



713

# BATMAN

NICIEZA  
SCOTT  
SAMPERE  
BRESSAN  
WONG  
PERROTTA  
RAMOS



OCT 2011

RATED T TEEN

[dccomics.com](http://dccomics.com)

Tony  
2011



"THIS IS THE STORY OF A BOY WHO LOST HIS PARENTS, BUT THROUGH THAT LOSS GAINED A NOBLE PURPOSE IN LIFE.

"HE GREW UP OBSESSED WITH FIGHTING CRIME-- WITH THE IDEA OF NEVER LETTING ANY OTHER INNOCENTS **SUFFER** AS HE HAD.



"TO DO THIS, HE REALIZED HE NEEDED TO BE **MORE** THAN A MAN, HE NEEDED TO BE A **SYMBOL**--



"--SOMETHING THAT WOULD STRIKE **FEAR** INTO THE COWARDLY, SUPERSTITIOUS HEARTS OF **GOTHAM CITY'S** CRIMINALS...

"...AND SO, THE **BATMAN** WAS BORN--A **SHADOW** OF JUSTICE CAST OVER A BLEAK CITY.

"AND HE QUICKLY BROUGHT A RAY OF **HOPE** TO THE MASSES--BUT WHAT COULD BRING LIGHT TO **HIS** BLACKENED HEART...?"

"...OF ALL THINGS, IT WAS A BOY--A BRIGHT SQUIRE TO THIS DARK KNIGHT.

"THIS ROBIN, THIS BOY WONDER, WOULD COME TO MEAN MANY THINGS TO THE BATMAN--

--RESPONSIBILITY, VALIDATION, FRIEND AND VALUED PARTNER."

Bruce Wayne has cast the shadow of the Batman across the world, but Gotham City still needs a dark knight. The cowl is now worn by Dick Grayson, the original Robin, who fights crime with a new boy wonder, Wayne's son, Damian. Together they are--  
**BATMAN and ROBIN**

## III STORYBOOK ENDINGS

FABIAN NICIEZA: WRITER STEVE SCOTT,  
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& RODNEY RAMOS: INKERS

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MIKE MARTS: BATMAN GROUP EDITOR

COVER BY TONY DANIEL

BATMAN CREATED BY BOB KANE



"THEY WERE A PERFECT TEAM, DARK AND LIGHT IN EQUAL MEASURE--"

MUST BE HARD TO BE A HENCHMAN!



--BUT BOTH WERE STILL YOUNG AND STILL HAD MUCH TO LEARN ABOUT THE WAR ON CRIME THEY HAD UNDERTAKEN.

I MEAN, WHAT IS A "HENCH MAN" EXACTLY?

"SO WHILE BATMAN DISPOSED RATHER EASILY OF THE RIDDLER--"

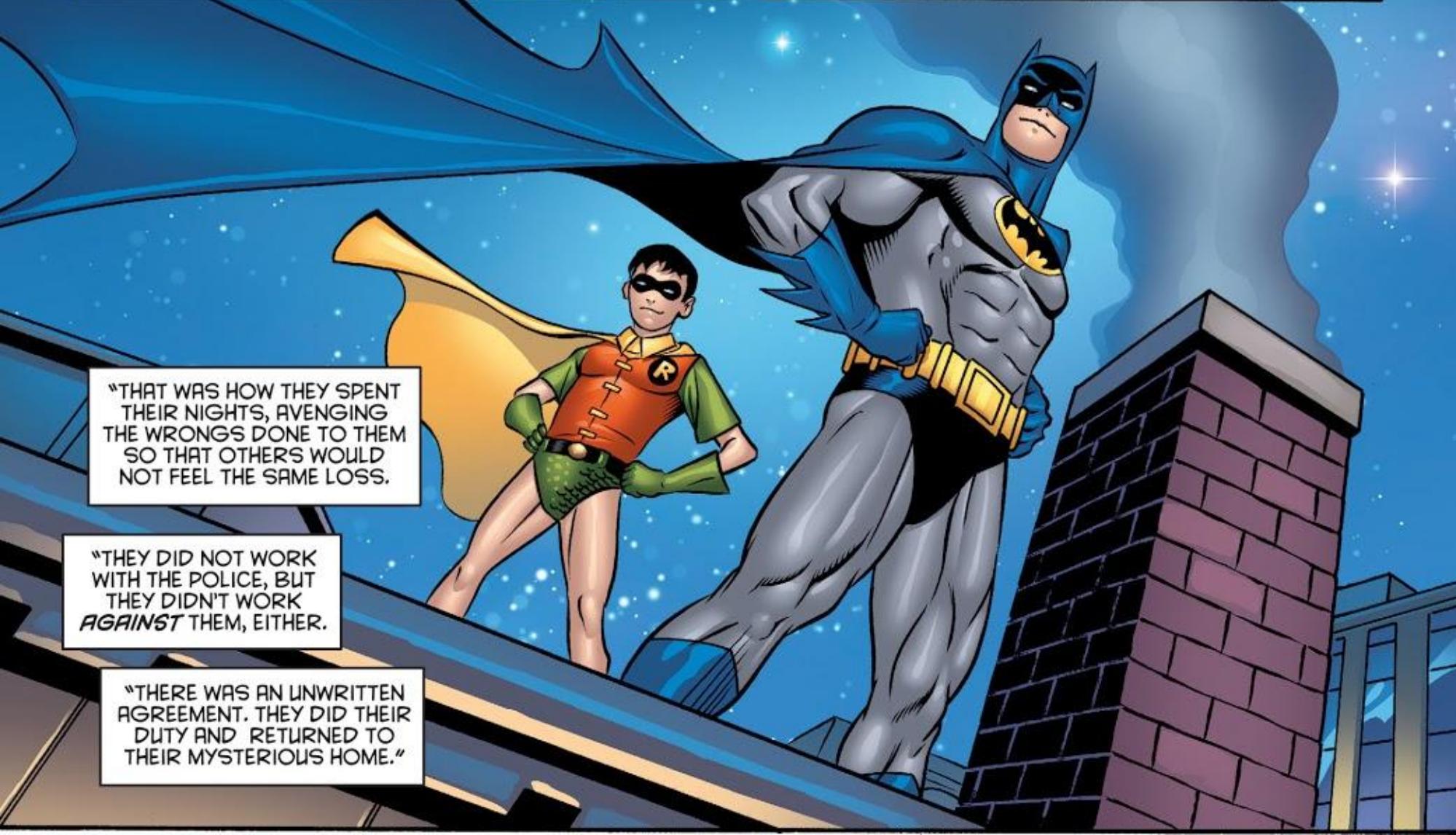
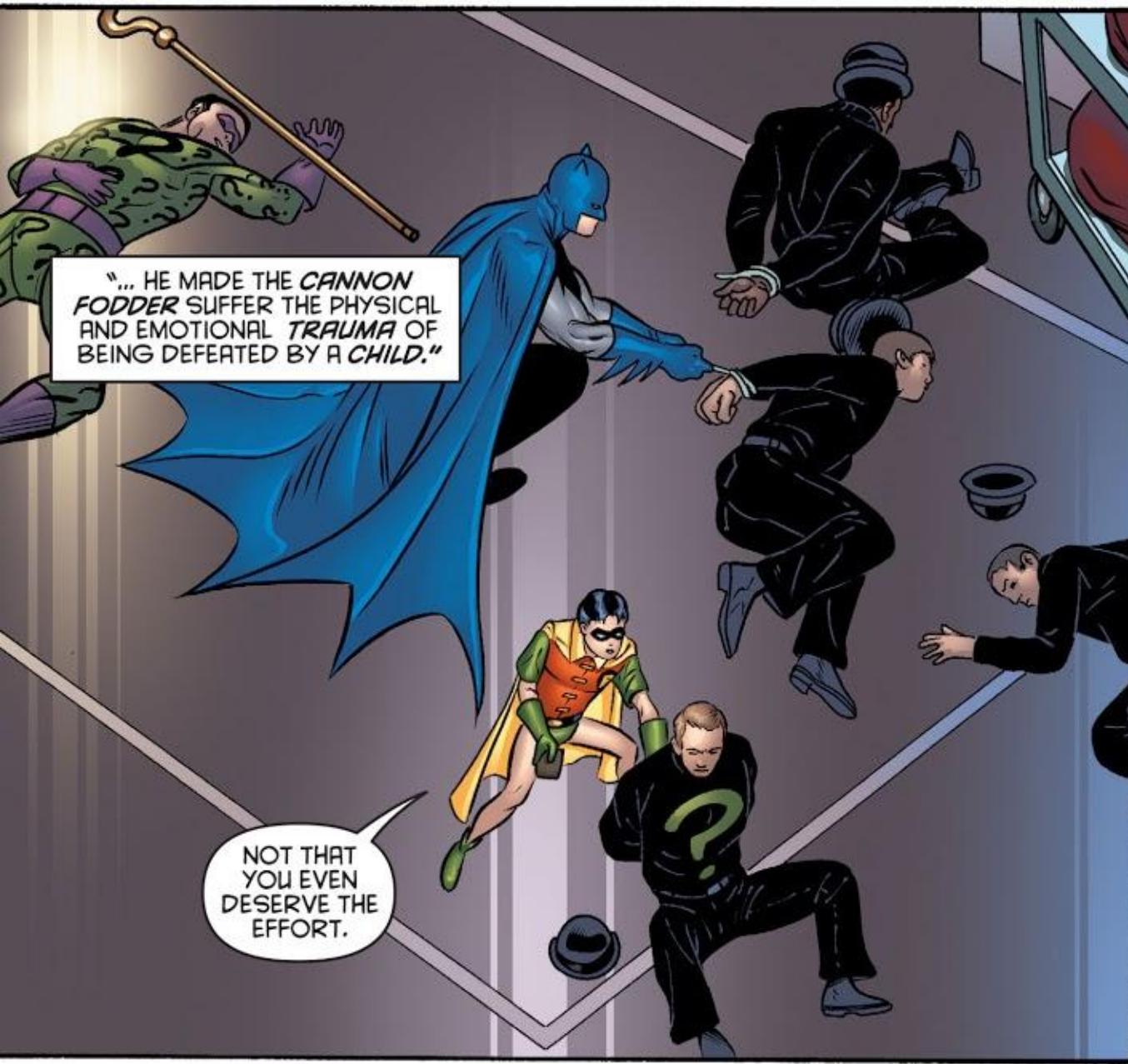
I'LL NEED TO LOOK THAT UP LATER. GIVE YOU YOUR DUE, YOU KNOW?



--ROBIN DID WHAT HE ALWAYS DID..."

JUST TRYING TO HELP YOU GUYS MATTER EVEN JUST A LITTLE...







"SO, THEY WORKED TOGETHER FOR YEARS, BUT THE CITY'S CRIMINALS ONLY GOT WORSE."

"ROBIN BEGAN TO REBEL, IMPATIENT THAT THEIR EFFORTS HADN'T RID GOTHAM OF CRIME--

--BUT ALSO GROWING UP, NEEDING TO BE HIS OWN MAN."

YOU CAN'T KEEP TREATING ME LIKE I'M TWELVE ANYMORE!

"ROBIN WAS A MORE SOCIAL HERO. HE WANTED HUMAN CONTACT--AND BEING HIS FRIEND WAS CONSIDERED AN HONOR.

"SO HE SEPARATED FROM BATMAN AND BECAME HIS OWN HERO--

--NIGHTWING!

"AND WHETHER ALONE OR WITH THE TEEN TITANS, HE CONTINUED TO FIGHT CRIME IN HIS OWN UNIQUE WAY..."

GUYS,  
GUYS--WE'RE  
GOING ON AT  
LEAST FIVE--

--SIX--

--MOTOR  
VEHICLE  
VIOLATIONS  
ALREADY--



"NIGHTWING CARED ABOUT PEOPLE, BUT NOT IN THE SAME WAY BATMAN DID."

"THE DARK KNIGHT BURIED HIS COMPASSION DEEP INSIDE."

"HE FEARED IF HE WORE IT OUTWARDLY, IT WOULD PARALYZE HIM LIKE AN ARMOR MADE OF PURE PAIN."

"BUT NIGHTWING GREW UP AROUND PEOPLE-- IN A CIRCUS--HE KNEW HOW TO BALANCE WORK AND PLAY."

HEY,  
WAIT UP!

"AND HE'D BEEN DEVELOPING HIS OWN WAY OF GETTING THINGS DONE--

--A WAY THAT WAS WORKING FOR HIM.

"A WAY THAT DIDN'T MEET..."

AH,  
CRAP.

"...WITH EVERYONE'S APPROVAL."

YOU LOST SOMETHING.

YEAH, HE GOT UNEXPECTEDLY SKYJACKED.

LET'S SEE WHO WE HAVE HERE...



...MCNULTY... DAMN.

WE ARRESTED HIS FATHER A FEW YEARS AGO. PART OF THE RIDDLER'S GANG.



HNN.

THAT'S ALL YOU HAVE TO SAY?



ONCE, THAT WOULD HAVE EATEN AWAY AT YOU!

NOW YOU CAN BARELY MUSTER A GRUNT.



"SOON, NIGHTWING LEFT GOTHAM CITY TO TRY TO DO THINGS DIFFERENTLY ON HIS OWN."

"RS FOR BATMAN..."



"BUT THE THIRD ROBIN'S ARRIVAL DID HELP SOOTHE THE DARK KNIGHT'S GUILTY SOUL."

"A MAN WHO HAD SPURNED FRIENDSHIP AS A RESULT OF THE SECOND ROBIN'S DEATH--

--SOON FOUND HIMSELF NAVIGATING A VERY COMPLICATED EXTENDED FAMILY OF CRIMEFIGHTERS--

--ALL OF WHOM LOOKED TO HIM FOR GUIDANCE AND APPROVAL.

EVEN THOUGH COUNTLESS PITFALLS, FOR A TIME, THINGS IMPROVED.

"HE DISCOVERED A SON HE DIDN'T KNOW HE HAD. AND MAYBE THERE WAS SOME NEW HOPE THERE..."

"...HE HAD REASONS TO EMBRACE THE LIGHT AND NOT JUST THE SHADOWS OF THE NIGHT..."

"...THEN, SUDDENLY..."

"... HE WAS LOST TO US.

"WITH BATMAN GONE, A BATTLE FOR THE COWL WAS WAGED...AND THE MOST LOGICAL SUCCESSOR BECAME THE BAT...

"...THE ORIGINAL ROBIN BECAME THE NEW BATMAN--AND THE SON OF THE BAT BECAME THE NEW ROBIN.

"AND EVEN WHEN THE REAL BATMAN RETURNED, HE SAW THE NEW DYNAMIC DUO AND HE WAS HAPPY--

--SO HE GAVE THEM THE BEST GIFT HE COULD IMAGINE--"



--HE GAVE  
THEM A CITY  
TO PROTECT!

"GOTHAM  
CITY."

--HOSTAGE  
SITUATION AT THE  
SCHIFF REHABILITATION  
CLINIC.

FOUR  
KIDNAPPERS  
AND THREE  
HOSTAGES  
SIGHTED.

GIVE ME  
SOME  
IMAGING.

I ONLY  
COUNT THREE  
PEOPLE HOLDING  
GUNS.

AND TWO  
HOSTAGES  
KNEELING.

BUT WHICH  
ONE?  
THE LAST  
PAIR ARE SOMEWHERE  
INSIDE--ONE OF THE  
OFFICES.

WE'LL  
KNOW SOON  
ENOUGH...

"THROUGH IT ALL,  
FOR HIM, IT WAS  
STILL AN ADVENTURE.

"AND THE NEW  
ROBIN, WHO HAD  
BEEN TOO FOCUSED--  
UNRELENTING, SO...  
UNFORGIVING...

"...SLOWLY FOUND  
HIMSELF...LEARNING...

"...FROM HIS NEW  
MENTOR--HIS  
NEW...FRIEND.

"AND BEING HIS FRIEND  
WAS...AN HONOR.

"ROBIN WOULD  
NEVER TELL HIM  
THAT, BUT IT WAS  
HOW HE FELT."



"SO WHEREAS WHEN THEY FIRST BECAME PARTNERS, ROBIN MIGHT HAVE TAKEN UMBRAGE AT BEING TOLD WHAT TO DO--"

"WHAT'S UMBRAGE?"

"DON'T INTERRUPT."

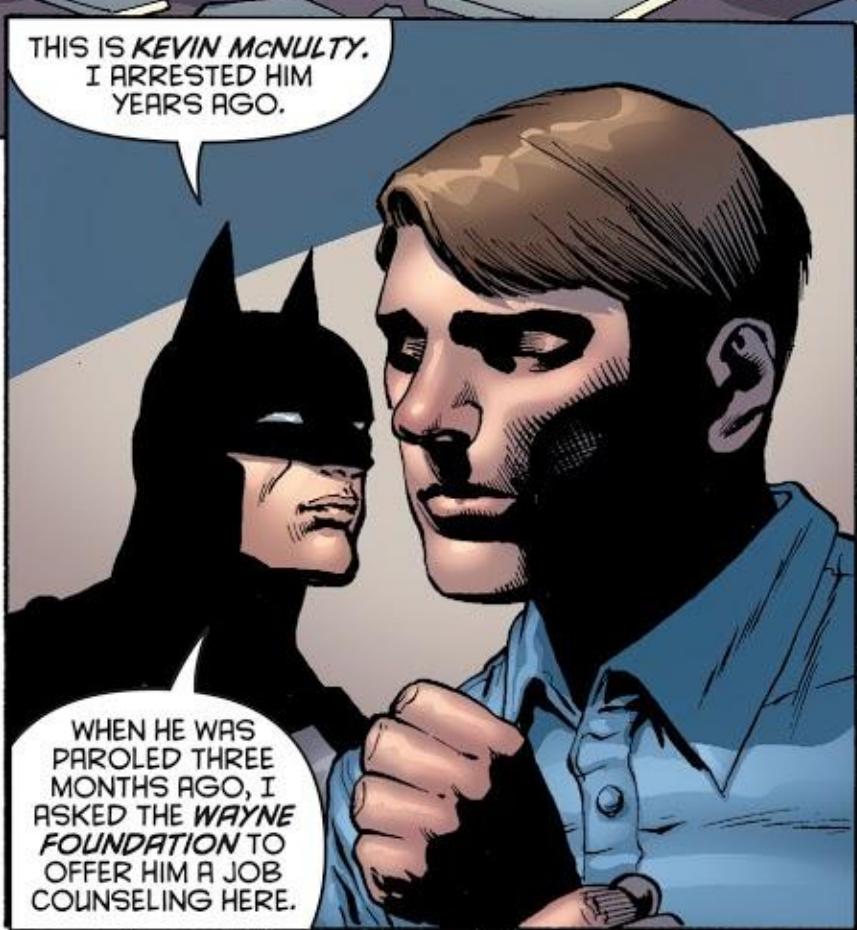
"OR BEEN EMBARRASSED TO MAKE A MISTAKE--"

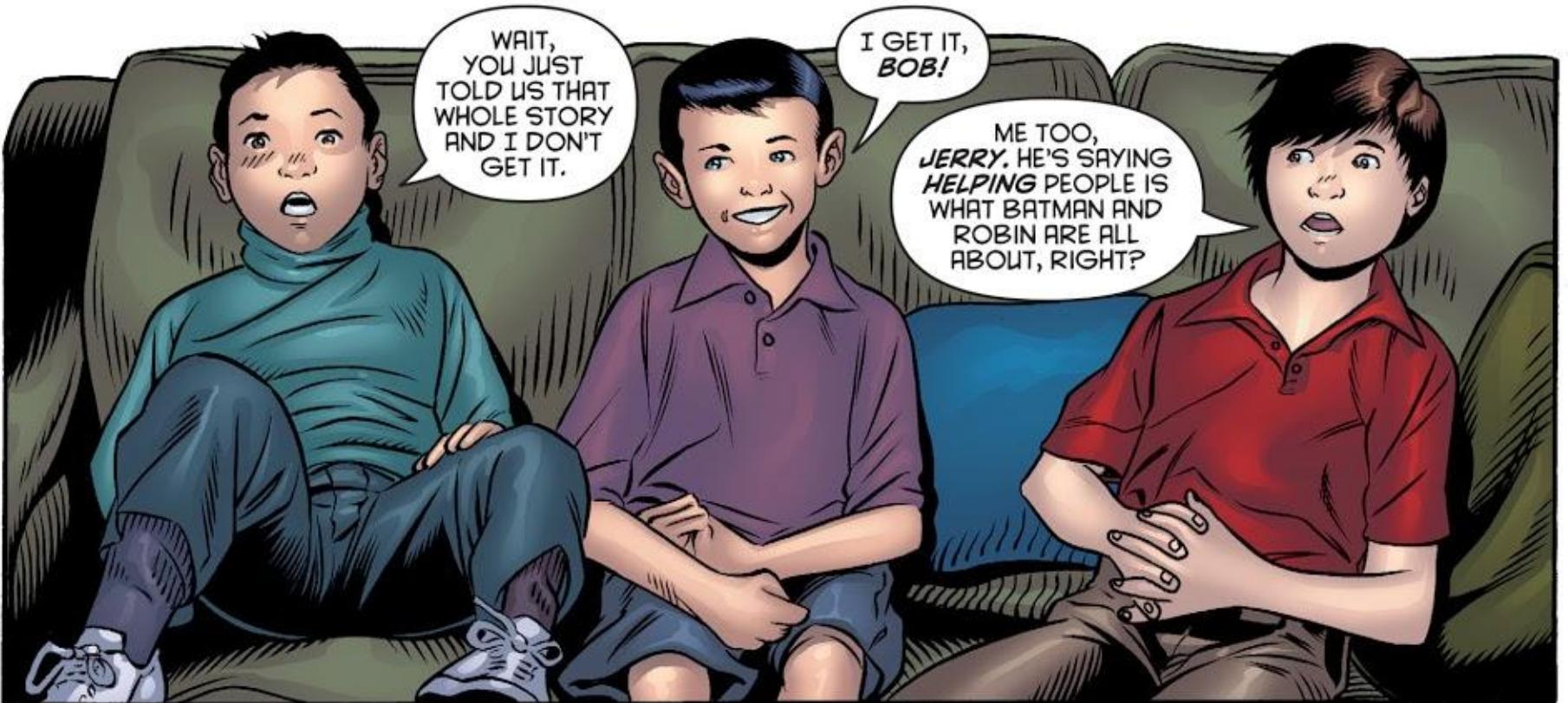
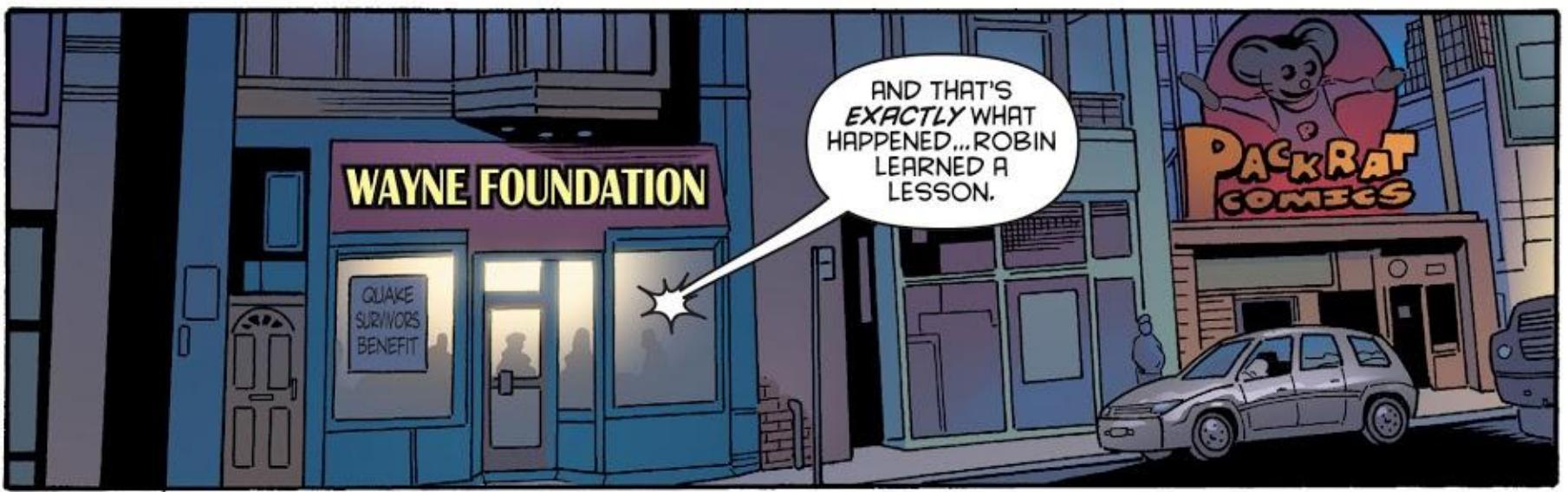
ROBIN--  
DON'T--?!"

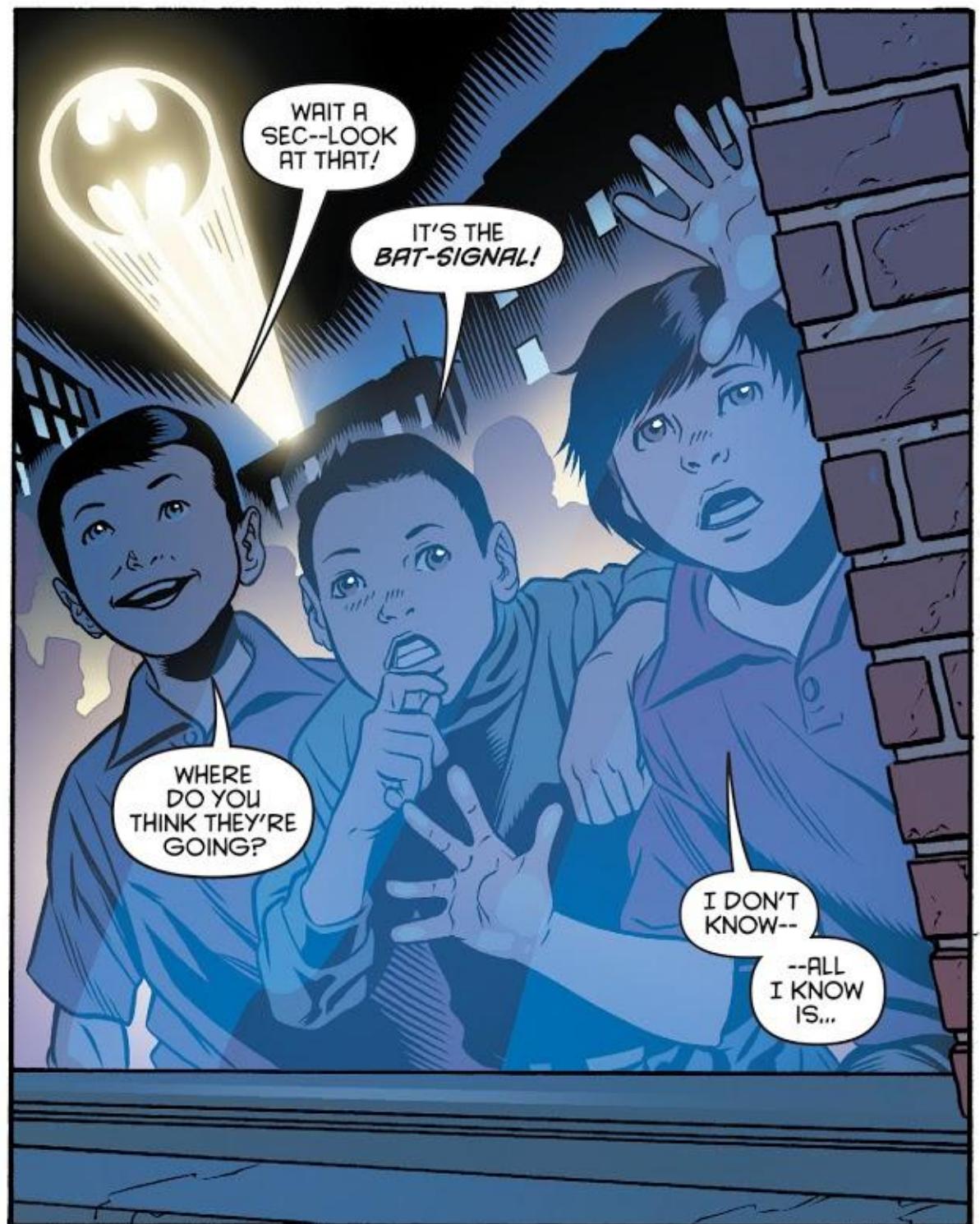
--NOW, HE'S ACCEPTED IT ALL AS PART OF THE PROCESS OF LEARNING."

NO--WAIT--







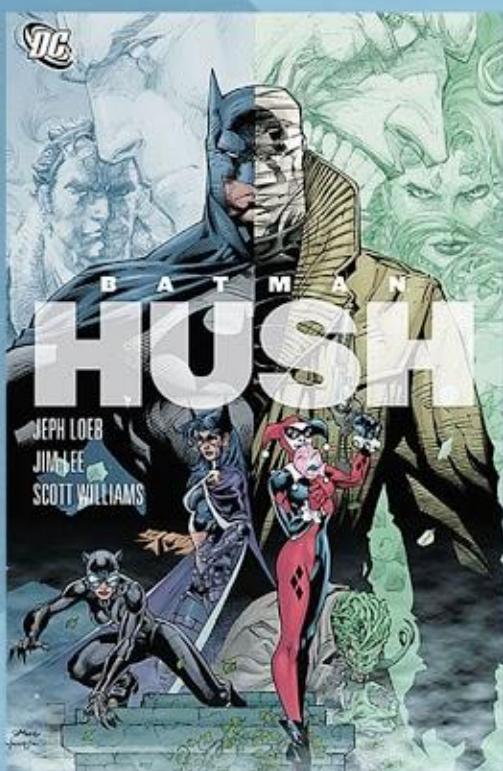


“...I GOT A GREAT IDEA  
FOR A NEW STORY...”

DEADER  
THE END...

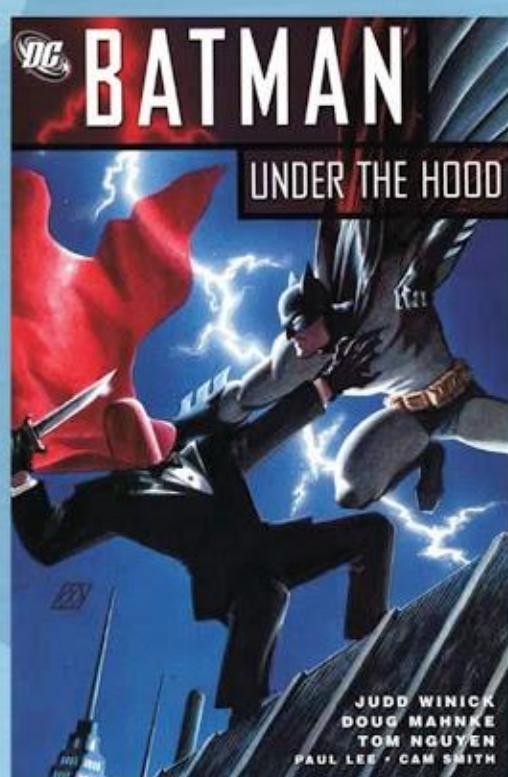
# MORE CLASSIC TALES OF THE DARK KNIGHT

BATMAN: HUSH



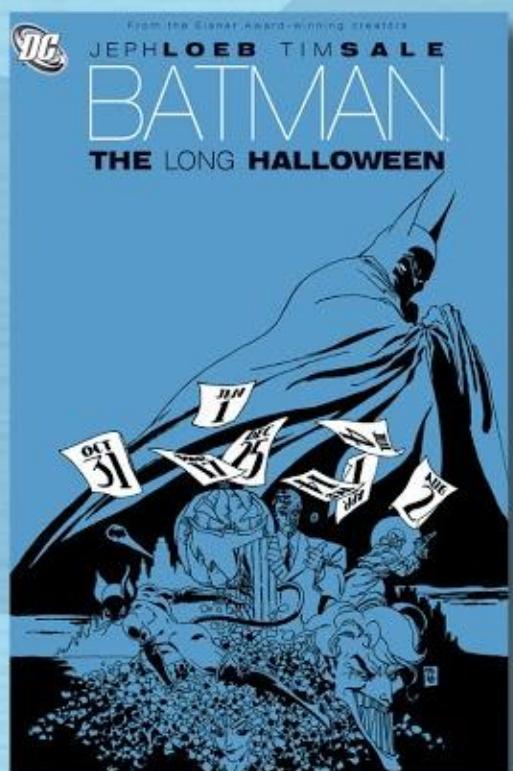
JEPH LOEB  
JIM LEE

BATMAN: UNDER THE HOOD  
VOLS. 1 & 2



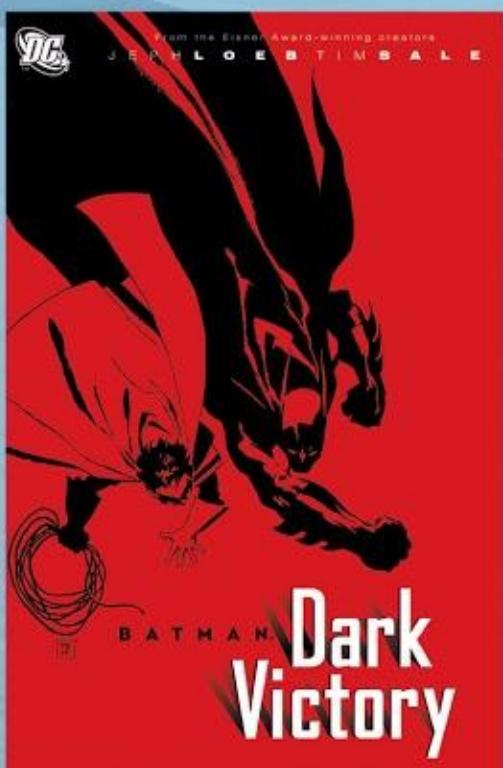
JUDD WINICK  
DOUG MAHNKE

BATMAN:  
THE LONG HALLOWEEN



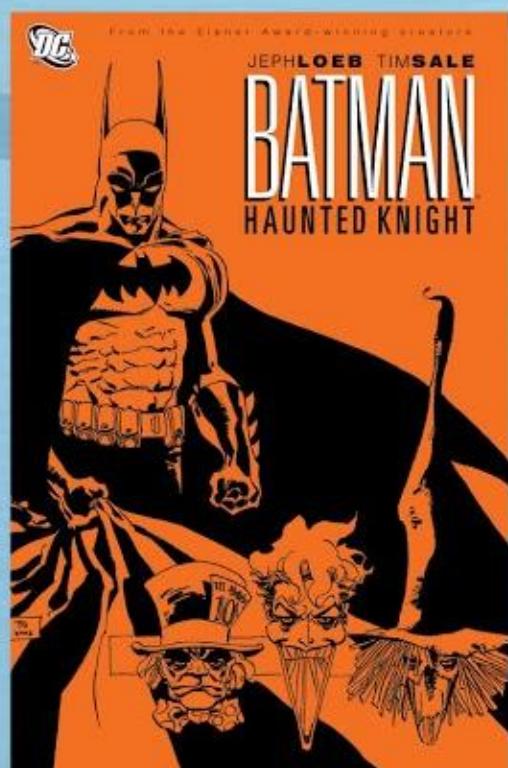
JEPH LOEB  
TIM SALE

BATMAN:  
DARK VICTORY



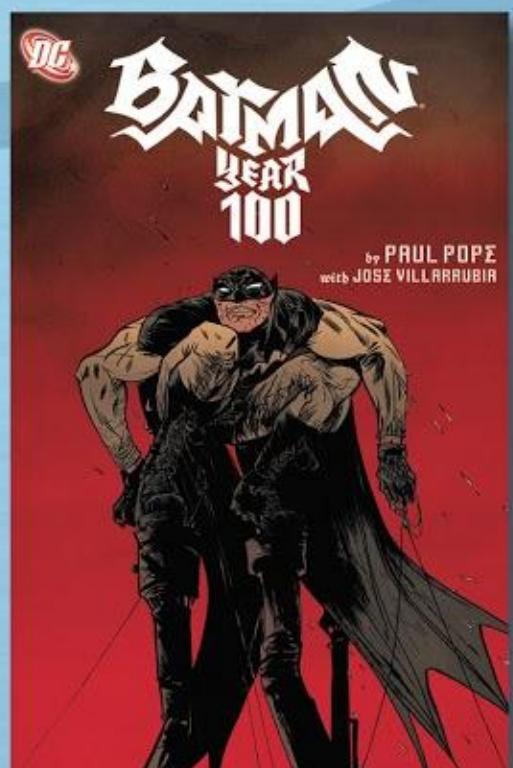
JEPH LOEB  
TIM SALE

BATMAN:  
HAUNTED KNIGHT



JEPH LOEB  
TIM SALE

BATMAN:  
YEAR 100



PAUL POPE

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