



"TAKE MY WORD FOR IT..."

"...IT WAS A STRUGGLE."

"I REALLY WANTED A DRINK, FOR [REDACTED]'S SAKE."

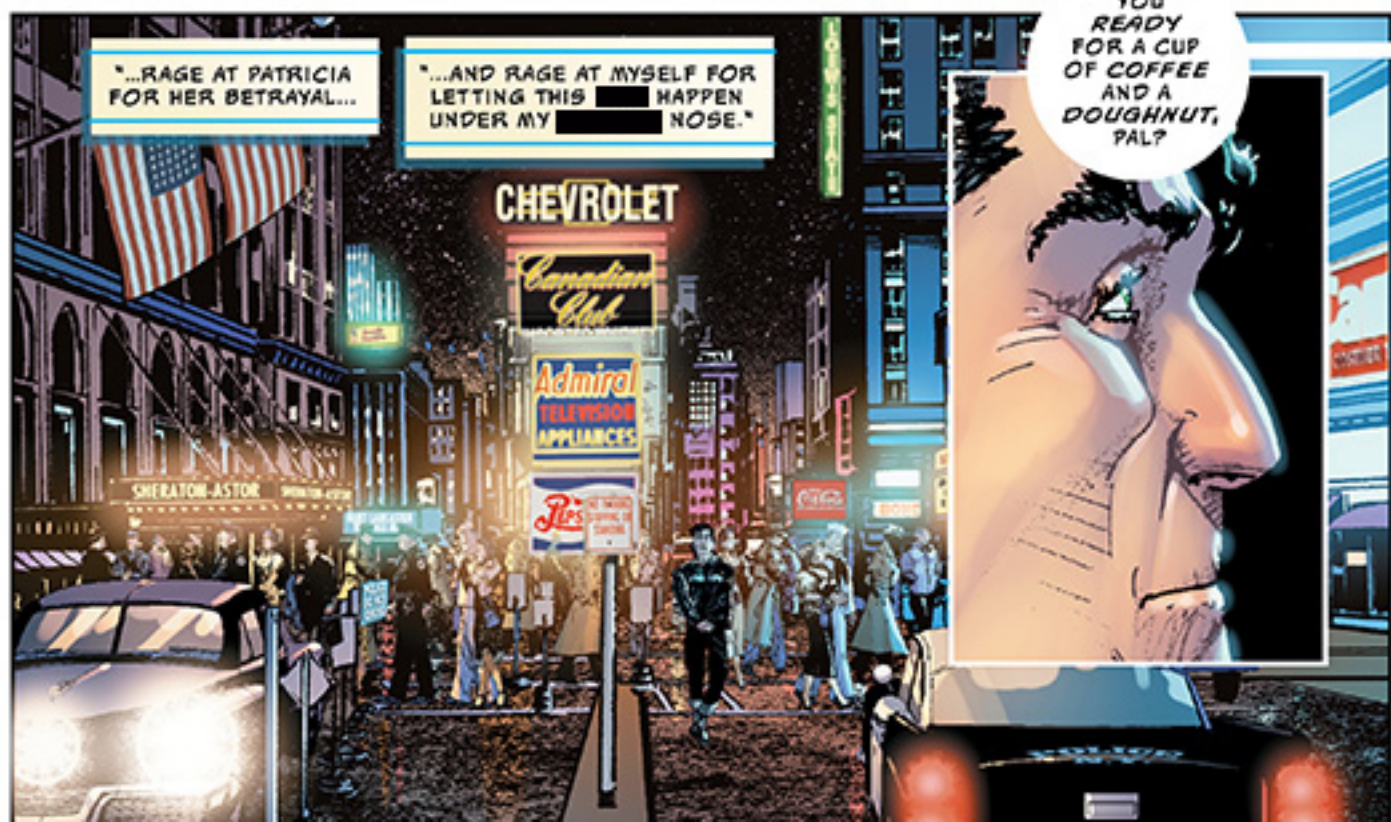
"THE ONLY THING THAT KEPT ME FROM STOPPING AT THE FIRST DIVE I SAW..."



"...WAS THIS VOICE IN MY HEAD."

"MIND, I'M NOT TALKING ABOUT THE VOICE OF REASON."

"I'M TALKING BLIND RAGE..."



"...RAGE AT PATRICIA FOR HER BETRAYAL..."

"...AND RAGE AT MYSELF FOR LETTING THIS [REDACTED] HAPPEN UNDER MY [REDACTED] NOSE."

YOU READY FOR A CUP OF COFFEE AND A DOUGHNUT, PAL?



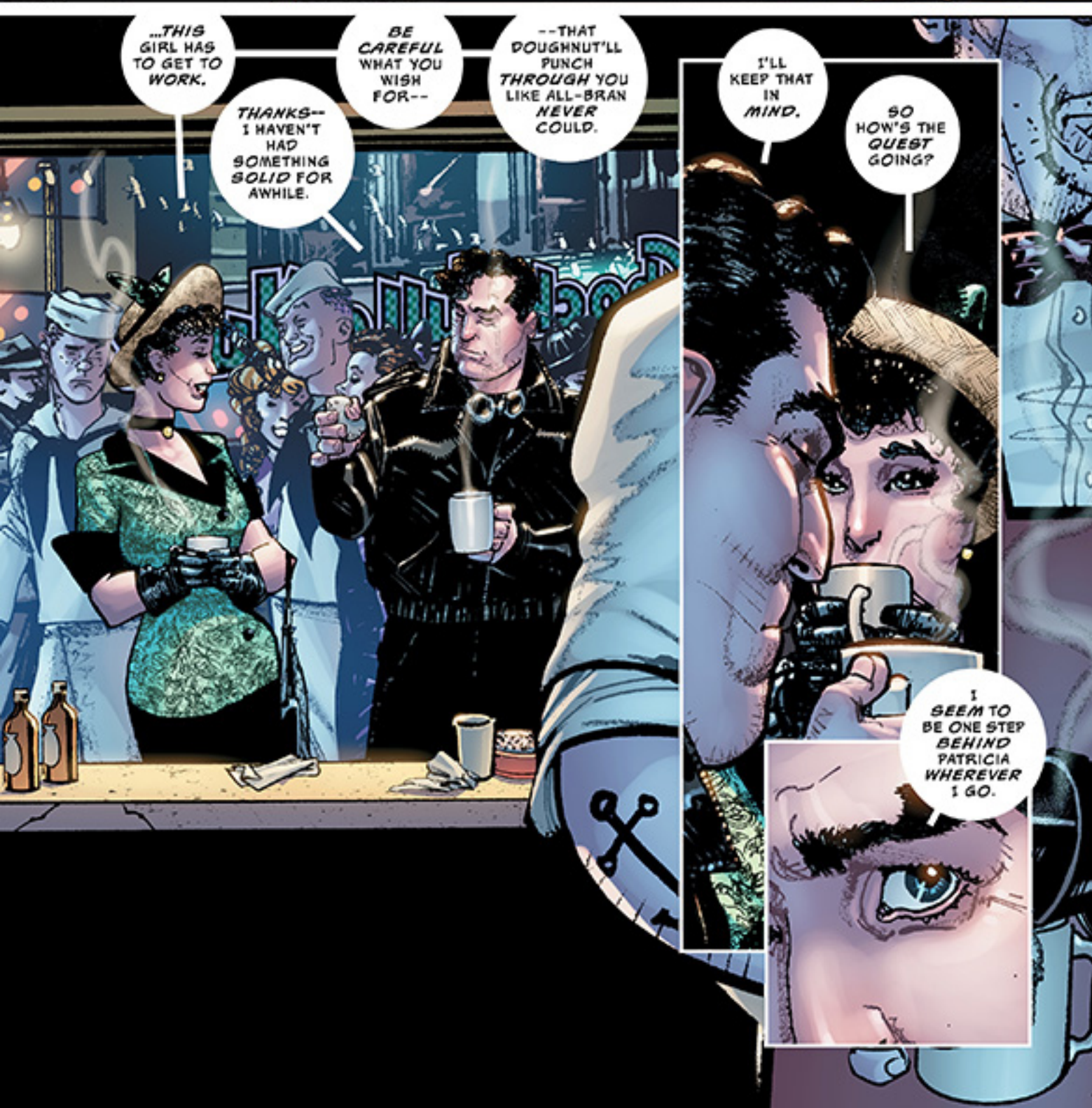


I
COULD
BE PER-
SUADED.

DIERDRE,
WASN'T
IT?

THAT'S
ME, AND
DON'T DO A
GIRL ANY
FAVORS,
BIG BOY...

...THE
OFFER
WON'T LAST
LONG...



...THIS
GIRL HAS
TO GET TO
WORK.

BE
CAREFUL
WHAT YOU
WISH
FOR--

--THAT
DOUGHNUT'LL
PUNCH
THROUGH YOU
LIKE ALL-BRAN
NEVER
COULD.

I'LL
KEEP THAT
IN
MIND.

SO
HOW'S THE
QUEST
GOING?

THANKS--
I HAVEN'T
HAD
SOMETHING
SOLID FOR
AWHILE.

I
SEEM TO
BE ONE STEP
BEHIND
PATRICIA
WHEREVER
I GO.



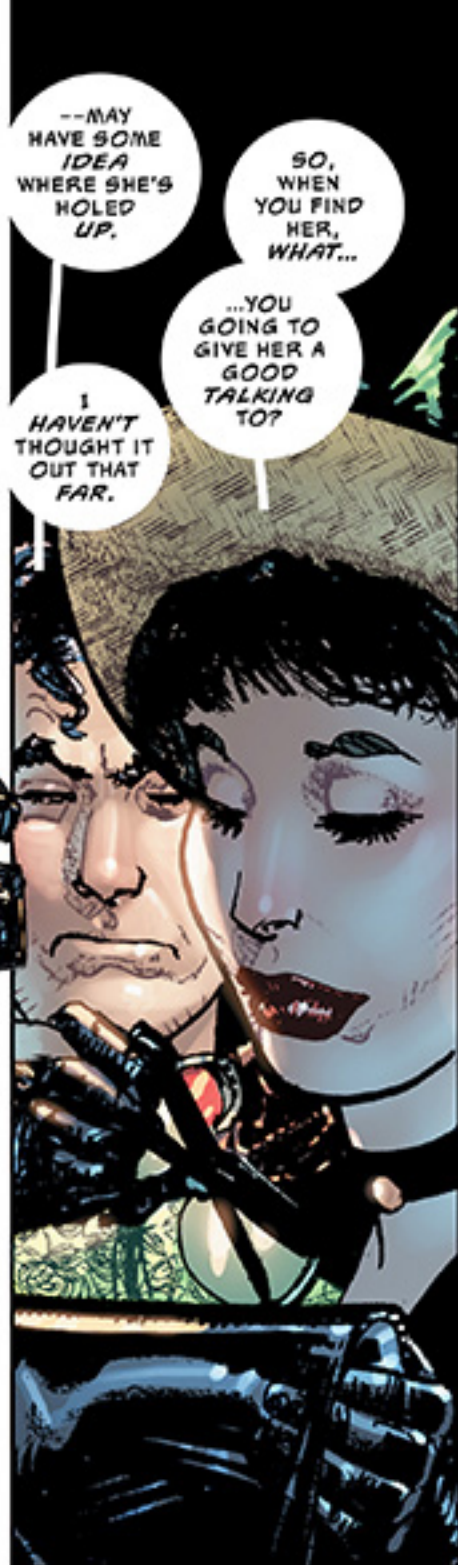
ACCORDING TO A FRIEND OF HERS--

A FRIEND?

PLEASE.

SORRY.

THIS CAT--



--MAY HAVE SOME IDEA WHERE SHE'S HOLED UP.

SO, WHEN YOU FIND HER, WHAT...

...YOU GOING TO GIVE HER A GOOD TALKING TO?

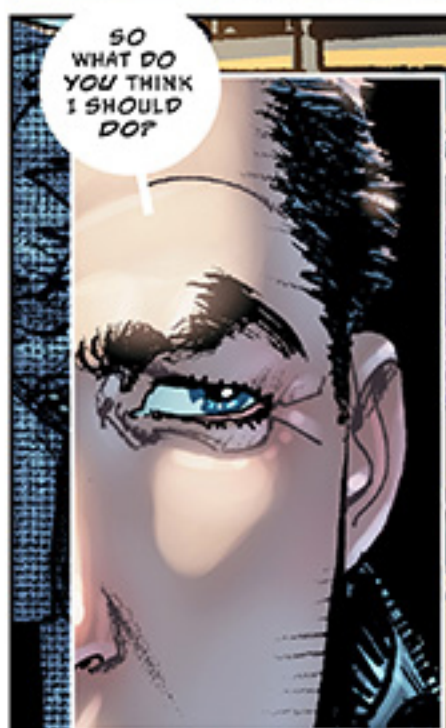
I HAVEN'T THOUGHT IT OUT THAT FAR.



YEAH-- I CAN DIG THAT.

THIS IS TWO BLOCKS UPTOWN, THEN A LEFT ON 44th--

--IT'S A DUMP JUST BEFORE YOU HIT THE RIVER.



SO WHAT DO YOU THINK I SHOULD DO?



IF YOU'RE ASKING WHAT I'D DO, I'D HAVE TO THINK ABOUT IT.

WHAT YOU SHOULD DO, BEING YOU, I HAVEN'T THE FAINTEST IDEA...

...BUT GOOD LUCK JUST THE SAME.



"DESPITE WHAT THE RUBES THINK, NEW YORK IS TINY...

"...AN ISLAND THAT'S MORE VERTICAL THAN HORIZONTAL...

"...AND THE CENTER OF THAT ISLAND IS 52nd STREET...

"...MAYBE NOT GEOGRAPHICALLY, BUT CULTURALLY ALL THE WAY.



"AND WHEN I BARELY MADE IT INTO THE TOILET OF AN 8th AVENUE DUMP NAMED DOOLEY'S...

"...TO TAKE A MASSIVE █ FROM THAT DOUGHNUT...

"...MY █ WIFE PATRICIA WAS BARELY TEN BLOCKS UPTOWN.

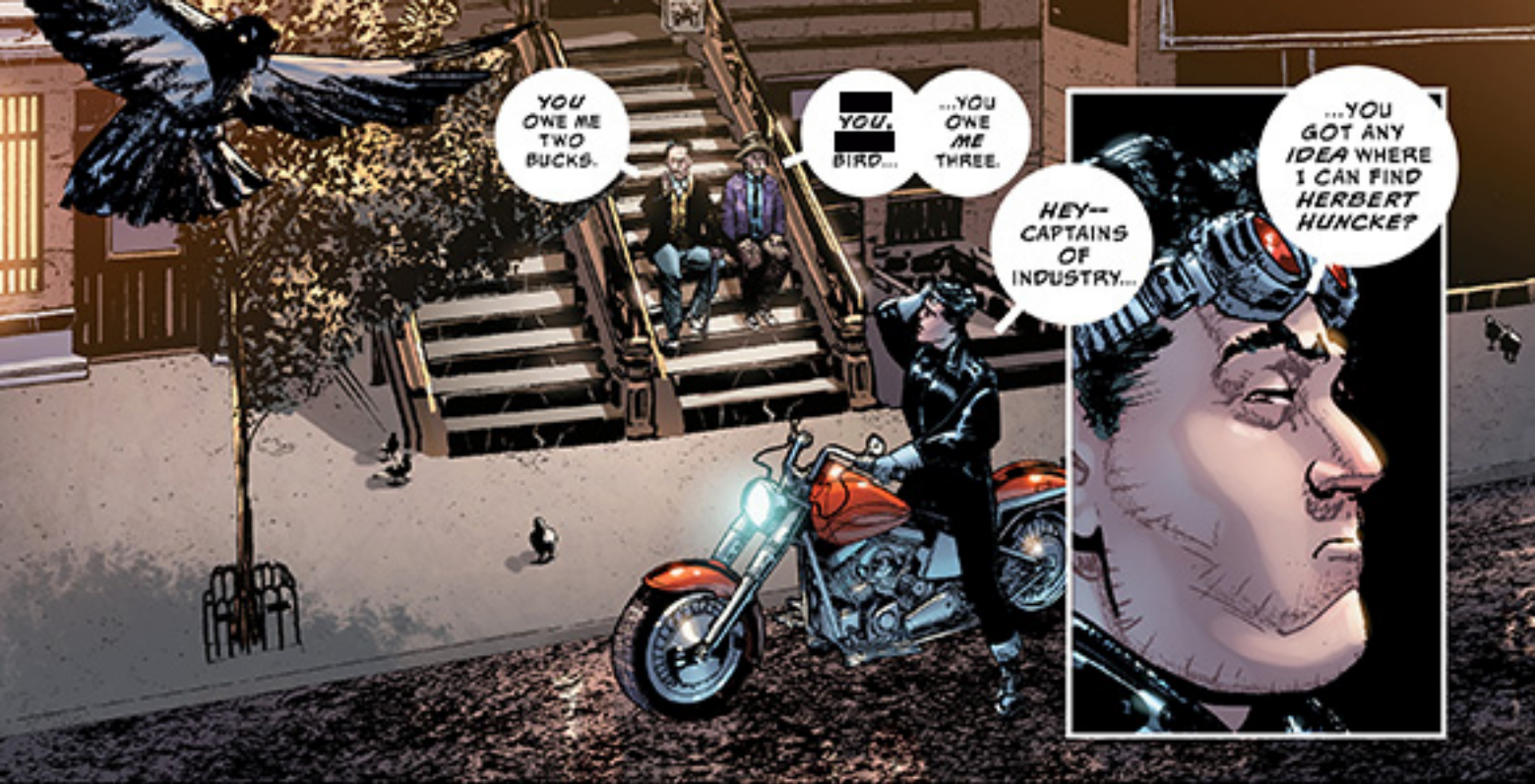


"BUT YEARS AWAY...

"...THE LAST FIVE OF THEM SPENT NOT BREATHING A SOBER BREATH...



"...HAD MADE ME A STRANGER IN MY HOME TOWN."



YOU OWE ME TWO BUCKS.

YOU.

...YOU OWE ME THREE.

HEY-- CAPTAINS OF INDUSTRY...

...YOU GOT ANY IDEA WHERE I CAN FIND HERBERT HUNCKE?



NEVER HEARD OF HIM.

THANKS.

THAT

--THIS PANSY IS HUNCKE.

