



Hulk: Future Imperfect

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The Hulk has seen the future, and it is murder. Both stories find the Hulk at the end of the Earth, and at the end of his rope! In 'Future Imperfect,' the Hulk is the last super power in a post-apocalyptic Earth, ruling with an iron fist as the wicked Maestro. And in 'The End,' the green-skinned titan walks alone through a wasted and barren land, and must confront the one who is easily his ultimate nemesis! Collects Incredible Hulk: Future Imperfect #1-2, Incredible Hulk: The End.

Hulk: Future Imperfect Details

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From Reader Review Hulk: Future Imperfect for online ebook

Zack says

This collection includes both the two-issue 'Future Imperfect' story as well as the "Hulk: The End" one-shot, both written by Peter David.

If there's one thing I have come to realize about most classic comic storylines, it's that they are usually a product of their time - and 'Future Imperfect' is no exception. Set in a dystopian future heavily influenced by films like 'Total Recall' and 'Blade Runner', the story involves the present-day Hulk being brought to the future to defeat the Maestro... who is, of course, a future Hulk driven mad due to a combination of radiation and isolation. I actually enjoyed this one more than I thought I would, though I still dislike the smart, shirt-wearing Hulk of the '80s. I also didn't like the weird sexual element in Maestro's character.

'The End' is more straight to the point, about the Hulk being the last surviving person on Earth. It deals with some pretty heavy subject matter, with Banner contemplating death while the Hulk refuses to give in, revealing in his survivor status as revenge for how people have treated him. The art feels more modern than 'Future Imperfect', but I can't decide which story I liked better.

In a way, these stories are precursors to The Incredible Hulk: Planet Hulk and Wolverine: Old Man Logan, and I think both were interesting in their own right, especially if you have never read classic Hulk.

La Revistería Comics says

Edición casi perfecta del famoso Future Imperfect con el que David y Pérez redefinieron al Coloso Esmeralda una vez más...

Cheese says

So many things wrong with this story. It's just stooooooooooid.

The idea is great, but it was just soooo boring.

Here are a list of things that peeved me about this story:

1. Shit dialogue, it's incredibly boring.
2. The Hulk doesn't get Angry when he fights, wtf?
3. How can hulk get raped by a human prostitute. Surely his ding dong/meat and two veg/shlong would kill her, not to mention the follow up metorite of potential babies shooting out of her! Did she have a Gamma reinforced condom?
4. Maestro survived atomic radiation and it made him stronger, so why on Earth would the Gamma bomb that created him in the first place, kill him?!?!?!?!?

5. Betty's ashes stop the Maestro! FFS! Come on!

Timothy Boyd says

A nice alternate timeline story of the Hulk. Beautiful art and good story. Recommended

Anthony says

Whenever I approach one of the 'classics', I always feel slight pressure that I have to like it because so many people hold it in such high regard, and that not liking it means I have no taste.

It was the same when I read Days of Future Past and I didn't really like that that much.

I didn't like Future Imperfect much either.

That's not to say I don't appreciate how well crafted it is. Perez art is perfectly well detailed. Kewons art in 'The End' part of this book also looks great.

I just didn't take to it much. Maybe it's because I'm not the biggest Hulk fan and I haven't read the rest of Peter David's run.

However, it is better than Days of Future Past. For what it's worth.

Michael Emond says

First off - the art by George Perez is future PERFECT. He takes a dullish story and makes it worth reading. I am not a big Peter David fan and this collection is a good example why. I have never been a Hulk fan and this collection is a good reason why. Let's start with the End - a story included to pad this book out. It is a one note pony and the note ain't that great. Everyone is dead except Hulk...so let's watch him and Banner mope around the Earth with some pretty dull monologues.

Future Imperfect is okay but just spins its wheels once the premise is set up. Peter David strikes me as a very creative writer but he just lacks the extra something to either add the fun to the story or add the intellect to the story. I never hate his writing I just don't find myself surprised by it or enjoying it.

Also working against him is the character he writes about.

The Hulk is such a boring character to me. He just fights. No personality - just fights. Sometimes he grunts but sometimes he is written more articulate - like here. Even when he is articulate he doesn't really have much of a personality.

I think the other problem I had with "Let's get the past self to fight his future self gone bad" idea is the Maestro (future Hulk) just doesn't seem to resemble the personality of present Hulk at all - I never felt "oh Hulk is fighting himself" it was more "Hulk is bashing around another guy with green skin".

I can see why this was a highly regarded two part story (especially with the Perez art) it just fell flat for me.

Jeremiah says

This story is pretty strong and fun but it's the final story aptly titled "The End" that made this book worth reading. Powerful stuff!

Nick D says

The two issues that make up the proper Future Imperfect story are top notch. The transition into the future society is done well, with pertinent worldbuilding being done through organic dialogue and not complete exposition. This marks the first real appearance of The Maestro, a super-irradiated and super-maniacal version of The Hulk. He's awesome. After he breaks The Hulk's neck, he has his harem gang rape him. That's some intense shit right there. Really good story.

The one-shot that is included at the end of this trade is decent. It features an interesting scenario where Bruce is the only man left alive, but he cannot die because the Hulk will not allow him. It focuses heavily on the antagonistic relationship that Bruce has with Hulk. It's interesting because it reinforces the idea that they really are two different entities.

John says

I enjoy the Hulk most when he is depicted in strange science fiction or fantasy scenarios like "Planet Hulk" and this volume is in a similar vein. First he confronts an alternate reality future self in a wild fast-paced tale with astoundingly detailed art from George Perez. Then writer Peter David switches gears for an emotional and introspective tale as Hulk finds himself to be the last living being on a devastated earth. A great volume for folks who like their Hulk tales to be more than just smashing up stuff.

Don Weiss says

From March 2013: The Incredible Hulk is a character who will always tread the fine line between being a hero and being a monster, with the potential to lapse into either extreme, depending on whatever life throws his way. Collected in this edition are two standalone stories by Hulk writer extraordinaire Peter David that show Bruce Banner and his monstrous half descending towards the worst end of that spectrum, presenting two distinctly different, dire possibilities.

I reviewed FUTURE IMPERFECT in a previous, slightly edited printing. It's the story of a post-nuclear, war-torn future ruled by a vicious green tyrant known as the Maestro, who is, in fact, a more powerful and more insane incarnation of the Hulk. A group of freedom fighters, led by the Hulk's aging former sidekick Rick Jones, hatch a plan to bring forth the Hulk of the past to overthrow his future self. Re-presented here in its entirety, FUTURE IMPERFECT is an epic tale of one man's struggle against himself, with a world hanging in the balance.

More basic in content, but no less in scope, is **HULK: THE END**. Set once again in a possible future ravaged by atomic holocaust, this time the Hulk finds himself the sole survivor, roaming a radiation-scarred terrain infested with mutated cockroaches that scavenge across the vast desert landscape. Still sharing his existence with the hated “puny Banner”, the conflict switches to internal, as both man and monster wage what might be their final battle for dominance.

Complimenting Peter David’s storytelling is the work of renowned illustrators George Perez and Dale Keown. Both artists are well-suited to their respective stories, producing some of the most striking images and dramatic scenes in the Hulk’s entire 50+ year history.

A double-feature of dark, distorted destinies, **FUTURE IMPERFECT** and **HULK: THE END** still rank among the very best Hulk stories ever told.

Carl Harris says

Awesome Hulk stories. Collects the *Future Imperfect* story arc and a one-shot call. In the first, Hulk goes up against a driven insane by radiation version of himself. In the second, Hulk and Banner are the last living people on Earth (oh, and the cockroaches of course). Awesome artwork and excellent writing. Check out the vault of super-hero stuff in *Future Imperfect*. Never really read any Hulk stuff, and I really enjoyed this. 4 stars.

Vasilis Giannopoulos says

For what is worth I must say I am not a Hulk fan - actually these two are the first stories of the green-skinned hero that I read. I liked best *The End*: the storytelling and the internal battle between Banner and Hulk are simply amazing, I now understand why friends of mine hold in such high regard the writing skills of Peter David. *Future Imperfect* has also some top-notch stuff in both art and story and is much more entertaining due to its battle scenes - and man I loved the end! The art in both installments is enjoyable and matching to the story but I favor a little more George Perez who creates some amazingly detailed panels. Recommend it to all comic fans - I might even check more stories by David.
