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Batwoman Vol. 1: Hydrology (The New 52)



Synopsis

A NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER As a part of the acclaimed DC Comics "The New 52" event of September 2011, Batwoman's new series finally begins! The creative team of J.H. Williams III and W. Haden Blackman launch the ongoing Batwoman series, as Batwoman (a.k.a. Kate Kane) faces deadly new challenges in her war against Gotham City's underworld and new trials in her personal life. Who or what is stealing children from the barrio, and for what vile purpose? Will Kate train her cousin, Bette Kane (a.k.a. Flamebird), as her new sidekick? How will she handle unsettling revelations about her father, Colonel Jacob Kane? And why is a certain government agency suddenly taking an interest in her? These are some of the questions that will be answered in this long-awaited series! This deluxe hardcover collect issues 0-5 of Batwoman, part of the DC Comics "The New 52" event. From the Hardcover edition.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This volume collects issues 0-5 and to clear up any confusion, due to different solicits, is NOT a deluxe hardcover but a standard hardcover. Sadly, Batwoman issue 0 is a hold over from the old DCU. The dead give away is Batman's emblem, the yellow background with bat on top that Grant Morrison made the trademark for old DCU Batman Inc. It is Batman/Bruce Wayne scouting Batwoman/Kate Kane to figure out if the identity matches and if she is worthy to be one of Gotham's protectors. Almost a precursor to Greg Rucka's written and J. H. Williams drawn Batwoman: Elegy. A fanatic read and highly recommended before going into this story. Issues 1-5 is the Hydrology arc

and the intro of Batwoman into the new 52, but it picks up right where the above mentioned "Elegy" storyline finished. New readers do not fear, as all needed information is given. This is still a relatively new franchise. Kate is still at ends with her father and the tragedy that befell her sister. But a crimefighter has little time to rest in Gotham City as a watery ghost called "The Weeping Woman" is drowning children and leaving the authorities clueless. Kate also has her over eager yet not psychology ready cousin, Bette Kane, a.k.a. Flamebird, itching to go as her sidekick. Kate also has romance woes with Detective Maggie Sawyer of the G.C.P.D. And has gotten the interest of a supernatural division of the D.E.O. from an Agent Chase and Director Bones (it's a fitting name). Let me talk about the art first as it's just too exciting. J. H. Williams III works magic on the page. His stylish and intricate layouts. His gorgeous styles.

J.H. Williams III has produced the most visually dynamic book to come out of DC Comics in the last year; Batwoman has a distinctive look that pushes the graphic novel art form to new heights. The first five issues of the Batwoman series have been collected in Batwoman Volume 1 Hydrology. On the surface 'Hydrology' is the story of Batwoman's search for children who have been abducted by an urban legend, La Llorana, "The Weeping Woman". At its heart, 'Hydrology' is defining who Batwoman is: an estranged daughter, a grieving sister, a proud lesbian, a brave soldier and a determined hero. Williams with co-writer W. Haden Blackman craft a story that interlocks all aspects of Batwoman and her alter ego Kate Kane into a hero unlike others in the world of fiction. Williams' artwork sets the tone for this book. With stunning imagery that weaves its way across the page. Not confined by traditional comic paneling, Williams presents a radical change to the comic book format. The art flows across the page with brilliant layouts that tells the story in a new way. Batwoman stands out on the page since Williams makes her costume glisten as the material has a shiny leather look that is like nothing else in the story. The heroine's costume is accentuated by her flaming red hair. It is breathtaking work that contrasts to the mysterious backgrounds that flow across the page as smoke wafts through the sky. The color artwork of Dave Stewart is just as much a part of the story as Williams' art. From the bright red color of Batwoman's hair to the heroine's pale skin the colors play a huge part in defining the look of this book. Williams and Blackman entrench Batwoman firmly into Batman's world.

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