

**THE DARK MULTIVERSE.**  
**NOW.**

I SHOULD HAVE SEEN IT FROM THE BEGINNING, CLARK.

I SHOULD HAVE SEEN THROUGH THE BRIGHT COLORS, THOSE FRIENDLY EYES, AND THAT BOY SCOUT GRIN.

I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN WHAT YOU WERE DOING TO ME. WHAT YOU WERE DOING TO ALL OF US.

YOU TOLD US TO LOVE EACH OTHER, TO TEAR DOWN THE WALLS THAT KEPT US FROM TRUSTING EACH OTHER.

**BATMAN**  
THE DEVASTATOR

*In Symphony of*  
**DESTRUCTION**

FRANK TIERI PLOT JAMES TYNION WORDS

TONY S. DANIEL PENCILS DANNY MIKI INKS

TOMEU MOREY COLORS TOM NAPOLITANO LETTERS

JASON FABOH AND BRAD ANDERSON COVER

ANDREW MARINO ASSISTANT EDITOR EDDIE BERGANZA EDITOR

SPECIAL THANKS TO SCOTT SNYDER AND GREG CAPULLO

BATMAN CREATED BY BOB HANE WITH BILL FINGER

SUPERMAN CREATED BY JERRY SIEGEL AND JOE SHUSTER.

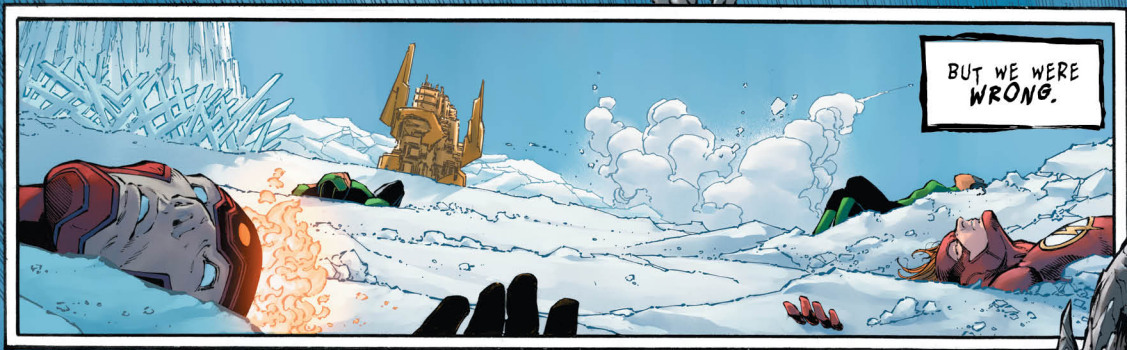
SUPERGIRL BASED ON CHARACTERS CREATED BY JERRY SIEGEL AND JOE SHUSTER.

SUPERBOY CREATED BY JERRY SIEGEL.

BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH THE JERRY SIEGEL FAMILY.

WE WANTED TO BELIEVE YOU. WE WANTED MORE THAN ANYTHING TO BELIEVE THAT THE STRONGEST MAN IN THE WORLD WAS THERE TO SAVE US.

THAT WE COULD LET GO OF OUR FEARS AND HOPE AGAIN.



BUT WE WERE  
WRONG.

I REMIND MYSELF THAT  
THIS ISN'T MY WORLD.  
*OUR* WORLD.

BUT I SEE THE  
SAME ECHOES  
EVERYWHERE I LOOK.

**BARBATOS** TASKED ME  
WITH A CRUCIAL MISSION.  
TO RETRIEVE THE **COSMIC  
TUNING FORK** UNDER  
THE **FORTRESS OF  
SOLITUDE**, AND BRING  
IT TO GOTHAM CITY.

WHEN THE HEROES CAME TO  
STOP ME, THEY TREATED YOUR  
FORTRESS LIKE HALLOWED  
GROUND. THEY DID NOT WANT  
TO DISTURB A MONUMENT  
BUILT TO YOUR GOODNESS.

THEY HAD HEARD THAT THE  
JUSTICE LEAGUE WAS MAKING  
ONE LAST STAND AGAINST  
BARBATOS. THAT SUPERMAN  
HIMSELF WAS ON A MISSION  
TO SAVE THE WORLD.

GEEZ, BONE FACE...  
YA SURE ARE  
THE UGLIEST  
FRAGGIN' BATMAN  
I'VE EVER SEEN.

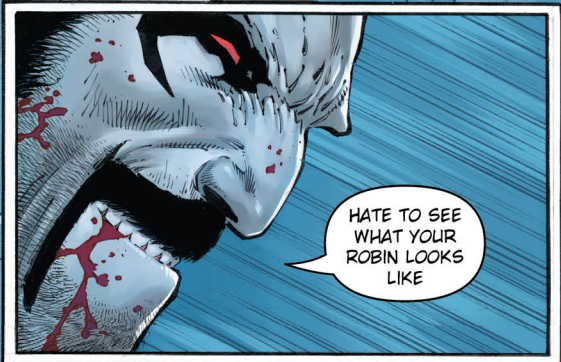
EACH OF THEM ASKED  
THEMSELVES WHAT SUPERMAN  
WOULD HAVE DONE, AND  
THEY CAME HERE WITH LOVE  
IN THEIR HEARTS.



**EARTH-O.**  
**THE FORTRESS OF SOLITUDE.**  
**EARLIER TODAY.**

AND THEY FELL  
SO EASILY, CLARK.

I TOOK  
THEM DOWN  
ONE BY ONE.



HATE TO SEE  
WHAT YOUR  
ROBIN LOOKS  
LIKE



YOU DON'T IMPRESS ME, LOBO.

CHUK!



YOU DEPRESS ME.

ON MY WORLD YOU WERE ONE OF THE MOST FIERCELY INDEPENDENT AND DANGEROUS BEINGS IN THE UNIVERSE.

AND HERE, YOU STAND WITH COMPASSIONATE FOOLS.

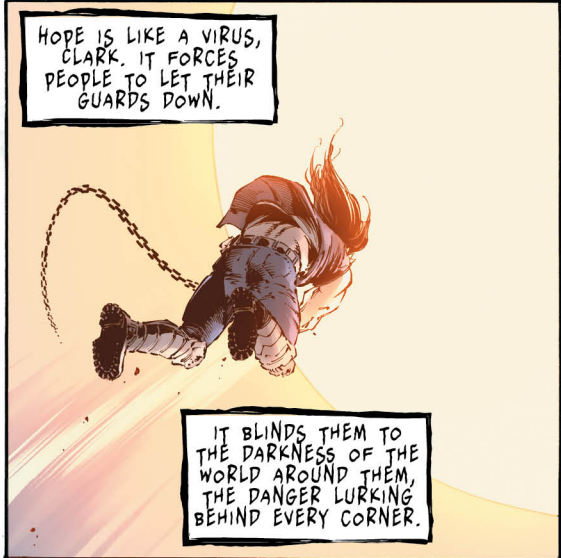
AW, HELL...



THE ROT GOES DEEP IN THIS SICK, SAD WORLD, DOESN'T IT?



I AM HERE TO BURN IT OUT OF YOU.



HOPE IS LIKE A VIRUS, CLARK. IT FORCES PEOPLE TO LET THEIR GUARDS DOWN.

IT BLINDS THEM TO THE DARKNESS OF THE WORLD AROUND THEM, THE DANGER LURKING BEHIND EVERY CORNER.



UNTIL THEY CAN'T FIGHT BACK ANYMORE.

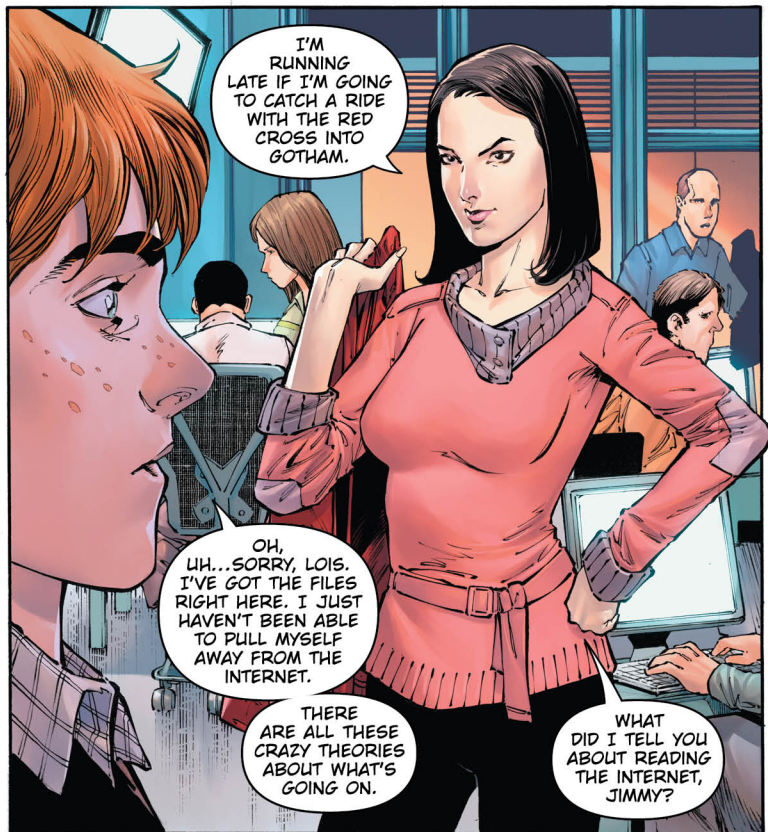
FRAG IT ALL.

**EARTH-O.**

**DAILY PLANET**

**METROPOLIS.  
ONE DAY AGO.**

JIMMY. I TOLD YOU AT LEAST EIGHT TIMES, I NEEDED EVERY PHOTO WE HAD ON THE CHALLENGERS PROGRAM ON MY DESK AN HOUR AGO.

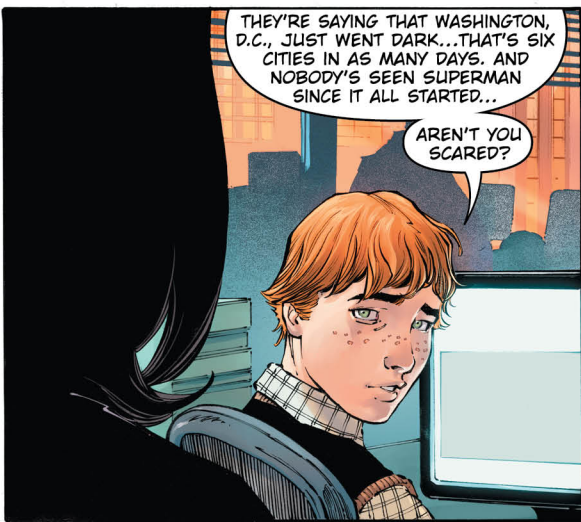


I'M RUNNING LATE IF I'M GOING TO CATCH A RIDE WITH THE RED CROSS INTO GOTHAM.

OH, UH...SORRY, LOIS. I'VE GOT THE FILES RIGHT HERE. I JUST HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO PULL MYSELF AWAY FROM THE INTERNET.

THERE ARE ALL THESE CRAZY THEORIES ABOUT WHAT'S GOING ON.

WHAT DID I TELL YOU ABOUT READING THE INTERNET, JIMMY?



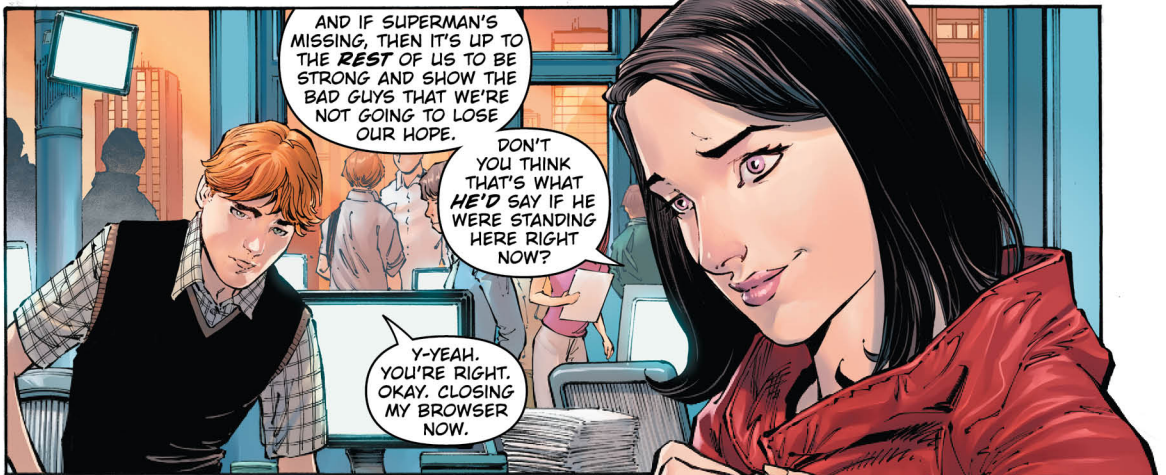
THEY'RE SAYING THAT WASHINGTON, D.C., JUST WENT DARK...THAT'S SIX CITIES IN AS MANY DAYS. AND NOBODY'S SEEN SUPERMAN SINCE IT ALL STARTED...

AREN'T YOU SCARED?



NO. MAYBE I SHOULD BE, BUT I'M NOT.

OF COURSE I SEE THAT THINGS ARE BAD RIGHT NOW, BUT I BELIEVE WITH EVERY FIBER OF MY BEING THAT THE GOOD GUYS ARE GOING TO WIN.



AND IF SUPERMAN'S MISSING, THEN IT'S UP TO THE REST OF US TO BE STRONG AND SHOW THE BAD GUYS THAT WE'RE NOT GOING TO LOSE OUR HOPE.

DON'T YOU THINK THAT'S WHAT HE'D SAY IF HE WERE STANDING HERE RIGHT NOW?

Y-YEAH. YOU'RE RIGHT. OKAY. CLOSING MY BROWSER NOW.



LOIS.

I'M SORRY, I'M RUNNING--

WAIT--



**BRUCE?!**

WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING HERE? THE WORLD'S FALLING APART, YOU SHOULD BE--

I'M SORRY, LOIS. I NEEDED TO COME HERE.

I NEEDED TO TALK TO YOU.



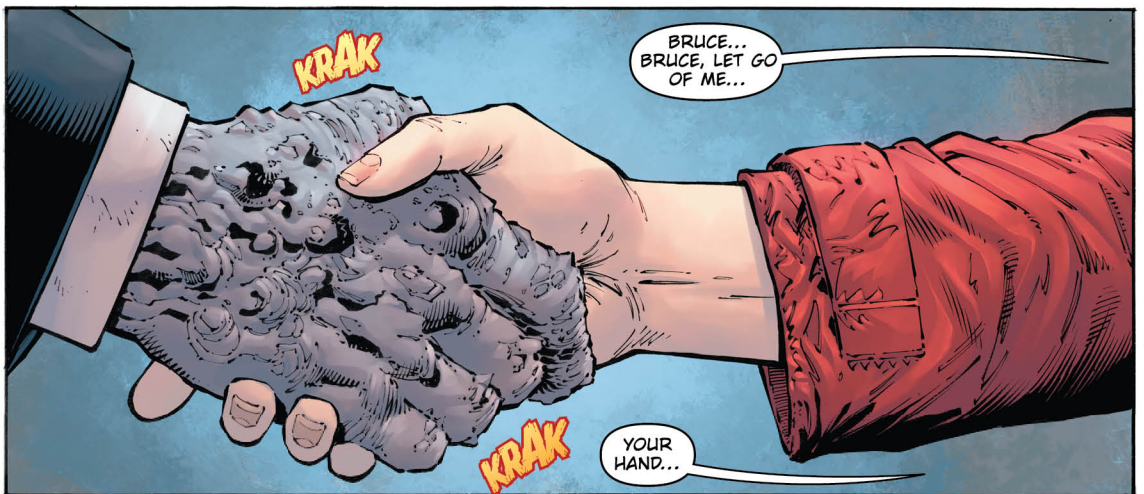
JUST... OKAY, I'VE BEEN PUTTING ON A BRAVE FACE IN THE OFFICE AND AT HOME, WITH JON, BUT I NEED TO KNOW...

IS CLARK OKAY?



NO, LOIS. CLARK ISN'T OKAY.

CLARK IS THE PROBLEM.



BRUCE... BRUCE, LET GO OF ME...

YOUR HAND...

**KRAK**

**KRAK**



KRAK

WHAT DID YOU DO TO YOURSELF...?

I MADE IT SO HE COULD NEVER HURT ME AGAIN.



NO...



I NEED YOU TO LISTEN TO ME, LOIS. I WANTED TO DO WHAT I NEVER COULD ON MY WORLD.

I WANTED TO **SAVE** YOU FROM HIM.