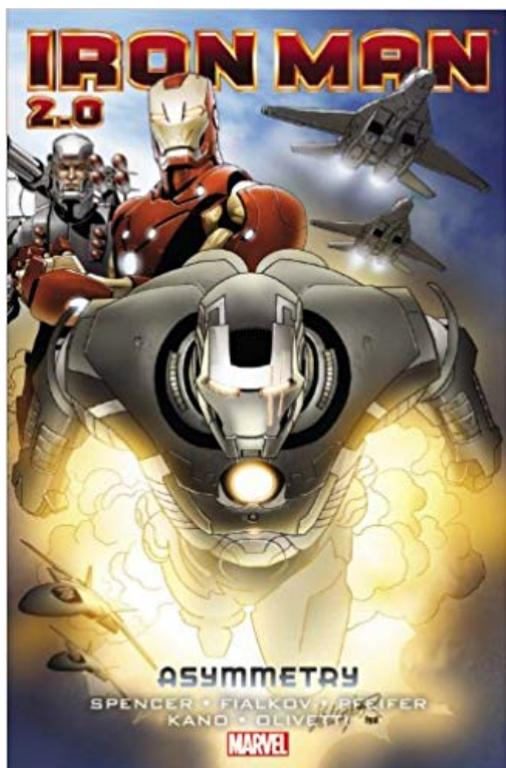


Iron Man 2.0 - Volume 2: Asymmetry by Kano,Ariel Olivetti,Nick Spencer



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War Machine has just met the greatest enemy he's never faced - a nemesis who's already dead! But when the villain's secrets are revealed, does this give Rhodey the key to defeating him, or make it all the more impossible? As uncontrollable waves of high-tech terror attacks push nations around the world to the brink of global conflict, Palmer Addley's secrets are all but cracked - but with the doomsday clock ticking, how does Rhodey stop a villain who is everywhere and nowhere?
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Reviews of the Iron Man 2.0 - Volume 2: Asymmetry by Kano,Ariel Olivetti,Nick Spencer

SadLendy

I like War Machine as a friend and helper to Iron Man. I have all his comics in TP. From this episode

it is clear that Marvel has no slot for him, either as War Machine or IronMan 2.0...which is sad. I like this character.

Araath

The conclusion of Nick Spencer's terrible Palmer Addley story arc was worse than the opening salvo. I just did not like anything about it. James Rhodes, whose a very good character, is made to look like an equal to Tony Stark but is constantly looking for help. The art is all over the place, page to page, and it was bad. Add to that is that Rhodey's coloring changes like Michael's Jackson's complexion evolution. Overall, this entire book was a disaster.

Andriodtargeted

The second and final installment in Nick Spencer's War Machine series "Iron Man 2.0", which revolves around Lt. Colonel James "Rhodey" Rhodes and his hunt for the elusive terrorist master mind Palmar Addley, and, much more importantly, the nifty new armor that Rhodey acquires to combat the menace. For those just walking in, it can be said that you have not missed much, due to the previous installment containing the introductory arc of Rhodey's new armor, Palmar Addley's backstory, and a Fear Itself (a Marvel-universe wide cross over event) story arc involving Iron Fist and the Immortal Weapons--which took 3 issues, so the actual Palmar Addley story arc didn't see much progress until now, and fortunately this book opens with a Point One summary issue of the series, cleverly written as a review briefing on the situation so most should be able to get caught up with the story just fine.

Actually, the pacing may be a tad awkward but the writing and story idea itself was actually quite strong: Rhodey pit against a nation wide terrorist attack and there is no enemy to physically kick the crap out of, a tale indeed for the 21st century and its more terrorist-related fixation. The banter between Rhodey and his "romantic interest" Suzi Endo is fun and really brings out the character of Rhodey, who's not afraid to ask for help when he needs it--he's a practical guy in an increasingly complex world and Spencer delivers. Established characters like Iron Man (of course) and The Fantastic Four/Future Foundation guest star and lend a helping hand during the book's climax (Mr. Fantastic in particular) and seem well characterized. The only problem is that the characters that Spencer introduced for Rhodey's government team are simple and pretty much forgettable with the exception of Kaylie and she only sticks out due to figuring out how Addley was doing his thing and is promptly forgotten later, where we get to another minor problem: Spencer really could've used another issue to help add more resolution to the characters--as it is, the climax feels a tad rushed once the final boss makes himself known, but outside of another issue or two, I don't see a way Spencer could've gotten around it any better than he did and still deliver his complex story. All in all, Spencer did the best with what he had and pulled it off nicely all the while referencing continuity while not seeming out of place or forced--he's done his character research and applied it well.

The art is a tad inconsistent, as multiple artists were called upon for each issue so one artist may have done most of it and suddenly you turn the page and another artist did that portion, but it adds variety and helps liven up the book (I may not be a fan of Olivetti's work but the more I see it, the less it bothers me--it just seems too...realistic? Puppety?...at times, but otherwise it's fine. The action scenes look great and the suit looks cool no matter who draws it and even dialogue scenes seem interesting and dynamic as Rhodey struggles to deal with Addley's endgame.

So while it may not be the movie version of War Machine, it's a development for Rhodey's skill and technique with a solid supporting character and possible love interest Suzi Endo (man I wish Spencer had another issue or two to cement the romantic resolution after bantering about it for the whole series) and a fresh take on what many seem to write off as merely a killer Iron Man knock off.

All in all, it's well worth any Rhodey fan's time or Iron Man fan in general.

Capella

Okay.

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