

**BOOK &
RECORD**



The **POWERFUL!**
Action
"COMES ALIVE"
As You Read!!

BOOK and RECORD SET

IT'S FUN TO READ AS YOU HEAR!

BAT MAN

SEE AND HEAR
EXCITING STORIES
BR 512



IN THIS BOOK & RECORD

- Gorilla City
- Mystery of The Scarecrow Corpse



GORILLA CITY

BY CARY BATES
AND
ELLIOT MAGNIN

A SLEEK EBONY AIRCRAFT WINGS ITS WAY EASTWARD OVER THE WATERS OF THE ATLANTIC. THE PILOT IS THE WORLD'S GREATEST DETECTIVE — THE CRAFT IS THE BAT-PLANE — AND THE DESTINATION IS THE HEART OF DARKEST AFRICA ...



BATMAN HERE, RECORDING ENTRY NUMBER 21A FOR MY MISSION LOG BOOK.

I AM CURRENTLY CRUISING AT 1,243 MILES PER HOUR AT AN ALTITUDE OF 57,000 FEET.



MY ESTIMATED TIME OF ARRIVAL OVER AFRICA'S KABANZI JUNGLE WILL BE APPROXIMATELY 25 MINUTES FROM NOW. AS FOR THE PURPOSE OF THIS FLIGHT TO THE LARGELY UNEXPLORED KABANZI HIGHLANDS...

IT ALL BEGAN ONLY A FEW DAYS AGO...

"...WHEN COMMISSIONER GORDON ASKED A FAVOR OF ME IN HIS OFFICE..."

JON AND MARY TATE! AREN'T THEY THE MAN-AND-WIFE TEAM WHO WON A NOBEL PRIZE LAST YEAR FOR THEIR EXPERIMENTS WITH SUSPENDED ANIMATION?



THE SAME, BATMAN.

AND THE FACT THAT THEY'LL BE VISITING GOTHAM CITY HAS BEEN SPLASHED ALL OVER THE MEDIA. THAT'S WHY I'D BE GRATEFUL IF YOU ACTED AS THE TATES' BODYGUARD WHILE THEY'RE HERE.



YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT POSSIBLE ACTION FROM ENEMY AGENTS?

LET'S JUST SAY THERE ARE SEVERAL UNFRIENDLY FOREIGN POWERS WHO WOULD HAVE NO QUALMS...



...ABOUT KIDNAPPING THE TATES TO OBTAIN THEIR VITAL SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH, I'D FEEL A LOT BETTER IF I KNEW YOU'D NEVER BE FAR FROM THEIR SIDE.

CONSIDER IT DONE, COMMISSIONER.

"GORDON WAS A CAUTIOUS MAN, AND HE WAS RIGHT; EVERY MAJOR POWER ON EARTH HAS BEEN TRYING TO CRACK THE SECRET OF SUSPENDED ANIMATION FOR YEARS... AND THE TATE'S AWARD-WINNING WORK IN 'TIME-SUSPENSION BIOLOGY' SEEMED TO PUT THEM CLOSER TO PERFECTING THE PROCESS THAN ANYONE ELSE."



"ALL THESE THOUGHTS RAN THROUGH MY MIND AS I MET THE FAMOUS COUPLE THAT AFTERNOON AT GOTHAM AIRPORT."

BATMAN, THIS IS INDEED AN HONOR. NO ONE TOLD MARY AND ME TO EXPECT SUCH AN ESTEEMED FIGURE TO OFFER HIMSELF AS OUR GUIDE TO GOTHAM CITY.

JON AND I HAVE BEEN IN AWE OF YOU FOR YEARS, BATMAN.



THAT IS ONE FEELING, MRS. TATE, I ASSURE YOU IS MUTUAL. I CONSIDER IT A PRIVILEGE TO BE OF SERVICE.

"I ARRANGED TO HAVE THE BEST SUITE AT THE GOTHAM HILTON AWAITING THE TATES... AND I MADE SURE I WAS IN THE NEXT ROOM. AFTER A BUSY NIGHT OF DINNERS AND FUNCTIONS, THE TATES RETIRED TO THEIR SUITE FOR A WELL-EARNED NIGHT'S SLEEP..."



"I, ON THE OTHER HAND, REMAINED ON GUARD IN MY ROOM NEXT DOOR... USING TRANSCENDENTAL MEDITATION TO EASE MY MIND INTO A RELAXED LEVEL OF CONSCIOUSNESS... RELAXED BUT EVER ALERT"

"MUCH OF THE NIGHT DRIFTED BY PEACEFULLY... AND THEN I HEARD IT--MY TM TRANCE WAS SUDDENLY INTERRUPTED BY THE SOUND OF A BREAKING WINDOW!"



"THE SPLIT-SECOND I RUSHED INTO THEIR SUITE I WAS ATTACKED--BY WHAT I NEVER HAD A CHANCE TO SEE, IT WAS SO DARK..."



"I STRUGGLED FURIOUSLY BUT IT WAS ALREADY TOO LATE--"



"IN THE CRUSHING GRIP OF A BEAR HIS NOT EVEN A GRIZZLY COULDBE MATCHED."

"WITHIN SCANT SECONDS THE VICELIKE GRIP HAD THE BEST OF ME-- I PASSED OUT..."



"MY MYSTERY ATTACKER HAD ME FROM BEHIND--"

"THE NEXT DAY, I COULDN'T TURN ON A TV OR RADIO OR EVEN PICK UP A PAPER... WITHOUT HEARING THE SAME STORY..."



"...AND WE HEAR AT WKBC CAN'T HELP WONDERING IF BATMAN'S FAILURE TO RESCUE JON AND MARY TATE LAST NIGHT IS A SIGN THAT IT MAY FINALLY BE TIME FOR THE COWLED CRUSADER TO HANG UP HIS COWL."

5 NEWS



"BUT I WAS TOO BUSY TO INDULGE IN BAD PUBLICITY... AS MY FAITHFUL BUTLER, ALFRED, HELPED ME CONDUCT A SERIES OF EXHAUSTIVE SCIENTIFIC TESTS IN THE CRIME LAB OF THE BAT-CAVE."

AFTER ALL, THE FAMOUS NOBEL PRIZE WINNING TEAM IS NOW MISSING-- AND MANY PEOPLE HOLD BATMAN RESPONSIBLE!



I THINK WE HAVE IT, SIR. I BELIEVE THIS LAST BATTERY OF TESTS HAS NARROWED DOWN THE CLASSIFICATION OF THE POLLEN TRACES YOU SCRAPED FROM YOUR UNIFORM AFTER YOUR SKIRMISH LAST NIGHT.

YOU'RE RIGHT, ALFRED. I'M CROSS-CHECKING THE GEOGRAPHIC TABLES NOW. AH, HERE WE ARE.

THE POLLEN IS *RETILUS PARINA* AND IT IS ONLY DISTRIBUTED BY PLANTS IN THE KABANZI JUNGLE IN AFRICA.

THAT MEANS WHOEVER KIDNAPPED THE TATES LAST NIGHT CAME FROM THAT JUNGLE.

UNRAH, MOST INTERESTING! I'LL FUEL THE BAT-PLANE FOR TAKE-OFF, SIR.



SIR?

YES, ALFRED?

ABOUT THOSE UNEXPLAINED TRACES OF FUR YOU FOUND IN THE TATES' SUITE? HAVE YOU REACHED ANY CONCLUSIONS?




NONE, ALFRED. AT LEAST NONE THAT MAKES ANY KIND OF SENSE YET.



"MOMENTS LATER I WAS WINGING MY WAY EASTWARD, LEAVING THE BAT CAVE AND BOSTHAM CITY BEHIND... WITH ONE SLIM CLUE TO GO ON AND NO IDEA WHAT LAY WAITING FOR ME IN AFRICA..."

AND SPEAKING OF AFRICA, I SEE THE KABANZI JUNGLE IS COMING UP DIRECTLY AHEAD. IT'S TIME FOR ME TO WRAP UP THIS REPORT...



BUT BEFORE THE GAPPED CRUISER CAN END HIS LOG-ENTRY AND SWITCH OFF THE TAPE...



TROUBLE!

ONE OF MY TURBO-JETS HAS BACKFIRED! THE BAT-PLANE IS NOWE-FLYING OUT OF CONTROL...




HAYDAY! MAYDAY! THE CONTROLS WON'T RESPOND PROPERLY. A CRASH-LANDING IMMINENT... DOING MY BEST TO AVOID-



FINALLY THE SMOLDERING AND CRIPPLED BAT-PLANE COMES TO REST -

FOR MANY HOURS THE SCENE REMAINS UN-CHANGED AS LIFE IN THE JUNGLE PROCEEDS IN PRIMITIVE IGNORANCE OF THE DAMAGED AIRCRAFT AND ITS UNMOVING PASSENGER ... AND THEN, AS SUNSET FILTERS THROUGH THE TROPICAL TREES ...



A PAIR OF RESCUERS APPEARS, GENTLY REMOVING THE LIMP UN-CONSCIOUS CRIMEFIGHTER FROM THE SHATTERED COCKPIT...

DID HE SUSTAIN ANY PERMANENT DAMAGE, DO YOU THINK?

I WOULD SAY NEGATIVE. A MILD CONCUSSION... SEVERAL BRUISES AND LACERATIONS...

HIS INJURIES DO NOT SEEM TO EXTEND BEYOND THAT.

LEAVING A TORN AND TATTERED FIGURE SLUMPED IN THE COCKPIT--

A COWLED FIGURE THAT DOES NOT MOVE OR UTTER A SOUND...

ONCE WE GET HIM INTO THE CITY OUR HEALING FACILITY SHOULD COMPLETELY RESTORE HIS HEALTH.

RIGHT, TO THE CITY THEN.

THE TWO RESCUERS LUMBER AWAY EFFORTLESSLY CARRYING THE 180 POUND BATMAN BETWEEN THEM--

EFFORTLESSLY BECAUSE THESE RESCUERS ARE BOTH GORILLAS!

HOURS PASS. THE CAPED CRUSADER GROGGILY MOANS AND STIRS...

BUT IT IS NOT TROPICAL VEGETATION AND AFRICAN WILDS HE OPENS HIS EYES TO SEE--

WHERE... WHERE AM I?

HAVE YOU EVER HEARD OF GORILLA CITY, BATMAN?

INSTEAD, IT IS THE ANTISEPTIC CONFINES OF AN INCREDIBLY WELL-EQUIPPED HIGHLY ADVANCED LABORATORY.

YOU'RE A PRISONER HERE NOW, JUST LIKE JON AND ME.

GREAT SCOTT! JON AND MARY TATE!

IMAGINE -- A SUPER-ADVANCED CITY IN THE HEART OF DARKEST AFRICA BUILT AND INHABITED BY APES FAR MORE INTELLIGENT THAN MAN HIMSELF -- A CITY THAT IS EVEN INVISIBLE TO THE HUMAN EYE...

SURROUNDED BY A SPECIAL FORCE-FIELD ONLY ITS GORILLA-INHABITANTS CAN SEE!

BATMAN ALWAYS KNEW THEY WERE TRUE, DIDN'T YOU, BATMAN?

JON AND I HAD HEARD THE LEGENDS, LIKE EVERYONE ELSE, BUT WE NEVER DREAMED THEY WERE ALL TRUE!

ALL EYES TURN TOWARD THE SOURCE OF THAT CHILLING, COMPELLING VOICE OF PURE EVIL--

THE VOICE OF GRODD-- THE MOST POWERFUL AND FORMIDABLE OF ALL THE APES--

GRODD, THE SUPER-GORILLA...

TELL THEM, BATMAN, TELL THE TATES HOW CLEVERLY YOU WORKED YOUR WAY IN HERE--

WHY DON'T YOU EXPLAIN IT, GRODD.

AND I SHALL, BATMAN, YOU SEE, NO DOUBT USED THAT RENOWNED DETECTIVE SKILL OF HIS TO PINPOINT SOME CLUE MY GORILLA AGENT MUST HAVE LEFT BEHIND AT THE SCENE OF YOUR ABDUCTION, MR. AND MRS. TATE... A CLUE THAT HE COULD TRACE HERE TO THE KABANZI JUNGLE.

BEING AN UNUSUALLY WELL-INFORMED AS HE IS, BATMAN KNEW GORILLA CITY WAS SUPPOSED TO BE IN KABANZI... ALTHOUGH NO HUMAN BEING HAD EVER SEEN IT, SO WHAT DID BATMAN DO?

HE DELIBERATELY CRASHED HIS PLANE AND KNOCKED HIMSELF OUT... FIGURING HE'D BE BROUGHT INTO GORILLA CITY AS A PRISONER!



BATMAN... WE APPRECIATE ALL THE TROUBLE YOU WENT TO. YOU MUST UNDERSTAND... THE EXPERIMENTS WE'VE BEEN CONDUCTING HERE ARE AGAINST OUR WILL.

GRODD HAS ALSO KIDNAPPED OUR DAUGHTER... AND HAS THREATENED HER SAFETY IF WE DON'T DO EXACTLY AS HE SAYS.

THAT SOUNDS LIKE YOUR STYLE, GRODD.

YOU'RE ABOUT TO FIND OUT FOR YOURSELF, BATMAN.

JUST WHAT IS IT ABOUT THE TATES' SUSPENDED ANIMATION WORK YOU FIND SO FASCINATING?



EVEN BEFORE HE CAN MAKE A MOVE TO DEFEND HIMSELF, BATMAN IS SEIZED BY TWO GORILLA GUARDS.



AND PLACED INSIDE A PLEXIGLASS BOOTH HOOKED UP TO AN OMINOUS FLASKING MACHINE... A MACHINE MONITORED BY JON AND MARY TATE...

YOU SEE THIS LITTLE GADGET I HOLD IN MY HAND, BATMAN? IT'S THE REMOTE-CONTROL DEVICE THAT REGULATES THE RATHER LARGE APPARATUS NEXT TO YOU. THE TATES CALL IT A **BIOLOGICAL BRAKE**.



WHAT IT DOES IS SLOW DOWN A PERSON'S METABOLISM AND BODY FUNCTIONS TO AN ABSOLUTE **MINIMUM** TO PREPARE HIM FOR SUSPENDED ANIMATION.

IT WOULD EVEN WORK ON **GORILLAS** IF THE SETTINGS WERE CORRECT... BUT TODAY YOU ARE OUR GUINEA PIG, BATMAN.

SHALL WE BEGIN?



GRODD PASSES THE REMOTE-CONTROL DEVICE... THE BIOLOGICAL BRAKE IS ACTIVATED...



...AND A BOLT OF SHIMMERING ENERGY SEEMS TO FLASH THROUGH BATMAN'S BODY...



SOMETHING WRONG, BATMAN?

YOU LOOK A BIT UNDER THE WEATHER. WHY DON'T YOU SAY SOMETHING.

ANYTHING.

WHAT'S... HAPPENING... TO ME...

VERY SIMPLE, BATMAN. YOU HAVE BECOME A LIVING EXAMPLE OF SLOW-MOTION! YOU NOW WALK, TALK, REACT, EVEN THINK TEN TIMES SLOWER THAN A NORMAL MAN. THE WORLD'S GREATEST DETECTIVE HAS BEEN RENDERED TOTALLY USELESS!

NOW, LET'S SEE HOW GOOD YOU ARE AT DEFENDING YOURSELF.

AT ONCE, JON AND MARY RUSH TO THE FALLEN CAPED CRUSADER'S SIDE, ONLY TO DISCOVER...

THE GRIEVING TATES BACK AWAY AS AN ANGRY GRODD KNEELS BESIDE BATMAN'S LIMP BODY... PLACING THE REMOTE-CONTROL DEVICE ON THE FLOOR OF THE BOOTH.

IT'S A TRICK.
BATMAN SHOULD'VE RECOVERED BY NOW. THE SLOW-DOWN EFFECT IS TEMPORARY!

...THEY PUSH IT...

DON'T... DO... THAT!
STOP IT, GRODD! YOU'RE TOSSING HIM AROUND LIKE HE WAS A RAG-DOLL!

PLEASE STOP! YOU'LL KILL HIM!

OH NO!
?SOB! IT CAN'T BE...

HE'S DEAD, GRODD. I HOPE YOU'RE SATISFIED NOW.

HARDLY, BATMAN DOES NOT DESERVE SUCH AN EASY DEATH.

I AM THROUGH TOYING WITH HIM FOR NOW. WHAT I HAVE IN MIND FOR HIS DEMISE WILL BE FAR MORE EXCRUCIATING.

GET AWAY FROM THERE, DOES BATMAN THINK HE CAN FOOL ME AS EASILY AS A HUMAN?

GRODD PLACES HIS MASSIVE HEAD OVER BATMAN'S CHEST... LISTENING, LISTENING FOR A HEARTBEAT THAT *ISN'T THERE*... BUT HE DOESN'T NOTICE. BATMAN'S HAND MOVING SLOWLY, SLOWLY TOWARD THE REMOTE-CONTROL DEVICE!

HIS FINGERS FIND THE ACTIVATOR-BUTTON...

WHILE THE MASKED MANHUNTER UNEXPECTEDLY SPRINGING TO HIS FEET IN THE TO AVOID THE PULSATING BEAM!

AND GRODD IS IMMERSIED IN A BOLT OF SHIMMERING ENERGY THIS TIME--

BATMAN! YOU'RE ALIVE!

I KNEW HE COULDN'T BE DEAD! I JUST KNEW IT!

AND NOW, GRODD-- LET'S SEE HOW YOU LIKE A DOSE OF YOUR OWN SLOW-MEDICINE!

IT'S NOT SO EASY, BATMAN!

OMIGOSH! GRODD HAS GRABBED BATMAN!

SURPRISED BATMAN?

YOU FORGET I'M A SUPER-SCRILLA--

THE BIOLOGICAL BRAKE TAKES A LOT LONGER TO AFFECT ME...

LONG ENOUGH FOR ME TO CRUSH THE LIFE OUT OF YOU FIRST!

DESPERATELY, EVERY MUSCLE IN HIS SUPERBLY CONDITIONED BODY BEING RIPPED APART IN TORTURED AGONY... BATMAN TRIES TO PRY HIMSELF LOOSE FROM THE BONE-CRUSHING GRIP OF THE KILLER GORILLA...

THAT'S IT, BATMAN, KEEP FIGHTING IT...

...THE MORE YOU RESIST...

...THE TIGHTER MY GRIP, BECOMES MY GRIP... UNTIL I'VE FINISHED...

...SQUEEZING THE VERY...

...LIFE... OUT... OF YOU...

FINALLY! THE BIOLOGICAL BRAKE FINALLY TOOK EFFECT! GRODD'S NOT EVEN MOVING!

BUT NEITHER IS BATMAN! IS HE--

AND THEN A WEAK BUT REASSURING VOICE PUTS THE TATE'S FEARS TO REST...

I'LL BE ALL RIGHT... SOON AS I SLIP THROUGH GRODD'S ARMS, HIS REACTIONS ARE TOO SLOW TO STOP ME NOW.

AND AS AN EXHAUSTED BUT BREATHING BATMAN EXTRICATES HIMSELF FROM WHAT ALMOST BECAME A HORRIBLE CRUSHING DEATH...

HOW IN THE WORLD DID YOU FOOL GRODD, BATMAN? WHEN HE LISTENED TO YOUR HEART BEAT...

HE COULDN'T HEAR IT BECAUSE I WAS PRACTICING AN EXTREMELY DIFFICULT FORM OF YOGA THAT ALLOWED A FULL MINUTE BETWEEN HEARTBEATS.

INCREDIBLE.

BUT WHAT DO WE DO NOW, BATMAN? GRODD'S GORILLA HENCHMAN ARE ALL AROUND US.

THEY'RE HARMLESS WITHOUT THEIR LEADER.

IT WAS BRAIN-NERVES FROM GRODD'S SUPER-ARMED THAT WAS DOMINATING THE OTHER APES... FORCING THEM TO OBEY HIS COMMANDS. NORMALLY THE CITIZENS OF GORILLA CITY ARE AMONG THE FRIENDLIEST ON EARTH, BUT YOU'LL SOON SEE THAT FOR YOURSELVES...

AND TRUE TO BATMAN'S WORDS, THE SUPER-ADVANCED GORILLAS SHOW JON AND MARY TATE NOTHING BUT THE FINEST VIP TREATMENT...

THANK YOU FOR RETURNING OUR DAUGHTER TO US SO PROMPTLY, SOLOVAR.

YES, YOU AND THE OTHER GORILLAS HAVE TRULY BEEN SPLENDID HOSTS THESE PAST FEW DAYS.

IT'S THE LEAST WE COULD DO, MR. TATE, AFTER WHAT GRODD PUT YOUR FAMILY THROUGH, BUT NOW THAT HE'S IN OUR MAXIMUM SECURITY PEN GRODD WON'T BE MENACING THE HUMAN RACE FOR MANY YEARS TO COME.

THERE YOU ARE, BATMAN. DOES THE JETCRAFT WE FURNISHED MEET YOUR APPROVAL?

INDEED IT DOES, SOLOVAR, AND IT'S FUELED AND READY TO GO.

YOUR DAUGHTER IS ALREADY ON BOARD WAITING TO TAKE OFF, MR. TATE.

VERY WELL THEN, IT'S TIME TO SAY OUR FAREWELLS.

MOMENTS LATER, A GORILLA-JETCRAFT SOARS INTO THE JUNGLE SKY... AS BATMAN PILOTS THE TATE FAMILY HOME... LEAVING THE INVISIBLE GORILLA CITY BEHIND THEM ONCE AGAIN HIDDEN FOREVER IN THE WILDS OF DARKEST AFRICA.