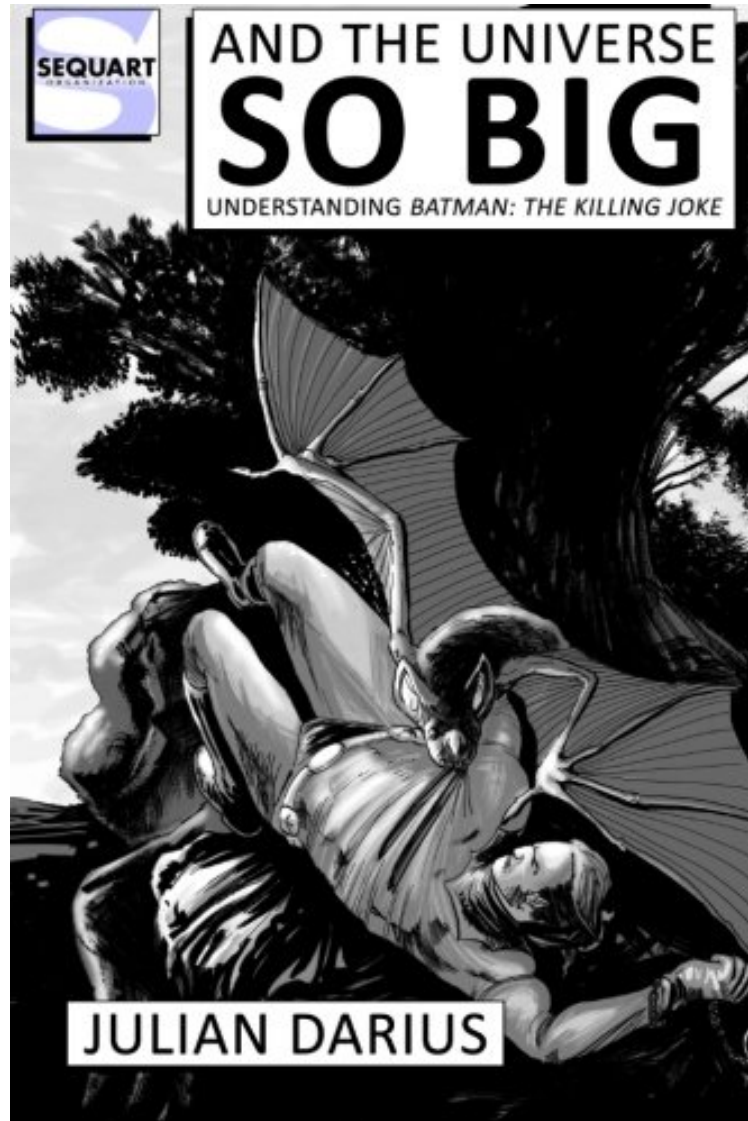


[Ebook free] And the Universe so Big: Understanding Batman: The Killing Joke

And the Universe so Big: Understanding Batman: The Killing Joke

Julian Darius

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#1381076 in Books Julian Darius 2012-11-25 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.00 x .15 x 6.00l, .22 #File Name: 148104170358 pages And the Universe So Big Understanding Batman The Killing Joke | File size: 70.Mb

Julian Darius : And the Universe so Big: Understanding Batman: The Killing Joke before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised And the Universe so Big: Understanding Batman: The Killing Joke:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Excellent analysis of the final scene, Barbara Gordon's crippling and the Joker's origin story By Frank L. Greenagel IIMr. Darius uses his skills as an English professor to analyze the text

and art of Alan Moore's "Killing Joke." He discusses the assault on Barbara Gordon (and recent feminist criticism of it) and the origin story of the Joker that appears here (and becomes somewhat sacred in the DC universe). He makes an excellent point that the Joker is better viewed as being formed in chaos without a strong origin story, a notion that he notes the creators of the 2008 movie "The Dark Knight" stayed true to. Fascinating. In regards to Barbara Gordon, he has this to say: "Barbara's crippling is only one instance in which female characters have been killed, raped, or brutalized in the service of male -focused plots. There's no getting around this fact. But this wider critique can hardly be applied to any single story: one cannot responsibly say that no story can include such elements...Moreover, damage to female characters is the logical result of the old 'damsel in distress' trope.'" (42) A good portion of this book is dedicated to examining what happens at the end of the story between Batman and the Joker, namely, does Batman kill him? Mr. Darius discusses his point of view and examines the text and art throughout the book for clues. He makes a strong case, but says that it is ultimately ambiguous. My mind is made up though.

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Outstanding lit crit for comics
By Customer I found this to be a great companion piece for *The Killing Joke*. I discovered it on the Kevin Smith podcast, *Fatman on Batman*, and picked it up. I spent some quality time with both texts and feel like I learned quite a bit. I would be very interested to do this with more comics as I feel it is a very different experience and adds tremendous depth. Well worth the small price.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Interesting if a bit problematic
By The Biz Interesting short little essays in book format, would have been better were it not tainted by the Grant Morrison "Batman Totally Kills Joker theory" which misses the overall theme and message of the story Moore presents, but whatever. Can't always have your cake and eat it too.

In 1988, Alan Moore and Brian Bolland's *BATMAN: THE KILLING JOKE* offered a violent, literate, and controversial take on the Joker's origins and his relationship with Batman. Now, Dr. Julian Darius examines it in the context of the high-art ambitions of 1980s super-hero comics, exposing the narrative's ambiguities and secrets. From Sequart Organization. More info at <http://sequart.org>

About the Author After graduating magna cum laude from Lawrence University (Appleton, Wisconsin), Dr. Julian Darius obtained his M.A. in English, authoring a thesis on John Milton and utopianism. In 2002, he moved to Waikiki, teaching college while obtaining an M.A. in French (high honors) and a Ph.D. in English. His controversial dissertation became the novel *NIRA/SUSSA*. Darius has authored other works of fiction, including *WATCHING PEOPLE BURN*, a screenplay based on the true story of the deadliest school massacre in U.S. history which occurred in rural Michigan in 1927. In 1996, while still an undergraduate, Darius founded what would become Sequart Organization (sequart.org), an organization devoted to promoting comic books as a legitimate art form. He writes for Sequart's website, has authored books on *BATMAN BEGINS* and classic DC Comics stories, and has produced documentary films for the organization. He currently lives in Illinois.