



# Harley & Ivy Meet Betty & Veronica

*Paul Dini , Marc Andreyko , Laura Braga (Illustrations)*

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**The bad girls of Gotham meet the good girls of Riverdale!**

Hiram Lodge (Veronica's father) wants to invest in the future by building a university with free tuition for Riverdale's residents. His site is a protected swamp on the outskirts of town, and once news of the plan reaches Gotham City, a certain eco-warrior (a.k.a. Poison Ivy) is determined to prevent the dream from becoming reality.

However, once Poison Ivy and her bestie Harley Quinn arrive, they get mixed up in the sort of hijinks that can only happen in Riverdale. At a superhero-themed costume party, the night's entertainment--Zatanna--manages to place the personas of the Gotham City Sirens into the bodies of the town's notorious frenemies: Betty Cooper and Veronica Lodge. While Ivy (in Ronnie's body) seeks to derail Lodge's agenda from within, more than a few nefarious forces--from Jason and Cheryl Blossom to the Clown Prince of Crime himself--have their own foul plans.

This groundbreaking miniseries teams up two of fandom's best-known duos, bringing the ladies of Gotham and Riverdale together for the first time! This madcap mayhem comes courtesy of Paul Dini (*Harley Quinn*) and Marc Andreyko (*Wonder Woman* '77), with art by Laura Braga (*DC Comics: Bombshells*)! Collects *Harley & Ivy Meet Betty & Veronica* #1-6.

## Harley & Ivy Meet Betty & Veronica Details

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Author : Paul Dini , Marc Andreyko , Laura Braga (Illustrations)

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# From Reader Review Harley & Ivy Meet Betty & Veronica for online ebook

## Samantha Colwell says

I was very eager to pick up this graphic novel, based solely on my devout love for the Archie franchise and every single Archie spin-off. Growing up, I regularly read Sabrina comics and collected Betty & Veronica digestst. I can still sing verbatim every song off the early 2000's Josie and the Pussycats movie soundtrack. I've watched every Archies television adaptation and I'm a current Riverdale fanatic.

Harley & Ivy Meet Betty and Veronica had some of the appeal of the beloved Archies characters, each one making a valiant appearance (they kept Kevin an LGBTQ character, gave Sabrina a great side story, and the Pussycats even sing!) but there was more to yawn about than love.

I've never been a big fan of the overly eroticized comic book vixen. Harley & Ivy are deranged females for young women to look up to, but so are the overly bickering Betty & Veronica, constantly fighting over the attention of a clueless Archie. So there aren't any female tropes to be left out of this graphic novel.

The art style is also confusing. No doubt the artists are super talented, but I felt lost in the shuffle of characters. Most of the female faces looked identical, every curve precisely the same. Even the males had very little differentiation in their forms. The four title ladies attend a Heroes and Villains gala in which Betty & Veronica dress up as Harley & Ivy. Harley & Ivy appear at the gala, dressed in their vintage outfits. Chaos ensues! Not only is the plot muddy from the identity crises, the reader has literally no way of following along with who is who. All the women look the same, and wow is that dull.

Thanks to Net Galley for an ARC in exchange for an honest review.

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## Alan says

I'm a bit of a sucker for inter-company crossovers (all right I'm also a sucker for a good company wide event too, especially the old JLA/JSA stories end of digression). This caught my attention in part because of Paul Dini writing it.

The other was if they gave the Archie characters more of a Riverdale feel they could off a decent story. Excluding some goofiness as to the villains introduced for the story the characterization is consistent, and the basis for the crossover isn't too silly.

Ivy talks Harley into joiningg her on an excursion to Riverdale where Ivy plans to stop Hiram Lodge from developing a swamp. At a gala some miscasting of spells by Sabrina and Zatanna lead to minds being displaced into the wrong bodies (Ivy in Veronica, Harley in Betty and vice versa).

Dini avoids slapstick humor for most of the story (thank you slapstick is not exactly to my taste) and a small Easter Egg is tossed in when Lodge's butler Smithers calls for assistance (hint: think of the Batman 1966 tekevision show).

Fun, not a great read.

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## **Jen says**

Harley and Ivy? Doesn't even require thought, I want to read it. With Archie in Riverdale? GIMME GIMME GIMME!

While not the height of literature, who wants Shakespeare when you have Betty, Veronica, Harley and Ivy? Lots of fun and hi-jinks, as well as cameos from other DC favs.

My only quibbles are that sometimes the action isn't quite clear about what is going on. The beginning with the plant doubles and then becoming man-eaters, not clear. Also, how things are resolved re: Veronica's dad not thrown into the clink and/or broke, the random lady in the rose monster Ivy made at the end, etc.

All-in-all, not bad and definitely worth the read. Recommended if you like the characters, as they were all written pretty true, if slightly tamer than usual.

3 solid stars.

My thanks to NetGalley and DC Entertainment/DC Comics for an eARC copy of this book to read and review.

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## **Sam Quixote says**

Ivy's determined to stop the Riverdale wetlands being destroyed in favour of a new development by Veronica's wealthy pops – and Harley tags along for funsies! But first they decide to stop by a fancy dress party because plot! One Freaky Friday-type spell from Zatanna later and Harls and Ives are in the bodies of Ronnie and Betts and vice versa – woaaaaahh keraaazeee comics gubbinz!

If anyone can make me like the bland, cheeseball Americana of Archie, it's Paul Dini... is what I thought prior to reading Harley and Ivy Meet Betty and Veronica. Nuh uh to that uh huh!

Dini's in full-on kiddie-friendly mode so what little edge Harley and Ivy had has been completely rounded off. And that's largely why I found this one yawn-tastic. Dini doesn't do much with the Freaky Friday situation – Veronica and Betty in Harley and Ivy's bodies get into some scrapes but coast by easily enough, while Harley and Ivy manage just fine in Riverdull – not that it's rife with exciting possibility anyway.

I guess there's some cute moments like Reggie getting hit on the noggin by Harley's mallet and thinking he's Mistah J; Catwoman showing up to the costume ball as she's, of course, a fan of Josie and the Pussycats; and Veronica and Betty dressing as Harley and Ivy before they cross paths. The plot was just too fluffy for my blood. It's like reading a Scooby-Doo comic, replete with the "And I woulda gotten away with it too if it weren't for you meddling kids!"-type villain at the end.

It's an inoffensively readable comic with some decent, if very generic DC house-style, art from Laura Braga. But, even with Harley and Ivy's added naughty and nice (tame) spice, I still don't find Archie's world at all interesting. Harley and Ivy Meet Betty and Veronica is only for Archie fans or anyone looking for a book

with all the depth and intrigue of a Saturday morning kids' cartoon!

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### **Quentin Wallace says**

If you are expecting the gritty drama and teen angst of Riverdale, well, this isn't the book for you. However, if you are looking for over the top hijinks and shenanigans in the vein of Harley Quinn's usual romps, this one IS for you.

This is set in the Archie (and DC) comic universe and while it does sometimes cross the line into just silly, overall it is very entertaining. Hiram Lodge tries to drain a swamp, Ivy finds out about it and she and Harley travel to Riverdale to stop him. Then Zatanna and Sabrina the teenage witch end up causing Betty and Veronica to switch bodies with Harley and Ivy and things get nuttier from there.

Overall it was an entertaining crossover, and honestly, it's pretty much exactly what you'd expect, which in this case isn't a bad thing. The art is sexy and the girls never looked better and there's even some interesting cameos thrown in as well. Overall an enjoyable read, and like I said, you sorta know just what you're getting here.

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### **Cheryl says**

It has been years since I have read a comic book. When I was younger, I used to read them regularly. This did include the Archie comics. Yet, when I was reading them, the characters were portrayed as more innocent. This version of the Archie comics has the characters portrayed as sexier. However, this storyline has the characters acting like highschoolers including Poison Ivy and Harley Quinn. No, I want the bad guys to be "evil" not making me think they are all going to be friends over ice cream floats.

In fact, I was disappointed in this book and the good two shoes vibes that I was getting from the storyline that after reading to the half way mark I skipped ahead to the last couple of pages just to see how the story would end. Still not impressed. This comic did not get me excited to read comics again. It was a yawn fest.

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### **Wing Kee says**

Aight but should have been so much more. 2.5.

World: The art is okay, it's neither the current Archie book or the current Harley book. It's okay, but I found the characters were not distinct enough individually making the art kinda bland. The world building here is solid, the stage is set for the story to play out and the book does pull on both Archie and the DCU for reference, there are bits and pieces of it that made me laugh, it's solid.

Story: The story on face value is kinda cute but the freaky friday gag has been done so many times that it did get old fast. This is not a 6 issue story but it is so there are some pacing issues and mindless side quests. I will say the dialog is fun and the situations are amusing but the story did drag especially in the end.

Characters: All of the character act the way they do and that's great. There is no huge arc for the characters

but rather just as is and put into the world crossover and this is what we get. There is good fun dialog and some nice moments but mostly it's just what you would expect from the characters in their respective series'

It was aight, I would have expected more fun but it was rather bland and the story was rather cliché.

Onward to the next book.

\*read individual issues\*

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### **Ryan says**

It is soooooo easy to tell that this graphic novel was written by men. While overall I liked the story, it could have ended soooooo much earlier than it did. It is very stereotypical in comments on clothes, costumes, etc. I think a female hand could have helped this title 1. Not drag, 2, make it more realistic to girls and women. Harley and Ivy need to get out of town because everyone is out for revenge. They travel to Riverdale to stop a swamp from being paved over for a strip mall/school. They show up in time for a costume ball, where Betty and Veronica dress up as Harley and Ivy. There is a body switch, new and old superhero costumes, etc. Typical male fantasy, instead of a really fun romp that it could have been.

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### **Joana Veríssimo says**

This was really not great... Harley and Ivy were fun, and I really LIKED Sabrina and Zatanna!!! But wow... I've never been gladder of a show changing things - Veronica and Betty being rivals is the worst thing, I don't want to see girls fighting each other for stupid reasons!!! Thank you to Riverdale for making these two friends!!! Also super weird that Hiram Lodge is old and white - thank you for Mark Consuelos, Riverdale, thank for all the hot parents!!!!

Really wasn't a fan and I don't think I'll be reading more Archie comics

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### **Chad says**

This was OK, but honestly, I expected more with Paul Dini's name on the book. For the most part it's just a ho-hum story stretched out with side quests to make it 6 issues. The characters are all muted to appeal to all ages, even though Harley's still running around in her skimpy short shorts costume.

The best part of the book was the costume party with a few guest appearances.

Received an advance copy from DC and NetGalley. All thoughts are my own and in no way influenced by the aforementioned.

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### **Jordanne ~ Bloodthirsty Little Beasts Blog ~ says**

First, a thank you to Edelweiss and DC Comics for providing a copy of this book in exchange for an honest review.

I generally love crossovers across all media – having a preference for character-driven stories myself, the interactions between different characters, particularly when it's their first meeting or they are from different worlds, really intrigue me. I think this story would have landed with me more if I were a huge fan of the Archie Comics – they're on my TBR, I'm getting there – but being pretty new to that world, I was more interested in the Harley & Ivy part of this story.

The main focal point of the book is really the relationships within the two pairs, as both Harley & Ivy and Betty & Veronica get a fair bit of development in their own core relationships, which was nice to see. In all fairness though, when it becomes apparent that two of the most notorious super-villainesses in Gotham have a healthier interpersonal relationship that you do, it probably signifies time for a change, don't you think?

The writing itself was pretty good, though I found the inclusion of the Reggie/Joker arc a bit superfluous. Personally, I don't think Harley requires a version of the Joker in this story, or any for that matter, and I didn't see how it added anything or moved the plot along. The art was a different style from what I've seen before, and fit the backdrop and story quite well. Whilst, it was an interesting filter to see Gotham through I think I prefer the cover art style personally – but that is just my preference.

Overall, this double Freaky Friday adventure with two of the most iconic all-female duos was a fun, colourful read, even if it was slightly uneventful and I didn't actually find it all that hard to envelope Riverdale into the ranks of the DC Universe's fictional, caricature cities. I'd recommend this to lovers of both Archie & these 2/3 Gotham City Sirens but if you're not big on either, you can perhaps give it a miss.

Writing Quality – 6/10

Image/Illustration Quality – 7/10

Character Development – 6/10

Overall – 6/10

Find my full review on my blog, Bloodthirsty Little Beasts.

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## **McKinlay Dennis says**

\*I received an ARC copy via netgalley and the publisher in exchange for an honest review.\*

[3.5 stars] This one started off a little slow for me, though admittedly, i've been in a major reading slump, so that could be to blame. But once it picked up I really enjoyed the storyline and the girl power. If you're a fan of the Harley and Archie comics, this is definitely worth a read!

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## **Hannah (TheRainyReader) says**

I received an ARC from Netgalley in exchange for an honest review.

This was so much fun! 4/5 stars

I loved this crossover and the hidden Easter eggs planted in here.

In a fun turn of events Harley and Ivy switch bodies with Betty & Veronica and they both have to live a day in the others shoes.

This was a fun fast paced read with gorgeous art styles all the way through and I'd definitely recommend to fans of Riverdale.

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## **ElphaReads says**

3.5

The Pros:

- Any story with Harley and Ivy and Betty and Veronica is going to be a hoot.
- Paul Dini knows Harley Quinn like the back of his hand.
- This is definitely a fun mash up for fans of both fandoms, especially if you like the four women involved in the main plot line.
- It's really fun seeing Ivy and Harley having to go back to school when the body switch happens, especially since Ivy is a whiz at botany and Veronica decidedly is NOT. Also, some fun cattiness between Ivy and Cheryl and Jason Blossom (BLOSSOM TWINS FOREVER!!!).

The Cons:

- This never really feels like it goes beyond 'gimmick' territory. It reads a little too much like 'wouldn't this be a cool idea?' with 'wouldn't this be cool plot points' without adjusting to make a well rounded and cohesive story.
- Even if it was just Reggie cosplaying as such and then having a memory loss/identity crisis, I wish that people writing Harley stories would consistently keep Joker out of it. That ship has sailed. Dini gets a bit of a pass since he created Harley, but it was still aggravating to have that unnecessary plotpoint.

All in all this is a bit of fun. But I had hoped it would be more than a bit of fun.

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## **Bookishrealm says**

This comic was soooooo cute! I don't know why people have rated it so low. It wasn't the best written comic book however it was so fun to see the worlds mash up and see the appearances of so many characters from DC. I didn't know how they were going to incorporate both worlds but they did such an amazing job! I highly doubt there will be another volume of this because it ended so well but I absolutely enjoyed it.

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