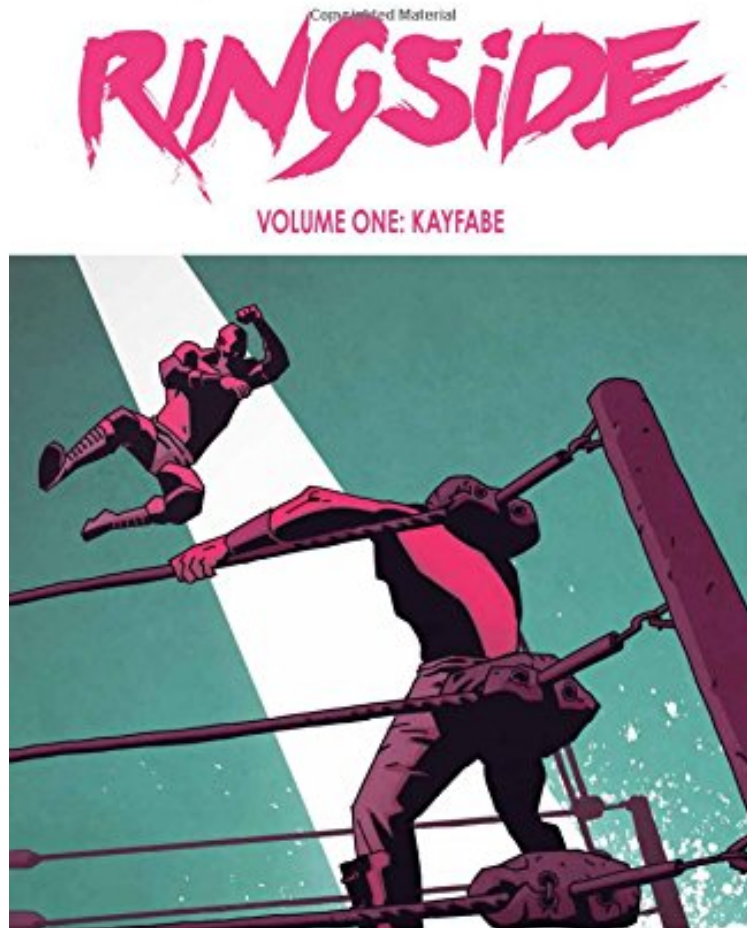


Ringside Volume 1

Joe Keatinge

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#1130089 in Books 2016-06-21Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 10.00 x .40 x 6.40l, .0 #File Name:
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Joe Keatinge : Ringside Volume 1 before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Ringside Volume 1:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Noir wrestlingBy AltA wrestler named Danny who called himself the Minotaur (actually a corporation with naming rights called him that) retired from the ring some time ago. Hes been training fighters in Japan, but hes had a spot of trouble another one and hes back in California, where his old partner Teddy has found trouble of his own. When thugs beat the pepper out of Danny and tell him to fly back to Tokyo, the

Minotaur realizes that he might need more than a tough reputation to survive. Ringside is about friendship. Danny puts himself on the line for his friend Teddy. Danny counts on the friendship of a bail agent/bounty hunter. Another storyline involves an aging fighter who is being edged out of the television lineup and his mentoring of a young fighter who is hoping to get his shot at fame. Ringside is also about learning to accept fate. In the world of professional wrestling, that means accepting the rules of the game, rules that wrestlers under contract have little chance to influence. They know it won't last and just hope they leave a legacy when it ends. But I suspect that the story will eventually be about shaping fate rather than accepting it blindly. Ringside (at least so far) isn't the inside look at professional wrestling that it purports to be, but it has a good noir vibe and the characters are developing with surprising depth. Some of the art looks like it was modeled on Claymation figures, but it grew on me. There is enough good writing here to whet my interest in future installments. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Crime comics meet professional wrestling. I'm still not sure about that art though. By Wayne A McCoy 'Ringside, Volume 1' by Joe Keatinge and Nick Barber takes place inside the world of professional wrestling and gives it a bit of a noir twist. In this volume there are three different stories that interweave and share the world of wrestling. In one plotline, an older wrestler takes a younger one under him and shows him how things work. A second, and somewhat minor in this volume, story involves management of the wrestlers and a new writer who has come on board. In one, an aging wrestler who went by the name of Dan Knossos, aka, The Minotaur, has been living in Japan. When one of his friends gets in trouble, he returns stateside to see if he can help. He doesn't have the skill set for the kind of rough work involved so he enlists a friend that works as a bounty hunter for a bail bonds company. He ends up in the kind of real world trouble that his career couldn't have prepared him for. It's a good look at the world of wrestling entertainment and the kind of people who become wrestlers and what happens to them when their career is over. It's also not a bad crime comic. I liked the writing. I'm still not sure if I'm crazy about the art. At times, I really liked it, but then it lost some definition in some panels and seemed a bit too formless. It's a good read and I look forward to reading more. I received a review copy of this graphic novel from Diamond Book Distributors, Image Comics, and NetGalley in exchange for an honest review. Thank you for allowing me to review this graphic novel. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. 4 star story, 2 star art By miknwilkes I'll keep this short. The story is very strong and interesting, especially if you are a pro wrestling fan, so the 4 stars I'm giving it is for that alone. However the art leaves something to be desired. Very simplistic. I'm talking really weak. So, if you are willing to forgive it of that then you might enjoy this. I just wish the art was a little more up to par with the writing.

RINGSIDE is a series set within the world of professional wrestling, written by JOE KEATINGE (SHUTTER, GLORY, TECH JACKET) and drawn by acclaimed illustrator NICK BARBER, combining the ensemble drama approach of THE WALKING DEAD with interconnected rotating perspectives akin to The Wire. RINGSIDE explores the relationship between art and industry from the view of the wrestlers themselves, the creatives they work with, the suits in charge and the fans cheering them all on. But that's just the beginning. The real violence is outside the ring. Collecting issues 1 through 5. Praise for RINGSIDE: Keatinge and Barber's RINGSIDE is a realistic peek behind the scenes and into the lives of several characters connected to a glory-seeking world, but their lives are anything but glorious and that's the compelling hook this issue sells so well. - Comicbookresources.com RINGSIDE is a realistic drama set in the world just outside the wrestling ring. Keatinge and Barber present a modern-noir comic book that mixes gritty characters, realistic situations and goes to the dark corners of life that people try to avoid. This comic delivers a compelling first issue and the series promises to be a deep and emotional ride. This is definitely worth picking up. -- Comicast

LIBRARY JOURNAL - Entertainment wrestling is the backdrop of this new series by writer Keatinge (Shutter) and artists Barber, Simon Gough, and Ariana Maher. Although the sport is often ridiculed for being staged, is it possible that after years of body slamming and face kicking, a retired wrestler can really fight when it comes to mob thugs looking to settle a debt? In this volume, Dan Knossos-veteran wrestler, ring name Minotaur, struggling to find himself after his dismissal from the crime business-is compelled to help an old friend in serious trouble. Wrestlers frequently face physical decline, emotional instability, and mental demons as they age away from the ring. And despite being warned, Dan gets mixed up in some drama he may not be able to fight his way through. Readers also glimpse the tribulations of an up-and-coming athlete shadowing his mentor and facing the uncertainty of the future. The shading in the illustrations creates an effect that will thrill fans of theatrical and competitive sparring matches. While not really about wrestling, the story benefits from that world as its setting. Verdict An intriguing and fresh work that will enthrall lovers of sports comics and noir. -Teresa Potter-Reyes, Helen Hall Lib., League City, TX