

BATMAN

"Dear Bruce"

By

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PAGE ONE (5 PANELS):

PANEL ONE:

We open on a Close-up Shot of Batman, scowling, serious, and decidedly un-smiley. This, and most of the other panels in this story, stands in contrast with (yet oddly connected to) the caption narration.

- 1) CAPTION: Dear Bruce,
- 2) CAPTION: You're gonna smile when you read this.
- 3) CAPTION: That boyish, carefree smile...

PANEL TWO:

We pull back to a wider shot of Batman leaping off a building into an alley, while at the same time shooting a bat-hook off-panel. Below him, a young woman screams.

- 4) CAPTION: Dressed in one of your fancy black suit...
- 5) GIRL (OFF-PANEL): Eeee!

PANEL THREE:

Batman swoops down and grabs the young woman.

- 5) CAPTION: Always ready to sweep a girl off her feet.

PANEL FOUR:

Batman lands outside of the alley. He has set the woman down and she's running off. Batman is turning toward the alley where a large figure is emerging, cloaked in shadows.

- 6) CAPTION: But unlike the others, I can see the truth.

PANEL FIVE:

Close-up of the large figure, who is to be Killer Croc!

- 7) CAPTION: You're cold-blooded.

PAGE TWO (4 PANELS):

PANEL ONE:

Batman punches Croc hard across the face.

1) CAPTION: You hurt people.

2) CAPTION: Maybe you don't mean to, but you do.

PANEL TWO:

Croc slashes Batman across the chest.

3) CAPTION: Maybe at some point someone hurt you too.

PANEL THREE:

Croc grabs Batman's neck.

4) CAPTION: But you hide all that pain behind your fancy cars...

5) CAPTION: Your fancy house...

PANEL FOUR:

Croc is brining Batman's head toward his mouth, as if he's going to take a big bite.

5) CAPTION: Your fancy dinners.

PAGE THREE (5 PANELS):

PANEL ONE:

Batman kicks himself free.

1) CAPTION: But you can't escape the truth.

PANEL TWO:

Batman wraps Croc up in one of his wires, while Croc tries to break free.

2) CAPTION: No matter how hard you try.

PANEL THREE:

Batman sends a surge of electricity through the wire, shocking Croc.

3) CAPTION: And this may come as a shock.

4) KILLER CROC: Awwwww!

PANEL FOUR:

Croc hits the ground, hard.

5) CAPTION: But I know how it'll end.

PANEL FIVE:

Moments later. A bird's eye view from the top of a building. Cops have arrived to take Croc away.

6) CAPTION: I can see it now.

PAGE FOUR (1 PANEL):

SPLASH. Batman stands on the rooftop, looking at the same time heroic and lonely.

1) CAPTION: You will be alone.

2) CAPTION: You will always be alone.

PAGE FIVE (4 PANELS):**PANEL ONE:**

Wide Shot of Batman in the Batcave. His mask is pulled back and he's reading the letter. Alfred is approaching him with some tea.

- 1) CAPTION: Goodbye, Bruce. Don't ever call me again.
- 2) CAPTION: Yours, Roxanne.

PANEL TWO:

Alfred sets the tea down next to Bruce, who is facing away from Alfred.

- 3) ALFRED: The news mentioned you had quite a close encounter with death, Master Bruce.
- 4) ALFRED: Luckily for us, you're much too stubborn to perish.

PANEL THREE:

Alfred stands at attention.

- 5) ALFRED: If there's anything else, Master Bruce.
- 6) BRUCE: Just a question, Alfred.

PANEL FOUR:

Bruce turns to face Alfred.

- 7) BRUCE: Who was Roxanne, again?

THE END