



## The Question: The Five Books of Blood

*Greg Rucka , Tom Mandrake (Illustrator) , Matthew Clark (Illustrator) , Jesus Saiz (Illustrator) , Diego Olmos (Illustrator) , Manuel García (Illustrator)*

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Ex-cop Renee Montoya was at the end of her rope, until her friend Vic Sage - the original, faceless avenger known as The Question - passed on his masked persona to her before his death. Now as the new Question, Renee is on the hunt for a near-mythical book used by master criminals.

### The Question: The Five Books of Blood Details

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## From Reader Review The Question: The Five Books of Blood for online ebook

### **Matt Sautman says**

I enjoy Renee Montoya, but I find Rucka's treatment of her as The Question in this book as somewhat less remarkable. The concept informing this volume- that there is a cult that worships sin, fails to feel like it is a natural outgrowth of the DC comic universe. Why does such a cult exist? Why would Montoya feel drawn towards this cult? The questions this volume leaves unanswered do not give the book a charming mystique. The story is fine otherwise, but I expected more out of Greg Rucka.

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### **Wolverina says**

Excellent ideas and fascinating. A little uneven, it isn't Rucka's best work, it seems like he was a little too ambitious for 5 comic issues to be fair to.

Other than that the only other problem is the assumption all readers have read 52. Normally I wouldn't have a problem with this, if this was the second in a normal series, but 52 was such a big massive crossover. The only character and storyline in 52 I have interest in is the Question so that is annoying.

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### **D. says**

This is a collection of the CRIME BIBLE miniseries that spun out of DC's event series 52. It follows up on several storylines that started in that series (and the amazing GOTHAM CENTRAL series before that.)

The series follows Renee Montoya as she investigates the mysterious "Crime Bible" and the cult that has sprung up around it. There's some fun mythology here, and Rucka's dialogue and characterization is strong (as usual) but the whole thing feels like a build up to some big event that (as far as I know) was never really followed up on after Rucka left DC. As a result, it's a bit of a letdown. Worth reading for Renee Montoya fans and Rucka fans, but I don't think others would get much out of it.

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### **Mark Adams says**

I've loved the Question since the 80s when Denny O'Neil brought him back as complex philosophical Anti-hero. When Vic died in the 52 series I was crushed, but I understood because he hadn't been around for a while. And now Renee Montoya has taken over for Vic and I love the Question more than ever. While this book isn't perfect, it is good...albeit a little uneven. Much better Renee/Question stories have come since.

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### **Kereesa says**

Honestly couldn't get into this one. I liked the other Question bind-up by Rucka much better.

## The Sapphic Nerd says

I love Renee Montoya. She's such an interesting character - not just because of personality, but also because of all the axes of inequality that intersect in her. I also happen to have a weakness for Spanish women, but that's a bonus. And those muscles on her back and arms... \*clears throat\* **OKAY**. Anyway. On top of Renee being the protagonist in this book, it's written by Greg Rucka (whose other work with Renee and Kate Kane I think very highly of). Naturally, I was bound to read this book. I've been saving it for Halloween reading, and here we are.

Each issue starts with a page from one of the "Books of Blood", which adds a great deal to making the mood creepy, dark, and mysterious. When we meet Renee, she's doing research and going undercover to learn more about the Religion of Crime. At this point, I haven't read the 52 omnibus that's sitting on my bookshelf, so I have no context as to why she's investigating the cult, but I don't think it affected my reading experience. Renee/The Question's main goal is to stop/disband/tear down the Religion of Crime from the looks of it. She eventually enlists Kate Kane/Batwoman's (yesssssssss!) help in obtaining a copy of the Crime Bible. The Religion of Crime's leader appears later and threatens to kill everyone she cares about if she doesn't meet him at a specific location and time. Of course, Renee goes, and that's where they have the final showdown (cue my drooling at the fight scenes and Renee's upper-body muscles in a tank top). Ignoring my not-so-subtle reasons for enjoying the ending, what actually happens is pretty darn badass. Scary, as well, but a "whoa", as Renee works to take down a cult without compromising her own morality.

It's a good book. The story is interesting and sufficiently creepy. Renee is flawed, strong, and very human. I'm a sucker for Kate Kane (no surprise there, huh?) and their interactions are well-written. The art varies in quality, but overall it's pleasing to the eye. If you don't mind reading about the occult, having a hero who's not morally perfect, or you're interested in the characters, I'd definitely recommend this one to you.

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## Ernest says

This was an intriguing volume of a work I did not know anything about. I think this volume is best for those who have been following the character or are into the world, as while the story involving the Crime Bible has some interest, there is not enough there for a casual reader like myself to want to find out more about the character or the larger story. There is nothing wrong with a work being primarily for fans and for them, read and enjoy this work.

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## Maria says

This is an absolutely incredible story, and a wonderful introduction (for me) to some new characters of the DC universe. I've read this completely independent from other comics, so it is possible to jump right in without knowledge of the characters or their history. However, I loved it so much I will definitely be getting the comics surrounding this story, to discover more about these intriguing characters and what led Renee to where she is now.

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### **Tammy says**

Greg Rucka, are you out there? Can you hear me? May I have more Renee Montoya please?

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### **Fugo Feedback says**

Pero qué tapa tan fea. Por suerte la historia está muy bueno y los varios dibujantes que se encargan de la faz gráfica hacen un digno trabajo. El que no hace un digno trabajo de lector soy yo, que dije que no iba a leer este tomo hasta no terminarme 52.

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### **Garrett says**

Not my favorite Question (I find the "religion of crime" a little silly), but the story's a requirement for the development of the Renee Montoya Question after Vic's death during the 52 stuff; not sure how much of the status quo of what's established here got changed for the New 52, but this is good stuff and complicates the character in a deep and interesting way - flawed heroes are always better, no?

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### **Anthony says**

An interesting concept: a Bible for criminals. Of course the new Question, Renee Montoya, is obsessed with it. Rucka's reinvention of The Question is clever and exciting, with enough cameos to keep any fan of Gotham happy.

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### **Joseph says**

Not quite my cup of tea.

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### **John Yelverton says**

Very dark book that borders on the Satanic in it's presentation.

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### **Andrea says**

The fact that it ends on a question is appropriate...

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