



Daredevil, Volume 2: West-Case Scenario

Mark Waid (Writer) , Chris Samnee (Illustrations) , Javier Rodriguez (Illustrations)

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Original Sin tie-in!

When Matt learns something about his past that's too terrible to accept, he seeks out his mother- only to find her in more trouble than he could possibly have imagined. It's the untold story of how Matt Murdock's mother became Sister Maggie, as her biggest sin is finally revealed! Then, Daredevil braves the wilds of Wakanda, takes on a new case with a killer opposition, and faces the Purple Children! One of DD's oldest foes has unleashed a force that he can't fight without being swallowed by his darkest moods and thoughts. Is this the beginning of a new, grim chapter in Daredevil's life? Plus: celebrate Daredevil's fiftieth anniversary with a look at the future! See if you can spot all the clues we've planted for upcoming stories!

Collecting: *Daredevil* 1.50, 6-10

Daredevil, Volume 2: West-Case Scenario Details

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From Reader Review Daredevil, Volume 2: West-Case Scenario for online ebook

James DeSantis says

Well damn, Waid sure as hell stepped up his game on the second half of his run. I really dug the last volume and I liked this one even more.

We get to see a bit more of Matt's past, and that's never a bad thing. I loved both issues of him dealing with his mother and rescuing her. I also loved the last panel as it was very sad yet touching yet filled with hope.

I LOVED purple man's grand appearance and the twist on the kids he was using. It was some freaky shit and watching Matt break down piece by piece again is both heartbreaking and intriguing. The last panel again for this arc was touching and wonderful.

I enjoyed the opening, see the future of Matt, but it felt very rushed with his son. It would be cool to explore that future, flesh it out, but as it stands it just came off as "okay" at best. Still, it was a nice opening and change of pace.

If Waid's run continues to stay this good I'd say he earned his spot as "Good" Daredevil writers. Keep it up!

Sesana says

Wow. I've enjoyed Waid's entire run with Daredevil, but this just might be the best volume yet. How about that Original Sin tie in, which uses the event's big gimmick (secrets revealed!) to tell a surprisingly deep story about Matt's parents, and the real reason his mother left. Then there's the Purple Man arc, which starts out as a decently plotted story then then sort of swerves into a fairly thoughtful look at depression. Foggy and Kirsten make really good showings, too. She's really grown on me.

The 50th anniversary issue is a bit more spotty. I was surprised at how much I liked Waid's future story, with Matt's potential future child. Bendis's story just didn't sit right to me. (view spoiler) And the fake twin story felt much longer than it apparently was. Overall, just ok. But since the rest of the issues were really good, I'm still more than pleased with this volume.

Peter Derk says

Why is it that superheroes always have such a diplomatic problem with Wakanda? I get it, we want to respect laws and shit. But...you don't really respect the laws where you live. You're swinging around, punching people in the face all night. How does that work? Why is it always this weird, diplomatic situation with Wakanda where you have to play your cards carefully, meanwhile you're in New York kicking someone's head off his body?

Dan Schwent says

6 - In the aftermath of Original Sin, Daredevil goes to find his mother, now a nun, for answers about his father. But why is she in the slammer, due to be extradited to Wakanda?

Crossovers suck. Even Daredevil says so. Looks like he's headed to Wakanda in the next issue. It's good to have Daredevil interacting with the rest of the Marvel Universe but I'm not sure about a trip to Wakanda.

7 - Matt goes to Wakanda to bring his mother home.

I shouldn't have doubted Mark Waid. Daredevil going to Wakanda could have been bad but it turned out very well. Matt and his mother had a heartfelt moment. There was some good super hero action as well, showing why Wakanda is known as the most technologically advanced civilization on the planet.

8 - Matt and Kirsten go sailing with her father and The Purple Man does some parenting of his own.

Wow. Daredevil writing his autobiography? And the Purple Man uniting with his illegitimate children? And I thought the Purple Man was creepy...

9 - The Purple kids are free and San Francisco is theirs for the taking!

The Purple Man was bad enough but the Purple kids don't even need to speak. They remind me of The Midwich Cuckoos quite a bit. How the hell is Daredevil going to beat them?

Nice touch that Daredevil couldn't tell what color they were.

10 - The Purple Man is gunning for his kids and Daredevil is caught in the middle.

That was pretty chilling, as most stories featuring the Purple Man are. I like that Matt and Kirsten's relationship is progressing.

"Do you figure his parents assumed he'd grow up to be evil when they named him Zebulon Killgrave?"
"Yeah. We call that the Victor Von Doom paradox."

Closing Thoughts: Another great Mark Waid Daredevil volume. I liked the Purple Man issues better than the Original Sin ones but they were all damn good. I'd say I was going to ration the remaining two volumes but you don't tell a drowning man to ration air. 4 out of 5 stars.

Chris Lemmerman says

At this point, there's pretty much nothing that can stop this creative team from churning out awesome story after awesome story. Even Original Sin gets taken in Daredevil's stride as he tries to find out the truth about his mother's absence during his childhood, with a twist ending that is both heartfelt and completely unpredictable. The Purple Children three-part arc that follows is also great stuff, the Purple Man is always a despicable villain and none of that is lost here. Waid always makes sure that this is a Daredevil story - you couldn't swap him out with Spider-Man for example and get the same results, and the side-stories with his

supporting cast are almost as engaging as the superheroics. As always, the artwork is top notch thanks to Javier Rodriguez and Chris Samnee. This series really can do no wrong.

Robert says

I liked the handling of the Sister Maggie storyline, though the Wakandan angle was a touch far-out for an archetypically "street-level" character. Also, the Bendis scripted testament of matt Murdock's "wife" was weird, and kind of creepy- what kind of hero shows up at a lady who he just saved's apartment in the middle of the night to tell her he finds her "chemically appealing"?

I enjoyed the 50th anniversary stuff a lot, though, especially as it posits the question of a middle-aged retired DD trying to get on with his life, and the Purple Man stuff was excellent even if it did take a big step away from the "Happy Matt" material of the previous volume.

Lastly, this panel gets 5 stars all on its own:

Kemper says

You gotta love a comic book series with dialogue like this:

"So there's a lunatic on the loose. Do you figure his parents just assumed he'd grow up to be evil when they named him 'Zebediah Killgrave'?"

"Yeah. We call that the 'Victor Von Doom' paradox."

Ha!

There's two stories in this collection. The first is the obligatory tie-in into one of the giant crossover events with Matt dealing with the aftermath of a shattering revelation about his father that came out of *Original Sin*. Thankfully, it's a well done story-line that's wrapped up in just a couple of issues that involves Matt's mother being extradited to Wakanda for a minor crime.

The second story involves Killgrave (a/k/a The Purple Man), and if you've been watching the new *Jessica Jones* series on Netflix then you've got a pretty good idea of what an evil bastard he is. It turns out that Killgrave has spawned a brood of kids that have inherited a variation on his mind control powers, and the emotional blast that Matt receives while trying to stop them leaves him teetering the verge of falling back into the pit of depression and despair that has defined the character since the days of Frank Miller.

Terrific stuff here with a long overdue conversation between Matt and his mom about why she left him and his father, and the story about Killgrave and his kids also highlights the delicate balancing act of Matt trying to leave the darker parts of his history behind him while not ignoring them either. The superhero parts of the

story find Daredevil having to use his brain more than his fists as he's confronted with problems that he can't just punch his way out of, and that combined with the strong character bits makes for a highly entertaining comic.

Brandon Forsyth says

I love how the Waid/Samnee DD has always flirted with extremely dark subject matter while having an utterly pop style. That being said, it does feel like this dynamic duo was kind of going through the motions at this point.

Jonny Campo says

this book was a great follow up to the first volume if you're a daredevil fan check this out it has a lot of range and emotion and deals with a lot of very human stuff which can also be one of its biggest flaws as it deals with a little too much at once. 4/5

Pamela says

Sigh.

Daredevil was the first superhero comic I picked up after I waded into comics and graphic novels. I mostly read things like *Sandman* and *American Born Chinese* and *Locke and Key*. However, I realized that I'd have to jump into superheroes sooner or later, so I did it sooner.

The thing with superheroes and me is that I can't deal with their constant barrage of whining and the sadistic things that their creators put them through. So I was pleasantly surprised to start with Mark Waid's run on *Daredevil*. Matt Murdock is trying to be less gloom-and-doom. His relationship with Foggy Nelson was wonderfully built, I love D.A. McDuffie, and Daredevil's got this sort of self-effacing humor that I really dig.

But for me, everything went to pot in this volume. I'm never a big fan of collections that include one crossover issue or one BIG EVENT tie-in issue, and that's what this is. To be perfectly honest, I haven't read any of the Original Sin event comics. I'll probably stumble on a few more, but I get frustrated with the endless events to allow characters to be retconned to kingdom come.

They (sorry to use the mysterious "they" here) also brought back Brian Michael Bendis for the 50th anniversary special: DD at 50 years old. It was ... weird. Does Bendis just enjoy writing wills? I also really dislike the old Daredevil costume. That issue was just ridiculously silly.

Moving back to present-day, Matt helps his buddies out in an Original Sin fight (I don't know what else to call it!) and suddenly these very disturbing memories of his mother come back to him. As it turns out, after she left him and Battlin' Jack, she became a social justice nun, and was just arrested for trespassing and graffiti. Matt doesn't just get it from dear old dad, that's for sure. While the underlying message of this issue was quite lovely--Matt so thoughtfully accepted and explained his mother's PPD--it was unfortunately set in a techno-jungle African country that was formerly ruled by Black Panther, but now by his megalomaniac

sister. All of the inhabitants wear loincloths and body paint. They throw spears. I almost choked on all the racism.

shudders ANYWAY. Then Matt gets back to good ol' San Fran, where a dude with purple skin and psychic powers has been impregnating ladies and collecting the resulting children to build a family to looooove him. This also backfires and results in a band of angry, psychic kiddos rampaging around and controlling people's minds. ^_(?)_/_

The one good thing that came out of this story arc was the exploration of Matt's depression. It was so spot-on. Waid describes it as it is: a sickness. It is not something you can "snap out of." Those panels are really wonderful. But they can't make up for the rest of this, which I thought was rather a mess.

Shannon Appelcline says

Sadly, after a strong first book in V4, Waid sputters out a bit here. he doesn't follow-up on the Shroud-related promises of the previous book and instead gives us a haphazard collection of stories. I suspect crossoveritis is part of the problem (though he does pretty well with his Original Sin secret).

The Future (#1.50). I hope that Marvel has gotten over their weird numbering obsession, but this is a great look at potential futures for Matty (with the one by Waid being by far the best) [5/5].

Into the Jungle (#6-7). Immediately taking Matt out of his new home in SF is a pretty bad choice, and the Black Panther crossover isn't that compelling, but what is compelling is Matt finally learning the truth about his mother, a plotline that's largely been elided for far too long [4/5].

The Purple Children (#8-10). This story does a nice job of introducing The Purple Children, who Soule would later use for his most controversial retcon. Still, it feels like a pretty minor story overall, without depth or stakes. Meanwhile, it's becoming increasingly obvious that Kirsten McDuffie is becoming one of the best things about Waid's run, because she's great here (and sadly another thing pointlessly sacrificed in Soule's mediocre reboot of the title) [3+/5].

B says

This Original Sin stuff manages to consistently work. I literally can't believe it. How many times can they go to the crux of something? But they do. I'm not saying it is unbelievably brilliant, but it gets the job done.

There's something really strange about portraying Wakandans as techno-savages. Like the irony that the spears are really powerful electronic weapons is fun. I get that. But it's not like Americans dress up like Revolutionary War soldiers and carry weapons that only APPEAR to be breech-loading muskets.

Finally, the future Daredevil stories were moderately fun.

Nancy Meservier says

It's so weird to me that Wakanda is the most technologically advanced country in the world, yet it's portrayal still feels weirdly backwards. I get in that our first glimpse of them was suppose to play off our our stereotypical expectations, but they did LITERALLY need to be chucking spears?

Anyway, the Wakanda visit (which is relatively short) is a sour note in what's ultimately a very strong volume of Daredevil. This is probably the best of the Orginal Sin stories I've read so far, and his encounter with The Purple Man is incredibly strong. I've heard that Waid will no long be writing the title post-Secret Wars (Charles Soule, a writer I quite like, will be taking over). This makes me sad, but all good things must come to a close. And it's really admirable that Waid has been able to keep the quality up over the years. I look forward to reading the last few issues.

R. Morris says

The first book within (Daredevil's 50th Anniversary issue) is okay, though ultimately meaningless. The next story (DD #6-7) is a nice nod to Matt's mom, a character who hasn't had too much of a spotlight throughout his 50-year existence. The Wakanda side to the story felt like filler however and it's too bad we got a guest artist (Javier Rodriguez; who's work is serviceable but a far cry from our regular artist).

Which brings us to the last half of the book. The Purple Man 3-part story felt like such a breath of fresh air right from the first page. Mark Waid and Chris Samnee are unbeatable together and this series reaches higher levels just with them at the helm. It's nice to see a villain who's an old favorite (and a regular nemesis for DD) and although the story was quite dark there was also a fun, different sort of twist to it.

2 Stars for the first half + 4 Stars for the last half = 3 Stars

Jeff says

Make Room For (Psycho) Daddy!!

A gang of purple-skinned kids are roaming all over San Francisco, messing with people's emotions and terrorizing them. Their daddy:

It was the sugar rush and food dyes.

Okay, that's not quite right. It's this guy, Purple Man:

It seems that Purple Man, a villain who can talk people into doing anything, impregnated a few women, and now he's back to play evil Father Knows Best. If the birth mothers get in his way, he can convince them to jump off the roof. It's easy to see why Luke Cage wanted to open up a can of whip ass on him back in The

New Avengers for what he did to Jessica Jones.

“Hey, Dad! You wanna have a catch?”

The kids have the same ability as Dads and they aren’t having any of it and they refuse to give him their crayoned paper ties they made in class for Father’s Day. What used to be a bowl before it got kilned, they’ll just toss it at his dome.

Mark Waid continues his terrific run on this title! Waid has a knack for banter and the scenes between Kirsten McDuffie and Murdock are one of the books highlights.

It’s happy fiftieth birthday to the comic and to Matt Murdock as we get a poignant glimpse into his future. Brian Michael Bendis also gives readers a prose (!?) story in the form of a will from Matt’s future wife. Thanks, Mr. Bendis but I thought this was a comic book.

Also: Matt/Daredevil gets some resolution with his mom, the nun. Awww!
