



BLACKEST NIGHT

2
OF 3
MAR '10

The FLASH



GEOFF
JOHNS
SCOTT
KOLINS



BLACK
LANTERN

ROGUES' REVENGE!



BLACKEST NIGHT

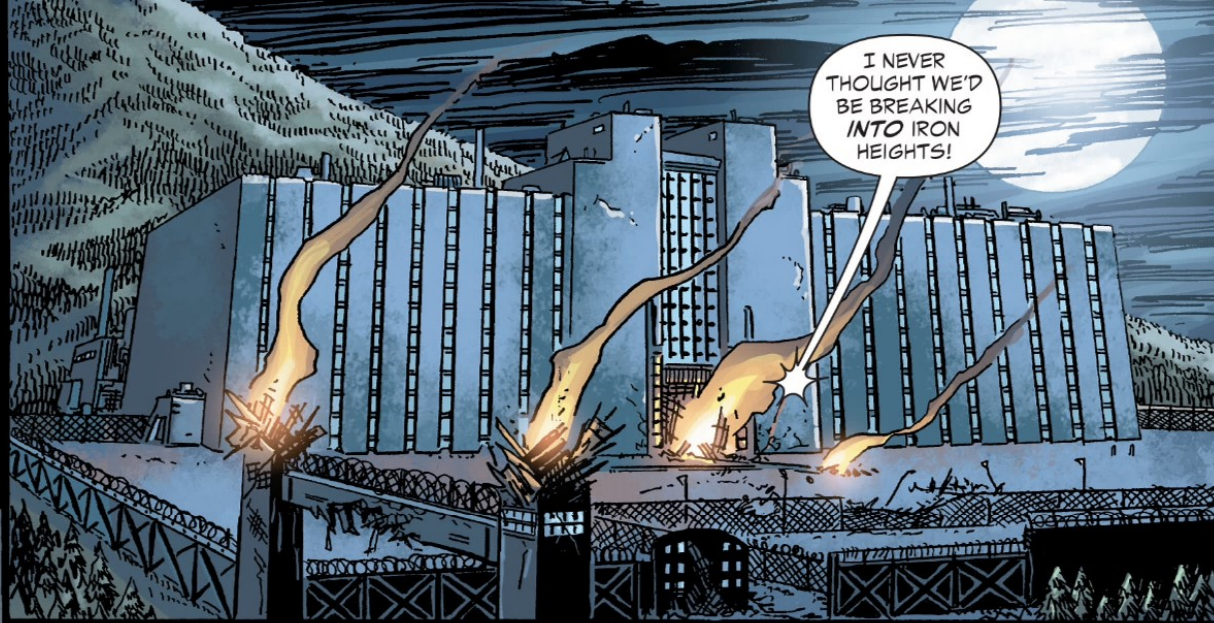
2
OF 3
MAR '10

The

FLASH



GEOFF
JOHNS
SCOTT
KOLINS



I NEVER THOUGHT WE'D BE BREAKING INTO IRON HEIGHTS!



WHERE IS EVERYBODY?!



HELP!



I NEED HELP!

THEY'RE STILL ALIVE DOWN THERE! SOME OF THEM ARE STILL ALIVE!



YOU THINK HE GAVE US AWAY?



AYE.

AYE?

WHAT'RE YOU--A PIRATE?



SO YOU'RE THE FOREIGNER WHO SWIPED MY GEAR, HUH?

WHO'S THE REFLECTION AND WHO'S THE REAL THING?



DON' MATTER NOW. YER TH' DEAD WUN.

V E E E E



I MAY BE DEAD BUT AT LEAST I'M NOT SCREAMING.



AAAAHH!

FWP

FWP

THUNK



BOOMERANGS?

YOU'RE CERTAIN TRACKING THEM WAS THE WAY TO GO, COLD?

YOU KNOW IT AS MUCH AS I DO, MARDON: THE ROGUES DON'T RUN.



HEH.

G'DAY,
MATES.

STRUCK BY A BOLT OF LIGHTNING AND DOUSED IN CHEMICALS, POLICE SCIENTIST BARRY ALLEN WAS TRANSFORMED INTO THE FASTEST MAN ALIVE. WITH EVERY STEP HE RUNS, THE SCARLET SPEEDSTER GENERATES AN ELECTRICAL ENERGY CALLED THE SPEED FORCE. ABLE TO BE TAPPED INTO BY OTHERS WHO SHARE HIS SENSE OF JUSTICE. TODAY, BARRY ALLEN PROTECTS AND SERVES THE WORLD OVER AS

The **FLASH**

BLACKEST NIGHT *The* FLASH

CHAPTER TWO

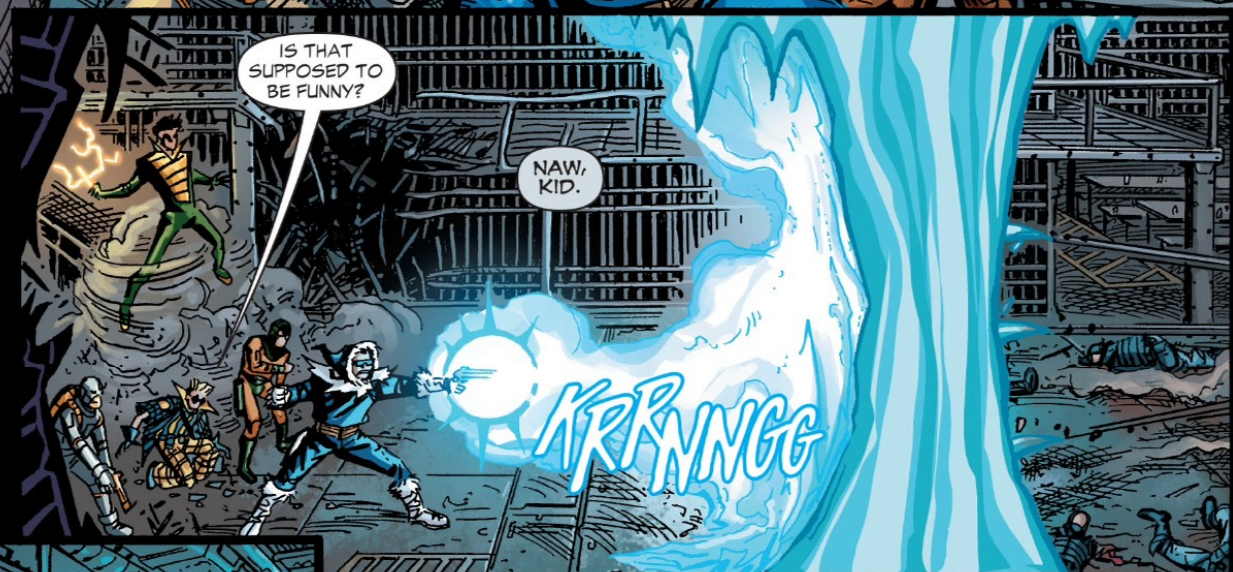
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HOLY HELL!

YOU ALL KNOW WHAT WE'RE HUNTING AND WHAT THEY'RE AFTER.

KEEP A COOL HEAD.



IS THAT SUPPOSED TO BE FUNNY?

NAW, KID.

KRRINGG



LEN NEVER CARED ABOUT MAKIN' US LAUGH, DIDJA, BUDDY?

YOU NEVER CARED 'BOUT NOTHIN'.



'CEPT HER.

THE GOLDEN GLIDER!

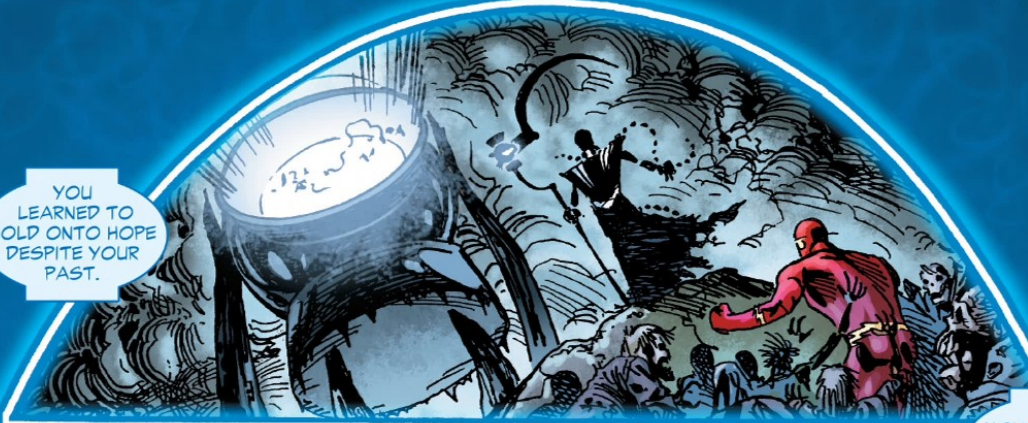
HEY, BIG BRO.

WE WERE JUST LOOKING FOR YOU.



BARRY ALLEN OF EARTH.

YOU
LEARNED TO
HOLD ONTO HOPE
DESPITE YOUR
PAST.



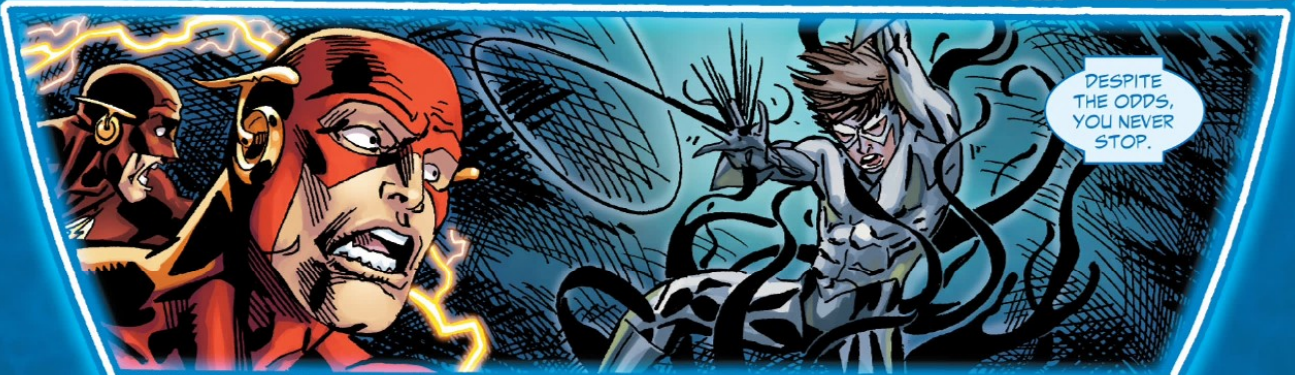
YOU
MOVE FORWARD
WITH FAITH IN
TOMORROW.



YOU
INSTILL THAT
TRUST IN THOSE
AROUND
YOU.



DESPITE
THE ODDS,
YOU NEVER
STOP.



YOU ARE
TRULY HOPE'S
MESSENGER.





MY NAME IS
BARRY ALLEN.

WELCOME
TO THE BLUE
LANTERN
CORPS.

I THOUGHT
YOU'D NEVER
ASK.

FOR THE LAST
FORTY-EIGHT
HOURS I'VE BEEN
DOING MY
BEST TO BURY
MY FEELINGS.

IT MAY
HAVE KEPT
ME A LITTLE
LESS VISIBLE
TO THESE
BLACK
LANTERNS,
BUT IT HASN'T
GOTTEN ME
ANYWHERE.

I CAN FEEL
THE BLUE
LANTERN AT
MY SIDE. THE
BLUE RING HE'S
GIVEN ME IS
LIKE A PAIR
OF HANDS
BEHIND ME
PUSHING ME
FORWARD.

THE BLUE GLOW WHISPERS
ONE THING AS IT CRACKLES
ACROSS MY BODY--



--STOP RUNNING IN PLACE.

LET THE RING GUIDE YOUR PATH, BROTHER ALLEN. LOOK CLOSELY, WITHOUT RELYING ON YOUR EYES, BUT YOUR SPIRIT.

YOU WILL SENSE WHERE YOU ARE NEEDED.

EVERYTHING LOOKS SO BRIGHT, IT'S HARD TO CLOSE MY EYES.



BUT I DO.

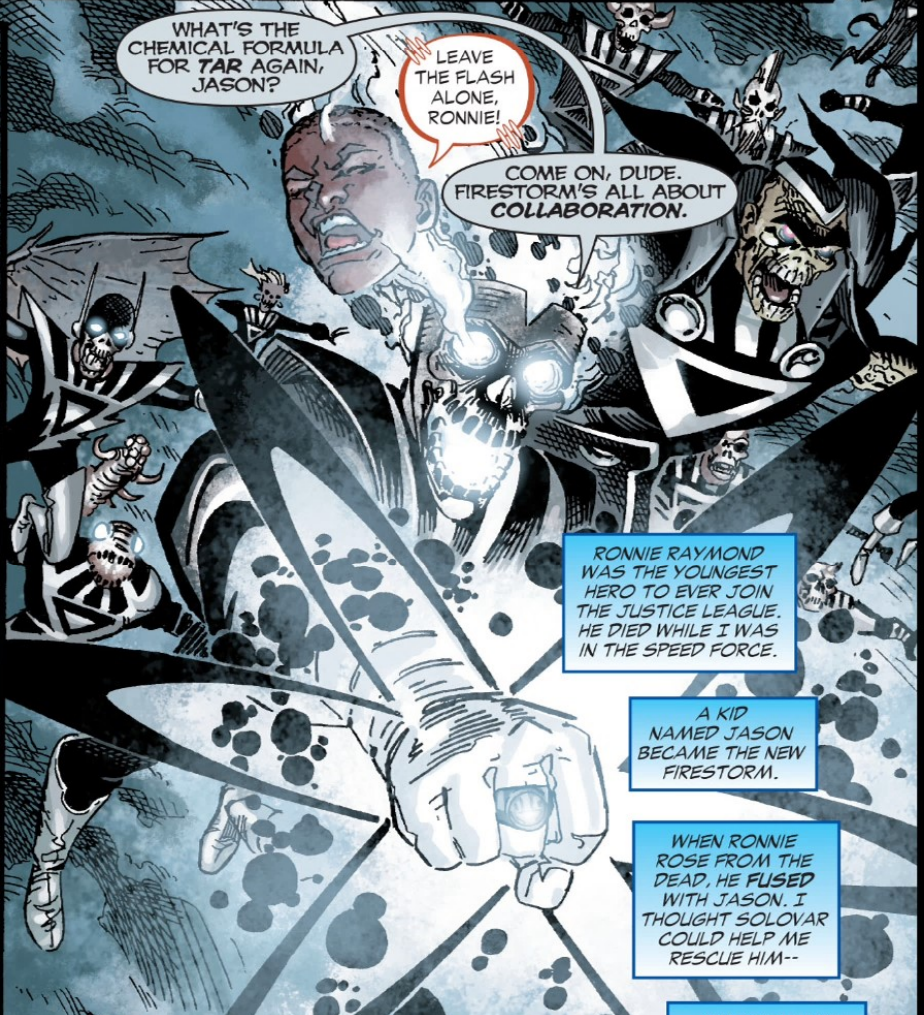
BART. THE BLACK RING TOOK HIM. HE'S DYING.



BUT THERE'S STILL HOPE.



BOOO



WHAT'S THE CHEMICAL FORMULA FOR TAR AGAIN, JASON?

LEAVE THE FLASH ALONE, RONNIE!

COME ON, DUDE. FIRESTORM'S ALL ABOUT COLLABORATION.

RONNIE RAYMOND WAS THE YOUNGEST HERO TO EVER JOIN THE JUSTICE LEAGUE. HE DIED WHILE I WAS IN THE SPEED FORCE.

A KID NAMED JASON BECAME THE NEW FIRESTORM.

WHEN RONNIE ROSE FROM THE DEAD, HE FUSED WITH JASON. I THOUGHT SOLOVAR COULD HELP ME RESCUE HIM--

--BUT SOLOVAR DIED WHILE I WAS GONE TOO.

JASON DOESN'T SAY, "HI!" FLASH. HE SAYS "HELP ME, PLEASE, HELP ME! THIS HURTS SO BAD!"

SUCH A WUSS.

KICK HIS ASS, FLASH!

DO NOT HESITATE. THERE IS NO NEED TO FEAR FOR JASON RUSCH OR YOURSELF, BROTHER ALLEN.

I MAY NOT BE ABLE TO SAVE RONNIE, BUT I CAN SAVE JASON.

I KNOW I CAN.

ALL WILL BE WELL.

AAAARR!!

GEN?!

THE BLUE LIGHT REACTS TO JASON, TAKING THE FORM OF HIS GIRLFRIEND THAT RONNIE MURDERED.

THEY'LL SEE ONE ANOTHER AGAIN.

LET GO OF ME, RONNIE!

LET GO!

I HOPE JASON KNOWS THAT.

JASON?!

YOU'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO BE WEARING A BLUE RING, BARRY.



YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE WEARING A BLACK ONE.

BART.

I'VE BARELY HAD THE CHANCE TO GET TO KNOW MY GRANDSON.

BUT I WILL.

ALL WILL BE WELL.




YOU'RE STILL ALIVE IN THERE.

I KNOW YOU ARE.

WHAT YOU REALLY KNOW, GRANDPA--



--IS THAT YOU WEREN'T SUPPOSED TO RETURN.

 THE BLUE LIGHT REACTS TO BART NOW, RACING OUT OF THE RING AND SPLITTING OFF. TAKING THE FORM OF HIS FIRST IDENTITY AS IMPULSE--

--AND KID FLASH.

IT REMINDS ME HOW MUCH I'VE MISSED.



YOU ONLY DELAY THE INEVITABLE, BARRY.

WE'RE ALL GOING TO DIE.



THAT IS TRUE, BLACK LANTERN. BUT NO ONE SHOULD FORFEIT THEIR LIFE BEFORE THEIR TIME.

I CAN FEEL THE RING STRUGGLING.

IT IS YOU WHO IS STRUGGLING, BROTHER ALLEN. HOLD ONTO HOPE. DO NOT CAST IT ASIDE AS YOU HAVE IN THE PAST.


AS YOU HAVE TODAY.




YEAH. GO AHEAD AND FEEL SOMETHING AGAIN, BARRY.

YOU'VE TURNED YOURSELF INTO A LIGHT THAT WE CAN SEE FROM ACROSS THE WORLD.

THAT WE INCLUDES ME.




I'VE
SPENT MY
LIFE RIPPING
YOUR HOPE
AWAY.



BUT
NO MATTER
WHAT I TAKE
FROM YOU, YOU
KEEP FINDING
IT AGAIN.




LITERALLY.




YOU
NEVER STOP
HOPING.

WALKER?



BUT
THIS TIME,
THAT'S WHAT
I WANT.



GET
THE OLD MAN,
THAWNE!



THIS
TIME--

--I
WANT
YOU TO
HOPE.



THEN FOR
ONCE WE'RE IN
AGREEMENT.



I THOUGHT THE REVERSE-FLASH WAS ALIVE.

HE IS, WALLY. HE'S RESURRECTED SOMETIME AFTER THIS POINT IN HIS TIMELINE.

AND YOU WONDER WHY I HATE TIME TRAVEL.

I'M NOT PARTICULARLY FOND OF IT MYSELF.

WHAT'S WITH THE BLUE UNIFORM?

IT'S A BEACON FOR US, WALLY.



BUT THE REVERSE-FLASH ISN'T THE ONLY ONE TO FOLLOW BARRY'S FOOTSTEPS HERE.

YOU KNOW WHAT MAKES EVERYTHING BETTER?!

GORILLAS!

THEY DON'T STOP COMING.

FIRESTORM.
BART. THE
REVERSE-
FLASH.

SOLOVAR.

BARRY,
PLEASE
HELP ME.

HELP
ME LIKE
YOU'LL HELP
BART.

I HEAR
SOLOVAR'S
SCREAMS IN
MY HEAD,
BUT CALMLY
UNDERNEATH
THEM I HEAR
SOMETHING
ELSE.

HELP
BRING ALL
OF US
BACK.

OR DIE
TRYING.

I HEAR
THE RING.

"ALL
WILL BE
WELL."

AND I START TO WONDER WHAT THAT REALLY MEANS.

I'VE MISSED YOU SO MUCH, LENNY.

I MISSED YOU SINCE THE DAY YOU LEFT.

YOU SPENT THE REST OF YOUR LIFE TRYING TO MAKE UP FOR LEAVING ME ALONE.

BUT WHEN I TRIED TO JOIN THE ROGUES, YOU SAID NO.

I DIED BECAUSE YOU WEREN'T THERE TO PROTECT ME.

YOU PROMISED ME YOU'D ALWAYS BE THERE.

COME ON, LENNY. I KNOW YOU BETTER THAN ANYONE.

AS MUCH AS YOU HATE IT--

--YOUR HEART'S NOT ALWAYS COLD.

I WON'T LET HIM HURT YOU, LISA. I WON'T LET ANYONE HURT YOU.

THAT'S WHAT BIG BROTHERS ARE FOR.

LOVE.



PISS OFF, SCUDDER. AWRIGHT?

WHERE ARE YOU RUNNING OFF TO, WALKER?

I'VE GOT A TRICK TO SHOW YOU.



I KNOW WHERE YOU'RE COMIN' FROM, MCCULLOCH.

I WAS LIKE YOU. HATIN' WHO SAM SCUDDER WAS.



PUTTIN' ON A MASK TO ESCAPE IT.



LIKE ALL THE ROGUES.



RUNNIN' AWAY TO WONDERLAND.

RUNNIN' AWAY TO WONDERLAND.

RUNNIN' AWAY TO WONDERLAND.

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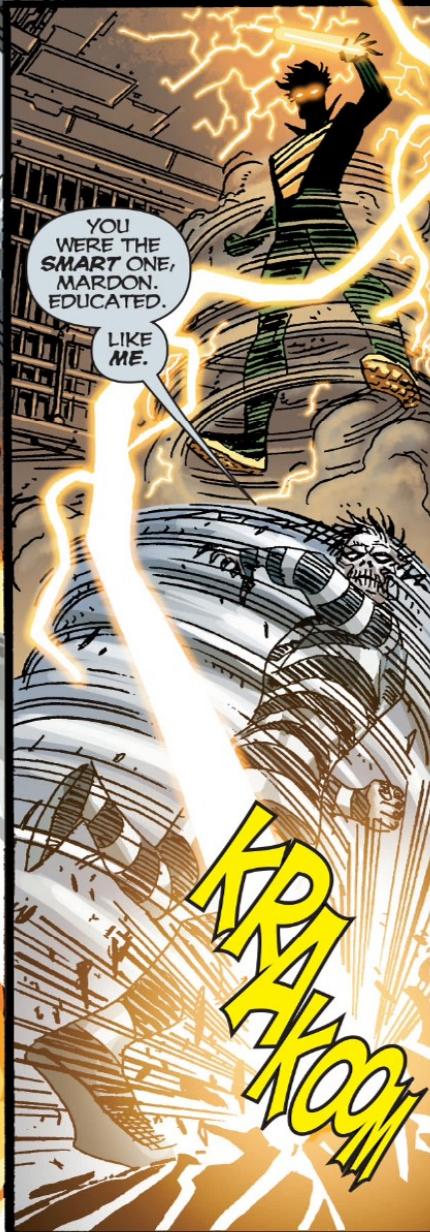


I CAN FINALLY SEE COLORS, MICK. THEY'RE SO BEAUTIFUL.

SHOW ME MORE.

YOU GOT IT, RAIDER.

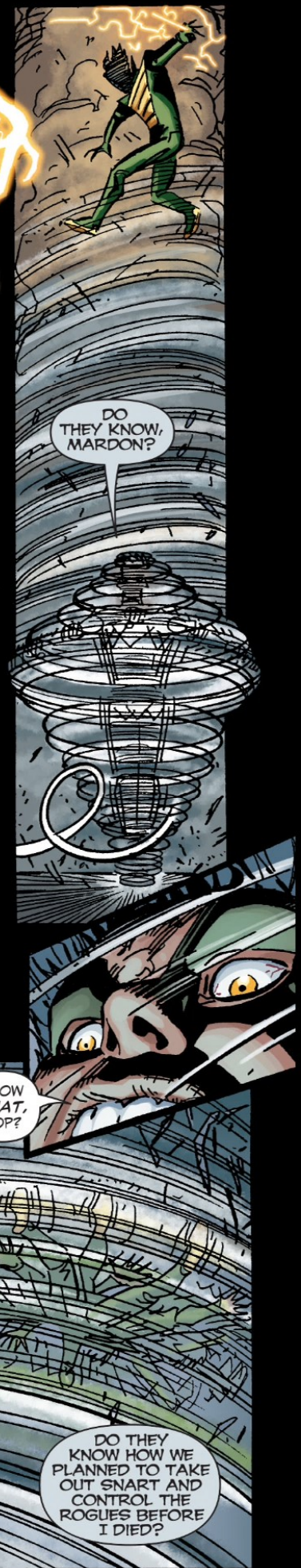
BWOOSH



YOU WERE THE SMART ONE, MARDON. EDUCATED.

LIKE ME.

**KRA
KOO!**



DO THEY KNOW, MARDON?

KNOW WHAT, TOP?

DO THEY KNOW HOW WE PLANNED TO TAKE OUT SNART AND CONTROL THE ROGUES BEFORE I DIED?



YOU HAVE TO HAVE MORE THAN THAT IN THERE, LENNY.

I SAW IT BEFORE.



LOVE.



NO, NO, THAT'S IT.



WHAP



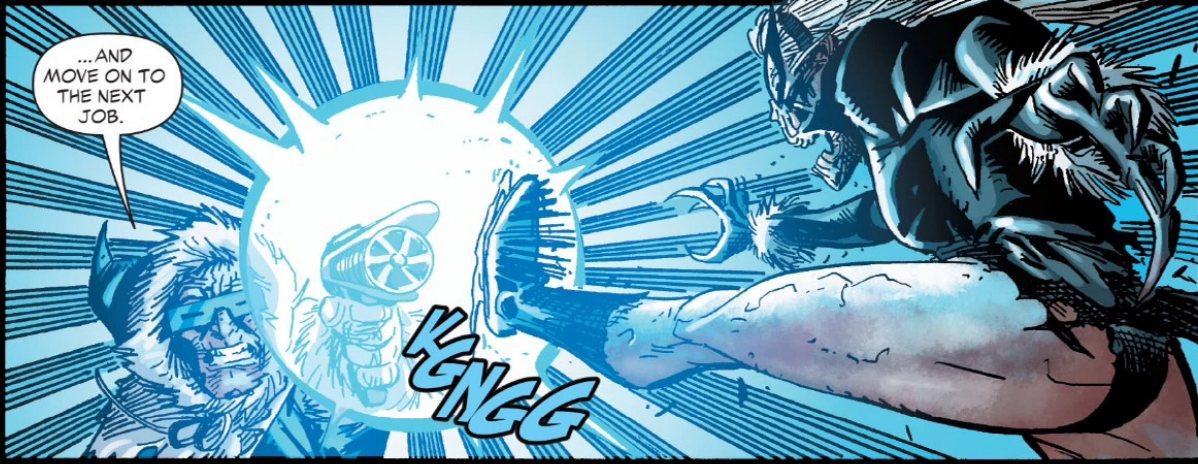
KRATCHH



I LEARNED A LONG TIME AGO, SIS.



WHEN LIFE HITS YOU HARD, YOU GOTTA SHRUG IT OFF...



...AND
MOVE ON TO
THE NEXT
JOB.

KINGG



SURE YOU WERE
A PART OF MY
LIFE ONCE.



BUT THAT
PART IS DEAD
AND GONE.



YOUR OL'
MATES MAY
BE DEAD, COLD,
BUT WE'LL
NEVER BE
GONE.

DIGGER,
I NEVER GOT
A CHANCE TO
TELL YOU WHAT A
DISAPPOINTMENT
YOU ENDED UP
BECOMIN'.

BUT
I'LL SURE
AS HELL
SHOW
YOU.

KAK



HOLSTER
THE GUN,
COLD.



I CAN'T LET YOU HURT MY FATHER.

OWEN?

DON'T BE STUPID, KID. THAT'S NOT YOUR FATHER.

IT'S A WALKING BAG OF BONES.

OWEN? SON?

I'M GOING TO HELP YOU, DAD.

I KNOW HOW TO BRING YOU BACK!



NEXT: THE HORRIBLE DEEDS OF CAPTAIN BOOMERANG

