



Crossed, Vol. 4: Badlands

Garth Ennis , Jamie Delano , Jacen Burrows (Illustrations)

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Top horror authors Garth Ennis and Jamie Delano tell tales of desperate survivors in a world overrun by psychopaths (think The Walking Dead meets Texas Chainsaw Massacre)!

Two tales of terror from the most vicious landscape in modern horror, written by groundbreaking graphic novelists Garth Ennis and Jamie Delano! When the worldwide outbreak transforms most of humanity into murderous psychopaths, the uninfected survivors are driven by desperation to the very brink of sanity and morality. In the United Kingdom, a young man devastated by the traumatic death of his wife struggles to survive the roving bands of Crossed at his heels. Meanwhile, three small groups of survivors in the marshy Florida Everglades – haunted by personal demons, driven by primal fears and all-too-human desires – find themselves on a collision course guaranteed to leave bloody, fiery destruction in their wake. Collects issues #1 - 9 of Crossed: Badlands series.

Crossed, Vol. 4: Badlands Details

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Author : Garth Ennis , Jamie Delano , Jacen Burrows (Illustrations)

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From Reader Review Crossed, Vol. 4: Badlands for online ebook

Jesse A says

After the balls out grossness, goriness of the last two volumes GE seems almost muted.

Quentin Wallace says

This series continues to be excellent in its own sick way.

In this volume we have two separate stories. In the first one, original series creators Garth Ennis and Jacen Burrows tell a story set in the snowy highlands of Scotland. The second story is by Jamie Delano and set in humid florida. The Scotland series isn't bad, but the Florida story is longer and more fleshed out. We have a meth lab run by white supremacists, two spoiled but hot teenage twins, and a sort of couple consisting of a burn out dude and a nutty but also hot female ex soldier. Mix them all together with a horde of the Crossed and you have an interesting story.

This is a very cynical series, as even most of the still human characters are degenerates. This series does have some hot characters and shows some sexy nudity rather than just the gross nudity of the other volumes. I think I may be getting a little jaded because the violence isn't shocking me as much, but then again things haven't gotten quite as graphic as in the first few volumes either.

I'll probably sound like a broken record before I'm done reviewing this series, but once again you had a compelling story with great art with the graphic violence being an afterthought. This series is just hard to put down!

mark monday says

Volume 4 is a standalone volume, like I assume the rest of the volumes are in this series. at this point I'll probably only be reading the volumes written by Ennis (or other authors who I know can deliver quality writing), because the premise of the Crossed series - humans changed into demented sadists and killers who stalk, rape, mutilate, and murder the unchanged - really has the potential to bring out the worst in writers.

4 stars for the first story "Badlands", written by Garth Ennis and illustrated by Jacen Burrows. this was excellent. Ennis manages to put all of his despairing ideas on the page with a minimum of self-indulgence. the story follows a small band of survivors in the Scottish highlands as they flee the "Crossed" and decide who amongst them should stay in the group. Ennis' past themes around making difficult, alienating, unempathetic choices in order to survive are encapsulated beautifully in this grim and sardonic tale. those themes were all over the place in the first volume of this series, but Ennis has since streamlined his storytelling and improved the delivery of his message, and "Badlands" is clearly superior to that first work. repulsive shock scenes still occur - this is Crossed after all - but in this case the worst of them (the graphic death of an infant) feels organic to the plot rather than just existing as an in-your-face point being made about audience complacency. the top-notch art by Burrows is stark and visceral. the cast features Prince Harry (!) - who looks really terrible post-apocalypse - and whose inclusion is an odd decision but doesn't harm the story in the least.

unfortunately, "Badlands" is only about one-fifth of the book.

2 stars for the second and much lengthier story "Homo Superior". the writer, Jamie Delano, certainly knows a thing or two about pacing and suspense, I'll give him that. and his ending is also interestingly grim and sardonic (although the same exact message was done better in the prior story). frustratingly, all the excellent pacing and suspense only serve to highlight how the story reads like it was envisioned by a horny, repressed gorehound approximately 13 years in age. it's like lower tier Richard Layman, with art that is reminiscent of but inferior to Burrow's art. sigh.

Stephen says

I don't get this. I just don't get this. I want to get this. I love horror movies. I like Walking Dead (TV). But this I just don't get.

Bad stories, shitty shitty shitty art...how does this keep getting published?

Gore for gore's sake. A disease that leaves a specific pattern on the skin. A plague of unknown origin. You put all this together and you don't even have half a story.

And of course they get the main thing wrong that almost all post- apocalyptic stories get wrong: After the end of civilization, there will still be hundreds of nuclear power plants with fuel rods in pools of water. When that water boils off, it's meltdown time. Think about Chernobyl multiplied by a thousand, because there will be no response to limit the damage or the spread of the radiation, and then ask yourself how many people, crossed or uncrossed, will be walking around with bones through their noses in 6 months and eating each other. None. The end.

If I could find a few good recommendations for even one complete story arc I'd get that particular volume, but based on the stories I read in volume 4, forget it.

Koen says

Weeeeeell, this is so much better than the previous (psycho) volume..

A lot of excitement, and definitely more tension in this one...

Second: Characters were very interesting.

Finally: great artwork..

Really was racing through this one.. If Garth keeps up this pace, I'll be knee deep into Badlands soon enough..

????? ?????????? says

Loved the first story by Garth Ennis. Sadly, the second one is the long one, and it's pretty dumb. There are good parts here and there, but mostly dumb. I just wanted to end, and when this moment came, it was so unsatisfying.

Amanda Kent says

Wasnt a fan of this one at all. Worst I have read so far and hoping the Badlands series gets better since I went and bought them all. ha!

Gianfranco Mancini says

First story by Ennis and Burrows is a 4 (almost 5) stars one (the guy claiming to be Prince Harry and leaving you in doubt he was him for real was just 100% pure greatness Ennis style).
Sadly it was just one third of the volume long and second story by Delano and Rizzo was just not as good as the previous one, too much surreal and similar to Lapham's 2nd and 3rd volumes of the series (that I really hated).

Meh :/

Gustavo Santos says

I liked the first story by Garth Ennis. In my opinion this story was one of the best until now made by him (I'm just considering the volumes 1 to 4).

The main character of the first story named Ian it's one of the coolest in the series 'till now.

He had a great and totally different way to think about how to survive in this new world, i know that someone can say that he way to think was wrong, but for me he was right to think that way although the unlucky final he had.

If somehow they write a volume with eight hundred pages with Ian being the main character, I'll buy it without think much!

I would like to put five stars to this volume, but, the second story was weak in everything

weak characters

weak plot

and to be honest I didn't like the way of writing of Jamie Delano, because I prefer the way to write of Garth Ennis and David Lapham.

Sooraya Evans says

There's two stories. The first one takes place in Scotland, following the cliché pattern of the series. A group of survivors walk together as one narrator (Ian Cowley) tells us how they ended up together. Stuck with a pregnant lady (the sole female in the group), they're stuck moving at a slow pace. This is where the conflict comes from. Not much action from the Crossed side. But rather more on human conflict.

The second story features more characters. Unrelated to begin with, but they ended up crossing paths. This one had plenty of gore and unnecessary nudity. Why did the girls have to be naked all the time? Unlike previous volumes, a common theme I've noticed here is that the survivors actually embraced their doom. Some even walk right into it willingly. Kinda disappointing after all the struggle they put in. So what was the point of it all in the first place?

Vittorio Rainone says

Ormai il gioco di Crossed inizia a mostrare la corda. Non che smetta di essere in qualche modo interessante (ecco, viene strano scrivere la parola, considerando il tipo di fumetto), ma comunque le tematiche sono quelle, e gli autori devono inventarsi qualcosa, o la faccenda rischia di piegarsi su se stessa. In questo numero: Ennis e Delano ci mostrano due trasformazioni in mostri. Se la prima pare riecheggiare storie analoghe già viste (al di là del finale), nella seconda c'è qualcosa di peggio: tre donne che decidono di sopravvivere, senza mutilarsi, e crescere un cucciolo umano (ammesso che il cucciolo lo rimanga). Ecco, forse questo è un minimo spiraglio per far andare avanti la serie nel futuro. Vedremo.

Kaisersoze says

Maybe I've reached saturation point with **Crossed**, as there was little I found surprising or shocking, disturbing or outlandish in this first collection of the **Badlands** volumes. I'd been hoping that Ennis' return would propel the series out of the quagmire **Psychopath** had left it in. To be fair, his story was vastly superior to the longer, more detailed one by Delano, yet neither offered anything new or exciting. Just more of the same: group of characters are introduced, group gets picked off one by one, while meanwhile the survivors move, seemingly inexorably, toward their destined fates.

Unless the next volume manages to offer some variation, it will be time for me to put aside the universe of **Crossed** and seek my edgier thrills elsewhere.

Recommended for the ongoing hardcore fans only.

2 Never Ending Swamps for **Crossed: Badlands**.

Julie Rylie says

Two reviews on Crossed at the same time.. tricky... I feel like saying exactly the same thing again. I

loveeeeeee this! I loved that on the first chapter we have this gore old woman, naked with boobs falling all over the place and with human heads on her hips and the way she kills the others. cool.

And this should be a reminder that I should read a book and review it right away coz I fell like I'm mixing up both volumes. I think it's in the next volume but I really liked the story about this kid that was called "yellow belly" and was a chicken shit, but i also really liked this one about this woman that was really empowered and used to serve for the military. The one with the weird guru was cool too, and the way the other guy revolts and how it ends was just freaking genius.

47Time says

[The survivors have strict rules regarding rations, so when one of them is found stealing food, he is left with his Achille's tendons slashed in the path of the

Alue14 says

I'm currently reading these comics online, and I'm rather enjoying them, I must say.

Personally, I found it when I was surfing on the internet one day, and I was fascinated by the covers, almost bordering on psychopathic. But, that's not of the point here, so I just leave it at that.

Now, I since recently finished the first issues and the Family Values and Psychopath series, so I'll be leaving a review 'bout that one fine day. But here, here it's different. While I may have enjoyed the first issue of the comic- the one in the Highlands -for the humanity inside the characters and the fact that the main character runs away since his girlfriend got killed along the way. And the fact that he has troubles with making choices and standing up for them. Especially the fact at the end where he has the change to blow himself up with the grenade, but doesn't go for it because, well... Would YOU blow yourself up with a grenade, even if you have the risk to become a crazy, cannibalistic murderer/rapist?

I give the comic 4 stars, just for the message that you may face harsh choices but have to stand for them otherwise they might kill you, or whatever. I didn't quite get it, sorry.

Now, the story 'bout the Everglades, however... The story isn't as annoying, but there are two characters that aggravate me in this story... And those are the twins and Steve. ((Seriously, is that a name for a woman?! I thought she was a male turned into a female the first time I read the comic!?!)) The fact that aggravates me towards her is that she's the 'Hur-hur,-I'm-a-hard-ass-military-chick-who-can-fuck-males-when-I-need-to-but-has-a-troubled-life-and-when-I-need-to-bare-a-child-I-fucking-abandon-it-'cause-I-can't-run or some shit like that! God... I fucking hate her... But the twins aren't out of the equation, too! They seem to be able to survive on their own, but then that guy comes around- don't know his name at the moment and not in the mood to look it up -he's the only guy who wants to survive, and as the other twin sister is fucking her, she wants him to fuck him, too, and then she straight up shoots him! And then the cunts forget him! I'm not going too deep into this comic, I'm just angered.

Just two stars, that's all. And don't get me started on the Yellow Belly story...
