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SWAMP THING



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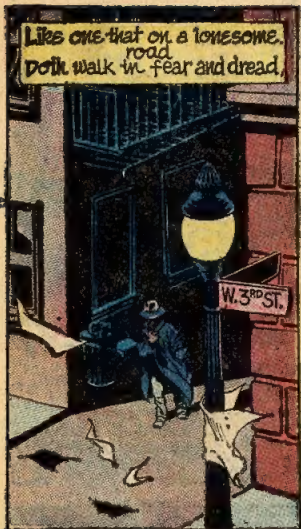
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 STATE _____ ZIP _____

Check here if you want Special Sample Book including cards for Blacks.

Like one that on a lonesome road
Doth walk in fear and dread.

And, having once turned round,
walks on,
And turns no more his head;

Because he knows a
frightful fiend
Doth close behind him
tread.



SAMUEL TAYLOR COLERIDGE SAID THAT IN THE
"RIME OF THE ANCIENT MARINER".

"AND I SWEAR BY THE SPIRITS OF MY PARENTS TO
AVENGE THEIR DEATHS BY SPENDING THE REST OF
MY LIFE WARRING ON ALL CRIMINALS."

BRUCE WAYNE SAID THAT
BY A GOTHAM CITY GRAVE-
SIDE.

THERE IS MOST DEFINITELY
A CONNECTION BETWEEN
THE TWO--AND WE SHALL
ALL SOON DISCOVER EXACTLY
WHAT IT IS!



A LEN WEIN (WRITER) / BERNI WRIGHTSON (ILLUSTRATOR) / JOE ORLANDO (EDITOR) PRESENTATION

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HOPE SEEING ME... DIDN'T GIVE THAT POOR GUY... A HEART ATTACK...

...BUT SEEING HIM... GAVE ME AN IDEA...

...CLOTHES..!

CAN'T REALLY... GET AROUND THE BIG BAD CITY... WITHOUT THEM...

USED ITEM FURNITURE CLOTHING BOOKS-A

YEAH, O'HARA-- I SAID A MONSTER-- WITH A DOG, YET! IT'S...

...AND IT APPEARS... I'VE LOCATED JUST THE PLACE... TO ACQUIRE SOME...!

C'MON, O'HARA-- I HAVEN'T TOUCHED A DROP OF THE STUFF! NOW GET ME A FEW SQUAD CARS OVER HERE-- PRONTO--

--AND FER HEAVEN'S SAKE, NO SIRENS! THE LAST THING I WANNA DO IS IRRITATE HIM!

SEVERAL MOMENTS LATER...

WE'RE DEALIN' WITH A MONSTER. ALL RIGHT, CHIEF!

ANYTHING THAT CAN TEAR APART STEEL GATES WITH HIS BARE HANDS...

OKAY, MEN--SPREAD OUT--AND STAY UNDER COVER!

"...HAS GOTTA BE THE GRAND-DADDY MONSTER OF 'EM ALL!"

THERE, MUTT...!

PRESENTING THE NEW ALEC HOLLAND... STAR OF STAGE... SCREEN... AND SLUMP-HOLE...!

WELL... AT LEAST THIS WAY... NOBODY WILL BE QUICK TO NOTICE... SEVEN-PLUS FEET OF SHAMBLING SWAMP GUNK...!

COME ON, MUTT...! LET'S GET...?

THIS IS THE POLICE! YOU ARE UNDER ARREST!

COME FORWARD PEACEFULLY-- HANDS ABOVE YOUR HEAD--AND YOU WILL NOT BE HURT!

MISTER... YOU HAVE GOT TO BE KIDD... UHNN!

BLAM!

SARGE, H-HE'S ATTACKING US!



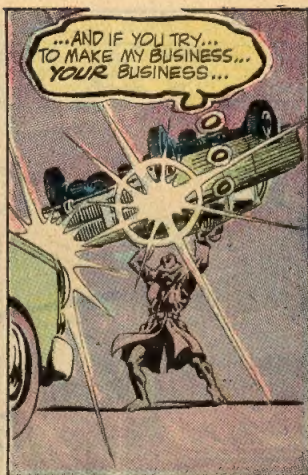
LOOK, FELLAS... PLEASE... I REALLY DON'T WANT... TO HURT YOU...!

FLUT FLUT FLUT

TH- THE SLUGS-- THEY'RE GOIN' RIGHT THROUGH HIM!



I'M IN GOTHAM CITY... ON PERSONAL BUSINESS...



...AND IF YOU TRY... TO MAKE MY BUSINESS... YOUR BUSINESS...



...YOU ARE ALMOST CERTAINLY... GOING TO REGRET IT...!

OH, MY LORD-- IT'S NOT POSSIBLE--!

KWAROOM!



COME ON, MUTT... WHILE THEY'RE STILL DISTRACTED... LET'S GET OUT OF HERE...!

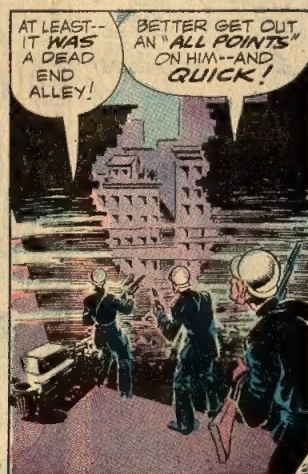
LOOK! WE'VE GOT THE MONSTER NOW, MEN!

HE'S RUNNING INTO A...



...DEAD... END... ALLEY!

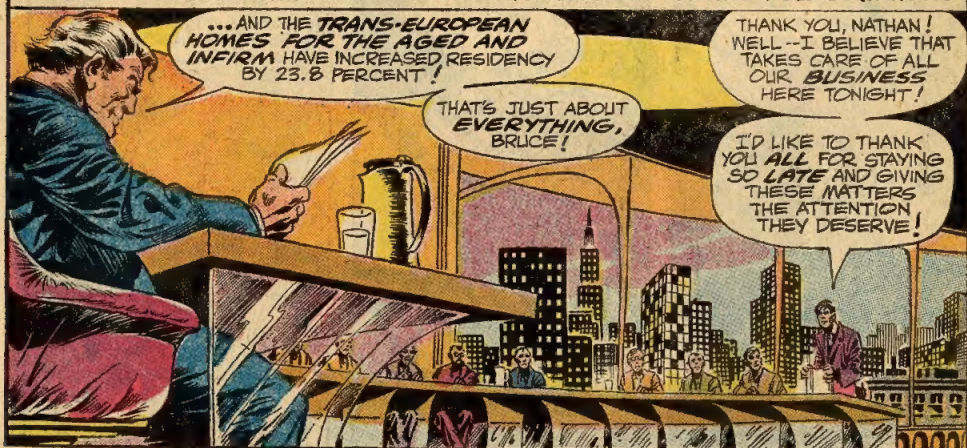
KWAAM



AT LEAST-- IT WAS A DEAD END ALLEY!

BETTER GET OUT AN "ALL POINTS" ON HIM--AND QUICK!

WHILE, ACROSS TOWN, IN THE SPACIOUS BOARDROOM OF THE BENEVOLENT WAYNE FOUNDATION...



... AND THE **TRANS-EUROPEAN HOMES FOR THE AGED AND INFIRM** HAVE INCREASED RESIDENCY BY 23.8 PERCENT!

THAT'S JUST ABOUT **EVERYTHING, BRUCE!**

THANK YOU, NATHAN! WELL--I BELIEVE THAT TAKES CARE OF ALL OUR **BUSINESS** HERE TONIGHT!

I'D LIKE TO THANK YOU **ALL** FOR STAYING SO **LATE** AND GIVING THESE MATTERS THE ATTENTION THEY DESERVE!

NO THANKS **NECESSARY, BRUCE**. MY **BOY--EVER!** ANYTHING NATHAN ELLERY CAN DO TO HELP THE **NEEDY** OF THE WORLD--



I **KNOW, NATHAN--AND I APPRECIATE IT!** I REALLY DO!



YES, WELL--**ER--I'LL SEE YOU NEXT WEEK, MY BOY!**

GOOD NIGHT, NATHAN--**AND THANKS AGAIN, ANYWAY!**

MOMENTS LATER, AS BRUCE WAYNE'S PRIVATE ELEVATOR HUMS TOWARDS HIS PENTHOUSE APARTMENT...

THE MEETING RAN A TRIFLE **OVER-LONG** THIS EVENING, SIR!

YES, ALFRED--**BUSINESS BEFORE PLEASURE!**

HAVE MY **"WORK-CLOTHES"** READY WHEN I ARRIVE!

WILL YOU BE GONE LONG, SIR?



ONLY AS LONG AS **NECESSARY--** ALFRED--**HOWEVER LONG IT TAKES!**

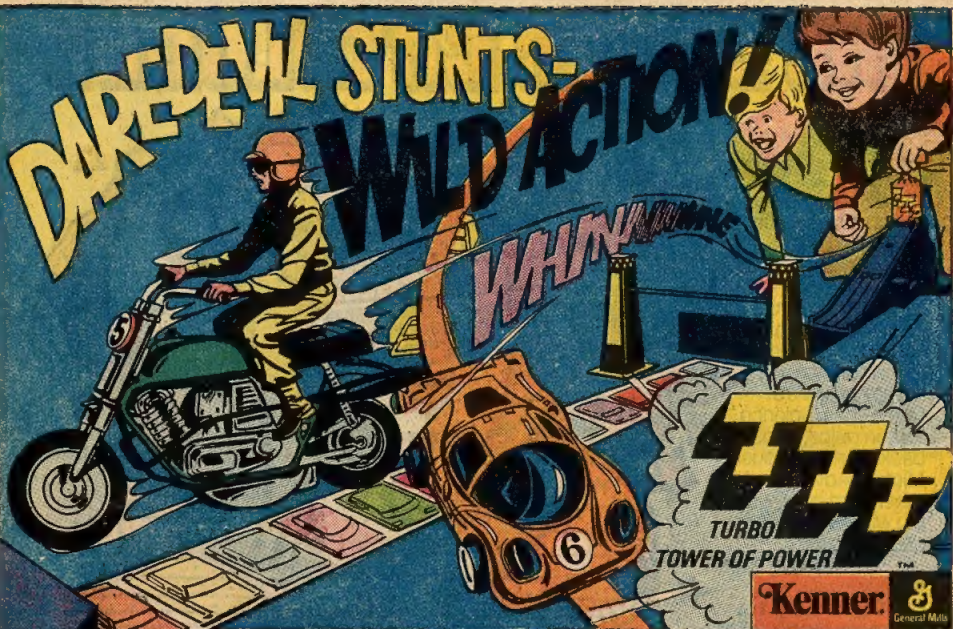


SHORTLY--AN **EERIE, BLACK-CLAD** FIGURE HURTTLES FROM THE **PENTHOUSE WINDOW--** AND ARCS OVER THE CITY HE **CALLS HOME...**

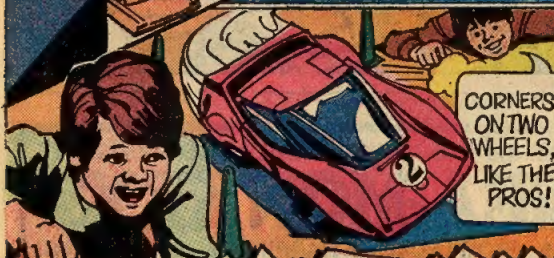


TONIGHT--AS ON SO MANY **OTHER NIGHTS--**

--**THE BATMAN** PROWLs THE STREETS OF GOTHAM ONCE AGAIN...



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CORNERS ON TWO WHEELS, LIKE THE PROS!

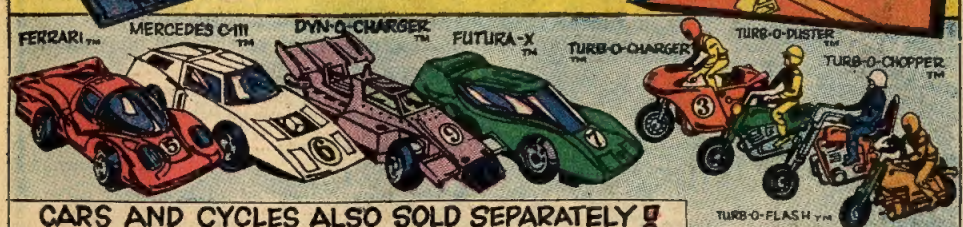


WILD WHEELIES!

PUMP THE TOWER - HEAR THE JET-LIKE WHINE!
 AS AIR JET SPINS GYRO-POWER WHEEL FASTER AND FASTER...
 THE POWER IS IN THE TOWER!
 NO BATTERIES!

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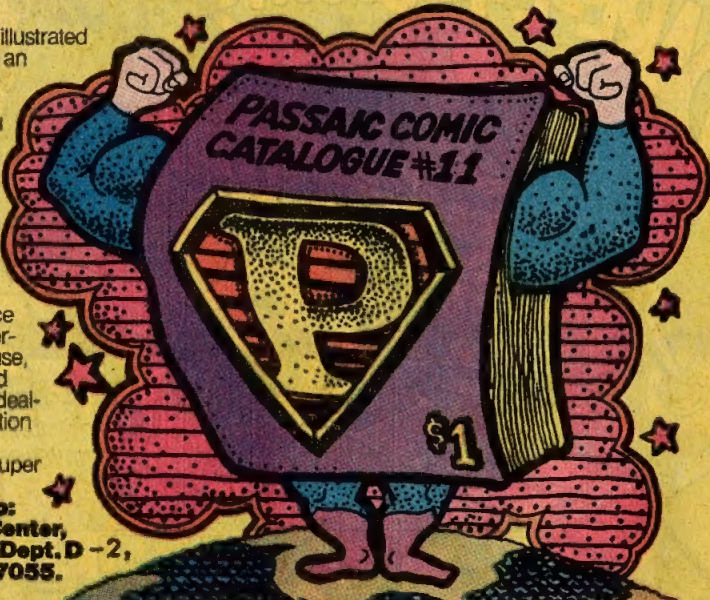
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BUT THE CAPED CRUSADER IS NOT THE ONLY CREATURE MOVING THROUGH THE DARKNESS THIS NIGHT...

FOR AT THE DOCKYARDS ON GOTHAM'S LOWER WEST SIDE, A GANG OF WHARF RATS GOES ABOUT ITS BUSINESS...

-- SMUGGLING, TO BE EXACT!

C'MON, YA IDJITS-- MOVE IT! WE AIN'T GOT FOREVER, YA KNOW!

THE LOCAL COP CAR'LL BE COMIN' AROUND ON PATROL SOON, YA KNOW--

--AN' WE DON'T NEED ANY KIND'A GRIEF, YA KNOW!



THAT'S TOO BAD, FRIEND-- BECAUSE YOU'VE JUST BOUGHT ALL THE GRIEF YOU CAN HANDLE... "YA KNOW"?

WHO...?



DON'T GO AWAY, LITTLE MAN!

OH... NO!

I WANT TO HAVE WORDS WITH YOU!



I-I DON'T KNOW NUTHIN', BATMAN-- I SWEAR I DON'T--!

THEN SUPPOSE WE RATTLE YOUR LITTLE HEAD AROUND--

--AND SEE IF WE CAN'T SHAKE SOMETHIN' FREE?



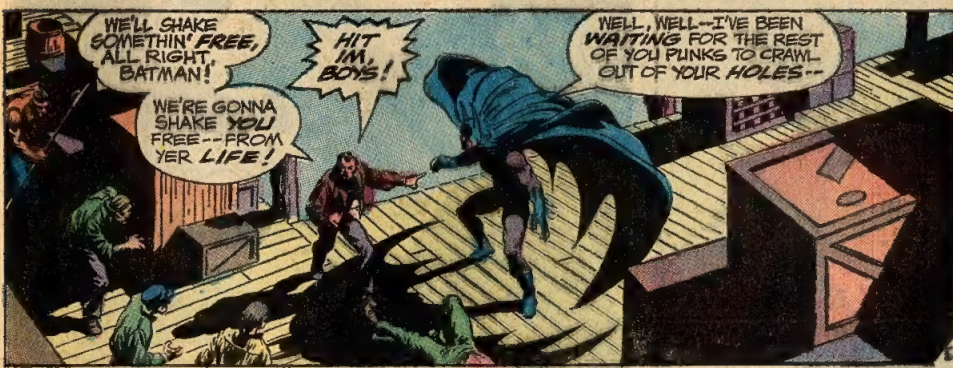
CLUDO!

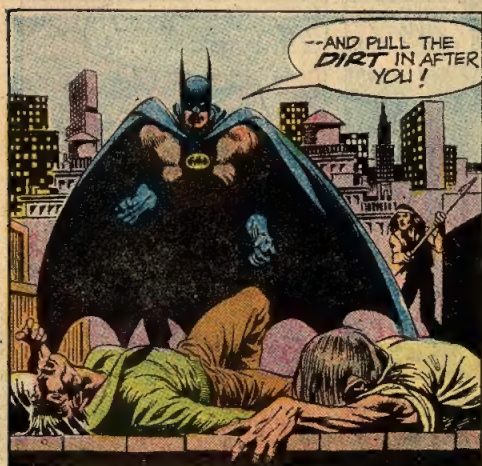
WE'LL SHAKE SOMETHIN' FREE, ALL RIGHT, BATMAN!

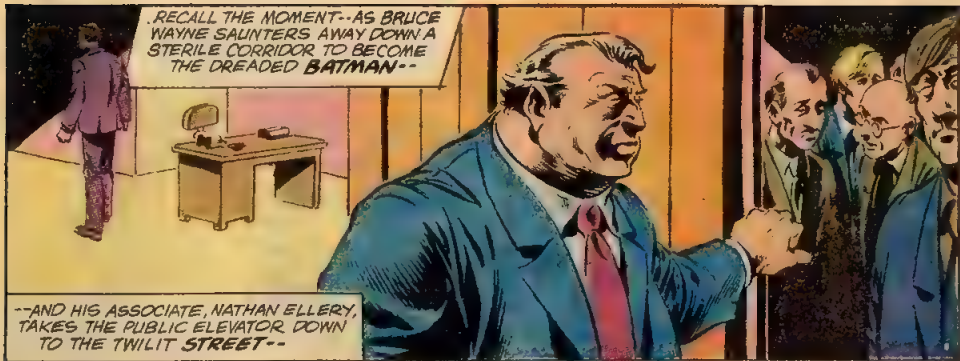
HIT 'EM, BOYS!

WE'RE GONNA SHAKE YOU FREE-- FROM YER LIFE!

WELL, WELL--I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR THE REST OF YOU PUNKS TO CRAWL OUT OF YOUR HOLES--







RECALL THE MOMENT--AS BRUCE WAYNE SAUNTERS AWAY DOWN A STERILE CORRIDOR TO BECOME THE DREADED **BATMAN**--

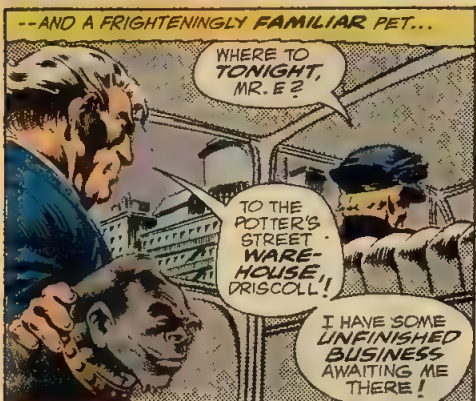
--AND HIS ASSOCIATE, NATHAN ELLERY, TAKES THE PUBLIC ELEVATOR DOWN TO THE TWILIT STREET--



--WHERE HE IS GREETED BY A SHINING, WHITE LIMOUSINE--

EVENING, MR. ELLERY!

GOOD EVENING, DRISCOLL!

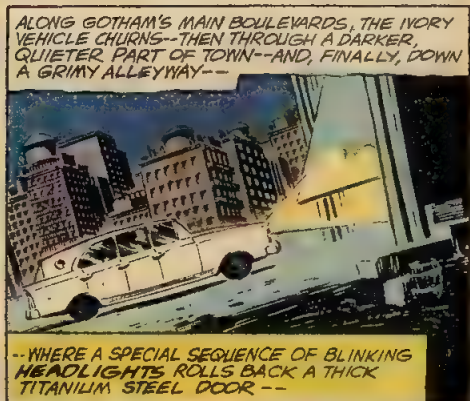


--AND A FRIGHTENINGLY FAMILIAR PET...

WHERE TO TONIGHT, MR. E?

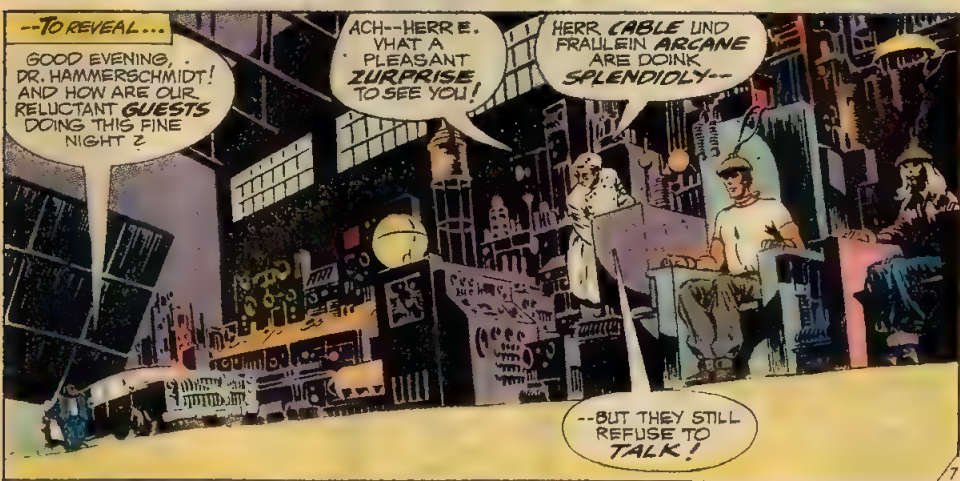
TO THE POTTER'S STREET WAREHOUSE DRISCOLL!

I HAVE SOME UNFINISHED BUSINESS AWAITING ME THERE!



ALONG GOTHAM'S MAIN BOULEVARDS, THE IVORY VEHICLE CHURNS--THEN THROUGH A DARKER, QUIETER PART OF TOWN--AND, FINALLY, DOWN A GRIMY ALLEYWAY--

--WHERE A SPECIAL SEQUENCE OF BLINKING HEADLIGHTS ROLLS BACK A THICK TITANIUM STEEL DOOR--



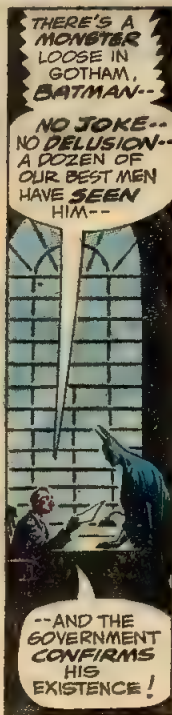
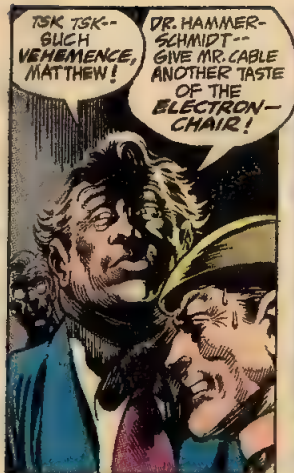
--TO REVEAL...

GOOD EVENING, DR. HAMMERSCHMIDT! AND HOW ARE OUR RELUCTANT GUESTS DOING THIS FINE NIGHT?

ACH--HERR E. WHAT A PLEASANT SURPRISE TO SEE YOU!

HERR CABLE UND FRAULEIN ARCANE ARE DOING SPLENDIDLY--

--BUT THEY STILL REFUSE TO TALK!



**THE DRAMATIC
BREAK-THRU
FROM--**

DC **THE LINE OF
Super-Stars!**

**IN THIS
GIGANTIC
NEW
"SUPER-
SIZE!"**

SUPER-SIZE!

REGULAR SIZE



**WARNING--
THIS IS A
VERY LIMITED
EDITION!**

THIS ISSUE ON SALE 2ND WEEK IN AUG.

**RESERVE
YOUR COPY
OF THIS BLOCK-
BUSTER ISSUE
NOW!**



WHILE, IN A GRIMY ALLEYWAY ON GOTHAM'S LOWER EAST SIDE...

OKAY, MUTT... YOU WAIT HERE...!

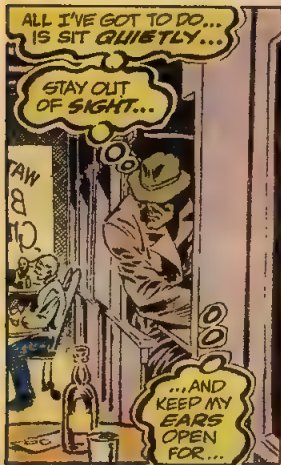
THIS IS SOMETHING... I HAVE TO DO... ALONE...!



UGH...! THIS PLACE IS GRUBBIER... THAN I AM...

... BUT IF I'M EVER... GOING TO FIND A LEAD... TO CABLE'S WHERE--ABOUTS...

IT'S IN A JOINT... LIKE THIS ONE...!



ALL I'VE GOT TO DO... IS SIT QUIETLY...

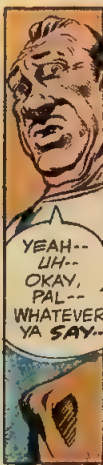
STAY OUT OF SIGHT...

...AND KEEP MY EARS OPEN FOR...



WHAT'LL IT BE, PAL-- BEER?

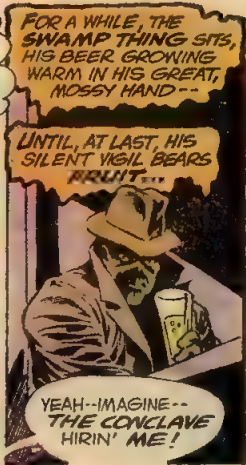
UH-OH... BETTER JUST NOD...!



YEAH-- UH-- OKAY, PAL-- WHATEVER, YA SAY--!



LORD, WHEN HE NODDED HIS HEAD, I THOUGHT IT WAS GONNA FALL OFF!



FOR A WHILE, THE SWAMP THING SITS, HIS BEER GROWING WARM IN HIS GREAT, MOSSY HAND--

UNTIL, AT LAST, HIS SILENT VIGIL BEARS FRUIT...

YEAH--IMAGINE-- THE CONCLAVE HIRIN' ME!



AIN'T MUCH TA START--JEST REPLACIN' SOME GUYS WHAT USED TA RUN A SMUGGLIN' OPERATION--BUT IT'LL GROW!

I'M S'POSED TA MEET MY CONTACT AT DE ADDRESS ON DIS PAPER--

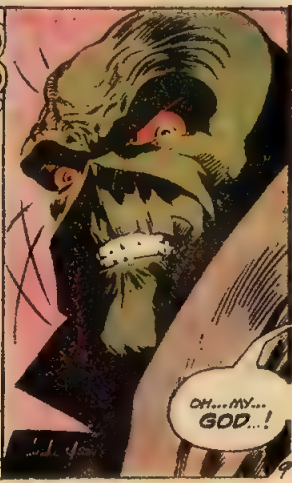
--BUT I FIGURED FIRST I'D HAVE ME A BEER WIT' ME PALS AN'--



'EY--GIMME BACK DAT PAPER, YA LOUSY--!



NO... HE'S KNOCKED MY... HAT OFF...!



OH...MY... GOD...!



DON'T KNOW WHAT YA ARE, UGLY--

--BUT I'M GONNA HAVE DAT PAPER BACK!

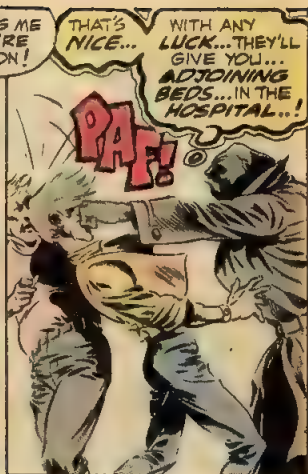
FRIEND... ALL YOU ARE GOING TO HAVE...



...IS A SPLITTING HEADACHE...!

'EY--DAT'S ME PAL YOU'RE BEATIN' ON!

THRUMPH!



THAT'S NICE...

WITH ANY LUCK... THEY'LL GIVE YOU... ADJOINING BEDS... IN THE HOSPITAL...!

PAF!



AND MOMENTS LATER...

I DIDN'T MEAN... TO START THIS SORT OF RUCKUS...

...BUT THESE DRUNKEN IDIOTS... JUST WON'T QUIT COMING...!

WELL... WHETHER I STARTED IT... OR NOT...



...I'M DEFINITELY GOING TO... FINISH IT...!

CRASHH!



OKAY, MUTT... LET'S GET MOVING...!

WE'VE FOUND OUR FIRST CLUE... I NOW LET'S FIND... MATT CABLE...!

IT DOES NOT TAKE THE MOSSY MAN-BRUTE LONG TO LEARN THE BASIC RUDIMENTS OF THE UNDER-WORLD'S INFORMATIONAL STRUCTURE: ONE CLUE LEADS TO ANOTHER--THEN ANOTHER--AND ANOTHER AFTER THAT--

--SOME GARNERED IN SHADOWED DOORWAYS--

--OTHERS FROM HASTILY-SCRRAWLED NOTES--

--AND STILL OTHERS SPEWED FROM BETWEEN BLOODIED LIPS--

TIME TO TIE UP LOOSE ENDS, MY PET!

CABLE AND THE GIRL ARE OURS-- AND THE SWAMP THING HAS DISAPPEARED!

ONLY THE DOG REMAINS--

...POTTER'S STREET... WAREHOUSE...!

IF THIS PUNK... DIDN'T LIE TO US, MUTT...

...THAT'S WHERE WE'LL FIND... MATT CABLE...!

--AND THIS RADIO FREQUENCY SHOULD REACT MOST INTERESTINGLY UPON THE TRANSMITTER WE PLANTED INSIDE THE MONGREL'S HEAD!*

* SEE SWAMP THING # 1

BUT AS THE SWAMP THING TURNS, HIS FLURRY COMPANION SQUIRMS FROM HIS GRASP AND...

HEY...! WHERE ARE YOU... GOING, MUTT...?!

HEY...! WHAT'S WRONG... WITH YOU...?!

COME BACK HERE... COME...

YIP!
YIP!
YIP!

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Houses Of The Holy Atlantic
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The Divine Miss M Atlantic
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- MOODY BLUES 5616
Seventh Sojourn Threshold
- TEMPTATIONS 6612
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- HELEN REDDY 4685
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- DONNY OSMOND 9243
Alone Together MGM
- AL GREEN 5629
I'm Still In Love With You In
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The Session Mercury 2 LPs & 2 Tapes
- FIFTH DIMENSION 7880
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- KRIS KRISTOFFERSON 5800
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Columbia Record/Tape Club (as advertised in Oct./Jan. '73)	NO	15 LPs / 8 Tapes	\$54.51 to \$85.10	YES	5 to 8 weeks
Capitol Record/Tape Clubs (as advertised in Seventeen Nov. '72)	NO	12 LPs / 10 Tapes	\$70.03 to \$82.93	YES	5 to 8 weeks
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- 77 WEIRD WORLDS
- 78 KAMANDI
- 79 SWORD OF SORCERY

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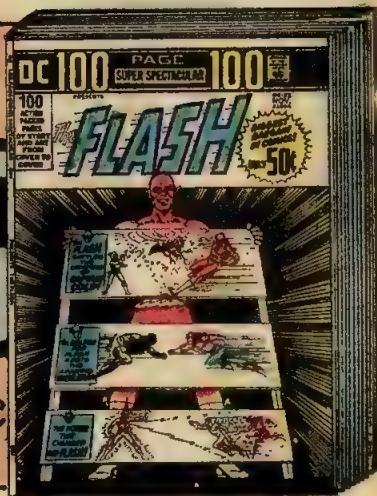
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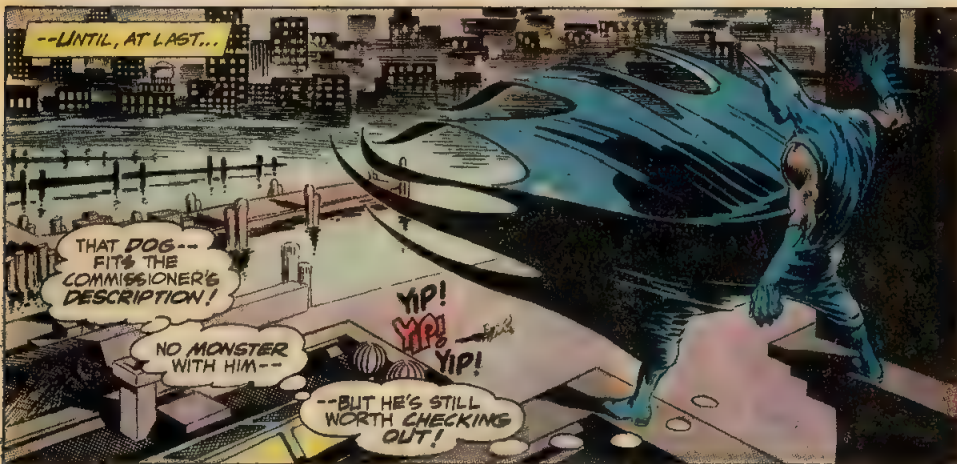
ON SALE NOW!



WHILE, ACROSS THE SPRAWLING CITY, THE METHODS EMPLOYED BY THE SWAMP THING ARE IN TURN EMPLOYED BY THE GRIM BAT-COWLED BEING WHO PURSUES HIM--



--BUT WITH FAR LESS SUCCESSFUL RESULTS--



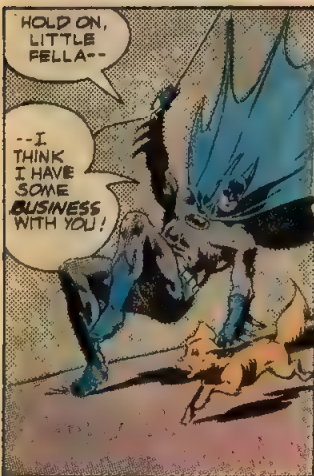
--UNTIL, AT LAST...

THAT DOG-- FITS THE COMMISSIONER'S DESCRIPTION!

NO MONSTER WITH HIM--

--BUT HE'S STILL WORTH CHECKING OUT!

YIP!
YIP!
YIP!



HOLD ON, LITTLE FELLA--

--I THINK I HAVE SOME BUSINESS WITH YOU!



YICK--HE'S THE SWAMP THING'S DOG, ALL RIGHT!

TRACES OF DECAYING MOSS STILL CLING TO HIS FUR!

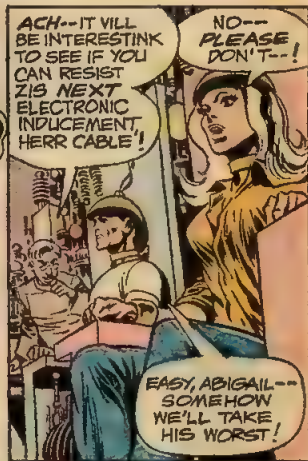
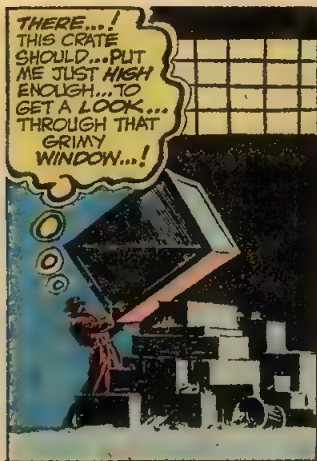
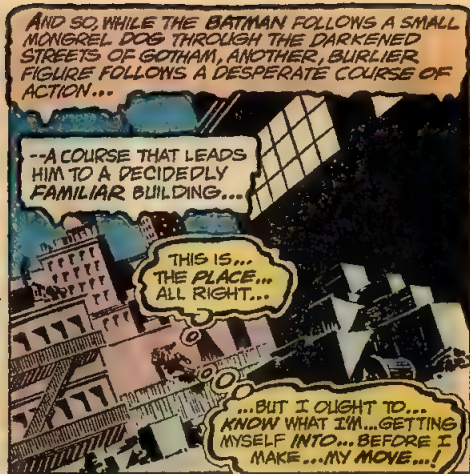


DON'T KNOW WHERE YOU'RE RUNNING--

--BUT I'LL BET IT'S TO YOUR SWAMPY MASTER!

SO I'LL TAG ALONG FOR THE RIDE!

YIP!
YIP!



CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING.

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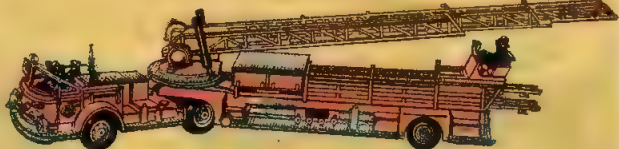
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BE THANKFUL... I DON'T DO THE SAME... TO YOU, DOCTOR...

...BUT IF YOU'VE DONE... ANY PERMANENT DAMAGE... TO CABLE OR THE GIRL... I MIGHT JUST... CHANGE MY MIND...!

THE SWAMP THING-- HERE?

I DON'T GET IT-- I DON'T UNDERSTAND...!

FIRST YOU HELP MURDER MY TWO BEST FRIENDS... THEN YOU KEEP POPPING UP TO SAVE MY LIFE!

WHY, MONSTER-- WHY?

SNAKT!

EVEN IF I COULD... TELL YOU, MATTHEW... YOU'D NEVER... BELIEVE ME...!

HAMMERSCHMIDT TO MR. E-- EMERGENCY-- CONDITION RED!

DIE CREATURE YOU VARNED US ABOUT-- DIE CREATURE WHO KILLED FERRETT-- IS HERE! HE'S HERE!

FERRETT?!!

AT THE NAME, THE SWAMP THING TURNS-- AND, FOR AN INSTANT, HIS MIND IS AWASH WITH MEMORIES...

FERRETT, WHO, REPRESENTING A MYSTERIOUS COMBINE, ATTEMPTED TO BUY DR. ALEC HOLLAND'S BIO-RESTORATIVE FORMULA--

--AND, FAILING THAT, ARRANGED AN EXPLOSION THAT TORE HOLLAND'S MARSHLAND LAB APART--

--AND HURLED THE DOCTOR'S CHEMICAL-- SEARED BODY DEEP INTO THE CLUTCHING MUCK--

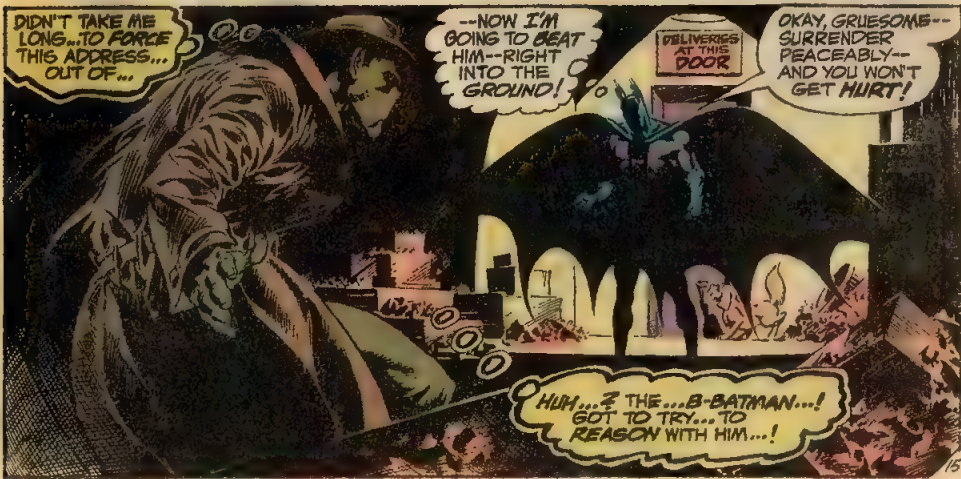
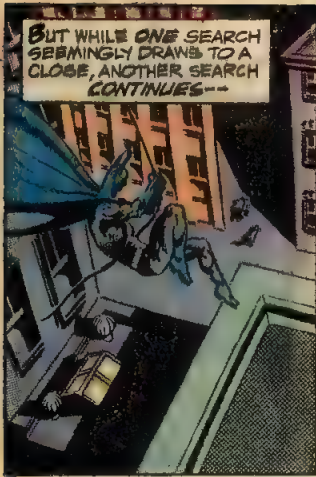
...TO RISE FROM THE BOG SOMETIME LATER AS A TWISTED, SHAMBLING MOCKERY OF LIFE...

--ONLY TO DISCOVER THAT DEATH HAD CLAIMED HIS LOVING WIFE, LINDA, AT FERRETT'S TAINTED HAND!

IN THE LONG WEEKS SINCE, THIS THING THAT WAS ONCE DR. ALEC HOLLAND HAS SEARCHED FOR FERRETT'S EMPLOYER-- THE MAN RESPONSIBLE FOR IT ALL--

--BUT HE HAS SEARCHED THE WORLD IN VAIN--

--UNTIL NOW!





SORRY, UGLY--BUT YOU'RE NOT GETTING THOSE HAM-HOCK HANDS ON ME!



NO...PLEASE...YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND...! I DON'T WANT...TO FIGHT YOU...!

YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND ME, DO YOU, MONSTER?



I SAID I'M TAKING YOU IN--

--IN HAND-CUFFS-- OR A BOX!

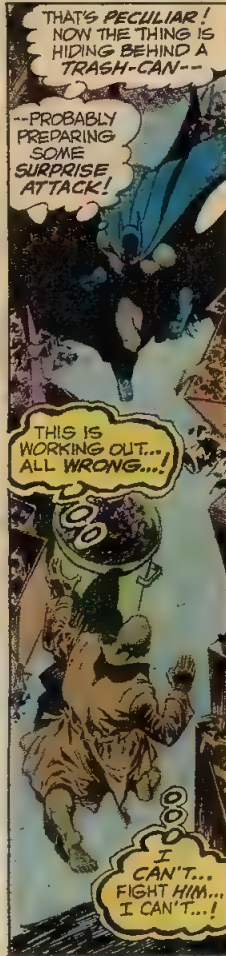
THE CHOICE IS YOURS!



AMAZING--! THAT WOODEN CRATE--MY FIST!

--IT'S ALMOST AS IF HE DOESN'T EVEN FEEL THEM!

PLEASE... HOW CAN I... MAKE YOU UNDERSTAND...?

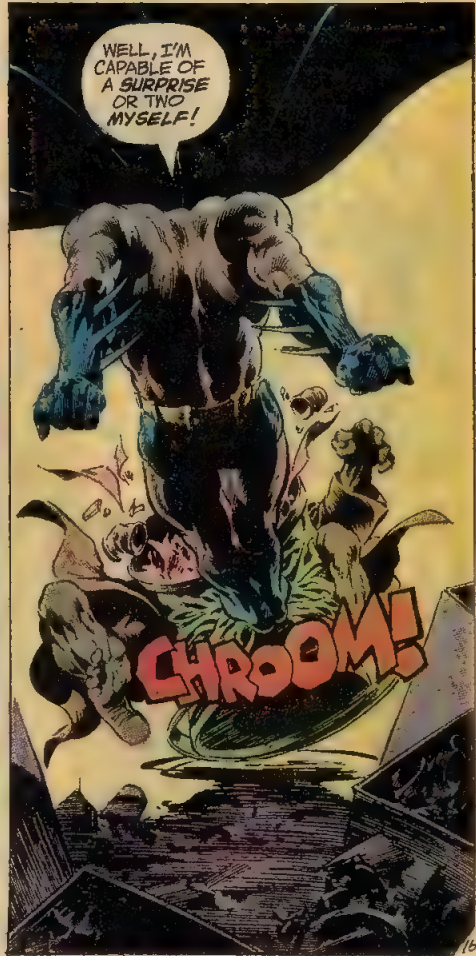


THAT'S PECULIAR! NOW THE THING IS HIDING BEHIND A TRASH-CAN--

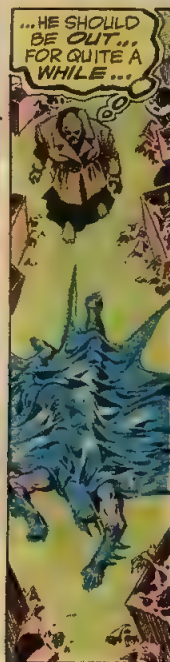
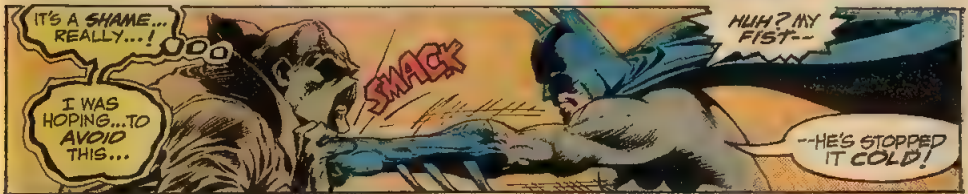
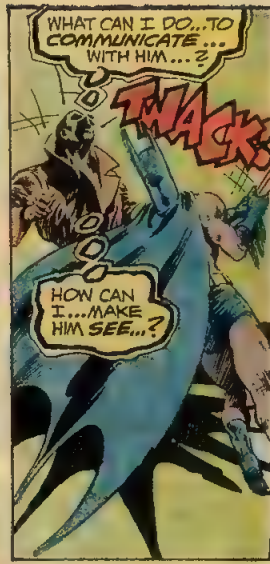
--PROBABLY PREPARING SOME SURPRISE ATTACK!

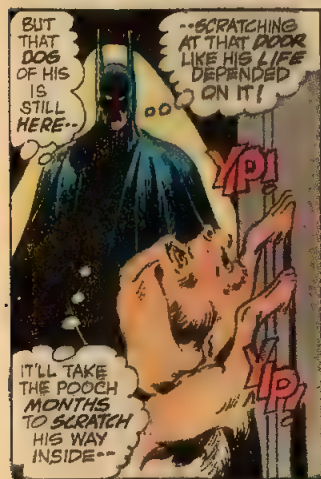
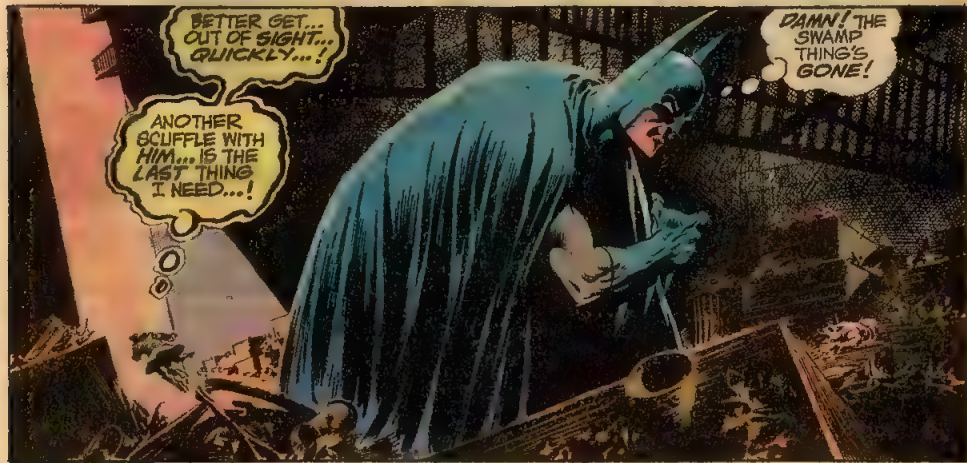
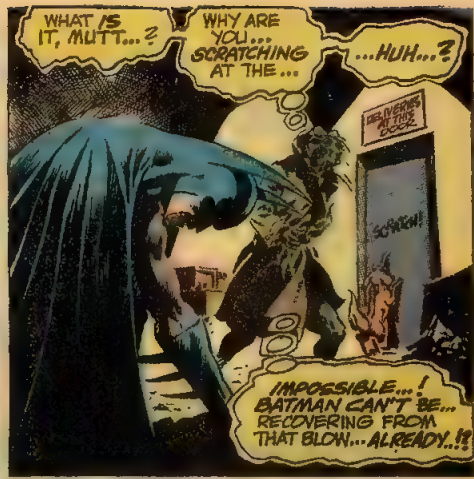
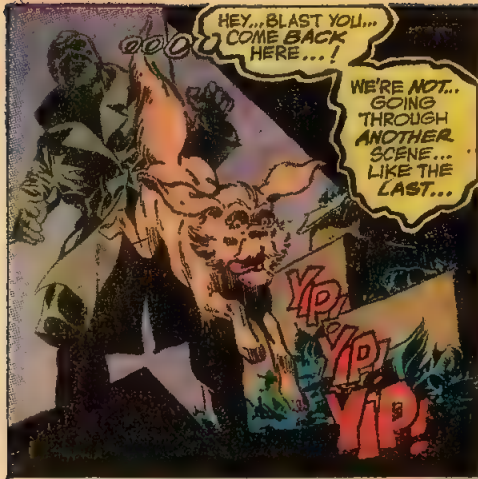
THIS IS WORKING OUT... ALL WRONG...!

I CAN'T... FIGHT HIM...! I CAN'T...!



WELL, I'M CAPABLE OF A SURPRISE OR TWO MYSELF!





THEY ASCEND: EACH IN HIS OWN FASHION...

--UNTIL, AT THE BUILDING'S SUMMIT--

WHAT IN--? THE POOCH IS SCRATCHING AT NATHAN ELLERY'S DOOR--

-- BUT THE SWAMP THING CAN'T BE IN THERE... CAN HE?

WHINE!
WHINE!

FORGIVE THE SUDDEN INTRUSION, FOLKS-- BUT THIS IS AN EMERGENCY!

OKAY, POOCH-- SHOW ME YOUR MASTER!

YIP!
YIP!

NO...NO! BATMAN HAS SEARCHED FOR THE CONCLAVE'S LEADER FOR MONTHS--

--AND NOW THIS ACCURSED DOG HAS LED HIM RIGHT TO ME!

YIP! YIP!

...THE SWAMP THING SCALES THE BUILDING'S FACE, HIS POWERFUL FINGERS DIGGING HAND-HOLDS WHERE BEFORE THE WALL WAS SMOOTH--

--THE BATMAN, FOLLOWING HIS CANINE CON-SPIRATOR, HIS BREATHING SMOOTH AND REGULAR, HIS MUSCLES TIRELESS STEEL SPRINGS--

CURSE YOU, BEAST-- YOU'VE RUINED EVERYTHING!

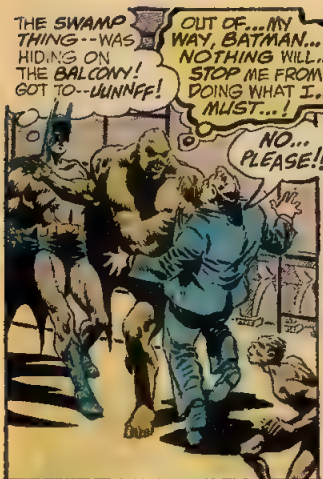
--GET AWAY--
GET AWAY!!

GET AWAY FROM ME, I TELL YOU--

OH... MY... DEAR... GOD... NO!

BAM
BLAM!

CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING.



THE SWAMP THING--WAS HIDING ON THE BALCONY! GOT TO--UNNFF!

OUT OF...MY WAY, BATMAN... NOTHING WILL... STOP ME FROM DOING WHAT I... MUST...!

NO... PLEASE!!



THIS PIG MURDERED... MY WIFE...

THNAK!



...TORTURED... MY FRIEND...

...SHOT DOWN... A DEFENSELESS DOG...

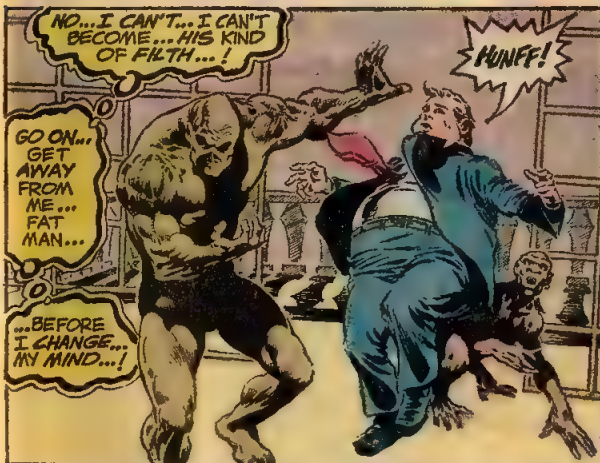


...AND WHAT HE DID TO ME...!

I'LL KILL HIM... WITH MY BARE HANDS...

...KILL HIM...

...KILL... HIM...?

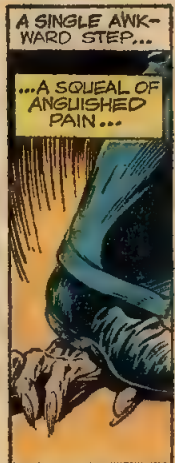


NO... I CAN'T... I CAN'T BECOME... HIS KIND OF FILTH...!

GO ON... GET AWAY FROM ME... FAT MAN...

...BEFORE I CHANGE... MY MIND...!

HUNFF!



A SINGLE AWKWARD STEP...

...A SQUEAL OF ANGLISHED PAIN...

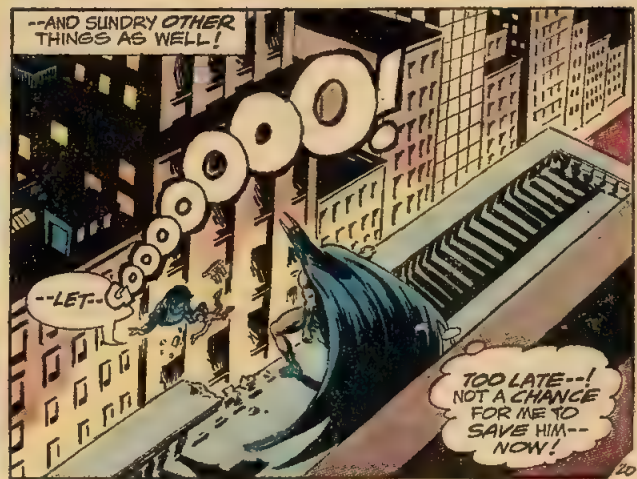


...AND A FOOT, FRIGHTENED BEAST LASHES OUT TO DEFEND ITSELF...



--WHICH, IT SEEMS, IS THE STRAW-- THAT BREAKS THE PROVERBIAL CAMEL'S BACK--

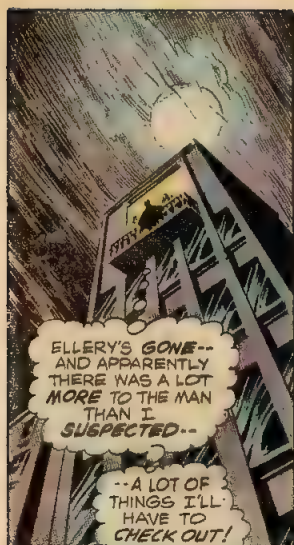
NO--LET GO-- LET GO--



--AND SUNDRY OTHER THINGS AS WELL!

--LET--

TOO LATE--! NOT A CHANCE FOR ME TO SAVE HIM-- NOW!



ELLERY'S GONE--
AND APPARENTLY
THERE WAS A LOT
MORE TO THE MAN
THAN I
SUSPECTED--

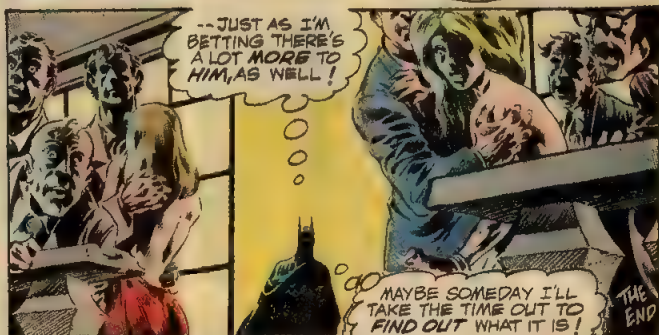
--A LOT OF
THINGS I'LL
HAVE TO
CHECK OUT!



MMMMM--
THE SWAMP
THING
IS GONE,
TOO!

I SUPPOSE I SHOULD
HUNT HIM DOWN
AGAIN--

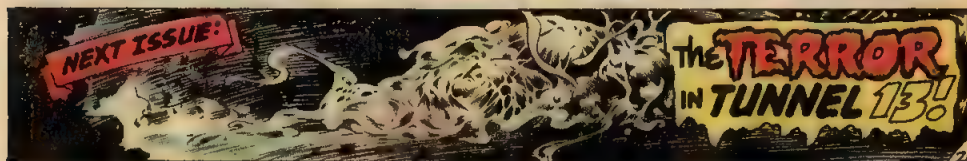
-- BUT I'M BETTING HIS WORK
IS FINISHED IN THIS
TOWN--



-- JUST AS I'M
BETTING THERE'S
A LOT MORE TO
HIM, AS WELL!

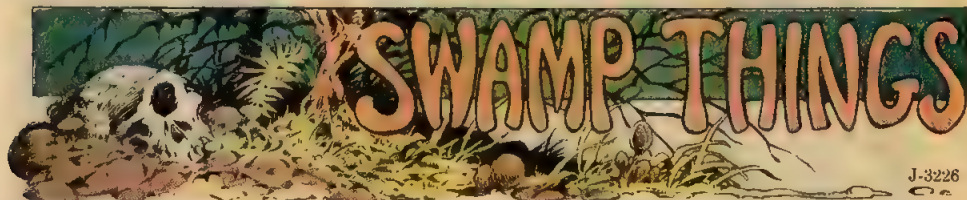
MAYBE SOMEDAY I'LL
TAKE THE TIME OUT TO
FIND OUT WHAT IT IS!

THE
END



THE TERROR
IN TUNNEL 13!

21



J-3226

Dear Joe:

I have read that you plan to implant Batman into the Swamp Thing saga. May such a terrible thing never happen! The Swamp Thing series has the art, character, and plot power to survive independently of any other, more established character.

"Monster On The Moors" was a mind-boggling classic. It's a wright sensational (Ouch!)

William G. Laks, Poughkeepsie, N.Y.

Dear William:

Batman is not being featured in this issue in order to "exploit" either the caped crusader or our own Swamp Thing. It was done for the fun of it, or perhaps the desire to see our next correspondent's hopes come true . . .

Dear Editor:

I just wanted to let you know what a fine job you're doing on Swamp Thing. Your fourth issue in particular reminded me of a Hammer film. I say this because of the way in which different scenes slowly built up to a senseshattering climax. The Hammer films, however, disappointingly build up to climaxes that never take place. You, on the other hand, did not deprive us of any scenes of your vicious carnivore. Page 17, panel 2, depicted the most horrifying werewolf I've ever had the pleasure of viewing in any comic mag or movie.

Incidentally, I've heard that the Swamp Thing is due to meet Batman in a forthcoming issue. Look forward to seeing the Caped Crusader as the frightening avenger he should be, and I'm quite sure that Berni is going to show Neal Adams what it's all about.

Joe Rusnak, Montville, New Jersey

Dear Joe:

Thanks for your analysis, and I'd like to hear from you now that you've read the story of "The Night Of The Bat!"

Dear Joe:

The plot of the fourth Swamp Thing left a bit to be desired. From many writers, I'd accept it as the best they could do, but not from Len Wein. There was practically no originality in the plot! Of course, the story wasn't completely bad. The mood was captured superbly by Wrightson's excellent art, making this possibly the best rendering of the werewolf legend I've seen. The plot, once the points are taken off for originality, was pretty good, too.

Richard H. Morrissey, Framingham, Mass.

Dear Richard:

Seriously, the scripting of Swamp Thing is heading off in new directions, as you will see in the next few issues.

Where are your letters? If you don't want the Swamp Thing to come and collect them in person, send them to: SWAMP THINGS, c/o NATIONAL PERIODICAL PUBLICATIONS, INC., 75 ROCKEFELLER PLAZA, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10019

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Right about this time, DC's getting a surprise package ready for all you fans of the lord of the jungle! **Tarzan's** back, in another special mag, a limited edition \$1.00 prize package! The response to our **DC Super-Spectacular** with one hundred pages of Burroughs stories illustrated by Russ Manning was so great, that we're giving you a giant book full of more of the most beautiful **Tarzan** stories of all time . . . all ready for you at the beginning of August!

"What's In A Name?" Is a man the same man if no one can call him by his name? For a tantalizing example of this problem, read the **November** issue of **SHAZAM** (#7), and watch what happens when no one dares pronounce the Big Red Cheese's name aloud! Bonus! Don't miss a new tale of Mr. Tawky Tawny, the unbelievable talking tiger! All that, plus a Golden Age classic starring the entire **Marvel Family** . . . coming your way the third week in August.



There's no marriage counselor in the world who could predict the problems that come up "When You Wed A Witch," but the **November** issue of **THE WITCHING HOUR** (#36) tells of the trials and tribulations of one couple. "Any Two Can Die" if they'll just drop by this issue, and take your turn playing a game with a kindly old man with murder on his mind in a new Lee Elias story. Wind up your twelve o'clock tour of the witches' castle with the story of a magician, his assistant and "Death Held The Goblet" . . . all coming your way the third week in August.

"The Spawn Of Satan" are vampires, destined to die in the most unusual of manners. But how can the undead die? You'll have to read the **November** issue of **SECRETS OF SINISTER HOUSE** (#15) to find out the answer in a new classic by Jack Oleck and Nestor Redondo. When you finish that one, read the story of "Mr. Reilly, The Derelict." It's a thrilling new issue . . . on sale the third week in August.

For tales of warriors and soldiers from the Golden Age of comics, be sure to pick up the **December** issue of **FOUR-STAR BATTLE TALES** (#5), on sale the third week in August, with art by all of DC's battle greats!

Superman and **Batman** are together again in the **December** issue of the **WORLD'S FINEST** comics magazine (#220), battling the mysterious menace of El Monstro in "Let No Man Write My Epithet" which brings Murphy Anderson back to the inking brush once more! This issue also features a surprising new tale of **Metamorpho**, the Element Man . . . on sale the third week in August.



FROM BEYOND THE UNKNOWN come the most tantalizing science-fiction stories of all! The **December** issue (#25) leads off with the surprising story of "The Man Who Sold The Earth" (you'll never believe the price tag!), then features a tale from the files of **The Space Museum**—"Secret Of The Tick-Tock World" (illustrated by the illustrious Carmine Infantino), and winds up with the story of an amazing "Elevator To The Future" (with art by the amazing Murphy Anderson) . . . all on sale the third week in August.

It's time for a tale of mystery as Superman's girl friend must survive "The Amazing Afterlife Of Lois Lane" in the **November** issue of **LOIS LANE** (#135), in a new book-length shocker!

Winding up this week's worth of wonderment is the **November** issue (#152) of the magazine which specializes in tales of **THE UNEXPECTED!** . . . coming your way the third week in August with a trio of all new terror tales!

REMINDER! Copies of the **Amazing World Of Superman Metropolis Edition** with its 64 pages of priceless memorabilia of the original Man of Steel and an all-new version of his origin, are still available for \$2.40 from Metropolis Recreation, Post Office Box 809, Metropolis, Illinois 62960. If you read last month's **Behind The Scenes** column you know that you just can't afford to miss this one!



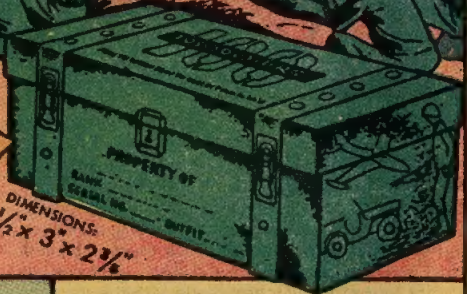
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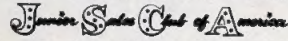
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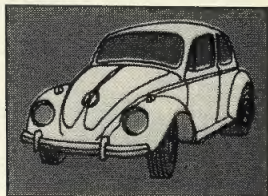
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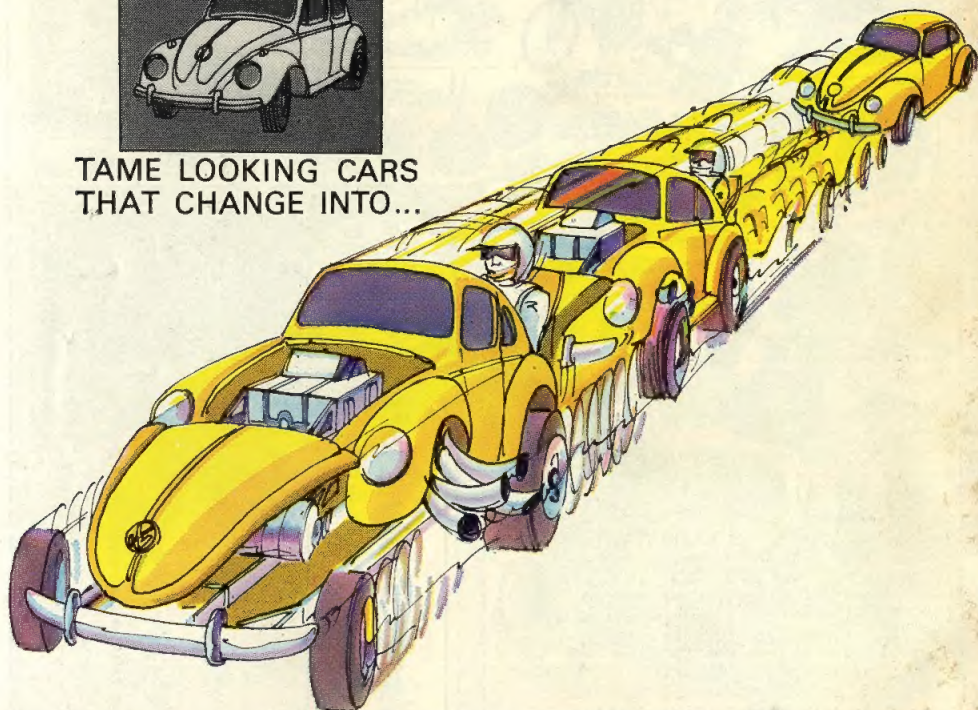
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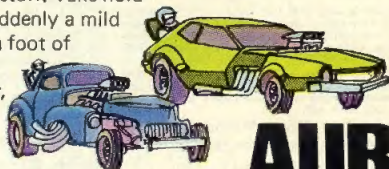


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