



THE WAR OF JOKES AND RIDDLES

DC UNIVERSE
REBIRTH

26

BATMAN



KING
JANÍN
CHUNG

RATED T TEEN DCCOMICS.COM SEP 2017

the latest updates only available at: viewcomic.com

"THE TAXI BELONGED TO DARRELL CAMPBELL."

"OKAY, HERE WE ARE."

"NUMBER SIXTY-NINE, DICK SPRANG AVE. NORTH EAST GOTHAM."

"THAT'LL BE \$37.73"



"HE'D BEEN DRIVING FOR FOURTEEN YEARS."

"LIKED TO SAY HE PUT TWO KIDS THROUGH COLLEGE JUST ON THE TIPS."

"THAT'S KIND OF FUNNY, RIGHT? DICK SPRANG. AND SIXTY-NINE."

"ISN'T THAT FUNNY?"



"THE HOUSE BELONGED TO KIM AND TONY TEMPLETON."

"THEY MOVED THERE A YEAR AGO."

"WITH THEIR THREE CHILDREN."



ALL CARS.

911'S COME
IN, SAYS WE GOT
A BODY IN A CAR AT
SHELDON AND
MOLDOFF.

CALLER REPORTING
VICTIM POSSIBLY USING
NARCOTICS.

CALLER WAS
RIDING IN VICTIM'S
TAXI.

IDENTIFIES
VICTIM FROM HIS
I.D. AS DARRELL
CAMPBELL.

DON'T
REALLY UNDERSTAND
IT.

CALLER
SAYS VICTIM STARTED
LAUGHING FOR NO
REASON.

AND HE
JUST COULDN'T
STOP.

THE **WAR** OF JOKES & RIDDLES PART TWO

TOM KING SCRIPT

MIKEL JANÍN PENCILS, INKS & COVER

JUNE CHUNG COLORS

CLAYTON COWLES LETTERS

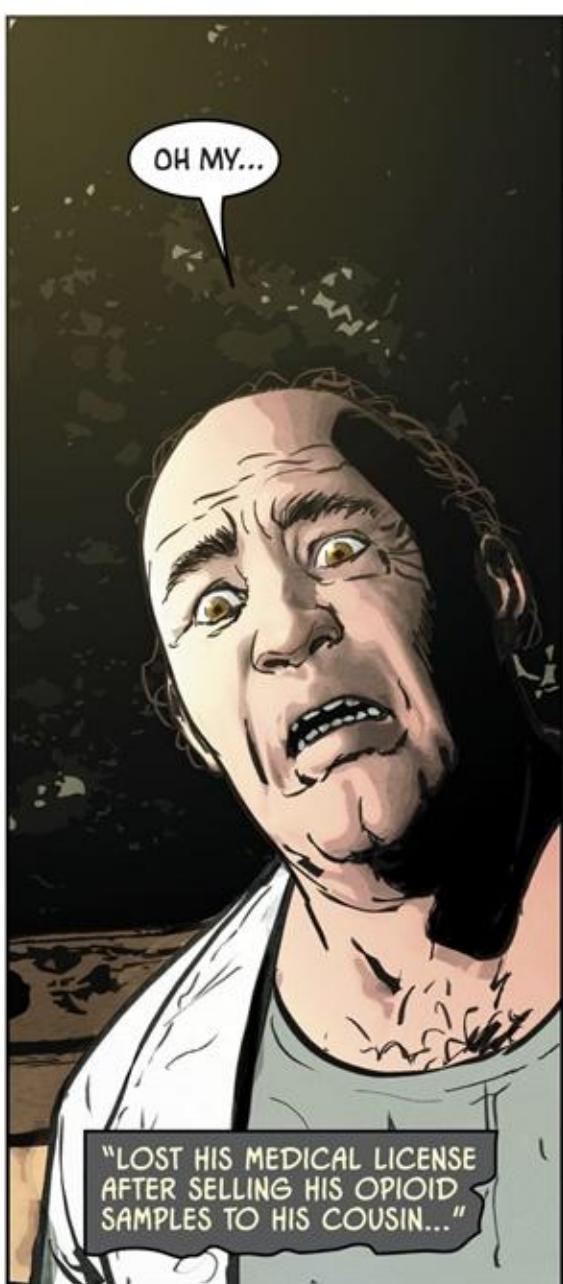
JOSH MIDDLETON VARIANT COVER

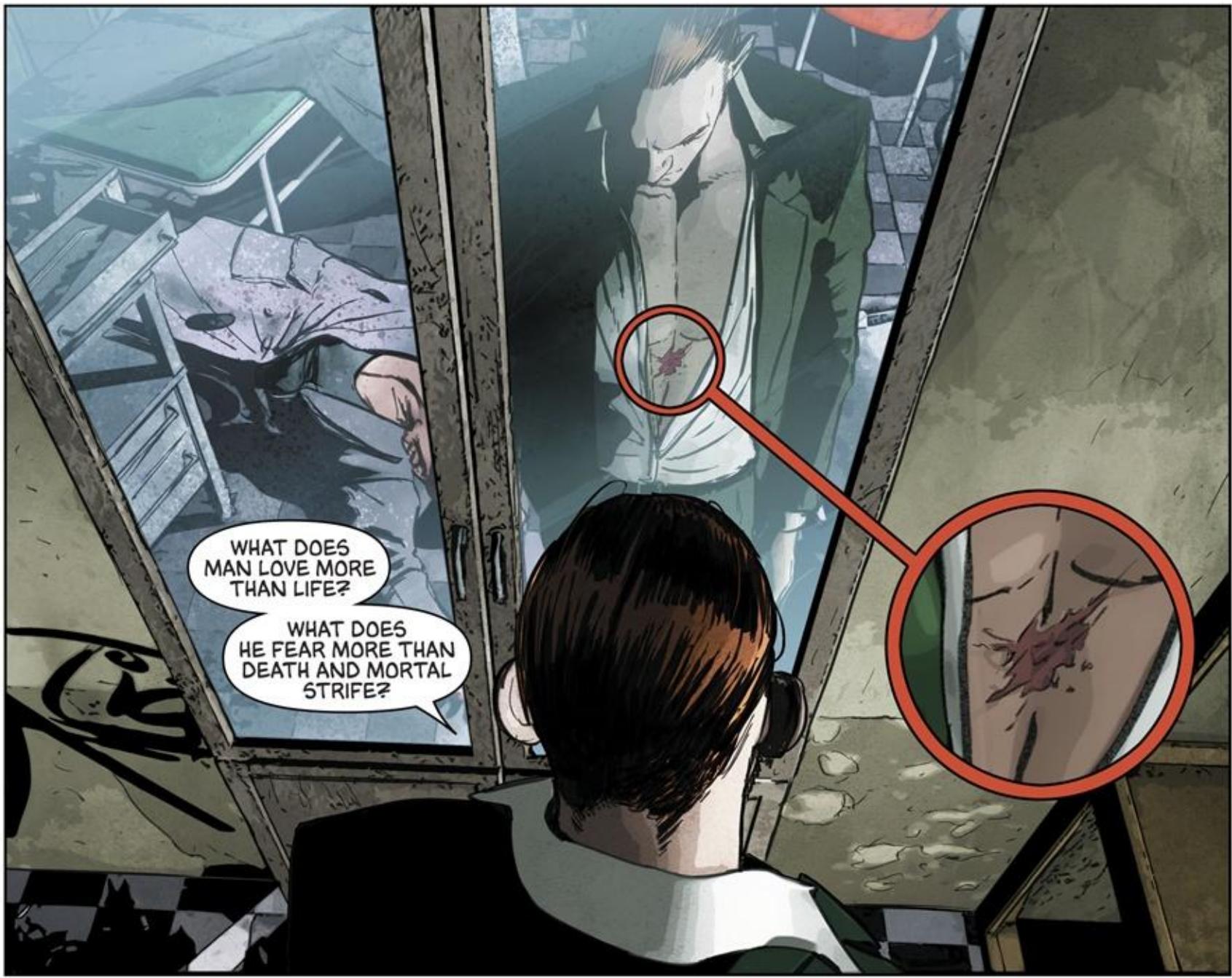
MAGGIE HOWELL ASST. EDITOR

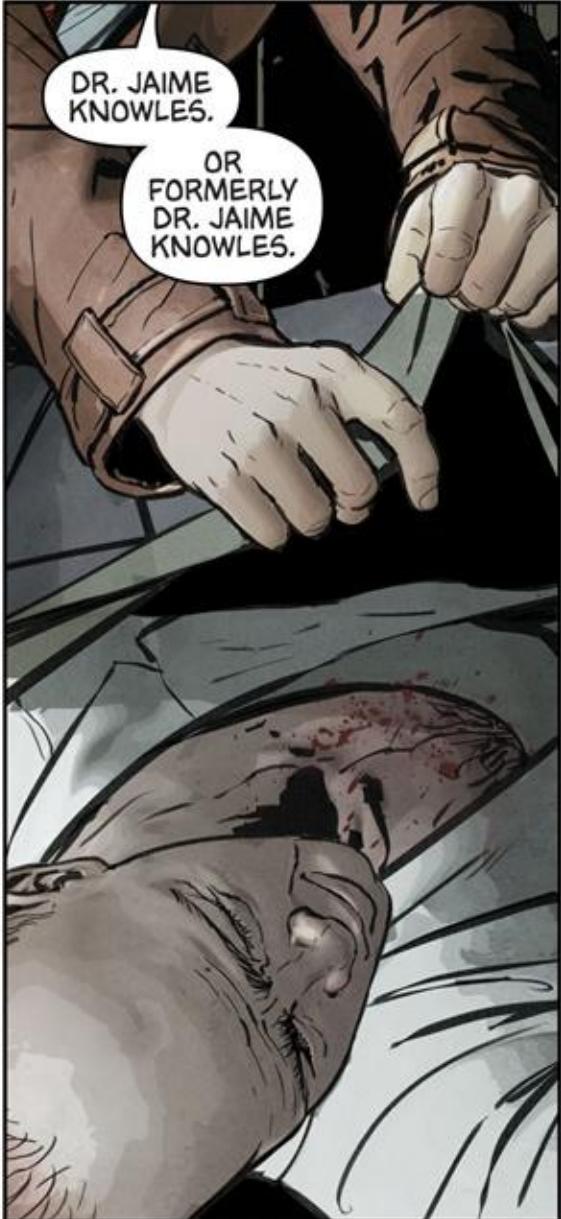
MOLLY MAHAN ASSOCIATE EDITOR

MARK DOYLE & JAMIE S. RICH EDITORS

BATMAN CREATED BY BOB KANE WITH BILL FINGER







THE ESCAPED CONVICT, THE RIDDLER, IS BELIEVED TO HAVE LEFT ONE OF HIS SIGNATURE SIGNALS TODAY ON THE WALL OF GOTHAM PLAZA.

EXPERTS, THOUGH, ARE SAYING THIS PARTICULAR SIGNAL IS HIGHLY UNUSUAL FOR THE RIDDLER.

CHANNEL FOUR WAS ABLE TO SPEAK TO GIL CASTRO OF THE GOTHAM INSTITUTE FOR CRIME STUDIES.

GIL, HOW WOULD YOU ASSESS THIS LATEST DEVELOPMENT?

YES, WELL, TYPICALLY, THE RIDDLER LEAVES A RIDDLE WHOSE SOLUTION IS THE KEY TO HIS NEXT CRIME.

I MEAN HE JUST WROTE HERE, AS YOU SEE, ANDREW:

SO, AS I SAID, WE ASSESS THAT, IN OUR EXPERIENCE, FOR THE RIDDLER THIS IS...UH...

THAT'S TYPICAL, AS I WAS SAYING, SO WHAT WE HAVE HERE THEN IS WHAT WE CALL ATYPICAL.

"I'M GOING TO KILL YOU, JOKER. THEN I'M GOING TO LAUGH. HA. HA. HA."

...WE ASSESS IT TO BE ATYPICAL.

BUT COULD THIS BE AN ELABORATE RIDDLE, LIKE MAYBE THE LETTERS SPELL OUT SOMETHING?

I MEAN, MAYBE. WE DIDN'T REALLY-- IT SEEMS STRAIGHTFORWARD. BUT WHAT'S STRAIGHTFORWARD?

THE JOKER. THE RIDDLER. EVEN BATMAN. THESE ARE INSANE, CRAZY PEOPLE.

TO THEM, I MEAN, WHAT DOES STRAIGHTFORWARD EVEN MEAN?

I LOOK AT THEIR STUFF EVERY DAY. EVERY DAY. THESE PICTURES...THEY COULD JUST...KILL US... ALL OF US.

THAT'S GIL CASTRO WITH THE GOTHAM CRIME INSTITUTE.

I MEAN, IF THEY WANT TO. AND I THINK, I SOMETIMES THINK THEY WANT TO. THEY REALLY WANT TO.

WE'LL HAVE MORE ON THIS DEVELOPING STORY THROUGHOUT THE NIGHT.



"YOU'VE GOT
AN HOUR!"

WHAT
BOTHERS ME
IS THE FACT, NOT
THE POSSIBILITY,
BUT THE **FACT**
OF "SCORCHED
EARTH."

BECAUSE
THAT'S WHAT
HE'S PROMISED, TO
SCORCH THE EARTH.

AND I KNOW,
WHAT ARE PROMISES
WORTH? CAN IT BE
THAT BAD?

BUT
WHAT DO WE
HAVE BESIDES
PROMISES?

HIS ACTIONS
TO DATE, OF
COURSE. BUT ALL
OF THEM POINT TO
ONE THING. TO HIS
PROMISES!

SCORCHED.
EARTH.

NOW, I AM BY
NO MEANS A PERFECT
PERSON.

BUT I
DO HAVE PLANS
THAT...

KRAK

OH.

WELL,
HELLO,
FRIENDS.

CAN
I HELP
YOU?



MS. ISLEY,
CAN I ASK YOU A
QUESTION?

NOTHING
PERSONAL,
JUST SOMETHING TO
SATISFY MY OWN
CURIOSITY.

YES?

AAAAAA!

I WAS
THINKING, IF APRIL
SHOWERS BRING MAY
FLOWERS...

...WELL,
THEN WHAT DO
MAY FLOWERS
BRING?

RIGHT,
WELL, I THINK I
MAY NEED MORE
SPECIFICITY.

THERE ARE
MANY FLOWERS
THAT BLOOM IN MAY.
DAFFODILS, ZINNIA,
PEONIES--

"CHRISTOPHER
'FISHY'
GELLARANO."

"LEONARDO
'THE FAN'
ALAGETTI."

HOLY...

NO,
NO. YOU SEE,
PILGRIMS, MY
DEAR.

MAYFLOWERS
BRING
PILGRIMS.

WELL...

OH, YES. I
UNDERSTAND.
PILGRIMS.

"GINO
'BABYCHEEKS'
FENASSA."

THAT'S
VERY
GOOD.

YES.
IT IS.



"FISHY HAD THREE KIDS AND ONE ON THE WAY."

"HIS WIFE THOUGHT HE SOLD SEAFOOD AT THE DOCKS."

"BIG GUN WAS MARRIED TO A GUY NAMED SAM LIPSHIN."

"A FIFTH-GRADE TEACHER WHO SHOT HIMSELF A WEEK LATER."

"THE FAN HAD STARTED WORKING FOR CARMINE A FEW MONTHS BACK."

"HIS MOTHER HAD BEEN DIAGNOSED WITH BREAST CANCER."

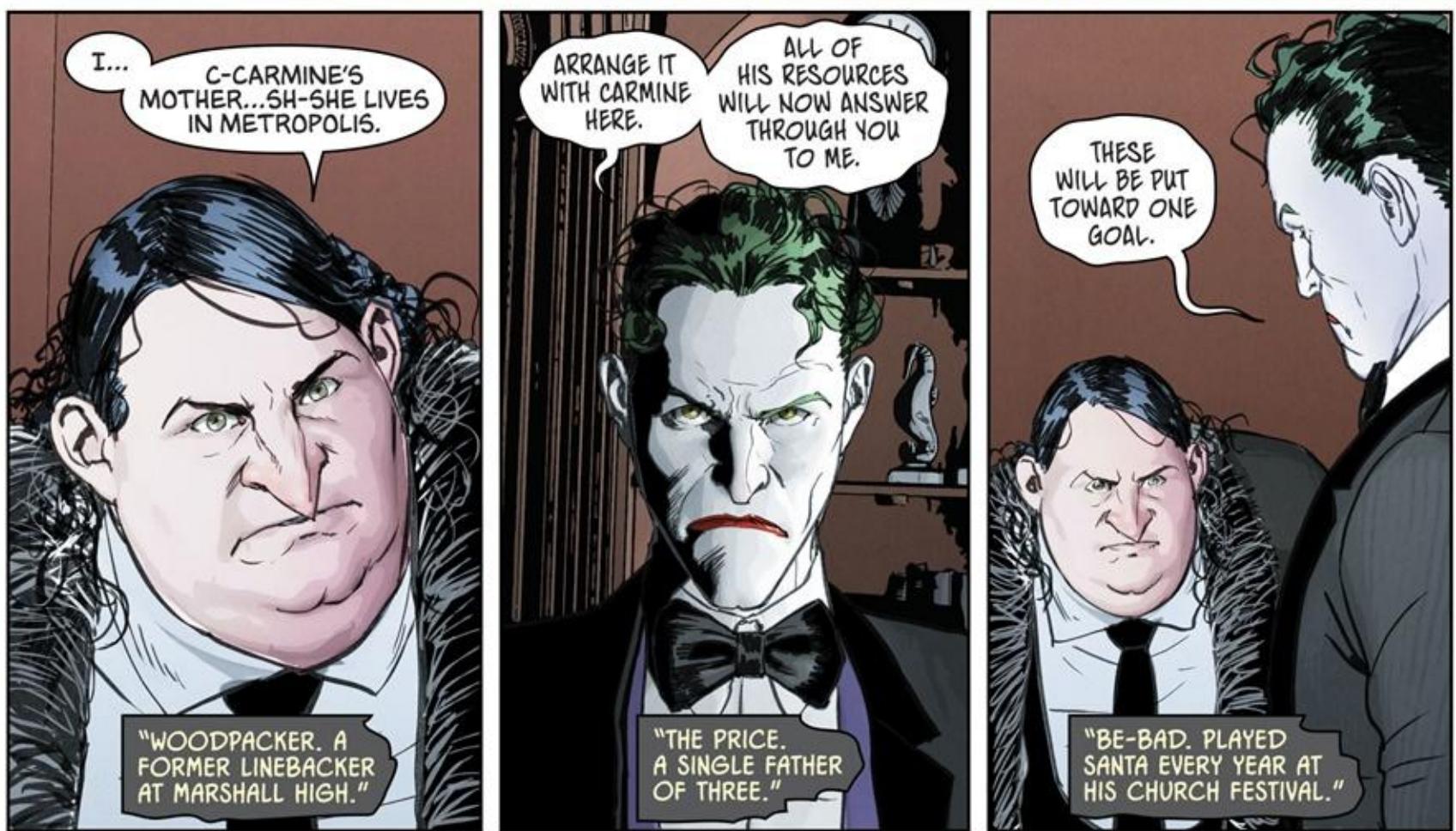
"HE WAS TRYING TO PAY FOR SOME PILLS."

"BABYFACE WAS AN UNDERCOVER COP REPORTING TO GORDON."

"HE'D SERVED THREE TOURS OVERSEAS AS A MARINE."

"GORDON SHOWED ME THE LETTER HE WROTE TO HIS WIDOW."





"CARMEN MARIE
FALCONE."

"BORN IN NAPLES, ITALY.
PREGNANT AT 16. HER
FATHER BEAT THE CHILD
OUT OF HER."

"SHE WEPT. AND SHE LEFT.
AND SHE CAME HERE.
TO GOTHAM."

"CLEANED TOILETS ON
HER HANDS AND KNEES
FOR FORTY YEARS."

"RAISED TEN CHILDREN,
NINE OF WHOM ARE
AMONG THE BEST THIS
COUNTRY HAS."

"WHEN SHE FOUND OUT
WHAT THE TENTH HAD
DONE, WHAT HE DID,
SHE SPIT IN HIS FACE."

"SHE TOLD THE
POLICE ABOUT HER
BOY. SHE WEPT."

"AND SHE
LEFT."

"IT TOOK A FEW MORE WEEKS
BEFORE THE CITY SAW
WHAT IT WAS."

"BEFORE PEOPLE REALIZED
THAT THESE DEAD WEREN'T
THE NORMAL DEAD OF
GOTHAM."

"THAT THE BODIES
WERE COMING
TOO FAST."

DEATHSTROKE

?

SCARECROW

X

CLAYFACE

?

EASST

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?

?



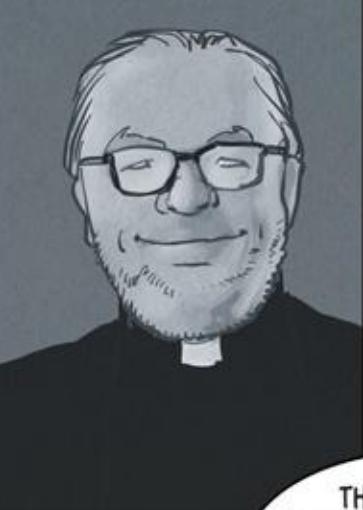
SYED ARIF
SHOT BY JOKER, APRIL 8



AMY TAMISO
BURNED BY FIREFLY, APRIL 8



RON RANDOLPH
HANGED BY SCARECROW, APRIL 10



PHILIP MYERS
STABBED BY RIDDLER, APRIL 11



KEITH NUTT
DROWNED BY VERMIN, APRIL 12

BRENT RANDOLPH
SHOT BY JOKER, APRIL 12



NICOLE SACKLEY
SHOT BY JOKER, APRIL 12



LYN HOGE
GASSED BY JOKER, APRIL 14



THEY CALLED
ME THE DARK KNIGHT.
THE WORLD'S GREATEST
DETECTIVE. THE CAPE
CRUSADER.

ALAN ANTWERP
GASSED BY JOKER, APRIL 14

MATTY MAHEN
FROZEN BY MR. FREEZE, APRIL 14



ELIZABETH SPELLMAN
STABBED BY ZSASZ, APRIL 14



DANIEL JAMES
GASSED BY JOKER, APRIL 14



JONATHAN REPLESON
STABBED BY CROC, APRIL 15

ABBY GORDAN
SHOT BY JOKER, APRIL 21



ERNIE FU
STABBED BY RIDDLER, APRIL 21



CHRISTOPHER CRIMES
STABBED BY RIDDLES, APRIL 25

SHOT BY TWO-FACE, MAY 1



DROWNED BY TWEEGLE DEE, APRIL 27



NEXT: VIEW FROM THE STREETS--KITE MAN!

the latest updates only available at: viewcomic.com