



Spike: Asylum

Brian Lynch, Franco Urru

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When the Monahan Family asks Spike to find their daughter Ruby, he accepts. The problem? Ruby's a half-demon and has been checked into the Mosaic Wellness Center, a rehab facility for vampires, demons, and other creatures of the night. The solution - Spike checks himself in as a patient. But there's another, slightly bigger problem - the hundreds of super-powered, supernatural patients at Mosaic know Spike, and want him dead. If the therapy doesn't kill him, the other patients will...

Spike: Asylum Details

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From Reader Review Spike: Asylum for online ebook

Matt says

Again, maybe I'm biased. But my good friend wrote this. And it's good. Really, really good.

Rob says

Every fan who watched Buffy and Angel waiting for a grand, ultimate Spikesploitation that never really came to be, owes it to themselves to read 'Spike: Asylum'. Don't let the generic-sounding premise dissuade you - the story inside is a painstaking deconstruction of William the Bloody that goes right down into the ugly sprouting roots of his warts-and-all. Spike may be cool, he may be aware of it and we may all love him for it, but Bryan Lynch wisely avoids any fanboy fantasy - frequently poking fun at Spike and his inflated ego all with the task of helping him to be the man he wanted to be at the end of Season 6 of Buffy. Lynch also seamlessly adds to the roster of characters by giving Spike his own unique ensemble of weirdo sidekicks. Bettie George was cheated out of his own series.

It's a thoroughly enjoyable read that Joss Whedon himself considers to be canon (it indirectly feeds into the strands of the building blocks of the foundations of Buffy: Season Eight and Spike's involvement in it). A must-read.

Aubrey says

Gah! I loved it!

This collection is also not considered canon, but the fact that Whedon blurbed it and ended up working with Lynch on *After the Fall* is a pretty good sign it was done well.

I am a sucker for an institution story and the storyline for this one held up really well. I loved all of the nods to the Whedonverse. I loved how well Lynch captured Spike's character, his dialogue and the kinds of decisions he would make. The art was also much better than I've seen in some other Buffy issues and the commentary track at the end was an added bonus!

If you're a fan of Spike, you'll surely enjoy this one!

Thenia says

Spike goes undercover in an insane asylum and ends up trapped there.

A fun adventure that introduces a number of fun new characters and shows us what Spike's been up to.

Arie ? says

I love a good asylum story. It's no coincidence that these were the first two BtVS/AtS comics I ever bought:

I'm also very fond of Brian Lynch's Spike. Asylum and the follow-up Shadow Puppets work beautifully together. Shadow Puppets handles the funny and absurd (because PUPPETS), while Asylum is a bit more serious and tackles how Spike deals with guilt post-soul and his motivations. I'm really looking forward to reading Lynch's After the Fall arc for Spike.

Alice Rachel says

This was a good story. :)

Fugo Feedback says

El guion no es ninguna maravilla, pero junta el suficiente mérito como para que no tenga que promediar para abajo, pese al pedorrísimo dibujo. Cuando pueda seguir "Angel tras la caída" voy a ver qué tan canónico sería esta historia. Pero como Lynch estuvo involucrado en ambos proyectos, quiero creer que muy.

Sean says

Brian Lynch has such a good handle on Buffy-verse characters. This reads like a great storyline on the show. Spike sounds like Spike and the reason that's impressive is because so many writers fail when trying to convert TV to comics. The idea of Spike getting himself into trouble because of his vanity is totally fitting and then how those twists and turns develop is super fun. Frank Urru's art is spot on and delivers horrors and emotions well. Overall, a Spike story done very well.

pianogal says

I love Spike. If I could only pick one Whedonverse character, it would be Spike (Captain Mal would be a REALLY close second). This was a good read. Also, don't skip the explanations for all the inside jokes at the end. I'm a little rusty and I only got about half without the clues, but I did NOT miss Ivo Shandor. Hello, Ghostbusters is the best movie ever!

Indah Threez Lestari says

Well written. In this story, we learn how Spike feels about his horrible sins in the past. Maybe he doesn't seek redemption like Angel, but he does his atonement every which way he can.

And Spike doesn't vamp out in most of the fights!

Gory B Movie says

As the title suggests, Spike commits himself to an asylum for supernaturally unstable beings to find a young girl whom he believes is being mistreated. Once inside, the tables turn and Spike finds that there is no way out.

This is the series that made Joss Whedon take notice of writer Brian Lynch. Whedon was so impressed by the writing that he had Lynch write Spike: After the Fall and insisted that the telepathic fish, Betta George return. I added Asylum to my reading marathon for this reason and because the Mosaic Wellness Center, George, and Beck all appear in later canon issues of Angel. You don't have to read Asylum to make sense of these later issues but if you are curious about these characters and want to understand all the inside jokes, I highly recommend that you read the entire Spike trilogy which begins with Asylum, then Shadow Puppets and finally Spike: After the Fall.

Edward Petersen says

This was a great little story. True it has little consequence on the universe and I am guessing is no longer canon, but it was enjoyable just in itself. I was not a big fan of the artwork, but the numerous pop-culture and Buffyverse references made up for it. From Tango & Cash, to Tommy Wiseau, to the Firefly theme. Some were very clear homage, but some seemed so slight I thought I was kidding myself (like T&C). But Ivo Shandor? I knew that right away. Brought up YouTube to watch the jail scene from Ghostbusters where I was pretty sure some lines were lifted. Scared the crap out of my kid when I chimed in with Bill Murray - "So Be good! for goodness sake whoa~" But then I found the list at the end of the book! There were more references packed in than I thought! Chock-full of easter eggs. And one was an egg for those who happened to read out of order. I've already read vols. 1-4 of "After the Fall", where Lynch got a chance to give his telepathic Beta fish another go.

Kara Owens says

I was about to give this 4 stars based on its story line (plus the fact that Whedon had no involvement with this novel's production), but in the end it's 5 stars: after seeing this, Whedon decided to work with Lynch to do "Angel: After the Fall" and that says something!

kory. says

I love Spike, but this is kind of boring, honestly. Although, I'm here for Spike pointing how he's saved the world more than Angel and fought for his soul, whereas Angel was cursed with his. Atta boy.

YoSafBridg says

Yesterday/today (it's always so confusing in the wee hours what to call the day~because i haven't been to bed yet so it doesn't really seem like yesterday~but anyway...) was kind of a bitch~i was feeling like shit (have yet another cold and so does Dixie~if cats do indeed get colds i'm finding/getting conflicting information on that front~but the fact that my twelve year old cat is sneezing and congested/having trouble breathing disturbs me terribly.)

My library system started its summer reading program Friday and i didn't work until Saturday, so when i got to work one of the things i did was wander around looking for some of the display tape and other things my manager had said she was going to put up. So there i was, without my nametag (it's temporarily lost) meandering, looking like i had no idea where i was or what i was doing, when i had the sudden sense i was being followed; i turned around only to be assaulted by a couple of librarian questions... I was tempted to ask "Do i LOOK like i work here???" but of course i didn't, i very cooperatively helped them out like any good librarian should, but how the hell did they know?

Had a migraine ~towards the end i had to keep running to the bathroom to throw up and we still had customers every time i came out wanting things~i was late locking the doors and there were still people there asking to put holds on things and i told them "I'm sorry, i'm closed, you will have to come back another time," something which did not please them, and i usually don't do but i needed to get out of there (maybe if i threw up on them they would have sensed the urgency?)

Anyway, i get home, feeling, as i said, ooaoogy (you know what i mean, don't you?), and grumpy, to discover that Amazon has delivered the new Spike issue: SPIKE: Asylum. This discovery ignited in me a desire to read the other two Spike collections i already had, Spike and Spike vs Dracula (the second of which i discovered, interestingly enough, had two small bite marks in the lower right hand corner, which had me puzzled for a few minutes~was this a design feature {a bit much really for a mass produced graphic novel} or~a much more likely possibility~the result of Dixie's biblio-fascination?). So, i have spent the night, distracting myself from the extreme pain in my head in my neck and head, by reading about one of my favorite characters.

In *Asylum* the Spikester is tricked into signing himself into the Mosaic Wellness Center "where Mutant Enemies learn to be Mutant Friends" (one of oh-so-many inside jokes. Mosaic is supposedly a rehabilitation center for vampires, demons, witches, monsters, and all sorts of other beasties of the big bad dark. However once Spike arrives he discovers that not all is as it seems, now who would have thunk it???) Overall, well written, well drawn, well inked, and well coloured...
