

FIRST DRAFT

Howie Horwitz



BATMAN

MR. FREEZE

BY

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IN ASSOCIATION WITH

TWENTIETH CENTURY-FOX TELEVISION, INC.

Solve the problem
of heat rays +
cold temp in belt
+ whirly

10 pages too long
way over in use of
titles

BATMAN

Explain the parade -
Gotham City honoring
returning ball players?
or maybe something
else since it's out
of season for baseball

"Mr. Freeze"

by

Max Hodge

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BATMAN

"Mr. Freeze"

FADE IN

1 EXT. AUTOMATIC ICE DISPENSER - NIGHT

Brightly-lit-King-Size-Self-Service-Coin-in-Slot type, probably adjacent to a Gasoline Station in the heart of Gotham City. But the locale nor the weather (hot, steaming summer night) can be determined as the Dispenser fills the screen. Suddenly a darting flame from a powerful flame thrower o.s. shoots one direction, then the other across the dispenser, followed immediately by a cold, blue-white foamy substance tracing the same criss-cross pattern. Steam bellows forth with a loud S-s-sssing sound. When the steam quickly evaporates, the ICE DISPENSER stands revealed, cracked open like it had been dropped from a great height. ICE CUBES tumble to the ground. Another FLAME BURST and the ice cubes melt instantly, without even a 'wet' trace. SOUND (o.s.): A SINISTER LAUGH (as though coming from the bottom of a well) and then SQUEALING TIRES as a truck pulls away.

WHIP PAN TO:

2 EXT. ANOTHER AUTOMATIC ICE DISPENSER - NIGHT

Established in a deserted parking lot. An ICE CREAM TRUCK pulls up beside the dispenser. A FIGURE dressed very much like an astronaut - with plastic helmet (oxygen tank attached) and thermo-type suit - leaps from the rear door of the truck, aims a double-barreled FLAME-THROWER type weapon at the dispenser. Again: flames shoot out from one barrel, followed by the blue-white foamy substance from the other barrel. Steam billows. The ice dispenser cracks wide open, ice spilling to the ground, instantly melted with a short 'blast' from the flame barrel. Again: that same hollow, mocking LAUGH as the FIGURE leaps back into the truck, the truck speeds away.

WHIP PAN TO:

3 EXT. GOTHAM CITY ICE PALACE - NIGHT

A skating rink. CAMERA PANS DOWN from the SIGN to the ICE CREAM TRUCK parked at the entrance. SOUND: LOUD SCREAMS OF MANY PEOPLE FROM INSIDE THE RINK. The ASTRONAUT-LIKE FIGURE, carrying his flame-ice gun, rushes out of the rink, leaps into the back of the truck. SOUND: HOLLOW LAUGHTER as the truck speeds away. SEVERAL SKATERS

Cont.

3 Cont.

including a young couple, DENNY and KAY, still wearing skates hobble out to the street. They are dripping wet. PAN WITH MOTORCYCLE COP as he zooms up to the screaming ice skaters, pointing angrily toward the departing truck. Out of the loud babble comes:

DENNY
...some ~~crazy maniac~~ --- *fool*

KAY
(nasal)
...inna space suit ---

DENNY
...melted the ice --- with a flame
thrower --

KAY
...like that!
(fingersnap)

The confused motorcycle cop speeds away in hot pursuit.

4 THE CHASE

INTERCUTTING the careening truck, the fast gaining motorcycle.

5 EXT. DESERTED STREET - NIGHT

as the motorcycle pulls up within a few feet of the back of the truck. Suddenly the back door of the truck flies open, THE FIGURE quickly spraying the street with the blue-white foamy substance. The MOTORCYCLE starts skidding - whirling - slipping - sliding - a ballet on wheels as the truck pulls away and disappears into the night. The motorcycle strikes the curb, catapulting the cop onto the slippery pavement on his backside. He skids a considerable distance until he is braked - abruptly and awkwardly - by an ash can.

6 MED. DOWN SHOT - MOTORCYCLE COP

as he groggily sits up, shakes himself to get rid of that huge halo of stars whirling around his head, stares wide-eyed at the pavement finally rubbing nervous fingers across the slick surface.

MOTORCYCLE COP
(can't believe it)
Ice ----?

SHOCK CUT TO:

7 INT. COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE - CLOSE SHOT GORDON - NIGHT

GORDON
(aghast - blasting)
...in July?

CAMERA PULLS BACK FAST. Facing Commissioner Gordon is the MOTORCYCLE COP, wincing from the blast. CHIEF O'HARA, the INSPECTOR and THREE POLICEMEN wear worried/confused/concerned expressions.

MOTORCYCLE COP
(meek squeak -
nodding nervously)
Ice.

GORDON shakes his head in disbelief as he turns away from the motorcycle cop and starts marching past the THREE COPS like a General reviewing troops. They snap to. Suddenly he turns to one:

GORDON
Eight ice dispensing machines on
your beat -- cracked wide open ---?
(snappy-one-nod
from the cop -
to the next cop)
...ten on yours -- ice gone -- ?
(second cop nods
several times -
to the third cop,
incredulously)
...twenty-one -- not even a wet
spot left?
(sad nod from cop)

8 NEW ANGLE

to include young couple, DENNY and KAY in f.g. as Commissioner approaches them. Kay still carries her skates, Denny has his pair draped around his neck. The Commissioner faces them grimly.

DENNY
(anticipating a
question)
Ice rink sure was one big wet spot --

KAY
...like a swimmin' pool yet.
(demonstrating
flame-gun)
Sssss! You should seen way he
shot that flame around ---

Cont.

8 Cont.

~~DENNY~~
~~...ice melted right out from~~
~~under ya ---~~

~~KAY~~
~~...splash!~~

9 GROUP SHOT OF LAWYERS - FAVORING O'HARA
 as they exchange puzzled glances.

O'HARA
 Don't make sense! Who would go
 to all that trouble to steal all
 the ice in town, melt an ice rink,
 then turn right around and ice up
 a street ---?

10 CLOSE - COMMISSIONER GORDON
 jabbing a forefinger skyward, a knowing look on his face.

GORDON
 (interrupting -
 meaningfully)
 ...unless ---?

11 SERIES OF FLASH CLOSEUPS
 O'Hara, Inspector, Cops as they all realize the significance
 of Gordon's 'unless.'

12 THE SCENE
 as GORDON - with measured determined steps - marches to
 the RED PHONE, picks up the receiver, presses the button
 at the base.

CUT TO:

13 INT. WAYNE MANOR - BRUCE'S STUDY - NIGHT
 with BEEPING-FLASHING RED PHONE in f.g. ALFRED, the butler,
 hurries to the phone, picks up the receiver:

ALFRED
 (without chit chat)
 I'll call him, sir.

14 BACK TO COMMISSIONER GORDON'S OFFICE
 as Gordon holds the phone, faces the group.

Cont.

14 Cont.

GORDON

Unquestionably a case for...
Batman.

O'HARA

Unquestionably.

ALL nod their solemn agreement ~~except the YOUNG COUPLE who are giggly excited.~~

15

INT. BRUCE'S LIVING ROOM - CLOSE BRUCE - NIGHT

He is amused at something he is watching o.s. CAMERA QUICKLY PULLS BACK to reveal PAUL DIAMANTE, Gotham City Eagle's ace pitcher, winding up for an imaginary pitch for the benefit of an eager DICK GRAYSON, a worried MRS. COOPER and two playfully jeering ballplayers, ART ROGERS and AL SCOTT. The furniture has been slightly rearranged to simulate a ball diamond.

DIAMANTE

(winding dangerously close to vase)

...get that ole pitchin' arm waaaay back --

MRS. COOPER

(smilingly worried)

...careful - the vase --?

DIAMANTE

(a mighty pitch)

...pow --!

*Articulate
Diamonds*

ROGERS pretends to catch it, grimaces as though in pain as he shakes his hand, blows on it.

ROGERS

Ouch!

ALL LAUGH.

DIAMANTE

That's how you do it...ole ^{SMOKE} knuckleball.

DICK

(with boyish admiration)

Boy. Boy oh boy, Paul. Guess you must be about the best pitcher in the world.

Cont.

15 Cont.

ROGERS

About?
 (a beat)
IS!
 (beat)
 Ask him!

New round of merriment.

16

ANGLE ON DOORWAY

as Alfred enters, approaches Bruce.

BRUCE

I make a motion: it has not only
 been a pleasure, but an education
 to have our three most illustrious
 members of the Gotham City Eagles
 for dinner. Do I hear a second
 to my motion?

DICK

(hand raised -
 eagerly)
 Second the motion!

MRS. COOPER

(timid hand raise)
 Third.
 (with concern -
 as they laugh)
 Hope you boys like the cherry pie.

AD LIBS: "great", "delicious", "wow" etc. as Bruce turns
 to Alfred.

17

CLOSE TWO SHOT - BRUCE AND ALFRED

ALFRED

(whispering)
 The Bat-Phone, sir!

Bruce's jaws tighten, his eyes narrow.

18

FULL SCENE

as Bruce quickly returns to his playboy mannerisms. He
 talks to Alfred, but for everyone to hear:

BRUCE

Mustn't keep the young lady waiting,
 must we, Alfred.
 (apologetically -
 to the rest)
 Seems I had a date...half hour ago.

18 Cont.

AD LIBS: "Don't let us stop you", "heck no", "We're leaving" etc.

BRUCE
(to Dick - pointedly)
Seems this young lady also has a
-- younger niece --
(elaborately dismissing the idea)
...but is any blonde teen-age
miss worth three, king-size,
genuine players --
(as the players hoot)
...from the World Championship
baseball team?

19 CLOSE - DICK

tight-lipped, digging Bruce's real meaning. Good-natured
AD LIBS (o.s.): "go on, kid" - "grab'er before someone
else does" - "Don't spend all your allowance" etc.

20 BACK TO THE SCENE

as the PLAYERS pat Dick on the shoulder, gently shoving
him toward the door.

MRS. COOPER
Run along you two. I'm quite
capable of entertaining three
such handsome young boys by
myself.

*get them
out instead of
leaving
Mrs Cooper*

BRUCE
If you'll excuse us, gentlemen --?

DICK
Excuse us ---?

AD LIBS: "Sure" "Go, go, go" etc. BRUCE and DICK hurry
out the door as the ballplayers turn their attention to
Mrs. Cooper.

21 INT. BRUCE'S STUDY - NIGHT

as BRUCE and DICK hurry in. Dick closes door as his
guardian crosses to the phone, Dick rushing over to listen in.

BRUCE
(to phone)
Yes, Commissioner?

As Bruce and Dick listen, their anxiety grows. After a
few seconds:

CUT TO:

28 Cont.

BATMAN

Roger.

Batman pushes in throttle-knob and the Batmobile shoots forward along its ramp and plunges into an exit tunnel as we:

FADE OUT

FADE IN

~~29 EXT. HILLSIDE - NIGHT (optional scene)~~

~~Section of hillside SLIDES OPEN to reveal end of exit ramp from the Batcave. The Batmobile flashes out into the darkness, skids, turns, the headlights flashing on as it races away. The false hillside instantly CLOSES again.~~

~~SPIN FRAME TO:~~

30 INT. COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE - ON PHOTOGRAPH - NIGHT

held in Batman's hand. The PHOTOGRAPH of the sinister, bald-bullet-head MR. FREEZE.

BATMAN

(o.s.)

Good ole Doctor Schimmel...
alias Mr. Freeze.

CAMERA PULLS BACK to reveal COMMISSIONER GORDON, CHIEF O'HARA, the INSPECTOR and a puzzled ROBIN.

ROBIN

Why do you call him Mr. Freeze?

BATMAN exchanges knowing glances with the others.

BATMAN

What better name for a man who can only exist in sub-zero temperature?

ROBIN

Sub-zero - ?

GORDON

So the rumor goes. Since the ---
(a beat - a nervous
glance at Batman)
...accident -- he can't live in
normal climates.

ROBIN

What accident?

BATMAN

It happened some time ago.
Dr. Schimmel - that's his real
name - was a scientist---

O'HARA

(interrupting)

...mad -- if you ask me!

Robin would know all this - let O'Hara ask the questions -

30 Cont.

BATMAN

(tolerantly)

Perhaps. Among other things he was experimenting with an instant-freezing solution ---

O'HARA

(again interrupting)

...among other things illegal, unlawful, immoral. He was a crook.

COMMISSIONER

(a reprimand)

Beside the point, Chief!

BATMAN

Not necessarily, Commissioner. The reason I was tracking him down was due to his more... unsavory activities.

ROBIN

You?

BATMAN

I was the cause of the...accident. We met up in his laboratory... there was a fight. Unfortunately, during the struggle, a large beaker of instant-freeze solution was knocked over ---

(a pause - sadly

staring into space)

...saturating him completely. At the same time, I fell, striking my head on the table. That's all I remember.

GORDON

When we arrived, we found Batman unconscious ---

O'HARA

...but no Doctor Schimmel!

BATMAN

No.

(a beat)

No Doctor Schimmel. Next we knew, a man answering Doctor Schimmel's description was living in Switzerland, high above the snow line. Rumor persisted that since the accident,

30 Cont.1

BATMAN (Cont.)

Mr. Freeze -- ~~the name they gave him~~ -- could only live in freezing temperatures. Now he's back -- leaving his icy calling cards all over Gotham City to let me know he's back!

GORDON

You?

(a beat)

Why you?

BATMAN

(with a slight smile)

Obvious, isn't it?

GORDON

(a squeak)

Revenge?

ALL stare at Batman. The awful truth is out.

~~O'HARA~~ *BATMAN*

~~No. No.~~ Got to be some other *←* reason.

(a thought -
hopefully)

He's here on some illegal deal to make money!

BATMAN

That too.

ROBIN

(puzzling all this)

But - what I don't understand --? You said he can't live in hot climates...and it's sure hot tonight.

GORDON

Witnesses reported he was wearing some special suit...like a space man.

BATMAN

Air-conditioned! Down to zero... no doubt.

ROBIN

Can't wear a suit all the time! Where does he live?

31 ANGLE ON BATMAN

as he moves to the window, stares out over the silent city.
Dawn is breaking.

BATMAN

(slowly - thoughtfully)

Out there -- somewhere --

(a long pause)

...where he can plan his next
move in cool comfort.

SPIN FRAME TO:

32 EXT. MR. FREEZE'S REMOTE MOUNTAIN RETREAT - DAY (STOCK)

An extremely MODERN HIDEAWAY (shades of Jackie Gleason's
'round-house' Peekskill retreat), tucked away in acres of
trees. CAMERA SLOWLY MOVES IN as SUPERIMPOSED TITLES FADE
IN AND OUT, ONE BY ONE:

"IN A REMOTE MOUNTAIN RETREAT --
TWO HOURS BY FREEWAY FROM GOTHAM
CITY - ONE HOUR BY REGULAR ROUTE --"
"...MR. FREEZE IS INDEED PLOTTING
HIS NEXT DIRE DEED!"

33 INT. FREEZE'S DINING AREA - CLOSE SHOT FREEZE - DAY

as he laughs (not hollow - his plexiglass helmet is gone)
and expounds to his henchmen o.s., CAMERA PULLING BACK:

MR. FREEZE

(Teutonic accent)

Pass nur auf!

SUPERIMPOSE TRANSLATION AT BOTTOM OF SCREEN: "I'll show
him." (PRODUCTION NOTE: Each time Mr. Freeze uses a
German phrase, it is translated, as in foreign films).

MR. FREEZE

Batman vill be ze laughing stock
of all Gotham City after ve do vot
ve plan to do zis afternoon, yah?

LAUGHTER from the HENCHMEN who are now revealed: AL, JOE,
KLAUS, OTTO, seated on two sides of a long modern table
eating breakfast. They are in a WARM area -- the 76 degree
temperature area - heated by red-yellow rays projected from
the ceiling. MR. FREEZE sits at the end of the table in a
blue-green ZERO temperature area. The entire room is in
the blue-green zero temperature area except where the FOUR
are seated. As we will see later, MR. FREEZE can control
the temperature in any given two-square-foot area by pressing
the proper button on a portable 9-inch-square remote control
panel with 144 buttons. Usually he carries the panel with

33 Cont.

him in a special pocket in his jacket, but at present it rests on the table beside his breakfast plate. He greedily shovels cold food into his mouth, some dripping from the corners of his mouth as he points a fork at Klaus:

MR. FREEZE

Klaus? You have hired ze five airplanes to do zeir job at ze proper moment?

KLAUS

Yah! (SUPERIMPOSE TRANSLATION: 'Yes!')

FREEZE

Otto? How many Batmans you hire for parade?

OTTO

One dozen.

~~Eight~~ Eight

FREEZE

Gut!! ~~Und how many of...me?~~
(SUPERIMPOSED TRANSLATION: 'Good!!')

STET except for superimpose

OTTO

One ~~dozen~~ ^{eight} Batmans, naturally one ^{eight} dozen yous!

FREEZE

Gut! Gut! Gut!
(SUPERIMPOSED TITLE: 'Good! Good! Good!')

Poor Batman.

(he laughs - then -
impatiently to someone
o.s.)

Vell, George? Vot are you vaiting for? Christmas?

34 ANGLE ON DOORWAY

GEORGE, the butler, carrying a tray of food stands timidly in the doorway leading into the dining room.

GEORGE

You...forgot to turn on my hot path, sir.

35 MED. MR. FREEZE

as he strikes his forehead with the palm of his hand.

Cont.

35 Cont.

MR. FREEZE

Dummkopf!

(SUPERIMPOSE: ~~"Dumb me"~~ *upwohl*)

I forget you cannot live in zero temperature like me.

(pressing button on panel)

Nize ---

36 INSERT: REMOTE CONTROL PANEL

Mr. Freeze's forefinger pressing several buttons in a row which light up as he presses them. One square area of buttons (the table area where the four are seated) is already lighted.

FREEZE

(a word per button - o.s.)

...warm -- seventy-six --

37 FULL ON SCENE

as two-foot-squares of red-yellow light pop in, penetrating the blue-green area from doorway to the dining area, making a path of WARMTH:

FREEZE

(punching the last button)

...degrees -from kitchen to table!
There!

GEORGE walks down the 'path' to the table and starts serving the henchmen. CAMERA MOVES IN for CLOSER SHOT of MR. FREEZE as:

MR. FREEZE

(musing - sinisterly happy)

Yah, yah, yah!

(SUPERIMPOSE TRANSLATION:

"Yes, yes, yes!")

Zis is beginning of end of Batman. I will toy viz him like cat viz mouse. Toy - und den ---

(savagely - as he strikes table with his fist)

...destroy!

CAMERA HAS MOVED IN for EXTREME CLOSE SHOT of fist. SUPERIMPOSE WORD: "POW!!" with brilliant flashes.

38 EXT. AVENUE OF PEACE - ON BASS DRUM - DAY
 as it is struck "BOOOOM!" CAMERA PULLS BACK FAST.
 A High School Band is marching by.

39 EXT. PARADE - VARIOUS SHOTS - DAY (STOCK)
 A SERIES of PARADE SHOTS, not unlike any Fifth Avenue
 Parade, with marching units, bands, floats, etc.

CUT TO:

40 INT. WAYNE MANOR - CLOSE ON TV SCREEN - DAY
 showing live TELECAST of parade. PULL BACK to show
 MRS. COOPER watching with great interest. A musing, 'ascoted'
 BRUCE WAYNE - his arm resting on the fireplace mantle - is
 toying with the ice in his lemonade. DICK GRAYSON is count-
 ing pushups:

DICK
 ...ninety-six-ninety-seven-ninety-
 eight---!

MRS. COOPER
 (suddenly)
 Look! Batman!

41 CLOSE - REACTION SHOT OF BRUCE
 startled by this. Did Aunt Harriet call him Batman?

42 REACTION SHOT - DICK
 stopping pushups in midair. He looks apprehensively toward
 his Aunt Harriet o.s.

43 ON MRS. COOPER
 as she points to the TV screen.

MRS. COOPER
 That Batman fellow - nobody knows
 who he is, you know --?

44 INSERT: TV SCREEN
 with a DOZEN BATMANS marching by.

MRS. COOPER
 (o.s.)
 See! All dressed up like him.

45 WIDE ANGLE

to include ALL THREE as Bruce exchanges a knowing look with Dick. Mrs. Cooper, absorbed in the parade, is humming as she beats out time to the music, her hands directing the band. Bruce, amused, watches momentarily, then glances down at the TV.

46 CLOSE - BRUCE'S REACTION

His eyes widen, his jaw muscles working.

47 INSERT: TV SCREEN

A dozen MR. FREEZES - in space-type suits - marching by.

48 BACK TO BRUCE

worried. Deep in thought. Staring into space. Don't those space-type suits fit the description of Mr. Freeze? Absent-mindedly he lifts the ice cube from the glass with the long ice-tea-type spoon.

MRS. COOPER

(o.s.)
More ice? *[Handwritten signature]*

BRUCE

(momentarily
startled)

Ice?

49 FULL SHOT OF SCENE

MRS. COOPER

For your lemonade.

Bruce quickly recovers his easy going Playboy manner as he smiles at Aunt Harriet who is fishing with ice tongs in the ice bucket.

BRUCE

No thank you.

(to Dick - meaningfully)

Tennis...anyone?

50 REACTION SHOT - DICK

as he quickly digs Bruce's real meaning, eagerly leaps up from the floor.

DICK

Cool idea, eh, Aunt Harriet?

51 WIDE SCENE

MRS. COOPER

Sounds hot to me if you want my
opinion.

Bruce sets down his lemonade glass, Dick with pretended nonchalance dusts off his trousers while Mrs. Cooper fans herself with her hand.

MRS. COOPER

Must be ninety in the shade.
(as Dick and Bruce
start to leave)
Don't get yourself overheated!
(to herself)
Foolish boys!

But DICK and BRUCE have exited by this time.

SPIN FRAME TO:

52 EXT. BATMOBILE SPEEDING ON ROAD - DAY (STOCK)

53 INT. BATMAN AND ROBIN IN BATMOBILE - DAY (PROCESS)

Batman is driving. Robin is tuning in the Batscope to a commercial channel. SOUND: BAND MUSIC GROWING LOUDER.

ROBIN

Hey! Got the parade on the
Bat-scope!

BATMAN

(deep in thought)
Ice? Ice? Marchers dressed like
Mr. Freeze? Something --- ?
With ice --? During the parade?
What?

ROBIN

(amused - pointing
to Bat-scope)
Look! You're on camera!

CUT TO:

54 INT. ICE CREAM TRUCK - CLOSE PORTABLE TV - DAY

showing the BATMEN parading. CAMERA PULLS BACK as SUPER-
IMPOSED TITLES FADE IN, FADE OUT, ONE AT A TIME:

"MEANWHILE...INSIDE AN
ICE CREAM TRUCK PARKED
NEAR THE PARADE ROUTE --"

Cont.

*start shot -
cut just as
we have
don't see what's
on TV
screen*

54 Cont.

"MR. FREEZE HAS ALREADY
STARTED HIS NEXT ---"
"....OPERATION: ICE"

Mr. Freeze, wearing his thermo suit but not the helmet,
speaks into a walkie-talkie unit:

MR. FREEZE
(checking TV screen)
Batmans passing 59th street. Dey
will be passing by here in ---
(checking wristwatch)
...exactly six minutes.
(picking up helmet)
Wir muessen gehen!
(SUPERIMPOSED TRANSLATION:
'Go'!)

CUT TO:

55 EXT. DIAMOND EXCHANGE BUILDING - CLOSE KLAUS - DAY
as Klaus speaks into the walkie-talkie unit he carries.

KLAUS

Roger.

Klaus is dressed like a souvenir hawker and stands in
front of a large 4'X6' display board. He signals to
Otto (o.s.), pressing his thumb to his forefinger in
'OK' gesture. CAMERA PANS quickly to OTTO, disguised
as a balloon salesman, standing near a crowd watching
the parade go by o.s. Otto nods.

56 EXT. ESTABLISHING SHOT - ICE CREAM TRUCK - DAY

parked in an alley alongside the Diamond Exchange Building.
AL and JOE climb out of the front seat as MR. FREEZE
emerges from the back, his helmet in place, his flame-ice
gun in his hands. The EVIL TRIO move up the alley to the
street of the parade.

57 FULL SHOT OF PARADE STREET

with people in f.g. watching the parade o.s. The TRIO
emerge from the alley, quickly move behind the onlookers
to the front door of the Diamond Exchange where Klaus has
set up his display board to hide the door. Otto has joined
him.

58 TIGHTER SHOT - THE SINISTER FIVE

as Mr. Freeze moves behind the display board, the others
acting as lookouts. Suddenly a bright, reflected flash

Cont.

58 Cont.

from behind the display board, then the hissssing sound of the foamy substance being shot from the gun! The door opens behind the display board. AL and JOE quickly join Mr. Freeze behind the board. KLAUS and OTTO remain outside, eyes peeled. CAMERA MOVES IN for CLOSE SHOT of a brass plaque by the doorway which identifies:

"GOTHAM CITY DIAMOND EXCHANGE"

CUT TO:

59 EXT. BATMOBILE ENTERING THE CITY - DAY (STOCK)

60 INT. BATMOBILE - ON BATMAN AND ROBIN - DAY (PROCESS)

ROBIN
(viewing Bat-scope)
Batman Brigade's passing 57th street.

BATMAN
We'll park in our 51st street garage, then march along with them from there.

ROBIN
Think we should call the Commissioner? Tell him what's happening?

BATMAN
But we don't know if anything's happening? It's only a hunch Mr. Freeze is planning some dastardly deed during the parade.
(musing quietly)
But it's such a strong hunch that --
(a beat)
-- somewhere -- right now --
Mr. Freeze is up to one of his tricks!

SHOCK CUT TO:

61 INT. DIAMOND EXCHANGE - CLOSE SHOT SAFE - DAY

as the flame from the gun cuts criss-cross across the safe, followed quickly by the blue-white foam blast in the same way the Ice Dispensers were cracked: During this action:

SUPERIMPOSED TITLES ONE BY ONE:

"...AND AS USUAL, BATMAN'S HUNCH
IS SO RIGHT!"

Cont.

61 Cont.

Freeze pose
~~"AT THIS VERY MOMENT, MR. FREEZE
 IS HEISTING THE SECOND MOST
 VALUABLE HUNK OF 'ICE' IN THE WORLD --"~~

Craaa-ck! The safe bursts open, loose diamonds flying out along with a leather case, as TITLES FADE.

62

CLOSE SHOT - THE CASE

among the loose diamonds, as Mr. Freeze's hand reaches in, opens the case, revealing a huge, glittering blue-white diamond. CAMERA ZOOMS IN. DIAMOND FILLS THE SCREEN. SUPERIMPOSE TITLE:

~~"...THE ICE-BLUE 'STAR OF KASHMIR'!"~~

SOUND: BURGLAR ALARM CLANGING.

CUT TO:

63

EXT. OUTSIDE THE GARAGE - DAY

as BATMAN and ROBIN emerge (having parked the Batmobile). They halt abruptly, listen intently to the not-too-distant BURGLAR ALARM.

ROBIN
(could it be?)
Diamond Exchange building---?

BATMAN
(puzzling it)
Diamond Ex ----
(suddenly it's clear)
...but of course! Diamonds --
in the vernacular of the underworld
...ice!

ROBIN
~~So~~...what are we waiting for?

The dynamic duo race toward the Diamond Building with their usual perfectly matched strides.

WHIP PAN TO:

64

INT. DIAMOND EXCHANGE BUILDING - DAY

MR. FREEZE is kneeling beside the cracked safe, drooling over the 'Star of Kashmir' which he holds in his greedy gloved fingers. AL and JOE are nervously scooping up the loose diamonds.

AL
(upset by the alarm)
...the fuz'll be here any second ---
with that alarm clangin'!

JOE
Worse'n cops.
(a beat)
Batman!

Mr. Freeze has been preoccupied with his special diamond, holding it up to the light, admiring it from all angles. But now he turns, sees Al and Joe gathering up the loose diamonds. He becomes angry:

MR. FREEZE
(violent command)
Drop 'em!
(as Joe and Al hesitate)
Jetzt! *now!*

*Let Freeze articulate
2nd most valuable
diamond in the
world!*

Cont.

64 Cont.

MR. FREEZE

(SUPERIMPOSED TRANSLATION:
'Now!')You hear me?(as Al and Joe reluctantly
start dropping the diamonds
to the floor)

Every last one!

(as they seemingly drop
them all)

Pockets!

AL

But, boss ---?

MR. FREEZE

Inzide out!

AL and JOE half-heartedly turn their pockets inside out. More diamonds fall. Suddenly: SOUND OF HURRYING FOOTSTEPS (o.s.). The EVIL TRIO focus their attention on the stairway.

65 STAIRWAY FROM THEIR P.O.V.

An ELDERLY UNIFORMED GUARD appears around the corner, gun drawn. His eyes pop as he sees the trio, pulls the trigger.

66 THE SCENE

as the Guard's shot knocks off Al's hat. Al whips out a pistol, aims. But with one movement, MR. FREEZE knocks the pistol from Al's hand and turns the ice-gun on the hapless guard. The GUARD SCREAMS, his scream cut off as suddenly as a film editor snipping a sound track.

67 ON THE FROZEN STIFF GUARD

unmoving as a stone statue. Absolutely still.

68 ANGLE ON THE TRIO

as Mr. Freeze reprimands the chagrined Al:

MR. FREEZE

Dummkopf!

(SUPERIMPOSED TRANSLATION:
'Dumb you!')

How many times I tell you...no guns!
I vant only zey should catch - a
wery bad cold!

*work out something
so that we
know guard
is frozen - some
reflected light or
he shines or
something*

69 ANGLE ON DOORWAY

as OTTO and KLAUS rush in, Otto having difficulty with the balloons.

KLAUS

What's the holdup?

FREEZE

Nussing! Ve go now!

As they scramble for the exit, OTTO releases the balloons. They float toward the FROZEN GUARD.

70 ON THE FROZEN GUARD

as the balloons catch on the frozen pistol in his hand.

71 EXT. DIAMOND EXCHANGE BUILDING - DAY

as the SINISTER FIVE pour out. The BURGLAR ALARM has triggered pandemonium among the bystanders.

72 VARIOUS CUTS - PANIC IN THE STREET

A SERIES OF SHOTS totaling up to complete pandemonium. (1) The UNHOLY FIVE starting for the truck. (2) ROBIN and BATMAN racing toward them. (3) Terrified BYSTANDERS scrambling every which way. (4) The FIVE reversing their escape route. (5) BATMAN and FREEZE BRIGADES marching past the Diamond Exchange Building. (6) CLOSE - MR. FREEZE tossing a brilliant smoke bomb among the marchers (the signal). (7) BATMEN and MR. FREEZES breaking rank, all heading in different directions, infiltrating the crowd. (8) MR. FREEZE icing the pavements with the ice-gun. (9) PRATFALLS up and down, left and right. (10) ROBIN contacting the wrong Batman. (11) BATMAN grabbing the wrong Mr. Freeze. (12) the REAL MR. FREEZE skulking off. (13) UTTER KEYSTONE-KOP-KAOS. (14) Suddenly EVERYONE looking skyward, startled by what they see:

73 SKYWRITING FROM THEIR P.O.V.

Five
Five airplanes puffing out the message in the sky:

"STRIKE ONE ON BATMAN!"

A stray puff of smoke in front of the CAMERA causes a natural:

PUFF OUT.

(SUGGESTED COMMERCIAL BREAK)

FADE IN (~~if Commercial is inserted here~~)

74

INT. BATCAVE - NIGHT

CAMERA PANNING the CAVE under SUPERIMPOSED TITLE:

"~~LATER...IN THE BATCAVE~~"

label "IT"
↓

As TITLE FADES OUT, CAMERA HOLDS on a large, edge-lighted lucite map of Gotham City, with luminous 'X' marks at a dozen different places. ROBIN is marking an X with a luminous pencil. BATMAN is working the computer.

BATMAN

Well...that's the location of every big diamond dealer in the city, according to our electronic computer.

ROBIN

(studying map)

You think Mr. Freeze will zero in on one of these targets?

BATMAN

Possibly.

(a beat)

What do you think?

ROBIN

All I can think is ---
(angrily - upset)

...how we let him get away from us this afternoon. Boy oh boy, it makes me sore! Right in our hands!

He grabs an imaginary foe in the air. Batman grins.

BATMAN

Water over the dam. Think ahead.

BATMAN turns back to the computer, starts feeding it more data by pressing various buttons.

75

CLOSE - ROBIN

deep in thought. After a few moments he looks over toward Batman.

ROBIN

Sir?

(a beat)

What did the skywriting mean:
"Strike one on Batman?"

76 TWO SHOT - BATMAN AND ROBIN

Batman continues feeding the computer machine as:

BATMAN

(a mild reprimand)

And you the best ballplayer at
Gotham City High!

ROBIN

I mean -- well...if Mr. Freeze is
thinking in terms of baseball ---
it takes three strikes before
you're out.

BATMAN

That's the rule.

ROBIN

So...what do you think he plans
to do?

BATMAN

(matter-of-factly)

Discredit me! Make me look foolish.

ROBIN

But is he plotting to strike two
more times...or what?

BATMAN

Who knows what fiendish schemes
that diabolical mind of Mr. Freeze
is cooking up...or should I say
'freezing up'?

ROBIN

(positive attitude)

One thing we know for sure - !
Mr. Freeze is out to steal all
the 'ice' in Gotham City---!

(a beat - not
so positive)

...isn't he?

BATMAN

On the contrary. We know for sure
he is not out to steal all the ---
(amused)

...'ice'. Otherwise, why would he
leave a fortune in loose diamonds
on the floor of the diamond exchange?

Cont.

76 Cont.

ROBIN
(why didn't he
think of that?)

Yeah.

(embarrassed -
sheepish grin)

Yeah.

77 WIDER ANGLE

Batman smiles at Robin's discomfort as he takes the
'answer cards' from the computer, studies them as:

BATMAN
The computer may give us our answer.
Assuming he doesn't want all the --
(amused)

...'ice'---perhaps he does want only
the best.

(as Robin nods
thoughtfully)

Here're the cards on the most expensive
diamonds...and where they're located.
Circle the locations on the map.

ROBIN goes to the map, stands ready, luminous pencil
poised.

BATMAN
(reading off the
cards)
Marie Antoinette tiara...
Trieste Jeweler -- 52nd and
Avenue of Peace --
(Robin circles an 'X')
...Devil's teardrop --
Maurice LaRue, export --
(Robin draws
another circle)
..the Ghiaccio Circolo - most -
valuable diamond in the world --
(looking up
from cards)
...but that's not in Gotham City.
It belongs to the Princess Sandra
of the Principality of Molino ---!

POP IN BRILLIANT STARBURST, BLANKING OUT THE BATCAVE
SCENE WITH ITS GLARE, WITH SUPERIMPOSED WORDS:

"THAT'S IT!"

78 TWO SHOT - BATMAN AND ROBIN

extremely excited. The following dialogue is RAPID FIRE:

That's it!

BATMAN
The Ghiaccio Circolo ---

ROBIN
...English translation 'Ice Circle' --
(as Batman looks
questioningly)
...I'm studying Italian ---

BATMAN
...Circle? Zero!

ROBIN
...zero temperature ---

BATMAN
...owned by Princess Sandra ---

ROBIN
...who's flying to Gotham City ---

BATMAN
...for the Charity Baseball game ---

ROBIN
...tomorrow afternoon ---

BATMAN
...tonight --!

ROBIN
...the game's tomorrow ---

BATMAN
...but - she's arriving - tonight!

79 NEW ANGLE ON THE TWO

as they race for the Batmobile, leap into the cockpit,
power up - turbines to speed - then swoosh, up the ramp
as we:

SPIN FRAME TO:

80 INT. ROYAL SUITE - GOTHAM CITY HOTEL - NIGHT

OPEN with EXTREME CLOSE SHOT of a huge, round DIAMOND
on a chain. SUPERIMPOSE TITLE:

"MEANWHILE...IN THE ROYAL SUITE
OF THE GOTHAM CITY HOTEL --"

80 Cont.

As TITLE FADES, CAMERA PULLS BACK VERY FAST. The diamond pendant is around the very lovely neck of an extremely beautiful, stately blonde PRINCESS SANDRA (nee Sandra Carlson, American), who is holding a very lively press conference. Photo bulbs are popping, reporters are scurrying about...news cameramen, TV cameramen, the works. In the b.g. are some of Princess Sandra's entourage, including several servants in 18th century knee breeches and a brocaded lady in waiting. REPORTERS are all hurling questions at once, causing an unintelligible roar. Princess Sandra holds up her hand for quiet.

PRINCESS SANDRA

Please! One at a time!

FIRST REPORTER

(as they quiet down)

Princess Sandra? What do you miss most about America since you left to marry the Prince of Molino?

PRINCESS SANDRA

Miss most?

(a beat)

My...favorite sport, naturally. Baseball! That's why I'm here -- to pitch the first ball Friday ...and see my beloved Gotham City Eagles!

SECOND REPORTER

What do you miss most about Molino since you left yesterday to come here?

PRINCESS SANDRA

(with an impish smile)

My favorite sport, my husband... naturally. Prince of Molino.

ALL laugh.

FIRST REPORTER

How does it feel to wear the most valuable diamond in the world?

PRINCESS SANDRA

(lovingly fingering the diamond)

Like...with this - and a full length chinchilla ---I could manage to keep warm.

Cont.

80 Cont.1

Again much merriment as Princess Sandra smiles, then holds up a protesting hand.

PRINCESS SANDRA

And now, gentlemen, if you'll excuse me ---

(as they start more questions)

...please --you'll have plenty of opportunity to ask me more questions at the game tomorrow. I'll be in Mr. Bruce Wayne's box ---

FIRST REPORTER

...the millionaire playboy --?

SECOND REPORTER

...didn't you used to date him--?

PRINCESS SANDRA

Please! I'm a married woman, now!

During this, the PRINCESS has been discreetly 'herding' the press toward the door.

81 ANGLE ON THE DOOR

as reporters and photographers AD LIB: "One more shot!" "How long will you be back?" "This way, please!" etc.

PRINCESS SANDRA

See you, boys ---

(singing)

..."at the ole, ball game!"

ONE REPORTER opens the door. CAMERA MOVES toward the door for CLOSER SHOT. The FOUR HENCHMEN of MR. FREEZE, dressed as delivery men, are standing in the hallway, obviously about to ring the bell. They carry a LARGE CRATE labeled: "BEEF FROM MOLINO. AIR EXPRESS. PRINCESS SANDRA, ROYAL SUITE, GOTHAM CITY HOTEL".

82 CLOSE - PRINCESS SANDRA

PRINCESS SANDRA

(surprised by this)

What's this?

83 FULL SHOT - FOUR CARRYING THE CRATE

AL

For your Royal Highness --

Cont.

83 Cont.

KLAUS

...from Molino --

JOE

...by air!

84 WIDE ANGLE ON SCENE

as they enter, reporters and cameramen opening up a path for them. The FOUR start across the room toward the kitchen, the CAMERA PANNING WITH THEM as the SOUND of 'good-byes' are heard o.s.

85 MOVING SHOT - CLOSE ON CRATE

CAMERA FOCUSED on the stenciled letters on the side: "KEEP FROZEN".

SHOCK CUT TO:

86 EXT. A CLOUD IN SKY - NIGHT

The SHADOW of the BAT is being projected on it - the signal for Batman from City Hall.

ROBIN

(o.s.)

The bat-signal!

87 INT. BATMOBILE - ON BATMAN AND ROBIN - NIGHT (PROCESS)

as they stare at the cloud o.s. Robin has grabbed the Batphone.

ROBIN

(to phone)

Commissioner Gordon --?

CUT TO:

88 INT. COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE - NIGHT

O'HARA and SEVERAL OFFICIALS are standing nervously by the COMMISSIONER who is talking on the RED PHONE. SOUND: A steady buzz o.s.

COMMISSIONER

(to phone)

Quick! Royal Suite, Gotham City Hotel. Someone's 'frozen' to that special warning signal we've rigged up for the Princess.

SHOCK CUT TO:

89 INT. ROYAL SUITE - NIGHT

on UNIFORMED LACKEY who IS frozen soldi (from an ice-gun blast a few seconds before), his stiff hand clutching the decorative cord which triggers the alarm system. CAMERA PULLS BACK FAST. A frightened PRINCESS SANDRA and an even more terrified ENTOURAGE are facing MR. FREEZE and his FOUR HENCHMEN. Mr. Freeze laughs as he aims the flame gun toward the lackey.

90 ON THE LACKEY

as a burst of fire from o.s. cuts the cord above his frozen hand. The lackey falls like the cake of ice he is -- with a cracking thud. SOUND: A WOMAN'S SCREAM (O.S.)

91 FULL SHOT OF THE SCENE

as the lady in waiting crumbles to the floor in a dead faint. The PRINCESS takes a step toward her to help.

MR. FREEZE

Stopfen!

(SUPERIMPOSED TRANSLATION:

"Stop"!)

Don't nobody move!

(the Princess stops

as he glares at her and

all of them - then, politely)

Und now...ze Ghiaccio Circolo, if you please.

The PRINCESS' hand goes to the pendant at her throat. Mr. Freeze becomes more angry.

MR. FREEZE

Ze diamond! Jetzt!

(SUPERIMPOSE WORD: "Now!")

The PRINCESS rises to her full royal stature, chin up, a look of defiance in her eyes. MR. FREEZE glares back, aiming the flame ice-gun directly at her menacingly. ~~THEY HOLD as SUPERIMPOSED TITLES FADE IN AND OUT:~~

~~"DON'T GIVE IT TO HER, PRINCESS!"~~

~~"WAIT FOR BATMAN AND ROBIN!"~~

~~"THEY'LL GIVE IT TO HIM...BUT GOOD!"~~

CUT TO:

92 EXT. SERVICE ENTRANCE TO HOTEL - NIGHT

as Batmobile zooms up. BATMAN and ROBIN leap out. They note the Ice Cream Truck parked at the service entrance. Suddenly, SOUND: WOMAN SCREAMING "NO" from above o.s. BOTH look up.

93 TERRACE FIVE STORIES UP FROM THEIR P.O.V.

94 BACK TO THE DYNAMIC DUO ON THE GROUND

Quicker than it takes to say Robin, son, BATMAN has tossed the batarang with the attached bat-rope to the terrace above. ROBIN seizes the line, jumps up with his feet against the wall, takes a step. BATMAN follows.

95 WIDE ANGLE - BATMAN AND ROBIN - TRICK SHOT

as they start their climb up the sheer wall, human-fly fashion.

96 INT. ROYAL SUITE - NIGHT

MR. FREEZE is close to the PRINCESS, his gloved hand on the diamond. She tries to push him away:

PRINCESS SANDRA

(screaming)

No, no, no ---!

Mr. Freeze jerks the pendant from her neck. She quickly clutches at her bare throat.

MR. FREEZE

(through gritted teeth)

Nobody says no to me! Never!

(admiringly, as he holds up the pendant for inspection)

Wunderbar!

(SUPERIMPOSE: "Wonderful")

Wunderbar!

(SUPERIMPOSE: "Wonderful")

Tell Batman ven he arrives -- if he arrives...vot happened!

97 ANGLE ON THE FRENCH DOORS TO THE TERRACE

as they burst open. BATMAN and ROBIN leap in.

BATMAN

Tell him yourself, Dr. Schimmel...
alias Mr. Freeze!

98 CLOSE - MR. FREEZE

taken aback. How did Batman get here? What's happening? This strange feeling of being suddenly tied up?

99 THE SCENE

BATMAN has thrown another batarang with bat-rope attached, wrapping up Mr. Freeze and two henchmen like bundles for Sing Sing. They fall struggling to the floor as Mr. Freeze makes one last desperate attempt, aiming the ice gun at the Molino National Flag.

100 UPSHOT - MOLINO NATIONAL FLAG

suspended from the ceiling. It is huge. The extra weight from the INSTANT FREEZING of the flag causes the flag to plunge to the floor like a guillotine blade, burying one corner in the floor.

101 NEW ANGLE

as the FROZEN FLAG quivers. It has missed Batman and Robin by inches, momentarily stopping their move toward Mr. Freeze.

102 DOWNSHOT - MR. FREEZE AND FRIENDS

struggling on the floor, tied up with the bat-rope. Mr. Freeze triggers the flame barrel of his gun for a quick burp to sear the bat-rope binding him, then another burp toward the flag.

103 ON THE FLAG

as it INSTANT-THAWS, enmeshing Robin and Batman.

104 FULL SHOT

as Mr. Freeze rises, sprays the floor with ice, then rushes to the exit with his henchmen. All is confusion. Shouts. Screams. One lackey tripping over the frozen form of the other lackey. Robin and Batman are finding the slippery floor ~~too~~ hazardous *as they*

~~BATMAN~~

~~Down the bat-rope!~~

Batman and Robin race for the terrace.

105 EXT. SERVICE ENTRANCE - NIGHT

as Freeze and Company rush out from the service elevator. Two jump in the front seat of the truck, two in the back, but Mr. Freeze momentarily halts outside, looks up.

106 UPSHOT - ROBIN AND BATMAN FROM FREEZE'S P.O.V.

climbing over the railing and starting down the bat-rope.

107 CLOSE - MR. FREEZE

grinning an evil grin as he points the ice-gun at the bat-rope.

108 WIDE ANGLE - ROBIN AND BATMAN - TRICK SHOT

coming down the bat-rope. The ice spray hits the rope below them. Suddenly they start slipping.

BATMAN

(shouting)

The bat-rope! It's iced up!

109 UPSHOT - FULL

as Batman and Robin slide too fast. Suddenly Batman lets go, grabs an awning. Robin follows suit. Now - in the tradition of Doug Fairbanks, Sr. - they come down the building, swinging from one awning to the next until they drop the last twelve feet to the ground.

110 ON MR. FREEZE

as he starts backing away, his flame-ice-gun pointed at the two.

MR. FREEZE

Nein, nein, nein!

(SUPERIMPOSE: "No, no, no!")

I don't want to kill you. Not yet!

I want to toy more before I kill you!

But Robin and Batman do not heed the warning as they race toward him in perfectly matched strides. Mr. Freeze suddenly triggers the ice-gun. INSTANTLY the duo are FROZEN IN THEIR TRACKS.

111 REACTION SHOT FROM TERRACE ABOVE

as Princess Sandra and her entourage look down in horror. SOUND: AIRPLANES. ALL look up.

112 UP SHOT - THE BLACK SKY

^{AW} as invisible planes write in luminous puffs of smoke:

"STRIKE TWO, BATMAN"

113 CLOSE - MR. FREEZE

looking up, then toward the frozen two o.s.

Cont.

*Is this in
the film to
go to
work?
Ask Sam*

113 Cont.

MR. FREEZE

Verzeihung!

(SUPERIMPOSE: "Sorry!")

My mistake. ~~Ze~~ message now should
 read: "Batman s truck out."

*Better to 8 -
 Goodby
 etc
 Batman*

CAMERA PULLS BACK and UP as he jumps into the truck,
 the truck pulling away. CAMERA CONTINUES TO PULL
 BACK AND UP to reveal ROBIN and BATMAN poised like
 two stone statues, their still figures casting
 giant shadows on the wall behind them as SUPERIMPOSED
 TITLES POP OUT in QUICK SUCCESSION, an ANNOUNCER'S
 VOICE OVER:

ANNOUNCER'S VOICE

"HAS BATMAN STRUCK OUT?"

"IS ROBIN COOL, MAN... FOR GOOD?"

"CAN NO ONE SAVE OUR NOBLE PAIR
 OF HUMAN POPSICLES?"

"ANSWERS...TOMORROW NIGHT!"

"SAME TIME, SAME CHANNEL!"

"ONE WORD OF WARNING: BY
 WATCHING MR. FREEZE, YOU
 COULD CATCH YOUR DEATH OF
 COLD!"

FADE OUT