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AUTHORITY

# Wonder Woman



ANDREU &  
SCHERAGO



GRANTED THE WISDOM OF ATHENA, THE STRENGTH OF HERCULES, THE SPEED OF MERCURY AND THE BEAUTY OF APHRODITE BY THE GODS, PRINCESS DIANA OF PARADISE ISLAND RENOUNCED HER IMMORTALITY AND ENTERED MAN'S WORLD AS THE MOST LEGENDARY AMAZON...

# Wonder Woman

NO MATTER WHAT ELSE GOES WRONG WITH THIS CITY, THERE'S NOTHING LIKE THE SKYLINE OF NEW YORK AT NIGHT!

AND RIGHT NOW THOSE LIGHTS ARE TWINKLING A FRIENDLY "WELCOME HOME" TO ME, OR I'VE FORGOTTEN HOW TO READ!

BUT IF MILLIONS OF LIGHTS REJOICE IN WONDER WOMAN'S RETURN, AT LEAST ONE IS SHEDDING ITS GLOW OVER A ROOM WHERE THE AMAZON PRINCESS' ARRIVAL WOULD NOT BE WELCOMED. A ROOM FILLED WITH THE MEN BEHIND...

## THE CASE OF THE IMPOSSIBLE CRIMES!

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BEN QUA - LETTERER • JERRY SERPE - COLORIST • ROSS ANDRU - EDITOR

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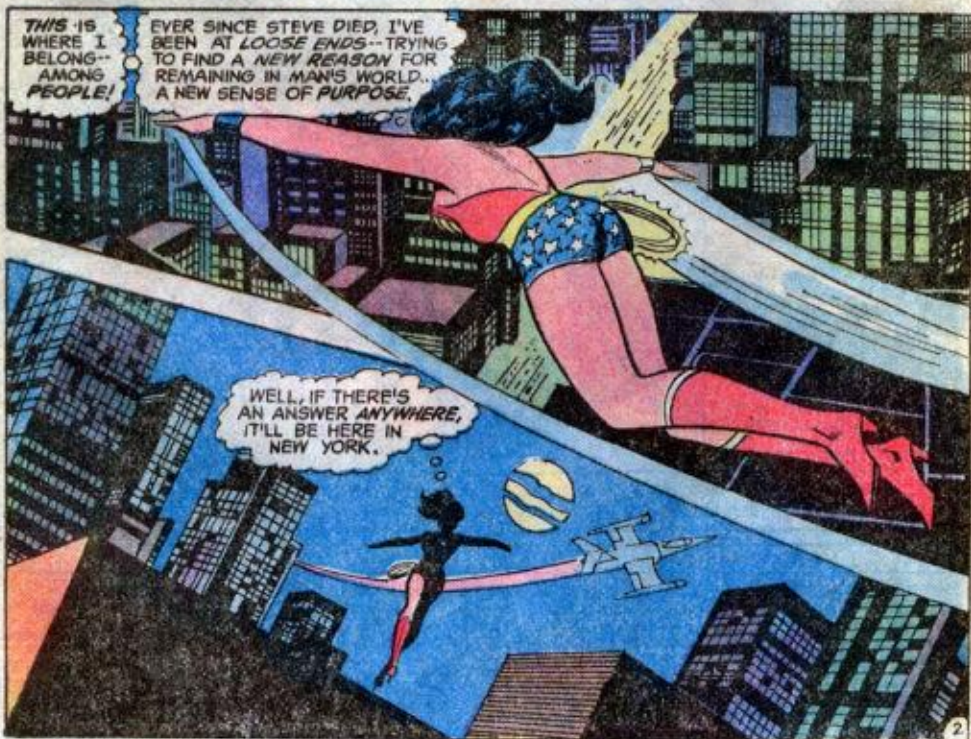
IT'S GOOD TO BE BACK!  
I SHOULD HAVE JUST  
MOVED IN AGAIN ON MY  
LAST VISIT...

THAT WOULD HAVE  
SAVED ME THE PAIN  
OF DISCOVERING THAT  
MIKE BAILEY WAS  
A MEMBER OF THE  
ROYAL FLUSH GANG!



THAT DELIGHTFUL  
BIT OF NEWS WAS  
THE FINAL STRAW--  
I'M FINISHED WITH  
HOUSTON AND THE  
SPACE PROGRAM!

AFTER ALL,  
I'VE ALREADY  
SEEN THE STARS  
WITH THE JUSTICE  
LEAGUE.



THIS IS  
WHERE I  
BELONG--  
AMONG  
PEOPLE!

EVER SINCE STEVE DIED, I'VE  
BEEN AT LOOSE ENDS--TRYING  
TO FIND A NEW REASON FOR  
REMAINING IN MAN'S WORLD...  
A NEW SENSE OF PURPOSE.

WELL, IF THERE'S  
AN ANSWER ANYWHERE,  
IT'LL BE HERE IN  
NEW YORK.





THE MAGIC LASSO SPINS, SETTING UP A MYSTIC VIBRATIONAL FIELD-- AND WONDER WOMAN'S SPECIALLY-ATTUNED CLOTHING CHANGES...



... SO IT IS DIANA PRINCE WHO ENTERS THE HI-RISE FROM THE TERRACE...





TAKE IT LIGHT,  
JIM--IT'S ONLY  
SEVEN O'CLOCK.

WE HAVE AN  
HOUR TO GET THIS  
DOUGH UPTOWN  
TO THE MAIN  
BRANCH.

MAYBE--BUT  
I WANT TO BE  
THERE BEFORE  
THE TRAFFIC  
HITS.

I'M NERVOUS  
ENOUGH FROM  
CARRYING AROUND  
TWO MILLION IN  
CASH--

--I DON'T NEED A  
CITYFUL OF CRAZY  
DRIVERS TO MAKE  
IT WORSE!

BUT SUDDENLY, AS  
THE ARMORED TRUCK  
NEARS THE CORNER...

ARRURR

WHAT  
THE--??

THAT CAN'T BE  
WHAT I THINK  
IT IS!?!

WHAMP

AND AS THE GUARDS  
CLIMB OUT OF THE  
BATTERED TRUCK...

OKAY--AWAY  
FROM THE TRUCK!

YOUR LICENSE  
TO DRIVE JUST  
EXPIRED!









BUT EVEN AS WONDER WOMAN GRABS A BALCONY FOR SUPPORT, THE MONSTER MAKES A SUDDEN MOVE...



... AND IN A FRIGHTENINGLY DELIBERATE GESTURE, REACHES DOWN TO GRAB A CHILD OUT OF ITS PARENTS' ARMS...



-- IF YOU DON'T MOVE, YOU'LL BE ALRIGHT!



I'M NOT GOING TO LET ANY OVERGROWN LIZARD MAKE A SNACK OUT OF YOU, HONEY!







HERE SHE IS, FOLKS. JUST BE A LITTLE MORE CAREFUL IN THE FUTURE, PLEASE.

THE BEST THING TO DO WHEN YOU SEE A MONSTER LIKE THAT IS GET FAR AWAY FROM IT!



HOWEVER, I'M GOING TO MAKE AN EXCEPTION TO MY ADVICE, MY SCALY FRIEND, AT LEAST LONG ENOUGH TO--

WHAT?? HE'S VANISHING??

THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE! TEN TONS OF DINOSAUR CAN'T JUST DISAPPEAR!

NO...NO SIGN OF IT FROM UP HERE, EITHER. IT DID VANISH--

--AND RIGHT WHEN THE POLICE SHOWED UP TO STOP THE ROBBERY, TOO!

THERE'S SOMETHING VERY FUNNY GOING ON HERE!

A THOUGHT ECHOED, CURIOUSLY ENOUGH, THE NEXT MORNING AT U.N. HEADQUARTERS ON THE EAST RIVER...



I TELL YOU, MISTER UNDERSECRETARY, WE SIMPLY CAN'T REHIRE THIS WOMAN!

THE SET OF SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES AND UNANSWERED QUESTIONS IN HER DOSSIER IS A MILE LONG!



MORGAN, YOU'RE THE HEAD OF OUR CRISIS BUREAU, SO STICK TO CRISIS SITUATIONS.

DIANA PRINCE HAS AN UNUSUAL RECORD, I AGREE--



--BUT THERE'S NO EVIDENCE THAT SHE'S A SECURITY RISK. YOUR JUDGMENT IS CLOUDED BECAUSE SHE QUIT YOUR TEAM.

VERY WELL, PUT HER BACK ON THE PAYROLL...

...UNTIL I CAN FIND THAT EVIDENCE.



MANHATTAN AT NIGHT: THE GLITTERING SKYLINE OF LEGEND, TWINKLING ITS MESSAGE OF LIGHT TO THE WAITING WORLD BEYOND...



BUT WITHIN THE CONCRETE CANYONS, IT IS ALSO A WORLD OF SHADOWS...



...AND OF SOME VERY STRANGE SHAPES...



HERE WE GO--THIS  
CLEANS OUT THE SPECIAL  
COLLECTION THE MUSEUM  
HAD ON EXHIBIT!

THANKS TO  
THE BOSS WE GOT  
EVERY PIECE UNDER  
HALF A TON!

YOU FORGOT TO  
GET ONE THING,  
FRIEND--



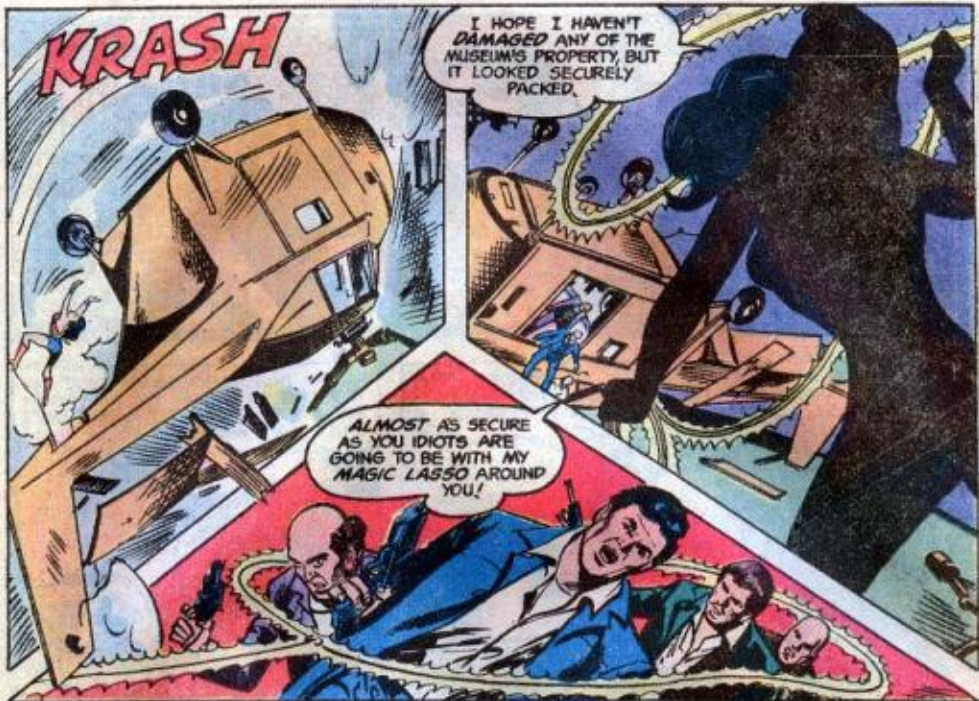
BECAUSE THIS  
HELICOPTER IS  
GOING TO GET  
YOU ABSOLUTELY  
NOWHERE!

--YOU  
FORGOT TO  
GET AWAY!



CONTINUED ON 4th PAGE FOLLOWING.







PERHAPS... BUT WHATEVER IT IS,  
WONDER WOMAN **ABANDONS** HER  
SEARCH FOR IT THE NEXT DAY...

...AT LEAST LONG  
ENOUGH FOR **DIANA**  
**PRINCE** TO MOVE  
INTO A TEMPORARY  
OFFICE IN THE SECRE-  
TARIAT BUILDING IN  
U.N. PLAZA...

THESE ORIENTATION FILES  
GO ON **FOREVER!**

DOCTOR FISHER'S DEPARTMENT  
DOES **WONDERFUL** WORK, BUT  
THERE'RE **SO MANY PEOPLE**  
WHO NEED HELP.

I WONDER IF ALL  
WE CAN DO MAKES  
A **DIFFERENCE.**

I WONDER IF  
ANYTHING MAKES  
A **DIFFERENCE.**

MOVING BACK  
TO NEW YORK  
HASN'T CURED  
MY **BLAHS--**

--AND THIS **IMPOSSIBLE** CASE I'M  
WORKING ON SHOWS I'M NOT THINK-  
ING ANY MORE CLEARLY. SOMETHING'S  
STILL **VERY WRONG** IN MY LI--

DIANA?

OH--  
**UNDERSECRETARY**  
**WAGNER!**

CAME IN TO SAY IT'S  
GOOD TO HAVE YOU  
BACK, DIANA.

WE **NEED** GOOD PEOPLE  
HERE, SO I HOPE THIS TIME  
YOU'LL **STAY** WITH US...

NO MATTER **WHO** DOESN'T  
LIKE THE IDEA.

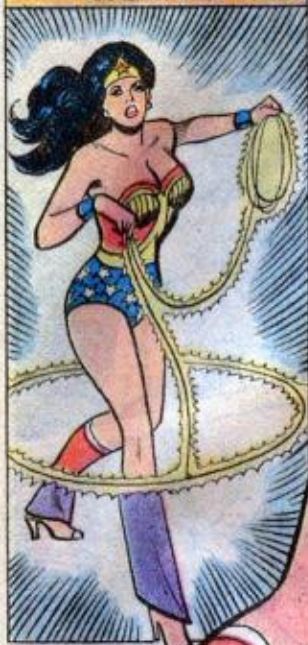
BELIEVE ME, MISTER UNDERSECRETARY,  
I'D **LOVE** TO STAY. I **NEED** SOME  
PERMANENCE IN MY LIFE.

THEN IT'S **SETTLED**,  
I TRUST. GOOD  
NIGHT, DIANA.

CONTINUED ON 51st PAGE FOLLOWING



BUT AS THE DOOR SILENTLY  
CLOSES BEHIND HER, THE CON-  
TEMPLATIVE FIGURE OF DIANA  
PRINCE SPINS AROUND AT  
AMAZING SPEED--



--AND WITHIN MOMENTS, THE STAR SPANGLED  
FORM OF WONDER WOMAN DRIFTS LEISURELY  
ON THE AIR CURRENTS OVER BROOKLYN HEIGHTS...



THERE'S SO MUCH OF  
NEW YORK--SO MANY PLACES  
WHERE THOSE IMPOSSIBLE  
CRIMINALS MIGHT STRIKE!

AND ALL  
I CAN DO IS  
LOOK FOR  
ANYTHING OUT  
OF PLACE.

WAIT! ON  
THAT ROOF!

THAT COPTER  
LOOKS EXACTLY  
LIKE THE ONE  
I WRECKED  
YESTERDAY--



--AND WHAT  
DO YOU KNOW!  
THIS ONE HAS A  
BUNCH OF THUGS  
WORKING OUT OF  
IT ALSO!





HEY--IT'S WONDER WOMAN!

DON'T SWEAT IT--  
JUST REMEMBER  
WHAT THE BOSS  
SAID!

WHUMP

GLAD TO SEE I WAS  
EXPECTED, BOYS --THAT  
PROVES YOU'RE A PART  
OF THE GANG I  
WAS HUNTING!

BUT BEFORE  
WONDER WOMAN  
CAN SAY ANOTHER  
WORD, SHE IS  
SUDDENLY SEIZED--

HSSSSSS

WHAT--??

SOME SORT  
OF MONSTROUS  
BOA CONSTRUCTOR  
... UHH ...

... CRUSHING ...  
ME ...

THAT'S RIGHT, WONDER  
WOMAN--AND THAT'S  
NOT THE ONLY SURPRISE  
THE BOSS PLANNED  
FOR YOU!

KLANK

UHHH...A...GLASS  
SPHERE... CLOSING  
ME IN... WITH THIS...  
THIS CREATURE!





NO, WONDER  
WOMAN, YOU  
ARE ENCLOSED--



--BUT THANKS TO  
THIS CAREFULLY  
PREPARED PINHOLE,  
I AM NOT!

THE SNAKE  
IS... CHANGING  
INTO AN INSECT!



WRONG ONCE  
AGAIN, WONDER  
WOMAN, SAY  
INSTEAD THAT  
I, **MULTI-MAN**,  
AM MERELY  
ASSUMING A  
NEW FORM.

BUT THEN THE **SLEEPING**  
GAS I ADDED TO THE SPHERE  
IS KEEPING YOU FROM SAYING  
ANYTHING, ISN'T IT?



MORE'S THE PITY...  
BUT AT LEAST EVERY  
THING'S GOING ACCORDING  
TO PLAN.



WHILE YOU STRUGGLE AGAINST  
UNCONSCIOUSNESS, WONDER WOMAN,  
THINK OF WHO IT IS THAT HAS  
DEFEATED YOU!

IN EACH  
OF OUR  
ENCOUNTERS  
YOU THOUGHT  
YOU WERE DEALING  
WITH A SIMPLE  
CREATURE--

--NEVER DREAMING  
YOU FACED A TRUE  
CHANGELING!



YEARS AGO, WHEN I FACED THE CHALLENGERS OF THE UNKNOWN I WAS FOOLISH ENOUGH TO REVEAL MY POWER AND DREAM OF WORLD CONQUEST!



NOW I HAVE LEARNED TO SETTLE FOR ANONYMITY-- AND THE WORLD'S RICHES!



WE'RE OUT OVER THE ATLANTIC, BOSS!

VERY WELL, ROLL THE SPHERE FORWARD TO THE HATCH-- AND WE SHALL BE RID OF WONDER WOMAN'S INTERFERENCE!

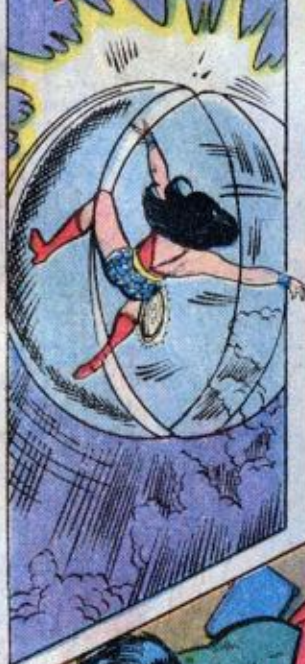


AS THE SPHERE FALLS OUT OF THE HELICOPTER, WONDER WOMAN SHIFTS SUDDENLY, AND--

BOSS! THE SPHERE! SHE'S PUSHING IT UP AGAINST THE COPTER!



KRAK



SHE IS SMARTER THAN I THOUGHT. SHE CONSERVED HER STRENGTH FOR THAT LAST EFFORT--

--TO BREAK FREE, BUT IT NO LONGER MATTERS.



WE ARE MILES FROM SHORE AND MY GAS HAS WEAKENED HER-- SAPPED HER CONSCIOUSNESS.



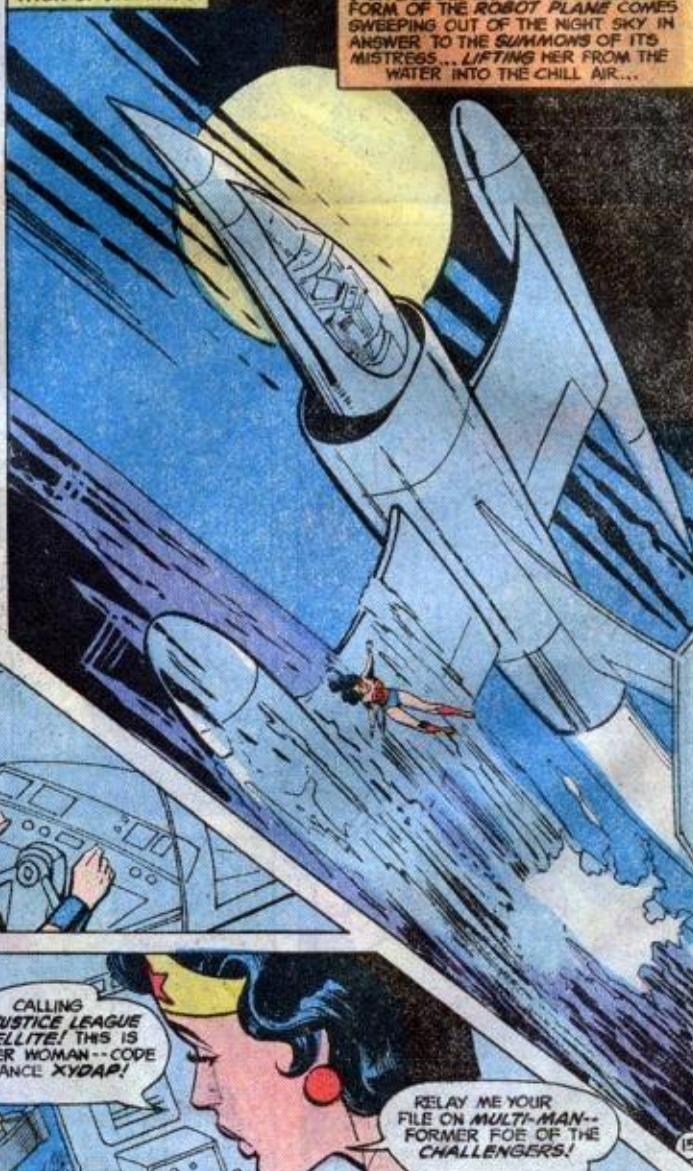




BUT AS THE COLD WATERS OF THE ATLANTIC WASH OVER HER BODY, WONDER WOMAN REACHES TOWARDS HER TIARA... IN A GESTURE OF **HOPELESSNESS**...



...OR OF VICTORY?



FOR **SUDDENLY**, THE CRYSTALLINE FORM OF THE **ROBOT PLANE** COMES SWEEPING OUT OF THE NIGHT SKY IN ANSWER TO THE **SUMMONS** OF ITS MISTRESS... **LIFTING** HER FROM THE WATER INTO THE CHILL AIR...

AND SOON...

**WHEW!** GLAD I COULD **FOCUS** MY THOUGHTS ENOUGH TO GIVE A **MENTAL CALL** FOR THE PLANE.

EVEN WITH MY ENDURANCE I WOULDN'T HAVE LASTED LONG IN THAT WATER.

CALLING **JUSTICE LEAGUE SATELLITE!** THIS IS **WONDER WOMAN**--CODE CLEARANCE **XYDAP!**

RELAY ME YOUR FILE ON **MULTI-MAN**--FORMER FOE OF THE **CHALLENGERS!**



MEANWHILE, AT THE MUSEUM  
OF NATURAL HISTORY...

MOVE QUICKLY, FOOLS--  
EVERY ALARM IN THE  
CITY IS RINGING!

NOW THAT WE'VE TAKEN  
THE TREASURES OF KING  
TUT, WE HAVE TO GET  
OUT OF THIS TOWN--  
MOVE ON TO BOSTON!

THAT'S RIDICULOUS!  
YOU MEAN A KING'S  
RANSOM ISN'T  
ENOUGH FOR YOU,  
MULTI-MAN?



FRANKLY, I'M SURPRISED--  
I WOULD HAVE THOUGHT YOU  
KNEW WHEN TO QUIT WHILE  
YOU WERE AHEAD!

WONDER  
WOMAN--  
ALIVE??



YOU SHOULDN'T BE  
SURPRISED, MULTI-MAN.  
SURELY YOU REMEMBER  
HOW THE CHALLENGERS  
CAME BACK WHEN YOU  
THOUGHT THEY  
WERE BEATEN.



BUT THEN, I GUESS  
I MADE A MISTAKE--



--YOU'RE NOT AN  
ELEPHANT, AFTER  
ALL-- SO MAYBE  
YOU'VE FORGOTTEN!



CONCLUDED ON 3RD PAGE FOLLOWING



BUT AS THE GARGANTUAN FORM HITS THE GROUND, THERE'S A SUDDEN BURST OF LIGHT--AND AN INSECT RISES HIGH INTO THE NIGHT!



YOU WIN THIS ROUND, WONDER WOMAN--BUT THERE'LL BE ANOTHER--AND THAT ONE WILL BE MINE!

SOMEHOW I DON'T THINK SO, MULTI-MAN!

WHOOOSH

YOU SEE, YOU FORGOT SOMETHING ELSE-- MY MAGIC LASSO!

THE VIBRATION FIELD IT CAN SET UP CAN KNOCK YOU RIGHT OUT OF THE AIR.

PLOP

AND WITH MY LASSO AROUND YOU, YOU'RE FORCED TO OBEY MY COMMANDS-- THE FIRST ONE IS TO STAY IN THAT FORM, AT LEAST UNTIL WE FIND A CELL TO HOLD YOU!

PREFERABLY FOREVER!

WELL, I SUPPOSE THESE PAST FEW NIGHTS HAVE BEEN NEW YORK'S VERSION OF A "WELCOME HOME"...

...BUT WHY DOES IT FEEL LIKE I NEVER LEFT?

**NEXT: THE LONG GREY LINE... OF DEATH!**

ON SALE MAY 24<sup>th</sup>





# Wonder Words

L-270

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

Dear Editor,

I enjoyed *WONDER WOMAN* #250's story "Tournament" very much. The idea of WW's right to her role being challenged by another Amazon is a good one because it is in keeping with *WONDER WOMAN*'s origin in issue number one. Having the contest centered around the Four Elements was an unexpected touch. I was looking for the same type of events in the original contest in which Diana competed to earn the right of being *WONDER WOMAN*.

I am looking forward to the testing of Orana as the "new" *WONDER WOMAN* in "Man's World." But I doubt seriously if Diana can follow her to America for, if I remember correctly, any Amazon who leaves Paradise Island loses her god-given immortality and starts to age, eventually to die (as all of the centuries of aging that an Amazon by-passes "catch up" to her). A few years ago a sister Amazon tried to usurp the WW role only to find herself aging rapidly. Her youth was restored once she returned to Paradise Island.

Diana was/is unaffected by this decree because she, as *WONDER WOMAN*, has permission to be in "Man's World." Now that she is no longer "the" *WONDER WOMAN*, Diana should be subject to the same decrees as her sister Amazons. Also, Diana is different in that she was a statue that was formed by her Queen mother and given life by Aphrodite, so maybe this decree will have a different effect on her.

Please clarify this.

Nathaniel D. Aiken  
HWB 2/2 ACR  
APO, NY 09139

Okay, Nate, here goes: You hint at the explanation yourself in reminding us that the Princess was supposedly magically created from clay. As we have stated often in the lead-in caption that appears on some of our stories, Princess Diana GAVE UP her immortality to become *WONDER WOMAN*. She ages normally, though she is older than anyone knows. This is how the outside world would effect her if she was *WONDER WOMAN* or not. However, any OTHER Amazon were to come to "Man's World" without the permission of the gods, would age rapidly, the years "catching up" with them, as you put it. Of course, all of this aging depends on how old the Amazons really are in the first place. A young Amazon would not grow as old as one born centuries ago. This poses another question: In a society of women, where do new, young Amazons come from?—JCH

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Dear Editor,

*WONDER WOMAN* #251 gave me positive and negative feelings. I pictured it like this: *WONDER WOMAN* leaves Paradise Island. She battles *UnWONDER WOMAN* and loses

because she thinks of how she disobeyed the gods. *UnWONDER WOMAN* turns out to be a renegade Amazon who traps *WONDER WOMAN*. WW thinks of her friends and breaks out and defeats *UnWONDER WOMAN*. The so-called "new" *WONDER WOMAN* was *UnWONDER WOMAN* as far as I am concerned.

Instead of what I expected, I read what you gave us and I have a few comments:

1.) I like WW's new job, but I hate to see her move from New York City.

2.) I liked WW jumping to the rescue saying "I'm still Wonder Woman!"

3.) I liked the way *UnWONDER WOMAN* dies, not being fast enough to deflect the bullets. That was great.

In closing, "All hail Princess Diana—Wonder Woman!!!"

Seth Spivak  
130 Litchfield Ave.  
Elmont, NY 11003

With all your speculation, Seth, and your "positive and negative" feelings, we find that the only thing you actually objected to was the move from New York. Diana's back now. Happy?—JCH

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Editor,

This is the first time I've ever written to *WONDER WORDS* even though I've been reading *WONDER WOMAN* for the last five years. I really enjoy *WONDER WOMAN* because she's everything a super-heroine (or hero) should be.

After just reading WW #251, I was glad Princess Diana is once again *WONDER WOMAN*. I only saw one flaw. The *WONDER WOMAN* costume contains the golden belt of strength for the Amazon wearing it, plus the fact that it makes the wearer immortal. On pages 15 and 16 Diana is without the costume, but she seems just as effective. No golden belt, tiara or lasso. Just bracelets. I don't see how, according to legend. Any Amazon leaving Paradise Island loses her strength and immortality.

Besides that, I truly enjoyed the latest issue of *WONDER WOMAN*.

Chuck Bradford  
3629 Elizabeth  
Denver, Colo. 80205

Check out the answer to the first letter on this page for some clarification of some of your points, Chuck, and let us clue you in on the others. You are confusing the TV version of WW with ours. In the comics, the costume has no powers except for the lasso. The tiara is indestructible and can be used as a weapon, but the rest of the costume is only a symbol for the Amazon who wears it. Only on TV does the belt help WW maintain her strength and immortality.—JCH

**NO EVIL SHALL  
ESCAPE THEIR  
SIGHT...**

**GREEN  
LANTERN**

OF AMERICA

**GREEN  
ARROW**

**ON  
SALE  
EVERY  
MONTH!**