



# CONTAGION

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APR 96

APPROVED  
BY THE  
COMICS  
CODE  
A  
UTHORITY

# BATMAN



MOENCH ▲ JONES ▲ BEATTY

GOTHAM FACES  
DARK TIMES,  
BESIEGED BY A  
FILOVIRUS PLAGUE.

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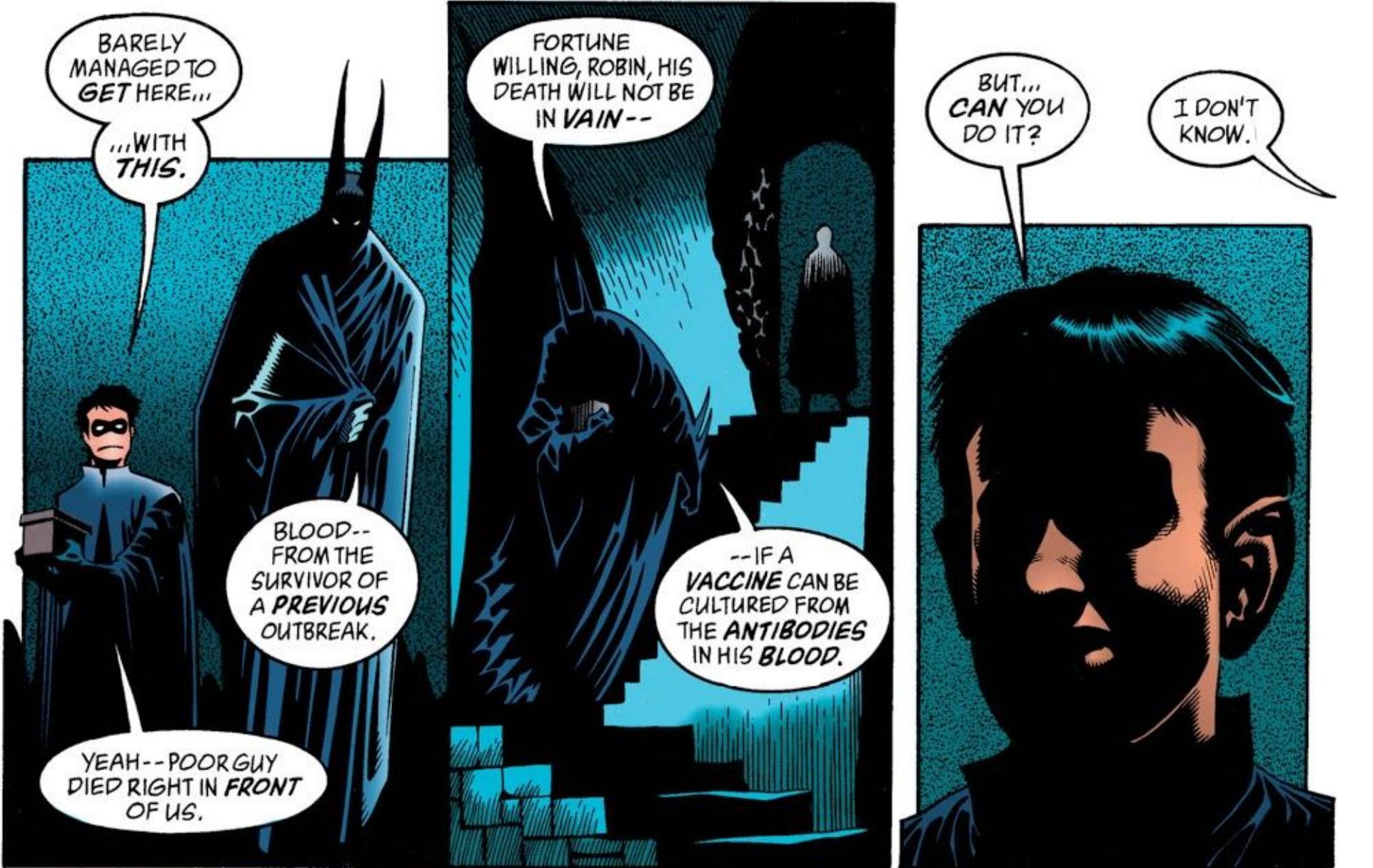
# CONTAGION, PART SIX: TEARS OF BLOOD

THE STAKES ARE HUGE--APOCALYPSE ITSELF--THREATENED  
BY AN ENEMY TOO SMALL TO SEE.

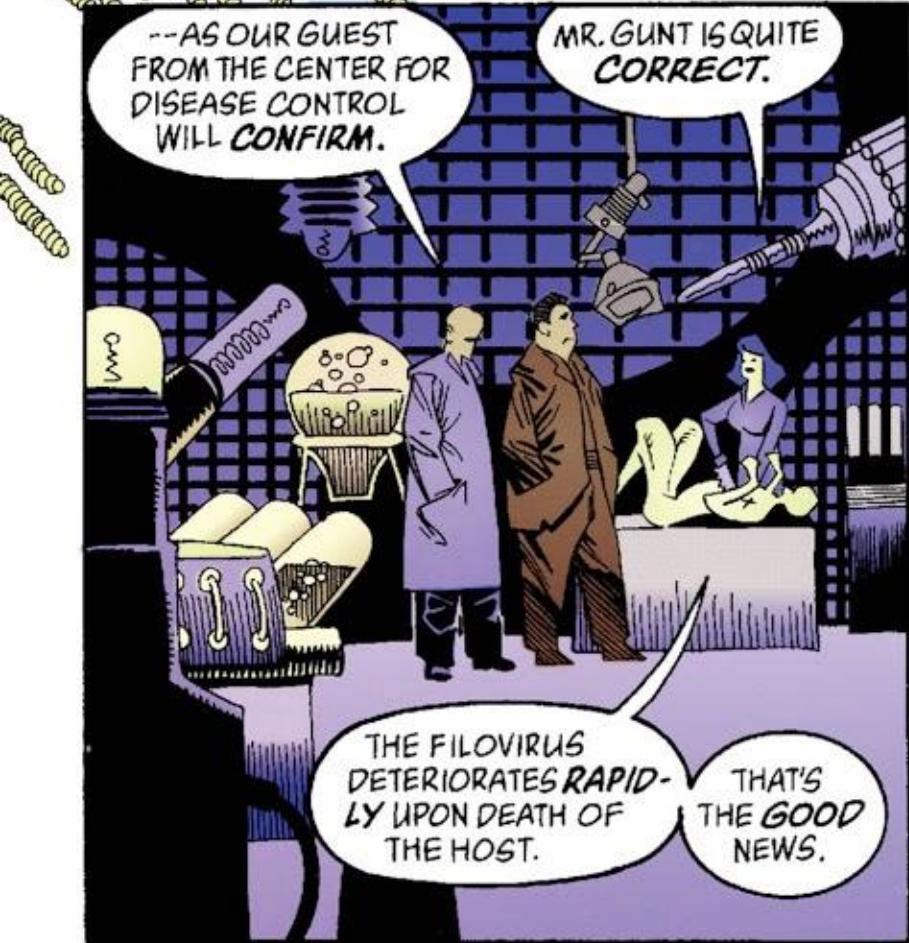
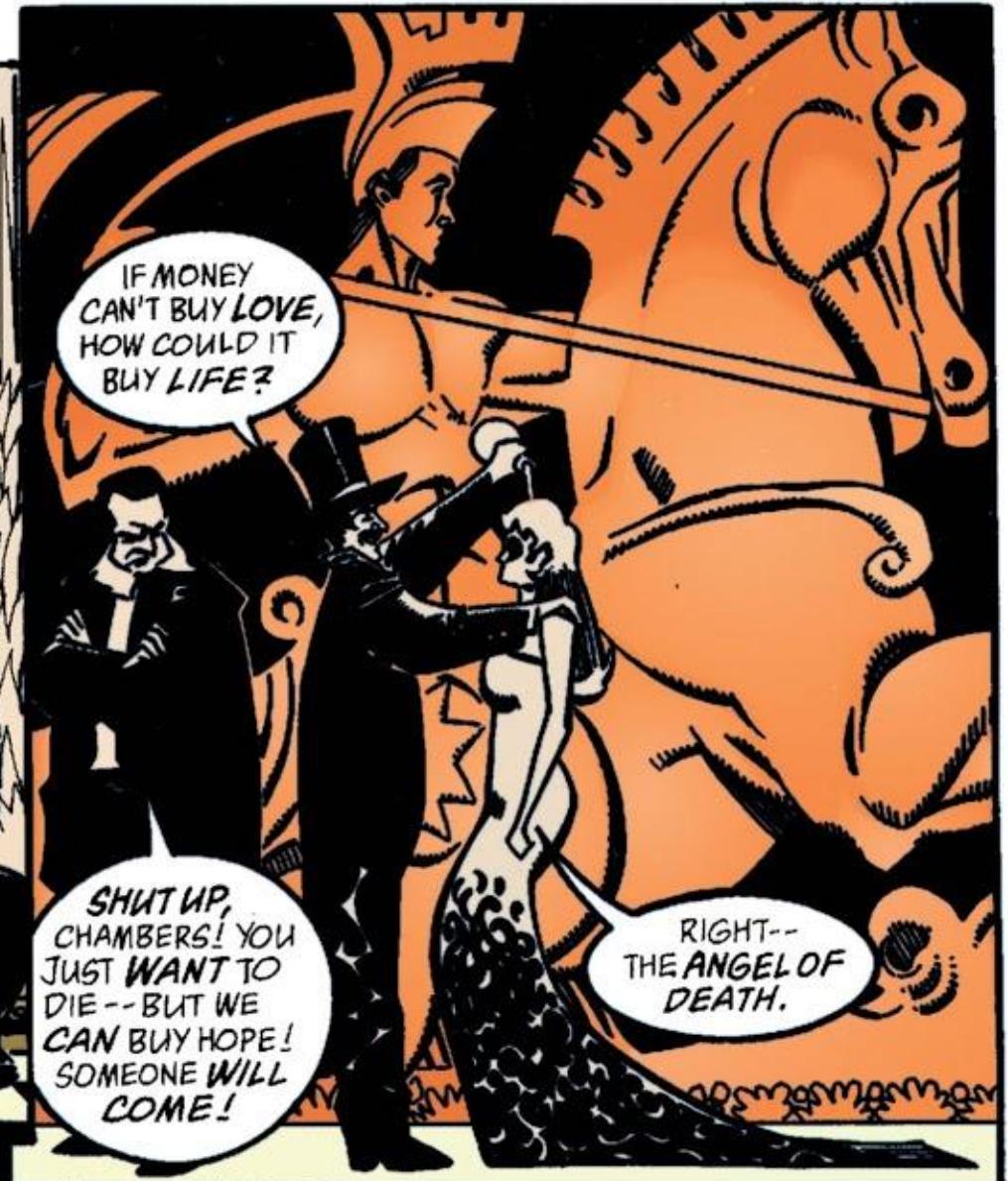
"--MESS IN THE CITY--  
ROADBLOCKS AND PANIC--  
AIRPORT CLOSED..."

"THEY TURNED OUR  
PLANE AWAY--HAD  
TO PARACHUTE IN--  
AND EVEN OUT HERE  
ACROSS THE RIVER,  
POLICE WERE  
WAITING FOR ME."

"I WAS FORCED TO COME DOWN IN  
THE WOODS--HAD TO CUT MY STRAP  
AND PLAY TARZAN IN THE TREES TO  
AVOID A LOT MORE THAN WARNING  
SHOTS."











YOUR "MEEK TEN PERCENT," SERGEANT BULLOCK, WOULD NO DOUBT INHERIT A FAR BETTER WORLD.

NO.

LIFE IS SACRED.

AND THAT'S THE DOPE ON THE CLENCH BUG.

HOW 'BOUT THIS 'LECTRONIC ONE HIDDEN IN MY CARNATION?

I HEARD IT ALL, SERGEANT BULLOCK.

WELL, NO WAY OUR NEW ACTIN' POLICE COMMISSIONER IS GONNA COPE WITH SOMETHIN' THIS BIG.

ASK ME, ANDY HOWE WOULD BE WAY OVER HIS HEAD IN A PUDDLE.

WHICH IS WHY HE MUST BE SHORT-CIRCUITED, SERGEANT--BY GOING DIRECTLY TO JIM GORDON.

I HEAR YA-- AN' I'M MEETIN' MONToya AN'HARD-BACK IN FIVE MINUTES.

KEEP YOUR CARNATION OPEN --I WANT TO HEAR EVERYTHING.

YOU GOT IT.

DONE?

FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH... AND IT MAY BE THAT NO VACCINE CAN BE CULTURED FROM STUART'S BLOOD--

--BUT I WISH I'D HAD MORE TO TRY VARIATIONS.

HERE'S A LITTLE MORE...



THEN TWO OF THE  
THREE ORIGINAL  
SURVIVORS FROM  
GREENLAND ARE  
NOW DEAD...







THEY ALLOWED  
ME TO WEAR MY OWN  
CLOTHING IN HONOR  
OF YOUR VISIT.  
FLATTERED?

LET ME GET THIS  
STRAIGHT, TALL-DARK-  
AND-HANDSOME...

YOU WANT ME TO  
CARRY A VACCINE THROUGH  
A HUMAN MINEFIELD OF  
APOCALYPSE FILO-  
VIRUS?

YOUR LATEST MEDICAL REPORTS  
INDICATE CONTINUING IMMUNITY TO  
VIRTUALLY **EVERYTHING**, IVY...

...INCLUDING  
VIRUSES.

BUT YOU REALIZE  
SHE STILL POSSESSES  
HER "**POISON TOUCH**,"  
PREVENTING A THOROUGH  
SEARCH OF HER BODY.

THERE'S NO TELLING  
WHAT SHE MIGHT BE CARRY-  
ING OUT OF THIS CELL...

THE TOXINS OF  
HER ALTERED BODY  
ALONE ARE ENOUGH  
TO --

I'LL TAKE FULL  
RESPONSIBILITY,  
DR. ARKHAM.

THE PEOPLE  
IN THOSE TOWERS  
HAVE NOTHING TO  
LOSE ANYWAY.

WITHOUT A CURE, THEY'RE  
DOOMED -- AND POISON  
IVY IS THE ONLY ONE WHO  
CAN TAKE A CURE IN.

WILL YOU DO  
IT, IVY?



I'M NOT IN THE MOOD, WOMAN--NOT WITH MILLIONS OF LIVES AT STAKE.

NOW WILL YOU DO IT OR NOT?

SURE.

WAIT!

I'M IN CHARGE OF THIS ASYLUM AND I CAN'T PERMIT--

JUST MOVE, IVY...

I SAID I'LL TAKE THE HEAT, JEREMIAH.

COMING, LONG-EARS...?

I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO SEE THE HANGING GARDENS OF BABYLON...

BUT DROP THE SLOW, SEDUCTIVE WALK.

IT'S WASTED-- AND WE'RE FIGHTING TIME.

NO COPS AT ALL?

BUT WHERE ARE THEY?

DOUGLAS & BAC

DISORGANIZED, DEMORALIZED, AND SCARED.

THEY'RE WITHOUT LEADERSHIP, ROBIN--OF ANY KIND.

SO WHAT DOES MAYORKROL THINK HE'S DOING?

PROBABLY TAKING LAME-DUCK REVENGE--FOR LOSING THE ELECTION TO GRANGE.

Y'KNOW, BRUCE OWNS A LOT OF THAT REAL ESTATE DOWN THERE--ALL OF IT PRIME.

SOMEHOW, TIM, I DON'T THINK LOSS OF MONEY IS WHAT'S ON HIS MIND.

"YOU'RE RIGHT, DICK--AND THAT MOB'S GETTING CLOSER TO THE TOWERS..."

"IF THEY SMASH THEIR WAY IN THERE--"

YEAH, VERY BAD NEWS--WHEN AN UNKNOWN NUMBER OF VIRUS CARRIERS ARE NO LONGER CONTAINED.

EXACTLY.

BY HOLING UP IN THE TOWERS, THEY'VE GONE INTO VOLUNTARY QUARANTINE...

...AND IT'S A QUARANTINE WE'VE GOT TO ENFORCE.



NO TRICKS,  
IVY.

EVERY EXIT FROM THESE SEWERS WILL BE  
UNDER HEAVY GUARD--SO DON'T THINK  
YOU CAN ESCAPE.

WHY SHOULD I  
WANT TO ESCAPE  
YOU, HANDSOME?

YOU'VE ONLY  
GOT A FEW  
HOURS.

IF MY SERUM'S A  
FAILURE, YOU'LL  
PROBABLY KNOW IT  
SOONER THAN THAT,  
AND IF YOU DON'T  
REPORT BACK--

WHAT  
WILL  
YOU  
DO?

BRAVE THE  
PLAQUE TO  
GRAB ME?

YES.

OOOH...

I CAN ALREADY  
FEEL YOUR TOUCH.

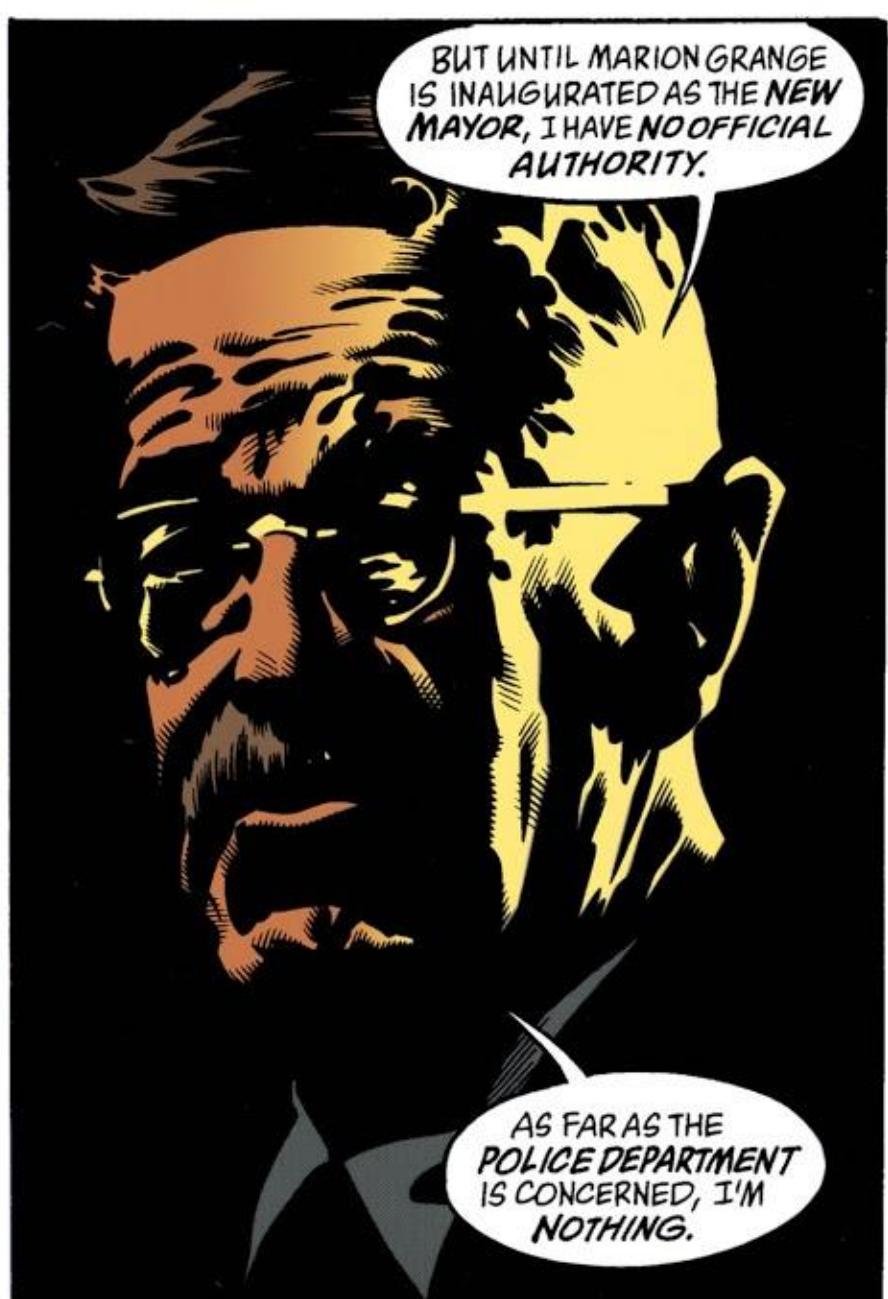
THRAK

CHUT

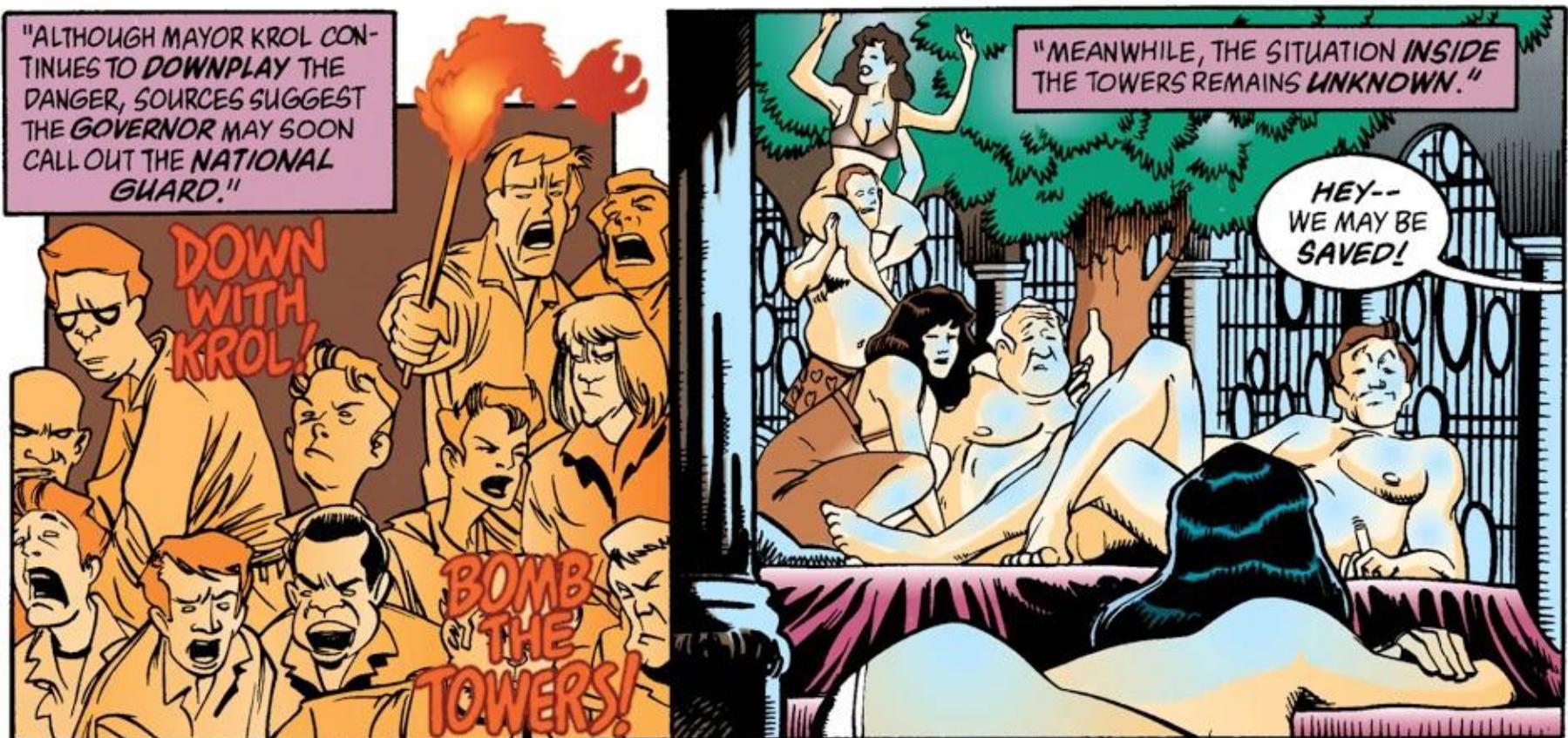
KUNCH

HWOK





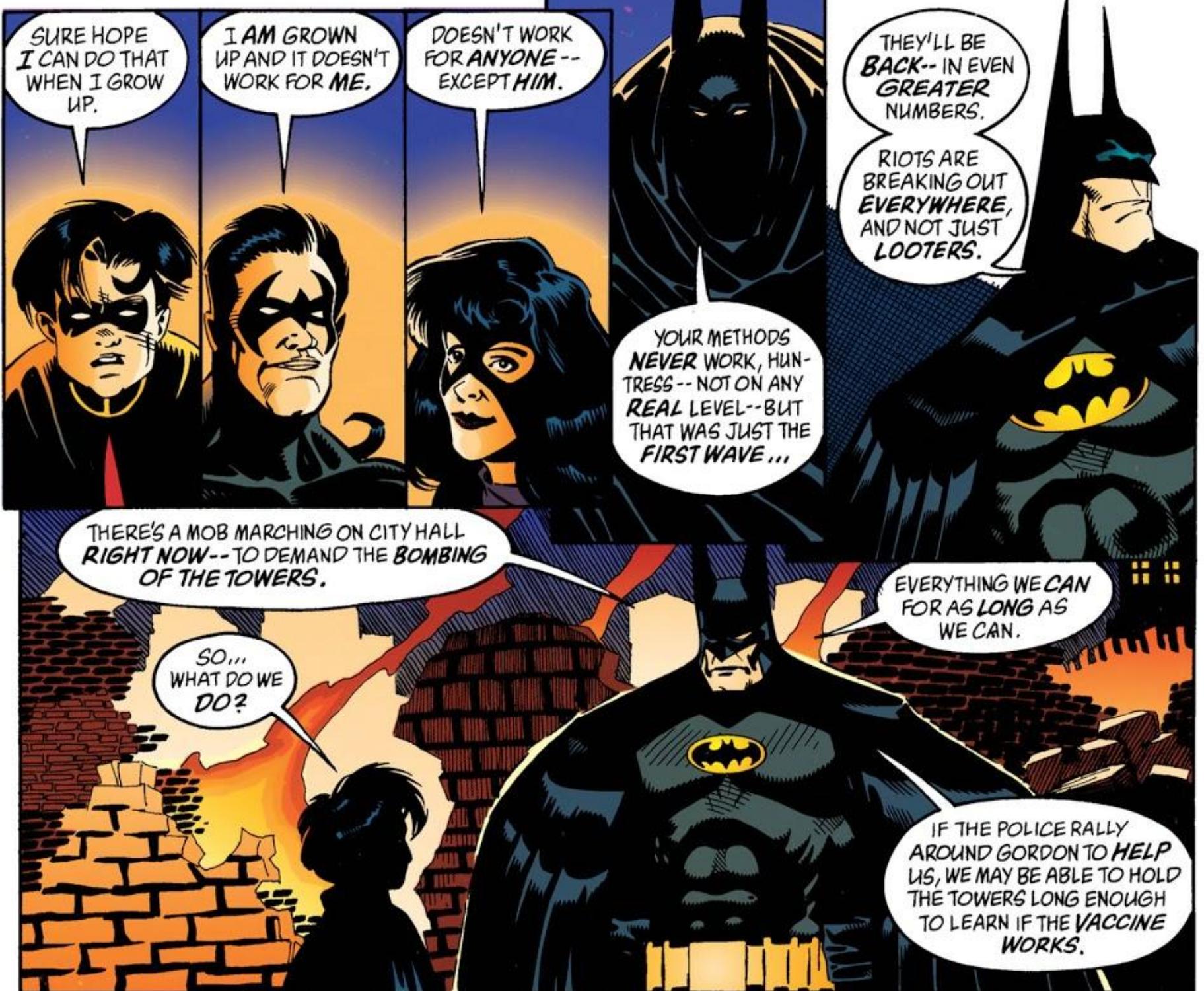












◀ "CONTAGION" CONTINUES IN  
SHADOW of the BAT #49 ▶

► AND IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF BATMAN:  
THE DEADMAN CONNECTION  
PART ONE



**novus**  
Distributions