

BATMAN

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THIS ISSUE: BATMAN DIES!!!

BRUBAKER • McDANIEL • STORY • LOWE



--AND REALLY,
HOW LONG AM I EXPECTED
TO PUT UP WITH THIS
NONSENSE?

I MEAN, YOU
UNDERSTAND, RIGHT?
I'M A RESPECTABLE
BUSINESSMAN.

AND WHEN
SOMEONE ATTACKS
YOUR LIVELIHOOD, YOU
HAVE TO RETALIATE,
DON'T YOU?

SO I HAD TO
KILL HIM. HE LEFT
ME NO OTHER
CHOICE.

OF COURSE,
NOW I'M OUT
HERE...ADRIFT,
AS THEY SAY.

BUT I STILL
DID WHAT I HAD
TO DO.

"IT WASN'T EASY, EITHER. I'VE TRIED TO KILL THE BAT BEFORE.

"AS HAVE SO MANY OTHERS."

"NO, I'LL TELL YOU THIS, FRIEND, SINCE YOU ASK... IT WAS NO EASY TASK."



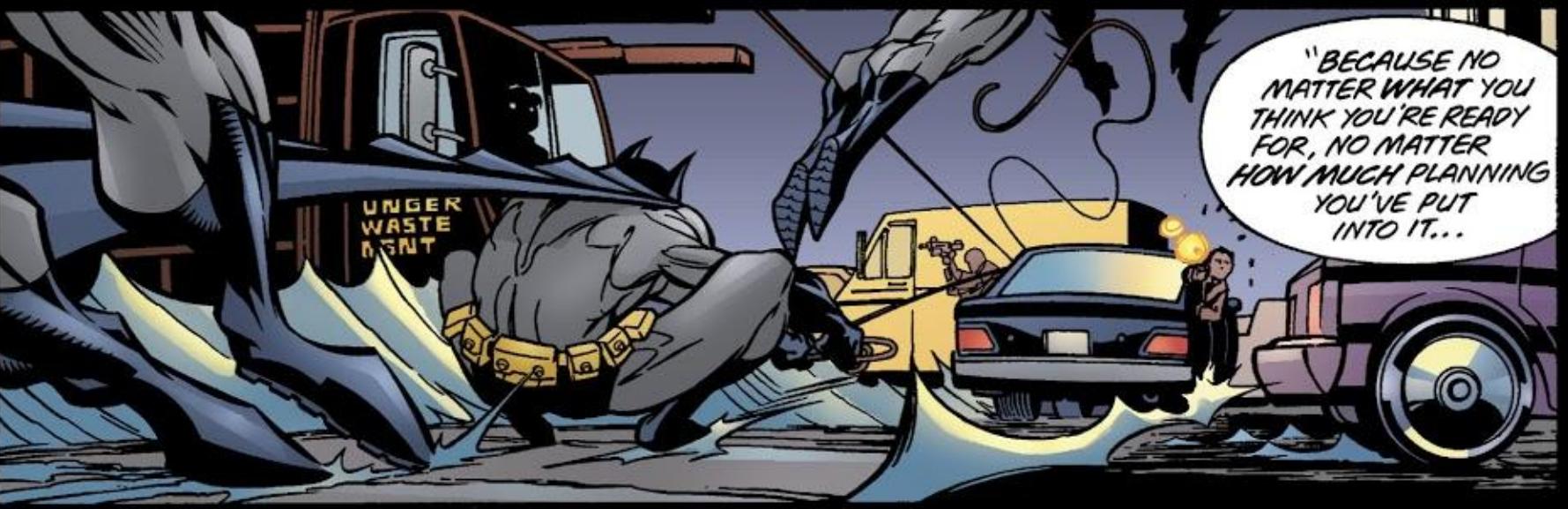
"BECAUSE TO
KILL THE BAT, YOU
HAVE TO TRAP
HIM FIRST..."

HIM, YOU NEED TO KNOW
WHAT DRIVES HIM..."." data-bbox="0 240 1000 700"/>

"...AND TO TRAP
HIM, YOU NEED TO KNOW
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YOU KNOW THAT,
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ADVANTAGE."." data-bbox="0 700 1000 1000"/>

"...AND ONCE
YOU KNOW THAT,
YOU HAVE TO FIGURE
OUT HOW TO TURN
IT TO YOUR
ADVANTAGE."





SEE, BUT I KNEW ALL THAT... I'VE BEEN FACING OFF WITH HIM FOR SO LONG I COULD ALMOST PREDICT HIS EVERY MOVE.

I'VE JUST BEEN TOO AFRAID. TOO AFRAID TO SQUASH HIM.



BECAUSE, WHAT IF I FAILED?

I'VE SEEN HIM MAD, AND IT'S NOT SOMETHING I WANT TO EXPERIENCE REGULARLY.



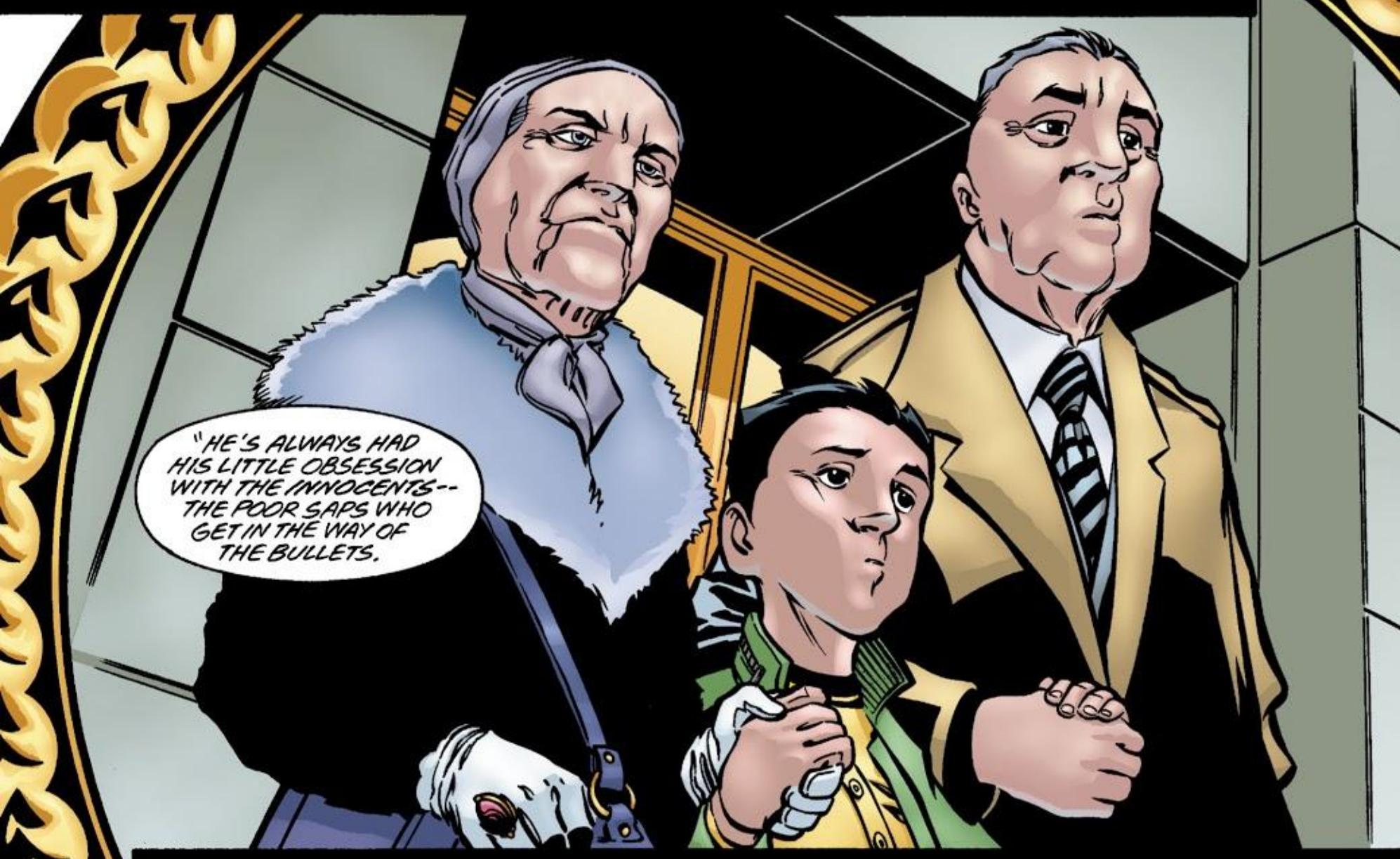
I MEAN, LET'S FACE IT... THE GUY'S OBVIOUSLY A TOTAL LUNATIC. WHAT HAPPENS WHEN HE SNAPS?

I DON'T WANT TO BE THE ONE BEHIND THAT EIGHT BALL.



BUT, LIKE I SAID, HE PUSHED ME TOO FAR... SO I GOT PAST MY FEAR.

AND WHEN I WAS FREE OF RESTRAINT, THEN I COULD MANIPULATE HIM... PLAY ON HIS OBVIOUS WEAKNESSES...





"YES, I WOULD PAINT A PICTURE THAT WOULD STRIKE RIGHT AT THAT BLEEDING HEART OF HIS."

"HOW COULD HE AVOID IT? A YOUNG BOY KIDNAPPED, HIS PARENTS MURDERED RIGHT BEFORE HIS EYES?"

"I FIGURED THEY'D GET THREE BLOCKS, AT THE MOST, BEFORE HE WAS ON THEM LIKE A HOMING BEACON."

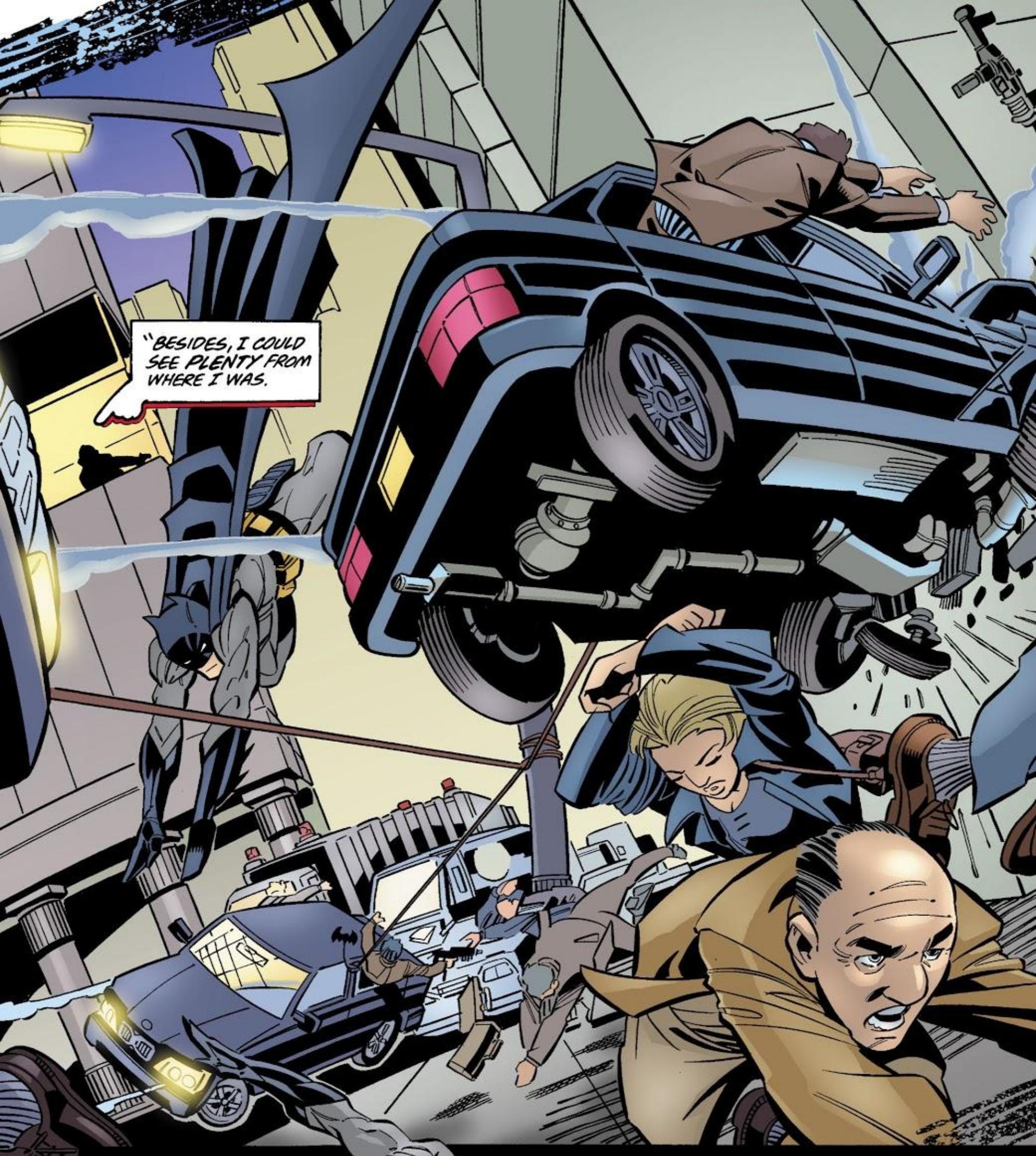


BECAUSE, SEE, MY MEN WERE PREPARED FOR THIS. THEY KNEW WHAT WAS IN STORE, AND KNEW TO MAKE IT *COOK* GOOD, AS IF THEY WERE REALLY TRYING TO DITCH HIM...

"AND I WASN'T FAR OFF... THE POOR FOOL... HE FLEW RIGHT INTO MY TRAP."









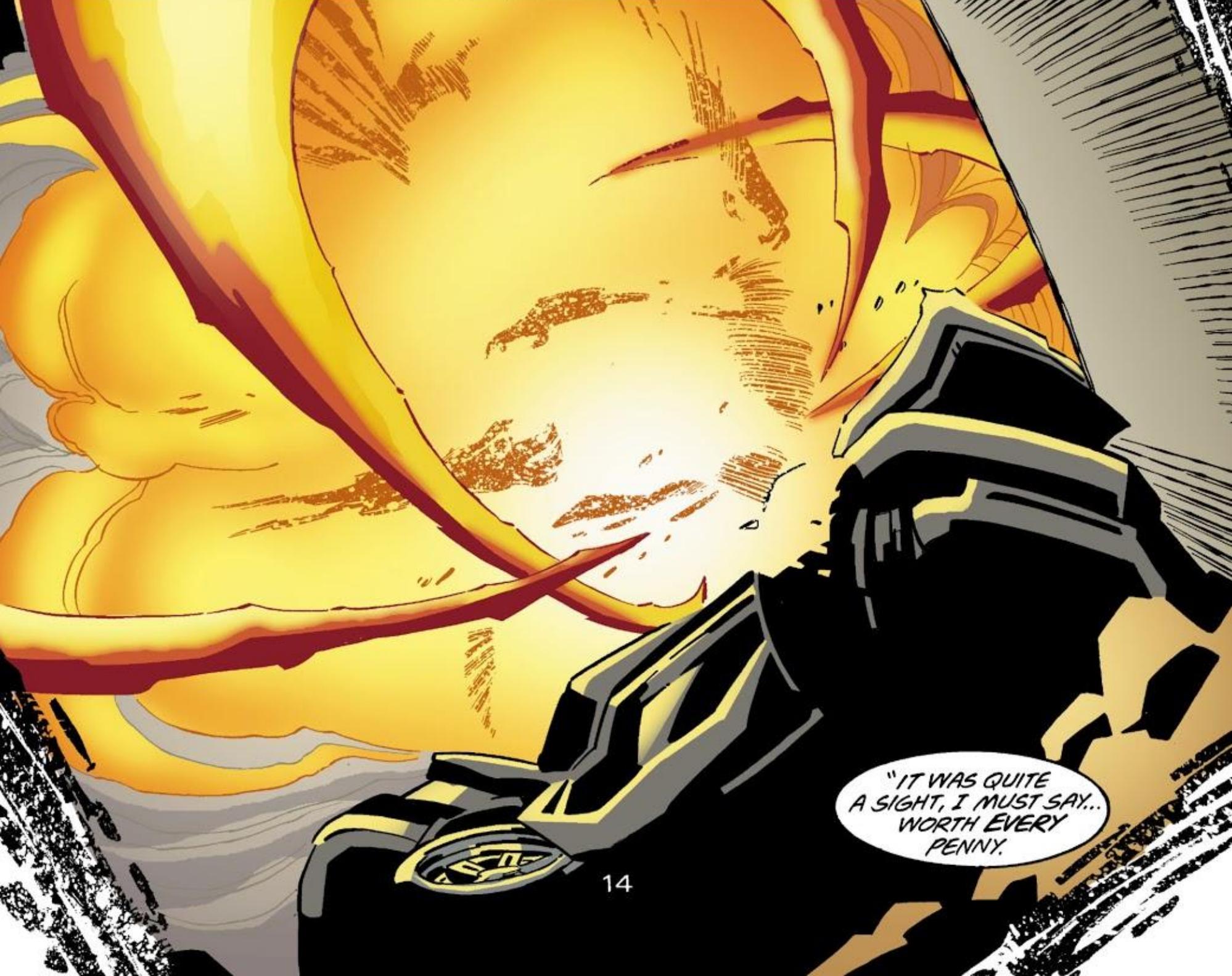


"THOSE ROBOTS
COST ME A FORTUNE,
BUT THEY WERE TOP
OF THE LINE LEXCORPS
DECOY-BOTS..."



... DADDY! ... DADDY!

"... AND THEY WERE
LIFE-LIKE ENOUGH TO
SUCCER EVEN THE BAT.
FOR THE LAST
TIME.



"IT WAS QUITE
A SIGHT, I MUST SAY...
WORTH EVERY
PENNY."







"LUCKILY FOR ME, THEY WERE IN SUCH A STATE OF SHOCK AT THEIR MASTER'S DEMISE THAT THEY LET ME GET AWAY..."



"...BUT I KNEW THEN, THAT THEY'D NEVER LET ME BREATHE FREE AGAIN."

"AND I WAS
RIGHT. FOR THE NEXT
TWO WEEKS, THEY
DOGGED MY EVERY
MOVE..."

"...IT WAS
LIKE BEING
AIR-
RADED.

"EVEN THE
DAMNED HUNTRESS
WAS AFTER ME,
AND WHO WOULD'VE
THOUGHT SHE'D
EVEN CARE?



AND NOW MY
REVENGE CAN BE
COMPLETE. BECAUSE,
SEE, YOU PUSHED
ME TOO FAR, TOO.

YOU AND YOUR
CHICKADEE
LAWYER, TRYING
TO TAKE AWAY
MY HOME...YOU
SHAMED ME.

AND NO ONE
IS EVER GOING
TO DO THAT
AGAIN.

KABLAM!

UNGH...
DAMMIT, YOU'RE
HEAVY...
UHGN...

SPLASHH





PENGUIN Dreams

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