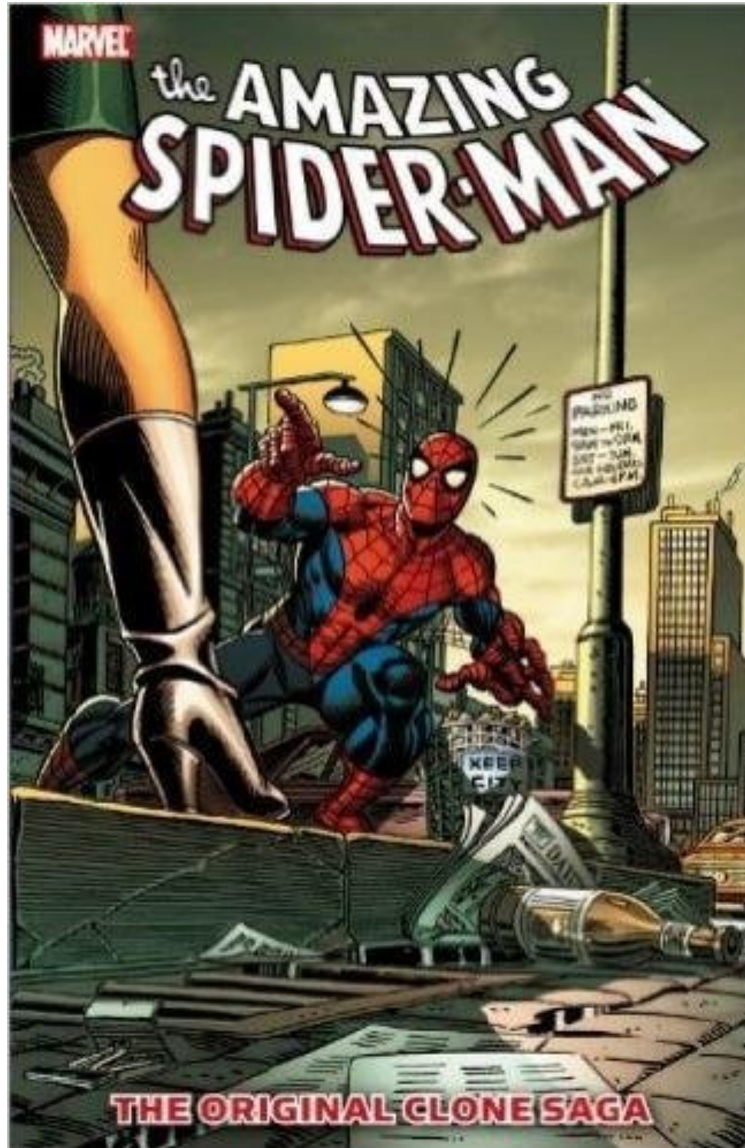


[Read ebook] Spider-Man: The Original Clone Saga

Spider-Man: The Original Clone Saga

Gerry Conway, Archie Goodwin, Bill Mantlo
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Gerry Conway, Archie Goodwin, Bill Mantlo : Spider-Man: The Original Clone Saga before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Spider-Man: The Original Clone Saga:

9 of 10 people found the following review helpful. This is where the sickness really began.By LuquilloPeter Parker is searching for a new apartment and finally finds one, unfortunately it's a real dump. However, this is the very least of his problems. While paying a visit to the Daily Bugle, the place is attacked by a mountain of a man named the Grizzly who's seeking revenge against J. Jonah Jameson. Spider-Man clashes with the man but soon realizes there's far more

going on then he realizes. -summaryHere goes the story that started the madness, The Original Clone Saga. Beginning in 1974 and written by Gerry Conway, the Original Clone Saga which has went down in Spider-Man lore as a Marvel Milestone was the follow up and supposedly fall out of another milestone, The Death of Gwen Stacy. That storyline introduced another moment of tragedy in the life of Spider-Man, as he witnessed the death of his lover at the hands of the Green Goblin, which occurred when he remembered Spider-Man's secret identity and attacked in full force. This story begins when a villain calling himself the Jackal enters, and it's very unclear what his motives are besides terrorizing Spider-Man. The story had a major impact on the Spider-Man mythos which would be felt for way over 20 years, beginning new storylines and debuting new characters, as well as re-introducing older ones thought long gone. Along with its overall effect, the story would prove to be quite entertaining with startling revelations that left many in awe as the story reached its climax. This trade paperback collects some of the best stories during one of Spider-Man's best runs; Amazing Spider-Man 139 - 150, Giant-Size Spider-Man 5, Peter Parker, the Spectacular Spider-Man 25 - 31, 149, 162 - 163, and Annual 8. This batch of stories captures what comic book fun is all about; suspense, surprises, engrossing storyline, interesting and well developed characters. These are your basic Spider-Man stories, that follows the wall-crawler through his very complicated life as he takes on one villain after the next, with small pieces of the story slowly introduced. The reader will get a glimpse of what the Jackal is all about periodically, as he uses other villains to battle Spider-Man. When he's not around, other villains will appear out of the wood work taking their chances at killing him for past encounters. Later, things will become more complicated as Spider-Man will begin to question his own sanity when he begins to see someone he thought to have been dead for two years. When I backtrack through very early Spider-Man stories, I always found the arcs with the Green Goblin to be the most interesting, simply because he knew who the man under the mask was. I thought it was brilliant for Marvel to go that route once again, because it adds another dimension to the storytelling when a hero's identity has been revealed, and the Jackal is used very well here. He's established as a serious threat simply because it's not hard to figure out that he knows who Spider-Man is. He encounters an enraged Scorpion, and sends him after Spider-Man's loved ones making it quite clear he means business. The feud with the Jackal is very well paced, and the danger steadily escalates until its thrilling conclusion. He also slowly becomes the show-stealer because a reader who is completely unfamiliar with the outcome of this story will constantly wonder what he's after. Conway also shows how he can juggle different story elements, by also injecting a thrilling battle against the Master of Illusion Mysterio, as well as a vicious fight against the Spider-Slayers. These breaks in the storyline would be distracting if they weren't so entertaining. The storyline involving the Jackal is wrapped up very well but it's only the beginning. The second portion of the story takes place with the villain Carrion. He possesses all of the knowledge he could possibly need to battle Spider-Man. Carrion is very dangerous possessing super strength, agility, and he's very durable. His vast powers consist of telepathy and telekinesis; he can also kill all organic beings with only a touch. Carrion gives Spider-Man the toughest battle ever by this point. The story also features several guest stars, such as the Man-Thing, White Tiger, Daredevil, and The High Evolutionary. Spider-Man also battles with various deadly villains the likes of Hobgoblin and Carrion II. The storytelling really is magnificent since it doesn't follow a repetitive path and it's constantly evolving. The action as usual does take a backseat for Peter's personal issues, as he still has trouble dealing with Gwen's death, and just plain moving on with Mary-Jane Watson whom makes it no secret that she wants to be with him. The sudden appearance of Gwen heavily disrupts things between them creating some interesting situations. The artwork has a dated feel, but it's hard not to enjoy the flashy feel of things; from Spidey trying to outrun the cops in the hilariously cheesy "Spider-Mobile", to the look of horror on Aunt May's face, as the Scorpion crawls through the window while she's in the hospital bed. The action panels have so many cool moments and fierce action, that you could actually ignore the dialog, and just watch the trade offs between Spider-Man, Scorpion, Lizard, and Mysterio. I really enjoyed this TPB, however, it could have been much better than this. Since the Jackal is one of the main villains, then I see no reason on how come his first appearance, Amazing Spider-Man 129 wasn't added. I would have preferred that over Giant Spider-Man 5. The book does have some filler, but it's fun filler that I never found boring. Overall, this is among the best TPB's you can find. It has everything that makes a comic book great, and it's on the newbie friendly side. There are more than enough details going on to pull someone from the dark. I highly recommend this along with the Death of Gwen Stacy.

Pros: Entertaining from beginning to end
Cons: Dated artwork may distract some, some filler that some may not enjoy

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. solid collection of spiderman stories
By woodrow locksley
The spiderman collection collects three stories rather loosely to the first Spiderman clone story. The first group of stories involve the machinations of a villain named the jackal and the other stories involve Carrion who is a clone of the Jackal and a fellow student who takes the clone formula and becomes Carrion in the second set of carrion stories. The spiderman clone is important in one issue so the stories are misnamed in that respect. The stories are solid but not great. I would give this collection 3.5 stories if I could but give it four stars because this is a set of stories rarely collected and because of the significance to Spiderman of the Jackal stories roughly Amazing Spiderman 139-150

13 of 16 people found the following review helpful. The 1st Spider-man vs. Jackal war
By Bill Hensler
Here are some technical things about the book itself. First, it's printed in the original comic book size. Second, the paper is glossy and in full color. Marvel has a habit of releasing some books, like the Essential X-Men, Vol. 1 (Marvel Essentials), which are

only printed in black and white with paper that is largely newsprint quality. This book is in full color and is an exact duplicate of its past glory. Last, in the book there are reprints of the original covers. So, one can look at the art work of #149 that was originally published back in May of 1975. The Spider-man/Jackal war didn't start with issue #139, it actually goes farther back to the 1st issue of Punisher in a Spider-man comic and that's back in the late 120 series, published in 1973. If you own that comic it's worth money. The Spider-man/Jackal war is the 1st real epic struggle in comics. This starts hardly 3 issues after the death of Green Goblin (and that was screwed up later in the various clone stories: another subject). At issue #139 things start to take off with the introduction of Grizzly in the Spider-man Jackal war. Note, this war goes from issue 139, full inclusion of the double sized annual into the story, to an epilog in issue 151; the reader isn't treated to a story line with Shocker later in that issue. Note, Marvel does not top the Spider-man/Jackal war until the X-Men epic of the X-Men: Dark Phoenix Saga and that particular comic line is about as good as it gets with this medium. Spider-man is more of a soap at this point than an action comic in the Jackal War. Lots of time is spent developing Mary Jane and Pete's relationship. I did rather enjoy the trip down memory lane where Mary Jane fights for Pete's attention against the clone of Gwen Stacy. Marvel was seriously into good science fiction with the introduction of cloning into comics. Mind you this was back in the mid-1970s when DNA and the human genome was hardly imagined. Also, Marvel did a great job of writing the clone out of the series. If Marvel had published #127(?), #139-151, and tossed in the annual I would have been totally happy with that in this book. Ross Andru is at the top of his game in arts department during issues 139 to 149. Personally, I like his inks and he was only passed by quality by a few other artists, like the excellent Todd McFarland. Conversely, Sal Buscema does the arts for Spectacular Spider-man. I don't care for Sal's art. But I didn't take off a star. Jim Mooney and Frank Miller do work on Spectacular Spider-man. Neither are great at this point. Miller isn't up to his usual standard as in Daredevil: Born Again or the famous 300. Now, I did take off a star for the issues of #139 to #149 because it gets a little weak in the villain division. This is during the great Spider-man power reduction period where Jackal (a professor who works out), Grizzly (an out-of-shape wrestler with a power suit), Cyclone (a guy with a portable tornado suit), and Tarantula (a guy with spiked shoes) all clean the floor with a Spider-man who used to go toe-to-toe with some of the heaviest super villains like King Pin or the Rhino. A few years later Sal Buscema draws Spider-man slamming Tarantula and telling him "you must have got me on a bad day because you're second rate". I didn't like the reduction of Spider-man's powers during this period. It was nice when it passes. Spider-man is at least as strong as Wolverine. During issues #127 to #160 Spider-man is little better than Daredevil. Spoiler Alert. Carrion isn't a new concept: he is just a clone of Professor Warren and a rehashed story line. However, this is during the period where Liz Allen hooks up with Peter, Mary Jane Watson comes back after refusing Pete's proposal, and both women decide to be friends while pursuing the same man. The clone of Professor Warren is more plausible than two women being friends instead of fighting while romancing the same man. Still, this is all in fun and is a good old 4 Star rating. Enjoy.

Remember the good old days when Spidey's life wasn't very complicated? When evil scientists like the Jackal sought to destroy him? When Gwen Stacy showed up on his doorstep, suddenly alive? See the original clone saga unravel as Spider-Man tries to keep up!