



Richelle Mead's The Dark Swan: Storm Born #1-4

Richelle Mead , Grant Alter (co-writer) , Dave Hama (Artist) , Adam Markiewicz (Artist)

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Richelle Mead's The Dark Swan: Storm Born #1-4 Details

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Author : Richelle Mead , Grant Alter (co-writer) , Dave Haman (Artist) , Adam Markiewicz (Artist)

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From Reader Review Richelle Mead's The Dark Swan: Storm Born #1-4 for online ebook

Jamie says

I really enjoyed this! A nice blend of fantasy and supernatural. Once again, Richelle Mead gives us an awesome kick-butt female heroine!

Eugenie is very well portrayed. Reasonably confident, but not over the top. Caring and practical. It is very easy to like her. The pace seems well done. Her 'minions' are likeable in their own way too.

Eugenie is given a request that she doesn't really want to take on. Travel to the Otherworld to rescue a man's sister. Such travel is dangerous but she feels for the guy so she takes on the assignment. However, before she goes she has some unique encounters first as demons, fairies and the like start calling her by name. How did she become known to them. So now it is a two-part job. Save the girl and learn why the Otherworld wants her.

This story seems well paced for a graphic novel. A nice blend of action, romance and fantasy. Very solid story. My only complaint is the drawing of the faces seems too harsh in a lot of shots. Just my opinion though. Otherwise the artwork is nicely done. Good blend of coloring and shading.

I made one grave mistake in my reading of this. I read this BEFORE the book. So now I have to backtrack and read the novel. Wish me luck!

Amy Eye says

This is the first time I have heard of the Dark Swan series, and I am extremely interested in continuing the series. The artwork in this book is bright, colorful, and engaging.

Eugenie has the power to vanquish the dark and evil beings back to the places they belong. She has learned from the best - her father. Although he is now retired, he is still both a great resource for her as well as a source of strength.

A young girl has been taken by the gentry, now she must decide if the risk to rescue this child is worth it.

There were only a few flaws that I noticed in the text that were a bit confusing, but other than that, it was superb. I have not read the series before, but I think a few of the bigger scenes came out a bit flat. I can tell these are huge, exciting scenes, but one of them seemed to just fall a bit short.

The characters are interesting, hot, mysterious and talented. As a short section of the book, I had to immediately start the 2nd one...It is just as amazing as the first. I am anxiously waiting to finish this graphic adaptation!! (and I must also locate these books.)

Oana E. says

originally posted here : <http://fancy-reads.blogspot.com/2011/...>

I like/love/adore comics. They can make us, the readers, picture easier our favourite characters, and if we get to talk about Dark Swan main characters - then you hit a good spot.

We can see on the cover the famous shaman "Odile" Dark Swan - Eugenie Markham. I'm not sure who published this comic, who draw and colored it, but i can simply say it's amazing.

The characters from this book series aren't that easy to draw. Eugenie has like a dozen of tattoos, everyone trickier than the other, and an interesting appearance - note the hair in each scene, her face's expression, lights and shades on her hair and eyes with that not-so-normal indigo colour, her clothes and maybe the most important things - her weapons. Then, Kiyo, who's face and mood shifts even quicker than the weather and let's remember that he's the hottie-male from the series. Then Dorian - the gentry king. Then Dorian's Court and servants. The gentry beings - who are as various as the shoes from a shopaholic woman. If you were the artist to draw all of this, i wouldn't even wonder how it would be in you place because this task is not difficult, but more of a killer one.

Still, the ones who bought the copyrights did an awesome job.

The script is cool. If you haven't read the original book serie, it's ok. You will understand what's happening. At least i haven't read the book series before, but the comics convinced me after reading them.

And the drawing is simply perfect. I have no objections to that.

As a matter of fact, i preffer to show you some picture instead of commenting something i consider perfect.

Eugenie Markham

-profile according to Goodreads.com

Age: 26

Hair: long, cinnamon

Eyes: violet

Height: 5' 8"

Profession: Shaman-for-hire

Kiyotaka Marquez

-profile according to Goodreads.com

Hair: black, "not quite to his chin"

Eyes: large, dark

Skin: golden-tanned

Height & Build: "tall and broad-shouldered, nicely muscled"

Heritage: born to Japanese mother and Latino father

Profession: Veterinarian

King Dorian along with a part of his Court :

Storm Born Issue 3 pg 14 by ~Apathy-Inc on deviantART

All i can say about these two numbers of the comic is that i absolutely adore them and that i recommend them to everybody even if you read the series or not. They are awesome and i can hardly wait for the rest.

So, my grade will be just obvious : 10 out of 10!

R.J. Gonzales says

(Received copy for review by the wonderful Sea Lion Books. Thank you so much!)

Contains some adult-language, violence, and sexual-content. To some that's a "no-no" but to me, that's a "yes-yes" :P

Fun, sexy, thrilling, humorous, and extremely entertaining!

Storm Born, Issue #1 follows Eugenie Markham who's pretty much happy with her job of banishing otherworldly beings back to "the lands of death." However, when she is given a job offer, one that even though is so dangerous, she still can't help but feel the need to do, Eugenie is put in a tough spot of deciding whether or not this job should be done, and exactly how much she would be putting at stake if she accepts.

I loved every inch and every single panel of this issue (Issue #1), from the serious action packed scenes, to the humorous dialogue, and the steamy little bits. I've never heard of this series before—until now, that is, and am glad I was able to review this! The illustrations are simply magnificent, and I cannot wait to move on to the second one! Heck Yes!!

Originally posted at RJ Does Books

Ronda Tutt says

Absolutely Fun & Great Graphic Comic Beginning!

I love the graphic concept matching the story; the graphics bright and colorful backgrounds bring the story to life and only enhanced my imaginations visions. Even though this is just the first issue of the four issues for half of the book, it was the perfect teaser to hook me into the story line. I wanted more and can't wait to pick

up the next issue. The story line grabbed my attention immediately and the characters were very humorous. I look forward to learning more about each character as the issues come out.

Sandy says

The ARC was provided by the publishers Sea Lion Books. Thank-you very much for requesting a review.

I have to say I have not read much comic books (in fact I think this is my second one) and after my experience with the first one I read I was worried that I would not enjoy the very little amount of pages I get with one issue. With graphic novels and manga you get at least 100 pages. I was worried that the story would feel rushed or lacking development but I am relieved to say that that never happened here.

Dark Swan starts us off with our protagonist in the middle of exorcising a death spirit from a shoe and although she gets tossed around a bit our heroine gets the job done with the calm and ease of a person who has done this sort of thing for awhile. And right before this job is even done Eugenie has another job offer, something for more dangerous than banishing a dark looming Keres. A job that would require her to cross into the Otherworld physically to rescue a kidnapped girl from faeries or as the tricky folk prefers to be called - Gentry.

I haven't read the Storm Born novels yet which wasn't a problem at all because there didn't feel like there was anything important missing that I needed to know, the pacing was perfect and I enjoyed the casual revelations of Eugenie's life. She enjoys puzzles in her downtime, she has a roommate who gets himself laid with faux Native American poetry and she isn't the only shaman in the family.

Eugenie's also not the cold, calculating person she pretends to be. She may be able to kick ass and say she isn't going to risk getting herself killed by saving a girl she's never met but that doesn't stop her from mulling it over and seriously consider the idea of potentially falling into what looks like a trap.

The art is also something I really enjoyed, facial expression and emotion were portrayed very well and objects (like Eugenie's tattoos) were detailed enough to show that the original novel was given proper attention without distracting the reader from the story itself.

A great start to the story, if you enjoy your heroines tough but still feminine and your stories with magic and action then pick up Dark Swan on Wednesday when it comes out. We can all then whine over the cliffhanger together.

A.O. Peart says

The Dark Swan. Storm Born, issue #1, an adult comic.
Written by Richelle Mead and Grant Alter.
Art by Dave Hamann

Disclosure: I've received this arc version from the the Sea Lion Books Publishing House with a review request.

This is the first comic issue, out of total of four. First half of the Graphic Novel is scheduled for a release in

September 2011, followed by the next four comic issues. Second half of the Graphic Novel will be published after that, with another subsequent set of four comic issues.

Synopsis:

Eugenie Markham never asked for any of this. Until now, she's been content with her job as a freelance shaman, battling and banishing Otherworldly creatures.

When a prophecy suddenly makes her the Otherworld's most popular bachelorette, Eugenie finds herself fighting off unwanted supernatural suitors, as well as the evils that begin emerging from her past...

My take on this comic issue:

The protagonist, Eugenie Markham, is a strong, self-assured, modern young woman, whose job is to battle various supernaturals and send them back to "the other world". The story starts with Eugenie coaxing a nasty, bulky-looking Keres, an ancient death spirit, out of her client's snicker. Yep, it's not a genie-in-a-bottle, but the Keres-in-a-Nike-shoe story. After the initial exchange of some powerful blows, the creature becomes to think he's got a chance with the girl, and makes her an indecent proposal. This only offends Eugenie and sends her into a serious frenzy. Silver bullets in her gun do enough damage to the spirit to let the girl carve the death symbol on his chest and send him to the Lands of Death.

Next, Eugenie meets up with another client, a young man who tries to find his thirteen-year-old sister, Jasmine, abducted by the fairies over a year earlier. After exploring various ways to get the teenager back, the man seems to think Eugenie is the only one who can help. Eugenie feels suspicious and decides to analyze the situation and discuss it with her stepfather, Roland, before she accepts the assignment. Roland doesn't seem to be very helpful and Eugenie's temper flares once again.

Eugenie's roommate, Tim, a super-hot and a super-broke guy, always surrounded by the willing females, tries to convince her to go out and have some fun, for a change. She's apprehensive, but right after Tim leaves with three ladies in tow, Eugenie decides to check out one of the bars in the area. There she meets (brace yourself, ladies), even better-looking than Tim, Kiyo, and the evening ends sizzling-hot in his apartment. I must warn you, the illustrator did an impressive job with those bed scenes. The only weird part is when Kiyo scratches Eugenie's back in the moment of passion – what confused me was not the fact he did that, but the level of damage he posed with just his human (well, maybe not – we'll see in the next issues if that's so) nails.

Everything goes back to, more or less, normal until a nasty freeze-monster finds his way to Kiyo's apartment... but for the rest of the story we must wait until the release of the second issue.

A very entertaining and fun comic from the author of Vampire Academy. Enjoy!

Caroline says

Full Review on The Blog

www.carolineandrus.com/blog

I'm a huge Richelle Mead fan, but I don't like graphic novels. Reading this was tough. I could see Richelle in the words, but... like all comics & graphic novels, it was just so lacking in story!

I need more words than graphic novels offer!

The art was decent though. Not too overstimulating for me, which is a problem I have with graphic novels and comics - sensory overload.

Katy says

Those of you already fans of Eugenie – aka Odile – probably don't need my prompting to pick up this graphic novel. Those who haven't yet met her – well, you should! Eugenie is tough, intelligent, funny and sexy and the art in this book is amazing! When I finished it, I just wanted more – fast-paced and compelling, this is a story for anyone who likes paranormal suspense and action; although I should warn that this book is definitely at least PG-13.

She is a shaman – she spends her days helping out people who are being terrorized by spirits, which she sends back to their own realm. In Storm Born, she is faced with the unwanted affections of otherworldly creatures – she doesn't know why.

This book introduces us to her character and shows us what a day in her life is like – albeit not an especially typical day. When it opens, she is busily exorcising a shoe. That's right – a shoe! Later she is contacted by a young man who wants her to cross to the Otherworld and rescue his sister from the Gentry (another word for fairies, or the Sidhe). There's not much more I can tell you about the story without spoiling it – although I need to point out that this is not a self-contained story, but part of a greater whole.

Definitely pick this up – it's a great story!

Bark says

4 1/2 stars

I haven't yet had a chance to read Richelle Mead's novel Storm Born (Dark Swan #1) but I'm definitely interested after finishing volume 1 of this graphic novel adaption. Will I be disappointed? Knowing me, probably but this version didn't disappoint. It's a gritty urban fantasy brought to vivid life with bright colors and beautiful artwork and it left me hanging for more.

Eugenie Markham, usually known as only as Odile the Dark Swan to the beasties she sends back to the Lands of Death, is all badass beautiful with her tats, violet eyes and fiery hair. She's a shamanic mercenary who tracks down evil creatures for a living. But strangely her latest monster knows her real name. It's disquieting and something is definitely afoot that will no doubt cause her later grief but the reasons are not revealed here.

She's asked to retrieve a missing girl abducted by the fairies (gentry) which will require her to cross over into the Otherworld. Something she never does. She ponders it even though it's wildly dangerous because, apparently, these aren't your nectar sipping fey. Does she go? Well we don't find that out either. Yet.

A small cast of characters are introduced along with Eugenie and they all have fun little quirks. Roomie Tim dresses up as an American Indian because it gets him chicks, Eugenie does cute little kitty puzzles to decompress and then there's super hunky love interest and veterinarian Kiyo who is gorgeously drawn and

heats up the pages. There is violence, bad language and sexuality (and some rough-ish sex) in this here ebook so I wouldn't let your nosey youngsters snoop over your shoulder as you read. All of the choice bits are cleverly hidden (darn) but it's spicy all the same.

I thoroughly enjoyed Storm Born and will do my best to track down the rest of these graphic versions as they're released. My only small niggle was one bit of dialogue that could easily have been left out or reworded because it left me wondering how Eugenie jumped to a certain conclusion about a man and his driving skills but it's a minor nit in a very entertaining story. Other than that this has the makings of a promising series and I'm anxious to check it out.

Sea Lion Books says

The Graphic Novel is still in progress, but the pages I've seen so far are amazing! Richelle Mead is very excited about this project and is very pleased with the artwork as well.

Jessica `~Blahyze~` says

I read the book and loved it and reading the comic/graphic novel just adds that little bit of extra fun. The Dark Swan first volume really exceeded my expectations; I wasn't sure if it would do the book justice or be a poor portrayal of a book I loved. It's great seeing the characters on pages in illustrated form, it's just brilliant. Each character was captured so perfectly and I loved seeing Eugenie's attitude leap off the page, seeing her kick-ass in comic form was something I really enjoyed. Seeing Kiyo and Eugenie's first encounter was great, exactly how I pictured it, though the following steamy loving faces were a little odd to me but that's just me being nitpicky and thinking with the smutty side of my brain. The Gentry world was so beautifully done however Dorian in my mind was a little more masculine looking in comparison to the comic illustration but he was still done fairly well in this.

If you are a real Dark Swan fan then I think you would love this and even if you haven't read the books it would still be a great read. A prime example of how a book can be done well translated into comic form. Any issues I found were very minor and mostly due to my own imagining of certain things, nothing to do with the comic itself. I need to get my hands on a hard copy because this something I need to have to go with my Dark Swan books and add to my collection. Can't wait to see how the rest of the volumes turn out, if they end up being anything like this, I will be one happy reader.

Submitted for review from publisher

Emma (BelleBooks) says

First of all a massive thank you to Sea Lion Books who contacted me asking if I would like to review this comic!

I had previously heard about the comics and was a bit upset that most likely they would only be sold in the US, making it harder for me to get a hold off. I love Richelle Mead's writing, and have previously read the

first three books in the Dark Swan series, so I was super excited to get a chance to read this comic!

First of all the artwork in this comic is amazing, it's as if all the small details from the books have come to life. As a fan of the book series it is important to me that all these small details are correct and that the comic sticks as close as possible to the original novel, which it has! I especially loved seeing Eugenie's tattoos and the intricate details of her wand, but mostly loved getting to see Kiyo, he is exactly as I had imagined him to be!

I loved how this part of the original book has been condensed down into comic form without leaving out any of the important parts in the story. If the reader had not read the Storm Born novel and picked up the comic, they would still know exactly what is going on!

Even though I know the story and know what is going to happen next, the comic ending has left me dying for more! I cannot wait to read the next instalment of the comic series!

Lisa Richards says

'Dark Swan' is the new graphic novel serial from Sea Lion Books, based on the series by urban fantasy author Richelle Mead.

I was lucky enough to get the chance to review Richelle Mead's DARK SWAN only days after reading the print book. I'll admit, I didn't expect to enjoy it as much as I did. I've always considered graphic novels to be only a step above a comic book (sorry, hanging my head shamefully). I never realized that they could add so much to a story.

Really, though, I want the whole story, every single paragraph, word, letter and punctuation mark. What reader doesn't? Seriously, I never would have picked this up on my own. Well, slap me stupid! Boy was I in for a surprise. While I already had a mental picture of most of the characters (what reader doesn't) in my head. I didn't find a character at all in the GN that felt out of sync. The colors are bright and distinct while the characters were amazingly active for pictures. I've always enjoyed Mead's vivid action scenes and thought this series would make an excellent movie. Artist Dave Hamann brought these scenes alive with brilliant colors.

I've got to admit that I'm not real sure how much I would have enjoyed the GN if I hadn't just read the book but the storyline was pretty much intact or will be with the addition of the next volume. While I think these graphic novels are a wonderful addition to the series, I just can't imagine them replacing the books. It would be a bit like seeing all the Harry Potter movies without cracking a book, and yeah, I know that are some people that do just that (shaking my head in disbelief).

While I'm more of a paranormal romance reader than an urban fantasy reader, this series manages to combine the romance with the kick-ass, take no prisoners makeup of the main character. I love the snarky mouth on Eugenie and the way she interacts with Kiyo, a very sexy shapeshifter, and Dorian, the Fairy King. Her three sidekicks also added greatly to the snarky humor in the book. I also greatly enjoyed the fact that I did not pick up on who the bad guy was till it was right in front of me. That alone adds an extra star to my review.

Luckily, I have the rest of the series in my TBR pile so bring it on guys!

Gladys Gonzales Atwell says

Original Review Date (posted on www.paperbackswap.com): 5/31/2011

For those who don't know about Eugenie Markham here is a brief summary of the series (more information can be found on www.RichelleMead.com): Eugenie Markham never asked for any of this. Until now, she's been content with her job as a freelance shaman, battling and banishing Otherworldly creatures. When a prophecy suddenly makes her the Otherworld's most popular bachelorette, Eugenie finds herself fighting off unwanted supernatural suitors, as well as the evils that begin emerging from her past...

SIDE NOTE: I am an avid paranormal romance and urban fantasy fanatic, but one thing is for sure. I WAS partial to Vampires and Werewolves, but I think that I am partial because I know the mythology and the lore of those two species'. BUT ALL THINGS CHANGED WHEN I READ THE DARK SWAN SERIES ABOUT EUGENIE MARKHAM. I didn't only fall in love with the characters, but I fell in love with the whole world. I fell in love with every aspect that Richelle Mead created in the Storm Born Series! I even researched more books on Fae and Gentry once I finished Iron Crown, even though I felt like I was cheating on Eugenie!!!

Now onto the review for the comic book: No words can express the detail and the imaginary that was brought to life through the comic. Honestly it was just as good as if I was watching a movie. It's always great to read a book and the pages come alive in your mind, but to see the work in a comic and it jump out at you is utter magic. I half expected that the comic book wouldn't follow the story line of the novel, but it did. AND I loved it! The best thing about it was that I actually had a face to imagine while I finished reading Iron Crown. This is a must! Even if you are not a comic book fan, you should get it. Do what I did, purchase it and hang it up next to your bookshelf! ENJOY the fantasy world with your eyes and not just your mind!!!
