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*John Byrne, Chris Claremont, Marv Wolfman, Bill Mantlo, Stan Lee, Roger Stern
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John Byrne, Chris Claremont, Marv Wolfman, Bill Mantlo, Stan Lee, Roger Stern : Fantastic Four by John Byrne Omnibus - Volume 1 (Marvel Omnibus) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Fantastic Four by John Byrne Omnibus - Volume 1 (Marvel Omnibus):

83 of 85 people found the following review helpful. Fantastic Legacy By Veese 'Fantastic' is truly the operative word when it comes to describing this mammoth collection. Although Mr John Byrne is still going strong in the 21st

Century, his historic 1980s run on the first family of Marvel Comics is well regarded in the comic industry as not only one of his top creative achievements in his long career but as one of the very best runs in the history of Marvel Comics Fantastic Four title. At nearly 1100 pages, weighing just over 7 lbs, this monster collects 47 different Marvel Comics titles from the 1970s into the 1980s that feature FF characters touched by Mr. Byrne either as just the penciler or the full writer/artist. I was personally happy to find the opening story in the collection is a forgotten favorite from a 1977 Marvel Team-Up two parter by Chris Claremont with Mr. Byrne on pencils. The fast paced dramatic tale pits Spider-Man alongside the Human Torch and then Ms. Marvel against a rampaging Super Skrull (an alien infused with the powers of the Fantastic Four). From there we move onto a great 1979 issue of Marvel Two-In-One #50 where the Thing decides to travel back in time with a cure that would only work on a younger version of himself in his earliest days as the monster after his fateful transformation. The collection then delivers all of Mr. Byrne's work on the main run of the Fantastic Four title beginning in 1979 as penciler, then as full creator in 1981. What's neat about this collection is that between gaps in his early work on the title, the Omnibus editors have added in pages that give not only a brief synopsis of FF issues in-between the Byrne issues but also tosses in quick explanations as to why Mr. Byrne was not involved in the issues not collected here. Example: After FF 221 concludes "John Byrne, who had been pulling double duty on FF The X-Men at this time, left after #221." Then the run's gap synopsis paragraph follows. A very nice touch added for those wondering why there are issues "missing". Won't go into plot details for the rest of the run, suffice it to say these are some of the very best Marvel Comics stories one would come across and enormously entertaining for readers of any age. The FF face down some of their most notorious foes such as The Frightful Four, Doctor Doom, Galactus and The Skrulls. Some of the stories are so big in scope, the FF also team up with the biggest heroes in the Marvel Universe such as The Avengers, Spider-Man, The Inhumans, The Silver Surfer and The X-Men. There are additionally several new characters first introduced here to the Marvel Universe such as Nova, Terrax and even Herbie the Robot. All the original Byrne Pin-Ups that appeared in any of these issues are, of course, found in here. The back end of the tome also includes 28 FF character pinups from The Official Handbook of the Marvel Universe, reproduced trade paperback covers and even the Direct Market variant cover for this same collection (last pinup in the book). While there have been other Marvel Comics trade paperback collections of Mr. Byrne's main run on this series, fans who own them will absolutely want to upgrade to this far more superior format. As with most of the Marvel Omnibus books, the inks on every page are crisply reproduced and the quality of the glossy page stock and rich colors are superb. This collection represents not only John Byrne's creative legacy, it's a love letter to Stan Lee and Jack Kirby's silver-age output and is a timeless gift to fans of this four-color genre. Worth every penny. Photos of my copy have been added to this listing! 30 of 32 people found the following review helpful. Fantastic! By Aaron Stack The Fantastic Four by John Byrne is certainly a title that deserved being collected in the deluxe Omnibus format. In conjunction with fellow writer/artist Walt Simonson (Thor) Frank Miller (Daredevil) it helped to take 80's era Marvel to a new plateau. This specific Omnibus focuses (wisely in my opinion) on John Byrnes complete development as creator on the Fantastic Four and not just one particular run with the characters. It includes his early work as an artist in different books featuring the FF (i.e. Marvel Team Up 61-62, Marvel Two In One 50, and Fantastic Four 209 - 221). I found it interesting to see the development in the overall look of the FF as Byrne developed his own artistic style; that alone makes this an outstanding compilation for a comic book enthusiast. It's fair to say though he really hits the ground running with his first issue as a writer/artist with Fantastic Four 232 "Back to Basics" (indeed!). Byrne over the course of his FF run brings back almost all of Lee Kirby's best villains heroes from their original 103 issue run: the Silver Surfer, Galactus, Skrulls, the Black Panther, the Inhumans, and most importantly Doctor Doom! It's been said by many others but it bears repeating ...this is easily the best take on the Fantastic Four since Stan Lee Jack Kirby left the book! Byrnes grasp on the characters (particularly Ben Grimm) is spot on. Byrne mixed just enough nostalgia with just enough of the "next big thing" (the X-men "guest appearance", expanding on the Galactus Mythos) to propel the franchise forward. Outstanding. The Omnibus itself is beautiful presentation. The cover is gorgeous and really pops when seen in person! It's well over 1,000 pages of comics with approximately 8-10 pages of bonus material (a little disappointing to be honest). Absolutely NO gutter loss and the sewn binding looks great on my copy. As was the case with the Thor Simonson Omnibus, I own the entire original run as they were purchased off the spinner rack, to these eyes the coloring and paper look good and do not distract from the art work. Please note that this book like the Simonson Thor Omni does NOT include the letters pages, I know that is a issue to some collectors but I'm somewhat ambivalent in this case. My only disappointment with this book is that I would have enjoyed a few essays on Byrnes work and maybe even an interview with him on the subject. Oh well, maybe volume two will meet those needs. Overall I am inclined to give Marvel another 5 stars and a pat on the back for putting out this great looking volume! Keep up the good work. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Greatest bargain ever on the Greatest comic book collection set in the world. By JP Fish Fabulous collection. I am delighted to have it and look forward to many hours of reading some of the best Marvel mythos ever created. I have been a life long FF fan, so this, along with Vol 2, is the total it, know that I mean? But the size and weight of this tome is monstrous. The first time you pull it out of the box you are in for a shock. But, you can spend a zillion hours and who knows how much money to ever find these books. Get 'em while you can.

It was the world's greatest comic magazine - again! Not since the days of Stan Lee and Jack Kirby had a creator so perfectly captured the intense mood, cosmic style and classic sense of adventure of Marvel's First Family. Fresh off an earth-shattering and reputation-making run as penciler on UNCANNY X-MEN, John Byrne proved his writing talent was every bit the equal of his art as he pulled double-duty on FANTASTIC FOUR, launching Reed, Sue, Ben and Johnny into realms of imagination and wonder into which few creators before had dared to travel. From the four corners of the globe to the farthest reaches of space to the deepest depths of the Negative Zone, the FF face off against foes old and new - including the Dr. Doom, Galactus and Annihilus! Plus: The FF aid the Inhumans, bid farewell to the Baxter Building, don new costumes and celebrate their 20th anniversary in style as Byrne reminds us all there's a family at the heart of this team of adventurers! Collecting MARVEL TEAM-UP (1972) #61-62; MARVEL TWO-IN-ONE #50; FANTASTIC FOUR (1961) #215-218, #220-221, #232-262 and ANNUAL #17; PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN (1976) #42; AVENGERS (1963) #233; THING (1983) #2; and ALPHA FLIGHT (1983) #4.

About the Author John Byrne has worked continuously in the comic-book industry as both writer and artist since his debut in 1975. After his initial collaboration with Chris Claremont on Marvel's Iron Fist, Byrne moved on to the X-Men for a run that is still regarded as one of the title's finest. Byrne followed that success with an equally famed stint on Fantastic Four, earning comparisons to the original Lee/Kirby issues for his imaginative plotlines and dynamic artwork. In 1986, he was selected to revamp DC's flagship hero, Superman, re-imagining the Man of Steel for a new generation. During the 1990s he produced a number of creator-owned works, including Next Men and Danger Unlimited. In the 21st century, Byrne has produced a number of Star Trek comics for IDW Publishing, where he revived his Next Men series in 2010. Other work for IDW includes his recent miniseries Trio, The High Ways, Cold War, and Doomsday.1.