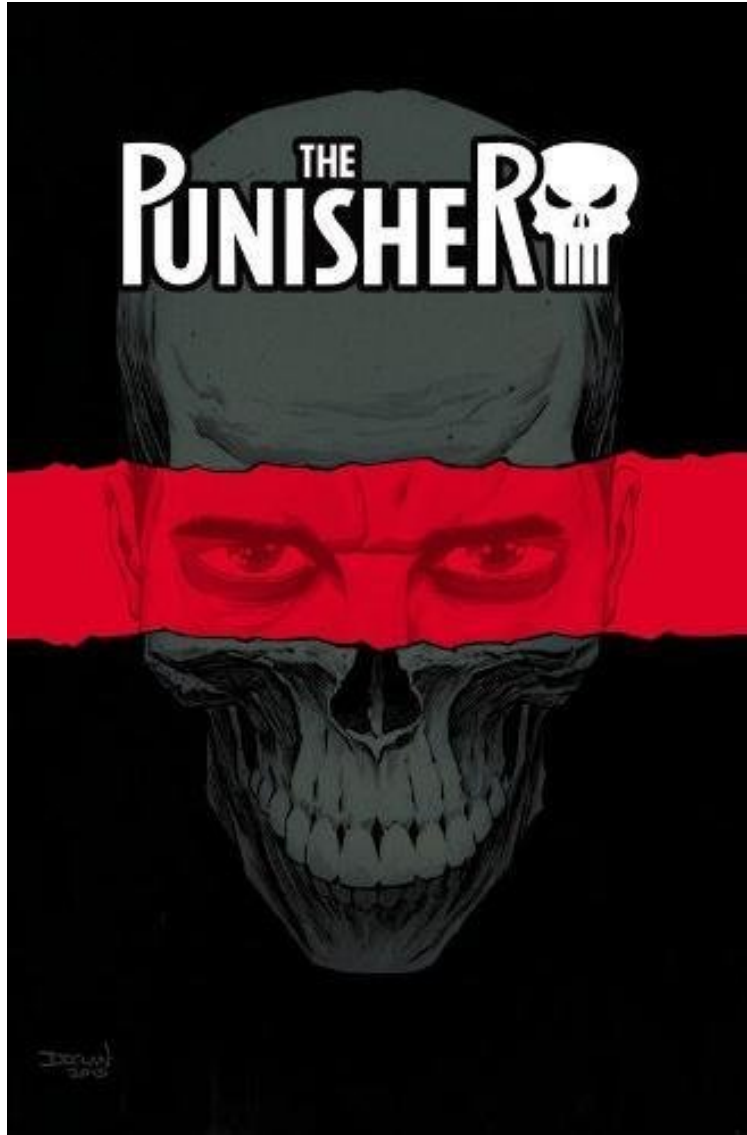


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The Punisher Vol. 1: On the Road

Becky Cloonan

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Becky Cloonan : The Punisher Vol. 1: On the Road before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Punisher Vol. 1: On the Road:

12 of 14 people found the following review helpful. A step backwardsBy Preston TuckerTo start off, the art in this is superb and worth noting because it's some of the last work the late Steve Dillon did before his recent death, for completions sake I'd say its worth checking out for that alone. It's just too bad Steve went out on such a poorly conceived take on a character he had come to be known for. Becky Cloonan who recently transitioned from a

phenomenal artist to sometimes writer began writing in earnest with this Punisher series, one of many books Marvel relaunched with one of their NOW! initiatives, I'm not entirely sure but I think that makes Cloonan one of the first women to write the character for more than a one off or miniseries which is certainly of note. The problem here is the writing, which is extremely shallow especially if you're coming off the Greg Rucka or Garth Ennis runs that gave serious weight and depth to the character of the Punisher. Cloonan hits all the beats you'd expect from a Punisher book, violence, gore, ridiculous villains, but apart from one stand out scene between The Punisher and a little girl that hints at the layers of his character this is extremely shallow fluff. I'm not against a woman writing the character, and I'm a fan of Cloonan's, but for whatever reason this book just didn't work for me, I kept buying up the issues at my local comic shop hoping for it to get better and it just never clicked for me. In my opinion the problem comes from not really getting into the pathos of the character, one of the things I find compelling about the character is his unique world view and how he justifies what he does to himself, and how in Garth Ennis' words he's basically just "a serial killer who happens to kill the right people" taken on those terms this series feels like a step back for the character. If you like Punisher comics just to see him kill the bad guys then this is probably worth checking out, if you're like me and go for the deeper aspects of the character then skip it.

2 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Dillon's art is nice - Cloonan's writing is poor

By Frank L. Greenagel II

Steve Dillon returned to the Punisher one last time before he died. The art displays his typical excellence. Sadly, that is the runaway highlight of this book. There is violence, lots of guns, gore, evil criminals, an ex-military buddy, a sadistic flayer, and frustrated law enforcement officials. All those aspects are there for titillation; there is no depth. The violence, guns, and gore are expected. Fine. The criminals are completely one dimensional - they are greedy without any thoughts for who they are hurting. This was done in the golden and silver ages. Perhaps Ms. Cloonan is writing this as a nostalgic piece (or as a parody of nostalgia - but now I seem catty). It doesn't fly. Villains (or opponents) with complex backgrounds and motivations are far more interesting. I'm tired of bad guys that know they are the bad guys. Garth Ennis had plenty of them, but he also had a number of foes that were more complex. While readers may blush or grow irritated that I have brought up Ennis, one must know that any version of the Punisher will be read with his interpretation in mind (much like Daredevil and Frank Miller and Brian Michael Bendis). Ms. Cloonan creates another ex-Marine buddy who has surfaced on the wrong side (this has been done already). Almost no backstory was ever offered. They had no significant moments or relationship, so including that history makes no sense. The sadistic flayer I referred to is a man who cuts off other people's faces but leaves them alive. It's supposed to shock us. It doesn't. It's 2017 - most of us are walking around with eyes that don't flaze. Skip it.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Awfully bad!

By Z do Borogod

When someone arrogantly puts his nose up and declares, full of confidence, that "Comics are a sub-genre, a despicable art form", and when get outraged, jsut wait a moment and read this abomination here. Of course I read comics and do not fall in the category I mentioned above, but I have to cut some slack to people who say that. Because this volume is simply terrible. It will add absolutely nothing to your mind, to your free time, not even guilty pleasure or brainless entertainment. It is just... brainless, without the "entertainment". Simply put, the worst Punisher history I've ever read.

A by-the-numbers drug bust is about to take Frank Castle by surprise...and he HATES surprises. The horrible fallout threatens to send The Punisher into the heart of darkness, but Castle won't make that journey alone: A DEA agent is on his trail and attempting to get into his head...but what horrors will she find there, and will she survive the experience? Writer Becky Cloonan and quintessential Punisher artist Steve Dillon are forcing Frank Castle out of his comfort zone and taking him to the edge of the world he thought he knew!

COLLECTING: THE PUNISHER (2016) 1-6

About the Author

Becky Cloonan is an American comic book creator, known for work published by Tokyopop and Vertigo. In 2012 she became the first female artist to draw the main Batman title for DC Comics

Steve Dillon is an English comic book artist, from Luton, Bedfordshire, best known for his work with writer Garth Ennis on Hellblazer, Preacher, and The Punisher.