



BATMAN

667
AUG
2007

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AO
AUTHORITY



**GRANT
MORRISON
J.H.
WILLIAMS III**

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BE ASSURED.

THE BLACK GLOVE IS A SEAL OF ABSOLUTE QUALITY AND RUTHLESSNESS.

THE BLACK GLOVE AIMED TO DELIVER A DELUXE SERVICE HIGH STAKES EXPERIENCE AT THE VERY HIGHEST LEVELS OF THE INTERNATIONAL GAME.

OUR ESTEEMED CLIENTELE SEE NO VIRTUE IN THINKING SMALL, NOR DO WE.



THIS WEEKEND THE BLACK GLOVE SETTLES THE AGE-OLD QUESTION ONCE AND FOR ALL.



WHICH IS STRONGEST?
GOOD?

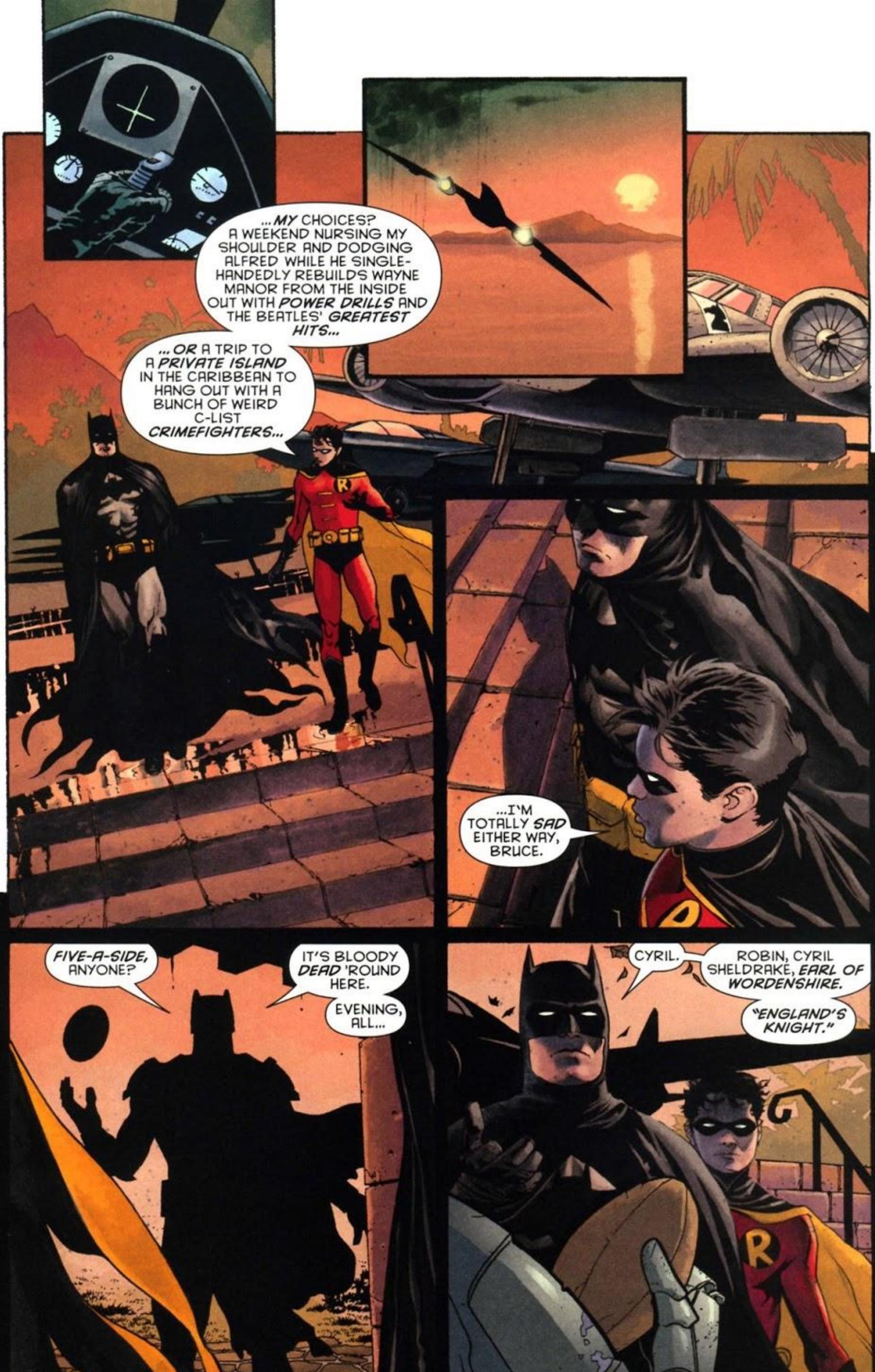
OR EVIL?





THE ISLAND OF MiSTER MAYHEW









JONATHAN
MAYHEW, MEGARICH DAREDEVIL
FROM THE OLD SCHOOL.



The Black Glove.

SHARK FISHING,
AIRCRAFT DESIGN, ROUND-THE-WORLD BALLOONING,
DIRECTING MOVIES: HE MADE
A FORTUNE IN HIS 20S, TRIED
HIS HAND AT **EVERYTHING**
THEN WOUND UP LIVING LIKE
A **RECLUSE** ON HIS OWN
PRIVATE ISLAND, SO THE
STORY GOES.

starring
Mangrove
Pierce and
Marsha
Lamarr
in a
John
Mayhew
Film.

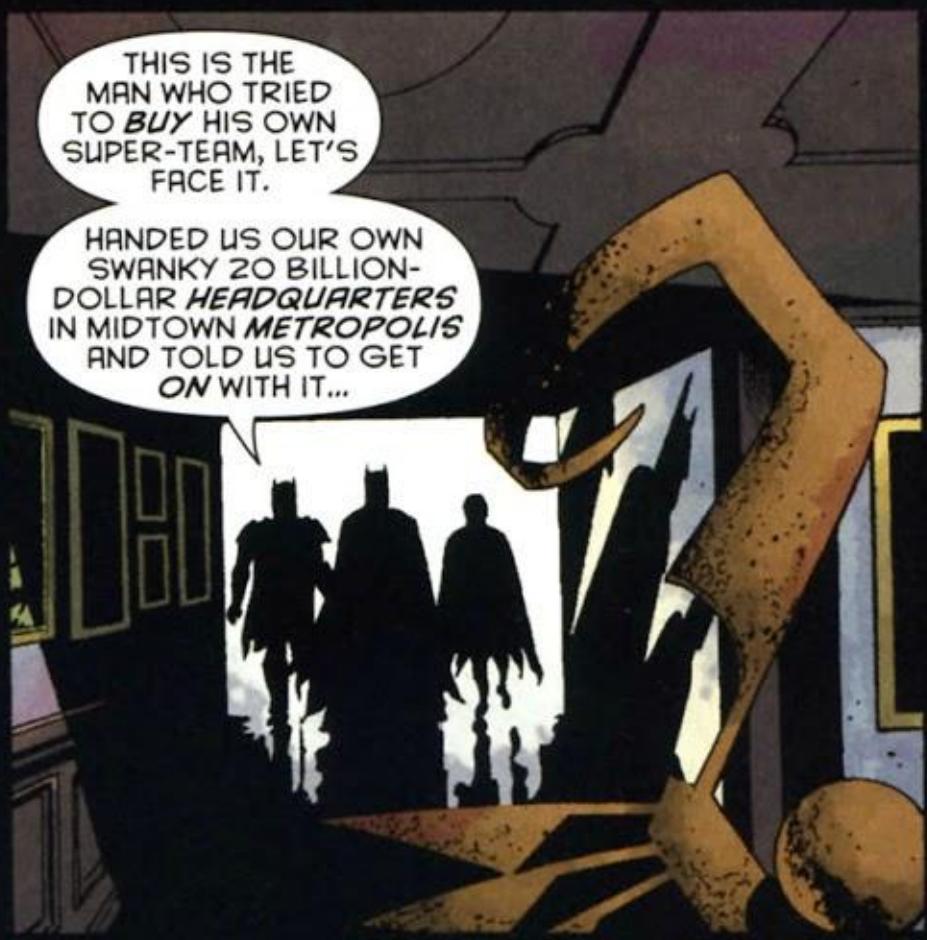
AND
LET'S NOT
FORGET
THE **SIX**
WIVES.

MAYBE THAT
EXPLAINS WHY HE
NEVER BECAME A
CRIMEBUSTER
HIMSELF...

TOO MUCH
LIKE BLOODY
HARD WORK ON
THE PARALLEL
BARS.

THIS IS THE
MAN WHO TRIED
TO **BUT** HIS OWN
SUPER-TEAM, LET'S
FACE IT.

HANDED US OUR OWN
SWANKY 20 BILLION-
DOLLAR **HEADQUARTERS**
IN MIDTOWN **METROPOLIS**
AND TOLD US TO GET
ON WITH IT...



WE HARDLY
KNEW ONE
ANOTHER, AND
EVERYBODY WAS
IN AWE OF
BATMAN.



NO WONDER
IT LASTED ALL
OF HALF AN
HOUR.





YOU KNOW,
I'M SURE THE SLY
OLD BUGGER'S
WATCHING US.

I CAN FEEL EYES,
EVERWHERE.

OI,
JOHN!

YOU'LL
GET US ALL
FLUNG OUT, YOU
WILL, CYRIL.

ALL
RIGHT?

BERYL
HUTCHINSON...

HOW
ARE YA, BOY
WONDER?

ROBIN.

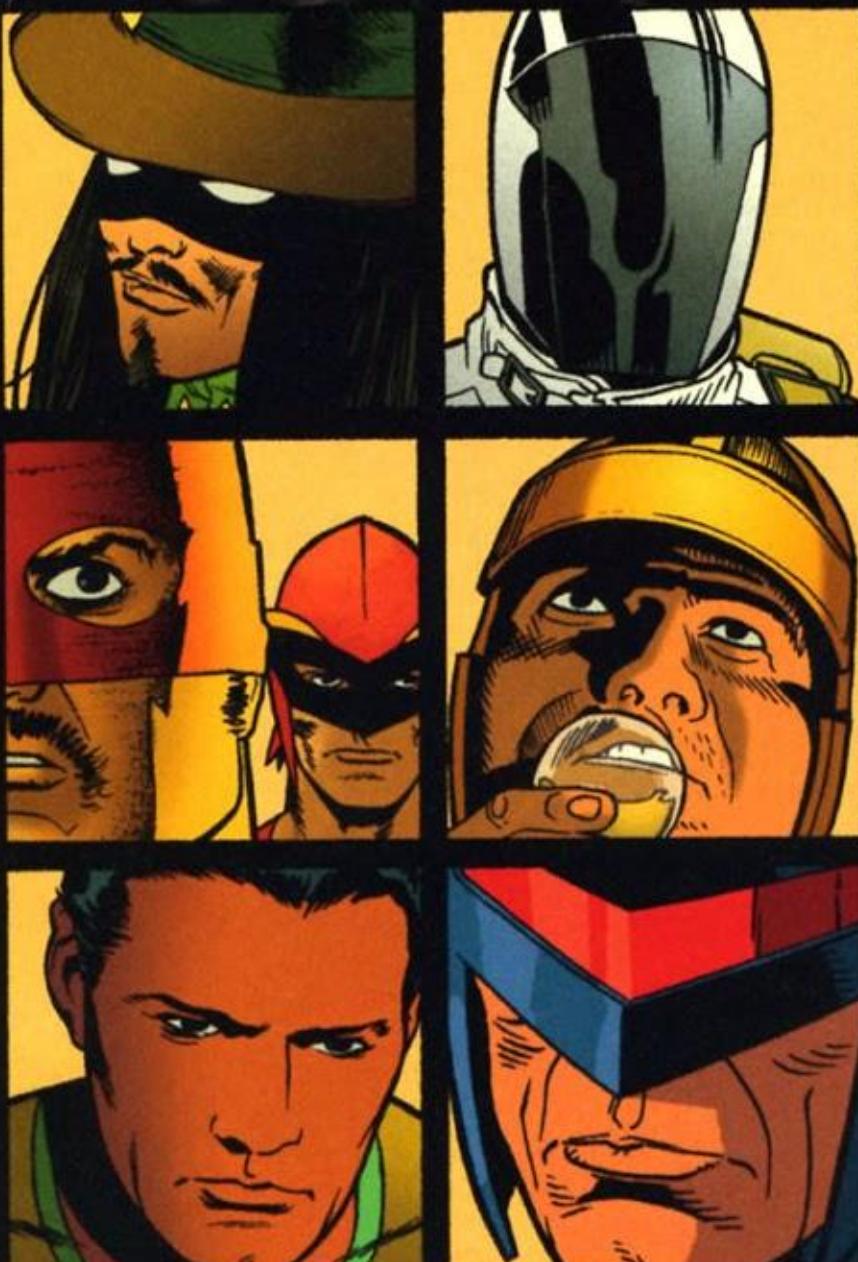
MEET THE
SQUIRE.





GENTLEMEN...

...SHALL WE
FIND OUT WHY
WE'RE HERE?







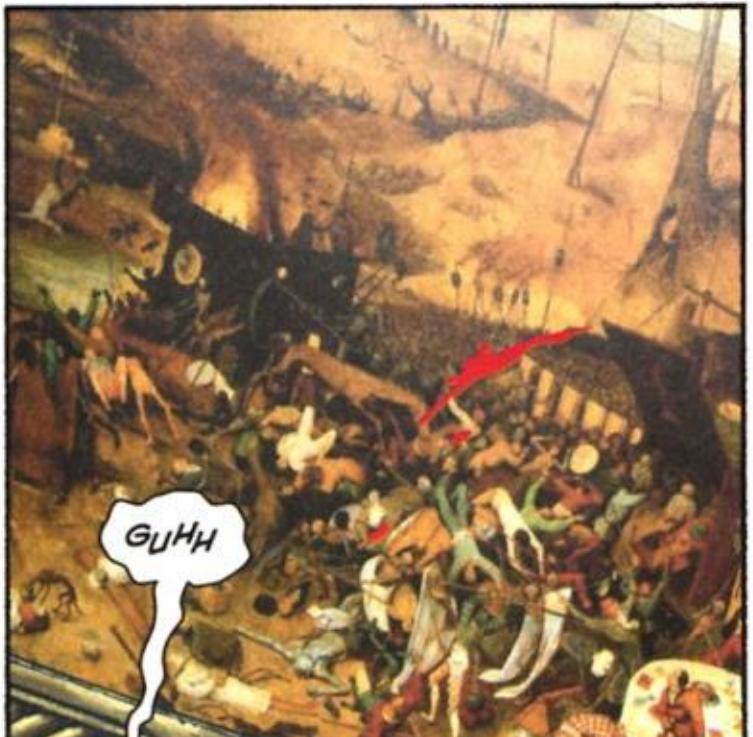


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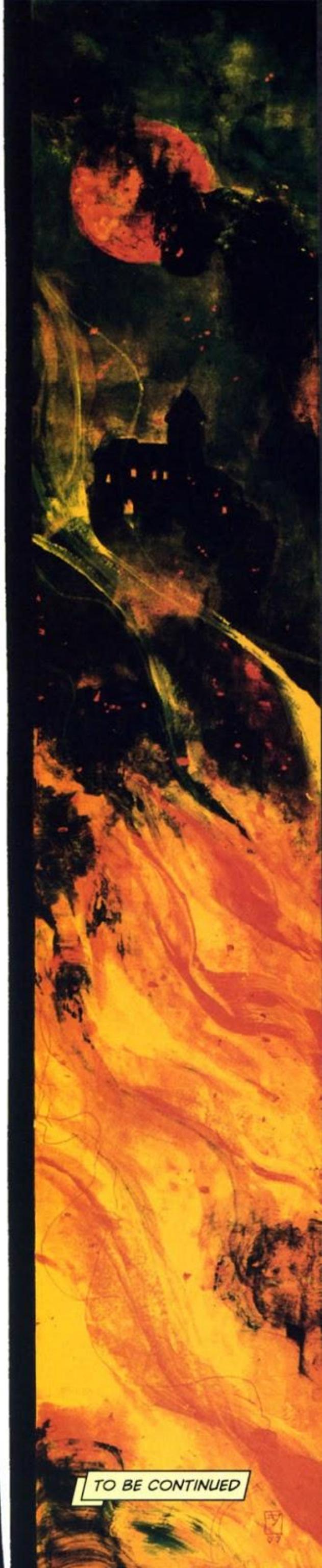
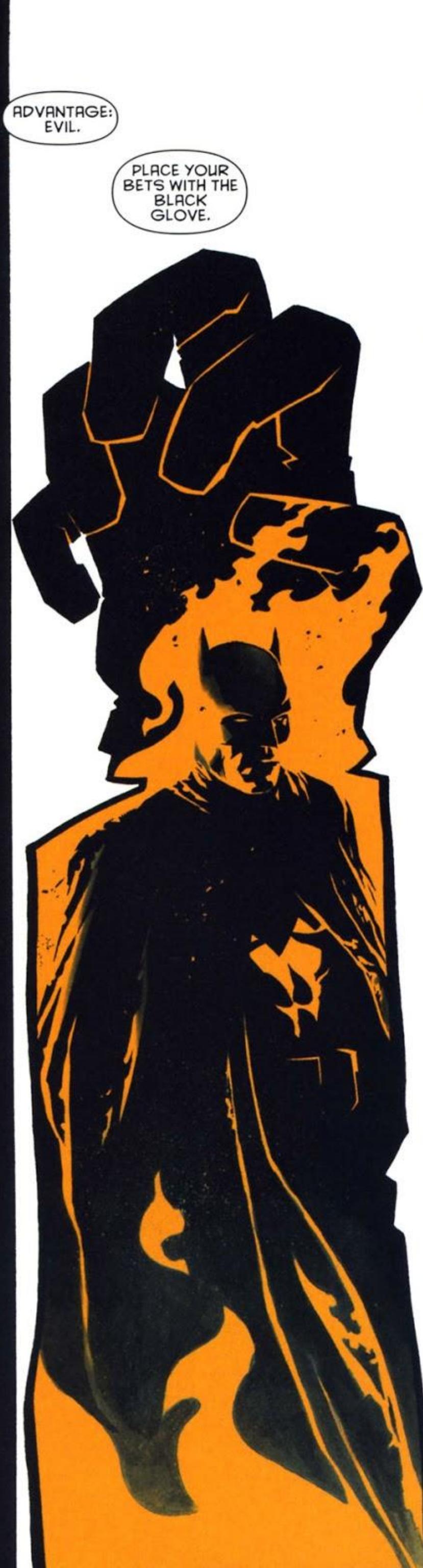
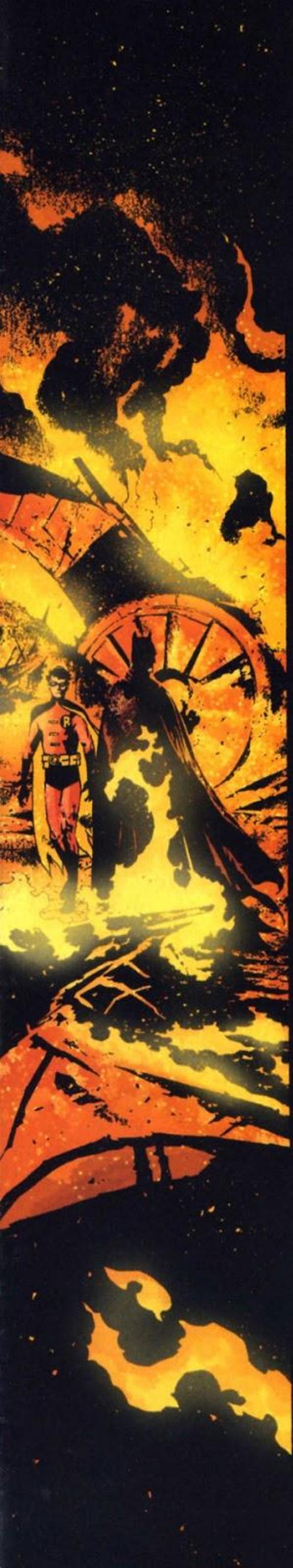


AND
DON'T EAT
ANY MORE
FOOD.











FINAL CRISIS.

In case you didn't know it, that's what COUNTDOWN has been, well, counting down to. Now normally an announcement like this would come with an unprecedented amount of hype and hoopla. You know, something like...

"Greatest Maxiseries Ever!"

"The Crisis To End All Crises"

"The One Story They Dared Not Tell, Until NOW!!"

Sounds like fun, but actually, we have no plans to promote it that way. No need to, the title speaks for itself. But before we discuss the end, let's go back to the beginning.

The starting point for me was IDENTITY CRISIS. It was a story not with the same size and scope of the Crisis stories that preceded it, but one of a very personal nature. IDENTITY CRISIS forced each hero to examine the reason they became heroes and more important, why they remained heroes. With this series we felt a tonal shift in how the DC heroes were perceived by their peers and the world. It was the start of darker times and greater challenges, and our heroes were ready to meet them head on.

Then came INFINITE CRISIS, and stories returned to the grand and cosmic scale that DC was best known for. Our heroes were pushed to their limits, friends had become foes, there was dissension among the heroes, and the universe was torn apart just to be born anew. Old concepts were reintroduced and reimaged in new and exciting ways. There wasn't just one brave new world, but 52 of them. It seemed like an ending with a new beginning, but in fact, it was just the close of the second act of the grand epic that encompasses the DC Universe.

With COUNTDOWN, or should I say, COUNTDOWN TO FINAL CRISIS, we enter into act three, the final act. The stakes are raised once again, and everything put into motion over the last five years will come into play. Time is still broken, the multiverse is unstable, and heroes are called upon to make the ultimate sacrifice.

There is no turning back now. This is one story we dared not....oops, sorry, got a little carried away. Said that wasn't going to happen, but, hell - with a story this big, sometimes you just can't help yourself.

To be continued...

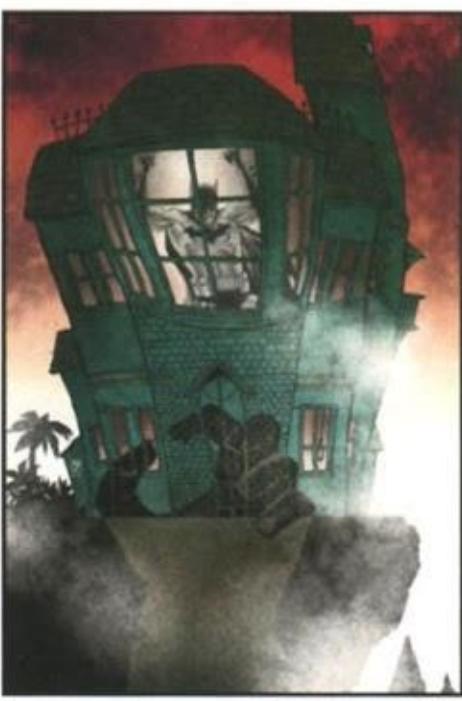
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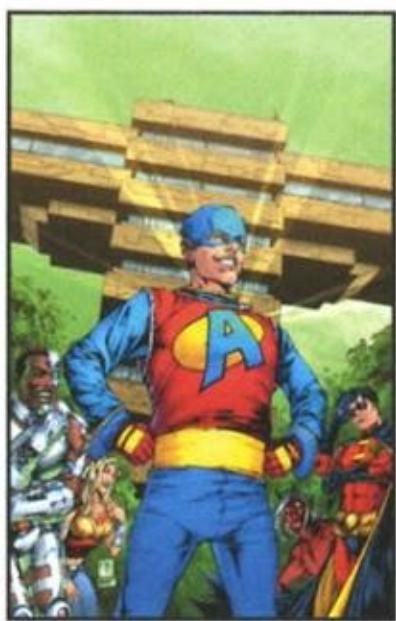
DC NATION



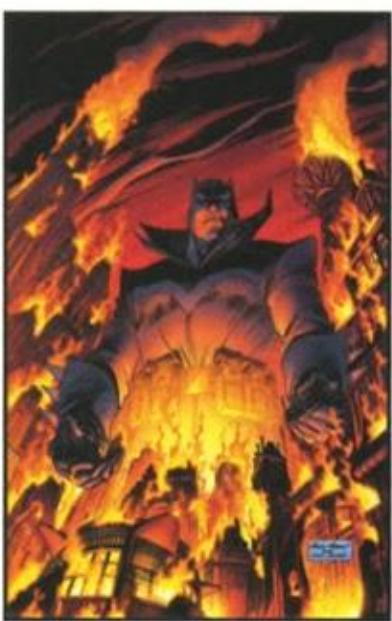
For a complete list of this week's titles, sneak peeks, breaking news and more, visit us at dccomics.com



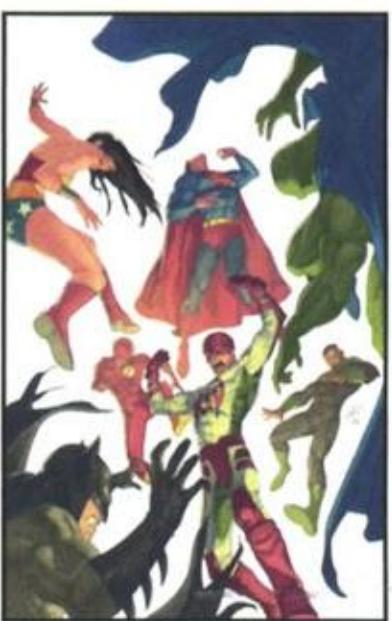
THE HOT LIST THIS WEEK



COUNTDOWN #38



BATMAN #666



JLA: CLASSIFIED #41

Next in...

BATMAN #668

The Club of Heroes is trapped on the island while the mystery deepens and the body count rises!

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A
GREEN GIANT
SCAN



D&P

LIKE IT?
BUY IT!