



## Nexus Archives, Vol. 1

*Mike Baron , Steve Rude*

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On the distant moon of Ylum, an enigmatic man is plagued by nightmares. He is forced to dream of the past. He dreams of real-life butchers and tyrants, and what they have done.

And then he finds them, and kills them.

The year is 2841, and this man is Nexus, a godlike figure who acts as judge, jury, and executioner for the vile criminals who appear in his dreams. He claims to kill in self-defense, but why? Where do the visions come from, and where did he get his powers? Though a hero to many, does he have any real moral code? These are but some of the questions that reporter Sundra Peale hopes to have answered.

## **Nexus Archives, Vol. 1 Details**

Date : Published by Dark Horse Books (first published July 1st 2007)

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Author : Mike Baron , Steve Rude

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## From Reader Review Nexus Archives, Vol. 1 for online ebook

### George says

This is one of my favorite graphic novels of 2010

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### Brian Rogers says

Pulled my Nexus collection off the shelf and am once again amazed by how good it is - quirky, offbeat, gorgeously illustrated, densely plotted, and possessed of a wide vision and a solid theme. There really was nothing else like it, and I suspect there still isn't.

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### Rob McMonigal says

I am probably the only one of my friends who doesn't think Nexus is amazing. I just find it to be too generic sci fi for my taste. But if you like Nexus, these archive editions are amazing.

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### Michael says

This series is, hands down, the best super-hero series of all time. Steve Rude, who was already among the best in the business even in these early stories (which are downright rough by his standards), is one of the top 2 to 3 comic book illustrators of all time. He's staggeringly versatile with his style, relentlessly creative with page layouts, and simply unable to cheat his readers. His linework is painfully gorgeous, and the level of detail in his pages is George Perezian.

Mike Baron is pushed by Rude's creative input and artwork, to consistently produce what is, by far, the best work of his career in Nexus. Outlandish sci-fi concepts act as laser-like metaphors for the modern world, and morality is never black or white. Even our hero Horatio makes dubious choices.

But that's why Nexus succeeds. It doesn't offer platitudes or preserve a status quo. It's escapism that still expects the reader to bring a worldview and moral expectation to the story, although it leaves room for the reader to interpret the story based on their own particular vantage point.

Have I sucked up enough yet? Because, seriously, Nexus is that damn good.

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### Raechel says

Nexus is an interesting comic about a man who dreams of the violent acts committed by the murderers of the universe. He then either must suffer with the nightmares or kill the murderers.

The art is classic. The plot is interesting and grabbing. Overall, I'm enjoying the story of the man Nexus.

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### **Shannon Appelcline says**

**Black & White Issues (1-3).** I'm quite impressed that Nexus' greatness is right here, from the first three issues. We get Horatio's tragic past and his morally compromised present, all in a neat package. This isn't a story of a killer or an assassin; it's the story of a man who's plagued by what he's forced to do. Baron and Rude also do a great job of creating a Ylum that's full of interesting people, all with their own interests; and creating a universe that's interesting too. There's enough here to tell a lot of story about -- full of mysteries and morality -- and fortunately Baron and Rude got the chance to do so [8/10].

**Color Issues (1-4).** Though I found the use of gray shades and zippotone good in the black and white issues, the whole comic takes on a new depth as soon as it goes color. Beyond that, these issues does a great job of really looking into the hearts of several characters (Horatio, Nexus, Sundra, Judah, Ursula) and it continues pushing hard on the moral quandaries at the heart of the comic [8/10].

Definitely the start of something terrific.

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### **Jdetrick says**

There are some interesting ideas here, and despite its roughness, Steve Rude's art is still great. But the book is very obviously rough and somewhat amateurish and it screams "black and white independent".

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### **Ron says**

More childish revenge porn from one of the original members of the Alt Right.

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### **Scott Lee says**

This is hard to review because it is so unique that there is very little context in which to decide exactly what it is that one is reading. On the one hand, it is a very dark take on the superhero mythos, on another, a compelling far-future science-fiction tale, and on a third, a darkly hilarious meditation on life, violence, justice, and how inevitably, inseparably, and indistinguishably the three entangle themselves. The most important thing you need to know? It's good comics!

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### **Martin says**

Back to where it all began. I first read these stories upon their release. I have the comics in storage, and probably haven't reread them in 20 years. That said, I still remembered some of the script and the panels when I read this collection last night. "I owned a bike factory. All my employees had a piece of the action." Great comic, just one of the best.

How good you ask? Alan Moore liberally "borrowed" from Baron in writing Watchmen. Moore lifted the relationship between Nexus and Sundra and directly plastered it on the early Doctor Manhattan-Silk Spectre romance. The creating of a structure on the moon is a straight lift from Nexus to Watchmen.

Rude is still getting his chops, but one can see his growth as an artist issue to issue. Each issue has at least one "wow" panel.

Baron's writing is entertaining and clever. There is a sense of refreshment in the script, as it's unlike anything else I've read, and that was especially true circa 1981.

I also like the Gulacy covers which are in this book as full pages. Those first covers did help create the comic's tone for me as the reader.

Dark Horse did a tremendous job on the book taken as an object, great production values and product design.

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### **Frank Taranto says**

Good art and storyline combine to make enjoyable reading/viewing.

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### **Morgan says**

This is a comic filled with big ideas. It turns the whole paradigm of a superhero on its ear. This is really more a comic dedicated to fleshing out Baron's universe, and how Nexus plays into it. It is a read that is filled with fun concepts, zany interactions, and bleak politics. It is a sci-fi worldbuilder, that stood out from the rest of the pack in the 80s and still stands firm today. Plus, Rude's work on the book is monumental.

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### **Jota Houses says**

Por algún motivo, Nexus no ha envejecido bien. Lo he disfrutado mucho menos que en mis años mozos cuando era un soplo de aire fresco en un acartonado paisaje de superhéroes. Desafortunadamente se ha quedado atrás.

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### **Fraser Sherman says**

The opening arc for Nexus, a 25th century man transformed into a fusion-powered assassin eliminating war criminals, petty tyrants, ganglords and others at the command of ... well, we don't know and at this point I'm not sure he does (I know, but only because I've read later issues). A very strong debut.

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## **Steven says**

Well-drawn, right-wing, executioner style vigilantism in space.

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