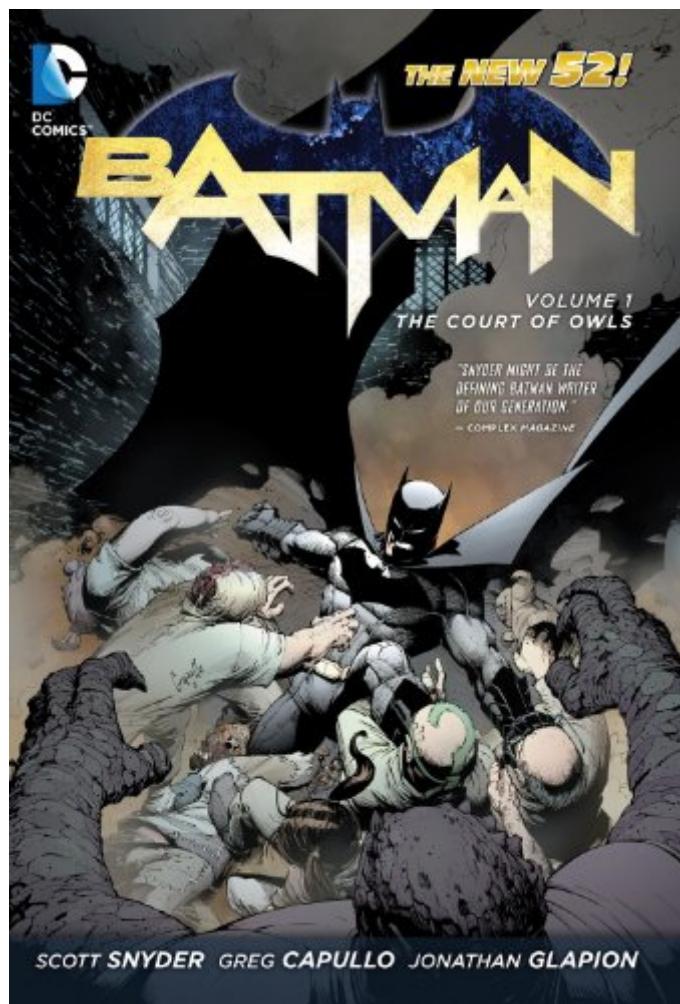


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Batman Vol. 1: The Court Of Owls (The New 52) (Batman Graphic Novel)



Synopsis

Following his ground-breaking, critically acclaimed run on Detective Comics, writer Scott Snyder (American Vampire) alongside artist Greg Capullo (Spawn) begins a new era of The Dark Knight as with the relaunch of Batman, as a part of DC Comics' "The New 52!" After a series of brutal murders rocks Gotham City, Batman begins to realize that perhaps these crimes go far deeper than appearances suggest. As the Caped Crusader begins to unravel this deadly mystery, he discovers a conspiracy going back to his youth and beyond to the origins of the city he's sworn to protect. Could the Court of Owls, once thought to be nothing more than an urban legend, be behind the crime and corruption? Or is Bruce Wayne losing his grip on sanity and falling prey to the pressures of his war on crime? Collects issues #1-7 of Batman.

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Customer Reviews

I am not the most tried and true Batman follower, but since my childhood I have checked in from time to time to get a feel for what the comic was doing. Knightfall and No Man's Land were the two

major crossovers that caught my attention as I was growing up, since these were major at the time, but I've also gone back to read the classics, those being Dark Knight Returns, Year One, and (according to some) the Long Halloween. With the start of the Snyder/Capullo era and a relaunched universe, I was hearing more good things, so I made it a point to at least check back again and read this first trade paperback when it became available. I know nothing of Snyder, but I remember Capullo fondly as being the only interesting aspect of the Spawn series over at Image Comics. Here, on Batman, his work is surprisingly cleaner and less complicated, which runs counter to what I would have expected when sicced upon a character as gritty as Batman. Capullo is a competent storyteller, though, and he's easy to follow here. He hits his stride in issue #5, during a hallucinogenic episode that Batman experiences; that's when the artist's creativity really shines through and he takes some chances. Watching Batman's cowl assume wildly elongated and impractical lengths and dimensions truly does evoke Capullo's old Spawn days. As for Snyder's story, it gets off to a slow and boring start. The first issue in this collection tries to grab the reader with a large fight scene pitting Batman against all of his rogues gallery at Arkham Asylum. The fight is so generic and impersonal, though, that it fails to thrill. Snyder tosses in a twist with the Joker, Batman's greatest enemy, but it has no real bearing on the plot and doesn't resonate.

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