



THE FINAL NIGHT

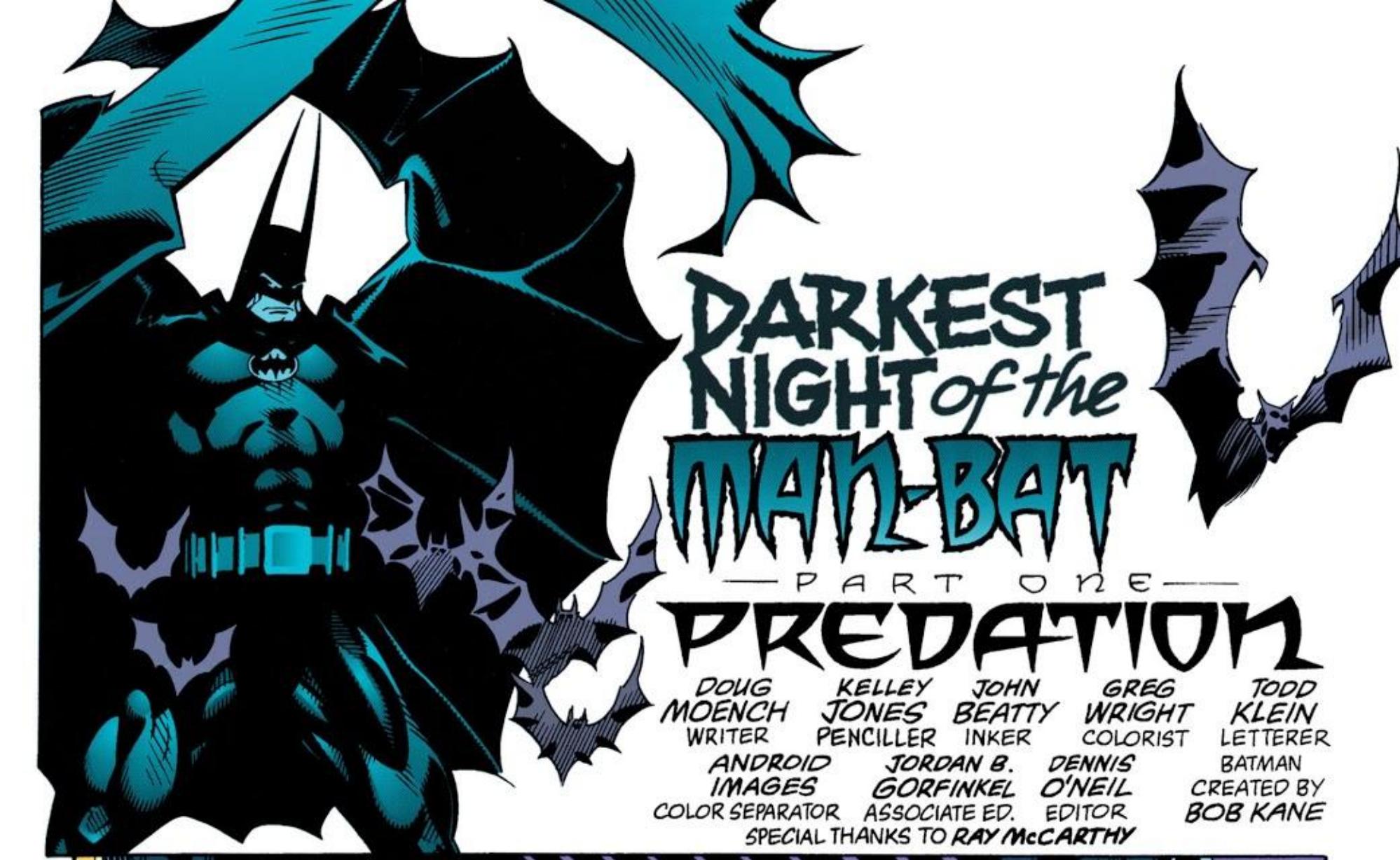
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BATMAN

KELLEY JONES & JOHN BEATTY

MICHAEL
JONES
BEATTY



DARKEST NIGHT of the **MAN-BAT**

— PART ONE —

PREDATION

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BOB KANE







POLICE HEAD-
QUARTERS:

--B-B-BLOOD ON
ITS MOUTH--UNDER THE
TRACKS!

PLEASE,
SIR--CALM
DOWN.

DON'T YOU
DARE SEND HIM
OVER HERE,
MONTOYA.

BUT IT WAS
A GIANT BAT-
MONSTER!

AND I WAS JUST ON MY WAY OUT,
SIR, BUT I'M SURE SERGEANT HARVEY
BULLOCK CAN HELP YOU.

GIANT BAT-
MONSTERS ARE HIS
SPECIALTY.

BIH-BIH-BIH-
BULL-OCK?

RIGHT OVER
THERE, SIR, DEEP
IN THAT MIASMA
OF CIGAR
FUMES...

A GIANT
BAT-MONSTER
--I SAW IT!

NO REASON TO
POP YER VEINS ALL
OVER MY DESK,
PAL.

THE BEHEMOTH
SCULPTED FROM SEMI-
DIGESTED DONUT
LARD.

WE GOT AN EPI-
DEMIC O'PEOPLE SEEIN'
THINGS--ONLY NATURAL,
MIDDLE O'THE UNNATURAL
SITUATION WE'RE IN.

SIH-SITUA-
TION?

I REALIZE IT KINDA SUITS GOTHAM,
SO IN CASE YA AIN'T NOTICED...

...IT'S BEEN A HARD
DAY'S NIGHT WHICH AIN'T
OVER YET.

IF THE SUN DON'T BLINK BACK
SOON, I'LL BE BUSTIN' MOLARS
ON VERDA MAE'S ICE-RINGS
RIGHT BEFORE WE ALL FACE
A FAR WORSE PROSPECT...

...FREEZIN', DROPPIN',
AN' NOT ROTTIN'--ON
A PLANET O'PERFECT
CORPSES.



...CUZ HE SWOOPED
RIGHT PAST THE BOTH OF
US TO SNATCH UP AN
ALLEYCAT--

--EVEN THOUGH
WE WAS ENGAGED IN...UH
...TECHNICALLY CRIMINAL
BEHAVIOR.

HEY, I WAS ONLY THE BUYER,
MAN, NOT THE DEALER.

LEMME
GUESS--
DRUGS.

DON'T
MATTER,
PAL.

IF IT WAS SMACK, CRACK,
SNORT, CRANK, OR DUST, MERE
POSSESSION IS ILLEGAL.

WANNA GET INTO
A PROGRAM?

CAN'T
AFFORD
IT.

BESIDES, THE PROGRAM'S FREE,
AT LEAST TO YOU-- FUNDED BY THE
WAYNE FOUNDATION.

I...I'LL
THINK
ABOUT
IT.

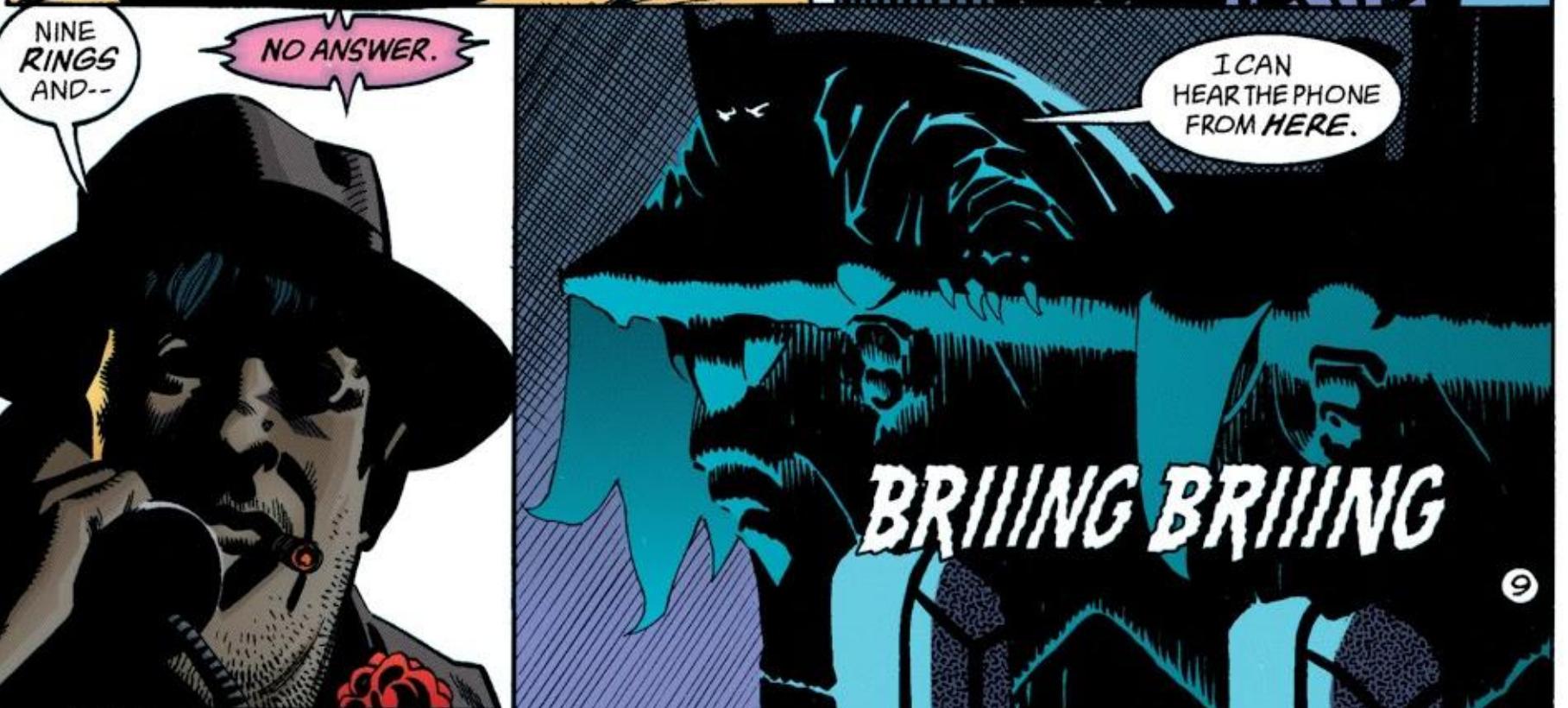
ALL RIGHT,
I'LL DO THE
PROGRAM,
BUT--

THOUGHT YOU MIGHT, BUT
NOW WE GOT ANOTHER SUSPECT
IN YER HALLUCINATION--
BRAIN-CANDY.

NORTH OR
SOUTH OF
OUR JAIL
BARS?

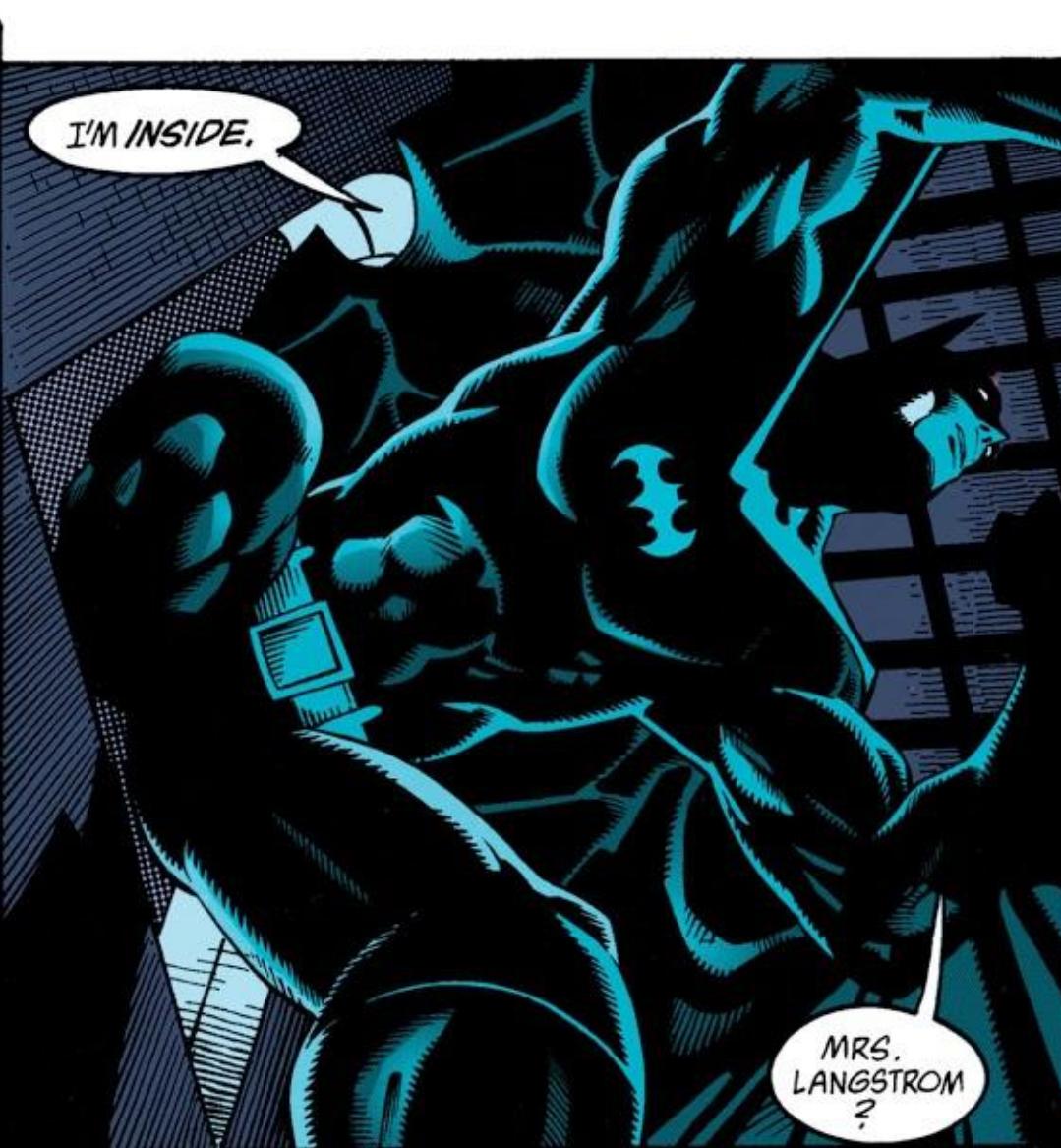
REHABILITA
CLINIC
DR. TOME







YOU CAN
HANG UP,
SERGEANT
BULLOCK.



I'M INSIDE.

PEESH

MRS.
LANGSTROM
?



FRANCINE--?

BULLOCK--
WE NEED AN
E.M.T.

YOU HAVE THE
ADDRESS?

229 ASHE
STREET?

RIGHT--
AND MAKE IT
FAST.



NO DRUG
HALUCINATIONS
INVOLVED.

GOTHAM IS DEFINITELY
BEING TERRORIZED BY A
GIANT BAT-MONSTER.

STILL ALIVE...BUT
HOW LONG HAS SHE
LAIN HERE?

MAYBE HE'S NOT
FULLY INHUMAN YET
--NOT COMPLETELY
SAVAGE, DESPITE
THE PROLONGED
NIGHT.

AND WHY DID HE
STRIKE AT HIS OWN
WIFE--BUT ONLY
TAKE A CAT LATER?

MAYBE HE STRUCK AT
FRANCINE ONLY BECAUSE
SHE TRIED TO RESTRAIN HIM.

IF KIRK LANGSTROM IS MY MOST TRAGIC FOE,
HIS WIFE IS THE STRONGEST PERSON I'VE EVER
KNOWN--NEVER AFRAID OF CONFRONTING A
MONSTER TO SAVE HER MAN.

--SO MAYBE IT'S THE LOVE BETWEEN THEM, AS
MUCH AS FRANCINE'S COURAGE, WHICH HAS ALWAYS
BEEN KIRK'S SALVATION.

NOR HAVE I KNOWN
A STRONGER MARRIAGE--

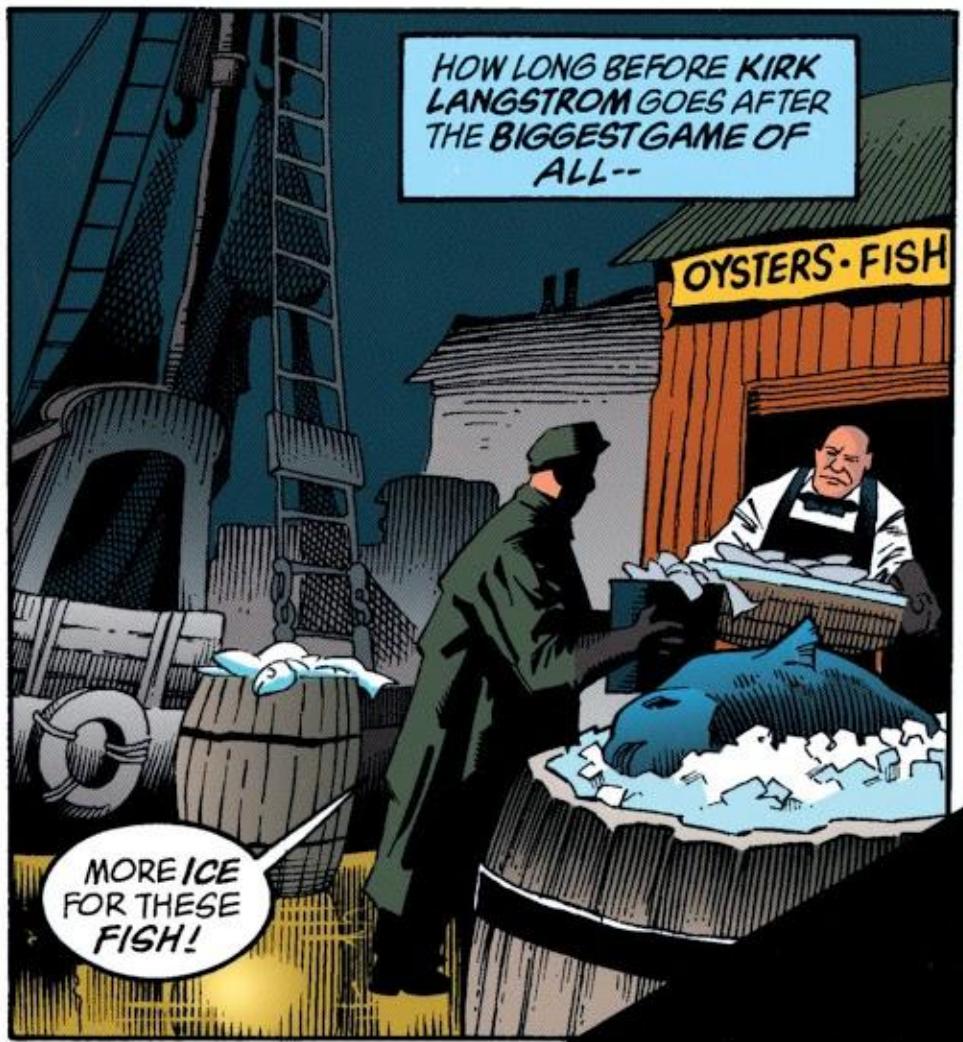
EEOOEEOOEEOOEEOO

IN ANY CASE, IF SHE FORCED
HIM TO LASH OUT AT HER,
MAYBE HE'S NOT COMPLETELY
FERAL YET...

BUT IF SUPERMAN AND
THE OTHERS DON'T RE-
STORE THE SUN SOON--

...NOT UNREACHABLE.

--HOW LONG BEFORE THE DARKNESS
ESCALATES MAN-BAT'S MADNESS...?









BUT NO SIGN OF MAN-BAT ANYWHERE--ONLY "NORMAL" CRIME, FUELED BY THE LONG DARKNESS AND FLOURISHING EVERYWHERE...

HOLD IT RIGHT THERE--TIME TO PAY YER TOLL!



EVEN HERE--ON THE BARRICADED COITOVERPASS.

AWRIGHT, HAND OVER EVERYTHING YA GOT!

LET'S JUST CAP 'EM AND TAKE EVERYTHING THEY--

SKAK

WHAT THE--?!

WAK

THE ONES WHO FEED ON DARKNESS HAVE GOTTEN FAT AND BOLD.

THEY BELIEVE THEY'RE CONCEALED, PROTECTED, INVINCIBLE.

AWWWK

THEY'RE WRONG.

DRIVER AND PASSENGER ARE CLEAR.

SMOK

TWO GUNMEN DOWN.

LEAVING ONLY THE THIRD.

BUN

TOLL REPEALED, AND YOUR LONG NIGHT IS--

SKEEEEEK!

HIM.

MAN-BAT.

AND HE IS BERSERK NOW--WAY OVER THE LINE...

ATTACKING
HUMANS.

FOR THE SAKE OF HIS OWN
SOUL, I CAN'T LET IT HAPPEN.

GOT TO
STOP HIM.

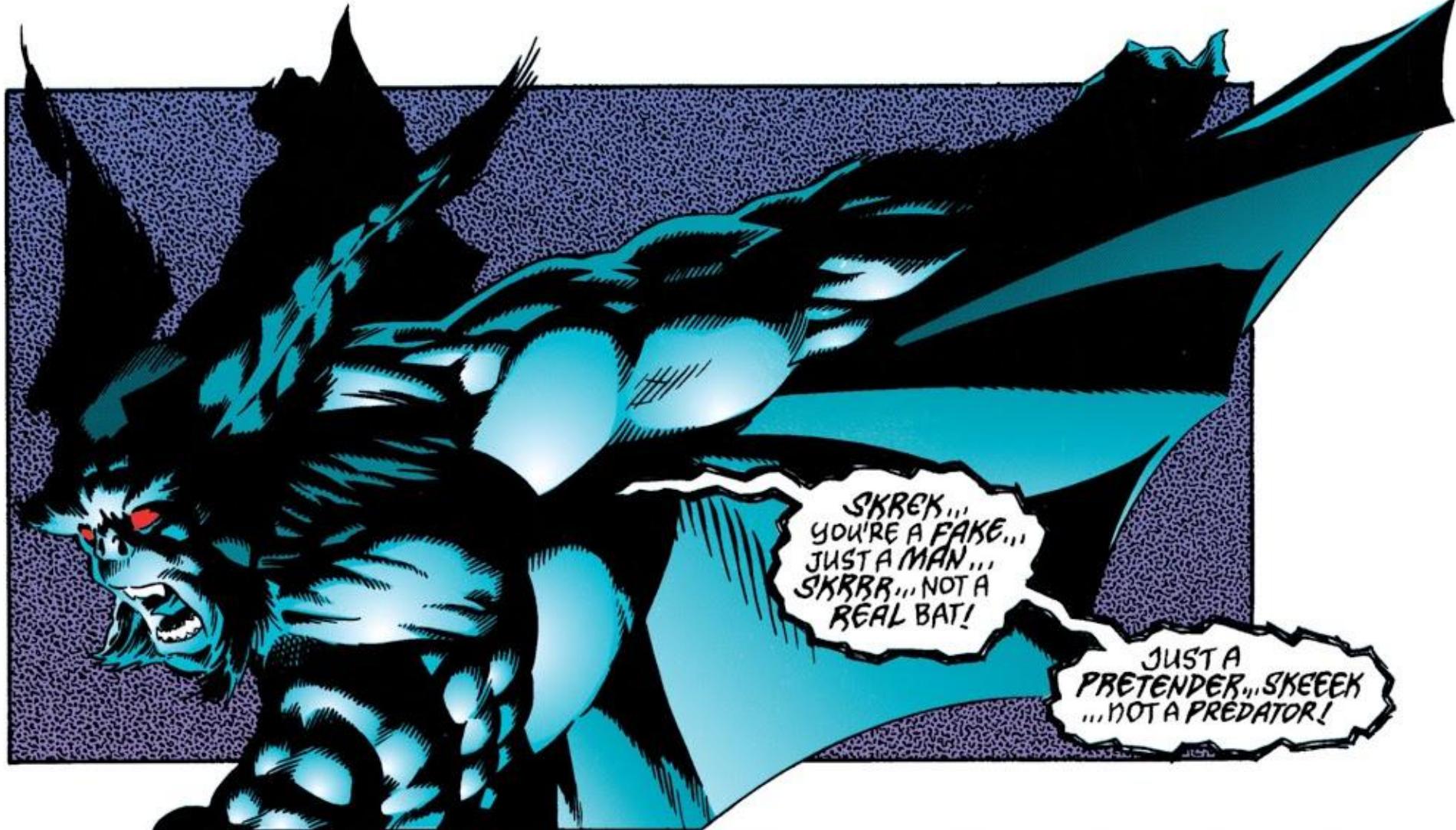
GOT TO--

--SNAG
HIS PREY.

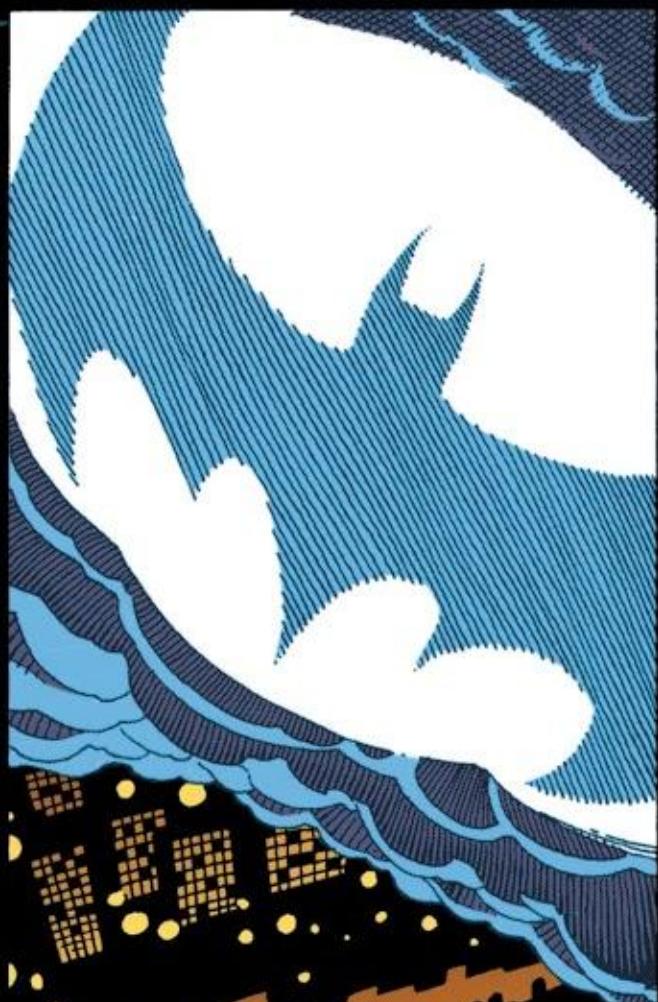
SKREK...
YOU AGAIN...
SKRRR...

GIVE IT
UP, LANGSTROM
--YOU NEED
HELP!

SKEKK... ALWAYS
TRYING TO STOP ME...
ALWAYS STEALING THE
NIGHT FROM ME...
SKRRR... EVEN THOUGH
IT'S MINE, NOT
YOURS!









NEXT:
ISSUE: PURSUIT... TO THE NORTH
POLE!



novus
Distributions