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Flashpoint



Synopsis

Not a dream, not an imaginary story, not an elseworld. This is Flash Fact: When Barry Allen wakes at his desk, he discovers the world has changed. Family is alive, loved ones are strangers, and close friends are different, gone or worse. It's a world on the brink of a cataclysmic war - but where are Earth's Greatest Heroes to stop it? It's a place where America's last hope is Cyborg, who hopes to gather the forces of The Outsider, The Secret 7, SH!A!Z!A!M!, Citizen Cold and other new and familiar-yet-altered faces! It's a world that could be running out of time, if The Flash can't find the villain who altered the time line! From the Hardcover edition.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

“A soaring, if radical, tale that uses superheroes in ways that may surprise both first-time readers and long-time fans.”
•THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
“Ambitious.”
•USA TODAY
“Intriguing.”
“Heroic comic-book art at its finest.”
--ENTERTAINMENT WEEKLY "The most interesting comic event of the summer"
--COMPLEX MAGAZINE

Geoff Johns, a Detroit native, brings a Hollywood sense of story-telling to comics. After working as an assistant to Richard Donner (director of Lethal Weapon, Superman and many other great films), Geoff has brought his considerable writing talent to comics. For DC he has written Stars and

S.T.R.I.P.E.S., The Flash, the enormously popular JSA with David Goyer, helped revitalize Hawkman with James Robinson and the comics event BLACKEST NIGHT. From the Hardcover edition.

Such a phenomenal story! This was actually my first experience into The Flash comic world. I'm hugely addicted to the television series and as soon as they mentioned time travel, I began concocting theories about what might happen in the show while guesting on The Flash Podcast. Unknown to me, I was actually predicting much of what happened in Flashpoint! I see such potential for a similar/modified story happening on the tv show, and I nerded out hard core while reading the book...and I only knew half the characters. Needless to say, I cannot WAIT to go back to it once I've explored more of this universe.

Man, what happened? I know that makes my review appear to be negative, but it isn't. I loved Andy's artwork since he took over X-Men from Jim Lee in the 90's. That's when I was first introduced to him. At first, I refused to buy anymore X-Men after Jim Lee left, but after looking at the cover by Andy, his style eventually started to peak my interest. So I caved in and got an issue and couldn't stop. He has such a distinct drawing style that I always knew it was him right from the comic book cover alone. I didn't even need to see his initials. His drawing of people's faces and hands were always special. Anyways, my reason for the question relates to his drawing style. It appears to have changed over the years and I feel I can no longer spot comic book covers drawn by him as I previously did. Comic book artists and their unique style is always ever evolving. It's understandable to try new things, new techniques, new facial expressions etc. Those are great things to experiment with. I love this trade paperback and his artwork is truly beautiful, but it's missing that certain something that made me fall in love with his earlier pieces of art. There are certain characters in this book such as female characters and I'm shocked by the way he draws them compared to his X-Men days. Granted, the female characters in the book aren't superheroes, but that doesn't mean they should be drawn with less detail and beauty as if they are irrelevant. Not everyone can be Jean Grey, Storm, or Rogue. I like the way he draws female characters and I miss that about him and thought I could find more of that here, but it's not here. Regardless, the book is great. I brought it for his artwork so I can't comment on the plot and honestly I could care less about the plot. Only got this for pure Andy. Thank god he draws the entire book and there aren't any guest artists cause I would have been even more LIVID!!!! Now I can spend all day admiring his technique and talent.

I liked basically everything about this read. It takes place in a fun, semi-alternate universe, and spotlights The Flash (a main component in past Crisis-like stories). This twist on Batman was very interesting, and as far as I know, hadn't been done before (again, as far as I know). Overall, I was left really wanting to read more from the Flashpoint universe. I even liked how the end of the story [SPOILERS AHEAD] subtly moved us, as readers, into The New 52 universe. One thing of note, and a possibly scary implication, is that [SPOILERS AHEAD] Aquaman and Wonder Woman are shown to have a very dark side. Although this universe is slightly different from the main universe, the two only have about 20 years of alternate history that separates them. This story shows that even our Aquaman and Wonder Woman are both capable of some heinous actions. Not too long, not too short. Flashpoint was just right.

In 2011, every DC Comics fan was told of a major event happening in that a massive reboot of the entire DC Universe was going to occur and that it would all be in part to the storyline guided by the character of Barry Allen/The Flash. With the last major story having been the Blackest Night and the Brightest Day, Flashpoint would be the last actual story of the Post-Crisis DC Universe. All in part to the machinations of the Flash. Barry Allen finds the world that he had known before has changed from how he had remembered. With Barry Allen having been dead for years and then resurrected his memories become muddled. For he is not just risen but also his futuristic rival Eobard Thawne/The Reverse Flash. Barry realizes that his power in tapping the speed force has it so that he cannot change the past, Eobard's power with the negative speed force is different in that change has happened. With Eobard having harmed Barry's own family. This in turn causes Barry to try his hardest to change it back. Unfortunately he wakes up to a world far worse than he could have known. A world in which he would have saved the life of his family but his friends either fail to become heroes or become villains. As this story goes on for Barry attempting to change back the world to the way it was before it was changed, he races against time as the rest of the world goes on to its eventual destruction. Barry wakes up to a world in which he never became the Flash and the Justice League doesn't exist. The change in the timeline caused Superman's spaceship to veer off course and destroy Metropolis. While Abin Sur wasn't overcome by fear and had survived, while Hal Jordan continued to remain an ordinary pilot. Aquaman and Wonder Woman had become the respective monarchs of their kingdom only to have a torrid affair that would make the Trojan War look like a seedy talk-show special as the world plunges into war that will lead to its annihilation. Basically only three heroes dominate in this world. Shazam's power is not in the hands of a sole participant but in five children who become the mighty Captain Thunder, basically its Captain Marvel

only as a hive mind, with Billy Batson, Mary Batson, Freddy Freeman, etc. Victor Stone/Cyborg who is more noble and courageous than he ever was as a Teen Titan. And Batman, only not Bruce Wayne but Thomas Wayne, because this is a world in which Joe Chill's bullets hit Bruce Wayne and not Thomas and Martha. Barry knows the world is in danger and no matter how great it is to have his family whole he knows that whatever must be done to restore the timeline is what matter. So he finds Thomas Wayne/Batman as they unite to turn Barry into the Flash and attempt to save the world. I must say this truly was a great story and I have to admit its great, but the problem with it is that its too good. So much of this alternate timeline is a great read that I want to know more about it. Thankfully DC knows how popular this story was and created a 'World of Flashpoint' miniseries. I also have to say that I'm almost ashamed of Barry's actions leading up to Flashpoint. But I am glad he sees the error of his ways. Without a doubt one of the best things is Thomas Wayne as Batman. I would love it so much if he were depicted like this one day. Plus for better or worse, this story gives birth to a fresh new direction into DC Comics... The New 52 Universe. Thank You Mr. Geoff Johns.

A

Love this story, Geoff Johns outdoes himself in this story and helped to create stories to adapt in 3 different forms (Animation, TV show and soon a film)

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