

Essential X-Men, Vol. 2 By Chris Claremont have some fun while you're doing it! Thank you for joining me this week as we looked at some action books! Join me next week as we look at a new book and.

It was a massive big book that transported me back to my mid-teens. Jim Ward's Comic Store was still in its original iteration on N Water St before relocating.



Twenty-four issues-worth of X-Men adventures from the late 70s and early 80s. Including the Dark Phoenix Saga and Days of Future Past this book sees the X-Men face foes such as Arcade Proteus Alpha Flight D'spayre and the Hellfire Club as well as introducing characters like Kitty Pryde Emma Frost and Dazzler. The episodic adventures of previous years has largely fallen away and instead we get much longer and better developed storylines which are given enough time to mature and build to a crescendo. We then get a slow and impressively subtle slide towards darkness as Jean struggles with the exhilaration of her godlike powers and then has the darker side of her nature slowly manipulated by a mysterious enemy until finally she loses control. As well as the Dark Phoenix story we also get the iconic Days of Future Past (adapted for film much better it has to be said) whose basic premise of heroes from a post-apocalyptic future time-travelling to put things right has become a Marvel mainstay (even the MCU has done it) and is a rich narrative vein to mine. Perhaps the best thing about this book is that the move towards longer-form storytelling means that the main X-Men are given some genuine character development over time feeling a natural progression for them. Jean Grey is the most obvious example but I also enjoyed seeing Wolverine and Storm coming to realise that they no-longer have to be loners and even Cyclops is shown to have changed and matured through working with this particular X-team. There are a few less than stellar moments the somewhat silly battle with Arcade in Murderworld being one such and the fact these collections are printed in black and white means that these stories don't look as vibrant as they once would have but overall these are just good-quality X-Men stories. Notable first appearances: Kitty Pryde The Hellfire Club (including first appearances by members Emma Frost and Sabastian Shaw) Dazzler Dark Phoenix Proteus/Mutant X Jason Wyngard is laughing his ass off foreshadowing the Dark Phoenix Saga. Yay! 0785102981 One of the most important and significant runs in comic book history !! We're talking the Proteus saga - emergence of the Hellfire Club - the Dark Phoenix Saga - the disbanding of Alpha Flight - the Days of Future Past. What can one say about the debutants here's just some of them - Proteus Hellfire Club Inner Circle Sebastian Shaw Donald Pierce White Queen (Emma Frost) Black Queen Kitty Pryde Dazzler Dark Phoenix Days of Future Past reality!!! On top of all that is the incredible character development especially on Kitty Pryde Wolverine Cyclops and Jean Grey. To get true context don't forget that most of these stories were written in the late 1970s!!! This is the trade paper back reprinting of The Uncanny X-men #120-144 and X-Men annuals 3 & 4. The legacy of this writing is self evident today! It could be argued that the long form plotting foreshadowing and juggling countless stories has never been surpassed? 9 out of 12. I will admit it is a bit of an abrupt shift to see the Phoenix Force go from this liberating vision of Jean Grey's power to the demonic force of corruption that possesses her. However reading these issues in conjunction with Ramzi Fawa's BRILLIANT 'The New Mutants: Superheroes and the Radical Imagination of American Comics' explains with depth and insight both the larger themes within the

work as well as the cultural forces that helped shape the narrative. How was I not going to enjoy this? Again it's worth noting I read this digitally on Marvel Unlimited but I've picked this edition because it incorporates the issues I read 0785102981 Chris Claremont is a writer of American comic books best known for his 16 year (1975 1991) stint on Uncanny X Men during which the series became one of the comic book industrys most successful properties. Claremont has written many stories for other publishers including the Star Trek Debt of Honor graphic novel his creator owned Sovereign Seven for DC Comics and Aliens vs Predator for Dark Horse Comics. This trilogy continues the Chris Claremont is a writer of American comic books best known for his 16 year (1975 1991) stint on Uncanny X Men during which the series became one of the comic book industry's most successful properties. Claremont has written many stories for other publishers including the Star Trek Debt of Honor graphic novel his creator owned Sovereign Seven for DC Comics and Aliens vs Predator for Dark Horse Comics. {site_link} Ever-expanding their ranks the Children of the Atom combat the evils threatening both mutants and humans -- like the Brotherhood of Evil Mutants the Hellfire Club and Dark Phoenix. THIS IS ONLY ONE OF THE THREE NECESSARY TO UNDERSTAND THE WHOLE STORY LINE (for my own personal reference to keep from getting them confused because two of the titles are EXACTLY the same the third is similar) this is the third book I review of the three: THE BOOK: The collected issues for this Marvel title include the following: X-Men issues 120-141; The Uncanny X-Men issues 142-144; and The X-Men Annual numbers 3-4. So what we see in terms of what's necessary for the time line of Days of Future Past and what IS included are the primary two issues (141-142)--the other material is either back story leading up to the Future Past time line or just additional material for you to enjoy in getting to know the characters or tangential story plots. This book is radically different in appearance from the two previous books--the previous two are published in full color and have beautiful glossy pages gorgeous to the eye and appealing to the visual senses. Additionally since I am no comics expert I defer to those who do know comics; the experts list this volume as an essential book dealing with the story line of Days of Future Past--that's why volume 2 and not volume 1 is included in today's book review. Another sequence of issues deal extensively with the HELLFIRE CLUB (Sebastian Shaw Emma Frost [AKA The White Queen] Harry Leland Donald Pierce [Cyborg] and Mastermind [AKA Jason Wyngard--Jean Grey's seducer to the darkside and creator of her new persona THE BLACK QUEEN (see issue #132). A little aside here if you recall in the movie X-Men: First Class the Hellfire Club was showcased when CIA Agent Moira MacTaggart follows Colonel Hendry into the Hellfire Club and sees for the first time several super mutants--in the book Moira MacTaggart is a research geneticist and good friend of Charles Xavier. With the advent of these super hero movies we are bombarded in books and movies certainly but also in novelty items like toys collectible figurines special editions or collector's editions of video or console or PC gaming of clothing bedding hats music CDs and even PEZ dispensers. If you would like to see the graphic images I included in my blog post you can see the whole review (with all three X-Men books together) as well as information about new characters in the movie X-Men: Days of Future Past. 0785102981 Yeah this volume was A-M-A-Z-I-N-G from the Dark Phoenix to the Hellfire Club to the arrival of Kitty Pryde first to Park City & then to the Golden Triangle before settling on McGovern Ave between N Queen & N Christian Sts: Also includes the classic stories Dark Phoenix Saga and Days of Future Past. 0785102981 Its incredible that this one book contains the quality of stories that it does, The hunt for the reality shifting Mutant X/Proteus is probably my favorite X-Men story of all time. Tons of tension as the body count rises only to get battles that are absolutely crazy as reality literally gets flipped inside-out, I was a little disappointed that they didn't include the short Shreds of Humanity though as it went a little deeper into Wolverine and Nightcrawler's battle with Proteus. The whole time this madness with Proteus is taking place.

Too, I saw a Wolverine PEZ dispenser and bought it just to have on my desk for inspiration as well as a sweet treat for myself while I've been drafting this blog post, I loved how much fun it was allowing myself to get into this blog post. I hope you've enjoyed reading about the books I selected for you

today. Grab a book and learn just a little more about Days before it gets to the big screen. These were no longer the childish storylines & artwork of even a few years prior. This was John Byrne revitalizing a once-dormant title & taking us along for a wild ride in doing so, I vividly remember Kitty's clash with the Geiger Alien-like creature & being scared for her as a fellow teen. It was around this time that Frank Miller did his thing with Daredevil, Bill Sienkiewicz was making Moon Knight a force to be reckoned with: This book constitutes what is probably the most important X-Men run of all time and has both Chris Claremont and John Byrne at the top of their game. Perhaps the most famous of these storylines (partially because Fox have failed to do it justice on the big screen twice now) is the Dark Phoenix Saga, It begins with Jean Grey sacrificing her life only to be reborn as the Phoenix with her powers increased exponentially: A few issues of filler here and there but for the most part Claremont takes the X-Men into the 1980s with a bang: This is probably one of the more well known X-Men stories and it was good to finally be able to read it all. I was surprised both with the ending and how truly screwed up Phoenix was at her darkest, Then there's the introduction to Kitty Pryde / Days of Future Past an epic of a story condensed into maybe two (three?) issues. I really love the X-Men stuff that has them dealing with their being different: A story about the Sentinels taking over and rounding up all mutants into ghettos resulting in a possible nuclear holocaust? Nice. I really like the team under Storm's leadership and am looking forward to reading more. This is about the time that I stopped reading X-Men so the future is kind of unknown.

0785102981 This is perhaps THE most iconic story in the entire history of the X-Men, I read it as a kid The Dark Phoenix Saga collected in a trade, It was interesting but a bit hard to follow as a kid disconnected from the rest of Claremont's run: Reading it now for the first time in the context of his legendary run? It was fantastic. I particularly liked reading The Phoenix Saga first and then seeing how it led to The Dark Phoenix Saga later, The X-Men's greatest author and his most iconic storyline of all time - it was fast fun and there is SO MUCH MORE going on here than I got as a kid (obviously :), s (volume 1 issues #10 13) at Image Comics which introduced his creator owned character Huntsman: Outside of comics Claremont co wrote the Chronicles of the Shadow War trilogy Shadow Moon (1995) Shadow Dawn (1996) and Shadow Star (1999) with George Lucas: s (volume 1 issues #10 13) at Image Comics which introduced his creator owned character Huntsman, Outside of comics Claremont co wrote the Chronicles of the Shadow War trilogy Shadow Moon (1995) Shadow Dawn (1996) and Shadow Star (1999) with George Lucas. This trilogy continues the story of Elora Danan from the movie Willow, In the 1980s he also wrote a science fiction trilogy about female starship pilot Nicole Shea consisting of First Flight (1987) Grounded! (1991) and Sundowner (1994), Claremont was also a contributor to the Wild Cards anthology series: 2120-144 0785102981 THERE ARE 3 BOOKS THAT COVER THE X-MEN: DAYS OF FUTURE PAST MATERIAL, The new material in this book and not included in the first two books I reviewed are issues 120-137 144 and annuals 3-4. While the cover has a beautiful full-color image the issue itself is published in black and white that is no color--so don't be misled by the beautifully colored cover: The paper consists of inexpensive pulp paper; it is economical but definitely not pretty: And while the pages in the Essential X-Men: Volume Two are eminently clear and readable it lacks the beauty and artistic sensibilities the previous two books possess. Two reasons exist why I selected this volume to include in the book review, First the topic we are looking at today Days of Future Past is part and parcel of this book, 2? In the opening pages we are introduced to ALPHA FLIGHT (the Canadian group of super mutants mentioned above). Vindicator and crew (Sasquatch Northstar Shaman Snowbird and Aurora) seek to bring Wolverine back to their fold--against Wolverine's wishes--uh huh: While she is with Wyngard/Mastermind Jean Grey mysteriously transforms into the Dark Phoenix. Thereafter Jean and her fellow mutants struggle with her god-like powers eventually Jean sacrifices herself and she dies, (See issues #134-137) The rest of the book includes the material I've already covered above only in black and white instead of in full color, The X-Men: Days of Future Past is included (issues # 141-142) as are the other back story material (issues 138-143), (3) The third book I've reviewed about the X-Men is called: Essential X-Men: Volume Two (Marvel Essentials v: 2): This black and white pulp paper book is a great book if you want to economize: And to give the publishers credit we

do get a lot of issues here in one package. The reading of this black and white edition was lacking in enjoyment that the other books provided. I hope you have enjoyed today's rather long-winded blog post about the upcoming movie X-Men: Days of Future Past and of course the books that spawned the movie, I'm afraid that I've been sucked in by all the hype hopefully have some fun too: Take care my friends and pick up a book and read just a bit: See it on my blog at Sharon's Love of Books: <http://sharonsloveofbooks>, 0785102981 This collection has some of the best and engaging classic Claremont X-Men stories including Days of Future Past and some of the Phoenix Saga stories, These were some of the last superhero comics that I read in that long gone era & I remember why - I thought that nothing could surpass these stories, 0785102981 Comfort comics reading almost entirely in pamphlet form (except for Dark Phoenix which I'll review separately:) A couple of observations: 1) This is where I started to like Wolverine and also about the last time I liked Wolverine. Claremont and Byrne do a good job of starting to peel back the mystery and adding nuance, Sadly after this I just associate the character with overexposure. 2) Man wasn't the introduction of Kitty Pryde great? I love the early issues with her (Demon and Days of Future Past): And almost nothing after that (save a Whedon storyline in Astounding X-Men) is memorable[1]

And Pyro. The hunt for Mutant X. The Dark Phoenix Saga. Cyclops leaving the X-Men (?). Days of Future Past. This was truly a great time to be an X-Men fan. Oh well. I've decided to just roll with it. And just a suggestion. grab a Wolverine PEZ and nibble while you read. Just. It is a perfectly-paced and brilliant epic tragedy.* More reviews here: <https://fsfh-book-review2.webnode.com> * 0785102981 4.5 stars. Really easy to see why Cyclops left. He also wrote a few issues of the series WildC.A.T. He also wrote a few issues of the series WildC.A.T. In black and white Essential X-Men Vol. What is included in the Essential X-Men v. You can guess how that goes.). (mine cost \$15.21). Still I much prefer the beautiful editions just above. I give this book 3.5 stars out of 5. blogspot.co. I enjoyed reading this immensely. I'm about to find out as I continue with Vol. 3. 3) Hey 1) and 2) show a pattern! 0785102981.