



Superman/Batman, Vol. 7: The Search for Kryptonite

Michael Green , Mike Johnson , Shane Davis (Illustrator) , Matt Banning (Illustrator) , Jonathan Nolan (Introduction)

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From Michael Green and Mike Johnson, two of the writers of the hit NBC TV series Heroes, comes this fast-paced new volume in the SUPERMAN/BATMAN series.

The Man of Steel and the Dark Knight have decided that they must undertake the impossible task of recovering all the Kryptonite on Earth. But there are plenty of roadblocks in the way, as they realize that not everyone's willing to hand over the deadly substance. And one of those who's not ready to cooperate is none other than their fellow Justice League member, Aquaman.

Collecting SUPERMAN/BATMAN #44-49.

Superman/Batman, Vol. 7: The Search for Kryptonite Details

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From Reader Review Superman/Batman, Vol. 7: The Search for Kryptonite for online ebook

Alastair Hudson says

An OK story that doesn't pull any punches. All together a bit dull and predictable, but an excellent commodity for the mainstream "graphic" fans.

I love "independent" graphic novels as they usually tell stories in a way that wouldn't be possible with plain text. This is an excellent example of how the "mainstream" comic producers (Marvel and DC) completely miss the point and use the graphics as pure eye candy. Extremely polished ink work and looking at the pencil draft samples they did most of the work for the inker... who just had to do a neat trace. Producing comics on a production line creates a consistent product that sells well... but leaves the people in that production chain at the financial mercy of the houses that run them. Whilst the product is saleable it's just bland. Even to the point where those talented artists seem to be repeating a tried and tested formula that is impressive... but after a few pages just Bland. There's a disconnect between the text and the art that is difficult to fuse well once the production is split up.

So; nice but dull. A classic problem when managers are in charge and try to manage art.

Brad says

[First Aquaman, who defends a ton of Kryptonite at the underwater foundation of a mountain. Aquaman wonders why Superman believes he can destroy other lost homes (Atlantis, etc.) w

Rayco Cruz says

Me ha gustado mucho este tomo. La búsqueda de toda la kryptonita del planeta supone muchas preguntas que Superman y Batman deben responder. ¿Está capacitado el hombre de acero para tomar una decisión como esta?

En general, aunque con algún altibajo, me parece una historia muy interesante, sobre todo cuando, al final, sabemos quién está detrás de todo un arsenal de armas de kryptonita que le han sido vendidas al gobierno de EEUU por si un día Superman se convierte en una amenaza. Dilemas y cuestiones muy interesantes.

Sarah says

It wasn't that I didn't like the writing, or that I thought the art was bad. (The writing was fine! And I liked the art! And the first few pages had me laughing.) It was just... the premise that the plot hinges on. That Superman would actually decide to rid the world of Kryptonite so that he could do his job more effectively. That is a very selfish attitude, and one which I don't buy Superman actually taking. I mean, yes. He wouldn't want the world to be covered in Kryptonite, as it apparently is during this story, but would he truly take away the world's last line of defense against him? I don't buy it.

(Although I was glad to see -- and believed all along -- that Batman would not, in fact, get rid of all of the

Kryptonite. And that was just about the only thing I could believe about this plot.)

Jeffrey Jelmeland says

As expected for this series this was a very well put together story arc. We got a good look at Superman and his motivations, and we got a good look at just how far he would go to ensure his safety. The weak point was the inner dialogue for Batman which basically seemed pretty contrived, which is far from normal for this series. All in all a good story though and well worth the read.

Sam Quixote says

After books and books of Superman being felled by his only weakness, the fragments of his home planet Krypton called kryptonite, he does something which many fans have thought about for years - get rid of all the damn kryptonite on Earth! Enlisting the help of Batman and utilising special armour that protects him from the effects kryptonite has on him, they set about gathering up every last milligram of kryptonite on the planet.

It's an original storyline that's not been seen before and it's always fun to see Supes and Bats in action. A couple of things bothered me though - Aquaman fought Superman AND Batman? He's Aquaman! Granted they were underwater but it just seemed kinda dumb - did he think he would somehow beat them? Just seemed arbitrary, like it was done for the comic book cover only. Fans of Superman will also be surprised to see what happens to Superman when he's around white kryptonite. Different colours of kryptonite do different things to Superman such as yellow takes his powers, red turns him evil - white? White is the equivalent of a guy smoking a giant spliff - that's right, in this book you get to see Superman get hiiiiigh! And when he's high he views the world through the prism of manga!

It's an entertaining comic book and a couple of odd details aside it was a good outing for the Superman/Batman series despite Batman continuously being portrayed as a bit of a grump and talking a bit like a 70s punk cop. Nicely pulpy despite a bit of an odd solution to the disastrous event at the end but in keeping with the tone of the book, it's a fun read.

Paula says

I love Michael Green's writing and general intellect, so this was something I knew I would enjoy. I really appreciate the added detail in all of the artwork, especially the full pages at the end of each chapter. The cameo of Aquaman was fantastic and one of my favorite parts. Plus the addition of other characters from the DC universe was cool. The scenes showing Superman's loopy perspective after contact with the Ach-om Rashay amulet were hilarious. I enjoyed the overall creativity of the story and the interaction of Batman and Superman's personalities.

Besides when Batman calls for help and the Flash runs into the scene, stops at a pretzel cart, then runs up a side of a building only to find Batman holding down Livewire and says, "Livewire? Really? I can't believe you had to call in reinforcements for *her*. She's so... um... second tier." WHILE eating a pretzel stick how can you not get a laugh out of that?

(view spoiler)

Gabriel says

If you miss this you're not missing much. Superman recruits Batman and others to quest to gather all the earth's deposits of kryptonite. Along the way he discovers a new form of Kryptonite (silver), encounters an ornery Aquaman, uncovers a government weapons cache of Kryptonite weapons and finds out that Lana Lang is selling herself as head of Lexcorp to build these weapons. The humanity of any of these characters is absent (Lana thinks only of her company and not of Superman or the world), and the government operates in a single-minded way to stop Superman. There is nothing clever or inventive and the character's break their usual form of dialogue (Batman being strong and silent, Superman being noble)

Just read Superman/Batman: Supergirl. It's the best of these imo

Afalstein Kloosterman says

The characters are mostly consistent and the plot is fairly interesting, hitting on many different corners of the DC mythos. What I don't like is the overall premise.

Superman complains about the element Kryptonite being everywhere, but as Bats points out, lead has pretty much the same effect on him, and you don't see him complaining. Regardless, Superman decides that they need to get rid of all Kryptonite, everywhere, so no one on earth can stop him. And Batman agrees because... reasons. Other people, including other heroes, the government, and old childhood friends, disagree. Superman and Batman just railroad through their complaints without ever actually addressing them.

Which they sort of have to, because Supes position doesn't make sense, as he sort of acknowledges at the end. This is essentially a big quest to increase his own personal power, and he lets nothing hold him back in pursuit of that.

It's not really heroic at all, and it's sort of annoying.

Joseph says

Other reviews have already covered things pretty well, so I'll just keep it simple and say that you should check out this book, as well as the rest of the Superman/Batman line. The entire series is somewhat hit and miss, but it's very much worth reading and if you're a fan of either character you should check them out. Personally though I think this is one of my favorites out of the series, with the last page being just absolutely perfect. There are a few things that irk me, and a few plot holes here and there, but they're minor and easily overlooked as the story unfolds, with the ending being just superb.

Also, for fans of the series, I'd also suggest checking out the Superman/Batman movies that are out. Several are very cheap on dvd or available on Netflix, and each one that I've seen has done a great job of translating the story to screen.

Javi says

Una historia muy humana, y aún así consigue no alejarse del lado más divertido de los superhéroes. Tiene varios momentos épicos, de los que ponen la piel de gallina. Me encanta que se base tanto en la psique humana y pseudo-humana.

Jonathan Terrington says

I have decided to begin by stating one important fact. Though I give this graphic novel a four star rating with ease I think that this four star rating for me personally is not an indication of how it ranks in my books overall. For me it is an indication of how it ranks compared to other graphic novels as I have enjoyed them. A four star comic is in no way superior to a 4 star Charles Dickens for instance and vice versa. It is my way of critiquing the different types of medium I enjoy.

That said I found this easily one of the best Superman/Batman stories I have read in a long time. Not only was the storyline superb but the visuals were lush and visceral. And I do appreciate glossy art in superhero graphic novels.

The story follows Superman's attempt to rid the world of kryptonite. Some might say that sounds highly self-serving but it is justified by our hero as his attempt to create a world that he can truly save without proper danger. Several interesting ideas are raised about how people can trust such an invincible hero without a weakness, whether his weakness does humanise him, whether people need a saviour and also who really likes and respects Superman. The ending was particularly enigmatic but I will leave that and many other secrets up to you to find out.

Batman and Superman work together for me because they are in many ways opposites and reflections of each other. They are the two most powerful individuals in their world. They are the most driven, the most determined and they both wear masks even if Superman's is not a visible one. However where Superman believes that all individuals possess some element of good (the truly noble and possibly slightly naive hero) Batman is the darker more cynical hero who often draws near to being a vigilante. In many ways they are two sides of the same coin, two different psyches that together form one whole. Superman's pure optimism tempers the Detective's pessimism and allows a more balanced approach.

Either way this is one of the better versions of the Superman/Batman team up. And so if you're interested in DC graphic novels then definitely worth taking a look at this one. I'll give you a teaser: Doomsday is sort of in there. And if you know anything about Superman he is one of few beings truly capable (he did it) of killing the man.

Chad says

Features Batman and Superman gathering up the world's kryptonite in order to keep Superman safe. I really liked this story. Each issue leads into the next one perfectly. Shane Davis's art is fantastic.

Michael Wilson says

Superman decides that the time has come for him to make the world safer for him to do his job... by ridding the world of all Kryptonite. He enlists Batman to do this, and quickly discovers that not everyone is willing to give it up so easily.. including people such Aquaman, the US Government, and even Lana Lang. An interesting story I guess with some interesting new villains powered by Kryptonite and commanded by Amanda Waller, but nothing here is that surprising or reveals anything new about these characters... but then again... maybe there are not too many new stories to tell...

Bianca says

Got this as a present from EJ & Dom - thank you!

What I liked about this comic is Batman. He is what gives the story incredible depth. Now this comic is primarily about Superman's mini quest against Kryptonite, but as I've observed with stories that center on their particular tandem, Superman always seems to aggrandize Batman's character.

I am a staunch believer in the fact that Superman is a fascinating specimen of true Messianic behavior; behind that boy scout appeal, lies something very dangerous and misleading, and I suppose that is what humanizes Supes. However, Batman, who is already human, is elevated through Superman's flaws, because while the latter appears god-like and is prone to greater personality pit-falls, the former is fully-human and plows through his limitations to rise above the bad in him.

Obviously both characters are meant to represent what's best in us, but Batman's dark side best allows him to improve, so I'm prefer him better. :)
