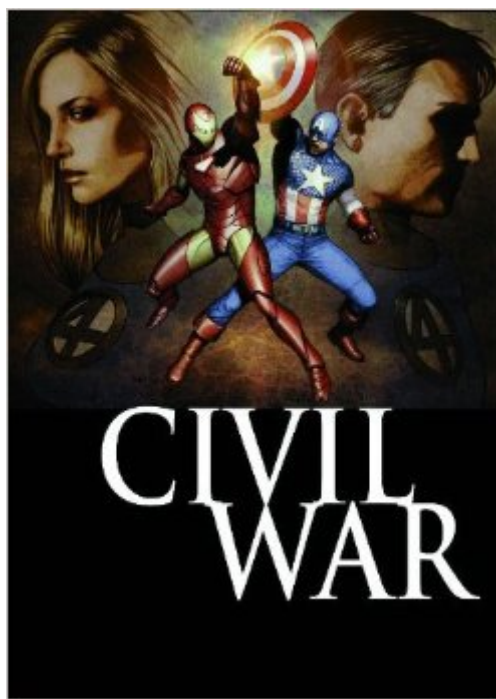


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Fantastic Four: Civil War



Synopsis

One member of the Fantastic Four lies hospitalized, a casualty of the Civil War that has fragmented the superhuman community! Another member of the team is secretly helping the opposition. It had to happen: Amid the tumult and tensions, the Fantastic Four break up! Who will toe the line, who will join the resistance, and who will leave the battlefield altogether? Is this the end for Marvel's First Family? Collects Fantastic Four #538-543.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

In retaliation for the New Warriors stupidity that lead to the deaths of hundreds of people including children. The public are violently voicing their views towards superheroes. In front of a nightclub, the Human Torch aka Johnny Storm, was beaten unconscious and sent to the hospital. While at his bedside, the internal feuding within the Fantastic Four begins. -SummaryThe Superhuman Registration Act shook the superhero community down to its foundation in which readers already learned in the main Civil War event. Not only did it divide teammates and allies, but it also brought the stress to families with damaging results, and a family it indeed effected was the Fantastic Four. This TPB also helps fill in some of the story elements that were merely brushed upon in the main story arc, but I think overall this TPB will only be valuable to fans of the Fantastic Four. Written by J. Michael Straczynski and Dwayne McDuffie, this TPB contains Fantastic Four issues 538 - 543. Those who read the main Civil War event prior to this story learned that the situation between

Sue and Reed Richards really began to boil over leading to a falling out between the two. In fact, Reed ended up becoming the only member left of the group, as Sue and Johnny defected to join Captain America's resistance. And once again, here's another crossover that focuses on the actual debate of the situation. This part is really necessary in the case of Reed, because this story expands a great deal on his reasoning for supporting the bill. While in the main story, it appeared that he merely fell into lockstep with Iron Man. JMS and the late McDuffie delivered a good drama between the feuding couple as their interaction was by far the most entertaining, at least for me it was, since as a long time fan the two always seemed capable of working through any predicament. However, this time, there's a strong play on their stance in regards to doing what's right as oppose to what's legal. The fighting and destruction left behind after each battle irritated the Thing so much he didn't care for either side, which ended with him leaving the country. The story does work out in some ways explaining that missile attack which took place in the main event. Plus there's some type of focus on certain villains here such as The Mad Thinker and Puppet Master, as they attempt to take advantage of the situation. While the story does have its good moments, and as much as I like Ben Grimm, his story and other elements didn't do a lot for me. When he leaves the country he ends up in France teaming up with one of their underground superhero groups. The story is very campy with some funny moments since it's meant to lighten up on the serious tension, the problem is that it's too campy for me. I also would have preferred some insight on Sue and Johnny's experience dealing with Cap, unfortunately it's not even mentioned here. If this story should be remembered for anything it's the adjustment to the team's status quo. Mike McKone is once again rather sharp with the pencils. I like his character designs since he draws the heroes, well, looking super with huge arms for the guys, and very well defined legs for the females. The designs look within reason with nothing too over the top; they're meant to entertain and not arouse which is the way it should be. The book is very light on the action with almost nothing standing out. I was quite disappointed with that. The dialog on the other hand, something I always look forward to in Fantastic Four books was well intact. I always love reading the Thing's broken and highly uneducated English, in combination with Reed's intelligent dialog. It's just entertaining reading the two. Overall, Civil War: Fantastic Four is a decent book yet not very necessary unless you're a diehard fan. Some people may enjoy the campiness reminiscent of older comics from back in the 60's or so, and I do admit it's a nice addition, it just didn't appeal to me. In any case, unless you really need every tie-in to Civil War this can actually be skipped, since you will learn everything you need to know in regards to the changes in the next book titled The New Fantastic Four.

Pros: Leads to interesting new direction, draws some parallels to other crossovers
Cons: Feels quite ordinary, campy feel not to my liking

As the title implies, this TPB finds Marvel's first family torn asunder in the midst of the Civil War. With Reed "Mr. Fantastic" Richards working with Tony Stark to ensure the superhero registration act is a success, the rest of the Fantastic Four is tearing at the seams. Johnny "Human Torch" Storm is beaten badly and recovering in the hospital, while Sue sees first hand the destruction the war between the heroes is causing, and makes a decision that will alter the future of the team and her relationship with Reed. Since Babylon 5 creator and longtime Amazing Spider-Man writer J. Michael Straczynski took over scripting duties on Fantastic Four, he's made the book the most enjoyable it's been since the early days of Mark Waid's run on the title a few years back. That along with the great art from Teen Titans penciler Mike McKone makes this Civil War tie-in one of the best tie-in's to see print. Naturally there are some plot holes and gaps in the story that can be found in the main Civil War storyline (along with some other tie-in's), but that doesn't stop this TPB from being surprisingly good. All in all, if you feel the need to pick up the best Civil War tie-in's, this is a good place to start.

I've been a Marvel fan for years and just recently began devouring the Civil War series. While there are others who can write much more authoritatively to historical content and references, I would like to add that this book adds some wonderful twists and humor that is often missing from this rather serious series. In particular, Ben Grimm goes on a trip to France that will have you falling off your seat with laughter. This book also ties in nicely with other titles in the series, with alternate perspectives to the reasons behind the registration act. Terrific writing and artwork!

Not really a bad book if your a big fan of the FF, but other reviewers have listed this book as essential to the civil war storyline. I strongly disagree. The only thing that happens in this collection that isn't mentioned in the core civil war book is the part about the thing leaving the country, which is completely unnecessary and campy compared what it should have been. So if your a FF fan then I guess you could pick it up, but if you looking for more out of civil war than here's not the place.

First part is pretty good. Brings some humanity to the civil war story. The rest has very little to do with that storyline and parts of this are pure filler. Disappointing.

This is a great companion to the Civil War series - probably one of the better ones even though there really isn't a lot of action that takes place. The FF is barely holding itself together. Johnny is in a coma, the Thing leaves the country, and Mr. F is getting into this registration thing a little too heavy.

Mrs. F (and I) can't understand why Mr. F is so gung-ho about getting all the mutants to register. Probably because the FF doesn't use secret identities. They have nothing to lose - so why is Mr. Fantastic being such a D#*@ Head! The team and their marriage is going to suffer unless Reed and Susan can get it together.

Great

Loved this book, my favorite tie in besides the Frontline series. Had a really great short anniversary storie at the end as well. A+ all around

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