

BATS OUT OF HELL

PART
ONE

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SUPERMAN CREATED BY **JERRY SIEGEL**
AND **JOE SHUSTER**. BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT
WITH THE **JERRY SIEGEL** FAMILY.



MY NAME IS
BARRY ALLEN.
I'M THE FLASH.

SUPERMAN AND
I HAVE RACED
MANY TIMES...

...BUT TODAY I
NEED HIM TO WIN.

THE MULTIVERSE
DEPENDS ON IT.





SEVEN DAYS AGO, CHALLENGERS' MOUNTAIN APPEARED IN GOTHAM CITY FROM A WORLD OF CHAOS CALLED THE DARK MULTIVERSE.*

IT WAS LIKE THE SHOT OF A STARTING GUN TO A RACE WITH NO END.

A RACE WHERE I'VE BEEN RUNNING AGAINST MY WORST FEARS, MADE REAL.

* See METAL #!! --Tay



NOTHING SEEMS REAL ANYMORE.



I RUN...



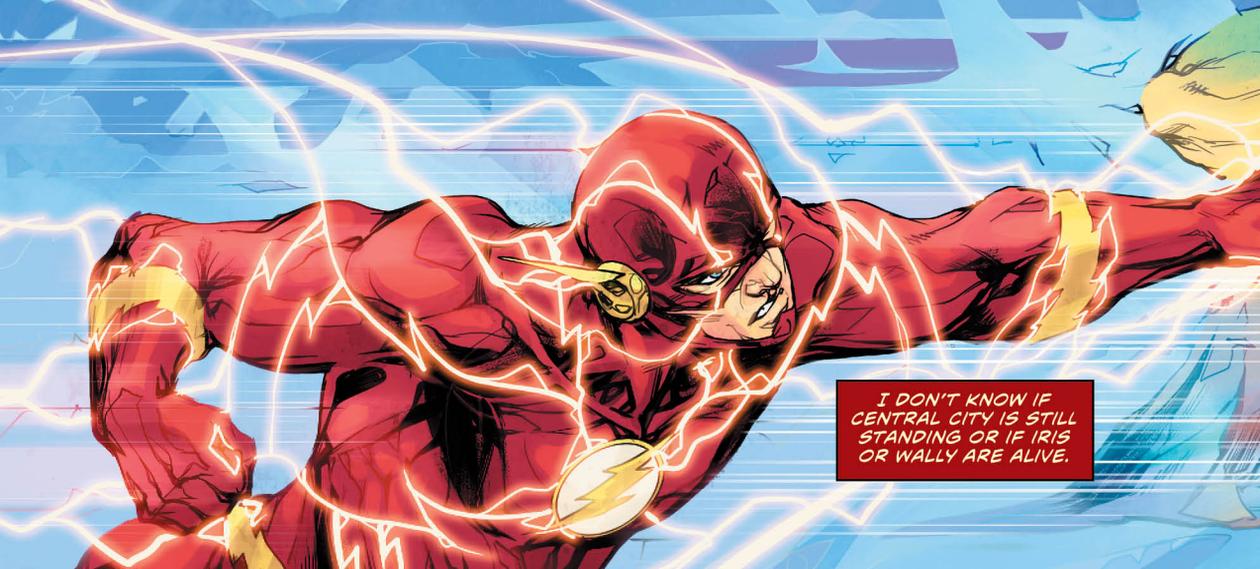
...WE LOSE.



I KEEP GOING...



EVERYONE ELSE HAS SCATTERED, LOOKING FOR ANSWERS...



I DON'T KNOW IF CENTRAL CITY IS STILL STANDING OR IF IRIS OR WALLY ARE ALIVE.



THE DEMON BARBATOS USED BATMAN AS A DOORWAY TO OUR WORLD AND BROUGHT THROUGH SEVEN NIGHTMARE VERSIONS OF BRUCE WAYNE.



PERVERSIONS OF NOT ONLY BATMAN, BUT OF THE LEAGUE AS WELL. THROUGH THEM, THE WORLD HAS BEEN TRANSFORMED.



...IT HURTS.



SUPERMAN BELIEVES BATMAN IS ALIVE...



...SOMEWHERE IN THIS UNKNOWN REALM...



...THAT HE'S THE KEY TO SAVING THE WORLD.



...BUT ONLY I CAN HELP SEND SUPERMAN TO FIND BATMAN.



SO STEEL AND I CAME HERE, TO THE FORTRESS, TO LAUNCH OUR OWN SHOT BACK AT THE DARK MULTIVERSE.



BUT I CAN HEAR BRUCE'S VOICE IN MY HEAD, SAYING WHAT HE ALWAYS SAYS WHENEVER I'M UNCERTAIN...



FFHHOOOSH

 "...JUST RUN FASTER, BARRY!"

YOU THINK SUPERMAN MADE IT, FLASH?

IN ALL MY TRAVELS WITHIN THE MULTIVERSE, I'VE ALWAYS APPRECIATED THE ORDER OF IT, STEEL.

THE DARK MULTIVERSE, ON THE OTHER HAND, IS NOT ORDER.

IT'S CHAOS GIVEN FORM... BUT...



HOW CAN YOU SEE SUPERMAN FLY AND NOT BE INSPIRED?

HE WILL FIND BATMAN. I KNOW IT.





I WISH I SHARED YOUR OPTIMISM, FLASH.

THE PORTAL TO THE DARK MULTIVERSE IS HOLDING STRONG... FOR NOW.

I'D LOVE TO STUDY THIS MACHINE.

IT CALLS TO THE METAL IN MY HAMMER...

IGNORE IT.

THE KNOWN MULTIVERSE EXISTS ON DIFFERENT VIBRATIONAL PLANES...

...AND THIS COSMIC TUNING TOWER WAS DESIGNED TO ALIGN THEM.



BUT BATMAN STUDYING IT IS PART OF WHY WE'RE ALL IN THIS MESS TO BEGIN WITH.

THE VIBRATIONS COMING OFF IT...

...I'VE FELT THEM... BEFORE.

WE'RE MEN OF SCIENCE, FLASH.

BUT WE DON'T NEED OUR DEGREES TO SEE THAT BATMAN HAD NO BUSINESS WITH A DEVICE OF THIS MAGNITUDE.

WE'LL DEAL WITH THAT AFTER SUPERMAN FINDS HIM. THEY'RE GOING TO NEED THIS PORTAL OPEN TO COME HOME.



HOPEFULLY, THE JUSTICE LEAGUE'S SATELLITE RELAY IS STILL WORKING...

FLASH TO JUSTICE LEAGUE. DO YOU READ ME?

SUPERMAN'S ENTERED THE PHANTOM ZONE TO FIND BATMAN. PLEASE TELL ME YOU'VE FOUND MOUNTAINS OF NTH METAL AND ARE ALREADY ON YOUR WAY BACK.

