--THEY ALMOST GET THE DROP ON ME--

HE ALMOST PULLS THE TRIGGER--

HE'S YOUNG--

HE'S QUICK--

--THAT SLOWS ME DOWN--

--THAT MAKES ME SWEAT--

I WISH I COULD SAY IT'S THE SUIT--

Wuff:

KRASH!

NOW WE SETTLE UP, PULL THAT TRIGGER--

--AND I'LL BE BACK FOR YOU!
BRUNO IS COMING YOUR WAY, ROBIN.
GET HER INTO THE ALLEY. DO NOT LET HER SEE YOU.

WELL, I DON'T THINK THAT'S MY BULL TO... MY ROW TO ICE, BOYS... HEN... YOU SEE THAT'S A RIGHT BIG STATE, ALL ITS OWN... AND IT'S GOT ITS OWN SQUAD, CLEAR-HEADED GOVERNOR, YES, IT DOES...

SHE'S YOUNG, I'M THE GOVERNOR. GIVE THE WHOLE STATE TO LOOK AFTER. I TRUST THE JUDGMENT OF THE MAJOR OF GOTHAM CITY IMPPLICITLY.

AS MAYOR, IT IS MY DUTY TO ADMINISTRATE—NOT TO Render moral judgements. Don't ask me to interfere with the decision-making power of our new police commissioner.

AND SO THE BATMAN BUCK IS PASSED—TO ELLEN YINDEL, WHO REPLACES JAMES GORDON AS POLICE COMMISSIONER TONIGHT. WILL SHE FULFILL HER PROMISE TO ISSUE AN ARREST WARRANT FOR THE BATMAN?

MR. PRESIDENT—WE'RE ALL ANXIOUS TO HEAR YOUR PLANS FOR THE CRYPTO-ANIMALS CRISIS, BUT FIRST, ANOTHER QUESTION MUCH ON THE MINDS OF AMERICA. WHAT IS YOUR POSITION ON THE BATMAN CONTROVERSY?

BOYS, BOYS, BOYS... ONE AT A TIME NOW... HOW ABOUT THAT SHORTLY DRESSED YOUNGSTER IN THE FRONT ROW THERE...

CHANNEL TWO WILL BROADCAST THE BANQUET LIVE. GORDON IS SCHEDULED TO INTRODUCE YINDEL—A CAPABLE GESTURE, CONSIDERING THEIR DIFFERENCES. WE MAY SEE SOME SPARKS, FELDMAN?

THAT WE MAY, LOUIE. WE'LL BE RIGHT BACK, AS JULIE PARKS BRINGS US A STORY WE DON'T KNOW WHETHER TO CLASSIFY AS AN ATMOSPHERE ANOMALY—OR A UFO SIGHTING.

REPEAT, DO NOT LET BRUNO SEE YOU. THIS IS AN ORDER.
Tom, Sunflower Standish has operated his corner newsstand for fifteen years. He's never seen the like of what struck Seventh Avenue this evening. Have you, Mr. Standish?

Not without aid, I mean. No--I didn't see it. My magazines and newspapers--them I saw, blowing like leaves. But I didn't see it. It was too fast--it was faster than anything.

Faster than a speeding--careful now, Lola.

Must have gone through that door! Hah!

Brakkk

If you're lucky, Bruno--you'll go to jail tonight.

But first you'll tell me what your boss has planned.

On his TV appearance they aren't safe.
NEVER MEANT--

TO GIVE HER TIME--

CHYCHARK

TO COCK

THAT THING--

MISSED.

ANOTHER BIZARRE

INCIDENT--THIS ONE IN THE

SOUTH STREET SUBWAY

STATION. ADVERTISING AGENT

BYRON BRASSBAUS TOLD

REPORTERS...

I DIDN'T DO ANYTHING

WRONG, I WAS JUST TRYING

TO PROTECT MYSELF. THE

SUBWAYS ARE DANGEROUS.

YOU DON'T NEED ME TO TELL

YOU THAT. SO THERE I WAS,

ALONE IN THE STATION EXCEPT

FOR THIS "BEGGAR"--I WANT

THAT IN QUOTES--

HEY--HE STARTED IT. AND IT

WAS HIS CRUTCHES THAT

TRIPPED HIM UP, BABE--

WHAT?--YOU GET ME YELLED,

WANTED ME TO JUMP DOWN AND

DIE WITH HIM. OF COURSE I RAN.

WHO WOULDN'T? THEN SOME-

THING HIT ME HARD--IN THE

CHEST--

WHAT?--NOW WAS I TO KNOW

HE DIDN'T HAVE A GUN? THEY

NEVER SHOW YOU THAT UNTIL

THEY'RE READY TO KILL YOU--

WHAT? ...OH, SURE. THE

CRUTCHES. A LOT OF THEM

USE CRUTCHES. YOU KNOW

WHAT I MEAN.
"Yes, I am religious, but I've got the decency to keep it in church. Then I heard the scream of twisting metal... shouts from inside the train, people bickering, finally the soot settled...

... and there it was--the train, I mean--its front end crushed inward, like it ran into something... well, something...

--haven't seen a doctor yet, but I'm sure I slipped a disc landing on the tracks... no, I couldn't see, not a pressing thing. That wind kicked up too much soot. Spent a second listening to that boggler, pray like an idiot...

... and there it was--the train, I mean--its front end crushed inward, like it ran into something... well, something...

--not an earthquake. Do not panic. Whatever it is, it's localized--and moving across Gotham's south side...

--let's talk about the FCC...
Now the room goes hot—metal explodes—have you just cost me hours. Tomorrow morning, my place. Stay out of my way until then. I'm busy tonight.

Bruce—We have to talk.
...Soviet representatives stormed out of the hall, repeating this late-breaking story: U.S./Soviet talks on the Asian-Nazarene crisis have broken down.

Tensions U.S. military support of the regime of General Montalban as “fascist aggression.” The Soviets pledged a “total military commitment.” This has been a News 6 Special Report.

...bodies of a pusher and junkie found hacked to pieces in a west end tenement. Members of the disbanded mutant gang are carrying out their threat to Gotham’s underworld.

The mutants are dead. The mutants are history. This is the mark of the future. Gotham City belongs to the Batman.

NEWS 6 SPECIAL REPORT

Do not expect any further statements. The sons of the Batman do not talk. We act. Let Gotham’s criminals beware, they are about to enter hell.

Batman’s culpability for this atrocity is our subject tonight. With us is the world’s leading expert on the sociological impact of the Batman—Dr. Bartholomew Wolfer.

Batman is a menace to society.

Now, I know that’s something of an outdated term. Sure sounds strange coming out of my mouth. Nonetheless, it applies, despite my altering the city to the inevitable consequences—

“Nothing has been done to stop this psychosocial injection. Batman should be considered personally responsible for every human being murdered by this gang.

News 6 SPECIAL REPORT

Issues Within Issues

My orders were specific—watch it—yeah, but...
--Still, you made yourself visible to Bruce. I will not tolerate insubordination--

--Careful--

But back there... was that him?

The hall is silent, as the man who has been police commissioner of Gotham City for twenty-six years steps to the podium...

Ladies and gentlemen... it is my pleasure to introduce you to your new police commissioner. I do not envy her the next few years. The job has few rewards.

The best you can hope for is when you're finished with it, things aren't as lousy as they would've been without you. Ellen YinDEL is eminently qualified for this job...

To attempt to quote her outstanding record in the minutes I'm allowed would be a disservice to her. Rather, I offer my sympathy in the knowledge of what she faces.

If you disobey ever again--

--you're fired.

She faces a city of thieves and murderers and honest people too frightened to hope. She faces life-and-death decisions, every hour to come. Some will torture her.

We go some somewhere or what?

To the only solid lead I've got left, Robin... a man named Abner.

Nice watch.

James Gordon draws a fond chuckle from the audience...

To introduce you to your new police commissioner, I do not envy her the next few years. The job has few rewards.
SHE WILL FACE A MAN WHO IS THE LIVING SPIRIT OF... SOMETHING WE AVOID SHE MAY BE HIS ENEMY. SHE MAY LEARN FROM HIM. I WISH HER WELL. THANK YOU--- AND GOOD-BYE.

... THERE IS STRAINED APPLAUSE FOR JAMES GORDON...

FIGURE WE'VE BEEN DOING THE SPIDER HERE FOR LESS THAN THREE YEARS...

PATIENCE, ROBIN. IT'LL KEEP YOU ALIVE. ABNER ISN'T HOME.

ACES. I GET SOME CLUES...

... AND YES--- A STANDING OVATION FOR POLICE COMMISSIONER YORDEN!

THANK YOU... I AM HONORED TO SHARE THE STAGE WITH JAMES GORDON. HE SPOKE OF DECISIONS. NOW I MUST MAKE MY OWN.

... I ISSUE THIS ARREST ORDER FOR THE BATMAN ON CHARGES OF BREAKING AND ENTERING, ASSAULT AND BATTERY, CREATING A PUBLIC MENACE---

--I ISSUE THIS ARREST ORDER FOR THE BATMAN ON CHARGES OF BREAKING AND ENTERING, ASSAULT AND BATTERY, CREATING A PUBLIC MENACE---
I'LL SEND
ROBIN HOME. I'LL HELP THE EMERGENCY TEAMS AS BEST I CAN.

I'LL COUNT THE DEAD, ONE BY ONE.

I'LL ADD THEM TO THE LIST, JOKER.

THE LIST OF ALL THE PEOPLE I'VE MURDERED...

-- BY LETTING YOU LIVE.

-- JUST CAN'T SLEEP.

SHOULD SLEEP.

SHOULD BE FRESH TOMORROW.

TOMORROW I GO FREE.

FISTFUL OF ENTERTAINMENT TOMORROW. WITH DR. RUTH WEISENHEIMER, THE WET HAMBURGER BUN CONTEST, AND A MAN WHO'S BROUGHT A LOT OF SMILES TO THE WORLD, GO TO BED.

...TWELVE KILLED IN A MYSTERIOUS EXPLOSION THAT LEVELLED A BAY RIDGE APARTMENT BUILDING ...THE RESCUE TEAM SIGHTED BATMAN AT THE SCENE...

...FOLLOWING HER ARREST ORDER FOR THE BATMAN, COMMISSIONER YINDEL FILED A FORMAL PROTEST WITH THE MEDIA COUNCIL AGAINST THE JOKER'S APPEARANCE ON THE DAVID ENDOURINE SHOW...

...THE COUNCIL DENIED HER PROTEST...THE BODY OF THREE-TIME LOSER HECTOR MENDOZA WAS FOUND IN AN EAST SIDE ALLEY. HE HAD BEEN LITERALLY SKINNED ALIVE...

...THE AMERICAN HOSTAGES SINGED HAS DECLARED A GENERAL STRIKE, IN RESPONSE TO TREATMENT OF THEIR MEMBERS IN THE RECENT LIBYAN INCIDENT...

GOOD MORNING GOTHAM!

GOOD MORNING GOTHAM!

GOOD MORNING GOTHAM!

GOOD MORNING GOTHAM!
Despite massive Soviet arms buildup in the waters surrounding Coro Majestree, the president promises that America will not be the first to deploy nuclear weapons...

Good Morning Gotham!

...you're going to wake me come, right out and say it, aren't you?

I know, I know, you look better than you have in years. But...

You're not a young man anymore, Bruce...

But times have changed, and you...

Maybe if you'd learned to slow down... find your niche...

Well, it's just not healthy. You'll burn yourself up.

Then he ruined everything by talking.

There's just the sun and the sky and him, like he's the only reason it's all here.

You're not a young man anymore, Bruce...
WELL, LET ME TELL YOU, NOBODY'S RUNNING OFF HALF-COOKED, NO SIR. BUT WE SURE AS SHOOTIN' AREN'T RUNNING AWAY EITHER. WE'VE GOT TO SECURE OUR—AHM—STAND UP FOR THE CAUSE OF FREEDOM...
The rest of us learned to cope.

The rest of us recognized the danger—of the endless envy of those not blessed.

Diana went back to her people.

Hal went to the stars.

And I have walked the razor’s edge for so long...

But you, Bruce--

--you, with your wild obsession--
-- A sudden communications blackout in central America. For five hundred miles surrounding Cord Maltese--

-- Fifty-foot waves, pounding the South American coast--

The only danger is possible harassment by the British. Just watch the show tonight. You’ll see how harmless my patient is-- he’s a changed man.

Her last class is about to end. Go get Robin, Alfred.

And, should Miss Kelly have better ways to spend her evening?

There’s nothing better.

Don’t forget to wear the nose plugs.

Don’t forget to wear the nose plugs.

You want lipstick, sweet guy?

No, I brought my own.

Wonderful to see you show such interest.
"Seven point five on the Richter scale... Have those idjits finally done it?"

"This is strictly an observation mission for you, Robin... you will stay in the copter."

"You are not to reach the controls."

"If anything goes wrong, just say "Boosters" into the mike... It's voice activated. Computers... you shouldn't understand..."

"Indel's serious about that arrest, kid. But I think she's in for a surprise when she sees Police on me. They'll see us soon..."

"Yes, how'd you know about..."

"Have we got a lunatic at a show for you tonight..."

"Just be yourself..."

"People... how'd you know..."

"Old news, Boss..."

"Milk, milk..."

"Your sister, Mary. Did real good for... Uncle Joker, Bobbie. You will too, won't you?"

"Go scraw, Fat boy..."

"God damn milk, baby..."
We're getting a reading, commissioner. Can't pin it down.

Keep on it, copper two.

Holy--

No, I will not teach you the program. Touch those controls,--and you're fired.

Too soon, the pains start--across my triceps and chest--I keep forgetting how much harder everything has become...\n
How far in pushing it... Two dozen guns are cocked--

--I was wrong--

--these children--don't know me--

...I'm pushing it...

You are under arrest.

You are surrounded.

Do not move.

He can fly.

Nobody can fly.

Guns ready.

Hit the floors.

Fighting cops. It's been a while...
...IT'S BEEN TWENTY YEARS...
...EVEN MY THERMITE IS OLD...

LUCKY--LUCKY--

GAS MASKS. RUSH HIM. RUSH--HIM?
CEASE FIRE.

COPTER ONE--

...COME IN LOW AND BLOW THIS SHIT AWAY.

SQUAD TWO REPORT. ALL COOL HERE, COMMISSIONER. THEY'RE JUST NOW INTRODUCING HIM...

OVER HERE--

HE'S TWICE YOUR AGE, BOY. FIND THE NERVE.

KIPJOM
OPEN FIRE!

BUDDA

WHACK
WHAT CAN I SAY ABOUT OUR NEXT GUEST THAT HASN'T BEEN SAID BEFORE, PAUL?

HE'S A KOOK, DAVE. A MANIAC. A REAL LUNATIC. NO, I MEAN IT. HE'S A NUT.

SO MANY FACES—SO DIFFERENT FROM ONE ANOTHER...

...SO FEW SMILES...

THOXX

OVER THERE—

JESUS, HE'S--

SEE HIM--

KLIDD

SMOKE'S CLEARING!

WE GOT HIM--

TK

TK

TK

TK

TK

TK
YOU'RE SAID TO HAVE ONLY KILLED ABOUT SIX HUNDRED PEOPLE, JOKER. NOW DON'T TAKE THIS THE WRONG WAY, BUT I THINK YOU'VE BEEN HOLDING OUT ON US.

THIS IS A SENSITIVE HUMAN BEING HERE; DAVE, I WON'T LET YOU HARRASS--

I DON'T KEEP COUNT.

I'M GOING TO KILL EVERYONE IN THIS ROOM.

NOW THAT'S DARN RUDE.

CAN'T BELIEVE IT--

---I'M ALREADY BREATHING HARD---

HE...AH... HE'S JUST... AH... TRYING TO BREAK THE TENSION...

AHEM! DR. VOLPER- YOU HAF BLENNED ZE BATMAN FOR ZESE KILLINGS; YES?

YES, YES. MY PATIENT IS A VICTIM OF BATMAN'S PSYCHOSIS.

UND WHAT ZE NATURE UF BATMAN'S PSYCHOSIS?

WHY, SEXUAL REPRESSON, OF COURSE. ZEXUAL REPRESSON -- ZIS IS A TERRIBLE ZINO...

YOU'RE RIGHT. WE MUST NOT RESTRAIN OURSELVES.
WHEEZING NOW—CHEST LIKE A BLAST FURNACE--

--SO MANY OF THEM...

A SENSITIVE HUMAN BEING...

ZEK UND ZEX...

UND ZEX UND ZEX...

...SO MANY... AND THEY'RE ALL...

...SO YOUNG...

ACE THE CLOAK.
COMMISSIONER-- IT'S THE JOKER -- HE'S KILLED SOMEONE!
WE'RE GOING IN!

--LUCKY OLD MAN--

WHAT THE HELL?

KRAAK!

BLAM
BRRR
BRAK BRAK BRAK BRAK
Iff... full speed to the cave. We’ll switch to the cycle.

You’re not fired. So many smiles—so many faces—All the same...

Joker free—hundreds dead after this.

They’ll kill us if they can, Bruce. Every year they grow smaller. Every year they hate us more.
WE MUST NOT
REMEMBER
THAT
GIANTS
WALK THE
EARTH.
COMMISSIONER: Whittaker’s gone all sick. He’s just a rookie.

SEND HIM HOME, MERRIL. TELL HIM IT’S ALL RIGHT.

THE JOKER REPORTEDLY USED HIS DEADLY SMILE GAS ON THE CROWD. COMMISSIONER YINPEL REFUSED TO COMMENT ON THIS OR ON THE ESCAPE OF THE BATMAN, WHICH LEFT TWELVE POLICE OFFICERS HOSPITALIZED...

TWO HUNDRED AND SIX WERE SLAIN DURING THE JOKER’S ESCAPE FROM THE DRUG ENFORCEMENT SQUAD INCLUDING HOST ENFORCEMENT AND DR. BARTHOLOMEW WOLPER.

XYL

THE YEARS HAVE NOT BEEN KIND. SELINA...

AH, SELINA—YOU SHOULD BE GRATEFUL. I CHANGED MY LIPSTICK. YOU ARE GRATEFUL...

YES... GRATEFUL.

YOU SHOULDN’T HAVE COME BACK, BRUCE.

YOU GET THE HELL OUT OF HERE.

I NEED YOUR HELP. IT’S VERY IMPORTANT.

NOW... YOUR GIRL SELINA IS ESCORTING A CONGRESSMAN TONIGHT. MEETING HIM AT HIS HOTEL. WHY DON’T YOU CALL SELINA IN HERE?
THE SHOPLIFTER IS SAID TO HAVE BEEN CARRYING SEVERAL MAGAZINES AND A CANDY BAR... AS YET, POLICE REPORT NO EVIDENCE TO DIRECTLY LINK THE BATMAN TO THESE CRIMES...

IT'S A .45 CALIBER BULLET.

HOLLOW POINT.

WHERE'D YOU LEARN ABOUT COMPUTERS, ROBIN?

HAD TO LEARN SOMETHING IN SCHOOL...

FOR THE HUNDRED THOUSANDTH TIME

MY FATHER DIES...

UH... THIS I DIDN'T AID FOR, ELBIE--

SHH...

NO-- I MEAN IT-- I'M A HAPPILY MARRIED MAN...

NO-- I MEAN IT-- I'M A HAPPILY MARRIED MAN...

THERE'S SOMETHING YOU HAVE TO DO FOR ME, CONGRESSMAN. LISTEN CLOSER...

QUIET-- I'M PICKING SOMETHING UP--

--A TELEVISION TRANSMISSION--

HE'S STILL UP THERE, LOLA-- DRESSED IN NOTHING BUT AN AMERICAN FLAG. CONGRESSMAN NOCHES, PLEADING FOR A FULL NUCLEAR STRIKE ON COLORE MADRESE--

FOR THE HUNDRED THOUSANDTH TIME

MY FATHER DIES...

UH... THIS I DIDN'T AID FOR, ELBIE--

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NO-- I MEAN IT-- I'M A HAPPILY MARRIED MAN...

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THERE'S SOMETHING YOU HAVE TO DO FOR ME, CONGRESSMAN. LISTEN CLOSER...

QUIET-- I'M PICKING SOMETHING UP--

--A TELEVISION TRANSMISSION--

HE'S STILL UP THERE, LOLA-- DRESSED IN NOTHING BUT AN AMERICAN FLAG. CONGRESSMAN NOCHES, PLEADING FOR A FULL NUCLEAR STRIKE ON COLORE MADRESE--
--He's down, Lola. He's street prey. Commissioner Nolan is on the scene.-- Let's see if we can get her to say a few words... O'Halloran, Ma'am. Sixth Precinct. What've we got?

Commissioner... Do you think the Joker... Get this clown out of here.

Gallasher's hearing about this!

The girl with him is from Kyle escort. She's been drugged, shut the joint down-- and pick up Commissioner.

Yes, ma'am. Thank you, ma'am.

O'Halloran, ma'am. Sixth Precinct. Anything I can-- anything helps, Commissioner?

Stop that man! What the...
BOSS -- YOU'RE TURNING THE WRONG WAY

HOLD ON --

SON OF A BITCH --

BLAMM

YOU'RE HIT -- FRESH WOUND

BANDAGE IT ON THE WAY --

SIREN

ALL UNITS -- CONVERGE ON KYLE ESCORT --

HOW MUCH COMER -- HAVE I GOT --
YOU WERE THE ONE
THEY USED AGAINST US, BRUCE.
THE ONE WHO PLAYED IT ROUGH.

WHEN THE NOISE STARTED FROM THE
PARENTS’ GROUPS AND THE SUB-
COMMITTEE CALLED US IN FOR
QUESTIONING--

YOU WERE THE ONE WHO
LAUGHED...

THAT SCARY
LAUGH OF YOURS...

SOMEBODY
PLAYED IT
RIGHT.

SURE WE'RE CRIMINALS," YOU SAID. "WE'VE ALWAYS BEEN CRIMINALS."

"WE HAVE TO BE CRIMINALS."

I'M FINE, ROBIN.

JUST PICK THAT LOCK LIKE I TAUGHT YOU.

JUST CAME OVER THE
HOVER--

NOBODY AT
KYLE'S
APARTMENT.

KYLE'S
APARTMENT,
MERKEL--
SELINA...

...HE'S USING LIPSTICK... BRUCE...MIND CONTROL... ELISIE...

...HAD ELISIE USE IT ON THAT CONGRESSMAN. THAT'S WHY HE...

EASY.

MY GOD... MARY... SHE'S WITH THE GOVERNOR...

BOSS...

COTTON CANDY... THE COUNTY FAIR...

COUNTY...

...HALF MY FRIENDS LL BE THERE...

DON'T... TAKE THE GIRL. HE'LL...

POLICE ARE RIGHT ON TOP OF US, ROBIN.

BRING THE WING IN CLOSE.

ON IT.

PSSSSES
She got here faster than I planned...

...reminds me of Jim --in the old days...

KBlamm! Watch it--he's--

Whef

Christ--I can't--

Damn--he's--

--can't get a clear shot--

She's

CHRIST--IT'S--

SUICIDE--

OOPSY--

It's...suicide...

...you tried to warn me, Jim...

...so many times...

...you told me that I break too many of the important rules...

...that I've made too many of the wrong enemies...

...that, for all my tricks...I've been getting by on luck...

...it's all a game of odds, you said...

...all it will take...is one bullet...
COLD WAVES LAP BATMAN'S HARBOUR... LIKE THEY HAVE ALL THE TIME IN THE WORLD...

...SHE DOESN'T MAKE A SOUND...

CAPTAIN WAVE'S... LIKE THEY HAVE ALL THE TIME IN THE WORLD...

SHE POES VS...

MAKE SORPI...

CEASE FIRE.
IS THAT A KID WITH HIM?

BOY WONDER... GOT TO BE...

CALL INSEASON. MERKEL, TELL HIM TO ADD CHILD ENCOMPASSMENT TO THE...

GURP'S -- COMMISSIONER -- THIS IS BATMAN.

GOOD SOLDER.
GOOD SOLDER

THE GOVERNOR'S LIFE IS IN DANGER. I HAVEN'T TIME TO SAVE HIM, IT'S UP TO YOU.

THE GOVERNOR'S LIFE IS IN DANGER. I HAVEN'T TIME TO SAVE HIM, IT'S UP TO YOU.

THE GOVERNOR'S LIFE IS IN DANGER.
WE ALMOST THREW A PARTY WHEN YOU RETIRED.

YOU'D DO IT AGAIN-- AND LIKE A MURDERER, YOU'D COVER IT UP AGAIN.

YOU REMEMBER WHY YOU RETIRED, BRUCE? NO-- JUST LOOK AT YOU--

THEY WERE CONSIDERING THEIR OPTIONS AND YOU WERE PROBABLY STILL LAUGHING WHEN WE CAME TO TERMS.

I GAVE THEM MY OBEDIENCE AND MY INVISIBILITY.

THEY GAVE ME A LICENSE AND LET US LIVE.

NO, I DON'T LIKE IT. BUT I GET TO SAVE LIVES-- AND THE MEDIA STAYS QUIET.

--BECAUSE OF YOU.

--THEY'LL HUNT US DOWN AGAIN--
...COMMUNICATIONS BLACKOUT CONTINUES AT CORDO HOUSE, AS DO THE BIZARRE AERIAL DISRUPTIONS. HUNDREDS OF ANHMOUR WINDS LASH THE PORT OF SAN CONCERPO, SIXTY MILES SOUTH OF CORDO...

THEY COULD PUT ME IN A HELICOPTER AND FLY ME UP INTO THE AIR AND LIE THE BODIES HERE? ON THE GROUND IN DELIGHTFUL GEOMETRIC PATTERNS LIKE AN ENDLESS JUNE TAYLOR DANCERS ROUTINE...

...AND IT WOULD NEVER BE ENOUGH.

NO, I DON'T KEEP COUNT, BUT YOU DO.

AND I LOVE YOU FOR IT.

SOMEBODY CALLS OUT FOR HER SON...

SOMEWHERE A CALLING PLAYS THE SAME TUNE, AGAIN AND AGAIN...

SOMEBODY CALLS OUT FOR HER SON...

LAPA, YOU ABANDON US. FIFTEEN POLICEMEN HOSPITALIZED. HUNDREDS DEAD. AND STILL YOU CLING TO THIS HERO WHOSE WORTH, THOUGH HOW ANYONE CAN THINK OF A DEFACTO MURDERER AS A HERO...

BATMAN HASN'T KILLED ANYBODY, MORRIS.

A GUY'S HAND TIGHTENS IT'S GRIP ON MY ARM...

A GIRL OF THIRTEEN BREATHES IN SHARPLY, SUDDENLY, HER INNOCENCE LOST...

...IT ENDS TONIGHT, JOKER.

FENTSON CHIEF GENERAL LUCAS LOCKHEED CONFIRMS THAT STRATEGIC AIR COMMAND STANDS AT EF JQV DRAFT-- A MOUNTAIN FROM DEPLOYMENT. "WE'RE PLEDGED," SAYS LOCKHEED...

APPRENTICED WHILE TRYING TO POISON THE BIZARRE RESERVOIR WERE FORMER MEMBERS OF THE MUTANT GANG. THEIR SKIN WAS PAINTED CHALK WHITE, THEIR HAIR DYED GREEN...

...A TINY HAND TIGHTENS IT'S GRIP ON MY ARM...

A GIRL OF THIRTEEN BREATHES IN SHARPLY, SUDDENLY, HER INNOCENCE LOST...

...IT ENDS TONIGHT, JOKER.
Perhaps he hasn’t—technically, that’s why I said ‘de face’, Lana dear. Still, it’s hardly a coincidence that the Joker came out of a ten-year captivity—now, of all times...

Thank the nice man, Donald. I want the kind that talks.

Pass off.

Uh, Boss—there’s a bat heading our way. It’s big. It’s...

...it’s him. I’ll make sure the bomb goes off.

Bomb? I heard—did he say...

Boss—It’s one of those...

It’s loaded, Robin—let it get close...

It’s carried.

Oh, my god.

Oh, my...
Can you see it, Joker? It feels to me... like it's written all over my face.

I've lain awake nights, planning it... picturing it...

Endless... nights...

Considering every possible method. Treasuring each imaginary moment.

From the beginning, I knew...

That there's nothing wrong with you...

That I can't fix...

With my hands...
--- Got a gun ---
OH GOD...
--- TK TK TK ---
RUN IT'S ---
OH GOD RUN ---

A SMOKE BOMB.
I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN.
NO, JOKER.

YOU'RE PLAYING THE WRONG GAME, THE OLD GAME.

TONIGHT YOU'RE TAKING NO HOSTAGES.

TONIGHT I'M TAKING NO PRISONERS.

OUT OF YOUR MIND...

YOU'RE TAPPING HOSTAGES.

IT IS A WAR, MORRICE -- THOUGH HE SEEMS TO BE THE ONLY ONE WITH BALLS ENOUGH TO FIGHT IT.

WHO GAVE THIS THUG THE RIGHT TO DECLARE MARTIAL LAW, MY? LAST I HEARD, THAT TAKES AN ACT OF CONGRESS.

BELIEVE I'M DONE THIS--

BILLY GAVE BILLY CAN'T.

OH, REAL COO--

LIKE ALL FAN--

LIKE GODDAMN THERE--

--DONT DUST ME--

--BEFORE THE DOLL--

--DOES THE MAXIMUM FLASH--

CHECK THE STATISTICS, LANA DIED -- HECK, IF YOU TOSS IN THE VICTIMS OF HIS FAN CLUB. THE BATMAN-RELATED BODY COUNT IS UP THERE WITH A MINOR WAR.
-- CHILD ENDANGERMENT IS THE LATEST CHARGE AGAINST THE BATMAN. REPORTS POLICE MEDIA RELATIONS DIRECTOR LOUIS GALLAGHER, BATMAN HAS BEEN SIGHTED USING A YOUNG BOY...

...AS A SHIELD AGAINST POLICE SNIPER FIRE. COMING UP--COMMISSIONER YINDEE SAVES THE GOVERNOR FROM LITERALLY STRANGLING HIMSELF WITH RED RAKE...

LIKE FOR THIS--

-- I MISSED THE GYM FINALS--

HOUSE OF MIRRORS

--- WHAT--

HEY-- WHAT--

IT'S HIM-- IT'S--

OH, JESUS--

YOU'RE THE JOKER, RIGHT? BATMAN'S GONNA KICK YOUR ASS.

-- CHRIST, IT'S!

TARANTULA

TOO SLOW--

HE HEARS THE GLASS--

HE GETS--

-- A GOOD ONE IN--

BLAM
They tell me the sons of the Batman broke up a three-card monty game this morning, Lana, with napalm.

Why hasn’t Batman done something about those lunatics? Unless, of course, he approves...

...watch your language, son...

Yes, sir.
SOMEBOY STOP
BLAM
NOWEE
GOD NO
BAD GIRL...
NO
SOMEBODY STOP
CRAZY ITS
SOMEBODY STOP
SLOW LEARNER'S OUT OF BULLETS
--I'VE GOT A CHANCE--

--OUT OF BULLETS -- GOT A SHOT -- ACE THE BOMB -- EASY SHOT--

--REAL GOOD, CARRIE-- LUNCHROOM OR WHAT -- LIKE YOU'VE GOT ALL NIGHT--

--SOME ROBIN -- REAL COOL -- JUST ACE IT -- EASY SHOT--

--EASY--

TK TK TK

TK THMP TK

TK TK

TK TK

TK TK

TK TK

TK TK

TK TK

TK TK

TK TK

TK TK

TK TK

TK TK

TK TK

TK TK

TK TK

EXCUSE ME.

I'M TOO LATE ...FOR THE ONE ON THE BOARDWALK...
...VERY BAD...
YOU'VE BEEN VERY BAD...

KLIK KLIK KLIK KLIK

...THE LAST TWO JOKER...

...MY VOW...

...IT'S BAD... DON'T KNOW HOW LONG I CAN STAY AWAKE...

...IT ISN'T...

COLD...

WATER'S COLD...

NO...

THE WATER...

...IT HAPPENS SO FAST...

EVERYBODY'S SCREAMING...

...MY CAPE GOES TIGHT...

HE STARTS BreATHING ON ME...

KLIK KLIK KLIK

TOO LATE...

FOR THE TWO AT THE TUNNEL...

TOO LATE...

TOO COLD...

HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE TO SAY IT, MONROE? BATMAN HASN'T KILLED ANYBODY...
-- THEY'RE RIGHT --
RIGHT ON TOP OF ME --

-- SO MUCH OF
HIM HE'S ALL
OVER ME --

-- HIS HANDS
THEY'RE ALL
WET --

-- THEY SCRAMBLE DOWN
MY FACE -- TO MY NECK --

-- I CAN'T
BREATHE --

-- HE'S
GASLINES --

-- CAN'T --

-- HE SMELLS
LIKE MILK --

-- THEN --

-- THEN I
HEAR THIS
NOISE AND
HIS FINGERS
SLIDE OFF
ME --

-- AND HE
FLIES --

KIL KIL KIL KIL

KIL KIL KIL KIL

KIL KIL KIL KIL

KIL KIL KIL KIL

KIL KIL KIL KIL

KIL KIL KIL KIL

KIL KIL KIL KIL

KIL KIL KIL KIL

KIL KIL KIL KIL

A GUN...
IS A
COWARD'S
WEAPON.
A LIAR'S
WEAPON.

WE KILL... TOO OFTEN
... BECAUSE WE've
MADE IT EASY... TOO EASY...

-- AND THE
WORK...

... SPARING
OURSELVES... THE MESS...
BARELY
Felt it enter
my stomach...

I barely felt it enter my stomach...

He's talking... I can't hear him...

Something is roaring... I can't... hear anything...

He's moaning... more quickly than I am...

Stabbing...

He's moaning... more quickly than I am...

Stabbing...

It happens... so slowly...

It happens... in five seconds...

The blade is sharp...

Sheer pandemonium here at the county fair, Lola! The Joker has been sighted--sixteen cub scouts have been found dead--dozens have been wounded by explosions--

And Batman has been seen--he and the Joker exchanged gunfire in a crowd--

Hey--what--Lola--they're evacuating the county fair--

I'm really, very disappointed with you, my sweet... the moment was... perfect... and you... didn't have the nerve...

They're gone...

The witnesses I mean...

Voices calling me... a killer...

I wish I were...
...just an ounce or two more...
...of pressure...and...
...do I hear...
sirens...?
...yes...coming
close...you
won't get
far...

...but then...
it doesn't
matter...if
you do...

...they'll
kill you
for this...

...and
they'll never
know...

...that you
didn't have
the nerve...

I'll... see
you... in
hell...

with a
devil's
strength...

he

twists...

hehh

...and

twists...

...what's
left of
his spine...
goes...

kraaakkk

kraaakkk

kraaakkk

haha

haha

haha

haha

haha

haha

haha

haha

haha

haha

haha

haha

haha

haha

haha

haha

haha

haha

...and

cold...

...whatever's in
him rumbles as
it leaves...

...the sirens echo
through the tunnel...

... tires screech...

...the world...

...is growing
dark...
NEXT:
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FROM THE WRITER OF
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FRANK MILLER

Frank Miller’s classic graphic novel features a Gotham City that has sunk into decadence and lawlessness ten years after an aging Batman retired. The Dark Knight returns in a blaze of glory when his city needs him most to end the threat of a brutal new generation of criminals while encountering the Joker, Two-Face and the Man of Steel for the final time.

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