

# WATCHTOWER

4.04 | "Batwoman"

Written by  
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Based on the character of 'Chloe Sullivan,'  
created by Al Gough and Miles Millar

Based on characters from  
DC Comics

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# WATCHTOWER

"Batwoman"

## MAIN CAST

CHLOE SULLIVAN ..... Allison Mack  
 BRUCE WAYNE / BATMAN ..... Christian Bale  
 HELENA BERTINELLI / HUNTRESS ..... Kayla Ewell  
 VICKI VALE ..... Yvonne Strahovski  
 JIM GORDON ..... Dylan Walsh  
 KATHERINE KANE ..... Deborah Ann Woll  
 LANA LANG ..... Kristin Kreuk  
 OLIVER QUEEN / GREEN ARROW ..... Justin Hartley  
 MAXWELL LORD ..... Gil Bellows

## GUEST CAST

ALFRED PENNYWORTH ..... Michael Caine  
 CRYSTAL FROST ..... Jaime Pressly  
 HARLEY QUINN ..... Nicki Minaj  
 JACOB KANE ..... Mitch Pileggi  
 KATE SPENCER ..... Dina Meyer  
 LISA ANDREWS ..... Lizzy Caplan  
 SARAH ESSEN ..... Vera Farmiga  
 SUMMER GLEESON ..... Holland Roden  
 THE JOKER ..... Joseph Gordon-Levitt  
 TIM DRAKE ..... Logan Lerman

TEASER

FADE IN:

EXT. GOTHAM GAZETTE - NIGHT

CRANE UP from the entrance of the Gotham Gazette building to find the TOP FLOOR OFFICE WINDOW. It SHATTERS.

BATMAN (PRELAP)  
Where is she?

INT. GOTHAM GAZETTE, HEAD OFFICE - NIGHT

A mortified MAXWELL LORD is pulled off the fragmented window, and pinned against the wall by a vicious BATMAN.

## 2 HOURS AFTER VICKI WENT MISSING

MAXWELL LORD  
She's dead.

Batman pulls away, haunted by the words. Lord brushes the shards from his shoulders, then straightens.

MAXWELL LORD (CONT'D)  
Vicki tempted fate when she challenged the Black King of Checkmate. Not many of those who dare defy me make it out unscathed and those that do are simply living on borrowed time.

BATMAN  
Then consider this the beginning of mine.

Batman lifts Lord from the ground with ease and directs his flailing body for the window. He pushes him through the remnants, and releases Lord into a FREE FALL-

EXT. GOTHAM GAZETTE - NIGHT

Robbed of his power, all Lord can do is descend from the massive drop until -- CLICK -- Lord swings into the side of the building and smashes against it. A line connected to his ankle snaps, and he hits the pavement.

People gather around Lord, who stares around. Humiliated.

BATMAN (PRELAP)  
Pull the security footage from the Gazette.

INT. BATCAVE - NIGHT (LATER)

Unmasked, Bruce - in the Bat-suit - hovers behind ALFRED, stationed by the large BAT-COMPUTER system.

## 5 HOURS AFTER VICKI WENT MISSING

ALFRED

Already on it, sir.

(beat)

Although if it's that temper of yours you'd like to keep out of the public eye, then I'd recommend *not* throwing the Editor-in-Chief of the Gazette off a forty-story building as a far better method.

BRUCE

Right.

ALFRED

Or at least try controlling that temper of yours, hmm?

BRUCE

That was me controlling it.

ALFRED

Very well.

Bruce withdraws from Alfred, sinking into despair.

BRUCE

I've barely been back three weeks and I've already lost someone close to me.

ALFRED

Do you really think Ms. Vale is dead, sir?

BRUCE

I can't afford to think like that right now...

Bruce glues himself to the mask in front of him as if it holds all the answers to his problems.

CHLOE (PRELAP)

I know what you're thinking behind those big, brown eyes of yours and I need you to stop it.

INT. WAYNE ENTERPRISES, WEAPONS DIVISION - DAY (LATER)

Behind the large computer system, Chloe catches Bruce's reflection in the monitor. His eyes are full of desperation, head down, unwilling to face a certain reality.

## 12 HOURS AFTER VICKI WENT MISSING

CHLOE

We're going to get her back.

BRUCE

We don't even know if there's a Vicki left to get back.

Chloe turns to Bruce, giving him her full attention.

CHLOE

You and I have both gone toe-to-toe with Checkmate before and we both know the value they see in keeping their targets alive. Vicki isn't some expendable piece of collateral damage. She's important. And no matter how evil Maxwell Lord can be, he is not stupid enough to kill someone as involved in all of this as Vicki Vale.

Bruce simply nods, before he catches sight of the shift on the computer monitor-

SECURITY FOOTAGE plays of a confrontation between BATWOMAN and VICKI in a parking lot. A gun is aimed for Vicki and it fires. Vicki instantly hits the ground.

Bruce looks away in disbelief. Pain strikes his face.

CHLOE (CONT'D)

Wait, wait. It's a taser.

Bruce returns to the monitor-

SECURITY FOOTAGE shows Vicki convulsing on the ground from an electrical current before passing out.

CHLOE (CONT'D)

Vicki's alive.

Relief washes over them.

BRUCE

Thanks, Chloe.

Bruce turns to leave but Chloe jumps up to follow.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

CHLOE

I, uh... I understand you didn't have to let me in on this considering everything that was said in our last conversation.

(beat)

I appreciate it, Bruce.

BRUCE

She's your friend too. I wouldn't dare keep you out of it.

They share a smile, a mutual look of friendship that has been absent for quite some time...

EXT. GOTHAM CITY, STREETS - NIGHT (LATER)

A POLICE VEHICLE jets down the road in hot pursuit of a CAPED WOMAN riding a MOTORCYCLE. Red and blue paint the distance between them as they swerve in and out of traffic.

ALFRED (PRELAP)

Police radio is picking up sights of the Batwoman, sir. Gordon is in pursuit as we speak.

EXT. ROOFTOP - NIGHT

Watching from the roof, Batman adjusts the communications in his ear, and follows the movement below from up above.

## 20 HOURS AFTER VICKI WENT MISSING

BATMAN

I've got eyes on them now.

A step on the ledge, and Batman LAUNCHES into the sky...

EXT. ALLEYWAY - NIGHT

The police vehicle pivots into the alley and hits the breaks upon sight of the caped woman slowing to a halt. Gordon rams into the back of the bike, and the woman BACK FLIPS O.S.

INT. POLICE VEHICLE - NIGHT

THUD. Gordon ducks from the overhead noise. The window beside him COMPLETELY SHATTERS -- GLOVED HANDS clawing for him, and dragging him from the vehicle.

EXT. ALLEYWAY - NIGHT

Gordon falls against murky water in a gasp, then rolls over to find Batwoman stood above him. He reveals a gun, locked and loaded and aimed straight for her head.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

GORDON

Touch me again and we'll see if  
history really does repeat itself.

BATMAN (O.S.)

Enough.

Batwoman shifts to the distance, when -- PFT! A dart hits her neck. Slowly, but surely, she slumps over. Unconscious.

Gordon rises to meet Batman, arriving from the shadows.

SLO-MO: An astonished Gordon turns pale with disbelief as Batman draws closer and closer. He brushes past, collecting an unconscious Batwoman from off the ground and into his arms, as Gordon can only watch on in astonishment.

GORDON

It's really you...

Batman turns back to face Gordon. An unnerving silence as Gordon shifts between his old friend and the gun clenched in his hand that worked to end their partnership.

BANG! Smoke engulfs the small distance between them, and once it clears, Gordon is completely alone.

OFF the shock painting Gordon's expression...

CUT TO BLACK.

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

INT. OLD FACTORY - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

RED HOOD stands behind a bound KATHERINE KANE, his gloved fingers dancing along her cheek. She tenses.

RED HOOD

Tragedy doesn't just sculpt you into... *this*. It strips you of any control you ever had and forces you to become *something else*. You, the stunning white knight of Gotham City - our public hero - our saviour... and then there's me...

(whispering)

The Red Hood.

He pulls away. Katherine more terrified with the inability to feel his presence and anticipate what's to come.

RED HOOD (CONT'D)

Let's hope public opinion is in your favour and all that hard work to reshape your image in the eyes of Gotham City has paid off. 'Cause if you don't win the pesky little vote tomorrow morning...

His hands clap down on Katherine's shoulders and she jolts.

RED HOOD (CONT'D)

Well, let's just say your night will end with a bang.

And like a ghost, Red Hood seems to disappear back into the shadows that seem to envelop Katherine as well...

FROM BLACK:

A harsh light rips in and illuminates a startled Katherine, whose eyes dance around the room for clarity. The armed men in red hoods share her alarm, and raise their weapons...

GUNSHOTS fill the air, and sparks of light from behind are met with the red hoods dropping all around Katherine.

Silence.

A run-way from the entrance paints a path from a shadowed man to a bound Katherine. He draws closer and closer, each step seemingly slower than the last.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

CLOSE ON Katherine, who seals her eyes shut with a gasp...

FROM BLACK:

INT. BATCAVE - DAY

Bruce steps back and rises from our view.

BRUCE  
Katherine Kane.

Bound to a chair in her Batwoman-suit, Katherine Kane is unmasked in front of a puzzled Bruce Wayne. Her vision shifts to the environment: the BAT-COMPUTER, the BATSUIT locked behind a glass capsule, a BAT-MOBILE parked in the distance, and more tech than she's ever seen before...

BRUCE (CONT'D)  
We need to talk.

Katherine's focus returns to Bruce, in a state of shock.

INT. GOTHAM GAZETTE, HEAD OFFICE - DAY

The door clicks open, and a hesitant Chloe enters to find a grinning Maxwell Lord shaking the hand of SUMMER GLEESON (29, a smart, brash red-headed vixen).

MAXWELL LORD  
Nice of you to finally join us.

Summer offers Chloe her hand, and she shakes it.

SUMMER  
Hi. I'm Summer.

CHLOE  
Chloe.

SUMMER  
What a strange name. You don't hear of many Chloe's anymore. It's kind of like they all die out after high school.

Summer chuckles as Chloe simply mimes the name 'Summer,' as if that name is somehow more common...

MAXWELL LORD  
Summer will be your partner here at the paper until the Gazette is no longer plagued with the problems of being over-staffed.

CHLOE  
I can quit.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MAXWELL LORD

Don't be silly. Your expertise is essential for our anti-vigilante campaign, Ms. Sullivan.

CHLOE

Come again?

SUMMER

Oh, that wasn't a stab at your trial. I'm a true believer in our court system and if you were found innocent then you sure aren't guilty in my book. He's talking about this...

Summer unveils her phone -- a series of pictures are scrolled across frame of a SHADOWED FEMALE VIGILANTE fighting against police officers. Recognising the subject of the photographs, Chloe's lips spell out the name 'Helena.'

SUMMER (CONT'D)

While I'm sure they're not all bad, it seems like anyone can just throw on a mask and start beating people up these days. And when those people are our law enforcement...

MAXWELL LORD

Well, that's when we step in and expose them for what they truly are. Criminals.

Chloe grows cold towards Lord, a noticeable death-glare.

CHLOE

See, I think I have a much better story on what's threatening this city that I'd love to pitch since we're all here.

MAXWELL LORD

Ms. Gleeson. If you wouldn't mind giving us the room. I think Ms. Sullivan needs a bit more time warming up to the idea of getting along with others.

SUMMER

Sure.

(to Chloe)

It was a pleasure meeting you.

A forced smile, and Chloe is free from Summer. She directs her full attention to Maxwell Lord.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

CHLOE

I understand that we are both benefiting from this situation here, but I will not serve these heroes up for you on a silver platter. You want to play dirty, fine. I'll expose everything I have on you *and* your organisation.

MAXWELL LORD

Well, I guess that's all well and fair. But there's just one small thing you should probably think about before disobeying my direct order or was your friendship with Ms. Vale just another ruse?

Any control of the situation Chloe thought she had fades...

MAXWELL LORD (CONT'D)

You and Ms. Gleeson will find out who this masked crusader is, earn your return to the front page of a highly respected paper, and help me gain the advantage over you and the dwindling heroes you choose to spend your nights with. Or your friend dies. Understood?

OFF the silent agreement from Chloe...

CHLOE (PRELAP)

I don't understand.

INT. HELENA'S APARTMENT, LIVING ROOM - DAY (LATER)

Chloe paces the room while HELENA sits, drowned in confusion.

CHLOE

If this Batwoman is being held by Bruce in the "Batcave," and you haven't touched your suit since Zatanna pulled you back from the threat of early on-set Alzheimer's, then who else could be out there punching up police officers?

HELENA

All I know is there's no way I'd be seen in public dressed as the Huntress after what I did.

And Chloe latches onto the pain exuding from Helena.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

CHLOE

I'm sorry, Helena. Speaking from experience, everything just kind of hits a reset button when it comes to the resurrection of fallen friends that it's easy to forget everything you went through just to... to still be here.

Chloe takes a seat opposite Helena.

CHLOE (CONT'D)

How are you feeling?

HELENA

I still feel like that girl standing on the edge of a forty-story drop and not knowing whether to take one step forward or two steps back.

CHLOE

As much as I'd like to scale that rooftop and bring you off the ledge myself, I know it's out of my control. You know, maybe talking to people who have lost what you've lost will make you feel less isolated. I have a friend who works at the Saviour Foundation-

HELENA

Group therapy isn't going to cure me. Talking about feelings and thoughts and figuring out how messed up I really am is not exactly in my DNA, Chloe.

(beat)

The only thing that seemed to help me stop feeling all the pain was when I was trying to do good as the Huntress but now that's gone and I don't know what's left for me here.

CHLOE

I'm not giving up on you, Helena. And I'm not exactly giving up on the Huntress yet either.

Chloe's determination comforts Helena.

CHLOE (CONT'D)

Unfortunately, there *is* a hero out there I *do* have to give up on if I want to keep Vicki alive.

(CONTINUED)

HELENA

Chloe, when we first met you reeled me out of the depths of my own darkness and helped me see the light. No matter what corner this Maxwell Lord has you stuck in, I know you'll find a way to protect them both. You just need to start playing by the same twisted rules as your opponent.

CHLOE

Ugh. I can't believe the key to getting out of this mess is a girl named *'Summer Gleeson.'*

They share a small laugh over Chloe's disgust.

INT. OLIVER'S LOFT, ELEVATOR - DAY

Reflected in a tiny make-up mirror, LANA shifts her face to reveal a large, green vein running up from her neck to her cheek. She relentlessly dabs it with foundation... DING!

INT. OLIVER'S LOFT - DAY

By the desk in the distance, OLIVER is seen typing away at the computer when Lana arrives out from the elevator doors.

LANA

Have you found anything on file about the Prometheus suit?

Lana is met with a disappointed look from Oliver.

LANA (CONT'D)

Should have known he'd bury his plans for world domination...

OLIVER

Lex saw himself as a hero. He was willing to die if that's what it took to save the world from Clark, and this suit was his only weapon to do just that. He never intended to remove it.

LANA

So basically, what you're trying to say... what you're telling me is...

OLIVER

What I'm saying is that Lex didn't have time to create an exit strategy, Lana.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

OLIVER (CONT'D)

He was building a weapon with intent to kill before he was killed. Before *I* killed him.

LANA

Oliver...

OLIVER

But maybe if he knew that this thing was out there, and that it was killing the woman he claimed to have once loved...

LANA

No. I will not bring that monster back into my life. If you and yours can't help me then I'll find someone who can.

OLIVER

Lana-

Lana disappears in a blur that STRETCHES INTO OBLIVION.

Sinking in defeat, Oliver can't hide his disappointment...

KATHERINE (PRELAP)

You know, part of me thought you could save me.

INT. BATCAVE - DAY

Bound to a chair, Katherine's focus returns to Bruce.

KATHERINE

When the lights came back on, and those footsteps were getting closer and closer... I told myself it was The Batman. Coming to save me just like he'd done before.

BRUCE

What are you talking about? What lights?

KATHERINE

At the factory. Where Red Hood was holding me hostage. Someone came for me. And I thought everything was going to be okay.

INT. OLD FACTORY - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

A figure leans down, in front of a bound Katherine whose eyes remain sealed shut. She opens her eyes, then jolts in her seat with disbelief. It's Maxwell Lord.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MAXWELL LORD

Surprise.

OFF the confusion written across Katherine's face...

INT. BATCAVE - DAY

Katherine sinks into the bottled raged deep within.

KATHERINE

Imagine my surprise when I'm  
confronted with a balding meta from  
Checkmate who tells me my life may  
be over in the eyes of the public,  
but it's really only just begun.

BRUCE

Maxwell Lord...

KATHERINE

You want to save your cute friend,  
then get me the hell out of these  
ropes and I'd be more than happy to  
help you bring her home.

OFF the conflicted glare burning from Bruce's eyes...

CUT TO BLACK.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

INT. BATCAVE - DAY

Cautious of Katherine, Bruce keeps a distance from her...

BRUCE

I know we share a past that makes me inclined to trust you, but I know what that man is capable of, and after seeing what you did to Vicki, I know there's a whole lot more to you too.

KATHERINE

This city needed someone after you were gone. I was only trying to fill the void and honour the hero that saved my life.

BRUCE

By working with Maxwell Lord?

KATHERINE

It's not what it looks like...

BRUCE

I know you, Katherine. I know this isn't you. You're under his spell.

KATHERINE

No, I'm not. There are other ways to force people's hands...

Katherine withdraws, struggling to contain her emotions.

KATHERINE (CONT'D)

He has my father, Bruce.

Bruce closes in on Katherine with noticeable shock written across his expression.

BRUCE

Jacob's alive? You told everyone he had died...

KATHERINE

I thought he did. I saw it. At least I remember seeing it...

OFF Katherine, remembering...

EXT. GOTHAM CITY, STREETS - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

A sword SLICES up the back a fleeing citizen who collapses in front of a set of red boots. CRANE UP to find a mortified Katherine, frozen in fear. She is met with a WARRIOR.

SUPER: 'The Night Hush Attacked The City.'

SLAMMING an ARCHER into the wall, JACOB KANE turns to find his daughter frozen before a sword-wielding warrior.

JACOB  
Katherine!

SHLIKT! The sword pierces through Katherine's chest, and she struggles to accept it's over. But as the sword pulls from her, and her blood paints her hands, she slumps over...

Eyes pierced up to the skies, all Katherine can see and hear is a CHOPPER in the distance, until-

BANG! The warrior's corpse collapses by her side.

JACOB (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
No. Katherine. Can you hear me?

The armored men and women of the Hush Army scatter past a fading Katherine, whose vision begins to blur...

PFT! PFT! Jacob hunches over beside her, an arrow from his back, piercing through to his shoulder. Katherine locks eyes with him, completely immobile.

JACOB (CONT'D)  
I'm so sorry...

A hand appears on Jacob's shoulder, pulling him back, as a blade is guided towards his neck, and SHLIKT-- BLOOD SPRAYS across the horrified expression on Katherine's face...

INT. BATCAVE - DAY

Katherine jolts back into reality.

KATHERINE  
Lord planted the thoughts. The memory. He needed my father for reasons I don't even know about yet and he'd have spent a lifetime in a cell if I never put on the cape and cowl and became an asset in the eyes of Maxwell Lord.  
(beat)  
If you didn't save me...

INSERT CUT: BATMAN tears through an army of four bladed warriors and two archers in pursuit of Katherine.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KATHERINE (CONT'D)

Then neither of us would have had this opportunity to put that son of a bitch down.

BRUCE

Is that what this is? You put my friend's life in danger just so you can guarantee an extra hand in saving your father? She's innocent in all of this.

KATHERINE

No. No, I didn't have a choice. The second I so much as hiccup with disagreement, he threatens to put a bullet in my father's head. He wanted your friend. Not me.

(beat)

Believe me. I don't want anyone to get hurt here.

BRUCE

Something we can agree on...

KATHERINE

So what do you say, huh?

BRUCE

I can only echo what so many others have said before me.

(beat)

Never meet your heroes, kid.

And Bruce turns his back on Katherine.

KATHERINE

What? No. Bruce! Bruce, don't do this. You need me. You-

(beat)

Damn it.

But Bruce has already disappeared among the shadows. A look of defeat, and Katherine accepts her isolation...

CHLOE (PRELAP)

Katherine Kane's death was faked?

INT. GOTHAM GAZETTE, OFFICES - DAY

Sat behind her desk, Chloe holds a phone to her ear.

CHLOE

I mean, I know I of all people shouldn't be shocked, but that kind of thing is expected from me not the city's white knight.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

INTERCUT BETWEEN: CHLOE AND BRUCE ON THE PHONE

BRUCE

You can't let your *boss* know we've got Katherine. He's holding her father prisoner. That's the only reason she's in this whole mess.

CHLOE

Well, it's nice to know the Bat-family name isn't being dragged through the mud, right?

(beat)

What's your next move?

BRUCE

I have connections to some very reliable people at Checkmate from my time as an agent. I need blue-prints of their organisation so I can locate the cell, and bring Vicki and Katherine's father home.

CHLOE

Why don't you just exploit Katherine's knowledge if she's been working with Lord this entire time?

BRUCE

I don't know how capable she is in the field and I don't want to put anyone else in danger.

CHLOE

This is her father, Bruce. You let me in on this because of my friendship with Vicki. Katherine deserves the same.

Headed towards Chloe's office, Summer intrudes.

SUMMER

Drum roll please. I've just landed our first key witness!

CHLOE

I've got to go. I hope you do the right thing...

Chloe disconnects the call and turns her attention to Summer.

CHLOE (CONT'D)

Someone has info on the big, black, crime-fighting blur in that picture?

(CONTINUED)

SUMMER

I did some digging, and *apparently* this masked crusader infiltrated the courthouse and stole a ridiculous amount of files on cases of criminals that managed to escape the system. This woman is on a crusade, Chloe. None of these encounters are random.

CHLOE

(realising)  
Courthouse...

SUMMER

Something wrong?

CHLOE

Oh. It's nothing. How are we going to catch her, exactly?

SUMMER

A nice kid at the GCPD managed to restore the deleted files for me, and the next target on her list to cross off is *Hayden Thompson*. A little more digging, and turns out he's running a mechanic shop in the city that also works as the perfect guise for his part-time drug dealing business. While he goes under a different name now, he didn't exactly make himself untraceable.

CHLOE

Please tell me you're not suggesting what I think you're suggesting...

SUMMER

(excited)  
Chloe... let's have a stakeout.

OFF Chloe, trying to keep her frustration bottled in...

INT. CHECKMATE, PRISON CELLS - DAY

Slowly waking up, Vicki immediately remembers she's confined behind a thick glass wall. Opposite her, behind glass walls of his own, sits Jacob -- beaten, bloodied, and almost unrecognisable. He was waiting for her to rise.

JACOB

Still hasn't sunk in yet, has it?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

VICKI

I keep thinking if I close my eyes long enough, and just go to sleep and not think about it... I'll wake up in my bed. Home and safe.

JACOB

I believe that's called hope.

(beat)

Cherish it. It'll go after the first three months.

VICKI

My god. How long have you been down here?

JACOB

Long enough.

VICKI

Right.

Vicki sits up and leans against the wall in discomfort.

VICKI (CONT'D)

None of this makes sense. If we hold any value to this psycho, he'd just compel us to speak. To tell him whatever he wants from us.

JACOB

I take it you know very little about Maxwell Lord.

VICKI

Why? What makes you say that?

JACOB

He has powers, sure. He could make us do and say whatever the hell he wants. But... the stronger the command... the more times he has to force information from us... it takes its toll on him.

VICKI

(remembering)

The nose bleeds...

JACOB

If he can let us rot down here until we go from prisoners to volunteers, then he doesn't have to feel the lack of control he puts the rest of us through.

(CONTINUED)

VICKI

I guess that buys us a little more time...

JACOB

Time for what? For him to get stronger and finally turn us into his puppets?

VICKI

I have friends. Very powerful and capable friends who will know something's wrong and will find us.

JACOB

I can guarantee you... for as long as you are in this cage, your friends think you're dead.

And Vicki leans forward, suddenly realising the biggest important question she has yet to ask him.

VICKI

What's your name?

JACOB

Jacob Kane.

And just like that, the hope fades from Vicki's eyes...

KATHERINE (PRELAP)

This is my father whose life is in danger here.

INT. BATCAVE - NIGHT

Bruce, in the bat-suit, stands in front of the glass capsule that holds his mask. He's glued to it. Behind him, Katherine remains bound to a chair. Desperate.

KATHERINE

If you go out there on your own and you mess up, then you've condemned us all to hell. My father. Your friend. They'll both be killed. And I will forever be at the mercy of that madman.

Bruce's eyes find the floor, struggling to decide.

KATHERINE (CONT'D)

I'm not that same helpless girl who needed you to swoop in and lift me off the blood-stained pavement to rush me to the ICU. I'm a soldier, damn it. And this is *my* fight. *My* war.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KATHERINE (CONT'D)

And I will not let you leave me on  
the sidelines and decide the fate  
of mine or my father's life.

Bruce hits a button on the capsule, and it lifts. He  
retrieves the mask, then wears it.

Disgusted, Katherine looks away, fuming. A black cape whips  
in front of her, and disappears behind her all in the blink  
of an eye. Suddenly, the ropes drop from her hold, and she's  
released. Katherine rises, then turns to face Batman.

BATMAN

Suit up.

Batman offers Katherine her mask, and she takes it.

OFF the widening smile stitching across Katherine's face...

CUT TO BLACK.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

EXT. GOTHAM GAZETTE - NIGHT

Exiting the building, Chloe scales down the stairs with a phone to her ear.

CHLOE

Helena? I could really use your help right about now...

Chloe disappears into the street.

CRANE UP the length of the building, windows turning into sheer blurs as we reach...

EXT. GOTHAM GAZETTE, ROOFTOP - NIGHT

Perched atop the rooftop, Batman and Batwoman appear as guardian angels, watching over the city. Side by side. Only more mischievous. They listen into a live audio feed, transmitted through an ear-piece. Only

MAXWELL LORD (O.S.)

(from feed)

I left you in charge of things, *Crystal*. You're supposed to be interrogating Ms. Vale. Not pulling an all-nighter at your job.

BATMAN

Who's this *Crystal*?

BATWOMAN

She's his better half. At least, she wants to be. She's all googly eyes for the tall, dark and balding. From what I can gather, she's a scientist helping Lord on whatever the hell it is he's planning for this city.

BATMAN

From what *I* can gather, as second in command, she has complete access to the Checkmate headquarters.

(beat)

Do you know where she works?

BATWOMAN

Follow me.

Batwoman LEAPS OFF the ledge, and descends into-

INT. GOTHAM STATE UNIVERSITY, OFFICE - NIGHT (LATER)

THWACK! Batwoman lands against CRYSTAL's back, and holds her against the desk in front of them. Pinned, Crystal's attempts to wiggle out are effortless.

In front of the blonde woman, Batman surfaces, and all becomes clear across Crystal's face.

CRYSTAL

This is preposterous and *completely* illegal. I will have you and your partner arrested for this.

BATMAN

I guess we'll be sharing cells.

CRYSTAL

What are you talking about?

Batwoman leans in close to Crystal's ear.

BATWOMAN

Does Checkmate ring any bells?

Crystal grows silent, aware of the consequences...

BATWOMAN (CONT'D)

Give us your key card or your days of fantasising over a perfect June wedding with one sadistic Maxwell Lord will come to an abrupt end.

CRYSTAL

Batman doesn't kill.

BATWOMAN

You're right. He doesn't.

CRACK! Crystal's arm rips to the side, dislocated from the brute force used by Batwoman. She HOWLS.

BATWOMAN (CONT'D)

Me, on the other hand.

CRYSTAL

Okay, okay... it's in my purse, over there on the desk.

Batman rushes to retrieve it, withdrawing a WHITE KEY CARD from the oversized purse.

BATMAN

Got it.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

BATWOMAN

It's been a *pleasure* doing business with you. I'd suggest finding a different circle of friends for the future, okay?

Batwoman releases, and as Crystal rises-- CRACK! Her face is driven into the desk, and she bounces off it, slumping over onto the ground. Unconscious.

BATMAN

Hey!

Batwoman returns to Batman.

BATMAN (CONT'D)

That was unnecessary.

BATWOMAN

She would have alerted Lord the second we left and had the entire security rewritten to lock us out, so *yes*. It was *very* necessary.

They turn, off towards the exit, capes WHIPPING AGAINST US-  
EXT. GOTHAM CITY, ROOFTOP - NIGHT (LATER)

Capes drape down to reveal Batman, turning in to Batwoman.

BATWOMAN

So now what? We just rock up and infiltrate an organisation full of highly trained agents in our cape and cowls?

BATMAN

We need someone to infiltrate the headquarters undetected and then open a few doors for us.

BATWOMAN

And by doors you mean... a window?

BATMAN

Yes.

BATWOMAN

Who did you have in mind?

OFF the curious expression...

INT. GCDP, HEAD OFFICE - NIGHT

TIM DRAKE leans back, accepting an envelope as he straightens, and beams with a widening smile.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

TIM

Thanks, comish.

Behind the desk, Gordon offers a look of dissatisfaction.

GORDON

Don't ever call me that.

TIM

Sorry.

Tim exits, and is immediately replaced by a concerned SARAH, who closes then locks the door behind her. She adjusts the blinds for privacy, then returns to Gordon.

GORDON

What are you doing?

SARAH

This seems to be the only place that offers me a genuine heart-to-heart with the man I'm dating.

(beat)

You've been avoiding me.

Gordon sinks in defeat.

GORDON

It's not you.

SARAH

Oh, I know that.

They share a slight chuckle.

SARAH (CONT'D)

This is about the other on-again, off-again relationship you've been in with a so called 'Batman.'

GORDON

I ran into him today. The *real* him, Sarah. Not some copy cat.

SARAH

So he's really back?

GORDON

Yeah.

SARAH

Shouldn't that be a good thing? I mean, you don't have to live in that guilt anymore.

(CONTINUED)

GORDON

Don't I?

(long pause)

That night on the bridge... I no longer saw him as a man in a mask. I saw him as a monster. A monster I told myself had to be put down, and now that he's back... he's just a reminder that the only monster stood on that bridge was me.

SARAH

You made a mistake. A mistake you're wearing the guilt of day in and day out. Not many people get the opportunity to right their wrongs. But you do.

And Gordon looks to Sarah, inspired. A silent smile painted across his face that offers a better 'thank you' than words could articulate. He suddenly realises what he has to do...

EXT. GCPD, PARKING LOT - NIGHT

Enclosed shoes clap against the ground...

Tim walks towards the parked vehicle in the distance. Like a ghost, Batman suddenly surfaces from behind a beam, and blocks Tim's path.

TIM

Son of a-

Tim stumbles back, then turns to run. Batwoman blocks him.

BATWOMAN

Hey, kid.

TIM

There's two of you...

BATMAN

And we need your help.

Tim looks to the Batman, confusion written across his face...

TIM

You have got to be clinically insane if you honestly believe that I am going to do *anything* help you.

INT. CHECKMATE, HALLWAY - NIGHT (LATER)

Doors open to reveal Tim, in suit and tie, and a pale expression that fails to conceal his fear. He carries a suitcase in his left hand and sports BLACK-SHADES.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

TIM

How the hell did this happen?

EXT. NEARBY ROOFTOP - NIGHT

A large, towering rooftop overlooking the large CHECKMATE HQ hosts the suited vigilantes Batman and Batwoman.

BATWOMAN

We bribed you.

INTERCUT BETWEEN: TIM AND BATMAN / BATWOMAN VIA EAR-PIECE

TIM

Oh, right. Student loans. Man, I thought I was stronger than that...

BATMAN

You're doing the right thing.

BATWOMAN

Yeah, I mean if we told you more about the cause you'd only have a panic attack realising you're literally walking in what can only be described as evil incorporated.

TIM

I'm sorry, what?

BATMAN

Just get to the window.

TIM

Right, right. My bad. This is all new to me.

INT. CHECKMATE, OFFICE ROOM - NIGHT

The red light by a door ignites with green. It clicks, then opens, as Tim scurries into the room.

TIM

Alright, I'm in.

He approaches the light-switch.

EXT. NEARBY ROOFTOP - NIGHT

In the distance, over the shoulder of a curious Batman, an office light from the third window on the left of the top floor IGNITES WITH YELLOW.

BATMAN

Found you.

INT. CHECKMATE, OFFICE ROOM - NIGHT

Tim opens the large window, and steps aside, waiting...

TIM

I guess being a computer hacker has already secured me a nice little cosy cell at the Gotham State Penitentiary but *breaking and entering*? We're just adding more years here, aren't we?

DESCENDING into the room, Batman - followed by Batwoman - enter and rise to a towering stance.

BATWOMAN

Breaking and entering is the least of your concerns. I'm sure you'll get more time for assault.

An audible gulp, and Tim is far from being calm.

TIM

Oh, this is not going to end well.

BATMAN

Let's go.

The three exit, a team heading into war...

INT. CHECKMATE, HALLWAY - NIGHT

An ELEVATOR. The destination.

REEL BACK into an agent, MID-AIR as he flies back, into the wall and away from a forceful Batman. Behind him, Batwoman ducks from a left hook, rises and STRIKES-

Tim skillfully swings from an agent, foot wrapped around their neck, kicks from the wall, and DRIVES HIM TO THE GROUND. He looks out, off towards the dozen agents flooding in towards them.

TIM

This is not how I thought my night was going to play out.

Batman cuts through agents, swift and hard. He seamlessly moves through the attacks, using their strikes to his advantage, and apprehending them. Six down. One passes him, and CHARGES INTO BATWOMAN, fending off two other men.

BATWOMAN

Here. Take this.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Batwoman catches an arm, and pulls the agent in towards Tim who immediately KICK JUMPS off the wall, spins around with force, and CRACKS his foot against the agent's skull.

Batwoman turns back into the other two agents, extending her arms to catch their charge. They immediately drop.

In front, Batman simply lifts the remaining agent from the waist up and DRIVES HIM INTO THE ELEVATOR. He bounces off it and onto the ground, unconscious.

Batwoman and Tim join Batman by the elevator.

BATWOMAN (CONT'D)

Now that wasn't so hard, was it?

TIM

Everything hurts.

BATMAN

You get used to it.

TIM

No, thank you.

The elevator doors open, and they enter.

INT. ELEVATOR - NIGHT

A key-card swipes against the slot, and a button is pressed.

Tim lowers down behind Batman and Batwoman, and withdraws a portable device -- A TABLET -- and starts typing frantically.

TIM

I should be able to gain full control of the system here, and keep the elevator access to a "cape and cowl only."

(beat)

Well. Including me.

Batwoman turns to Batman, shifting to a level of concern.

BATWOMAN

I can't believe we did it.

INT. CHECKMATE, PRISON CELLS - NIGHT

Elevator doors open to reveal Maxwell Lord, stood behind Vicki and Jacob, forced on their knees at gun-point.

MAXWELL LORD

Well, well, well...

ON the fear that is written across all the heroes faces.

(CONTINUED)

WATCHTOWER, 'Batwoman'

30.

CONTINUED:

MAXWELL LORD (CONT'D)

Bet you didn't see this one coming.

OFF the sinking defeat building behind Batwoman's eyes...

CUT TO BLACK.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

EXT. MAINSTREAM MECHANICS STORE - NIGHT

A dark black van with tinted windows is parked outside, overlooking a mechanics store in the distance.

SUMMER (PRELAP)

I mean, say what you want. Without goals and aspirations, we wouldn't have a reason to wake up in the morning.

INT. VAN - NIGHT

Inside, Chloe buries her face in her hand, whilst Summer continues to unload every thought in her head.

SUMMER

At least, that's my motivation.

CHLOE

That's... depressing, Summer.

SUMMER

Well, what's your motto in life, huh? Where do you want to be? What do you want to do?

CHLOE

I just want to be a good mother for my daughter, and not be wasting time on a stake out to hunt down someone who is *actually* making a difference in this city.

Summer seems offended, taken aback. She grows empathetic.

SUMMER

I'm sorry, Chloe. I didn't mean to rub you the wrong way. I'm not trying to ruin your life or anything. I just... I want to succeed, you know? And the chief told me you had a history of working well in a team and so I jumped at the opportunity. The whole "We are women, hear us roar."

CHLOE

I believe it's "I am woman, hear *me* roar."

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SUMMER

Right.

(long pause)

If you don't want to share bylines or desks... I'm totally fine with that. You don't have to do anything you don't want to.

CHLOE

No. No, it's fine. I just have a hard time trusting people lately.

(beat)

Seems easier to keep you at a distance than to treat you like an actual human being and I apologise for that.

SUMMER

Well, I appreciate the honesty.

THE VAN DOOR slides open to reveal a trio of rough, animalistic men whose curiosities are peaked. At the forefront, we meet HAYDEN THOMPSON.

HAYDEN

Well... what have we got here?

Chloe and Summer look to each other, realising their fate...

INT. MAINSTREAM MECHANICS, STOCK WAREHOUSE - NIGHT (LATER)

Five men fill the room. All armed. Chloe and Summer are bound to wooden chairs, side by side, whilst Hayden paces in front of them, spinning a gun with his fingertips.

CHLOE

(under her breath)

Come on, Helena... where are you?

(to Summer)

I am *totally* blaming you for this.

SUMMER

Excuse me? This is *hardly* my fault. I am an expert at staying hidden. You're the one with the loud voice, not me!

CHLOE

Loud voice? Oh. Well now that we've got guns to our heads, you're *finally* behind honest.

SUMMER

Oh shut up, Chloe.

Distressed, Summer becomes agitated from the ropes.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

HAYDEN

My words exactly.

(beat)

So tell me. What are you two chickens doing out here, huh?

They return their focus to Hayden. Summer grows desperate.

SUMMER

To be honest, we're not even interested in catching you. We're doing a fluff piece on a vigilante crime fighter who is after you. If you want to hold anyone hostage, then get them. Not us!

CHLOE

Everything you just said is the reason why this whole anti-vigilante campaign is *ridiculous*.

SUMMER

You're ridiculous!

CHLOE

Oh. *Ouch*.

HAYDEN

Enough.

And the room turns serious as Hayden shifts aim between Chloe and Summer. They tense up.

HAYDEN (CONT'D)

Now which one of you wants to be shot first, yeah?

CHLOE

Her.

(beat)

Oh, I can't believe I was opening up to you.

SUMMER

Her.

BOOM! An explosion rips at the top of the room, and rubble collapses on top of one of the six men...

Descending from above, HUNTRESS lands center of the room.

HAYDEN (CONT'D)

Kill her!

Rising, Huntress withdraws dual crossbows- PFT! PFT! Two more men collapse, arrows to the shoulder. The other two men rush in to fight, but are met with Huntress' impressive maneuvers.

HAYDEN (CONT'D)

To hell with it.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Hayden turns back, and aims for Summer's head.

CHLOE

No!

Bouncing, Chloe tips her chair, and COLLIDES INTO SUMMER- the two collapse to the side.

BANG! The timber beam behind them shatters.

Summer, in an awkward position, looks to Chloe with complete shock and admiration.

SUMMER

You saved me.

CHLOE

You're welcome.

The beam rips, and falls -- it CRACKS against Summer's head, and instantly knocks her out.

CHLOE (CONT'D)

Holy sh-

Disarming the last armed thug, Huntress smashes the AK-47 against the man's jaw, apprehending him. She shifts around to Hayden, who fixes his aim on her.

HAYDEN

Got you now, bird.

Huntress focuses on the barrel of the gun... eyes fixated and unmoving. She grows paralysed, remembering...

INSERT CUT: LISA, positions the gun to her head.

Huntress stumbles back, then freezes with fear. Hayden grows closer, and closer towards her.

HAYDEN (CONT'D)

You the one these girls were  
warning me about, huh? The one who  
thinks they can finally bring in  
the big fish, yeah?

(beat)

You're pathetic.

Hayden presses the gun against Huntress' forehead, who doesn't seem able to dispute it.

CHLOE

Helena...

Chloe struggles to rip free from the ropes. Terrified.

(CONTINUED)

BATMAN (PRELAP)

Let them go.

INT. CHECKMATE, HALLWAY - NIGHT

Maxwell Lord holds aim on Jacob and Vicki, crouched on their knees in front of him. Batman, Batwoman and Tim, stood by the elevator, have no idea what move to make next.

MAXWELL LORD

You attacked a very loyal, very  
*kind* woman tonight. A woman who  
means quite a lot to me, actually.

(beat)

Kind of like these two mean a lot  
to you.

The gun brushes against Vicki's head, Batman nudging forward.

BATMAN

Don't. Touch. Her.

MAXWELL LORD

Well, that's the thing, you see.  
My crusade against you masked...  
*crusaders*... makes you more  
valuable to me than these two. As  
you can see, I've already acquired  
a lot of information from Mr. Kane.

Jacob looks up, baring his scars and bruises...

MAXWELL LORD (CONT'D)

Ms. Vale, on the other hand, has  
remained untouched.

VICKI

You son of a bitch.

MAXWELL LORD

I knew she'd lead you here, Batman.  
Just like I knew Katherine Kane  
would be stupid enough to think  
that mask hides anything from me.

JACOB

Katherine?

BANG! Batwoman immediately collapses from the now-smoking gun in Lord's hands.

JACOB (CONT'D)

(exploding)

No!

Released, Jacob rushes over to his fallen daughter.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Enraged, Batman proceeds forward until he is stopped by the gun held firm in Lord's hands.

MAXWELL LORD

Any closer and I'll kill her.

BATMAN

What do you want?

MAXWELL LORD

I want a trade. You, for her.

BATMAN

I'll do it.

VICKI

No. Batman, no. You know more than I ever have. I'm not worth all those lives that will suffer if he gets his hands on your mind.

BATMAN

Yes you are.

Vicki is silenced, somehow touched by his stance.

MAXWELL LORD

Aw. Isn't that sweet?

TIM (O.S.)

Hey, moron...

Lord's focus shifts to Tim, stood by the elevator. He carries the tablet in his hands and a cocky grin on his face.

TIM (CONT'D)

You really think I'd bring an iPad to a gun fight? Think again.

He LAUNCHES the tablet towards Lord, a line extending from it that is wrapped right around his hand... as it reaches overhead, above Lord, a HIGH-PITCHED SONIC NOISE ERUPTS-

The glass cells beside Lord SHATTER- GLASS SPRAYS AGAINST THEM- Lord stumbles back and drops the gun to cover his ears.

Freed, Vicki rises from the ground and runs into Batman, who latches onto her, pivots, and covers them both under his cape, blocking the glass that shatters in front of them.

Tim TUGS back, and the device retracts... into his hands.

While everyone eases, Maxwell still appears affected by the sonic noise. He weakens, falling to hand and knees. He can only watch as the others regroup. Powerless.

(CONTINUED)

MAXWELL LORD

No. No, don't... don't... ugh.

Jacob hovers over his daughter, searching for the wound. He rips open her armor to find bullet proof fabric underneath.

Eyes fluttering open, Batwoman offers her father a smile.

BATWOMAN

"A soldier never enters the  
battlefield without his armor."

Relief washes over Jacob, and the two embrace.

Above them, the elevator doors open, and Batman edges Tim and Vicki inside. He looks to Batwoman and Jacob, on the ground.

BATMAN

Come on. Let's get out of here.

Jacob helps Batwoman off the ground, and they disappear into the elevator.

Struggling, Maxwell crawls forward, trying to reach the elevator as his hands cut against the shards of glass. The doors close, and hope is lost. He collapses.

MAXWELL LORD

Make it stop. Make it... stop...

Hands clenching his temples, Lord feels the wet blood against his ears, facing his mortality. Giving in to his decaying state, Lord lets go, and falls onto his back.

HAYDEN (PRELAP)

Game. Over.

INT. MAINSTREAM MECHANICS STORE, STOCK WAREHOUSE - NIGHT

Fire ignites inside Huntress' eyes, and she GRIPS the gun pressed against her head with both hands.

HUNTRESS

I agree.

Huntress TUGS THE GUN to the side, and Hayden hurdles over into a severe kick. Huntress catches his fall, and drags him into a wooden beam- it CRACKS upon impact.

Possessed, Huntress keeps Hayden steady with punches from both sides, each strike ripping more and more skin.

CHLOE (O.S.)

Huntress!

Chloe can only watch, hands bound behind a chair that pins her to the ground. She refuses to give up.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Huntress pulls her fist back and-

CRACK! HARLEY QUINN spits blood from the strike, then CACKLES-

CRACK! THE JOKER crashes through the beam, and collapses against the floor...

Huntress roars with a blinding rage, and climbs atop a bloodied Hayden, going in for the kill. She pulls her fist back, and-

CRACK! BLACK MASK's disguise shatters across his face to unveil a bloodied and battered Lisa, staring up at her...

LISA

Please. Please don't kill me...

Huntress jolts back, up and off of... Hayden.

His face swells, blood coating it that drips from the tight fists at Huntress' sides. She slowly turns around, remembering her surroundings, to find Chloe.

POLICE SIRENS echo in the background, cutting the glare.

CHLOE

No. Huntress, don't go...

Huntress rushes off, shame compelling her to leave. Chloe simply sinks back down, unable to move.

OFF her disappointment and concern...

CUT TO BLACK.

END OF ACT FOUR

ACT FIVE

FADE IN:

EXT. ROOFTOP - NIGHT

The BAT-SYMBOL burns across the night sky. Stood on the rooftop, beside the FLOODLIGHT, Gordon waits. A shift in the wind, and Gordon realises he's not alone.

GORDON

Didn't think you'd show.

He turns to face The Batman.

BATMAN

Had to make sure I wasn't being led into a trap.

GORDON

Right. That's why I'm here.

(beat)

I don't know who you are under that mask but after what I did it's been the one question I can't get out of my mind. Because in my mind, I didn't kill a man on that bridge that night. I killed... The Batman. But since, I haven't stopped thinking about the man under the mask. The family he might have. Friends. People who were waiting for him to come home.

(long pause)

People might argue that someone in the field of what you do doesn't have loved ones waiting for them, but... my daughter... She does what you do and I'd wait forever just to see her come home.

BATMAN

What is this about, Gordon?

GORDON

I can't take back what I did. I can't ask for forgiveness. And I can't pretend like it didn't happen and just move on. But I can tell you that I'm truly sorry for what I did and not a day goes by where I don't regret it.

BATMAN

I forgive you.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

But the words don't seem to stick the way they should, and Gordon is almost dissatisfied.

GORDON

That's it? That's all it takes?

BATMAN

That's all that's needed.

Gordon feels the weight lift off his shoulders...

BATMAN (CONT'D)

But if there's anything I've learned from that night, it's that pulling people into this crusade I've started only ends with darkness and despair.

Batman aims a gun-shaped device at the FLOODLIGHT- FIRES- a device glues to it, and BOOM! It explodes.

Gordon jolts back, his disbelief illuminated by flames.

GORDON

What are you-

BATMAN

You don't need The Batman to play your part in saving this city, Gordon. And I don't need you.

(beat)

Goodbye, Commissioner.

Batman turns off, and LEAPS INTO THE NIGHT-

The flames beside Gordon calm, and fade out, just like the partnership between Gordon and Batman...

INT. WAYNE ENTERPRISES, WEAPONS DIVISION - NIGHT

A cape whips against us as Batman enters the room, removing his mask as he approaches Katherine, Jacob, Vicki and Chloe.

KATHERINE

Glad to see you could join us.

BRUCE

I had something to take care of.

VICKI

So where's the kid? The -- what was he calling himself? *Red Robin?*

BRUCE

He's safe. He's home.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JACOB

I know that feeling.

Jacob pulls Katherine in closer, reunited. Bruce and Vicki catch each other's look, then awkwardly look away...

CHLOE

It's good to see that any strings Maxwell was pulling are finally cut loose. We're finally back to an even playing field.

VICKI

Something tells me this victory won't last long.

Bruce turns his focus to Katherine.

BRUCE

Do you know what your next move is?

CHLOE

Yeah. I mean, you are in a unique position to call it quits, and start anew elsewhere.

KATHERINE

No. This is my city. My home. I don't want to be anywhere else but here. No matter what lunatic thinks he can do.

JACOB

Wonder how the city is going to react. It looks like we left them when they needed us most. I don't see a very welcoming response for our future.

CHLOE

I know someone who can help...

OFF Chloe's reassuring smile...

INT. ARGUS, HEAD OFFICE - NIGHT (LATER)

CLOSE ON Lana, phone up to her ear.

LANA

I'll see what I can do.

Disconnecting from the call, Lana turns around to the desk where STEVE TREVOR (32, handsome, well-groomed with eyes that know pain all too well). The HEAD OF ARGUS.

LANA (CONT'D)

Did you find anything?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

STEVE

The Kryptonite running through your veins is poisoning the rest of your organs, deteriorating your cells. Lana, these are uncharted waters that we're dealing with here.

LANA

I don't want to die, Steve. I was promised a great future. A destiny. And I don't think I've fulfilled it. This can't be where my story ends.

Steve steps around from the desk that separates them, and closes in on a terrified Lana. He places his arms against her shoulders, pulling her focus onto him and his words.

STEVE

I will find a cure. I promise you. I have our best people on it as we speak. I will not let anything happen to you, Lana.

LANA

Thank you.

Leaning in, Lana meets Steve for a kiss. And they hold it, as though it's been forever since their lips have met.

LANA (CONT'D)

There is just one other favour I need from you...

STEVE

*Anything.*

A smile, and Lana rests against Steve's chest. At home.

INT. CHLOE'S APARTMENT, LIVING ROOM - DAY

The morning sun beams through the window, illuminating the distance between Chloe and Helena, who holds a newspaper in her hands. ON THE NEWSPAPER- a byline reads 'Huntress stops drug ring leader' by Chloe Sullivan.

HELENA

I know this is supposed to make me feel better, but...

Helena hands the paper back to Chloe.

HELENA (CONT'D)

I nearly killed someone. I'm the furthest thing from a hero.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

CHLOE

No. Helena, you saved my life last night. You don't need to quit helping people. It's what you do best. You just need someone who can help you... stay on the right path. Stay focused and heal.

HELENA

Chloe, you don't have time to help pick the pieces of my life up and put them back together.

CHLOE

You're right. I don't.

A trio of KNOCKS hit the door beside them.

CHLOE (CONT'D)

But I know someone who does.

Chloe opens the door to welcome KATE SPENCER. The lawyer is directed towards Helena, who doesn't recognise her.

CHLOE (CONT'D)

Helena, this is Kate. She's the one I was telling you about on the phone earlier.

HELENA

Manhunter...

KATE

I've got a fan.

CHLOE

Kate needs a place to stay and I think she has a lot to offer that can help you.

HELENA

I'm not sure if I-

KATE

The world would be a darker place without the Huntress, and people with our lives don't have the luxury of losing control. I can teach you how to master it.

A moment of contemplation, and Helena caves, willing to accept help. She offers Kate her hand, and OFF THE HANDSHAKE, A PARTNERSHIP FORMING...

SUMMER (PRELAP)

Part of being partners in this is actually sharing the byline.

INT. GOTHAM GENERAL, SUMMER'S ROOM - DAY (LATER)

Chloe stands by Summer's bedside. Summer, a large bandage around her head, tosses the paper aside and returns to Chloe.

CHLOE

I know. I just wasn't sure if you would be okay with assigning your name to a pro-vigilante article.

SUMMER

That woman saved us. She's a hero.

Chloe suddenly sees Summer in a new light.

SUMMER (CONT'D)

And so are you.

CHLOE

What are you talking about?

SUMMER

I can see why the city was split pretty evenly over you being the "OG" Eyes Only.

(beat)

You aren't afraid to jump in front of a loaded gun to save a life, just like you weren't afraid to take over the Watchtower moniker to save this city when you knew it could cost you your freedom.

CHLOE

I also told Thompson to shoot you.

They share a laugh.

SUMMER

My point is... I have a lot of respect for you. And I understand if you want out of this arrangement after my behavior last night.

Summer looks away, as if ready for the bad news.

CHLOE

Partners?

She looks back to find Chloe extending her hand. A smile, and Summer takes it. A handshake.

SUMMER

Partners.

OFF the start of something new...

INT. WAYNE ENTERPRISES, HEAD OFFICE - DAY

Bruce overlooks the city from his office window. The door behind him opens, and SECURITY lets Katherine, hidden behind black-shades, into the room.

KATHERINE

Thank you.

Katherine approaches Bruce, still fixed on the city.

KATHERINE (CONT'D)

Who knew that the city's two most infamous drop-kick progenies of the most royal families in this worm hole of Gotham would become badass superheroes?

BRUCE

Still got a long way to go.

Katherine joins Bruce at the window, overlooking Gotham.

KATHERINE

You know, as glad as I am to have my father by my side when I address the city today, it should be you up there with me, too.

BRUCE

I can't be what you can be for this city, Katherine. You're the white knight. And I'm it's dark one.

KATHERINE

Yin and yang. Yang and yin. One completing the other. Except that's total bullshit to me.

BRUCE

Batman became a symbol for these people when they needed it. You know that yourself. You've shown to me what that legacy can go on to do if anything should ever happen to me again. But the man under the mask... he can't inspire. He can't bring hope.

(to Katherine)

But you can.

He walks around her, as if the conversation is over. But she follows, more confused than before.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KATHERINE

But why? Not that I'm backing out of this whole thing, but why subscribe to the media's black and white perception of what constitutes being a hero? Why am I the face of restoring hope?

Bruce returns to Katherine with a comforting, at-ease smile.

BRUCE

Because every good come-back story gives people the same message...

OFF Katherine, ready to hear just what that is...

KATHERINE (PRELAP)

To second chances.

INT. PRESS CONFERENCE - DAY (LATER)

A confident Katherine stands before an audience of media, her father by her side. Camera lights flash against her.

KATHERINE

No matter what seeks to hold us down, we will always manage to stand back up and fight.

(beat)

A few weeks ago, we were approached by an organisation known as ARGUS. They wanted to keep us and this city safe. By doing so, we had to go away for a little while.

(long pause)

I'm happy to say that the war is over. We're home now. And just like my father would say- well, actually, I'll give him the honour this time...

Jacob steps in front of the mic, and with a smile:

JACOB

Soldier on.

OFF the hopeful cheers filling the air...

# WATCHTOWER

CUT TO BLACK.

END OF ACT FIVE

EPILOGUE

FADE IN:

INT. LORD MANSION, BEDROOM - NIGHT

Resting in his bed, Maxwell Lord appears weak and pale. Cuts paint his face, and he aches from head to toe. The door clicks open to his room, and Crystal enters.

MAXWELL LORD  
I thought you had abandoned me.

CRYSTAL  
Never.

Crystal pulls up a chair, and sits at his side.

MAXWELL LORD  
They know, Crystal. They know the one thing powerful enough to hurt me. To kill me.

CRYSTAL  
Hopefully the news I have to offer will cheer you up.

MAXWELL LORD  
What is it?

CRYSTAL  
The doctor. We found him.

Lord is filled with new life, sitting up straighter with astonishment. Alive.

MAXWELL LORD  
Where was he?

CRYSTAL  
He was discovered in Mexico. Probably thought he could start a new life away from all of this.

MAXWELL LORD  
Waller never understood his worth to our operation. Killing him was the dumbest thing she ever did.

CRYSTAL  
And yet ensuring a second chance at life was the dumbest thing *he* ever did. At least for himself, anyway.

MAXWELL LORD  
I want you to take me to him. I need to see for myself.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

CRYSTAL

I don't think that's the best-

MAXWELL LORD

Now.

Crystal jolts back in her chair, then straightens.

JUMP CUT TO:

INT. CHECKMATE, PRISON CELLS - NIGHT (LATER)

Wheels cut over broken glass... Crystal guides Maxwell through the hallway that saw his defeat on their approach to a cell still intact. They stop in front of it.

THROUGH THE CELL- a man is tied to the ceiling, hovering above the ground in a bloodied, broken mess. His head bows to the floor in defeat. A true prisoner.

MAXWELL LORD

I got you, you son of a bitch.

Looking up from the ground, EMIL HAMILTON reveals himself.

OFF the pain embedded in Emil's eyes...

CUT TO BLACK.

END OF EPISODE.