



**NOW.**

H-HELP...

CAN'T  
MOVE...

DON'T  
STRUGGLE,  
KATE.



YOU'RE CHAINED UP AND STILL BLEEDING. YOU'RE STRAPPED TO A Dais UNDER THE LARGEST THERMONUCLEAR DEVICE I'VE SEEN OUTSIDE OF A TEXTBOOK.

GOOD NEWS IS, YOU'VE GOT COMPANY.

BATWING?  
WHAT...WHAT IS  
THIS PLACE?

HELL.



OUR CHURCHGOING FRIEND *AZRAEL* IS STILL A LITTLE WOZZY FROM THE BLOOD LOSS. I THINK THIS IS MY... 123RD WIND, IF I'VE BEEN COUNTING CORRECTLY.

OKAY. BOMB. CHAINS. NAKED. I'M CATCHING UP. WHAT'S THE PLAN?

IN ALL HONESTY? DIE. BUT THAT DOESN'T MATTER RIGHT NOW.

WHAT MATTERS IS THAT GOTHAM SITS ON A *FAULT LINE*. WHAT MATTERS IS THAT SOMETIME IN THE NEXT 24 HOURS, THE CENTER OF THE CITY IS GOING TO *ERUPT* FROM BELOW.

THE ENTIRE CAVE SYSTEM SUPPORTING THE CITY IS GOING TO COLLAPSE, AND GOTHAM CITY WILL COLLAPSE WITH IT, ALONG WITH MOST OF KANE COUNTY. MAYBE EVEN PARTS OF BLUDHAVEN.

THAT'S HOW WIDE A RADIUS OF DESTRUCTION WE'RE TALKING.

WE'RE TALKING THE END OF GOTHAM CITY.

I'M NOT HEARING A PLAN.

YOU HAVE A SECRET UTILITY BELT IN YOUR TEETH I DON'T KNOW ABOUT? I'M SERIOUSLY ASKING.







STRIP HIM DOWN.

HE'LL HAVE LOCK PICKS EMBEDDED IN HIS PALMS AND FEET, SO WELD THE LOCKS SHUT WHEN HE GOES UP WITH THE OTHERS.



I WANTED A *REAL* CHANCE TO FIGHT YOU, BATMAN. NO TRICKERY THIS TIME. A *PROPER* FIGHT. THE KIND OF FIGHT THEY *REMEMBER*.

PITY. THERE'S NO TIME FOR THAT NOW.



SHIVA... WHY...



THE MORNING SHOWS START ON THE EAST COAST IN JUST OVER AN HOUR. WE WANT TO MAXIMIZE THE HORROR OF IT ALL.

GOTHAM CITY WILL DIE, LIVE ON TELEVISION.

BUT YOU WILL DIE FIRST.



LADY SHIVA... THERE'S A DISTURBANCE IN THE WEST TUNNEL.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, *DISTURBANCE*?



"THE GIRL LIKED BEING A SHADOW.



"SHE LIKED DARTING AROUND FROM PLACE TO PLACE UNSEEN, AND UNHEARD.



"MASTER OF A WORLD OF HER OWN MAKING.



"SHE'D SMILE AS SHE WATCHED THE CHILDREN LAUGH AND PLAY THEIR GAMES, AND AT NIGHT SHE'D TAKE THEM OUT AND PLAY THEM ON HER OWN.



"BUT AS SHE CONTINUED TO WATCH THE WORLD AROUND HER, THERE WAS A CURIOUS LONGING INSIDE HER. A LONGING THAT GREW AND GREW WITH TIME.



"A LONGING NOT TO WATCH THE WORLD, BUT TO BE A PART OF IT.



"SHADOWS AREN'T PEOPLE, SHE WOULD TELL HERSELF."