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Joss Whedon! Erika Alexander!

From Joss Whedon and Erika Alexander comes a series that returns Buffy's Rupert Giles to high school! But this time--as a grown man living in a teenage body--Giles will be a student instead of a teacher. At an inner-city LA-area school, when a mystical influence is detected and teachers start to go missing, Giles enrolls to investigate. What he finds is more than vampires and demons; something unusual and frightening is happening here. If Giles can get through one day as a student, he'll have a chance to find out who, what, and where--but high school is still hell, y'all.

Buffy the Vampire Slayer Season 11: Giles - Girl Blue Details

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From Reader Review Buffy the Vampire Slayer Season 11: Giles - Girl Blue for online ebook

TJ says

Another disappointing miss from Buffy Season 11, joining Angel Season 11 as easily the worst comics to come out of Dark Horse's canon Buffyverse. I read the four issues as they came out monthly, and I tried to love it and give the benefit of the doubt. But this series just made no sense! It was sloppily written and honestly hard to follow. Giles also didn't sound like Giles, and you can tell the writer (not Joss, because you can also tell he didn't write a damn word of this) was only interested in Roux. This series should have explored Giles' character and how he felt about his current teen state, but instead it's just a pile of garbage about a character we don't care about. I'd say this Giles miniseries, along with Angel Season 11, can be skipped over altogether. It's pointless and painful to read. Don't let these stinkers stop you from reading the Buffy title or The Reckoning though! 2/5 Stars.

Fran says

I'd been looking forward to this but this is a weird, disjointed mess. ?

Kori says

I like teenage Giles, the last time I read the Buffy comics, Giles was a 10 year old kid. This didn't blow me away though, I don't know what I was expecting but I wanted more than what I got. I did like it because it adds to the Buffyverse.

By the other reviews, the series doesn't focus on Giles, not surprised, and I won't be picking up the other issues.

Mick says

Avoid this if you don't like forced romances, long speeches filled with exposition, characters used as plot devices, bad dialogue and continuity errors

Read as individual issues as they were released.

I have huge issues with this story:

- 1) The dialogue. The story is supposedly co-written by Joss Whedon, but his witty dialogue is missing throughout the entire story and it is replaced by a completely off-sounding and somewhat pretentious dialogue that would never pass human (or vampire) lips. Nobody talks like that.
- 2) The setting/premise. Giles back in high school. As a student. It sounds fun to me and should play well into

the strengths of the Buffyverse, but it isn't used for anything unique. The story is ridden with teenage angst and repeated use of the tropes from high school stories; bullies, lockers, teachers, classes, the principal's office, but it is poor when it comes to everything else. The strengths of the earlier Buffy seasons are exactly nowhere to be seen.

3) The love story. The attraction between Giles and Roux is forced and unnatural. They are fully, completely in love with each other from beginning to the end. I laughed out loud at the mandatory "I love you"-part.

4) The characters.

Giles has lost his personality somewhere between Buffy Season 10 and this story.

Blue does not count as a real character, her personality doesn't show, she has almost no lines, and she does not seem to matter to Giles.

Seed is a very forgettable villain who can be defeated by use of peaches and needs to deliver long speeches filled with exposition in order to make the story and his forced connection to Giles' past make sense. And speaking of forced connections, Giles also have a past connection with one of the teachers. Such random coincidences.

Roux has a personality and is developed throughout the story - especially the third part, which is a glimpse into her past. But her "specialness" is never explained, and that is just not good enough, when she differs so much from every other vampire in Buffy lore. Does she have a soul? That would explain some of the differences. But it would not explain her magic blue hair, her need to breathe or any of the other ways she is different. And needing to breathe seems to be a very big continuity error.

5) The use of Willow and Dawn. They are nothing but plot devices, and I don't understand why Giles could not just have evaded capture and followed Seed/Roux. Dawn's portal opening is too much use of Dawn's powers at a level, which we haven't seen before, in a story she isn't even part of.

I'm very disappointed with Dark Horse and Joss Whedon.

Amber says

I love the concept of young Giles, I don't think I'm going to like this comic with his weird sexual aggression. But I'm coming into this very little context after the tv seasons so maybe idk it works??

Love the idea of the Mixtape!

Garan Tinsley says

obsessed already

I have loved the journey of Giles being returned to life as a teenager and this story is excellent so far. Very into the idea of listening to a mixtape to help highlight the story as we read along and I can't wait for the next

installment.

Holly says

As someone who is really attached to this character and who LOVED the kid!Giles arc in the Buffy comics, I was overjoyed to hear about this miniseries and had very high expectations. I found myself a little disappointed. The characterization felt off and the story was disjointed, not enthralling enough for me to care about it on a month to month basis.

Christoph says

Hmmmm, lange und intensiv wurde wiederkehrend über ein Spin Off mit Giles diskutiert. Damals noch in Form einer Fernsehserie, über die jüngere Version von Giles, wie sein Charakter sich zu dem entwickelt hat, was die Fernsehzuschauer in Buffy erleben durften.

Nun ja, dass es einmal so kommen mag - in Form einer 4-teiligen-Comic-Mini-Serie - hätte sich damals nur bedingt jemand vorgestellt. Vor allem mit dieser Hintergrundgeschichte: Giles stirbt, wird von der Gang wiederbelebt, aber in einer jüngeren Form, damit also als 50jähriger im Körper eines Kindes, durch Einwirkung magischer Mittel zumindest dann als Teenager.

Was gilt es nun aber zu tun - um die Tarnung aufrecht zu erhalten, geht Giles in eine Highschool, mischt sich unters Volk - eine bessere Ausgangssituation hätte man sich für eine Spin-Off Geschichte gar nicht wünschen können.

All dies wird aber nur bedingt aufgegriffen, mag seitens mancher LeserInnen sicher mit Dankbarkeit gutiert worden sein. Ich gehöre nicht dazu, viel zu seicht bewegt sich die Handlung weiter, angefüllt mit offensichtlich versteckten Details und wahrlich „corky dialogue“. Unfassbar wie unzusammenhängend die Charaktere miteinander reden. Mehr als einmal hab ich mich in eine Episode von Twin Peaks versetzt gefühlt - Joss hat sich die letzten Monate wohl vermehrt Twin Peaks Staffel 3 reingezogen. Da bin ich meinungstechnisch völlig divergent, ob mir das hier gefällt, oder ob es mich zu sehr irritiert.

Grafisch mittelprächtig angelegt, für mich persönlich gewöhnungsbedürftig.

Höhepunkte sind vorhanden und haben mich dazu verleitet, mit Augenzwinkern das Rating von 2,5 auf 3 aufzurunden - da gibt es einerseits die sehr schöne Idee einer Playlist, welche auch bei einzelnen Panels dazu passende Lieder anbietet. Diese passen wirklich gut und runden die Erzählung ab. Weiters ist Giles als junger Teenager mit 50 Jahren, der sich nahe einer Midlife Crisis fühlt, sehr detailliert erzählt. Die inneren Monologe der Charaktere sind unterhaltsam und ergänzen die Dialoge, machen sie erklärbarer und nachvollziehbarer.

Abschliessend, ich bleibe gespannt wie's weitergeht, bisher wirkt dieses Mini-Series so, dass sie nur etwas für reine Fans der Serie ist, und hier auch nur für jene, welche sich ein Giles-Spin-Off immer gewünscht haben.

Elizabeth (Miss Eliza) says

A rather sloppy start to this new arc featuring Giles in High School while the rest of the gang was in the camps. My biggest issue is that they aged Giles up 3 years out of nowhere, and seriously, don't try to sell me that 3 years have passed since he's been brought back, they made a big deal that he was going to high school early because of his smarts. I think there should have been more commentary on how school has changed since he was a teacher, instead of him pulling a Buffy and falling for a vampire, who is WAY skinnier on the cover, which is just not cool.
