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WITHIN

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1992
US \$2.50
CAN \$2.95
UK £1

DETECTIVE

M I C S



BY ALAN GRANT, JOHN WAGNER,
TOM MANDRAKE & RICK MAGYAR

ACTS OF MADNESS!

GRAND RE-OPENING TONIGHT!
BY INVITATION ONLY! IN PERSON:
SCARFACE



WRITERS:
ALAN & JOHN
GRANT & WAGNER

PENCILLER:
TOM
MANDRAKE

INKERS:
MANDRAKE DWURSEMA
MAGYAR

COLORIST:
ADRIENNE
ROY

LETTERER:
BILL
OAKLEY

ASST. ED.:
SCOTT
PETERSON

EDITOR:
DENNIS
O'NEIL

~ BATMAN CREATED BY BOB KANE ~





HE'D LIKE TO HAVE CAUGHT
THAT SHON TONIGHT. EVERY
TOP HOODLUM IN GOTHAM
THERE BY INVITATION.

AND THE VENTRILOQUIST...

STRANGE COMPANY
IF HE REALLY WAS
GOING STRAIGHT.

THERE WERE THINGS
HE COULD LEARN--
INFORMATION HE
COULD GLEAN.

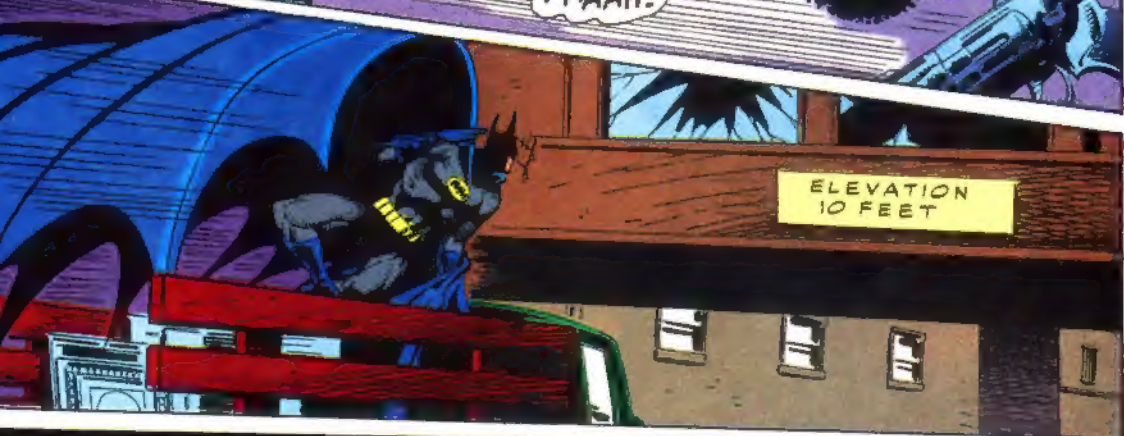
FINANCIAL
FINE ART
GALLERY

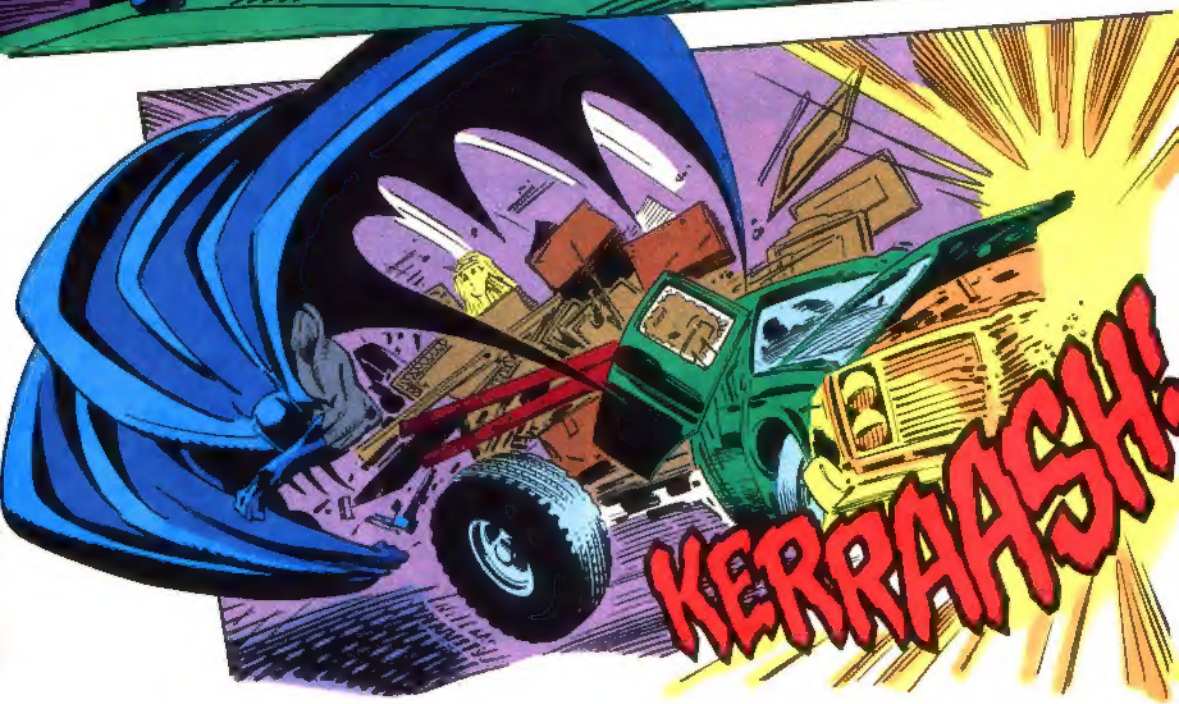
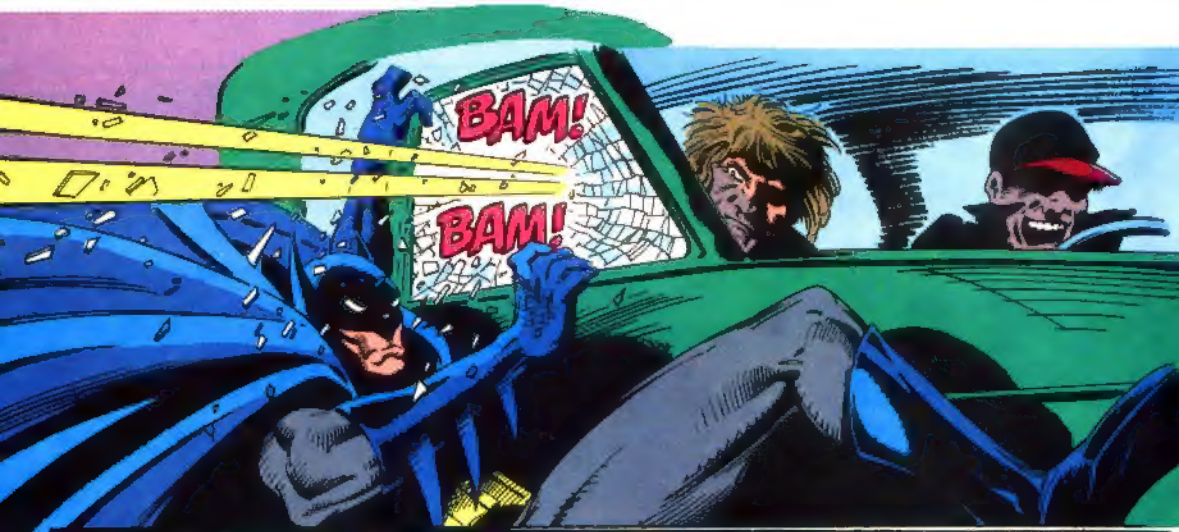
BUT THE BATMAN
WOULD BE THE
LAST PERSON ON
THAT GUEST LIST--

AND BESIDES, HE
HAD HARD FACTS
TO FOLLOW UP.

HOLY
HANNAH!
BATMAN!

GET US
OUTTA
HERE!







--AN' OVER DERE'S MORRY DA SHIV. I SEE YA GROUGHT YER DOG, MORRY! COULDN'T YA GET A SITTER?

OH! SORRY! DAT'S YER WIFE!



HI, TOOTSIE! DIDN'T RECOGNIZE YA DERE! GUESS DA PLASTIC SURGERY WENT WRONG, HUH?

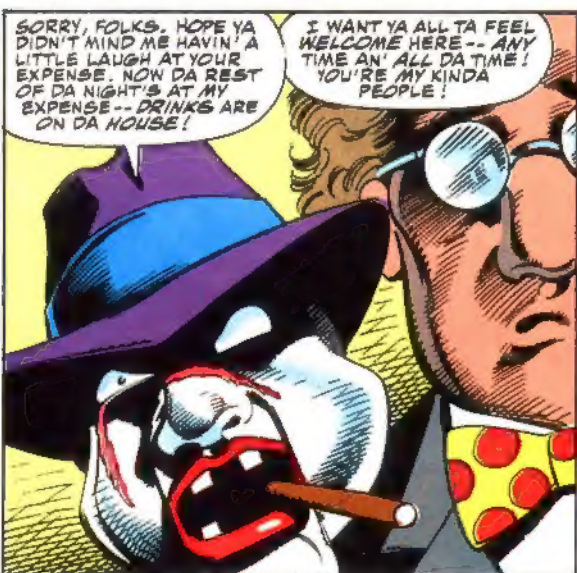


PLEASE, THAT'S QUITE ENOUGH! THESE PEOPLE ARE OUR GUESTS! YOU CAN'T GO ON INSULTING THEM LIKE THAT!

YA MEAN DERE'S ANOTHER WAY?

SCARFACE!

AWRIGHT, AWRIGHT!



SORRY, FOLKS. HOPE YA DIDN'T MIND ME HAVIN' A LITTLE LAUGH AT YOUR EXPENSE. NOW DA REST OF DA NIGHT'S AT MY EXPENSE-- DRINKS ARE ON DA HOUSE!

I WANT YA ALL TA FEEL WELCOME HERE-- ANY TIME AN' ALL DA TIME! YOU'RE MY KINDA PEOPLE!



THANK YOU, GOOD NIGHT, AN' GOD BLESS!



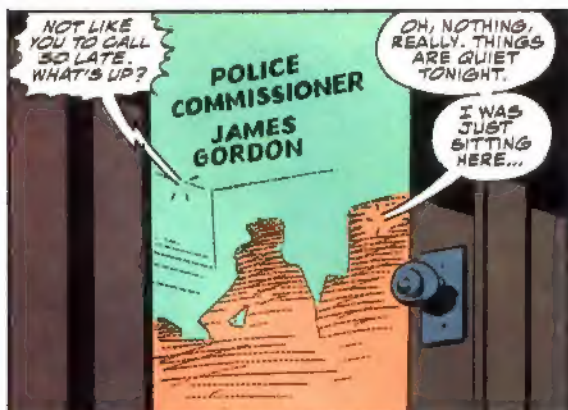
HIS KINDA PEOPLE, MY FOOT!

I'D LIKE TA KNOW WHAT THAT LITTLE RUNT'S UP TO!



BARBARA?

HI, DAD.



NOT LIKE YOU TO CALL SO LATE. WHAT'S UP?

OH, NOTHING. REALLY. THINGS ARE QUIET TONIGHT.

I WAS JUST SITTING HERE...



...THINKING.

AND THIS IS... THE ANNIVERSARY-- AND YOU'RE BROODING? OH, DAD...!



LOOK, WHAT HAPPENED HAPPENED. IT'S OVER! I HAVE A LIFE TO LIVE--AND I'M NOT GOING TO SPEND THE REST OF IT REGRETTING!

I'VE DONE MY BEST TO PUT IT BEHIND ME--AND SO SHOULD YOU.

YES, I KNOW, BARBARA.



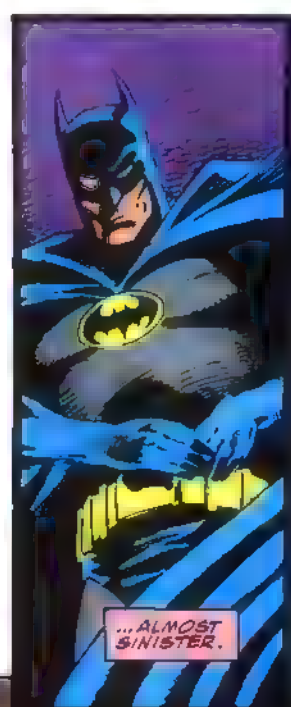
YOU'RE RIGHT. I'LL TRY.

I JUST CALLED TO SEE YOU WERE ALL RIGHT.

GOOD NIGHT, DARLING. TAKE CARE.







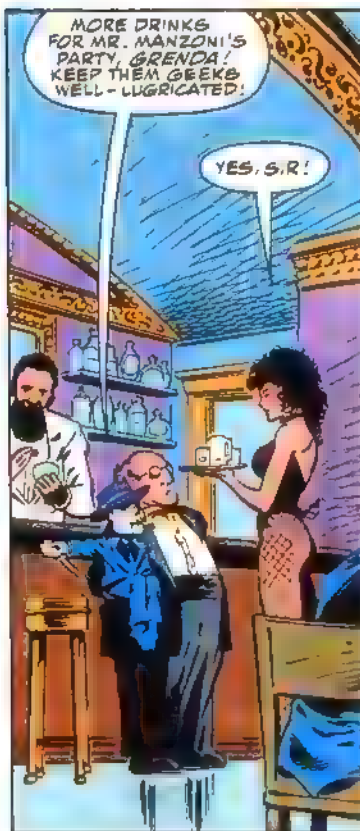


--BIGGEST ROBBERY IN THE HISTORY OF GOTHAM: TWENTY FIVE MILLION DOLLARS--

--AN ONLY ONE MAN KNOWS WHERE TO GET HIS HANDS ON THE CASH.

WHO, MANZONI?

THE JOKER!



MORE DRINKS FOR MR. MANZONI'S PARTY, GREENDA! KEEP THEM GEEKS WELL-LUGRICATED!

YES, S.R!



NICE-LOOKIN' DAME, THAT GREENDA!

REMIND ME TA TAKE HER TA DINNER AFTER DA SHOW!

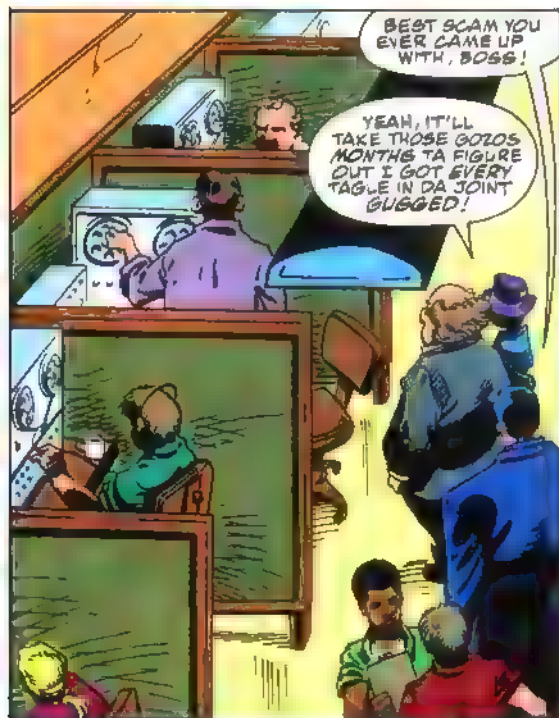
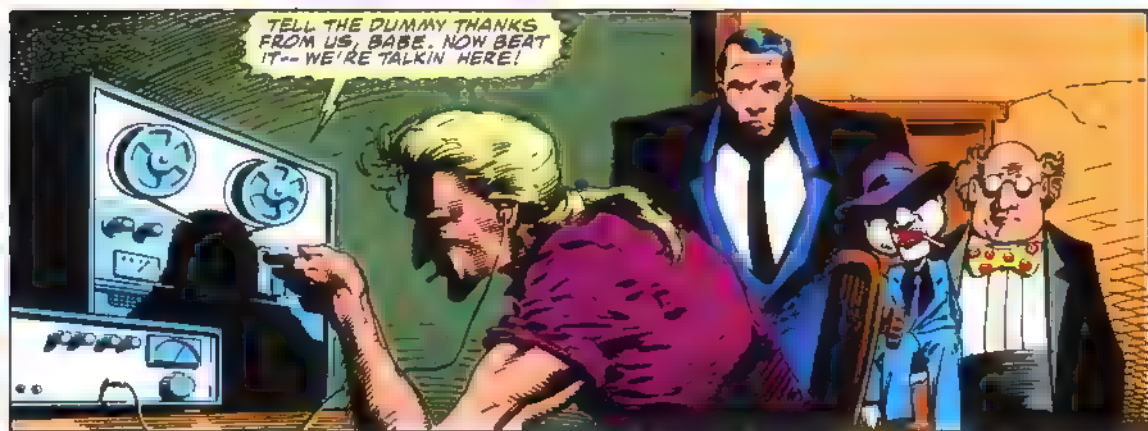


I M TELLIN YA-- I WAS N THE JOKER'S GANG! I WAS ON THAT HEIST!

SHHHH!



COMPLIMENTS OF MR SCARFACE, GENTLEMEN



THE JOKER DROVE OFF IN THE TRUCK-- HIM AND THE TWENTY-FIVE MILLION! COPS PICKED HIM UP AN HOUR LATER--AND DIDN'T FIND A RED CENT!

SO WHERE IS IT?

ONLY THE JOKER KNOWS--AND HE'S LOCKED UP TIGHT INSIDE ARKHAM ASYLUM!

BUT I'LL TELL YOU THIS-- THE DAY HE GETS OUT, I'LL BE THERE, WATCHING! EVERYWHERE HE GOES, I'LL BE RIGHT BEHIND HIM!

AN' YA'LL BE WASTIN' YOUR TIME, CHUMP--

THERE'S TWENTY-FIVE MILLION GUCKS AT STAKE HERE!

WE'RE GUSTIN' HIM OUT-- TONIGHT!

ARE YOU SURE THIS IS WISE, SCARFACE? I MEAN, THE JOKER MIGHT NOT TALK!

BUT THE MAN'S A DANGEROUS PSYCHOTIC!

HE'LL TALK, AWRIGHT--OR I'LL SUCE DAT STUPID GRIN OFF HIS FACE!

--CUZ SCARFACE'LL BE THERE FIRST!

HOW YOU GONNA KNOW WHEN THEY LET HIM OUT, BOSS?

WE AIN'T WAITIN' TILL THEY LET HIM OUT, DUMMY!

AN' WE AIN'T?

HOW CAN SHE
FORGET...?

AFTER WHAT
THAT MADMAN
DID TO HER...
CRIPPLED HER
FOR LIFE!



I'VE TRIED TO
STOP HATING HIM--
BE--EVE ME, I'VE
TRIED! BUT IT'S
SO HARD.



I WISH HE WAS
HERE NOW--AND
MY HANDS WERE
AROUND HIS
SCRAWNY THROAT--!



COMMISSIONER?
THIS IS DR. BRUCE
GORDON. I'M GLAD
I CAUGHT YOU IN. I
MUST SEE YOU--
IMMEDIATELY!

WHAT'S SO
URGENT IT
WON'T WAIT
TILL MORNING,
DOCTOR?



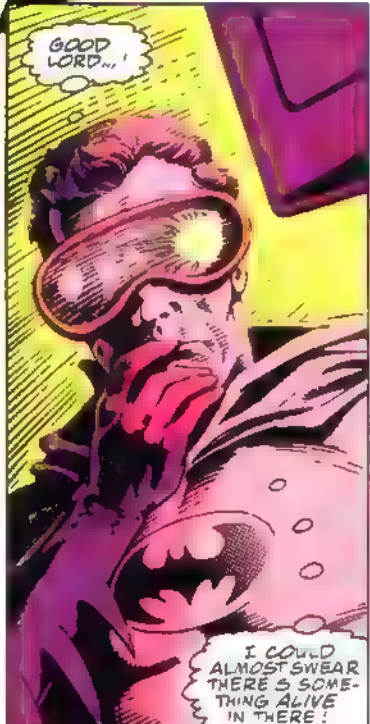
DOES
THE NAME
ECLIPSO MEAN
ANYTHING TO
YOU...?



NOTHING...
JUST THE
IMPENETRABLE
BLACKNESS
OF THE
STONE.



LET'S SEE
WHAT HAPPENS
WHEN I RUN
A LASER
THROUGH IT--



GOOD
LORD...

I COULD
ALMOST SWEAR
THERE'S SOME-
THING ALIVE
IN THERE!



ARKHAM
ASYLUM

ALARM
SYSTEM'S
DOWN,
BOSS!



PHONE
LINES
CUT!

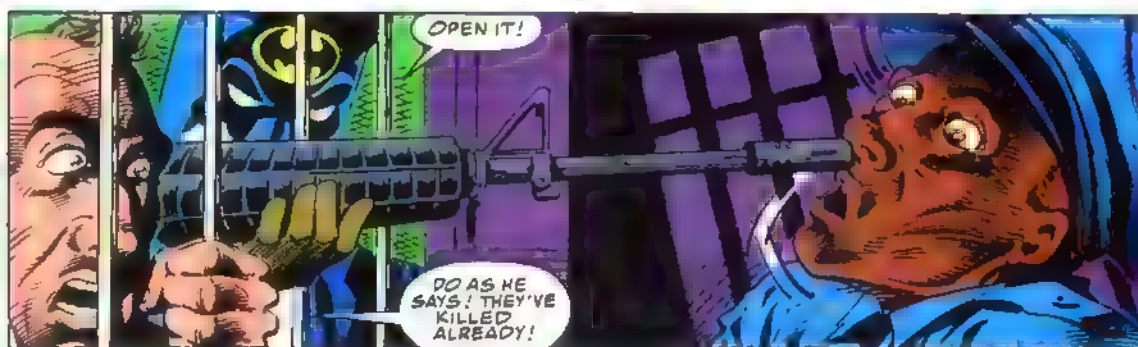


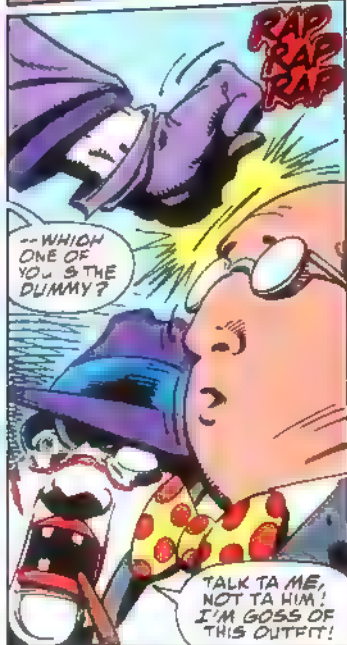
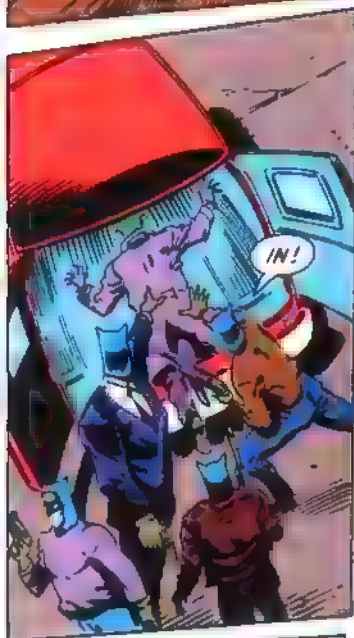
OKAY,
GUYS, YA
GOT YOUR
ORDERS--



GO GET
LAUGHIN'
BOY!

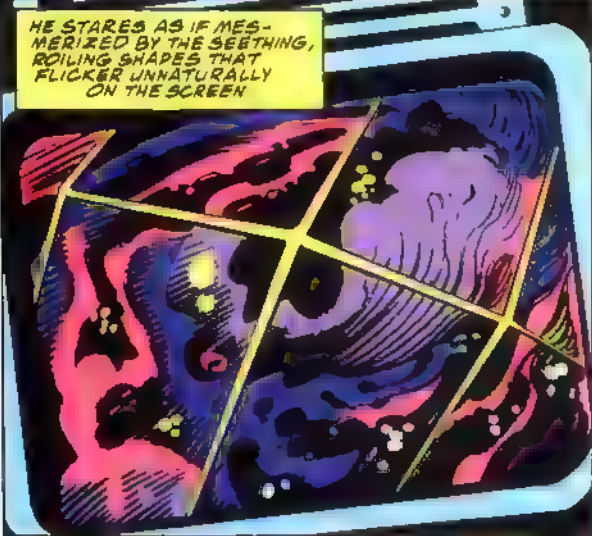






3

HE STARES AS IF MESMERIZED BY THE SEETHING, ROILING SHAPES THAT FLICKER UNNATURALLY ON THE SCREEN



LIKE GHOSTS... PHANTOMS TRAPPED WITHIN THE DIAMOND



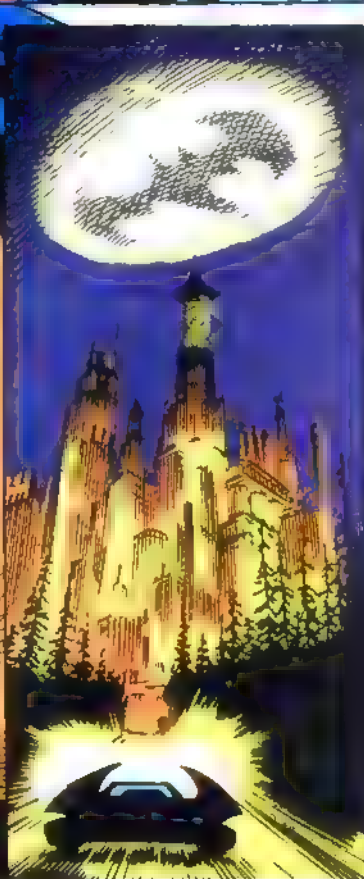
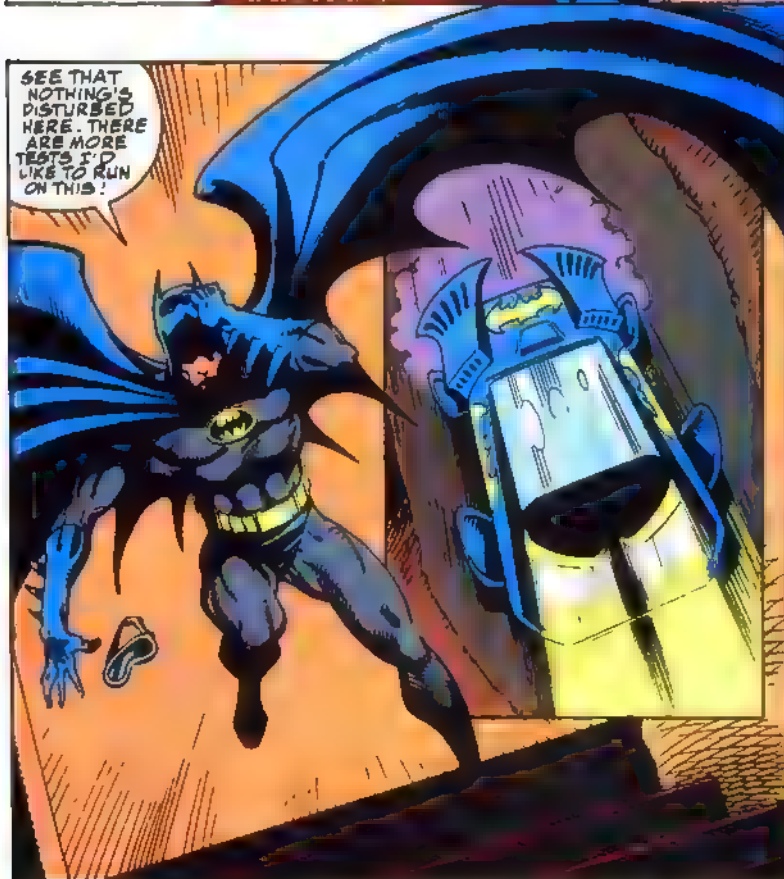
ahem!

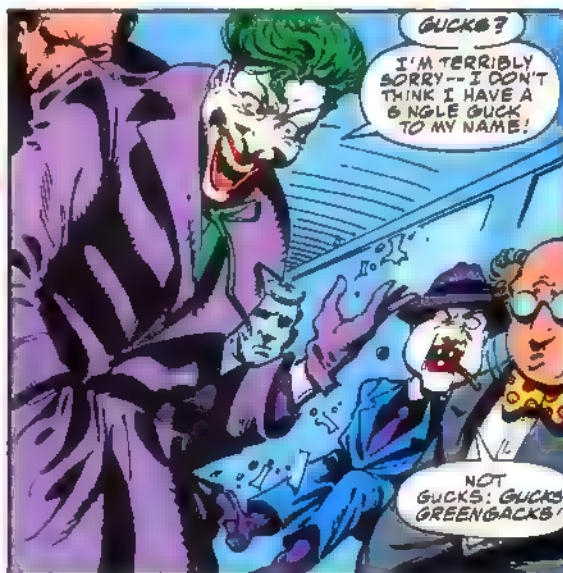
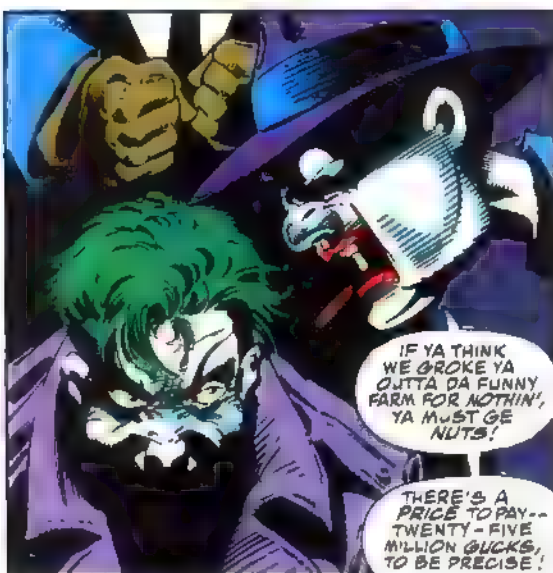
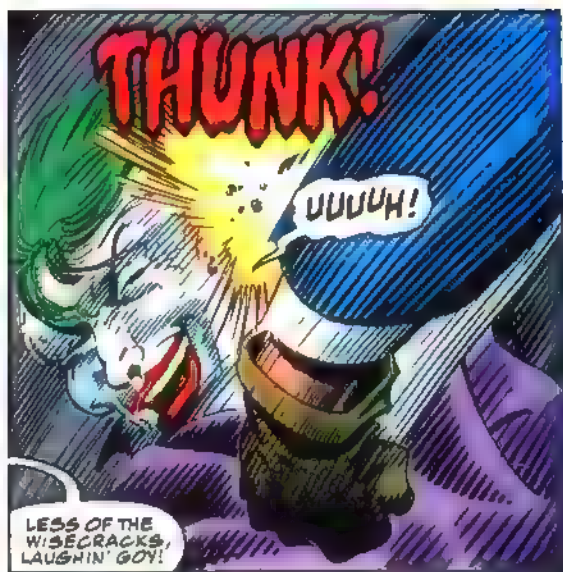


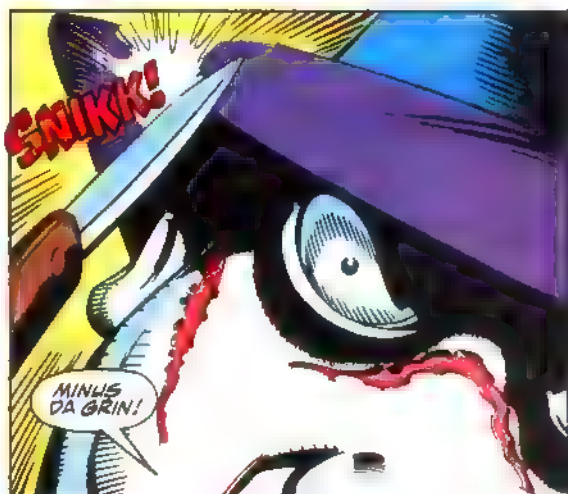
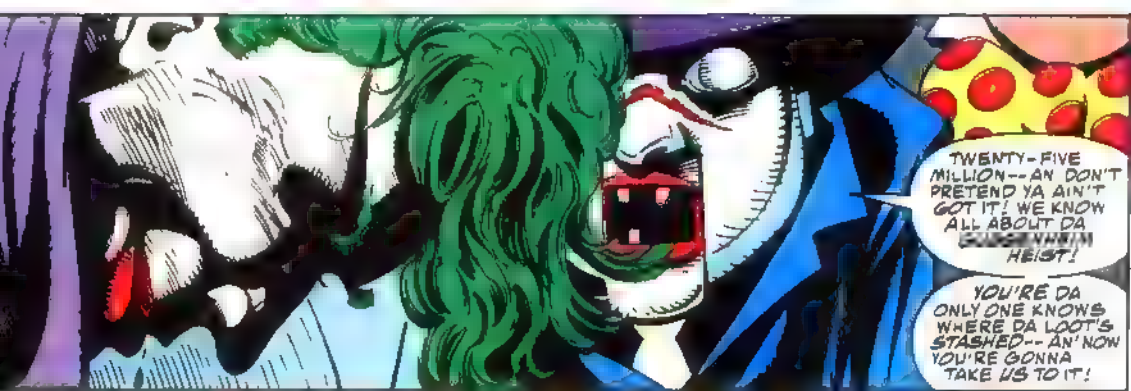
SORRY TO DISTURB YOU, SIR, BUT I THOUGHT YOU'D LIKE TO KNOW--THE BAT SIGNAL IS UP.

THANKS, ALFRED, I'LL ATTEND TO IT.

SEE THAT NOTHING'S DISTURBED HERE. THERE ARE MORE TESTS I'D LIKE TO RUN ON THIS!







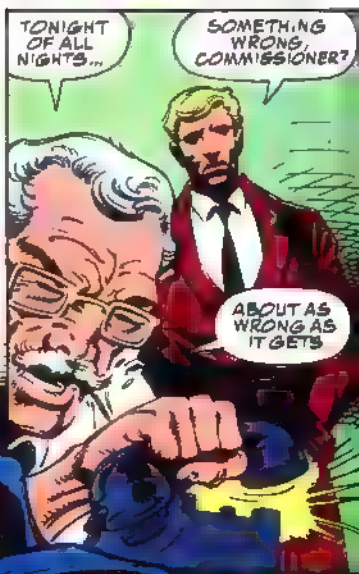


YES, KITCH?
WHAT?



HE WHAT?
WHEN?

I WANT EVERY
AVAILABLE UNIT ON
THIS, KITCH. I WANT
THAT MANIAC FOUND!
KEEP ME
INFORMED!



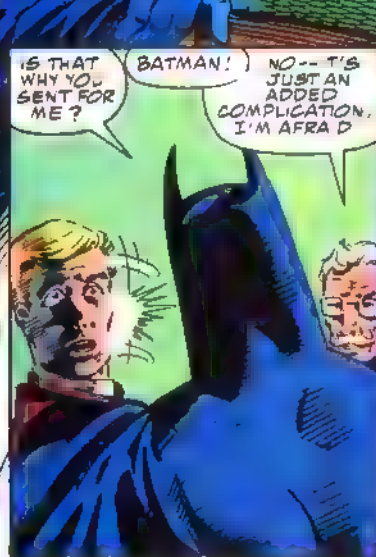
TONIGHT
OF ALL
NIGHTS...

SOMETHING
WRONG,
COMMISSIONER?

ABOUT AS
WRONG AS
IT GETS



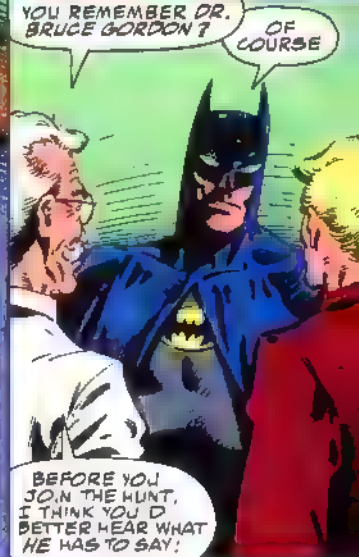
THE
JOKER HAS
ESCAPED!



IS THAT
WHY YOU
SENT FOR
ME?

BATMAN!

NO-- T'S
JUST AN
ADDED
COMPLICATION.
I'M AFRAID



YOU REMEMBER DR.
BRUCE GORDON?

OF
COURSE

BEFORE YOU
GO ON THE HUNT,
I THINK YOU'D
BETTER HEAR WHAT
HE HAS TO SAY!



WHAT DO YOU KNOW OF ECLIPSO?

NOT A LOT. AND NONE OF T GOOD

THEN LET ME FILL YOU IN...

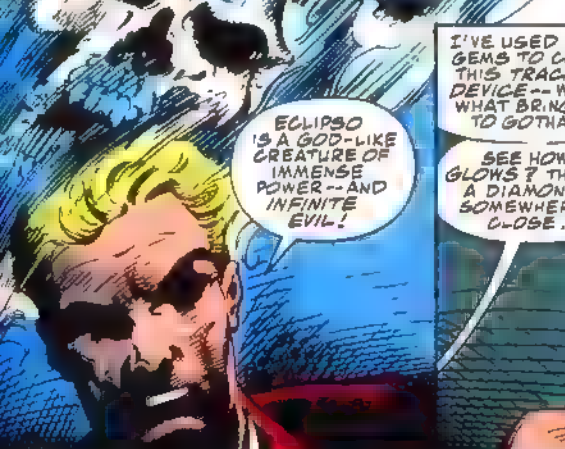
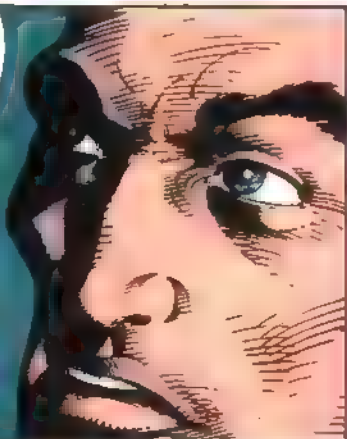
THE STORY GOES THAT HIS LIFE ESSENCE WAS MAGICALLY TRAPPED INSIDE A HUGE BLACK GEMSTONE--



--A PRICELESS DIAMOND WHICH WAS LATER CUT INTO A THOUSAND SMALLER PIECES, EACH OF WHICH CONTAINED A PORTION OF ECLIPSO'S BEING.

THAT BEING CAN BE BROUGHT BACK TO LIFE-- SUMMONED FROM INSIDE THE STONE BY FEELINGS OF ANGER AND REVENGE.

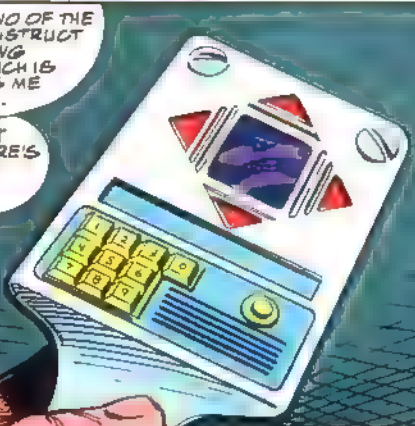
I HOPE TO LOCATE THOSE DIAMONDS-- AND PREVENT THEIR EVIL POWER FROM BEING RELEASED!



ECLIPSO IS A GOD-LIKE CREATURE OF IMMENSE POWER--AND INFINITE EVIL!

I'VE USED TWO OF THE GEMS TO CONSTRUCT THIS TRACKING DEVICE--WHICH IS WHAT BRINGS ME TO GOTHAM.

SEE HOW IT GLOWS? THERE'S A DIAMOND SOMEWHERE CLOSE.





AND I'LL TELL
YOU WHERE--
IN MY HEAD-
QUARTERS.

YOU
HAVE
ONE?

UNLESS YOUR
PLACE IS WITHIN A STONE'S
THROW OF HERE, THERE'S
ANOTHER ONE. THIS
ONE IS CLOSE!

OF COURSE!
THERE ARE
ANOTHER
TWO--!

THE ONE I FOUND CAME
FROM THE FINANCIAL
ROBBERY. THERE
WERE TWO MORE LIKE
T-- ON THE HEAD-
DRESS OF A
GOLDEN BUST

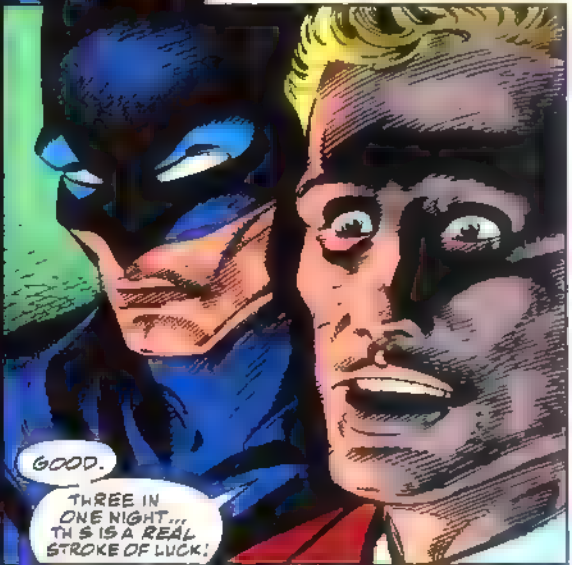
AS EVIDENCE
OF A CRIME, IT'S
PROBABLY IN
YOUR PROPERTY
VAULTS RIGHT
NOW



NO ONE ON
DUTY THIS
LATE. I'LL
GO DOWN
MYSELF

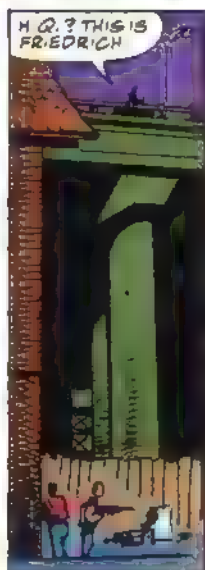
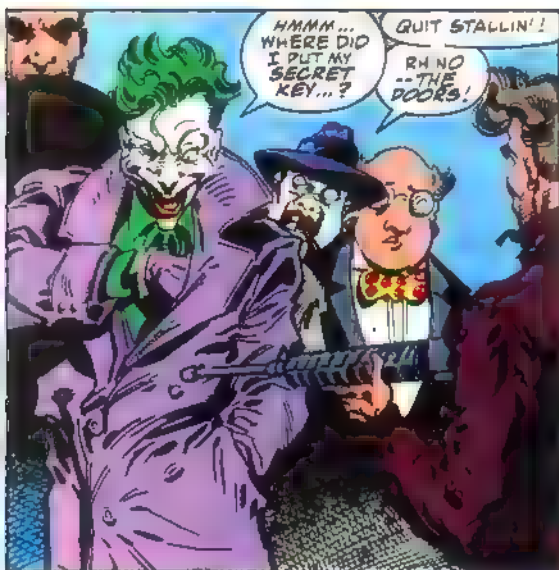
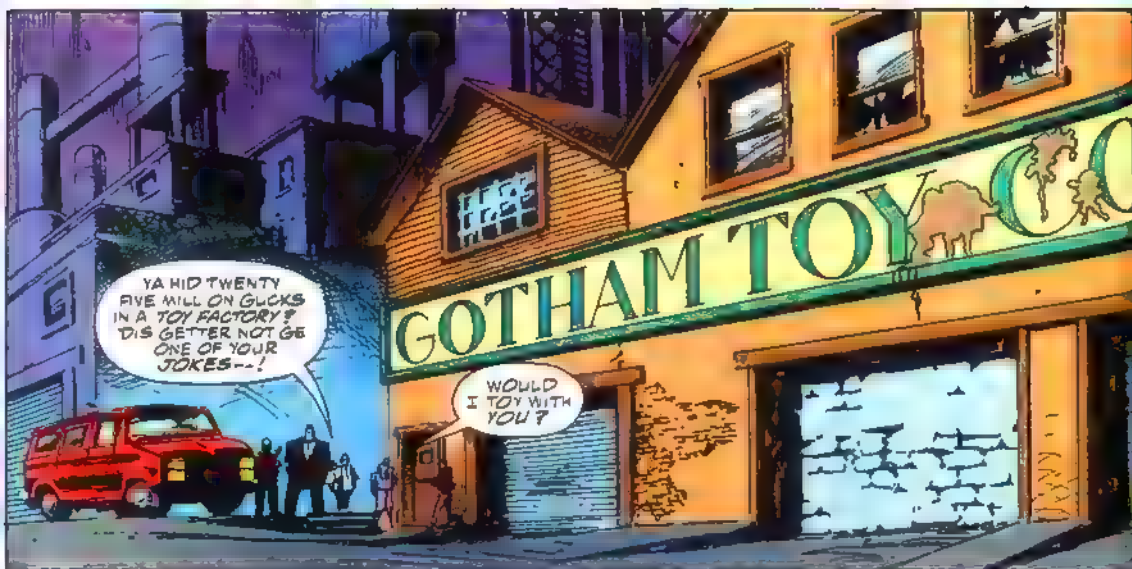
BATMAN,
THIS ONE
YOU FOUND--
IF IT FALLS
INTO THE
WRONG
HANDS--

DON'T
WORRY. IT'S
SAFE



GOOD.

THREE IN
ONE NIGHT...
THAT'S A REAL
STROKE OF LUCK!





T WAS ONE OF
MY NYESTMENTS--
A FRONT COMPANY
QUITE APPROPRI-
ATE, I THOUGHT

I MEAN,
TOYS ARE
ME!

BUT WHO
WANTS CLOCK-
WORK SOLDIERS
IN THE AGE OF THE
COMPUTER...?

WHO WANTS
BOOMBA THE
DRUMMING HALF-
BEAR, WHEN THEY
CAN HAVE SUPER
MARIO
BROTHERS?

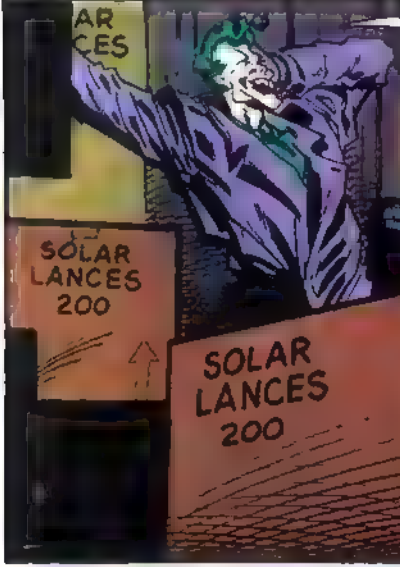
PLAY ON, MY
LITTLE FRIENDS.
SOMEONE STILL
LOVES YOU!

CHASH!
CHASH!

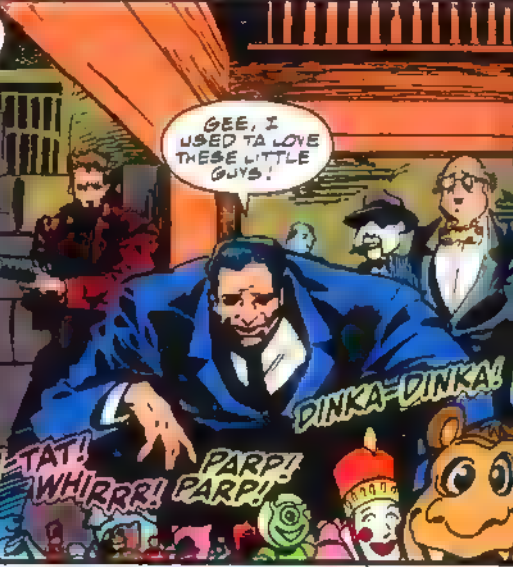
RITTITTY-TAT!
BOOMBA-BOOM!

HONK!
HONK!

RITTITTY-
TAT!



ON, THEY TRIED TO ADAPT TO THE COMPETITION, BUT ALL TOO LATE!



GEE, I USED TA LOVE THESE LITTLE GUYS!

PITTY-TAT! WHIRRR! PAPP! CLINK!



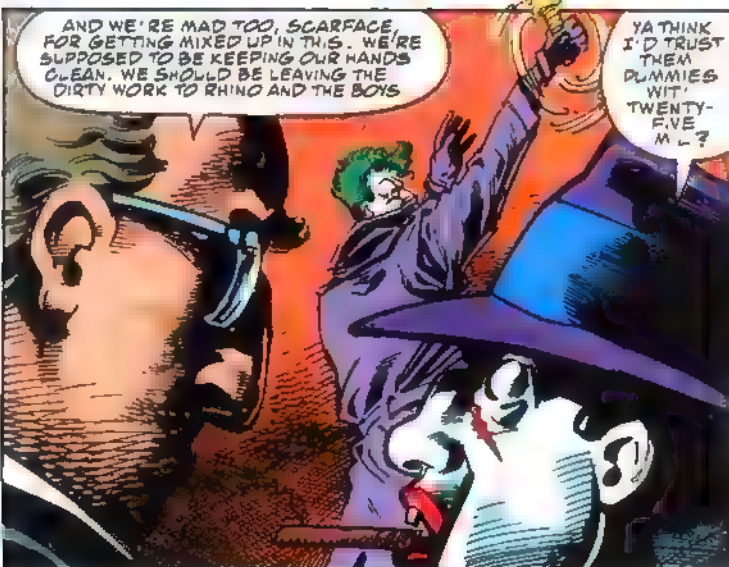
ANYONE WANT TO BUY 14,000 SOLAR LANCES?

HA HA HA



EN GARDE!

HE'S MAD! STARK, STARKING MAD!

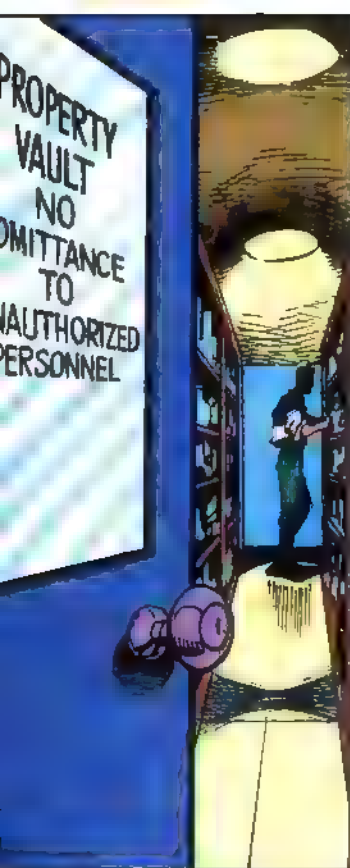


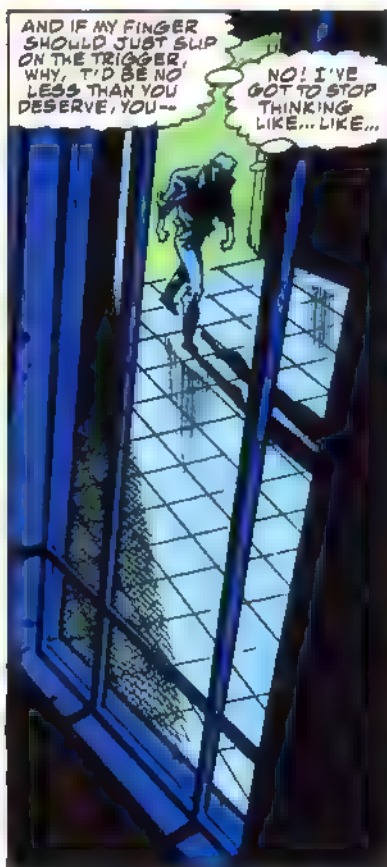
AND WE'RE MAD TOO, SCARFACE, FOR GETTING MIXED UP IN THIS. WE'RE SUPPOSED TO BE KEEPING OUR HANDS CLEAN. WE SHOULD BE LEAVING THE DIRTY WORK TO RHINO AND THE BOYS

YA THINK I'D TRUST THEM DUMMIES WIT' TWENTY-FIVE M-L?

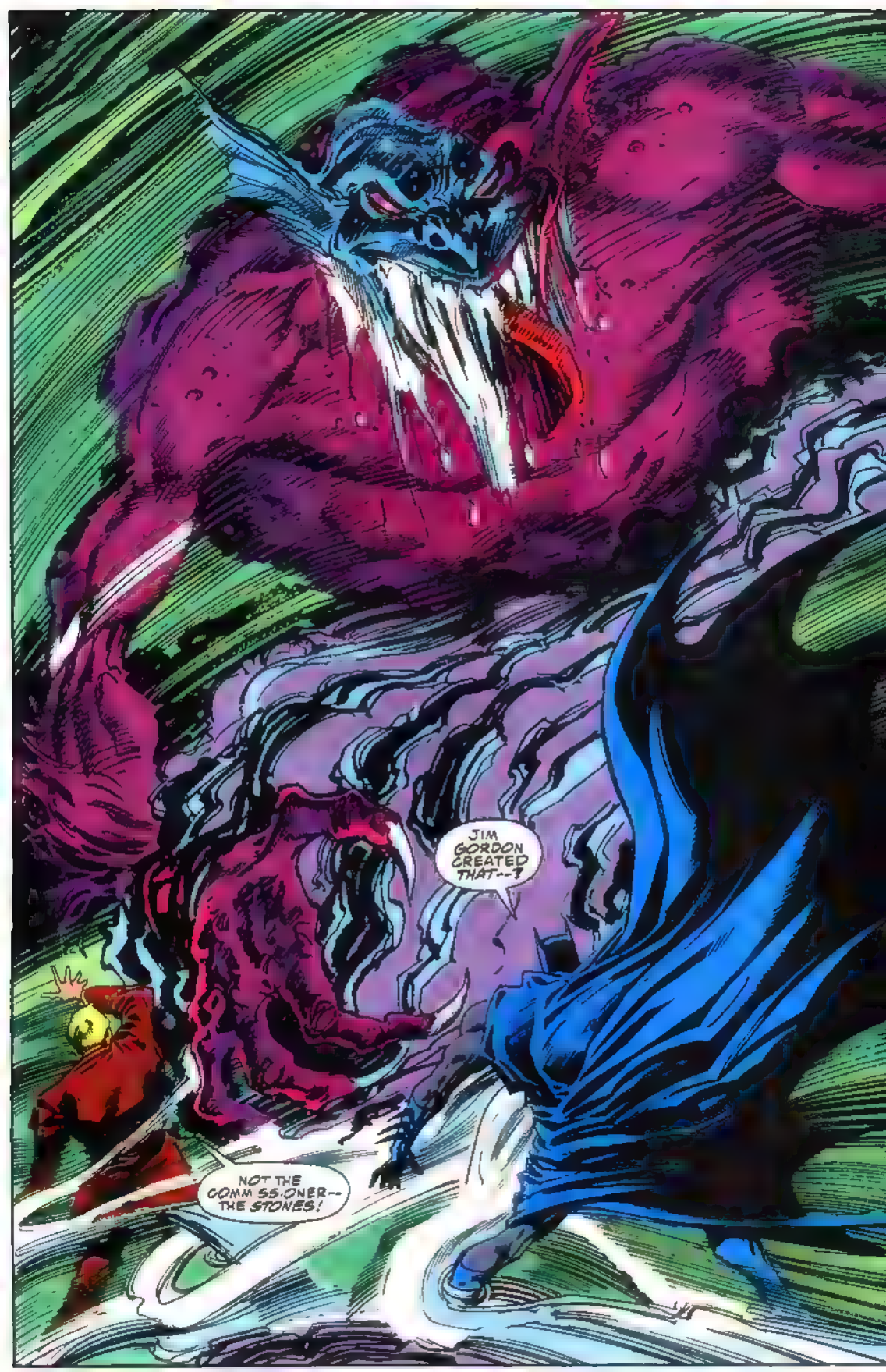


Y'KNOW, SOMETIMES I WONDER WHY I KEEP YOU AROUND.



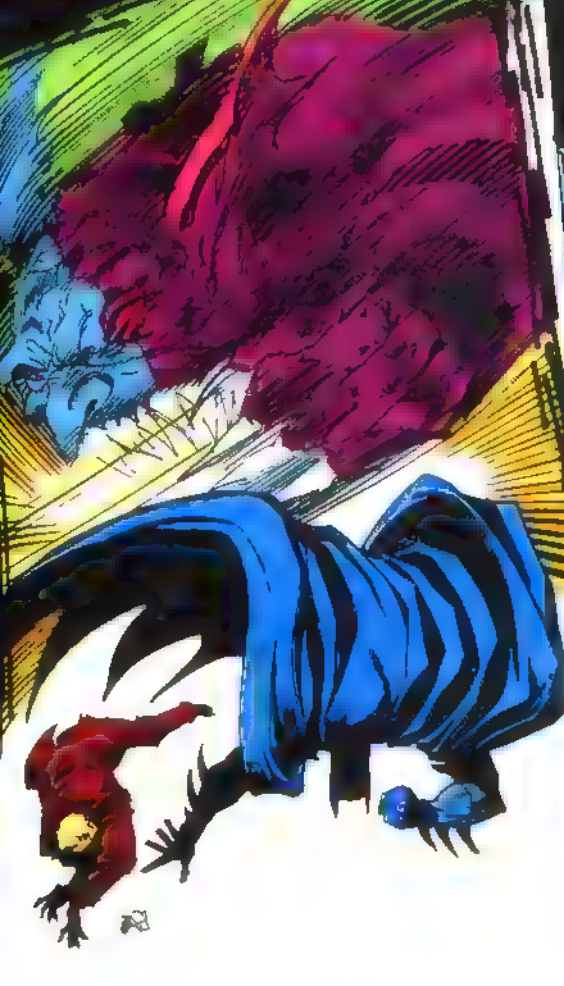
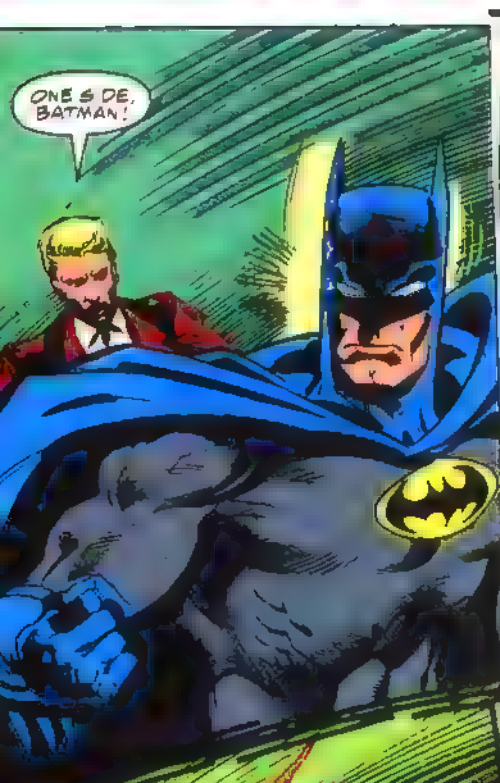






JIM
GORDON
CREATED
THAT--?

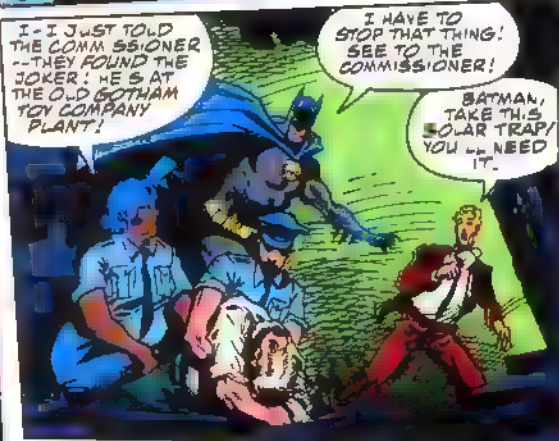
NOT THE
COMM SS. ONER--
THE STONES!





THIRST FOR REVENGE RELEASED THE BEAST! IT'S GONE TO SATISFY THAT THIRST!

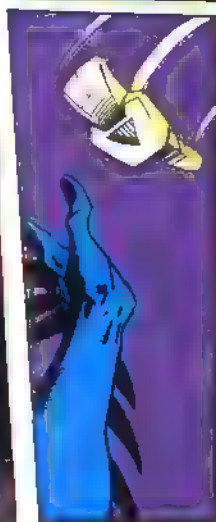
THEN IT CAN ONLY BE THE JOKER IT'S AFTER!



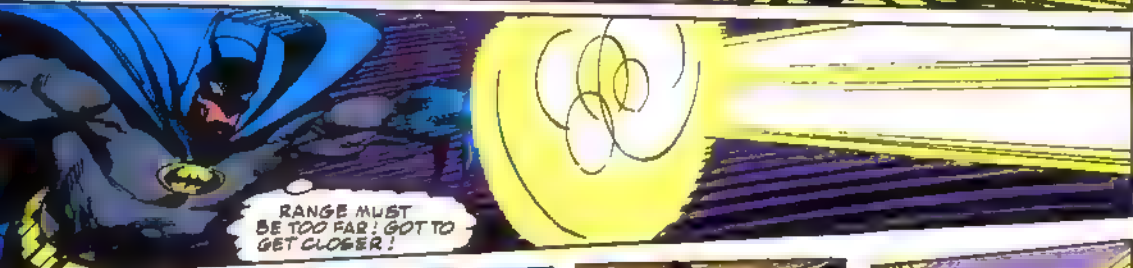
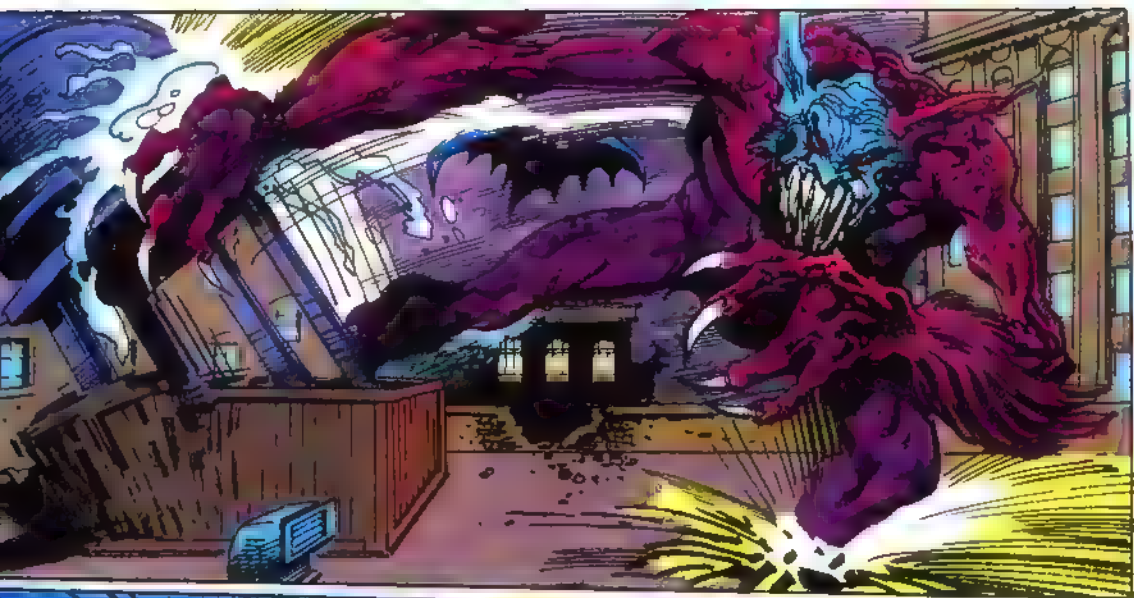
I-I JUST TOLD THE COMMISSIONER THEY FOUND THE JOKER! HE'S AT THE OLD GOTHAM TOY COMPANY PLANT!

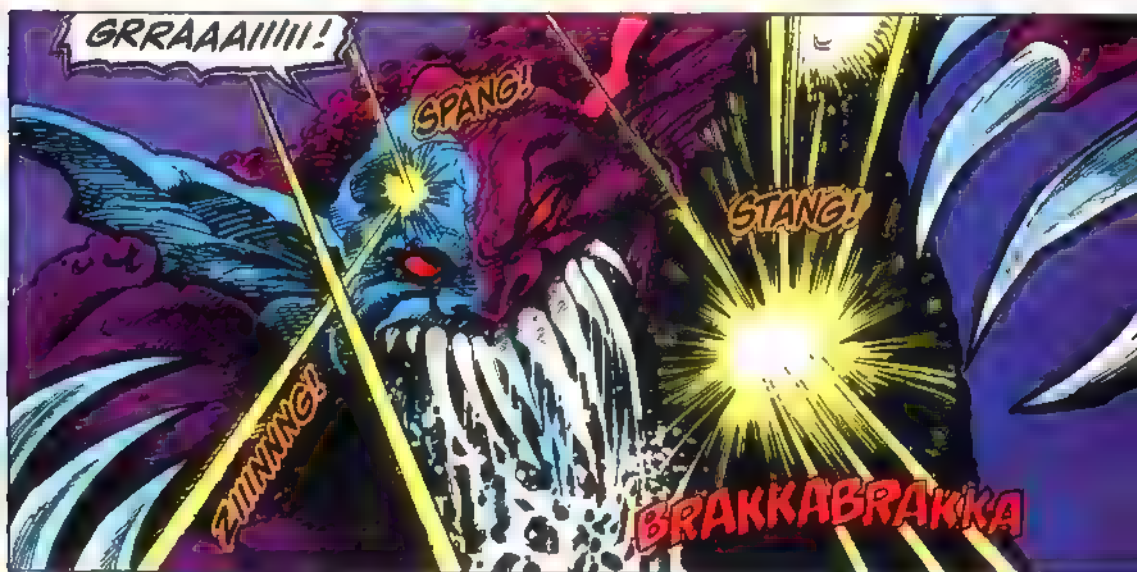
I HAVE TO STOP THAT THING! SEE TO THE COMMISSIONER!

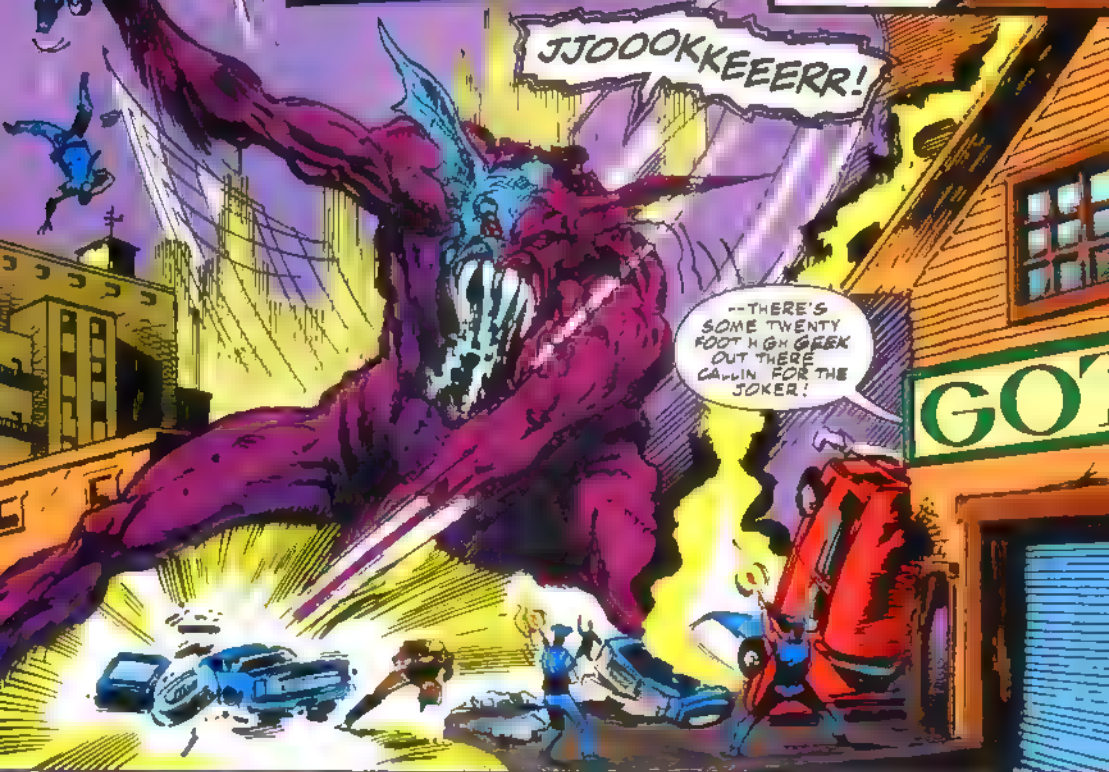
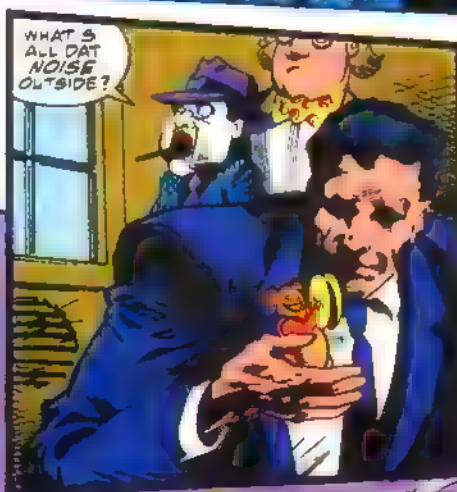
BATMAN, TAKE THIS SOLAR TRAP! YOU'LL NEED IT.

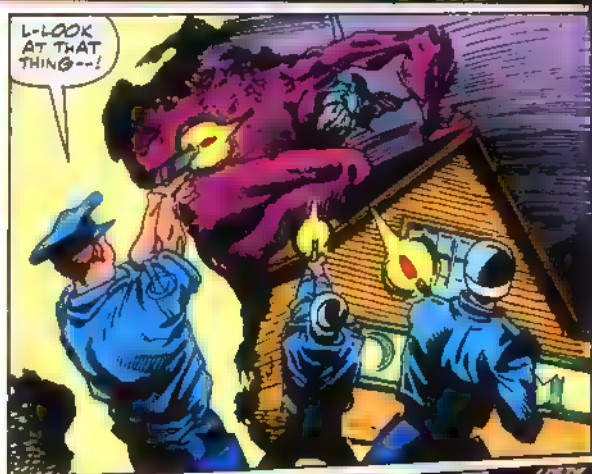
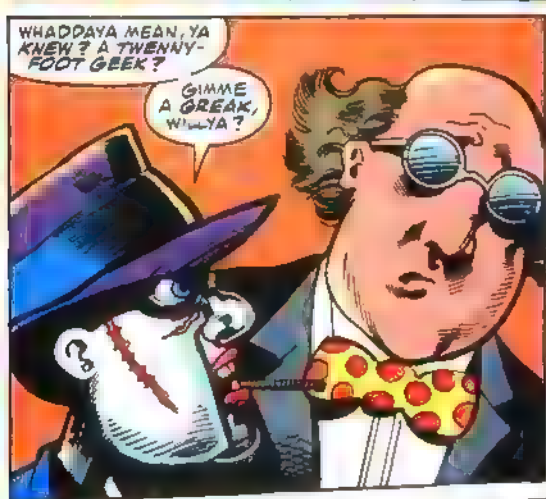
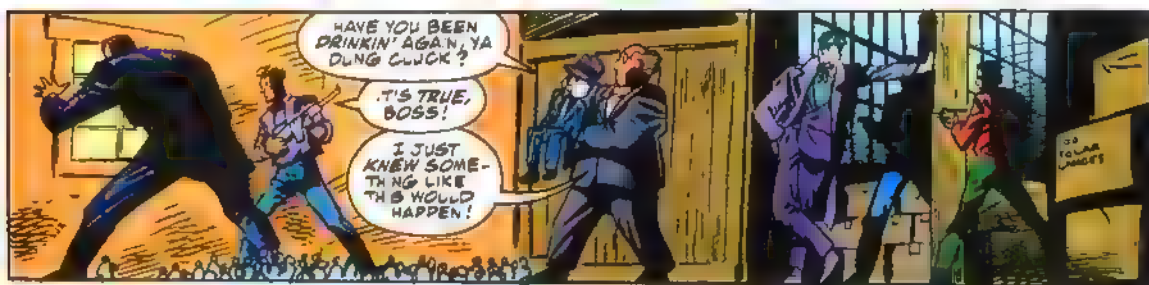






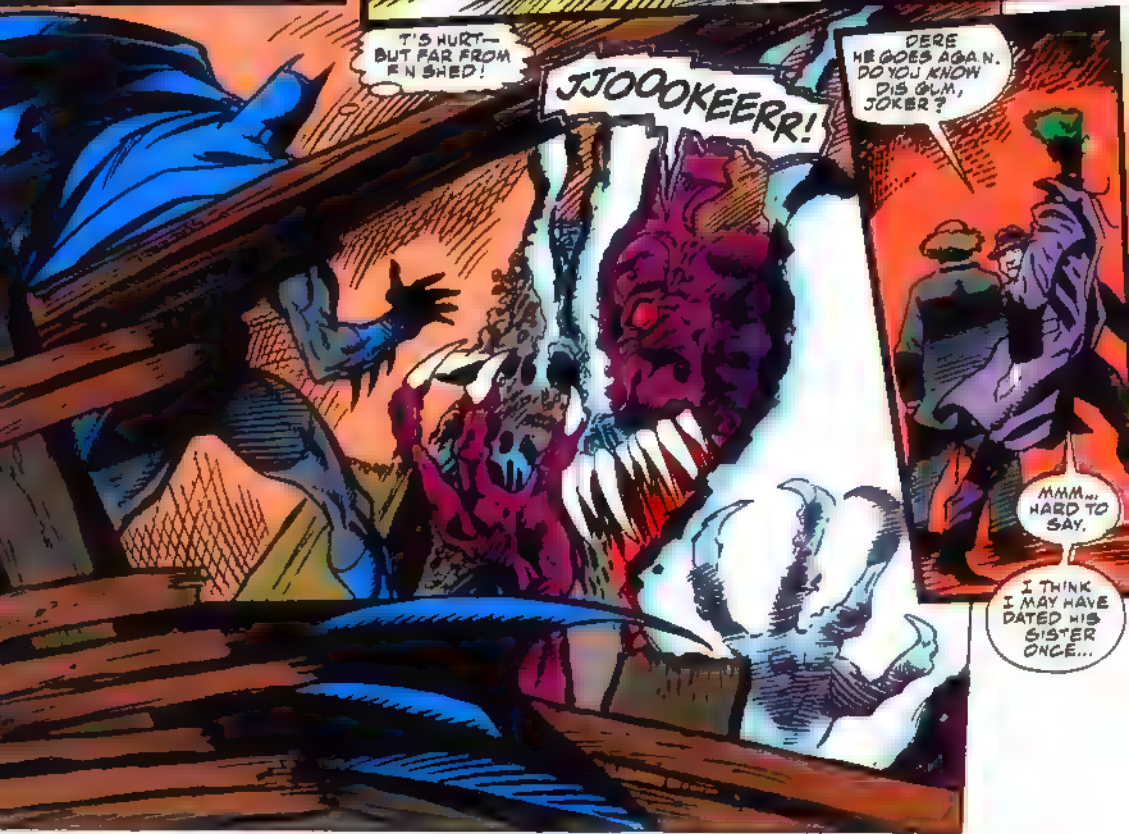
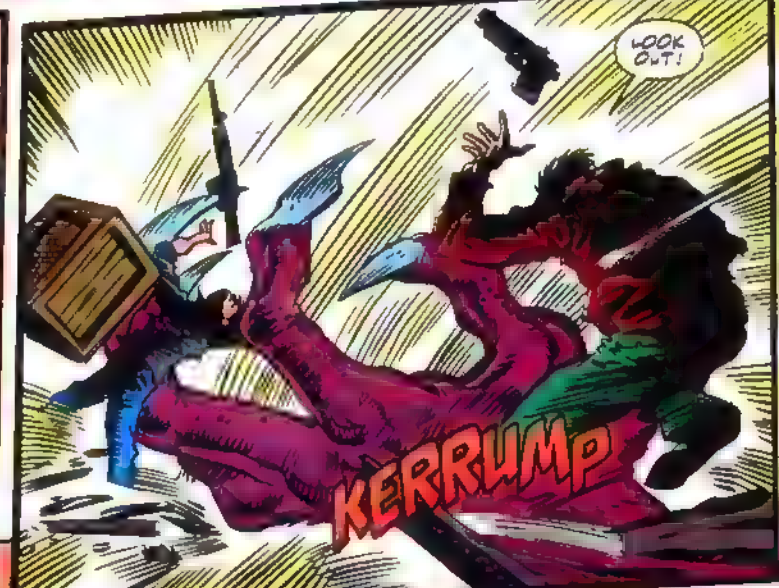
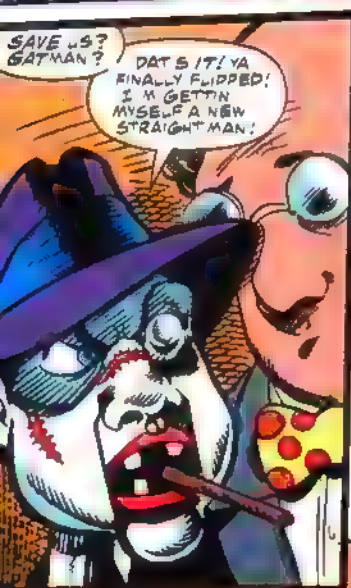
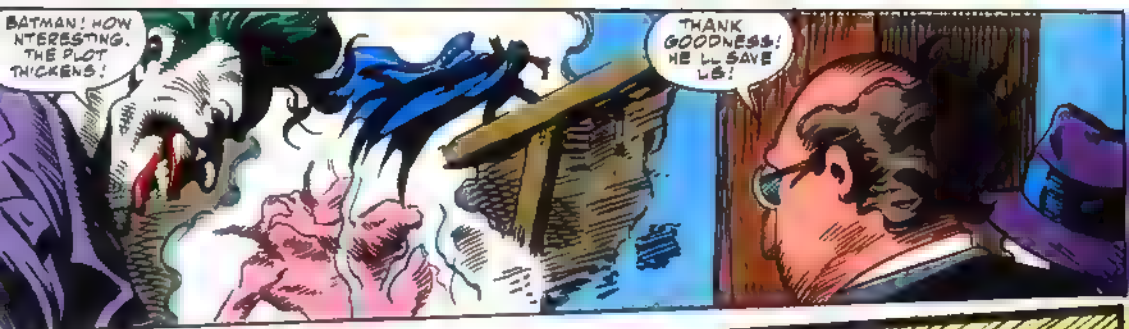










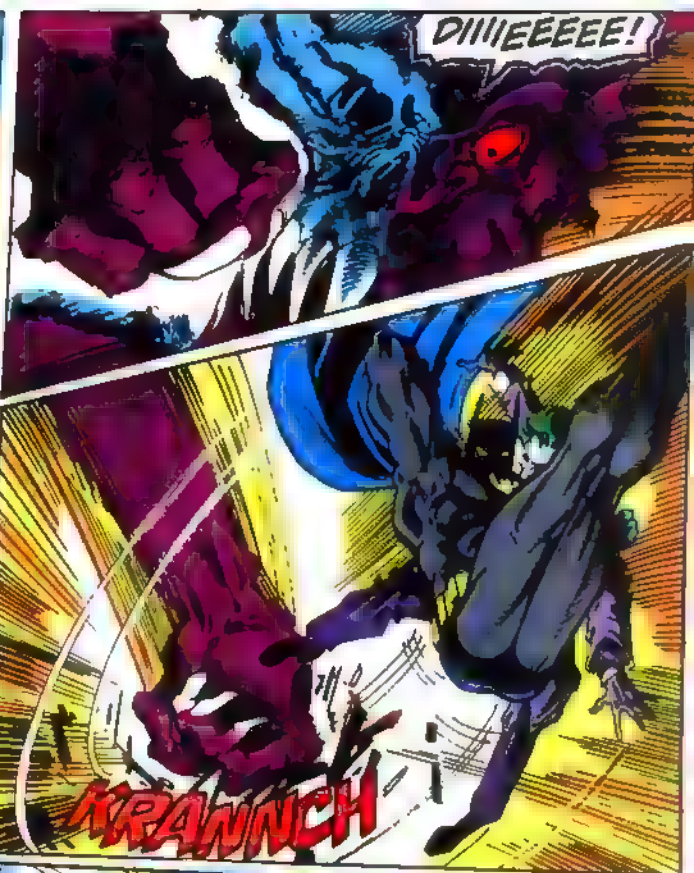








QUICK, JOKER,
BEFORE IT STIFFS YA!
DO DA DECENT TH'NG--
TELL ME WHERE DA
CASH IS!



DIIIEEEEE!

KRANNNCH



MY
HERO!

SHUT
UP!

IRONIC THAT I
SHOULD BE RISKING
MY NECK TO SAVE
HIS. BUT A LIFE IS
A LIFE...

STAY PUT!

DUNNGGG!

SKRAANG

THE
THING'S JUST
TOO POWERFUL...
WITHOUT A WEAP-
ON TO--

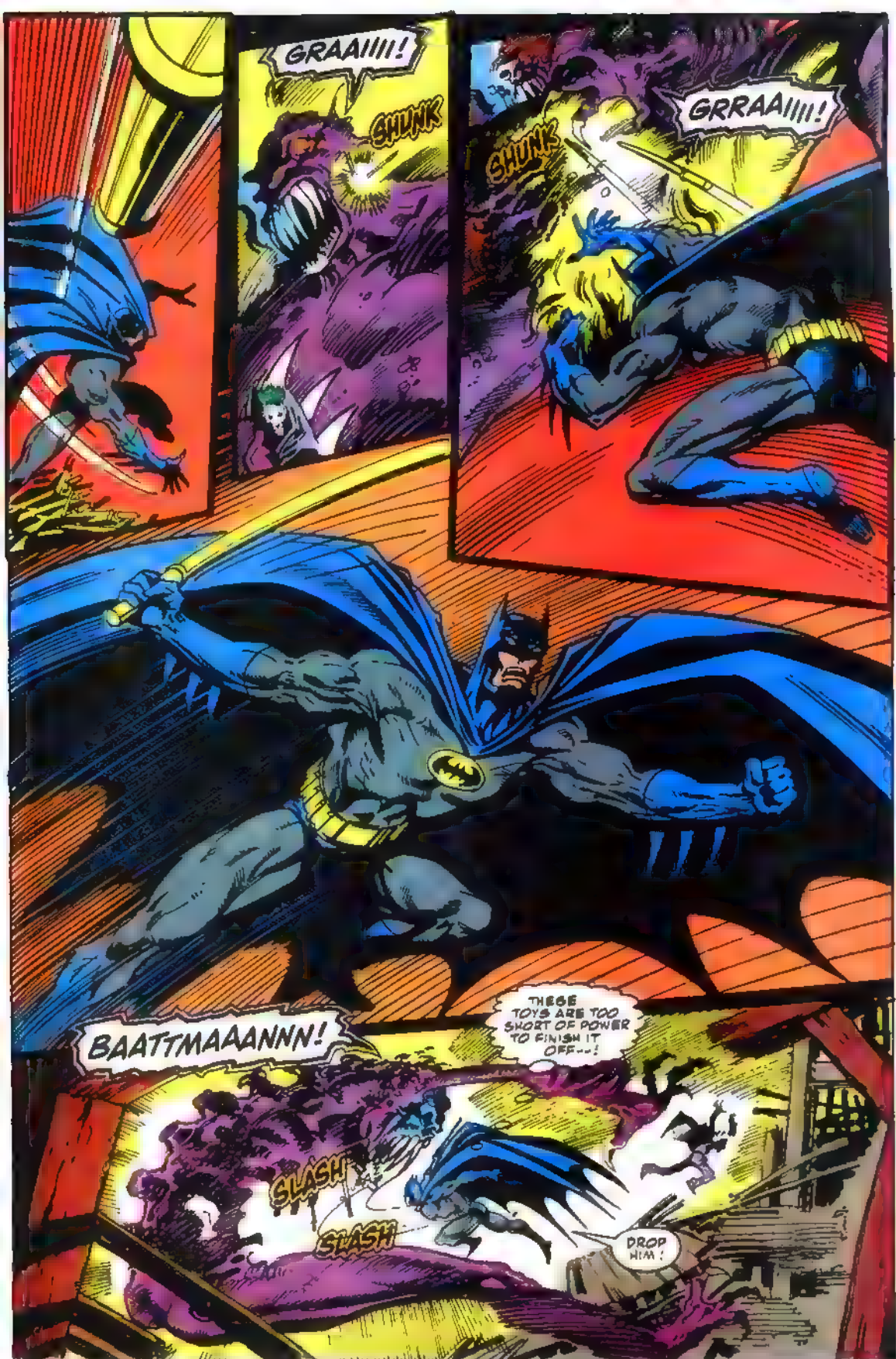
WAIT A
MINUTE!

KEERASSH

NOWWW
YOUUUU
DIIIEEE!

SOLAR
LAUNCHER
POWERED BY
THE SUN
© 1994 TM CO.

CAN
WE TALK
ABOUT THIS--
GLURRK!



GRAAIIII!

SHUNK

GRRRAAIIII!

SHUNK

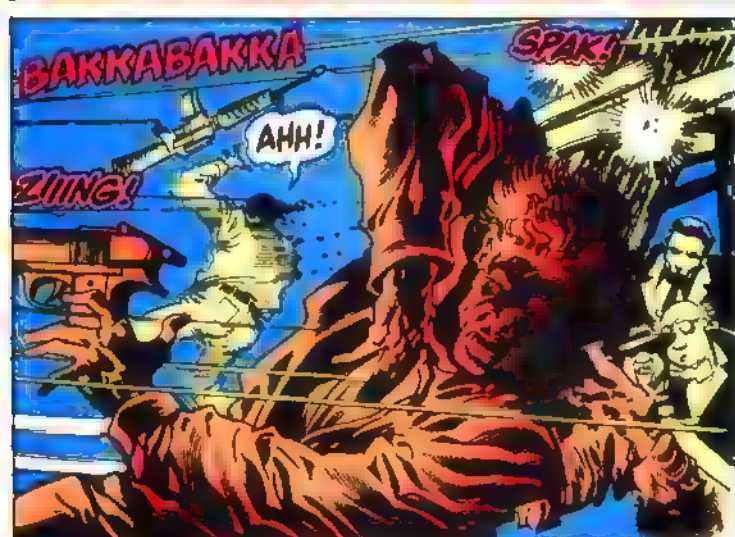
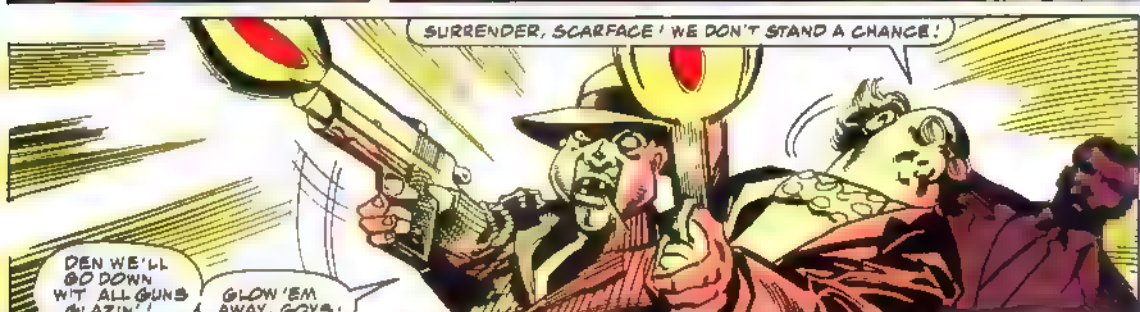
BAATTMAAANNN!

THESE
TOYS ARE TOO
SHORT OF POWER
TO FINISH IT
OFF...!

SLASH

SLASH

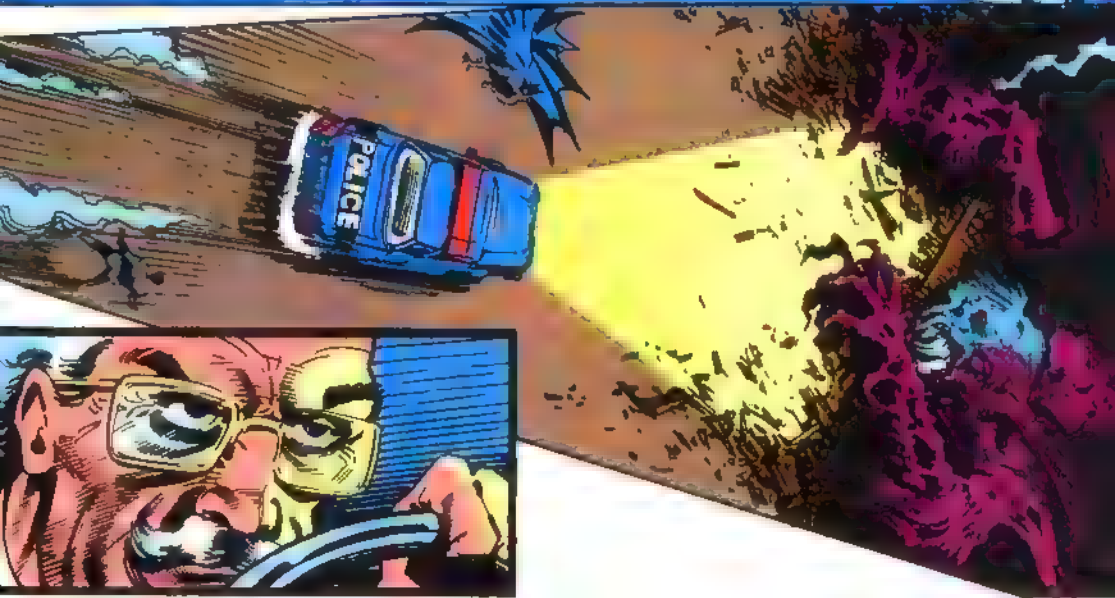
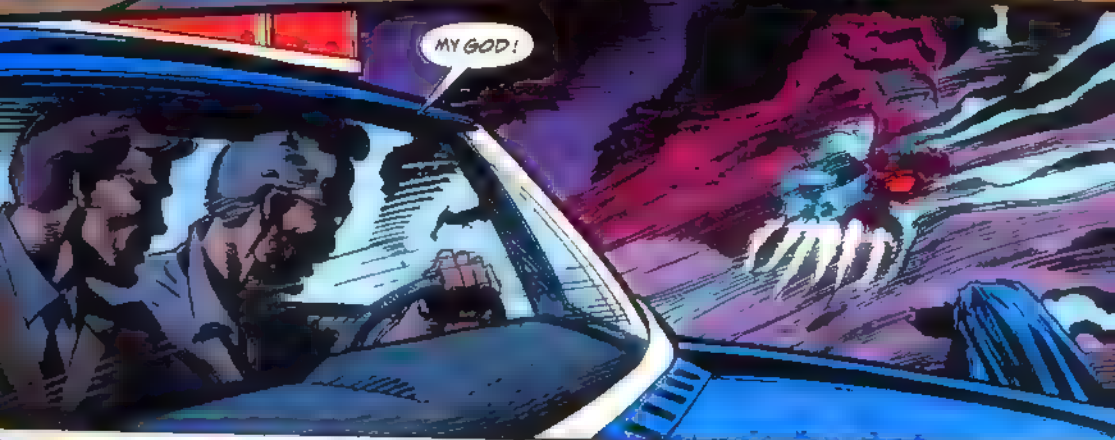
DROP
HIM!



A full-page comic book illustration depicting a dramatic battle. Batman, in his iconic blue and grey suit with a flowing blue cape, is shown in a dynamic pose, lunging forward with a golden staff or spear. He is engaged in combat with a massive, grotesque monster. The monster has a large, bulbous red body, a single prominent red eye, and multiple white, bone-like protrusions from its chest. The background is a swirling mix of dark blue, purple, and red, suggesting a chaotic or hellish environment. In the bottom right corner, there is a close-up inset of Batman's face, showing a determined and fierce expression with his teeth bared. The Batman logo is visible on his chest in this inset.

HE FEELS NO
REMORSE, NO
COMPASSION...

FOR THIS IS NO LIVING
THING -- BUT THE OCCULT
EMBODIMENT OF EVIL!





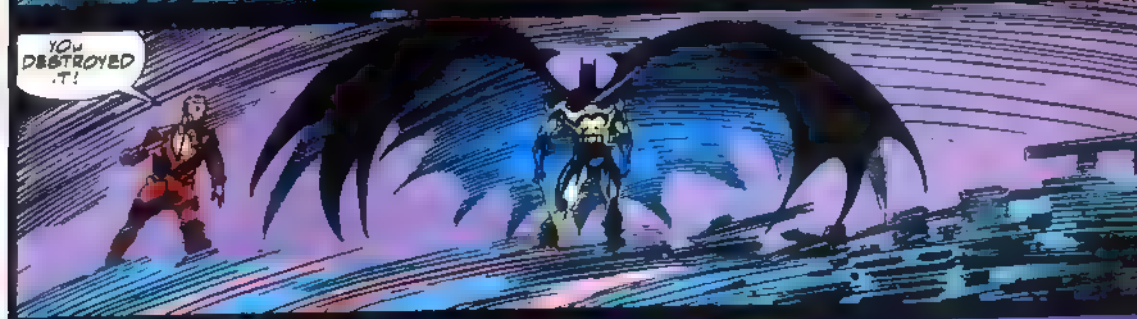
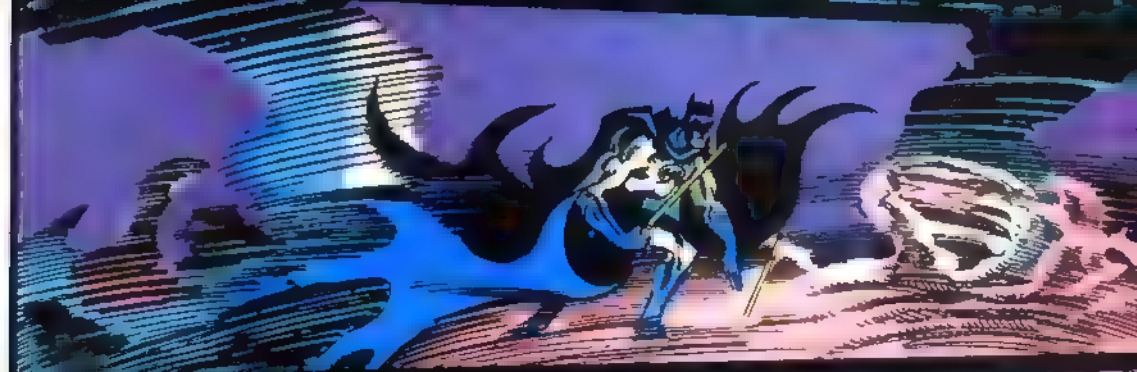
KRRUMPH!

GOOD
WORK,
JIM!

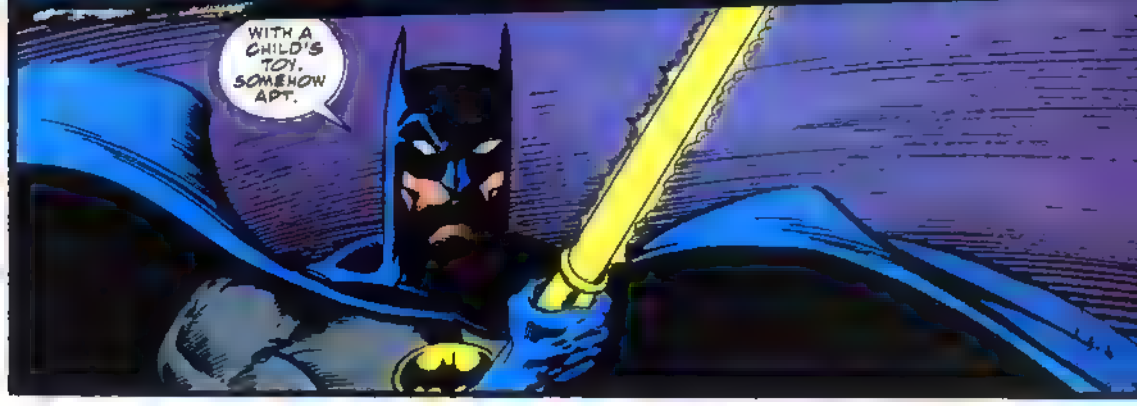
POLICE



GRRAAIIIEE!!



YOU DESTROYED IT!



WITH A CHILD'S TOY. SOMEHOW APT.



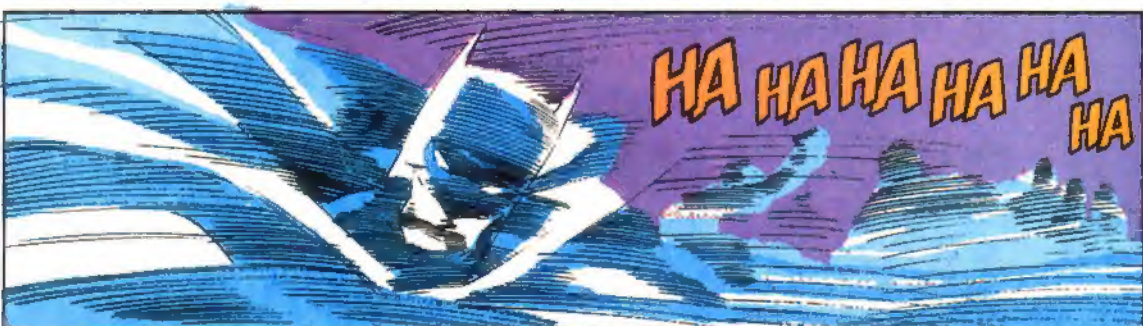


YOU SEE, I STILL HAVE ONE TRICK UP MY SLEEVE!

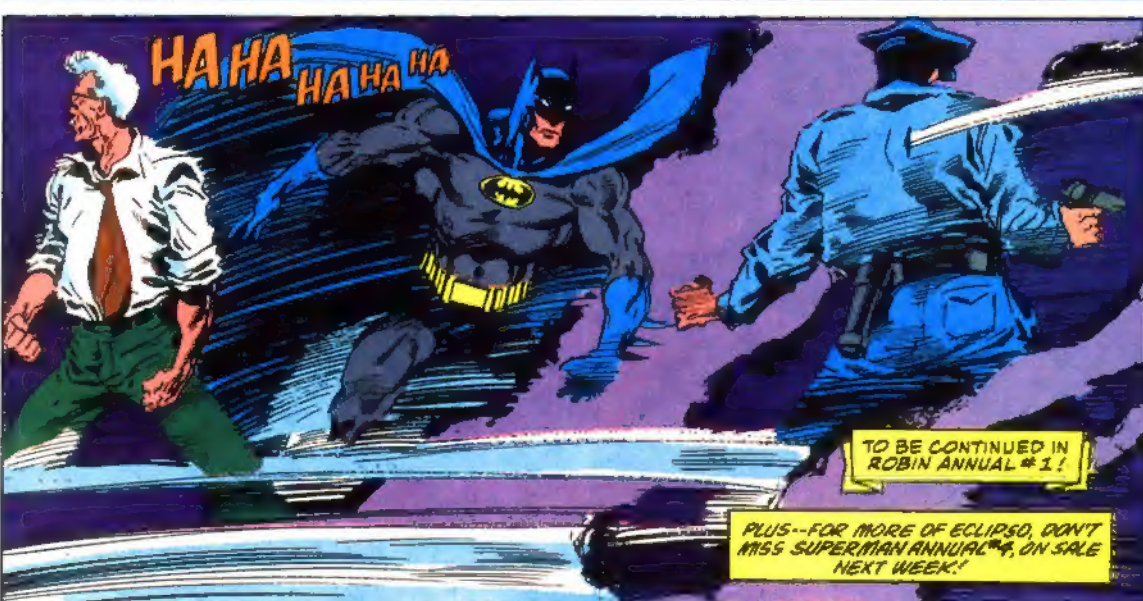
ARE YOU WATCHING? PAY ATTENTION IN THE BACK, THERE--!



ABRACADABRA! ALACAZAM! YOU'LL NEVER GUESS WHERE I AM!



HA HA HA HA HA HA HA

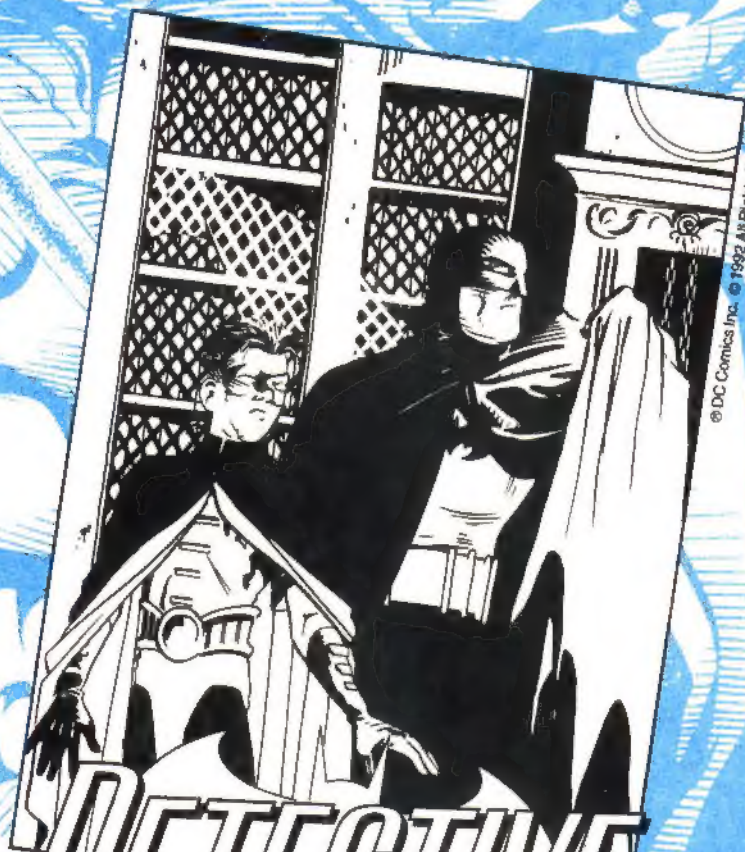


HA HA HA HA HA HA

TO BE CONTINUED IN ROBIN ANNUAL #1!

PLUS--FOR MORE OF ECLIPSO, DON'T MISS SUPERMAN ANNUAL #4, ON SALE NEXT WEEK!

The **DARKNIGHT DETECTIVE**™ has
faced the darkness within... be there
next issue when he and **ROBIN**™ try to
unravel the deadly mystery in the
return of the **CLUEMASTER**.™



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DETECTIVE
COMICS

#647

**A NEW MYSTERY
EVERY MONTH!**



ARE YOU DOWN WITH...



YEAH,
YOU KNOW ME!



BUT JUST IN CASE YOU DON'T YET...

GCPD GUY