



10¢

DEC.
NO. 136

BATMAN



**"CHALLENGE
of the JOKER!"**

IT'S THE **JOKER**
ON HIS SKY SLED!
HE'S TRAPPING US
IN A RING OF
FIRE!



THE \$10,000 CHALLENGE ONLY JOE WEIDER DARES TO MAKE!

MY GUARANTEE! Use my system for training and you will gain twice as much muscle and triple your power in less than Half The Time it would take if you followed any other method.

"The Muscle Builder"
"Trainer of The Champions"

"MR. AMERICA" "MR. UNIVERSE"

CLANCY ROSS, world's best developed man, says: "You can be a mountain of mighty muscles — with power oozing out of every pore in your power-packed, jet-charged body! Do what I did — what thousands of other Herculean Weider-trained champions did — follow Weider as your leader — mail that coupon for your FREE TRIAL COURSE TODAY!"

CLANCY ROSS: Mass of power-laden muscles — mighty 20-inch arms, 50-inch chest, shoulders of iron a yard wide!

ONLY 7 SHORT WEEKS TO
THAT DYNAMIC, RUGGED HE-MAN
BODY YOU ALWAYS WANTED

**ADD 3 INCHES OF STEEL-LIKE
MUSCLES TO YOUR ARMS...**

4 "POWER PACKED" INCHES OF MUSCLES TO YOUR CHEST!

Says JOE WEIDER, "The Muscle Builder" and "Trainer of the Champions"

IN half the time, with twice the ease, in the privacy of your own room, in just a few minutes daily, I will, through my TRIPLE-PROGRESSION COURSE, slap inches of steel muscles to your pipe-stem arms, pack your chest with power and size, give you life-guard shoulders, dynamic, speedy athletic legs — add Jet-Charged strength to every muscle in your body. I don't care if you're

short or tall, skinny or fat, office-worker, laborer, school-boy, or businessman, I must make a new virile he-man out of you, and also . . . help build "inner strength" that will give you that virile look, that women admire and men envy. Here's what I did for Clancy Ross, one of the many thousands of weaklings I turned into He-Men.

Don't miss this once-in-a lifetime opportunity

**LET ME PROVE TO YOU, AT MY
OWN EXPENSE, EVERYTHING
I SAY CAN BE DONE!**

FREE MUSCLE BUILDING TRIAL OFFER. Fill out coupon and mail to me. I'll rush you my GIANT 48 page course, filled with exercises, training secrets, Heroic photos of mighty champions and private advice on how you can become a muscle star fast! This sensational offer is good only to males between 13 and 65 in normal good health.



NOTHING TO BUY!
YES, THAT'S RIGHT!

A-C-T-I-O-N

IS THE KEY TO STRENGTH! MAKE YOUR FIRST HE-MAN DECISION TO-DAY! Rush in this coupon for your free trial course. You have nothing to lose but your weakness.

AMAZING FREE TRIAL OFFER

JOE WEIDER
803 Palisade Avenue, Union City, N. J.

Dept. 80-120 A

Shoot the works, Joe! Rush me my FREE INTRODUCTORY POWER-PACKED, MUSCLE-BUILDING COURSE. (I enclose only 25¢ to cover cost of handling and mailing.) I am under no obligation.

NAME AGE

ADDRESS

CITY ZONE STATE

In Canada: Mail to JOE WEIDER, 4466 Colonial Ave.

Montreal, Quebec

BATMAN

With
ROBIN
THE BOY WONDER

PREPARE YOURSELF FOR THE WILDEST ADVENTURE OF YOUR LIFE! FOR YOU ARE ABOUT TO JOIN BATMAN AND ROBIN IN THE ZANIEST, MOST SENSELESS SERIES OF CRIMES THEY HAVE EVER ENCOUNTERED! AND LIKE THE CAPE CRIME-FIGHTERS, YOU WILL END UP BEWILDERED AND MYSTIFIED BY.

the CASE of the

CRAZY CRIMES

"BATMAN!... HELP ME! I CAN'T FIGHT OFF THESE CREATURES!"

"UH--I CAN'T HELP YOU, ROBIN... I'M CAUGHT BY THEM, TOO!"

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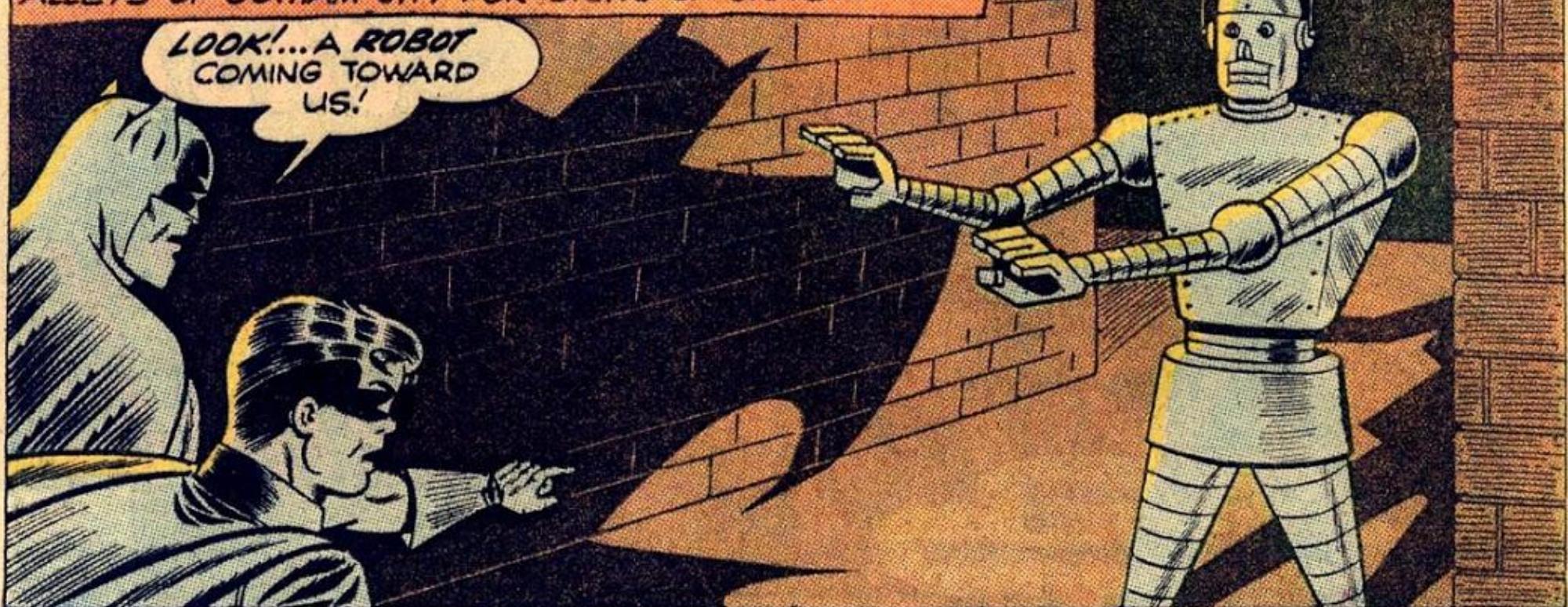


BATMAN

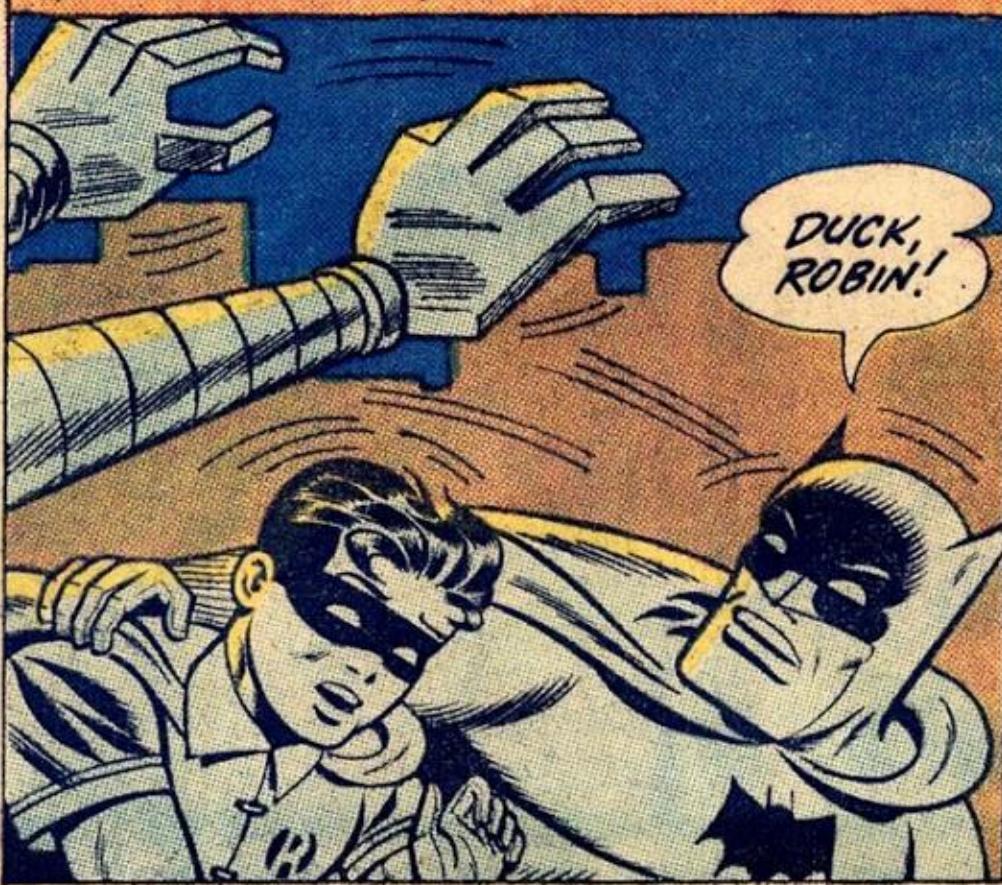


ONE NIGHT, AS BATMAN AND ROBIN PATROL THE BACK ALLEYS OF GOTHAM CITY FOR SIGNS OF CRIME...

LOOK!... A ROBOT COMING TOWARD US!

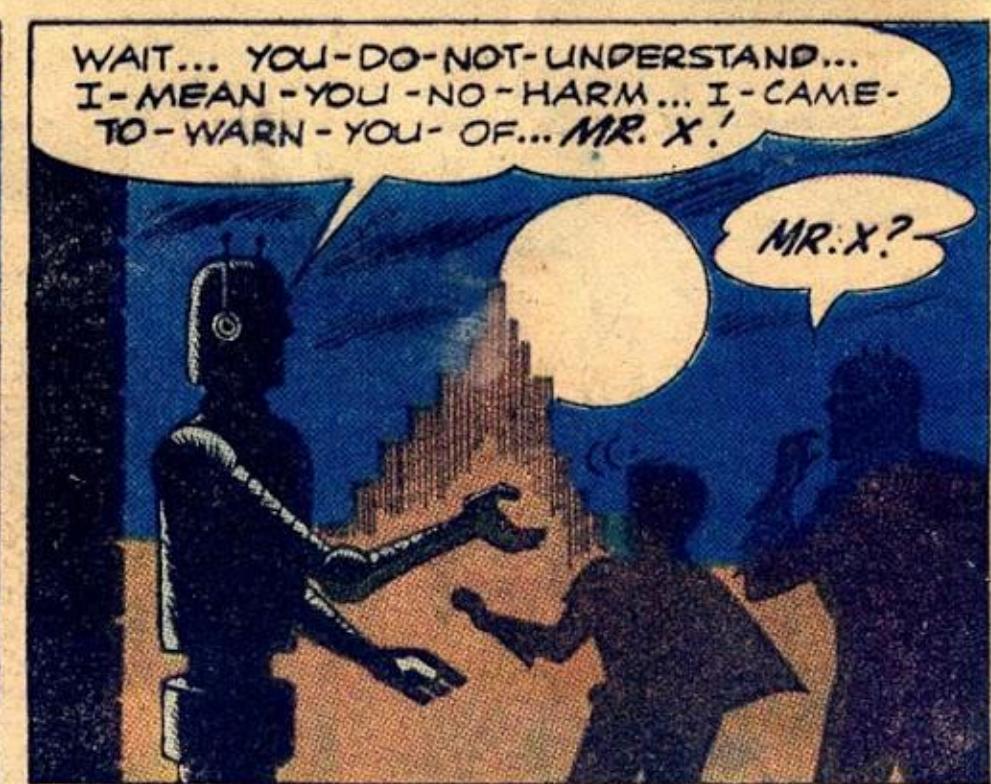


LIKE GREAT PINCERS, STEEL HANDS REACH OUT...



WAIT... YOU DO NOT UNDERSTAND... I MEAN - YOU NO HARM... I CAME TO WARN YOU OF... MR. X!

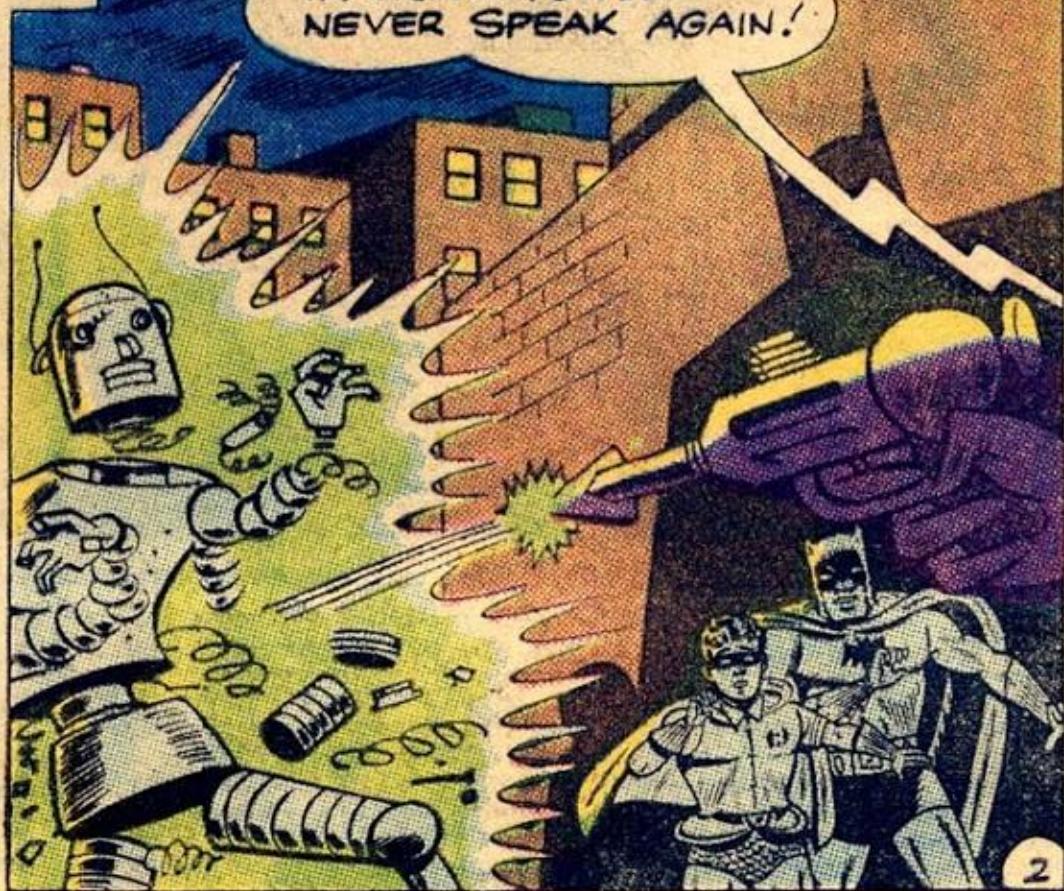
MR. X?



ABRUPTLY, AN EERIE RAY PULSES FROM MR. X'S BIZARRE WEAPON, AND...

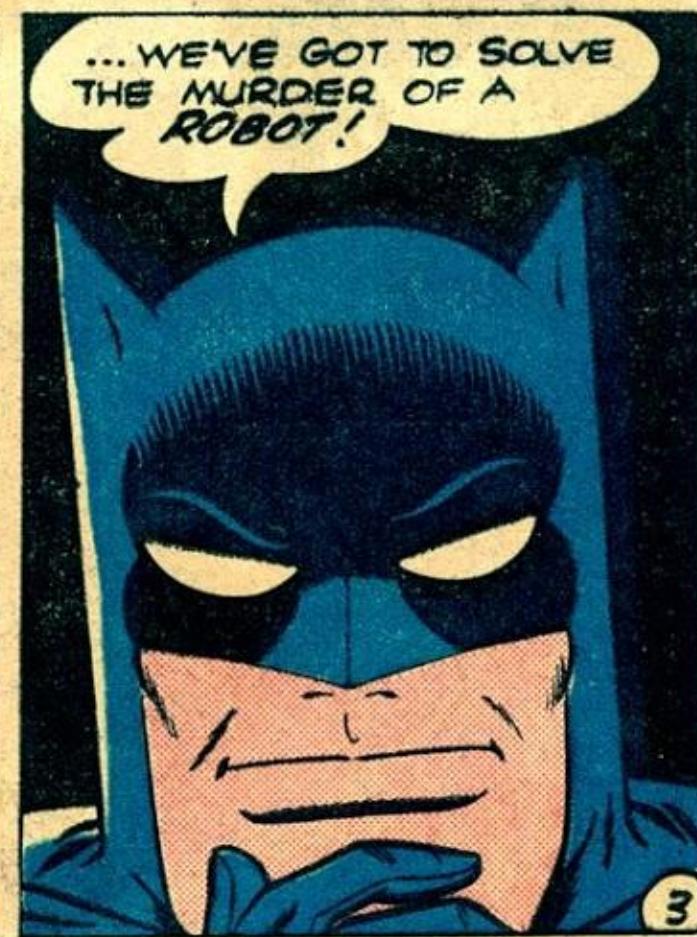
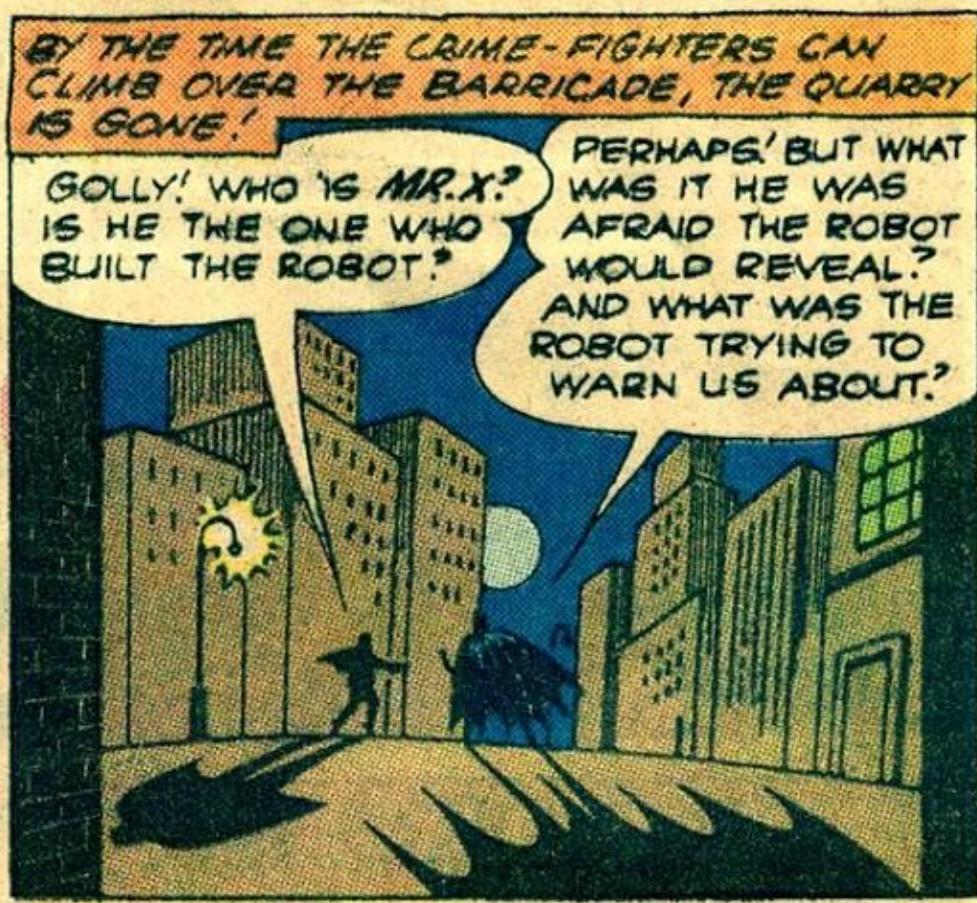
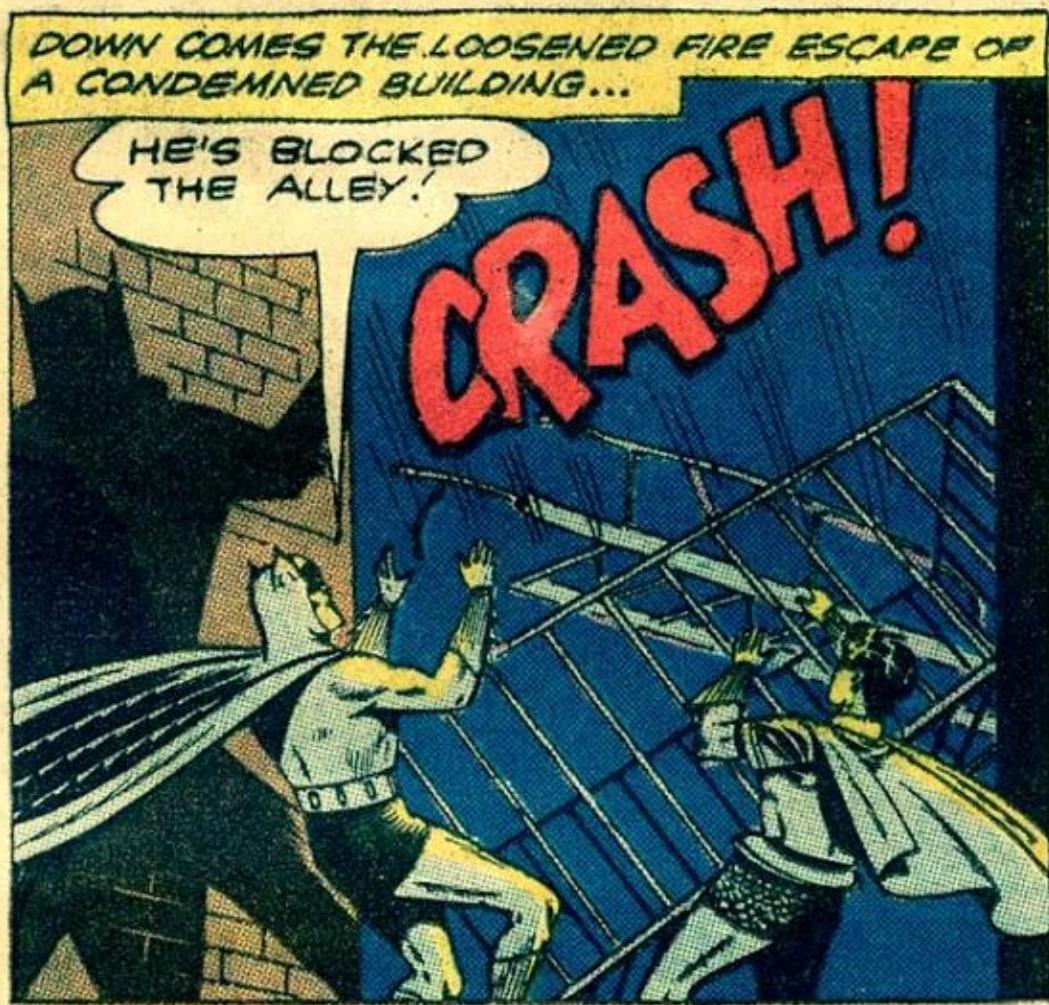
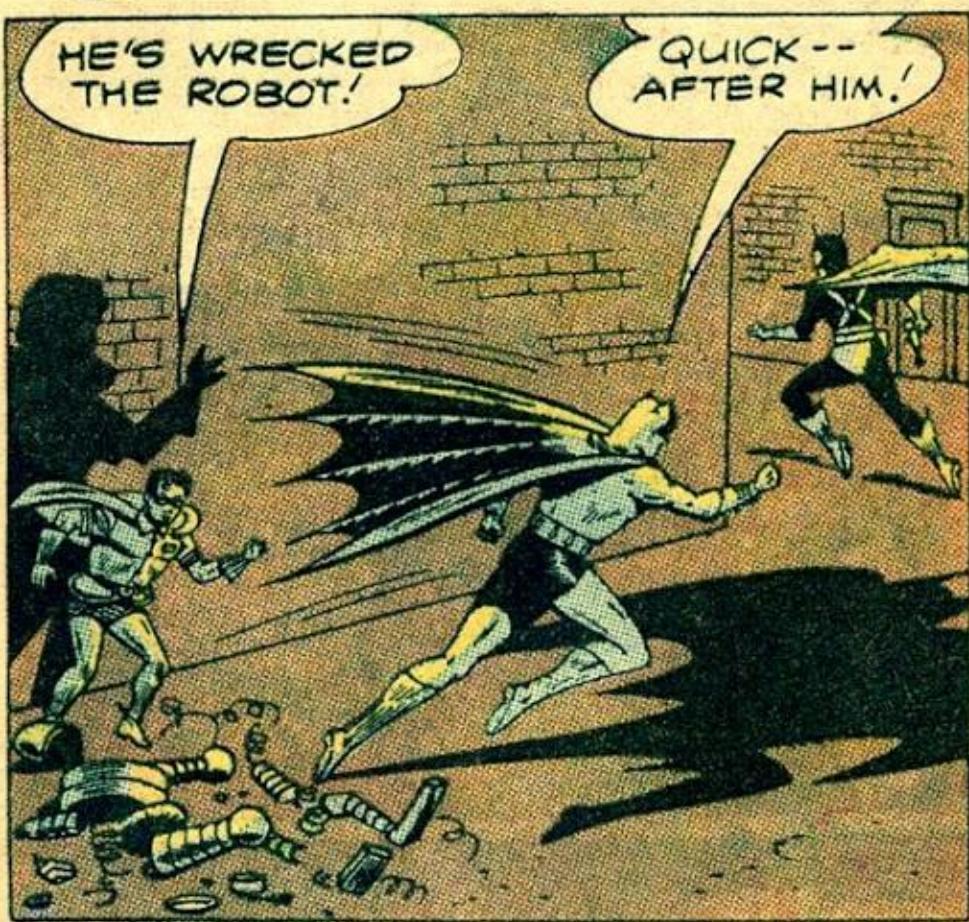
TRAITOR!... YOU'LL NEVER SPEAK AGAIN!

SO!... YOU WOULD BETRAY MY SECRET TO BATMAN AND ROBIN, EH?

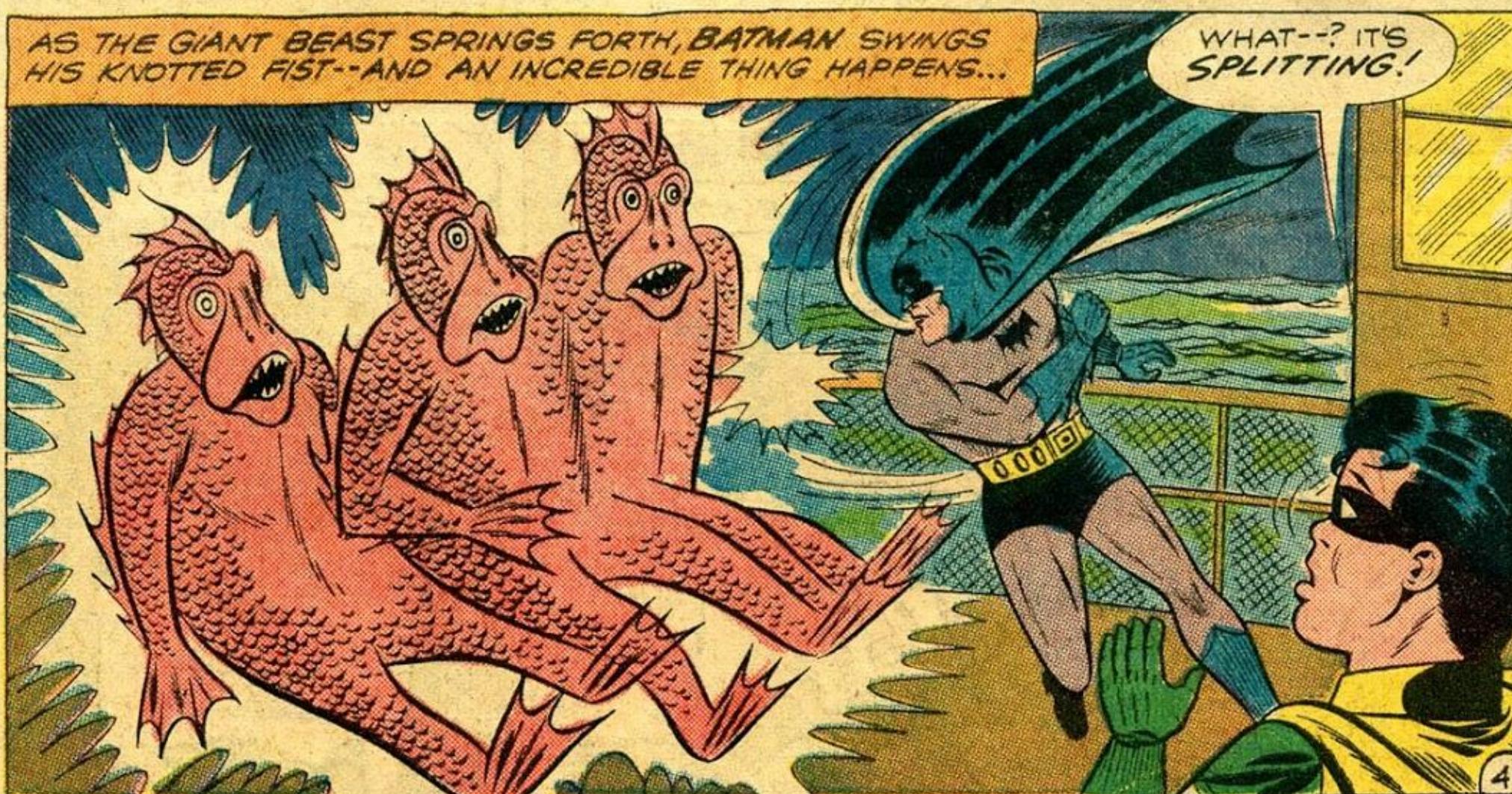
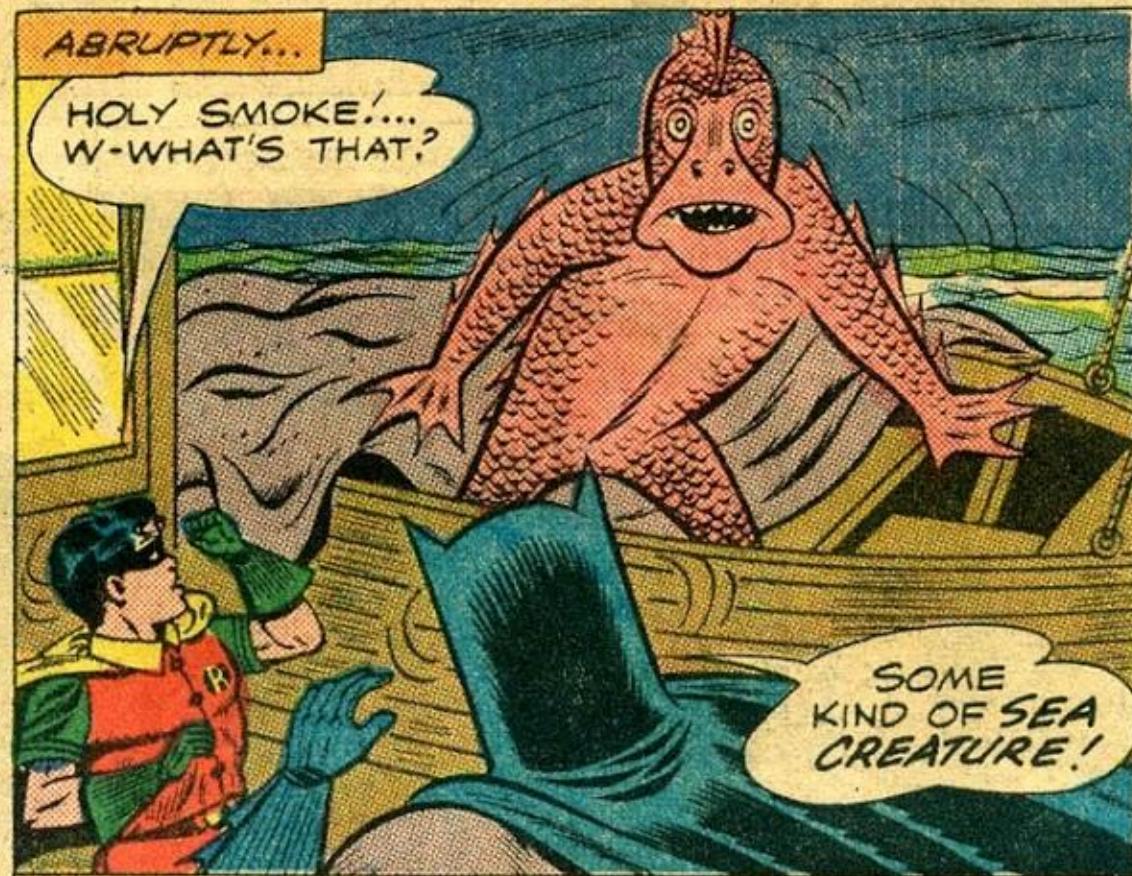
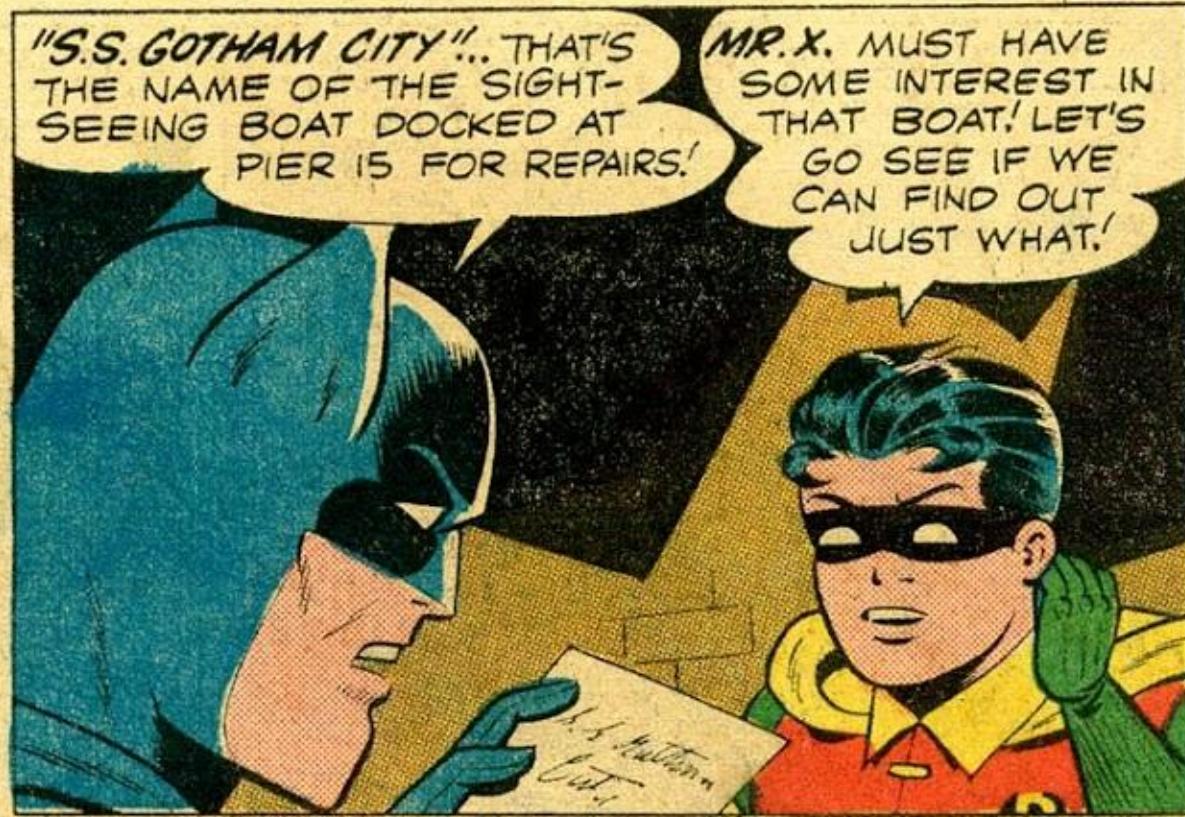


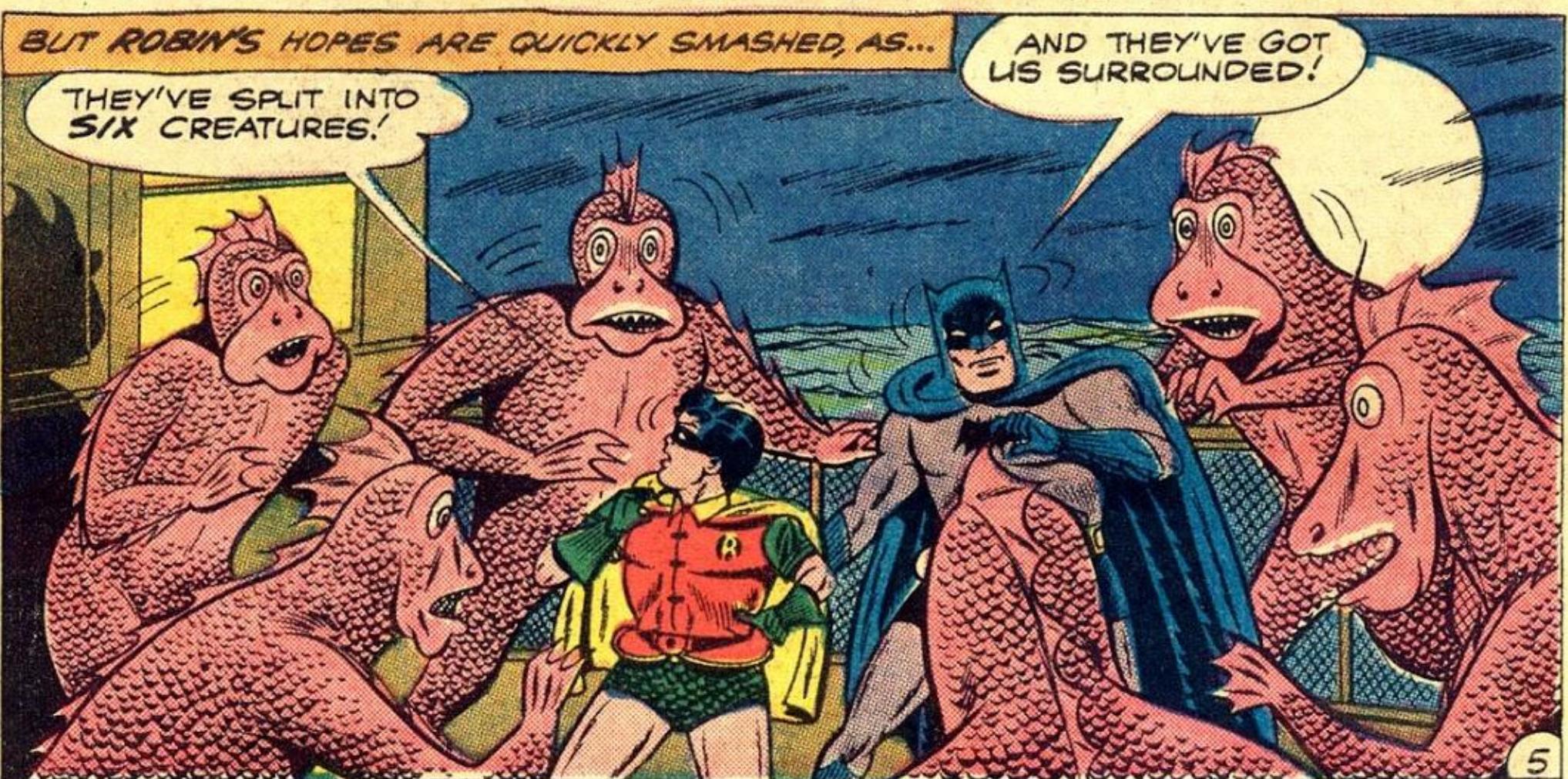


BATMAN



BATMAN





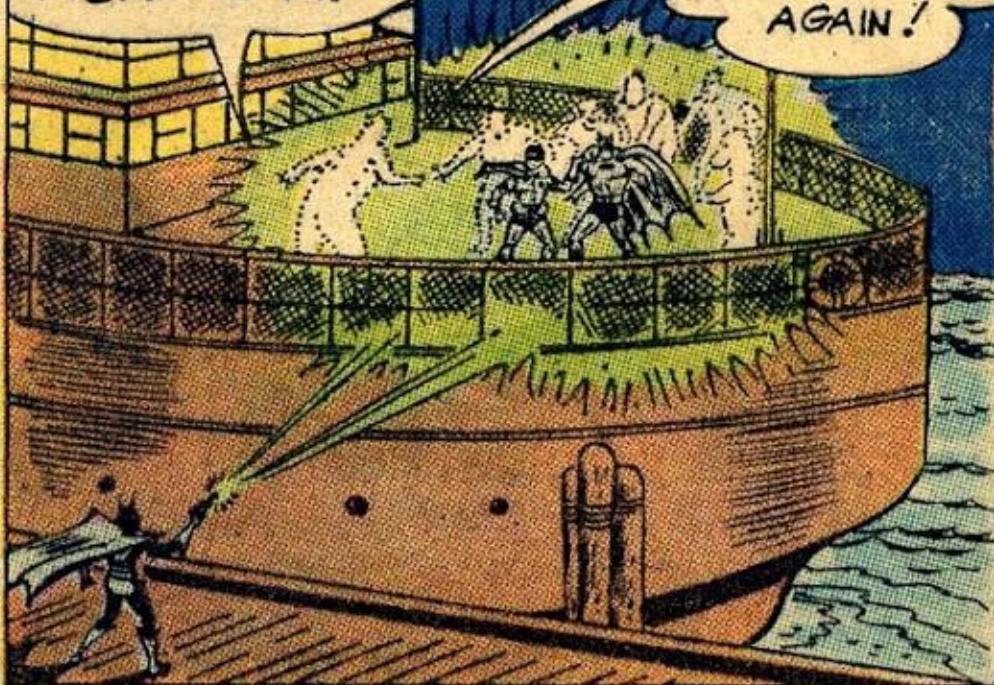
AT THAT MOMENT, HOWEVER...

MR. X!... HE'S USING HIS WEAPON AGAIN -- MAKING THE CREATURES DISAPPEAR!

LET'S GRAB HIM--AND ASK HIM SOME QUESTIONS BEFORE HE GETS AWAY AGAIN!

BUT AS THE DUO LEAPS TO THE DOCK, A SMALL BLIMP DESCENDS FROM THE CLOUDS, AND...

IT'S LOWERED A ROPE LADDER!



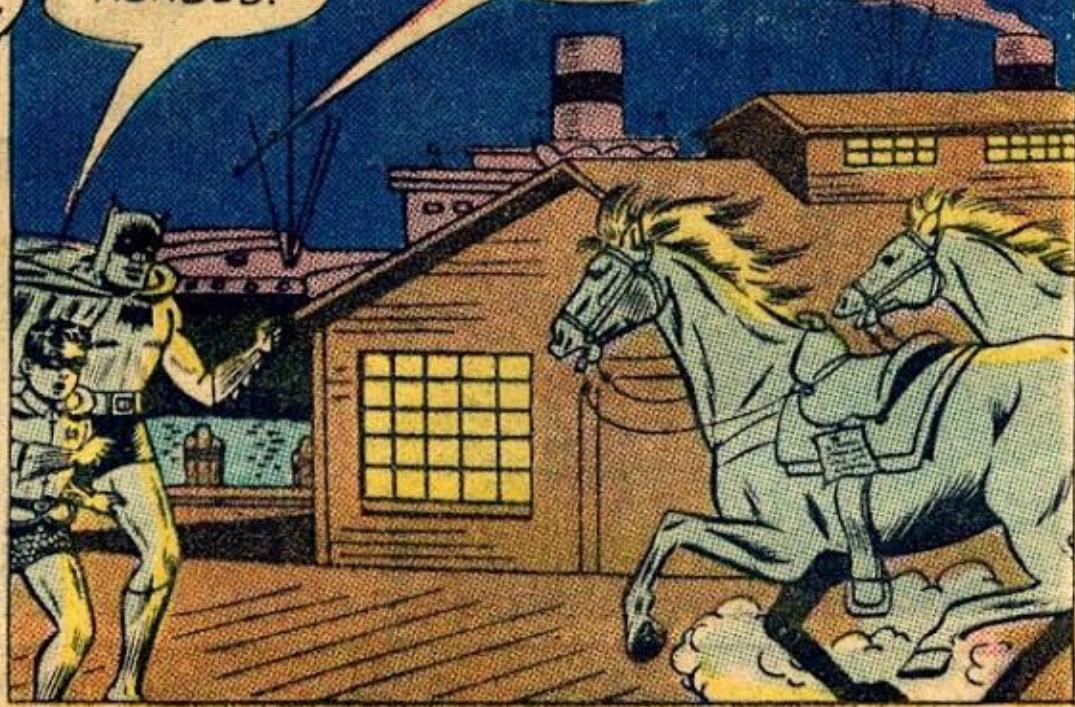
FIRST HE MURDERS A ROBOT THAT TRIES TO WARN US OF HIM... THEN, WHEN STRANGE SEA CREATURES COME AFTER US, HE SAVES US FROM THEM! WHY?... WHAT'S THE CONNECTION?

I CAN'T FIGURE IT! THIS IS ABSOLUTELY THE ZANIEST CASE WE'VE EVER TACKLED!

JUST THEN...

LOOK!... TWO RIDERLESS HORSES!

THEY'RE COMING TO US... AND ONE OF THEM HAS A LETTER ATTACHED TO ITS SADDLE!



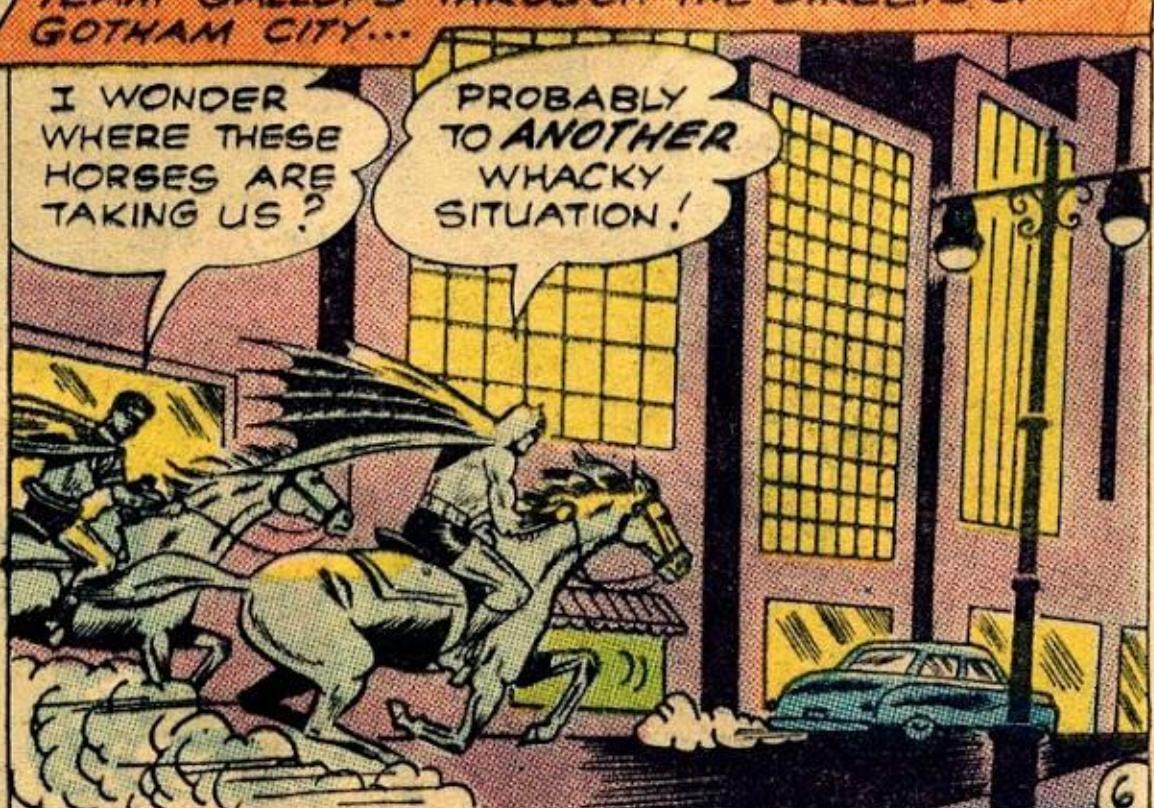
AS THE HORSES STOP BEFORE THEM...

LISTEN TO WHAT THE LETTER SAYS... "BATMAN AND ROBIN, THESE HORSES WILL CARRY YOU TO THE HIDEOUT OF MR. X! BE CAREFUL! (SIGNED) YOUR SECRET FRIEND!"

MINUTES LATER, A MOUNTED CRIME-FIGHTING TEAM GALLOPS THROUGH THE STREETS OF GOTHAM CITY...

I WONDER WHERE THESE HORSES ARE TAKING US?

PROBABLY TO ANOTHER WHACKY SITUATION!



SHORTLY...

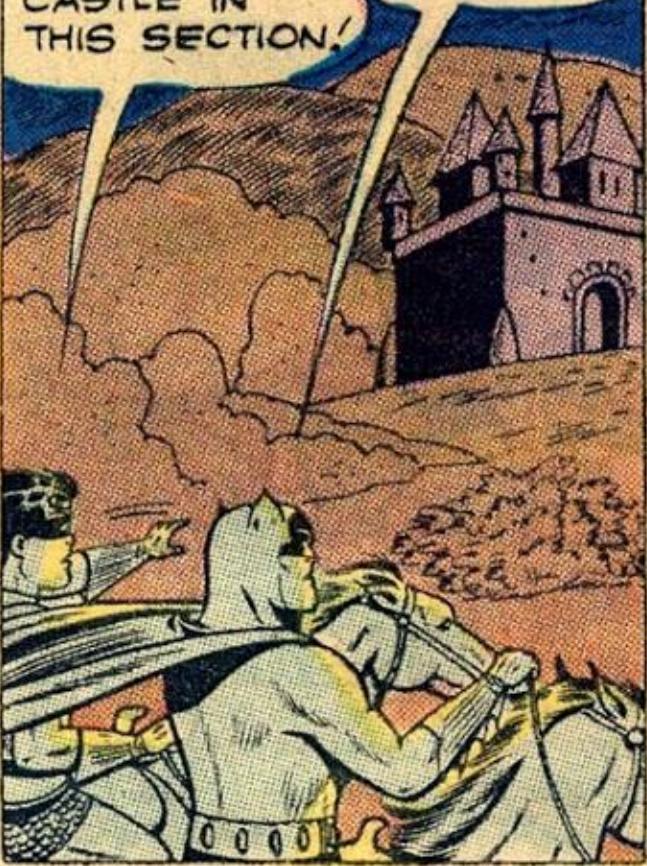
A CASTLE? I NEVER KNEW THERE WAS A CASTLE IN THIS SECTION!

NEITHER DID I! THIS CASE IS FULL OF SURPRISES!

AS THE MOUNTS GALLOP INTO A COURTYARD, STILL ANOTHER SURPRISE AWAITS THEM...

HOLY MACKEREL!... A GORILLA -- WEARING A CROWN -- AND SITTING ON A THRONE AS IF HE WERE KING OF ALL GORILLAS!

AND MR. X. IS WITH HIM! WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT?



IN ANSWER, A GORILLA LUMBERS FORWARD AND HANDS BATMAN A SWORD...

F-FOR SOME REASON, I'VE BEEN CHALLENGED TO A DUEL!

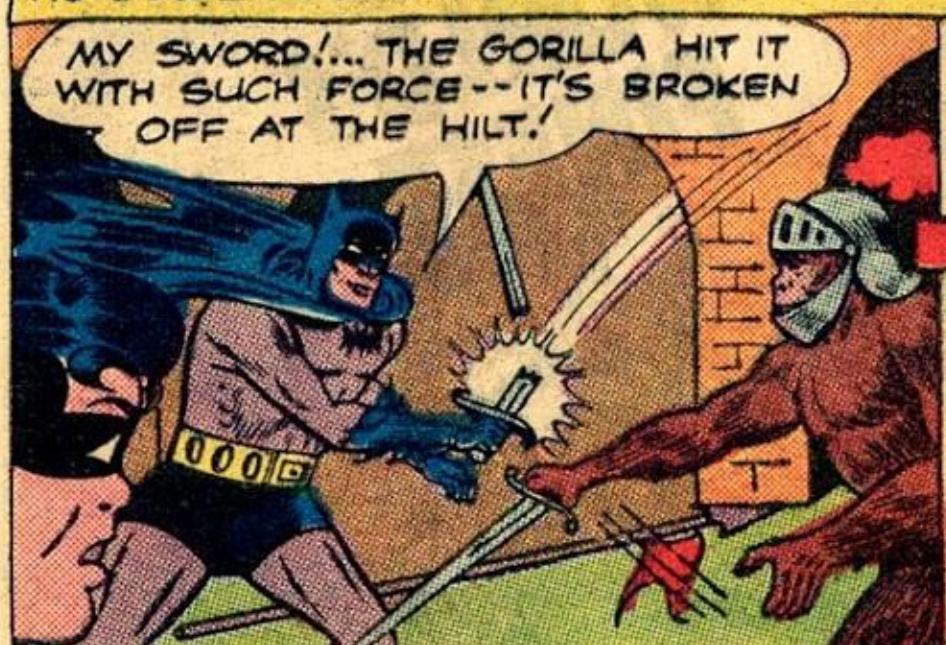


BUT AS THE SHAGGY DUELIST RUSHES AT THE BATMAN...



NO SOONER DOES THE MATCH BEGIN THAN...

MY SWORD!... THE GORILLA HIT IT WITH SUCH FORCE -- IT'S BROKEN OFF AT THE HILT!



THIS LANCE MAKES A GOOD VAULTING POLE!



BATMAN



AND THAT'S WHEN THE BIGGEST SURPRISE OF ALL OCCURS!

ATTABOY, BATMAN!
BOYOBBOYOB... THIS IS THE BEST FUN I EVER HAD!

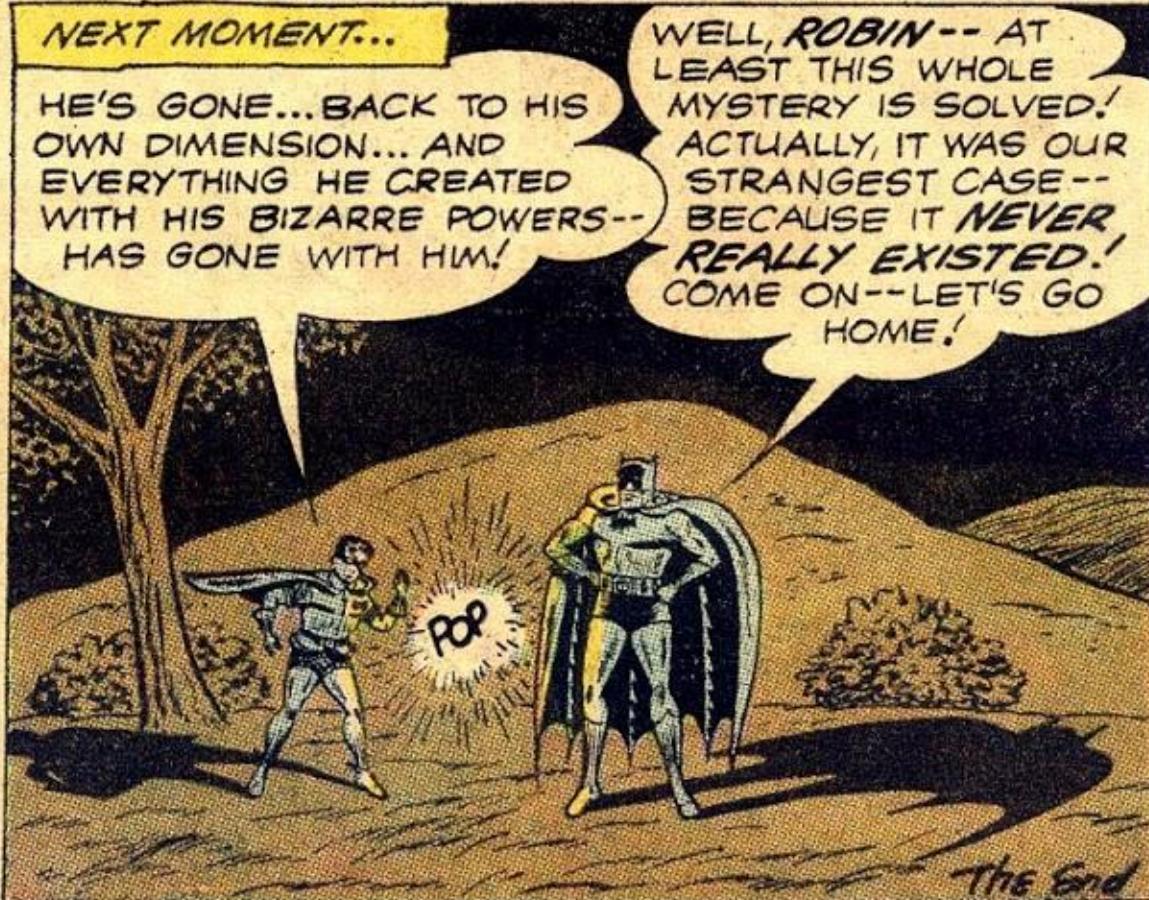
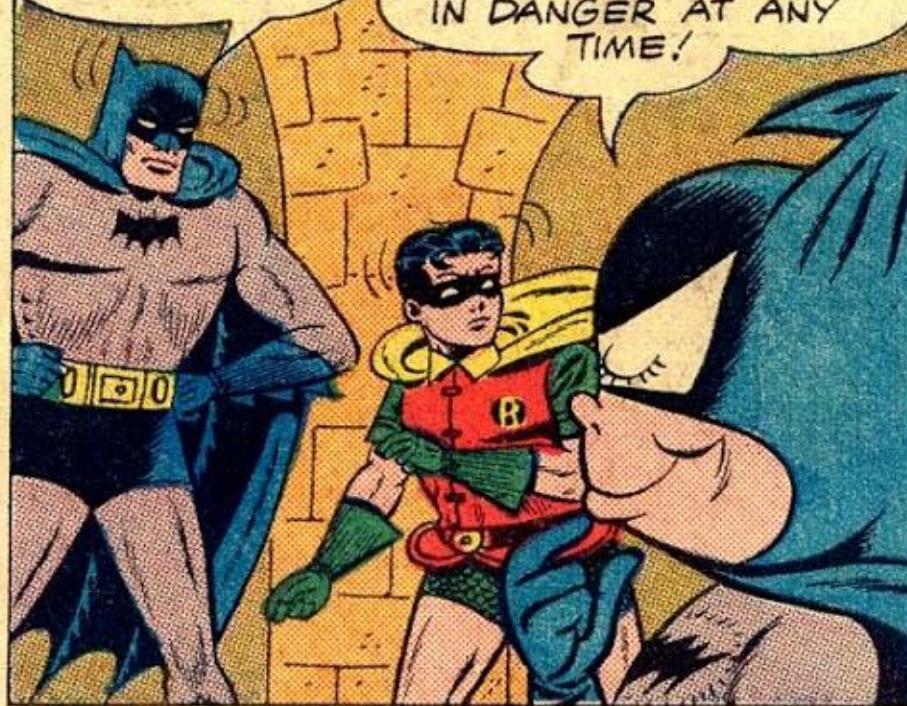
BAT-MITE!

THE LITTLE IMP FROM ANOTHER DIMENSION! HE'S BACK AGAIN!

POW

YOU! YOU'RE RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL THIS, AREN'T YOU?

UH--YES! I CREATED EVERYTHING--JUST SO I COULD SEE YOU IN ACTION! YOU WEREN'T IN DANGER AT ANY TIME!



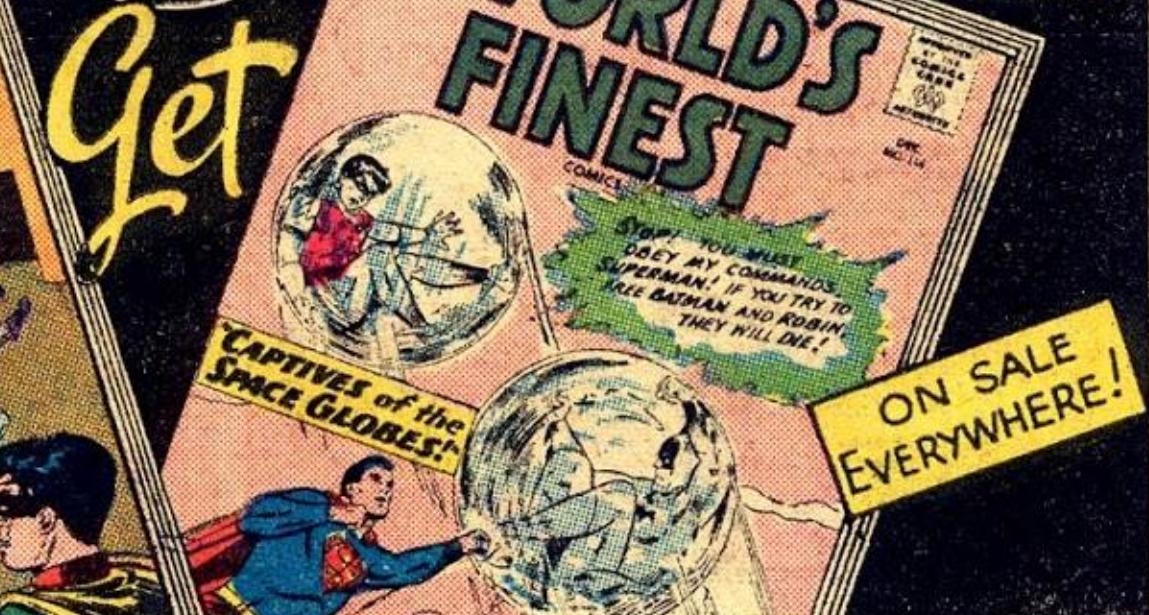
The End

THIS FAMOUS SYMBOL
IS YOUR
Guarantee
OF THE **BEST**
IN COMICS
READING



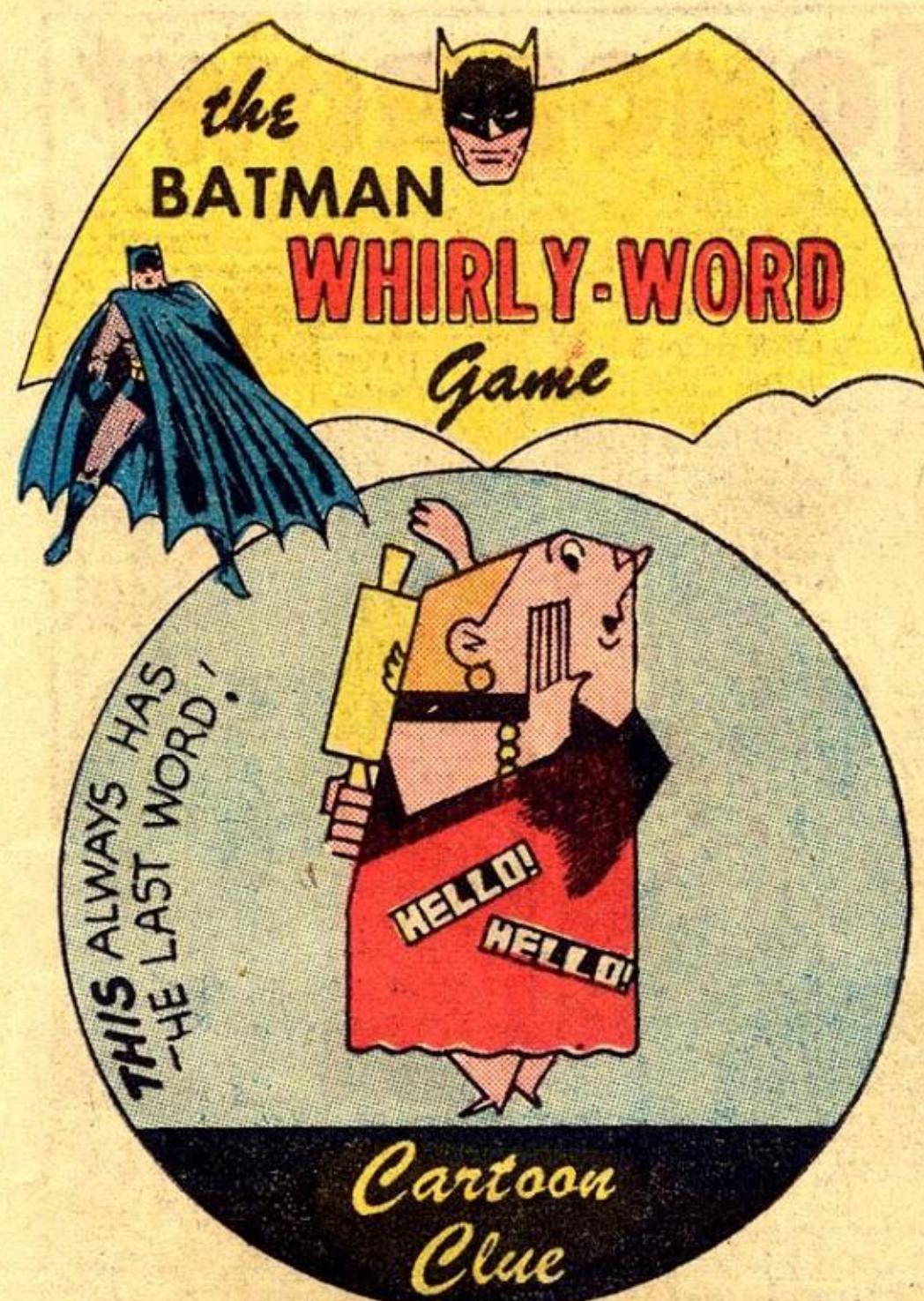
Get

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BATMAN



Scrambled Words

WORD 1.

MALCE

WORD 2.

NEDMO

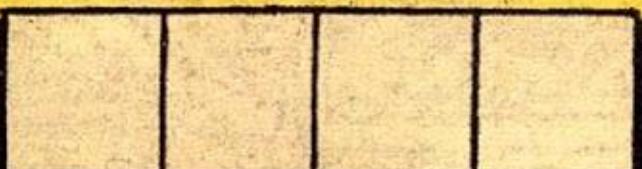
WORD 3.

CRANO

WORD 4.

HOPEC

Final Goal



Directions:

FIRST UNSCRAMBLE THE 4 SETS OF SCRAMBLED LETTERS, MAKING A FIVE-LETTER WORD OF EACH SCRAMBLE. THEN PRINT EACH WORD, A LETTER IN EACH CIRCLE AROUND EACH OF THE 4 NUMBERS, CLOCKWISE THE INITIAL LETTER FOR WORD NUMBER ONE STARTS YOU OFF. THE 3 DOTS INDICATE WHERE THE OTHER THREE WORDS BEGIN. THIS COMPLETED, YOUR FINAL GOAL (USING THE FOUR LETTERS YOU HAVE PRINTED ON THE 4 STARRED CIRCLES) IS TO SPELL THE FOUR-LETTER WORD SUGGESTED BY THE CARTOON CLUE! CAN YOU DO IT?

The
ANSWER

[ECHO]

GOBY
3181

4-EPOCH

1-CAMEL 2-DEMON 3-ACORN 4-EPOCH

"CHILDREN of TOMORROW!"

CELEBRATING UNITED NATIONS DAY, OCTOBER 24th

SOMEWHERE IN ASIA...

I'M HUNGRY...

... OR AFRICA...

IF ONLY WE HAD A DOCTOR, OR SOME MEDICINE...

... OR THE MIDDLE EAST OR SOUTH AMERICA...

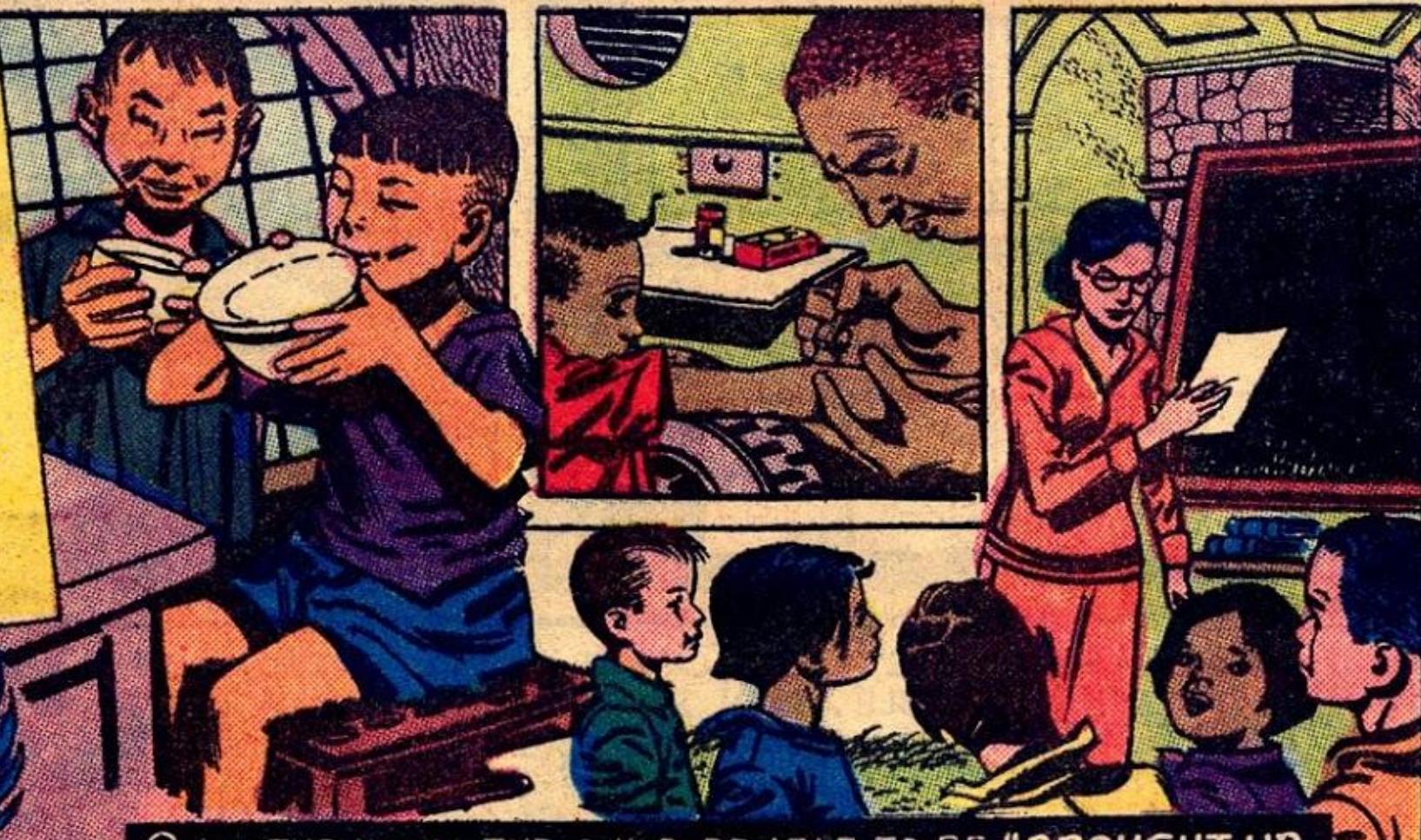
WE HAVE NO SCHOOL, NO TEACHERS. IT IS HARD FOR THE CHILDREN TO LEARN, TO READ OR WRITE.



AWARE OF THESE SUB-STANDARD CONDITIONS, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS ADOPTED THE **DECLARATION OF THE RIGHTS OF A CHILD**, WHICH STATES, AMONG OTHER PRINCIPLES, THAT...

"THE CHILD SHALL ENJOY SPECIAL PROTECTION, AND SHALL BE GIVEN OPPORTUNITIES AND FACILITIES, BY LAW AND BY OTHER MEANS, TO ENABLE HIM TO DEVELOP PHYSICALLY, MENTALLY, MORALLY, SPIRITUALLY AND SOCIALLY IN A HEALTHY AND NORMAL MANNER AND IN CONDITIONS OF FREEDOM AND DIGNITY."

IMPLEMENTING THESE RIGHTS, THE U.N., THROUGH AGENCIES LIKE THE CHILDREN'S FUND (UNICEF), WORLD HEALTH AGENCY, FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL ORGANIZATION, AND UNESCO, HAS BEEN ASSISTING COUNTRIES THAT HAVE APPLIED FOR HELP...



ONLY THEN WILL THE CHILD BE ABLE TO BE "BROUGHT UP IN A SPIRIT OF UNDERSTANDING, TOLERANCE, FRIENDSHIP AMONG PEOPLES, PEACE AND UNIVERSAL BROTHERHOOD."

BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN
-THE BOY WONDER-

WHEN THEY FIRST STRIDE INTO TOWN,
BATMAN AND ROBIN ARE HAILED
BY THE POPULACE! BUT, SUDDENLY,
CHEERS TURN TO JEERS AS FANS
TURN INTO FANATICS, DETERMINED
TO BOOZM THE DYNAMIC DUO!
SHOULD THEY TRY TO FLEE OR
REMAIN, AT THE RISK OF THEIR
VERY LIVES, TO DISCOVER THE
REASON BEHIND...

the **TOWN** that **HATED** **BATMAN**

THERE THEY ARE --
BATMAN AND
ROBIN!

GET THEM! RUN
THEM OUT OF TOWN!

GREAT SCOTT! THE
WHOLE TOWN HAS
TURNED AGAINST
US! WHY? WHY?

BOB
KANE



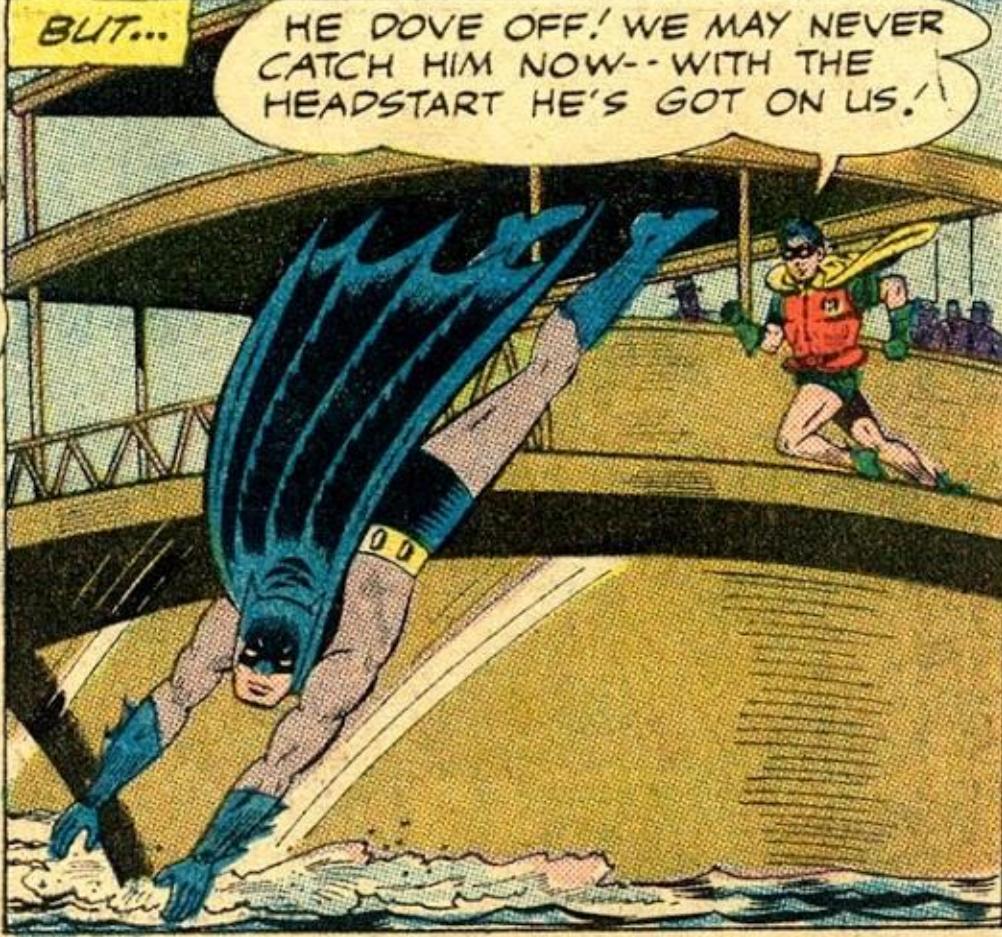
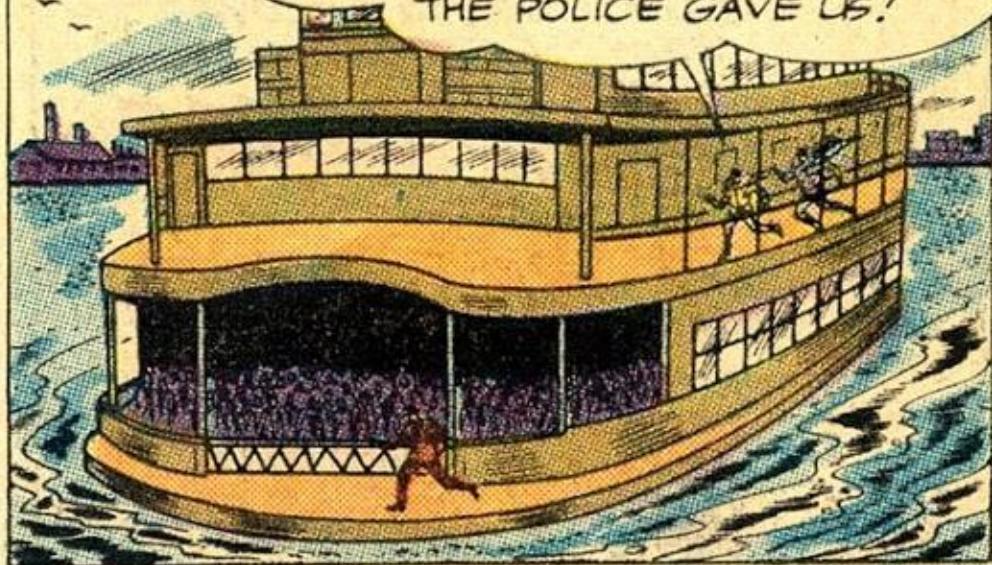


BATMAN



A FERRY IN GOTHAM BAY IS THE SCENE OF AN EXCITING INCIDENT ONE DAY, AS BATMAN AND ROBIN, THE BOY WONDER, DART INTO SUDDEN ACTION...

YOU'RE RIGHT, BATMAN! THAT IS BERT COLLINS, THE GANGSTER SOUGHT BY THE POLICE! I RECOGNIZE HIM FROM HIS ROGUES' GALLERY PHOTO THE POLICE GAVE US!



AS THE CRIME-FIGHTERS PURSUE...

HE'S REACHED THE SHORE-- WHERE HE HAD A GETAWAY CAR PARKED!

AS SOON AS WE GET TO LAND, WE'LL TAKE AFTER HIM IN OUR BATMOBILE!



NOT LONG AFTER, THEY FIND COLLINS' CAR -- ABANDONED!

HMM! HE MUST HAVE RUN OUT OF GAS!

LUCKILY IT RAINED THIS MORNING-- THE SOFT EARTH SHOWS HIS FOOTPRINTS CLEARLY! LET'S SEE WHERE THEY LEAD US...



SHORTLY...

THIS USED TO BE A GHOST TOWN--DESERTED WHEN THE SULPHUR MINE PETERED OUT AND COULDN'T SUPPLY WORK TO ANYONE!

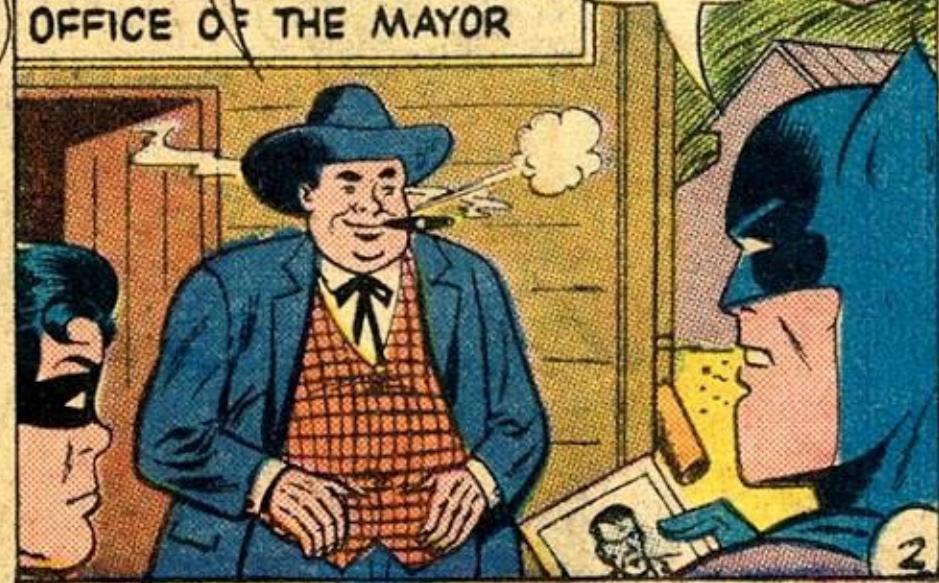
WELL--A NEW SULPHUR VEIN MUST'VE BEEN DISCOVERED BECAUSE THE TOWN IS SURE BUSTLING AGAIN!

GOSH! BATMAN AND ROBIN! I'M GOING TO ASK THEM FOR THEIR AUTO-GRAPHS!

I'M MAYOR COBB. SPEAKING FOR OUR LITTLE TOWN, WE'RE HONORED, BATMAN! YOU JUST PASSING BY HERE?

NO--WE'RE LOOKING FOR A CRIMINAL WHO MIGHT BE HIDING HERE! EVER SEE THIS MAN?

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR





BATMAN



NOPE -- AND NEITHER DID ANYONE ELSE, I CAN TELL YOU! A STRANGER WOULD BE NOTICED HERE! YOU'RE WASTING YOUR TIME!

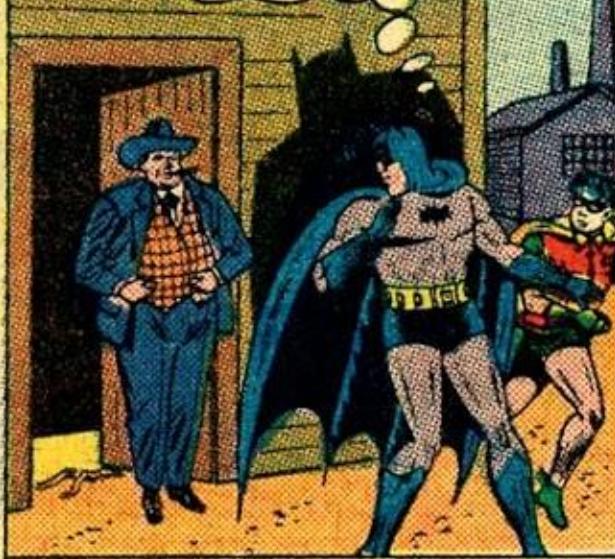
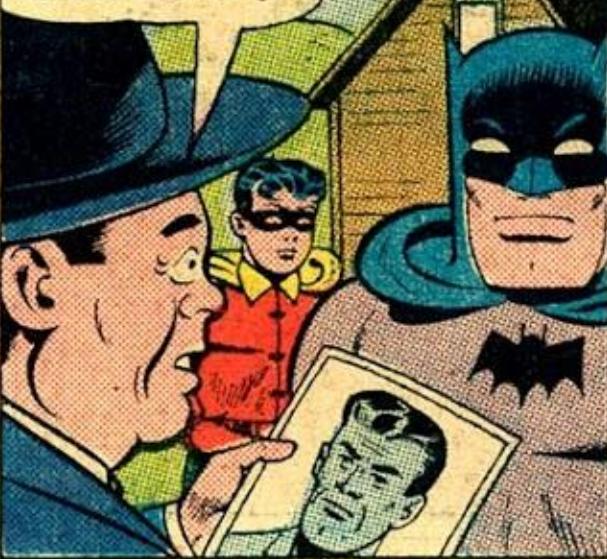
I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT! LET'S GO, ROBIN!

BUT AS THEY TURN TO LEAVE, BATMAN NOTES...

A STRAND OF SEA WEED! HOW COULD IT GET THIS FAR INLAND UNLESS, AS COLLINS SWAM IN THE BAY, IT CAUGHT ON HIS FOOT AND DROPPED OFF!

I'M SORRY TO DISAGREE WITH YOU, MAYOR COBB, BUT I HAVE A STRONG SUSPICION THAT COLLINS IS HERE! IF YOU WON'T HELP ME, I'M SURE THE PEOPLE WILL!

TAKE MY ADVICE AND LEAVE-- NOW! WE DON'T LIKE OUTSIDERS SNOOPING AROUND!



HAVE YOU SEEN THIS MAN?

NO! WHY DON'T YOU GET OUT OF HERE, BATMAN, LIKE THE MAYOR SAYS, AND LEAVE US ALONE?

AND AS BATMAN PRESSES HIS MANHUNT, THE TOWN'S ONCE FRIENDLY ATMOSPHERE CHANGES TO OPEN HOSTILITY...



AS THE PUZZLED PAIR TURN A CORNER...

THERE THEY ARE! GET 'EM!

UH-OH! FIRST, THEY WANTED US TO LEAVE, ROBIN! NOW IT SEEMS THEY DON'T DARE LET US GET OUT OF HERE ALIVE!





BATMAN



WE'LL NEVER GET AWAY FROM THAT MOB!
THIS COMPRESSOR USED TO PUMP AIR TO THE SULPHUR WELL! WE'VE GOT A CHANCE--IF I CAN WRENCH THIS PIPE OFF... STAND ASIDE, ROBIN!

AS THE COMPRESSED AIR IS RELEASED...



THEN, BEFORE ANYONE CAN RECOVER...

SURROUND THE TOWN! DON'T LET THEM GET OUT OF HERE!

WE HAVE NO INTENTION OF LEAVING, MR. MAYOR-- UNTIL THIS MYSTERY IS CLEARED UP!

SOON AFTER, IN A TUNNEL UNDER THE SULPHUR PLANT...

WHY DO YOU THINK THE WHOLE TOWN TURNED AGAINST US, BATMAN?

I DON'T KNOW--BUT WE MAY FIND PART OF THE ANSWER WHEN WE GET OUT OF HERE!



EMERGING, THEY QUICKLY CLIMB AN OUTDOOR STORAGE VAT...

EMPTY--BUT IT SHOULD BE FILLED WITH SULPHUR! THIS MEANS, SULPHUR IS NOT BEING MINED NOW!

DO YOU MEAN, ALL THOSE PEOPLE MOVED INTO THIS GHOST TOWN TO PRETEND TO BE MINERS? WHY? THIS CASE GETS CRAZIER ALL THE TIME!





BATMAN



NO SOONER DO THEY DESCEND THAN...

I HAD A HUNCH YOU'D BE
CHECKING THE VAT! WE'VE
GOT YOU THIS TIME!



RENDERED UNCONSCIOUS, THE CRIME-FIGHTERS ARE BORNE TO A SULPHUR WELL, WHERE THEY ARE LOWERED DOWN ITS SHAFT...

THIS WILL BE THE TOMB OF
BATMAN AND
ROBIN! THEY'LL
NEVER BE
FOUND! WHEN
THEY REACH
BOTTOM -- CUT
THE ROPE!



BUT LATER, WATER USED TO LIQUIFY THE
SULPHUR SO IT CAN BE PUMPED OUT REVIVES
THE PAIR...

IF WE TRIED TO
SHINNY UP THIS
WATER PIPE...WE'D
ONLY SLIDE DOWN!

I KNOW A TRICK
HAWAIIANS USE TO
CLIMB COCONUT TREES!
WE'LL HAVE TO TWIST
THIS ROPE INTO THONGS
AND TIE THEM
BETWEEN
OUR ANKLES!



THUS, MINUTES LATER...

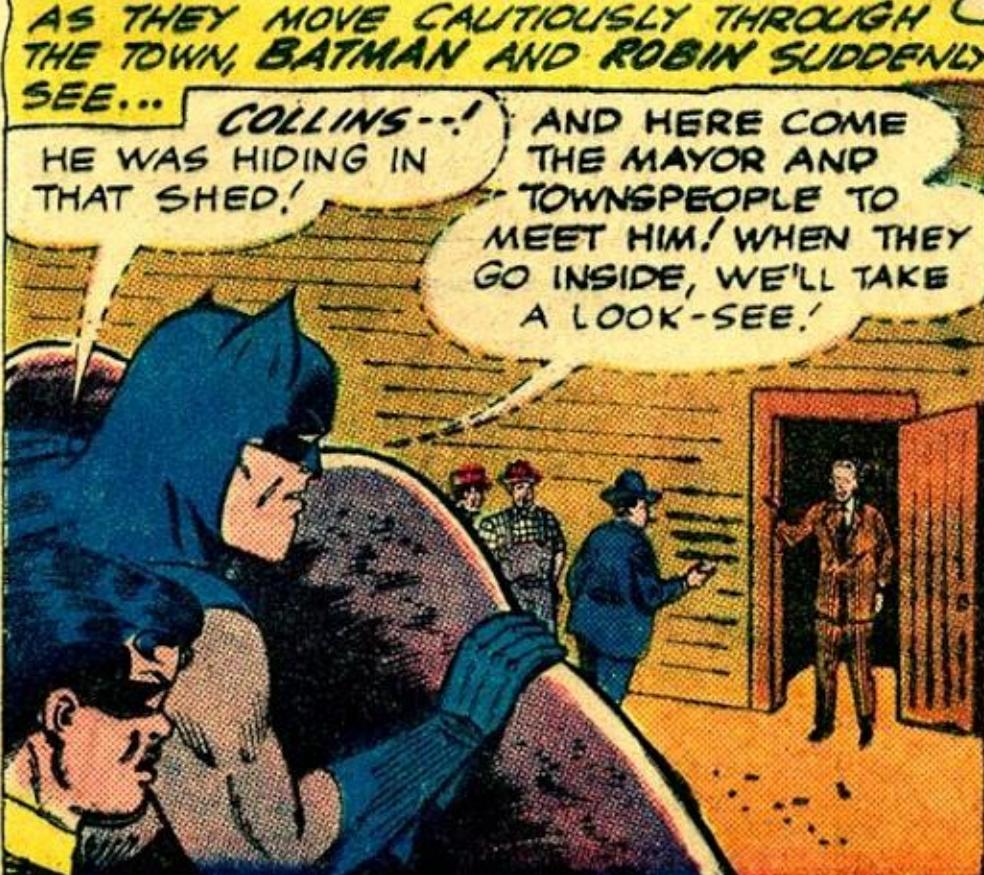
BY GRIPPING THE PIPE
WITH OUR HANDS--AND
GETTING LEVERAGE
FROM THE
THONGS--
WE'LL BE
ABLE TO
MAKE IT ALL
THE WAY UP!



AS THEY MOVE CAUTIOUSLY THROUGH
THE TOWN, BATMAN AND ROBIN SUDDENLY
SEE...

COLLINS--!
HE WAS HIDING IN
THAT SHED!

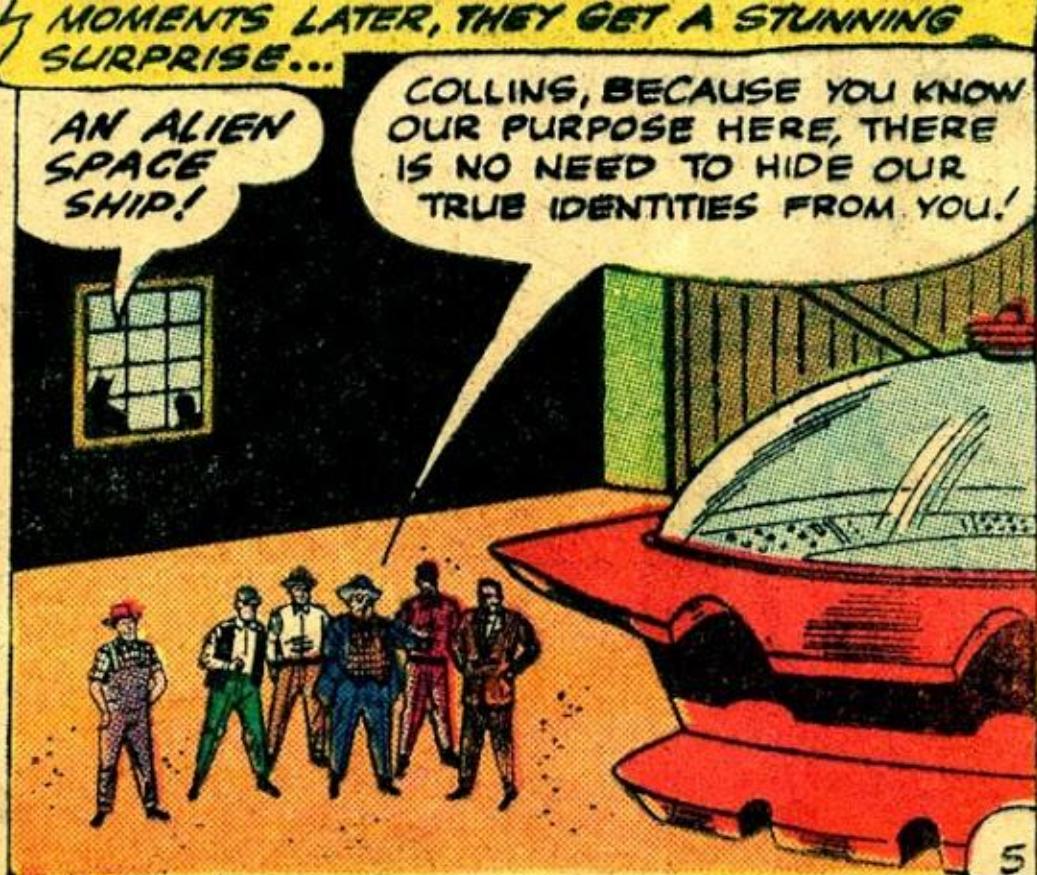
AND HERE COME
THE MAYOR AND
TOWNSPEOPLE TO
MEET HIM! WHEN THEY
GO INSIDE, WE'LL TAKE
A LOOK-SEE!



MOMENTS LATER, THEY GET A STUNNING
SURPRISE...

AN ALIEN
SPACE
SHIP!

COLLINS, BECAUSE YOU KNOW
OUR PURPOSE HERE, THERE
IS NO NEED TO HIDE OUR
TRUE IDENTITIES FROM YOU!



TAKING STRANGE DEVICES FROM THEIR POCKETS, THE PEOPLE SUDDENLY UNDERGO A FANTASTIC TRANSFORMATION!

NOW RID OURSELVES OF OUR EARTHMEN DISGUISES!

NOT EVEN BATMAN COULD POSSIBLY GUESS YOU WERE ALIENS FROM ANOTHER SOLAR SYSTEM!

WITH A SINISTER SMILE, THE ALIEN WHIPS OFF A CLOTH, REVEALING--

OUR SECRET WEAPON -- THE GRAV-RAY! IT IS POWERED BY A PRECIOUS ELEMENT FOUND IN A METEOR ON VORDA-- SINCE THE ELEMENT IS NO LONGER AVAILABLE, WE'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO BUILD ANOTHER MACHINE AGAIN! LET ME DEMONSTRATE ITS POWER...

WE HOPED BATMAN WOULD LEAVE WITHOUT SUSPECTING YOU WERE HERE! WE DIDN'T WANT TO DESTROY HIM AT FIRST... BECAUSE HE WOULD BE MISSED... POLICE WOULD SEARCH FOR HIM...

AND YOU DIDN'T WANT THEM TO FIND OUT YOU WERE USING THIS TOWN AS A BASE FOR YOUR OPERATIONS! SO NOW WITH BATMAN DEAD, YOU'LL HAVE TO SPEED UP YOUR PLANS!

WE VORDIANS INTEND TO CONQUER EARTH-- BUT WE WILL NEED LOYAL FOLLOWERS AFTERWARD! THAT IS WHY WE SAVED YOU FROM BATMAN-- TO RECRUIT AN UNDERWORLD ARMY FOR US!

SURE--FOR A PRICE! BUT I'M NOT CONVINCED YOU CAN CONQUER EARTH.

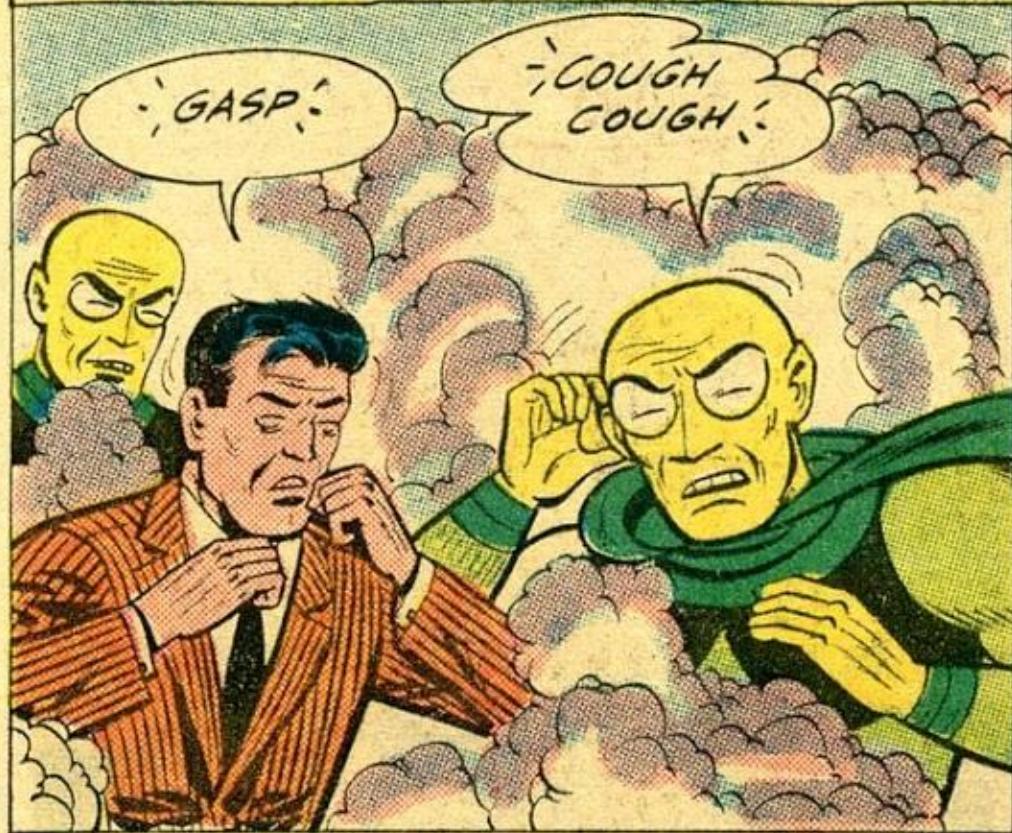
OUTSIDE, THE ALIEN TAKES AIM AND...

IT MAGNIFIES THE GRAVITATIONAL PULL OF AN AREA THOUSANDS OF TIMES-- CAUSING STRUCTURES WITHIN ITS RANGE TO COLLAPSE INSTANTLY UNDER THE TERRIFIC STRAIN!

WOW! WITH THAT GADGET, YOU COULD DESTROY PLANES AND SHIPS... HOLD ARMIES AT BAY!

BATMAN, WE'VE GOT TO WRECK THAT MACHINE! WE'D BE STOPPED BEFORE WE COULD GET NEAR IT! A WIND'S COMING UP-- AND BLOWING IN THEIR DIRECTION! HMM...

MOMENTS LATER, THICK FUMES OF BURNING BRIMSTONE SWEEP AT THE INVADERS...



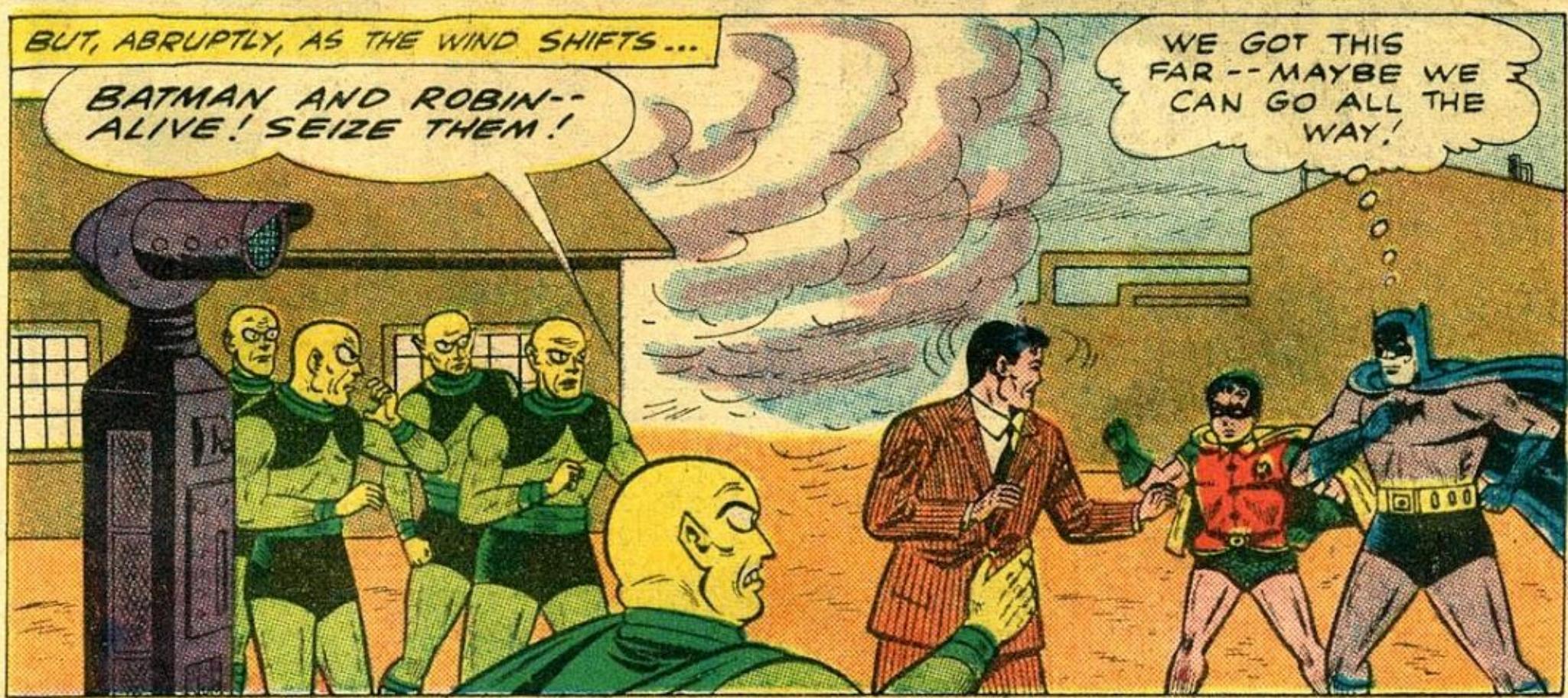
... ALLOWING TWO CAPE FIGURES TO CHARGE UNSEEN THROUGH THE SMOKE SCREEN...



BUT, ABRUPTLY, AS THE WIND SHIFTS...

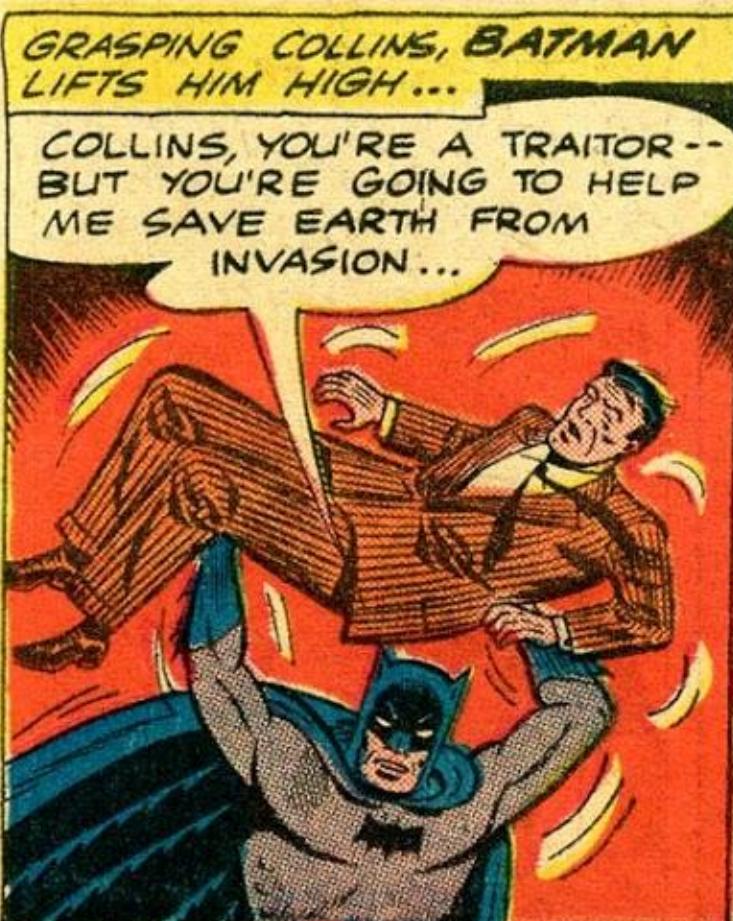
BATMAN AND ROBIN--
ALIVE! SEIZE THEM!

WE GOT THIS
FAR -- MAYBE WE
CAN GO ALL THE
WAY!



GRASPING COLLINS, BATMAN
LIFTS HIM HIGH...

COLLINS, YOU'RE A TRAITOR--
BUT YOU'RE GOING TO HELP
ME SAVE EARTH FROM
INVASION...

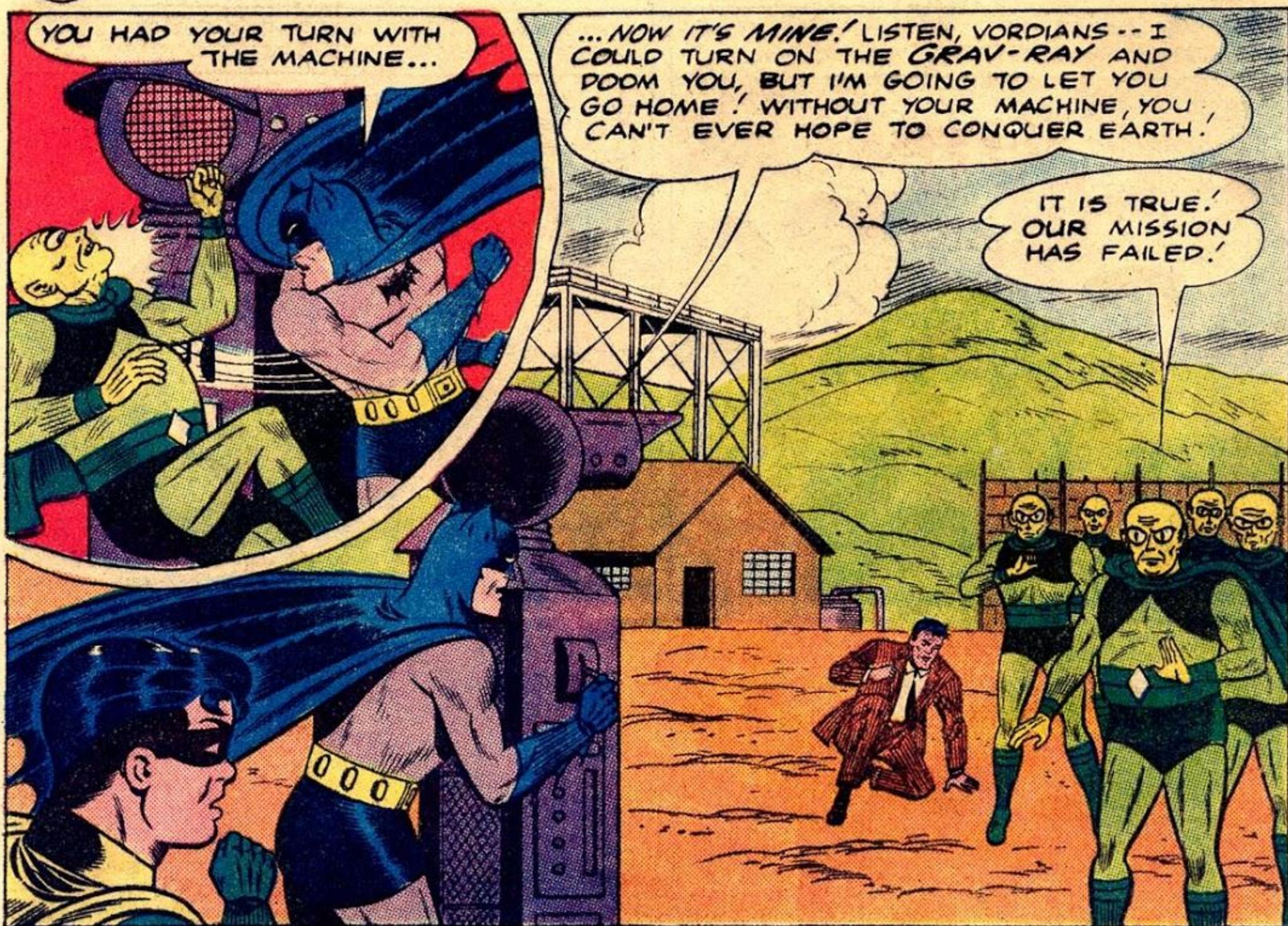


...RIGHT
NOW!





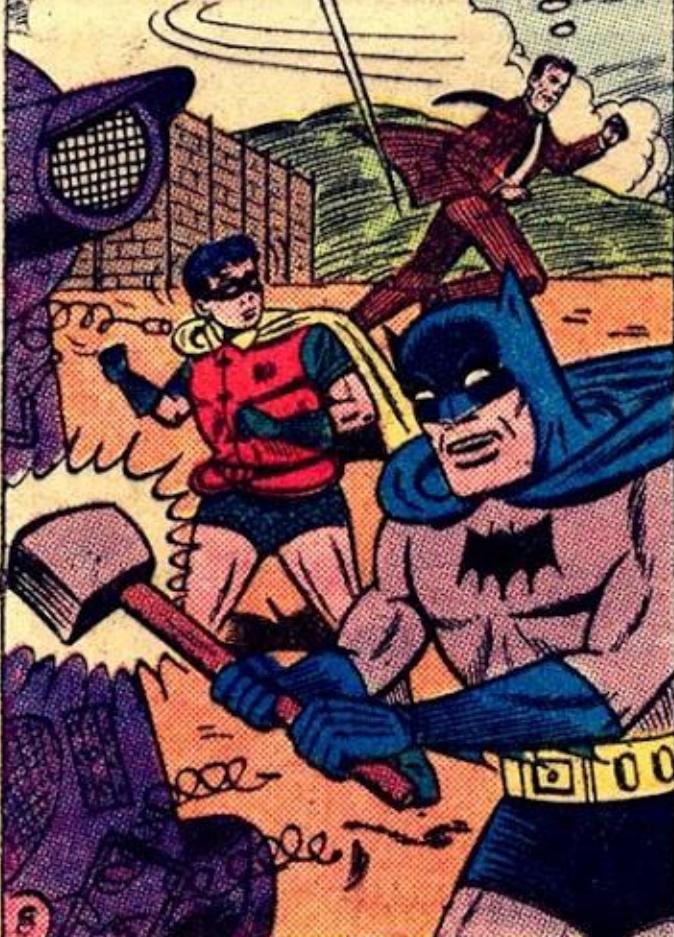
BATMAN



SOON AFTER, AS THE VORDIAN SHIP ROARS SKYWARD...

THIS ENDS THE THREAT TO EARTH!

NOW'S MY CHANCE TO MAKE A BREAK...

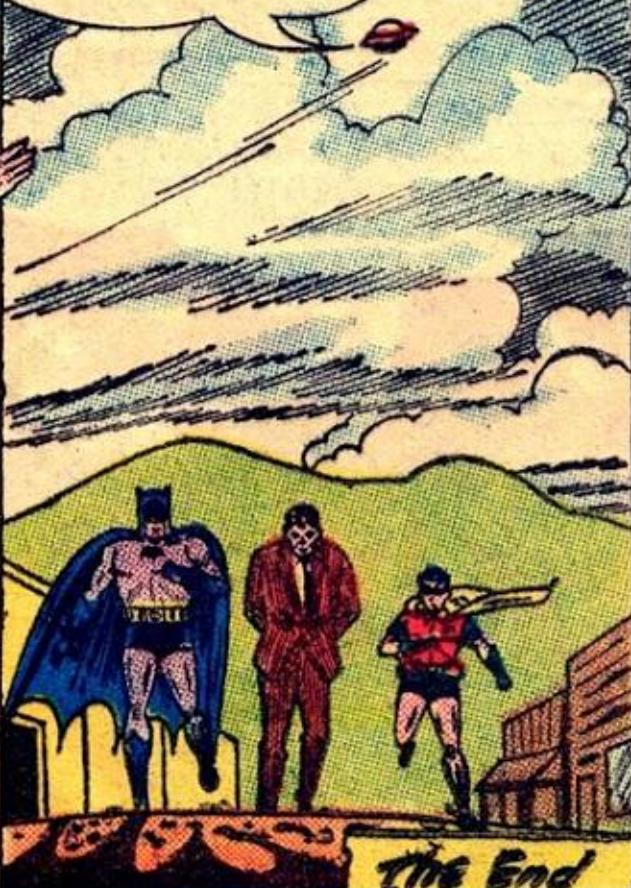


WHOA! AFTER ALL WE WENT THROUGH TO GET YOU, DON'T EXPECT TO GET AWAY SO EASILY!



AND SO ONCE MORE, SILENCE CLOAKS A GHOST TOWN WHICH WAS THE BATTLE-GROUND FOR AN AMAZING VICTORY...

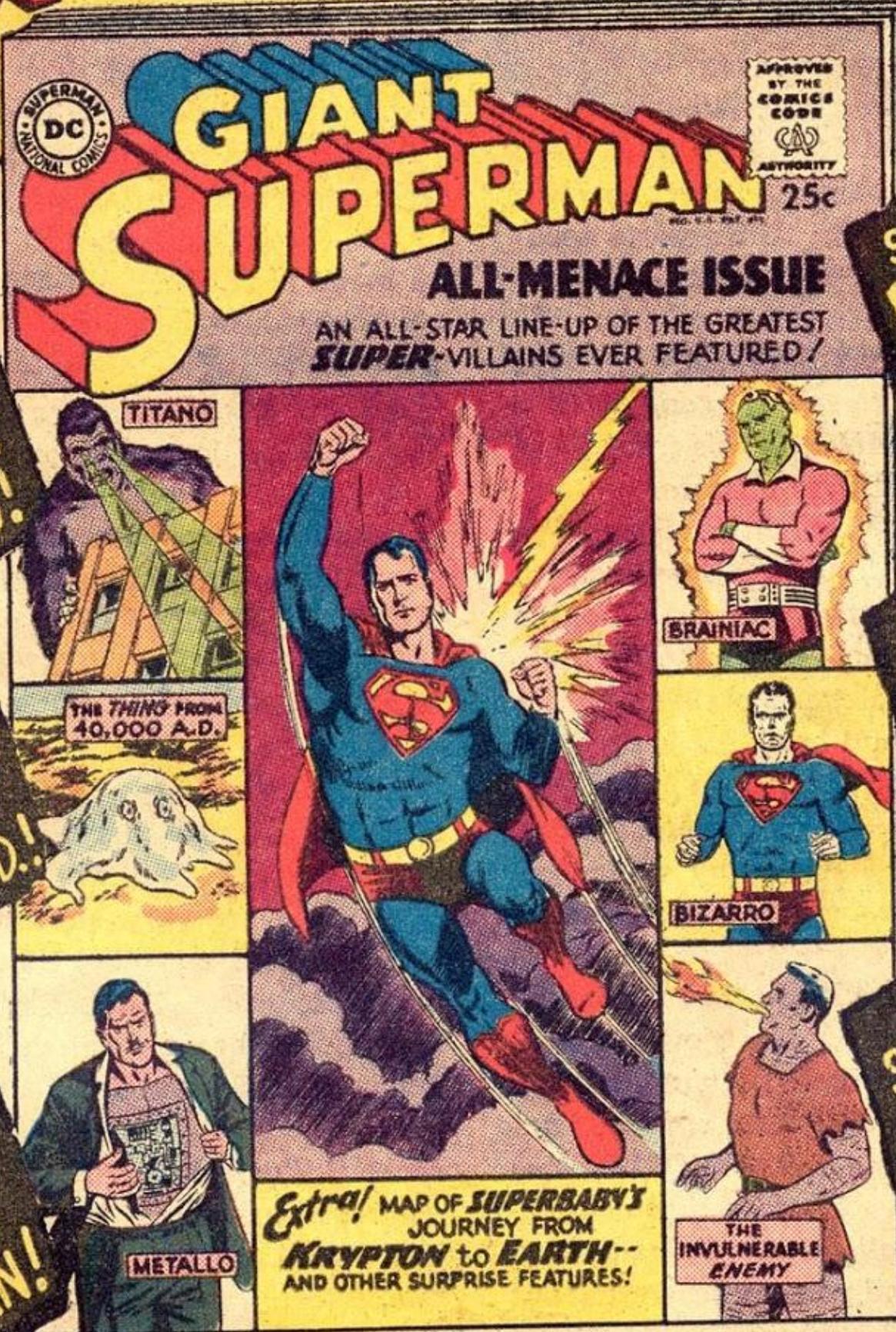
WE RETURN HOME IN DISGRACE... AN ARMY OF INVADERS DEFEATED BY A MAN AND A BOY!



The End

The NEXT GIANT SUPERMAN ANNUAL

WILL BE ANOTHER **SELL-OUT!** DON'T BE LEFT OUT. TO RESERVE YOUR COPY, FILL OUT THE ORDER BLANK BELOW AND RUSH TO YOUR LOCAL DEALER!



ON SALE EVERYWHERE ...
NOVEMBER 10th!

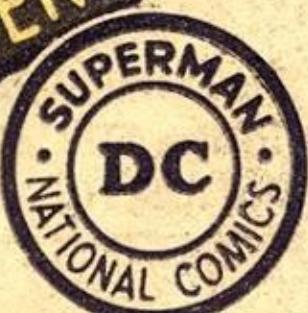
TO MY LOCAL MAGAZINE DEALER:

PLEASE RESERVE MY COPY OF DC'S GIANT SUPERMAN "ALL-MENACE ISSUE". I WILL PAY 25¢ UPON RECEIPT OF THE MAGAZINE.

PRINT NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PUBLISHER'S NOTE: ALL RESERVATIONS VOID IF NOT CLAIMED WITHIN 30 DAYS.



Letters to the BAT-CAVE



Dear Editor: When the **BATMOBILE** or **BAT-PLANE** get wrecked, how are **BATMAN** and **ROBIN** able to replace them so fast?

Brian White, Edmonton, Alberta, B. C.
(Very simple. **BATMAN** and **ROBIN** have duplicates of their vehicles. Moreover, the **BAT-CAVE** is stocked with all the parts needed for quick repair or replacement. —Ed.)

* * *

Dear Editor: I understand **BATMAN** once got the goods on a counterfeiting gang with a **MAGNETIC BATARANG**. Is this true? If so, how does that **BATARANG** operate?

Gene Tasby, Milwaukee, Wis.
(The **MAGNETIC BATARANG**, built out of magnetic metal, of course, can pick up the same metals as ordinary magnets. Properly aimed, it can snatch whatever metallic evidence **BATMAN** is seeking, and bring it back to him. In the case you mentioned, **BATMAN** and **ROBIN** needed the counterfeiters' plates, which the gang could have easily destroyed, had they seen the crime-fighters coming.—Ed.)

* * *

Dear Editor: In a recent story, **BATMAN** was in a situation where his life was slowly ebbing away, and there seemed to be nothing he could do about it. Everyone, I'm sure, enjoyed that one, and I was wondering if **BATWOMAN** has ever been in the same sort of predicament.

Celia Leslie, Passaic, N. J.
(She certainly has—and you can read all about it in the DECEMBER issue of DETECTIVE COMICS, No. 286, featuring the story of "THE DOOMED BATWOMAN."—Ed.)

* * *

Dear Editor: You've shown **BATMAN** and **ROBIN** fighting crime all over the world. How are they able to converse with people in foreign countries? **Jim Wall, Dover, Del.**
(**BATMAN** and **ROBIN** are familiar with all the major languages of the world.—Ed.)

* * *

Dear Editor: A friend of mine told me that **ROBIN** once took some strands of hair left at

the scene of a crime, analyzed them, and deduced that the criminal had worn a toupee. How is that possible? Aren't toupees made of human hair? **Simon Kantor, Galveston, Tex.** (Toupee hairs contain tiny knots at their ends, where they were attached to the base of the toupee—and that's what **ROBIN** noticed when he made his deduction.—Ed.)

* * *

Dear Editor: How about a story where **BATMAN** and **ROBIN** acquire super-powers, while **SUPERMAN** loses his powers?

Jed Snavely, Watertown, N. Y.
(Loads of readers have made the same request, so we'll be giving it to you in the DECEMBER WORLD'S FINEST COMICS, No. 114, in the adventure entitled, "CAPTIVES OF THE SPACE GLOBES." —Ed.)

* * *

Dear Editor: Why, exactly, did **BATMAN** choose the bat as his crime-fighting symbol?

Saul Pepper, Providence, R. I.
(Criminals are very superstitious, and **BATMAN** wanted a symbol that would strike fear into their hearts. The bat-symbol was the perfect choice, because the bat is considered an omen of bad luck by the underworld.—Ed.)

* * *

Dear Editor: Is it true that **BATMAN** once spotted some phony jewelry, which a criminal was trying to pass off, because the gems were too perfect? **Lydia Sanford, Tacoma, Wash.** (It's true, Lydia. Genuine gems have tiny flaws in them, acquired during their growth process. The sure sign of synthetic jewelry is the absence of any flaws.—Ed.)

* * *

Dear Editor: Has **ROBIN** ever quit **BATMAN** and joined forces with another crime-fighting partner? **Irving Asch, Waterbury, Conn.**

(He sure has, as you'll see for yourself in the next issue of **BATMAN COMICS**—FEBRUARY, No. 137—featuring an amazing new crime-fighter who becomes "ROBIN'S NEW BOSS."—Ed.)

WARDEN WILLIS

THE SAFE WON'T OPEN.
BETTER CALL IN A
LOCKSMITH!



WHY SPEND MONEY FOR THAT,
WARDEN? WE HAVE AN INMATE
HERE WHO'S AN ACE
SAFECRACKER!

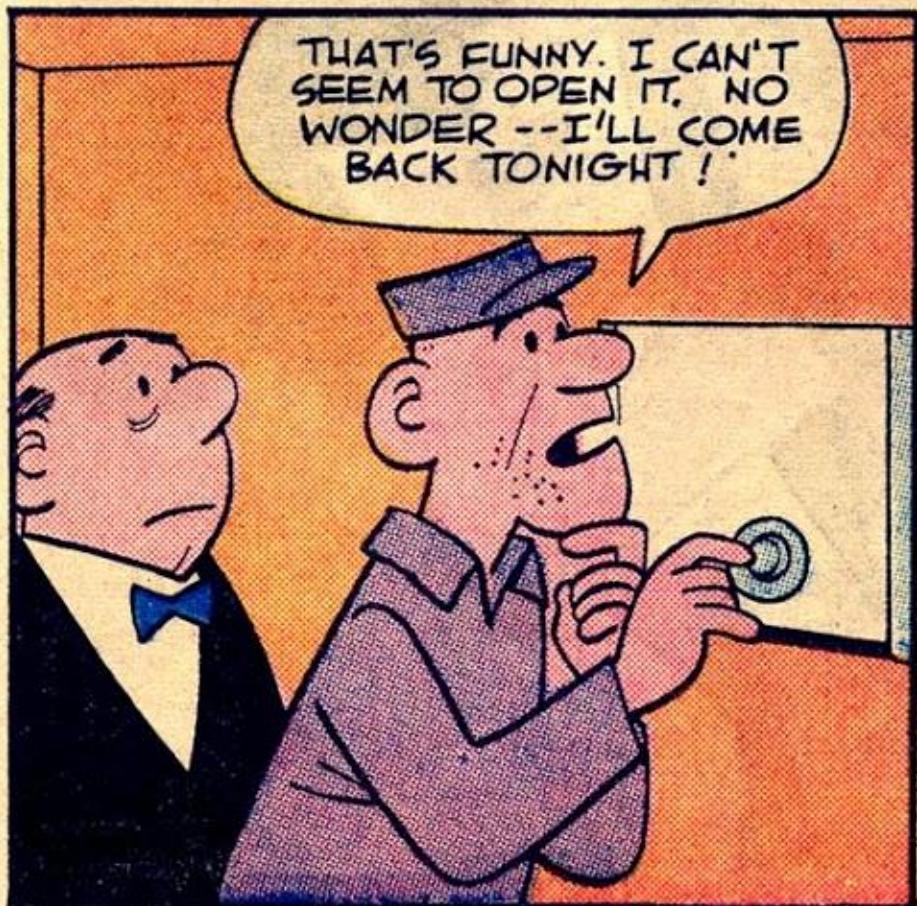
HMM, BRING
HIM IN.

AND...

HERE HE IS, WARDEN.
I EXPLAINED WHAT YOU
WANT DONE!



THAT'S FUNNY. I CAN'T
SEEM TO OPEN IT. NO
WONDER -- I'LL COME
BACK TONIGHT!



AH, THAT'S IT! IT'LL OPEN IN
A SECOND. YOU SEE, I'M USED
TO WORKING ONLY AT
NIGHT!





BATMAN



BATMAN

WITH ROBIN
THE BOY WONDER

OF ALL THE CRIMINALS BATMAN AND ROBIN HAVE FACED, NONE IS MORE CONCEITED THAN THAT CRIME CLOWN-- THE JOKER! NOW, ONCE AGAIN, THE JAUNTY JESTER MOCKS BATMAN, AND BRAZENLY REVEALS HIS PLANS FOR FOUR FANTASTIC CRIMES! WHAT HAPPENS, THEN, IS REVEALED WHEN THE CAPED CRIME-FIGHTERS MEET...

THE CHALLENGE OF THE JOKER

CRACK

GREAT SCOTT! THE EARTHQUAKE THE JOKER MADE HAS OPENED A CREVICE IN THE GROUND -- RIGHT BENEATH ROBIN!

BOB KANE

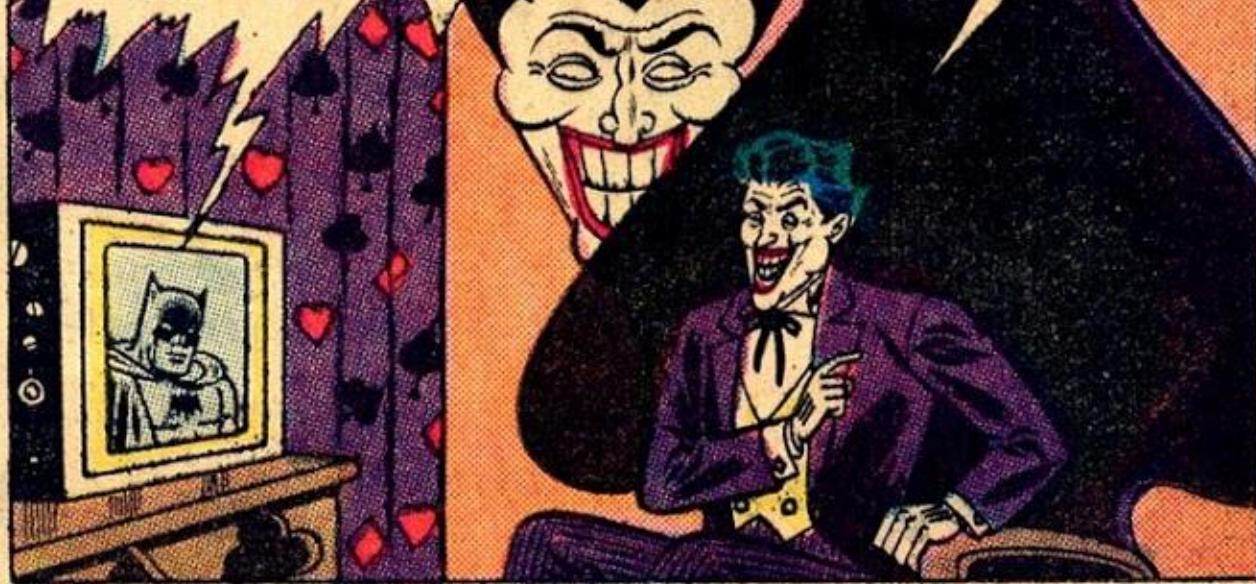
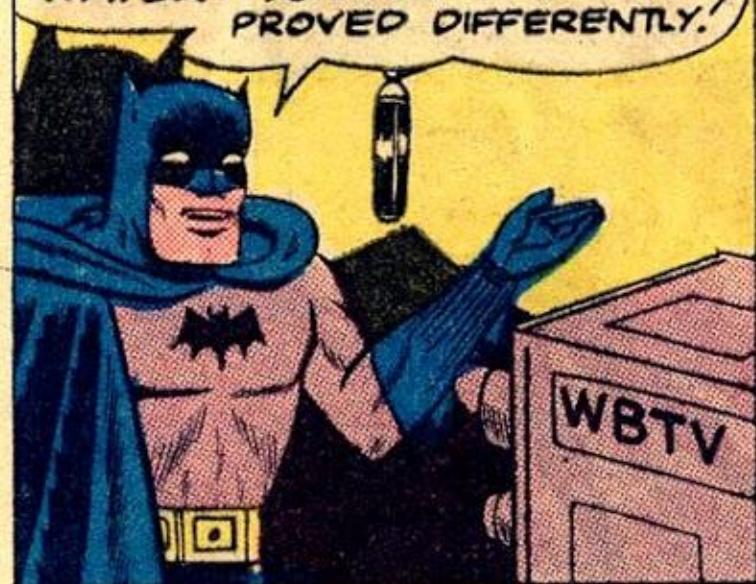
ON THE BIRTHDAY OF GOTHAM CITY'S POLICE DEPARTMENT, BATMAN MAKES A TV BROADCAST...

IN OLDEN DAYS, PEOPLE BELIEVED THERE WERE ONLY FOUR ELEMENTS... AIR--EARTH--FIRE -- AND WATER! SCIENCE TODAY HAS PROVED DIFFERENTLY!

IN HIS HIDEOUT, THE JOKER LISTENS AND GROWS ANGRIER WITH EACH WORD...

TODAY, SCIENCE HAS ALSO MADE OLD-STYLE POLICE METHODS OUTMODED! NO CRIMINAL CAN HOPE TO OUTWIT THE SCIENTIFIC POLICEMAN FOR LONG!

THAT'S WHAT YOU THINK, EH, BATMAN? I'LL SHOW YOU HOW WRONG YOU ARE!



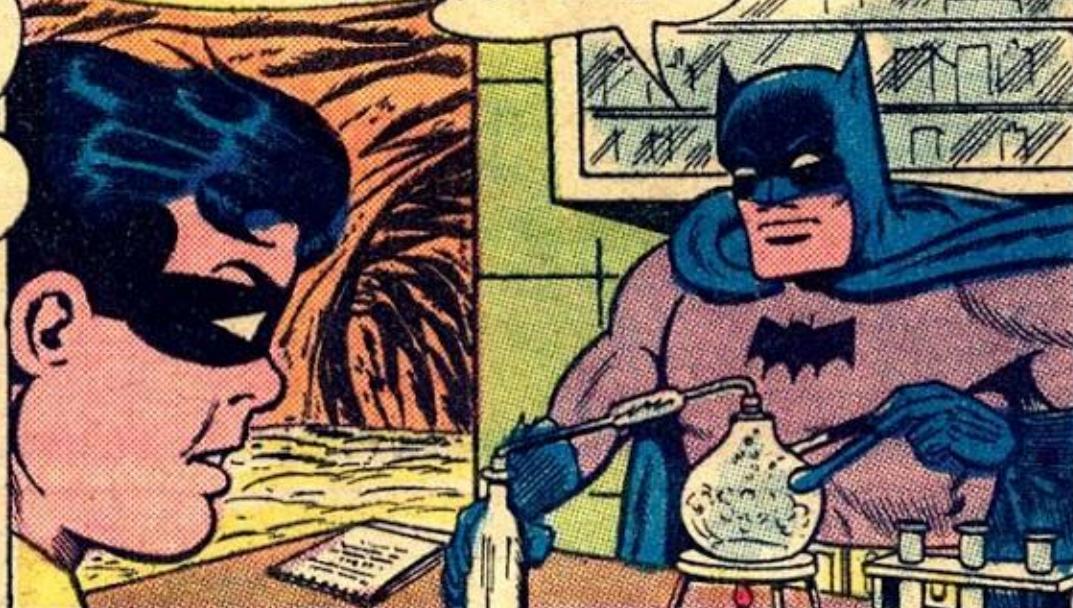
NEXT DAY, IN THE OFFICE OF POLICE COMMISSIONER GORDON...

BAD NEWS... THE JOKER IS CHALLENGING YOU TO ANOTHER DUEL OF WITS, BATMAN! HIS NOTE SAYS THAT HE INTENDS TO DISPROVE YOUR TV BROADCAST, BY USING THE OLD FOUR "ELEMENTS" FOR CRIME!

AND THIS EMPTY BOTTLE WAS WITH HIS MESSAGE, EH? NO DOUBT IT REFERS TO THE FIRST ELEMENT I MENTIONED... AIR!

LATER, IN THE CRIME LAB OF THE SECRET BAT-CAVE...

IT'S OBVIOUS, ROBIN, THAT SINCE HE'S CHALLENGING OUR LAB SCIENCE, THE AIR IN THIS BOTTLE MUST CONTAIN A CLUE THAT CAN ONLY BE BROUGHT OUT BY ANALYSIS...



SURE ENOUGH, AFTER A SERIES OF TESTS...

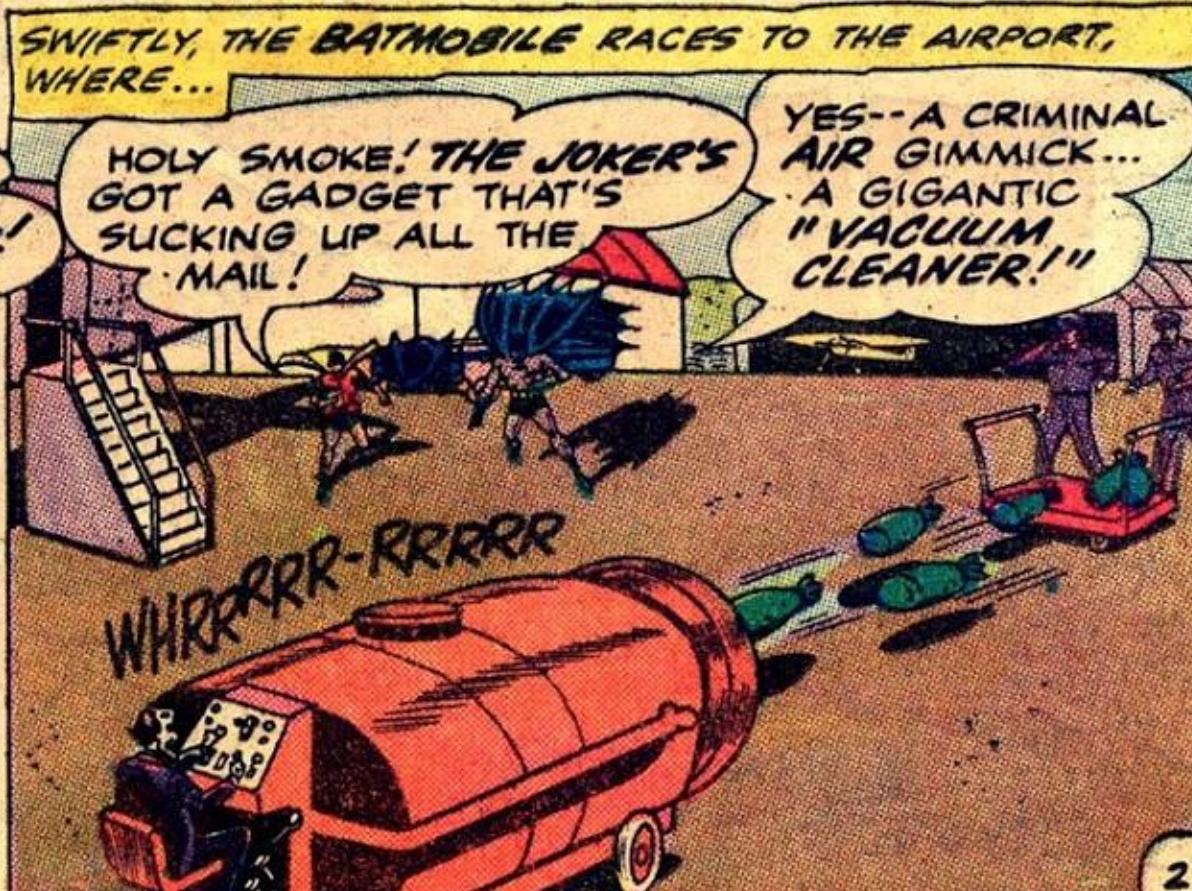
THE AIR IN THIS BOTTLE CONTAINS PARTICLES OF BURNED KEROSENE -- THE KIND OF CRUDE, CHEAP FUEL BURNED IN JET PLANES! THE JOKER'S AIR CRIME IS PROBABLY TO ROB THE AIRMAIL OF AN AIRPLANE...

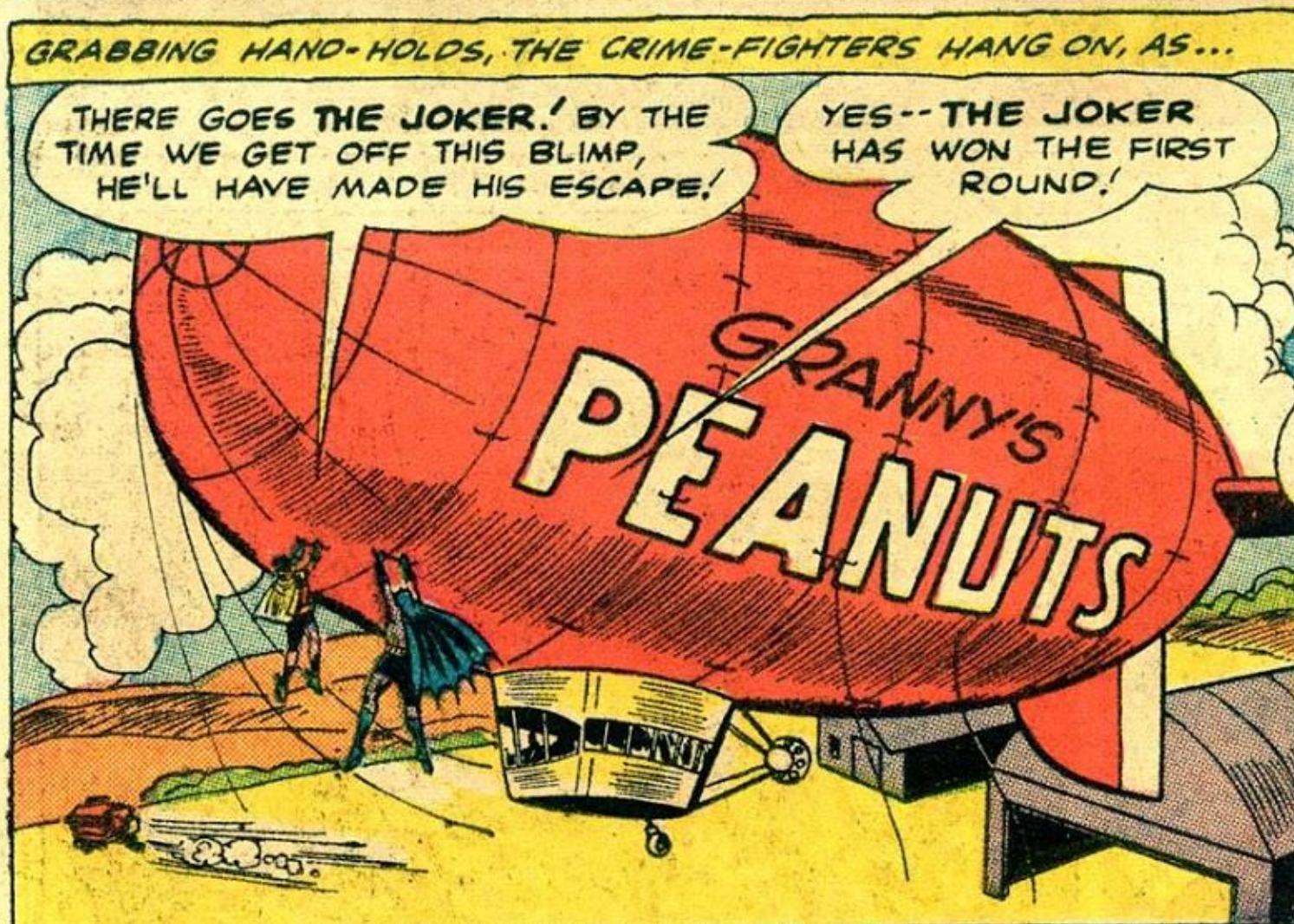
...AT THE AIRFIELD! LET'S GO!

SWIFTLY, THE BATMOBILE RACES TO THE AIRPORT, WHERE...

HOLY SMOKE! THE JOKER'S GOT A GADGET THAT'S SUCKING UP ALL THE MAIL!

YES--A CRIMINAL AIR GIMMICK... A GIGANTIC "VACUUM CLEANER!"



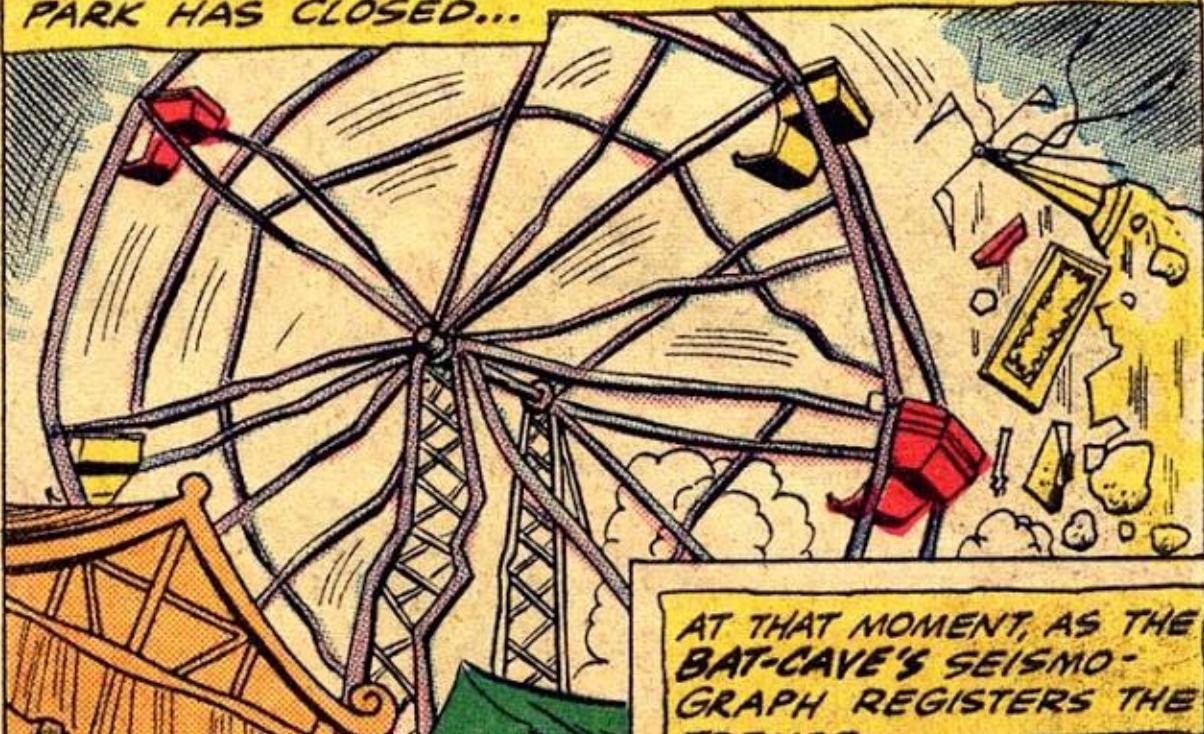


MEANWHILE...

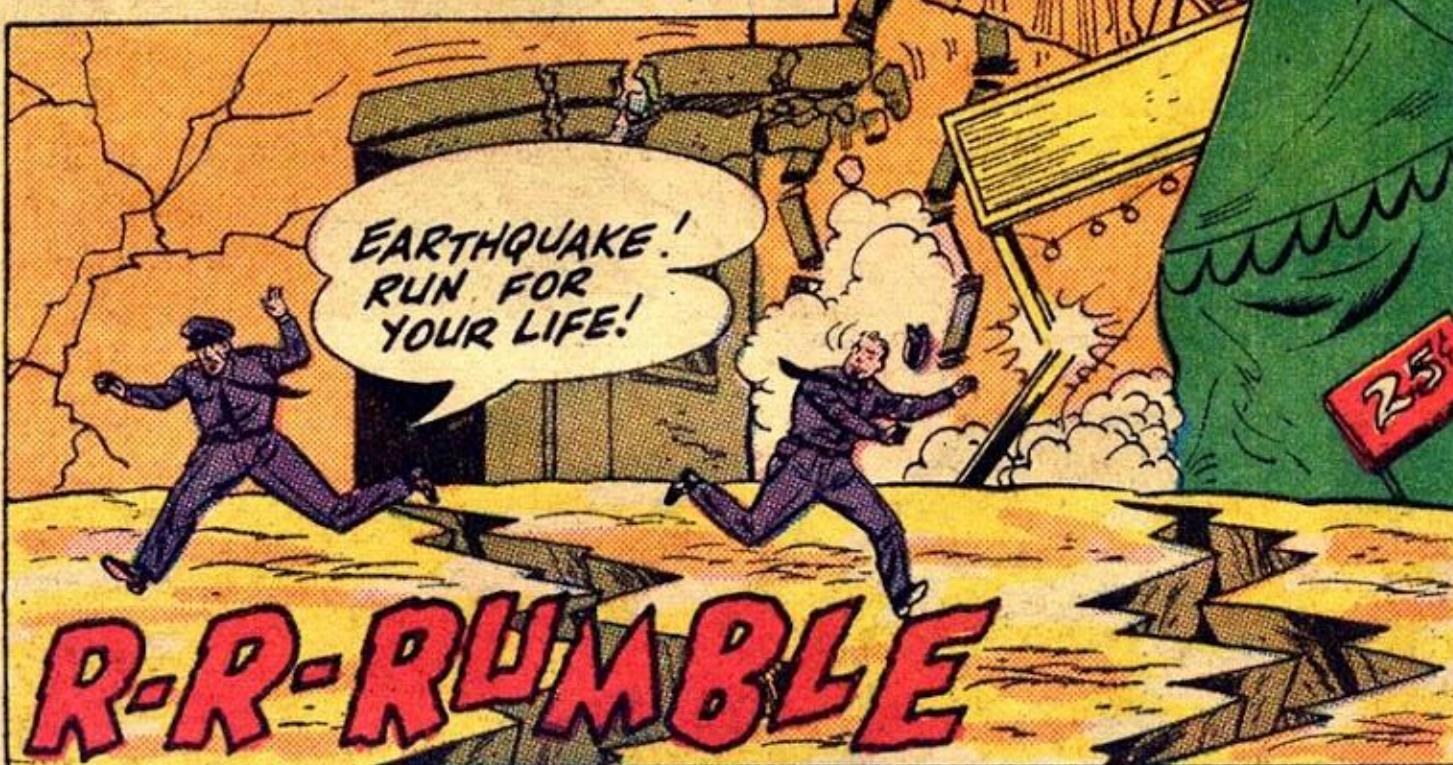
OKAY, SO THIS MAP SHOWS A CROSS-SECTION OF THE GROUND UNDER THE NEW AMUSEMENT PARK! SO WHAT?

SO IT SHOWS A ROCK FAULT IN THE STRATA! A SIMPLE EXPLOSION THERE WOULD CAUSE A ROCK SLIPAGE, RESULTING IN A SMALL EARTHQUAKE!

THUS, LATE THAT NIGHT, AFTER THE AMUSEMENT PARK HAS CLOSED...



AT THAT MOMENT, AS THE BAT-CAVE'S SEISMOGRAPH REGISTERS THE TREMOR...



R-R-RUMBLE

LOOK!... A SMALL QUAKE! ACCORDING TO THE GRAPH, IT'S HAPPENING AT THE GOTHAM AMUSEMENT PARK!



COULD THIS BE-- THE JOKER'S EARTH CRIME?

AS THE TREMOR SUBSIDES, A HELICOPTER ALIGHTS, AND...

'HA, HA! JUST AS I FIGURED, THE QUAKE CRACKED OPEN THE BUILDING HOUSING THE PARK'S VAULT! WE'LL TAKE THE MONEY WITHOUT ANY TROUBLE NOW!

OH, YEAH? HERE COMES DOUBLE TROUBLE... BATMAN AND ROBIN!

IN THAT SAME INSTANT...

HUH--? AN EARTH TREMOR AGAIN! MORE ROCK MUST BE SLIPPING UNDERGROUND!

QUICK, ROBIN!... LET'S GRAB THEM WHILE THEY'RE STILL SURPRISED!



R-R-RUMBLE

AMID TOPPLING STRUCTURES, A FANTASTIC BATTLE ENSUES...

MUST WRAP THIS UP FAST... GET THEM OUT OF HERE BEFORE WE'RE ALL TRAPPED!



BUT SUDDENLY...

UHHH... BATMAN... HELP ME!

GREAT SCOTT! A CREVICE OPENED UP RIGHT UNDER ROBIN!



INSTANTLY, BATMAN HURLES FORWARD...

WHEW! IF HE'D TOPPLED INTO THE CRACK, JUST AS IT CLOSED....!

CRUNCH!

AS THEY GET TO THEIR FEET...

SO LONG, BATMAN! SEE YOU AT MY NEXT CRIME... HA, HA, HA!

THERE GOES THE JOKER-- BUT THIS TIME WITHOUT ANY LOOT! SO FAR, OUR BATTLE IS EVEN SCORE!



THE FOLLOWING DAY, AFTER PICKING UP THE THIRD CLUE...

WELL, BATMAN-- WHAT ABOUT THE POWDER CLUE THE JOKER SENT YOU?

IT'S AN EXPLOSIVE POWDER, ROBIN-- AND CONTAINS INGREDIENTS USED IN THE MANUFACTURE OF FIREWORKS!





BATMAN

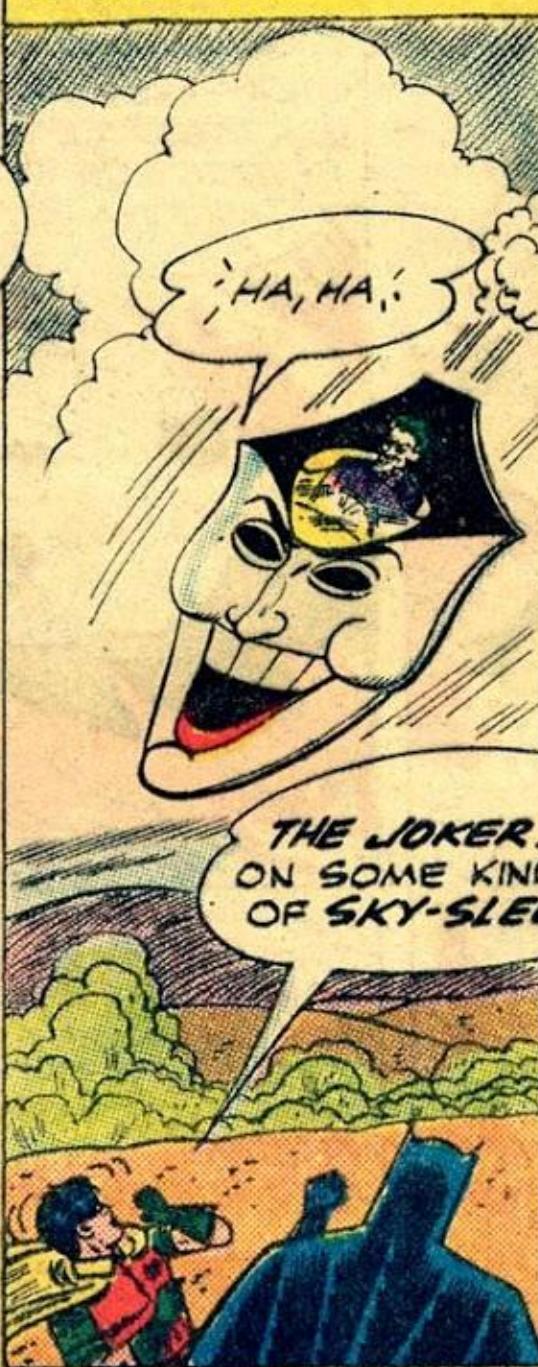


SOME TIME LATER...

SO YOU THINK HIS FIRE CRIME WILL BE TO ROB THE PAYROLL OF THE GOTHAM FIREWORKS PLANT!

COULD BE! WE'LL LEAVE THE BAT-MOBILE PARKED HERE, AND SNEAK UP ON THE PLANT! MAYBE WE'LL TAKE THE JOKER BY SURPRISE!

BUT JUST THEN, ZOOMING DOWN FROM THE SKIES...



SWIFTLY, A RING OF FIRE ENTRAPS THE CAPEO CRIME-FIGHTERS!

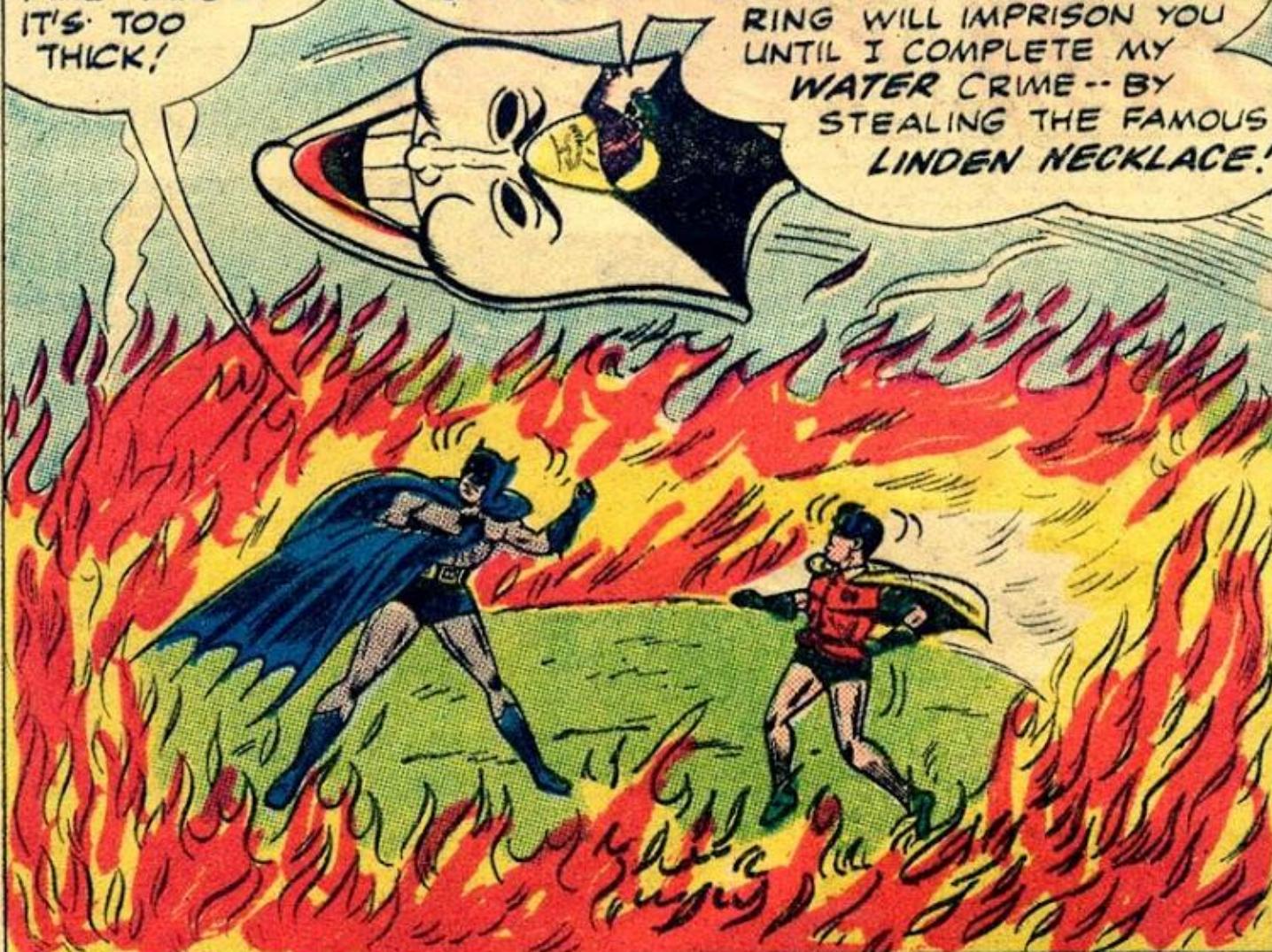
WE CAN'T DASH THROUGH THE FIRE-RING... IT'S TOO THICK!

EXACTLY, BATMAN... 'HA, HA, HA!' AND CHEMICALS FROM YOUR UTILITY BELTS WON'T SNUFF OUT THOSE FLAMES! THE RING WILL IMPRISON YOU UNTIL I COMPLETE MY WATER CRIME--BY STEALING THE FAMOUS LINDEN NECKLACE!

TENSE MINUTES ELAPSE, AS THE FIRE BURNS FIERCELY AROUND BATMAN AND ROBIN...

BY THE TIME THESE FLAMES DIE DOWN, THE JOKER WILL HAVE COMPLETED HIS WATER CRIME!

WE STILL HAVE A CHANCE! ROBIN-- LET'S SEE HOW GOOD AN ACROBAT YOU ARE!



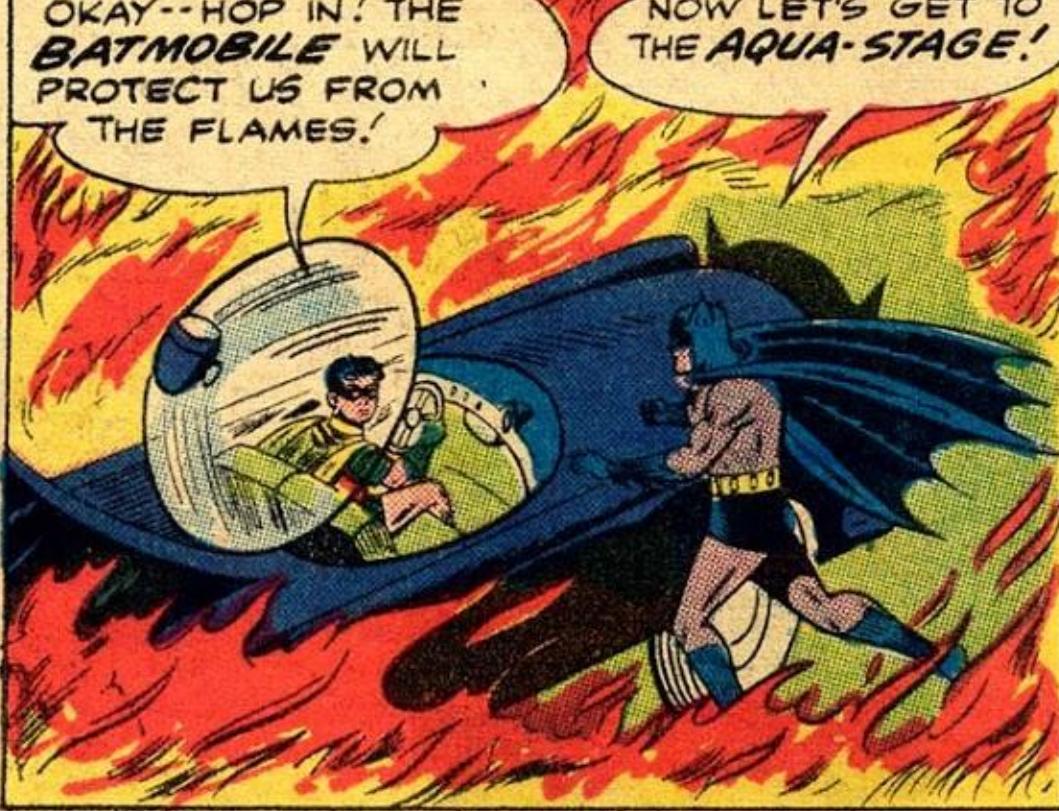
MOMENTS LATER, ASSISTED BY BATMAN,
THE BOY WONDER BACK-FLIPS HIGH
OVER THE WALL OF FLAME!



AND HASTILY, ROBIN COMPLETES THE REST
OF BATMAN'S PLAN...

OKAY--HOP IN! THE
BATMOBILE WILL
PROTECT US FROM
THE FLAMES!

NICE WORK...
NOW LET'S GET TO
THE AQUA-STAGE!



ALLEY...
OOP!

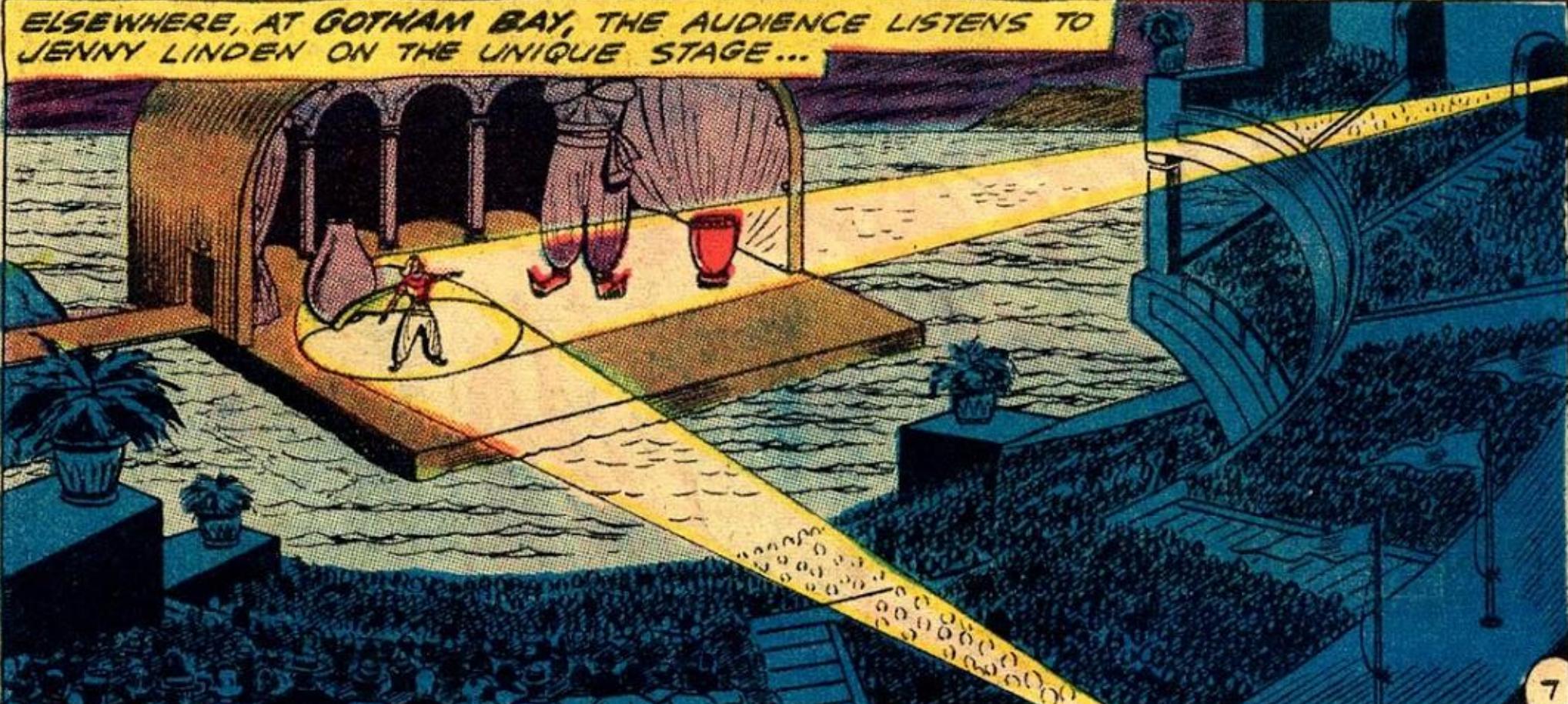


THE AQUA-STAGE?...
WHERE THE AUDIENCE
SITS ON LAND AND
WATCHES A SHOW DONE
ON A FLOATING STAGE
ANCHORED IN
GOTHAM BAY?

RIGHT... AND TODAY,
JENNY LINDEN IS
WEARING HER FAMOUS
NECKLACE WHILE SHE
SINGS THE STARRING
ROLE IN THE MUSICAL
COMEDY, "THE
ARABIAN KNIGHTS"!



ELSEWHERE, AT GOTHAM BAY, THE AUDIENCE LISTENS TO
JENNY LINDEN ON THE UNIQUE STAGE...



...UNAWARE THAT THE JOKER AND HIS HIRELINGS ARE CUTTING THE FLOAT'S ANCHOR ROPES!

IN A FEW MOMENTS, THE STAGE WILL BE RIDING FREE -- RIGHT OUT OF THE BAY! JENNY LINDEN WILL BE CUT OFF FROM THE POLICE ON SHORE, AND I'LL GRAB THE NECKLACE DURING THE CONFUSION!



MINUTES LATER...

'HA, HA! I'M THE STAR OF THIS SHOW NOW! HAND OVER THAT NECKLACE!



EVEN AS THE STAGE RIDES OUT OF THE BAY, TWO FIGURES MOVE IN SWIFT PURSUIT...

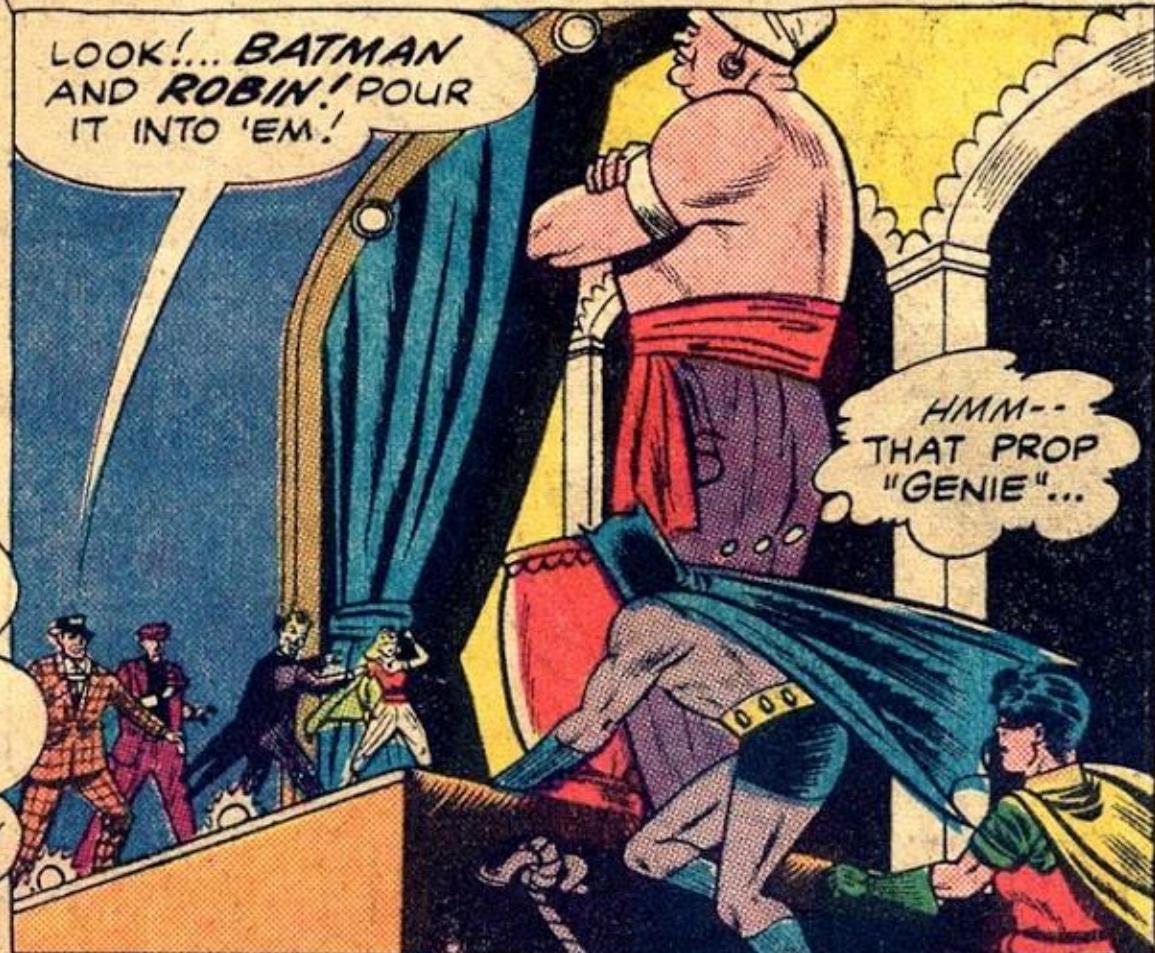
GOOD THING WE HAD THIS RUBBER BAT-RAFT IN THE BATMOBILE'S TRUNK COMPARTMENT!



PADDLE FASTER, ROBIN! WE'VE GOT TO INTERCEPT THE JOKER BEFORE HE MAKES A CLEAN GETAWAY!

SHORTLY, AS THE CRIME-FIGHTERS CLIMB ABOARD.

LOOK!... BATMAN AND ROBIN! POUR IT INTO 'EM!

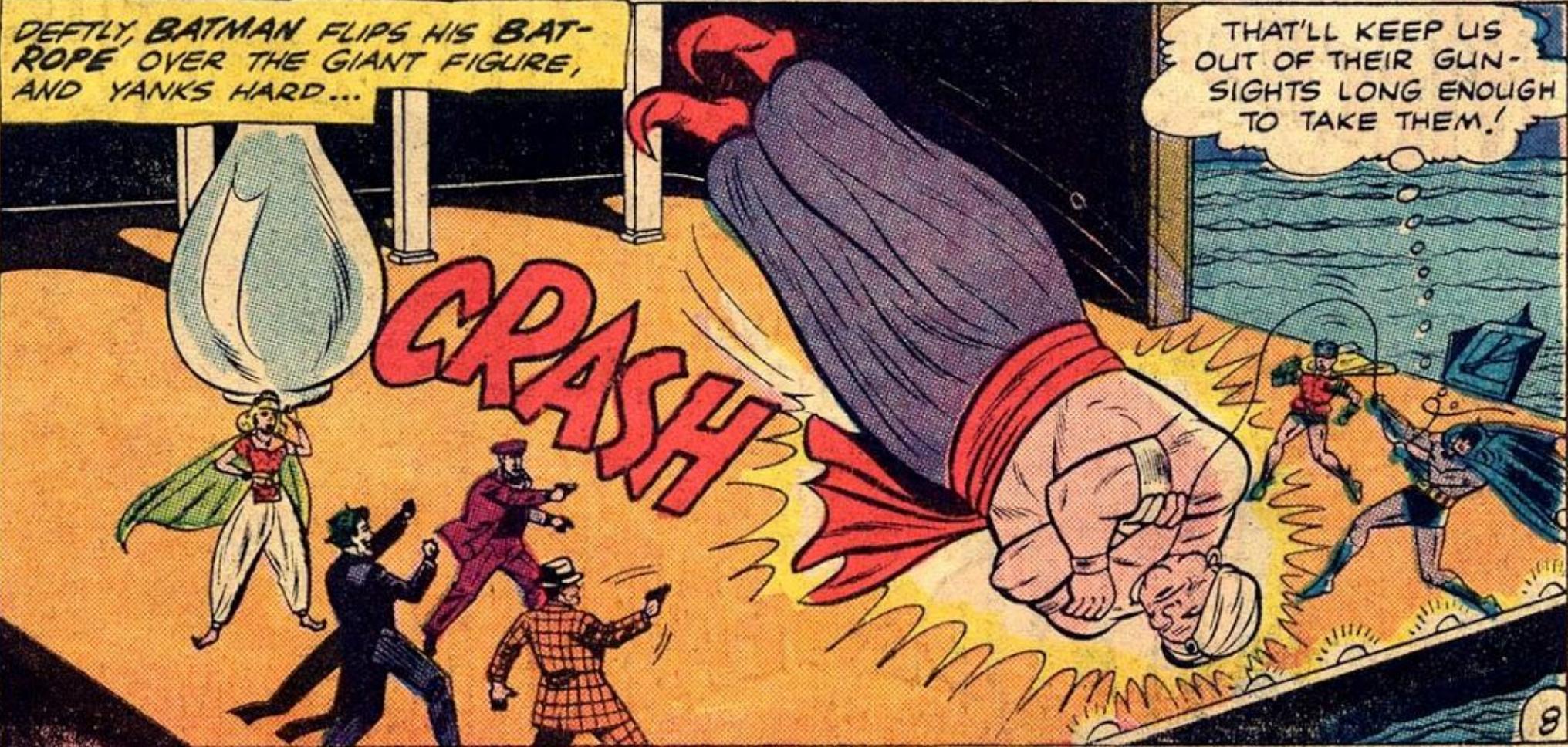


HMM-- THAT PROP "GENIE"...

DEFTLY, BATMAN FLIPS HIS BAT-ROPE OVER THE GIANT FIGURE, AND YANKS HARD...

CRASH

THAT'LL KEEP US OUT OF THEIR GUN-SIGHTS LONG ENOUGH TO TAKE THEM!



BAH!... NO USE TRYING TO SAVE
MY MEN! I'D BETTER GET TO
MY MOTORBOAT, TIED
BACKSTAGE!

TAKE
OVER,
ROBIN...
I'M GOING
AFTER THE
JOKER!

AS THE JOKER RACES TOWARD HIS
CRAFT...

HE'S ABOUT TO MAKE A JUMP
FOR IT! THAT PROP "GENIE-BOTTLE"...
MAYBE I CAN USE IT FOR A LITTLE
"MAGIC!"



THE JOKER LEAPS -- BUT BATMAN, WITH PERFECT
TIMING, SENDS THE BOTTLE HURTLING SO THAT...

YOW!... I CAN'T
STOP IN TIME!



AND SO, AFTER UPENDING THE BOTTLE
AND RAMMING A CORK INTO PLACE...

WELL ... AT LAST,
THE JOKER IS
BOTTLED UP
COMPLETELY!

YES -- BECAUSE HE
FORGOT THE
"FIFTH ELEMENT" --
THE ELEMENT OF
SURPRISE!



THE END

Mechanical Monsters on the Loose!



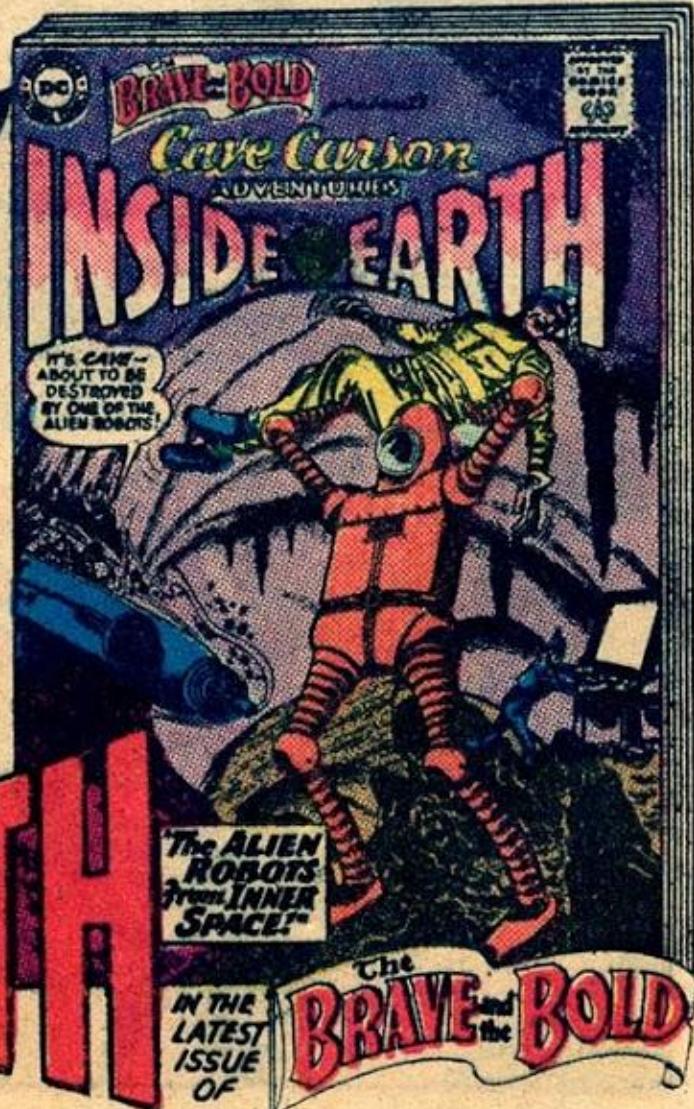
THE ANSWER LAY MILES BENEATH
THE SURFACE -- AND ONLY
Cave Carson AND THE
MIGHTY MOLE VEHICLE DARED
TO BRAVE THE
UNKNOWN PERILS
OF THE EARTH
BELOW TO
THWART THE
ROBOT MENACE
ABOVE!

WHERE DID THEY
COME FROM?
WHO WAS
CONTROLLING
THEM?

READ THIS THRILLING
ADVENTURE

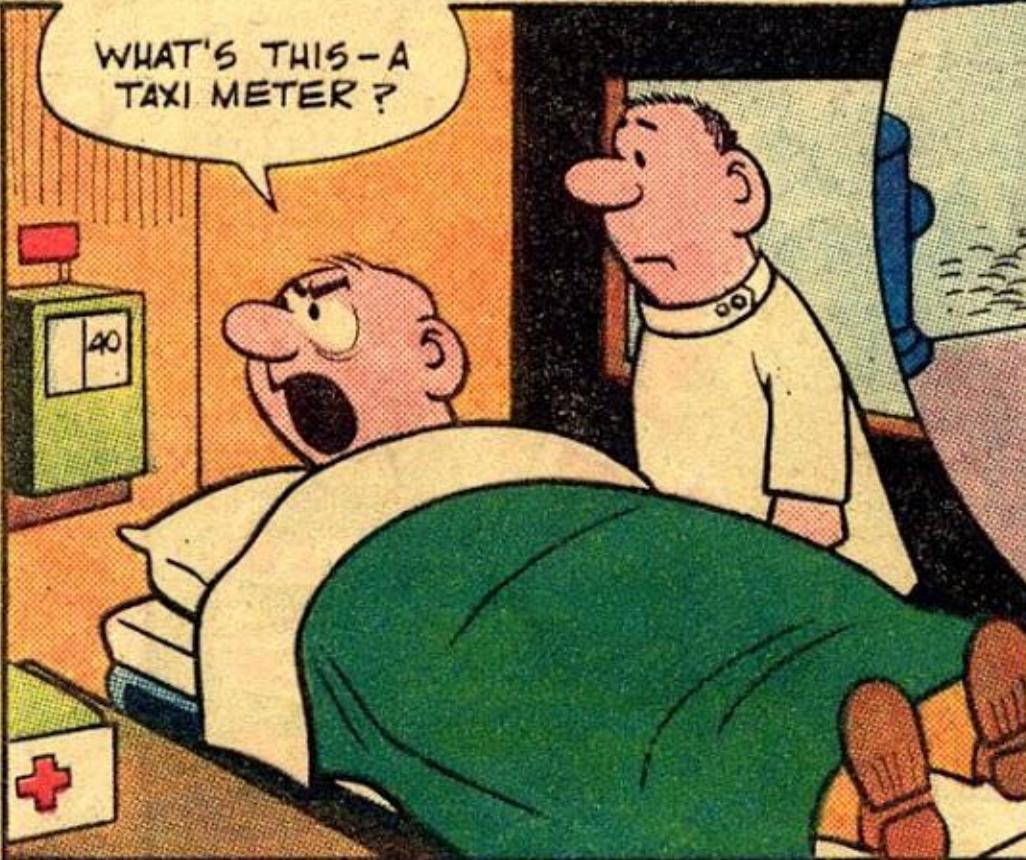
INSIDE EARTH

ON SALE EVERYWHERE
OCT. 27th!



STRANGE Old LAWS

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NEW YORK CITY: YOU STILL CAN'T KEEP A ROOSTER HERE, BUT YOU NO LONGER NEED A PERMIT FOR A COW.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN,
MOVE ALONG?
WANT ME TO GET
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enough to record the most savage bombings and shellings.

• SIMPLE DIRECTIONS

etc. for 2 or 4 players, from 8 to 80 who enjoy being armchair generals.

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HELEN OF TOY, CO. NO C.O.D.'s
REGO PARK 74, NEW YORK DEPT. 37 O

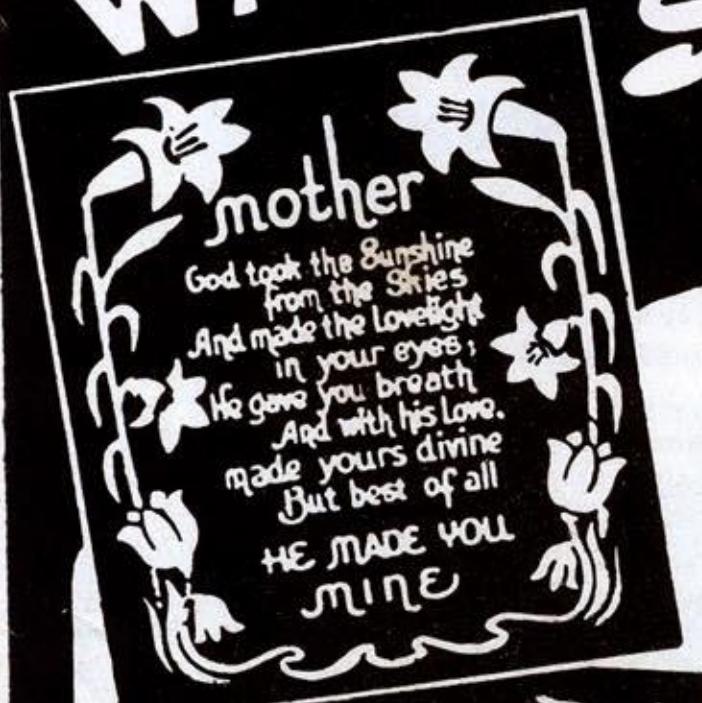
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We are proud of our product and if you are not delighted we will cheerfully refund the full purchase price if you return the game(s) within one week.

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WRITE
FOR COMPLETE
DETAILS
TO →

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Just write and ask us to send you 40 of these beautiful glittering mottoes which the public likes so well. Sell them easily and quickly to your friends and neighbors for only 35c each. At the end of 14 days send back, if you wish, all mottoes you have not sold, and send us only 25c for each you have sold. You keep all the rest of the money.

IF YOU SELL 25, YOU KEEP \$2.50

IF YOU SELL 30, YOU KEEP \$3.00

IF YOU SELL ALL 40 YOU KEEP \$4.00

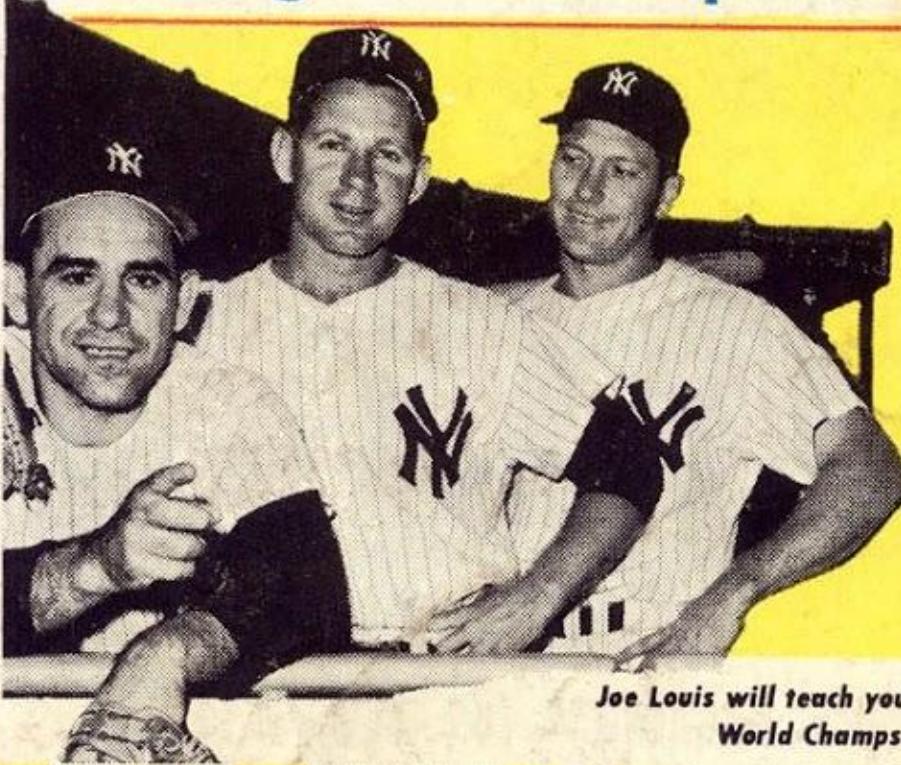
REMEMBER: No money is needed in advance. You take no risks. You can return all the mottoes you do not sell. You do not pay shipping costs or split your commission. You keep all the profit on each sale.



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Bob Cousy



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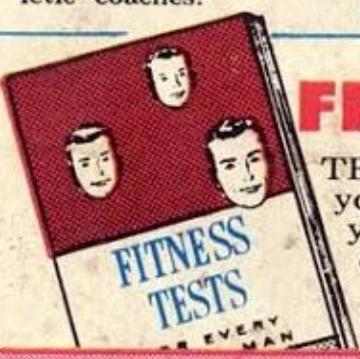
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