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# All Star Superman



## Synopsis

The amazing creative team of writer Grant Morrison (BATMAN: ARKHAM ASYLUM) and artist Frank Quitely (WE3) join forces to take Superman back to basics and create a new vision of the World's First Super-Hero. This trade paperback collection features the first twelve issues of the acclaimed series. Witness the Man of Steel in exciting new adventures featuring Lex Luthor, Jimmy Olsen, Lois Lane, Bizarro, and more. This volume collects All-Star Superman #1-12.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

“Grant Morrison is one of the deftest superhero-comics writers of the moment, . . . His collaboration with the artists Frank Quitely and Jamie Grant, is full of mad, cartwheeling invention and airy open spaces. Clever. •NEW YORK TIMES BOOK REVIEW “[Morrison’s] affection for the Superman cast shines through on every page as he homes in on their iconic demeanors — quietly noble Superman, bumbling Clark Kent, suspicious Lois Lane, boyishly enthusiastic Jimmy Olsen, and brilliantly evil Lex Luthor. . . . Meanwhile, collaborator Quitely shows that he might be the perfect comic book artist: subtle when necessary, cartoonish when appropriate, and adroit with the action sequences. Together, writer and artist devise a Man of Steel who is both respectfully classic and excitingly contemporary. •BOOKLIST (starred review) “Morrison . . . get[s] what’s fun about Superman: He’s ridiculously powerful, and therefore he just sees and does and has lots of incredibly cool, totally bizarre stuff. . . . The sky isn’t even close to the limit: time

machines, nanonauts, sun-eaters, a super-dense sphere of black kryptonite from the Underverse, it's all good.

- TIME MAGAZINE Best Comics of 2007
- SALON, Best Comics of 2007
- EW.Com, Best Comic Books of 2007
- "A stirring mythic emotionally resonant, and gloriously alternative take on the Man of Steel.
- "Taking the Man of Steel back to his roots and into the future at the same time, All Star Superman is exciting, bold and supercool
- all the makings of a classic
- Variety "The most enjoyable incarnation of Superman in almost 30 years...
- THE A.V. CLUB "The Paul McCartney/John Lennon of comics, Grant Morrison and Frank Quitely, are currently working their magic on All Star Superman.
- NASHVILLE CITY PAPER "Writer Grant Morrison and artist Frank Quitely might just be the best one-two punch in comics. . . . Quitely's finely detailed art style and Morrison's sensationally cerebral and witty storytelling have taken this simple re-imagining of Superman's life and made it a must read series.
- METRO TORONTO, Best Ongoing Comic Book Series of 2006
- "A quirky, fun - and poignant - throwback to classic comic-book adventures, courtesy of writer Grant Morrison and artists Frank Quitely and Jamie Grant.
- WINSTON SALEM JOURNAL

Grant Morrison has been working with DC Comics for more than twenty years, beginning with his legendary runs on the revolutionary titles ANIMAL MAN and DOOM PATROL. Since then he has written numerous best-sellers including JLA, BATMAN and New X-Men as well as the critically acclaimed creator-owned series THE INVISIBLES, SEAGUY, THE FILTH, WE3 and JOE THE BARBARIAN. Morrison has also expanded the borders of the DC Universe in the award-winning pages of SEVEN SOLDIERS, ALL-STAR SUPERMAN, FINAL CRISIS and BATMAN, INC., and he is currently reinventing the Man of Steel in the all-new ACTION COMICS.

In his secret identity, Morrison is a "counterculture" spokesperson, a musician, an award-winning playwright and a chaos magician. He is also the author of the New York Times best-seller Supergods, a groundbreaking psycho-historic mapping of the superhero as a cultural organism. He divides his time between his homes in Los Angeles and Scotland.

Frank Quitely was born in Glasgow in 1968. Since 1988 he's drawn The Greens (self-published), Blackheart, Missionary Man, Shimura, Inaba, ten shorts for Paradox Press, six shorts for Vertigo, FLEX MENTALLO, 20/20 VISIONS, BATMAN: THE SCOTTISH CONNECTION, THE KINGDOM: OFFSPRING, JLA: EARTH 2, THE

INVISIBLES, TRANSMETROPOLITAN, THE AUTHORITY, Captain America, New X-Men, THE SANDMAN: ENDLESS NIGHTS, WE3, ALL-STAR SUPERMAN and BATMAN AND ROBIN. He has also created covers for Negative Burn, Judge Dredd Magazine, Classic 2000 AD, JONAH HEX, BOOKS OF MAGICK: LIFE DURING WARTIME, BITE CLUB, AMERICAN VIRGIN and ALL-STAR BATMAN. He lives in Glasgow with his wife and three children. He used to design his own hats and clothing. Currently his favorite hobby is cooking.

I firmly believe any comic book writer wanting to write for Superman should be required to read All-Star Superman. It captures pretty much everything we love about Superman as a character, his incredible power, his kind heart, and his never failing drive to help everyone around him. It reminds us that he's not some overpowered, muscle head who just smashes bad guys, he's everything we aspire to be, not in terms of power, but in intelligence, kindness, and dignity. I don't think every story presented in this book is perfect, particularly the planet of the Bizarros story, but there are far more hits than misses. A must-have for any Superman fan and a good one for any comic book fan wanting something a bit more touching than your usual comic book story.

There are so many positive reviews, so I am going to simply emphasize how certainly satisfying this wonderful collection is. The stories are not quite chronologically laid out, so be patient if you get confused or need to flip back--the overall narrative will eventually make sense and seemingly unexplained threads will be explained! After reading this (or before, it doesn't really matter), do check out DC One Million. You will appreciate the interwoven story arcs/threads Grant Morrison weaves between that series and All Star. Finally, this has a lot of re-reading value, so do check it out or buy it! Oh, I almost forgot to mention: the artwork is amazing, and you will know what I mean if you are a Quirely fan. If not, you may very well become a Quirely fan after reading this!

This truly is the perfect blend of what makes superman cool in the comic-book world and what we all know and love about superman post- the 1970s movie franchise. If you're used to Grant Morrison, you know that he doesn't shy away from incorporating throw-back characters and multi-angular themes into his stories, and this book is no exception. A lot of people dislike this style for one reason or another, but with this story, it really works and draws you in. The story is about how Lex Luthor tricks superman into his death by over-exposing him to the sun's radiation, leading to a slow, drawn-out death as superman's cells oversaturate and "explode" one by one. The exposure to the intense UV light also changed his physiology: superman finds that after the accident, his strength

has increased many times over, he's smarter, and more creative. Thus, the framework is set for Kal-El to live like there's no tomorrow and to make sure he makes a difference before he passes away; whether it's to finally tell Lois Lane how he feels about her, or making sure the people of Kandor find a safe home. Each chapter is another story in itself, telling of a "feat" or "achievement", likened to the labors that Hercules went through in greek mythology. All the while, setting the framework to the final showdown with Lex Luthor. Morrison makes a story that will feel real in the hands of a long-time reader, a casual fan, or even somebody who wants an introduction to the man of steel in comics. There really is something for everybody and I doubt you'll be disappointed. Just don't expect an awful plot like the Man of Steel movie that came out this past summer. All Star Superman really is what the world's favorite superhero is all about.

I've never liked Superman. I never liked the idyllic nature of the stories and how he is presented as the "perfect man with no flaws". Yet, somehow this book managed to keep all of those integral aspects of his character, while not leaving this "holier than thou" aftertaste. It really made me see Superman for what he is and what he should be, a nice guy from a small town who just wants to do the right thing.

A very good "What if?" collection of one version of Superman's final days. Great artwork, well-crafted writing, and a great packaged homage to the Man of Steel at his best - even in the face of one final defeat

There's a lot of thought put into these stories, different facets of Superman over the last 75 years. It's 12 issues that are telling the ultimate Superman story from what makes Superman "Superman". Each chapter is a story harkening back to the various ages of Superman tales without feeling overtly gimmicky. Art changes styles depending on the mood of the story, I suppose, with some being more appealing than others. It's a lovely crash course on what has made Superman such a special comic book character, you don't have to be that familiar with him to find this collection accessible as it doesn't have a lot of baggage and lays adequate foundation for what is there without feeling bogged down. That said, the story gets halfway through and lost a step, it gets to this Bizarro world as the underworld thing that takes 2 issues and disconnects from the unique cleverness and personality that is the main character, he becomes just "guy in trouble solving things to get home"-man and it's not compelling. Afterwards, it feels like the rest of the story is hurried from chapter to chapter, and while it's ultimately a fairly satisfying conclusion, it never gets that step back all the way. In fact, the

DC Animated movie based on All-Star Superman ends up working better on several levels than the comic, but the movie does forgo a very emotionally-important story as well. I would definitely recommend this to a lot of comic book fans, especially light fans who have some pop culture familiarity with Superman but aren't major fans and don't want to commit to an ongoing title.

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