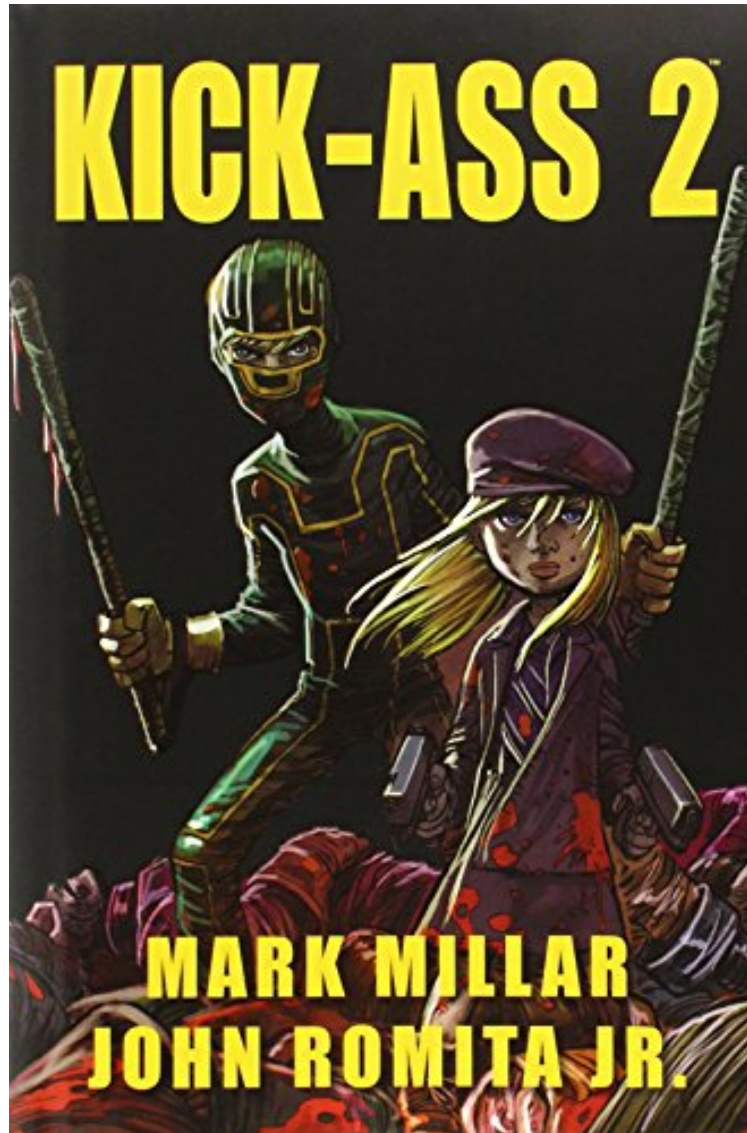


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Kick-Ass 2

Mark Millar

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Mark Millar : Kick-Ass 2 before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Kick-Ass 2:

45 of 46 people found the following review helpful. "We only get one life and I wanted mine to be exciting..."By H. BalaMy goodness, no wonder there's a movie coming out. What Mark Millar and John Romita Jr. have done here simply calls for a cinematic adaptation, and I am salivating. If you've ever wondered what it'd be like if some fool - and an untrained kinda nerdy high school fool, at that - decides to don a superhero costume and prowl the slimy streets

in search of mischief, this'll be an eye-popper. John Hughes never dreamed of something like this in his high school flicks. The central figure is comic-book-reading 16-year-old Dave Lizewski who doesn't boast that tragic a past; no radioactive insects bit him; he wasn't exposed to a magic word; and he's not an orphan from an exploded planet. To quote Dave Lizewski, his origin is he was bored. But under Mark Millar's insanity, Dave's story takes on this dark, outrageous, ultra-violent turn while still staying somewhat in the periphery of what's realistic. This trade collects the first eight issues and lets you into an urban bloodbath. Because when you put on a wet suit and start looking for trouble, odds are you're gonna end up bumping against some seriously hard motherf---ers. And when your only super powers are perseverance and some talent for soaking up punishment, you'll most likely end up hitting the floor really hard. Dave gets severely pounded his first time going up against some thugs, and then he gets bowled over ass over heel by a hurtling car. Months of recovery from his injuries, and you'd think Dave's learned his lesson. But then Dave puts on the costume again and resumes his night patrols. And then, while bracing some muggers, Dave becomes an overnight online sensation, the first real-life superhero. The Internet even gives him his superhero code name. And soon other costumed freaks are following in his footsteps, including a badass ten-year-old girl expertly wielding swords. Go throw your hands in the air for the lethal and potty-mouthed Hit-Girl. And, okay, with Hit-Girl, Millar does wander past what's believable. But she's such a cool character that we have to, have to give her a pass. Despite the Rob Liefeld intro, this trade is a jaw-dropping read, but it's horribly suited for children, nuns, and perhaps Armenians. Profanity and nudity are a healthy presence. Let me say that KICK-ASS is bloody and brutal and subversive and simply in your damn f----- face, and Millar shows you why no one's actually gotten away with putting on a costume and stomping on amoral lowlifes in real life. Artist John Romita, Jr. comes in with some of his best stuff and there's even that smidgen of that Frank Miller vibe in his art. Saying that this series is violent is to understate matters, kinda like suggesting that Big Daddy exhibits questionable parenting skills. I've already said that Mark Millar is insane, and I'm sticking to that. But the guy is also a master of his craft, and so we eat up his dish of bloody visceral bombast, and I also relish how Dave and, later, Red Mist go about on their new careers (Meanwhile, Big Daddy Hit-Girl's relationship is really too dysfunctional to be relatable). So is this an unflinching, credible look at costumed vigilantes in the real world? Probably more so than not. The dialogue, by the way, rings true, as does Dave Lizewski. And the story is funny as well. I laughed my titmice off at what happens when Dave arrives at the moment in which he feels he ought to start leaping rooftop to rooftop. Dave Lizewski is a compelling character, but I think the kid is seriously disturbed. Still doesn't keep me from saying that his alter ego absolutely friggin' rules!

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. No Hit Girl, No Gore and Liberal Leftie Trash By geertmatthys Pretty lame, much liberalist tripe inserted and barely any kick ass gore. Hit Girl doesn't even show until end and nothing happens at the boathouse showdown. Rocco Genovese goes to waste, Chris Genovese turns good is complete bs and everything is just sorta lame. Kick Ass getting a hot girlfriend is contrary to the spirit of "loser in a suit" idea we worked on. Drawings are good but lame writing Millar, really just lame.

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Great action, good humor, and as always, super violent By Bill Brasky Definitely not a comic for the kids. If you liked kick-ass (the movie or the comic) then you will love Hit-Girl. This comic has a great pace, great art by John Romita Jr. and as always a great story by Mark Millar. As you might have guessed, it follows Hit-Girl (aka Mindy McCready) in the events shortly after the first Kick-ass novel. Without giving any spoilers, it is the story of Mindy trying to live a normal life for her mother's sake. Seeing her struggle to fit in at school just like any other kid her age is great and adds to the dimensionality of this character. Don't worry though - there is still plenty of Hit-Girl kicking ass.

The concluding half of Kick-Ass 2, following Kick-Ass 2 Prelude: Hit-Girl, the sequel to the biggest creator-owned comic of the decade--the one that spawned the number one hit movie and the worldwide phenomenon! KICK-ASS is back, just as over-the-top as ever! As everybody's favorite psychotic 11-year-old HIT GIRL trains KICK-ASS to be...well, a bad-ass, RED MIST gathers a team of super-villains to take them down! It's super hero mayhem as only MARK MILLAR and JOHN ROMITA JR. can bring you!

From Booklist Bolstered by a successful movie adaptation and Millar's talent for pushing the frontiers of superhero comics with bloody irreverence, the tale of a fanboy becoming a homemade superhero has spawned a sequel. As Kick-Ass mission inspires a community of similarly custom-crafted heroes, the Red Mist returns with a hideous revenge and plans to tear down the city, which fans of this summer's Dark Knight Rises movie will find nihilistically familiar. Millar has left far behind the demented novelty of seeing an 11-year-old curse like a construction worker while dismembering mobsters and tumbled headlong into unapologetic apocalyptic carnage, as with the graphic murder of young children and the gang-rape of a teenage girl. His ear for dialogue and sharp eye for the nuances of contemporary culture as well as Romita's artistic dynamism and flawlessly clean visual style make it all burn that much more painfully. Impossible to truly recommend, but given the talent on display, readers of hard-core adult comics deserve to determine the moral implications for themselves. --Jesse Karp

About the Author Mark Millar has been one of the key writers for Marvel Comics in the 21st century. His first major contribution to Marvel was with Ultimate X-Men. Next up was The Ultimates, a new rendering of the Avengers that was to continue building on the success of the Ultimate

line. He and artist Bryan Hitch pulled it all off in spades: *The Ultimates* and its sequel, *Ultimates 2*, were ensconced at the top of the sales charts every month; what's more, they were critical successes, as well. Amid building a small library of Millarworld indie comic books -- including the titles *Chosen* and *Wanted*, the latter of which was turned into a Hollywood blockbuster starring Angelina Jolie -- he managed to write *Civil War*, the epic seven-issue miniseries that definitively reshaped the landscape of Marvel's heroes. John Romita Jr. is best known for his extensive work with Marvel Comics from the 1970s to present day.