

Rachel Rising, Volume 7: Dust to Dust

Terry Moore

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Rachel saves Zoe's life and finds the elusive demon Malus by looking through the eyes of his last victim. In an earth-shattering showdown, Lilith confronts Malus and fights for the future of humanity. Dust To Dust is the final book in the Rachel Rising story, collecting issues #37-42.

N.B. Cover not final.

Rachel Rising, Volume 7: Dust to Dust Details

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From Reader Review Rachel Rising, Volume 7: Dust to Dust for online ebook

Zedsdead says

The grand finale. But it's hard to stick the landing, and Terry Moore fails to stick it.

There are way too many loose ends.

- Who poisoned the good guys a couple volumes back? And forged the suicide notes?
- Why is Jet zombified when she's not immortal? Why did James possess her?
- Whatever happened to Natalie and Mary Scott?
- If Rachel has been zombifying for 100k years, why are her eyes only now hemorrhaging? (It's a GREAT visual but doesn't hold water.)
- What's the deal with the writer whose yard is full of unexplained bodies?
- Who is the little girl that only Rachel and a couple others can see?

And after spending six volumes instructing us in the certain unkillability of Malus, Moore concludes that plotline thusly:

(view spoiler)

As a story, Rachel Rising is flighty at best. Meandering and unfocused. BUT, as an excuse to take part in the beautiful, vastly entertaining chaos roiling through Terry Moore's mind, Rachel Rising is marvelous. It's frustrating but I can't help loving it all the same.

Plot points:

(view spoiler)

Eduardo says

This is my second Torrey Moore series, the first one was Echo. I enjoy his work very much but I've learned from these two experiences that in his stories it's more about the journey than the destination.

He builds a complex storyline throughout his series and, at least in these two cases, the whole thing gets resolved in a single issue. It makes the finale feel rather rushed.

Still, I won't complain because the good far outweighs that fact. I liked Rachel Rising even more than Echo and find both Moore's art and writing - especially his characters - exceptionally human which makes him unique in the world of graphic novels. Hopefully, it won't take him too long to get another series up and running.

Norman says

What a great series! A fitting end although slightly anticlimactic.

I was especially impressed with one particular page when Aunt Johnny is explaining a car accident victim to Rachel where she basically says the seat belt and airbag contributed to the death, which caused internal bleeding while suffering as he was still conscious until the very end. Just felt the panels were laid out so cleverly and I was thoroughly bothered.

John says

An epic ending.

Afro Madonna says

Sooooooooo!! I am finally done!

I went into this expecting less than I actually got. This is the first anything of Terry Moore's I've read and I just have to say, boy does he know how to spin a good story!

Right from the first issue, the reader is thrown into disorientation as we see Rachel come back alive in the most oddest way and after that, everything is enshrouded in smooth flowing art and absolute mystery. It's engaging, enchanting and just plain enjoyable.

One of the things I really liked about this graphic novel series was the quote before each issue. They were more than fitting and helped to give each issue a very nice mysterious and thrilling feel. Also, the way the art was rendered in these volumes were quite impressive. With a few pages, the actions taking place were expressed without dialogue and each scene with just the artwork as a way to express meaning was beautifully haunting.

All in all, I was more than surprised that I ended up LOVING this so much and a friend said I would regret

blazing through them so fast because I would miss reading it at the rate at which I was enjoying this! Buttttt the joke is on them because i really do not regret it!
Bravo Terry Moore. Bravo.

Don Witzel says

Last Volume in the series. Just a fantastic series. Terry Moore is an amazing writer and a master in character development and story. A must read. LOVE.... Side note: A omnibus edition (collects all issues,full arc) comes out in August 28, 2016

Also a special limited edition Black Hardcover signed by Terry Moore at his web sight.
<http://www.strangersinparadise.com/st...>

David Cattarin says

I gave this series a chance solely because ComiXology provided the whole series as part of their subscription. I'm glad I tried it.

The series starts off simple: a young woman, Rachel, is risen from the dead after being murdered and seeks to discover who killed her. Things get very complicated soon after as she finds herself entangled in events that will lead to the end of the world. The story is violent, somewhat gory, and some people are truly horrific. Avoid if you have a problem with any of these things.

Despite that, I think there's a lot to recommend in this series, especially if you don't mind spiritual horror/thrillers a-la "The Seventh Sign". The art is gorgeous. The mythology is reminiscent of Gaiman. The characters are compelling, especially Zoe. She's an incredibly likeable sociopath, even when you don't want to like her--I have my theories on who she really is. There is hardly anything in the series that I disliked. But, I am a touch disappointed by the ending. It was over too soon and I wanted much more.

I really enjoyed the series. I'm sure I'll read it again, while hoping Moore writes a follow-up story.

Jess says

Hrm. This was... I enjoyed the ride, but I feel like this series fell short of what the early issues promised.

I read the first dozen or so issues as they came out and loved them. But going back and reading the full run of trades from the start, I'm struck by the impression that Terry Moore was flying by the seat of his pants. He tells a compelling horror story, and of course his artwork is stunning, but the increasing number of dropped/forgotten plot threads and sharp right turns over the course of the series became very frustrating. From the moment Rachel wakes in a shallow grave in that first issue, it's clear that there's something bigger going on, but the more the story progressed the less confident I was that Moore knew what that something bigger *was*.

To be fair to Moore, I suspect he intended the series to continue longer than it did-- I know low sales were a recurring problem for the comic, and the abrupt ending (which left a lot of things unresolved) seems to suggest he bowed out earlier than he'd intended. But it only exacerbated problems that were already there -- by the time I cracked open this trade, I was already feeling frustrated by the aforementioned dropped storylines, contradictions and the general sense that there'd never been any master plan.

As I said, I still enjoyed the ride. But the story was never as cohesive or as focussed as it could have been and I think the comic is the weaker for it. The ultimate resolution is unsatisfying, overly rushed and leaves many questions unanswered.

David Schaafsma says

Can Lilith save the world? Will Rachel rise again?

"Woman is the only creature in nature that hunts down its hunters and devours the prey alive." --Abraham Miller

"I can calculate the motion of heavenly bodies, but not the madness of people."--Isaac Newton

Well, I finally finished this women zombie comics series and will now take the opportunity to read Zedsdead's detailed analysis of all the holes in it. And I won't reveal anything important, but I have to say I 1)really liked the series a lot; 2) liked the finish pretty well, and 3) thought there were a lot of things unexplained and unsatisfactorily resolved. What did Zedsdead say a few weeks ago after which I stopped reading his review? Something like, seeing Moore on floor routine, doing his ultimate, routine-ending tumble: "He doesn't stick the finish."

I'd agree with that, but I like all the characters so much that I felt finally pretty forgiving. And you know, horror often ends with beauty, and this one does. I am sick of zombie stories, but I loved this series, overall, with its great black and white drawing, with its (largely) all-women cast (usually there is at least one gorgeous man in a series like this, but nope, sorry girls looking for male eye-candy, the main central character is an overweight guy named Earl who does all the autopsies--and there are a lot of autopsies he has to perform in (yes, serial-killing) Manson (ha). And Earl is dating Jet, whose autopsy he once did. . .

Malus, the anti-Christ, is here, inhabiting some of the newly dead corpses, randomly killed. But if this all sounds icky to you, the women and their great dialogue and senses of humor make it all worthwhile: Rachel, Zoe, Lilith, Jet, Aunt Johnny. The whole wrestling-with-the-demon-for-the-soul-of-the-universe actually takes a back seat in most ways to all the relationships. 3.5 stars for the last volume, 4 stars for the series, though it is really memorable and I do highly recommend your checking it out. It may not be the most satisfying and accomplished of finishes, but there are plenty of memorable things about it.

47Time says

My conclusion is that, ultimately, this is a splendid comic and I'm glad I picked it up. The sombre notes from the first act are more than offset by the humor in the second act, even if the latter has more filler. There are sad moments, funny dialogue, romance, religious references and lovable characters. It was an enjoyable ride.

Aunt Johnny finds three other women that were killed in the same way as Rachel was. Rachel's ability to see people's final moments before death can backfire when a demon is involved. (view spoiler) The final page will leave you laughing out loud at how much more work Rachel has to do. (view spoiler)

Amanda says

Omnibus Sale April 2017:

I did indeed but all the Omnibus' listed in Mr. Moore's Half Off-Omnibus Sale, so I will be updating my ownership and reviews for all of these, but especially delightful is that getting the Omnibus for Rachel Rising encouraged me to finally finish the series.

I deeply love Terry Moore's art at all times and the witty way he knows how to bandy with the English language, whether harrowing love story or deep and spooky tale, the latter of which is Rachel Rising (and the prior of which is his award-winning Strangers in Paradise, which owned half my life). I loved seeing all the ways these characters went, and how they made an even stronger family unit handling all the odd things that were happening.

I love that the characters you considered most evil took twists and turns that changed, evolved, and even more integrated them into the tale being told. I was delighted with the aesthetic way the pages blur while holding it in your hand, all black edges, adding to the whole feeling of the story and the book as you were holding, it reading, being aware of the edges.

Arthur says

a rather disappointing ending to a rather good story

Soobie's scared says

Che delusione!!!

Come si può finire in questo modo? Con tutti quei dettagli buttati lì e non sviluppati. Beh, anche *Echo* era così... Solo che pensavo/speravo che Terry Moore fosse migliorato. Della serie: cos'è quella cicatrice che zia Johnny si ritrova in testa? Perché Jet è tornata a vivere se Rachel era la sorella di Lilith? A cosa le serviva? E tutto il casino sull'omicida di Rachel che si risolve in due paginette scarse?! E cosa dire del dottorino che aveva la moglie mummificata in casa?

Troppo metafisico per i miei gusti.

I personaggi "normali" non sono male. Zia Johnny, ad esempio. Il suo collega obeso. Anche Rachel, ma solo la parte riguardante la sua ultima vita. Perfino Zoe è un personaggio che, nonostante tutto, suscita simpatia. Ma tutta la trama dietro è lacunosa.

A 'sto punto non so neanche se val la pena leggere *Strangers in paradise* o quello nuovo...

Wing Kee says

Both satisfying and annoying at the same time.

World: Art is fantastic. The world building this time is still strong but a bit rushed with it racing towards the end. A lot of pieces Moore created never get resolved and that's annoying me a bit, especially the Aunt Johnny implant, the other little girl at the gate of the mansion, the Cop, Zoe...just a whole heck of world building and plot building that just ends. Um a bit sad.

Story: Rushing towards the end is what we got. There was simply not enough pages to tell all the tales and finish all the threads, and that annoys. That aside, the end was good and interesting and does leave more for the future but I don't know if we are going to get more from this world. The journey was fantastic and yeah the ending was underwealming.

Characters: These characters are great and I would have wanted 3-4 more arcs to tell their tale but alas it's over and way too soon...

An abrupt end that the book did not deserve. It was satisfying and annoying equally.

Onward to the next book!

Hannah Garden says

This series was fun. I got the first one from the library and then free-trial subscribed to Comixology in order to plow through the remaining six, which is a move I recommend. Cool creepy gory evil with some kinky dialogue, and lots of ladies in a way that didn't feel too super gross even though they're all hecka heteronormatively hot and drawn by a daggum mang.
