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Wonder Woman

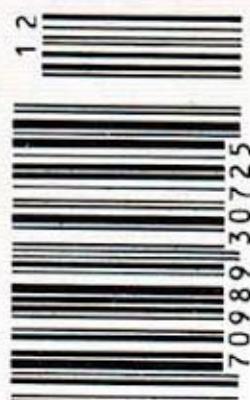
FINALE
FOR AN
AMAZON!

MY DAUGHTER IS
DEAD!

AND
THERE WAS
NOTHING
I COULD DO
TO **SAVE**
HER!



C-745



ANDRUE GIORDANO

ENDOWED WITH THE WISDOM OF ATHENA, THE STRENGTH OF HERCULES, THE SPEED OF MERCURY AND THE BEAUTY OF APHRODITE, PRINCESS DIANA OF PARADISE ISLAND SACRIFICES HER IMMORTALITY AS AN AMAZON TO BATTLE EVIL IN THE WORLD, IN THE SECRET IDENTITY OF CAPT. DIANA PRINCE OF MILITARY INTELLIGENCE BASED AT THE PENTAGON!

Wonder Woman™

IF STONE COULD WEEP, THE ETERNALLY SAD EYES OF THE STATUE OF THE MARTYRED PRESIDENT IN THE LINCOLN MEMORIAL WOULD MELT WITH GRIEF--

--AS PRESIDENT REAGAN LIES IN A HOSPITAL IN THE NATION'S CAPITAL, BEING TREATED FOR AN ASSASSIN'S BULLET...

AND ANOTHER CELEBRATED FIGURE IS BEING SCANNED BY MEDICAL SCIENCE'S LATEST PROBING EYE AS IF IT WERE REVEALING THE HIDDEN SECRETS OF AN UNKNOWN PLANET...



WONDER WOMAN, (USPS 690-040), Vol. 40, No. 286, December, 1981. Published monthly by DC COMICS INC., 75 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, N.Y. 10019. Second Class Postage paid at New York, N.Y. and Additional Mailing Offices. Copyright © 1981 by DC Comics Inc. All Rights Reserved. The stories, characters and incidents mentioned in this magazine are entirely fictional. No actual persons, living or dead, are intended or should be inferred. Printed in U.S.A.

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SUBSCRIPTION DEPT.: DC COMICS INC., P.O. Box 1308-F, Fort Lee, N.J. 07024. Annual subscription rate \$7.20 Outside U.S.A. \$8.20.
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to DC COMICS INC., P.O. Box 1308-F, Fort Lee, N.J. 07024.

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SHORTLY, IN THE OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF THE MEDICAL TEAM...

I'M AFRAID THE
CAT[®] SCAN CONFIRMS
ALL OUR TESTS,
WONDER WOMAN.

YOU HAVE
METASTATIC
MELANOMA.

HOW LONG
DO I HAVE,
DR. WOLFF?

AND PLEASE
DON'T TRY
TO SPARE
ME.

*C.A.T. -- COMPUTERIZED AXIAL TOMOGRAPHY - Len.

WITH RADIUM
THERAPY, MEDICATION,
HOSPITALIZATION
WHEN NECESSARY,
A DIFFERENT
LIFE STYLE...

...THERE'S ALWAYS THE
POSSIBILITY OF A RE-
MISSION HALTING THE
SPREAD OF THE
CONDITION --

DON'T PAMPER
ME, DR. WOLFF.
I'M AN AMAZON.

HOW
LONG?

SIX MONTHS...
I'M SORRY.

THERE'LL BE NO
HOSPITALIZATION--
NO TREATMENT.

I CHOOSE
TO SPEND
THE REST
OF MY
LIFE PROTECTING
INNOCENT PEOPLE
AGAINST THE FORCES
OF EVIL--RIGHT
UP TO THE END.

I INSIST YOU
REMEMBER
YOUR SACRED
OATH TO
HIPPOCRATES,
THE FATHER
OF MEDICINE,
TO KEEP YOUR
FINDINGS
PRIVILEGED
INFORMATION--

--OUR
SECRET.

AS YOU WISH, MY
DEAR, WHEN THE
PAIN BECOMES
UNBEARABLE--

--TAKE THESE
PILLS AS
DIRECTED.

DON'T FEEL SO
DEJECTED,
DR. WOLFF.

IT'S NOT HOW LONG YOU
LIVE--BUT HOW WELL
YOU LIVE.

LATER THAT DAY, ATOP A NEARBY SKYSCRAPER...

IF THE AUTHORITIES
DON'T MEET OUR DEMANDS
IN THIRTY MINUTES--

WE'LL TOSS ONE
HOSTAGE OVER
THE ROOF EVERY
TEN MINUTES
UNTIL THEY DO!

I-I CAN'T
BELIEVE
IT.
I ESCAPED
THE NAZI
DEATH
CAMP AT
DACHAU.

I WAS RESCUED BY
THE ISRAELIS FROM
TERRORISTS AT
ENTESEBE--

--ONLY TO BE
SLAUGHTERED
NOW?!



WITH TV CAMERA CREWS RECORDING THE SCENE
AS IF IT WERE A DISASTER FILM, COL. STEVE
TREVOR CONFERS WITH THE OFFICER IN CHARGE
OF THE ARMED FORCES SURROUNDING THE
SKYSCRAPER...



BUT--I'M CHANGING
THEIR SCENARIO.

WHILE THEY'RE
COUNTING THE
MONEY--I'M
GOING TO KNOCK
THEM OUT WITH
A VIAL OF GAS
I'VE GOTTEN
FROM CHEMICAL
WARFARE--

--GAS THAT WILL
PUT THEM TO SLEEP
FOR 24 HOURS.



AT THAT MOMENT, AT THE PENTAGON...

ANY NEWS ON THE
DISAPPEARANCE
OF THE BLUEPRINTS
OF AMERICA'S SATELLITE-
KILLER, DIANA? THE RUSSIANS
WOULD GIVE A BILLION
FOR IT.

NEGATIVE, ETTA.

ALL WE KNOW
IS THAT THEY
HAVEN'T LEFT
THE COUNTRY
YET.



SUDDENLY...

... WHILE COL. STEVE TREVOR HAS JUST LEFT BY CHOPPER TO CHUTE DOWN TO THE TERRORISTS, WITH THE RANSOM THEY DEMAND FOR THE HOSTAGES THEY THREATEN TO HURL TO THEIR DEATHS, FROM THE TOP OF THE FEDERAL SKYSCRAPER...

GOOD LUCK, COLONEL.



MERCIFUL MINERVA!

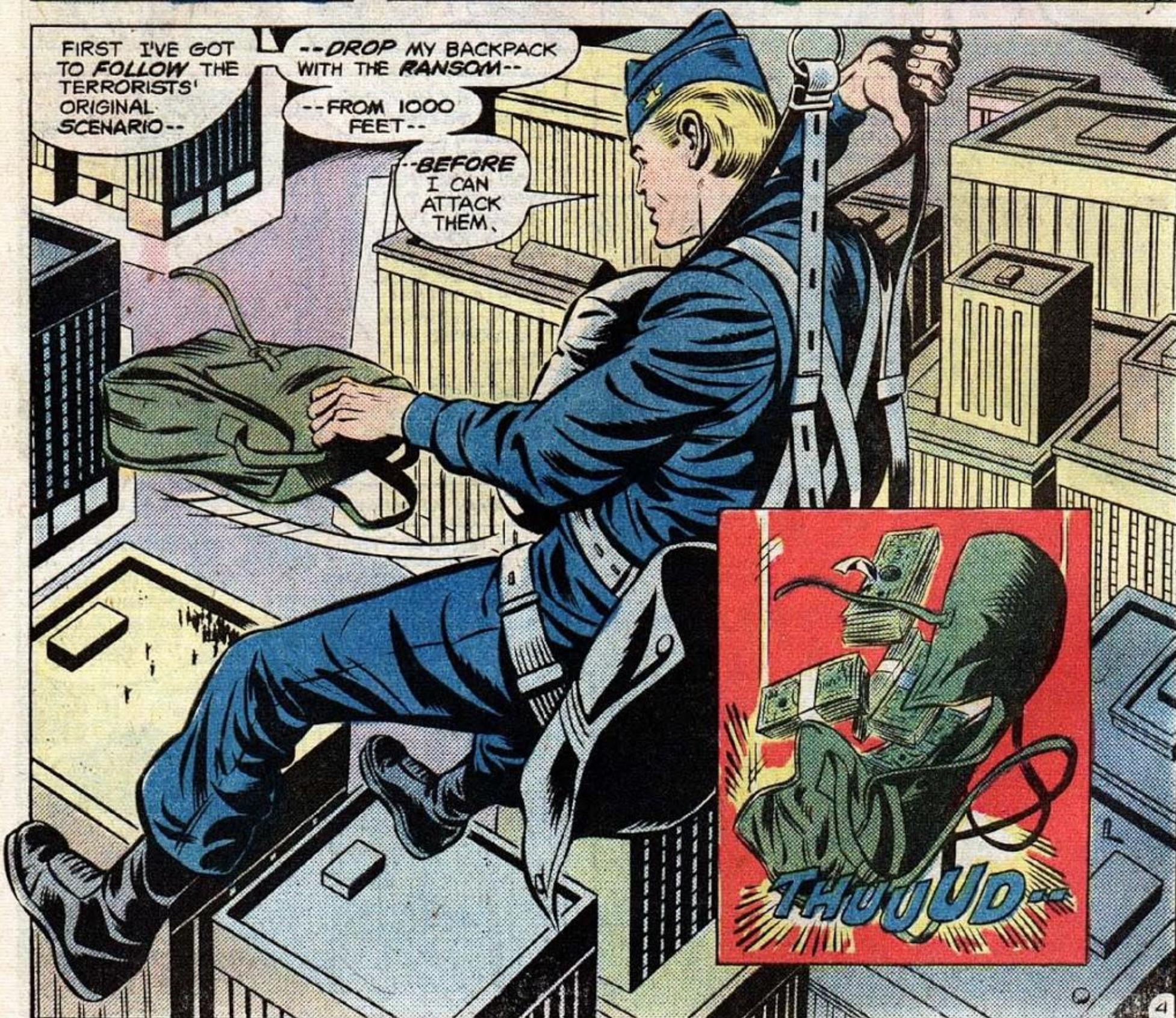


FIRST I'VE GOT TO FOLLOW THE TERRORISTS' ORIGINAL SCENARIO--

--DROP MY BACKPACK WITH THE RANSOM--

--FROM 1000 FEET--

--BEFORE
I CAN ATTACK THEM.



CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING

THE MESSENGER DROPPED THE MONEY--

--BUT I THINK I'LL BLOW HIM AWAY ANYWAY JUST TO CONVINCE THE AUTHORITIES NOT TO DELAY OUR GETAWAY HELICOPTER!

THE TERRORISTS ARE USING ME FOR TARGET PRACTICE!

UNLESS I CAN SWING OUT OF THEIR LINE OF FIRE-- I'LL BE A DEAD DUCK!

BUT, HORRIFIED AT THE IMMINENT COLD-BLOODED MURDER OF STEVE, DANGLING HELPLESSLY FROM HIS CHUTE...

WE'RE THROUGH BEING GASSED AND SHOT!

NEVER AGAIN!



STUBBORN INTRANSIGENT JEWS--!

BUDDA BUDDA

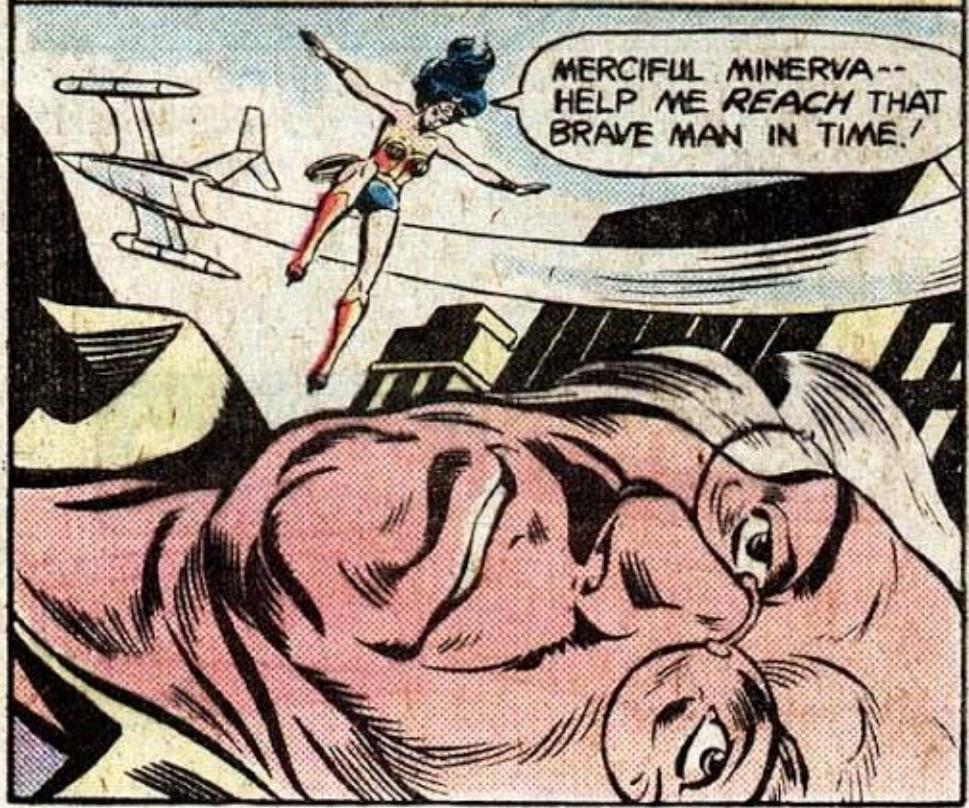


MORTALLY WOUNDED, THE HEROIC OLD MAN VAINLY ATTEMPTS TO UTTER THE WORDS OF THE HEBREW PRAYER FOR THE DEAD... WITH HIS LAST BREATH...

YIS... GADAL...



THE DYING MAN'S ANCIENT LAMENT REACHES WONDER WOMAN-- HURTLING LIKE A FALLING STAR FROM HER ROBOT PLANE...



YIS... GADAL...

YIS GADASH... SCHMAY RABAH... B'AHLMAH D'V'RAH K'RUSAY...



THEN, RECOVERING FROM THEIR ASTONISHMENT AT THE SIGHT OF THE COMFORTING AMAZON ...

WONDER WOMAN'S SAID HER LAST PRAYER!

CUT HER DOWN!

I'VE GOT TO GIVE THOSE GOONS ANOTHER TARGET--

AND KEEP THE HEAT OFF WONDER WOMAN.



AND, AS BULLETS BLAZE AT THE DAUNTLESS PRINCESS ...

I GREW UP ON PARADISE ISLAND--

--PLAYING--

--BULLETS AND BRACELETS!



WHILE STEVE ENDS HIS ASTONISHING FREE-FALL WITH UTTER DISREGARD FOR HIS OWN LIFE--

DIDN'T HAVE A CHANCE TO USE THE KO-GAS--

--BUT AT LEAST THESE KILLERS AREN'T FIRING AT WONDER WOMAN NOW!



YOU AND YOUR BOYFRIEND HAVE REACHED A DEAD END, WONDER WOMAN.

FREEZE-- OR I'LL BLOW HIS HEAD OFF!

DON'T LISTEN TO HIM!

THE AMAZON PRINCESS CAN WARD OFF BULLETS OF STEEL -- BUT NOT THE TUGGING OF HER ANGUISHED HEART...

I'LL MAKE IT EASIER FOR YOU, ANGEL --

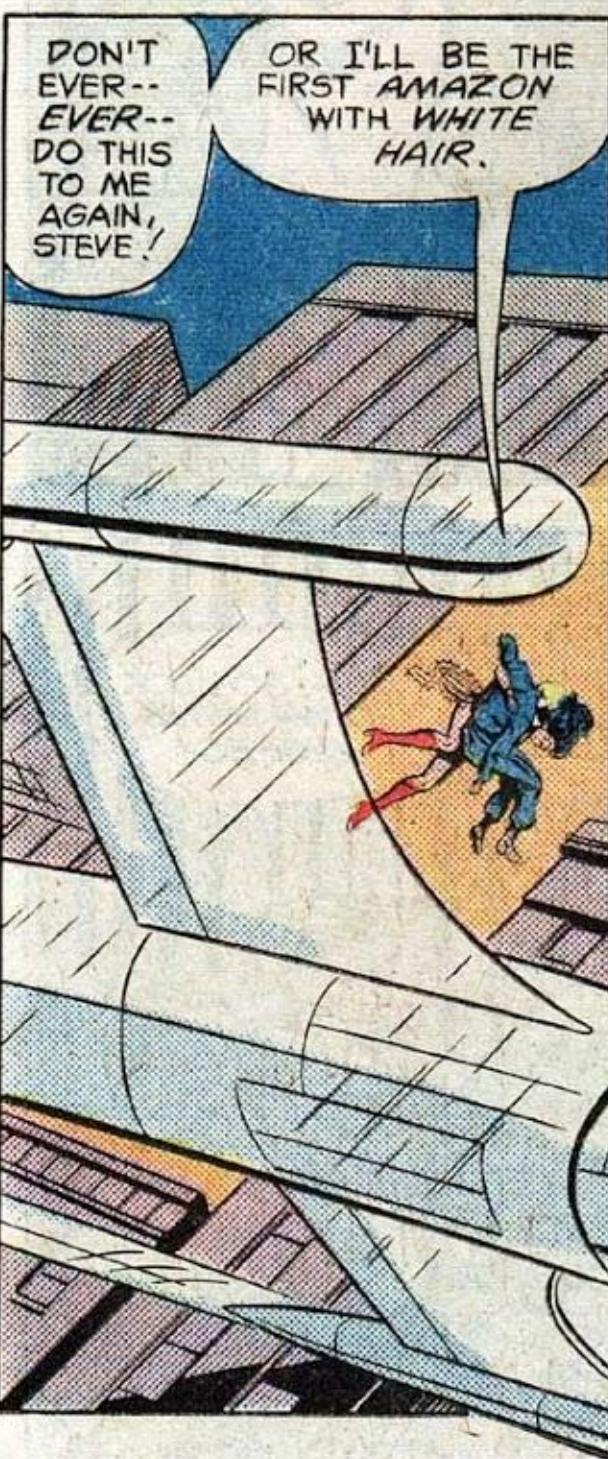
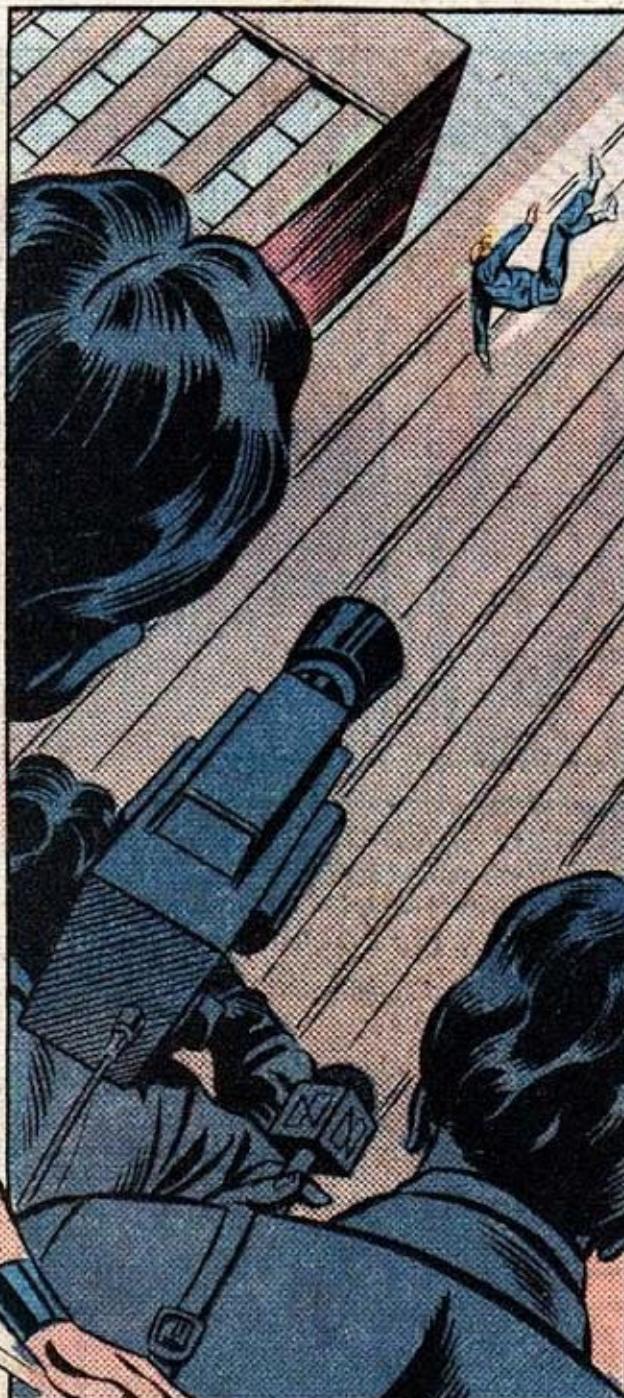
FAREWELL...

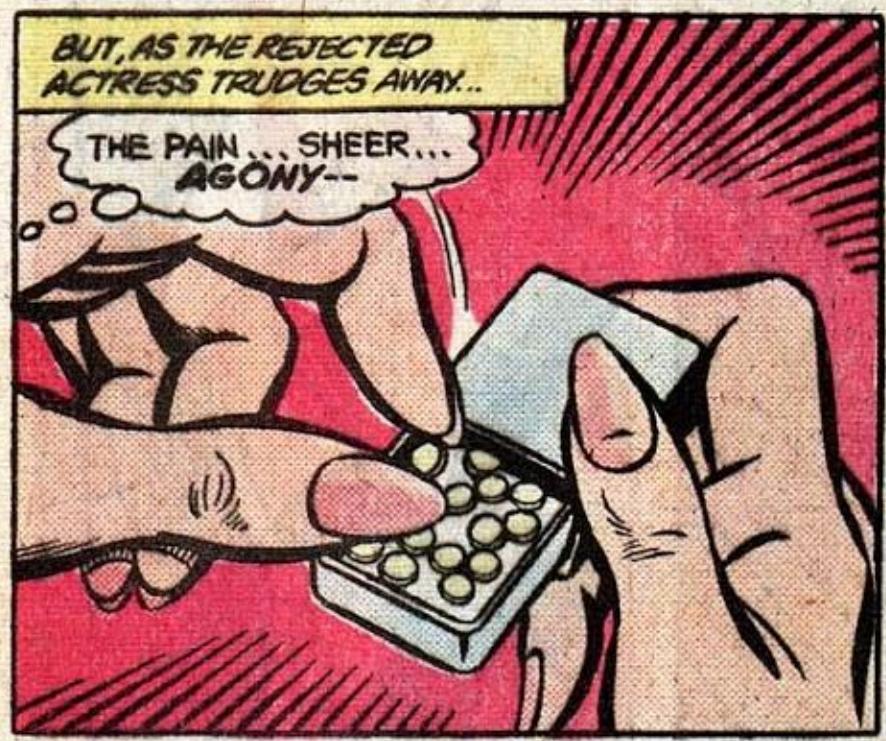


ANGUISH TURNS TO RAGE AS WONDER WOMAN UNLEASHES HER MAGIC LASSO --

--AND, WITH THE SPEED OF A WHIRLING COMET, SHE WHIPS THE LASSO AROUND THE GUNMEN IN A MAZE OF GLITTERING GOLDEN LINKS...







BUT, SUDDENLY, THE CALLOUS JEERING SUDDENLY TURNS TO SHAMED SILENCE...

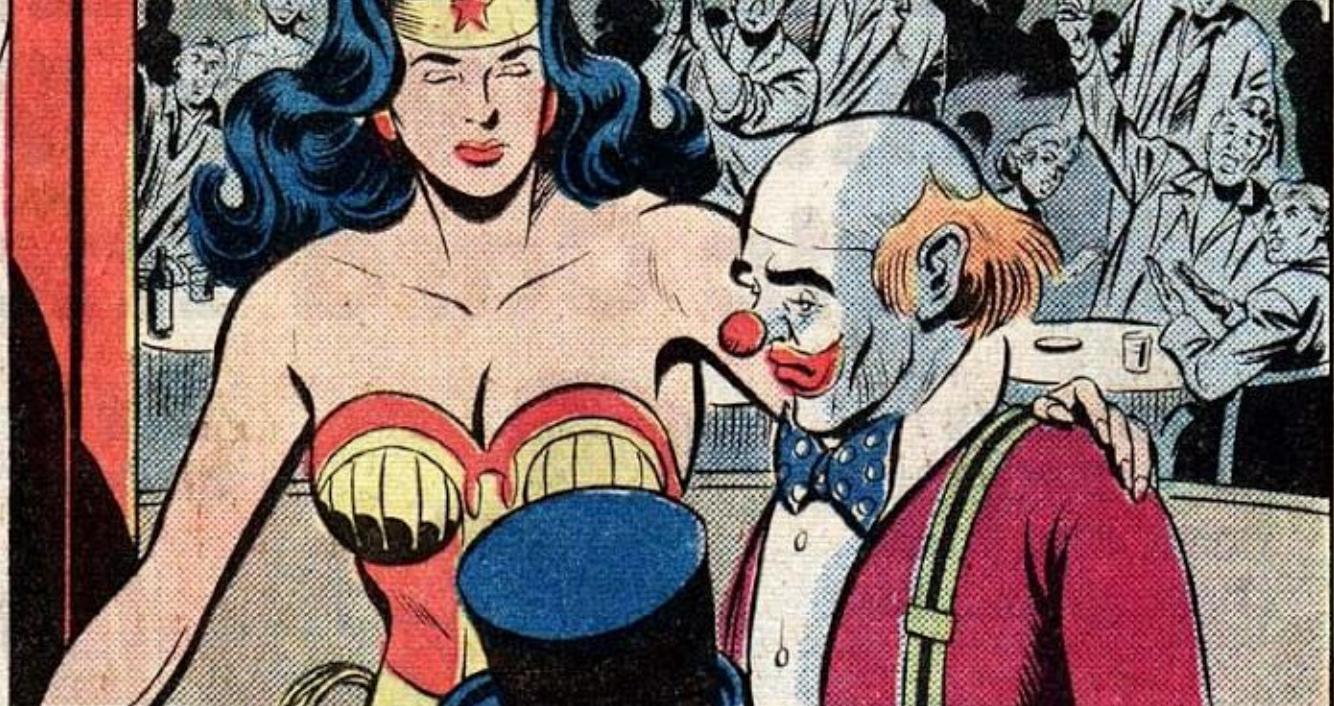
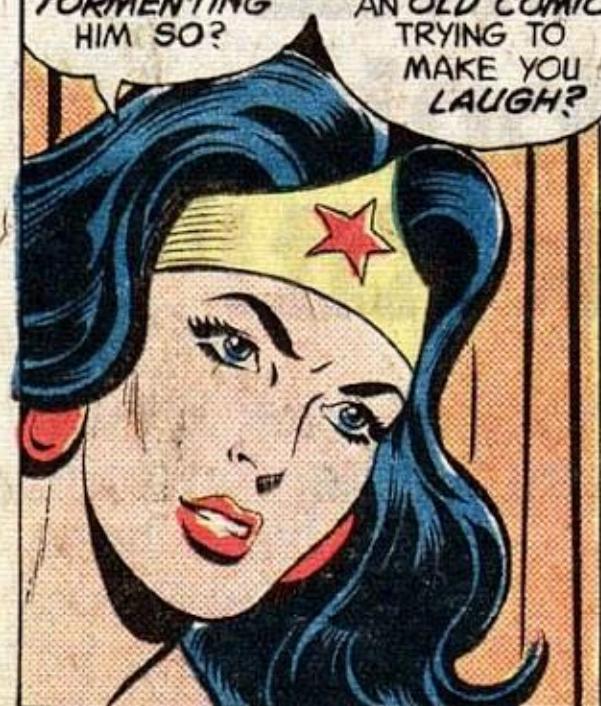
STOP IT! WHY ARE YOU TORMENTING HIM SO?

COME TO YOUR DRESSING ROOM-- YOU'VE HAD ENOUGH!

HURRAH FOR WONDER WOMAN!

WONDER WOMAN FOR PRESIDENT!

CAN'T YOU SEE THAT HE'S JUST AN OLD COMIC TRYING TO MAKE YOU LAUGH?



DID YOU HEAR 'EM CHEER YOU, AMY?

THAT'S ONLY BECAUSE THEY THOUGHT I WAS THE REAL WONDER WOMAN -- NOT JUST YOUR DAUGHTER.



OUR LUCK'S GOIN' TO CHANGE, AMY! I CAN SMELL IT. YOU'RE GOIN' TO GET THE WONDER WOMAN PART IN THAT NEW FILM.

RATS' NEST



WITH ME AS YOUR MANAGER --WE'RE GOIN' TO BE SITTIN' ON TOP OF THE WORLD. WE'LL NEED A BRINKS' EXPRESS TO CARRY OUR MONEY TO THE BANK!

LET'S GET YOUR PAPER AND GO HOME, DAD. I'M TIRED.

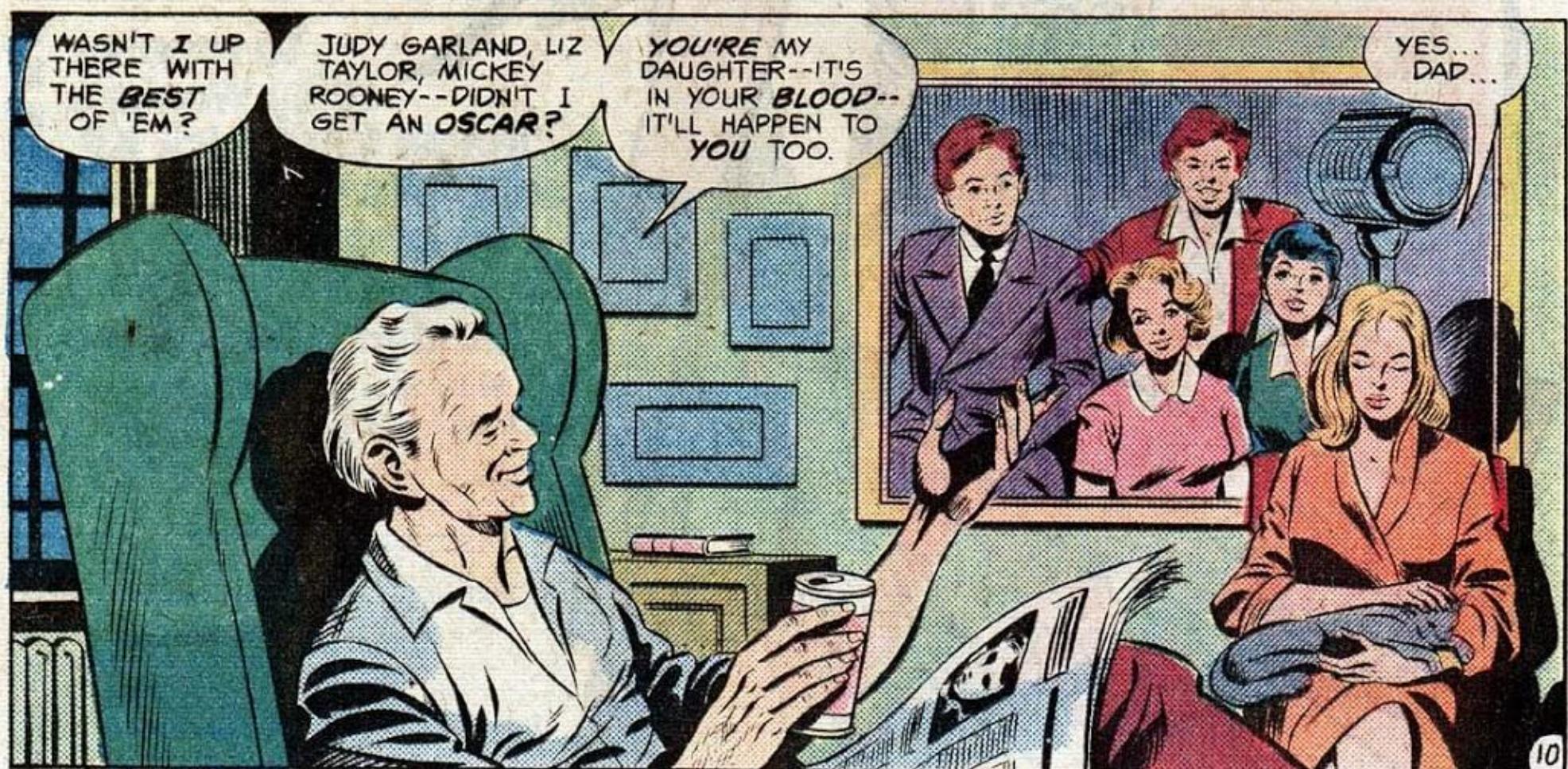
I WANT TO GET OUT OF THIS WONDER WOMAN COSTUME AND MAKE-UP. I-I DON'T DESERVE IT.

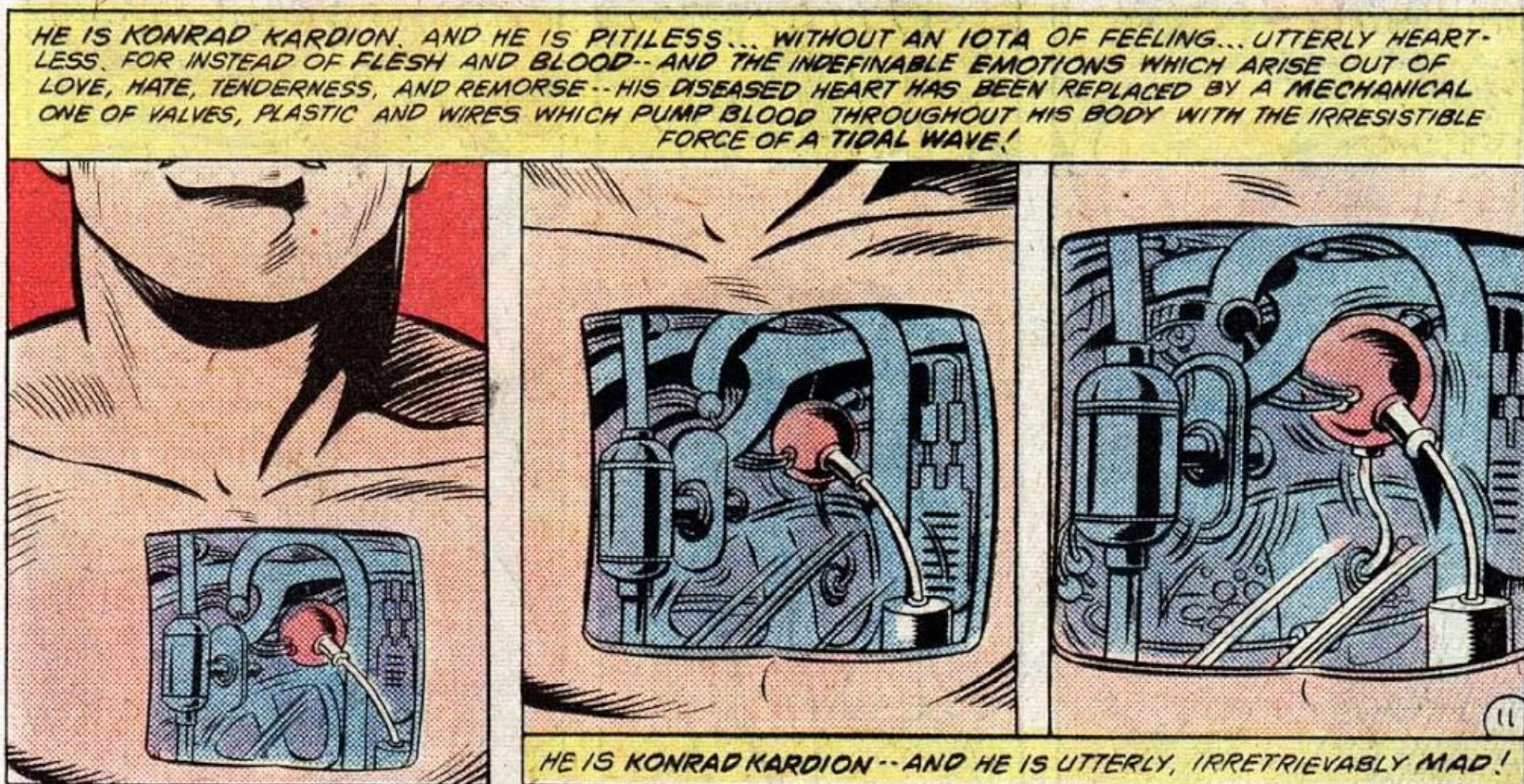
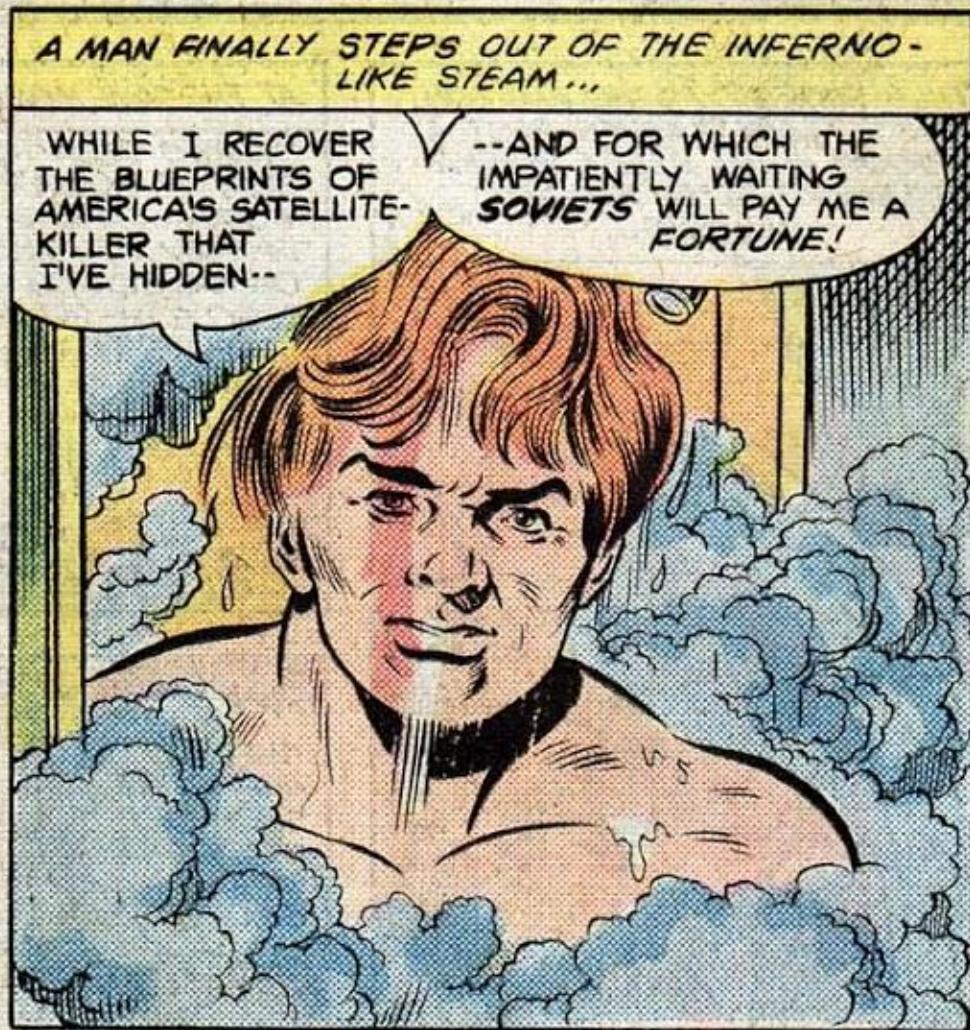
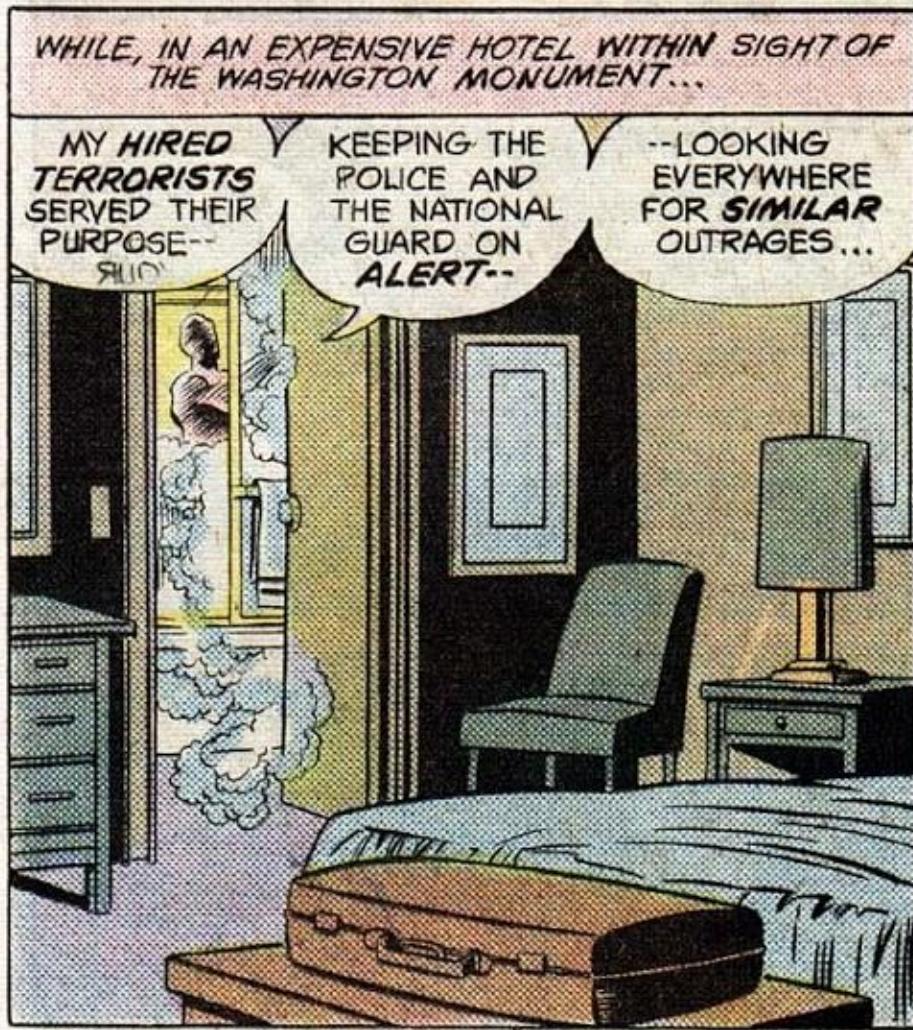
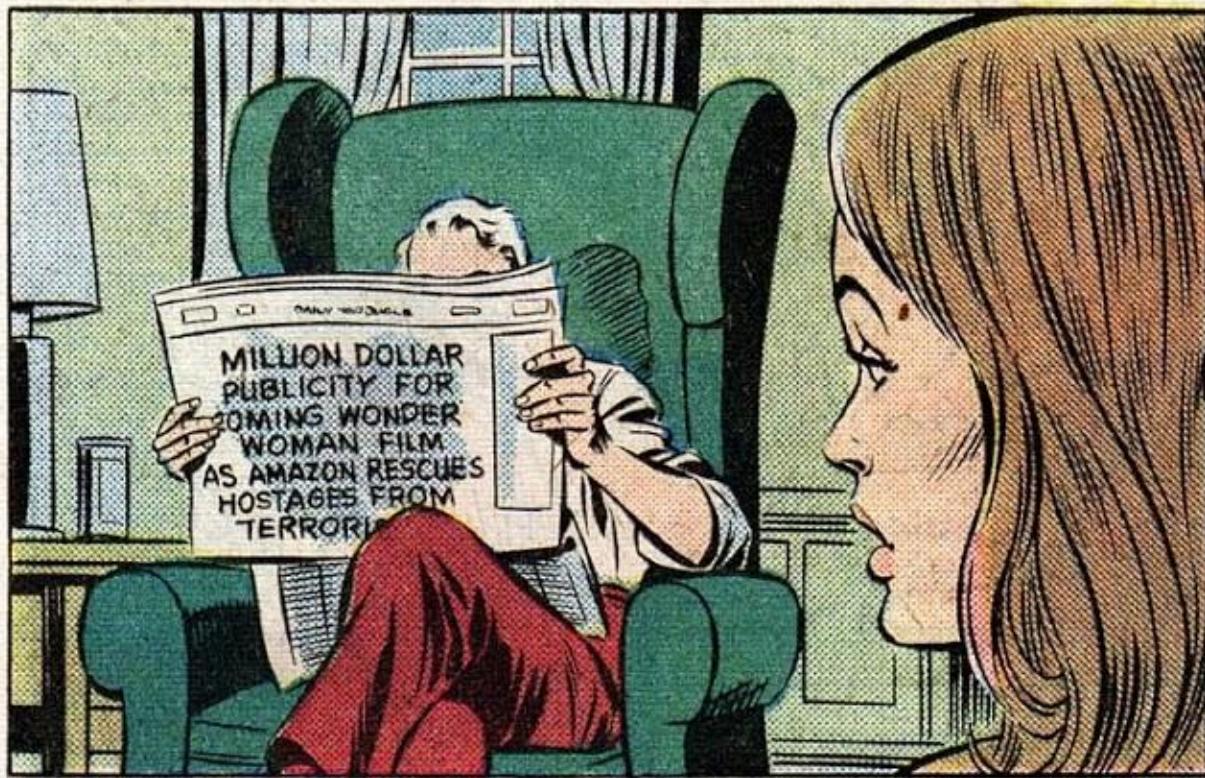
WASN'T I UP THERE WITH THE BEST OF 'EM?

JUDY GARLAND, LIZ TAYLOR, MICKEY ROONEY--DIDN'T I GET AN OSCAR?

YOU'RE MY DAUGHTER--IT'S IN YOUR BLOOD-- IT'LL HAPPEN TO YOU TOO.

YES... DAD...





THUS, THE FOLLOWING DAY, AT THE PENTAGON...

... WHILE FIREMEN ARE HELD BACK BY THE FLAMES AND SMOKE ENVELOPING THE CAPITAL STUDIOS IN WHICH THE WONDER WOMAN EPIC IS TO BE SHOT -- THE FEARLESS AMAZON IS DASHING IN TO TRY TO RESCUE THE STUDIO STAFF TRAPPED INSIDE!

GREAT HERA...
SHE'S AN
IMPOSTOR...

--BRAVELY BUT
RECKLESSLY
THROWING AWAY
HER LIFE.

BUT WHY?

I SUPPOSE
THAT'S AN
ANSWER I'LL
JUST HAVE TO
LEARN FOR
MYSELF!

THUS, SHORTLY, AS THE AMAZON ROBOT PLANE FLASHES PAST A WINDOW IN THE ALLEY BEHIND THE SMOKE-FILLED STUDIO BUILDING...

PLANE...
CIRCLE...

AT THE SAME MOMENT, AS STEVE TREVOR DRIVES TOWARDS THE PENTAGON...

THERE'S BEEN NO SIGN OF WONDER WOMAN SINCE SHE DASHED INTO THE CAPITAL STUDIOS TO RESCUE THE PEOPLE TRAPPED BY FLAMES INSIDE! IT IS FEARED...

I'VE GOT
TO HELP.

THERE'S THE IMPOSTOR... SEEMINGLY OVERCOME BY THE SMOKE.

AT LEAST SHE'S SAFE HERE.

I'LL COME BACK FOR HER--AFTER I LEAD THE TRAPPED PEOPLE OUT.

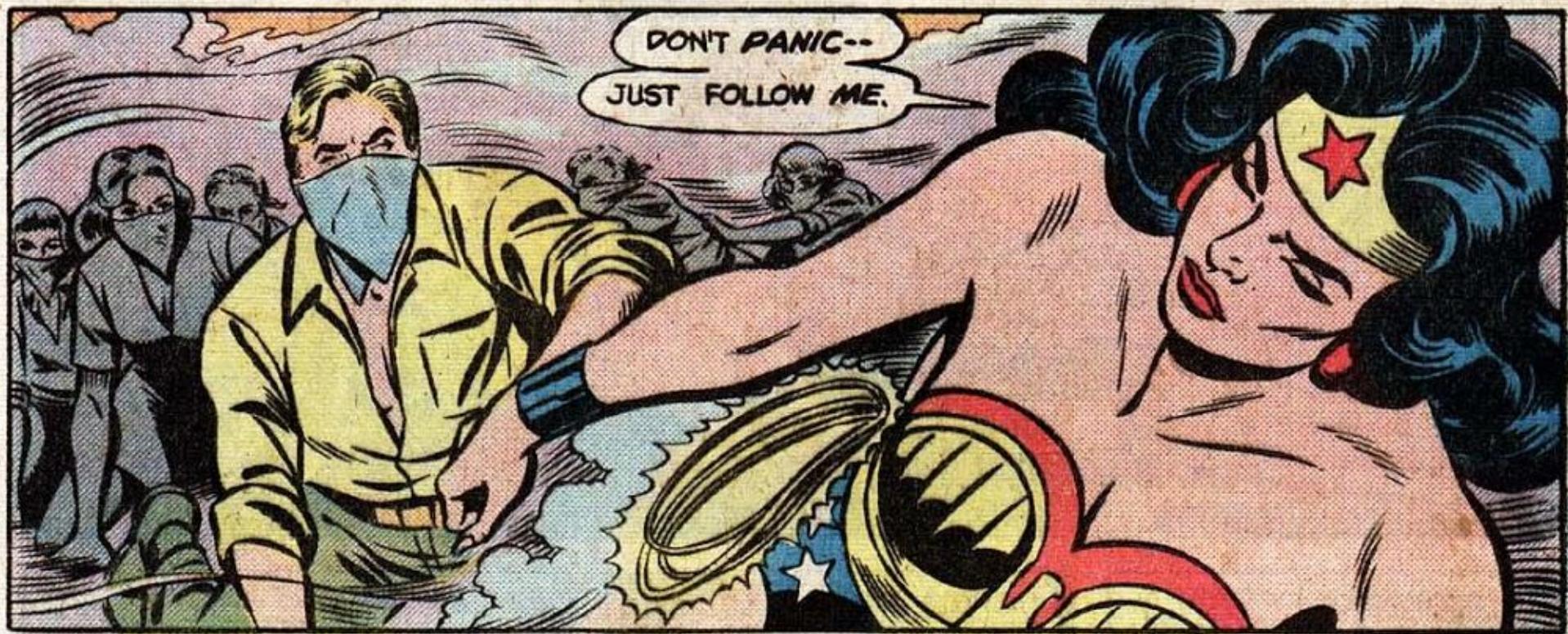
HOLD HANDS... ONE BEHIND THE OTHER.

FORM A HUMAN CHAIN--

--AND I'LL LEAD YOU OUT.

IT'S WONDER WOMAN.

--AND COVER YOUR NOSES AND MOUTHS AS BEST YOU CAN--AND CRAWL ON THE FLOOR WHERE THERE'S THE LEAST SMOKE.



OUTSIDE, A SWELLING TIDE OF FEAR RISES FOR THE AMAZON PRINCESS'S SAFETY AS SHE DOES NOT APPEAR...

COL. STEVE TREVOR JUST BROKE THROUGH THE LINES TO LOOK FOR WONDER WOMAN--



I'M TOO GOOD A FIREBUG. I OVERDID IT. I DIDN'T COUNT ON THE BLAZE BRINGING THE WHOLE CITY HERE.

I'LL HAVE TO COME BACK WHEN IT'S SAFE--

--TO RECOVER THE SATELLITE KILLER BLUEPRINTS I HID HERE.

THERE'S JUST SO MUCH SMOKE EVEN YOU CAN SWALLOW-- WONDER WOMAN.

BUT, AS THE TWO RACE OUTSIDE TO SAFETY...



W-WH-Y--YOU--
YOU-- YOU'RE
NOT WONDER
WOMAN!

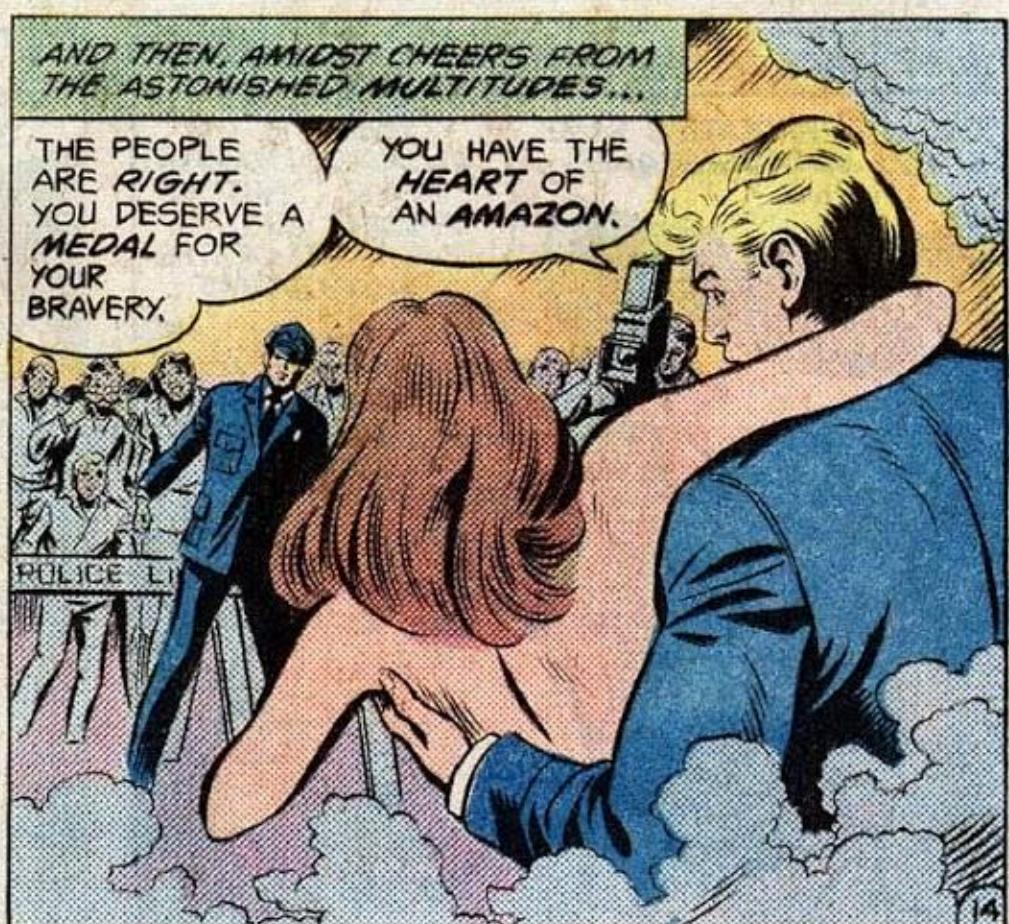
YOU'RE AN
IMPOSTOR.

SORRY...
I MEANT
NO
HARM.

AND THEN, AMOST CHEERS FROM
THE ASTONISHED MULTITUDES...

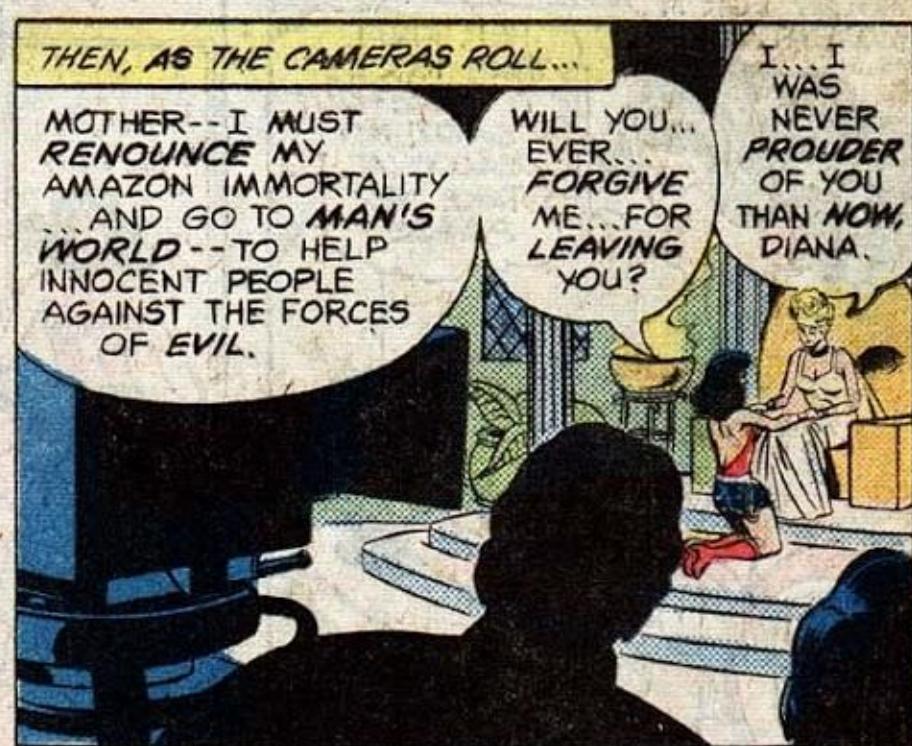
THE PEOPLE
ARE RIGHT.
YOU DESERVE A
MEDAL FOR
YOUR
BRAVERY.

YOU HAVE THE
HEART OF
AN AMAZON.



BY MORNING, THE WHOLE WORLD IS DELUGED WITH ASTOUNDING HEADLINES...

ON THE FIRST DAY'S SHOOTING, JENETTE KAHN, PUBLISHER, AND LEN WEIN, EDITOR OF DC'S "WONDER WOMAN" MAGAZINE, ARE INTERESTED SPECTATORS, ALONG WITH TECHNICAL ADVISOR PRINCESS DIANA HERSELF...



DAY AFTER DAY, SUSTAINED BY A DIAMINISHING SUPPLY OF PAIN-KILLERS, THE ACTRESS FIGHTS AGAINST THE TIME THAT'S RUNNING OUT OF HER...

APHRODITE, PATRON GODDESS OF THE AMAZONS, GIVE ME THE STRENGTH TO SPREAD YOUR DOCTRINE OF LOVING KINDNESS IN MAN'S WORLD--

--BEFORE MAN'S INHUMANITY TO MAN DESTROYS THE PLANET HE DWELLS ON.

DAY AFTER DAY, WONDER WOMAN'S HEART SHARES THE AGONY OF AMY KELLEY --UNTIL, IN DESPERATION, SHE COMMUNICATES WITH HER MOTHER ON FARAWAY PARADISE ISLAND THROUGH TELEPATHY...

MOTHER-- I CAN'T STOP AMY UNTIL SHE FINISHES THE LAST TAKE.

BRING HER TO THE ISLAND IMMEDIATELY AFTER THAT, AND WITH MERCIFUL MINERVA'S AID, OUR AMAZON SCIENTISTS WILL DO THE BEST THEY CAN TO SAVE THAT POOR CHILD.

FINALLY AT THE LAST DAY'S SHOOTING AS THEY PREPARE FOR THE LAST TAKE...

AMY'S ASLEEP... FREE FROM AGONY FOR A MOMENT!

I CAN'T MAKE HER. HER FINAL TAKE IS JUST A FADE-OUT SHOT. NO DIALOGUE. I'LL TAKE HER PLACE.

NO ONE WILL KNOW THE DIFFERENCE.

EMERGING FROM THE SLEEPING STAR'S DRESSING ROOM, WONDER WOMAN FINDS EVERYONE ON THE SET COWED BY NAMELESS FEAR BEFORE A FANTASTIC INTRUDER...

FREEZE-- OR THIS FLAMETHROWER WILL MAKE BURNED TOAST OUT OF ALL OF YOU.

AMY KELLEY

NO ONE LOOKS TWICE AT YOU IN THIS COUNTRY IF YOU WEAR A UNIFORM.

EVERYONE WHO SAW ME THOUGHT I WAS ON MY WAY TO THE AMERICAN NAZI PARTY DEMONSTRATION.

YET I OWE ALLEGIANCE TO NOTHING BUT MYSELF.

YOUR TERROR-- YOUR TEARS-- HAVE NO EFFECT ON MY HEART.

DO YOU THINK YOUR PRAYERS WILL MELT THIS IRON PUMP--

--THIS PIECE OF HARDWARE?

YOU'RE IN MY WAY.

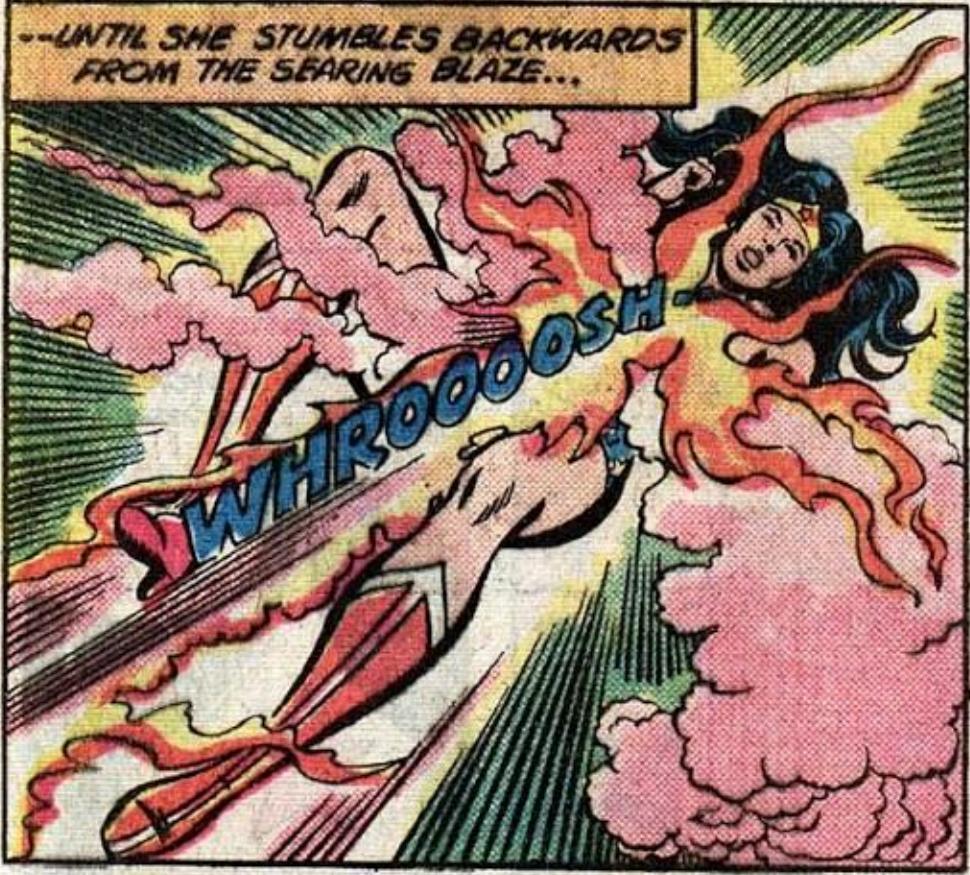
BUT NOT FOR LONG.

IN A FEW SECONDS YOU'LL BE NOTHING BUT A HEAP OF ASHES.

HURLING HERSELF LIKE A HUMAN SHIELD IN FRONT OF THE HELPLESS CAPTIVES, WONDER WOMAN DESPERATELY LUNGE FROM ONE SIDE TO ANOTHER -- TO AVOID BEING INCINERATED BY THE SCORCHING BURSTS OF FLAME--



--UNTIL SHE STUMBLES BACKWARDS FROM THE SEARING BLAZE...



I'M GOING TO MELT YOU DOWN, AMAZON!



BUT, WITH EYE-BLURRING SPEED, THE AMAZON TIARA WHIPS AROUND LIKE A GLEANNING BOOMERANG--

WHIIIP--



--AND ITS TARGET TOPPLES LIKE A BOWLING PIN...

THLUUNGG-



OUT FLASHERS THE TRUTH - COMPELLING MAGIC LASSO, AND...

WHY ARE YOU
HERE? CONFESS.

YOU ARE
POWERLESS
TO RESIST.

TO RECOVER... THE
ARMY SATELLITE-
KILLER BLUEPRINTS
I STOLE... AND HID...
IN THE CELLAR--



FORGET
THE SCRIPT.

THIS WILL BE THE
FINAL SCENE OF
THE FILM.

WHAT A
FINISH.



UNSEEN IN THE EXCITEMENT AS THE HEARTLESS SPY
IS LED AWAY BY POLICE, THE AMAZON RACES WITH
AMY TO HER CIRCLING ROBOT PLANE...

WONDER
WOMAN
CALLING
PARADISE
ISLAND...

MAKING EMERGENCY
LANDING WITH
DEATHLY ILL
PASSENGER.

HAVE AMAZON
SCIENTISTS
STANDING BY.

WONDER WOMAN...
YOU'VE MADE ME
... THE HAPPIEST
GIRL... IN THE
WORLD...



LATER, IN THE PALACE OF
QUEEN HIPPOLYTA...

IT IS TOO
LATE, DIANA...

OUR SCIENTISTS
ARE HELPLESS... NOT
EVEN THE PURPLE
RAY CAN SAVE HER
NOW.

THE POOR
CHILD IS
DELIRIOUS...
SINKING...



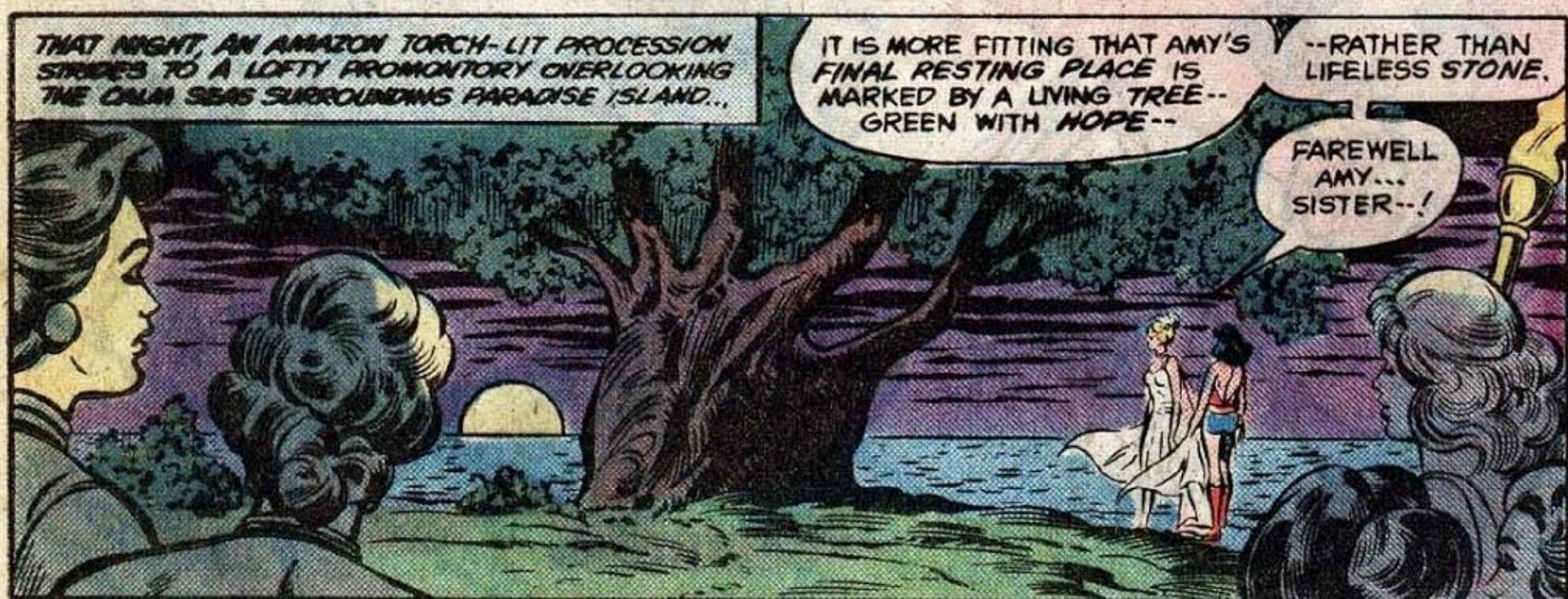
MOTHER...

MERCIFUL MINERVA--

-- AMY
THINKS
SHE REALLY
IS WONDER
WOMAN--

-- AND THE
QUEEN--
HER
MOTHER.





ROBERT KANIGHER · JOSE DELBO · DAVE HUNT · BEN ODA · JERRY SERPE · LEN WEIN
Guest Writer Penciller Inker Letterer Colorist Editor

HER NAME IS HELENA WAYNE, AND SHE'S CARRYING ON A FAMILY TRADITION. HERE ON A WORLD SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT FROM OUR OWN, SHE SAW THE BATMAN DIE... AND FIGHTS ON AS HIS DAUGHTER SHOULD, BATTLING CRIME AS...

THE HUNTRESS

I FEEL SO ALONE -- FIRST HARRY SAYS HE HAS TO GO AWAY TO RETHINK OUR RELATIONSHIP --

AHEM... PERHAPS YOU SHOULD REVISI THAT OPINION, HUNTRESS -- BECAUSE THERE DEFINITELY IS SOMEONE WHO WANTS TO GET CLOSE TO YOU BECAUSE OF YOUR COSTUME...

--NOW DICK IS GOING OVERSEAS AGAIN, JUST WHEN I THOUGHT WE WERE GROWING CLOSER!

I FEEL LIKE THIS COSTUME MAKES IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR ME TO GET CLOSE TO ANYONE!

WHAT--???

NOT WHAT, HELENA -- WHO!

KARNAGE IS
THE NAME

--AND IF YOU'RE THE HUNTRESS, YOU'RE ABOUT TO BE DEAD!

PAUL LEVITZ & JOE STATON, STORYTELLERS
BRUCE PATTERSON, INKER. ADRIENNE ROY, COLORS. TODD KLEIN, LETTERS
LEN WEIN, EDITOR IN CHARGE OF VILLAINS' NAMES...



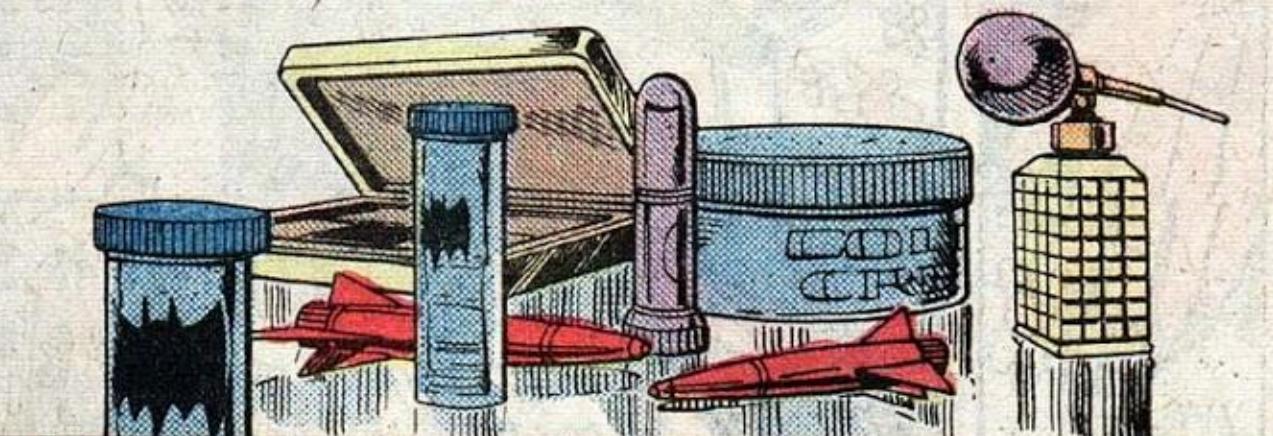








A FEW HOURS LATER...



IT'S DAYS LIKE THIS
THAT MAKES ME WONDER
IF THIS SUPER-HEROINE
BIT IS WORTH IT. I
MEAN, IT HAS ITS
MOMENTS...

...BUT SO DOES A
NORMAL LIFE, FROM
EVERYTHING I'VE
HEARD. HMM...

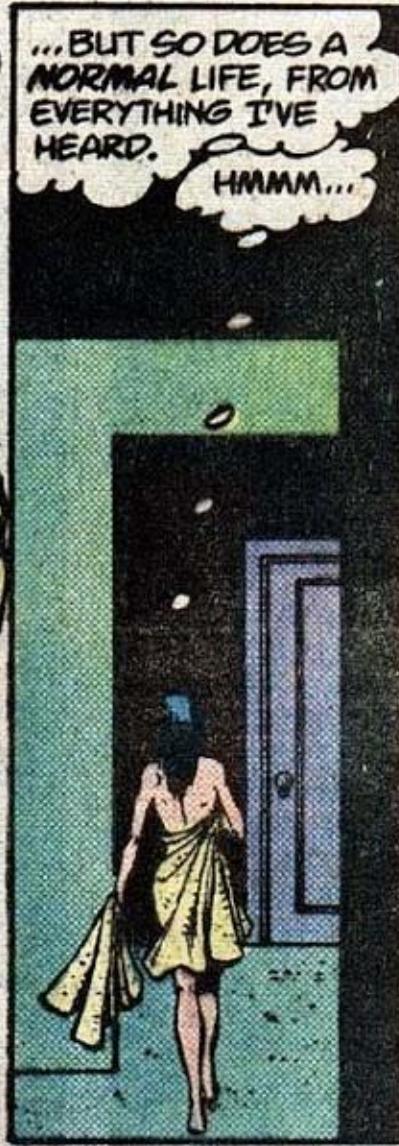
ONLY ONE ANSWER
WHEN I'M FEELING
THIS WAY AND THERE'S
NO LAP TO CURL UP
IN AND HAVE A GOOD
CRY... aww

FUNNY, HOW THINGS CAN
BECOME SO IMPORTANT
WHEN THE PEOPLE
ATTACHED TO THEM ARE
GONE--

THE DOLL

MOM GAVE ME ON MY
THIRD BIRTHDAY--THE
FIRST CHEMISTRY SET
DAD BOUGHT ME--

--DEAR SWEET
ALFRED'S STUFFY
TEDDY--



HERE'S WHAT I WAS
LOOKING FOR... THE
NIGHT DAD FIRST
SHOWED ME HIS
COSTUME.



DEAR DIARY -- I
can hardly believe
it! My daddy, my
very own daddy --
THE BATMAN! I
knew he was the
strongest, smartest,
most wonderful
man... but he's
a HERO too!

I do so want to spend my life
being just as good as HE IS!

UNNHH -- IT
STILL SENDS
CHILLS DOWN
MY SPINE!
DADDY, I LOVE
YOU SO -- AND
MISS YOU SO!

I WON'T
LET YOU
DOWN!



NOK
NOK

RATHER THAN REVEAL
WHOSE FIST KNOCKS GENTLY ON
HELENA'S DOOR, LET US TURN AWAY...

--TO A SCENE MS. WAYNE WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY LOVE TO BE SEEING...

YOU SHOULD'VE SEEN IT, MISTER STENVILLE--SHE TURNED TAIL AND RAN.

I HAD THAT BROAD WHIMPERING!

AHEM! FIRST, I AM NOT PAYING YOU TO MAKE HER WHIMPER--I AM PAYING YOU TO KILL HER.

SECOND, I DO NOT APPRECIATE YOU CALLING ME BY THAT NAME... WHETHER OR NOT IT IS MY OWN.

YEAH, WELL, I AM GOING TO KILL HER.

YOU GAVE ME ALL THIS EQUIPMENT, SAID I COULD REALLY GO PLACES IF I BROUGHT YOU BACK HER CORPSE--

--NO WAY I'M GONNA BLOW THIS SHOT!

ALL I GOTTA DO IS FIND HER AGAIN!

PERHAPS I CAN HELP WITH THAT AS WELL.

AS I KNOW FROM ALL-TOO BITTER EXPERIENCE, SHE HAS A FRIEND NAMED ARTHUR CRAMSTON--A LAWYER SHE AND ROBIN RISKED THEIR LIVES TO PROTECT!*

KILL HIM.

THEN WAIT FOR HER TO COME TO YOU.

HA HA
HA HA HA
HA HA!

*ANYONE WHO RECOGNIZED THE GANGLORD OF RAVENSWARD FROM #284 ALL ON THEIR OWN, COLLECT A COOKIE! -LEN

