



Batman: The Dark Prince Charming Book Two

Enrico Marini

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Concluding the story begun in the critically acclaimed and sold-out first volume by European superstar artist Enrico Marini (Scorpion, Eagles of Rome). Batman hunts down The Joker in a desperate attempt to rescue the young girl who may or may not be the daughter of Bruce Wayne. But The Joker's prisoner may be more formidable in her own right than he anticipated. And what role might Catwoman have to play in the final showdown between two sworn enemies?

Batman: The Dark Prince Charming Book Two Details

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From Reader Review Batman: The Dark Prince Charming Book Two for online ebook

Mili Fay says

Writing: 4 Stars;
Characters: 5 Stars;
Plot: 4 Stars;
Entertaining: 4 Stars;
Artwork: 5 Stars;
Read Again? Yes!

Total: 4 Stars;

I discovered Marini several years ago through his “Scorpion” graphic novel which was published sequentially in my favorite magazine, “Politikin Zabavnik” (Serbian). For years afterwards I tried to find his comics in Canada, but couldn’t. Finally with this new publication, I was able to get my hands on both books.

This work is not stand alone. You should read Part 1, too. I bought the books because I love the artwork and Batman is my favorite superhero. However, I enjoyed the story, too. What I would like to see more of in these graphic novels is female characters with more substance. There is a hint of it in Cat Woman, but Marini should have given her more class. I do not see Selena as the vase throwing type. He had a chance to reinvent the character, and just left her as a sneaky temptress.

Harley was delightfully nutty. Her damaged character suits her perfectly and I love the new costume.

I love Joker’s design and the frightening darker side of Batman.

I am also grateful that the artist did not sink into deeper and darker violence of Batman. As I was drawing my own Harley for Inktober 2017, I discovered elements of the story I would have rather not known. He managed to keep the right balance of revolting insanity with charismatic humor that makes the Joker character. Though the hero is Batman, in this story Joker is the main character.

I’m looking forward to Marini’s future work.

I bought my copies at Thunderstruck store in Toronto.

Jota-p says

Não sou grande fã dos *comics* ao estilo americano... Mas sou fã de Enrico Marini (e da sua deliciosamente folhetinesca série *As Águias de Roma*)...

Mais do que da história (cheia de acção e com uma reviravolta algo expectável), gostei acima de tudo dos desenhos. Apesar de uma ou outra volupuosidade exagerada das mulheres "marinianas", as ilustrações deste autor são ricas em pormenor e a escolha da paleta de cores também é muito acertada.

Irrepreensível do ponto de vista dos desenhos, penso que vale a pena ler este livro (assim como o primeiro volume), até porque a história se desenrola sem grandes complicações e de forma lúdica.

Alex Panagiotopoulos says

Superb drawing, the story was decent without offering anything new to the batverse, just a typical bats vs. joker sequence of the thousands out there. What is interesting with the Dark Prince is this fresh european/BD aesthetic that Marini offers to the characters.

I'll repeat myself, the illustrations are top-shelf. The script lacks ingenuity. Alfred is portrayed perfectly though.

Sam Quixote says

Bruce Wayne's just discovered he has a daughter only for Joker to have kidnapped her – Batman to the rescue!

I feel the same way about Enrico Marini's second and final part of Batman: The Dark Prince Charming as I did the first part: the artwork is outstanding, the writing and storytelling is very poor.

Marini's painted art is gorgeous and this is one of the best-looking Batman books I've ever read. The designs are derivative – if you're familiar with the Batman films, as well as the Arkham games, you'll notice Marini's taken a lot from those – but it still looks amazing. The Batmobile is Chris Nolan's Tumbler, Catwoman's running across the rooftops as always and Batman's beating up Joker's goons – nothing new visually yet executed so beautifully.

Joker's characterisation was very muted – kiddified, basically. He's barely menacing and is all lovey-dovey for his Harley-warley – the reason he kidnapped Bruce Wayne's daughter was to get a precious gem to give to Harley? Bleurgh!

Like the art, everyone's behaving in ways anyone familiar with Batman and his world will have seen a thousand times before. Joker uses his toxin on a guy who laughs to death, Catwoman steals the gem, she and Batman do the chasing across the rooftops thing, she comes to Batman's aid in the end proving that she's not totally bad. It's such unimaginative storytelling – Batman-by-the-numbers. There's a twist ending but I doubt this story will become canon so it's one big meh, who cares?

If you don't mind a simplistic, almost Saturday morning kid's show-type story, you'll probably enjoy Batman: The Dark Prince Charming, but I was bored pretty much the whole time. At the very least you get a book full of amazing Batman art.

??????? says

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Wing Kee says

Slightly better but not my much.

World: The art is solid, there are a lot of pantie shots though and to be fair it is inline with this book's portrayal of women so yeah there's that. The colors are nice, the art is expressive and those splash pages are nice. The world building is basic and relies on a lot of pre-existing reader knowledge of established Batman characters so there's that. There is the nice pieces of the world, this being Elseworlds there is the woman and Alina, that's about the extent of world building.

Story: The first part of this art was kinda janky, basic and uninspired and it's the same here, we get more of the same, it feels like a two part episode filler in the middle of the season for Batman the Animated Series. It's not a bad story, it's just meh. The dialog once again is fairly clunky but is a bit better than the first book. The female characters here which I had a big issue with last book is pretty much the same here, sure there is the added spunky child but that's a cliched character too so meh. I don't know if we are getting more from this world but it certainly does leave the world open for more, which I don't think I'll be reading. The biggest issue I had with this book and the series itself was how Alina's mom was written and how they was pretty much brushed aside as if she was nothing...bad.

Characters: The established Batman characters fall into their established norms and from there we get this story. There is not a lot of development for Bruce other than Alina and his relationship with her but there's not a lot of time for that either, this is a relatively short story and 120 pages total doesn't really lend itself for deep character development, especially with this large cast. The rest of the cast is fine, Joker is Joker, Harley is Harley and Selina is Selina. Though I've said before in the first book the way the female characters are written here is casually sexist and stereotypical but yeah it bothers me. The way Alina's mother is treated and in the end get's brushed aside is pretty terrible.

Forgettable and troublesome characterization makes this one to skip.

Onward to the next book!

Reme says

Al igual que el primero, la historia no es nada destacable, aunque es sólida. Lo que más destaca de este cómic es el dibujo y el color, que es maravilloso. El final me ha hecho preguntarme si habrá una tercera parte, pues quedan cosas por explicar y con un final que deja caer una continuación.

???? says

Yet the ending was not as silly as the rest of the story. Anyway forget the story, enjoy the art.

Danijel Jedriško says

Batman Dark Prince Charming is one of the best drawn comics about the character that I have read. I would like to express my excitement that I've felt while reading the book, but I'm afraid that can't be done. Story is told with precision and even in moments that seem far fetched it still succeeds in capturing the reader.

Dena Burnett says

Worth the wait.
Love this take on Batman and Joker. The story really isn't new, but how it's told definitely is.

Nikias Tomasiello says

Actual rating: 2.5/5

The ending deserves an additional half a star.

Zaz says

A nice short run featuring our beloved and tortured dark knight. This second part was focused a lot on the laughing guy who likes make-up, which can become quite tiresome after a time, so I think I enjoyed it a little less than the 1st part. There were again some good interactions with various characters of the batverse, but clearly the relationship was a Joker-Batman-Kiddo one, not something really new even if I appreciated how the Joker and the girl interacted with each other. The story wasn't overall outstanding but there were some twists and, for this short length, it was entertaining and consistent with what I'm accustomed with Batman. The art was really pleasant once again and suited well the story and events.

Mdg2810 says

De magnifiques illustrations, un beau scénario et une fin... intrigante ?

Jessica says

Des dessins à couper le souffle et une histoire sombre et efficace ! Voilà ce que nous propose Marini avec ce superbe dytique dont le look des personnages est au moins aussi intéressant que l'histoire. Un vrai bonheur que je recommande chaudement !

Mark says

Part two of the Dark Prince charming and the comic leaves in the middle which of the two main characters is this Dark Prince charming.

The Joker wants a really expensive bit of jewelry and wants to make Wayne/Batman obtain it for him, since his little lovebird Harley Quin wants something sparkly for her birthday. To push the Bat to do his bidding he has kidnapped a girl who may or may not be Wayne's daughter.

We get a big violent showdown and once again we get a draw between the two, as usual one might say.

Visually really beautiful and the story is just too average, the visuals really pull the rating up for me.
