

CITY OF BONE



BATMAN

75

RATED T TEEN
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KING • DANIEL • MOREY • GERADS

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LATER.





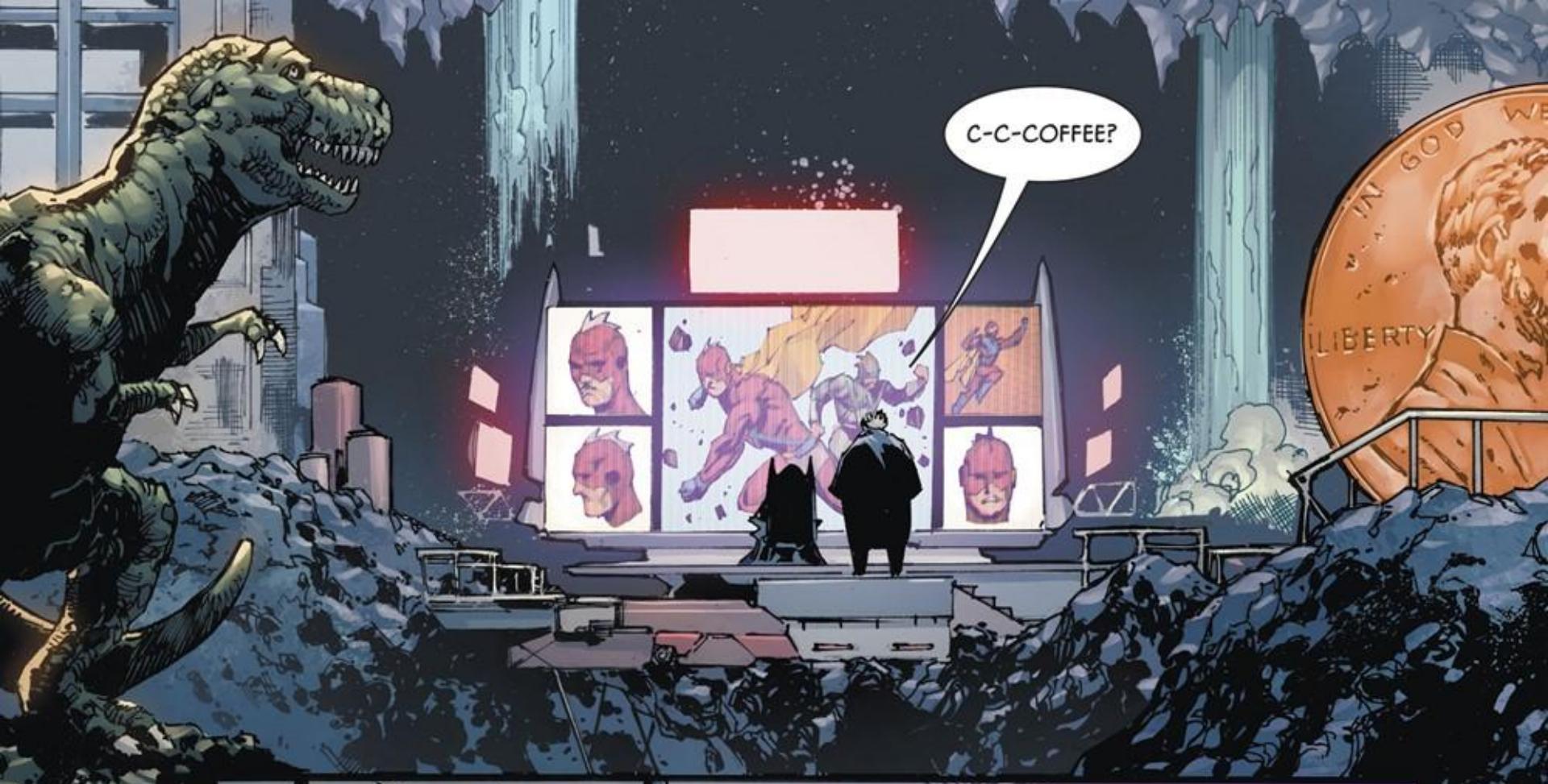






...BATMAN.











"THE FARMER'S
NEIGHBORS CAME
TO HIS HOUSE."





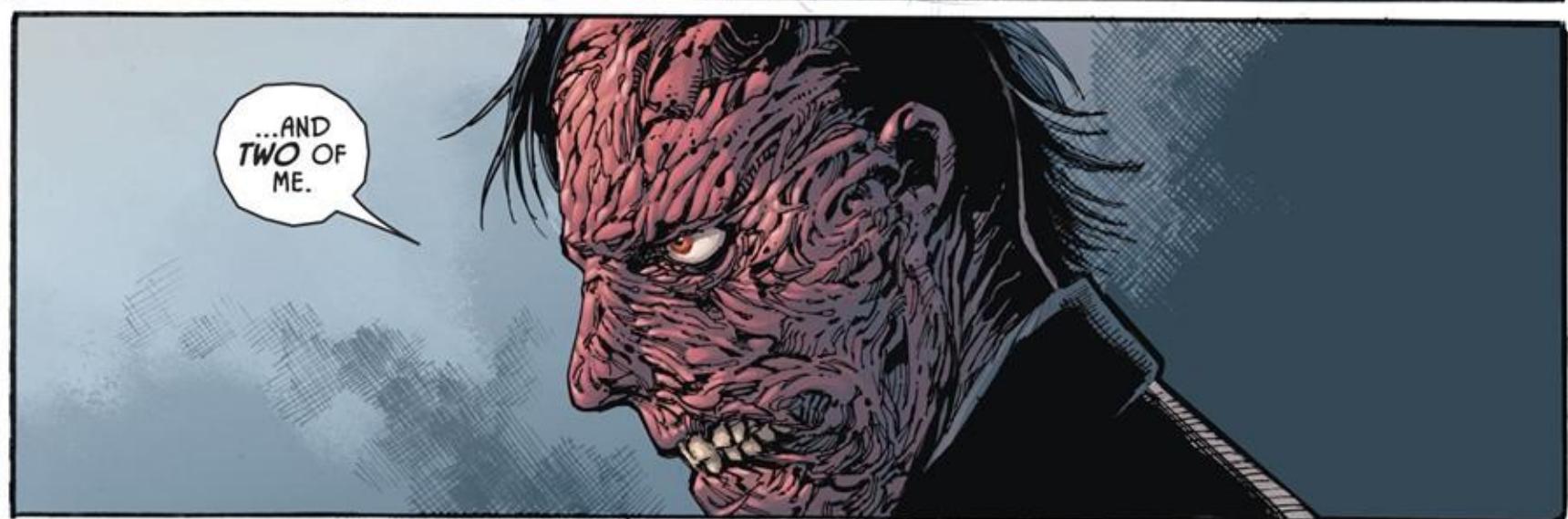
EVERYTHING
IS GOOD.

AS LONG AS
THE **NUMBERS**
ARE RIGHT.

AND THE
NUMBERS ARE
RIGHT.



THERE'S
TWO OF
YOU...



...AND
TWO OF
ME.



SOMETIMES
HE **WORRIES**
ME.

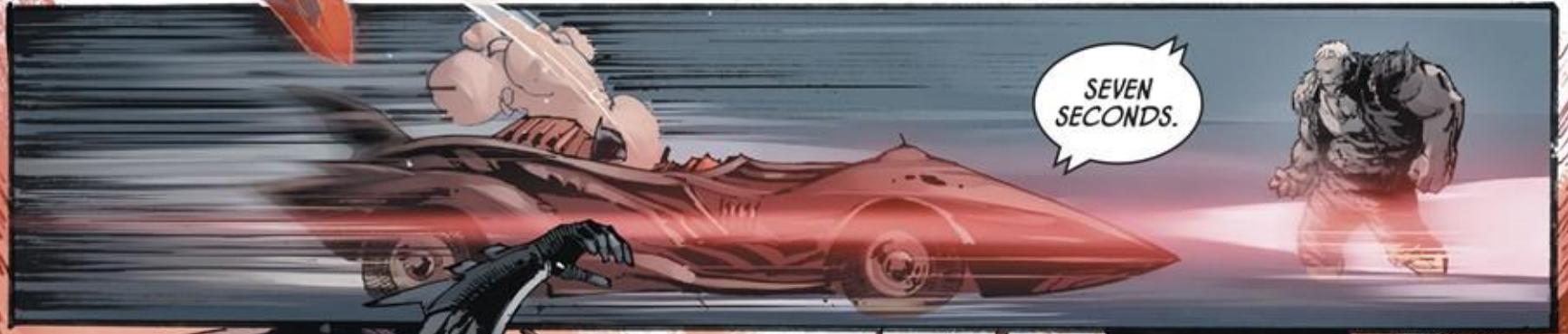
SOLOMON
GRUNDY,
BORN ON A
MONDAY!

SOMETIMES
YOU WORRY
ME, TOO.





E.T.A.?



SEVEN
SECONDS.



MAKE IT
THREE.



THREE.

LOOK,
GRUNDY, A TINY
MAN IN A RODENT
COSTUME.

SOLOMON
GRUNDY!

WHAT DO
YOU SAY?
WE CRUSH
HIM?

BORN ON
A MONDAY!

YEAH,
OKAY. WE
CRUSH
HIM.

TWO.

ONE.

POW

POW.

"THE NEXT DAY, THE HORSE RETURNED, BRINGING WITH HIM TWO BEAUTIFUL, WILD HORSES."

"THE NEIGHBORS RETURNED. 'YOU ARE MOST FORTUNATE!' THEY SAID."

"'MAYBE,' THE FARMER SAID."

"THE NEXT DAY, THE FARMER'S ONLY SON TRIED TO RIDE ONE OF THE WILD HORSES AND BROKE HIS LEG."

"THIS IS A GRAVE MISFORTUNE!" THE NEIGHBORS SAID.

"'MAYBE,' THE FARMER SAID."

LATEST UPDATE OF THE WEEK

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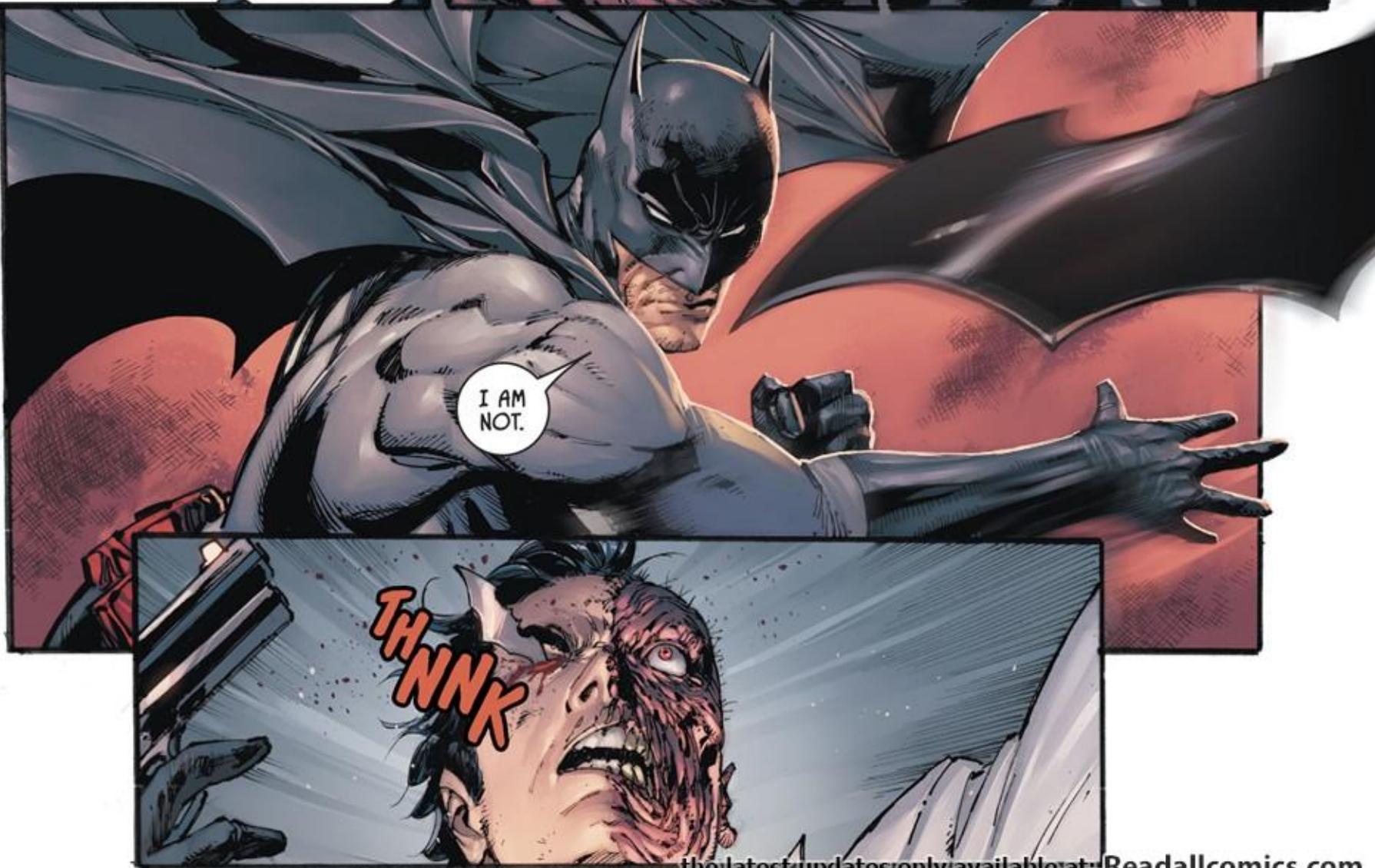
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THE NEXT DAY THE ARMY CAME TO DRAFT THE FARMER'S SON INTO THE BLOODY WAR.

SEEING THE BROKEN LEG, THE ARMY LET THE BOY LIVE IN PEACE WITH HIS FATHER.

THE NEIGHBORS CAME AGAIN. "YOU ARE MOST FORTUNATE!" THEY SAID.

"MAYBE," THE FARMER SAID.

YOU ARE NOT...
I HAVE COME...
WHERE... WHERE IS THE MEMORY OF THE MOUNTAIN?

DEAD.

HE...NO... PLEASE...
I... I AM...I WAS HIS PUPIL...I... TRAINED WITH HIM...
I LEFT HIM...I NEED... DID HE LEAVE... ANYTHING... FOR...ME...







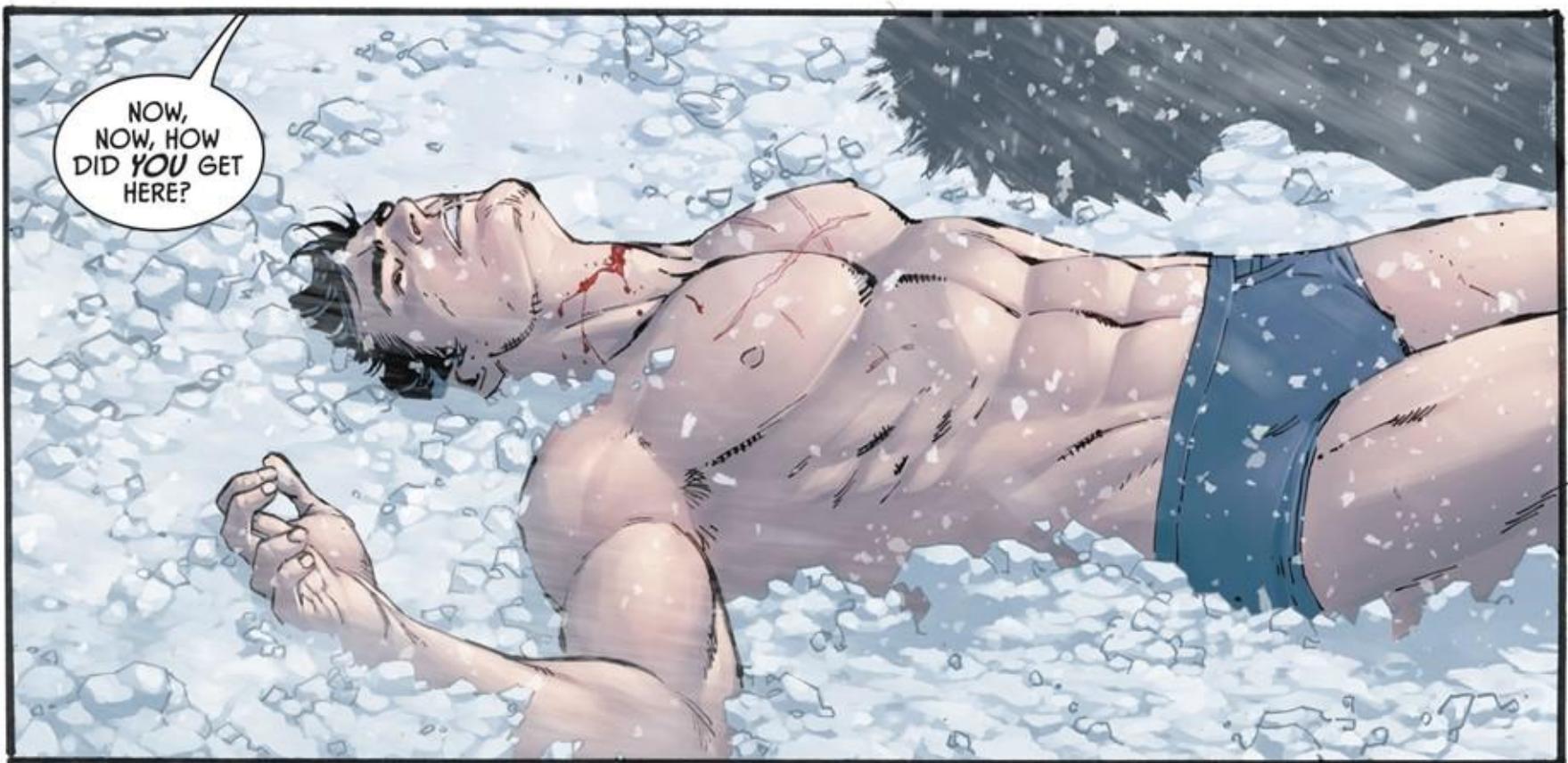
YOU
GOING TO TELL
HER?

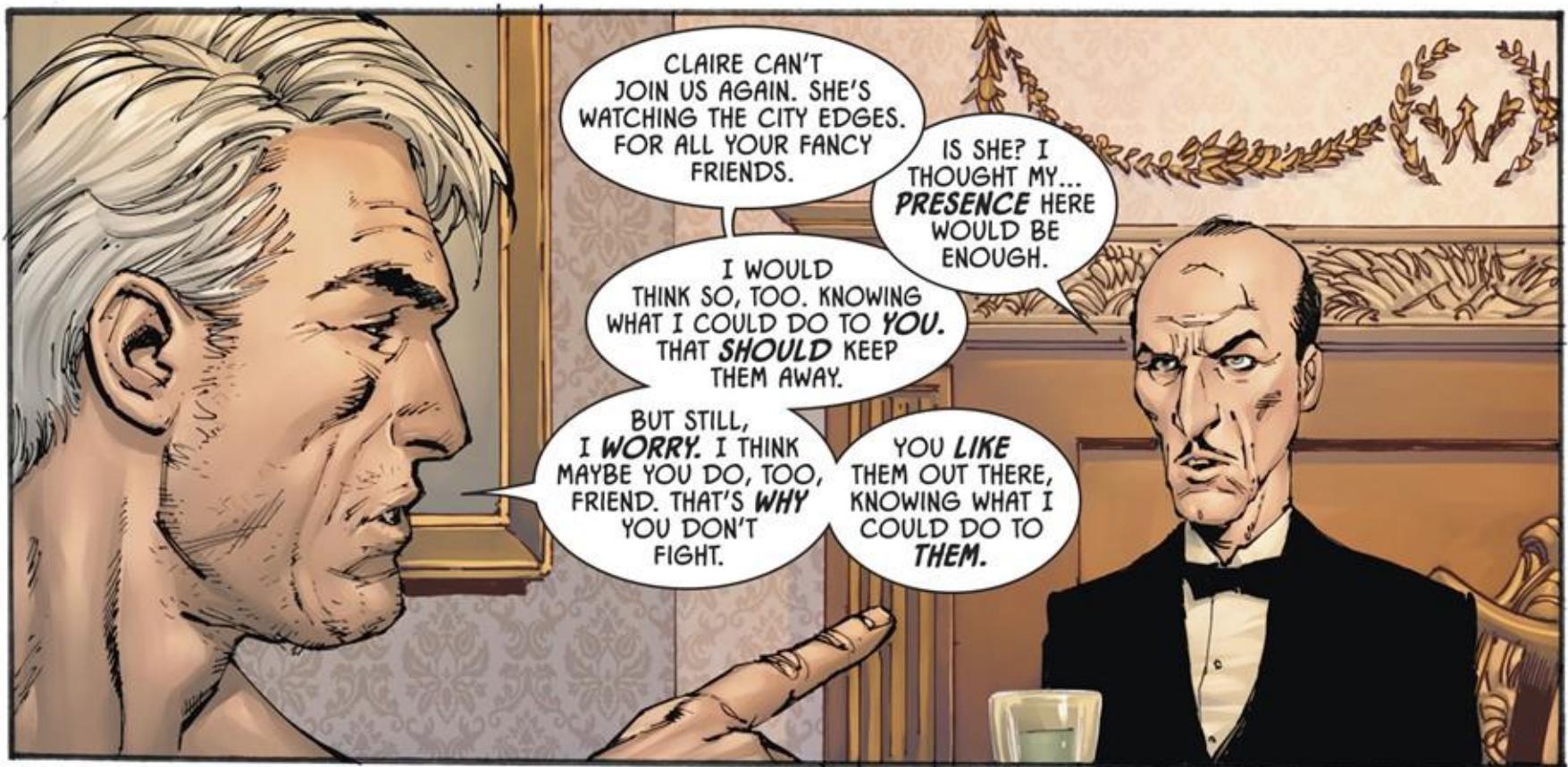
DUDE,
I TELL MAGPIE
EVERYTHING. GOOD
FOR MY SAFETY, Y'KNOW?
FEW MORE WEEKS,
AFTER SHE MAKES
THIS SALE?

BANE'S
GOING TO MAKE
HER THE RICHEST
WOMAN IN THE
WORLD.



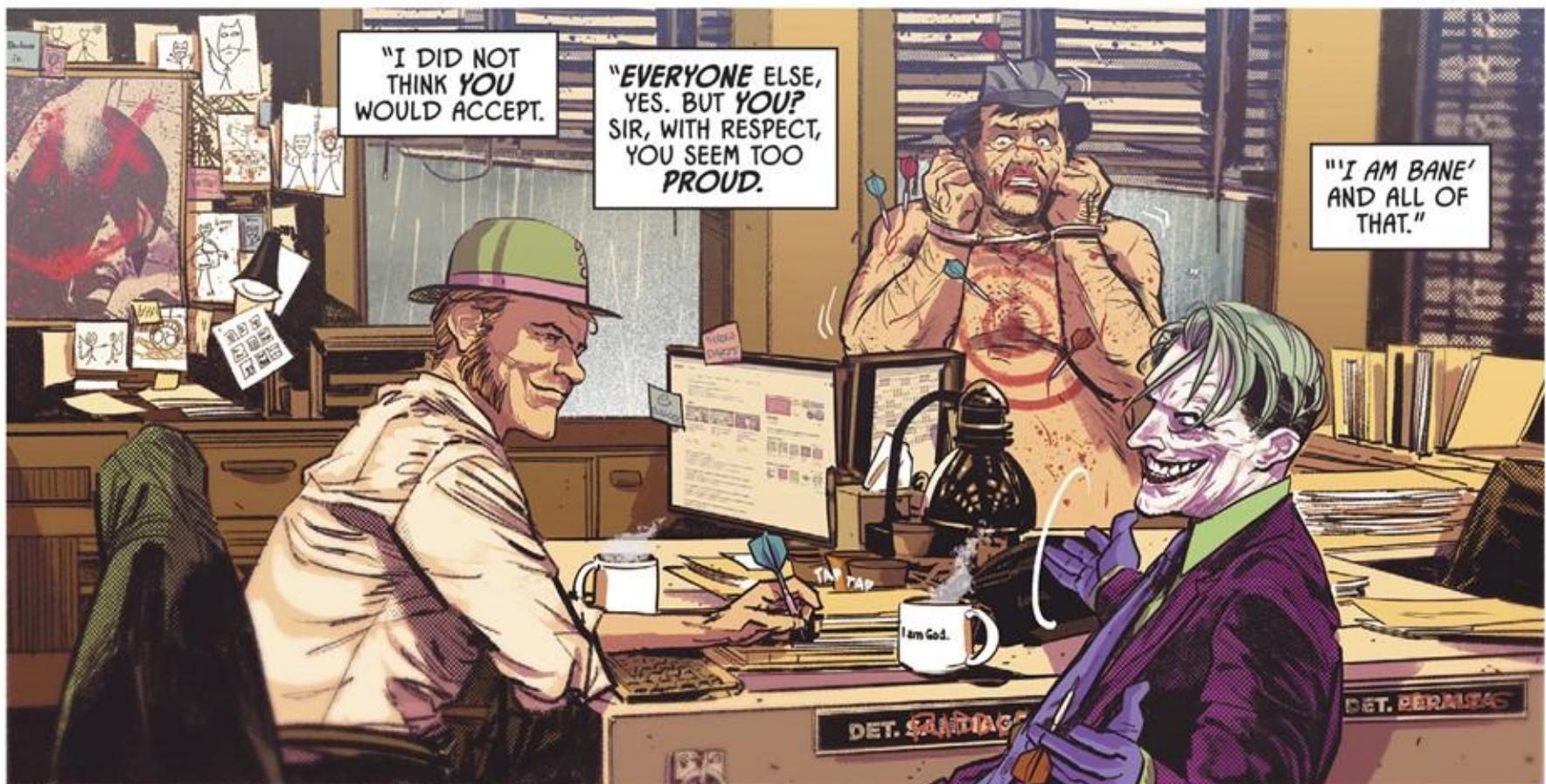


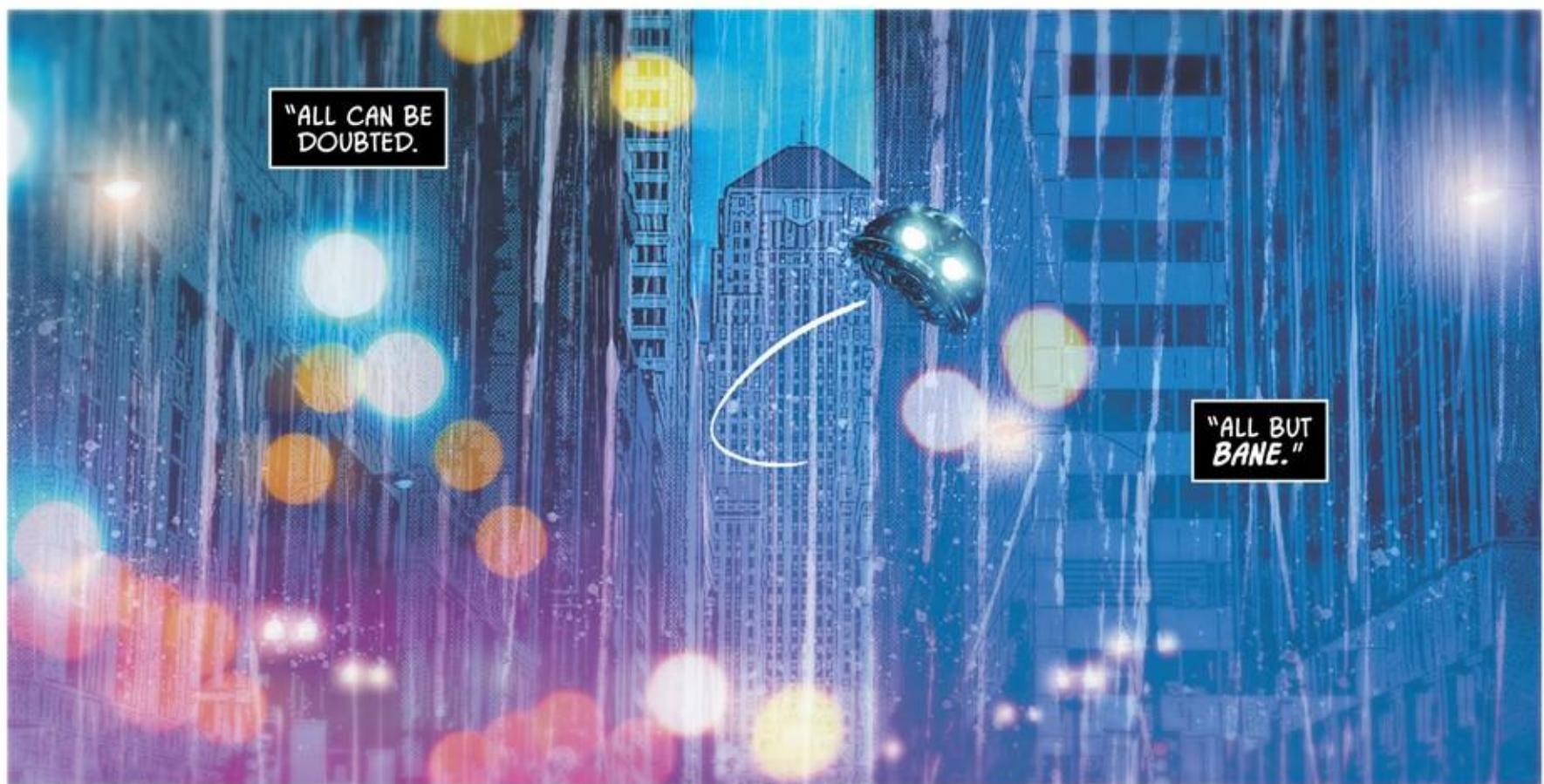
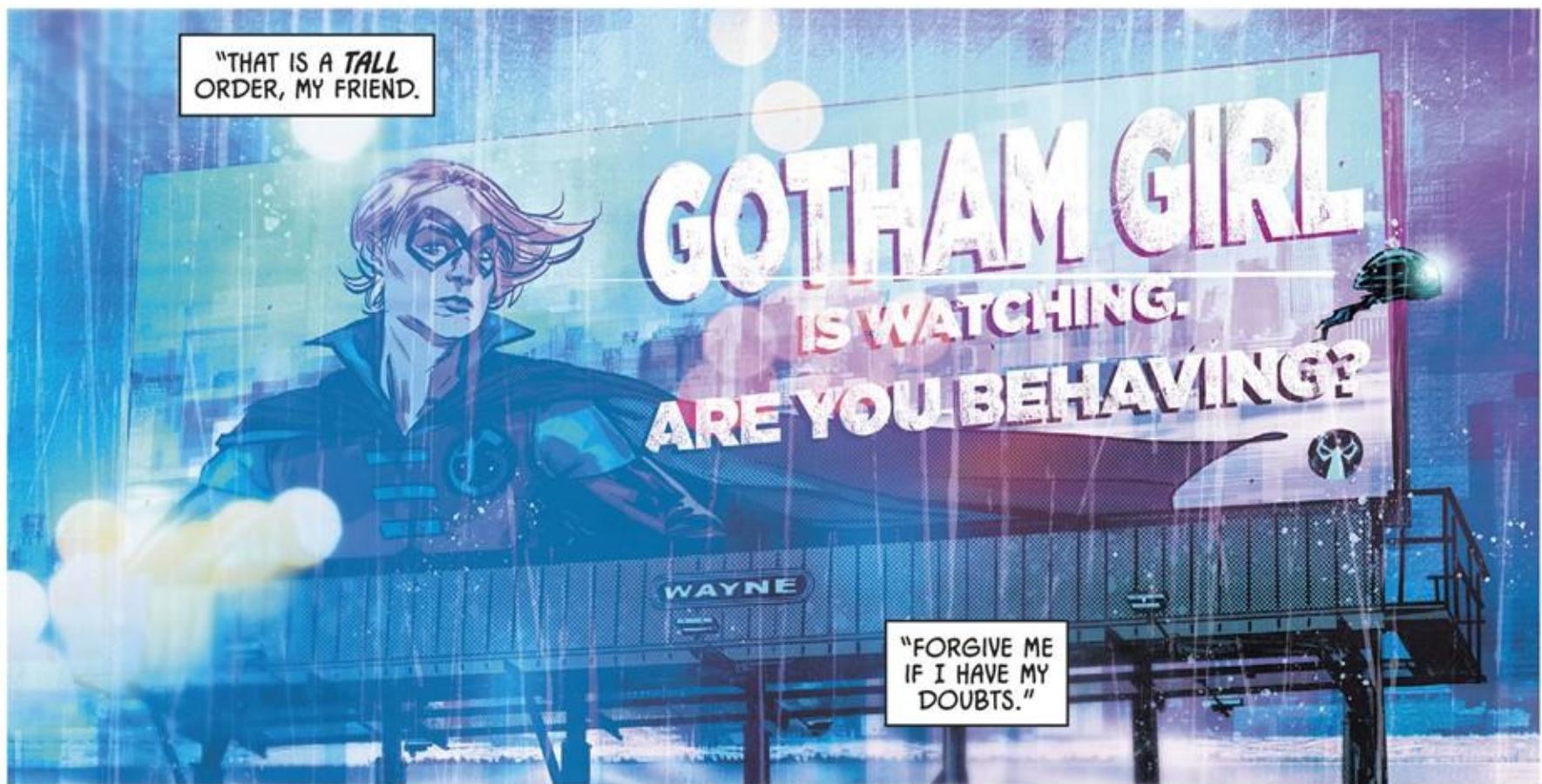






IT
WAS THE
STREET.





"YES, WELL.

"TELL THAT TO THE JUSTICE LEAGUE WHEN THEY FIND OUT ABOUT YOUR BAT AND YOUR VILLAINS."

"I...DOUBT THEY'LL AGREE."

"I...CAN KEEP THEM...OUT...WITH STRENGTH... AND MERCY TO INNOCENTS."

"I DEFEATED... THE BAT."

"THEY WILL BE... EASIER."

"BUT I WOULD LIKE... MORE THAN...STRENGTH."

"I WOULD LIKE...AN UNDERSTANDING WITH YOUR...GOVERNMENT. TO MAKE THIS...EASIER."

"AN UNDERSTANDING?"

"I DON'T THINK I UNDERSTAND."

"GOTHAM IS A...**STAIN**
ON YOUR...COUNTRY.
YOUR...**POLITICIANS**."

"YOUR **GOVERNMENT...**
WANTS THE **WAR...**
HERE...TO **END**."

"WANTS TO...
BOAST...THAT IT
HAS DEFEATED...THE
EVIL. FINALLY."

"HMM.

"YOU BRING PEACE
TO THE CITY. TO
GOTHAM."

"OUR ONGOING
NATIONAL
EMBARRASSMENT."

"AND IN EXCHANGE, THE
U.S. SETS UP WALLS,
LAWS, CONCEDES YOUR
POWER HERE."

"MAKES IT **ILLEGAL** FOR
ANY MAN, ANY HERO, TO
TRY TO USURP YOUR
RIGHTFUL JUSTICE."

"YES."

"DONE.

"BUT IN DOING SO,
I ASK SOMETHING
IN RETURN."

"NOTHING
HARD. JUST
SOMETHING
TRUE."

"AN ANSWER TO
A QUESTION THAT
VEXES ME."

"OF
COURSE."

"YOU HAVE SHOWN
QUITE A BIT OF
COMPETENCE.
ONE MIGHT EVEN
SAY **TALENT**.

"YOU CONTROL
PSYCHO-PIRATE,
PERHAPS THE MOST
POWERFUL WEAPON
EVER CONCEIVED.

"YOU COULD CONTROL EVERY
PERSON INSTEAD OF JUST **VILLAINS**.
YOU COULD HAVE THE WORLD."

"YOU COULD--YOU
SHOULDN'T--BUT YOU COULD
CHALLENGE **ME** FOR DOMINANCE,
AT LEAST HOW I USED TO BE."

"AND YET THIS
IS ALL YOU ASK.
GOTHAM?

"WHY COMPROMISE
FOR THIS, WHY
BARGAIN FOR AN
UNDERSTANDING?"

"WHY?"

"THIS COUNTRY...THIS PLANET...THIS UNIVERSE. IT IS **PERPETUALLY** AT...RISK."

"ANOTHER **CRISIS**... COMING. AN **IMPOSSIBLE**... EVIL...OFFERING INEVITABLE... DEATH."

"AND WHO..."

"...TIME AFTER TIME...EVERY TIME..."

"WHO **GREET**S THIS THREAT...PLANS, EXECUTES... OVERCOMES THIS..."

"**IMPOSSIBLE.**"

"AH."

"I SEE."

"AND YET...DESPITE THIS...**SUCCESS**. ALL THE WORLDS...SAVED."

"WHAT HAS HE...NEVER ACCOMPLISHED?"

"WHAT IS THE **ONE** THING...IN THE ENTIRE UNIVERSE..."

"...THE BATMAN **CANNOT** CONTROL?"



"YOU HAVE
DONE WHAT HE
COULD NOT."



"YOU CAN HAVE YOUR...
MULTIVERSE...YOUR
CONQUERING."

"YOU TREAD...WHERE
MANY HAVE TRODDEN.
YOU WILL FAIL...AS
MANY HAVE FAILED."

"THOUGH I
DO WISH
YOU...GOOD
FORTUNE,
LUTHOR."



"I RESPECTFULLY
DISAGREE."

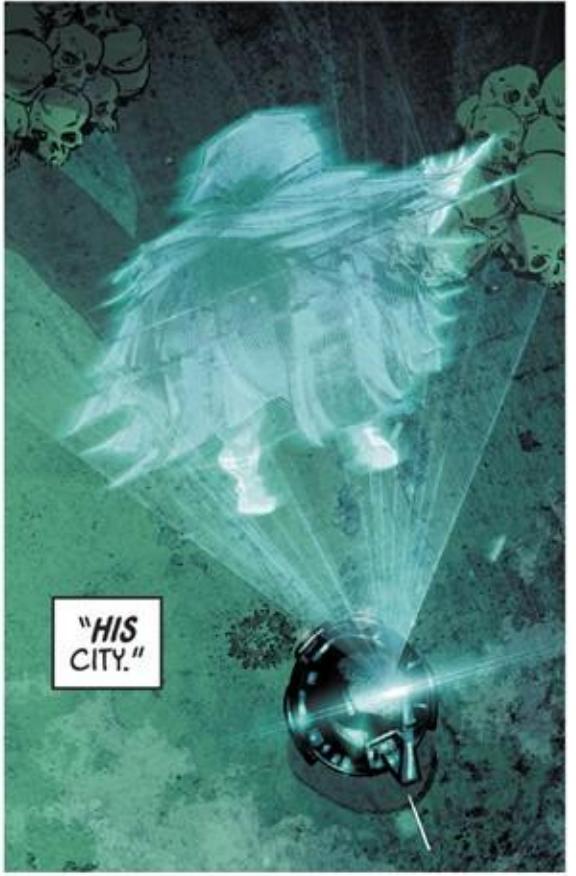
"BUT NONETHELESS,
THANK YOU."



"AND I..."

"I WILL HAVE
THIS...THAT
WHICH NO MAN
HAS EVER
CLAIMED."

"THIS
CITY."



"HIS
CITY."

DC Comics Presents.

I SEE.

I SEE YOU
ARE RIGHT,
SIR.

ALL CAN BE
DOUBTED.

ALL BUT
BANE.



CITY OF
BANE

PART 1

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"CITY OF BANE" CONTINUES!

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