



UNIVERSE

46



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TO HALT THE  
**SPREADING EVIL,**  
THEY MUST  
**DEFEAT...**

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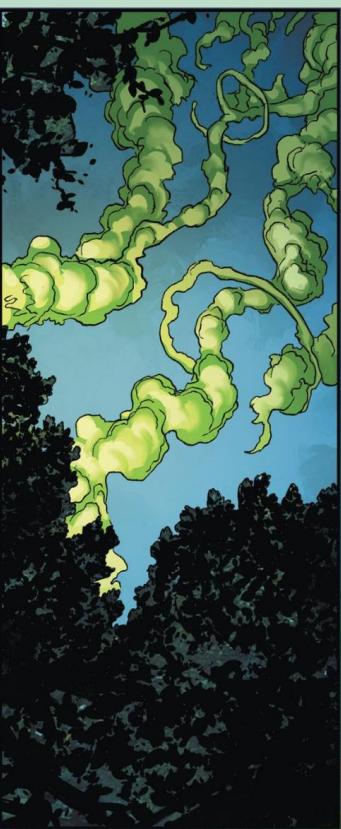
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THEMYSICRA.  
HIDDEN ISLAND OF THE AMAZONS.









KILL THE  
INTERLOPERS!

# COLD WAR

PART 2: INTO HELL

ROBERT VENDITTI WRITER XERMANICO & ROBSON ROCHA PENCILS  
XERMANICO, DANIEL HENRIQUES & ROBSON ROCHA INKS  
RONULIO FAJARDO JR. COLORIST TOM NAPOLITANO LETTERER  
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SUPERMAN CREATED BY JERRY SIEGEL AND JOE SHUSTER.  
BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH THE JERRY SIEGEL FAMILY.

















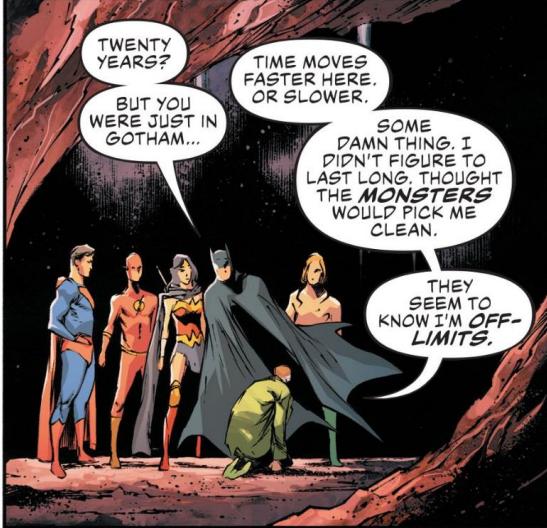


MOUNT TARTARUS.









THE  
ANCIENT  
SEAL STANDS  
OPEN.

TARTARUS,  
THE FIRST GOD  
OF HELL, WILL  
AT LAST BE  
FREE.

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OF THE WORLD!**

GET READY FOR THE ENCORE!

DARK NIGHTS

# DEATH METAL



THE MAYHEM IS IMMINENT

SCOTT SNYDER | GREG CAPULLO



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## SCOTT SNYDER AND GREG CAPULLO TAKE THE STAGE FOR **DARK NIGHTS: DEATH METAL**

*Dark Nights: Metal* was one of DC's biggest events ever, with writer Scott Snyder and artist Greg Capullo channeling the energy of their seminal *Batman* run into a massive story that brought heavy metal thunder across the DC Universe.

In May, Snyder and Capullo re-team for *Dark Nights: Death Metal*, an epic sequel that turns the volume way, way up, and drops DC's heroes in extremely hostile territory—and ties together the last several years of the DC Universe in a bigger, louder, and unexpected encore.

What's the tone of *Death Metal*? In what ways is it similar to the original, and in what ways is this one different for you?

**Greg Capullo:** One thing that's going to be similar: there will be Joker dragons. They're making an encore! [We're] going bigger and louder. [The first script] is so jam-packed, dense with exciting and great metal-esque comics stuff that I think everyone is going to lose their mind when they get to this.

**Scott Snyder:** This time we really want to blow the story out through the whole DCU in an even bigger and crazier way. If there were five evil Batmen in the first one, then there's hundreds in this one. If there was a Joker dragon in the first one, then they're just commonplace in the sky in this one. It's that: characters you don't expect to see, characters people are hungering to see Greg draw. It's definitely upping the ante from the first one.



Other than being a natural—and awesome title for a sequel, what can you tease about what "Death Metal" means in this story?

**Snyder:** There is a "death metal" itself—that's in the story—and there's a reason it's called that, and there's a history to it that ties into a lot of things that we were building both with the Justice Society of America and other characters from the past.

But also—it just sounds cool. There's no turning back. The stakes are higher. Everyone's life is on the line.

Fans have already seen Wonder Woman and her "Chainsaw of Truth." What can you say about the role she plays? Is she a lead character?

**Capullo:** Definitely, which is exciting for me. I was initially intimidated by Wonder Woman. When Scott gave me this—and she's got such a prominent, up-front role—I was excited. It's no longer intimidation—I'm now excited to portray her as I feel I understand her to be.

**Snyder:** She's the perfect person for the story. When the story starts, the heroes are in a really bad position. We start in a place that's going to really shock you, and it's a place where the only way out is to discover the truth about not only what happened, but the kinds of terrible things the villains have done over the years—and the truth about what we've done in other stories: in *Event Leviathan*, in *Doomsday Clock*, and all of that. Wonder Woman is the perfect character to go after the truth, whether it's a lasso, or better yet, a chainsaw.

**"ONE GIANT ROCK PARTY THAT MAKES THE ENTIRE SAGA OF THE DCU COME TOGETHER."—SCOTT SNYDER**

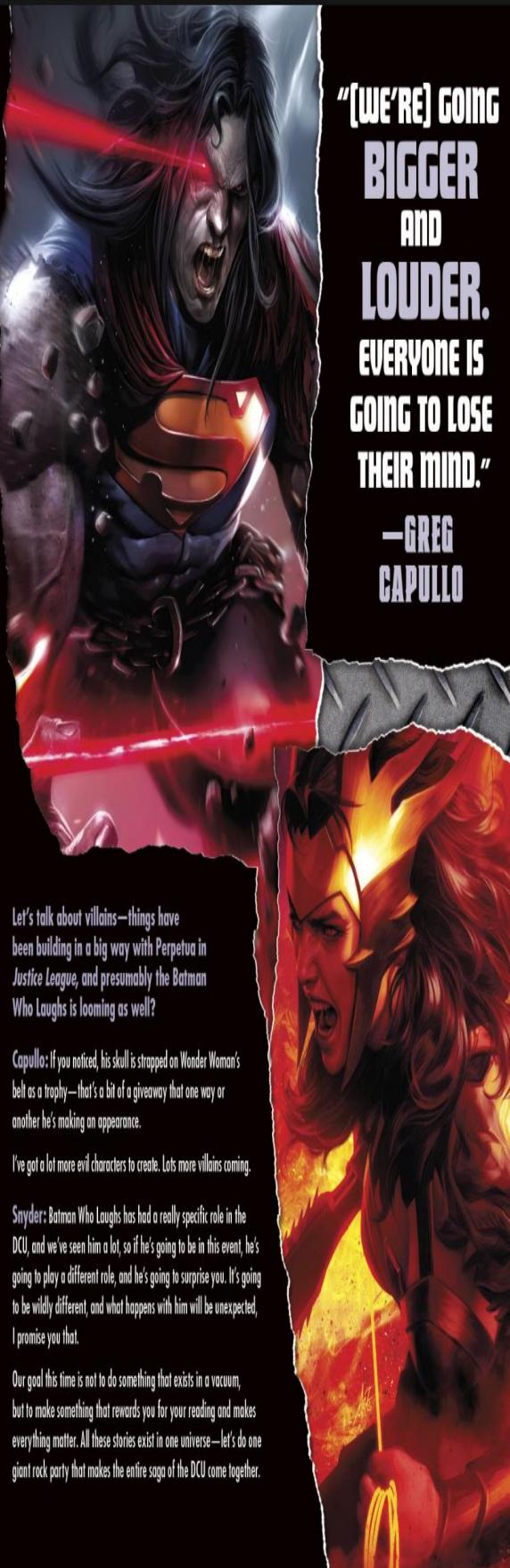


We've also seen Superman with a Darkseid arm and a grim reaper-esque Batman with a scythe. What can you share about how that happened?

Capullo: Other than to say it looks freaking awesome?

Snyder: Things have happened in the world that have forced them into roles that are desperate. The heroes, without changing who they are, without becoming less hopeful or becoming darker themselves, find themselves in a world that's darkened significantly around them. It's really about the heroes being crazy beacons of hope—rock gods of heroism in this world that's so dark and hellish at that moment.

They inspire us to always reach higher.



"**[WE'RE] GOING BIGGER AND LOUDER. EVERYONE IS GOING TO LOSE THEIR MIND.**"

—GREG CAPULLO

Let's talk about villains—things have been building in a big way with Perpetua in *Justice League*, and presumably the Batman Who Laughs is looming as well?

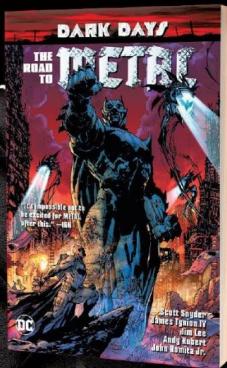
Capullo: If you noticed, his skull is strapped on Wonder Woman's belt as a trophy—that's a bit of a giveaway that one way or another he's making an appearance.

I've got a lot more evil characters to create. Lots more villains coming.

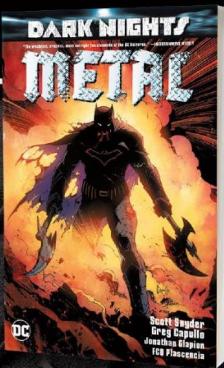
Snyder: Batman Who Laughs has had a really specific role in the DCU, and we've seen him a lot, so if he's going to be in this event, he's going to play a different role, and he's going to surprise you. It's going to be wildly different, and what happens with him will be unexpected, I promise you that.

Our goal this time is not to do something that exists in a vacuum, but to make something that rewards you for your reading and makes everything matter. All these stories exist in one universe—let's do one giant rock party that makes the entire saga of the DCU come together.

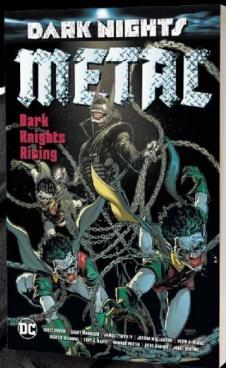
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JUSTICE LEAGUE VOL. 5: JUSTICE/DOOM WAR  
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YEAR OF THE VILLAIN: HELL ARISEN  
ON SALE IN JUNE



**DC NATION**

SPOTLIGHT ON

# The JOKER

Over the past eight decades, The Joker has consistently been reinvented and reimagined—while remaining one of fiction's most recognizable villains.

In June, comics' top writers and artists pay tribute to the many eras of the Clown Prince of Crime in *The Joker 80th Anniversary 100-Page Super Spectacular #1*. Here are some of his most enduring—and chilling—looks, as illustrated by superstar artist Ryan Sook!



## CRIMINAL CLOWN

In the style of:  
Neal Adams

The Joker had been out of the spotlight for several years when writer Dennis O'Neil and artist Neal Adams brought him back to his maniacal glory starting with 1973's "The Joker's Five-Way Revenge."



## FUTURE FOE

In the style of:  
Frank Miller

The Joker of 1986's *The Dark Knight Returns* matches the dystopian future of the seminal story: even more brutal and psychotic, as captured by Frank Miller's unmistakable aesthetic.



## ANIMATED ANTAGONIST

In the style of:  
Bruce Timm

1992's *Batman: The Animated Series* provided the definitive take on The Joker for a generation of fans, with Bruce Timm's expressive design perfectly paired with vocals by actor Mark Hamill.



## VILE VILLAIN

In the style of:  
Greg Capullo

Scott Snyder and Greg Capullo's 2012's "Death of the Family" had a distinctly horror twist, as Batman's greatest enemy wore his own face as a mask—and it was as gross as it sounds.

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