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Ultimate Spider-Man Vol. 1: Power And Responsibility



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Synopsis

Powers granted to bookish Peter Parker by a radioactive spider have fueled the imaginations of fans worldwide for nearly 40 years. With the dawning of a new age, however, comes a hero for a new millennium - Ultimate Spider-Man!

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Spider-Man has been a perpetual favorite of comics fans since his introduction in 1962, and judging by the recent blockbuster film, he’s still hot. This excellent series re-boots the character from the beginning, reenacting Spider-Man’s origin in the present day. The story is similar to, but not based on, the Spider-Man film. Brainy teenager Peter Parker gains super-powers after being bitten by a spider, loses his likable Uncle Ben to violent crime, and learns once again that "with great power comes great responsibility." The scenario by Marvel president Jemas and Brian Michael Bendis makes some intelligent revisions to the original, and the artwork is realistic, detailed, colorful, and dynamic. Bendis’s excellent dialog is true to life-his teenagers sound like teenagers-and his scripting for this and other series won him the 2002 Eisner Award for best writer. An even better choice for most libraries is the hardcover Ultimate Spider-Man edition, which collects the entire contents of this and the second paperback collection, Double Trouble, into one sharp-looking oversized book. With wide crossover appeal to teens and older fans, Ultimate Spider-Man, whether in separate paperback volumes or in hardcover, is an essential purchase for all public libraries.Copyright 2002 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

The Ultimate Spider-Man comic has received great reviews for a reason; it’s terrific! The art, writing and characters are wonderful. I love the contemporary take on this classic franchise. It also works wonderfully on my iPad Kindle app. I can view the whole page at once, or click on a cell and view them individually by swiping with my finger (my preferred way of reading). I am enjoying this so much I will probably purchase the entire series. Highly recommended!

I’m a big fan of Spider-Man, and as such, fairly familiar with several incarnations of his origin story. This one had no big surprises, no real twists, just the minor details that normally get shuffled around.There were things about this I enjoyed, such as the witty one liners I always appreciate from Spidey.Overall, though, I was less impressed by Peter’s inherent moodiness. I don’t mind a brooding, angsty hero, and I understand they were trying to portray a teenage mind set. Even so...one of the things I always liked about Spider-Man was how little he succumbed to the temptation to feel sorry for himself.Another tiny thing that bugged me (no pun intended) appeared on the very first page. Norman Osborne and his associate, Justin, are looking over their spiders and discussing the Greek mythology origins of the spider. As Norman tells the story of Athena, Arcane and jealousy, Justin comments, "Sounds like a woman." It was a totally unnecessary comment and I almost stopped reading there.However, to be fair, I did quite enjoy the nod to Ferris Bueller’s Day Off, later in the story. In fact, that was probably one of the funnier moments.As I said, I’m a long time fan of Spidey, so I enjoyed the story because of him. But I wouldn’t say it was my favorite adaptation.

I don’t want to call this an "answer to the criticism" but I will address why I thoroughly enjoyed this book in spite of some of the negativity surrounding it. The ultimate goal being to possibly interest you into reading the story and creating an opinion of your own.By far the number one issue fans of the series had was the pacing of Gwen Stacy’s death along with the battle against Carnage. In my opinion the casualness of it all is what added the most to Ultimate Spidey. Gwen’s death isn’t out of the ordinary. It doesn’t get a build up to it because death is part of Peter’s world now. Things can only get worse. This isn’t just a fantasy he’s living out or a game he’s playing. This is his life. The life of a superhero where tragedy will happen without a moments notice. Where drama takes a backseat to consequences.He made a mistake and someone paid the price for it. That someone just happened to be another person who was very close to him. As much as people like seeing an angry Peter Parker that’s never been the core of his character. He’s not a rage filled sociopath

looking for revenge. He’s a self destructive time bomb who loathes his conscience for making him miserable. As far as he’s concerned he’s the one who killed Uncle Ben. He’s the one who killed Gwen Stacy. He’s the one who can’t stop hurting Aunt May and Mary Jane. He’s 15.When you’re 15 and everything is your fault, and you’re confronted by the product of your own negligence (Carnage) your immediate instinct isn’t to annihilate the seemingly immortal abomination of science trying to kill you. In my opinion Peter wasn’t even there for that fight. His mind was still trying to cope with the realization that this wasn’t the first, and won’t be the last tragedy to befall him. That being Spider-Man won’t get easier and day by day the odds of him hurting another loved one is increasing. It was only after the fight that he came to which is why the story was told through a flashback.It’s not that the comic itself is dumbing down. In fact, it’s quite the opposite. Bendis is leaving more and more to subtext for you to interpret for yourself. He doesn’t want to build up to a situation where he’ll tell you how to feel during the climax and end definitively. He wants you to take what you will and decide what to get from it. This is volume 11 out of 22 and is a great turning point for the character.

More great work from Bendis and Bagley! This storyline is filled with many comic moments, as well as serious knock-down, drag-out fights between Spider-Man and Doctor Octopus. The Ultimate version of Doc Ock is no pushover, and he has left quite the body count in his wake since the time of his origin and subsequent appearances in this title. Doctor Otto Octavius considers his life to be completely and utterly ruined and blames everything on Spider-Man. So, he murderous madman has only one goal in life now: a dead or suffering Spider-Man. Spider-Man has always known Doc Ock is dangerous, but by the end of the book, he’s taking the guy completely serious. No time for witty banter, as he’s fighting for his life and is hurting bad. What makes this story even more realistic, though, is how Peter worries that he won’t make it home to his Aunt May. Not only will he probably not be home "on time," but he wonders if he’ll make it home at all. Very good writing, in my opinion.This story also features a major revelation for one of the supporting characters at the end of the book, as well as some closure on the problem of Doc Ock. This book sets the stage well for more development between Peter and Gwen Stacy, which I look forward to. Well worth the time and money, I found this TPB to be very enjoyable!

I think you would be hard pressed to find someone who didn’t know the story of Peter Parker, but it was nice to see a refreshing update to it, to put it in the 21st century. That being said, there are no radical changes here to upset die hard fans.The artwork is great, and Mr Bendis has done well to

capture the teenage angst as well as Peter’s tongue in cheek humour.I read this on my 7"kindle fire HD and had no problem reading it with the panel view.I highly recommend this book.

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