This is not 2022. *The setup is the opposite.*

> The market has fully given up. On alts, on Ethereum, on the idea that this cycle even has a second half. That is usually the exact moment it starts. Bitcoin is carving a macro low near $60k, and for the first time in eleven months ETH/BTC has broken its downtrend. Here is why we think the bottom is close and the real move it coming.

THE SETUP

A macro low, hiding in plain sight

Start on the weekly, because the higher timeframe is where the truth lives. Bitcoin fell from roughly $126k last October to briefly under $64k, a drawdown of around 45 to 50 percent. Painful, but nowhere near the 77 percent bloodbath of 2022. And look at where it landed. Price came all the way back to the shelf that capped the entire last cycle, the $57k to $70k band, and it is now trying to hold that old ceiling as a floor. At the same time the weekly RSI is quietly printing higher lows while price printed lower lows. That is a clean bullish divergence. Price down, momentum up. That combination shows up while macro lows are being carved, not after. We are not calling the exact bottom to the dollar here. But this chart shows similarities to one.

THE DIFFERENCE

Why this is not 2022

I keep hearing people say we are back in 2022. We are not, and this distinction matters more than anything else in this report. 2022 was an extinction event driven from inside crypto. Terra and Luna detonated, then Three Arrows, then Celsius, then FTX, each one dragging institutional trust down with it. A 77 percent collapse over more than a year, and it was more so structural. This is completely different. It is macro driven, it arrived alongside an AI led wobble in stocks and a softening jobs market, not a fraud cascade. There has been no Terra, no FTX. And this is the first cycle with real spot ETF infrastructure, corporate treasuries and actual regulation underneath the market. Crypto Quant's team pins the first credible bottom window around this quarter.

THE SIGNAL

Coiled but not yet confirmed

Now down to the daily, and here is where we keep honest. Price is pushing up into the Summit Cloud after living underneath it for weeks, and it is pressing right against the downtrend line off the May high. But the cloud is still red. It has not flipped green. So Bitcoin is knocking on two doors at once, the cloud and the trendline, and neither has opened yet. To get properly confident I want three things: the cloud to flip green, a daily close back above the roughly $65.6k lid, and the ETF flows to keep coming. Until then this is a coiled spring, not a launch although Bitcoin is still cheap.

UNDER THE HOOD

The funds panicked. The smart money bought the exact low

This is the split that convinces us the low is close. In June the spot Bitcoin ETFs had their worst month on record, and the retail behind them capitulated with them. The whales did the exact opposite. They bought more than 270,000 BTC, around $16.7B, right at the $59k lows, while the fear and greed index sat at some of the most fearful readings in its history. That is the whole tell. Everyone was scared, everyone sold, and the people who have done this for a decade were the ones buying. It is early to call it confirmed, but that is what the inside of a bottom would look like.

THE TURN

ETH/BTC just broke eleven months of pain

Here is the chart that ties it all together, and almost nobody is watching it. Ethereum against Bitcoin has been a disaster, three losing quarters in a row, the first time that has ever happened in its history. Everyone has thrown ETH in the bin. That is exactly why this matters. For the first time in eleven months, ETH/BTC has broken above its downtrend line. After the 2022 low, Bitcoin stayed dominant for years and alts bled, and that is the pattern everyone is bracing for again. But this time, right as Bitcoin carves its macro low, the ratio is turning up, not down. That is the opposite of 2022, and it tells me one thing clearly: on any real move higher, Ethereum leads, and when ETH leads, the alts follow. It is early, it needs to hold, but the weight behind this move only keeps building.

THE ROTATION

Where the money goes next

When you see capital rotation or even just flowing in in crypto you see it rotates into the strongest names first, and that means the majors. Ethereum is worth watching simply because it is the most hated asset of the cycle and the ratio is finally turning. Most hated plus a turning chart is exactly where mean reversion hides as well as what we now have going on with robin hoods layer 2 and lighter, these are great for the ETH bull thesis. Solana is next, it already has a live ETF with staking built in, and it owns the fastest growing corner of crypto, tokenized stocks. But the idea we would not sleep on is tokenization itself. Real world assets are moving on chain fast and quietly while everyone stares at the Bitcoin candle, and the standout play is Uniswap. It just switched on a fee mechanism that finally makes the token capture real value instead of just telling a story, more volume means more value flowing to holders. When you are early to a theme this big, you buy the picks and shovels, not the lottery tickets.

THE FUEL

Tank is full. They keys are the question

Underneath all of this, global liquidity just hit record highs and Bitcoin is trading well below where that history says it should be, with a record pile of stablecoins sitting in dry powder. The fuel for the next leg is clearly there. The one thing is the Fed, still holding rates with inflation ticking back up and a small chance of a hike this month. That is the thing that could delay all of this. Nothing more, but I am watching it.

THE HONEST READ

What we think

No sugarcoating, and none of this is advice, just how I am reading the board. The correction is closer to its end than its middle. I think $60k is the macro low unless it clearly breaks, and the risk to reward from a zone this hated and this oversold is the best it has been since the last real bottom. But to be really safe we would want confirmation before getting to loud: the daily cloud green, Bitcoin back above $65.6k, flows holding, and ETH/BTC staying above its trendline. Get those together and this stops being a bounce and becomes a bottom. My highest conviction call is the rotation, Ethereum outperforms Bitcoin on the next leg and the majors lead first. This is not 2022. It is the messy middle, the part that shakes people out right before the part they wish they had sat through.