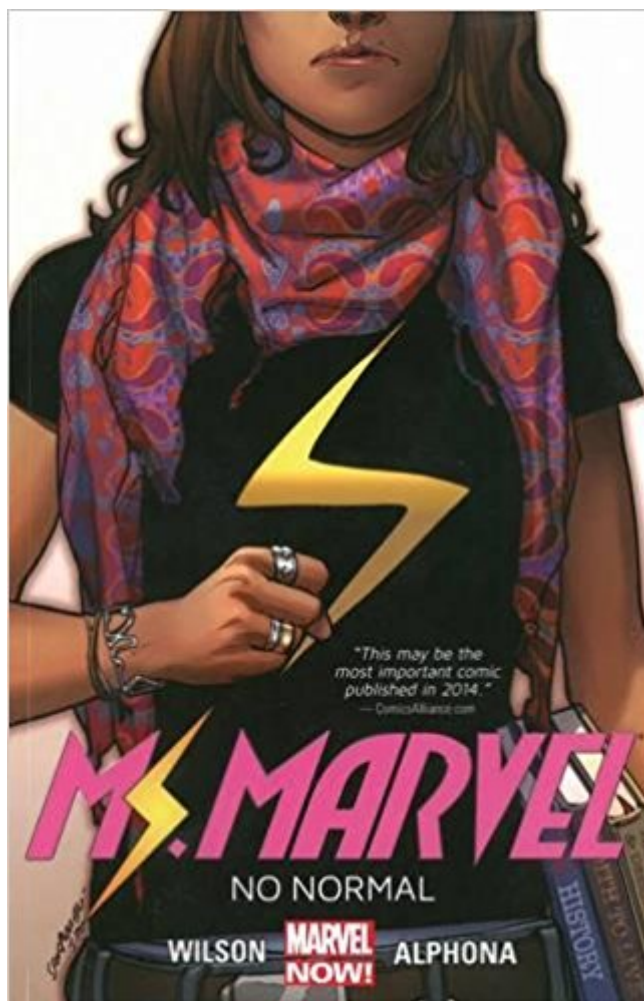


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Ms. Marvel Volume 1: No Normal (Ms. Marvel Graphic Novels)



Synopsis

Marvel Comics presents the all-new Ms. Marvel, the groundbreaking heroine that has become an international sensation! Kamala Khan is an ordinary girl from Jersey City - until she is suddenly empowered with extraordinary gifts. But who truly is the all-new Ms. Marvel? Teenager? Muslim? Inhuman? Find out as she takes the Marvel Universe by storm! As Kamala discovers the dangers of her newfound powers, she unlocks a secret behind them as well. Is Kamala ready to wield these immense new gifts? Or will the weight of the legacy before her be too much to handle? Kamala has no idea either. But she's comin' for you, New York! It's history in the making from acclaimed writer G. Willow Wilson (*Air*, *Cairo*) and beloved artist Adrian Alphona (*Runaways*)! COLLECTING: MS. MARVEL 1-5, MATERIAL FROM ALL-NEW MARVEL NOW! POINT ONE

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Willow Wilson began her writing career at the age of 17, when she freelanced as a music and DJ critic for Boston's *Weekly Dig* magazine. Since then, she's written the Eisner Award-nominated comic book series *Air* and *Mystic: The Tenth Apprentice* and the graphic novel *Cairo*. Her first novel, *Alif the Unseen*, was a New York Times Notable book. It was shortlisted for the 2012 Flaherty-Dunn Award. G. Willow spent her early and mid twenties living in Egypt and working as a journalist. Her articles about the Middle East and modern Islam have appeared in the New York Times Magazine, the Atlantic Monthly and the Canada National Post. Her memoir about life in Egypt during the waning years of the Mubarak regime, *The Butterfly Mosque*, was named a Seattle Times

Best Book of 2010. Willow is published by Grove/Atlantic Books in the United States and Atlantic UK in the United Kingdom.

When this book was first announced I read the description and decided unfairly that this was not a book for me. They were rebooting Ms. Marvel as a sixteen year old Muslim girl living in New Jersey. What could I, a 57 year white male living in Minnesota, possibly have of interest in a book like this ? But I heard lots of good things about the book so when I found it severely discounted I gave it a try. I am glad I did. It turns out this is a book for anyone who likes good writing and a unique fresh take on a very cookie cutter genre. It is also a book for anyone who enjoys great art work and coloring. In short, it is a book for anyone who loves comics. Collected here are the first five issues of the 2014 Ongoing Marvel series plus the relevant pages from Marvel Now Point One. In the back of the book it has alternate covers, Character designs and even a coloring example. G. Willow Wilson broke into the comic field in 2007 with her Vertigo graphic novel CAIRO she continued with her Vertigo series AIR, then her first superhero work on VIXEN. Her first novel ALIF THE UNSEEN won the 2013 World Fantasy Award for best novel. She is herself of Muslim faith and spent her twenties living in Egypt. Adrian Alphonsa is a Canadian artist who came to prominence with the charming art for Brian Vaughn's Runaways. Mr. Alphonsa's realistic depictions of children made him a great selection for this book. Sadly, I could name a couple Big Name Artist's who totally lack this ability. They draw children and teens simply as smaller adults. Adrian's art has evolved a little since Runaways and he has a very fine line drawing style that evokes a whimsical mode in which he portrays some of the characters as having exaggerated faces. This is a style which works perfectly. I also found the coloring done by Ian Herring to be excellent and it added nicely to whole package. I find most modern coloring to be over-done and too dark so that it obscures the art work, this was clearly not the case here. The story itself involves Kamala Khan an ordinary Muslim girl in Jersey City who writes Fan Fiction and dreams of being a Super-Herione. While her origin is not fully explained in this volume (that will be in the next collection) she ends up with elastic like powers which not only allow her to stretch her body out like Mr. Fantastic but change her physical appearance. The first form she appears in is almost wish fulfillment as she takes on the form of the Carol Danver's Ms. Marvel at her sexiest best. She has long flowing Blonde hair and a skimpy costume. But in this reality based story, the high boots chafe her and the costume gives her a wedgie. The story follows Kamala Khan and her gang of friends as she learns about her powers, makes mistakes and tries to do good. Like Peter Parker decades before her, things never quite go right for Kamala and she winds up being grounded most of the time. The Inventor is first real villain

that Kamala encounters. He is operating behind the scenes orchestrating much of the bad stuff. Towards the the end of the volume we finally get a peak at the Inventor and it is quite a shock. I look forward to all her future meeting with other heroes and bigger villains in the Marvel Universe. Please Sample this refreshing take on Super Heroes and support this excellent book which is truly meant for All Ages. Highly Recommended.

My daughter chose the first book as part of our prime program and loved it. She requested additional titles which were purchased. She has read the first for volumes and has enjoyed each subsequent title more than the previous, which she said she didn't think was possible. My daughter, 12, is a reader by choice and devours books. She consumed these in a day and a half while on vacation and enjoying outdoor adventures while reading during down time. She raved about the character, the plot, the growth of the character and how she is taking control and taking charge. This is her first graphic novel.

Good, with the exception of the "traditional" love interest.

This is an incredible comic book series that I am so blessed to know about. I had a great time using the series as a topic of discussion in a final project for my Islamic Civilizations class. Glad I purchased and read this, and hope to see a Ms. Marvel starring Kamala in the future!

I love Willow Wilson's work. After borrowing both CAIRO and ALIF THE UNSEEN from the library, I purchased copies of my own. CAIRO sat for weeks on my dining room table specifically so I could pick it up and start all over again. The story here is fresh, funny, satisfying and unexpected, ironically exactly what we've come to expect from Ms. Wilson. I love Kamala's family, her friends; oh, to be tall, cool and regal like Nakia. The promising premise delivers on every level through Kamala's struggles, which are, all at once, universal, personal and teenage. I am better for having experienced MS. MARVEL. So why not five stars? I found myself oddly out of touch with the artwork. I wasn't immediately immersed in this world as I had been with CAIRO and had difficulty following some of the panels. After future re-reads, that disconnect may fade and I'll update my review accordingly. For now, I highly recommend MS. MARVEL and hope she and Kamala continue to find a vast and welcoming following.

There's a certain novelty value to be found in Kamala Khan as the "first Muslim superhero" and all

that, but this new run of Ms. Marvel wouldn't stand up for very long if that was all it had going for it. Kamala is a charming, relatable character, one of the cases where the person is more important to the story than the powers--it very much has that "Peter Parker" effect, although with a racial and religious demographic that isn't usually shown prominently in comics or western media in general. This set of five issues (plus sidestory thing) shows how Kamala obtains her powers and the very amateurish start of her life as a superhero. It's not an especially long graphic novel because of the small number of issues included, but it's a good read. The physical paperback feels very slightly cheapish in construction compared to, say, my copy of New 52 Supergirl Volume 1, or Power Girl: Power Trip (a much thicker graphic novel), but it now sits proudly on my shelf with the rest and I'm looking forward to adding Volumes 2-4 to them as soon as I have the money in my account for it.

Don't read many American comics/graphic novels (more of a Manga fan) other than mostly Star Wars books put out by Dark Horse but decided to give this series a shot since I have read nothing but rave reviews. This iteration of Ms. Marvel really takes the premises of a superhero to a new level. It's more about finding out who you are instead of changing yourself to fit others standards or expectations. If there is any hero to compare this series to it would be the early days of Spider-Man but in many ways it is deeper.

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