



DC  
COMICS™

29

ZERO YEAR

# BATMAN

THE NEW 52!



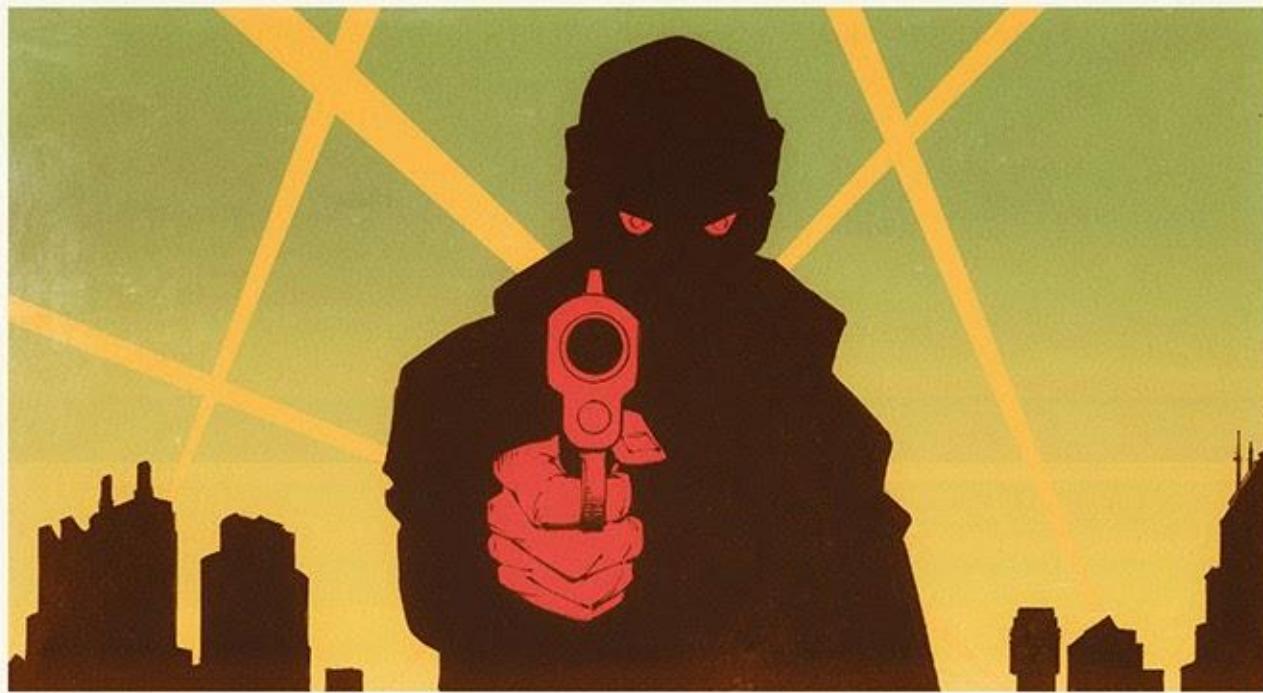
SCOTT  
**SNYDER**  
GREG  
**CAPULLO**  
DANNY  
**MIKI**

MAY 2014

RATED T TEEN

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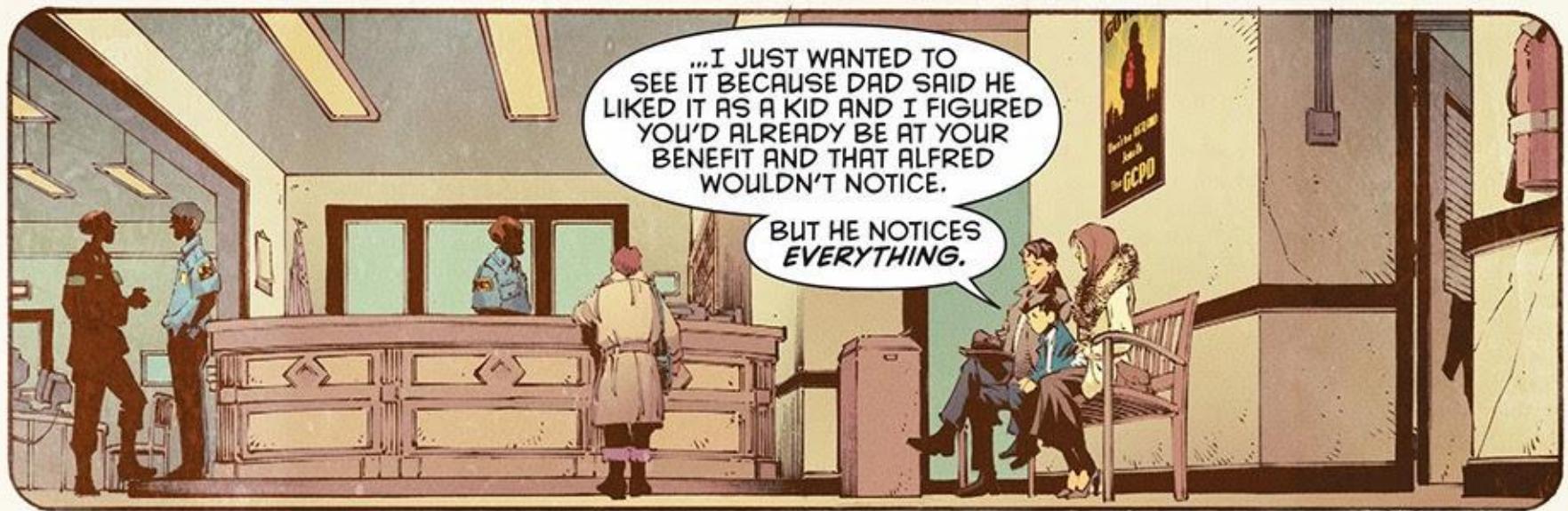


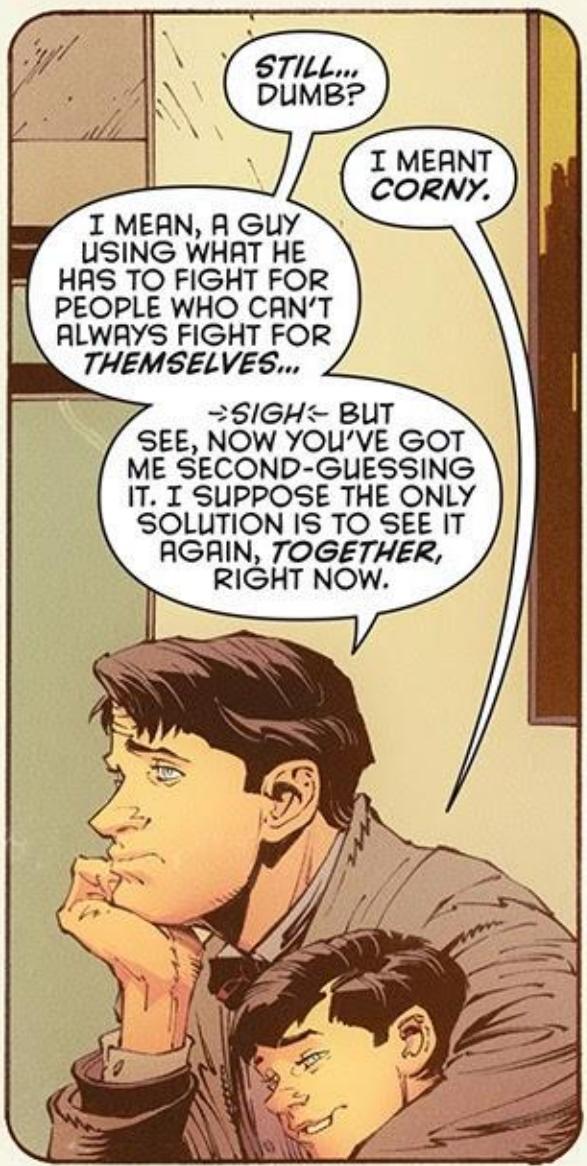
ZERO  
YEAR

DARK  
CITY

SCOTT SNYDER  
WRITER  
GREG CAPULLO  
PENCILLER  
DANNY MIKI  
INKER

FCO PLASCENCIA/COLORIST STEVE WANDS/LETTERER  
KATIE KUBERT/EDITOR MARK DOYLE/GROUP EDITOR  
CAPULLO, MIKI & PLASCENCIA/COVER  
ROBOT CHICKEN VARIANT COVER BY RC STOODIOS  
BATMAN CREATED BY BOB KANE







“...LET'S BUST  
YOU OUT OF  
HERE, BANDITO.”

RRRAAAHH!

KEEP MOVING!  
STRAIGHT TO THE  
BUSES! SHIELD  
YOUR EYES AND  
HEADS!

THE WHOLE NEIGHBORHOOD  
IS VULNERABLE TO FLOODING  
IN A REGULAR STORM, AND  
THIS SUPERSTORM RENE  
IS SOMETHING ELSE--

BRING  
BRING

HOLD  
ON.

BARBARA?!  
BARB, IS  
THAT--

YOU NEED  
TO GET TO  
WAYNE TOWER.  
NOW.

WHO IS  
THIS?!

YOU  
KNOW  
WHO IT  
IS.

WAYNE TOWER?! WE'VE GOT  
THREE MORE NEIGHBORHOODS  
TO CLEAR BEFORE--

NYGMA  
IS THERE. THE HUBS HE  
USED IN THE POWER SURGE,  
THEY FORM A CURVED LINE  
AND A STRAIGHT  
BASE.

...A  
QUESTION  
MARK.

THE TOWER  
IS ROUGHLY  
WHERE THE  
DOT WOULD  
BE.

HIS PLAN, LIEUTENANT,  
IT'S MUCH BIGGER THAN  
ANYTHING I ANTICIPATED.  
EVERY RESEARCHER NYGMA  
HAD HELFERN KILL, HE  
STOLE MATERIAL  
FROM.

BUT I LOOKED  
INTO THE RESEARCH,  
THERE WAS NOTHING  
BEING DONE IN  
THOSE LABS THAT  
COULD BE USED  
TO--

NOT ALONE.  
BUT TOGETHER,  
LINKED, THEY COULD  
CRIPPLE THE CITY  
AND GIVE CONTROL  
OF IT TO HIM, TO  
NYGMA.

WHEN?

IT'S SET TO GO OFF WHEN  
THE POLICE TURN THE POWER  
ON. THEY FLIP THE SWITCH, IT'LL  
TRANSFER TOTAL AND  
COMPLETE CONTROL  
TO NYGMA.

THEY'RE...  
THEY'RE GOING  
TO TURN THE  
POWER ON IN  
MINUTES,  
BATMAN.

WHICH IS  
WHY YOU NEED TO  
GET TO WAYNE TOWER.  
YOU NEED TO ALREADY BE  
THERE. HE'LL BE WAITING  
THERE TO RECEIVE THE  
TRANSMISSION.

WHAT  
ABOUT  
YOU?



DAMMIT, WHAT'S TAKING SO LONG? CALL CORRIGAN AND THE CREW! SEE HOW LONG BEFORE THE POWER GOES BACK ON.

"I'M GOING TO ANSWER HIS RIDDLE."







"...IT'S THE  
**CENSORED!** N  
BATMAN."

A BAT  
BLIMP, SIR?  
REALLY.

WORK  
WITH WHAT  
YOU  
HAVE.

AND HERE I  
THOUGHT YOU'D  
GIVEN ALL YOUR  
DIRIGIBLES TO  
THE POLICE.

I NEVER  
SAID ALL.

"IT'S A PROTOTYPE MY UNCLE  
HAD LUCIUS WORKING  
ON BEFORE HE FIRED HIM.  
USES OXYGEN AS BALLAST  
LIKE A SUBMARINE DOES  
WATER. IT'S FAST, STEADY  
AND EXPENSIVE."

"AND YES, IT  
WAS ALREADY  
BLACK."

"SIR, STEADY AS  
THE AIRSHIP IS--"

"NYGMA'S PLAN. THE PIECES HE  
TOOK. FROM DR. KELVER,  
SOMETHING CALLED A 'SNAKE.'  
IT'S A REMOTE HACKING HUB.

WITHIN A  
HUNDRED FEET,  
THOUGH. HOW  
MUCH  
DAMAGE--

HE ALSO STOLE  
A HYPER-REPEATER,  
FROM LUCIUS. IT'S  
DESIGNED TO BOOST  
WEAK SIGNALS TO  
PERFORM AS FULL  
CARRIERS IN CASE OF  
A BLACKOUT OR  
TERRORIST  
ATTACK.

SIR--

SIR, I  
HEAR YOU, BUT  
FLYING UP INTO  
THAT MAW, IT'S  
HOPELESS!

THEN SEND  
YOUR PRAYERS  
TO JIM  
GORDON...

"IT CAN BREAK INTO  
ANYTHING WITHIN A  
HUNDRED FEET OF IT,  
FROM INULIN PUMPS  
TO BRIDGE AND  
TUNNEL SECURITY."

AND HE STOLE A  
WEATHER BALLOON FROM  
KEEVER. HE GETS THE SNAKE HIGH  
ENOUGH, AMPLIFIES THE BITE...HE  
CAN TAKE CONTROL OF THE WHOLE  
CITY. AND WITH THE RESEARCH HE  
STOLE FROM PAJI AND ISLEY...

"...HE'LL NEED THEM."

CORRIGAN?!  
DAN, ARE YOU  
THERE?

GORDON?  
PLEASE TELL  
ME THIS ISN'T  
YOU.

IT'S ME, DAN.  
I KNOW THERE'S A  
RIVER OF BAD BLOOD  
BETWEEN US, BUT YOU  
NEED TO LISTEN  
TO ME.

THE POWER.  
NYGMA, HE'S  
COUNTING ON YOU  
FLIPPING THAT  
SWITCH! YOU HAVE  
TO KEEP IT  
OFF!

ACTUALLY, THE ONLY THING I  
HAVE TO DO IS PAY ALIMONY  
AND DIE, JIMBO. LISTENING TO  
YOUR RANTS? NOT ON THAT  
LIST. SO THE POWER'S GOING  
ON, AND AFTER IT DOES,  
GUESS WHAT? YOU'RE HEADED  
BACK TO CHICAGO. THAT'S  
RIGHT, BUDDY. LOEB IS  
SHIPPING YOU OFF. FINALLY.  
THANKFULLY.

DAN! DAN,  
PLEASE,  
YOU'RE--

CLIK

DAMMIT.

"WE NEED TO  
GET HIGHER!"

KRAK-OONN

"MAPPING HAS THE WEATHER BALLOON JUST ABOVE US!"

YOU GO HIGHER, THAT AIRSHIP WILL BE TORN APART!



"THERE, JUST AHEAD OF US..."

"...THE BALLOON."







SO GLAD  
YOU COULD  
MAKE IT!



PHILIP KANE

FREEZE,  
NYGMA!  
FREEZE RIGHT  
THERE!

AH! LIEUTENANT  
GORDON! COME IN,  
PLEASE! I WASN'T  
EXPECTING YOU!

WELL, HERE'S WHAT YOU  
SHOULD EXPECT. YOU'RE  
GOING TO HAND OVER  
THAT SUITCASE VERY  
CAREFULLY, ACTIVELY  
ENDING YOUR PLAN.

THEN YOU CAN  
EXPECT TO BE  
ARRESTED. AND  
PUNCHED.

THAT STRING,  
THOUGH. WHAT  
IS IT? ON YOUR  
FINGER?

STRING?  
OH, RIGHT! THIS  
ONE, IRONICALLY,  
I ALMOST  
FORGOT!

I TIED IT  
THERE TO  
REMIND ME OF  
SOMETHING,  
THOUGH.  
Hmm...

...REGARDLESS,  
LIEUTENANT,  
AMAZING THING,  
HOW MUCH POWER  
A SINGLE STRING CAN  
OFFER, A WEB, WHEN  
SPUN THROUGH  
WHEELS WITHIN  
WHEELS...

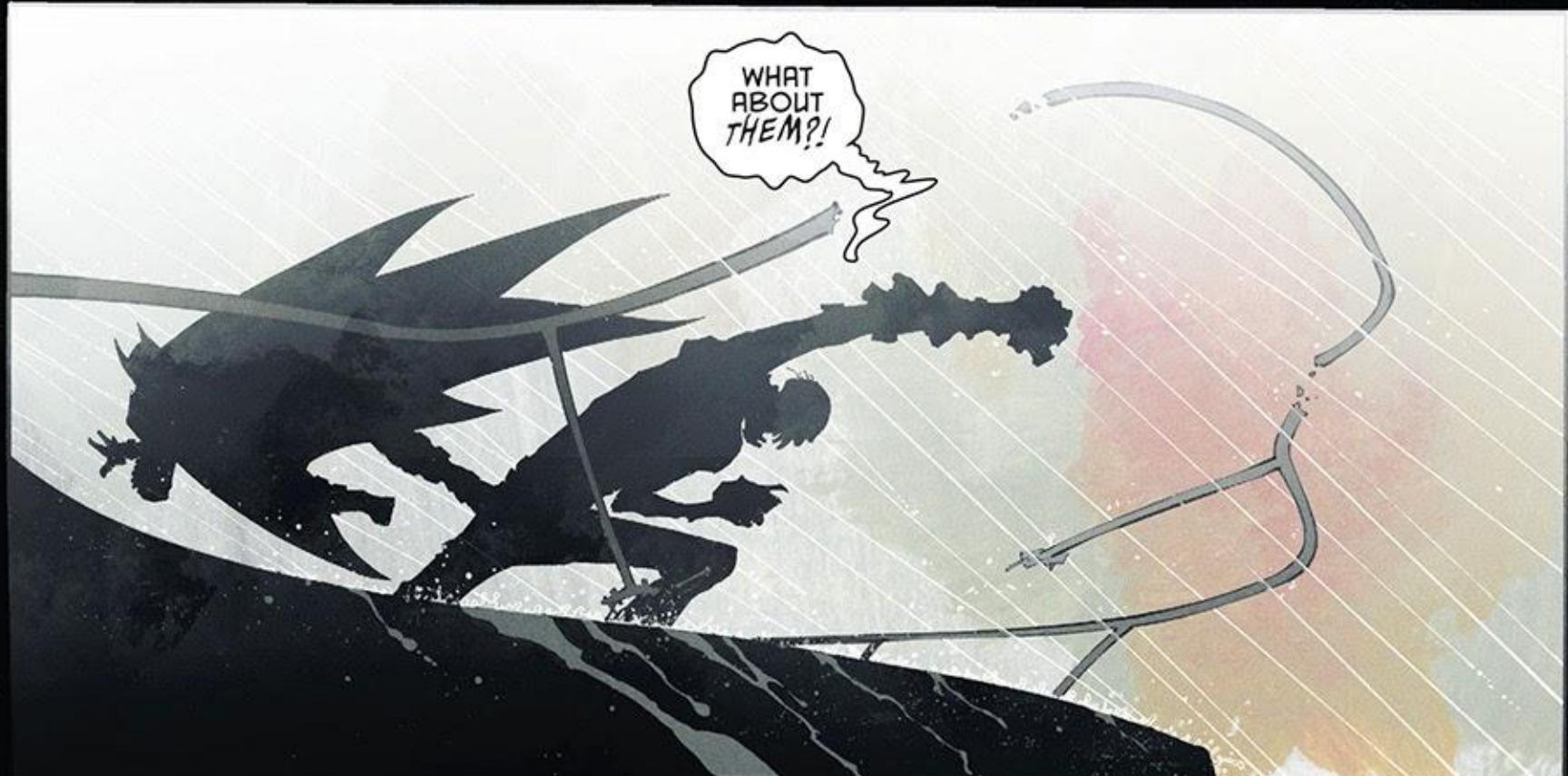
...IT'S TRUE.  
ARCHIMEDES,  
YOU KNOW, HE  
WAS SAID TO  
HAVE LIFTED A  
WHOLE WARSHIP  
OF MEN WITH HIS  
OWN STRENGTH,  
WITH JUST SOME  
STRONG  
PULLEYS.

NO...





"...AS A REMINDER TO  
TIE UP LOOSE ENDS."



HE'S USING YOU,  
DAMMIT! CAN'T YOU SEE  
THAT? NYGMA. HE'S  
PLAYING YOU!

NO, BATMAN,  
HE'S THE ONE WHO  
HELPED ME SEE, WHO  
HELPED ME SOLVE  
THE RIDDLE!

MY RESEARCH  
WAS ALWAYS ABOUT  
STRENGTHENING THE BODY,  
MAKING IT TOUGHER! AND  
SO FOR YEARS, I MINED  
DISEASES OF BONE AND  
SKIN. MARFAN.  
EHLERS-DANLOS...

...I MINED  
SICKNESS. I  
MINED PATHOLOGY,  
AND MY SUBJECTS  
DIED. I WAS  
DOCTOR DEATH.

"WHEN I WAS FIRED FROM  
WAYNE ENTERPRISES, THOUGH,  
NYGMA HELPED ME CONTINUE  
MY RESEARCH. HE SECRETLY  
PAID FOR MY BLACK BOX."

"HE TOLD ME, 'YOUR WORK,  
DOCTOR, IT'S ABOUT LIFE,  
ABOUT HEALING ONESELF.'

"AND THEN I SAW...THE PROTEINS  
WHICH STIMULATE COLLAGEN TO HELP  
HEAL TISSUE. TO HELP IT SCAR...AND  
THE WORD SCAR ITSELF, FROM  
ESCHARA, MEANING FIRE, MEANING  
LIFE. IT ALL MADE SENSE."

"NYGMA IS THE ONE, YOU SEE.  
HE MADE ME BELIEVE, AND  
THEN HE SHUT THE POWER OFF  
AND MADE ME TAKE THE LEAP.  
MADE ME TRUST MYSELF  
ENOUGH TO BE THE VESSEL..."

...AND LOOK AT ME  
NOW! I AM ALIVE IN EVERY  
WAY. MY BODY DEFENDS  
ITSELF! MY BODY BLOOMS  
WITH EACH ATTACK. MY  
SERUM WORKS!

YOU CALL  
THAT  
WORKING?

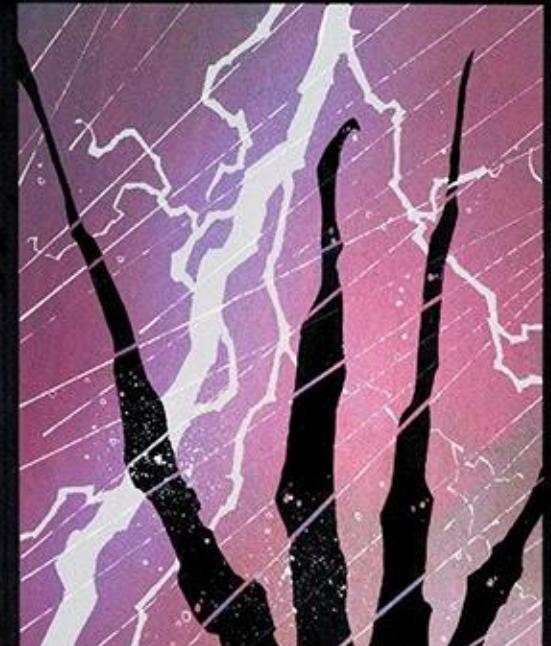
HAHAHA!  
WELL, IT'S A  
START, BATMAN.  
AND WHILE I  
PROBABLY WON'T  
LIVE TO SEE IT  
FINISHED...

...NEITHER  
WILL YOU.



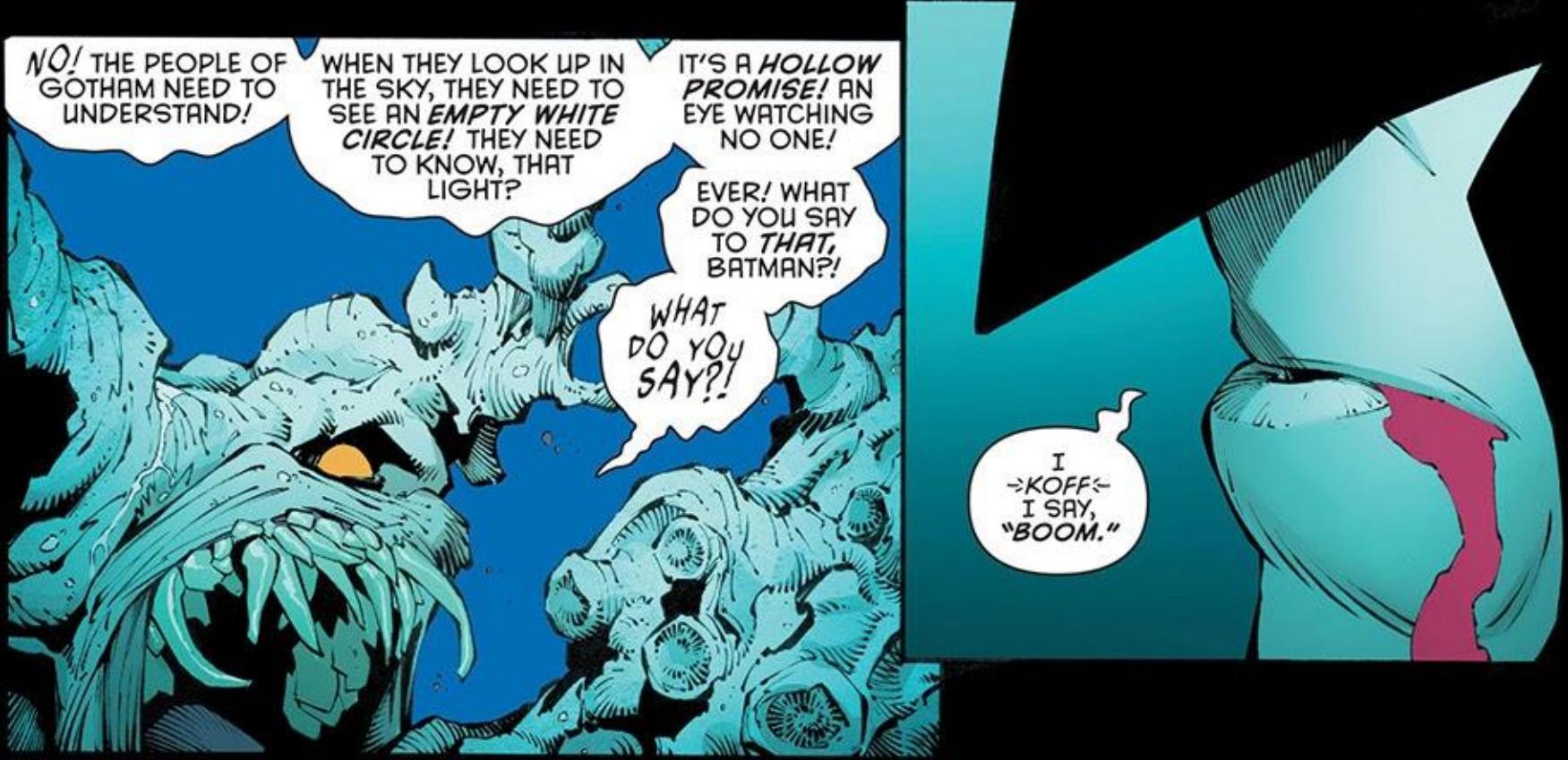
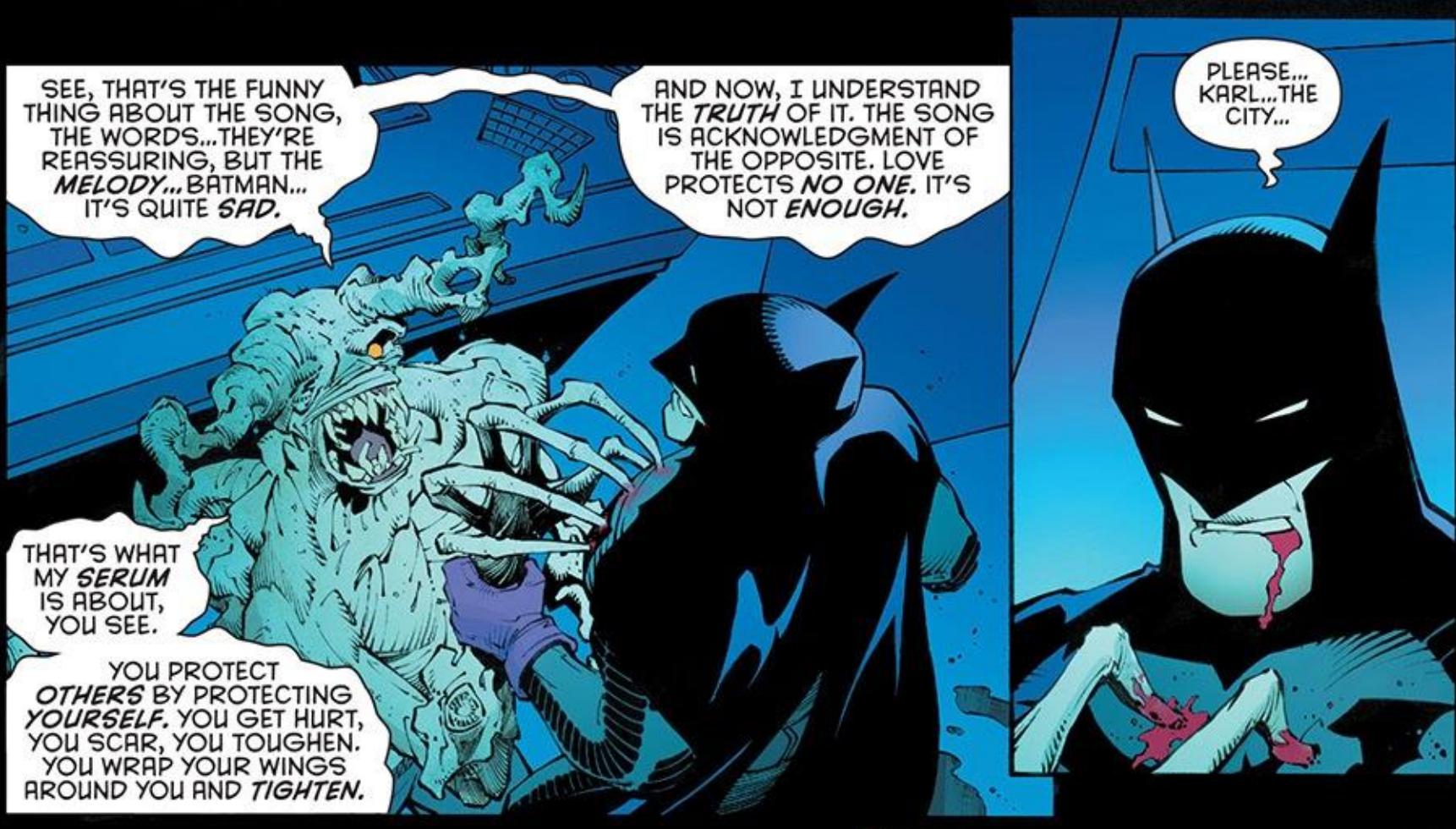


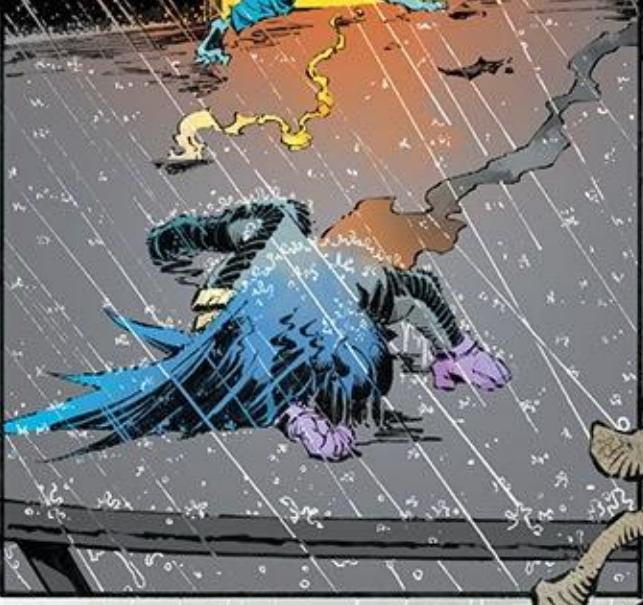












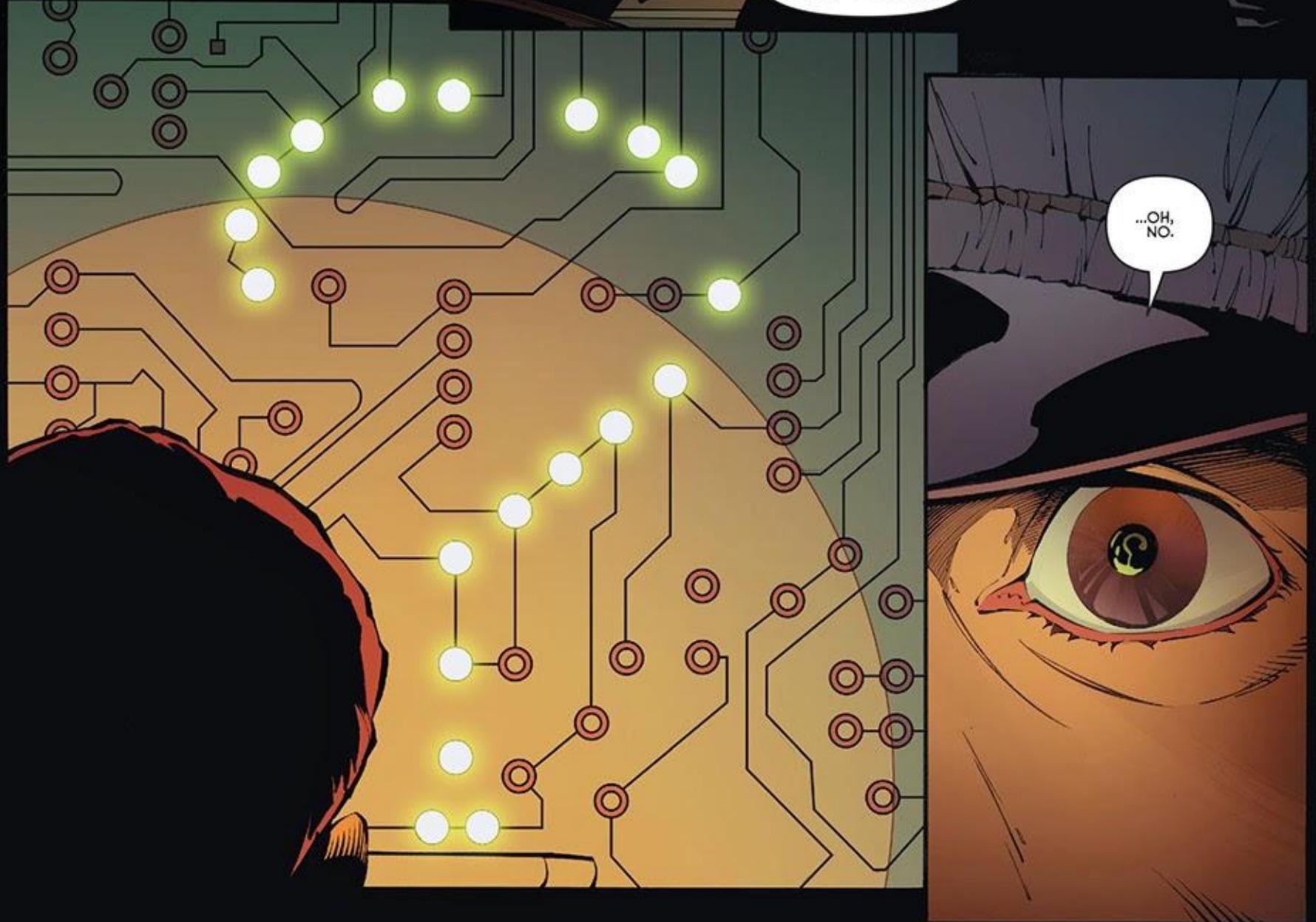
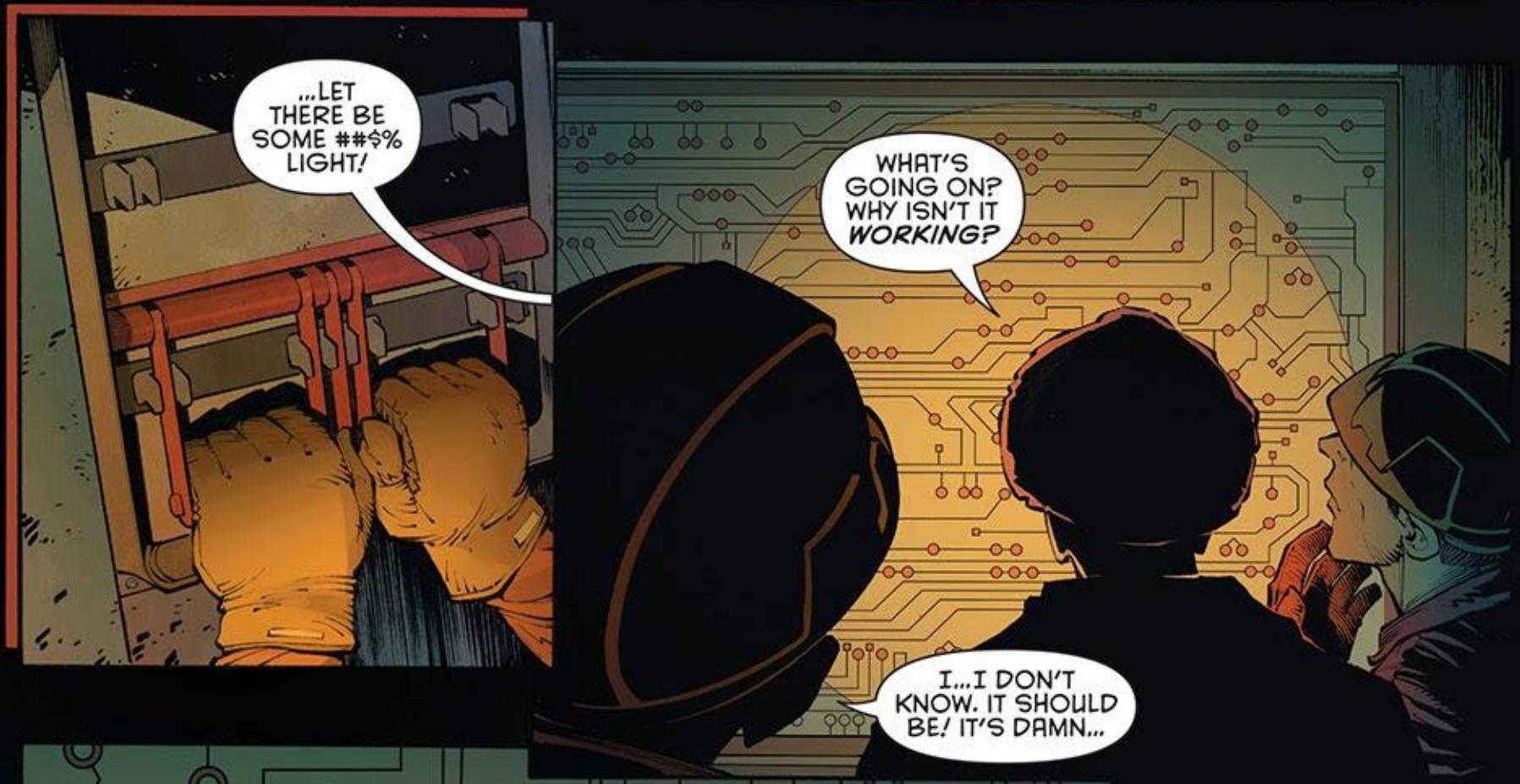
HE DID →AGH!←  
HE DID THE RIGHT  
THING, RUNNING AWAY,  
FORGETTING THOSE  
COMING TO HELP  
HIM...

I'D HAVE...  
K-K-KILLED HIM  
FOR IT, BUT IT  
WAS THE RIGHT  
THIIIIINGGG...

...EGGGGGAAAGGGG

NO!

"COUNTING  
DOWN..."



MOVE PEOPLE, MOVE,  
MOVE, MOVE! THIS  
WHOLE AREA IS  
AT RISK!

BEEP BEEP

WELL, THEN!

OOPS.

WRONG  
ANSWER,  
GOTHAM.

DUNK TANK  
FOR YOU ALL.  
INITIATE IN FIVE  
MINUTES.

ACTIVATE  
RIDDLE 2.

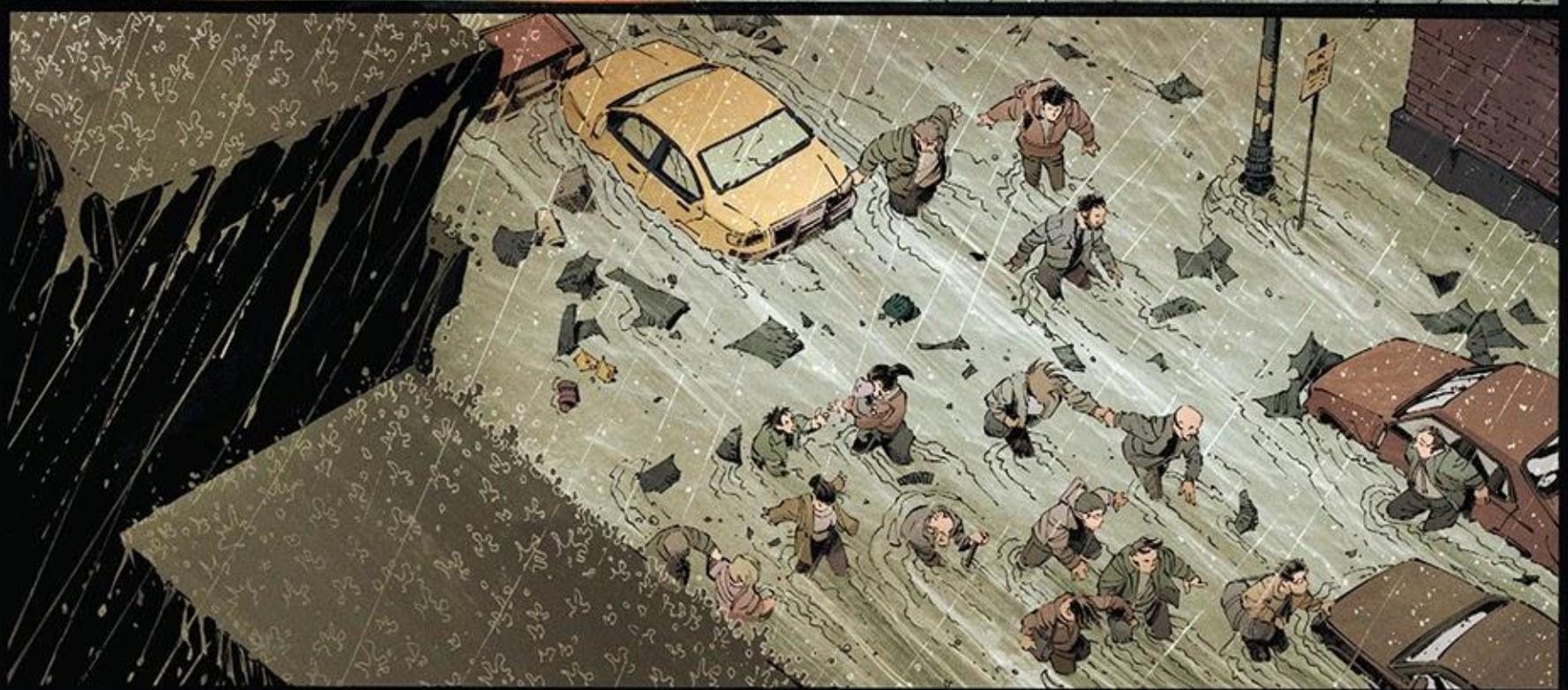


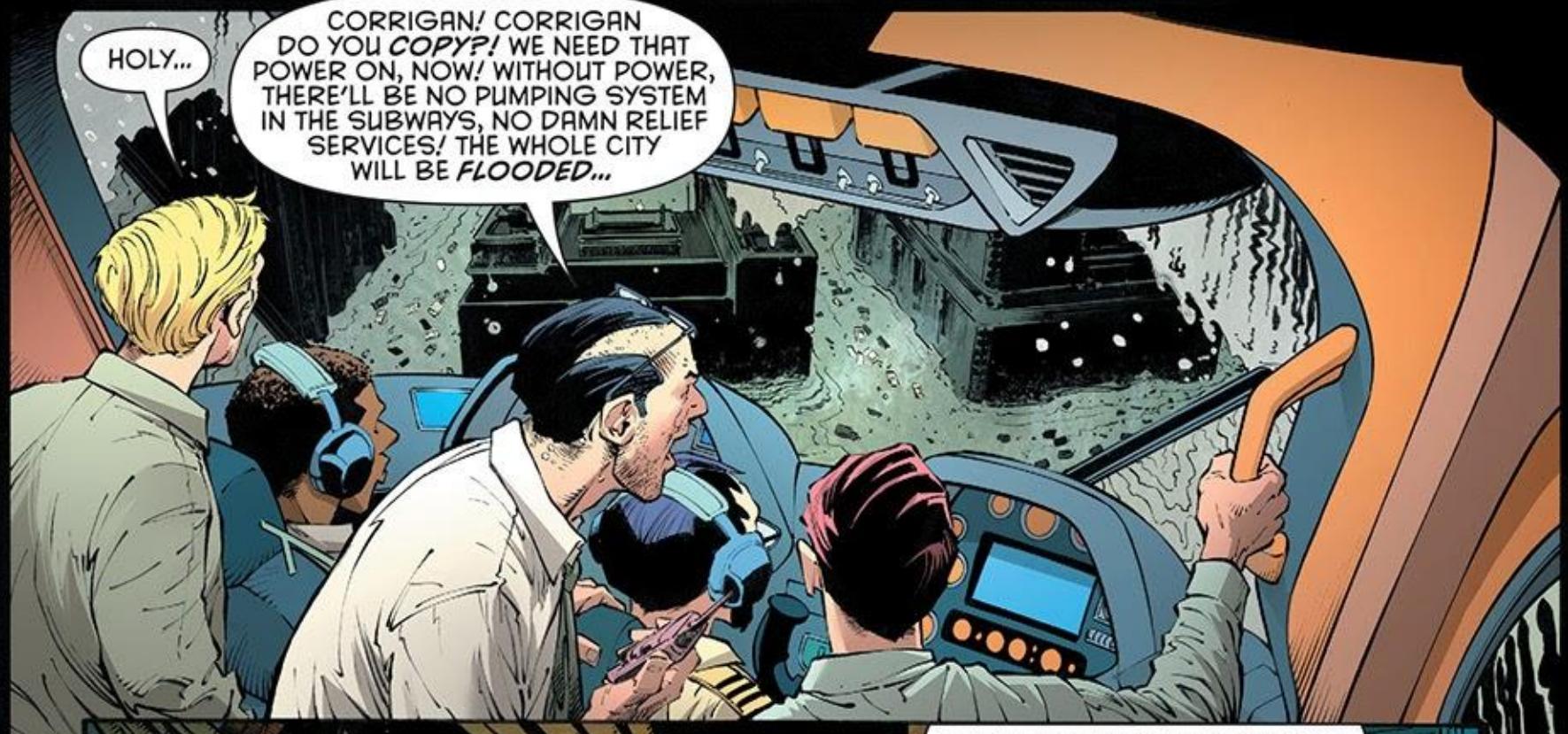


"WHAT IS IT, BATMAN,  
WHAT DOES HE HAV--



--DEAR GOD...WERE  
THOSE THE RETAINING  
WALLS?"







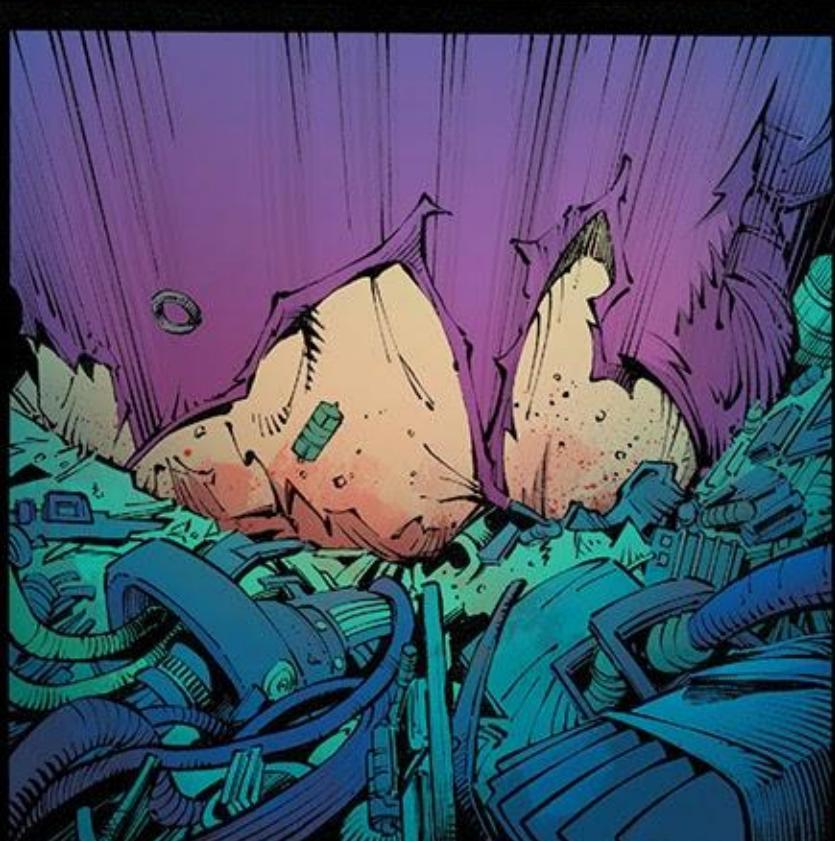
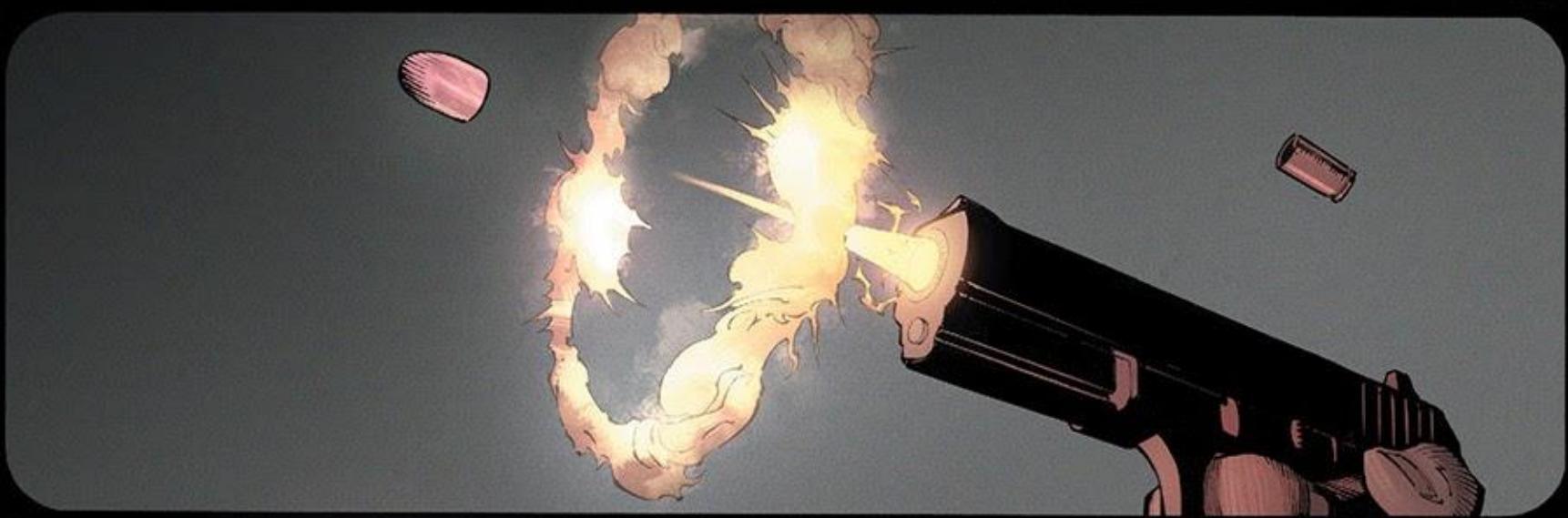
I SHOULD'VE LISTENED, GORDON! I SHOULD'VE TAKEN THE CALL! THERE'D BE NO →UNH← NO DEATH! THERE'D BE NONE OF THIS!



I HEAR YOU...









**HELP!**



**NEXT: SAVAGE CITY**