



## **Guardians of The Galaxy, Volume 2: War of Kings, Book 1**

*Dan Abnett (Writer) , Andy Lanning (Writer) , Brad Walker (Illustrator) , Wes Craig (Illustrator) , Paul Pelletier (Illustrator)*

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A new line-up! And Star-Lord... missing! The shocking revelations made at the end of their Secret Invasion adventure have ripped the team apart! Is there anyone left to continue the task of guarding the galaxy? Who are the new additions to the team? Is this volume going to be packed full of shocks and surprises? This is DnA and Pelletier...so what do you think? Join the book that has IGN.com raving: "It's witty, it's fun, and it's quickly becoming one of my favorite monthly titles from Marvel."

**Collecting:** *Guardians of the Galaxy* 7-12

## Guardians of The Galaxy, Volume 2: War of Kings, Book 1 Details

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## **From Reader Review Guardians of The Galaxy, Volume 2: War of Kings, Book 1 for online ebook**

### **Pete says**

More action packed nacho cheese goodness. I can tell this is a set up story for the overall plot. Having the Guardians spread out across the galaxy and other dimensions was a little jarring but I look forward to the reunion surrounded by a real plot.

The last two issues were slow and weird. I'm not sure if I missed something in some crossover bullshit. Still fun overall.

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### **Joseph says**

Well, another great GOTG book from DnA! The team is ruptured and leaderless, and the time/space continuum problem is still looking to happen. Lots of good fight scenes, as well as some Marvel lore I'm not familiar with, but DnA, once again, have a way of making the obscure/past references make sense to the new/casual reader.

This volume, and the next, cross over with the War of Kings event, so I'm gonna have to read that series to see wtf is going on. Meanwhile, on to vol 3!

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### **Sud666 says**

Part two of the Abnett run on the cosmic space opera that is Guardians of the Galaxy. I rather liked this one as the scope of the tale has expanded into some of the cosmic areas that are rarely explored in some of the other titles.

After the debacle of the first formation falling apart due to the revelations of Peter Quill's mind manipulation-the team fractures. Everybody seems to go on their own way and many after their own projects. Drax and Phyla-Vell go looking for some little girl Drax wants to rescue; Star Lord is making friends with Ronan and then eventually Blastarr; the "Guardians" with Mantis, Groot, Rocket and major victory are trying to hold down the fort and recruit new members such as Bug and others. Strangely these disparate storylines all begin to come together in the end which is interesting, but would be spoilers.

The artwork has been solid all throughout. I came in expecting cosmic storylines and cosmic characters- I can say that both requirements were met. This has a cosmic feel much like Silver Surfer. The humor isn't bad and the major story arcs are fascinating- from the Warlock as Messiah to the rescue of Star Lord (and that great scene of that weird guy with a gorilla body yelling "Space Lord? Space Lord?!!! What kind of a name is Space Lord? It's gotta be a trick!") and the potential reformation of the team and the Badoon storyline- I'm going to say a lot is going on here. SO far I am liking what I am reading and will continue on the Guardians run. If you like big cosmic plots and characters this is a good read.

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## Kemper says

Thanks to the trailer for the upcoming movie adaptation I was singing *Ooga-Chaka Ooga-Ooga* the entire time I was reading this.

The Guardians of the Galaxy had a falling out among themselves after learning that their leader Peter Quill (a/k/a Star-Lord) had used an underhanded tactic when recruiting them. Now Quill has vanished and some Guardians are off running personal missions, but the universe still needs saving regularly so Rocket Raccoon has pulled the remaining members back together as well as adding some new ones. Because when you need a team of universal champions, who better to lead them than a heavily armed talking raccoon?

As the Guardians get a warning of an alien threat that will eventually destroy humanity in a future timeline, Star-Lord ends up in the Negative Zone facing an old enemy, Adam Warlock tries to make a deal with the Universal Church of Truth and a couple of other team members get killed. Don't worry, they're only mostly dead.

There's several story threads going on here, and I particularly enjoyed the parts with Rocket leading the Guardians while Quill deals with a situation in the Negative Zone. I'm also liking the intriguing hints of a future timeline catastrophe, and even though I don't know much about Drax or Phyla-Vell acting as Quasar, their storyline was also very well done.

The only downside was that a lot of this was obviously built around the *War of the Kings* crossover, and I'm always disappointed when I see a series put its on-going stories on the back burner. It looks like that event would dominate the rest of Dan Abnett's run on the book, and I would have enjoyed more time reading about GoG turning into the cosmic team that was hinted at in the first volume rather than having them thrown into a giant event so early into their run.

(Updated 3/15/14 - After reading the second collection of *GotG* with the War of Kings crossover, my opinion of the this jumped up a notch and I added an extra star.)

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## Andrew says

Solid. I read the first volume sometime before the film came out last year, and I liked it. So it's been a while since the Dan Abnett volume 1 (took place during the Skrull Invasion), but man this one just pulled me right along. Everything ties together nicely: I liked Peter Quill's negative zone journey and run-in with Blastaar; I liked Rocket and Co's Badoon fighting romp (great art on that section); I liked Drax and Quasar's search for his daughter; and I liked Gamora and Adam Warlock's continued meddling with the Church of Truth - a futuristic version of scientology (don't squirrel me, dude). Kinda wish they'd resolved that last part, it had a lot of potential. Anyway, I think Dan Abnett's writing is stellar, and old Bendis could take a few lessons from him in how not to make all of your characters sound the same (ouch). This is prime cut right here, folks.

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## **Bradley says**

Funny and brilliant. The standards are set high and these are very enjoyable.

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## **Riley Blue says**

Star-Lord (Peter Quill), Gamora-Adam Warlock y Drax el Destructor-Quasar (Phyla-Vell), están separados del grupo y es interesante ver las venturas de cada uno de ellos, mientras tanto el peculiar Rocket Raccoon forma su propio grupo temporal porque no puede dejar la Galaxia indefensa. Muy **buen** volumen.

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## **Paul E. Morph says**

The first half (well, two thirds, technically) of this collection has Rocket Raccoon stepping up to the plate as team leader and putting together a new line-up in the aftermath of the team fracturing at the end of the previous volume. I was overjoyed to see my favourite Micronaut, Bug, joining the team, but that was the only real high point for me. The bulk of this section was taken up with an almost pointless battle in the Negative Zone that brings Star-Lord back to the team.

I'll be honest; it annoyed me that the whole reason for Star-Lord's leaving the team wasn't even touched upon. I'm sure it'll be dealt with in future volumes, but I wanted it to be addressed here, dammit!

Anyway, the second half (final third) of this collection switches focus to Quasar and Drax on their mission to bring Moondragon (Drax's daughter and Quasar's lover) back to life. Why not, eh? She's been dead all of five minutes! The usual comicbook resurrection grumbles aside, I did get a kick out of seeing Oblivion again, from my much-beloved Iceman mini-series back in the '80s. Yeah, I'm old and love '80s comicbooks! You got a problem with that? Screw you, buddy! (Apologies; I'm currently marathoning 'Maron' on Netflix and I think his attitude is rubbing off on me. Yes; just like your mum. Blimey; there I go again...)

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## **Khairul Hezry says**

Surprisingly enjoyable. I say surprisingly, because I was expected a rehash of the Guardians of 20 years ago. Glad I was wrong. Smart writing and nice pencils make me a happy boy. Also, it has Groot, a sentient tree who likes punching people. Sometimes all you need in a comic book is to see a talking tree in a jumpsuit punch bad guys, y'know. Stupid awesome stuff like that is why I'm reading this book.

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## **Anne says**

4.5 stars

The problem with finding great comic books is that once you latch on to an interesting story/title, you feel compelled to dig up everything else you can find on it.

War of Kings is something I've been meaning to get to for a while, but now I'm going to have to bump it up to the top of my list.

### **I have to know what's going on here!**

I liked this volume even more than the first one. It's still got quite a bit of humor in it, but now the plot is advancing at a pretty good clip.

Star-Lord's plan to warn the Kree about the Skrull invasion backfires *spectacularly*. Drax and Phyla-Vell take off to see if Heather is maybe alive. Rocket recruits a new member (Bug) to the team, and Adam and Gamora face off with that creepy Church.

Good stuff!

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### **James DeSantis says**

Quill: You never heard of us?

Prisoner: No one has.

Quill: We're the guardians of the galaxy.

Prisoner: You're a liar. You made that up.

Quill: No, it's real.

Prisoner: Are you kidding me? I thought you were going to bring the fucking avengers!

This, to me, was a ton of fun if not a tad confusing.

So the guardians are on missions with different groups. Of course Quill's dumbass is alone but when he goes to a prison, hilarity begins, and holy shit is it funny. Then we have Rocket and his group taking on villains while Adam Warlock and his crew head off to the biggest fight of their life to change their fate of the galaxy. Oh and Drax and company head to...hell? yeah, this is a zanny adventure right here.

Good: The art worked on all levels, and some of these spreads and epic fights are stunning. The humor is so fucking funny at points. Quill was cracking me the hell up. Also, the last two issues are really interesting and something way different.

Bad: It can be confusing. There's a lot of guardians and so some I'm just like 'Uhhhh okay"

Overall, fun and exciting. This is what I wanted from the first volume. It amazes me this is the same guy who's writing the current Titans series (it sucks). This is a 3.5 out of 5, but I'll bump it to a 4.

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### **Anthony says**

The first volume left me a little disappointed. This one is much better, and more of what I was expecting: cosmic super hero stories with a good sense of humour weaved into it. I probably enjoyed this volume a bit more because I knew the characters better, so I was connected to them more emotionally.

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## **Aaron says**

Another cosmic extravaganza from Abnett & Lanning. These guys know what the hell they're doing, and seem to be having a ton of fun doing it. This book is considerably funnier than the first volume, with the writers appearing to have relaxed into the Guardians dynamic a little more. I particularly love how they take a dysfunctional team to the highest level of dysfunction (total distrust and dissolution) and still manage to write the book that feels like a team book. Threads spread out all over the place in this, seeming to have little connection, but then damned if the writers don't make everything connect in very satisfying ways.

The only negative I'll give this book is the Drax/Phyla storyline set in Oblivion. I was pretty confused for a chunk of it, as it seemed to rely heavily on previous Cosmic Marvel mythos that I just am not aware of. However, by about halfway through that particular story I was back onboard and enjoying it in spite of these issues, so I won't knock it too hard.

This series really feels like the kind of nothing series Marvel tosses writers in attempt to be like "Eh, whatever, go nuts," which almost always end up being my favorite series. Grant Morrison's Doom Patrol (which, granted, is DC), Frank Miller's Daredevil, Jason Aaron's Punisher Max, Rick Remender's Uncanny X-Force, Matt Fraction's Hawkeye, on and on. When Marvel doesn't seem to attach a lot of weight to a franchise they hand over to a skilled writer, magical things tend to happen. This seems like one of those series. I'm grateful for publishers not giving a shit! Give less of a shit, publishers!

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## **Alan says**

These may not be Marvel's cosmic characters as we remember them, but Dan Abnett and Andy Lanning do a solid job of mixing space opera with super heroics. Frankly I could have done without the whole Dragon of the Moon part of the storyline.

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## **Ashley says**

Apparently the edition I read was an omnibus of volumes one and two. See [here](#) for my review.

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