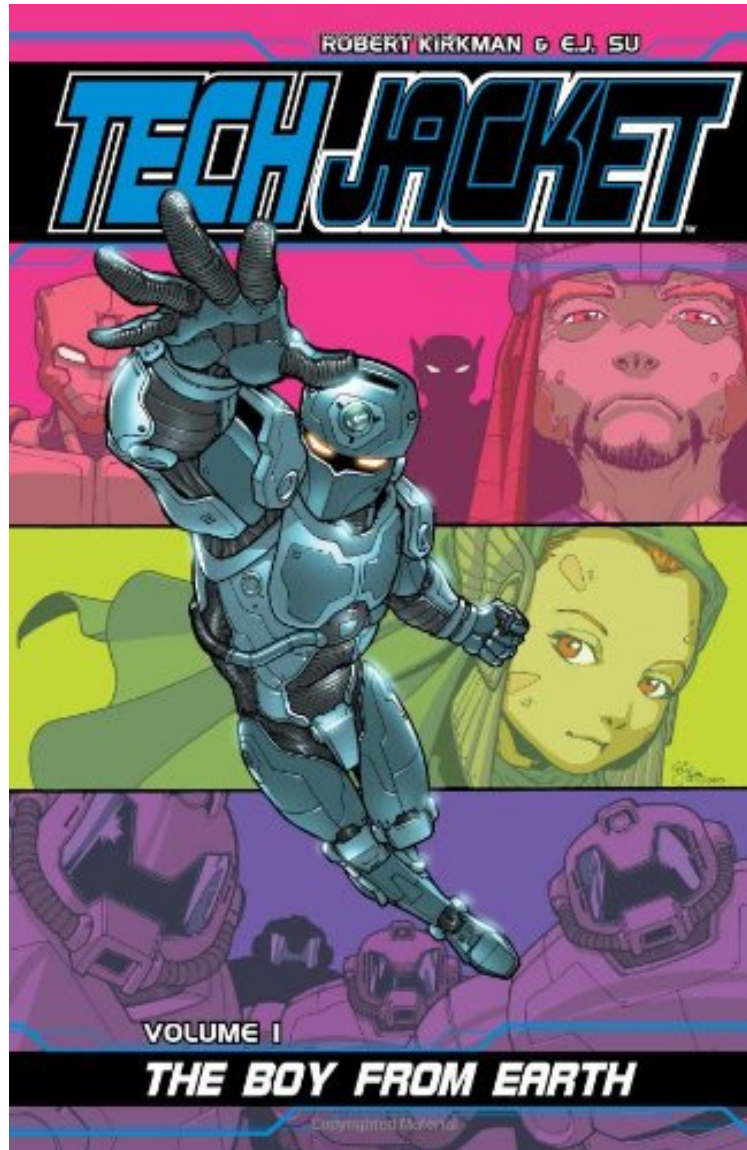


(Library ebook) Tech Jacket Volume 1: The Boy From Earth (v. 1)

## Tech Jacket Volume 1: The Boy From Earth (v. 1)

Robert Kirkman

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**Robert Kirkman : Tech Jacket Volume 1: The Boy From Earth (v. 1)** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Tech Jacket Volume 1: The Boy From Earth (v. 1):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A solid original series with the potential to grow into something very nice. By RichardTech Jacket is an Image comic by Robert Kirkman, better known for his work on comics such as "The Walking Dead" and "Invincible". The story is centered around the character Zack Thompson, a teenager whose life is suddenly changed when he acquires a suit of alien battle armor, the tech jacket. With this suit he gains access to vast

strength and a versatile arsenal of equipment. He is soon pulled into the middle of a war between the suits creators the Geldarians, a technologically advanced but physically frail species, and their enemies the Kresh, a race of gaseous beings who require mechanized suits to survive outside their homeworld. The tech jackets were built to amplify the user's natural strength. In the hands of a Geldarian it grants incredible abilities, but in the hands of a human who is naturally stronger it becomes an unrivaled weapon. Overall Tech Jacket is an interesting concept with a decent cast of characters. Most of its flaws stem from being a new franchise that was just starting out. As such it has the usual growing pains of having to establish everything without being boring. The character development is sacrificed a little in the name of keeping the action fast paced. Tech Jacket's original run was cut short due to a number of reasons, but it has recently been revived again. Overall it is a series that looks to have a great deal of potential.

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A boy and his tech jacket By H. Bala Zach and his dad (discussing the tech jacket):- Dad: "Did you ever figure out how strong you are?"- Zach: "...I don't know... I threw a big space ship into another one and made them both blow up one time..."- Dad (after a pause): "That's pretty cool." Robert Kirkman's INVINCIBLE may be better well known, but his truncated TECH JACKET series not only published ahead of INVINCIBLE (by a mere two months) but featured another teen suddenly shouldered with awesome super powers. But while INVINCIBLE's Mark Grayson had inherited his amazing abilities from his extraterrestrial dad, Zack Thompson gained his through the tech jacket. The Geldarians are a vastly intellectual race, whose physical make-ups have over time grown alarmingly fragile. To compensate for this weakness, sophisticated, talking body armors called tech jackets were crafted and given to each Geldarian at birth. The tech jacket grows and matures with its wearer, augmenting native strength and durability and adapting to the wearer's particular skills and interests. The tech jacket is classified as one of the most powerful weapons in the universe. And high schooler Zack Thompson ends up with one of them.

What's TECH JACKET? It's a rip-roaring space opera. It's a bit of high school drama. And a bit of teenaged superheroing. This made for some fun reading. Kirkman injects these stories with humor and an all-around lighthearted sensibility. But the tech jacket is no joke. It turns out that Zack's earthly mass is naturally stronger and sturdier than a Geldarian's. Because of this, his tech jacket renders him more powerful, exponentially, than a typical Geldarian sporting a tech jacket. How powerful? Powerful enough to heave a space ship into the sun. Powerful enough that, when he's recruited to fight with the Geldarians against their enemies, the Kresh, he becomes a one-man wrecking crew. This also comes in handy when, back on earth, neighborhood thugs push up on his dad. So far, the only negative is that Zack can't get the tech jacket to come off. It even gives him bacteria-removal treatments in bed. Dude doesn't have to shower anymore.

TECH JACKET is Robert Kirkman's first creator-owned book at Image Comics, and it's disappointing that it only lasted six issues. But, back in 2003, when steadily flagging sales hinted of impending cancellation, Kirkman decided to take the plunge and end the series himself so that Zack could go out in style. In his foreword in the TECH JACKET: THE BOY FROM EARTH trade paperback, Kirkman goes on to mention his regret at prematurely ending the series. After all, INVINCIBLE and THE WALKING DEAD both went through early periods when they didn't sell all that well, and yet now they've reached the 50th issue landmark. But, who knows, in the world of comics, there's always a do-over. It's never too late to bring back Zack Thompson and his multi-functional wardrobe. Anyway, TECH JACKET Volume 1: THE BOY FROM EARTH collects the entire 6-issued run and also comes with artist E.J. Su's sketchbook (including what would've been the covers for issues #7-8, before Kirkman axed the series). Kirkman sure is in tune with what makes a teenager tick. His INVINCIBLE stuff is a must-read title. And TECH JACKET itself, in my opinion, was off to a promising start (of course, the poor sales back then tend to sneer at my opinion). Kirkman had laid in solid groundwork with the tech jacket mythos and the ongoing war between the Geldarians and the gaseous Kresh. The main character, Zack Thompson, isn't one of those tortured, angst-ridden kids, but more like your every teen type, and so very relatable. It's nice to every now and then read about a kid who isn't burdened with emotional baggage. In fact, one of the best things about this series happens to be Zack's easy-going relationship with his dad. One particular laugh-out-loud moment surfaces when they conduct a backyard experiment with the tech jacket.

E.J. Su provides the artwork, and his manga-influenced style fits this title to a T. I like how Su puts in such detailed work into the look of the tech jacket. Drawing mecha-suits can be so painstaking. One downside is that, this time, there's a simplicity to Kirkman's storytelling. The stories in this series aren't as complex as those in THE WALKING DEAD or even INVINCIBLE. But I'm guessing that's because Kirkman has had time to develop richer content in those series. He never got that with TECH JACKET. Which sucks, because this series had serious potential and could've gone in so many directions. For the fourteen TECH JACKET fans out there, here's a bone: Tech Jacket has at least been popping up in other Image comics (INVINCIBLE #27, BRIT #9-10), so he hasn't been completely neglected. Maybe, someday, Robert Kirkman can put out a mini-series or something, just to catch us up with Zack Thompson. But it might be a while. Kirkman's a busy dude.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Loved it. By Jes D. Ever since I read a copy of this trade pack by taking it out of my local library, I have been looking for a way to get ahold of a copy to add to my personal library. I'm glad that I was not only able to do so thanks to you, but this is a brand new copy to boot. I highly recommend one searching for those hard to find items to give this place a shot, it's well worth the time.

The Geldarians are a race of incredibly intelligent, yet physically weak and fragile beings. To compensate for their

frailty they have invented the Tech Jacket, a vest that every Geldarian is equipped with upon birth. A fully developed Tech Jacket is considered to be one of the most powerful weapons in the universe. Zack Thompson, through an event of sheer chance, has come to possess a Tech Jacket of his own. Now it appears that the fate of the entire universe rests on his shoulders as he learns that with infinite power comes infinite responsibility.