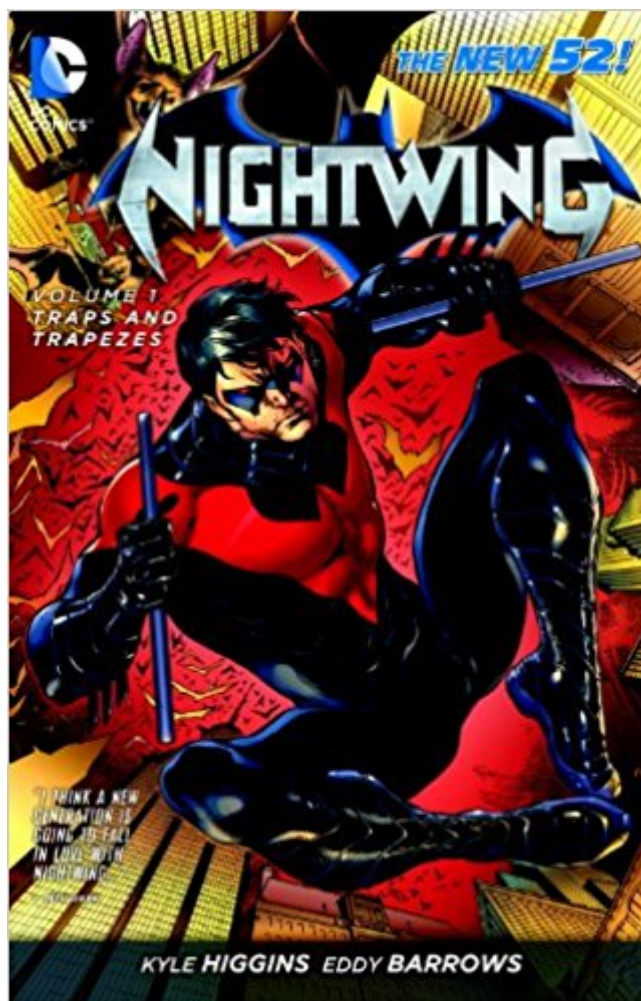


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Nightwing Vol. 1: Traps And Trapezes (The New 52)



Synopsis

A New York Times Best Seller! As a part of the acclaimed DC Comics - The New 52 event of September 2011, Dick Grayson flies high once more as Nightwing in a new series from hot new writer Kyle Higgins (BATMAN: GATES OF GOTHAM) and artist Eddy Barrows (SUPERMAN)! Haley's Circus, the big top where Dick once performed, makes a stop on its tour in Gotham City - bringing with it murder, mystery and superhuman evil. To uncover more clues as to why a mysterious assassin is targetting him, Nightwing joins the Haley's Circus tour in order to find more clues and protect those he loves. But as Dick becomes closer acquainted with the big top he grew up with, he discovers there's a much deeper, darker secret to be discovered.

Book Information

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Author Q&A with Kyle Higgins Q. What's it like working on a huge initiative like The New 52? A. Depending on the day, it's a combination of exciting, inspiring, nerve-wracking, and a whole host of other adjectives (laughs). This past year has been a whirlwind for me. Coming off Gates of Gotham with Scott Snyder, I kind of jumped into the deep end of the pool by launching two New 52 books concurrently (Nightwing and Deathstroke). And, while the spotlight of The New 52 has been intense at times, I'm happy to report that I'm still swimming. Q. How are you balancing making these stories and characters feel fresh and new while still respecting what came before? A. That's actually the most challenging part of all this. With a book like Deathstroke, we moved on from a lot of the continuity that came before. We tried to boil the character down to his core and start

fresh. I took the aspects that I liked and expanded on them, crafting a story thatâin my mindâfelt new for Slade and also tapped into the angle of respect. He's the older gun that's trying to show the new generation he's still got it. Nightwing has been a bit trickier. Dick Grayson was once Robin, then Nightwing, then Batman, and now Nightwing again. And while we try to stay away from specific instances of old continuity, Dick is a character that exemplifies the idea of change. He's built on it. Our first story, which dives into an aspect of his life that hadn't been explored too much before (the circus and the secrets it might hold) was our way of referencing and paying respect to the old â while still breaking new ground.

Q. What stories or creators inspire you most when working on your character? A. For Nightwing, I have two big influences: Chuck Dixon and Scott McDaniel's run (1996-2000) and Batman: the Animated Series. Growing up, Chuck and Scott's series was the first book I bought every issue of, month and month out. It's the run that really defined the character for me. As far as Batman: the Animated Series goes, Loren Lester's portrayal of Dick Grayson was also pretty seminal. His is the voice I hear every time I write the character. For Deathstroke, my single favorite moment/portrayal of the character was in Brad Meltzer's Identity Crisis.

Q. So what do you consider to be your character's definitive stories? A. Nightwing: Dixon/McDaniel's first 25 issues; Batman the Animated Series: "Robin's Reckoning" and "Old Wounds"; Teen Titans: the Judas Contract. For Deathstroke: Teen Titans: The Judas Contract; DC Universe: Last Will and Testament

Q. What have you thought about the response so far for The New 52 and your title(s) as whole? A. Honestly? It's been pretty amazing. The willingness of readers to give these books a chanceâin particular, my booksâhas been nothing short of fantastic.

Q. Do you keep up with any of the other New 52 books? Which ones and why? A. I try to! Scott Snyder's Batman, Josh Fialkov's iVampire, Pete Tomasi's Batman and Robin, Gail Simone's Batgirl, Francis Manapul and Brian Buccellato's Flash, Scott Lobdell's Red Hood, Geoff Johns's Aquaman â the camaraderie that we as creators have built over the past year has made the DC Universe feel like one big family. We all try to support each other.

Q. Has social media and increased direct interaction with DC Comics' fans changed your writing/drawing approach at all in regards to The New 52? A. Not too much. I try to write stories that I, as a fan, would want to read. That said, I do keep an ear to the ground to see what people are reacting to and what they're not.

Q. What creators have influenced the new direction you've taken with your book? A. Scott Snyder has been a big influence. Between his Detective Comics run, our collaboration on Gates of Gotham, and his plan for the Court of Owls, my current take on Dick Grayson has been informed a lot by Scott's work.Â

Q. So many classic characters have had

their looks changed. What has been your favorite character redesign, even if it isn't in your own book? A. Supergirl, Batgirl, and the Flash. Q. There seems to be a lot of storylines integrating both Nightwing and Scott Snyder's Batman title. How in depth is the collaboration process with you and Scott? A. Well, Scott is one of my best friends, so a lot of the collaboration happens without us even realizing we're doing it (laughs). Since Gates of Gotham, working together has been pretty effortlessâ"we both approach story from the same way. That, coupled with the fact that we're on the phone together a couple times a week and G-Chat all the time, and story conversations just kind of inevitably happen. We just try to keep things fun. Q. Kyle, you've written Dick Grayson as both Batman (in Batman: Gates of Gotham) and Nightwing now. What differences do you find yourself weaving into the separate personas of Dick? A. I think the biggest difference is humor. In Gates, Dick was a bit more stoic than I write him in Nightwing. He wasn't as upbeat and quippy, which I think was a combination of the seriousness of the threat, feelings of insecurity, and the fact that he was wearing the Bat cowl. A Look Inside Nightwing

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"Dynamic art and a story that draws upon the history of the character."â" The New York Times "Stellar ... a solid yarn that roots itself in Grayson's past, with gorgeous artwork by artist Eddy Barrows to boot."â" IGN "I think a new generation is going to fall in love with Nightwing."â" MTV Geek

The former boy wonder is rebooted here in his own title containing the first seven issues! Dick Grayson sees the return of his past as the circus he left from his childhood returns to Gotham and all his friends with it. However, a killer named Saiko is out to murder Grayson and puts two-and-two together that Grayson and Nightwing are one! The killer Saiko becomes less and less mysterious as Grayson finds that the killer is a product of his past! Also, Batgirl jumps in to help Dick out and his lost love Raya returns! This reboot works well with some great background info here for newcomers and a really well-done story for everyone. My only gripe here is issue 5 where he fights a crazy demon that feels very out of place with the rest of the story. Otherwise, it works well and has you guessing until the end and the last issue even leads into the Court of Owls storyline! The art by Eddy Barrows is really nice and the story that Kyle Higgins thought up worked really well. The fifth issue and the lack of the Batgirl issue that coincides with Nightwing #4 detract from the reading a little but otherwise, it's something to pick up. It's made in typical paperback format with textless covers and some neat character designs and cover sketches to boot. Overall, a good read and

worth the purchase.

Great book and good intro to Nightwing as he travels around the country with Haly's Circus (not just confined to Gotham, it's a nice change of pace from the other Bat comics.) I think Higgins nails Dick Grayson's character here, one reason why I love this hero is that he isn't all gloom and doom like a lot of things in the Bat Universe. He has a sense of humor and loves people and it really shows in this book. The only reason I'm not reviewing as 5 starts is because there's like a 5 page arc where Nightwing fights some sort of Demon thing and it didn't really make much sense to but aside from that little section this was a great book.

This book is not only extremely entertaining, but actually adds something substantial to the Dick Grayson lore. The artwork is spot on, and I actually prefer Barrows' realistic depictions of people, compared to the more stylized artwork of Capullo's Batman run. The story telling is top notch, and is reminiscent of the strong story telling from the Batman Animated Series. Highly recommended if you're a Batman, Nightwing, or just a comic book fan! :)

Kyle Higgins Nightwing was a place to start and jump on to this character that has history adjacent to Batman.

I haven't picked up a graphic novel/comic book in years; what a way to jump back in! Dick Grayson has always been my favorite DC hero whether as Robin, Batman or Nightwing. I really liked this book and thought it was well put together. The story delves deep into Grayson's past pondering the age old argument, destiny vs decision. The dialogue is spot on, not too heavy handed or angst ridden, much like Grayson himself. And the artwork is absolutely gorgeous; I found myself lingering on each page marveling at the stunning line work and emotion evoking color schemes. This is a fabulous read, particularly if you are new to the universe.

Nightwing is no longer the stoic Batman. He is once again the flashy crimefighter full of banter (some of it cringe worthy) and wit. He is free to roam as he pleases and use his own methods to solve crimes. This book is perfect for those who are looking to jump into Nightwing. It is also a perfect tie into *Batman Vol. 1: The Court of Owls* (The New 52). Without spoiling too much, this story goes back to Dick's roots as a circus performer. Kyle Higgins delivers with great narration and Eddy Barrows dazzles with his art. The story has a few interesting developments and turns as well.

The only problem I would have is issue #5 is mostly filler and pandering until the end. So far a great start for Nightwing, let's hope the rest of the run lives up to the first 7 issues.

From the choppiness of the dialogue and story to the inconsistency of the writing, I tried to enjoy this book but really couldn't get into it. My favorite parts were the interaction between Dick/Nightwing and Barbara/Batgirl and their run-in with a shape-shifting assassin but it was otherwise not very memorable. The end did however make me want to buy the next volume just to read more of how it all ties in with the Court of Owls. Also, the art is fantastic. You can skip it but it is not terrible. If you can get it cheap, give it a shot.

just as described

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