

GOTHAM CITY, NOW.

*My enemies have
a secret pact.*

*They think I don't
know about it,
but I do.*

*The pact is, on the
day I die, they will
shine the Bat-signal
over the city.*

*It was Joker's idea.
A light in the sky to
commemorate me. A
bat, hanging upside
down, at rest.*

*Seeing it now, I can't
shake the feeling
I'm dead already.
Narrating my
funeral...*

BATMAN: ENDGAME

PART FIVE

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4 HOURS AGO.

...from deep in the underworld.

WELL, WELL. LOOK WHAT WE HAVE HERE.

OH, LET HIM SEE! WE'RE GROWING, AND HE CAN'T STOP US.

YOU MIGHT WANT TO GET THAT *LEAK* FIXED BEFORE YOU START BRAGGING. OH RIGHT, YOU *CAN'T*.

YOU GROW AS MUCH AS I LET YOU.

YOU REALLY BELIEVE THAT, DON'T YOU? YOU HAVEN'T EVEN NOTICED WHAT WE'VE DONE YET. THE SERRATIONS, ALL AROUND THE--

ENOUGH. I CAME HERE BECAUSE THE VIRUS THE JOKER SET LOOSE UP THERE, THE CHEMICAL AT ITS CORE IS SOMETHING I CAN'T OVERCOME.

"I NEED TO FIND IT. AND THE DOCTOR WHO DESIGNED THE VIRUS SPOKE OF A MINING PROJECT HUNDREDS OF YEARS AGO, AN ATTEMPT TO FIND THIS SUBSTANCE BENEATH GOTHAM.

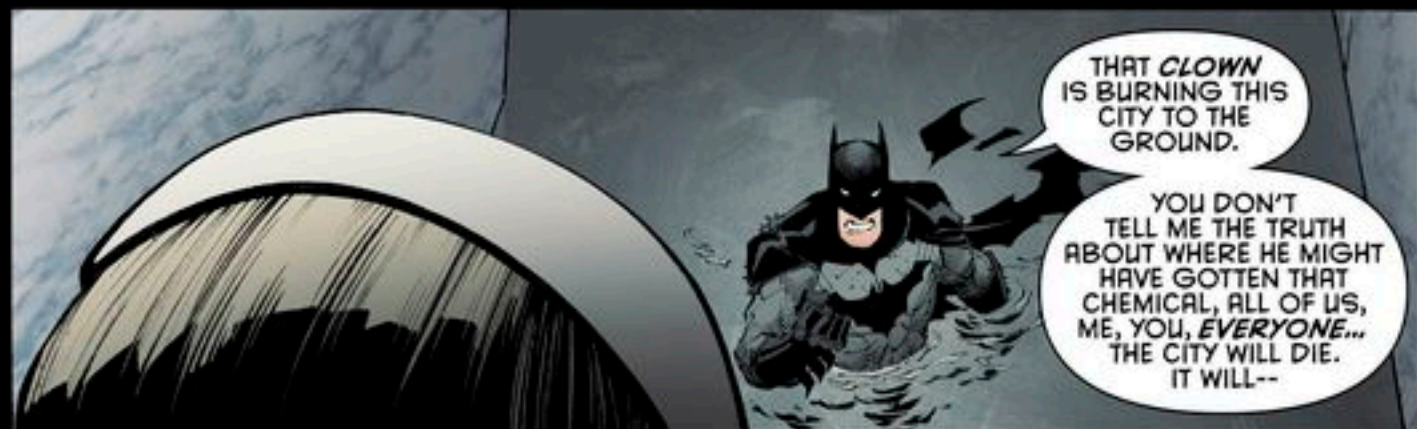
"THERE'S ONLY ONE ORGANIZATION THAT HAD THE MEANS AND THE WILL TO UNDERTAKE SOMETHING LIKE THAT."

YOU.

YOU HAVE IT, DON'T YOU, THIS *DIONESIUM*. IT'S IN THE ELECTRUM YOU USE TO BRING BACK THE TALONS.

WE DID SEARCH, YES. BUT WHAT WE FOUND WAS A *CORRUPTED* VERSION.

IT'S IN OUR ELECTRUM. AND IT SERVES OUR *PURPOSE*, NOW THAT WE HAVE THE CATALYST. BUT IT'S NOTHING AS PURE AS WHATEVER'S IN *THAT CLOWN'S* BLOOD.



THAT CLOWN IS BURNING THIS CITY TO THE GROUND.

YOU DON'T TELL ME THE TRUTH ABOUT WHERE HE MIGHT HAVE GOTTEN THAT CHEMICAL, ALL OF US, ME, YOU, EVERYONE... THE CITY WILL DIE. IT WILL--

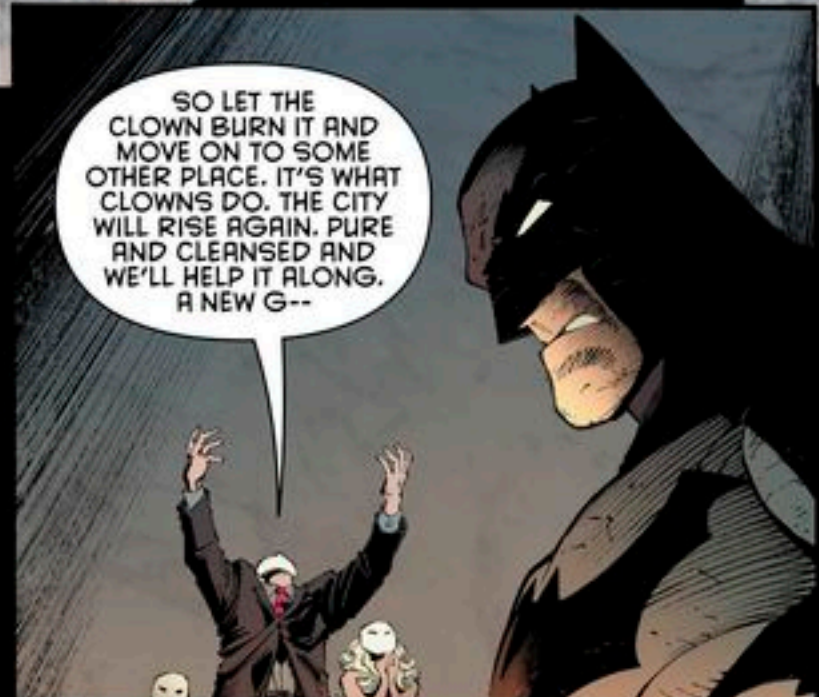


Psst. UP.



WE ALWAYS BUILD THEM HANGING UPSIDE DOWN, THEN TURN AND PLACE THEM, BATMAN. WE DO IT TO REMIND OURSELVES THAT WE'RE BENEATH GOTHAM, THAT IT'S SOMETHING ABOVE US, ALWAYS.

WE SHAPE IT, BEND IT TO OUR WILL, BUT IT'S GREATER THAN ANY ONE OF US.



SO LET THE CLOWN BURN IT AND MOVE ON TO SOME OTHER PLACE. IT'S WHAT CLOWNS DO. THE CITY WILL RISE AGAIN. PURE AND CLEANSED AND WE'LL HELP IT ALONG. A NEW G--

