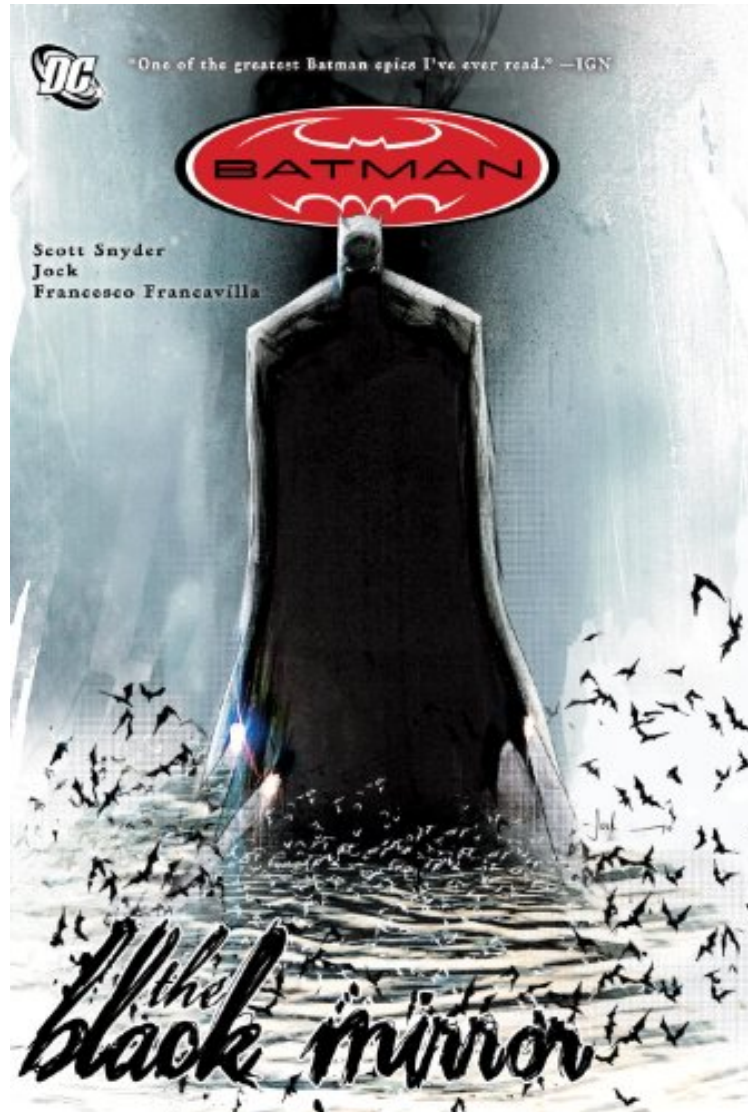


Batman: The Black Mirror

Scott Snyder

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#79347 in Books DC Comics 2013-03-05 2013-03-05 Original language: English PDF # 1 10.30 x .50 x 6.70l, 1.15 #File Name: 1401232078304 pages | File size: 73.Mb

Scott Snyder : Batman: The Black Mirror before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Batman: The Black Mirror:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. One of the Best Dick Grayson-era Batman Stories By clairetoldmetochangemyscreenname Takes place during the Batman Reborn era in which Dick Grayson had taken over for Bruce after the latter's seeming death during Final Crisis. The Black Mirror sees Dick in the cowl and going up against a group of black market dealers who specialize in selling macabre weapons and trophies of Gotham's worst villains (such as the crowbar used to kill Jason Todd). While Dick fights to put a stop to the black market group,

Commissioner Gordon struggles with the return of his mental ill son James Gordon Jr. In one of the best early tales of his Batman career, Scott Snyder weaves an intricate and disturbing tale of psychosis. James Jr. is one of the most creepy Batman villains to date and he proves his menace without superpowers or a flamboyant costume. Using great flashbacks, Snyder builds the story of Commissioner Gordon's slow realization that there is something wrong with his son and the horror he feels that he can't do more to help him. Featuring a terrific ambiguous ending, *The Black Mirror* is not only one of the best Batman Reborn/Dick Grayson era Batman stories, but one of the best stories of Snyder's early career with the character before his terrific run during the New 52. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Snyder's Batman

By C. D. Varn

Scott Snyder's run on Detective Comics after his Vertigo work with *American Vampire* and before his work on the New 52 Batman is interesting: this follows the Dick Grayson's Batman and the larger "family" as Bruce Wayne is running Batman, Incorporated, and the Gordon family is in particular prominence here. Snyder is definitely trying to bring a more noir element back to the Batman world after Grant Morrison blow that up expanding the Batman character into various other elements of Batman's mythology. Yet, Snyder doesn't try to undo Morrison's work in anyway, just re-grounds in it a consistent tone. Jock's illustration work here is strong, but some reminiscent of Jim Lee's work on Batman. This is several story arcs that appear separate but add into one coherent story about the Gotham and the Gordon family. Snyder does great work here, but one can also see why the soft re-boot was increasingly necessary for New 52 to make the larger continuity seem more consistent. This is strong writing and solid art, and Dick Grayson's Batman does feel enough like Bruce Wayne's for continuity to be there, but different enough to stand out. In a way, it was sad it was re-set so completely in New 52 despite the clear reasons for doing so. It, however, was a good hint to the feel of Snyder's run on the New 52 Batman with Bruce Wayne back primarily in Gotham. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Good read but I would not make it a priority

By TS

Not my favorite Batman story. It was an enjoyable read and got better and better as the story progressed. However, I was not blown away like others were. I feel the villain in this tale were very lacking also. In my opinion that is what makes Batman so great is the phenomenal villains. I was also not a fan of the art style. Some of my favorite parts to a Batman graphic novel is the stoic, poster worthy images of Batman looking on Gotham City. Or Batman soaring down with his cape spread out. Good read but I would not make it a priority.

A NEW YORK TIMES #1 Bestseller

In "The Black Mirror," a series of brutal murders pushes Batman's detective skills to the limit and forces him to confront one of Gotham City's oldest evils. Helpless and trapped in the deadly Mirror House, Batman must fight for his life against one of Gotham City's oldest and most powerful evils! Then, in a second story called "Hungry City," the corpse of a killer whale shows up on the floor of one of Gotham City's foremost banks. The event begins a strange and deadly mystery that will bring Batman face-to-face with the new, terrifying faces of organized crime in Gotham. This volume collects Detective Comics #871-881. From the Hardcover edition.

From Booklist

Dick Grayson, formerly Robin, has taken on Bruce Wayne's cowl and penthouse apartment, but struggles to feel at home in either. Though he now patrols Gotham as Batman, Grayson still shines through the cape and cowl: at the end of one of their signature rooftop meetings, Commissioner Gordon turns around to find Batman uncharacteristically still there. As much as the story is about Dick Grayson as Batman, though, the real intrigue involves Commissioner Gordon's family. The city is besieged by seemingly unrelated attacks from gangsters and supervillains. At the same time, Gordon's long-lost, troubled son reappears as a changed man. Snyder's story expertly prolongs the tension until the disturbing end, when readers finally learn the connections between the truly terrifying bad guy and the acts of gruesome violence. The segments featuring Jock's dynamic depiction of supervillains and gangsters contrast nicely with the splashy, saturated colors and heavy lines in Francavilla's chapters about the Gordon family. This darkly riveting story with gritty atmospherics is sure to please. --Sarah Hunter

The art is beautiful. The writing is terrifyingly spectacular. IGN

This is going to be one of those Batman stories I remember for a very long time, as a perfect marriage of story and art. iFanboy

Scott Snyder, with rotating artists Jock and Francisco Francavilla, has solidified the title as the place for serious crime fiction in the Bat-universe. The A.V. Club

Detective Comics follows the tried-and-true formula that has been working for decades, yet it also adds layers Batman with some much-needed character flaws. Not to mention, there's a heaping splash of atmospheric art by Jock. Complex Magazine

Scott Snyder is, simply put, doing a career-making job this is just killer stuff here. If you're only reading one Batman book, it should be this one, folks. MTV Geek

"The best Batman arc in years." Omnivoracious

From the Hardcover edition.

About the Author

Scott Snyder is one of comics' best young writers. His current works include *BATMAN*, *AMERICAN VAMPIRE* and *SWAMP THING*. He has also been published in *Zoetrope*, *Tin House*, *One-Story*, *Epoch*, *Small Spiral Notebook*, and other journals. He teaches at Columbia University and Sarah Lawrence University and lives in New York with his wife, Jeanie, and his son, Jack Presley. He's currently at work on a novel for the Dial Press.