



WONDER WOMAN

APPROVED
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CODE
C
AUTHORITY

SIDE BY SIDE WITH TROIA OF THE NEW TITANS!



BY PEREZ, THOMPSON & TANGHAL

DEJA VU. YOU'D READ ABOUT IT.

DESCRIBED IN ONE DICTIONARY AS "A DISTORTION OF MEMORY IN WHICH A NEW SITUATION OF EXPERIENCE IS REGARDED AS HAVING HAPPENED BEFORE."

FINDING FAMILIAR THAT WHICH SHOULD BE UNFAMILIAR.

NOT AN UNCOMMON SENSATION FOR YOU, IS IT?

THEN WHY, THIS TIME, DO YOU DREAD IT SO?

IT'S AS IF YOU'VE LIVED THROUGH IT ALL BEFORE-- IN YOUR DREAMS.

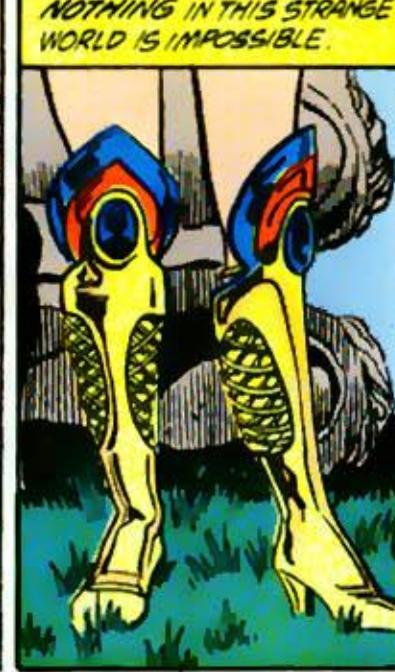
NO, NOT DREAMS. NOT EXACTLY--

VISIONS, PERHAPS--VISIONS WITNESSED THROUGH THE EYES OF ANOTHER.

SOMEONE ELSE'S MEMORIES.

IMPOSSIBLE? HARDLY.

IN YOUR TWO DECADES OF LIFE, YOU'VE LEARNED THE HARD WAY THAT NOTHING IN THIS STRANGE WORLD IS IMPOSSIBLE.



HOW LONG AGO WAS IT, DIANA, THAT YOU FIRST "REMEMBERED" THIS DARK, OPPRESSIVE PLACE--THIS DANK, MOLDY, TIMEWORN LABYRINTH OF COLD, RUST-ENCRUSTED METAL AND PASSIONLESS, SLIMY STONE?

"WHEN DID YOU FIRST SMELL THAT UNMISTAKABLE STENCH OF FETID SEWAGE AND TINTED WATER? SURELY NO AROMAS SUCH AS THESE EVER WAFED FROM THE FLOWERS IN YOUR MOTHER'S ROYAL GARDEN IN THEMISCIRA?"

THE TATTERED ROBES UPON THIS CONSTRUCT OF INTERLOCKING PIPES, A THRONE OF STEEL--NOW THIS IS DEFINITELY UNFAMILIAR.

BY THE GODS OF OLYMPUS, DIANA, WHAT "DISTORTION OF MEMORY" HAS BROUGHT YOU HERE, DOWN INTO THE SEWERS OF NEW YORK CITY?

THIS IS NO PLACE FOR THE AMAZON PRINCESS MEN OF THIS WORLD CALL...

WONDER WOMAN

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IT'S SO BEAUTIFUL, ISN'T IT, DONNA? LIKE STEPPING INTO ANOTHER WORLD, A TRIP BACK INTO THE PAST. IT'S ALMOST WHAT YOU REMEMBER NEW CHRONUS BEING LIKE WHEN YOU WERE JUST A CHILD.

BUT, THIS IS NOT SOME ASTEROID IN A DISTANT GALAXY WHERE GODS ONCE LIVED; THIS IS JUST A SMALL LITTLE GREEK ISLAND. AN ISLAND UPON WHICH YOU HAD NEVER BEFORE SET FOOT-- EXCEPT IN YOUR DREAMS.

AN ISLAND CALLED DIANATA, WHOSE IDYLIC SHORES ARE SCARRED BY THE STREWN CHUNKS OF SMASHED MARBLE-- THE SHATTERED REMAINS OF A STATUE OF THE WOMAN WHOSE NAME THIS ISLAND BEARS.

A WOMAN YOU'VE YET TO MEET, BUT WHOM YOU REGARD AS A KINDRED SPIRIT.

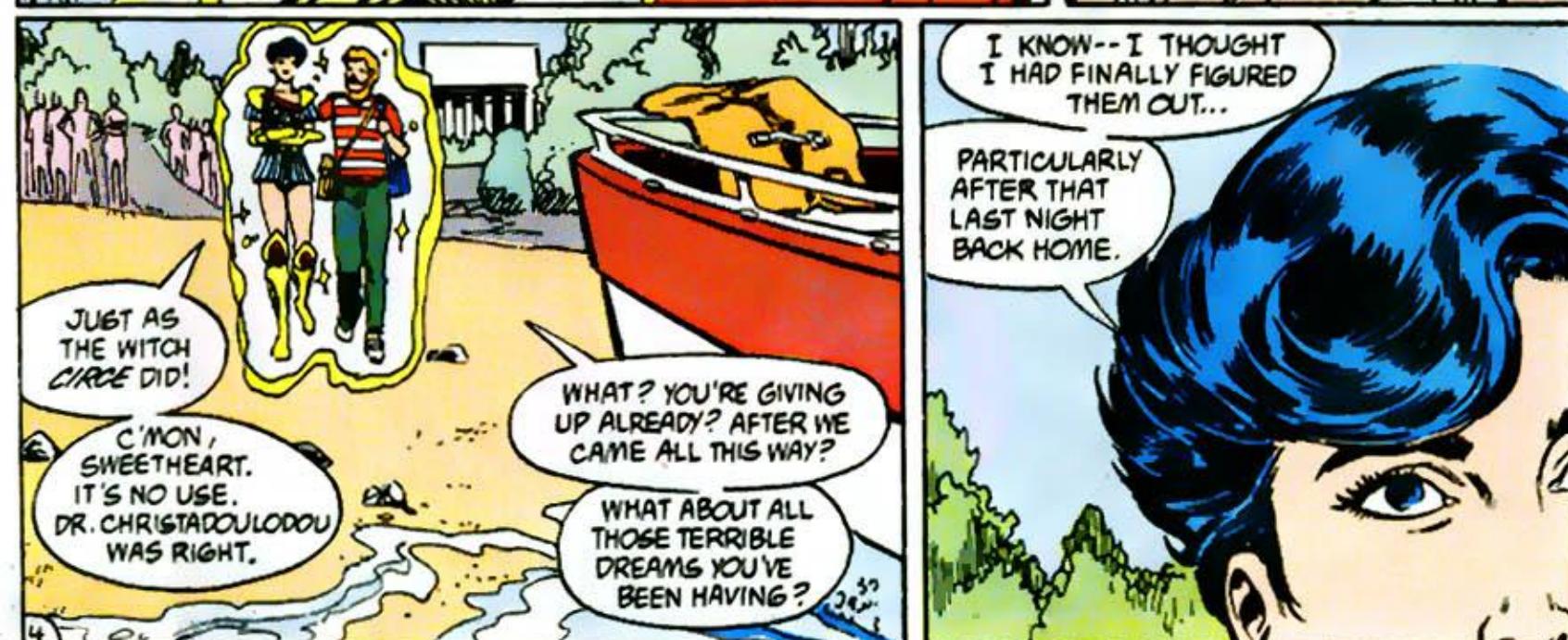
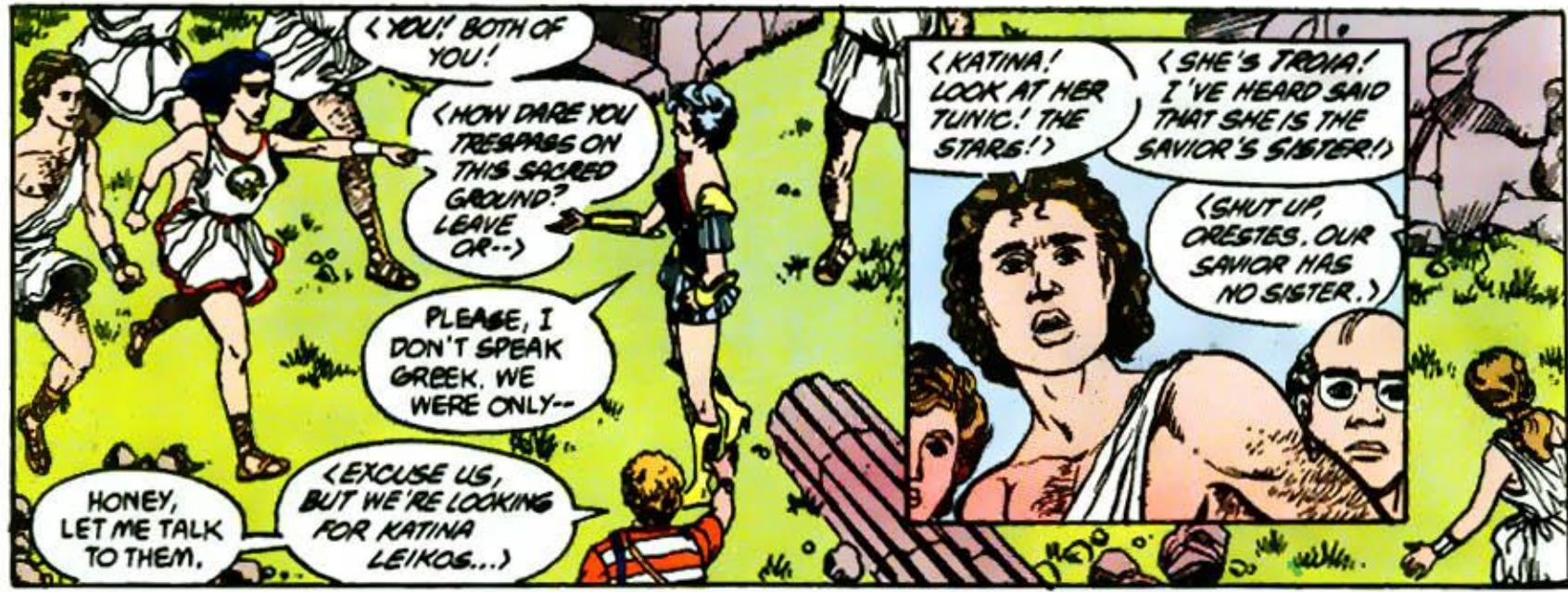
YOU CAN FEEL TERRY'S EYES STUDYING YOU, CAN'T YOU? THOSE LOVING, UNDERSTANDING, CONCERNED EYES THAT NEVER MINT OF COMPLAINT.

HOW DIFFICULT IT MUST BE FOR HIM-- FOR ANY NORMAL MAN TO BE MARRIED TO DONNA TROY, THE TITAN ONCE CALLED WONDER GIRL...

...BUT NOW KNOWN BY THE NAME THE GODS HAVE GIVEN HER:

TROI

GROUND



"AT FIRST THE DREAMS WERE JUST FRAGMENTS, RANDOM IMAGES THAT SEEMED TO HAVE LITTLE CONNECTION WITH EACH OTHER."

"EXCEPT FOR THOSE BURNING RED EYES-- THE STUFF NIGHTMARES ARE MADE OF."

"THEN CAME THAT NIGHT. THE NIGHT THE NIGHTMARES CAME TOGETHER."

"I WAS BACK IN THE SEWERS AGAIN..."

I SENSE SOMETHING AHEAD OF US. BUT THESE TUNNELS DIFFUSE ITS DIRECTION...

DOESN'T MATTER, RAVEN. WE'LL FIND IT.

AND IT WON'T ESCAPE US AGAIN.

"WHEN I CAUGHT THOSE EYES IN THE LIGHT OF THE MOONGLOW, I FELT A STRANGE SENSATION-- SOMETHING I COULDN'T IDENTIFY THEN."

"RECOGNITION."

"I'D SEEN THOSE EYES BEFORE."

"I FROZE FOR ONLY A FRACTION OF A SECOND--"

--ONE FRACTION TOO LONG.

"I CAN STILL HEAR THE OTHERS' VOICES AS THE CLAWS DIGIN'"

"THEN, IT ALL WENT BLACK."

OH, MAN!

X'MAL! DON--

"THE DARKNESS LASTED FOR AN ETERNITY--OR MAYBE ONLY SECONDS. I COULDN'T TELL THEN--

"--BUT THE NEXT THING I SAW WAS THE NIGHT FALLING AWAY LIKE TUMBLING BLACK CLOUDS.

"AND IN THE CLEARING WAS RAVEN.

"I COULD FEEL HER SOUL REACHING INTO ME, USING HER EMPATHIC POWERS TO ABSORB MY PAIN.

"BUT SOMETHING WAS GOING WRONG. I COULD SEE IT IN HER EYES--"

"DARKENING, LIKE A BLACK HOLE, A PASSAGE INTO ANOTHER WORLD.

"RIGHT INTO THAT FIELD WITH THOSE DARK MONSTERS--LIKE THE ONES IN THE SEWERS--

--THE ONES WITH THE RED EYES."

"AND, LIKE ALICE IN WONDERLAND--I FELL IN.

"A THING THAT LOOKED LIKE A CENTAUR WAS SCREAMING AT ME IN GREEK--AT LEAST IT WAS GREEK TO ME.

"WHATEVER HE WAS SAYING, THOUGH, ONE THING WAS FOR SURE--THAT CREATURE WAS MAD!

"THEN, IT WAS JUST LIKE IN THE SEWERS IN NEW YORK. THE WEREBEASTS ATTACKED. BUT THIS TIME I FOUGHT BACK.

"I REMEMBER HEARING THE VOICE OF A CRYING CHILD IN THE DISTANCE. I COULDN'T MAKE HER OUT.

"THEN IT WAS ALL BLACK AGAIN."

DIANA!!

"EXCEPT FOR ONE WORD..."

MY LORD MORPHEUS,
WHAT STRANGE IMAGES
HAVE YOU PLANTED IN
MY BRAIN THAT LEADS
ME HERE?
AND WHOSE
SHREDDED
RAGS ARE THESE
THAT THEY SHOULD
LOOK SO FAMILIAR?

"WHAT CONNECTION
HAVE THEY WITH MY
DREAMS?"

"OF LATE, YOU HAVE
LABORED HARD TO
REKINDLE THE MEMORIES
OF TIMES THAT I WOULD
RATHER FORGET--"

-- PARTICULARLY, OF THAT
NIGHT IN CEPHALONIA WHEN
THEOPHILOS VENTOURAS, WHO
CALLED ME HIS FRIEND, LED
CIRCE'S CREATURES OF THE
DARK AGAINST ME.

"BUT I HAD NO CHOICE,
I COULD NOT LET THEM
GET TO NESSIE."

"HOW I WAILED INSIDE
WITH EVERY BLOW I WAS
FORCED TO DELIVER."

"I CAN STILL HEAR HER
WHIMPSERS SEEPING
THROUGH THE TUMULT."

"EVEN THROUGH THAT
CRACKING THUNDER
AND BLINDING LIGHT,
EVEN AS I PLUNGED
INTO THE DARKNESS--"

--I COULD
HEAR HER."

DIANA!!

"HAD MY
DREAMS
BUT ENDED
THERE."

"BUT NO--FROM THE DARKNESS
THE CRIMSON ORBS PEERED AGAIN--

"AND THEY ATTACKED,
JAWS AGAPE, THEIR
CLAWS LIKE GLEAMING
STALACTITES.

--UNTIL A LIGHT, AS IF
SHONE BY ARTEMIS' MOON,
ILLUMINATED THEIR MASTERS.

"VOICES
CALLING
OUT--"

DONNA!

OH,
MAN!

X'MAL!
DON--

"AND THEN,
OBLIVION."

THAT'S WHEN YOU
MERCIFULLY ALLOWED ME
TO ESCAPE FROM THAT
HORRID DREAMSCAPE
AT LAST.

AND
BROUGHT
ME HERE.

BY OLYMPUS, I CAN
STILL FEEL THE PAIN,
YET THERE ARE NO
WOUNDS THAT--

WAIT.

WHO'S
THERE?

YOU IN THE
SHADOWS, I
KNOW YOU'RE
OUT THERE.

I'M DIANA,
PRINCESS OF
THEMYSCIRA. I
AM NOT LOOKING
FOR TROUBLE.

IF YOU
AREN'T
EITHER--

--PLEASE, SHOW
YOURSELF."

CEPHALONIA.

I'M SORRY YOUR
TO DIANATA PROVED
SO FRUITLESS,
MRS. LONG.

IT'S
NOT YOUR
FAULT, DR.
CHRISTADOULODOU.
YOU WARNED US
THAT MS. LEIKOS
MIGHT NOT EXACTLY
BE CORDIAL.

YES, I'M AFRAID
KATINA HAS GOTTEN
WORSE THESE PAST
MONTHS.

HER OBSESSION
WITH WONDER WOMAN
EVER SINCE SHE
ALLEGEDLY DESTROYED
THE WITCH CIRCLE HAS
MADE KATINA QUITE
UNREASONABLE.

AND WHEN DIANA DISOWNED THE CULT
BY SMASHING THE STATUE, WELL--

I KNOW. I JUST WISH
THERE WAS SOME
OTHER WAY.

"I TRIED TO A FEW
TIMES, EVER SINCE
I LEARNED ABOUT
MY TRUE BEGINNINGS
BUT ALWAYS
MISSSED HER
EITHER BECAUSE
OF HER SCHEDULE
OR MINE."

THEN WE FOUND OUT
THAT THE PRINCESS HAD
RETURNED TO HER HOME
ISLAND TO PREPARE
FOR THE AMAZON'S UN
SUMMIT NEXT MONTH.
WE COULDNT WAIT ANY
LONGER.

I WISH I
COULD TALK TO
DIANA HERSELF.

"AFTER THE DREAMS
STARTED, MY FAILURES
IN CONNECTING WITH
HER WERE EVEN
MORE FRUSTRATING."

"I LEFT A MESSAGE FOR PROF.
KAPATELIS AND HOPE THAT
SHE WOULD LEAVE WORD WITH
DIANA ABOUT MY COMING
HERE."

THESE NIGHTMARES
WERE STARTING TO
DRIVE DONNA CRAZY.
WE HAD TO COME HERE.

I UNDERSTAND. I JUST WISH
IT COULD HAVE BEEN MORE
SUCCESSFUL FOR YOU.

IF ONLY GREGORI DAVALOS WERE
AROUND. HE MIGHT HAVE BEEN
ABLE TO HELP IN DEALING WITH
KATINA.

BUT UNFORTUNATELY, THE
MAN HAS CHOSEN SECLUSION
LORD KNOWS WHERE.

AND NOW, I, TOO,
MUST DESERT
YOU. BUSINESS
BECKONS ME
IN BUDAPEST.

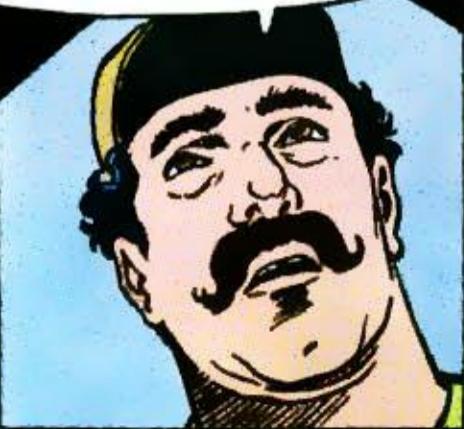
THANK YOU, DOCTOR, BUT I'D
LIKE TO STAY HERE A LITTLE
LONGER.

"YES, SWEET-
HEART. DON'T
WORRY ABOUT
ME."

MY OFFER FOR
YOU TO ACCOM-
PANY ME STILL
STANDS.

DONNA,
ARE YOU
SURE?

"I'LL BE
JUST FINE."



THE ADAMS SCHOOL,
BOSTON, MASSA-
CHUSETTS.

"THANK YOU FOR
COMING TODAY, JULIA.
PLEASE, HAVE A
SEAT."

I'VE BEEN TALKING TO
VANESSA'S THERAPIST
AND HE'S BROUGHT
SOME DISTURBING
OBSERVATIONS TO
MY ATTENTION.

TELL ME, JULIA, HOW
HAS THIS TRAGEDY
AFFECTED VANESSA'S
RELATIONSHIP WITH
WONDER WOMAN?

VANESSA IS ALMOST FOURTEEN YEARS
OLD AND ALREADY SHE'S HAD TO DEAL
WITH THE DEATH OF HER FATHER, THE HECTIC
AND UNSTABLE SCHEDULE OF HER PROFE-
SIONAL, GLOBE-TROTTING MOTHER, THE
DEATH OF A FRIEND AND PEER--

WITH DIANA?
WHAT DOES DIANA
HAVE TO DO WITH
LUCY SPEARS'
SUICIDE?

NOT WITH THE SUICIDE
ITSELF, BUT WITH YOUR DAUGHTER'S
ABILITY TO DEAL WITH IT, TO DEAL
WITH EVERYTHING IN HER LIFE.

YOU'VE
LOST ME.

OKAY, LET'S RUN IT
DOWN POINT BY POINT.

-- AND MOST TRAUMATICALLY,
THE INSINUATION INTO HER LIFE
OF A WOMAN FROM ANOTHER
WORLD WHO HAS INFESTED HER
LIFE WITH ONE DANGER
AFTER ANOTHER.

ON SEVERAL
OCCASIONS, VANESSA
NEARLY LOST HER LIFE
BECAUSE OF HER ASSOCIATION
WITH WONDER WOMAN.

"JULIA, VANESSA'S ON AN
EMOTIONAL, PSYCHOLOGICAL
ROLLER COASTER. IF IT DOESN'T
SLOW DOWN ENOUGH FOR HER
TO REGAIN HER BEARINGS, SHE
MAY NEVER BE ABLE TO HOLD
UP UNDER THE PRESSURES
OF THE REAL WORLD."

OH, DOES HE REALLY?
AND HAS HE TOLD THIS
TO VANESSA?

VANESSA LOVES DIANA;
HOW DO YOU AND YOUR
THERAPIST FRIEND THINK
MY DAUGHTER WOULD
REACT TO LOSING YET
ONE MORE
LOVED ONE?

DEEP BREATHS,
JULIA, THAT'S IT.
DEEP BREATHS.



"THE THERAPIST BELIEVES
THAT IT WOULD BE IN THE
BEST INTERESTS OF THE CHILD'S
EMOTIONAL GROWTH FOR YOU TO
SEVER ALL RELATIONSHIPS
WITH THE AMAZON."



"NO, DR. STANTON
SAYS THAT VANESSA
HAS TO BE HANDLED
CAREFULLY."

MY DAUGHTER IS
NOT A PIECE OF
LUGGAGE, DOCTOR.
NO ONE "HANDLES"
HER.



THE SAME WAY
SHE PROBABLY
FEELS EVERY TIME
DIANA LEAVES THE
HOUSE, THE FEAR
THAT SHE MAY
NEVER COME BACK.

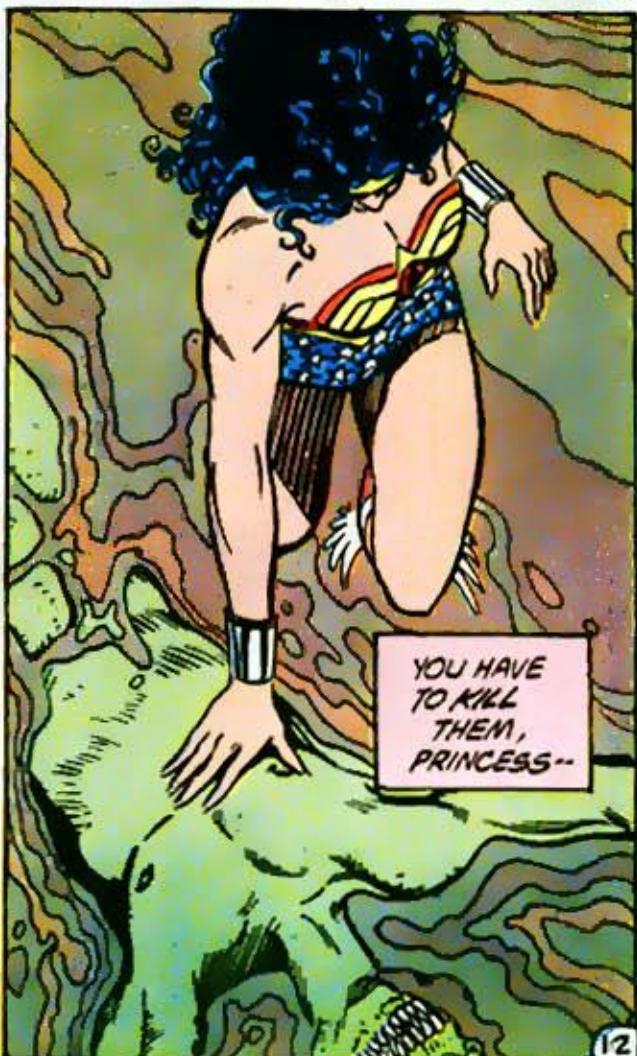
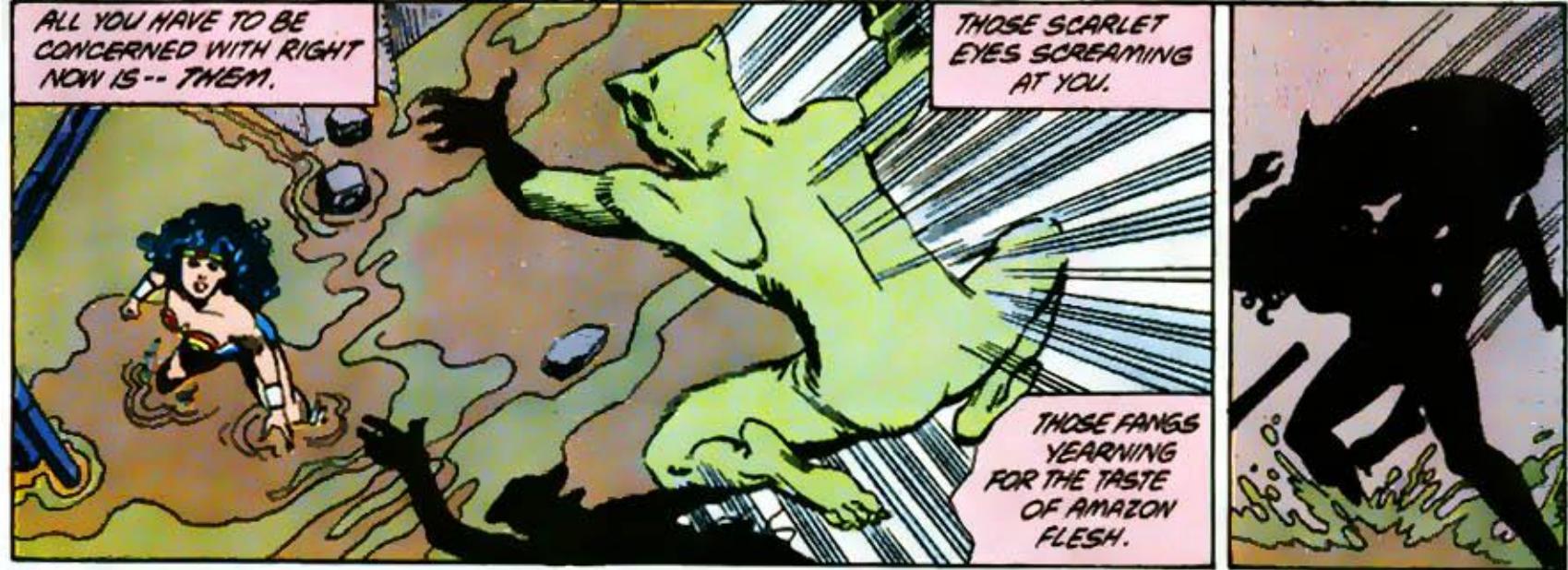
JULIA,
PLEASE,
WE HAVE
TO--

JULIA!



MEANWHILE, UNDERNEATH
NEW YORK CITY...









"MOTHER LOOKED SO WORRIED WHEN I LEFT THEMYSCIRA THIS LAST TIME. MORE THAN USUAL, I THOUGHT."

"IF ONLY SHE HAD BEEN HOME. DEAR GODS, ARE WE FATED ALWAYS TO MISS EACH OTHER?"

"MY WALLOW INTO SELF-PITY DIDN'T LAST LONG."

"MAYBE SHE COULD SEE JUST HOW DISTURBING THOSE DREAMS HAD BEEN FOR ME."

"HOW MUCH I NEEDED TO TALK TO DONNA TROY."

"THE VOICE OF MY DREAMS."

"LIKE THE BECKONING SONG OF THE SIRENS--"

--A VOICE I HAD TO FOLLOW."

"IT WAS A MEETING I HAD PUT OFF FOR FAR TOO LONG ANYWAY."

"ALL THAT MS. TROY AND I HAD IN COMMON COULD NOT BE MERE COINCIDENCE."

YES, DIANA -- THE VOICE IN YOUR HEAD.

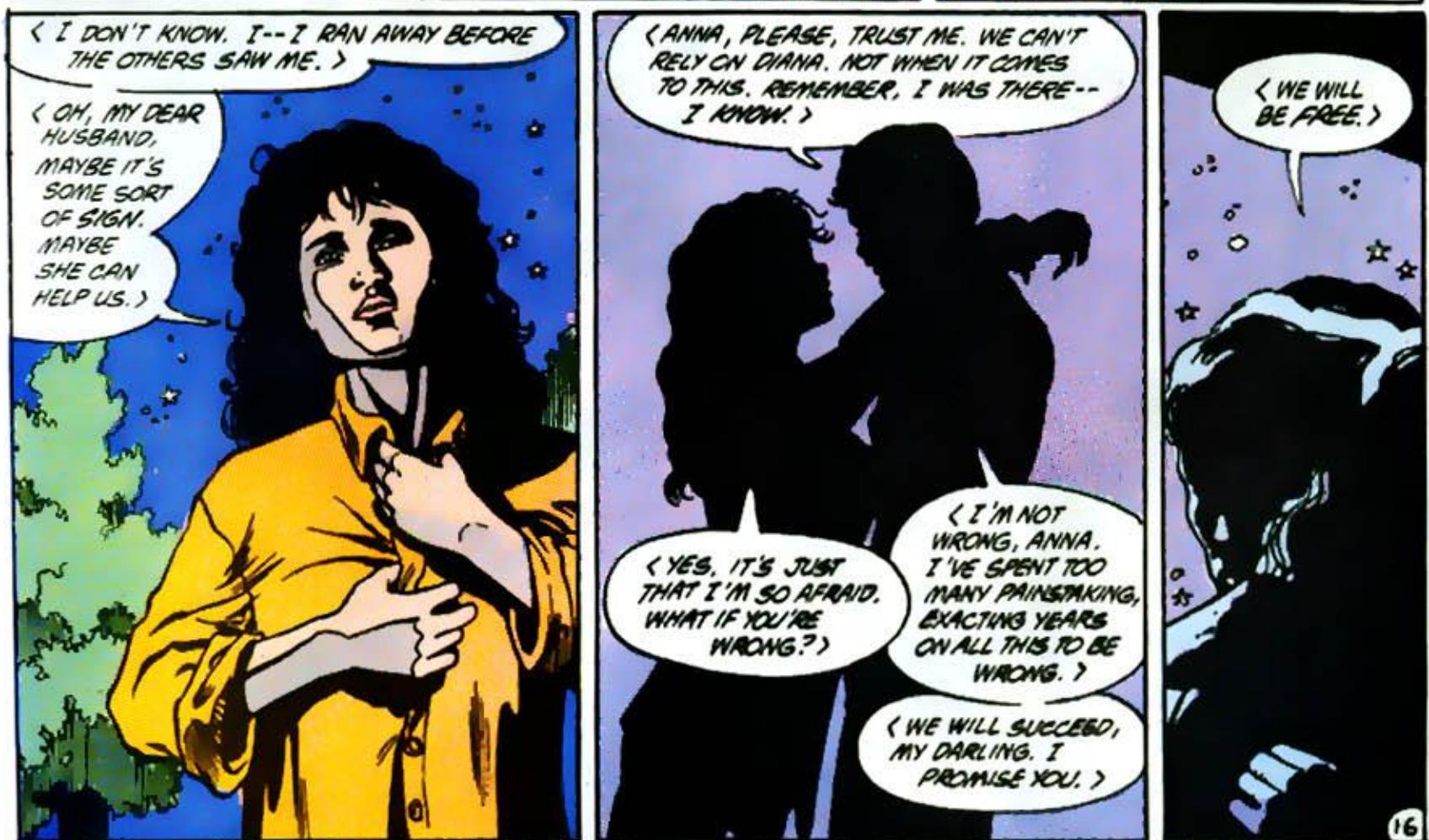
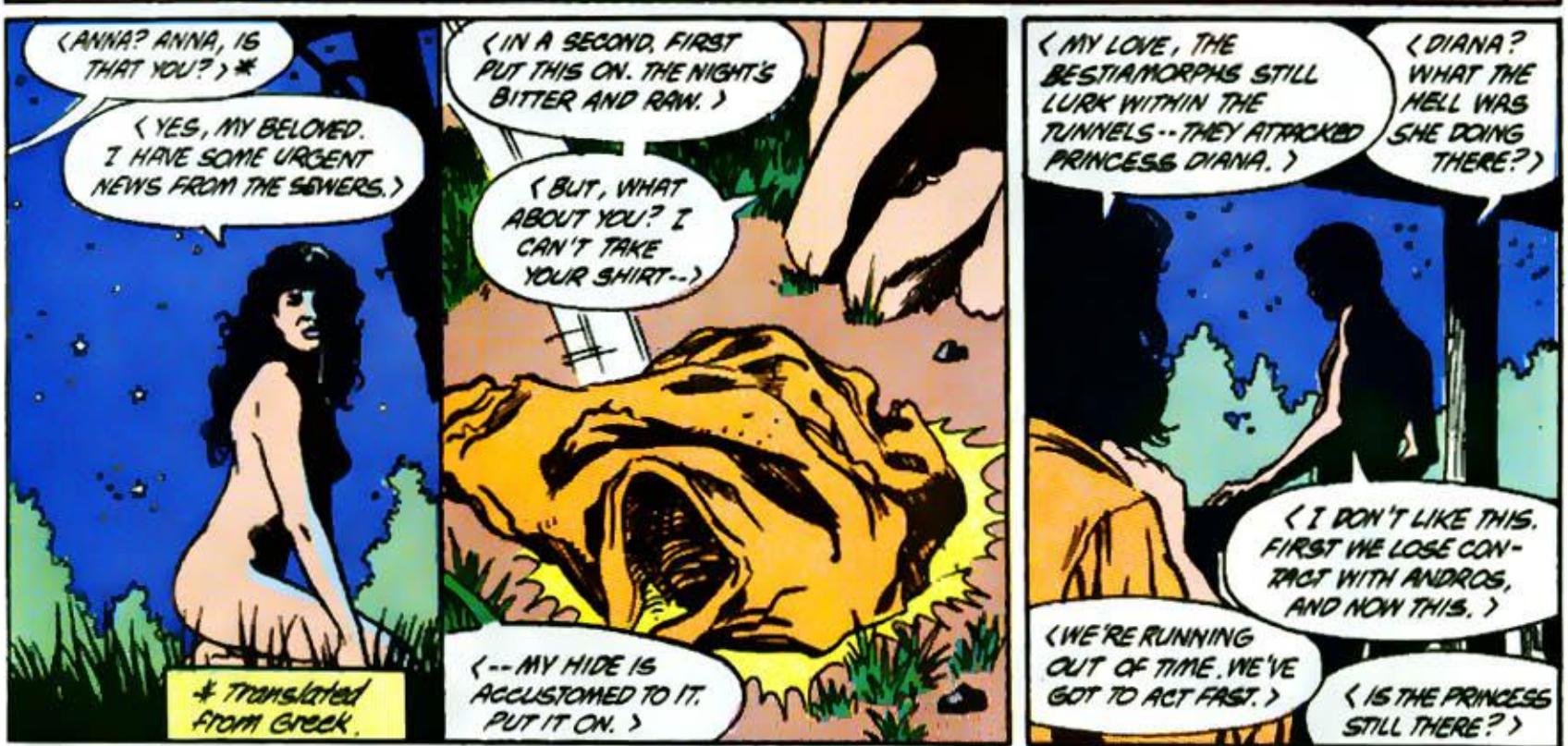
MY VOICE. NOT MORPHEUS'. MINE!

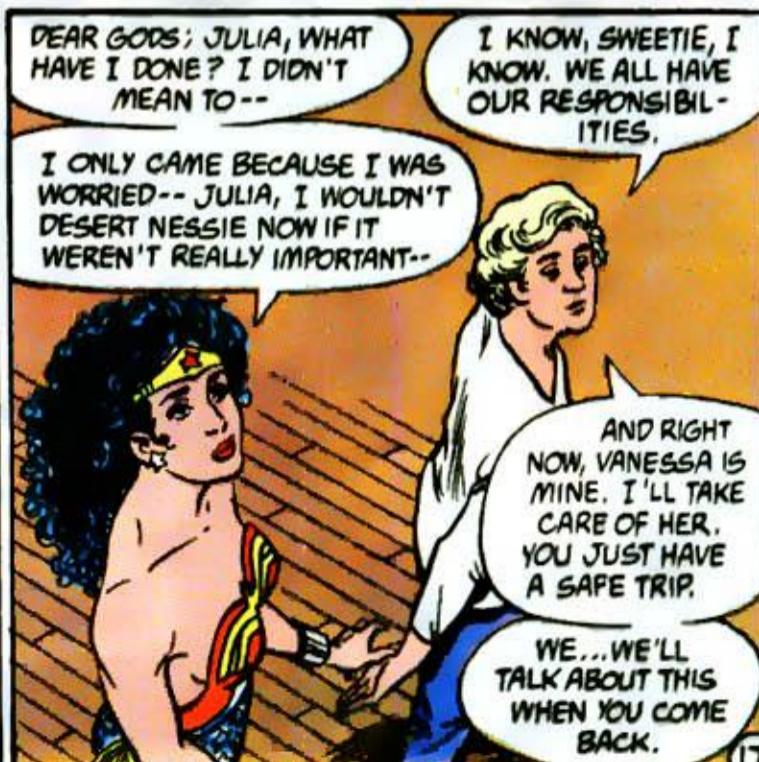
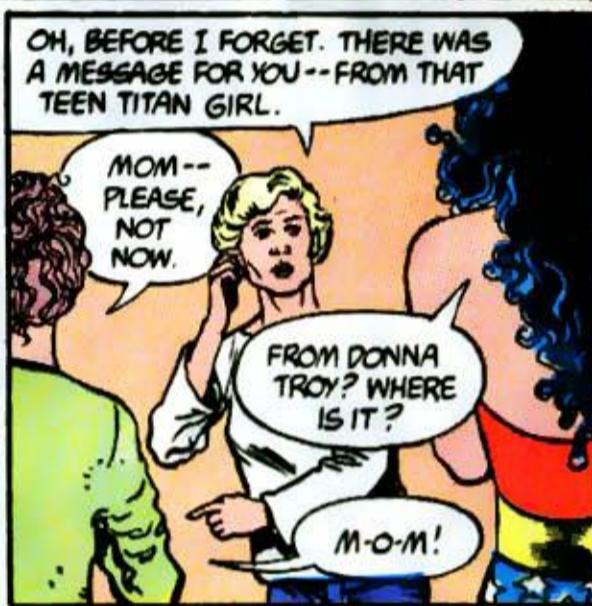
REMEMBER IT?
REMEMBER IT NOW?

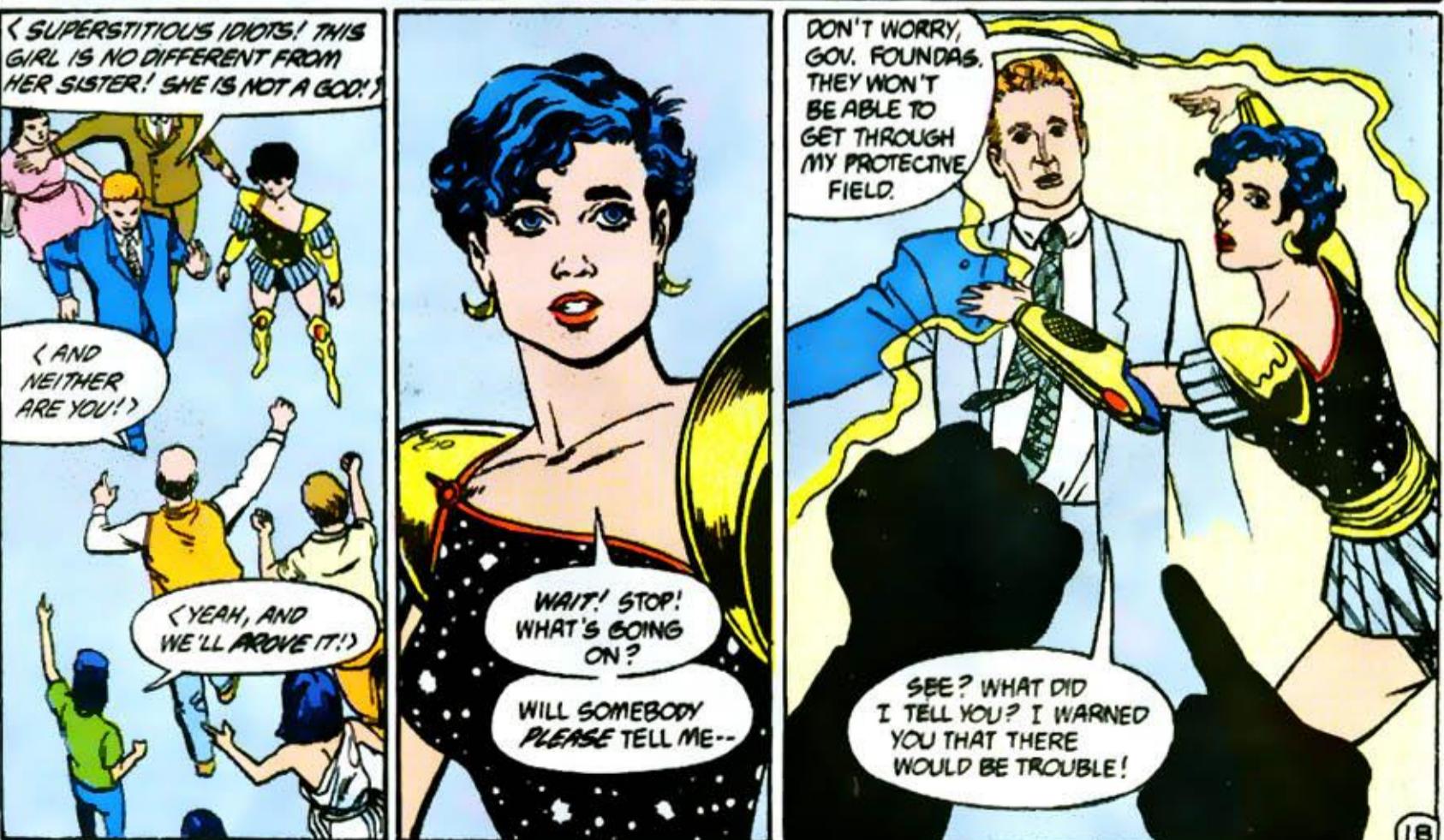
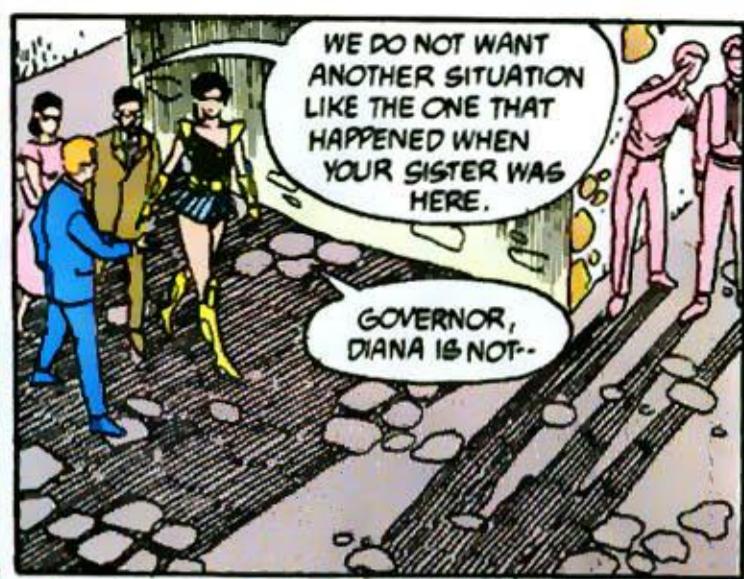
REMEMBER
THE PAIN?

GREAT
GAEA-NO!

CIRCE!









THAT NIGHT, IN THE HOME OF JULIA KAPATELIS' PARENTS AGOSTOS AND MARIA DENEIROS, THE TWO YOUNG WOMEN, STRANGERS AND INTIMATES AT ONCE, FINALLY MEET AT THE COMMON JUNCTURE.

...AND WHEN THE MEDIA STARTED CALLING YOU WONDER WOMAN, GOD, I WAS READY TO KILL THEM.

IN THAT WONDERFUL, EXHILARATING INSTANT, A BOND, MIGHTIER THAN THE GORDIAN KNOT, IS TIED.

DO YOU KNOW HOW LONG I HAD WANTED PEOPLE TO STOP CALLING ME WONDER GIRL? I WAS A MARRIED WOMAN, FOR CRYING OUT LOUD!

I'M AFRAID I'VE GOTTEN USED TO THAT NICKNAME. THERE ARE SOME THINGS THAT ONE SIMPLY MUST SURRENDER TO.

<: HRMMMH:
LAUGHING LITTLE GIRLS
... SO YOUNG...; HRMM-
MPH >

EXCUSE ME, DID YOU SAY SOMETHING, MR. DENEIROS?

<IN NAVY DAYS. ;HRMMPH...
PRETTY GIRLS... SO MANY
;HRMMPH: THEM... DANCING...
LAUGHING>

<HEH HEH...; HRMMPH: LIKE
MY UNIFORM.., SO YOUNG...>

<MAMA LAUGHED LIKE THAT.
;HRMMPH: LOVED TO DANCE...
WHEN WE WERE YOUNG...
HEH HEH.>

<;HRMMPH: ... DIANA...
YOUR SISTER DANCE?>

<ALL RIGHT, YOU DIRTY OLD GOAT, YOU LEAVE THOSE YOUNG GIRLS ALONE!>

<COME! TO
THE KITCHEN!
THE DISHES HAVE
TO BE WASHED.>

<; HRMMPH:... WOMAN'S WORK...
GOING TO WATCH THE BOATS...>

<BY WAY OF THE
TAVERN, YOU MEAN.
JUST GET IN THERE AND
GET AN APRON ON!>

<AND DON'T
BREAK ANY
OF THEM!>

<DIANA...; HRMMPH:...
LATER... YOU AND YOUR
GIRLFRIEND... WE
GO SEE BOATS-->

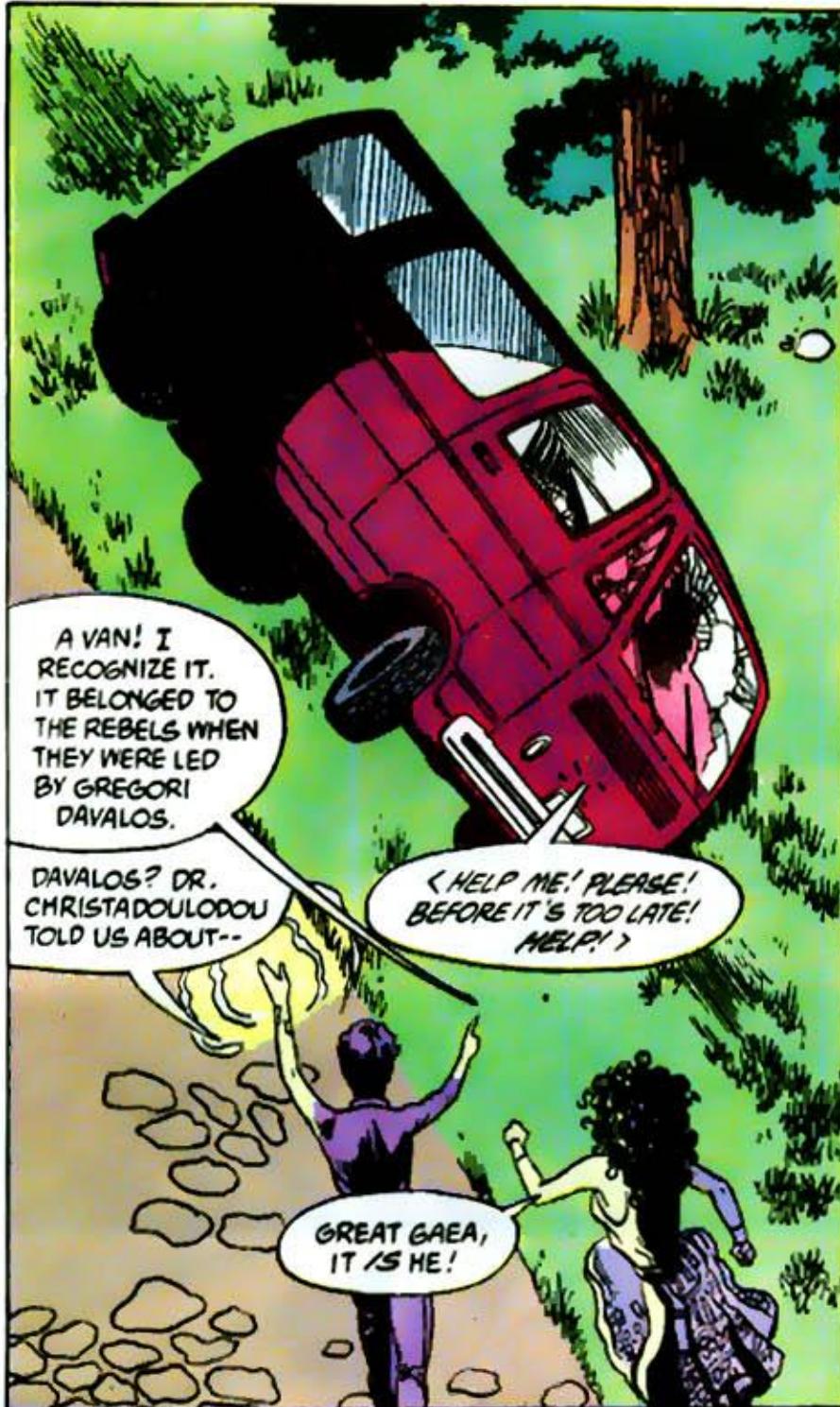
<AGOSTOS!>

MR. DENEIROS WAS ASKING--

NO, TH-THAT'S
OKAY... I THINK I
GOT IT...

LAUGHTER, FULL
AND HEARTY. IT
FEELS GOOD,
DOESN'T IT?





NEXT ISSUE: **FANG and CAW!**

POSTSCRIPTS TO PARADISE



Dear Karen,

Re: WONDER WOMAN #43

"The Armageddon Aria" was an exciting chapter in the Silver Swan storyline (why do most storylines have the title "Armageddon"?), even though I was a tad disappointed in the outcome of last's issue cliffhanger. I think it would have been more interesting and suspenseful if Diana had not gotten to Valerie in time with her lasso. Don't get me wrong, the scene had enough action in it. It's just that this book contains different elements of storytelling and it's been a while since an action-packed havoc scene was used. I guess you could say the attack made by Armbruster's men compensated for this. It was enjoyable nonetheless.

The possibility of Solomon Buchman being Diana's lover is a bit ironic, considering that the way he was brought to Paradise Island is similar to the way the pre-Crisis Steve Trevor (both Earth's One and Two) was. Since I don't know that much about him at the present time, I can't say if I'm all for it or not. But, like they say in the SUPERMAN books, I trust you. Just don't make the same mistakes with Solomon like the writers did with Steve Trevor's #1, 2, and 3.

If I had been Diana, I would have told Etta off right there and then. I can't believe she's blaming Diana for the problems between her and Steve. All she said was "I like my job, I like myself, I don't want to be a full-time housewife, but I also want Steve back." I want this and I want that. Maybe that's the problem, Ms. Candy! Have you heard what Steve wants? I agree that women should be assertive, not as females but as human beings. But being aggressive makes women—and men, for that matter—just as bad as the male chauvinists out there. And to top it off, she has the audacity to blame Diana who, along with us readers, doesn't even know what the problem is between Etta and Steve. I'm sorry, Ms. Candy, but I've lost respect for you.

I was going to offer my opinion on the Silver Swan and her tragic life, but I'll leave that to the more sophisticated writers out there (I'm just 17); however, I will say my heart goes out to her. A couple of years ago I would have said, "Let her rot in jail regardless of her background." But, because of Diana and this series, I'm able to sympathize with her. I truly feel sorry for Valerie. Hey, if this book can affect my judgment in a positive way, maybe there's still hope for this crazy world. I truly hope so.

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L-5775

EJ Viveiros

310 Oak Street
Swansea, MA 02777

We think you might have read too much into one of the Amazon's queries about a possible relationship between Diana and Solomon Buchman. E.J. Diana brought him to the Isle of Healing for medical attention, and for no other reason. As for Etta and Steve's relationship, we've seen before that they've been having problems. Etta might have come on strong voicing her frustrations and feelings at Diana, but we all know what troubled relationships can do to us sometimes, and from Etta's point of view, some of the resentment she feels toward Diana can be understood.

Dear Karen,

I agree wholeheartedly with Joyce Hanson's letter. A new costume is really needed for Wonder Woman. Her traditional costume symbolizes society's acceptance of the celluloid bimbo heroine. This concept doesn't even come close to matching Diana's personality. She is a sophisticated, caring, and wonderful person. For her to dress in a one-piece uniform (like Madonna) is an outrage. Although clothes doesn't make a person, it certainly helps their image. A modernized version of her famous costume, in the same color and pattern, is really needed—something that should cover about 75% of her body. Doesn't she stop to think of what Vanessa and her friends think of her? She is a role model to many of them and should dress accordingly. There is a possibility that one of Vanessa's friends admires her so much that she starts to dress like her. If that is the case, then I believe we'll see a lot more flesh in these pages. Maybe Diana should seriously contemplate a change of clothes.

The Tasmanian Devil
4633 Kendrick Street
Philadelphia, PA 19136

Dear Karen,

Even after WONDER WOMAN #44, I think the Silver Swan still has a tie to Wonder Woman, and thus a place in this book. But I continue to have the feeling that her place is more that of a foe than of a friend. Time will tell. I was happy to see the part that Etta played. I don't want her to be shoved into the background.

Melissa Page

236 New Salem Loop
Nortonville, KY 42442

Dear Karen,

Wow, finally the Silver Swan's story is completely unfolding! WONDER WOMAN #43 was a great story.

I enjoyed the last part of this issue the best. It was enlightening to see the retelling of the Swan's origin. Valerie is such a tragic character ... I hope she doesn't come to a tragic end!

I never realized Etta was so bitter toward Diana! That's really an interesting subplot. I hope they can resolve their conflicts and remain friends. I'd really like to see Etta and Steve get married.

Maxine, Sol, and Valerie are all interesting characters. I hope this isn't the last we see of them.

Romeo Tanghal's inks do a lot to complement Chris Marrinan's pencils. I hope he'll be around for a long time!

Your fan,

Jeff Mitchell
1794 W. Minnehaha
St. Paul, MN 55104

We think Romeo's doing a wonderful job, too, Jeff. He's one of the best inkers in the field, totally professional, and extremely dedicated to his craft.

Dear Karen,

Four years is a long time. Four years is how long it's been since this series has begun. Four years has been long enough for me to learn more about mythology than I ever thought I could or would want to; the amazing thing is I've managed to retain most of it.

So, as you may suspect, Lord Hermes is my favorite character from the book, and lately, Lord Hermes has changed. He's become much too human for me to sit silently anymore. Why, I wouldn't be surprised if I were to open the book and find Hermes overweight, wearing a tattered athletic T, sipping ice tea while watching a female mow the lawn. Let's talk about your recent plot development. Boys and girls, the word for today is cop-out. George Perez, Mindy Newell, or whoever decides these things decided the Hermes character was too powerful ... if every issue ended with Hermes saving the day, the comic would get pretty boring. So the thinking goes... either we kill him off or reduce his power.

Anyway, I'm disappointed 'cause this was unnecessary. Surely George and Mindy have enough imagination to come up with an interesting alternative. Maybe I'm just ticked off because Hermes' "humanness" is manifested as the stereotypical skirt-chasing, bar-hopping man. There are sensitive, sensible male role models out there, you know; we are just too "sensitive" to shout about it. Maybe we will work up the courage to say so in about four years? Sigh.

Steven Turner
P.O. Box 722

Kenbridge, VA 23944

Hermes' human personality is not much different from his personality when he was a powerful god, Steven. Hermes has always had an arrogant streak in him (remember what happened to Boston because of his inflated ego?), as well as a roving eye for members of the fair sex. The difference now is that Hermes cares not to be as eloquent as when he was the full-fledged Messenger of the gods, as he's getting a little carried away with his newfound "earthly" state of being. As for his "mortal" condition, we're not saying if it's necessarily permanent.

Dear Karen,

Issue #43 was excellent! I'm glad to see the Silver Swan back in the pages of WW. I would like to see a limited series on this character. Her life is being presented in pieces, which only gives the reader a brief description of her past. I liked the Silver Swan ever since her appearances in issue #15. I hope she notices what Hank has done to her and decides to become a crimefighter. Who knows, she could even have her own series. Think about it. From the pages of WW, here comes the Silver Swan!

As for the Olympians, when are they going to appear again? Hope it's soon.

Since people from Earth visited Paradise Island and got to know how the Amazons live, when are the Amazons coming to Earth?

Sincerely,
Emiliano Amaro
1133 Longfellow Avenue
Bronx, NY 10459

The Amazons will walk the Earth, or, as they call it, "Patriarch's World," in our special 50th issue of this series, in a very special double-sized story.

Dear Karen,

WONDER WOMAN #42 was the first issue I've bought since #39, and the first I've read since ... I don't know, early thirties. Time was short, and the list of "must reads" was longer. WONDER WOMAN just slipped through the net. So, here I am in the comic shop Saturday, and the regular shipment is delayed (I really hate that). So I decided to do some catching up, and WONDER WOMAN #42 was suddenly a "must read."

The art of selling a comic book ... first

the cover. Chris and George did an excellent job. Next, the feature character. Next to the original Cheetah storyline, the Silver Swan one was my favorite. And finally, a quick glance inside. The interior artwork has really improved. The reason? Romeo Tanghal. His inking of Chris' pencils is excellent ... and you had a returning reader.

The story read almost as a debunking of sex-stereotypes. Here we have Silver Swan, who is on the surface cast in the role of the "little" woman—downtrodden and treated horrendously by her "loving" husband, yet her love for him blinds her to what he really is. I can't help thinking there is more to Val than this, and I hope we will learn more in the rest of this story.

On the other side of the coin, we have Hermes, a God playing at being a sex-god. How long will Hermes be a boy-bimbo? I hope Steve can pull him out of this latest phase. What fools these immortals be.

Sorry to have strayed; I'm back now. But excuse me while I go hunt out those issues I missed...

Rol Hirst
Rushgrove Farm
Holt Head, Slaithwaite
Huddersfield, W. Yorks
England

Dear Postscripts,

I just wanted to write in and congratulate you on the fine job you've done with the new Wonder Woman. I've been collecting this series since issue #1. I was an ardent collector of the pre-Crisis Wonder Woman. I have mixed emotions over some of the changes, though. For starters, I am glad you gave Diana the power of flight and ditched the old robot plane (I always wanted to know, "Where did that plane go when the old Wonder Woman wasn't using it?"). Also, I'm impressed with the expanded use of ancient mythology in this telling of the Wonder Woman legend. But unlike the pre-Crisis Wonder Woman, this one's storylines/plots don't seem to have enough action. Don't get me wrong. I believe in Diana's role of ambassador and teaching man to live in peace, but I don't know, I kind of miss the action of the old Wonder Woman series. When are the Olympians coming back? Also, I'm glad the romance between Diana and Superman was stopped. They both come from different worlds and looked like they didn't understand each other enough to have a relationship. I don't think Wonder Woman should be given a love interest yet; she still seems very uncomfortable here in man's (Patriarch's) world. I also approve of the growth in the number of characters, which in gives greater storylines.

Outside of the Cheetah, Silver Swan, and Ares, are we going to see any other old enemies of Wonder Woman return, such as Aegeus, The Duke of Deception, Angle Man, Dr. Cyber, Dr. Psycho, Egg Fu Yung, The Red Panzer, and the Seal Men? As to Diana's role of a superhero and having a secret identity, forget

it. She just about understands Patriarch's World without having to go through all that. So good luck, Great Hera, and all that!

John Pulaski
Clifton Heights, PA

Dear Karen,

I've loved Wonder Woman since her Linda Carter days, and still love her to this day. I have always thought that Batman and Superman were two of the three best super-heroes ever (the third being none other than that amazing Amazon Wonder Woman). When I saw what you guys at DC did for their 50th anniversaries, I started thinking about Wonder Woman's.

I've come up with these suggestions that I hope you will find helpful and keep in mind:

1. Bring back "SENSATION COMICS"!
2. Revamp the Wonder Woman TV show!
3. Introduce a Wonder Woman line of clothes.
4. Publish a prestige Wonder Woman miniseries (a la Dark Knight).
5. The 50th issue could include Diana's return to the Justice League, the climax of the Superman-Wonder Woman "thing," and maybe a look at the evolution of Wonder Woman from her first appearance to the present.....
6. A new Wonder Girl (and just maybe a Wonder Boy!?).
7. Some sort of Wonder Woman graphic novel?
8. And last, but not least, how about a third variation of Diana's costume? She already has her super-hero garb (which is really great looking) and her Themyscira "skirt costume"; how about something sort of middle-of-the-road that she can use regularly?

I hope you find my suggestions helpful, and find time to use them. Keep up the good work, guys!

Sincerely,
Richie Thomas
146 95th Street
Brooklyn, NY 11209

Your suggestions are terrific, Richie, and you'll be surprised to see how much in common they have with what we've got planned!



NEXT: Diana and Donna Troy battle the mysterious werebeasts in the New York City sewer system and the secret of Scourge is revealed! See you then—Karen