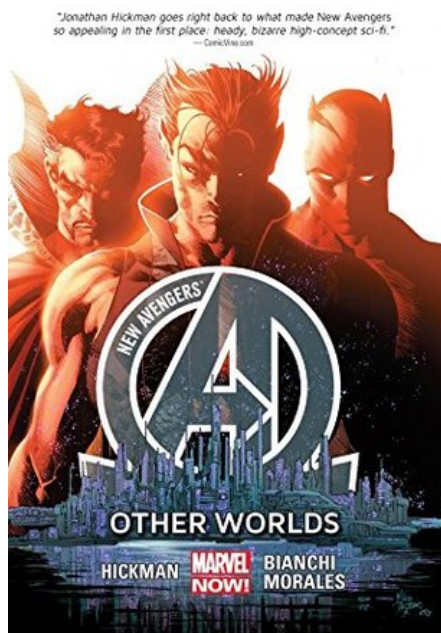




New Avengers, Vol. 3: Other Worlds

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Collects New Avengers (2013) #13-17. Inhumanity has begun! With the consequences of Infinity fresh on their minds, tough decisions are made. As a new and different Illuminati gathers, learn more about the other beings related to the Incursions...and discover the startling secret of the Black Swan! Then: meet the Mapmakers, cartographers of the Apocalypse. And as Reed Richards and the Illuminati rekindle an old relationship, Doctor Strange sells his soul!

New Avengers, Vol. 3: Other Worlds Details

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From Reader Review New Avengers, Vol. 3: Other Worlds for online ebook

GrilledCheeseSamurai says

Ugh. I get it, I get it. Can we please move on? It's like this whole volume exists so the students that should have been moved to the remedial class ages ago can catch up with the rest of us. Five issues and I don't feel like we've moved forward even a smidgen.

I do have to admit that the Doctor Strange stuff was cool but other than that...meh.

Joseph says

In this collection of the Illuminati Avengers, our intrepid secretive society finds a way to peer into the past of other worlds that have been destroyed in the current Crisis on Infinite Earths. Wait, what, this isn't COIE? Sorry, my bad. Anyway, on some of these other worlds, we see different versions of the usual Marvel characters, as well as some nice homages/parodies of DC's Justice League. Namor and T'Challa have some nice banter even though they hate each other, and Reed Richards looks as oily and smarmy as ever.

The collection dragged for me because it was a bit too much of the same thing. One or two issues would have sufficed to bring the plot-device in this book forward, but instead, Hickman keeps adding more and more until I was ready to say, "Enough with the parallel worlds, already!" Sheesh.

Still, the art is usually nice, and I like the way Hickman delivers dialogue to his characters.

3.5/5

Andrew says

First thing's first: I hate Simone Bianchi's art style. Always have, always will. All his trademarks are evident in his three issues here: the art is distorted, muddy, inert, and borderline incoherent. Which is a shame, because this is some of Hickman's most thoughtful writing. The Illuminati build a Bridge so that they can observe and catalog all the previous universal incursions. Essentially, this involves watching alternate versions of themselves get slaughtered over and over again. Hickman does a great job of illustrating the psychic toll this has on all the characters; his Black Panther is particularly interesting. Meanwhile, Dr. Strange travels beyond the fields we know to sell his soul in order to unlock #GODMODE for himself and stop the Incursions. This subplot ends on a cliffhanger, and I'm excited to see how it plays out in the next volume. In the final two issues (penciled by the always-reliable Rags Morales instead of Bianchi), Black Panther discovers a universe protected by a team of Silver Age DC Comics parodies. This is still more table-setting for the next volume, but it's entertaining and interesting table-setting. If you're invested in Hickman's long game here, this is another solid volume (and if you're not invested in Hickman's long game, you probably already bailed in the middle of Infinity).

Chelsea says

The art switched a few times in this volume and not for the better, unfortunately.

I felt like this installment was all over the place. I'm a sucker for learning more about the extended multiverse but this would drop us in with a universe we know nothing about and then leave us there for longer than I wanted. Granted, it conveys the struggle other worlds are facing but I wanted to see more of the Illuminati dealing with things. Maybe this was just Hickman stalling for the bigger stuff?

Anyway, I would've loved if we could've gotten a glimpse of earth 3490.

Alas, I was interested in the world where Reed died for Doom.

I loved the scene with T'Challa and Namor commiserating. Again, this relationship is the highlight of this series for me. The stuff between them is so complex and interesting. I could stay with them for soooo much longer, to be honest.

Zack! Empire says

We are three volumes into this series and I feel like they are still hammering in the point they made in the very first issue: The world will be destroyed and there is nothing you can do about it. In fact this collection has not one, but TWO, issues that reiterate that very thing. Don't get me wrong, I liked seeing the different Illuminati line-ups of different earths, and wonder how they came to be a group, but did I really need to see it twice? The answer is no, I didn't.

Here is how you could have made the first three issues of this collection one page:

Panel one: The Illuminati stand together, Reed is standing next to The Bridge, the machine he built during Hickman's Fantastic Four run. Reed says "This is called The Bridge. It allows us to see different earth's at different points in time. With it I've been able to track other incursions from all points, and all times.

Panel two: Tighter shot of two or three members. Anyone says "And what have you found?"

Panel Three: Large panel that shows a group similar to the earth 616 Illuminati, but slightly different, fighting a group of Map Makers, or Black Priests, and losing. Caption Box reads "That on every earth a group similar to our own has tried to do the very same thing we are doing..."

Panel Four: Tight close up on Reed, the look on his face suggesting exhaustion and hopelessness. Reed says "And we always fail."

Bam! There you go! Then we can move this story along.

It's hard for me to write that, because I do enjoy this series, and Hickman's writing, but come on! This guy has such a decompressed writing style that when he spells decompressed it must be like 35 letters long. This book takes place post Infinity, the event that Hickman has been building to since he started working on the Avengers, but somehow, this story is still going?

I am not a fan of Simon Bianchi's art. In fact it gave me a slight headache to look at. What happened to the super tight, super moody, art that this series began with? I want that art back.

On the positive side of things, and I know this sounds super hypocritical, I like that the villains of this story are a very serious threat. The story does a really good job of showing you that. I keep reading thinking, "How the hell are they going to win this fight? It seems like they can't." A hero is only as good as his villain, and boy are these ones a couple of bad asses.

It was also pretty sweet to see the JSA show up in a Marvel book. (You knew who that was, right?) This is a pretty cool concept I hope they stick with. With all the various earths out there, and infinite possibilities of what occurred on those earths, why can't the Illuminati run across the Marvel versions of different companies characters? That is a really neat idea.

Overall, I'm both happy and pissed at this series. I want to keep reading it, but at the same time I feel like I could just skip the next three volumes and not miss a damn thing. It just takes too long for anything to happen.

Nicolo Yu says

With this collected volume, Hickman has started to deliver on the potential of his multiversal incursions, which would culminate in 2015's Secret Wars. It provided snapshots of alternate worlds and its dangers. As a reader from the very first issue, I was wondering how a Black Priest and Mapmaker differ, and how both inspired fear in the Black Swan.

If one more thing could be taken from this arc, is that mutants from any corner in the universe are easily dispatched. (I'm probably wrong but that is probably why Hickman never wrote the X-Men, or featured them more prominently in his prior Marvel work.

Frédéric says

"Everything dies"

That was the title of vol.1 so I believe we should have gotten it by now. But after yet another batch of multiverse blah-blah-blah-destruction-blah-blah-blah-whatchawegonnado-blah-blah-blah it's me who dies. Of boredom.

The last 2 issues should lead to some closure but I thought them poorly conceived and they remained cryptic to me for the most part. I reckon I wasn't interested enough to try and make something out of it anymore. The same applies to Reed's techno-babble.

Doc Strange is up to something and that's probably the most interesting part of the book.

Simone Bianchi does some good issues but his baroque style kind of wears off after a while. He is a best suited as a cover artist imo.

Rags Morales does 2 unimpressive issues that didn't help raise my interest.

Another volume and I can finally call it quits.

Travis Duke says

3.5 stars, Pretty solid writing from Hickman. I'll admit this incursion stuff can be boring and tedious especially when you know the outcome. But I have to hand it to Hickman on this volume, well done. We get to see Dr. Strange barter his soul, we see the Avengers build the bridge, and see Namor and T'Challa share a drink. The Great Society was a really fun addition, plus it gives insight into the inevitability of the incursions. Hickman can be cumbersome at times but it's a nice volume. The art is o.k. Some panels good some sloppy.

Jason says

I got really sick of this series and had to put it aside for a while. But coming back to it with more "fresh" eyes, I thought this storyline was pretty good. Hickman's Avengers might be better in smaller doses. In any case, I've felt that, in general, New Avengers is the better of his two Avengers titles. The stories are more self contained, while also still tied to Hickman's crazy ambitious larger narrative. I'm both intrigued by where he's going with this and tired of his crap at the same time.

Mike says

[image error]

Anne says

[Oddly enough, they all sort of resemble warped v

Gavin says

Ok, so this is about 3.5 stars for me...it's kind of repetitive for the first half, because apparently the audience cannot grasp that the variables might change, but the outcome is the same, unless we see different Earth lineups of various Illuminati doing it. The art is OK, it works better in the Dr. Strange stuff than the rest...the Rags Morales stuff in the second half I prefer, it's got fewer loose lines and more realism to it.

What I loved, is that the gang is getting info from Black Swan and pretty much having to guess what she means, everyone eventually figured out what she means...except for Tony Stark...he gets quite pissy about it, and I love that Reed, T'Challa, Beast all get it before he does like it is super obvious. It was a needed touch of humour, or we risk running into DC grit no joke territory...

Dr. Strange embarks to another plane of existence or something...to literally sell his soul...

Black Bolt kinda just stands there...as we know, but his brother Maximus seems like a sharp dude...however...didn't he release the Terragen Mists into Earth? Shouldn't he be like a super villain or something?? Or am I totally wrong....even he gets to talk down to Iron Stark.

We see that through observing, there is the same outcome, except one world, which is run by some heroes who are a cross between the Authority and the Justice Society/League. There's a Sun God (Superman/Apollo), the dark knight (guy actually wears a helmet a la jousty days of ole) as the Midnighter/other Dark Knight fellow...Batsomethingerothor? A speedster, who is Flash/Atomica from Crime Syndicate, a Green Alien who is Martian Manhunter, and a dude who's a sorcerer and has Dr. Fate's helmet...

I'm entirely unsure if this is intentionally a nod to these various characters, a knock, or Hickman just actually came up with them...

Anyhow, these guys seem to have done the impossible and fought off/survived the Incursion...may be the key for our Earth...

Oh, and Namor finally shows up, having pretty much said just gimme a shout when it's time to smash shit up, I'm sick of the brainy think-a-thon. Which I also love. He's nonchalant about it, figuring que sera sera....he and Panther then have an enlightening discussion which reveals Namor the philosopher...

All in all I enjoyed it a lot, but feel like we didn't move very far forward with the narrative. Sure there's some more revealed about Black Swan, so we know she's something to be unsure of, but still...the last page left a great image for us, and Morales' art is superb. Makes me jazzed to read it.

Jeff says

The countdown to the destruction of the multiverse continues!

And, yeah, it's a buzzkill.

The *New Avengers* are back.

There are so many different Avengers, Jeff – Mighty, Great Lakes, Uncanny, Astonishing, Lego. Who are these guys?

They're supposedly the best and brightest (read: smartypants) heroes of the Marvel Universe. It would be as if your high school Latin club suddenly got super powers, but instead of clobbering stuff they sat around and brooded.

Abusus non tollit usum.

So Reed Richards now has invented a peep show machine that lets the eggheads peer into other versions of Earth (because Earth is the nexus for destruction everywhere) to see how other heroes are coping. If you've read the previous volumes, this volume rings of déjà vu apocalypse-porn – more Earths, with different heroes in charge, get brutally destroyed.

What's going on with Dr. Stephen ~~Cumberbatch~~ Strange?

He's MIA, in search for the ultimate power trip. Is the price of great power your soul? Heh, one can only hope so.

Who's the weird hot albino alien chick who talks with reverse negative dialogue balloons?

That's Black Swan. She was captured at one of the smash-ups. Her role is unclear, but she brought hors d'oeuvres for the end-of-the-world party. Pass the mini-hot dogs pastries my way.

I've never had Atlantean wine. What does it taste like?

It's fermented from rotted whale carcasses and it has a bouquet that reminds one of sea weed that's been lying on the beach for weeks, with a hint of eel and should be served at room temperature.

Bottom line: Hickman's epic storyline veers in quality from volume to volume and can be an obtuse read at times, but if you are interested, you really need to read these things in order and not jump around like I have.

Peek-a-boo!

Anchorpete says

My good friend said the other day that he was far more interested in the build up to Secret Wars than the actual event. After reading this trade, I think I am going to have to agree with him. New Avengers is a pretty grim book, which features characters that are not usually "Dark" types- Mr. Fantastic, Beast, Iron Man, Doctor Strange. The Illuminati are faced with a pretty nihilistic scenario. In this trade, they spend their time literally watching the Earth die over and over again on their newly made cosmic tv.

We see versions of the Illuminati from other Earths trying to prevent the apocalypse by fighting off some of the nastiest enemies the Multiverse has to offer. This book is not for someone who has just seen Age of Ultron and wants to see what the Avengers are up to in the comics. This is as dense a super hero comic book as it can get, and like I said, bleak as can be. It is still a ton of fun.

Francisca says

i didn't decide reading New Avengers, Volume 1: Everything Dies and then skipping the second volume, moving immediately to the third one. the editorial that sells these editions in my country made my decision for me and i, being an innocent creature of the world, assumed it wouldn't really matter.

silly, silly me.

it does feel a bit unfair to rate this volume considering i didn't understand what was going on. but i'm feeling a bit grumpy for it so i'll do it anyway. i don't know what was happening here or why out of the sudden there were some battery babies, the human embodiment of the universe, bombs in australia, fighting rocks, and what felt like the first act from the latest *godzilla* film. so, yeah, grumpy.
