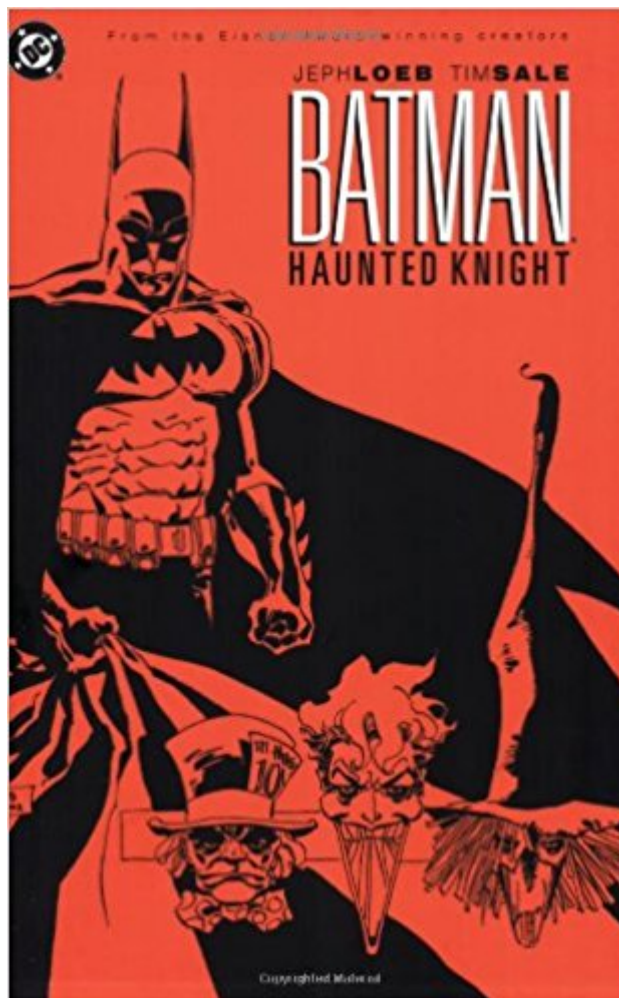


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Batman: Haunted Knight



Synopsis

This graphic novel by Jeph Loeb and Tim Sale-the creative team behind the classic BATMAN: THE LONG HALLOWEEN-includes three dark tales of horror and intrigue featuring Batman facing off against his most demented and wicked foes. Taking place on the most evil of holidays, Halloween, the Darknight Detective confronts his deepest fears as he tries to stop the madness and horror created by Scarecrow, the Mad Hatter, the Penguin, Poison Ivy and the Joker. Collects BATMAN: LEGENDS OF THE DARK KNIGHT HALLOWEEN SPECIAL #1, BATMAN: MADNESS - A LEGEND OF THE DARK KNIGHT HALLOWEEN SPECIAL and BATMAN: GHOSTS - A LEGENDS OF THE DARK KNIGHT HALLOWEEN SPECIAL.

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Customer Reviews

Text: English

I'm a huge fan of Halloween and Batman so this seemed like an obvious choice, haha. I must say I wasn't disappointed. This graphic novel is a collection of three Batman stories set on Halloween. Each story is a stand alone and doesn't rely on any previous knowledge from other story arcs. You might see that as a good thing or a bad thing. I personally found it to be a good thing. It's a great piece to add to any collection but isn't so vital that you are missing out if you don't have it OR that it needs to be prioritized over other books in the Bat universe. I DO think it's a fun collection of stories with a handful of the most iconic villains so for that alone I feel it's worth a read. I'm giving it a 5/5

because I did really enjoy it and do recommend it to the die hard Batman fans. The stories were good but I'm biased because of my love for Halloween. I REALLY liked the artwork and the black and orange cover work looks awesome!

Longtime Batman fan, but I learned about comics and Batman through Kevin Smith's *Fatman* on Batman. That's how I figured out what storylines to go back and read. The episode with Jeph Loeb is still a great listen for me and makes me love that man's stories and Tim Sale's art all the more. Started with the *Long Halloween* and *Dark Victory* but this year I needed more of that storytelling dynamic duo so I went for these specials. They did not disappoint!

Batman Haunted Knight: This book collects three Batman Stories set on Halloween made by Jeph Loeb and Tim Sale. The first one, and the volume's best is the first one. It pits Batman against the Scarecrow. In this story, Batman shows a lot of inexperience, which is quite refreshing, and has to be aided by Alfred who solves one of the main problems the Dark Knight faces on it. The second story is at least entertaining, it pits Batman against the Mad Hatter. The final story is really bad, it tries to mix Batman Mythos with the Christmas Carol, the results are disappointing, leading to a boring story, which is still a lot better than Lee Bermejo's *Noel*. In conclusion I recommend this comic, it is easy reading, even if it is uneven, the final result is good, plus Tim Sale's artwork is magnificent.

Based on the letter from the writer at the beginning of this book, these stories occur before the publications of "*Batman: The Long Halloween*" and "*Batman: Dark Victory*", but do not have any bearing on either story's plots. "*Batman: Haunted Knight*" is a collection of three stories set on Halloween (apparently the perfect holiday for Batman and his Rogues Gallery) that pay respective tributes to the Scarecrow, the Mad Hatter, and the Penguin (primarily, with backup from Poison Ivy and the Joker). The first story belongs to the Scarecrow and details the involvement of a new woman in the day-life of Bruce Wayne; however, beyond the influences of the Scarecrow's fear toxin, this woman has an allure for Bruce that has him prepared to give up being Batman - but she is not what she seems. Also, while Bruce deals with this personal dilemma, Captain Gordon is kidnapped by the Scarecrow; will Bruce answer the call? The second story belongs to the Mad Hatter and details how this villain's theme plays into an aspect of Bruce's childhood; additionally, James Gordon's niece Barbara is visiting from Chicago and after a fight with her Uncle about trick-or-treating in Gotham, runs away and finds herself in the clutches of the *Haberdashic*-villain (re-imagined here as a

possible child molester, though this is a contended point). The story also introduces Dr. Leslie Thompkins (in a cameo anyway) into Loeb and Sale's Batman series. The third and final story belongs primarily to the Penguin and is based on Charles Dicken's "A Christmas Carol", revealing a sole failing in Bruce's divided life that he would do well to change. Each of these stories is for the most part a study of the dualistic life of Bruce Wayne and Batman and how in some form or another he deals with - not just crime - but his life away from Batman; a rather hollow and meaningless life at that. These are good stories, but remember: they don't influence the plots of either TLH or DV, so they are not essential to add to your collection, but they make for good reads nonetheless.

These are some solid batman stories. As a standalone, it's a great book. But I think it's underrated because it stands in the shadow of Loeb and Sale's other works, being TLH and Dark Victory. It's admittedly not as good as those, but these are three well written stories of the Dark Knight's Halloween experiences. I would personally recommend checking it out, but just know going in that it's not at all related to TLH story arc and not quite as good.

many people will say that this book wasn't as good as the other stuff that jeph loeb has done but thats not true. people will say this because loeb has made the long halloween and the sequel dark victory which are wildly popular for their element of crime drama, they are less of comic books and more like dark mafia movie that would happen to have batman in it. however haunted knight is different, but not more like a comic book. the book explores three phycological themes and becomes less of a story heavy of plot line and character sketches but more of dreamscape that ventures through the psyche of bruce wayne. the way this story is written transcends batman and the concept of. its more the physical manifestation and illustration of the struggles of an exceptional man done very artistically. the art also transcends the style of comic book by maintaining a more sleek and flowing design that complements the story at hand.

This is a great comic with some great stories featuring Scarecrow, Mad Hatter, and Penguin. The artwork is great and has a style similar to the animated series. I personally thought the story with the Mad Hatter was amazing and really creepy. This volume also has some classic origin moments like how Bruce and Lucious Fox met, also how Gordon's daughter Barbara comes into the picture. All around great issues with a spooky undertone!

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