

BATMAN

TM

DEATH OF THE FAMILY

SNYDER
CAPULLO
GLAPION

13

RATED T
TEEN



DC
COMICS™

THE NEW 52!

DCCOMICS.COM

DEC 2012

"IN HINDSIGHT,
THERE WERE SIGNS..."



"...OMENS OF THE
TERRIBLE THINGS
TO COME."

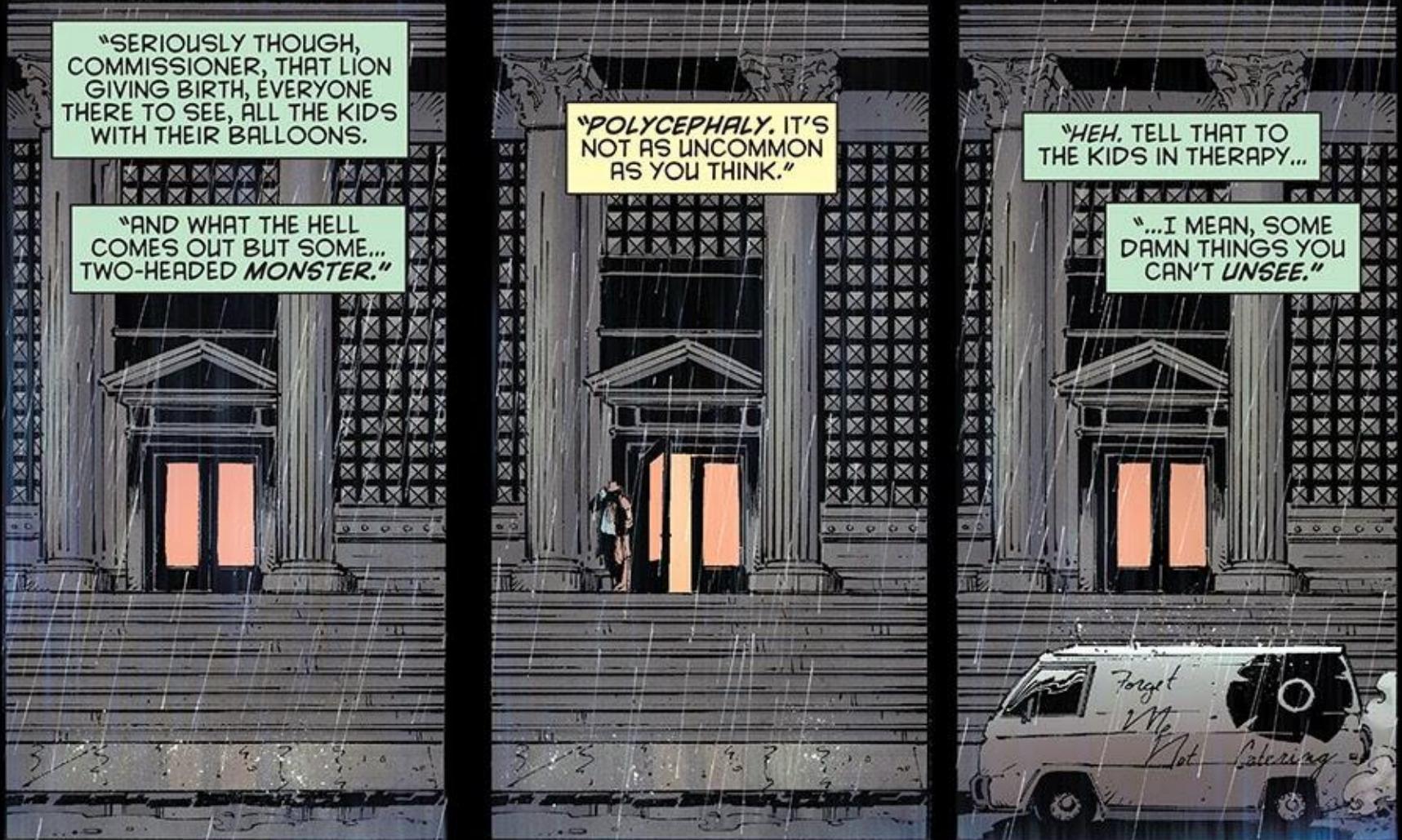
"THE FIRST ONE CAME
WITH THE RAINS."



"WITH THE EARLY SNOWS BLOCKING
ITS MOUTH, THE RAINS FLOODED THE
GOTHAM RIVER, ACTUALLY REVERSING
ITS COURSE FOR THREE FULL DAYS."









ZZT

HELLOO,
GOTHAM'S FINEST!
NOW STOP ME IF
YOU'VE HEARD
THIS ONE...

...A MAN
WALKS INTO
A BAR...

EVERYONE,
WATCH OUT! IT'S
JOKER! HE'S IN
THE ROOM!

JOKER?

JOKER IS
IN HERE?!

AW, WHAT'S THE
MATTER? YOU'VE HEARD
IT ALREADY? OKAY THEN,
LET'S TRY SOME NEW
MATERIAL!

JOKER!
PUT YOUR
HANDS IN...
WHAT?
WHERE?

ALL RIGHT, HOW
ABOUT THIS ONE?
OFFICER BRADTREE!
A CLOWN WALKS
INTO A BAR...

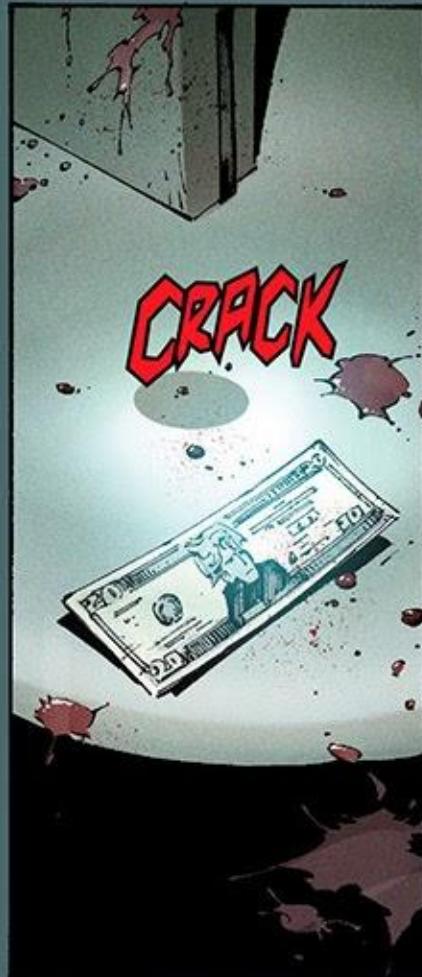
NO,
PLEASE! STAY
AWAY!

YOU'VE
HEARD IT,
EH?

TOUGH
CROWD, THE OLD
G.C.P.D.!

BRADTREE.
NO...

CRACK



SHOW
YOURSELF, YOU
MONSTER!

HEEE HEEE
HEEEEEE

ALL RIGHT,
TAKE THREE! OFFICER
GUADALUPE! A CLOWN
WALKS INTO A POLICE
STATION...

DON'T...
D-DON'T.

WHAT?!!
YOU'VE HEARD
THIS ONE, TOO?
SIGH...

CRACK

STOP
IT!

AW, I'M JUST TRYING TO GET A LAUGH, JIMBO! IT'S A CLASSIC, TOO.

SO MANY VARIATIONS! "A CLOWN IN A HAWAIIAN SHIRT KNOCKS ON A DOOR." HEE HEE...OR MAYBE, "A BAT FLIES INTO A ROOM..." OR EVEN, "A CLOWN WALKS INTO A POLICE STATION LOOKING FOR HIS FACE!" HAHAHA!

FINE, JUST LEAVE THEM ALONE! YOU HEAR ME? COME FOR ME! LEAVE THEM ALONE!

HEE HEE...OH, JIMMY. ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT. I KNOW WHEN MY ACT HAS BOMBED. I MISSED YOU WHILE I WAS GONE! ALMOST AS MUCH AS I MISSED HIM! I'LL BE SEEING HIM SOON ENOUGH, THOUGH. AND HE DOES HAVE MY CALLING CARD...

...YOU'RE LOOKING SO WELL, THOUGH! LITTLE BARBARA, TOO!

DON'T YOU SAY HER NAME!

SO HEALTHY, BOTH OF YOU...BUT I ADMIT, I'M DISAPPOINTED IN YOU, TOO, GORDO. ALL THE WORK YOU DO TO MAKE BABS PROUD, AND THEN YOU GO AND BLOW IT. YOU HIDE THINGS.

DOESN'T HE HIDE THINGS, OFFICER McCABE?

GET OFF ME, YOU--

CRACK

NO!

YESSSS, COMMISH...YES YOU DO HIDE THINGS.

LIKE THAT LAST PACK OF SMOKES!

THE ONE YOU HIDE IN YOUR APARTMENT...

...IN THAT FINAL HIDING SPOT WHERE BARBARA WON'T LOOK... WHERE NO ONE WILL.

UNDER YOUR BED, IN THE WIRE NETTING.

SOMETIMES I LIE UNDER THERE AT NIGHT AND LISTEN TO YOU SLEEP. THE SAD THINGS YOU SAY... HOW I WANT TO JUST REACH MY ARMS UP AND...

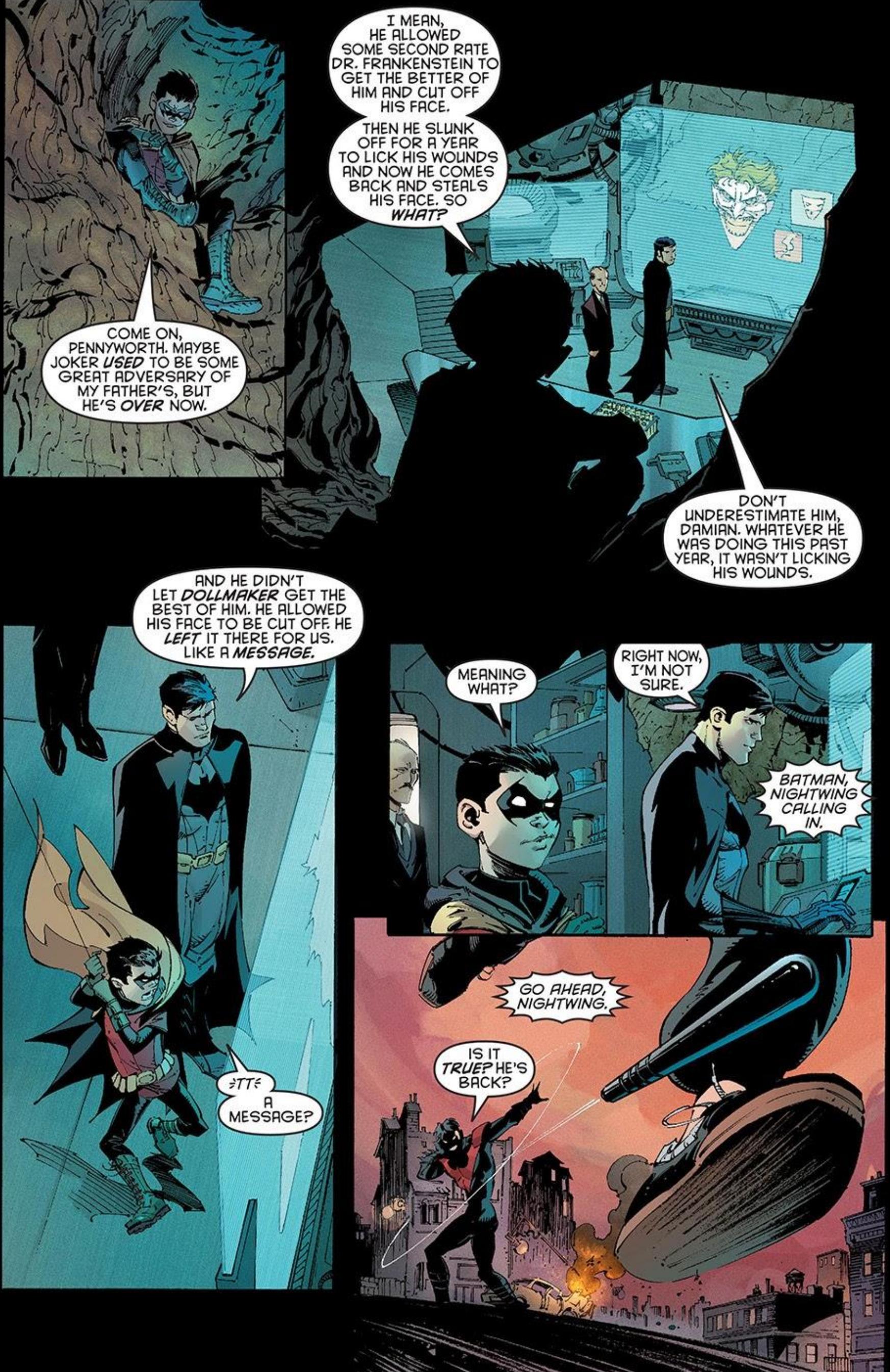
HAHAHA HAHA!

CREAK

BLAM BLAM







IT
SEEMS SO,
YES.

HAVE
YOU TOLD
BATGIRL?

I THOUGHT
SHE MIGHT RATHER
HEAR IT FROM THE
COMMISSIONER.

BATMAN,
RED ROBIN.
SO,
HOW'D HE
DO IT?

HE USED ONE
OF THE G.C.P.D.'S
OWN PULSE GUNS.
REMOVED IT FROM
A SQUAD CAR.

THEY INSTITUTED
THEM A FEW MONTHS
AGO, TO DISABLE CARS
GIVING CHASE. HE STOLE
ONE AND AMPLIFIED IT. PUT
IT UNDER THE DEPARTMENT,
IN THE SEWER,
AIMED UP.

USE
THE POLICE'S
OWN WEAPON
AGAINST THEM.
IT'S ALMOST
FUNNY. AND THE
GENERATOR?

HE BLEW IT
FROM INSIDE.
HOLD ON.

BATMAN,
BATGIRL. WHY
DIDN'T YOU SAY
ANYTHING?



THIS
IS THE LOCAL
NEWS, SIR.

BATMAN, I'M
HEARING...

I'M SEEING IT.
RUN FACIAL AND VOICE
RECOGNITION.

HELL...HELLO
GOTHAMITES...

IT'S SO
GOOD TO BE
B-BACK.

WHAT,
DON'T YOU
RECOGNIZE
ME?

IT'S
J-JOKER. I WAS
AW--

"THE ARMS,
MASTER BRUCE."

"JOKER'S. IT'S THE
OLD CHILDREN'S GAG."

HEE-HEE.
LOUDER...

...OR THAT
BAD, BAD THING
WE TALKED
ABOUT...

IT'S ME, JOKER!
I WAS AWAY FOR A
LITTLE WHILE, YES, BUT
NOW I'M BACK!

HAHAHA. GOOD,
BUT YOU CAN DO
BETTER! READ FROM
THE PROMPTER.

NOW I'M BACK!
THE CITY WAS CALLING
TO ME, YOU SEE? CALLING
ME BACK TO SERVE. SO HERE
I AM, AND I COME BEARING
NEWS FROM AFAR! AND
THAT NEWS IS THIS:

MAYOR
HADY DIES AT
MIDNIGHT.

THE
JOKER HAS
SPOKEN.

BUT JUST
BECAUSE HE'S MAYOR,
DON'T THINK HE MAY-OR-
MAY-NOT DIE. HE'S DEAD
AS A BABY BIRD SMASHED
WITH A CROWBAR!
MIDNIGHT TONIGHT.
HEE. HEE.

SOMETIMES
I JUST K-K-KILL
ME.

PLEASE--
PLE--

HAHA
HAHAHAHA
HAHA!

BANG





EVENING,
JIM.

I'M AFRAID
TO ASK HOW LONG
YOU'VE HAD EYES
ON THE MAYOR'S
PLACE.

THEN
DON'T.

ANYTHING?

MAYOR HADY'S
BLOOD IS CLEAN. HIS
SIGNS ARE NORMAL.
THE WATER'S CLEAN.
VENTS ARE CLEAN.
SECURITY'S UP.

SO, NO.
NOTHING. HOW
ARE YOU?

TERRIBLE...

...BUT I
IMAGINE YOU
CAN SEE
THAT.

WHAT DID HE
MEAN WHEN HE
SAID YOU ALREADY
HAD HIS CALLING
CARD? WAS HE
TALKING ABOUT
HIS FACE?
BATMAN?

I DON'T
KNOW, JIM.

80

120 / 80

98

29

37.6



I DON'T
KNOW, JIM.





SENDING SAMPLES OF TOXIN.

THE TOXIN IS A BINARY COMPOUND. HALF WAS IN AN EPIDERMAL SOLUTION HE MUST HAVE DABBED ON THEIR CLOTHES. THE OTHER HALF, THE ACTIVATING HALF, WAS IN THE FLOOR CLEANER THE MAYOR USED.

ALSO, IT'S A VARIATION OF TOXIN THIRTY-FOUR, BUT THE TROPONIN LEVELS HAVE BEEN ADJUSTED TO PRODUCE A DIFFERENT MUSCULAR CONTRACTION IN THE FACIAL MUSCLES RESULTING IN--

A FROWN. I KNOW. GIVE ME SOMETHING ELSE. ANYTHING.

IT'S LIKELY NOTHING, BUT THE COMPUTER IS FINDING THREE NON-ESSENTIAL COMPONENTS TO THE COMPOUND. THREE SUBSTANCES THAT SEEM TO SIMPLY BE ADDITIVES, NOTHING FUNCTIONAL. CHLORINE, ETHANE AND COMMON ASPIRIN.

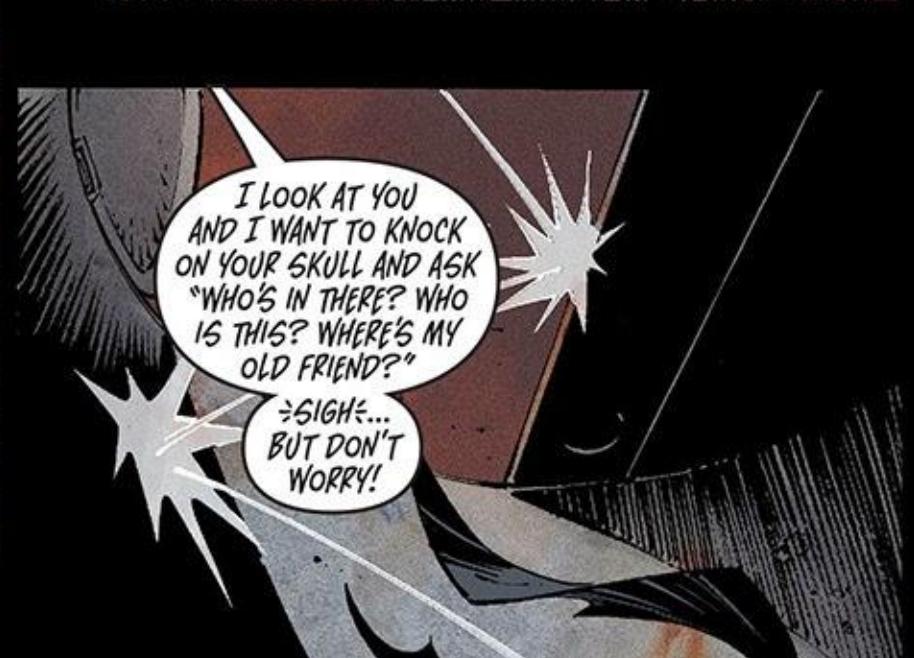
THE FIRST LETTERS. HE'S TAKING IT BACK TO WHERE IT ALL STARTED...

SIR?

... "A. C. E."

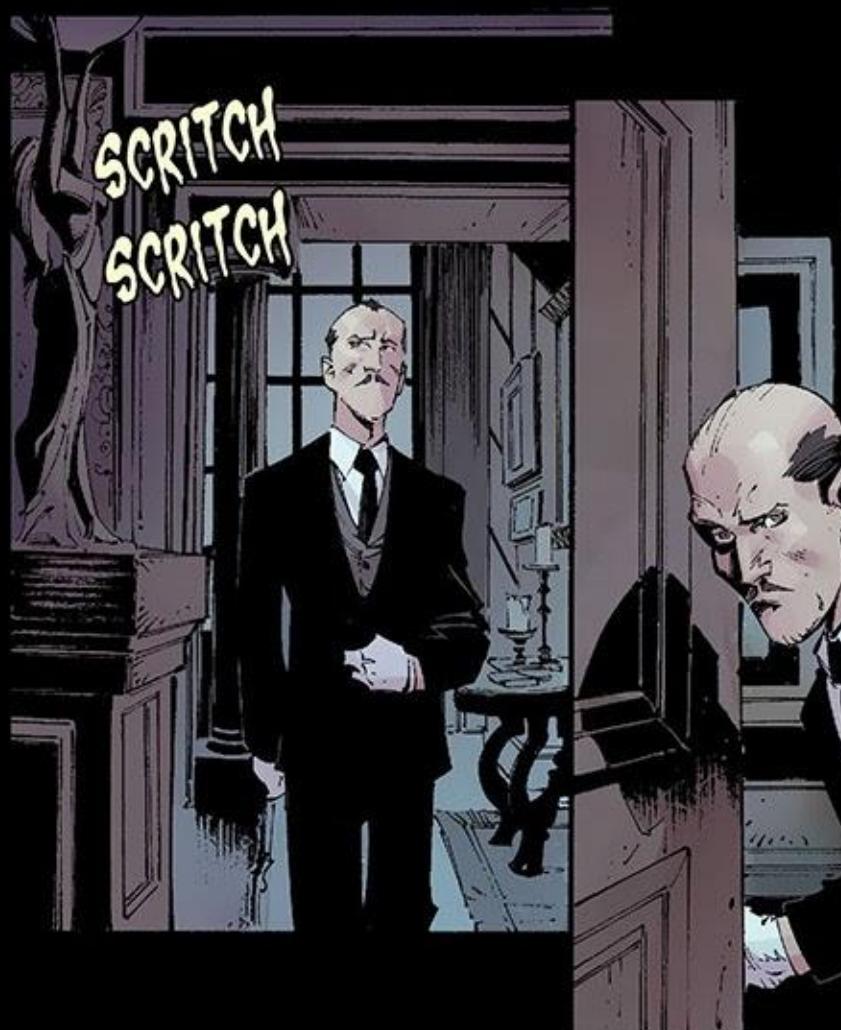








"WHERE IS
JOKER?!"



THERE'S
MY LITTLE GUY!
I'VE BEEN LOOKING
EVERYWHERE!



DC COMICS presents BATMAN in

DEATH OF THE FAMILY

KNOCK KNOCK

NOW,
MR. PENNYWORTH,
STOP ME IF
YOU'VE HEARD
THIS ONE!

HA
HAHAHA
HAHA!



Brought to you by

SCOTT SNYDER
GREG CAPULLO
JONATHAN GLAPION

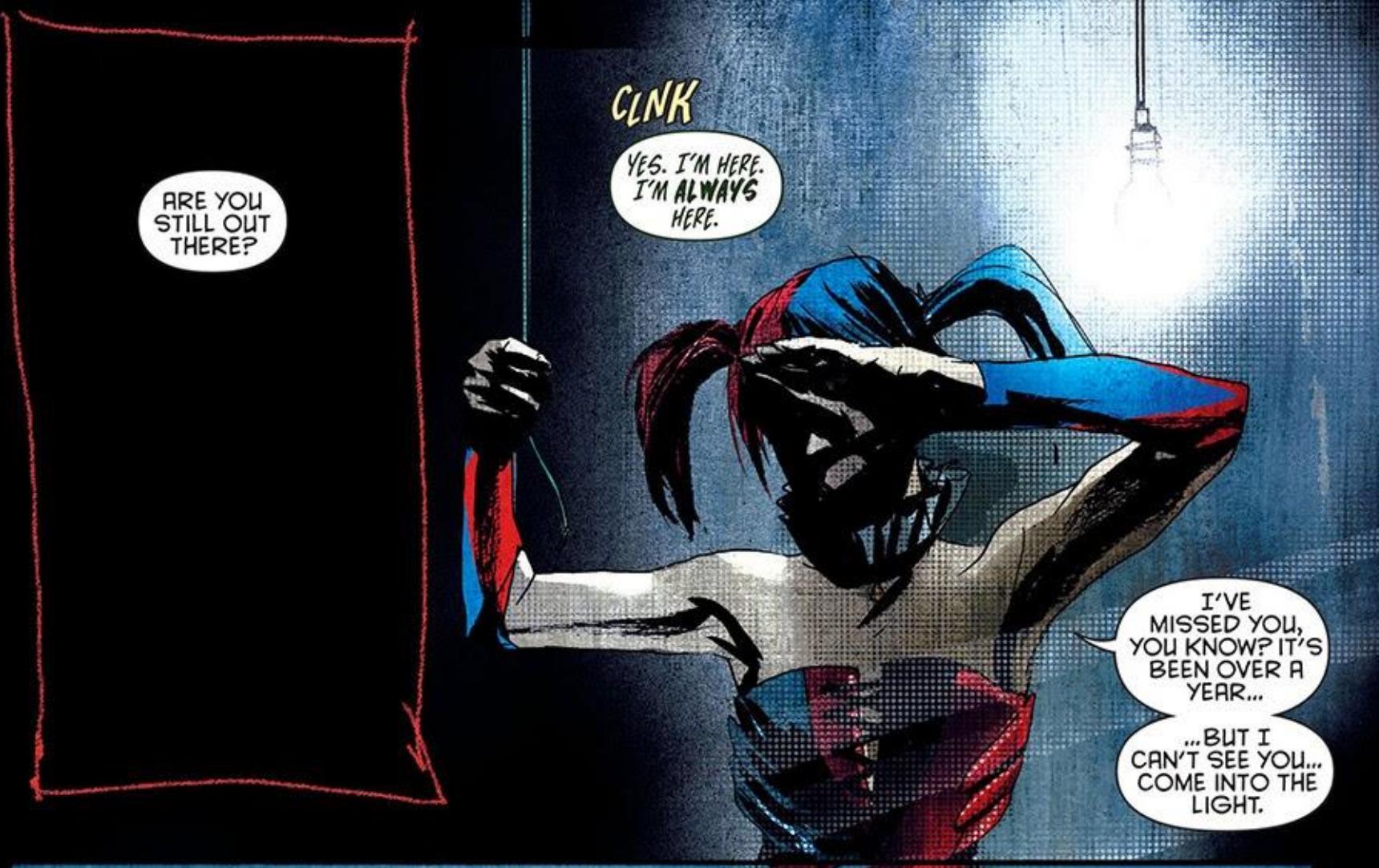
FCO PLASCENCIA
RICHARD STARKINGS
and COMICRAFT'S
JIMMY BETANGOURT
KATIE KUBERT
MIKE MARTS

Cover by
CAPULLO and
PLASCENCIA

Variant cover by
AARON KUDER and
NATHAN FAIRBAIRN

BATMAN
created by
BOB KANE

NEXT:
The JOKE'S on
GOTHAM!





WHAT
SHOULD I
DO NEXT,
MR. J?



MR. J?
WHERE ARE
YOU?



ARE YOU SURE THIS
WOULDN'T BE MORE
FUN WITHOUT THE
GETUP?

OH NO...
THIS IS GOING
TO BE SO MUCH
FUN. YOU'LL
SEEEE.



THE PADDING IN
HERE IS PRETTY
INTENSE,
MR. J.

IT
CERTAINLY
IS!



AND THE PLATFORMS
ON THESE SHOES... I'LL
BE YOUR HEIGHT... HAVE
YOUR BUILD. I'LL LOOK
JUST LIKE YOU.

YESSSS...
THAT'S THE
IDEA!



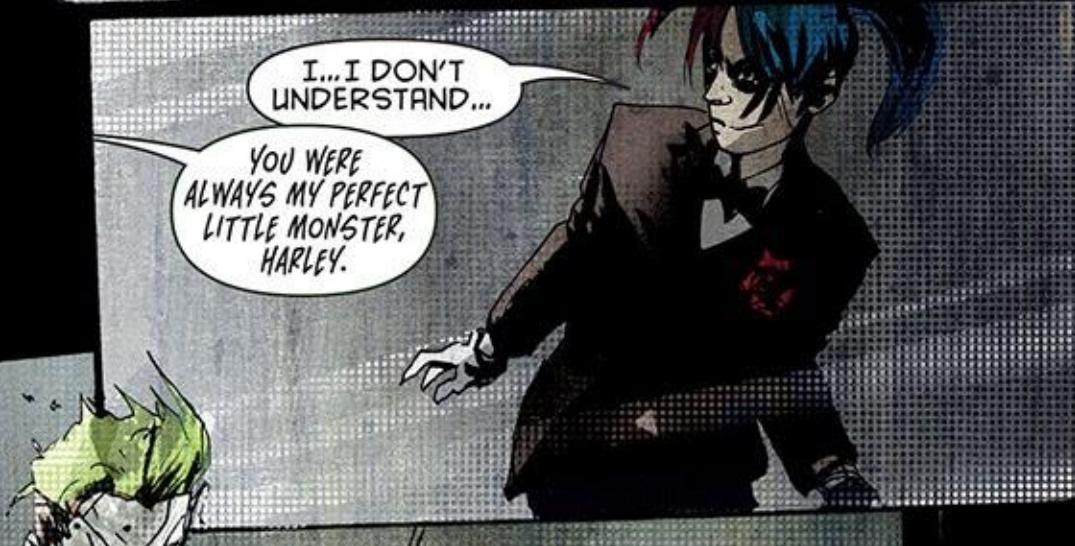
JUST.
LIKE. ME.



JUST HOW IT'S
SUPPOSED TO BE! THERE'S
JUST ONE THING MISSING.



THAT PRETTY FACE
OF YOURS...IT SPOILS THE
REFLECTION. I'M AFRAID IT'S
GOING TO HAVE TO GO.



I...I DON'T
UNDERSTAND...

YOU WERE
ALWAYS MY PERFECT
LITTLE MONSTER,
HARLEY.



I PULLED THE
PIECES OF YOU FROM MY
RIBCAGE AND STITCHED
YOU BACK TOGETHER WITH
BEAUTIFUL LIES.

I SMASHED
YOUR NORMAL BRAIN ON
THE GROUND AND REPLACED
IT WITH SOMETHING
MAGNIFICENTLY
ABNORMAL!

YOU ARE
MY CREATION, AND IF
YOU WANT TO SERVE ME
I NEED YOU TO BE...
PERFECT.

I...I DON'T
THINK I CAN
DO THIS,
MR. J.



OH, BUT THINK OF
ALL THE FUN WE'LL
HAVE TOGETHER IF
YOU DO!





THERE...

...IT'S
DONE.

BUT...I
DIDN'T FEEL
ANYTHING...

...YOU SAID
IT WAS GOING
TO HURT.

HEHEH... GOT YOU GOOD,
DIDN'T I?
YOURS IS
STILL ON.
WHEN HE
COMES, YOU RUN
UNTIL HE'S IN FRONT
OF THE HAMMER. THEN
YOU
ACTIVATE IT.

SHOULDN'T BE
LONG NOW... HAVE
FUUUN...

TEASE

STARRING
THE JOKER
& HARLEY QUINN

SCOTT
SNYDER &
JAMES
TYNION IV
WRITERS
JOCK
ARTWORK
SAL
CIPRIANO
LETTERS
KATIE
KUBERT
ASSISTANT
EDITOR
MIKE
MARTS
EDITOR

MR. J?
ARE YOU
STILL OUT
THERE?



END