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Rat Queens Volume 3: Demons



Synopsis

Having survived the end of the world, the Queens follow Hannah back to where it all began: Mage University. A long perilous journey awaits the Rat Queens as they attempt to find out what happened to Hannah's father while battling their own demons. Collects RAT QUEENS #11-15

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This one's a bit different than its predecessors. As you may have gathered if you read my other RQ blurbs--I love this series. They're the first series to hook me on comics, in all honesty. In all cases, as soon as they fell into my fingers, I devoured the lot of them. Anti-heroes, genuine female characters, an engagingly action-packed story and rich art sealed a package that was simply unbeatable. This third chapter, however, is lacking in some of the things I loved most in its predecessors: character growth, as well as short story level action mingling with a contrary devotion to depth despite the short binding. In Demons, however, the whole overarching story seems to have stumbled into "middle book" syndrome, feeling like the whole thing is a build to something else. Despite a quick-paced intro that sets the ground for huge events to come, the story at large never really stands on its own two feet. It felt like filler, honestly, and even big moments were undercut by a swiftness that felt almost like...needless rush. Nothing was resolved, and certain events felt like they were happening "just because"--not for a purpose. Unlike many, the artist change didn't particularly trip me up. I noticed the switch in artistic form, of course, but it didn't detract anything from the work. Had it been the form its readers had first been introduced to, I doubt it should have

become the explosive issue it has become in some circles. The art is different, but it's fine. The sharp humor is still there. Whatever qualms I have with the direction of story, the language remains wittily on point. I may have tripped a little bit getting through this chapter, but I'm still looking forward to future adventures--I just hope the hiatus isn't too long lasting! I'm chomping at the bit for more of that energy that first captivated me, and I still believe in Wiebe's ability to deliver it.

The best I can say for this is "meh" and that makes me very sad. I LOVED Rat Queens 1 & 2. Couldn't wait for #3 to come out. Sat down & read it as soon as it came in the mail and now, I'm actually angry at how mediocre it was. The first two volumes were fairly tight stories with character growth and depth. The main story line here, such that it was, was just a big prelude to the next book ... which would have been fine if they hadn't spent 50% of the pages on little side stories that neither progressed the plot nor helped you understand the characters more. Not to mention all the time building up a character, making him important to the Queens, then killing him off screen. The entire thing just felt like the authors were adding filler because they didn't know what to do with the story at this point. Also not helping is the switch in artists. The new art isn't bad but it really doesn't match the style of the story. Gone are the hard angles, detailed backgrounds and focus on the character's expressions. In its place are big eyes, big boobs and blurry smears. The artist is obviously skilled but that overly rounded, almost cell-shaded art is not what I expected under a Rat Queen's title. In this case you should judge the book by its cover, cause that's exactly what you get with this book and it's a shame.

I LOVED the art in the first two volumes, and the queer ass kicking kinky narrative. I don't know what happened, but the art in this one seems overly directed towards the male gaze. Way too bulbous all around - too many pointless "tit shots" and the art went from being elegantly sexy to cartoonish and pornographic (not in a hot way - in a gross way). Please bring back the artistic style of the first two volumes!!!!

Loved Vols. 1 and 2. Thought the story had progressed in a way that made sense with humor and great character development. Then volume 3 happens. Shift in art looks like a web comic instead of a class A publication. Story meanders without making the reader want more. Characters go from dirty fighting, witty heroines who knuckle up in the face of adversity to cranky children. The series is fantastic if you stop with the first two volumes though.

I love LOVE this series but this volume was such a let down for me. I did not like the ending and I don't like where the author is taking this series. I'll hold out for the fourth volume and see it through but I did not like the ending.

Sad to see all the drama happening behind the scenes with the creator and artists of Rat Queens. A series so special deserved better. The fans deserved better. After this volume, the issues will continue solely in webcomic form but I plan on dropping the series regardless. Volume 2 and 3 (especially) fell flat for me. The group fell flat. They appeared to be more acquaintances than a team. Rat Queen pride between themselves was just kind of lost. I guess real life shows through your art. Volume 1 will always be a favorite of mine.

While I am a bit over the ever changing art style of this series, the story itself has remained one of my favorites. I really love reading about these badass babes and this volume in particular gives us a great insight into their backstories and how they became who they are today. Sometimes this can feel a bit random, like with Betty's backstory reveal, but how the characters react is never out of place. Plus, there is a bonus short story at the end of the book that tells us more about the orc Bragga which is just... amazing. I was literally squealing as I read it. Thank you so much for that little nugget of wonderful. I hope she gets a spin-off series.

My only complaint, is the next one is not out yet. This is the only hard copy comic I still buy. I've gone digital with everything else, but this one is worth the space on my bookshelf.

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