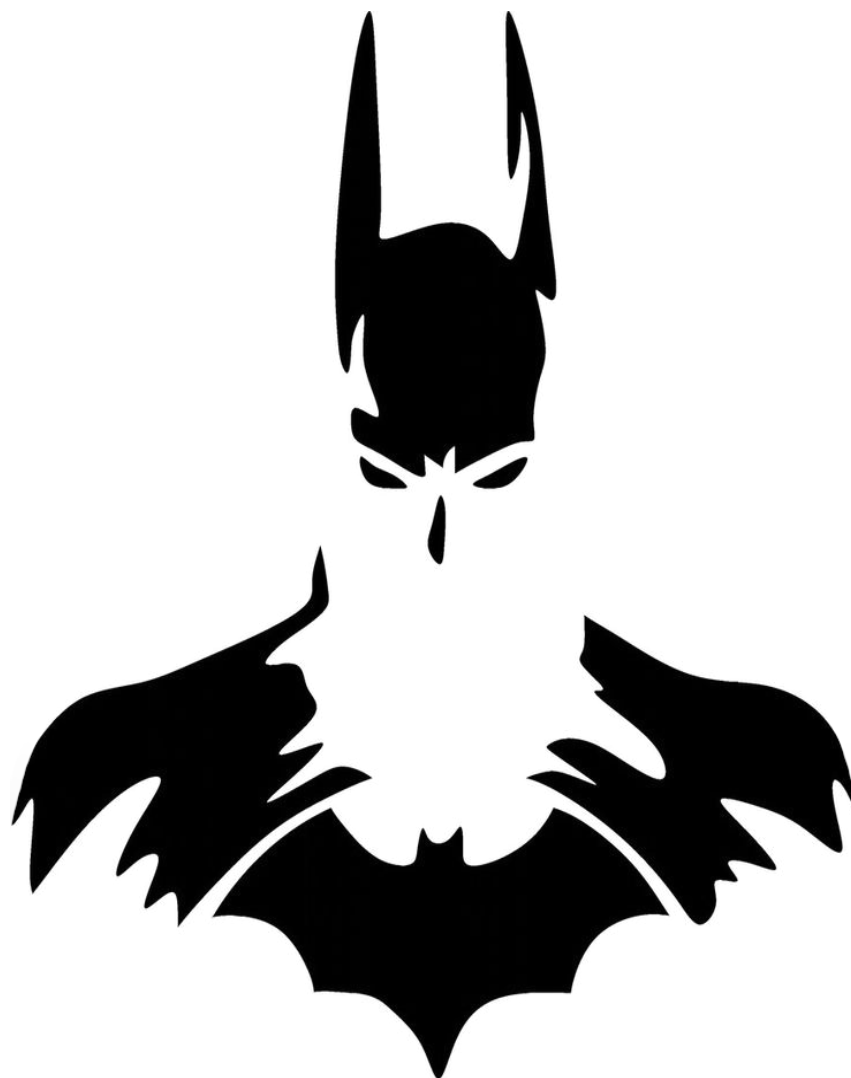




BATMAN: CREATURE OF GOTHAM

"Revelations"

Written by:
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"REVELATIONS"

ACT ONE:

FADE IN:

INT. GOTHAM GAZETTE STUDIO - NIGHT

VICKI VALE sits behind the news desk. Composed and professional. Ready to present a story that is bigger than the words on her teleprompter.

VICKI

Good evening, Gotham. I'm Vicki Vale of the Gotham Gazette. Our top story tonight: a significant underground explosion was reported earlier tonight beneath Robinson Park in the East End.

FOOTAGE: A cordoned-off section of the park. Cracked earth. Emergency vehicles. Smoke still curling from a split in the ground. GCPD officers keeping civilians back.

VICKI (V.O.)

Authorities have confirmed structural damage to underground infrastructure but have released no official explanation for the cause. The area was unoccupied at the time of the explosion, and no casualties have been reported.

INT. GOTHAM GAZETTE STUDIO - CONTINUOUS - NIGHT

Vicki turns a page. The shift in her expression is subtle but unmistakable. This next story will shake the city.

VICKI

In international news - tensions between the United States and the Soviet Union have risen following the apparent weaponization of an American weather satellite over Russian territory.

Behind her, a graphic appears: a map of Russia with a massive storm system rendered in deep red.

VICKI (CONT'D)

Three villages in the Volgograd region were struck by what witnesses described as a hurricane of unnatural speed and precision. The Kremlin has issued a formal warning to Washington, stating that any further meteorological activity within one hundred miles of Moscow will be considered an act of war.

She pauses. Just for a beat. Just long enough.

VICKI (CONT'D)

The President has denied any authorized use of the satellite. The identity of those responsible remains unknown.

EXT. GOTHAM CITY - NARROWS

AERIAL SHOT. The city from above. Dark and vast and breathing.

ROBIN moves between rooftops at speed.

He lands silently on a fire escape and looks down at the street below. Three stories down, the ICEBERG LOUNGE sits dark and closed. Police tape across the front entrance from Penguin's arrest, but the lights inside suggest occupancy.

Robin scans the building. Counting windows. Counting shadowing moving behind frosted glass.

ROBIN

(into comm, low)

Oracle. I see six thugs inside. Maybe more.

ORACLE (V.O.)

(filtered)

Penguin's at Blackgate. What do you think they're doing in there?

ROBIN

(into comm)

Not sure. I'm heading in, though.

ORACLE

(filtered)

Be careful, Tim.

Robin GRAPPLES toward the Iceberg Lounge.

INT. ICEBERG LOUNGE - MAIN FLOOR

The Iceberg Lounge without the Penguin is strange. Penguin motifs everywhere. The sculptures, the frozen centerpiece tank, the art deco fixtures, all feel abandoned.

Six THUGS have made themselves comfortable. Cards on one table. A crate of Penguin's finest champagne already half depleted. Military grade weapons leaning against the bar like they belong there.

Robin comes through the skylight. No sound. No announcement.

He lands in the rafters above the main floor and stays there for a full ten seconds. Completely still and invisible in the dark above the light line. He reads the room.

Two men within arm's reach of the weapons at the bar. One big man positioned near the only exit. Three at the card table with their backs partially turned. The bar itself running the length of the east wall, but also a trap if he gets cornered.

He reaches over his shoulder and extends his BO STAFF to full length with a quiet mechanical click that no one below hears.

He drops down.

He lands directly behind THUG #1, the closest man to the weapons rack. The bo staff drives hard into the back of the man's knee. He buckles. Before he hits the floor Robin has already pivoted.

THUG #2 takes it across the temple before he can register that anyone is in the room.

Two seconds. Two men down. Still no sound beyond the soft collapse of bodies.

THUG #3 at the card table turns at the peripheral movement. Half-rises from his chair.

Robin's SHURIKEN catches the military weapon on the table before the man's hand reaches it. It spins off the table and skids away across the floor.

Thug #3 rushes him anyway. Robin steps inside the charge, letting the man's momentum do the work. One sharp rotation of the staff and Thug #3 goes face-first into the frozen centerpiece tank.

The ice cracks. The man slides down it slowly.

THUGS #4 and #5 are on their feet now, weapons up. They have the angle. Robin is caught in open floor between them.

He doesn't retreat.

He throws. Two shurikens, simultaneous, one from each hand. Both weapons clatter from both sets of hands at the same moment.

Robin closes the distance to him in four steps and the staff work is compact and brutal, low strike to the shin, follow-through to the ribs, a final downward arc across the shoulders. Thug #4 hits the floor and stays there.

Thug #5, the big one, manages to get a hand on Robin's cape and hauls backward. Robin goes with it instead of against it. He uses the pull, plants a foot on the bar top, launches off it, and comes over the man's shoulder.

The staff catches him across the collarbone on the way down.

Thug #5 drops. The room is still.

THUG #6, the last one standing, has backed himself against the far wall, both hands raised. He had a weapon. He doesn't know when he stopped holding it.

Robin looks at him for a moment.

ROBIN
(menacing)
Penguin's in jail. What are you
doing here?

THUG #6
(frightened)
H-he told us to watch the place! I-
I promise I'm not lying. Don't hurt
me. PLEASE!

Robin THROWS his BO STAFF at the thug's head. Thug #6 down.

Robin stands in the middle of the room. He picks up the bo staff.

He crosses to the bar and picks up one of the military weapons. Turns it over in his hands. Studies the markings. The modifications.

ROBIN
(into comms, quietly)
Oracle. Same weapons as before.
Seems they were trying to keep
Penguin's business alive.

ORACLE (V.O.)
(filtered)
There has to be more information.
Look around the place.

INT. ICEBERG LOUNGE - EAST CORRIDOR - CONTINUOUS

Robin moves carefully down a back corridor, checking rooms. A storage room. A coat check. A private dining room. Empty.

He pauses at the end of the corridor. Listening. Nothing.

He pushes open the last door.

INT. ICEBERG LOUNGE - PENGUIN'S PRIVATE OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Robin stops cold.

Two figures stand in the shadows on either side of the doorframe.

Identical. Still as statues. White-faced. Red-lipped. Eyes like painted dolls. Sharp claws.

THE KABUKI TWINS.

Robin stares at them for a half-second. They stare back.

ROBIN
(low)
The Kabuki Twins.

They move simultaneously, a blur of white and red silk, and the fight begins again.

The Kabuki Twins fight like extensions of the same body. Perfectly mirrored and coordinated.

When Robin engages one, the other is already repositioning. When he blocks left, the strike comes from the right. They use the confined space of the corridor brilliantly, cutting off his movement, forcing him into the smaller room.

Robin takes a couple hits. Tries to block their strikes with his bo staff. He is not used to opponents this synchronized.

Instead of fighting them separately, he starts watching the pattern.

He lets one of the twins commit to a strike. Robin steps inside it, and uses her own momentum to send her into her sister.

They go down in a tangle of silk.

Robin stands over them, telescoping his bo staff and putting it away.

Robin examines Penguin's office with no distractions this time. Gold-framed paintings of Cobblepot himself. A cabinet of exotic bird feathers. An umbrella collection that takes up an entire wall.

On the desk, a COMPUTER. Old but functional. Still running.

Robin sits down. His fingers move quickly across the keyboard.

ROBIN (CONT'D)
(under his breath)
Password protected. Obviously.

He pulls a small DEVICE from his belt. Attaches it to the machine.

Within seconds, the screen opens.

Robin scans the files. Emails. Ledgers. Shipping manifests. He searches fast, absorbing information. Looking for patterns and answers.

He stops.

An email thread. The header reads:

"TO: R. THORNE | FROM: O. COBBLEPOT
RE: SHIPMENT COORDINATION - CONFIDENTIAL"

Robin opens it, reading through it.

His expression changes slowly as he scrolls. Focused but skeptical as he reads through the email.

But then, he sees an interesting line. From Thorne:

"The Mayor's killer has balls. But Batman thinks it's me. He's been threatening me. Even came to my house."

Robin stares at that exchange for a moment. He then scrolls further. Thorne again, to Penguin:

"I have taken steps. Met with someone who can handle this quietly. A professional. Wears a ninja mask. Doesn't talk. Only told me the problem would be solved without Batman's knowledge. I believe him. Don't ask me more than that."

Robin reads it twice.

Then a third time.

He sits back in Penguin's chair slowly.

ROBIN (CONT'D)
(very quietly)
A ninja mask?

His jaw tightens.

He downloads the files onto his device, pockets it, and stands.

ROBIN (CONT'D)
(to himself, flat)
I told you, Bruce.

He looks at the umbrella collection on the wall. Then back at the door.

ROBIN (CONT'D)
I told you.

EXT. BLACKGATE PENITENTIARY - NIGHT

The BATCYCLE pulls up to the service entrance. Robin dismounts, already badge-scanning his way through the outer checkpoint.

Behind him, a GCPD transport van pulls in. Six thugs and two very unusual unconscious women in the back.

INT. BLACKGATE PENITENTIARY - INTAKE - CONTINUOUS

Robin walks the corridor while processing GCPD officers handle the new arrivals. He glances through the small window in each door as he passes.

CELL 14 - FIREFLY. Garfield Lynns sits in the corner, peeling the label off his prison jumpsuit. He looks up as Robin passes. Says nothing.

CELL 19 - THE CAVALIER (Mortimer Drake, full moustache, long black hair). Drake sits upright on his cot. He nods at Robin. Robin does not nod back.

CELL 23 - RATCATCHER (Otis Flannegan, gas mask). Asleep. One of his rats sitting on his chest, also asleep.

CELL 27 - CATMAN (Thomas Blake, blonde). Stares at the ceiling. Not looking at Robin.

Robin looks at Catman for a moment. Eyes narrowed. Then keeps walking.

INT. BLACKGATE PENITENTIARY - PENGUIN'S CELL - CONTINUOUS

PENGUIN (monocle, jumpsuit) sits on his cot in his prison-issue jumpsuit, looking profoundly and personally offended by it. He is reading a newspaper with no distractions around him.

The cell door opens. He looks up.

Robin leans against the doorframe, arms folded.

PENGUIN

The boy wonder...
(folding his newspaper
with great dignity)
To what do I owe the pleasure?

ROBIN

I found your emails, Cobblepot.

A beat. Penguin's monocle doesn't move.

PENGUIN

Well... I bloody hope that's the
only thing you found in my
computer, you nosey twat!

ROBIN

Thorne said he hired a professional
to protect him. One with a ninja
mask.

Penguin says nothing. He picks up his newspaper again. Studies it with tremendous focus.

ROBIN (CONT'D)

What do you know about that?

PENGUIN

I knew Rupert was frightened. I
knew he did something about it.
(a pause)
And now I know he's dead.

ROBIN

Did you ever meet with the ninja?

PENGUIN
(smirking)
No. Maybe the ninja killed him.

Robin studies him.

ROBIN
Was there anything else? Anything
Thorne told you about this person?

PENGUIN
(quietly, truthfully)
Nothing. Check the emails again. He
told me he met the ninja and three
hours later he was dead.

Robin absorbs this.

PENGUIN (CONT'D)
Now if you'll excuse me...
(raising his newspaper)
I am trying to determine whether
I'll still have a city to return to
when my sentence is complete.

Robin pushes off the doorframe. Walks to the door. Pauses.

ROBIN
That'll get taken care of.

PENGUIN
(without looking up)
By who? Batman?

Penguin LAUGHS. Condescendingly.

Robin leaves. The door closes.

Penguin lowers his newspaper, staring at the wall for a long
moment. Raises it again.

INT. BLACKGATE PENITENTIARY - CORRIDOR - CONTINUOUS

Robin walks out through the corridor, faster now. His jaw is
set. He taps his comms.

ROBIN
Oracle. I need you to cross-
reference something. League of
Assassins known operatives,
specifically anyone Ra's Al Ghul
uses for targeted elimination.

A pause on the line.

ORACLE (V.O.)
I'll run it. Has Bruce told you yet?

ROBIN
Told me what?

ORACLE (V.O.)
It's... Talia had a miscarriage.

Robin's eyes WIDEN in shock.

ROBIN
(stressed)
Oh no...

He pushes through the exit door into the cold Gotham night.

Stops on the steps. Looks out at the city. The lights. The clouds. The weight of it.

He quickly hops on the Batcycle, riding into the dark.

EXT. GOTHAM CATHEDRAL - ROOFTOP - NIGHT

RAIN falls in sheets. LIGHTNING cracks the sky.

BATMAN stands motionless at the roof's edge. Cowl still on. Soaked. Just STARING at the city below.

The Batmobile is parked on the street. Abandoned.

He hasn't moved in minutes.

CATWOMAN emerges from the shadows. Graceful. Careful. She lands beside him, matching his stance.

CATWOMAN
You look like you could use company.

Batman doesn't respond, not acknowledging her.

Catwoman steps CLOSER. Her voice softens.

CATWOMAN (CONT'D)
You see the news? The world's about to burn. Seems like a perfect night to... I don't know... get some sleep together?

Batman remains SILENT. Staring at Gotham.

Catwoman tries a different approach. Playful.

CATWOMAN (CONT'D)
Come on, handsome. I know a place.
Away from all this.

She STEPS in front of him. Tries to catch his eye.

But Batman does not make eye contact.

Catwoman stares at him.

CATWOMAN (CONT'D)
You're quiet today. Missed me a
little too much?

A beat.

Batman turns away. Completely dismissive.

Catwoman's STEPS back, giving him space. Her expression
SOFTENS.

CATWOMAN (CONT'D)
You don't wanna talk today.

She PAUSES at the roof's edge.

CATWOMAN (CONT'D)
(low, Batman can still
hear her)
It's that girl, isn't it?

Batman doesn't respond.

Catwoman LOOKS at him one more time. Worry crosses her face.

Then, she DISAPPEARS into the night.

Batman remains. Alone. In the rain. STARING at the city.

ACT TWO:

INT. BATCAVE - NIGHT

The BATMOBILE parks at the turntable. Batman EXITS the
Batmobile.

Robin waits at the Batcomputer. He looks exhausted.

The moment Tim sees Batman, he STANDS.

ROBIN
I'm so sorry, Bruce. You should
rest. A few hours. Just-

BATMAN
No.

Tim STEPS in front of him.

ROBIN
You're not well, Bruce. Let me
handle-

BATMAN
I can't.

ROBIN
You just lost your-

Batman STOPS walking. His eyes SNAP to Tim.

BATMAN
Don't.

The single word is a COMMAND.

Tim PUSHES back. He's angry now.

ROBIN
We need to TALK about this! Talia,
the baby, you're losing your
sanity! You'll be exhausted-

BATMAN
I can't sacrifice the mission.

ROBIN
That's what this is to you? A
mission? Not the fact that your
girlfriend just lost her baby? Not
the fact that you've been pushing
me away ever since you've gotten
with her?

A BEAT. Batman stays silent.

Tim's voice RISES.

ROBIN (CONT'D)
Ra's has you in a chokehold.

BATMAN

Ra's didn't kill our child, Tim.
Qayin did. And he's still out
there.

Tim's face HARDENS.

ROBIN

Always doing everything you can to
defend that man. I have good
evidence that he hired a ninja to
kill Thorne-

BATMAN

Nonsense! You're blinded by your
ignorance.

ROBIN

Just wait and see, Bruce. Just wait
and see.

ALFRED steps into the conversation.

ALFRED

Master Bruce. If you don't want to
rest, I suggest you at least give
Miss Talia a visit upstairs. She's
with her father.

Robin's eyes NARROW at the mention of Ra's.

BATMAN

(calm, to Alfred)
I will.

Batman WALKS toward the stairs leading to Wayne Manor.

INT. WAYNE MANOR - MASTER PARLOR - NIGHT

TALIA lies on an ornate couch. Her abdomen is BANDAGED. Tears
fall from her eyes.

RA'S sits beside her. His arm is BANDAGED but mobile. He is
silent.

Talia rests her head against Ra's's shoulder. Ra's places his
arm over her shoulder. Comforting her.

Batman enters. He STOPS when he sees Talia.

Ra's STANDS. Stepping away from Talia.

RA'S
Detective. My men and I got here
just in time. Where have you been?

BATMAN
(grim)
Qayin will pay for what he's done.

Ra's is BOILED at the mere mention of Qayin's name.

RA'S
(fueled with hatred)
I will give that parasite a slow
death.

BATMAN
We will not kill him, Ra's.

Ra's EXPLODES in anger.

RA'S
(raising his voice)
He killed your child! My
grandchild! You still believe he
deserves to walk this planet,
Detective?!

Batman stays silent.

RA'S (CONT'D)
A good father would kill for his
children.

BATMAN
(raises voice)
A good father doesn't honor his
child with blood.

Ra's stays silent. Thinking about Batman's words.

BATMAN (CONT'D)
If killing solved anything, you
would be at peace.

A beat. Ra's still does not respond.

RA'S
Fine. But he will pay. You know it.

Batman doesn't respond.

He turns back to Talia.

TALIA

Beloved...

He LEANS down, kissing her forehead.

BATMAN

We'll finish this.

UBU steps forward with five remaining LEAGUE NINJAS. Ready.

Ra's nods to Ubu. Ubu nods back. Firm.

RA'S

We will stop him. For the child.

Batman nods.

INT. BATCAVE - LATER

Batman stands before the BATCOMPUTER. A MAP of Golatia on one screen. ORACLE behind another.

Ra's stands beside Batman. Cold and focused.

Ubu and about five of his men surround. Determined.

Robin enters. Crossing his arms. Looking suspiciously at Ra's.

RA'S

Finding Qayin will be a task,
Detective. A device of my intention
may be able to trace the
satellite's transmissions to their
source, so-

Batman interrupts.

BATMAN

Unnecessary, Ra's. With Qayin's
biblical fixation, where else would
be put his base than on Mount
Ararat, the spot where Noah's Ark
first touched land after the great
deluge.

RA'S

Of course. I'm impressed,
Detective.

Oracle's voice crackles through the screen.

ORACLE (V.O.)

I have him. Qayin's located in the northeast sector of Mount Ararat. Thermal signatures show 40 armed mercenaries. The weather machine seems to be fully operational.

Batman NODS. His expression is STONE.

RA'S

Fascinating, young lady.

Robin steps forward.

ROBIN

I'm staying.

Batman turns to face him. Eyes narrowed.

ROBIN (CONT'D)

The killer's still out there. Let's not forget that.

Tim's eyes LOCK on Ra's. Suspicion BURNING.

Ra's meets Tim's stare. UNFLINCHING.

RA'S

The boy still harbors his doubts.

ROBIN

Believe me, I have receipts.

Batman STEPS between them.

BATMAN

This is not the time for this, Robin.

Robin's voice CRACKS with frustration.

ROBIN

Bruce, listen to me. Please. Just listen-

BATMAN

You're right. You should stay in Gotham.

Tim CLOSES his mouth. He wants to argue.

But he SEES it in Batman's eyes. No room for negotiation.

EXT. MOUNT ARARAT - FOOTHILLS - NIGHT

The BATPLANE arrives.

Batman and Ra's emerge with UBU and the LEAGUE NINJAS. All in PARACHUTES.

WIND HOWLS. The weather is ALREADY CHAOTIC. The sky above is DARK. LIGHTNING in the distance.

Suddenly, the weather SHIFTS.

WIND becomes VIOLENT. A STORM ERUPTS from NOWHERE.

Qayin is TARGETING them from above.

The WEATHER MACHINE in orbit sends a WEATHER FRONT down directly on their position.

TORRENTIAL RAIN. LIGHTNING strikes near them.

The LEAGUE NINJAS struggle. Some are KNOCKED DOWN by the force of the wind.

Ra's CURSES under his breath.

RA'S
He's using the weapon on us.

Batman PUSHES forward. The wind is INTENSE but he FORCES himself through it.

Every step is a BATTLE against the elements.

LIGHTNING strikes the ground near him. THUNDER DEAFENS.

But Batman doesn't stop. He LANDS on the compound entrance. Ra's right behind him.

Ubu and the remaining ninjas FOLLOW.

INT. GCPD - COMMISSIONER GORDON'S OFFICE - NIGHT

COMMISSIONER GORDON sits at his desk. Papers scattered. Tired.

The window is dark. The city sleeps.

Suddenly, he hears a SOUND from the window.

Gordon LOOKS up.

Robin stands on the fire escape. He TAPS the glass.

Gordon FROWNS but gets up, opening the window.

GORDON

Robin? What are you doing here?

Robin enters SILENTLY.

ROBIN

We don't have much time.

He PLACES a FOLDER on Gordon's desk.

Gordon picks it up. Opens it.

Inside: DOCUMENTS. Encrypted emails. Financial records. Movement logs.

GORDON

What is this?

ROBIN

Evidence. I highly suspect the serial killer to be Ra's Al Ghul.

GORDON

You mean the demon guy?

Robin nods.

Gordon studies the documents. His expression HARDENS.

GORDON (CONT'D)

These are encrypted communications.

He LOOKS at Robin.

GORDON (CONT'D)

How did you get these?

ROBIN

World's greatest detective. I need you to talk to the DA about this. Build a case.

Gordon is processing.

GORDON

Ms. Van Dorn is very strict about you vigilantes. She's not like me.

ROBIN

That's not important. What's important is we find this killer and bring them to justice.

Gordon slightly nods.

GORDON
Does Batman know about this?

Robin HESITATES.

ROBIN
He does. But he doesn't want to
admit it.

Gordon raises his eyebrow. Confused.

GORDON
I'll speak with Janet. Hopefully
some progress can finally be made
on this-

Gordon LOOKS around. Sees nobody.

Robin is GONE. Just like that. Similar to Batman's antics.

GORDON (CONT'D)
(to himself)
Just like his old man.

Gordon looks at the folder in his hands once again.

INT. QAYIN'S COMPOUND - MAIN CORRIDOR - CONTINUOUS

QAYIN'S MERCENARIES open fire immediately.

Batman and Ra's DODGE each shot.

Ubu and the League ninjas FIGHT BACK. Swords DEFLECTING the
bullet shots.

The corridor becomes a WARZONE.

Bullets RICOCHET. Bodies FALL. From both Qayin's men and
Ra's's.

Batman moves with PRECISION.

Ra's fights beside him. His sword FLASHING. Ancient warrior
meeting modern soldiers.

They ADVANCE through the compound.

More mercenaries EMERGE.

Batman DISARMS one. Ra's CUTS down another.

They move as a UNIT. Unstoppable.

The corridor CLEARS.

ACT THREE:

INT. QAYIN'S COMPOUND - MAIN CHAMBER - CONTINUOUS

QAYIN stands before the SATELLITE CONTROL CONSOLE.

He SEES them entering.

No surprise. No shock.

He's READY.

Qayin DRAWS his blade.

QAYIN
Come, Detective. Come face your
failure.

Batman ADVANCES.

Qayin ATTACKS.

The fight begins.

Batman blocks. Parries. Counters.

Qayin is FAST. PRECISE. Trained over decades.

They clash. Back and forth.

Batman is fighting with CONTROLLED fury.

Every strike is calculated.

Qayin CUTS at Batman's face. Batman DUCKS.

He SWEEPS Qayin's leg. Qayin JUMPS over it.

They continue. A dance of death.

Batman sees an opening.

He STRIKES. Qayin BLOCKS but the impact STAGGERS him.

Batman PRESSES the advantage.

He FORCES Qayin backward.

Closer to the wall.

Qayin CRASHES into the console.

Batman has him pinned.

His hand moves to Qayin's throat.

He COULD kill him. Right now. One motion.

Qayin's face is INCHES from Batman's.

QAYIN (CONT'D)

Do it!

For a moment, Batman's grip TIGHTENS.

But then, he RELEASES Qayin. Stepping back.

BATMAN

I'm not you.

Batman throws an ELECTRIC BOLA around Qayin. ELECTROCUTING him.

Qayin GASPS for breath. Nearly unconscious.

Ra's ENTERS the chamber.

He sees Qayin. Sees Batman has him beaten.

RA'S

The machine. I will destroy it.

Batman nods.

Ra's WALKS toward the SATELLITE CONTROL CONSOLE.

His hand REACHES for the main power coupling.

He TYPES commands. APPEARING to dismantle the machine.

Qayin notices. ALARMED.

Qayin suddenly MOVES. BREAKING FREE from Batman's bola.

He LAUNCHES at Ra's with everything he has.

Ra's TURNS just in time.

They CLASH.

The sword of Ra's against the fists of Qayin.

Ra's is FURIOUS now. This is personal.

RA'S (CONT'D)
(furious)
You took my wife! You took my
grandchild! I will make you pay!

QAYIN
(smirk on his face)
You took me away from my family. I
suppose we're equal now.

They fight. BRUTAL. INTENSE.

Ra's OVERPOWERS Qayin.

Forces him to his knees.

Ra's raises his SWORD.

BATMAN
(yelling)
RA'S! DON'T!

But Ra's doesn't listen.

He DRIVES the sword down.

It pierces Qayin's chest. Deep. Fatal.

Qayin GASPS. CHOKES on blood.

Ra's twists the blade.

Qayin DIES.

Ra's WITHDRAWS the sword. Qayin's body COLLAPSES.

Batman STARES at him. At Ra's. FURIOUS.

BATMAN (CONT'D)
You killed him.

RA'S
He needed to die.

Batman's voice goes COLD.

BATMAN
We talked about this, Ra's. You
promised you wouldn't kill!

Ra's TURNS to face him. His eyes are DIFFERENT now.

Colder. More ANCIENT.

RA'S
Too late, Detective.

Ra's WALKS closer.

RA'S (CONT'D)
I had to start small. My men had
slain a number of your elites.

Batman's fists CLENCH.

BATMAN
What are you talking about?

RA'S
You, with your moral code, could
not remove the evil in your city. I
had to take matters into my own
hands to show you its
effectiveness.

A beat.

RA'S (CONT'D)
And after the miscarriage, I have
been vindicated once again.

Batman steps forward. His voice is DANGEROUS.

BATMAN
And what about Talia?

Ra's chuckles.

RA'S
She had no knowledge of this.

BATMAN
You used her. To get to me.

RA'S
I always knew you had a soft spot
for her. If only you knew how
pathetic you looked in front of the
boy wonder.

A beat.

RA'S (CONT'D)
Gotham has become cleaner. Safer.
BECAUSE of death. Not compassion.
Not mercy. DEATH.

Batman steps forward. His voice is dangerous.

BATMAN
You're wrong.

RA'S
The world is sick. And I am the
doctor.

He SIGNALS Ubu through his communicator.

RA'S (CONT'D)
Ubu. Is it on its way?

UBU (V.O.)
Yes, Master.

Batman REALIZES.

BATMAN
What are you doing?

Ra's SMILES. A terrible smile.

RA'S
The final plague.

He walks to a COMPUTER TERMINAL. Pulls up a MAP OF GOTHAM.

On the screen, ARKHAM ASYLUM is highlighted.

RA'S (CONT'D)
All those people inside. Broken.
Violent. Unfixable.

A pause.

RA'S (CONT'D)
The machine will destroy the
Asylum. Showing you what chaos your
mercy creates.

They fight. VICIOUS.

BATMAN
I thought you destroyed the
machine?

RA'S
(laughs)
You thought wrong, Detective. I
simply redirected it.

Batman GRABS Ra's by the collar.

BATMAN
How do you stop it?!

Ra's SMILES. The commands are already sent.

RA'S
You can't.

Ra's KICKS Batman in the chest. KNOCKING him back.

Suddenly, a HELICOPTER is heard outside. PROPELLING.

Ra's walks out. Knowing it's for him.

EXT. MOUNT ARARAT - FOOTHILLS - NIGHT

Ra's APPROACHES a helicopter piloted by Ubu. Three League ninjas stand around.

Ra's HOPS on the side of the helicopter. Signals to Ubu.

Ubu FLIES away. Escaping.

INT. ARKHAM ASYLUM - MAIN CORRIDOR - NIGHT

AARON CASH walks the corridors with his team. Everything is normal.

Until, the ALARMS sound. ELECTRICAL SURGES flicker the lights.

CASH
What's going on?

A TECHNICIAN runs up.

TECHNICIAN
Sir! There's a massive electrical storm forming directly above the facility! I've never seen-

THUNDER CRACKS the sky.

LIGHTNING strikes the asylum's roof.

The IMPACT is CATASTROPHIC.

Part of the structure EXPLODES.

Fire SPREADS.

Inmates SCREAM.

CELL DOORS malfunction. They OPEN automatically.
The worst criminals in Gotham are suddenly FREED.
JOKER emerges from his cell. Eyes WILD.
TWO-FACE LAUGHS as his door opens.
SCARECROW exits his cell with FEAR TOXIN in hand.
POISON IVY's vines BREAK through the walls.
KILLER CROC ROARS as he's released.
HARLEY QUINN DANCES through the chaos.
The asylum becomes PANDEMONIUM.
Guards try to contain the inmates but the STORM
continues.
More LIGHTNING. More EXPLOSIONS.
The building is COLLAPSING around them.
Inmates grab WEAPONS. Grab COSTUMES.
Aaron Cash FIGHTS valiantly. His team beside him.
But there are TOO MANY. And the STORM won't stop.

CASH
(to comms)
We need backup! Mass breakout at
Arkham! All units converge!

EXT. GOTHAM CITY STREETS - NIGHT

GCPD UNITS race toward Arkham.
Commissioner Gordon is in the lead vehicle.
DETECTIVE BULLOCK beside him.
RENEE MONTOYA in another car.
They see the STORM in the distance.
The LIGHTNING striking the asylum repeatedly.

GORDON
My goodness...

The asylum is BURNING.

Inmates are ESCAPING into the streets.

ZSASZ runs with a knife, LAUGHING.

MAXIE ZEUS leads a gang of thugs.

AMYGDALA RAMPAGES through the streets.

CONDIMENT KING spreads chaos.

KILLER MOTH flies overhead.

The worst of Gotham is suddenly LOOSE.

Gordon's team tries to contain them.

But there are DOZENS.

And more keep coming.

INT. BATCAVE - NIGHT

Robin WATCHES the monitors. Arkham is BURNING on every screen.

Inmates FLOODING into Gotham's streets.

His face goes PALE.

ROBIN

Oh no...

He CALLS Batman.

ROBIN (CONT'D)

Bruce! Arkham just blew up! The whole facility is-

Batman's voice crackles back. But it's DISTORTED. ANGRY.

BATMAN

I know. I'll be-

ROBIN

(suspicious)

You... know?

Batman pauses.

BATMAN
(distorted, on the screen)
Ra's did it. He used the weather
machine to destroy the Asylum.

Robin eyes NARROW.

ROBIN
And what about Qayin?

BATMAN
Ra's killed him. And the others. It
was him the whole time. He was the
murderer.

ROBIN
Is he still there with you?

BATMAN
No. He and his men escaped. Where's
Talía?

ROBIN
She's upstairs. With Alfred.

A PAUSE.

Batman sighs.

BATMAN
You were right, Robin. I was
blinded by everything going on.

ROBIN
(calm, but slightly
forgiving)
Save the apologies for later. For
now, let's focus on the mission.

Batman nods his head.

Robin hangs up.

He STARES at the monitors, watching Gotham BURNING, and being
vindicated at the same time.

END OF EPISODE.