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GHA follows the story of a group of incompetent, small-minded, super-powered narcissists called "The Power Persons Five" who are hired by NASA to stop all farmers from launching themselves into space in homemade rocket ships. Unfortunately, for NASA, this goal is scarcely even addressed and the book focuses more on extramarital affairs, bank robbing owls, big gross swollen heads, ghost cow heads, olde-tyme boxers, tigers eating cheeseburgers in the Crab Nebula, buffalo judges and tons of aggressive swearing. Not as much a superhero book as it is a parody of basically everything and a celebration of weird that is jam-packed with references to Robo-Cop and Die Hard.

God Hates Astronauts, Vol. 1: The Head That Wouldn't Die! Details

Date : Published June 12th 2013 by God Hates Astronauts

ISBN :

Author : Ryan Browne

Format : Hardcover 180 pages

Genre : Sequential Art, Comics, Graphic Novels, Superheroes, Humor, Graphic Novels Comics

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From Reader Review God Hates Astronauts, Vol. 1: The Head That Wouldn't Die! for online ebook

Dávid Novotný says

Everything is possible in this book...I mean really everything!:) At first, book seems very strange, but after few pages you get used to it and start to enjoy every page, every new absurdity, every new bizzare character. Or not. This book is not for everybody, either you love it or you hate it. I liked fact, that all uncommon characters and situations work together really well and they are not self-serving. Main, more global story stays in background in first volume and everything is actually about heroes and their issues. First they need to help themselves, before they can help others. But it doesn't matter, actually it is better and more funnier, don't expect deep dispute about superheros alike Watchmen or so. Main characters are crazy in their own way, unpredictable and don't behave like heroes at all. Art is beautiful any you will be turning every page with expectation, again in condition you like unusual and strange things...

Matt Garcia says

This was almost ok, I guess lol. It's basically just a bat shit crazy mash up of all things pop culture with references galore. The artwork was awesome which is the one good thing that I liked about it. I'm pretty sure it's supposed to be one of those so bad it's good types of things but I found it to be barely even average. I didn't laugh or even smile which is unfortunate since that seemed to be the writer's intention. Is it the worst thing I've ever read? Not by a long shot but will I continue on with the series? Nah, it's not really worth it to me lol. But I get why others might enjoy it.

Ran says

What just happened? My eyes honestly can't unsee this comic. Actually, I can't really even tell you what it's about. And what in the hell does Browne have against Boston Strong Boy John L. Sullivan? I've never seen so many bears in Boston, guys. But it didn't catch me (even with all the *wtf?!* exclamations over my wondering head) so I'm not following up.

James says

I wrote a review of this book that was published on Amazon, and you can view it here:

<http://www.amazon.com/review/R19SC2TO...>

But I feel I should add that I found this book not online, but in a comic store. A well stocked comic book store with an intelligent and interesting person running it.

I'm not entirely certain that I would have discovered this gem without a well curated store to visit.

So: SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL COMIC BOOK STORE!

Also, definitely read *God Hates Astronauts*. The author, Ryan Browne, spent six years of his life working on this thing, and it definitely shows. It's wonderful. Run right out and buy the damned thing now.

Gökçe says

Çizgiroman özellikle de süper kahraman çizgiromanlar? seviyorsan?z onlarla dalga geçen bu i? de ilginizi çekebilir. Absürt komedinin ba?ar?l? bir örne?i.

Trevor says

This is one of the worst things I've ever read.

Gavin says

Wow.

Ever watch a movie that's SOOO bad, you keep watching because you figure it can't get any worse? And then it does? But you cannot turn the TV off?

This isn't one of those so-bad-it's-good books, this is the it's so bad I feel like I've just had a stroke and followed it up with blunt force trauma to the cranium.

Fuck.

Don't be curious to read this because it's the worst thing ever made, it's not a cult thing, and if it is, that cult is full of morons.

I have a VERY juvenile sense of humour; I like poop jokes, slapstick, and terrible puns...but this, this is just so fucking bad.

The creator did this as a 24 page in 24 hours challenge to himself in his early 20s...and funny enough, never got around to it again until many years later...in the meanwhile, he didn't grow up any, and didn't develop any style or taste.

He also spends 3 pages explaining EVERY SINGLE REFERENCE TO POP CULTURE HE MADE IN THE BOOK.

Ye Gods this fellow thinks he's the shit. But he's just shit.

You're NOT clever, you're NOT edgy, or ironically bad, or hip because you don't care that it's terrible.

Whoever told you they loved what you were doing and encouraged you should be slapped.

I mean yes, you created something, sure good for you, you've got that over me; but just because you CAN do something, doesn't mean you SHOULD.

Oh and you need to go back on Kickstarter and give out refunds.

Fuck. Why did I keep reading this? This is so bad I almost take it personally.

The only "funny" joke was stolen from Family Guy, with no credit given at all. How did no one see that? I mean he gives credit to tons of Simpsons jokes and other bits, but sheesh...

Holy Shit, where's the Tylenol?

Ondra Král says

Ultimátní WTF

Brittney says

When I first heard of God Hates Astronauts, I expected it to be a lot like Axe Cop—ridiculous and full of hilarity. Though the two are similar in that they take a very random approach to humour with unique ideas and characters, God Hates Astronauts lacks the childish sense of delight within its writing that makes the random nature of the plot cohesive and enjoyable.

Written and illustrated by Ryan Browne, God Hates Astronauts is about a superhero team that works for NASA. But rather than wasting all their time saving the world, the self-absorbed superheroes prefer to focus on their libidos, bizarre supervillains, and loitering aliens. The narrative is all over the place and tends to focus on one situation at a time rather than any overarching plot. This is not necessarily a bad thing, as plenty of graphic novels and comic books do this, especially in the comedic genre.

What makes this narrative less successful is that a lot of the jokes are based on gendered humour, meant to parody the sexism of the 1950s. But the parody isn't reflected enough in the other aspects of the book, such as the villains or setting, so the humour falls flat and just comes off as sexist.

The art, also done by Browne, is very classical with defined lines and heavy inks, but is coloured in a more modern way with smooth tones. Aesthetically it's a good combination, and his balance between cartoon and realism make the art extremely dynamic.

All in all, I appreciate this book for its fun art style, but I can't recommend it.

cross posted from the Other Press

Rae says

God Hates Astronauts aims very hard for "so bad it's good" but it's actually just bad. I wanted to read this since I first heard about it and was so happy that it was included in the second Humble Image Comics Bundle. Now I'm just glad it was included because I can convince myself I didn't pay any money for it but just for the other, much better books.

As God Hates Astronauts aims to be funny and humor is a very, very subjective matter, you may experience it otherwise if you love absurd humor and don't need a story or characters that you care for in any way. Usually my humor varies a lot and I can find enjoyment in absurd ideas but this comic did nothing for me except made me mourn the time I wasted reading it.

Darth says

I honestly wish I could give this zero stars. So when you see that one star up there, know it's because I couldn't give this zero stars.

Ryan Browne you should seriously be ashamed of yourself. This was pure and utter shit. This was Donald Fucking Trump in comic format. You are a terrible person, and I will never, ever read anything ever again that has your name on it.

I couldn't even finish this utter piece of garbage.

All that said, the art was pretty cool. Never write again though. Never.

Jan Philipzig says

Trying painfully hard to be as tasteless and absurd as possible, the story's sole purpose is to be judged "so bad it's good." If you don't find it funny, though, it is just bad, and that is how I experienced it. Then again, everybody else loved it, so I may just be too old for this.

Peter Derk says

I've often wondered about whether or not it's possible to make a movie that's all comedy, no real plot or lesson.

And now I've got my answer.

There were plenty of jokes, and some of these references were clearly up my alley. But I need just a little more plot that runs through the whole thing. Something that gets the characters to do things. At the start of most of the issues, I was thinking, "Wait, why the hell is this happening? Where are we?"

My dream of a movie that's all comedy, no plot? That dream is dead.

And yet, the dream of a movie that's 90% comedy, 10% plot that forces the characters to keep chugging along like a moving walkway in an airport? Still very much alive.

Noetic_Hatter says

If I were 20 years younger, I might think this was the coolest comic I had ever seen. But I have read Garth Ennis and Mark Millar. So been there, done that. Despite the raves it seems to get, there's nothing fresh here.

God Hates Astronauts is yet another crude, hyper-violent, deeply cynical and unfunny satire of superhero comics. There's not a single likable character in the whole book - well, aside maybe from The Impossible.

A couple of jokes do work, like the magical British bears and the presence of Karl and Harriet Winslow (of Steve Urkel fame) as characters. Also, every character gets a 2-3 page origin story drawn by a different artist; those segments have some terrific art. But mostly this book is just a mishmash of recycled pop culture references and "shock" effects.

Melki says

WARNING: This review should in no way be taken as a recommendation. I am easily amused; VERY easily amused - "like a cat with a laser pointer," one Goodreads member once remarked. With that in mind . . .

I really got a kick out of this one. I see that most of my intelligent friends have given the book one star. You should probably bow to their wisdom. Me? I giggled and hooted and almost gave it five stars.

The plot? Well, it's too silly to get into. I'll just tell you about the things I liked*, then you can go on about your day, and forget you ever read this review.

*A hero who's immortal gets horrifically disfigured, and must now save the planet whilst sporting a huge, swollen, lumpy head.

*Naked characters whose naughty bits are covered by black bars describing what's underneath.

*The dude with gorilla arms.

*Owl Capone.

*The sound effects: **BLAP-BLONK! CRACK! COCAINE! BLAGOJEVICH!**

See? I told you.

