



Moon Knight, Volume 1: The Bottom

Charlie Huston (Writer) , David Finch

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The Fist of Khonshu is back and badder than ever, courtesy of acclaimed novelist Charlie Huston (*Caught Stealing*, *Six Bad Things*) and red-hot, fan-favorite artist David Finch (*Avengers*).

Khonshu -- God of the Moon, God of Vengeance -- saved Marc Spector's life, brought him to glory, and made him Moon Knight. But what Khonshu gives, he also takes away. Spector learned this the hard way, spiraling into madness, depression and worse. Now Spector wants back in the game. Will Khonshu hear his prayer?

Collecting: *Moon Knight* 1-6

Moon Knight, Volume 1: The Bottom Details

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From Reader Review Moon Knight, Volume 1: The Bottom for online ebook

Gavin says

Darkness Charlie Murphy.

This is not a sunny book.

Marc Spector is a broken mentally unwell man.

The last name isn't a coincidence...a Spectre, the avatar of his Egyptian God, wherein he becomes Moon Knight.

However, he isn't here, he's pain pill addicted, dishevelled and wheelchair using. His friends he has pushed away, and he's haunted by the one time he took vengeance too far and lost the mantle.

This is a great look at what happens when the dark "heroes" stop. This is easily Batman, Punisher, Daredevil, at the end after they stop, if they didn't die.

Solid writing and art, 3.5+ stars but not quite 4.

Scott says

I am biased because I have to say Moon Knight is my favorite character ever since I read the old Moench and Sienkiewicz series. Each series has taken Moon Knight through a different phase and Charlie Huston stepped-up and knocked it out of the park. We have a violent (yeah I know calling a Moon Knight series violent is a little redundant) turn here. Along with the violence we start to really crazy Mark Spector (yeah a little redundant again but it's true, trust me) showing up here. David Finch has some very fine art here as well. He adds a lot of those little details that really make an impact. Danny Miki and Frank D'Aamata both have a gear impact here as well with inks and colors as Moon Knight lives so much in shadow that their work really stands out. I am also giving a shout out to letterer Joe Caramagna too because the guys who do the lettering never get a shout out!!

Aaron says

Marc Spector was once Moon Knight, the avatar of the Egyptian moon/revenge god Khonshu. Recently he has hit bottom, brooding in his room and staring at his Khonshu statue. His former partner Frenchie asks to see him, who is then attacked in the street. Things begin to get a little weird when Marc learns that his friend never requested to see him... Marc's origin story is recapped as the sinister Committee hires the Profile and Taskmaster to prevent Marc from becoming Moon Knight once again.

I knew virtually nothing about Moon Knight before this volume. I didn't feel lost, but there's a definite sense that Spector has a varied history that I'm not aware of. Most importantly, the story doesn't make it entirely clear why or how Marc hit bottom, but it doesn't feel entirely necessary information. We know he's down, now he needs to get back up. Moon Knight has been compared to Batman, except that Marc's story back into the Moon Knight suit is a dark and very bloody one, and his sanity is apparently far more fragile than Bruce

Wayne's has ever been depicted. His sanity becomes a significant question by the end of the volume ((view spoiler)) which ends on a satisfyingly creepy note. Moon Knight's an appealing character in this volume as a street-level vigilante, though a bit dark and broody for me to entirely get behind.

Anthony says

I don't consider myself much of a fan of David Finch. I like what he did with Bendis on the Avengers, but not enough to follow him over to DC to read his Batman stuff. But I do really like the visual style he brings to this book. It's how he makes use of Moon Knight, even though he's not in costume that much because this arc is more of a "return" story, although I'm never entirely sure where it is he's returning from? Some pages will be filled with small panels, often building up to a full page splash. And then there are the moments, which there aren't that many of, like the Moon Copter (or whatever his ship is called?) is used. It looks pretty cool, and makes this a good read. And his Taskmaster looks great. His style is well suited to these types of characters, than it would be for, say, female characters, I guess. He exaggerates body mass a bit, not quite to the Liefeld degree, and when you have a panel of Moon Knight smashing through a window saying "VENGEANCE!", those are the comics that do make me go "OH YEAH!" when they're done this well and look this good.

Mike says

The Moon Knight always seemed to me one of those B-list characters who was a pale shadow of the more interesting and well-thought-out dudes. Maybe it's the full face mask and dour personality - doesn't say much, just roams around with his moon-themed gadgets.

Huston took me on a fantastic, brooding journey into the inevitable by-product of years of vigilante justice. I love seeing the rare glimpse into what the life will eventually suck out of such nutjobs - this could just as easily describe what would happen for Batman or Punisher too, but that it was painted onto Moon Knight makes me interested in this guy for the first time in decades.

Huston writes a gritty, dark, adult introspection and painful journey for our "hero", which feels completely appropriate and interesting.

Art by Finch is nicely detailed, dripping with shades and shadows, and very expressive for a bunch of stone-faced poker faces.

Nathan says

The Bottom..yes that title does seem apropos for this piece of work that seems to have rocketed from Huston's rear end. Think I'm being too harsh? Well here's some typical dialogue you'll find in Moon Knight:

Marc Spector (Moon Knight): #####! My #####ing legs!

Frenchie (Marc's friend): Marc! Ce qui est erroné?

Marc Spector: My #####ing legs! They're #####ed!

Frenchie: Vous voulez une omelette?

Marc Spector: Bon.

I enjoy dark stories but these days writers of dark stories are more concentrated on how far they can push dialogue and gore before someone hurls from just reading their work. There are so many problems with Moon Knight that I don't even know where to begin. I was very naive when it came to buying comics the time Moon Knight came out, I thought to myself "This guy looks so cool! Add that to my book list." Even as I read it, I fooled myself into liking it despite its obvious flaws and I'm sure there are many readers like me out there that suffered from this delusion when Moon Knight reared his blood stained face around the corner.

Let's tackle dialogue first. Moon Knight has a Parental Advisory warning on the barcode and this excited me as a recently turned Mature reader. I thought to myself "Finally a mature comic book to commemorate my induction into Mature reader fandom." I soon found out that the dialogue in this book was very immature; if I were to personify it, it's similar to a young teenager who starts dropping the F-bomb into their sentences in an effort to be cool and regarded as mature by other people. Huston also thinks adding French into the mix would work to define Marc as French but all the sentences in French are stupid statements that could easily be said in English. Statements like: C'est vrai or C'est une idee stupide! See what I'm getting at? Oh well onto Artwork.

David Finch is a talented artist but his artwork can't save this story and it only serves to heighten the nausea already caused by Huston's writing. Finch's artwork doesn't do the reader any favours by displaying the horrifying gore in detail. Next story.

SPOILERS AHEAD

The story is odd simply put. I thought this was a reboot, a fresh perspective on Moon Knight but Huston keeps referring to the old 1980s series, you can almost feel him nudging you with his elbow. I don't mind keeping the old characters but the story seems so disjointed you can't tell why Huston chose to include them. They seem to pop up in very awkwardly staged scenes. The drama is so overplayed in this story that it just annoys you; Marc Spector is d*ck to all his friends and he finds it hard to express himself without dropping a number of F-words into his sentences. Another problem is the villain or villains in this case, the Committee. We as readers are never given a reason for why they wish to harm Spector; at some point the head of the group states that they wish to accomplish what their forefathers set out to do and that's about it. A couple of boring fight scenes later Spector crashes his Moon-copter into their HQ meaning he knew where they were the entire time which begs the question why he took X number of issues to get his sh*t together to accomplish what ultimately took up one page in the book.

Leave this one on the shelf

Logan says

Pretty good! Haven't read Moon Knight in a while, but after watching Comic Pop's Back Issues episode on this book, it inspired me to give this one a read! I started my Moon Knight fandom when Warren Ellis wrote his amazing Moon Knight, Vol. 1: From the Dead, which made me really love the character! However for many before that, Charlie Huston's run was what got them into Moon Knight!

So the story has Mark Spector down on his luck after a fight with one of his villains turned ugly, and resulted in his legs being broken. The story is a typical, hero returning story. To start with what I liked, I loved how dark and gruesome this comic gets! Part of the appeal of Moon Knight is that he's basically Batman on steroids in terms of writing and grit, and that's on display here fully! Charlie Huston knows the character well, and he writes retcons that make sense and help elevate the characters and world! David Finch's art as well is absolutely amazing, he manages to capture the grit, while still keeping the art flashy and a pleasure to look at! Finch's art is especially on display, during a couple of intense scenes where there's no dialogue at all, but the story is conveyed perfectly through the visuals!

The negatives I would say would be the writing at times. I think the overall story is very good, but a lot of the in between moments can get very dull! I also didn't find the dialogue that interesting in some scenes, but I think I'm very picky with my Moon Knight when it comes to writing. Bushman in the beginning is menacing straight away from the brutal fight he has with Moon Knight; but after that the villains are very dull and almost made me fall asleep from reading some of their scenes.

Overall though this is a decent Moon Knight read! I think Charlie Huston accomplished what he set out to do, in making Moon Knight a cool character. But Warren Ellis's run is still the Holy Grail when it comes to Moon Knight comics for me!

Christian Smith says

Plot holes/problems:

1. You're telling me it's that easy to enter the Moonknight cave. You just have to smash your way through a wooden barn and you can enter a super secret building?
-

Alex says

A dark, (at times excessively) violent take on Moon Knight from crime writer Charlie Huston and superstar artist David Finch. I liked that this series honored what came before, presenting Marc Spector as a washed-up hero desperate to get back in the game. Huston is respectful of past continuity, knows how to pace a comic and adds layers of depth and nuance to characters that are familiar to readers. He also weaves interesting twists into the narrative and introduces a new (but classic) Marvel villain to MK's Rogues Gallery. Though it lacks the quirkiness and 80s weirdness of the Moench run, Huston's take makes for an intense, modern reinterpretation of the perennial Marvel B-lister, and makes for one of the best MK runs ever. A good introduction to the modern version of the character that succeeds on its own merits and expands the legend of the character.

Jason says

This is probably the best of Huston's run on MK. I wouldn't say it's all downhill from here, but this first volume packs such a punch and presents MK as a hero for the gritty, modern superhero era, it'd be hard for anyone to follow up well.

Greg (adds 2 TBR list daily) Hersom says

This books was a sick, twisted Batman rip-off... and I thought it was AWESOME! Gritty story and brutal artwork. Freakin great artwork actually.

(Why can't Marvel get it, that this is the kind artwork that their super-heroes deserve. Not this squiggly scribbles that they try to pass off in too many of their newer books.)

Ailed says

I *like me* some gore! I definitely will be reading more Moon Knight, this guy doesn't pull punches which makes sense if he is the incarnation of Khonshu: God of Vengeance.

(...) I don't wear the white to **hide** myself.

I wear it so they'll **see** me coming.

So they'll **know** who it is.

'Cause when they **see** the **white**, it doesn't matter how good a target I am.

Their hands shake so bad, they couldn't hit the moon.

Arturo says

Bushman. The Profile. Taskmaster.

TJ Shelby says

The artwork from Finch was amazing. The story was decent but nothing great. Just another vigilante in the marvel world, of course, in a mentally unstable Egyptian god sort of way.

Anne says

I keep hearing this: *Moon Knight is Marvel's Batman rip-off.*

Bullshit.

If I had to pick, I'd read Moon Knight all day long over Batman. Dark Knight, my ass. If you want a *dark* superhero, Marc Spector has it covered.

And *this*? This was maybe the best MK story I've read so far!

The first issue reeled me in with a mind-fuck, then the rest of the issues blew me away with the twisty-turny conclusion. <--not a conclusion and I can't **wait** to start reading the next volume!

I was really surprised at how well the characters were all fleshed out. Everyone! From Frenchie & Marlene to Taskmaster & Profile. They all felt very *real* and shockingly two-dimensional. Then there's Konshu. He isn't what the new reader (*or Marc*) expects, but that's what makes this such a great title.

A word of warning: If you don't like graphic or gory comics, then this *isn't* for you.

Marc was a mercenary & Konshu is a god of vengeance - not puppies and rainbows.

So if seeing your 'hero' peel the skin off his enemy's face is a dealbreaker, you should probably go read some *Batman* instead.
