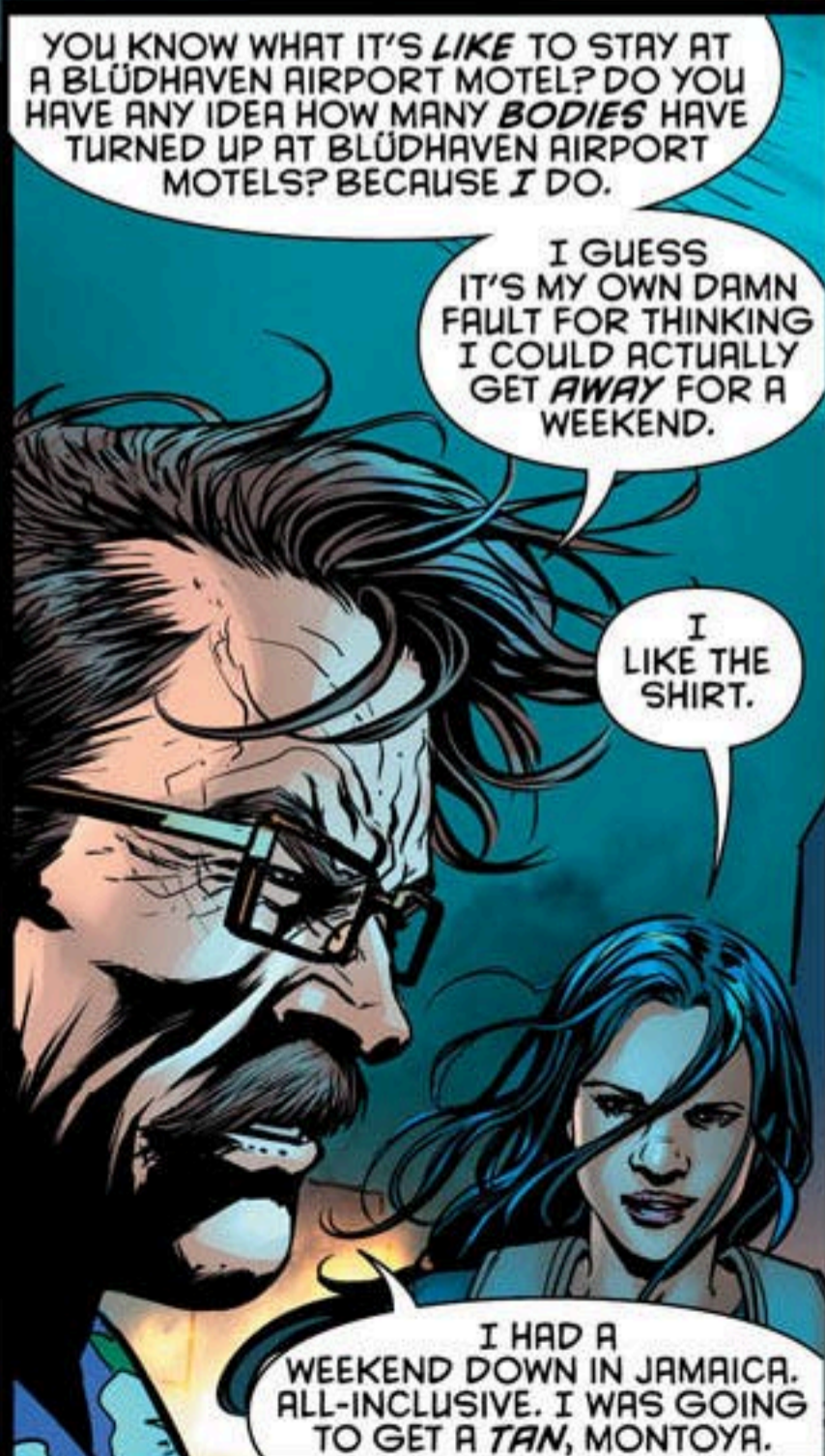




COMMISSIONER.

I DON'T LIKE BEING KEPT OUT OF MY CITY, MONTOYA. ESPECIALLY WHEN IT'S FALLING APART.

WE WERE JUST FOLLOWING THE ORDERS OF THE DEPUTY MAYOR. YOU'VE BEEN TARGETED BEFORE.



YOU KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE TO STAY AT A BLÜDHAVEN AIRPORT MOTEL? DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA HOW MANY *BODIES* HAVE TURNED UP AT BLÜDHAVEN AIRPORT MOTELS? BECAUSE I DO.

I GUESS IT'S MY OWN DAMN FAULT FOR THINKING I COULD ACTUALLY GET *AWAY* FOR A WEEKEND.

I LIKE THE SHIRT.

I HAD A WEEKEND DOWN IN JAMAICA. ALL-INCLUSIVE. I WAS GOING TO GET A *TAN*, MONTOYA.



I NEED TO KNOW *EVERYTHING*. I'VE BEEN FOLLOWING IT FROM THE NEWS AND FROM BULLOCK'S TEXTS, BUT THERE'S *NOTHING* ABOUT ANY OF THIS THAT MAKES A *LICK* OF SENSE...

I FELT THE SAME WAY, SO I THOUGHT I'D GET SOME *HELP* ON THIS ONE.

PLEASE DON'T FIRE ME.



HELLO, JIM.

SO, IT'S HIM AGAIN. THE JOKER. MORE OF HIS BRAND OF HELL...

NO. WE DON'T THINK SO.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, NOT THE JOKER? THERE ARE NEARLY A HUNDRED PEOPLE INFECTED WITH JOKER TOXINS IN GOTHAM MERCY ALONE!



THERE ARE RIOTS UP AND DOWN THE STREETS. THE BRIDGES HAVE BEEN BARRICADED. TELL ME THIS DOESN'T SOUND LIKE A JOKER ATTACK.



WE THINK THAT THIS IS THE DISTRACTION. THE WAY TO ENGENDER THE MOST CHAOS IN THE SHORTEST AMOUNT OF TIME.

TO DISTRACT FROM THE ATTACK.



YOU MEAN TO TELL ME THAT THIS ISN'T THE ATTACK?!



MAYOR HADY IS DEAD. THE CITY IS ON FIRE. AND THIS IS JUST THE SMOKE AND MIRRORS?

THE DEPUTY MAYOR IS LOCKING THE CITY DOWN. THAT DECISION COULD GET A LOT OF PEOPLE KILLED. BUT HE'LL LISTEN TO YOU. YOU HAVE SENIORITY. YOU HAVE RESPECT.

YOU NEED TO EVACUATE GOTHAM. BY ANY MEANS NECESSARY.



AND WHAT ABOUT YOU PEOPLE?



TWO OF OUR ASSOCIATES HAVE ALREADY BEEN TAKEN BY THE ENEMY. WE'RE STARTING TO ACCEPT THE FACT THAT THEY MAY BE DEAD ALREADY.

WE'RE NOT LOSING ANYONE ELSE, JIM. I WON'T ALLOW IT.

LEAGUE OF SHADOWS

PART 3: KISS OF THE DRAGON

JAMES TYNION IV Writer CHRISTIAN DUCE & FERNANDO BLANCO Artists
ALEX SINCLAIR WITH ALLEN PASSALAQUA Colors SAE CIPRIANO Letters
RENATO GUEDES & ROMULO FAJARDO, JR. Cover RAFAEL ALBUQUERQUE Variant Cover
DAVE WIELGOSZ Asst. Editor CHRIS CONROY Editor MARK DOYLE Group Editor
BATMAN CREATED BY BOB KANE WITH BILL FINGER



"AGAIN."

"AGAIN."



AGAIN!

YOU'RE DISTRACTED.
YOU DON'T GET DISTRACTED.



SPEAK, GIRL.

M-MOTHER.



YOU ARE NEVER TO SPEAK TO MOTHER.

SHE HAS MADE IT CLEAR YOU ARE AN ABERRATION--

NO.



M-MY MOTHER.



WHAT IS THIS?
YOUR ROOM.



SMELLS... WOMAN.



YOU THINK THIS BELONGED TO YOUR MOTHER?



HOW LONG HAVE YOU HAD THIS?
HOW LONG HAVE YOU ENTERTAINED THIS FANTASY?



IT BELONGED TO A WOMAN I KILLED.

NO.

YES, IT GOT CAUGHT ON MY BELT. I MEANT TO HAVE IT DESTROYED.



NO!

YOU THINK THAT THERE'S SOMEONE OUT THERE WHO CARES ABOUT YOU? SOME WEAK-WILLED WHORE WHO STARES OUT THE WINDOW AT NIGHT, SOBBING FOR HER LONG-LOST DAUGHTER?



THERE IS NO COMFORT AT THE END OF THIS ROAD, CASSANDRA.