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Gail Simone continues her acclaimed run on WONDER WOMAN with this collection! Gail Simone and fan-favorite artist Nicola Scott reunite for this explosive tale featuring the stunning return of a star-spanning threat from Diana's past! Meanwhile, five mysterious young men with a dark and terrible secret have arrived on Paradise Island with one mission: To kill Wonder Woman! Guest-starring the Green Lantern Corps

Wonder Woman, Vol. 7: Contagion Details

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Author : Gail Simone , Nicola Scott (Illustrator) , Fernando Dagnino (Illustrator) , Aaron Lopresti (Illustrator) , Matt Ryan (Illustrator) , Doug Hazlewood (Illustrator)

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From Reader Review Wonder Woman, Vol. 7: Contagion for online ebook

Cara says

This story feels anti-climactic, following the conclusion of the arc started in *The Circle*. It ties up one strand started in *Warkiller*, but the bulk of the story (*Wrath of the Silver Serpent*) is a completely different tale that feels rushed and incomplete.

A Murder of Crows explores the malevolent impact of Ares' sons born of 5 Amazons. They were each nourished by an animal that is supposed to be venomous/evil in some fashion (spider, adder, rat, goat, and not sure what the 5th one was--crow, maybe). It's not clear why goats and crows(?) are sources of evil, but, whatever. The kids are busy spreading discord throughout Washington D.C., with the intent of turning people against each other and destroying their own city. It's fine, but it's not the most effective threat against someone like Diana. Fortunately for the spawn, Power Girl shows up and is turned against Diana. She's used pretty well, and Canary's point about using technique and not just force is remembered with good effect. But the story doesn't amount to much.

Wrath of the Silver Serpent is too short and rushed to be effective. Earth is invaded by a race of women (the Citizens) who plan to turn almost everyone on the planet into food and convert all of the technology to their use. Their leader is Astarte, who first showed up in 1979 as a Wonder Woman villain with connections to the Amazons. Simone revives her here and gives her an interesting back story, but one that may not be quite accurate. Astarte's actions are brutal--her treatment of her own child is horrifying.

All of this could make for a powerful story, but it is rushed and wrapped up too quickly. The Amazon connection is barely explored, and its most significant impact, on Hippolyta, never shown. Diana and her mother are never forced to confront the implications of any part of Astarte's story. Even Simone's public redemption of the Amazons feels rushed and forced.

In fairness to Simone, the rushed nature of this story appears due to DC's decision to take the comic from her and give it to J.M. Straczynski, who started, but did not complete, the *Odyssey* arc. But it is still a disappointing finish to what was a strong run, with interesting ideas.

Lizy says

Did she just punch me into Canada? Yes yes she did.

Alan says

This collection ends Gail Simone's run on the title, and she should go down as one of three or four best writers to handle the character. While hewing to the Greco/Roman mythology base creator William Marston created and George Perez expanded upon, Simone added new ideas such as space faring elder god like the Ichor and the hint of Zeus' mission for them. An attempt to settle Achilles aka Olympian aka *Warkiller* into modern day society. The gorillas earn the right to return to gorilla city, and Artemis gets her best portrayal since William Messner-Loeb wrote the title. The Amazon civil war is (finally) concluded. Simone wraps up,

even if sketchily, the many plot threads she had going on as she resigned/was removed from the title so Babylon 5 creator J. Michael Straczynski could take over the title.

Anne says

I'm a big fan of Gail Simone's writing on Wonder Woman. I think she's managed to take an iconic character and make her better. While I don't think this represents the very best of her work on WW, she did tie up some loose ends. It gives the ending of the volume a *Happily Ever After* feel.

M says

The seventh volume of the Gail Simone Wonder Woman epic arrives with Contagion. Opening the book is a two-issue arc dealing with the children of Ares, who are doing their best to incite rioting and violence through the subtle manipulation of people's innermost fears. An interlude featuring Procanon Kaa of the Green Lantern Corps sets up the menace of the Silver Serpent. A warrior tribe of alien women traverse the universe, unleashing their serpents to feed upon an entire planet. After devouring a border world in the Lantern's sector, they set their sights on earth. In the process, Diana encounters her long-lost aunt - leader of the invaders and mother to their fiercest warrior. Simone's arc feels like a hodgepodge of convoluted storylines all attempting to seek an end. The Power Girl cameo aside, the Children of Ares are run off in short supply after receiving, no kidding, a sever spanking from Diana. The Silver Serpents are briefly highlighted before being dumped in favor of a familial grudge, one that is also swept under the rug in but a few issues. The art from Nicola Scott is always fantastic, empowering all characters with beauty and charm. The book still boasts loads of energy and excitement, but the true concern is the amount of juggled plots. Contagion may not fully infect readers with a love of Wonder Woman, but it will at least provide a good fever.

Laraka says

There are two stories in this. The first one I did like a bit more. The second one had a bit of an abrupt ending.

Kim Dyer says

While this volume did wrap up the lose ends of Simone's run, I did not think it was her best work. The Murder of Crow's story line wasn't too bad but the Silver Serpent provided a weak ending to the series that wrapped up a little too quickly and neatly. Comparatively, the ending of the previous trade (Warkiller) was a lot more dramatic and would have made a better finishing point for the run.

However, it was still an enjoyable read and the art was excellent throughout. This run has been my introduction to Simone's work and I can now see why she is such a respected writer - it really did make me want to read more of her comics.

Maythavee says

The two story arcs in this volume didn't quite grip me as the previous arcs. Nicola Scott's art was gorgeous as always though! I did like the way the Children of Ares plot from the previous arc was concluded though. The interactions between Wonder Woman and Power Girl was great.

Sesana says

So I guess this was the end of Gail Simone on Wonder Woman. Sigh. I really loved her run, as one of the writers who I think really understood Diana and her world. Not exactly the best set of storylines she worked on here, or even the most representative of her entire run. But still, pretty good on the whole.

Imogene says

This is officially one of my favourite books ever. It collected together all the story lines, all the people, all the plots, and it coalesced them into a thing of beauty. I really heard the voice of the Diana I always wanted. The mirroring of Diana/ Hyppolita and Astarte/ Theana was breathtaking, the gorillas made me tear up, and by all the gods! Diana walking in the rubble, tired, sad, heartbroken, but maintaining her stubborn belief in the world, in seeing the best in it - without illusion OR delusion, was so freaking beautiful.

And then Gail Simone retweeted my comment, and made it even more perfect.
I. LOVE THIS. BOOK!

Jess says

This series is amazing and I loved the ending. It ended so perfectly and with a surprisingly happy ending. I feel like Gail Simone did a pretty damn good job cleaning up the mess that was Amazon's Attack.

I thought the children of Ares issue was super interesting but I think the space amazons is such a cool concept!

Overall I highly recommend all of Gail Simone's Wonder Woman run. It may be my favorite or at least tied with Brian Azzarello's new 52 run.

Chiara Situmorang says

This was my first Marvel comic, ever. I have to admit I was pretty skeptical about Marvel comics (don't attack me), but I was willing to take a chance on Wonder Woman. I have to say, I'm officially converted. While I don't know if all the comics are of the same quality (they're probably not because of the different writers and artists), this has made me willing to read the others anyway. I'm pretty picky about art style

preferences in comics, but this one is absolutely gorgeous. I found myself staring at the panels several times instead of just zooming through the issues.

I'm a sucker for family reunions (even if they're not amicable) too, so the Silver Serpent checked all the right boxes, except for the fact that both stories seemed to end super quickly as if they were rushed. That's probably my only complaint. I just wanted a thicker comic ;)

Tyler Zamora says

Overall I've enjoyed Gail Simone's journey with Wonder Woman. She shows creativity and much love for the character. With that being said, I felt this final collection of her run was good, but not great. The presence of Power Girl and The Green Lantern Corps. felt forced and out of place. The abrupt ending was also quite jarring as plot points were either skipped or rushed. I did enjoy the final battle between Diana and her cousin, who was bad ass and I wish we could've explored that further. Maybe I'm biased because I read Simone's run on Batgirl and was thoroughly pleased with what she did there. Her work on Wonder Woman is very fun, but misses structure. It's definitely worth the read though for all Wonder Woman fans.

Shannon Appelcline says

The initial story, "A Murder of Crow" has some nice Simone characterization and the hints of a bigger story ... but there's too much fighting between Power Girl and Wonder Woman [6/10]. "Silver Serpent" is another un-Diana-like tale. It pulls big revelations out of nowhere, just barely sparks, and then very abruptly ends the whole run.

DC's disrespectful end to Simone's run is one of the main things keeping me from getting my own copies of it, because it was a lot of good stuff that ended up going nowhere, as has ultimately been the case for the entirety of WW vol. 3, as DC has really showed how to kill a title with over-control.

Shawna Hunter says

The story was fun and had a lot of amusing kinky elements but overall it was lacking in character development. meeting long lost family members and battling an armada from the stars should not seem like an afternoon's inconvenience. Entertaining but not Diana's best outing.
