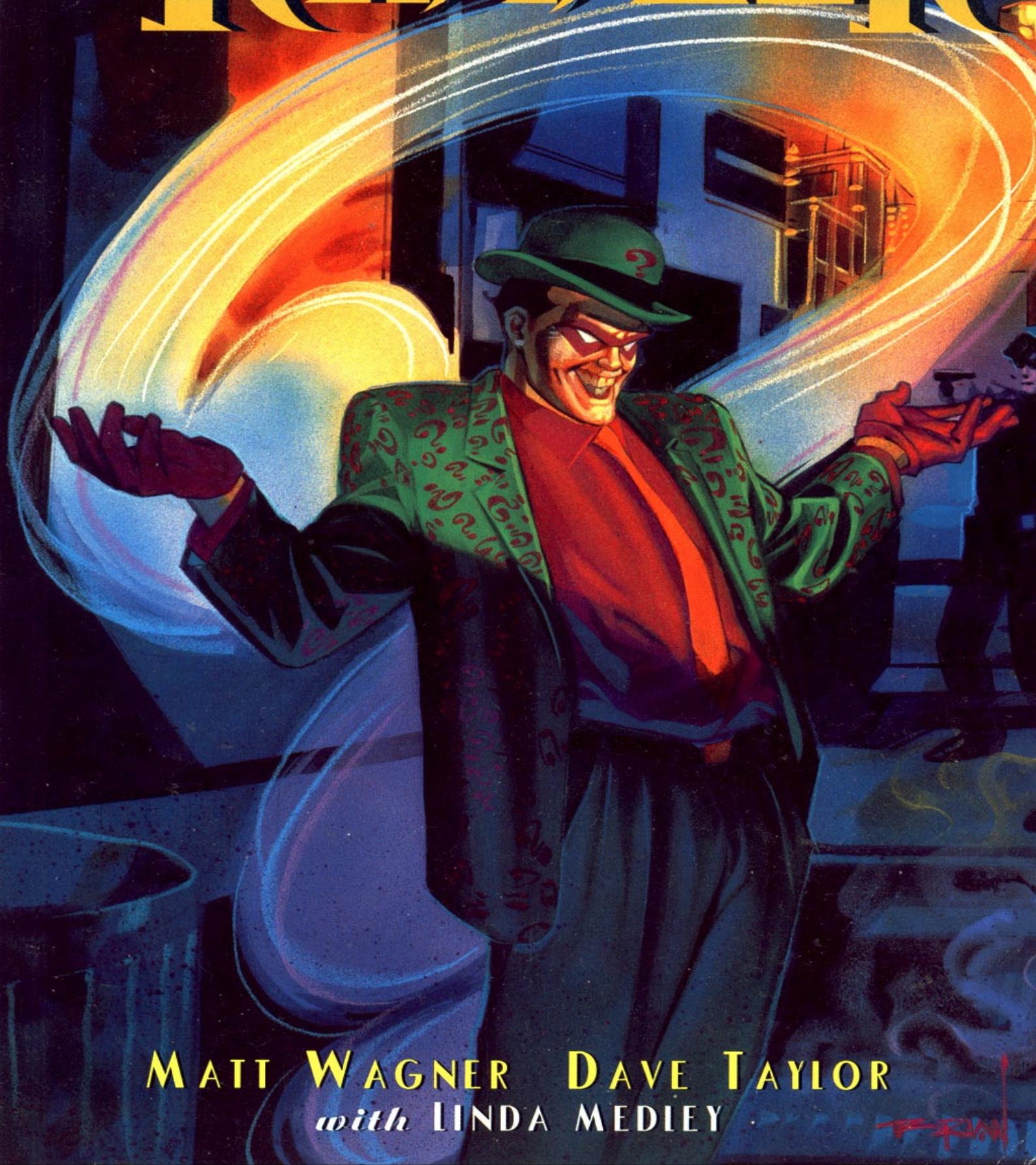




BATMAN®

RIDDLEER™



MATT WAGNER DAVE TAYLOR
with LINDA MEDLEY

FPM

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BATMAN
RIDDLER
The Riddle Factory

WAGNER
WRITER

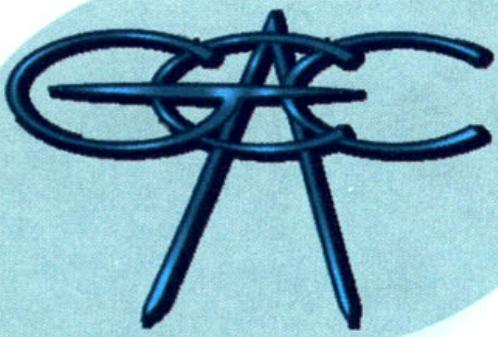
TAYLOR
ARTIST

MEDLEY
COLORIST

OAKLEY
LETTERER

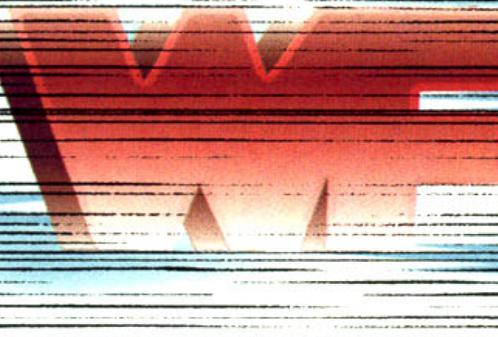
BATMAN CREATED BY

Bob KANE



YOU ARE WATCHING GOTHAM CITY CABLE ACCESS. A PUBLIC FORUM FOR OPINIONS AND INFORMATION.

PUBLIC CABLE ACCESS IS HELPED BY A GENEROUS GRANT FROM THE WAYNE FOUNDATION.



THE WAYNE FOUNDATION... FUNDING A BRIGHTER TOMORROW.

TO SERVE THE NEEDS OF TODA--ZZZZTT!



TZZ--ZZZT-- WHEN DID HE? HOW DID HE? WHERE DID HE? WHY DID HE? DIDI-WA-DIDI-WA-DOO! ALL THE QUESTIONS YOU LONG TO ASK!!

ALL THE ANSWERS YOU HATE TO KNOW!! YES, IT'S NEARLY THAT TIME AGAIN! THE HOUR OF UNCERTAINTY! WELCOME, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, TO...

"...THE RIDDLE FACTORY!"

"AND AS THE CROWD BEGINS TO STIR IN ANTICIPATION OF THIS EVENING'S EVENTS, LET'S SPEAK FOR JUST A MINUTE TO A FEW OF OUR GUESTS..."

"YOU, SIR! WELCOME TO THE RIDDLE FACTORY! CARE TO TELL US A BIT ABOUT HOW IT FEELS TO BE HERE?"

"OUTTA MY FACE, SISTER! I... UM, I JUST HEARD THIS WAS A REAL EVENT. YOU KNOW, A SHOW AN' A SCENE."



AFTER HE
THE
MAKES THE
AND THEN?

"CHANCE TO SCORE BIG, YA KNOW."

"AND YOU, MA'AM... IS THIS YOUR FIRST TIME AT THE FACTORY?"



"HARDLY, HONEY. THIS CROWD'S LIKE A GOLD-MINE, KNOWHUM-SAYIN'? ALL THE SCANDAL AND EXCITEMENT-- GETS PEOPLE IN A HEAT."



"WELL, I HEARD ABOUT THE LAST ONE AND THEN MY DEAL-- UH... FRIEND OF MINE TOLD ME ABOUT TONIGHT. SOUNDS LIKE A REAL BLAST, Y'KNOW?"



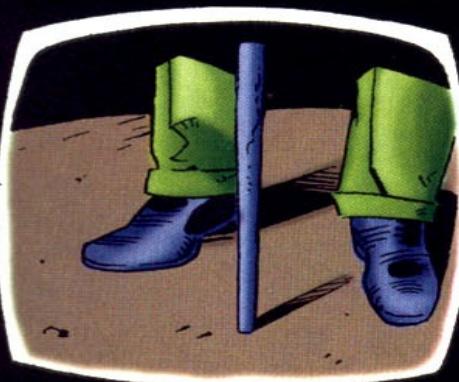
"AND HOW ABOUT YOU,
SIR? SIR? SIR?...
OH, WELL..."



"MY MISTRESS
BROUGHT ME. I HOPE
TO BE CHOSEN AS A
CONTESTANT. I'M
NOT AFRAID."



"THIS SCENE AIN'T COMPLETE
WITHOUT SOME ATTITUDE,
BABY. I GOT WHATEVER
OPINION YOU MAY NEED. ASK
FOR ORSON, BABY. ASK
FOR ORSON."



"LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, WE'RE
NOW ONLY MOMENTS FROM
MIDNIGHT... THE HOUR OF
UNCERTAINTY."

"THE TIME WHEN ALL STANDS
REVEALED, NAKED IN THE FACE
OF COMPLEXITY. LADIES AND
GENTLEMEN, THE RIDDLE FAC-
TORY IS PROUD TO PRESENT..."

"... 'RIDDLE ME THIS!'
WITH YOUR HOST... THE MAN
OF QUESTIONS... OF
INTRIGUE AND STYLE.

"THE LEAN, MEAN,
GREEN MACHINE!"

"THE RIDDLER!"



"GOOD EVENING, FOLKS!
OR IS IT GOOD MORNING?"

"WHY, IT USED TO BE
THAT MIDNIGHT WAS A
LATE TIME FOR FOLKS
TO STAY AWAKE UNTIL--
SOME SPECIAL EVENT,
LIKE A BIRTHDAY OR
SUCH!"

THERE JUST
SEEMS NO END TO
HOW FAR PEOPLE
WILL GO TO HAVE A
GOOD TIME!



TODAY, MIDNIGHT
IS ONLY THE HOUR WHEN
WE HERE AT THE RIDDLE
FACTORY ARE JUST GET-
TING STARTED! THE HOUR
WHEN PROPER FOLKS
ARE TUCKED INTO THEIR
CRADLES AND COFFINS.

A.M., P.M.... GOOD
OR BAD, ALIVE OR
DEAD. PERSONALLY, I
NEVER COULD TELL
THE DIFFERENCE. BUT
THEN, PERSONALLY...

"I NEVER
DID REALLY
CARE!"



BUT I'M
NOT HERE
TO CARE, NOW
AM I?

NO, I AM HERE TO DASH
AT THE TOWERS OF FALSE-
HOODS, MY FRIENDS! I AM
HERE TO LAY BARE WHAT OUR
MOST FAMOUS WOULD HAR-
BOR AND WITHHOLD!

I'M HERE
TO KICK SOME
BUTT OFF THE
CELEBRITY
BAND-
WAGON!



RIDDLE ME THIS:
WHEN IS A SECRET
SUDDENLY A
RUMOUR? WHEN IS A
RUMOUR SUDDENLY
FACT?

ANSWER TO
BOTH: WHEN THE
PROPER QUESTION
IS FINALLY
ASKED.



ONCE
THE PERFECT
RIDDLE IS
POSED.



FOR THE MORE WE KNOW, THE MORE WE QUESTION. WHERE DOES IT END, MY FRIENDS?

I SAY, WHY SHOULD IT END?

AND THEN

ASK CLEVERLY,
LIVE INCREDIBLY!

YOU DIDN'T COME HERE FOR ANSWERS TONIGHT!
YOU CAME HERE FOR QUESTIONS!

AND WHO IS THE SUBJECT OF THIS EVENING'S CLEVER QUESTIONING?

IN THE FUTURE, I THINK PEOPLE WILL HAVE QUESTIONS INSTEAD OF NAMES. RIDDLES INSTEAD OF CREDIT CARDS.

HE'S NOT ONLY RICH, HE'S OBNOXIOUS! THE SORT OF GUY YOU WANT TO TOTALLY SHAVE AND THEN BEAT WITH A STICK...

RAP! RAP! RAP!

AND SO, RIDDLE ME THIS--

BEFORE WE'RE DONE THIS EVENING, ALL WILL STAND REVEALED--HERE!--ON THE BIG BOARD.

...YOUR FRIEND AND MINE, REAL-ESTATE MOGUL--HAROLD TROJAN!

AND THEN YOU, MY FRIENDS, WILL BE ONE-UP ON "THE HAROLD"!
HOO! HEE-HEE-HUH-HOO-HOO!
HIGHER EVEN THAN THE "TROJAN TOWER!"

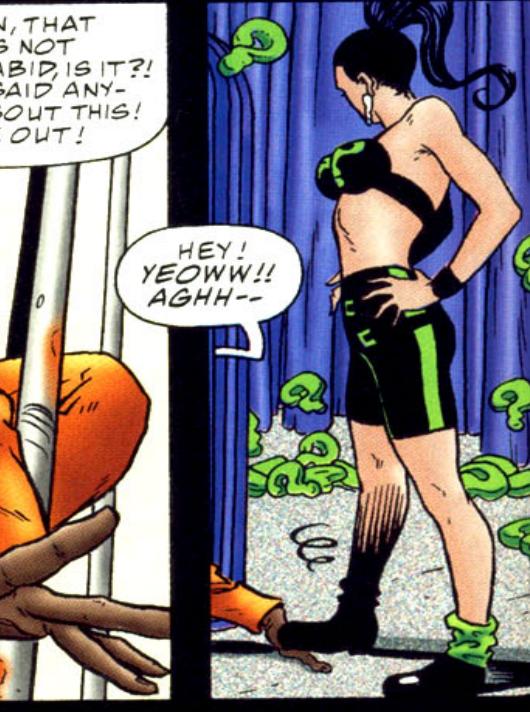
BUT, NOW...

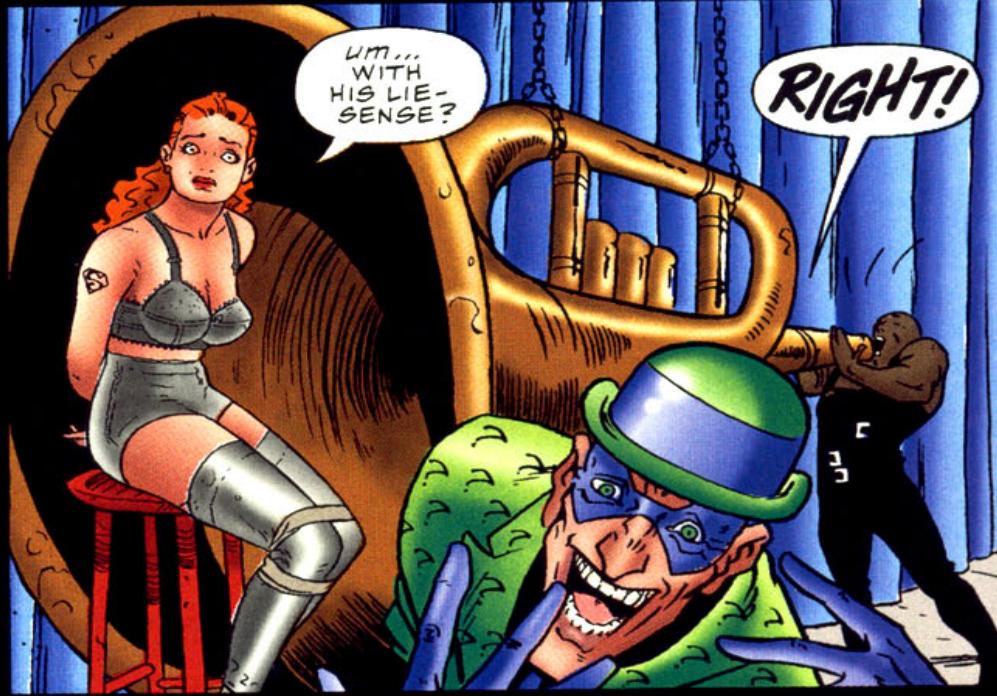
...WHO'S GOING TO BE OUR FIRST CONTESTANT HERE ON "RIDDLE ME THIS?"

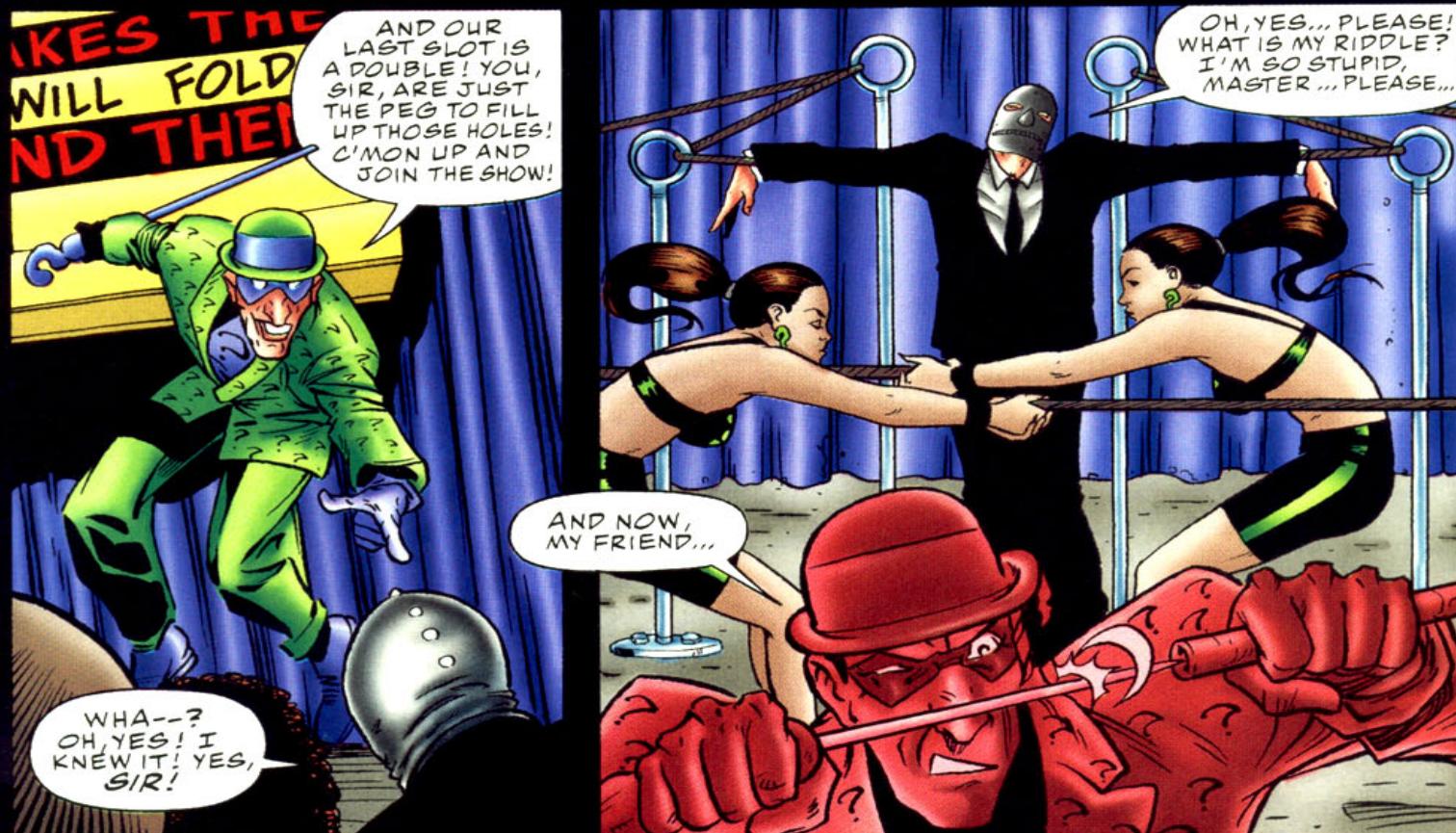
--WHEN IS A BILLIONAIRE'S WIFE NOT WHAT SHE SEEMS?

HOO! HOO-HOO-HOO-HEEEEEEE!









AND SO, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, "WHEN IS A BILLIONAIRE'S WIFE OVER THE HILL?"

AFTER HE... "CUTS UP THE LICENSE, MAKES THE WILL FOLD AND THEN DUMPS HER IN PUBLIC!!"

AFTER HE CUTS THE LIE SENSE MAKES THE WILL FOLD AND THEN DUMPS HER IN PUBLIC

UH-OH!

WELL, I SUPPOSE IT'S TRUE! THAT SURE DOESN'T LOOK LIKE MRS. T! AFTER ALL, WHAT DOES A MAN WHO HAS EVERYTHING BUY FOR HIMSELF?

AS PROMISED, ONE AND ALL, THE SECRET'S IN THE PHRASING OF THE SEARCH! JOIN US NEXT WEEK, SAME TIME, SAME STATION AS THE RIDDLE FACTORY TAKES AIM AT THE ARTS!

FROM ALL OF US HERE AT THE FACTORY...

A NEW EVERYTHING! HOO! HOO-HOO! HEEEEEE!

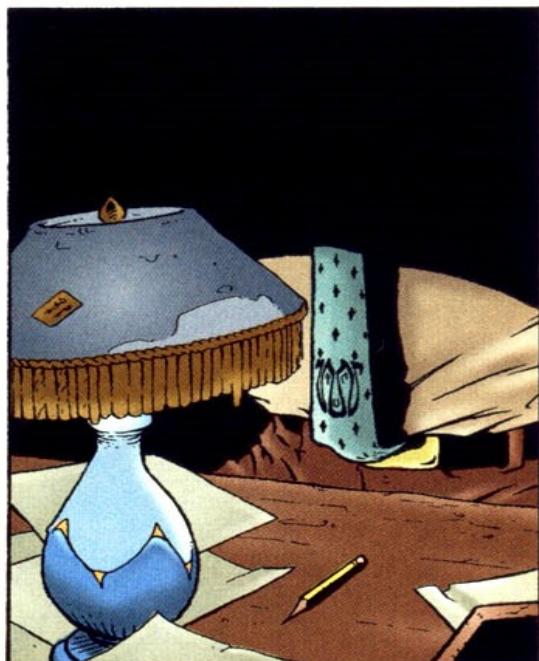
...ADIEU!

THAT'S IT.

THAT'S THE SECOND BROADCAST HE'S MADE. WE DON'T HAVE A COPY OF THE FIRST. HIS TARGET THAT TIME WAS THE POP SINGER, LADY GODIVA.

REVEALED THAT SHE USED TO, IN FACT, BE A HE. AND THAT IN TURN LED TO... WELL, I'M SURE YOU SAW A BIT OF THAT MEDIA CIRCUS LAST WEEK.

KLIK

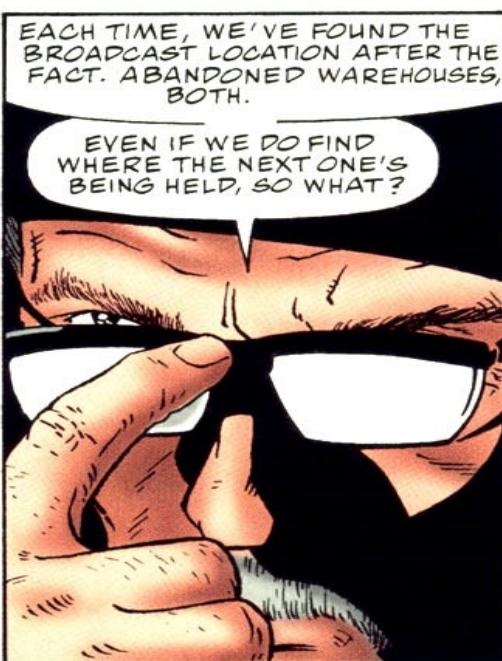
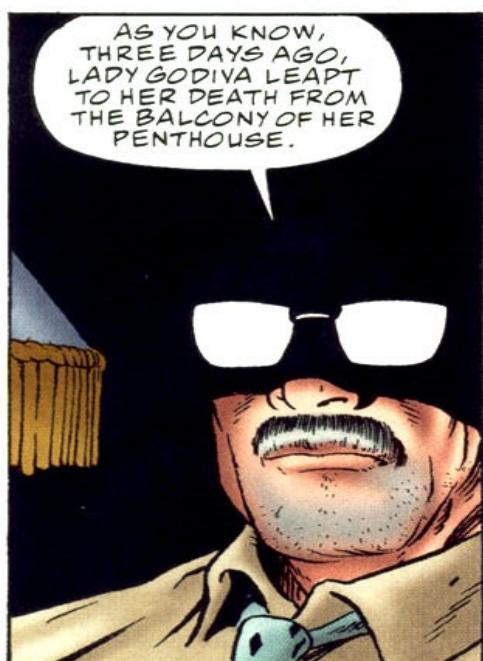


AS YOU KNOW, THREE DAYS AGO, LADY GODIVA LEAPED TO HER DEATH FROM THE BALCONY OF HER PENTHOUSE.

EACH TIME, WE'VE FOUND THE BROADCAST LOCATION AFTER THE FACT. ABANDONED WAREHOUSES, BOTH.

EVEN IF WE DO FIND WHERE THE NEXT ONE'S BEING HELD, SO WHAT?

HE'S REALLY ONLY BREAKING SOME MINOR FCC REGULATIONS. THERE'S NO LAW AGAINST THE SORT OF MUD-SLINGING HE'S PULLING OFF.



BUT THERE'S GOT TO BE MORE TO IT THAN THAT. THE RIDDLER'S OBSESSIVE ABOUT HIS DANGEROUS PUZZLES.

HE WOULDN'T GO TO ALL THIS TROUBLE OVER NOTHING.



I WOULDN'T CALL IT NOTHING. THE SHOW'S BECOME A CULT HIT! AND THESE THINGS TEND TO SNOWBALL.

I'VE GOT OFFERS FROM EVERY DAMNED NEWS SHOW TO INTERVIEW HIM-- SHOULD WE EVER FIND HIM.

WE CHECKED. HE LEFT MONTHS AGO. NEVER CONTACTED HIS PAROLE OFFICER.

HE HAD A JOB FOR A WHILE AT THE FINGER JUNKYARD ON THE LOWER EAST SIDE. HE SEEMS TO HAVE STOLEN MOST OF HIS GIANT PROPS FROM THERE.

HAD A TALENT FOR COMING UP WITH FAKE I.D.

HE COULD BE HOLED UP ANYWHERE.

NO, NOT JUST ANYWHERE. WHEREVER HE IS MAKES PERFECT SENSE IN HIS NEUROTIC MIND. WHAT'S HE UP TO?

HIS LAST KNOWN ADDRESS?

EVEN THE CONTESTANTS ARE NO HELP. WE'VE TRACKED DOWN SOME OF THEM, BUT NO DICE. MOST DON'T WANT TO TAKE THE RISK. SOME DON'T WANT TO RUIN THEIR CHANCES OF BEING ON THE SHOW AGAIN.

CRAZY DAMN WORLD.

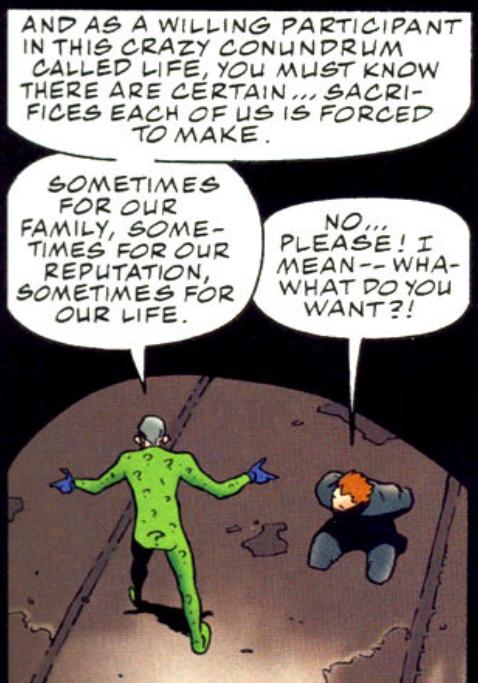
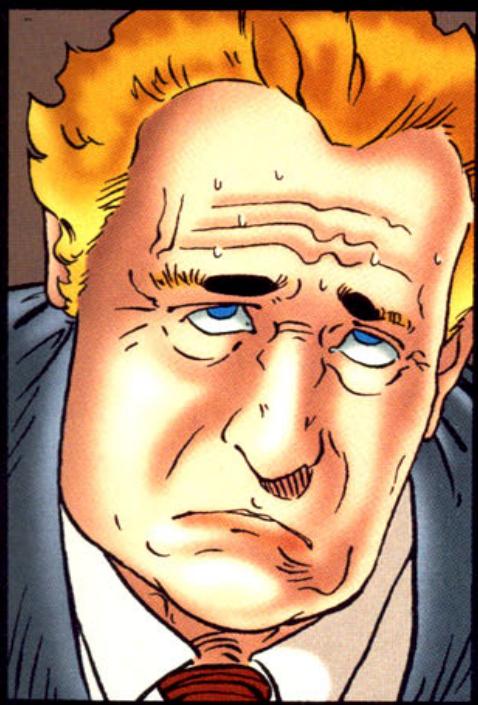
WHAT DO YOU THINK OF--

HUH.

DIDN'T EVEN HEAR THE WINDOW OPEN AND CLOSE...

...I WAS LISTENING, TOO.





WHAT DOES THE RIDDLER HOPE TO GAIN FROM ALL THIS?

BUT WHAT IS THE RIDDLE? WHERE'S THE CONNECTION?

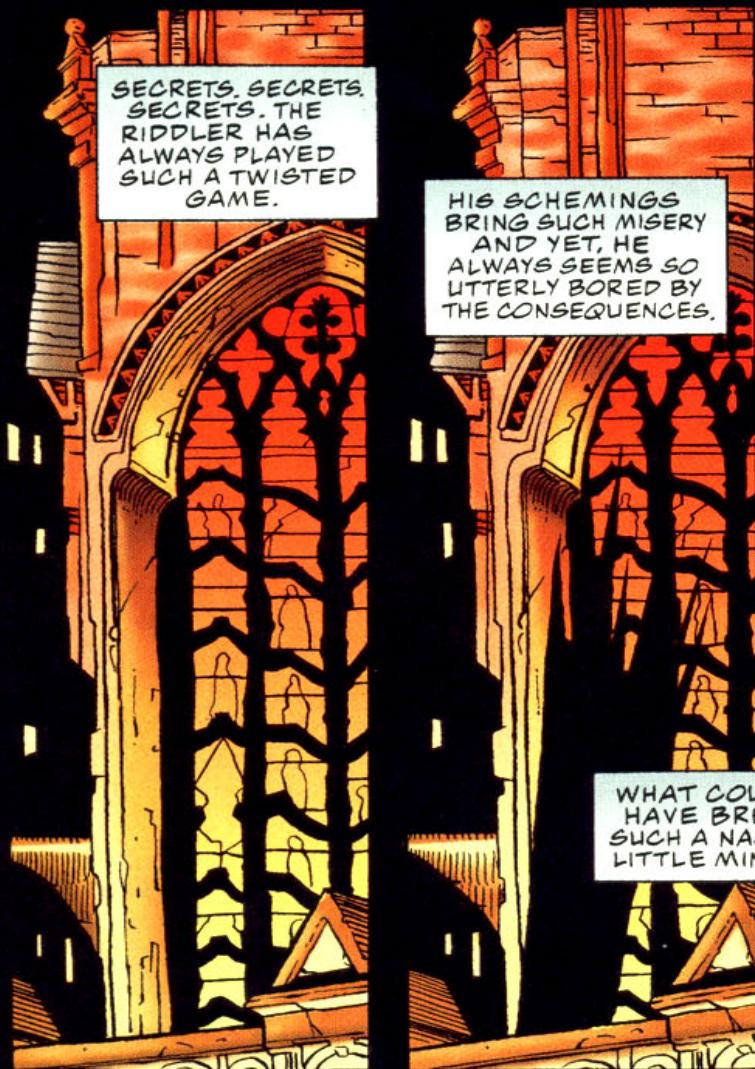
ARE THE TARGETS DELIBERATE OR RANDOM?

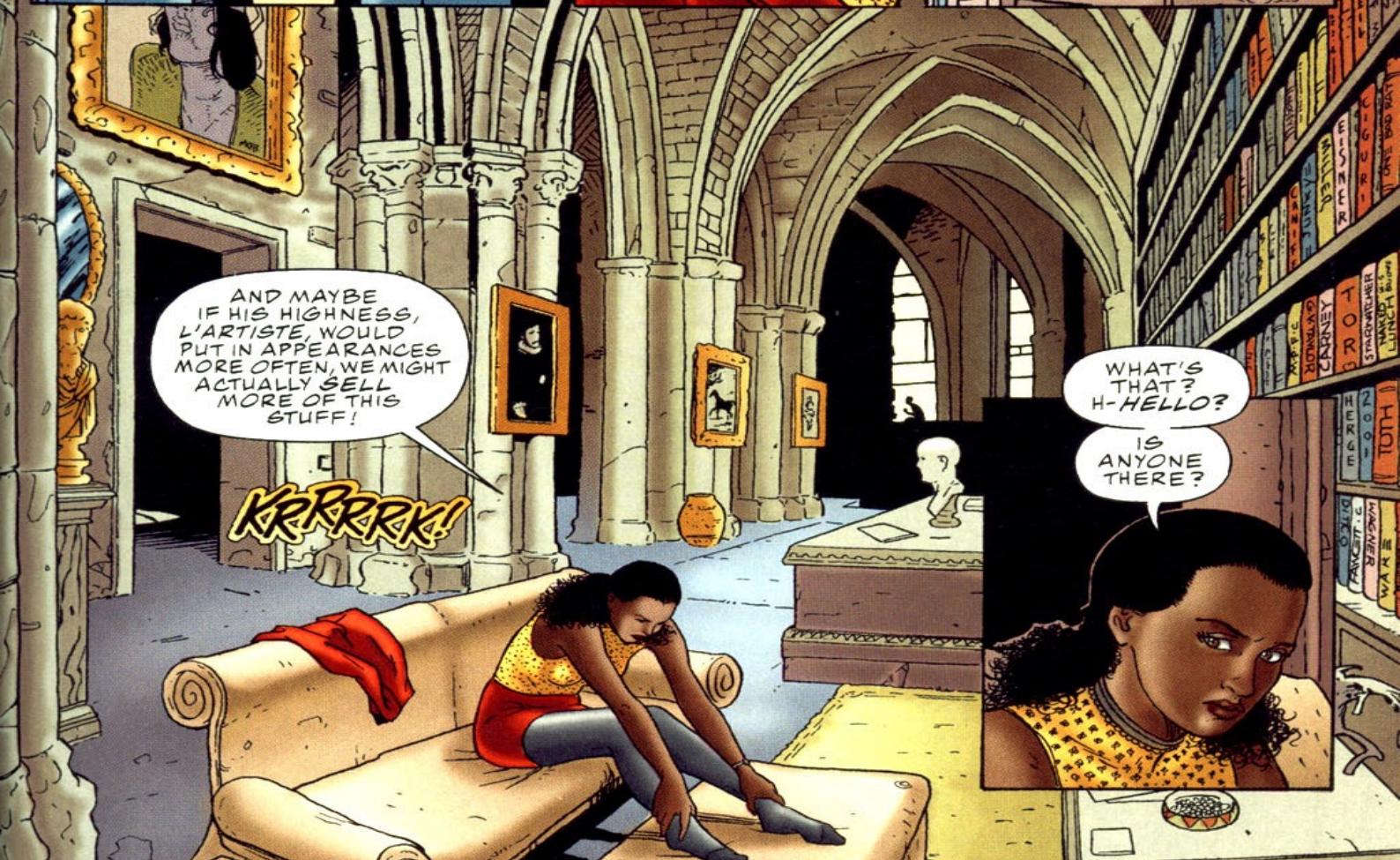
...OTHER THAN THE FACT THEY WERE BOTH FAMOUS AND RICH.



THE TELEVISION SHOWS ARE A GARISH DECLARATION OF SOME SORT--CLUES IN A PUZZLE.

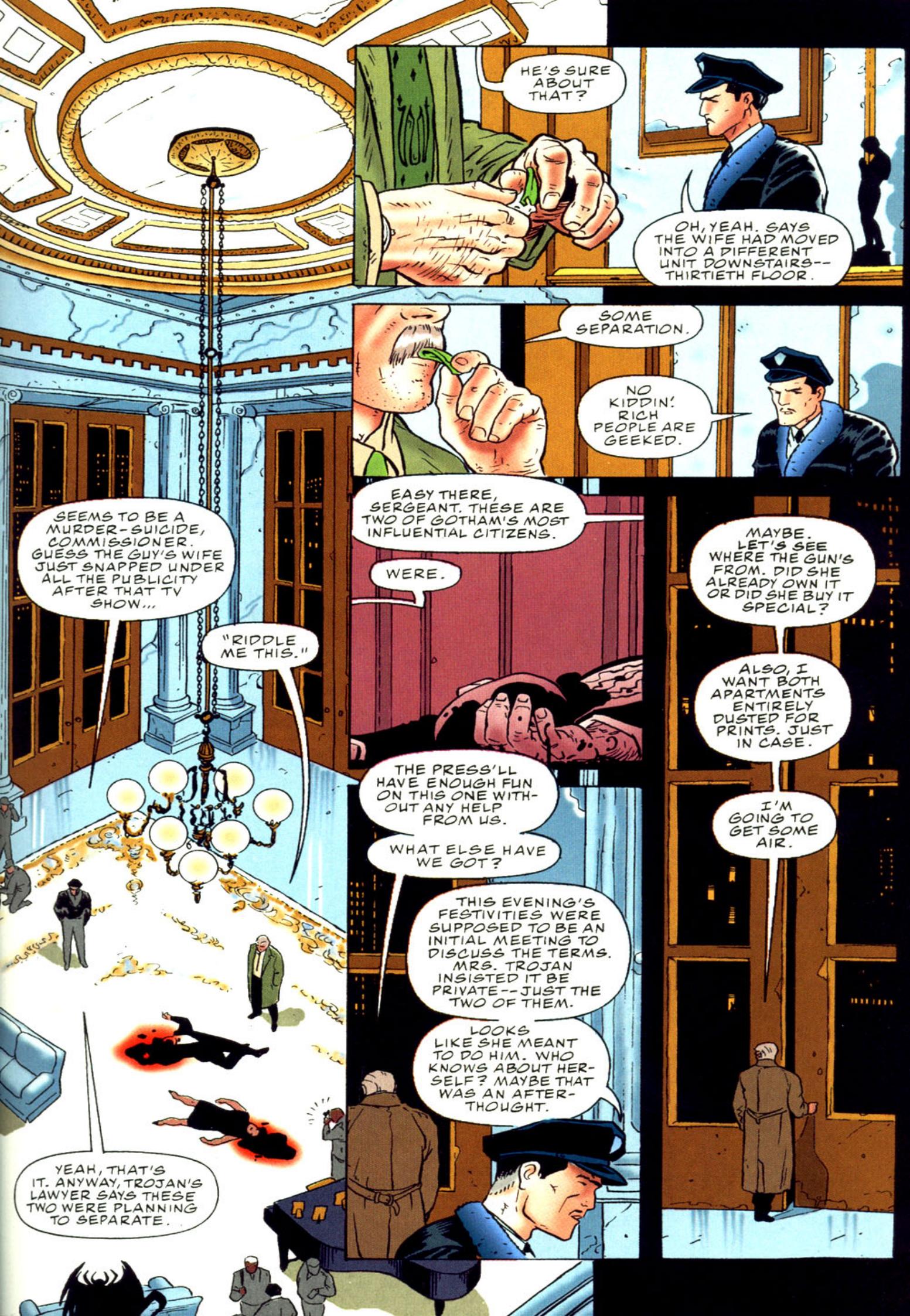
SO FAR, THE POLICE HAVE TURNED UP NOTHING TO CONNECT LADY GODIVA WITH HAROLD TROJAN...

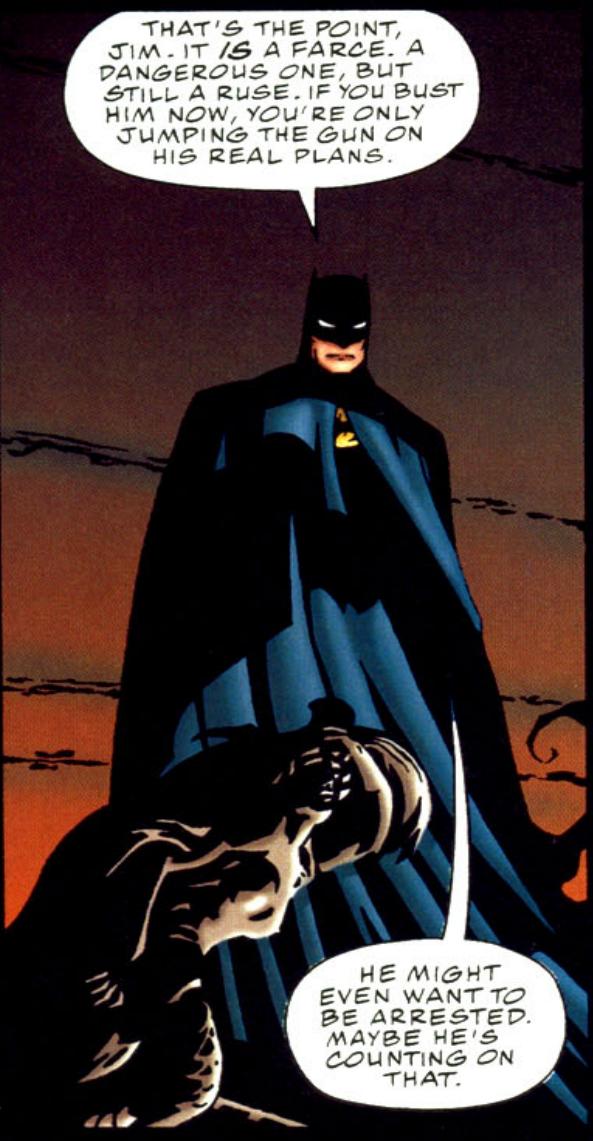
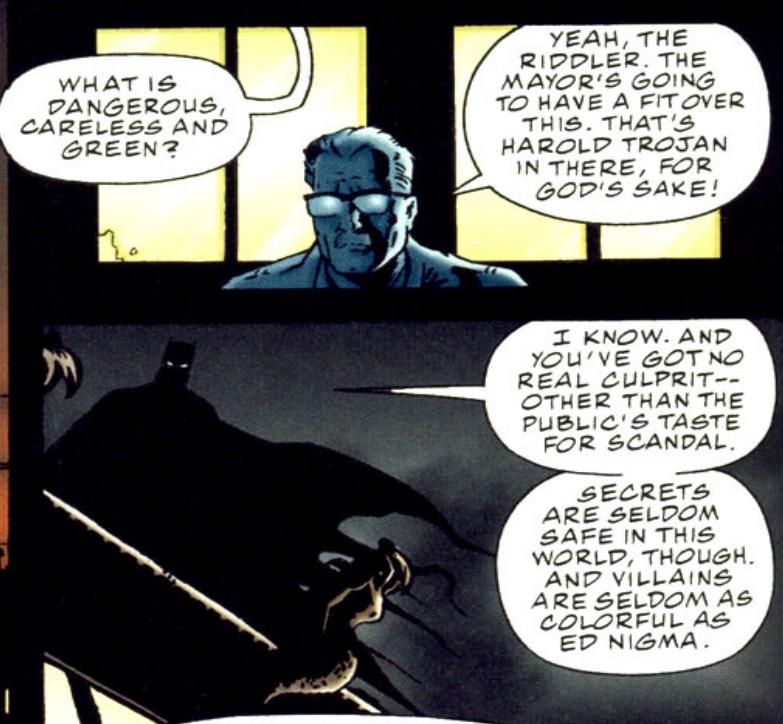




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WHEN MY FATHER FIRST DISCOVERED I HAD BEEN STEALING MONEY FROM HIS POCKETS, HE BEGAN LOCKING THE DOOR TO HIS BEDROOM AT NIGHT.



WHEN THAT DIDN'T WORK, HE BEGAN HIDING IT AROUND THE ROOM.



AND THEN AROUND THE APARTMENT.



THEN IN THE ALLEY. THEN THE GARBAGE...



...FINALLY, HE EVEN HID SOME CASH IN THE SEWER.
SAID HE WANTED TO SEE EXACTLY HOW FAR I WOULD GO.



SAY IF I WAS GOING TO BE SUCH A STUBBORN LITTLE THIEF...



...AT LEAST I WAS GOING TO HAVE TO EARN IT.

WELL, I JUST LOVE TO ADMIT THAT, NO MATTER WHERE HE PLANTED HIS CLEVER LITTLE TRAPS...

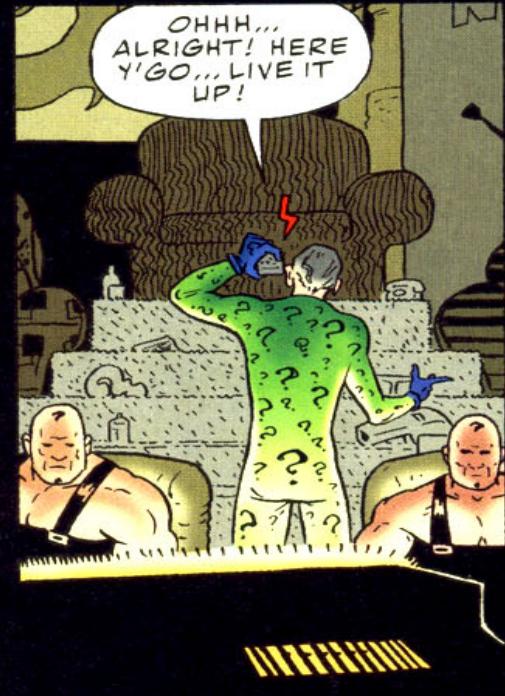
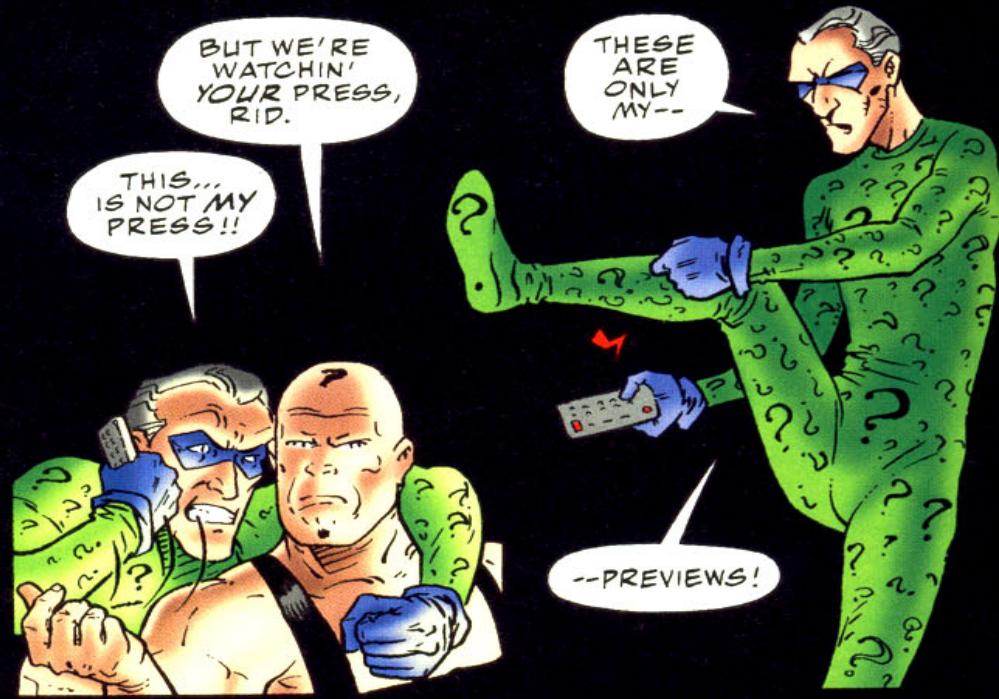
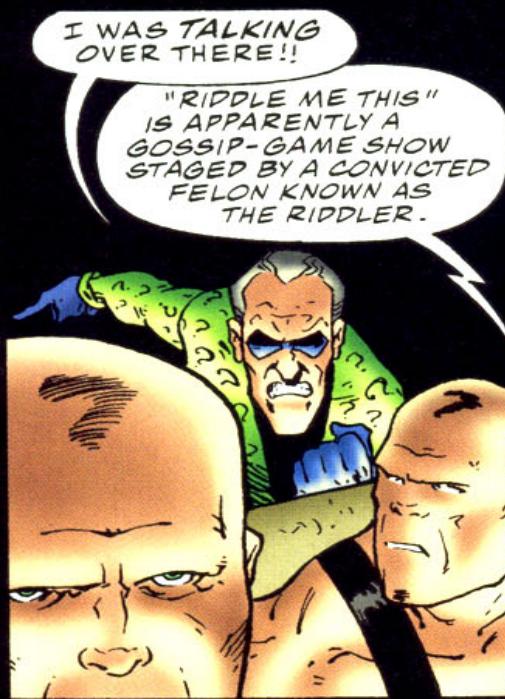


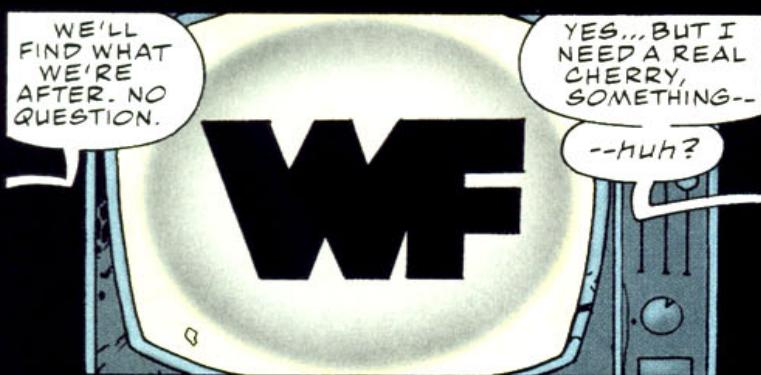
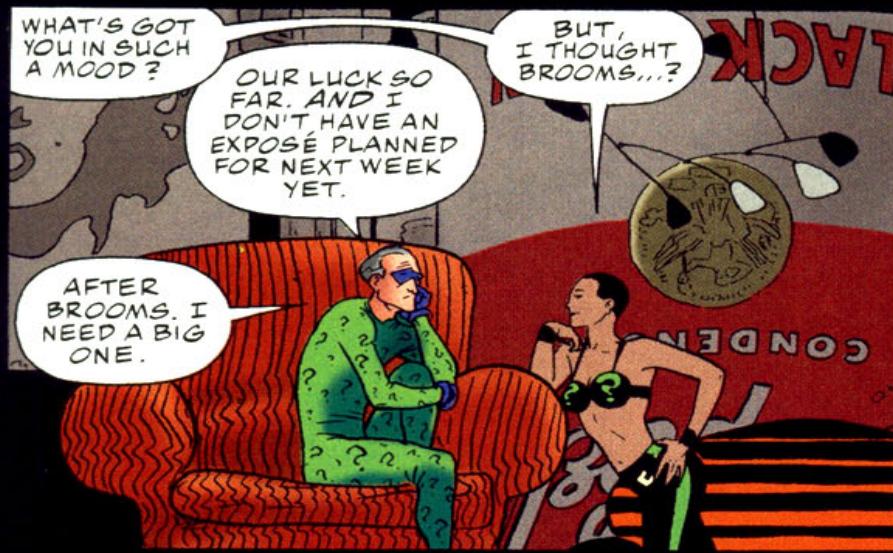
...SOMEHOW...
...I...
...ALWAYS...



...MANAGED TO MAKE THEM TURN GREEN!







SOUNDS LIKE YOU KNOW WHERE THE RIDDLE FACTORY IS TOMORROW NIGHT, FRIEND. HOW ABOUT SHARING THE INVITATION?

WHOA--
HEY! SURE, GOOD BUDDY! NO PROBLEM! NO NEED TO BE SO ROUGH! I COULD'VE FIXED YA UP RIGHT HERE! YOU DON'T NEED TO GO TO NO RIDD--

WHAM!

I ONLY RECALL ASKING FOR DIRECTIONS, FRIEND. NOT FOR YOUR SAGE ADVICE.

AWRIGHT! AWRIGHT! LIKE I SAID, NO NEED TO BE ROUGH! IT'S AT THE ROSE-MOUNT THEATER, THAT CRUDDY PLACE UPON ONE HUNDRED AND TENTH!

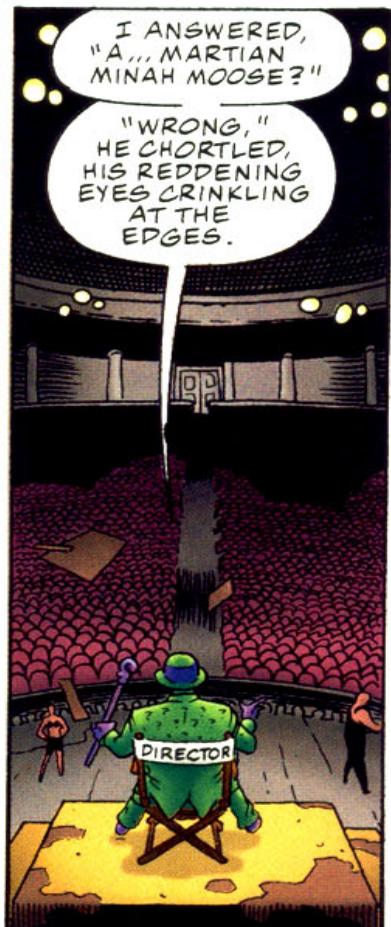
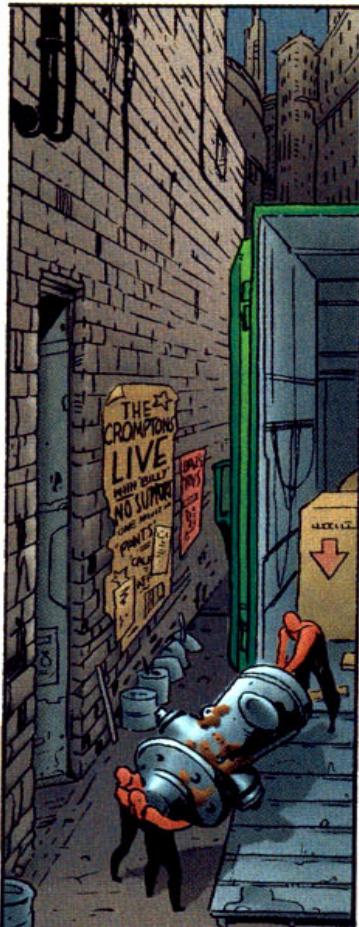
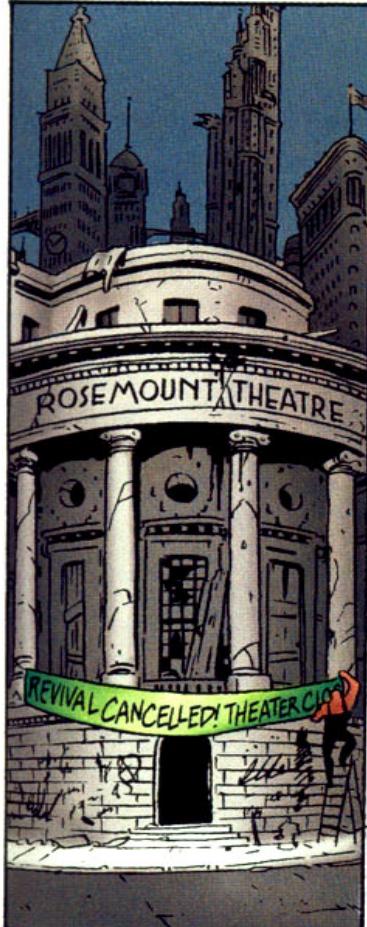
OWNER RENTS IT OUT TO CHURCH REVIVALS. ANYWAY, THAT'S WHERE THE RIDDLE FACTORY IS TOMOR--

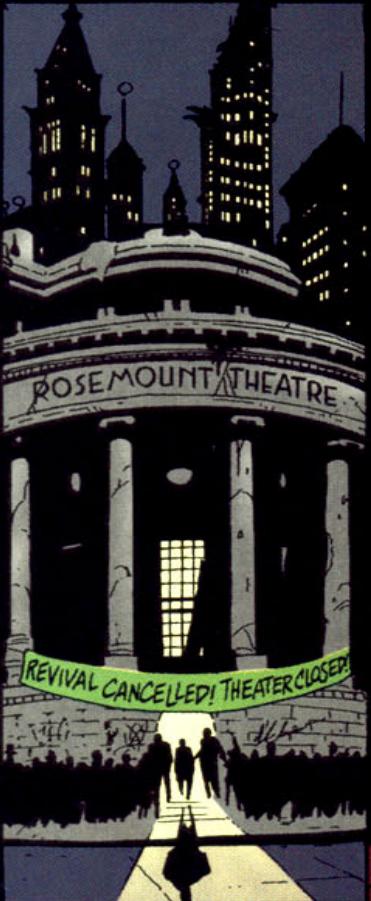
YEOUCH!
HEY, MAN, EASY THERE--

DON'T ATTEND TOMORROW'S BROADCAST, FRIEND.

I GUARANTEE YOU WON'T LIKE THE FLOOR SHOW.







WHEN HE'S
ALL THIS
USED TO

LADIES, GENTLEMEN, AND ALL
OTHERS... IF YOU WOULD KINDLY
TAKE YOUR SEATS, THE SHOW
IS ABOUT TO BEGIN.

HOO-HOO! HEE-
HEE-HOOOOO!

HAS IT BEEN
SO LONG? WHERE
DOES A WEEK
GO? HOW HAVE
YOU BEEN? DO I
REALLY CARE?

HELL, NO!
HEE-HEE-HEE-
HOOO! BUT I
DO KNOW THAT IT
CERTAINLY IS
THAT TIME
AGAIN!

HERE
IT
COMES...

YES! THE
HOUR OF UNCERTAINTY!
WELCOME, LADIES
AND GENTLEMEN,
TO...

...THE RIDDLE
FACTORY!

YES, WELCOME,
FRIENDS AND FANS, TO
THE SHOW! WITH YOUR
MASTER OF CEREMONIES,
THAT MAGICIAN OF
MYSTERY AND WIT...

...THE RIDDLER!"

WELL,
NOW, THIS
CERTAINLY
IS A LIVELY
CROWD!

LET'S
JUST
SEE WHAT
WE CAN
DO ABOUT
THAT!



COMMISSIONER,
THIS IS HARRIS. WE
GOT A TIP ON THE
RIDDLE'S BROADCAST
LOCALE.

WHAT'S THE
SOURCE?

A DISGRUNTLED
GUEST. SAYS IT'S AT
AN OLD THEATER
UPTOWN. WE'VE
GOT A CAR ON ITS
WAY TO PICK YOU
UP.

I'LL BE
READY.

WHAT HAIR-
STYLE DO
GIRLIE SNAKES
HAVE?

W-WH... WHEN
IT... ER... THEY'RE,
UM, LITTLE
COILS?!

YES!
OH, YES!
THAT'S OUR
LAST CLUE,
AND SO...

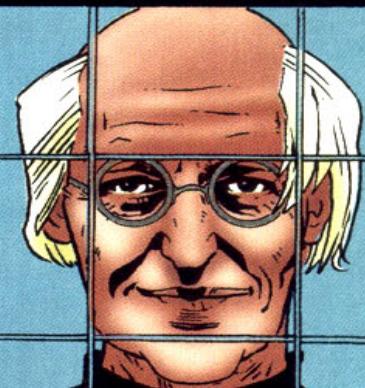
WHEN
HE'S... RAISIN
... ALL THIS...
DOUGH, BUT...
USED TO...
RAISE 'ER WIT...
LITTLE COILS!

HOO!
HOO-HOO-
HOO HEEE!

ME'S
AISIN
THIS
BUT
TO
R WIT
LE COILS

... IN ANSWER
TO OUR RIDDLE
CONCERNING
CELEBRATED
ARTIST, JEFF
BROOM...

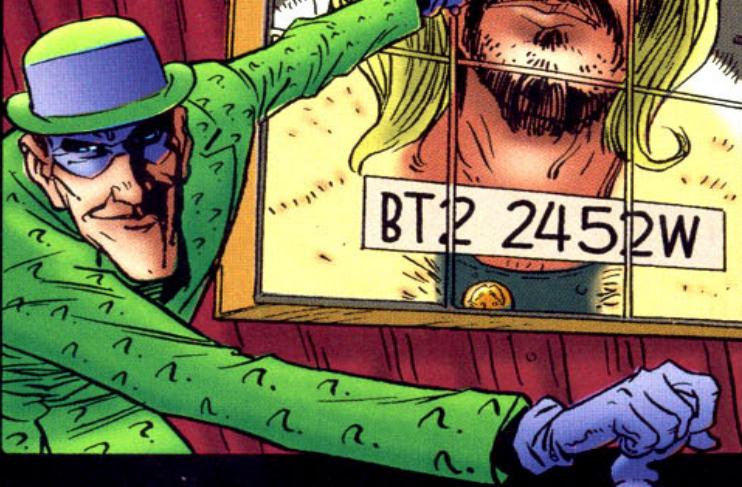
... WHEN IS
AN ARTIST
LIKE A SEX
OFFENDER?



SEEMS OUR
LITTLE JEFFY NEVER
TOLD THE PRESS ABOUT
HIS CONVICTION ON
CHILD PORNOGRAPHY
CHARGES YEARS AGO!
'COURSE THEN, HE
WAS KNOWN AS
LENNY SCHENK!

AS JEFF
BROOM, HE'S
MADE A BUNDLE
BY POKING FUN AT
THE CONSUMPTIVE
CORPSE OF OUR
MASS-PRODUCED
SOCIETY.

BT2 2452W





HURRY, MY DEAR! I HAVE AN EXHILARATING SUSPICION...



O SEE THREE BABY?

TOMMY MACABRE
BUT IS DANCING GOD

TONY MALONE
DORTON

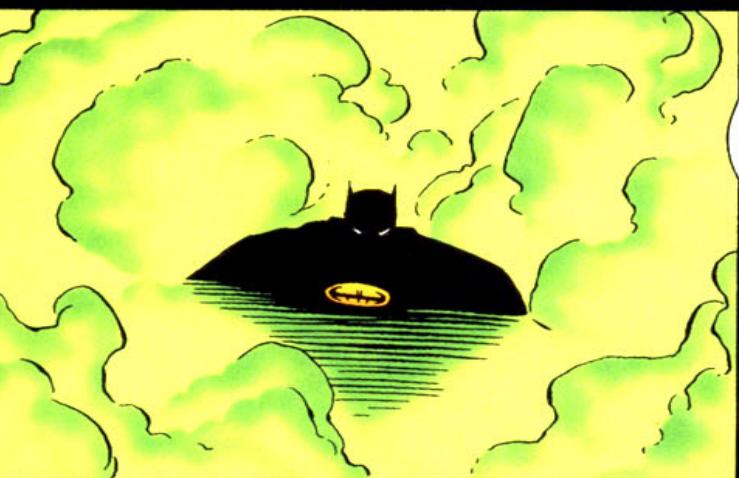
HELD OVER!
THE PIG FACED BOY
RADON THE HUMAN TORSO
JOHNNY ECH

HUMAN KALEGON
GROTO
KOTO S. BAD GIRL

TONGUE LASH

DUSTIN CRAMPTON

...THAT THE POLICE ARE MOST CERTAINLY NOT ALONE!



BASMENT

DON'T HANDLE THE ROQUEFORT!

KAACHT!

BASMENT

JUST ENOUGH TO SLOW ME DOWN...

BASMENT



DOWN HERE, COMMISSIONER.

OH-- IT'S YOU. WHAT DID THEY... WHAT THE HELL IS THAT STENCH?!

GOOD LORD! THEY TUNNELED OUT OF HERE?! FIGURES... LIKE A PACK OF RATS.

THEY BROKE INTO AN OLD SEWER MAIN. THE RIDDLER MUST'VE KNOWN IT WAS HERE.

THERE'S A MAN-HOLE A HUNDRED YARDS DOWN. THEY HAD A VEHICLE WAITING.

WITHOUT ALL THE EXCITEMENT, I COULD HAVE JUST FOLLOWED HIM HOME.

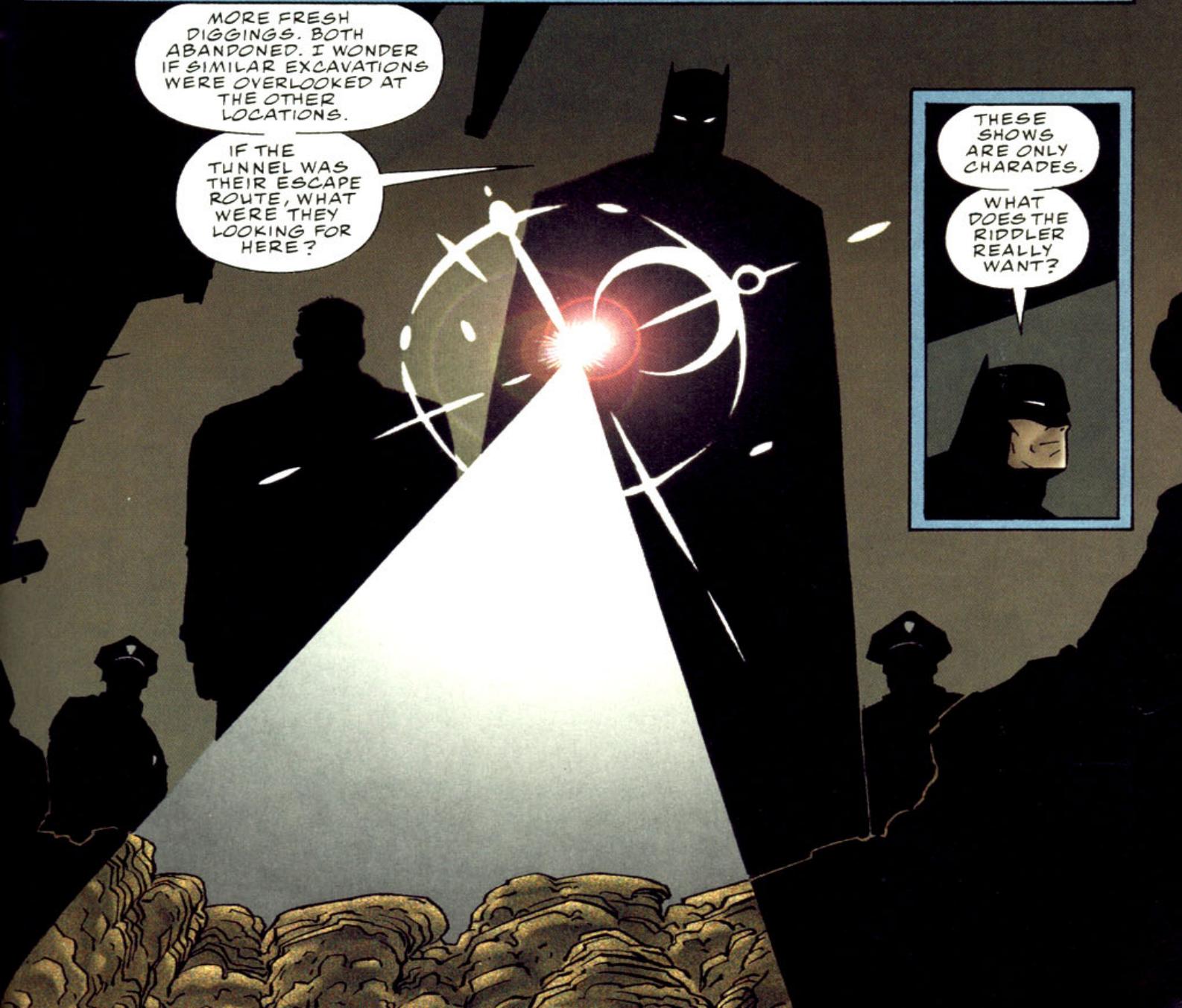
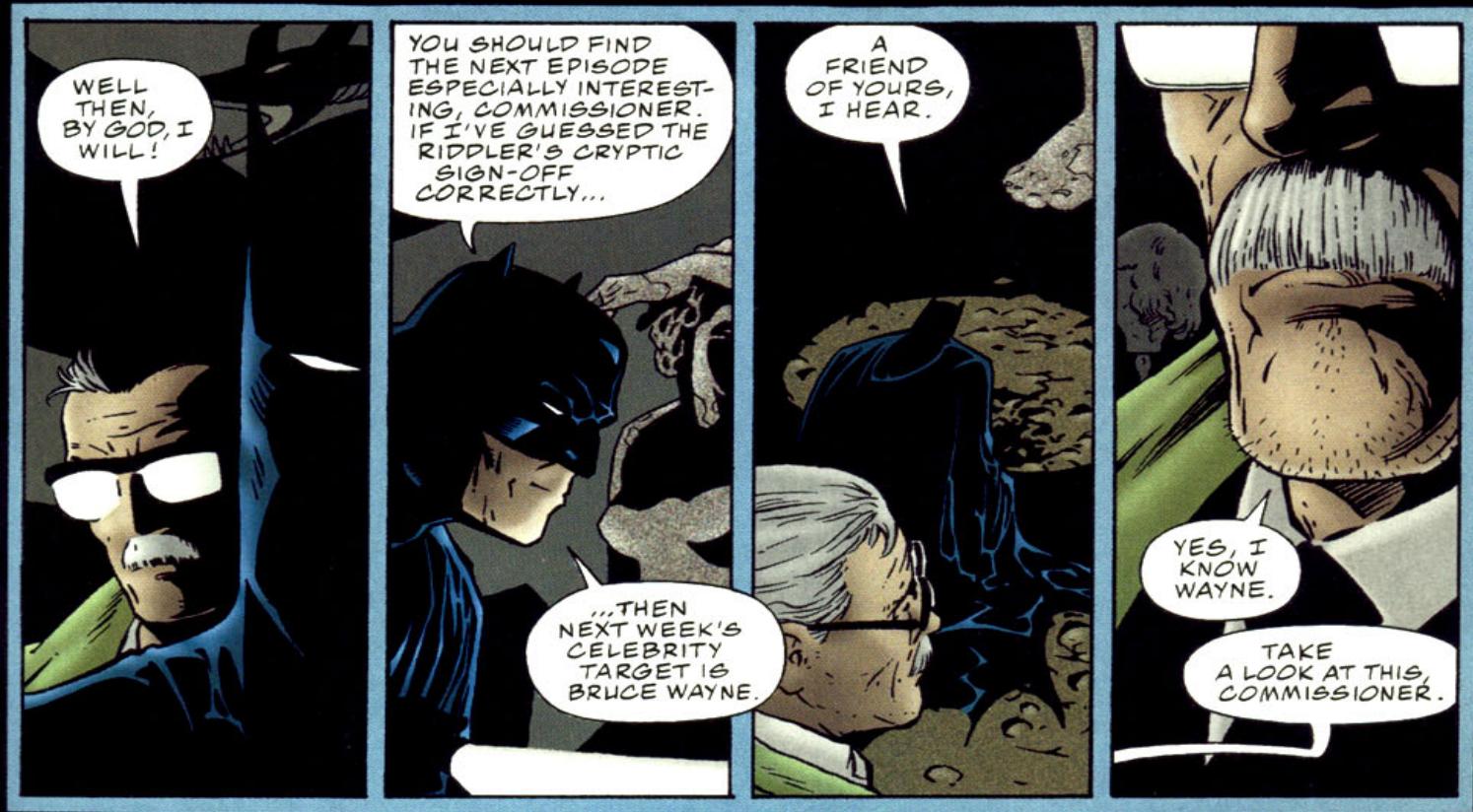
LOOK, WE HAD A TIP AND I HAD TO MOVE ON IT. YOU SHOULD HAVE SEEN THE STUFF HE WAS DOING...

I SAW. NO ONE WAS SERIOUSLY HURT.

OH? AND WHAT ABOUT THAT BIT WITH THE RACOON...?

A HOAX. I SAW ONE OF THE RIDDLER'S WOMEN PLAYING WITH IT BEFORE THE SHOW. THE GUEST RECEIVED SOME SCRATCHES, NOTHING MORE.

IT'S A BLIND. HE'S BRAZENLY COMMITTING PETTY CRIMES, DARING US TO STOP HIM BEFORE THE FINALE.



FAME,
LADIES AND
GENTLEMEN.

AFFLUENCE, GRACE, AND
PANACHE ALL COMBINE TO
PRESENT THE VERY ESSENCE
OF FAME IN THIS LATEST
OFFERING BY DESIGNER,
SERGE GORODISH.

AND HERE WE SEE
KITTY REEVES IN AN
OUTFIT SURE TO MAKE
ANY HEAD TURN.

AND KITTY SHOULD
KNOW, HAVING RECENTLY
TURNED THE HEAD OF
NONE OTHER THAN
GOTHAM'S FAMOUS
BACHELOR, BRUCE
WAYNE!

TELL US, KITTY,
IS HE REALLY
JUST A LOSER
UNDERNEATH
ALL THAT
MONEY, CHARM
AND GOOD
LOOKS?

WHAT'S THE
MATTER, KITTY...
...CAT GOT
YOUR TONGUE?

...THERE'S LIKE...
TWO OF YOU?
GROOVY.

IN YOU GO,
PRINCESS.

HELLOOO,
LITTLE KITTEN.
ARE YOU LOST?

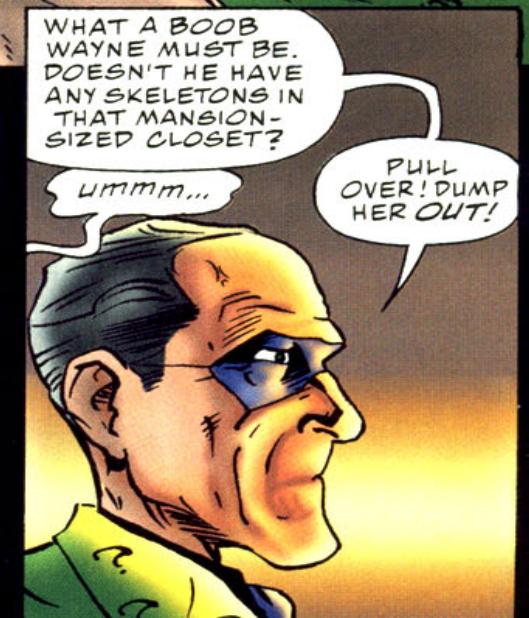
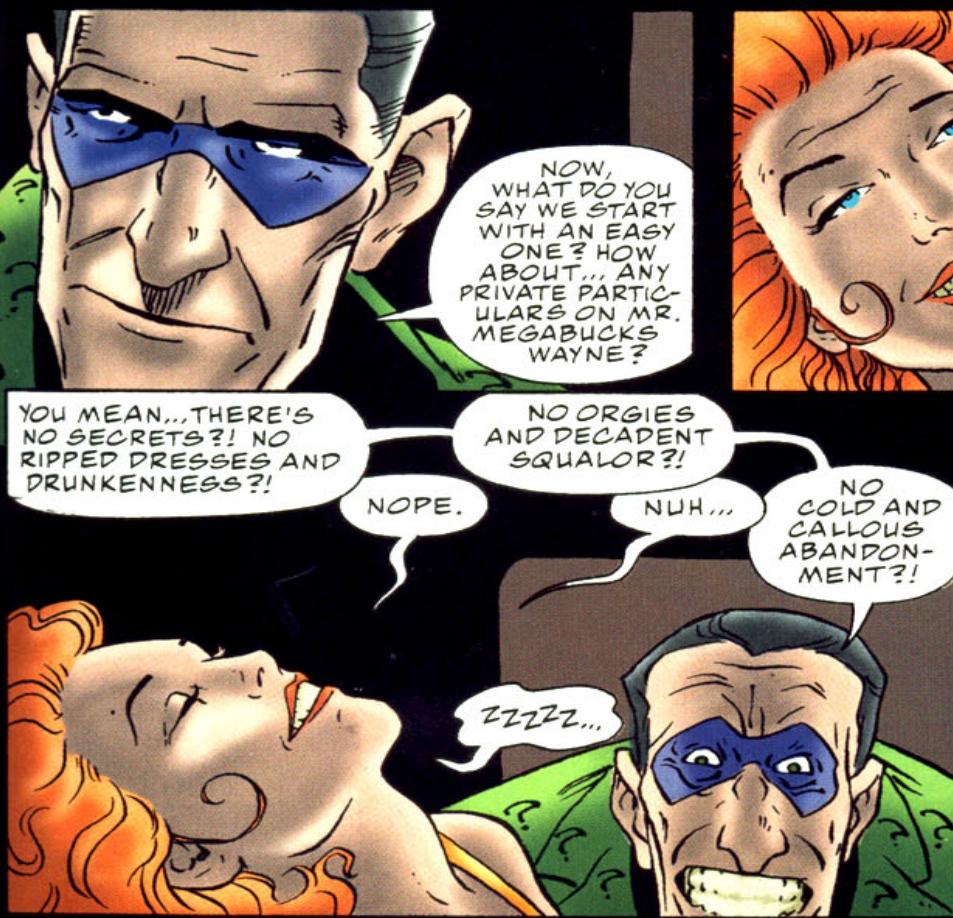
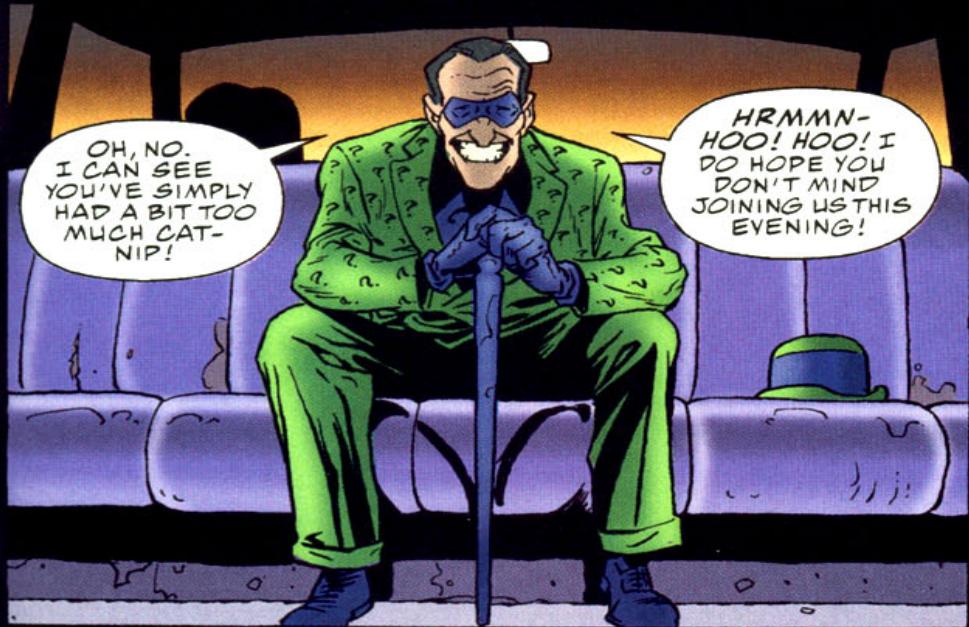
WHAT
TOOK YOU
SO LONG?

SOON S'I SAW
YOU, I KNEW...
KNEW THA' YOU
WAN-NED ME...

TOOK A
WHILE TO DOSE
HER.

...I C'N
ALWAYS TELL
WHEN... HEY...





THIS IS
TERRY WILKES ON
THE SCENE OF A
STAND-OFF BETWEEN
GOTHAM POLICE AND
MODERN ARTIST
JEFF BROOMS.

MR. BROOMS,
THERE'S NOTHING
I CAN DO IF YOU
INSIST UPON--

REPORTEDLY,
BROOMS
ENTERED THE
GOTHAM FLATIRON
BUILDING ABOUT
AN HOUR AGO...

...AND
PROCEEDED TO
RANDOMLY RAIN
SNIPER-FIRE
ONTO THE STREET
BELOW. THERE
HAVE, SO FAR, BEEN
FOUR CASUALTIES
AND TWO
FATALITIES.

AT THIS
POINT, WE CAN
ONLY SPECULATE
AS TO THE
MOTIVATIONS
BEHIND THIS
OUTBURST.

BROOMS, OF
COURSE, HAS
BEEN NEWSWORTHY
OF LATE DUE TO
ALLEGATIONS
RECENTLY MADE ON
THE OUTLAW GAME
SHOW, "RIDDLE
ME THIS."

OUR
MARKSMAN
SAYS HE'S GOT
A BEAD.

BRADDA-D-
BRADDA-D-
BRADDA!

AGHH!
HE'S NOT
LEAVING ME
ANY CHOICE!

THE SAD
PART IS, THE
RIDDLER DOESN'T
EVEN CARE WHAT
DAMAGE HE
CAUSES.

DO IT!

FIRE!

HE ONLY
WANTS TO
WIN.

KAPOW!



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THE RIDDLER'S CLUE TO ME-- DON'T HANDLE THE ROQUEFORT -- SUGGESTS A BLUEPRINT.

I HAD ALREADY WONDERED ABOUT THE CHOICE OF LOCATIONS FOR HIS LITTLE SCENARIOS.

Hmmmm...

ACCORDING TO THESE TAX RECORDS, THE WAREHOUSES WERE BOTH OWNED BY THE "CONTINENTAL TRANSPORT COMPANY" BACK IN THE 1920S.

LET'S SEE IF THERE'S ANY LINK.

CONTINENTAL TRANSPORT WAS A PROHIBITION FRONT FOR THE MOB.

LET'S CHECK THE THEATER...

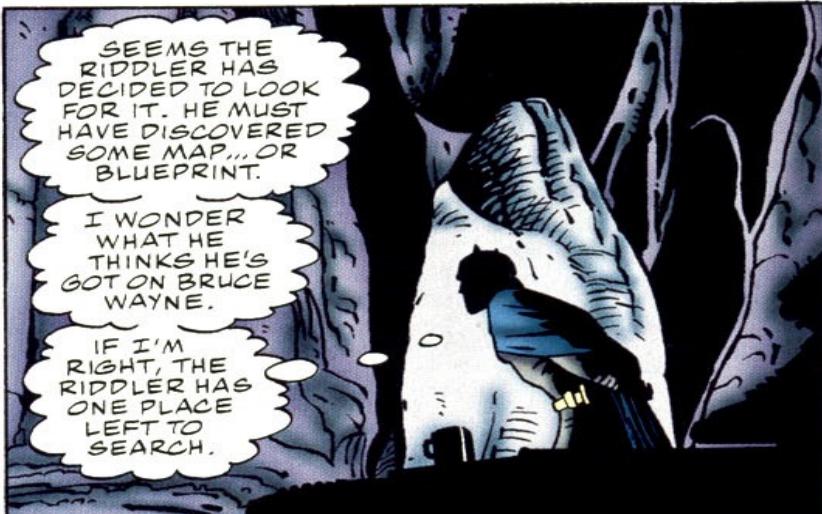
NO. IT WAS OWNED BY A SINGLE PROPRIETOR, SHELDON LINDSKY, FOR NEARLY THIRTY YEARS.

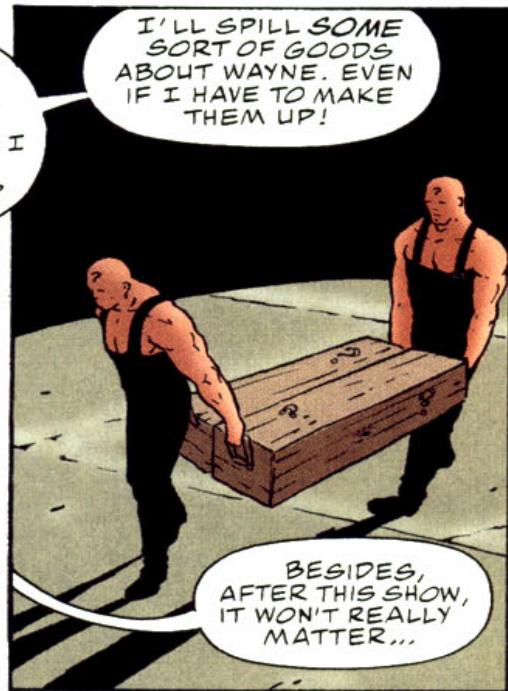
LINDSKY... LINDSKY... WASN'T LINDSKY THE MAIDEN NAME OF SCARFACE SCARELLI'S WIFE?

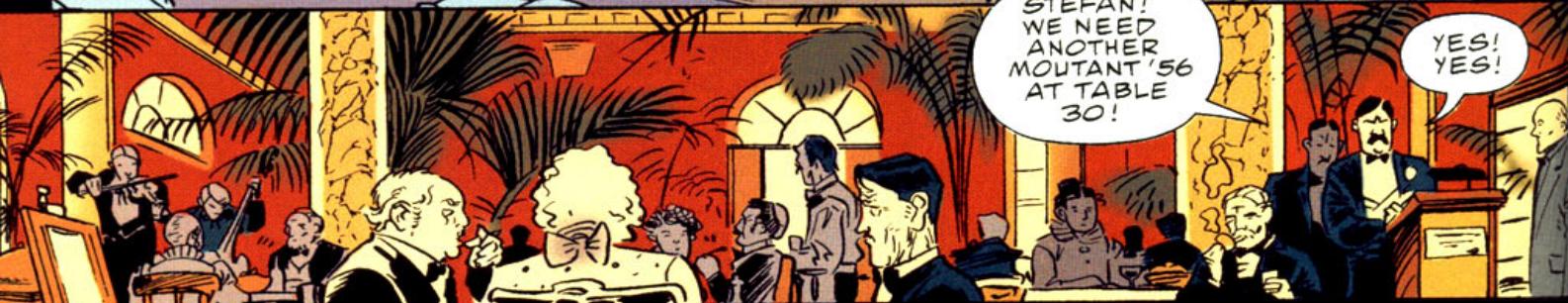


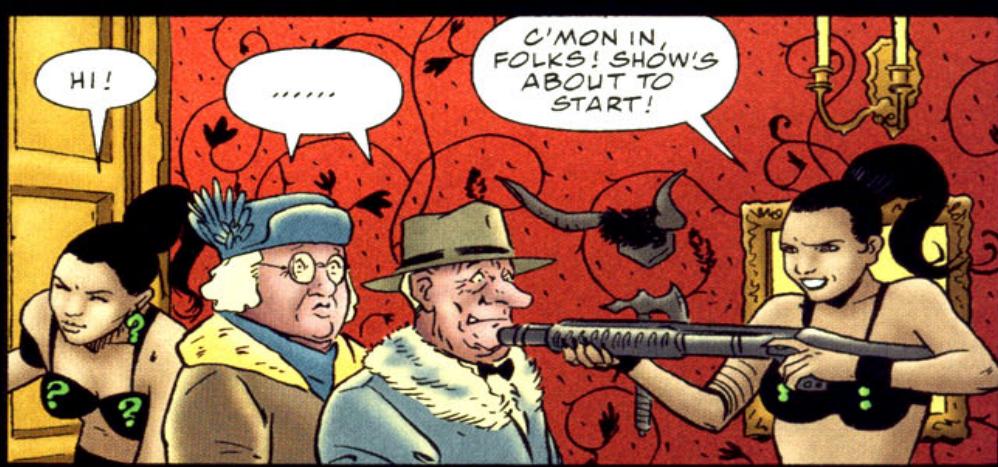
SCARFACE SCARELLI... EVEN THOUGH HE FINALLY WENT TO PRISON FOR TAX EVASION, LEGEND HAS IT HE CONVERTED ALL HIS HOLDINGS INTO CASH AT THE LAST MINUTE.

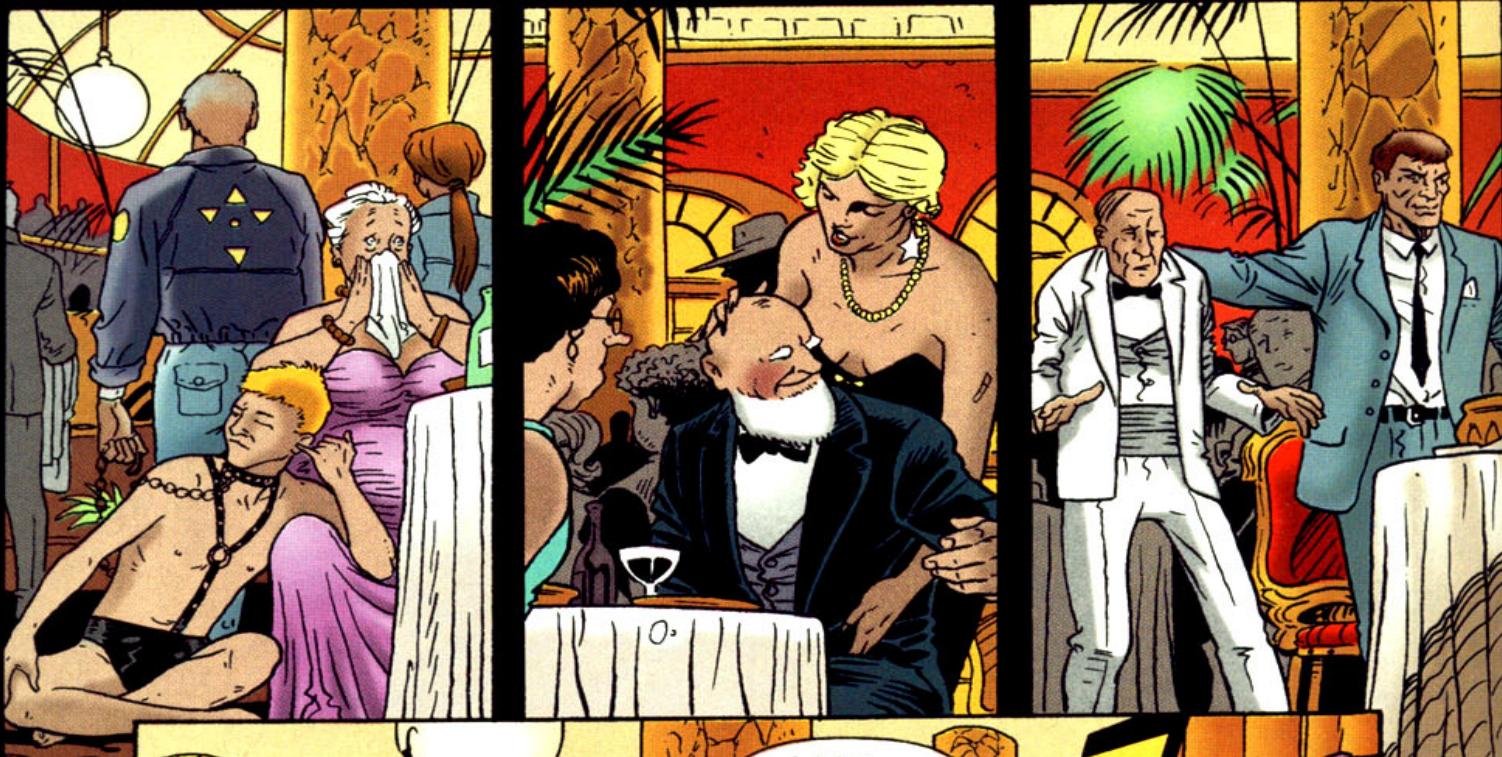
THEN HE BURIED THEM AWAY IN A SECRET VAULT. YEARS LATER, WHEN HE GOT OUT OF JAIL, HIS MIND WAS SO DECAYED THAT HE FORGOT WHERE HE HAD SUNKEN HIS DIRTY TREASURE.











I HAD HEARD YOU
PLANNED TO SKEWER
MY REPUTATION
THIS EVENING,
RIDDLE.

MY, MY,
MY... SOMEONE
IS PAYING
ATTENTION!

LADIES AND
GENTLEMEN... THE
EVER POPULAR,
QUASI-MYSTERIOUS,
BRUCE WAYNE!

THIS IS
TOOOOOO
DELICIOUS!

YES, INDEED, MR.
WAYNE. YOU DO INDEED
BEAR THE GREAT
DISTINCTION OF BEING
THIS EVENING'S... MAIN
COURSE! HRMM! HEE!

ANNNND... YOU WILL
BE THE FIRST SUCH
CASUALTY TO ATTEND
HIS OWN FLAYING HERE
ON "RIDDLE ME THIS".
HOW MARVELOUS!

HERE--TONIGHT,
LADIES AND GENTLE-
MEN--WE WILL SOON
SEE THE SORDID UNDER-
BELLY OF A CHILD OF
AFFLUENCE. A CHILD
OF GOTHAM'S ELI--

IF YOU HAVE ANY
ACCUSATIONS TO
LEVEL, LET'S HEAR
THEM--AND DISPENSE
WITH THESE PETTY
GAMES!

MOST OF YOU
KNOW ME, IF ONLY BY
NAME. AND EVEN THOUGH
MY REPUTATION IS NOT
THE MOST MOTIVATED
ONE AROUND...

...I HAVE NOTHING
EMBARASSING TO
HIDE.

DO YOUR
WORST,
RIDDLE.



UH... AS
I SAID,
LADIES AND
GENTLEMEN
... THAT IS,
RIDDLE ME
THIS...

YOUR
GOSSIP,
RIDDLE! WHAT
IS IT? SOME
BITTER DATE
WHO'S UPSET
BECAUSE I
WOULDN'T
MARRY HER?

A
CORPORATE
DEAL GONE
SOUR?

WHAT?!

YOU ALL
KNOW WAYNE IS
FILTHY RICH!
ONE OF THE
WEALTHIEST IN
GOTHAM!

MONEY MADE
ON THE BACKS OF
THE WORKING
CLASSES...!

EVERY YEAR,
THE WAYNE
FOUNDATION
DONATES
MILLIONS TO
CHARITABLE
CAUSES.

SCANDALOUS.

HE--HE LIVES IN A
 HUGE MANSION--

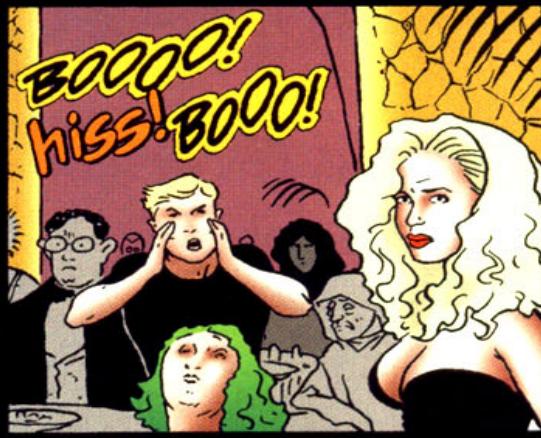
AND?

--HE--HE--HE
WAS THE ONLY
ONE PRESENT WHEN
HIS PARENTS WERE
MURDERED!

A WELL-
DOCUMENTED
TRAGEDY.

WHICH PROVES--
--WHICH PROVES--
--WHICH P-P-P...
...PROVES HE
DIDN'T LOVE HIS MOMMY!!





QUICKLY! SEAL THAT DOOR BEHIND US AND MEET US IN THE LOWER BASEMENT!

HURRY! WE HAD A SLIGHTLY TRUNCATED PERFORMANCE TONIGHT!

YOU BOOBS BETTER HAVE THAT ESCAPE TUNNEL REA--

WE GOT IT, RIDDLER!

YOU...?

CHILD'S PLAY... THESE OLD ONES...

OHHH...

I...I...DID IT... I WON! PEOPLE HAVE BEEN SEARCHING FOR THIS TREASURE FOR DECADES...

HOW PRETTY... EVER SINCE... I WAS A CHILD... I'VE LIKED... PRETTY THINGS...

...AND ONLY I FOUND IT!

I EVEN... DARE I SAY IT... I EVEN OUTWITTED B-B-B...



BATMAN!!!



OR IT'S
ALLLLLL
OVER!



THERE'S AN OLD
PROVERB ABOUT
COUNTING AND CHICKENS,
RIDDLE. I WOULD'VE
THOUGHT YOU KNEW IT
BY NOW.

AND I SUPPOSE
YOU'LL NEVER LEARN
THE ONE ABOUT SAFETY
IN NUMBERS.

I SEE
YOU'VE
FIGURED
IT OUT.

YOU'VE BEEN SEARCHING
THE LESS PUBLIC PLACES
FIRST. ALWAYS THE SOUTH-
EAST CORNER OF THE
BUILDING'S LOWEST
LEVEL.

YOU'RE DIGGING
FOR BOOZE MONEY.
MONEY PRINTED IN BLOOD
AND LIVES. MY GUESS IS
YOU'VE SOMEHOW FOUND
A MAP. ONE THAT TOLD YOU
HOW BUT NOT WHERE.

AND THE HOTEL
IMPERIAL WAS YOUR
LAST CHANCE. THUS,
THE HEAVY
ARTILLERY.

OH... YOU
CLEVER, CLEVER
BATMAN!

MARK! FINISH
WITH THE CASH AND
THEN HIT THE TUNNEL!
I'VE GOT MY FINGER
ON THE IGNITION,
BATMAN.

SO THIS IS
IT, RIDDLE?
AFTER ALL
YOUR SLEAZY
POSTURING
AND GAMES,
YOU'RE NOTHING
BUT A COMMON
THIEF?



WRONG! WRONG! WRONG! WRONG! WRONG!

I AM AN
EXCEPTIONAL
THIEF!!



WHO ELSE WOULD HAVE REALIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF WHAT I FOUND IN THAT JUNKYARD?

IN A RADIO SET! INSIDE THE SPEAKER! BEHIND A WOODEN PANEL! IT LOOKED JUST LIKE A CIRCUIT CHART, BUT I FIGURED IT OUT!

BUT THEY'LL NEVER KNOW I TOOK IT AFTER THEY SIFT THROUGH THE PILE OF RUBBLE I'M GOING TO LEAVE!

IN FACT, THEY'LL THINK THAT I'M DEAD ALONG WITH ALL THE REST!

AND SO RIDDLE ME THIS, BATMAN...

...WHEN IS A FORMAL AFFAIR LIKE AN EXPLOSION?

SCARFACE SCARELLI'S TREASURE MAP! EVEN HE COULDN'T FIND IT! HEE! HEE-HEE-HEEEEEEE!

HALF MINUTE TO BOOM-TOWN, BATMAN! HOO! HOO-HOO HEE!

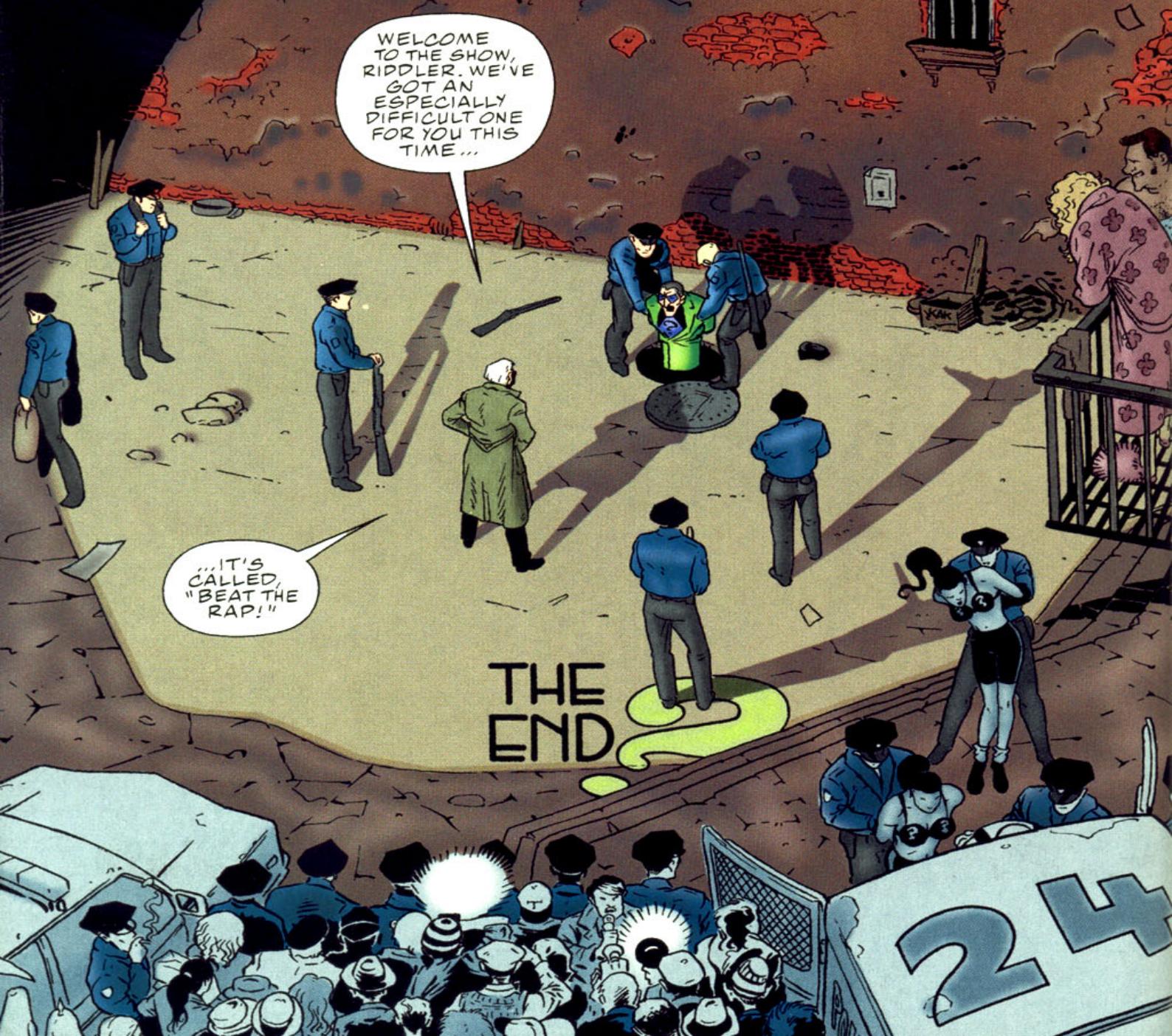
HEE! HEE-HOO-HOO-HEEEEEEE!!

WHEN IT'S...

...BLACK-TIED...

SNIK!







THE RIDDLER
WOULD LIKE TO...
Amuse YOU,
Entertain YOU,
AND LET YOU
WATCH THE
BATMAN
Die.

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