



## Doom Patrol, Volume 1: Brick by Brick

*Gerard Way (Writer) , Nick Derington (Artist) , Tamra Bonvillain (Colourist) , Todd Klein (Letterer)*

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The spirit of Grant Morrison's groundbreaking *Doom Patrol* is captured in this debut series starring the cult-favorite misfits as a part of Gerard Way's new Young Animal imprint.

Flex Mentallo, Robotman, Rebis, Crazy Jane, and more are back to twist minds and take control. This new take on a classic embraces and reimagines the Morrison run's signature surrealism and irreverence.

Incorporating bold, experimental art and a brash tone to match a new generation of readers, Gerard Way's *Doom Patrol* establishes radical new beginnings, breaks new ground, and honors the warped team dynamic of the world's strangest heroes.

This abstract and unexpected ensemble series nods at the Doom Patrol's roots by continuing to break the barriers of the traditional superhero genre.

**Collecting *Doom Patrol* 1-6**

## **Doom Patrol, Volume 1: Brick by Brick Details**

Date : Published June 6th 2017 by DC Comics (first published May 23rd 2017)

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Author : Gerard Way (Writer) , Nick Derington (Artist) , Tamra Bonvillain (Colourist) , Todd Klein (Letterer)

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## From Reader Review Doom Patrol, Volume 1: Brick by Brick for online ebook

### Rory Wilding says

If you are interested in the arts, you are an oddball to the general public, but being an outsider allows you to be creative, no matter what weird ideas that comes out of your mind. However, there is a tendency of being too weird and when it comes to comics, no one epitomizes this more than Grant Morrison, a man with such a unique imagination that either rises or falls depending on the material. Amongst the number of creators Morrison has influenced, Gerard Way has been very local about his love for the Scotsman, in particular his run of *Doom Patrol*, which not only inspired on his Dark Horse series *The Umbrella Academy* but also his own run of *Doom Patrol* as part of DC's Young Animal imprint.

Please click [here](#) for my full review.

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### Scott Foley says

Believe it or not, this is my first Doom Patrol book. I really like Gerard Way and his general oddity when writing. Doom Patrol was weird, but also very entertaining. I'm not sure how much is built upon previous writers' work, but the direction captivated me enough to keep me coming back for more. Overall all, I've been very pleased with the Young Animal imprint.

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### James DeSantis says

This is my first Doom Patrol book. Which might not be the best idea...

Still, I was really surprised by this. So what's the plot? Well a bunch of people, very weird and different people, start coming together. There's a ambulance driver who's ready to save everyone she could. A magic wielding woman who blows up her roommate. Then a walking talking robot who kicks ass. You got a dude who transforms into a mummy like person. Then you...wait, did I lose you? Yeah it's zanny as fuck but this is how a group of unlikely people come together to fight evil together. Least I think they're evil.

Good: I really enjoyed the zanny nature of this comic. Over the top and balls to the wall, it's always entertaining even when confusing. I love the main lead and her hopeful lookout on things but also her confusion in her role in it all till she takes it by the balls and kicks some ass. There's a ton of good chuckling moments throughout here as well.

Bad: Some of it tries hard to be funny and falls flat. I let it slide due to the nature of it but it's still there. Also sometimes the art looks to emulate "old" when it shouldn't. I think the story can be jarring for a lot, especially new comers, and they may be too confused to continue.

Overall this is jam packed with crazy hijinks and twisted fucked up stories. While I didn't "Love it" I was entertained throughout. I'ma go with a 3.5 for this one but I have a feeling the more I read the more I'll fall in love with this series.

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## Artemy says

This was torturous.

You know what? It's not hard to imitate Grant Morrison. You don't even have to be on drugs. You just make random shit up and throw it all together, use big, flashy fonts to write random nonsense across the pages, as if screaming at the reader, and use words from pulpy old sci-fi to make it sound more futuristic and quirky. And that's exactly what Gerard Way is doing in this shitty comic. He doesn't have much to say, but he really wants to shout *something* in the audience's general direction. It doesn't make him Grant Morrison, because — who knew? — you have to actually be a talented writer to be able to pull off this kind of crazy.

Fuck this book.

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## ? percy & says

i received an ARC of this through NetGalley.

gerard way says in the afterword that "we want you to feel like it's 3:00am and you have no idea what's going on - but somehow you do?" and he succeeded admirably in this goal. this was a surrealist, touching, ingenious postpostpostmodernist masterpiece. seriously, put postmodernism (and a whole lot of brilliance) in a blender for a few hours and this will pop out, probably.

another thing Way mentioned in the afterword was that a reviewer said that you can't really review this book, because it's a book to be experienced rather than reviewed. and i completely agree; mainly because if i say anything at all about the plot, it will spoil a little bit of that experience.

one thing i can say: this was incredibly well-written, with probably the best character development and storyline of any comic i've ever read. it made me cry, but in the best possible way.

*and everyone should read it.*

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## destiny ??? [howling libraries] says

**"You don't know what's going on inside of someone, really. There's a hidden universe in there... full of secret stars."**

*In this issue of Doom Patrol, Gerard Way puts his own unique spin on a classic set of characters. While you may recognize the cast, everyone can find something brand new to love in the beautiful, bold artwork and zany dialogue of Brick by Brick.*

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The afterword of this graphic novel summed up so many of my thoughts regarding the book. Gerard wrote,

“We want you to feel like it’s 3am and you have no idea what’s going on, but somehow you do,” and that is such a fantastic fucking way to phrase how I felt throughout the entirety of this comic book. I wasn’t raised on comics much (because I didn’t have a lot of access to them or exposure), so this was my very first taste of Doom Patrol. I’ll be upfront with you guys: I requested this ARC on NetGalley primarily because I have never outgrown my absolute adoration for My Chemical Romance or Gerard Way as an individual, and when I saw his name on it, I had to have it. That said... I **thoroughly** enjoyed this comic book.

The characters are absolutely brilliant. I wanted most of them to be real just so I could befriend them all, because they’re so clever and enjoyable. The dialogue is fun, and I’m certain it will bring a smile to your face, though more than once, it made me pause and think for a moment, too (as with the quote I used at the top of this review). The artwork is glorious, and colorful, and vibrant, and everything that I want in a graphic novel.

Overall, though, I’m going to have to agree with the thoughts I’ve seen from a lot of reviewers, as well as the reviewer that Gerard himself quoted in his afterword: I can’t review this story. It isn’t that I didn’t love it – because I did – and it isn’t that I was confused by it – because I wasn’t (not by the end, at least). It’s just that this comic is such an experience. Like any other roller coaster ride, someone could tell you about it all day long, but you’d never fully understand the delight of it until you strap yourself in.

I would highly recommend this to anyone who enjoys Doom Patrol, DC comics, or just a damn good story. I can’t wait to see what else Gerard has in store for the world.

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### **Roy says**

I re-read this after going through the Morrison run. It makes so much more sense now. I actually enjoyed it a lot more. Characters are explained a little better in Morrison’s run if you can believe that.

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### **Chad says**

I’m not even going to try and give a plot synopsis because it’s so convoluted that I’m not even sure what the hell happened. I was very excited to see a new Doom Patrol book. It’s always been one of my favorite books at DC. I liked the Kupperberg run, the crazy weird Grant Morrison Vertigo run, and Keith Giffen’s run from about 10 years ago. Gerard Way didn’t even scare me away. Umbrella Academy was actually pretty good. But this just sucked.

**The Good:** Way brings back most of the team from Morrison’s run and brings back plot points from more than one of the previous Doom Patrol runs.

**The Bad:** The plot threads Way brings back are from 10+ years ago and yet he gives very little reference so you don’t really know what’s going on.

**The Ugly:** The plot was a mess. There’s so much going on I couldn’t keep it all straight. The book was weird but it wasn’t interesting. I found myself not really caring what happened.

Received an advance copy from DC and NetGalley in exchange for an honest review.

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### Amanda says

*Doom Patrol* is a series I've always wanted to try out. I wish I had before jumping in with *Brick by Brick* because honestly, I couldn't make heads or tails of what was going on. So perhaps that's where my problem lies? Maybe I went into a long running series and didn't know any of the back stories in order to know what the story was about now. I'm not sure if that made sense or not but I'm not really sure about anything at the moment. I really wanted to LOVE this one because it's written by Gerard Freaking Way for Pete's sake! He's one of my all-time favorite artists and I want to believe he can do no wrong. Hence, I have some pretty mixed feelings about this one.

Let's discuss the stuff that worked. While I didn't understand the story it didn't diminish the writing quality. *Doom Patrol* is really well written. I can't find fault with that and I knew Gerard Way wouldn't let me down on that front. I also really liked the art work and character design. The visuals were rather interesting and if nothing else, *Doom Patrol* is pretty to look at.

I would normally talk about the plot but since I don't really understand the plot I'm not able to do so. Seriously, was it just me? Like... I had to google the plot and read a Wikipedia article to figure out what the plot was. At least I know what the main story was about but I'm still at a loss for everything else. I'm just so confused... and after looking though several reviews on Goodreads, it appears many other people were as well.

I think this becomes a question of whether it's my fault for going into a story without a solid foundation or if it's the authors fault for writing something with absolutely no frames of reference for a new reader to pick up on. I hate to say it (since I respect Gerard Way so much) but I think it's the fault of the author for writing a story that takes place within an established series without letting the readers in on the past. I think if I knew the backstory I would have found this one amazing. Sadly I went in with a blank slate so I just feel confused about how a book so well written and visually interesting could make literally no sense to me.

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### Sesana says

It is, indeed, very much in the vein of Morrison's *Doom Patrol*, without being an outright imitation. And yet, there's still something missing. The story doesn't inspire me, and it feels haphazardly put together. I constantly felt like I was missing something, and maybe I was. Not for me, but some people seem to be enjoying it.

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### Sam Quixote says

An enchanted colostomy bag belches into existence The Bliznar, an anthropomorphic multi-gender entity whose left testicle is running for Mayor of Kandahar and who wants to write this year's Christmas No. 1 jig. But a ragtag team of anti-hero pro-superhero anti-hairdressers called Bloom 50 Squad have to lose the intergalactic atomic race and lock up the evil Princess Bitchtacular before the FixFaxes obliterate the comics universe of the 12th Dimension! Better gwant up the pooble before sippy revs the teaser!

Ok, that was deliberate gibberish I just made up (and kinda reads at the end there like something from Rick and Morty's interdimensional cable) but it makes about as much sense as Gerard Way and Nick Derington's unreadable first volume of the relaunched Doom Patrol. If this title is an indicator of the quality to follow in DC's new Young Animal line (which Way is also curating) then it's gonna be Rebirth 2.0.

I can't pretend to be a fan of or know much about Doom Patrol as I've only read the first Grant Morrison book and it didn't grab me, so forgive me not knowing pretty much every character in this book. Not that Way makes any effort to make this book accessible - it's basically Morrison fanfic for uber fans of Morrison and Doom Patrol. He so desperately wants to be Grant Morrison and falls short by several light years.

So the premise is: a magic ambulance/sentient godlike entity called Danny is a portal to another realm where Flex Mentallo lives - now that character I do recognise from the excellent Grant Morrison/Frank Quiteley book from the mid-90s (highly recommended over this tripe). The robot dude on the cover is living in a gyro - yes, the wrap snack many people enjoy on the reg - and some dude called Niles Caulder is doing one-page skits for no reason.

None of the Doom Patrol can remember who they are for some reason (maybe it ties into the end of Morrison's Doom Patrol, I don't know, I never read it, but it might well do given Way's obsession with Morrison) and this book is about gathering them together once again to stop some evil intergalactic corporation from turning people in hamburgers. There's more nonsensical art school bollocks but it's not worth going into - it's like enduring atrociously, outstandingly bad Avant-garde filmmaking.

Incoherent storytelling, incompetent writing that mostly reads like cast-off Danger Days-era My Chemical Romance lyrics (Way's former band), obnoxiously pretentious, and incomprehensible in general, I have no idea what the fuck this nonsense was but I know I was mega-bored and thoroughly unimpressed with it. You may as well zone out when reading this and come up with your own story because at least then something will entertain and make sense to you. Gerard Way and Nick Derington's Doom Patrol is all the reasons why Doom Patrol will never be a good comic.

Tease up that sippy, poobles!

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## Dan Schwent says

A young EMT named Casey Brink witnesses Robotman being hit by a garbage truck and she's pulled into the maelstrom of weirdness that is... the Doom Patrol!

Here we are, another decade, another Doom Patrol book. The Doom Patrol went from being DC's version of the Fantastic Four in the 60s to being the book that put Grant Morrison on the map in the early nineties. There were a few more attempts at a Doom Patrol series after Morrison's but they weren't very memorable, although I still remember the landfill full of Robotman parts behind Doom Patrol headquarters during Keith Giffen's run.

Anyway, the weirdest super heroes in the room are back. And much like the Grant Morrison days, I was only half aware of what was going on. That being said, I did enjoy myself in a nostalgic sort of way.

Robotman is still the most normal member of the Doom Patrol and my favorite. He's like Moe of the Three Stooges, struggling to keep the group together. From being hit by a garbage truck to stomping off to go find

some pants, Robotman is the hilarious grumpy uncle of the team. I also liked Negative Man getting back to something resembling the version I was familiar with, though Larry wearing Rebis' shades was a nice touch. And what the hell is up with the Chief, Niles Caulder? Hell, that alone makes me want to get the second volume.

Much like Shade, the Changing Girl, Volume 1: Earth Girl Made Easy, I felt like this book was laying the groundwork for the series, integrating Space Case with Robotman, Flex Mentallo, Negative Man, and Crazy Jane. However, I didn't find it nearly as accessible as Shade.

While it wasn't as enjoyable as I'd hoped, I'm cautiously optimistic about the future of the series. Three out of five stars.

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### **Diz says**

At the beginning of this volume, the narrative hardly makes any sense at all, and even though the narrative starts to make sense about midway through, it's still not easy to wrap your head around. However, something that comes through loud and clear is the theme. That theme is that regardless how weird or how much of an outsider you are, there is always a place for you. That place is not necessarily a location, but rather belonging to a group of tolerant people who will love you for who you are. The journey of life is not about success or accomplishment, but finding this companionship. Of course a big part of that is being open to the eccentricities others and being accepting rather than judgmental. That theme really resonated with me, and made me forget about the narrative weakness of this story. I'm looking forward to reading more about this weird and wacky group.

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### **Donovan says**

Post-Grant Morrison's Doom Patrol, it's easy to follow, non-derivative, written with deep and interesting characters, and the fantastic artwork keeps pace with the wacky world building. Prior knowledge of the Doom Patrol will help but is not required. Read this.

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### **Sud666 says**

I almost gave this one star, but relented. Why? Doom Patrol really took off under Grant Morrison's run. It was smart, edgy and very strange. Yet the big picture plot behind the stories was always something unusual and new.

Gerard Way tries very hard to recapture the magic of the Doom Patrol under GM. Sadly he falls far short of the mark. This version of Doom Patrol tries really hard to be as intelligent as GM's version. They even bring in some old villains to help the story relive it's glory days under GM. Well it didn't work for me.

The character's are still the same but their motivations and their utter weirdness has devolved into a standard comic about a weirdo super team. The cartoon-like artwork tries to capture the bizarre world of the GM Doom Patrol but doesn't really do it for me. The story? It's ok. Not really comparable to the unique vision of what Doom Patrol is (or was in this case). They are so weird that they solve the weirdest of situations-stuff

far outside the mental process of the "normal" super hero teams.

This version? Not so much. It tries really hard but ends up being a cheap knock off. If you want some REAL Doom Patrol weirdness-check out Grant Morrison's run. THAT is what the Doom Patrol is all about.

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