



KNIGHTQUEST™

THE CRUSADE



BATMAN
506 \$1.50 US
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BATMAN



Karen S. Jones

MOENCH
MANLEY
RUBINSTEIN

MALEVOLENT MANAXE

**THE NEW COSTUME
SUITS HIS CHARACTER-
MASKS AS MENACE,
CLOAKING A DARK
HEART BUT REVEALING
AS MUCH AS IT HIDES.**

ABATTOIR
IS STILL AT
LARGE BECAUSE
I WASN'T
EQUIPPED TO
STOP HIM.

AND AS
HIS RELATIVE,
GRAHAM ETCHEISON
IS LITERALLY A
BORN VICTIM--)

5 -WHO WILL
NEVER BE SAFE,
REGARDLESS OF
POLICE PROTECTION,
UNTIL ABATTOIR
GOES DOWN.



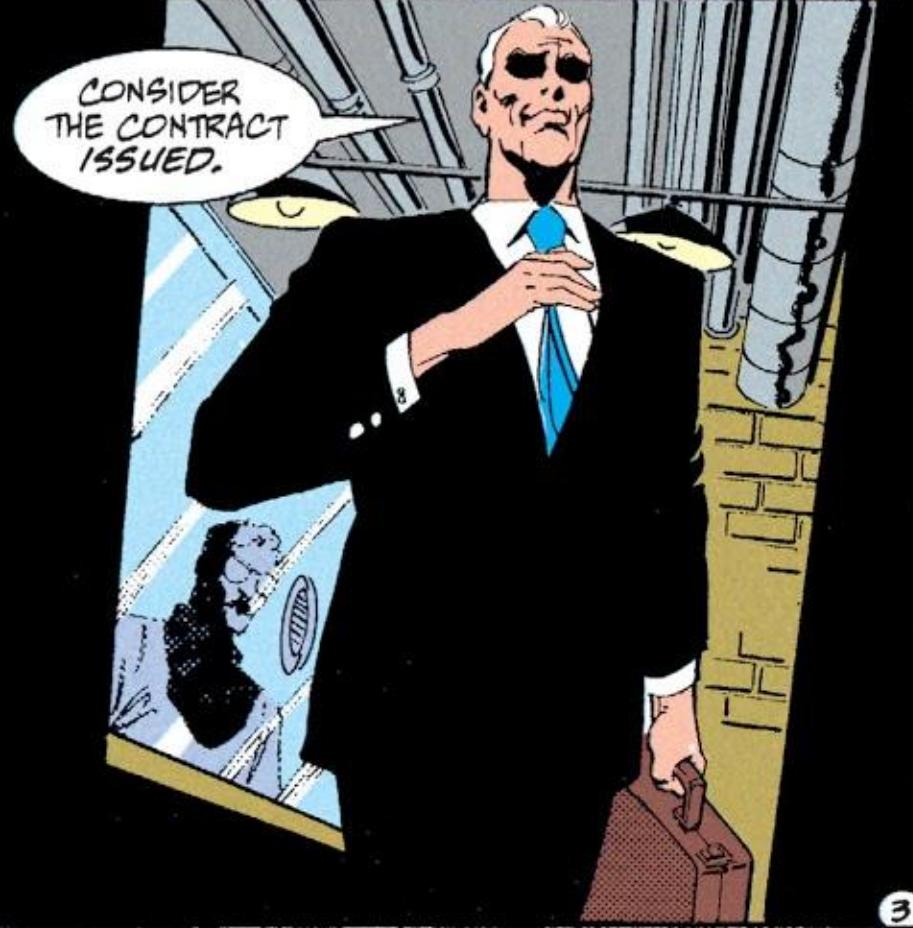
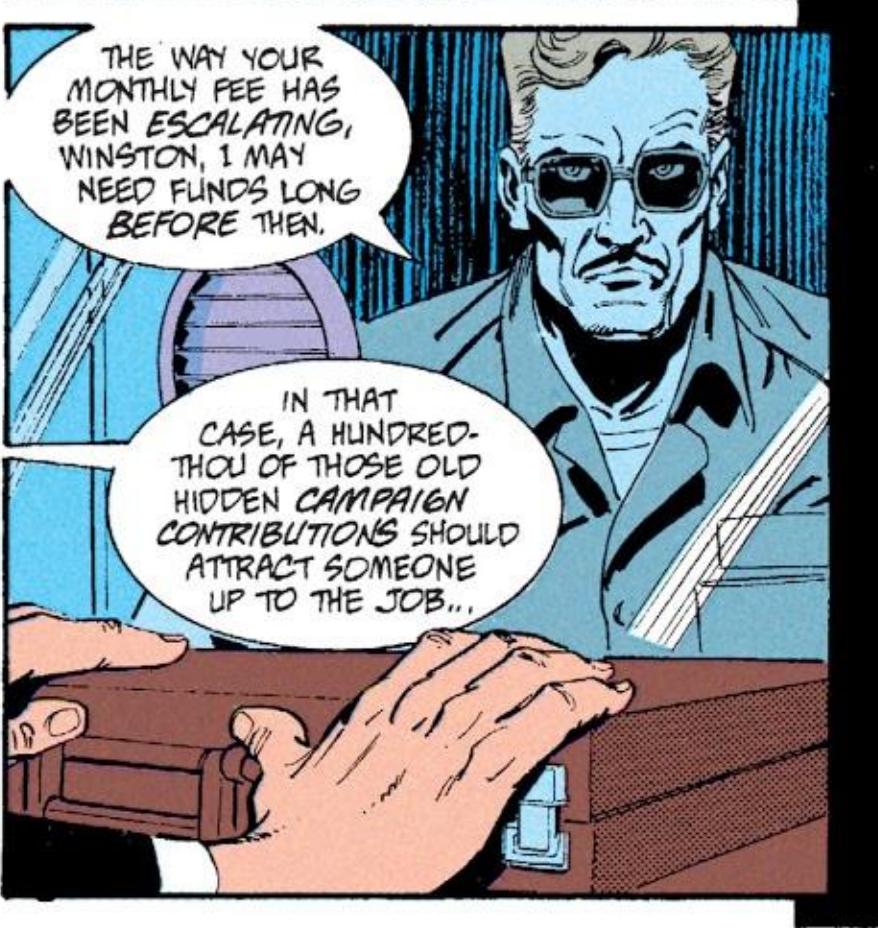
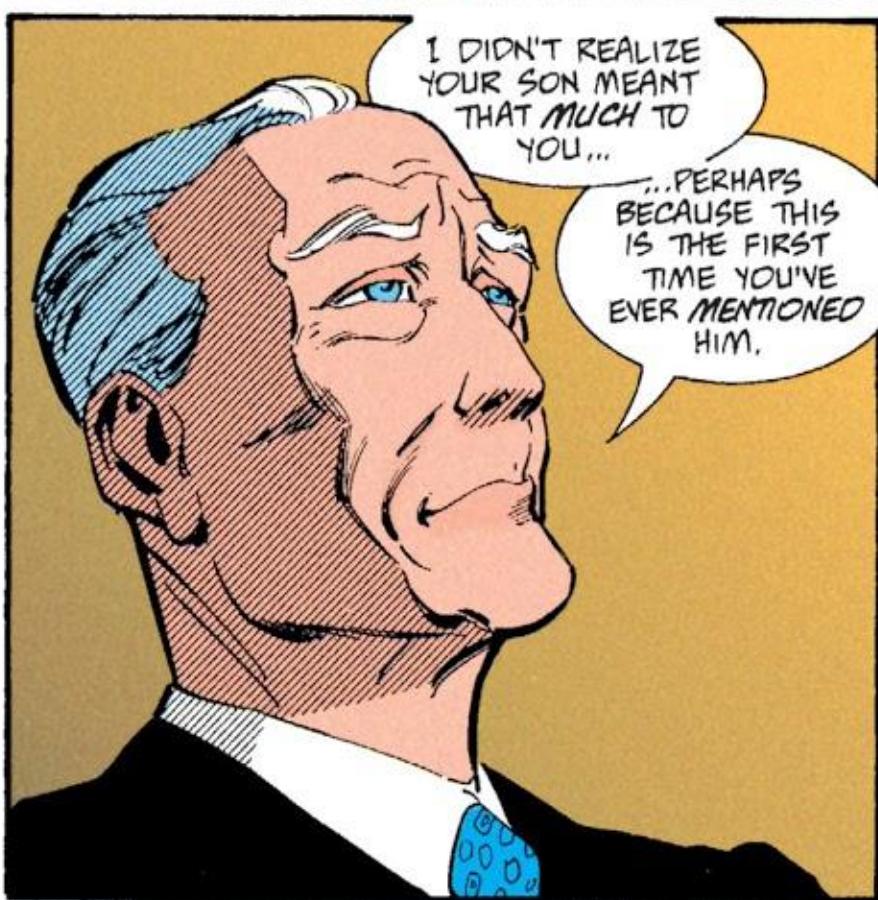
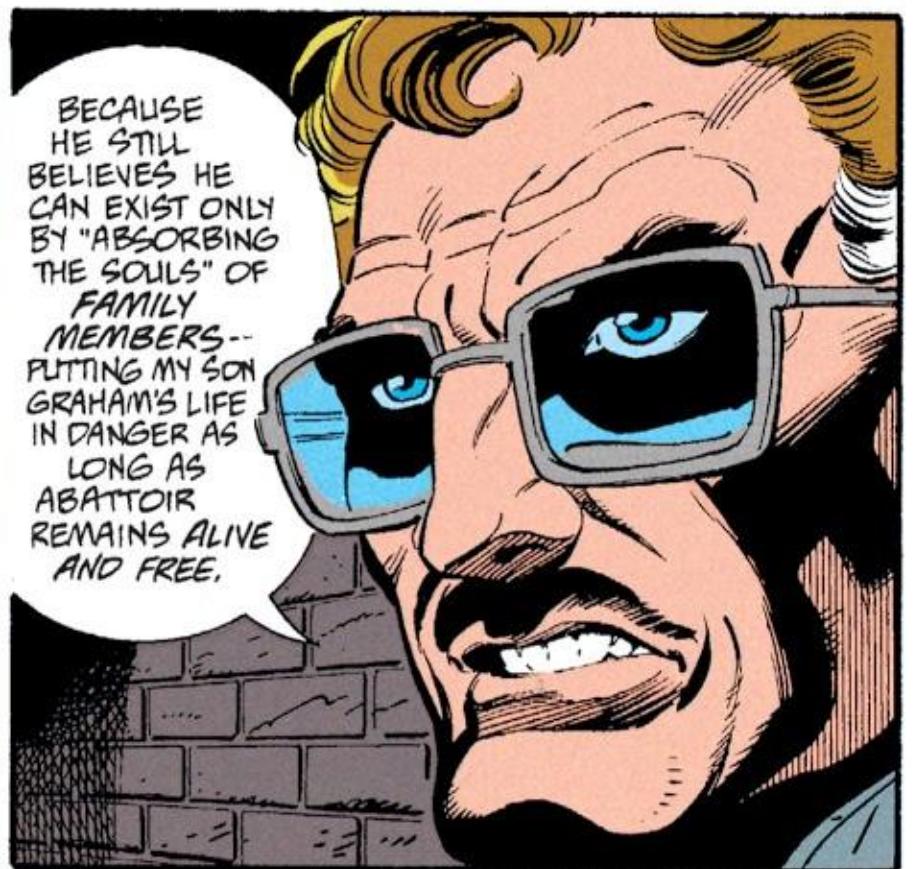
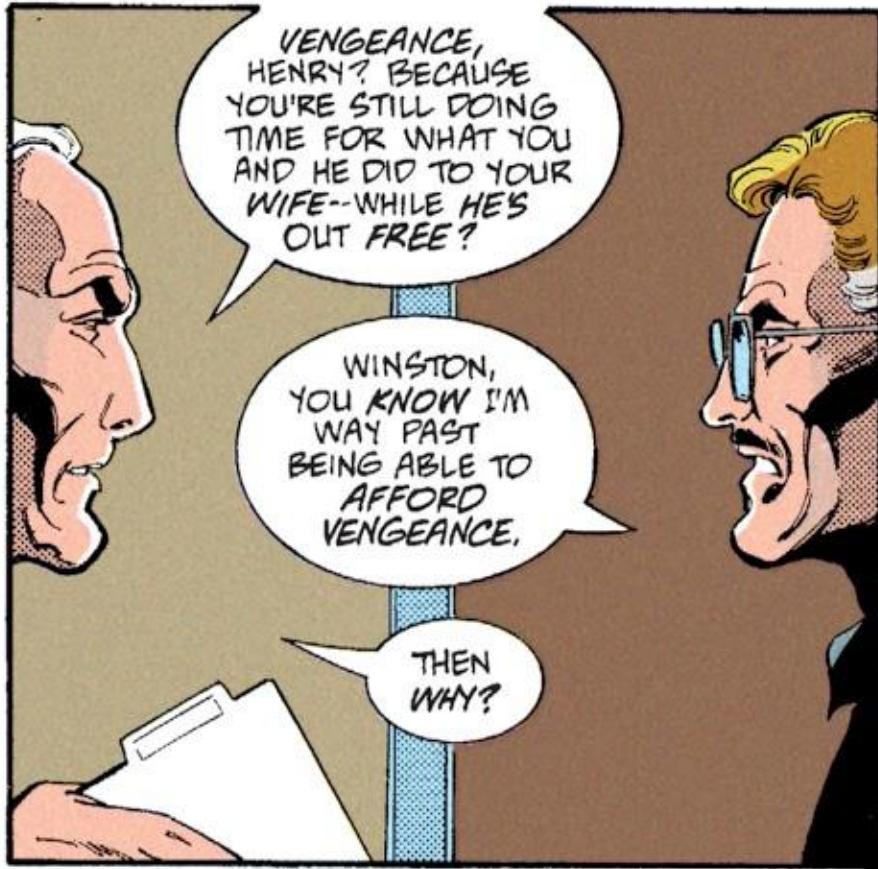
HIS OLD ARMOR
ALREADY FORGOTTEN,
HE SLASHES THE
NIGHT, NOW CLAD
IN A WEAPON.

*Batman created by
BOB KANE*

Ballistic created by
DOUG MOENCH MIKE MANLEY

Doug Moench · Mike Manley · Josef Rubinstein · Adrienne Roy · Ken Bruzenak · Jordan B. Gorfinkel · Dennis O'Neil
writer artists colorist letterer assistant editor editor





THREE NIGHTS LATER, A TEETOTALER ADDICTED TO DIET SODA MAKES THE ROUNDS OF THE HARDEST DRINKING DIVES IN TOWN.

HIS NAME IS KELVIN MAO.

FRANK'S TAVERN

JUST A DIET WHATEVER FOR RIGHT NOW, BUT IF YOU SHOULD HEAR ANYTHING IN THE FUTURE, FRANK, I'M LOOKING FOR WORK.

AIN'T WE ALL-- EXCEPT FRANK, WHO'S DEAD?

WHAT KIND OF WORK?

THE KIND A COP MIGHT DO... IF HE COULD.

AND WE AIN'T TALKIN' ABOUT BEIN' HAMPERED BY DISABILITY HERE.

FROM WHAT I HEAR OF THE BATMAN THESE DAYS, A HARDER EDGE WON'T BE EASY.

DIDN'T SAY I WAS EASY-- I'M A REPUBLICAN.

NO--BY RULES AND REGULATIONS.

glglglglg

SO WHAT ARE WE TALKIN' ABOUT IS LIKE... THE BATMAN?

JUST LIKE THAT... BUT WITH FIREPOWER AND A HARDER EDGE.

JUST SPREAD THE WORD AND KEEP YOUR EARS OPEN FOR A COMMISSION.

YOU CAN REACH ME AT THAT NUMBER.

Ballistic
555-3210



IZZAT SO?
AWRIGHT, DEADBEAT,
YOU WANNA COMMIT
SUICIDE, G'WAN AN'
MAKE A MESS...

--BUT
DON'T DRAG YER
BLEEDIN' WRISTS
BACK TO US.

PLEASE...
PLEASE...

LAST
TIME IT WAS
A POLITE MATTER
O'SCORCHIN' YER
EYEBROWS, BUT NOW
YOU'RE INTO THE
ROSELLI BOYS FOR
BETTER'N FIVE
GRAND...

SO
THIS TIME
WE GOTTA...

--AXE YA
HARDER.

YEEAAHRR!

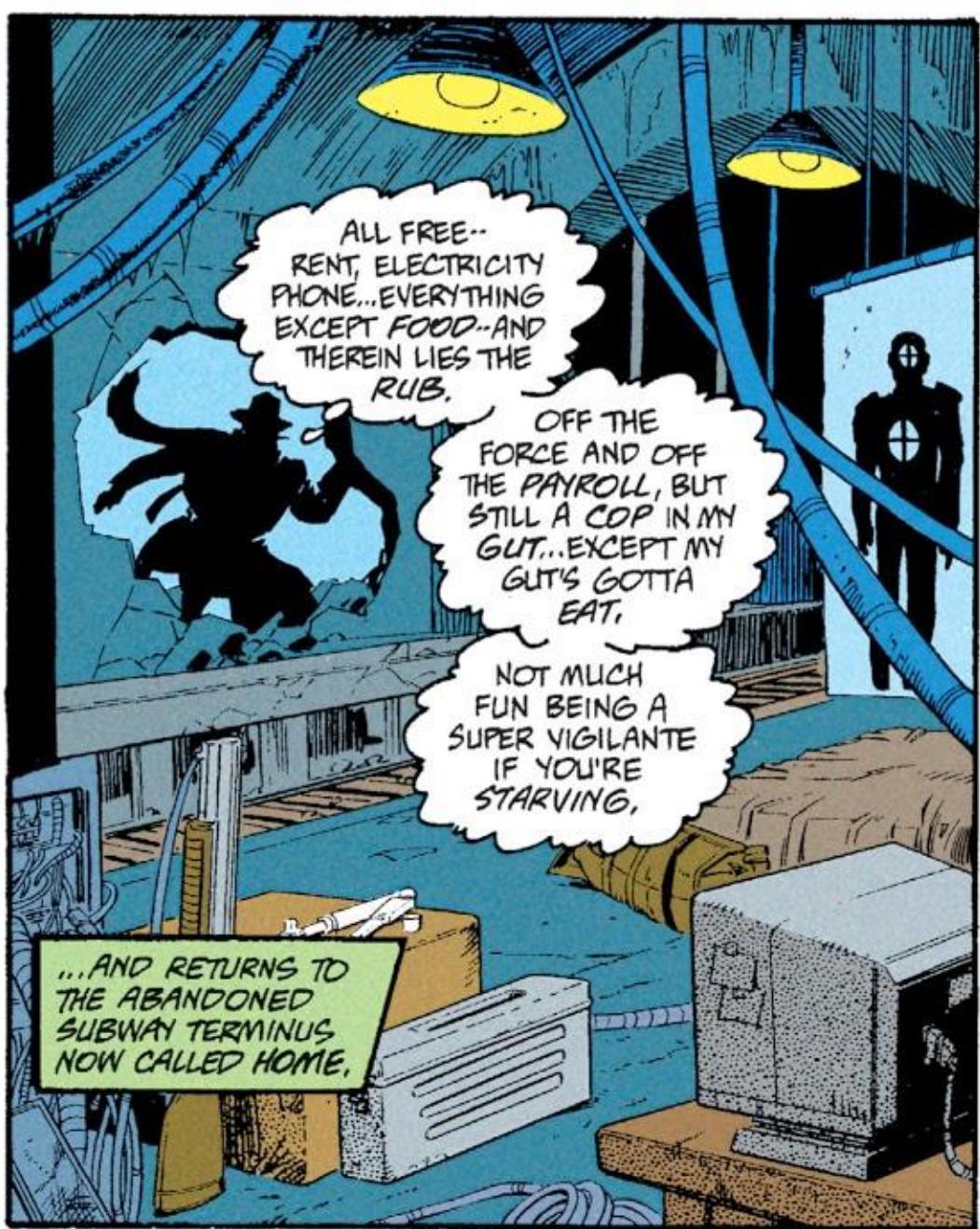
BWAHHH!

LET
HIM CRAWL,
BOYS--HE'S GOT
GAMBLIN' DEBTS
TO MAKE
GOOD.

M-MY
LEG...MY
L-LEG...!







"...THE WAY THAT MONSTER BIT ME... INJECTED SOMETHING INTO MY SPINE... LEFT ME FOR DEAD..."

...BUT INSTEAD I WOKE UP ALMOST INVULNERABLE... MY SKIN TURNED TO "ARMOR..." STRENGTH AND SPEED INCREASED... SENSES ENHANCED.

FEELS GREAT, BUT NO WAY I CAN CONTINUE BEING KELVIN MAO THE COP LOOKING LIKE THIS--AND BEIDES, I'M OFFICIALLY DEAD.

SO, TO EAT, I'VE GOTTA BE MORE MERCENARY THAN VIGILANTE... BUT STILL, A MERCENARY WHO ONLY ACCEPTS JOBS THAT NEED TO BE DONE.

POK
POK
POK

DEET DEET
DEET DEET

WONDER HOW THE BATMAN SCORES HIS BREAD...

YEAH?
THIS IS DEAD FRANK. WOULD A COP UNHAMPERED BY RULES AND REGULATIONS BE INTERESTED IN NAILING A SERIAL KILLER?

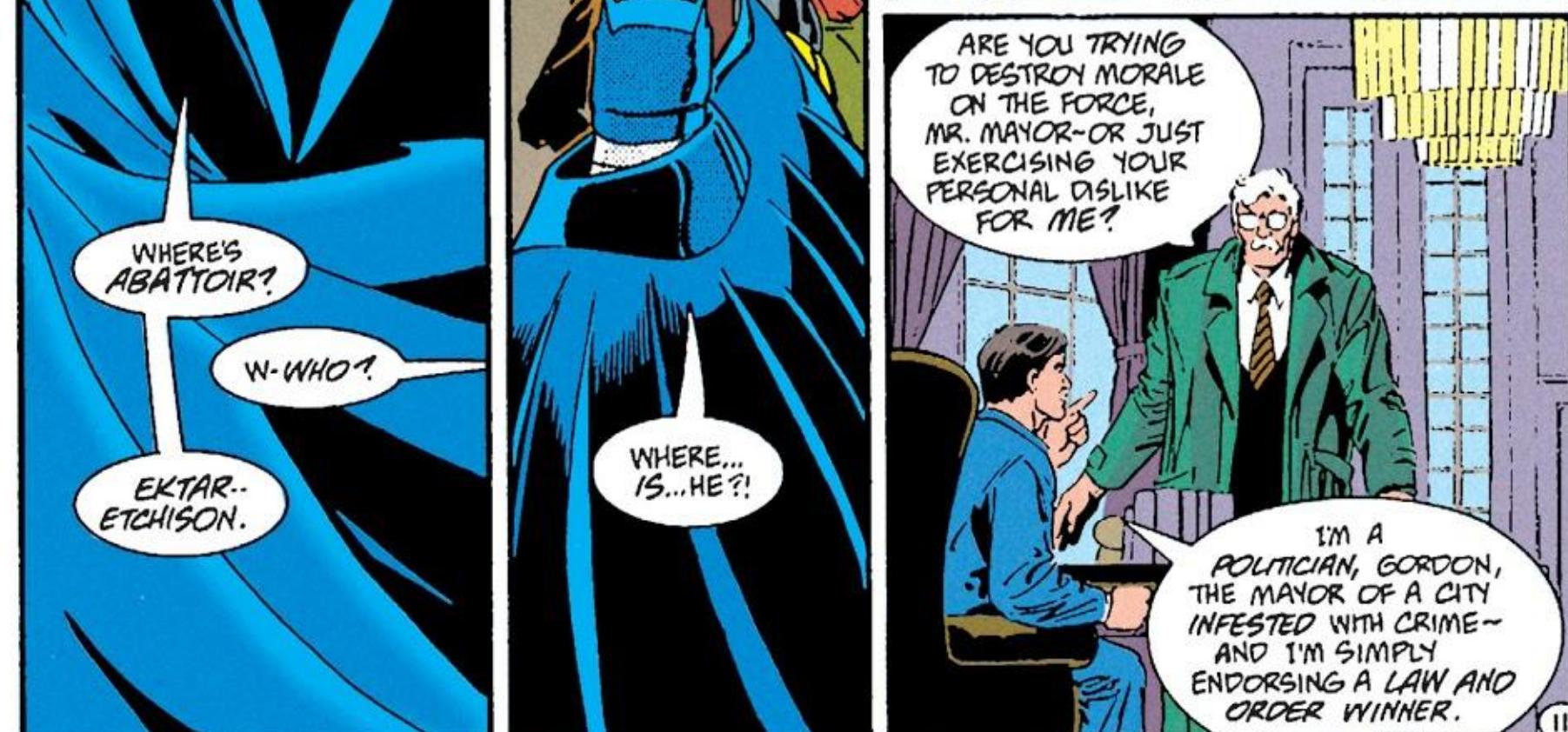
HOW MUCH?

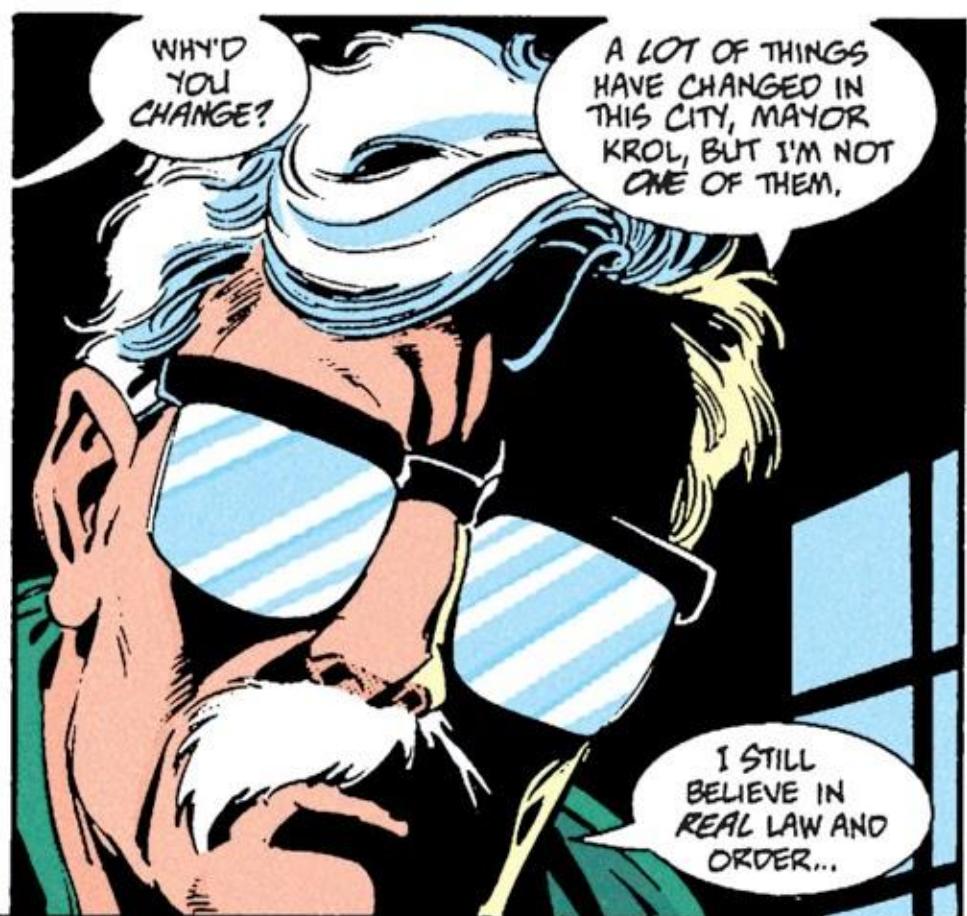
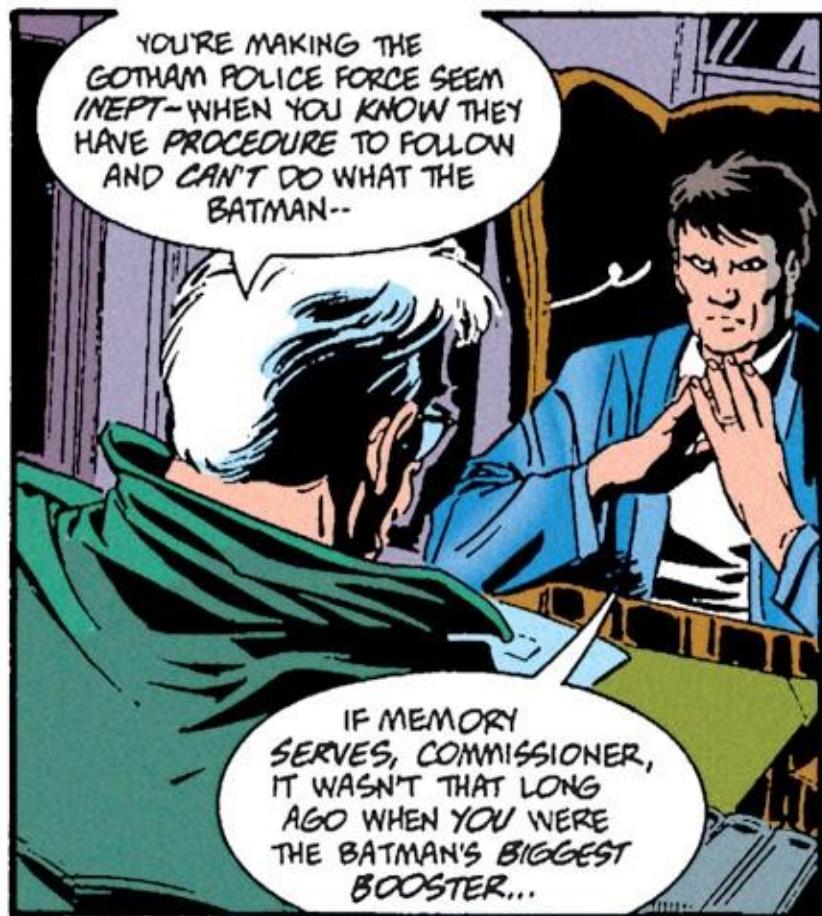
FIFTY-K.

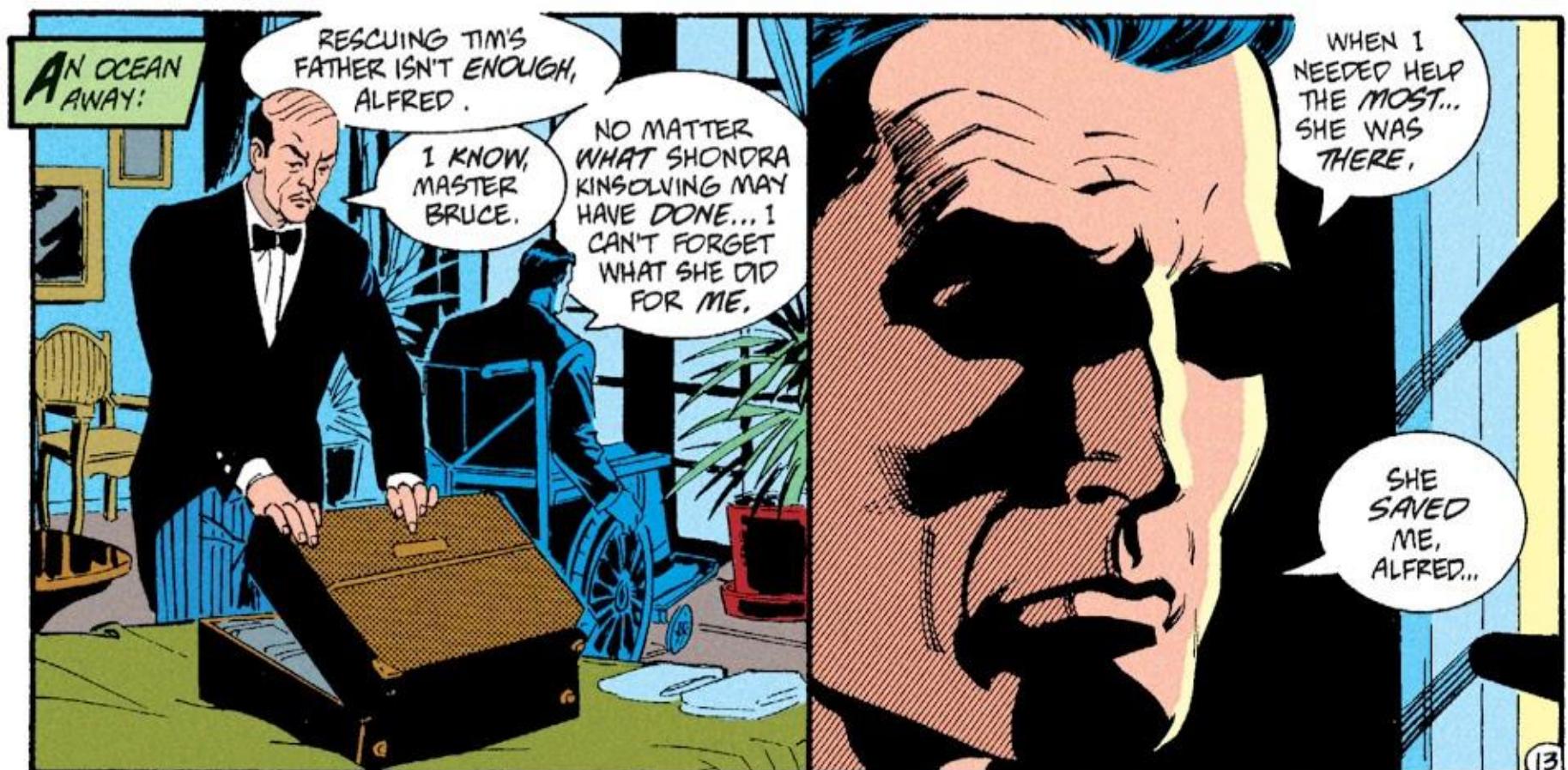
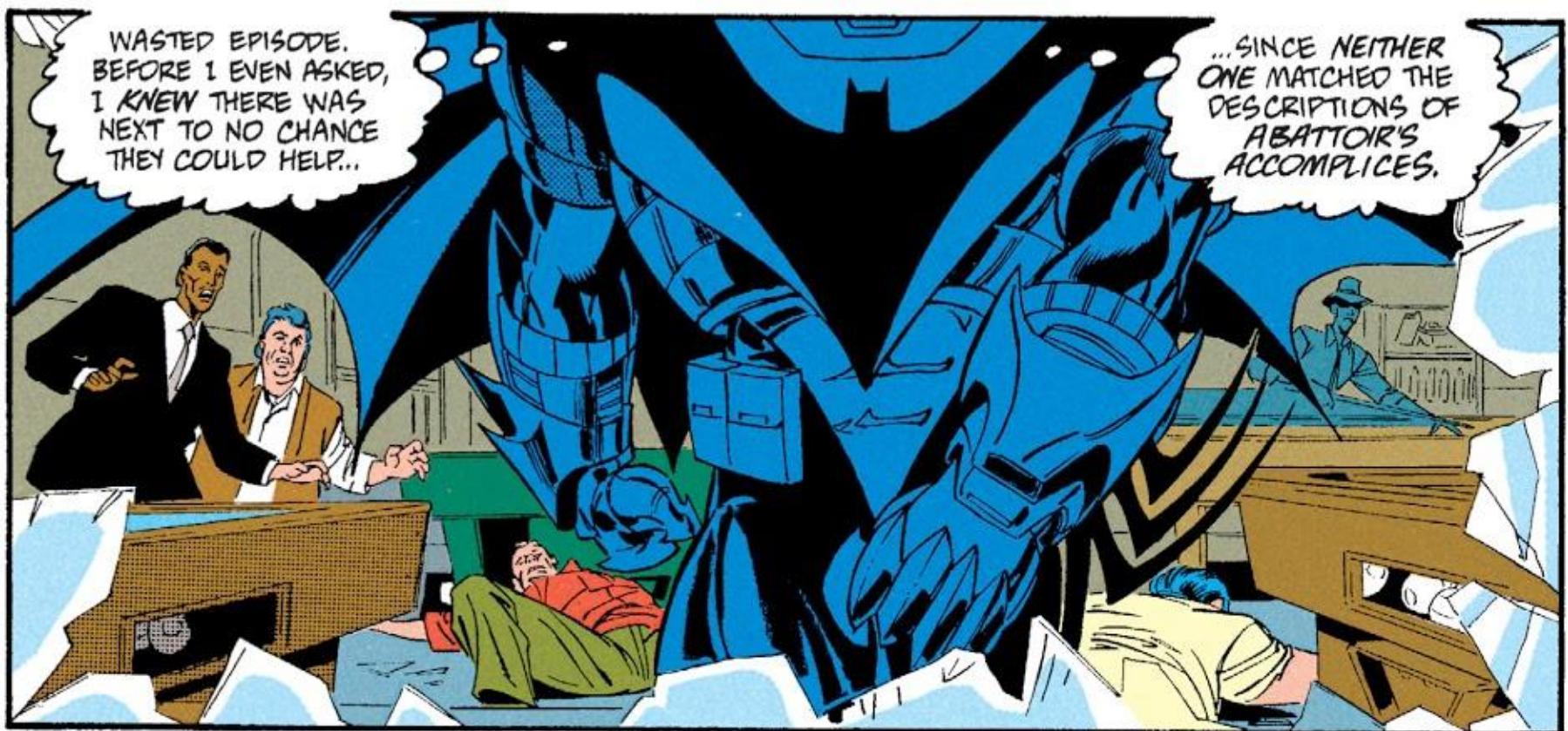
AND HOW MUCH, DEAD FRANK, BEFORE YOUR COMMISSION?

OKAY, SEVENTY-FIVE-K-- BUT MY TEN-PERCENT COMES OUTTA THAT.

WHO'S THE SERIAL KILLER, AND HOW DO I START HAMMERING?







"...AND MAYBE SAVED THE BATMAN, TOO!"

NOTHING... AND NOT ENOUGH TO GO ANY FARTHER.

ABATTOIR'S STILL OUT THERE, WAITING TO MAKE HIS MOVE ON GRAHAM ETCHEISON--

...OR SOME OTHER RELATIVE...

BUT WHERE~?

I NEED ACTUAL NAMES AND PLACES FROM THE COMPUTER-- MORE INFORMATION ON THE ONES WHO HELPED HIM ESCAPE ARKHAM THE FIRST TIME...

...BEFORE BANE FREED HIM ALONG WITH ALL THE OTHER MANIACS.

WHICH WAY IS CHINA?
I THINK I IS DISORIENTED.

KOINK

HEY--AIN'T WE GOT BETTER EGGS TO CRACK AROUND HERE-- LIKE FINDIN' ABATTOIR'S POOL-SHOOTIN' PAL?

THAT'S IT,
MOJO-BOOST
ME UP TO DIS
SMASHED
WINDOW
SOS I CAN
RECONNOITER...

COME TA TINK OF IT, I BEEN DISORIENTED FORMOSA MY LIFE.



NO ADDRESSES, BUT
TWO MORE NAMES...

J



...ONE OF
THEM CROSS-
REFERENCED WITH AN
ASSOCIATE WHO OWNS
A WAREHOUSE SUSPECTED
OF TRAFFICKING IN
STOLEN GOODS.

RAOWWW

SHADDUP--
BEFORE I PEEL
YER FACE AN
SMOTHER YA!

KLUB

FOIST YER
FIST UPON ME,
BRAINPAN,
WILLYA?

YO, CHILL OUT..
I GOT'S YER
EEKA,
BOYS!



