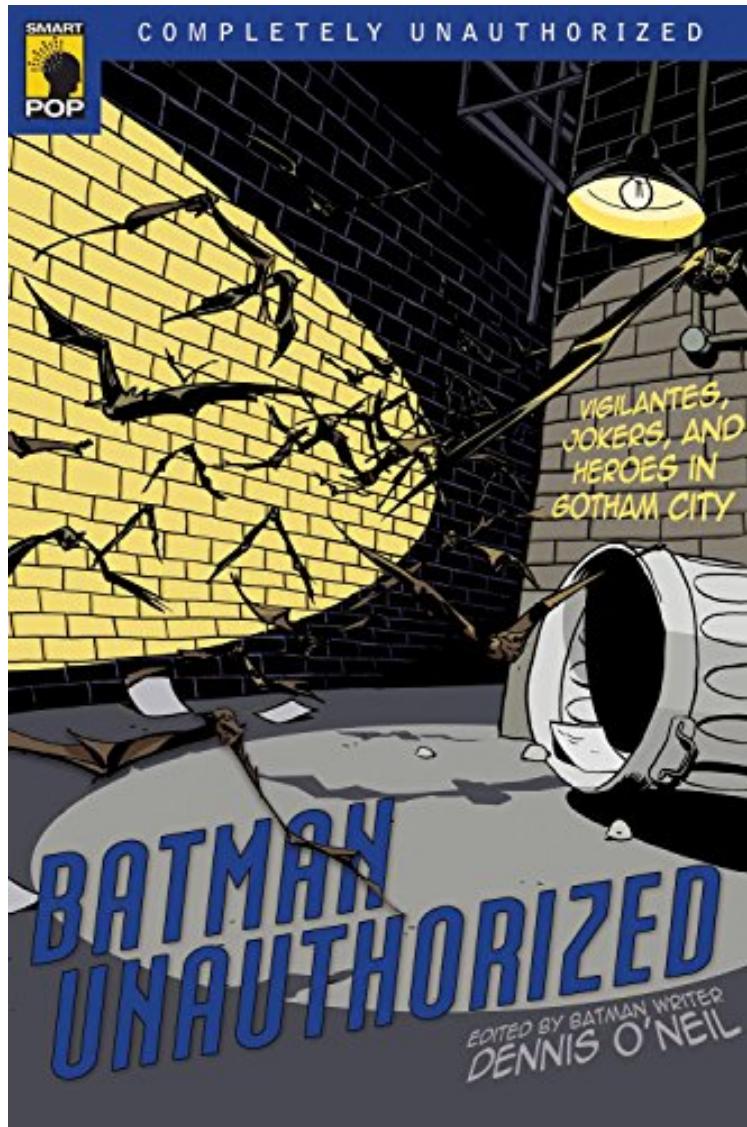


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## Batman Unauthorized: Vigilantes, Jokers, and Heroes in Gotham City (Smart Pop series)

Alan J. Porter, Chris Roberson, Jake Black, Dennis O'Neil  
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**Alan J. Porter, Chris Roberson, Jake Black, Dennis O'Neil : Batman Unauthorized: Vigilantes, Jokers, and Heroes in Gotham City (Smart Pop series)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Batman Unauthorized: Vigilantes, Jokers, and Heroes in Gotham City (Smart Pop series):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. ENJOYABLE!By Robert E. BehersIf you are a Batman fan this is a fun must read for you! Every essay has kept my interest and challenged my own thoughts on many aspects of Bruce Wayne and Batman. Batman in the comics, in cinema, TV, there is something here on every version! Mind expanding

and enjoyable!0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Good to understand different points of viewBy CJIt was interesting to read other people's points of view into Bruce Wayne/Batman. Parts of the book were understanding what it takes to be Batman, which the research it took was helpful into the mind set of the Batman.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. couldn't put it downBy Jackie WoodsI loved this book I read anything about batman and his people try it today you won't regret it guaranteed

Batman Unauthorized explores Batman's motivations and actions, as well as those of his foes. Batman is a creature of the night, more about vengeance than justice, more plagued by doubts than full of self-assurance, and more darkness than light. He has no superpowers, just skill, drive and a really well-made suit. One of the most recognized superheroes ever created, Batman has survived through campy TV shows and films, through actors such as Adam West, Michael Keaton and Christian Bale. Batman Unauthorized: Vigilantes, Jokers, and Heroes in Gotham City covers expansive territory ranging from the silly to the solemn. Why is the Joker so good at pushing Batman's buttons? What does Batman's technology say about the times? Why are Batman's villains crazier than average? And why is Batman the perfect, iconic American hero?

From School Library JournalAdult/High School—The appeal of Batman waxes and wanes, but he has doubtless been one of the most popular superheroes in recent years, with the upcoming movie generating even more buzz. This entry looks at Batman as a literary figure worthy of several critical essays. Eighteen authors, including those with backgrounds in journalism, editing, and academia, contribute short critical essays focused on the many aspects of the superhero through the years. Though each writer has a particular point of view, there are several points on which they do agree: Batman Begins was the best of the movies, the campy TV series nearly ruined the character, Batman is even darker than many casual observers realize, and Frank Miller made him darker still. These recurring themes give the book cohesion, even though it is doubtful that any but the most ardent fan will read it from cover to cover. A particularly clever essay looks at the cost of being Batman, estimating the value of the costume, the Batcave, the Batmobile, and more as just under \$300 million. This book would be a good addition where superheroes are popular, as well as a clever alternative to more dry, dusty literary criticism for those doing assignments.—Jamie Watson, Harford County Public Library, MD Copyright copy; Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From BooklistOver the course of nearly seven decades, there have been dozens of different versions of Batman, from playboy detective in his early comic-book days to camp TV clown in the 1960s to grim masked avenger of the most recent movie—not to mention Pez dispenser. The 18 contributors veteran Batman scripter Neil presents in this collection tackle those Batmans and Caped Crusader sidekicks and foils, including the different youngsters who have filled the role of Robin and such notable adversaries as the Joker and Al Ghul. Frank Miller's radical interpretation of the character and all the movie Batmans, which vary as much as the many comic-books permutations, are necessarily covered. Many contributions address the problems endemic to a corporate-owned pop-culture icon whose adventures have been told by hundreds of authors in various media for more than half a century. Although the all-too-serious approach of most of the articles demonstrates the pitfalls of taking commercially generated pop culture too seriously, readers more than passingly interested in the venerable character will be genuinely, one hopes enjoyably, diverted. --Gordon Flagg "Teens and teachers . . . will be mesmerized."—School Library Journal