



Captain America: Living Legend

Andy Diggle (Text) , Adi Granov (Illustrations) , Agustín Alessio (Illustrations)

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When a top-secret orbital research station is dragged from the sky by an unknown alien force, Steve Rogers finds himself caught between two global superpowers on the brink of war! But how does it involve Volkov - a decorated Russian officer he last saw in World War II, who disappeared on an ill-fated lunar mission over forty years ago? As the Russian army mobilizes to lock down the station's remote Siberian crash site, Captain America's mission is to find the survivors and bring them back alive - or silence them forever. Impossible odds in hostile territory are all in a day's work for Cap, but even he is unprepared for the horror that awaits them all in the icy wilderness. Because something has survived. Something alien. And it is awake!

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Captain America: Living Legend Details

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Author : Andy Diggle (Text) , Adi Granov (Illustrations) , Agustín Alessio (Illustrations)

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From Reader Review Captain America: Living Legend for online ebook

Scott S. says

Cap story that started out fairly strong (though the title was misleading - *Living Legend vs. The Thing From Outer Space* would've made more sense - with a good WWII flash-forward to 60's 'space race' prologue. However, by the fourth chapter / issue the momentum cooled a little to my disappointment. Still the artwork is appropriately frigid-looking to match the miserable setting, and there is a decent amount of star-spangled action.

Also, the character of Dr. Fox was illustrated with distracting similarities to Black Widow. Since the bulk of plot is set in the Siberian tundra with a dozen or so Russian military characters I thought there might be a twist or reveal for her, but it was not to be.

Emily says

Mediocre with a few good spots. Cap's dialogue seemed out of character. Overall disappointing.

M says

Remnants of the Cold War come back to haunt Captain America in the Living Legend collection from Andy Diggle and Adi Granov. During World War II, Steve Rogers saved the life of a headstrong Russian soldier during a wintry raid. While the soldier Volkov goes on to become a Russian cosmonaut, Steve Rogers falls victim to suspended animation. Both warriros meet again when a downed space station sends Cap to Russia. Attempting to retrieve the surviving scientist and the military engine, Rogers battles a technological monstrosity that is linked to the imprisoned Volkov - still alive after all these years. Diggle attempts to use the Cold War and Space Race to set up a backdrop for a modern day conflict, only to fall into typical Russian/American tension plot. The mysterious menace that possesses Volkov is also undefined and uninteresting, serving only to try and make a connection with Rogers's WWII history. The art from Granov is hauntingly exquisite; it shines with his technological depictions but does get washed out in his facial expressions. Living Legend is not as legendary as the title insists, but offers a nifty Captain America anecdote.

Wilde Sky says

A superhero tangles with a 'monster' from outer space.

I thought the story and artwork were good – one of the very few graphics novels I've read that had a coherent storyline.

Jin says

This is a nice book. The story is okay but not one of Andy Diggle's best. The art is great, which make this title stand out. Though I have to scratch my head after reading this asking myself, "is that all there is for this? (Sigh)"

Kite Johnson says

Living Legend is a new four issue miniseries from Marvel about Captain America having to deal with shades of his past come back to plague him in present day. The series features great writing from Andy Diggle and perhaps even better, breathtaking art from Adi Granov. Each page is wonderful to behold as you turn them and you cannot help but be enthralled by what is in front of you. Exactly what you would want from any comic book.

The tale finds Cap having to deal with an extraterrestrial entity that has inhabited the body of a Russian cosmonaut in the past whom he had previously saved during the war that of course, was even earlier. There was a tiny hiccup with the story, and not through any fault of Diggle's and company, which was the familiarity of the tale, having just read Endless Wartime recently. Both have a comparable theme and while this story had fewer Avengers and a different monster and situation, they were too similar to not contrast against the other. Certain other elements are different of course and Diggle certainly has a different style than Ellis does, but the *déjà vu* feeling is there and is a little distracting.

Other than that one little thing, the book is quite excellent. It is fast paced and exciting, and Granov's pages are bold. This book proves he is one of the best in the business and if Captain America ever warrants a second ongoing title, this is the creative team that should be put in place. Well written, drawn and executed.

<http://thetelltalemind.com/2013/12/20...>

Kurt Rocourt says

It's alright

That was just alright. The cover art was cool but the rest of it was just alright. The story doesn't make a lot of sense but the art helped.

Sam Quixote says

At last - a good Captain America book! Because Cap is the very definition of whitebread, has a boring shield he can only use as a magic Frisbee, and has zero personality, the flag-wearing boy scout is almost never interesting to read about by himself (and frankly not all that much fun to read in the Avengers books either). The one exception was the fantastic Winter Soldier story and now, joining that rarefied league of good Captain America books is Living Legend, the story of Cap killing a Russian cosmonaut possessed by an alien!

That might seem like an oversimplification but it's not really – in the four issues that's basically the story: alien craziness kicks off in Siberia, Cap goes to fight alien, Frisbee fighting ensues. It jumps around a bit in time from the end of WW2 when Cap first meets the Russian soldier Volkov, to the early 60s when the Soviets still had a space program and Volkov gets shot into space, to the present day, but it's all easy to follow stuff and gives the necessary background on Cap and Volkov's history to make the story more meaningful to the reader.

The cosmic monster that possesses Volkov is a mix of biological and mechanical elements and is described as an entity composed of dark matter from the dark side of the moon - if you've read *The Authority*, picture *Angie the Engineer* and you've got it. It's actually a good enemy for Cap as it's susceptible to the vibranium in his shield meaning Cap can defeat the villain by being himself without having to get help from the Avengers.

The series is also notable for being Adi Granov's first comic since the awesome *Iron Man: Extremis*. Though he only draws the first issue, his superb artwork is as gorgeous as it's ever been and it's a shame he rarely draws comics besides covers. That said, Agustin Alessio draws the other three issues and his artwork is no less impressive than Granov's, uncannily mirroring his style immaculately. *Living Legend* is a pretty dark book with writer Andy Diggle going for a blend of early Ridley Scott space horror to Warren Ellis' *Ultimate Galactus* stories (Ellis loves writing about the forgotten dark experiments the Soviets worked upon, now abandoned and getting crazier as the years pass), and the art is well suited to the tone.

Watching the trailer to *The Winter Soldier* and reading *Living Legend*, there's a noticeable effort on the part of Marvel to make Cap seem more superheroic than he is – specifically leaping out of planes. He jumps without a 'chute in the trailer (incredibly cool moment but should mean certain death for him unless Hulk catches him on the way down, *Avengers* movie-style!) and in *Living Legend* he does a HALO (High Altitude, Low Opening) jump from 10 miles up in the atmosphere, which is practically space, without an oxygen tank! At that height, unprotected eyeballs freeze in an instant but Cap's alright, and he even lands without a parachute! Insanely silly action hero stuff for still a very street level character but cool moments, nevertheless.

Living Legend isn't going to be anyone's favourite comic ever but for simply being a short, interesting Captain America action/adventure story, it succeeds across the boards. Diggle's writing and plotting is fine, Granov and Alessio's artwork is spectacular, and Cap comes across very heroically – the consummate soldier. It's never boring and I enjoyed it throughout – *Living Legend* is definitely worth picking up to see what a good Captain America book looks like!

Christopher says

3.75 out of 5. A streamlined story and one that is admittedly predictable, but is elevated due to Diggle's sparse dialogue and Granov's and Alessio's cold and uninviting art.

Jasmiina F says

I was surprised that I liked this at all because I honestly thought I would hate the art but it actually fitted quite nicely to the story. The story wasn't the best Captain America story ever, but it was interesting in some

parts.

Madison says

3.5. I wasn't sold on this at first, but the concept and the art style both ended up growing on me. It had a surprisingly mature tone, and read more like a classic sci-fi/horror story than I was expecting.

Revol Koob says

Nice drawings, great storyline, good entity.

Connor Nutton says

This comic has outstanding artwork. This is compounded by a solid Cap versus sci-fi nonsense story. Diggle dips into the "winter Soldier" cookie-jar by using Cold War history and paranoia to create a functional and engaging Cap villain. I really like how vague the decidedly Lovecraftian space gribbly bad guy is, because it makes it menacing and because I don't know enough about it, it never got stupid. Also bonus points for not having every Russian character be an asshole. Its a little short sure, but I'd like to think "short and sweet" applies more than "two pump chump". I say again though, even if the story wasn't as good as it is, the artwork makes it well worth price of admission.

Neil Ottenstein says

I just read the 4 issue mini-series Captain America: Living Legend. First off, the art (first issue and all covers by Adi Granov; last three issues by Agustin Alessio) is a very interesting sort of photo-realistic style which was quite eye-catching. The story is quite interesting. I first thought that it was just going to be a tale of the past, but it had flashbacks to the past and then a more current storyline. Something has been found in space and is causing trouble down on Earth now. Captain America needs to save the day. Captain America saved the life of someone during WWII and that person is tied up with the problem.

Angela says

Years ago, Captain America helped a Russian soldier. Now history is repeating itself and people are dying again. This is a decent story with plenty of pathos. The idea of an early astronaut becoming dangerous is old, but it is done in an interesting way here. A good read.
