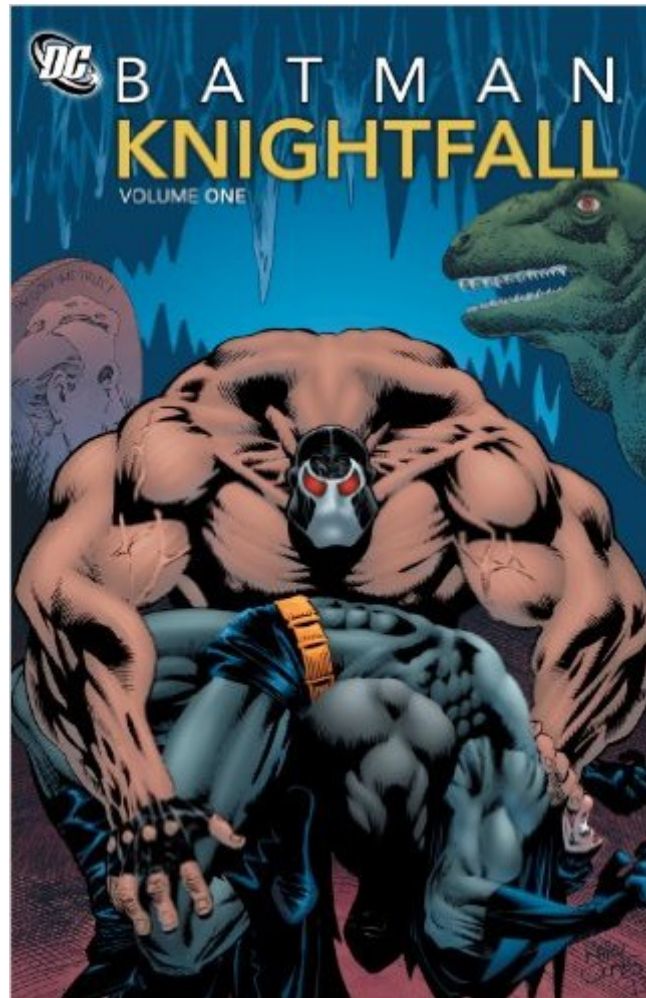


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Batman: Knightfall, Vol. 1



Synopsis

#1 New York Times Bestseller The villainous Bane breaks the Bat in one of the most popular and well-known Batman tales! The inmates of Arkham Asylum have broken free and Batman must push himself to the limits to re-apprehend the Joker, Poison Ivy, the Riddler, Killer Croc and more. Pushed to the limits, he comes face-to-face against the monstrosity known as Bane, who delivers a crippling blow destined to change the Caped Crusader forever! This volume collects Batman: Vengeance of Bane Special #1, Batman #491-500, Detective Comics #659-666, Showcase '93 #7-8 and Batman: Shadow of the Bat #16-18.

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Customer Reviews

When I was 7 years old, Knightfall hit the comic world like a ton of bricks. Being 7 made it where I didn't understand comics all that well, but I was enthralled with the designs of Azrael as Batman and the monstrosity that is Bane. It was enough where my father would allow me to pick up the Knightfall issues every 2 weeks. I didn't pick up the entire Knightfall saga because of the hefty amounts of issues involved, but I have scattered issues to this day on the event. And if you're like me, you definitely have been looking around to one day getting the entire event for yourself in some shape or form, either it be single issues or trade paperback. Thankfully, DC has given fans the opportunity in the past 15 years or so in trade forms. But the thing is: it's never been complete. Batman Knightfall is the first ever Batman event made and DC wanted to make one hell of an impact on that notion. Coming in the middle at the time of the famous Death of Superman story (specifically World Without Superman arc), Knightfall was unleashed to the masses that almost lasted 2 years worth. The event

is made up of 3 main sections of the event, with sub-sections. Batman Knightfall the 1st main section, with sub-sections "Broken Bat" and "Who Rules the Night". Batman Knightquest is the 2nd main section, with sub-sections "The Crusade" and "The Search". And finally the last section Knightquest, with the sub-sections "Knightquest Aftermath", "Prodigal", and "Troika". In all 15 years or so, DC has had various reprints of Knightfall and Knightquest, with numerous issues being exempted in-between all the reprints. One of which being the "Prodigal" son trade (which is a small fortune), the "troika" arc, and most famous arc missing every issue: Knightquest. That's about to change.

Knightfall was the Batman crossover of 1993, with a simple premise: New villain Bane breaks all of Batman's enemies out of Arkham Asylum in an effort to bring Batman to his breaking point. The first half of this collection is a well-paced action story, with Batman stretched to his limits running the gauntlet of villains like Amygdala, Firefly, Poison Ivy, and Mr. Zsasz. When he's beyond exhausted, Bane finally engineers a confrontation, and for the entirety of an issue, beats Batman to a pulp and (SPOILER ALERT for a 20-year old story that made headlines back in the day) breaks Batman's back. New character Jean Paul Valley, aka Azrael, assumes the mantle of Batman, with a decidedly darker sensibility than Bruce Wayne (didn't think that was possible, did you?) and eventually takes on Bane himself. This is where the story begins to go off the rails (but more on that in Volume 2.) The crossover was mostly confined to issues of Batman and Detective Comics, and many of the creators involved are longtime Batman veterans. Chuck Dixon and Doug Moench, usually reliable writers, keep things tightly plotted and briskly paced, and a massive team of artists including Graham Nolan and Jim Aparo give Knightfall the epic feel it deserves. Fans will appreciate the brief appearances in this volume by Oracle, the Huntress, and Anarky, as well as a Joker/Scarecrow team-up and fresh takes on the Ventriloquist and the Riddler. There's a lot to like in this story. However, once Azrael becomes Batman. . . The character is basically a checklist of early 90s antihero character traits, complete with a bad attitude, an armored costume full of pouches, and cringeworthy witty banter. (When Bane says that Gotham City is in his pocket, Azrael retorts with "Prepare to get mugged!")

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