



Shekhar Kapur's Devi - Vol. 1

Samit Basu , Sidharth Kotian , Shekhar Kapur (Created By)

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Librarian's Note: The ISBN 9789383260195 for this book was also used by "This Girl" by Colleen Hoover .

Between the divine and the diabolical, there is... Devi

India's first super heroine.

A native of mythical Indian city of Sitapur, Tara Mehta has no idea that she is about to become the centerpiece of a divine battle between the Gods of Light that created her and the demon Lord Bala and his army of things that go bump in the night. But in a never-ending war where innocent human souls are unfortunate, but acceptable, collateral damage, the all-to-human Goddess begins to wonder if either side deserves to win in Sitapur, city of modern atop ancient, mixed amongst the profane, where the divine drifts toward the diabolical.

Shekhar Kapur's Devi - Vol. 1 Details

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Author : Samit Basu , Sidharth Kotian , Shekhar Kapur (Created By)

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From Reader Review Shekhar Kapur's Devi - Vol. 1 for online ebook

Shohini says

Good artwork. But so inspired by other, popular figures.

Vignesh Kumar says

1.5 Stars

Ugh. I wanted to like this but seriously, I can't.

The story and the characters was a lot more like a mixture of all Fantasy novels and comics. For example, the head God looked like Gandalf with the lightsaber. I was intrigued by the plot as it has Indian Mythology and the MC is the incarnation of Devi, War-Goddess. I thought that the Gods are all from Indian Myth but some are adapted from Greek and Egypt.

I didn't like anything in this book.

J Robin Harris Szabo says

Not my favorite Hoover book but not my least favorite book

I like happily ever after as much as the next person but I also enjoy a little excitement, possibly a twist or a bit of mystery. This installment lacked anything resembling that. It was a bit boring IMO but it brings the story to a close so if you've made it this far in the series, you might as well finish it.

Alexis says

Love

I'm obsessed with all Colleen Hoover books! I have read 5 so far! Can't wait to read more! She never doubts me!

H.P. Holo says

The beginning chapters of this graphic novel seemed almost too "American" in style to convincingly suggest that the book is one of India's first attempts to create its own unique comic industry. (According to the introduction, this was one of the stated purposes of the book.) However, as the story progresses, Indian

mythology becomes more visible, and it becomes quite an enjoyable first volume. Parts of it are admittedly familiar (such as the rebellious hardened cop character and the important use of a secret organization); truthfully, if the book hadn't had the novelty of being Indian in origin and content, I probably wouldn't have picked it up. However, this Indian element is also what makes the story work when it does. Any fan of superhero comics who is looking for something a bit different to read might find an interesting experience in this book. I'm curious to try the following volumes to see how the story (and the culture of it) progresses.

Vikas says

This is the Volume 1 Shekhar Kapur's Devi India's first Super Heroine then what was Shakti printed by Raj Comics in 2000s. Well that apart its a good start to a similar origin story here the Gods are assembled from all Myths so there is Ra from Egypt so Ares from Greece too and then some new Gods too. Tara Mehta is a girl who's is supposed to be born at the exact same moment when everything aligned and that means that Tara has to die for Devi to come in her body. So what happens next, well only Chaos where all the dark entities come to kill Tara and each other. After lot of action we finally come to the end of the first book and it was good overall now onto the next book.

Jon says

In one of those strange international twists of inspiration, it seems like this comic is inspired by Buffy and some of Indian legends I've heard in places. (Maybe versions of the story of Kali? I'm not sure).. Of course, these seem to have also been an inspiration for later episodes I've seen of Buffy.[return][return]I say Buffy probably had and influence given the appearances of demons as vampires, but I could be exaggerating.[return][return]Wonderful art, although occasionally it seemed that it was difficult to make out the flow of action, like the panels were drawn really large and details lost when they were shrunk to fit the page.[return][return]Decent story so far although it all seemed a bit familiar. The last few pages though were interesting enough I'm going to pick up the second volume, [return][return]It does seem the target is a western audience and I have to wonder what comics would be like if the writers were writing primarily for an Indian audience.

Tathagata Kandar says

Going by Samit's previous work (The Gameworld series), I wasn't surprised by the Silmarilion influence - although that's probably true for almost any epic where a 'world' is created. It started off well-enough with the promise of a strong female lead which I lost after the first chapter - probably because the story has not begun yet - maybe I will fare better with Part 2.

The plot is engaging with the correct amount of action for a graphic novel and a shroud of mystery - to build an anticipation of soon to be revealed...

The characters are underdeveloped but that's to be expected from a graphic novel - although I would have liked a backstory on the main characters - even if it was just a few lines - maybe it's coming in the subsequent parts.

Among what I could make out, I find Kratha much more interesting than Taara - but that might be because

her character is more evolved in this part - although the dichotomy of her being is not brought out strongly, again, probably it's a graphic novel. Rahul is obviously a cliché, and meant to be - there is a 'Sin City/Max Payne' - esque character to his narratives though which I would have loved to see properly Indianized.

Loved how the names of the different parts are a short story in itself.

Although this is a graphic novel, I won't comment on the artwork, simply because I don't feel up to the task. But I did like the models for Agantuk and Kratha.

Definitely reading the next one.

Etienne says

At its best, Devi is Gaimanesque in its blending of the oneiric and the mundane. At its worst, it is plodding--- crumbling under the weight of too many references. When it's not trying to convince you that Indian comics are the next big thing, Devi is quite enjoyable, like a more down-to-earth Promethea. I will definitely pick up the second volume if it falls into my lap.

Anne says

I liked the *idea* of the story better than the actual story itself. The main character, Tara/Devi, was seriously underdeveloped. There was not much of a back-story on her at all, so you couldn't tell what kind of a person she was before her transformation. In fact, there wasn't much about her *after* the transformation. Really liked the art, though. Maybe the story line will progress with the next volume.

Ceejay says

I'm always looking for something new to read in the world of comic books, and this graphic novel hit the spot. The title character in this graphic novel, Devi, is based on a Hindu goddess. Almost the entire production, from writing to art work, is done by Indians. Hindu and Indian terms are explained when needed. The story centers on a battle between Gods of light, a demon Lord, and a young Hindu girl who is about to become a Devi, and also a pawn in a timeless battle. This is well worth reading, especially if you're tired of the same old stuff in comics being done by Marvel and DC.

Vipul Patel says

As per Indian comic standards, Devi was on par. Sumit Basu's writing was crisp and engaging. There was still scope for character development but otherwise all character fits well.

Mind you this is first volume of the Devi and hence this book is origin story. So not much "Devik" action but still satisfying enough. Love to see where the story arc move in further volumes.

I have kept the best part at last; it's Art. One the most captivating art ever produced in form of comics in India. Lovely detailed panels. Clear outlines. Brilliant hazy, dreamy look to Dream sequences. Though darker shades but plethora of colors. Brilliant. Captivating. Even though one don't want to invest much in Shekhar Kapur's Devi, it must be picked up just for visualization of Mukesh Singh.

Go for it.

Milliebot says

This review and others posted over at **my blog**.

Tara Mehta, a social worker in Sitapur, India, has no idea that she is about to become imbued with powers from all the gods and goddesses and inherit the mantle of Devi, protector of light. But the evil Lord Bala has his own plans and hopes to stop Devi's reincarnation by taking Tara's life, so he sends his own super powered henchmen after her.

I picked this up for \$1.00 when I was on vacation and visiting my favorite used bookstore, Wonderbooks. I liked the cover art style (which is, sadly, the most important part of a comic for me) and was interested in the concept of a modern goddess with Indian influences.

In the beginning, we see Devi battling Bala alongside an army of what appeared to be monks. Bala is defeated and imprisoned and then we're brought into modern times. I'm not sure what happened to the previous Devi, but now the group of monks – the Durapasya – have kidnapped Tara and plan begin the ceremony to infuse her with various powers from different gods and goddesses who gave their gifts to help stop Bala.

There's a little montage showing some of the gods talking about what powers they are bestowing on Tara and I thought that was cute. My favorite was the techno-esque goddess that gave Tara the "coolest catchphrases" and good press – it made me laugh.

Tara is a little flat in this first volume, as the story focuses on the characters trying to help or hinder her in becoming the next Devi. I did enjoy that she was upset about her newfound powers because she never consented to them and I think that rebellion will strengthen her in future issues. I was also a little confused about what type of world Tara inhabits, as there seem to be plenty of people with superpowers. I wasn't sure if that was the norm, or if these characters were hidden from normal society. There was a lot going on in this first volume, so I ended up with a lot of questions.

I do think I'll enjoy the relationship with Devi and her cop buddy, Rahul, in future volumes, if I can get my hands on them. They seem to be a little scarce (at least on the sites I'm used to shopping on). I'm curious to see where the writers take this comic and hopefully I'll be able to read further. If you're a fan of anti-heroes and mutant comics, I'd say this is worth a try.

Michelle Smith says

I'm not normally one for point of view books but this one was great. Thanks colleen for another awesome read

Susan says

I wanted to like this, but I just didn't. The characters were either flat, like Tara, who is kind but has no personality (she gives cricket equipment to orphans! her neighbors think she's a whore!) or cliché, like the hard-drinking detective who is at odds with his supervisor. Wow, haven't seen that before. The dialogue wavers between Whedon-esque and just ridiculous. And what are Mars and Ra doing in a book about an Indian goddess?
