DC
3
BATMAN™
BEYOND
NEO-GOTHIC
KELLY
LANZING
DUNBAR
CHENG
ON TRIAL WITH THE
COURT OF OWLS...
HOO WILL SURVIVE?
13+
TEEN

THE BELOVED WEBTOON SERIES IS IN PRINT!

ZATANNA'S TRAPPED IN LONDON IN 1888—
AND ONLY JACK THE RIPPER CAN HELP HER GET HOME.

ZATANNA & THE RIPPER

volume ONE

Written by
SARAH DEALY

Art by
SYRO

OCTOBER

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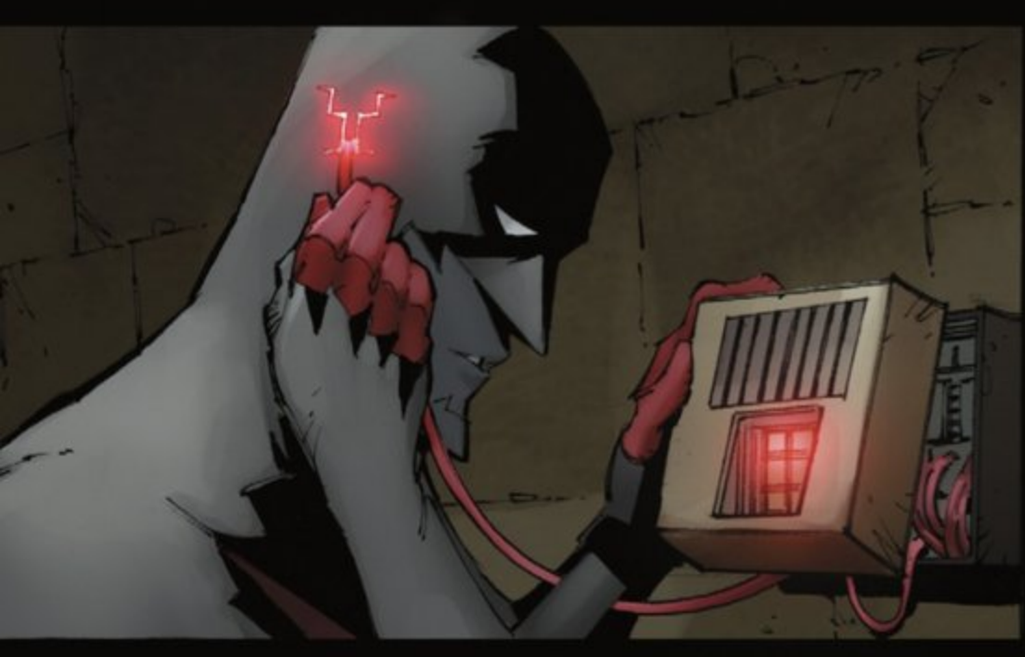
I DON'T KNOW IF YOU CAN HEAR ME.

OR IF YOU'RE EVEN STILL ALIVE DOWN THERE.

BUT WE'RE SENDING THIS IN WHISPERS ON EVERY OLD HARDCABLE.



RUNNING MORSE CODE THROUGH THE ENERGY GRID.

AS FAR DOWN AS WE CAN.

A MILLION AVENUES. ONE MESSAGE.

"CAVE TO BATMAN.

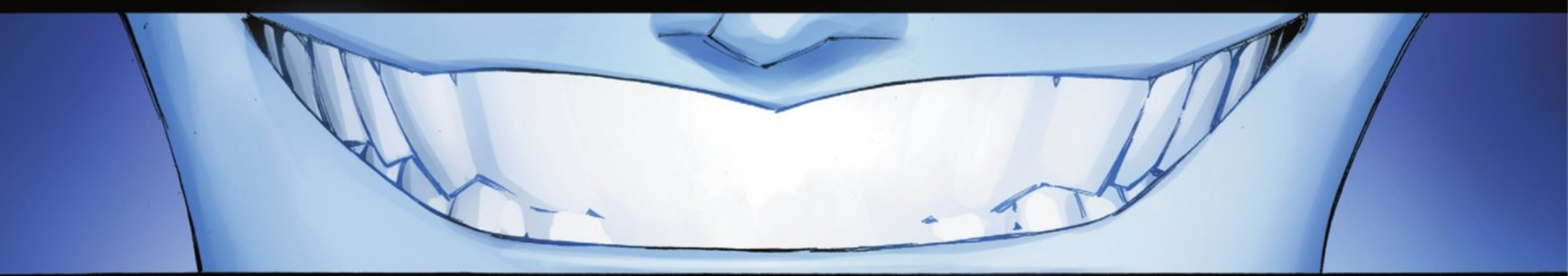
"GOTHAM IS DYING."

THE CITY IS AFRAID, BATMAN.
AND LUMOS FEEDS AS WELL ON FEAR AS HE DOES ON GLORY.

HE'S ANNOUNCED AN ACQUISITION OF THE NARROWS.
HE'S PROMISING MORE NEIGHBORHOODS BY THE END OF THE WEEK.

ALL TO BE REPLACED WITH HIS CITY OF LIGHT.

GOTHAM IS DYING...



...AND LUMOS IS BUYING THE CORPSE.

EVERY MINUTE YOU'RE DOWN THERE,
THE GROUND IS FALLING OUT FROM UNDER US.

BATMAN... TERRY...

WE DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME LEFT.

IF IT'S BETWEEN THOSE CHILDREN IN THE DARK AND THE ENTIRE DAMN CITY...

...PLEASE.

DON'T CHOOSE THE *DARK*.

DC COMICS
Proudly Presents

BATMAN BEYOND NEO-GOTHIC

Chapter 3: **THE TOMB OF OWLS**

BATMAN created by **BOB KANE** with **BILL FINGER**

Collin Kelly & Jackson Lanzing
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Max Dunbar
ARTIST

Sebastian Cheng
COLORS

Hassan Otsmane-Elhaou
LETTERS

Max Dunbar & Sebastian Cheng
COVER

Christian Ward, Jorge Corona & Sarah Stern
VARIANT COVERS

Jessica Berbey
EDITOR

Ben Abernathy
GROUP EDITOR

BE CAREFUL, KYLE. THIS PLACE IS A LABYRINTH. IT'S DESIGNED FOR TWO THINGS--

--TO DRIVE YOU *CRAZY* AND TO *KILL YOU* ONCE YOU'RE THERE.

FIRST TIME, BUT WHEN I WAS SEVENTEEN, I DID A MONTH OF TRAINING DESIGNED TO PREPARE ME IF I WAS EVER TAKEN BY THEM.

YOU TALK LIKE YOU'VE BEEN HERE.

THEM?

THE COURT OF OWLS.

THE *SECRET RULERS* OF GOTHAM CITY. BEFORE BATMAN PUT THEM DOWN.

...YOU GET THE FEELING WE'RE BEING *WATCHED?*

YEOW!

WHAT THE ACTUAL *FRACK?* IS THIS SOME KIND OF...

MAGIC? THOUGHT YOU WERE OUR *EXPERT* ON THAT.

THIS ISN'T MAGIC. BUT THIS IS WHAT THE GARDEN LOOKED LIKE... BEFORE IT TOOK THE KIDS.

BIOLUMINESCENCE. WE'RE GETTING CLOSER.

LISTEN. CAN YOU HEAR THAT?

TERRY.

KEEP UP. THIS IS GONNA GET WEIRD.

OH, IT'S *GONNA* GET WEIRD, OKAY. I WAS WORRIED FOR A MINUTE THAT THIS INSANE SEALED-OFF LABYRINTH OF TERROR WAS *TOO NORMAL--*

LESS TALK, MORE *RUNNING,* CATBOI.

YOU DO KNOW YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO TELL ME YOUR STORY AT SOME POINT, RIGHT?

WE'VE GOT SKELETON TRAPS, AND YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT *ME*?

I'M WORRIED ABOUT BEING TRAPPED UNDER-GROUND WITH SOMEONE WHO KEEPS SECRETS.

THEN WHY DON'T YOU TAKE OFF THE *MASK*, TOPSIDE?

WHERE...-HRRNN- DID YOU LEARN... *MAGIC*...-HRRNN- IN NEO-GOTHAM?

SERIOUSLY, MAN, THIS IS *NOT* THE TIME!

JUST BE HAPPY I'VE GOT IT IN A PINCH, YEAH?

YOU'RE DEFLECTING.

I SHOULD KNOW.

THE GUY WHO TRAINED ME WAS AN *EXPERT*.

AND HE NEVER KEPT A SECRET THAT DIDN'T COME BACK TO PUNCH HIM IN THE HEART.

YOU SAVED ME UP THERE WITH CROC. I KNOW YOU'RE NOT THE TOUGH GUY YOU PRETEND TO BE.

YOU CAN *TRUST ME*, KYLE.

THE LAST GUY WHO SAID THOSE WORDS TO ME WAS LYING THROUGH HIS TEETH. SO, *RESPECTFULLY*, *PASS*.

AND THAT'S ALL I GOT TO SAY ABOUT IT, YOU GET ME?

THIS ISN'T OVER.

YES, TERRY, IT IS.

AFTER ALL THESE BURIED YEARS...

...YOU'VE FINALLY COME HOME.

BAAAAATMAAAAAN...
...SO KIIIIND... HE BRINGSSSS USSS A PRESSSSSENT...
BACK AWAY. SLOWLY. WE GOTTA GET OUT OF HERE.
DON'T GOTTA TELL ME TWICE.
HIS NAME! THE CONSECRATION WHISPERS IT IN OUR MINDS!
HIS FACE! IT HAUNTS OUR DREAMS!
HIS GUILT! IT COURSES THROUGH OUR MYCELIUM VEINS!
THE CAT! THE CAT WITH ALL THE GARDEN'S SECRETS UNDER HIS SKIN!
AND NOW, TERRY, YOU BRING HIM TO US.

THROUGH A MILLION EYES, I'VE WATCHED YOUR JOURNEY.
I'M SO PROUD OF YOU, TERRY.
...BRUCE?
RETURN THE CHILDREN, YOU COWARDS! ENOUGH OF THESE MIND GAMES!
NO GAMES, TERRY. JUST TRUTH. THE GARDEN BELOW NEEDS THE CHILDREN, JUST AS IT NEEDS THE BOY WHO FED THEM TO IT.
NO. BRUCE WAYNE WAS A FAILED EXPERIMENT. A MISTAKE ALONG A LONGER PATH.
LIKE THE TALON I ONCE WAS. LIKE YOU, TERRY. EACH A STEP TOWARD MY PERFECTION.
THE GARDEN BELOW HAS OPENED OUR MINDS. WE SEE THE TRUTH NOW, AS YOU SHALL TOO.
JUST AS THE COURT NEEDS THE AIR OF GOTHAM AGAIN.
IT'S ALL RIGHT, TERRY. YOU HAVE EARNED YOUR REST.
AND THE SACRAMENT OF THE GARDEN HAS HELPED US REMEMBER OUR SACRED QUEST.
FROM NOW UNTIL THE GARDEN RISES, GOTHAM BELONGS...

...TO THE
BATMAN.

GIVE US KYLE AND LET THE GARDEN FEED!
OKAY, I DON'T KNOW WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON HERE--
--BUT THE LAST THING YOU'RE DOING IS TAKING MY FRIEND.
HOW DO THEY KNOW MY NAME?!
WE KNOW YOU THROUGH ROOT AND SPORE. MEMORIES OF YOU, FED BY THE GARDEN BELOW.
JUST AS I HAVE WATCHED YOU, TERRY, WEAR MY COWL. TAKE MY NAME.
YOUR NAME?
YOU'RE JUST AN ECHO. A BUNCH OF MUSHROOMS PLAYING DRESS-UP.

I AM VENGEANCE!
I AM THE NIGHT!
I AM THE BATMAN!
...GRASP THE KYLE...
...TAKE THE BOY...
...FEED THE GARDEN...
...AND THEN WE GROW.
WE GROW!
WE RISE TOWARD THE SUN.

FIRST THE BOY, THEN THE SUN. DO YOU HEAR MY ROBINS, MY SONS AND DAUGHTERS? THEY WANT TO FLY, **TERRY.**

GUHH

THAK

BRUCE LOCKED YOU DOWN HERE FOR A REASON.

KRA

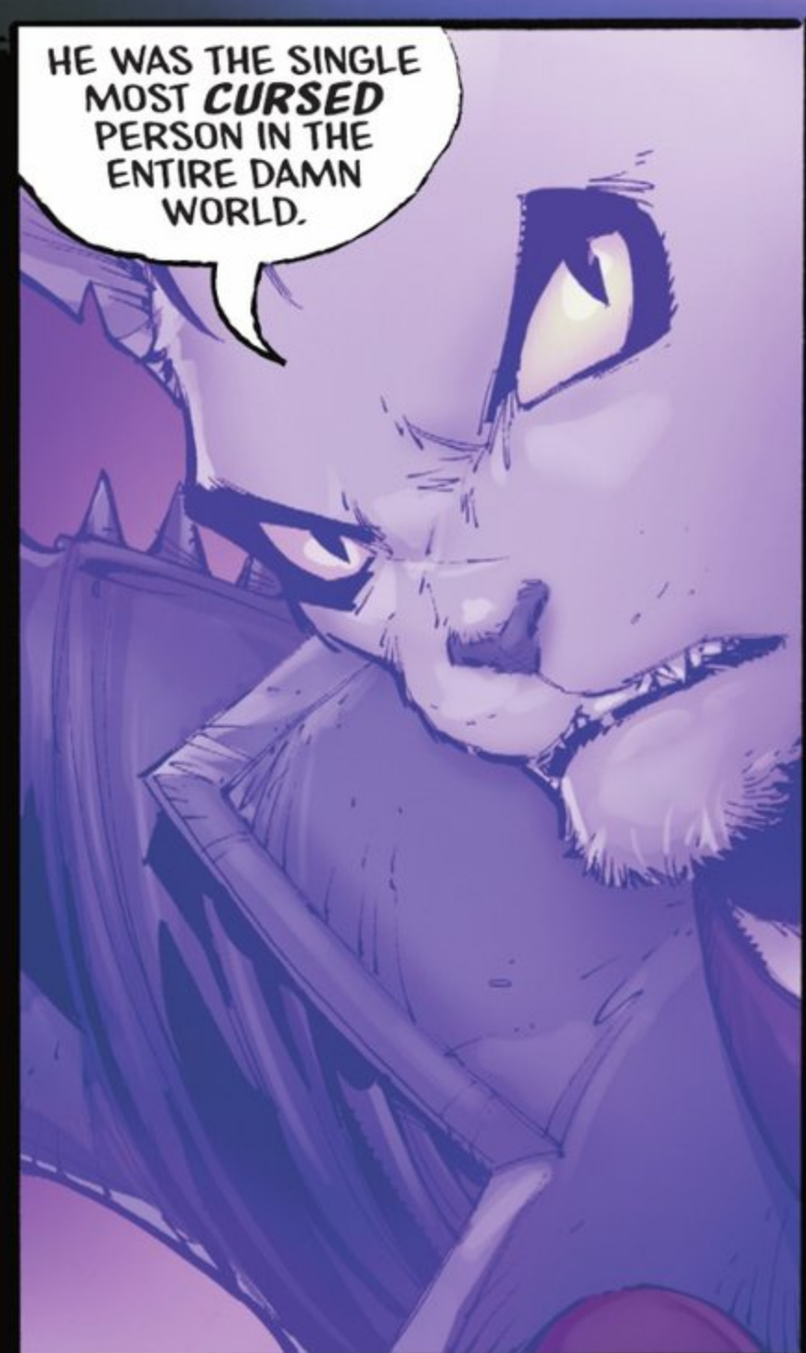
AND I DON'T CARE WHAT THE MUSHROOMS SAY, YOU'RE ***STAYING IN THE DAMN DARK.***

GOTHAM WILL BE **SAVED** BY **WHAT IT HAS BURIED.**

NO...

THINK
---IT'LL BE SAVED BY ME.
MAN, THAT WAS--
STOP. LOOK AT ME.
WHAT IS THIS ABOUT, KYLE?! NO MORE DEFLECTING-- WHY DO THEY KNOW YOU? WHY DO THEY WANT YOU?
I DON'T KNOW, MAN! I'VE NEVER EVEN BEEN HERE BEFORE-- THAT'S KIND OF THE WHOLE POINT OF THIS!
THE WHOLE POINT OF THIS?
I HIRED YOU.
DID YOU?

YOU WANT TO KNOW *WHO* TAUGHT ME MAGIC, TOPSIDE?



"...EVERYTHING'S A TRICK WHEN IT COMES TO JOHN CONSTANTINE."

THE STREET SORCERER? BATMAN SAID HE DIED YEARS AGO!

NO, HE JUST LEVERAGED EVERY DEATH INTO ANOTHER FEW YEARS ON HIS SOUL. COLLECTED CURSES AND DAMNATIONS LIKE THEY WERE FANCY OLD RECORDS.

HE TAUGHT ME -ARGH- WHAT HE COULD. JUST... JUST ENOUGH.

"HE WAS THE FIRST PERSON I EVER SAW GO INTO THE GROUND. JOHN CONSTANTINE GOT A FINAL RESTING PLACE. A GARDEN OF LIGHT AT THE END OF HIS GOD-AWFUL LIFE.

THEN HE BETRAYED ME, SCREWED ME OVER, AND LEFT ME TO DIE THE SAME SLOW DEATH THAT KEPT HIM KICKING THROUGH THE LAST CENTURY!

AND I JUST GOT LEFT WITH ALL HIS CURSES.

SO THIS WAS A GRIFT? ALL OF IT, JUST TO GET BACK TO THE MAN WHO RUINED YOUR LIFE.

...JUST ABOUT.

AND NOW I'M GOING TO GET US BOTH KILLED.

GUESS THAT'S LIFE IN THE GUTTER, HUH?

NO.
WE'RE NOT IN THE GUTTER, KYLE.
KRNK
FLIING
AND WE'RE NOT AT THE END. NOT YET.
FWIIING
YOU MISSED. I'M DISAPPOINTED, TERRY.
NOW ARE YOU FINALLY READY TO REST?
ARE YOU DONE SHARING YOUR LAST SECRETS?
YOU KNOW, I'VE ACTUALLY GOT ONE MORE.
YOU SEE, ALL OF THOSE BATARANGS?
I DIDN'T MISS.

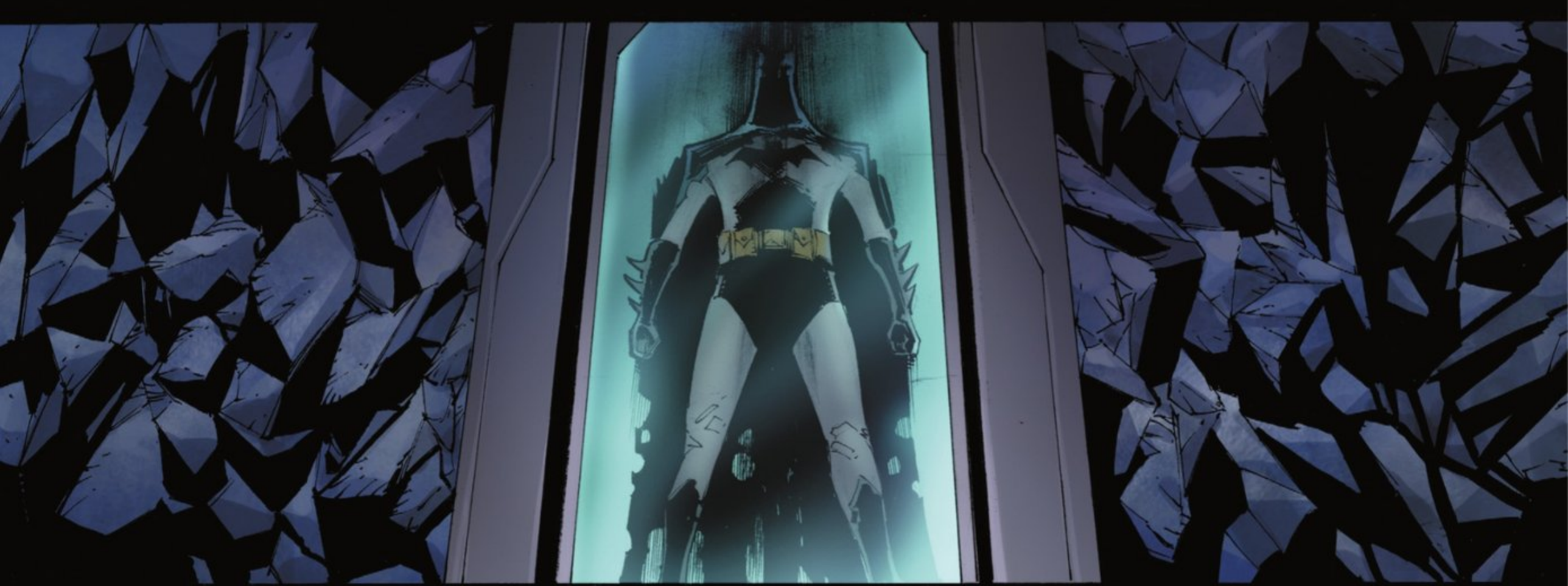
BEAM.

IT'S TERRY.

THINGS AREN'T GOING GREAT.

IN A FEW MOMENTS, I'LL BE STEPPING INTO A LABYRINTH BRUCE BURIED DECADES AGO...

...AND I STILL HAVEN'T FOUND THE KIDS.



GETTING CLOSE, I CAN FEEL IT, BUT EACH LAYER I CUT THROUGH HAS ANOTHER JUST BENEATH. LIKE SCAR TISSUE.

IT'S PURE TRAUMA UNDER THESE STREETS.

ALL OF THIS... FORGOTTEN PAIN. LEFT DOWN HERE TO FESTER.

AND THE DEEPER I GET, THE WORSE THE SICKNESS BECOMES.

BEAM, TRUST ME... I DON'T *WANT* TO CHOOSE THE DARK.

BUT I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO *CAN.*

NEXT:

THE LONG, STRANGE TRIP!

DC HORROR PRESENTS

SGT. ROCK VS. THE ARMY OF THE DEAD

NAZIS HAVE RETURNED FROM THE DEAD. LET'S SEND 'EM BACK!

WRITTEN BY HORROR ICON
BRUCE CAMPBELL

ART BY COMICS LEGEND
EDUARDO RISSO

VARIANT COVER BY CHARLIE ADLARD, ARTIST OF *THE WALKING DEAD*

A HARDCOVER COLLECTION

OCTOBER

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JUSTICE LEAGUE vs. GODZILLA vs. KONG

Written by
BRIAN BUCCELLATO

Art by
CHRISTIAN DUCE

7 ISSUES
The Battle Begins in October

DC

LEGENDARY COMICS

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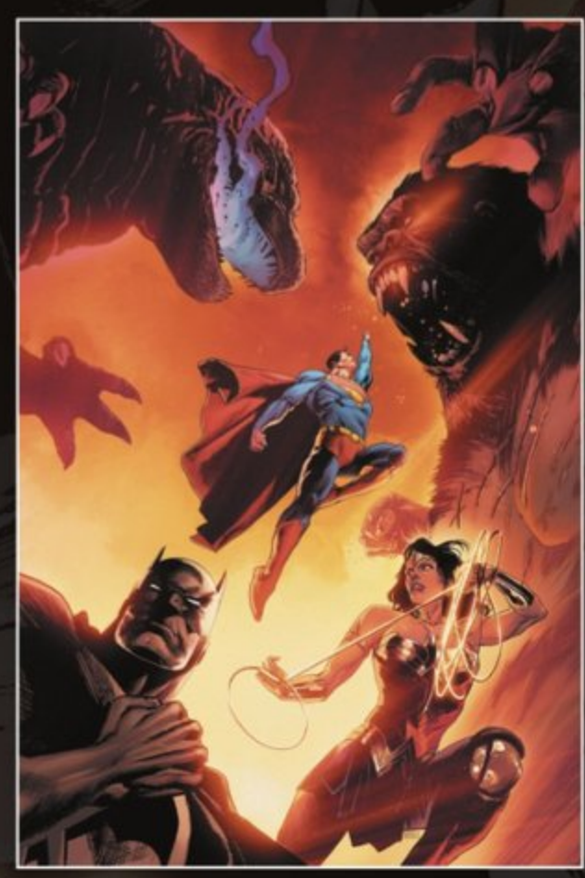
CELEBRATE THIS EARTH-SHATTERING CROSSOVER WITH THESE COVERS



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CHRISTIAN DUCE

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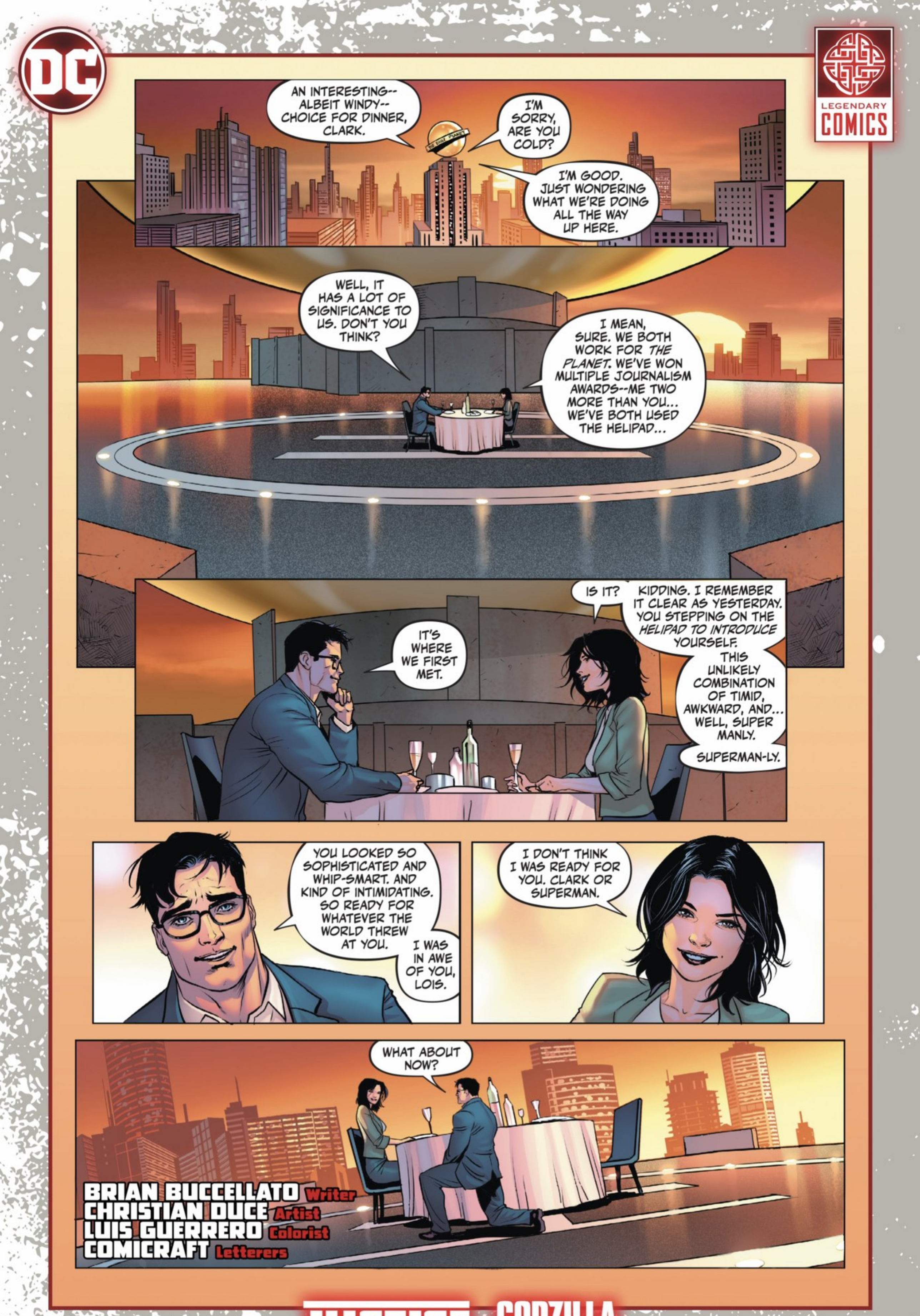
JUSTICE LEAGUE vs. GODZILLA vs. KONG


DC
LEGENDARY COMICS
AN INTERESTING-- ALBEIT WINDY-- CHOICE FOR DINNER, CLARK.
I'M SORRY, ARE YOU COLD?
I'M GOOD. JUST WONDERING WHAT WE'RE DOING ALL THE WAY UP HERE.
WELL, IT HAS A LOT OF SIGNIFICANCE TO US. DON'T YOU THINK?
I MEAN, SURE. WE BOTH WORK FOR THE PLANET. WE'VE WON MULTIPLE JOURNALISM AWARDS--ME TWO MORE THAN YOU... WE'VE BOTH USED THE HELIPAD...
IS IT?
KIDDING. I REMEMBER IT CLEAR AS YESTERDAY. YOU STEPPING ON THE HELIPAD TO INTRODUCE YOURSELF.
IT'S WHERE WE FIRST MET.
THIS UNLIKELY COMBINATION OF TIMID, AWKWARD, AND... WELL, SUPER MANLY.
SUPERMAN-LY.
YOU LOOKED SO SOPHISTICATED AND WHIP-SMART. AND KIND OF INTIMIDATING. SO READY FOR WHATEVER THE WORLD THREW AT YOU.
I WAS IN AWE OF YOU, LOIS.
I DON'T THINK I WAS READY FOR YOU. CLARK OR SUPERMAN.
WHAT ABOUT NOW?
BRIAN BUCCELLATO Writer
CHRISTIAN DUCE Artist
LUIS GUERRERO Colorist
COMICRAFT Letterers
PREVIEW
JUSTICE LEAGUE VS. GODZILLA VS. KONG
PREVIEW

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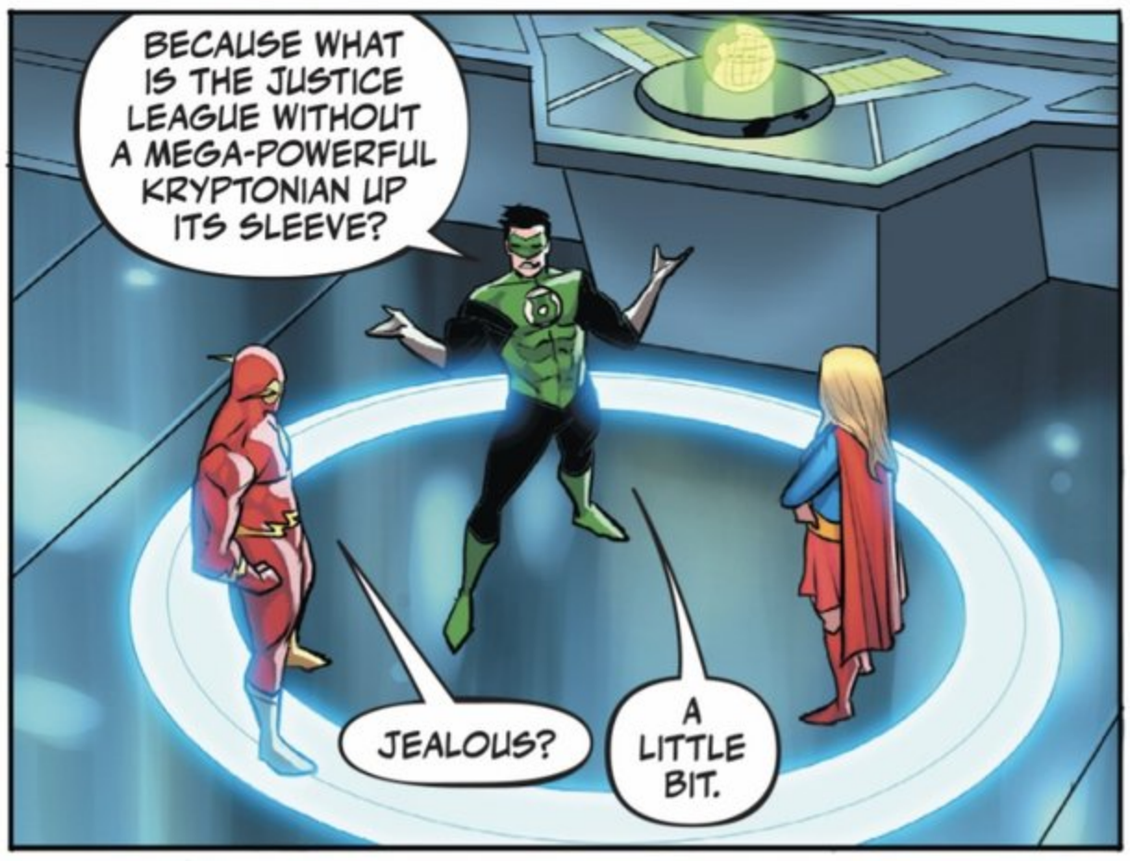
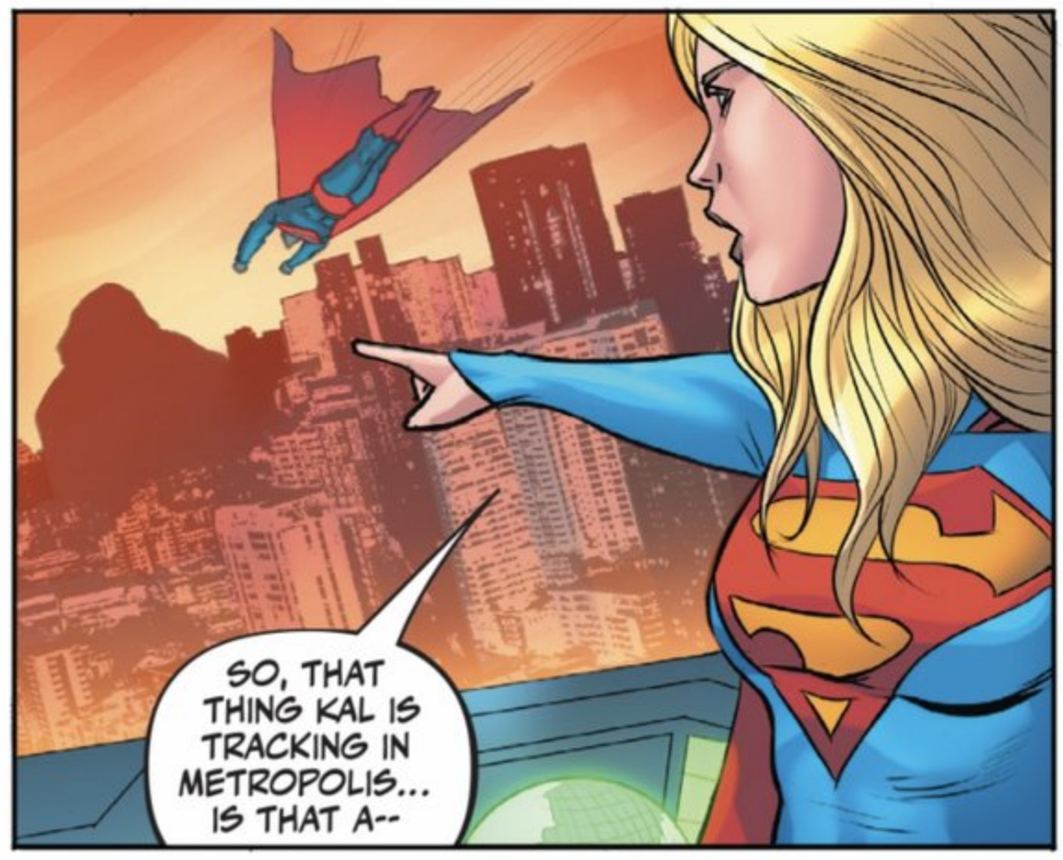
DC
LEGENDARY COMICS
TWELVE HOURS AGO.
I MEAN, THIS IS IMPRESSIVE. EVEN FOR HIM...
IT'S LIKE HE'S LITERALLY TRYING TO SAVE THE WHOLE WORLD AT ONCE.
MAKES YOU WONDER WHY HE DOESN'T GIVE SUPER-SUPER EFFORT ALL OF THE TIME.
IT'S NOT SUSTAINABLE, HAL...
BELIEVE ME, AS A GUY WHO CAN PRETTY MUCH BE TWO PLACES AT ONCE...NO MATTER HOW MUCH YOU DO AND HOW HARD YOU TRY...YOU CAN'T DO IT ALL. THERE'S NEVER ENOUGH TIME.
NOT EVEN FOR THE FASTEST MAN ALIVE. THEN WHAT'S THE POINT?
PREVIEW
JUSTICE LEAGUE VS. GODZILLA VS. KONG
PREVIEW





TO BE CONTINUED IN JUSTICE LEAGUE VS. GODZILLA VS. KONG #1 ON SALE IN OCTOBER

DAWN OF DC

DC NATION SPOTLIGHT ON

THE FLASH

All year long, DC has reinvigorated its heroes and villains across the DC Universe with the Dawn of DC storytelling initiative—and Wally West gets in on the fun this September with *The Flash* #1 from the superstar team of writer Si Spurrier and artist Mike Deodato Jr., a fresh start for one of pop culture's most iconic heroes!

With this new era for *The Flash* comes new allies, new enemies, and mysterious new developments with Wally's connection to the Speed Force—along with a fresh take on classic villains like Mirror Master, as well as Wally's family unit of wife Linda Park and their super-powered twins, Jai and Irey.

That's a lot to get excited about—and to get *even more* excited, we opened up Deodato's sketchbook to see the comics legend's character designs for the new series.

DON'T MISS *THE FLASH* #1, ON SALE IN SEPTEMBER!

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