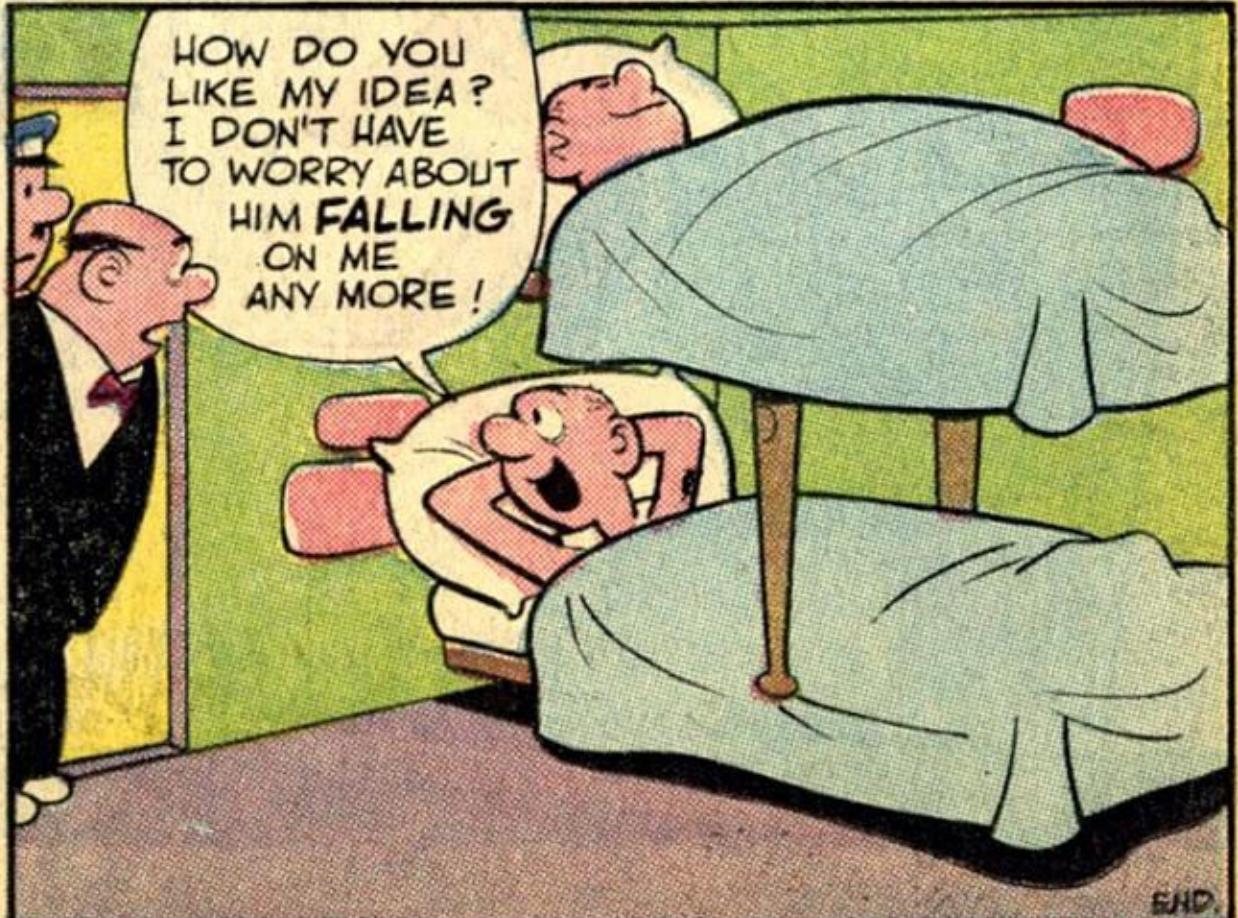
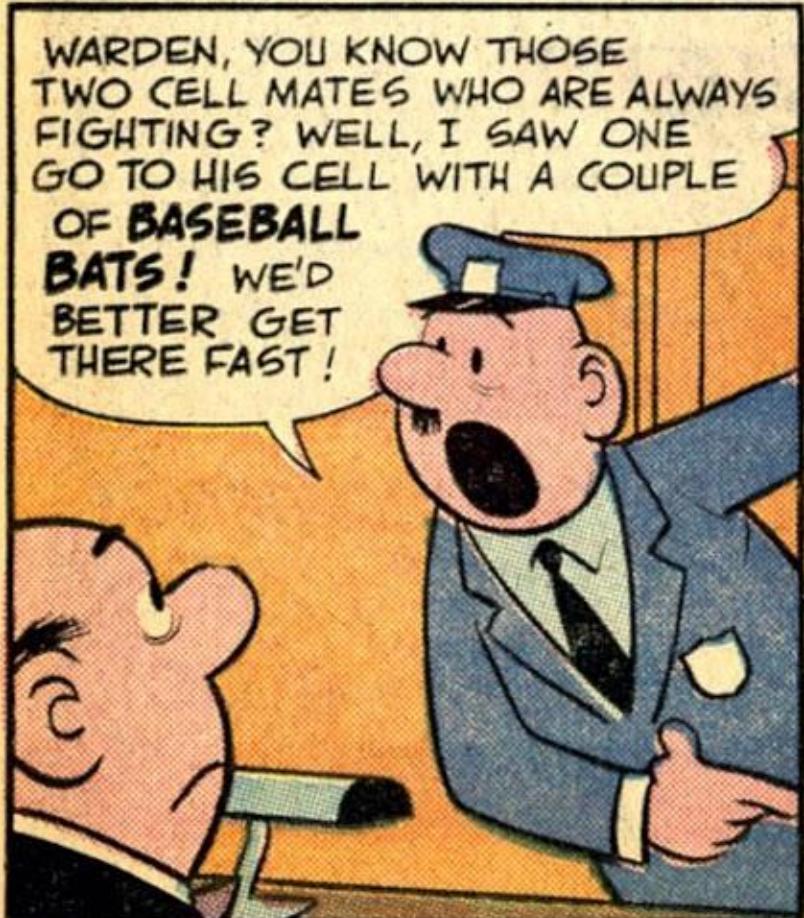
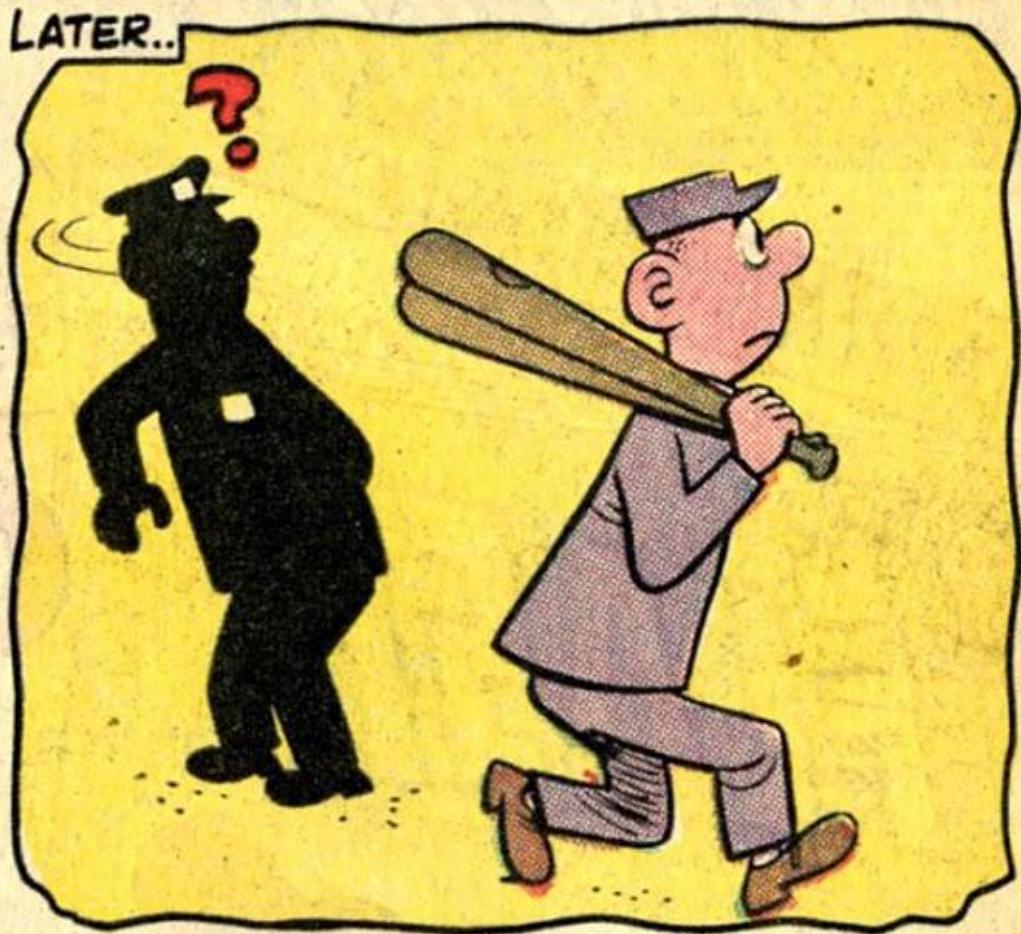
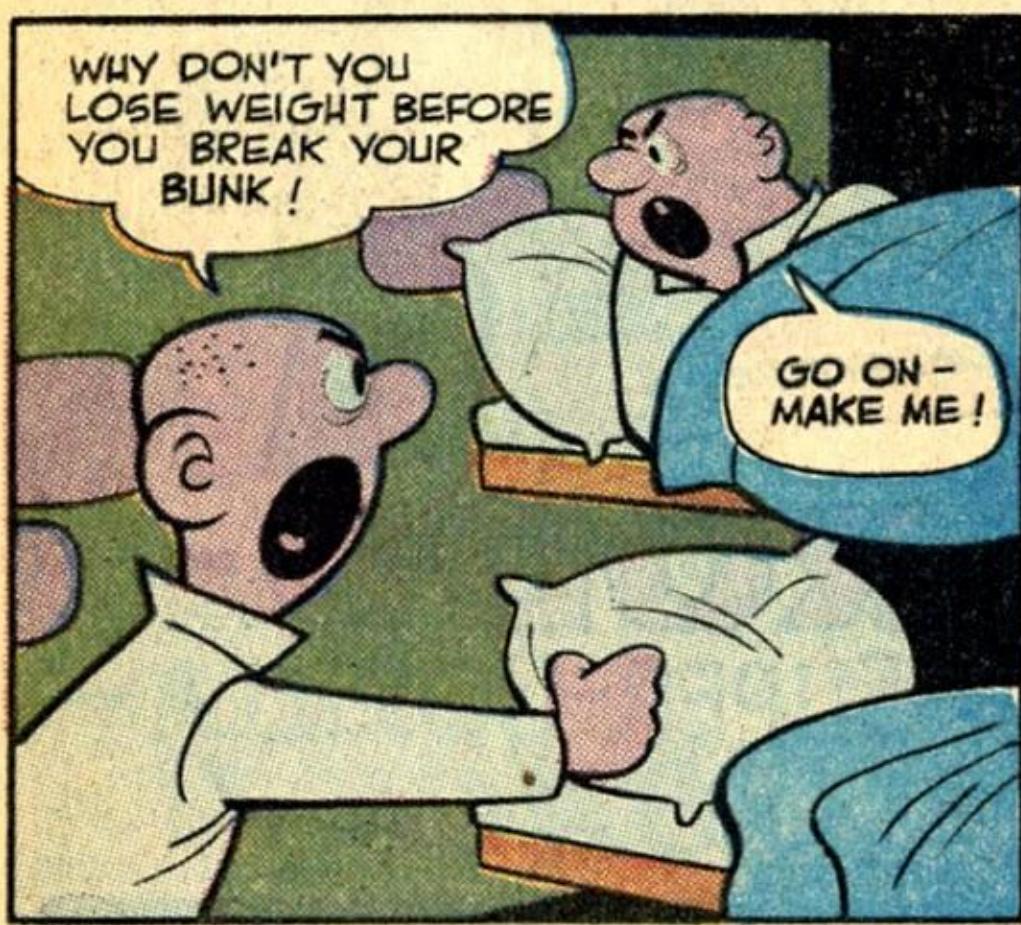
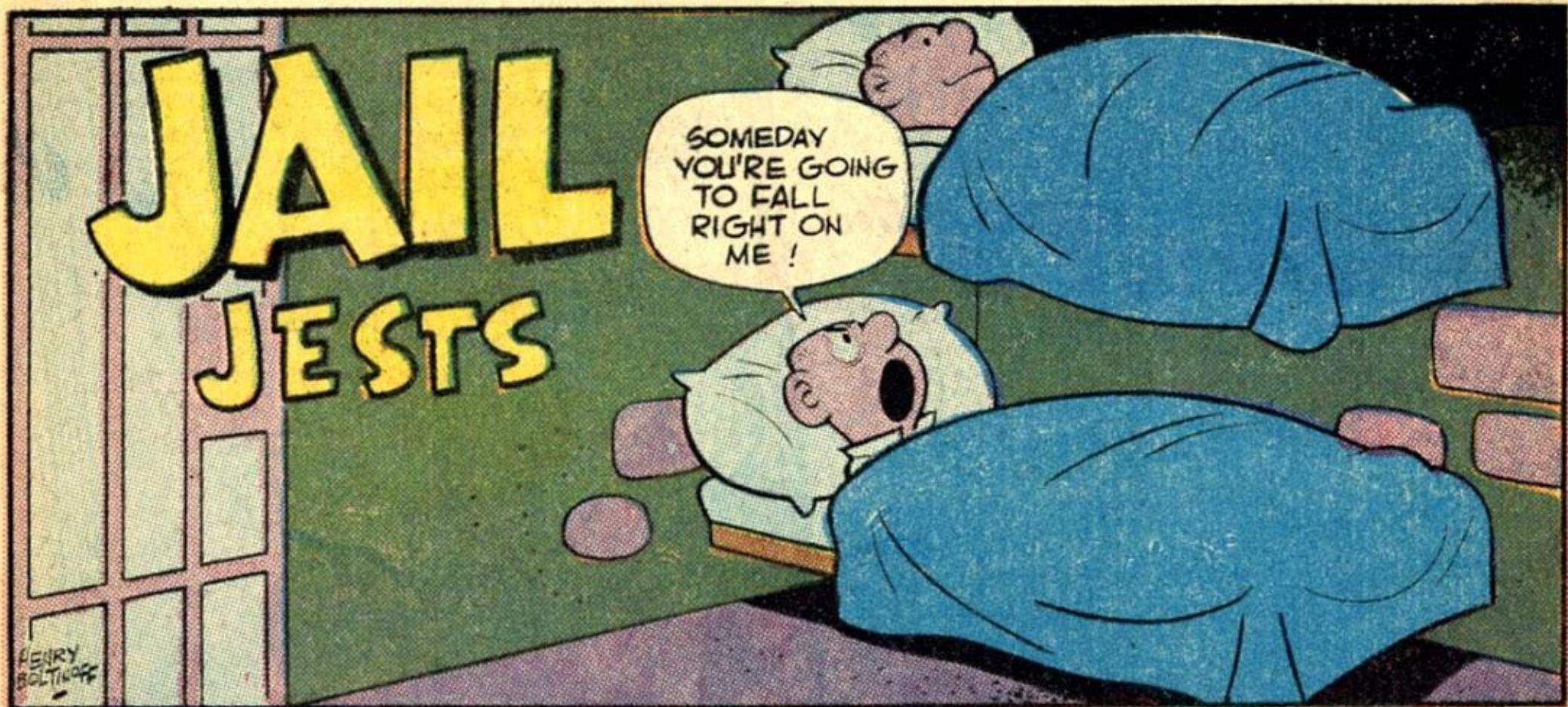
*What a Predicament!  
What a Story!  
What an Issue!*

ON SALE EVERYWHERE!





# BATMAN



END.

BATMAN



# BATMAN

WITH  
**ROBIN**  
- THE BOY WONDER -

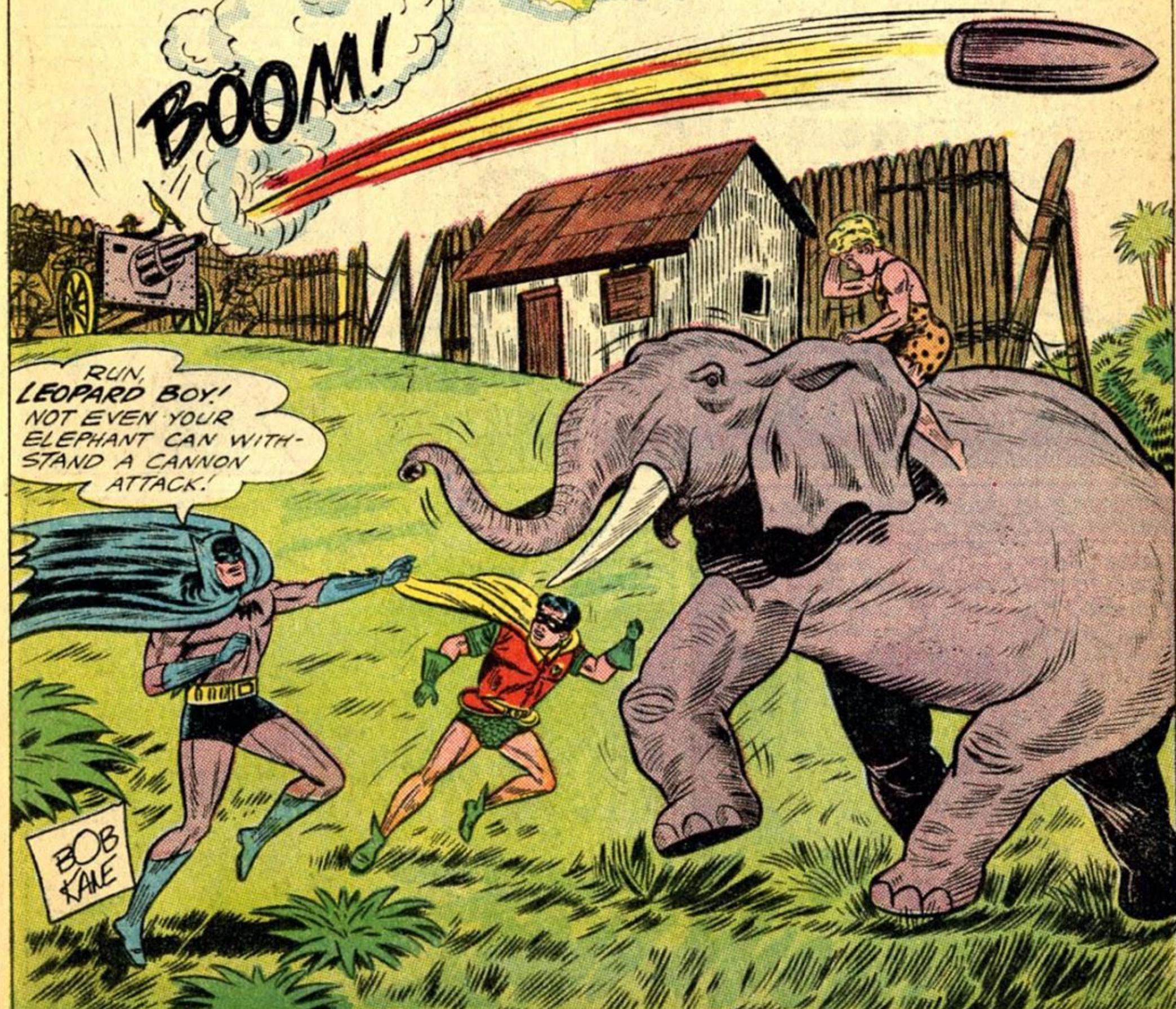
HIS "HOME" WAS AN ENTIRE JUNGLE... HIS ONLY "FRIENDS" WERE THE VAST ANIMAL KINGDOM! BUT HIS ENEMIES WERE HUMAN BEINGS, WHO HAD TRAVELED HALFWAY AROUND THE GLOBE, PURSUED BY BATMAN AND ROBIN, IN AN EFFORT TO UNCOVER...

## the SECRET of the **LEOPARD BOY**

BOOM!

RUN, LEOPARD BOY!  
NOT EVEN YOUR ELEPHANT CAN WITHSTAND A CANNON ATTACK!

BOB KALE





# BATMAN

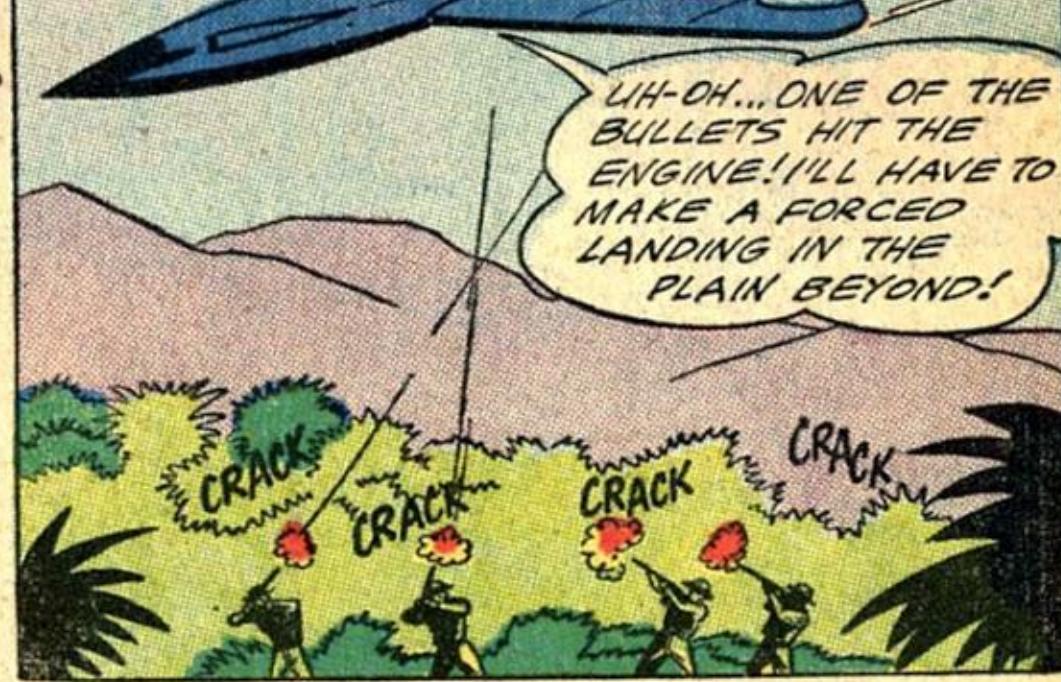


SOMEWHERE OVER AFRICAN JUNGLE, THE BAT-PLANE REACHES THE END OF A MAN-HUNT...

THERE THEY ARE, BATMAN--SMILEY FENTON AND HIS GANG! OUR HUNT FOR THAT PUBLIC ENEMY IS OVER AT LAST!



BUT, AS THE CRIMINALS OPEN FIRE...



SOON AFTER...

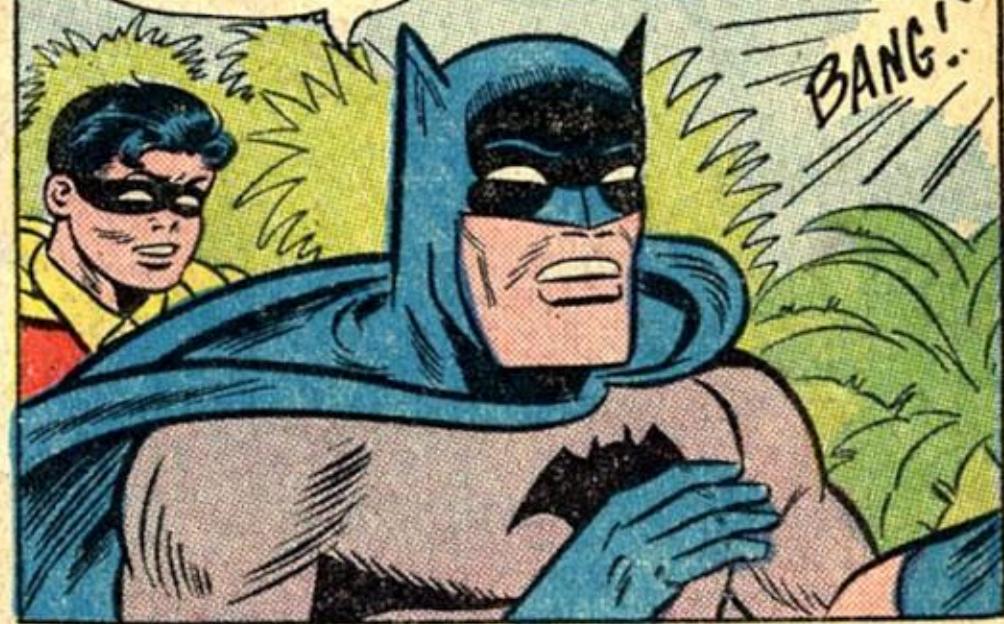
WHEW! WE'RE LUCKY TO BE WALKING AWAY FROM THAT IN ONE PIECE!

WE'VE GOT MORE WALKING AHEAD--IF WE HOPE TO PICK UP SMILEY'S TRAIL IN THAT JUNGLE!



AS THE CAPED CRIME-FIGHTERS PUSH THROUGH THE STEAMING JUNGLE...

WHAT PUZZLES ME IS WHY SMILEY CAME ALL THE WAY HERE TO--LISTEN!... GUNFIRE! THEY'RE SOMEWHERE AHEAD! COME ON!



THROUGH THE BRUSH, THEY SOON GAZE UPON A BIZARRE SIGHT...

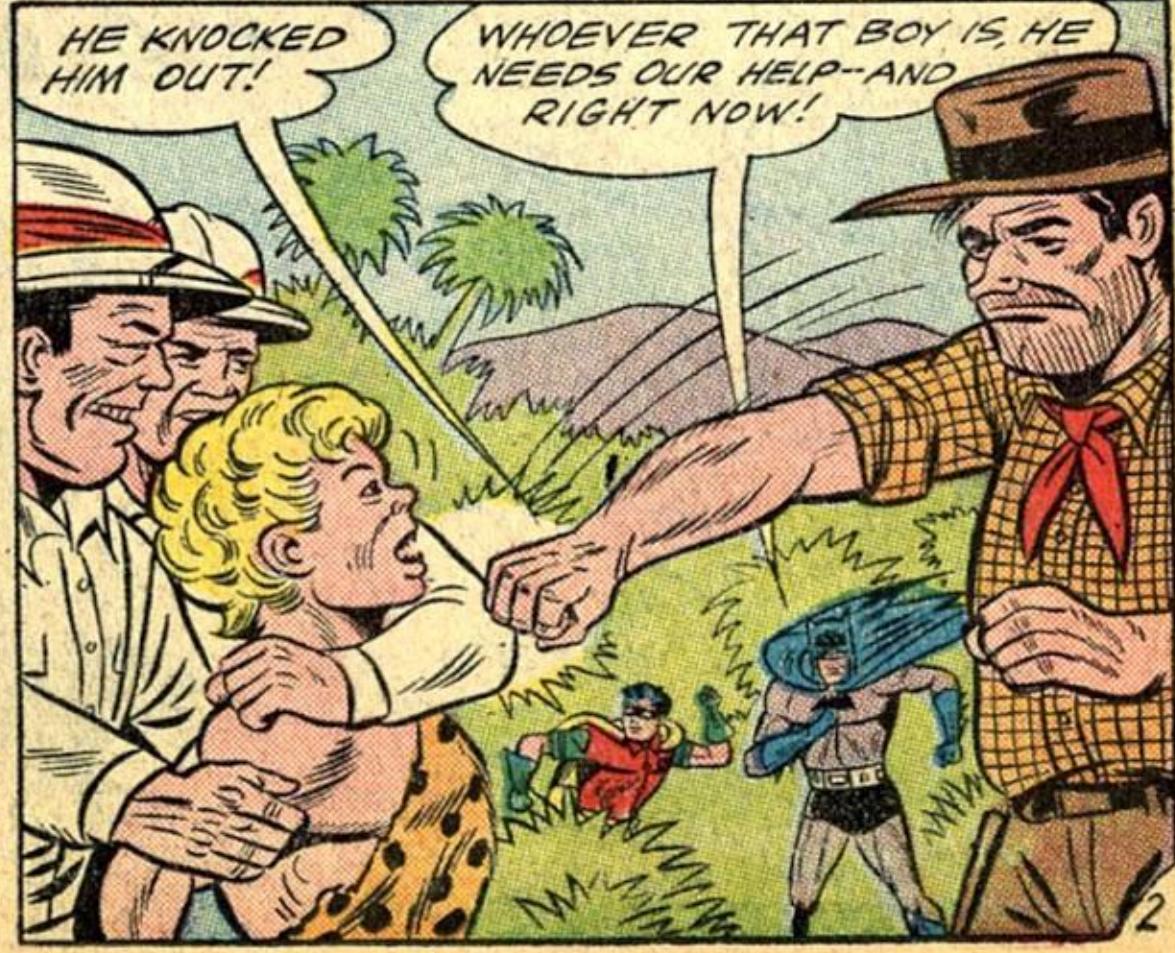
GREAT SCOTT! THEY'RE FIGHTING A BOY!

A BOY WEARING A LEOPARD SKIN!



HE KNOCKED HIM OUT!

WHOEVER THAT BOY IS, HE NEEDS OUR HELP--AND RIGHT NOW!

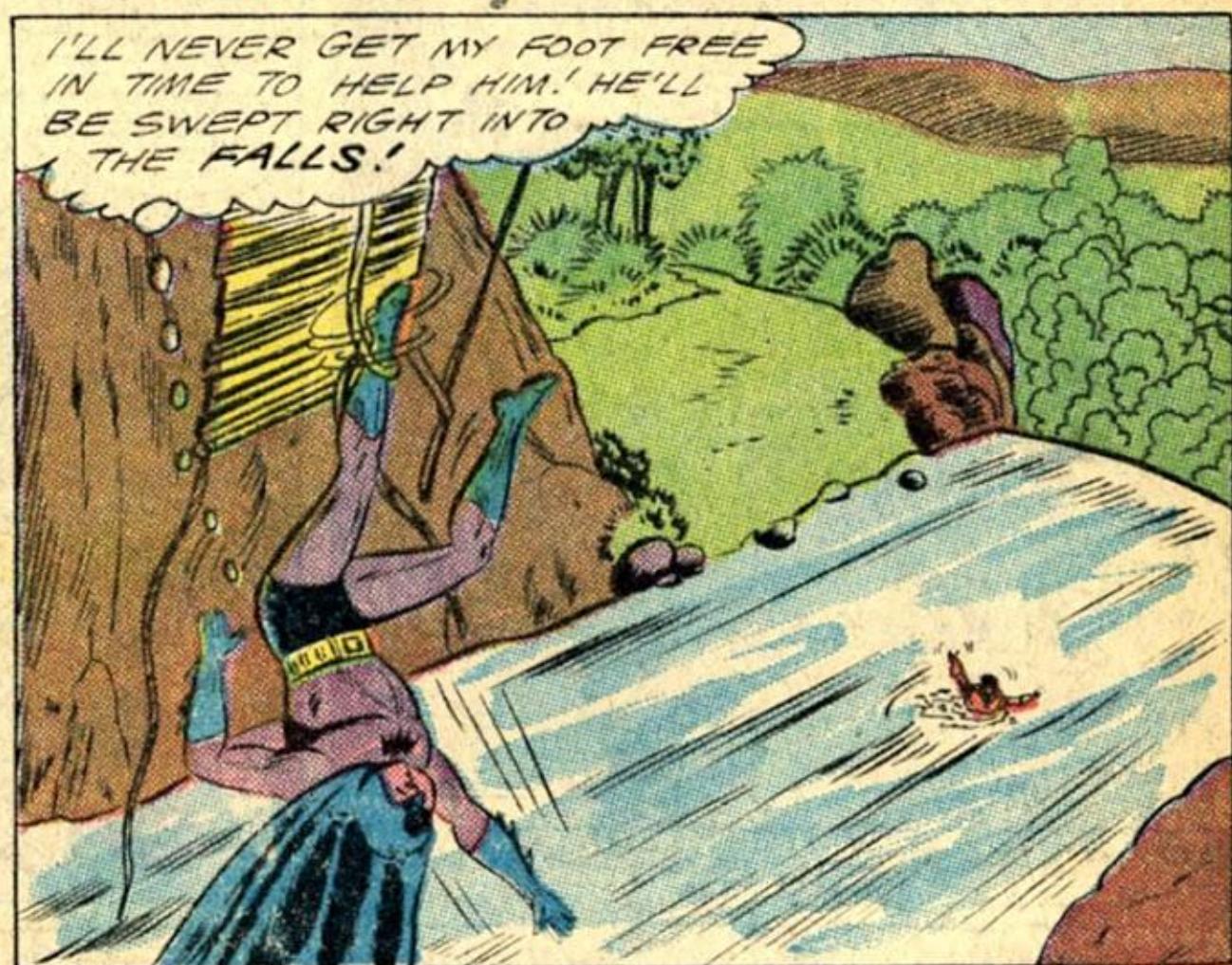
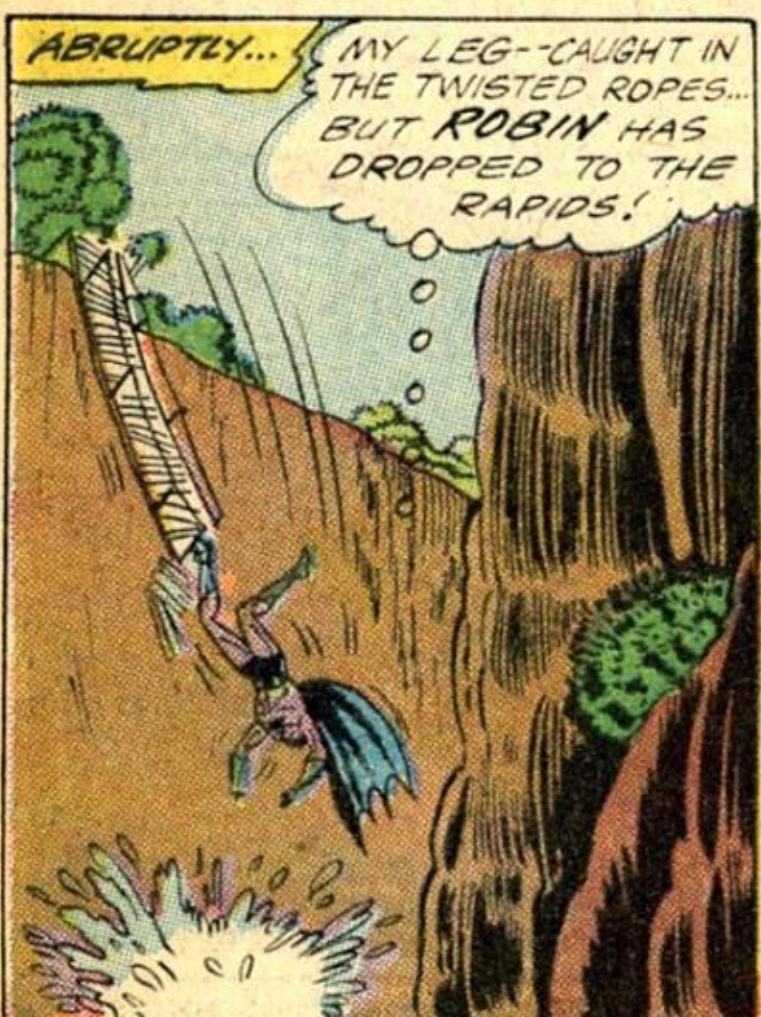
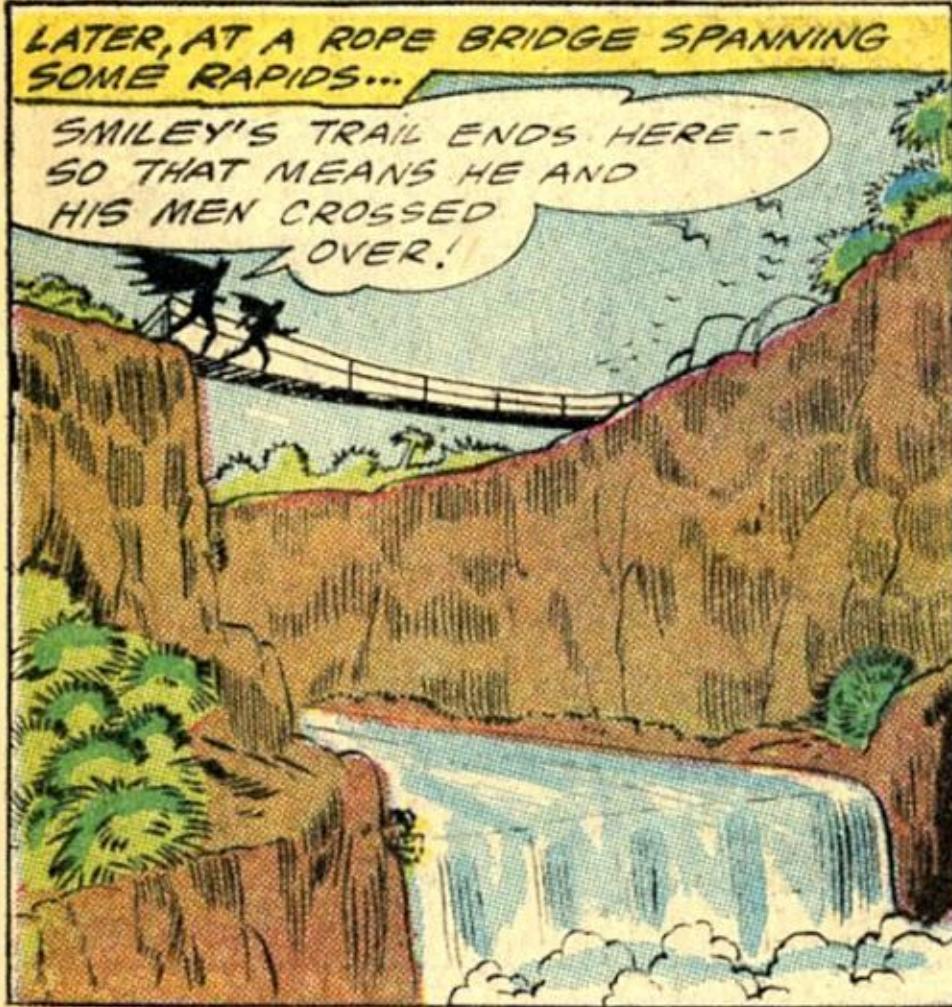
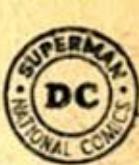




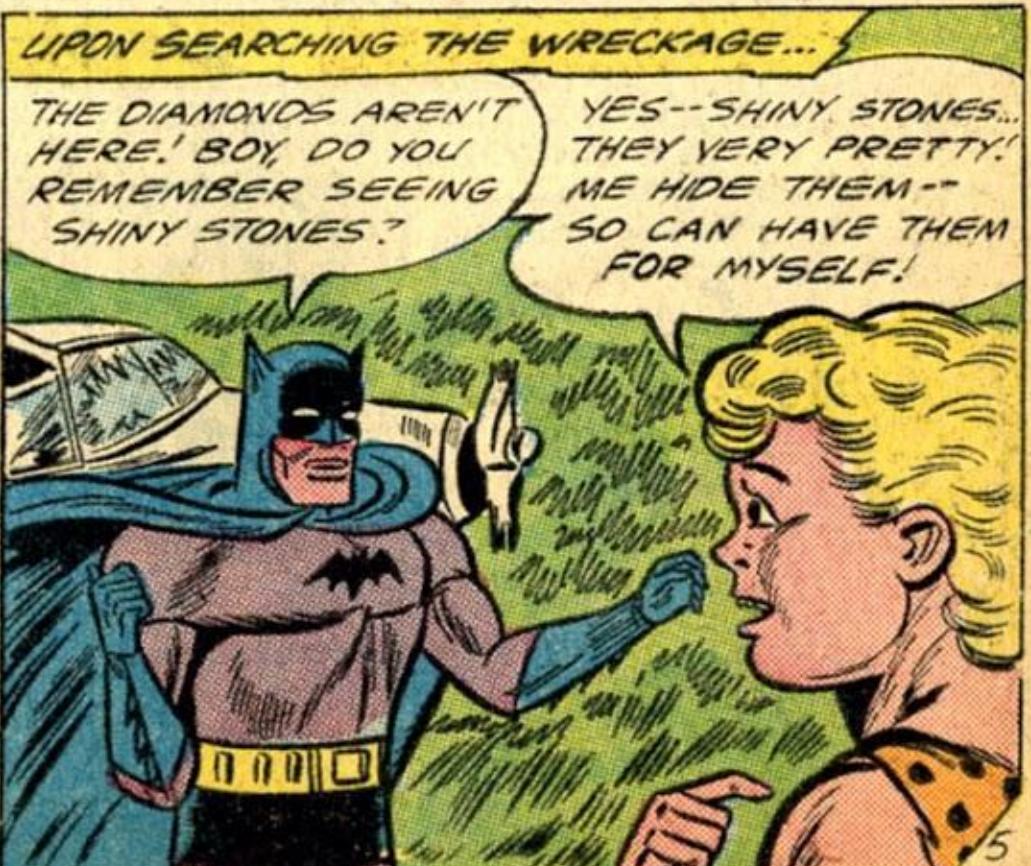
BUT NO SOONER IS HE RESCUED THAN THE STRANGE BOY GOES LEAPING AWAY...



# BATMAN



## BATMAN





AT GUNPOINT, THE TRIO IS MARCHED TO AN ABANDONED STOCKADE ON A CLIFF EDGE...

DURING THE WAR, THE GOVERNMENT HERE BUILT THE FORT SO THEY COULD GUARD THE RIVER! NOW, THE PLACE IS DESERTED... BUT IT WON'T BE, AFTER I LOCK YOU IN THE GUARDHOUSE!



SHORTLY... YOU'LL  
TALK,  
BOY -- OR YOU AND  
YOUR FRIENDS WILL  
DIE OF HUNGER  
AND THIRST!

SMILEY'S TAKEN OUR  
UTILITY BELTS... WE  
HAVEN'T A CHANCE  
OF BREAKING  
OUT NOW!

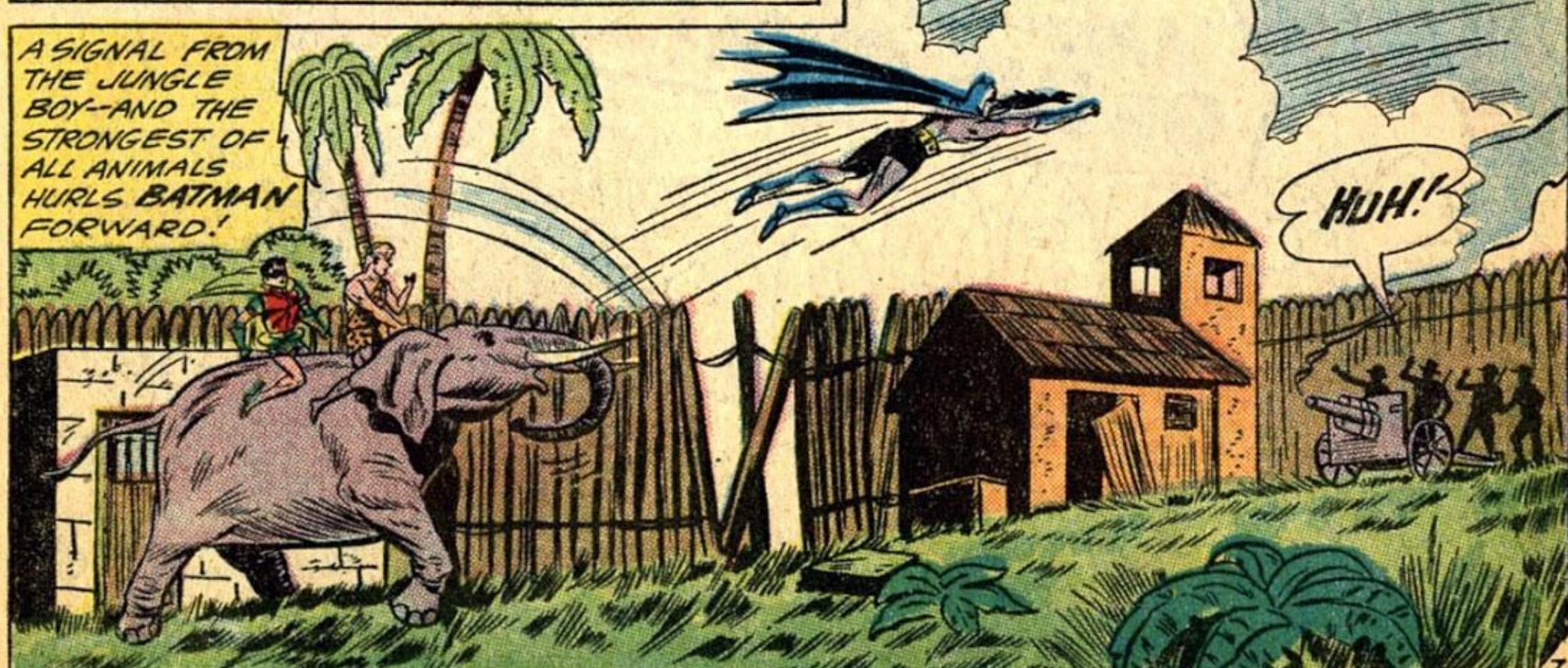
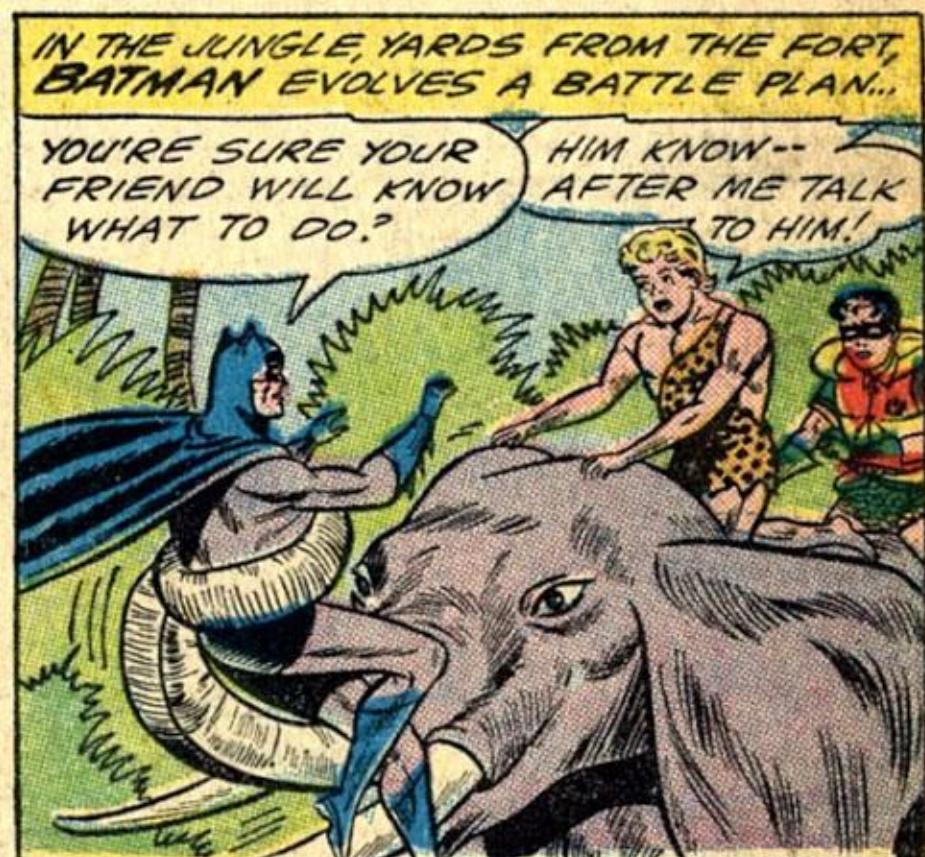
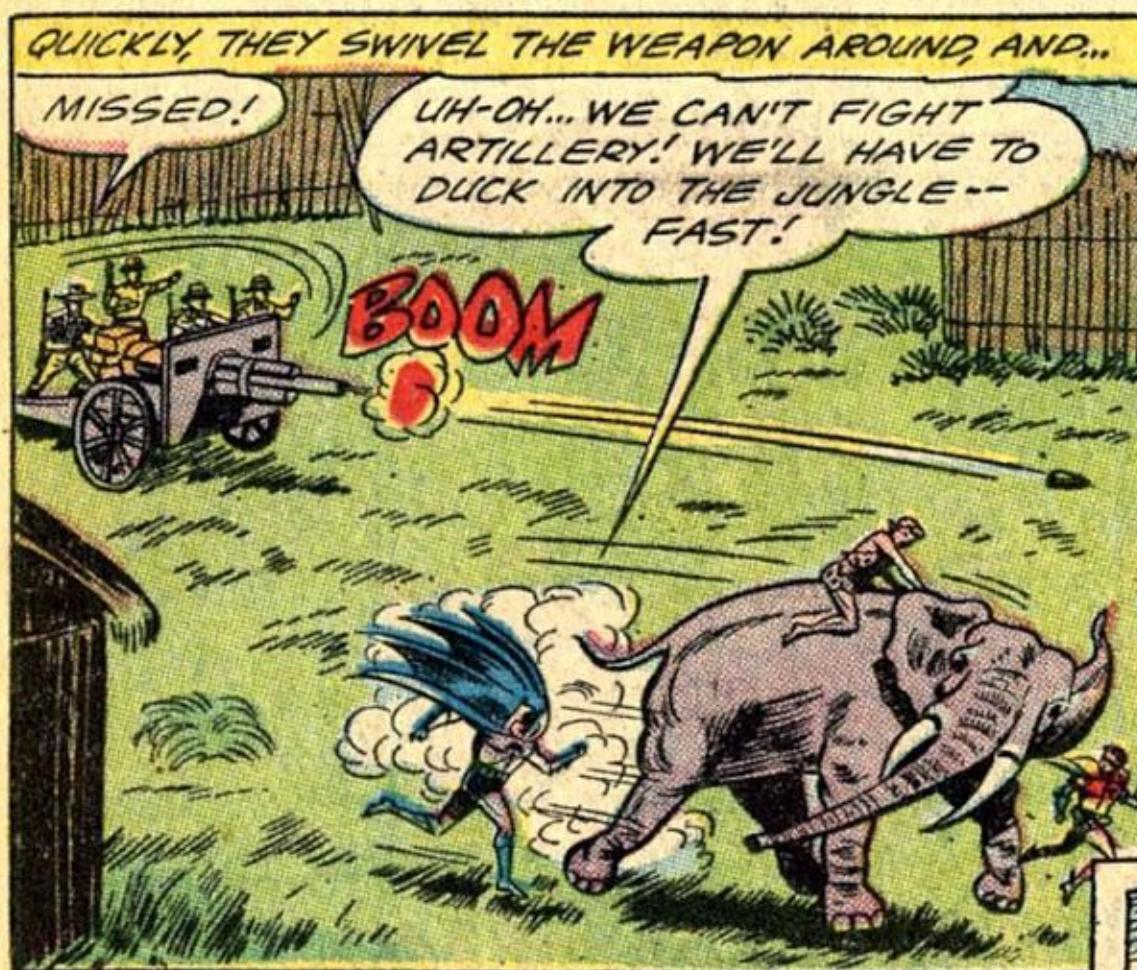
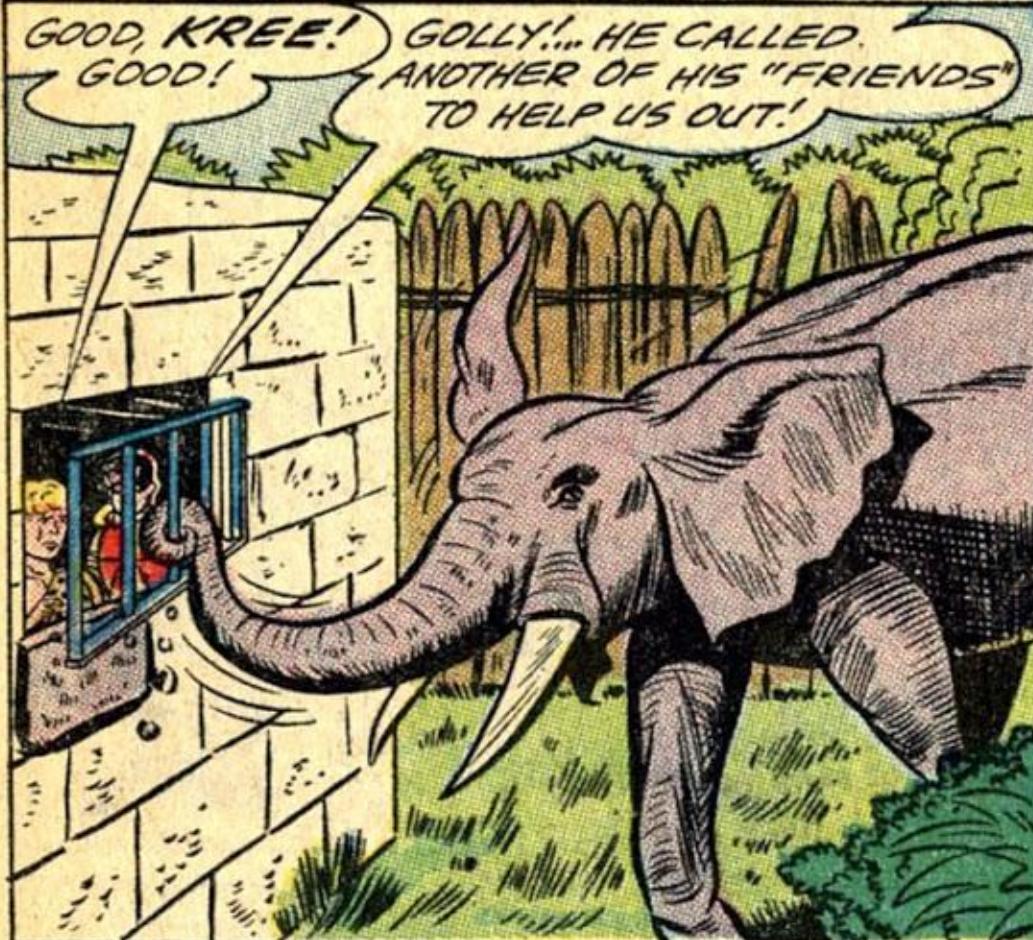


BUT, AS SOON AS THEY ARE ALONE...



THE ANSWER COMES A MOMENT LATER, AS...





THE BEST WAY TO KAYO GROUND ARTILLERY--IS AN AERIAL ATTACK!



THE BATTLE ENDS SWIFTLY, AS TWO MORE FIGURES JOIN THE FRAY...

ROBIN, YOU FIGHT GOOD!

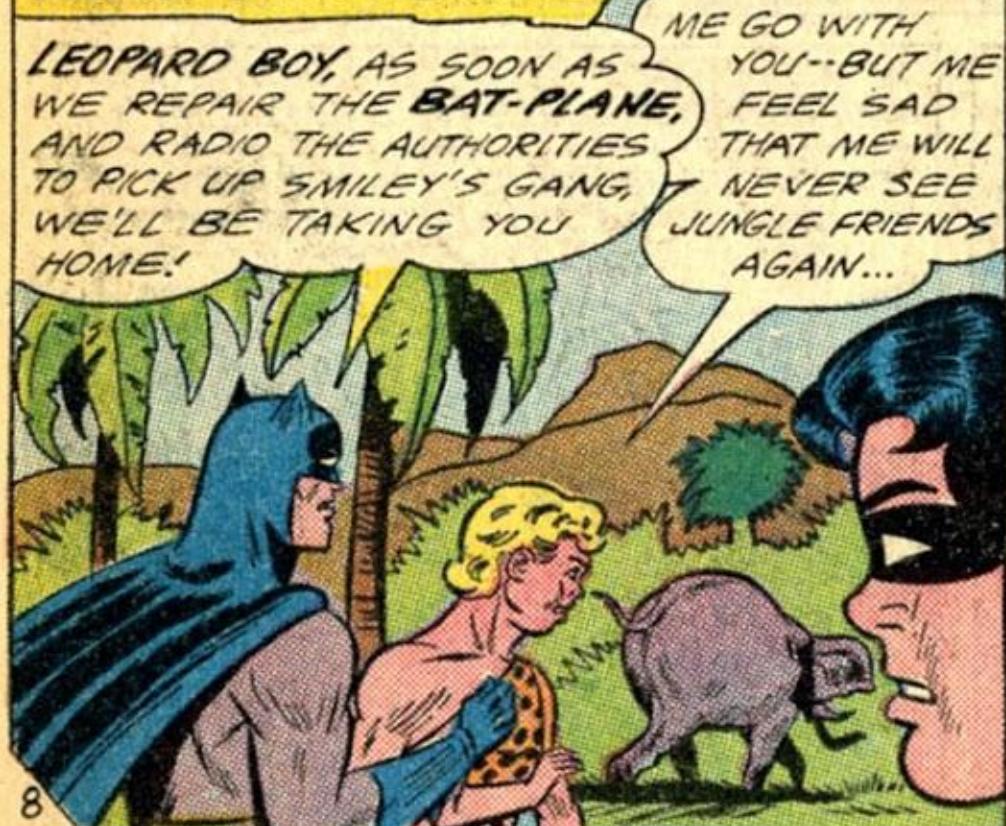
YOU'RE NOT SO BAD YOURSELF, LEOPARD BOY!



LATER, WITH THE PRISONERS IN TOW AND THE GEMS RECOVERED...

LEOPARD BOY, AS SOON AS WE REPAIR THE BAT-PLANE, AND RADIO THE AUTHORITIES TO PICK UP SMILEY'S GANG, WE'LL BE TAKING YOU HOME!

ME GO WITH YOU--BUT ME FEEL SAD THAT ME WILL NEVER SEE JUNGLE FRIENDS AGAIN...



AND SO, DAYS AFTERWARD, THE JUNGLE BOY IS AT LAST REUNITED WITH SOMEONE WHO HAS NEVER GIVEN UP HOPE THAT HE WAS STILL ALIVE...

ME REMEMBER... MOTHER!

OH, MY BOY... MY SON!



8

NOW in a MAGAZINE OF HIS OWN!

AQUAMAN  
THE KING OF THE SEVEN SEAS AND HIS YOUNG ALLY,  
AQUALAD

IN A THRILLING 3-PART NOVEL...

"THE SECRET OF CAPTAIN SYKES' DEADLY MISSIONS!"

ON SALE EVERYWHERE JAN. 25th

12¢ **AQUAMAN**  
IN A MAGAZINE OF HIS OWN!  
FEATURING THE KING OF THE SEVEN SEAS AND HIS YOUNG ALLY, AQUALAD!

APPROVED BY THE COMIC BOOK CENSORSHIP AUTHORITY

THE SECRET OF  
CAPTAIN SYKES'  
DEADLY  
MISSIONS!

THE GAS THAT MADE THOSE FISH HUGE AND HOSTILE HAS AFFECTED AQUALAD--AND HE'S ATTACKING ME!

SUPERMAN  
DC  
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# FINGERPRINT

# Curios!

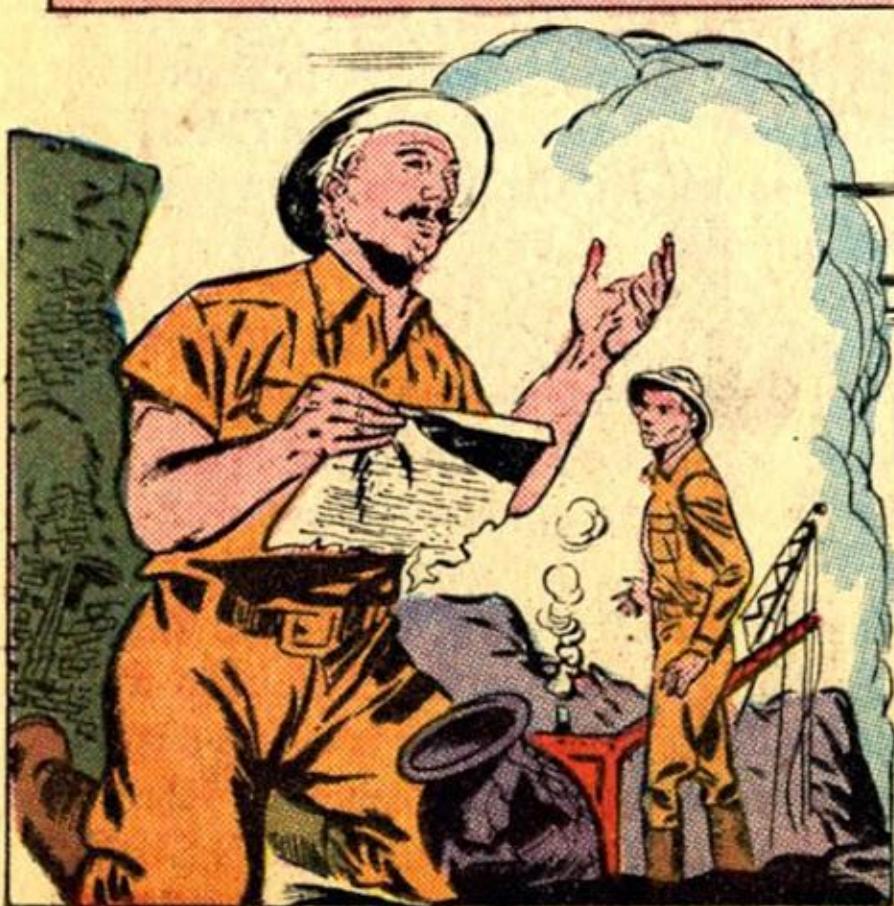
FINGERPRINT KNOWLEDGE PROBABLY GOES AS FAR BACK AS ANCIENT BABYLON! DISCOVERIES SHOW THAT MERCHANTS THEN IMPRESSED THEIR FINGERS IN SOFT CLAY TABLETS TO RECORD BUSINESS TRANSACTIONS!



CENTURIES LATER, QUINTILIAN, A ROMAN LAWYER, (1<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY A.D.) DEFENDED A BLIND CLIENT ACCUSED OF MURDER, BY TRYING TO PROVE THAT THE PALM PRINTS ON THE WALLS AT THE SCENE OF THE CRIME WERE THOSE OF A NEIGHBOR!



A DOCUMENT FOUND IN TURKESTAN BY SIR AUREL STEIN, THE EXPLORER, RECORDED A LOAN WHICH WAS SIGNED AND SEALED BY THE FINGERPRINTS OF THE PARTIES INVOLVED, IN 782 A.D.!



IN THE CYCLOPAEDIC HISTORY WRITTEN BY DOCTOR RASHID OF THE PERSIAN EMPIRE (1247-1318), HE STATED, "EXPERIENCE SHOWS THAT NO TWO INDIVIDUALS HAVE FINGERS PRECISELY ALIKE!"

IN 14TH CENTURY PERSIA, AMBASSADORS AND MERCHANTS ARRIVING IN THE COUNTRY WERE FINGERPRINTED FOR IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES!



# Letters to the BAT-CAVE

**Dear Editor:** I have in front of me an old copy of **BATMAN COMICS**. In one of the stories, there is a scene in the **BAT-CAVE CRIME LAB**, and in the background I see an object that resembles an ultra-violet lamp. Of what use is this to **BATMAN**?

Milton West, South Bend, Ind.

(Ultra-violet light is able to show up many substances that are invisible to the naked eye under ordinary light. Most chemicals, if there's the slightest trace of them on any surface, glow specific colors under the ultra-violet beam. You can see the value this would have to **BATMAN** in examining scraps of evidence from the scene of a crime, or in pinpointing a suspect. For example, a man committing a crime in a gas station would be likely to pick up some oil on the soles of his shoes. Though absorbed and concealed by the dirt on his soles, the oil would easily show up under ultra-violet light.—Ed.)

**Dear Editor:** I figured out a weak spot in the **BAT-CAVE**. There's a lot of complicated electronic equipment down there, plus plain old electric lights all over the place. With all the current this must require, the electric company would be quick to conclude that there's more to the Wayne Mansion than meets the eye. How would Bruce talk his way out of that one?

Archie McCann, Billings, Mont.

(He wouldn't have to. The **BAT-CAVE** has its own generator—battery operated, of course—and draws none of its current from the electric company.—Ed.)

**Dear Editor:** I can't get enough of those stories in which **BATMAN'S** body undergoes some incredible change. I hope you'll be doing another one soon.

Ernestine Lee, San Antonio, Tex.

(You're not the only reader who has requested these stories. That's why we've got two in the works right now. In the MARCH issue of **DETECTIVE COMICS**, No. 301, you'll see the caped crime-fighter turn into a deadly menace to himself and to everyone around him, as he becomes

"THE CONDEMNED BATMAN!" Equally startling is the adventure in the next issue of **BATMAN COMICS**, MAY, No. 147, where "BATMAN BECOMES BAT-BABY!"—Ed.)

**Dear Editor:** If **BATMAN** were to find samples of blonde hair at the scene of a crime, I'm sure it would help him to know whether that hair was natural or bleached blonde. Is there any way of determining for sure?

Moe Husik, Detroit, Mich.

(Definitely—because bleached hair is always frayed and irregular on the surface. The first thing **BATMAN** would do with a blonde hair sample is stain it with a dye in the **BAT-CAVE CRIME LAB**, then inspect it under the microscope. On a smooth-surfaced *natural* blonde strand, the dye would spread evenly and smoothly, but on the "choppy" surface of a *bleached* strand, there would be an uneven, irregular spreading.—Ed.)

**Dear Editor:** You've shown **BATMAN** and **ROBIN**, from time to time, "listening in" on crooks' secret conversations by reading their lips. Yet, on other occasions when this talent would come in handy, you don't show the crime-fighters using it. How come?

Sol Adler, Brooklyn, N. Y.

(A person's lips can only be read when the lip reader is facing him *head-on*. It is impossible, even for expert lip readers like **BATMAN** and **ROBIN**, to make out the words from a profile view of the crooks.—Ed.)

**Dear Editor:** I think **BATMAN**, **ROBIN** and **SUPERMAN** face their greatest challenge when they battle super-aliens from outer space. Any plans for another one of those adventures?

Tommy Bell, Enid, Okla.

(Yes—in the MARCH issue of **WORLD'S FINEST COMICS**, No. 124. You'll find not only a tremendous challenge to the famed trio, but a special surprise as your favorite heroes join forces to solve "THE MYSTERY OF THE ALIEN SUPER-BOY!"—Ed.)

# BATMAN

WITH  
**ROBIN**  
- THE BOY WONDER -

HIGH ON A MOUNTAIN PEAK, IT HAD STOOD FOR CENTURIES, THE GOLDEN **HAND OF KORABO** THAT MANY BELIEVED PROTECTED THEIR LAND! BUT, FOR THE NON-BELIEVER, FOR THE MAN WHO DARED DEFY ITS MAGIC POWERS -- INDEED, EVEN FOR **BATMAN**.. THERE REMAINED ONLY THE FUTILE RACE TO ESCAPE...

## the DEADLY CURSE OF KORABO



## BATMAN

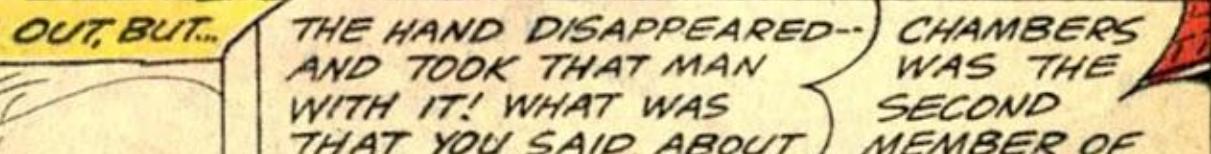
AS THE MIGHTY BATMOBILE ROARS DOWN AN OPEN HIGHWAY, BATMAN AND ROBIN ONCE MORE HEED THE CALL TO ACTION...

WHY DO YOU SUPPOSE LARSEN IS SO FRANTIC TO SEE US, BATMAN?

BEATS ME, ROBIN... A MOUNTAIN-CLIMBING ADVENTURER LIKE KEITH LARSEN DOESN'T SCARE EASILY, YOU KNOW!

SUDDENLY, AS THEY APPROACH THEIR DESTINATION...

GREAT GHOSTS! A GIANT HAND FLOATING DOWN FROM THE SKY! IT'S REACHING FOR ONE OF THOSE MEN!



INSTANTLY, A BAT-ROPE SNAKES OUT, BUT...

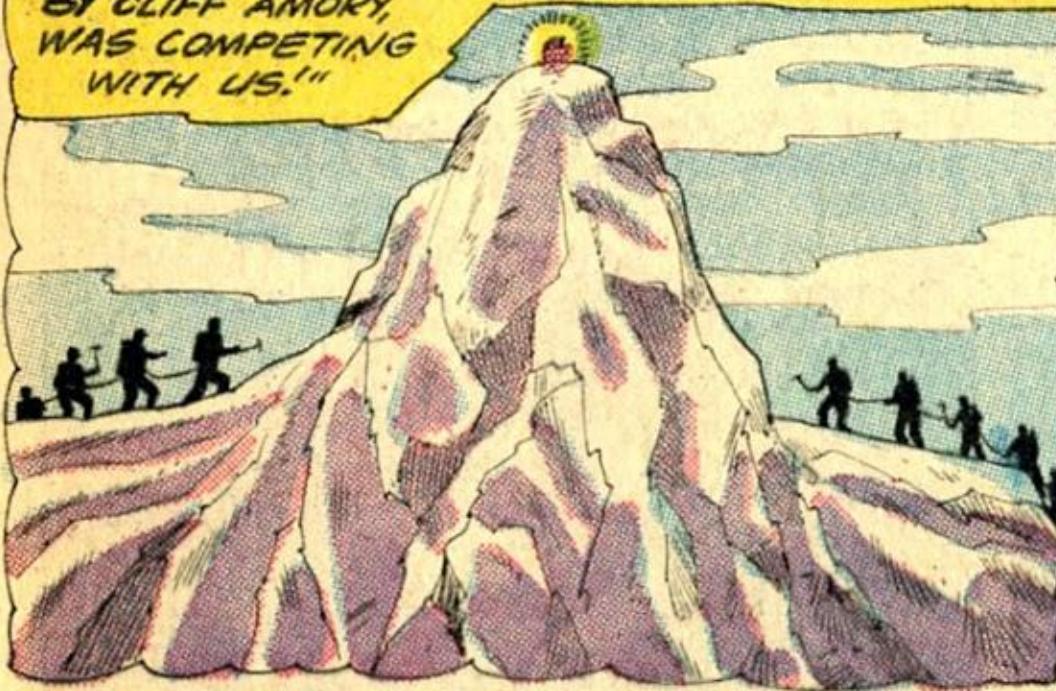
THAT SMOKE--OBSCURING THE TARGET! I MISSED IT!

THE HAND DISAPPEARED-- AND TOOK THAT MAN WITH IT! WHAT WAS THAT YOU SAID ABOUT A CURSE, MR. LARSEN?

CHAMBERS WAS THE SECOND MEMBER OF OUR MOUNTAIN-CLIMBING TEAM TO MEET THIS FATE! BUT LET ME TELL YOU THE STORY FROM THE BEGINNING...



"OUR TEAM SET OUT TO CONQUER MOUNT RABACHI, TO BRING BACK THE FABLED HAND OF KORABO ON ITS PEAK. A SECOND TEAM, HEADED BY CLIFF AMORY, WAS COMPETING WITH US!"



"BECAUSE OF NARROWING TRAILS, ONLY THE LEADER OF EACH TEAM COULD REACH THE PEAK... AND I WAS THE ONE WHO SUCCEEDED!"

I REACHED THE HAND OF KORABO! THE NATIVES PUT IT HERE TO GUARD THE MOUNTAIN, AND THEY PLACED A CURSE ON ANY MAN WHO REMOVED IT! BUT IT WON'T BRING US EVIL--ONLY GOLD AND GLORY... HA, HA!



"YET, EVEN AS I REACHED THE PEAK, A CRUEL FATE HAD OVERTAKEN MY COMPETITOR..."

IT'S AMORY!... HE'S DEAD!

HE FELL OFF THAT CLIFF AND RIGHT INTO OUR CAMP SITE!



FROM THE MOMENT WE REMOVED THE STATUE, KORABO'S CURSE HAS PLAGUED OUR TEAM! THE FIRST MEMBER WAS KILLED IN A MINE DISASTER... DUNNE HERE, AN ENGINEER, AND DR. HAMPDEN, ARE THE ONLY OTHER LIVING MEMBERS!

WELL, ROBIN AND I WILL REMAIN WITH YOU, TO MAKE SURE THAT "GHOST" HAND DOESN'T STRIKE AGAIN!



BUT THAT NIGHT, AS LARSEN AWAKENS FROM SLEEP BEHIND LOCKED DOORS AND WINDOWS...

THE HAND... HOW DID IT GET INTO THE ROOM?

IT'S COMING CLOSER--CLOSER!

NO--NO!  
YAAAA!



SUMMONED BY THE SCREAMS, BATMAN AND ROBIN BREAK DOWN THE DOOR ONLY TO LEARN...

YOU'RE TOO LATE... IT'S GONE! BUT THANK GOODNESS YOU ARRIVED WHEN YOU DID! THE HAND--FLOATING THROUGH THE AIR... IT TRIED TO GET ME!

I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT WAS A SUPER-NATURAL HAND YOU SAW! COME ON, ROBIN, LET'S SEE IF WE CAN'T FIND A MATERIAL EXPLANATION!



LATER, AFTER SEARCHING THE GROUNDS...

WE FOUND FOOTPRINTS OUTSIDE YOUR WINDOW! I THINK EITHER DUNNE OR HAMPDEN STOOD THERE AND FOCUSED A PROJECTED IMAGE OF THE HAND ONTO THAT MIRROR!

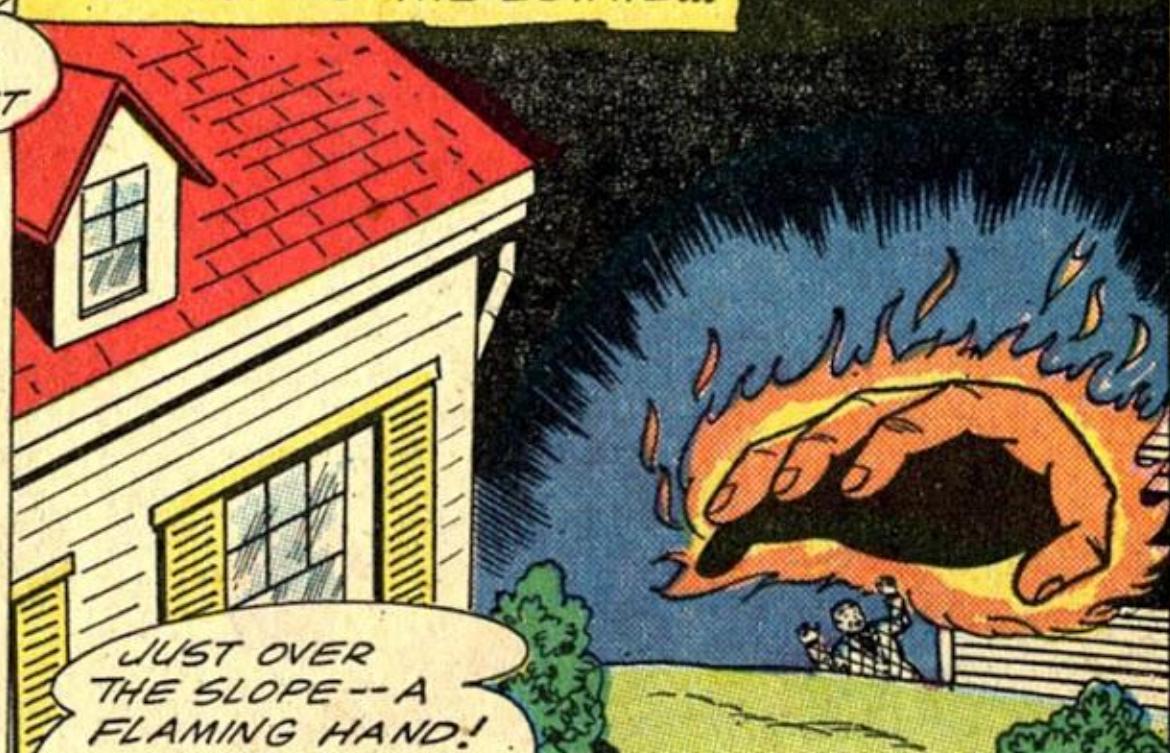
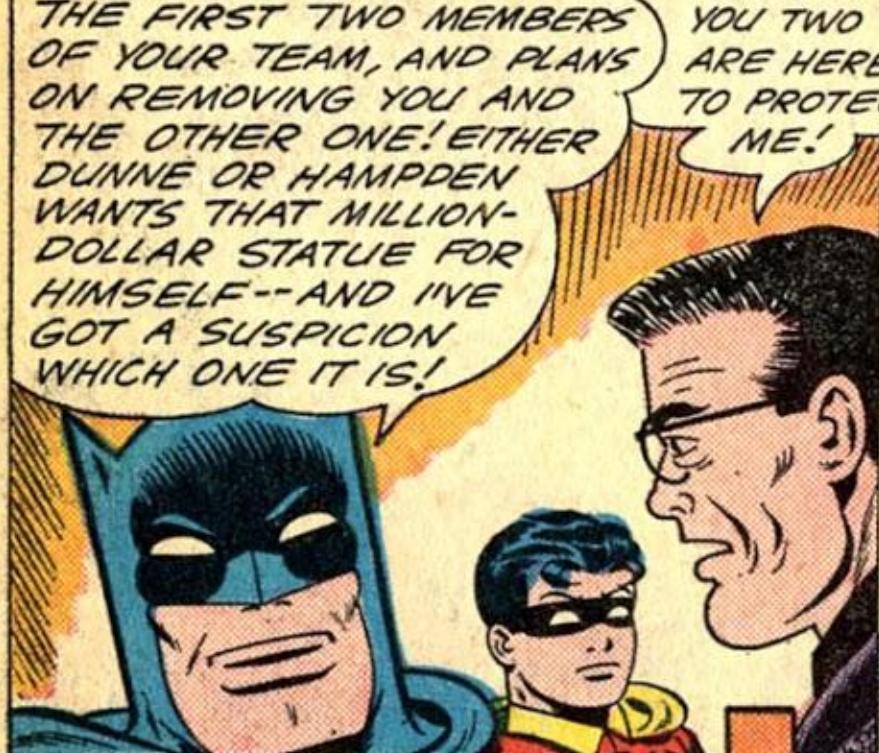
BUT WHY, BATMAN? WHY SHOULD THEY DO THIS TO ME?



MY GUESS IS THAT ONE OF THEM KILLED THE FIRST TWO MEMBERS OF YOUR TEAM, AND PLANS ON REMOVING YOU AND THE OTHER ONE! EITHER DUNNE OR HAMPDEN WANTS THAT MILLION-DOLLAR STATUE FOR HIMSELF--AND I'VE GOT A SUSPICION WHICH ONE IT IS!

INCREDIBLE! I'M LUCKY YOU TWO ARE HERE TO PROTECT ME!

AS THEY DASH THROUGH THE FRENCH DOORS OVERLOOKING THE ESTATE...



THE FOLLOWING MORNING, WHEN THE GROUP HAS AWAKENED FROM A RESTLESS NIGHT...

LAST NIGHT, YOU SAID YOU HAD A SUSPICION AS TO WHETHER IT WAS DUNNE OR HAMPDEN BEHIND THESE MURDERS! YOU MUST TELL ME WHO, BATMAN!

WELL, I STILL HAVE NO PROOF-- BUT ONE OF THOSE MEN IS THE MORE LIKELY SUSPECT BECAUSE OF-- GREAT SCOTT!... THAT SCREAM!



QUICKLY!... WE'VE GOT TO TRY AND SAVE HIM!

BUT AS THEY REACH THE SPOT...

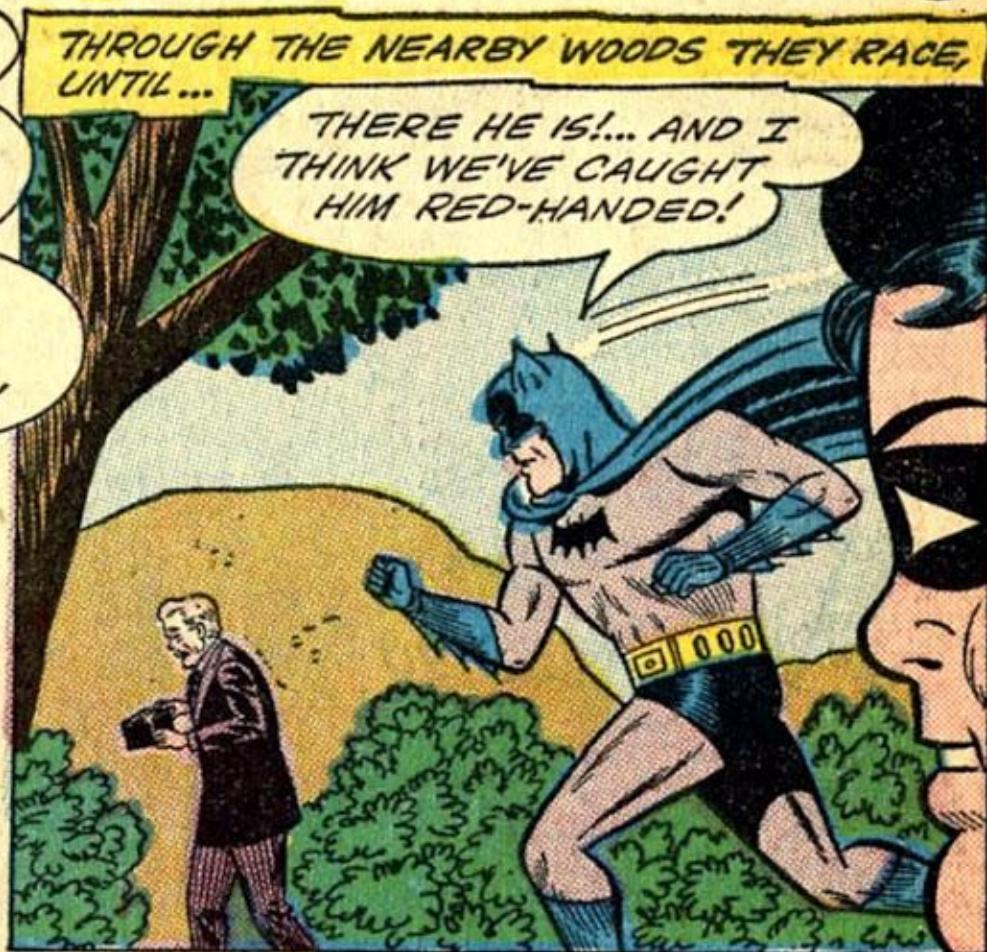
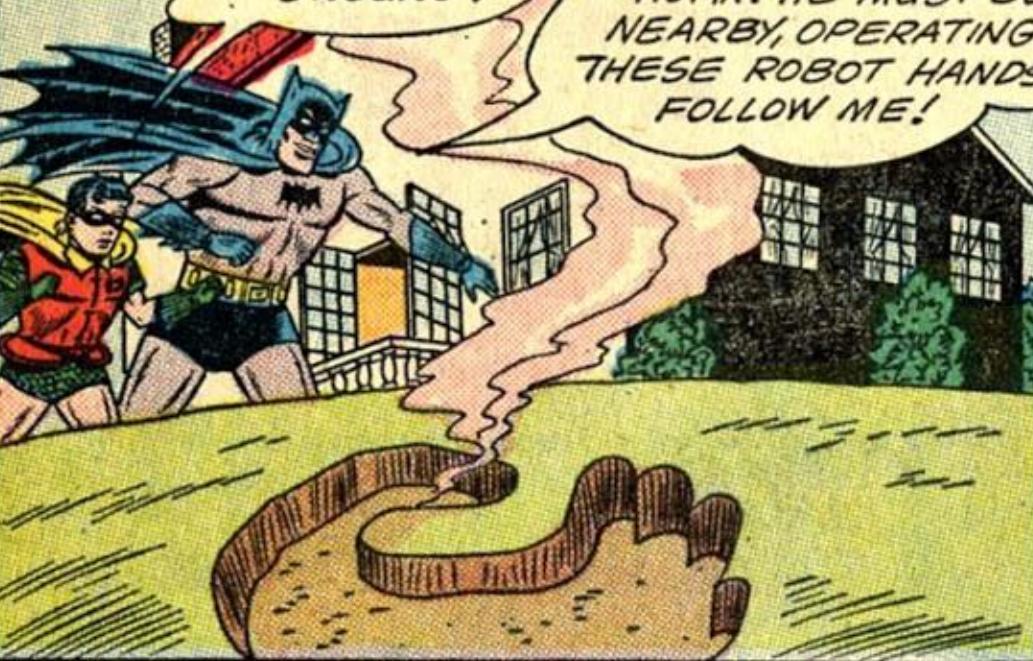
JUMPING JONAH! HAMPDEN IS GONE--AND SO IS THE HAND! THERE'S NOTHING LEFT BUT THAT SMOKING IMPRINT OF IT IN THE GROUND!

THERE'S NO

QUESTION ABOUT IT NOW--  
**DUNNE** IS THE MAN BEHIND THIS RUTHLESS HOAX! HE MUST BE NEARBY, OPERATING THESE ROBOT HANDS! FOLLOW ME!

THROUGH THE NEARBY WOODS THEY RACE, UNTIL...

THERE HE IS!... AND I THINK WE'VE CAUGHT HIM RED-HANDED!



AS THE CRIME-FIGHTERS ACCOST HIM, DUNNE SURRENDERS WITH SURPRISING SUBMISSIVENESS...

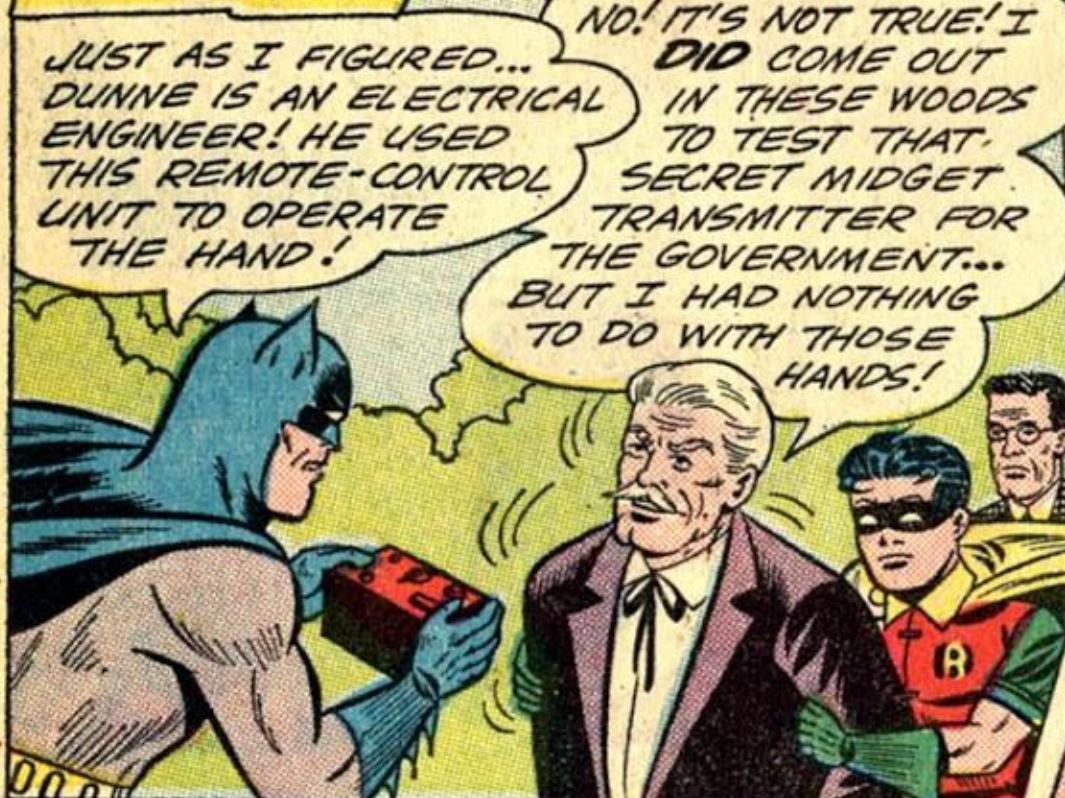
JUST AS I FIGURED... DUNNE IS AN ELECTRICAL ENGINEER! HE USED THIS REMOTE-CONTROL UNIT TO OPERATE THE HAND!

NO! IT'S NOT TRUE! I DID COME OUT IN THESE WOODS TO TEST THAT SECRET MIDGET TRANSMITTER FOR THE GOVERNMENT... BUT I HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH THOSE HANDS!

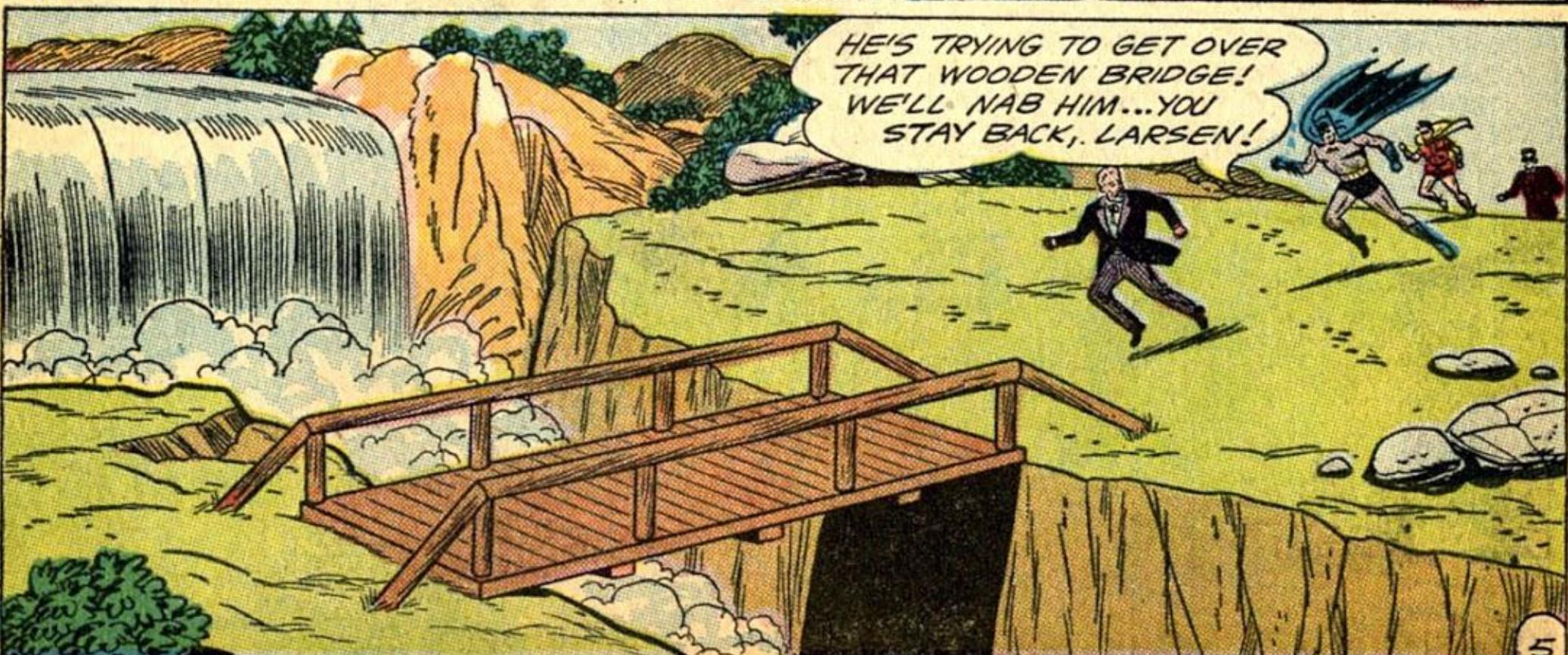
ALL AT ONCE...

LOOK OUT, ROBIN!

OOOF!

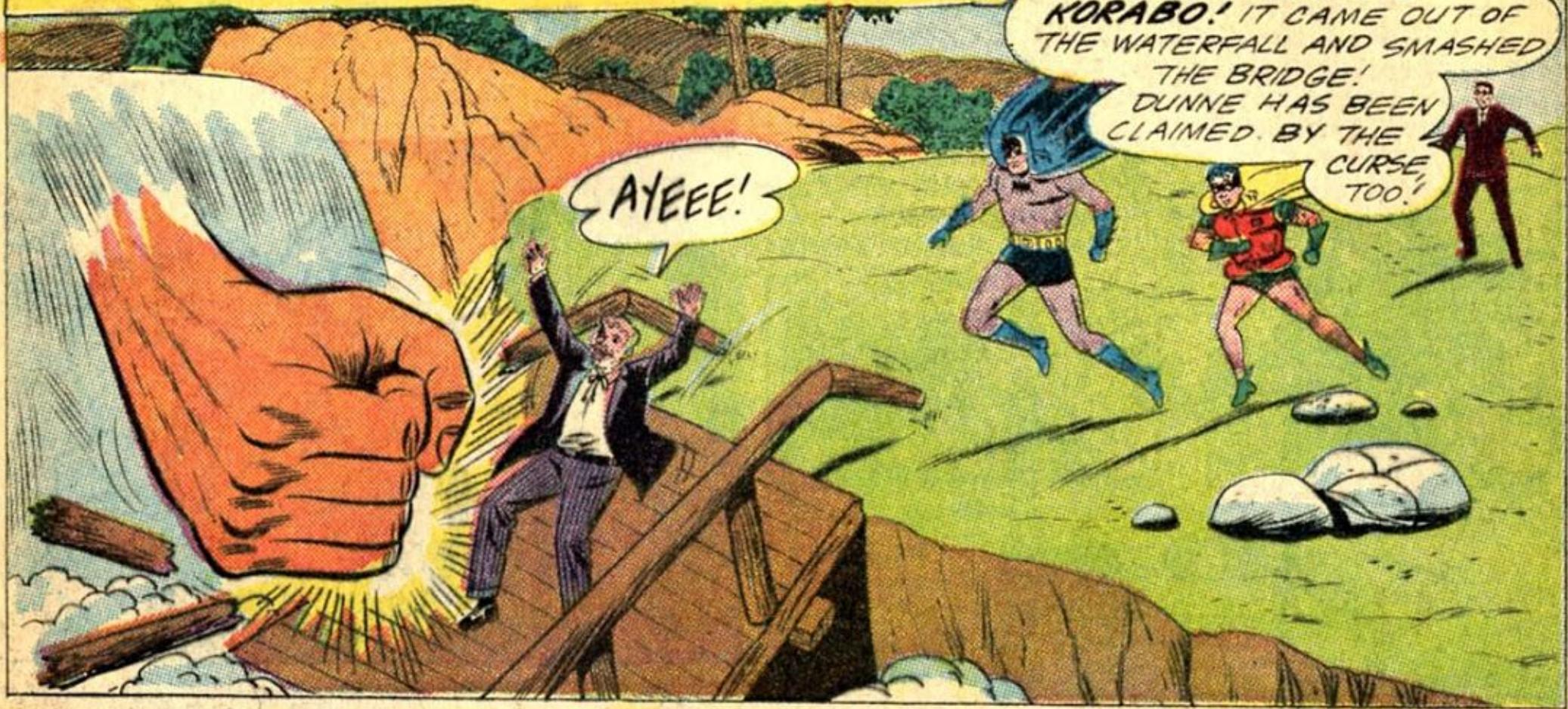


HE'S TRYING TO GET OVER THAT WOODEN BRIDGE! WE'LL NAB HIM... YOU STAY BACK, LARSEN!



BUT AS THE DESPERATE MAN REACHES THE CROSSING...

OH, NO!... THE HAND OF KORABO! IT CAME OUT OF THE WATERFALL AND SMASHED THE BRIDGE! DUNNE HAS BEEN CLAIMED. BY THE CURSE, TOO!



SHORTLY, WHEN BATMAN AND ROBIN RETURN FROM THE FALLEN BRIDGE...

DO YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT THIS MEANS? DUNNE WASN'T HOAXING US... THERE REALLY IS A CURSE-- AND I'M ITS LAST TARGET!

I-I'VE NEVER BELIEVED IN A SUPERNATURAL FORCE BEFORE-- AND YET... SIGH! D-DON'T WORRY, LARSEN... ROBIN AND I WILL STICK WITH YOU DAY AND NIGHT!



LATER THAT DAY, AS THE TRIO TRIES TO RELAX ON LARSEN'S PRIVATE LAKE...

A DRIVE ACROSS THE LAKE USUALLY REFRESHES ME... BUT MY NERVES ARE SO-- GOOD GRIEF! LOOK-- COMING OUT OF THE WATER--!



THE HAND! THE CURSE HAS COME TO TAKE ME!

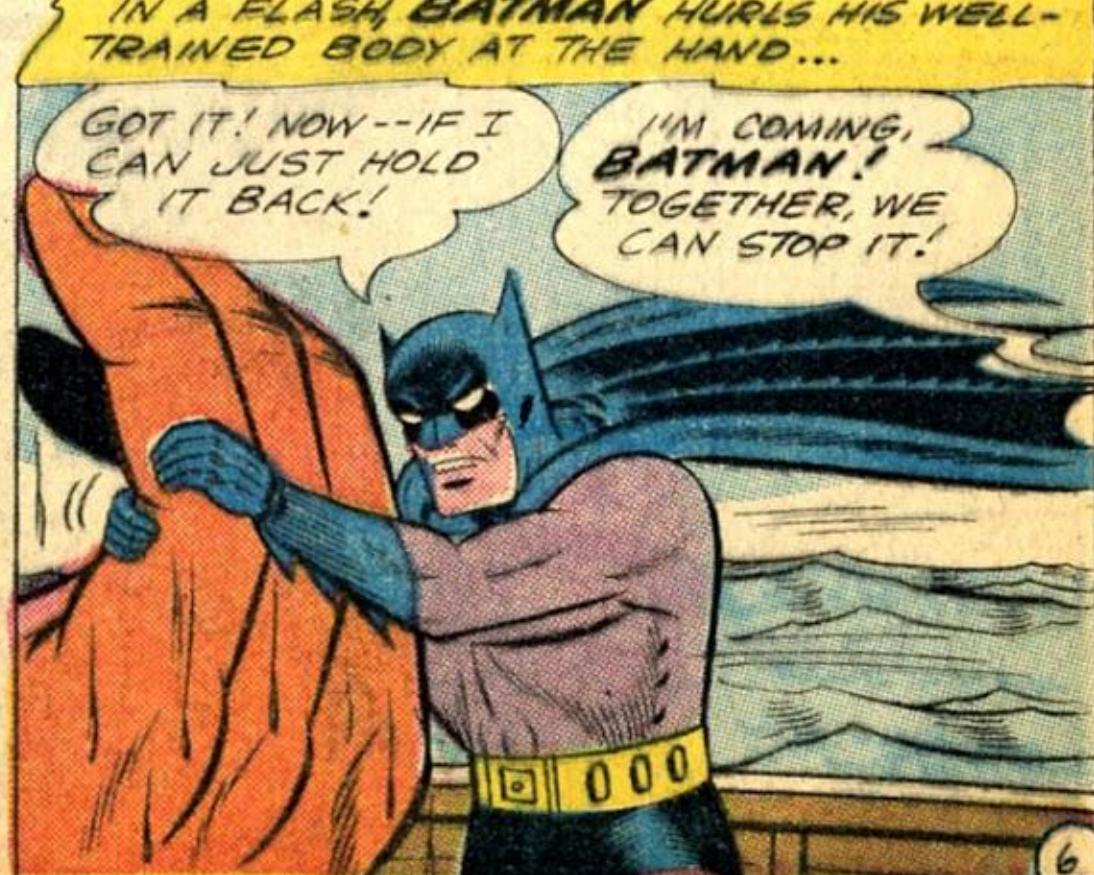
NOT IF I CAN HELP IT!



IN A FLASH, BATMAN HURLS HIS WELL-TRAINED BODY AT THE HAND...

GOT IT! NOW--IF I CAN JUST HOLD IT BACK!

I'M COMING, BATMAN! TOGETHER, WE CAN STOP IT!



BUT BEFORE ROBIN CAN JOIN THE BATTLE...

THE HAND!... IT GRABBED UP BATMAN AND PULLED HIM INTO THE LAKE!



A MOMENT LATER...

BATMAN'S CAPE... HE-- HE'S DEAD! THE GREATEST MAN I EVER KNEW... HE'S GONE!

BECAUSE HE TRIED TO SAVE ME! THE CURSE WON'T BE SATISFIED UNTIL IT'S CLAIMED ME-- THE LAST MEMBER OF THE TEAM THAT DEFIED IT!



HOW CAN I CARRY ON WITHOUT HIM? HE TAUGHT ME EVERYTHING I KNOW!

YOU'VE GOT TO... WE'VE BOTH GOT TO! SOMEHOW, THERE MUST BE A WAY TO OUT-WIT THAT GHOSTLY HAND! WE MUSTN'T GIVE UP!



STILL UNDER THE PALL OF THE MOUNTING TRAGEDY, THEY RETURN TO LARSEN'S MANSION, WHERE, AWILE LATER...

THAT FEELS BETTER... WHY DON'T YOU TRY A DIP, ROBIN? IT MIGHT HELP YOU, TOO!

NO, THANKS... I'M NOT IN THE MOOD! HERE ARE YOUR EYEGLASSES, MR. LARSEN!



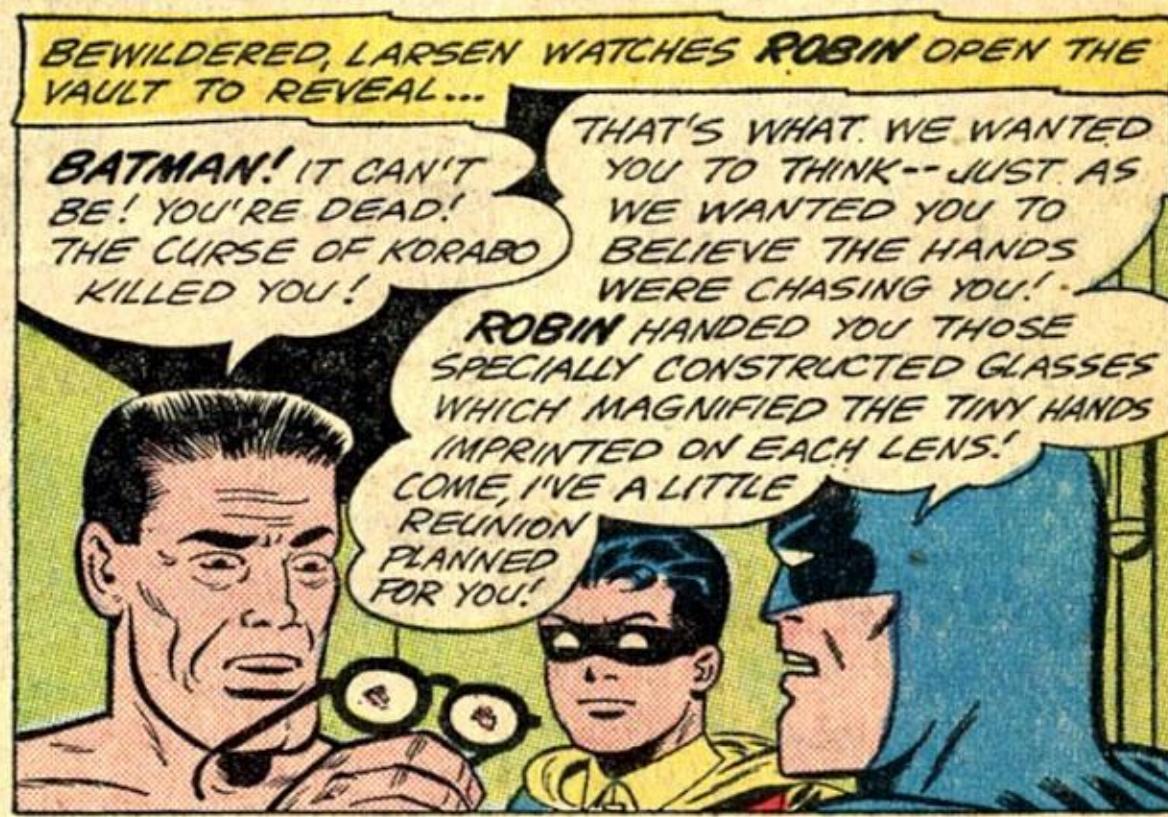
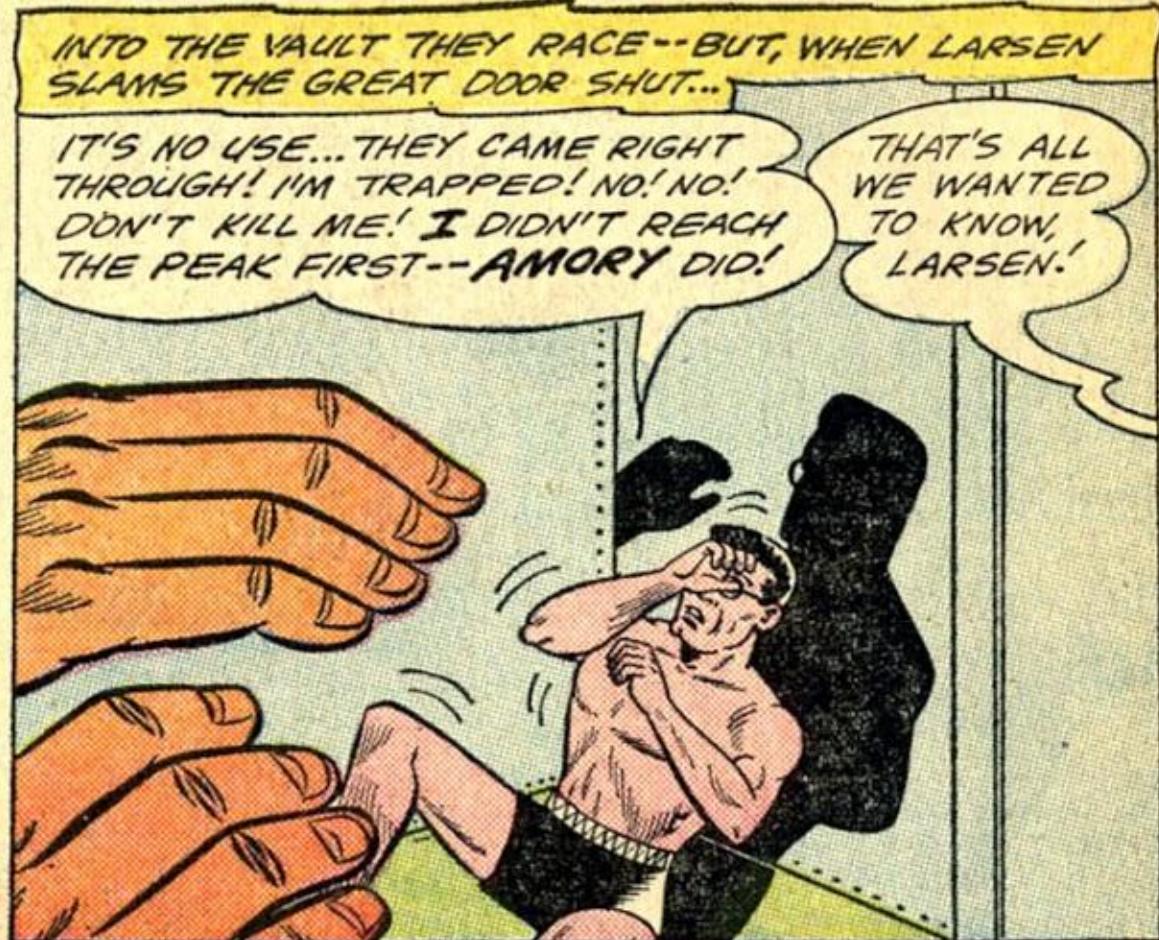
NEXT INSTANT...

WAIT! LOOK OUT BEHIND YOU... THEY'RE-- COMING!

EH--? WHAT IS IT, BOY?



## BATMAN



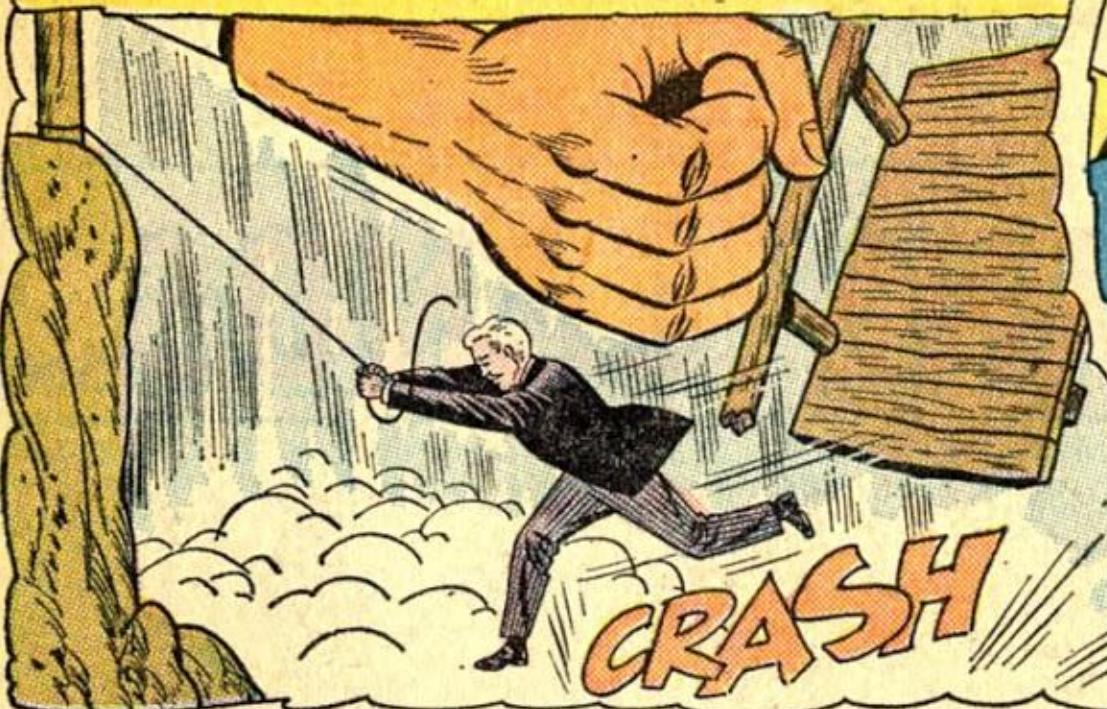
"THE FLAMING HAND CAME OUT OF A NEARBY SHED, AND ITS IMPRINT WAS DUG BEFOREHAND! AS FOR THE FALLING BRIDGE, DUNNE SWUNG AWAY FROM IT ON A ROPE WE PREPARED FOR HIM..."

THE REMOTE-CONTROLLED HANDS WERE OPERATED BY THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE TEAM! DUNNE'S REPORT OF THE FIRST DEATH WAS PART OF THE HOAX!

NOW I BEGIN TO SEE!

WHAT A FOOL I WAS TO LET YOU TRAP ME! BUT WHAT MADE

DUNNE AND HAMPDEN SUSPECT I KILLED AMORY ON THE MOUNTAIN?



WHEN WE FOUND AMORY IN THE SNOW, ONE HAND WAS BARE, AND THIS GLOVE WAS PLACED UNDER HIS BELT! THAT MEANT HE COULDN'T HAVE BEEN CLIMBING WHEN HE FELL! HE MUST HAVE REACHED THE PEAK FIRST AND TEMPORARILY REMOVED ONE GLOVE WHEN YOU SLIPPED UP ON HIM AND PUSHED HIM!

SO, IN A SENSE, IT REALLY WAS A HAND THAT BETRAYED YOU-- BUT NOT THE HAND OF KORABO... IT WAS THE HAND OF CLIFF AMORY!

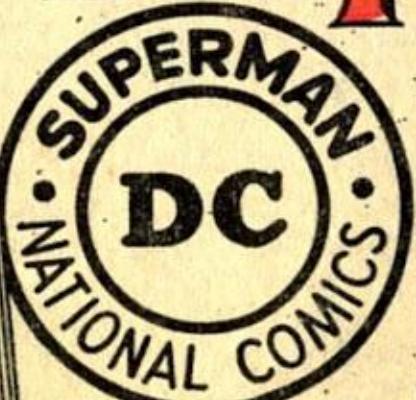


THE END

BATMAN ALSO APPEARS in DETECTIVE COMICS, and in WORLD'S FINEST COMICS with SUPERMAN.



## For The VERY BEST

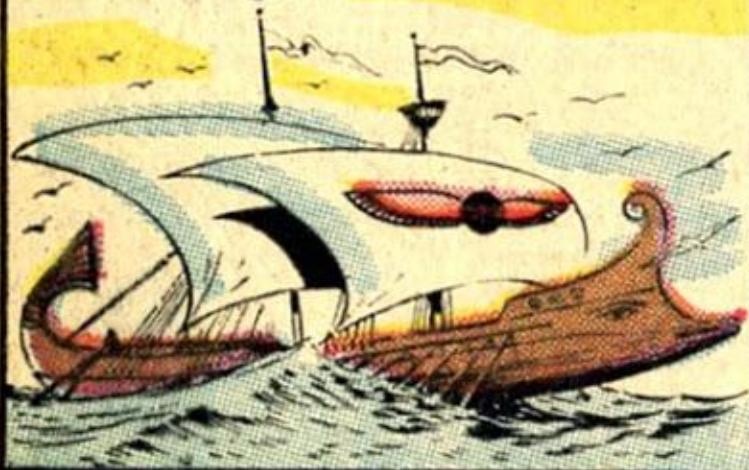


in  
**COMICS**  
READING

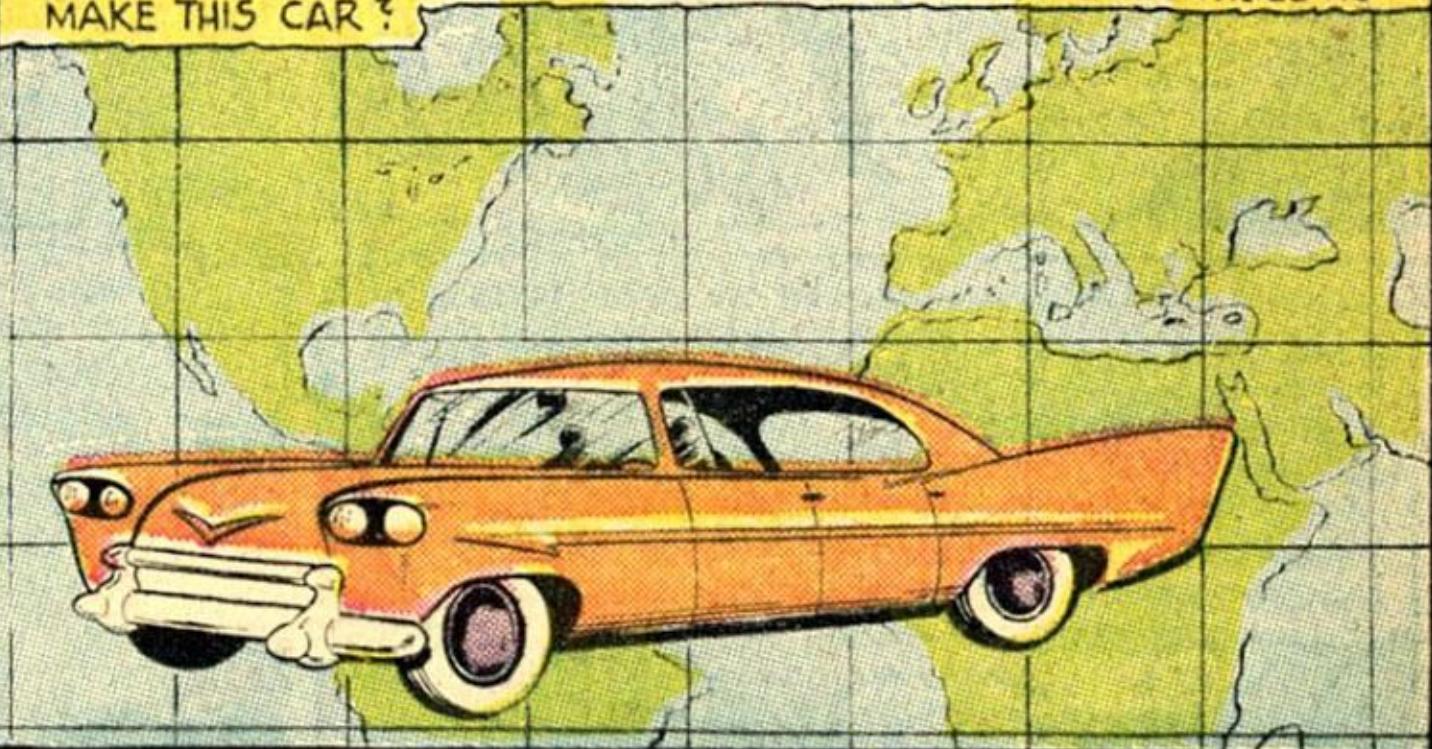


# FROM MANY LANDS...

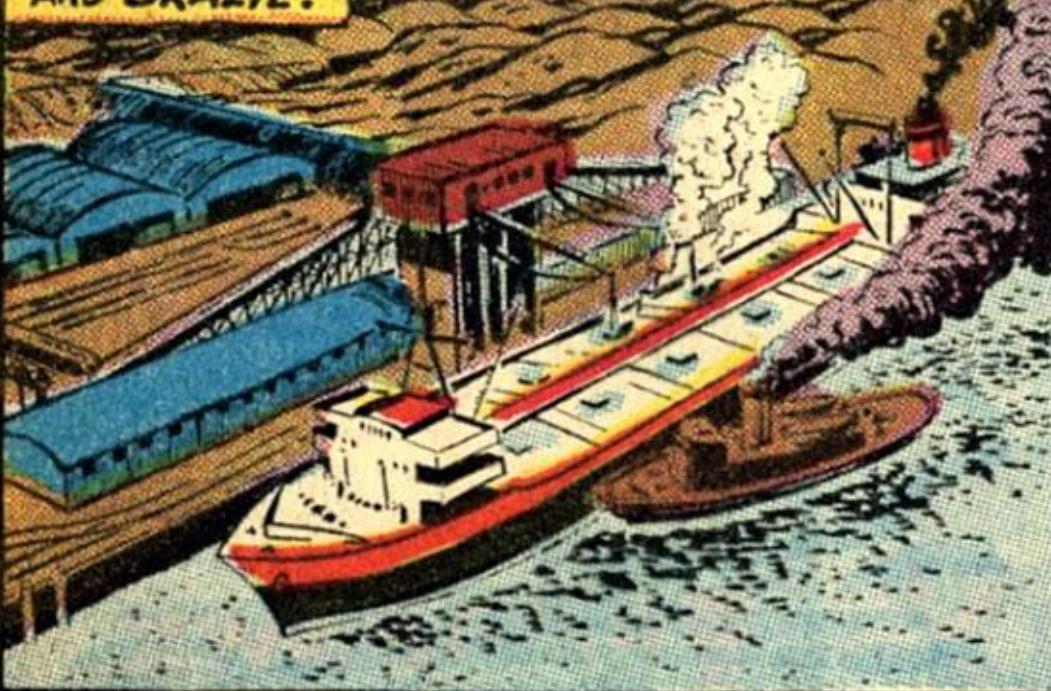
FROM THE DAWN OF HISTORY, PEOPLE HAVE TRADED WITH EACH OTHER TO ACQUIRE THINGS THEY NEEDED IN EXCHANGE FOR THINGS THEY HAD PLENTY OF. IN OUR COMPLEX MODERN WORLD, THIS TRADE IS NOW MORE IMPORTANT THAN EVER.



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WOOL FOR THE CAR'S UPHOLSTERY COMES FROM AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND AND ARGENTINA!



YES, IT'S TRUE, NO ONE COUNTRY CAN BE SUFFICIENT TO ITSELF, ANY MORE THAN ONE PERSON CAN BE SUFFICIENT TO HIMSELF. IT TAKES MANY COUNTRIES, WORKING TOGETHER, TO PROVIDE PROGRESS FOR ALL!



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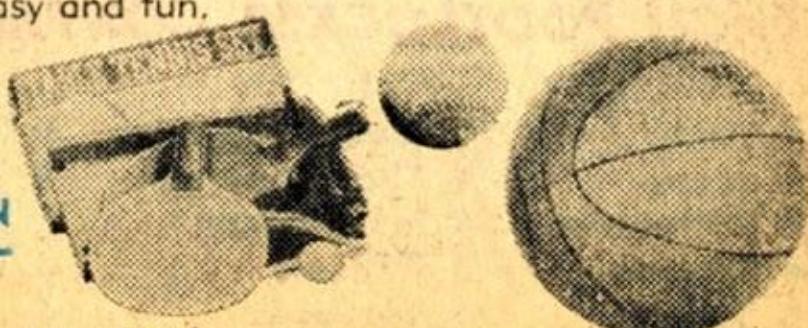
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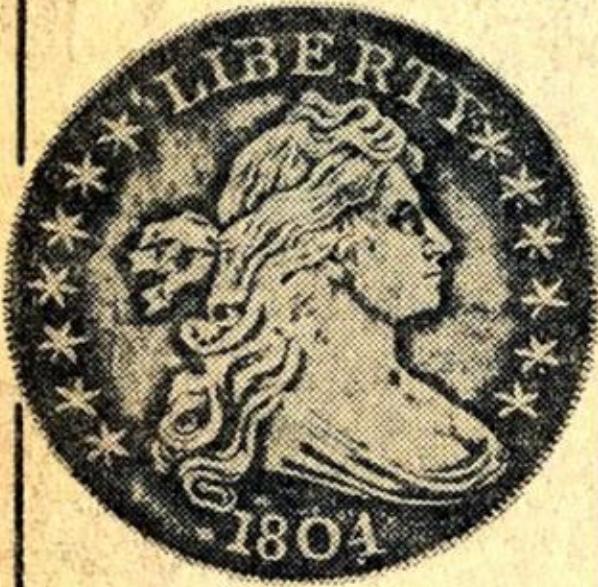
If you are a boy  
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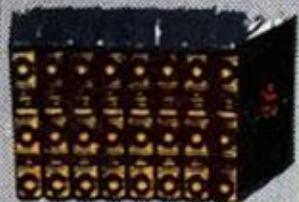
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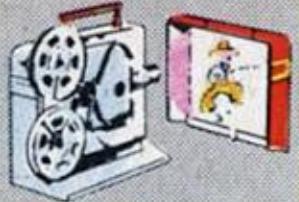
MY NAME ..... Print Clearly .....

ADDRESS .....

CITY..... ZONE... STATE.....



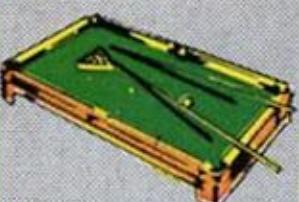
8-Vol. Encyclopedia



Movie Projector



Complete Fishing Outfit



Pool Table Set



Big-3 Hunting Set



Croquet Set



Berwin Typewriter



Mark XII Flash Camera



Wrist Watches



4 Daisy Air Rifles



Girls Travel Case



Pup Tent



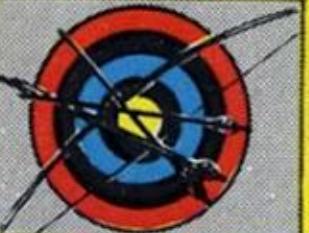
Major League Glove



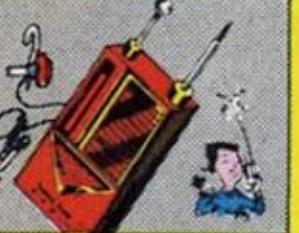
Sleeping Bag



Full String Guitar



Complete Archery Set



Pocket Radio



Chemcraft Lab.



3-Speed Bicycle



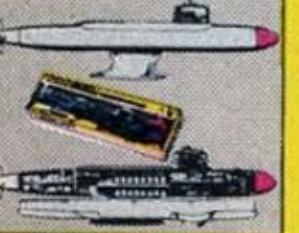
Basketball &amp; Goal



Walkie-Talkie



Electric Auto Race



Polaris Firing Submarine



Diary, Wallet, Photo Album



# MAKE MONEY GET PRIZES

**with Fast Selling American Seeds**

Take your choice of these wonderful prizes. They can be yours—quickly, easily. Many prizes shown here and many more in our Big Prize Book are given WITHOUT COST for selling just one 48-pack order of American Vegetable and Flower Seeds at 15c a pack. Some of the larger prizes require more sales or extra money as explained in the Big Prize Book.

### Send NO MONEY, We Trust You

Everybody wants American Seeds. They're fresh and ready to grow. You'll sell them quickly to family, friends and neighbors. Many boys and girls sell their packs in one day. You can too—and get your prize at once. Or, if you want money instead of a prize, keep \$2.40 for every 48-pack order you sell. Mail coupon today for your first order of American Seeds and Big Prize Book—give the other coupon to a friend.

**AMERICAN  
SEED CO.**  
Dept. 202  
Lancaster, Pa.  
OUR 44th YEAR



**MAIL ONE COUPON TODAY  
Give the Other to a Friend**

AMERICAN SEED CO., Dept. 202F, Lancaster, Pa.

Please send me your Big Prize Book and one order of 48 packs of American Seeds. I'll sell them at 15c a pack, send you the money and choose my prize. Send seeds checked.

All Flower Seeds

Mixed Vegetable and Flower Seeds

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Town \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

AMERICAN SEED CO., Dept. 202, Lancaster, Pa.

Please send me your Big Prize Book and one order of 48 packs of American Seeds. I'll sell them at 15c a pack, send you the money and choose my prize. Send seeds checked.

All Flower Seeds

Mixed Vegetable and Flower Seeds

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Town \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

**EXTRA!  
\$1800 IN CASH  
& AWARDS**

given away in our PROMPTNESS CONTEST

**YOU MAY WIN:**

RCA TV Set,  
Family-Size  
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