



Ghost Rider, Vol. 1: Vicious Cycle

Daniel Way , Mark Texeira (Artist) , Javier Saltares (Artist)

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Once upon a time, Johnny Blaze made a deal with the Devil - and to no-one's surprise but his own, he got shafted. Now trapped in hell, with the Spirit of Vengeance bonded to his immortal soul and weighing him down, Johnny may have finally found a way out. But at what cost?

Ghost Rider, Vol. 1: Vicious Cycle Details

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From Reader Review Ghost Rider, Vol. 1: Vicious Cycle for online ebook

Logan says

Very good! So I think this is what I was looking for when I wanted to get into Ghost Rider Comics earlier in the year! From what I read I did not like the direction Garth Ennis took; and although I like Robbie Reyes, I hated everything else about Felipe Smith's run! But this was almost perfect! So the story(at least for the first 5 issues), is Johnny Blaze is trapped in hell, by the devils doing, so he escapes, however he accidentally brings the Devil with him to earth, so now Ghost Rider has to deal with him! The Story was quite good and original, and is just Daniel Way at his best! The Artwork is also quite good, its not your typical comic book art, and it just suits Ghost Rider so well! I would have given this 5 stars for the first arc alone; but then we have arc 2... So the last issues of this volume is a mini arc; which is again Ghost Rider vs The Devil; but with some of the most butt ugly artwork I have ever seen! Story wise it was fine, the artwork was a let down compared to the first arc! But overall, highly recommend for a Ghost Rider fan!

Adam Fisher says

Through a loophole in the process, Johnny Blaze has escaped hell... but brought the Devil with him. Lucifer has divided himself into 666 pieces and every time Ghost Rider destroys one, the remaining get more powerful. Johnny wants to destroy 665 of them and drag the Devil back to Hell himself. Though he has a one sided focus, and ends up beating up Doctor Strange because of it (by accident), Ghost Rider's determination to win should provide a great story to last many Volumes. I really look forward to reading more.
Recommend.

Gavin says

The new series begins, and once again, Johnny Blaze is tormented trying to escape hell every night.

Except this time...he makes it out. Only problem? Lucifer hitched a ride...

The Rider is back, and Blaze as his host is alive...ish...once more. However, Lucifer also made the trip back, but as he had no Earthly host, he bonded to 666 souls who were dying as he crossed over with Ghost Rider.

As he inhabits each dead person, Rider must take him out, but each time he does it, Lucifer gets stronger, until the last one will be all powerful...or so,I gather.

The weakest link here is Blaze. He's needing more dimensions. We get a cool run in with Dr. Strange, who The Rider thinks is Lucifer in a form, so Ghost Rider fucks Strange up. Not something you see every day!

A good strong start, but similarities with other series are present, in that the art is forefront, and the story isn't as bad as some, but there's room to grow.

Andrew Uys says

Not even the latest reboot of the series anymore, this volume sets the stage with Johnny Blaze escaping from Hell yet again. Gone is Danny Ketch ("my" Ghost Rider in the 90s), but a lot of his more 'badass' design remains...except for the motorcycle. While this could be my biggest disappointment with the particular relaunch, the plot behind Blaze's escape - the Devil is hidden aboard the bike when it breaks free from Hell & the Ghost Rider has to stop him from taking over Earth - makes for some fun twists and turns.

Not the best comic book, though certainly not the worst, I decided to start at the beginning of the run even though I'm more interested in Jason Aaron's upcoming work in later volumes (and the return of Danny Ketch). If you're a horror or die hard Ghost Rider fan, definitely worth reading. If not...check out the recent reprintings of the 90s GS series!

Jdetrick says

I good start to a new Ghost Rider series, with at the very least an interesting premise and some solid art.

Sam Quixote says

Johnny Blaze the Ghost Rider is still in Hell being tormented by demons – that is until he meets someone who can help him escape back to Earth! But all is not as it seems...

Vicious Cycle wasn't bad but I'm getting a bit sick of storylines where Ghost Rider 1) is stuck in Hell, and 2) gets easily tricked by supernatural creatures into unwittingly doing whatever for them. Johnny's really coming off as a braindead dolt who kinda deserves his repetitive punishment!

We get to see Ghost Rider unleash his unique array of powers from the fire-breathing to the chains to the Penance Stare, which, coupled with his awesome bike and looks, makes him one of the coolest, and underrated, heroes Marvel has. He also has a fun fight/misunderstanding with Doctor Strange.

Mark Texeira's painted art looks great too but then you'd have to be a pretty terrible artist to make Ghost Rider look bad – dude's a flaming skeleton on a motorbike!

It's a bit of a shallow and inconsequential story but Vicious Cycle is a decent start to Daniel Way's Ghost Rider run and an entertaining enough story. The best Ghost Rider is still Jason Aaron's who takes over from Way later on down the line but I'd still recommend both writers' books for readers interested in this character.

Kaotic says

This is the current Ghost Rider series that I'm reading and I love it, the writing and art are both really great.

Mind you, I own the individual comics, not the trade paperback. Which is what this is, but this is the only version I saw that looked right, and I've read past this point.

I don't know why everyone is hateful of this series, it's got wonderful art (I am an artist so I am INCREDIBLY critical of others art, it's not an easy profession, trust me), a compelling story, and great wit.

I guess people are just never happy. This is quite a detailed and interesting series from what I've read so far.

Joy says

*"...The **fact** of the matter is that you are so **screwed** that the **truth** of it all is better than any lie even **I** could come up with!"*

Johnny Blaze was cursed to carry the Spirit of Vengeance which transforms him into the Ghost Rider whenever he is in the presence of evil. And now he's stuck in Hell. Every time he tries to reach Hell's gates to escape, he gets devoured by a mass of demons. Eventually, Johnny escapes but not without a "little" hitchhiker (AKA Lucifer). But while transitioning to Earth, Lucifer's physical form broke into 666 pieces which scattered to reanimate various recently deceased people. Now that the Ghost Rider is back, he'll have to kill every one of Lucifer's hosts on Earth to stop the rising chaos. The only problem is that every time a part of Lucifer gets destroyed, the other hosts all increase in strength and power. When there's only one left, not even the Ghost Rider himself will stand a chance.

Basically, this whole volume is just Johnny digging himself into a deeper and deeper hole, and it's strangely entertaining.

As the first Ghost Rider comic I've ever read, I'd have to say this was pretty good and satisfying. It might not have blown me away, but I still really enjoyed it. Actually, I'm not a huge fan of Johnny's personality as of now because he's not too bright at times, especially when it comes to his vengeance. But then again, it could just be due to his sad back story and trust issues.

Side note: That Doctor Strange cameo was gold. Love him.

I also liked the art style a lot, especially when the hell cycle and the Ghost Rider's skull came into play. Nice attention to detail.

Great start to this series. I recommend *Ghost Rider: Vicious Cycle* to all. 3.75

Silas says

I had this compulsion to check out some Ghost Rider comics. Once again, I find that it's just kind of not my scene. The themes revolve around a conflict between heaven and hell (which I suppose is to be expected, given the nature of the main character). This fits strongly into that mold, and as a consequence is less interesting to me (and I felt like they didn't capture Doctor Strange's character very well). It is rather well done. The painting here is excellent. Still, I'm just not terribly drawn to the storyline.

David says

I picked up an issue of this not too long ago, not expecting too much, expecting nothing really, and was pleasantly surprised. The art, especially the coloring, is a little rough at times, but the basic idea behind the series is actually kind of neat, and Daniel Way somehow makes Ghost Rider a viable character. Which is a tough thing to do when all he's got going for him is that his head and motorcycle are both on fire.

John says

Pretty serious for a superhero comic. A surprisingly thoughtful look at vengeance and how evil tricks us. Also, there is a surprise ending.

Jesse A says

Interesting start. This is my first Ghost Rider book so slightly confusing. Is Doctor Strange a normal part of G.R.?

Johnny Andrews says

First appearance of GR is still pretty good for its time, the comics code just relaxed and more horror themed characters were coming out of the works. Johnny Blaze aka the Ghost Rider was and still is a cool bad ass looking Marvel character.

Vicious Cycle starts off with Lucifer holding GR in Hell and torturing him in a playful way. Like a cat with a poor mouse. Eventually Blaze breaks out of Hell followed by the big red one who is split into shards...666 to be exact all possessing the recently deceased around the world.

Sadly it must have been a bit of a long arc as I am not sure if it ends on a cliffhanger type or because we only get so many of the issues in this collection but all the same is a really good story.

Vittorio Rainone says

Johnny Blaze di ritorno dall'inferno insieme a un clandestino: Lucifero. Solo che l'angelo caduto non ha il potere di camminare impunemente fra i due contesti (almeno non qui, nei fumetti Marvel), quindi all'ingresso nella terra esplode in (guarda caso) 666 frammenti che popolano altrettanti morenti destinati all'inferno. La missione di Ghost diviene uccidere tutti i pezzi di lucifero per impedirgli di ricomporsi e dominare sul pianeta. Con l'inconveniente che alla morte di un pezzo il suo potere si distribuisce nei rimanenti. Il volume narra l'inizio dell'epica sfida, con bei disegni di Texeira e splendidi disegni di Richard Corben. Buone le sceneggiature di Daniel Way e Stuart Moore (per l'ultimo episodio)

Elimai says

This was an entertaining read. Trust me to wait till last second to read it before it as to be back at the library. It kept me busy for a while and I loved the artwork. Also, bonus, Doctor Strange was in it!
