

BATMAN: THE REAL STORY BEGINS

by Robert L. Crowe



GREEN ROOM PRESS

greenroompress.com

Copyright Notice

CAUTION: Professionals and amateurs are hereby warned that this Work is subject to a royalty. This Work is fully protected under the copyright laws of the United States of America and all countries with which the United States has reciprocal copyright relations, whether through bilateral or multilateral treaties or otherwise, and including, but not limited to, all countries covered by the Pan-American Copyright Convention, the Universal Copyright Convention and the Berne Convention.

RIGHTS RESERVED: All rights to this Work are strictly reserved, including professional and amateur stage performance rights. Also reserved are: motion picture, recitation, lecturing, public reading, radio broadcasting, television, video or sound recording, all forms of mechanical or electronic reproduction, such as CD-ROM, CD-I, DVD, information and storage retrieval systems and photocopying, and the rights of translation into non-English languages.

PERFORMANCE RIGHTS AND ROYALTY PAYMENTS: All amateur and stock performance rights to this Work are controlled exclusively by Green Room Press. No amateur or stock production groups or individuals may perform this play without securing license and royalty arrangements in advance from Green Room Press. Questions concerning other rights should be addressed to Green Room Press. Royalty fees are subject to change without notice. Professional and stock fees will be set upon application in accordance with your producing circumstances. Any licensing requests and inquiries relating to amateur and stock (professional) performance rights should be addressed to Green Room Press.

Royalty of the required amount must be paid, whether the play is presented for charity or profit and whether or not admission is charged.

AUTHOR CREDIT: All groups or individuals receiving permission to produce this Work must give the author(s) credit in any and all advertisement and publicity relating to the production of this Work. The author's billing must appear directly below the title on a separate line where no other written matter appears. The name of the author(s) must be at least 50% as large as the title of the Work. No person or entity may receive larger or more prominent credit than that which is given to the author(s).

PUBLISHER CREDIT: Whenever this Work is produced, all programs, advertisements, flyers or other printed material must include the following notice: *Produced by special arrangement with Green Room Press.*

COPYING: Any unauthorized copying of this Work or excerpts from this Work is strictly forbidden by law. No part of this Work may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form, by any means now known or yet to be invented, including photocopying or scanning, without prior permission from Green Room Press.

BATMAN: THE REAL STORY BEGINS
by Robert L. Crowe

BATMAN: THE REAL STORY BEGINS

by Robert L. Crowe

At open, two chairs are on stage. Dick is seated in one of them. Bruce is standing and walking around.

BRUCE: Young man, you have been living here at Wayne Manor for some time now. Although this seems like a peaceful country estate, I have an idea that is going to change our lives and the lives of thousands in nearby Gotham City. The courts have made you my ward and I think it's time to alter our relationship. You no longer have to refer to me as "The Ward Boss." You may call me Uncle Bruce.

DICK: *(stands)* Holy, name calling. That will be swell! And you can call me ... Richard of Gotham!

BRUCE: I'll call you "Dick."

DICK: That will work, too.

BRUCE: Dick ... I need to talk with you about another matter.

DICK: Is it the Internet? I got on that site completely by accident ...

BRUCE: No, not that.

DICK: My cell phone?

BRUCE: No. It's bigger than that.

DICK: Hmmmm. Bigger than a cell phone. What's the first letter?

BRUCE: What do you know about crime?

DICK: Two things, Uncle Bruce. First ... Crime does not pay. Second, I didn't do it and I have an alibi.

BRUCE: I'm not talking about something that you have done.

DICK: Good!

BRUCE: I'm talking about the crime wave that is rolling through Gotham City. The streets are not safe for women and children and babies and pets and ... and others. This evil has to stop. We must do our part.

DICK: I'll stay in my room.

BRUCE: We must POW! And BAM! Put those criminals in a cage where they belong. I have decided to lead a campaign against those who harm others. I need some help and want you to join me.

DICK: It sounds a little dangerous. I mean, even after we fight for justice and right, the bad guys will know where we live and I won't be safe even in my room.

BRUCE: When we go to SOCKO the law breakers I think it best that we dress-up in some costumes so no one can recognize us. I'll just open this secret box (*He does.*) and take this out. For example, I am going to wear this. (*holds up cape*)

DICK: It looks like a black bed-sheet.

BRUCE: It's a cape!

DICK: Good idea! A cape, so you can fly like Superman!

BRUCE: No, no. This is a non-flying cape. Just a regular cape. I can't fly. But, I can do this. (*He runs across the room with hands over head. He thinks he's swinging from a rope.*)

DICK: You are running to surrender!

BRUCE: No, no. Watch again. (*He repeats his run.*)

DICK: Running with a protest sign!

BRUCE: I can't fly but I can swing on ropes from place to place.

DICK: Oh, like Tarzan.

BRUCE: Not exactly but my sudden arrival will frighten evil-doers.

DICK: Holy arrival! The bad guys will say, "Look! Look! Look! Here's Bruce Wayne. Run! Run! Run!"

BRUCE: They won't know who I am because I'll wear this! (*puts on hood and cowl, then moves around as if blinded*)

DICK: Can you see anything?

BRUCE: Needs a little adjustment. It's still in design stage. (*removes hood*) The point is that when I dress in this outfit, I will strike fear in the hearts of those outside the law. Fear, I tell you. Fear! I shall travel from the bat-cave beneath my home. I shall call myself ... Batman!

DICK: Wow, that is really cool. Did you just think that up?

BRUCE: No, I first had the idea while with a little league baseball team.

DICK: And you hit home-runs?

BRUCE: No, I was the bat-boy. (*ok, pause just a bit here*)
But I said, “When I grow up, I’ll have my own team and strike out evil.”

DICK: That’s really interesting, Uncle Bruce. Holy double-headers.

BRUCE: So, where was I? Anyway, I will dress in this menacing bat costume and you will be my cohort.

DICK: Do I get a costume, too?

BRUCE: Of course. We will be a team. You will be a bird and ...

DICK: I know! An American eagle! I’ll have a cape and a headpiece with a large beak with edges as sharp as razors. I will cut through walls and speeding cars. I will swoop out of the sky on ropes and vines. I will wear gloves with long nails. My talons will slash and gash and ... and ... and cause lots of problems for all of the evil in the world. And I shall be called ... (*in grand fashion*) Avenging Eagle!

BRUCE: No.

DICK: (*grand*) Super Eagle!

BRUCE: No.

DICK: (*questions*) American Eagle?

BRUCE: No. Robin.

DICK: Robin Eagle?

BRUCE: Just plain Robin.

DICK: Robin. You mean like the little orange-breasted bird ... a robin?

BRUCE: Yes.

DICK: Striking fear in the hearts of worms?

BRUCE: We will start you out as a robin and if things go well we can change your persona.

DICK: What’s next up the ladder ... a blue jay?

BRUCE: We’ll see. Now, here is your costume. (*hands a stack of clothes*)

DICK: (*holds up a small mask to his face*) And I don’t get a razor-sharp beak? I get this Lone Ranger mask? And all my friends will see me in these tights?!



GREEN ROOM PRESS

Thank you for reading this free excerpt from:

BATMAN: THE REAL STORY BEGINS

by Robert L. Crowe.

*For performance rights and/or a complete copy of the script,
please contact us at:*

GREEN ROOM PRESS, INC.
customerservice@greenroompress.com
www.greenroompress.com