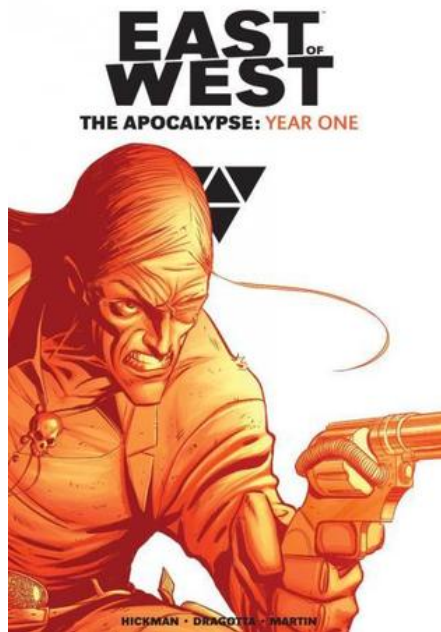




East of West: The Apocalypse, Year One

Jonathan Hickman (Writer) , Nick Dragotta (Artist) , Frank Martin (Colourist) , Rus Wooton (Letterer)

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The over-sized prestige collection of the First Year of the Apocalypse.

Collecting: *East of West* 1-15

East of West: The Apocalypse, Year One Details

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Author : Jonathan Hickman (Writer) , Nick Dragotta (Artist) , Frank Martin (Colourist) , Rus Wooton (Letterer)

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From Reader Review East of West: The Apocalypse, Year One for online ebook

Javier Muñoz says

Muy buen comic, con ideas diferentes, personajes memorables y un mundo muy original que dan muchas ganas de seguir explorando.

Quiero hablar en primer lugar de esta edición que es una delicia.... 15 episodios completos en buen papel satinado. como extra tenemos parte del especial "east of west: the world" (es la única pega que le veo, que en el especial original había una pequeña historia, intrascendente argumentalmente, que en este volumen no está) que nos explica al detalle las diferentes facciones y la cronología histórica del mundo creado por hickman. además incluye diseños de portadas, ilustraciones de dragotta y el script completo del primer episodio.

ahora al lio porque hay mucha tela que cortar, east of west es una especie de ucronia fantastica pasada de vueltas que cuenta una historia alternativa en la que la guerra de secesión americana se alarga durante más de 20 años al tiempo que aparecen dos profetas (uno confederado y otro indio), tras un gran desastre que se explica como la caída de un meteorito se llega a un acuerdo entre las diferentes facciones que termina con la división de norte américa en 7 naciones, mientras que los dos profetas antes mencionados redactan cada uno por su lado sus profecias que junto con una tercera parte creada años después componen "el mensaje" un texto religioso que nadie sabe descifrar pero que tiene algo que ver con el fin del mundo (no digo ningún spoiler porque todo esto se explica en las 10 primeras paginas).

y así, unos 150 años después de los primeros sucesos diferentes a lo que ocurrió en nuestro mundo, nos plantamos en una ambientación irreconocible con unas naciones ya establecidas: el reino de los antiguos esclavos en nueva orleans, la unión en washington, los confederados en savannah, la nación india (ultra avanzados tecnológicamente) en dakota, la república de texas, armisticio (donde se custodia el mensaje) y la PRA (people's republic of américa) formada por exiliados chinos en california.

a esto le añadimos los jinetes del apocalipsis, entre ellos la muerte que tiene un hijo con la lider de una de las naciones, ciborgs, cowboys sobre caballos mecánicos, enjendros demoniacos que parecen sacados de la mente de lovecraft, elegidos indignos, brujos indios y androides tambien indios, política, religión, misticismo, guerra entre las naciones y sobretodo, un plan para llegar al fin del mundo y tenemos east of west... como digo algo diferente y original, y muy bien hecho.

El dibujo a cargo de Nick dragotta me parece espectacular, utiliza muy bien los colores para definir la personalidad de los personajes (hay personajes que son blancos, rojos, azules, amarillos, negros... sin tener nada que ver con la raza sino que parece como un reflejo del alma) así como la sensación que quiere transmitir con determinados ambientes; emplea viñetas muy grandes que dejan ver las ilustraciones en todo su esplendor, no se esmera demasiado con los fondos pero a cambio crea paisajes espectaculares cuando hace falta... me llama la atención que cuando tiene que dibujar flashbacks, sueños, recuerdos... le da a su dibujo una calidad especial, como menos nítida, más nebulosa, que se advierte y se reconoce enseguida, otros dibujantes se limitan a encuadrar la viñeta en forma de nube y andando.

En resumen, East of West me parece una obra muy original, muy cuidada por sus autores y con ediciones como esta es una delicia disfrutarla, estoy deseando seguir la historia, aunque toca aguantar hasta que salga el próximo tomo recopilatorio... ya van por el número 27, así que me tendré que esperar al menos hasta el verano... no se si podré.

Relstuart says

Eclectic post modern ethic riven alternate history future. ;)

I've really enjoyed Hickman's Marvel writing. Secret Warriors, Shield, New Avengers, and his Fantastic Four has all been well done. His plotting has depth many comic book writers struggle to create and maintain and his characterizations of Marvel heroes and villains has been pretty fair to the core of who the characters are.

Here Hickman can spread his wings and write whatever and however he wants. He chooses a world on its way to Armageddon. It's a future earth but one with a very different past than ours. North America is split into 7 factions and Hickman weaves their entry into a war, along with the behind the scenes manipulations of a cult with some real magic, very violent three of the four horsemen of the Apocalypse reborn in the bodies of children, and Death in Human adult male form as his main characters. It's a large cast of characters but Hickman handles giving them enough time and attention while moving the story along with aplomb.

The art work has an Manga flair to it but works well. There are some very excellent layout sections I had to pause to admire.

It's a dark cruel world and oddly enough, after 15 issues I'm still not 100% sure I love it. But I'm intrigued enough to stick with it. If internet rumor is to be believed, this is the first of three hardcovers. Now for the long wait for the next volume....

11811 (Eleven) says

Depicting the four horsemen of the apocalypse as comic book villains is an awesome idea but it didn't pan out. I lost interest halfway through.

Travis says

All I can say is that I enjoyed this a whole hell of a lot!! The story is a different take on the Four Horsemen and the Apocalypse and what the world would be like if they actually roamed the earth! The plot of the story starts off with a bang and continue full speed ahead. I don't think the plot ever really slowed down except maybe to give a little incite to characters backgrounds and how they got where they are currently!! Jonathan Hickman story is awesome but Nick Dragotta's art is spectacular and is made even more wonderful with the help of colorist Frank Martin!! I cannot wait to continue on with this series in the future! Also I highly highly recommend the deluxe edition because it is so worth it and to see all the extras in the back like rough sketches, story panels, and author notes is worth every penny!!!!

Richard Guion says

This is an amazing graphic novel, full of imagination and great storytelling. They've created an alternate

history for the United States where it is split into 7 nations. The Confederacy has a block, so does the Union, but there is also an Endless Tribe nation and Mao conquered San Francisco! It's a blend of sci-fi and Western mythos where Death, ironically, comes back to "life" to get revenge on those who wronged him. The artwork is fantastic and has to be seen on a physical page. I started reading the first couple of issues digitally and then heard about this 15 issue oversized collection - it was entirely worth waiting to read the story in this format! Lots of extras too, scripts and designs of the characters, timelines, maps, etc. Now the only problem is probably waiting another year or so for volume 2.

Paul says

Wow, just wow! My first proper read of Hickman's work and it's just fantastic. It took me a bit to figure out what was happening, but the narrative is really engaging. He clearly understands character development. The art is great, albeit not my favourite, but perfect for the story. I've already bought Year Two, looking forward to seeing the next story arc.

Cheese says

A beautiful book and fantastic artwork. So crisp and colourful with tidy outlines and bold colours.

The story gets going at the end. As with most Hickman stories, I'm intrigued. I'd like to see where this goes.

Jacob says

This book is like having sex the first time. It's fast, it's messy and in the throes of bodies smashed and thrust together you're bound to miss some things. But at the end you're left confused, perplexed, but unabashedly certain that whatever transpired in those brief explosive moments was worth holding onto, worth pursuing again and again and again.

It teases you, tosses you bones while staring you in the eyes, smugly certain that even with these simple scraps you have been made a slave. It's the end of the world. A pesky, messy business drowning in imagination. Every panel, every utterance, no matter how imperfect, reflects something brilliant, something hindered only by the limits of the medium in which it expresses itself. It's a tempest of blood, love, and loss that sticks between your teeth.

East of West. North of West. It doesn't matter. It's as topical and true as it is surreal.

"This is the world. It is not the one we were supposed to have, but it's the one we made. We did this. We did it with open eyes and willing hands. We broke it, and there is no putting it back together."

Amen.

Chad says

This was a reread. Discovered this beautiful omnibus edition hardcover at the library.

An alternate version of the world where the Union lost the Civil War and three of the four horseman are trying to bring about the apocalypse. Death has been locked away for 10 years and is now looking for revenge and his son. The Chosen meanwhile are high up in each of the respective North American governments and are working covertly with the other 3 horsemen to end the world. Hickman's world-building skills are second to none.

The Good: Boy, Nick Dragotta proved me wrong with this book. I've never cared for his art before, but he's really grown. The art and coloring are brilliant. This may be Hickman's best work, it's right up there with his run on Fantastic Four.

The Bad: There's a lot of cast to juggle here. But somehow Hickman makes it work. I guess I'm enthralled enough that I can remember everyone.

The Ugly: The World one shot at the end of the book actually gives away plot points that haven't happened yet in the story up to this point. It's just background data on each of the nations, I would suggest skipping it.

Blindzider says

I'm middle of the road on this one.

First of all, there's a little bit of detachment between me and the characters with the exception of Death. I can relate a little to a man wanting to find his son. Everyone else just doesn't seem that *human* so it's a little hard for me to really be vested in it.

I was also a little lost when it comes to the overall state of the country in this setting. In this Hardcover there is some bonus material that helps explain some of it (with some spoilers). I kind of wish I had read that first.

The art isn't bad. I kind of like it and it fits. The book definitely has a different feel for it. It'll be awhile before the next hardcover so that will give me time to think about this one and maybe read it again.

Tomás says

Facilmente podría haberle puesto 5 estrellitas, ya que el universo que crea Hickman es excelente y se nota un desborde tremendo de imaginación. Este comic mezcla política, ciencia ficción, tiros de acá para allá, western y un sinfin de conspiraciones entre los personajes. El inconveniente es que durante los primeros números, como lector, me sentí un poco confundido. Se nos ubica en este mundo tan particular sin demasiadas explicaciones, solo un par de líneas a modo de explicación y empiezan a aparecer personajes a rolete (los jinetes del apocalipsis, los Chosen, las facciones políticas de cada una de las naciones construídas, etc). Por otro lado la inclusión de esas palabras llamadas The Message, por momentos resulta tortuosa aunque a medida que van pasando los capítulos se va entendiendo más acerca de estos "mensajes" proféticos.

Esto es ciencia ficción de la buena. No es una lectura ligera, hay mucha idea metida, de acá para allá. No digo que sea una obra impenetrable, claro, pero se va tomando su tiempo.

El dibujo acompaña bastante bien, aunque yo hubiera elegido a otro dibujante. Por momentos los diseños de

los personajes me resultan algo "feos" (?) y por momentos resultan satisfactorios, sobre todo en las escenas de acción.

En fin, muy recomendable. Pero a prepararse porque es un trabajo denso y con varios temas a rescatar y política a flor de piel que pide análisis tras análisis.

Este tomote reúne los primeros 15 números de la serie regular. A esperar el siguiente con ganas.

Andy Hickman says

“EAST OF WEST. Volume1 – THE PROMISE” by Jonathan Hickman

Post-apocalyptic, pseudo-biblical, sci-fi, horror, oriental-western.

Gory macabre tale about an apocryphal message prophesying the reincarnated Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse and the dynasties and political powers contriving to end the world!

Completely original concept and story-line. Unique characters... with DEATH portrayed as a pale white gunslinger on a mechanical-alien headless-canon horse.

East of West #1: Out of the Wasteland

“I’m afraid THEIR KIND get no service here.”

“The Wolf doesn’t drink. He’s of a particular sort. And the Crow ... she would never drink HERE. So the whiskey ...is all for me.

Now POUR.”

East of West #2: Above All, Few Are Chosen

“See, there are men who feign boldness – call them GAMBLERS. And then there are men who are truly bold – we call them VALIANT.

Well, I am neither. I understand only one thing, I speak only one language, and that, son, is LEVERAGE.”

East of West #3: The House of Mao

“You come face to face with love, and before the sun sets, you’ve become someone you didn’t used to be.

It makes the old new. Makes dead things live.

Love makes you into something better.”

“The Great Wall is comin’ down ... and my JUDGMENT will follow shortly.”

East of West #4: Last Deals of Dead Men

“There are so many of them.”

“I see nothin’ but air .. and dead men soon not needin’ to breathe it.”

East of West #5: The Message

(Instructor):

“Please list the following items in order of societal preference and your reason:..”

(Responder):

“Limited meritocracy,

oligarchy,

functional individual autonomy, and

liberal democracy.

... I have been taught that what mankind truly desires is conflict,
then to be ruled,
then opportunity, and, if those fail,
freedom.”

- - -

“EAST OF WEST. Volume2 – WE ARE ALL ONE” by Jonathan Hickman

I did not expect this series to be so captivating. Yep, it's ghastly. But it's so unique and original. Several narrative arcs are coming into their own trajectory that imply an ultimate convergence.

Politics, economics, power, law, religion, magic, tribal identity all imbue this characterization of mythical world-views regarding life, death, famine, conquest and the preeminence of gods.

East of West #6: To Do Justly, and to Love Mercy

“One of our number has chosen to betray us.”

“Ah, pardon me, but ... a couple of points of order.

One, bullshit. .. as in, I'm afraid that's what this is ... and two, is there any actual evidence for this alleged betrayal?”

(answer given)

“Well ... sounds like bullshit to me..”

ALL LIES DIE IN THE DESERT.

The only thing more corrupt than a politician was a judge. ... Both had long lost their souls. Both were totally corrupt. And both were always for sale. The judges were just cheaper.

“If you have no MERCY for me, judge, then I ask for JUSTICE.” BLAM!

There came a reckoning. Following that day, there were no more judges, there were no more juries .. There were just lawmen, and to a person, they were Rangers.

God save the republic.

God help the lawless.

God damn the guilty.

East of West #7: The Pilgrimage

Are you an agent of the End Times?

East of West #8: The Street is Burning

The protesting crowd chant, “Where is our Truth? Where is our Justice?”

Middle fingers raised, “We want Truth”

East of West #9: A Kingdom of Riches

What FAIRNESS is this?

BLINDNESS in a world full of people refusing to use THEIR EYES?

“That's right. Debt is chains, son. Chains.”

East of West #10: A Sea of Bones

“Black is not a color, it is the absence of light. All color is terminal – spectral refugees from the ebony abyss. Black ... endures.”

- -

“EAST OF WEST. Volume3 – THERE IS NO US” by Jonathan Hickman

East of West #11: The Wall Beckons

Peace is but a prelude to War.

Revenge is for the Righteous.

East of West #12: Worship God: War

“They cast us out, Mister Solomon ... for seeing the world as it is. Their machines – their damned machines – providing nothing but binary fictions ... as each day their own eyes lie to them...”

East of West #13: Dead Lands Comin'

“See, in all my years of bein' a lawman, I've come to accept certain FACTS regardin' the criminal mind...

Associations, for example – you lay down with dogs.. THIS is the kinda' shit that rains down on you.”

East of West #14: A World Full of Angry Children

“Father always insisted we build our own weapons for two reasons:

That our enemies not know our weakness, and that they also not know our strength.”

East of West #15: Awake Babylon

“What is a name but a vey specific label?”

- - -

Jacob Van Houten says

Out of all my years of reading comics(9 years), East of West is the best comic ever. The artwork is amazing. The story grabs you right from the start and keeps you engaged throughout the whole story. If you haven't read this book you are missing out!

Aildiin says

Love the story, love the art.

This is a re-read as I buy the single issues but they are so good I wanted the deluxe edition too.

Saugata Mukherjee says

A terrific book. Great characters with engaging-thrilling story line. The art is the real showstopper here though. It is so clean and so pretty. The coloring is beautiful. The action scenes are so well done, it feels like we are watching a movie. What else do you want? I can not be any more eager for the second volume. Bring it on!