

As you may know, Warner Brothers has just announced that the next Batman movie will star Christian Bale.



However, you may not know the full story behind this choice...

Actually, Bale has been screen-tested for this role for many, many years in situations of extreme secrecy.

They tested him with various shades of black..





In fact, they have actually filmed scenes over the years for possible flashbacks, should the franchise ever be relaunched with Bale...

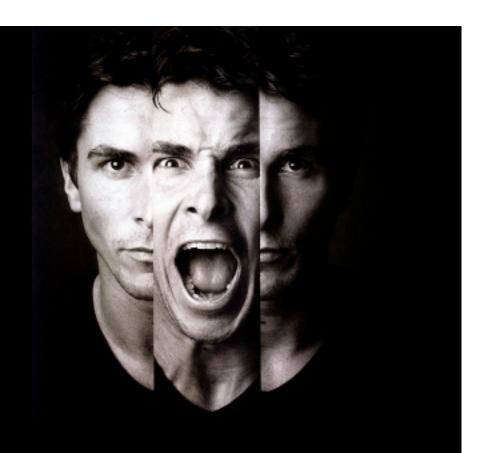
"Hurry, Mommy, or we'll miss seeing 'Zorro!'"





"Damn you, Joe Chill! DAMN YOU TO HELL!!!" And Bale was briefly considered for the role of The Joker in the first Batman, before a disastrous makeup test that looked like someone's crappy Photoshopping.





He almost won the coveted role of "Harvey Two-Face" in a later film...

Although Shumacher reportedly wanted him as Robin...

...or as Poison Ivy...

...or, for some reason, just hanging around the set during filming....





Ideas currently under development...

A "Year One" story

"Wait a minute... Batman shouldn't use a gun!"



"He should use TWO guns! BUDDA! BUDDA! BUDDA!"*



Or a retelling of his first meeting with Catwoman...

"This looks like the work of...Catwoman!"





"Dammit, Selena, quit LOOKING at the appetizers and EAT something!!" Or possibly something more tropical, to ride on the coattails of "Pirates of the Carribean."

"Oh, Talia, let's kill your Dad and shack up!"





" -- (insert your own National Rifle Association, pirate, or Soylent Green joke here) -- " Also under consideration... two hours of Bruce Wayne seducing society babes and letting crime run rampant.*



Or the return of Matches Malone!



Possibly, an adaptation of the highly successful recent

successful recent comic book storyline, "Bruce Wayne: Murderer?"

"Uh...warden? There are bat-mites in my bat-bed."



But, rest assured, no matter what, we can be sure that the Christian Bale "Batman" movie will be handled with the same loving attention to authenticity that has become the hallmark of Warner Brothers' "Batman" franchise. Which means we can all look forward in 2005 to the logical outcome of a multi-million-dollar creative process....

