



Dalia Nera

Matz , James Ellroy , David Fincher , Miles Hyman (Illustrator) , Luca Bianco (Translator)

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La graphic novel del libro culto di James Ellroy. Un capolavoro da un capolavoro.

Los Angeles Police Department, 1946. Dwight «Bucky» Bleichert e Leland «Lee» Blanchard. Ex pugili, poliziotti, amici. Così amici che nemmeno la violenza di Los Angeles e l'amore per la stessa donna, Kay, può separarli. Sarà un atroce delitto a mettere in discussione ciò che pensano di essere, ciò che si illudono di sapere: l'omicidio di Elizabeth Short, la «Dalia Nera». La storia di questa giovane donna, spregiudicata per alcuni, ingenua per altri, infelice per molti li trascina in un vortice di corruzione e misteri; e quando Lee sparisce senza lasciare traccia, per Bucky la ricerca della verità diventa molto più di un'indagine, diventa un'ossessione.

Dalia Nera Details

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From Reader Review Dalia Nera for online ebook

Maggie Gordon says

The Black Dahlia is based on the book by James Ellroy which is a fictionalised account of a real crime that occurring in the 1940s. If you are a fan of noir, this story may appeal. The graphic novel flows well for an adaptation, though I wasn't overly impressed with the artwork. While competent, it is rather stiff and the characters often look quite similar. Additionally, as with many noirs, your tolerance for misogyny, racism, and people generally sucking must be high as that comes with much of the genre. It's a violent book, though the plot is delightfully complex. I am not sure how I feel about the fact that it is a fictionalised account of a real person's murder, a fact I found out only after I finished reading.

Michelle says

Ugh, I did nooottt like this one bit. I don't read a lot of noir/crime things, so I always forget how misogynistic and racist they are. I've never read James Ellroy before, so I can't speak to how faithful this adaptation is but I seriously can't even be bothered to care because everything about this grated on me, so I doubt I would like the original work anyway.

First off, I should mention that I thought this would be a non-fiction work about the Black Dahlia; I wasn't aware that this was a adaptation of a fictional work. This definitely messed with my expectations and I was disappointed that this wasn't a non-fiction account.

Secondly, the ART. I'm kind of torn because the colouring is so very nice. It's kind of sepia which fits the ambiance and time period, and the architecture/backgrounds are beautiful, but the way the faces are drawn is SO BAD. The main character looked like a deformed Ken doll or something. Also, and this is a personal thing, but there was a weird amount of sex?? This normally doesn't bother me, but it felt kind of gratuitous imo.

Last thing: while I'm all for polyamorous relationships among consenting adults, the romantic situation in this involving the MC, his bestie and his bestie's wife read as a creepy male fantasy to me. There was so chemistry between the MC and the wife and just, I don't know. It seems to convenient that he and his BFF would share a girlfriend (until their friendship goes to shit).

If you're a fan of the original novel maybe give this a try? Otherwise, this is a hard pass for me.

Louie says

Hm, I wonder how close to the movie/novel this was, because now I want to watch/read them.

Michael says

Muss über den Fall der Schwarzen Dahlie überhaupt etwas gesagt werden? Der grausame Mord an Elizabeth Short im L.A. des Jahres 1947 gilt als eines der spektakulärsten Verbrechen Kaliforniens und ist bis heute ungelöst - auch wenn es zahlreiche Theorien und Bücher dazu gibt und einige Autoren meinen, den Fall geklärt zu haben.

Gut zehn Jahre später (am 22. Juni 1958) wurde Ellroys Mutter ermordet, ein weiterer ungeklärter Fall des LAPD, der allerdings nicht so ein Echo in den Medien fand wie der der Dahlie.

In seinen neo-noir Roman THE BLACK DAHLIA hat Ellroy alles reingesteckt, was er an Insiderwissen über Korruption und Verbrechen im LAPD hatte - und das ist beträchtlich (er ist später vom Polizeichef für diese "Aufklärungsarbeit" sogar geehrt worden). Verfilzungen innerhalb der Polizei und Arrangements zwischen korrupten Beamten und der Mafia und Kleinganoven spielen hier genauso eine Rolle wie Drogen und Pornofilmchen, Rache und Leidenschaften.

Bucky Bleichert und Lee Blanchard, beide auch bekannte Boxer, werden Partner in der Fahndungsabteilung des LAPD und hineingezogen in den Strudel des Mordes an der Dahlie, der alles mit sich reißt und zu vernichten droht. Und beide lieben sie die kühle und schöne Kay Lake.

"Cherchez la femme" ist eine der Lebensweisheiten Blanchards, und bei den Ermittlungen eine so sexistische wie tragfähigen Hypothese, denn Kay ist nicht der einzige Liebeshandel, in den sich die Ermittler verstricken. Über allem aber schwebt das Geheimnis Liz Shorts, dem sich kaum einer entziehen kann, der in ihren Sog geraten ist.

Eine rückhaltlose Aufklärung des Falls würde für die Cops, die beileibe keine Saubermänner sind - vor allem Lee hat reichlich Dreck am Stecken -, massivste Konsequenzen haben, von denen der Rausschmiß bei der Polizei noch das kleinste Problem wäre. Und doch ermittelt Bucky zwanghaft weiter...

Ellroys Roman ist so düster, intensiv und vielschichtig, dass mir dafür kaum Vergleichsgrößen einfallen - außer Nic Pizzolattos erster Staffel von TRUE DETECTIVE, die mich ebenfalls total umgeschmissen hat.

Matz und David Fincher haben sich an Ellroys Roman herangewagt und daraus eine Graphic Novel gemacht, die dem großen Noir-Roman gerecht wird und Ellroys Lob gefunden hat: "Fantastic work"! Auf 164 Seiten gelingt es ihnen, Stimmung und Komplexität der Vorlage ins Medium des Comics zu übertragen. Und obwohl die Panels nicht vom Text erdrückt werden (wie es z.B. bei den frühen Blake & Mortimer Comics zu sehen; ich bin der Auffassung, dass beim Comic der Inhalt wesentlich von der Artwork transportiert werden muss), hatte ich beim Lesen sofort das Gefühl, eine extrem dicht gewobene Story erzählt zu bekommen, die sofort in den Bann zieht.

An die Zeichnungen von Miles Hyman musste ich mich zunächst etwas gewöhnen, aber meine anfänglichen Vorbehalte finde ich nachträglich beim nochmaligen Durchblättern nicht mehr bestätigt. Ein kleines Manko ist, dass auf einigen Zeichnungen die Gesichter zu ähnlich aussehen und es zu Verwechslungen kommen kann, wenn man nicht aufmerksam genug ist - aber das sollte man ja sein, und so ist auch dieser Vorbehalt zu vernachlässigen.

Fazit: Auch wer Ellroys Roman und die fantastische Verfilmung der Dahlie von Brian de Palma kennt, wird an dieser Graphic Novel noch seine Freude haben, und alle anderen Noir-Liebhaber sowieso. Unbedingt empfehlenswert!

Sunsettowers says

This is a recently released graphic novel, and a really well-done one. I read it in one day, not wanting to put it down.

If you have read James Ellroy's novel, you will be familiar with the storyline, as this graphic novel is adapted from that novel. The Black Dahlia is narrated by a cop, who has his life turned upside down when he and his partner are brought in to help investigate the Black Dahlia murder.

Ellroy takes the true crime of the Black Dahlia, and puts his own spin on it. Where he takes it can sometimes go a bit off the rails, but he makes it work, and the graphic novel keeps that spirit. The artistry of the illustrations is really excellent, and makes you feel like you are right in the noir.

I would definitely recommend this graphic novel.

David Schaafsma says

An okay comics adaptation by Matz, David Fincher, and illustrator Miles Hyman of James Elroy's crime novel of the same name. There's also better film versions of the story, and better, more informative, non-fiction versions, and this one is a decent short story version but too short; a way in to the story, I guess, but I would just go long and read the novel or something else if you are interested in the sensational actual events, then see one or two film versions of the story.

Derek Royal says

I haven't read the original Ellroy novel, but this appears to be a strong adaptation of that book. Despite any potential fidelity issues, the narrative presented (adapted by Matz and David Fincher) is compelling, highly textured, and enthralling. We're discussing this book on an upcoming episode of The Comics Alternative podcast.

Xisix says

Scintillating tale of Elizabeth Short. What's interesting is that story focuses on police officers assigned to case and like a detective tale the details gradually are uncovered. Blood swirling down a drain. Enjoyed the read and makes want to read more on the case. Sleazy true crime with a brutal icon. Black Dahlia becomes a symbol.

Mateen Mahboubi says

Having recently been listening to the Hollywood and Crime which has so far been focusing on the Black Dahlia deaths, I was interested in exploring from a different source and seeing this released made me interested in seeking it out. Unfortunately it left me disappointed. I didn't know about the original James Ellroy book but this just uses the death of Elizabeth Short to tell a fictional tale about two investigators. A bit too fiction for my liking and not particularly interestingly illustrated.

Christopher says

I had a tough time following who was who because of the art. Too many people looked like someone else, plus the back and forth on first and last names made it difficult as well.

Also since the murder was never solved this is kind of a cop out.

Keelin Rita says

The art is great but I didn't realize that this was basically just like the movie. I did not put two and two together and was disappointed that this was the fictional story of the Black Dahlia and not like an actual trying to figure out what happened to her. But that's on me, cuz I'm an idiot lol

RhiaRose says

I did not enjoy this one. I tend to enjoy true crime graphic novels but this one...nope. Very little of the book was spent on the crime. Most was about blackmail and police corruption, sex and obsession.

Antje says

Das Buch macht vom Einband und Titelbild schon einiges her und lädt geradezu zum Aufschlagen ein. Ich war auch positiv überrascht darüber, endlich eine farbige Graphic Novel auf hochwertigeren Papier als gewöhnlich genießen zu dürfen. Die Zeichnungen an sich, vor allem die Gesichter der Protagonisten, empfand ich als gewöhnungsbedürftig, da sämtliche Gesichtszüge brutal und unmenschlich wirkten. Außerdem verwirrte die große Ähnlichkeit. In Anbetracht der korrupten Handlung konnte ich mich gen Ende allerdings mit beiden Faktoren arrangieren.

Die Geschichte beginnt verhältnismäßig ruhig, um bald richtig an Fahrt aufzunehmen, so dass es mir unmöglich war, das Buch aus der Hand zu legen und ich erfahren musste, wie der Ausgang sein würde. Die Auflösung des Falls überraschte mich immerhin. Doch blieb mir die Begeisterung oder "Liebe" des Erzählers für Elizabeth Short schleierhaft. So wurde ich manchmal das Gefühl nicht los, Betty wurde mit Kay vom Texter verwechselt. Oder aber ich muss nun wirklich einmal zu James Ellroys Roman greifen, um dort die emotionalen Zusammenhänge besser zu begreifen.

Josée says

I didn't find this graphic novel "gripping" at all.

Instead of a crime fiction with mystery or intrigue, the plot was mainly about the detective. After about 30 pages where we learn about his boxing career, I settled in to try and enjoy something closer to a biopic. It worked for a bit, but then nothing else happened besides a guy having sex and the ending just turned me off

completely.

Art wise, it's okay, but I have a major problem with the faces being *completely forgettable*. I liked the colours and the art was certainly distinctive in its style, yet every character had near identical faces. Another issue is that the nudity, which felt gratuitous and was definitely slanted towards women (didn't even see a man's butt, c'mon), had the same problem in that every naked woman had the same body. I felt this made an already lack of interest in the plot worse.

So, overall, it was disappointing.

Becky Loader says

I was disappointed in the artwork. I have read several interpretations of the Black Dahlia story, and I was looking forward to seeing the graphics.
