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Jessica Jones Vol. 1: Uncaged! (Jessica Jones (2016-))



Synopsis

Collecting Jessica Jones (2016) #1-6. After a decade, Jessica Jones is back in her own solo series! A lot has changed in the Marvel Universe and there are many secrets hiding in the shadows - secrets only a special woman like Jessica Jones can hope to uncover. Alias Investigations is open for business, and of all the many mysteries to discover, her new case may be the most dangerous one! This blistering new series is filled with haunting revelations from Jessica's past, and answers to some of the biggest questions about the new Marvel NOW! universe! From Jessica Jones' original creators comes an all-new chapter in the world-famous private eye's ongoing adventures!

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Customer Reviews

I love the Jessica Jones storyline!

The original creative team from Alias is back with a new Jessica Jones book. Unfortunately it's not as good. Jessica has just gotten out of jail and hidden her daughter from Luke. We don't really find out what's going on for half the book and we don't ever find out what happened between Jessica and Luke in the first place. The rest of the book has to do with Civil War II and Secret Wars. The

Good: Anytime Bendis writes Jessica Jones is a good thing. The Bad: I don't like this right turn into the heavy hitter piece of the Marvel Universe. Alias worked best when it flirted around the edges on the MU. The fact that we never found out what happened before the beginning of the book that blew up Jessica's life was ridiculously frustrated. The Ugly: Someone in editorial screwed up either here or over in the Power Man and Iron Fist book. Luke and Jessica had 2 kids in the Sweet Christmas special. I had wondered when they had the 2nd kid.

4.5 stars Brian Michael Bendis created Jessica Jones and she appeared for the first time in Alias #1 in 2001. The artist on the series was Michael Gaydos, the colorist was Matt Hollingsworth, and the covers were done by David Mack. It was an amazing series that ran until 2004. Then, Jessica moved on to The Pulse and into Avengers (she wasn't an Avenger, but she settled down with Luke Cage and appeared in a number of the domestic scenes from time to time). Alias was an excellent series (if you haven't read it, I won't shame you, but go buy all three volumes of it now) with interesting plots, great dialogue and fantastic art. Now, 13 years after it last appeared at your neighborhood drug store or Five & Dime (I would bet that less than .5% of people by their comics or trades at those types of stores anymore), the entire team has returned: Bendis, Gaydos, Hollingsworth and Mack. It is not nostalgia just for nostalgia's sake - as before, the plot, dialogue and art are all excellent. The first issue begins with Jessica being released from jail (we have no idea why she was in). Misty Knight shows up and asks where she is hiding the baby (from this, we gather that she and Luke are on the outs). Jessica returns to her office, checks her messages and gets a gig. This is Plot B of this arc (but it might ultimately be the over-reaching arc of the series). A woman wants her to investigate her husband. About a month ago, he told her that he was actually married to someone else and had a daughter in Brooklyn. The problem is that they have been married for 11 years and are childless. (This next part is not a spoiler, as it is revealed very early) He is a survivor from the Ultimate Marvel Universe, which was destroyed a little over a year ago. He is one of the very rare people who remember his old life, despite the realities being folded in on top of each other. This is an excellent job by Bendis of showing how the consequences of world (or universe or reality) events can affect everyday people. There is also a one-line shout out to Bendis's amazing "An Oral History of the Avengers" which is just an incredible and criminally undersold book. So why 4.5 stars instead of 5? The Jones-Cage problem doesn't ring true. I'd go in depth, but I don't want to spoil any issues.

I really like Alias a ton. It's not my favorite Bendis series, but it's definitely up there, so I was excited

to see it return. Jessica Jones vol 1 is good, but it's flawed. If you liked Alias, you'll like this. Bendis and Gaydos are both back and do great work. The writing is fun and the art is very nice. This book's biggest issue lies in being connected to the later Marvel universe. There are a bunch of references to Civil War II, which I did not read, meaning I was confused at some parts. Secret Wars is also required reading for this. Personally, I feel that a book about Jessica Jones should be focused on her solving small cases, so I wish that there weren't so many references to other things. Also, Jessica Jones starts out in prison, and while it is explained why she's there, the reasoning behind it is pretty weak, I think. I enjoyed this book a lot, but I think it has some problems that need to be ironed out in future issues.

I read of all of Bendis's original run on Jessica Jones, even picking up the short-lived The Pulse continuation. I always thought it was book that did excellent character work, but left a small something to be desired when it came to detective work. But now, after several years of absence, Jessica is back with her own book once more. The story starts out with Jessica just getting out of prison, for reasons that aren't explained until a few issues in. Jessica quickly takes up a new case, with a woman saying her husband claims that he's supposed to be married to another woman and that he has a child that doesn't exist. From there we find out the big bombshell of the story: Jessica and husband Luke Cage are on the outs, and Jessica is hiding their baby from him. We swerve between the multiple plotlines, and we get to see classic, snarky Bendis-dialogue, thrilling fights, and horrifying character revelations. On a good day, I could give this a 5-star recommendation for a welcome return to form. But.... The problem with this volume (and the one that comes after it, guaranteed) is that the reason for Jess hiding her baby ring completely hollow. We get a general answer, but it is completely unsatisfying. I am happy to spoil it in comments for anyone who asks. Until that type of forced drama goes away, this series will never be as good as it used to be.

This was a really enjoyable read from the original creative team. Having loved the original Alias run, as well as the Netflix series it inspired, it's great to see Bendis and Gaydos bringing Jessica back to her roots in the style of the MAX comics where she began. It's not quite as explicit (no f-bombs this time around), but it's still the sharp, hard-boiled JJ we love in a compelling story that builds off her history in the Marvel Universe. Highly recommended.

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