



Secret Invasion: War Machine

Christos Gage (Writer) , Sean Chen (Illustrator)

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The Skrulls have stricken Iron Man with an alien virus that renders his armor and technology useless! But Tony Stark plans for every possibility...so it's time to say hello to Tony's not-so-little friend - War Machine, weapon of S.H.I.E.L.D.! But can one man, even one as well-armed as James Rhodes, stand alone against a worldwide invasion? Witness an exciting new chapter in both Tony and Rhodey's history!

Collecting: *War Machine: Weapon of S.H.I.E.L.D.* 33-35, *Iron Man* 144

Secret Invasion: War Machine Details

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From Reader Review Secret Invasion: War Machine for online ebook

Lynn Sheridan says

All Stark tech has been infected with a Skrull virus. All but War Machine. He gets a secret message from Tony Stark telling him to drop everything and go to a secret location.

This is a good fun read. At the secret location, a satellite, the War Machine is able to lock into it and the satellite becomes a giant version of War Machine. That's what we want. Bigger and better ways to kill the Skrulls.

This isn't the best artwork in the Secret Invasion arc, but it is still very good. Lots of big fights so the artist would have had a lot of fun with those.

War Machine takes on a Skrull armada with the satellite and then helps the Russians stop the Skrulls from getting to their nukes. Seriously, it's pretty bad ass.

It's a short book, so it's almost entirely fights, which isn't a bad thing at all.

Angela says

It was just lots of battles and not much character stuff.

Terry Murphy says

Gage tries, but ultimately fails, to inspire much interest in War Machine. The rah-rah jingoism is laid on fairly thickly and left me feeling fuzzy-headed and glassy-eyed. Making matters worse are the uninspired pencils of Chen that don't track the action well, which is troublesome, given that over 80% of the arc is action sequences. A very mediocre entry into the Secret Invasion storyline and one that only diehards will feel the need to read.

Adam says

This volume collects the transitional issues of Iron Man from last year, when the title focused on James "Rhodey" Rhodes, before he premiered in his own series, "War Machine."

These three issues are standard giant mechanized combat stuff, but Rhodey is a potentially interesting character, half machine/half man, a loyal soldier, and more similar to RoboCop than he is to Iron Man.

This book also reprints an issue of Iron Man from 1981 in which Rhodey first meets Tony Stark in Vietnam, immediately following Stark's invention of the Iron Man armor. My favorite part was when the injured Rhodey takes a ride on Iron Man's back, then, when they stop for a break, Rhodey whips out a big old J,

takes a satisfied puff, then passes it to Iron Man, who says "Well, actually, I'm trying to cut down. But under the circumstances, I don't see why no--" and accidentally crushes the joint in his metal hand.

Brad says

This book has very little connection to the main Secret Invasion story, but it does have space battles and Russian superhero bureaucracy. Christos N. Gage does a good job differentiating War Machine from Iron Man. Both fly around in metal suits, but one's a good soldier while the other's an inventor of questionable ethics. It's nice to see that the Skrulls didn't just invade the U.S., but the "protect Russian nukes!" story feels like an afterthought.

As an added bonus (to fill out the page count), James Rhodes' origin story is included. It's enjoyable to see him as an joint smoking, afro'd soldier in Vietnam. His characterization has changed since then.

Sylvester Kuo says

While Iron Man is incapable, War Machine became the back up plan to stop the Skrull Invasion. Nothing really interesting other than seeing War Machine travelling across the globe.

Michael says

Over the top, ridiculous and tons of fun. Secret Invasion tie-ins usually felt like the writers didn't want to tell the story either, but Christos Gage had lots of fun with this one.

Oliver Hodson says

As i much as i called on some parts of secret invasion to be more relevant I loved this, and the all too brief war machine solo book of this vintage, because it was just so peripheral and simply a half robot man who shoots stuff. It is more visceral than iron man and because it is more global it has complete freedom to do more in a story. Good fun.

This volume also had the vietnam version of the iron man origin. How did marvel get the balance to be racist from a modern point of view, but sensitive enough that you can tell they weren't using the worst stereotypes that they reference? Is that laudable, or just... I don't know, less-unenlightened?

Sineala says

Well, that was a lot of punching. I'd been hoping for more character stuff.

Chino says

This book doesn't get the credit it deserves. The pacing is quick and the story is straight forward. I don't understand why some rate it so low. Yeah, it's filled with weapons and explosions. What would you expect from a book titled "War Machine?"

Nicki says

The War Machine part of the collection was great, but what I truly enjoyed were the old Iron Man comic books from 1981 that were added to the back of the graphic novel as a treat. Those were fun!

Joe says

Just fun.
The real reason to read "Superhero" comics.
Bad guys, good guy.

Fight! [throw in a little "fight for right"] GOOD STUFF

SA says

Whatever, I read this for Rhodey, Secret Invasion was dumb and I didn't care, but also Rhodey! The best part about this is, well, everything, especially how Tony somehow made War Machine out of non-Stark stuff so Rhodey would always be the backdoor into dealing with Tony's shit. You can't help but believe that kind of co-dependence, man.

Also, War Machine the satellite was fucking cool.

This gives a good set up, too, for Rhodey's reset coinciding with Tony's forthcoming reset, so that was nicely thought out. RHODEY.

Chris Greensmith says

"James "Rhodey" Rhodes has been many things - a Marine, a pilot, Tony Stark's best friend. When Stark can no longer fight on as Iron Man, Rhodey dons his own suit of armor - one with the power of an entire army in the hand of one man!"

I really don't have much of an opinion on this one, generic, run of the mill, 2 ?

Same with the art, the story wasn't that great, a slight change of pace, seeing how other nations' superheroes were dealing with things, it has a taste of 'America saves the day!'...1 ?

Relevance to SI, 1 1/2 ? So overall for this TPB 1 1/2 ?

Paul Young says

I liked this one enough, I guess. The 3 War Machine issues were fun stories with great art. Nothing particularly special about them, though. The IM reprint that's tacked on feels like it's tacked on and out-of-place - just a way to pad out the volume.
