



Echo: Atomic Dreams

Terry Moore

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Julie is the unwilling host to remnants of an atomic alloy manufactured by the Hietzer Nuclear Research Institute, or HeNRI. Pursued by an unstoppable HeNRI agent named Ivy, Julie runs and hides in the Nevada desert, aided by the unlikely allies of a gang of bikers and park ranger, Dillon. But there is another: a nameless madman who stalks Julie and her precious alloy, leaving a trail of death and destruction in his path. It's a race against time in the hit series by Eisner Award winning creator, Terry Moore. This trade paperback collects issues 6-10.

Echo: Atomic Dreams Details

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Author : Terry Moore

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Zedsdead says

Volume 2 opens with Julie hiding out in the Nevada desert. She's being hunted by both a madman who also possesses some of the alloy and a relentless tracker working for the agency that got her into the mess in the first place. Sparks fly, and people explode.

Terrific follow-up to a terrific first volume. Moore is a master character-writer; everyone in the book just jumps off the page. Ivy's intuitive leaps, the homeless guy's madness, Julie's empathy, it's all totally believable.

Moore continues to do great things with black and white. And thank god he has abandoned the ridiculously cartoony surprise-expressions that ruined Strangers in Paradise for me. One shouldn't mix this much smarts and realism with Dagwood Bumstead art.

Chibineko says

While the first book made me think more of SiP, I can safely say that this volume established the series from it's older sibling. I devoured this book in a day, reading it as quickly as I could get my hands on it & then flipping through it multiple times to catch the artwork & smaller details that I may have missed the first go round. (And there's always little details to catch with Moore's work.)

The first volume left Julie & Dillon as they set off on the road with several bikers in the attempt to stay away from the military. What they didn't know is that they are being followed by an insane homeless man who also has a part of the suit... and isn't afraid to use it to kill. Meanwhile there's an intelligent & beautiful woman working for the organization HeNRI- the organization that helped make the suit & wants it back. That woman is Ivy Raven- and Ivy seems to always get what she's working for.

This volume moves much faster than the previous volume- mostly because all of the buildup & character introductions were really made in the first volume. Atomic Dreams moves the series into a faster pace- with more mysteries introduced (what's in Julie's "closet box"?) & meatier villains. The crazy homeless guy features more in this volume than he did in the last one & there's signs of Julie's chest plate having more of a sentience than previously thought.

The production values of this volume are far better than the previous volume. Volume 1 made it seem like it was ran off a printer in mass quantity & not proofread (the pictures weren't as clear in some pages as they were in others), but this volume brings the quality up a notch. The pictures are clean & there's none of the issues there were previously.

I'm really looking forward to what the story will bring me in the future & for the next volume. My only complaint so far is that they aren't coming out fast enough! (I know, I'm greedy for Moore! *insert drum riff*)

Mike says

The dream sequences are evocative in a wisps-of-clouds across my consciousness kind of way, and the hints is philosophy have been good. I like how Annie is communing with Julie and I love how the investigator is both quirky, observant and her own, strong woman. Both vulnerable and steely - unlike Julie who's closed and wishy-washy.

The action is stunning in how sudden it comes on and how quickly it resolves... though only for a little while. The quiet moments in between are great.

The pencil art continues to do the job, a lot better than no-inks-or-colours ever deserves to do.

Artemisa says

I liked this book, but it created too many questions, without answering any of the questions left from the previous book. I hope Terry Moore knows where he want to get, and we aren't left with a bunch of loose ends.

This is just a little bit more on Echo running from "the man", but know there is an extra bad guy a crazy man with a piece of the suit, and he seems just as powerful as Julie.

On the other PoV, Ivy is getting closer to Julie and I feel like she is starting to trust Ivy, I just don't know how wise that would be...

This time the quotes on the separator pages are from Oppenheimer wonder who will be the next scientist chosen.

Greymalkin says

Didn't quite enjoy this as much as the first, but I think it's because this was the book that starts introducing all the plotlines that will follow through the rest of the books. So it felt a little disjointed and like no story really got enough "screen time" to get invested in it. Still enjoying it though and I may enjoy this book more when I read the rest and re-read this one. Definitely will keep reading, I find the plot/world interesting.

Darinda says

Julie is is being pursued by a HeNRI agent, plus a madman is after her. Fun and entertaining. This volume contains issues 6-10.

David says

The second book in the *Echo* series. Not much plot development in this book: Julie and Dillon are still on the

run, with Ivy Raven, of the "National Security Branch," on their trail. Ivy is the most intriguing character, since she's a MIB but at least appears to be one of the good guys, claiming that she actually wants to help Julie, while HeNRI, the corporation that built the liquid metal supersuit she's wearing, obviously just wants the suit back and evidence of their screw-up erased at all costs.

The homeless guy with the liquid metal glove catches up to the fugitives, resulting in a bloody and destructive battle in the middle of the Nevada desert. Then Julie and Dillon run away some more, and then the homeless guy catches up to them again.

3.5 stars — nothing really new added here, but the art is still eye-catching and the story moves along. Unfortunately, my local library only has the first two volumes, so looks like I will have to actually buy the next one if I want to see what happens next.

Snow says

Dear DC and Marvel,

In case you ever care enough to try to create female superheroes for *women*, please contact Mr. Moore. He can show you how it's done.

Tanabrus says

A quattro mesi dalla pubblicazione del primo volume italiano, ecco arrivato il secondo numero di Echo, la nuova opera di Terry Moore.

Tra l'altro, quando la scorsa settimana sono passato in fumetteria a prenderlo, la commessa ha borbottato un "Oh, Echo? Bello, anche se non è SoP... ma è sempre Moore, e aiuta a far passare il lutto per la fine della serie". Sempre più commenti favorevoli riguardo l'altra opera di questo autore, chissà che prima o poi provi a leggermi anche Strangers in paradise.

La storia prosegue abbastanza lentamente, anche perché l'autore è parecchio introspettivo. Mi piace l'introspezione, quindi ottimo.

Dillon rimane molto sullo sfondo, qui le protagoniste sono Raven, la detective che sta braccando la coppia, e Julie.

Che oltre a ritrovarsi in fuga, braccata dall'esercito e dalla potente Henri, senza praticamente alcun effetto personale e in compagnia di Dillon e di alcuni motociclisti sconosciuti, comincia ad avere anche certi altri problemi.

Come la possibilità che il materiale che ha indosso sia radioattivo.

Come l'essere tormentata dalla Raven telefonicamente, senza sapere di chi potersi fidare a parte i suoi compagni di fuga.

Come il ritrovarsi attaccata dall'assassino pazzo e fanatico, con una mano ricoperta dello stesso materiale della sua placca.

Come l'assistere alla morte dei suoi nuovi amici, come lo scoprire un nuovo potere e quasi una nuova coscienza nella sua placca. Come il pensare di aver ucciso qualcuno.

Come lo sperimentare sogni vividi e realistici, che noi sappiamo essere sue elaborazioni dell'ultimo volo di Annie.

Già, perché sembra che Annie, o parte della sua coscienza, sia ben radicata nella placca, più di quanto sembrava nel primo volume.

E sembra cominciare a emergere, a momenti.

Sarà interessante vedere come evolveranno le cose quando si saprà la verità sulla morte della donna, quando Raven scoprirà il marcio dietro la Henri, quando Julie e Dillon affronteranno i sottintesi della presenza di Julie nel metallo che ricopre il petto di Julie.

E immagino che dietro l'assassino-predicatore ci sia una gran bella storia da raccontare... perché uccide chi parla di quell'esplosione? Cosa vuole da Julie? Vuole prendere i suoi frammenti di metallo?

Come ha fatto a essere già così tanto evoluto rispetto a lei? Ha il metallo da più tempo?

Molte domande, e per ora giustamente nessuna risposta.

Ma la serie dopo due volumi è estremamente piacevole, secondo me merita.

Hector Ibarraran says

In this book the mystery continues and the plot thickens. Although I found myself entertained enough to continue reading the rest of the series, I don't find this book to be extraordinary. The main character feels too bland and empty. It feels like she is there just to fulfill her role as a vessel to the story, and that saddens me a bit. I'd really like to see her take on more of a personality, because otherwise there would be nothing to grow from as the story goes. There are a few other characters that I find fascinating, and that I feel steal the book. I'm still holding out hope though. I'm not even half way through the story, so we will see.

Amy says

Terry Moore's art was as ever, amazing in this. I don't think I know another comic artist who draws faces as expressive as Moore.

Plot wise I don't feel that this volume was quite as good as the first, but it was still an enjoyable romp. The homeless guy and Ivy are nice contrasting pursuers of the main duo, and I'm looking forward to seeing how their roles pan out in the following volumes.

Ian Wood says

This is the complete review as it appears at my blog dedicated to reading, writing (no 'rithmetic!), movies, & TV. Blog reviews often contain links which are not reproduced here, nor will updates or modifications to the blog review be replicated here. Graphic and children's reviews on the blog typically feature two or three images from the book's interior, which are not reproduced here.

Note that I don't really do stars. To me a book is either worth reading or it isn't. I can't rate it three-fifths worth reading! The only reason I've relented and started putting stars up there is to credit the good ones, which were being unfairly uncredited. So, all you'll ever see from me is a five-star or a one-star (since no stars isn't a rating, unfortunately).

WARNING: Unhidden spoilers may be in this review!

Volume two of this six volume series starts out right where volume one left off. Dillon the ranger and Julie the super-girl are hiding out in a desert motel, ostensibly protected by some of Dan Backer's motorcycle group. Dan is ex military and is highly suspicious of what's been going on in those desert military bases. What none of them know is that the vagrant who shared Julie's plutonium rain experience is a religious nut-job who thinks poor Julie is the harlot of Babylon. The Bible has a HELL of a lot to answer for.

When Vagrant Man shows up at the motel - how he tracked her there is a mystery, but I have an idea of my own - there is a showdown that leaves sand turned to glass, and Dan's biker boys dead. Julie and Dillon are once again on the run across the desert.

Meanwhile Ivy has tracked down Julie's sister Pam, who is in a psychiatric institution, and she calls Julie and tries to talk her into surrendering to Ivy - who promises protection. Doing this will imply, intentionally or not, a threat of something happening to Julie's sister isn't the best way to engage with Julie's benevolent side, but before this can be resolved, Vagrant Man arrives, and all that's left after that encounter is a crater in the desert, which is how volume three begins.

Once again we have interesting characters who change and grow, particularly Ivy who is slowly coming to a realization that this isn't your normal person-tracking job. The art work continues to be simple but not simplistic, and it was very much appreciated; it's clean, definitive, and illustrative - everything you would want in a graphic novel. I do not require color, indeed, it can sometimes ruin a story, so this wasn't an issue for me. I recommend this volume as part of this complete series!

Aaron says

All right, now I'm just straight-up having a blast with this series. Moore continues to expand the mystery and world surrounding Julie and the suit that's attached itself to her and the lunatic who's also managed to get hold of part of the suit, all without losing any of the careful attention to character he displayed in the first volume. I think this is exactly what I've been wanting to read for a long time.

Beyond this, Moore also starts to filter in little bits of philosophy and physics that never feel pretentious or over the top. They're just there to speak to the situations at hand, and I really dig how deftly he handles stuff like this.

I think it's truly amazing how good he is at both art and story. Most comics artists can do one or another, sacrificing story for art or vice versa. But Moore's pencils are some of the most detailed and careful I've seen in years, his characters more expressive than most you'll find elsewhere. Art like this, even without color, really breathes life into this already well-paced mystery, making me care even more about these people than the writing already does.

I'm hooked at this point, definitely going to see this all the way through. I'm hoping it keeps up the consistency, but so far Moore's given me no reason to doubt that it will.

Mary McDonough says

Boring. I wish a woman had helped write it. Maybe it would be less predictable.

Nicolas says

Perfect second part of the story, lovely artwork. Just impressive, cannot wait for the next one.
