

## Chat on Cat-Tale #54: War of the Poses

February 9, 2008 in the Cat-Tales Lobby

Guest Speaker chris dee

Attendees: Vernon Fields, thewilder, CN, fangirl00, mpro25680, The Thundering Monkey

chris dee: Ha, sounds good all around. Well, shall we get started?

fangirl: everyone seems shy today

chris dee: Yes, it's a small room. My fault entirely, I couldn't announce the date with the chapter release. Sorry gang

chris dee: but small rooms are more fun anyway. So, time to gavel the chat with the opening meow

chris dee: \*meow\*

mpro25680: don't worry, we will warm up (At least I I will)

Vernon Fields: ditto

thewilder: since we last saw oswald cowering in fear over the great power of the IRS at the end of vault, any plans for him to come out of hiding in the next story?

fangirl: hehehe - loved that scene

CN: Poor Oswald.

chris dee: the short answer is yes. I hope to have Oswald free and the Iceberg return very soon

chris dee: the outlines and the characters don't always let me do what I want, but figure on the status quo being back soon, barring the kind of thing that goes on in Gotham

thewilder: any conflict between the switch over to the Iceberg, or will everyone go back willingly?

fangirl: Hmmm - two rogue clubs could mean quite a lot of conflict

CN: I can see Catman running back to the iceberg.

CN: At warp speed.

chris dee: Yes there are two reasons to prefer one club over the other

mpro25680: I wonder if Selina will just give up "Vault"

mpro25680: Sorry Vault

fangirl: Harvey might want his home back - does he?

chris dee: No one really prefers out of great affection for the proprietor, it's disaffection with the other proprietor that is the motivating force

chris dee: catman would rather not be drinking in Catwoman's club

chris dee: Hugo Strange would rather not be drinking in Batman's girlfriend's club

chris dee: and King Snake would rather not be drinking in Oswald's club

chris dee: other than that, the mob will move wherever Sly & Company are

mpro25680: Hugo doesn't know bruce is batman?!

mpro25680: Does he?

mpro25680: Am I missing something?

fangirl: Yes - but no one believes him - like Cassandra of Troy going on and on about that Trojan horse

chris dee: Yep, fangirl explained it well

mpro25680my bad.

chris dee: It's easy to block Hugo out, god knows many have tried

CN: Quick question: Have we seen the last of Lex, or will he be returning soon?

fangirlcatwoman and Batman played Lex really well ([b]really well[/b])- does he need some R&R at Arkham?

chris deecN, we've never seen the last of Lex, he always comes back

CN: Sooner? Or Later?

chris dee: I wouldn't expect him to return soon

mpro25680to bad, when lex appears so do clark and lois.

thewilder: with the status quo returning to Gotham, does that include the fallout from Harley's prank and arkham?

fangirl: I thought Harley would drag the charade out longer - any more Doc Harley in the future?

chris deethe fallout from Harley's prank does exist, just about everything that happens in CT has some cause and effect thing going, however...

chris dee: it's less of a stick of dynamite than it is yet another straw - or in this case brick - on the back of that poor camel

fangirlthe camel being Doc Bart?

chris dee: Yep

thewilder: poor Barty

chris dee: It's been said of Hal Jordan, it's been said of Bruce Wayne, every man has his breaking point

fangirl: sounds ominous

fangirl: Poor Bart - how are he and Raven?

chris dee: Well, since you mentioned Raven, there is that ray of hope

chris dee: He's not in this all alone, like he once was. He has someone to go home to, more or less, and a life outside the job

fangirl: we've already seen he can "break out" quite loudly - "McHappy Pants" comes to mind

chris dee: Yeah, exactly fangirl

chris deemcHappy Pants bled off a lot of steam

chris dee: and since it didn't prove fatal, it bought him a lot of time

chris dee: alas, the pressure went right on building up

chris dee: so either he has to find ways to let out that pressure again and regularly, or eventually, furnace gonna blow

The Thundering Monkey: Hello all.

chris dee: Welcome TM!

fangirl: Hi TM

mpro25680: hi

The Thundering Monkey: Bwahahaha!!!! Take that technical glitches!!

chris deetell'em TM

CN: Either way I imagine we won't be seeing Harley for a wee while.

CN: Hi Tm

thewilder: hello

chris dee: We were just discussing Harley's prank on Dr. Bartholomew and his prognosis for retiring a sane man one day

chris deecN, Harley isn't likely to be released from Arkham soon, nor is Joker. Of course breakouts can occur at any time

thewilder: even pammy went out of her way to help

The Thundering Monkey: Well, I suppose dealing with incurable lunatics is a little like being in AA

chris dee: Yes, someone mentioned in the feedback how it's the most independent and proactive we've ever seen Harley

fangirl: Is Pammy planning on checking herself out anytime soon - since she checked herself in back in Blueprints?

chris dee: usually Joker or Pammy come up with the plan and she arranges the deck chairs

CN: It is nice to see her fly solo now and again.

The Thundering Monkey: Rogue madness is not something you can control, or eliminate, but each day he's doing his Job,

chris dee: actually, it was very easy to miss, but Pammy checked herself out and was soon returned to Arkham after an ill-fated criminal excursion in Short Tales

chris dee: it happened mostly "off panel" so was easy to miss

The Thundering Monkey: is a day Joker isn't killing somebody

fangirl: ah

chris dee: but yes, she will be out soon.

chris dee: Seedgrass and daphodils rejoice, everyone else says "oh shit"

CN: lol.

chris deetM said something right on the money there. Bartholomew is fighting a losing battle and he knows it, but he keeps on day after day, doing what he can

fangirl: sounds familier

CNmaybe he should see a shrink...

chris dee: Agreed. One who isnt on the Arkham staff

CN: someone other than Harley...

chris dee: Point

fangirl: or Leslie - lets hope that crush is over

the Thundering Monkeythey should rotate thier doctors out, so that they actually get a chance to cure someone now and again.

the Thundering Monkey: Keep the morale up.

cN: Arkham doesn't do that kind of logic, tm

fangirl: Arkham really feels like a bed and breakfast sometimes

chris dee: I'm sure he'll always have a soft spot for her, given she's in that first love category almost. But if that hasn't shrunk down to an atom of subconscious fondness when he's got a -something girlfriend, he's on the wrong side of the couch

mpro25680: Arkem just doesn't do logic.

chris dee: I suspect it's an official rotation: they burn out and leave, or they die.

cN: Or go crazy.

fangirl: If the "Gotham Post" is anywhere close to the truth of Dr. Arkham himslef that's not surprising

chris deecrazy isn't a dealbreaker

the Thundering Monkey: Its called common ground

cN: :)

chris dee: Heh. I think anybody who is willing to do the job, they'll hire.

thewilder: I hope we won't see another one admitted to arkham at the end of the next one

chris dee: Hence how Harley got in in the first place, with her degree from South Podunk College and Quick Lube

fangirl: )

mpro25680: you don't have to be crazy to work here. but it sure helps.

chris dee: Exactly

chris dee: If you're not when you come in the door, we'll probably fix that by thursday

thewilder: with cassie finessing her way through the museum, will we hear back from Selina, Tim,and the rest of the gang?

mpro25680: Will she tell annyone?

thewilderthe logs are inevitable, right?

chris dee: Well, she does need to make that log entry eventually  
chris deecorrect  
chris dee: now Bruce is aware of her trick with the shrinking vocabulary when it is something she doesn't want to mention  
mpro25680: you can always "finess" the treuth.  
fangirl: what about Tim? Can he read her that well?  
chris dee: Dick, Tim and Barbara have all done something similar when they were green  
the Thundering Monkey: So thought to self : Would be good idea to come up with escape when day protocol.....  
chris deecassie's is just a bit cleverer than theirs.  
the Thundering Monkey: Never know when mission call for getting out when sun come up.  
chris dee: LOL  
the Thundering Monkey: Is like being dropped off in wilderness with pocket knife.  
fangirl: her dad's idea of a Saturday afternoon, no doubt  
thewilder: I'm sure Selina will be appreciate being called Sensei  
the Thundering Monkey: Or like father say "Day Care"  
chris dee: GMTA  
the Thundering Monkey: :}  
chris dee: Selina Sensei, yeah I think she'll appreciate it.  
fangirlcassie's seems to have two settings - high respect or deep disdain  
chris dee: It won't hit that crimefighting nerve, and it won't hit that maternal nerve. It's just Cassie being Cassie, and the compliment is implied  
chris dee: Pretty much, she's a teenager underneath all that Cain baggage, and that makes for extremes  
chris dee: but of all the junior bats, she is the most disciplined in not letting it affect her work  
thewilder: I can see her getting a bit of ribbing for getting trapped in the museum  
chris dee: sole exception was the Cluemaster beating after Stephanie's death and I think we can all empathize there  
fangirl: Poor Cass - no one seems to escape piling on mountains of guilt in the bat family  
chris dee: as for the ribbing, she has this pretzel trick  
chris dee: ask Tim, nobody teases her twice  
fangirl: pretzels - like when Plastic man made the leash comment?  
the Thundering Monkey: Batgirl...in alley...with Candlestick, rope and pipewrench.  
chris dee: Yep, that's the one, now think non-stretchy limbs  
the Thundering Monkey: Pretzels don't impress Eel, That's why Batman has this little thing he likes to call "The Gordian Knot protocol"

chris dee: Okay, time for a question from the mailbag

chris dee: Q: Was Jaer the first time Joker actually killed someone in Cat Tails?

chris dee: I definitely remember him breaking out of Arkham in an early Tale, maybe it was Times Gone By, with blood on his cuffs

chris dee: I don't remember if it was stated unambiguously that he had killed any Arkham staff in the course of the escape, but it was implied

chris dee: Later in the same story, I am pretty sure a Starbuck's clerk suffered the same fate and there was mention of the twitching death smile

chris dee: So I believe he has killed before, but in a very off-panel non-graphic manner

chris dee: and I am honestly not % certain

thewilder: should Bruce and Selina be worrying about Harvey?

chris dee: In the context of what they know right now between stories, no, there is no particular reason for concern.

chris dee: If they were privy to what's to come, yes

fangirl: do you have plasn to bring the new movie into the Gotham Post "articles"

cN: Well, this is what happens when you use magic as a solution to all life's problems.

chris dee: Spoken like a true Wayne, CN

chris deefangirl, that's an interesting question

thewilder: poor Joker

fangirl: poor Heath

chris dee: Until I've actually seen the movie, I can't say for sure what I'll want to paw around with

chris dee: (and yes, that is a true tragedy. He was so young and so talented)

fangirl: I've alwasys wonder what the Joker wold do if he learned who played him in the movies in our own verse

chris dee: but since the movie is based on The Long Halloween, which I am exceptionally fond of

cN: As long as Rachel doesn't show up I'm happy ;)

chris dee: and since there IS a Cat-Tales game currently in progress with movie-related goodies to be found

chris dee: \*koff

the Thundering Monkey: I think she's in it, but the switched actresses playing her.

chris dee: It's a good bet that I will be moved to use something

thewildermaggie Gyllenhaal, I believe

cN: I meant in cat tales :)

thewildercould there be a new love triangle coming to Cat-Tales?!

cN: lol.

fangirl: Selina would claw her into fishbait

fangirl: no - I take it back - any rumor liek that wouldn't be worth her time

mpro25680: she would cla bruce first

the Thundering Monkey: "Ah wish ah knew how ta kill you..."

mpro25680claw

chris dee: \*whistles and waits

chris dee: Hey that worked, must remember it

chris dee: Okay, broad brushstrokes, we've seen a few mentions of movie-related elements in Cat-Tales already

chris dee: Gotham National Bank and Gotham City News have both been mentioned, for instance.

chris dee: So you can expect to see nods to the movies, yes, but actual plot nods will probably be more connected to The Long Halloween than the movie version

Vernon Fieldsthanks for clarifying that

chris dee: Okay, one more question from the mailbag, then one more from the room, then I'll say goodnight

chris dee: "Question for curiosity's sake - just what is it about Joker that makes him able to create such bloody mayhem whenever he sets his mind to it?"

chris dee: If there's one thing we should all know by now its that the lack of "powers" means absolutely nothing in this area. Think Hannibal Lectar.

chris deethis question actually set off the explanation in the text of the chapter about Joker's methods

chris deethe biggest factor is that when he doesn't have SmileX to work with, he goes for the head: noses, ears and throats

chris dee: Head wounds bleed a lot

chris dee: and I'll spare you the story of the Sweeney Todd stage production that led to that bit of trivia

chris dee: once you've got a lot of blood on the scene, it looks absolutely frightful.

chris dee: You add in Joker's predeliction to write out HAHAHAs on the wall with the blood, it's downright sickening

chris dee: Last question from anybody? Or are we done

CN: When's the new tale out?

thewilder: what would Selina say to finding about how Batman and Superman broke out of the Vault?

chris dee: I'm hoping for Feb nd actually, but I can't guarantee it

The Thundering Monkey: "You're Welcome"

fangirl: aproperiate

chris dee: LOL, I don't think I can top TM's answer

chris dee: I assume you mean the part she didn't know about, the device he adapted from her arsenal

The Thundering Monkey: "Oooh!! Robot Tigers!! Can I keep them?"

chris dee: I don't think she would actually MIND, imitation being the highest form of flattery she'd probably take it as a compliment. But she wouldn't tell Bruce that

The Thundering Monkey: NO!!

chris dee: Any excuse to paw the ball of yarn is a good one

fangirl: Robot tigers would be handy next time Batman suggests she bring down one of her cats as a bodyguard

chris deethere we go. "I have no serious objection to taking a robot tiger to Bludhaven"  
"Please don't"

chris dee: Well, thanks for coming out today, everyone. It was great fun

fangirl: Bye, and thanks for hosting!

thewilder: I'll be praying for Harvey

CN: Bye. Thanks.

mpro25680: bye

thewilderthanks

The Thundering Monkey: By all