



WINICK  
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629 | AUG 2004

APPROVED  
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# BATMAN

JASON  
LIVES!

529 BARRYMORE WAY.

Oswald Cobblepot, The Penguin, owns over seventy-three separate properties in Gotham City.

WELL OVER HALF OF THEM ARE LISTED UNDER FALSE NAMES AND BOGUS BUSINESSES.

PENGUIN LIKES HIS SECRETS. HE LIKES THE SAFETY IT PROVIDES.

DRIVE!!  
DRIVE,  
DAMN IT!!

SO, WHEN HE ARRANGED FOR A CLANDESTINE MEETING OF THE HIGHER-UPS IN HIS ASSOCIATION, THIS HOUSE ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF GOTHAM SEEMED IDEAL.

IT WOULD SEEM THAT HE WAS WRONG.

ALL THE WHILE, BATMAN PLANNED TO CAPTURE THE BEAST THAT HAS BEEN HUNTING AND MURDERING SOME OF THE CITY'S MOST SUCCESSFUL GANGSTERS.

# AS THE CROW FLIES

PART FOUR:  
SHOTGUN

IT WOULD SEEM THAT HE WAS WRONG, AS WELL.

BATMAN, WHO IS THE VERY DEFINITION OF PREPARATION, CAME READY TO TANGLE WITH THIS CREATURE.

HE FELT THAT IF THIS MONSTER WAS IN ANY WAY RELATED TO SCARECROW, IT MAY UTILIZE SIMILAR METHODS.

TO COUNTER THE VARIOUS CONCOCTIONS THAT THE SCARECROW EMPLOYS TO INFECT HIS OPPONENTS AND PREY UPON THEIR FEAR, BATMAN FLOODED HIS SYSTEM WITH ANTITOXINS.

OR RATHER, MORE ANTITOXINS THAN USUAL.

AND HIS SKIN IS COVERED IN OINTMENT, WHILE MICRO-THIN FILTERS FILL HIS NOSTRILS AND EARS.

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BATMAN  
CREATED BY  
BOB KANE

IT ALL FAILED. THIS CREATURE IS CLEARLY NOT ONE OF CRANE'S DESIGNS. BATMAN HAS BEEN INFECTED.

AND  
TERROR  
HAS SEIZED  
HIM.

IT'S  
NOT  
FEAR!

D-DON'T LET IT  
TAKE YOU! IT'S THE  
CHEMICALS. IT'S  
NOT REALLY FEAR!

C'MON. C'MON.  
C'MON. USE IT. RIDE IT.  
FIND THE ADRENALINE.  
DON'T STOP NOW.

CHUNK

GOOD. MORE.  
DON'T SLOW DOWN.  
FINISH. YOU CAN  
STILL FINISH HIM.

HURT HIM!!  
GOOD!!  
GONNA HURT  
HIM MORE.  
GOTTA HURT  
HIM. HURT  
HIM-- BRING  
HIM DOWN.

AARRGGHH!!

NEED. NEED. NEED. C'MON. CAN'T  
USE THE--NO--TRANQS WON'T  
WORK. TOO CLOSE FOR BOMBS.

FOCUS. MACE--NO--TASER--  
NO-- ALREADY TRIED THE--  
NO, C'MON. C'MON. MOVE!!



MOVE!!

GETTING WORSE.  
I FEEL IT--GETTING  
WORSE. CAN'T.  
CAN'T. CAN'T.



CAN'T  
FIGHT.

RUN.



TOO MUCH--TOO MUCH.  
DISADVANTAGE TOO GREAT.  
CAN'T STAY--CAN'T  
FOCUS. CAN'T THINK!!



NO!



WON'T S-STAY! WON'T  
LET IT KILL ME! NOT  
GOING TO DIE!! NOT  
LIKE THIS!! NOT  
GOING TO DIE!!



IT'S NOT  
FEAR.

ARE YOU  
SURE? ALL OF  
THEM?!

NO, MR.  
COBBLEPOT, I--I'M  
NOT SURE. IT JUST--  
IT DIDN'T LOOK LIKE  
ANYBODY ELSE MADE  
IT OUT!



GET THEM ON THEIR  
CELL PHONES! DO  
SOMETHING!

I'M TRYING, SIR!!  
BUT YOU SAW WHAT  
THAT MONSTER DID! YOU  
WERE LUCKY! THE  
OTHER GUYS--

DAMN IT--ALL  
OF THEM CAN'T BE--!  
SOME OF THEM MUST  
HAVE GOTTEN--!

MY GOD...MONTHS OF  
PLANNING...YEARS, REALLY...  
AND EVERY MAN I BROUGHT  
IN...EACH A KING OF HIS  
OWN COURT...GONE?

I CAN'T GET  
ANY OF THEM ON  
THE PHONE...

FORGET  
IT, DANNY.

CALL HOME. TELL WEBSTER  
WHAT'S HAPPENED. AND  
HAVE HIM START CONTACTING  
ALL THEIR PEOPLE.

TELL THEM  
THAT THEY'RE  
ALL DEAD.

"IT'S ALL RIGHT, SIR! YOU'RE IN THE CAR AND IT'S HEADING STRAIGHT FOR HOME!"



BEAR DOWN.  
THERE'S NOTHING  
ELSE FOR YOU TO  
DO BUT REMAIN  
CALM.

ALFRED?

YES,  
SIR. IT'S ME.  
JUST TRY TO  
RELAX.

I'M...GOING TO  
DIE. F-FEEL LIKE I'M  
G-GOING TO DIE.

YOU ARE NOT  
GOING TO DIE, SIR.  
YOU WILL BE HOME  
SAFE AND SOUND IN  
A FEW MOMENTS.  
YOU HAVE BEEN  
POISONED, SIR.

I CAN  
SEE YOU, SIR.  
YOU'RE ALL RIGHT.  
LOOK AT ME.  
I'M ON THE  
MONITOR.

YOU SEE ME? LOOK AT ME. I  
PROMISE YOU, SIR. THIS WILL  
ALL BE OVER SOON.

ALFRED?

YES,  
SIR. IT'S  
ME.

YOU'RE NOT  
ALONE. I'M  
WITH YOU.

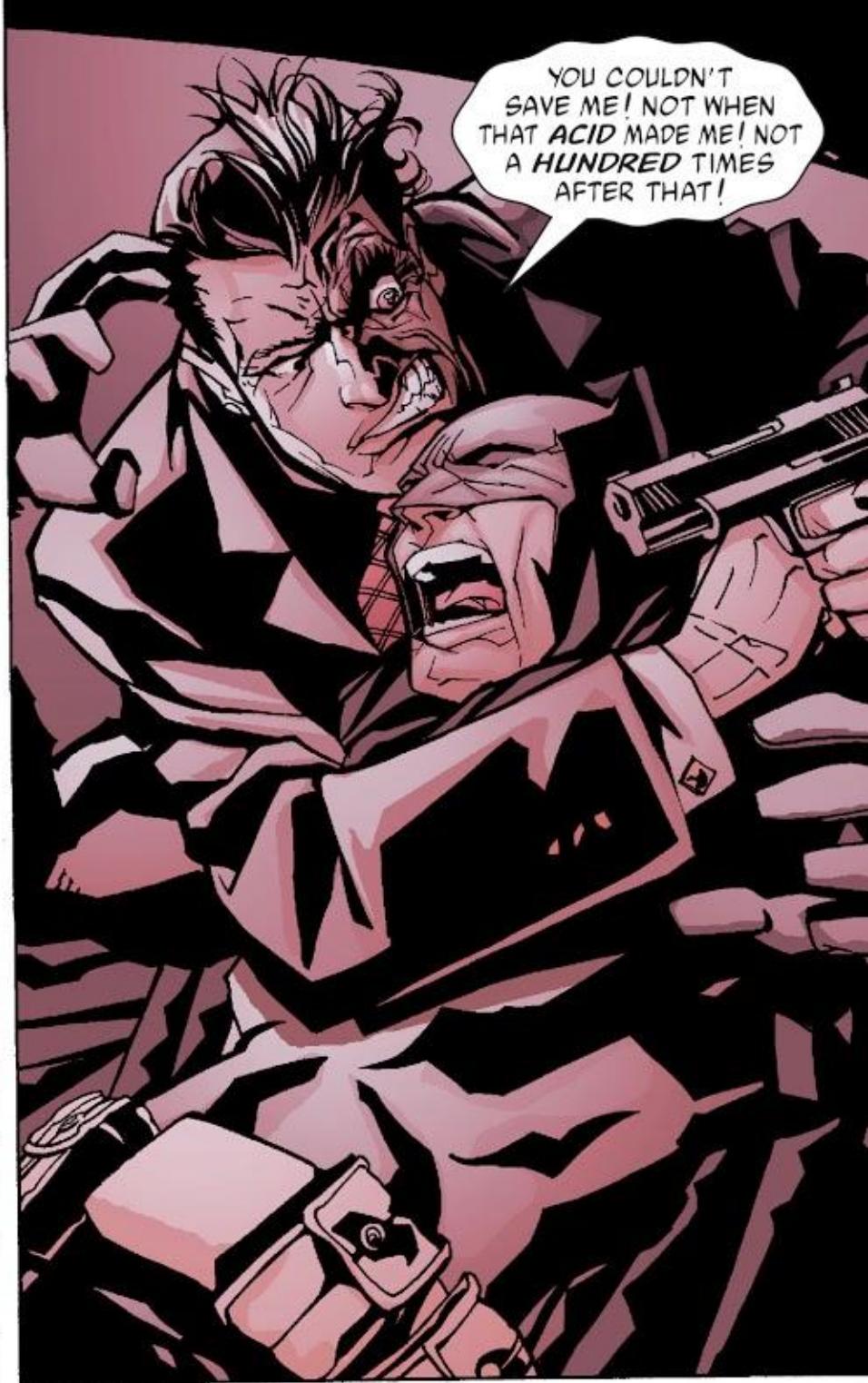
N-NOT  
ALONE.

HE SURE  
ISN'T! I'M  
GLAD I CALLED,  
"SHOTGUN"!



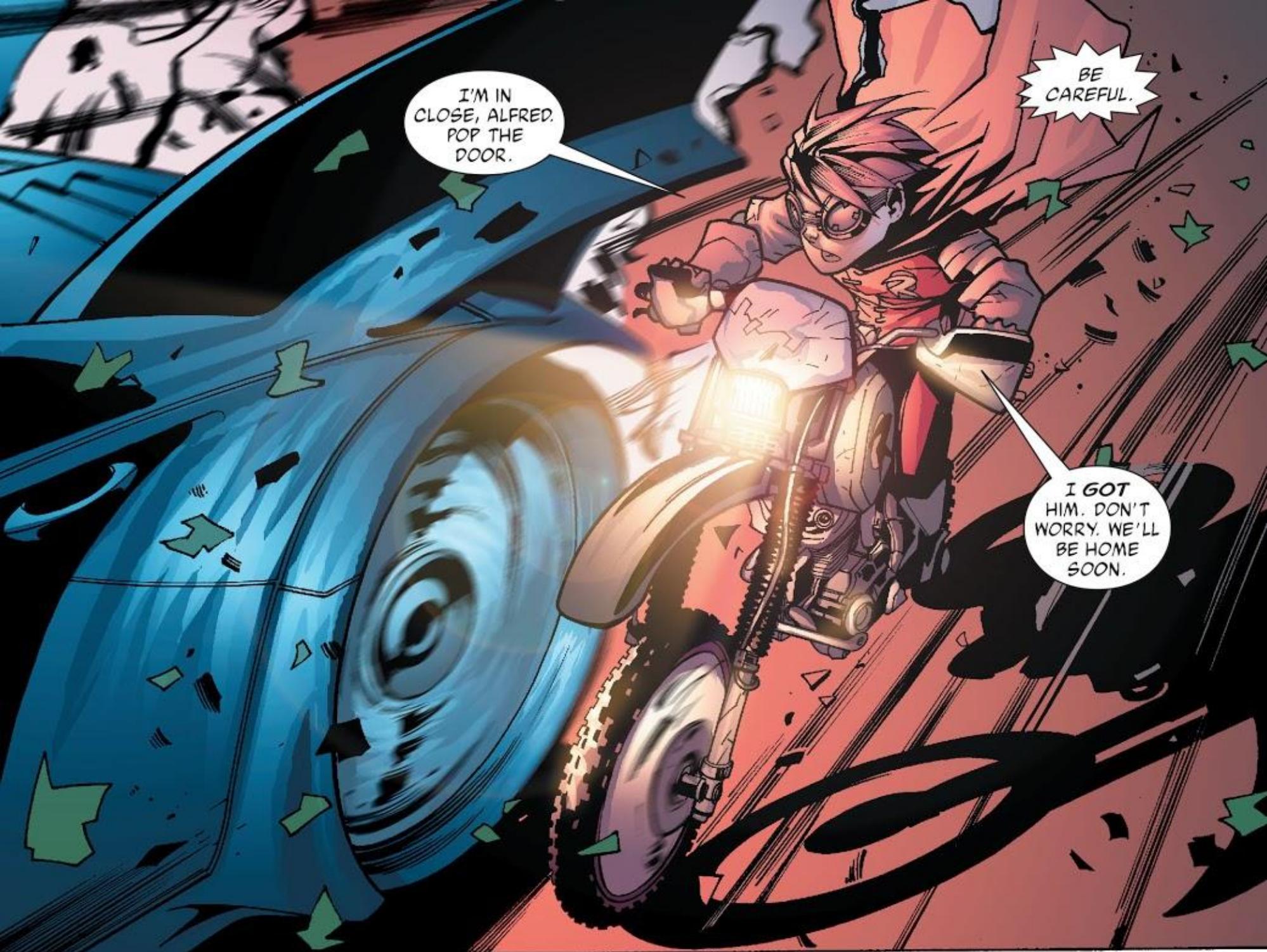






ALFRED, IF HE'S  
ON AUTOPilot, I DON'T  
UNDERSTAND THE PROBLEM. THE  
BATMOBILE IS HEADED BACK  
TO THE CAVE.









MY WORD!

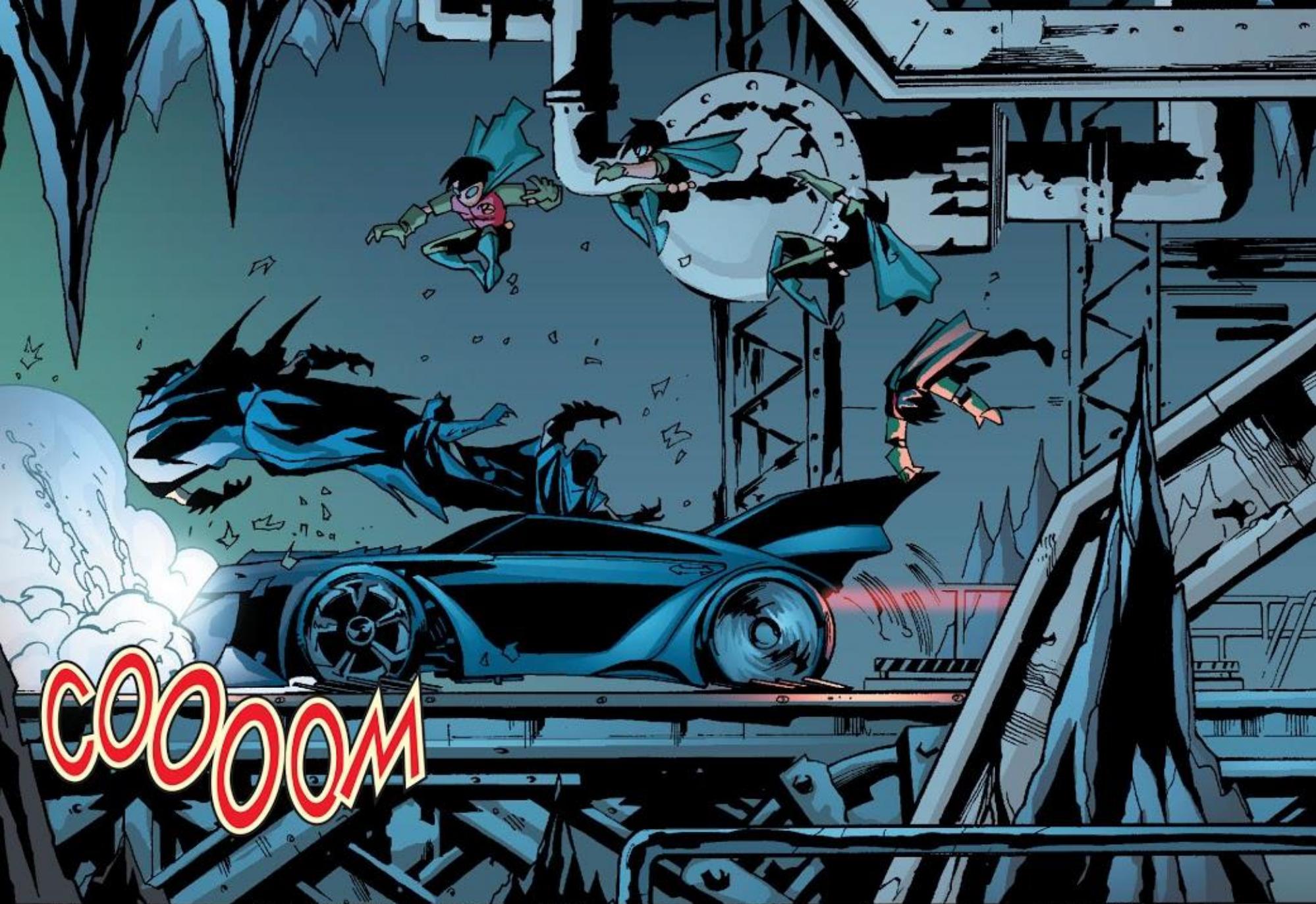
BOOOOMF



TIMOTHY!

I'M  
GOOD!! GET  
READY!!

WE'RE  
COMING  
IN!







THEN, IT WOULD HAVE TO MOVE FAST.

FASTER THAN THE SECURITY SAFEGUARDS COULD BE ENACTED.

IT WOULD HAVE TO BE ALMOST INHUMAN.

PERHAPS SUCH AN INTRUDER WOULD BE ABLE TO TRACK ITS PREY OVER FIFTEEN MILES OF BACK ROADS.

PERHAPS THAT IS EXACTLY WHAT'S HAPPENED.

CRASHH!

HEY, WHAT WAS THA--?

GO!!

