

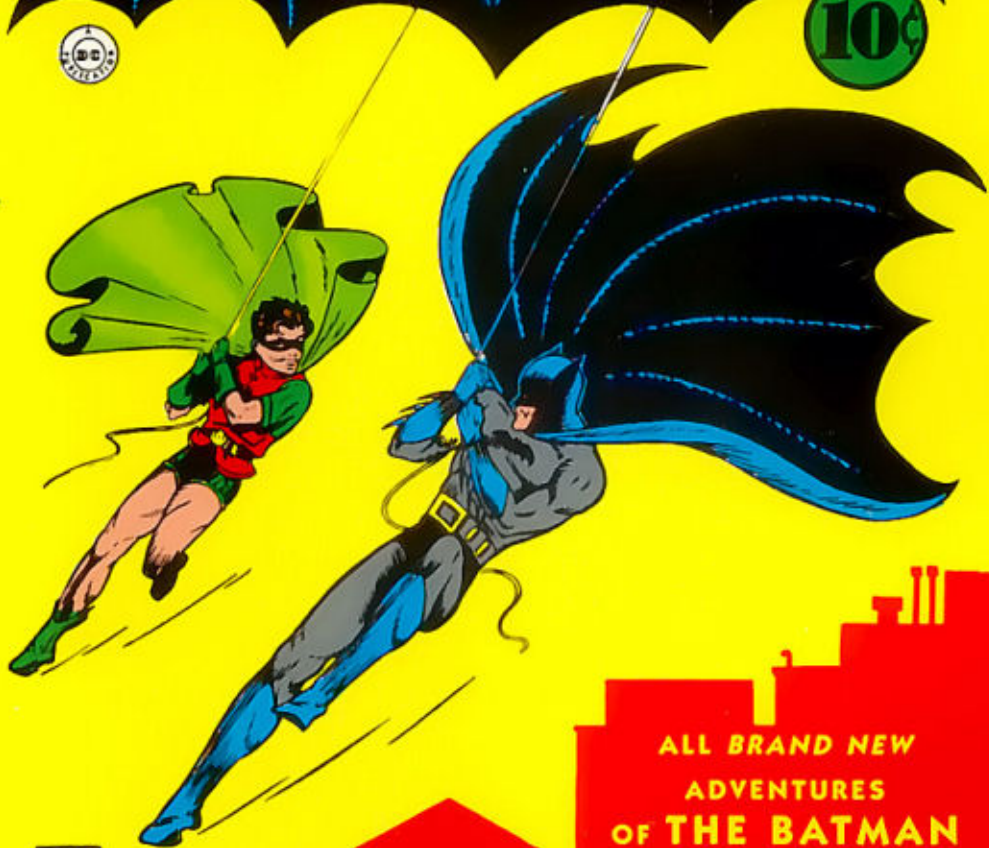
No. 1

SPRING ISSUE

# BATMAN



10¢



ALL BRAND NEW  
ADVENTURES  
OF THE BATMAN  
AND ROBIN,  
THE BOY WONDER!

The **LEGEND** of the

# BATMAN

by **BOB KANE**

— WHO HE IS  
AND HOW HE  
CAME TO BE!

ONE NIGHT SOME FIFTEEN YEARS AGO, THOMAS WAYNE, HIS WIFE AND HIS SON WERE WALKING HOME FROM A MOVIE...

W. WHAT IS THIS?

A STICKUP, BUDDY! I'LL TAKE THAT NECK LACE YOU'RE WEARIN', LADY!

LEAVE HER ALONE, YOU!  
OH.....

YOU ASKED FOR IT!

THOMAS! YOU'VE KILLED HIM. HELP! POLICE... HELP!

THIS'LL SHUT YOU UP!

THE BOY'S EYES ARE WIDE WITH TERROR AND SHOCK AS THE HORRIBLE SCENE IS SPREAD BEFORE HIM.

FATHER...  
MOTHER!

...DEAD!  
THEY'RE  
D...DEAD

DAYS LATER, A CURIOUS AND STRANGE SCENE TAKES PLACE.

AND I SWEAR BY THE SPIRITS OF MY PARENTS TO AVENGE THEIR DEATHS BY SPENDING THE REST OF MY LIFE WARRING ON ALL CRIMINALS

AS THE YEARS PASS, BRUCE WAYNE PREPARES HIMSELF FOR HIS CAREER. HE BECOMES A MASTER SCIENTIST.

TRAINS HIS BODY TO PHYSICAL PERFECTION UNTIL HE IS ABLE TO PERFORM AMAZING ATHLETIC FEATS.

DAD'S ESTATE LEFT ME WEALTHY. I AM READY, BUT FIRST I MUST HAVE A DISGUISE.

CRIMINALS ARE A SUPERSTITIOUS COWARDLY LOT, SO MY DISGUISE MUST BE ABLE TO STRIKE TERROR INTO THEIR HEARTS. I MUST BE A CREATURE OF THE NIGHT, BLACK, TERRIBLE...A...A...

...AS IF IN ANSWER, A HUGE BAT FLIES IN THE OPEN WINDOW!

A BAT! THAT'S IT! IT'S AN OMEN... I SHALL BECOME A BAT!

AND THUS IS BORN THIS WEIRD FIGURE OF THE DARK... THIS AVENGER OF EVIL... THE BATMAN

# BAT MAN

WITH  
**Robin**  
-THE BOY WONDER-

by  
BOB  
KANE

ONCE AGAIN A MASTER CRIMINAL STALKS THE CITY STREETS A CRIMINAL WEAVING A WEB OF DEATH ABOUT HIM LEAVING STRICKEN VICTIMS BEHIND WEARING A GHOSTLY CLOWN'S GRIN THE SIGN OF DEATH FROM THE JOKER! ONLY TWO DARE TO OPPOSE HIM - **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** THE BOY WONDER! TWO TO BATTLE THE GRIM JESTER CALLED THE **JOKER**! A BATTLE OF WITS WITH SWIFT DEATH THE ONLY COMPROMISE!!!

IT IS NIGHT - IN MOST HOMES PEOPLE LISTEN TO THEIR RADIOS

MY ISN'T IT PEACEFUL SITTING AT HOME LIKE THIS?

NOTHING LIKE IT! HMMM... STATIC!

AWWK! CRACKLE! AWWK!

SUDDENLY THE MUSIC IS CUT OFF... A VOICE... A TONELESS VOICE DRONES...

TONIGHT, AT PRECISELY TWELVE O'CLOCK MIDNIGHT, I WILL KILL HENRY CLARIDGE AND STEAL THE CLARIDGE DIAMOND! DO NOT TRY TO STOP ME! THE **JOKER** HAS SPOKEN!

WHEN ONCE AGAIN MUSIC

HENRY, DID YOU HEAR? HENRY CLARIDGE, THE MILLIONAIRE, TO BE KILLED. THE FAMOUS DIAMOND STOLEN!

HAW! THAT'S JUST A GAG-LIKE THAT FELLOW WHO SCARED EVERYBODY WITH THAT STORY ABOUT MAPS THE LAST TIME! HA! HA! PAY NO ATTENTION TO IT, DEAR!



RADIO

STATIONS ARE SWAMPED WITH CALLS! OFFICIALS DECLARE THE STRANGE MESSAGE IS NOT A PART OF THE PROGRAM. THE GAG HAS BECOME A REALITY!



HENRY CLARIDGE, FRANTIC WITH FEAR, CALLS THE POLICE

YOU'VE GOT TO PROTECT ME! I'M GOING TO BE KILLED...ROBBED!

DON'T WORRY, MR. CLARIDGE YOU AND THAT DIAMOND OF YOURS WILL BE SAFE ENOUGH! WE'LL ALL STAY IN THE SAME ROOM WHERE THE DIAMOND'S KEPT, AND WATCH YOU.



ELEVEN O'CLOCK! ONE HOUR TO GO!

AN INFLEXIBLE CORDON IS FORMED ABOUT THE DOOMED MAN!

TIME DRAGON: SECONDS MINUTES THEN THE FATAL HOUR TWELVE O'CLOCK!



THE JOKER HAS FULFILLED HIS THREAT. CLARIDGE IS DEAD!!

I'M STILL ALIVE! I'M NOT DEAD! I'M SAFE!...



SLOWLY THE FACIAL MUSCLES PULL THE DEAD MAN'S MOUTH INTO A REPELLANT, GASTLY GRIN. THE SIGN OF DEATH FROM THE JOKER!

IT'S...IT'S HORRIBLE!

GROTESQUE! THE JOKER BRINGS DEATH TO HIS VICTIMS WITH A SMILE!



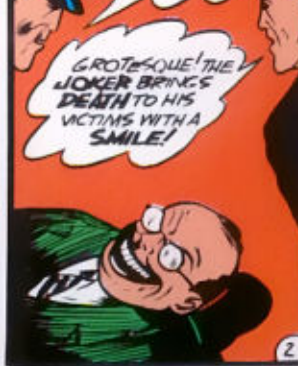
WHEN WITHOUT WARNING!

I'M SAAA-AAGH! AAGH!!



DEAD...IT ISN'T POSSIBLE AND YET...

CHIEF! LOOK HIS MOUTH!





WHAT NOW, CHIEF?

THE CLARIDGE DIAMOND! IF THE JOKER KILLED CLARIDGE, HE MUST HAVE THE DIAMOND!

BUT HOW COULD HE? WE WERE IN THE ROOM ALL THE TIME!



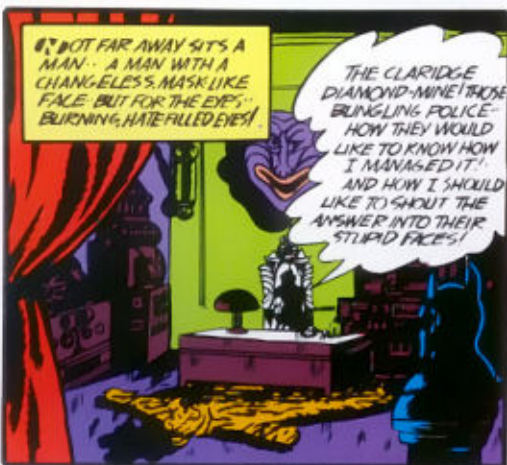
THE DIAMOND! THE JOKER DIDN'T GET IT AFTER ALL!

HE DID GET IT! THIS IS A PHONEY! IT'S GLASS!

CHIEF! I FOUND SOMETHING IN HERE! IT WAS UNDERNEATH THE CASE!

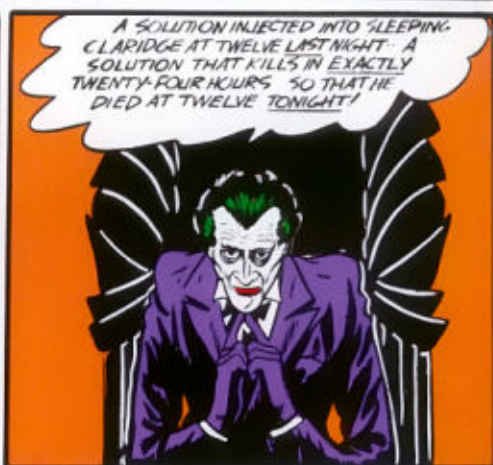


"THE SIGN OF THE JOKER!"



NOT FAR AWAY SITS A MAN... A MAN WITH A CHANGELESS MASK-LIKE FACE, BUT FOR THE EYES... BURNING, HATE-FILLED EYES!

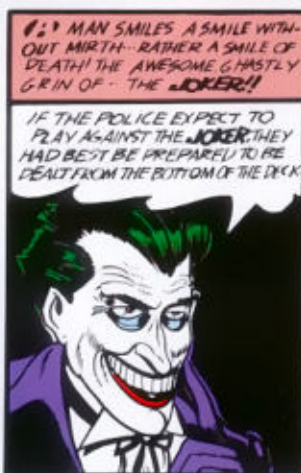
THE CLARIDGE DIAMOND-MINE! THOSE BRUNGLING POLICE- HOW THEY WOULD LIKE TO KNOW HOW I MANAGED IT! AND HOW I SHOULD LIKE TO SHOUT THE ANSWER INTO THEIR STUPID FACES!



A SOLUTION INJECTED INTO 'SLEEPING' CLARIDGE AT TWELVE LAST NIGHT... A SOLUTION THAT KILLS IN EXACTLY TWENTY-FOUR HOURS... SO THAT HE DIED AT TWELVE TONIGHT!



THEY FIND THE GLASS DIAMOND TO NIGHT, THAT I EXCHANGED FOR THE REAL ONE LAST NIGHT! A PREDICTION ON THE PAGES OF A CRIME THAT WAS ALREADY BEEN DONE!



MAN SMILES, A SMILE WITHOUT MIRTH- RATHER A SMILE OF DEATH! THE AWESOME GHASTLY GRIN OF- THE JOKER!!

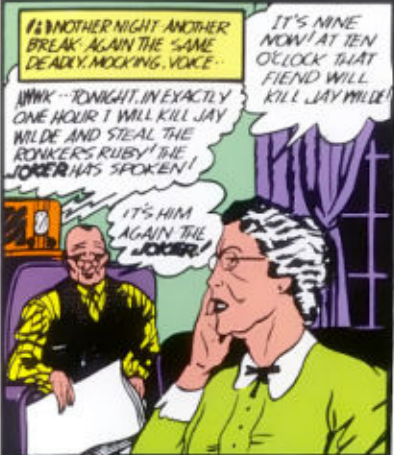
IF THE POLICE EXPECT TO PLAY AGAINST THE JOKER, THEY HAD BEST BE PREPARED TO BE DEALT FROM THE BOTTOM OF THE DECK!



NEWSPAPERS, RADIOS ALL SCREAM THE STORY OF THE RUTHLESS, CUNNING CRIMINAL THE JOKER! AT HOME BRUCE WAYNE, THE BATMAN, SPEAKS WITH HIS YOUNG AID, DICK GRAYSON, KNOWN AS ROBIN. THE BOY WONDER!

BUT BRUCE, WHY DON'T WE TAKE A SHOT AT THIS JOKER GLYPH?

NOT YET, DICK. THE TIME ISN'T RIFE, BUT WHEN WE DO...



ANOTHER NIGHT ANOTHER BREAK AGAIN THE SAME DEADLY, MOCKING, VOICE...

WINK... TONIGHT, IN EXACTLY ONE HOUR I WILL KILL JAY WILDE AND STEAL THE RONKERS RUBY! THE JOKER HAS SPOKEN!

IT'S NINE NOW! AT TEN O'CLOCK THAT FIEND WILL KILL JAY WILDE!

IT'S HIM AGAIN THE JOKER!



THE TOLL OF TIME - THE FATAL HOUR!

BONG BONG

TEN!! IT'S GOING TO HAPPEN NOW! THE CLOCK IS TICKING MY LIFE AWAY!



AGAIN A WALL OF HUMANS ENCIRCLES A DOOMED MAN!!

I'M GOING TO DIE! IN FIVE MINUTES I'M GOING TO DIE! DIE! DIE!



A STRANGLING SCREAM-DEATH!!



... FOLLOWED BY A STRANGE GAS ...



FROM THE ARMOR THE JOKER!!!

LUCKY FOR THE POLICE THAT THE VENOM SPRAY ONLY PARALYSES FOR THE WHILE, ELSE THEY WOULD HAVE PERISHED LIKE WILDE! HE HAD NO SPRAY BUT A BLOWN PART!



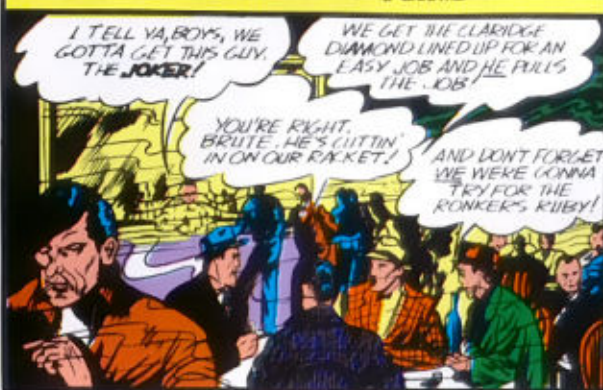
YOU HAD THE CONCENTRATED VENOM ON THE DART, E.H. WILDE! DIDN'T YOU EH? ARE YOU SO HAPPY THAT YOU SMILE FOR JOY, EH? I'M GLAD I HAVE BROUGHT YOU SO MUCH CHEER, PART!



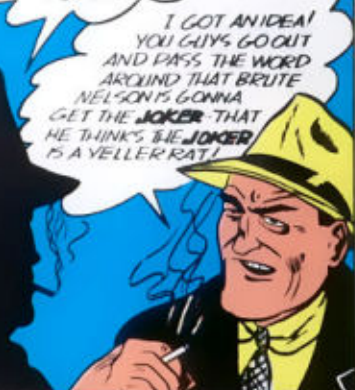
THE DIABOLICAL JOKER REMOVES THE ARMOR STEALS THE RONKERS RUBY.

THANK YOU, ALL GENTLEMEN YOU HAVE ME HAPPY TOO! WE SHALL MEET AGAIN!

THE POLICE SEARCH EVERYWHERE FOR THE **JOKER** BUT TO NO AVAIL. BUT ANOTHER GROUP IS ALSO INTERESTED IN THE (CRIMINAL!) ... A HANGOUT NOTED FOR ITS CRIMINAL ELEMENT.



WHAT'RE WE GONNA DO, TAKE IT LVIN' DOWN?



THE SENSATIONAL NEWS THAT BRUTE NELSON IS GUNNING FOR THE **JOKER** TRAVEL'S THE CRIMINAL GRAPE VINE THE **BATMAN** IS READY RIGG INTO ACTION



IT IS NIGHT - BRUTE NELSON SITS IN HIS PRIVATE HOUSE IN THE SUBURBS



SUDDENLY A DROWNING DEARY VOICE A FUNERAL FACE WITH EYES RADIATING HATE



SUDDENLY DOORS BURST OPEN - THE **JOKER** IS TRAPPED!!



SUDDENLY THE SCRAPE OF A FOOT IS HEARD UP ON THE STAIR - THE MIGHTY **BATMAN**!



THE **JOKER** IS MOMENTARILY FORGOTTEN AS THE **BATMAN** LEAPS DOWN THE STAIRS



! HUMAN  
AVALANCHE  
STRIKES THE  
GUNMEN!

RATHER UNSTEADY  
ON YOUR FEET,  
AREN'T YOU?

! MASSIVE FIST CRASHES  
AGAINST A GUNMAN'S JAW!



! THE JOKER TAKES ADVANTAGE OF  
THE FIGHT TO SETTLE AN OLD SCORE!

HAVE A SEAT, BOYS!  
THERE'S ENOUGH ROOM  
ON THIS CHAIR FOR  
TWO!

I WON'T EVEN WASTE  
THE USUAL JOKER VENOM  
ON YOU, BRUTE, BUT GIVE YOU  
SOMETHING YOU CAN  
UNDERSTAND!  
LEAD!

! LIKE A JUGGERNAUT THE BATMAN LEAPS  
AFTER THE RUTHLESS JOKER!!

THAT GUY ISN'T GETTING  
AWAY IF I CAN HELP  
IT!

EVEN AS THE CAR STARTS  
THE BATMAN IS UPON IT  
LIKE AN AVENGING BLACK  
CLOUD!

HASNT THIS BOY  
HEARD IT'S LEAD  
YEAR?

ONLY THE MIGHTY **BATMAN** COULD HAVE MADE THE LEAP SUCCESSFULLY!

MADE IT!  
AND NOW—

YOU! PREPARE  
TO DIE!



BUT WITH THE SPEED OF LIGHT—THE **BATMAN** GRABS THE **JOKER'S** HAND—

I'D RATHER LIVE  
IF YOU DON'T  
MIND!



AS THE CAR CAREENS MADLY OFF THE BRIDGE, THE DOOR SWINGS OPEN! THE **BATMAN'S** TUMBLING FORM TAKES THE **JOKER** WITH IT!!



THE STRUGGLING MEN FALL TO THE BRIDGE AS THEY RISE THE **JOKER** EXPLODES A HAYMAKER OFF THE **BATMAN'S** JAW!!!

I'M GOING  
TO KILL  
YOU!



WICKED KICK RAKES THE **BATMAN'S** HEAD!

BLAST YOU!  
FALL!!



THE MURDEROUS **JOKER** PUSHES THE HELPLESS **BATMAN** OFF THE BRIDGE!!

FIGHT THE **JOKER**,  
WILL YOU 'LET THAT BE A  
LESSON TO YOU!!!— A  
PERMANENT LESSON!  
HA-HA-HA-HA



THE SHOCK OF COLD WATER QUICKLY REVIVES THE DARK KNIGHT!

WOW! MY HEAD FEELS  
AS IF IT WERE GOING  
TO BURST ANY  
MOMENT!



IT SEEMS I'VE AT LAST MET A Foe THAT CAN GIVE ME A GOOD FIGHT! HOWEVER I'M NOT LIKELY YET! -NOT QUITE!

ONCE MORE THE JOKER DELIVERS HIS MESSAGE OF DOOM!

JUDGE DRAKE, YOU ONCE SENT ME TO PRISON FOR THAT YOU WILL DIE! DEATH WILL COME AT TEN! THE JOKER HAS SPOKEN!

TWO HOURS!

IT'S NOW EIGHT O'CLOCK!

JUDGE DRAKE'S HOME

NINE O'CLOCK! ONE MORE HOUR TO LIVE!

LISTEN JUDGE I'VE GOT MEN POSTED OUTSIDE EVERY DOOR! NO ONE CAN GET IN! RELAX LET'S PLAY SOME CARDS!

THE MINUTES FLY...

IT'S YOUR BET, JUDGE!

YOU WIN I NEED THE ACE OF SPADES TO MAKE THE GAME!

THE JOKER!

YOU CAN'T WIN ANYWAY... YOU SEE, I HOLD THE WINNING CARD!

THE JUDGE IS AGHAST AS HE LOOKS AT THE SUPPOSED POLICE CHIEF!

YOU - THE POLICE CHIEF - THE JOKER!

YES BUT NOT QUITE THE POLICE CHIEF - THE REAL CHIEF IS TRAPPED UP IN THE CELLAR! DISGUISE IS ALSO ONE OF MY MANY ACCOMPLISHMENTS!

THE CLOCK TOLLS THE DEATH KNOELL FOR ANOTHER VICTIM OF THE JOKER!

TEN O'CLOCK! THE VENOM WORKS WELL! ADIEU JUDGE - OUR LITTLE GAME IS FINISHED!

THE POLICE CHIEF GIVES ORDERS!!

JUDGE DRAKE IS DEAD! THE JOKER HAS WON AGAIN! WATCH THE BODY, I'M GOING TO HEADQUARTERS!

DEAD!... OKAY, CHIEF!

1: BUT AS HE EXITS, HE IS SPIED ROBIN, THE BOY WONDER!

BATMAN TOLD ME TO FOLLOW ANYONE THAT COMES OUT OF THE JUDGE'S HOUSE SO HERE GOES!



1: ROBIN TRAILS THE MAN TO AN OLD, DESERTED HOUSE!

"GOING INTO THAT HOUSE!"



2: THE BOLD YOUNG DARE DEVILENTS THE SINISTER DWELLING!!

CHEERFUL PLACE! I DON'T THINK!



IT'S QUIET ALMOST TOO QUIET!



3: A CRUSHING BLOW FROM BEHIND!

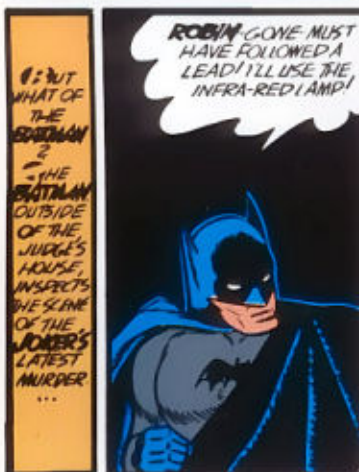
SNOOPER, EH?



ROBIN GONE MUST HAVE FOLLOWED A LEAD! I'LL USE THE INFRA-RED LAMP!

4: BUT WHAT OF THE BATMAN?

2: THE BATMAN OUTSIDE OF THE JUDGE'S HOUSE, INSPECTS THE SCENE OF THE JUDGE'S LATEST MURDER...



4: A RED LIGHT FLASHES OVER THE GROUND, MIRACULOUSLY ROBIN'S FOOTSTEPS GLOW IN THE DARK!

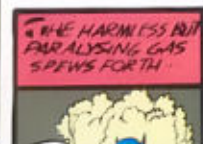
THIS INVENTION OF MINE WILL COME IN HANDY NOW!



5: THE SOLES OF BOTH ROBIN AND THE BATMAN'S BOOTS ARE BEADED WITH A LUMINOUS CHEMICAL THAT GLOWS ONLY IN THE LIGHT OF THE INFRA-RED RAY!

NOW WE'LL SEE WHERE ROBIN WENT!





! BUT THE **JOKER** HAS NOT RECKONED WITH THE AMAZING RECUPERATIVE POWERS OF THE MIGHTY **BATMAN**!



ROBIN TIED GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE!

! IN ESCAPE FROM A FIERY DEATH!



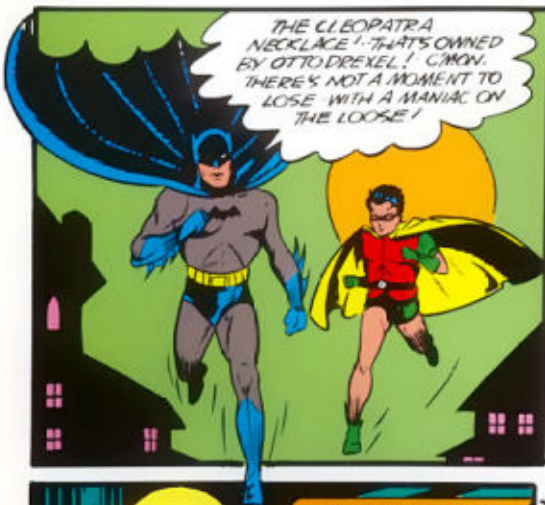
FEW MOMENTS LATER...

THE **JOKER** IS GONE!! I'D GIVE ANYTHING TO KNOW WHERE!



HE ROASTED INSIDE THAT HE WAS GOING TO GET THE CLEOPATRA NECKLACE NEXT!

THE CLEOPATRA NECKLACE! THAT'S OWNED BY OTTO DREXEL! COMON, THERE'S NOT A MOMENT TO LOSE WITH A MANIAC ON THE LOOSE!



OTTO DREXEL LIVES ON THE PENTHOUSE IN THAT BUILDING ACROSS THE STREET!

IF WE CAN ONLY GET UP THERE BEFORE THE **JOKER** DOES!



ON THE PENTHOUSE THE **JOKER** PREPARES TO ENTER.



! BUT LEAPING FROM THE SCAFFOLD, THE COWLED **BATMAN**!



STILL AT IT, EH?

THE CRAZED KILLER WILDLY  
THROWS BULLET AFTER BULLET  
INTO THE ONCOMING FIGURE!

HASNT THE  
JOKER EVER  
HEARD OF A  
BULLET-PROOF VEST!

DIE--BLAST YOU--  
DIE! WHY  
DONT YOU DIE!

EMPTY!

CLICK!  
CLICK!

THE MADMAN HURLS  
HIS GUN AT THE  
BATMAN!

I'LL KILL  
YOU!

IT SEEMS TO  
ME YOU'VE SAID  
THAT BEFORE AND  
NOW, MR JOKER,  
LET'S SEE IF YOU  
REALLY CAN FIGHT!

THE MANIK LEAPS  
FOR THE ADJOINING  
CONSTRUCTION...

YOU'LL NEVER  
TAKE ME  
BATMAN!

BUT THERE, WAITING,  
ROBIN THE  
BOY WONDER !!

RIGHT, JOKER  
I'M THE ACE  
IN THE HOLE!

YOU  
TOO!

AS THE JOKER CLIMBS ON TO THE RIVETING  
PLATFORM HE LEAPS AT ROBIN, WHO DROPS--AND--

THAT'S FOR  
THE SOCK ON  
THE HEAD!



THE SMASHING KICK SENDS THE JOKER FLYING OFF THE SCAFFOLDING!

AS THE FRANTIC MAN FALLS FIRST THE FEMININE BALUSTRADE, A HAND REACHES OUT...

AGH! I'M FALLING!

OH NO YOU'RE NOT!



THE STRONG ARM OF THE BATMAN HAULS HIM BACK TO SAFETY!

YOU'RE TOO VALUABLE A PRIZE TO LOSE!



YOU PLAYED YOUR LAST HAND, JOKER!

FINAL BLOW WITH ALL THE STRENGTH OF THE BATMAN BEHIND IT!!



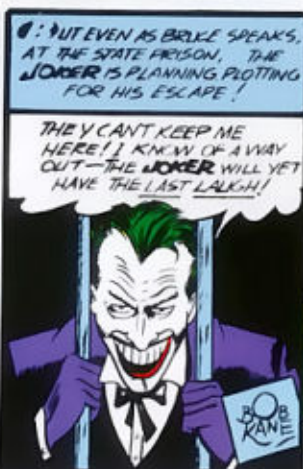
NEXT DAY

DAILY STAR  
BATMAN CAPTURES JOKER  
LEAVES JOKER IN FRONT OF POLICE STATION DRIVES AWAY




BUT WHAT I'D LIKE TO KNOW IS HOW HIS VICTIMS' MOUTHS TURNED UP IN THAT TERRIBLE GRIN!!

SOME SORT OF DRUG THAT PALED THE MUSCLES OF THE FACE! THE JOKER WAS A CLEVER BUT DIABOLICAL KILLER! TOO CLEVER AND TOO DEADLY TO BE FREE!



BUT EVEN AS BRUCE SPEAKS, AT THE STATE PRISON, THE JOKER IS PLANNING PLOTTING FOR HIS ESCAPE!

THEY CAN'T KEEP ME HERE!! I KNOW OF A WAY OUT—THE JOKER WILL YET HAVE THE LAST LAUGH!!




THE  
Amazing  
**BATMAN**

AMERICA'S MOST FAMOUS ADVENTURE STRIP CHARACTER... WITH THAT SENSATIONAL NEW DISCOVERY, THAT LAUGHING YOUNG DARE DEVIL

**Robin** THE BOY WONDER

WILL THRILL YOU EVERY MONTH WITH THEIR ASTOUNDING EXPLOITS IN DETECTIVE COMICS



# BATMAN

By BO KANE

ALREADY AN ALMOST LEGENDARY FIGURE, THE COWLED SHADOW OF THE BATMAN PROWLS THROUGH THE NIGHT PREYING UPON THE CRIMINAL PARASITE, LIKE THE WINGED CREATURE WHOSE NAME HE HAD ADOPTED



WHILE AN INNOCENT METROPOLIS SLEEPS, LITTLE DOES IT REALIZE THAT HUGE, TERRIFYING MAN—MONSTERS SHALL SOON STALK THE STREETS AND BRING TO THEM HAVOC AND DESTRUCTION AND LITTLE DOES BRUCE WAYNE SUSPECT THAT FATE SHALL TOUCH HIS SHOULDER AND SINGLE HIM OUT AS THE ONE TO DO BATTLE WITH THESE MONSTERS. AS HE GOES FORTH CLAD IN THE GARB OF THE WEIRD AND MENACING...  
**BATMAN!**



NOT LONG AGO THE BATMAN HAD SEEN THE ARCH-CRIMINAL, PROFESSOR HUGO STRANGE IMPRISONED... AND YET...

ONE OF YOU MEN GET THE WARDEN. WE'LL USE HIM AS A SHIELD!

OKAY, STRANGE!



ONCE MORE PROFESSOR HUGO STRANGE IS FREE TO CARRY OUT THE NEXT OF HIS DABOLICAL SCHEMES.

WUTTRY! PROFESSOR STRANGE ESCAPES IN PRISON BREAK!



THE NEXT NIGHT... THE METROPOLIS INSANE ASYLUM

GET THEM OUT QUICKLY!

C'NON, NUTS!

GOODY! GOODY!

OH GOO!



HAT NIGHT ... THE HOME  
OF BRUCE WAYNE

FLASH-- A GUARD IDENTIFIED  
PROFESSOR STRANGE AS THE  
LEADER OF THE MEN WHO  
FREED FIVE INSANE PATIENTS  
FROM THE CITY INSANE ASYLUM.

INSANE  
MEN?

CRIMINALS, MANIACS, AND  
STRANGE CAN ONLY ADD  
LIP TO ONE THING ... SOME-  
THING NEW IN CRIME ... SOME-  
THING FANTASTIC AND TERRIBLE  
... **VERY TERRIBLE!!**

A MONTH LATER ...  
A CROWDED STREET IN LOWER  
MANHATTAN

SUDDENLY A WOMAN STOPS AND  
SCREAMS IN FRIGHT!

AA-AA-AH!  
LOOK!

HELP!

WHAT IS IT?  
IT ISN'T  
HUMAN!

POWERING UP A  
FULL FIFTEEN  
FEET, A GIGANTIC  
HULK LOOMS ABOVE  
THEM, HUGE AND  
TERRIBLE!!

HELP!

A  
MONSTER!

WE'LL  
ALL BE  
KILLED!

THE HORRIBLE CREATURE BEGINS  
ITS WAVE OF DESTRUCTION...

HELP!

WHAT  
IS IT?

YAA...

BULLETS THUD  
INTO THE BEAST  
BUT THIS ONLY  
MADDENS HIM!

LOOK!  
BULLETS  
DON'T STOP  
HIM ... HE'S  
STILL LIVING!

THE ENRAGED BEAST SEEMS TO GO MAD!



THE PEOPLE ARE PANIC-STRICKEN!



MORE POLICE RUN UP, THE MONSTER RIPS UP A LAMP POST...



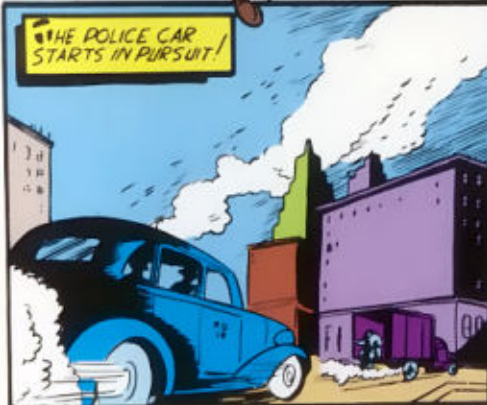
THE MONSTER WIELDS THE WEAPON WITH TERRIBLE EFFECT!



SUDDENLY AS POLICE CARS APPEAR, THE MONSTER LUMBERS TOWARD A TRUCK IDLING NEARBY



THE POLICE CAR STARTS IN PURSUIT!



AS THE POLICE DRAW NEAR, THE MONSTER HURLS SOMETHING AT THE CAR...



HERE IS A SHATTERING ROAR AS THE OBJECT HITS THE POLICE CAR!



THAT NIGHT...

AND THE MONSTER MADE GOOD HIS ESCAPE BY BOMBING THE POLICE CAR. THE PEOPLE...

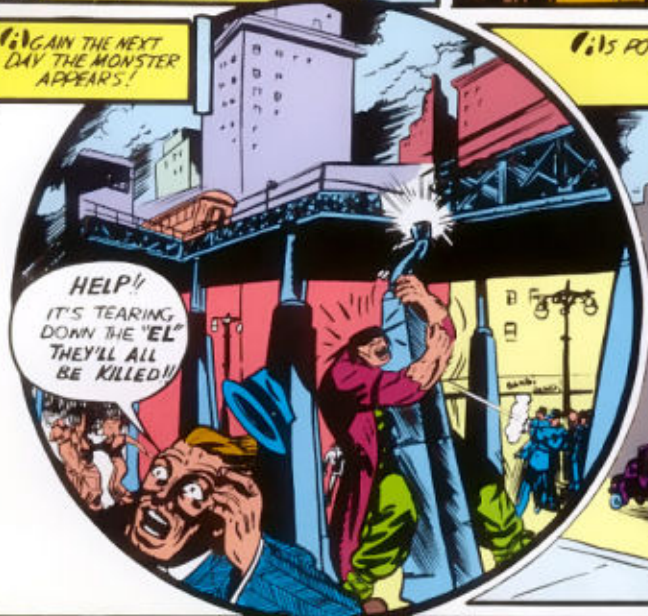
IT COULD BE THE WORK OF ONLY ONE MAN...  
**STRANGE**



IF I KNOW PROFESSOR STRANGE THERE WILL BE MORE OF THEM TO COME. I MUST STOP HIM...  
HMM...



ON THE NEXT DAY THE MONSTER APPEARS!



AS POLICE AGAIN PURSUE THEY MEET THE SAME FATE AS THOSE THE DAY BEFORE!!



OUT HIGH ABOVE....

THAT TRUCK SHOULD LEAD ME STRAIGHT TO THE HIDEOUT OF HUGO STRANGE!



WELL, IT LOOKS LIKE THE END OF MY SEARCH!



FEW MINUTES LATER...



THE DOORS SUDDENLY SWING OPEN REVEALING THE DARK INTERIOR!



WHAT TH! IT LOOKS LIKE A TRAP BUT I'VE GOT TO CHANCE IT!

THE BATMAN CAUTIOUSLY STEPS INSIDE, FAILING TO NOTICE HUGE HANDS....



WHEN... A VOICE!

AH! I EXPECTED TO SEE YOUR UGLY FACE AROUND HERE! I HAD A HUNCH YOU WERE BEHIND THIS! WE MEET AGAIN, PROFESSOR STRANGE!

CAUGHT! AND VERY NEATLY TOO!



SUDDENLY THE LIGHT FLASHES ON! THE BATMAN IS IN THE HANDS OF THE MONSTERS!!

ER... GOOD EVENING, GENTLEMEN!



NOW THAT YOU'VE GOT ME I DON'T SUPPOSE I'LL LIVE VERY LONG. GRANT ME A DYING MAN'S REQUEST AND TELL ME HOW YOU'VE CREATED THESE MONSTERS, AND WHY?

WITH THE GREATEST OF PLEASURE MY DEAR BATMAN. IF YOU WILL LOOK CLOSELY YOU WILL RECOGNIZE THEIR PICTURES IN THE PAPERS. THEY ARE THE ESCAPED LUNATICS....



... AND THESE ARE MONSTERS. I MADE THEM SO! I DISCOVERED AN EXTRACT THAT SPEEDS UP THE GROWTH GLANDS, I INJECT THIS FLUID INTO A NORMAL MAN. THE SUDDEN GROWTH NOT ONLY DISTORTS THE BODY BUT ALSO THE BRAIN- AND SOON HE IS A MONSTER!!



I HAVE SENT OUT A MONSTER IN CLOTHES OF BULLET PROOF MATERIAL SO THAT THE PUBLIC AND THE POLICE MAY BE-ER-ACQUAINTED WITH HIM TOMORROW I SHALL SEND OUT TWO MONSTERS AND WHILE THE POLICE ARE CONCERNED WITH THEM MY MEN WILL LOOT THE BANKS CLEVER, ISN'T IT? YOU KNOW, AT TIMES I AM AMAZED AT MY OWN GENIUS!



AN EVIL GENIUS, STRANGE!

REMOVE HIS BELT OF GAS CAPSULES- I WANT NO ESCAPE- I AM GOING TO INJECT THIS FLUID INTO YOU! YOU, DEAR BATMAN, ARE TO BE A MONSTER! A MONSTER! HA-HA-HA



THE BATMAN STRUGGLES MIGHTILY, BUT THE MONSTERS HOLD HIM FIRM!



THE DEADLY NEEDLE PLUNGES DEEP INTO THE ARM OF THE BATMAN!



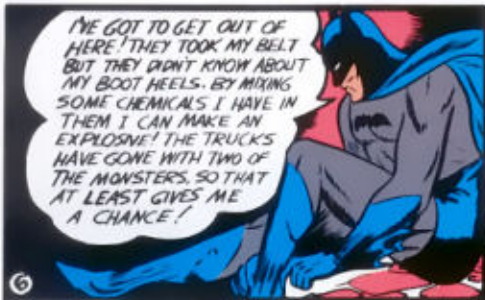
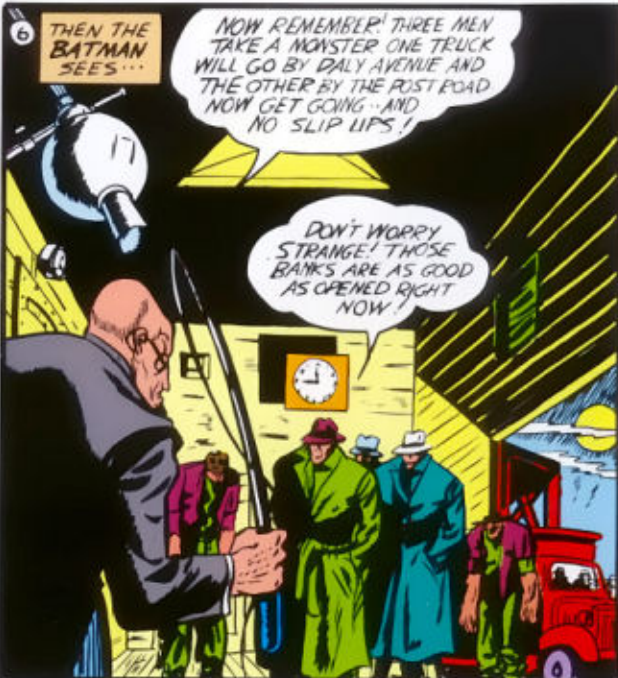
OBSERVE THE CLOCK, BATMAN! IT IS EXACTLY SIX O'CLOCK AT NIGHT. THE SERUM TAKES EIGHTEEN HOURS BEFORE IT WORKS AT PRECISELY NOON. TOMORROW THE SERUM WILL TAKE EFFECT! AH-HA-HA!



MASSIVE FIST CRASHES AGAINST THE BATMAN'S JAW - THEN BLACKNESS



THEN THE BATMAN SEES...



A MOMENT LATER...





HE BATMAN SPES THE LONG  
POLE USED TO OPEN THE  
SKYLIGHT!...



**THE BATMAN TRIES FOR THE KNOB ON THE SKYLIGHT!**

IF THIS DOESN'T CATCH, THEN I'LL CATCH IT FROM THE MONSTERS!



**THE HOOK CATCHES AND ...**

BIG BOY, HERE I COME!



I BET YOU'RE SURPRISED!



**AS THE ENRAGED COLOSSUS LUMBERS FORWARD, THE BATMAN DEFTLY THRUSTS THE POLE BETWEEN HIS LEGS--**



...AND PULLS HARD!!

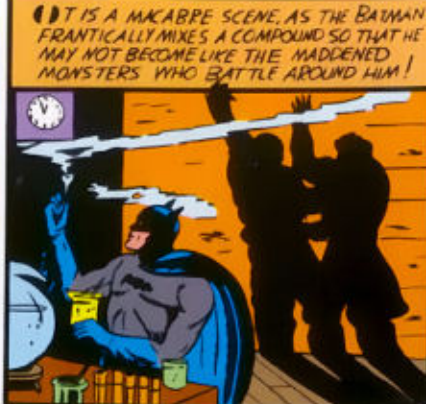


**AS THE MONSTERS COLLIDE, THEY IMMEDIATELY BECOME ENRAGED AND STARE AT EACH OTHER WITH HATE IN THEIR EYES!**

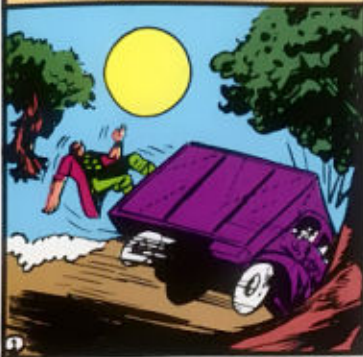


**ALL THOUGHTS OF THE BATMAN ARE FORGOTTEN AS THE MADDENED BEASTS FIERCELY ENGAGE IN HEATED BATTLE!**





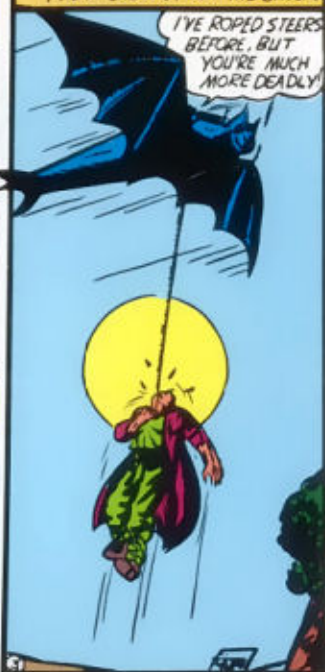
THE BULLETS TAKE THEIR TOLL... THE TRUCK CRASHES INTO A TREE!



AS THE MONSTER RISES, THE STEEL-LIKE ROPE OF THE BATMAN LOOPS ABOUT HIS NECK!



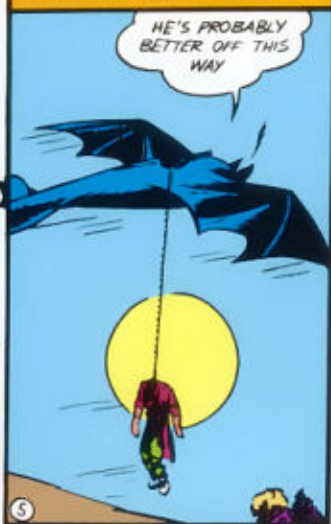
THE RISING BATPLANE JERKS THE MONSTER FROM THE GROUND



THE GIANT TRIES TO BREAK THE EVER-TIGHTENING ROPE!



FEW MOMENTS LATER...





THE BULLET PROOF CLOTHES PROTECT THE MONSTER...



THIS TIME FROM THE BATPLANE GAS PELLETS!!



AS THE GAS TAKES EFFECT THE MONSTER ONCE MORE SEES THE BATPLANE - SHAKES HIS HANDS DEFIANTLY...



THERE GOES THE LAST OF THE MONSTERS... YET I HAVE A FEELING THAT THE BIGGEST MONSTER OF THEM ALL, PROFESSOR HUGO STRANGE, STILL LIVES! PERHAPS WE SHALL MEET AGAIN... PERHAPS!!



THE  
**BATMAN**

APPEARING  
EVERY MONTH  
IN **DETECTIVE  
COMICS**

# BAT MAN

WITH  
**Robin**  
-THE BOY WONDER-

ONCE MORE THAT EERIE FIGURE OF THE NIGHT, THE **BATMAN**, AND HIS YOUNG AIDE, THAT LAUGHING DARE DEVIL, THAT YOUNG ROBIN HOOD OF TODAY, **ROBIN** THE BOY WONDER, FIND THEMSELVES SWIMMING IN TROUBLED WATERS! A YACHT SAILS A SEA OF INTRIGUE WHILE ABOARD HER DECK LURKS AN UNSEEN MENACE: A FIGURE SHROUDED BY AN AURA OF MYSTERY!

BY  
BOB KANE

AMONG THE GUESTS WALKS A YOUNG STEWARD DICK GRAYSON WHO IS IN REALITY... **ROBIN** THE BOY WONDER!




WHY DOES HE COME HERE?

WHY? IT HAD COME ABOUT WHEN...

BRUCE WAYNE--THE **BATMAN** HAD READ ALOUD THIS ITEM IN THE NEWSPAPER--

**SOCIETY**  
MRS. JOHN TRAVERS IS TAKING A GROUP OF SELECTED GUESTS ON A TRIP ABOARD HER YACHT. THE DOUBTLESS MRS. TRAVERS' EMBELLISHED FAMOUS LEMCEL HUCKLE THAT ISH AT HALF A MILLION A MASQUERADE BALL



READING ABOUT THE TRAVERS YACHT PARTY. EH? IT SURE IS GETTING A LOT OF PUBLICITY! EVERYONE KNOWS ABOUT IT!

THAT'S THE TROUBLE EVERY CROOK IN TOWN WILL BE THINKING ABOUT STEALING THAT NECKLACE IF HE CAN!

DO YOU THINK THERE MIGHT BE TROUBLE, THAT SOMETHING MIGHT HAPPEN?

CALL IT A HUNCH! I'D LIKE TO BE ON THAT YACHT TOMORROW NIGHT, BUT I'VE ANOTHER JOB TO DO FIRST! I WONDER... HMM...

DICK, HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO TAKE CHARGE OF THIS CASE UNTIL I GET THERE IN TIME TO HELP YOU? THINK YOU CAN DO IT ALONE?

ME? ALONE? AND HOW! LEAD ME TO IT!

BUT HOW WOULD I GET ON THE YACHT WITHOUT BEING SUSPECTED?

I KNOW A LOT OF PEOPLE. I'LL GET YOU A JOB AS A STEWARD THERE. FROM THEN ON YOU'RE ON YOUR OWN! NOW LISTEN CAREFULLY...

! AND SO IT IS THAT YOUNG DICK GRAYSON IS ABOARD THE DOLPHIN...

BETTER KEEP MY EYES AND EARS OPEN. SAY, THERE'S MRS TRAVERS. THINK I'LL EAVESDROP...

AH, DENNY, MY FAVORITE NEPHEW! WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN?

HELLO, AUNT MARTHA. I WANT YOU TO MEET MISS PEGGS. SHE IS A GUEST OF MINE! I HOPE YOU DON'T MIND MY BRINGING HER ABOARD?

NONSENSE! GLAD TO HAVE MRS PEGGS!

THANK YOU! EVER SINCE I SPRAINED MY ANKLE DENNY HAS BEEN ESCORTING ME ABOUT! A FINE BOY, YOUR NEPHEW, A FINE BOY!

(1) DICK "PUMPS" ONE OF THE REGULAR STEWARDS!

MUST BE A NICE FELLOW, HER NEPHEW, TO ESCORT AN OLD WOMAN AROUND LIKE THAT!

HUH, HIM? HE'S A RAT-- PROBABLY HANGING AROUND TO GET SOME MONEY OUT OF HER / HE'S ALWAYS BORROWING DOUGH FROM HIS AUNT MRS TRAVERS!



THEY ALL TRY TO GET DOUGH OUT OF HER! SEE THAT GUY WHO JUST WALKED OVER? THAT'S HER DOCTOR. WALLACE GAMBLES ALL HIS DOUGH AWAY-- AND THEN HE BORROWS MONEY FROM MRS. TRAVERS! I BET HE OWES HER PLENTY!... PLENTY!



SOMETIME LATER AS DICK PASSES A CABIN...

VOICES! SOUNDS LIKE A QUARREL!

NO! I WON'T LEND YOU A CENT, ROGER AND THAT'S FINAL!

BUT I NEED IT TO COVER MY STOCK LOSSES! PLEASE!



MUST BECAUSE YOU'RE MY BROTHER, DOESN'T MEAN I MUST FINANCE ALL YOUR STUPID PLUNGES IN THE STOCK MARKET!

I'LL BE RUINED! AND YOU'LL BE THE CAUSE OF IT ALL! I'LL GET THAT MONEY SOMEHOW SOMEWAY!

WHUEW! LOOKS LIKE THIS YACHT ISN'T THE SAFEST PLACE IN THE WORLD FOR A NECKLACE WORTH A HALF A MILLION DOLLARS!



AS HE TURNS A CORNER HE SEES DENNY FURTIVELY THROW A PAPER OVER THE RAIL!

IF EVER A GUY LOOKED GUILTY ABOUT SOMETHING, HE DOES! WONDER WHAT'S IN THAT PAPER?



BY A QUEER QUIRK OF FATE, THE WIND SEIZES THE PAPER AND TOSSES IT BACK ON DECK!

WHAT A BREAK! NOW TO READ IT!



THE  
LETTER!

Keep your aunt  
away from rooms!  
Will they then!

The Cat

THE CAT! MRS TRAVERS  
IS KEEPING HER NECKLACE IN  
HER ROOM TILL THE BIG PARTY  
LATER! I'D BETTER GET TO  
THE ROOM RIGHT AWAY!

SUDDENLY A SCREAM SPLITS  
THE NIGHT AIR!

I'VE BEEN ROBBED!  
MY NECKLACE HAS  
BEEN STOLEN! HELP  
QUICK...

TOO LATE  
THE CATS  
GOT HERE  
FIRST!

I HAD THIS PRIVATE  
DETECTIVE GUARDING MY SAFE—  
AND WHEN I CAME HERE I FOUND  
HIM LIKE THIS! OH! MY NECKLACE  
GONE! OH DENNY, WHAT  
WILL I DO?

NECKLACE  
GONE??

DON'T WORRY,  
MARTHA. WE'LL FIND  
IT FOR YOU!

HELLOOOO THERE!  
STAND BY!

AT THAT MOMENT  
A BOAT APPROACHES...  
CLEANING THE MURKY  
WATERS!

SWIFTLY IT DRAWS ALONG SIDE THE YACHT—  
ITS FORM INDISTINCT BECAUSE OF THE DENSE FOG!

WHAT  
DO YOU WANT?  
WHO ARE YOU?

COAST GUARD!  
WE'RE COMING  
ABOARD!

COAST GUARD!  
POLICE!—THEY'LL  
FIND MY NECKLACE!

OF COURSE  
THEY WILL!

I'LL FETCH THEM  
HERE AT  
ONCE!

! BUT INSTEAD OF THE COAST GUARD... QUITE THE REVERSE!

WHY, WHY, YOU'RE NOT THE COAST GUARD!

YOU'RE A BRIGHT BOY! YOU MUSTA GOT HIGH MARKS IN SCHOOL!

RAISE YOUR HANDS HIGH, ALL OF YA!

GET THIS, CAPTAIN! IF ANY OF YOUR MEN JUST SO MUCH AS MOVES A FINGER I'LL SPRAY THESE PEOPLE WITH LEAD! WE'RE TAKIN' OVER THE BOAT!

CAPTAIN, TELL THE SAILORS TO LAY DOWN THEIR ARMS! WE DON'T WANT ANYONE HURT!

YES MAM!

IN A FEW MOMENTS ALL THE CREW IS LOCKED BELOW AND THE GUESTS LINED UP ON DECK...

NOW MRS. TRAVERS... YOU CAN HAND OVER THAT NECKLACE OF YOURS OR SAY SHE'S GONE NUTS? WHAT'S SHE LAUGHING ABOUT?

YOU'RE TOO LATE! HA HA HA IT'S ALREADY STOLEN!

WHAT'S THIS?-- HAND OVER THE NECKLACE!

IT'S TRUE! IT WAS JUST TAKEN WHEN YOU CAME! WE THOUGHT YOU WERE THE COAST GUARD AND MIGHT HOLD AN INVESTIGATION, BUT NOW...

CAN YOU IMAGINE THAT! SOMEONE STOLE IT BEFORE WE DID! WHATTA CROOK! YA CAN'T TRUST ANYBODY THESE DAYS!

AND WHILE WE'RE AT IT, WE MIGHT AS WELL TAKE WHATEVER ELSE IS AROUND...

COAST GUARD OR NOT, WE'RE STILL GONNA HOLD AN INVESTIGATION RIGHT NOW! C'MON BOYS-- FRISK 'EM!

! ONE OF THEM APPROACHES A WOMAN...

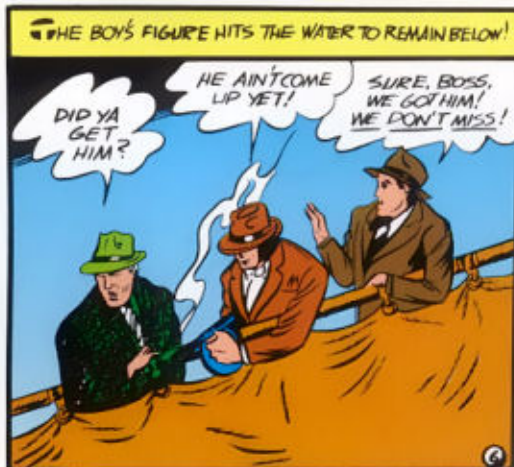
OKAY, BABY, LET'S HAVE THAT BRACELET! C'MON, GIVE IT TO ME!

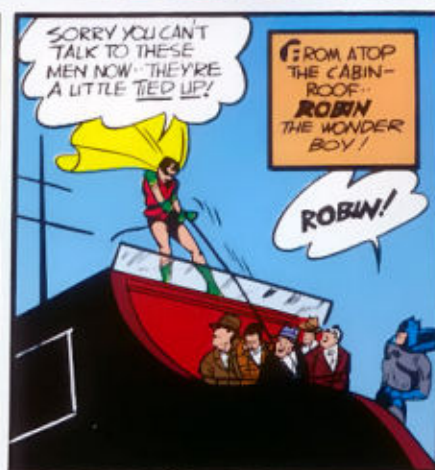
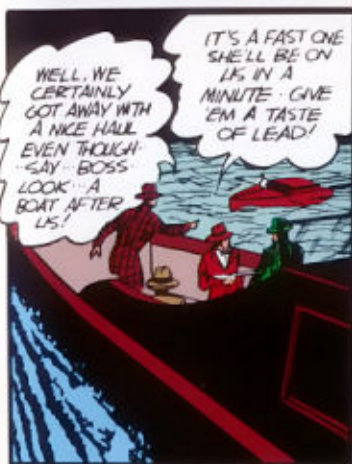
A FRESH GUY, HUH? I'LL TAKE THAT OUTA YA!

TAKE YOUR HANDS OFF HER, YOU DIRTY THIEF!

! BUT HURTLING THROUGH THE AIR: DICK GRAYSON!

MUSTN'T PLAY WITH GUNS... MIGHT HURT SOMEBODY!





THE GUNMEN  
ARE DISABLED!

HOW DID  
YOU GET  
HERE?

THE TRAIL GOT  
COLD ON MY OTHER  
CASE, SO I DROVE TO  
THE YACHT! WHEN I  
SAW THIS LAUNCH  
SPEEDING AWAY, I  
FIGURED SOMETHING  
WAS UP, SO HERE I AM!

ROBIN I'VE ALWAYS  
WONDERED JUST HOW BRAVE  
A CROOK IS WITHOUT HIS GUN!  
I'D LIKE TO TRY A LITTLE EXPERIMENT  
AND YOU'RE GOING TO PROVE IT!

HOW?

I'M GOING TO SHOW THE KIDS  
OF AMERICA HOW YELLOW YOU  
RATS ARE WITHOUT YOUR GUNS!  
I'M GOING TO LET ROBIN HERE  
TAKE FOUR OF YOU ON, ALL AT  
THE SAME TIME!

THE GUYS  
NUTS!

FOUR OF US  
AGAINST THAT  
KID! HA-HA-HA!

THAT'S MY  
PROPOSITION.  
TAKE IT?

AND HOW! JUST  
LET ME GET MY  
HANDS ON  
HIM!

MOMENT LATER A STARTLING  
SCENE TAKES PLACE. FOUR GROWN  
MEN PIT THEIR STRENGTH AGAINST  
THAT OF A LONE BOY!!

WE'LL KNOCK  
THE KID  
SILLY!

I'M AFRAID YOU'RE  
THE ONES WHO  
ARE GOING TO  
FEEL SILLY!

ROBIN ACTS WITH THE  
SPEED OF THOUGHT!

FANCY BUMPING  
INTO YOU  
BOYS - WAY OUT  
HERE!

WHEN A FIST THAT  
SHOOTS OUT WITH THE  
FORCE OF A PISTON-ROD!

COME, COME, BOYS,  
HOW ABOUT A  
LITTLE COMPETITION!

WHAT HAPPENED-  
DID WE HIT A  
REEF?

COME ON, BOYS.  
GET UP- JUST  
ONCE MORE...

TSK!  
TSK!

ONCE MORE A LAUNCHING ATTACK- BUT  
ROBIN IS READY- AND QUITE ABLE!

I'LL...  
PUNISH!

I DIDN'T QUITE  
GET WHAT  
YOU SAID!

ANOTHER  
THUNDER-BOLT  
BLOW- THEN

HO  
HUM!

THE FRIGHTENED  
MEN SHOW THEIR  
TRUE COLOR!

HEY- WHERE ARE  
YOU BOYS GOING?--  
LET'S PLAY!  
SOME MORE!

N-NO! DON'T  
HIT ME AGAIN!  
I QUIT-- YOU  
WIN!

IT TAKE IT  
EASY, KID!

HOW ABOUT THESE  
BOYS, BATMAN!

NO-NO-GET  
THAT KID  
AWAY FROM ME!

N-NOT  
ME!

NOT A BAD  
IDEA!-- WOULD  
YOU FELLOWS LIKE  
TO TRY A JOUST  
WITH THE KID!

IF I  
ONLY  
HAD MY GUN--

WELL, KIDS, THERE'S YOUR PROOF!  
CROOKS ARE YELLOW WITHOUT THEIR  
GUNS!- DON'T GO AROUND ADMIRING THEM-  
RATHER DO YOUR BEST IN FIGHTING  
THEM AND ALL THEIR KIND!

**MOMENT LATER WITH THE JEWELS IN THEIR POSSESSION AND THE MEN TRUSSING UP BATMAN AND ROBIN SPEED AWAY...**

AND THEN I PICKED UP THIS PAPER WITH THE MESSAGE FROM THE CAT!

LOOKS LIKE DENNY, MRS. TRAVERS' NEPHEW, IS IN WITH THE CAT! TELL ME ABOUT THE PASSENGERS YOU SUSPECT MIGHT BE THE CAT!

...SO IT'S EITHER HER GAMBLING DOCTOR WALLACE OR HER STOCK-PLAYING BROTHER ROGER!

LOOKS THAT WAY, DOESN'T IT... BUT YOU NEVER CAN TELL! NOW LISTEN...

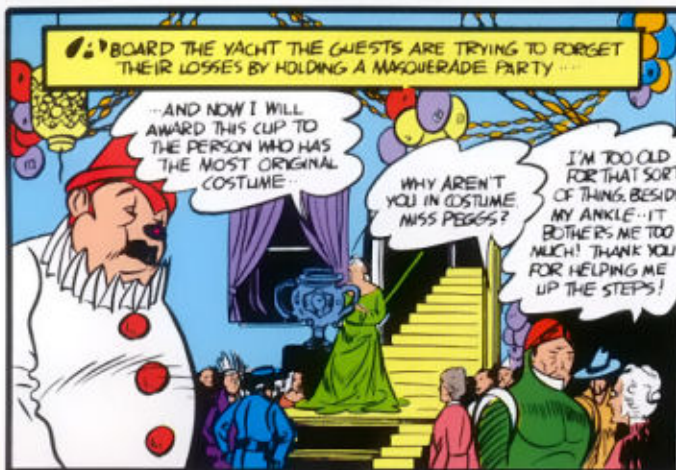


**BOARD THE YACHT THE GUESTS ARE TRYING TO FORGET THEIR LOSSES BY HOLDING A MASQUERADE PARTY...**

...AND NOW I WILL AWARD THIS CUP TO THE PERSON WHO HAS THE MOST ORIGINAL COSTUME...

WHY AREN'T YOU IN COSTUME, MISS PEGGS?

I'M TOO OLD FOR THAT SORT OF THING, BESIDES, MY ANKLE... IT BOTHERS ME TOO MUCH! THANK YOU FOR HELPING ME UP THE STEPS!



**AT THAT MOMENT A FIGURE STEPS DOWN FROM THE STAIRWAY ONTO THE DECK DRESSED IN A WEIRD COSTUME**

...LOOK... WHAT A STRANGE COSTUME!

HE OUGHT TO GET THE PRIZE!!

HE'S DRESSED AS THE BATMAN! WHAT A CLEVER IDEA!



**AN IRONICAL JOKE TAKES PLACE!!**

IT HAS BEEN DECIDED THAT YOUR COSTUME OF THE BATMAN IS THE MOST ORIGINAL HERE TONIGHT... THE CUP IS YOURS!!

THANK YOU, I ACCEPT THE CUP, AND NOW, IF I MAY, I WOULD LIKE TO FILL IT WITH...

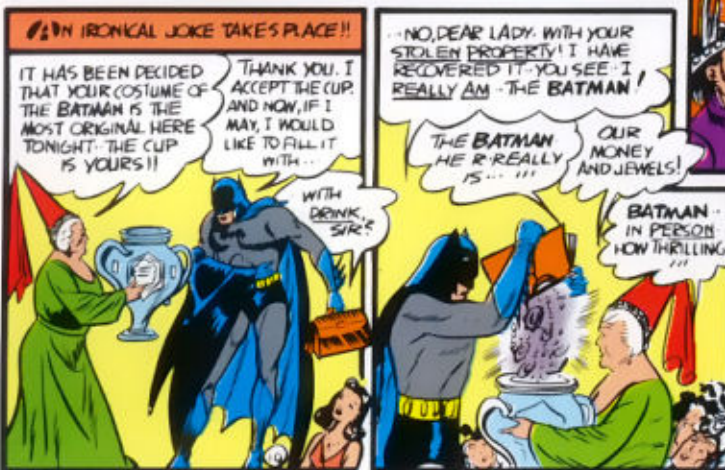
WITH DRINK, SURE?

...NO, DEAR LADY, WITH YOUR STOLEN PROPERTY! I HAVE RECOVERED IT - YOU SEE - I REALLY AM - THE BATMAN!

THE BATMAN HE'S REALLY IS...

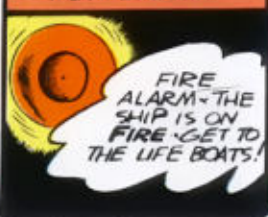
OUR MONEY AND JEWELS!

BATMAN - IN PERSON - HOW THRILLING!!!



**AT THAT MOMENT THE LOUD CLANGING OF A BELL IS HEARD - THE FIRE ALARM!**

FIRE ALARM - THE SHIP IS ON FIRE - GET TO THE LIFE BOATS!



AS THE PANIC-STRIKEN PEOPLE DASH OUT, THE BATMAN NOTICES A STRANGE THING... MISS PEGGS IS RUNNING LIKE A MUCH YOUNGER PERSON AND WITHOUT A LIMP!!

IT WORKED! THERE GOES MISS PEGGS NICE LEGS FOR AN OLD WOMAN!

THE CAPTAIN APPEARS AND SHOUTS OUT WORDS THAT ALMOST HYPNOTIZE THE PEOPLE TO ORDER...

STOP! THERE'S NO FIRE! IT'S A FALSE ALARM! SOME CRAZY FOOL MUST HAVE SET THE ALARM OFF AS A JOKE!!!



A FALSE ALARM... I WONDER... THE BATMAN... HE'S AFTER ME!! IT'S A TRAP!

BUT EVEN AS SHE DESCENDS THE STAIRS... A FIGURE HURTLES AFTER HER!

ROBIN... THE BOY WONDER... COMES THROUGH AGAIN!!

MY MOTHER TOLD ME NEVER TO FIGHT WITH A LADY... BUT THIS TIME I'M MAKING AN EXCEPTION!!

THE BATMAN TAKES CHARGE!

NOW I'M GOING TO SHOW YOU WHAT THE REAL CAT LOOKS LIKE... I'VE HEARD TALES ABOUT THE CAT BEFORE IN THE UNDERWORLD!

I CAN HARDLY WAIT!

BLACK HAIR IS REVEALED UNDER THE GREY WIG!

FIRST-OFF WITH THE WIG!

YOU... YOU...!!

THE MAKEUP WAS QUICKLY RUBBED OFF.

LET GO OF ME!

QUIET OR PAPA SPANK!

SWIFTLY THE SWADDLING FROCK IS REMOVED - AND THERE IN THE PLACE OF OLD MISS PEGGS - A BEAUTIFUL YOUNG WOMAN!

WELL, WHAT'S THE MATTER? HAVEN'T YOU EVER SEEN A PRETTY GIRL BEFORE?

WELL, CAT, IT SEEMS WE'VE GOT YOU AT LAST! - NOW LET'S TAKE A LOOK AT THAT BANDAGE!

WHAT'S THE USE - I KNOW WHEN I'M LICKED! - GO AHEAD!

HERE UNDER THE BANDAGE, THE MISSING TRAVELER'S NECKLACE!!

WHEEW! - NO WONDER YOU WANTED TO STEAL THEM! - THEY'RE PERFECT! - A HALF A MILLION DOLLARS!

HOW DID YOU KNOW SHE WAS THE CAT AND NOT DOCTOR WALLACE OR ROGER?

THE NOTE DROPPED BY DENNY, MRS. TRAVELER'S NEPHEW, SAID HE HAD AN ACCOMPLICE - YOU REMEMBER YOU SAID 'MISS PEGGS' WAS A GUEST OF DENNY'S, NOT HIS AUNT - AND THEN -

YOU HAD THE KID TURN IN A FALSE ALARM TO TRAP ME - CLEVER!

BRUTELY...

DENNY!

I'LL TAKE THAT, BATMAN!

- AS LONG AS YOU WANT IT - HERE!

BOY, HE'S OUT COLDER THAN A DEAD MACKEREL!

BATMAN... I WAS SUPPOSED TO GIVE DENNY HALF OF THE JEWELS... WHY DON'T YOU COME IN, AS A PARTNER WITH ME! YOU AND I TOGETHER!

YOU AND I KING AND QUEEN OF CRIME!... WE'D MAKE A GREAT TEAM! WITH YOU AS MY PARTNER WE...

SORRY, YOUR PROPOSITION TEMPTS ME BUT WE WORK ON DIFFERENT SIDES OF THE LAW! LET'S GO!

WITH THE JEWELS GIVEN TO MRS. TRAVERS AND HER NEPHEW LOCKED IN HIS CABIN... THE BATMAN AND ROBIN ARE HOME BOUND... WITH THE CAT!

WELL, WE'RE HOME. THERE'S THE WHARF NOW!

WHY DIDN'T YOU LEAVE ME BEHIND ON THE YACHT INSTEAD OF TAKING ME TO THE POLICE YOURSELF?

I'VE GOT MY REASONS!

SUDDENLY THE CAT LEAPS TO HER FEET AND...

WATCH HER... SHE'S JUMPED OVERBOARD!

FANCY THAT!

AS ROBIN MAKES READY TO JUMP AFTER THE CAT, THE BATMAN CLUMSILY 'BUMPS' INTO HIM!

HEY!

COOPS, SORRY, ROBIN!

BY THE TIME THEY RECOVER THE CAT HAS MADE GOOD HER ESCAPE!

TOO LATE... SHE'S GONE! AND SAY I'LL RET YOU BUMPED INTO ME ON PURPOSE! THAT'S WHY YOU TOOK HER ALONG WITH US SO SHE MIGHT TRY A BREAK!

WHY, ROBIN, MY BOY, WHAT EVER GAVE YOU SUCH AN IDEA!... HMM... NICE NIGHT ISN'T IT?

LOVELY GIRL! WHAT EYES! SAY... MUSTN'T FORGET I'VE GOT A GIRL NAMED JULIE!... OH WELL... SHE STILL HAD LOVELY EYES!... MAYBE I'LL BUMP INTO HER AGAIN SOMETIME...

HMM...



SO MANY OF OUR READERS HAVE WRITTEN US SUCH NICE LETTERS THAT WE HAVE DECIDED TO SHOW OUR APPRECIATION... THEREFORE, ON THE BACK COVER OF THIS MAGAZINE YOU WILL FIND A FULL-PAGE AUTOGRAPHED PICTURE SUITABLE FOR FRAMING OF BOTH **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** THE BOY WONDER...

THIS IS OUR WAY OF SAYING THANKS...

*Bob Kane*



# BAT MAN

WITH  
**Robin**  
-THE BOY WONDER-

## THE JOKER RETURNS ..

ONCE AGAIN THAT HARLEQUIN OF HATE... THE **JOKER** BRINGS GRINNING DEATH TO A TERRIFIED PEOPLE... A MOCKING DOOM FROM WHICH NO ONE CAN ESCAPE... AND ONCE AGAIN TWO HEROIC FIGURES... **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** THE BOY WONDER... PIT THEIR AMAZING SKILL IN A SUPREME EFFORT TO HALT THIS PARADE OF CRIME...



LESS THAN TWO DAYS AGO THE **BATMAN** HAD SEEN THE **JOKER** THRUST INTO A CELL TO AWAIT TRIAL. IN HIS CELL THE WILY **JOKER** PLANS ESCAPE.

JAIL ME, WILL THEY? A MAN OF MY INTELLECT? I'LL ESCAPE AND MAKE THEM PAY FOR THIS INSULT!

CROSS THE SATURNINE FACE FLITS THE GHAZTY GRIN... THE TERRIBLE SMILE OF THE **JOKER**!

AND THAT **BATMAN** AND THE BOY! IF EVER I MEET THEM AGAIN... BUT FIRST I MUST ESCAPE... NOW!!



FROM THE BACK OF HIS MOUTH THE **JOKER** UNSCREWS TWO FALSE TEETH!

INSIDE EACH TOOTH IS A CHEMICAL, WHICH WHEN MIXED TOGETHER, FORMS A POWERFUL EXPLOSIVE... MY MEANS OF ESCAPE!



STARTLING NEWS STIRS BRUCE WAYNE AND YOUNG DICK GRAYSON!

FLASH! WE'VE JUST RECEIVED WORD THAT THE **JOKER** HAS JUST ESCAPED PRISON! AFTER MYSTERIOUSLY BLOWING UP HIS CELL, HE OVERPOWERED TWO GUARDS AND...

WELL I'LL BE--



MOMENTS LATER A TERRIFIC EXPLOSION BLOWS A GAPING HOLE IN THE CELL WALL!!



FREEDOM! AU REVOIR GENTLEMEN...TILL WE MEET AGAIN-HA-HA-HA

THE **JOKER** FREE! I CAN HARDLY BELIEVE IT!

I CAN! HE'S A VERY UNUSUAL MAN! HE'S SHREWD, SUBTLE AND ABOVE ALL RUTHLESS!! MARK MY WORDS, THE **JOKER** WILL RETURN WITH A VENGEANCE!!

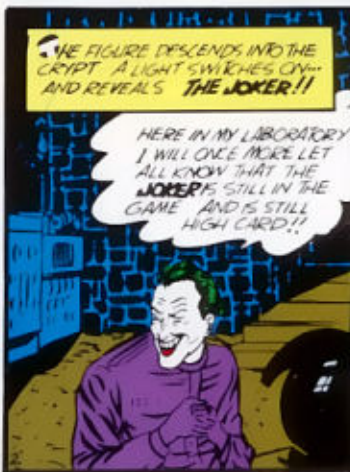
AT THAT MOMENT A FIGURE GHOSTS THROUGH THE GLOOM THAT HANGS OVER THE DELAYING GRAVE-STONES OF A DESERTED CEMETERY!!



THE PHANTOM LIKE FORM PUSHES AGAINST A CURIOUS GRAVESTONE... THE GROUND SLIPS AWAY REVEALING A YAWNING GAP AT HIS FEET



THE FIGURE DESCENDS INTO THE CRYPT. A LIGHT SWITCHES ON-- AND REVEALS **THE JOKER**!!



HERE IN MY LABORATORY I WILL ONCE MORE LET ALL KNOW THAT THE **JOKER**'S STILL IN THE GAME AND IS STILL HIGH CARD!!

ONCE AGAIN AS PEOPLE LISTEN AT RADIOS COMES THAT BREAK...A DEADLY VOICE A MESSAGE OF DOOM!!



AWK--HEAR ME NOW! TO CHIEF OF POLICE CHALMERS I BRING DEATH--TONIGHT AT TEN O'CLOCK--THE **JOKER** HAS SPOKEN!

WHAT NIGHT - A POLICE CORDON PROTECTS THE MAN MARKED FOR DEATH!

HE WOULDN'T DARE-- NOT TO A POLICE CHIEF-- HE WOULDN'T DARE!... ALMOST TIME...

SUDDENLY THE JINGLE OF THE TELEPHONE BELL...

WHO? YOU WANT TO SPEAK TO THE CHIEF? JUST A MINUTE, I'LL PUT HIM ON!!

WHAT! I CAN'T HEAR YOU, SPEAK LOUDER!!

THE CLOCK TOLLS THE HOUR-- TEN O'CLOCK-- THE JOKER HAS STRUCK AGAIN!

LOOK! ON HIS FACE-- THAT TERRIBLE GRIN-- THE SIGN OF DEATH FROM THE JOKER!

DEAD! HE'S DEAD!

AAAAAAG!

JOKER

SEE THERE IN HIS EAR-- A DART! MUST HAVE HAD THAT "JOKER" POISON ON IT!

SURE, THE JOKER MUST HAVE SET IT IN THE RECEIVER. HE BLASTED A WORD INTO IT STRONG ENOUGH TO SET UP VIBRATIONS THAT BLEW THE DART INTO THE EAR-- CLEVER GUY, EH!

THE FOLLOWING DAY A FAMOUS PAINTING IS STOLEN FROM A GALLERY AND IN ITS PLACE FOR ALL THE WORLD TO SEE...

THE JOKER AGAIN!

RARE GEM IS STOLEN-- THE OWNER GRINNING IN DEATH, AS IF HE ENJOYED THE VISIT FROM THE JOKER!

ONCE MORE THE MOURNFUL VOICE OF THE GRIM JESTER IS HEARD!

ANYWAY! TO NIGHT AT EIGHT SHARP I WILL ENTER THE DRAKE MUSEUM AND STEAL THE CLEOPATRA NECKLACE - THE JOKER HAS SPOKEN!

...AND I'LL STOP YOU! THE BATMAN HAS SPOKEN!

THAT NIGHT DETERMINED POLICE GUARD THE PREVIOUS NECKLACE!

THE JOKER WOULDN'T DARE SHOW UP!

YOU HOPE!

ALMOST EIGHT O'CLOCK! GOSH! I'M GETTING JUMPY!

AS THE CLOCK STRIKES THE FATAL HOUR THE LID OF A MUMMY CASE QUIETLY OPENS!

HERE THE MELANCHOLY JOKER! AND HIS VENOM GUN!

THE JOKER! Ahem!

WHY BE SO SURPRISED YOU WERE EXPECTING ME!

CLEOPATRA'S NECKLACE - FROM HER LILY-WHITE NECK - WHA...?

I'D LIKE TO PUT MY HANDS AROUND YOUR LILY WHITE NECK!

FROM THE SHADOWS

I MIGHT ASK YOU THE SAME QUESTION!

BATMAN! HOW DID YOU GET IN HERE?

THE MIGHTY BATMAN IS UPON THE SURPRISED JOKER BEFORE HE CAN USE HIS VENOM GUN!

WHY DON'T YOU LAUGH NOW, MR JOKER?

THE JOKER FIGHTING WITH THE STRENGTH OF A MADMAN UNLEASHES A SMASHING BLOW!

I WILL YET LAUGH, MY FRIEND!

THE MADMAN REACHES FOR AN ANCIENT MALE!



I'LL FINISH YOU  
ONCE AND FOR  
ALL... MR. BATMAN.  
HA-HA-HA



1. SHEER, DESPERATE TWIST  
OF THE **BATMAN'S** BODY AND  
THE MALE GIVES HIM A GLANCING  
BLOW ON THE SIDE OF THE HEAD



2. SUDDENLY THE POUNDING  
OF RUNNING FEET - RAISED  
VOICES...

THE POLICE  
FROM DOWNSTAIRS  
-- THEY MUSTN'T  
FIND ME!

IT'S AFTER  
EIGHT! - LETS  
SEE IF THE BOYS  
ARE ALL RIGHT!



LOOK! THE **JOKER'S**  
BEEN HERE! THE  
NECKLACE IS GONE!

THE BOYS - THEY ALL  
HAVE THE SIGN OF THE  
**JOKER** ON THEIR FACES!

NEVER MIND THE  
**JOKER**, LOOK WHAT  
I FOUND - THE **BATMAN**



THE **BATMAN**! WELL, WE HAVE CAUGHT  
SOMEBODY! NOW I'M GOING TO DO  
SOMETHING I'VE WANTED TO DO FOR A  
LONG TIME... TAKE OFF THE **BATMAN'S**  
MASK AND SEE WHO HE REALLY IS!



1. HAND REACHES  
OUT TO WRENCH OFF  
**BATMAN'S** COWL!



WILL  
THE COWL BE  
TAKEN OFF?

2. IF THE **BATMAN**  
IS REVEALED AS  
BRUCE WAYNE  
HIS CAREER AS  
A MENESIS OF  
CRIME IS  
FINISHED!

3. IS THIS THE  
END OF THE  
MIGHTY  
**BATMAN**?

WITH STARTLING AEROPTICNESS  
THE INERT FIGURE SPRINGS OFF  
THE FLOOR!!

SORRY, BOYS, BUT  
I'M NOT QUITE  
READY FOR JAIL!

THE POLICE SEE THE MANTLED  
FIGURE LEAP THROUGH THE WINDOW  
TO APPARENTLY PROPEL TO THE  
GROUND BELOW!

STOP HIM! HE'S GOING TO  
TRY A DROP TO THE GROUND!

BUT WHAT THE POLICE DO NOT SEE IS  
THE **BATMAN'S** STRONG HANDS GRASPING  
THE EDGE OF THE OVERHANGING ROOF!  
— A SWING OUT...

... A POWERFUL SHOVE...  
A TWIST UPWARD...

AND THE **BATMAN** ROLLS UP  
OVER THE LIP OF THE ROOF!

NICE TRICK IF I DO IT...  
AND I DID!

GONE!—NOT A SIGN  
OF HIM! THE **BATMAN**!  
WATTAMAN!!

FAILURE OF THE POLICE TO  
CAPTURE THE **WARRIOR** MOVES A  
REFORMER, EDGAR MARTIN, TO  
PUBLIC SPEECHES!

IF THE POLICE CAN'T  
DO IT, WE MUST! I TELL  
YOU THIS FIENDISH  
CRIMINAL MUST BE  
CAUGHT!

HE'S RIGHT! THE **WARRIOR**  
SURE IS MAKING THE  
POLICE LOOK SILLY!

EDGAR MARTIN TALKS TOO MUCH... HE MIGHT GET A SORE THROAT FROM TALKING SO MUCH! I HAVE A MEDICINE FOR HIM IN THIS TEST TUBE!

IN HIS LAIR THE JOKER PLOTS...



AGAIN THE MOCKING TONES OF THE HARLEQUIN OF HATE!!

EDGAR MARTIN, I AM DISPLEASED WITH YOUR TALK OF ME! PREPARE TO DIE! TOMORROW NIGHT AT NINE SHARP! THE JOKER HAS SPOKEN!

THE JOKER DIE... NINE O'CLOCK!!



HE FATEFUL NIGHT...

YOU'VE GOT TO HELP! HE'S KILLED OTHERS. HE'LL KILL ME TOO!

LISTEN, MARTIN. THIS HOUSE IS OVER RUN WITH COPS! A HOUSE COULDN'T GET IN HERE, MUCH LESS THE JOKER!



RELAX ONE OF THE BOYS MUST HAVE LEFT THOSE CARDS FOR YOU! WHY NOT PLAY SOME SOLITAIRE?

YOU'RE RIGHT, IT MIGHT TAKE MY MIND OFF THINGS!



MARTIN SHUFFLES THE CARDS!



DARN IT! CUT MYSELF ON THE EDGES... SURE ARE SHARP... BRAND NEW DECK!



HE LAYS OUT THE FIRST CARD HE SEES.

WHA... THE JOKER!



THE MAN BECOMES PANG-STRICKEN... COLD TERROR CLUTCHES HIS HEART...

JOKERS!! ALL JOKERS!!



**FRENZIED SHRIEK!**

AAAAAGH!!



**MARTIN HAS PLAYED CARDS WITH DEATH!**

THE **JOKER** GOT HIM... BUT HOW?

THE SHARP EDGES ON THESE CARDS MUST HAVE HAD HIS POISON ON THEM! MARTIN CUT HIMSELF ON THEM! THE **JOKER** PLANTED THE CARDS HERE FIGURING THAT WOULD HAPPEN



**THE NEXT DAY BRUCE WAYNE VISITS HIS FRIEND, POLICE COMMISSIONER GORDON!**

I TELL YOU, BRUCE, IF WE DON'T CATCH THE **JOKER** THEY'LL BE CALLING IN THE **BATMAN** TO TAKE OVER MY JOB!

THAT WOULD BE BAD, WOULDN'T IT? BUT I THINK I HAVE AN IDEA HOW TO GET THE **JOKER**



EVIDENTLY THE **JOKER** LIKES JEWELS BECAUSE MOST OF HIS CRIMES CONCERN THEIR THEFT! NOW, WHY NOT GIVE HIM A JEWEL TO STEAL THAT WOULD TRAP HIM!!

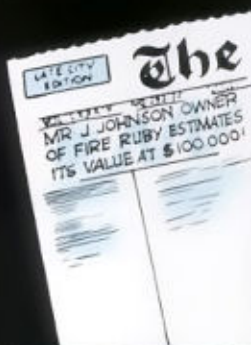
OF COURSE! PLAY UP A FAMOUS GEM. AND WHEN HE COMES FOR IT - POOF! HE'S CAUGHT!



I'LL GET THE NEWSPAPERS TO PLAY UP THE FAMOUS FIRE RUBY! IT'S OWNER WILL COOPERATE WITH US! AFTER WE GET THROUGH PUBLICIZING THE RUBY, THE **JOKER** WON'T BE ABLE TO STAY AWAY!



**THE FOLLOWING DAYS SEE MANY REFERENCES TO THE FIRE RUBY IN THE NEWSPAPER!**



**THE **JOKER** SCANS THE NEWS WITH INTEREST!**

THE FIRE RUBY AGAIN! SO MUCH PUBLICITY! - COULD IT BE A TRAP? - HOW I WOULD LIKE TO OWN THE GEM!



JEWELS... MY PRETTY JEWELS!! - NOW I WOULD LOVE TO ADD THE FIRE RUBY TO MY COLLECTION! I MUST HAVE IT!! - **I MUST!!!**



THE JOKER NIBBLES  
AT THE BAIT!!

TOMORROW NIGHT AT  
EXACTLY NINE O'CLOCK  
I WILL STEAL THE  
FIRE RUBY!! THE  
JOKER HAS SPOKEN!



NEXT NIGHT... THE  
JOKER WALKS AGAIN!!



SOMETIME LATER A FIGURE  
PAUSES OUTSIDE A BALCONY  
WINDOW... THEN...



SUDDENLY LIGHTS BLAZE ON... THE JOKER  
IS AT LAST... TRAPPED!!

PUT UP YOUR HANDS, JOKER.  
WE'VE GOT YOU NOW!

YOUR GUN WON'T DO  
ANY GOOD AGAINST  
OUR MASKS.  
BETTER GIVE  
UP!!



THE CUNNING JOKER SWIFTLY DROPS TO  
THE FLOOR... BLAZING AWAY...



IF MY JOKER  
VENOM DON'T  
GET YOU, -  
BULLETS WILL!

TRY TO GET  
THE JOKER.  
WILL YOU!



THE JOKER  
MAKES FOR  
THE ROOF

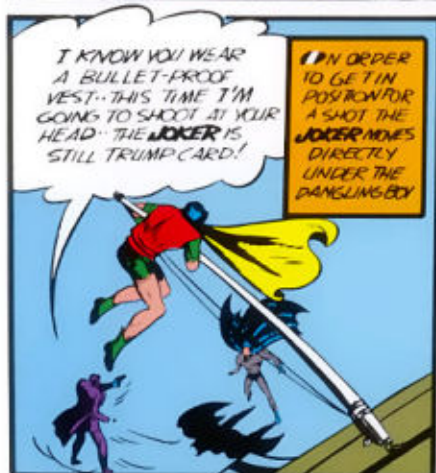


BUT ON THE  
ROOF... ROBIN,  
THE BOY WONDER!

AT  
LAST! THE  
JOKER! HE'S  
GOT TO BE  
STOPPED!!







THE BATMAN  
LEADS TO THE  
ATTACK!

MR. JOKER WHEN  
I GET THROUGH  
WITH YOU, YOU'LL  
LOOK LIKE THE  
DEUCE!



THE JOKER GETS  
UP... ANOTHER  
BATTERING BLOW!

LOOKS LIKE  
YOUR HOUSE OF  
CARDS IS  
TUMBLING!



NOT SO FAST  
WITH THE CUTLERY,  
FRIEND!



I'LL KILL YOU  
YET!

DOWN DOWN COMES  
THE KNIFE, CLOSER  
CLOSER...

MIND IF I  
TRY TO  
STOP YOU?



THE BATMAN SIDE STEPS THE  
KILLER CLOWN STUMBLES FORWARD  
INTO THE BUILDING DRIVING THE  
KNIFE INTO HIS OWN CHEST!



THE MADMAN STAGGERS BACK TO LOOK  
DOWN UNBELIEVINGLY AT THE KNIFE IN HIS CHEST

--NO--NO--IT CAN'T  
BE TRUE--YET--  
THERE IT IS--



DEAL AFTER DEAL OF WILD HYSTERICAL LAUGHTER COMES FROM HIS Gaping MOUTH

HA! HA! HA!  
THE JOKER IS GOING TO DIE  
HA! HA! THE LAUGH IS ON  
THE JOKER! HA! HA! HA!  
CLOWN LAUGH! HA! HA! HA!  
HA-HA-HA-HA

THE JOKER  
HAS PLAYED  
HIS LAST  
HAND AND  
LOST!

JOKER: THIS TIME  
YOU COULDN'T WIN...  
THE CARDS WERE  
STACKED AGAINST  
YOU!

YES-AND WHEN THE  
FLESH IS GONE-THE  
GRINNING SKULL  
WILL STILL CARRY  
THE SIGN OF THE  
JOKER...INTO  
ETERNITY!

LOOK- STILL  
GRINNING  
IN DEATH!

THERE'S SOMEONE  
ON THE GROUND!  
LOOK, BATMAN AND  
THAT KID, ROBIN!

THE ONLY  
THING TO TAKE  
OVER IS THE  
BODY!

LET'S GO, ROBIN...  
THE POLICE SEEM  
TO THINK IT'S TIME  
TO TAKE OVER!

WHY, IT'S THE  
JOKER! IT  
SEEMS THE  
BATMAN HAS  
SAVED US A LOT  
OF TROUBLE!...  
WE'D BETTER CALL  
THE AMBULANCE!

BUT IN THE AMBULANCE A STARTLING  
FACT IS BROUGHT TO LIGHT !!

WHAT'S THE MATTER,  
DOC. YOU LOOK AS IF  
YOU HAD SEEN A GHOST!

I MIGHT HAVE...  
I JUST EXAMINED  
THAT MAN-HE ISN'T  
DEAD! HE'S STILL  
ALIVE- AND HE'S  
GOING TO LIVE!

### GOLDEN RULES FOR "ROBIN'S REGULARS"

#### ROBIN'S CODE:

R E A D I N E S S  
O B E D I E N C E  
B R O T H E R H O O D  
I N D U S T R I O U S N E S S  
N A T I O N A L I S M

OH NO, SIR,  
I COULDN'T TAKE  
ANYTHING! YOU SEE,  
I'M A MEMBER OF THE  
"ROBIN'S REGULARS"  
OUR FIRST MOTTO IS...  
ALWAYS BE HELPFUL TO  
THOSE WHO NEED HELP!

THANK YOU  
VERY MUCH FOR HELPING  
AN OLD MAN ACROSS  
THE STREET- I'D  
LIKE TO REPAY  
YOU FOR IT!

WHY NOT  
BECOME ONE  
OF "ROBIN'S  
REGULARS"?  
NO BUTTON  
OR BADGE IS  
NEEDED-  
THE WORLD  
WILL RECOGNIZE  
YOUR GOLDEN  
ACTS WITHOUT  
THEM! BE A  
"ROBIN  
REGULAR"  
BY BEING  
REGULAR!