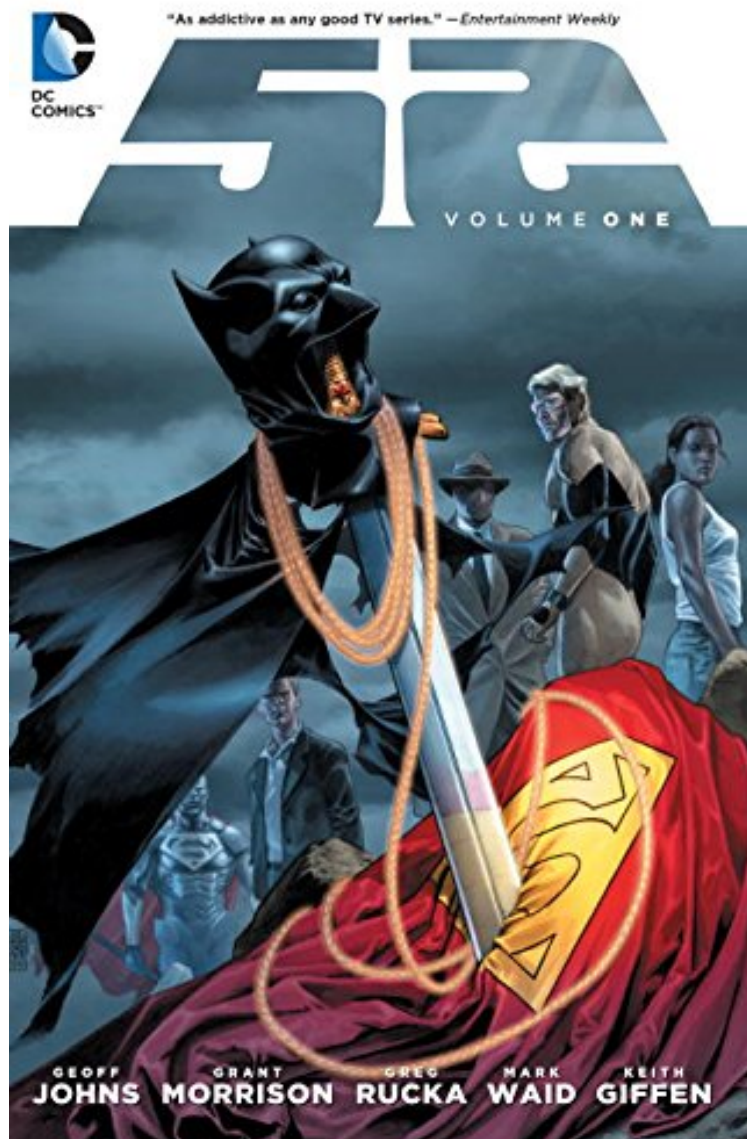


52 Volume 1

Grant Morrison, Geoff Johns, Greg Rucka
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#138792 in Books Geoff Johns Grant Morrison Greg Rucka 2016-06-21 2016-06-21 Original
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Grant Morrison, Geoff Johns, Greg Rucka : 52 Volume 1 before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised 52 Volume 1:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. One Half of the Groundbreaking Event Comic from a Creative Team of DC All-Stars By clairetoldmetochangemyscreenname One of the most impressive feats in DC's publication history! Following the events of Infinite Crisis (which you'll want to have read to fully grasp the lead in to this story), DC's

Trinity (Batman, Wonder Woman, Superman) take a year off to recenter themselves and learn how to trust one another again after the rifts that formed during the Crisis. In the wake of their year off, a roster of B-List heroes are forced to step up to protect the DC world until the lead heroes return. 52 was a weekly series (one issue for each week of the year) written by an all-star creative team including Grant Morrison, Greg Rucka, Geoff Johns, and others. Essentially the best writers for the company came up with this well-plotted, amazingly executed story; rereading the book I was struck just how carefully the team planted the numerous seeds that slowly come to fruition throughout this tale. This first volume contains the first half of the series (issues 1 through 26). Keep in mind that 52 is also sold as a single massive omnibus that collects every issue, as well as a group of four trades that break the story into fourths. Buying these two big halves is a lot more cost effective than the single omnibus. The story of 52 features numerous characters exploring their own separate plot lines until they slowly begin to start crossing over with one another. Booster Gold attempts to become the new number one hero in Metropolis with Superman gone, only for his limelight to be stolen by a newcomer hero named Supernova. Lex Luthor sets out to clear his name after the revelation of his doppelganger Alexander Luthor being the mastermind behind the Crisis; Lex attempts to develop a new gene therapy that will give any normal human superpowers and uses Steel's niece as his first test subject. Adam Strange, Animal Man, and Starfire are stranded in space after the events of the Crisis and the Rann-Thanagar War and have to use their wits and a little help from unexpected allies like Lobo to return to Earth. The former Elongated Man Ralph Dibny begins an investigation into a cult that springs up around Superboy after his sacrifice during the Crisis. Black Adam, enraged that he was duped by Alexander Luthor during the Crisis, returns to his home country and begins a plan to instill a new brutal form of justice on super-powered criminals. Finally, Renee Montoya is approached by Vic Sage, the Question, about joining his investigation into Intergang and their plans to take over Gotham. All in all these disparate characters and plots form one of the best events DC has ever published. An absolute must have for fans.

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Comic Book Newbie says: 52, 52, 52, 52, 52, 52, 52, 52, 52, 52, 52, 52, 52...By J. F. Manning

As I write this review, it is late June of 2017, which means that the original single issue, weekly run of 52 was published just over a decade ago (in 2006). The usefulness of writing a review for a comic book series that was originally published over ten years ago may be questionable; however, if you are new to superhero comic books, as I am (really at this point, *was*), this might help clear up a few things for you. In 2007, DC published the first trade paperback volume of the 52 series, coincidentally titled *52 Volume 1* (collects issues 1-13). It is the first book of four that collects all 52 issues of *52*. That book is out of print; however, there are 100+ reviews for that item listing, so if you are looking for more reviews/opinions on *52*, you may want to take a look at that product page. 52, Vol. 1... The 2016 edition, confusingly also titled *52 Volume 1*, collects issues 1-26. It is the first of a two book series, with *52 Volume 2* collecting issues 27-52. When I reflect back on my clueless self from six plus months ago, it's weird to consider how mystified I was with what is *52* (and why, for example, this 52 has nothing to do with the New 52--other than being a symbolic/mystical numerical designation that has become integrated with the DC Universe). Despite being an avid reader all my life, I never read comic books as a child (going back to the late 70s early 80s). It is only due to my enjoyment of all the recent Marvel and DC movies that I became interested in learning more about the origins of the superhero (and super villain) characters being introduced in the movies. Most notably, it was specifically Wonder Woman's introduction in the 2016 *Batman vs Superman* movie that initially sent me on this comic book journey down the rabbit hole. The BvS movie hints at WW's secret origin, and at that moment I became hooked--no, more accurately, *infatuated*--with learning everything I could about the original comic book based Wonder Woman character. I mention this experience because I have since learned that the DCU rabbit hole has no end. This is especially relevant as it involves the Amazing Princess, who unknown to me at the time of watching *Batman v Superman*, has a historic (and unprecedented for a female superhero character) 75 year continual run (at the time of writing this review). Subsequently, it was very early on in my rabbit hole journey that I came across the *Infinite Crisis* collected volume, which prominently features Wonder Woman on the cover--along side Batman and Superman, a threesome that I soon learned comprises the sacred Trinity of DC Universe superheroes... Ignoring the reviews from more experienced readers that discouraged using *Infinite Crisis* as a jumping off point for delving into comic books, I conveniently checked out a copy at my local public library and read it. I was bewildered, befuddled and bedazzled by the seeming infinitude of superhero (and super villain) characters being introduced in *Infinite Crisis*. Uncle Sam?!? The Freedom Fighters?!? *WTF?!?* Okay--so now I understand the warnings. However, I'm still glad I started there because the experience of reading *Infinite Crisis* essentially served as a crash course in what comprises the broader DCU--a place that I had no comprehension, whatsoever, of the sheer magnitude. At this point you might be wondering why I keep mentioning Wonder Woman and *Infinite Crisis* instead of *52*? Good question. As you've probably already figured out, this review isn't about the story presented in *52*. It is about 52's existence as an entity--its critical place within what constitutes the expansive overall continuity of the DCU. On a technical level, *52* is the missing year (told in real time over 52 weeks) after the historic crossover events of the *Countdown to* and *Infinite Crisis* series take place. Countdown to, Infinite Crisis and 52 are subsequently followed by the One Year Later reboot. All of these mid-2000s crossover/reboot events considered together in a single continuum is quite possibly the pinnacle of artistic achievement in the superhero comic book universe. You can find naysayers who may downplay or

otherwise criticize aspects of the overall Crisis events, but for the most part this period is universally perceived as a genuine, bona fide comic book sweet spot. If none of this makes sense to you, but you are nonetheless contemplating reading *52*, my main point is to advise you that *52* is an integral part of a much larger whole that encompasses Countdown to Infinite Crisis, Infinite Crisis, all the Infinite Crisis companions and spin-offs, 52, all of the 52 companions and spin-offs, and all of the subsequent post-Infinite Crisis One Year Later reboots. Obviously you don't have to read everything--but you might find yourself wanting to. If you are particular about reading things in order, you should definitely investigate Countdown to and *Infinite Crisis* PRIOR to reading *52*. However, that said, my honest opinion is that unless you absolutely positively can't stand reading something out of order, you can pretty much jump in anywhere and start your own rabbit hole journey from there. That said, is it feasible to start out with *52 Volume One*? Sure, why heck not? Undoubtedly, anywhere you come into Countdown to.../Infinite Crisis/52/One Year Later, you are going to end up with more questions than answers, and inevitably, that is what will push you to keep on reading. At least, this has been my personal experience. Good luck on your own comic book journey, and bon voyage!

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Very good. The story follows a few different perspectives following ...By Whoopiegoldbergis2chainz Very good. The story follows a few different perspectives following the events of infinite crisis. This book collects the first 26 issues of the 52 event which is a good deal. This book features an all star cast of writers and artists and is a must have for any dc fan

Four of the most critically acclaimed writers in comics--Geoff Johns, Grant Morrison, Greg Rucka and Mark Waid--are joined by breakdown artist Keith Giffen and a host of the industry's finest pencillers and inkers to create this unprecedented event in comics history. DC's groundbreaking publication of the weekly comic 52 tells the story of a missing year in the DC Universe--in real time. The cataclysmic events of INFINITE CRISIS have left the world without its three biggest icons Superman, Batman and Wonder Woman--and the question is asked: who will stand up in their absence? Now, in the first of two volumes, 52 is collected with bonus material after each chapter, including concept designs, page breakdowns, scripts, alternate story elements, and more! Collects 52 #1-26.

Ambitious. as addictive as any good TV series, any good mystery-novel series, any good comic-book series. ENTERTAINMENT WEEKLY An intriguing set of interlocking stories that look to take full advantage of the DC Universe's depth, teaming characters in unexpected arrangements and playing off the emotional aftershocks of Infinite Crisis. A.V. CLUB/THE ONION 52 encompasses space opera, hard-boiled detective fiction, psychological suspense, light comedy, Grand Guignol violence, medical drama and straight-up good-guys-vs.-bad-guys action, all butting up against one another. SALON Four of comics' brightest writers seamlessly combine their characterization and conceptualization strengths to construct the gripping real time narrative. WASHINGTON POST [A] grand experiment. . . .fun. VARIETY.COM About the Author Geoff Johns is Chief Creative Officer of DC Entertainment. He has written highly acclaimed stories starring Superman, Green Lantern, The Flash, Teen Titans and The Justice Society of America. He is the author of the New York Times bestselling graphic novels JUSTICE LEAGUE VOL. 1: ORIGIN, GREEN LANTERN: RAGE OF THE RED LANTERNS, GREEN LANTERN: SINESTRO CORPS WAR, JUSTICE SOCIETY OF AMERICA: THY KINGDOM COME and SUPERMAN: BRAINIAC, and is the author of DC Comics' biggest, most recent events, BLACKEST NIGHT and BRIGHTEST DAY. Johns has also written episodes of the TV series Arrow, Smallville and Robot Chicken. Writer Grant Morrison is known for his innovative work on comics from the graphic novel ARKHAM ASYLUM to acclaimed runs on ANIMAL MAN and DOOM PATROL, as well as his subversive creator-owned titles such as THE INVISIBLES, SEAGUY and WE3. He has also written best-selling runs on JLA, SEVEN SOLDIERS OF VICTORY and New X-Men and recently helped to reinvent the DC Universe in ALL-STAR SUPERMAN, 52 and BATMAN. He has also written JOE THE BARBARIAN, BATMAN AND ROBIN and THE RETURN OF BRUCE WAYNE.