



BATMAN

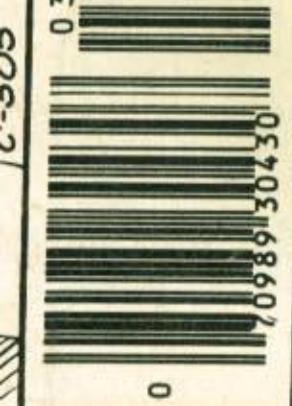
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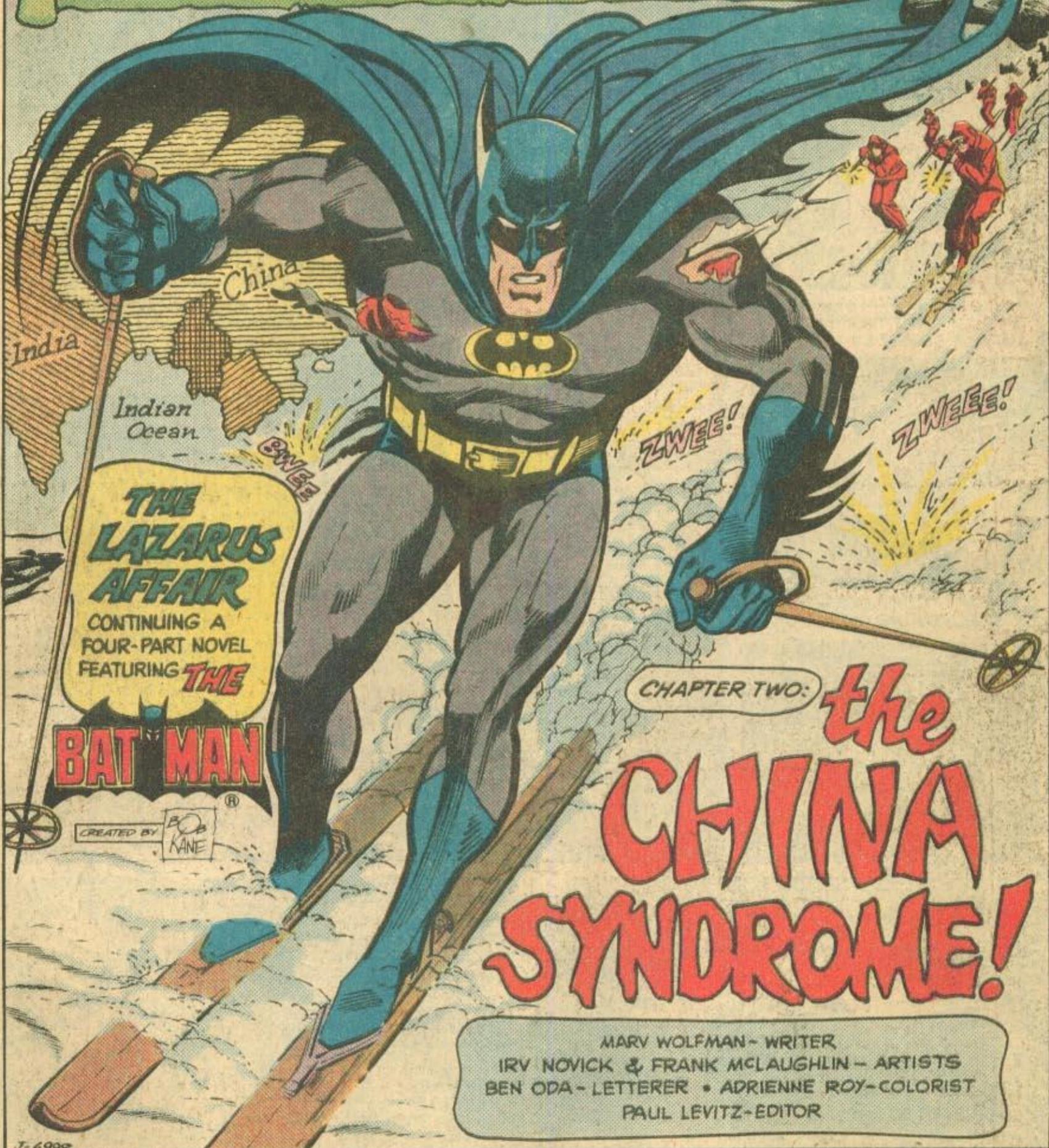
LASER
TARGET

PLUS:
ROBIN and CATWOMAN--
"SHANGHAIED"
ALONG WITH A SPECIAL
GUEST STAR!



FROM THE DIARY OF AL TALMÜN, 17TH CENTURY HISTORIAN:

"HE CAME TO US HANDS OPEN IN PEACE AND HE TOOK ALL WE OWNED. WHAT MEAGER FOODS WE FARMED HE STOLE. WHAT WOMEN WE LOVED WERE TAKEN AND SEEN NEVER MORE. WE WERE A FEW, AND HE CAME WITH MANY WHO DESTROYED OUR LIVES, OUR HOMES, AND OUR HOPES. HE WAS A HEARTLESS SCOURGE AND WE WERE THE FIRST TO SUFFER HIS EVIL TOUCH."



J-6992

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KATHMANDU, NEPAL:
HE RISES FROM HIS
BAMBOO HAMMOCK
AND BOWS TO HIS
HOST. IT IS ALMOST
TIME TO RETIRE
FOR THE NIGHT.

He leaves and walks off toward the mountains, as he has every night for the past ten years. He has a job that must be done...

TEN LONG
YEARS.
OTHERS
WOULD HAVE
GIVEN UP
HOPE.

FOR A BRIEF MOMENT HE STARES
AT THE GLOWING LIGHTS FROM THE
VALLEY BELOW. THEN HE TAKES A
DEEP BREATH AND BEGINS TO WORK...

He fits together his radio receiver by touch...

AT VARIOUS TIMES IN HIS LIFE, HE HAS SEEN HIMSELF AS OPHIUCHUS, THE SERPENT-HOLDER, OR CEPHEUS, THE KING, OR CYGNUS, THE SPREAD-WINGED SWAN...

BUT NOW HE FANTASIZES HIMSELF AQUILA, THE EAGLE... THE POWERFUL BIRD OF PREY, WAITING TO SWOOP UPON SOME UNSUSPECTING FOE...

...STARING AT THE GREAT CONSTELLATIONS STARING AT HIM...



FRAMED BY THE GLOW OF AQUILA'S BRIGHTEST STAR, ALTAIR, HE FITS HIS HEADSET IN PLACE...



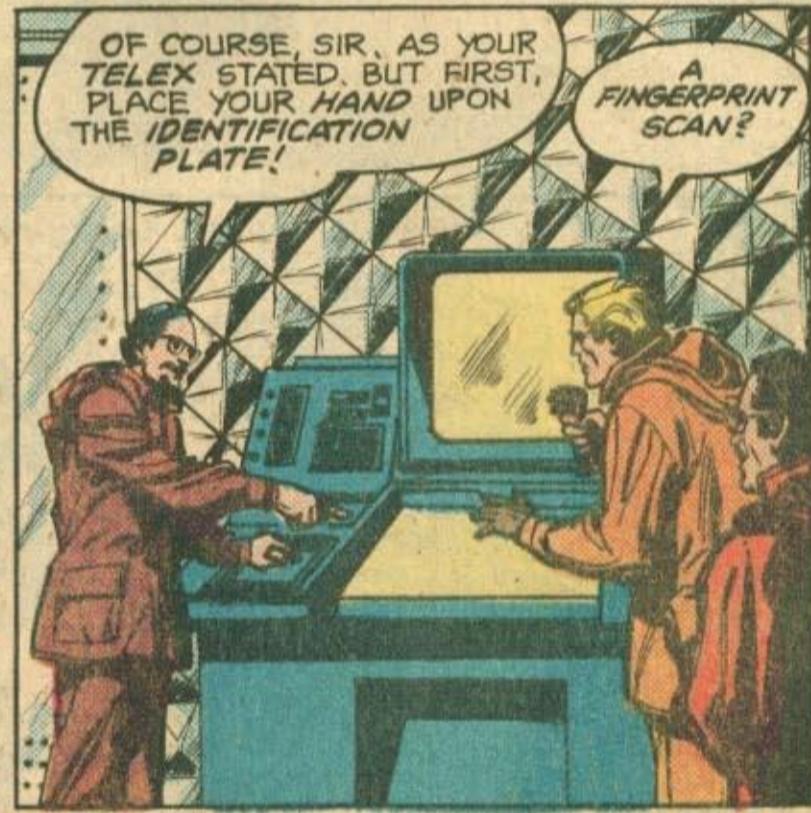
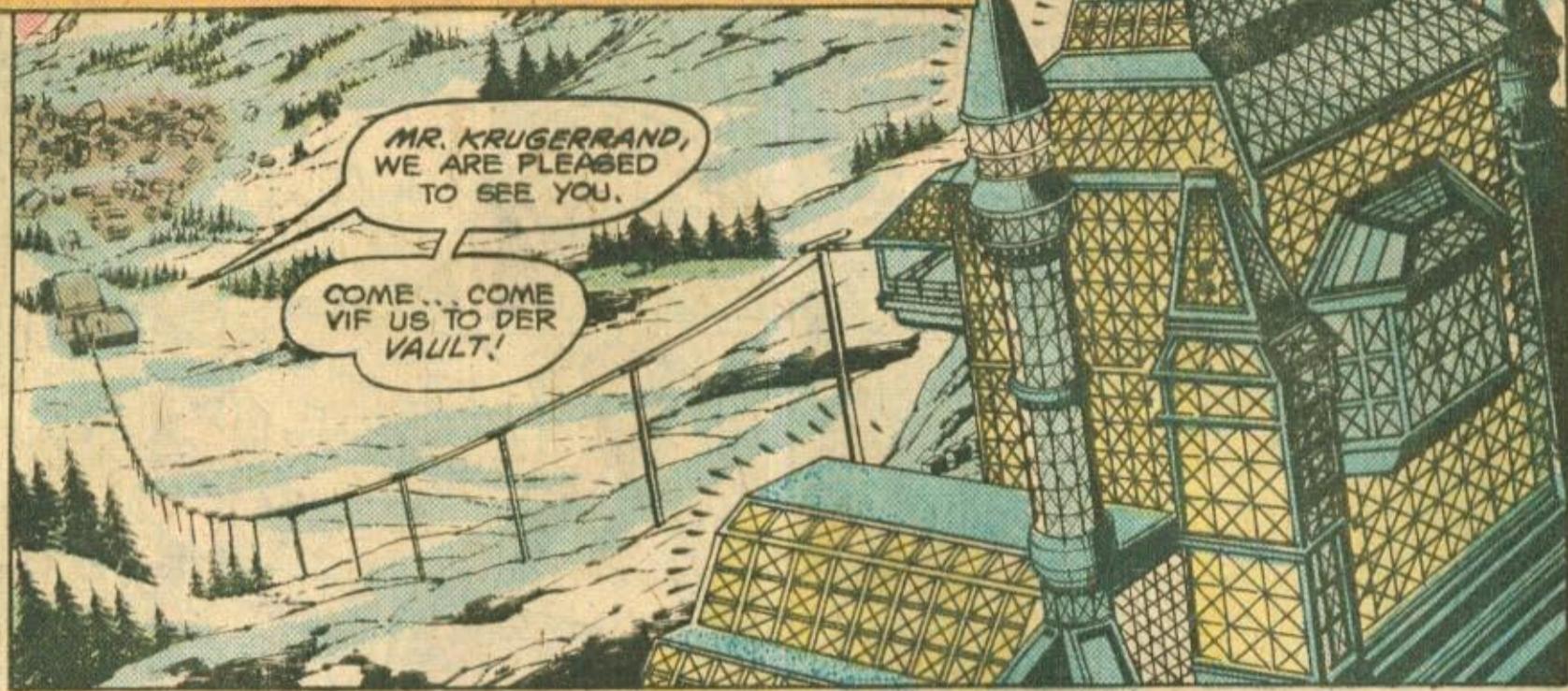
...NEVER KNOWING THE PEOPLE OF THE LAND BELOW HAVE A NAME FOR THAT SHINING STAR THAT SUITS HIM FAR MORE...

THEY CALL ALTAIR
"THE FLYING VULTURE"
AND VULTURE-LIKE
HE IS READY TO POUNCE...

...AS HIS RECEIVER PICKS UP A CERTAIN WAVE-LENGTH SILENCED FOR MORE THAN TEN LONG YEARS...



MONTFAUCON, SWITZERLAND: THE CITY IS RELATIVELY QUIET; THE NOISY SKIERS WILL NOT BE RIDING THE JURA MOUNTAINS FOR ANOTHER MONTH. STILL, THERE COMES A VISITOR...



INSIDE THE VAULT...

I'D LIKE TO BE
ALONE NOW, MR. GUSTAV.
IF YOU DON'T MIND,
THAT IS...

NEIN, I
UNDERSTAND.
IT IS ALWAYS
BEST TO BE
ALONE VEN ONE
IS ABOUT TO
DIE!

WHAT?

GUSTAV SMILES
AS HIS HAND PULLS
DOWN THE RAISED
LEVER.

SUDDENLY, THERE IS THE
HARSH WHOOSH OF WARM
WIND...

WHAT IN THE WORLD?
THE FLOOR?

DER LASER SCAN
REVEALED YOU TO BE
AN IMPOSTOR, MY
FRIEND. AN IMPOSTOR
WE VERE PREPARED
FOR, EH--BATMAN?

YOU SHOULD
NOT HAF
IMPERSONATED
A MAN YE KNEW
TO BE RECENTLY
DEAD!

YOU
KNEW? HOW?

VE HAF OUR VAYS. NOW,
LISTEN--DIS BANK VAS
BUILT ABOVE A DEEP
VOLCANO. SHOULD
YOU DROP, YOU VILL
MOST DEFINITELY
PLUNGE TO YOUR
DOOM.

AND, OF COURSE, VE HAF
METHODS OF ASSURING
THAT YOU FALL.

CLICK!

I HAF
ACTIVATED DER
HEAT SENSORS.
VERY SOON DER VALLS
VILL BECOME A
SCORCHING FOUR
HUNDRED DEGREES!

YOU VILL
LET GO THEN.
YOU VILL FALL
THEN.

AND YOU
SHALL DIE
THEN.

GOOD DAY,
BATMAN!

ONE THING MORE, BATMAN.
SHOULD YOU ATTEMPT AN
ESCAPE, MY MEN WILL SHOOT
YOU. EITHER WAY, YOU
DIE, EH?

HEAT'S
INCREASING...
STARTING TO
BURN MY
HANDS!

BUT THERE MAY
STILL BE TIME
ENOUGH TO
ESCAPE!

DEN YOU'VE MERELY
SAVED US DER TROUBLE
OV KILLING YOU!

YOU
LET GO?

NOT
EXACTLY,
FRIEND...

I WAS
FALLING TO
GET SOME
MOMENTUM--

--AND I
NEEDED THAT...

...TO
DO THIS!

SPLAMM!

AND THE WAY
OUT IS THROUGH
YOU!

V-VAIT--
AGHHHH!!

MY BEST CHANCE
IS TO GET THE BLAZES
OUT OF HERE!

BEFOW!

BWEE!

ZPTOK!

NO WAY TO GET DOWN THIS SLOPE WITHOUT SKIS, AND I DON'T THINK I CAN CONVINCE THEM TO LET ME TAKE THIS CABLE CAR BACK TO TOWN--



I'M AFRAID THAT LEAVES ME ONLY ONE PAINFUL ALTERNATIVE!

AND THAT'S SLIDING DOWN THE CABLE ITSELF-- ARGHHH!

BULLET!... GRAZED MY RIBS!

UNHHH... SIDE FEELS AWFUL... WARM... THROBBING. BLAST... I'M BLEEDING!

BUT I'LL FEEL A LOT WORSE IF I DON'T MAKE IT ALL THE WAY DOWN!

HE VILL NOT GET AWAY... NOT IF YOU ON YOUR ROCKET SKIS!

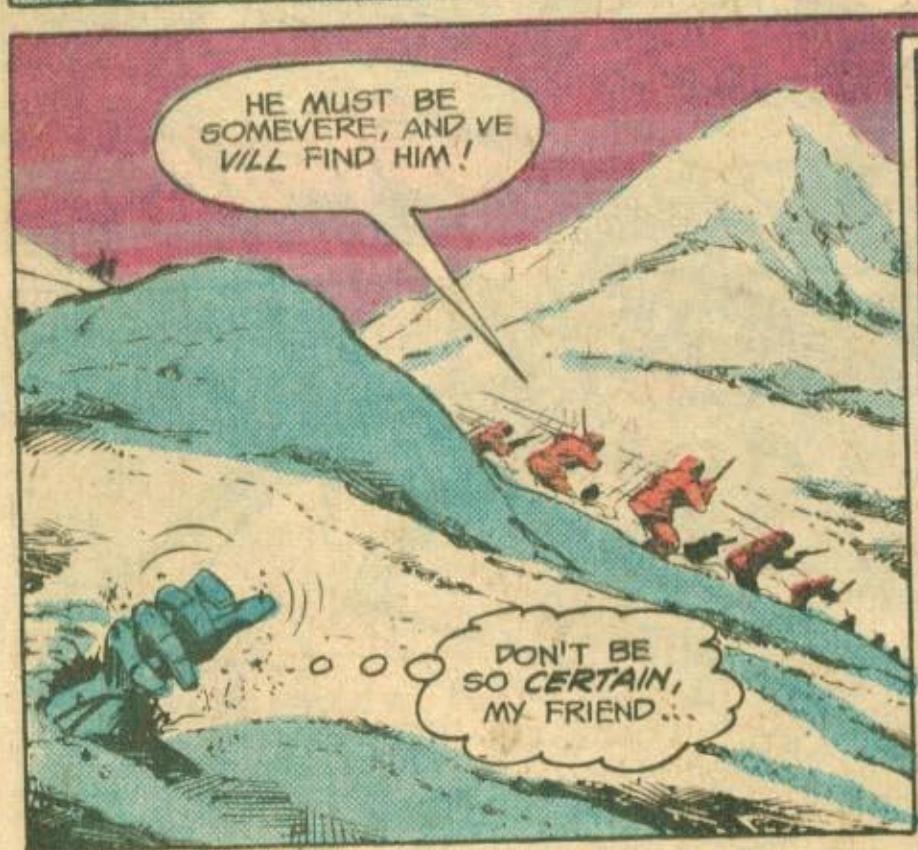
REMEMBER, THESE LASER RIFLES VILL KILL ON CONTACT. DO NOT MISS!

ZING!

ZIP







FOR HOURS HE LIES IN THE COLD, NUMBING HIS SIDE TO THE PAIN. FINALLY, AS HIS STRENGTH RETURNS, THE BATMAN BEGINS THE LONG TREK BACK TO HIS HOTEL...

NOK
NOK!

WHO IS THERE?

TALIA! LET ME IN!

I... DIDN'T KNOW HOW MUCH LONGER I COULD HAVE WITHSTOOD THE PAIN...

SIT, MY LOVE... ON THE BED...

THIS SALVE MY FATHER INVENTED WILL HEAL YOU IN MINUTES.

I HOPE SO. I'LL NEED MY STRENGTH FOR WHAT LIES AHEAD.

THERE WILL BE TIME TO WORRY OF THE FUTURE SOON ENOUGH. BUT FOR NOW YOU MUST RELAX... YOU NEED COMFORTING.

I CAN GIVE YOU ALL YOU NEED... AND MORE.

TALIA, YOU TEMPT ME...

...BUT THERE'S TOO MUCH TO DO, AND FRANKLY, I DON'T WANT ANOTHER RELATIONSHIP RIGHT NOW.

THE LAST FEW HAVE BEEN TOO... PAINFUL.

AND I CAN'T PERMIT MORE PAIN TO CLOUD MY JUDGMENT. NOT NOW.

I WAS RIGHT ABOUT ONE THING... GREGORIAN FALSTAFF USED THAT BANK.

ROUBLE IS, I DISGUISED MYSELF AS A DEAD MAN-- HIS ASSISTANT, KRUGERRAND, MUST HAVE DIED AFTER WE LEFT GOTHAM LAST NIGHT.

OH...?

FALSTAFF WAS OBVIOUSLY HIRED TO RUIN BRUCE WAYNE. BUT WHY? WHY?

THEY TALK FOR MORE THAN AN HOUR.
THEN...

WE TAKE OFF
TOMORROW, TO
MEET OUR NEXT
CONTACT... HIS
NAME IS TORRENTS...

AND HE LIVES ABOARD
A CHINESE JUNK IN
DEEP BAY, HONG
KONG.

A JUNK CALLED
FENG-WEI...
THE PHOENIX!



BUT THAT'S TOMORROW.
TONIGHT, WELL... FIRST,
DINNER.

AND
THEN...?

THEN WE'LL
DISCUSS THAT
COMFORTING
YOU MENTIONED
EARLIER.

FOR A MOMENT BRUCE WAYNE WASHES AWAY
HIS TROUBLES AND SMILES.

BUT
UNFORTUNATELY,
HIS PEACE
LASTS LESS
THAN A
MINUTE...

KLINK!
CHEERS!
AND LOVE!
BAM-BAM-BAM!



MACHINE GUN!
TALIA--DUCK!

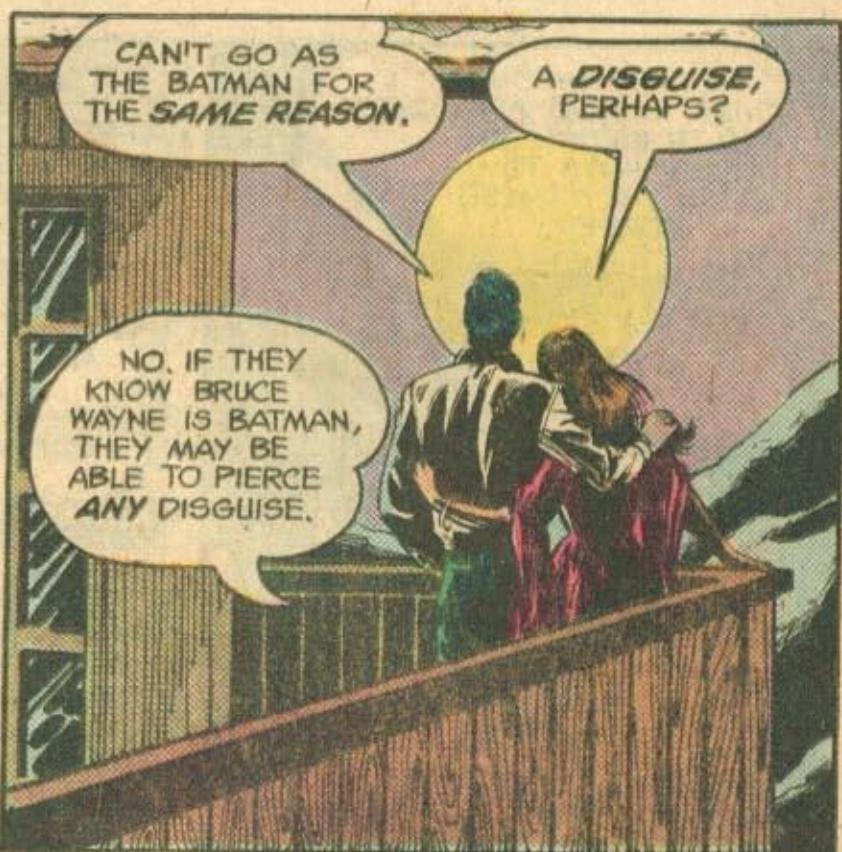


DOESN'T MATTER
WHERE WE ARE...

...THEY
ALWAYS SEEM
TO FIND US!







THE TRIP THROUGH CHINA IS LONG AND LONELY, AND I KNOW SOME SECRET WAYS TO CROSS THE CHINESE BORDER.

IT IS BEST THAT I COME.

THE SMALL PLANE FLIES LOW OVER CHINA'S ROCKY TERRAIN, AT TIMES SKIMMING AS LOW AS FIVE FEET ABOVE THE JAGGED SURFACE...

ALL THE BETTER TO AVOID CHINA'S VIGILANT RADAR PATROL...

THEY FLY FOR HOURS, LANDING ONCE AT A SMALL, HIDDEN AIRFIELD FOR REFUELING...

...THEN TAKING TO THE DARKENED SKIES ONCE AGAIN...

THEY SWOOP OVER TIRED PEASANTS WORKING IN RICE PADDIES...

...THEN CUT THEIR ENGINE TO GLIDE PAST WATCH-TOWERS SPREAD EVENLY ACROSS THE COUNTRYSIDE...

THE BATMAN GLANCES APPROVINGLY AT TALIA. EVEN SILENT, SHE IS GOOD COMPANY...

AT LONG LAST, THE PLANE LANDS...

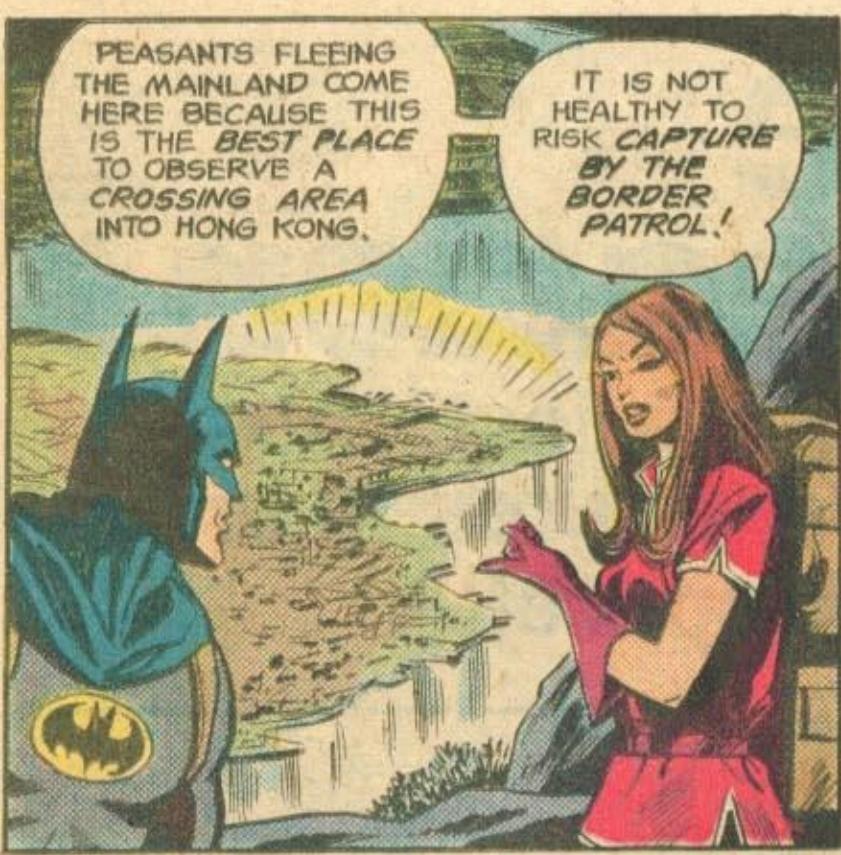
...AND THE NEXT SEVERAL HOURS ARE SPENT HIKING TOWARD THE SHAM CHUN RIVER WHICH SEPARATES MAINLAND CHINA FROM THE CITY OF HONG KONG...

WE CLIMB UP THERE-- ATOP WUTONG SHAN, OR THE CHINESE PARASOL TREE MOUNTAIN.

BUT TO THE PEASANTS TRYING TO FLEE THE MAINLAND, IT IS BEST KNOWN AS CHINA MOUNTAIN!

PEASANTS FLEEING THE MAINLAND COME HERE BECAUSE THIS IS THE **BEST PLACE** TO OBSERVE A CROSSING AREA INTO HONG KONG.

IT IS NOT HEALTHY TO RISK CAPTURE BY THE BORDER PATROL!



TO GO BY LAND IS A MISTAKE. "THE ROYAL GREEN JACKETS" OF THE BRITISH ARMY PATROL THE 17 MILE BORDER, AND THE MEMBERS OF THE "SIXTH QUEEN ELIZABETH'S OWN GURKA RIFLES" CAPTURE ALMOST HALF OF ALL INFILTRATORS.



EACH NIGHT HUNDREDS OF REFUGEES TRY TO ESCAPE FROM CHINA. MANY GET CAPTURED... SOME GET THROUGH.

WE WILL GET THROUGH!



THEY SWIM A MILE ALONG THE SHAM CHUN RIVER HEADING SOUTH AND WEST TO THE DEEP BAY...

KEEP LOW. RED CHINESE HELICOPTERS ROUTINELY PATROL THE AREA...



I SEE WHAT YOU MEAN... GET DOWN!

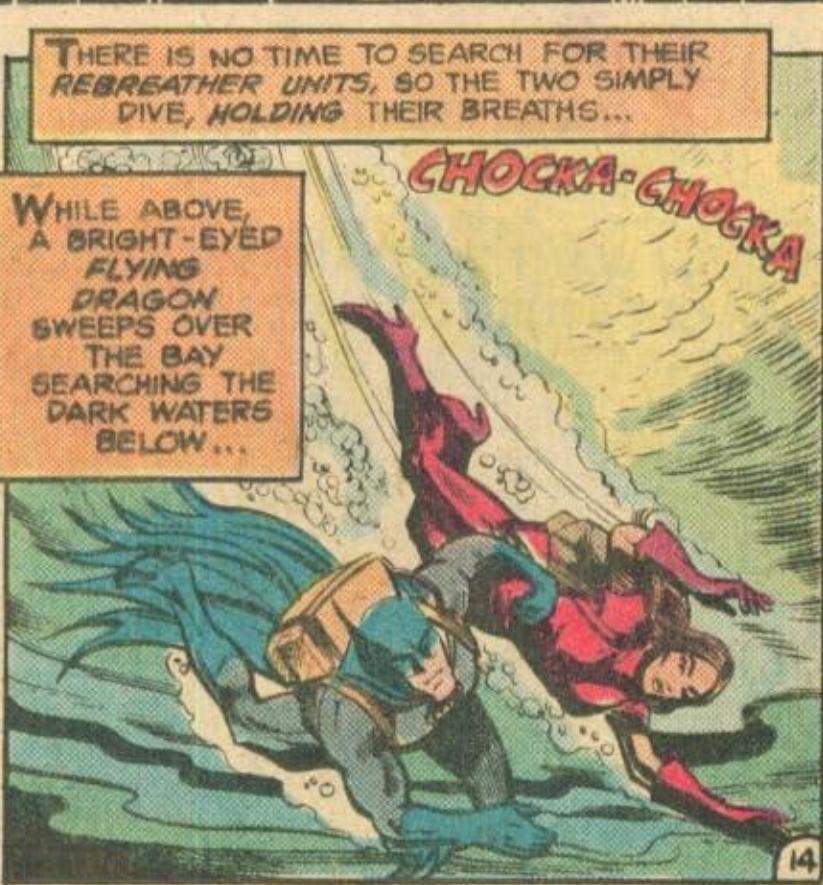
CHOCKA-CHOCKA.
CHOCKA.



THERE IS NO TIME TO SEARCH FOR THEIR REBREATHER UNITS, SO THE TWO SIMPLY DIVE, HOLDING THEIR BREATHS...

WHILE ABOVE, A BRIGHT-EYED FLYING DRAGON SWEEPS OVER THE BAY SEARCHING THE DARK WATERS BELOW...

CHOCKA-CHOCKA



THEY'LL BE BACK, WE HAVEN'T MUCH TIME.

THE CHINESE ARE TRYING TO PREVENT ESCAPES?

NOT REALLY, ACTUALLY THEY DON'T MUCH CARE WHO GOES TO HONG KONG, BECAUSE THAT CITY IS ONLY LEASED TO THE BRITISH.

MUCH OF IT WILL REVERT TO CHINESE RULE IN 1997.

THE CHINESE 42ND ARMY PATROLS THE BORDER MORE OUT OF COURTESY.

AND WHAT SORT OF BUSINESS WAS IT?

IT IS BEST YOU DO NOT KNOW.

SILENTLY, THE SHARKS SLITHER THROUGH THE MAI PO MARSHES, DRAWN TO THE WAVING HUMAN LIMBS. THEY ARE HUNGRY, AND THIS AREA HAS ALWAYS BEEN THICK WITH TWO-LEGGED DINNERS...

PID I NEGLECT TO MENTION? THIS AREA IS INFESTED WITH THEM!

HURRY! THAT SHARK'S BLOOD WILL DRAW THE OTHERS TO HIM...

THWANG!

WE SHOULD BE GONE BEFORE THEY HAVE COMPLETED THEIR DINNER!

TALIA -- OVER THERE... MORE CHOPPERS!

BRITISH ARMY CORPS! THEY FOLLOW THE SHAM CHUN DOWN THROUGH TO MAI PO.

THEN IT'S TIME TO DIVERT THEIR ATTENTIONS...

ABOVE THE MARSHY SWAMPS, RIFLEMAN ROBERT L. JONES SPOTS A FLUTTERING MOVEMENT WITH HIS INFRARED BINOCULARS...

SIR, TWO FIGURES SWIMMING BELOW.

WE'LL PICK UP THOSE TWO "I-I'S" * PRONTO!

THEY'RE NOT MOVING, AND I DON'T THINK THE SHARKS GOT 'EM.

FLIP 'EM OVER AND LET'S TAKE A LOOKSEE!

"I-I'S"... ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS -- PAUL.

MY GOD! PING PONG BALLS... THEY WERE INSIDE TO KEEP THE CLOTHING FLOATING!

THEY GOT US TO LOOK HERE WHILE THEY ESCAPED. THEY COULD BE ANYWHERE BY NOW.

SOMEONE KNEW WHAT HE WAS DOING, JONESY!

ONCE WE'RE PAST THIS FENCE, WE'LL BE SAFE INSIDE HONG KONG.

THEN IT'S TO THE PHOENIX...

AND THAT'S ONE PLACE I'M GOING ALONE!

MORNING IN HONG KONG.
A BRIGHT RED BALL HANGS LOW ON THE HORIZON ...

CAPTAIN TORRENTS? I'M BRUCE WAYNE...

AH, OF COURSE, CHAP. THE AMERICAN MILLIONAIRE, WOT?

COME, COME... THIS IS A RARE 'ONOR, MR. WAYNE.

YOU WILL WAIT 'ERE, EH?
I 'AVE SOME NASTY LAST MINUTE BUSINESS TO ATTEND TO.

DON'T RUSH. THERE'S TIME.

HE'S ALMOST TOO PLEASED TO SEE ME, AND THAT MEANS THIS IS A TRAP.

BUT WHO KNEW I WAS COMING HERE?

RIGHT! RIGHT! I WILL BE BACK SOON, EH?

GAS!

... KOFF... KOFF... NO GOOD... SLEEPING... THROUGH...

UHH... CAN'T FIGHT... CAN'T... UNNNHHH...

HE FALLS TO THE DECK UNCONSCIOUS, HIS MIND AS DARK AS THE GATHERING NIGHT...

NEXT: **INFINITY ISLAND**

AND MEANWHILE...

CATCH UP ON CATWOMAN AND ROBIN IN "**SHANGHAIED**" BEGINNING ON 2nd PAGE FOLLOWING.

DIAL "H" FOR HERO -- THE COMIC YOU CREATE--BEGINS AS A FREE BONUS IN LEGION #272--ON SALE NOW!

ROBIN and the

CATWOMAN

THE LAZARUS AFFAIR

CONTINUES, COURTESY OF

SHANGHAIED!

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JOHN CELARDO
LETTERING: BEN ODA
COLORING: ADRIENNE ROY
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GOTHAM CITY JAIL...

...YOU GOT IT, RON...
AMNESTY FOR TURNING STATE'S EVIDENCE!

AMNESTY, HUH? I GET OFF SCOT FREE? SURE, FOR THAT I'D TURN IN MY GRANDMOTHER!

YOU CAN'T, RON! WE WERE FIGHTING TO STOP WAYNE FROM EXPLOITING US!

WISE UP, JERK! I COULDN'T CARE IF WAYNE WAS RIPPIN' OFF THE WHOLE FREAKIN' CITY!

I GOT PAID CASH TO LEAD THAT RAID ON HIS BUILDIN'!

PAID...?

THEN ALL THAT BUSINESS ABOUT WAYNE OWNING SLUMS IS A LIE?

BELIEVE IT, JERK... SET UP BY FALSTAFF! HE WANTED WAYNE RUINED--AND HE WANTED YOUR OLD MAN OUTTA THE WAY!

WE STOPPED YOUR DAD... WE WERE GONNA SKRAG YOU, TOO!

J-2051



EVEN AT SUPERSONIC SPEEDS IT TAKES THE BATPLANE MORE THAN NINE HOURS TO CROSS THE ASIAN PLAINS TO THE HEART OF CENTRAL CHINA...

FARADAY? I TANGLED WITH HIM ONCE, ROBIN... IN GENEVA. HE'S COLD!

LIKE ICE, CATWOMAN, THE MAN WON'T ADMIT HIS MISTAKES!

BUT I STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY FALSTAFF WAS AFTER BRUCE WAYNE, OR WHAT TALIA HAS TO DO WITH THIS.

SELINA, I DIDN'T ASK YOU BEFORE... BUT YOU WALKED OUT WHEN YOU SAW TALIA WITH BATMAN...

AND YOU WANT TO KNOW WHY.

PERHAPS I FELT... HURT. JEALOUS...? I DON'T KNOW.

SOMETIMES I THINK I'M BETTER OFF NOT KNOWING!

SOME TIME LATER THE BATPLANE LANDS, THEN A TRAIN RIDE CARRIES THEM TO THE CENTER OF SHANGHAI...

THERE YOU ARE... ONE GOOD THING ABOUT PEACE. WE GOT YOU THROUGH CUSTOMS IN RECORD TIME!

HMM, DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE BRINGING A FRIEND WITH YOU.

MR. FARADAY, I TRUST YOU EVEN LESS THAN YOU TRUST ME. BUT WE ARE BOTH HERE FOR THE SAME PURPOSE.

I SUGGEST WE KEEP OUR RELATIONSHIP AS BUSINESSLIKE AS POSSIBLE.

SUITS ME, SISTER!

LET'S GET TO THE POINT, ROBIN. TEN YEARS AGO, MY PARTNER, ARCHER TEMPLETON, LIPPED AND VANISHED ON ME.



THEIR FOOTSTEPS ECHO THROUGH THE TEMPLE AS THE GRINNING KILLER TAKES THE STEPS UP TO THE ROOF THREE AT A TIME. THEN...

NOWHERE FOR HIM TO GO. WE'VE GOT 'IM!

BE CAREFUL... I DON'T LIKE THE WAY HE'S TURNING!

HEEYADHHH!

I HAD A HUNCH HE'D DO THAT. I'VE BEEN HERE BEFORE...

...I KNEW MOST CHINESE ASSASSINS USED KUNG FU!

OOOFF!

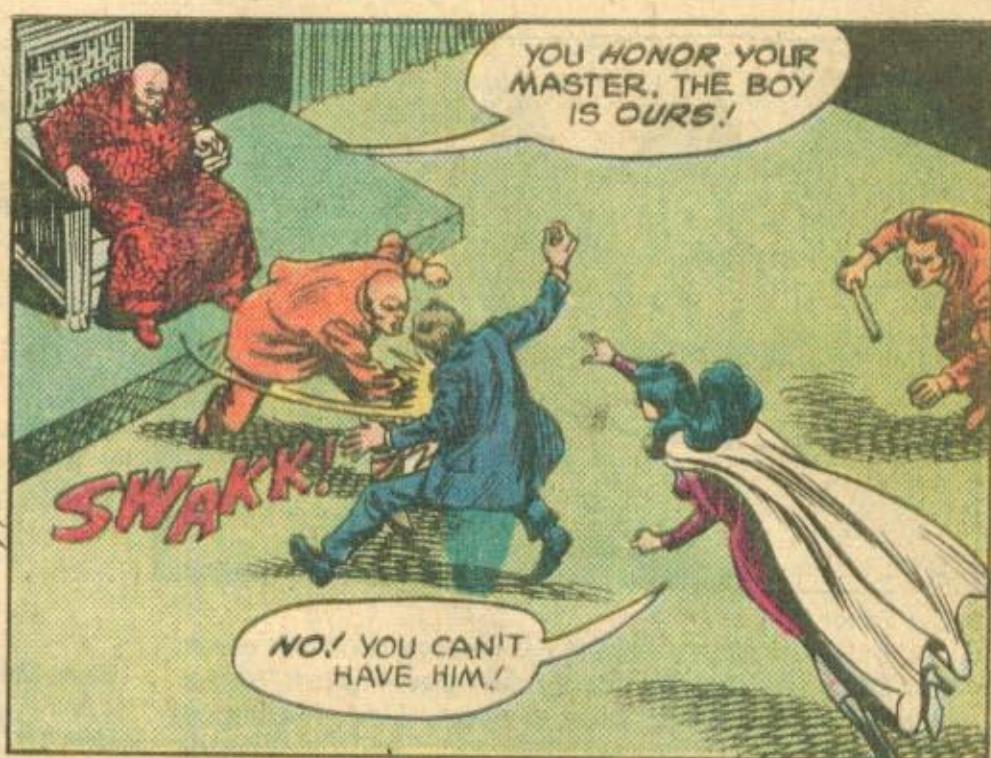
SOMETHING ROBIN OBVIOUSLY DIDN'T KNOW!



CATWOMAN SMILES: "I KNOW A FENCE WHO KNOWS EVERYTHING THAT GOES ON IN THE FAR EAST. HE'S OUR NEXT STOP!"







NEEDLESS TO SAY: **TO BE CONTINUED!**