

No. 2

SUMMER ISSUE

BATMAN

10¢



ALL BRAND NEW
ADVENTURES
OF THE BATMAN
AND ROBIN,
THE BOY WONDER!

BAT MAN

WITH
Robin
- THE BOY WONDER -

THE JOKER - GRIM JESTER.
ARCH-CRIMINAL, MASTERFIEND...
AN EMBER OF LIFE GLOWS
WITHIN THAT GHASTLY SHELL OF
HUMAN CLAY... AND THE ICY
CLAWS OF FEAR AND
APPREHENSION CLUTCH TIGHTER
ABOUT THE HEARTS OF THE
ABOUT THE HEARTS OF THE
DENIZENS OF THE WORLD!!
ONLY THREE DARE TO PLAY
THE GAME OF CARDS WITH
THIS MAD, EVIL GENIUS -
THE FEARLESS **BATMAN**,
THE HEROIC **ROBIN**, AND
THE BEAUTIFUL, LITHE,
MYSTERIOUS CAT-WOMAN...
THE PHARAOH'S GEMS... THE
LOSER -- GETS DEATH!!



CHAFING FROM INACTION,
THE **BATMAN** AND HIS
PROTEGE, DICK GRAYSON,
KNOWN AS **ROBIN**, SETTLE
DOWN TO A GAME OF CHESS.

THERE, DICK!
I GUESS THAT
CHECKMATES
YOU!

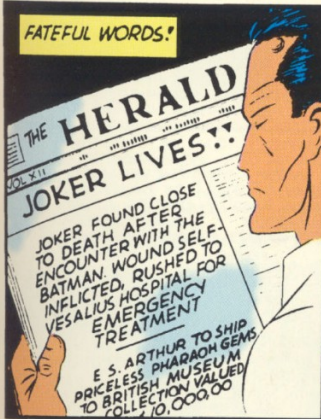
OKAY, I GUESS
YOU WIN.
GEE, BRUCE,
IT'S TOO
QUIET AROUND
HERE. I WISH
SOMETHING
WOULD
HAPPEN.

LITTLE DO BRUCE
AND DICK REALIZE THAT
THEY WILL SOON BE
PLAYING A LIVING
GAME OF CHESS, WITH
HUMAN LIVES THE PAVING.

WUXTRY! WUXTRY!
JOKER STILL ALIVE!
READ, ALL ABOUT IT!
WUXTRY!



FATEFUL WORDS!



THE STARTLING REVELATION THAT THE JOKER IS STILL ALIVE MOVES THE BATMAN TO PROMPT ACTION...

WHAT'S YOUR PLAN, BATMAN?

MY PLAN IS TO ABDUCT THE JOKER FROM THE HOSPITAL BEFORE HE BECOMES STRONG AND WILY ENOUGH TO SLIP THROUGH THE HANDS OF THE POLICE. THEN WE'LL TAKE HIM TO A FAMOUS BRAIN SPECIALIST FOR AN OPERATION, SO THAT HE CAN BE CURED AND TURNED INTO A VALUABLE CITIZEN.



MEANWHILE, IN A LUXURIOUS LAIR, THE MEMBERS OF CRIME SYNDICATE INC. MEET TO DISCUSS THEIR FUTURE ACTIVITIES....

I WONDER WHAT THAT NEWSY'S YELLIN' ABOUT! OUTSIDE? HEY, JOHNNY! SEND UP A COPY OF THE EXTRA TO OUR ROOM...



WELL, BOYS? NOW THAT THE CHIEF'S DEAD WHADDA WE GONNA DO?

AIN'T THAT JUST LIKE THE CHIEF, WEASEL? ALWAYS DOIN' THE UNEXPECTED! GEE! ARE WE GONNA MISS 'IM?

HERE'S THE PAPER, NOW!

AS WEASEL RUNS HIS EYE DOWN THE PAGE, A DARING PLAN BEGINS TO FORMULATE INSIDE HIS SCHEMING MIND



THE CRIMINALS ARE BROUGHT TO THEIR FEET BY THE MOMENTOUS IMPLICATIONS OF THE NEWS STORY!

I THINK WE'RE GONNA HAVE A NEW LEADER, BOYS - THE JOKER - THE PHARAOH HAUL WILL BE A CINCH, WITH HIM DOING THE THINKING FOR US!

YEAH, BUT HOW ARE WE GONNA GET 'IM OUTTA THE HOSPITAL, WEASEL?



WITH GREAT CUNNING WEASEL RAPIDLY UNFOLDS HIS DARING SCHEME.

FIRST WE GET SOME OF US INTO THE HOSPITAL. THEN I GOT A PLAN FOR GETTIN' 'IM OUT AND PAST THE COPS THAT'LL GROW HAIR BACK ON YOUR HEAD - NOW WHICH ONE OF YOU BIRDS THINKS HE CAN FLY?



THE DIE IS CAST! ONCE MORE THE MACHINATIONS OF THE CRIME SYNDICATE WILL BE FELT! THIS TIME UNDER THE RUTHLESS LEADERSHIP OF THE JOKER!! WHAT IS THE CONNECTION BETWEEN THE PRICELESS PHARAOH GEMS AND WEASEL'S PLAN TO ABDUCT THE JOKER?

COHORTS IN CRIME,
WEASEL AND HIS MEN
GAIN ENTRANCE TO THE
HOSPITAL SINGLY AND IN
PAIRS ON THE PRETENSE
OF VISITING SICK FRIENDS
AND RELATIVES

I'LL HAVE
SOME GUM,
MOTHER,
TO RELAX
MY NOIVES

THANK
YOU KINDLY,
SIR

QUIET
HOSPITAL
ZONE

ONCE INSIDE THE HOSPITAL,
SHIELDED BY THE FOUR WALLS
FROM THE VIGILANT EYES OF
THE POLICE, CRIME SYNDICATE INC.
SETS ITS MACHINERY INTO SWIFT
ACTION.

NOW,
PLAY NICE,
BOYS, AND
NOBODY
GETS HURT!

WHAT'S
THE MEANING
OF THIS?? GET
OUT OF HERE
IMMEDIATELY
BEFORE I CALL
THE POLICE!!

THE QUIET HOSPITAL WARD
BECOMES A RAGING BATTLEGROUND

MAYBE YOU CAN GET
THE MEANING OF THIS!
I WARNED YOU TO PLAY
NICE OR YOU'D
GET HURT!

HAVE A SHOT OF
YOUR OWN MEDICINE!
IT'S JUST WHAT THE
DOCTOR PRESCRIBED!

YOU'LL NEED
MORE THAN
A DOCTOR!
AFTER I'M
THROUGH
WITH YOU!

GOOD WORK, BOYS! MUGFACE
ALREADY ROUNDED UP THE HEAD
SURGEON AND THE ATTENDANTS...
YOU MEN THAT HAVE YOUR ORDERS
TO GUARD THE WARD KNOW
WHAT TO DO. ALL THE
REST FOLLOW ME TO
THE OPERATING ROOM!



IN THE OPERATING ROOM, WHO IS THIS STILL, GAUNT FIGURE ON THE OPERATING TABLE? IT IS THE JOKER!!

I PROTEST THIS IRREGULARITY! THIS MAN JUST HAD A TRANSFUSION..... IT WOULD BE MURDER TO OPERATE ON HIM NOW, WITHOUT KNOWING WHETHER HE HAS RALLIED TOMORROW

OPERATE OR THERE WON'T BE ANY TOMORROW FOR YOU!! AND MAKE SURE THE OPERATION'S SUCCESSFUL OR SOME OTHER DOCTOR'LL BE PULLING LEAD OUT OF YOU! NOW START WORKING!



TIME TICKS AWAY SLOWLY...INSTRUMENTS...ADRENALIN...OXYGEN THE BELLOWLS BEGIN TO EXPAND AND CONTRACT WITH NORMAL RHYTHM... THE OPERATION HAS BEEN—

DONE! NOW HE NEEDS PLENTY OF REST AND OXYGEN.



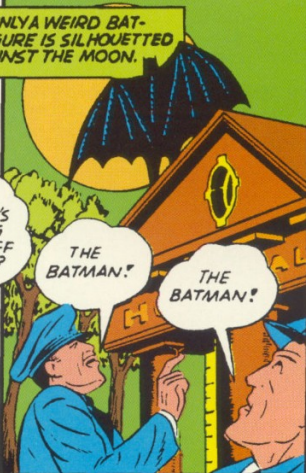
UNAWARE OF THE PORTENTOUS TURN OF EVENTS WITHIN THE HOSPITAL WALLS, THE POLICE CAUTIOUSLY GUARD ALL ENTRANCES. POLICE COMMISSIONER GORDON'S CAR DRAWS UP TO THE CURB

HELLO, COMMISSIONER?



IT'S ALMOST ELEVEN O'CLOCK, CHIEF. MY MEN HAVE EVERYTHING WELL COVERED. I DON'T THINK THE JOKER'LL CAUSE US MUCH TROUBLE THIS TIME.

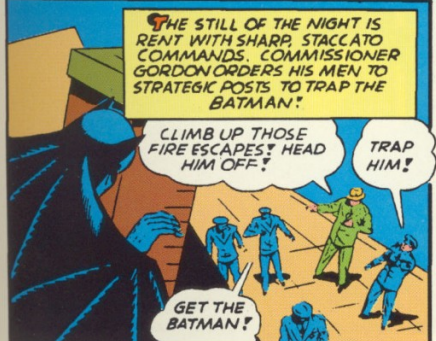
SAY, WH-WHO'S THROWING PEBBLES OFF THE ROOF?



SUDDENLY A WEIRD BAT-LIKE FIGURE IS SILHOUETTED AGAINST THE MOON.

THE BATMAN?

THE BATMAN!



THE STILL OF THE NIGHT IS RENT WITH SHARP, STACCATO COMMANDS. COMMISSIONER GORDON ORDERS HIS MEN TO STRATEGIC POSTS TO TRAP THE BATMAN!

CLIMB UP THOSE FIRE ESCAPES! HEAD HIM OFF!

TRAP HIM!

GET THE BATMAN!



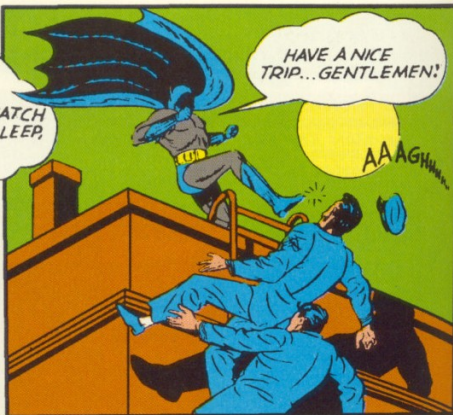
LIKE A BOLT OF LIGHTNING, THE COWLED FIGURE LEAPS TOWARD ASCENDING BLUE COATS

THERE HE IS!



THE HOODED FIGURE EXPLODES A TERRIFIC BLOW OFF THE JAW OF THE POLICEMAN!

HERE'S A CHANCE TO CATCH UP ON LOST SLEEP, BUDDY!



HAVE A NICE TRIP...GENTLEMEN!

AAAGH!!!



BOTH POLICEMEN HURTLE TO DESTRUCTION...

I DON'T KNOW HOW I'LL BREAK THE NEWS TO THEIR FAMILIES!

THIS IS VERY STRANGE! THE BATMAN NEVER ATTACKED THE POLICE BEFORE!

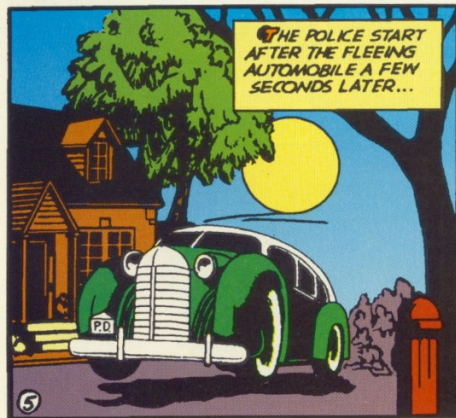


AS THE POLICE CLOSE IN ON THE BAT-LIKE FIGURE... HE SUDDENLY TURNS, AND LEAPS OFF THE ROOF...

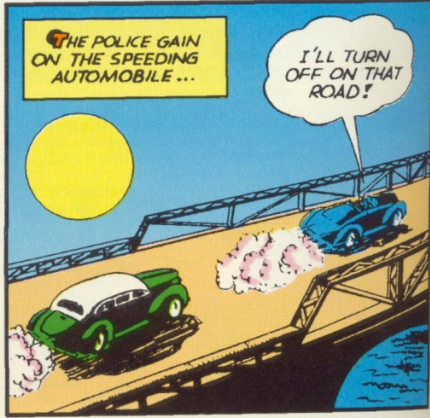
I'D BETTER GET AWAY FROM HERE!



... TO LAND IN AN OPEN ROADSTER WAITING BELOW!

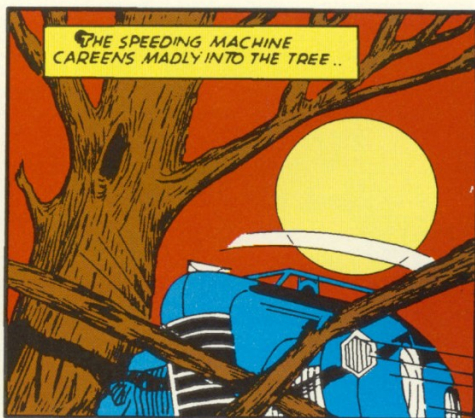


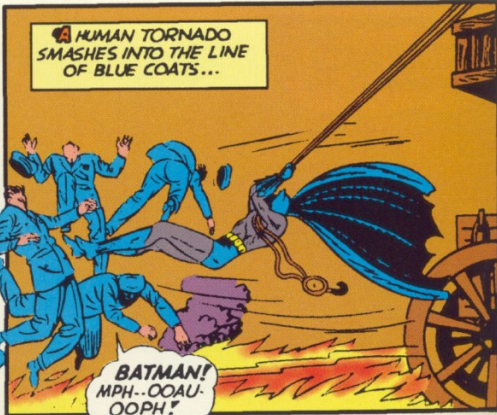
THE POLICE START AFTER THE FLEEING AUTOMOBILE A FEW SECONDS LATER...



THE POLICE GAIN ON THE SPEEDING AUTOMOBILE...

I'LL TURN OFF ON THAT ROAD!





DEAD AS A MACKEREL!

AT LAST WE'LL KNOW THE
IDENTITY OF THE
BATMAN-IF THIS
IS THE
BATMAN!

GOT
HIM!



**WAS THE ANGEL OF DEATH
FINALLY ALIGHTED ON THE
BATMAN?** A SUSPICION
RANKLES IN THE MIND OF
THE COMMISSIONER THAT
THE POLICE HAVE BEEN DUPED!

THIS ISN'T THE BATMAN! IT'S CIRCUS
CHARLIE WHO ESCAPED FROM THE PEN
THREE WEEKS AGO! THIS PUG
MASQUERADED AS THE BATMAN
TO DRAW US AWAY FROM THE
HOSPITAL! NO WONDER HE
HAD NO SCRUPLES
ABOUT KILLING
OUR MEN!

2



**WEASEL'S RUSE HAS WORKED TO
PERFECTION! THE FAKE BATMAN
HAS SUCCEEDED IN DRAWING THE
POLICE AWAY FROM THE HOSPITAL
... MEAN WHILE...**

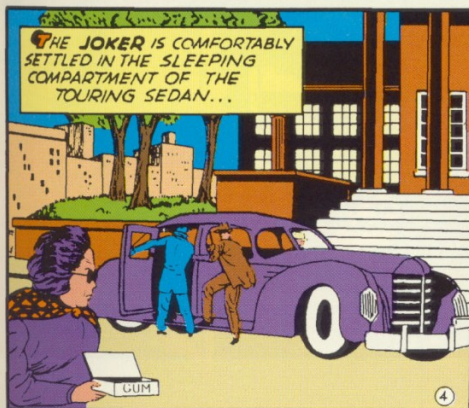
ISURE WISH
I WAS UP ON
THE ROOF TO
SEE COICUS
CHOLLY'S
ACT!

YEAH!
IT MUSTA
BEEN A
CORKER!
THERE AIN'T
A BULL IN
SIGHT!

JUST LIKE I
TOLD YOU IT WOULD
BE! YOUR UNCLE
WEASEL SURE
KNOWS HIS
ONIONS!



**THE JOKER IS COMFORTABLY
SETTLED IN THE SLEEPING
COMPARTMENT OF THE
TOURING SEDAN...**



4

**THE CHEWING-GUM WOMAN
STEPS BEHIND THE BUILDING...
REMOVES HER MAKE UP -
AND REVEALS... THE CAT!**

THE
FOOLS!



**FROM OUT OF
NOWHERE ---**

HELLO!

SA-A-A-Y!



6

WE'VE MET
BEFORE,
HAVEN'T WE?

**THE REAL
BATMAN!**

PUT ME DOWN!
PUT ME DOWN!
YOU...YOU.



7

ROBIN, THE BOY WONDER, IN THE DRIVER'S SEAT!



STEP ON IT, ROBIN!

LET ME OUT.. YOU... YOU!

RIGHT!

YOU'RE NOT TAKING ME TO THE POLICE?

THE CAT WOMAN IS FRANTIC WITH FEAR THAT THE BATMAN WILL DELIVER HER TO THE POLICE --

THAT ALL DEPENDS ON HOW MUCH YOU'RE WILLING TO TELL ME... YOU ARE THE SLICKEST AND PRETTIEST JEWEL THIEF IN THE BUSINESS, YOU KNOW... NOW WHAT ABOUT THE JOKER? WHERE HAVE THEY TAKEN HIM?



THE CAT BARGAINS WITH THE BATMAN.. ALL SHE KNOWS ABOUT THE CRIME SYNDICATE AND THE JOKER IN EXCHANGE FOR HER FREEDOM!?

SO, THEY'RE MAKING THE JOKER THEIR LEADER, EH? CLEVER KEEPING HIM UP IN THE HOSPITAL PLANE TILL HE RECOVERS. THE POLICE 'LL NEVER SEARCH FOR HIM IN THE SKY...? WHERE ARE THEY?

OUT AT WEASEL'S HUNTING LODGE... NOW MAKE GOOD YOUR PROMISE TO SET ME FREE.



BUT, THE CAT WOMAN HASN'T REVEALED THAT THE JOKER IS HER DIABOLICAL COMPETITOR FOR THE PHARAOH'S GEMS...

SOMETHING TELLS ME WE WON'T HAVE LONG TO WAIT...



GOOD-BY, BATMAN! TILL WE MEET AGAIN!

BUT THE CAT WILL NOT ELUDE THE BATMAN SO EASILY....

THE RADIO ACTIVE SUBSTANCE ON THE FLOOR OF THE CAR 'LL HELP US CHECK ON THE CAT-WOMAN'S WHEREABOUTS.

I'LL TRAIL HER AND REPORT TO YOU, BRUCE. YOU CAN WAIT AT THE HUNTING LODGE FOR JOKER AND THE CRIME SYNDICATE!



THE HOSPITAL PLANE OF CRIME SYNDICATE CIRCLES THE COUNTRY. REFUELING AT DESIGNATED LOCATIONS THE JOKER'S RECUPERATIVE POWERS ARE AMAZING! AT THE END OF THE WEEK HE HAS COMPLETELY RECOVERED



IN THE LAIR OF CRIME SYNDICATE, INC

ONE OF YOU HAS ALREADY PLANTED A POISONED NEEDLE IN E S ARTHUR'S SHOE... YOU WILL NEITHER PARTAKE OF THE RISKS... NOR OF THE DIVIDENDS!



I DO NOT WISH TO SEEM UNGRATEFUL, GENTLEMEN. THEREFORE I HAVE MERELY ADMINISTERED A TEMPORARY SLEEPING POTION TO YOU.... INSTEAD OF A PERMANENT ONE. WITHIN A SHORT TIME YOU WILL ALL BE ASLEEP!



WHY-YOU-YOU! DIRTY DOUBLE-CROSSER! I SUSPECTED SOMETHING LIKE THIS. I'M GOING TO KILL YOU..!





WEASEL AND HIS MEN WHIP AROUND SUDDENLY TO MEET THEIR NEW NEMESIS...THE BATMAN!

THE REAL BATMAN!

GET HIM, OR HE'LL GET US!

SAVE YOUR ENERGY, WEASEL, I HAVE ALREADY REMOVED THE POWDER FROM YOUR BULLETS!



THE JOKER MAKES AWAY FOR THE PHAROAH'S GEMS...

TO THE VICTOR BELONG THE SPOILS—DESTROY YOURSELVES, GENTLEMEN! HA, HA, HA,



RIGHT INTO POPPA'S ARMS!



WATCH OUT!

IN BOWLING THEY CALL THIS A STRIKE!



DOWN THEY FALL LIKE A ROW OF TEN-PINS!



MEANWHILE THE CAT, BY HER CUNNING, HAS WON THE AFFECTIONS OF E. S. ARTHUR, WHO HAS INVITED HER TO HIS CASTLE, ALONE, TO VIEW THE PRICELESS INSPIRING, BEAUTIFUL PHAROAH'S GEMS...



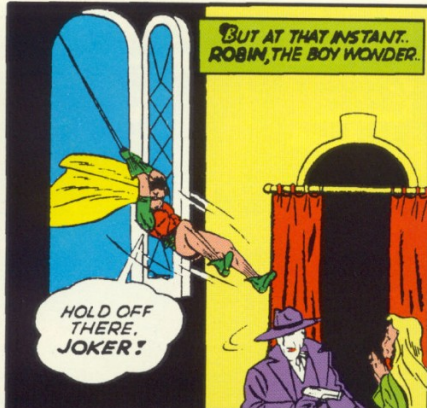
THAT AWESOME SMILE. MURDERED BY THE JOKER!

BUT WHEN SHE ARRIVES, SHE IS MET BY THE DEATH-STAMP OF THE JOKER!



...IN PERSON!

HAND OVER THAT JEWEL CASK, MY PRETTY! OR MUST I KILL YOU FIRST?





A BIT UNSTEADY, AREN'T YOU, JOKER?

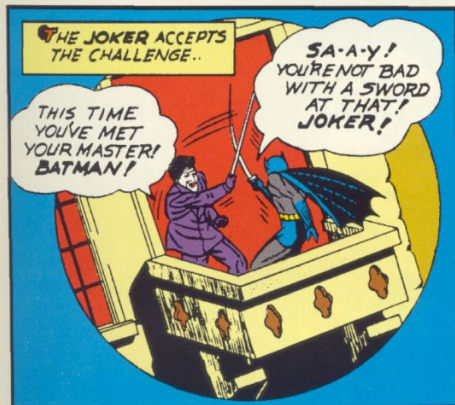


AAA-A-ARUMPH!



THE BATMAN CHALLENGES THE JOKER TO A DUEL --

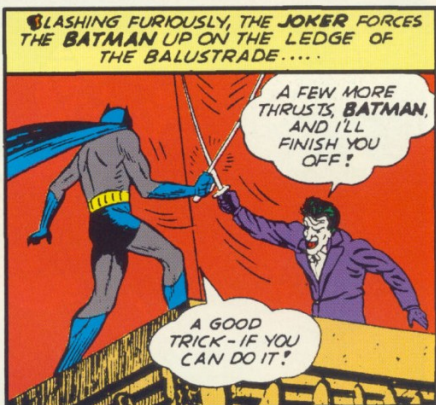
HERE'S A CHANCE TO FIGHT FOR YOUR WORTHLESS EXISTENCE, JOKER!



THE JOKER ACCEPTS THE CHALLENGE..

SA-A-Y!
YOU'RE NOT BAD
WITH A SWORD
AT THAT!
JOKER!

THIS TIME
YOU'VE MET
YOUR MASTER!
BATMAN!



GLASHING FURIOUSLY, THE JOKER FORCES THE BATMAN UP ON THE LEDGE OF THE BALUSTRADE....

A FEW MORE
THRUSTS, BATMAN,
AND I'LL
FINISH YOU
OFF!

A GOOD
TRICK - IF YOU
CAN DO IT!



THE BATMAN SLIPS AND HURTLES OFF INTO SPACE...

SO...YOU
SLIPPED,
EH, BATMAN!
DOWN TO
YOUR DOOM!
HA, HA, HA!



DOWN, DOWN,
DOWN THE
BATMAN
HURTLES...



THE BATMAN GRASPS THE THICK, GNARLED VINES HUGGING THE WALLS OF THE CASTLE, THUS BREAKING HIS FALL...

PHEW! ALMOST PULLED MY ARM OFF - NOW TO CLIMB BACK BEFORE THAT FIEND DOES SOME SERIOUS DAMAGE.....

THE CAT HAS BARRICADED HERSELF AND THE WOUNDED ROBIN IN THE LIBRARY...

SO THEY THINK THEY'RE SAFE BEHIND THAT OAKEN DOOR, EH? THESE FLAMING ARROWS OUGHT TO BURN THEM OUT!! HA, HA, HA!



CLIMBING UP THE IVY-ENTANGLED WALLS TO REGAIN THE BALUSTRADE, THE BATMAN SMASHES INTO THE JOKER WITH RENEWED VIGOR.

HERE I COME, JOKER!



WITH THE FURY OF A THUNDERBOLT THE BATMAN'S FISTS LASH OUT!

HERE ARE A COUPLE FOR GOOD MEASURE, JOKER..



THE BATMAN IS FORCED TO LEAVE THE UNCONSCIOUS JOKER BEHIND AS THEY MAKE FOR THE SUSPEND ED BAT-PLANE...



WE JUST GOT OUT OF THAT RAGING INFERNO IN TIME! FOLLOW ME, CAT! ROBIN'S STILL TOO DAZED TO CLIMB UP ALONE.

TILL WE MEET AGAIN.. BATMAN!

MIDWAY UP THE LADDER THE CAT TURNS AND DIVES INTO THE SWIRLING TORRENTS BELOW



THE END OF THE CAT-WOMAN??



BRUCE! SHE'S GETTING AWAY WITH THE JEWEL CASK!

THAT'S RIGHT, ROBIN! JUST THE JEWEL-CASK! BUT I'VE GOT THE JEWELS! I MANAGED TO GET THEM AS WE WERE CLIMBING UP THE ROPE LADDER! AU REVOIR, CAT-WOMAN!



FOLLOW THE ADVENTURES OF THE BATMAN AND ROBIN, THE Original BOY WONDER EVERY MONTH IN DETECTIVE COMICS

BAT MAN

WITH
Robin

-THE BOY WONDER-

OLD IN HIS OPERATIONS, GIGANTIC IN HIS SCALE OF CRIME, A NEW MASTER OF EVIL RISES TO PLUCK THE FRUITS OF CRIME, ONLY TO DISCOVER TOO LATE THAT AMID HIS HARVEST, THE INK-HUED GARB OF THE **BATMAN** AND THAT OF **ROBIN, THE BOY WONDER**, CROP UP TO DESTROY HIM!



IN HIS PRIVATE MUSEUM, CRUS CRAIG PREPARES TO DEPART FOR HIS MANSION. HE FAILS TO SPEAK WITH HIS TRUSTED MUSEUM CUSTODIAN ...ADAM LAMB

AH, LAMB, STILL READING MYSTERY STORIES, I SEE!

OH YES, MR. CRAIG! I FIND THEM MOST FASCINATING! THIS ONE IS CALLED 'THE CRIME MASTER'! QUITE INTRIGUING IT IS, TOO!



I DON'T KNOW WHY IT IS, SIR, BUT MYSTERY STORIES WITH MASTER CRIMINALS SEEM TO EXCITE ME! PERHAPS I IMAGINE MYSELF IN A ROLE IN THE STORY!

I AM CERTAIN, LAMB, THAT YOU WOULD NOT PLAY THE PART OF A MASTER CRIMINAL! THAT WOULD BE FUNNY, TUNED ADAM LAMB A MASTER OF CRIME !!!



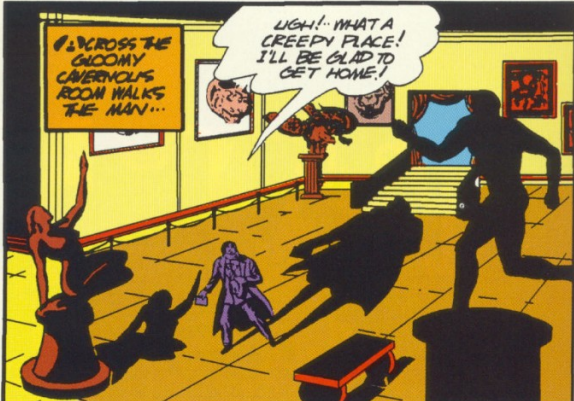
GRAIG GONE... LAMB READS FAR
INTO THE NIGHT... UNTIL....

FINISHED!... MY, IT MUST
BE LATE!... I'D BETTER
LEAVE FOR HOME
NOW!



CROSS THE
GLOOMY
CAVERNOL'S
ROOM WALKS
THE MAN...

UGH!!... WHAT A
CREEPY PLACE!
I'LL BE GLAD TO
GET HOME!



DESCENDING THE STAIRS... HE
SUDDENLY TRIPS ON LOOSE CARPETING

ULP!



DOWN...
DOWN... HE
TUMBLES...



TO HIT THE FLOOR WITH A
SICKENING THUD!



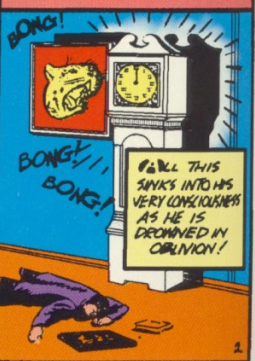
AS THE DAZED MAN ATTEMPTS TO
RISE, HIS FRIGHTENED EYES LIGHT
UPON THE MOUNTED FRAME OF A BAT!



STARE AT THE MYSTERY
BOOK... THE CRIME MASTER!



WHILE THE HALL CLOCK INTONES
THE HOUR... TWELVE O'CLOCK!

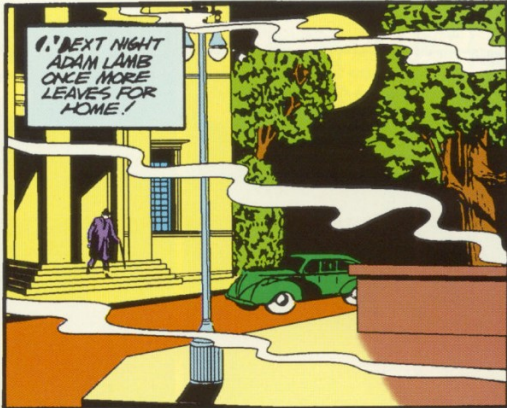


FOUR HOURS LATER LAMB RISES UNSTEADILY, SHAKILY...

WHA...WHAT HAPPENED?
OH, NOW I REMEMBER...I
TRIPPED...FELL DOWN THE
STAIRS! I SEEM TO BE
ALL RIGHT! NOTHING SERIOUS!



BUT
LITTLE DOES
TIMID
ADAM LAMB
REALIZE
HOW SERIOUS
IS HIS
PLIGHT...
HOW HIS
VERY BEING
HAS
ALTERED
AS A RE-
SULT OF
THAT FALL!



NEXT NIGHT
ADAM LAMB
ONCE MORE
LEAVES FOR
HOME!



AS HIS HEELS
AND CANE TAP
ON THE SIDE-
WALK...A THIRD
SOUND FILLS THE
AIR...THE BONG
OF THE CLOCK...
MIDNIGHT...
TWELVE O'CLOCK!



AS THE CLOCK
TOLLS THE HOUR,
LAMB STOPS,
FROZEN, AS IF
HYPNOTIZED.



THEN A STARTLING,
DREADFUL CHANGE
COMES OVER HIS
CHERUBIC FEATURES...
HIS MOUTH TWISTS INTO
A VICIOUS, SLITTED LEEPER



GLASSES ARE JERKED OFF...A STRANGE
WILD LIGHT FLAMES WITH FURY IN HIS EYES!



HIS FORM STRAIGHTENS,
BECOMES LIKE THAT OF A WILD
CAGED AND RESTLESS ANIMAL!



LAMB HAS
BECOME A
WOLF...A
BEAST...A
SNARLING,
CLINNING
BEAST!

CRAFTY, HATE-FILLED EYES GAZE UPON A LONE WALKER!



WHA WHAT DO YOU WANT!?

TO KILL YOU!

HELP! HELP!



NO ONE CAN HELP YOU NOW!

SCREAM A THUD AND A MADMAN LEAVES BEHIND A DEAD MAN



STRANGELY ENOUGH, WHEN LAMB AWAKENS IN THE MORNING, HE IS ONCE MORE HIMSELF, WITH NO RECOLLECTION OF THE PREVIOUS NIGHT'S EVENTS!

WHAT A MAD DREAM I HAD! I SAW MYSELF TURNING INTO A MONSTER WHO KILLED A MAN—WHAT A NIGHTMARE!



BUT AGAIN, EACH NIGHT AT THE STROKE OF TWELVE... LAMB BECOMES ANOTHER MAN!



USING THE NAME OF WOLF AND USING A WOLF'S CUNNING, HE BECOMES HEAD OF A SMALL CRIMINAL GROUP!

AND THEN WE CRACK THE BANK!... YOU BOYS KNOW WHAT TO DO!



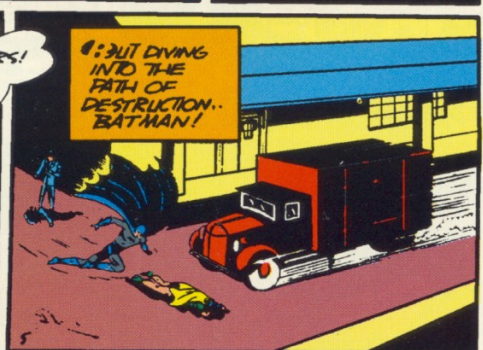
COMBING THE GROUP EXPANDS UNTIL WOLF BECOMES A MASTER OF CRIME!

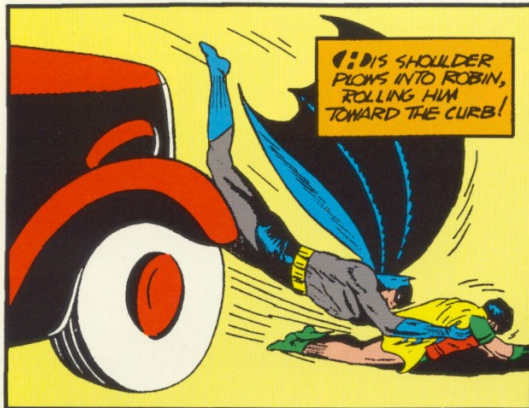


LAMB BY DAY... WOLF BY NIGHT... SUCH IS THE STRANGE CASE OF THE CRIME MASTER!

WHAT QUEER DREAMS I HAVE BEEN HAVING LATELY! IN THEM I HAVE BECOME A GANG LEADER! QUEER AND FRIGHTENING!

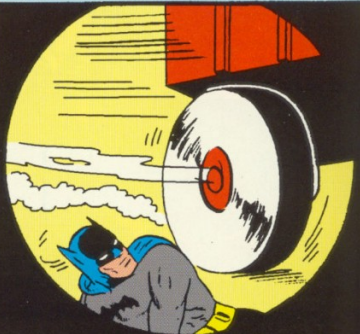






!! HIS SHOULDER
PIVOTS INTO ROBIN,
ROLLING HIM
TOWARD THE CURB!

...A QUICK SWERVE AND THE BATMAN
ESCAPES THE CRUSHING, LOOMING DEATH!



OTHERS WERE
ALSO MAKING
GOOD THEIR
ESCAPE WOLF
AND HIS MEN!

THE MURDERING
RATS! I'D
LIKE TO



THE BATMAN'S SHARP
EYES NOTICE A SMALL DETAIL

THAT'S A QUEER DENT
IN THAT FENDER! I'LL
REMEMBER IT! I MAY BE
ABLE TO SPOT THE CAR
AGAIN, THAT WAY!



WOW! WHAT HIT ME!
THE EMPIRE STATE
BUILDING?

GOOD THING YOU
HAVE A THICK
HEAD OF HAIR!
IT CUSHIONED
THE BLOW!



I THINK THAT'S THE NEW MOB
THAT'S BEEN TROUBLING THE
POLICE LATELY! BUT FROM
NOW ON THEY'RE THE
ONES WHO'LL
HAVE TROUBLE!
I'LL SEE TO THAT!

SAY, WHO IS
THAT GANG,
ANYWAY?



DAYS PASS, AND EACH MORNING
LAMB AWAKES A PUZZLED MAN!

I DON'T UNDERSTAND IT:
THOSE DREAMS OF MINE
AND THIS SUIT HANGING
HERE! WHO DOES IT BELONG
TO? HOW DID IT
GET HERE?



ONE NIGHT HE LIES AWAKE,
PLANNING TO TRAP THE MYSTICAL
OWNER OF THE SUIT!

I MUST SEE WHO
IT IS THAT WEARS
THE SUIT! I ...
TWELVE O'CLOCK!

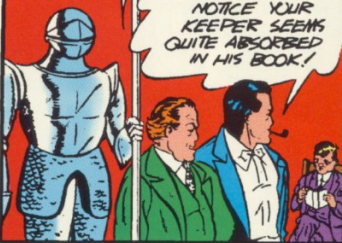
ABRUPTLY, HIS FEATURES CHANGE. LAMB HAS ONLY WAITED FOR HIS OTHER SELF... WOLF THE CRIME MASTER!



NEXT DAY CHANCE TAKES BRUCE WAYNE TO VISIT CRAIG'S MUSEUM

SO YOU LIKE MY LITTLE COLLECTION, EH BRUCE?

IT'S VERY FINE! BY THE WAY I NOTICE YOUR KEEPER SEEMS QUITE ABSORBED IN HIS BOOK!



BELIEVE IT OR NOT, LAMB HAS READ THAT BOOK OVER AND OVER AGAIN! "CRIME-MASTER, IT'S CALLED!"

SEEMS RATHER A TIMID SORT OF MAN TO RELISH THAT SORT OF THING, BUT THEN YOU NEVER CAN TELL, CAN YOU!



ON HIS WAY HOME BRUCE SUDDENLY HALTS, STOCK-STILL

THE BANDIT'S CAR OF LAST NIGHT!



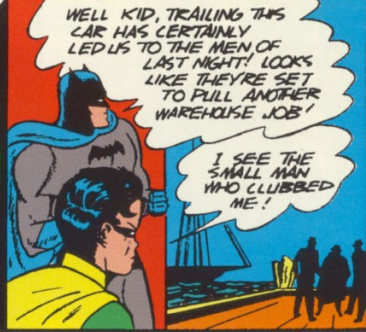
QUEER DENT AND EVERYTHING! WELL IT LOOKS AS IF BATMAN AND ROBIN ARE GOING TO DO A LITTLE TRAILING TONIGHT!



NIGHTFALL ON THE WATERFRONT TWO FIGURES SLINK THROUGH THE SHADOWS BATMAN AND THE WONDERBOY

WELL KID, TRAILING THIS CAR HAS CERTAINLY LED US TO THE MEN OF LAST NIGHT! LOOKS LIKE THEY'RE SET TO PULL ANOTHER WAREHOUSE JOB!

I SEE THE SMALL MAN WHO CLUBBED ME!



THEY'LL KILL HIM! WE'VE GOT TO SAVE HIM! LET'S GO, ROBIN!

LOOK! THEY'VE GOT THE WATCHMAN!



CROSS THE WAST PIER LAUNCH THE TWO FIGURES WITH HURRICANE SPEED!

THEY'RE BACK AGAIN!



SMASHING UPPERCUT TO THE GUNMAN'S JAW...

DROP IT!... OR
I'LL DROP YOU!



HAIL OF
LEAD IS SLUNG
AT THE BATMAN!

GET THAT
GUY BEFORE
HE GETS US!

SHOOT
HIM!!



BULLET MISSES THE STEEL VEST
AND BORES INTO HIS UNPROTECTED SHOULDER!

FOR A MOMENT HE TEETERS ON THE
EDGE OF THE PIER!

LOOK! I GOT 'IM!
I GOT THE BATMAN!
CHEE!



THEN TOPPLES
TO THE MURKY
WATERS BELOW



IN AGONIZING SHRIEK IS TORN FROM
ROBIN'S LIPS AS HE SEES HIM FALLING!

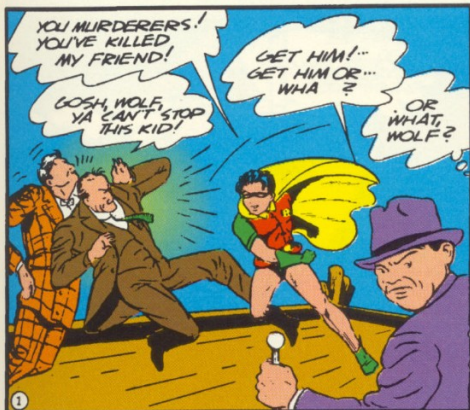
BATMAN!
BATMAN!



THE BOY
WONDER GOES
BERSERK!

YOU MURDERERS
YOU'VE KILLED
HIM!... YOU'VE
KILLED HIM!





BY AIDING THE WEAKENED BATMAN, ROBIN HELPS TO EFFECT THEIR ESCAPE!

THE DIRTY RATS!
THEY TRIED TO
KILL YOU!...I'D
LIKE TO....

THERE'LL BE
PLENTY OF TIME
FOR THAT LATER!
LET'S GET AWAY
FROM HERE,
FIRST!

OKAY BRUCE..
READY?

READY!

LATER..
IN BRUCE'S
LABORATORY
A NERVOUS
BOY FACES
A GIANT TASK!

BREATHING A SILENT PRAYER, DICK BEGINS TO PROBE FOR THE BULLET LODGED IN BRUCE'S SHOULDER!

I'VE GOT TO
FIND IT!
I'VE GOT
TO!

T LAST, AFTER WHAT SEEMS AN AGONIZING STRETCH OF TIME...

THE BULLET!
BRUCE, I'VE GOT
IT!

GOOD
BOY!
GOOD
BOY!

LATE THE NEXT NIGHT DICK WALKS INTO THE LIBRARY TO SEE BRUCE UP, READING...

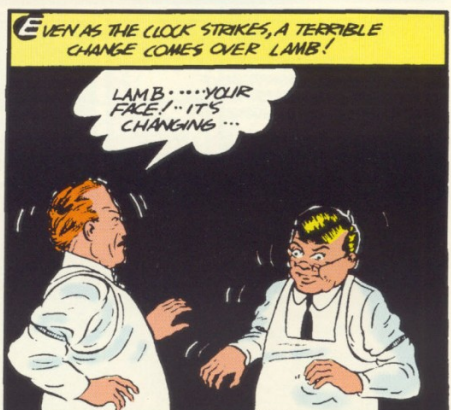
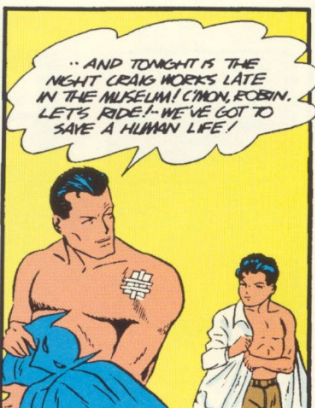
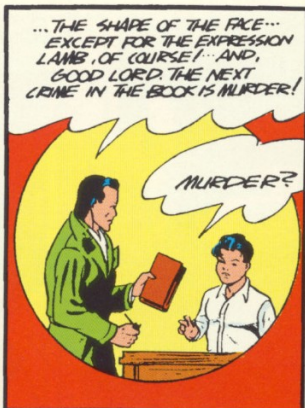
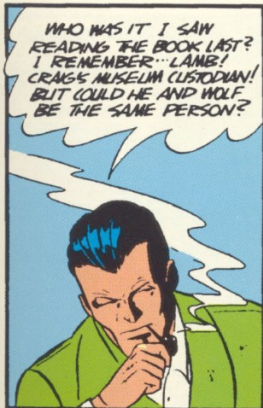
BRUCE, IT'S NEAR
TWELVE O'CLOCK! YOU
SHOULD BE IN BED
RESTING YOUR ARM!

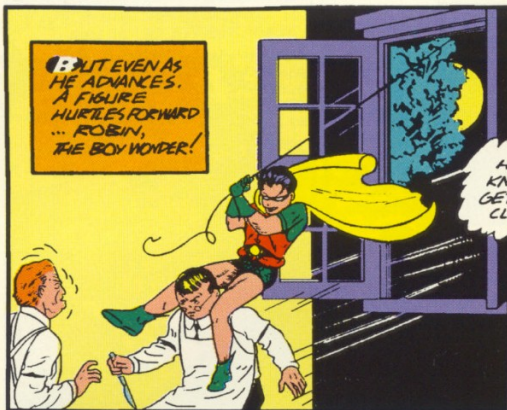
DICK! HE JUST
FOUND OUT A
STARTLING
FACT! IT'S
FANTASTIC!
FANTASTIC!!

IT ALL TIES UP WITH A MYSTERY BOOK CALLED 'THE CRIME MASTER'! I'VE MADE A LIST OF CRIMES COMMITTED BY THE WOLF MOB, AND BELIEVE IT OR NOT-IT COINCIDES WITH THE MYTHICAL CRIMES DONE IN THIS BOOK!

BUT I DON'T
UNDERSTAND...

FOR SOME REASON,
WOLF IS FOLLOWING THE
EXACT PLAN OF THE BOOK!
THE 'CRIME MASTER'!...IT'S
CRAZY... CRAZY!!





BUT EVEN AS HE ADVANCES, A FIGURE HURTLES FORWARD ... ROBIN, THE BOY WONDER!

HEY! THAT KNIFE IS GETTING CLOSER!

MADMAN'S STRENGTH SEEMS TO SURGE THROUGH WOLF!



I'LL MAKE SURE YOU DIE THIS TIME!



WHEN, A STRONG HAND REACHES OUT...

ALL RIGHT, WOLF. NOW LET'S SEE IF YOU CAN TAKE IT!

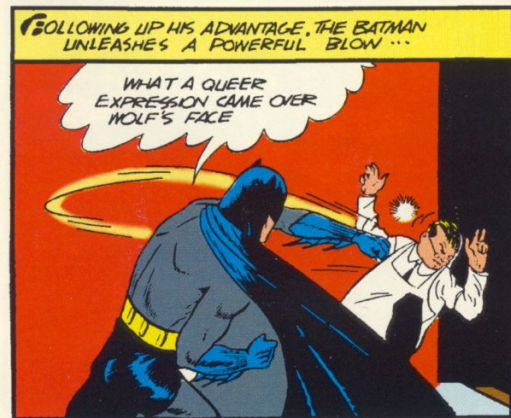


WOLF TEARS HIMSELF AWAY FROM THE BATMAN'S GRASP. HIS EYES RIVET THEMSELVES UPON THE EMBLEM ON HIS CHEST!

A BAT! A BAT! I SEEM TO REMEMBER ITS ALL HAZY...I....



WOLF'S EYES SEEM TO SEE ANOTHER BAT...A MOUNTED BAT....

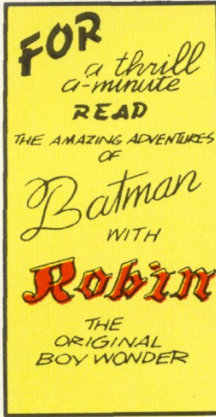
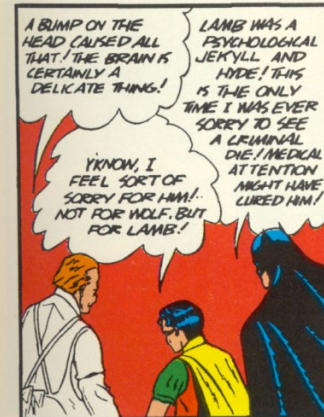
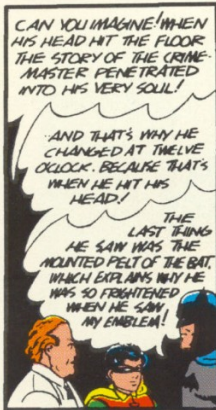


FOLLOWING UP HIS ADVANTAGE, THE BATMAN UNLEASHES A POWERFUL BLOW ...

WHAT A QUEER EXPRESSION CAME OVER WOLF'S FACE



ONCE MORE HE TUMBLES DOWN THE SAME STAIRS....



BATMAN

WITH
Robin
-THE BOY WONDER-



WHEN A DEAD MAN'S WILL WAS READ IT SET IN MOTION A SERIES OF CRIMES THAT WAS TO INVOLVE THE **BATMAN** AND HIS LAUGHING YOUNG RIDE **ROBIN**, THE BOY WONDER, IN ONE OF THE MOST DANGEROUS CASES THEY HAD EVER ENCOUNTERED. IT WAS...
"THE CASE OF THE CLUBFOOT MURDERERS"

MEENDING HIS WAY HOMEWARD ACROSS THE LOW ROOFTOPS THE **BATMAN** SUDDENLY SEES A MURDER COMMITTED..... WITH A CRY OF ANGER HE LEAPS ON TO THE BACK OF THE VICTIM'S ASSAILANT!

WOTTA QUEER FISH...
CLUBFOOT AND A
STEEL CLAW FOR A
HAND!

STEPPING BACK TO AVOID THE DEADLY SLASHING CLAW, THE **BATMAN** TRIPS OVER THE MURDERED MAN'S FOOT.

UH!
MEDDLING FOOL - I'LL
TEACH YOU!

AS HE STARTS TO RISE, A VICIOUS KICK
RAVES THE BATMAN'S HEAD!



THIS WILL
TAKE CARE
OF YOU!

...THEN, WITH A QUEER
THUMPING WALK, THE
MURDERER MAKES HIS
ESCAPE!



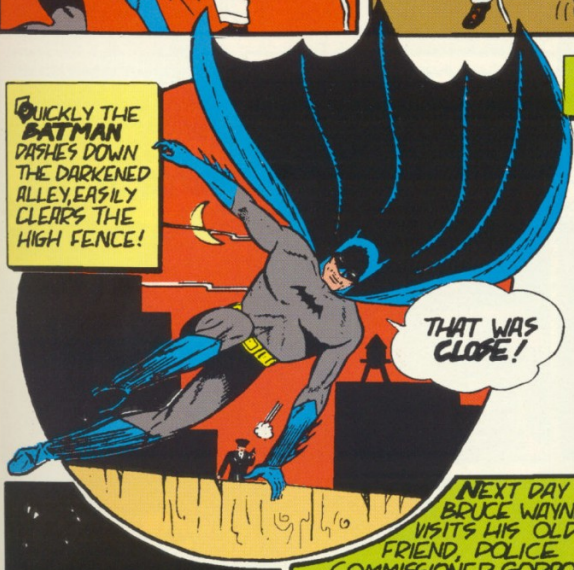
ONE IS DEAD!
SOON THE OTHERS
WILL FEEL
COLD STEEL
--SOON
NOW!



OH! OH!
POLICE!
MY HEAD!
BETTER GET
AWAY FROM
HERE!

STOP THE
CAR JOE,
SOME-
THING'S
GOING ON
OVER THERE

QUICKLY THE
BATMAN
DASHES DOWN
THE DARKENED
ALLEY, EASILY
CLEARS THE
HIGH FENCE!



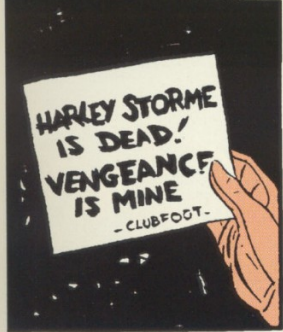
THAT WAS
CLOPE!

AND LEAVES THE
ASTONISHED POLICE-
MEN BEHIND!



WHEREVER HE WAS, HE
GOT AWAY! COULDN'T SEE
HIM VERY WELL IN THE DARK!

SAV KNOW WHO THIS
IS? HARLEY STORME,
THE MILLIONAIRE!
AND LOOK WHAT
WAS ON HIM!



NEXT DAY ...
BRUCE WAYNE
VISITS HIS OLD
FRIEND, POLICE
COMMISSIONER GORDON,
WHO DOES NOT KNOW OF HIS
REAL IDENTITY...THE BATMAN!



AH, GORDON,
GOING OUT
SOMEPLACE?

HELLO, BRUCE!
YES, GOING OVER
TO THE STORME
MANSION TO DO
A LITTLE QUESTION-
ING! COME
ALONG?



STORME? STORME?
OH YES, THAT 'CLUBFOOT
MURDER CASE' BUSINESS!
THINK I'LL TODDLE ALONG
WITH YOU, AT THAT!

C'MON
THEN!

AT THE STORME MANSION, COMMISSIONER GORDON QUESTON'S STORME'S NIECE, PORTIA...

AND THIS MAN CALLED CLUBBROT BEGGED HATED YOUR UNCLE HARLEY STORME?

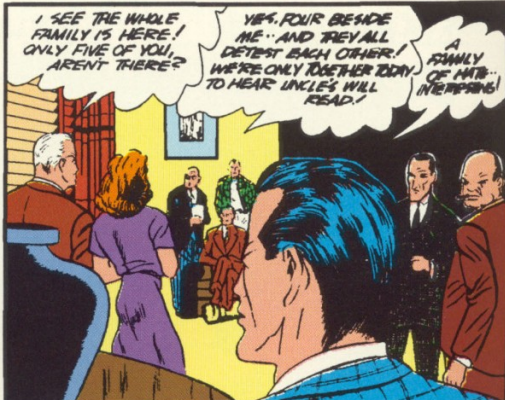
YES, HE THOUGHT UNCLE HARLEY CHEATED HIM OUT OF HIS SHARE OF A GOLD MINE THEY ONCE DISCOVERED! HE SAID HE WOULD REVENGE HIMSELF ON THE WHOLE STORME FAMILY!



I SEE THE WHOLE FAMILY IS HERE! ONLY FIVE OF YOU, AREN'T THERE?

YES, FOUR BESIDE ME... AND THEY ALL DETEST EACH OTHER! WE'RE ONLY TOGETHER TODAY TO HEAR UNCLE'S WILL READ!

A FAMILY OF MURDERERS!



A SHORT TIME LATER, AS THE MURDERED MAN'S WILL IS READ.

HOW ABOUT POINTING OUT THESE PEOPLE TO ME!

THAT'S THE FAMILY LAWYER, WARD! HE'S BEEN WITH UNCLE FOR YEARS!



THE BALD HEADED MAN IS ABEL, AND THE OTHER IS CARL... BOTH WERE UNCLE HARLEY'S BROTHERS!

I WONDER HOW MUCH MONEY THAT OLD FOOL HARLEY HAD SALTED AWAY?

I WISH WARD WOULD GET ON WITH THAT WILL!



THE DARK HAired FELLOW IS HARLEY'S SON, ROGER... AND THE BLOND CHAP NEXT TO HIM IS MY BROTHER, TOMMY.

WONDER HOW MUCH THE OLD MAN LEFT ME?

I HOPE UNCLE LEFT ME A GOOD PILE! I COULD USE IT TO PAY OFF THAT GAMBLING DEBT I OWE!



AT LAST THE END OF THE WILL IS REACHED...

AND SO I LEAVE ALL MY EARTHLY GOODS HERE NOTED TO CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS!

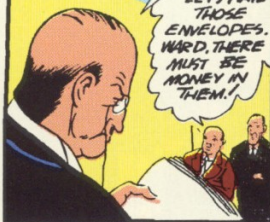
WHAT IS THIS, A JOKE?

WHAT?



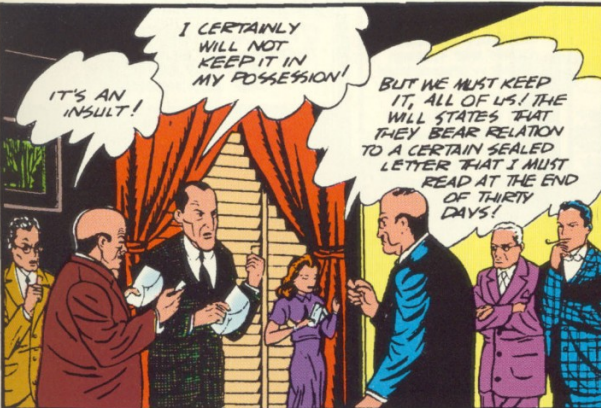
TO MY "BELOVED" FAMILY AND FAMILY LAWYER, WARD, I LEAVE THE ENVELOPES IN THE BOX AND THEIR CONTENTS! PROFIT BY THEIR MESSAGE!

LET'S HAVE THOSE ENVELOPES, WARD. THERE MUST BE MONEY IN THEM.



AND IN EACH ENVELOPE IS FOUND A PIECE OF GOLD WITH THE INSCRIPTION...

"UNITED WE STAND-DIVIDED WE FALL"
Etc...



IT'S AN INSULT!

I CERTAINLY WILL NOT KEEP IT IN MY POSSESSION!

BUT WE MUST KEEP IT, ALL OF US! THE WILL STATES THAT THEY BEAR RELATION TO A CERTAIN SEALED LETTER THAT I MUST READ AT THE END OF THIRTY DAYS!



WELL, BRUCE, WHAT DID YOU THINK OF HARLEY STORME'S STRANGE WILL?

I NEVER THINK! IT BORES ME! THINKING IS TOO LABORIOUS!

SEALED LETTERS! BAN!

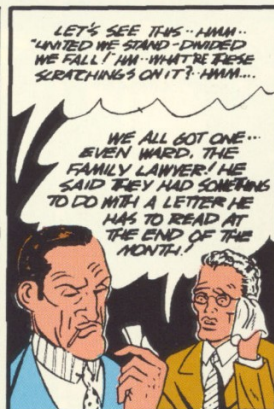
HMM... STRANGE!

LATER THAT EVENING INSIDE A NOTORIOUS GAMBLING CLUB



WELL, STORME, WHERE'S THAT FIVE THOUSAND GAMBLING DEBT YOU OWE ME? I WANT IT NOW!

I THOUGHT I WOULD GET IT FROM MY UNCLE'S WILL, WARRICK. BUT ALL HE LEFT ME WAS... THIS!



LET'S SEE THIS... HMM... "UNITED WE STAND - DIVIDED WE FALL!" HMM... WHAT'RE THESE SCRATCHINGS ON IT? HMM...

WE ALL GOT ONE... EVEN WARD. THE FAMILY LAWYER! HE SAID THEY HAD SOMETHING TO DO WITH A LETTER HE WAS TO READ AT THE END OF THE MONTH!



THE LAWYER, EH? YOU KNOW TOMMY, I GOTTA FEELIN' THAT LAWYER'S GONNA BE SNATCHED... BY ME!



WHAT EVENING, AS HARLEY STORME SLEEPS, A SOAKING FIGURE CLIMBS THROUGH THE WINDOW...



A HISS... A TRUD... CLUBFOOT HAS STRUCK AGAIN!

ANOTHER OF THE STORMES IS DEAD OFFERS TO WILL DIE!

8: NEXT
DAY

CLUBFOOT AGAIN!
DID YOU HEAR
ANYTHING
ABOUT HIM?

AND ON THE BODY
OF ABEL STORME
WAS A CARD BEARING
THIS MESSAGE: 'ABEL
STORME IS DEAD!
VENGEANCE IS MINE!
CLUBFOOT'

I WAS OVER
TO COMMISSIONER
GORDON TODAY.
FOUND OUT THAT
THE MAN 'CLUBFOOT'
BEGGS WAS LAST
SEEN BOARDING A
TRAIN FOR
NEW YORK!

THERE'S NO DOUBT
'CLUBFOOT' BEGGS
HATES THE STORME
FAMILY/VENGEANCE!

VENGEANCE?
ROBIN, TONIGHT
YOU AND I ARE
GOING TO VISIT
HARD, THE LAWYER.
I WANT TO KNOW
MORE ABOUT THAT
WILL!

9: THAT NIGHT, TWO FIGURES SLINK
THROUGH THE BLACK OF DARKNESS
.....BATMAN AND ROBIN,
THE BOY WONDER!

I'M GOING IN
THROUGH
THAT WINDOW! YOU STAY
OUTSIDE! KEEP YOUR EYES
OPEN!

RIGHT!

10: AS THE BATMAN DRAWS
NEAR HE HEARS

FIND ANYTHING
YET?

THAT GUY
HARD SURE
MUST BE
FOXY!

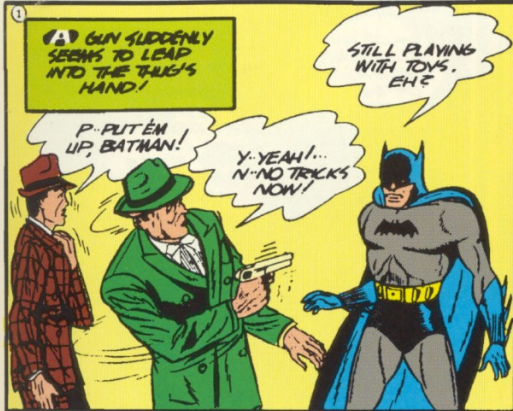
IF WE COULD
ONLY FIND THE
GUY'S SAFE!

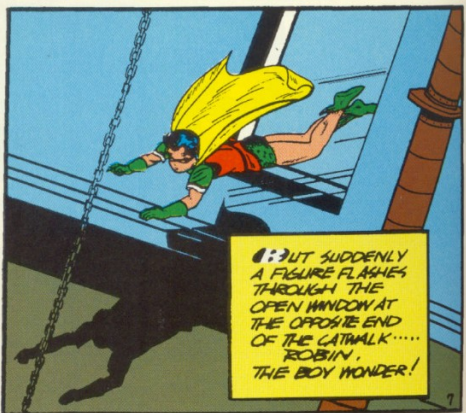
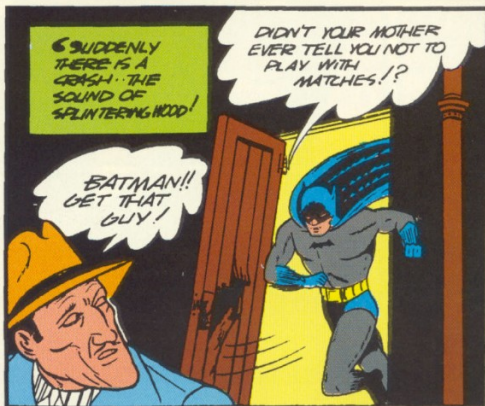
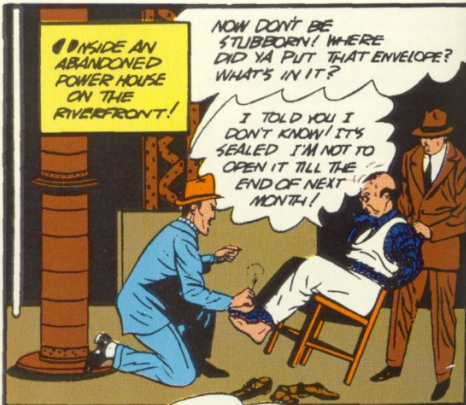
AH, WELL,
WARRICK'LL GET
THE DOPE FROM
HIM! HM, WAIT TILL
THE BOYS GET TO
WORK ON
HIM!

AND JUST
WAIT TILL I GET
TO WORK ON
YOU!

HUH?
THE BATMAN!

LEMME
CUTTA
HERE!







HARD IS QUICKLY FREED...
THEN QUESTIONED

VARRICK WANTED
TO KNOW WHAT WAS
IN THAT ENVELOPE...
HE HAS SOME CRAZY
IDEA THAT THE
SCRATCHINGS ON THE
TOKENS MEAN
SOMETHING!

PERHAPS THEY
DO!! YOU
WOULDN'T
KNOW WHAT
WAS IN THE
ENVELOPE.
WOULD YOU?



OF COURSE
NOT! THE ENVELOPE
IS SEALED! YOU
DON'T THINK I'D
OPEN IT, DO YOU?

SORRY, JUST
MY CURIOSITY!...
NOW, IF YOU'LL
EXCUSE ME...



WENT HOME, BRUCE PONDERING
OVER A STRANGE PROBLEM...

VARRICK WAS SMART ENOUGH TO KNOW
THERE WAS SOMETHING VALUABLE
ABOUT THIS TOKEN THOUGH
THE STORNE'S WERE TOO STUPID
TO SEE IT!



THOSE FUNNY
MARKINGS...AND
THE MOTTO "UNITED
WE STAND"
DIVIDED WE
FALL"
HMMM!



THE STORNE'S
ARE DIVIDED...
AND THEY ALL
RECEIVED A TOKEN...
WHAT IF THEY WERE
UNITED AND THE
TOKENS UNITED?
THAT'S IT...OF COURSE!
"UNITED WE STAND!"



ROBIN, YOU GO
OVER TO ROGER
STORNE'S HOUSE JUST
IN CASE "CLIMBFOOT"
SHOULD DECIDE TO GO
PROVING TONIGHT!



RIGHT!

WHAT NIGHT...
BATMAN...
THE BLACK KNIGHT
AND ROBIN,
THE BOY WONDER!

YOU MEAN...IF THE
TOKENS WERE PUT
TOGETHER THEY
MIGHT MEAN
SOMETHING?

AND THAT SEALED
LETTER AT HARD'S
PLACE EXPLAINS IT
ALL! I'VE GOT TO
GET THAT LETTER
TONIGHT!





ROBIN POSES UPON THE WINDOW-SILL HE STARES AGHAST



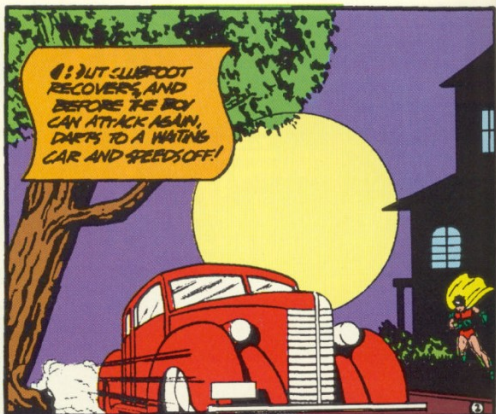
BUT CRUNCHING THROUGH THE SOFT GRASS... A PAIR OF FEET... ONE A HORRIBLE DISTORTED FOOT... CLUBFOOT!



DESPERATELY ROBIN EXPENDS HIS STRENGTH IN A SUDDEN UPWARD THRUST OF HIS BODY...



BUT CLUBFOOT RECOVERS, AND BEFORE THE BOY CAN ATTACK AGAIN, DARTS TO A WAITING CAR AND SPEEDS OFF!



SUDDENLY A RUSTLING, SCRAPING NOISE REACHES HIS EARS...

SOMEONE - SOMETHING IS IN THIS HOUSE... THAT NOISE... COMES FROM DOWN BELOW...



FOLLOWING THE SOUND TO ITS SOURCE, HE COMES UPON A LOCKED DOOR, FORCES IT OPEN AND SEES-

CLUBFOOT!



MEANWHILE, THE BATMAN LEAPS INTO THE HOME OF THE LAWYER, WARD!

LOOKS LIKE NOBODY'S HOME TONIGHT!



WITH HIS GAS REMOVED, THE MAN SUDDENLY LOOSENS A TORRENT OF WORDS...

I'M CLUBFOOT, BUT I'M NOT CLUBFOOT! I MEAN I'M NOT CLUBFOOT THE KILLER... THAT'S WARD!



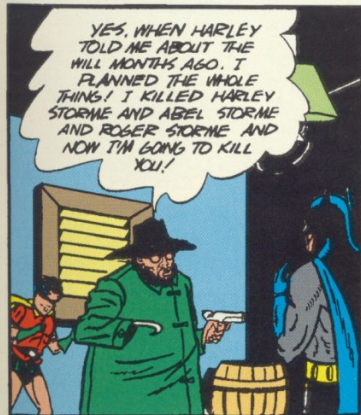
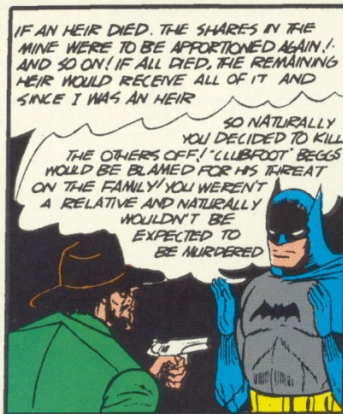
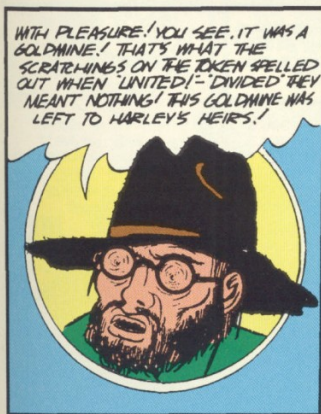
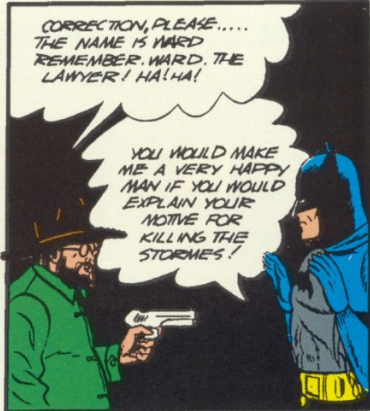
WARD... THE LAWYER?

YES. ABOUT A WEEK AGO WARD PHONED ME, SAID HARLEY SORINE WAS GOING TO SETTLE OUR OLD DISPUTE BY GIVING ME SOME MONEY IN PAYMENT! BUT WHEN I GOT HERE I WAS CLUBBED AND CHAINED!



HE SAID HE WAS GOING TO MURDER THE WHOLE SORINE FAMILY AND MAKE THE POLICE THINK I DID IT! THEN HE WAS GOING TO KILL ME, AND FORGE A SUICIDE NOTE. NOBODY WOULD SUSPECT HIM!





THE SAVAGE KILLER SEIZES HIS ADVANTAGE AND RACES FROM THE ROOM. BUT THE BATMAN IS BEHIND!



BUT WARD IS HAMPERED BY HIS FALSE CLUBFOOT IN HIS ASCENT, AND...

SORT OF PUT YOUR FOOT IN IT THIS TIME, EH?



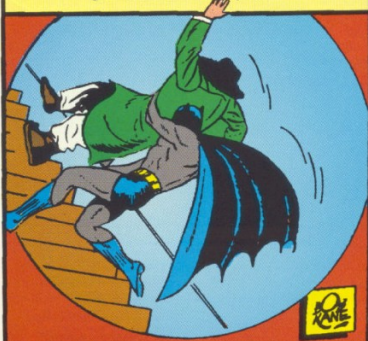
BONE-CRUSHING BLOW BY THE BATMAN PUTS AN END TO THE FRACAS!

OKAY WARD, THIS IS THE END OF THE LINE FOR YOU!

BOY, IT SURE WAS A GOOD THING I CAME HERE TO TELL YOU ABOUT CLUBFOOT!

I GUESS YOU WERE A LITTLE SURPRISED TO SEE TWO OF THEM, AND I DARE SAY I DON'T BLAME YOU!

DOWN, DOWN THE STAIRS TOPPLE THE STRUGGLING PAIR...



IT SURE WAS A GOOD DISGUISE, WASN'T IT?

HE COULDN'T DISGUISE THE MURDER IN HIS HEART. THAT WAS WHAT UNMASKED HIM!...IT DOES SO TO ALL CRIMINALS!



'UNITED WE STAND, DIVIDED WE FALL'!

YES, DICK, A MAN WHO BREAKS - AWAY FROM THE UNITY OF LAW AND ORDER IS BOUND TO FALL... ALONE!



WARNING

THE THRILLING EXPLOITS OF THE **BATMAN AND ROBIN** IN THE CURRENT ISSUE OF **DETECTIVE COMICS** WILL HAVE YOU HOLDING ONTO YOUR CHAIR!

BAT MAN

WITH
Robin
- THE BOY WONDER -

WHEN PROFESSOR DRAKE RETURNED FROM DARKEST AFRICA, HE BROUGHT WITH HIM A STRANGE, ALIEN BEING WHOSE VERY EXISTENCE WAS TO SEAL HIS DOOM, AND WAS TO SEND THE **BATMAN** AND ROBIN, THE BOY WONDER, DEEP INTO A LABYRINTH OF ADVENTURE AND INTRIGUE, INTO - "THE CASE OF THE MISSING LINK"

BY

BOB
KANE



AS THE METROPOLIS LIMITED ROARS THROUGH THE NIGHT, A FANTASTIC FIGURE LEAPS FROM THE ARCH OF THE LOW BRIDGE, AND LANDS AS SILENTLY AS A BAT ON THE TOP OF THE SPEEDING TRAIN, EVEN AS IT WHIPS PAST HIM.....

WHO BUFFETED BY THE WIND, HE RACES ACROSS THE SLIPPERY ROOFS OF THE SPEEDING TRAIN..

AN ARROW SUDDENLY HISSES PAST HIM.

OH OH!
THEY SPOTTED
ME!

HERE, RUNNING ATOP THE EXPRESS,
PYGMIES AFRICAN PYGMIES?!

LOOKS LIKE I'M GOING TO BE
A VERY ACTIVE PERSON FOR
THE NEXT FEW MOMENTS!

ANOTHER
SHAFT OF DEATH
WHIPS BY THE
BATMAN!
LEAPS!

TWO DOWN,
FIVE TO
GO!

SMALL FIGURES SWARM
TOWARD THE BATMAN!

HERE THEY
COME!

AND HERE
THEY GO!

THESE LITTLE
FELLOWS MEAN
BUSINESS!

A GRIM
STRUGGLE ENSUES
ATOP THE
PERILOUSLY
SLOPING ROOF
OF THE
LURCHING
CAR!

SUDDENLY THE PYGMIES ARE ASTONISHED TO SEE THE MANTLED FORM DROP HEADLONG TO THE ROOF!

...WONDER WHY I'M DIVING, DO YOU? YOU'LL FIND OUT IN A MOMENT!

?

?

A MOMENT LATER, THE REASON IS APPARENT...
LOW BRIDGE!

THEY WERE SHORT, BUT NOT QUITE SHORT ENOUGH.

INTO THE BAGGAGE CAR SWINGS THE AGILE FRAME...

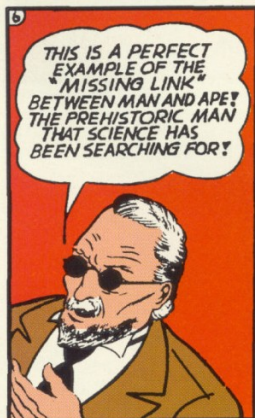
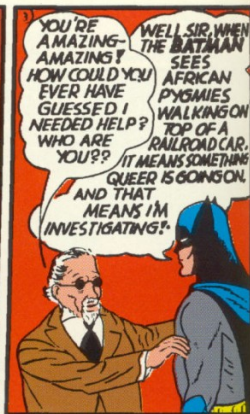
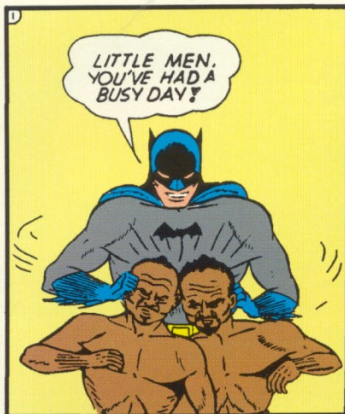
I'M NOT A MOMENT TOO SOON!

WHIRLING, THE PYGMIES PERCEIVE THEIR ENEMY, AND LET FLY THEIR ARROWS!

BUT SWIFT AS THOUGHT THE BATMAN SCOOPS UP A VALISE AND ...

NOT BAD AIM!

BUT MINE IS BETTER!



NOW, WHAT'S THE CONNECTION BETWEEN 'SHORTY' HERE, AND OUR FRIENDS?

JUST THIS! WHILE DOING RESEARCH WORK IN THE MABONGA COUNTRY IN AFRICA, I HEARD OF A GIANT WHITE SAVAGE!



WE FOUND THAT BECAUSE OF THE DIFFERENCE IN SIZE, THE PYGMIES WORSHIPPED THIS GIANT AS SOME SORT OF GOD



..NEEDLESS TO SAY, MY SCIENTIFIC INTEREST WAS AROUSED, AND WITH THE HELP OF SOME NATIVE PORTERS I TRAPPED HIM!



NATURALLY THE PYGMIES RESENTED OUR CAPTURING THEIR GOD, AND WE HAD MANY A PITCHED BATTLE WITH THEM....



I GOT HIM AWAY AND TO THIS COUNTRY, BUT THE FANATICAL LITTLE DEVILS MUST HAVE STOWED AWAY AT VARIOUS INTERVALS WAITING THEIR CHANCE

FANTASTIC! PYGMIES FOLLOWING YOU FROM AFRICA, THINKING THAT THEY COULD RESCUE THEIR "GOD"? WELL, I DISCOURAGED THEM A BIT!



SAY, I JUST NOTICED - HE'S NOT BOUND! IN FACT HE LOOKS ALMOST TAME!

I WON HIM OVER WITH VARIOUS PSYCHOLOGICAL METHODS! HE WORSHIPS ME! I CALL HIM GOLIATH!

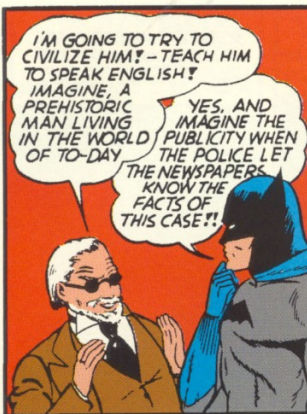


THE GRINNING GIANT SUDDENLY LIFTS THE BATMAN UP WITH ONE HUGE HAND!

HE KNOWS YOU'RE MY FRIEND! HE LIKES YOU! WELL, WHAT DO YOU THINK OF HIM?



HE'S VERY CUTE! CUTE IS JUST THE WORD FOR HIM! BUT NOW THAT YOU'VE GOT HIM, WHAT DO YOU INTEND TO DO?



I'M GOING TO TRY TO CIVILIZE HIM? - TEACH HIM TO SPEAK ENGLISH? IMAGINE, A PREHISTORIC MAN LIVING IN THE WORLD OF TO-DAY

YES, AND IMAGINE THE PUBLICITY WHEN THE POLICE LET THE NEWSPAPERS KNOW THE FACTS OF THIS CASE!!



THE BATMAN'S WORDS PROVE PROPHETIC, FOR THE NEXT DAY'S HEADLINES REVEAL THE STORY OF GOLIATH?...

PROFESSOR BRINGS BACK COLOSSUS FROM JUNGLE! MURDER OF BAGGAGEMAN BY AFRICAN PYGMIES INVOLVES APE-MAN

THE POLICE WERE ASTONISHED TO-DAY TO DISCOVER A FIFTEEN FOOT GIANT



CROSS THE GROUNDS OF THE HACKETT AND SNEAD CIRCUS WALK TWO MEN.... HACKETT AND SNEAD...

HACKETT, I HAVE BEEN READING THE STORY ABOUT THE 'MISSING LINK'. IF WE COULD EXHIBIT HIM LIKE THAT CIRCUS EXHIBITS THAT GORILLA...

WE COULD CLEAN UP A MILLION DOLLARS! PEOPLE WOULD FLOCK TO SEE HIM! I THINK WE OUGHT TO VISIT PROFESSOR DRAKE!



YES, I'M PROFESSOR DRAKE! WHAT DID YOU WISH TO SPEAK TO ME ABOUT?

CHARMING FELLOW! PERFECTLY CHARMING!

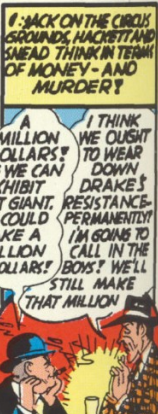
WE ARE HACKETT AND SNEAD, THE CIRCUS OWNERS. IF YOU COULD LET US USE GOLIATH HERE FOR EXHIBITION PURPOSES, WE COULD ALL MAKE A LOT OF MONEY.



WHAT! YOU HAVE THE NERVE TO SUGGEST I PUT GOLIATH ON DISPLAY SO THE PUBLIC CAN GAZE AT HIM? GET OUT! GET OUT!

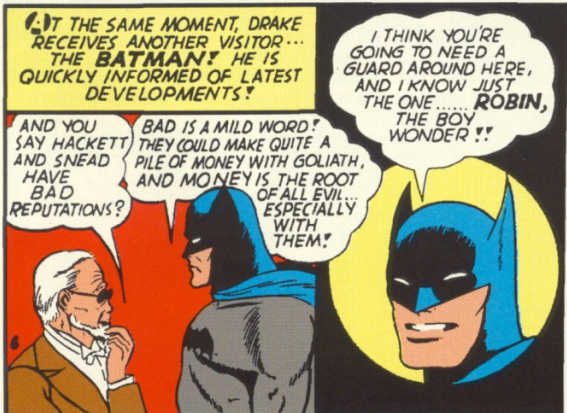
NOW, NOW! BE CALM! BE CALM!

WE'RE GOING! WE'RE GOING! WE CAN TAKE A HINT.



BACK ON THE CIRCUS GROUNDS, HACKETT AND SNEAD THINK IN TERMS OF MONEY - AND MURDER!

A MILLION DOLLARS! IF WE CAN EXHIBIT THAT GIANT, WE COULD MAKE A MILLION DOLLARS! I THINK WE OUGHT TO WEAR DOWN DRAKE'S RESISTANCE PERMANENTLY! I'M GOING TO CALL IN THE BOYS! WE'LL STILL MAKE THAT MILLION



AT THE SAME MOMENT, DRAKE RECEIVES ANOTHER VISITOR... THE BATMAN! HE IS QUICKLY INFORMED OF LATEST DEVELOPMENTS!

AND YOU SAY HACKETT AND SNEAD HAVE BAD REPUTATIONS?

BAD IS A MILD WORD! THEY COULD MAKE QUITE A PILE OF MONEY WITH GOLIATH, AND MONEY IS THE ROOT OF ALL EVIL... ESPECIALLY WITH THEM!

I THINK YOU'RE GOING TO NEED A GUARD AROUND HERE, AND I KNOW JUST THE ONE..... ROBIN, THE BOY WONDER !!



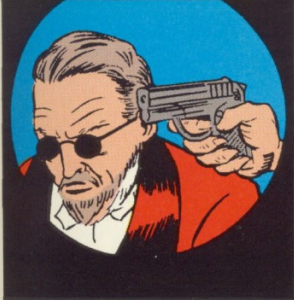
THAT VERY NIGHT, FOUR MEN WALK STEALTHILY ACROSS THE DRAKE LAWN....

HEY GRIMES, ARE YA SURE THAT APE-MAN AIN'T HANGIN' AROUND THE HOUSE?

DON'T WORRY. DRAKE LOCKS HIM IN THAT SHACK EVERY NIGHT JUST IN CASE HE MIGHT DECIDE TO GO ROAMING.

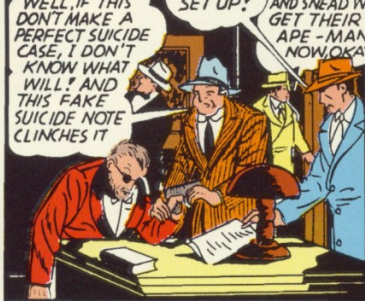
NOW ALL WE GOTTA DO IS GET RID OF DRAKE AND WE GET OUR DOUGH FROM HACKETT!

➊ GUN SUDDENLY APPEARS NEXT TO THE HEAD OF THE UNSUSPECTING PROFESSOR, WHO HAS DOZED OFF IN HIS CHAIR....



➋ HERE IS A SHOT. AND THE PROFESSOR LIES LIFELESS!

WELL, IF THIS DON'T MAKE A PERFECT SUICIDE CASE, I DON'T KNOW WHAT WILL! AND THIS FAKE SUICIDE NOTE CLINKS IT



SURE THING, GRIMES. POWDER BURNS ON FOREHEAD, AND THE GUN IN HIS HAND... IT'S A PERFECT SET UP!

I GUESS HACKETT AND SNEAD WILL GET THEIR APE-MAN NOW, OKAY

➌ BUT AS THE MEN EXIT, A FIGURE STRADDLES A FENCE.... ROBIN, THE BOY WONDER IS REPORTING FOR DUTY... TOO LATE!



I HEARD A SHOT! OH-OH! MEN COMING FROM DRAKE'S HOUSE! BETTER SEE WHAT'S UP!

➍ EVEN AS THE WONDER BOY IS SEEN, HIS PERFECT ATHLETIC BODY MAKES A LITHE SPRING.....



LOOK! WHO IS IT? I DON'T KNOW, BUT GET HIM!

➎ TWO FEET LASH OUT WITH DEADLY EFFECT!



UGH!

STRIKE ONE!

➏ GUN IS TRAINED ON ROBIN'S BACK, WHEN.....



YOU MAY BE BIG, BUT YOU'RE NOT SO TOUGH!

I'LL GET THAT, WHA?

➐ HAVING HEARD THE SHOT, AND FEARING FOR HIS MASTER'S SAFETY, GOLIATH CRASHES THROUGH THE SHACK



C'MON. LET'S GET OUTTA HERE!

I SECOND THE MOTION!

THE GIANT!

AS THE GIANT PLODS FORWARD, HE CATCHES A GLIMPSE OF A FACE THAT PENETRATES INTO HIS MIND. THAT FACE GRIMES!



ONE THOUGHT REMAINS IN THE PRIMITIVE'S MIND AS HE TRUDGES TO THE HOUSE... IS HIS MASTER SAFE?



INSTANTLY HE KNOWS THE AWFUL TRUTH— HIS BELOVED MASTER IS DEAD! THE SHOCK IS TOO MUCH FOR HIS FEEBLE MIND, AND THE APE-MAN BECOMES HARMLESS, A DODDERING FIGURE!

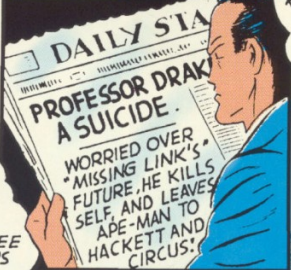


MEANWHILE ROBIN KNOWS HE MUST DO ONE THING IMMEDIATELY... REPORT TO THE BATMAN!



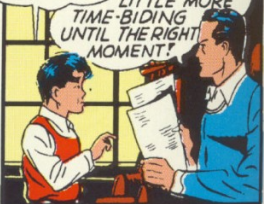
NEXT MORNING..

OH, SO THAT'S IT?



THEY FORGED THAT SUICIDE NOTE AND KILLED HIM! I'M GOING TO TELL THE POLICE!

...AND TELL THEM YOU WERE THERE AS ROBIN THE BOY WONDER! .. SORRY, CAN'T BE DONE! WE'LL HAVE TO DO A LITTLE MORE TIME-BIDDING UNTIL THE RIGHT MOMENT!



MEANWHILE, HACKETT AND SNEAD LOSE NO TIME IN FLOODING THE COUNTRYSIDE WITH PUBLICITY!



DON'T WORRY, ALL HE HAS TO DO IS LOOK AS FEROCIOUS AS HE DOES NOW AND THE PUBLIC WILL STILL EAT IT UP! THIS BABY IS BIG! - BIG!

AND HACKETT IS RIGHT, FOR AN OVERFLOWING CROWD COMES TO VIEW THE FAMED 'MISSING LINK'...



1

THE MOST
COLOSSAL
STUPENDOUS
FIGURE
THAT HAS
EVER....

SUDDENLY GOLIATH
STIFFENS AS HE SEES
A FACE HE HAD SEEN
THAT DREADFUL
NIGHT.... A FACE THAT
HAD REMAINED IN HIS
SUBCONSCIOUSNESS...
THE FACE OF GRIMES!

REALIZING THAT HERE IS ONE RESPONSIBLE
FOR HIS BELOVED MASTERS' DEATH,
GOLIATH GOES BERSERK!

2

HE'S
BREAKING
LOOSE!

3

SWEEPING EVERY THING
IN HIS PATH ASIDE, GOLIATH
HEADS FOR THE HATEFUL
FIGURE OF GRIMES!

GIANT HANDS SEIZE THE
BABBLING CRIMINAL...

4

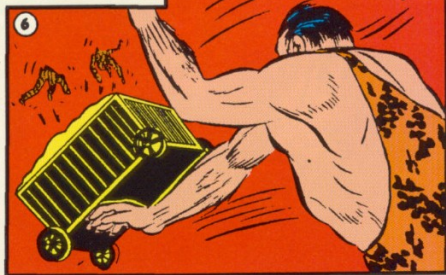
HELP!

NOW THOROUGHLY CRAZED,
GOLIATH REVERTS BACK TO
THE BEAST HE IS.....

5

THE KILLER IS DASHED
AGAINST A POLE WITH A
SICKENING THUD!

6



**SUDDENLY, RACING
TOWARD THE
TERRIBLE SCENE ---
BATMAN AND ROBIN!**

**LOOK!
THE LION,
GOING
FOR
THAT MAN!**

**QUICK,
GRAB HOLD
OF ONE
END OF
THAT
NET!**

**HERE
HE COMES!**

**GRASPING THE ENDS OF
THE NET, THE INTREPID TWO
LEAP FORWARD TOWARD
THE KING OF THE JUNGLE
BEASTS....**



**GNARLING CLAWING, TWISTING,
THE BEAST ENMESHES ITSELF
TIGHTER WITH EVERY MOVEMENT!
BATMAN AND ROBIN HAVE WON THE
FIRST TRICK!**



NOW

**SUDDENLY--THE
BEAST SPRINGS....**



**TALKING SOFTLY, PRODDING
GENTLY WITH THE TRAINERS STICK,
THE BRAVE BOY CALMS THE
BEWILDERED BEAST AND BRINGS
HIM TO A HALT!**



**WHOA!
THAT'S THE BABY!
TAKE IT EASY!
WHY KNOCK
YOURSELF OUT!
THAT'S IT!**

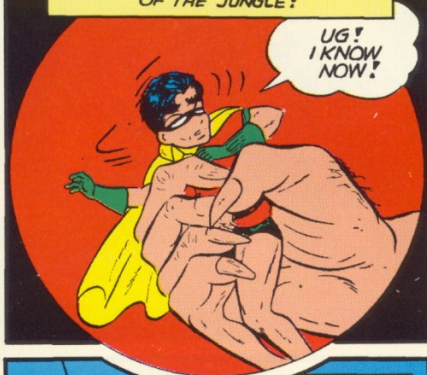
**BUT ANOTHER STAMPEDING ANIMAL
HAS TO BE DEALT WITH....
THE MAMMOTH ELEPHANT!... EVEN AS
HE LUMBERS TOWARD THE EXIT, A SMALL
FIGURE DROPS TO HIS BACK... ROBIN,
THE BOY WONDER!**



LEAPING OFF THE ELEPHANT, ROBIN UNWITTINGLY DROPS INTO THE PATH OF THE MADDENED APE-MAN, GOLIATH!



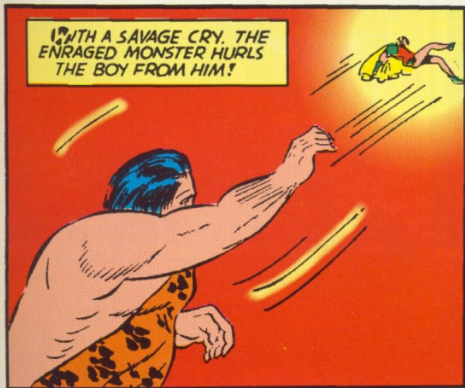
GIANT HAND REACHES OUT.... AND ROBIN IS HELD BY THE COLLOSSUS OF THE JUNGLE!



WITH KEEN PRESENCE OF MIND ROBIN REACHES OUT AND MANAGES TO CLOSE HIS HAND ABOUT A TRAPEZE..



WITH A SAVAGE CRY, THE ENRAGED MONSTER HURLS THE BOY FROM HIM!



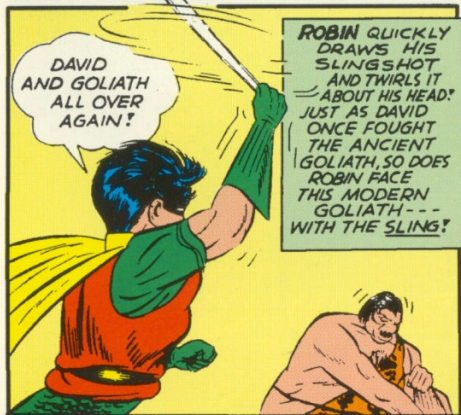
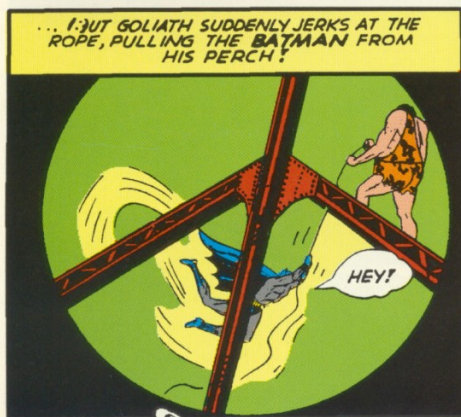
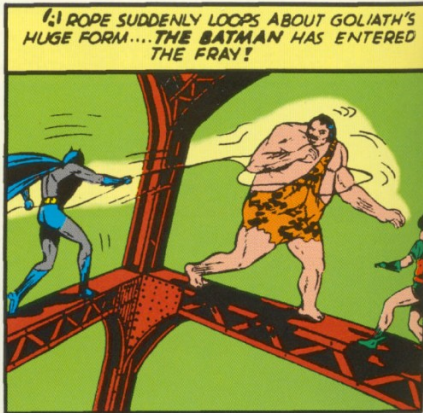
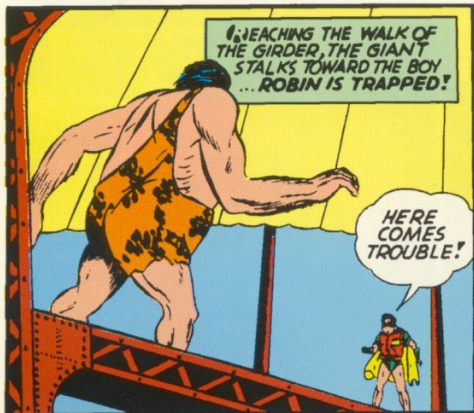
I STILL DON'T BELIEVE I DID IT!

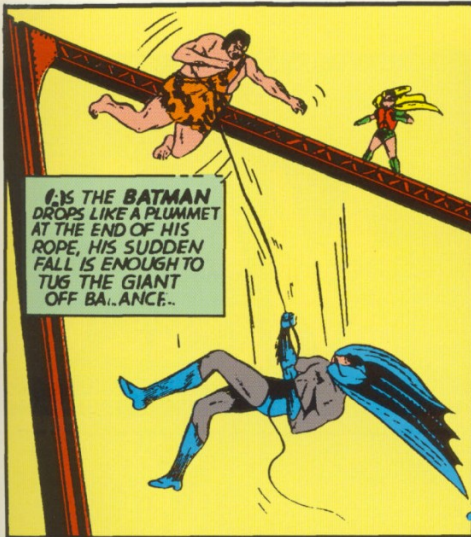


ROBIN SWINGS TO SAFETY ATOP A HUGE GIRDER!

INFURIATED BECAUSE HIS VICTIM HAS ESCAPED DEATH, THE CRAZED BEAST BEGINS TO CLIMB THE GIRDER TO GET TO THE SUPPORT UPON WHICH ROBIN STANDS.







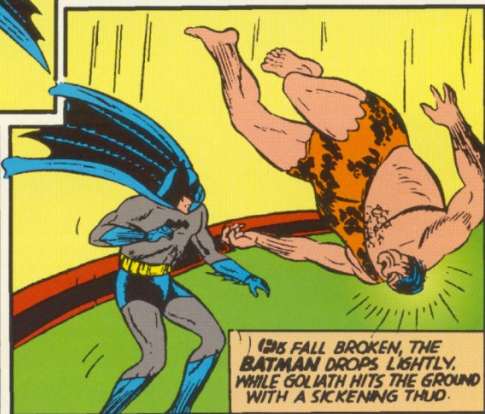
IT IS THE BATMAN DROPS LIKE A PLUMMET AT THE END OF HIS ROPE, HIS SUDDEN FALL IS ENOUGH TO TUG THE GIANT OFF BALANCE..



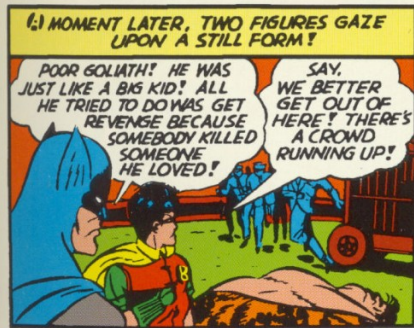
TWO FIGURES PLUNGE TO THE GROUND SO FAR BELOW...



1: BUT THE BATMAN'S OUTSTRETCHED HAND CLOSES ABOUT A LOW HANGING TRAPEZE--



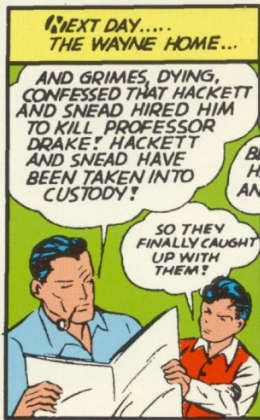
2: HIS FALL BROKEN, THE BATMAN DROPS LIGHTLY, WHILE GOLIATH HITS THE GROUND WITH A SICKENING THUD.



3: MOMENT LATER, TWO FIGURES GAZE UPON A STILL FORM?

POOR GOLIATH! HE WAS JUST LIKE A BIG KID! ALL HE TRIED TO DO WAS GET REVENGE BECAUSE SOMEBODY KILLED SOMEONE HE LOVED!

SAY, WE BETTER GET OUT OF HERE! THERE'S A CROWD RUNNING UP!



4: NEXT DAY.... THE WAYNE HOME...

AND GRIMES, DYING, CONFESSED THAT HACKETT AND SNEAD HIRED HIM TO KILL PROFESSOR DRAKE! HACKETT AND SNEAD HAVE BEEN TAKEN INTO CUSTODY!

SO THEY FINALLY CAUGHT UP WITH THEM!



YOU KNOW, IT'S VERY IRONICAL - PROFESSOR DRAKE WANTED TO CIVILIZE GOLIATH.... MAKE A BEAST INTO A MAN, ...BUT HE DIDN'T REMEMBER THERE ARE MEN WHO ARE BEASTS... LIKE HACKETT AND SNEAD!

WATCH FOR THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE BATMAN!