



WONDER WOMAN & BATMAN: A BRIEF HISTORY

BY JENNI VILLARREAL

Batman and Wonder Woman are two of the longest-running and most-recognized superheroes that exist. Their shared history extends all the way back to the 1940s, when their Golden Age incarnations were both members of The Justice Society of America. The pair has been portrayed in various ways, primarily as good friends and trusted partners in (fighting) crime; but, as you'll see, they have been known to disagree, fight and even flirt. Okay, mostly flirt.

An Animated Affair

Wonder Woman and Batman enjoy an extended flirtation across many seasons of the *Justice League* cartoon. They dance and share a few kisses, and while this doesn't sound romantic, in one episode Batman sings a song to release Wonder Woman from an enchantment that turned her into a pig, and trust -- it was super romantic. The voice actors for the characters, Kevin Conroy and Susan Eisenberg, have also been known to flirt on Twitter, leading to much fan swooning.

Bats Gets The Boot

In Wonder Woman: The Hiketeia, Batman tries to take a criminal away from Wonder Woman's protection (it's complicated and involves an

ancient Greek ritual). He fails. She throws him out a window, and later, they have a bit of a squabble and she literally steps on his face and warns him to not get up. He stays down. He's smart like that.

Batman and Wife?

Eros, the Greek God of Love, believes Wonder Woman has forgotten her mission to bring love to man's world, and decides to do something about it in an issue of *The All-New Batman The Brave And The Bold*. The god's love rays make Batman propose, but thanks to a bunch of supervillains objecting to the match by crashing the wedding, our heroes remain single and ready to mingle.

A Kiss Before Dying

Our two heroes also share an extended flirtation in the pages of the *JLA* comic, ignited by a pre-battle kiss and a battle that ends with them dying while holding hands during a story arc called The Obsidian Age. Their deaths are short-lived (heh) and so is their budding relationship after Wonder Woman examines a few potential scenarios for their future with the help of a kooky machine built by Martian Manhunter and decides to keep Batman in the friend zone. He's cool with it. He's smart like that.

Blackest Night ... Knight

Just the thought of Batman (presumed dead during the *Blackest Night* event) and the hallucination of a bat-kiss are all it takes to put a temporarily undead Black Lantern Wonder Woman back in the pink as a Star Sapphire. Just the very thought of him! I think we found Batman's second superpower. The first is being an extremely rich guy, which, granted, is the best superpower.

Superwoman and Owlman

The DC Universe is complex and ever-changing, but usually, there are alternate earths around, and on some of those alternate earths Wonder Woman and Batman are evil and call themselves Superwoman and Owlman. Even in the versions of the characters where Superwoman is married to Ultraman, the evil Superman, she still likes to spend quality evil time with Owlman, giving him evil kisses and whatever else it is evil people do together.

Bat-trayals

In the *JLA* run collected as *JLA*: *Tower of Babel*, Ra's Al Ghul uses Batman's "How I Would Defeat Every Member Of The Justice League" files to temporarily incapacitate the entire league, including Wonder Woman. Her trap? A nanite that made her hallucinate an enemy she couldn't defeat and Batman's insight that Wonder Woman would never give up the fight. He's smart like that.

Two-Thirds of a Trinity

Batman/Superman/Wonder Woman: Trinity reworked the specifics of how DC Comics' big three met and spent their early days together. In this miniseries, Batman and Wonder Woman's first meeting isn't terribly heroic. Batman sees Wonder Woman bathing, and finds her so beautiful that he is overcome with, um, let's call it "emotion," and he plants a surprise bat-smooch on her. That ends how you'd think -- she punches him.

