



The Amazing Spider-Man: Mayhem in Manhattan

Len Wein , Marv Wolfman , Stan Lee (Introduction)

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The Amazing Spider-Man: Mayhem in Manhattan Details

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Author : Len Wein , Marv Wolfman , Stan Lee (Introduction)

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From Reader Review The Amazing Spider-Man: Mayhem in Manhattan for online ebook

Mike Jensen says

The major interest in this book is as an historical curiosity, the first book in the first series of novelizations for a comic book company. The marketing driven idea did not last long and did not deserve to. With a couple of exceptions, most of the books were written by comic veterans, not actual prose writers, and their inexperience shows. This is nowhere truer than in this, the first of the series and the first ever Spider-Man novelization. Wein and Wolfman find an uneasy balance between giving more background than fans need, thus slowing the story with a lot of unnecessary pages, and filling in readers new to the character on his background and the people in his life, which still slows the story. There is no good solution to this problem so the writers, perhaps, should not be blamed for it, but it is a major narrative problem nevertheless. This is not a great work of literature, or even a mediocre one, but it is a curiosity and one that adaptation scholars will wish to note.

Axel says

This is a pretty good book. It's a short and easy read which is nice. Unfortunately it is super dated so reading at times was a little odd. Plus Spider-Man is way to whiny. Still I enjoyed it enough to get the next book in the series.

Frank Miysahiro says

Cool retro book! The writers really capture what is fun and cool about Spider-man.

Ekenedilichukwu Ikegwuani says

This book is terribly written. They try to shroud the villain in an aura of mystery, but practically give him away in the first chapter, making the rest of their attempts to keep his identity hidden look ridiculous. Spider-Man is written as stupid as if he has only been doing this for a few weeks, and keeps talking repeatedly about giving up the gig of superheroing so that he doesn't hurt Aunt May, just to not even mention that in the last act of the book and just keep being Spidey. The plot is also ridiculous, and the villain's plan makes no sense when it is revealed. This would have done better as a comic book story arc, but as a novel it's terrible.

Rich Meyer says

The first Spider-Man novel isn't too bad. It captures the flavor of the seventies Spider-Man comics to a tee. You can see this story in your head, played out over two or three issues.

Unlike a lot of these sorts of initial adaptations, it doesn't spend a lot of time going over Spidey's origin;

Wein and Wolfman seem to understand that if you're buying a Spider-Man novel, you already know a bit about the character.

The story is fast-paced, and even though an astute reader will know who the Master Planner is by the middle of Chapter One, you don't really care; it's not that kind of book.

It isn't the first Marvel Comics' novel, though. Just an FYI, the first one was *The Avengers Battle the Earth Wrecker*, back in 1967. It was the first book in the short-lived (eleven official entries) Marvel Novel Series.

Timothy Boyd says

Very good novel adaptation of the comics. if you are a comic super hero fan these are Very recommended.

Eric says

Doctor Octopus has a plan to shut down the refineries of the nation's top eight oil magnates. "Once the government learns of your unfortunate predicament," he tells them, "you will be unable to prevent extensive research into various alternative energy sources."

In the end, Spider-Man thwarts Doc Ock's scheme. But you have to wonder. Who's the villain of this story? And who's the hero? Looking back, maybe Peter Parker should have taken the night off and gone to the movies with his girlfriend. Eco-terrorism sounds like a nice little career change for a nut like Otto Octavius.

Full review here: <http://superheronovels.com/2010/07/30...>

Eddie says

I give it 4 because of fun childhood memories.

Daniel says

Comfort fiction. A quick, easy read with characters that are incredibly familiar. Nice to have a book written by people who write the comics, rather than those by novelists who happen to read the comics.

As incredible as it may seem, I think I've owned this book since it came out in '78 or '79, but have only just now read it. I might have found it much more interesting and exciting had I read it when I was 18, but hen again, perhaps not.

There's nothing earth-shattering here. No new information or new take on the classic comic book characters. The story itself seems to be straight out of a comic book.

Would I recommend it? No. Would I discourage anyone from reading it? No. Am I glad I read it? Yes, but only because it's been in a box in my room thirty years.
