



Trinity, Vol, 1: Better Together

Francis Manapul (Writer, Artist), Clay Mann (Artist), Seth Mann (Inker), Brad Anderson (Colourist), Steve Wands (Letterer)

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A part of *DC Universe: Rebirth!*

The Dark Knight. The Man of Steel. The Amazon Warrior. The three greatest heroes in the DC Universe unite when the threats to their planet are bigger than just one of them can handle. They are the core of the World's Greatest Heroes...but with a new Superman! When a new villain emerges, the bonds these three share will be tested and redefined to their breaking point, with the lives of innocents hanging in the balance!

By *New York Times* best-selling creator Francis Manapul (*The Flash*), Batman, Superman and Wonder Woman unite again...for the first time in *Trinity, Volume 1: Better Together!*

Collecting: *Trinity* 1-6

Trinity, Vol, 1: Better Together Details

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Author : Francis Manapul (Writer, Artist) , Clay Mann (Artist) , Seth Mann (Inker) , Brad Anderson (Colourist) , Steve Wands (Letterer)

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From Reader Review Trinity, Vol, 1: Better Together for online ebook

Jedi JC Daquis says

I have read Francis Manapul's first arc of the Trinity series in separate issues. The otherwise promising start somehow ended in an anticlimactic and underwhelming fashion. But given the right mindset, one could really appreciate one Manapul is trying to convey to its readers.

Trinity's Better Together is not a boombastic fight between comic's most iconic heroes and whoever supervillain they are fighting against. There's that fight of course in the end but in a rather subdued and in an extremely small scale given what Mongul (and even Poison Ivy) can REALLY do. But Better Together is more of a character study of Superman, Batman and Wonder Woman - who they really are at their core, what binds them and what distinguishes them from each other.

Manapul's art is another thing. His color choices are vibrant and the color contrasts are just pleasing to look at. This may be the most dreamy-vibed main series in DC Rebirth right now. And I am pleased that Manapul has went to that route instead of a more generic superhero art gallery.

Chelsea says

This has a promising beginning and end but the story arc did nothing for me. It was basically a blank slate to rehash the backgrounds of all of these characters. Maybe they thought it necessary with the Rebirth relaunch but it didn't make for entertaining reading.

The art is gorgeous.

The beginning where Clark has to get used to Bruce and Diana was great! I loved Jon's meeting with Bruce. Diana and Lois had few moments. That was all I really enjoyed about this. I'm sure the next issues will be better because they can move on from retell into the origins of the characters.

Chris Lemmerman says

[Read as single issues]

It's been a while since there was a Trinity book, but I think it's time we had a new one. This one we get is pretty darn good, thanks in part to writer Francis Manapul's good understanding of the characters as well as the gorgeous art on display.

The story focuses on the Trinity, as you'd expect, when they get attacked by a mysterious plant and end up trapped in dream worlds that help them relive their origin stories. After the set-up issue, each issue following explores a different character and lets all of the Trinity into what makes each other tick. You feel like there's a stronger understanding between the three of them by the time the story ends, and it's a good way to start a book like this.

Things do get a bit messier once we get back to the real world. There's Poison Ivy, and Mongul, and the

overall motivations of the plot (which most people will have twigged fairly early on I expect) are murky, but it lands for the most part.

The art is spectacular, however. Manapul himself paints three of the five issues in his usual breathtaking watercolours, while Clay Mann and Emanuela Luppachino take the other three. Luppachino comes off a bit short changed compared to the very distinct styles of the others, but I've mentioned before that she's a great artist in her own right. I'm really surprised DC haven't given her an ongoing gig at this point.

Trinity's a solid story that I think any casual fan of Batman, Wonder Woman, or Superman should snag to help introduce them to the DC Universe at large.

Sesana says

Manapul's art is spectacular, but unfortunately the writing is not to the same standard. It's simply yet another bland look at the origins of characters whose origins have been written and re-written to death. There's meant to be character development, but there's nothing that hasn't already been developed half a dozen times before. The impulse to write an ongoing book with DC's Big Three isn't off target, but it needs to say something that hasn't already been said, repeatedly.

Scott S. says

Hey everyone, let's get DC's BIG THREE together . . . and then briefly re-hash their origin stories *once again* and stick them in a standard mind-screw plot. That probably sounds way more harsh than intended, because it was great to see this trio (friends and teammates who know and understand each other) in action. So what if the story was average? The artwork was vibrant, I liked Lois Lane's narration, and the ending leaves a door wide open for continuing and future adventures.

Hannah says

ARC REVIEW

Story: In an act of friendship and as a chance to get to know the new Superman, Lois Lane invites Diana Prince and Bruce Wayne to the farm house for dinner. It goes fine aside from little Jon accidentally burning a hole through the door and almost burns a hole through Bruce and Diana. But after dinner something funny happens. They get tangled up in a suspicious vine that transports them into their dreams where they must relive pivotal life changing events from their lives. Poison Ivy orchestrated it but the real menace behind it all is not who they think. Now Batman, Wonder Woman and Superman need to trust each other enough to get out alive all the while Lois and Jon are in the real world dealing with Poison Ivy.

Art: Beautiful. Francis Manapul did the art for the part 1, 2, and 5. Emanuela Lupachino does the penciling for 4 and 6 with Ray McCarthy and Matt Santorelli and HI-FI as the inkers and colorist. Part Three is done by Clay and Seth Mann with Seth Anderson as the colorist. They all did a fantastic job. I am always picky on Poison Ivy and how she is drawn and I love how she's drawn in this. I'm warming up on the neon colors, not

much but I'm getting used to it.

Characters: Diana Prince/ Wonder Woman, Bruce Wayne/ Batman, Clark Kent/ Superman, Lois Lane, Jon Kent, Poison Ivy, and various characters from each of the characters pasts.

Review: I had no idea what happened before this with Superman and was a little lost but that is what Google is for I looked it up and found a great spoiler from back in March, (What the Hell did Superman just do to the DC Comics) that explained it to me. With this new information so much more makes sense! The story in this was very engaging I couldn't put it down, that's why I wait for the volumes to come out. Each of the characters had to face something from their past that helped shape who they are and face other issues that came from the guilt of their past. Clark gets to talk to his father again, Diana meets a younger version of herself and Bruce has to relive his parents death and the trauma afterwards. But in each situation the character takes away an important lesson from it. Unfortunately they weren't the only ones learning the vulnerabilities of the trio. It was a great story and showed so much character development.

Bookwraiths says

Originally reviewed at Bookwraiths.

My rating is 3.5 stars.

Superman. Batman. Wonder Woman. The Big Three icons of DC. Separate, they are fan favorites. Together, they should be the stuff of fanboy dreams. And while *Trinity: Better Together* isn't a revolutionary book; it is actually an engaging read, not overwhelmingly action-packed, but still entertaining, especially if you enjoy more of a character driven plot.

It all starts off with Batman and Wonder Woman heading on over to the Kent's farm to have a get-to-know-you-better dinner with the new Superman. This interaction some of the best parts of the story; Diana and Bruce naturally having to try to accept this other Earth interloper.

But every story has to feature a villain, and quickly, our trio is caught up in a plot by not one but two B List baddies. (I won't mention them by name, because I always like to be surprised.) The plot soon immersing our heroes in their past, retelling to some extent the most important parts of their origin stories. What they learn about one another helping Supes, Bats, and Wonder Woman not only overcome this adversary but begin to empathize with each other. Which is really what this whole story is about: understanding and friendship.

Overall, *Trinity: Better Together* is a nice book to lose yourself in for a bit. The story itself has some cool moments (especially our heroes initial awkward attempts to bond); and the focus on the characters themselves, their history, their differences, and what binds such different people together is handled really well. I have to admit being a bit letdown by the villains and their grand scheme, but I commend writer/artist

Francis Manapul for doing something different, not settling for the tried-and-true huge fight scene after huge fight scene readers have seen far too many times.

As for the art, it is the real selling point of this collection. Manapul is an amazing artist. His distinct pencils, vibrant colors, and unique atmosphere raising this book up among the best of the Rebirth titles.

To sum up, I liked *Trinity*, especially the art. Sure, the story wasn't everything I dreamed it to be, but it still had its highlights. And, yes, I would recommend people give it a read.

I received this book from the publisher in exchange for a fair and honest review. I'd like to thank them for allowing me to receive this review copy and inform everyone that the review you have read is my opinion alone.

Chad says

I thought this was a pretty solid beginning to the book. Francis Manapul's art is a beauty to behold. I could stare at it all day. Unfortunately there are some fill in artists for some of the issues. Fortunately, Clay and Seth Mann and Emanuela Lupacchino are all talented artists in their own right.

Manapul does a great job with the first issue. Bruce Wayne and Princess Diana come to the Kents' farm for dinner to get to know each other better. It's nice, heartwarming issue. Leading into the 2nd issue I was completely confused, but partway through the book I figured out what was really going on, paying homage to one of the most famous pre-Crisis Superman stories. Yes, we do get variations of the big 3 origins, but there is a purpose for it which leads into the back half of the book. All in all, it was actually better than I expected.

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

Sam Quixote says

Superman, Batman and Wonder Woman are the Trinity, DC's three most popular, iconic superheroes. But mixing three great tastes doesn't necessarily make them taste great together, as Trinity Rebirth proves. "Better Together"? Ha!

Batman and Wonder Woman visit the new Superman's Kansas farmstead for a getting-to-know-you dinner. BUT THEN...! Nonsense ensues meaning we have to endure re-reading each character's well-known origins, finally ending on some convoluted, meaningless pap with a B-list villain.

Great: a book full of origins. As if I haven't already read enough retellings of Superman, Batman and Wonder Woman's beginnings! There's some sort of theme of parents/kids going on here but nothing remotely clever to make it worthwhile to suss it out. I was yawning pretty much non-stop throughout this one.

Francis Manapul's art is a treat, especially during the Batman origin – golly, can he draw a compelling and dramatic Gotham! – but unfortunately his writing isn't anywhere near as high quality. Manapul-ing stuff. Mayhap completely green readers who haven't read these characters' origins too many times before might enjoy this one but I couldn't have been less entertained.

The Rebirth crapfest chugs on...

Wing Kee says

Poor ending but hits all the emotions right.

World: The art is deceptive, it starts off absolutely gorgeous cause it's Manapul and slowly but surely as he focuses on writing and other artists comes in loses the wonderful splash pages and beautiful emotions and colors. The world building is good. This is a first arc and though we all know these characters' origins and it is a rehash, I felt the pieces of the world we visited and the characters meeting their younger selves and the emotions of the world involved made for an interesting world. I also love the continuation of stories like Ivy's and the villains from the New52. Good job!

Story: This story is about family, it's about love and walls and I liked it. This is not a big huge battle for the first arc it's an small internal look at the core of these characters that gets readers new and old reoriented with these tweaked Rebirth versions of the Trinity. I like that Lois was the narrator of the story giving a light and human touch to these Gods among men characters. Ivy as a catalyst gave the heart and core for the story and also a point to the story, the child is how the Trinity in their core and their hope can inspire and change people for the better (which is what DC has always been about before the doom and gloom, inspire). I liked it, is it a rehash? Yes. Does the book lose steam towards the tail end? Yes. However, it was so emotionally resonant for not only as a manifesto for Rebirth, but also for a clear look at how this Trinity bonded and became family, I like it.

Characters: There is a lot of retread on themes but it's more of a retweak for Rebirth and I was okay with it. This is a first arc and it did allow for readers to see these classic characters in the context of Rebirth and what we are to expect from each of them at their core, and also in the context of a Trinity. Clark's moments was beautiful and quiet. Bruce's moments were powerful and tragic. Diana's moments were loving and hopeful. These character moments were way more important than any large huge explosion and fight that could have started this series. Plus the villains were done well and the child (trying to avoid spoilers) is there to feel the culmination of what this new Rebirth retweaked Trinity and DC's new direction is all about.

I liked it, it did lose a lot of steam in the art, and a little bit in the story but it hit the emotions and I had the feels.

Onward to the next book!

read single issues

Jesse A says

Not bad but not particularly strong either.

Robert says

Nice art. Story was a bit of a rehash of a rehashed rehash.

Vishakha ~ ReadingSpren ~ says

I love these three together. Just love it. Especially when there is no unnecessary romance thrust on them. These three are meant to be together, and I mean in a platonic way. I like when they work as a team and family, as soldiers and heroes. On equal footing. And Clark making fun of Bruce is pure gold. So is Bruce getting protective of the other two and Diana babysitting them when they get their ass kicked. I am hoping future volumes will involve Diana arguing with B and C about their differing views on killing villains. Those are my favorite.

Unfortunately very few Trinity Volumes are worth anything. Lucky me that this one is !

The story is not very revolutionary, but atleast its fun. And the art is BEAUTIFUL.

Will keep reading this one.

Trinity funnies as Bonus!! *drum-roll*

Chris says

One look at the creative team and it should come as no surprise that the highlight of Trinity's first volume is the artwork. Better Together is an absolute treat for the eyes, in no small part thanks to writer and artist Francis Manapul's creative visuals, which are on a whole other level. Disappointingly then, his story left me wanting and makes Trinity a bit of a mixed bag.

Having also been underwhelmed by Manapul's writing in the past, I was pleasantly surprised to reach the halfway point of Trinity without any real concerns. The opening issue where the Trinity meet for dinner at Lois and Clark's house is a great start and when our heroes become lost in what appears to be a dream world, it leads to a surprisingly emotional trip to Gotham City that hit me right in the feels.

Unfortunately, I felt let down by the second half as it descended into confusing and clichéd territory. The entire volume leans towards the more hopeful and optimistic tone of Rebirth, but Manapul doesn't quite stick the landing and it hurts the story as a whole. There are some very strong character moments and I'm sure there will be many who love this for the artwork alone, but I was disappointed after such a strong start.

At least there's the fantastic artwork to enjoy throughout. Manapul handles pencils, inks and colours for his three issues and his layouts, techniques and attention to detail are as spectacular as ever. Clay and Seth Mann, along with colourist Brad Anderson, draw the aforementioned trip to Gotham City and their art is a perfect fit. Finally, Emanuela Lupacchino, Ray McCarthy, Matt Santorelli and colourist Hi-Fi illustrate the finale and a beautiful issue in Themyscira.

I have no doubt that anyone who reads Trinity will be impressed by the art, but when it comes to the story their mileage may vary. While I'd say that this is Manapul's best writing to date and that he's definitely improving, Better Together's narrative left unsatisfying gaps that even the best artwork couldn't fill. Recommended, but there's definitely room for improvement.

Rory Wilding says

As much as I have read many solo adventures featuring Batman, Superman and Wonder Woman, with the exception of them being founding members of the Justice League, there aren't many stories working as a threesome, let alone many good ones (*Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice*). As one of the most prominent artists for DC in the last ten years, Francis Manapul reunites the holy trinity in a world that is different yet familiar with the characters and their readers.

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