



JEPH LOEB JIM LEE S. WILLIAMS

GIRLS' NIGHT OUT!

609 JAN 2003

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AA
AUTHORITY

BATMAN®



I can't respond.

...CAN YOU HEAR ME?

Oracle is in my head
on the secure line
and I can't...respond.

OKAY,
PEOPLE, WE'VE GOT
A SITUATION.

YOU THINK
HE'S DEAD?

I SAW HIM FALL OUTTA THE SKY.
LIKE ONE OF THEM PIGEONS
WITH A BUSTED WING.

I HEAR HE AIN'T
EVEN HUMAN.

WHAT'DYA
MEAN "AIN'T
HUMAN"? HE'S
BLEEDIN'!

HOW DO YA
KNOW IT'S HUMAN
BLOOD?

I've managed to press the
alarm signal on the utility...
utility belt to alert her.

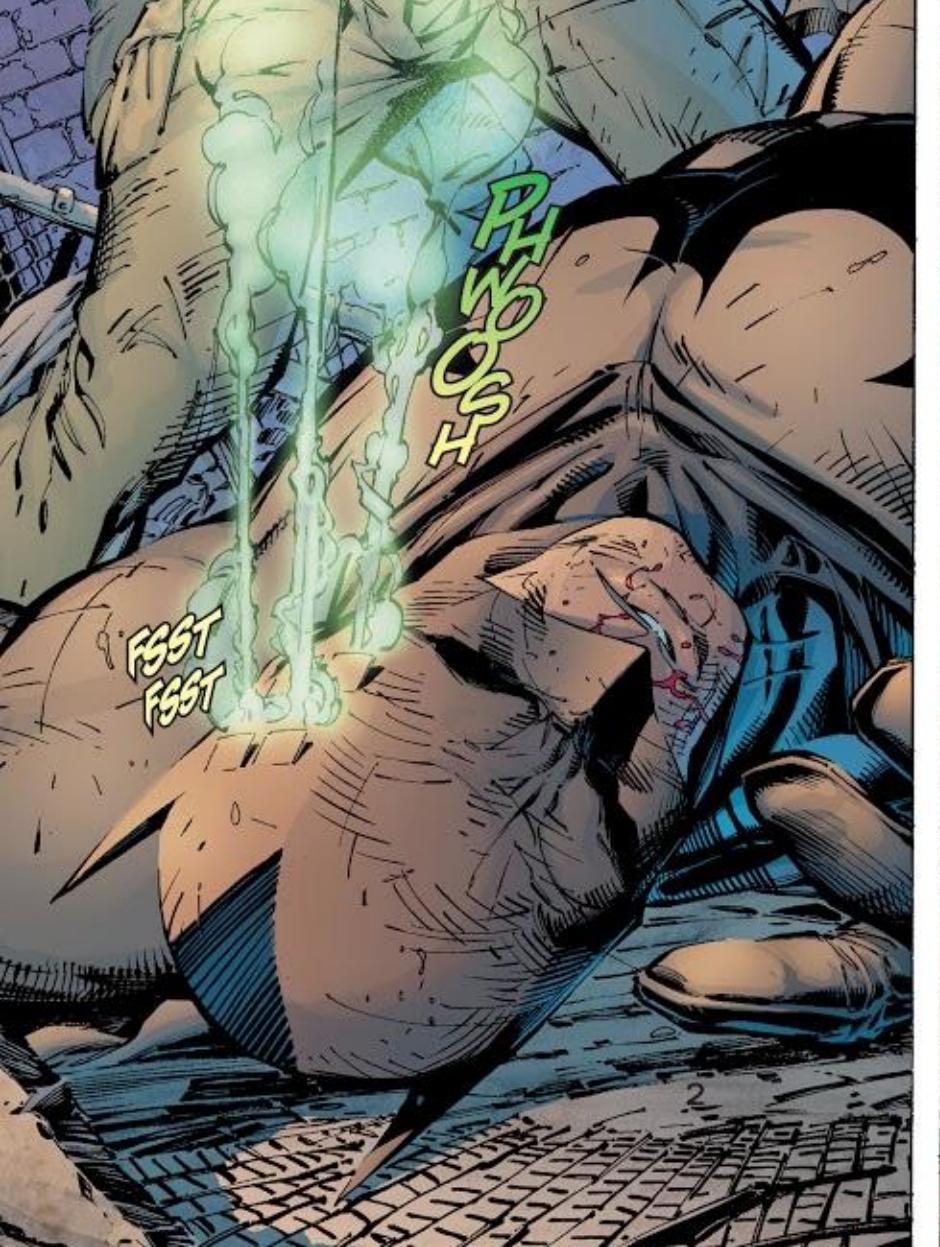
THE BLACKBIRD
IS DOWN. I REPEAT,
THE BLACKBIRD IS
DOWN.

I GOT A
WAY TO TELL
IF HE'S HUMAN
OR NOT --

If only I could
tell her...Barbara...
It's Crime Alley...

HE'S IN
THE NORTH END.
ANYBODY IN THE
AREA?

-- LET'S
TAKE OFF HIS
MASK!





I made a promise on the grave of my parents to rid this city of the evil that took their lives. By day, I am Bruce Wayne, billionaire playboy. At night, criminals, a cowardly and superstitious lot, call me...

BATMAN

CREATED BY
BOB KANE

Chapter Two **THE FRIEND**

Jeph
LOEB
writes

Jim
LEE
pencils

Scott
WILLIAMS
inks
Richard
STARKINGS
letters
Alex
SINCLAIR
colors
Bob
SCHRECK
edits
Morgan
DONTANVILLE
assistant edits
special thanks to
Mark
CHIARELLO

STEP AWAY WHILE
YOU STILL CAN.

Huntress.





After all we've been through...

...she still fights for... my life...

DAMN YOU... NOT GOING DOWN...

...NOT IN FRONT OF YOU...

GONNA TAKE THIS POLE OF YOURS AND BREAK YOU --

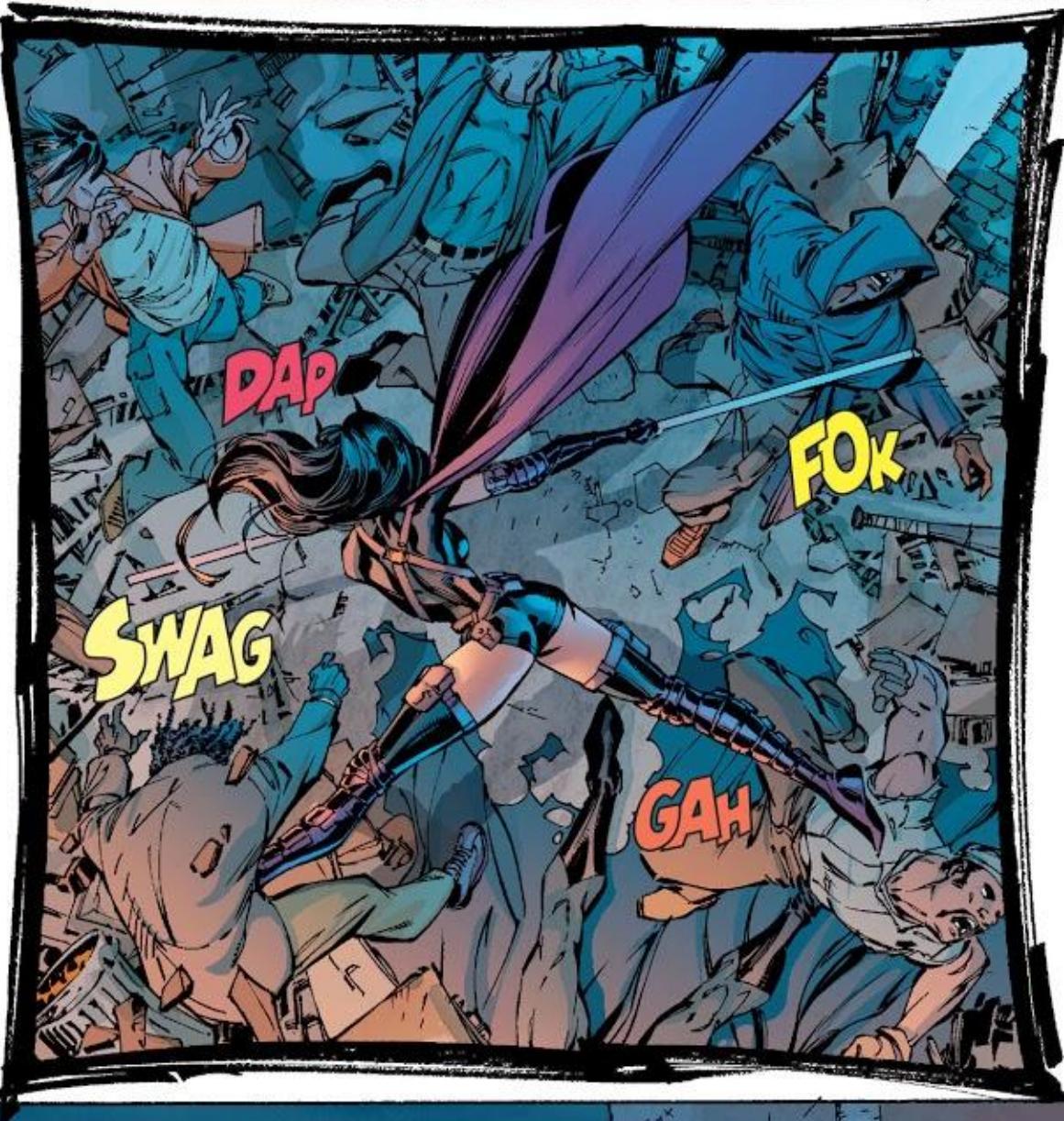
NO!

KRAK

So much rage.

Not sure I ever saw it... before...

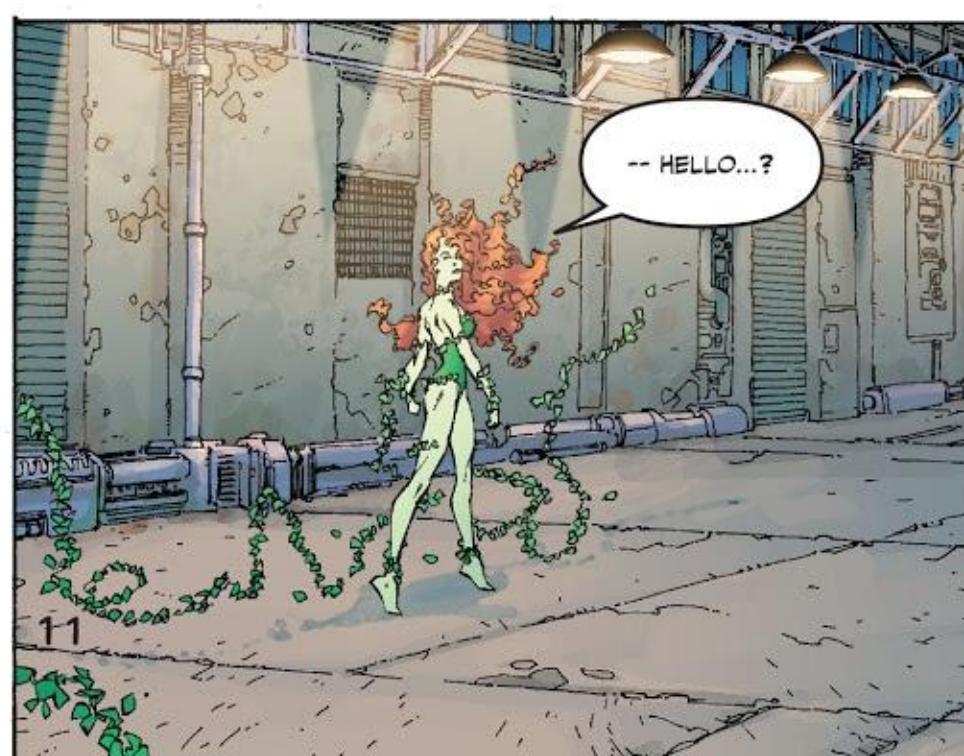
BAX







Later.



Somehow... I am back in the cave. I can hear Alfred. The bandages are cold.

I'M AFRAID...

I'M AFRAID, MASTER BRUCE, THAT IF YOU CAN HEAR ME... THERE IS FAR TOO MUCH DAMAGE FOR MY PARTICULAR SKILLS.

YOUR SKULL IS FRACTURED AND --

ALFRED, I'VE CONTACTED SHONDRA KINSOLVING. HER EXPERIENCE WITH MENDING BRUCE'S BACK MAY PROVE BENEFICIAL.

BEGGING YOUR PARDON, MISS. BUT, I BELIEVE DOCTOR KINSOLVING IS NOT QUITE RIGHT IN THE HEAD.

SHE GOT BETTER.

RIGHT. VERY GOOD, THEN. WE'LL HAVE TO MAKE THE NECESSARY ARRANGEMENTS TO EXPLAIN MASTER BRUCE'S CONDITION --

I CAN HAVE DICK WRECK THE PORSCHE. THE REST IS UP TO YOU --

ACTUALLY, NO.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?!

IT IS, AS ALWAYS...
...HIS FIGHT TO WIN...

HOLD ON. I'M GETTING
SOME SORT OF INVOLUNTARY
NERVE RESPONSE FROM
HIS LEFT HAND.

TAP
TAP
TAP TAP TAP

NO. I'M
MISTAKEN.

"THOMAS... ELLIOT."
YES. GOOD SHOW, SIR.
SPLENDID IDEA.

ALFRED, WHO IS
"THOMAS ELLIOT"?

SOMEONE
WHOSE NAME I
HAVE NOT HEARD
IN A VERY LONG
TIME...

OR... PERHAPS NOT
INVOLUNTARY.

TAP
TAP
TAP TAP TAP

ALFRED...
IS THAT...?

MORSE
CODE. YES...
YES, I BELIEVE
IT IS.

THOMAS...?

OH, DEAR, HE'S
DELIRIOUS --
RECOLLECTING HIS
OWN FATHER.

TAP TAP
TAP-TAP-TAP-TAP

Alfred... if I
could smile...

Gotham Gazette

Cloudy, chance of rain

Morning Edition

PLAYBOY WAYNE IN NEAR FATAL WRECK

Thursday, November 1, 1989

GOTHAM CITY--

City Hospital

known racing enthusiast,
lost control of his sportscar
in the early morning hours
near the Bristol exit off the
Gotham City
Wayne was the
in the vehicle
ood tests indicated



-- WAYNE
WAS RUSHED TO
GOTHAM CITY
HOSPITAL WHERE,
IRONICALLY, HIS
OWN FATHER HELD
RESIDENCY --



-- IT IS
UNKNOWN AT
THIS TIME IF THE
MILLIONAIRE WAS
WEARING A SEAT
BELT OR WHAT,
IF ANY, HIS BLOOD
ALCOHOL COUNT
WAS --



FILE
-- DOCTOR
THOMAS ELLIOT,
THE RENOWNED SURGEON,
IS BEING FLOWN IN
FROM PHILADELPHIA --



-- MUST BE NICE
TO HAVE FRIENDS IN
HIGH PLACES.

AND WHEN WE'RE DEALING WITH
BRUCE WAYNE, FEW COME HIGHER.

In the fog of anesthesia,
I remember one
particular Halloween.

My father had promised
to take me trick-or-treating
and, as usual, was held up
at the hospital.

IN A RELATED
STORY, SHARES OF
WAYNE TECH TUMBLED
TODAY IN REACTION TO
THE ACCIDENT...



4 NEWS







BRUCE.
YOU'RE ALREADY
DEAD.



HOW CAN
YOU TELL?
YOU HAVEN'T
EVEN MOVED
YET.



IT WON'T
HAPPEN ON THE
NEXT MOVE.
IT IS *SIX* MOVES
FROM NOW.



YOU
FORGOT YOUR
MOST IMPORTANT
PIECE, BRUCE.

I'VE GOT
MY GENERAL
GUARDED.

NOT
YOUR GENERAL.
YOUR SPY.







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