

The Legend of the

BATMAN

by BOB KANE

— WHO HE IS AND HOW HE CAME TO BE!

ONE NIGHT SOME FIFTEEN YEARS AGO, THOMAS WAYNE, HIS WIFE AND HIS SON WERE WALKING HOME FROM A MOVIE...



W. WHAT IS THIS?

A STICKUP, BUDDY! I'LL TAKE THAT NECK LACE YOU'RE WEARING, LADY!



YOU ASKED FOR IT!

OH.....



THOMAS! YOU'VE KILLED HIM, HELP! POLICE... HELP!

THIS'LL SHUT YOU UP!



THE BOY'S EYES ARE WIDE WITH TERROR AND SHOCK AS THE HORRIBLE SCENE IS SPREAD BEFORE HIM.

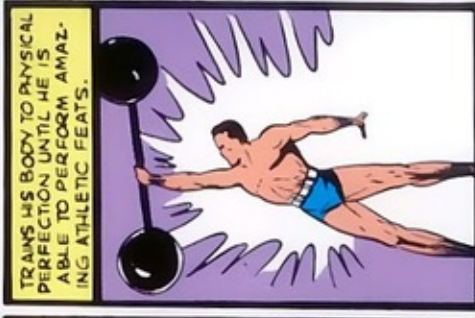
FATHER, MOTHER!



... DEAD! THEY'RE D. DEAD



AS THE YEARS PASS, BRUCE WAYNE PREPARES HIMSELF FOR HIS CAREER. HE BECOMES A MASTER SCIENTIST.



TRAINS HIS BODY TO PHYSICAL PERFECTION UNTIL HE IS ABLE TO PERFORM AMAZING ATHLETIC FEATS.



DAYS LATER, A CURIOUS AND STRANGE SCENE TAKES PLACE.

AND I SWEAR BY THE SPIRITS OF MY PARENTS TO AVENGE THEIR DEATHS BY SPENDING THE REST OF MY LIFE WARRING ON ALL CRIMINALS



DAD'S ESTATE LEFT ME WEALTHY. I AM READY, BUT FIRST I MUST HAVE A DISGUISE.



CRIMINALS ARE A SUPERSTITIOUS COMARADLY LOT, SO MY DISGUISE MUST BE ABLE TO STRIKE TERROR INTO THEIR HEARTS. I MUST BE A CREATURE OF THE NIGHT, BLACK, TERRIBLE... A...



AS IF IN ANSWER, A HUGE BAT FLIES IN THE OPEN WINDOW!

A BAT! THAT'S IT! IT'S AN OMEN... I SHALL BECOME A BAT!



AND THIS IS BORN THIS WEIRD FIGURE OF THE DARK, THIS AVENGER OF EVIL... THE BATMAN

The End
But a Start for Many Adventures...