Knightfall Plan

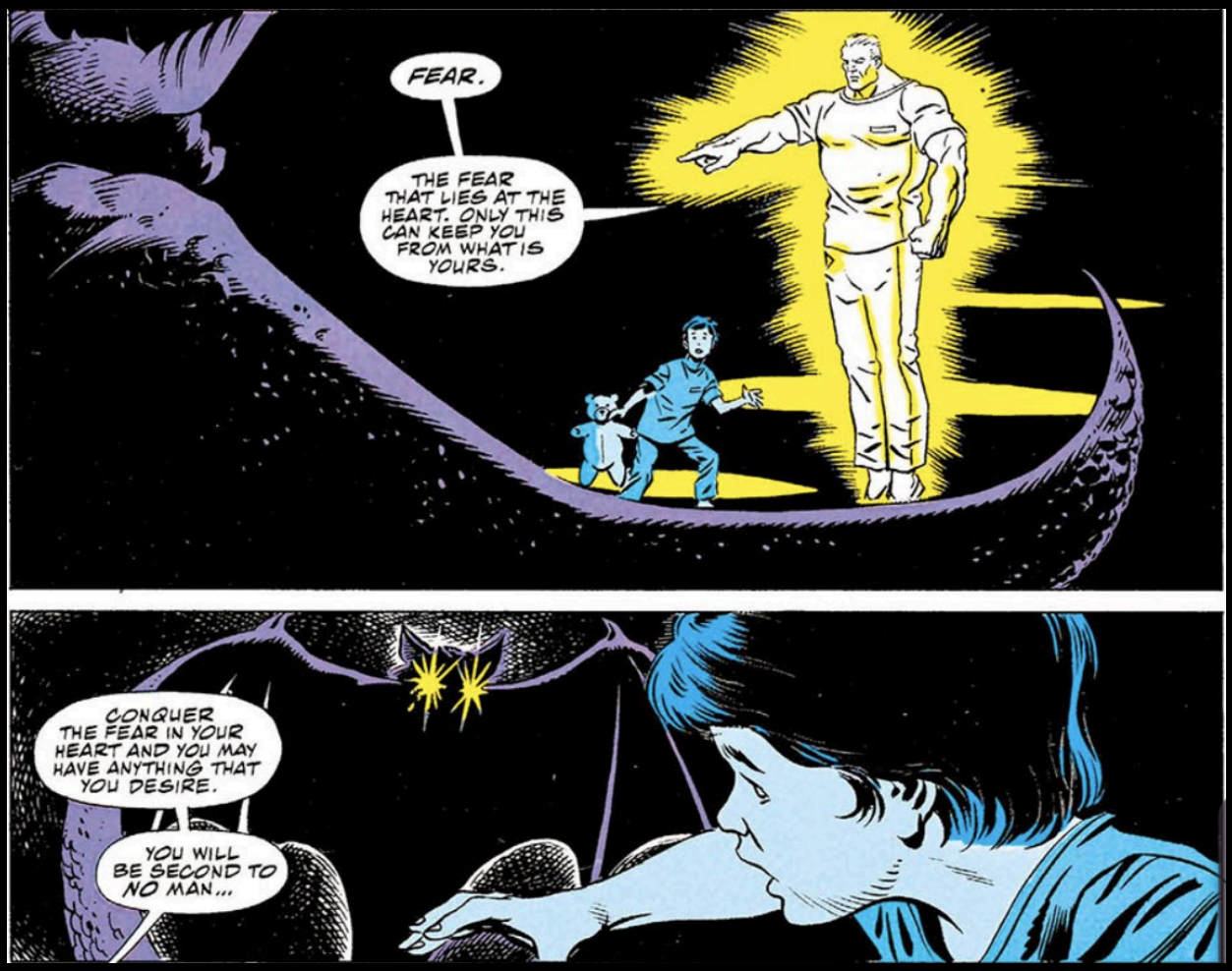


Why is this being made?

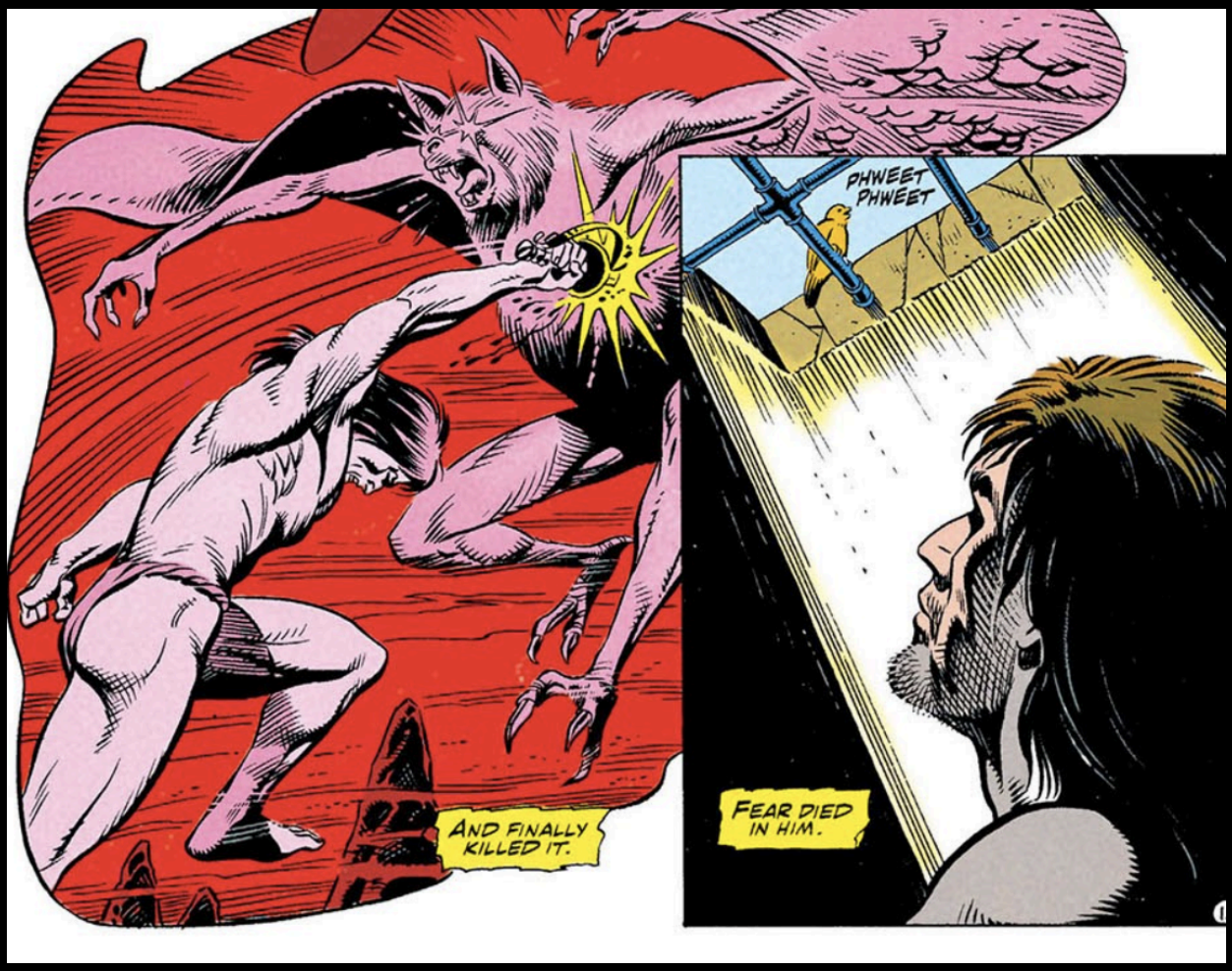
The reason for creating this document is to give a better explanation of Bane's "Knightfall plan" to take down Batman. My earlier doc didn't explain how smart and effective Bane's plan really is. Plus, a lot of people misunderstand what Bane is really trying to do and miss some key points about his character that make his plan work so well. Some think Bane's plan is all about deception, but that's not really the case. While there is some trickery involved, the real power of the Knightfall plan comes from Bane's careful planning and deep understanding of Batman. This document aims to clear up these misconceptions and give a thorough explanation of the Knightfall plan.

What is Bane’s goal?
(AIM)

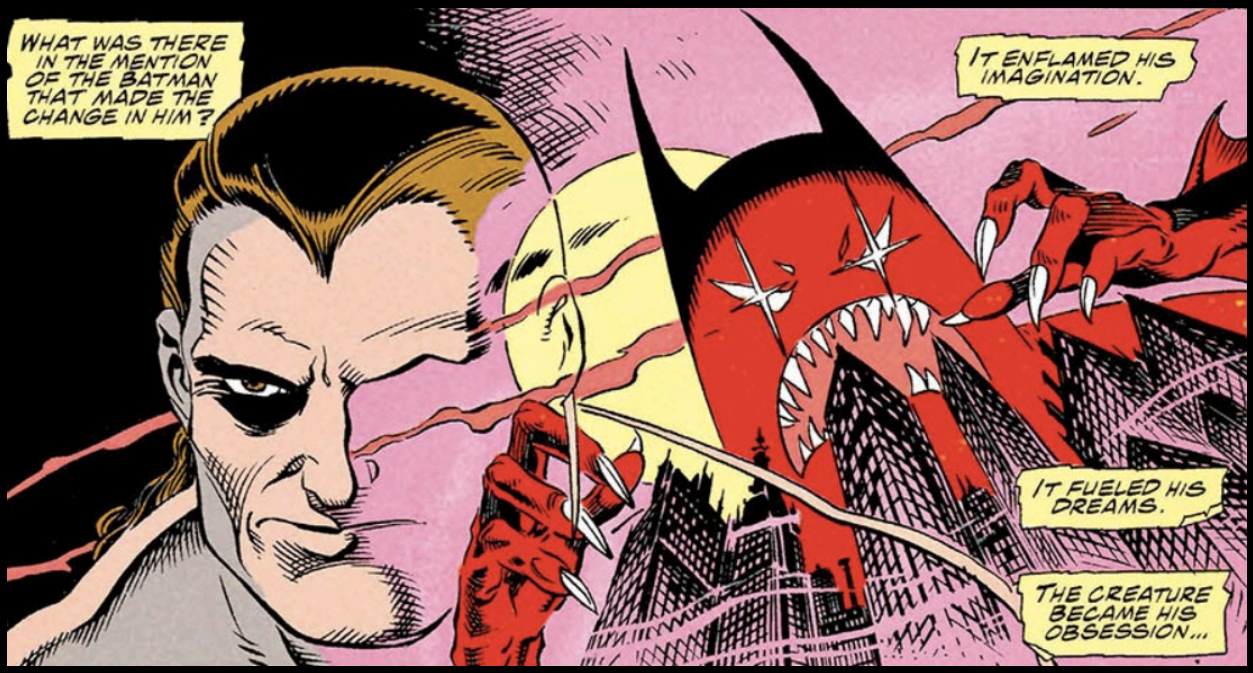
- This part often confuses people because many forget to mention *Batman: Vengeance of Bane #1*. Some argue that Bane's plan is about taking over Gotham and controlling the city, while others believe it's about using Batman to prove a point. Both of these make sense, but they miss the deeper reasons behind Bane's actions. To really understand what drives him, we need to dive into *Vengeance of Bane* and explore his backstory.



- In Bane's backstory, there's a striking moment where he envisions his future self. He sees a bat-like figure that fills him with fear, making him feel insecure. Future Bane teaches a powerful lesson: conquering fear is essential to becoming a true man. Fear leads to defeat, but overcoming it guarantees victory. This fear of the bat-like figure troubles Bane.



- Later down his prison life, Bane learns a lot about a mysterious bat figure through some inmates. After hearing it, it has completely taken him over. Making him feel a sort of way. Where we finally figure out what makes Bane so obsessed with Batman.



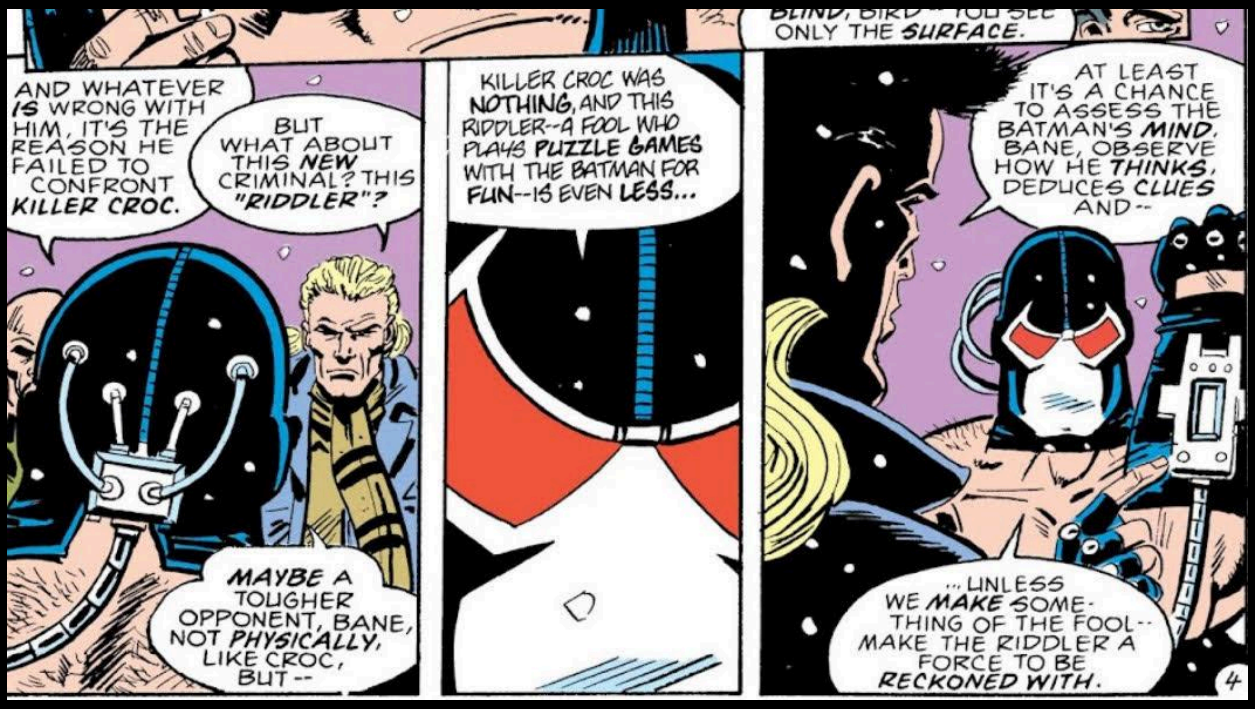
- Bane wants to get rid of all the fear he has, Bane has always been scared of this batlike creature ever since he was a child, The idea that it has become human and is stalking the night, scaring inmates. This is a perfect opportunity for Bane to try to conquer the fear he has always felt. With this in mind we understand what Bane's goal was. A pretty simple goal but with multiple solutions. But we are not at that part yet. I present to you the Knightfall plan.

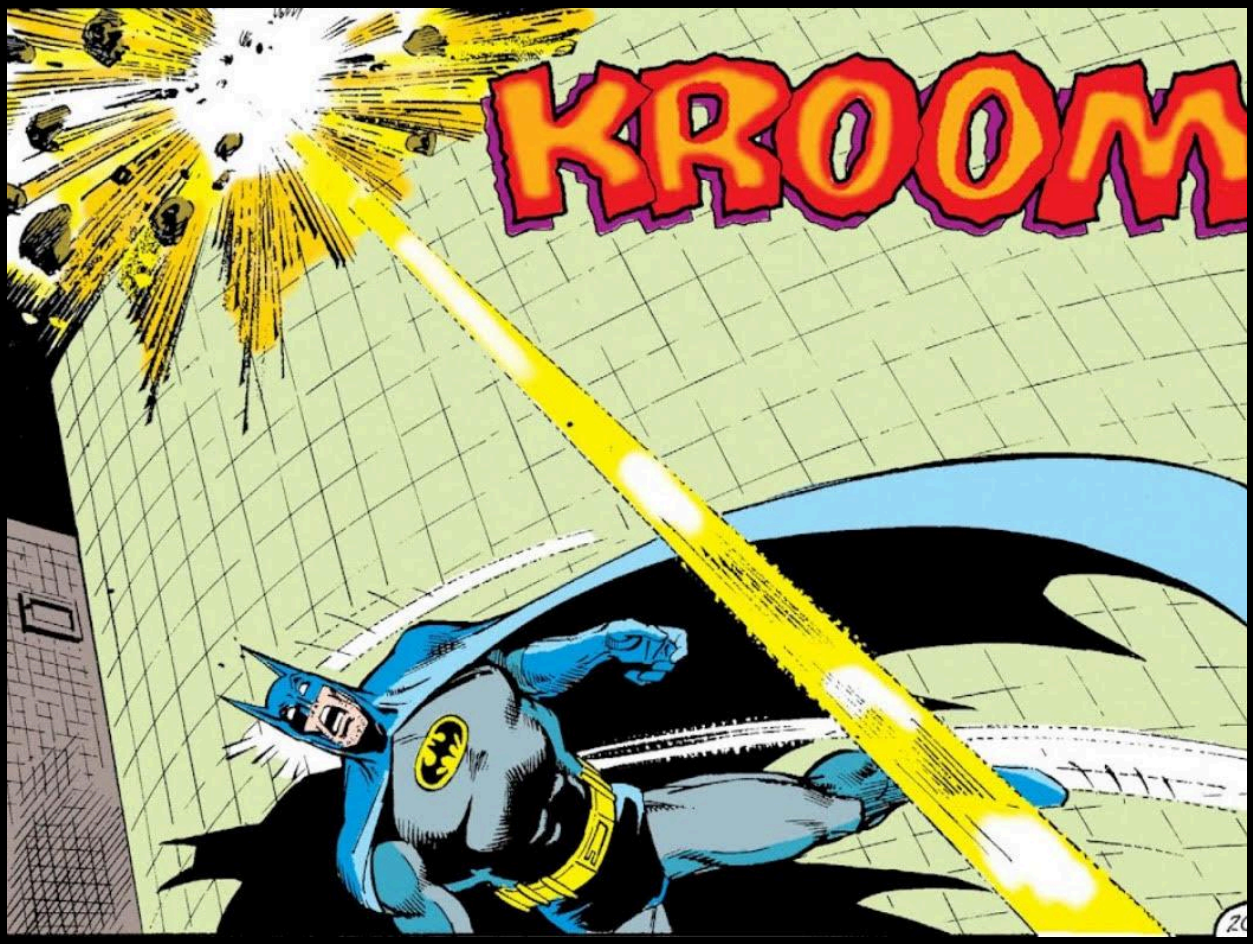
How does Bane operate his Villains?

This is probably the most simple part of this. We all know the classic "Bane releases villains to attack Batman. It's a very simple yet effective thing to do. How these villains are placed however and what he does with them is fairly interesting. First off, how does he know how to place them? Since he has no background knowledge of anyone while he is in the prison. He quickly analyzes every villain and sees how much of a "threat" he views them to be Batman. This isn't directly stated but heavily implicated due to how he views Riddler in Prelude to Knightfall. We also see this when he's able to perfectly tell Batman is fibbing when Poison Ivy thought she mind controlled him. So it is clear that Bane has at least gotten a general insight on every rogue before this plan started. He

makes sure to also make it like a gauntlet. He has the least threatening foes first and the more threatening foes next. Notice how I said “threatening” as it’s not just how strong they are, but how much they can break Batman. Someone like Joker is gonna break Batman more than Killer Croc and Bane knows this. So he sets up more physically imposing foes before psychologically breaking ones. Except the last ones Batman fights after Joker, however that’s more or so just to make sure Batman is physically destroyed before he sees Bane rather than an omega trap in his plan. There is something I see no one bring up though. Bane has always had a contingency for every single Batman rogue just in case they were close to beating Batman. Keep in mind, Bane wants Batman to win each fight. Bane wants to be the one to beat Batman down to the ground. So he makes sure to have a contingency for every rogue. Again this ain’t stated however alluded to. We see this mainly in Joker and Scarecrow's interaction. Bane directly supplies scarecrows with a rocket launcher and has them go down to a tunnel where water surrounds it all around. Bane knows that no matter what, Batman will be able to get out of a flooded tunnel. It’s not a stretch at all to assume he has a contingency for every villain if he has it for them, as you still need to remember, Bane’s main goal is not for Batman to be dead. It’s for him to beat Batman. To overcome his fear.

Scans provided here:





How does Bane operate Batman?

Bane isn't a deceptive villain; in fact, he remains straightforward throughout his plan. While he does employ deception at times, his honesty is evident in several key interactions. Bane introduces himself to both Batman and Robin, and Batman is aware that Bane is orchestrating the entire operation. However, what Batman doesn't realize is how much Bane already knows about him from a previous encounter. Bane has already studied Batman's fighting style, moral code, and even his true identity as Bruce Wayne, which he deduces effortlessly. By monitoring Batman closely, Bane accurately gauges his emotional state, understanding when and how to strike both physically and psychologically. Bane's goal isn't just to physically defeat Batman but to also to break him mentally without causing his death. This explains why Bane does the conflict over months, ensuring Batman never fully heals mentally, but can heal physically/injuries.

So why does Bane reveal his true identity to Batman? The answer lies in manipulation. Having learned Batman's unwavering commitment to protecting Gotham, Bane exploits this knowledge to his advantage. By revealing himself as the mastermind, Bane manipulates Batman's emotions, ensuring that no matter how Batman reacts, whether it's grief or anger. Bane maintains control. Even when Bane captures Robin and engineers a scenario in the sewers with Killer Croc, it's all part of his plan to further pressure Batman into action, knowing that every move Batman makes only strengthens Bane's psychological hold over him/Psychological Warfare.

(ask me in dms for scans on this part, for some reason google doc being a bitch.)

The Order of the Plan

This is easily the hardest part about his plan. It’s difficult to set everything together. There will be 3 comics to keep in mind. Batman: Vengeance of Bane #1, Prelude to Knightfall and Knightfall. We start the plan by Bane releasing most of the Arkham rogue possible, after analyzing them of course. Some are released later like Joker. Batman sees this and starts his journey. When Batman figures out about this, he is quick to the chase and hunts down Black Mask first. It’s an extremely difficult thing to try to hunt down Black Mask, when he gets to Black Mask he is quickly met with another rogue beating him up, Batman is capable of slamming him but loses black mask. The next foe is a new dude, his name is Metal head. Batman doesn’t waste any time and immediately heads to Metal head’s current location. He didn’t even try to take a break. Metal head is a difficult foe and does a number on Batman, stabbing him in the chest and just stabbing him all around. Batman is able to win but at what cost? He is broken down and is even more tired. We see this affect him more the next morning, where now he is slower and weaker. Even while not fighting anyone major, he’s slowly and slowly losing it. He even tries meditation but is so mind fucked to the point where he jumps when he tries. As he is haunted by defeat. Next foe is Killer croc. Too bad that Bane believes Killer Croc doesn’t really stand a chance to further weakening Batman, to where he just goes there and slams Killer Croc on his back. He quickly goes to attack Robin and Batman, but instantly realizes that Batman isn’t Batman. It’s not Bruce Wayne, instead it’s Azrael. Which already shows that Bane knows Batman’s fighting style and true identity perfectly. If he can look at a near identical version of Batman and instantly tell that it’s not him. I will show an image of Azrael and Batman side by side to show how hard it would have to be to separate the two.



(Jean is top and Batman is bottom)

Extremely similar. Riddler is next and Bane is, to say, unimpressed with what Riddler already is. He looks down on Riddler, so he injects him with Venom after quickly solving his Riddle. Not to 100% though, as he wants Batman to find Riddler. This venom makes him strong enough to hurt Batman, Riddler leaves and Batman tries to stop the bomb. He is too late though as the building explodes. This is Failure #2, I will be counting most of these since they are extremely important. As that's one of the main ways to manipulate Batman, to make him think he has failed. We finally get to Bane releasing Joker, now this part is interestingly enough unimportant. It is not needed to understand the order of Bane's plan at all. Just know that now Joker is released. We are finally into actual Knightfall to where Batman hunts down Madhatter. Now Batman finally starts

suspecting Bane's plan. He quickly questions Madhatter instead of knocking him out. Madhatter is resilient and then decides to just shoot Batman, to bad Batman one shots him. At this point even thinking of Bane makes Batman weaker, he has a lot on his shoulders and is suspected to break down soon. Zsasz is up and Batman is pissed. He thinks far more now and is despised about Zsasz. We see how visibly angry he is as he fights Zsasz. Beating him brutally to the ground. After this happens and after the cop breaks him out of it, he is now disappointed in himself. Feeling the worst he ever has in a long time. We get Tim Drake's sewer trap I explained earlier and how that now affects Batman. He fights firefly but it’s an offscreen fight, we do get a shot of him failing to capture Firefly though. This is his 3rd failure. Now with Poison Ivy he gets some good luck though. While at a ball Batman is able to show his acting skills(easily seen through by Bane), and while he struggles against the mutated humans, he quickly defeats them and one shots Poison ivy. This still takes a lot of energy which depletes Batman. Now we are at Joker and Scarecrow. Bane put them together because he is aware of how good they work together and how their chemistry is. They quickly take Batman to his final breaking point, using fear toxin to make Batman relive the death of Jason Todd. He goes HAM on Joker and Scarecrow. Bane has Batman finally where he wants him, the tunnel gets destroyed by Scarecrow shooting a rocket launcher and running away with Joker. Batman is able to save a human life but is far more angry than ever before. He drives home and feels like he’s gonna die, only to see the masked man himself, Bane. At his door ready to fight at any moment. Bane is finally able to take down Batman. Batman reflects on his life, thinking about everything he has done. Batman still fights afraid he is gonna die, Bane is aware of this and takes advantage of it. Eventually beating him down enough to where he lifts Batman over his shoulders, lifting his true fear above him and the man who has always feared defeat. He slams him on his knee, having Gotham fall and

BREAKING THE BAT.


...BREAK YOU!
KRAK T