



A SPECIAL SHOUT-OUT GOES TO

SUPERGIRL

74
NOV 02
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AUTHORITY

DAVID
KIRK
RIGGS



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KIRK & RIGGS

IT'S
BECAUSE OF
YOU, LINDA!
YOU!

BECAUSE OF
YOU, MARY GOT
DISTRACTED, AND
HURMIZAH THE HELL
LORD KILLED HER!
AND YOU WERE SO
BUSY IN POINTLESS
COMBAT, YOU
IGNORED MARY'S
CRIES FOR HELP!

DO YOU
GET IT NOW?
DO YOU FINALLY
GET IT?

ALL THIS TIME,
YOU'VE ALWAYS BLAMED
ME, OLD BUZZ, FOR ANY
NASTINESS IN YOUR LIFE.
BUT THE TRUTH IS, YOU
JUST NEVER WANTED TO
LIVE WITH THE CONSE-
QUENCES OF YOUR
ACTIONS.

AND
MARY, SHE
WASN'T ABLE
TO LIVE WITH THEM AT
ALL, WAS SHE?

BUT YOU GO RIGHTON
AHEAD. YOU GO BACK TO
SLUGGING IT OUT WITH YOUR
BETTER HALF, THEN PAT YOUR-
SELF ON THE BACK FOR A JOB
WELL DONE AT THE END OF
THE DAY... PRESUMING THIS
DAY EVER ENDS!

the better angel

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I can't tune him out... try as I might...

He's trying to get to me... but I...

MARY... OH, GOD...

...I'M... I'M SO SORRY...
YOU SHOULD NEVER HAVE
COME ALONG ON THIS... THIS
INSANE QUEST TO FIND MY
"EARTH ANGEL HALF"... I
SHOULD HAVE BEEN PAYING
ATTENTION... I...

MARY?!

ARE... ARE
YOU...

And we connect... I don't know how. From the... the magic that powers her... the insanity that seems to be enveloping us...

She'd had a power bestowed upon her... the power to perceive demons... to see things as they truly are...

...and for a heartbeat... we share it. It's within me, and I'm in it, and I see. I understand.

God help me, I understand...

When the Earth Angel was torn from me, it left an **emptiness** within me. An emotional vacuum... and the Chaos Stream seeped in. It saw the evil within me, the awfulness... a kindred spirit.

And I got worse and worse. We fed on each other... and now it's... it's overrunning its banks... flooding... For the first time in recorded history. In Las Vegas...

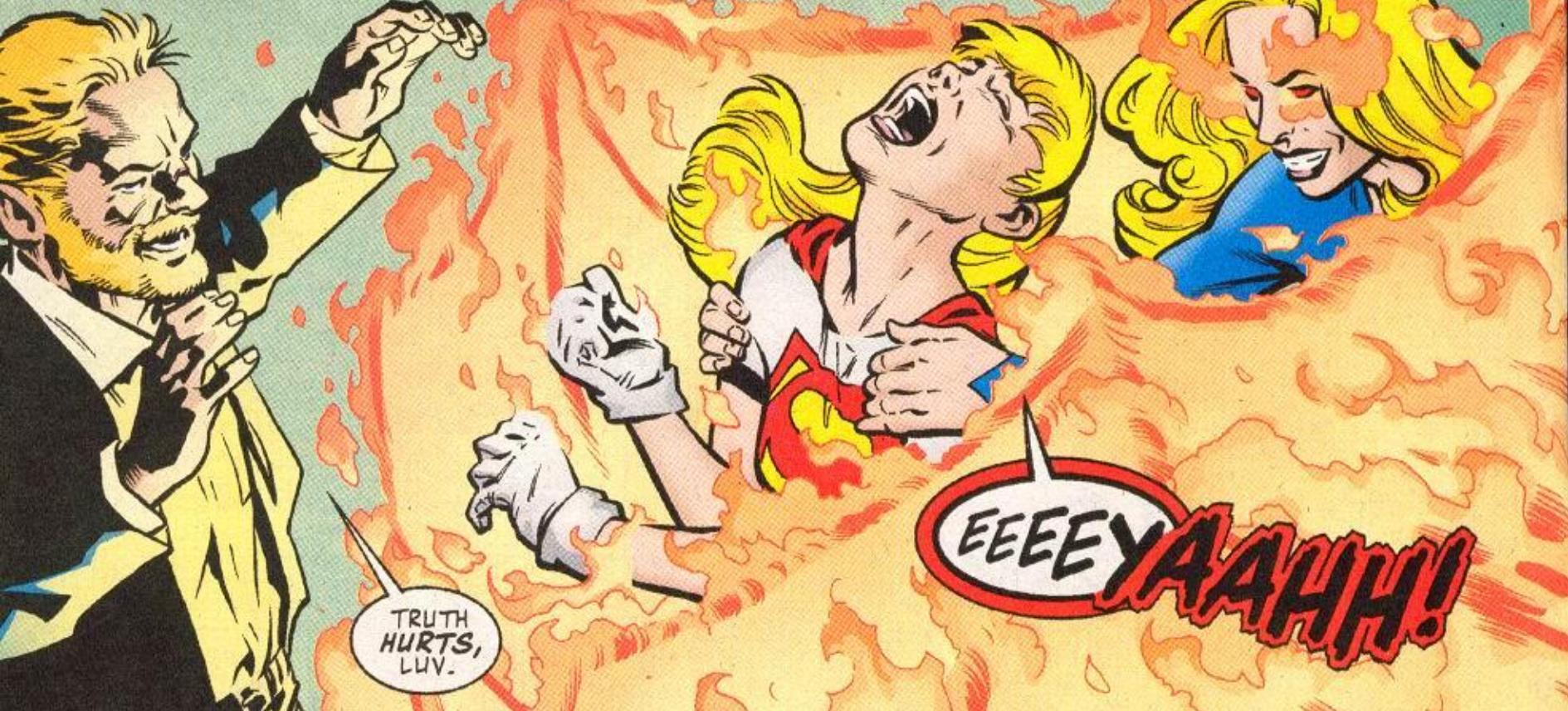
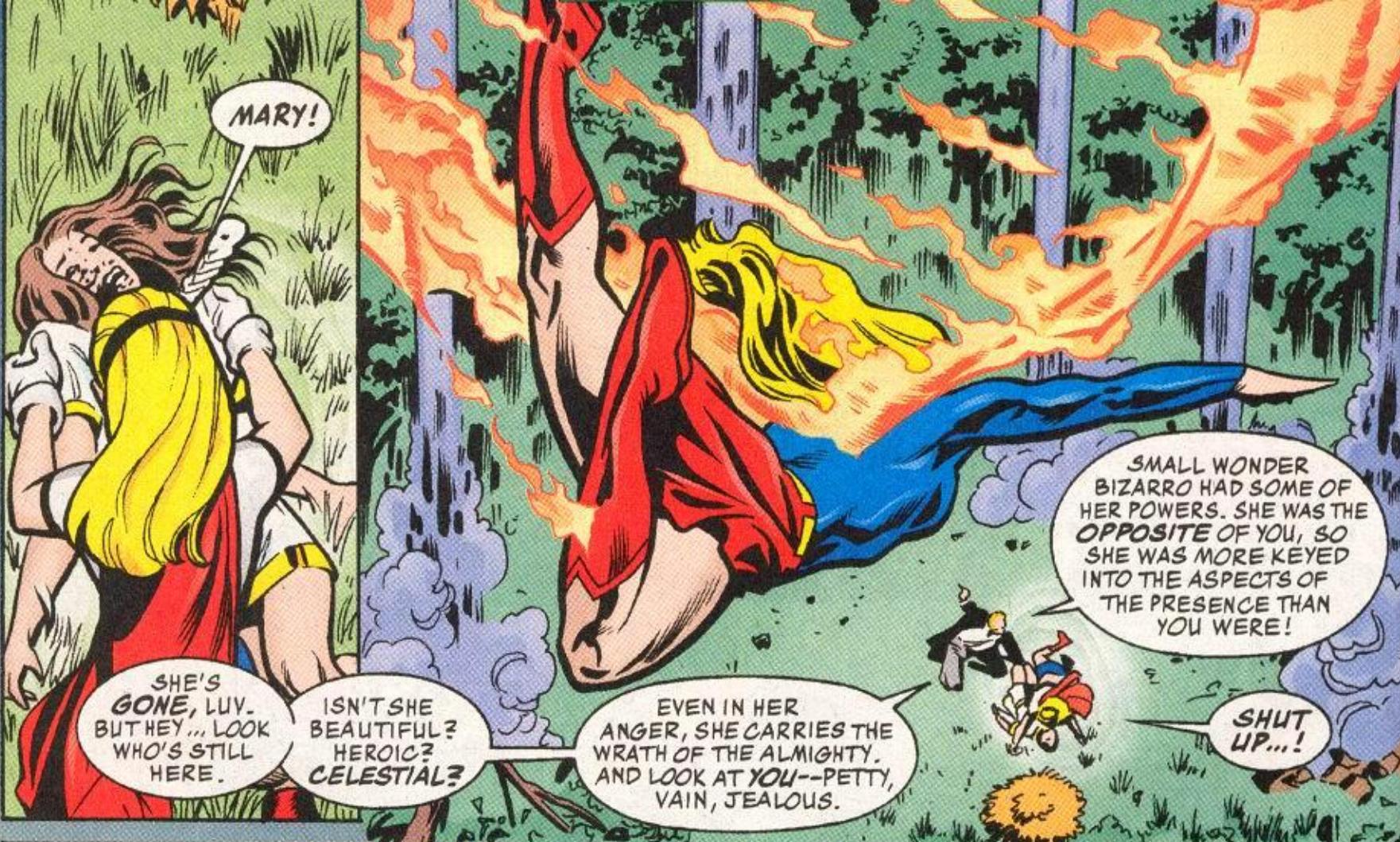
POMPEII HOTEL

...in New Orleans...

...in Metropolis... wreaking havoc...

...because of me. Because of my weakness of spirit... because I pretended to be worthy of the symbol on me.

Instead, I... I disgraced it. Mary tried to show me the way, and I resented her for it... Mary was...



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AHHH, THE WINGS OF FLAME. THOSE MARVELOUS WEAPONS OF THE EARTH-BORN ANGEL OF FIRE, JUDGING AND CONDEMNING THOSE WITH EVIL IN THEIR HEART AND DOUBT IN THEIR MIND.

THE EARTH-BORN ANGEL, UNDER MY LITTLE BIZARRO'S CONTROL... AND SHE, IN TURN, UNDER MINE.

AND YOU BELIEVE THAT, WITH SUPERGIRL'S FEARS AND INNER EVIL PUSHED TO THE BOILING POINT... THE CHAOS STREAM WILL BOIL OVER AS WELL, AND THE BARRIERS TO PERDITION WILL BE BROKEN DOWN?

BELIEVE IT, HURMIZAH? NO, MY DEAR HELL LORD...

...I KNOW IT.

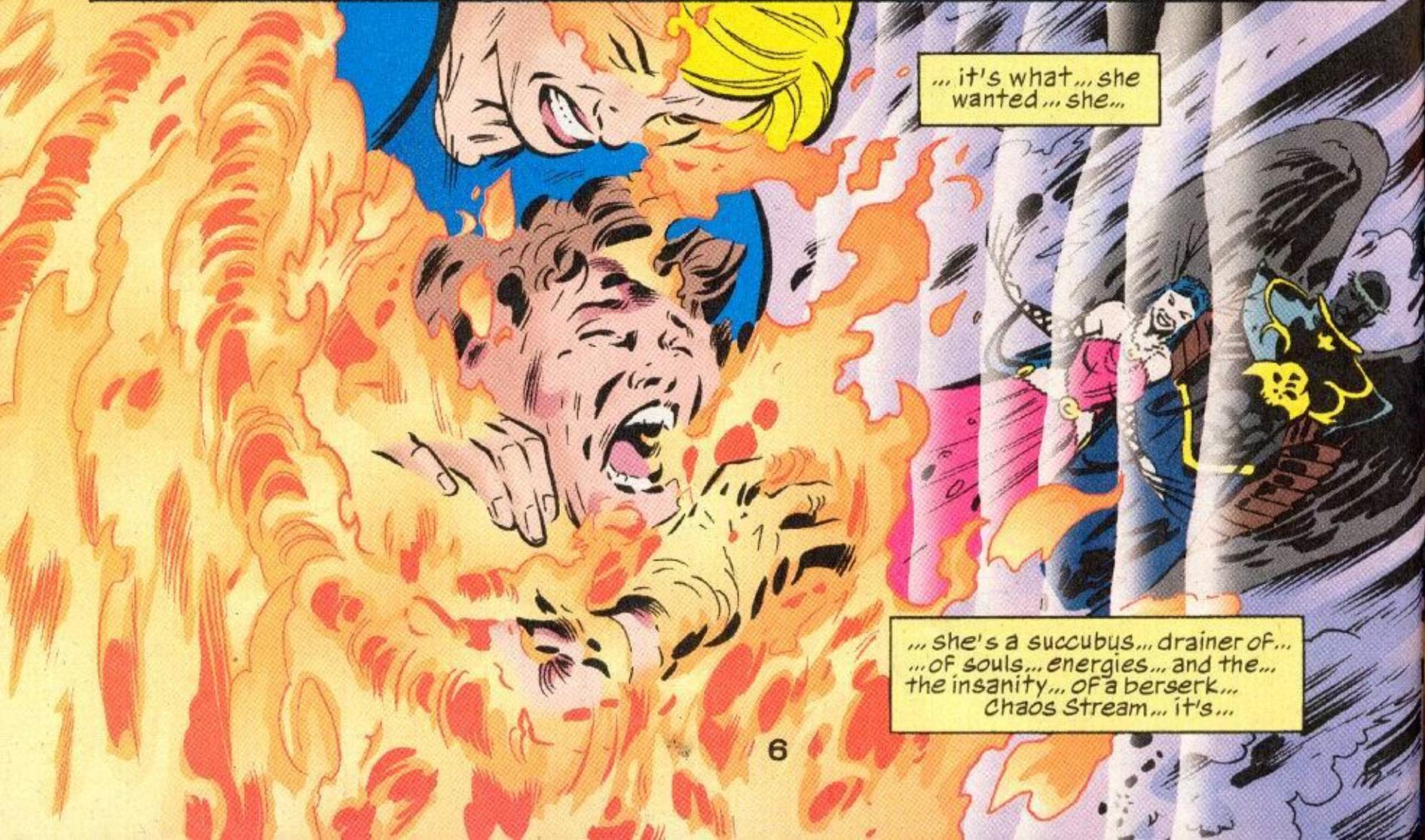
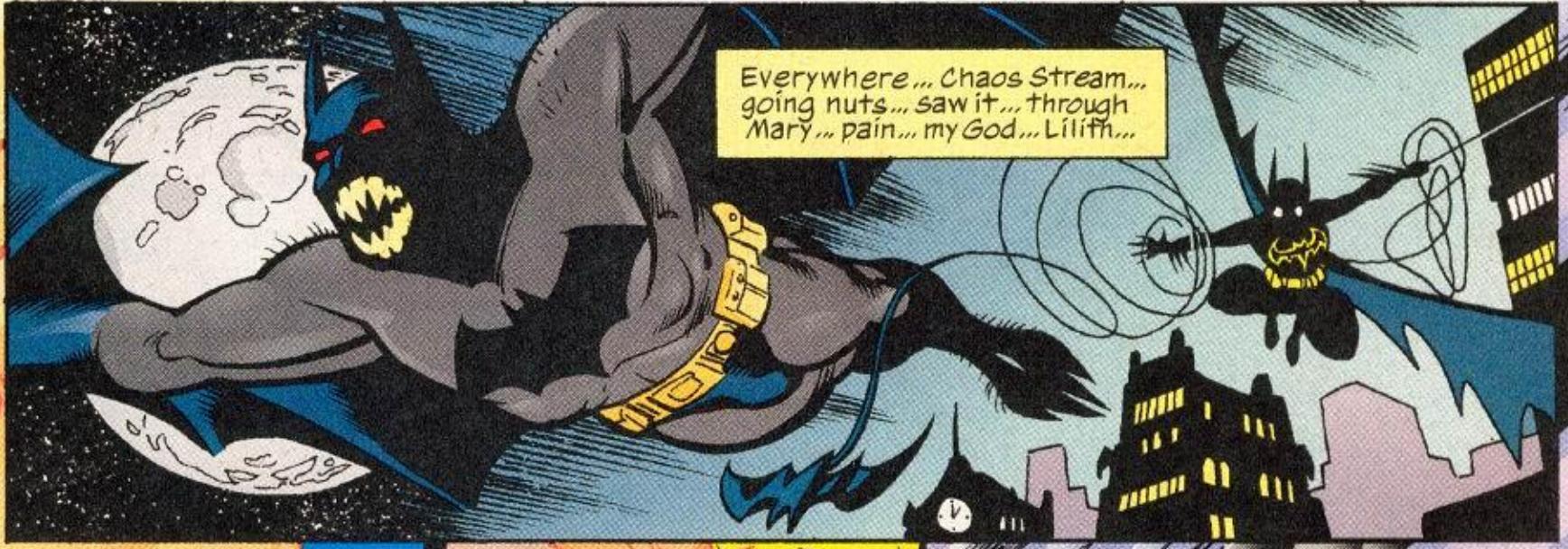
WHERE IS TWILIGHT?

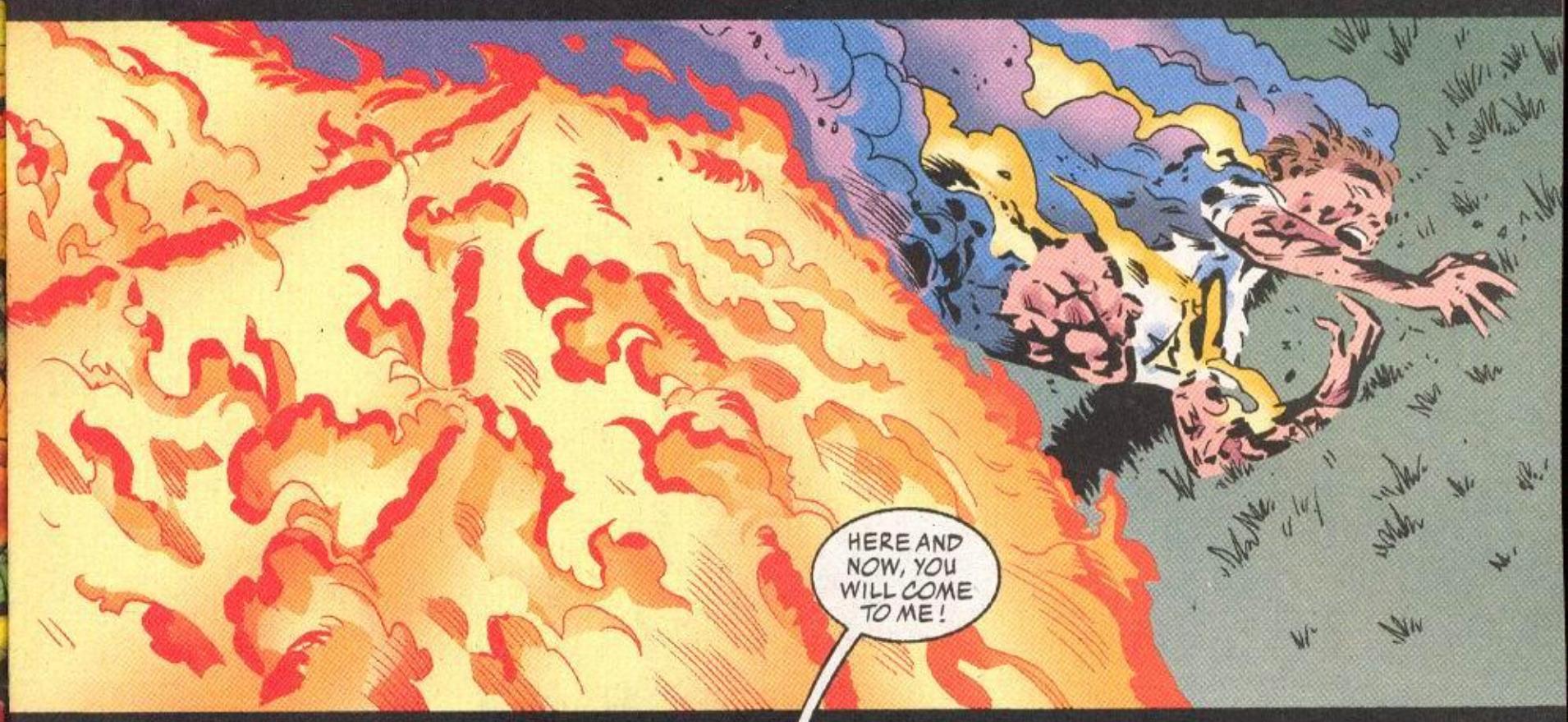
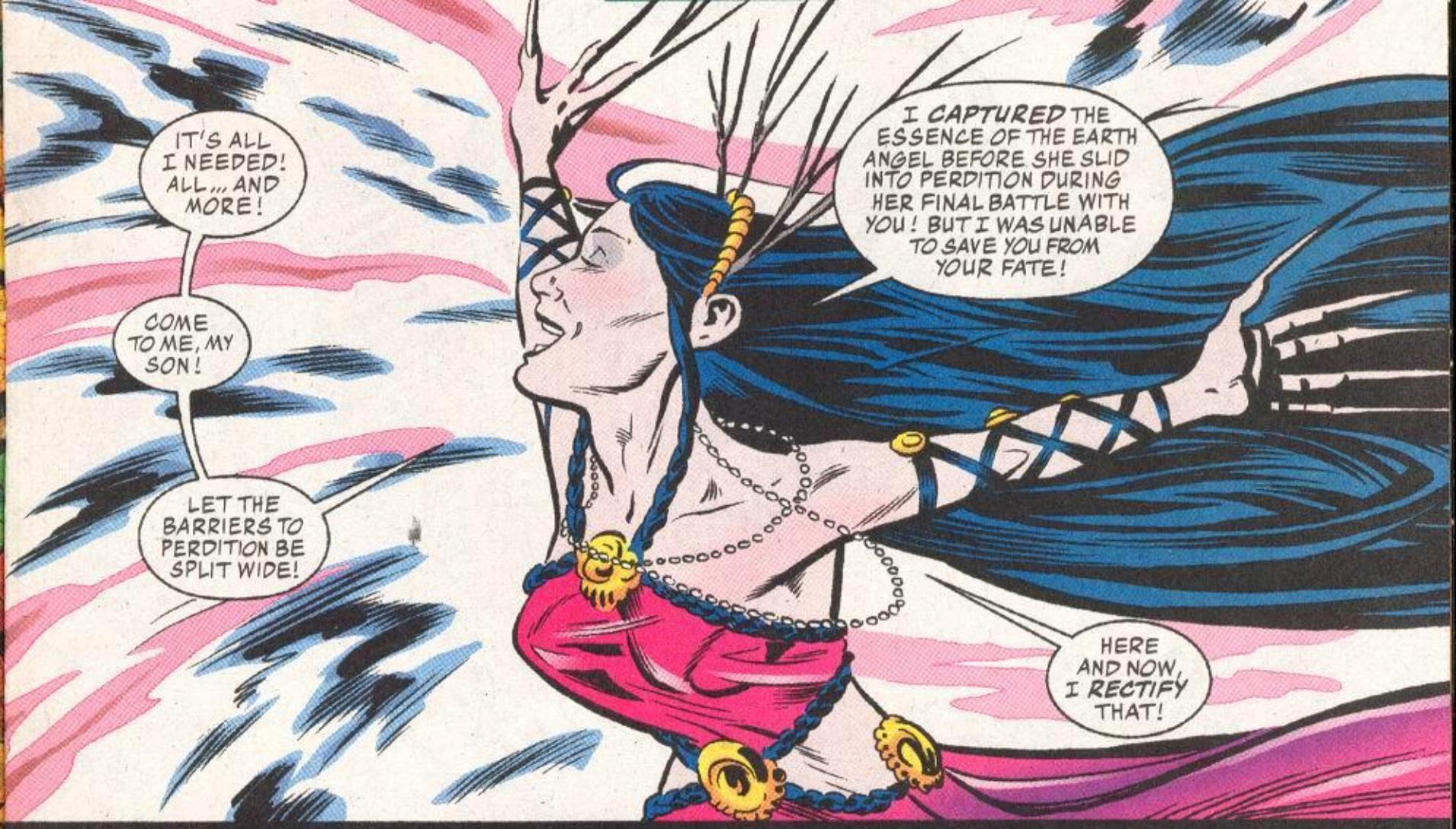
"SHE IS MY HELPMATE AND SERVANT IN THIS MATTER. IT IS NOT MEET THAT SHE SHOULD BE ABSENT AT THIS MOMENT."

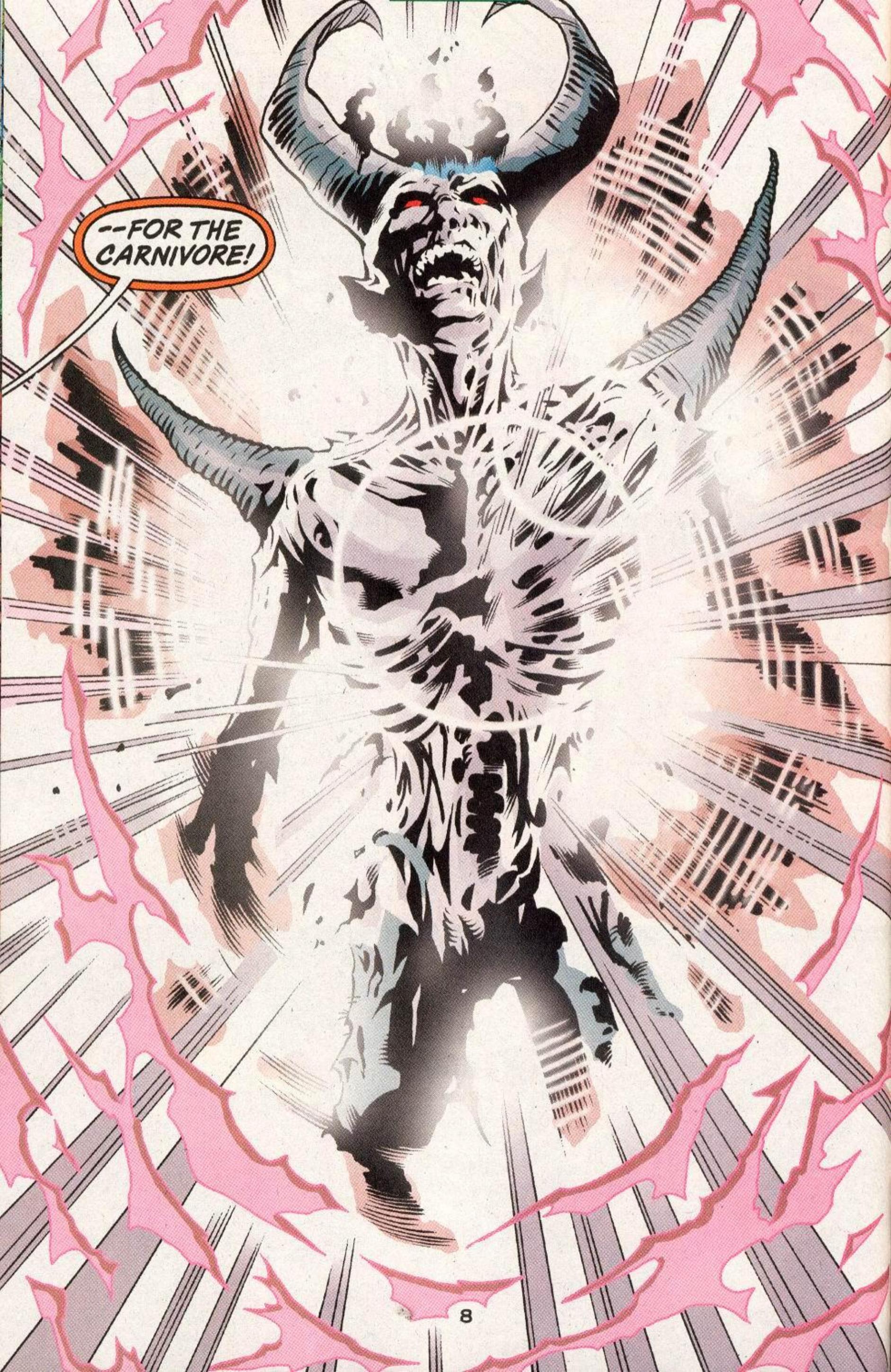
QUEEN MAB
...I DON'T
UNDERSTAND. YOU
SAID YOU'D BRING
ME TO MY SISTER.
WHERE...?

Patience,
my dear
Twilight.

Behold...







--FOR THE
CARNIVORE!

No way...

...no way...
in hell.

...instead I
learned... nothing...
except how to
avoid... taking
responsibility...

...no
more...
it... it
stops
here...

...it
stops...

I've...
been so
wrong
about...

...about
so many
things...

I could've
learned from
Mary... or from
Mae... when I
was joined
to her...

...WITH
STOPPING...
YOU...!

I'M SORRY...
DID I MISS
THE PART WHERE
I WAS INTENDED
TO APPLAUD?

HERE,
THEN. THE
SOUND OF
ONE HAND
CLAPPING.

WAK

UNHHH!



THIS IS BEYOND YOUR ABILITY TO HALT, LINDA.

MY SON IS RETURNING, AND BRINGING ALL THE DAMNED SOULS WHO HAUNT PERDITION WITH HIM!

HE'LL MAKE HIS MOTHER PROUD YET!

I CAN MAKE YOU PROUD TOO, MOTHER!

Eh?

HOW IS BIZARRO DOING SO FAR?

BIZARRO! NOW IS NOT THE TIME! YOU MUST--

BIZARRO! ATTACK THAT MONSTER!

YOU STUPID! YOU KNOW I NO LISTEN TO WHAT YOU SAY!

EXCEPT... YOU KNOW I NO LISTEN TO YOU. WHICH MEANS... YOU THINK I WILL DO OPPOSITE OF WHAT YOU SAY TO SHOW I NO LISTEN. OPPOSITE WOULD MEAN... NOT ATTACK. SO... BIZARRO SHOULD DO OPPOSITE OF OPPOSITE TO PROVE IT...

ATTAACK!!

A

HURMIZAH!
KEEP HER AWAY
FROM THE RIFT
BEFORE SHE
MUCKS THINGS
UP!

THEN
LET THE
LOCUSTS
SUP ON
YOU!

HAVE NO CON-
CERN, DEMON MOTHER!
THE BLACK PLAGUE
CAN EASILY ATTEND
TO THIS!

HO,
CREATURE! I
PERCEIVE YOU TO
BE MORE
VEGETABLE THAN
ANIMAL!

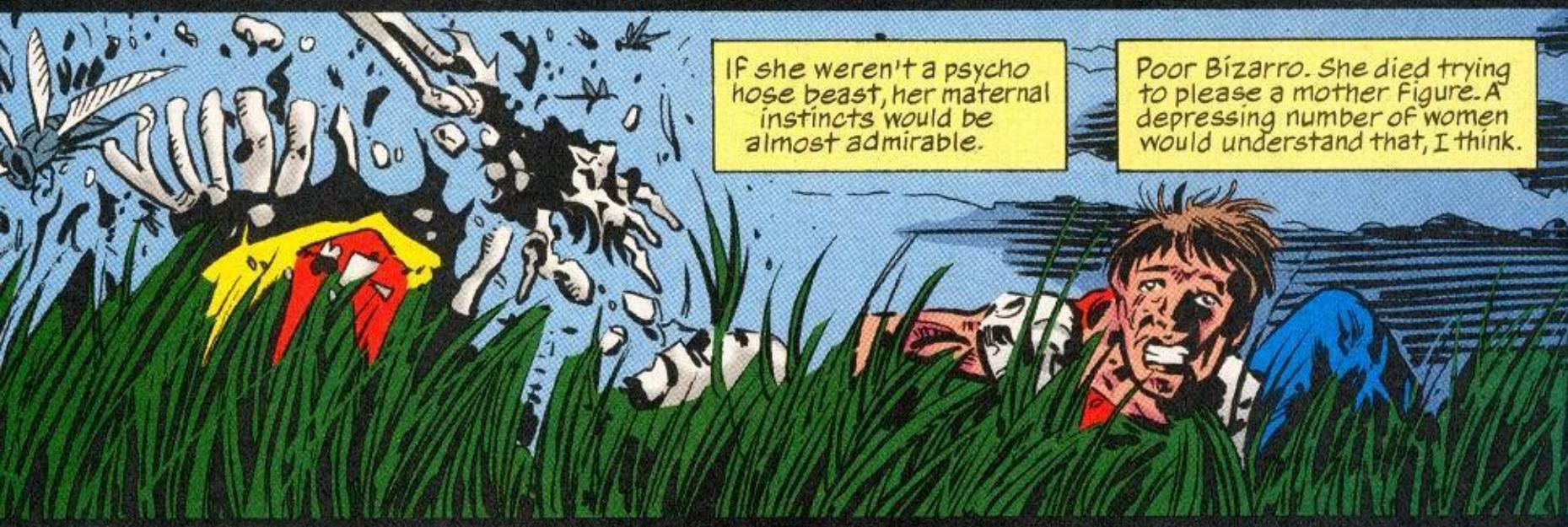
Damn. Just when I
finally figured out
how to get her to do
what I want.

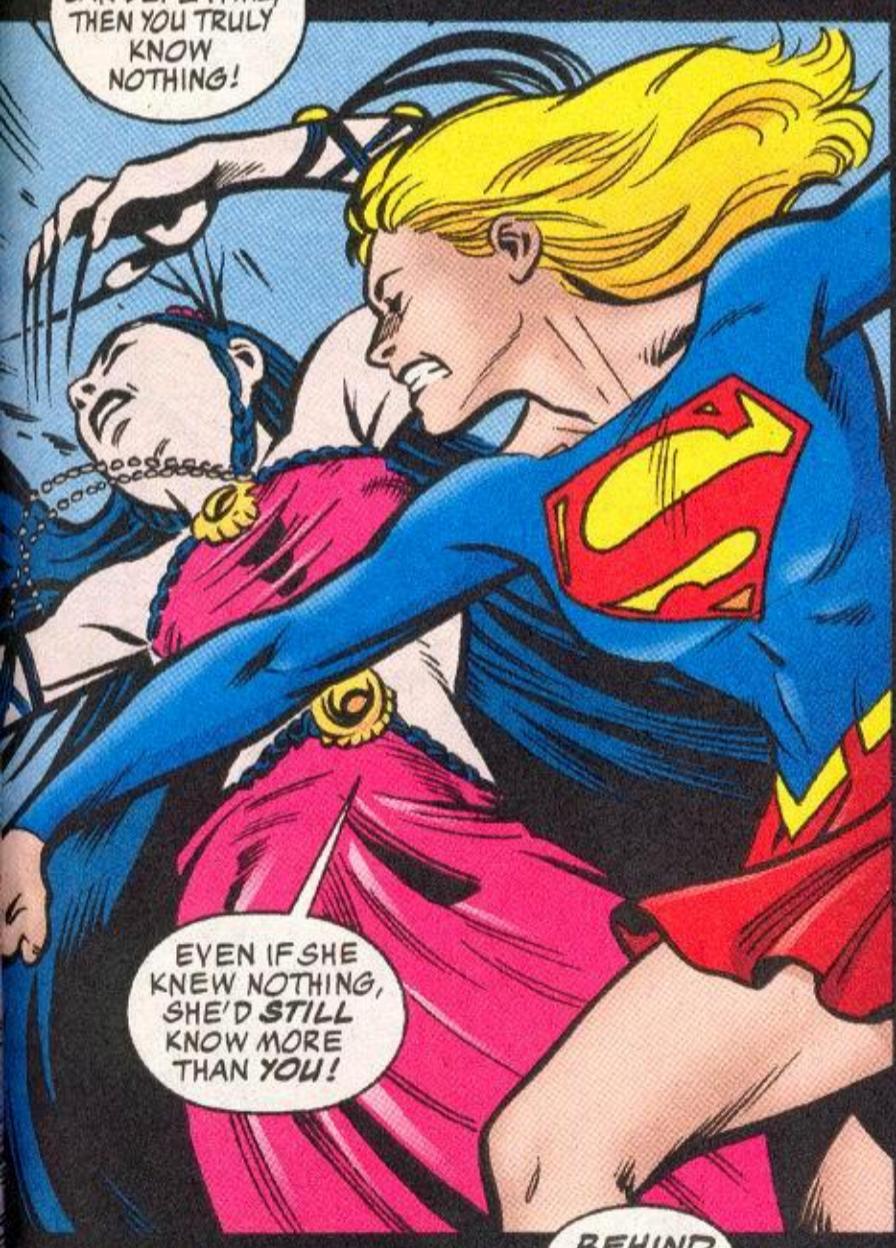
UNNNHHH!!

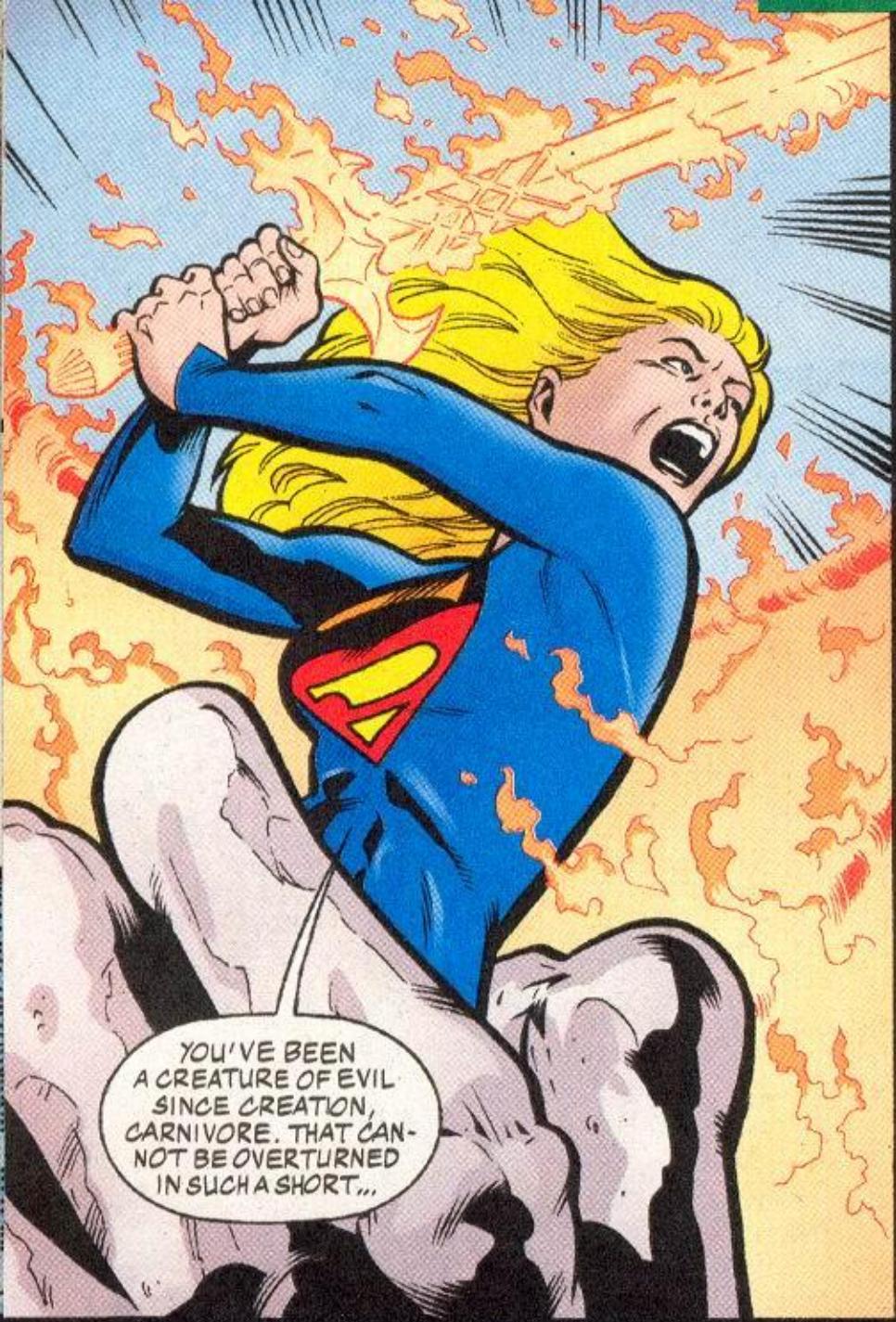
WELL,
THIS NOT
KILL ME!



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I'LL MARSHAL THE
FORCES OF THE REST OF
PERDITION'S RANKS! AND
DO NOT FOR A MOMENT
THINK YOU CAN STAND
AGAINST ME!

I HAVE NOT ONLY MY
OWN POWER, BUT THE LOVE
AND SUPPORT OF BAALZEBUB
HIMSELF! CHALLENGE ME
AND YOU CHALLENGE THE
VERY HOSTS OF HELL!

WHO AMONG
YOU IS THAT POWER-
FUL? THAT STUPID?
NONE, I DARE SAY!
SO RUN WHILE YOU
CAN, YOU--

URKH!

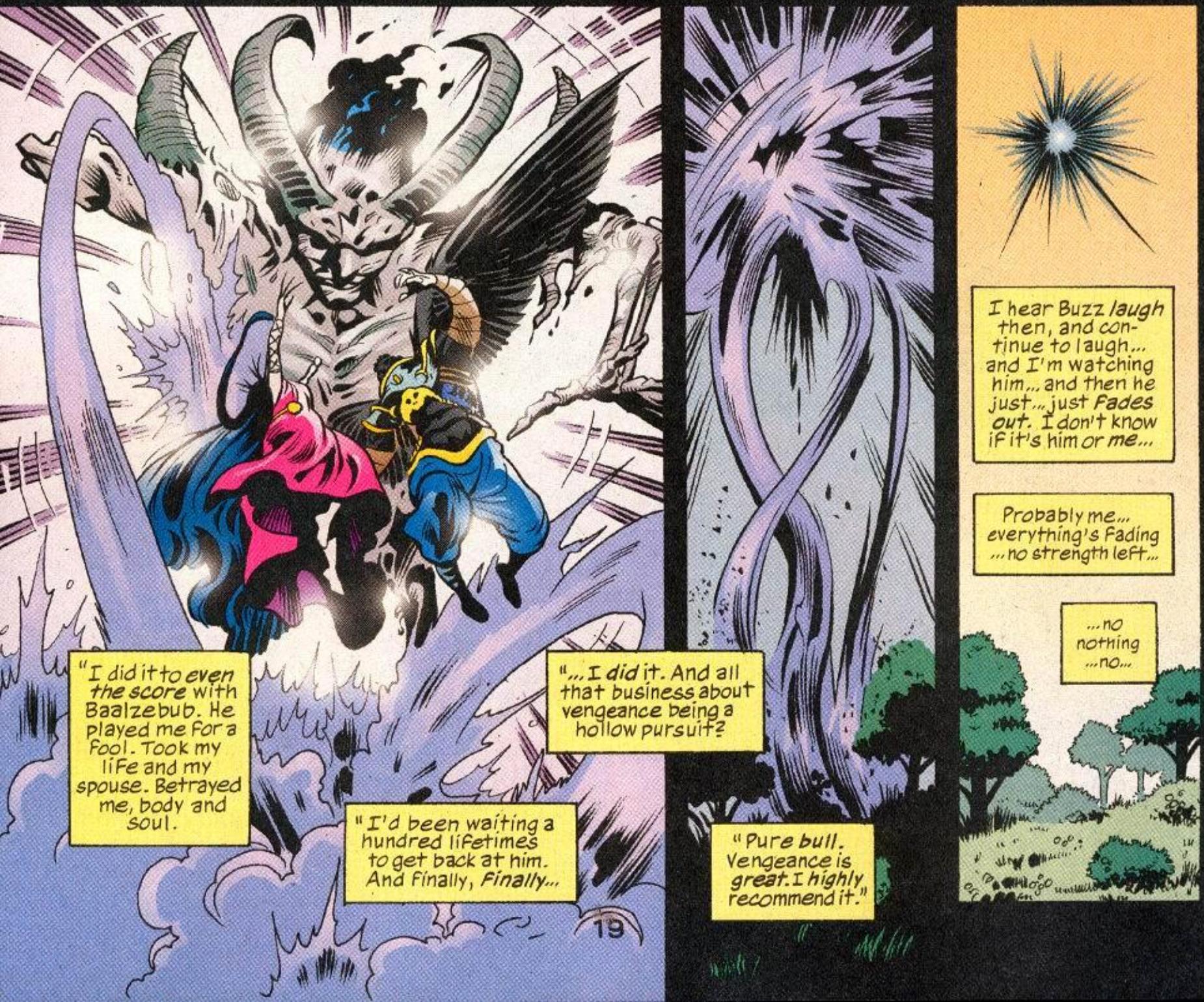
MY KNIFE! THAT... THAT IS...
MY KNIFE? WHO THREW--?

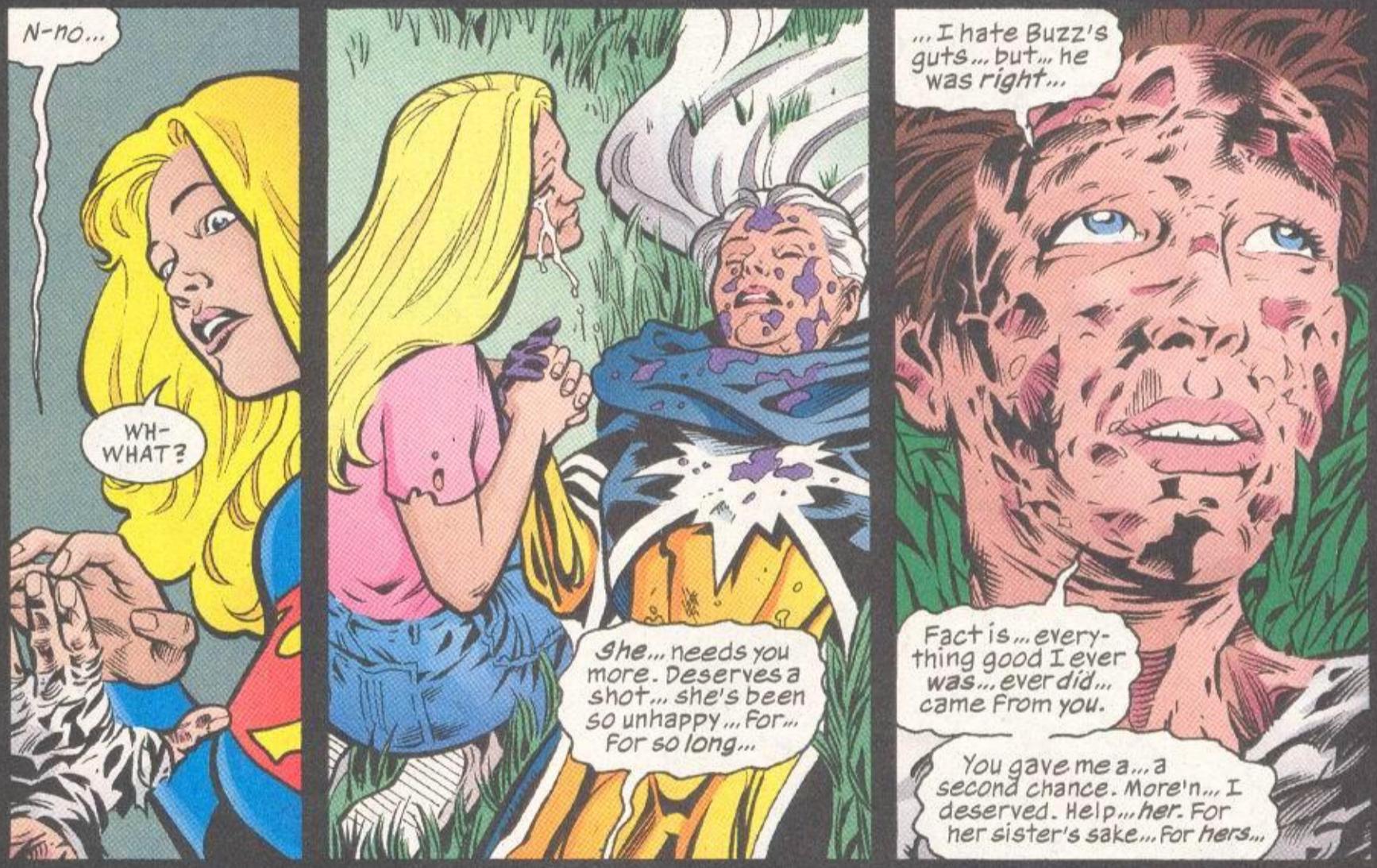
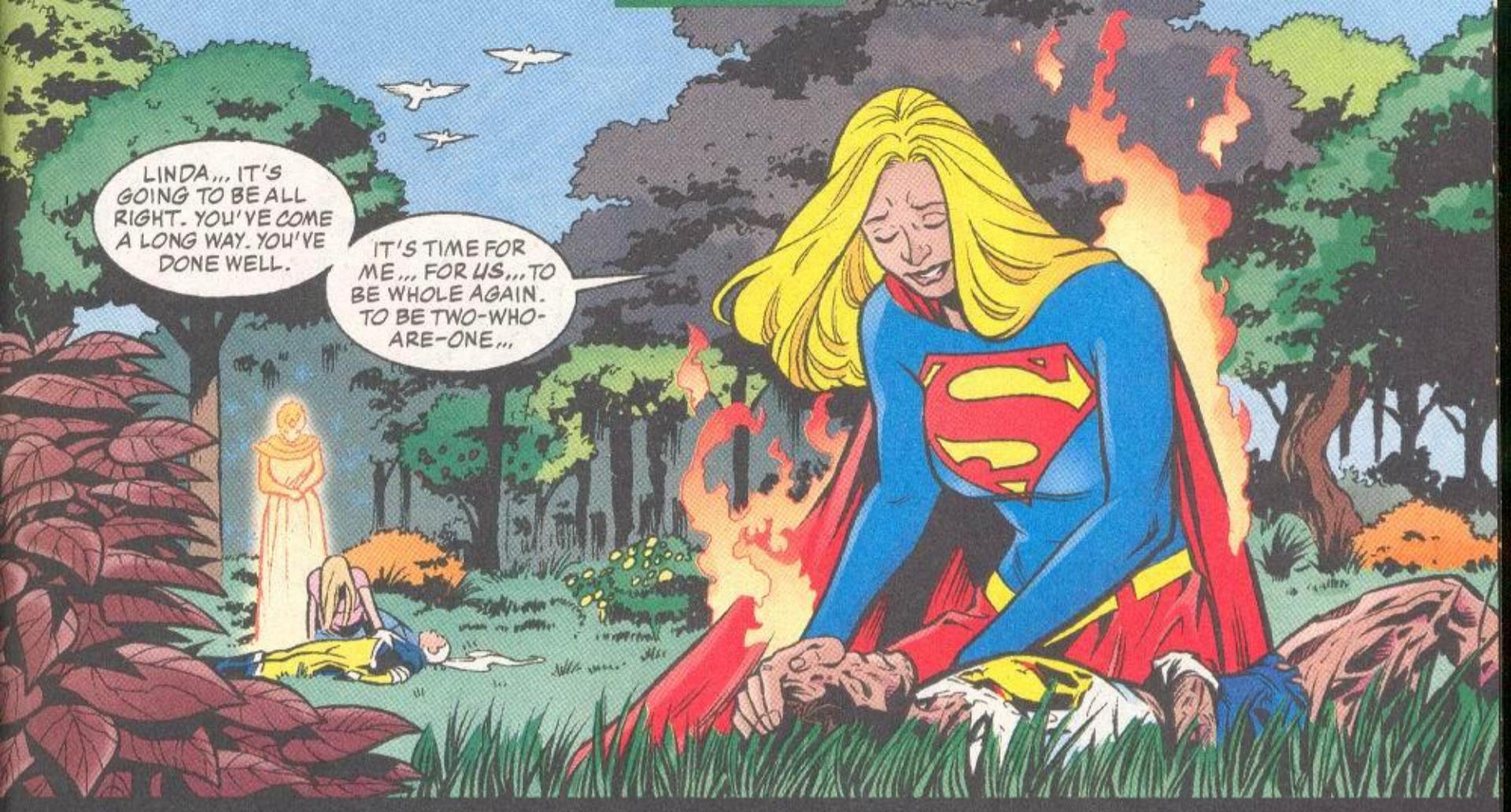
I DID. NICKED
IT WHILE YOU WERE
PUTTERIN' AROUND
IN THE DARK.

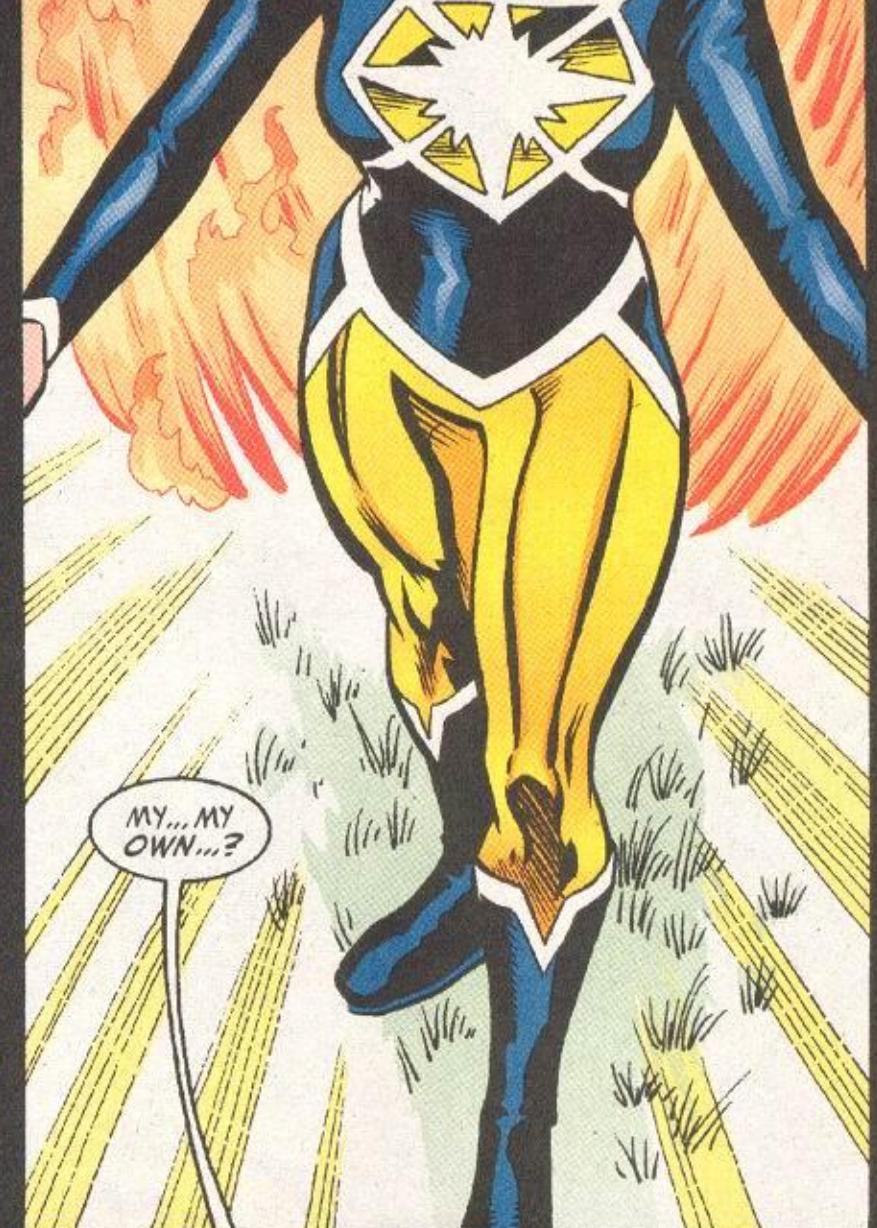
'CAUSE ONLY HELLSPAWN
WEAPONS CAN DESTROY
LORDS OF HELL... OR
THEIR LADIES.

IT'S MOTHER'S
DAY FOR YOU, DEMON
MUM. MANY HAPPY
BLOODY RETURNS.

LADIES...
TAKE 'EM OUT.







It's over... and it's beginning. Later I'd find out that the effects of the Chaos Stream were temporary. That once it subsided, everyone and everything was restored.

As for me... well, I was a lousy student in school. Always was.

Except for Shakespeare's Sonnets. I loved 'em. Still do. And as I float on air for the first time in ages... as I think of the choices that have been made... a particular one comes back to mind...

"Two loves I have, of comfort and despair,
Which like two spirits do suggest me still;
The better angel is a man right fair,
The worser spirit a woman coloured ill."

"To win me soon to hell, my female
evil tempteth my better angel from
my side, and would corrupt my saint
to be a devil, wooing his purity with
her foul pride."

"And whether that my angel
be turned fiend, suspect I
may, yet not directly tell;
But being both from me, both
to each friend, I guess one
angel in another's hell."

"Yet this shall I ne'er
know, but live in doubt,
Till my bad angel fire
my good one out."

KIRK & RIGGS