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Jim Starlin, Mike Friedrich, Steve Englehart, Steve Gerber
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#241012 in Books Marvel 2013-03-05 2013-03-05Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 10.25 x .88 x 6.60l, 1.60 #File Name: 0785168508472 pages | File size: 44.Mb

Jim Starlin, Mike Friedrich, Steve Englehart, Steve Gerber : Avengers vs. Thanos before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Avengers vs. Thanos:

31 of 33 people found the following review helpful. Thanos: Jim Starlin's Masterpiece!By wildweasel77Thanos is probably the single most enigmatic, most emotionally conflicted, and most feared villain in the Marvel Universe (MU) who was not only able to rock the MU to its basest core, but also paint a gray hue of what is a villain and what is not. Doctor Doom comes second best, in my opinion, but in the grand scheme of things only Thanos remains.So who is

this Thanos, you might ask? He is the creation of maestro Jim Starlin in the Bronze Age of American comics (1970s). Thanos' name is derived from 'Thanatos', the Greek God of Death. But in the MU, he is the embodiment of the nihilistic Titan who worships Death. He has appeared in numerous Marvel books and graphic novels spanning almost four decades. His most important role came in 1991 when he wielded the Infinity Gauntlet and killed one-half of all living beings in the universe with but a snap of his finger that led to his waging a cosmic war against the MU's Celestial Forces. After that debacle, his infamy grew into legend. And while precious few writers plainly understood what goes on in this character's mind and made him an intelligent and cunning force to be reckoned with, others portrayed him as a hulking travesty. Alas, as time went by his popularity dimmed and dwindled until Joss Whedon decided to give the devil his due. Thanos's 3 second silver screen cameo debut as an epilogue to the Marvel's The Avengers movie (2012) resurrected fans' interest to this one-of-a-kind villain. In the hands of Starlin Thanos becomes the Omega to the Marvel Heroes' Alpha. This is by far the best collection of classic Thanos reprint issues (of the 70's) any Marvel fan would want to own! Aside from Jim Starlin, Steve Englehart, Mike Friedrich, Steve Gerber, et al. contribute their fair share of storytelling talents in this book. And though it seems there is no linear narrative to the story as some of the individual comics in this collection were not written in sequential form, the story remains straightforward, cohesive, and enjoyable thanks in big part to the 'introductory texts' written between chapters that bridge the gap. So sit back, relax, and witness the Mad Titan as he musters his alien armada to wreak havoc across the universe; schemes to defeat fellow villain the Magus; and opposes the might of Iron Man, Captain Marvel (Mar-Vell of Kree), Adam Warlock, and the Avengers in his quest to obtain the Cosmic Cube and the Soul Gem for universal domination, become a Mad God, and, most of all, be noticed (in vain) by his one, true paramour: Mistress Death. Thanos is here. Let the Heavens tremble.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Fun Collection for Thanos Fans on His Origins By clairetoldmetochangemyscreenname While not all of the comics here included have aged that well, this is still a fun volume for fans and collectors that want to see the origins of the main Marvel baddie Thanos. This volume mostly focused on the major Captain Marvel led arc wherein Thanos gains the Cosmic Cube. It also includes the arc where Thanos and Warlock battle the latter's evil twin the Magus only for Thanos to gain the Soul Gem. While these stories aren't necessary to understand the main event (Infinity Gauntlet) they are still fun in their own right. Just what the hell was going on with Magus' white afro though?

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Marvel's brightest Days = at the Epicenter of the Comic-Book Galaxy!!! by Starlin, in the 1970's!! By Book Music thief, from HIFantastic Four issues 48 thru 50 might have actually initiated Marvel's Great/Epic 'Cosmic Awareness' phase (and literal 'Childhood's End' - to borrow Arthur C. Clarke's magnificent title!) = with the coming of Galactus and the Silver Surfer, which began appealing to True SciFi fans = but in the decade of the 1970's, Jim Starlin built a light-speed escalator to the celestial Stars themselves, with this infinitely creative work (as both Artist Writer) of most of the incredible stories visuals contained within! Ensuring that 'comics' were no Longer just for kids - with more complex, thought-provoking glimpses into alternate 'realities' of Time Space! And inadvertently laying the groundwork for 'Graphic Novels' and other story-telling innovations, soon to come! For starters he created 'Thanos' (based on Greek god of Death, Thanatos). Thanos was unusual in that he was in no way motivated by the typical 'bad guy' ethos, or modus operandi (i.e. neither wanting World domination, nor billions billions in spare change, nor simple revenge) - Thanos had much Loftier goals = (1) Ultimate Peace/Tranquility (unfortunately thru Universal death/oblivion) and (2) Winning the Love and adoration from the ultimate Object of his affection, Lady Death herself (a feminine version of the 'Grim Reaper' - very beautifully drawn by Starlin - when not depicted as a simple lifeless skull)! This collection has something like 20 comics worth of Top notch content, at nearly 500 pages! Beginning with the watershed Iron Man issue 55 (introducing Thanos) - and proceeding onto full-fledged, all-out 'cosmic' adventure with 'Captain Marvel' and Avengers runs, and concluding in gigantic Epic Scale, within the pages of 'Warlock' and 'Avengers Annual' = concluding in 1977, just when I had become a Marvel enthusiast! I really can't give enough praise to the intense creativity/imagination expressed by Jim Starlin, these stories contain some heavy-duty SciFi and even metaphysical concepts - questioning the very nature of 'reality' existence, parallel Universes, altered future histories, evil clones, etc. I'm sure a lot of these ideas went way over the heads of conventional 10 year olds (myself included, at the Time). But, there was no denying that Starlin had pulled-out all the stops, and taken comics all the way thru/ breaking across new, sophisticated (and much more mature) Dimensions = the complex, probing stories were matched by his equally impressive, almost abstract Art! And, all metaphysical contemplation aside - for the pure action/adventure fan, there are battles aplenty to witness (and the Avengers do play a crucial role, especially during the jaw-dropping Climax!) I think the general public will learn much more about Thanos, relatively soon = since it is inevitable that a future Avengers film (perhaps #3) will prominently feature this tremendously powerful, frightfully intriguing super-being. Especially since he already had a cameo after the End credits of the first Avengers movie! I'm glad I got to enjoy some of these 'cosmic' Tales, first-hand, during the Late 70's - but for the uninitiated, this gigantic compilation (in full color) will give you a significant glimpse into the literally far-out, head-spinning Marvel Universe! note** the name 'Warlock' really belies the central essence of this infinitely intriguing Character = a completely reluctant 'hero' who was on a search to find his own unique state of Peace/salvation, and somehow got caught-up in, and was ultimately able to help thwart Thanos' Grand schemes (obviously, since our Universe is still in

existence!). In the process, Warlock actually became something like the antithesis of Thanos, transforming into the quintessential (and literal) 'Life preserver'!! Although, he really just wanted to be left alone (very much like Dr. Manhattan, of Watchmen) - and saved the Universe, almost as an after-thought!

Eternal. Nihilist. Madman. Would-be lover of Death itself. All these things is Thanos of Titan, and even before he created the Infinity Gauntlet and decimated half the universe, he was still a mighty force to be reckoned with. And here, collected in one volume for the first time, is the complete story of Thanos' first life...and first death. Witness as Thanos targets Captain Marvel and the Avengers in a bid to become a god, manipulates Adam Warlock, and finally lays siege to the Earth itself! Guest-starring Daredevil, Spider-Man, the Thing, Moondragon, Drax the Destroyer and more! By cosmic mastermind Jim Starlin! COLLECTING: Iron Man (1968) 55; Captain Marvel (1968) 25-33; Marvel Feature (1971) 12; Daredevil (1964) 105-107; Avengers (1963) 125; Warlock (1972) 9-11, 15; Avengers Annual (1967) 7; Marvel Two -In-One Annual 2; material from Logan 's Run 6