



Batman and Robin, Volume 7: Robin Rises

Peter J. Tomasi (Writer), Patrick Gleason (Penciller), Mick Grey (Inker), Andy Kubert (Artist)

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After his son Robin's body is stolen by alien hordes, Batman finds himself on the deadly planet of Apokolips: home planet of Darkseid! Aided by his allies: Red Hood, Batgirl and Red Robin; Bruce Wayne must face down the most powerful villains in the universe to recover his son's coffin—a son who he'd do anything to bring back.

Collecting: *Batman and Robin* 35-40, *Futures End*, *Annual 3*, *Robin Rises: Alpha*, & material from *Secret Origins* 4

Batman and Robin, Volume 7: Robin Rises Details

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From Reader Review Batman and Robin, Volume 7: Robin Rises for online ebook

Gavin says

2.5 stars.

Damian back was obvious, and Bruce going to hell for him, sure. The Robins banding together, Babs, J-Todd and Timmy McYawnz. Also Cyborg kinda gets raped a few times...if you can rape a computer android human hybrid...

The dialogue is so ham fisted and lame it really is like ugh.

Superpowers? Why not? Because.

Also apparently Bats can take Darkseid by himself, doesn't need anyone else. Pimp.

My first DC book in months and months and I'm recalling why I stopped.

Jesse A says

Finally Batman and Robin are back together! The interaction between father and son as well as their struggles with their roles were what made this series great. After a couple lackluster volumes this one rounds back into form. Well done.

Dan says

Damian lives!

Quentin Wallace says

Another great volume of Batman and Robin. In this one we see Damian brought back from the dead by a method I won't get into, but it's very much a comic book return from the dead. He also comes back with powers very similar to Superman's but thankfully they didn't seem to be permanent.

We also got to see Batman on Apocalypse in a (brief) rematch with Darkseid. (Batman is wearing an Iron Man type batsuit so it's not as one-sided as it sounds.) The other members of the Bat family show up to help as well. Then there's a guest appearance from the Justice League as we see Robin showing off his new powers. Then things return to "normal", although we seem to have some type of reborn Talia running around now.

Overall another strong volume in the series.

Blindzider says

While there wasn't really anything wrong with this volume, I didn't enjoy it quite as much as the rest of the series. The first part was entertaining, with Bruce heading to Apokolips to save Damien's body and has to fight off Darkseid himself (again) while the rest of the Bat crew pull together nicely to help. This part of the story and the immediate epilogue had that father/son emotional content which was such an integral part of the series and what I find most appealing.

The rest was mainly about what happens afterwards, wherein Damien undergoes a change and just how the two of them learn to deal with it. For some reason this didn't seem that interesting to me and felt like filler that was stretched out. Again, it wasn't bad, just not anything I cared about.

In the end, it is still a necessary read to finish the storyline and the whole series was well done.

Sam Quixote says

Batman's unrelenting search to find a way to somehow bring his son back from the dead has led to Damian's corpse being stolen by a succession of supervillains for an unknown purpose. All roads lead to Apokolips as Batman, in the Hellbat suit, and joined by Jason, Tim, Babs, Titus and Cyborg, launch a daring rescue to save Damian from under the nose of Darkseid and his demented son Kalibak in *Robin Rises*!

Given the low quality of the last two books, I wasn't expecting much for the finale to this uneven Batman & Robin series but WOW - credit where it's due: Peter Tomasi and Patrick Gleason finish really strongly with *Robin Rises*. This comic was superb!

The first half of the book is the Apokolips rescue and I can't fault any part of it: it was brilliant. Absolutely thrilling to read with Batman in his Iron Man-esque Hellbat suit kicking parademon butt, while his Robin support - Jason, Tim, Babs and Titus - held their own. Also, giant robot dinosaurs. Yup!

The showdown between Batman and Darkseid was awesome, the final battle against Kalibak was great (which was guest-drawn by Andy Kubert) and Damian's resurrection was pure superhero-comics-logic-silliness at its best. Also, Bat-Cow moos at Kalibak. If there's one thing we need more of in Batman, it's Bat-Cow.

I don't want to give away what happens in the second half of the story or how the series concludes but it's very unexpected. Tomasi and Gleason run with a potentially bad idea and turn it into a fantastic, hugely enjoyable final adventure.

This extra-long volume closes out with the annual where Batman and Robin battle moon parasites that are planning to invade Earth. It's a fun standalone story and I always enjoy Juan Jose Ryp's artwork. There's also a short piece drawn by Ian Bertram which is a prologue to Grant Morrison's Batman & Robin run where Dick and Damian were briefly the Dynamic Duo. I think these two stories got thrown in because it's Tomasi's final Batman & Robin volume and there's nowhere else to put them. They're fine extras at any rate.

I loved Patrick Gleason's art - he killed it with the Apokolips rescue but my favourite pages were Damian's nightmare sequences and some of the scenes in the second half where he gets to draw Damian doing... unusual things!

Tomasi manages to bring Damian back to the DCU despite Grant Morrison killing him off and he does a fantastic job of it too. I had initially wanted Damian to stay dead for a few years at least to give Morrison's Batman run more impact but Tomasi and Gleason sold me on Damian's return with this excellent book. He also manages to resolve the outcome of Scott Snyder's Death of the Family arc as the Bat-family unite against Darkseid's forces to save one of their own. Hats off to Tomasi for concluding both so convincingly!

Robin Rises is an unexpectedly amazing end to this uneven - but mostly good - Batman and Robin series. It's definitely one of the most gripping Batman stories I've read this year and enormous fun to boot. The last two volumes are heavy-going build-up but the payoff is worth it. Batman & Robin fans everywhere will LOVE this one - highly recommended!

Moo!

David says

First Batman book I've enjoyed in quite a long while. This book needs more light touches, smiles and a few laughs. I like a happy Batman.

Artemy says

I've read this once again as part of our second chance buddy read, this time because I'm not very into Peter Tomasi's writing. It's not like I absolutely hate the guy, but a couple of his Superman volumes made me so angry that I considered shunning his books completely. I also disliked the first volume of this particular series, though that was during my "Zack Snyder forever ruined Batman for me" phase, which I think I finally got over. Anyway, when both Sam and Chris suggested that I read this final volume of Batman & Robin as a highlight of Tomasi's writing, I agreed. It's second chances galore! And I'm glad I agreed, because this really was quite good.

This is not the most accessible volume to read out of context, because not only does this wrap up Tomasi's long run on the series, it's also heavy on general Bat-continuity. Luckily, I'm more or less familiar with all of this stuff so I didn't have a hard time with it, though I'm sure I missed some story beats that Tomasi set up in previous volumes. Anyway, SPOILERS for DC events that are long since undone: the book opens up with Batman in his metal as hell Hellbat suit right in the middle of Apokolips, fighting Darkseid and his brother Kalibak, trying to resurrect his then-deceased son Damian. I mean, what more can I say? It's quite awesome, and this is exactly the kind of off-the-rails and yet emotionally and personally charged story I wanted Snyder's Metal to be (which it wasn't, and was instead an incomprehensible mess). The story loses a bit of momentum after that gets wrapped up, but I still loved seeing Damian and Batman back together, and the issue where they team up with the Justice League was some pure superhero comics fun at its best. I didn't particularly care for the last two one-shot issues about some aliens and Damian's origin, but I think it's more

their placement at the back of the trade after the main story's end that kind of makes them read awkwardly. Otherwise, hell yeah, man! This was a fun book, and so much better than anything Tomasi did with his craptastic Superman (thank god for Bendis doing an excellent job with Supes).

Patrick Gleason's art is... better than it looks in Superman. I didn't hate it, but also didn't love it. It does its job. Although look, here's the thing: the trade includes his original pencils in the back, and they look fantastic! After discovering that and remembering that his art looked absolutely gorgeous in the recent Action Comics #1001, I looked up the inkers on both issues, and I think the problem is clear: Gleason NEEDS to ink his own pencils like he did on Action Comics. Mick Gray, his inker on both Batman & Robin and Superman, makes his art look blotchy and weird, adding too much plain black where there previously was detail. This is the first time I'm noticing inking in a comic book, and boy does it make a lot of difference.

Overall, Robin Rises was a surprisingly enjoyable and fun read, and I'm glad I gave Tomasi another chance with this book. He really does write a great Damian, and I'm all for more Damian if he's written well. And hey, at least Tomasi didn't fry Damian's dog to a crisp, eh?... *sigh*

P.S.: damn, I forgot how *fugly* Superman's New52 suit looked.

Jonathan Roberts says

This was really not very good. When did Batman become a sci-fi epic involving everything from Darkseid to alien shape-changers on the moon....yeah this was moving away from Nolan towards Schumacher and even that is putting it nicely. I will go to Detective or some other comic for my dark brooding detective stories and not this book. Sad

Donovan says

This was pretty damn good. I frequently -- yeah, snicker is the best word -- snickered while reading this. You know, smiling and laughing quietly through your noise. Or is that a chortle? Regardless, it's just a feel good comic with *spectacular artwork* from Gleason, Kubert, Gray.

It's wasn't anywhere near as JLA-y as the cover or reviews had *misled* me to believe. Bats starts on Apokolips, then there's really cool adventure and fight stuff involving the Bat family and Cyborg, blah blah blah, hooray!, woah that's cool and preposterous, hooray!, and what a great ending.

"He's an *Al Ghul*. Dying is hard."

I mean, Damian is on the cover. Should I still not say it? Okay, I won't say it. But it makes me happy. He finally won me over. And it's total comic book hyperbole. And that Bruce had visions to know exactly what to do? *What are the odds, hmm?*

So a few things. Bat Cow is alive and well and still hilarious. Alfred the Cat also seems to be around. Bruce and you know who go fishing. Yes, fishing. Wearing flannel. There's the moon. And, oh yeah, he was invincible for a while. What a crazy end! If anyone knows what to read next Damian wise, let me know. Because I need more Batman and Robin.

Relstuart says

Batman sets out for Apokolips, against the will of the JLA, in a search for Robin's stolen body when Darkseid's son steals it. Batman's special suit for this trip is pretty awesome as is his facing down his adversaries there. This is a really fun story with some great art and a satisfying conclusion.

James DeSantis says

So this marks the end of the run, and I'm happy to announce it ended really strong!

While the last volume felt like ALOT of set up the payoff at the start of this volume is a fucking blast. Batman is going ALL fucking out. Taking out EVERYONE in his way on his way to save his son. Who decides to join him on this mission? Well Batgirl, Tim, and Jason of course! All coming to Apok with Batman in a super saiyan like armor suit they go to rescue Damien's body and bring the boy wonder back. Once back the remaining volume focuses on Damien using his new found powers but also giving us more of the father/son relationship this series badly needed again.

Good: Love, love, LOVE when Bruce and Damien are together. It feels so real, so much like a father and son trying to work on their relationship, I can't help but love it. I also thought Batman going batshit insane to get his son back, including punching Darkseid in the fucking face, was fantastic. Last but not least the final annual is great and such a great "goodbye" to the team.

Bad: The cyborg stuff was getting annoying and slowing down the pace a lot. I also thought the power thingy was a little tacked on and could've done without it even though it brought out the lolz.

Overall this was great! I really enjoyed it. A few flaws but overall a very very good "Goodbye" by Peter for his overall great run on Batman and Robin. A 4 out of 5!

Chris says

He's back!

Damian Wayne returns in the seventh and final volume of Batman and Robin, but with a twist. He has superpowers! First though, Batman ventures to Apokolips in the Hellbat suit created by the Justice League, with his Bat-family allies and Cyborg in hot pursuit. There's no other way to put it, Batman absolutely tears shit up on his way across the hellacious planet, taking down anyone and anything that gets in his way. *This is it*, Batman putting everything on the line to bring his son back once and for all. Darkseid himself makes an appearance and his battle with Batman is high stakes, comic book excess in all it's glory. Then, finally, the

moment we've all been waiting for...

(view spoiler)

When Kalibak follows the heroes back through their boom tube, Damian's new powers are put to the test as he faces Darkseid's son in an outrageous Bat-cave brawl. I had a smile on my face throughout the issue, even more so when Tomasi references the end of *Born To Kill* during the final pages. Damian is back!

Wrapping up the series are three issues that incredibly, are some of it's very best. Every element that's made Batman and Robin such a pleasure to read is dialled up to eleven. The father/son relationship, Alfred's importance to the family, their wonderful characterisation and the humour that comes with it. Damian's internal conflicts, his growth as a person and yes, a team-up with the Justice League! (view spoiler)

Unfortunately, I wish the volume had ended there. The Annual that follows falls far short of the standard set by the first two and is a waste of Juan Jose Ryp's detailed pencil work. For some reason, the final story is an excerpt from an issue of *Secret Origins* that sticks out like a sore thumb, both for it's ill-timed narrative and terrible artwork. I'm glad these issues were included for the sake of completion, but when I re-read this volume i'll stop after #40.

It's a shame then, that *Robin Rises* ends on a weak note, but it couldn't be any easier to overlook given the quality of the issues and other volumes that precede it. From the outstanding *Born To Kill*, through *Requiem For Damian* and all the way to *Robin Rises*, this series has been an incredible journey that's rarely had a weak moment. The creative team of Peter J. Tomasi, Patrick Gleason, Mick Gray and John Kalisz created something special with this series, and it's one that i'm sure will be remembered, recommended and re-read by myself and many other fans. Fantastic.

Jonny Campo says

pretty well written, good art, but it did get a little weird especially in the beginning and this story doesn't flow well with what's going on in the main batman title it's weird that neither book references each other. like if they saved robin where was he during endgame? and when in batman did he divert to go on this magical journey? I don't know but this book continues the series well and it's worth a read for sure but it's not my favorite of the series. I just wish they kept robin dead I was really enjoying the new element of grief that everyone had to deal with and come to terms with. I Mean I never liked the fact of him dying in the first place so I had to learn to live with that I was really enjoying Damian and Bruce learning to live with each other and building there chemistry. so you killed him at the height of this all and when I'm learning to live with it you being him back jeez DC leave some one dead. and marvel you're not safe you just pulled the same shit with Spiderman.

Anne says

Warning: Some Spoilers

*Although, I wouldn't consider them spoilers b/c of the f-ing title.
Just sayin'.*

Anyway. Robin's back!

And whether or not this makes you happy probably has a lot to do with whether or not you liked Damien to start with.

Pro: He's a snarky assassin

Con: He's an annoying 10 year old

shrugs

Whatever. The main problem is that no matter how you may feel about Damien, he existed.

And you can't just kill off a character's **child** without fundamentally altering the character. And if Batman was dark and moody *before* his son was killed...?

Yeah. He's not coming back from that.

Therefore, it had to be done. The question wasn't *if* Damien would stay dead, as much as it was *when/how* they were going to resurrect him.

My vote had always been for dipping him in a Lazarus Pit. I mean there must be hundreds of those suckers sitting around unused in the DCU, right?

But apparently, that wasn't good enough for DC. They had to throw Apokolips in there to keep us on our toes.

All this basically meant (to me) was that magic dressed up as pseudo-science was bringing the kid back to life. Which was fine. And as an added (or not) bonus, there's a decent reason for a showdown with Darkseid.

To be honest, I didn't understand the vast majority of what happened on Apokolips. Even the art (while cool) seemed designed to hide the fact that nobody really knew what was going on.

shrugs

And, I mean, *that's ok*, because the main thing is that we got rid of the Batman-Mourning-His-Child storyline.

Alrighty. Damien's ALIVE!

And he has...*superpowers*?

Um? Ok, that might turn out to be kinda cool.

But I'm still really confused about if/why/how he's a tiny Superman.

Again, it's *fine*. I'm sure it will make more sense to me by the next volume.

Right?

