



The Flash: The Haunting of Barry Allen

Susan Griffith, Clay Griffith

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An original novel by Clay Griffith & Susan Griffith based on the hit Warner Bros. series created by Greg Berlanti & Andrew Kreisberg & Geoff Johns

Speeding through Central City, Barry Allen is met with a startling sight—the Flash, older, battered, and badly injured. Before he can speak, the doppelgänger is gone.

Then Barry begins experiencing glitches in his powers—moments that leave him ghostly and immobile in the middle of missions. When a group of his enemies—including Pied Piper, Weather Wizard, and Peekaboo—chooses this time to launch a new assault, the Flash seeks help from his most trusted ally. Oliver Queen – the Arrow.

The Flash: The Haunting of Barry Allen Details

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From Reader Review The Flash: The Haunting of Barry Allen for online ebook

Lakshmi C says

3.5 RTC

Tay says

As with any good media-in, the Griffiths manage to highlight everything I adore about an episode of the Flash. Unfortunately, this episode is also an Arrow crossover which are my least favorite. Overall, I adore the book and I'm really happy that the authors understand what makes the show so good - the characters and their relationships. My personal problem is the Arrow chapter during the climax actually bored me to tears because I couldn't care less about the character. Of course, I'm venturing forth to the next book - only for Barry.

Marina says

I have been going through a huge Flash phase recently. It all started when I decided to re-watch the series before the new season airs this fall.

This book was the perfect mix of all the plot devices and character developments I love to read. It might have had some rough spots but I wasn't looking for anything particularly "high-level," so to speak. It was the perfect easy read that hit me in all the feels. My take away from the book was so strong that while I was watching the series, I kept mixing up the show with the events in this book.

Such great drama, character angst, action, and lots and lots of running.

Read, readers, read!

Christine says

This book encapsulates everything that made me fall in love with The Flash television series. Set sometime before Flashpoint but after at least part of season two occurred, it incorporates all (in my opinion) the essential characters from The Flash, as well as Arrow (this is, after all, the first of a two-part crossover). I felt the same way about the book versions of the characters as I do about their television incarnations- which is therefore a tribute to the authors' writing style being in line with that of the series. Further, it feels very much like it could be a crossover television event- and it is one I would very much enjoy if that did happen. I truly loved this book.

I fully admit that I have been watching season three of the show and not loving it half as much as I did the first two seasons, so The Haunting of Barry Allen was incredibly effective in reminding me what I loved

about the show when it began. Each character has a specific role to play (I particularly enjoyed this incarnation of Diggle, who is probably my favorite Arrow character) and no one feels tacked on without reason. Plus, there is only one hero speedster, which is how I prefer both my Flash comics and television series, so that appeals to me. Barry Allen is the heart and soul of this novel, and that, for me, is what makes it so compelling.

Jennifer says

I can often times be a bit leery of media tie-in novels, because they're usually not written by those who write the shows/movies, and that can lead to problems with characterization.

However, this novel written by Susan and Clay Griffith, avoided that.

Barry begins to suffer from what he calls "blurring" during rescues in which he sees an older version of himself and his powers "glitch". These episodes become more and more severe just as a group of villains (Pied Piper, Peekaboo, Weather Wizard, Prism, and The Mist) join forces to wreak havoc on Central City.

Barry, growing more and more weary from the almost constant onslaught of the villains and the blurring (which causes his speed healing to malfunction), calls in The Green Arrow (and Diggle and Felicity) for help.

I really enjoyed this book. For the most part the authors were dead on in regards to the characterization. Not 100%, but pretty darn good all the same.

I also enjoyed the fact that with this being a novel, we got more time to have scenes between characters that we don't normally get in the show. There was a great scene with Iris and Caitlin, for example. And another with Joe and Diggle that I really enjoyed.

The book also spent plenty of time with our villains from their POV, and I absolutely loved the development that Shawna Baez (Peekaboo) got.

As far as where this would fit in the show's timeline, I'd say early season two. After the singularity most definitely, but before Earth-2's Harrison "Harry" Wells shows up. They are aware of Zoom, and I'd say they would have had to have met "Jay Garrick" since Barry knows how to throw lightning in this book, and that's something I was taught by "Jay" (trying so hard not to spoil S2 here). Then again, this isn't exactly show canon, so maybe this is something we're supposed to hand wave, I don't know.

Speaking of Harrison Wells--who is my favorite character, any version of him--I was so disappointed to read in another review that he wasn't in this book. That's not exactly true. While the season 1 version of him isn't a speaking, physical character in the book (due to having been defeated), his presence is hugely felt throughout the entire book, and he is mentioned several times. So, it wasn't as disappointing as it could have been.

I've already preordered the second part of the crossover, Arrow: A Generation of Vipers, and I can't wait to see what happens next.

Zack! Empire says

Not a bad book at all. There are a few great moments where I felt they really nailed the characters, like when John Diggle and Joe West are talking about fatherhood. They also do a nice job of explaining the action. The powers of the Flash don't translate well to a medium that contains no visuals, but they found a way to explain it fairly well.

The book is a bit weak on plot though, considering it's a "two-part" series. Basically Barry keeps trying to defeat the collection of Rogues until he sees he needs help and calls in Green Arrow. Then, Flash and Green Arrow both fail to take the Rogues. It's a bit embarrassing for the heroes.

I already bought the next book in the series, so I'll be reading that some time.

Chris Lemmerman says

insert disenfranchisement about media tie-in novels here

But actually, this is great. Really great.

I had great fun trying to work out where exactly this is set. Oliver's the Green Arrow, so it's after the beginning of Season 4 of Arrow, and there's mention of Zoom and Barry can throw lightning, so it must be after the first few episodes of Season 2 of the Flash. There's no mention of Harry Wells, or Jay Garrick, and Hartley Rathaway is still a villain so I'm thinking around episodes 3-4 of Flash Season 2. I may just be reading too much into things and should just read this as an AU kind of thing, but I enjoy trying to fit things into continuity, so your mileage may vary.

The actual plot involves a group of the Flash's rogues uniting to terrorize Central City, and the fallout from the temporal singularity at the end of Season 1 affecting Barry both psychologically and physically, to the point where he needs to call on Oliver and Team Arrow to help him save the city.

We get a lot of good perspective changes here, from Barry and Oliver to Peekaboo for the much needed villain point of view, as well as Joe and Iris West too, giving a good overview of everything from all the possible directions. We don't get a lot of Felicity, Cisco, Caitlin, or Diggle, but they play active roles in the plot and this feels like a true crossover between the two series.

There's not a massive cliffhanger to end the book, but there's good reasons for the story to continue as everything isn't tied up into a neat little bow, so I'm definitely going to pick up *A Generation Of Vipers* as soon as it comes out to see what happens next.

Jim C says

A book that is based on the television series and it takes place during the second season. It is also a crossover with the show *Arrow*. In this one, we get a version of the Rogues and this version uses villains we have seen used during the show. While fighting these villains, the Flash is experiencing a problem where he "blurs" out. This "blurring" is the Flash goes transparent and basically frozen in time while he visits the speed force which leaves him and others vulnerable.

The author did an amazing job with the characters from the show. I had no problem picturing any character whether it was from the Flash or members of the Arrow crew. Readers will enjoy their banter throughout. The strength of this book is the characters as we get to see them interact with each other. Who knew I needed to see Iris and Caitlin have some girls time together or Joe and Diggle discuss fatherhood? I really felt like I was watching an episode from the show especially when team Arrow gets involved. There were plenty of callbacks to previous episodes that will delight readers.

This was one of the better media tie-novels that I have read. It really didn't feel like a media tie-in book as the story never felt like it was shoehorned in to feel like it belongs. This story does belong and in my mind it is official canon.

Ricky says

Thanks so much to my dear friend Ariel for clueing me in to the existence of this book and its sequel, *Arrow: A Generation of Vipers*, which I'm to read ASAP now. Maybe this one's more of a 4.5 than a 5, being a tad bit bogged down by overwrought prose and a few of my favorite characters not being present due to the book taking place roughly around the start of Season 2, meaning no Harry Wells or Wally West, boo hiss! - and, personally, I feel that the Griffiths' decision to write Barry's POV in third person instead of first was an oversight on their part, a missed opportunity to get into the guy's head like nobody else. But as a story worthy of being part of the CW series' canon, *The Haunting of Barry Allen* more than delivers enough to earn the full fifth star from me.

As I was telling my friend Koda while kinda-sorta pitching this book to him, it's professional fanfiction, but *very good* professional fanfiction, y'know? Hell, I noted a few similarities between my own fics and this book, particularly when Ronnie Raymond shows up - you'll know it when you see it. Between this and the other *Flash* story I read recently, Barry Lyga's more kid-oriented *Hocus Pocus*, I've got serious competition if I'm ever to take my unofficial *Flash* fanfiction career and make money from those speedster skills. I prefer the Griffiths' story, though, for several reasons.

One, being more for the adult audience allows it to pack much more of a punch, being a little less fun and games.

Two, the characterizations are not only super-duper on point (not that Lyga lacked in that department - I'm especially impressed with his depiction of Wally West, so superior to what we get on the show and so much more ready for Keiynan Lonsdale to properly portray him), but they give me all the right feels that I've come to expect from this world. Barry's actions from the end of Season 1 shape the story considerably, and the Griffiths take the opportunity to improve on the characterizations of just about everyone from that point in the timeline. Caitlin is smart and clinical but also very warm-hearted, far from her Killer Frost persona that sacrificed book smarts for street smarts. Joe is every bit the loving dad we all know he is. And Iris? She's perhaps best improved because there's no sign of the nonsense that befell her character in Season 2 and beyond, like the show pretty much forgetting her journalism career (the Griffiths don't forget, though), or of course the whole WestAllen adoptive-sibling-shipping shenanigans that have repelled the vast majority of my fanpeople friends. (Sure, maybe there's a hint of WestAllen romance in the future, but this book paints the two of them as best friends, as I feel they should be.) And Barry...my God, Barry. If you don't at least tear up and want to pull him out of the book and hug him, you have no soul.

Three, the very welcome inclusion of the *Arrow* cast - pretty much Original Team Arrow (Ollie, Dig, and

Felicity) owing to the book's location in the timeline, so before the infamous Season 4 which Stephen Amell would have us all forget. They hit it off so beautifully with Team Flash that it makes me wish the Griffiths wrote both shows, because maybe then they'd both be my favorites - though they'd still have *Agents of SHIELD* to compete with, and that show ain't yielding the top spot on my current faves list easily. And while the main metahuman threat gets eliminated thanks to Team Arrow's help, the *Haunting* issue...erm...doesn't. There's a pretty meaty cliffhanger to set the stage for *A Generation of Vipers*, and again, why the hell don't the Griffiths write the two shows already? Or at least the crossovers. They could do better than most of the ones we did get, except for "World's Finest" or "Invasion!" (They only did better than "Crisis on Earth-X" because WestAllen dragged that crossover down for me. Hashtag #SorryNotSorry, I'm dying on that hill!)

Bottom line, this book, which I read in one sitting, forms the beginning of a super-promising two-part crossover that I need to complete ASAP. My review of *A Generation of Vipers* will come very soon, and my expectations are incredibly high!

Sapphyria says

When I discovered this gem on the authors' website, I immediately added the book to my wishlist on Amazon. I couldn't wait for *The Haunting of Barry Allen* to release in November 2016. I read it - devoured the book, actually - and am glad I purchased a paperback for my bookshelf. As a huge fan of *The Flash* and *Arrow* on the CW network I read this book as I see the characters in the tv show. Central City, STAR labs, the characters, their voices, mannerisms....is this review getting weird?!

Anyway, I didn't actually jump on the superhero bandwagon until last summer. Fortunately, that gave me plenty of time to catch up on both shows before their new seasons started in the fall of 2016. I'm still working my way through season 1 of *Legends of Tomorrow* but that show doesn't really have anything to do with this book.

When 5 of Barry's meta-villain enemies (Hartley Rathaway/Pied Piper; Shawna Baez/Peekaboo; Kyle Nimbus/Mist; Mark Mardon/Weather Wizard; and Bivolo/Prism) try to take siege of Central City, true-to-form, Barry tries to stop them. Except, he's experiencing unusual glitches in his normal speed, an effect called blurring. He becomes transparent and pinned to one spot, unable to move, talk, or escape. When the city is under attack, this is not exactly a great time for one of our favorite heroes to be experiencing issues. Eventually, Barry realizes that it is time to stop putting himself in danger, alone. He needs to bring in reinforcements and calls on Oliver, Felicity, and Diggle.

This tie-in novel for the current tv shows was wonderfully written. The characters were spot on and I had no problem connecting to them just the same as I do with the show. I felt like *The Haunting of Barry Allen* could very well be acted out by the wonderful casts of both shows. The story was interesting, engaging, and full of action. I absolutely loved this novel and can't wait for the *Arrow* focused *A Generation of Vipers*.

My paperback review copy is a verified Amazon purchase.

Silverscarf says

I loved, loved, LOVED this book! I was so excited for this book and I was not disappointed.

The last book for one of these shows, Arrow: Veneance, was not exactly my favorite read of the year, I liked it at first but as it went on I wasn't too thrilled with it. But this one was so much better, I loved every page. It feels like watching the show, the plot is fun and true to canon, the characters are all themselves. I can't really ask for more from a tie-in novel. And believe me I've read some tie-ins that were absolutely terrible before, but this one has to be pretty high on the awesome list. Plus it's a crossover story with Arrow, which I didn't really start watching until just now, but it's fast becoming a favorite as well the other DC shows.

There is a cliffhanger, but not a huge one. A wrapped up just enough to be somewhat enjoyable, but you still want to read the next book kind. Overall I really loved this book, in case you missed when I said that before. I can't wait for Arrow: A Generation Of Vipers, which is part two of this crossover story, which is supposed to be coming out in march. And I can't recommend this book enough for Flash fans.

Xavier Kozlowski says

Trying to stay calm so a singularity plasma doesn't rip him apart , Barry Allen , the fastest man alive gets the help of the Green Arrow to stop a band of some of the most fearsome meta-humans Barry ever faced . Flash : The Haunting of Barry Allen was written by the married couple author duo , Clay and Susan Griffith . The story focuses on Barry Allen a.k.a. , the Flash . It takes place in the Flash's home , Central City . The main conflict focuses on Barry trying to stay alive and calm whilst figuring out a way to stop the band of metahumans from taking over and completely destroying Central City . In the end , Barry learns to stop carrying around the weight of the world on his shoulders .

Flash : The Haunting of Barry Allen fits into the science fiction genre very well . It has all the parts of a science fiction book . To begin with , a science fiction book should have something that could possibly one day become true . I know this because in the science fiction TV show , the Flash , it states , " And you will create a portal connecting this time to infinite times " . Right now , it is a known fact that scientists are trying open up wormholes like in the TV show . In addition , Flash : The Haunting of Barry Allen states , " ... a device designed to open temporal rifts " . In addition , science fiction consists of totally made up theories and ideas based on real technological theories . According to www.inc.com , the text states , " ... somebody crawling on walls would be interesting " . In addition , according to www.express.co.uk , the text states , " ... scientists are claiming to created the first ever wormhole ... " . This ties to my novel as the last piece of textual evidence stated from Flash : The Haunting of Barry Allen , they found a worm-hole generator . Last of all , science fiction consists of possible events that could happen but most likely won't or things and events that seem impossible . According to the text , Flash : The Haunting of Barry Allen , " ... as he vibrated his hand through the door lock and sprung it open " . This event would most definitely never happen in real life and is therefore considered to be a part of science fiction .

I really enjoyed this book because it was based on a TV show that I love and it was a thrilling and exciting read . I was kept in suspense for the better part of the book , kept wondering what would happen next , how will the Flash survive this . Will they cure him from his singularity disease ? I think people who enjoy superheroes , comics or the Flash TV show would really love this book . It has all the excitement of fighting supervillains and anyone who enjoys a little comedy would not be disappointed by this book . So if you are

looking for a great book to read , pick up Flash : The Haunting of Barry Allen and get reading .

Andrew Beet says

I loved this book you can tell that the authors watch the flash tv series. they got all the characters spot on including the villians. it was great to see pied piper weather wizard and peekaboo go up against the flash add to the mixture that the flash is having a few problems with his powers and you have the makings of a great book looking forward to the next novel

Rowan says

I thought this was gonna read like a fanfic, but this was actually really good, and it was written almost exactly like the TV show. I really appreciated that it felt so true to the tone of the show. I would've loved if this were an actual arc of episodes in season 2, and I actually want to read the sequel!

Alejandro says

The Flash & Green Arrow vs one Rogues' team! Nuff' said!

This is an original story based on the successful TV Shows of “The Flash” and “Arrow”.

WHEN THE HECK IS THIS SET?

If you have read media tie-in novels before, maybe you're aware of the continuity nightmare that it can be to set the developed story in the original novel since the author (of in this case, authors), must began to write the book several months before that even the current season is shown, and in this case, you have *The Flash* already in its third TV season, but this book is certainly set at some point of the second season, but even then, creative team of the TV show and book's writers were surely working at the same time, so being able to set in a definite point of the second TV season isn't as easy as you think.

Due, made comments and shown characters, this novel was set to be happened at some momento after the TV episode “Enter Zoom”, and while also it's clear that it should be before “Flash Back”, I would even venture to claim that it should be before “Legends of Today”, with the only understandable absence of Jay Garrick.

THE ROGUES HERE

While The Flash has already faced more than one villain in several moments of the TV series, you still haven't feel the sense of him facing a full “Rogues” team with five members as you always want to see him battling.

However, your prayers are answered here, in this original novel where The Flash is facing a “Rogues” team and even they aren’t your usual mix of villains: The Weather Wizard, The Mist, Prism, Peekaboo and the Pied Piper leading them, so you can enjoy not only having a Rogues team in the story but also a very original combination of villains.

However, Barry Allen is having troubles with his powers so he will need extra help to deal with the menace of this Rogues team that they are decided to attack Central City without rest.

THE BRAVE AND THE BOLD

Barry is reluctant to ask for help, since he knows that Green Arrow must be busy with his own mess at Star City, however Oliver Queen, John Diggle and Felicity Smoak didn’t hesitate to go over Central City to lend a hand in this moment of crisis.

Barry’s powers are failing, his speed is getting breaks, his rapid healing abilities aren’t responding and even he is seeing hallucinations and falling into some kind of “blurring comas”. So, it’s clear that The Flash needs all the possible assistance.

His own team, Cisco Ramon, Caitlin Snow, Joe West and Iris West are doing all what they can to support Barry, however, the reason of his failing powers is mysterious and eluding to be determined.

Then, between the new Rogues team and the problem with Flash’ powers, it’s clear that Team Flash and Team Arrow must join forces to deal with both menaces.
