



Secret Invasion: X-Men

Mike Carey (Text) , Cary Nord (Illustrator)

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It's aliens vs. mutants as the Skrull Invasion hits the West Coast! The Skrulls don't expect the X-Men when they hit San Francisco, but don't think they don't have something very special prepared for Cyclops and his army when they find them at their new home.

Secret Invasion: X-Men Details

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From Reader Review Secret Invasion: X-Men for online ebook

Terry Murphy says

The art in this was simply incredible. Just an absolute treat to pour over.

And, I like Carey. I first discovered him years ago when he took over the duties on Hellblazer. He won me over, and I generally enjoy him.

His run on X-Men has not been good. It's a pedestrian arc that has no sizzle and feels vacant.

Did he do it for a paycheque? Was it just a poor fit for him?

I can't say, but this is mostly uneventful and feels like a story from 1993.

Adam Stone says

Most times that the X-Men are forced into a major event, their tie-in title is uninspired and serves to advance neither the main story nor their own continuity. This one fares a little better, as we get the X-Men, who have just moved to San Francisco, making some headway to being liked by the populace at large.

There aren't many character beats, as the character who gets the most screen time is Nightcrawler, and it's mainly so that he can inadvertently expose a weakness to Beast.

The ending is a little too clean, and I'm not sure that Dave McCaig's colors are the best match for a story that's mostly action. It flattens the art into an atmosphere usually reserved for fantasy comics. But it's certainly done well for what it is.

Most of the Secret Invasion titles were telling the same main story from slightly different perspectives, and they all felt fairly generic. The fact that this book doesn't involve any Skrull infiltration amongst the team makes this stand out a bit.

Overall, I enjoyed this book more than I remember enjoying it when it came out. I'd recommend it for X-fans who enjoy it when they throw pretty much every character at a problem without ever really dwelling on any of their character beats.

Tyon Mason says

Great

Was an awesome and entertaining read!

You should really read this!

I love the X-Men they're so cool!

Go read

Lesley says

The X-Men have to fight of an invasion of shape-shifting Skrulls. I liked that there were a few "main" characters that were focused on instead of giving a little bit of time to each X-man. Perhaps it because I was introduced to the Skrulls in a Deadpool graphic novel, but I just can't take them seriously as a threat to humanity.

Davy says

The Skrull invasion reaches San Francisco and is at first surprised/no match for the X-men. But the skrulls quickly recover by deploying their superskrulls and blackmail the X-men by threatening to kill thousands of SF-inhabitants. Nightcrawler is the main character in the developments. The question is who can keep their 'cool': the skrulls or the x-men, where the - as usual - fearsome leader Cyclops has his own means for blackmailing the skrulls.... Quite a nice story, it's more a seperate issue of the Secret Invasion and doesn't really add something to the main story (all takes place in SF, far from the main invasion and main protagonists), the grapichs are special - hazy, like a continues fog, they add up to the tension and sphere of the story. And Cyclops, he's great again, becoming my favorite X-men character.

Daniel says

Completely forgettable, of no real consequence, and doesn't even really engage with its central question - whether it's okay to commit genocide in wartime (the real answer is of course not, but the comic's is "sure, because the bad guys are bad"). But man, that art is real nice - it's this very strange, murky use of flat pastels. Not enough to forgive its storytelling shortcomings, but enough to eke some enjoyment out of it.

Gavin says

Lame. Namby pamby art, story sucks, dialogue is stupid, too many characters, not enough screen time for each.

Also, no Mutants were Skrulls? None at all? Right.

Cyclops is a dick here as well, only Beast having a conscience stops worse things. Also, don't put Logan on covers when he's in the Savage Land wi New Avengers the whole time.

Waste of time, makes the Skrulls seem stupid and easily defeated. Just not worth reading. Tie in or not, totally inconsequential. Nothing about this will affect them at all...

J'aime says

Most of the Secret Invasion tie-ins are short and simply show the event from a different POV, with little overall impact. This one is no different. However, I found it far more entertaining than I expected because it's not bogged down with the paranoia of "who can you trust?"

When the Skrull fleet descends on the US, the ships sent to San Francisco aren't expecting the X-Men. Unsurprisingly, the mutants fight back. What I found interesting was that they weren't automatically the superior fighting force. Often, the X-Men come across as so powerful that enemies present no challenge to them or the reader. Here, The Skrulls not only outnumber them, they have superskrull warriors (with stolen superhero powers of their own), and they have more advanced technology which includes resistance to mental assault by telepaths. So, the X-Men must rely on strategy, guts and guerrilla warfare to resist the invasion.

This trade has a lot of action, but also a fair number of scenes showing the opponents' responding to and orchestrating tactics. This is one of the few instances where I like Cyclops because he showed real leadership, even down to the tough decisions. Overall, I thought this tie-in was excellent despite not having an impact on the bigger picture. It wasn't essential but it was very satisfying, and demonstrated that wars are fought on many fronts. Highly recommended

Rachael says

[skrulls posing as X-Men (hide spoiler)]

E.W. Pierce says

This story was interesting and held my attention. I actually found the Skrulls far more interesting than the X-Men - maybe because there are so many mutants crammed into this tale that I stopped caring about them at all.

As an occasional X-Men fan (watched the 90's cartoon, read some of the 80's-90's comics, loved the movies), I didn't know who half of these characters were. I was also disappointed by the false advertising - the cover shows Wolverine & Phoenix, and the back cover promises every X-Man, but those two in particular are only included on one of the covers and never come into play. What that promise actually means is we get a lot of characters who I could care less about. Of those I recognized, Nightcrawler and Beast have the best stories.

The included story at the back from the 80's was a nice surprise, and though the tale itself is definitely showing its age, it was nice knowing who all the principles involved were.

Jenna says

[The fact that he is still trying to protect humans was nice to see, despite the fact that he appropriated the Legacy virus to kill Skrulls, without seeing if Hank had a cure or not... Just

Ryan says

I'm not very good at distinguishing between some of the newer X-Men writers. Most of them do a pretty decent job, much better than the insipid Chris Claremont with his hokey dialogue and dated plots. Carey is on of the few that stands out for me. He does the impossible by making the mess that is the Secret Invasion storyline seem remotely interesting. Secret Invasion is still fairly uninspiring, it is nice that it's over. It's interesting, at least to me, to note many of the other recent mega events have left a lasting effect on the Marvel Universe that has had some sort of impact. This one has not and is best left forgotten.

The art in this series is well done and consistent. But it's almost ruined by the colorist. It looks like the art has all been dipped in blue and green dye, giving it a muddy washed out look. Most notable are scenes depicting the city. Everything is a green and purple mess.

Shane says

I don't know what it is about X-men, but they often have a way of making everything very epic, it never seems to be "Villain X has a diabolical plan to rob a bank and buy himself an island", it's always more like "One of us must give up his very soul to prevent the world from being destroyed, who will it be?"

So pretty good stuff. Lots of tension and loved the Skrull "mentalist commune" or whatever it was called.

Chris Greensmith says

"Born with abilities beyond those of normal men, the mutant species has long been hated and feared by the humans around them. the mutant super heroes known as the X-Men are looking to change that, making the world safe for human and mutant alike"

The art felt like it would be soft to touch, I really liked it, beautiful...4 ?

Great, the X-Men using their brains to take down the Skrulls with a virus, brilliant...2 1/2 ?

Relevance to SI, 2 ? So overall for this TPB 3 ?

Giovanni Gelati says

The writer on this graphic novel is Mike Carey and I have to say that I really enjoyed the plot of pitting the X-Men against the Skrulls and the Super- Skrulls, what is not to like about that? The basic backdrop of the story is that the Skrulls are planning on invading and dominating the planet Earth. The X-men are the only superheroes that stand in their way and that has been anticipated by the Skrull in charge, he is of the mind that he thought of all the possible scenarios under which they will do battle. The usual ensues; he is wrong we are saved and all is well on Earth except a few buildings leveled and streets torn up and destroyed: normal everyday stuff in the world of the superheroes.

The stuffing in the middle is the good part in this graphic novel. Don't get me wrong, I love a good X-Men romp and I am not going to say that I don't, but this was a well-conceived and thought-out plotline. I, as

usual, will give no spoilers here, but the battle was fought on many levels and I enjoyed all the different subplots and action it brought with it. Carey mixed two of my favorites here with X-Men & Skrulls and didn't drop the ball with the possibilities. That made the graphic novel for me. The artwork was excellent and it helped carry the emotion of both groups taking the plotline to a new level. It was great teamwork, Carey/Nord/ Sepulveda.

Anytime the Skrulls are in a graphic novel I don't think you can wrong. The stories can go in so many different directions and they have been in so many different Marvel franchise comics over the years they are one of my favorite super villains. Do you know of any other graphic novels the Skrulls are in? Drop me a line and give me the titles, I would enjoy checking them out, thanks.

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