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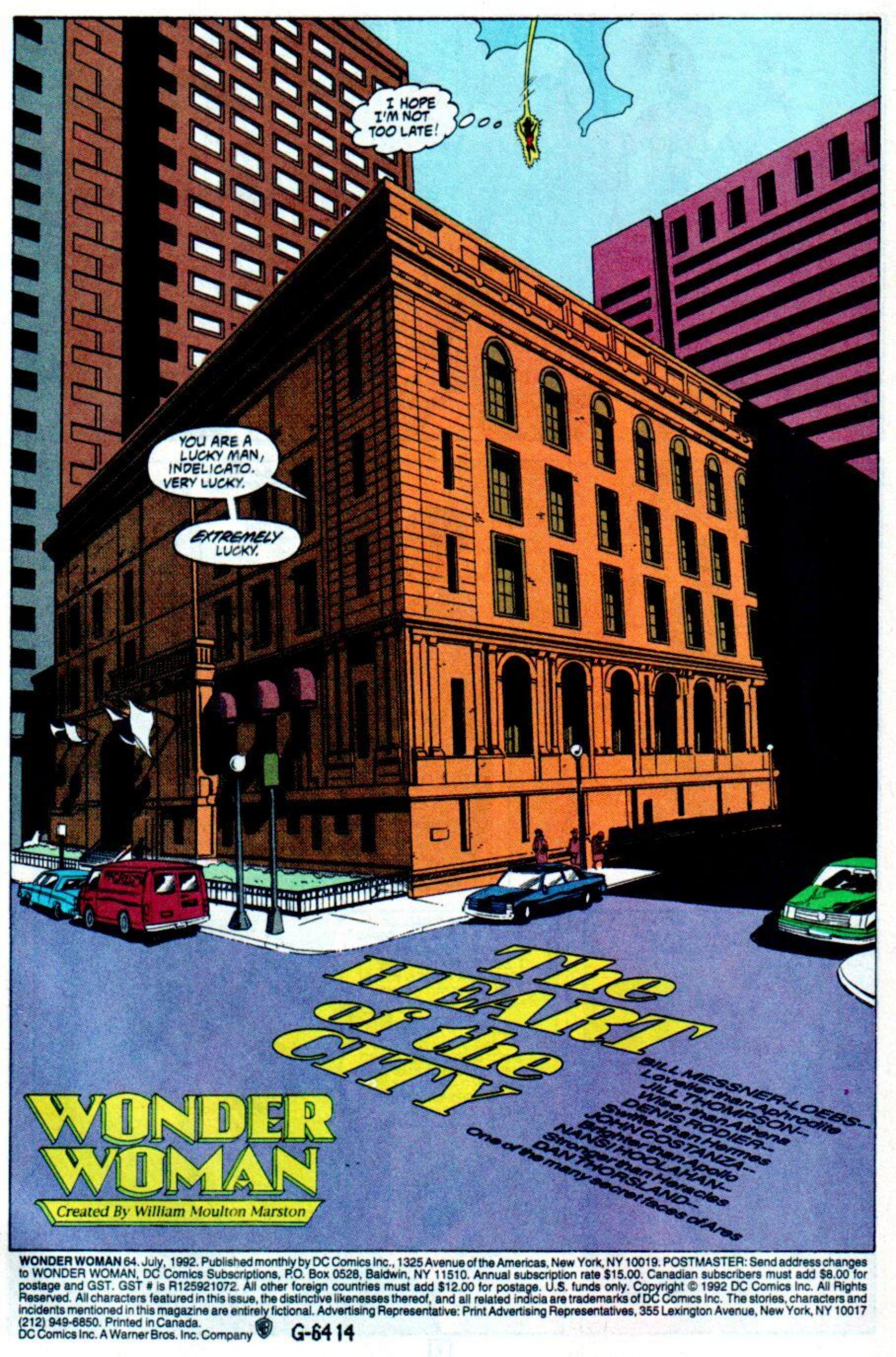


# WONDER WOMAN



BOLLAND

LOEBS  
THOMPSON  
RODIER



YOU ARE A  
LUCKY MAN,  
INDELICATO.  
VERY LUCKY.

I HOPE  
I'M NOT  
TOO LATE!

# THE HEART OF THE CITY

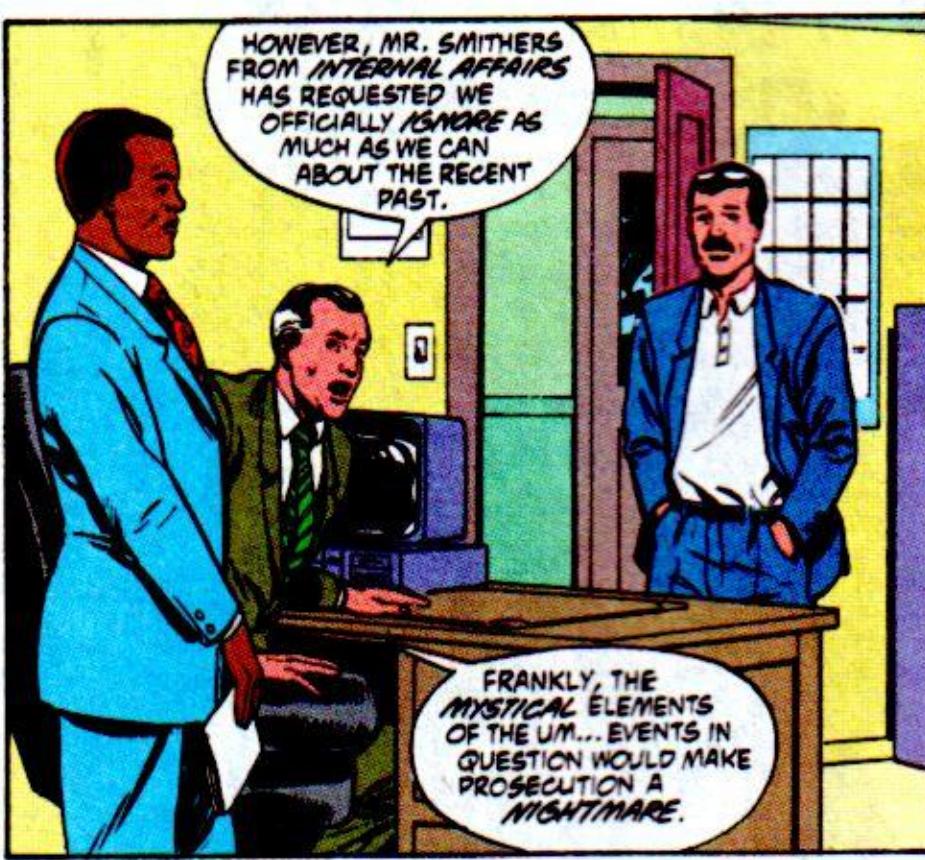
# WONDER WOMAN

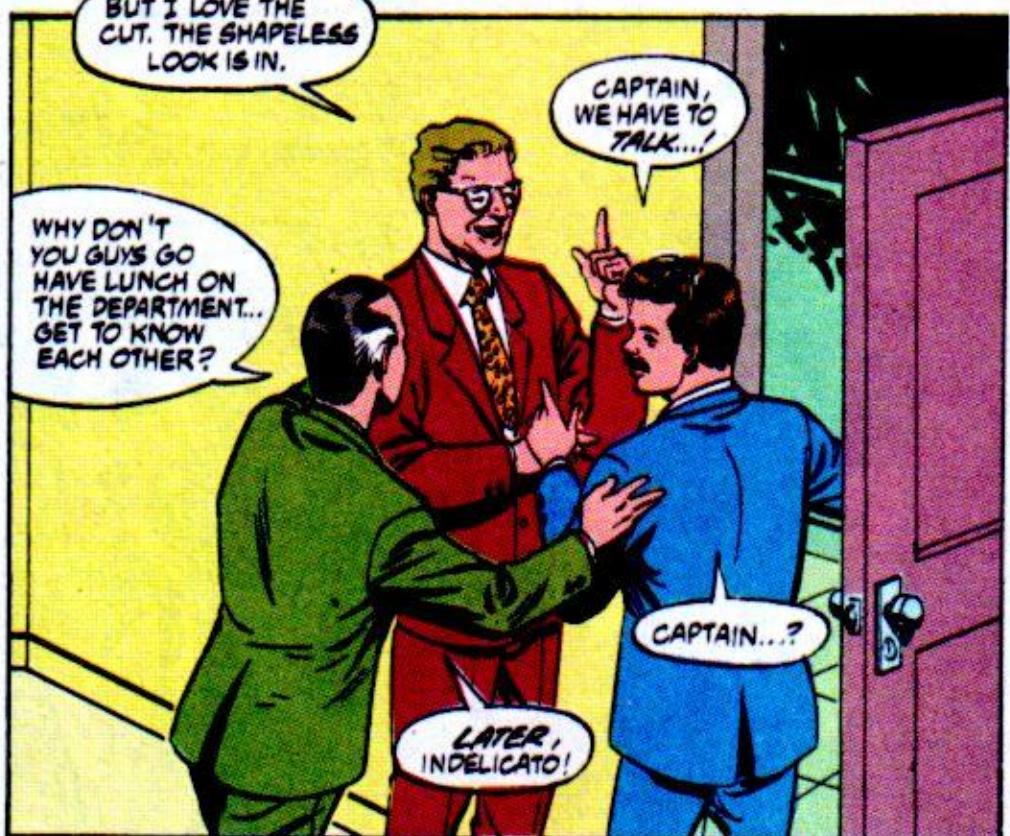
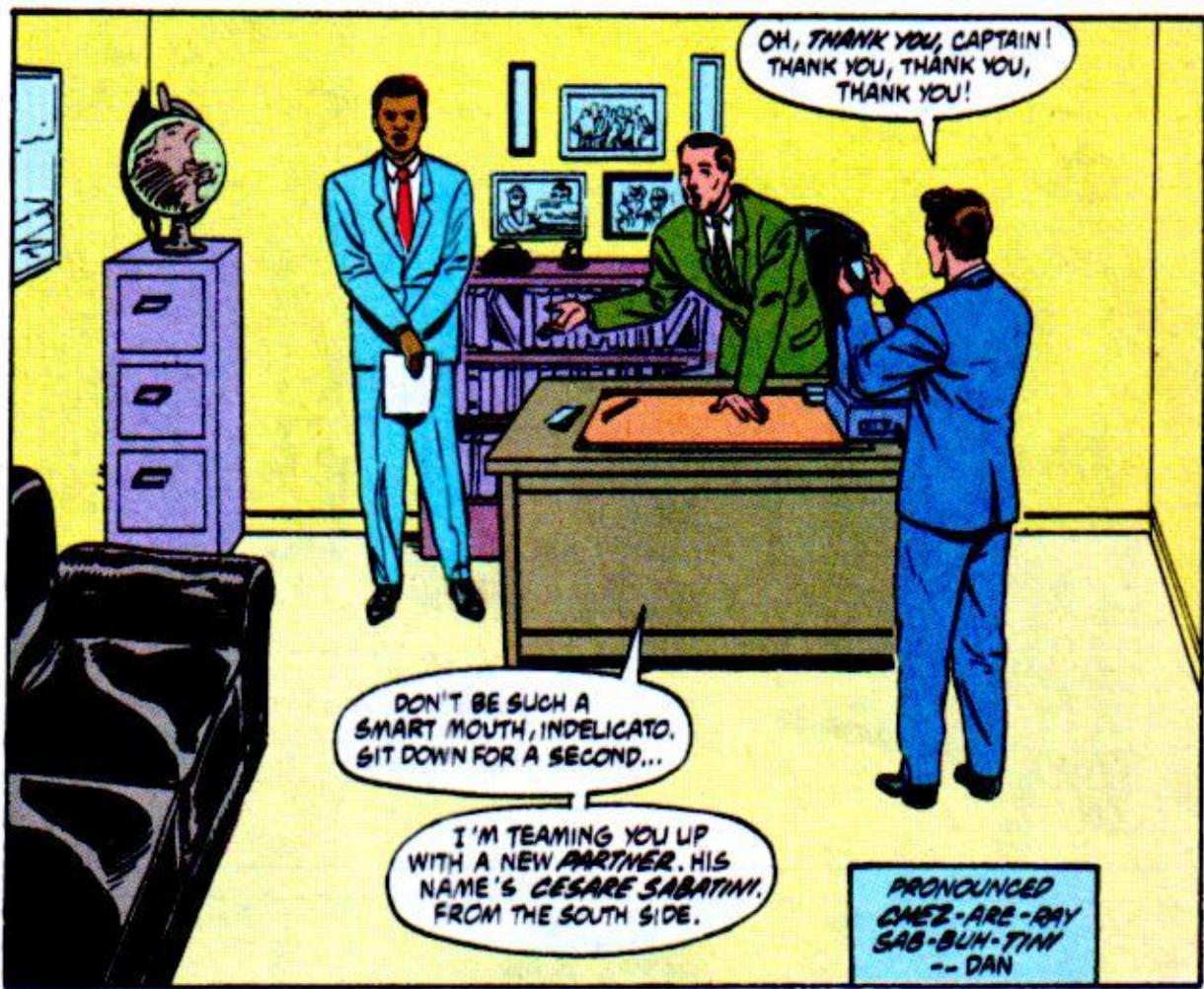
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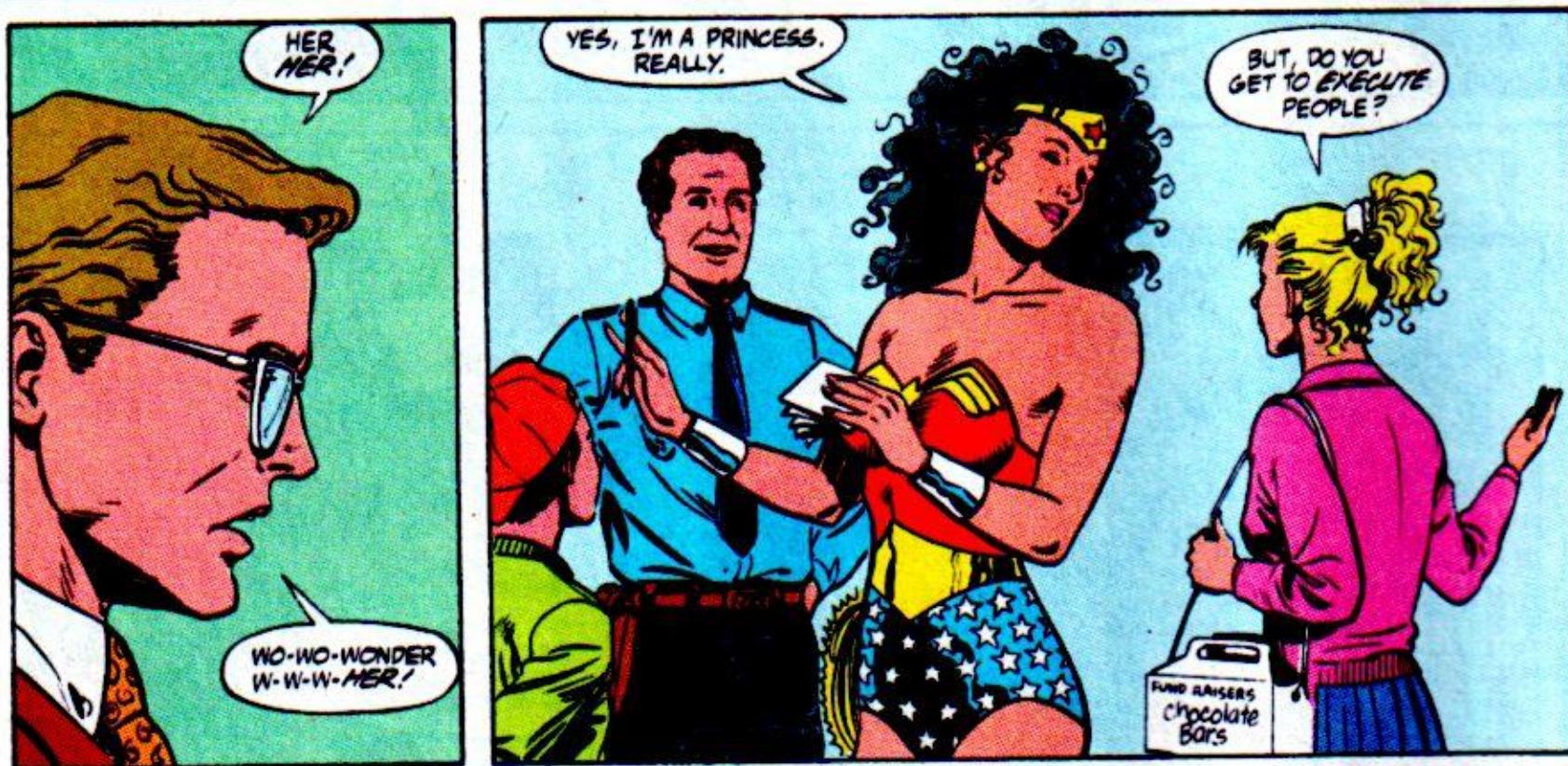
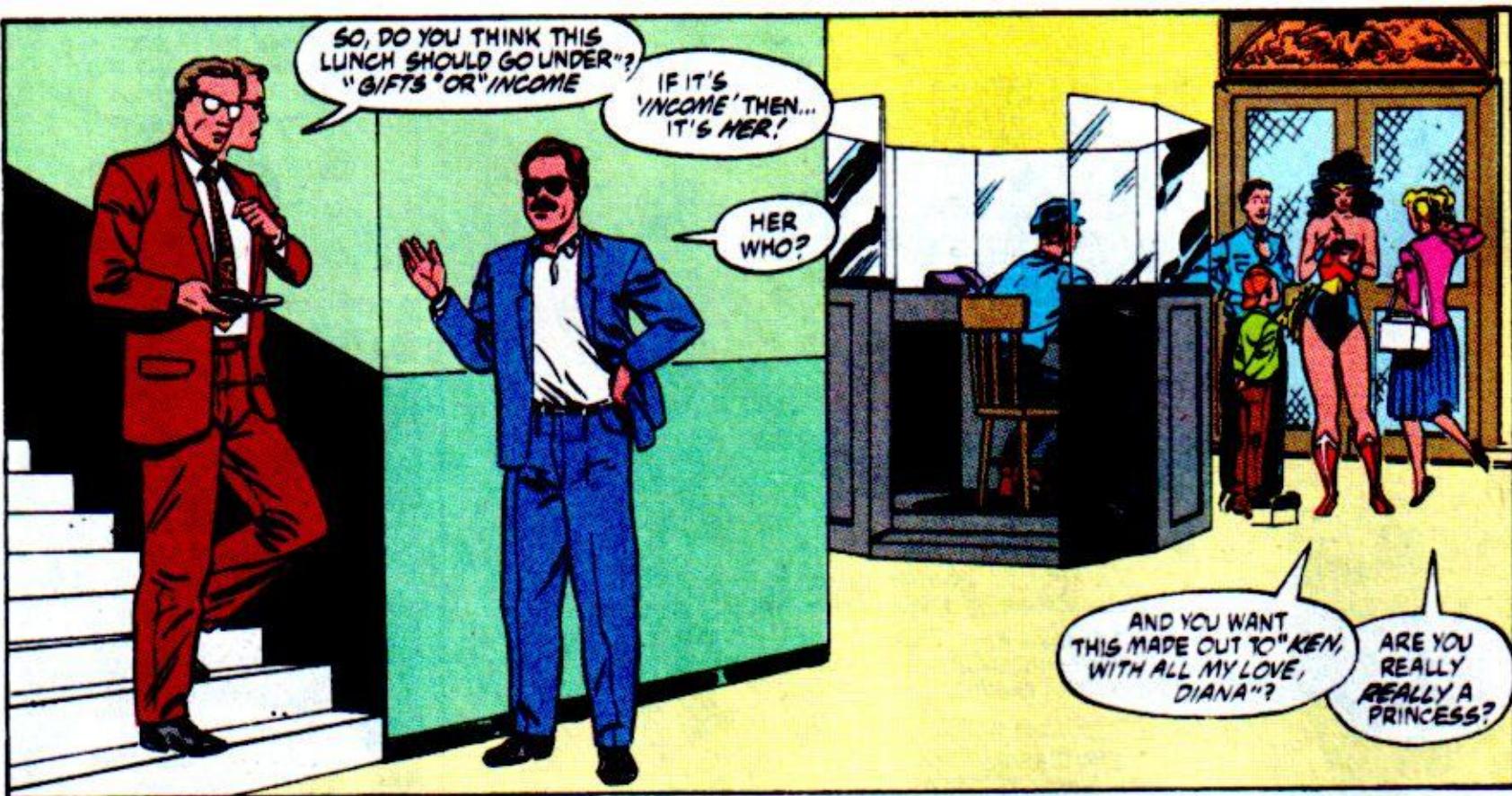
BILL MESSNER-LOEBS -  
Love her than Aphrodite  
JILL THOMPSON -  
Wise than Athena  
DENIS RODIER -  
Smart than Hermes  
JOHN COSTANZA -  
Strong than Apollo  
NANCY HOLMAN -  
Sturdy than Hercules  
DAN THORSLAND -  
One of the many secret faces of Ares

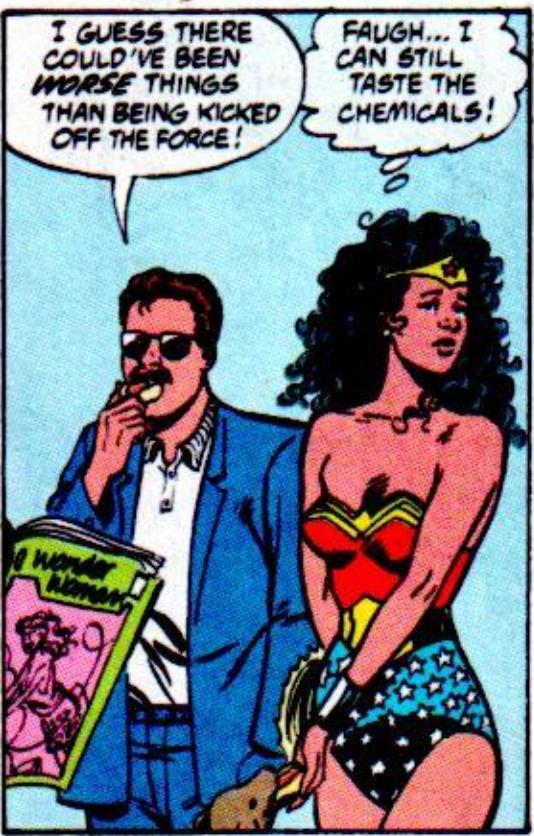
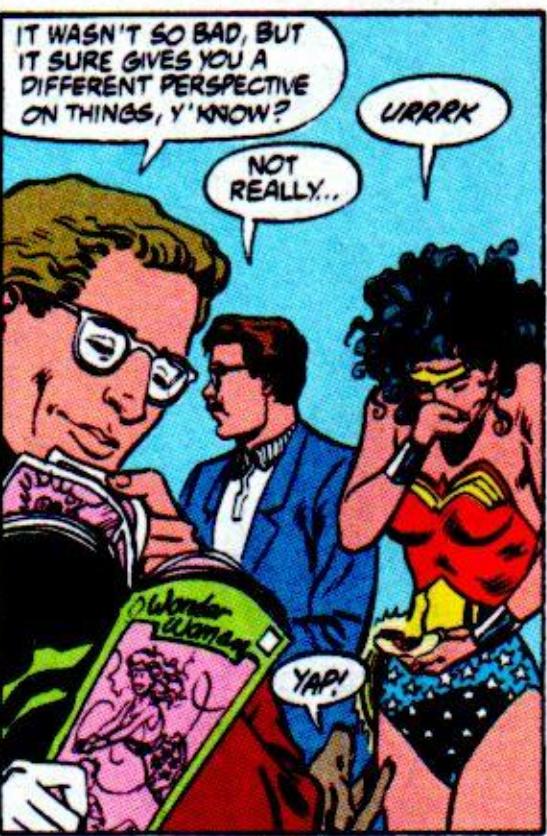
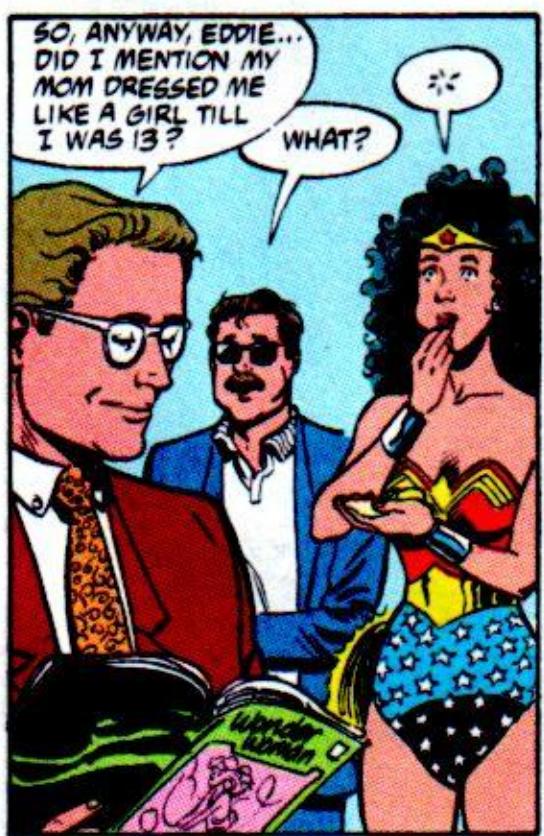
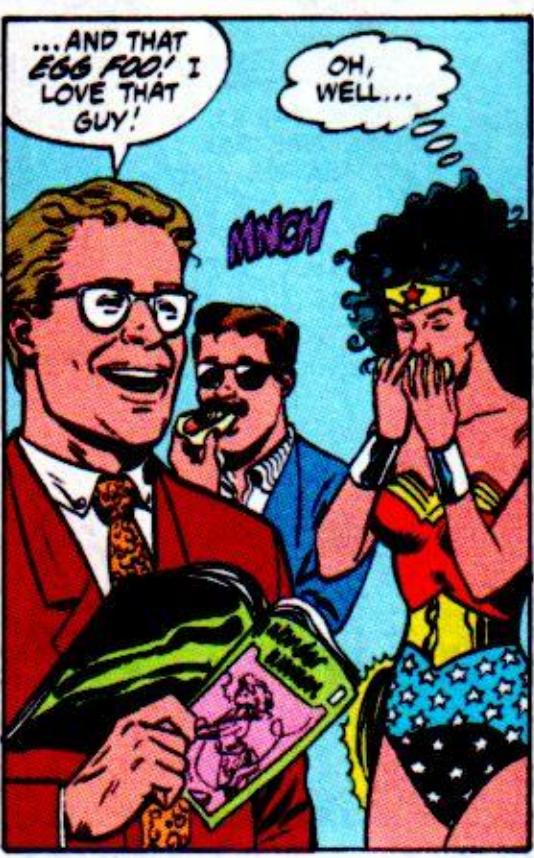
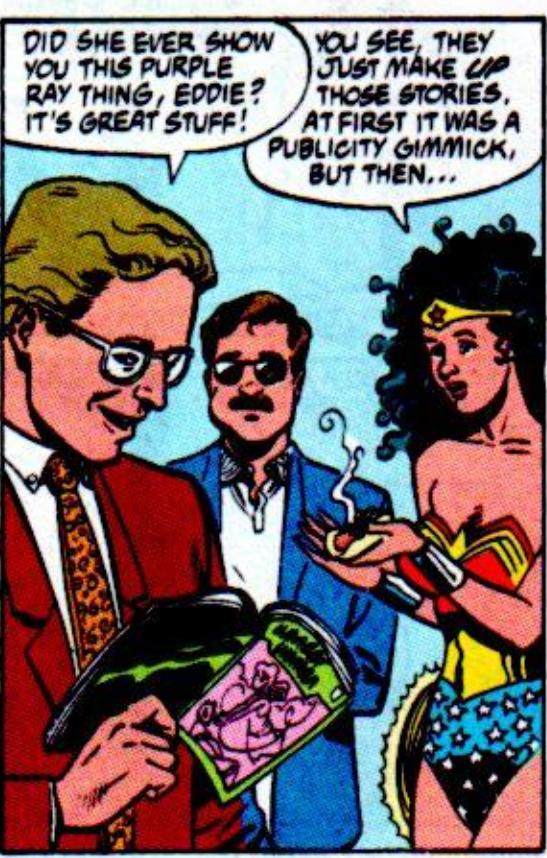
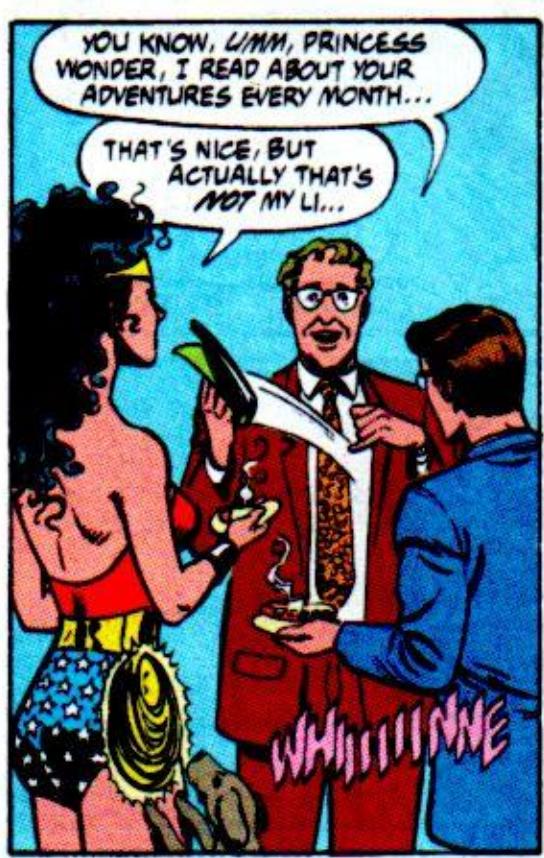
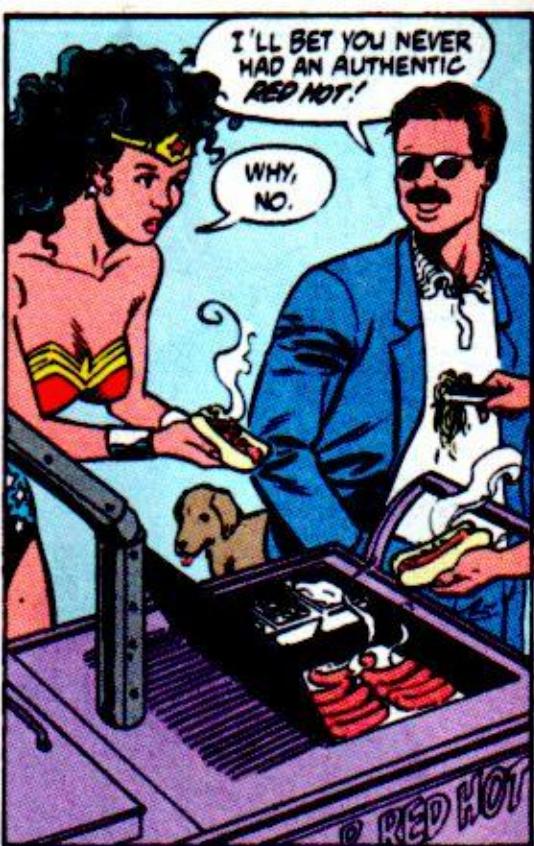
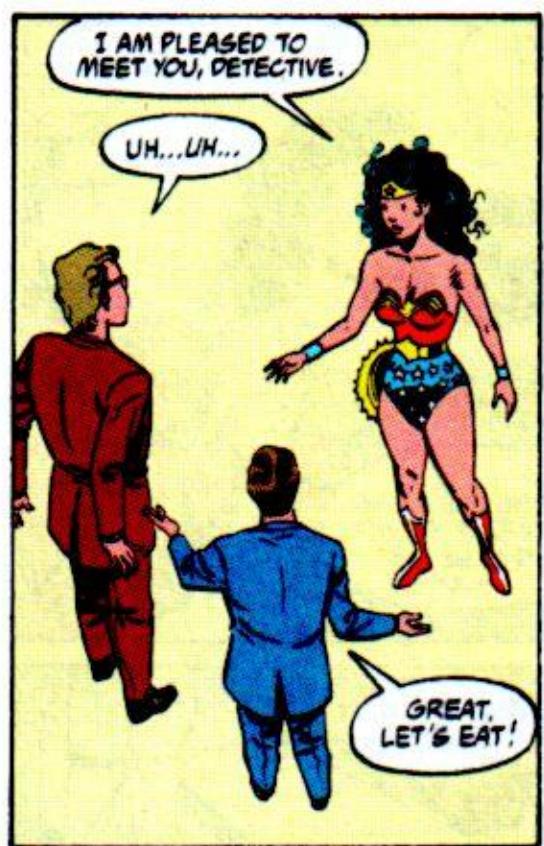
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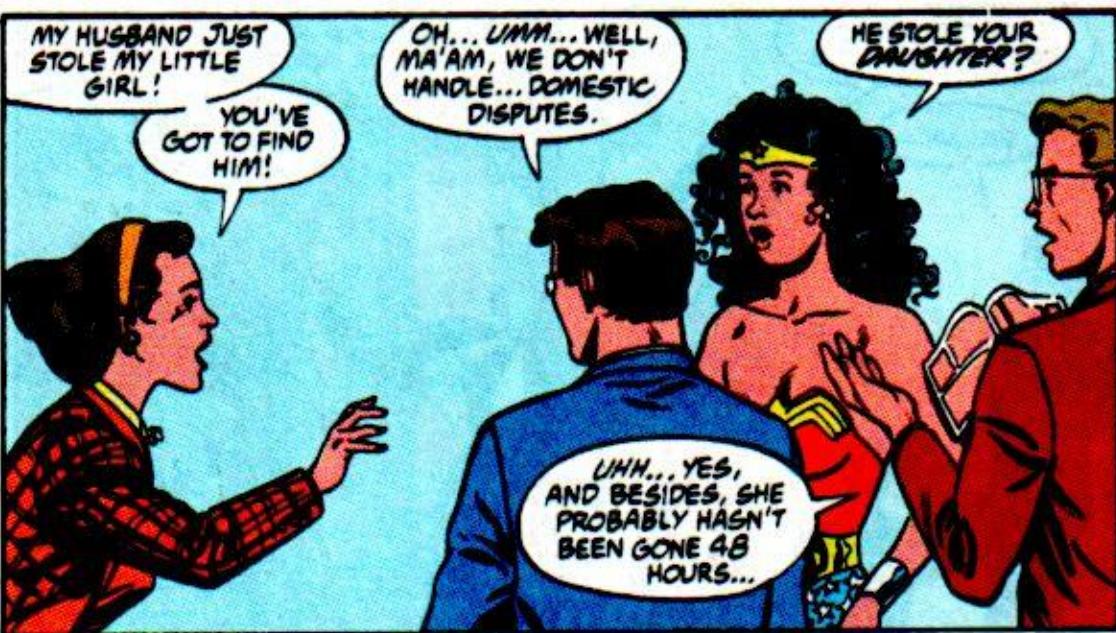
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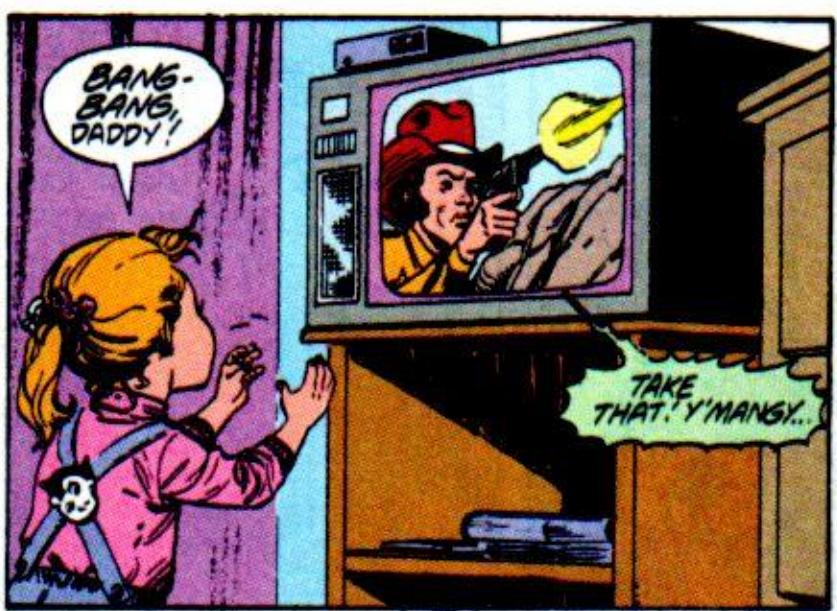


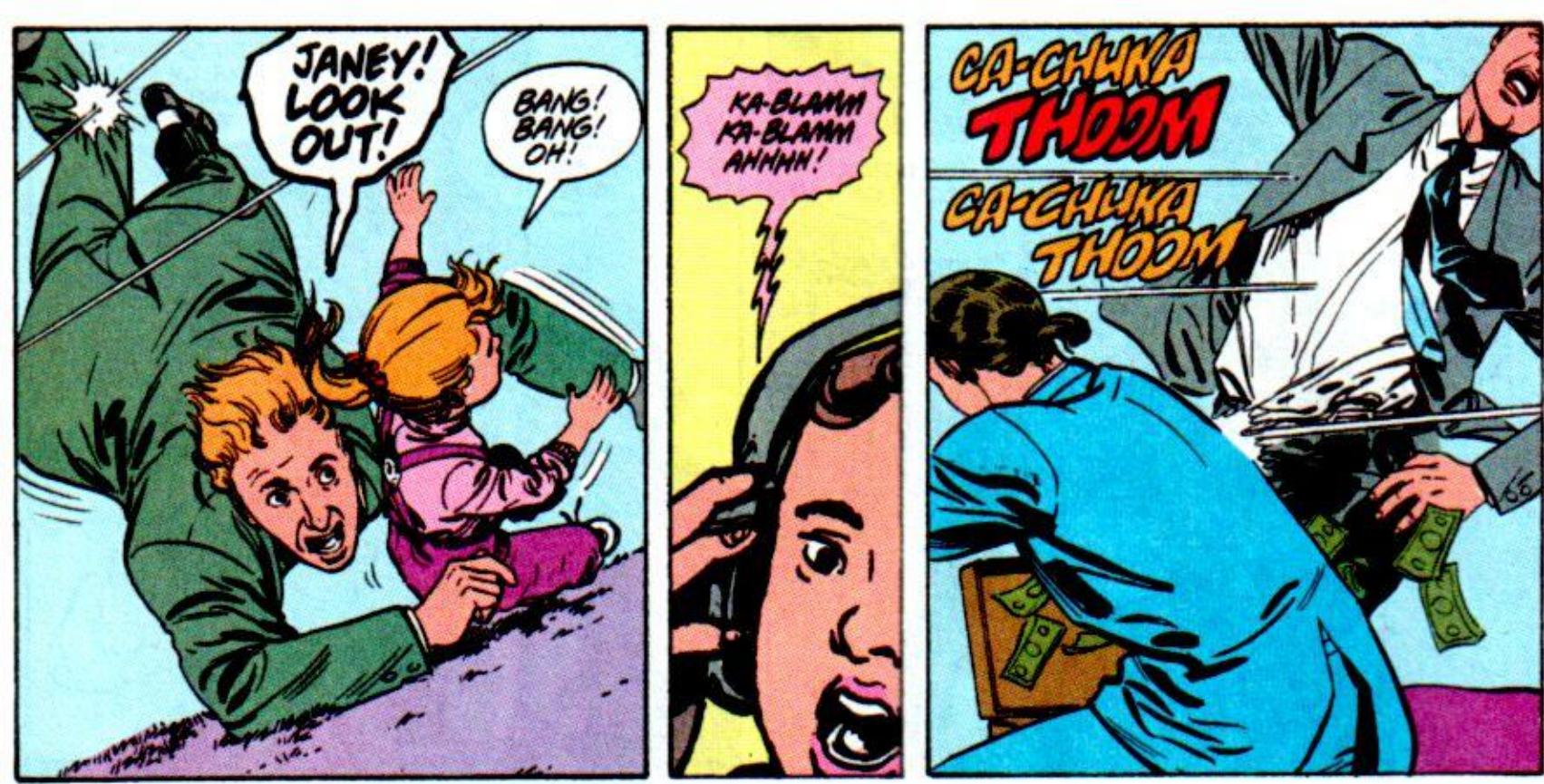














"--MUCH AS  
A HUNTER  
KNOWS ITS  
PREY."

GILLESPIE...?  
WHAT ARE  
YOU...?

AND, WHAT A  
SURPRISE... I FIND  
YOU HITTIN' THE  
HIGH ROAD!

LOOK, I...  
OH, WHAT THE  
HELL. YOU'RE  
JUST GONNA KILL  
ME, NO MATTER  
WHAT I SAY,  
RIGHT?

MR. SIMPSON  
SENT US OUT  
TO WATCH  
WAYS OUT  
OF THE CITY.

BUS

DRINK more Cola

WRONG!

SMASH

DAD'Y...  
BANG-  
BANG...?

IT IS NOW,  
SWEETIE.

DRINK more Cola

"THEY'LL BE WATCHING THE AIRPORTS AND TRAIN STATIONS TOO. GOTTA FIND SOMEPLACE SAFE..."

SO NOW WE GOT A ROOM FULL OF DEAD GUYS AND A TRAIL OF BLOOD, INSPECTOR.

DO YOU THINK THE GUY WHO WALKED AWAY IS THE SAME TIM JANCOSKY WONDER WOMAN IS LOOKING FOR... THE ONE WITH THE KID?

THAT'S THE WAY I'M BETTING, WHICH IS ONE MORE REASON TO FIND HIM QUICK.

SHE DOESN'T KNOW THAT HE'S GOT A SATCHEL FULL OF DIRTY MONEY, AND HALF THE WISEGUYS IN BOSTON ARE AFTER HIM.

SHE BELIEVES IN MERCY AND HOPE. SHE DOESN'T KNOW THOSE THINGS DON'T APPLY IN THE HEART OF THE CITY.

TOK TOK

YES?

POLICE, SIR. ARE YOU THE ARNOLD NEAL WHO'S MANAGER OF THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK...?

SURE YOU ARE.

LOOK, MR. NEAL, I'M TRYING TO FIND ONE OF YOUR EMPLOYEES, TIM JANCOSKY. I THINK THE MOB MAY BE AFTER HIM, AND YOU KNOW WHY?

WHAT CAN THE SEAMY PROBLEMS OF AN ASSISTANT MANAGER HAVE TO DO WITH ME? IF HE'S GOTTEN MIXED UP WITH DRUGS OR SOMETHING...

DO I LOOK  
LIKE I TAKE  
STUPID  
PILLS?

WE KNOW YOUR BANK  
HAS BEEN LAUNDERING  
DRUG MONEY. WAS  
JANCOSKY THE BAG  
MAN... THE ONE WHO  
COLLECTED FROM THE  
BENT NOSE BRIGADE?

WE... THE BANK... MADE INJUDI-  
CIOUS INVESTMENTS DURING THE  
EIGHTIES. WE HAD TO GET LIQUID  
ASSETS FROM SOMEWHERE...

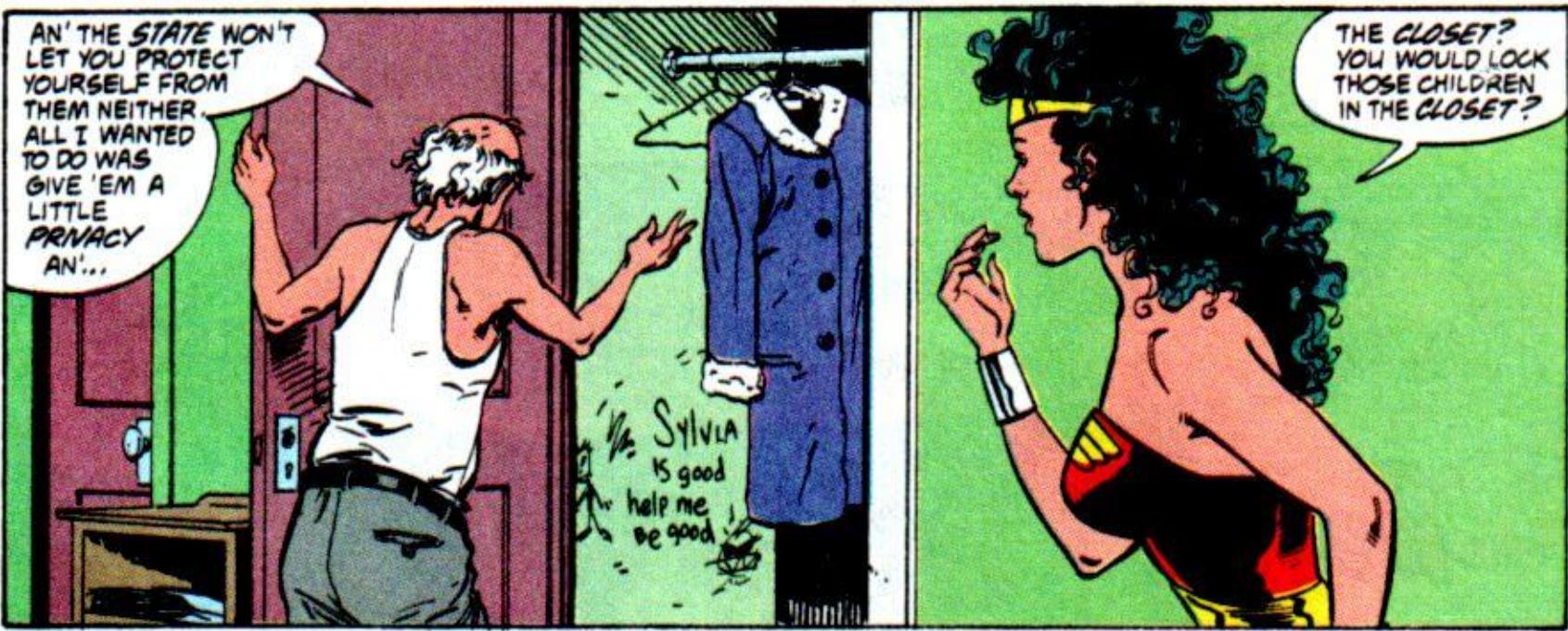
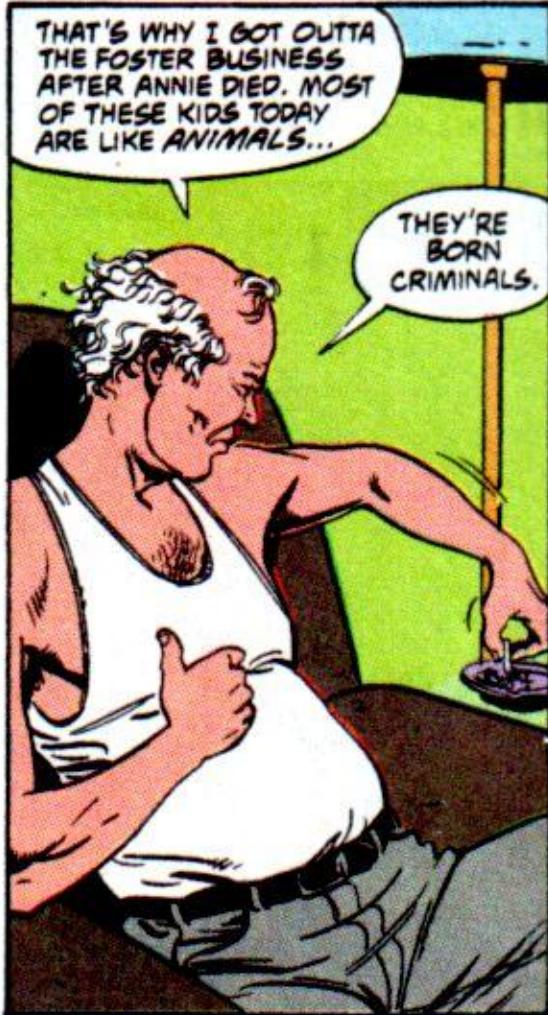
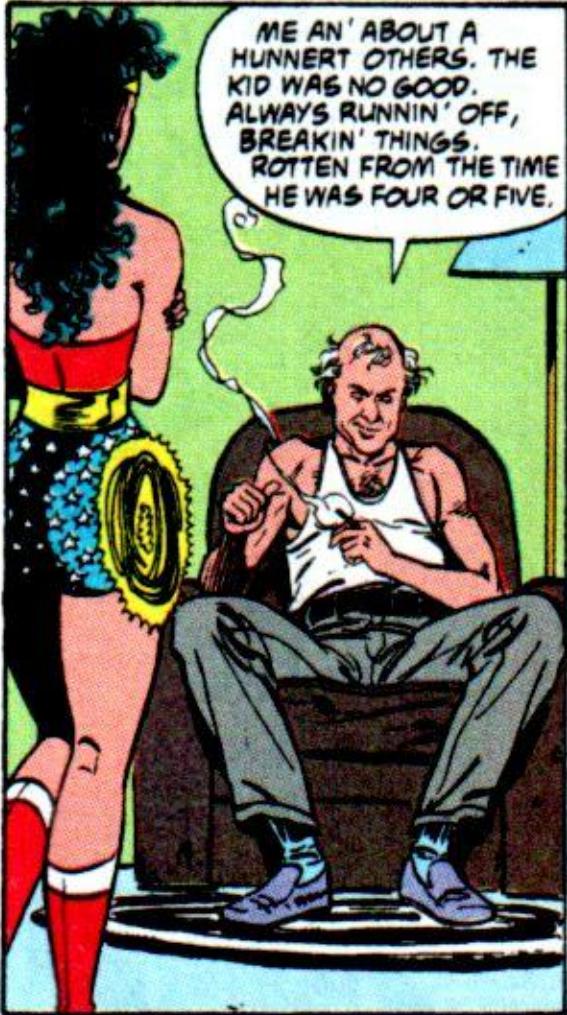
WE DIDN'T HAVE A  
CHOICE! THERE  
WAS SO MUCH MONEY,  
AND WE JUST NEEDED  
IT FOR A WHILE...

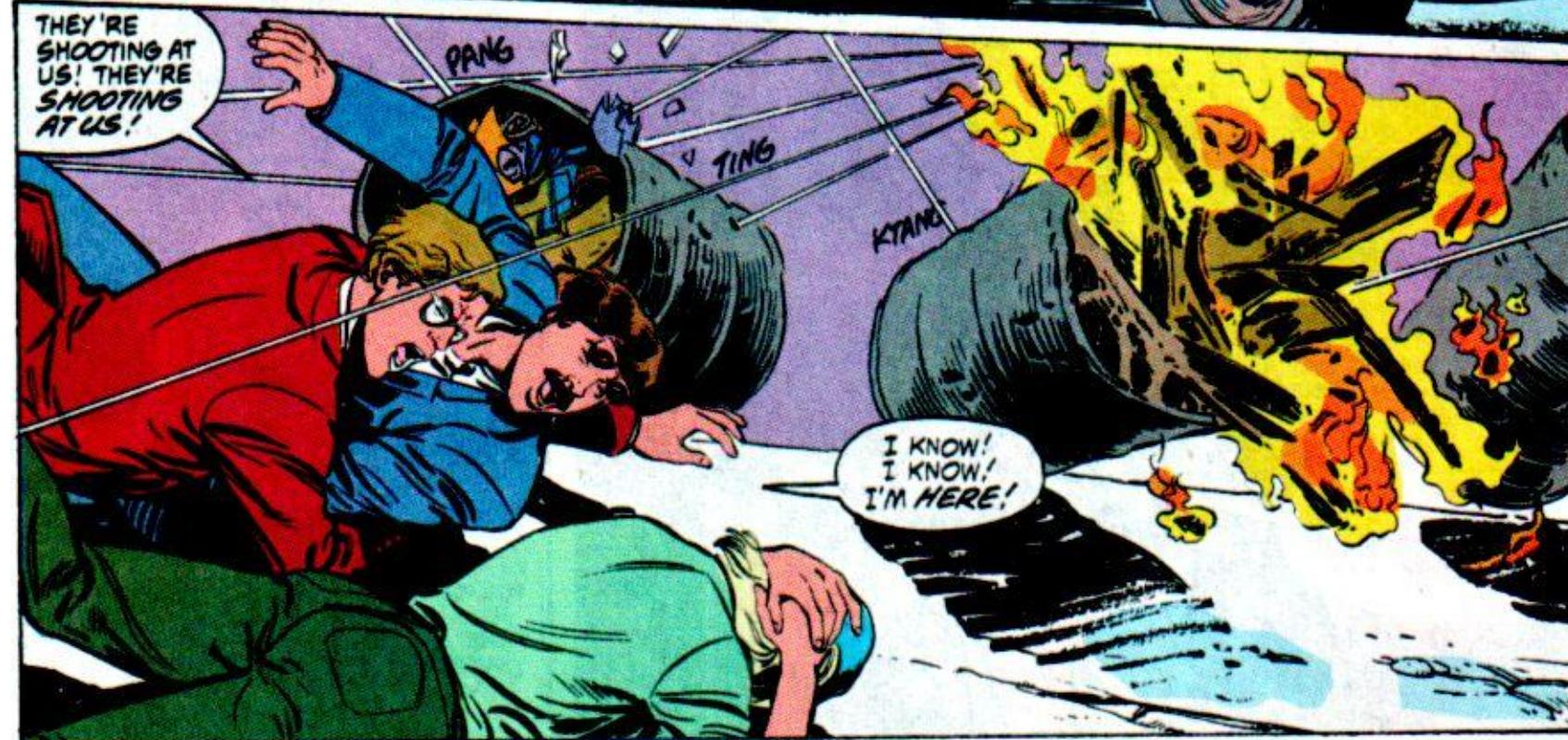
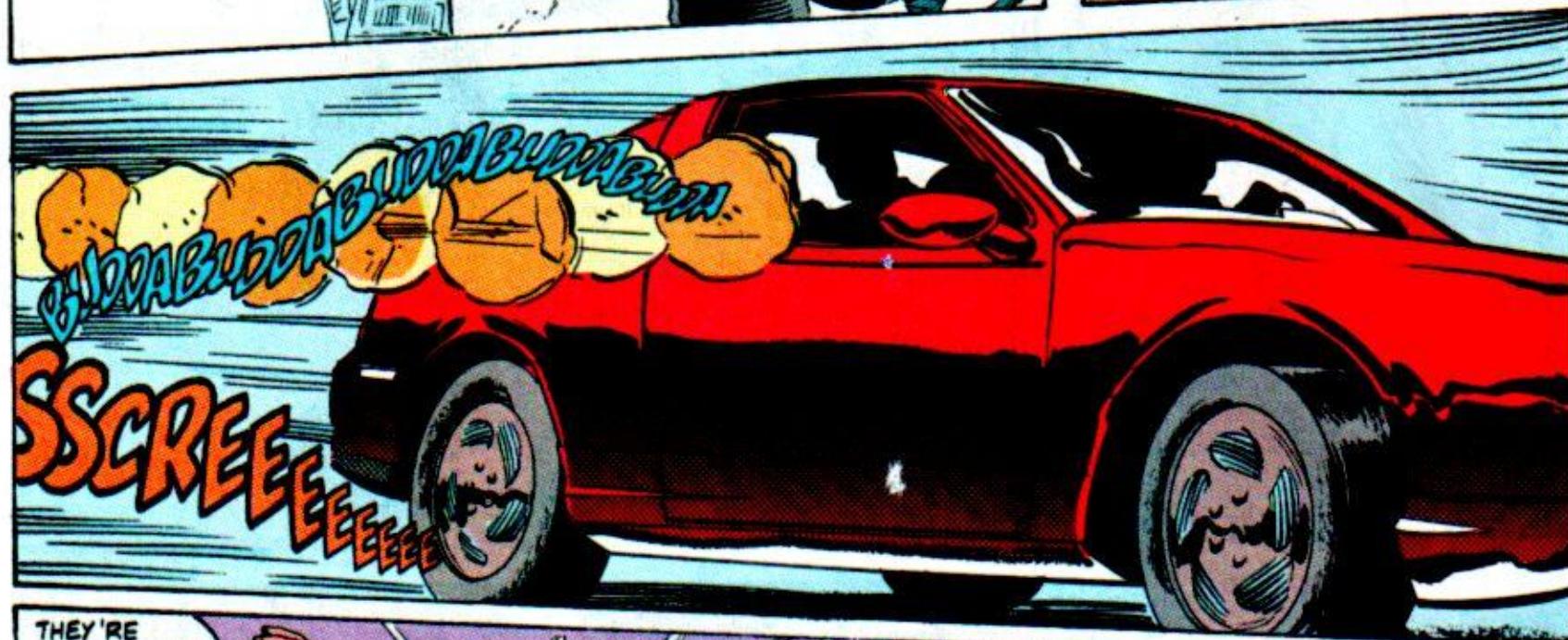
TIM... KEPT TRACK  
OF... CERTAIN FUNDS  
FROM... DONALD  
SIMPSON AND HIS  
ASSOCIATES.

DONALD  
SIMPSON...?

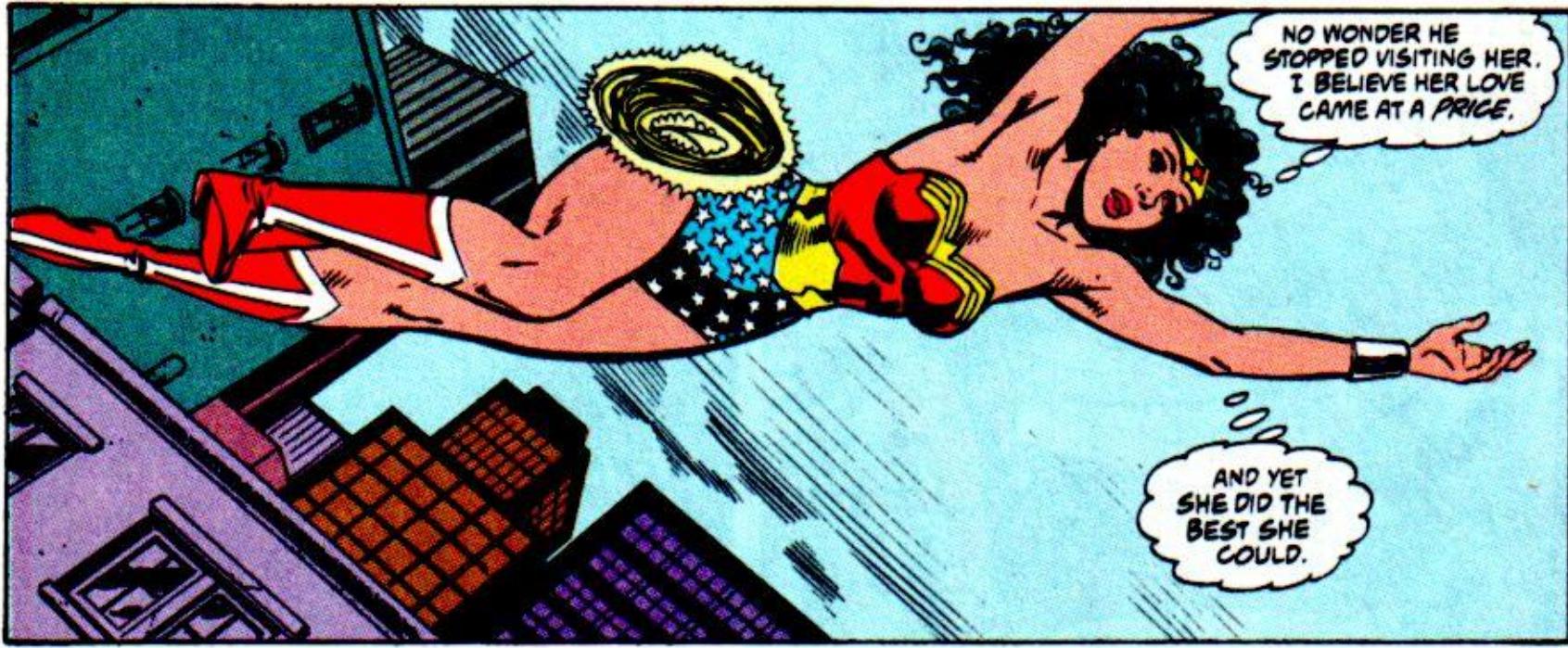
GREAT. THE KID  
COULDN'T JUST TAKE  
MONEY FROM ANY  
MOBSTER. WE BETTER  
FIND HIM QUICK.

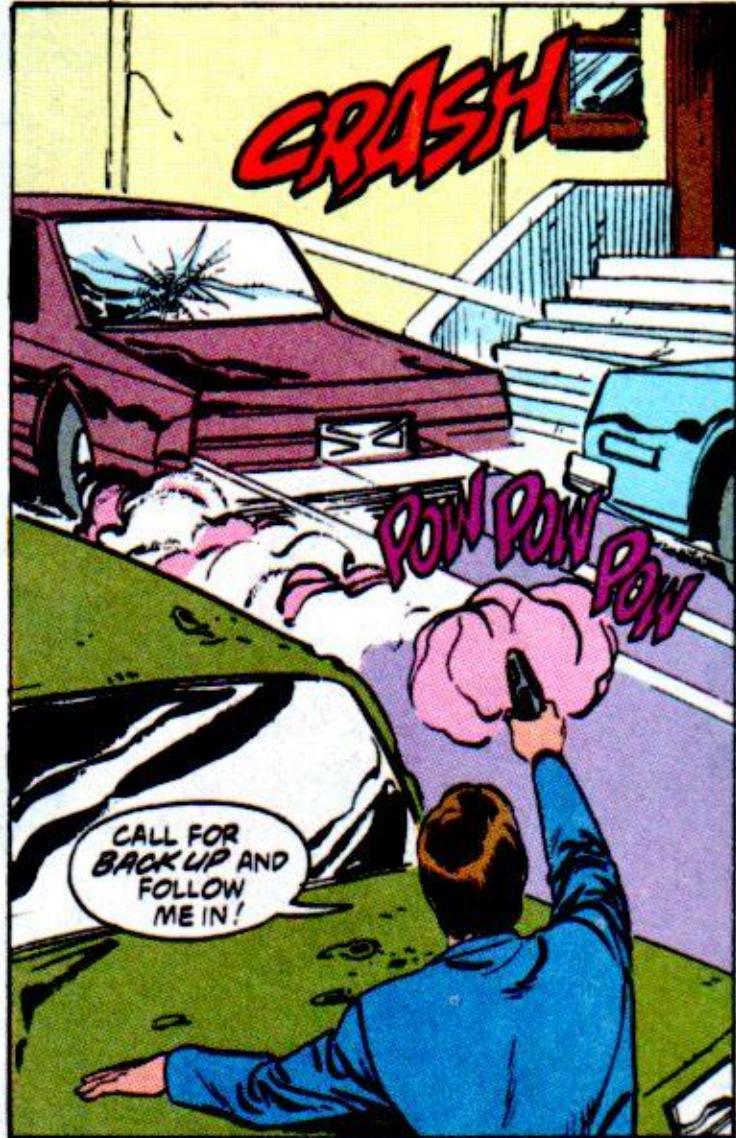
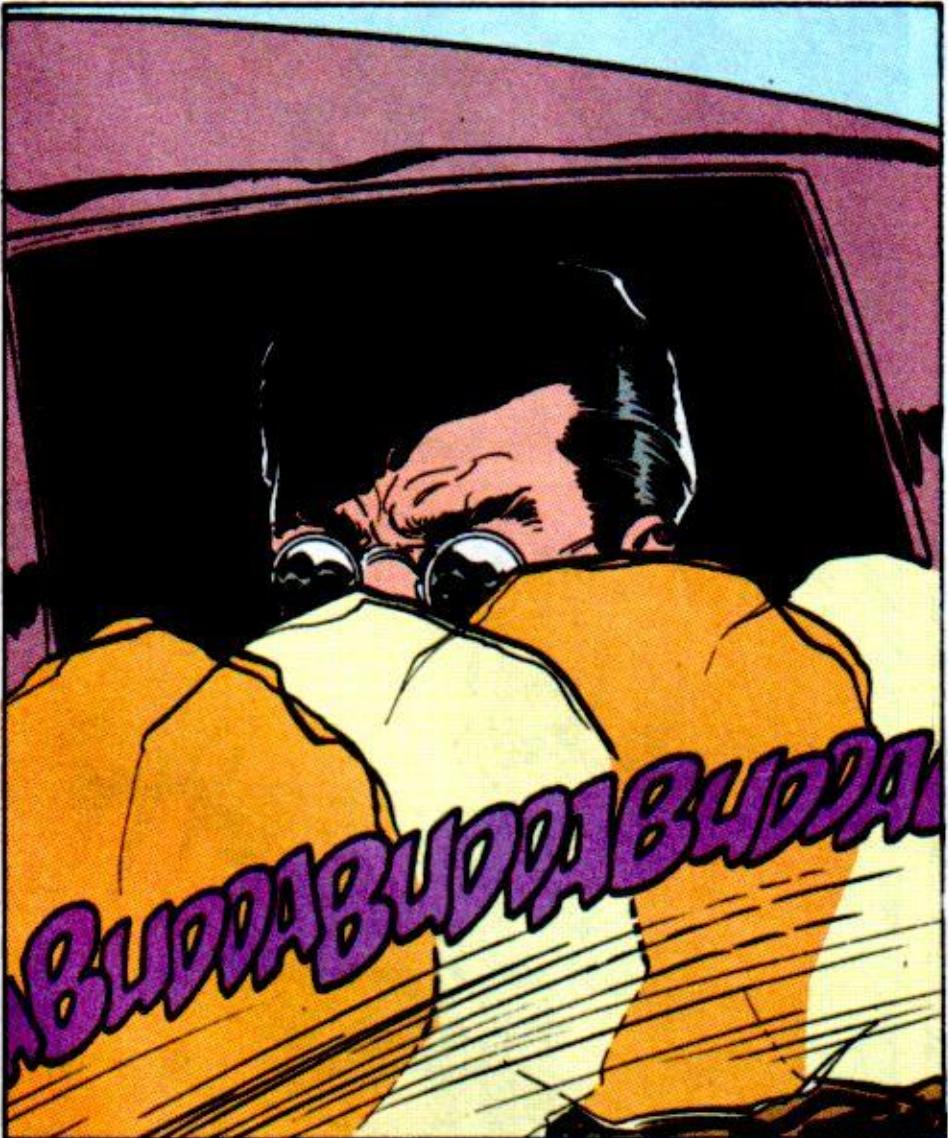
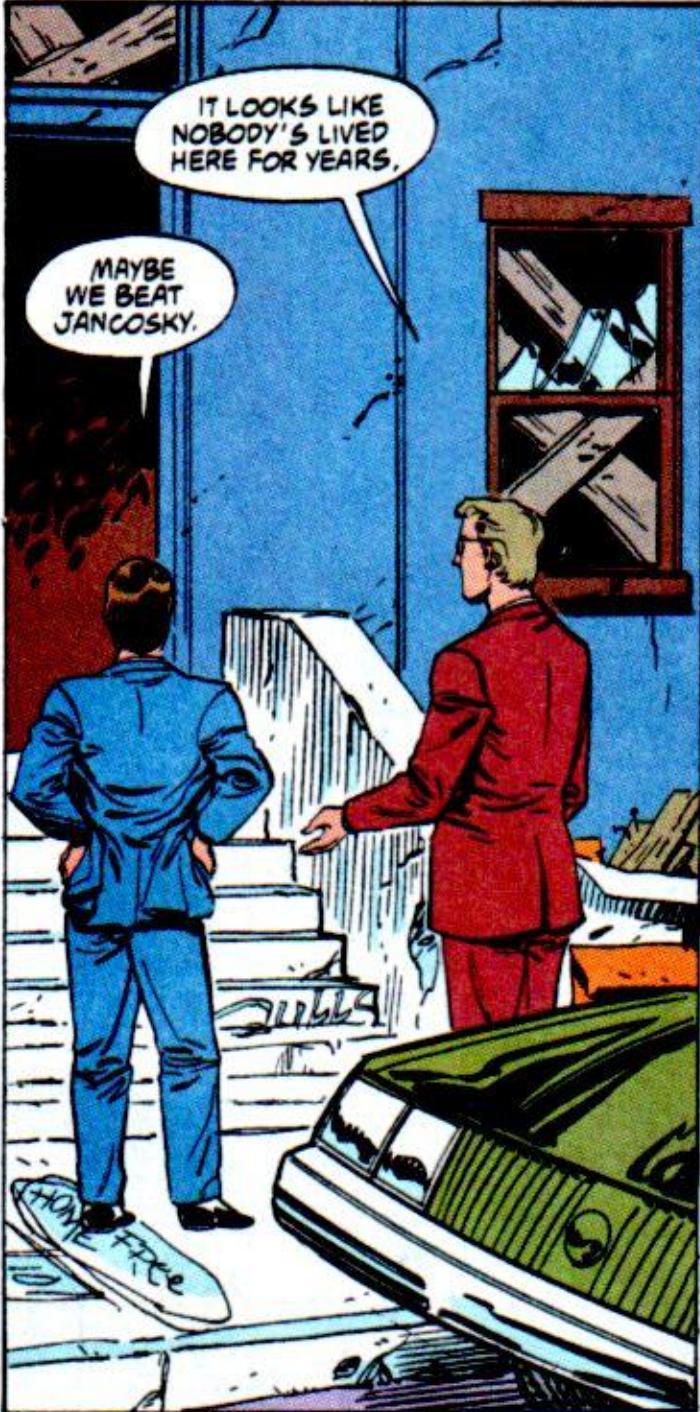
HELLO, MR.  
SIMPSON  
ARNOLD  
NEAL HERE...

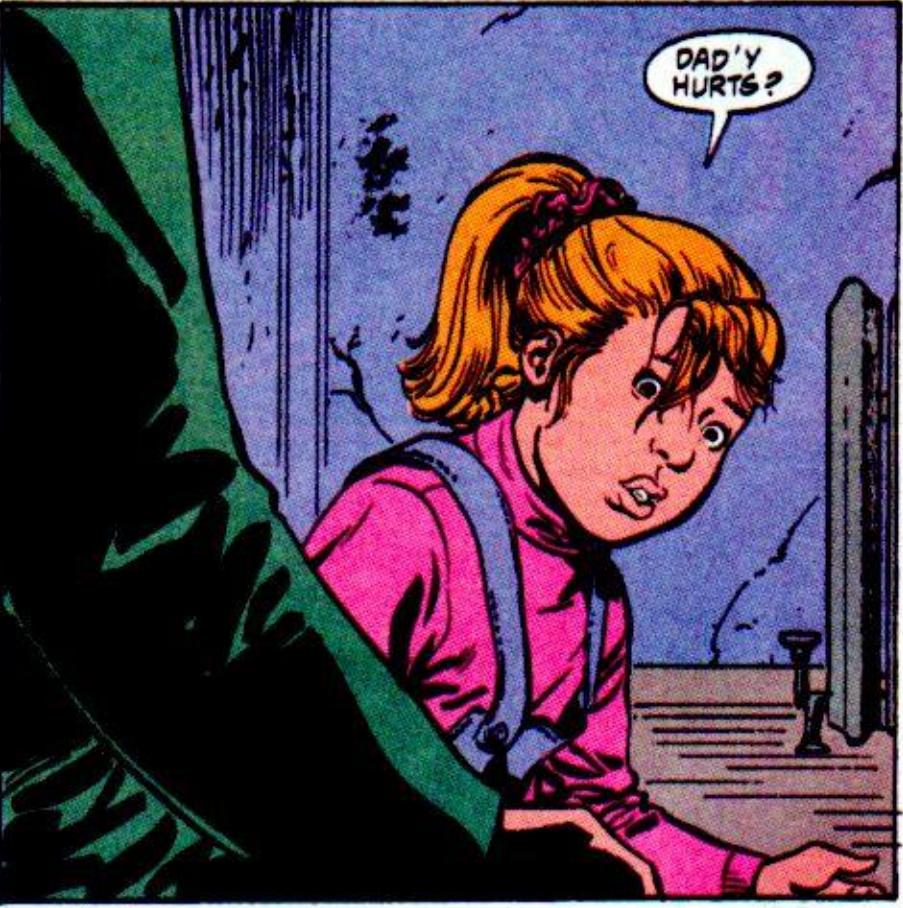












TAKE THE  
DOWNSTAIRS. WE  
GOTTA SWEEP THIS  
PLACE IN A HURRY!

RIGHT,  
CHIEF!

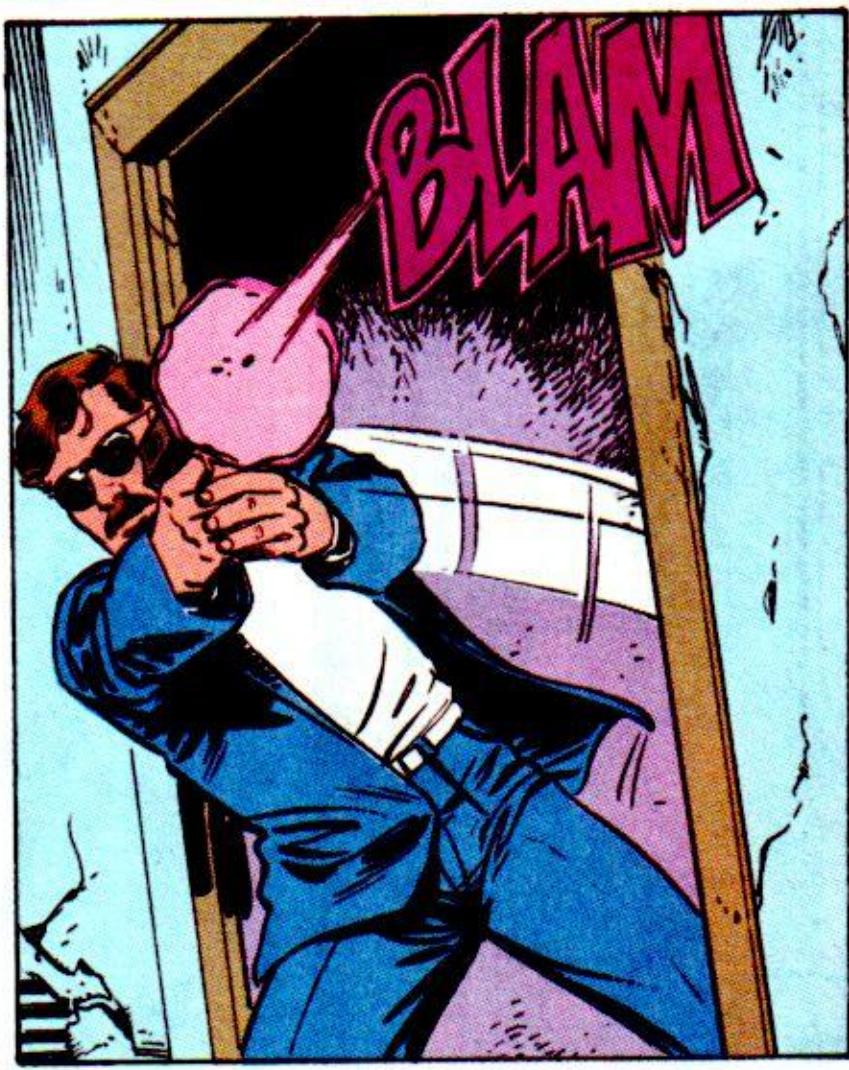
NO TELLING HOW  
MANY PRIVATE  
SHOOTERS ARE  
INVOLVED NOW.

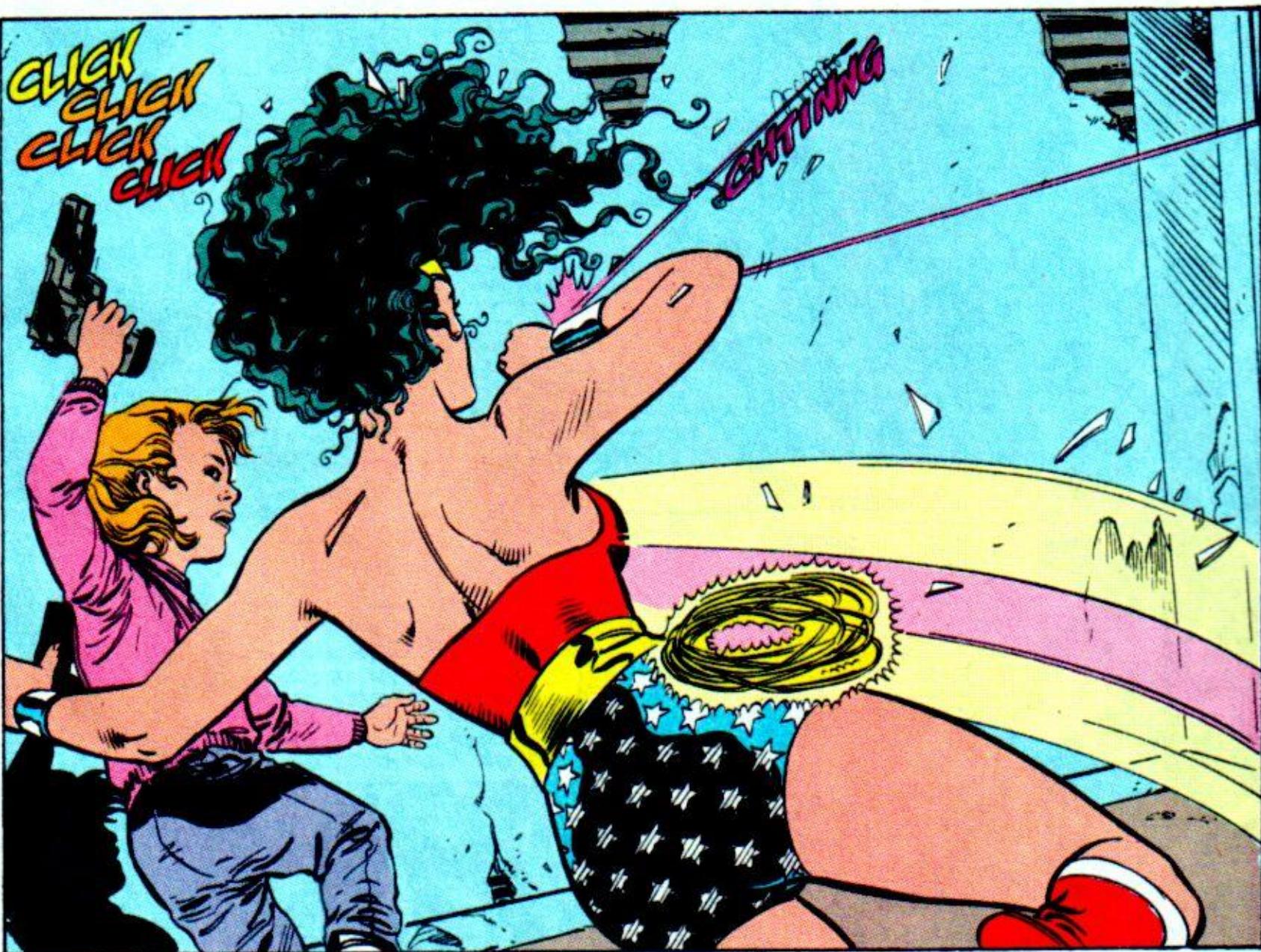
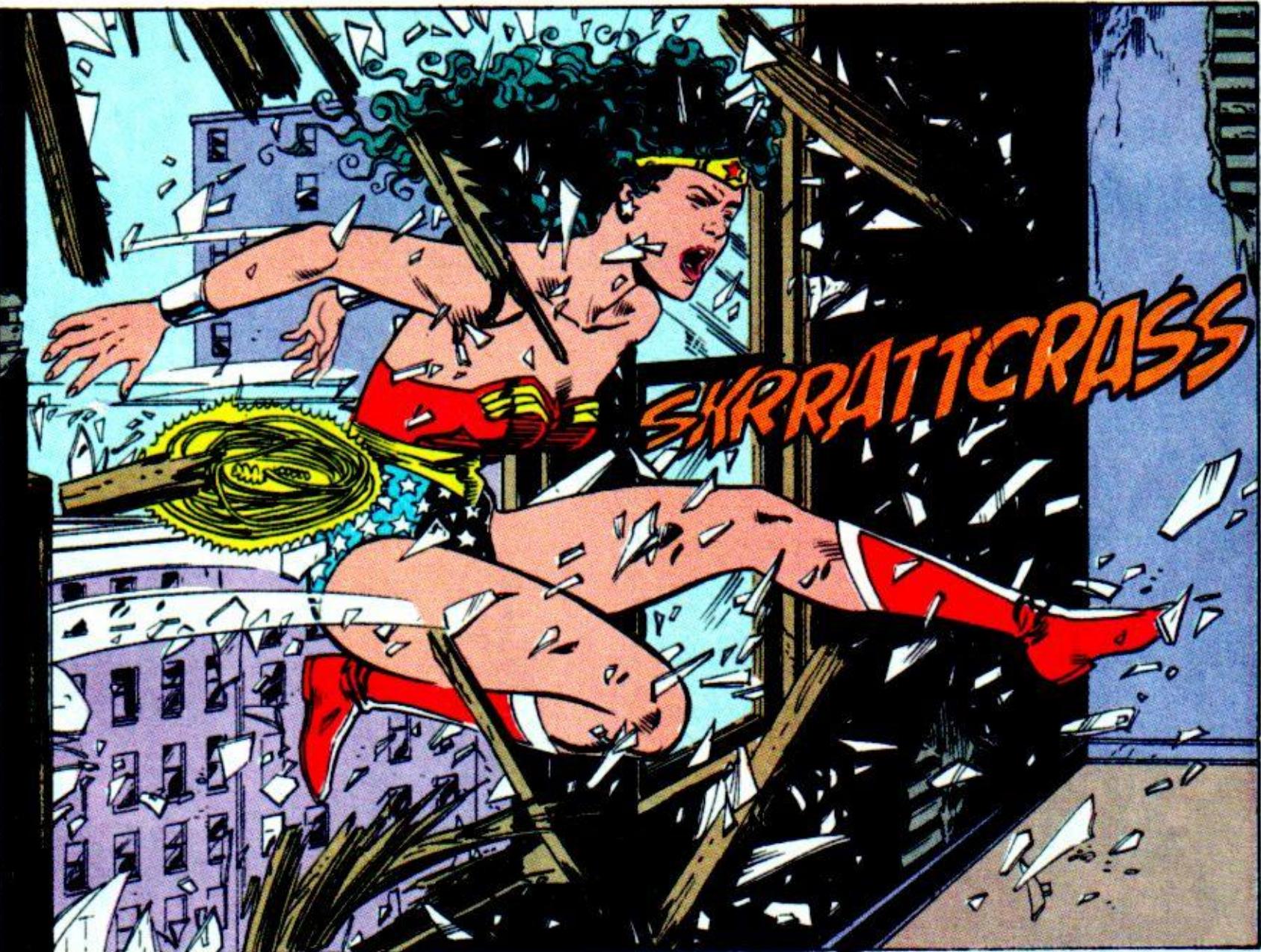
THIS IS THE  
HEART OF  
THE CITY...

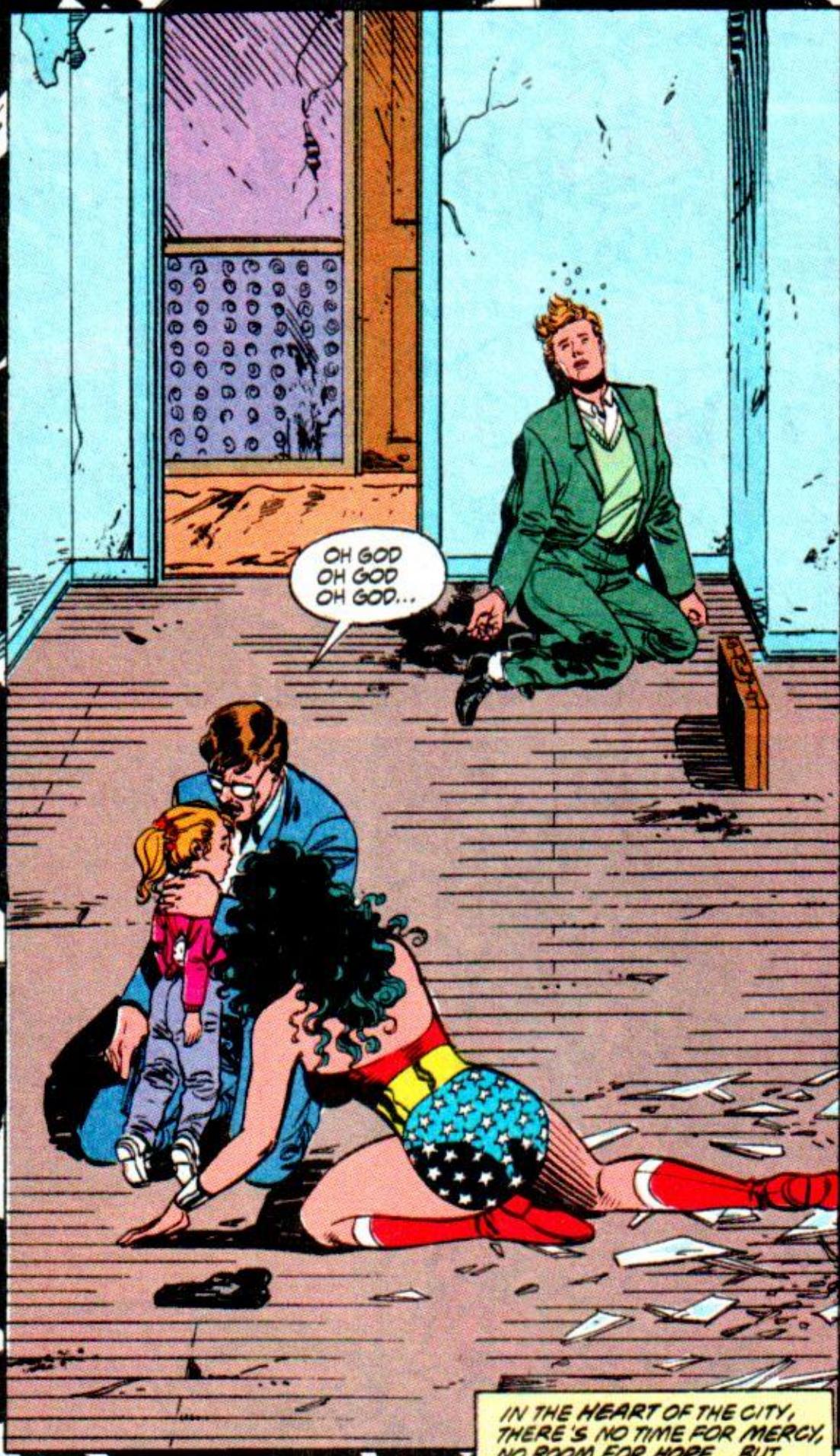
WHERE ONLY THE  
STRONG SURVIVE!  
WHERE THERE'S NO  
ROOM FOR MERCY  
OR FEAR...

WHERE THE  
SLIGHTEST  
HESITATION IS THE  
DIFFERENCE BETWEEN  
LIFE AND DEATH...

THERE'S  
BLOOD  
ON THAT  
DOOR...







# POSTSCRIPTS TO PARADISE

Goodbye and hello—that's what this letter column will be all about this issue as you, the readers, bid a fond farewell to longtime WONDER WOMAN scribe George Pérez and editor Karen Berger and welcome new (although not untried) writer, William Messner-Loebs and editor Dan Thorsland to the amazing Amazon's adventures. Bill just finished his own long stint on FLASH and is wrapping up things on DR. FATE as he and Dan prepare for some real wild stuff for Diana—more hints about this as we go along. For my part, I'm Editorial Assistant Eddie Berganza, and I'm here to say so long to POSTSCRIPTS TO PARADISE because it's up to you folks to come up with a different letter column title for this next chapter in the Princess's life. In the time-honored tradition, the winner (who will not submit WONDER WORDS as a suggestion) will win something really cool (once we figure out what—don't worry, it'll be great)!

And now on to those goodbyes and hellos...

Dear Karen:

And so ends an era. Not on a happy note, but at least on a hopeful one. George Pérez brought us some really thought-provoking stories, while always managing to keep us entertained. This series always stood apart from the rest because of his style. Goodbye, George, thank you for your time.

Now, welcome to William Messner-Loebs. His stories are very people-oriented and shall fit nicely. I'm sure he will bring some smiles with him and that, too, will help. Starting a new chapter in anyone's life is always a little difficult, and a smile does seem to help ease the strain.

Everyone, take a bow.

Mike Aragona  
Montreal, Quebec  
Canada

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Karen:

This is the first letter I've written to the WONDER WOMAN staff even though I have been an avid fan since her re-creation by George Pérez. I just wanted to let you know that I have thoroughly enjoyed the stories over the past few months, and I would go into great detail giving praise and credit if I had the time.

My only misgiving is now that the Wall of Chaos is gone, will Themyscira turn into a tourist resort? God! I can see the greedy developers moving in already. Building an airport, putting up a Marriott, restaurants, clubs, bus tours. You get the picture. Another fear is the flood of emigrants that will want to move to Themyscira. Call me a snob or prejudicial, but I don't want to see any outsiders moving in and tainting their pure society. And you know it will happen if Queen Hippolyte allows it. I don't care how hard she fights to suppress it. Unfortunately, our society has become so lax that our values and morals can no longer hold a candle to those of the Amazons. I doubt that after a period of time we would be able to sustain their beliefs as rigorously as they do.

Diane Herbert  
Wichita, KS

*OK, Diane, you're a snob and prejudicial, and should learn never to expect the obvious from Bill Loebs. Themyscira's future is nothing like what you've stated and, in fact, those great Amazon ideals of Diana will soon become her greatest burden.*

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear WONDER WOMAN people;

I have been an avid collector and a fan of Pérez's WONDER WOMAN for 62 issues. I'm really sad to see George leave the book, and I'm sadder to learn that WONDER WOMAN will be integrated more fully in the DC Universe. There has been something special about Diana that I feel will be lost. I do intend to give the new WW book a try, and I do hope to like it. But, as a last plea, try to keep in mind what was so magical for 62 issues should be preserved. The beauty of THAT Wonder Woman was better than any other interpretation, and I'd hate to see it die in favor of a "crimefighter." Please remember that this is the Diana that your fans want and need. I wish you well and look forward with hope and some apprehension.

Daniel Toth  
Paradise, CA

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear People:

This is the first letter I've addressed to the WONDER WOMAN comic even

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though I've been an avid reader since issue #197 of its first incarnation. The cover of that issue read, "Diana Prince as Wonder Woman: A Special Issue." Needless to say, the pages inside did not disappoint me. What finally prompted me to write is the turning point (another one!) WONDER WOMAN is at.

The COMIC BUYER'S GUIDE dated November 15, 1991, had an article that announced the departure of Mr. Pérez and Ms. Berger and the arrival of Mr. Messner-Loebs and Mr. Thorsland. The history of the WONDER WOMAN comic has been erratic in both quality and sales. I can only hope that this change will not affect the care and workmanship that has gone into WONDER WOMAN.

Wonder Woman is a part of a mythos. Created and gifted by the Gods, she should never have been less than mythological in nature. Mr. Pérez has come closer than any other writer in portraying this. I realize that a decision has been made to incorporate Wonder Woman more fully into the "super-hero universe," but I can't help feeling that this may be a mistake unless handled very well. The mythological aspect has already been damaged as a result of the WAR OF THE GODS. With the disappearance of the Wall of Chaos, the mystery that was Themyscira to the "man's world" will be no more than another Greek island.

I will be supportive of any effort that gives quality (and sales, for that matter) to WONDER WOMAN. What I will ask of you is that if the "super-hero" aspect is damaging the character, you will return Diana to the roots Mr. Pérez so ably created for her.

Robert J. Tolleson  
Pompano Beach, FL

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Postscripts:

I really enjoyed the mythological essences found in WONDER WOMAN and the way the current Diana has been revamped. But now that the Olympian Gods are gone, what can I look forward to seeing in WONDER WOMAN every month? Without the mythological element, what is Diana? I grew up on WONDER WOMAN, but I never really loved her until 1987, when this new series started. Even though I am a guy, I'm not afraid to say that WONDER WOMAN is a deeply written and three-dimensional

character, and that she is one of the better characters that I've read because of her mission of peace. But lately she's lost her mission. I mean, what is Diana doing in our world? If she doesn't have a purpose then it's not worth the time to be.

I recently read an issue of AMAZING HEROES and found out that with your new writer, William Messner-Loebs, from FLASH, you are taking a new direction—the direction of heart-sobbing stories, family values and emotional debates. I didn't like what I read; for the most part I hate "thirtysomething"! Diana's wonderful relationship with Vanessa, Julia and Inspector Indelicate are good reading, but bringing them into the lime-light too much can ruin the whole experience of WONDER WOMAN. Why not get Diana a little more active with the rest of the DC Universe as you have been promising us? Why doesn't Diana stay on Themyscira and help set it up as an independent nation? You can't just leave it there and hope no one will notice it! Besides this I have another, not so great comment. I have nothing against the current artwork because it is beautifully done, but the way Jill Thompson pencils Diana is too much. It's not Diana at all. That's another thing I read in AMAZING HEROES, that Jill Thompson openly admits to creating a new body as well as a new face for Diana. I miss Diana's long, naturally curly hair that hung past her waist, partly because of my own naturally curly hair, and her muscle tone made her a real woman of today. I can't stand Jill Thompson's little curls of hair sticking out on the sides of Diana's head, and the way Diana looks underweight. She reminds me of Mariah Carey. I also caught a glimpse of the artwork to be published in the upcoming WONDER WOMAN SPECIAL, and as I've noticed in the past few issues the Cheetah is spotted like a leopard! George Pérez had written and designed the best and most unusual Cheetah to date, yah know! She no longer wore a suit, it was her own skin that was spotted! It was wonderful. But now it looks like the Cheetah is wearing a costume that even I could sew in my spare time. Just remember "black circular spots." I don't mean to offend anyone, but I always believed that whenever a new artist took over a comic book title that they should interpret the characters in the same way that made them such a success. I also believe that a devoted fan—or any other fan, for that matter—should have some effect on what is to be in their favorite comic book because without a readership, what is a comic book?

Norrin Radd  
Winnipeg, Manitoba  
Canada

Cancelled!

We hope that now, three issues into the "new" WONDER WOMAN,

'most everyone's misgivings have been settled. As you can see by this issue, variety in storylines will be a key factor in Bill's handling of Diana. He will literally be taking her where no Wonder Woman has gone before. And for those worried that integrating Diana into the rest of the DC Universe will ruin the character, never fear; it is her "uniqueness" that we want to play off on the other heroes. Besides, it didn't seem very realistic to keep her secluded from such crises as the threat of Warworld in the pages of the SUPERMAN titles. Pérez understood her importance to the rest of the DC Universe when he initiated the WAR OF THE GODS, and now we mean to maintain that high profile; but don't worry, this book will NOT evolve into AMAZING AMAZON TEAM-UPS.

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear WONDER WOMAN people:

After the events of issue #62, it looks as if Princess Diana will be joining the Justice League soon, or at least after the entire JLI gets through BREAKDOWNS. I'm sure most fans would like to see this happen. I know I would.

John Curtis  
St. Paul, MN

When the dust settles for the Justice League, Wonder Woman will indeed be taking a more active role than she did the last time she joined. What do we mean by that? Stay tuned!

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Editor:

One of the greatest strengths of WONDER WOMAN has been the depth of character of the entire cast. Yeah, it's just a comic book, but Mr. Pérez managed to transcend the medium and made these can't-be-real people more than fantasy; he made them breathe, and that is the legacy of this book.

From the interviews I've read in AMAZING HEROES #197, Mr. Messner-Loebs and Mr. Thorsland plan to continue that personification, albeit in new directions. Jill Thompson will still delight with her beautiful art. I'm very pleased with the concept of a Katherine Hepburn/ Spencer Tracy parallel between Diana and Indelicate. I've wanted to see Indelicate's character strengthened to parity (and romance) with Diana since poor Myndi was dispatched. His journalistic entries about Diana gave us an unusual perspective on both characters. I hope he keeps on writing.

I'm glad that Indelicate's sense of humor will be expanded—I like the contrast of his salty sarcasm to Diana's sweetness (how about her sense of humor? It's one facet of her personality rarely expressed), but I have to take exception to the example given in AMAZING HEROES. Ole Ed will joke constantly about the purple ray (in the WW

comic within a comic) restoring them to life should they die. Is this the Ed Indelicate who's devoted to his Princess, attuned to her, and who took refuge in a drunken stupor at the devastating news of her death—he's going to joke about dying? Maybe once. Use it as a vehicle for Diana to vent all her sublimated emotions surrounding the deaths of so many she loved, and to deal with the trauma of her own death. Yeah, she's strong and stoic, but how could she remember her painful meltdown into clay, or being attacked by a libidinous Demon and subsequently resurrected to find her home no longer a haven, and not carry a ton of emotional baggage? Uh,uh, I can't buy such monumental insensitivity on Indelicate's part.

So, yeah, the book looks pretty good so far, and I haven't read the first new team story yet. How's that for trust?

Nancy Champion  
Virginia Beach, VA

P.S. You know those little next-issue boxes containing teasers for future issues? Those are pretty neat.

Well, Nancy, I hope your confidence in the book has paid off. Now, concerning Diana and Mr. Indelicate's attitudes toward each other, it's all a matter of perspective. Ed may be attracted to Diana, but he's far from being "attuned" or "devoted" to her; he's just too stubborn and set in his ways to ever get that deep into a relationship with someone who is such a polar opposite! Ed and Diana are good friends, nothing more. And speaking of next-issue boxes...

So far things have been pretty status quo for our Amazon, but soon everything will change, beginning with the art team. With WONDER WOMAN #65 Paris Cullins takes over as penciller with Robert Campanella providing the finishes for a six-issue engagement (don't worry, Jill Thompson fans, Jill will return with issue #71, once she is done dealing with a certain Dream King)! Did someone say something about sleeping? Well, don't, because next issue Joey Cavalieri fills in as special guest writer, giving the Amazon Princess a FEVER DREAM that distorts Wonder Woman's perceptions, making her unable to distinguish friend from foe, and even worse, making her doubt her own identity!

That's next month, then William Messner-Loebs returns fully armed with an epic that thrusts Diana into the final frontier in a role unlike any she has had before! Wonder Woman's saga is just beginning!! Tell your friends!!!

—Eddie Berganza  
Kimi's Dad