

BATMAN

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A P O R
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VAUGHAN • McDANIEL • STORY





CLOSE BEFORE CLOSING

Act
One

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I'M ONLY
HERE FOR
INFORMATION.
FIRST TO MOVE
AGAINST ME WILL
HAVE IT WORST.



WHY YOU ALL JUST SITTIN'
THERE LIKE PANSIES? YOU
GUYS TOLD ME HE WAS A
GIANT BAT OR SOMETHIN'
HE'S JUST A FRUIT IN
A CAPE!

KID, SIT
DOWN AND
SHUT UP.

TO HELL
WITH THAT!
THIS DUDE'S
GOIN'
DOWN...



YOU SENT MY
OLD MAN TO
BLACKGATE FOR
LIFE, FREAK. NOW
IT'S MY TURN
TO--



WHA...?



AS I WAS
SAYING...

I HEARD RUMORS
THAT A SHIPMENT OF ILLEGAL
ARMOR-PIERCING AMMUNITION
IS BEING SMUGGLED
INTO GOTHAM. I NEED TO
KNOW WHEN AND
WHERE.

NOW.

NO ONE? HOW
ABOUT YOU, MATCHES?
WHAT'S THE WORD?

I... I
AIN'T SAYIN'
NOTHIN'.

WHAT DO
YOU KNOW,
MALONE?

I KNOW
I AIN'T A RAT,
BAT.

TELL
ME.

OR WHAT? I... I
KNOW YOUR REPUTATION.
YOU DON'T KILL.

...BUT THERE ARE
WORSE THINGS
THAN DEATH.

FUH, FUH...
FINE, YOU
WIN!

YOU...YOU
WANNA KNOW
EVERYTHING?
COME CLOSE
AND I'LL TELL
YA...

MAYBE
NOT...

SPLASH

BAD MOVE.

YOU THINK THAT WAS HARSH?
ANYONE CAUGHT
BRINGING COP-KILLER
BULLETS INTO MY CITY
WILL FIND OUT WHAT I
DO WHEN I'M
REALLY ANGRY.

HOLY HELL!
YOU OKAY,
MATCHES?

SURE. PLATE
GLASS IS SOFTER
THAN IT LOOKS...

YOU'RE A
HERO, MAN!
I MEAN, YOU
LOOGIED ON
THE BAT!

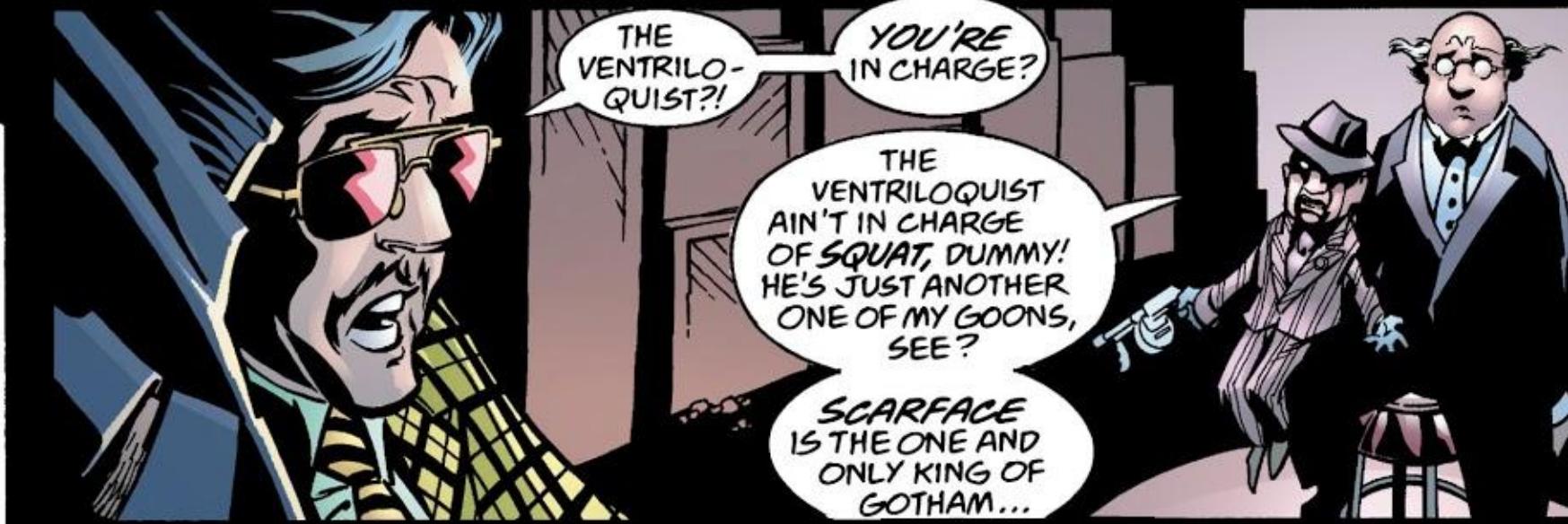
SWELL, AND NOW
THE ONLY THING I'M
GONNA BE SPITTIN'
IS BLOOD. NOW GET
OUTTA MY WAY. I'M
GOIN' HOME.

NOT SO
FAST,
MALONE.

THE BOSS
WANTS A WORD
WITH YOU.

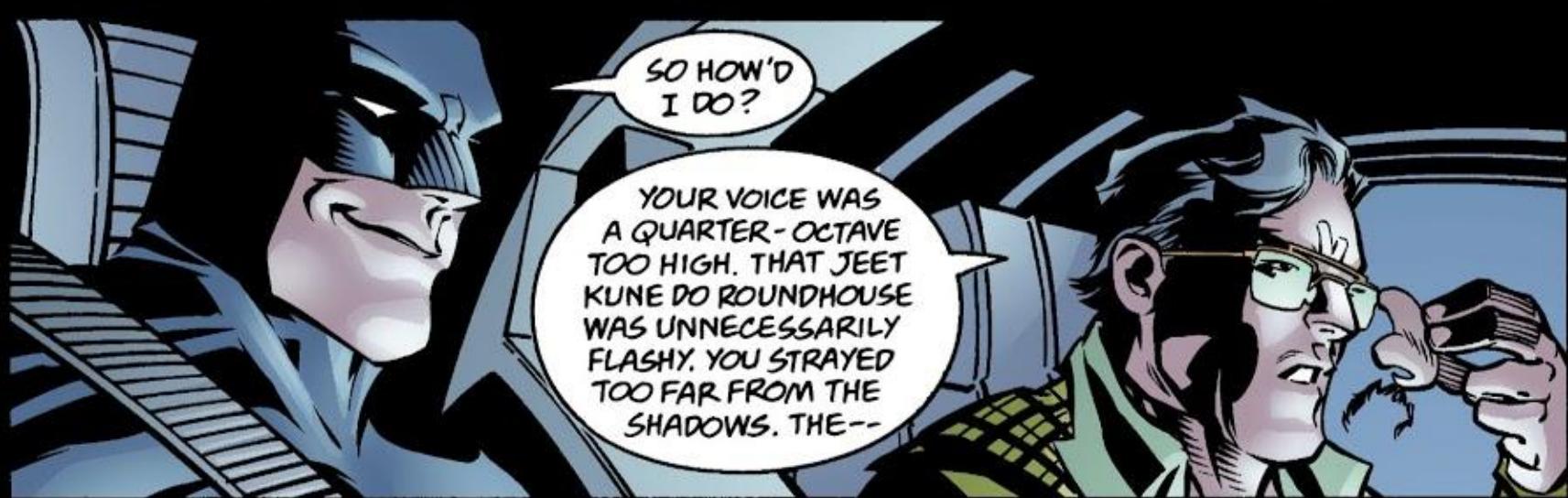
WHAT, HE
WANT ME TO
PAY FOR THE
WINDOW?

LET'S GO,
SMART
GUY...









SO SCARFACE
IS BEHIND ALL
THIS?

GOD, I HATE THAT THING!
REMINDS ME OF THIS CREEPY
VENTRiloquist ACT THAT USED
TO TRAVEL WITH OUR CIRCUS.
"JIMMY AND PROFESSOR
BEARDO."

STUPID
BLOCK
OF WOOD
SCARED
THE LIVING
HELL OUT OF
ME WHEN I WAS
A KID. BEEN FREAKED
OUT BY DUMMIES
EVER SINCE...

IT'S NOT
SCARFACE THAT
I'M CONCERNED
ABOUT,
NIGHTWING.

THE VENTRiloquist IS AN
EXTREMELY DANGEROUS MAN.
ARNOLD WESKER HAS A DISSOCIATIVE
DISORDER THAT ALLOWS HIM TO
GUILTYLESSLY ACT OUT HIS PSYCHO-
PATHIC DISREGARD FOR HUMAN
LIFE THROUGH A PUPPET PERSONA.

POSSESSING MORE THAN
ONE DISTINCT IDENTITY ALLOWS
A MAN TO DO THINGS MOST
PEOPLE COULD NEVER
IMAGINE.

YOU WOULDN'T
KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT
THAT, HUH?

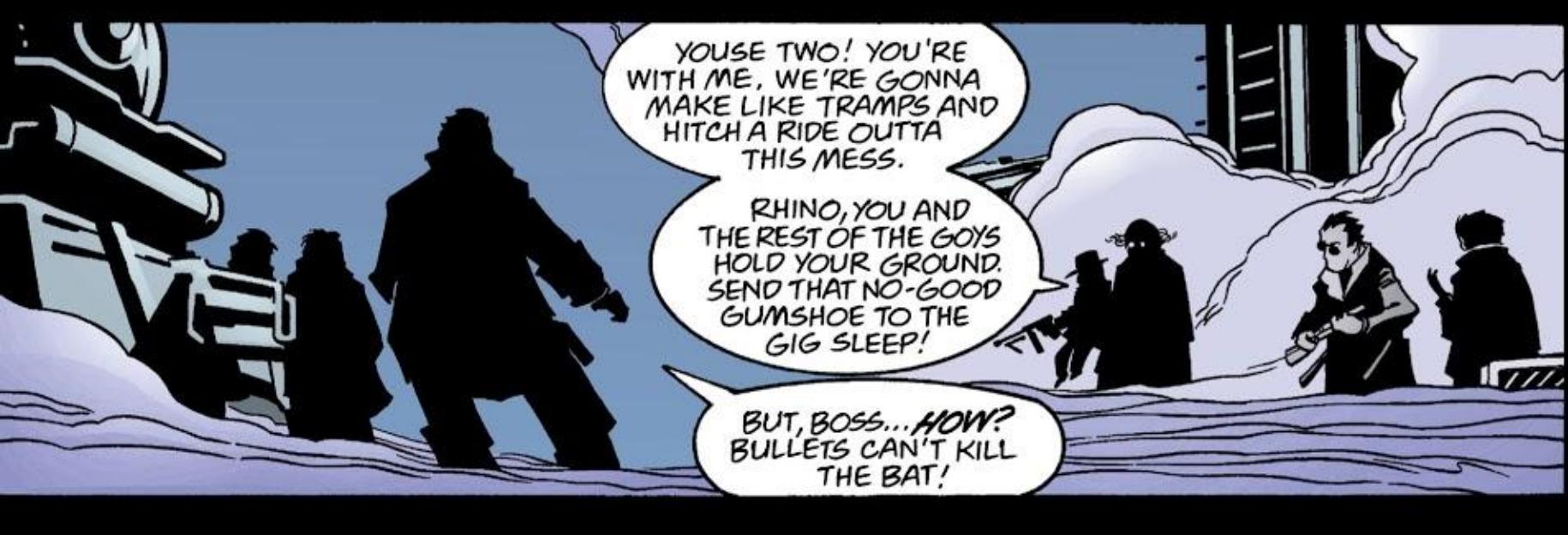
MY STOP. YOU CAN
TAKE THE CAR BACK
TO THE CAVE.

YOU SURE
YOU DON'T WANT
SOME BACKUP?

TO TAKE DOWN
A DOZEN
HEAVILY
ARMED
GANGSTERS?

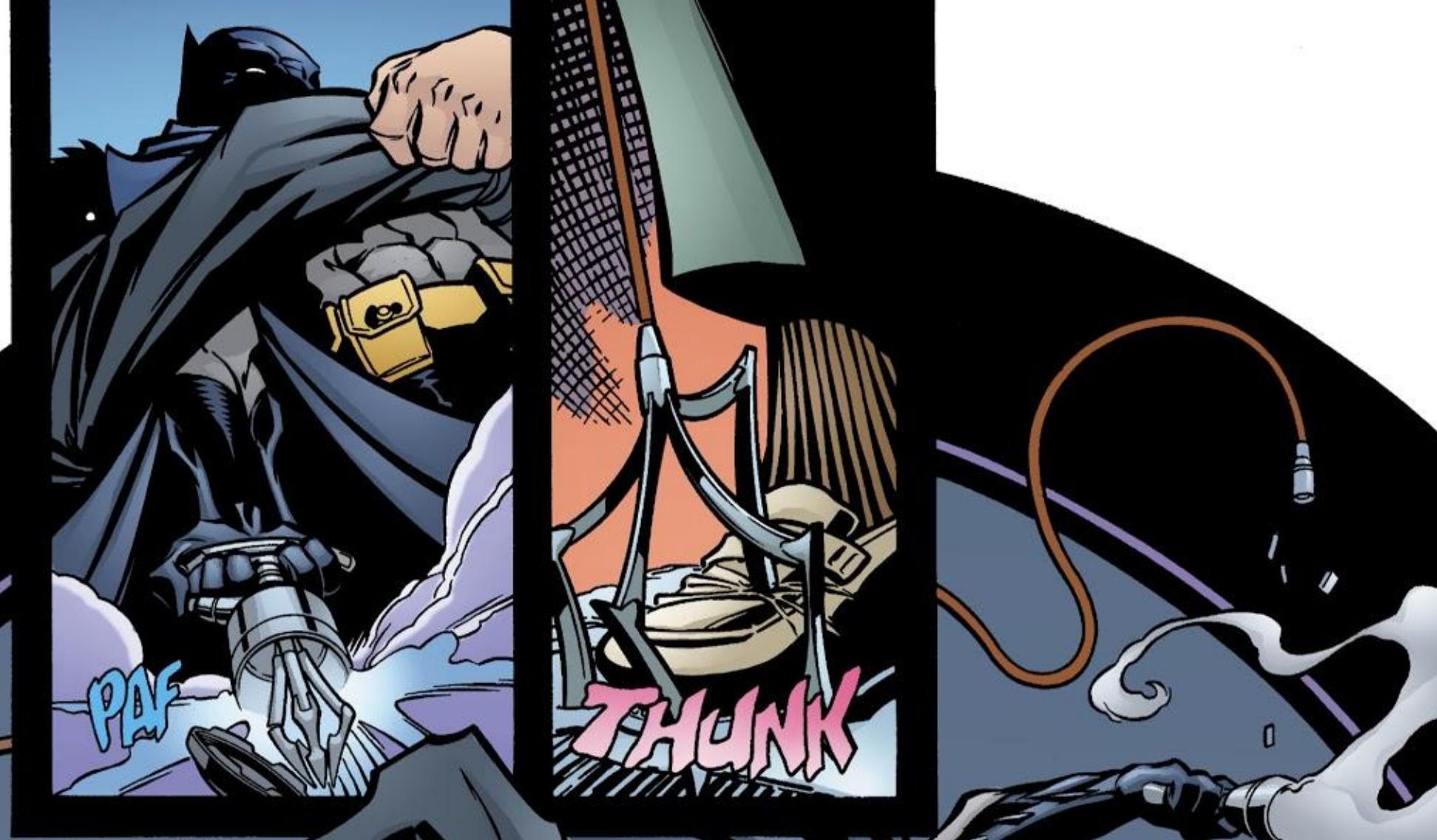
ONE
BATMAN
SHOULD BE
ENOUGH...

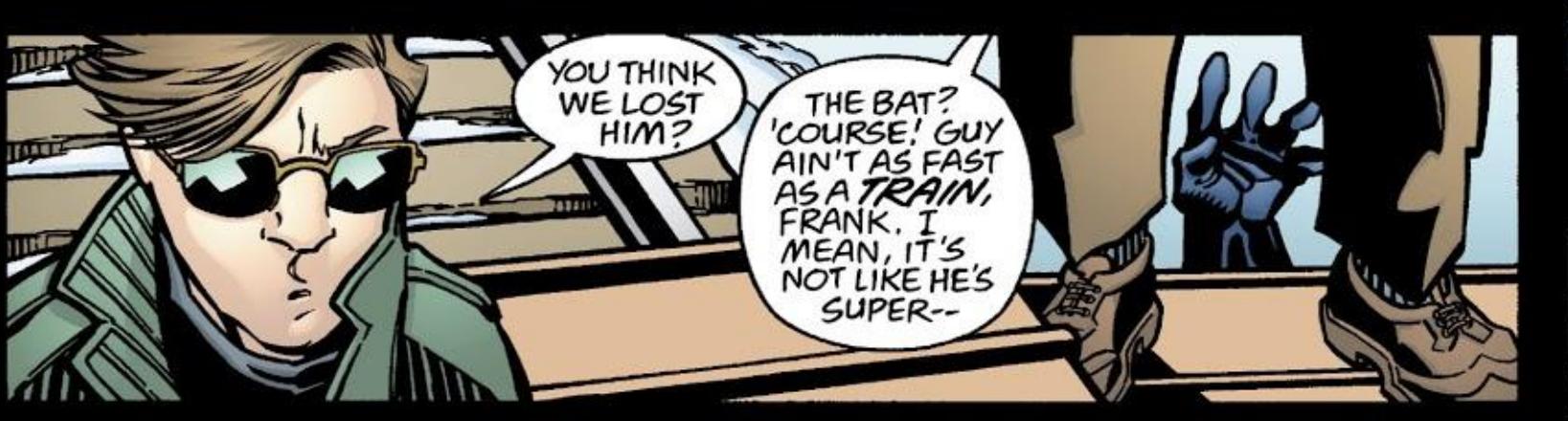












GIVE UP, WESKER.

YOU'RE SICK. YOU NEED HELP.

COME AND GET US, GAT!

NO, YA DIMWIT. OVER HERE!

EVER HEARD OF THROWIN' YER VOICE, GENIUS?

COME ON, SHERLOCK! CATCH US IF YA CAN!

DAMN.

HA! SAYONARA, YA LOUSY GUM!

CRIES, WHAT A DISASTER...

MY, THAT MALONE CHARACTER IS CERTAINLY FORTUNATE THAT HE MISSED OUT ON THIS AFFAIR, ISN'T HE?

WHAT ARE YOU, SLOW? THAT SAP RATTED US OUT! HE WAS IN LEAGUE WITH THE GAT ALL ALONG!

OH...

AS SOON AS WE HIT METROPOLIS, I WANT US ON THE FIRST TRIP GACK TO GOTHAM.

BUT, SCARFACE... SHOULDN'T WE BE LYING LOW, NOW?

FORGET THAT! WE CAN ALWAYS LAM IT LATER, CHROME DOME.

RIGHT NOW, ALL I CARE AGOUT IS MAKIN' SURE THAT STOOLIE GETS ZOTZED! CHILLED OFF! FITTED FOR A CHICAGO OVERCOAT!

I WANT MATCHES MALONE DEAD!



"...BUT MATCHES
MALONE HAS JUST
BEEN SHOT."

TO BE
CONTINUED...