



Amazing Spider-Man: Ultimate Collection, Book 1

J. Michael Straczynski , John Romita Jr. (Illustrator)

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J. Michael Straczynski and John Romita Jr. introduce an enigmatic stranger who will forever change the way Peter Parker views himself ... and the origins of his amazing alter ego Plus, the web-slinger struggles with the most horrific tragedy ever to befall his city: the events of Sept. 11. Then, for years, Peter Parker kept his heroic double identity a guarded secret from his beloved Aunt May. Now that she's finally learned the truth, how will May react to the shocking revelation? Plus: On a trip to California, Spider-Man takes on his classic foe, Doctor Octopus Collects Amazing Spider-Man #30-45.

Amazing Spider-Man: Ultimate Collection, Book 1 Details

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Author : J. Michael Straczynski , John Romita Jr. (Illustrator)

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From Reader Review Amazing Spider-Man: Ultimate Collection, Book 1 for online ebook

Mike says

After reading JMS' run on Thor, I thought it was high time to catch up on this acclaimed run on web-head. So far, I do not regret that investment of time or energy. This storytelling is deep with emotional resonance, sprinkled with occasional touches of humour, and layered with cinematic overlaps between words and pictures. It's clear JMS was putting his A-game on in this work, and that he was trying to live up to some of the best writing that's been done in the decades of Spider-man that come before him.

I really enjoy the first story arc - finding a new way to weave the origin myths into a tale that doesn't feel completely bolted on? Well done. And the villains and secondary characters are well fleshed out - enjoyable, believable and pretty human.

Matt says

Collects Amazing Spider-Man (volume 2) issues #30-#45

I picked up this title because things that happened in these issues (from 2001) are going to be impacting the upcoming "Spider-Verse" storyline of Fall 2014. This collection introduces the characters Ezekiel and Morlun for the first time.

JMS wrote the scripts, and JRJR did the art, so the collection has a really strong creative team.

The first arch in this collection is very strong, but some of the latter stuff gets a little slower. It is definitely worth reading just for the first arch, though.

I've never read this era of Spider-Man, so I don't know what happened before this, but for some reason Peter and MJ are separated (but still married) when this collection's story begins.

Other notable Marvel Universe appearances include Dr. Octopus and Dr. Strange.

SPOILERS for future stories:

Peter becomes a teacher in this collection, which will be a job he holds on to for quite a while.

There were things foreshadowed in this book (both intentionally and unintentionally) that impact future storylines.

JMS dropped a lot of heavy hints about the future "The Other" storyline in this book. It seems he had a clear path as to where he wanted to take the Spider-Man mythos. Also, Dr. Octopus does have a chance to show off some semi-heroism which sets up the type of man he is in the Superior Spider-Man story arch.

Michael Secretan says

Some of the best story telling I've read about Spider-Man since I can remember. On to the next collection.

Leah says

This series is highly recommended for anyone wanting to get into the Spider-Man comics. You don't need a lot of background knowledge on the characters, or the story. The stories are interesting, and with art by John Romita Jr. you can't ever really go wrong. It's well scripted and the action is intense. Some of my favourite Spider-Man stories come from this series, which is still ongoing. J. Michael Straczynski is truly a brilliant writer. This volume, and the next in the series are easy to find and widely available.

Chris Witt says

I had heard great things about Straczynski's work on Spider-Man from 2001-2002 but had never checked it out until recently.

Well it lived up to the hype. Easily the most entertaining collection of the old-timey superhero books I've read since looking over Josh Whedon's work on "Astonishing X-Men".

Straczynski's run on Spidey was released in five anthologies. From what I've heard, things go south as at some point he was removed from the series a little earlier than he expected and, well..., somebody else took over and introduced some stories to wrap things up in a way that left pretty much every reader of the title extremely angry.

I think I'll pick up the 2nd volume of the 5, as I've read pretty consistently that the first two are the ones which are most worth reading.

This collection includes 16 issues, by the way, so it's a nice buy if you can find it for \$20 or less.

Kristen says

A slightly different take on Spider-Man's origin, which might be questionable for some, but Straczynski's stories are pretty entertaining. There's a good balance of Peter Parker's personal life and superhero stuff. Lots of humorous dialogue. I love the idea of him working as a high school science teacher. Aunt May, who finds out that Peter is Spider-Man and struggles with the situation, is especially well-written here.

The only misstep, besides the brevity/inconclusiveness of the Shade storyline, is the 9/11 issue that's included in this volume, which is a bit on the cheesy side to me. I definitely understand why Marvel/Straczynski felt it necessary to write about such a tragic real-life event rather than just move along, especially with this all being set in New York, but it reads too melodramatic and patriotic for my taste. Doctor Doom tearing up was a bit over the top.

Miles says

An excellent collection containing Straczynski's and Romita Jr.'s early combined work on Amazing Spider-Man from the early 2000s. The writing hearkens back to some of the classic Spidey issues written by Stan Lee, with his emphasis on character and Peter Parker's amusing real life problems. I've been a fan of John Romita Jr.'s artwork for a long time and really enjoyed his take on Spider-man. Unlike so many superheroes, JR Jr. emphasizes Spider-man's agility, flexibility and lean strength. There are some great iconic poses in these issues. It's refreshing to see a hero who isn't all brawn. This book also includes a very moving issue published in the wake of the 9/11 tragedy. If you like the classic early Spider-man days, I definitely recommend this collection. I look forward to the further volumes collecting the great Straczynski/Romita Jr. run on this character.

Ryk Stanton says

After reading The Darkest Hours, by Jim Butcher, in which Spider-Man must face other Ancients following his defeat of Morlun, I got curious and wanted to read the source material for that story about that battle. It was a great story arc, one that I remember coming back in later issues of Spider-Man as he continues to explore his totemic powers.

To be honest, Jim Butcher's summary of this story arc was more than sufficient to convey the story, but it was well worth the time to read as well.

Thank you, Marvel Unlimited app :)

Nadine says

This is my first official journey into the land that is Spider-Man comics and I wouldn't say I'm disappointed, but I also wouldn't say I'm impressed.

I don't think this was a good place to start with Spider-Man because I felt like I was missing a lot of information and backstory (like I didn't know Peter and Mary Jane were married).

Either way the story was still exciting and funny. The illustrations were beautiful. But I wouldn't recommend someone looking to start reading Spider-Man with this collection.

Nick Gaudet says

One of the best spider-man run so far!

Jdetrick says

I think we can safely throw out the 9/11 issue, since it's an honest emotional response to a terrible tragedy,

even if it's not a great comic. Otherwise, this collection is amazing....I don't agree with everything that JMS did during his run on the title, but these early issues are practically perfect. His biggest strength is his great character work and strong dialogue, and letting Aunt May in on the spider secret was a stroke of brilliance.

Veronica says

Really like this run so far

Ann says

This was my first marvel comic book. Before, I have seen the marvel movies up to "Thor Ragnarok", I have loved the movies so much that I was simply craving more. The netflix marvel shows don't really satisfy my craving for marvel as they are much darker and lack the light heart-ed humor that I so loved in the movies. This is why I have decided to pick this up in the first place.

I was pleasantly surprised at how entertaining the story was, it really drew me in from page one, and it was such much more like a movie rather than book experience. To be honest its something in between, as we get to know a bit more thought and emotions of the characters on top of the dialogue and facial expressions we get both in the movie and the comic. At the same time what we do get is a lot less volume and significance from it than we would in a book. I have only read one other comic book so far, so I am new to this aspect of the story.

The story is extremely well written, easy to follow and at the same time keeps you guessing. I read some of it on the bus and got halfway home without even realizing how much time has passed. This being said I preferred the first 10 comics (#30-#40) more than the last few, but overall I feel that the standard was kept high.

I will be continuing on with the series :)

Martin Yankov says

Absolutely brilliant in every considerable way!

Great art, great story, great concepts. And such great characters! Can't wait to pick up the second volume in J. Michael Straczynski's amazing run! I am like 15 years late for that series, I know, but it is sooo good!

Cyndie says

Perturbant au début, on a une nouvelle vision de Spider-Man qui est éloignée du comics d'origine, j'ai toutefois aimé cette vision, car on retrouve tout de même l'essentiel : le héros sérieux dans ses recherches, un brin d'humour très bien illustré, l'histoire d'amour toujours présente bien que différente. Il y a du rajout, mais au final c'est un volume prenant. J'ai aussi beaucoup aimé les dessins et s'il y a un deuxième volume, je suis preneuse !

