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45

# BATMAN™

SNYDER  
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PLASCENCIA



Capullo fco  
2015

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"IN THE BEGINNING,  
THERE WAS  
NOTHING."

"AND THEN..."

"...THERE WAS  
BATMAN."

"AND THIS WAS  
GOOD."

This is very,  
very bad.

So, Batman, you got  
yourself trapped in  
an industrial  
furnace.

Gun is cooked.

Temperature is  
eight hundred  
degrees and--

No, make that nine  
hundred degrees  
and rising.

In about thirty seconds, this hot-box will  
reach fourteen hundred degrees, cremation  
level, and your suit will give out and you  
will literally be burnt to dust.

Alright,  
Batman...

...time to do  
something  
amazing.

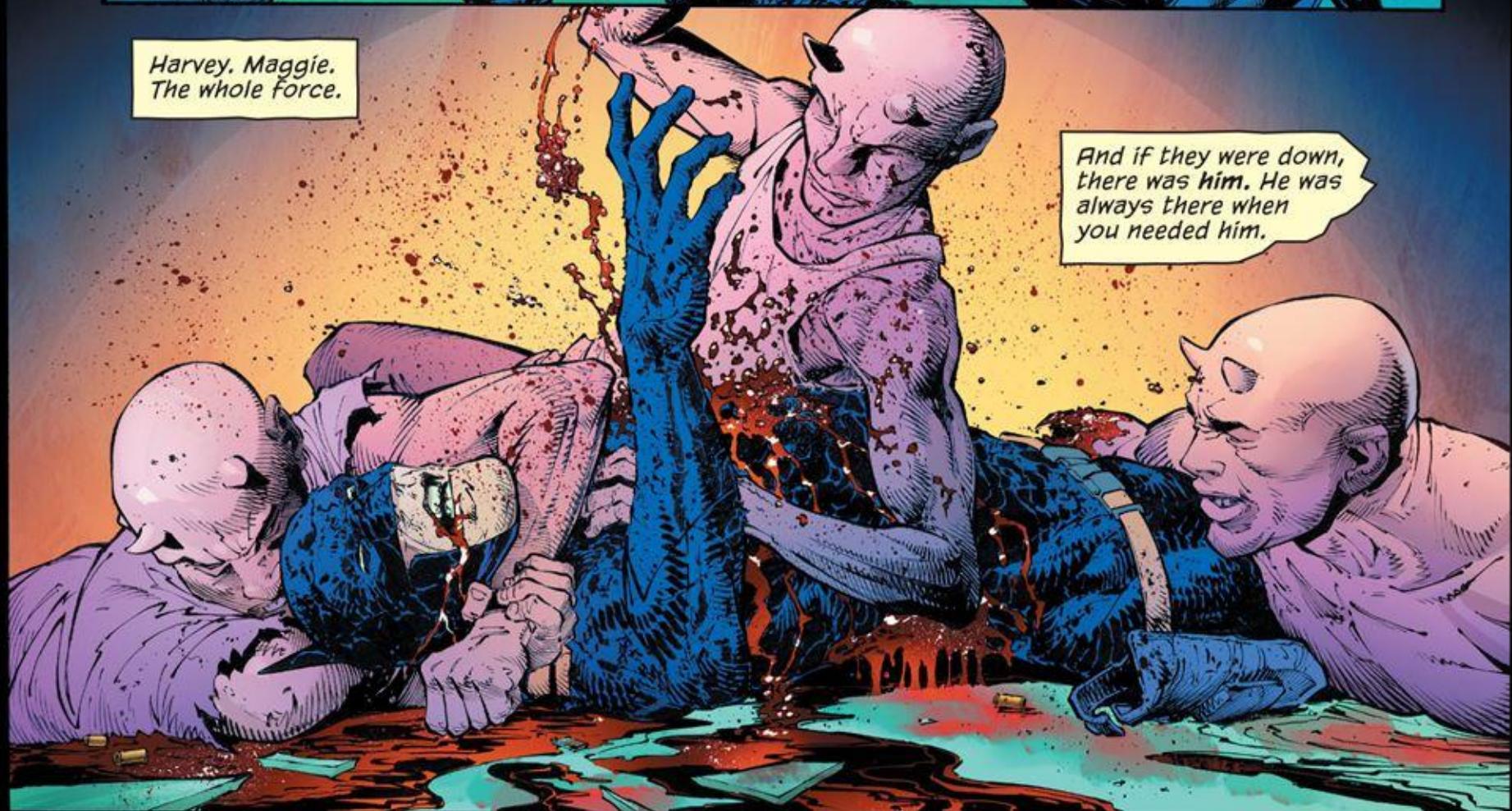


Alright. Now stop. Stop wondering if everything's in order for Barbara. Stop wondering if you told her you loved her the last time you spoke.

And most of all, stop thinking about all the times you missed in practice. Those were just for...suspense. Just for dramatic effect. Right now. Right here.









SHE'S SAFE WITH US. LISTEN, BATMAN, I WAS JOKING, BUT YOUR VITALS...YOU'RE IN TROUBLE. NOW THE SUIT WILL COME TO YOU. JUST PLEASE, STAY VERY STILL AND--





WILL IT  
LISTEN TO  
ME?

IT'LL TAKE  
BASIC COMMANDS  
FROM YOU, SURE.  
I'VE FAMILIARIZED  
IT WITH YOUR  
VOICE.

HEH.  
"PARTNER  
MODE."

HEY,  
ROOKIE...

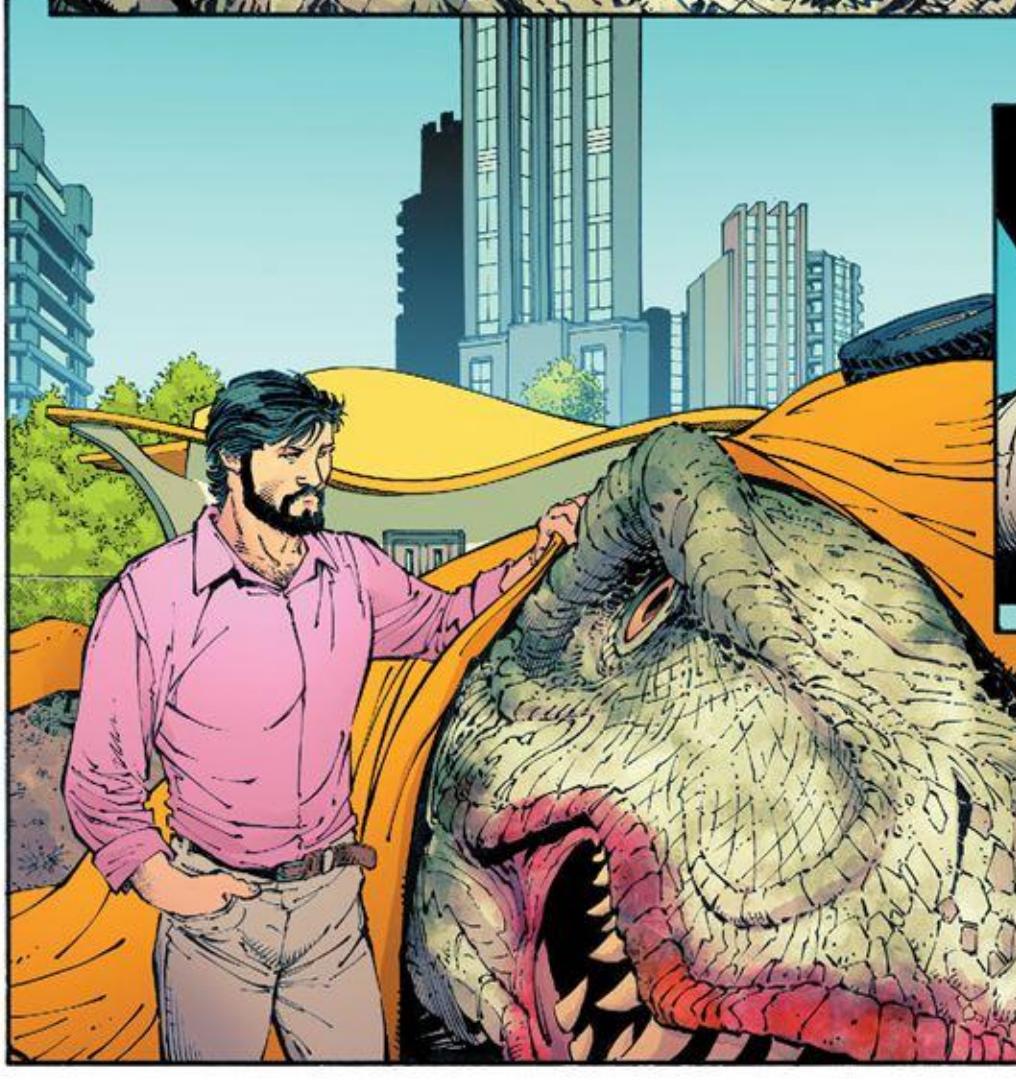
...THANKS.

STOP THEM!  
THEY DO NOT  
LEAVE! FIRE!  
NOW, NOW,  
NOW!

SO,  
WHAT  
DO YOU  
THINK?

GIANTS  
WALK THE  
EARTH,  
DARYL...

"...GIANTS WALK THE EARTH."



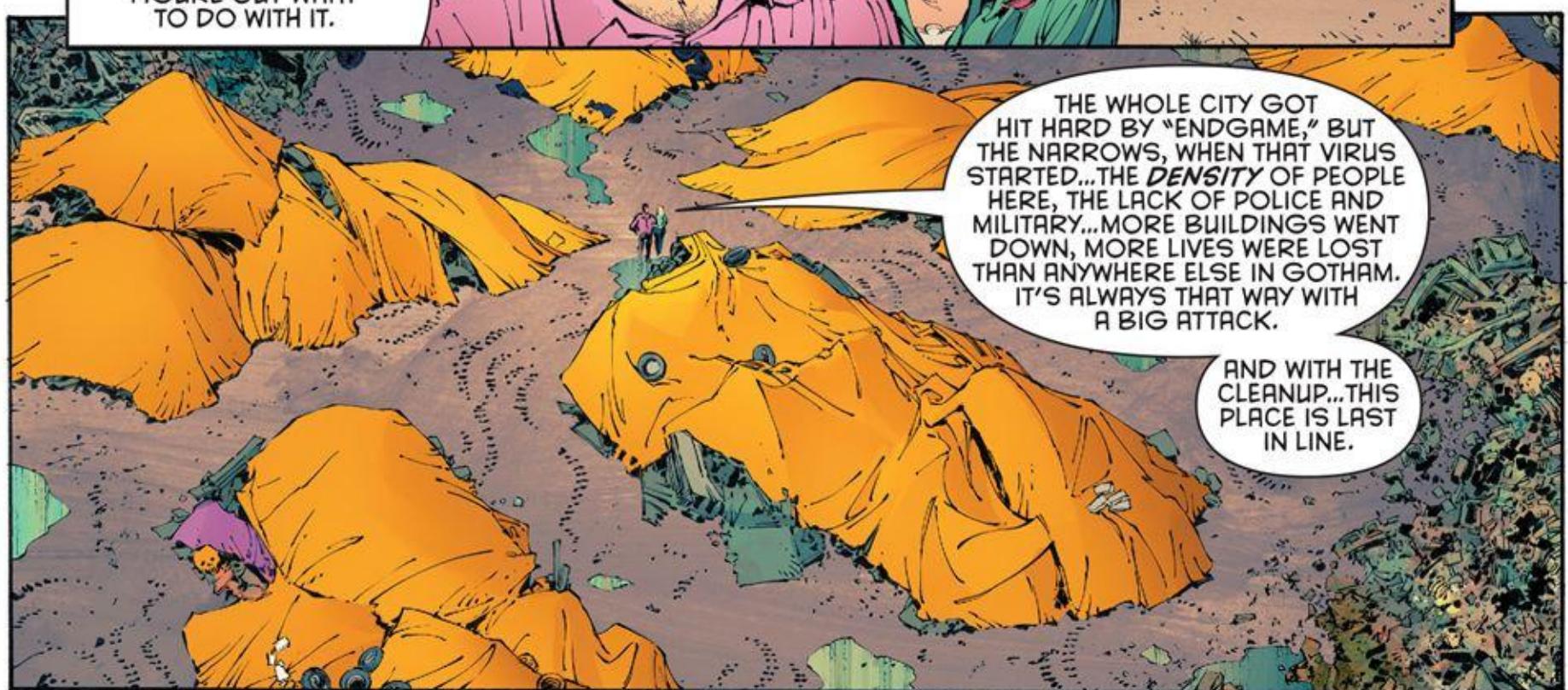
I ASKED ALFRED TO CALL SOME OLD FRIENDS OF THE FAMILY ABOUT HAVING THIS ALL REMOVED, BUT YOU WERE RIGHT, JULES, IT'S INTRACTABLE.

THE CITY HAS MANDATED ALL THE WRECKAGE FROM THE JOKER'S ATTACK STAY HERE IN THIS MAKESHIFT DUMP UNTIL THEY CAN FIGURE OUT WHAT TO DO WITH IT.

IT'S SWEET THAT YOU TRIED, BUT I COULD HAVE TOLD YOU THEY WOULDN'T BUDGE.

THE WHOLE CITY GOT HIT HARD BY "ENDGAME," BUT THE NARROWS, WHEN THAT VIRUS STARTED...THE DENSITY OF PEOPLE HERE, THE LACK OF POLICE AND MILITARY...MORE BUILDINGS WENT DOWN, MORE LIVES WERE LOST THAN ANYWHERE ELSE IN GOTHAM. IT'S ALWAYS THAT WAY WITH A BIG ATTACK.

AND WITH THE CLEANUP...THIS PLACE IS LAST IN LINE.



"I FOUND MIGUEL, OLIVIA, AND RADIK OUT HERE THIS MORNING."

"THEY WERE THROWING DIRT OVER THE FENCE."



WHAT ARE YOU DOING, 'LIV? YOU KNOW WE'RE SUPPOSED TO STAY AWAY FROM THE LOT.

WE WERE JUST TRYING TO HIDE THIS STUFF, BRUCE, SO NO ONE WILL COME FOR IT AND USE IT THE WAY JOKER DID. IF WE COVER IT UP, MAYBE THEY WON'T COME.

LUCIUS FOX WANTED THIS TO BE A REFUGE FOR THESE KIDS. BUT THEY'RE JUST WAITING FOR THE NEXT HORROR, JULES. NOW RUMORS OF THIS NEW GUY...THIS BLOOM. AND THESE REMINDERS...

THESE KIDS DON'T FEEL SAFE. NOT REALLY.

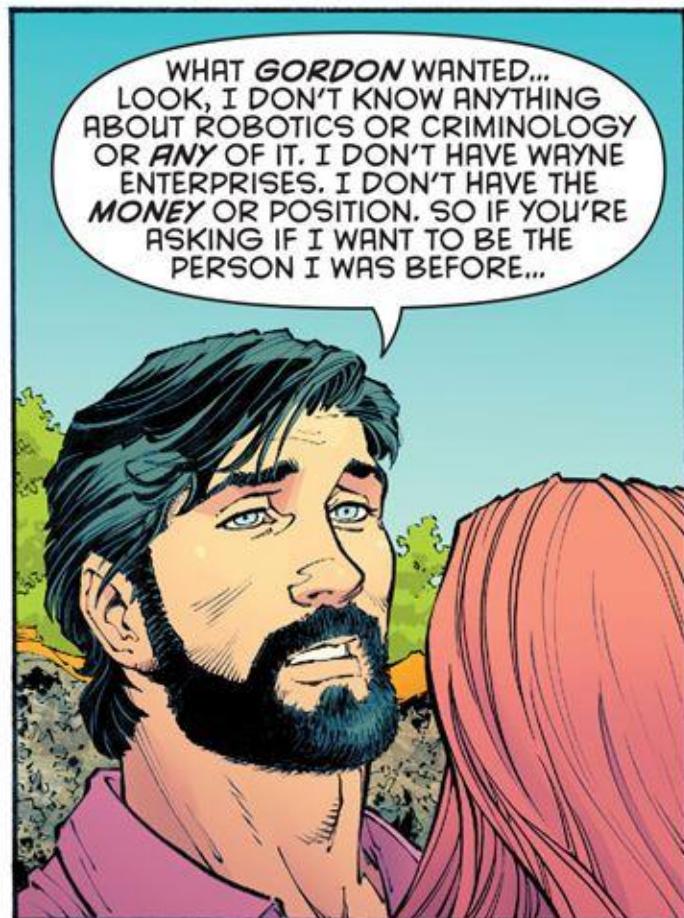
JIM GORDON'S VISIT IS STILL ON YOUR MIND, ISN'T IT?

LISTEN TO ME, BRUCE. YOU DON'T REMEMBER THIS, BUT WHEN WE WERE KIDS, I WAS ALWAYS CONCERNED THAT MY FATHER WOULD BREAK OUT, OR BE LET OUT, OR JUST...SHOW UP. HE WAS A BAD MAN, BRUCE. YOU DON'T WANT TO KNOW ABOUT HIM.

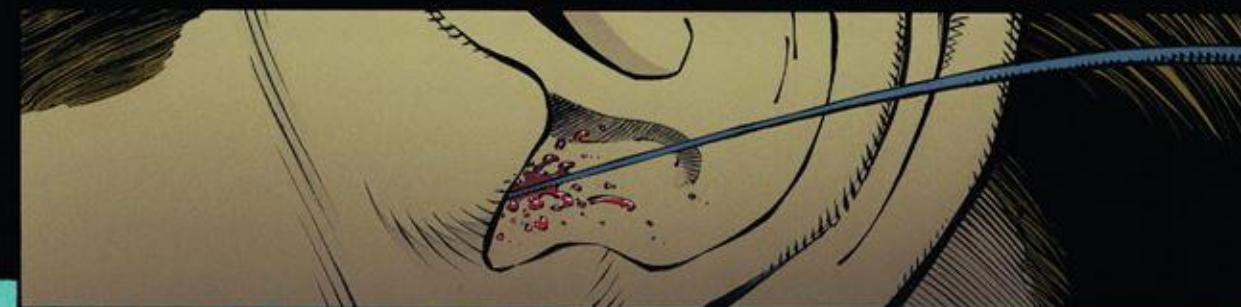
"I WAS ALWAYS TOUGHENING MYSELF UP. READYING FOR THAT DAY. BUT YOU...THE THING ABOUT YOU WAS, YOU'D BEEN THROUGH SOMETHING TRAUMATIC, AND INSTEAD OF MAKING YOURSELF FEEL SAFE, LIKE ME..."

"...YOU CHANNELED WHATEVER FEAR YOU FELT INTO MAKING OTHER PEOPLE FEEL BRAVE. I LOVED YOU FOR THAT."

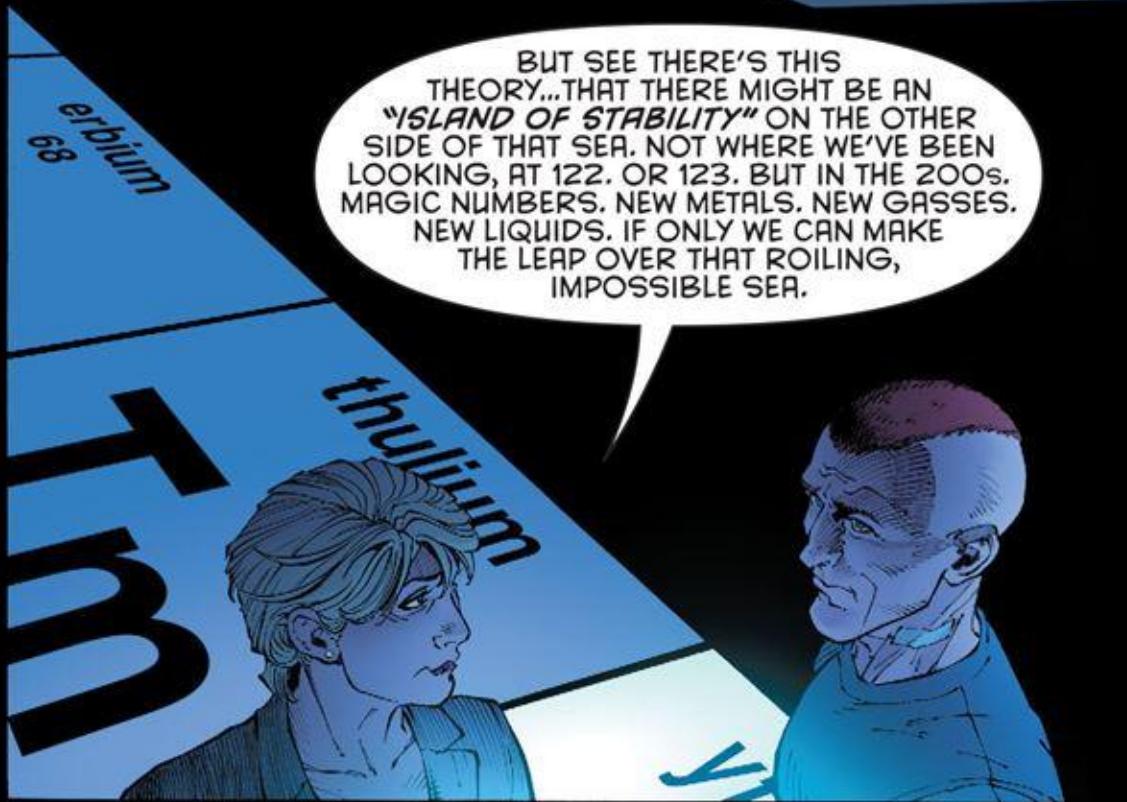
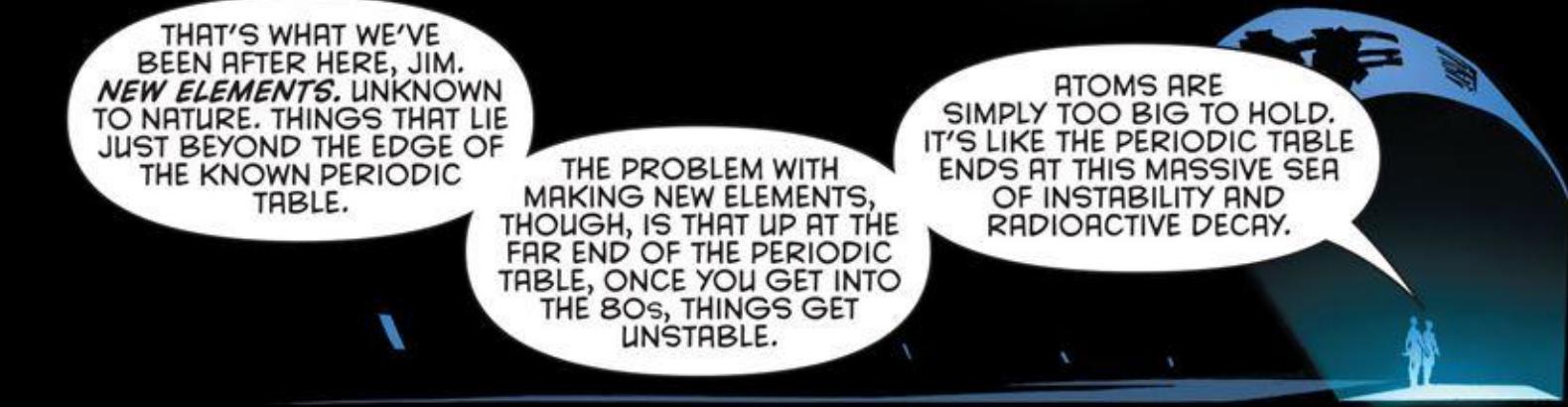
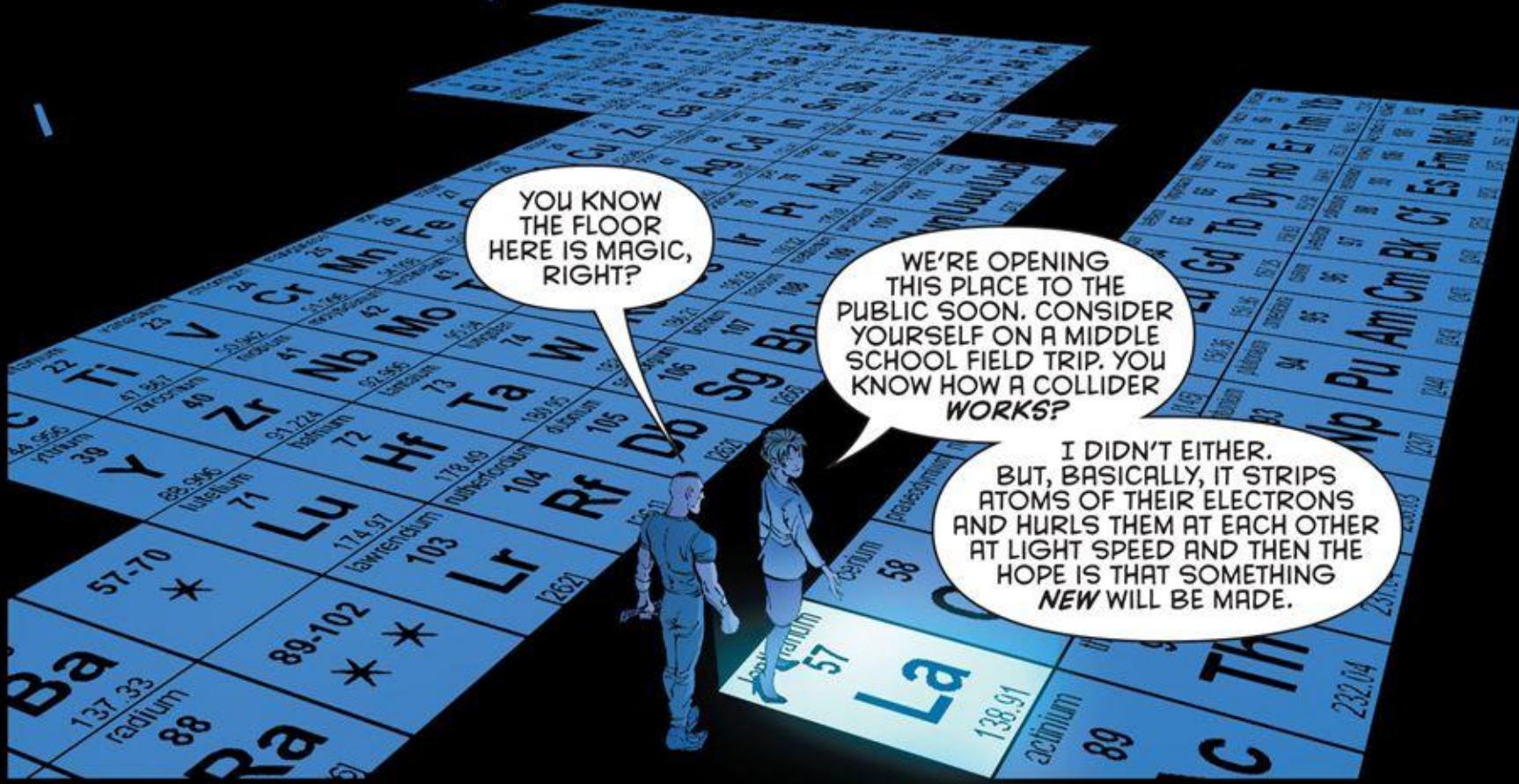




"...LET'S JUST CLOSE THE DOOR ON IT, BEST WE CAN."







LAST YEAR, WE DID IT. RIGHT HERE, WE REACHED THE ISLAND. WE CREATED FOUR NEW ELEMENTS. NEW BUILDING BLOCKS, HERE UNDER GOTHAM. THE NEWEST HAS AN ATOMIC NUMBER OF 206. HIGHER THAN PEOPLE THOUGHT POSSIBLE.

I WAS GOING TO PRESENT A PIECE TO YOU AT THAT GALA YOU MISSED. I HAD IT CUT TO ORDER. TAKE A LOOK.

TRY PICKING IT UP.



YOU COULDN'T. IT WEIGHS TWO TONS. IT'S ALSO A SUPER-CONDUCTOR.

BATMANIUM 206? GERI, LISTEN. THIS GUY, BLOOM...

...HE OPERATES SOMEWHERE ALONG WHAT USED TO BE BLOSSOM RO--



I'M FIRING YOU, JIM.

WHAT? YOU CAN'T BE SERIOUS.

THE DEVIL PIG SCENE WAS ALL OVER THE NEWS. NOW, THERE'S A PRESENTATION TONIGHT, AND I WANT YOU TO RESIGN.

THE OLD BATMAN. HE WAS SOMETHING SMALL. A TINY, KNOWN ELEMENT. THIS, IT'S SOMETHING MUCH BIGGER. A BIGGER DREAM.

FOR IT TO WORK, IT NEEDS POWER. IT NEEDS SUPPORT. IT NEEDS A BIG MACHINE...

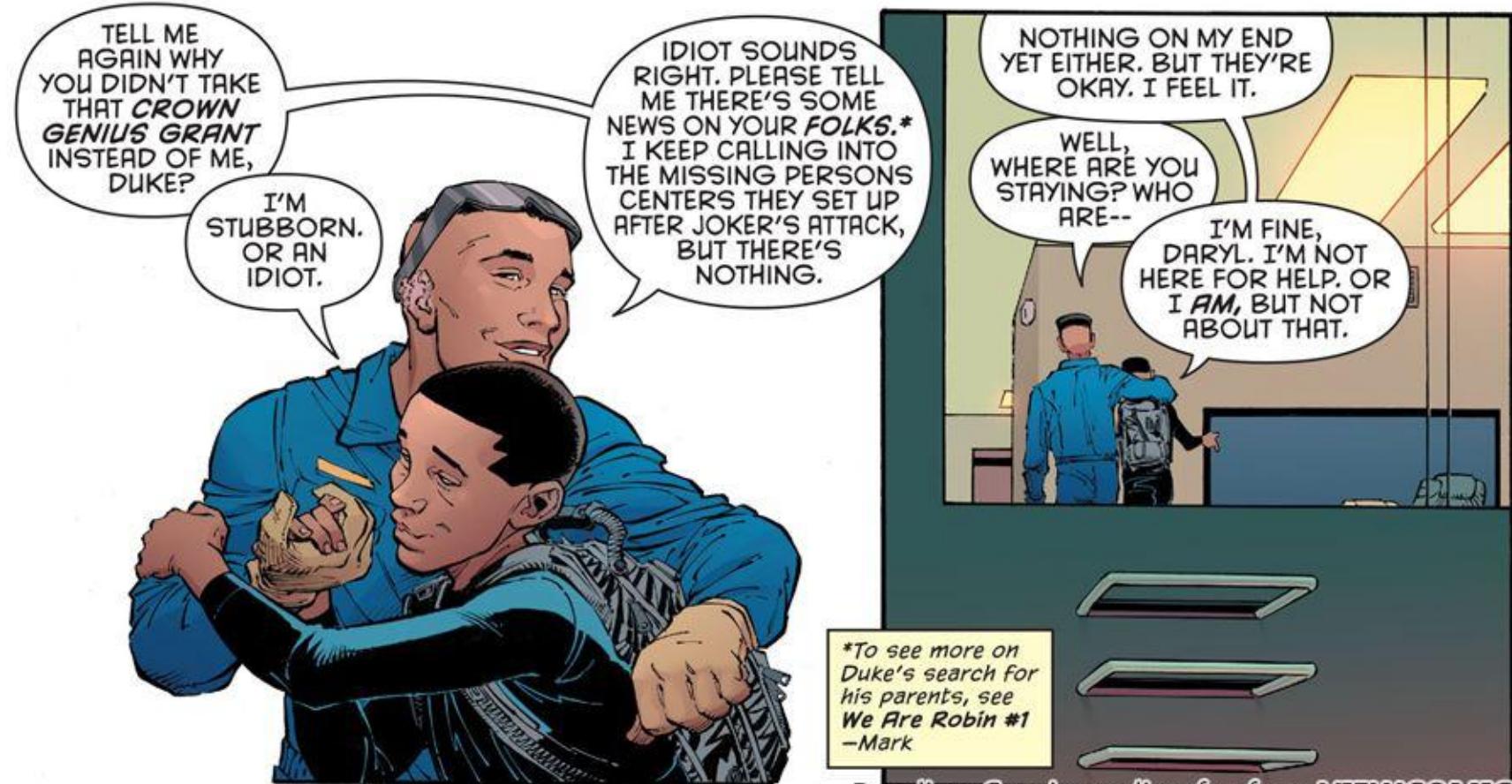
THERE'LL BE COMMUNITY ACTIVISTS THERE. POLICE. BUSINESS LEADERS. POLITICIANS. EVERYONE WHO MAKES THIS CITY RUN. IF YOU BELIEVE IN THIS, JIM, IN BATMAN AS SOMETHING THAT CAN GIVE PEOPLE FAITH IN THE CITY, IN THE SYSTEM, YOU'LL DO WHAT I'M ASKING.

YOU CAN HELP ME PICK THE NEXT ONE.

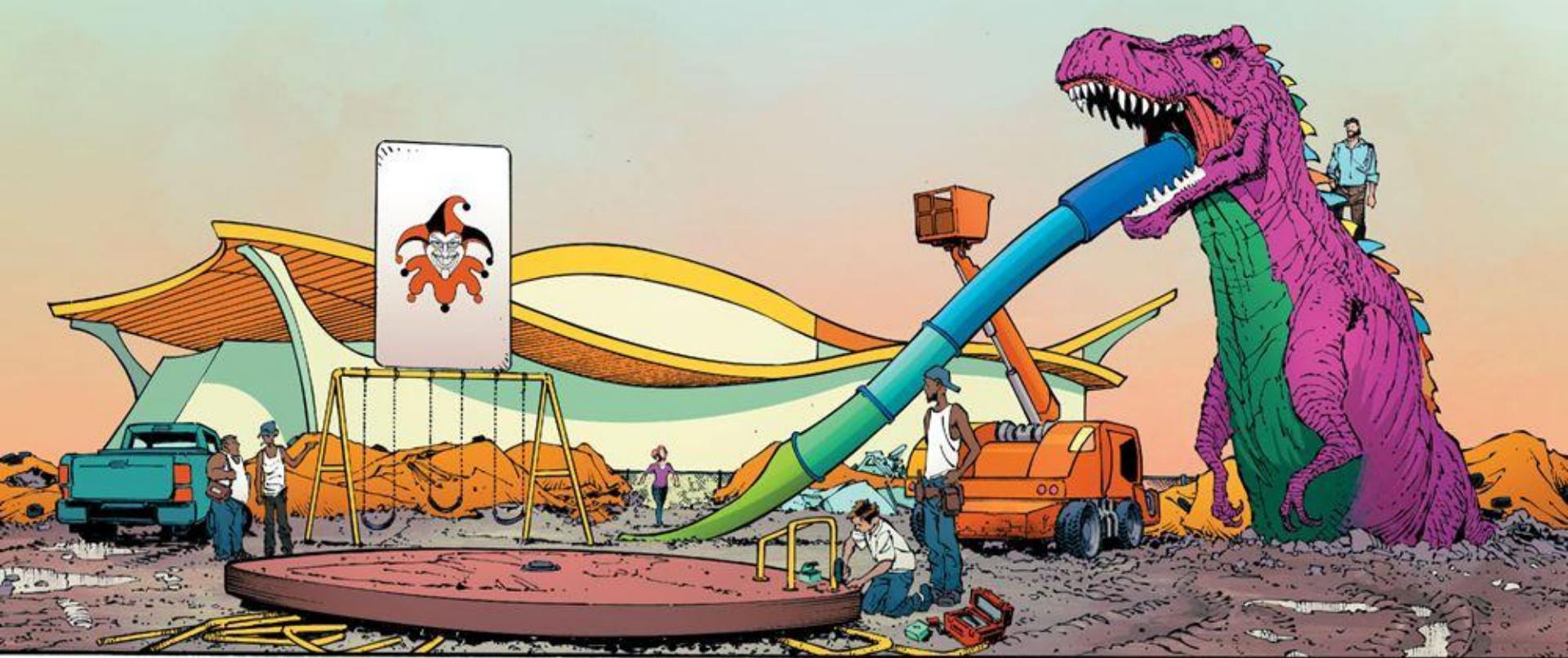
I WAS JUST TRYING TO GET THIS GUY, GERI.

I KNOW. SO HELP ME KEEP THE LIGHTS ON, JIM. PLEASE...











...AND THEN,  
THERE WAS  
BATMAN. AND  
THIS WAS  
GOOD.

HAAHAHA

I'M  
KIDDING.  
BUT IN A  
WAY, I'M  
NOT.

SOMETIMES, IT FEELS LIKE  
BATMAN HAS BEEN WITH US  
FROM THE BEGINNING. LIKE  
HE'S **ALWAYS** BEEN THERE.  
LIKE HE ALWAYS  
WILL BE.

UNFORTUNATELY,  
IN RECENT MONTHS,  
WE'VE LEARNED THAT  
BATMAN, AS WE KNEW HIM,  
WAS AS HUMAN AS WE ARE.  
HE BEGAN, AND HE  
ENDED.



BUT THIS PROGRAM,  
IT'S ABOUT MAKING BATMAN LAST  
**BEYOND** ANY ONE MAN. SO THAT  
HE CAN ALWAYS BE THERE FOR US.  
SO THAT HE CAN BE A PART OF  
THIS GREAT CITY.



SO WHAT  
ARE YOU  
GOING TO  
SAY?

I DON'T  
KNOW.

YOU WANT  
MY ADVICE?

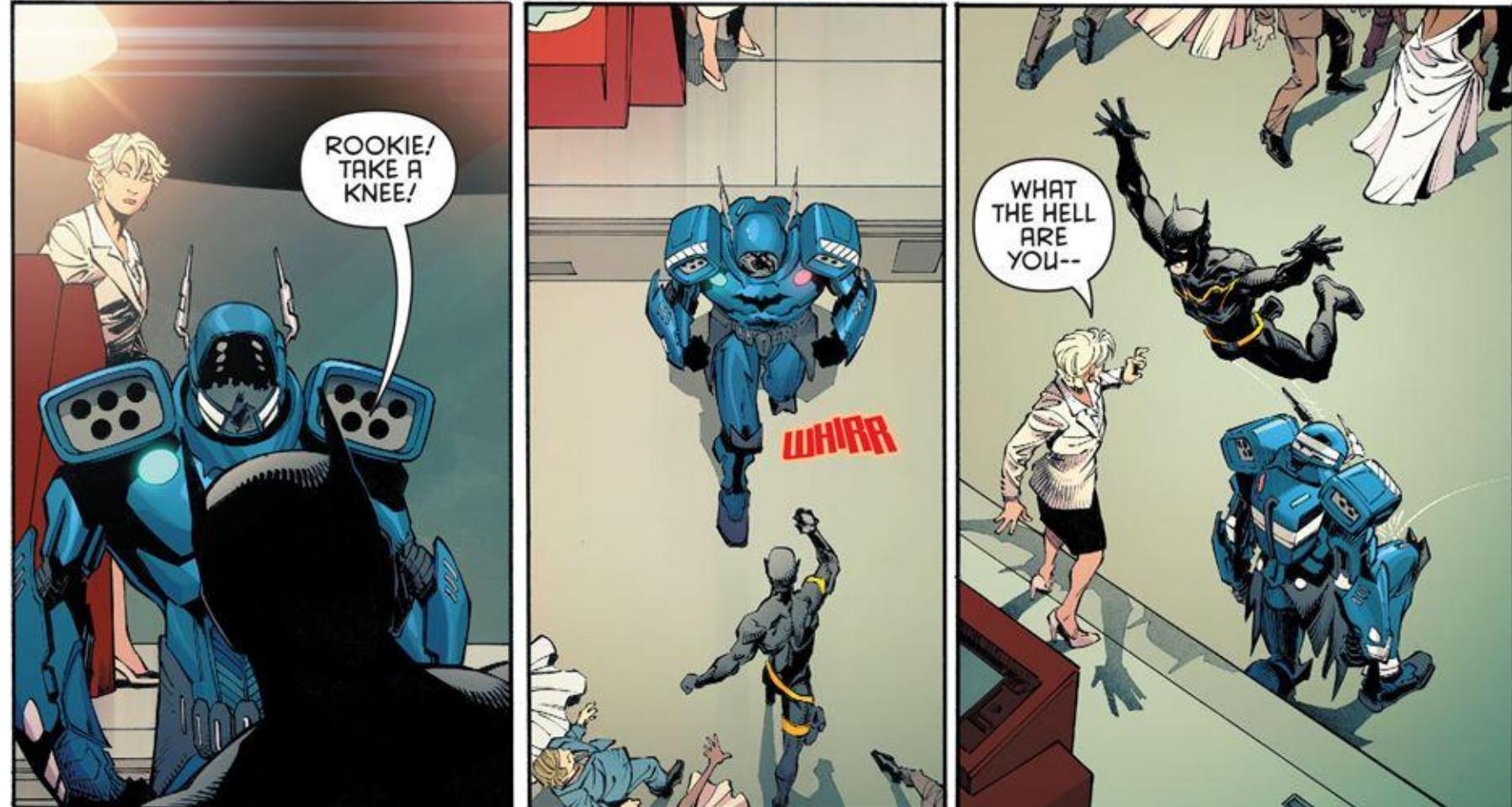
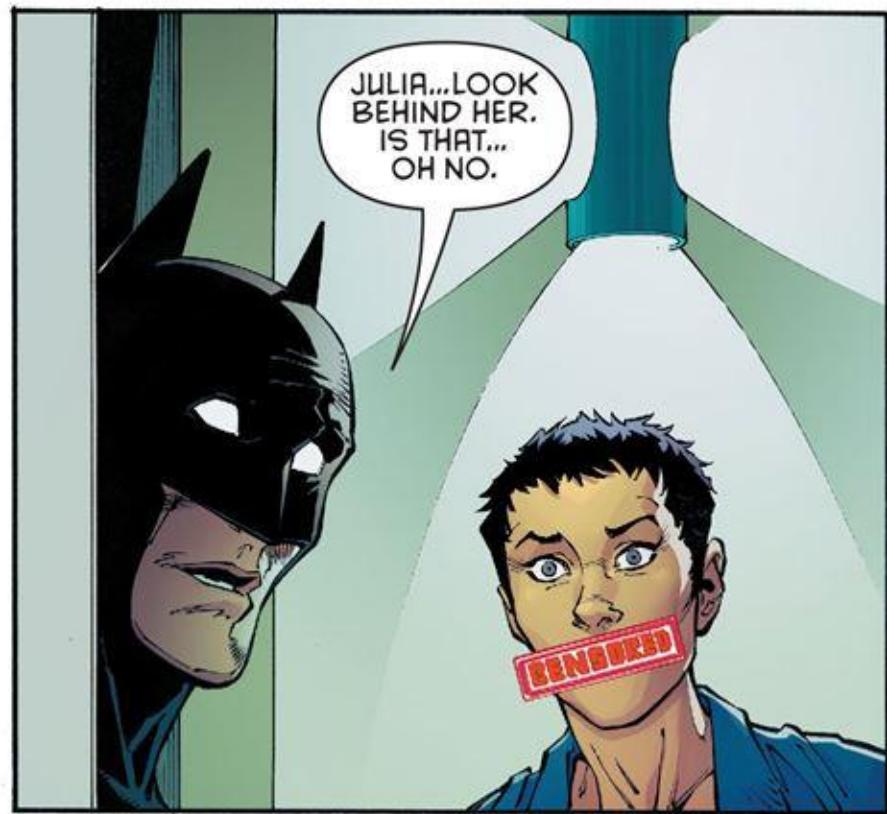
FIGHT FOR IT.

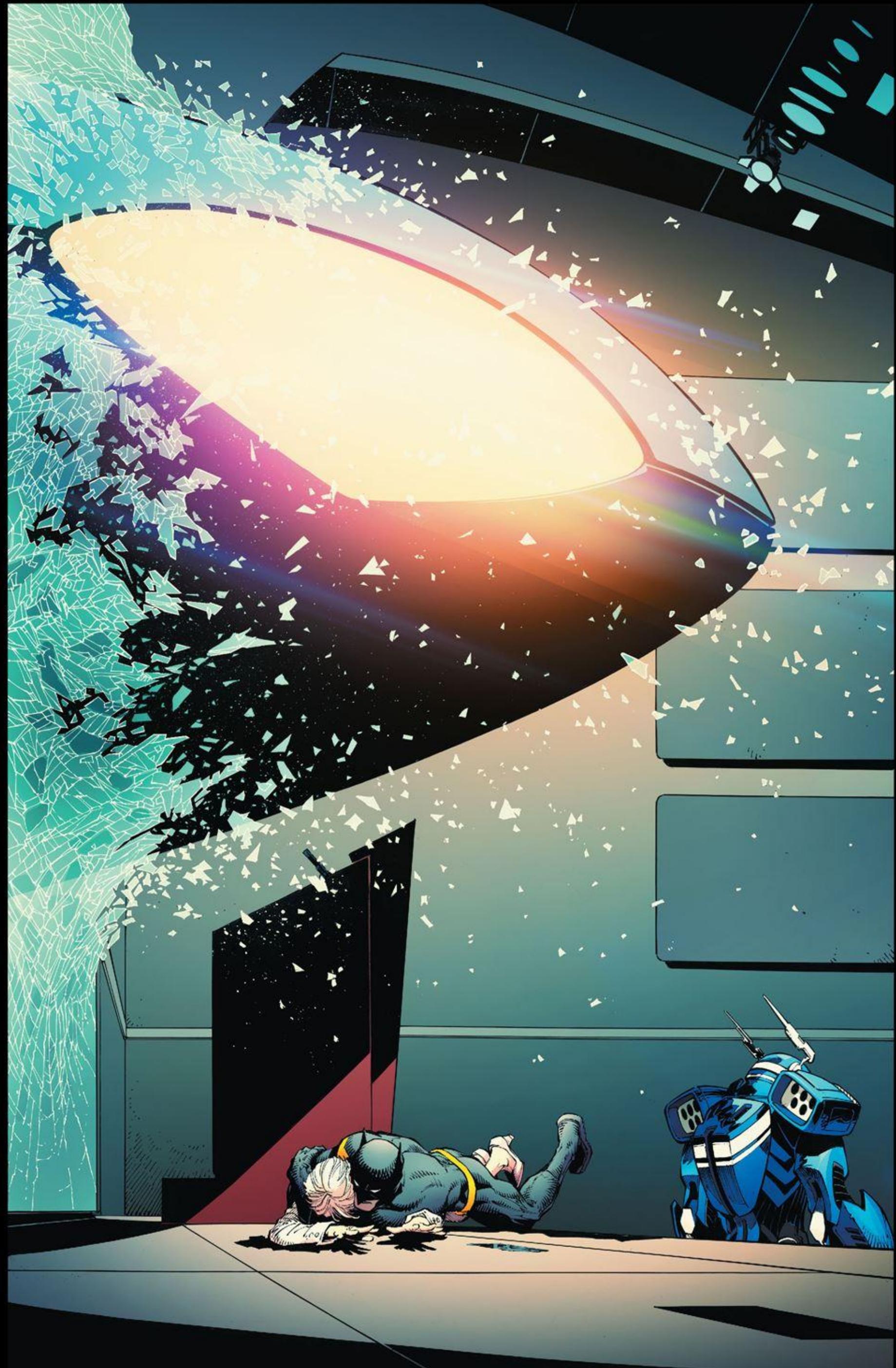
...FIGHT FOR IT?  
GERI WOULD HAVE  
ME ARRESTED.

SHE MIGHT.  
EITHER WAY,  
THOSE PEOPLE OUT  
THERE...THEY'RE  
THE BOSS,  
RIGHT?

SO GO OUT  
THERE AND SHOW  
THEM WHO'S  
BATMAN.











# SUPERHEADS PART FIVE

SCOTT SNYDER WRITER GREG CAPULLO PENCILS  
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