

JUSTICE LEAGUE UNLIMITED

"Doomsday"

Outline, 04/20/04

TEASER

1. EXT. AMANDA WALLER'S HOUSE - DAWN. It's a fortress, security gates, armed guards, etc. We HEAR THE SOUND of an ALARM CLOCK RINGING.

2. INT. AMANDA WALLER'S HOUSE - DAWN. Amanda groggily shuts off her alarm clock and climbs out of bed. In quick shots she climbs into her slippers, chugs a cup of coffee from her coffeemaker and pulls a dry cleaned suit out of the closet. In passing, we see a bank of security monitors, she's got every inch of her estate covered. Amanda climbs into the shower. She doesn't see the monitors going to static, one after another.

Amanda's arm reaches out from behind the shower door, groping for a towel. She mutters unhappily as she can't seem to find it. BATMAN puts the towel in her hand. "Get dressed. We've got a lot to talk about"

ACT ONE

1. INT. AMANDA WALLER'S KITCHEN - MORNING. Batman confronts a fully-dressed and none-to-happy Waller

2. HAMILTON HIGH - NIGHT. "This is Justice League headquarters?" We go inside the bombed out high school to find the heroes. Batman is complaining about the unsuitability of the school as a command center. What happened to the Watchtower? "It's gone. We lost a lot of good people when it was destroyed." The people here are the only surviving members of the Justice League Unlimited. "And the Batcave?" "It served me well for over half a century. Now, this school is all we have. Deal with it." The speaker, a wizened old man is OLD BRUCE (this is Bruce Wayne from Batman Beyond, our Bruce aged an additional 50 years). Batman and Old Bruce stare each other down for a long beat. Batman Beyond tries to break the tension. "Batman, Bruce Wayne. Bruce Wayne? Batman. Or have you met?" Both men answer at the same time. "Quiet!" "Great. What did they used to call this? Stereo."

- Meanwhile, Green Lantern has cornered Warhawk and is questioning him. Warhawk. "This is a little weird for me.

You look so young..." GL: "You say I'm your father, or I will be. Who's your mother?" Warhawk indicates his wings, "That's kind of obvious, isn't it?" Batman interrupts, "Even if it isn't, you don't want to know too much about your own future." He looks over at Old Bruce and frowns, "You really don't." Static allows as to how maybe they do, just a little, he asks Old Bruce how all of this turns out. He must remember this from before, he lived through it once." "You'd think." But Old Bruce has no memory of ever meeting his younger self, or any of these events. The timeline is so polluted now that history is fluid. Wonder Woman takes charge. "We'd better compare notes."

3. INT. TITANIC SUITE - NIGHT. David Clinton, now "CHRONOS," is obviously lord of all he surveys. He's also way crazy as he inspects his troops, the Techno Jokerz who we saw ambush the League in the first scene. They know they're in deep. CHUCKO tries to butter him up, complimenting him on his new acquisition, the Titanic. Chronos is proud of it, he also brought the iceberg back, which he thinks is a nice touch. His wife ENID, now dressed in Elizabethan finery is sucking up to him too but not enough to completely divert him from his anger at the Jokerz. He

dresses down his troops, he allows them to run free in return for their help in protecting his collection, he went to the future and got the technology that grants them their cool, new powers, he told them when and where the JL from the old west would arrive. They should have easily been able to finish them off. But somehow, the pathetic remnants of the JLU knew about it. How? Chucko promises to investigate. Not necessary, that was rhetorical.

Chronos opens up a "Time View." A hole in space, showing an image of Chucko, taking a bribe from Batman Beyond, in return for vague information about the ambush. Chronos "tsk tsks." "Chucko, Chucko, Chucko,. You have to be punished." At this, everyone, including Enid, FLINCHES. Chronos grabs Chucko's arm and they VANISH in a time-slide.

4. CRETACEOUS/TERTIARY PLAIN - NIGHT. Chronos and Chucko appear in a prehistoric, fern and dinosaur-filled plain. "Enjoy your visit." Chronos VANISHES, leaving Chucko behind. A Dinosaur looks at Chucko. Chuko brandishes his enhancements, scaring off the creature. "You think I'm scared? I'll be running this place in a few..." Chucko

looks up to see the biggest asteroid ever heading right for him. "Aw..."

5. EXT. EARTH - NIGHT. A HUGE EXPLOSION as the dinosaur-extinction asteroid hits the Earth.

6. INT. TITANIC SUITE - NIGHT. Chronos returns, amused at his little prank. He dismisses the remaining Jokerz with orders to find the JLU and finish them all. They leave and he asides to Enid, "Clowns."

Chronos brags to Enid and sucks up ("You can still call me 'David.'"). He still wants her approval. Look what I've done! You said I'd never amount to anything and I've taken over the city! Look at my cool collection, I'm bringing more and more treasures back through time everyday! Enid reminds him of his own warning about the dangers of tampering with the timeline. "Don't you think I can handle it!" Of course she does, she lies, beginning to give him a shoulder rub. "Do you know what would make me happy? If you let my mother out of the thing like you promised..." "We'll see. Rub my neck..." She does, then presses her point too far. He's enraged, almost in tears. "Whatever I do, whatever I accomplish, It'll never be

good enough for you!" She backs off at his show of anger, "Isn't there anything I can do to make things right? He looks at her like a bug. "I sincerely doubt it." She's chilled.

7. INT. HAMILTON HIGH - DAY. The heroes are gathered around a laptop (which projects a BIG floating image into the air). Warhawk explains, Chronos showed up about eight months ago, he organized the street gangs into an army. Static: And gave several of them superpowers, as you've seen. Batman Beyond: We don't know much else about him, he's obviously a time traveler, he's littered the streets with trophies he's stolen from other time periods he's conquered. Wonder Woman: We know a little more about him. She briefly explains what they know from their old west adventure. Green Lantern finishes up. Warhawk: About a week before you arrived, his men had the drop on Superman. Unlike what they did to all the other leaguers they had a shot at, they captured him. (Maybe a flashback?) The future League didn't know why. Static does now, don't you get it? This guy's not a conqueror, he's a collector. Superman's a trophy, probably double-bagged. Old Bruce looks up from his computer. Chronos' collection is causing major damage to the

space-time continuum, it's getting worse and we're approaching a tipping point.

Batman has had a look at Chronos' time belt. He's written a program to disable it (he shows the others the small device he built to upload it). All they have to do is get the belt from him and stop this from ever happening in the first place. Wonder Woman wants to know if that will reset the timestream, maybe even undo the deaths of... She doesn't finish, she VANISHES from the scene. "Diana!" Old Bruce furiously types away. "No." He displays his findings on the screen. Time is literally running out. Gotham is the only piece of space left in space time, and it's dissolving even as they speak. We see on the screen: a white void, with Neo Gotham at its center..

FADE OUT

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

1. INT. HAMILTON HIGH - NIGHT. The League watches the encroaching nothingness in horror. They have to find Chronos and his belt. Is there any way to detect it remotely? Batman, Old Bruce and Static have nothing. GL's ring? Maybe, but it'll be very slow. Superman's heightened senses could find it in no time. Then we go get Superman. How do we find him? Batman is on his way out, "Sometimes the old ways are the best." Batman Beyond is dubious, you don't know your way around here. A lot of things hve changed." Batman doesn't even break stride. "Uh huh."

2. EXT. NEO GOTHAM - DAY. Batman is perched on a futuristic rooftop as if he were on Stakeout. "You're supposed to be the real Batman, aren't you. I've seen holos about you." GHOUL has ambushed him. "Hard to believe somebody as stupid as you are ever gave the original Joker any trouble at all." Ghoul is wrong, of course. Batman was the bait for a trap set by the League. They quickly capture Ghoul.

Batman Beyond begins to interrogate the Joker, trying to frighten him into talking. Batman is impatient, he grabs

Joker and dangles him off the edge of the building. "This is how you interrogate someone. Old Bruce dodders over. "I can't believe I was ever that green. This is how you interrogate someone." Old Bruce's shadow falls over the Joker.

3. SAME LOCATION, LATER. The Joker is terrified, comically babbling everything he knows, whether relevant (Warhawk: "You gotta admit, the old man has a gift"). Joker honestly doesn't know where to find Chronos. Chronos spends each night in a different one of his historical treasures, there's no way of knowing which one he'll pick. Old Bruce frowns, "I'm losing patience." Joker is terrified, flinching. Batman piles on, "I can't control my friend for very long, you better give us something we can use. Where can we find Superman?" Joker instantly answers. Static can't believe this: Batman playing good cop? Green Lantern: "Everything's relative."

4. NEO GOTHAM METROPOLITAN MUSEUM - NIGHT. The heroes use their unique powers to break into the technologically-guarded complex. Inside they find Museum Of Natural History-style dioramas, with famous historical figures (Lincoln, Genghis Khan, Napoleon, et cetera

under what Warhawk calls a "stasis beam." Superman is also there, likewise frozen. Static takes down the stasis beam. Amid the comic confusion of the famous people, Superman recovers, takes one look at Batman and GL and figures out what's going on. Superman starts using his super-senses to search for Chronos. Green Lantern uses his ring to get a blueprint of the device Batman built to interface with the Time Belt, then reverse engineers it to "teach" his ring to scan for "chronotons," (quantum time particles) but it's going to be slow. As he speaks, he turns into HAL JORDAN, a Green Lantern who never existed in this timeline. Hal continues speaking as if nothing odd has happened, from his point of view he's always been there. Finally he notices the bewilderment of his teammates. "What?" Things are getting worse. Any of them can be altered or even wiped out existence without warning. They've got to move fast.

"Yes you do." Enid is there. They've set off silent alarms, if she saw it, Chronos surely will. She explains who she is and tells them she can help. She knows where Chronos is. Superman gently assures her that they just want to undo the harm Chronos has wrought, they'll do whatever they can to keep from hurting him. Enid shrugs,

she wouldn't much mind if he were hurt along the way. Well where is he? The Parthenon? The Sphinx? Nah, that's just what he wants people to think. He always sleeps in the same place...

5. EXT. THE COLOSSIUM - NIGHT. It's magnificent, like the day it was constructed, towering statues, new marble colossal scale - and at the center of it, the last thing anyone would expect to see: The ELKHORN SHERIFF'S OFFICE from part one. The heroes and Enid stealthily approach.

Hal Jordan turns back into John Stewart. Static tells him to, "make up your mind, would you?" Warhawk is nervous about the stakes. If they fail here, it's the end of everything. "What do you do when you have the weight of the world on your shoulders?" John smiles and clasps his shoulder warmly, "Plant your feet."

They enter the Sheriff's Office. With everything Chronos has, why would he sleep there? Enid sniffs, "Because with everything he has, he's still a loser." Inside the office, the Heroes and Enid see him, a pathetic figure, curled up on a prison cot in a fetal position. Another step sets off an alarm, awakening Chronos.

Chronos summons the remaining TECHNNO JOKERS, they (and perhaps a few we haven't seen before?) attack. SET PIECE BATTLE. This is a spectacular, brutal fight. Losses on bond both sides are heavy. Old Bruce is giving Batman Beyond advice over his radio when the signal goes dead. As Chronos and Enid argue (he's appalled at her betrayal, says this is all her fault for pushing him. She retorts that she just wanted him to assert himself a bit, get tenure, not destroy all space and time), the fight winds down. Only Batman and an injured Green Lantern (he has a nasty cut on his forehead) are on their feet. They approach Chronos, GL trying to talk sense into him, if he keeps it up, there'll be nothing left to win. Chronos laughs, revealing that this is the 937th time they've had this fight. Chronos has lost every one before resetting it and trying again. He's decided this scenario is un-winnable and as time is, uh, running out, he's taking another approach. "Enid! Next time you'll love me!" Chronos TIME SLIDES. Batman and Green Lantern chase him.

6. INTERIOR TIME SLIDE. Injured Green Lantern grits it out, carrying himself and Batman in an Energy Bubble chasing Chronos. That can't let him arrive ahead of them again.

Where's he headed? To the beginning of time, from there he can start everything over and see to it that it's the way he wants it to be. He will become, in effect, God. He stops ranting as he looks at the images at the end of the tunnel.: A negative image of gigantic closed hand surrounded by blackness. The hand opens and we see a spark of light in its palm, the light coalesces into stars and galaxies. It's the Big Bang! Green Lantern tells Batman about the Green Lantern Corp legend that it's a universal law that no one can see the beginning of time. Batman: "Write him a ticket." On Chronos' rapt face, as light plays across it. He's like Dave Bowman watching the light show in 2001: a Space Odyssey, it's full of stars. Now the process reverses, the stars go back into the palm, the hand begins to close. We're moments before the beginning of time. Green Lantern and Batman catch up to Chronos. GL restrains him as Batman uploads his "patch" into the belt. They all tumble out of the end of the tunnel into the void..

And everything FADES TO WHITE..

7. INT. THE WATCHTOWER COMMISSARY - NIGHT. Batman and Green Lantern are seated at the table, just as they were in the

beginning of episode one. Green Lantern: Did that all just happen? Batman confirms that it did. So they won? Everything's back to normal? Wonder Woman comes over with her tray and sits with them, she remarks on GL's "nasty cut." She remembers nothing of this. Batman tells GL that the past and the future have been restored to equilibrium, only the two of them remember the adventure. Wonder woman asks, "adventure?" GL stares curiously at Hawkgirl for a long moment, irritating her. She walks out of the commissary. GL: "This complicates things..." GL wonders what happened to Chronos. Batman doesn't know the details but he patched the timeline so that Chronos never existed. Whatever happened to him, he's sure that David Clinton is a lot happier.

8. GOTHAM CITY - 2055. REPRINT FROM PART ONE - DAVID CLINTON is being read the riot act by his wife for being such a loser. Irritated, he's about to escape her by using the time belt to go back and steal Batman's utility belt but the instant before he can push the button...

TIME LOOPS and David Clinton is being read the riot act by his wife for being such a loser. Irritated, he's about to escape her by using the time belt to go back and steal

*Batman's utility belt but the instant before he can push
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FADE OUT

THE END