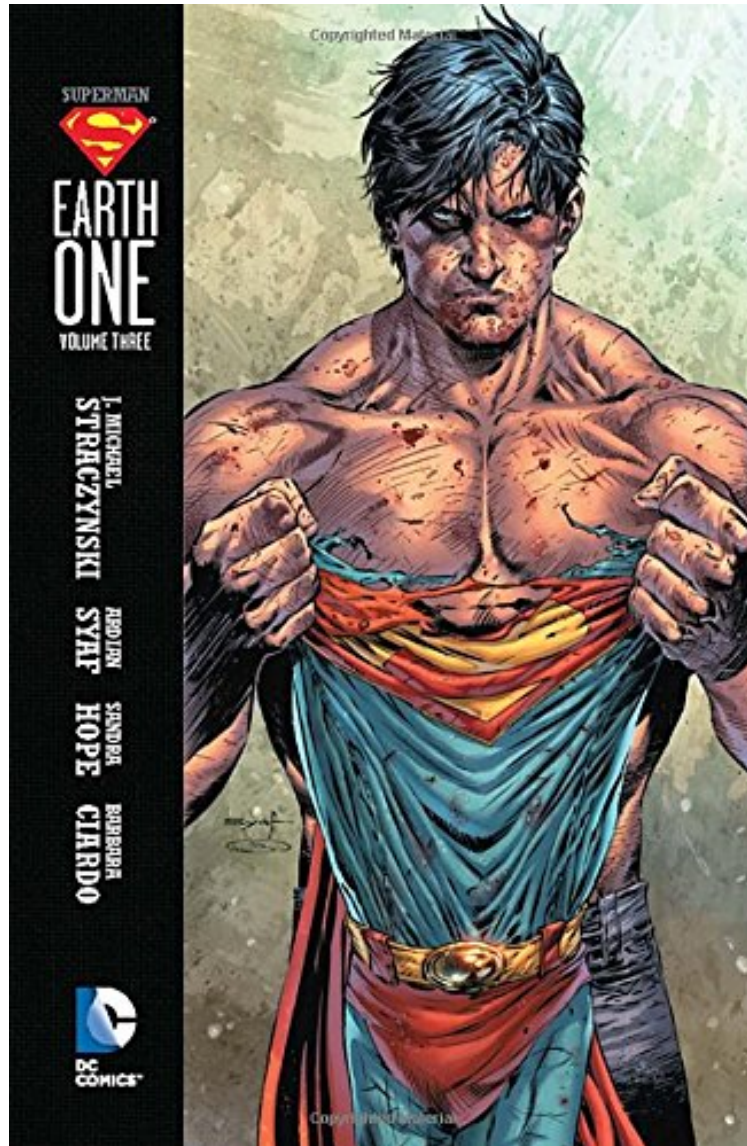


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## Superman: Earth One Vol. 3

*J. Michael Straczynski*  
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**J. Michael Straczynski : Superman: Earth One Vol. 3** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Superman: Earth One Vol. 3:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Better than the first volume By Chongo I purchased this comic back in 2012 finally got around to reading it wow! I absolutely loved this book. As much as I enjoyed volume 1, this second chapter definitely picks up further character development I really enjoy many of the scenes throughout. J. Michael Straczynski is a master storyteller he just gets this character, is able to progress this universe creating something new

unique that bravely stands away from the regular continuity numerous Superman comics on the stands. Most comic fan's will notice some aesthetics trickling throughout that bring to mind 2013's Man of Steel movie. I wasn't all that surprised by how much I enjoyed reading this as I'm a huge nut for Straczynski's other works like Silver Surfer Requiem, his grounded gritty vision of "Supreme Power", DC's amazing "Team-ups of the Brave and the Bold". DC's Earth One line of comics would be comparable to Elseworlds or Marvel's Max imprint. Basically stand alone stories that are able to experiment a bit more outside of regular continuity. Of course this tale wouldn't be a full five stars without the beautiful art of Shane Davis who just knocks it out of the park. Just drop dead gorgeous art. He can capture the big battle splash pages naturally, which look awesome but he also manages to bring painstakingly, exquisite detail to the quieter more somber moments too. Praise has to go out to Sandra Hope as well for her excellent color palette. This is a beautiful book. Parasite gets a very striking, nightmarish makeover it's nice that he gets a backstory too giving him some depth so he's not coming across too one dimensional. One particular scene that almost made me lose it was where Clark recalls when he was much younger rescued a cat from being a meal in the wild from some wolves. He keeps the kitten, raises it, the cat pretty much becomes his buddy throughout his formative years. As time passes the cat eventually passes away too a young Clark Kent does something that only he could do. Its just scenes like this are so gut wrenching, touching, emotional, beautifully drawn. I literally almost cried. Also, his meeting conversations with a flirty promiscuous new female neighbor are the lighter touches to this action packed, suspenseful, grounded, brooding tale. I feel like Superman: Earth One reminds us why we love this character so much in the first place. Again, absolutely loved this comic highly recommend it to everyone. There's plenty more going on in these pages that are wonderful but I'll end it here. I'm looking forward to what volume 3 brings.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. solid Superman story better than vol. 1

By Frank L. Greenagel II Straczynski is an excellent comic writer, and he stretches out the Superman/Clark Kent character in this volume. There is an interesting conversation about sex between teenage Clark and Jonathan Kent, and we also see the struggle between Clark's desire/restraint when he arrives in Metropolis and is propositioned by an attractive neighbor. I think the writer/director of the 2013 Man of Steel movie may have used this collection as a character study, as both pieces deal with the isolation that Clark feels. This is a 21st century Superman, who deals with 3rd world despots a bit differently than 1950's Superman did. The art is great and the story moves seamlessly. I bought the trade and then let it sit on my shelf for about six months, but when I finally picked it up, I wolfed it down and kicked myself for not reading it sooner. This is the best Superman story in a couple of years.

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Thoroughly More Satisfying than Volume One

By Frank PWow, what a thoughtful, well-written and well-conceived Superman story. I wasn't as enamored with Volume One. But this follow-up is thoroughly more satisfying. DC Comics Earth One graphic novel series re-tells the origins of their superheroes as if they were conceived by writers today, as opposed to some 75 years ago, and if characters lived in today's world. Great liberties are allowed to be taken, with writers and artists picking and choosing what elements from what's been written before to keep, what to be inspired by and what to completely revise. The hope is that the tone and material will be more accessible, relatable and appealing to new readers wanting something less fanciful or, essentially, less comic book-y, yet still present the same spirit of what made each hero so popular and lasting to begin with. Three books have been published in the series so far, one for Batman (with a broad-shouldered, combat-hardened Alfred who walks with a cane as the reluctant assistant and mentor to Bruce) and now two for Superman, whose lead shares much more in spirit to the alien orphan played by Henry Cavill than the all-American charmer fighting for truth and justice presented by Christopher Reeve or George Reeves. Until now my favorite was Batman Earth One, but this second Superman book is also a surprise winner. A direct sequel to Volume One, Volume Two explores some very common sense ideas about a super-powered boy concealing his abilities his entire childhood and how it affects the way he thinks as he grows into a young man now burdening himself with the responsibility to help those in need while still maintaining an alternate identity among mankind. It also includes the best quote ever to come from Pa Kent to his teenage son: All I'm saying, son, is man of steel woman of tissue paper. That tells you one topic that's covered! There are a few PG-13 topics in this story, which chooses to skew the story more into a character study about Clark than an action-adventure tale about a caped hero. This story spends more time showing a Clark Kent awkwardly pursuing a hidden, normal life behind his horn-rimmed glasses than the destructive nature of his alter ego which is a big question mark to the world at large, particularly how concerned should they be about this person that governments cannot control. There's also a really sweet flashback to Clark's first pet, a cat named Fuzzball. Lois Lane is here, as are Perry and Jimmy. But she's not the one in a relationship with Clark shown in decades of Superman stories. Instead, a sexy red-haired neighbor goes after our naive lead character and what develops is both funny and meaningful. Instead, Lois can't get over Kent scooping the entire world by getting The First Interview with Superman. So being a naturally competitive reporter, she's out to find dirt on this new guy from Smallville. It's a plausible, adversarial reaction for someone like a Lois. And the villain, the Parasite, is introduced in a well-developed, fairly grounded storyline whose addictive search for physical strength also feeds organically to the subplot about the world and its governments' fears about Superman and how they wish they could control him. So it's less about titans fighting each other, skyscrapers demolished in their wake (which does happen here). Instead, it takes its time crafting real characters in plausible situations, especially Clark's. And it slowly drew me in so by the end, I was genuinely surprised and satisfied by the

conclusions reached in the handful of subplots told. I'm not a Superman fan either, I'm a Batman fan. But I really enjoyed this book.

The follow-up to the NEW YORK TIMES #1 bestselling graphic novels SUPERMAN: EARTH ONE VOL. 1 and 2 is here! Written by J. Michael Straczynski with art by Ardian Syaf (BATGIRL), SUPERMAN: EARTH ONE VOL. 3 follows a young Clark Kent as he continues his journey toward becoming the World's Greatest Super Hero. After defeating villains terrestrial and beyond, Superman faces a threat that he can't simply outmuscle. A threat smarter, more cunning and deadly than he can imagine: the Luthors!

Praise for SUPERMAN: EARTH ONE: "A modern, youthful take on the iconic superhero."--USA TODAY"Masterful ... truly extraordinary"--AIN'T IT COOL NEWS"A Superman for a new generation. J. Michael Straczynski and Shane Davis managed to breathe a new perspective into the character, full of all the classicism the character demands, but full of all the modernity required to make it fresh for a brand new audience."--THE HUFFINGTON POST"Draws upon the Superman mythology but recreates it for a contemporary audience with a 20-year-old Clark Kent who's unsure how to use his super-strength, super-smarts and just plain super abilities as he makes his way through a grittier, more realistic Metropolis trying to find not just a job but meaning and purpose."--ASSOCIATED PRESS"What do you get when you combine Twilight and a classic superhero? The new Superman."--THE HOLLYWOOD REPORTERAbout the AuthorJ. Michael Straczynski is an award-winning writer for film, television and comics. A former journalist for The Los Angeles Times and Time Inc., he has worked on such series as The Twilight Zone and Murder She Wrote and created Jeremiah, Crusade and Babylon 5, for which he may be best known. He penned the screenplay for Clint Eastwoods Changeling, for which he received a British Academy Award nomination, and Ninja Assassin for the Wachowskis. His work has earned him two Hugo Awards as well as the Saturn, the Eisner, the Inkpot and the Ray Bradbury Award, among many others. His comics work includes Rising Stars and Midnight Nation for Top Cow/Image, The Amazing Spider-Man, Supreme Power, and Thor for Marvel, and he now writes both Before Watchmen: Nite Owl and Before Watchmen: Dr. Manhattan DC Comics.