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Vampirella Vol. 1: Crown Of Worms (Vampirella (2011))



Synopsis

Collects VAMPIRELLA #1-7! Dynamite Entertainment is pleased to reintroduce readers to the scourge of the undead, Vampirella - and she's all that stands between us and the end of the world! Vampi's back and hot on the corpse-strewn trail of her nemesis, Vlad Dracula! It's a darker world for Vampirella, and something more sinister than vampires lurks in the shadows... something even Dracula himself has cause to fear! Collects the first seven issues of Dynamite's hit ongoing Vampirella series, and features a complete cover gallery by Alex Ross, J Scott Campbell, Jelena Kevic-Djurdjevic, Joe Madureira, and others.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Crown of Worms is the first attempt by Dynamite to introduce the character to modern audiences in 2010. It's not the most current Vampirella (Hollywood Horror) adaptation, which I've read and will review the graphic novel coming out in November, but it does give an idea what Dynamite thought were the fundamentals of the character. Specifically, the idea Vampirella was really-really angry all the time. With more than a passing familiarity with the character, I should note Vampirella is traditionally a semi-humorous character. The character as envisioned in 1969 is a funny, flirtacious,

compassionate goofball who doesn't treat the situations she finds herself in all that serious. How could she, she's a frigging vampire from space. The Crown of Worms character has a personality which consists primarily of snarling and scowling. The Bad Grrl™ of comics is a common problem where writers confuse strong with angry. This isn't to say female protagonists shouldn't be allowed to be as angry or upset as their male counterparts but one-dimension is one-dimension across genders. The writing for Crown of Worms is better than this and we have a justification for why Vampirella is really upset: her long-term love interest Adam Van Helsing is dead and this has caused her to give up on the human race. Crown of Worms opens with a really effective black comedy where a bunch of thugs are beating up a homeless man, Vampirella rescues the homeless man, the homeless man tries to get her to murder his attackers then insults her when she won't, only for her to get attacked by (vampire) cops all in the space of five minutes. It's a kind of absurdist situation which nicely sets up this is a world where Vampirella is one of the few good people left in the world and that really makes her mad. What follows is a Lovecraftian story about how Vampirella attempts to track down the nest of vampires which sent the cops but finds herself in the middle of a plot to summon a Cthuluean god which was responsible for the creation of vampires. This results in her fighting against mutated vampires with worm tentacles and their leader Le Fanu, a French prostitute turned vampire who Vampirella is more annoyed than threatened by. Dracula, Vampirella's fellow alien vampire and longtime enemy, offers to help her overcome the monster but only if she risks insanity by confronting her dark side. I liked some of the characters introduced in the book, Sofia Murray, in particular. She's a Goth girl Vampirella rescues and proceeds to follow her despite the Queen of Screams not giving her any reason to do so. It turns out she's been desperately searching for a purpose in life and the opportunity to be Vampirella's Renfield/sidekick is something she's all too eager to jump into. There's an issue devoted to her mundane pre-Vampirella life at the end which I really enjoyed. I hope the character sticks around but, sadly, she's not in the 2016 reboot. Most of the book is fight-scenes and while Vampirella's outfits is surprisingly demure inside the book, she isn't that way on the cover for those worried about reading in public. The art in the back is actually my favorite part as there's some truly beautiful full page photos and pin-ups. Unfortunately, the fight scenes tend to drown out softer characterization and the book is somewhat humorless. In conclusion, The Crown of Worms is an okay book but trying a bit too hard. It wants Vampirella to be taken seriously as a character but it removes any edges from her personality but sharp. Even so, I'm glad I picked up a copy on Kindle and am going to pick up the second in the series as well. 9/10

[Vampirella Volume 1: Crown of Worms TP - Eric Trautmann, author - 2011 - Dynamite

Publications]For my money, the newer Vampi stories written by Eric Trautmann are among the best and truest to our beloved character, never looking backward, never ignoring what has come before, and always improving on the elements we've come to love and expect from this iconic (and very first) badass supernatural supervixen. Compiled here are the first seven issues of Dynamite Publications ongoing (and still worth reading) series, with fantastic artwork by Fabio Neves (#1-6) and Walter Geovanni (#7). This collection also benefits greatly from the most extensive and gorgeous cover art gallery in any Dynamite collection yet. Trautmann has given Vampi a welcomed character makeover - she's smarter, jaded, cynical, cunning, more visceral and methodically murderous when she has to be than in the past. She's a female version of Joss Whedon's 'Angel' character, only more complex and much easier on the eyes - much, much easier. The story moves briskly, is darker than those that preceded it, the body count elevated, the kills brutal and occasionally humorous (and I wonder why I scare people). On top of all that, Dracula emerges again, though this time in a different form, there's a Lovecraftian element I can't go into here, and Vampi gains a human sidekick by the time the saga concludes. What more could one possibly ask for? Don't be put off by the cover art (which is facially childish, unless you're one of J. Scott Campbell's legion of fans of pin-up 'good girl' art) - there's none of that inside, and that's what made me wait so long to add this one to my collection. 's 'Look Inside' feature finally made me see the light of greatness within the book. If you possess even a mild interest in this character, you owe it to yourself to wear this 'Crown of Worms' proudly.

I liked it. Some inconsistencies. But likable and a good story. With decent characters and bad guys. Nice artwork, too.

Great read and the artwork is beautiful.

awesome

I just love how beautiful Vampirella looked in this new spin on her and the story was very interesting I hope to get more from this series.

Not as great as the older Vampirella stories but this is quite good. The artwork at times looks amateurish but does not effect the book all that much. For anyone wanting to jump right into the

world of Vampirella this is a good place to start.

I have always found Vampirella to be the most interesting character, originally designed by the late Frank Frazetta. Everytime I tried to buy a comic or novel it was just to campy, weird or just not serious enough for me. Finally they have done it. The graphic Novel is incredible. The story is right on the money. The art team combination of the penciler, inker, and colorist is some of the best artwork I've seen in years. Believe me I have the right to say this as I am also an artist. I can't wait for the next graphic novels to come out. It's mine already! I recommend this book to anyone that feels the same way about Vampirella! Theodore Riddle

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