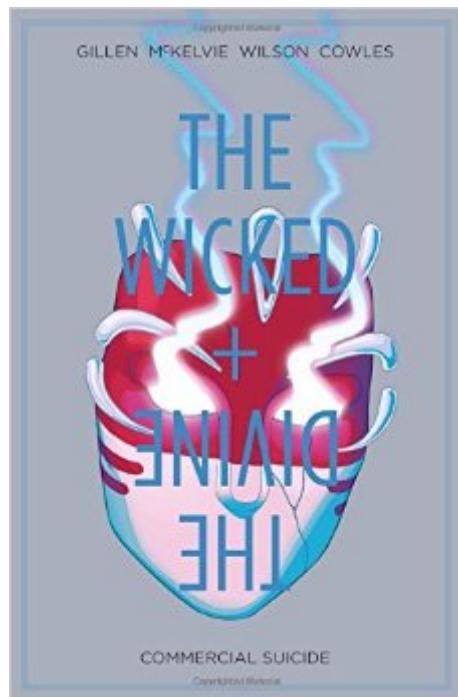


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The Wicked + The Divine Volume 3: Commercial Suicide



Synopsis

After the detonation of FANDEMONIUM the gods-as-pop-stars of THE WICKED + THE DIVINE try living in the long dark shadow. Team WicDiv are joined by a stellar cast of guest artists to put the spotlight of each of the gods. The multiple Eisner-award nominated series continues in the only way it knows how: darker, weirder, faster. Don't worry. It's going to be okay.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

As the other reviewer mentioned, this is a good read. However I have a few critiques;- The story progresses a little slower than in Volumes 1 and 2, but getting additional backstories is nice. Overall, very enjoyable writing.- The artwork. I can't stand when new artists come in and there is a jolting change between each chapter. Its not that the artists are bad; they each have their own unique style. But when one artists draws with extensive detail and another one is a minimalist it is very distracting to the reader. If your a fan of Volumes 1 and 2, then get this book. You'll like it a lot. Just a heads up on the art :)

My initial reaction to this book was confusion--the art, so consistently beautiful in the preceding two volumes--is immediately and drastically different, with a different visual style every issue. At first this bugged me, but the more I read the more the changes made sense, and, in my opinion, work. After the shocking ending of volume 2, the focus of WicDiv as a series had to shift to a different character than the one we watched for both the preceding volumes, and as the story shifts its focus across

WicDiv vol. 3 from reporter to god to god, the artistic changes work to emphasize the different points of view we as the readers are experiencing. This is a book that focuses not on the central relationships one fan develops with her idols, but on the lives and experiences of each individual god idolized by the world. These are deeply broken people cursed by fame and adoration, a theme present in the previous volumes but nowhere near as thematically explored as here in volume 3. If WicDiv's greater literary message is about how terrible it would be to be famous and how terrible the "adoring fans" are to their idols, then this book is more true to delivering that message and more effective in its than both the preceding volumes combined. This is a stellar volume in a stellar series that is worth everyone's time to read.

Volumes 1 and 2 of this 2014 series were very well done. The writing and artwork worked together nicely. Despite being a touch disjointed, the plot moved forward in a linear fashion. Gillen used the bestowing of God-like powers on a dozen young people as a way to comment on 21st century Western society and the vapidness of modern celebrities. Volume 3 is a mishmash collection of different artists and stories told out of sequence - basically it is a collection of one-shot stories that provide some background on the members of the Pantheon. The story moves forward only a little bit from the first two volumes. Still, this new universe and concept is interesting enough that when volume 4 beckons, I'll purchase it in hopes that it captures the magic of volume 2.

Wicked and Devine started off strong, hit a crazy cliff hanger... Then immediately put on the breaks in this volume to give us back story. I mean back story is appreciated, but not when it consumes most of the volume. Very little actually happens here. The other annoying thing was the jarring art transitions. Amaratsu and Tara chapters were gorgous but the others were less than desirable artistically. They shouldn't have had guests with such varying styles. Hopefully volume 4 cleans up these problems and goes back to being great.

I will certainly agree with other reviewers and say that the variations in art work caught me a little off guard and did distract me a bit. I really enjoyed the art from the previous volumes so this was a slight shock to the system. Using 6 different drawing styles and character renderings is certainly a change. However, I will not debate the wisdom of those who came up with that idea. I WILL say that once you get used to the art and into the story it becomes quite interesting. This volume sort of goes back and fills in some blanks while leaving new ones at the same time. I'm very curious to see what the next volume looks like. Literally!

Jamie McKelvie did not work on most of the issues in this collection, and as a result, the art is not consistent. I understand that the creators tried to match the different art styles to the perspectives of the character each chapter focused on, but it made the book lose some of the "feel" of the first two volumes. The plot includes some character backstory and some continuation of the main story. Overall, not as good as the first two, but still worth reading

*Disclaimer: I received a copy of this book through Netgalley in exchange for an honest review.*After the shocking last issue, this volume concentrates more on some of the original gods/goddesses providing some back story as to who they were before being chosen. We also find out who has been taking out the gods and it's a shock to see who it is although there is no explanation as yet as to why they are doing it.I miss the main character, Laura, without her it feels a bit more like a bunch of short stories instead of something cohesive. The main issue I have with this volume is the artwork, after two breathtaking volumes of stunning art this volume falls pretty flat. Six guest artists were used to put their own spin on the series and it is just too different and therefore jarring with each volume having a totally different art style. It's not that it's all bad it's just that it lacks any sort of consistency and I hate inconsistent artwork. I just wish the original artist had been used for this volume, reading some of the other reviews for this it's a huge issue for many that the art is so different.Let's hope volume 4 is back to the standards of volumes 1 & 2.

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