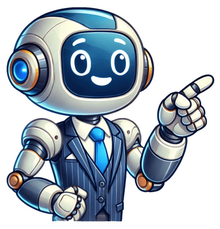
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Warrior nun comic

Warrior Nun Areala is a comic book series created by Ben Dunn, first appearing in Ninja High School #37 in March 1993. The character of Sister Shannon Masters, a member of the Order of the Cruciform Sword, was initially introduced as Shanna Masters. This military order of Warrior Nuns and Magic Priests serves the Catholic Church. According to the comic's storyline, the order was established in 1066 by Auria, a Valkyrie who renounced her pagan ways and converted to Christianity. The mission of the Order has evolved over time, with each generation having its chosen avatar, including Sister Shannon Masters, the current Areala. With her companions, Sister Shannon battles against evil forces, upholding faith and humility in service to the Lord. Over two decades, the character's backstory, powers, and surroundings have expanded, creating a comprehensive society within the Church. Warrior Nun Areala has sparked controversy among both religious and non-religious individuals due to its depiction of the Catholic Church as a force for good. This portrayal has been criticized by some as an appropriation of Catholic imagery. However, the series' creator, Ben Dunn, was inspired by the martial arts pursuits of the nuns from Fraternité Notre-Dame, a traditionalist Catholic organization. The success of Warrior Nun Areala led to the development of a 2020-2022 television series and an upcoming feature film trilogy continuation, both starring Alba Baptista. The character's creation was influenced by Dunn's own experiences attending Catholic schools and his encounter with a New York Times article about nuns learning martial arts in East Harlem. Warrior Nun Areala was created by Ben Dunn from a unique perspective on the relationship between faith and superhero characters. Unlike other comic book heroes, Dunn's character, Sister Shannon Masters, does not have a clear religious affiliation, making her distinct from typical "bad girl" antiheroines. Instead, she embodies Christian values such as saving everyone, regardless of their past actions. This approach was intentional to differentiate Areala from similar characters in the genre. The series draws inspiration from Christian imagery and speculative fiction, with Dunn citing the Vatican's moral authority and influence on world affairs as key factors in shaping the narrative. Sister Shannon is a central character in the Warrior Nun universe, first appearing in 1999 with the miniseries "Warrior Nun Areala Vol. 3". The series follows her journey from being orphaned at four years old and adopted by the Yoma family in Japan to becoming a Warrior Nun in Upper New York State's Saint Thomas Academy. Her story spans multiple timelines, including a past encounter with an angel that would become her namesake. Sister Shannon's Journey as the Warrior Nun Areala Barry Lyga, the writer of the second series in the Warrior Nun Areala comic book series, once said that "The original three series were tongue-in-cheek... but the audience liked it more when I took a more realistic approach." He also stated that he was forced to leave the series after six issues due to his reluctance to feature monster attacks and instead focus on storytelling. However, this new direction didn't quite work out as intended, resulting in several incomplete issues. On the other hand, many people praised Warrior Nun Areala for its unique portrayal of strong women who have unwavering faith in God and their religion. Even some real-life nuns and priests took notice, sending letters that were both supportive and critical of the series. The US Catholic League even got involved, releasing a statement in 1997 expressing their disapproval of the comic's depiction of nuns. One issue that sparked controversy was Sister Shannon's battle habit, which showed her cleavage and had perpetually erect nipples. Ben Dunn, the writer, admitted that he made this design choice for one reason: "nipples sell." However, to address these concerns, the series later introduced new battle habits that covered up more. When Warrior Nun Areala was accused of being a "bad girl" comic due to its depiction of violence and sexy costumes, Barry Lyga responded by pointing out that many traditional comic book genres feature fights and action scenes. He even went so far as to say that his second issue didn't have any punch thrown at all. Despite some critics' disapproval, the Warrior Nun Areala series has a loyal following. It's been praised for its unique blend of faith, adventure, and strong female characters. Warrior Nun Areala Graphic Novel Series Release Dates #1–4 May 1997 – November 1997 Barry Lyga #1–6 July 1997 – May 1998 Warrior Nun Areala and Glory Ben Dunn 1 September 1997 Warrior Nun: Frenzy Miljenko Horvatic #1–2 January 1998 – June 1998 Areala: Angel of War Jim Gelvin #1–4 September 1998 – June 1999 Warrior Nun Areala: Resurrection THE EYEJim GelvinBen Dunn #0–3 November 1998 – March 1999 Warrior Nun Areala: Series 3 Brian Farrens (issues #1–8)Chris Allen (issues #9–12)Nathan Lumm (issues #13–16)Anthony Zicari (issues #16–19) 1–19 July 1999 – February 2001 Warrior Nun Brigantia Kevin Gunstone #1–3 June 2000 – October 2000 Warrior Nun Areala: Ghosts of the Past Anthony Zicari #1–4 March 2001 – June 2001 Warrior Nun Areala: Dangerous Game Anthony Zicari #1–3 July 2001 – October 2001 Warrior Nun Areala: Series 4 Anthony Zicari #1-19 October 2001 - July 2003 Warrior Nun: No Justice for Innocents Gianluca PireddaChris Gugliotti #1 April 2002 Given article text here Warrior Nun Areala is an animated series that follows the character Areala (Guiomar Alonso) and her friend Sister Shannon Masters (Melina Matthews). The main antagonist, Jillian Salvius (Thekla Reuten), is a female version of Julian Salvius from the comic book. The series premiered on July 2, 2020, and was followed by a second season in November 2022. According to Antarctic Press, Warrior Nun Areala has inspired other media, such as Avengelyne, Iscariot XIII, and Vampire Hunters' Association, with its central concept of a female warrior fighting demons. In the comics, Areala is befriended by Catholic priest Father Clifton and stays at St. Augustine Church The Inquisition. Other comic book series, like The Department of Inquisition and Trinity Blood, also feature similar themes. Some characters, such as Montague Summers, are based on real-life figures who claim to be Catholic priests but have disputed claims. The development of the Warrior Nun Areala comic book series raises questions about its historical accuracy and respect for Catholicism. While the story features a supercomputer and demon-tracking satellite network, which is more plausible than depicting certain religious groups, it lacks sufficient research and authenticity in its portrayal of Catholic practices and Vatican politics. Dunn's approach relies on stereotypes and gimmicks rather than genuine understanding of the faith. The use of fictional "sectors" instead of dioceses, deaneries, or parishes creates a sense of disconnection from reality. A more nuanced approach would have enriched the story by incorporating actual Catholic practices and Vatican politics, such as assigning magic powers to exorcists or referencing traditional rituals. The series' creator, Barry Dunn, has been criticized for his handling of complex themes and his lack of respect for women's roles in the Catholic Church. The early costumes and character designs are also seen as insensitive and exploitative. Despite this criticism, the series has gained a significant following and was adapted into a Netflix show. However, its historical inaccuracies and lack of authenticity may have limited its appeal to some viewers who are familiar with Catholicism.

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