



Newuniversal: todo se volvió blanco (Newuniversal, #1)

Warren Ellis , Salvador Larroca (dibujo)

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Contiene NewUniversal 1-5 USA.

El polémico Warren Ellis se une al magnífico Salvador Larroca para rehacer desde cero el Nuevo Universo Marvel. Una noche cualquiera, la Tierra es sorprendida por el más extraño suceso que jamás haya presenciado la raza humana: "El Evento Blanco". A la noche siguiente, un pequeño grupo de humanos repartidos por todo el mundo ha cambiado. Tienen asombrosos poderes, algo que nunca ha conocido este planeta habitado por seis millones de personas. Si te gustan series como Heroes o Perdidos, vas a alucinar con NewUniversal.

Newuniversal: todo se volvió blanco (Newuniversal, #1) Details

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From Reader Review Newuniversal: todo se volvió blanco (Newuniversal, #1) for online ebook

Andrew Uys says

Another great read from the amazing Mr. Warren Ellis, the NewUniversal world is making a big comeback in Jonathan Hickman's Avengers series, and this earlier work (though not the 1st material for the NewUniversal line - for that one must look to the 80's...I think;) serves as the inspiration. Fun read!

Jason says

Needlessly graphic (no pun intended) re-envisioning of the "New Coke" of the comics world with a Starbrand who looks like Sawyer from *Lost*.

Mouse says

So, I remember Marvel's 'New Universe' back in the 80's and I remember how it fell flat on its face waaay quick. I'm not sure how this ties in to it but I was surprised at how good this book was.

This book is well written and quite thought provoking at times, it dabbles in science, religion, politics, ethics, and so much more.

The characters are very real and it has a sort of Watchmen type vibe to it. I love the part where Connell gets his powers, that part felt very much like Tetsuo's awakening in the anime Akira.

Also, I thought it was clever when Izanami made contact with the aliens and they mentioned they'd tried this before. The whole thing was very tongue-in-cheek in regards to the previous attempt at Marvel's New Universe.

I love the little yellow note thingies that are at the beginning of each new chapter to help the reader know what has happened.

One part that bugged me was: Where did Det Tensen get the big ol butcher knife from when he killed the nurse? I didn't know hospitals kept butcher knives around in patient rooms?!?!

Gabriel says

So, yeah, I have a lot of affection for the New Universe. But that is definitely not a prerequisite-- pretend that it never existed and this will still be an awesome series. It's mostly Ellis being Ellis, and not at all Ellis being Jim Shooter.

Gemma Thomson says

I enjoyed this. The story has a taint of the familiar about it, but is told with humour, thrills and spectacle of

its own. Superhumans arise and greater universal forces have to be unravelled; *Newuniversal* reads like any other comic might, with a few nods towards the likes of *Heroes*.

My only tangible qualm is with the artworks. It's drawn very well, but I was almost put off by the cover, featuring as it does a cast of film star lookalikes. There's an Angelina Jolie, a Bruce Willis and a James Cromwell to be had, and when the story's Justice starts punishing people for deeds only he can see, it really does bring back echoes of *Unbreakable*. This seems an unfortunate choice to have made.

Adam says

In 1986, Marvel Comics created a new comics universe called The New Universe. The idea was that this new universe would be completely divorced from the 25 years of continuity of the already established universe; it would feature new characters and situations, etc. The longest-running title lasted some three years before the whole New Universe concept more or less disappeared.

Fast forward twenty ears: writer Warren Ellis has taken the bare-bones concepts of the New Universe and created the stand-alone title, *Newuniversal*. Ellis is starting from the ground up with this title, making the ideas and concepts relevant and entertaining. Anyone familiar with Ellis's writing will recognize his touches here: fast-paced action, characters that are fleshed out and made believable with a minimum of words.

I'm just not sure how much the New Universe concept deserved to be resurrected. It seems to me that maybe it went away for a reason, and this six-issue collection, even considering all of Ellis's talent, hasn't quite convinced me otherwise. But rather than give up altogether, I'll give the next collection a try and see what I think.

One outright complaint I have is the art. Salvador Larroca is a fine draftsman, I suppose, but one of my least favorite things in comics is when I can pick out what photos or actors an artist used for reference. Hey, look: there's Gene Hackman, Angelina Jolie, James Cromwell, and a whole host of others. And because he relies so much on photo reference, Larroca's art just comes off as stiff and non-dynamic; which cannot serve very well for an action comic such as this.

I'm hoping that the next arc of this series improves, or it may ave even less of a life span than the universe that preceded it.

Clint says

I read only a few comics a year, and I usually like them, they're just too expensive. But I found this at an incredible bargain, and it kicked ass. I like Warren Ellis, and he doesn't disappoint here. A lot of the other reviews said the first *Newuniversal* was horrible, but I wouldn't know, I never read it. But this is really good. I would really like to know what's going to happen next, but I don't know if the series is continued. Anyone know?

C. says

Cliffhangers, man. They only work if you eventually get to see what happens next. Otherwise they're just cruel.

When I first started reading comics way back in the late 1980s, some of the first books I collected were those in the Marvel Comics New Universe line, which was still pretty young, and had claimed to be "the world outside your window"--that is until the White Event set things in motion. For 32 issues, I loved those books. Since the line was cancelled in 1989 I've lugged those comics around with me from house to house, listing them among my "in case of fire" saves. Were they great books? Not really. But they still hold a place in my heart.

In late 2006 writer Warren Ellis and artist Salvador Larroca tried to go back to the concept of the New Universe and do it right. In Ellis's view the story was one big story, not eight smaller ones, and that was what he would attempt to tell; the STORY of the New Universe.

newuniversal ran for 6 issues before ending the first arc, "Everything Went White". A few one-shots followed, but the series never picked back up with the ongoing story. Which means, for me, reading the collected version ends with a cliffhanger to which I will never see the follow-up. And I call BULLSHT!!!!!!

I'd like to take this opportunity to pretty much demand Ellis finish his story, dmmit!

Anyway, back to newuniversal: Everything Went White.

LOVED it.

What made the original New Universe unique was the White Event. This was a mysterious and unexpected blinding flash of light one day that blanketed the entire planet, endowing many people with paranormal powers. Thus was born the New Universe line of comics, MERC, NIGHTMASK, SPITFIRE AND THE TROUBLESHOOTERS, KICKERS, INC., DP7, PSI-FORCE, JUSTICE, and STAR BRAND. From the beginning of his new take on the idea, Ellis has whittled that cast down to just 4: Ken Connell (STAR BRAND), John Tensen (JUSTICE), Jenny Swann (SPITFIRE) and Izanami Randall (NIGHTMASK). And in this case, it's not a good portion of the population suddenly developing strange powers, it's just these four. As is explained to Izanami:

"The universe hangs in a web of strange matter which we term newuniversal structure . . . When a world enters the newuniversal web, the machine alters several sentient beings on that world to act as heralds of the new time to come. Paradigm shift always creates chaos. These designates are empowered to smooth the way into the new time. A nightmask. A star brand. A justice. A cipher...."

Only in this world, this isn't the first time it's happened. And the Spitfire protocol was put in place in 1959 to deal with the threat of superhumans on earth--deal with it being a euphemism for "destroy".

I have to admit there are aspects to Ellis's overall arc that smack of cliché--hell, even THE MATRIX did the whole 'this has happened before' shtick first--but seeing some of these old standby ideas applied to this universe I love so much was a breath of fresh air for me. Not the IDEAS, but the very fact anyone cared enough to even TRY. For that alone, I'll read any and all future newuniversal stories Warren Ellis wants to tell.

The frustrating thing about newuniversal is knowing there was more story to tell, but that I'll probably never see it. Everything about this collection screams "prologue". These 6 issues were just setting things up to get really interesting.

It's March 2, 2006, and all is normal. Officer John Tensen is recovering from emergency surgery after being shot in the head. Tech developer Jenny Swann is getting drunk over her failed robotics project. Ken Connell and his girlfriend Maddie are coming down off their own drunk out on a hillside in Oklahoma. And in San Francisco, party girl Izanami is already passed out in her bed.

Then everything goes white.

In the aftermath, John Tensen's body rises from his hospital bed, and he is releasing blades made of light from his hands, killing everyone he deems a sinner. Ken Connell wakes up to find a mysterious mark on his palm and Maddie is a burned husk beside him. Jenny Swann, who works for the NSA, which runs the Spitfire Protocol set up to destroy these superhumans, find herself able to interact with electronic devices. And Izanami "wakes" up to a dream world in which she's charged with gathering the other three individuals before they can be hunted and destroyed. And in Latvia, an archeological dig had revealed the remains of an ancient city, thousands of years older than Christ, that had electric lights in place.

And that's where things end. What the hell?

newuniversal is an intriguing mystical journey into a world full of promise, which was then dropped like a hot potato just as things were coming together. Ellis wanted to tell one story, and as he was finally bringing those individual threads together, the story was over. newuniversal: EVERYTHING WENT WHITE is an exercise in wasted potential, but for those six issues, it was twenty kinds of awesome and I'm glad I bought it. I can't recommend it to anyone who is either unfamiliar with the New Universe already, or to someone who insists on a nice tidy ending to their stories, but if you go into this book understanding upfront the cliffhanger will never be resolved, then hell yes I wholeheartedly recommend it. Because newuniversal may be an exercise in wasted potential, but it's also an exercise in taking an old idea and making something brand new out of it. The way Ellis took those old books and old ideas and warped them into this, I'm simply in awe of what he can do as a writer. The experience of reading newuniversal: EVERYTHING WENT WHITE was, for me, much like my first experience reading Alan Moore's MIRACLEMAN, which is my other "in case of fire" save. It's just wildly ambitious and brave and I salute him.

Now a word about the art. Salvador Larroca is so incredibly talented. I had a small problem with how some of his characters looked slightly different from panel to panel, especially Jenny Swann who seemed to gain or lose 10 pounds between frames in a few sequences. But his action scenes, his displays of the wonders of the new universe, his sense of storytelling when there are no words to carry him are all pure brilliance. His panel layout flows smoothly and is never confusing. And the panels where Izanami is confronted by the communications station, plus Ken's discovery of Maddie's body, and the subsequent long-shot of him alone on the hillside beside a gigantic star brand burned into the ground, these are both awe-inspiring, and they're only two of a good dozen or more such panels.

newuniversal is a book I sadly passed up when it was coming out monthly, because I didn't understand the concept at first, and I didn't know how long it would run. I wish now I had bought those first individual issues, if only just to have them and store them with my other New Universe books. But I didn't, so too bad for me. But I can own and treasure the collected edition, which I will do for a long time. Meanwhile I'll just keep holding out hope that one day Ellis will return to this world and finish what he started, because I'm still dying to see what happened next!

Travis says

A noble, if only mildly successful attempt to take a bunch of pretty weak characters created in the 80's and rework them into something cool.

Putting all these characters into one series a good idea. Gives it a nice ensemble feel. Like the TV show 'Heroes', except in NewUniversal things actually seem to be happening.

At the same time, Warren makes the same mistake as 'Heroes' in thinking that cynical and slightly messed up = realistic and while it does mean that most of the characters have more personality than in the 80's, (not a huge feat) it doesn't make them much more likable.

Warren did a nice job with Nightmask and Justice, but I thought Spitfire was a stumble. Plus, the whole, huge meta-plot felt a bit to over done and the art was kind of muddy.

Nice try, I like some of the ideas, but there wasn't enough to keep me sticking around. Might have actually worked better as a TV show like 'Heroes'.

Though, then people would think NewUniversal was ripping off Heroes, when it's actually the other way around.

47Time says

The premise here is brilliant: a strange event gives a few people abilities for a special Earth event. The regular humans are more than ready not only to mobilize regular troops against what they perceive as a threat, but also a secret organization that handled superhumans decades before. It's this fear of what they don't understand that leads them to act to maintain the status quo.

The White Event results in the creation of several superpowered individuals. In Latvia a landslide exposes an ancient tomb and a city that may have predated the earliest cities in recorded history. Project Spitfire is a US organization that is tasked, after being on a 50-year hiatus, to resume operations against superpowered individuals and kill them rather than allow them to threaten humanity.

(view spoiler)

Mely says

A "White Event" creates four superhumans who are meant to lead to the next stage of human evolution yadda yadda yadda. There have been previous White Events, though, and the last one had two of the superhumans pair up and conceive a child -- whereupon the NSA decided to kill them all to prevent humans

from becoming obsolete.

This was an attempt to do a new Marvel continuity with many fewer ties to the traditional comicsverse -- occasionally names you know are mentioned, but they're never major and their lives don't hew closely to the lives of their counterparts. (In 1954, Tony Stark escapes from captivity in Korea in a flying robot suit. Then an NSA assassin verifies that his superengineering powers are the result of a White Event and shoots him in the head.)

This is intriguing and got cancelled after six issues in the middle of a storyline. There's a single-issue story that depicts a White Event in pre-history (boring) and a single-issue story that depicts the White Event in the 50s that created the current NSA protocol (neat). Probably too frustrating to be worth it, unless you're interested in how it intersects with Jonathan Hickman's Avengers (I am).

Jesse says

This is Warren Ellis, so I expected nothing short of excellent and I was not disappointed. He smoothly brings the ideas of the original Marvel series into his own style as well as a more current timeline and setting. He truly brings out the iconic nature of these mythic archetypes. The art is top notch as well and provides you with a visual feast to go with the story. I always liked the character of Justice in the original series, but now he blazes to life with cold rage at the wrongs done by the world. Then there is the Nightmask, the character from the original series that I thought was the lamest. I couldn't get behind liking this guy, and now he is a she and is awesome!! Check this series out, you will not be dissatisfied.

Brad says

The best part of this book is Warren Ellis picking apart the scrapheap of one of Marvel's failures of the 1980s, the New Universe, and turning it into something mildly thought-provoking and fairly fun. He imbues not especially memorable characters with some neat ideas and scifi mumbo-jumbo, and makes them respectable, if not interesting.

(The only New Universe book I remember was Kickers, Inc., a nonsensical title that isn't name-dropped here.) Yes, the world-spanning plot is a bit too reminiscent of *Heroes*, but Ellis makes it his own. His take on Spitfire, a government agency that takes a heavy-handed approach to superheroes, is really interesting. The story isn't anywhere near being resolved, so some characters, like John Tensen or the archaeologists in Latvia, go nowhere. Ellis has said he'll eventually get around to wrapping up the story, and it should be worthwhile, but I think everyone can stand the wait.

The worst part of the book is Salvador Larocca's blatant use of actors as stand-ins for the main characters. Yeah, it's kind of neat to see LOST's Josh Holloway in the starring role, but it's jarring to see James Cromwell and Nicole Kidman pop up. Glaring photo-reference is more palatable in established superhero comics--even if he looks like Tommy Lee Jones, you know who Norman Osbourne is--and much smarter when used intentionally in *Wanted*. Here, you don't really know who these characters are, and the casting seems superficial, and not especially well-thought-out. For example, Holloway's character is supposed to be a high school football player. Drawing Holloway in that role just saddles the book with Hollywood's problem of using adults in high school-aged roles. Larocca does a fine job on all of Ellis' weird scifi stuff (including the titular whitening), but his artistic casting doesn't make sense..

Josh says

Heyyyy! it's Warren Ellis. Otherwise, I would've bought copies of this book just to burn it. Marvel's mid-eighties concoction, "New Universe," which consisted of some half a dozen titles featuring as many characters, was separate from the entire continuity of the Marvel Universe. It was terrible. This is a re-launch of that, with Ellis taking the same characters and concepts, and updating them for the 21st Century. I think it could've warranted being an "Ultimates" title, though I suppose that's an unnecessary deliniation.

I really thought this book was great, and it reminded me of how much I love when Ellis writes for Marvel. He always does something ground-breaking with the characters (check out: "Iron Man: Extremis," the "Ultimate Galactus" trilogy, and his current run on "Thunderbolts"), usually permanently effecting the Marvel U. Ellis loves science & technology. If he can use experimental theory to explain something, he will. And "Newuniversal" is reaping the benefits of it thoroughly.

He's made these all-but-forgotten characters (rightly so) stand out, and given them life. He's also essentially brought his Wild Storm Publishing concept of "the Bleed" to Marvel, but still is somehow managing to keep it separate and truly different. This book is a little slow at times, but all in all, it's really excellent. Great characters, beautiful art by Salvador LaRocca, and a book that like any great re-launching, is finally interesting and told in a way that it should've been 20+years before. My only complaint is how long it takes Ellis to publish these.

Stewart Tame says

What fun! If the original New Universe titles had been this good, they wouldn't have been cancelled. As is probably true of most comics fans of a certain age, I bought all of Marvel's New Universe titles when they came out back in the mid-80's or so. I haven't read them since. They're tucked away in long boxes in the basement awaiting posterity or mold or nostalgia on my part or something. What Warren Ellis has done with this book is to breathe new life into them, sort of an Ultimate New Universe if you will. We're off to a promising beginning, and the only NU title I can recall that isn't referenced here is DP 7. Maybe in volume 2 ...

Jay says

Yes, as others have commented, the faces can be a bit distracting. I felt that I recognized too many of the characters as facsimiles of actors. That aside, the art is pretty good overall. I've been a fan of Larroca's for a while, and it's usually quite consistent. I read the graphic novel that collects issues 1-6. The writing by Ellis is good, though I have to admit that at the end of issue one I had zero investment in any of the characters and felt that too much was being introduced in that single issue. I'm glad I decided to proceed to issue two, because it started to gel a bit more and become more coherent. What is most frustrating is that by issue five, I was really starting to enjoy this, and by the end of issue six I was excited to see what was going to happen next only to learn that issue six was the last one. The series went on hiatus for a while and apparently was concluded in just two more issues at a later point (I have yet to read them), but Larroca wasn't the artist. Oh well, I'll still check them out but this story had tons of potential that apparently hasn't been fulfilled.

Chris says

I bought this based on the strength of Warren Ellis' writing but the art absolutely killed this book for me. It seems a trend in comics lately has been to appropriate celebrity likenesses for character designs. All the characters in this book look like the artist copied them out of production stills from movies and television shows. At first glance, I recognize Josh Holloway from Lost, Angelina Jolie, James Cromwell, Johnny Depp, and Bruce Willis.

I am sure art like this is to someone's tastes, but it seems lazy to me and hindered me from enjoying the story.

Now that being said, the story is pretty rote as well, although this might have more to do with the genre than this book in particular. Ellis is good at taking the superhero elements and coming up with new spins on them... but there are SO many superhero comic books out there, that NewUniversal didn't distinguish itself to me all that much. I did like one key scene toward the end involving "the starbrand" meeting other starbrands. Time travel is involved and it provided a nice twist I didn't see coming.

Brian says

Warren Ellis' 'reboot' of the 1986 New Universe from Marvel...way back when I was starting to collect comics. I only wish this included my favorite title from that line: D.P.7 written by Oshkosh native Mark Gruenwald. Otherwise, a nice visit back to this universe.

Sonic says

This is excellent, ... though it feels like a build-up, ...

... a build-up for what?

I don't know, ...

is there a book 2?

Garrett says

Expanding upon the original 1986 New Universe, Warren Ellis here applies his formula: Cool Smart People + Weird Fuckers + Major Metaphysical Event = Cool Comic Story. I wish there had been more of this - unfortunately, it looks like this went the way of the original New Universe and died on the vine very shortly after this point. There might be a second volume out there called NewUniversal: Shockfront, so I'm on the lookout for that. I enjoyed this, found it typically strange and clever, but with no long game, it'll cliffhang & disappoint most comics readers.

Or maybe I come back and amend this when/if I find the second arc.

