

RIDDLER:
THE FALL OF GOTHAM
(Femme Joker Spec)

written by

Amanda Blush

COLD OPEN:

EST. GOTHAM CITY - NIGHT

INT. ARKHAM ASYLUM - NIGHT

The hallway that leads to CELL 235 is long.

Flourescent lights FLICKER overhead.

A GUARD'S HANDS open the lock to cell 235.

PATIENT ZERO (30's) is put in CUFFS and escorted down the long hallway.

INT. INTEROGRATION CELL - CONTINUOUS

Patient Zero is thrown into a seat.

A guard uncuffs her.

A MANILA ENVELOPE flops onto the table in front of Patient Zero.

PATIENT ZERO

A present? For me? You shouldn't
have...

Patient Zero smiles. Two thick faded PINK SCARS stretch from the sides of her mouth.

A DETECTIVE (30's) sits opposite her.

DETECTIVE

Hello Jackie.

Patient Zero makes herself more comfortable in her seat.

PATIENT ZERO

It's Jack --- of all. Master of
none.

DETECTIVE

Don't get too comfy. This won't
take long.

JACKIE

You sound like my father.
(with emphasis)
My father loved me...

Detective shifts uncomfortably.

He opens the envelope and spins it for her to see.

Inside is a PHOTO of EDWARD NASHTON / NYGMA aka THE RIDDLER and a page of known intel.

JACKIE (CONT'D)

Handsome fella. Been a bad boy, has he?

DETECTIVE

Who is he?

JACKIE

How should I know?

DETECTIVE

Don't play coy. We know you two had a deal in the works before it all went south with Zigfeld. He was spotted a couple days ago coming out of this abandoned orphanage...I think you and I both know what he was looking for...

JACKIE

Bat's got my tongue.

DETECTIVE

Cut the shit. Who is he Jackie?

JACKIE

You know it's funny how people look at you when you look the way I do. They look at you like the way you're looking at me now. Like I'm damaged goods or something.

(beat)

Mommies in the supermarket buying baking soda and beef broth when they walk by and say "Such a shame, she used to be so pretty" and stare a little too long cause they just can't look away.

DETECTIVE

Jackie...

JACKIE

And then men...wow...they really look at you different. Like you're some kinda busted up pup.

(MORE)

JACKIE (CONT'D)

No one likes to beat a beautiful thing ugly...but when it's already ugly...well then boy oh boy isn't that a treat for guys with shaky nuckles, know what I mean?

DETECTIVE

Jackie...

JACKIE

But some men...some of them really dig scars. Even get off on them. Fetish kinda thing. A kink, say some. They get a real bang out of it, and it's...

She leans forward, seductively.

JACKIE (CONT'D)

...really sexy.

She licks the photo of Edward on the table between them.

Detective is silent.

JACKIE (CONT'D)

Do you like scars, Detective?

DETECTIVE

Stop. Look, you give us info on him, we can work out a deal for an earlier release.

Jackie smirks.

JACKIE

You and I can work on a deal for -- an early...release..

She bites her lower lip.

He catches breath in his chest. She's crazy, but hot.

DETECTIVE

Or...maybe it's your brother we can help out...

Jackie's mood shifts dramatically.

JACKIE

What about my brother?

DETECTIVE

He's in juvie again. Aggravated
asault with a lethal weapon this
time.

The Detective flips the page for Jackie to see.

It is a PHOTO of JACKSON NAPIER (14-16 yrs) MUG SHOT. He too,
has scars that stretch from the corners of his mouth.

Jackie's face softens. It's revealing.

JACKIE

Jackie Boy, you sweet little
psychopath. What did you do now?

A BANG is heard outside the room. Jackie snaps back.

JACKIE (CONT'D)

Oh, that's right. I have a tee time
scheduled. He doesn't like it when
I'm late...His balls get antsy to
get banged, you understand?

DETECTIVE

What?

The Detective looks at the door.

PUNCH sounds and GROANS come from the GUARDS manned outside
the room followed by the sounds of two bodies dropping,
lifeless.

A heavy GREEN BOOT kicks the door in.

Jackie claps in applause.

EDWARD (30's) "The Riddler" stands in the door frame with a
NINE IRON GOLF CLUB swung around the back of his neck.

He steps nose to nose with the Detective.

EDWARD

(to Detective)

This object can be driven, but has
no wheels, and can also be sliced
and remain whole. What is it?

Detective stammers for an answer.

Edward pulls out a large POCKET WATCH.

EDWARD (CONT'D)

3...2...Wh...

DETECTIVE
Golf ball?

Edward smiles a devilish grin.

SOUND: Edward CRACKS the Detective's SKULL open with his golf club.

TITLE CARD: RIDDLER - THE FALL OF GOTHAM.

EST. GOTHAM CITY - DAY

INT. GOTHAM HIGH - DAY

BRUCE WAYNE (17), sits at his desk and draws doodles in a notebook.

LUCIUS FOX (17), throws a CRUMPLED PAPER at him.

Bruce unravels the paper, reads it.

It reads: "Jerry's after school?"

Bruce looks over to Lucius and nods yes.

TIME PASSES.

RIIIIIINNNNGGGG.

Bruce wakes on his desk, paper stuck to his face.

Lucius walks over.

BRUCE
Man, I don't know how you manage to
stay awake through all that.

LUCIUS
What can I say? I'm a science guy.

EXT. JERRY'S SODA POP SHOP - DAY

Bruce and Lucius sit in a booth.

They drink ICE CREAM FLOATS.

RACHEL DAWES (17), and PENELOPE IVY aka "POISON IVY" (17),
sit along the counter, also with FLOATS.

Rachel looks over her shoulder, smiles at Bruce.