



X-Men, Volume 2: Muertas

Brian Wood (Writer) , Terry Dodson (Illustrations)

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The return of Lady Deathstrike! Can a new Sisterhood be far behind? Meanwhile, the X-Men regroup following the Battle of the Atom - and a new member joins the team!

Collecting: *X-Men* 7-12

X-Men, Volume 2: Muertas Details

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From Reader Review X-Men, Volume 2: Muertas for online ebook

Diana says

2.5*

Lots of characters are coming back in this volume, some of them from the dead pile, too.

I really didn't get why Ana Cortés wanted to be Lady Deathstrike. I think she says something about wanting to do sth but it was never quite explained... Also it took me a re-read to know what happened to her after she... takes matters onto her own hands [I want to keep this spoiler free].

Even though I don't like Jubilee specially, I am finding her parts more likeable, with the young XMen being sidekicks to the "ladies x men team"

James DeSantis says

Dramatic step down from the first volume.

Basically the story revolves around Lady Deathstrike and her new band of killers and evil pieces of shit. So now it's all about the new group of all women X-Men taking them down. We also get a little bit of a look at the younger generation dealing with their own issues.

Good: I really liked Jubilee in here. She's both funny and great.

Bad: The rest is just standard plotting and boring character interactions.

Overall just okay across the board. Nothing horrible but nothing worth mentioning. A 2 out of 5.

Jason says

I have yet to read a Brian Wood book I liked. This female team of X-Men could be...should be...awesome. But it's just kinda there. Wasted opportunity. Keep the idea, but reboot with a new creative team.

Tundextra says

The gimmicky all-women X-Men gets worse in the second volume as they dig up more female X-men and literally dig female villains as Lady Deathstrike returns seeking out the secrets of ... Arkea!!! Some one said let's do a book on the female X-Men! Boss says that's great, go and do it. They forgot about you know... plotting.. characterisation! 5 out of 12 for the New Sisterhood.

Brent says

Pretty, flashy, and empty: as X-Men comics go, this just twists the villains and adds a new cop/mutant character to the mix. Your mileage may vary.

Gavin says

This is actually less than a 2-star book.

It should be called X-(wo)Men; how many ovaries can we throw into one book?

This was supposed to be a great idea, a team we could enjoy, by a great writer (Wood). Instead, it feels like a gimmick-y, quota-filler.

So from last time, and then the events of Battle of the Atom; Kitty is no longer in the picture, nor is Rogue (still not sure why on her). Instead we've got that chick who was in the coma and then became possessed by John Sublime's "sister", and is now back better than ever. Oh and some other girl. She seems pretty strong.

Apparently all they needed was a world-crisis, and Storm and Rach are besties again. (Maybe Kitty just pissed them both off?)

Anyhow, Lady Deathstrike returns (this time as an entity/spirit, who is unleashed by a rich Latino hottie teenager...who likes to paint herself like Day of the Dead...right.

Apparently all you need to do is bring back the "spirit/soul/aura" of anyone, shoot them into a new body, and boom. Wood seems to use this for everyone.

Last volume; here, with more baddie ladies: Maddy Pryor, Selene (both of the Hellfire Club) and the Enchantress, who was on Earth cast out by Thor? Apparently everyone wants to team up to get more power? IDK...really.

Honestly, I just gave up. I didn't try to understand, I didn't try to let it make sense, I just said OK, sure, whatever you say.

Storm decides to let Pryor and Selene go? Enchantress walks away? Lady Deathstrike doesn't want to be her anymore? Seriously? WTF? I'm just so not interested. I swear, Wood just gave up and didn't care anymore? Who knows.

I read this yesterday, and I'm already straining to remember more than good girls(and randoms) versus baddies(and randoms). There's also more of the X-(wo)Men leaving to join some other dudettes I've never heard of either. WOW bust out the obscure shit...I like obscure, but not this much out of nowhere.

Really, a big swing and a miss for me.

Please don't sit on this grenade.

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Anne says

3.5 stars

MUERTAS!

Nice spooky title...

Ok, I liked this one a little better than the 1st volume.

It's not mind-blowing, but at least Rachael and Storm are going at each other anymore.

The plot was pretty action-packed, but (at times) over the top when it came to world-ending stuff.

Don't these guys live in a world with the Avengers, S.H.I.E.L.D., the Fantastic Four, Guardians of the Galaxy, Nova Corps, and the Runaways?

Hell, there are even a shitload of X-teams that these guys could call in for backup.

So why are they going to try to take down 3 like Arkea, the Black Queen, and Selene on their own? Not to mention that Arkea has Enchantress, Lady Deathstrike, and Typhoid Mary riding shotgun with her.

Now, I think Storm and Rachael are pretty badass chicks, but I don't think they'd walk away from a fight with those ladies.

Especially when it took the entire X-Force just to take out Selene in Necrosha.

I like it when teams go up against Supah-Doopah-Villians, but you can't pile them on like that, and then expect readers to swallow down that heaping load of crap.

One? Maybe *two* of those baddies, I could believe.

But *five* ?

Get outta here.

But.

I liked the fast pace, I loved the art, and I liked all of the characters. Also, I'm sort of easygoing when it comes to plot holes, so it's not like I was all pissed off when I was reading it.

Like Sesana said in her review, I want to support this team.

But *damn*, Wood...you gotta give us something a bit better than this, or we're going to end up jumping ship.

The Sapphic Nerd says

Just look at the cover. That quality is basically what you get inside. Gorgeous interior art. The story is okay - if a little underwhelming - but it's amusing to read the ladies' interactions, even if I don't know what all their beef with each other is.

Aaron says

This is a deeply terrible book on essentially every level. Plot, character, basic story structure, the need to

communicate what in the hell is going on clearly. All of these are a solid F. It's kind of unbelievable that this was written by a celebrated comics author.

First of all, the plot itself makes absolutely no sense. Arkea, the super A.I./computer goddess or whatever she is who we literally just watched the X-Men defeat in volume 1, is already back. In volume 1 we learned that if she were to replicate into any technology whatsoever, she would take over the earth in a matter of seconds due to her ability to transmit over electricity and Wi-Fi and whatever else. Luckily, the X-Men defeated her in the last volume, so I guess now it's time for a new story. Just kidding!

Arkea comes back in this volume and is instantly outside of any of the X-Men's protections. Based on what we've *just been told*, this should mean the world's done for. But, for reasons that are never explained and not even remotely addressed, Arkea chooses *not* to do this, and just kind of hangs around recruiting other villains to help her do... something? It's never explained what she's trying to do. It seems like she's just trying to put together a super team to take over the world, but we already know she could take over the world all on her own, and we're given no reason to believe this new team she's put together is doing anything to help her.

Beyond this phenomenally flawed plot, there's also no attempt to set these characters apart and show their struggles as X-Men/people/friends/romantic interests/whatever. There are a couple of times characters talk about things that happened to them off-panel in what I guess is an attempt to humanize them, but we never actually see anything happen to anyone. It's a lot of talking, and these characters don't even have distinct voices. It's like reading 19 of the same character, only some of them are good and some are evil.

Even the art is inconsistent and strange in this. One B-plot involving a Sentinel battle is drawn by a completely different artist. Couple that with the fact that I have no idea why that B-plot is even happening or how it factors into the larger story (beyond one character saying "Arkea did this!" or something equally lazy), and it makes for some pretty jarring shifts in the narrative.

Basically, avoid this entire series. Volume 1 was weak, volume 2 is terrible, and I can only assume volume 3 doesn't magically fix all this.

Quentin Wallace says

I liked this volume slightly better than the first. For one thing, this volume had some Terry Dodson art. If you are going to do a book starring female X-men, Terry Dodson is a great choice for artist. Really sexy art. That was about the only saving grace though. The story wasn't terrible but just seemed so typical. It's a continuation of the first volume dealing with the sentient computer virus.

Visually nice, but overall still disappointing.

Jeff says

Dude, this is freaking comic book. Get over it already.

Lady Deathstrike, dead? Not so much anymore.

The Sisterhood of Evil is doing it for themselves. Lady Deathstrike is inhabiting some drug cartel king pin's daughter and she won't take "no" for an answer in her search for Akrea, some piece of alien super tech that will help her become a super-duper-cyber-villain.

This is a comic, so "no" means "yes", as in "yes", let's kick some X-Men tush.

We have a heavy dose of estrogen on the hero side as well.

Where are all the X-Menfolk? I haven't a clue. Beast is around a little doing lab work and some of the X-kids are on campus and where the hell did Jubilee get a baby?

Since Rogue's not here either Monet St. Croix gets to play the role of bruiser.

Who's Monet? In World War Hulk, she got drop kicked to New Jersey by the Hulk.

Bottom line: Wood comes up with an average tale that could have done with some editing. For example, I know Quentin Quire is a telepath, but as far as I know he can't appear in two sub-plots at the same time. I'll always welcome Typhoid Mary in a Marvel book, because in my experience fishnets and crazy are a perfect combo.

Anna says

Underwhelmed to Hell and back. What the heck is my problem lately with duds???

Thank god for Rocket Raccoon #1, which I'm really looking forward too. Hopefully that doesn't disappoint me too...

But then again, I'm used to it.

47Time says

I've read few stories that feature Monet. I only know she is seen as a bit of a bitch, though her power level is

impressive. I can see why she would be arrogant and she has become one of my favourite X-Men after this story. The artwork is sexy AF, even after the artist change, so everybody looks amazing no matter their mental state or personality.

Ana Cortes, a billionaire heiress, buys Yuriko Oyama's consciousness and inserts it beside her own. She brings Lady Deathstrike back, but needs time for her body to adjust. She builds a team of mutants to stand by her against the X-Men, initially just for fun. Arkea's involvement makes the experience less enjoyable than she would have hoped.

(view spoiler)

Ari Eris says

A solid, satisfying read in the traditional comic book...tradition or whatever. I'm happy that the Arkea arc did not end with the first book, and I'm curious to see what will happen in the next. And how charming to see Psylocke make some kind of sense.

Sesana says

It just felt kind of... thin to me. Thin plot, thin characters. Wood never really explored Ana Cortez or her motivation for turning herself into a host for Lady Deathstrike. At the start of the book, she says something about vengeance, but never says what for. And at the end, she suddenly just wanted to meet famous heroes? I don't think Wood ever really decided what he wanted to do with Ana, or ever really made her feel like she was sharing a body with Lady Deathstrike. And the resolution felt awfully neat and convenient to me. It was actually a big letdown, when I was hoping for something far more interesting and dangerous. I want to support an all-female team of heroes, but the writing needs to be better than this.
