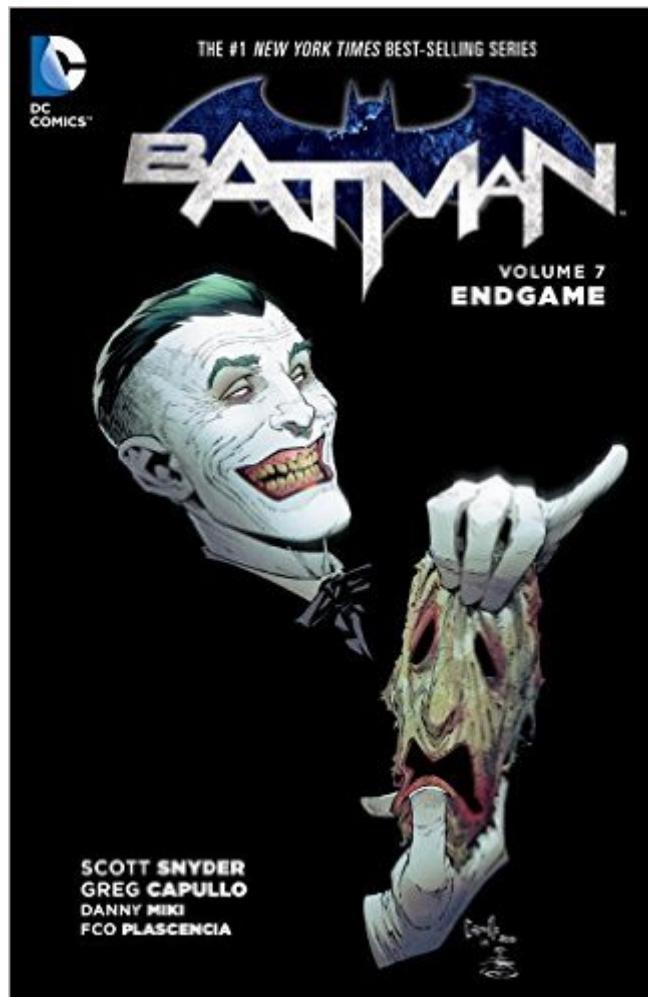


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# Batman Vol. 7: Endgame



## Synopsis

HA. HA. HA. The Batman's greatest foe has returned for one last gag. But this time, not even the Joker is laughing. In their last encounter, the Dark Knight failed to live up to Joker's grand plans, so now the Joker is deadly serious. The games are over, and for their final showdown, the Clown Prince of Crime won't be staging a comedy | The #1 New York Times best-selling team of Scott Snyder and Greg Capullo create the ultimate face-off between the greatest hero and villain in all of comics in BATMAN VOLUME 7: ENDGAME and it's no laughing matter. Collects stories from BATMAN #35-40.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

After fighting owls, saving his family from the Joker, and rewinding the clock 5 years ago to Zero Year, Scott Snyder and Greg Capullo return to the present with the return of the Joker. In 2014 when ENDGAME began, it was Batman's 75th anniversary and coincidentally, the Joker's 75th birthday as well. Snyder left his DEATH OF THE FAMILY story with a sense the Clown Prince of Crime would veer his head again and ENDGAME is just that. Whereas DEATH OF THE FAMILY was the Joker's love for Batman, ENDGAME is his hatred for Batman. And although Snyder does pile on the ambition and buildup like his previous arcs, there are still some stumbles. Collecting issues #35-40, The Joker has returned to Gotham and is tired of holding back for the Dark Knight with the intent of killing Batman and everything he holds dear for good this time. Now with a whole new face and bag of tricks at his disposal, Joker has thrown the gauntlet down against his foe by

making his most perfect Joker toxin yet that has affected the Justice League and all of Gotham. With none of Batman's Bat-family to help, he's on his own to hopefully stop the Joker once and for all. Snyder still writes compelling work with his natural talent of horror/dread in his work and symbolism at every turn. The city wide fight with Batman fighting members of the toxin-induced Justice League is large in scale to watch the Hulkbuster fight Hulk from *Avengers: Age of Ultron*, to seeing a Nazi-like Joker run around Gotham with every citizen fighting high on his toxins, and teasing readers that the Joker is far more than a man. And in tying up the nature of this being the final confrontation between Batman and Joker under Snyder, he makes all plots to previous story arcs come full-circle in a neat little way.

I have several issues with how Scott Snyder handles Batman but my biggest issue is that the Snyder Batman is so removed from being an actual human being. Snyder is far from the only writer guilty of deifying Batman but his is one of the most extreme. Let me give an example. Near the beginning of *Endgame*, Batman is entirely unexpectedly attacked by Wonder Woman who SMASHES his face into a solid office floor, shattering the tile. She then flies off with the miraculously unharmed Batman and dumps him in a park intending to finish off the Dark Knight with a sword through the belly. Suddenly, Batman has access to a huge suit because apparently he left one within easy access of the park, perhaps in a secret compartment under a bush (I'm dead serious). But this is no ordinary suit, it is a suit SPECIFICALLY designed to defeat the Justice League and he pretty much does just that taking down Wonder Woman, Aquaman and The Flash with relative ease. It's only when Superman arrives that Batman needs to break a sweat. So are we to assume that Batman somehow KNEW he might someday be in a vulnerable position next to a specific bush threatened by a member of the JLA or does he have these suits stashed all over the city? So Superman fairly quickly rips the suit to shreds but still gets taken down when Batman spits in his eye using a  $\alpha$ -butadiene-based synthetic rubber, a polymer laced with radioactive dust | Kryptonite gum. And down goes Superman, down goes Superman to Kryptonite gum. KRYPTONITE GUM!!!! The Scott Snyder Batman is an omniscient and sometimes omnipotent protagonist which makes him entirely unrelated.

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