

## "THE NEW DEADWARDIANS" (Comic Review)

Written by Svetlana Fedotov

Tuesday, 28 August 2012 09:08

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Welcome to London, England, where the sky is clear, the buildings are rigid like the Queen's guard, and the upper crust of society has willingly turned itself into creatures of the night. This is an England where the elite are vampires and the shuffling masses of lower society are just that, shuffling masses of zombies. Such is the world of THE NEW DEADWARDIANS, a new monthly series from DC/Vertigo, a company that always continues to bring strange and fresh horror to the table. Set in post-Victorian England, THE NEW DEADWARDIANS adds new life to the ever stale zombie vs. vampire genre with a great mix of crime, horror, drama, and of course, a good, heaping helping of gore.



Dropping us straight into a vampire's den with the main character, Detective George Suttle, the first issue takes us on a panoramic tour of this vampiric England. We follow him from the doctor's office that all vampires must go to get their monthly fix, to the depths of the police station that deals with matters of the zombie uprising—and the very rare murder. It's rare because, well, everyone is already technically dead. Yet, as the detective soon learns, murder is definitely afoot when he finds himself trying to solve the death of recently deceased vampire subtly left in front of The Parliament. Strangely enough, the corpse bears no signs of heart wounds or head decapitation, a death blow that even the new vampire society cannot survive.

THE NEW DEADWARDIANS has been a great read for those who are less than enthused at the current state of zombie/vampire culture. It's a clever re-imagining that plays up the strangeness of being undead, all the while throwing in a good, British mystery to keep us on our toes. While author Dan Abnett brings the power with a solid story, I.N.J Culbard wraps the

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whole thing up in a nice little package with his unique art and sweeping views of the London skyline. Honestly, the whole thing reads like a good book that one enjoys at midnight in front of fire while sipping brandy. In fact, feel free to buy some brandy, because you will find yourself deeply engrossed in a series that promises such twists and turns, only a good, stiff drink will keep you straight.

*THE NEW DEADWARDIANS* is now available at your local comic book store. Issue #6 (of 8) is out tomorrow, August 29.□

