

Deathstroke was alive.

He hadn't expected to be.

Having all but destroyed relationships with his surviving children, Slade Wilson sought to cheat death by traveling to the past to change his future.

Failing that mission, Slade was left to struggle the rest of his life with the question:

What does a man do with himself once he's seen the face of god and lived to tell about it?

A full-page illustration of Deathstroke standing on a rooftop. He is wearing his signature black and orange tactical suit, with a utility belt and gauntlets. He has white hair and a small orange antenna-like device on his forehead. He is looking towards the right, with his right hand resting on the metal railing of the rooftop. The background shows a cityscape with various buildings and a body of water in the distance. The lighting is dramatic, with strong shadows and highlights.

MONSTER

THE LAZARUS CONTRACT

EPIC

PRIEST — story LARRY HAMA — breakdowns CARLO PAGULAYAN — pencils
JASON PAZ & SEAN PARSONS — inks JEREMY COX — color WILLIE SCHUBERT — letters
LEE WEEKS & BRAD ANDERSON — cover SHANE DAVIS, MICHELLE DELECKI & ALEX SINCLAIR — variant cover
DIEGO LOPEZ — assistant editor ALEX ANTONE — editor MARIE JAVINS — group editor

DEATHSTROKE
CREATED BY
MARY WOLFMAN & GEORGE PÉREZ

The world's deadliest assassin was a shadow-man. The darkness empowered him.

The sun was, at best, an annoyance.

But now, it was as if he'd never noticed the sun before or felt its warmth.



As if he'd never BREATHED.

Born again.

I met Slade Wilson in the middle of an illegal act.

His and mine.



Walk away.

Leave Dragaš and go. No one wants to harm you.



"The Greater Good"

SERBIA
ZLATIBOR REGION

YEARS AGO

BELG--STOP THIS!

ORDER YOUR MEN TO STAND DOWN! YOU HAVE MY WORD--

ZZZZZZZZZZZ

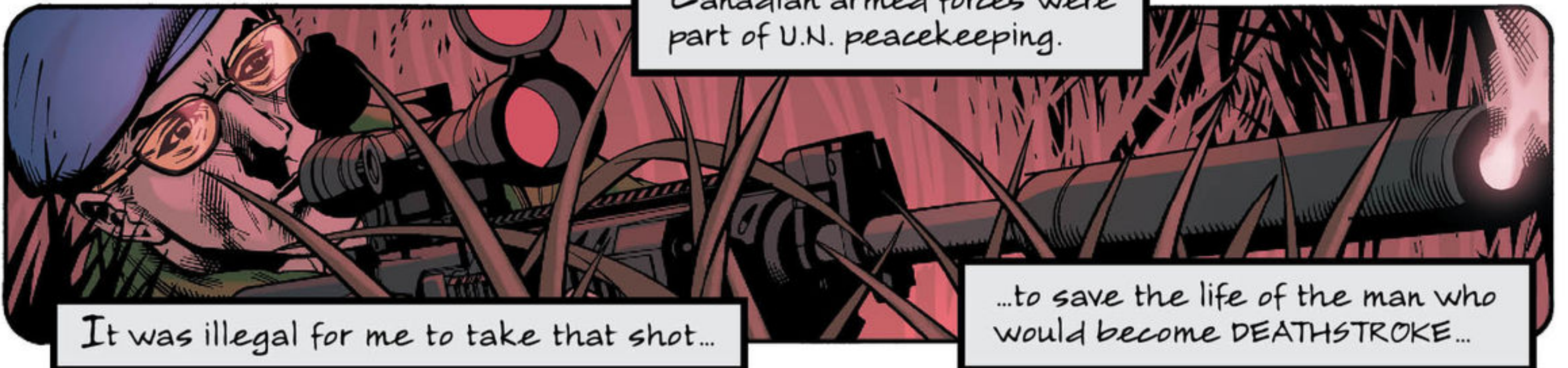
SNIPER--!



Canadian armed forces were part of U.N. peacekeeping.

It was illegal for me to take that shot...

...to save the life of the man who would become DEATHSTROKE...





...the man I eventually went to work for...

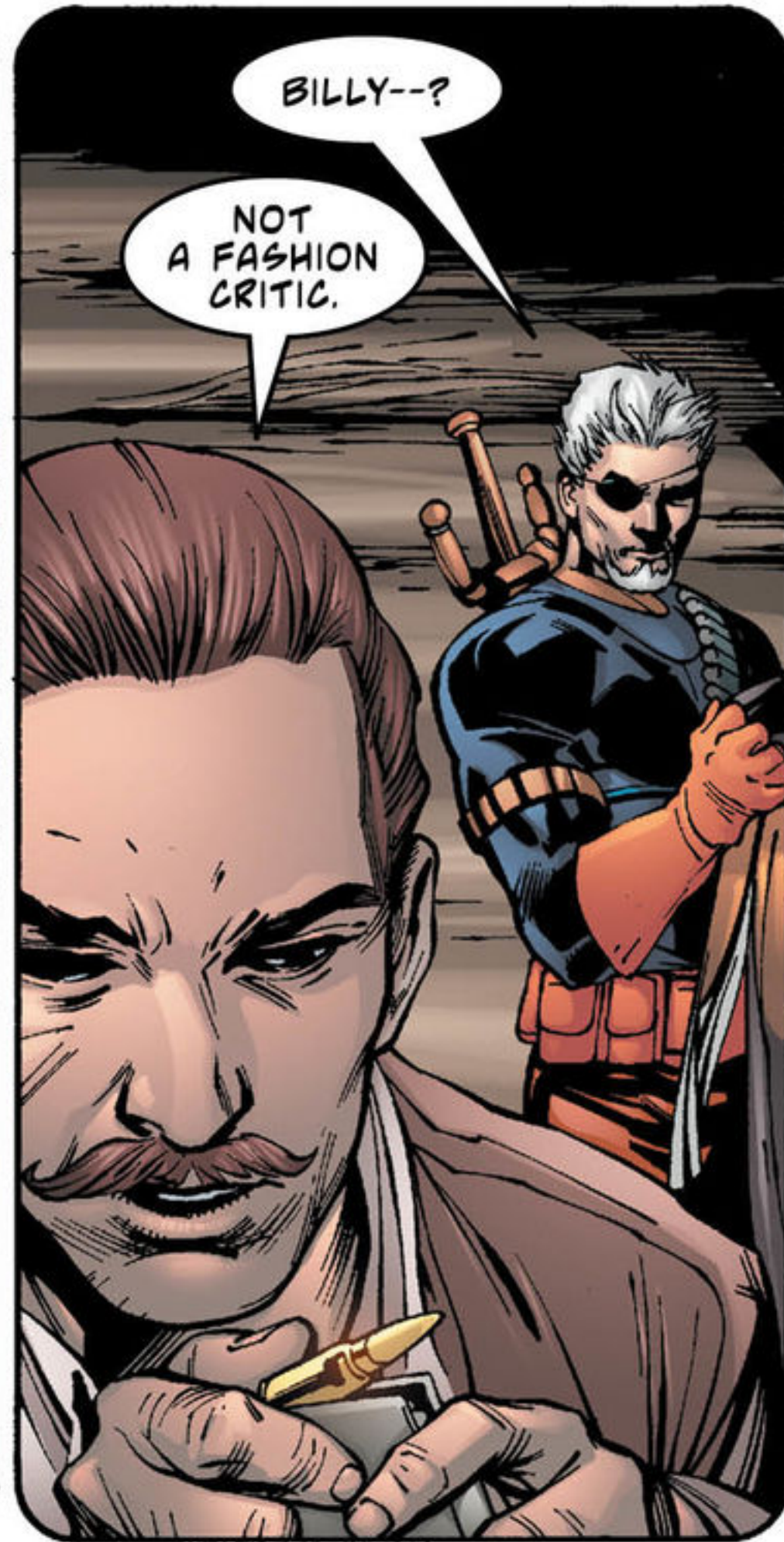
--WHAT THE HELL IS THIS?

A NEAR-INDESTRUCTIBLE UNIFORM--A GRAVITY SHEATH, ACTUALLY.



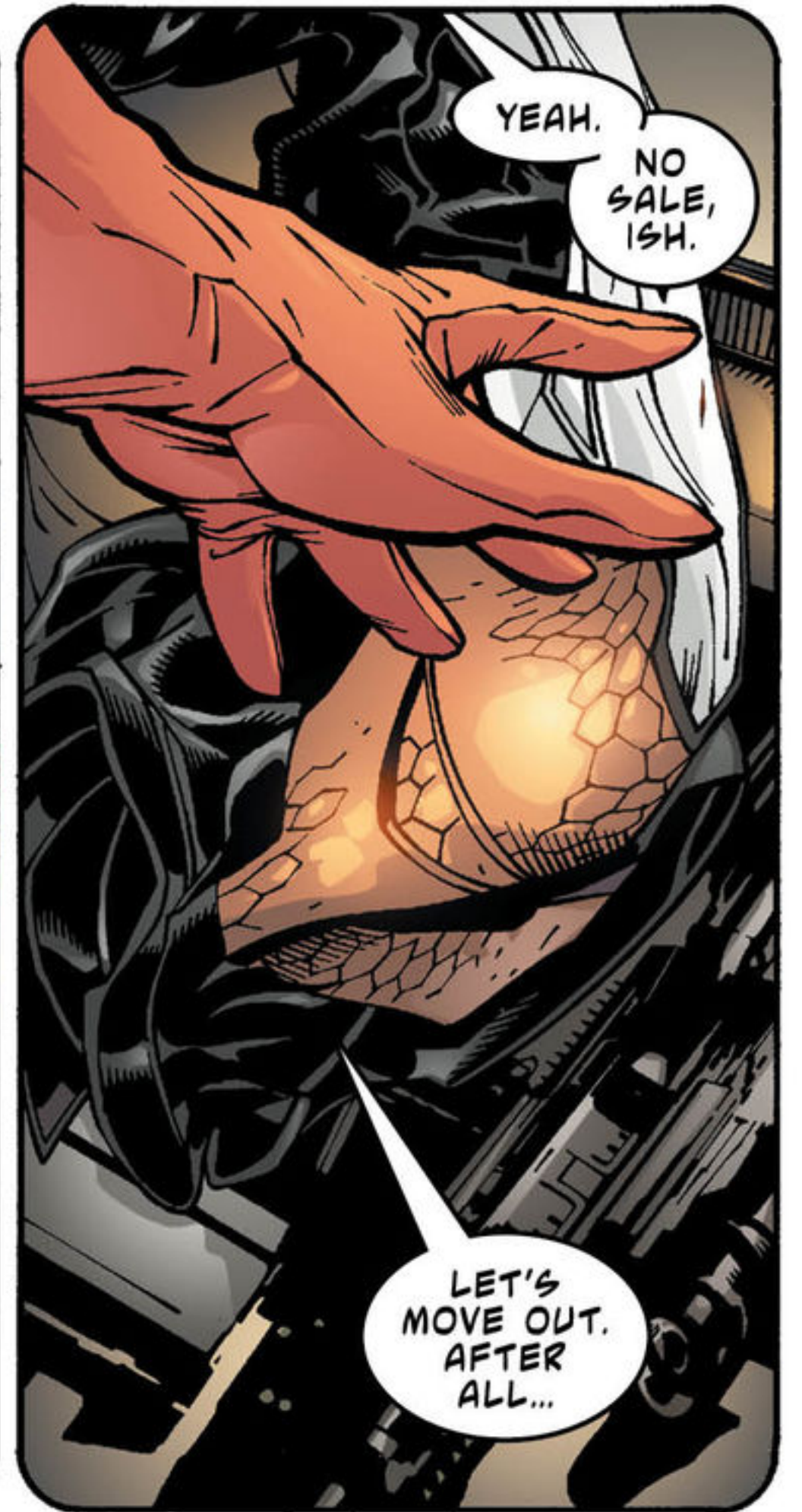
I CALL IT THE IKON SUIT.

THAT'S JUST A PROTOTYPE, OF COURSE...



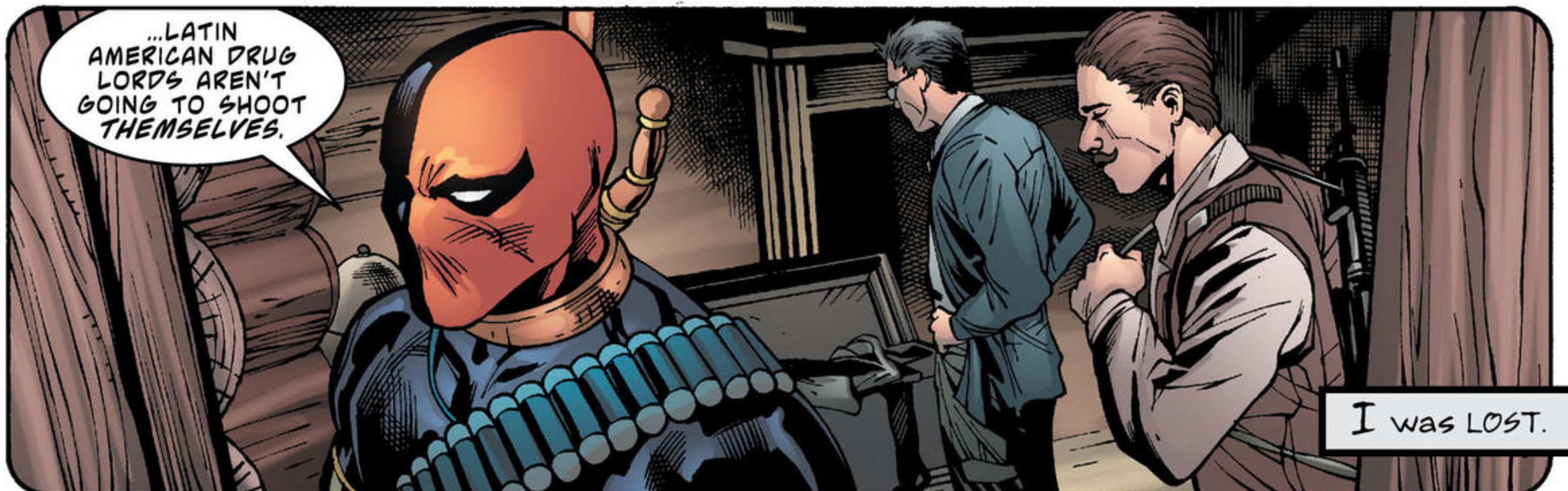
BILLY--?

NOT A FASHION CRITIC.



YEAH. NO SALE, ISH.

LET'S MOVE OUT. AFTER ALL...



...LATIN AMERICAN DRUG LORDS AREN'T GOING TO SHOOT THEMSELVES.

I was LOST.

Until GOD found me...



...until LOVE found me...



I turned my LIFE around, becoming...



...Dr. IKON, defender of Windsor, Ontario...



...until my SIN caught up with me...

Penance has four elements: contrition, confession, satisfaction and ABSOLUTION.

Catholics recite Hail Marys.



My punishment...is this...



Misereatur tui omnipotens Deus...

...et dimissis peccatis tuis, perducat te ad vitam aeternam...

...AMEN.

Hate is a disease.

I'd been INFECTED.

KEEP ROOM!!

A synthetic VIRUS formulated from Deathstroke's DNA...

...created a "super" immune system which mimics Deathstroke's cellular regeneration.

...and THEN some...

It was the only way to save my LIFE.

But will it be a life worth LIVING...?

