

EIGHT YEARS AGO.

BROTHERS OF THE
FREESCAPE, LEND ME YOUR
LEX-DAMNED EARS!

TOO LONG YOU'VE RIDDEN
SOLO ON THESE BURNED-OUT HIGHWAYS,
FORGOTTEN BY THE BRAINWASHED
PLEBES OF THE GARDEN!

BUT THIS
LAND IS *OURS* AS
MUCH AS LUTHOR'S! OUR
ENGINES'LL SHAKE THE
CIVILIANS TO THEIR
CODDLED LITTLE
BONES!

**WHO ARE WE,
BROTHERS?!**

**RED HOODS
TILL WE ROT!**

DANG
RIGHT.

LIVE
ROUNDS,
HOODS!
WATCH
OUT!

THE BOY
KNOWS HIS
STUFF.

TOO BAD HE
LEARNED IT FROM
A BUNCH OF GOBBY
WAZZOCKS.

NOW YOU
GOT AN EASY
CHOICE. YOU PUT
MY BARMAID DOWN
OR I FILL EVERY
ONE OF YOU
GEEZERS WITH
HOLES.

WHAT'S
IT GONNA
BE?

OH, BIG AL. ALL YOU HAD TO DO WAS KEEP YOUR MOUTH SHUT. LET THE RED HOODS RUN. SO SIMPLE.

NOW WE GOTTA
DRAG YOUR OLD ASS
ALL THE WAY TO OLD
METROPOL--

OH..

...CRAP.

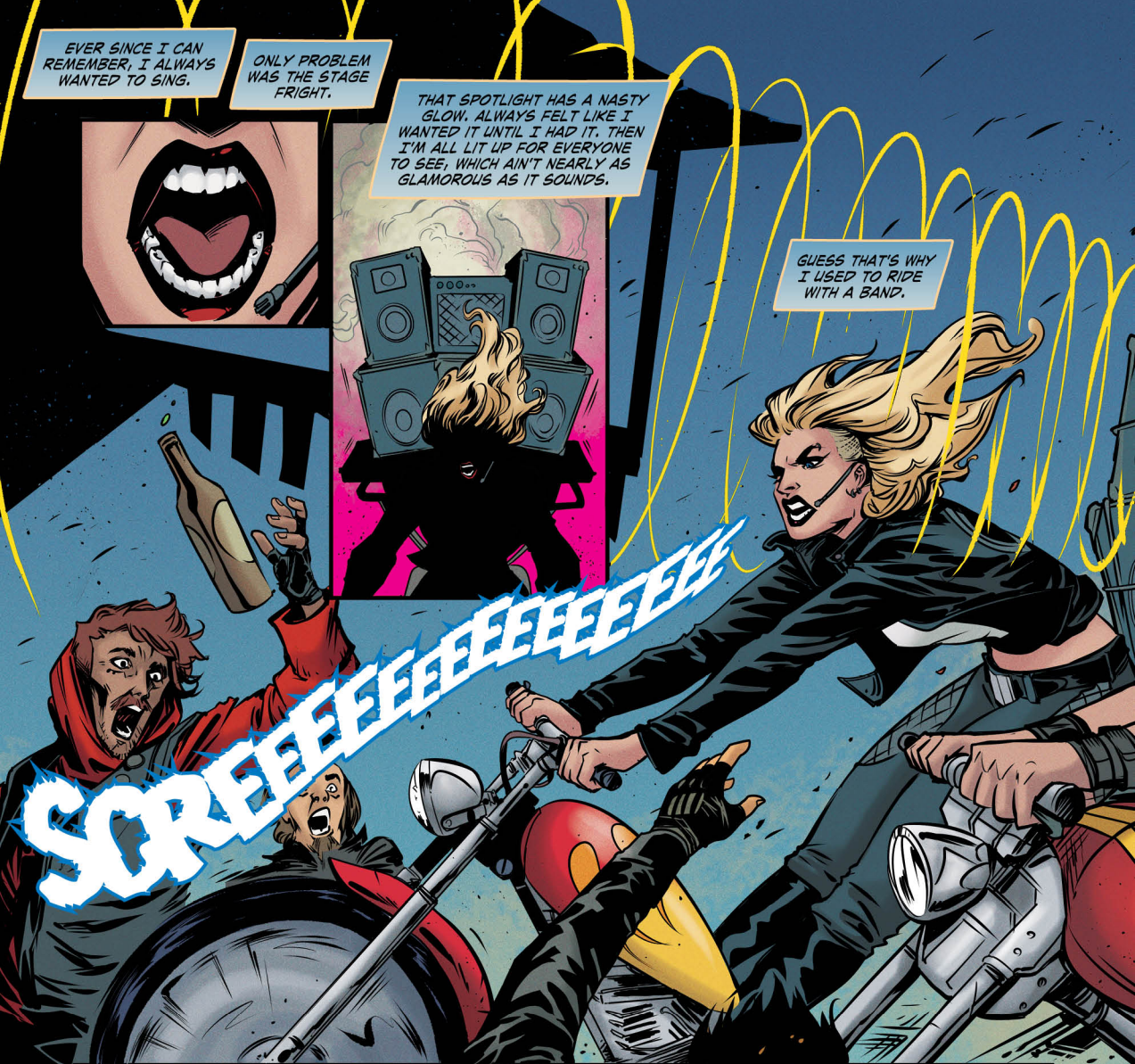
EEEEEEEEE

EVER SINCE I CAN
REMEMBER, I ALWAYS
WANTED TO SING.

ONLY PROBLEM
WAS THE STAGE
FRIGHT.

THAT SPOTLIGHT HAS A NASTY
GLOW. ALWAYS FELT LIKE I
WANTED IT UNTIL I HAD IT. THEN
I'M ALL LIT UP FOR EVERYONE
TO SEE, WHICH AIN'T NEARLY AS
GLAMOROUS AS IT SOUNDS.

GUESS THAT'S WHY
I USED TO RIDE
WITH A BAND.



SORRY ABOUT THE RIFFRAFF,
AL! CONSIDER US THE
CLEANUP CREW.

THE GARAGE WERE
SISTERS AT MY
BACK. STRENGTH
BEYOND MY OWN.

A WAYWARD ALIEN I
FOUND WEEPING ON A
MOUNTAIN SHE SWORE
WAS HER HUSBAND.

A LOST GENIUS WITH A CHIP
ON HER SHOULDER YOU
COULD SEE FROM SPACE.

A MYSTERY GIRL WHO LOVED
VIOLENCE MOST OF ALL.



THE CANARY DOWN THE CAVE



THERE WERE ONLY FOUR OF US, BUT WE OUTRODE EVERY DIRTBAG ON A DIRTBIKE THE WORLD COULD THROW AT US.

DID A LITTLE GOOD.
MADE A LITTLE PEACE.
SANG A LITTLE SONG.

WE WERE UNAFAID.
I WAS UNAFAID.

BUT FEAR DOESN'T CARE
HOW FAST YOU RIDE.

NOUL

FEAR IS
A WIND.

AND
IT'LL BLOW
YOU WHERE IT
PLEASES.

THE PAST
IS A PYRE.
THE FUTURE IS
KINDLING.

ALL WE
CAN DO IS
BURN.

THESE ARE
THE WORDS OF THE
DEMON'S HEAD.

ALL LIVING
AND DEAD HAIL
RA'S AL GHUL.

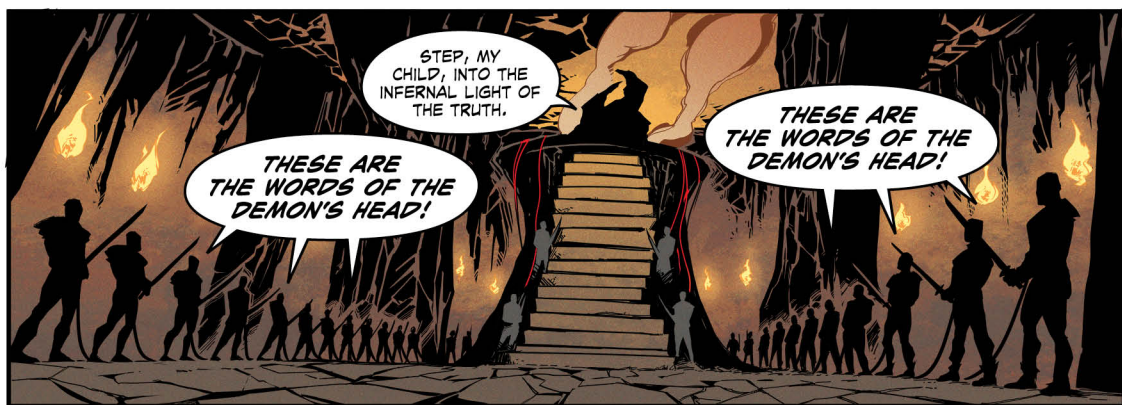
DINAH
LANCE.

BLACK
CANARY.

YOU ARE
SUMMONED. THE
FINAL TRIAL IS
PREPARED.

GOOD.

SO
AM I.



STEP, MY CHILD, INTO THE INFERNAL LIGHT OF THE TRUTH.

THESE ARE THE WORDS OF THE DEMON'S HEAD!

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LUTHOR AND HIS DARK GOD THOUGHT THEY BURNED THE WORLD. THEY THOUGHT EVERY EMBER HAD QUIETED, THEY THOUGHT THEIRS THE ONLY FLAME STILL LIT.

BUT THEY MISSED A SPOT.

ALL LIVING AND DEAD HAIL RA'S AL GHUL!



YOU CAME HERE AS A GIRL LOST AND FRIENDLESS. YOU REJECTED THOSE WITH WHOM YOU RODE AND MADE COLLECTIVE PURPOSE WITH THE SHADOWS. YOU SOUGHT OUR POWER TO DESTROY THE DESPOT LUTHOR.

BUT YOU HAVE COME TO LEARN THAT THIS POWER IS NOT YOURS TO WIELD.

IT IS ONLY THE POWER OF RA'S AL GHUL.

AND NOW, EMERGED FROM THE MONTH OF MEDITATION, STILL YOU WOULD BECOME THE DEMON'S HEIR?



I WOULD.

THEN RISE...