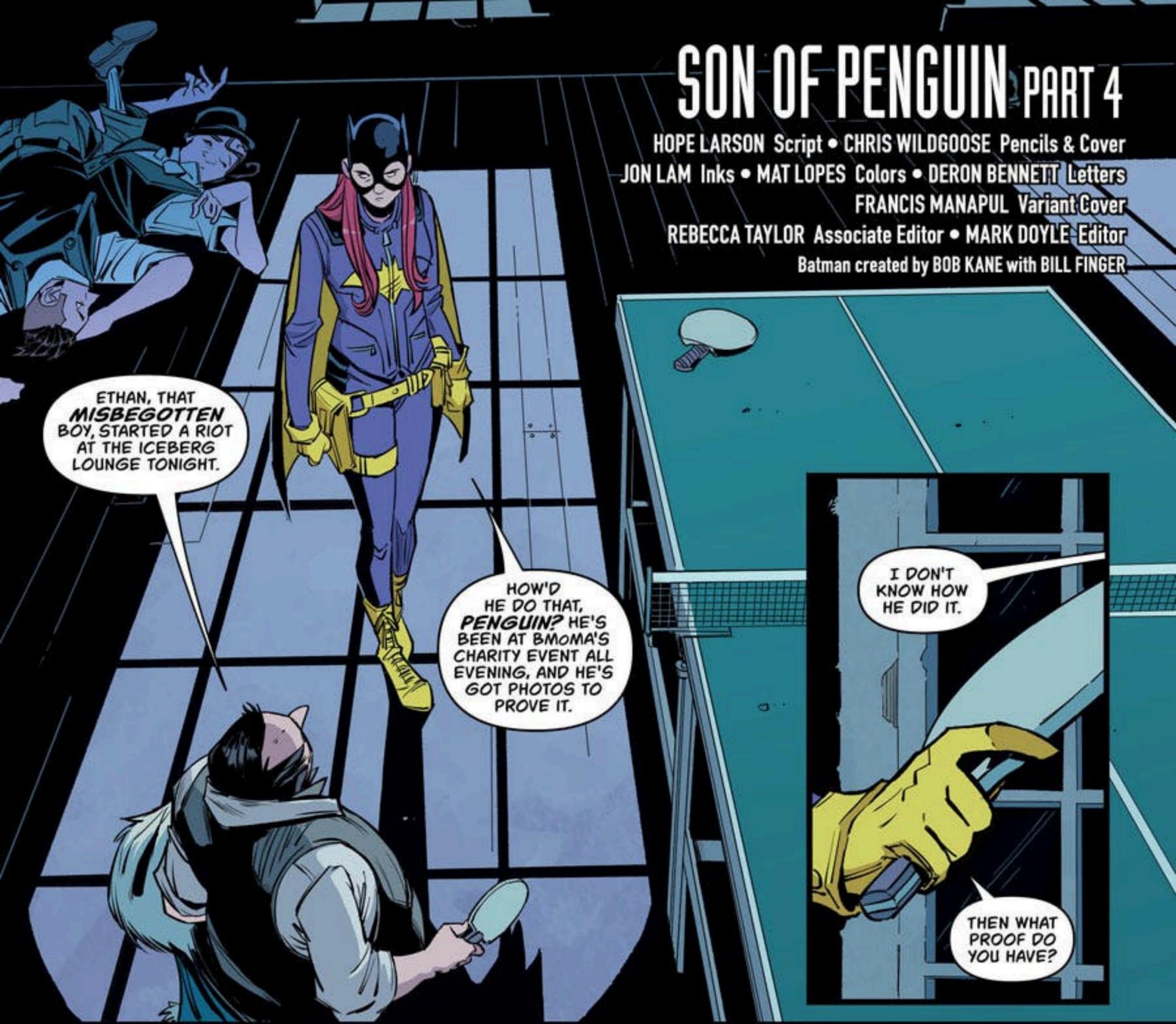


# SON OF PENGUIN PART 4

HOPE LARSON Script • CHRIS WILDGOOSE Pencils & Cover  
JON LAM Inks • MAT LOPES Colors • DERON BENNETT Letters  
FRANCIS MANAPUL Variant Cover  
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Batman created by BOB KANE with BILL FINGER





THE RIOT WAS *RANDOM*, BUT PERFECTLY ORCHESTRATED.



FLAWLESS AND SYMMETRICAL, LIKE HIS VILE MANNEQUIN FACE.



IT REEKS OF HIS *PATHETIC* DESIRE FOR APPROVAL.



"LOOK AT ME, DADDY! LOOK AT ME!"



DISGUSTING!



WHY DO YOU THINK HE'S IN BURNSIDE, BATGIRL? HE CAN'T WIN MY *PRAISE*, SO HE'S COME...

"...TO TRY TO DESTROY ME."

## THE ICEBERG LOUNGE.

NICE TO SEE YOU, BATGIRL, BUT YOUR SERVICES AREN'T REQUIRED. THE LOUNGE GETS SMASHED UP SO OFTEN THAT OFFICER NAGEL'S DATING THE BARTENDER.

YOU'VE INVESTIGATED PLENTY! NOW, GET OUT SO MY PEOPLE CAN CLEAN UP THIS MESS!

NAGEL!  
QUIT YER FLIRTING!

YESSIR,  
COMMISSIONER GORDON!

THING IS, COMMISSIONER, THIS ISN'T A TYPICAL BAR BRAWL.

I KNOW IT LOOKS THAT WAY, BUT HEAR ME OUT.

*SIGH*  
DON'T HAVE A CHOICE, DO I?

THERE ARE THREE **DISTINCT** AREAS OF DAMAGE, WITH MINIMAL TRANSITIONAL AREA BETWEEN THEM. THAT INDICATES MULTIPLE POINTS OF ORIGIN.

IF YOU WERE COMMITTING **ARSON**, YOU'D SET MORE THAN ONE FIRE TO MAKE **SURE** THE HOUSE BURNED DOWN.

CLEVER THEORY, BUT WE'VE INTERVIEWED EVERYONE INVOLVED, AND THERE'S NO LINK BETWEEN THE INCIDENTS.



"INSTIGATOR #1 JUST FOUND OUT HIS KID IS THE PRODUCT OF HIS WIFE'S AFFAIR WITH HIS BEST FRIEND."

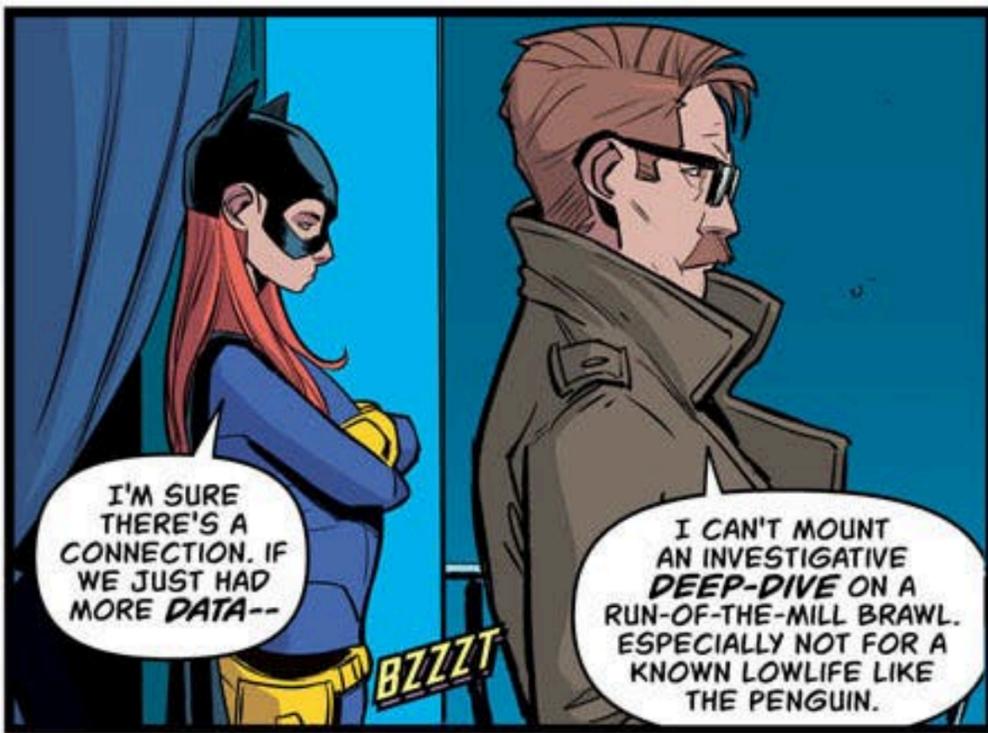


"INSTIGATOR #2 LEARNED THAT HER COWORKER GOT HER FIRED."



"INSTIGATOR #3 THOUGHT HIS DOG RAN AWAY, BUT HE JUST FOUND OUT THAT HIS ROOMMATE SOLD IT ON GREGSLIST."

"WE'RE STILL INVESTIGATING, BUT ALL THREE STORIES SEEM TO CHECK OUT."



I'M SURE THERE'S A CONNECTION. IF WE JUST HAD MORE DATA--

BZZZZT

I CAN'T MOUNT AN INVESTIGATIVE DEEP-DIVE ON A RUN-OF-THE-MILL BRAWL. ESPECIALLY NOT FOR A KNOWN LOWLIFE LIKE THE PENGUIN.



SORRY, COMMISSIONER. I GOTTA GO!

HMPH.

OMG so sorry, Ethan! Roommate emergency. Had to step out.



THE PEOPLE OF GOTHAM TRUST US. WE ARE THEIR PROTECTORS. IF WE'RE PERCEIVED TO BE HELPING A VILLAIN, OUR MOTIVES WILL BE SEEN AS SUSPECT.

Barbara? Where are you?



ETHAN HAS INTEL ON EVERYONE WHO'S USED A VICFORM APP--WHICH IS EVERYONE WITH A SMART PHONE.

You left without telling me??



WHAT IF HE'S FOUND A WAY TO AUTOMATICALLY MANIPULATE PEOPLE'S EMOTIONS AND ACTIONS THROUGH SOCIAL MEDIA? SOME KIND OF ALGORITHM? IF SO, THAT COULD MAKE HIM INCREDIBLY DANGEROUS.

I'm sorry! You were schmoozing. I thought I'd be back before you missed me.

I ALREADY KNOW HE'S GREAT AT GETTING THE DESIRED EMOTIONAL RESPONSE FROM ME. :SIGH:



I'm on my way now.

Heading to Fathoms. Meet me there.



BUT I WON'T STOOP TO HIS LEVEL! I SAY WHAT I MEAN! I SPEAK FROM THE HEART!

"ETHAN, IT'S BEEN FUN, BUT I DON'T THINK WE SHOULD SEE EACH OTHER ANYMORE."



"ETHAN, I'VE ENJOYED OUR TIME TOGETHER, BUT I DON'T SEE A FUTURE FOR US."



"ETHAN, I--"

BARBARA?

FATHOMS 1977