BATMAN

RING AROUND THE RIDDLER
BY
CHARLES HOFFMAN

WILLIAM DOZIER

PRODUCER
HOWIE HORWITZ

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GREENWAY PRODUCTIONS
IN ASSOCIATION WITH



BATMAN

"RING AROUND THE RIDDLER!"

by

Charles Hoffman

FINAL July 20, 1967

REVISED - "RING AROUND THE RIDDLER" - 7/28/67 CAST LIST

BRUCE/BATMAN

DICK/ROBIN

BARBARA/BATGIRL

ALFRED

COMMISSIONER GORDON

CHIEF O'HARA

AUNT HARRIET

THE RIDDLER (MUSHY NEBUCHADNEZZER)

BETSY BOLDFACE

THE SIREN (LORELEI CIRCE)

KAYO (SPEAKING STOOGE)

CAULIFLOWER (SILENT STOOGE)

MAE WEST (CAMEO)

KID GULLIVER

TWO VIRILE ESCORTS FOR MAE WEST (SILENT)

MALE CASHIER

MANDO RAMOS (SILENT)

Х

RAUL ROJAS (SILENT)

X

JERRY QUARRIE (SILENT)

Х

PHIL (SILENT ANNOUNCER)

REFEREE (SILENT BIT)

TWO MORE SILENT STOOGES FOR BATFIGHT

PLUS: BONNIE'S VOICE AND CHARLIE, THE PARROT

SET LIST:

INTERIORS:

WAYNE STUDY

BATCAVE

COMMISSIONER GORDON'S OFFICE

BARBARA'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM BEDROOM

SECRET BATGIRL ROOM

RIDDLER'S HIDE-OUT IN SMALL GYM

GOTHAM SQUARE GARDEN - FIGHTING RING

AN AISLE

SECTION OF RINGSIDE

ANNOUNCER'S AREA

AREA BENEATH RING (LIMBO)

BOX OFFICE OF GOTHAM SQUARE GARDEN

LADIES LOUNGE DOOR (LIMBO)

EXTERIORS:

BARBARA'S TERRACE

STOCK:

GOTHAM CITY (NIGHT)

ROOF TOP FOR ACTIVATING BATSIGNAL (NIGHT)

BATSIGNAL IN SKY (NIGHT)

BATGIRL ON BATGIRL-CYCLE (NIGHT -- USE ALLEY SHOT)

BATMOBILE ON CITY STREET (NIGHT)

BATMOBILE LEAVING BATCAVE (DAY)

DUO GOING UP BATPOLES FROM BATCAVE

"RING AROUND THE RIDDLER!"

TEASER

FADE IN

1 EXT. GOTHAM CITY - NIGHT (STOCK)

1

NARRATOR
NIGHT, THE CLOAK FOR SINNERS,
DRAWS ITS DARK FOLDS OVER
GOTHAM CITY ...

2 INT. RIDDLER'S HIDE-OUT IN SMALL GYM - NIGHT

2

NARRATOR
... WHERE THAT RAREST OF RASCALS,
THE RIDDLER, IS HIDING OUT IN A
LITTLE-USED GYMNASIUM!!!

BENEATH this, we find ourselves in a small semi-abandoned gymnasium, FAVORING KID GULLIVER speaking angrily. Kid is a clean-cut young boxer.

KID

Me? Throw the biggest fight of my career tonight? In Gotham Square Garden? I won't do it! I won't go into the ring if the fight's 'fixed'!

WIDEN TO INCLUDE RIDDLER, busily working on the lid of a small metal box (though we're not sure what he's doing). His two henchmen, KAYO and CAULIFLOWER IN SHOT. Also, BETSY BOLDFACE, a young woman sports writer whose chic appearance belies a lovely streak of larceny.

RIDDLER

Yes, you will, Kid Gulliver. And riddle me this.

(riddles)

What do many boats, shovels, laundries, whistles and hot showers have in common?

(gleefully, as Kid looks blank)

Steam!

(to stooges about Kid)

Toss him in the steam room! Let's shrink him down to size!

3 ANOTHER ANGLE

3

as Kayo and Cauliflower propel Kid Gulliver to a door marked STEAM ROOM, and EXIT through it -- a CLOUD OF STEAM EMERGING during moment door is open.

4 BACK TO RIDDLER

working on the box, Betsy Boldface at his elbow.

BETSY.

After Kid Gulliver, what -- Riddler?

RIDDLER

Get rid of every other top fighter in town, Betsy -- plus that contemptible crimefighter, Batman -- and control prize fighting in Gotham City! And everywhere else! That ought to give -

(affectionately)
-- the girl I love the biggest
scoop of her shady sports reporting
career ...

BETSY

You're sweet, Riddler. But it's a big order. How're you going to do it?

RIDDLER

With an ace I have up my sleeve, Betsy. And what an ace! But for starters --

(riddles, as he
 indicates box)
-- when is the top of a mountain
like a savings account?

BETSY

Go on, Riddler.

RIDDLER

When it piques one's interest!

With which, he activates top of small metal box which starts BLINKING in some tricky manner as we --

BAT SPIN TO:

5 INT. WAYNE STUDY - NIGHT

5

WITH BRUCE, DICK and ALFRED watching TV set as we HEAR:

BETSY'S VOICE

(o.s.)

...coming to you from Gotham
Square Garden where, at the end
of round three, it looks like the
very rubbery-legged local favorite,
Kid Gulliver, has had it ...

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5 Cont.

ALFRED

(shocked) I Gulliver? Down for t

Kid Gulliver? Down for the count in the third?

ROBIN

It's hard to believe, Bruce!

BRUCE

(nods soberly, switches off TV set)

As its chairman, I think I'd better call an emergency meeting of the Gotham City Boxing Commission at once. I suspect undesirable elements have again infiltrated the manly art of self-defense ...

STRATGHT CUT TO:

6 INT. BOX OFFICE OF GOTHAM SQUARE GARDEN - NIGHT

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NARRATOR

AND PRESENTLY THEY'RE INFILTRATING SOMETHING ELSE, TOO!!!

BENEATH this, we find Riddler holding a gun on a frightened MALE CASHIER, the small metal box under his other arm. Kayo and Cauliflower are dumping the contents of the cash register into a sack.

RIDDLER

(with gun on cashier)

Riddle me this, Mac!

(riddles)

When does a painter use a trigger instead of a brush?

(cashier just quakes)
When he's a stick-up artist!

Riddler now places the metal box on top of cash register drawer, and he and stooges EXIT -- the quaking cashier looking from them toward box with mounting alarm.

7 ANGLE ON BOX

7

as its lid BLINKS SHARPLY.

8 BACK TO CASHIER

8

as BARBARA GORDON is ANGLED IN at box office window.

Cont.

Cont.

BARBARA

(begins)

I'd like two seats for ...

The cashier, however, completely ignores her as he stares at the blinking box. Then:

CASHIER

That box! It's blinking! (looks up, shouts)
Help! Police! Help ...!!!

FADE OUT

END OF TEASER

1

1.

ACT ONE

FADE IN

9	INT. BOX OFFICE OF GOTHAM SQUARE GARDEN - NIGHT
	BATGIRL RUSHES IN. Cashier indicates BLINKING box, Batgirl looks at it cautiously, then grabs the phone. SUPER TITLE.

- INT. COMMISSIONER GORDON'S OFFICE NIGHT 10

 COMMISSIONER GORDON listens into regular phone, puts it down, strides to RED PHONE and activates it. CHIEF O'HARA IN SHOT. SUPER TITLE.
- INT. WAYNE STUDY NIGHT

 Alfred picks up RED PHONE, listens a minute, shakes his head. SUPER TITLE.
- 12 EXT. ROOF TOP CHIEF O'HARA AND POLICE NIGHT 12 (STOCK)

as they activate BAT SIGNAL. SUPER TITLE.

- 13 EXT. BAT SIGNAL IN SKY NIGHT (STOCK)

 summoning Duo urgently. TITLES CONCLUDE, as we find we are in:
- 14 INT. COMMISSIONER GORDON'S OFFICE NIGHT 14

ANGLE WITH BATMAN AND ROBIN, examining the still BLINKING metal box -- Batgirl, Commissioner Gordon and Chief O'Hara hovering around them.

BATMAN You got no glimpse of the robbers, Batgirl?

BATGIRL
No. I heard the cashier shout, called Commissioner Gordon's office and brought that box directly here.

BATMAN
(obviously curious)
It's lucky you were in the -vicinity of Gotham Square
Garden ...

Cont.

BATGIRL

(counters lightly)
Luck is often an important
weapon of a woman crime-

fighter, Batman.

During this, Batman has opened the lid of the box and the BLINKING STOPS.

BATMAN

As I suspected. The little blinking device was merely an added touch to pique our interest.

ROBIN

Sounds like a trick of the Riddler's!

BATMAN

(nods)

Could be, he's back ...

CHIEF O'HARA

What's in the box?

Batman runs his hands through the contents of box, scooping up a handful of innocuous-looking metal filings.

BATMAN

Apparently, just some -- metal filings ...

At the same time, he finds and withdraws a folded piece of paper from filings.

BATMAN

And this.

He opens the paper, reads message aloud. (PERHAPS INSERT NOTE.)

BATMAN

'Who rules the ring? No prince, king or rajah. Look for a clue on the walls of Khafaja!!

(extends note to Robin, pointedly)

The Riddler, indeed ...

COMMISSIONER GORDON

Returned to tease, taunt and torment us again!

Cont.

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14 Cont.1

ROBIN

(also reading portion of note aloud)

'Look for a clue on the walls of Khafaja!' What could be mean this time, Batman?

BATMAN

Khafaja was a famous temple in what was once Mesopotamia, Robin...

ROBIN

Then how could we look at its walls, tonight?

BATMAN

That's the puzzle, old chum. That temple's buried under a thousand years of sand by now.

COMMISSIONER GORDON

(a thought)
My daughter, Barbara, studied
the history of southwestern Asia
in college, Batman. If I called
her, perhaps she could be of
some ...

(breaks off, looking around)
What happened to Batgirl?

CHIEF O'HARA

(also looking around)

Begorra, she's gone!

ROBIN

(ditto) Into thin air!

BATMAN

(wry)

Her brand of vanishing cream seems to be a woman crimefighter's weapon, too.

The Regular Phone on Commissioner Gordon's desk now rings. Commissioner Gordon answers it.

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14 Cont.2

14 Cont.2

COMMISSIONER GORDON

(to phone)

Commissioner Gordon...

(pause)

Yes? He what? Batman's right here, sir. I'll tell him at once!

He hangs up and turns to Batman, urgently -- Robin and Chief O'Hara in immediate b.g.

COMMISSIONER GORDON

That was the Boxing Commissioner, Batman!

BATMAN

(blandly)

Oh? Phoning about the emergency meeting I understand millionaire Bruce Wayne called?

COMMISSIONER GORDON

Mr. Wayne's left! He was phoning about Kid Gulliver! Who's vanished! Disappeared completely, while his seconds were carrying him from the ring to his dressing room!

STRAIGHT CUT TO:

15 EXT. BATGIRL ON BATGIRL-CYCLE - NIGHT (STOCK)

flying through the night.

NARRATOR
BUT BATGIRL HASN'T EXACTLY
VANISHED INTO THIN AIR! SHE
JUST HAS TO GET HOME BEFORE
BARBARA GORDON GETS A CALL FROM
HER FATHER ... !!!

STRAIGHT CUT TO:

16 INT. RIDDLER'S HIDE-OUT IN GYM - NIGHT

16

Kid Gulliver, a robe over his fighting trunks, sits very groggily on edge of a table -- with Kayo, Cauliflower and Riddler watching him. Riddler holds a hypodermic syringe.

NARRATOR.

AND KID GULLIVER HASN'T REALLY DISAPPEARED, EITHER! ONLY SNATCHED BY RIDDLER'S STOOGES AGAIN!!!

Narration FADES.

RIDDLER

Your name's Kid Gulliver?

KID

(blankly)

I don't know.

RIDDLER

You ever been in this run-down gym before?

KID

I don't know.

RIDDLER

(to stooges,

pleased)

Let him go. That shot I gave him won't wear off for a week.

KAYO

What was in that shot, boss?

RIDDLER

Simple riddle juice, Kayo.

Cont.

16 Cont.

RIDDLER (Cont.)

KAYO

Laps? To sit on?

RIDDLER

Kid Gulliver's temporary lapse
of memory!

He laughs with delight at his riddle, as stooges doubletake it and then hustle Kid Gulliver OUT. At the same time --

17 ANOTHER ANGLE

17

BRINGING IN Betsy Boldface, with several cloaked Moorish robes over her arm and some newspaper copy in her hand.

BETSY

Here're the burnooses, Riddler! (with newspaper copy)

And my latest news break! (reads)

'Mushy Nebuchadnezzer, unchallenged champion of southwestern Asia's boxing world, arrived in Gotham City tonight -- ready and willing to take on all comers ...'

RIDDLER

(amused)

Mushy Nebuchadnezzer? A stroke of your usual feminine genius, Betsy.

X

BETSY

Then slip into your burnoose, Riddler. Mushy Nebuchadnezzer's going to appear on my midnight sports telecast ...

X

BAT SPIN TO:

18 EXT. TERRACE OF BARBARA'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

KNOMTALLIOE GOM

18

ANGLE ON terrace railing, to which Batarang affixes itself with a LIGHT CLANK, as Batman and Robin immediately CLIMB INTO SHOT UP BATROPES, cross terrace and Batman knocks lightly on closed apartment door.

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19

WITH Barbara, who comes out of bedroom door as KNOCK is repeated, closes bedroom door behind her and crosses toward terrace door. She has made her hurried change from Batgirl, and now wears attractive lounging clothes.

CLOSER - AT DOOR TO TERRACE 20

20

Barbara slides it open. REVEALING Duo on terrace.

BATMAN

We're sorry to bother you at this time of night, Miss Gordon. And we didn't want to enter this building in a more conventional manner, for fear of exciting other tenants...

BARBARA

I understand. And I was expecting you. My father phoned. Please come in ...

Duo ENTER living room past Barbara, who leaves door to terrace open behind them as she also moves into room proper.

BARBARA

You want to know about the famous temple of Khafaja ... (thinking)

As I recall, strange scrollwork was found on the walls of that temple indicating men fought with their fists long before the supposed beginning of boxing in ancient Rome and Greece.

ROBIN

Holy hieroglyphics! How would the Riddler know that, Batman?

BATMAN

The mind of a criminal like the Riddler's is a sponge which soaks up many a strange fact, Robin.

(explains to Barbara)

He's an arch enemy from out of our past, Miss Gordon. Apparently returned to try and outwit us. And, at the same time, bilk the citizens of Gotham City in some manner ...

20 Cont.

BATMAN (Cont.)

(to Robin)

Let's examine the riddle he sent us again ...

(withdraws note from Riddler, reads)

'Who rules the ring? No prince, king or rajah ...'

BARBARA

(helpfully)

Could he mean the -- prizefighting ring?

ROBIN

We should have seen that ourselves, Batman! And up until tonight Kid Gulliver was the local champ!

BATMAN

(folds paper thoughtfully)

Just perhaps the Riddler, himself is now planning to take over ...

ROBIN

That punctuated pip-squeak?!

At this point, DOOR BUZZER SOUNDS. All three react, and Duo start retreating toward terrace. BUZZER is repeated, and we HEAR:

COMMISSIONER GORDON'S VOICE

(o.s.)

Barbara! Barbara, it's me ...

BARBARA

(to Duo)

My father ...

She crosses to hall door, unlocks and opens it and Commissioner Gordon ENTERS.

BARBARA

(closing door)

Well, this is certainly my night for gentlemen callers!

COMMISSIONER GORDON

I was walking home, honey, and took a chance the --

Cont.

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20 Cont.l

COMMISSIONER GORDON (Cont.)

(to include Duo)
-- Caped Crusader would still be
here. Kid Gulliver's been found,
Batman. Outside Gotham Square
Garden. But he remembers nothing.
An injection of some drug seems
to have affected his memory...

BATMAN

Then it will do us no good to talk to Kid Gulliver.

ROBIN

(to Batman)

But we might take a look at Gotham Square Garden. Maybe we'll find something there!

COMMISSIONER GORDON

Hardly necessary, Batman. Chief O'Hara's taking a look ...

BATMAN

He's a fine and efficient officer of the law, and scarcely needs us. (to include Robin)

But it's on our way back to the

Batcave, anyway ...

(then, to Barbara)

Thank you, Miss Gordon. You've been of great help.

During this, Duo moves OUT upon:

21 EXT. BARBARA'S TERRACE - NIGHT

21

WITH Duo, as Barbara follows them to railing, gushing over Batman.

BARBARA

It's little to do for such a courageous crimefighter, Batman ...

BATMAN

(corrects)

Two crimefighters, Miss Gordon.

(self-effacing)

Robin supplies the courage. I -- merely the capes and cowls.

With this, Duo climb over the railing and apparently down Batropes and OUT.

22 INT. BARBARA'S LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

ANGLE WITH Commissioner Gordon, turning on a TV set as Barbara ENTERS from terrace, sliding the door closed

behind her.

COMMISSIONER GORDON

I thought I'd catch the last of Betsy Boldface's midnight sports telecast ...

BARBARA

(light)

Betsy seems to have quite a hold over you.

COMMISSIONER GORDON

She's as sharp as any man would be in that job!

As TV set warms up, Commissioner Gordon sits in a chair in front of it and Barbara perches on chair's arm beside him. From set, we now HEAR:

BETSY'S VOICE

(o.s.)

... Mushy Nebuchadnezzer, southwestern Asia's unchallenged champion ...

23 ANGLE ON TV SET (BURN-IN)

23

as Betsy continues interviewing Riddler, heavily hooded in his burnoose as Mushy Nebuchadnezzer.

BETSY

... is one of the world's most colorful prize fighters. For instance, Mushy, tell us what you eat ...

RIDDLER

(Asiatic accent)

Eat? Oh. Tamarisk berries.
Bulbul-bird eggs. And licorice ...
(adds quickly)

But only licorice native to my

country.

BETSY

And what liquids do you drink?

RIDDLER

Just camel-grass juice. What else?

ANGLE WITH COMMISSIONER GORDON AND BARBARA

24

. .

Disgusted, Commissioner Gordon rises and switches off TV set.

24 Cont.

COMMISSIONER GORDON

Enough of that! He sounds like southwestern Asia's unchallenged nut!

(prepares to leave)
You better get to bed, and I
better get home. Good night.

BARBARA

'Night, Daddy.

She nuzzles him affectionately, and he EXITS -- CAMERA WITH Barbara, who closes and locks the door after him, looks very suspiciously at the TV set and then sharply up from set to her parrot, Charlie, nearby.

BARBARA

Charlie, all I could see under that burnoose was Mushy Nebuchadnezzer's chin! But it didn't look like a southwestern Asiatic chin to this student of history! And there's something about that Betsy Boldface ...!

Χ

(concern grows)

I'm afraid Batman and Robin may be headed for more than just Gotham Square Garden! And maybe Batgirl better investigate the local source of -(with distaste)

-- tamarisk berries, bulbul-bird eggs, licorice and camel-grass juice!

With this, she EXITS INTO:

25 INT. BARBARA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

25

NARRATOR SO IT'S ACROSS HER BEDROOM IN

A FLASH ...

BENEATH this, Barbara crosses bedroom and EXITS INTO:

26 INT. BATGIRL CLOSET - NIGHT

26

NARRATOR
... AND INTO THE SECRET BATGIRL ROOM
WHERE BARBARA GORDON STARTS MAKING
A CHANGE WHICH EVEN THE RIDDLER
WOULD FIND BAFFLING!!!

BENEATH this, Barbara begins change back into Batgirl!

STRAIGHT CUT TO:

27 EXT. BATMOBILE ROARING THROUGH TOWN - NIGHT (STOCK) 27

NARRATOR
AS BATMAN AND ROBIN HEAD FOR
GOTHAM SQUARE GARDEN ...

BAT SPIN TO:

28 INT. GOTHAM SQUARE GARDEN BOX OFFICE - NIGHT

in which Chief O'Hara just stands rather blankly.

NARRATOR
... AND A STUNNING SURPRISE!!!

Narration FADES, as Duo ENTER SHOT.

BATMAN

We saw your car parked in front, Chief O'Hara. Commissioner Gordon said you were taking a look around here ...

CHIEF O'HARA

(blankly)

What car? Who's Commissioner Gordon?

As Duo react, they (and we) HEAR:

RIDDLER'S VOICE

(o.s.)

Riddle me this, Dynamic Dullheads!

As Duo wheel in VOICE'S direction:

A-28 ANGLE ON RIDDLER - LIMBO

A-28

in abruptly-lighted doorway, section of wall, whatever.

RIDDLER

(riddles tauntingly)

What have the following in common? Hemming, basting, purling and tacking?

With this, SHOT GOES BLACK!

B-28 RESUME - DUO

B-28

and a very blank-looking O'Hara.

ROBIN

Holy blackouts!

BATMAN

A unique trick of the Riddler's. Now you see him, now you don't!

ROBIN

He has to be in this building, someplace!

B-28 Cont.

B-28 Cont.

BATMAN

(sadly)

And we have no time to go after him. Chief O'Hara needs help. And quick!

(explains)

Hemming, purling, basting and tacking are all words related to needlework.

ROBIN

You think Chief O'Hara's been given an injection of the same drug Kid Gulliver was?!

BATMAN

(nods)

I'll run him back to police headquarters in his car. You follow in the Batmobile. (takes O'Hara's

arm)

Come on, Chief O'Hara...

CHIEF O'HARA

(very groggy)

Where? Where am I going? Who are you? What's happened...?

As Duo lead him OUT --

29 OUT

OUT 29

BAT SPIN TO:

30 INT. RIDDLER'S GYM HIDE-OUT - NIGHT

30

NARRATOR

AND SHORTLY, BACK IN RIDDLER'S LITTLE-USED GYMNASIUM...

BENEATH this, we find Betsy talking to Riddler, Kayo and X Cauliflower as she deposits a bunch of strangely-assorted groceries some place.

EETSY

X

I picked up more than Mushy Nebuchadnezzer's tamarisk berries, bulbul-bird eggs, licorice and camel-grass juice at that Asiatic delicatessen, Riddler. Batgirl's on my trail!

19 Х 30

Cont.

30 Cont.

RIDDLER

Batgirl?!

BATGIRL'S VOICE

(o.s.) Batgirl! Yes!

31 ANOTHER ANGLE

31

BRINGING IN Batgirl, on Batgirl-rope through a window or transom (or however), to land virtually in middle of surprised group.

BATGIRL

I saw your phony broadcast tonight, Riddler! Masquerading as Mushy Nebuchadnezzer! What's your scheme? What do you have up your sleeve this time????

RIDDLER

Up my sleeve, Batgirl? (eagerly)

Well, riddle me this!

(riddles)

What's most alluring when it's lowest or highest? When it's in the air or in a hole? When it's served you, yet you can't touch it?

> (moves to door during)

An enchanting ace!

32 ANGLE AT DOOR

32

which Riddler opens, REVEALING THE SIREN - a Lorelei-type enchantress, who glides into hide-out proper.

RIDDLER

(to Siren, indicating)

Batgirl)

Let her have one of your most stunning notes, Siren...

WIDEN TO INCLUDE Batgirl, Betsy and the two stooges as the Siren advances on a rather startled Batgirl, who holds her ground. During this, Riddler quickly produces sets of ear muffs which he hands to Betsy and stooges.

Cont.

19-A X

32 Cont.

32 Cont.

RIDDLER

Better put these ear muffs on, unless you like broken ear drums!

Stooges and Riddler don ear muffs (and Betsy starts to) as the Siren assumes a stance in front of Batgirl, and starts to emit an undulating (and apparently hypnotic) VOCAL NOTE which goes higher and higher and higher until it is inaudible as we --

FADE OUT

COMMERCIAL BREAK

ACT TWO

FADE IN

33 INT. RIDDLER'S HIDE-OUT IN SMALL GYM - NIGHT

33

NARRATOR

BUT, A MOMENT OR TWO LATER IN RIDDLER'S HIDE-OUT...

BENEATH this, we are ON SCENE AS WE LEFT IT. Riddler, Betsy and stooges watch as The Siren directs her undulating VOCAL NOTE at Batgirl. But Batgirl is unfazed.

RIDDLER

Nothing happened! It didn't work ...

SIREN

I've never tried my note two octaves above high 'C' on a woman before, Riddler.

BATGIRL

And she won't try it again!

With a little Batgirl-pirouette, she dances toward Siren -- but Riddler jumps in between them, signalling his stooges.

RIDDLER

Kayo! Cauliflower! Grab her ...!

Stooges try but Batgirl manages to evade them for a moment in brief semi-Batfight, before she's overwhelmed and finally cornered. Then:

RIDDLER

Good! Toss her in the steam room, like you did Kid Gulliver! Batgirls wilt as quickly as other women!

34 ANOTHER ANGLE

34

as Kayo and Cauliflower propel the still-struggling Batgirl to door marked STEAM ROOM and EXIT through it -- and also through EMERGING CLOUD OF STEAM.

35 BACK TO RIDDLER, BETSY AND THE SIREN

35

RIDDLER

(gleefully)

Worked like a dream, Betsy! I thought my broadcast would put the Dynamic Decimal Points on your track. But Batgirl will work just as well. Even if the Siren's stunning note didn't work on her.

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35 Cont.

We now realize Betsy didn't have time to put on her ear muffs.

BETSY

It didn't work on me, either. And I didn't have the ear muffs on.

SIREN

Well, it's never failed to put men under my spell, Riddler. And at my command ...

RIDDLER

Men, you're about to have, Siren.
Three of the top prize fighters in
the country. Waiting outside right
now to be dazed by your dazzling
decibel! And with them in my power,
and Batman kayoed once and for all,
I'll rule the ring!
(indicates)

Send 'em in, Betsy! One at a time!

BETSY

Mushy Nebuchadnezzer better slip into his burnoose and start chewing some licorice. This is supposed to be legit, Riddler.

Riddler nods, and Betsy and Siren help him into a burnoose --

STRAIGHT CUT TO:

36 INT. BATCAVE - NIGHT

36

NARRATOR
AND AS RIDDLER PURSUES HIS
SINISTER CHARADE, THE DYNAMIC DUO
RETURN TO THE BATCAVE...!

BENEATH this, Batmobile ROARS IN and stops. As Duo leap out, we realize Robin was driving with Batman in passenger's seat.

BATMAN

Thanks for driving, old chum. It was no easy matter getting Chief O'Hara to police headquarters in his condition.

37

ANOTHER ANGLE

REVEALING Alfred, in process of putting some kind of cover on Batcomputer as Duo is ANGLED IN.

BATMAN What are you doing, Alfred?

37 Cont.

ALFRED

Putting the Batcomputer to -- bed, as it were, sir...

BATMAN

To bed? It couldn't be more tired than we are...

ROBIN

And we have to ask it some questions about the Riddler!

ALFRED

It isn't tired -- it's incapacitated, sir. I was oiling the electrodyna-mometer and accidently tripped an impulse percussion-button. Thus, the audio frequency valve has been demagnetized, I'm afraid. It'll take me a while to fix it.

ROBIN

Holy hang-ups!

BATMAN

It will be morning shortly, old chum. We can start with renewed vigor. Good night, Alfred...

Alfred exchanges nods with Duo, who then stride toward --

38 ANGLE AT BATPOLES (STOCK)

38

.WHD000SH, and up they go!

39 OUT

OUT 39

BAT SPIN TO: X

40 INT. RIDDLER'S GYM HIDE-OUT - NIGHT

40

NARRATOR

SO, WITH THE DUO ASLEEP AND BATGIRL ON THE SHELF, THE RIDDLER CONDUCTS HIS INSIDIOUS INTERVIEWS...

BENEATH this, Betsy is introducing Riddler (in his hooded burnoose as Mushy) to MANDO RAMOS. The Siren and stooges IN SHOT. Stooges wear ear muffs!

BETSY

This is Mando Ramos, Mushy. One of the best Lightweights in the game. Rated number three in the world...

RIDDLER

Maybe we can improve that rating.

He gestures to Siren, who lets go with her UNDULATING NOTE as Riddler dons ear muffs. Ramos immediately looks blank and bewildered, stunned by the note.

41 OUT

OUT 41

BAT SPIN TO:

42 INT. RIDDLER'S GYM HIDE-OUT - NIGHT

42

Mando Ramos stands stonily aside, as Betsy now introduces Riddler (as Mushy) to RAUL ROJAS. The Siren and stooges IN SHOT. Stooges wear ear muffs!

BETSY

This is Raul Rojas, Mushy. World Champion Junior Lightweight...

RIDDLER

Sounds very impressive. And speaking of sounds...

Again the signal to the Siren, again her UNDULATING NOTE as Riddler dons ear muffs. And Rojas is stupefied.

43 <u>our</u>

our 43

BAT SPIN TO:

44 INT. RIDDLER'S GYM HIDE-OUT - NIGHT

44

Raul Rojas has joined Mando Ramos on the sidelines, as Betsy next introduces Riddler (as Mushy) to JERRY QUARRY. X Siren and stooges IN SHOT. Stooges wear ear muffs!

44 Cont.

BETSY

This is Jerry Quarry, Mushy. A contender for the Heavyweight Title...

χ

RIDDLER

(to Jerry)

Well, Jerry -- contend with this!

Signal to Siren, as he dons ear muffs. UNDULATING NOTE. Quarry goes numb. Then Riddler and stooges remove X ear muffs.

SIREN

All right, Riddler -- they're under my spell! They'll obey any order...

RIDDLER

Send 'em into the Steam Room, for now. Wet 'em down a little...

SIREN

(croons to prize

fighters)

Into the Steam Room, boys.

As a man, the three stunned fighters EXIT mechanically toward Steam Room -- as Riddler speaks to stooges.

RIDDLER

Turn the heat up, and see how Batgirl's doing.

Stooges nod, EXIT. Riddler turns to Siren, happily.

RIDDLER

Next, to get Batman under my spell!

SIREN

I, too, have plans for Batman.
And Commissioner Gordon...

RIDDLER

A good parlay. Thank you, Siren. From the bottom of my -- burnoose...

She gives him a tantalizing smile, blows him a tantalizing kiss and glides tantalizingly OUT -- CAMERA ANGLING TO door of Steam Room, as Kayo and Cauliflower COME IN

44 Cont.1

(from it) on the double, and on the heels of a CLOUD OF STEAM.

KAYO

Batgirl's gone, boss!

RIDDLER

Gone???

KAYO

Somehow, she got out of that steam room! Must've gone up a vent!

BETSY

(as Riddler looks shook)

Would you like a quick shot of

camel-grass juice?

RIDDLER

(brusquely, taking off burnoose)

No, Betsy!

(riddles)

What's looser than a thread, a fish, a rose petal or flying ribbons?

(answers)

A woman's tongue! Possibly Batgirl's! I better start on some provocative riddles, quick -- if I'm going to coax Batman into that ring with Mushy Nebuchadnezzer!

45**-**48 OUT

OUT

STRAIGHT CUT TO:

49 INT. AN ALLEY - NIGHT (STOCK)

49

NARRATOR

BUT ALL OF GOTHAM CITY ISN'T COMPOSING CONUNDRUMS TONIGHT ...

BENEATH this, Batgirl roars down alley on her Batgirl-cycle and is swallowed up by her secret BRICK WALL DOOR.

BAT SPIN TO:

50 INT. SECRET CLOSET IN BARBARA'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

50

NARRATOR ...AND, NOTHING WILTS BATGIRL!!!

X

BENEATH this, secret panel in closet opens as Batgirl leaps off Batgirl-cycle in elevator, panel closing after her as she ENTERS closet proper.

51 INT. BARBARA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

51

NARRATOR
BATMAN MUST BE ALERTED AT ALL
COSTS!!!

BENEATH THIS, wall revolves and we find Barbara sitting at the dressing table in lounging clothes worn earlier, quickly smoothing down her hair (or whatever.) Then she moves to nearby phone, starts dialing.

NARRATOR

ALL COSTS, THAT IS, EXCEPT REVEALING HER TRUE IDENTITY...

BENEATH this, Barbara pauses in her dialing, then abruptly hangs up and turns to Charlie, her parrot.

BARBARA

I'd like to get a message to Alfred, Charlie. But I don't dare call Wayne Manor, this time of night. I might awaken millionaire Bruce Wayne. And cook my own goose...

BAT SPIN TO:

52

NARRATOR

BUT SHORTLY, AS BATMAN ADVISED ROBIN, IT IS MORNING. AND SOMEHOW BATMAN HAS APPARENTLY GOTTEN THE MESSAGE ... !

BENEATH this, Batmobile makes ROARING STOCK EXIT from Batcave and turns toward town.

BAT SPIN TO:

INT. COMMISSIONER GORDON'S OFFICE - DAY 53

53

χ

FAVORING Commissioner Gordon speaking almost plaintively. A sizeable pile of messages (riddles) confront him on desk.

> COMMISSIONER GORDON I have called Batman, Barbara. But I called you, too, because I needed someone to talk to until he arrived ...

During this, ANGLE WIDENS TO INCLUDE Barbara, listening sympathetically.

> COMMISSIONER GORDON I know you'll be late at the library, but with Chief O'Hara still in a state of amnesia, I'm lost -- that's all. Lost ...

(hands separate) The whole city's aroused over Kid Gulliver's condition. Plus the strange disappearances of Mando Ramos, Raul Rojas and Jerry Quarry!

(indicates) And I'm snowed under with riddles sent care of this office for Batman!

(picks a riddle at random, reads:)

'What do bells, curtains, twins and hair have in common ...?'

BARBARA

That's easy, Daddy. Something like his riddle of last night: 'Who rules the ring ...?'

COMMISSIONER GORDON

Ring?

BARBARA

(nods)

Bells ring out. Curtains ring down. Twins are perfect ringers. And hair often comes in ringlets ...

8674

Cont.

KNONTTAUJOEGOM

53 Cont.

COMMISSIONER GORDON

So he's still taunting Batman -- eh?
(reads next riddle)
'Any aggressor should beware his successor ...'

BARBARA

It isn't a very good rhyme, but it must have something to do with Nebuchadnezzer ...

COMMISSIONER GORDON Aggressor? Successor? Sounds like a challenge, indeed!

BATMAN'S VOICE

(o.s.) A challenge?

54 ANOTHER ANGLE

54

BRINGING IN Duo from behind Barbara. They advance toward Commissioner Gordon's desk, nodding politely to Barbara as they do so.

COMMISSIONER GORDON Yes, Batman. Apparently a challenge for you ...

At this point, Regular Phone RINGS on desk. Gordon answers it.

COMMISSIONER GORDON

Commissioner Gordon ...

(pause)

Yes, he's right here. (extends phone to Batman)

This call's for you, too.

BATMAN

(TO phone)

Hello ...

A-54 INT. THE RIDDLER ON A PHONE - DAY (LIMBO)

A - 54

RIDDLER

Riddle me this, Batman! What are the chilliest twelve inches in the world?

1

BATMAN

(to others, sotto)

It's the Riddler!

(TO phone)

The chilliest twelve inches in the world? Cold feet!

INTERCUT:

C-54 BATMAN AND RIDDLER

C~54

RIDDLER

(on phone)

Very good!

(riddles again)

Now -- when is a jet trail like a daffodil?

BATMAN

(on phone, growing

annoyed)

When it leaves a yellow streak!

RIDDLER

Excellent!

(riddles again)

Next -- what suit of cards lays eggs?

BATMAN

(on phone)

The one that's chicken-hearted!

(adds)

But listen this, Riddler. Sticks

and stones may break my bones

but ...

RIDDLER

(interrupts)

You listen to this, Batman! My line is plugged into Radio Station GTCR. And all of Gotham City has heard you called a coward!

With this, Riddler hangs up happily.

D-54 INT. COMMISSIONER GORDON'S OFFICE D-54

WITH Batman, hanging up phone angrily.

Cont.

L

BATMAN

D-54

That does it!

(to Commissioner Gordon)
Regardless of who Mushy Nebuchadnesser
may really be, Commissioner, or what
the Riddler is up to -- regardless of
my private or public image -- the
one thing I won't abide is being called
a coward!

(a beat)

You can advise all news media that --

55 CLOSE ON BATMAN

55

speaking directly TO CAMERA.

BATMAN

-- I'll fight the champion of southwestern Asia in Gotham Square Garden tonight!

BAT SPIN TO:

Batman is stopped by MAE WEST. She is dressed to the hilt in a shimmering evening gown, bedecked with diamonds and accompanied by two handsome, young, brawny Tuxedoed ESCORTS.

BATMAN How nice to have you at ringside, Miss West!

Cont.

1

Ĺ.

61 Cont.

61 Cont.

MAE WEST

If you win this fight, Batman -- (the line)
-- come up and see me some time!

Batman reacts, then climbs through ropes and OUT.

62 ANGLE WITH BETSY AND SECOND ANNOUNCER - AT "MIKE"

62

BETSY

(indicates "mike")

Take over here a minute, Phil. I'll be right back...

Betsy EXITS.

63 INT. BATMAN'S CORNER IN RING

63

WITH Batman, Robin and Alfred -- the latter, in particular, busy with Batman's towels, gloves, etc.

BATMAN

(sotto)

You make an excellent second second, Alfred.

ALFRED

(ditto)

I trust no one will penetrate my disguise, sir. But perhaps you'd better call me -- Gus ...

During this, Robin sees someone in particular at ringside.

ROBIN

(to Batman, also

sotto)

Holy missing relatives! Look who's sitting down beside Commissioner Gordon!

64 THEIR P.O.V. - TOWARD RINGSIDE

64

where AUNT HARRIET is taking a seat next to Commissioner Gordon, Barbara and Chief O'Hara.

X

65 CLOSER - AUNT HARRIET, COMMISSIONER GORDON, BARBARA AND 65 CHIEF O'HARA X

COMMISSIONER GORDON

Mrs. Cooper! How nice to see you.

(presents)

My daughter, Barbara ...

Cont.

65 Cont.

AUNT HARRIET

How do you do, my dear? (to include

Commissioner Gordon)
Oh, I've been such a wanderer,
Commissioner! I just got back
from the New Hebrides this evening.
I didn't let the boys know, I
wanted to surprise them. But nobody
was home. Not even Alfred! And
then when I heard Batman was fighting
this Mushy Nebuchadwhosis -- well,
you know me. I love a good fight...!

During this, the VOICES OF ANNOUNCER, REFEREE, ETC., HEARD IN B.G. (to be supplied in FINAL DRAFT). And we go back to:

66 BATMAN'S CORNER - BATMAN, ROBIN AND ALFRED

66

His robe off, we now see Batman wears regulation fighter's trunks under his cape and over his leotards. He looks across ring, reacts.

BATMAN

As I thought! Riddler ...!

67 RIDDLER'S CORNER - RIDDLER, KAYO AND CAULIFLOWER

67

His burnoose off, Riddler wears regulation fighter's trunks over his question marked costume. (Note: "EVERGOOD" labels on both Riddler and Batman's trunks and boxing gloves).

68 RESUME - BATMAN, ROBIN AND ALFRED

68

BATMAN

This is ridiculous!
(to include Robin)
He's smaller than you are!

ROBIN

(defensively)

The bigger they are, Batman, the harder they --

But this is interrupted as BELL SOUNDS, and we go into:

69 FULL SHOT - THE RING

69

as the fight commences. Batman feints, spars and dances -- but Riddler starts delivering every unorthodox blow known. SILENT REFEREE hovers around them.

1

(nods)

KNOMTALLJOE GOM

The drawing power of this fight seems to have concentrated beneath the ring!

(

76 INT. AREA BENEATH RING

> (Perhaps so marked), WITH Betsy, applying a large magnet to ceiling which is directly beneath ring. She is obviously magnetizing the filings and, thus, Batman's feet.

77 BACK TO ACTION IN RING

77

76

Batman, his feet paralyzed, stands stock-still in the middle of the ring as Riddler dances around him gleefully, pummeling him from all sides. INTERCUT with STOCK CROWD REACTIONS. Also REACTIONS of Robin and Alfred.

78

X

X

78 ANGLE ON AUNT HARRIET, COMMISSIONER GORDON, BARBARA, CHIEF O'HARA

CHIEF O'HARA

Mither Machrie! What's happenin'?!

COMMISSIONER GORDON

Batman's feet seem to be -- magnetized to the canvas...!

BARBARA

(abruptly)

Pardon me. I have something in my eyes.

She EXITS quickly.

79 INT. THE RING

79

Riddler's beating of the hapless Batman increases. SOUNDS OF CROWD OVER.

80 INT. A DOOR MARKED "LADIES LOUNGE"

80

Barbara dashes through door and OUT.

NARRATOR

AND BARBARA GORDON HAS SOMETHING IN THIS REST ROOM, TOO!

BENEATH this, <u>Batgirl</u> dashes out of Ladies Lounge and EXITS.

81 INT. THE RING

81

Riddler batters Batman, as CROWD MOANS AND BOOS.

82 INT. AREA BENEATH RING

82

WITH Betsy, applying her magnet to the ceiling -- as the end of a nylon rope WHIPS INTO SHOT AND LASSOS magnet out of her hand. Betsy wheels, ANGLE WIDENING TO INCLUDE Batgirl, who reels in the magnet and faces Betsy.

BETSY

Batgirl!!!

BATGIRL

Yes, Betsy Boldface! We meet again! Only this time...

But before she can do anything else, Betsy rushes past her and OUT. As she follows --

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1

83 INT. THE RING

83

The magnetic forces broken, Batman suddenly finds he can use his feet! As he springs at Riddler, Riddler reacts aghast, retreating quickly to his corner as ROAR OF CROWD COMES OVER.

	REVISED - "RING AROUND THE RIDDLER" - 7/28/67	36
84.	CLOSER - RIDDLER IN HIS CORNER WITH STOOGES	84
•	RIDDLER Something's happened! Let's get out of here!	
	He and stooges scurry through ropes, and OUT.	
85	BACK TO BATMAN IN RING.	85
	leaping to his corner, and gesturing to Robin and Alfre	d.
	BATMAN After them:	
	They, too, dive through ropes and OUT. CROWD ROARS.	
86	ANGLE WITH AUNT HARRIET, COMMISSIONER GORDON AND CHIEF O'HARA AUNT HARRIET Merciful stars! I didn't see anything like this in the New Hebrides!	86 X
	BAT SPIN 3	co:
87	INT. RIDDLER'S GYM HIDE-OUT - NIGHT	87
	Riddler and stooges rush IN, to find Betsy cowering in corner.	a.
	RIDDLER What happened to you?!	
	BETSY (indicates) She happened to me!	
88 .	ANOTHER ANGLE	88
	REVEALING Batgirl, with no weapons whatsoever, obvious dominating the frightened Betsy.	ly
89	BACK TO RIDDLER, BETSY AND STOOGES	89
	RIDDLER (to stooges) Grab her! (to Betsy) Batman's on our tails! Let's get out through the Steam Room	x
	But before he can finish the sentence. Duo RUSH IN and	

But before he can finish the sentence, Duo RUSH IN and we go into:

90 BATFIGHT SEQUENCE

90

At a signal from Riddler, TWO MORE STOOGES MATERIALIZE and plunge into fray. And some fray it is! Utilizing appropriate props from gym, Duo really start mixing it up with Riddler, and stooges. Batgirl also does her bit with Betsy, as BATFIGHT TITLES ARE SUPERED. And, presently the Caped Crusaders -- plus Batgirl -- are victorious. The stooges are all out cold! Betsy is tied to something. Batman has a firm grasp on Riddler, whose facade of bravado is fading.

A-90 BATMAN AND RIDDLER

A-90

BATMAN

Any final riddles, Riddler?

RIDDLER

(riddling)

Just this, Batman. What does a cop walk? What do you do with drumsticks? What's both down and up?

(furnishes)

A beat.

(sadly)

And it looks, for once, as if crime-fighting has beaten conundrums!

He sinks down on something; he's had it!

91 ANGLE WITH DUO

91

surveying the damage and recovering their breath. During following, a thirsty Robin starts filling two glasses (or paper cups) from a bottle prominently marked: CAMEL-GRASS JUICE.

BATMAN

I guess that about winds it up, Robin. Thanks to the help of Batgirl...

(looks around)

She's gone!

ROBIN

Yes! But this time I saw where she went! Through that transom! And her Batgirl-cycle's parked in the back alley! Let's follow her, Batman! Let's really find out who she is...

Cont.

1

37-A X

91 Cont.

91 Cont.

BATMAN

No, old chum. We should no more penetrate her disguise than we'd want her to penetrate ours...

ROBIN

I guess you're right...

During this, Robin has sipped from his drink, reacts very favorably and extends other glass (or cup) to Batman.

ROBIN

Gosh, Batman! This camel-grass juice is great!

And as he drains the drink --

FADE OUT

END OF ACT TWO

TAG

FADE IN

92 INT. COMMISSIONER GORDON'S OFFICE - DAY

92

X

WITH Commissioner Gordon at Regular Phone at his desk.

COMMISSIONER GORDON
Chief O'Hara should be all right
in a day or so, Mayor Linseed.
Also Kid Gulliver. And after Batman
and Robin kayoed the Riddler and
his gang, -- and nailed that
brazen Betsy Boldface -- they found
the missing Mando Ramos, Paul Rojas
and Jerry Quarrie in a back room
of that run-down gymnasium...
(pause, little

chuckle)
Yes, it has been an exciting day
or two. Thanks for calling...

He hangs up, as INTERCOM BUZZES. Commissioner Gordon flicks it on.

COMMISSIONER GORDON

Yes, Bonnie?

BONNIE'S VOICE

(o.s.)
There's a Miss Circe out here to see you, Commissioner. Lorelei Circe...

COMMISSIONER GORDON
That name doesn't seem to ring a
bell, Bonnie, but --(shrugs)
-- send her in...

He flicks off intercom, rises and looks toward door -- as CAMERA ANGLES TO BRING IN The Siren, with her tantalizing glide.

COMMISSIONER GORDON Miss Circe? What can I do for you?

SIREN (purring)

It's what I can do for you, Commissioner -- that counts ...

Cont.

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92 Cont.

92 Cont.

With this, she emits her UNDULATING NOTE directly at Commissioner Gordon. And as he, too, looks blank and bewildered, stunned by the note:

NARRATOR
WILL THE SIREN SUCCEED IN THE
PLAN SHE HAS FOR BATMAN AND
COMMISSIONER GORDON??? WILL HER
PURRING PARLAY PAY OFF??? WATCH
FOR THE STUNNING SURPRISE ON THE
NEXT EPISODE ...!

FADE OUT

THE END