



Spike vs. Dracula

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Presenting an incredible Spike saga spanning centuries! A hundred and twenty years ago, a tribe of gypsies inflicted a terrible curse upon the vampire known as Angelus... a curse that brought a terrible vengeance upon the tribe in the form of Angelus' family: Darla, Drusilla and most notably, William the Bloody, a.k.a. "Spike." But the gypsy clan has a dark and powerful supporter: Count Dracula. Outraged over the slaughter of the gypsies, Dracula seeks revenge upon the three vampires... and thus begins a rivalry between Spike and Dracula that will cover decades. A rivalry steeped in blood... honor... and eleven quid.

Spike vs. Dracula Details

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From Reader Review Spike vs. Dracula for online ebook

Amanda says

Every Buffy fan remembers the episode with Dracula, which was one of the most hilarious of episodes, and now readers can get lost in a flashback and the tale of how Spike originally met Dracula.

Artwork: 3 out of 5

It's the classic comic book art style seen in 90% of comics. Nothing too special there. The facial expressions could have been better and the pages more visually captivating. Overall, the art was blah and disappointing.

Story: 5 out of 5

Loved it! The 5 issues in this series tell the story of each encounter Spike had with Dracula over the decades. The first issue covers how Spike first met Dracula and the epic rivalry that was set off due to Angelus' actions. The next few issues take you to different time periods and different events all involving run-ins between Spike and his nemesis Dracula. The final issue takes place after Dracula's Buffy episode, and it's absolutely hilarious. Spike VS Dracula was a highly entertaining read with quite a few nods to the show (we meet an ancestor of Oz's). It was fantastic.

I totally recommend all Buffy and Angel fans picking this mini-series up. It's definitely worth it!

Aaronlisa says

I decided to write a more detailed review than my initial one that I wrote after reading it.

First of all as stand-alone *Buffy* comics go, this one isn't too bad. The graphic novel consists of five chapters. Four of the chapters take place prior to the start of BtVS Season One and the last chapter takes place during AtS Season Five.

Unlike with some of the other graphic novels or even novelizations, this one doesn't really do anything that would conflict with actual canon (i.e. the TV series or the comics that continued the series.) I recall once reading a *Buffy* where I believe Spike killed an additional Slayer than what is accounted for in the series. Great novel but jarring considering how Spike always bragged about his Slayer count. With this graphic novel, the events that happen over the course of the five chapters, including the fifth one, are events that you could see happening.

Essentially, this graphic novel sets out to explain why Spike intensely dislikes Dracula and why Dracula owes him money. The five chapters (or short stories) really feel like "monster of the week" episodes more than anything else. There are clever uses of Easter eggs to tie the events in the first four stories back to the two TV shows. Even the fifth story, which is set in AtS Season Five, has enough Easter eggs to really feel like an episode. Spike and the other characters feel canonical in writing.

Let's talk about the art. I get that the graphic novels are not going to be exact likenesses of the actors who played the characters. And that's fine. For example, the fifth chapter, has a really refreshing style that is a bit brighter than the two chapters before it and that also reminded me quite a bit of the colour palette used on the first half of AtS Season Five. And overall the art is fine. My only two complaints are the way Spike looks

when he vamps out in Chapter Four and all of Chapter Three.

Actually Chapter Three was the weakest of all of the chapters. If it hadn't tried to be too clever or have a twist, I think the story would have worked. But the ending has a bit of a twist that's left unexplored and felt like the author was trying to be clever by referencing a somewhat common trope. And then there was the art. What gets me is that the art in Chapter Three is done by the same people who did the art in the first two chapters so I am not sure what happened. But Spike and Dracula look different going from panel to panel. It's just a bit more jarring and I found it took me out of the story on some degree.

Overall I found the individual stories to be engaging with a bit of fun in them that's true to Spike's character. My favourite 2 stories were the second and the fifth one. Overall I'd give the book a 3.5 star rating. A fun read for a Spike fan or die-hard *Buffy* fan who wants a bit more back story on Spike's feud with Dracula but not something I'd recommend to the casual fan of the TV shows.

pianogal says

I like the idea of this one, but the story doesn't do the idea justice. And why does Spike come off looking like a ponce? I also did not like the art in this one. It seems like more time than not, Spike didn't look like Spike.

Eh.

Steven Shinder says

This was actually pretty good. The reason for Spike and Dracula's feud is hilarious. One thing that did take me out of the story, though, was a mention of the Van Helsing film six months before its release date.

Jdetrick says

There's absolutely nothing wrong with this comic (well, with the story, at least. The art's fine, but it doesn't usually look much like the actors, which is a common problem in licensed comics). The dialogue is good and it doesn't seem far fetched that these adventures could have been filmed as episodes of the *Buffy* or *Angel* show. I think what I've realized, however, is that a large part of what I liked about those shows were the actors in the ensemble, and without them, this fell a little flat for me.

Lynda says

Loved this. I'm probably prejudiced because Spike was my favorite *Buffy*/*Angel* character.

Variaciones Enrojo says

Reseña de Txema SG para Los Archivos de Tyfares:

<http://losarchivosdetyphares.blogspot...>

SPIKE VS DRÁCULA. ¡Me debes once libras marica!

Qué grande fue la decisión de IDW de adquirir la licencia de la serie televisiva de Ángel para continuar con su particular universo, mientras que en Dark Horse aún quedaba mucho para que tomasen la lógica decisión de fichar al propio Joss Whedon para que escribiese la grandiosa octava temporada de Buffy. Sólo espero que la anunciada Angel: After the Fall (la anunciada como sexta temporada de Buffy que será parcialmente supervisada por Joss) no contradiga nada de lo que se está narrando, porque para mí estos tebeos que está publicando de forma estupenda Norma Editorial son una continuación perfectamente válida.

Antes que nada me gustaría recomendar a todos que si han visto todas las temporadas de Buffy y Ángel disfrutarán mucho, mucho más con esta lectura pues hay multitud de guiños a algunos de los mejores episodios. Remontándonos a la serie y a la estupenda quinta temporada (en la que Buffy acaba dando el, ejem, salto del Ángel) en el capítulo en el que Drácula llega a Sunnydale y se enfrenta con toda la Scooby Gang, de la que Xander sale especialmente mal parado al convertirse en el lacayo personal de Tepes. En ese capítulo ya queda constancia de William el Sangriento conocía a Maestro de todos los Vampiros y que éste además le debía 11 libras. Una coña que se explicará en el presente tomo, una historia verdaderamente divertida en la que Spike se referirá casi siempre a Drácula como “Querido o apreciado marica”

Spike VS Drácula comienza hace doscientos años en Europa, con Ángelus, Drusilla y William el Sangriento masacrando a un pueblo romaní (el que más tarde maldecirá a Ángel) que da la casualidad que está bajo la protección de Drácula, desde ese momento surge un profundo odio entre ambos vampiros, pero cuyos enfrentamientos a lo largo de la historia serán frutos de la casualidad, así pues durante los seis números de la miniserie partiendo de la antigua Inglaterra, nos toparemos con la Inglaterra victoriana en la que Bram Stoker acaba de publicar Drácula (libro importante en la historia y ya sabréis porque), los años dorados de Hollywood con Bela Lugosi, la segunda guerra mundial con Hitler como amante de lo oculto; aquí se explica como llega Spike al submarino en el capítulo que aparece en la quinta temporada de Ángel u otros como el último con Ángel al cargo de Wolfram y Hart, de hecho este es el único episodio donde aparece el vampiro con alma.

Me he reído como un loco con todo el tebeo, y es que no lo había mencionado, pero Peter David es el encargado de los guiones y entre que el hombre sabe algo sobre esto de escribir tebeos y que se nota que le gustan los personajes, pues el resultado no podía ser más redondo. Una lástima son los dibujantes, que van directamente de pasable a inepto total, pero bueno eso parece ser un mal endémico de estas historias que adaptan series de TV.

NOTA: 8/10

Andy Luke says

Modern classic Peter David here: great character work; delightfully funny regularly; a clever and hard worked framing structure; gripping narrative; strong source research; easter eggs. Visuas by Joe Corroney

are mixed: the architectural renditions are all gorgeous and monumental. The poses and by-page storytelling are dynamic. Some likeness interpretations are wild, delightfully, until the last chapter where disappointing imaging took me out of the story several times. Otherwise, a wonderful piece of work.

Alice Rachel says

This was just awful! The artwork was horrible. Spike didn't look like Spike on ANY drawing. The stories had no endings for some of them. How a vampire as young as Spike can possibly fight, defeat, or even bother a vampire as old and powerful as Dracula is just beyond me! This is the worst graphic novel I've ever read... Ugh!

Arie ? says

3.5 stars. Cause who doesn't want a nemesis?? Someone to call their mortal enemy throughout the ages. Spike's just so happens to be the dark prince himself, Dracula.

But mostly I liked this volume because I love seeing Spike and Drusilla through the decades. The Nazi Germany chapter was a bit of a disaster, but the old Hollywood era was fantastic.

Bucletina says

Muy divertido y fiel al estilo de la serie...pero qué feeeeeos los dibujos.

Matt R. R. says

One of the best Spike stories I've ever read, hands-down. Peter David captures him pretty well perfectly -- Spike is at his best when he's funny, dangerous, and diabolical, without being unstoppable, and David does him more than justice. Spike's narration is also flawless -- I could hear James Marsters' voice in each panel!

Spike gets as good as he gives in his long-running feud with Dracula, who serves as a great straight man. The two personalities play against each other to excellent effect, and it's a treat how each chapter takes place in a different time-frame...Chapter 2, in old Hollywood, was goddamned hilarious. I have no idea if this is considered canon, nor do I care, because it's one of the most all-out fun vampire tales to come down the pike. Highest possible recommendation!

YoSafBridg says

Yesterday/today (it's always so confusing in the wee hours what to call the day~because i haven't been to bed yet so it doesn't really seem like yesterday~but anyway...) was kind of a bitch~i was feeling like shit (have yet another cold and so does Dixie~if cats do indeed get colds i'm finding/getting conflicting information on that front~but the fact that my twelve year old cat is sneezing and congested/having trouble breathing disturbs me terribly.)

My library system started its summer reading program Friday and i didn't work until Saturday, so when i got to work one of the things i did was wander around looking for some of the display tape and other things my manager had said she was going to put up. So there i was, without my nametag (it's temporarily lost) meandering, looking like i had no idea where i was or what i was doing, when i had the sudden sense i was being followed; i turned around only to be assaulted by a couple of librarian questions... I was tempted to ask "Do i LOOK like i work here???" but of course i didn't, i very cooperatively helped them out like any good librarian should, but how the hell did they know?

Had a migraine ~towards the end i had to keep running to the bathroom to throw up and we still had customers every time i came out wanting things~i was late locking the doors and there were still people there asking to put holds on things and i told them "I'm sorry, i'm closed, you will have to come back another time," something which did not please them, and i usually don't do but i needed to get out of there (maybe if i threw up on them they would have sensed the urgency?)

Anyway, i get home, feeling, as i said, ooaoogy (you know what i mean, don't you?), and grumpy, to discover that Amazon has delivered the new Spike issue: SPIKE: Asylum. This discovery ignited in me a desire to read the other two Spike collections i already had, Spike and Spike vs Dracula (the second of which i discovered, interestingly enough, had two small bite marks in the lower right hand corner, which had me puzzled for a few minutes~was this a design feature {a bit much really for a mass produced graphic novel} or~a much more likely possibility~the result of Dixie's biblio-fascination?). So, i have spent the night, distracting myself from the extreme pain in my head in my neck and head, by reading about one of my favorite characters.

The (curiously-bite-marked) *Spike vs. Dracula* includes Spike's (as well as Darla's and Drucilla's) first meeting with the Dark Prince, which adds more back-story to Angel's curse. Then there's meeting at Bella Lugosi's play "Dracula". The next meeting occurs in 1943 Berlin (in case you didn't know there were some truly nasty characters roaming about then). Here we encounter a certain Nathaniel Osborne and have a prefiguration of a Uboat incident. Then, when Dru and Spike are living la Dolce Vita in Rome of 1959 they encounter the Comte de Saint-Germain (tho not a vampire as of yet, leave that up to Chelsea Quinn Yarbro) and Spike unwittingly makes the way for the first Buffy episode of season four. Their final meeting is in Los Angeles, 2003 with Spike in his ghostly form. This graphic novel is worth reading if only for the interlude of "What I Did For My Birthday" by... (well i won't give it away) alone.

Matthew Green says

3.5 stars out of 5.

The first chapter was really interesting! We get to know why Spike and Dracula know each other and why Spike hates his guts and other exciting revelations about Spike's and also Angel's past with Dracula.

The second chapter is entertaining as well but does not deliver any background information to Buffy, the Vampire Slayer.

The third chapter was horrible. It takes place in Nazi Germany during World War II and has some dialogues in German in it which were terribly written! I can speak and read German perfectly and what writer Peter David and letterers Robbie Robbins, Tom B. Long and Chance Boren (or whoever else was in charge of the German bits) delivered in that chapter is - to say the least - fucking lazy. Here's a message to the team behind that comic issue: Either you got fooled by a third-class translator or you just never thought of a German to read these comics in English. Shame on you! Those dialogues were painful to read.

The fourth chapter was neither interesting nor really bad. But once more not at all canonical.

The fifth chapter surprised me positively. I can't believe that the same persons were responsible for the previous issues of Spike vs. Dracula. It captures the character's personalities of the Angel tv show perfectly. I even had to giggle a bit.

Fugo Feedback says

Este es uno de esos libros que consigo a precios bajísimos gracias a los famosos saldos y después siento un poco de culpa porque me terminan encantando. También un poco de bronca, porque ¿cómo puede ser que hayan sobrado tantos números de este tomo que está tan pero tan bueno como para que los manden acá por kilo? Moralina al margen, este tomo es una compra asegurada para los fans de los personajes, del autor, del Whedonverse en general y de los amantes de los comics entretenidos, ágiles, graciosos y -en este caso- baratos también. Supongo que cuando lo relea tendré un poco más de ojo crítico para ver si exageré un poco, pero por ahora, sólo me despierta buenos recuerdos.
