

Gotham City.

SOFIA'S IN
THE CARE OF
RA'S AL
GHUL.

SHE IS BEING
INDOCTRINATED.
TRANSFORMED.

WE'RE **NOT**
GOING TO FOCUS ON
WHAT WE **FAILED** TO
DO.

WE'RE GOING
TO FOCUS ON NOT
FAILING HER **AGAIN**,
BEFORE IT'S TOO
LATE.

WHY IS SHE
SO IMPORTANT,
BATMAN?

BECAUSE
I GAVE HER MY
WORD.

THE WORLD. THE CITY. ONE PERSON.
THERE'S NO DIFFERENCE.

I'M NOT
ANGRY. ANGER DOESN'T
MATTER. I'M FOCUSED ON
HEALING WHAT'S KEEPING
THE OUTSIDERS
APART.

AND FINDING
THE PATH TO BRING
YOU TOGETHER.

BLACK
LIGHTNING. YOU'RE
GOING TO LEAD THEM
AGAINST AN ENEMY
THAT WILL TEST
YOU.

AN
ENEMY?

WHO?

DC Comics Proudly Presents
BATMAN and the **OUTSIDERS**

LESSER GODS PART 3

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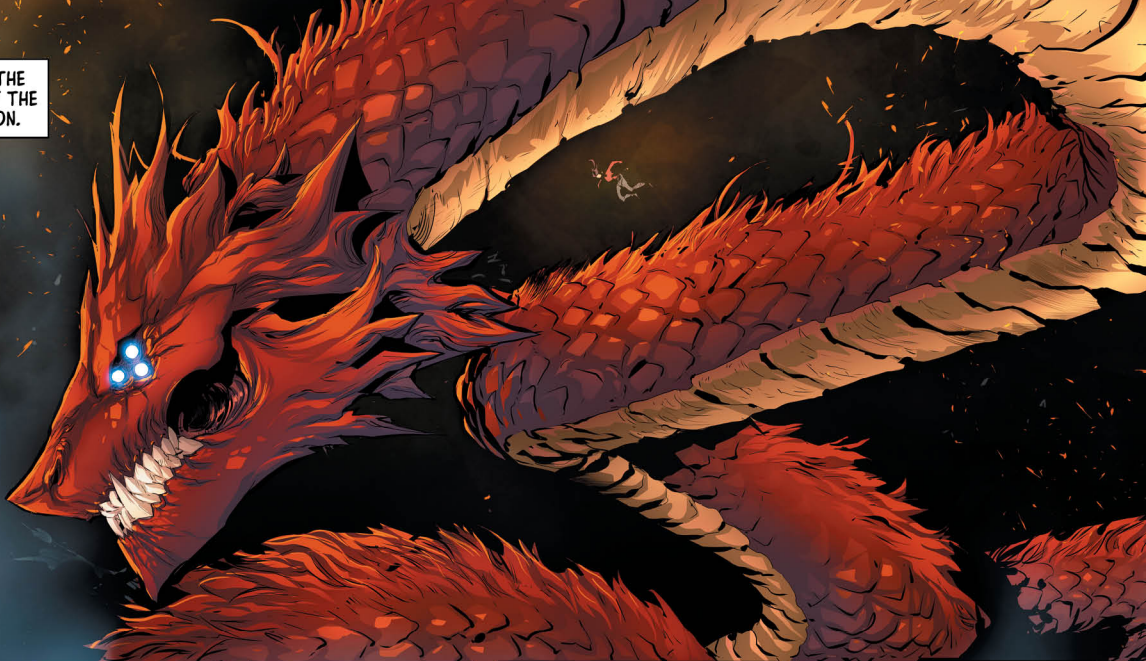
with **BILL FINGER**

ME.
THE
WATERWAYS.
THREE
HOURS.

"FALL,
SOFIA."



"FIND THE
HEAD OF THE
DRAGON."



"YOU'RE *NOT*
DREAMING.
BUT YOU'RE
NOT AWAKE."



"A FEW *SWEET*
PETALS IN THE
BITTER TEA."

"A NECTAR
THAT HELPS
US *ACCEPT*
THE TRUTH."

"A NECTAR WE
DRINK HERE.
IN KHADYM."

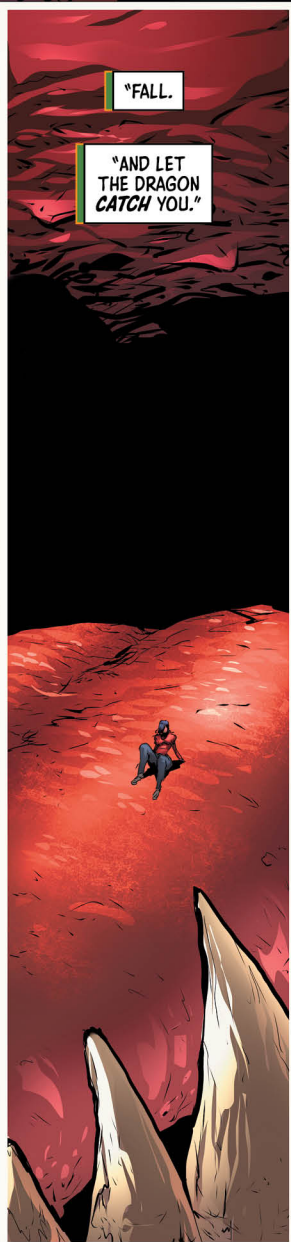
"THE
DRAGON
WAITS FOR
YOU, SOFIA."



"JUST FALL."

"FALL."

"AND LET
THE DRAGON
CATCH YOU."





I HATE YOU!

DO YOU?

ISHMAEL WOULD HAVE FOUND YOU WITHOUT ME. AND HE WOULD HAVE KILLED YOU, TOO.

I SAVED YOUR LIFE, SOFIA. AND I WILL CONTINUE TO SAVE YOUR LIFE.

BUT YOU NEED TO BE HONEST WITH ME. AND YOURSELF.

YOUR FATHER COULD HAVE EMBRACED HIS ABILITIES. STRENGTHENED HIMSELF.

BUT HE DIDN'T.

YOUR FATHER COULD HAVE PROTECTED YOU.

BUT HE DIDN'T.

I PROTECTED YOU, SOFIA. I'M NOT THE VOICE THAT TOLD ISHMAEL TO RAISE HIS SWORD.

I AM THE VOICE THAT COMMANDED HIM NOT TO CUT YOU IN HALF.

RA'S AL GHUL IS NOT CRUEL, CHILD. I AM GENEROUS.

THAT IS WHY I HAVE BROUGHT THE MAN YOU HATE--

