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# Dark Night: A True Batman Story



## Synopsis

The #1 New York Times bestseller! This is a Batman story like no other—the harrowing and eloquent autobiographical tale of writer Paul Dini’s courageous struggle to overcome a desperate situation. The Caped Crusader has been the all-abiding icon of justice and authority for generations. But in this surprising original graphic novel, we see Batman in a new light—as the savior who helps a discouraged man recover from a brutal attack that left him unable to face the world. In the 1990s, legendary writer Paul Dini had a flourishing career writing the hugely popular Batman: The Animated Series and Tiny Toon Adventures. Walking home one evening, he was jumped and viciously beaten within an inch of his life. His recovery process was arduous, hampered by the imagined antics of the villains he was writing for television including the Joker, Harley Quinn and the Penguin. But despite how bleak his circumstances were, or perhaps because of it, Dini also always imagined the Batman at his side, chivvying him along during his darkest moments. A gripping graphic memoir of one writer’s traumatic experience and his deep connection with his creative material, DARK NIGHT: A TRUE BATMAN STORY is an original graphic novel that will resonate profoundly with fans. Art by the incredible and talented Eduardo Risso (100 BULLETS, TRANSMETROPOLITAN).

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This is not a Batman tale, its a tale of how a Batman writer was mugged and humiliated then eventually learns from the Batman character, I thought it was an incredible short story that’s both tragic and also motivating, I wont spoil it but for \$ 15 you can’t go wrong, I’ve read this 3x already

and I encourage any Batman fan or anyone going through a difficult time in their life to read this story.

I absolutely loved this book. I had no idea what I was getting myself into, other than I knew I loved Paul Dini and his work on Batman The Animated Series. The behind the scenes events written and drawn throughout are very interesting and some of the stories I had never heard. There were plenty of laughs and plenty of feels throughout. Paul does a good job of showing how feeling sorry for yourself won't get you anywhere. You need to get up when you're down, and love yourself, otherwise how can you expect anyone else to appreciate you. I've never read a "nonfiction" comic like this before, but I'd love to check out more. Seriously. Pick this up. If you're a fan of Paul Dini, Batman the animated series, Warner Bros. animation, and a story about overcoming demons, do yourself a favor and read this.

Batman as a character means a lot of things to a lot of people as the long history of the character shows. This idea comes across in this book more than most as one of the writers of the characters uses the images of Batman in his head as a sort of spirit guide to help him recover from a hideous trauma- he imagines the Batman rogues gallery is impeding his progress yet Batman steps in to encourage his recovery. The author shows us how he used this inner dialogue and the idea of Batman to bring himself back from the brink and into the world again.

If you know TV animation or if you know comics, you probably already know who Paul Dini is. A writer extraordinaire. But with this comic, you'll learn a little more about him and what makes him tick. What a fantastically fun read. Thank you, Mr. Dini!

I was really blown away at how good this book was. First of all, it's not a Batman story of fiction per say. This is about the author, Paul Dini and how a brutal mugging in 1993 changed him. This is a comic book if you're wondering. The story starts out with Dini discussing his early life, his struggles in school and his passion for creativity. He also talks his struggles and disappointments with women, something many of us can relate to. The mugging scene is horrifying because it actually happened to him. After the mugging, Paul is very distraught and frustrated. His injuries were very serious, he became bitter and ready to quit working on Batman: the animated series. Paul illustrates his imaginations of the Batman characters talking to him which I thought was pretty cool to see what he'd been thinking at the time. Paul goes into a very dark place for a while. Then one day he rises

above it. Paul Dini explains that while there may not be a real Batman, there is a Batman inside each of us. The force that tells us to get up, get over it, move on, don't stop, never give up and never stop being the hero of your own story. I'd recommend this to anyone going through a hard time right now, this book won't quite make you feel peachy but you'll get some perspective and it'll push you to keep moving forward. A close friend of mine just left for college and I'll probably never see her again. I haven't been very happy since and this book definitely showed me that wasting your time moping won't make you feel any better. So Keep on going, be the Batman.

*Dark Night: A True Batman Story*, by Paul Dini, isn't really a Batman story, or at least not in the sense of the typical comic book story. This book tells the story of how Dini was violently attacked and had his face smashed in during a mugging. It also follows on with his reaction and recovery from the attack, both emotionally and physically. To understand how Batman plays a role in this book, Dini relates some of his background. He grew up a fan of comics and cartoons, particularly Batman. He went on to be a writer for many cartoons, but specifically for *Batman: The Animated Series*. Much of his inner monologue is a conversation with various cartoon/comic book characters, focusing on Joker and Batman. Dini is very honest as he relates his story, almost tragically so. He lays bare his failed relationships and his social struggles. He is extremely transparent as he details his reactions immediately following his attack, and of the weeks and months that follow. Without giving away any details, Dini's story is very much a story about overcoming tragedy, and while his particular road to recovery (helped along by his cartoon friends) is unique, there is something universal and encouraging for those who face a similar road. I highly recommend *Dark Night: A True Batman Story* by Paul Dini. I received a preview copy of this book from DC Comics and Netgalley in exchange for an honest review.

I'm not going to go over the plot, here. I assume if you are reading reviews, you already know what this book is about. That being said, if you are a fan of Batman, *Batman: The Animated Series*, or comics in general, you should pick up this book. Not only does Dini talk about his being attacked, he shares his childhood, and his time at Warner Brothers Animation Studios. I was fascinated by the peek behind the cartoon curtain. Risso's art is amazing. He works in a number of different styles, including his "100 Bullets" style, which, I assume, is what he is best known for. This is a harrowing, sad, and, eventually, uplifting story, that any comics fan should enjoy.

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