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Superman Returns: The Prequels

Jimmy Palmiotti, Justin Gray, Marc Andreyko
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Jimmy Palmiotti, Justin Gray, Marc Andreyko : Superman Returns: The Prequels before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Superman Returns: The Prequels:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Johnso Paredes At last, my chance to get a story to complete my knoeledge about my hero. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Not necessary, but nice By Dovile This collection is quite good, whether you liked the movie or not, or haven't seen it yet. There are four stories here: 'Krypton to Earth' (the story of Krypton's destruction told by Jor-El and seems to be taken from the first Superman movie, so if you've seen it, there's nothing new here), the other three ('Ma Kent', 'Lex Luthor', 'Lois Lane')

are set after Superman left the Earth and before 'Superman Returns' with the main characters reminiscing about Superman and what his disappearance means to them. What might be somewhat strange about this collection is that, unlike most other comics based on movies or TV shows, the characters here don't look like actors from any Superman movies, rather they seem to be drawn just as in the regular Superman comics. 7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Similar in tone to "Superman Returns" By Frank Adamson If you loved "Superman Returns" you'll probably love these comics which do a pretty decent job of bridging the gap between "Superman: The Movie" and the recent film. There is a hint of the events of "Superman II," but not much more than that. These aren't your average superhero comics, with tons of action and supervillain smack-downs. Rather, the writers (Singer didn't actually pen these scripts, though he probably gave the writers their assignments) take a much more meditative approach to the characters, examining the motives of key players Lois Lane, Martha Kent, Lex Luthor and Jor-El. The finished effect is much like the polished jewels of Krypton--beautiful to look at, but the plaster Hollywood effects become apparent after a while. There are some really nice moments, such as a brief glimpse of children playing and having fun on Krypton, which the 1979 film gave the impression of being simply a sterile and joyless world. A hint is also given about Krypton's intellectual heritage, which I thought was nice. The issue featuring Martha Kent was probably the best, and she moves in reverie through her memories of Clark growing up and leaving the farm. It's like reading a really good short story with a superhero as a supporting character. Luthor's story is probably the least believable, but it does a decent job exploring the unlikely psychology of a man who would nuke California in hopes of a real estate coup. Lois's issue shows how she got over her past relationship with Superman, and came to write the editorial that made Clark so mad in the recent film. It's readable enough, but it feels like it's just connecting the dots rather than really exploring the character. There is also no clear reference to the events of "Superman II," which was disappointing. Overall, it's a nice collection that you can put next to your "Superman Returns" DVD. For comic book fans, though, it's a mixed bag.

First printing.

From Booklist The movie *Superman Returns* picks up with Superman coming back to Earth after a five-year absence. These prequels give glimpses of the same five years in the lives of the three most important people in his life. In the first, Martha Kent reminisces about Clark's formative years. In the second, Lex Luthor bides his time in prison, nursing a grudge and vowing revenge for Superman's "theft" of five years of his life. The final episode shows Lois Lane, heart in turmoil, pressed to write another article about the Man of Steel. Frustrated and wanting to move on, she writes a story that earns her a Pulitzer, "Why the World Doesn't Need Superman." The stories' various creators draw dialogue, visuals, and incidents from the 1978 *Superman* movie (e.g., a condensation of the destruction of Krypton), linking the new film to its predecessors, except for most of the disappointing third and fourth movies. These stories, well told and necessary to the Superman mythos in general, should interest fans of the movies, in particular. Tina Coleman
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