

# The Man Who Laughs Batman

**The Man Who Laughs Batman** - Batman: The Man Who Laughs. Batman: The Man Who Laughs is a one-shot prestige format comic book by Ed Brubaker and Doug Mahnke, released in February 2005, and intended as a successor to Batman: Year One. It tells the story of Batman's first encounter with the Joker in post-Zero Hour continuity. The Batman Who Laughs' name was taken from the silent films that helped inspire the creation of Batman and the Joker; The Bat and The Man Who Laughs. The Batman Who Laughs could be seen as the literal interpretation to one of Joker's longtime goals for Batman; to have the Dark Knight kill him and make Batman a murderer no better than himself. ANY other half-decent Joker story would have been ideal -- the book IS called 'Man who laughs' after all. Overall, this is an odd combination of two stories, the title story being a fun and interesting compliment to The Killing Joke and the other being a rather mediocre Batman mash-up. The Batman Who Laughs is a version of Batman from Earth -22, a dark reflection of the Earth-22. In that reality, the Earth -22 Joker learned of Batman's identity as Bruce Wayne and killed most of Batman's other rogues along with Commissioner Gordon.