

"IT WAS IN GOTHAM.
THE SUBWAY."

"WELL PAST
MIDNIGHT, LAST
TRAIN HOME."

"JENNA LACEY,
JUST EIGHTEEN
YEARS OLD."



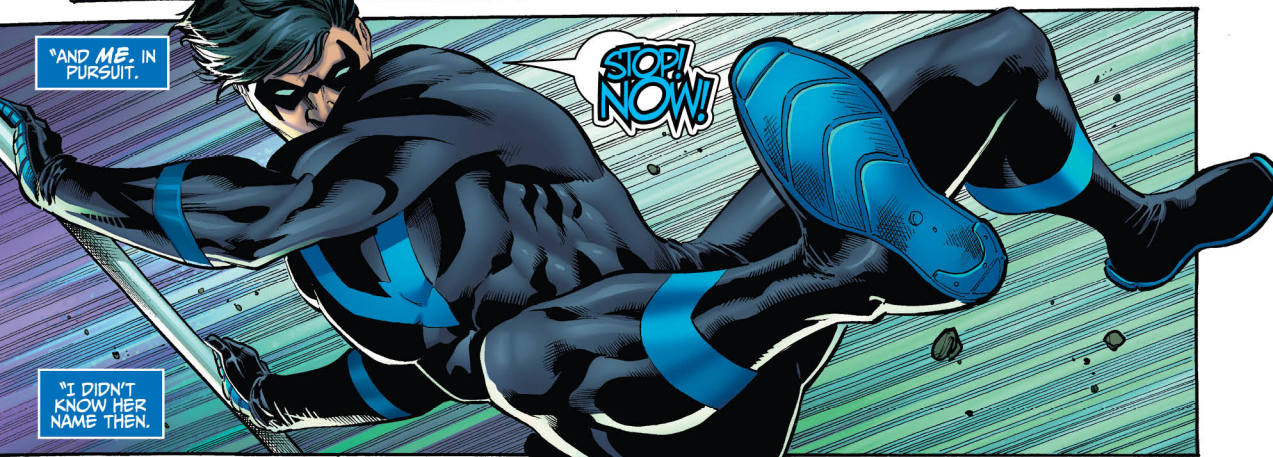
"RUNNING HARD,
RUNNING SCARED."

"FLEEING FOR
HER LIFE."

"AND ME, IN
PURSUIT."

**STOP!
NOW!**

"I DIDN'T
KNOW HER
NAME THEN."



**JUST
STOP!**

"MAN,
LEAVE HER
'LONE..."

**NO, NO,
NO!**





NO!

"HER POWER WAS INCREDIBLE. SOME FORM OF ANTIMATTER GENERATION."

FRZZZZZORRRR

BAAAAAGHH!



BUT I COULDN'T LET HER GO. HER... TALENTS WERE BRAND-NEW AND UNSTABLE.

JENNA LACEY WAS A HAZARD TO HERSELF AND EVERYONE AROUND HER.

SHE WAS WHAT WE'RE NOW CALLING AN EMERGENT THREAT.



JUST ONE OF THOUSANDS WORLDWIDE. SOME REPORTED, OTHERS CLASSIFIED BY THEIR RESPECTIVE GOVERNMENTS.

JENNA HAD BEEN TRANSFORMED. HER LATENT METAHUMAN ABILITIES HAD BEEN KICK-STARTED BY THE EXOTIC ENERGIES NOW SATURATING OUR PLANET AS A RESULT OF THE SOURCE WALL COLLAPSE.



"EXOGENIC ENERGY, MANIFESTED AND DIRECTED..."

"...AND LETHAL."

WHAT JUST HAPPEN...?

STOP!



WH-WHY YOU TRYIN' TO HURT THE L'IL GIRL, MAN?

I'M NOT.



LET ME GOOOO!



THE COLLAPSE OF THE SOURCE WALL--INDEED, THE SOURCE WALL ITSELF--IS NOT PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE.

BUT A BARRIER HAS COME DOWN, FLOODING THE UNIVERSE WITH POCKETS OF ENERGY AND DEBRIS UTTERLY UTTERLY UNKNOWN TO TERRESTRIAL SCIENCE.

AND IT'S CHANGING OUR WORLD.*

*THE SOURCE WALL FELL IN DARK NIGHTS: METAL #6. --PAUL



THESE EMERGENT EVENTS ARE UNLIKE ANYTHING WE'VE EVER FACED.

THE MOST COMMON CONSEQUENCE IS THE SPONTANEOUS IGNITION OF NEW, UNCONTROLLED META-POWERS.

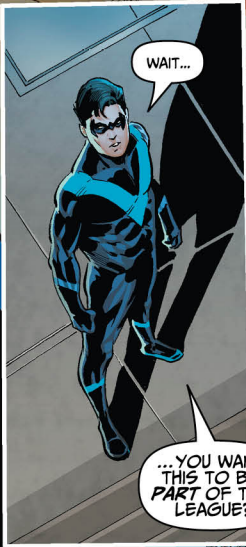
THERE NEEDS TO BE A TEAM READY, 24/7, TO RESPOND TO THESE CRISES AS THEY HAPPEN.

AGREED.

ABSOLUTELY, NIGHTWING.

A DEDICATED TEAM, SERVING ALONGSIDE THE JUSTICE LEAGUE'S MAIN LINE OF DEFENSE.

WE NEED TO MEET THIS CRISIS HEAD-ON.



WAIT...

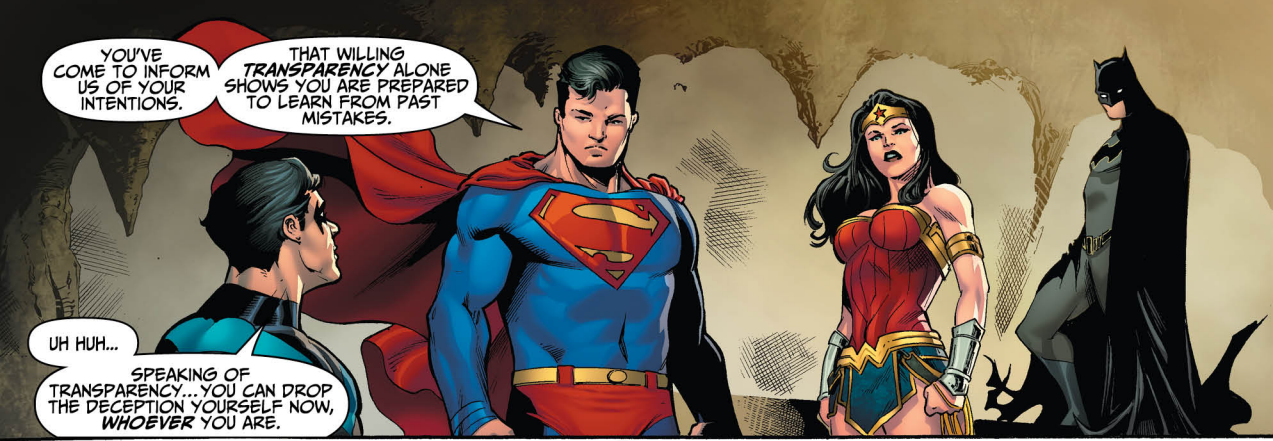
... YOU WANT THIS TO BE PART OF THE LEAGUE?

WHEN CAN YOU START?

LOOK, I WAS JUST INFORMING YOU OF MY PLANS--

YOU WANT ME TO LEAD AN OFFICIAL JUSTICE LEAGUE RESPONSE?

MY LAST TEAM DIDN'T EXACTLY MEET WITH YOUR GLOWING APPROVAL...



YOU'VE COME TO INFORM US OF YOUR INTENTIONS.

THAT WILLING **TRANSPARENCY** ALONE SHOWS YOU ARE PREPARED TO LEARN FROM PAST MISTAKES.

UH HUH...

SPEAKING OF **TRANSPARENCY**... YOU CAN DROP THE DECEPTION YOURSELF NOW, **WHOEVER** YOU ARE.



WELL... **DETECTED**.

WE TOLD YOU HE COULD TELL, J'ONN.

DO YOU **REALLY** DOUBT HIS ABILITY?



I AM THE APPOINTED LEADER OF THE **JUSTICE LEAGUE**. I INTEND TO BE DILIGENT IN ALL SELECTIONS.

PLEASE FORGIVE **MARTIAN MANHUNTER'S** FLAIR FOR THE DRAMATIC. NIGHTWING, YOUR TEAM WILL LIAISE WITH US.

YOU'LL HAVE DEDICATED SPACE TO OPERATE OUT OF THE **NEW HALL OF JUSTICE**. WE'VE GOT A ROOM FOR YOU.

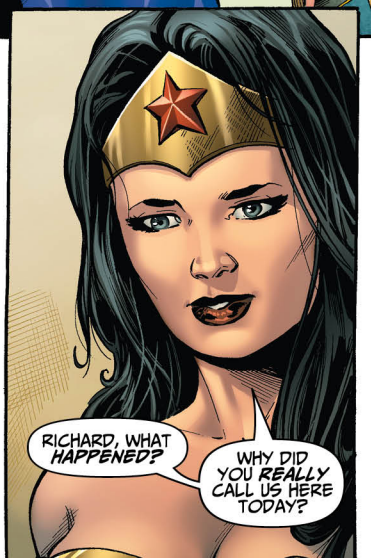
THAT'S IT? AFTER EVERYTHING THAT'S HAPPENED, I'M JUST SUPPOSED TO MOVE IN WITH--



THE **TITANS** WERE A CLUB OF **FRIENDS** WHO GOT OUT OF THEIR DEPTH.

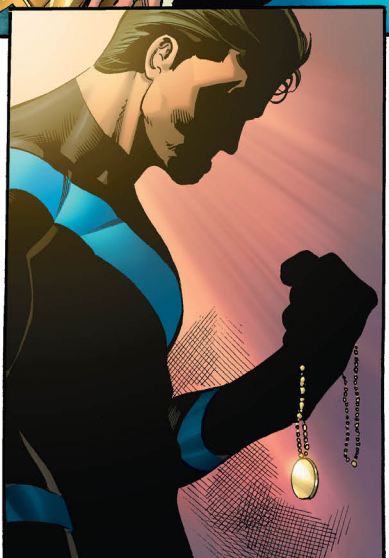
THE ENTIRE **UNIVERSE** IS AT RISK. NOW YOU WERE THERE YOU KNOW WHAT WE'RE UP AGAINST.

A NEW TEAM WITH A **FIRM REMIT** WILL BE BETTER EQUIPPED TO IDENTIFY AND CONTAIN THESE EMERGENT THREATS.



RICHARD, WHAT HAPPENED?

WHY DID YOU **REALLY** CALL US HERE TODAY?



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"I WANTED TO HELP HER, WONDER WOMAN. SHE WAS SO SCARED."

"SHE DEVELOPED THESE DANGEROUS ABILITIES OUT OF THE CLEAR BLUE SKY, AND HAD NO IDEA WHAT TO DO OR WHO TO TURN TO."

"SHE JUST WANTED TO GET AWAY FROM EVERYTHING."

"INCLUDING HERSELF."

"SHE BLEW OUT THE SIDE OF THE TRAIN TO MAKE AN EXIT--"

"THE SOUTHBOUND TRAIN WAS COMING THE OTHER WAY."

"I COULDN'T... HOLD ON TO HER."

"I COULDN'T--"

ALL I MANAGED TO GRAB WAS HER LOCKET.

ST. JUDE. PATRON SAINT OF LOST CAUSES.

I SAW HER AS A THREAT.

IF I'D HAD BACKUP... AN EMPATH OR A TELEPATH, FOR INSTANCE... I MIGHT HAVE READ HER FEAR AND THE OUTCOME WOULD HAVE BEEN DIFFERENT.

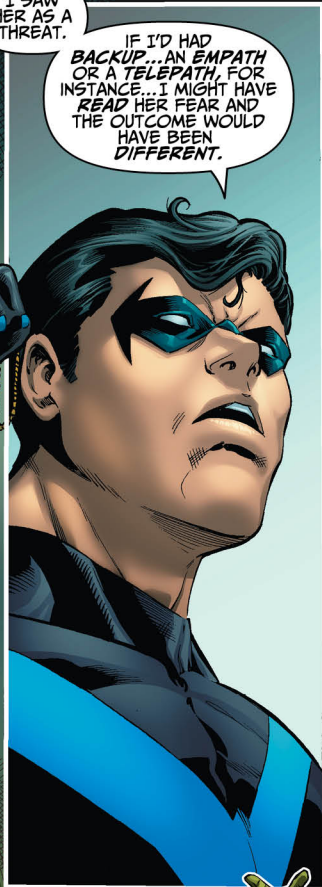
I'M NOT GOING TO LET THAT HAPPEN TO ANYONE EVER AGAIN.

THESE EMERGENTS ARE LIKE NEWBORNS... ORPHANS... THROWN INTO THE WORLD.

"I KNOW HOW THAT FEELS."

SHOW HIM THE LIST.

LIST?



WE ANTICIPATED A NEED FOR A TEAM AS YOU DESCRIBE.

WE'VE COMPILED A LONG LIST OF CANDIDATES.

THIS IS... WOW, HIM? AND SHE'S EXTRA-ORDINARY...

BUT...

BUT?
BUT I HAVE MY OWN LIST.

INTERESTING CHOICES, BATMAN...?

HE'S THE ONE WHO HAS TO MAKE IT WORK.

THIS PLANET CAN'T WAIT AROUND FOR THE JUSTICE LEAGUE TO RETURN FROM THEIR NEXT BIG ADVENTURE. PEOPLE NEED HELP. NOW. AND I NEED PEOPLE I CAN RELY ON.
LET'S BE CLEAR... I APPRECIATE YOUR BACKING. BUT THIS MEETING WAS A COURTESY...

...I'M NOT ASKING FOR PERMISSION.
I'M TELLING YOU WHAT I'M GOING TO DO.

