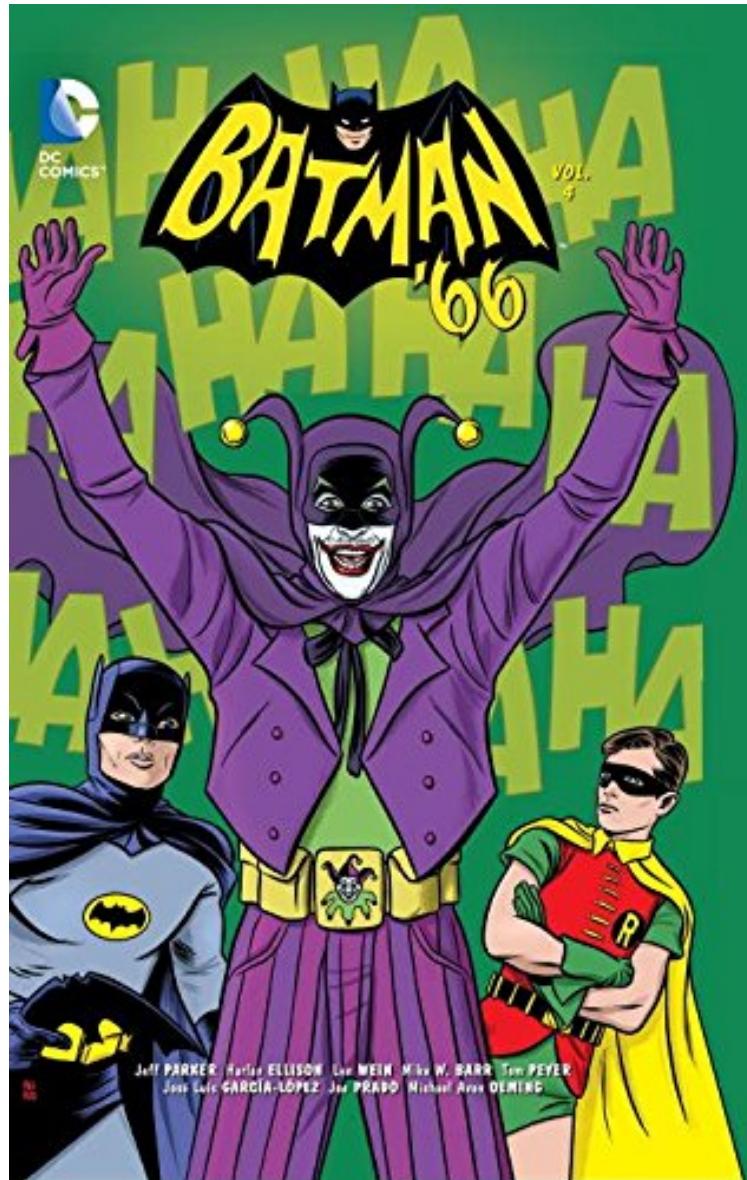


## Batman '66 Vol. 4

Jeff Parker

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**Jeff Parker : Batman '66 Vol. 4** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Batman '66 Vol. 4:

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. A Breather From the Dark, Bleak DC UniverseBy David SwanGotham City is an eternal cesspool of crime and filth, corrupt to its core and riddled with secret societies manipulating the levers of government. The criminal psychopaths infect the city with their madness and the citys dark

protector is perpetually haunted by the deaths of his parents at the hands of one of the many criminal scum wandering the streets. That's the world of Batman. But this is Batman '66 and Gotham City is bright and lively and people are generally decent and even the villains commit their crimes with a level of dignity and perfect grammar. If I were a DC executive and someone pitched the idea of recreating the old 1960s television show in comic book form my reaction would be errrrrr but Jeff Parker has succeeded beyond what I imagine were anyone's expectations. Parker has really and truly captured the fun and energy of the old television show to the point where when Batman speaks I hear Adam West in my head. hilariously, Batman speaks more like a college professor with impeccable eloquence rather than a grim and gritty vigilante but that is in the spirit of the show. This time around we have appearances by King Tut, Bookworm, Archer, Lord Marmaduke Ffogg, Lord Death Man (yup), The Penguin and of course The Joker who is now giving The Batman a run for his money as the primary crime fighter of Gotham City. Each story is drawn by a different artist of varying levels of effectiveness. The art is not the slick polished art of the canonized Batman series but the rougher, more cartoonish look works well for the material. I didn't love all the art but Parker's writing kept the stories entertaining. The plots are not exactly the most creative with King Tut releasing an Osiris Virus on Gotham City and Ffogg releasing a poison fog (in neither case was the gas deadly). It's in the details where Parker scores with witty dialogue, whimsical puns and of course loads and loads alliteration. So much delightful alliteration. Included in this volume is the "Lost Episode". This is an episode written by science fiction writer Harlan Ellison for the old television show that was never actually filmed. The story has been created into a comic written by Len Wein (not Jeff Parker) and penciled by Jose Luis Garcia-Lopez. It is proudly pointed out that Ellison was the writer of the Star Trek episode, "The City on the Edge of Forever" which is regarded by many to be the best in the series. Of the 51 pages of extra material in this book 48 are devoted to the lost episode so DC was really proud to present it. Included are the pencil drawings for the entire story as well as Ellison's original script. It's hard to say how this episode would have turned out had it been filmed but I thought it was one of the weakest stories of the bunch. An interesting bit of history but not a fabulous story although it might have been improved had it been written by Parker instead of Wein. Volume 5 is already scheduled for release in May 2016 and my understanding is that will be the finale. Oh well, nothing lasts forever. DC Comics can often be a dark and bleak universe and it's such a joy to read a comic like Batman '66. I pray that someday Batman '66 is established as a recognized world in the DC Multiverse and we get some crossovers. The idea of the Adam West Batman crossing over with the canonical Batman would be just too awesome. The Batman of Batman '66 is corny and occasionally dorky but in his own way he's quite effective. If you've never given the series a chance to entertain do yourself a favor and try it. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Glimpses of the "Batman" that might have been By Lee Kirby This penultimate collection of "Batman '66" is dominated by a presentation of an unproduced story treatment by Harlan Ellison. That treatment, "The Two-Way Crimes of Two-Face," is reprinted in full from Ellison's original manuscript, alongside an adaptation by veteran Bat-writer/editor Len Wein and artist Jose-Luis Garcia-Lopez, who works in a more realistic, illustrative style than the "cartoony" artists usually employed in this series. Garcia-Lopez's pencil artwork, sans inks, lettering and colors, is also presented, as well as his sketchbook of concept drawings and variant cover illustrations. In addition, this volume provides a tantalizing glimpse of what a fourth season of "Batman" might have looked like. To further cut costs, ABC wanted executive producer William Dozier to drop Robin and Chief O'Hara from the cast, and make Batgirl the Caped Crusader's new crimefighting partner-ideas Dozier rejected. In "The Garden of Death," regular writer Jeff Parker sidelines the Boy Wonder with an attack of acute vertigo and sends Batman and Batgirl to Japan to battle Lord Death Man-a villain who appeared in one mid-60s issue of the "Batman" ongoing comic. (Artist Sandy Jarrell provides an homage to that issue in an unused cover.) This volume also includes appearances by TV baddies King Tut, The Archer, The Bookworm, and Lord Marmaduke Ffogg. But the above stories make this a fascinating glimpse at the "Batman" that might have been. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A Collection to Treasure: With the missing Batman TV Show Episode about the criminal Two-Face By Rob Gutro If you grew up watching the Batman TV show from 1966-1968, or just enjoyed the reruns, there's a graphic novel (BATMAN '66 Vol.4) that actually has the script of the missing TV Show Episode about the criminal Two-Face. This episode, written by Harlan Ellison for TV, was never produced in 1968. However, DC Comics got the script and made it into a fully illustrated comic. It's an unusual gem that I will always treasure, especially since I have all of the Batman TV series on DVD. In addition to that story, there are many others, too, but that's the true highlight! Worth getting.

Back to the Swingin' 60s as DC Comics reimagines the classic Batman TV series in comics form. These all-new stories portray The Caped Crusader, The Boy Wonder and their fiendish rogues gallery just the way viewers remember them. In this volume, the Dynamic Duo team-up with Barbara Gordon to take on The Bookworm, a deranged zombie-creating Professor, The Queen of Diamonds, Lord Death Man and The Joker. Collects Batman '66: The Lost Episode #1 and Batman '66 #17-22.

"The campy, cool interpretation of the caped crusader from the ever-popular television show elicits all sorts of emotions from comic book readers: from embarrassment to pure joy..."--Comic Book Resources "Even if you aren't a

fan of the classic TV show, you'll have a good time here. It's a blast from start to finish."--IGN  
About the Author  
Jeff Parker is a Portland, Oregon-based writer and comic book artist. He worked as a storyboard artist on the television cartoon *Big Guy and Rusty the Boy Robot*, and has written a number of Marvel Comics titles including, *X-Men: First Class*, *Agents of Atlas* and *Thunderbolts*. He is currently writing *Batman '66* and *Aquaman* for DC Comics.