



“WHADDYA MEAN BATMAN IS THE MAN?”

“Exactly that. He’s the MAN. The authority. He’s the majority. He’s judge and jury and he’s keeping everyone down.”

“I don’t get it. He’s a superhero.”

“No, he’s not. He’s a petulant rich white guy. Being a superhero implies having super powers. All Batman has is corporate investment capital. All he does is make sure no one challenges the status quo in an spandex fuelled Orwellian opera.”

“What are you talking about? He fights crime for crissake.”

“Crime? Hell no; think about what each of the so-called villains in Batman symbolizes. Cat woman? Animal activist. Poison Ivy? She’s all green party, an environmental activist. Ras’a’Ghul? He represents foreign political thought and American xenophobia. You can hear it the name. Ras-A-Ghul...is it Asian? Is it Arabic? Doesn’t matter, He is everything east of a cheeseburger. Riddler? He’s the questioning educated masses.”

“Yeah but there is no symbolism for Joker. He’s just evil and Batman confronts him. So, therefore, Batman confronts evil and ergo a superhero.”

“Joker? He wants everyone drugged up and smiling. That’s a hippie, man. A hippie. If that doesn’t do for you, he’s a Godwinian anarchist at the best of times. He suggests that power structures are flawed and susceptible to corruption. He exposes the fallibility of institutions set up to “protect” us. Including the irony of the Dark Knight, himself. Who is actually a just a lawless vigilante.”

“Anarchy?”

“Anarchy. True freedom made out to be scary.”

“How is freedom like anarchy?”

“Lack of authority and governance doesn’t mean that people will suddenly turn evil and start to kill, pillage, and rape. It is just assumed they will. Governments do that enough already.”

“University fucked you up. How does Joker expose fallibility of society? Godwin? Who the hell is that?”

“Never mind. Look at Arkham Asylum. Batman catches Joker puts him in there and Joker gets out. This government institution neither adequately helps Joker or contains him peaceably. It simply revels in the illusion that the patrons of Gotham are protected. How are the taxes spent? Why don’t they really take care of their citizens? If Batman is so rich and such a genius, why doesn’t he build and fund a better asylum? Infrastructure. Why doesn’t he build community centers to help youth in need instead of beating them to bloody pulp when they steal a DVD player?”

“No, no, wait. You said it. Arkham. There you go, you see, Joker is crazy. He blew up Jason Todd after he best him to death with a crowbar and more or less raped Batgirl. Crazy evil”

“Okay, fine. Joker is the symbol of psychosis; schizophrenia at it’s most violent. Bi-polar disorder. He’s characterizes society’s fear of the chemically imbalanced and their lack of willing to truly help.”

“I can’t drop this. He’s the Batman.”

“No way?”

“But he’s Batman.”

“No, he’s the Man. Bat”

“Yeah, well what about Superman?”

“Nothing.”

“Huh? What?”

“Nothing. Superman is awesome. The only alien immigrant outside of E.T. who didn’t come over to Earth to destroy it. No, he helps it. He saves us. He tries real hard to make it and he only loves Lois Lane. Don’t even think for a second that I don’t see the irony in the fact the best role model for humanity ain’t even human.”

“Hey?”

“Yeah?”

“Ewan was always better at this.”

“He was.”

“Well, I still like it.”

“It works. It’s serviceable.”

“Hey?”

“Huh?”

“Does spray paint come out?”

“Yeah. Eventually.”