

**GOTHAM KNIGHTS**

"Pilot"

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Based on Characters Appearing in  
DC Comics

**Berlanti Productions  
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ACT ONE

1 EXT. GOTHAM CITY - NIGHT (N1) 1

We SOAR through glittering ART DECO BUILDINGS rising up from the filth and grime of the streets below. GCPD DIRIGIBLES prowl the night sky, their SEARCHLIGHTS scanning Gotham's dark, fetid corners as we push toward --

WAYNE TOWER, the high-rise seat of Bruce Wayne's empire and beacon of power and beauty amid the Gotham skyline.

2 INT. WAYNE TOWER - BRUCE WAYNE'S OFFICE - NIGHT (N1) 2

Lit only by city lights outside the floor-to-ceiling windows, a gauntleted HAND places something atop a mahogany desk. It casts the silhouette of Batman's cowl.

A gauntlet is stripped off and set down beside it, soon followed by the other. And then, REVEAL --

A MAN, standing at the window, cloaked in SHADOW. Staring at the object in his hand: an ANCIENT SILVER COIN. He turns it over, revealing the imprint of --

AN ATHENIAN OWL.

He closes his fingers around the coin, gripping it tightly in his fist. And OFF this mysterious image --

3 INT. GOTHAM ACADEMY - GYM - NIGHT (N1) 3

WHAM! A Gotham Academy WRESTLER is PINNED by his opponent, one of the BURNSIDE BOBCATS. The VISITORS' SECTION erupts as the Bobcats' score notches up on the BOARD. They're now tied with the GOTHAM ACADEMY EAGLES for the Regional Championship.

The defeated Wrestler leaves the mat, dejected, as Gotham's COACH turns to the BENCH.

COACH

Hayes, you're up. All you now.

All eyes look to **TURNER HAYES** (17) as he comes off the bench. Beneath his muscled jock exterior lies a sensitive soul whose tragic past has not dimmed his optimism.

The Gotham crowd GOES WILD for Turner. They begin to CHANT:

GOTHAM CROWD

TUR-NER! TUR-NER! TUR-NER!

As he takes the mat, Turner looks to the stands, searching the fans for SOMEONE. But he only finds... AN EMPTY CHAIR.

(CONTINUED)

3

BOBCAT WRESTLER (O.S.)  
Looking for daddy?

Turner's attention snaps to the imposing BOBCAT WRESTLER facing off against him.

BOBCAT WRESTLER (CONT'D)  
Probably didn't wanna see you lose.

Turner tries not to let the trash talk get in his head as he squares off against his opponent.

BOBCAT WRESTLER (CONT'D)  
Hope you don't think 'cause you won the adoption jackpot, your dad can just buy you the trophy. Gonna have to come take it.

The WHISTLE BLOWS. And lightning-quick, Turner goes for the Bobcat. He channels his emotions into a series of brutally efficient moves, PINNING THE BOBCAT.

The gym EXPLODES in cheers. Turner looks down at the defeated Bobcat on the mat, OFFERS HIS HAND. The Bobcat, surprised by his magnanimous gesture, takes it.

As he helps him up, students swarm Turner. His teammate, **BRODY** (17) -- who we'll recognize as the Gotham wrestler who got pinned -- hands the CHAMPIONSHIP TROPHY to Turner.

BRODY  
We're going to State!

TURNER  
But first we're going to my house for a --  
(calls out to the crowd)  
PARTY!

PRELAP MUSIC of a raucous party --

4

**EXT. WAYNE MANOR - ESTABLISHING - NIGHT (N1)**

4

Behind WROUGHT IRON GATES lies a stately gothic MANOR, a monument to the wealth and power of Gotham's most prominent family. From inside the house, EAR-SPLITTING MUSIC...

5

**INT. WAYNE MANOR - NIGHT (N1)**

5

...rattles FAMILY PORTRAITS along the wall. Inscribed on placards are the names "THOMAS AND MARTHA WAYNE," then "BRUCE WAYNE," and lastly, Bruce's adopted son, "TURNER HAYES." We drift from the watchful eyes of Wayne Family ancestors to --

(CONTINUED)

THE GREAT ROOM, now home to a RAGING KEG PARTY packed with drunken revelers. BOTTLES OF CHAMPAGNE are emptied into the TROPHY CUP. Wrestlers take swigs from it as they pass it around. As one of them tips up the trophy, he bumps into --

THE MANTELPIECE, jostling an EXPENSIVE VASE and sending it over the edge. But inches before it shatters on the floor --

A HAND catches it in mid-air. REVEAL its savior is a nerdy young Black girl, **CARRIE** (15), who looks a bit out of place. Having witnessed this rescue, Turner rushes over.

TURNER

Nice reflexes. Thanks...

Realizing he doesn't know her name, she bails him out:

CARRIE

Carrie. We have trig together.

TURNER

(owns it)

Right. Sorry. I suck.

As she hands him back the vase:

CARRIE

Tell that to the Bobcat you pinned with that killer Granby Roll.

TURNER

Glad you noticed. Just hoping the Princeton scouts did, too.

CARRIE

I have a feeling your dad's alma mater already has an eye on you.

TURNER

Hope they don't have an eye on my trig grade. Or I can kiss their business program goodbye.

That's when Turner spots a BRITISH WOMAN in her 50s nimbly making her way through the party.

This is **CRESSIDA CLARKE**. Attaché to Bruce Wayne. Carrie makes herself scarce. Turner, cradling the expensive vase, looks at Cressida, caught.

TURNER (CONT'D)

Cressida. I thought you had the night off.

(CONTINUED)

5

CRESSIDA

I do. I just wanted to offer my  
congratulations.

(re: the party)

I presume this means you were  
victorious.

TURNER

Don't worry. I'll make sure this is  
all cleaned up.

CRESSIDA

It's my night off.

(with a conspiratorial wink)

I haven't seen a thing. And I  
certainly haven't seen the amorous  
couple making use of the library.

Turner winces as --

6

INT. WAYNE MANOR - LIBRARY - NIGHT (N1)

6

Over DARKNESS... the sounds of a couple HOOKING UP. A DOOR is  
thrown open, revealing Turner, who calls out to the  
SILHOUETTED COUPLE --

TURNER

C'mon, guys. There's thirty other  
rooms in this place to hook up in.

(sighs)

And that's a 17th Century couch.

He FLIPS ON the lights. The BLONDE on the couch sits up.

BLONDE (O.S.)

Technically, it's a canapé.

The Blonde stands and Turner looks at her, surprised.

TURNER

Stephanie?

This is **STEPHANIE BROWN** (17). Turner's best friend. Sarcasm  
matched only by her brilliance. As she straightens her shirt:

STEPHANIE (FORMERLY "BLONDE")

Mom, I swear, we were just talking.

And that's when Turner sees who she was making out with --  
BRODY, his defeated teammate we met earlier. Turner can't  
hide his disappointment that Stephanie is with *this* guy.

BRODY

Sorry, man. We'll find another  
place to pick up our conversation.

(CONTINUED)

6

But it's clear to Turner that Brody's not all that sorry.

Stephanie crosses to Turner, playfully relieving him of his DRINK and takes a SIP. She's surprised by how good it is.

STEPHANIE

Mmmm. Somebody broke into the good stuff. Your dad okay with that?

TURNER

I don't think he'll miss it.

STEPHANIE

Well, he's not gonna miss the 90-decibel fire code violation in his great room, either.

TURNER

Don't be so sure about that. Looks like he's working late again.  
(takes a sip of his drink)  
Lucky us.

Stephanie reads him, sensing that, beneath his bravado, lurks a hint of disappointment.

7

**EXT. WAYNE TOWER - ESTABLISHING - NIGHT (N1)**

7

Wayne Tower pierces the Gotham skyline.

8

**INT. WAYNE TOWER - NIGHT (N1)**

8

We follow a SECURITY GUARD making his rounds. On his way to the ELEVATOR, he passes a CUSTODIAN with a JANITOR'S CART, WHISTLING away as he mops the imported marble floor. DING! The Guard boards the elevator. And once the doors CLOSE...

The Custodian pulls his mop out of the bucket of MURKY WATER and uses it to SMEAR THE LENS of the SECURITY CAMERA above.

This is **CULLEN ROW** (18). A lithe and clever young man with a polite, agreeable demeanor. Shaggy hair covers his face -- and his nervousness.

CULLEN

They're blind. We're all clear.

That's when a FIGURE emerges from the janitor's cart, having contorted herself inside.

This is **HARPER ROW** (18). Cullen's twin sister. Spiky blue hair, shaved on one side. A tough, gifted engineer. Harper rubs her neck from being cooped up.

(CONTINUED)

CULLEN (CONT'D)

Next time I'll ride in the cart.

HARPER

Not gonna be a next time. Least not  
with her.

She looks to the cart, from which a LEG gracefully emerges,  
followed by ANOTHER, as a FEMALE FORM unfolds herself with  
ballet-like precision.

And this is how we meet **DUELA** (19). If Arkham Asylum had a  
homecoming queen, she'd be it.

DUELA

Come along, team. Crime is money.

With that, she HOPS on the back of the janitor's cart, KICKS  
off with one foot, and RIDES IT down the corridor like a kid  
on the back of a shopping cart. Until she arrives at --

A SET OF DOUBLE DOORS. Duela dismounts and checks her hair  
and makeup in the POLISHED BRASS SIGN outside the office.  
Harper and Cullen sidle up, eyeing her:

DUELA (CONT'D)

What? I never broke into a place  
this fancy.

As Harper PICKS THE LOCK, we now see the name engraved in  
brass: "BRUCE WAYNE, CEO WAYNE ENTERPRISES."

**INT. WAYNE TOWER - BRUCE WAYNE'S OFFICE - NIGHT (N1)**

CLICK! The door swings open. They enter the office... but  
there's no sign of the Man that we saw earlier.

They fan out to search the office. Harper opens a cabinet,  
revealing -- A FORTIFIED SAFE. As Harper gets to work on it --

Duela playfully flutters around the darkened office. She  
passes a LARGE GLOBE, spins it. Then, she spots a PAINTING.

DUELA

I bet you think you're priceless.  
We'll see what the Gotham black  
market has to say about that.

But then, something across the office catches Duela's eye.  
She glides over to -- A JADE FIGURINE. Picks it up.

DUELA (CONT'D)

Hello, pretty lady. How many zeroes  
are you worth?

(CONTINUED)

CULLEN

Duela? Can we focus on our plan?

DUELA

My plan. Which includes not-so-patiently waiting for your sister to crack a Class D safe made of chromium steel with a 42-point gear-driven locking mech--

A METALLIC CLICK cuts Duela off.

HARPER

Got it.

Cullen gives Duela a smirk, proud of his sister's prowess.

Duela shrugs, pushing past them. She swings open the door of the safe, revealing... A WEATHERED PEARL-HANDLED REVOLVER.

DUELA

There you are, you .44 caliber cutie...

HARPER

We got paid a hundred K to steal that?

Duela eyes the gun with macabre reverence.

DUELA

She's not just any gun. She's the one Joe Chill used to pop Bruce Wayne's mom and dad.

CULLEN

She?

DUELA

All guns are girls. Dangerous if you don't respect 'em.

She picks up the gun... but something's not right.

DUELA (CONT'D)

It's warm.

*Huh?* Harper leans in, sniffs the barrel.

HARPER

It's been fired recently.

CULLEN

Anybody care to join me in getting the hell out of here?

(CONTINUED)

And that's when a LIGHT BREEZE catches a wisp of Duela's hair. She turns to see DRAPES FLUTTERING at the far end of the office. As they cross to them, they hear the sound of POLICE SIRENS getting closer.

As Duela THROWS OPEN the drapes of the floor-to-ceiling window, they all see --

ONE OF THE LARGE PANES HAS BEEN SMASHED. A MESSAGE has been scrawled across the windows:

**YOUR BAT IS DEAD**

Frozen, Duela, Harper and Cullen peer out the broken window, down to the SIDEWALK FORTY STORIES BELOW, where they see --

THE BODY OF A BUSINESSMAN.

In a pool of blood. Shot dead.

CULLEN (CONT'D)

Oh my god --

Just then -- GCPD CRUISERS screech to a halt at the base of the tower. Duela looks at the gun in her hand, then back to Cullen and Harper.

DUELA

We've been set up.

That's when a SEARCHLIGHT blasts through the shattered window from a GCPD DIRIGIBLE patrolling the skies over Gotham. As the three of them scatter --

**EXT. WAYNE TOWER - SIDEWALK - NIGHT (N1)**

DOWN ON THE STREET, more GCPD OFFICERS arrive on the scene to push back PEDESTRIANS and cordon off THE BODY. Amidst the chaos and confusion, a COP ushers a WELL-DRESSED MAN through the barricade.

This is **HARVEY DENT** (40s). Gotham's charismatic District Attorney. He steps to the body.

HARVEY

Turn him over.

Two OFFICERS turn over the body, whose business suit is soaked through with blood. Harvey sees on the Man's face --

THE SHATTERED COWL OF BATMAN.

Through the cracks, Harvey can make out a face he recognizes.

(CONTINUED)

10

HARVEY (CONT'D)  
Bruce Wayne.

As that washes over him, Harvey looks up at Wayne Tower.

11

**INT. WAYNE TOWER - BRUCE WAYNE'S OFFICE - NIGHT (N1)**

11

WHAM! OFFICERS flood inside the office. FLASHLIGHT BEAMS cut through the darkness until they converge on the shattered window and the words "**YOUR BAT IS DEAD**" scrawled above it.

Officers scan the shadows, but no one else is here. Then, a flashlight finds something on the floor: JOE CHILL'S PISTOL.

12

**INT. WAYNE TOWER - HALLWAY - NIGHT (N1)**

12

DUELA, CULLEN and HARPER bolt down the hallway. Until -- DING! -- TWO GCPD OFFICERS step off an elevator. They quickly level their pistols at the three thieves, when --

WHACK! Duela hurls herself at the cops in an explosion of FISTS, KICKS and ELBOWS which deliver an absolutely brutal takedown. It'd almost be balletic if it weren't so bloody.

One of the downed cops retrieves his gun from the floor, raises it to fire, when -- WHAM! -- Harper KICKS him in the face, knocking him unconscious.

Cullen nabs the TWO RADIOS from the downed cops. He SQUAWKS one of the radios and, in his most authoritative COP VOICE:

CULLEN (INTO RADIO)  
Suspects spotted entering the north  
stairwell.

He then holds up the SECOND RADIO, and in a NEW COP VOICE:

CULLEN (INTO RADIO) (CONT'D)  
Copy that. Have visual  
confirmation. North stairwell.

GCPD OFFICER (OVER RADIO)  
*All units converge on the north  
stairwell.*

OFF this, they barrel for a DOOR labeled "SOUTH STAIRWELL."

13

**INT. WAYNE TOWER - SOUTH STAIRWELL - NIGHT (N1)**

13

WHAM! They burst into the stairwell. Harper and Cullen peer over the railing at the endless flights of stairs below.

HARPER  
Long way down.

(CONTINUED)

13

DUELA

Only if you're walkin' --

Duela's grabbed the FIRE HOSE REEL on the wall and begins UNSPOOLING the HOSE, feeding it over the railing and down the center of the stairwell. And without a second thought:

Duela LEAPS over the railing and SLIDES all the way down. Cullen and Harper exchange unnerved looks.

HARPER

This is who you let rope us into  
this?

But... *Fuck it.* Cullen follows after Duela. Harper steels herself, grabs the hose and disappears down the stairwell.

14

**INT. WAYNE MANOR - NIGHT (N1)**

14

CLOSE ON A RED CUP as various liquors are poured in. REVEAL Stephanie is the mixologist. Turner approaches.

STEPHANIE

What are you drinking?

TURNER

If you're hooking up with Brody,  
you better make it something  
strong.

He throws a look to Brody, who's across the room.

TURNER (CONT'D)

C'mon, what can you possibly see in  
that guy?

STEPHANIE

Yeah. Trying real hard to look past  
the sculpted deltoids, mean chess  
game and him being a really good  
kisser.

TURNER

In that case, just gimme the whole  
bottle.

Just then, a wash of RED AND BLUE LIGHTS blasts through the windows. A PHALANX of COP CARS races up the driveway. The kids all react. They're so busted.

Turner reassuringly announces:

TURNER (CONT'D)

Relax. I'll take care of it.

15

INT./EXT. WAYNE MANOR - FOYER/FRONT DOOR - NIGHT (N1)

15

Turner throws open the door with a confident smile, ready to get rid of the cops. But he's surprised to see --

TURNER

Harvey?

HARVEY

Turner, it's your dad.

Turner's swagger evaporates upon seeing Harvey's ashen face. He sees GCPD OFFICERS at their cars, keeping a respectful distance, cradling their hats. Harvey moves to Turner.

HARVEY (CONT'D)

I'm so sorry. He's dead.

Turner's whole world begins to crumble as he tries to process that. And OFF this devastation --

**TITLE CARD: GOTHAM KNIGHTS**

16

INT. WAYNE MANOR - NIGHT (N1)

16

Cops clear out the last of the partygoers as a shaken Cressida speaks with a GCPD DETECTIVE.

Stephanie watches sympathetically as Harvey tries to comfort Turner, who's seated on a nearby couch, numb with shock.

Trying to hold back his own emotions, Harvey can only manage:

HARVEY

I can't imagine what you must be going through. After what happened to your parents... and now Bruce.

TURNER

How is the same nightmare happening all over again?

Harvey tries to reassure him.

HARVEY

I'm going to find who did this. And make them pay. Trust me.

TURNER

I do. It's just... the cops said the same thing back then.

Harvey takes that in, appreciating how much pain Turner's in. And with a look to the gathered GCPD Officers and Detectives:

(CONTINUED)

16

HARVEY

Could we have the room, please?

As everyone else files out, Harvey regards Turner. And then:

HARVEY (CONT'D)

Turner, there's going to be some things coming out about your dad. So I have to ask. Did you know he was Batman?

The look of utter shock on his face gives Harvey his answer. As Turner struggles to even try to process this bombshell --

TURNER (PRELAP)

He can't be Batman --

17

**INT. WAYNE MANOR - VARIOUS - LATER THAT NIGHT (N1)**

17

A DRAWER hits the floor with a CRASH, its contents spilling everywhere. Turner, on fire, rifles through BRUCE'S BEDROOM. He moves to a CLOSET, shoving aside suits, etc.

TURNER

If he was, where is it? Where's the Batsuit?

QUICK CUTS throughout Wayne Manor, as Turner tears the place apart, searching for any proof. Stephanie hovers, heartbroken over her friend's pain. But she knows to stay out of his way.

TURNER (CONT'D)

Where's the damn Batmobile?

Lastly, we CUT TO:

18

**INT. WAYNE MANOR - BRUCE'S STUDY - NIGHT (N1)**

18

The drawer of Bruce's desk SLAMS shut. REVEAL the study has been ransacked by Turner. He catches his breath. Looks around at the wreckage.

TURNER

He would've told me.

STEPHANIE

(gently)  
Sometimes parents keep secrets.

TURNER

Not something like this. He took me in when I had nobody. Gave me a family when I had none. But he sure as hell wasn't sneaking out at night solving crimes.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

TURNER (CONT'D)

Because if he was, he would've  
found the people who killed my  
parents.

Turner picks up a WHISKEY DECANTER from a bar cart.

TURNER (CONT'D)

I mean, that's what Batman does,  
right?

His emotions boiling over, Turner HURLS the decanter into the  
BOOKCASE, smashing it! Stephanie pulls him into a hug,  
desperate to soothe him.

STEPHANIE

You're not alone. I'm here.

As Turner hangs on for dear life, he's distracted by --

A DRIP... DRIP... DRIP... *Huh?* Stephanie hears it, too.

Their eyes follow the sound to the SPILLED WHISKEY on the  
floor. But instead of pooling, the whiskey disappears into --

A HIDDEN SEAM under the bookcase. They move to the case,  
inspecting it. And then Turner starts YANKING BOOKS OFF THE  
SHELVES. Stephanie joins him in emptying the bookcase until --

ONE BOOK WON'T BUDGE. Turner exchanges a look with Stephanie,  
then PULLS HARD ON IT. And OFF the sound of a MECHANISM  
WHIRRING TO LIFE, we CUT TO:

**INT. THE BATCAVE - NIGHT (N1)**

DARKNESS. Until the bookcase RETRACTS, revealing Turner and  
Stephanie on the other side. Staring wide-eyed at the  
ENTRANCE TO THE BATCAVE.

STEPHANIE

My god...

Turner descends stairs carved in rock into a SUBTERRANEAN  
CHAMBER. A WATERFALL cascades down a wall. A SWARM OF BATS  
flies past THE SILHOUETTE OF THE BATMOBILE.

Turner takes in the Batcave, stunned. He looks to Stephanie,  
who's joined him. As she looks around, in awe:

TURNER

It's true.

His dad was The Dark Knight. And he had no idea.

20

LIVE BREAKING NEWS (D2)

20

From a news desk, an ANCHOR solemnly reports as the city reacts to the death of Batman.

NEWS ANCHOR #1 (ON TV)  
*Thousands have lined the streets to honor the city's fallen hero, Bruce Wayne, who Gotham has now learned was Batman.*

SSKKRRRCH! As we FLIP THROUGH VARIOUS NEWS CHANNELS, all broadcasting FOOTAGE of mourning CITIZENS --

A REPORTER is on the scene, where CROWDS pack the streets along with a few PROTESTORS...

REPORTER (ON TV)  
*-- a controversial figure, viewed by some as being no better than the criminals he targets, while others saw him as a savior, and wonder who will protect Gotham now that he's dead.*

...while OTHERS display the BAT-SYMBOL on SHIRTS, FLAGS and SIGNS in reaction to the revelation that Batman is dead.

21

INT. PRISON - REC ROOM - DAY (D2)

21

PRISONERS are gathered around a CAGE-MOUNTED TV, watching in silent reverence...

REPORTER (ON TV)  
*And whether you loved him or feared him, the loss of the man who was The Dark Knight is incalculable.*

...as, on TV, the FUNERAL MOTORCADE moves through Gotham.

22

INT./EXT. LIMOUSINE - DAY (D2)

22

A broken Turner rides in the back with a solemn Cressida. He stares out the window at the grieving CROWDS.

TURNER  
 Did you know?

CRESSIDA  
 Your father had many secrets, but that wasn't one he shared with me.

23 EXT. GOTHAM CEMETERY - DAY (D2)

23

Turner steps out of the limo, where he's met by Harvey Dent, who escorts him and Cressida through the sea of MOURNERS. And that's when they're intercepted by **DETECTIVE FORD** (40s). He pulls Harvey aside, leans in close.

DETECTIVE FORD

Got an anonymous tip on where  
Wayne's killers might be holed up.

As that lands on Harvey --

24 INT. VACANT WAREHOUSE - DAY (D2)

24

CLOSE ON A PILE OF BUNDLED HUNDRED DOLLAR BILLS. REVEAL Duela and Harper dividing up the money. Cullen watches. Uneasy.

CULLEN

This is blood money.

HARPER

This is the money that's finally  
gonna get you and me out of Gotham.  
That's why we took this job. We  
didn't kill anybody.

Cullen gestures to the NEWS playing on a CRAPPY TV.

CULLEN

An entire city thinks we killed  
Batman. Which is exactly what whoever  
set us up wanted. Why else would they  
pay all the money up front?

DUELA

That's your complaint? That I didn't  
get them on an installment plan?

HARPER

You didn't even get their name.

DUELA

What was I supposed to do? Ask for  
ID? Maybe a gas bill? Canceled  
check? See, in crime, people who  
hire you to do something illegal  
usually don't want it traced back  
to them.

HARPER

Exactly. And now it only traces  
back to us.

25 EXT. GOTHAM CEMETERY - DAY (D2)

25

As we drift past HEADSTONES OF THOMAS AND MARTHA WAYNE, a HAUNTING, EMOTIONAL SONG plays over the images of those gathered to lay Bruce Wayne to rest beside his slain parents.

Turner solemnly approaches the PODIUM as Harvey, Cressida, Stephanie, Brody and many of Turner's classmates look on.

TURNER

For years, you knew Bruce Wayne as Gotham's most prominent businessman. And now you know him as the city's savior, Batman.  
(his voice shakes)  
But to me, he was just my dad.

As Turner eulogizes his fallen father, this moving tableau is lyrically INTERCUT WITH THE UNFOLDING RAID:

26 EXT./INT. VACANT WAREHOUSE - DAY (D2) - INTERCUT

26

CLOSE ON MAGAZINES slapped into ASSAULT RIFLES. ROUNDS chambered in PISTOLS. TACTICAL BOOTS hit the pavement. TEAMS OF GCPD SWAT OFFICERS take stairs two at a time.

BACK TO THE FUNERAL...

Turner fights through his grief, looking out at a CEMETERY filled with those who've come to pay their respects.

TURNER

He had an entire city to save, and yet he insisted on saving one more. Me. When my parents were killed, he gave me a home. An orphan himself, he was no stranger to how dangerous and cruel this city can be...

BACK TO THE RAID...

SWAT OFFICERS silently press down a hallway, converging with OTHER TEAMS. Leading them is DETECTIVE FORD. They move as one toward A DOOR --

BACK TO THE FUNERAL...

TURNER (CONT'D)

But instead of retreating into despair, he became a force for justice.

BACK TO THE RAID...

(CONTINUED)

KRACK! A BATTERING RAM splinters the door off its hinges! Ford enters first as SWAT Officers flood in. LASER SIGHTS crisscross the room as the music CRESCENDOS --

Cullen is brutally thrown to the floor by a SWAT Officer. Harper sees this, screaming for her brother as she's roughly pulled away from him by SWAT.

TURNER (V.O.)

A beacon of hope in the night for  
all to look to when hope seems lost.

One SWAT Officer has Duela by the arms, ANOTHER has her legs as she tries to KICK and CLAW and BITE her way free, before being slammed to the floor. As they are all HANDCUFFED --

BACK TO THE FUNERAL...

TURNER

And my father would want each of us  
to become a light in the darkness.

Turner finishes his eulogy. He looks out at the mourners, touched by the outpouring of emotion from those who knew his father. And even those who didn't, including --

CARRIE, who steps forward to place a ROSE on Bruce's coffin.

**LIVE BREAKING NEWS (N2)**

A NEWS ANCHOR interrupts with BREAKING NEWS.

NEWS ANCHOR (ON TV)

*In a stunning development, three  
suspects in the murder of Bruce  
Wayne have been apprehended.*

SSKKRRRCH! The channel FLIPS to a REPORTER at the GCPD.

REPORTER #1 (ON TV)

*The apparent ringleader even claims  
to be the daughter of Gotham's most  
notorious villain, The Joker.  
Leading some to speculate the  
motive for killing the billionaire  
Dark Knight may have been revenge.  
However, sources inside the GCPD  
allege the trio were paid a hundred  
thousand dollars for the murder.*

Suddenly there's a FLURRY OF ACTIVITY as the CAMERA PANS from the Reporter to find --

DUELA, CULLEN and HARPER being perp-walked by Ford up the front steps of the GCPD.

(CONTINUED)

27

As Duela passes, she looks STRAIGHT INTO THE CAMERA... and SPITS right in the lens. PULL BACK TO REVEAL WE ARE --

28

INT. WAYNE MANOR - NIGHT (N2)

28

Harvey SNAPS OFF the TV. Looks to Turner, his funeral tie loosened around his neck.

HARVEY

As if there were any doubt about her. Reasonable or otherwise.

TURNER

Yeah. But who paid her?

HARVEY

We're still working on that. But...

From his pocket, Harvey produces an EVIDENCE BAG. Inside it is the ANCIENT COIN we saw Bruce looking at in the opening.

HARVEY (CONT'D)

The night he died, your dad was looking into this.

(hands it to Turner)

It's a sixth-century Athenian coin. Could be nothing, but... does it mean anything to you?

Turner eyes the ENGRAVING OF THE OWL staring back at him.

TURNER

No. But apparently there's a lot of things my dad didn't share with me.

(then)

Sorry.

Harvey puts a hand on his shoulder.

HARVEY

Don't be. They'll find whoever put them up to this.

TURNER

You sure? With no Batman, who's gonna solve the murder of Bruce Wayne?

And off this haunting question --

END OF ACT ONE

**ACT TWO**

29

**INT. WAYNE MANOR - KITCHEN - DAY (D3)**

29

CLOSE ON A TV as a NEWSCASTER grimly reports:

NEWSCASTER (ON TV)

*In the fourth straight night of unrest following the death of Batman, the Mutant Gang has claimed responsibility for fires that have engulfed The Narrows.*

Dressed for school, Turner enters. He eyes the FOOTAGE of burning buildings and looted storefronts on TV.

NEWSCASTER (ON TV) (CONT'D)

*It's just the latest in an epidemic of violence that's gone unchecked since the Dark Knight's demise.*

Cressida sets a plate of bacon and eggs on the table.

TURNER

Hey, thanks. But you don't have to do that.

CRESSIDA

Your father made me promise that, if anything were to happen to him, I would be there to take care of you. I didn't realize it was because he was putting his life on the line every night.

(regards Turner)

Your father had Alfred, you have me. Only I'll try to be a bit more fun.

Turner appreciates her efforts to lighten his heavy mood.

30

**EXT. GOTHAM ACADEMY - DAY (D3)**

30

UNIFORMED STUDENTS head into Gotham's most prestigious school, whose most striking feature is the BELL TOWER stretching into the Gotham sky.

31

**INT. GOTHAM ACADEMY - HALLWAY - DAY (D3)**

31

We FOLLOW Turner into school. All eyes fix on him. As he navigates the gauntlet of stares and sympathetic nods --

STEPHANIE mercifully falls in step with him, threading a comforting arm through his as they continue down the hall. With a look to the gawking students, Stephanie assures him:

(CONTINUED)

31

STEPHANIE  
Look at it this way. At least  
they're not asking for rides in the  
Batmobile.

Turner manages a smile. As the BELL RINGS and they head to  
class --

32

INT. GCPD - INTERROGATION ROOM - DAY (D3)

32

CLOSE ON A MUGSHOT of Duela. ANOTHER is slapped down on top  
of it. Then ANOTHER. And ANOTHER. Chronicling her at various  
stages in her criminal career. TILT UP from these to REVEAL --

DUELA, now CUFFED to a metal table. Harvey Dent eyes her from  
the back of the room. Detective Ford, seated across from  
Duela, reads from her surprisingly thick CRIMINAL FILE:

DETECTIVE FORD  
Born in Arkham Asylum. In and out  
of juvie. Back in again. Petty  
theft. Grand larceny. Assault.  
Assault. Assault...

DUELA  
And that's just the stuff you know  
about.  
(straight to business)  
I'd like to speak with my legal  
counsel.

DETECTIVE FORD  
Then you shouldn't have shattered  
her kneecap.

DUELA  
She shouldn't have tried to get me  
to plead guilty to something I  
didn't do.

DETECTIVE FORD  
That so? Got your fingerprints on  
the gun that killed Bruce Wayne.  
Not to mention the pile of money we  
found you with.

DUELA  
We were paid to break into his  
office. Not kill him.

DETECTIVE FORD  
Who paid you? The Cassamentos? The  
McKillens?

(CONTINUED)

DUELA

I don't know.

DETECTIVE FORD

Hundred grand's a lotta money for a  
smash and grab.

Having been silent thus far, Harvey approaches and...

HARVEY

Police found this on you.

...sets a WEATHERED PLAYING CARD on the table.

HARVEY (CONT'D)

You really The Joker's daughter?

Duela eyes the playing card, the IMAGE OF A JOKER smiling  
back at her.

HARVEY (CONT'D)

Or is that just something you told  
the kids in juvie to keep them from  
messing with you?

He holds her gaze. Sizing her up.

HARVEY (CONT'D)

You really believe it, don't you?  
Is that why you murdered Batman?

Duela leans forward. The gears in her brain turning.

DUELA

(points to Ford)

You're saying I did it for the  
money...

(points to Harvey)

...and you're saying I did it out  
of revenge. So lemme get this  
straight: someone paid me to do  
something that you say I would've  
happily done for free? I'm not a  
lawyer, just a girl with two  
working kneecaps. But you two might  
wanna get your stories straight  
before you take this to a judge.

She sits back in her chair with a satisfied smile.

Gotham Academy WRESTLERS warm up on the mat. The Coach  
intercepts Turner on his way over.

COACH

Hayes. Look, it's okay if you want to take some more time.

Turner appreciates the offer, but shuts that down:

TURNER

We got State coming up.

COACH

Actually, Brody volunteered to drop down to your weight class.

Turner shoots a look to Brody on the mat. *Of course he did.* Then, Turner says firmly:

TURNER

I'm good.

COACH

Well, why don't you two pair off and we'll sort this out later.

The Coach BLOWS his whistle, taking us --

MINUTES LATER. Turner practices takedowns with Brody. As they circle each other on the mat, Brody feigns sympathy:

BRODY

Hey, you holding up okay?

TURNER

I'm fine.

BRODY

Good. I know Stephanie's really been worried about you.

As Turner's distracted by the implications of that -- WHAM! Brody KNOCKS HIM OFF HIS FEET. But before Brody can pin him --

Turner deftly ESCAPES. He glares at Brody, knowing he's trying to get in his head.

BRODY (CONT'D)

Somebody's ready for state. Least now I know where you got those moves.

Turner ignores that. As they square off again...

BRODY (CONT'D)

Man, it must've been so hard keeping your dad's secret.

(CONTINUED)

33

Brody reads Turner, then...

BRODY (CONT'D)

I mean, he did tell you, right?

Turner bites down hard on his MOUTHGUARD, Brody's words pricking at this raw wound...

BRODY (CONT'D)

I'm sorry...

But Turner sees through his faux-sincerity --

BRODY (CONT'D)

...I didn't think he'd keep something like that from you.

-- and Turner ERUPTS -- WHAM! He fucking DECKS him. All eyes snap to Turner. From the mat, Brody looks up at him.

BRODY (CONT'D)

What the hell is wrong with you?

Feeling the stares of his teammates, and embarrassed by having been goaded into an emotional outburst, Turner heads for the locker room.

34

INT. GCPD - INTERROGATION ROOM - DAY (D3)

34

A CUFFED Harper sits before Harvey Dent and Detective Ford. Harvey reads from her FILE.

HARVEY

Harper Row. Straight-As. Honor roll. East River High ran out of science classes for you to take. Could've gone to any college in the country. But seven months before graduation, you drop out.

Harvey puts down the file. Looks at Harper. Scared, but trying her damndest not to show it.

HARVEY (CONT'D)

Unlike you, I didn't take AP Calculus, so maybe you can do that math for me.

HARPER

It's not math. It's history. Mom left. Dad couldn't beat on her anymore, so he turned to his kids.

(then)

He didn't have a problem with bisexual chicks in his porn.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

34

HARPER (CONT'D)

Under his roof was another story. I had to get me and my brother out of there.

DETECTIVE FORD

Your brother?

CULLEN (PRELAP)

Cullen Row.

35

INT. GCPD - INTERROGATION ROOM - DAY (D3)

35

In another interrogation room, Harvey and Ford sit across from Cullen, who shifts uncomfortably. Ford eyes his FILE.

DETECTIVE FORD

Says here, "Born Abigail Row."

HARVEY

Don't use his deadname.

DETECTIVE FORD

Fine. I got another dead name for him. Bruce Wayne.

Harvey's heard enough.

HARVEY

Ford, take a walk.

Ford cuts his eyes at Harvey, but gets up to leave. And once he's gone, Harvey gives Cullen a sympathetic nod.

HARVEY (CONT'D)

I'm sorry about that. From what your sister told me, you got enough of that from your dad.

Cullen says nothing.

HARVEY (CONT'D)

And if you thought the streets of Gotham were safer than your own home, it must've been pretty bad.

CULLEN

I know what you're doing. Building trust through performative allyship.

HARVEY

Or maybe I'm just not a dick. And maybe I know you're not a killer.

Cullen eyes Harvey, decides honesty is his best play.

(CONTINUED)

CULLEN

No. Just desperate. My sister and I needed money to finally get out of this sewer of a city. Then Duela pirouettes into the Union Street soup kitchen with a plan. Recruited us for a one-time robbery.

HARVEY

But you didn't know the thing she really wanted to take was Bruce Wayne's life.

(then)

I could make a jury believe that.

CULLEN

But you can't make me believe it. Because that's not what happened. You're just trying to get us to turn on each other.

HARVEY

I just want the truth.

HARPER (PRELAP)

It was me. I did it.

**INT. GCPD - INTERROGATION ROOM - DAY (D3)**

Harvey Dent now sits across from Harper.

HARPER

I'm the one who killed Bruce Wayne. I'll sign whatever confession you want. Just one condition.

HARVEY

What's that?

HARPER

My brother walks. You drop all charges against him.

Harvey weighs that, eyeing a stone-faced Harper.

HARVEY

Alright. I'll make that deal. But I have a condition of my own.

(off Harper's look)

Tell me who paid you the money.

*Fuck.* Harper can't give him that answer.

HARPER

I don't know.

(CONTINUED)

36

HARVEY

Then we don't have a deal.

OFF Harper, unable to save her brother, PRELAP A BELL --

37

INT. GOTHAM ACADEMY - HALLWAY - DAY (D3)

37

The BELL scatters STUDENTS into classrooms, leaving only Stephanie. She moves down the hall, rounds the corner to --

AN UNUSED ALCOVE that dead-ends in a SECURITY DOOR labeled "NO ACCESS. KEEP OUT." With a look over her shoulder, she KEYS a code into a corroded, decades-old combination keypad.

Stephanie then shoulders open the rusty door, disappearing into the DARKNESS inside.

38

INT. GOTHAM ACADEMY - BELFRY - DAY (D3)

38

Stephanie ascends a rusted SPIRAL STAIRCASE into this gothic sanctuary that's long ago fallen into disrepair.

Looking past the MASSIVE BRONZE BELL, as old as Gotham itself, Stephanie spots --

TURNER, gazing out the ancient LEADED GLASS WINDOWS that offer 360-degree views of Gotham. Lost in thought.

STEPHANIE

If you're up here, it's because you don't want to talk to anybody.

TURNER

Except the only other person who knows how to get up here.

She offers a smile, takes a seat beside him.

STEPHANIE

Heard about practice. Didn't realize you were so mad at Brody.

TURNER

I'm not. I mean, he's a dick, but whatever.

Stephanie gives him a look, knowing there's more.

TURNER (CONT'D)

The only person I'm mad at is myself.

He lets out a breath, opening up to her.

(CONTINUED)

TURNER (CONT'D)

All I wanted was to live up to his name. To prove I belonged. Make Bruce Wayne proud. Turns out I didn't know Bruce Wayne at all. I mean, the killers knew he was Batman. Which means they knew my dad better than I did.

(then)

I had no idea the sacrifices he was making. Every night. And all I did was make it harder for him. Maybe that's why he never told me the truth.

STEPHANIE

You can't blame yourself for that.

TURNER

Really? What does it say that he didn't trust me with his biggest secret?

She regards him, now realizing what's actually bothering him.

STEPHANIE

That doesn't mean he loved you any less. You know that, right?

TURNER

I don't know. Maybe I was just a charity case that he and everybody else felt sorry for.

STEPHANIE

Don't do that. There could be a million reasons why he didn't tell you. But that's not it.

TURNER

I guess I'll never know. Just like I'll probably never know who had him killed.

STEPHANIE

The GCPD has every cop in the city working on it.

Turner considers that. Then brightens with a realization.

TURNER

But there's one thing they don't have. A Batcave...

PRELAP the sound of RUSHING WATER as --

39

INT. THE BATCAVE - NIGHT (N3)

39

We follow the raging CURRENT of the Batcave's waterfall until we find Turner and Stephanie standing before --

THE BAT COMPUTER. As they stare at it in awe:

STEPHANIE

Do you have any idea how powerful this thing is?

TURNER

No. Do you?

STEPHANIE

Nope. And that's what makes me nervous.

TURNER

Think you can use it to hack into Gotham National Bank?

STEPHANIE

Never hacked into anything that secure before.

(with a smile)

But I've always wanted to try.

Stephanie sits at the computer and begins clicking away, clearly in her element. Turner looks around the Batcave, taking in his father's legacy.

He picks up -- A BATARANG, eyeing it with purpose.

TURNER

Just get me the name of who paid them. I'll do the rest.

Stephanie stops typing, turns around.

STEPHANIE

No. Whatever we find, we're turning over to the police. I'm not helping you become some vigilante.

Turner eyes her, not making any promises. Then, the Bat Computer PINGS. Stephanie turns back to the computer screen.

TURNER

That a match?

STEPHANIE

Seventeen withdrawals over four days. Same account. Exact amount paid to the killers.

(CONTINUED)

TURNER

Whose account is it?

As Stephanie types away, something stops her. Her face falls.

STEPHANIE

Yours.

He sees onscreen the account is registered to TURNER HAYES.

TURNER

This makes it look like I paid the  
killers.

A chill washes over Turner as --

**END OF ACT TWO**

ACT THREE40 INT. WAYNE MANOR - MORNING (D4)

40

Having not slept at all, Turner and Stephanie stand before a table filled with print-outs of BANK RECORDS. Cressida flips through the papers, trying to make sense of them.

CRESSIDA

You're certain that you've never seen this bank account before?

TURNER

No. Never. And it's not like Dad gave me a hundred thousand dollars in spending money.

Cressida looks up at Turner with concern.

CRESSIDA

Then I suggest we tell the police before the bank does.

That's when their attention is drawn to the window, where OUTSIDE -- several GCPD SQUAD CARS race up, SIRENS wailing.

STEPHANIE

I think they already did.

Turner and Stephanie exchange a concerned look.

DETECTIVE FORD (PRELAP)

Turner Hayes, you have the right to remain silent...

41 INT. WAYNE MANOR - DAY (D4)

41

CLICK-KLACK. HANDCUFFS are tightened around Turner's wrists. Cressida and Stephanie look on, horrified.

DETECTIVE FORD

Anything you say can and will be used against you...

Turner tries to make sense of this as he's marched past the PORTRAITS of Wayne ancestors, their watchful eyes on him.

42 EXT. WAYNE MANOR - DAY (D4)

42

Ford shoves Turner into the back of a CRUISER. And as the door is SLAMMED shut --

43

INT. GCPD - BULLPEN - DAY (D4)

43

CLOSE ON A THUMB coming off a BOOKING SHEET, leaving a fresh FINGERPRINT as Detective Ford books a shell-shocked Turner.

HARVEY (O.S.)

Get him out of those handcuffs --

Turner looks to see Harvey, who's just arrived.

TURNER

Harvey, I didn't do this --

Seeing the desperation in his eyes, Harvey offers:

HARVEY

I know. I'm going to get this cleared up.

(then)

But you don't talk to anyone until your dad's lawyers get here. You understand?

OFF Turner's nod --

44

INT. GOTHAM ACADEMY - ENTRANCE - DAY (D4)

44

A fraught Stephanie enters. She scans the STUDENTS, spots Brody. Quickly makes her way over.

STEPHANIE

Turner's been arrested.

BRODY

I know. Detectives are here asking us all questions about him.

STEPHANIE

What did you say?

BRODY

I told them the truth.

STEPHANIE

(reading him)

You told them about the fight.

BRODY

I'm not gonna lie for him.

STEPHANIE

He didn't do it!

(CONTINUED)

BRODY

Police seem to have plenty of evidence.

STEPHANIE

Yeah, I helped Turner find it. Would he have asked me to hack into a bank if he was guilty?

BRODY

You did what? So now he's got you committing felonies for him? Do you have any idea how much trouble you could've gotten in?

STEPHANIE

I'm more worried about the trouble he's in. Because I'm his friend.  
(off his look)  
What? You gonna tell the cops about me, too?

She starts to walk off, but Brody steps in front of her.

BRODY

Of course not.  
(softening)  
But if you keep doing this, I won't have to. You're gonna make yourself an accessory. Is that what you want?

Stephanie considers that, then pushes past him.

INT. GCPD - BULLPEN - DAY (D4)

Harvey tries to reason with Detective Ford.

HARVEY

Ford, I know Turner. I'm practically his uncle.

DETECTIVE FORD

Serial numbers on the bills from his account match the ones the suspects were found with.

HARVEY

It just doesn't make any sense.

DETECTIVE FORD

His biological parents were murdered. Killer never caught. Now his adoptive father is gunned down.

(CONTINUED)

HARVEY

We're talking about a kid, here.

DETECTIVE FORD

Once is a tragedy. Twice is a pattern.

HARVEY

Then what's the motive? Turner loved Bruce and Bruce loved him.

DETECTIVE FORD

You sure about that?

Ford hands him a FILE. Harvey opens it. We don't see what's inside, but based on Harvey's expression, it's damning.

**INT. GCPD - INTERROGATION ROOM - DAY (D4)**

Turner looks up to see Harvey enter, FILE in hand. Harvey takes a chair from the opposite side of the table and moves it closer to Turner. Sits down. Turner reads Harvey.

TURNER

They really think I did it, don't they?

Harvey takes a breath, levels with him.

HARVEY

There are a lot of things that don't look good.

TURNER

I don't know anything about that money. Talk to my dad's financial people, they'll tell you.

HARVEY

Detectives already did.

With that, Harvey opens the folder Ford handed him earlier.

HARVEY (CONT'D)

A few days before your dad was murdered, he'd scheduled a meeting with his business attorney. He was planning to change his will.

TURNER

I don't understand.

HARVEY

You're the sole beneficiary. They could argue that Bruce was planning to cut you out of his will. And that was your motive to kill him.

That knocks the wind out of Turner. Then, a sinking realization:

TURNER

You mean you could argue that. You're the D.A., right?

Harvey takes a moment with that. And then:

HARVEY

Your dad was my friend. And I believe you. But is there anything you haven't told me?

TURNER

You said not to say anything without an attorney.

But Harvey has to break it to him:

HARVEY

I spoke to Cressida. Your dad's law firm is refusing to represent you. They're citing "conflict of interest."

Turner takes that in. The walls closing in on him.

HARVEY (CONT'D)

I'm going to do everything I can. I promise.

That's when Detective Ford enters with a GCPD OFFICER.

DETECTIVE FORD

On your feet.

TURNER

What's going on?

DETECTIVE FORD

Taking you to holding.

As the Officer marches Turner out of the room:

HARVEY

Ford, c'mon. You can't put him in the cage.

(CONTINUED)

46

DETECTIVE FORD  
Commissioner's orders. No  
preferential treatment.

HARVEY  
The kid's all alone.

DETECTIVE FORD  
Not for long.

PRELAP the CLINK-CLINK-CLINK of a sliding CELL DOOR --

47

**INT. GCPD - HOLDING CELL - DAY (D4)**

47

CLOSE ON Turner, crestfallen, as he's prodded into the cell  
by the GCPD Officer. As the door slides shut behind him with  
a CLANG, he looks up to see --

DUELA, HARPER and CULLEN staring back at him, sizing him up.

DUELA  
Oh, look. It's the Bat-Brat.

OFF Turner, now trapped with the very people he believes  
killed his father --

**END OF ACT THREE**

ACT FOUR

48

LIVE BREAKING NEWS (D4)

48

REPORTERS broadcast from the steps of the GCPD.

REPORTER #1 (ON TV)  
*Gotham is in shock today over the  
 arrest of Bruce Wayne's adopted  
 son, Turner Hayes, who is suspected  
 of masterminding the billionaire's  
 murder --*

She stops when she spots... Harvey Dent exiting the GCPD. The  
 CAMERA FOLLOWS her as she shoves her microphone in his face.

REPORTER #1 (ON TV) (CONT'D)  
*Mr. Dent -- Did Batman's son really  
 hire The Joker's daughter?*

HARVEY (ON TV)  
*It's still an ongoing investigation.  
 But I would advise the public to not  
 rush to judgement.*

Harvey pushes past her as he moves to a WAITING TOWN CAR.  
 ANOTHER REPORTER calls out after him:

REPORTER #2 (ON TV)  
*You're a friend of the Wayne  
 Family, will you be recusing  
 yourself from this case?*

Harvey doesn't answer, but slips into --

49

INT. TOWN CAR - DAY

49

Harvey slams the door behind him. In the seat beside him is  
 GCPD COMMISSIONER ELLEN YINDEL (40s). As the car pulls away:

COMMISSIONER YINDEL  
 It's a fair question.

HARVEY  
 You want an answer?

COMMISSIONER YINDEL  
 I don't think I need one. City's  
 already convicted the kid. You just  
 need to make it official.

HARVEY  
 He says he didn't do it and I  
 believe him. I'm practically his  
 uncle, for Chrissakes.

(CONTINUED)

COMMISSIONER YINDEL

Not sure that's the campaign slogan  
I would've picked for you.

(off his look)

It's no secret you've got your eye  
on the Mayor's Office, Harvey. And  
what better way to announce your  
candidacy than after putting away  
an ungrateful adopted son who bit  
the hand that feeds?

As Harvey considers that:

COMMISSIONER YINDEL (CONT'D)

Or your campaign can go down in  
flames when the voters believe  
that, despite a preponderance of  
evidence, you gave Turner Hayes  
preferential treatment because he's  
"family."

HARVEY

If you're so convinced he's guilty,  
why the hell did you stick him in a  
holding cell with the others?  
You're just giving them a chance to  
get their stories straight.

COMMISSIONER YINDEL

That's what I want. To see them get  
their stories straight.

OFF Yindel's smile --

INT. GCPD - HOLDING CELL - DAY (D4)

Turner stands at the far corner. Keeping his distance from  
Cullen, Harper and --

DUELA, who paces the floor, purposely edging closer and  
closer to Turner with each pass.

DUELA

Must be nice having all that money  
from daddy to, y'know, murder  
daddy.

Turner forces himself to ignore that. Which only makes Duela  
get up in his face.

DUELA (CONT'D)

Bet you thought it'd be easy to  
frame me. Y'know, since your pops  
killed mine.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

DUELA (CONT'D)

Little history, though -- Papa J ditched me and my mom in Arkham before my first tooth came in when he started banging a little Size 2 get-out-of-jail-free card named Harley Quinn. I'd sooner send your dad a thank-you note than send him flying out a window. Because... I hate my dad. But I guess we have that in common.

Turner glares at her, trying to contain his anger.

DUELA (CONT'D)

What's the matter? You don't talk to the hired help?

TURNER

I didn't pay you to kill my father.

Harper tags in.

HARPER

No. You just paid us to take the fall for it.

CULLEN

You don't know how lucky you are. To have a dad who actually cared about you. And you had him killed, what, to speed up your inheritance?

That has Turner up on his feet, moving toward Cullen --

TURNER

You don't know anything about me --

-- but Harper intercepts him, SHOVING him back.

HARPER

Get away from him --

But Cullen objects to his sister's interference.

CULLEN

I don't need you to fight my battles for me --

HARPER

I'm not.

CULLEN

Then why'd you try to cut a deal to save me?

(CONTINUED)

Duela reacts to the words "cut a deal." She shoves past Turner to get up in Harper's face.

DUELA  
WHAT DEAL? You gonna say I pulled  
the trigger?

Turner finally explodes.

TURNER  
She doesn't have to -- YOUR PRINTS  
WERE ALL OVER THE DAMN GUN --

And that's when Duela wheels around on Turner and HEAD-BUTTS him. She goes full-on berserker on him, THROWING herself onto Turner. Harper tries to pull Duela off him, but --

WHACK! Duela KICKS Harper. And like that, the whole thing descends into a chaotic four-way BRAWL. Which brings in --

DETECTIVE FORD and GCPD OFFICERS, swinging RIOT BATONS indiscriminately.

GCPD OFFICER  
ON THE GROUND NOW --

Turner puts his hands up in surrender, only to have an Officer roughly THROW HIM to the floor as --

DUELA, CULLEN and HARPER stop fighting each other and focus on their common enemy -- the GCPD -- in what erupts into a tangle of bodies engaged in a CLOSE-QUARTERS FIGHT.

But there's just too many GCPD, who overwhelm Duela, Harper and Cullen.

DETECTIVE FORD  
Get these animals cuffed and  
stuffed.

As they're all HANDCUFFED, an Officer hauls Turner onto his feet. His mouth BLOODIED, Turner looks to Ford:

TURNER  
I'd like my one phone call now.

**INT. GOTHAM ACADEMY - THE BELFRY - DUSK (D4)**

Taking refuge in the Belfry, Stephanie watches the sun sink lower in the sky. Her phone BUZZES. The caller ID reads: "GCPD." She quickly answers.

STEPHANIE  
Turner?

52

INT. GCPD - PHONE BANK - DAY (D4) - INTERCUT

52

Turner cradles the receiver of a wall-mounted pay phone.

TURNER

It's good to hear your voice.

STEPHANIE

You, too. But shouldn't you be using your one phone call to talk to a lawyer or somebody?

TURNER

Right now I just wanna talk to someone who believes me.

STEPHANIE

Of course I do.

TURNER

You always could see past the obvious.

(remembering)

When I first came to live with Bruce, you were the only one who didn't see me as the lucky kid who won the adoption lottery... who saw that, for Bruce Wayne to become my dad, I had to have two parents taken away from me first. You knew I wasn't lucky. I was just a scared kid who needed a friend.

Stephanie is heartened to hear these words.

TURNER (CONT'D)

You got me through that. And now I need you to do it again.

STEPHANIE

Of course. Anything.

TURNER

You found that smoking gun with the money. Now I need you to find out who put it there.

Stephanie feels the weight of what he's asking her to do.

STEPHANIE

No pressure, right?

GCPD OFFICER (O.S.)

Time's up, Hayes.

(CONTINUED)

52

Turner takes a deep breath and admits:

TURNER

You're the only one who can get me  
out of this, Steph.

He HANGS UP. Then looks to the OFFICER, who brandishes a PAIR  
OF SHACKLES.

53

**EXT. GCPD - MOTOR POOL - NIGHT (N4)**

53

HANDS CUFFED in front of him, Turner is marched outside by  
TWO GCPD OFFICERS toward an imposing PRISONER TRANSPORT  
VEHICLE. As he's hauled onboard --

54

**INT. PRISONER TRANSPORT VEHICLE - NIGHT (N4)**

54

-- he finds Duela, Cullen and Harper. Already SHACKLED to  
their seats.

The Officers shove Turner into a seat and shackle him to it.  
The Officers exit. And once they're alone:

DUELA

I just wanna say, great job back  
there.

Confused, Turner eyes a smiling Duela, who gives him a  
cheerful THUMBS-UP with CUFFED hands.

DUELA (CONT'D)

With the fight. You made it look  
sooooo convincing.

TURNER

That was supposed to be fake?

DUELA

The punches were real enough.

CULLEN

And much of the feelings behind them.

DUELA

But we had to lure the cops in  
somehow. And while we were taking  
our lumps from the GCPD, we were  
also taking a few of their little  
trinkets...

She holds up her CUFFED HANDS to show him the AMERICAN FLAG  
TIE PIN she has palmed.

(CONTINUED)

DUELA (CONT'D)

...that we can use to get out of these cop-locks.

She throws a look to Harper, who sticks out her tongue to show off a GCPD LAPEL PIN swiped from a GCPD Officer. She spits it out, dropping it into her hand.

HARPER

We all may hate each other, but I'm pretty sure we're gonna hate being dead even more.

TURNER

What are you talking about?

CULLEN

You haven't figured it out yet? We didn't kill your dad any more than you did.

DUELA

Five minutes in a cell with you and we knew you didn't have the brains to be the brains behind this frame-job.

CULLEN

But whoever is behind it is gonna make sure we have a little "accident" inside Blackgate.

HARPER

Because the only way this setup works is if we all end up dead.

DUELA

Unless you wanna join us in getting out of here.

But before Turner can answer, the doors SWING OPEN and Detective Ford boards the vehicle.

DETECTIVE FORD

Welcome to the Blackgate Express.

TWO HEAVILY-ARMED SWAT OFFICERS board and take seats in the back. Duela looks to Turner, low:

DUELA

Time to pick a side.

OFF Turner, no idea of what to do or who to trust --

**END OF ACT FOUR**

ACT FIVE

55 EXT. GOTHAM HIGHWAY - NIGHT (N4) 55

The prisoner transport barrels down the road with a FOUR-CAR SWAT ESCORT, two in front, two behind. And as they pass into a less-populated INDUSTRIAL PART OF GOTHAM --

56 INT. PRISONER TRANSPORT VEHICLE - NIGHT (N4) 56

Turner's eyes dart from Ford, to the SWAT Officers, to the RIOT SHOTGUNS in their grip. The choice laid out by the others weighs heavily on him.

And that's when Turner notices... Duela. Furtively trying to PICK THE LOCK on her shackles with her pilfered American flag pin. But it ain't going so great. Turner shoots a look back to Ford. *Is he not seeing this?*

Turner watches in utter disbelief as -- CLICK-CLICK-CLICK -- Duela is being waaayyy too obvious about this. *How are they not hearing this?* But then --

DETECTIVE FORD

What the hell are you doing?

Duela keeps at it, while frustratedly explaining:

DUELA

I'm trying to get these stupid handcuffs undone with this damn pin and it's not working.

The SWAT Officers move to Duela and try to wrestle the pin away from her. Annoyed, she adds:

DUELA (CONT'D)

Cullen and Harper had no problem getting theirs off --

And that's when Ford and the SWAT Officers realize -- *Oh shit* -- Cullen and Harper are free of their manacles as --

WHAM! They're attacked from behind by the newly-freed twins. Harper grabs PEPPER SPRAY from one of their belts and SPRAYS BOTH OFFICERS IN THE FACE!

Ford is out of his seat, drawing his PISTOL, when Cullen, in one swift move, rips a RIOT BATON from a SWAT belt and --

WHACK! Cullen smacks Ford's pistol as -- BLAM! -- the shot flies wild and --

PUH-THUNK! The bullet craters the metal inches from Turner's head! *Shit that was close!*

(CONTINUED)

56

Cullen BACKHANDS Ford with the riot baton, putting him down.

Harper tosses Duela a HANDCUFF KEY taken from a SWAT Officer. Duela quickly gets her cuffs off, then throws Turner the key.

DUELA (CONT'D)

What's it gonna be, Bat-Brat?

Turner looks at the key sitting in his lap as Duela rushes headlong into the fight.

One of the BLINDED SWAT OFFICERS tries to aim his TASER GUN at Harper, when... Duela grabs hold of the stun gun. As they wrestle over it -- PUH-FFEW! The stun gun FIRES, missing Harper but hitting --

THE DRIVER with a high-voltage FZZTT!

As 50,000 VOLTS ripple through the Driver's body, he SLUMPS onto the wheel, UNCONSCIOUS.

57

**EXT. GOTHAM HIGHWAY - NIGHT (N4) - INTERCUT**

57

The transport SWERVES all over the road, BROADSIDING one of the SWAT escort cars, sending it CAREENING OFF THE ROAD.

**BACK IN THE TRANSPORT**

Everyone PINBALLS around the vehicle while still fighting. But with everyone else tangled in the scrum of scuffling bodies --

TURNER is the only one who sees them hurtling towards their doom in this out-of-control deathtrap. He looks to --

THE HANDCUFF KEY IN HIS LAP.

Turner takes action and UNLOCKS his cuffs. Freed from his seat, he scrambles through the SWAYING transport to --

THE FRONT OF THE VEHICLE, where he tries to move the Driver slumped over the wheel. But given the Driver's size and the ROCKING of the transport, he's not budging.

And that's when Turner sees what they're speeding towards --

THE EDGE OF AN EMBANKMENT.

*Shit!* Turner SHOVES and PULLS with everything he has to get the Driver off the steering wheel, finally toppling him onto the floor. Turner grabs the wheel and --

TURNER

HANG ONTO SOMETHING --

(CONTINUED)

57

HE JERKS IT HARD TO THE LEFT, veering away from the edge of the embankment, but he clips a CEMENT HIGHWAY DIVIDER and --  
THE TRANSPORT FLIPS ONTO ITS SIDE!

SPARKS FLY as metal meets asphalt and the transport grinds to a smoking, ugly stop.

Duela, Cullen and Harper pick themselves up off the side of the transport -- which is now the floor. Duela, pissed:

DUELA

First rule of a prison break: Do  
Not Wreck The Getaway Car.

TURNER

We're alive. You're welcome.

As they move to the back of the transport, they hear TIRES SCREECHING to a halt outside. Then, over a BULLHORN:

SWAT OFFICER (O.S.)

COME OUT WITH YOUR HANDS UP.

58

**EXT. GOTHAM HIGHWAY - NIGHT (N4)**

58

CHIK-CHAK! Rounds are chambered in ASSAULT RIFLES trained on the REAR DOOR of the transport. PULL BACK TO REVEAL --

THREE SWAT ESCORT CARS surrounding it. SWAT Officers crouch in defensive positions behind car doors. And that's when --

WHUNK! The sideways rear door is KICKED OPEN and out steps --

DETECTIVE FORD. Hands raised.

DETECTIVE FORD

Don't shoot. She took my gun.

REVEAL Duela, exiting behind Ford. His pistol pointed at him.

DUELA

And if you all don't back off, I'm  
gonna give him back the bullets --

Harper and Cullen exit the vehicle. Last out is Turner, horrified to find himself in the middle of a standoff.

SWAT OFFICER

YOU ARE SURROUNDED. WE WILL FIRE.

DUELA

What a coincidence! So will I!

(CONTINUED)

CLACK! Duela COCKS the hammer back on the pistol. Turner's eyes go wide, seeing she means it. And that's when Turner makes his choice --

AND STEPS IN FRONT OF FORD.

Staring down the barrel of the gun, he risks his own life to shield Ford from Duela's aim. Duela, incensed:

DUELA (CONT'D)

What are you doing?

TURNER

What my dad would want me to do. We can't prove we're not killers by killing someone. And we can't show them we're innocent if we're dead.

With Ford clear, the SWAT Officers move in to disarm Duela. She glares at Turner.

DUELA

They don't care that we're innocent.

And as Ford takes his gun back:

DETECTIVE FORD

She's right, y'know.

With rising dread, Turner looks to Ford.

TURNER

What?

CULLEN

He's in on it. They all are.

DETECTIVE FORD

Your little escape attempt just made my job a whole lot easier.

Duela, knowing what's about to happen, eyes Turner.

DUELA

Hope daddy's proud of you. 'Cause you're about to join him.

Everything seems to happen in SLOW MOTION as --

TURNER, his entire worldview turned upside down, realizes too late that everything he thought he knew is dead wrong.

Fear washing over her, Harper takes Cullen's hand, giving it one last comforting squeeze. Cullen swallows hard, as --

(CONTINUED)

FORD levels his gun at Turner, about to pull the trigger.

DETECTIVE FORD  
No hard feelings, kid.

But then -- THWACK! A BLUR OF MOTION as a BATARANG impales his hand, knocking the gun from it! Ford SCREAMS as --

SWAT OFFICER #1  
What the --

KA-THOOOM! An explosion UPENDS one of the GCPD cruisers! Nearby SWAT Officers are KNOCKED OFF THEIR FEET as --

-- a stunned Turner, Cullen, Harper and Duela all TAKE COVER. SWAT Officers scramble as --

KA-THOOOM! Another GCPD cruiser is TORN IN HALF by a second explosion, which is quickly followed by --

KA-THOOOM! A third blast RIPS APART the last GCPD cruiser.

The flaming wreckage casts SHADOWS against the SMOKE that fills the air. SWAT Officers CALL OUT to each other:

SWAT OFFICER #1 (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
Anybody got a visual?

SWAT OFFICER #2 (O.S.)  
I can't see anything --

But then, Turner, Cullen, Harper and Duela spot --

A SILHOUETTE moving through the flames, brutally taking out SWAT Officers left and right. Cries ring out as kicks and punches snap bones and dislocate jaws.

The four of them exchange looks. *What the fuck is happening?*

It's then the SHADOW emerges from the smoke and flames, revealing their savior is --

A FOUR-FOOT-ELEVEN 15-YEAR-OLD BLACK GIRL. Staring back at them through GREEN-TINTED TACTICAL GLASSES. As they all take in this diminutive badass:

TURNER  
Who the hell are you?

A SWAT Officer comes at the Girl and -- WHAM! -- she LEVELS HIM with a haymaker. Then jerks her head back to Turner.

GIRL  
I'm Robin.

(CONTINUED)

She moves the tactical glasses to her forehead, allowing a better look at her face.

TURNER  
Wait. I know you --

And so do we. It's CARRIE.

CARRIE (FORMERLY "GIRL")  
Carrie Kelley --

TURNER  
From trig!

Carrie smiles, happy to finally be recognized. But then she notices the GCPD Officers are starting to come to.

CARRIE  
We have to go. Now.

CULLEN  
Tell me you brought the Batmobile.

CARRIE  
No. My mom's car. Gonna be a tight squeeze.

But Duela doesn't budge. She stares daggers at Turner.

DUELA  
I'm not going anywhere with him. He almost got us killed.

Turner looks to Duela, Harper and Cullen, genuine.

TURNER  
I know. I'm sorry. I just --

WHAM! Duela PUNCHES Turner right across his jaw.

DUELA  
Apology accepted.

Turner rubs his jaw. *Yeah. Probably deserved that.* And as Duela joins Carrie:

DUELA (CONT'D)  
I call shotgun!

As they disappear into the SMOKE --

**END OF ACT FIVE**

ACT SIX

59

EXT. GOTHAM CEMETERY - NIGHT (N4)

59

Moonlight washes over a GRAVESTONE etched with the name "BRUCE WAYNE," which has been erected beside those of his slain parents, Thomas and Martha Wayne. REVEAL Turner standing at his father's graveside.

TURNER

I'm going to find who did this.

He turns to Carrie, who we now see is standing beside him.

TURNER (CONT'D)

How'd you know it wasn't us?

CARRIE

When you work with the World's Greatest Detective, you pick up a few things.

Turner eyes her, a bit wounded by Carrie's admission.

TURNER

So you knew my dad was Batman?

CARRIE

He didn't exactly tell me. Kinda found out. Mutant Gang threw him off the roof of my building. I pulled him to safety. Not a bad way to meet your hero. After that, I became his eyes and ears. Even gave me these.  
(points to her glasses)  
Called me his little "Robin."

Turner regards her for a moment, then admits:

TURNER

You knew my dad in a way I never will.

CARRIE

I knew him well enough to know that you were the thing he loved most in this world.

TURNER

But not enough to tell me the truth about who he was.

CARRIE

You wanna know why he didn't tell you he was Batman? He didn't want you to follow him down that path.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

59

CARRIE (CONT'D)

You both suffered such loss. But he was always so impressed that you never gave in to the darkness like he did.

At last Turner has the answer to the question that's been haunting him: Why Bruce never told him.

CARRIE (CONT'D)

Your father may have been a hero to all of Gotham, but he always used to tell me that his hero was you.

Turner takes in that breathtaking revelation, the emotional weight of it landing on him.

Nearby, leaning against a GRAVESTONE alongside Cullen and Harper, an impatient Duela CALLS OUT:

DUELA

And unless we all wanna be buried next to him, we might want to get the hell out of here.

60

**EXT. GOTHAM CITY HALL - NIGHT (N4)**

60

DOZENS OF REPORTERS are gathered on the steps of City Hall with harsh lights and cameras aimed at Harvey Dent, who holds a PRESS CONFERENCE.

HARVEY

In the wake of the violent escape from a GCPD convoy earlier tonight, I want to assure the citizens of Gotham...

61

**INT. STEPHANIE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT (N4)**

61

PULL BACK from a TV to find Stephanie, seated on her bed, surrounded by Turner's BANK RECORD PRINT-OUTS. She looks up from the pages to Harvey's press conference.

HARVEY (ON TV)

*...that we will be marshaling all of the city's resources to hunt down the fugitives Harper and Cullen Row, The Joker's Daughter...*

ON TV: Harvey pauses, torn between his feelings for Turner and his duty to Gotham, then utters the final name:

HARVEY (ON TV) (CONT'D)

*...and Bruce Wayne's own son... Turner Hayes. All of whom should be considered extremely dangerous.*

(CONTINUED)

61

As those words land on Stephanie, herself torn --

62

INT. GOTHAM ACADEMY - THE BELFRY - NIGHT (N4)

62

Moonlight streams through the windows as Turner leads Duela, Harper, Cullen and Carrie into this Gothic sanctuary.

TURNER

They'll be looking for us in every gutter, every alley, every dark corner of the city. So we stick to the high ground.

They eye the dust and cobwebs. Harper's not sold on it.

TURNER (CONT'D)

I know it's not much, but --

CULLEN

Better than what we're used to.

Duela gazes out one of the windows, mesmerized by the view of the TWINKLING LIGHTS of Gotham.

DUELA

Gotham's kinda pretty when you're not looking at it from the street.

HARPER

So what's the plan? Hide up here until they hunt us down?

TURNER

We're going to find who really killed my dad. And clear our names.

HARPER

Look around. A bunch of thieves-turned-fugitives? A sidekick? Batman's orphan? We're a lot a things, but we're not cops.

TURNER

Neither was my dad. Didn't stop him from taking down criminals.

Duela pries herself away from the view, WAVING to them.

DUELA

Hi. Over here in the back? Pretty sure the guy who killed your dad was that detective who tried to do the same to us.

(CONTINUED)

CARRIE

No, I checked. Ford was accounted for at the time of the murder. Which means he was just part of the cover-up.

CULLEN

And he must've been paid a lot for it.

He pulls an EXPENSIVE WRISTWATCH from his jacket.

CULLEN (CONT'D)

Swiped it from Ford during the escape. Pretty nice watch, even on a dirty cop's salary. Figured we could fence it.

(turns it over)

Engraving's gonna ding the street value, though.

Duela takes it from him, looks at it... and then her face goes ASHEN.

DUELA

We should've just let him kill us. 'Cause we're already dead.

And that's when we see what's etched onto the back of Detective Ford's watch:

AN ATHENIAN OWL.

The exact image we saw on the coin Harvey showed Turner.

TURNER

Wait. I've seen that before. My dad was investigating it. What does it mean?

And for the first time, we see that Duela is truly afraid.

DUELA

It's the symbol of The Court of Owls. They're the ones who really run this city. No one knows who they are. And you don't dare ask. Because if you find out, they'll be the last thing you see.

They all listen, chilled by her words. Harper eyes her, skeptical.

HARPER

How do you know all this?

(CONTINUED)

62

DUELA

Because while you were being read  
bedtime stories, I was listening to  
the warning that echoed through the  
halls of Arkham.

(then, reciting)

*Beware The Court of Owls, that  
watches all the time...  
Ruling Gotham from a shadowed  
perch, behind granite and lime...*

And as her recitation of the ancient warning CONTINUES --

63

**INT. WAYNE MANOR - NIGHT (N4) - INTERCUT**

63

Cressida stands before a ROARING FIREPLACE. Papers clutched  
in her hand. She then hurls the pages INTO THE FIRE.

DUELA (V.O.)

*They watch you at your hearth...*

Cressida watches them burn, her face inscrutable. As FLAMES  
consume the pages, we glimpse the words: **"Proposed Amendments  
to the Last Will and Testament of Bruce Thomas Wayne."**

DUELA (V.O.)

*They watch you in your bed...*

And as those words are reduced to ash --

64

**INT. GCPD - UNDERGROUND GARAGE - NIGHT (N4) - INTERCUT**

64

Detective Ford's FOOTSTEPS echo through the parking garage as  
he walks to his CAR, his hand newly BANDAGED.

Suddenly... Ford is aware of a PRESENCE. But when he turns --  
NOTHING.

DUELA (V.O.)

*Speak not a whispered word of them...*

Ford turns back towards his car, and catches a glimpse of --

A HOODED FIGURE.

Ford's terrified SCREAM is cut short by -- THE FLASH OF A  
SWORD'S BLADE... A SPRAY OF BLOOD.

DUELA (V.O.)

*...or they'll send The Talon for  
your head.*

**END OF PILOT**