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Marvel Encyclopedia: The Hulk



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Synopsis

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Book Information

Series: Marvel Encyclopedia (Book 3)

Hardcover: 208 pages

Publisher: Marvel Comics; First Printing edition (June 9, 2003)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0785111646

ISBN-13: 978-0785111641

Product Dimensions: 11.2 x 7.5 x 0.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.5 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.3 out of 5 stars 23 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,451,334 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #39 inÃ Â Books > Humor & Entertainment > Pop Culture > Reference #161 inÃ Â Books > Humor & Entertainment > Movies > Encyclopedias #532 inÃ Â Books > Reference > Encyclopedias & Subject Guides > Literature

Customer Reviews

Published in May of 2003,Hardcover, 208 pages, full color. Cover price $19.99. If you want additional books, I ship as many books as you want for a low flat fee.

Book arrived on time and in perfect condition, plus it was sealed. A fun book that discusses the hulk comics and tv shows. Great value.

Now this book is a little different from the others and its series it does not contain BIOS from the characters in the whole universe or power grids it’s more of information in the sense of articles but definitely 5 out of 5 very awesome book it also contains comics throughout the book highly recommended for Hulk fans

I gave it 5 stars because it is what I ordered, but very poorly thought out. The info could’ve been 100x better

No complaints, book was new and undamaged. It is full of great background information but I would

have liked it better if it contained more images.

This book is a guide which explains and details every Marvel character within the limits of encyclopedia version there are several more if you can afford the set this is the ultimate nerd fantasy!

The author, Kit Kiefer, begins by professing (in his own words) "The below-average fanboy's pet monkey's ear mites IGNORE more about the Hulk than I know." My question is, if his knowledge of the subject is so lacking-- which he proves several times over-- just why he was given the job of writing this so-called Hulk Encyclopedia?This is without doubt the worst "guide" to the Hulk ever produced. There are so many inaccuracies, I can't possibly list them all here. But just as an example: The author repeatedly claims that originally the Hulk would appear whenever Bruce Banner fell asleep. Actually, Banner's transformation into the Hulk was triggered by nightfall originally; it was never caused by Banner falling asleep. Reprints of Hulk #1 are not all that difficult to find. (In fact, this book contains a reprint of Hulk #1, which adds a bit of irony to Kiefer's mistake.)Hulk isn't the only character Kiefer proves he's unfamiliar with. He refers to Black Bolt as a "deaf, dumb, and blind kid" who "plays a mean pinball." Black Bolt is not deaf, dumb, blind, nor a kid. No idea what the pinball part's about. I guess it's supposed to be... funny...? Other characters receive similar treatment. It's as if Kiefer was given a list of names and told just to make up something.When Mr. Kiefer isn't getting the basics of the characters wrong, he spends much of the book making irrelevant comments, such as comparing George Bush's IQ to that of an armadillo. Instead of spending so much time trying-- and failing-- to be witty, perhaps the author should have researched the subject of the book. With the wealth of information readily available online, from fansites to message boards, there's no excuse for how inaccurate this book is.Infuriatingly, a number of the Hulk's more notable creators are disrespected by being given little if any mention. Sal Buscema, who was the penciler of Hulk for over 100 issues isn't mentioned even once. Peter David, who wrote 130+ issues, is mentioned by name once... and Kiefer later takes a shot at David's run by saying it was "not the Hulk" (although he makes it vague so that only the fanboys and their pet monkeys would know who the jab is directed at). On the flip side, Bruce Jones, the then-writer of the comic, gets a ton of hype from Kiefer. I understand why this is-- Marvel was seriously pushing the book at the time with the movie (which stunk) about to be released. But still... seeing such praise heaped on a run that I consider by far the worst ever while Peter David and Sal Buscema get disrespected left a bad taste.In all fairness, it'd be wrong to lay the blame entirely at Kiefer's feet;

Kiefer credits a number of people for "aiding" him and Marvel didn't prevent it from being printed.I gave this a rating of 1 Star. I'd give it a lower rating if it were possible because it really and truly deserves it. Marvel should not have allowed this to be published.If anyone is interested in purchasing a guide to the Hulk, I recommend Tom Defalco's Hulk: The Incredible Guide. It's not perfect but, unlike Mr. Kiefer, Tom Defalco's knowledge of the Hulk exceeds what is ignored by a monkey's ear mites.

This is NOT an encyclopedia. It's a collection of extremely opinionated articles regarding the Hulk. On top of that, it's a blatant advertisement for the 2003 Hulk flick. It seems the author had to put in a word for the movie in almost every single page. This is not an exaggeration either. The author fills each page with his incredibly tiresome sarcastic wit and utter disrespect for the subject matter that makes the book almost unbearable to read and almost impossible to understand. It reminds me a lot of British Journalism. Is the author British? The author badmouths Hulk creators Stan Lee and Jack Kirby's early contributions, in some instances calling Kirby's artwork "square" which I find offensive. He provides some nice information on the Hulk film and the classic TV production, but treats the latter contemptuously. There is very little mention of prolific Hulk writer and Icon Peter David. The author seems insistant on disregarding any other incarnation than the famous Savage Hulk. There is little mention of the Grey Hulk (other than the debut issue) or the "Professor" incarnations. In fact the author blatantly states that the Hulks of the 80's and 90's were not the REAL Hulk. And he assumes the authority to say so. I was going to add another star to the rating because of the beautiful reprints that include Hulk #1, but these reprints are available in other collections minus the annoying sarcasm and unwanted opinions. If you're looking for a thoroughly informative and objective look at the Hulk, look elswhere. If you want to read some jackass giving his un called for opinions, disrespecting the very subject he's writing on, blatantly advertising a new movie (I'm sure he got his share from Universal), trumping his conservative political stances and disregarding any and all information that he doesn't care for, then by all means buy this book.

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