

Key Scene: Batman and The Joker face off in the police interview room

The Joker has been taken into custody after he was fooled (it seems) into thinking Harvey Dent was Batman and chasing down the vehicle that was transporting him. However, while he is in prison both Harvey and Rachel go missing. Jim Gordon calls in Batman to get the truth out of the Joker. This is the first time these two have been alone to speak face to face. Is this what The Joker wanted all along?

Why is this scene important in the movie? *It's a turning point as it decides Rachel, Batman and Harvey's future. First time they come face to face, something they both want but for different reasons. The Joker finally explains his theory/goal.*

Technique	Example	Effect
Dialogue 1	<i>"You'll have to break your one rule. The only sensible way to live in this world is without rules" The Joker to Batman.</i>	To show The Joker's philosophy and what drives him. He will get pleasure from people breaking rules and descending into chaos.
Dialogue 2	<i>"To them you're just a freak like me. They need right now but at the first sign of trouble they'll cast you off. They are as good as the world allows them to be".</i>	Foreshadows Batman allowing himself to be the villain in the end to keep the good memory of Harvey alive. Hints that not everyone feels he is a hero because his secret is such a secret.
Lighting	<i>Start dark with just a lamp then when Gordon leaves the room the bright lights come on.</i>	The lamp reflects the idea that they feel they have the Joker under the microscope, under pressure. Also has another reason, Batman is hiding in the shadows, like he does out in the world. Goes to bright light so there is no hiding in the shadows anymore. The Joker can't escape the confrontation.
Make up	<i>The Joker's make-up is wearing off/incomplete. He is sweating it off.</i>	He cares less about his mask and is getting more out of control. He is exposing his real ideas and goals.
Costume	<i>Batman is in his sleek black armour and The Joker is in bright colourful clothes.</i>	Reversal of what colours mean. Black normally evil and bright colours associated with clowns and happy. Maybe Batman and the Joker are not that different. The lines between good and evil are blurred.
Close up over the shoulder with cross cutting and tracking	<i>Between Batman and The Joker as they first talk. The camera moves to the left around them.</i>	The tracking around them is like they are going round in a circle and getting nothing resolved. It is also like the tension is winding up.
Music	<i>The slow rising of a piano wire sound. (razor blades up and down a piano wire).</i>	Reminds us of the sound before something dramatic like a bomb. Sounds like a siren. Tension builds.
Angles	<i>High angle on The Joker on the ground and low angles looking up at Batman standing over him.</i>	The angles have a reverse effect because they show Batman losing control over his power and The Joker enjoying seeing it from the floor.