

# WATCHTOWER

3.09 | "Control"

Written by  
Jack D. Malone

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

Based on characters from  
DC Comics

**EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS**

Chris Davis and Jack Malone

**PRODUCED BY**

TheVPN (<http://www.vpn-tv.proboards.com>)

**WATCHTOWER****"Control"**CAST

CHLOE SULLIVAN .....	Allison Mack
BRUCE WAYNE / BATMAN .....	Christian Bale
HELENA BERTINELLI / HUNTRESS .....	Kayla Ewell
VICKI VALE .....	Yvonne Strahovski
KYLE WILLIAMS .....	Bryan Greenberg
TALIA AL GHUL .....	Stana Katic
COMMISSIONER GORDON .....	Dylan Walsh
PERRY WHITE .....	Michael McKean

GUEST CAST

ALFRED PENNYWORTH .....	Michael Caine
DAVIS BLOOME / DOOMSDAY .....	Sam Witwer
HARVEY DENT .....	Mark Valley
DICK GRAYSON / NIGHTWING .....	Patrick J. Adams
DINAH LANCE / BLACK CANARY .....	Alaina Huffman
GABE SULLIVAN .....	Robert Wisden
HUGO STRANGE .....	Jared Harris
PAULINE KAHN .....	Carrie Fisher
LISA ANDREWS .....	Lizzy Caplan
MOIRA SULLIVAN .....	Lynda Carter
SELINA KYLE .....	Eliza Dushku
ZATANNA .....	Serinda Swan

TEASER

\*

FADE IN:

INT. WATCHTOWER, HEADQUARTERS - MORNING.

The elevator doors part. CHLOE enters.

\*

With a phone to her ear, she powers through the room -- a woman on a mission. She heads towards the computer system.

\*

\*

CHLOE  
(into phone)  
Bruce? This is the third message  
I've left you today.

Chloe reaches the computer and clicks away at the keyboard.

\*

CHLOE (CONT'D)  
(into phone)  
Talia's up to something, if she  
hasn't already done it.

\*

A panel opens up on the wall in the B.G. A console revealed.

\*

Chloe moves to the console. As she punches in a set of digits, the indented panel slides OPEN...

\*

...a safe is revealed. Inside sits a spheric device.

\*

CHLOE (CONT'D)  
(into phone)  
We have to stop her.

Chloe disconnects the call. She places the mobile inside her pocket, and moves for the safe.

\*

A set of hand cup around the spheric object, and reel it out from the safe...

\*

\*

...holding the device, Chloe turns from the wall. She comes to an immediate HALT. Her face drops.

\*

\*

In front of her stands HELENA and LISA.

\*

HELENA  
There's no point in leaving him a  
message. Where he is, he's not  
going to get back to you...  
(off Chloe's confusion)  
Bruce has been kidnapped.

\*

CHLOE  
What? How do you know?

Helena looks to Lisa, prompting her.

\*

LISA  
 (nervous)  
 Because the psycho that took him...

\*  
 \*  
 \*

Lisa shifts her focus to a confused Chloe.

LISA (CONT'D)  
 ...was the same man that took me.

\*

Chloe's face swells in revelation.

\*

INT. STRANGE'S LAB - MORNING.

\*

A large blackboard spreads across the wall with a family tree of information inscribed on it in white chalk.

"POLICE FILES" links to "LISA" which forms into "HUNTRESS" and a picture of Helena Bertinelli thumb-tacked to the board with a large white circle around it.

Opposite this we find "HARVEY DENT" stemming out of Huntress, which then connects to two separate identities "BRUCE WAYNE" and "THE BATMAN". Lines draw up to an unknown bubble...

\*

...a figure passes the board in a white coat. They come to a halt in front of a large machine where a set of bare feet rest, strapped in.

\*  
 \*  
 \*

Caught in the reflection of the glass are a set of large, yellow-rimmed glasses worn on a figure in white. He grins a wicked smile that spans ear to ear. This is HUGO STRANGE.

\*  
 \*  
 \*

HUGO STRANGE  
 For someone so renown all over this city, someone's worked very hard to remove all traces of you from the mind of one Mr. Harvey Dent.  
 (beat)  
 Tell me, Mr. Wayne. Why is that?

An unconscious BRUCE lay inside the machine, strapped in and hooked up to it. Wires are connected to his temples, that lead to...

\*  
 \*  
 \*

...a large screen sits overhead in the B.G.

\*

HUGO STRANGE (CONT'D)  
 Better yet...  
 (beat)  
 Why don't you *show* me?

The STATIC on screen begins to calm as it blends into the perfect image of a dank, dark alleyway. A figure enters...

\*

INT. ALLEYWAY, STREETS - NIGHT (BRUCE'S MIND).

\*

...and staggers into the pitch, black darkness of the alleyway. It's BRUCE.

\*  
 \*

Something in the distance catches his eyes, and he is  
instantly drawn in. He proceeds forward.

\*  
\*

A blinding light ERUPTS from the heavens. A beacon.

\*

Bruce SNAPS around. Examines the sky that shines down upon  
him with arms to his face. He shields himself.

\*  
\*

Behind him, a young, bloodied boy cries in the B.G. The  
cries echo through...

\*  
\*

Bruce turns and is met with SELINA. She clings to him.

\*

SELINA

\*

*Breathe.*

\*

BRUCE

\*

Selina?

\*

OFF Bruce's shock...

\*

**BLACKOUT.**

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

INT. WATCHTOWER, HEADQUARTERS - MORNING.

From the counter, Chloe pours sugar into a mug of coffee and collects it with her hand as she motions to turn. She proceeds towards a set of couches in the distance... \*

...she passes the computer system where Helena stands, clicking away at the keyboard. \*

On the monitor rests an image of Hugo Strange with an elongated bubble spread across his thick-rimmed, yellow glasses. In the bubble reads "PRINTING". \*

Helena swoops in to collect the printed pages. \*

Chloe reaches the couches where Lisa is sat. She approaches her with the mug of coffee. Offers it. \*

CHLOE

Thought you could use this.

Lisa RISES and collects the mug with an appreciative smile.

CHLOE (CONT'D)

I sure know I like a steaming hot cup of coffee whenever I've been kidnapped.

Chloe finds her seat opposite Lisa, and halts. Ponders.

CHLOE (CONT'D)

Its weird how casual that sentence came out, wasn't it?

HELENA (O.S.)

Hugo Strange.

Helena arrives with the printed image.

HELENA (CONT'D)

This is the man we're dealing with.

Chloe takes the sheet of paper. Examines it. \*

HELENA (CONT'D)

According to Watchtower, he's quite the psychiatrist.

CHLOE

What would a psychiatrist be doing kidnapping people?

(beat)

Hang on.

(MORE)

CHLOE (CONT'D)

It says here he's been developing some sort of machine to help combat mental illness? Says the board cut off his funding when they discovered how invasive the procedures were.

(to Lisa)

Is that what he did to you?

LISA

He hooks you up and watches your memories play out on the big screen. He made me believe Helena was in some sort of trouble, and-

Sharply, Chloe turns her focus to Helena.

CHLOE

(realising)

Figures out your back-in-black alter ego.

HELENA

Which does jack all considering there's no family of mine left for him to go after... should he want to exploit me.

CHLOE

Yeah... your mask *has* sort of become more redundant than an AA meeting for sex addicts.

HELENA

Question is...

(beat)

What does he want with Bruce?

It becomes obvious Chloe knows more than Helena does. She fakes a look of wonder. \*

CHLOE

Bruce has integrated himself enough into this dysfunctional crime fighting gang of wannabe superheroes that he basically holds a backstage pass to all things "vigilante".

(beat)

Maybe this *Strange* guy wants to unmask us all.

Helena bites into her speculation. Chloe is satisfied.

LISA

Well how many of you are there?

CHLOE  
 (to Lisa)  
 Why do you ask?

LISA  
 Bruce wasn't the only one there.

Chloe peers in, her interest piqued... \*

FLASH CUT TO:

EXT. STREETS, GOTHAM CITY - NIGHT (BRUCE'S MIND).

Violent cars speed by, as a set of figures emerge from the dark alley and out onto the footpath. SELINA. BRUCE. \*

Bruce tries to keep up from a determined Selina who seems to be power walking her way through the street. He follows.

BRUCE  
 What are you doing here? I mean,  
 how are you here?

SELINA  
 None of this is real. Its all in  
 your head.

BRUCE  
 That doesn't make any sense.

Selina halts, then turns to Bruce, almost irritated.

SELINA  
 You were kidnapped, remember? You  
 were heading back from LexCorp, and-

Bruce's eyes twitch, remembering... \*

FLASH CUT TO:

INT. CAR - FLASHBACK.

As Bruce CLOSES the door... \*

HUGO STRANGE sits in the back seat. He reaches out with a cloth that he clings to Bruce's mouth, and holds. \*

FLASH CUT TO:

EXT. STREETS, GOTHAM CITY - NIGHT (BRUCE'S MIND).

Bruce looks to Selina for more answers. *Curious.*

SELINA  
 He wants your memories.

BRUCE  
 Is that what you are? A memory?

SELINA

(hurt)

Is that all I am to you now? \*

BRUCE

That's not what I...

Selina turns off to follow the path. Bruce rushes after her, struggling to keep up. \*

BRUCE (CONT'D)

If this is all in my head that means this city, this path, these clothes... *everything* is a lie.

SELINA

Everything except you and me.

BRUCE

No, but you see... \*

Bruce manages to overtake Selina. He stops in front of her, and halts her very movement.

BRUCE (CONT'D)

You can't be real. I saw you. I-

SELINA

(interrupting)

You told me to keep fighting, and I did. I got out. \*

BRUCE

That still doesn't explain how you're real. How you're here. How you're inside my head.

Selina rolls her eyes, and starts walking. Bruce follows. \*

SELINA

Once I was able to recharge my batteries, I tracked you down. I followed you to Metropolis, and when I saw what happened, I tried to save you. But apparently I'm not exactly back in fighting form.

(beat)

Strange has us linked. We're hooked up to the same god damn piece of whatever scientific bullshit he's created to get inside our heads and figure out your deep, dark secret-

Selina SNAPS around, finger pointed at Bruce.

SELINA (CONT'D)  
 -which I don't have to remind you  
 that even *thinking* of right now  
 will *completely* give you away.

\*

BRUCE  
 What does he want with me in the  
 first place?

SELINA  
 I don't know. Hopefully we can get  
 the hell out of here before we have  
 to find out.

Selina takes the lead once again. An irritated Bruce comes  
 to a sigh, before following along.

\*

\*

FLASH CUT TO:

INT. WATCHTOWER, HEADQUARTERS - MORNING.

Helena steps in behind a determined Chloe, who clicks away at  
 the keyboard with impressive speed.

HELENA  
 What are you doing?

CHLOE  
 There has to be a pattern. The  
 incident with the GCPD leads to  
 Lisa, which connects to you, but  
 where does Bruce come into it?

Helena grows short-tempered.

HELENA  
 Who cares?!  
 (beat)  
 Find your new all-knowing, all-  
 powerful boy toy, get him to  
 teleport us to Bruce, and let's  
 kick some psychiatrist ass already.

Chloe stops typing. She turns to Helena.

CHLOE  
 First of all, he's *not* my "boy  
 toy." Secondly-

Chloe returns to the computer. Types away.

CHLOE (CONT'D)  
 Whatever happened to him has him on  
 a superpowered lockdown. He's too  
 afraid that if he so much as *tries*  
 to teleport again he'll end up  
 among the dinosaurs.  
 (MORE)

CHLOE (CONT'D)

(beat)  
Literally.

The computer halts on a file that reads "ANDREWS, LISA" with the scribbling of a doctor's handwriting underneath.

From behind the two, Lisa hones in.

LISA

Did you just hack into his computer?

CHLOE

It's the easiest way to track him.  
(beat)  
He's logging all these kidnappings as though they were actual appointments. *Look.*

Lisa notices her name on the document.

LISA

What does that mean?

CHLOE

My best guess? Strange wants funding anyway he knows how and businessmen with money stop caring about morals when you start waving results like this in their face.

\*

Chloe is caught by something on the monitor.

CHLOE (CONT'D)

Ah. Gotcha.

On the monitor it reads "DENT, HARVEY" with more scattered writings underneath.

HELENA

Harvey Dent?

CHLOE

If there's anyone in this city who can't get Bruce out of their head, it's this guy.

Chloe turns away from the computer and faces Helena and Lisa. \*

CHLOE (CONT'D)

I need you two to go to his ward at Gotham General. Find out what he knows about Strange.

HELENA

And what if everything he tells us is information we already know?

CHLOE

Dent wasn't kidnapped, he was admitted by the hospital after a psychotic break. He'll lead us straight to Strange.

\*

Lisa looks to Helena as though to prompt her. A beat.

HELENA

Wait for a call.

Helena and Lisa head off towards the elevator, and O.S.

\*

Chloe waits for their EXIT, and on the sound of the elevator doors meeting shut, her composure drops.

CHLOE

Zatanna?

Chloe SNAPS around. Eyes examine the room. Desperate.

CHLOE (CONT'D)

Come on, damn it...

Nothing.

Chloe continues to turn, back and forth, expecting her to appear at any second. Hoping for it.

CHLOE (CONT'D)

Zatanna! This worked in the past, so I know you can hear me.

(beat)

Talia is up to something, and I need to take her down. Now I can't do that without breaking the spell you performed so haul your ass on down here and-

\*

As Chloe turns into the right position...

\*

...Zatanna appears behind Chloe in the B.G.

\*

ZATANNA

You called?

Chloe SNAPS back around. As her eyes find Zatanna, they grow wide. A fire ignites within them. *Determined.*

\*

\*

**BLACKOUT.**

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

EXT. WHITE RESIDENCE, PORCH - MORNING.

At the door, VICKI proceeds to knock.

VICKI  
Perry? Open up. Its urgent.

Vicki grows weary from the lack of response. Knocks again.

VICKI (CONT'D)  
Perry...

Vicki SLAMS herself against the door. It fails to budge.

Taking several steps back, Vicki lines herself up then RUSHES it with a powerful kick. \*

INT. WHITE RESIDENCE, ENTRANCE - MORNING.

The door blows OPEN as Vicki erupts through the entrance.

VICKI  
Perry?

In the center of the room, Vicki takes a pause. She eyes everything in her direction. \*

Nothing. \*

She powers through the room, eyes dancing around her path...

INT. WHITE RESIDENCE, KITCHEN - MORNING. \*

Into the kitchen, Vicki comes to a sudden halt. Her fearful expression instantly drops at the sight in front of her.

VICKI  
You've got to be kidding me.

Perry JOLTS around, and finds Vicki. He tears the headphones off immediately.

PERRY  
Vicki?

OFF Perry's confused expression...

JUMP CUT TO:

INT. WHITE RESIDENCE, LIVING ROOM - MORNING.

Seated by the couch, Vicki leans forward to accept a cup of coffee from Perry.

PERRY

I'd apologise for frightening you,  
but I didn't realise I had to  
update you guys every morning with  
a text promising I wasn't dead yet.

Perry wheels back, as Vicki finishes her sip.

VICKI

I didn't *plan* on barging in like  
that, but... I'm just worried  
about you, okay?

\*

PERRY

Well, you shouldn't be. Despite  
the circumstances, I've never felt  
better. I feel like I'm ready to  
take on the world.

VICKI

What happened to the broody old man  
I used to share coffees with?

PERRY

I woke up this morning, and I'm  
just... different.

(beat)

I did my research, and I've found  
that more times than not the  
doctors get it wrong. Its entirely  
possible I have more time left than  
we thought.

VICKI

(suspicious)

Okay, but maybe instead of stepping  
out of your reporting shoes and  
into those of a doctor's, you  
should get a professional opinion.  
Just in case?

PERRY

Fine.

(beat)

So what brings you here?

Vicki withdraws a folder from her jacket, and hands it to a  
curious Perry. As he unravels the contents within...

VICKI

We found a lead on Hush.

Perry sharply looks up from the papers in his hand.

\*

CHLOE (PRELAP)

Hush is the least of my concerns  
right now...

\*

\*

\*

INT. WATCHTOWER, HEADQUARTERS - MORNING.

Chloe and Zatanna are at a stand still with one another.

CHLOE  
...it's what Talia has planned  
that's got me terrified. \*

ZATANNA  
Talia is just a distraction. As  
long as we're all bound, she-

CHLOE  
(interjecting) \*  
She's bringing Doomsday back.

Fear possesses Zatanna's expression.

ZATANNA  
That's not possible.

CHLOE  
Kyle saw it with his own eyes.

ZATANNA  
(baffled)  
Kyle?

CHLOE  
When we were attacked by Hush, he  
teleported out. His power tore him  
through time and he saw what Talia  
was planning.  
(beat)  
*Doomsday.*

ZATANNA  
Even if we could, Talia made me  
render her untraceable. The only  
way to find her is through-

CHLOE  
(realising)  
Kyle.

OFF Chloe's torn expression...

JUMP CUT TO:

INT. KYLE'S APARTMENT - DAY.

A small, two-room apartment holds a crumbling mattress on the floor beside a bar-fridge which sits opposite a door to the bathroom. In the corner of the room sits KYLE. Huddled.

The door CREAKS open, and a light illuminates Kyle. He looks up with disdain in his eyes.

KYLE

Before you ask, the answer is no.

Chloe stands by the doorway in the B.G.

CHLOE

Am I that obvious?

KYLE

I tell you Talia is bringing a monster known only as Doomsday into Gotham and... well, it's easy to connect the dots from there.

CHLOE

Fair point. But you know...

Chloe slowly enters the room. She examines the small environment before taking a seat beside Kyle on the floor.

CHLOE (CONT'D)

...it wouldn't be me if I didn't have a counter argument.

Kyle chuckles to himself. Brightens up.

KYLE

I want to help. I do. You know that. But-

CHLOE

You're scared.

KYLE

I've moved beyond scared. Right now, I'm *petrified*.

(beat)

My powers are advancing, Chloe. If I'm not focusing hard enough, I could end up in a concentration camp at Auschwitz.

CHLOE

You're Jewish?

KYLE

My mum was. That's not the point.

(long pause)

When I saw Hush turn the gun on me, I just panicked. All I could think about was how much I wanted my mum to just... rush in and protect me.

Kyle turns to Chloe, overwhelmed.

KYLE (CONT'D)

Next thing I knew I was at my childhood house watching her take me to school.

(beat)

I tried getting back to you, and-

CHLOE

You ended up in the future.

KYLE

Even if I could take us to Talia, I don't know if we'd even get to her in our own timeline.

Reaching out, Chloe clasps Kyle's hand. His eyes connect with the desperation behind hers. Chloe smiles.

CHLOE

I believe in you.

As a smile creeps up on Kyle's lips...

VICKI (PRELAP)

So you don't think I'm crazy?

INT. GOTHAM GAZETTE, ARCHIVE ROOM - DAY. \*

Vicki guides the way as Perry follows close behind.

PERRY

In the short time that we've known each other, do you think that question is ever appropriate?

Vicki comes to a halt in front of a cabinet, and fires an ironic look back at Perry.

VICKI

You have a point.

She pulls the top drawer out. Starts digging...

PERRY

A commissioner out of commission. Reports popping up in the present that weren't there in the past.

(beat)

We have quite the mystery on our hands. I love it.

VICKI

I don't know why I'm encouraging you to help me out here.

PERRY

Because who better for the job than Perry "the pit-bull" Whi- \*

Perry ERUPTS into a cough, caught in his palms. He lowers his hand to find traces of blood.

Vicki looks to him, terrified.

VICKI  
Perry?

PERRY  
I'm fine.

He wipes the bloody hand across his pants. Cleans himself.

PERRY (CONT'D)  
Damn near swallowed a fly is all.

Vicki returns focus on the files. She searches.

VICKI  
Interrupting your "*I am man, hear me roar*" speech and everything...

PERRY  
Tell me about it.

Perry's focus remains on his trembling hand.

VICKI  
Well, unfortunately...

Vicki closes the drawer with a sigh.

VICKI (CONT'D)  
There's nothing new in the archives, which means-

PERRY  
What if we call him out?

Vicki looks over her shoulder. Pauses.

PERRY (CONT'D)  
Think about it. If we convince Kahn to run a story that brings Hush to us, we can control the situation. We could-

VICKI  
Take him down.

Vicki ignites with hope. She shoots a smile back at Perry. \*

INT. DENT'S ROOM, GOTHAM GENERAL - DAY. \*

Laying in defeat, DENT stares off at the wall to his left. A shadow shimmers across the unscathed half of his face.

DENT

I knew you'd come back to finish me off. Although, I thought it'd be a hell of a lot sooner.

Dent turns his head, revealing his scarred flesh.

In front of him stands HUNTRESS. She holds a crossbow down by her side. Loaded.

HUNTRESS

I'm not here to kill you.

DENT

Hm. Then what does brings you here?

HUNTRESS

Hugo Strange.

Dent begins to laugh. Huntress raises her bow.

HUNTRESS (CONT'D)

Something funny?

DENT

Here I thought you were interested in taking down criminals. I can't imagine the hell hole that is Gotham City has been cleansed of its rotted soul.

(jarred)

Good man. Not this, this, this, this- Lawyer. Good man. I didn't mean to hurt- to hurt...

Dent JOLTS. He examines his scorched hand. Trembles.

DENT (CONT'D)

Do you know what happened to me? How I- I got so...

(beat)

I don't remember. I don't-

HUNTRESS

What the hell...

Dent's drifting eyes return focus to Helena.

DENT

What do you want with Strange?

Huntress lowers her bow. Stiffens.

HUNTRESS

He's taken someone very important to you.

(MORE)

HUNTRESS (CONT'D)  
 Someone you'd much prefer to deal  
 with yourself, considering  
 everything he's done to you.

Dent perks up. Curious.

DENT  
 And who might that be?

HUNTRESS  
 Bruce Wayne.

DENT  
 (long pause)  
 Who?

Huntress' face fills with confusion. She staggers back... \*

FLASH CUT TO: \*

EXT. GOTHAM CITY, STREETS - NIGHT (BRUCE'S MIND).

Selina approaches Bruce, who sits on the curb. His face is  
 buried in his palms. Miserable.

SELINA  
 You know, I thought you'd be a lot  
 happier to see me.

BRUCE  
 Are you kidding? I close my eyes.  
 I see you. I go to sleep. I see  
 you. All I *do* is see you. You're  
 all I can think about, Selina.

Bruce looks up as the two meet eyes. Selina smiles.

SELINA  
 You saved me, you know?

BRUCE  
 How's that?

Selina takes a seat next to Bruce on the curb.

SELINA  
 Wherever we were... I was ready to  
 give up. I was so exhausted. I  
 didn't want to fight anymore.

Selina takes Bruce's hand. He is drawn to her.

SELINA (CONT'D)  
 You saved me.

The two lean in for a kiss, and... \*

INT. WATCHTOWER, HEADQUARTERS - NIGHT (BRUCE'S MIND).

...Bruce JOLTS back, away from the kiss. Selina looks around \*  
in disbelief. A loud GASP erupts in the B.G.

At the computer system stands DINAH. She is mortified.

DINAH  
What the hell is going on? Where  
is everyone?

Bruce RISES, shock filling his face.

BRUCE  
Dinah?

SELINA  
Bruce stay back.

Bruce is caught between the two.

DINAH  
I was at the hospital, and this man  
jumped me. I woke up here.

SELINA  
That's not possible.

BRUCE  
(erupting)  
What the hell is going on?

Selina rises from the ground in a rage.

SELINA  
Strange has just found The  
Watchtower, that's what's going on.

Bruce looks around, realising where they all are. Fear fills  
his expression.

BRUCE  
No.

Fear builds across Bruce's face... \*

INT. STRANGE'S LAB - DAY. \*

The monitor in front holds the image of Selina, Bruce and  
Dinah facing off at The Watchtower, as a set of wires connect  
to a machine which holds Bruce's body.

In front stands Hugo Strange. He smiles, wickedly.

HUGO STRANGE  
Hm. Time to relish in the wonders  
of The Watchtower.  
(MORE)

HUGO STRANGE (CONT'D)

(beat)

Oh, I do hope you're worth it.

As Hugo leaves with a chuckle of victory...

A set of wires extend from the machine which holds Bruce as they stretch out to a feminine figure laying atop a bench.

He *isn't* alone...

JUMP CUT TO:

INT. WATCHTOWER, HEADQUARTERS - LATER. \*

A set of elevator doors OPEN. A white coat whips out as a figure enters the room. Walking.

They come to a halt in front of the massive computer system, head darting around the room until they focus on the screen in front of them.

In the reflection are a set of thick-rimmed, bright yellow glasses. They GLARE. Shimmering...

It's Hugo Strange. He stares- a kid in a chocolate factory.

As his grin widens...

**BLACKOUT.**

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

EXT. WAYNE ENTERPRISES, CITY - NIGHT.

An establishing shot of the high rise building...

INT. WAYNE ENTERPRISES, HALLWAY - NIGHT. \*

A set of heels clap against the ground on their way out of a room. As they come to a halt...

Outside the open entrance stands a brunette woman. She turns to a panel beside it and punches in a code.

CHLOE (O.S.)

Talia?

As the door SEALS across...

TALIA jolts around from sealed door. Shocked.

In front of her stands Chloe and Kyle.

TALIA

How did you know where I'd be?

Kyle waves with a cocky grin.

KYLE

Hello, again.

TALIA

I don't have time for this.

Talia proceeds forward, and Chloe steps in -- blocks her.

CHLOE

How did you know the code?

TALIA

What?

CHLOE

The code. For the door.

(beat)

How did you know it?

TALIA

Hm. I guess Bruce hasn't told you about our little... *arrangement*.

With a laugh, Talia NUDGES past Chloe. As she passes...

Chloe SNAPS around, and claws at Talia's stray arm. She reels her in like a fish, and SLAMS her hard against the wall. Pins her hand up.

Talia JOLTS to notice the circular device in her hand.

CHLOE  
(spell)  
Trever.

TALIA  
No.

The orb lights up and with a painful glow- BOOM.

Talia and Chloe are THROWN from each other. As Chloe SLAMS violently against the opposite wall with a grunt...

FLASH CUT TO:

INT. WATCHTOWER, HEADQUARTERS - NIGHT (BRUCE'S MIND).

Bruce closes in on Dinah. Selina falls behind, observing...

BRUCE  
What the *hell* are you?

Dinah backs off, hands risen.

DINAH  
I'm not the illusion here, Bruce.  
Look, *she* is.

Bruce looks back at a nervous Selina.

SELINA  
That's not true. I told you how I  
got here. I told you everything  
that happened. She's *lying* to you.

Bruce focuses in on a frightened Dinah.

BRUCE  
How did you get here?

DINAH  
I told you, I don't know. I was  
at the hospital. I was with my mum-

A hologram of a YOUNG ALEXANDRA (20s) appears behind Dinah, dressed as the BLACK CANARY.

SELINA  
Bruce, stop. *Look*.

Bruce notices the image behind Dinah. Dinah too turns to look. She tears up.

DINAH  
Mum?

The hologram fades.

BRUCE  
You're making me show him.

Dinah returns to Bruce, dripping in tears.

BRUCE (CONT'D)  
You're giving our secrets away.

Bruce RUSHES forward. Dinah is PUSHED to the floor, sweeping across it with a grunt. \*

INT. WAYNE ENTERPRISES, HALLWAY - NIGHT.

Kyle leans down by Chloe, helping her up off the floor. As they stand, he examines her head.

KYLE  
Are you okay?

CHLOE  
I'm fine. I'm fine. I just-

TALIA (O.S.)  
You stupid bitch.

They turn to find Talia, dusting herself off from the fall.

TALIA (CONT'D)  
You just destroyed the only thing preventing me from *killing* you.

CHLOE  
Ditto.

Chloe withdraws a gun from behind, and AIMS-

KYLE  
Chloe, no-

Kyle PUSHES the gun to the side as she pulls on the trigger-  
*BANG!* As a bullet ricochets off the sealed door...

CHLOE  
Kyle, why did you-

Talia KICKS a small blade up from out of her shoe and into her hands, as she SLASHES down Kyle's back. He ROARS, and collapses to the side to reveal Chloe's GASP.

Chloe DODGES the swing thrown her way. She catches the next jab, and pivots in with her elbow. THWACK.

Talia recovers- kicks the back of Chloe's knees. As Chloe caves in, Talia puts her in a headlock, blade to throat.

TALIA  
This was too easy.

Kyle looks up from the floor in shock.

KYLE  
(erupting)  
No!

As he reaches out...

A massive WAVE of energy surges out of his hands, and washes past Chloe and Talia. It EXPLODES through the sealed door creating an entrance that carries Chloe and Talia away...

INT. SEALED ROOM, WAYNE ENTERPRISES - NIGHT. \*

As Chloe and Talia drop to the ground...

The sealed door torn off its hinges flies through the room illuminated by green as it SLAMS into a console, and ignites violent sparks. The green glow in the room vanishes.

A large cage situated around a figure dressed in torn clothes, hovered in a foetal position, sparks with electrical surges until it gives out.

Talia watches on in complete disbelief.

TALIA  
No.

Chloe struggles up onto her arms, and watches on...

Rising from the center of the destroyed cage, the figure comes to a stretched out stance. Tall. As he turns...

...it's DAVIS BLOOME. His eyes find Chloe. \*

DAVIS  
You. You tried to kill me.

CHLOE  
Oh my god.

DAVIS  
(broken)  
You said I was a hero. I *trusted*  
you. I *believed* in you.

Davis takes a step forward, when his chest compresses. He is halted. Bones begin to protrude from his body, piercing out of him like knives. He SCREAMS in agony, tearing apart. \*

Emerging from his flesh... DOOMSDAY.

At the entrance stands a terrified Kyle.

KYLE  
It's him. It's...

Doomsday GROWLS. Flaring its grey, disgusting figure. \*

The beast CLAWS at the sealed door and FLIPS it to the side on its path towards Chloe. The door SPIRALS towards a fleeing Talia...

...it CLIPS her shoulder, and drags Talia into a field of rubble. She YELPS.

Doomsday reaches Chloe...

KYLE (CONT'D)  
(exploding)  
Chloe!

Doomsday LEANS in on a screaming Chloe. It's enormous, far-reaching roar BOOMS through the room. It ECHOES.

As Doomsday leaches his arm back with force...

Kyle CHARGES at the beast. He LEAPS forward, and CLINGS to the roaring monster. As they CONNECT...

Green mist ERUPTS in the room, and absorbs the two colliding forces. As it fades, Doomsday and Kyle have too. *Gone.*

Chloe remains in shambles on the floor. Traumatized. \*

FLASH CUT TO: \*

INT. WATCHTOWER, HEADQUARTERS - NIGHT (BRUCE'S MIND).

Selina and Bruce stare down at a defeated Dinah.

SELINA  
We need to get out of here. If she lets Strange in on any more secrets, he could expose everything. Everyone.

Bruce closes his eyes. Concentrates.

EXT. ROOFTOP - NIGHT (BRUCE'S MIND). \*

Bruce JOLTS awake as he finds himself standing on a rooftop, with Selina by his side. At his feet, Dinah remains on the ground. Confused.

DINAH  
The hell did you do that?

Selina steps around Bruce, and approaches Dinah.

SELINA  
The power of the mind. It's quite a resourceful tool. Might want to try using it sometime.

DINAH  
This coming from the thief...

SELINA  
And what exactly is it that you do,  
again? Oh, that's right.  
(beat)  
You sell *flowers*.

DINAH  
Better than selling *myself*.

Selina launches her clenched fist back and HALTS.

DINAH (CONT'D)  
What are you going to do? Hit me?  
(beat)  
You're not real.

Bruce watches on. He steps forward, curious.

Selina meets eyes with Bruce. A pause. Turning back, she takes the swing, and-

THWACK. Dinah is CLOBBERED across the jaw. Blood spits against the pavement.

SELINA  
I'm about as real as it gets, babe.

Selina walks back to Bruce. They meet.

BRUCE  
How are we supposed to get out of  
this place? Get out of our heads?

SELINA  
I don't think we can. Not until  
we're unplugged from the machine.

DINAH (O.S.)  
You really think someone is going  
to save us?

They turn to find Dinah. She stands, mouth bleeding.

DINAH (CONT'D)  
You're more deluded than I thought.

Dinah approaches Bruce, but is met with Selina...

SELINA  
Back off, blondie.

Dinah takes a swing, smashing her fist against Selina's jaw.

DINAH  
Two can play at this game, sweetie.

Selina RUSHES at Dinah, and tackles her to the ground... \*

...they roll around in a struggle until Selina is kicked to the very edge. Her back SLAMS against it. Dinah RISES. \*

BRUCE (O.S.)

Stop!

Dinah turns to find Bruce. He stands with a gun, aiming. She raises her hands at the sight... \*

DINAH

Whoa. Bruce, don't-

BRUCE

You're not real. You're not real.

DINAH

I am very real. \*

(beat)

Granted, this is happening inside our heads, but I'm not the dead girlfriend who's been missing for a year. Don't do this.

BRUCE

She's not dead. She came back.

DINAH

No, she didn't. I know you miss her. I know losing her was... probably one of the hardest things you had to go through. Trust me, I know. But you can't just close your eyes and play pretend anymore. \*

Dinah takes a step forward. Closer.

DINAH (CONT'D)

It's time to wake up, Bruce.

Bruce struggles. The gun trembles in his hands...

BRUCE

I don't-

DINAH

It's time to-

Dinah fades in a gasp. Bruce jolts forward.

BRUCE

Dinah?

A sore Selina writhes about on the ground in agony.

As Bruce rushes towards her... \*

...a barrier STRIKES him. He's blocked off. As he bounces back from it...

\*

FLASH CUT TO:

INT. STRANGE'S LAB - NIGHT.

...Bruce JOLTS from the machine in a gasp as he is caught by a set of strong, feminine arms. It's Helena, dressed in her vigilante gear. Unmasked.

\*

HELENA

You're okay. You're okay, I got you. You're going to be fine.

Bruce darts his eyes across the room in a panic. He finds the bench across from him with wires connecting from the machine. It's empty.

BRUCE

Selina?

Bruce pushes free from Helena, and slides off the table. He lands in a state of desperation.

BRUCE (CONT'D)

Where is she? Where did she-

As Bruce turns...

Dinah creeps in from behind Helena with a glum look across her face. She bats her eyes down, almost guilty.

BRUCE (CONT'D)

(furious)

Where the hell is Strange?

INT. GOTHAM GAZETTE, KAHN'S OFFICE - NIGHT.

\*

An article is dropped to the desk in a disappointed flop. It reads "**DNA OF MASKED CRIMINAL FOUND: HUSH REVEALED**"

Behind the desk, PAULINE KAHN shakes her head. Not amused.

KAHN

You want me to print this fabrication in tomorrow morning's paper to call out a masked criminal so the two of you can *what*, exactly? Stop him yourself?

On the outside of the desk, Perry and Vicki sink in defeat.

VICKI

Look, we have a theory that-

KAHN  
 A theory? You have a theory?  
 (beat)  
 I refuse to print theories in *my*  
 paper. I only print facts.

PERRY  
 Oh, lighten up princess.

KAHN  
 Excuse me?

A knock sounds at the door. They all shift focus to it.

KAHN (CONT'D)  
 Come in.

The door RATTLES. It CLICKS, and then OPENS.

In enters the sophisticated figure of Hugo Strange. He carries in his hand an external hard drive. \*

HUGO STRANGE  
 Evening, Ms. Kahn.

Vicki and Perry divide as Strange approaches the desk.

HUGO STRANGE (CONT'D)  
 I believe I have your next front  
 page story.

As Hugo plants the hard drive onto the desk...

Kahn shifts, peering up from the hard drive thrown in front of her as her attention focuses on Strange, behind the desk.

KAHN  
 And that would be...

HUGO STRANGE  
 Have you heard of *The Watchtower*?

Shock paints Perry's face. He looks to Vicki. They share the same distraught look. \*

OFF their growing disbelief...

**BLACKOUT.**

END OF ACT THREE.

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

INT. GOTHAM GAZETTE, KAHN'S OFFICE - NIGHT.

Lurking behind Strange, Perry and Vicki share looks of uncertainty as the two remain fearful in the B.G. \*

Kahn sits at her desk, bouncing the hard drive in her hands.

KAHN

The Watchtower, huh?

Strange fearfully JOLTS forward. Catches her hands.

HUGO STRANGE

Be careful with that.

Strange pulls the hard drive back into his possession.

KAHN

So you expect me to believe that hard drive holds the names of every single known vigilante not just within the city but around the world, and you want me to *what*, exactly? Pay you for it?

HUGO STRANGE

I believe our lawyers can strike up a deal that is economically profitable for the both of us.

Kahn grows curious.

KAHN

Am I just meant to take your word for it?

HUGO STRANGE

Ask me a name. *Any* name.

VICKI

No, don't. You can't.

HUGO STRANGE

Any name and I can tell you who lies behind the-

KAHN

(interrupting)

Batman. \*

HUGO STRANGE

Ah. The Batman. *Of course*. Well, you see the answer was right in front of us all along. \*

(MORE)

HUGO STRANGE (CONT'D)

(beat)

The Batman is Br-

Hugo excitedly gestures before- *THWACK!*

A large vase SMASHES across the back of his head and he is thrown face first into the desk. Bouncing off it, Strange slides to the floor in a grunt.

Kahn RISES in a gasp.

KAHN

Vicki?!

Vicki rushes forward, leeching the hard drive off the desk and turning to palm it off into Perry's hands.

KAHN (CONT'D)

What the hell are you doing?

Perry wheels forward to a distressed Kahn.

PERRY

I'm not sure hearing this from a man in a wheelchair will make you feel protected, but everything's going to be okay.

(beat)

We're the good guys here.

As Vicki withdraws a phone from her pocket, Kahn stumbles back in disbelief.

KAHN

Oh. My. God. You work for-

\*

VICKI

(into phone)

Batman? I need your help. I'm at the Gazette. Some psycho's infiltrated The Watchtower. He's trying to-

OFF A CLICK-

Vicki SPINS to find Strange risen. He aims a gun in her direction, blood trickling down his ear.

HUGO STRANGE

Should have known there would be more than one hero worshipper at the helm of the Watchtower.

VICKI

More like an *army*.

Strange chuckles.

HUGO STRANGE  
One is all I need.

Strange pistol WHIPS Vicki across the jaw, and she collides into the wall. She weakly slides into herself, groaning.

HUGO STRANGE (CONT'D)  
You two. Get out.

Kahn struggles around the desk to meet Perry. He remains.

Strange aims the gun at the window and- *BANG!* A bullet shatters it as shards erupt outside.

HUGO STRANGE (CONT'D)  
I said get out.

Kahn and Perry make their EXIT. \*

Strange returns to Vicki, who sits against the wall.

HUGO STRANGE (CONT'D)  
I'm sure I can persuade The Batman by taking one of his own hostage and hosting a ransom.

VICKI  
Hate to burst your bubble here, but I'm pretty sure he lives in a cave, not a million dollar mansion.

Strange is brought to a terrifying grin. He knows better. \*

INT. WATCHTOWER, HEADQUARTERS - NIGHT.

The elevator doors slide apart as Chloe storms in.

CHLOE  
Zatanna? Zatanna I need your-

Behind Chloe, Zatanna emerges.

ZATANNA  
Did it work?

With a jolt, Chloe DARTS around to find Zatanna. In a hurry, she moves for her; they meet.

CHLOE  
It's done. I did it.

ZATANNA  
Then what's with the look of sinking failure and absolute fear?

CHLOE  
Doomsday. He's got out.

ZATANNA

How?

CHLOE

I don't know. Talia's been keeping him contained at Wayne Enterprises for god knows how long. But here's the catch... it was Davis Bloome.

ZATANNA

That's impossible.

CHLOE

Yeah. I'd say the same thing too if I didn't just come back from a trip to a parallel universe where I had an up close and personal reunion with the not-so-beauty and the beast.

Chloe turns to the computer system. As she reaches it, tapping at the keyboard, Zatanna closes in from behind.

ZATANNA

What are you doing?

CHLOE

Kyle. When he jumped in front to protect me from Doomsday, he teleported out. I need to see...

On the computer screen sits an image of a map with one large red circle blinking atop it.

Chloe SMASHES her fists down onto the desk.

CHLOE (CONT'D)

Damn it.

Chloe returns to Zatanna, defeated.

CHLOE (CONT'D)

He's gone.

BZZ. BZZ. Chloe reaches into her pocket and withdraws her phone. Examining it, she answers.

CHLOE (CONT'D)

(into phone)

Helena?

\*

INT. STRANGE'S LAB - NIGHT.

Helena holds the phone close to her ear.

HELENA

We got Bruce. It's over.

INTERCUT WITH: CHLOE AND HELENA ON THE PHONE

CHLOE

So the lead on Dent was a success?

HELENA

Took some time before he spilled the beans, and while he did lead me here... he had no idea who Bruce Wayne even was. \*

CHLOE

How is that possible?

HELENA

I don't know but I'll fill you in when the three of us get back.

CHLOE

The "three" of you?

As Helena hangs up, Dinah emerges in the B.G.

DINAH

Bruce is gone.

HELENA

What?

DINAH

I saw him get a phone call, and leave. Seemed urgent.

OFF the growing confusion on Helena's face...

JUMP CUT TO:

INT. GOTHAM GAZETTE, HALLWAY - LATER.

Kahn and Perry come to a halt at the end of the hallway.

KAHN

We can't just leave her in there.

PERRY

If there's anything I've learned about Vicki in the past year, it's that she knows how to take care of herself. Besides, he needs her alive otherwise he wouldn't have told us to leave the room.

Kahn reaches into her pocket, and pulls out a phone. Dials.

PERRY (CONT'D)

What are you doing?

KAHN

Calling the cops.

(off Perry's sigh)

What? You think I'm going to put the life of my best damn reporter in the hands of some maniac in a cowl and cape? I don't think so.

(into phone)

Yes, 911. I'd like to report a hostage situation...

PERRY

He wasn't wearing a cowl...

(beat)

Oh. You meant Batman.

Kahn darts Perry a look. He sinks into himself. \*

INT. GOTHAM GAZETTE, KAHN'S OFFICE - NIGHT.

In front of the shattered window, Strange aims a gun at Vicki, who keeps her hands risen.

HUGO STRANGE

I didn't want any of this. I just wanted to save people.

VICKI

Save people? By pointing *guns* at them? Exploiting them?

HUGO STRANGE

For a reporter, you clearly seem to lack the ability to connect the dots, don't you? \*

VICKI

Oh, I can see things coming from a mile away. \*

Strange follows the direction of Vicki's eyes, and turns...

BATMAN ploughs through the shattered window and SPRINGS his legs out into Strange's chest. He is knocked back as Batman lands atop the desk.

As Strange recovers his balance, Batman BOUNCES off the desk and lands on the ground. He RISES to a sparking tazar shooting currents of electricity into his chest- \*

- Batman SMASHES against the desk.

Running in from behind, Vicki KNOCKS the tazar out of Strange's hold. He SPIRALS around and into her with the gun which locks straight into Vicki's hands.

They struggle. Back and forth. Tugging, until Strange leeches the gun out, and ELBOWS Vicki across the jaw.

As she collapses to the ground, unconscious...

Strange lowers the gun to Vicki's level. The weapon trembles in his fingertips, aligning the shot. \*

BATMAN (O.S.) \*

Stop.

He turns to find Batman slowly peeling himself up off the desk. Strange pulls the gun back into his pocket.

HUGO STRANGE

Who knew that the city's White Knight was also it's Dark Knight.

(beat)

The *BatMan*.

BATMAN

You're not a bad man, Strange. Why are you doing this?

HUGO STRANGE

I just want to help people.

BATMAN

This isn't the right way of going about it.

HUGO STRANGE

This is the *only* way.

(beat)

They cut my funding. They told me the procedures were too invasive, that- that the human mind was not to be toyed with. They don't understand how mental illness works. How crippling it is. How destructive. They don't care. They just want to make money. To make a profit. To be rich. And I-

Strange TEARS his glasses off to reveal his tear ridden eyes, raw with passion. He wipes the sadness away.

HUGO STRANGE (CONT'D)

I just want to help others like *me*.

BATMAN

I can't help you.

HUGO STRANGE

Fine.

Strange places the glasses back on his head...

HUGO STRANGE (CONT'D)

You don't want to help me then the whole world will know your secret.

(MORE)

HUGO STRANGE (CONT'D)

(beat)

Mr. Wayne.

The sound of sirens BLARING grows closer and closer.

Hugo holds out his arms in complete and utter mercy.

HUGO STRANGE (CONT'D)

Let them arrest me.

(long pause)

I'm sure I'll make bail when I give  
them the names of every god damn  
vigilante in this polluted city.

OFF the widening grin on Strange's face...

**BLACKOUT.**

END OF ACT FOUR

ACT FIVE

FADE IN:

EXT. ARKHAM ASYLUM - MORNING.

The morning glare shines over the Arkham Asylum.

INT. ARKHAM ASYLUM - MORNING. \*

A set of heels CLAP against the ground...

Behind a desk sits a blonde haired receptionist with thin glasses, and a look of pure, genuine kindness. She punches keys in on the keyboard, clicking away. \*

A figure arrives at the desk. The receptionist halts and greets them with a wide smile.

RECEPTIONIST

Can I help you?

JUMP CUT TO: \*

INT. ARKHAM ASYLUM - STRANGE'S CELL - MOMENTS LATER. \*

A guard PEELS the door open as a light illuminates a bound, and defeated Hugo Strange. He sits in a straight jacket, glasses removed, and head down.

GUARD

You've got a visitor.

The guard lets the high-heel wearing woman into the room as he closes the door upon his EXIT. The door SEALS shut.

Strange raises his head. As his eyes find the figure in front of him, his expression drops to confusion.

HUGO STRANGE

Do I know you?

In front of him stands Chloe. Shakes her head.

HUGO STRANGE (CONT'D)

Sorry, it's just... They're calling me crazy. I'm not crazy. I'm *not*. I swear. I just... \*

Strange swings his head around, itching under the jacket.

HUGO STRANGE (CONT'D)

Ugh. I can't remember anything. I don't know why I'm here. I don't-  
(beat)  
Can you help me?

CHLOE  
 Watchtower. Batman. Huntress.  
 The Black Canary. Catwoman.  
 (long pause)  
 Do any of these names ring a bell?

HUGO STRANGE  
 (genuine)  
 Oh- oh- only from what I read in  
 the newspapers.  
 (off Chloe's look)  
 Is that not what I-

CHLOE  
 Do you remember Vicki. Or Kahn.

HUGO STRANGE  
 Kahn! Kahn works for the Gazette.  
 She's the, uh... the Editor in  
 Chief. She's only new there.

CHLOE  
 So you don't remember pointing a  
 gun at her? \*

Strange grows terrified.

HUGO STRANGE  
 Oh god. *No.*  
 (beat)  
 I didn't hurt anyone did I? My  
 god, I- I'm just a psychiatrist.  
 I'm not a... a- ugh.

CHLOE  
 You really don't remember?

Strange shakes his head, tears filling his eyes.

HUGO STRANGE  
 Please. They won't believe me. I  
 don't belong here. *Please.* You've  
 got to help me.

Strange crumbles into a crying mess. \*

INT. GOTHAM GAZETTE, KAHN'S OFFICE - MORNING. \*

Vicki closes the door behind her as she enters the office.

VICKI  
 You wanted to see me?

From behind the desk, Kahn RISES to meet her level.

KAHN  
 I'm sure you understand the  
 circumstances of this meeting.

Kahn moves from around the desk to greet a hesitant Vicki.

VICKI

Right now I'm just praying you're not about to fire me.

KAHN

Fire you?

VICKI

I came into your office with a proposition to turn the paper into some sort of battle cry against Hush. Then I beat up an old man, got you caught behind the barrel of a gun, and then revealed the fact I spend most nights conspiring with the city's vigilantes. I'm beyond firing at this point. You could actually probably have me arrested.

KAHN

Oh, I definitely could.

VICKI

Wait. Am I being arrested?

KAHN

No.

Vicki eases up. Sighs a breath of relief.

KAHN (CONT'D)

Perry filled me in on everything while we waited for the police to get involved.

VICKI

He did?

KAHN

Most specifically, he told me about your fiancé. Mitchell...

(beat)

The police. The law. It doesn't always do everything we need it to do and while I don't agree with the tactics of these capes, and hoods, and vigilante crime fighters, I can't ignore their influence in keeping this city safe.

(long pause)

I think this paper can play a big part in that, too.

VICKI

What are you saying exactly?

KAHN

When I took this job... when I came to this city, I didn't exactly come for the view.

(beat)

I want to make a difference here, and I think you're the key in helping me achieve that.

A smile burns across Vicki's face.

VICKI

What does that mean for the paper?

Kahn returns to her desk as she opens the drawer and shuffles through it. Searching...

KAHN

A complete redesign of our structure, our demographic, and even the way we function.

VICKI

Function?

Kahn withdraws a name plaque and sits it on the desk opposite her own; it reads '*Vicki Vale. Co-Editor In Chief.*'

KAHN

Welcome to your new office.

Vicki's face fills with utter surprise. \*

INT. WATCHTOWER, HEADQUARTERS - LATER.

The elevator doors open as Zatanna enters. She makes her way towards the computer system where Chloe stands, anxiously tapping her hand against the desk.

ZATANNA

After spending all day popping in and out and surprising you, I decided to make a *normal* entrance.

(beat)

Any trace on Kyle?

Chloe turns away from the computer. She appears angry.

ZATANNA (CONT'D)

You okay? Did something happen?

CHLOE

You could say that...

Chloe simply TAPS a key on the keyboard, and-

Footage fills the monitor behind her... \*

INT. GCPD, HOLDING CELL - FOOTAGE.

Hugo Strange looks up from his cuffed hands to find Zatanna.

HUGO STRANGE  
What the hell? How did you get in  
here? Who are you?

ZATANNA  
Shh. You don't need to worry.

As Zatanna closes in on him, Strange JOLTS further away...

HUGO STRANGE  
Stay the hell away.  
(erupting)  
Guards!

Zatanna CLUTCHES onto his arm. Strange's eyes find hers.

ZATANNA  
(spell)  
Tegrof.

Strange becomes still, as Zatanna fades in front of him. As officers flood in...

INT. WATCHTOWER, HEADQUARTERS - DAY. \*

Chloe approaches Zatanna as STATIC fills the monitor in B.G.

ZATANNA  
Chloe, I can explain.

CHLOE  
Which part exactly? Nearly  
exposing yourself to the world, or  
the part where you've been running  
around for god knows how long  
*erasing* people's minds.

ZATANNA  
I'm trying to protect us.

CHLOE  
At what cost?

ZATANNA  
Please. You have to understand-

CHLOE  
Shut up.

Zatanna gasps, frightened.

CHLOE (CONT'D)

You think that because of the power you have that you can go around and play god with us mortals like we're you're god damn puppets.

ZATANNA

That's not what this is.

CHLOE

Oh, really? Then do you care to explain why Kyle's been walking around for weeks without so much as a mention of the woman he killed?

Zatanna looks away, guilt ridden.

CHLOE (CONT'D)

Get the hell out of here.

Tears in her eyes, Zatanna looks back to Chloe. She steps forward, almost desperate.

ZATANNA

Chloe, I-

CHLOE

No. Get out.

As Chloe turns...

Zatanna appears in front of her. She CLUTCHES Chloe's arm.

CHLOE (CONT'D)

No. Don't-

ZATANNA

I'm sorry.

CHLOE

Stop!

ZATANNA

Tegro-

Chloe SHAKES free of Zatanna, and spins back in with an enclosed fist. She CLOBBERS her across the face.

Zatanna SLAMS hard against the ground. Leans up in a gasp.

ZATANNA (CONT'D)

You have to see things from *my* point of view. If we don't keep focus, more of us will die. Just like Bart died.

(pause)

We can't lose anyone else...

CHLOE

Like Oliver?

(pause)

I lost him because of the very thing you've been doing in the name of keeping us safe. Now take your god complex, and get the hell out of my city.

Zatanna's eyes fall to the floor as she SHIMMERS out...

As Chloe takes in a deep, concentrated breath, she runs her fingers through her hair with a sigh.

INT. WAYNE MANSION, LIBRARY - DAY. \*

Behind the desk, Bruce watches footage of Selina on his laptop set out in front of him.

SELINA

(on screen)

Part of me thinks that I'll come back, but we both know what I'm like. When things get real, I run. And you were the most genuine thing I've ever had.

Bruce's glum expression reflects in the screen.

SELINA (CONT'D)

Don't wait up.

STATIC fills the screen, as Bruce CLOSES the laptop.

In front of him stands DINAH. She nervously stands in the center of the room, anxious and out of place.

BRUCE

Dinah?

DINAH

Your... butler let me in. I hope that's okay.

BRUCE

Uh, yeah... that- that's fine.

Bruce RISES from his seat. Confused.

BRUCE (CONT'D)

What are you doing here?

DINAH

I wanted to apologise for being so blunt about...

(long pause)

(MORE)

DINAH (CONT'D)

I've been told what happens in  
cyber space stays in cyber space,  
but I took this one a bit too far.

BRUCE

You're apologising to *me*?  
(beat)  
I nearly killed you.

Dinah is brought to a chuckle.

BRUCE (CONT'D)

I was so convinced that my M.I.A  
girlfriend had conveniently  
returned to save me instead of  
someone who had been taken for the  
very same reason I was.

DINAH

Denial. It's the first stage of  
grief, right?

BRUCE

I didn't realise it was time to  
start grieving.

DINAH

I'm sorry.

BRUCE

No. Selina's gone. I know she's  
not coming back. The only reason I  
was unwilling to grieve was because-  
(long pause)  
She was *it*. You know? She was...

As Bruce begins to light up, bittersweet...

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. GRAYSON RESIDENCE, PORCH - DAY.

Climbing the stairs to the porch, Helena and Lisa make it to  
the front door of the house. They look at one another with a  
burning, almost victorious smile.

BRUCE (V.O.)

We first met and I was head over  
heels in love with someone else.

As Helena knocks on the door...

Lisa PULLS Helena in for a kiss. Passionate. When they pull  
away, their eyes are glued to one another.

LISA

I'm so glad we made it.

The door peels open as DICK GRAYSON stands at the entrance.  
Helena is torn from her focus, as she catches eyes with him.

BRUCE (V.O.)  
One look at her, and I just *knew*  
this was more than what I could  
ever have with anyone else.

Lisa catches the gaze between Dick and Helena before entering  
the house. As she disappears inside, Dick and Helena meet.

HELENA  
Thanks for letting us stay here.  
It really means a lot.

DICK  
I just want you to be safe.

Helena makes her way inside, and as Dick CLOSES the door...

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. CEMETERY - DAY.

Knelt down at a grave, Vicki offers a set of flowers forth.

BRUCE (V.O.)  
She was the *one*.

Vicki leans back, wiping tears from her eyes.

VICKI  
We finally made a breakthrough  
today, Mitch.

Vicki trails her fingertips across the gravestone in front of  
her with a hopeful smile.

VICKI (CONT'D)  
I promise I'm going to catch him.

As her finger traces the name "Mitchell"...

BRUCE (V.O.)  
I just wish it wasn't too late  
before I figured it out.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. CHLOE'S APARTMENT, LIVING ROOM - DAY.

Seated around a large mat on the floor, MOIRA and GABE play  
with a buzzing HOPE, who rolls a ball back that is knocked  
her way. Giggling.

MOIRA  
She's growing up way too fast.

GABE

Probably going to be a genius just  
like her mother.

(off Moira's look)

And grandmother.

MOIRA

Ugh, I sound so old.

Something in the distance catches Hope's attention. She  
lights up, and stretches her arms out with joy...

Moira and Gabe follow her gaze.

In the doorway stands Chloe. Her exhaustion instantly fades  
upon sight of her baby daughter, and she is brought to an  
overwhelming smile.

CHLOE

Hi, baby girl.

Chloe steps into the living room, and reaches for her  
daughter. She reels Hope in for a hug.

CHLOE (CONT'D)

Mummy's missed you. Yes she has.

INT. WAYNE MANSION, LIBRARY - DAY. \*

Dinah and Bruce stand close together.

BRUCE (PRELAP) \*

Guess you never can predict what  
the future holds for you, huh? \*

DINAH \*

If there's anything I've learned in  
this past week, it's that we always  
get a choice in how we play the  
cards we've been dealt.

(beat)

I mean, who knows? Maybe "*the one*"  
isn't someone the universe is  
screaming at you to be with, but  
the one you choose to stay with.

Bruce smiles, comforted.

DINAH (CONT'D)

I should go.

As Dinah heads off towards the door, Bruce is compelled  
forward to follow her.

BRUCE

Dinah?

She halts, and turns at the doors. Faces Bruce.

BRUCE (CONT'D)  
 You talked of grief as though you  
 were going through it too.  
 (beat)  
 Did you lose someone? \*

Dinah simply nods before she EXITS.

Bruce bows his head, and turns away. He reaches for the  
 photograph that sits on his desk-

- it's a framed photograph of Selina.

ALFRED (O.S.)  
 Master Bruce!

Bruce SNAPS around to find ALFRED PENNYWORTH. \*

ALFRED (CONT'D)  
 I've been trying to contact you all  
 day. Where have you been?

BRUCE  
 It's a long story.

ALFRED  
 Well I'm not the only one trying to  
 get in contact with you.  
 (beat)  
 You have six voice messages from  
 one Talia Al Ghul. Perhaps you  
 don't want to keep the "Heir of the  
 Demon" waiting, sir. \*

As Alfred arches his brow and leaves in a huff...

JUMP CUT TO:

INT. WAYNE MANSION, HALLWAY - LATER.

Stepping in, Bruce swoops down and collects the phone from  
 the machine. He clicks one of the red buttons. It BEEPS. \*

TALIA  
 (over phone)  
 Bruce! Bruce he's got out.

Bruce's entire demeanor drops. Panicked.

TALIA (CONT'D)  
 (over phone)  
 The beast, he- he's gone.

OFF the look of horror dawning on Bruce... \*

**BLACKOUT.** \*

END OF EPISODE. \*