



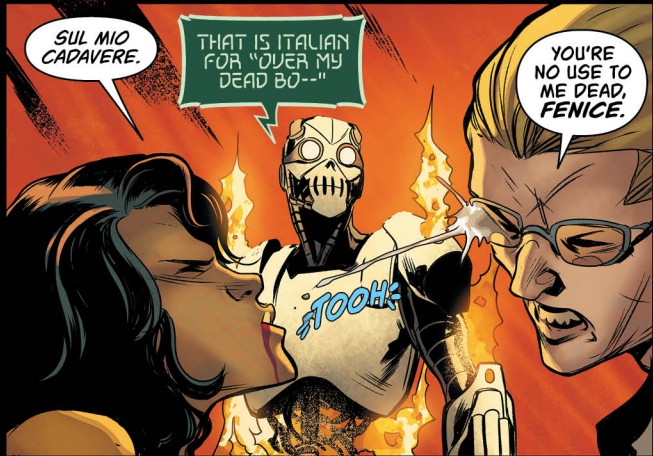
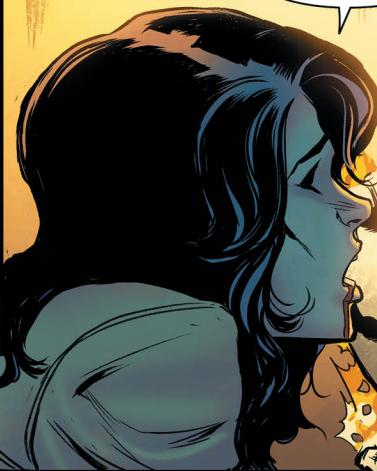
I LOATHE REPEATING MYSELF, BUT SINCE YOU DON'T SEEM TO UNDERSTAND, I'LL SAY IT AGAIN.

I WON'T CONTACT MY FORMER MAFIA CONNECTIONS JUST SO YOU CAN FORCE THE BIRDS OF PREY TO GIVE UP ORACLE. THAT LIFE IS BEHIND ME, CALCULATOR.

FROM WHAT I HEAR, YOUR LIFE HAS NEVER BEEN IN FRONT OF YOU.

YOU'RE ALWAYS RUNNING FROM SOMETHING, OR SOMEONE. YOUR LIFE ISN'T BEHIND YOU-- IT'S BREATHING DOWN YOUR NECK.

I'VE GIVEN YOU FREEDOM. YOU OWE ME GOTHAM'S MOBS.



SUL MIO CADAVERE.

THAT IS ITALIAN FOR "OVER MY DEAD BO--"

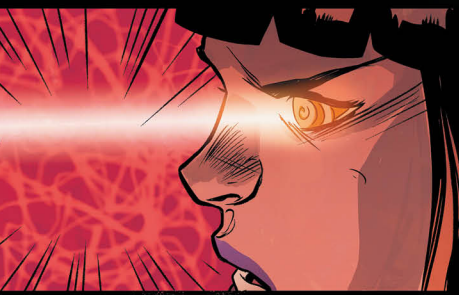
YOU'RE NO USE TO ME DEAD, FENICE.

BLACKBIRD, PERHAPS YOU CAN PERSUADE FENICE TO HELP US?

MARIA BERTINELLI. WHY WON'T YOU FIGHT WITH US?



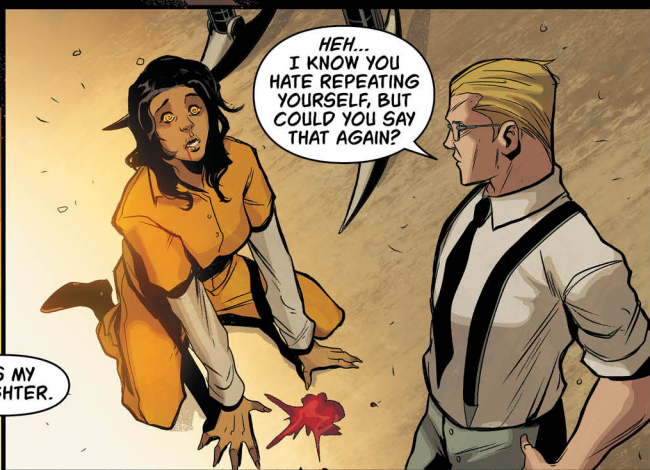
I DON'T WANT TO PUT THE BIRDS OF PREY IN DANGER--



THEY LOCKED ME UP IN SOLITARY. WHY WOULD YOU PROTECT THEM?



BECAUSE THE ONE KNOWN AS HUNTRESS...



HEH... I KNOW YOU HATE REPEATING YOURSELF, BUT COULD YOU SAY THAT AGAIN?

...IS MY DAUGHTER.

The Clock Tower.

I CAN'T IMAGINE WHAT HELENA'S GOING THROUGH RIGHT NOW...

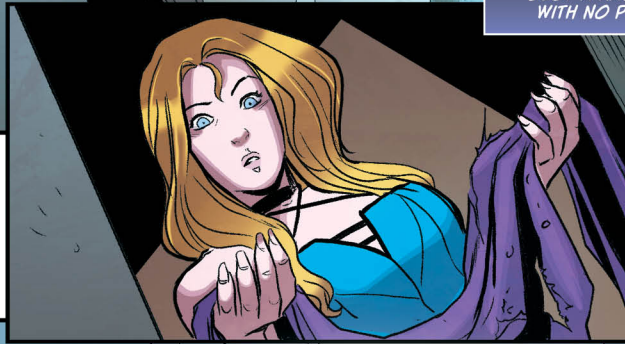
I WAS THINKING, MAYBE YOUR MOM DIDN'T WANT TO ESCAPE--

DIDN'T WANT TO GET OUT OF ARKHAM ASYLUM? ONLY A **CRAZY** PERSON WOULD STAY, BARBARA.

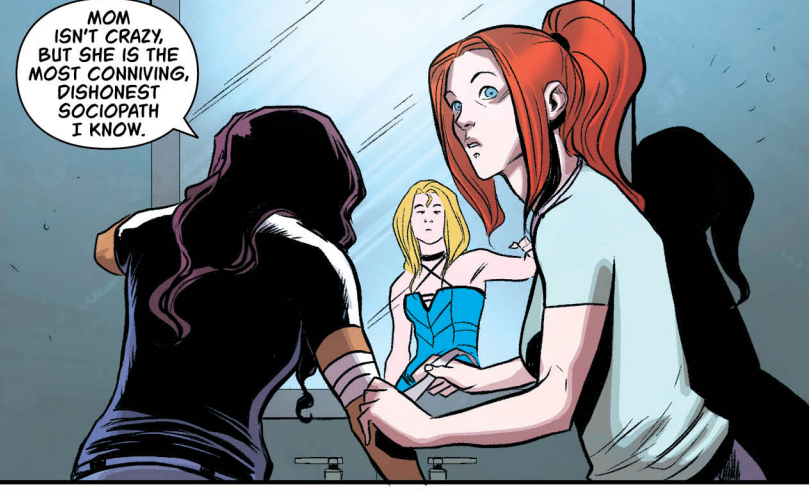
...SEEING HER MOM WALK OUT OF ARKHAM WITH HELP FROM CALCULATOR, BURNRATE AND BLACKBIRD. NOT EXACTLY THE MODEL MOTHER OR PRISONER.

I UNDERSTAND WHY CALCULATOR WOULD WANT TO BREAK OUT SOMEONE LIKE BLACKBIRD FOR HIS TEAM, BUT FENICE? SHE'S JUST A RACKETEER WITH NO POWERS.

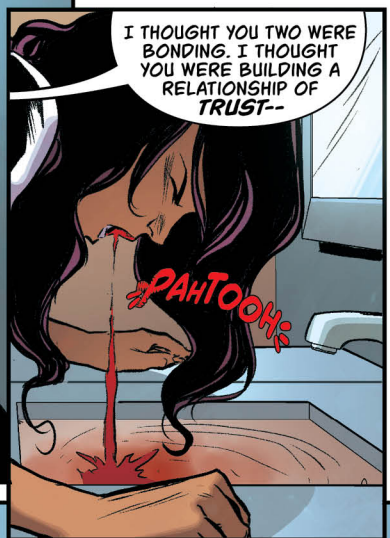
BESIDES, FENICE PAID GUS FOR INTEL AND HE WAS ONLY **PRETENDING** TO BE ORACLE. IT'S NOT LIKE SHE COULD GIVE CALCULATOR THE REAL ORACLE'S IDENTITY.



IN ALL MY FIGHTS, I'VE WATCHED ADRENALINE COURSE THROUGH MY OPPONENTS' VEINS SO FAST AND HARD IT CLOUDED THEIR VISION AND DISTRACTED THEM FROM REALITY.



MOM ISN'T CRAZY, BUT SHE IS THE MOST CONNING, DISHONEST SOCIOPATH I KNOW.

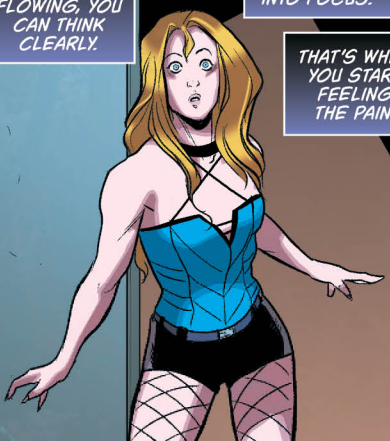


I THOUGHT YOU TWO WERE BONDING. I THOUGHT YOU WERE BUILDING A RELATIONSHIP OF **TRUST--**

WHEN THE ADRENALINE STOPS FLOWING, YOU CAN THINK CLEARLY.

EVERYTHING COMES BACK INTO FOCUS.

THAT'S WHEN YOU START FEELING THE PAIN.



WHAT IS IT? THAT NIGHT WE HAD FENICE ARRESTED... HELENA REMOVED HER MASK...



I. TRUSTED MY MOTHER.

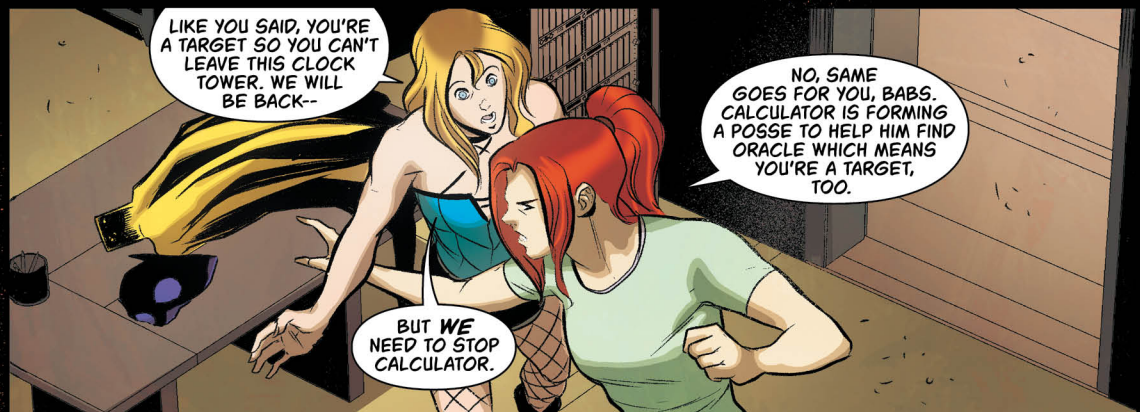


SO WHAT, YOU THINK BECAUSE YOU HELPED **COMMIT** YOUR MOM SHE FEELS LIKE SHE OWES YOU ONE BY GIVING YOU UP TO CALCULATOR?

OR BLACKBIRD **HYPNOTIZED** FENICE AND SHE GAVE UP HELENA INVOLUNTARILY.

EITHER WAY, I'M A TARGET. WHAT WAS I THINKING REVEALING MY IDENTITY TO THAT WOMAN?

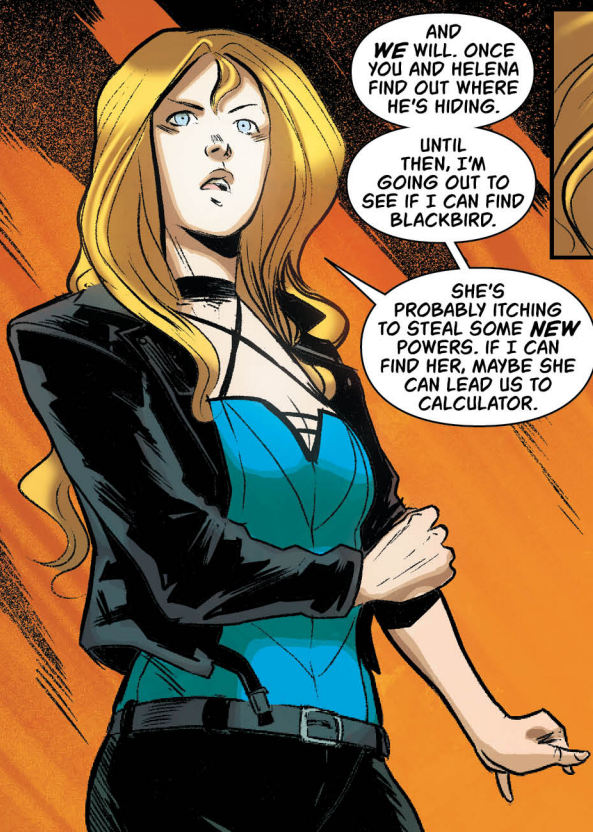
MAYBE I SHOULD BE THE ONE LOCKED UP IN ARKHAM.



LIKE YOU SAID, YOU'RE A TARGET SO YOU CAN'T LEAVE THIS CLOCK TOWER. WE WILL BE BACK--

NO, SAME GOES FOR YOU, BABS. CALCULATOR IS FORMING A POSSE TO HELP HIM FIND ORACLE WHICH MEANS YOU'RE A TARGET, TOO.

BUT WE NEED TO STOP CALCULATOR.



AND WE WILL. ONCE YOU AND HELENA FIND OUT WHERE HE'S HIDING.

UNTIL THEN, I'M GOING OUT TO SEE IF I CAN FIND BLACKBIRD.

SHE'S PROBABLY ITCHING TO STEAL SOME **NEW** POWERS. IF I CAN FIND HER, MAYBE SHE CAN LEAD US TO CALCULATOR.



AND WHAT DO WE DO ONCE WE FIND CALCULATOR'S HIDEOUT?

CALL ME.



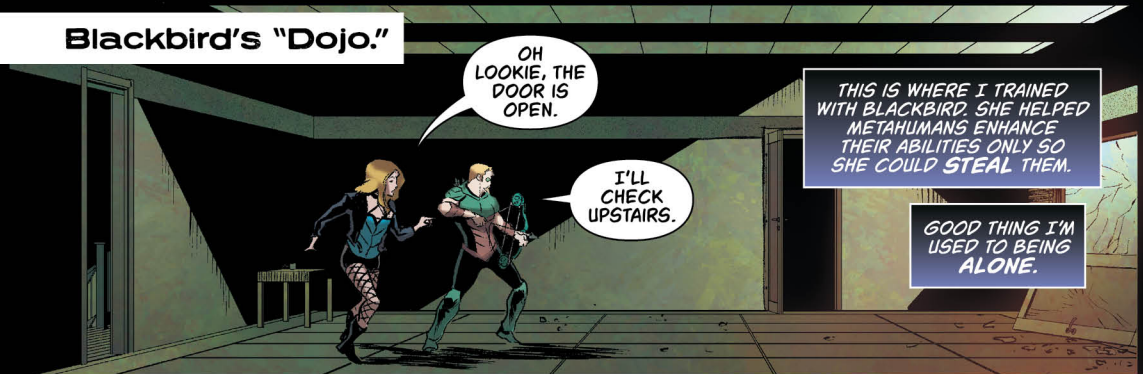
YOU CAN'T TAKE THEM ALL ON ALONE.

WHO SAID I WAS?

I CALLED THE ONLY OTHER PERSON I KNEW I COULD TRUST. THE ONE WHO'S THERE FOR ME NO MATTER WHAT...



Blackbird's "Dojo."



AND ONLY ONE
I WISH I COULD
REMEMBER.

MOM?
ARE YOU
THERE?

I GUESS SEEING
HELENA WITH HER
MOM MADE ME
REALIZE HOW MUCH
I MISS MINE.

HELENA MIGHT NOT
BE HAPPY WITH HER
RELATIONSHIP WITH HER
MOM RIGHT NOW, BUT AT
LEAST SHE HAS ONE.

NO,
OF COURSE
YOU'RE NOT
THERE.

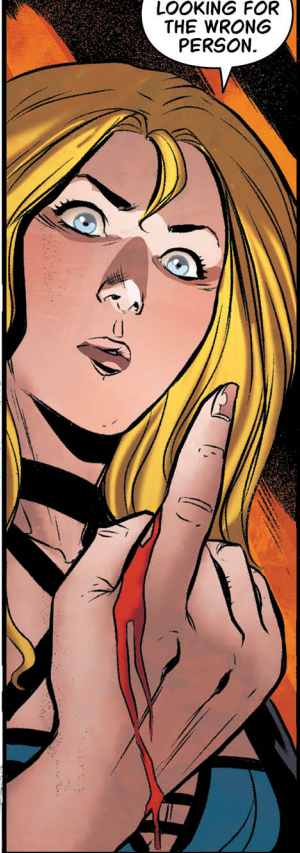
MOTHERS AREN'T
SUPPOSED TO
ABANDON THEIR KIDS.
THEY'RE SUPPOSED
TO BE THERE FOR THEM.

FIGHT TO
THE DEATH
FOR THEM.

AND NO MATTER
WHAT HAPPENS,
THEY'LL ALWAYS
BE FAMILY...



WE--WE'RE
LOOKING FOR
THE WRONG
PERSON.



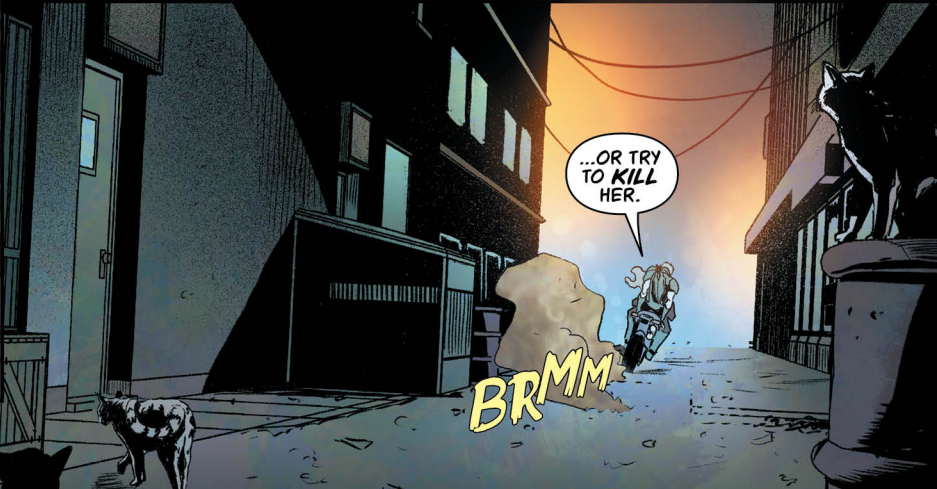
OLLIE!
WE GOTTA
GO TO HELENA'S
APARTMENT!
NOW!



WHY?

BECAUSE
HELENA'S MOM JUST
BUSTED OUT OF JAIL. SHE'S
EITHER GOING TO TRY TO
RECONNECT WITH HER
DAUGHTER...

...OR TRY
TO KILL
HER.



BRMM