[guitar track 1]

Jack: It sounds like Mr. Cobblepot isn’t in the mood for an interview. Don’t worry, Vicki, we’ll replace that microphone!

[pause]

Jack: Of course, not everyone can frequent the Iceberg Lounge – it’s a very high-class place, after all. Most of us have to be content with less expensive restaurants, but that doesn’t mean sacrificing quality. One of *my* favorites is [breaking glass] What was that?

[distant laughter] [music fades]

Jack: Oh. Oh no.

[carnival music begins]

Joker (distant): Knock knock! ... I said knock knock, George! Don’t you know what the answer to the question is? The answer is ‘who’s there?’ Say it with me now, Jerry...

Intern (distant): Please... don’t hurt me...

Joker (distant): No, Jeremy, that’s not it. One more try. Knock knock!

Intern (distant): Who’s... there...?

Joker(distant): The clown... hehehe...

Intern (distant): The clown who...?

Joker (distant): No couching necessary, Jehoshaphat, good job! Ahem. The clown who’s about to kill you!

Intern(distant): No wait, please don’t...!

Joker(distant, over intern): HahahahaHAHAHAHAHAAAAaaaaaa!

[distant scream]

Jack: Gotham, this is very bad. The Joker is *here*. I... I have to get out of here.

[mike drops] [crackle]

Joker (distant): What was that? Jack my lad, was that you? Where are you?

[heavy breathing]

Joker (distant): Got you!

Jack (distant, panicked): Oh no, please don’t –

Joker (distant): You’re all so *predictable,* you know that? That’s just what the other guy said, too. HahaHAHAHA, that reminds me of a joke! See, this guy walks into a bar, and... hold on...

[crackle]

Joker: Anyway, this guy walks into a bar. And he asks the bartender for a drink. And you’ll love this next part, Jacky. The bartender says, we don’t serve spirits here! HahahaHAHAHAHA!

Joker: (suddenly calm) Wait, I forgot, it was a ghost, not just a guy. That’s why I remembered, because the other guy is a ghost now too, hahahahahaHAHAHAHA!

Jack: [sob] please...

Joker: Shh, Jack my boy, just sit down. We’re going to play a little game. I call it... hahahaHAHAHA... I call it the Wheel that Spins and Pronounces Jack Ryder’s Fate!

Jack: ...what?

Joker: I’m not that good with names, Jackie, be patient, I’ll come up with something better later. But now, spin the wheel!

[pause]

Joker: It’s sticky, Jack, you have to spin it harder than that! Which reminds me, hahahahaHAHAHAhahaha, of another joke. A horse walks into a bar, and the bartender says, why the long nose? See, your nose is long!

[pause]

Joker: Well, it *will* be long if you land t*here.* I’ll take your nose and split it down the sides, then I’ll... well wait and see! But let’s spin, spin! Spin it, hahahaHAHAHA...

Jack: Why are you doing this, you... you madman!

Joker: Oh, you flatter me, Jack! Think of this as an advertisement! I want attention! Attention from the *Bat.* He put me in the madhouse with my loyal subjects, and although it was nice to see them, oh yes it was, I can’t spend too long in there. I might go mad myself, hahahahaHAHAHAhaha!

Jack: Batman?

Joker: That’s the one! Now, he takes me up to my country estate to see Doctor Jerry, and it was a *lovely* visit, oh yes. But all I wanted was just that, a visit, you understand? Just a week or two! After I was done, I was ready to come back to the city and see the sights, but noOOo. Batsy locked the doors on me, Jack! He locked me in! I can’t stand for that, can I? It just won’t do! So I need to get his attention, see?

[pause]

Joker: So, here I am, sending a message to the Bat. Here I am! Doing what I do! Hahahaha! Which reminds me of a joke. A nurse goes into a doctor’s office, and says Doc, there’s an invisible fellow in the waiting room. And the doctor, you know what he says?

Jack: I can’t imagine.

Joker: He says, hahaHAHAhaha, he says, TELL HIM I CAN’T SEE HIM! HahahaHAHAHAHAHAHAAhahahaha!

[Joker continues laughing]

Jack: I’ve got to get out of here.

Joker: HAHAHAHahaha... (suddenly calm) Anyway. If you won’t spin the Wheel of Misfortune, I guess I’ll have to.

Jack: I’ll spin it!

Jack: Good boy!

[clicking of wheel]

Joker: Oooh! You got a *good* one, Jack! You get to try out my new invention!

Jack: Your... invention?

Joker (joyfully): Smilex!

Jack: Smilex?

Joker: Smilex. It’s a little bit of this, a little bit of that, a *whole lot* of this, and *absolutely none* of that. And a dash of garlic. HahahaHAHAHAhaha! It’s the secret to my incomparable grin, you know! Let me just get a canister for you, and you’ll be wooing the ladies in no time!

[breaking glass] [music stops]

Batman (enraged): JOKER!

Joker (joyful, over Jack): Batsy! You’re here!

Jack (over Joker): Batman!

[punch 1] [thud] [crackle]

Joker: Ouch, Bats, I just wanted to [punch 2] talk to you.

Batman: [kick] Shut up, Joker!

[punch 3]

Joker: HahahaHAHAHA, Batsy, you should be more [punch 2] [thud] oof, more careful!

[punch 1] [punch 2]

Batman: Ryder, get out of here, don’t try to help!

Jack: No, I can – [scream]

Batman (with Joker): No!

Joker (with Batman): HahahaHAHAHAhaha!

[punch 1] [thud]

Batman: Ryder!

Jack (faintly): ...I’m... I’m alive...

Batman: For now. That looks like arterial blood.

Jack: Batman...

Batman: Don’t try to talk, Ryder. Save your strength.

[police sirens]

Batman: An ambulance will be here soon.

[pause]

Gordon: Freeze! Police!

Batman: Gordon.

Gordon: Batman?

Batman: This isn’t what it – [gunshot]

Gordon: Stand down!

Batman: You should keep better control of your men, Gordon.

Gordon: What happened here?

Batman: Joker broke in. I stopped him. Ryder tried to help, got knifed in the chest. He needs medical attention. *Now.*

Gordon: Get him to an ambulance!

[many footsteps]

Gordon: So...

Batman: Let’s talk.

Gordon (fading): Someone shut that mic off.