



92

BATMAN



PAWNS
OF
THE
DESIGNER

AGES 13+
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TYNION IV
MARCH
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I'M GOING TO FIND SOMETHING I CAN PIN TO YOU, PENGUIN. A FINGERPRINT OR FEATHER.

COMMISSIONER BULLOCK... THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG...



THE CITY... IT'S TURNED GREEN.



AW, HELL...

IT NEVER ENDS, DOES IT? FIND A TV.

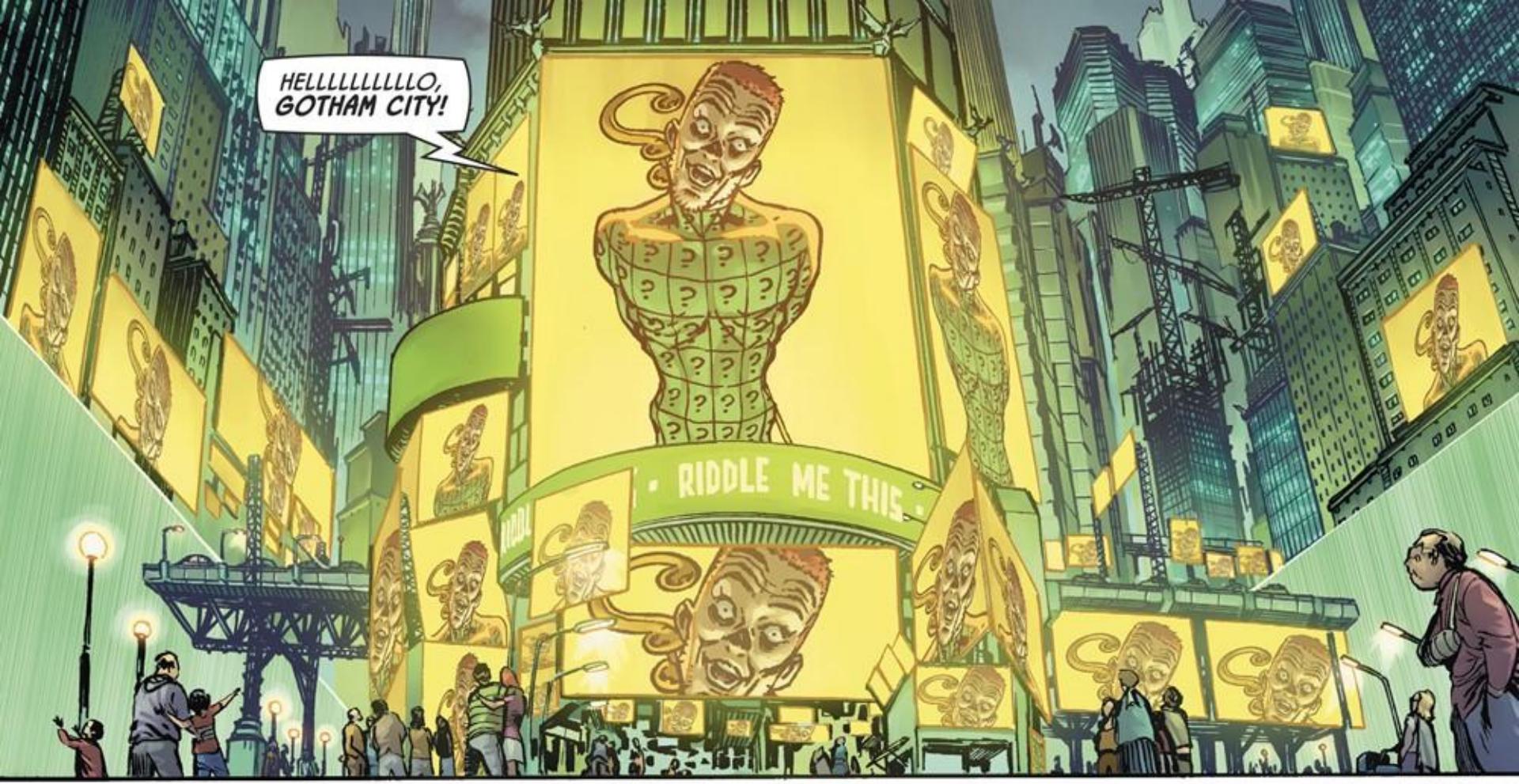
A TV, SIR?



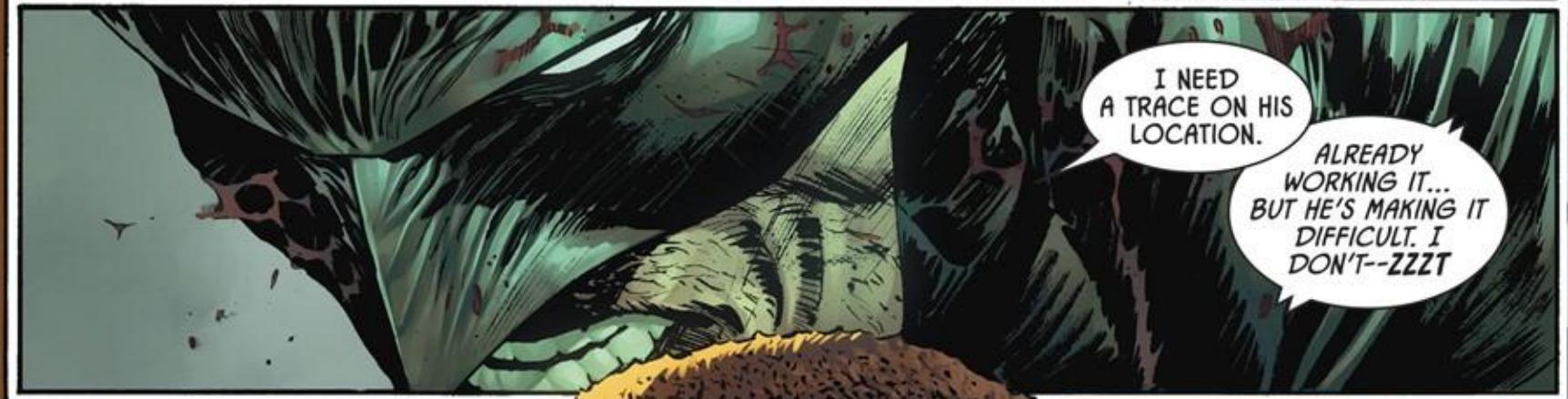
THESE FREAKS LIKE TO HEAR THEMSELVES TALK.



OH, EDDIE... WHAT THE HELL HAVE YOU GOTTEN YOURSELF INTO...







Y'KNOW, I
ALWAYS FIGURED YOU
HERO TYPES HAD, LIKE, A WHOLE
EXTRA SECRET SEWER TO MUCK
AROUND IN, SO YOU WOULDN'T
HAVE TO STINK SO
MUCH.

THE GOOD
GUYS ALWAYS
STINK LESS THAN
THE BAD GUYS.
BAD GUYS TEND TO
SPEND MORE TIME
WALKING AROUND
IN POOP.

YOU LEARN
SOMETHING NEW
EVERY DAY.

YEAH, THAT'S
MY PHILOSOPHY
TOO.

BUT YOU
REALLY DON'T HAVE
SOME SECRET BAT-
TUNNELS? I THOUGHT
MAYBE THERE WERE, LIKE,
WHOLE BAT-SUBWAY CARS
WITH CUSHY SEATS
AND STUFF.

AND
THAT'S HOW
YOU HEROES ALL
BEAT US TO OUR
HIDEAWAYS.

I'M NOT
FEELING PARTICULARLY
HEROIC RIGHT NOW, HARLEY. SO
MAYBE LET'S CHANGE THE SUBJECT.

OH, SURE. ARE
WE THERE
YET?

NOT YET...
I KNOW IT'S
SOMEWHERE
AROUND
HERE.

Y'KNOW.
I THINK WE'RE
HERE. I GOT A STRONG
FEELING IN MY GUT. AND
NOT FROM THE SMELL.

WHY
DO YOU SAY
THAT?

WELL, IT'S PROBABLY ALL THE MUSCLE THIS DESIGNER GUY SENT TO KILL US. USUALLY, TO ME, THAT MEANS THAT YOU'RE IN THE RIGHT SPOT.

HELL...

I KNOW, RIGHT?! ZOMBIE COPS!

I HATE ZOMBIE COPS.

YOUR
ROTTING
FRIENDS ARE
WAKING UP.

SLAM

WALK.

SURE.

KRAK

DOWN INTO THE
SUBWAY.

YOU
KNOW WHERE
HE IS.

BE
QUIET AND GO
DOWN THOSE
STAIRS.

GOTHAM SUBWAY

HEH.
YOU KNOW
WHERE HE
IS.

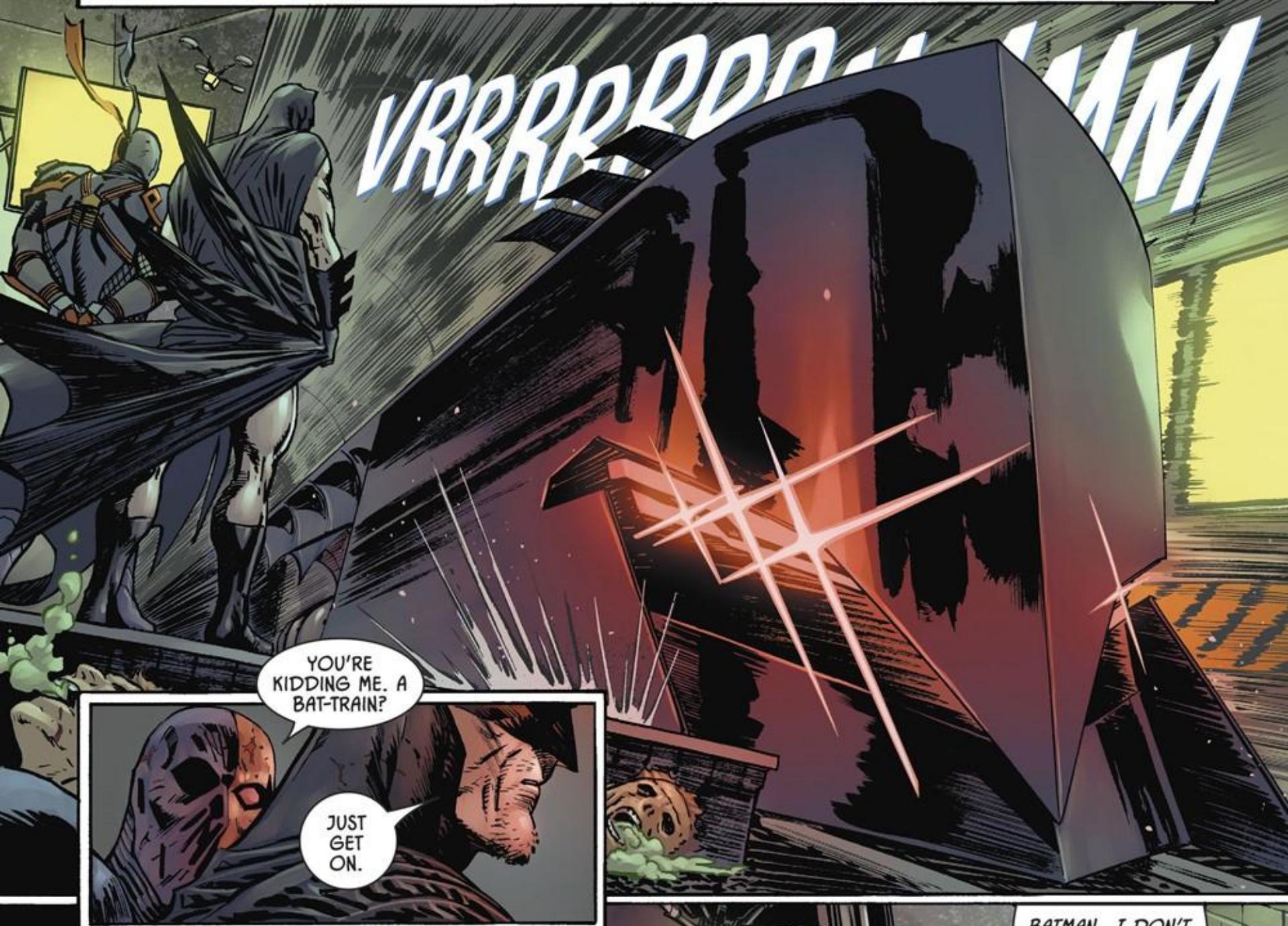
BATMAN... YOUR CITY IS WAITING.
DON'T YOU WANT TO FREE THEM?
I HAVE THIRTY QUESTIONS ACROSS.
THIRTY QUESTIONS DOWN.

THIS IS A
MESSAGE TO THE
MAN IN THE MACHINE.
I'M AT THE TIMM STREET
BLACK LINE STATION.
DOWNTOWN
TRACK.

BATMAN,
YOU'RE NOT
PLAYING FAIR.

ASK
YOUR DAMN
QUESTIONS,
RIDDLE.

WHAM



10 ACROSS. ELEVEN SPACES. A WOMAN SHOOTS HER HUSBAND, HOLDS HIM UNDERWATER FOR FIVE MINUTES, HANGS HIM, AND THEN TAKES HIM OUT TO DINNER. HOW IS THAT POSSIBLE?



PHOTOGRAPHY.
SHE TOOK A PICTURE
OF HIM.

YOU'RE
CHEATING.



YOU CUT MY
COMMUNICATIONS,
EDDIE. I CAN'T
CHEAT.

NOW ASK
ME ANOTHER
QUESTION.

FINE. 13 DOWN. 6
SPACES. THE NUMBER
OF SECONDS IN A
YEAR.

ARE ANY
LETTERS REVEALED ON
THE GRID?

YOU'D KNOW THAT IF YOU WERE
ABOVEGROUND, AND PLAYING THIS
FAIRLY. THE GRID IS ON SCREENS IN
FRONT OF ALL OF GOTHAM.

YOU CAN'T
ADD RULES TO A GAME
ALREADY UNDERWAY. AS
LONG AS I ANSWER YOUR
QUESTIONS, I AM
PLAYING FAIR.

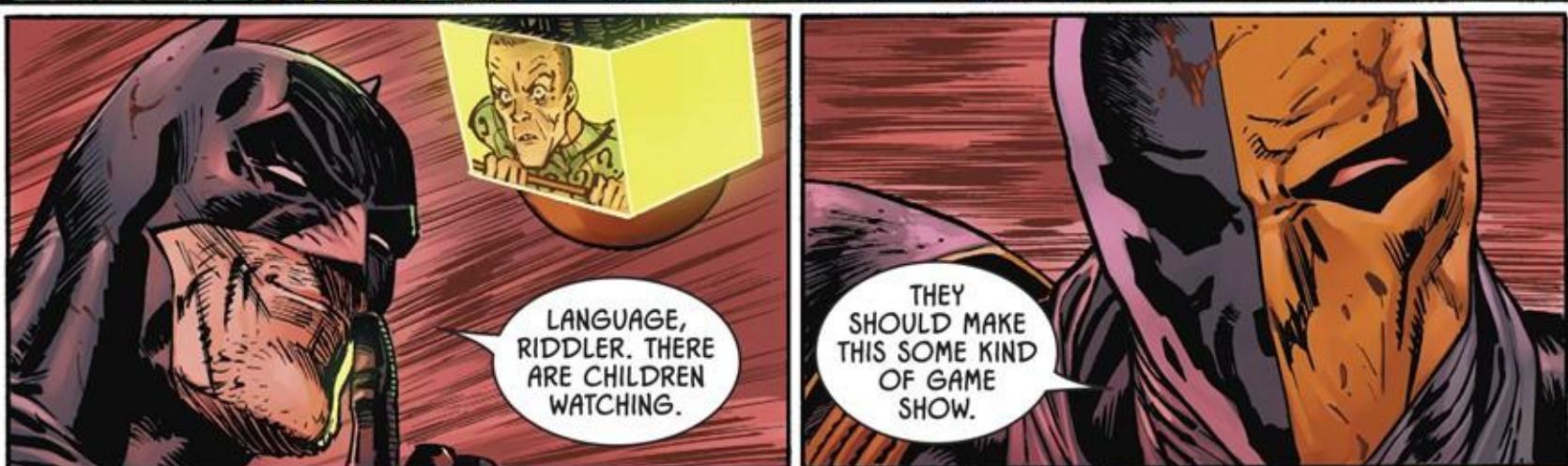
I KNOW THAT. I
KNOW THAT...

THE THIRD LETTER
IS "T" FROM
"PHOTOGRAPHY."

TWELVE.
ONE PER
MONTH.

AND GIVEN
THE GRID...
I'M GOING TO
GUESS THAT 25 ACROSS
IS BANDANNA. AND
25 DOWN IS
BUTTON.











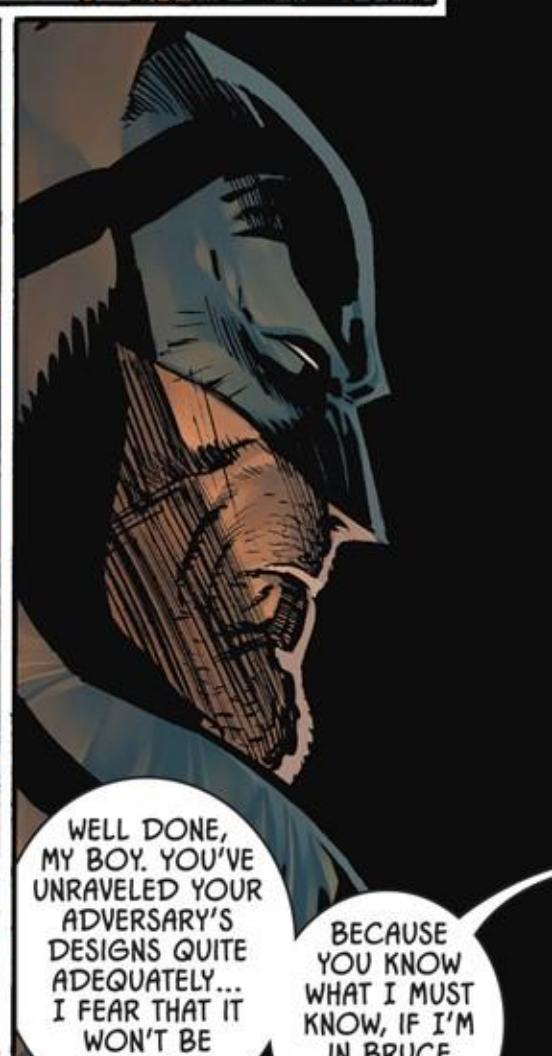
THEN
I'M THE
PUNCHLINE.

I'M
WHERE YOU
END.









HELLO,
BRUCE.

PLEASE
COME IN.
WE SHOULD
TALK A LITTLE
BEFORE I
KILL YOU.

MARCH
2020



DC COMICS
proudly
presents

THE DARK DESIGNS

PART 7

JAMES TYNION IV writer GUILLEM MARCH artist
TOMEU MOREY colors CLAYTON COWLES letters
YASMINE PUTRI w/ TONY DANIEL cover FRANCESCO MATTINA variant cover
DAVE WIELGOSZ assoc. editor BEN ABERNATHY editor
BATMAN created by BOB KANE with BILL FINGER

NEXT: DARK
DESIGNS
REVEALED!