



DC
COMICS™

16

BATMAN

'66

TOM
PEYER
BY
TEMPLETON

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THE CONQUEROR BOOKWORM

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BATMAN CREATED BY BOB KANE

Inspired by the 1960s Batman television series

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**AT THE TRIWEEKLY
MEETING OF THE
GOTHAM CHAMBER OF
CURRENCY, CHAIRED
BY MILLIONAIRE BRUCE
WAYNE, THE KEYNOTE
SPEAKER CONCLUDES HIS
STIRRING ADDRESS...**



...AND
FINALLY, I KNOW
BATMAN HIMSELF WOULD
JOIN ME IN SAYING: **DON'T
BE UPTIGHT! LITERACY
IS WHAT'S HAPPENING,
BABY--AND IT'S
A GAS!**



AH...HE
MIGHT NOT EMPLOY
THOSE *PRECISE*
TERMS, ROBIN! BUT THE
SENTIMENT IS *MOST*
LAUDABLE!

LET'S HAVE A
ROUSING OVATION
FOR THE *JUNIOR*
MEMBER OF THE
DYNAMIC DUO!



BRAVO! SURE AN'
HE'S A FINE LAD,
COMMISSIONER!

INDEED, CHIEF
O'HARA! IF *ROBIN*
REPRESENTS THE YOUTH
OF TODAY, GOTHAM CITY
NEEDN'T FRET ABOUT
HER FUTURE! RIGHT,
BRUCE?



YES, I'M
CONFIDENT THE
CAPED CRUSADER--
WHOEVER HE IS
BEHIND THAT MASK
~~COUGH~~
--FEELS TERRIFIC
PRIDE IN THE BOY
WONDER!

AWWW,
BRU--I MEAN,
VERY KIND OF
YOU TO SAY,
MR. WAYNE!



CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP

SORRY,
BRUCE! I NEARLY
CALLED YOU "BRUCE!"
IF ANYONE HEARD ME
ADDRESSING YOU ON
A FIRST-NAME
BASIS--

--THEY
MIGHT SUSPECT
YOU'RE REALLY MY
YOUNG WARD, DICK
GRAYSON, AND THAT I'M
SECRETLY BATMAN! BUT
DON'T BE TOO HARD
ON YOURSELF,
CHUM.

AS JAMES
JOYCE WROTE,
"ERRORS ARE THE
PORTALS OF
DISCOVERY."

GOSH!
YOU'RE
RIGHT!

NOW,
BOY WONDER,
IN THE NAME OF
THE GOTHAM CHAMBER
OF CURRENCY, IT IS MY
HONOR TO PRESENT
TO YOUR LITERACY
CHARITY--





HOLY SMOKE!

YOU LOOK SURPRISED, MR. WAYNE! DON'T TELL ME YOU JUDGED US BY OUR COVERS!

BOOKWORM!



COFF!
THAT BIBLIOPHILIC BRIGAND, BACK TO BEDEVIL US!

WHO LET YOU OUT OF YOUR SLIPCASE?

AND HOW DARE YOU DISRUPT OUR TRIWEEKLY MEETING?











WHERE
ARE THEY--?
LET ME AT
'EM--!

NO, BOY
WONDER!
THEY'RE
GONE--

--AND
THEY'VE TAKEN THE
GOTHAM CHAMBER OF
CURRENCY CEREMONIAL
CHECKBOOK WITH
THEM!

HOLY
OUTRAGE!



CHIEF O'HARA, NOTIFY THE BANKS TO STOP PAYMENT ON ALL OVERSIZED CHARITY CHECKS.

AWW, COMMISSIONER! WE MIGHT AS WELL BE YANKIN' FOOD FROM THE MOUTHS O' POOR WIDOWS AN' ORPHANS!

A SADLY ACCURATE ASSESSMENT, CHIEF. BUT DUTY GIVES US--NO CHOICE!

DID YOU MANAGE THE SWITCH?

YOU BET! FASTER THAN THE SPEED-READING BOOKWORM'S EYE!

HEAR THAT, ROBIN? WE MUST RECOVER THAT CHECKBOOK, AND FAST! FOR THE SAKE OF GOTHAM'S NEEDY!

"SWITCH"? WHAT COULD THE BOY WONDER POSSIBLY HAVE DONE TO TURN THE TABLES ON BOOKWORM? WE SHALL SEE, ONCE AN HOUR SWIFTLY PASSES--

**--AND OUR VILLAINS HAVE SETTLED
INTO THEIR SECRET HIDEOUT AT
THE OLD, ABANDONED GOTHAM
SCHOOL BOOK DEPOSITORY!**

WHADDYA
THINK YOU'RE DOIN'?
YOU KNOW THE BOSS DON'T
LIKE US WATCHIN' THE
IDIOT BOX!

SHUSH UP!
IT'S BATMAN! HE'S
ON LIVE TV, TALKIN'
ABOUT US!

--I WANT TO ASSURE
GOTHAM'S PHILANTHROPISTS THAT
ALL GIANT CHECK PAYMENTS
HAVE BEEN STOPPED--

--AS I VOW TO GOTHAM'S
NEEDEST: AS SOON AS ROBIN AND I
RECOVER THAT CHECKBOOK, CHARITY
PAYMENTS WILL RESUME!

MEANWHILE, AT STATELY WAYNE MANOR, BUTLER ALFRED--THE ONLY ONE PRIVY TO BATMAN AND ROBIN'S IDENTITIES--DUSTS THE SECRET ENTRANCE TO THE BATCAVE! SUDDENLY, A DESPERATE CRY SHATTERS HIS CONCENTRATION!



MERCIFUL HEAVENS!



THE FAITHFUL BUTLER DASHES TO THE AID OF DICK GRAYSON'S AUNT HARRIET!



MRS. COOPER! SOMETHING AMISS?

BATMAN SAYS THE CHAMBER OF CURRENCY'S CHARITY CHECKBOOK WAS STOLEN! AS IF THE POOR MAN DIDN'T HAVE TROUBLE ENOUGH!

OH, ALFRED! IF ONLY THERE WERE SOMETHING I COULD DO--!

PERHAPS AFTER YOUR VISIT TO THE RARE MATCHBOOK EXHIBIT, YOU MIGHT NIP BY GOTHAM SOUP KITCHEN WITH A CASH OFFERING!

PERMITTING ME TO CONTRIBUTE, OF COURSE.

OH, YOU ALWAYS KNOW WHAT TO SAY, ALFRED!



I ENDEAVOR TO GRATIFY, MRS. COOPER!

AND, BACK IN
THE SHADOWS OF THE
GOTHAM SCHOOL
BOOK DEPOSITORY...

**CRASH-
ZAP!!!**

ANGER
MANAGEMENT
HOW TO CONTROL
YOUR TEMPER TODAY!

TAKE THAT,
BATMAN!

AND THE
REST OF YOU!
ROTTING YOUR MINDS
ON TELEVISION WHILE
A TREASURE TROVE
OF BOOKS SITS
UNREAD?!

NO WONDER
YOUR BRAINS NEVER
PUT ANYTHING OUT! YOU
SIMPLETONS NEVER
PUT ANYTHING IN!

AT--AT LEAST WE KNOW BETTER
THAN TO STEAL A WORTHLESS
CHECKBOOK!

HE'S GOT
A POINT, BOSS!
BATMAN JUST SAID
THE CITY STOPPED
PAYMENT ON
IT!



EXCELLENT NEWS! NOW BATMAN WILL BE ALL THE MORE EAGER TO TRACK US DOWN!

WAIT! AIN'T THAT BAD?

NO, YOU NINCOMPOOP!

IF I SHOW YOU TWO SOMETHING, WILL YOU TRY VERY HARD NOT TO DROOL ON IT?



SURE, BOSS!

WHAT IS IT?

MY MASTERPIECE-- MY MAGNUM OPUS--



MY
BOOK OF
BATMAN!

EVERY
KNOWN SCRAP OF
INFORMATION ABOUT THAT
MASKED MEDDLER, COMPILED
INTO AN EVER-EXPANDING
BATCYCLOPEDIA!

SOON
THIS VOLUME
WILL BE SO VAST,
I'LL BE ABLE TO
ENVISAGE BATMAN'S
EVERY MOVE--BEFORE
HE THINKS OF
IT HIMSELF!

GOH-TV
WGTV
7

--SO VAST,
I'LL BE ABLE
TO ENVISAGE
BATMAN'S EVERY
MOVE--BEFORE
HE THINKS OF
IT HIMSELF!

NICE
WORK,
ROBIN--

--SWITCHING
BOOKWORM'S HAT-RADIO
FOR THE EXACT COPY
I'D PREPARED!


YOU *KNEW*
HE'D EVENTUALLY
RETURN, LIKE AN
OVERDUE LIBRARY
BOOK--

--SO YOU
PACKED DUPLICATE
HAT-RADIOS IN OUR
UTILITY BELTS, JUST IN
CASE! WAIT'LL I TELL
YOU WHAT HE'S
BEEN UP TO!

SOON.
LET'S HEAR
ALL WE CAN,
FIRST!

TOMORROW
I STRIKE--
AND I DO MEAN
STRIKE!





YES,
ACCORDING TO
THE LEDGER, I
REPLACED MY HAT
RADIO'S BATTERIES
NEARLY TWO MONTHS
AGO! THEY SHOULD
BE NEARLY WORN
DOWN!



IT COULDN'T
GET THIS LOUD,
UNLESS---



--IT'S
NOT MY RADIO!
THE ACCURSED
BOY WONDER
SWITCHED IT
OUT!

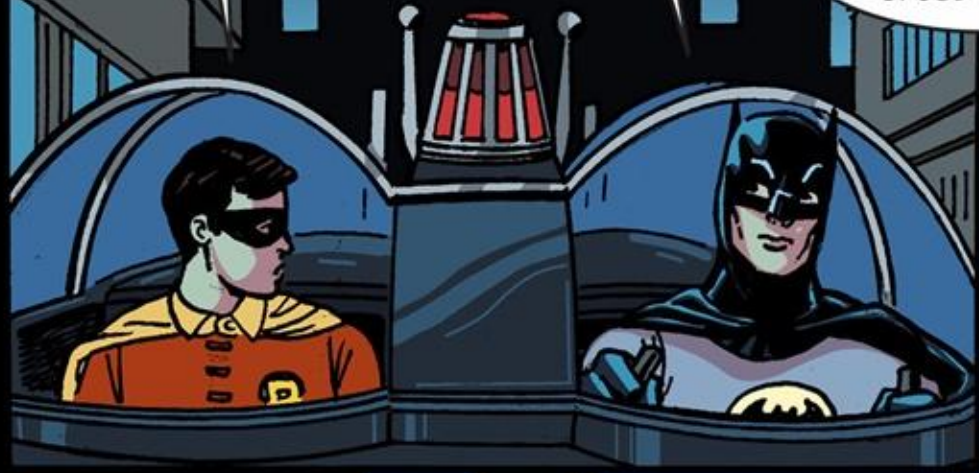


**SKREEE
KRAASH!**

DON'T TAKE
IT SO HARD, BATMAN!
EVEN IF BOOKWORM *DID*
DISCOVER OUR RADIO,
WE LEARNED A LOT
WE DIDN'T KNOW
BEFORE!

THAT'S NOT
WHAT'S EATING ME,
CHUM. CONSIDER *THIS*:
IF BOOKWORM SUCCEEDS
IN COLLECTING EVERY
SCRAP OF KNOWLEDGE
ABOUT ME--

--HE MAY SOON
AMASS ENOUGH DATA
TO PROVE THAT BATMAN
IS ALSO MILLIONAIRE
BRUCE WAYNE!



HOLY SECURITY LEAK!
CAN BATMAN'S SECRET
TRUE IDENTITY REALLY BE IN DANGER?
FACE THE GRIM ANSWER NEXT WEEK--
IF YOU DARE!



SON OF ULTRAMAN

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Sa JUSTICE LEAGUE BEYOND 2.0



Su BATMAN: U!l GOTHAM

WEEKLY

2 X MONTHLY

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