

**THEN.
GOTHAM.**

**NO MAMMAL
BUT THE BAT
CAN FLY.**

**WHAT HAPPENED,
FIFTY MILLION
YEARS AGO, THAT
MADE IT TRADE
OUT ITS ARMS
AND TAKE WING?**

**I THINK
THE BAT MADE
A CHOICE.**

**GENES DON'T
SIMPLY CHANGE.
THEY HAVE TO BE
SWITCHED ON.
TRIGGERED.**

**IT COULD
HAVE GONE
ON LIVING AS
IT WAS BORN.**

**BUT INSTEAD IT APPROACHED
A PRECIPICE--AND DARED TO
LEAP--AND WON ITS FUTURE.**

DAMIAN...



DAMIAN KNOWS BEST

PART TWO

... HAPPY BIRTHDAY, MY SON.

ΞΤΤ€

TALIA.

BENJAMIN PERCY – STORY & WORDS

DIÓGENES NEVES – PENCILS

RUY JOSÉ & SEAN PARSONS – INKS

JIM CHARALAMPIDIS & JOHN KALISZ

COLORS

COREY BREEN – LETTERS

JONBOY MEYERS – COVER

CHRIS BURHAM & NATHAN FAIRBAIRD

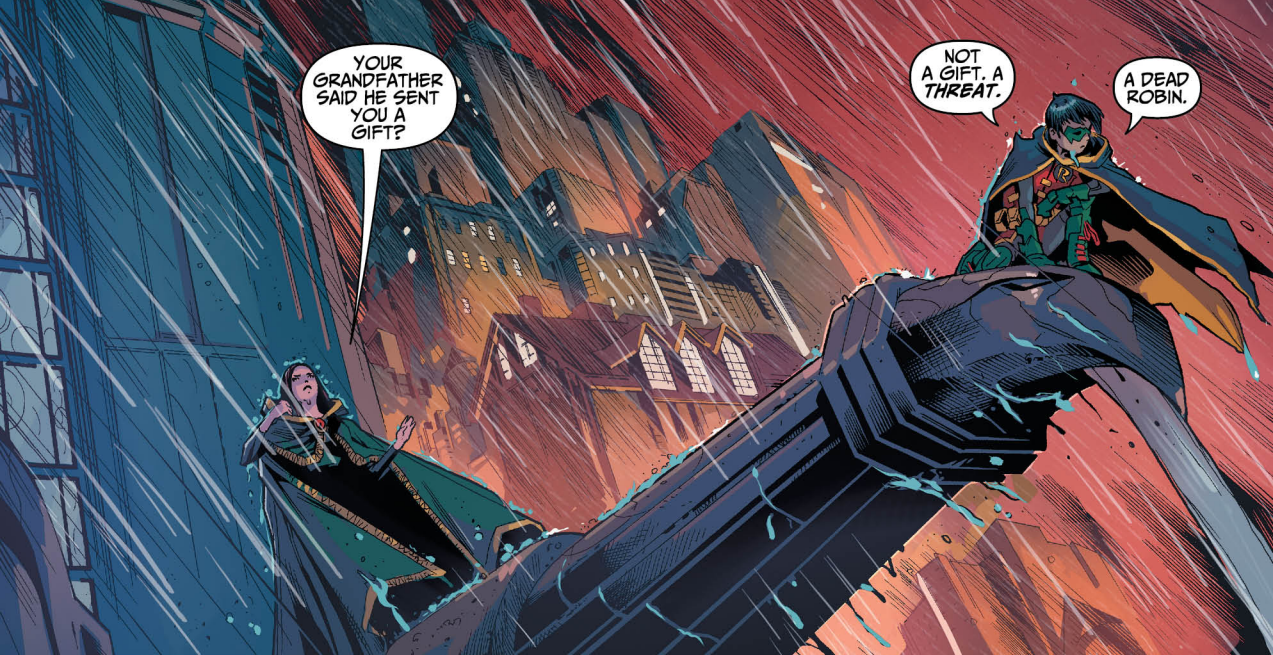
ARIANT COVER

BRITTANY HOLZHERR – ASSISTANT EDITOR

ALEX ANTONÉ – EDITOR

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YOUR GRANDFATHER SAID HE SENT YOU A GIFT?

NOT A GIFT. A THREAT.

A DEAD ROBIN.

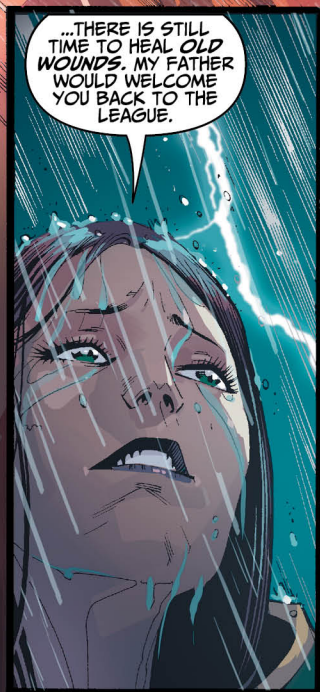


AT LEAST HE REMEMBERED. UNLIKE FATHER.

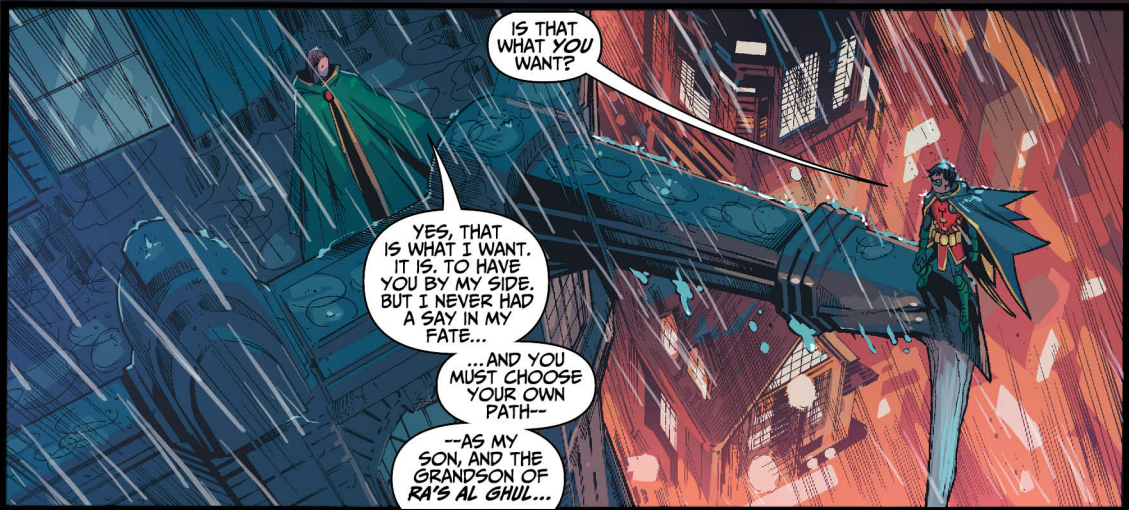


TO HIM, I'M AN AFTER-THOUGHT.

DAMIAN...



...THERE IS STILL TIME TO HEAL OLD WOUNDS. MY FATHER WOULD WELCOME YOU BACK TO THE LEAGUE.



IS THAT WHAT YOU WANT?

YES, THAT IS WHAT I WANT. IT IS. TO HAVE YOU BY MY SIDE. BUT I NEVER HAD A SAY IN MY FATE...

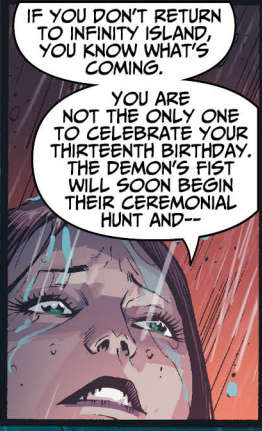
...AND YOU MUST CHOOSE YOUR OWN PATH--

--AS MY SON, AND THE GRANDSON OF RA'S AL GHUL...

...OR THE SON OF BATMAN.



I...



IF YOU DON'T RETURN TO INFINITY ISLAND, YOU KNOW WHAT'S COMING.

YOU ARE NOT THE ONLY ONE TO CELEBRATE YOUR THIRTEENTH BIRTHDAY. THE DEMON'S FIST WILL SOON BEGIN THEIR CEREMONIAL HUNT AND--



AND SHE CHOSE ME AS HER QUARRY?

I WISH I COULD JUST ERASE HER FROM MY MIND...

...HER AND ALL THE REST OF MY NIGHTMARISH CHILDHOOD.

SHIK



IF THAT'S HOW YOU FEEL... THEN I'LL LEAVE YOU. BUT FIRST, I HAVE SOMETHING...

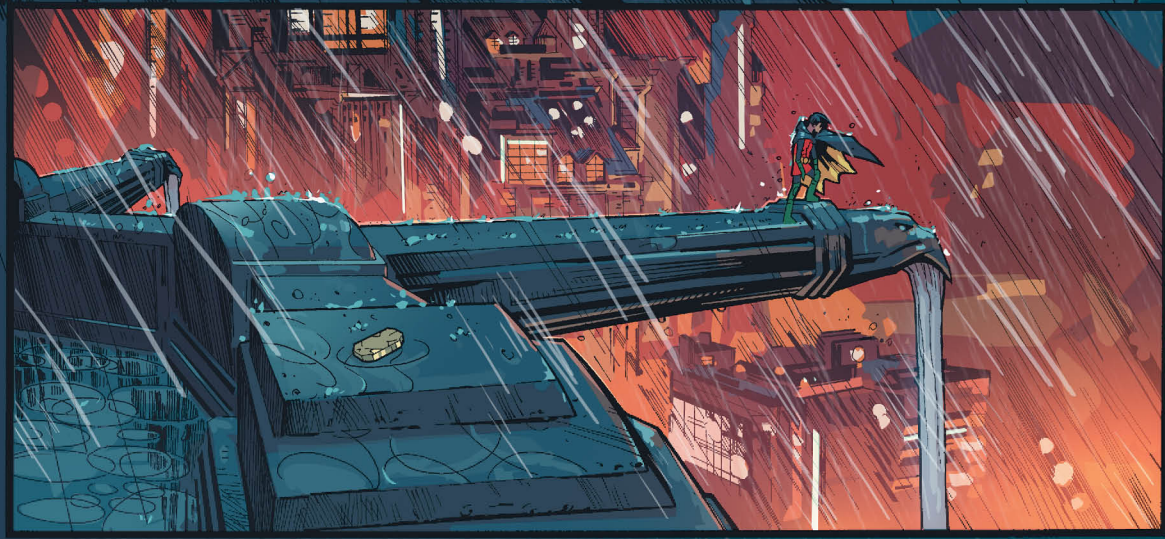
A GIFT FOR THIS BIRTHDAY... SO THAT YOU WILL SURVIVE TO SEE THE NEXT.



YOU ARE NOT THE ONLY ONE IN DANGER. THERE ARE FIVE ASSASSINS AND SO THERE ARE FIVE TARGETS.

THE DEMON'S FIST IS COMING, FOR ALL OF YOU.

PROTECT THE OTHERS TO SAVE YOURSELF.



NOW.
SAN FRANCISCO.

WHERE
ARE WE
ANYWAY?

THE
BROOM
CLOSET OF
THE BATCAVE?

SOME-
PLACE SAFE.
FAR FROM
GOTHAM...

...AND
CENTRAL CITY,
NEW YORK, LOS
ANGELES, WHERE
THEY'RE HUNTING
FOR US AS WE
SPEAK.