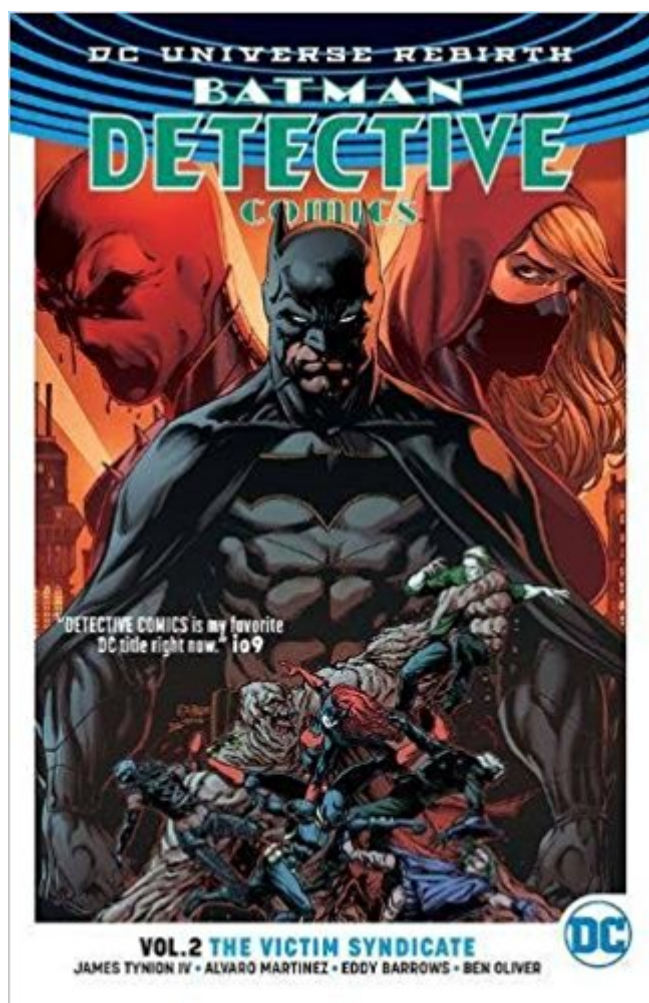


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Batman: Detective Comics Vol. 2: The Victim Syndicate (Rebirth)



Synopsis

A part of DC Universe: Rebirth! Innocent victims maimed or broken by Batman's greatest enemies band together, and they blame Batman and his fellow vigilantes for what happened to them just as much as they blame the psychopaths who hurt them. Batman and his newly trained team of allies must take on these troubled souls, but one of Batman's teammates can't help but think they might have a point... From writer James Tynion (BATMAN/TMNT) and artist Alvaro Martinez (BATMAN ETERNAL) comes the second volume of the return of DETECTIVE COMICS! Collects DETECTIVE COMICS #943-949. Rebirth honors the richest history in comics, while continuing to look towards the future. These are the most innovative and modern stories featuring the world's greatest superheroes, told by some of the finest storytellers in the business. Honoring the past, protecting our present and looking towards the future. This is the next chapter in the ongoing saga of the DC Universe. The legacy continues.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Tynion, Barrows and company have delivered the single strongest book of DC's Rebirth era." — Newsarama "Detective Comics has been one of the absolute stand-out comics from the DC Rebirth." — Comics Alliance "Detective Comics is my favorite DC title right now." — io9

James Tynion IV started in the comics business assisting Scott Snyder in writing backup stories for

Snyder's groundbreaking BATMAN series. Tynion soon began writing TALON a series that spun out of the hugely popular "Batman: The Court of Owls" storyline. He has also written CONSTANTINE: THE HELLBLAZER and RED HOOD AND THE OUTLAWS.

The second volume of the new Detective Comics run features some decent villains and a dramatic battle between Batwoman's team and their own personal demons. After the apparent death of Tim Drake (who has been stolen away by the mysterious Mr. Oz), the team put together by Batman and Batwoman are left reeling. At this fragile moment a new group of villains called the Victim Syndicate appear on the scene and start attacking Gotham, demanding that Batman stand down and unmask himself publicly. The Victim Syndicate is actually composed of bystanders who were caught up in various accidents and battles between Batman and his various rogues with each of the Victims gaining powers from their tormentors. Seeing his past failures directly in front of him places a toll on Batman, as well as on Clayface (one of the Victims is an old friend of his whom he nearly murdered). Again, the reformed villain is one of the best parts of the book and seeing Clayface struggle with his past misdeeds is a great character moment. The other standout of the book is Spoiler: Stephanie Brown. Tim's girlfriend, Spoiler is devastated by his death and starts to believe that the Victim Syndicate may in fact be right about Batman causing more problems than he fixes. Good read overall, though the leader of the Victims falls a bit flat due to their "mysterious" nature and origin (comic books and comic book TV shows are relying on dramatic reveals for villains too much recently). Also, the book retreads ground other Batman stories (especially the video game Arkham City) have already covered with the question of whether or not Batman creates his rogues just by existing.

The first book of Rebirth's Detective Comics was one of my favorites in the revamp, so ordering volume 2 was a no-brainer. And once again, this book is holding strong. The Victim Syndicate follows pretty directly from the emotional impact of the events in volume 1, with the characters still very clearly trying to cope. Being Gotham City, of course, they hardly get the chance, as a new villain team pops up, and chaos ensues. The villain team is very interesting, especially just how grotesque the Victim Syndicate appears. Tynion manages to balance this aspect quite well for both horror and tragedy, making you feel sympathy for the bad guys while still seeing how clearly they have crossed a line. The focus on our hero team is slightly shifted around as well. One of my few nitpicks with the first book was a relative lack of attention on Spoiler, which this book very quickly picks up the slack on. Stephanie Brown gets most of the new focus here, and it all feels justified

within the context of the story. Clayface also gets more character-building, and is presented in such a way that I don't think I'll be able to see him as a true "villain" in other works because of the way it is handled. It's very well-done. New faces to this series Batwing and Harper Rowe serve a little more as supporting characters, especially to Batwoman and Stephanie, respectively, and Azrael continues to get brief but memorable moments, leading me to suspect he will be important down the road. Batwoman, this time around, has her own sub-plot, but within the Victim Syndicate plot, is not quite as central as the first arc; however, the last couple of chapters in the book focus primarily on her, so she isn't getting the short end of the stick. The big thing is simply just how very well-done this all is. Even the less-used characters feel important to the plot. The emotion that carries the book is genuine. The philosophical ideas tossed around are key to the proceedings instead of just window dressing, like some superhero stories tend to do. Simply, this book is a finely-tuned machine. You need to read this series.

Good follow up to vol 1 rise of the batmen. The other two Batman series of DC rebirth....Batman and All Star Batman are both good but Imo this is the best series of the three. I prob mentioned it in my review of D Tec' vol 1 but I love how Tynion IV handles each vigilante in Batman's group. Every bat-kick has their own personality. Their dialogue fits their character perfectly imo. Good story and art. Deff like the change of pace in the artwork. The first 5 issues cover the victim syndicate storyline. The last two is a 2 parter titled Batwomans begins. Highly recommended this

This is one of the best titles in the Rebirth collection. The story is concise, interesting and bring new layers to the Batman team. The good thing about these volumes is that they are composed of closed arcs, so you don't need to wait until the next issue. I totally recommend this title!!!

I may be a bonafide DC fanboy, but man has DC Rebirth been great so far. Tynion's Detective run and King's Batman run have been marvelous (not intentional I swear). It was a ballsy move to bring to light the consequences of Batman's war on crime. The titular villains were quite compelling, and I hope to learn more about the First Victim down the line. A must read.

Book arrived earlier than scheduled great reading thank you

I didn't like the villains very much at all, and the story wasn't nearly as strong as volume 1

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