



Redlands, Vol. 1

Jordie Bellaire (Writer and Color Artist), Vanesa Del Rey (Artist)

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A mysterious and bloodthirsty matriarchal force runs the town of Redlands, Florida, and in order to stay on top sacrifices must be made. Someone is intent on removing these women from the top of the food chain, and he's ready to unleash their darkest secret but has seriously underestimated the lengths the townspeople will go to protect the new order of things.

Inspired by the strange complexities of real world politics and crime, the characters of Redlands play victim and villain, attempting to understand themselves and others, through murder, magic and mayhem.

Collects issues 1 through 6.

Redlands, Vol. 1 Details

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Author : Jordie Bellaire (Writer and Color Artist) , Vanesa Del Rey (Artist)

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Download and Read Free Online Redlands, Vol. 1 Jordie Bellaire (Writer and Color Artist) , Vanesa Del Rey (Artist)

From Reader Review Redlands, Vol. 1 for online ebook

Candice says

Like most first volumes, this is all story setup. You're introduced to characters and shown their situations. It's pretty graphic, both with violence and sex. I was led to believe this was a feminist comic, but I wouldn't put it in that category at all. It's true that all the main characters are strong women, but they're portrayed as violent witches. Sex workers are treated as inhuman, and women are set up as a lot of the problem in this world. I think the idea is that the women aren't the problem, they're trying to **fix** the problems - but their idea of "fixing" involves taking over the police department and sacrificing younger women so they can live. Since comics don't take long to read, I'd be willing to give this another volume, as maybe they're setting it up like this for a reason. But don't expect a feminist comic - expect a graphically violent and sexual comic with OK characters not yet well developed and a somewhat interesting plot.

Brit says

This book deals with heavy themes of violence towards women so be cautious about reading it if you're a survivor of abuse.

That said, I found this to be very enjoyable but a confusing read. There's very little, if any, explanation as to what is happening & how or why beyond the basics that are spelled out in the blurb on the back cover. I'm not writing it off, though, and hope it was the intention of the author as they do more world building than plot explanation (as a lot of it seemed intentionally vague when dealing with the characters) in their first volume. I'm excited to read more and hope I'm right and that we'll get thorough explanations in future issues. I didn't have a problem with the art style and enjoyed it. I appreciate that it is a woman written and illustrated comic about powerful women. I just hope we get to learn more about them soon, otherwise this just may be a lot of lost potential.

James DeSantis says

Uhhh whoa...what?...The...fuck...shit...

Those were my reactions throughout the entire time reading this. Redlands is a horror comic about redneck place in Florida being ran by three witches who aren't going to take shit from anyone. Right away they murderer a bunch of racist cops and decide to take over the town of Redland. Then we get into a political thriller, mystery, and witchy witch magic shit that is both intriguing and batshit insane.

Good: So I really enjoyed the pacing. One thing I will say is it is NEVER boring. I also think the dialog a lot of the time is pretty fun. Sure, very very racist and sexist but that's a huge selling point to the series. Also some of the twist, the gore, the fights, all pretty well done and kind of scary.

Bad: While most of the dialog is entertaining some of it feels very forced. Also the story is jumbled at times, a bit confusing. And last but not least I was not a huge fan of the art. Sometimes it's great, with effects of fire and such, other times people look squashed and really fucking odd.

Overall I enjoyed it enough to want more. It's not perfect, it stumbles at parts, but it's still entertaining as hell. I'll give it another go! A 3 out of 5.

Mary says

I purchased this book because I wanted a graphic novel written by women that was supposed to be about feminism.

I do have to say the graphics are really good.

But if this is what feminism is about I'll pass. 3 witches kill a crop of racist, misogynist cops in as much blood and dismemberment as possible. Then they take over the town and become the law enforcement officers. Of course because they are women they are going to be so much better . . . and that's where I have a problem because there is still killing, still injustice, still women who are being taken advantage, but it's okay because it's women taking advantage of the them and at least they aren't racist pigs that are killing & torturing - right? Uhm, no, not for me.

The other problem I had with this graphic novel is that it seemed to bounce all over the place which broke up the story and made it feel very disjointed.

I would read other graphic novels from these authors but probably not this series.

Markus says

Witches, bitches and fire. It's okay.

Tyler Kroon says

A coven of witches leads a satisfying revenge romp against racists and rapists in a southern, swamp gothic setting. Be ready for plenty of bloody violence, nudity, and some instances of sexual assault when you pick up this book.

Rod Brown says

If you're going to write a book about bad people doing bad things to other bad people, you have to throw me some sort of a bone to engage me, be it humor, a charismatic villain, or over-the-top action and/or violence. I found nothing here to draw me in or make me care whether any of the characters lived or died.

Ash Albinson says

An excellent and fresh take on Southern occult comics, if you like strong women, murder, and the possibility of exacting revenge on your enemies this is your comic.

Roy says

A coven of witches takes over a town run by some racist sheriffs. Skip a few years, these ladies get caught up in a mystery horror thriller which is part detective. I liked how the plot slowly built. The art was ok in most places, however the dialogue sometimes felt too bloated and even at times irrelevant to the story.

Tricia says

wow! This is going to be a fun series!

L. McCoy says

Dear Image,

You guys are freaking awesome. You guys put out so many amazing titles... and sometimes, well, you publish stuff like this. Why?

What's it about?

There's group of witches, they were meant to be executed during the Salem witch trials but weren't or they were reborn or... the author barely explains anything about that, anyhoo, now they're detectives and some crazy s*** from their past is coming back to haunt them... blah, blah, blah.

Why it gets 1 star:

The story is meh at best. It could've been really good but it just isn't, it's very weak and not well written. The art is bad. I will give the art team this, I can see what they were trying to do, it just doesn't work. It kinda reminds me of the art in Scalped, except a bit more detailed perhaps. Like I said, not entirely horrible but it doesn't work.

The characters are extremely bland.

This book tries way too hard to be edgy. If you follow my reviews you probably noticed that a lot of what I read has a lot of graphic content and for the most part don't mind it one bit but if you're going to put high levels of that kinda thing in your book have it make some f***ing sense! Okay so there's nudity almost everywhere for no reason. Male and female, often full frontal, makes no sense in context, it's pretty much just there, a lot, even in super uncomfortable places (example: a crime scene for a murder). There's also some nonsensical gore which bothered me. Normally, I enjoy gory action and horror but in this it often just shows up, again, no f***ing reason. It's like everything's fine and all of a sudden BLOOD EVERYWHERE EDGY WOO!

There's almost no action in this book.

This book occasionally tries to be funny but mostly fails. A lot of cheesy attempts at jokes (though I will say it isn't as bad as a lot of books are and I did laugh when a dog bit a guy in the d**k so I guess they succeeded once)...

This slightly ties in to the previous thing but the dialogue is horrible. Lots of cheesy attempts at jokes like I mentioned, a lot of stereotypical stuff and of course a lot of stuff that's just bad dialogue in general (my

favorite example being “You f***ing f***er f***.” Look, I understand swearing, I’m not afraid to admit that I do quite a bit of it but... what the hell kind of line is that?).

This book is kinda predictable.

There’s no real good horror in this... in fact, I’d barely consider this a horror book. The scariest thing in this is how bad the writing is.

Some things needed to be explained more. Like, how are these witches still alive? Who is the dumb pimp guy? What the hell even happened in the ending? How is a spider now human? These are just a few questions this book could (and should) have answered a lot more.

Oh, the one thing back there reminds me, the ending’s stupid.

Overall:

So disappointed. I was looking forward to this book and it mixes 2 genres I love (crime and horror). I can’t believe how much they managed to mess this one up...

Do you want an exciting book with an interesting story, great characters, quality artwork and maybe some good horror? Don’t bother with this.

Want a poorly drawn, boring story that tries way too hard to be “cool and edgy” with horrible dialogue?

Yeah, this would be a good one for you though why the hell anybody over 10 wants that, no idea.

1/5

Dakota Morgan says

Intriguing but incoherent, *Redlands* is yet another "modern witches" comic ala *Black Magick*, except it replaces appealing characters and fascinating witchery with lifeless anti-heroes and boobs galore. The first issue starts things off red hot as witches Ro, Alice, and Bridget burn down the Redlands sheriff department in 1977 and take control of the town. It's a doozy of an intro that immediately sputters as the next handful of issues take almost no time to explore what happens when witches run a town. Instead, the witches deal with a nudist artist murderer, some local yokels, and a handful of meaningless flashbacks that don't offer productive world-building. The only semi-enjoyable plotline involves "grandfather" taking cruel advantage of a rapist trucker. And I guess the curb-stomping of another rapist is somewhat satisfying, even if it makes no narrative sense. Why is Bridget possessed? Why do I care?

Jordie Bellaire does a fine job of keeping things moving, at least, so I was never bored with *Redlands*, just hoping for something better. Maybe the next volume will have a coherent narrative? I'm hoping Vanesa del Rey tunes up her art too. It's scratchy and distinct, but it adds little to this witching world.

Timothy says

As a lover of both Bellaire's coloring and Del Rey's art, I was sufficiently hyped to read this. And indeed, I like the art a lot. It's definitely unique and great at setting the mood. The problem is that the story meanders and has a lot of weird choices and just overall is not very satisfying. There are few likable characters, fewer that have any real depth to them. Hoping that subsequent issues spend more time on the main cast and less time hinting at vague histories and also less time showing generic redneck trash villains being redneck trash.

Donovan says

Commentary on hillbilly justice, racism, and objectification/sexual harassment/rape/prostitution/ in a vague world of witches and demons. Problematic is the complete lack of empathetic characters (especially male) and aimless plot, like a pitch black journey of sadistic self-destruction. There are also too many topics being thrown around, and even the largest theme of female objectification/degradation makes little point except that it's horrific. And the artwork is also exceedingly rough, sometimes bad or hard to follow.

Sierra says

One of the best books that I've read this year.

This book is so beautiful and not just the art, though that's a big part of it. The relationship between these girls just feels so real and natural. They are strong, powerful, witches who run their own town. They don't take shit from anyone, living or dead. Even when they are faced with superiors they stand up for themselves. It's super sexy, scary, and full of revenge! Overall just a great story; Part blair witch, part N.C.I.S., pure badass.

Only complaint would be about the volume. The issues of Redlands had these really cool extras from the world they are in. It would have "how to" or old ads or old myths from their town. There was even some old diary entrees in the back of one issue that scared me more than the comic itself. Hopefully they'll have all that in a deluxe edition cause now I feel like a fool for not picking up the issues.
