



Captain America: Disassembled

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Captain America and Diamondback are reunited after all these years - but their reunion is bittersweet, as Cap is consumed with remorse over recent cataclysmic events involving the Avengers. Meanwhile, all is not right within the S.H.I.E.L.D. organization. How is it that Nick Fury is completely unaware? And what does all this have to do with a certain Red-Skulled villain who's been lurking in the background? Plus: Finding himself a fugitive from justice, the Falcon must battle his way past elite naval operatives - even as Cap is forced to choose between his partner and his principles while suffering an enigmatic battle fatigue that replays his worst failure and presents the Scarlet Witch as his only refuge.

Collecting: *Captain America* 29-32, *Captain America And The Falcon* 5-7

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Avi Grundner says

I just found the writing in this to be really amusing and tongue-in-cheek. Cap had a nice glibness that I felt was missing from the last few trades I've read. Hoping the plotline introduced in the final issue is handled well, because it could open up some amazing feminist elements and exploration of agency and personhood, OR it could be super problematic and awful. I'm giving it 4 because it looks like it could go well, and because Cap kinda ended up as the damsel in distress, and because there wasn't any long term fridge-ing. So yay.

Sud666 says

Continuing with the Diassemblebeled storyline- I come upon Captain America written by Bob Kirkman of Walking Dead fame. That was an interesting surprise. I enjoyed Kirkman's writing. It has a very nostalgic feel to Cap. Sometimes it is almost borderline cheesy, but never makes that fatal leap. It stays true to his "good as apple pie" persona. So while usually not my style I did enjoy it. Cap is sent to save a US Senator by SHIELD, except that some guy named Corporal Nolan is attempting an overthrow of SHIELD. Cap and Diamondback rescue the Senator from Hydra and then he fights Batroc and the Serpent Society. Meanwhile it seems the rogue SHIELD Corporal is actually in league with the Red Skull. The Red Skull has also compromised Diamondback, who has rekindled her relationship with Cap and plans to kill him. But during their fight against the Serpent Society Diamondback reneges on her mission to kill Cap and is in turn killed by the Red Skull. Then for some weird reason she isn't dead because of "new found powers" and she and Cap team up to defeat the Red Skull and Corporal Nolan finds that, for all his plans..Nick Fury is just smarter than he is and get himself and his rouge band of SHIELD agents arrested. It is a fairly simplistic story and didn't have the flair I expect from Kirkman (though I judge him off his tremendous Walking Dead series). But, for the simplicity of the tale it has a very Captain America "feel" to it that really does harken back to the olden days of Cap. So in a fit of kindness I think this one is deserving of a 3/5. It has none of the darkness and grittiness of Avengers Disassembled though.

Included in this was a run of the Disassemblebeled story through Captain America and the Falcon. This one was really complicated and without really knowing the past story it was hard to judge. The gist? Well Cap and the Falcon find out that the Office of Naval Intelligence is running an operation with the Rivas drug cartel. When the ONI finds out that they know they send a Navy SEAL with their own version of the super soldier serum to take out Falcon while dressed as Cap. But once he was defeated- Cap realizes that ONI will eliminate him to cover their tracks. So they stash him in the Waknda embassy and try to find some more serum or the sailor goes into withdrawal. ONI decided to charge the falcon with kidnapping the sailor and then the rest of it is Cap and Falcon evading the ONI. In the middle of this Cap hooks up with the Scarlet Witch (and while the timeline was confusing-there is near the end a hint that this happens right before the events of Avengers Disassemblebeled, since Stark hadn't given his disastrous UN speech yet). The Falcon is way more bad ass in this series than I am used to seeing him be. Cap keeps having some weird flash backs. Its is not a bad story-just confusing since it's like I was brought into the middle of the story..shown a few scenes and then ejected. I assume the only thing this has to do with the Disassemblebeled story is Scarlet Witch? That was an awful lot for a timeline even that doesn't occur near the end and am a little confused as to why it was thrown in here. But, if it helps-it seemed like a really good story-if I had started from the beginning of this complicated plot.

Dan says

This is the worst Disassembled tie-in. It's not the worst comic book event I've ever read, but it's extremely close.

Chris says

Not much of an actual tie-in to the Disassembled story but it was great fun and had a quick appearance by the Serpent Society...one of my favorite group of bad guys...even if they are on the D-List.

Mairi says

This was a decent story. The end was a bit rushed, and felt unsatisfying, however. And there were a few too many things that popped up, and then disappeared again, without much consequence. But still a fun read.

Stephan van Velzen says

So far, Avengers Disassembled has proven a great starting point for Marvel comics. That wasn't the case here.

This book contains two story arcs. The second, Captain America's solo arc, was a great starting point, taking place after the events of Disassembled, dealing with the fallout thereof for Cap. Cap felt off, though, being way too violent, under the excuse of "I've had a bad week!"

The first story arc, Captain America and the Falcon, leads directly into Disassembled, and would make a great prologue to it, if not for the facts that it's the sequel to an already established story. Hopefully the first volume of Cap and the Falcon will make sense of this one.

I'd suggest reading half of this before, and half of it after Avengers Disassembled. And even then, the art is pretty horrendous.

Upon reread, I felt much the same as before, and also realized that the two stories are mutually exclusive, which is kind of dumb.

Shannon Appelcline says

Cap & Falc (5-7). This is a bit of a mess of a story. The Anti-Cap story from Vol. 1 continues, but mainly treads water without any forward momentum. Falcon continues acting strange and edgy. Then Captain starts acting weird too, with full-out hallucinations of Bucky and the Scarlet Witch alike. None of it is explained,

which is deeply unsatisfying (though the first two points will presumably get closed out in the last volume and the Wanda problem is assumedly a tie-in to *Disassembled* ... which is hopefully closed out there). But as of now, none of it forms a complete story. [5/10]

Captain America (29-32). Rarely have I seen a comic as much of a mess as this early Robert Kirkman offering. There's a SHIELD conspiracy, and it's mostly dealt with off-screen. There's Diamondback, and she's acting totally out of character compared to the Gruenwald Diamond. There's a major revelation about her that comes out of nowhere and then is shuffled off screen almost immediately. Meanwhile, the arc never goes in one direction, as it constantly jumps from one topic to another. This is just a mess, and by the end not that interesting as a result [4/10].

As a whole, this is also a pretty bad collection. As with most of the Disassembled cross-overs, it's not obvious what has anything to do with anything. But there's also a lot of discontinuity here. Cap's macking on the Scarlet Witch in C+F, then on Diamondback in Cap, and that's never really explained. Meanwhile it's not obvious that Disassembled happens right in the middle of this volume, nor is an explanation of the event offered. This is really an example of how not to organize an event crossover.

Zach Danielson says

I skimmed this one since I'd just read Avengers Disassembled, but I must not know enough Captain America lore to understand what's going on... or care.

Hrishi says

Captain America gets the Disassembled treatment - and just like with Iron Man, it is completely incidental to the overall event. So yeah, another (rather familiar) big bad is out there targeting Cap at the same time as the Avengers, Thor, and Tony Stark all have mortal threats to deal with.

This tale plays out as cliched and has as contrived an ending as the Iron Man story did - which subtracts from the event itself (which I will review separately and was actually quite nice). The Serpent Society and Batroc bit parts/ cameos were also rather meh, I must say.

The art - again - was not impressive for me. All in all, an average read. Some of the complex political machinations hinted at in the Cap + Falcon issues early on (which were a bit confusing and ultimately came to not much) were intriguing, but as I said - came to nothing. Sigh.

Katy says

Any insightful review I had for this story was washed away by the ridiculousness of Diamondback's costume. Why do I keep reading comic books when there is such a clear "no girls allowed" sign on them?! The first time she appeared on panel, Rachel looked like she was sitting naked on Cap's stairs, and because I wasn't at all familiar with her character, in a lot of the 'action' scenes I just couldn't fucking figure out what ridiculous contortionist position they were trying to put her body in. I would be staring at a panel full of just miscellaneous flesh and suit, awkwardly trying to find the underlying skeletal structure to see if it was even

remotely humanoid.

Anyway, always nice to see the Red Skull get cocky and hear about the inner workings of Cap's financial woes when it comes to renovations and repairs.

Draackje says

Hmm, apparently Captain America is not my cup of tea. I didn't particularly like his prominent role in The Ultimates, and didn't get too excited for this story. As a last try I'm going to try Brubaker's Wintersoldier run which is touted as 'the best ever', because I want to like Cap!

J. says

Pretty forgettable all the way around. And only marginally related to Disassembled--this book is certainly better read as part of the longer Cap mythology than the Disassembled storyline.

Kyle says

The two stories in this collection were pretty weak, especially in the writing.

Supposedly, this was to be a supplement to the events of "Avengers Disassembled"; but other than a couple scenes with the Scarlet Witch, this collection adds little to the main crossover storyline.

The Falcon portion of book is particularly tedious, a real slog to read through, and the second story, featuring the return of Diamondback (and Red Skull in a new suit of armour) is cliché and terribly storyboarded.

Plus, Diamondback looks ridiculous in her painted-on, purple fetish gear.

A real let-down.

2/5

Chubistian De oteron says

A meh story. Kirkman tries to do a light superhero story that remembers old comics but he fails at the moment of delivering something worth of that treatment. There's no problem on trying of doing something more old school with a character, but that doesn't mean that the story can't be amazing. Mark Waid is known for doing stuff like that, he in fact did it sometimes on his run on Captain America and it was great. While Kirkman do something fun the plot is just too simple and Red Skull's plan is too generic and with no true strategy
