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J. Michael Straczynski

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J. Michael Straczynski : Ten Grand Volume 1 before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Ten Grand Volume 1:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Great Read!By D. H. AllenFantastic: this is the best Straczynski I have read! The art is a perfect accompaniment for the macabre and existential ride that is our protagonist's--Joe Fitzgerald--afterlife.To be honest, I picked this book up on a tip from some of the boys over at Reddit; rarely have they steered me wrong, and they were spot on here.Collects issues #1-6, respective covers, and some storyboard extras are

included in the back. Personally, I hope there are many more issues to come. I've never been a big fan of angels versus demons literature, most of the fiction available is derivative and poorly written in my experience. That being said, I've always enjoyed DC's Constantine; unfortunately, Constantine is often watered down for general audiences. This is mature, it is dark, and yet it also has a dreamlike quality--conjured by the art, that allows the reader to enjoy the extrasensory aspect to the story as well. My recommendation: check out the synopsis and if you think there's a chance you might enjoy it, take the chance. I'm glad I did. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A bit cliché, but a solid story. By James As my title implies, the story and characters in the comic are a bit cliché, but are likable nonetheless. You've got a John Constantine-like scenario, where the protagonist has to redeem himself in the eyes of God. He can communicate with angels and shoots demons with angelic bullets. His wife, who is killed due to his seedy profession, waits for him on the other side and now the man (or thing) responsible for her murder has reared its head. This is essentially the context of this series. The comic is only 4 issues in so it's still a bit early to tell, but the author has a positive reputation for his work, most notably for his time in the Amazing Spider-man series, and the artwork is very well done (especially the use of colors). What they have on paper so far, has been enjoyable for me and I look forward to seeing where this goes. 3 of 4 people found the following review helpful. I know. I had you at JMS. By Esther Schindler Like many people, I've loved J. Michael Straczynski's work since the days of Babylon 5 -- and I have admired the man since he wrote a CompuServe post explaining how he saved a drowning kitten (yeah really). While B5 is long gone, JMS certainly has never stopped creating stories that drag me in. Sometimes he does so in other's universes, but in this graphic novel he builds one from scratch again, and it's darkly compelling. Joe Fitzgerald is a hit man who was going to do "one last job" before quitting the business at his beloved wife Laura's insistence. But on that last job he gets pulled into a dark-versus-light world of spirits and demons, for which the price is his life and Laura's -- unless he is willing to cut a deal. He has to do his best to save others, and be willing to die for it every time; the reward is a few minutes with his wife in a kind of purgatory. It's not exactly the most uplifting of stories, but JMS is a smartass and so are his characters. The artwork is awesome. I'm not a serious graphic-novel fan, but the illustrations here really add to the story. It's a quick read, but an intense one -- and definitely the beginning of a series. I'm ordering the next book for sure, and I bet you will as well.

Ten Grand charts former mob enforcer Joe Fitzgerald's journey into the world of demonology and the ancient powers that threaten to tear down the pillars of Heaven itself in a new war between the forces of light and dark. Can the man willing to die a thousand deaths so he can be with his love for just a few minutes in-between save the lives of an entire world? Or will this be the end of...well, everything?

From Booklist After button man Joe Fitzgerald fell in love with Laura, he tendered his resignation. As readers of John Wagner and Arthur Ransons Button Man (2013) know, that's impossible. But the button man assigned to Joe is a genuine demon, so after it kills Laura, and Joe is dying, an angel makes a proposal: work for the good guys and whenever he is offed, he will get five minutes with Laura before resurrecting for the next job. In this first collection of an ongoing comic book, Joe takes the case of a missing girl who may be the victim of Laura's killer. Before the books end, Joe gets killed a couple of times and, still living, goes to hell. The plot development and dialogue are above average for this kind of supernatural noir exercise. Templesmith and Smith split the art duties, both using a sharp-lined manner, reminiscent of Frank Miller's Sin City, and a palette of fleshy hues, but where Templesmith deploys color in washes, Smith sets it down in artful geometric blocks. Hot stuff. --Ray Olson