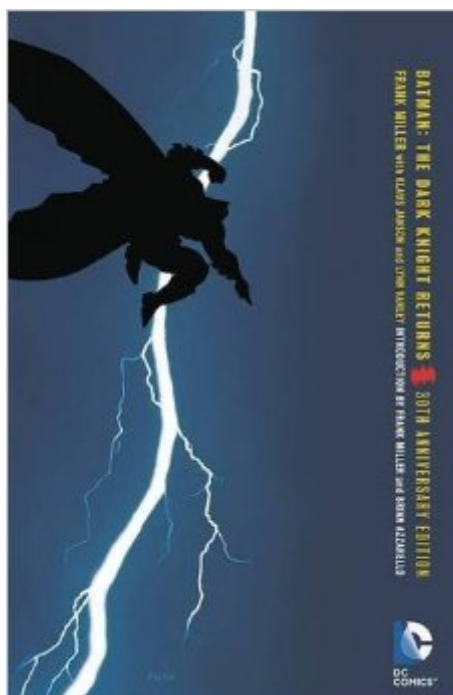


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Batman: The Dark Knight Returns 30th Anniversary Edition



Synopsis

Celebrate 30 years of one of the most influential stories ever told in the comics medium with the anniversary edition of the undisputed graphic novel masterpiece **BATMAN: THE DARK KNIGHT RETURNS**. Writer/artist Frank Miller completely reinvents the legend of Batman in this saga of a near-future Gotham City gone to rot, 10 years after the Dark Knight's retirement. Forced to take action, the Dark Knight returns in a blaze of fury, taking on a whole new generation of criminals and matching their level of violence. He is soon joined by a new Robin—a girl named Carrie Kelley, who proves to be just as invaluable as her predecessors. But can Batman and Robin deal with the threat posed by their deadliest enemies, after years of incarceration have turned them into perfect psychopaths? And more important, can anyone survive the coming fallout from an undeclared war between the superpowers or the clash of what were once the world's greatest heroes?

Book Information

Series: Batman

Paperback: 224 pages

Publisher: DC Comics; -30th Anniversary ed. edition (February 16, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1401263119

ISBN-13: 978-1401263119

Product Dimensions: 6.6 x 0.4 x 10.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 13.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars See all reviews (48 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

I first want to say that I am a big fan of this book. My first experience with reading it was when I was a little kid. Someone (possibly my older brother) had dug up my dad's old comics. Among them were a catwoman comic (I really liked that one but cannot remember the name), one about the Mayan apocalypse and batman, and the Dark Knight Returns. This intrigued me. I had never read many batman comics, but was familiar with the character due to the animated series re-runs. My brother and I read it enough times that it basically fell apart. I currently has all of the pages, but resembles more Frankenstein's monster than an actual book. I think the story is excellent, and one

of the few comic book stories I have read (others being Watchmen, Cerebus, Blankets, and a few others) that has some wit about it. Having heard about the new 30th anniversary edition I decided to buy it as both a way to use up a gift card and as a replacement to the older copy I still have on my shelf. I have just got it in the mail today, and to be honest I'm a little disappointed. The quality of the artwork is somewhat subpar. It isn't horrendous by any means, but as someone who cares about the preservation of Art (especially in comics and animation, where it seems that many companies don't care what damage they're doing to great pieces of art by altering them). the pages are somewhat blurry, and you can obviously tell they've been digitized. Digitization isn't a bad thing by any means when done right, but it seems that it wasn't in this case. the colors have also suffered. Lynn Varley's coloring in this book are possibly some of the best in comics. The colors are beautifully rendered, with many subtleties in detail and tone. In the new edition, much of this subtlety is lost or muddled up. The colors are also quite different.

I'll keep it simple and say that not only is this one of the greatest Batman stories ever written but one of the greatest graphic novels and modern stories of pop culture. I won't delve too much into the actual plot since I have done so in a previous review of the older version on . For new readers I cannot recommend this enough as a compelling story that is equal parts superhero epic, crime noir, dystopian fantasy and political satire. For long time Batman fans I can easily say that this is a much better edition of the paperback version than the previous one that has been in print for the past several years (the one with the ugly yellow bar on the front cover and in-story panels of characters faces wrapped around the book). This will basically become the new version of the trade paperback from here on or until DC decides to re-release it yet again in 10 or 20 years so the previous version mentioned will become obsolete soon anyway regardless. I'll just use this space to mention the differences/changes to this new edition:-The first and most obvious is the collection cover which brings back the original cover to the first chapter/book of the story when it originally released. It is also one of the best and most iconic images of Batman ever, so it's a good looking collection.-The previous version only contained a fictional article written by Jimmy Olsen (Superman's pal) as the book's "intro" which I always thought was odd. The new edition does still include this but it also features an interview with Frank Miller himself and gives some insight into how he originally came up with the story back in the 80's.

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