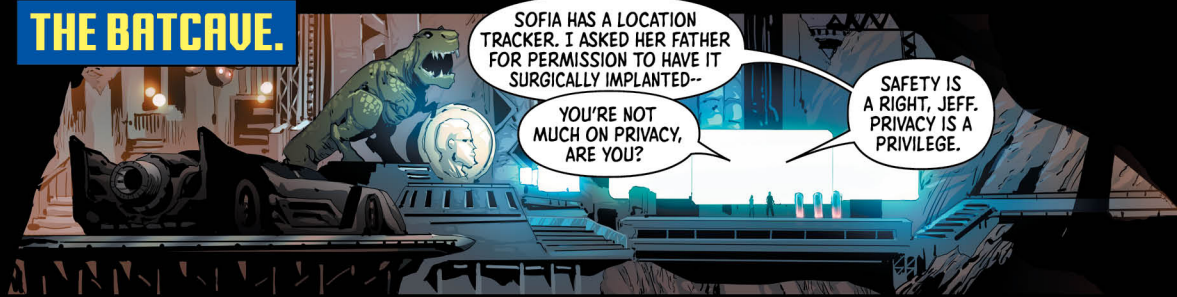


THE BATCAVE.



SOFIA HAS A LOCATION TRACKER. I ASKED HER FATHER FOR PERMISSION TO HAVE IT SURGICALLY IMPLANTED--

YOU'RE NOT MUCH ON PRIVACY, ARE YOU?

SAFETY IS A RIGHT, JEFF. PRIVACY IS A PRIVILEGE.

SHE'S HOLED UP OUTSIDE OF LOS ANGELES, PROTECTED BY A MAN I TRUST.

HE GOES BY "**KALIBER**." I'LL GIVE YOU FILES. YOU CAN LEARN ABOUT HIM EN ROUTE.



IF YOU'VE GOT A FRIEND IN PLAY, THEN WHY DO YOU NEED US?



KALIBER IS A GOOD MAN, BUT HE'S NOT A STABLE ONE. WHEN YOU MEET HIM YOU'LL LEARN THE ***DISTINCTION***.

HOW DO YOU DO IT, BRUCE?

DO WHAT? DRINK TEA? I WAIT FOR IT TO COOL. ALFRED LIKES A BRITISH TEMPER--

STOP "**BRUCE WAYNEING**" ME. PLEASE. I'M HERE TO WORK WITH **BATMAN**.

YOU'RE THE SYMBOL OF ***CERTAINTY***.

YOU MAKE THE IMPOSSIBLE SEEM LIKELY. YOU WALK INTO A ROOM AND DOUBT RUNS FOR THE DOOR.

DON'T TELL ME YOU LEARNED THAT FROM A BUNCH OF BATS.



I'M THE
SYMBOL OF **FEAR**.
I'M THE NIGHTMARE THAT
PEOPLE CAN TRUST. THAT'S
WHAT I LEARNED FROM
BATS.

YOU'RE
HOPE, JEFF. YOU **CAN** BE
A SYMBOL OF THAT. IT'S JUST
A LOT HARDER. RIGHT NOW,
HOPE IS WHAT SOFIA
NEEDS.

I HAVE
A PLANE WAITING. YOU
AND THE OUTSIDERS CAN BE
IN LOS ANGELES IN FIVE HOURS.
WE'RE NOT THE ONLY ONES
TRACKING HER, JEFF.

PREPARE
FOR WAR.

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

LESSER GODS PART 2

BRYAN HILL Writer **DEXTER SOY** Artist
VERONICA GANDINI Colors **CLAYTON COWLES** Letters
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JAMIE S. RICH Group Editor **BATMAN** created by **BOB KANE** with **BILL FINGER**

JOSHUA TREE.

ARE YOU REALLY FROM THE FUTURE?

OH.

NO. I NEEDED YOU TO COME WITH ME. I'M AN ARMS DEALER--FORMER--FROM **MARKOVIA**. YOU'D HAVE RAN IF I TOLD YOU THAT.

WELL, I FEEL STUPID.

THE RA'S **AL GHUL** PART IS REAL. UNFORTUNATELY.

YOU CAME OUT OF THE **ARK PROGRAM**. SO YOU HAVE ABILITIES. WHAT ARE THEY?

I'M **STRONG**. DON'T KNOW **HOW** STRONG. I HEAL FAST. I WANT TO BE A DOCTOR. WORK WITH KIDS.

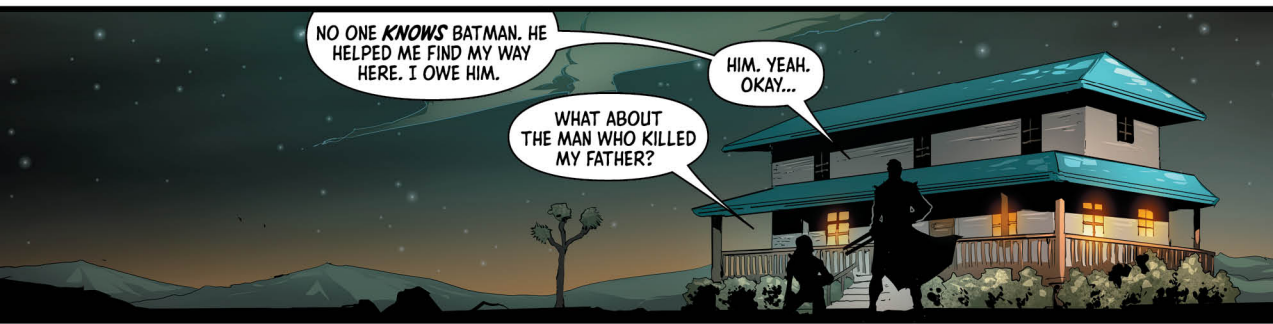
THE WORLD NEEDS MORE DOCTORS.

THAT HEALING ABILITY. DOES IT HELP WITH GRIEF?

NO. NO, IT DOESN'T.

YOU SHOULD GET SOME SLEEP, **SOFIA**. **BATMAN** TOLD ME HELP IS COMING. WE'LL GET YOU SOMEWHERE SAFE.

YOU KNOW **BATMAN**, **KALIBER**?



NO ONE *KNOWS* BATMAN. HE HELPED ME FIND MY WAY HERE. I OWE HIM.

HIM. YEAH. OKAY...

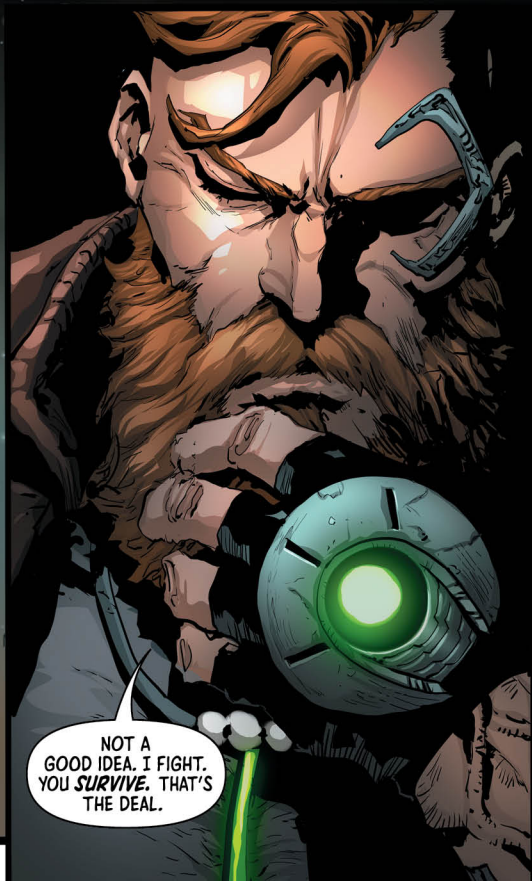
WHAT ABOUT THE MAN WHO KILLED MY FATHER?

ISHMAEL IS FROM THE ARK PROGRAM. SAME THAT MADE YOU. HE'S A *PARASITE*. HE FEEDS OFF OF METAHUMANS TO INCREASE HIS POWER. *RA'S AL GHUL* FOUND HIM. NOT SURE HOW. DON'T KNOW MUCH MORE THAN THAT.

BUT I WON'T LET HIM TAKE YOU. YOU HAVE MY WORD, SOFIA.



CAN I HAVE A GUN, TOO? I'M ASSUMING YOU HAVE MORE THAN ONE.



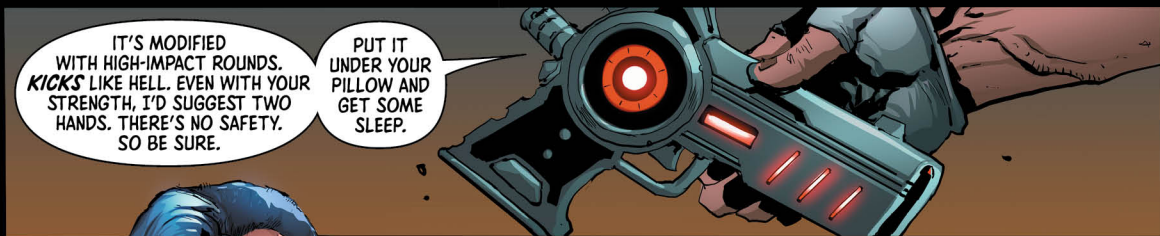
NOT A GOOD IDEA. I FIGHT. YOU *SURVIVE*. THAT'S THE DEAL.

I'M NOT GOING TO USE IT ON MYSELF, IF THAT'S WHAT YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT.

I'M A LOT OF THINGS, BUT IT WOULD HELP IF YOU STOPPED TREATING ME LIKE I WAS *FRAGILE*.

...





IT'S MODIFIED
WITH HIGH-IMPACT ROUNDS.
KICKS LIKE HELL. EVEN WITH YOUR
STRENGTH, I'D SUGGEST TWO
HANDS. THERE'S NO SAFETY.
SO BE SURE.

PUT IT
UNDER YOUR
PILLOW AND
GET SOME
SLEEP.



THANKS.

I DIDN'T THINK BATMAN
WORKED WITH ARMS
DEALERS. DAD TOLD
ME HE HATES
GUNS.

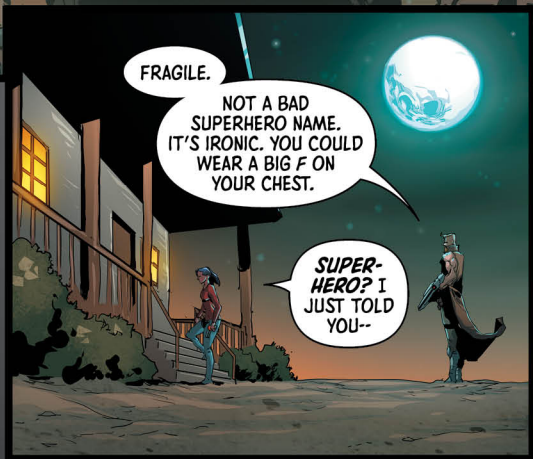
YOUR
FATHER WAS
RIGHT.



HENCE,
THE WORD
"FORMER."

WE CAN
DO SHIFTS.
IF YOU NEED
TO SLEEP,
TOO.

I CAN
CONTROL
MY ADRENALINE.
I'M GOOD FOR
ANOTHER
DAY.



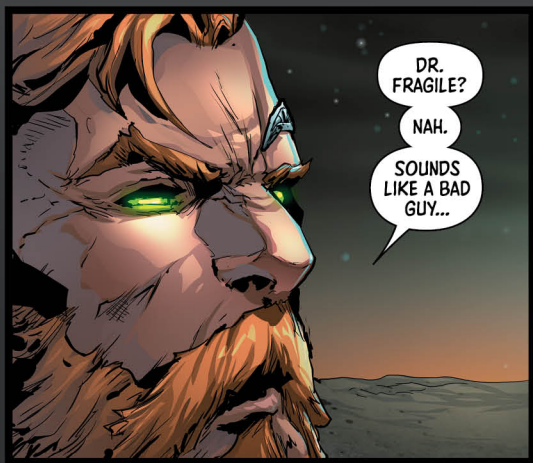
FRAGILE.

NOT A BAD
SUPERHERO NAME.
IT'S IRONIC. YOU COULD
WEAR A BIG F ON
YOUR CHEST.

SUPER-
HERO? I
JUST TOLD
YOU--



--I'M
GOING TO BE A
DOCTOR.



DR.
FRAGILE?

NAH.

SOUNDS
LIKE A BAD
GUY...