

**[CRITICAL PATH]**

INT. MAJOR CRIMES UNIT, GOTHAM CENTRAL -- NIGHT

The door to the interrogation room opens. Out steps JIM GORDON, who gives BATMAN a heavy look as he passes.

BATMAN

(low)

I want him to see me.

Gordon contains his surprise. He nods.

Batman walks in.

INT. INTERROGATION, MCU, GOTHAM CENTRAL -- CONT.

Batman approaches THE JOKER from behind, visible only for a moment in the slanted light from the closing door before the room is plunged into darkness again.

The overhead lights COME ON, harsh white and sterile. The Joker RECOILS slightly from the brightness.

He's only human, after all.

**[OPTIONAL PROMPT: PRESS X]**

If player presses X:

Batman SLAMS Joker's face to the table. WHAM! He comes up for air, then--CRACK! CRACK! Two more to the table edge.

THE JOKER

I'd have started with the  
fingers...

**[BACK TO CRITICAL PATH]**

Batman walks to Joker's front.

*\*More blood appears every time Batman chooses to injure the Joker throughout the duration of the interrogation.*

If the player pressed X above:

**[CONDITIONAL TIMED PROMPT: PRESS X]**

If player presses X in time:

Batman brings a fist down onto the Joker's fingers.

THE JOKER (CONT'D)  
 (calm)  
 Then gone for the head. I'm so  
 woozy, I hardly felt that.

**[BACK TO CRITICAL PATH]**

THE JOKER (CONT'D)  
 You came for me. I had to know what  
 you'd do, and I'm so pleased.

BATMAN  
 I came to stop the bloodshed.

THE JOKER  
 Only after the nobodies gave theirs  
 first. You even let the district  
 attorney take your blame. Why do  
 you hide in the night?

**IDLE**

THE JOKER (CONT'D)  
 Are you afraid of what the light  
 might reveal?

THE JOKER (CONT'D)  
 You let five people die tonight.

THE JOKER (CONT'D)  
 Do you feel responsible, Batman?

**1. I'm not hiding now.**

BATMAN  
 Does it look like I'm afraid to  
 come out of the dark?

THE JOKER  
 What are you running from? I  
 positively must know.

BATMAN  
 You have no idea who I am.

THE JOKER  
 Hence why we're here!

**2. Tell me where Dent is.**

Batman SLAMS his hands on the table. The Joker FLINCHES, then  
 breaks into a SMILE.

BATMAN

What have you done with Harvey Dent?

THE JOKER

All work, no play. Good thing I'm a clown.

BATMAN

My patience is wearing thin.

THE JOKER

Show me.

### 3. No more games.

BATMAN

Why does a clown wear makeup?

THE JOKER

I haven't heard that one. Good punchline?

Batman STRIKES the Joker across the face. Blood SPLATTERS onto the table.

BATMAN

To hide the bruises.

THE JOKER

(laughing)  
Okay, it's a good one.

### 4. ...

Batman crosses his arms, unimpressed with the Joker's taunting.

THE JOKER (CONT'D)

Stoic. Like my daddy. Until he wasn't.

### [BACK TO CRITICAL PATH]

BATMAN

Where is Dent?

THE JOKER

You don't see it do you? You and I are all that's standing in the way of mob rule. Those fools would kill to kill you. And me.

BATMAN

You disgust me.

THE JOKER

But it wouldn't work. You've left your mark, Batman. You see--we're changemakers. Outsiders shaking up the status quo. Draining the swamp in our different ways. We're infectious.

BATMAN

You're a disease. I'm an idea.

THE JOKER

They don't understand you like I do. Like we understand each other.

**IDLE**

THE JOKER (CONT'D)

Two sides of the same coin.

THE JOKER (CONT'D)

Perfect foils in a timeless classic.

THE JOKER (CONT'D)

And you thought it was Gordon.

**1. We are not the same.**

BATMAN

You kill people for money. You hurt innocents.

THE JOKER

What is an "innocent person" but someone who hasn't found themselves backed into the right corner?

BATMAN

I would never hold someone hostage.

THE JOKER

Then am I free to go?

**2. Let's focus.**

BATMAN

I'm not playing your games.

THE JOKER  
Games--not yet anyway. We've hardly  
begun to learn the rules. I'd call  
this... a sitzprobe.

BATMAN  
Where is he?

THE JOKER  
We're in the middle of a  
mesmerizing first rehearsal that  
will become a tired routine we will  
soon know by muscle memory.

**3. Stop talking right now.**

BATMAN  
You're done.

THE JOKER  
Not yet.

Batman GRABS the Joker by the hair and PULLS him forward,  
then he BOXES HIS EARS with both hands.

The Joker YELPS in pain. Blood DRAINS from his ears.

THE JOKER (CONT'D)  
(amused)  
Agh. Jesus fucking Christ.

A beat.

THE JOKER (CONT'D)  
Eeeeeeeee.  
(laughs)  
That's what it sounds like now.

**4. ...**

Batman looks up at the SECURITY CAMERA.

THE JOKER (CONT'D)  
You could always cover it.

**[BACK TO CRITICAL PATH]**

BATMAN  
Last chance. Tell me where he is.

THE JOKER

Why? For them? They may need you now, but you'll never be one of them. Deep down, you know they think you're a freak. Like me.

The Joker leans forward, probing Batman's eyes.

THE JOKER (CONT'D)

If it wasn't me in here, it would be you. Still could be. Someday. Morals, rules, ethics. These things only matter in the daytime. You can bootlick all you want, but that won't stop them cannibalizing their own when darkness falls. Starting with the freaks.

Batman turns to gaze into to the TWO-WAY MIRROR where he's watched by Jim Gordon and dozens of officers.

But only a MAN IN A BAT COSTUME looks back at him.

He turns back to the Joker.

THE JOKER (CONT'D)

Everyone won't follow your rules.

BATMAN

I only have one rule.

THE JOKER

That's the one then! Break it tonight, and you'll see it never mattered in the first place.

**IDLE**

THE JOKER (CONT'D)

It's the only sensible way to live.

THE JOKER (CONT'D)

Peak behind the curtain; all life's a stage.

THE JOKER (CONT'D)

Become self aware. The water's warm.

**1. I'm considering it.**

BATMAN

You're making a strong argument. Do you want that?

THE JOKER

What do you want?

BATMAN

I want you to tell me where Dent is. I don't care how we get there.

THE JOKER

Good. Hold onto that. You'll need it.

## **2. I would never.**

BATMAN

Misanthropy is childish.

THE JOKER

Well, that indicates a startling lack of understanding of my position.

BATMAN

I pity you. This is what makes us different.

THE JOKER

I'm so glad you said that.

### **2.1. Why do I need luck?**

BATMAN

Work with me. I can ensure a fair trial.

THE JOKER

You can't, and I don't need one.

### **2.2 What's the point?**

BATMAN

If nothing means anything, then why do all this?

THE JOKER

All we have in this world is our own amusement. And I'm happier than you'll ever be.

## **3. I'll break it right now.**

Batman leans over. It's menacing.

BATMAN  
 (hushed)  
 I count eleven different ways to  
 kill you right now, in this room.

THE JOKER  
 (put out)  
 I only counted nine.

BATMAN  
 Test your luck.

THE JOKER  
 You're the one who needs it  
 tonight. Not me.

4. ...

Batman pulls back. He's thinking. Does the Joker mean something else?

THE JOKER (CONT'D)  
 (grinning)  
 Time is of the essence.

**[BACK TO CRITICAL PATH]**

THE JOKER (CONT'D)  
 Every minute you have spent with me  
 is a minute less you have to  
 choose.

BATMAN  
 Choose what?

THE JOKER  
 Who is the somebody, and who is the  
 nobody. Matters of the state... or  
 affairs of the heart.

Batman YANKS the Joker up by his collar.

**IDLE**

THE JOKER (CONT'D)  
 You made this too easy. The way you  
 throw yourself at her.

THE JOKER (CONT'D)  
 But you're indebted to him. The  
 daytime Batman.



THE JOKER (CONT'D)  
The Batman who gets to be seen and  
loved. Instead of feared.

**1. Where is she?**

BATMAN  
What have you done with her?!

THE JOKER  
How quickly you forget the other.

BATMAN  
If you've hurt her--

THE JOKER  
You know, I actually believed you  
were Dent. It would be less sad.  
What's the phrase? She's not that  
into you?

**2. Where are they?**

BATMAN  
What have you done with them?!

THE JOKER  
Don't worry. I'll tell you, but not  
quite yet.

BATMAN  
If you've hurt them--

THE JOKER  
You are the only one who will be  
causing them harm tonight. You're  
used to that though.

**3. I'll kill you.**

BATMAN  
You're a lost cause. Irredeemable.  
Not worth sparing.

THE JOKER  
Flattery will get you everywhere.

BATMAN  
So far removed from your humanity  
that it would hardly be like  
killing a person at all.

The Joker smiles.

THE JOKER  
Now you're getting it.

4. ...

Batman and the Joker lock eyes for a long moment. The Joker DOESN'T BLINK ONCE.

Whatever Batman sees, he doesn't like it. A SNARL slowly emerges on his lips.

The Joker mirrors it with his own WIDE SMILE.

**[BACK TO CRITICAL PATH]**

The Joker BEGINS TO LAUGH. After a moment, it nearly becomes a sob.

Batman HURLS the Joker into the two-way glass. SMASH! The glass SPIDERS.

Batman walks over to him.

**IDLE**

As Joker waits for Batman:

THE JOKER (CONT'D)  
You're capable of far more than you know, Batman.

THE JOKER (CONT'D)  
I've never felt this way about someone before.

THE JOKER (CONT'D)  
Tick-tock, tick-tock.

**[PROMPT: PRESS X]**

Batman wraps a gloved hand around the Joker's neck and HOISTS him up into the air.

THE JOKER (CONT'D)  
Did Harvey know about you two? You don't have any rules in that regard?

Batman SQUEEZES. The Joker's EYES BUG.

THE JOKER (CONT'D)  
How convenient. Like refusing to eat octopus but not pork.

BATMAN  
WHERE ARE THEY?!

THE JOKER  
(barely audible, choking)  
Both brilliant, sentient creatures.  
But one's easy to swear off.

Batman SHOVES the Joker against the glass. The glass CRACKS a bit more. Blood halos around his head.

THE JOKER (CONT'D)  
And the other tastes delicious.

The following menu options can each be chosen as many times as the player wants until choosing "Wait."

**1. [Head butt.]**

Batman HEAD BUTTS the Joker. Every time he does, more blood pools around the Joker's nose.

**2. [Punch.]**

Batman HITS the Joker square in the jaw. POW! Every THIRD HIT, there is a distinct CRACKING SOUND.

**3. [Knee.]**

Batman KNEES the Joker in the abdomen. WOOM. After five times, the Joker will begin COUGHING UP BLOOD.

**4. [Wait.]**

Batman breathes heavy. This is what the Joker wants.

Don't give in.

This choice ends the looping sequence.

**[BACK TO CRITICAL PATH]**

The Joker is eager for more, hungry for Batman's rage.

When it doesn't come, he rushes to fill the void.

THE JOKER (CONT'D)  
When was the last time you felt  
this powerless? Never? All the  
time?

BATMAN  
Where are they?

The Joker raises a hand and DRAWS A FINGER across his own throat. Dark blood dribbles from his painted red lips.

THE JOKER

We always have a choice, Batman.  
And that's all it is.

**1. I know your type.**

BATMAN

Men like you inflict pain on others  
to try and forget their own. I'll  
never give you that mercy.

THE JOKER

(sarcastic)

Oh, make it stop, won't you? I'm in  
such agony all the time.

(beat, serious)

I know. I'm counting on it.

**2. You're not worth it.**

BATMAN

Killing you would mean that your  
life mattered enough to be taken  
away in the first place.

The Joker gasps.

THE JOKER

And here I thought we had  
something.

**3. I just might.**

BATMAN

Tell me where they are, and I'll  
come back for you afterwards.

THE JOKER

How exciting. Don't disappoint me.

**4. ...**

THE JOKER (CONT'D)

Wishful thinking on my part.

**[BACK TO CRITICAL PATH]**

The Joker laughs, low and mischievous.

BATMAN

Enough games.

THE JOKER

But the game's only just begun. You get to choose tonight. Him or her. Because sometimes you just need a nudge in the right direction.

They stare at each other. Realization dawns on Batman.

THE JOKER (CONT'D)

He's at 250 52nd Boulevard. And she's on Avenue X at Cicero.

Batman DROPS him immediately.

The interrogation room door opens, revealing Gordon in the doorway.

GORDON

Batman.

As Batman exits, the Joker LAUGHS TO HIMSELF from behind, off screen.

INT. MAJOR CRIMES UNIT, GOTHAM CENTRAL -- CONTINUOUS

GORDON

Who are you taking?

1. I've got Dent.
2. I'll find Rachel.