

HE'D BE FINE WITHOUT ME.

THAT'S WHAT I TELL MYSELF LATE AT NIGHT. IN A COUPLE YEARS, HE'D COME TO HIS SENSES. STOP ALL THIS.

ON--YOUR--KNEES, NOW!
SHUFF HUFF



YOU'VE--GONE, TOO--FAR, BATMAN. MOVE. AND--WE, OPEN--FIRE.



PENNY-ONE. IF YOU CAN HEAR THIS, I NEED YOU, I'M GOING FOR IT, FOR MY--

BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA



HE'D GIVE IT UP, OF COURSE HE WOULD. I KNOW IT.



SANTA CLARA, CUBA.

IT'S WHY I BOUGHT AN APARTMENT IN CUBA THE FIRST WEEK HE WAS BATMAN. BECAUSE SOME PART OF ME KNOWS THAT WHEN I DO IT, WHEN I QUIT, HE WILL QUIT, TOO. HE'LL RETIRE.



AND WE COULD GET OFF THIS CURSED SHIP TOGETHER... BEFORE IT SINKS.

...BUT THAT'S ALL JUST A BLOODY BEDTIME STORY, ISN'T IT?

NOW.

BECAUSE AT THIS VERY MOMENT, MY SON AND I ARE FALLING THROUGH FORTY THOUSAND TONS OF STEEL.

THIRTY THOUSAND LAID YARDS OF CONCRETE AND NEARLY TWO TONS OF BROKEN GLASS. WHAT WAS SUPPOSED TO BE A NEW HOTEL HERE IN MIAMI.

SOMETIMES, I CONVINCE BRUCE TO BUILD IN PLACES HE THINKS ARE STRATEGIC, BUT I THINK MIGHT GIVE HIM A GLIMPSE...A GLIMPSE OF LIFE OUTSIDE THE BLINDING STORM OF BATMAN.

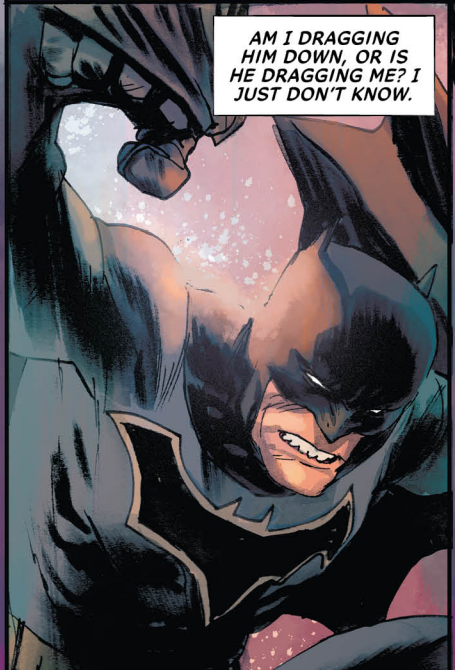
FOR THIS HOTEL, I EVEN HELPED WITH THE BANNER: "BATTER UP! LOVELY APARTMENTS JUST FEET FROM MARLINS' STADIUM."

BEACH, BASEBALL, HISTORY...

AM I DRAGGING HIM DOWN, OR IS HE DRAGGING ME? I JUST DON'T KNOW.

BUT HERE WE ARE, IN THE STORM.

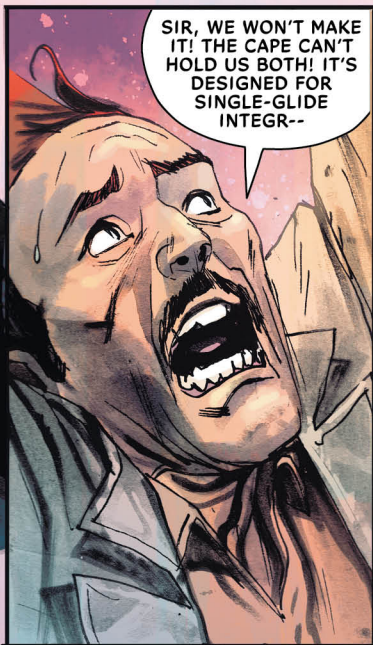
IGOTYOU IGOTYOU I...



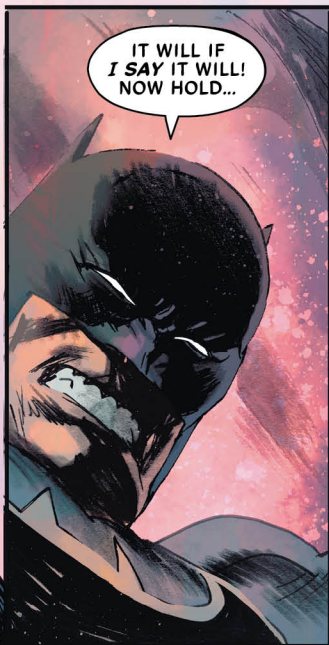


...GOT YOU!

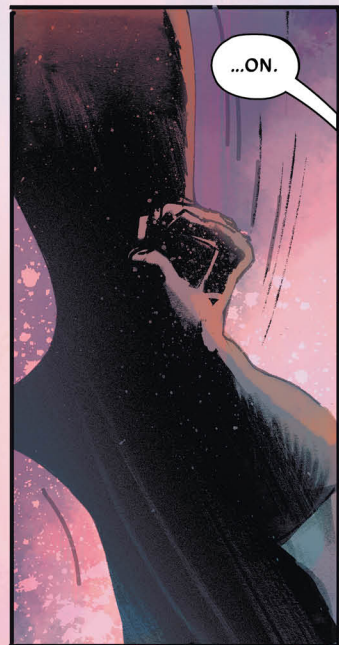
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SIR, WE WON'T MAKE IT! THE CAPE CAN'T HOLD US BOTH! IT'S DESIGNED FOR SINGLE-GLIDE INTEGR--



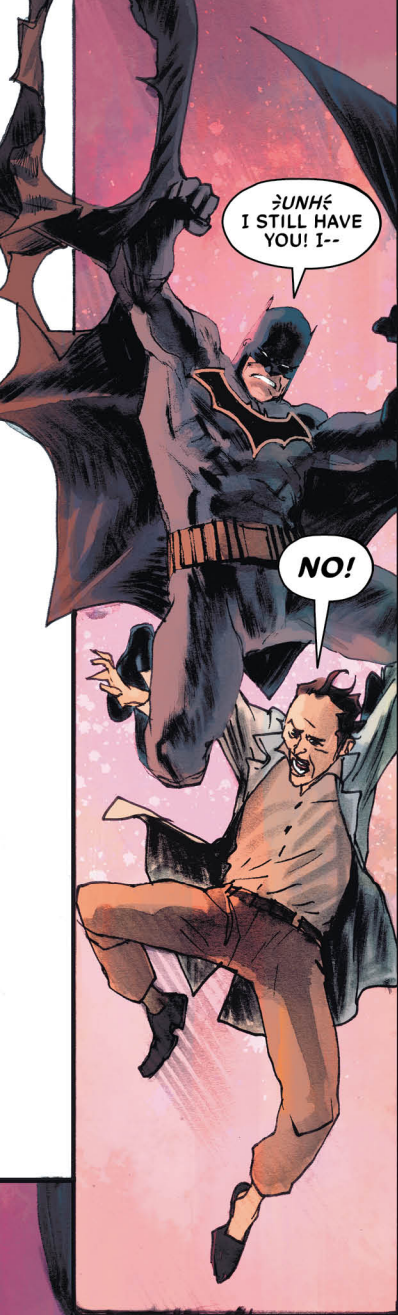
IT WILL IF I SAY IT WILL! NOW HOLD...



...ON.



RIIIIP



*I STRUGGLE
AGAINST HIS GRIP.
I REALLY DO.*

*I FIGHT WITH
EVERYTHING
I HAVE.*

*BUT NO
MATTER HOW
HARD I TRY...*

*...HE WILL
NOT LOOSEN
HIS GRASP.*

SO EVENTUALLY I GIVE UP AND LET IT HAPPEN. LET HIM SAVE ME.

GIVE MYSELF OVER TO WHAT I KNOW IS THE UNDERTOW DRAGGING US OUT TO SEA, OVER AND OVER.

THE THING BETWEEN US.

NOW HOLD STILL, DAMMIT!

BAT
U
LOVE
APART
JUST
FR
MAR
STAD

WE'RE ALL RIGHT.

"I'M BACK IN THE DAMN STORM..."