

THIS IS THE WAY  
IT HAS TO END.



HIM.



ME.

TASTING  
BLOOD.





INFECTED AND  
BROKEN, WE'VE  
TAKEN A BEATING.



BOTH  
OF US.

I STEEL MYSELF  
FOR WHAT I'M  
ABOUT TO DO.



HE STILL LAUGHS.  
I'M NOT SURE IF  
IT'S IN THE FACE  
OF DEATH...

OR IF HIS  
IS THE FACE  
OF DEATH.



NOT THAT IT MATTERS ANYMORE.

INFECTED, WE'VE CHASED A CURE ACROSS EUROPE.

BERLIN. PRAGUE. PARIS.

NOW HERE.



WOUNDED, NUMB AND COLD WHILE A FEVER BURNS IN MY HEAD, I CAN'T BE SURE IF IT'S MY THOUGHTS FAILING...

...OR CRYSTALIZING...



ME, AND JOKER.

GOOD VERSUS EVIL.

THE ETERNAL STRUGGLE, ENDS HERE...



IN THE  
ETERNAL CITY.

HOME TO  
POPES AND  
KINGS, ARTISTS  
AND WHORES...

MERCHANTS AND  
THIEVES. AND THOSE  
NAMES ARE ALL  
INTERCHANGEABLE...

DEPENDING  
WHO'S DOING  
THE NAMING.

# 4: ROME

STORY: MATTEO CASALI AND BRIAN AZZARELLO

LAYOUTS: GIUSEPPE CAMUNCOLI ART: GERALD PAREL LETTERS: PAT BROSSAU

COVER AND SKETCH VARIANT: GERALD PAREL VARIANT COVER: JOCK

ASSISTANT EDITOR: DAVID PIÑA GROUP EDITOR: JIM CHADWICK

BATMAN CREATED BY BOB KANE WITH BILL FINGER

I'VE BEEN HERE BEFORE,  
MANY TIMES--NOT AS *ME*,  
BUT FOR BUSINESS.



THE HISTORY OF  
THIS CITY ALWAYS  
SURPRISES ME.  
NOT FOR HOW FAR  
BACK IT GOES...

BUT FOR HOW DEEP. A NEW SEWER OR  
METRO LINE CAN'T BE DUG WITHOUT  
UNCOVERING AN IMPORTANT PIECE OF AN  
EMPIRE THAT'S PROVEN UNAVOIDABLE.



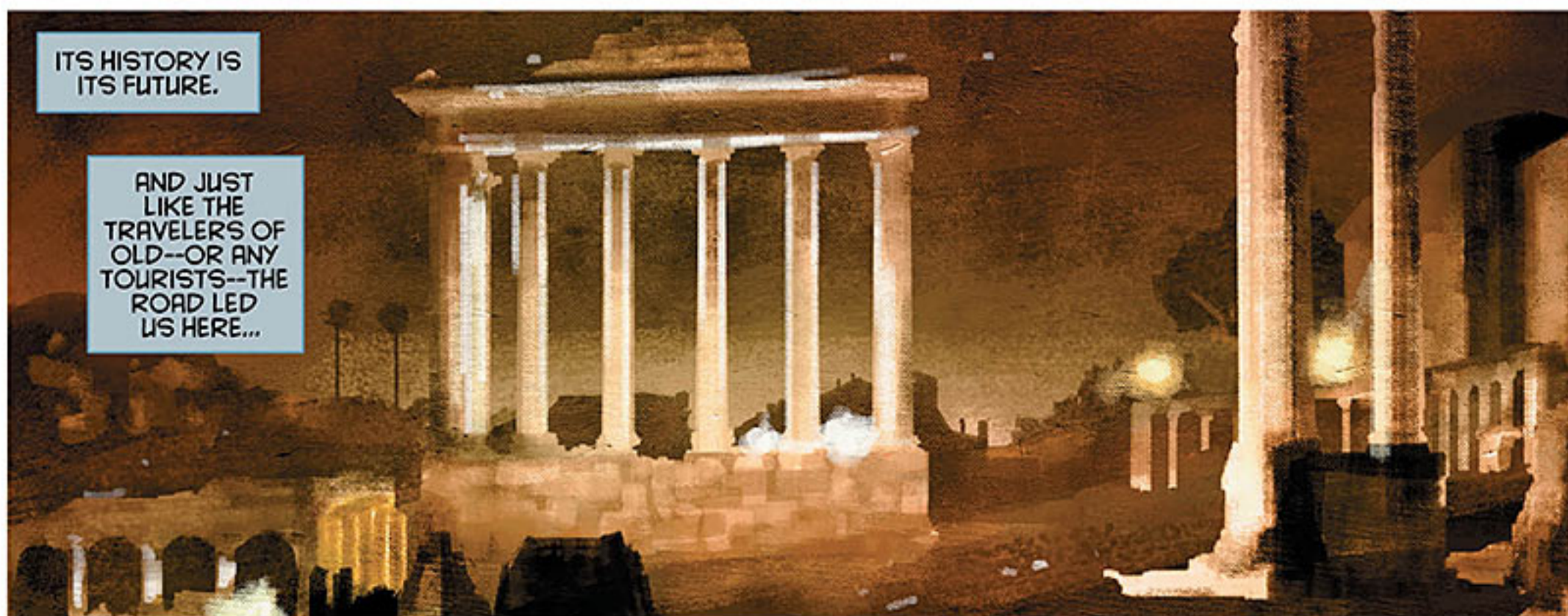
THEN, UNCOVERING  
BECOMES EXCAVATING. IN  
ROME, CONSTRUCTION  
WORKERS ARE  
ARCHAEOLOGISTS.

BECAUSE  
IN ROME?



ITS HISTORY IS  
ITS FUTURE.

AND JUST  
LIKE THE  
TRAVELERS OF  
OLD--OR ANY  
TOURISTS--THE  
ROAD LED  
US HERE...





One hour ago.

...TO OUR OWN RUINS.

--HAVE YOU LISTENED TO A SINGLE WORD I'VE SAID, YOU MANIAC?!!!

YOU DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING. WE WERE WALKING DOWN THE VIA, YOU SPUN, GRABBED ME AND SPEWED THIS...

BAT-ITUDE.



... THE COLOSSUS VIRUS MIGHT MAKE STAYING FOCUSED HARDER BY THE MINUTE, JOKER...

...BUT I KNOW WHOEVER LED US AROUND EUROPE HAD IT ALL PLANNED FROM THE VERY BEGINNING.



AND I KNOW JUST WHO THAT MIGHT BE...

HEY!!



YOU MUST BE CRAZY TO MAKE ME HAVE TO BE THE RATIONAL BUDDY, BUT FINE.

IF YOU THINK I'VE INFECTED MYSELF...OR I VALUE YOUR DEATH MORE THAN MY LIFE, THEN YOU'VE REALLY TAKEN "WHEN IN ROME" TO HEART.