



The Once and Future Destroyer

Joe Keatinge , Ross Campbell (Illustrator)

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After missing for almost a decade, Glory's whereabouts are uncovered by a lone reporter, but the globe-spanning conspiracy keeping her hidden from humanity could make her return more dangerous than anyone ever anticipated! This first collection of a brand-new saga written by Eisner & Harvey award-winner Joe Keatinge (Hell Yeah!) and illustrated by acclaimed artist Ross Campbell (Wet Moon, Shadoweyes) reintroduces Glory to a new century by revealing secrets from her past, journeying to the far-flung future and beginning a war unlike any we've seen before!

Collects issues 23 to 28!

The Once and Future Destroyer Details

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Author : Joe Keatinge , Ross Campbell (Illustrator)

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From Reader Review The Once and Future Destroyer for online ebook

Alger says

Ridiculous, badly scripted, and at what point are we going to **STOP FIGHTING WWII???????**

From the start of the book, when one assumes the author was trying to make a good impression, the book is at its solid worst. The back story is clumsy and the dialogue includes "You **sure** know how to punch a tank, Ms Demeter", which is a phrase no human would ever say. If you actually try to read any of the dialogue in this book aloud you will discover it is equally stilted and weirdly inflected. So from the arc from the opening pages of the book is that random words are stressed, people threaten each other, and then the story just gets dull.

The art is cartoony silly when it isn't just bad, all of the supertypes are apparently heavy steroid users with weird body proportions wearing tubes of cloth. Nowhere else will you find such consistently ugly depictions of the human form. Then there the details of what is being depicted: the blood on over-defined muscles motif of almost every page; the bizarre color choices; awkward framing that works against reading the page.

There is not a lick of originality to the story, instead it is a half digested pastiche of every superhero comic of the past thirty years all rolled into one. The writing and dialogue is unbelievable and lumpy. The art is just bad bad bad. For a graphic novel, these are the three things it is supposed to deliver on.

So, fail. On almost every level, this is a complete fail.

Sam Quixote says

Whaaat?! No way! I'm finally catching up with my reading and not only did the first one I picked up - "Prophet" - turn out to be created by Rob Liefeld and published by Image, but the second I picked up - "Glory" - also turned out to be created by Liefeld and published by Image - what're the odds!

So, much like my issues with "Prophet" (no characterisation, nonsensical plot), "Glory" suffers from the same kind of weak writing and great art combo that could basically sum up Liefeld's career. Glory is the alien woman on the cover in the armour looking ultra-tough and scary who's part demon, part alien, came to Earth to fight the Nazis or something, stuck around and now her hated father (who killed her mother) is sending an army to kill his little girl because he's evil. Enter lots of fighting - a LOT of fighting - and ultraviolence, gore, alien weaponry, etc etc.

It's not the excessive gore or savagery of the violence that puts me off - I'm no prude - it's just that that's all there is to this comic. Fighting, something about good and bad - it's all stuff we've seen before in a thousand other comics before. There's nothing about "Glory" that feels original or compelling. Strong art from Ross Campbell, sub-standard writing from Joe Keatinge, this feels almost like a caricature of a superhero comic. It looks exciting and cool but it's just dull in its execution - its not enough to just look cool, there has to be something substantial behind the flashiness. Resurrecting old Liefeld comics from the 90s might be the toast of Image these days but it's a fad I'm having a hard time getting on board with.

Barrett says

Glory is composed of familiar archetypes, but given an entirely original storyline. Fantastic designs, brutal action and a compelling mystery. I can't wait to read the second volume of Keatinge's run.

Alemanita says

Wow. Habemus nuevo personaje de cómics favorito.

Marla Haasz says

4/5

Glory: The Once and Future Destroyer was... unique. This didn't have much to do with WWII as I thought it was going to due to reviews I have read. I had very few problems with the speed of the story and how fast panels progress, making the story confusing at times. But I'd be lying if I said I didn't love the hell out of this comic. Ross Campbell proves once again that he can make the scariest creature/person into the cutest 'lil thing by giving them chubby cheeks and a pouty mouth, I really love the way he draws different women's bodies.

Speaking of which, there wasn't a single character I didn't like, I love Henry and Glory's flying cat. Riley is the cutest thing alive, and Fabrice is like that old uncle everyone loves.

I don't know much about any prior comics to do with Glory, a la Rob Liefeld, so I feel like I can safely say Joe Keatinge did a quick and great job of explaining Glory's origin. Dying to know how the second and final volume plays out and wraps up this impending doom (or is it) of a tale.

Angela says

I don't think that I've ever loved a comic more than this one. I know that I come on here and talk about how great Ross Campbell's books are all the time and stuff (because really, I'm not seeing anyone else doing the kinds of things that he does in his art and his writing) and maybe people might be getting tired of me just giving out all this praise, but seriously, it doesn't get any better than this. If you liked Ross Campbell's Mountain Girl, you'll like this.

Joe Keatinge did a great job changing up the old Glory story, which used to be some fake Wonder Woman boobage thing. Now Gloriana is a hardcore muscular monster of a woman, who still looks cute and vulnerable in her nightshirt. You can certainly tell Ross' influence in the content, and it seems like Ross and Keatinge were really a good match on this project.

Love all the gore too! And the monsters! Look, people, Glory punches tanks and eats people's faces off. If that isn't the most bad ass chick ever, you've gotta tell me what books you've been reading!!!y

Alan says

The smartest thing Rob Liefeld did last year was to let others write the characters he created. Glory originally was a Wonder Woman pastiche, to which Alan Moore later added a little back story. Up and coming writer Joe Keating takes that back story and expands upon it in a story that literally spans thousands of years. Well, we see Glory's beginning, jump to today, and then 500 years from now, so there is a lot of story in between.

Our main POV character Riley, a young journalism student who used to dream about Glory all the time. When Glory disappeared, Riley's dream went into repeat mode. Now she uses what little money she has left to track down the disappeared heroine. Of course since Glory is the title character Riley finds her and more.

But, is Glory heroine or destroyer? That question remains unanswered as Riley gets a glimpse of the future. Now, Riley has to decide if she can and will change the future in order to save humanity.

Well crafted with interesting art.

Nnedi says

Loved this. Period. Noting else to say other than I will read more. Very very satisfying on many levels- art, storytelling, characters, plot. I'm not big on superheros at all. This is a superhero for women (and men...but I say women because ore often than not, there is nothing for us in superhero comics unless we ae willing to put ourselves aside) who don't care for superheros.

Magila says

There were some parts of this TP that I loved. There were other parts that I didn't care for at all. In sum, it was a very solid comic that does the job of creating something new.

Take Star Trek, A Midsummer Night's Dream, and maybe Superman and blend them all together. This is what you get. The art was very distinctive and interesting, albeit a little inconsistent here and there.

The most striking part of this comic was that it was centered around girl power. I am starting to notice more and more what women wear when illustrated. To be a truly successful girl power comic, I would have like to see the women represented a little different graphically. This was terribly obvious when you look over the sketches of Riley.

By the end, I wasn't completely sure which was was up or down. They manage to jam a ton of story into this, and you cannot ask yourself what comes next. Not at the very top of my list, but this is solid and enjoyable.

Recommend.

PS. There is quite a bit of violence, but it's the sort of over the type B movie SciFi stuff that I had to fight to

not just find comical.

Zack! Empire says

I saw a video for this comic on someone's YouTube Channel and I thought it looked interesting.

Unfortunately, that same video talks about how the book was going to be canceled before the creators could finish up the story. I didn't think it would be worth looking into a series that would be canceled so I decided not to. However, the images of the comic stuck in my brain like peanut butter to your gums. I kept going back to these panels and wondering "what the hell is going on?" Since the whole series is collected in two volumes that I could get for cheap, I decided to just go for it and buy the first one.

A bit of history for this comic is that the series original started back during the Image Comics boom of the 90's. Back in those days Image was pumping out new titles left and right to try and get readers to put down their Marvel and DC comics, and pick up there's. I'm not going to say that Rob Liefeld ripped off Wonder Woman, but it would be pretty hard to look at the two characters and not see the similarities. Like most of those characters created during that time Glory was here today, gone tomorrow. Her first series lasted only 22 issues.

This collection may be a volume one, but it actually continues right after issue 22. The first issue of this collection is issue 23. I thought that was pretty cool. The story takes into account the long absence of Glory from the comic's world. In fact it's kind of big plot point for the first issue: What the hell happened to Glory? In a world filled with reboots, and rehashes, and jumping on points, it was a breath of fresh air for someone to say "Yeah, the 90's happen, we all hated it, but it happened. Let's just deal with it and move on."

The storyline deals with Glory and the fact she isn't a person, but a weapon. A super effective weapon that could take out the whole world if aimed right. What we get out of it is different characters on different sides all wondering and worrying about the same thing: Should they just kill Glory to keep her from killing everyone, or can she be saved? It's a different kind of story then your used to when you realize that the main character of the book, usually the hero of the story, is actually the villain of the piece.

The art in this book is great. I love how Glory is drawn with all her muscle and scars. She doesn't look like some sexy goddess running around in a pair of hot pants. She looks like a bad ass warrior ready to cut your head off she if she has to. The creature designs are great. There is a point where Glory and her allies are fighting off an invading alien army and all the enemies have a unique look. Someone could spend a lot of time staring at those pages.

After reading this first volume I'm sure that this book was canceled because the readers weren't there, not because the story wasn't there. I wouldn't be at all surprised to find out they are going to bring this character back at some point.

Meepelous says

A decent story with awesome Campbell art!

Anna says

So much love to this! Ross Campbell delivers fantastic art which gives the otherwise typical "half-blood Amazonian warrior and some kinda impending WAR!" scenario an interesting edge

Glory started as Rob Liefeld's version of WonderWoman.. in a way. Complete with the mythology-influenced name for the title chara. And it just wasn't very good

But here, in this fantastic reboot, the art alone makes all the difference! GLORY carries the usual "mainstream comics" credentials of a superhero - strength enough to punch tanks, flying, ability to break men's backs over her knee... With her miles of fair hair, full lips and palest-of-blues eyes *you see where this is heading* BUT, unlike the typical mainstream girl, Glory is drawn to look her strength!! She is built like a tank! With plenty of muscle & previous battles history of scars. Her clothes aren't just vacu-formed around her chest - they look armored and wrinkled and all that good stuff
And when her anger lets loose the demon-blood in her veins? Girl is a BEAST!

... but yeah, there's also some really interesting looking ~~demons~~ aliens, a set-up to a massive fight story that could go either way and some damn gory fights. If you're into that sorta thing

Mel says

I bought this because I love Ross Campbell as an artist and writer. I wasn't as sure about something that was basically a superhero comic and written by someone else but I thought I'd give it a try. I love the way that the women heros in this were super buff and properly built not some sexed up skinny thing with big tits. Glory and her mother looked like women who could seriously fuck with you. The story was also interesting, a young girl dreaming of a super hero and getting visions of an apocalyptic future. It was a little like Promethea but very different. As this was a collection of comics rather than a dedicated graphic novel the pacing of the story felt a little strange. There was a big battle towards the end but I felt everything was rather unresolved. But I still really liked it and am hoping that volume 2 gets released and that there is more to this story.

Elia says

Glory is the child of a God and a demon who defies her parents and comes to Earth to help fight in World War II. FAST forward to the present day and we meet Riley, a girl who has been dreaming of Gloria her whole life. Except in these dreams she feels as if she isn't just watching Glory, but IS Glory. Then suddenly the dreams stop and Riley feels like a huge piece of her is now missing. So she sets out to find out why Glory has disappeared. On her journey she discovers that she might be the key to saving the world... or destroying it... and she's not sure who to believe, who to trust or which side of the fence she's on.

Despite superb art and a good cast of characters I couldn't help feeling like I've seen this all before. So many stories have touched on the themes in Glory that it sort of seems old hat. Who's the good guy, who's the bad guy, oh look that guy just got gutted and a feisty but reluctant female lead.... we've seen it. Next.

Andromeda M31 says

Time for a little Ultra-Violence?

Maybe some of you know Image's Glory was actually Rob Liefeld's answer to Wonder Woman, maybe you don't. It matters not, because this is the wildest reboot any female superhero character could have hoped for.

This Glory is a half-demon, half-god, hulk of a warrior. She's virtually indestructible, and can appear as a lovely, albeit muscular albino woman or raging thorny monstrosity ready to rip out your throat. Glory is so drastically different physically from your average super heroine it's almost appalling at times, and she is awesomely powerful, but she never ceases to have her beautiful white mane hair spiraling around her as a mark of femininity. And, excuse me while I fangirl for a moment, she has the Best. Outfits. Ever.

So clearly, it is the artwork that sells this book. The story is populated with Glory's Father's bizarre demon alien horde, monsters that range from shark-men, tentacle beasts, and the nigh indescribable (fluffy, skull faced Miyazaki rejects?). The artist's, Ross Campbell's humans are all distinct and interesting looking, capable of emoting beyond the standard super hero fare. The gore is over the top, to an Itchy and Scratchy level. At one point, Glory rips out the spine of one foe only to use it to strangle another.

The plot is thinner than I would like. Keating sets up Glory's character in the first issue as heroic and noble, only to have her driven by vengeance and anger in further supplements. Glory has gone mad with rage at the supposed death of her mother at the hands of her father, and will tear through the demon menagerie of his subordinates in order to accomplish... something. Riley, a young woman somehow linked telepathically to Glory, is the reader's point of entry in this story, and we are just as much in the dark as she is. Glory has become a huge source of destruction, and we don't know who or what she is fighting for, only that she is driven to do battle and we are along for the ride. And, unlike, her hapless cohorts, we aren't doomed to die at her side.

This crazy Glory reboot makes Azarello's Wonder Woman seem dull in comparison. I can only wonder what the evolution of Diana would have been under a more dynamic writer.

So thank you, Joe Keating and Ross Campbell, for giving me my Female Adolescent Power Fantasy.

And did I mention how much I liked the outfits?
