

"The Terror Beyond, Part Two"
(Formerly "Out Of The Depths") 8/12/02
#XXX-XXX

CAST LIST

HAWKGIRL
SUPERMAN
WONDER WOMAN

GUEST CAST

SOLOMON GRUNDY: Undead Strongman from "Injustice For All."
AQUAMAN: King of Atlantis, from "The Enemy Below."
DR. FATE: Costumed Mystic, male.
MERA: Queen of Atlantis, Aquaman's wife.
INZA: Dr. Fate's Wife.
ICHTHULTU: Gigantic, tentacle-faced extradimensional being.
Creepy, powerful voice.
WENDIGO: Extradimensional creature. Grunts and growls only.
TOADTHING: Extradimensional creature. Grunts and growls only.
SPACELOD: Extradimensional creature. Grunts and growls only.
ABYSS: Extradimensional creature. Grunts and growls only.

"Out Of The Depths, Part Two" 8/12/02

TEASER

FADE IN:

AQUAMAN

Previously on Justice League...

RECAP of Part One, including Aquaman rescuing Dr. Fate, the Justice League fighting the Tentacled Creature attacking the Ocean Liner, their confrontation with Mera in Atlantis, their discovery of Dr. Fate and Aquaman "torturing" Solomon Grundy and the appearance of Ichthultu in Dr. Fate's Eternity chamber...

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

INT. ETERNITY CHAMBER - NIGHT

ICHTHULTU, a hideous, tentacle-faced, extra-dimensional demon is tearing his way through the fabric of space (blackness broken up by stars, planets and nebulae). Wonder Woman, SUPERMAN, DR. FATE AND HAWKGIRL are standing, gaping up at the impossible sight. AQUAMAN AND INZA are recovering from being knocked out earlier. SOLOMON GRUNDY is also picking himself up off the floor.

GRUNDY

Wormface tries to attack Grundy's
friends! Grundy crush!

Aquaman puts a hand on Grundy's shoulder.

AQUAMAN

Stay back, all of you. Everything's in
the hands of Fate, now.

Dr. Fate CASTS a spell, a stream of mystic energies flow from his fingers to the BREECH that Ichthultu is making.

DR. FATE

Wah bi ohm!

ICHTHULTU
(SCREAM of rage)

There is an energy BACKLASH from the Breech. A powerful bolt of Mystic Feedback surges back up the stream of Dr. Fate's Mystic energy.

DR. FATE
(CRY of pain)

Dr. Fate is driven to his knees by the energy but he holds firm, continuing to produce the mystic energy.

DR. FATE
(struggling)
Wah bi ohm, eh ...

Dr. Fate is losing the battle. The energy suffusing him FLARES more brightly. Dr. Fate drops his head, he's about to fall forward. HAWKGIRL steps forward and takes his hand.

DR. FATE AND HAWKGIRL
... Eh skeal en fyres femme!

All react to Hawkgirl's actions. Superman begins to step forward to help. Wonder Woman stops him.

WONDER WOMAN
Wait. She seems to know what she's doing.

Dr. Fate looks up at Hawkgirl, she nods reassuringly.

HAWKGIRL AND DR. FATE
Wah bi ohm eh skeal en fyres femme!

Hawkgirl, still holding Fate's hand, helps him to his feet. He seems to be getting stronger. Inza takes Hawkgirl's free hand and joins the chant.

HAWKGIRL, INZA AND DR. FATE
Wah bi ohm eh skeal en fyres femme!

A huge energy surge races out from Dr. Fate and up into the Breech. With a cascade of Mystic energy, Ichthultu and the Breech vanish, leaving behind the stars and planets that were there before.

Dr. Fate and Inza drop Hawkgirl's hands, Inza rubs Dr. Fate's shoulders. Dr. Fate, sagging with exhaustion, turns to Hawkgirl.

DR. FATE

How could you possibly know that incantation?

HAWKGIRL

Where I come from, it's the closest thing we have to a prayer.

AQUAMAN

Is it over?

DR. FATE

No, only a beginning. It will rest, then attack again. We must complete the original spell.

INZA

You don't have the strength.

DR. FATE

Nor do I have a choice.

Superman is about as cranky as we've ever seen him.

SUPERMAN

I'm not going to ask again. What are you people doing? What was that thing?

Aquaman is heated. Wonder Woman is right in his face.

AQUAMAN

There's no time.

WONDER WOMAN

Make time. Or are you scared because there's no water in here?

HAWKGIRL

(wearily)

We're not going to fight again, are we?

DR. FATE

No, we aren't. I'll show you what you wish to know...

Dr. Fate holds his hands in a peculiar posture, just as he did in Part One when he displayed Solomon Grundy's origin. He "draws" a GLOWING RECTANGLE in the air. Images begin to form on the mystic screen.

Establishing ANCIENT ATLANTIS. It's a thriving city with impressive architecture. It's on the surface of the ocean.

GRUNDY

Pretty.

SUPERMAN

Where is that?

AQUAMAN

It's Atlantis, thousands of years before it sank beneath the waves.

An Atlantean sorcerer king, POSEIDON, sits on a grand throne, his hands glowing with mystic light.

AQUAMAN

In those days, Atlantis was ruled by sorcerer kings.

DR. FATE

And fortunately so...

The IMAGE CHANGES. Atlantis is being destroyed by Lovecraftian tentacled monsters, not unlike the one the Justice League protected the ocean liner from.

DR. FATE (CONT'D)

... For Atlantis, along with most of the ancient world, found itself under attack by extradimensional beings called "the Old Ones."

As Hawkgirl sees a tentacled creature identical to the one she fought in Part One, she asides to Wonder Woman.

HAWKGIRL

(reluctantly)

I may owe Aquaman an apology.

Wonder Woman's still mad about the fight she lost.

WONDER WOMAN

Humph.

The Old Ones continue to destroy buildings. Ichthultu tears open the sky above Atlantis, just as he did at the beginning of act three.

DR. FATE

The Old Ones nearly destroyed humanity
as they prepared the way for the most
powerful of their number, great
Ichthultu.

The Image changes. Poseidon is standing now as he concentrates, swirling mystic energy glowing between his spread hands.

AQUAMAN

But Atlantis' greatest sorcerer, King
Poseidon, gambled that they could be
stopped.

DR. FATE

He gathered nearly all of the ambient
mystical energy on Earth, then forged it
into a single weapon.

The energy coalesces into what we know as Aquaman's Trident. Poseidon fires a powerful Mystic Blast at the Breech in the sky. We see the smaller Old Ones' tentacles withdrawing from the buildings they were attacking. Finally, the blast CLOSES the Breech in the sky. Ichthultu is gone.

DR. FATE (CONT'D)

The power of Poseidon's trident served
to banish the Old Ones from our realm.

WIDE on Atlantis. The ground begins to shudder.

AQUAMAN

But the price was high. Poseidon knew that the same mystic energy he used to defeat the Old Ones...

Atlantis SINKS beneath the waves.

AQUAMAN (CONT'D)

...also powered the spells that prevented Atlantis from sinking beneath the ocean.

WIDE as Dr. Fate dismisses the glowing rectangle where the images were projected with a wave of his hand.

AQUAMAN

He saved the world but doomed Atlantis to rest forever at the bottom of the ocean.

DR. FATE

Now the Old Ones seek to return to our world. Already fissures have appeared, allowing creatures from their world to gain entrance into ours.

AQUAMAN

When you interrupted, we were helping Fate cast a spell to bar their way.

DR. FATE

And now we must complete the ceremony.

WONDER WOMAN

I won't let you torture Grundy again.

HAWKGIRL

It's not exactly torture, Diana. More like sacrifice.

SUPERMAN

How do you know so much about this?

HAWKGIRL

My people once worshipped Ichthultu.

SUPERMAN

On Thanagar?

DR. FATE

The Old Ones are an evil not bound by your understanding of geography.

HAWKGIRL

In return for his favors, my ancestors made offerings to him.

AQUAMAN

I can't believe anyone would cooperate with that thing.

HAWKGIRL

It was thousands of years ago. We were still a primitive culture.

DR. FATE

With your knowledge, perhaps you can help with this ceremony--

Superman interrupts.

SUPERMAN

Forget the ceremony. We're not sacrificing Grundy or anybody else.

AQUAMAN

Grundy volunteered.

SUPERMAN

I'm not sure he's competent to volunteer. Does he even understand what you're asking of him?

GRUNDY

Grundy understands! Grundy helps Magician, then Magician will help Grundy.

WONDER WOMAN

I agree with Superman. There has to be another way.

HAWKGIRL

There is. We go to Ichthultu's world and
kick his slimy--

GRUNDY

(interrupting)

Bird Nose is right. Fight, not hide.

AQUAMAN

No. We should stick to our original
plan.

DR. FATE

This may be better. It's more likely to
work than simply re-casting a broken
spell.

AQUAMAN

It's a fool's errand! I joined with you
to protect Atlantis.

DR. FATE

And the rest of the world be hanged? We
need your power.

AQUAMAN

So do my people. My place is with them.

DR FATE

Aquaman...

Aquaman's mind is made up. He folds his arms.

AQUAMAN

I have spoken.

DR. FATE

(coolly)

Very well. A spell to return you to your
home.

Dr. Fate GESTURES and a MYSTIC GLOW teleports Aquaman away.
Dr. Fate turns tenderly to Inza.

DR. FATE

Inza, I must ask you...

INZA

To remain here as your anchor, so you
can find your way back.

Dr. Fate nods. Inza touches his "face" gently. He turns back
to the group.

DR. FATE

Prepare yourselves...

Dr. Fate CASTS A TRANSPORT SPELL that surrounds everyone
except for Inza. The glow from the spell fades and everyone
except for Inza has vanished.

CUT TO:

INT. THE DARK DIMENSION - NIGHT

Establishing the Dark Dimension. It's a Steve Ditko
nightmare of floating cosmic debris, gigantic disembodied
fanged mouths, stone paths floating unsupported in the ether
(and leading nowhere in particular), bizarre creatures
attending to their own affairs. DR. FATE, SOLOMON GRUNDY,
SUPERMAN, WONDER WOMAN and HAWKGIRL appear in a flash of
light.

DR. FATE

Behold, the Dark Dimension!

HAWKGIRL

(awed)

I always thought it was a fable to scare
children...

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. ROAD TO ICHTHULTU - NIGHT

The heroes walk down a twisting, slime-dripping ribbon of a
road.

SUPERMAN

You're sure you know where you're going?

DR. FATE

Ichthultu's evil is palpable. And it
grows stronger in this direction.

SUPERMAN
I'll take point.

Superman flies up and ahead.

DR. FATE
No! *Qif, Ta'ala!*

Dr. Fate casts a spell. Energies leap from his fingers and ensnare Superman, YANKING him back down to the road.

SUPERMAN
(impact GRUNT)

Superman scrambles back to his feet.

SUPERMAN
What did you do that for?

DR. FATE
In this realm, ground and sky are not always parallel. If we are separated, you could become hopelessly lost.

Superman accepts the advice and the group continues walking. Grundy reaches down and picks up an oversized SLUG from the road. He is surprisingly gentle as he examines it.

GRUNDY
Fish-man quit but Magician will still help Grundy?

DR. FATE
As soon as this is over we will find your soul. You have my word.

The group walks along the road, away from the camera.

CUT TO:

EXT. ATLANTIS - THE PALACE - NIGHT

Aquaman APPEARS in the palace. Mera reacts with surprise and relief, moving quickly to embrace him.

MERA
I'm glad to see you safe.

AQUAMAN

And I, you, my love.

Aquaman breaks the embrace and heads for large and ornate double doors that obviously lead to someplace important.

AQUAMAN (CONT'D)

Assemble my war council, Atlantis is in grave danger.

MERA

Attack from the surface world?

Aquaman stops in front of the doors and turns back towards Mera.

AQUAMAN

Not this time. But our enemies must be very near, indeed.

MERA

You've heard reports from our sentries?

AQUAMAN

No. It's the creatures of the sea, Mera. I can't hear their thoughts ...

CUT TO:

EXT. ATLANTIS - NIGHT

Establishing the domed, underwater city. There are no animals visible in the water.

AQUAMAN (O.S)

... They're gone.

A BLOT of Inky Blackness forms in the water, near and just above Atlantis. The blot SPREADS alarmingly and TENTACLED CREATURES, like the one that attacked the Ocean Liner in Part One, begin to extend tentacles into the clear water. They swim out, one by one ...

CUT TO:

EXT. ROAD TO ICHTHULTU - NIGHT - LATER

Time has passed. The heroes continue their journey, Dr. Fate in front. They've been walking and talking for a while.

SUPERMAN

... I still don't see how your people could have fallen under the sway of a creature like Ichthultu.

HAWKGIRL

Thanagar was a harsh world in those days. Ichthultu gave us agriculture, mathematics, philosophy -the foundations of our entire culture.

SUPERMAN

But something changed.

HAWKGIRL

We changed. We outgrew our need for his gifts. We came to resent his ever-growing demands.

WONDER WOMAN

You stopped believing in him.

HAWKGIRL

Yes. Modern Thanagarians bow down to no higher power. If we have any faith, it's in ourselves.

Dr. Fate snaps at the heroes.

DR. FATE

Be on your guard! I sense that we are very near our goal.

Suddenly, Ditko-ish ANTIBODIES flow up from the substance of the road they are walking on. The Antibodies are roughly humanoid, muscular, heavyset and textured like rough-hewn stone. They have no eyes but three mouths, one where you would expect, the other two on their palms.

WONDER WOMAN

How can you tell?

The Antibodies show the heroes their palms. All three mouths open, emitting powerful ENERGY BEAMS, a thick one from the

mouth, thinner ones from the hands. The beams sound disturbingly like human screams.

DR. FATE

Sifir!

The first triple set of beams is stopped by a MYSTIC SHIELD thrown up by Dr. Fate.

WONDER WOMAN deflects beams with her Bracelets.

HAWKGIRL swats blasts away with her Mace.

SUPERMAN is ROCKED by a triple beam.

SUPERMAN

(Impact GRUNT)

Superman recovers, wading forward against the incoming beam. His progress is stopped when a second set of beams joins the first.

SUPERMAN

(CRY of pain)

WONDER WOMAN has the hang of deflecting the creature's blasts now, deliberately directing the ricochets at other Antibodies, who crumble like stone when they are hit.

HAWKGIRL'S Mace is knocked from her hand by an Antibody's blast.

HAWKGIRL

(CRY of pain)

Hawkgirl bends to pick up her mace, then looks up to see that an Antibody looms over her, about to deliver a killing Blast.

GRUNDY has somehow made his way behind the Antibody standing above Hawkgirl. He PUNCHES clean through the creatures chest and it CRUMBLES like stone.

GRUNDY

Grundy hates stupid screaming men!

DR. FATE, still wielding his Mystic Shield, casts a spell.

DR. FATE
Ain! Sekkeen!

Dr. Fate emits glowing, golf ball-sized Mystic Blasts that swim through the air like spermatozoa. They avoid Fate's shield and any other obstacle, zigzagging around the terrain like Darkseid's Omega Beams until they find Antibodies. They strike their targets and VAPORIZE them.

Superman grabs an Antibody.

SUPERMAN
(GRUNT of effort)

Superman THROWS the Antibody through the air at several others. It strikes one, SMASHING first it, then another and another. The thrown Antibody's momentum carries it forward even as it crumbles to dust.

GRUNDY, standing very close to the edge of the road, is amused and inspired by Superman's trick.

GRUNDY
Ha! Grundy knows how he can crush lots
of screaming men!

Grundy POUNDS the ground in front of him with both fists as hard as he can. The tremendous impact forms a shockwave that crumbles the ground as it heads for a group of the Antibodies, also CRUMBLING the antibodies as it passes.

Unfortunately, the edge of the road under Grundy's feet also Crumbles. Grundy falls.

GRUNDY
(falling CRY)

Hawkgirl has flies down and catches Grundy by the hand.

HAWKGIRL
(GRUNT of effort)

Hawkgirl flies back up slowly then deposits Grundy on stable ground. Grundy is bewildered.

GRUNDY

Bird-Nose helps Grundy? But Bird-Nose
and her friends hate Grundy.

HAWKGIRL

(explaining)

Grundy help Bird-Nose, Bird-Nose help
Grundy, okay?

Grundy smiles. Hawkgirl smiles back, then indicates the
fight going on behind her.

HAWKGIRL

Excuse me. Hawkgirl smash.

Hawkgirl turns to fly towards another Antibody, she
DEMOLISHES it with her Mace.

SUPERMAN drives his fist through the last of the Antibodies.

SUPERMAN

Everybody okay?

ALL BUT SUPERMAN

(ad-lib WALLA)

Okay/Fine/I am unharmed/Let's get on
with this/*et cetera*.

CUT TO:

EXT. ATLANTIS -NIGHT

The TENTACLED CREATURES swarm out of the breach, heading for
Atlantis.

Suddenly, AQUAMAN is there, swimming full-speed towards the
black Breach and the swarms of Tentacled Creatures. He leads
an Army heavily-armed ATLANTIAN SOLDIERS.

Aquaman lifts the Trident and swings it like an axe.

AQUAMAN

For Atlantis!

Aquaman and his Trident cut a swath through the Tentacled
Creatures. He presses on with the battle, attacking more
creatures.

CUT TO:

EXT. ROAD TO ICHTHULTU - NIGHT - LATER

The heroes continue to walk down the road, Dr. Fate in the lead. Hawkgirl speaks to Wonder Woman.

HAWKGIRL

Let me ask you something, do you really gain strength when you call on your gods?

WONDER WOMAN

Of course I do. My beliefs sustain me.

HAWKGIRL

That must be comforting.

WONDER WOMAN

Everyone in the Justice League has a faith to rely upon in times of trouble.

Hawkgirl and Wonder Woman take a couple of steps in silence

WONDER WOMAN

I don't know how you can bear the weight all alone.

On Hawkgirl, unreadable as she considers Wonder Woman's words.

Wonder Woman spots something absolutely incredible off in the distance (it's not on the path of the road but above it and off to the side).

WONDER WOMAN

Great Hera.

The others follow Wonder Woman's line of sight and react as they see it.

A TEAR IN THE FABRIC OF THE DARK DIMENSION.

The BREECH is huge and swarming with Tentacled creatures. It resembles a floating mountain of squirming maggots.

HAWKGIRL

What is that?

DR. FATE

The breach between this dimension and our own. My spell bars the way for now but it is only a matter of time until it fails.

SUPERMAN

Then we stop them here.

DR. FATE

Not all of us. You and Wonder Woman attack the breach. The rest of us will take the battle to Ichthultu.

Dr. Fate gestures and a serpentine RIBBON OF LIGHT snakes from his hands up towards the Breach.

DR. FATE (CONT'D)

Stay on the path.

Superman and Wonder Woman fly off, heading up towards the Breach. They follow the twists and turns of Dr. Fate's mystic trail.

CUT TO:

EXT. ATLANTIS, THE BREECH - NIGHT

The battle is in full swing. Atlantean Soldiers fire their weapons at the Creatures but they aren't doing as well as Aquaman and his Trident. The Soldiers are being overwhelmed by the Creature's counterattacks.

Just as it begins to look hopeless, schools of SHARKS, WHALES and even a couple of SEA SERPENTS join the battle in a calvary charge. They give the Atlantean forces some breathing room but the Creatures are still winning.

Aquaman is CAUGHT wrist and ankle by two tentacles. He struggles to free himself.

AQUAMAN

(GRUNTS of effort)

The tentacles pull Aquaman towards the squirming mass of creatures.

AQUAMAN
(struggling)
So long as I yet draw breath, no enemy
of Atlantis will ever prevail!

The tentacles beg to differ, relentlessly drawing in a
struggling Aquaman.

AQUAMAN
(defiant SCREAM)

Aquaman's scream is cut short as he is lost among the
tentacles.

CUT TO:

Ext. Road to ichthultu - night

Dr. Fate stops walking, raising his hand to halt the others.

GRUNDY
Magician, why we stop?

DR. FATE
He's here! I feel him!

Hawkgirl warily raises her mace.

HAWKGIRL
Where?

DR. FATE
I'm not sure. Everywhere!

All react as the "Road" stretching out in front of them,
bends up, twisting back on them to reveal that it is a
gigantic TENTACLE. The tip of the tentacle, now towering
above the heroes, suddenly OPENS. It's the biggest eye
anyone's ever seen and it stares unblinkingly at the
assembled heroes.

FADE OUT

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

INT. THE DARK DIMENSION - NIGHT

HAWKGIRL, GRUNDY and DR. FATE look up at Ichthultu's gigantic Eye.

Other giant tentacles move to various areas around the heroes, until the sky is filled with half a dozen of the eyes, staring down eerily.

DR. FATE
We are undone.

ICHTHULTU
Speak not until spoken to, dust mote.

HAWKGIRL
Okay, that was just rude.

ICHTHULTU
Winged Mote, who are you?

Up past Hawkgirl to the sky full of eyes, it's as if they were all focused on her.

HAWKGIRL
(defiantly)
Shayera Hol. Hawkgirl!

ICHTHULTU
You have the stench of the Thanagarians upon you.

HAWKGIRL
Says the giant squid.

ICHTHULTU
Definitely Thanagarian. I will speak to the Hawkgirl before I destroy her. You others hold no interest.

All react as Ichthultu's skin BUBBLES and produces giant, pus-filled BOILS.

GRUNDY
 (grossed out)
 Ewwwww!

As the Boils BURST, we see that they contain OLD ONES. First WENDIGO (ITHAQUA) a furred, bear-like thing, all teeth and claws and then ABYSS (NODEUS), a monster with silver, human arms.

GRUNDY
 Grundy crush pimple men!

GRUNDY flings himself at WENDIGO and PUNCHES him.

WENDIGO
 (bestial GROWL of pain)

Grundy follows up with a second punch. Wendigo BITES an astonished Grundy's fist.

GRUNDY
 (CRY of pain)

HAWKGIRL FLIES towards Wendigo.

HAWKGIRL
 Hang on, Grundy! I've got him!

Hawkgirl reacts as slender Tentacles ensnare her at wrists and ankles, holding her suspended in mid-air.

HAWKGIRL (CONT'D)
 (CRY of surprise)

ICHTHULTU
 I did not give you permission to leave.

ON GRUNDY

Dismayed at Hawkgirl's capture.

GRUNDY
 Give back Bird-Nose!

ON DR. FATE

As ABYSS casts a spell, flinging mystic energy at him. Dr. Fate gestures, quickly casting a defense.

DR. FATE

Mishmumkin!

Abyss' spell is reflected back at him. He writhes, Trying to shake the painful-looking energies off of his body.

ABYSS

(CRY of pain)

DR. FATE

Imshi!

The energy begins to push Abyss into the ground.

CUT TO:

EXT. THE BREECH STAGING PLATFORM - NIGHT

Superman and Wonder Woman follow Dr. Fate's RIBBON OF LIGHT, flying towards the Breech. Superman points out a large "island" that seems to be serving as a staging platform for the invasion (we see tentacled creatures fly up from the island towards the Breech).

WONDER WOMAN

Careful, Superman. Those things can hurt you.

Superman unconsciously touches his wound from the Tentacled creature he fought in part one. He's resolute.

SUPERMAN

Save your concern for them. I'm Superman.

Two Old Ones, TOADTHING (TSATHOGLUA), a toad-like creature the size of a bull, half of his bulk is a head with an obscenely-large, fang-filled mouth and SPACE LORD (HASTUR), who resembles a Jack Kirby herald of Galactus, are on the island, looking up at Superman and Wonder Woman as they land.

TOADTHING flicks his Tongue towards Wonder Woman, 30 feet away. She reflexively BLOCKS it with her Bracelet. Disgustingly, the tip of the tongue STICKS to her bracelet.

Toadthing RETRACTS his tongue, JERKING Wonder Woman off of her feet.

WONDER WOMAN
(CRY of surprise)

Wonder Woman digs her heels in and grasps the tongue in her hands but she is inexorably dragged closer to Toadthing's enormous mouth. The mouth is circular and ringed with Razor-sharp teeth.

WONDER WOMAN
(GROAN of effort)

ON SUPERMAN

As SPACELORD FIRES a COSMIC ENERGY BLAST at him. Superman is knocked backwards through the air.

SUPERMAN
(impact GRUNT)

He crashes to the ground hard, the energy dancing painfully over his body before dissipating. Superman stands, his costume damaged, his cape torn to shreds. He responds with a burst of HEAT VISION. Spacelord's Costume bursts into flames.

SPACELORD
(SCREAM of pain)

SUPERMAN
Let me put that out for you.

Superman snuffs the fire with a powerful gust of his SUPER BREATH, not incidentally blowing Spacelord into the air and into space, where it quickly recedes out of sight.

ON WONDER WOMAN

Who has been pulled almost into the mouth of TOADTHING. She is bracing herself with her hands and feet on the monster's "lips," its dripping fangs inches from her face.

WONDER WOMAN
(GROAN of effort)

With superhuman effort, Wonder Woman strains to stand up, pressing the top of Toadthing's mouth above her head and straightening her legs to push down the bottom of its mouth. She stretches open the creature's mouth to an impossible degree.

TOADTHING
(open-mouthed SCREAM)

The creature stops struggling and falls over. Wonder Woman tears its tongue from her bracelet.

SUPERMAN
Problem.

Superman indicates the Breech, still above them. Dozens of the tentacled creatures are FLYING away from the mass and towards them. They brace themselves for battle.

CUT TO:

INT. THE DARK DIMENSION - NIGHT

The thin tentacles binding Hawkgirl extend to impossible lengths, pulling her towards ICHTHULTU'S FACE (we saw it at the beginning of Act One). The Eye Stalks turn out to be the tentacles we saw on Ichthultu's face.

ICHTHULTU
Speak to me, child of Thanagar.

HAWKGIRL
(struggling)
Nothing to say. I've got a gesture for you but my hands are tied.

ICHTHULTU
How I've missed your people's spirit.

ON GRUNDY

Who repeatedly smashes the arm Wendigo is biting into the ground.

HAWKGIRL (O.S.)
We don't miss you...

This should establish that the heroes can clearly hear Ichthultu's booming voice down at the fight.

ON HAWKGIRL

Still struggling futilely against the tentacles.

HAWKGIRL (CONT'D)
We outgrew you, thousands of years ago.

ICHTHULTU
I gave your people everything. Why did you forsake me?

HAWKGIRL
"Forsake"? We threw you out! The price for your favors was too high.

ICHTHULTU
My tribute was equitable. I earned your faith.

HAWKGIRL
Really? What's a fair price for the souls of my ancestors?

ON GRUNDY

Looking up from the motionless body of the Wendigo. He thoughtlessly tosses Wendigo aside.

GRUNDY
Snake-face steals souls?

Grundy shakes his fist at the sky, more enraged than we've ever seen him.

GRUNDY
(shouting)
Give Grundy back his soul Snake-face, or Grundy crush!

Grundy feebly reaches up at the sky, grasping at air like a toddler.

GRUNDY
(shouting)
Do you hear Grundy? Give it back!

Grundy SQUATS, his powerful thighs bunching in preparation for an unbelievable feat.

Grundy LEAPS, rocketing into the sky towards Ichthultu's face.

GRUNDY
(sustained ROAR of anger)

On the ground, Dr. Fate cries out in alarm.

DR. FATE
Grundy, wait!

Dr. Fate flies up to follow but is struck from behind by a MYSTIC BOLT.

DR. FATE
(CRY of pain)

Dr. Fate CRASHES to the ground at the feet of the now-recovered Abyss, whose hands still glow with the spell he just cast.

CUT TO:

EXT. THE BREECH STAGING PLATFORM - NIGHT

Wonder Woman and Superman fly up towards the onrushing Tentacled Creatures, braced for battle. Surprise! They start zipping past Superman and Wonder Woman, completely ignoring them.

WONDER WOMAN
Wait, they aren't attacking.

SUPERMAN
No. They're running.

Superman and Wonder Woman fly closer to the breech, where they see the source of the Creatures' consternation. It's AQUAMAN, in a berserker rage, standing on a pile of the creatures while slicing more of them to pieces with wild,

wide swipes of his Trident. The Trident GLOWS brilliantly, trailing energy. He sees Superman.

SUPERMAN

Aquaman!

AQUAMAN

(shouting)

I think I can seal the breech with the Trident but I need something to plug the hole.

SUPERMAN

But what's big enough to—

Wonder Woman jerks her head, indicating something below. Superman follows her nod.

ON THE STAGING ISLAND, floating abandoned in space.

SUPERMAN

That could work.

Wonder Woman and Superman fly beneath the Island and begin to PUSH.

WONDER WOMAN AND SUPERMAN

(GROANS of effort)

The island begins to move, slowly at first, then increasingly quickly. Superman and Wonder Woman are actually shoving the big rock towards the BREECH.

WONDER WOMAN AND SUPERMAN

(releasing GRUNTS)

With a final shove, they let the island's momentum carry it towards the Breech.

Aquaman dives off his mound of creatures as the Island wedges into the Breech, plugging it.

Wonder Woman catches Aquaman, one hand under each arm.

WONDER WOMAN

If those things come back, no way that's going to hold them.

Aquaman points the Trident at the Breech and DISCHARGES the Trident.

THE BREECH

Shimmers with the tremendous energies being directed at it.

AQUAMAN

Struggles to hold the Trident as it bathes the Breech in Mystic Energy.

THE BREECH

Shimmers one final time. The Breech and the Island plugging it are gone, replaced with the unbroken fabric of Dark Dimension space.

AQUAMAN

Think that'll hold 'em?

SUPERMAN

Let's find the others.

Superman and Wonder Woman (carrying Aquaman) fly back, following the Ribbon.

CUT TO:

INT. THE DARK DIMENSION - NIGHT

Abyss stands over the fallen Dr. Fate, preparing to blast him with a Mystic Bolt.

DR. FATE

Ba'idd'an!

Dr. Fate VANISHES, just before Abyss' two-handed MYSTIC BOLT makes a CRATER of the spot he just vacated.

Dr. Fate REAPPEARS, still in the same position, a few feet away. He's obviously very weak.

Abyss' silver arms DETATCH THEMSELVES from his body. They crawl, using their fingers as legs. The arm behind them curls up like a scorpion's tail, the shoulder producing a

sharp and deadly-looking STINGER. The SCORPION ARMS skitter towards Dr. Fate, they're going to sting him.

SUPERMAN and WONDER WOMAN fly in, each grabbing one of the Scorpion Arms.

SUPERMAN

It's okay Fate, we got em!

Wonder Woman struggles with her Scorpion arm, holding it around the "neck" (wrist) with one hand while desperately blocking thrusts from its stinger with the bracelet of her other hand.

WONDER WOMAN

They're ... strong ...

Superman has one hand around his Scorpion's wrist and the other close to the tail. The Scorpion writhes powerfully and its all he can do to control it. In fact, it's relentlessly moving its stinger closer and closer to Superman.

CLOSE ON AQUAMAN'S HARPOON

It's Aquaman's POV. RACK FOCUS as he sights down his arm towards where Superman and Wonder Woman are fighting.

Aquaman FIRES his harpoon, which flies through the air trailing a long cable back to Aquaman's metal-covered stump.

The Harpoon goes clean through the Scorpion that Superman is fighting, then continues in flight until it does the same thing to the one that Wonder Woman's holding. The cable goes taut.

Aquaman swings his arm in a half-circle over his head, the wire yanking the Scorpions in the air in a wide arc, flinging them off the edge of the road and into deep space.

Aquaman REELS IN his Harpoon, the wire drawing it back to the end of his arm where it reattaches with a solid CLICK.

As all move towards Dr. Fate, Wonder Woman looks at Aquaman in amazement.

WONDER WOMAN

I didn't know you could do that.

AQUAMAN

What you don't know about me could fill
the Marianas Trench.

Dr. Fate is on his feet again, Superman, Aquaman and Wonder Woman are right behind him.

Abyss GROWS two more Silver Arms and his hands begin to GLOW with Mystic Energy.

SUPERMAN

We've got your back.

DR. FATE

That won't be necessary.

Dr. Fate raises his hands and projects a OVERWHELMINGLY POWERFUL MYSTIC BOLT at Abyss. In less time than it takes to tell it, Abyss raises a Mystic Shield but the shield is shattered by Dr. Fate's bolt which continues through Abyss, driving him through the ground. An instant later, all but Fate react in awe to the smooth-bore, smoldering hole in the ground where Abyss once stood. The hole goes clean through to the other side. Superman realizes they aren't all here.

SUPERMAN

Where's Hawkgirl? ... And Grundy?

ON GRUNDY

Leaping from one "Floating Mesa" to the next, soaring through space towards Ichthultu. Finally, he's one leap away.

GRUNDY

(sustained ROAR of anger)

ICHTHULTU

What...?

Grundy PENETRATES Ichthultu's face, drilling a hole with his body.

ICHTHULTU

(scream of pain)

ON GRUNDY

Tearing his way deeper into Ichthultu's face.

GRUNDY

Where is Grundy's soul, snake-face? Tell Grundy!

Grundy tears at the walls of the tunnel he is making, burrowing ever more deeply into Ichthultu.

ICHTHULTU

Away from me, human speck!

Tentacles form out of the walls of the tunnel. One grabs Grundy and lifts him from the ground.

GRUNDY

Tell Grundy, or Grundy crush!

The tentacle whips pack and forth, smashing Grundy against one side of the wall, then the other.

GRUNDY

(impact GRUNTS)

Grundy tears the tentacle free of the wall.

GRUNDY

(GROAN of effort)

ON HAWKGIRL

Reacting as Ichthultu SHUDDERS with pain.

ICHTHULTU

(SCREAM)

Hawkgirl uses the distraction to free herself from the tentacles, she flies desperately towards Grundy's tunnel.

ON GRUNDY

As he flings the tentacle aside. More tentacles form, some snapping at Grundy with fanged mouths, others growing huge fists to pound on Grundy.

GRUNDY

Ha! Grundy must be close for snake-face
to fight so hard.

Grundy wades through a thick forest of attacking tentacles.

GRUNDY

But Grundy will fight harder!

HAWKGIRL enters the tunnel, avoiding the tentacles writhing on the walls, or batting them away with her Mace. Up ahead, she sees GRUNDY, battling with all his strength

The tentacles knock Grundy down but he keeps getting up, albeit more slowly each time. Grundy is moving forward but he's taking a terrible beating.

GRUNDY

(weakened)

Grundy won't stop until he gets soul
back!

Out on his feet and still being pounded by massive fists, Grundy arrives at a "wall" (it's probably Ichtultu's skull).

GRUNDY

Does Snake-face hear Grundy? Grundy
won't quit!

With a final effort, he wearily raises his fist and PUNCHES the wall, SHATTERING it.

GRUNDY pitches forward, exhausted by his efforts. He lays face down, right in front of the HUGE HOLE he punched in the "wall." Hawkgirl has finally caught up to him.

HAWKGIRL

Grundy?

Grundy pushes up weakly to his hands and knees but he can't do it.

GRUNDY

(MOAN of pain)

Grundy falls, rolling over on his back, weak as a kitten.

GRUNDY

Grundy can't move. Bird-Nose get
Grundy's soul for him?

Hawkgirl stands upright.

HAWKGIRL
Rest. I'll finish what you started.

Hawkgirl looks through the hole Grundy made.

Inside the hole, there is a GIGANTIC CHAMBER. At the center floats ICHTHULTU'S GLOWING BRAIN (the shadows in the folds of the brain look like the fabric of space, complete with stars).

Hawkgirl flies into the hole, then laboriously through bizarre energy fields towards the Brain. When she's close enough, she raises her Mace.

ICHTHULTU
You will not do this thing, Shayera Hol
of Thanagar. Ichthultu still has faith
in you!

HAWKGIRL
So do I.

She hefts her Mace.

HAWKGIRL
(battle CRY)

Hawkgirl smites the Brain, Energy feedback blowing her away from the point of impact.

HAWKGIRL
(impact CRY)

As Hawkgirl watches, energy radiates from the point of impact, spreading throughout the brain.

The Brain loses its glow, going dark as the energy spreads. finally the Brain floats there, dim and lifeless.

Hawkgirl turns and flies back to where Grundy is laying. He's not going to make it.

GRUNDY
Bird-Nose?

Hawkgirl kneels and tenderly cradles Grundy in her lap, they look like the *Pieta*.

HAWKGIRL
I'm here.

GRUNDY
Grundy thinks he is going away, now.

HAWKGIRL
No. Just hang on.

The rest of the Justice League, Aquaman and Dr. Fate arrive. They watch silently from a respectful distance.

GRUNDY
Do you think Grundy's soul is waiting for him?

HAWKGIRL
Grundy, I don't beli--

She looks at the hopeful smile on Grundy's face.

HAWKGIRL
Yes. It's waiting for you.

GRUNDY
Then Grundy gets his reward...

Grundy closes his eyes. His body grows transparent, then disappears. Hawkgirl still kneels, holding nothing for a long moment.

All except Hawkgirl react to the ground beginning to RUMBLE.

DR. FATE
Hawkgirl, we must leave this place. We cannot hope to survive Ichthultu's death throes.

Superman gives her a hand and gently helps her to her feet.

SUPERMAN

(compassionately)
C'mon, Shayera.

Dr. Fate gestures and the signature effect of the TELEPORT SPELL from Act Three sweeps them all away.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. A FIELD - DAY

Hawkgirl, Wonder Woman, Aquaman, Dr. Fate, Inza and Superman are solemn as they look at a headstone we can't see from this angle.

HAWKGIRL
I tried to do this according to human customs.

WONDER WOMAN
You honor his memory.

HAWKGIRL
He was happy at the end. I still don't understand why.

AQUAMAN
It's faith, Hawkgirl. You're not supposed to understand it. You just have it.

Superman stands behind Hawkgirl. He gives her shoulder a brotherly squeeze.

CLOSE ON HAWKGIRL

As, unseen by the others a single tear wells up and rolls down her otherwise stoic face.

The Camera TURNS AND PANS down to the very nice headstone. We can finally read the inscription, "Solomon Grundy, Born On A Monday."

NEW ANGLE reveals that both the headstone and our heroes are actually in the SWAMP where Cyrus Gold was originally buried, so long ago.

FADE OUT

THE END