

# WATCHTOWER

4.21 | "Trinity"

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

"Trinity"

## 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 / BATWOMAN .....	Deborah Ann Woll
LANA LANG .....	Kristin Kreuk
OLIVER QUEEN / GREEN ARROW .....	Justin Hartley
MAXWELL LORD .....	Gil Bellows

## GUEST CAST

ALFRED PENNYWORTH .....	Michael Caine
ANDREA ROJAS .....	Denise Quinones
CASSANDRA CAIN / BLACKBAT .....	Teresa Ting
CLARK KENT / SUPERMAN .....	Tom Welling
DIANA / WONDER WOMAN .....	Bridget Regan
DICK GRAYSON / NIGHTWING .....	Patrick J. Adams
DINAH LANCE / BLACK CANARY .....	Alaina Huffman
JASON BARD .....	Robert Buckley
JAYNA .....	Allison Scagliotti
KARL FOX / THE RANGER .....	Eka Darville
KATE SPENCER / MANHUNTER .....	Dina Meyer
LUCIUS FOX / BATWING .....	Charles Michael Davis
LINDA LAKE .....	Tori Spelling
MIA DEARDEN / SPEEDY .....	Elise Gatien
RYAN CHOI / THE ATOM .....	Ross Buttler
SARAH ESSEN .....	Vera Farmiga
STEVE TREVOR .....	Rick Cosnett
TALIA AL GHUL .....	Stana Katic
TIM DRAKE / RED ROBIN .....	Logan Lerman
ZAN .....	David Gallagher
ZINDA BLAKE / LADY BLACKHAWK .....	Katie Cassidy

TEASER

FADE IN:

EXT. GOTHAM CITY - DAY

A vibrant light washes over a city in flames. Buildings crumble into ash. Explosions detonate. Smoke wafts above the crumbling city. A war has begun.

INT. GOTHAM GAZETTE, HEAD OFFICE - DAY

A content MAXWELL LORD stares out from his office window, observing a city that descends into ruins. He takes a moment to breathe it all in - contentment turning into satisfaction.

GLASS SHATTERS. The wall collapses in, and two OMAC MACHINES escort a woman into the room.

OMAC MACHINE

We found her in the building.  
Target identified as Andrea Rojas  
aka the Angel of Vengeance.

MAXWELL LORD

Vengeance, huh?

Lord approaches the prisoner.

MAXWELL LORD (CONT'D)

I know a thing or two about that.

A bloodied ANDREA looks up from the ground. She manages a sneer, and locks eyes with her enemy. She SPITS--

BLOOD sprays across a set of black shoes in front of Andrea.

CRANE UP to find Lord - they're *his* shoes. He looks back and forth between his prisoner and her blood that marks him.

MAXWELL LORD (CONT'D)

Your blood was going to end up on  
them anyway.

ANDREA

Go to hell.

MAXWELL LORD

Look around you, Ms. Rojas.

Lord gestures towards the view of the city. Smoke fogs it.

MAXWELL LORD (CONT'D)

We're already there.

Lord slides a small blade out of his jacket and observes it.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MAXWELL LORD (CONT'D)

Now. Where were we?

Lord returns to Andrea, unveiling the blade. She squirms.

MAXWELL LORD (CONT'D)

Oh, right. Vengeance.

ANDREA

No.

A robotic hand clenches down on Andrea's shoulder, keeping her grounded. Fear sets in - a deep realisation...

MAXWELL LORD

Cut from the same cloth.

Lord SLASHES THE BLADE--

BLOOD SPRAYS across Lord's shoes in a heavy wave of crimson.

THUD. Andrea slumps to the floor. A pool of blood builds around her. A few twitches, and she steadies. Dead.

Lord wipes the blade with a cloth, then buries it back inside his jacket. A moment to savor his actions, and he returns to the OMAC MACHINES - they await his command.

MAXWELL LORD (CONT'D)

Mayor James Gordon. I want you to find him. And kill him.

ON the eyes of the OMAC - they glow a bright blue... the order registers in their system. The machines withdraw from Lord, then JET THROUGH THE WINDOW-

GLASS SHATTERS off their force, out the office, and into...

EXT. GOTHAM CITY, STREETS - DAY

The same two OMAC MACHINES land behind a startled GORDON and SARAH, blocking them between a third. They link hands.

SARAH

I love you. Always and forever.

GORDON

Always and forever.

A WAVE OF WATER rushes underneath their feet, and scoops the couple up and towards freedom.

BOOM. A BLAST collides with the third OMAC. It ERUPTS.

The remaining two machines turn to find Gordon and Sarah shielded by a heroic ZAN, who is soon joined by JAYNA.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ZAN

Back off, Robo-cop.

SUPERMAN swoops in and crushes through the machines - they erupt in a roaring explosion that Superman zips out from...

FOLLOW a determined Superman in flight. He connects with another OMAC MACHINE down the street, latches onto it, then propels back into the sky.

Track their movement into the clouds, above the city...

DESCEND BACK into another street where KATHERINE and HELENA (both unmasked, geared up) are chased by a sequence of explosions that grow closer and closer.

Suddenly, an OMAC MACHINE lands in front of them.

HELENA

Get down!

Helena tackles Katherine aside- *BOOM!*

A BLAST erupts at the ground, and a shockwave slams hard against Helena - she's propelled over a safe Katherine, and through a SHOP-FRONT.

Katherine peels herself off the ground, a little hazed.

KATHERINE

Helena?

Katherine rushes into the broken shop.

An echoing boom sounds as a blurred figure CRASHES AGAINST THE SHOP. A TREMOR rocks the entire building...

INT. SHOP - DAY

Katherine turns to see rubble pile in. Trapped.

EXT. GOTHAM CITY, STREETS - DAY

An overwhelmed Superman rolls from the wreckage of the shop, and sprawls out across the road. Defeated. An OMAC MACHINE clamps its foot down on Superman's chest, and he HOWLS.

THE ATOM descends towards the OMAC. He SHRINKS into a tiny dust-sized spec, then disappears inside the machine...

TICK... TICK... BOOM.

The OMAC's head erupts in a blazing fire.

The Atom (returning to form) spirals out of the explosion and lands on the ground. His fear shifts to excitement.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

THE ATOM

That... was... *totally awesome!*

Superman rolls onto his side, then spots an army of machines fixing their aim on The Atom.

SUPERMAN

Look out!

A SCREECHING HAWK echoes from the skies, and VIXEN drops into view - her feet cling to the Atom's shoulders and lift him into air. They fly to safety.

An EXPLOSION replaces the superheroes. It CONSUMES--

EXT. WAREHOUSE - DAY

A DANGLING LINE is exposed through fading smoke - it connects to the top of the building and sways aimlessly.

The OMAC MACHINES lower their aim, then retreat.

EXT. WAREHOUSE, ROOFTOP - DAY

A struggling NIGHTWING pulls free from two assassins.

Approaching footsteps direct his attention towards TALIA AL GHUL, the mastermind behind his save. She shoots him an all-knowing smile (she knows he would hate this).

TALIA

Mr. Grayson. How fortunate for you that our paths should cross again.

NIGHTWING

Talia.

Nightwing steadies his eskrima sticks - prepared for a fight.

TALIA

I'm not your enemy. At least not today. Instead, I stand with you to thwart a... *common* enemy.

NIGHTWING

Does Bruce know about this?

TALIA

What do you think?

NIGHTWING

I think he must be as desperate as the rest of us if he's willing to work with you.

Talia almost seems hurt by his perception.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

TALIA

Bruce knows what he's doing.

INT. WAYNE MANSION, LIBRARY - DAY

A raging fire spreads around BRUCE. The heat slowly wakes him up. His blurred vision dissolves into clarity...

BRUCE

Alfred? Alfred?!

Bruce jolts up, and into OLIVER - he holds back his friend.

OLIVER

He's fine. They're all fine. Mia. Tim. Cassandra. Alfred. They're in the cave. Where we should be headed right now.

Bruce notices the condition of his house.

BRUCE

No. No, the house. I can save it.

OLIVER

It's beyond saving, man. I'm sorry. But we have to go.

Oliver tugs at Bruce, and he buckles, following until-

The "EYE" of the OMAC remains at the foot of the bookshelf, staring back at Bruce. He's seduced by it.

OLIVER (CONT'D)

Bruce?

BRUCE

I'll be right there.

A trusting Oliver disappears through the passageway.

Bruce kicks burning timber aside to clear a path towards the "EYE." He scoops it up, and examines it.

BRUCE (CONT'D)

This better work.

OFF the "EYE" that seems to stare back at us now...

INT. THEMYSKIRA, TEMPLE - DAY

ON A SET OF HANDS - they hold BLUE ORBS (as seen in the previous episode). It shines like a beacon of hope.

DIANA, dressed in white robes, guides the orbs into a bag that CHLOE holds out for her. She pulls back, ties the bag up, then straddles it over her shoulder.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

A solemn silence rests between them. Chloe waits.

DIANA

You waste too much time with the thoughts rattling around in your head. Truth should be freeing. So whatever is keeping you here, your city begs of you to reveal it.

CHLOE

We could use your help.

DIANA

I have done all that I can.

CHLOE

That's not true.

DIANA

It is *my* truth.

Diana turns her back, and faces the statues of the gods.

DIANA (CONT'D)

I have no desire to involve myself in the war that plagues your city.

CHLOE

Why?

DIANA

Because I know mankind. I understand them now. They will continue to build instruments of death - endless creations they use with the sole purpose to *destroy*.

Diana returns to Chloe - a deep pain in her soul...

DIANA (CONT'D)

Stopping one war only invites another. And I refuse to take any part in it. Not just for *your* civilization, but for the threat it brings home to my people.

CHLOE

You once told me that I reminded you of someone. Someone that helped you believe in us. Someone that was good and pure.

DIANA

That someone doesn't exist anymore.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

CHLOE

But what if he did? What would he say? What would he do?

And the question hangs - something for Diana to consider...

DIANA

You should go. Before it's too late to save your people. Just as I was too late to save mine.

A hollow stare, and Diana retreats back into the shadows.

ON Chloe - one last moment of hope, waiting for her friend to return. She doesn't. A sigh of defeat, and Chloe goes her separate way, disappearing into the light.

EXT. THEMYSKIRA - DAY

A large ARGUS AIRCRAFT sits on the shores.

Stood outside, on either ends of the opened door, STEVE and ZINDA patiently wait for any sign of movement. They perk up at the sight of Chloe, emerging in the distance.

STEVE

Why is she alone? She... shouldn't be alone, right?

Chloe arrives by the door.

ZINDA

Where is she?

CHLOE

She's not coming.

A moment of defeat, and they turn in, onto the aircraft.

The door closes behind them. The aircraft sounds. Lights ignite, and it ASCENDS OFF THE ISLAND. Back to the war...

CUT TO BLACK.

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

INT. BATCAVE - DAY

The "EYE" of the OMAC rests on a bench. A team of heroes gather around it (BRUCE, OLIVER, LUCIUS, KARL, ALFRED, TIM, CASSANDRA and MIA).

KARL

What are we looking at, exactly?

BRUCE

It's the eye of the OMAC. It's essentially-

OLIVER

Their brain.

Lucius swipes the "eye" off the desk, and into his hands--

LUCIUS

I know exactly what it is. It's *my* system. Brother Eye. Maxwell Lord stole it from me when he... it's not important.

BRUCE

But *this* is.

LUCIUS

Everything in this eye... we already know. So it doesn't--  
(realising)  
If they all share the same system, then we can see them. All of them. Maybe we could even control them.

TIM

I like the sound of that.

Tim swipes the eye from Lucius' hands, and darts for the computer. The heroes huddle around him.

BRUCE

Don't get ahead of yourself. Right now, I need you to help me find Lana. When Zinda comes back with this weapon, we can use this eye to destroy them. And Lana's the only one who can help us find her when that happens.

TIM

On it, boss.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MIA

And what do you need us to do?

Bruce returns to the team with conviction.

BRUCE

Fight.

OLIVER

And to think I was set on a nap.

BRUCE

Get to Wayne Enterprises. Get everything you need - weapons, armor, ammunition.

(to Oliver)

Tights.

OLIVER

Hey.

BRUCE

It's good to have you back.

A moment between the two friends. Happy.

MIA

Not to be the pessimistic one of the group because - well, let's face it - that's so not a good colour on me, but... do we really stand a chance against them?

BRUCE

We're all this city has left.

And that's enough. Oliver, Mia, Lucius and Karl disappear through the cave, on their way out...

Cassandra moves to follow, but Bruce stops her.

BRUCE (CONT'D)

Where do you think you're going?

Cassandra innocently points towards the heroes leaving...

CASSANDRA

(mimicking)

*F... F- Fight.*

BRUCE

I'm not letting you out there with a bunch of strangers. You're sticking with me. And if there's any chance of you getting a normal life after all this mess...

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

BRUCE (CONT'D)

then we're going to need to do  
something about your outfit.

Bruce turns to a console, and hits a button-

A circular disc on the ground opens up. A GLASS CAPSULE  
rises from the ground to reveal a BAT-SUIT - it accompanies  
the capsule with the BATMAN SUIT. A dual set.

Cassandra approaches the glass. Her fingers trace the  
inscription on it. 'Blackbat.'

CASSANDRA

Bla- black... bat.

An inspired glare. Filling with love, Cassandra races into  
Bruce's arms - an unfamiliar show of affection that he slowly  
eases into. A loving hug.

Tim jumps up from the computer system. Annoyed.

TIM

Hey. Not fair.

ALFRED

All in good time, Master Tim.

Alfred pats Tim on the shoulder, urging him to get back to  
work on the computer. He finds *some* level of solace.

TIM

'Master,' huh? I could definitely  
get used to that.

OFF a look shared between Alfred and Bruce...

INT. SHOP - DAY

A collection of rubble barricades the entrance. Katherine  
peers through the cracks, barely able to see outside.

Perched against the counter sits a wounded HELENA.

HELENA

Katherine?

KATHERINE

We're going to get out of here.

HELENA

Katherine, please.

A huff of defeat and Katherine faces Helena.

HELENA (CONT'D)

We need to talk.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KATHERINE

No. Because I know what that means. And I refuse to accept that we can't *both* make it out of here.

HELENA

I'm sorry.

The words break through to Katherine, tugging at her...

KATHERINE

Helena.

HELENA

I ran out of there. I was so upset. I should have stayed with you and Dinah and Kate. We would have been safe.

Katherine drops to hand and knee in front of Helena, desperate to convince her out of her guilt.

KATHERINE

I'm the safest when I'm with you.

HELENA

(with a laugh)

That's a lie. But I appreciate it.

Helena's hands wrap around a LARGE SHARD OF GLASS that pierces her side.

HELENA (CONT'D)

I still think I should pull this-

Katherine slaps her hands away.

KATHERINE

Don't. It'll only do more damage, trust me. We just need someone to find us so that we can get you to the hospital. Where's your phone?

HELENA

Back pocket.

Katherine withdraws Helena's phone. It ignites with light, for a quick second, then BUZZES to black. Dead.

KATHERINE

Son of a bitch.

Katherine slams the phone onto the ground.

HELENA

Contract wasn't exactly up yet.

(CONTINUED)

KATHERINE

Sorry.

An uncomfortable silence. Reality sets in.

HELENA

We need to talk.

And Katherine looks to Helena, realising that talking is all they have left now. A simple nod, and Katherine slides onto the floor beside the woman she loves. Ready to listen.

INT. ARGUS AIRCRAFT - DAY

Steve takes a seat opposite Chloe on the plane.

STEVE

Considering we just got our hands on a weapon that can take down Maxwell Lord's army, you don't seem too happy. Is this about whatever happened between you and Diana?

CHLOE

Maxwell Lord brought war to Themyscira. I was there when it happened. And I helped fight it alongside Diana. But it wasn't enough. So many of her people were killed - people she loved, her friends, her... mother. And I think it changed her forever.

Chloe sits with her thoughts for a beat.

CHLOE (CONT'D)

I can't help but think the same will happen for me. For us.

STEVE

No. We're going to stop him.

CHLOE

Eventually. But at what cost?  
(long pause)  
The truth is... we don't know what's waiting for us in Gotham.

OFF the fear mirroring on Steve's face...

EXT. GOTHAM CITY, STREETS - DAY

A large explosion rips from the top floor of a burning building. At the entrance, a heroic LANA guides a family of civilians out (a MOTHER, FATHER and TWO CHILDREN).

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

FATHER

How far are we from the station?

LANA

It's too late for that.

Lana rushes towards a sewer-access manhole on the ground, and twists the lid off. The father looks to his wife, confused.

LANA (CONT'D)

I know it's not a train ride out of here, but I have men down there that can direct you to Gotham General and that's the only place in the city that's safe for you and your family right now.

FATHER

The sewer?

LANA

I promise you'll be protected.

A swarm of OMAC MACHINES jet past overhead. Close.

FATHER

Okay.

The family rushes towards the manhole. Lana helps them down the ladder, one by one, then seals them off with the lid.

A second explosion ignites behind Lana.

INT. BATCAVE - DAY

ON THE MONITOR - footage shows Lana in the street, turning to see another building go up in flames. She darts behind a parked vehicle for protection as OMAC fly overhead.

Tim spins back from the computer to find BATMAN and BLACKBAT.

TIM

I found Ms. Lang. She's playing hero by the *former* Gotham City Tower Apartments.

Batman turns to Blackbat.

BATMAN

Get to the jet.

A nod, and Blackbat departs for the BAT-JET.

Batman turns in to confront Tim by the computer. He hovers close over his shoulder to observe the screen.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

BATMAN (CONT'D)

Were you able to extract anything from the eye?

TIM

I've only just cracked into their cameras. Everything else is still decoding, which I know isn't the best thing to tell you right now.

BATMAN

That's fine. Just keep me updated.

Batman offers Tim a proud smile, then departs for the jet.

TIM

Then do I get a costume?

BATMAN

No.

Batman joins Blackbat in the jet. It closes over them, then powers up. The Bat-Jet blasts off, into war...

INT. WAYNE ENTERPRISES, WEAPONS DIVISION - DAY

A WALL opens up to welcome Oliver, Mia, Lucius and Karl into the remnants of the base (everything is operational but cables hang from the roof, sparks ignite, and rubble paints the floor). It's a miracle it's still standing.

OLIVER

You guys have really covered your bases here.

LUCIUS

Bruce wanted to make sure that if the building went down, our crusade would still be operational.

MIA

You know, if we actually manage to save Gotham, I'm seriously thinking about relocating. I mean, no offense to what's cooking in Star City, but you guys have seriously got it together.

Lucius darts for the computer. He hits keys with precision and activates a SERIES OF WALLS that open up - it unveils an armory of weapons, accompanied by spare suits (most notably the GREEN ARROW and BATWING suit).

OLIVER

Whoa.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

LUCIUS

Bruce also insisted on making spares. Just in case.

MIA

I've always liked Bruce.

OLIVER

No you haven't!

Oliver grows seduced by his suit. He gathers his gear, and fastens on the suit.

Karl joins Lucius by the computers.

KARL

Are you okay?

LUCIUS

I'm fine. Why?

KARL

You haven't been back here since...

LUCIUS

(realising)

Oh.

A small smile creeps along Lucius' face.

LUCIUS (CONT'D)

I know it sounds strange, but I felt like she was still with me.

KARL

Doesn't sound strange at all.

GREEN ARROW presents himself to the team.

GREEN ARROW

How do I look?

MIA

I miss the goatee.

GREEN ARROW

I miss my arm. Things change.

A moment of levity, and it's back to business...

EXT. GOTHAM CITY - DAY

An overwhelmed Superman hovers above the city, watching as more machines flood in. He squints with precision--

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

X-RAY VISION - peer through a series of vacant buildings to pinpoint a familiar MAN on the top floor of a towering, unharmed structure.

SUPERMAN  
(realising)  
Lord.

OFF Superman, shifting his direction, and jetting off...

INT. GOTHAM GAZETTE, HEAD OFFICE - DAY

A BLUR rips through the room and rushes a surprised Maxwell Lord into the wall. It CRACKS around him. A furious Superman appears, pinning Lord to the wall in anger.

SUPERMAN  
Shut them off. Now.

Lord is brought to a roaring laugh. Smug.

MAXWELL LORD  
This is going a lot better than I  
thought it would.

ROBOTIC HANDS cling to Superman and pull him back.

A green charge ignites from the OMAC MACHINES and Superman is detained - he groans in agony, and staggers to his knees.

MAXWELL LORD (CONT'D)  
I anticipated your involvement in  
this war, *Clark Kent*.

Superman twitches, fear in his eyes...

MAXWELL LORD (CONT'D)  
And as someone who quite enjoys  
full-circle endings...

Lord clamps his hands against Superman's head. A BLUE LIGHT ignites around him, and his eyes glow the same shade of blue.

MAXWELL LORD (CONT'D)  
*I want you to kill these "heroes."*

OFF Superman, responding to the command...

CUT TO BLACK.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

EXT. SKIES - DAY

The BAT-JET zips through the sky, when suddenly a RED, BLUE BLUR cuts through it - *BOOM!*

A visible Blackbat rips from the jet and tumbles in the air.

Batman disconnects from his seat, and dives for her - he spins through the air, in fast pursuit of Blackbat, then latches onto her in a shared descent.

A GRAPPLE GUN is withdrawn, then fires a line...

EXT. ROOFTOP - DAY

Batman and Blackbat land on the roof.

BATMAN  
Here. Take this.

Batman offers a GREEN CAPSULE to Blackbat - she studies it close in her hands, unfamiliar...

A rush of wind. Superman lands behind them.

SUPERMAN  
(roaring)  
You shouldn't have brought more people into your crusade!

Batman turns to his enemy.

BATMAN  
Leave her out of this.

SUPERMAN  
I -- I can't. I'm sorry.

Superman blurs into Batman - he's knocked aside, clearing a path towards... Blackbat is grabbed by Superman, held in a terrifying headlock and positioned in front of Batman.

BATMAN  
Cassandra!

Blackbat twists the capsule - an EXPLOSION of Kryptonite dust erupts and seeps into Superman. Consumed by it. He releases his hold, then collapses on hand and knee.

BATMAN (CONT'D)  
Go. Get out of here!

Blackbat looks to Batman, uncertain...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

BATMAN (CONT'D)

Please, go!

A nod, and Blackbat disappears off the building...

Batman rises from the ground, into a fighting stance. He watches a weak Superman struggle back onto his feet. A violent glare pierces from his eyes. Round Two. Fight.

EXT. GOTHAM CITY, STREETS - DAY

Zan and Jayna guide Gordon and Sarah through the city. They flee from the skies that fill with OMAC MACHINES.

A loud CRASH. The ground shakes, and tears up.

It's Superman, peeling up from Batman who's been embedded into the ground. Superman's eyes glow a BRIGHT BLUE.

ZAN

Supes?

Batman painfully arches over to his team.

BATMAN

Maxwell Lord has him.

Jayna steps up beside her brother, empowered.

JAYNA

We got this.

They slam their rings together in unison.

ZAN

Powers activate!

JAYNA

Powers activate!

A PURPLE RAY OF LIGHT ignites from the rings--

Zan dissolves into a WAVE OF WATER that rushes towards an unsuspecting Superman - he quickly hovers above it, then turns in to the FLYING HAWK that jets towards him.

ON Superman - his eyes squint with precision, and a violent blast of a fiery laser propels out of him--

Flames slam into the hawk.

A howling Jayna morphs out of the bird and collapses to the ground. Struck down.

Behind Superman, Zan shifts out of the water, horrified.

ZAN

Jayna!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Superman turns to the voice, and spots Zan. A growl of anger, and he turns to the parked vehicle beside him. His fingers clench into the metal - a strong, powerful grip, and he SWINGS THE CAR-- IT LAUNCHES TOWARDS ZAN--

BANG! BANG! BANG!

Superman stumbles back from the bullets that bounce off his chest. He turns to find Gordon, lowering his gun.

SARAH

Jim?

A desperate Sarah clings to Gordon, pulling him back.

BATMAN

Get the hell away from him!

Batman pounces at Superman, and jams TWO KRYPTONITE BLADES into his back. He howls, then JETS OFF into the sky - a surprised Batman is pulled with him, glued to his back.

Scraping herself off the ground, Jayna rushes over to the remnants of the car. Fear sets in.

JAYNA

Zan? Zan, are you hurt?

Around the car... a struggling Zan crawls out and offers a wave to his sister. He rises, and the two embrace.

JAYNA (CONT'D)

You scared me.

Gordon and Sarah rush towards the twins.

GORDON

We have to go. Come on!

Gordon, Sarah, Zan and Jayna flee down the street...

INT. ABANDONED BUILDING - DAY

GLASS SHATTERS. A roaring Superman rips into the room, and throws Batman off his back - the TWO BLADES rip from him, and slide across the floor with Batman. Freed.

ON THE WOUNDS - they quickly heal over. Restored.

SUPERMAN

I don't want to hurt you.

Batman struggles off the ground. He weakly holds one of the blades up - his last line of defense...

BATMAN

Then don't. Fight it.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SUPERMAN

I can't.

A rush of wind slams into Batman... the blade drops... hands latch onto Batman, and LAUNCH HIM TOWARDS THE WINDOW--

EXT. GOTHAM CITY, STREETS - DAY

Batman spirals out of a window, and turns in with a GRAPPLE GUN - he fires a line for the roof and descends gradually to the ground. A relieved Batman falls on his back.

BLACK CANARY (O.S.)

Batman?

Black Canary and Manhunter drop by Batman's aid. They pull him back up to his feet.

An angry growl echoes from the building above them--

SUPERMAN

You shouldn't have come here.

Superman peers down at them, furious at the arrival. He jumps from the building... the ground explodes under the impact of his landing, and he approaches the heroes.

MANHUNTER

How did Lord get his hands on him?

BATMAN

I don't know. But right now it's kill or be killed.

Canary looks to Batman - a moment to accept the premise. She returns to Superman, prepared for a fight to the death.

BLACK CANARY

Stand down. Or you leave us no choice but to kill you.

Superman continues forward, clearly compelled.

BLACK CANARY (CONT'D)

I said stand down!

Superman BLURS forward and springs out his hands - a strong force that knocks Batman and Manhunter aside, isolating a startled Canary. Superman grips her neck, lifts her off the ground, and STRANGLES her.

BLACK CANARY (CONT'D)

Don't... do this... Clark.

SUPERMAN

I... can't... control... it.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

BLACK CANARY

Then I'm sorry.

Black Canary pushes through the strong choke hold to summon a strained but powerful CANARY CRY-

*SKREEEE!* Superman is launched back, into the ground...

Black Canary is freed. She turns back to her friends - a moment of victory.

BATMAN

Look out!

Canary spins back around - into a BLINDING FIST that cracks across her jaw. Blood sprays across the cement, and she instantly hits the ground. Everything blurs.

Superman stares down at Canary, eyes a fiery red...

THWIP! An ARROW sticks into Superman's back, and ignites a powerful green glow. He stumbles back, and turns to find--

GREEN ARROW descends from a line. He draws another shot.

GREEN ARROW

Get the hell away from my *wife!*

Superman rips the arrow out, only for another to RIP THROUGH HIM. A howl, and Superman ascends back into the sky. Gone.

EXT. ALLEYWAY - DAY

A scared Blackbat retreats back inside the alley, following a line of vision of Superman in the sky...

Footsteps CRUNCH behind her.

Blackbat turns to find Talia - she's accompanied by two assassins and a hesitant Nightwing.

TALIA

You wear a suit made of the same armor that protects my beloved.

NIGHTWING

(scoffs)

"Beloved."

ASSASSIN

None of them know, do they?

Talia bites back at him-

TALIA

Keep your mouth shut or I'll have your tongue removed.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Nightwing side-steps their drama, and approaches Blackbat.

NIGHTWING

I'm a friend of Bruce, too. I've fought by his side. And I wear a mask just like yours. We need to know where he is. We need to know if he's safe.

Blackbat studies his intentions closely, then withdraws a small black device inscribed with a bat symbol. She offers it to Nightwing.

ON THE DEVICE - a map is shown with a BLINKING BLUE DOT that identifies movement from 'Batman.'

OFF the hope restoring across Nightwing's face...

INT. GOTHAM GAZETTE, HEAD OFFICE - DAY

Maxwell Lord remains at the broken remnants of the window, observing the city as it's torn apart.

MAXWELL LORD

It's almost time.

Out of the shadows surfaces LINDA LAKE.

LINDA LAKE

And here I was hoping you would have been killed by now.

MAXWELL LORD

They certainly tried.

Lord faces Linda - she tenses at his approach.

LINDA LAKE

You know, I once saw a psychic. They told me things would be different. The patriarchy would take its last breath. The future would be female. But then they went ahead and elected that orange potato over the most qualified person for the job, and I *finally* understand why.

MAXWELL LORD

Enlighten me.

A surge of confidence and Linda closes the gap between her and Lord. Her chin lifts and she welcomes the rush of power.

LINDA LAKE

Because men can't see the layers of dog shit that surrounds them.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

LINDA LAKE (CONT'D)

They catch one in their path, and pat themselves on the back for side-stepping it... only to walk right into it a second later.

MAXWELL LORD

I'm not following.

LINDA LAKE

The point is you *men* create problem after problem, and your ideas to solve it only make things worse. It's only once you're knee deep in your own mess when you realise you're past the point of no return, and *that's* why that psychic was right, and *that's* why the future is female, and *that's* why Chloe Sullivan is going to *kick your ass*.

Linda SWINGS a blade at Lord, but he catches her arm--

MAXWELL LORD

Well. If you're going to fight me on this...

He twists her wrist - the blade drops and she squeals.

MAXWELL LORD (CONT'D)

Then I'll just have to *make* you do as I say. Hmm?

Lord slams Linda's head onto the desk, then wraps his hands around her skull to summon a BLUE LIGHT that flickers around her - it struggles to latch on, then fades into oblivion...

A shocked Lord withdraws from Linda. She smiles back at him.

LINDA LAKE

I'm a meteor freak, remember? Your powers don't work on me.

MAXWELL LORD

Fine. If you're not going to be of use to me...

Lord latches onto Linda, and drives her towards the edge.

LINDA LAKE

No, stop!

MAXWELL LORD

Then I have no reason to keep you around, now do I?

LINDA LAKE

Please, don't do-

(CONTINUED)

WATCHTOWER, 'Trinity'  
CONTINUED: (2)

24.

Lord pushes Linda out of the window-

An ECHO OF VIOLENT SCREAMS carry their way up from the long descent, but are soon replaced by a loud THUD. Silence.

ON Lord - blood trickles down his left nostril...

Lord swipes the blood from his face, and examines it spread across his hand - a reminder of his mortality. His fear subsides for anger. Reignited with intent.

OFF the villainous Maxwell Lord, reborn...

CUT TO BLACK.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

INT. GOTHAM GAZETTE, HEAD OFFICE - NIGHT

A weak Superman lands in the office. He collapses on the ground with a Kryptonite arrow wedged in his shoulder.

Lord turns from the door to find the Man of Steel.

MAXWELL LORD

I don't know whether I find it  
amusing or absolutely heartbreaking  
how your friends can so quickly  
turn on you.

SUPERMAN

(struggling)  
It's not... their fault.

MAXWELL LORD

Always the hero.

Lord rips the arrow out of Superman.

In a blur - Superman rises, clenches Lord's throat, drives him into the wall, and pins him there.

ON Lord - a newfound fear exists in his eyes, shaken.

Superman's grip eases up, still under the influence of mind control. He shifts from a hero to a puppet - a pet at the mercy of his master.

The rush of power returns to Lord. He CRACKS his fist across Superman's jaw, knocking him to his knees.

Silence. Lord eases back into control.

MAXWELL LORD (CONT'D)

What am I going to do with you,  
hmm? You keep fighting me. And I  
need to keep my strength for the  
possibility that *some* of your  
friends survive this war.

SUPERMAN

(broken)  
Kill me.

Lord examines the Kryptonite arrow in his hand - he contemplates the thought of using it...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MAXWELL LORD

That just might be the only option  
I have left. There's only *one*  
small problem...

The arrow glows a brighter shade of green against Superman's  
face, blinding him in agony.

MAXWELL LORD (CONT'D)

Where's the fun in killing the Man  
of Steel without an audience?

A BAT-A-RANG spirals through the room and sticks to the wall.

MAXWELL LORD (CONT'D)

Ask and you shall receive...

Lord smiles, then turns to find Batman - he leads a team of  
heroes behind him (Green Arrow, Black Canary, Manhunter,  
Speedy, Batwing, The Ranger, Zan and Jayna).

MAXWELL LORD (CONT'D)

Well. Suddenly, I feel a little  
under-dressed.

BATMAN

Shut down the machines.

MAXWELL LORD

I'm afraid I can't do that. Now,  
what I can do--

Lord detaches a small BAT-SHAPED DEVICE from Superman's cape.

MAXWELL LORD (CONT'D)

--Is fulfil the plan I spent years  
shaping.

GREEN ARROW

(realising)

He knew.

Batman mirrors the revelation in Green Arrow's eyes.

MAXWELL LORD

And, well... *Bruce*. You've played  
such a huge part in figuring out  
how this final act was all going to  
go down. You should be proud.

BATMAN

It's a trap!

Lord runs the arrow through Superman's chest, and throws his  
body to the heroes. He darts for the window, then DIVES OUT  
into the arms of an OMAC MACHINE that carries him to safety.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

The entire office floor underneath the heroes rips out of place and collapses. They all descend into rubble and dust.

EXT. GOTHAM CITY, ROOFTOP - NIGHT

The OMAC MACHINE releases a victorious Lord onto the roof, then disappears back into the city. A freed Lord rushes towards the roof-access door.

PFT! A cloud of smoke blocks Lord's path.

Out of the smoke, a stoic Talia appears - she's accompanied by two assassins, armed with katanas.

TALIA

I'm afraid you underestimated them.

MAXWELL LORD

Talia Al Ghul. Daughter of the demon. Tell me... how is that father of yours?

Talia spins her blade into a fighting pose.

TALIA

I kept an immortal man from rising. Imagine what I can do to a weak little man among the living?

Lord withdraws the small blade from his jacket...

MAXWELL LORD

Do your worst.

Lord charges into battle -- their blades lock together...

INT. GOTHAM GAZETTE, OFFICES - NIGHT

A large, spacious room of offices littered with rubble and weakened heroes. An array of OMAC MACHINES gravitate into the room - a presence akin to zombies, but more frightening.

Batman pulls himself up off the ground, and turns to find an OMAC MACHINE. It SWIPES at him- Batman is launched across the room, smashes through a set of glass doors, and slides towards the elevator.

DING. The doors open to welcome Nightwing and Blackbat.

NIGHTWING

Batman!

They drop to Batman's aid, and peel him off the floor...

SWISH PAN to Speedy, flung across the room - she hits a desk, bounces off it, and slams onto the floor.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

An OMAC latches onto her arm, and springs Speedy back up.

TWHIP! An ARROW cuts across the room, and sticks into the machine's eye. It releases Speedy, then EXPLODES--

Speedy looks across the room to find Green Arrow, lowering his bow. He offers his "sidekick" a nod, then returns to battle with the onslaught of machines.

BLACK CANARY (O.S.)

A little help?

SWISH PAN to Black Canary - she maneuvers through metallic blades that swing at her. She KICKS off a desk, back flips over the machines, then lands with a smile.

BLACK CANARY (CONT'D)

Nevermind. I got this.

SKREEEE! A powerful CANARY CRY rips through the machines - they stumble back, adapt, then straighten. Unchanged.

BLACK CANARY (CONT'D)

On second thought...

Canary turns to flee- SKREEEE!

A sonic wave slams into Black Canary, and launches her across the room. A set of hands catch her in the air and lower her safely to the ground - it's The Ranger.

BLACK CANARY (CONT'D)

Thanks.

THE RANGER

Anytime.

A large metallic blade swings at The Ranger-

BLACK CANARY

Look out!

A BLUE ENERGY STAFF blocks the attack... held strong by Manhunter. She SLICES through the blade, then decapitates the OMAC MACHINE. OFF another violent swing of her staff--

EXT. GOTHAM GAZETTE, ROOFTOP - NIGHT

Lord ducks under the violent swing of a katana, pivots up, and runs his blade through the assassin. He KICKS them off, then turns in to block a strike from the second assassin.

Talia rushes in with her katana-

Lord tugs the assassin in to Talia's attack - a human shield used to take the full force of the incoming blade... Talia's blade slides through the assassin, killing him.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

A frustrated Talia rips her blade out. She grows defensive.

MAXWELL LORD

You have no horse in this race.

TALIA

What makes you so sure?

MAXWELL LORD

Because you and I both know that  
Bruce doesn't love you.

ON Talia - the words strike her harder than any sword...

MAXWELL LORD (CONT'D)

Vesper. Selina. Vicki. Hell,  
even Chloe. But not you. It was  
never you and it *never will be*.

TALIA

I don't need him to love me. But  
he taught me what love meant, and  
for that, I will gladly give my  
life to protect him and the city he  
cares about.

Their blades clash. Talia edges Lord further back.

An OMAC MACHINE hovers above them. It's line of vision locks  
onto Talia, and it CHARGES A POWERFUL BLAST--

BOOM.

An explosion throws Talia back. Smoke wafts in front of her,  
and she scatters for her katana. She quickly rises, back  
into the fight, to see that Lord is gone.

OFF an isolated Talia, realising she has failed...

INT. GOTHAM GAZETTE, OFFICES - NIGHT

Superman awakens (broken from the spell) and crawls back into  
the closest wall for support. He looks around the room...

Blackbat is thrown through a beam-- Zan and Jayna are pinned  
to a wall-- Green Arrow is struck down-- Manhunter crashes  
into a desk-- a BLAST rips into Batwing-- a charged blast  
fixes on the Ranger and Black Canary.

SUPERMAN

(exploding)

Enough!

Superman howls in dispute-- a FIERY RED LASER beams from his  
eyes and cuts through all six machines with unhinged fury.

A beat. The fallen heroes rise. All eyes shift to Superman.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SUPERMAN (CONT'D)

Where is he?

The elevator lights up in the BG. They all notice.

MANHUNTER

Is that him?

ZAN

I'm on it.

Zan turns to his sister and pulls her RING into his--

ZAN (CONT'D)

Powers activate!

A PURPLE EXPLOSION OF LIGHT fades to Zan, shifting into a strong wave of water - it floods towards the elevator...

INT. ELEVATOR - NIGHT

Lord shifts to the influx of water that floods in. It rises in volume, and consumes him. He lifts off the ground, floating in a cocoon of water. Panic sets in.

INT. WATCHTOWER HQ - NIGHT

A rush of water erupts out of the elevator doors. Lord slides out of the waves and CRASHES into a desk. A violent cough, and he notices the absence of water...

MAXWELL LORD

(realising)

You.

Lord rises, then turns to find Zan, forming out of the water.

MAXWELL LORD (CONT'D)

You've made a *huge* mistake, kid.

Lord withdraws a TRIGGER from inside his jacket...

INT. GOTHAM GAZETTE, OFFICES - NIGHT

Superman shifts to the echoing CLICK only he can hear.

SUPERMAN

It's a bomb... everybody get out!

Everyone flecks towards the window--

EXT. GOTHAM GAZETTE - NIGHT

An EXPLOSION ripples through the entire building.

OUT OF THE FLAMES - the heroes surface in droves, some flying, others *clearly* falling--

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Tumbling through the air, Batman latches onto Blackbat then fires a GRAPPLING LINE towards a parallel building - they swing towards safety...

Superman swoops in and catches Black Canary and Speedy.

A free-falling Green Arrow is caught by Batwing, who spirals back around to catch Nightwing, too.

Further down, Manhunter descends on Jayna and quickly latches on to her before The Ranger jets in, scoops them up, then jets towards the ground where the heroes land. Safe.

The GOTHAM GAZETTE building collapses in on itself. It free-falls into an explosion of dust and rubble.

BATMAN  
(horrified)  
Talía.

An unharmed Talía joins the heroes. She appears unharmed.

TALIA  
You called?

BATMAN  
How?

TALIA  
I'm a woman of many talents.

Batman fills with relief. Jayna lunges forward, desperate.

JAYNA  
Zan!

BATMAN  
He'll be with Lord.

GREEN ARROW  
And where exactly is that? Because from the looks of things, he didn't exactly make it out either.

BATMAN  
There's a sub-level. Under the Gazette. It's protected.

JAYNA  
From the explosion, maybe. But you're telling me that my brother is trapped in a sealed off base with Maxwell Lord?

OFF Batman, offering Jayna a look of fear and regret..

INT. SHOP - NIGHT

Katherine unbuckles her cape and wraps it around Helena. They remain sat against the counter.

HELENA

You immune to the cold, huh?

KATHERINE

Let's just say I've built a little resistance to it.

Helena looks to Katherine, craving a better response.

KATHERINE (CONT'D)

I'm serious. I haven't really talked about this before, but I entered the Marines when I was-

HELENA

Eighteen.

(off Katherine's look)

I Googled you after our first drink together. You had me hooked, *Kane*.

KATHERINE

Creep.

Katherine bumps shoulders with Helena. They share a laugh.

HELENA

But what I don't understand is why you never graduated. You've never struck me as a quitter.

KATHERINE

I was a cadet at the West Point Academy. I was so focused and so sure of who I was and what I wanted to be from the second I joined. But then I met a woman. And it all changed. The person I thought I was... she didn't exist anymore. I mean, she did, but she was *different*, she was-

HELENA

Gay.

KATHERINE

*Super* gay.

Another moment of levity before the memory turns gloomy...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KATHERINE (CONT'D)

The academy found out. My superior urged me to lie - to pretend that something so real, something that made me so happy and so alive, was... none of those things. If I played along with that then they'd stop the investigation into the way I "conducted" myself.

HELENA

Ugh. Assholes.

KATHERINE

Being a cadet was important to me. Not just because of my father but because of... *everything*. But it was important to Sophie, too. And I didn't want to drag her down with me. More importantly, I refused to be someone I wasn't.

HELENA

(realising)

You told them...

KATHERINE

And that was it. That was the end of my career as a Cadet. And then I spent years drowning myself in a bottle. Getting kicked out of clubs. Being painted as Gotham's greatest disappointment. And then somehow... I became *this*.

Katherine looks down at the bat-symbol on her chest...

KATHERINE (CONT'D)

*Batwoman*.

HELENA

Okay. But what I really wanted to know was how you became immune to the cold.

A playful nudge, and their eyes find each other.

HELENA (CONT'D)

I love you.

The two lean in for a kiss.

BOOM. A COLOSSAL FORCE crushes through the rubble and clears a path to the entrance. Dust scatters, and out of the wreckage, Vixen and The Atom appear. United.

(CONTINUED)

WATCHTOWER, 'Trinity'  
CONTINUED: (2)

34.

Katherine and Helena look to each other, hopeful. They bridge the gap between with a kiss.

ON The Atom - a contagious joy mirrors across his face...

THE ATOM  
You guys are adorable.

OFF the happiness that rests in the room...

CUT TO BLACK.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

INT. GOTHAM GENERAL, HALLWAY - DAY

Katherine steps out of a room (that hosts a bed-bound Helena) and enters the hallway to find Bruce.

BRUCE

How is she holding up?

KATHERINE

They've patched her up. But I doubt she'll be picking up a crossbow and joining this colossal mess of a fight. In fact, the doctor demanded she didn't.

BRUCE

And I ask the same of you.

KATHERINE

What? No.

BRUCE

Yes.

Furious, Katherine closes in on Bruce.

KATHERINE

We agreed to be partners. Equals. I'm nobody's sidekick, and as your partner, I deserve-

BRUCE

As *your* partner... I don't want you to go through the same loss that I'm going through right now. You need to be with the woman you love.

Katherine sinks back with the realisation - *he's doing this for her*. A beat, and she pulls Bruce in for a hug. His hesitancy dissolves into acceptance.

KATHERINE

Make him suffer.

A nod, and Katherine returns to the hospital room...

Bruce takes a moment - a *mental* farewell to his partner, then turns... INTO Lana. Bruce can't help but smile.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

BRUCE

All these people in masks and the one without is the only one smart enough to rally troops around the hospital to keep the patients safe.

LANA

Did I just receive a stamp of approval from *the* Batman.

BRUCE

It's good to see you, Lana.

The moment hangs - an unusual bliss, then back to business...

LANA

Let's go.

Lana and Bruce turn off down the hallway--

INT. GOTHAM GENERAL, STAFF ROOM - DAY

A large staff room complete with a circular desk that stretches around the room. Chairs accompany it.

Familiar faces fill the room (Green Arrow, Speedy, Black Canary, Manhunter, Jayna, Blackbat, Nightwing, Talia and a grieving Superman isolated in the corner).

The door clicks open. Bruce and Lana join the room.

LANA

Have you got the feed up and running yet?

JAYNA

Still working on it.

Jayna types on an ARGUS laptop connected to a projector--

JAYNA (CONT'D)

Got it.

STATIC DISSOLVES on the screen to find Tim.

TIM

Whoa. Full house. Except *not* the fullest house. Also, not a TV reference, just an observation.

(beat)

Where exactly is everyone? Am I being boycotted?

LANA

The machines are still out there.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

GREEN ARROW

And unlike us *mostly* regular folk,  
all of the heroes that can fly are  
protecting the hospital.

BLACK CANARY

And the rest of the city.

TIM

Finishing each other's sentences.  
I love it.

BRUCE

Tim? Focus.

TIM

Oh, right. Sorry.

(beat)

While I couldn't find where these  
machines were coming from, I did  
manage to trace their transmission  
back to a specific location.

BRUCE

Where?

TIM

I mean, I wouldn't be too excited  
because it's not really the answer  
you wanted, but...

Tim reads the room - *they're all impatient...*

TIM (CONT'D)

Space. The whole "murder all the  
aesthetically good looking men and  
women in masks" signal... it's  
coming from space.

A concerned look mirrors between Lana and Bruce.

LANA

Some sort of space station?

TIM

Yeah. And he's calling it 'The  
Watchtower.'

LANA

You've got to be kidding me.

Lana withdraws, trying to make sense of it. An impatient  
Black Canary cuts in, with conviction-

(CONTINUED)

BLACK CANARY

We can't sit around and try to make sense of this madman's plan. We just have to stop it.

BRUCE

Dinah's right.  
(to Lana)  
Did you get word back from Steve?

LANA

They should be back any minute now.

Bruce addresses the team.

BRUCE

Surround the perimeter. Keep this hospital covered at all times.

An agreement. The heroes flood out (Green Arrow, Black Canary, Speedy, Manhunter, Nightwing, Blackbat and Jayna).

A determined Talia stops by Bruce's side.

TALIA

I'll defend your city with my life.

A simple nod, and Talia leaves with the heroes.

BRUCE

Tim? I'm headed your way.

TIM

Over and out.

The projector screen cuts to black.

Bruce turns in to see Superman, slumped over his seat with no intention of joining the fight. He moves to approach, but Lana stops him - *this isn't his fight...*

LANA

I've got this.

And Bruce understands, then exits.

OFF Lana, turning in to face the Man of Steel with a deep look of compassion...

INT. GOTHAM GENERAL, HALLWAY - DAY

Bruce strides into view, then halts at the sight of a startled Jayna, holding herself up against the wall with a deep pang of grief in her heart.

Bruce

Jayna? Are you okay?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Jayna turns to Bruce, tears in her eyes--

JAYNA

It's Zan. Something's wrong.

ON Jayna's hand - she clenches her gut with heartache...

INT. WATCHTOWER HQ - DAY

A BLOODIED HAND clenches a blade embedded deep in their abdomen. A struggle to rip it out...

It's Zan - he backs into the wall, in shock.

MAXWELL LORD (O.S.)

I'm going to need that back when you're done. It has quite the sentimental value to me.

An impatient Lord approaches a BLACK SHEET that spreads over hidden objects around the room. He tears them off to unveil a new, state-of-the-art computer system.

MAXWELL LORD (CONT'D)

It's perfect.

A victorious smile. Lord's moment of glory. An echoing series of THUDS interrupt him, and he turns to find-

Zan sits against the wall in the distance, trembling...

MAXWELL LORD (CONT'D)

I almost feel sorry for you, kid.

Lord gradually approaches a struggling Zan, bleeding out.

MAXWELL LORD (CONT'D)

A small fish. Big pond. Even bigger dreams of one day standing alongside the Superman's and the Green Arrow's of the world. But this was never a game. And even if it was, it was never intended for *children like you*.

ZAN

Super... super... man. Superman--

Zan chokes on the blood that drips from his mouth...

MAXWELL LORD

Not even *he* can help you now.

Lord clings to the blade in Zan- he TWISTS it, summoning a howl of agony that echoes through the room, then rips it out.

INT. GOTHAM GENERAL, STAFF ROOM - DAY

Lana pulls up a chair beside a grieving Superman.

LANA

Clark? I know I can't even begin to understand what you're going through or how it feels to be controlled by that monster, but-

SUPERMAN

I can see it.

LANA

See what?

Superman looks up from his hands - a perfect mix of rage and crippling sadness...

SUPERMAN

I was gone. For over two years, I wasn't on this planet anymore. I was... with *my* people.  
(detached)  
Zod's people.

Lana softens, no longer a woman pressing to get back and finish the war but a set of ears, listening to her friend.

SUPERMAN (CONT'D)

They were trying to establish a democracy - a fair and just system. But so many were desperate to have power - to control... and there were wars. Deaths. Destruction. And I was so powerless against it. It felt like I was just watching as the world burned down around me, and whenever Maxwell Lord has me locked under his spell, it's *all* I can see. It's all I can feel. It's like I'm back on *New Krypton*.

Lana's hand finds Clark's. He darts his eyes back to her.

LANA

You're not powerless. And you're not on that planet anymore. You're here. You're home.

SUPERMAN

That's not the point.

Superman pulls away from Lana, and stands. She watches him pace back and forth, frustrated.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SUPERMAN (CONT'D)

I'm not just watching buildings fall anymore. I'm causing it. And if you hadn't already evacuated the city, then who knows what kind of carnage I'd have created.

Lana jumps up in dispute, pleading-

LANA

But the city *has* been evacuated, and you didn't hurt any of us.

SUPERMAN

Not yet.

Superman turns to face his *first love*.

SUPERMAN (CONT'D)

And that's why I can't stay and fight. It's one thing to be powerless against something, and it's another to have your powers used against innocent lives.

LANA

No. Clark, listen--

Lana clings to Superman, grounding him...

LANA (CONT'D)

Maxwell Lord can tear down buildings, scare people into hiding, and turn every last bit of this city into ash, but the second you let him destroy *you*... that's when you lose, Clark. That's when we *all* lose.

And it clicks. Superman simply nods, breathing in his own feelings to become the symbol this city needs - a hero.

EXT. GOTHAM CITY - DAY

OMAC MACHINES infiltrate the skies (met by an array of airborne heroes: Batwing, The Ranger, Vixen, and The Atom).

EXT. GOTHAM CITY, STREETS - DAY

Gordon rushes into the street with his gun aimed forward. He pulls on the trigger, firing at the machines.

An OMAC MACHINE lands behind Gordon. He turns to face it.

Green Arrow swoops in, collecting Gordon in his arm as they follow a line away from the opposing OMAC MACHINES that simultaneously explode from their synced blasts.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Overhead, a LARGE ARGUS AIRCRAFT jets across the city...

GREEN ARROW  
(hopeful)  
Chloe.

ON THE AIRCRAFT - an OMAC MACHINE rips through the aircraft at a violent speed, and it SPLITS IN HALF (one end holds Zinda, in the cockpit, spiralling around -- the other hosts a bound Chloe and Steve, strapped to their seats).

EXT. GOTHAM CITY - DAY

Batwing and The Ranger hover above the city.

A fixed look on the crumbling ARGUS AIRCRAFT in the distance, followed by a shared look of action, and they JET OFF-

IN THE COCKPIT - a struggling Zinda spots an approaching figure in the distance. She rips at her belt - it CLICKS, and she's freed. Zinda leaps out of the spiralling aircraft and into the arms of The Ranger.

The remnants of the cockpit cuts through the building it was fast approaching, and an EXPLOSION IGNITES-

BATWING (O.S.)  
Detach.

SWISH PAN to the Batwing - he latches onto the back end of a crumbling aircraft that hosts Chloe and Steve.

STEVE  
Chloe's stuck.

Chloe passes the BAG OF ORBS to Steve, pleading...

CHLOE  
Go.

A nod, and Steve unfastens his belt. The wind pulls him from the aircraft, and into the arms of Batwing. They violently spin, and Batwing's hold slips--

BATWING  
No! Steve!

Steve flings back, out of Batwing's hands and into--

The Atom scoops Steve up, and lowers him safely towards a nearby rooftop...

A powerful burst of fire propels from Batwing's jet-pack and launches him back towards the spiralling aircraft. He wrestles with Chloe's belt.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

BATWING (CONT'D)

Come on, come on, come on...

Batwing extends a small blade from his wrist, and sheers at the belt. It slowly tears, barely cutting--

CHLOE

Look out!

Chloe pushes Batwing off the aircraft, and he FLINGS BACK--

INT. BUILDING - DAY

The aircraft SHATTERS through the window. Glass bends around its entrance, and it slides through the contents of the eighth floor office room... an unstoppable force...

ON THE BELT - it completely snaps, freeing Chloe. She's thrown from the craft and onto the ground.

The aircraft crashes against the ground and gives out...

AN EXPLOSION tears through the floor. A crater opens up - a wormhole that sucks everything into it.

Chloe screams and struggles to reach for anything in sight...

A HAND clings to a pipe, latching--

ON Chloe - she dangles from the ledge, clung to a pipe that only seems to procrastinate an eight story drop to her death. A painful choice weighs on her... *to hold on and wait for help, or to release herself from the pain and let go.*

CHLOE

(howling)

Help!

The pipe shifts-- Chloe sinks down and screams...

VICKI (O.S.)

Chloe?

A gasp. Chloe looks up to find VICKI, staring back at her from the ledge. A radiant light bathes behind her. Angelic.

VICKI (CONT'D)

Don't give up. Don't ever give up.

CHLOE

It's not holding.

The pipe rips further. Another scream releases from Chloe.

VICKI

They're coming. They'll save you.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

CHLOE

I can't. I can't hold--

VICKI

Chloe?

The pipe snaps. Vicki lunges forward-

An ARM swoops at Chloe's and CONNECTS-- a quick pull, and Chloe is roped in towards the ledge. Safe.

Chloe looks up with a breath of relief.

The radiant light fades around a heroic DIANA, dressed in impenetrable armor (as WONDER WOMAN). She pulls Chloe up onto the safe landing.

CHLOE

Diana? I thought-

WONDER WOMAN

You once helped fight for my  
people. It's only fair I'd fight  
for yours.

A rush of relief overwhelms Chloe, and off her release...

CUT TO BLACK.

END OF ACT FOUR

ACT FIVE

FADE IN:

EXT. GOTHAM CITY - NIGHT

A blanket of night sky looms over the city where a war wages on - an arsenal of OMAC MACHINES met by quick glimpses of familiar heroes flying in to combat.

INT. GOTHAM GENERAL, STAFF ROOM - NIGHT

Bruce (geared up, mask off) and a pacing Lana fill the large office room. They're waiting.

The door clicks open. Chloe, Steve and Zinda enter.

LANA

Oh my god.

Lana rushes into an embrace with Steve.

LANA (CONT'D)

You have no idea how worried I was.

STEVE

I missed you, too.

Lana looks to Chloe, wearing battle wounds on her face. She pulls her in for a hug, relieved.

LANA

We really should have taken the advice of our careers councillor back in high school.

CHLOE

(scoffs)

You're telling me.

BRUCE

Steve. Zinda.

A coldness from Bruce looms over Chloe. Shame.

LANA

Did you locate the device?

ZINDA

It's right here.

Zinda removes the bag from her back, and places it on the large desk. She unzips it to unveil a collection of oval-shaped BLUE ORB devices. They glow.

BRUCE

This is going to win us the war?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

CHLOE

It's the only move we have left on the table.

LANA

That's not entirely true.  
(off Chloe's look)  
Maxwell Lord has a space station that's transmitting a signal. It's controlling these machines. It's probably where he's stationed Brother Eye.

BRUCE

He's calling it 'The Watchtower.'

CHLOE

What the hell is he up to?

ZINDA

Let's not wait around to find out.

STEVE

Zinda's right. We've got a way to stop those machines right here and right now. Let's use it.

BRUCE

You won't get an argument from me.

Bruce zips the bag up, and swoops it off the table into his possession. Steve and Zinda follow him out.

LANA

Chloe, wait.

A hesitant Lana stops Chloe, reeling her back in.

CHLOE

What is it? What's wrong?

LANA

There's someone here - in the hospital - that you might want to talk to before it's too late.

OFF Chloe - her heart drops, a million thoughts racing...

INT. GOTHAM GENERAL, PATIENT ROOM - NIGHT

A door creaks open. Chloe slowly enters the room - steps of clear hesitancy marking her movement towards a hospital bed.

CHLOE

Jason?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Rolling over, into the light, a wounded JASON BARD reveals himself (eyes bandaged over, completely blind).

A painful realisation. Chloe rushes to Jason's side.

JASON

I wasn't sure you were even alive.

CHLOE

I thought... I thought you left the city. I thought you took the job in Bludhaven. What are you doing here? What happened to you?

JASON

I waited for you.

A wave of guilt crashes into Chloe.

JASON (CONT'D)

The world was being torn apart and still... I waited.

Emotion overwhelms Chloe. She begins to cry...

JASON (CONT'D)

I kept thinking that *maybe* you were on your way - that you were coming back for me, and that you just got caught up in all of it. I kept telling myself that I couldn't leave because I didn't want you to think that I'd abandon you. But it was *you* that abandoned *me*.

CHLOE

I'm sorry. Jason? I'm so sorry.

JASON

I can't force you to... to see us the way I do - the way I *did*.

CHLOE

I didn't lie when I said I wish we had more time.

JASON

I gave you time - time to make a choice and you made it.

Chloe sinks further down, a hint of regret. It festers deep within her, and when she looks back up to Jason, it's with tears streaming down her face. Broken.

CHLOE

I wish I had met you sooner. When things were simpler...

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

CHLOE (CONT'D)

when things could have worked out.  
It would have been so different.

Jason extends his hand - wanting to connect but unable to find hers. Chloe meets him halfway, and their hands intertwine. An exchange of support.

JASON

Don't. Don't worry about me.  
Really, I'll be fine. I always am.  
I always... survive.

CHLOE

I want more for you than just  
*surviving*.

JASON

It's not about me right now. It's  
the city that needs you. So *go*.

Jason pulls away, demanding she move on...

JASON (CONT'D)

Go save the world.

Chloe leans in and plants a kiss on Jason's forehead - a sincere *farewell*. A moment to remember, and she turns her back on the future they could have shared. Back to war.

OFF Jason, blindly reaching out to feel that she's *gone*...

EXT. GOTHAM CITY, STREETS - NIGHT

A determined Batman enters the battlefield - a city of heroes fighting against the OMAC MACHINES. He trudges along, swerving away from explosions, ducking under swinging blades, and carrying the BAG OF ORBS through each movement.

OMAC machines spot Batman's movement. They swarm at him.

Green Arrow fires an EXPLOSIVE ARROW towards an OMAC MACHINE that charges at Batman - it EXPLODES.

Batman spins around the flames, and continues on--

Speedy zips down a line, carrying Manhunter by the hand, and throws her towards an OMAC MACHINE-- she SLICES through it with her staff.

Batman jumps over the crumbling machine, in hot pursuit of the SEWER MANHOLE in the distance...

An OMAC MACHINE charges with a blade--

A sword catches the blade in front of Batman. A heroic Talia blocks her beloved from harm.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Batman ducks under the blades and continues forward...

A SET OF BOOTS clap on the manhole. Batman's arrived. He crouches down, and rips the lid off--

*BOOM!* A blast throws Batman back, onto the ground.

ON the bag of orbs - they slide out of possession...

Batman scatters for the bag, reeling it back in. He looks towards the heroes - they're overwhelmed by OMAC MACHINES, unable to help. He's alone in this fight.

Returning forward, Batman confronts a DOZEN OMAC MACHINES that line up in front of him - they aim their weapons...

BATMAN

Son of a bi-

A ROARING BLAST (multiplied by twelve) floods towards Batman.

A figure from above drops in from the heavens-- the blast bounces off them and propels back into the machines. *BOOM!*

The machines disintegrate into a storm of ash.

Smoke clears around a victorious Wonder Woman, lowering her GOLDEN BRACELETS to see that her job is done. A cocky grin.

BATMAN (CONT'D)

You one of him?

WONDER WOMAN

'One of him?'

Superman drops into the battlefield, ripping an OMAC HEAD in half, then tossing it aside. He joins them.

SUPERMAN

I believe he means 'alien.'

A moment to admire Superman, and Wonder Woman looks to Batman-

WONDER WOMAN

Where I'm from... it is you who are the aliens.

SUPERMAN

You know, that's what I keep trying to tell him.

WONDER WOMAN

(to Superman)

I was speaking of *men*.

SUPERMAN

Oh.

(CONTINUED)

WONDER WOMAN

(to Batman)

Why do you flee the battlefield?

Batman holds out the bag of orbs--

BATMAN

I need to get these back to my base so that we can use them. And when I come back, it's going to be by jet. So I'll need you guys to cover me. Can I count on you?

SUPERMAN

You *always* could.

A moment to heal their wounds - their past conflict resolves to birth a new partnership. Batman offers a nod, then disappears down the manhole. Gone.

OFF a shared look of hope from Superman and Wonder Woman...

INT. GOTHAM GENERAL, HALLWAY - NIGHT

Chloe strides in from around the corner, and right into a pleading Sarah that follows her every move.

SARAH

Chloe? We need to talk.

CHLOE

I can't. The city doesn't have time for a talk.

SARAH

No. Chloe, this is important.

Sarah clings to Chloe, stopping her.

SARAH (CONT'D)

I saw Jack Forbes. Right before he died, alright? I saw him. He was *happy* to die. It was like he knew he had done all he was supposed to do and that... whatever his plan was for this city... it was taken care of - it was *sorted*. Like it was already set in motion.

CHLOE

Why are you telling me this?

SARAH

Because I think it all connects. Everything. Janice Porter. Jack Forbes. Hamilton Hill.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SARAH (CONT'D)

Everyone we've gone up against in the past year... the Red Hood Gang. All of it. And I think it all ties back to Maxwell Lord.

Chloe eases up, and listens.

SARAH (CONT'D)

And I think it has more to do with you and the other heroes than any of us understand.

OFF Chloe, contemplating the suggestion...

INT. WATCHTOWER HQ - NIGHT

A large monitor hosts a series of frames - security footage of the city as it's torn apart. A cursor maximizes a frame to show the GOTHAM GENERAL hospital. It's being protected by a swarm of heroes (Vixen, The Atom, Batwing, The Ranger, Superman, Wonder Woman).

MAXWELL LORD

Hmm. Let's see what we can do about that.

Lord withdraws from the computer and approaches a wall by the far end of the room. His hand guides over a hidden access-point, and activates a CONTROL PANEL.

ON THE CONTROL PANEL - a code is punched in: 06-19-87.

The wall slides open to reveal a large facility that hosts the next wave of OMAC MACHINES. The final wave.

MAXWELL LORD (CONT'D)

It's time to end this.

OFF the sinister grin that stitches across Lord's face...

# WATCHTOWER

CUT TO BLACK.

END OF ACT FIVE

EPILOGUE

FADE IN:

INT. GOTHAM GENERAL, HELENA'S ROOM - NIGHT

DRIFT DOWN from a flickering light to find Katherine, creeping back into the room where a recovering Helena rests on the bed. Katherine takes a seat beside her.

KATHERINE

Hey. The doctor told me you were feeling better.

HELENA

I am now.

Helena reaches for Katherine, and their hands link.

HELENA (CONT'D)

I thought you'd be out there...  
With *them*. Fighting.

KATHERINE

Bruce thought I should stay.

HELENA

What happened to being a soldier?

Katherine pulls away, a little broken--

KATHERINE

I realised that being a soldier is to fight for something you believe in. Something or someone important to you. And whenever my Dad would say that to me--

HELENA

I'm sorry. I didn't mean to...

KATHERINE

No. It's fine. I just... I always thought it was his way of telling me to stay strong, but it wasn't. It was about remembering who I could be and what I could do to protect what I loved. To remember what I was fighting for. And if I lost you, too... then I don't know what kind of a soldier I could be.

HELENA

You haven't said anything about him. About your Dad, since...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KATHERINE

He's a survivor, and until I'm told otherwise, I have to believe that he survived.

A moment of silence. Helena, trapped in her mind, begins to crumble. Katherine jumps up to comfort her.

KATHERINE (CONT'D)

Hey. What is it? What's wrong?

HELENA

It's not... sad. I'm just--

(long pause)

I spent so much time trying to figure out why I was brought back. Why I of *all people* was given a second chance. And I keep looking back at everything... all the pain, and the loss. The suffering. I never knew what happiness was, and that's because I hadn't met you yet. And I think that's why I'm here. I think that's why I wasn't supposed to die because I'm supposed to be *here*... with you.

And the same joy washes across Katherine, lighting up...

HELENA (CONT'D)

When this is all done, we're going to find your father, and I'll stop worrying about the past and *if* we make it out of this...

(long pause)

I would want nothing more than for you to be my-

AN EXPLOSION rips from the side of the room. The whole room shakes, and RUBBLE FILLS IN.

CUT TO BLACK.

END OF EPISODE.