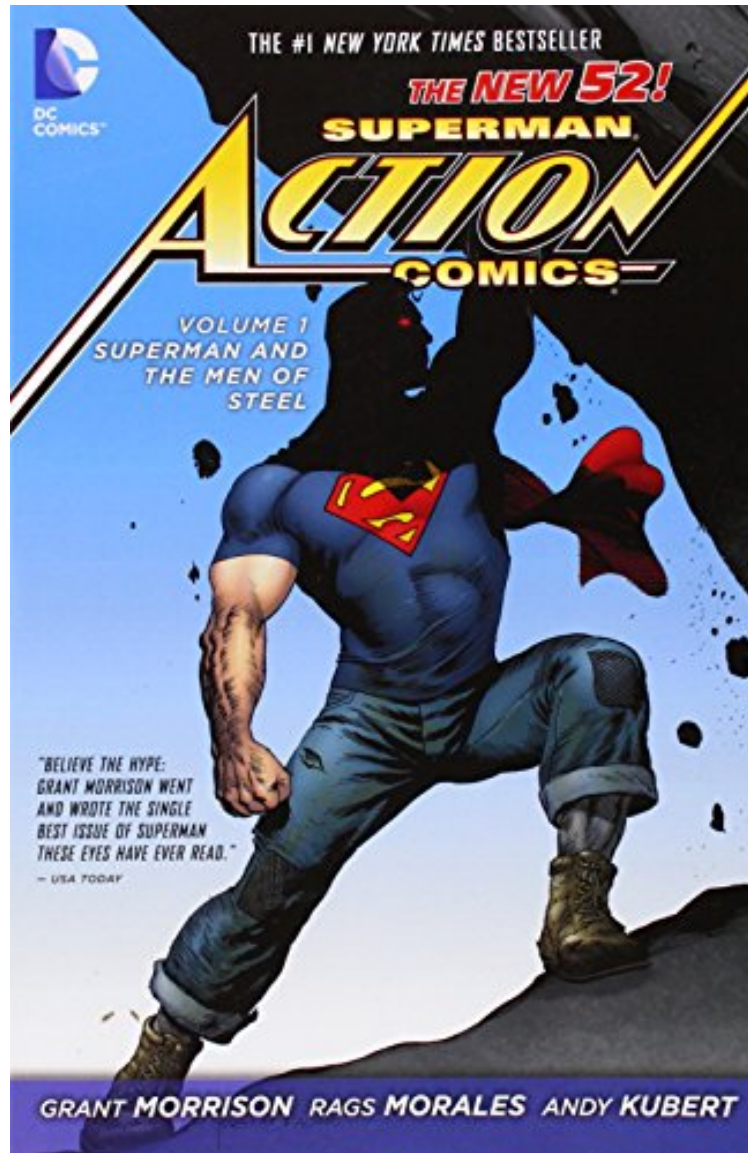


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Superman: Action Comics, Vol. 1: Superman and the Men of Steel (The New 52)

Grant Morrison

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Grant Morrison : Superman: Action Comics, Vol. 1: Superman and the Men of Steel (The New 52) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Superman: Action Comics, Vol. 1: Superman and the Men of Steel (The New 52):

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A Tribute to the Golden Age By Elvin Ortiz I enjoyed reading this reboot on Superman. The stories in this text take place five years before the story in the Superman Comic #1. One thing I like about these stories is that Grant Morrison starts with Superman in action. There is no long story explaining how Superman came to earth. He will leave that for later in the back-up stories written by Jolly Fisch. Morrison pays tribute to the original Action Comics where Superman fights for the underdog. Seeing Superman carry Mr. Glenmorgan by his foot in the skies of Metropolis reminds us of a corrupt lobbyist, Alex Grier, who is carried in similar manner by an angry man of steel at the end of ACs 1 and the beginning of AC 2. In addition to this, the story arc involving Braniac, the collector of worlds, and his kidnapping of Metropolis in a small bottle, are borrowed from Action Comics 242, an issue way back from 1958. However, Morrison doesn't copy and paste, but he delivers his own doses of modern (or should I say post-modernist) outlook of how the duel between Braniac and Superman should have happened. The story also includes a rebellion of robots instigated by Braniac with the indirect help from Lex Luthor (who else?). This part of the story no doubt pays homage to the classic Sci-Fi film Metropolis, which is about robots taking over the world. Having said this, the new Superman wears a t-shirt with the S crest on it and denim jeans. He jumps (like in the early version), he lives in an apartment with lower income residents, and his landlady is Mrs. Nixly. He also works with the Daily Star as Clark Kent. Superman is also mistrusted by law enforcement officials and the army, represented by none other than General Lane, Lois Lane's father. Jimmy Olsen is a good friend of Clark, and Lois feels she is competing with young Clark Kent. Morrison does an excellent job at introducing all the characters that belong to the Superman myth, and incorporates a few new ones. The first six issues deal with Superman's fight with Braniac and the robot rebellion, and how Metropolis gets acquainted with its new hero. After this, there are 2 issues that narrates the destruction of Krypton and Superman's arrival to earth, and how he learned to fly. There are 2 back-up stories with Steel, and 2 back-up stories of the Kents (notice that while in Rocket Song, Martha Kent bemoans a miscarriage, in Baby Steps, this miscarriage does not occur) before they find Kal-El in their rocket, and of Clark's last day in Smallville. Morrison's narrative is quite interesting and yet, I think it may be too much influence by the soap opera qualities of Harry Potter stories. Mrs. Nixly turns out to be an alien that has to be there to protect Superman? There is also a struggle with the K-Men and a group of villains in When Superman Learned to Fly. Although attempting to explain the transition from jumping to flying, and adding importance to his spaceship to prevent further problems with robots on earth, the plot lacks luster entirely. And The Last Day seemed to fill up some space. I'm more afraid, however, of the Harry Potter-like phenomena that may appear in future stories. For these reasons, I find this volume likable. The artwork in these stories was commendable. It lives up to Superman.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A New Start for the Man of Steel By Brandon Here is the beginning of Grant Morrison's take on the Man of Steel's origins in the New 52 and it is a fantastic starter pistol for an entire story arc that encompasses the first three volumes of Superman: Action Comics. Grant Morrison takes Superman and definitely humanizes him to the extent that he can in fact be harmed but not outright killed. Grant Morrison and artist Rags Morales both attribute this to the earliest iterations of the Man of Steel in the 1940s where he could in fact be harmed by many things besides Kryptonite. The story thrusts this very Herculean Superman into our modern day, here Superman fights against the injustices that we wreak upon one another. He protects the law abiding citizens from the criminals and he also protects the "evil greedy rich" from the "disenfranchised and persecuted" poor. Now I don't consider myself an extremely political person, I find fault in both sides of the political spectrum here in America. I love movies, games and comics because they allow me to escape for an hour or so into another place and they entertain me with characters, story and wonderful scenes. The last thing I want to see when reading a book or watching a movie is a politically laced subplot or undertone to a character or story. If I wanted politics I would've turned on a news channel. But political rant over, Morrison gets to the point of Superman several times in the volume when he states that he is what we strive to become which I believe is an accurate assessment of Superman's character. We see many familiar faces like Lois Lane, Lex Luthor, Jimmy Olsen, and John Corben but Clark Kent himself isn't very close to these characters as he was in the comics before the New 52. In fact Clark works at the Daily Star a rival newspaper of the Daily Planet so he is somewhat at odds with Lois Lane. The story itself is set before the Justice League and sets the stage for a world that isn't ready for superheroes to spring from the woodwork. Rags Morales art is outstanding! He captures the motion and action (pun intended) in the sprawling action sequences. Both Morales and Morrison tend to show off Superman's physical feats and his strength in a nod to the early days of Action Comics. The story is pretty straightforward but towards the end it gets a little complex. This complexity will continue in the next two volumes as well. Overall a very impressive and fun start to the origins of Superman.

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A New York Times Best Seller! DC Comics took a bold step and renumbered the longest-running monthly comic, Action Comics, to #1 for the first time since 1938 as part of the DC Comics The New 52 event. With this renumbering comes a new creative team featuring comics legend Grant Morrison and fan-favorite artist Rag Morales. While Morrison is no stranger to writing the Superman character, having won three Eisner Award's for his work on All-Star Superman, Action Comics will be something new for both old and new readers and present humanity's first encounters with Superman, before he became one of the World's Greatest Super Heroes. Set a few years in the past, it's a bold new take on a classic hero. Superman: Action Comics Vol. 1: Superman and the Men of Steel includes issues 1-8 of the monthly series

Believe the hype: Grant Morrison went and wrote the single best issue of Superman these eyes have ever read. This rebellious, working man's hero is a different guy from any Man of Steel most of us have seen before. USA Today A ripping read. Entertainment Weekly Entertaining. YAHOO! Associated Content A solid superhero comic with good action. Time Out Chicago It's fresh air. I like this all-too-human Superman, and I think a lot of you will, too. Scripps Howard News Service Casts the character in a new light, opens up fresh storytelling possibilities, and pushes it all forward with dynamic Rags Morales art. I loved it. The Onion AV Club With a heavy dose of philosophy tied to his characterizations, Action Comics is already showing signs of being a typical Grant Morrison yarn. For those of you who aren't familiar with his work, that's a ringing endorsement. IGN Captures the spirit of what makes Action Comics great for the modern age. Strong, well-executed superhero imagery and storytelling that flows effortlessly. Comic Book Resources, Five-Star A different and welcomed twist to Superman. ComicVine Brassy and brash. io9 About the Author Writer Grant Morrison is known for his innovative work on comics from the graphic novel Arkham Asylum to acclaimed runs on Animal Man and Doom Patrol, as well as his subversive creator owned titles such as The Invisibles, Seaguy and WE3. He has also written best-selling runs on JLA, Seven Soldiers Of Victory and New X-Men and recently helped to reinvent the DC Universe in Allstar Superman, 52 and Batman.