



The Flash By Geoff Johns Book One

Geoff Johns (Artist) , Scott Kolins (Illustrations) , Ángel Unzueta (Illustrations) , Brian Bolland (Cover Artist)

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The first in a series of paperback books that collect all of the best-selling issues of THE FLASH written by best-selling writer and Chief Creative Officer of DC Comics, Geoff Johns!

Wally West finds himself without his super speed in a darker, mirror version of Keystone City. Can a powerless Flash defeat Captain Cold and Mirror Master to save the city he loves? Plus, the Flash is shocked to learn that a strange cult is killing all the people he has ever rescued. Featuring art by fan-favorites Ethan Van Sciver, Scott Kolins and more! Collects The Flash #164-176, The Flash Iron Heights #1, The flash secret Files #3, The Flash Or Worlds at War #1.

The Flash By Geoff Johns Book One Details

Date : Published December 1st 2015 by DC Comics

ISBN : 9781401258733

Author : Geoff Johns (Artist) , Scott Kolins (Illustrations) , Ángel Unzueta (Illustrations) , Brian Bolland (Cover Artist)

Format : Paperback 448 pages

Genre : Sequential Art, Comics, Graphic Novels, Superheroes, Dc Comics, Comic Book, Graphic Novels Comics

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From Reader Review The Flash By Geoff Johns Book One for online ebook

Fizzgig76 says

Reprints The Flash (2) #164-176 and The Flash: Iron Heights (September 2000-September 2001). The Flash finds himself in another world where he isn't a hero and his only hope could be Captain Cold! Plus, the Flash takes on a villain named Cicada who could undo all the good that the Flash has ever done. Linda and Wally find their lives turned upside down once again when a baby shows up that could be tied to Wally's past and a mystery is surfacing in Iron Heights that could lead to a deadly outbreak!

Written by Geoff Johns, The Flash by Geoff Johns—Volume 1 collects the start of Johns' game-changing run on The Flash. The collection features issues previously collected in The Flash: Wonderland and The Flash: Blood Will Run.

I actually always kind of liked the Flash. People always wrote off the Flash as the guy who could just "run fast" (like Aquaman could just swim and talk to fish). While that largely is true, it takes some clever writing to make the character more interesting than many of DC's big guns. Geoff Johns managed to accomplish this in his run of The Flash which has a solid start here.

What is good about the Flash is that he can cross a lot of genres. His ability to time travel and jump dimensions with his powers allows for an almost endless set-up of stories including sci-fi fantasy stories along the lines of The Twilight Zone. That's what you get in the start of this collection, but you get back to more classic superhero style storylines by the end of the volume.

Another reason I always like the Flash was his Rogue galleries. The Flash's villains were always a strange balance of over-the-top supervillains and characters with strange moral codes. You have Rogues that switched sides like Pied Piper and you have Rogues that weren't always just out for their own good like Captain Cold. The classic Rogues always work best in this series, so I'm never as interested as when Johns introduces his own characters like Cicada, Tar Pit and the villains in the stand-alone The Flash: Iron Heights issue.

Geoff Johns revolutionized the DC Universe in my opinion for better rather than worse, and The Flash was one of his early series. Here, Johns is just finding his footing and doesn't have the massive creative control he has today, but you can tell at this point he's already growing and learning in his writings...has he written better stuff? Yes. Is it still good? Yes. The Flash by Geoff Johns—Volume 1 is followed by The Flash by Geoff Johns—Volume 2.

D. says

Geoff Johns takes the Flash and updates him and his Rogues for the modern comics era. More violence, higher stakes, etc. But the nice thing about Johns is that he really can tell a good story, and he has a good sense of character. (For the most part -- there were a few times that I shook my head, but overall he does a good job.)

Solid superhero comics.

Ken Stephens says

I'm a huge fan of Geoff Johns. I had the feeling that he hadn't started to get into his groove. I could see his future potential though. Nothing great, but an enjoyable read.

Josh says

An intriguing set of stories that subtly build off one another, even though each is presented as a distinct "arc." The exploration of the Rogues, the sneaky mysteries that are embedded but never feel forced...it's all a fantastic package of Flash stories that do not rely as much on the Speed Force as a trope. Indeed, I love the slight nods to Silver Age Flash stories, such as the inclusion of science "facts" and moments in many stories, despite Wally's lack of science training that drove these inclusions in the Barry Allen era. (To that point, it never feels forced, but presented naturally as the scientific things Wally has learned to do with his speed powers. And in one nice moment, he actually speed reads a forensics handbook on the way to a crime scene!) The initial artist is rather unfitting for the series, but once Scott Kolin comes on board, along with the beautiful covers by Brian Bolland, the series really takes off.

Jbainnz says

As a big Geoff John's fan I knew I would like this one. And thankfully I wasn't let down.

Before now the only Flash stories I've read were Rebirth and Flashpoint, both of which revolve around Barry. So this was my first real exposure to Wally West.

I had no idea that he didn't have a secret identity? That definitely put a different spin on the superhero thing, since all the villains can just look him up in the phone book! It was cool to see a hero that was able to maintain a semi normal life as a known hero with a family and a life. And John's writes Wally with a sense of humanity that you don't see that much. He doesn't want to be idolised, he just wants to use his powers to help people.

Another thing I really like here is how Wally treats the Rouges. They are villains, but they have some sense of right and wrong and won't cross some lines. They came off more as delinquent older brothers, rather than enemies which I found cool.

The art was also enjoyable. I preferred the second half of the book more so, but the first section is rad too.

Looking forward to seeing where the story goes with Pied Piper and the new Rouges. Just have to wait until May when the next volume comes out...dammit!!

Victor Orozco says

There have always been plenty of fans of Wally West as the Flash and those fans just keep growing as the great Geoff Johns invests his talent in taking the Flash into the new millennium.

Taking over after Mark Waid's exceptional stories in the 1990's, Johns makes these stories of the Flash stronger as Wally West really gets to work as Keystone City's Flash. Happily married with his wife Linda Park, Wally begins basically begins in a strange dilemma that's eventually explained. But in respects it brings to life many great things about what the world would be if the Speed Force never manifested itself. Barry alive, several of his old friends and enemies switched around. Pretty good stuff.

I got to say I've enjoyed seeing the strange detente that happens whenever Flash and Captain Cold run into each other. But I do find it interesting the amazing power of Mirror Master. Never much of a fan of this character until I finally was able to see what made him so dangerous.

The whole idea of someone using the physics of optics to create illusions, and dimensional rifts is pretty creepy and makes for a potent weapon for the Flash. Truly no other villain has that capability - making him a pretty cool opponent.

But not just Mirror Master, but other members of the Rogues as well as the development of Iron Heights Prison and its Warden Gregory Wolfe, a guy who screams the warden from Shawshank.

I find these stories well told for the most part as I slowly go through the rise of Wally West as the Flash. C+

Hande says

3,5 tähteä. Ei aivan yllä Flashpointin tasolle, mutta oli silti kiintoisaa luettavaa. Pidin erityisen paljon kirjan aloittavasta Wonderland-tarina-arkista, joka on Johnsien ensimmäinen Flash-sarjakuva. Onneksi olen lukenut Liisan seikkailut aikaisemmin, joten tajusin viittaukset.

Seth Heasley says

Pretty cool to see all of the material The Flash TV show took from this run. Even Supergirl got in on it a bit, with the cult of the people she saved looking a lot like Cicada's followers.

Alex Firer says

[kanye voice] me likey

James DeSantis says

I was a bit worried. The first major arc in this title is just okay. So I was wondering if this was worth my time and money. Luckily the second half made it very much so.

We start off with a plot where Flash is thrown into a mirror like world. Things are similar but not the same. He is considered a criminal and he lost his speed. I never understood why this seems to be a big thing people like to do. The whole fun part of Flash is his speed. Take that away the fights are dull.

However second half is so much more fun. Multiple stories of The Flash dealing with his rogues, taking them down, and also dealing more with Wally's personal life and learning his past. I really dug this and I really 'em liking my first taste of Wally, he's a fun character.

Overall second half is a blast, and good old flash fun. The first half is okay. For that it be closer to a 3.5 but the ending made me want book 2, so I'm going to go with a 4 because it's so damn fun at the end. New to flash? Pick this bad boy up for 16 bucks with 300+ pages.

Pablo Martinez says

This collection it's "fine". Johns seems to want to turn Wally into "Fast Batman". Some of the deaths and characters are way too gruesome for no reason and clash with the rest of the Flash "stuff". I knew Johns was a hack but I expected this to at least be a somewhat fun read.

AVOID IT AT ALL COSTS!

Alex E says

In the hands of Geoff Johns as the head writer, we get a much more grounded and well rounded Wally West. And the great part is that not only is Wally West rebuilt from the ground up, but also the world around him. From the city, to the rogues, to Linda West and the rest of his allies, its all reestablished as a much more grounded approach to the Flash mythos.

The first story is pretty clever way to establish Wally as not only a great super hero, but just a smart, resourceful dude that can think on his feet and do the right thing regardless of his powers. In this first arc, he is depowered which allows his "normal, non powered" character to shine through. He gets by on his smarts and bravery, and shows that Wally is a hero regardless of his speed. We also get a new dynamic on how Wally interacts with his rogues, where now, we see them as much more human and not one note villains. He works with them, he gives them a break, and he actually talks to them. It really elevates the book to a character study where before it was more of an action adventure type book.

In the second arc deals with a cult that basically worships Wally, but for some reason (that isn't really explained) they kill those who Wally has saved in the past. The story is ok, but what really shines is the art by Scott Kolins. He has a bright, clean line that is perfect for the Flash. I really enjoyed this story mostly because of the art.

All in all, its a great start to Johns time on the book. Looking forward to continuing to read his run.

Recommended for anyone that likes the flash!

Chad says

It's nice to step back to the days as Wally West as the Flash. It really is the golden era of the Flash, watching him grow from the immature Kid Flash during Mark Waid's run into the self-sure family man he becomes during Geoff Johns time on the book. Johns takes a very down to earth approach to the character while turning Keystone City into a version of Detroit. Wally is so much more interesting as the Flash. Not only is he better at using his powers at this point, but he's a less selfish hero. I like his approach to the Rogues. He doesn't think they are all bad and is willing to cut them a break when they lend a hand. Johns greatly expands Flash's rogues gallery during this era, giving him a set of villains second only to Batman and maybe Spider-Man. There's a good reason I keep returning to this era of the Flash over and over. Maybe DC's current Flash writers will one day get why and strengthen Barry's character.

Tomás Sendarrubias garcía says

Que Geoff Johns es uno de mis autores favoritos no será un secreto para nadie que vea mi lista de lecturas en tomos de cómics: Green Lantern de Geoff Johns, JSA de Geoff Johns... y ahora, Flash de Geoff Johns. Y es que los tomos que ECC está trayendo con los recopilatorios de este autor hacen que sea una gozada hacer estas colecciones.

Geoff Johns llegó a Flash con un encargo difícil: suceder a uno de los autores más reseñables de la historia del Velocista Escarlata, Mark Waid ni más ni menos, y este tomo recoge los primeros números de la etapa del escritor que trajo de vuelta a Barry Allen, pero que trabajó mucho antes con el Flash de nuestra generación, Wally West. En principio Johns iba a realizar una especie de interinidad, una sola saga, con dibujo de Ángel Unzueta, mientras el autor que iba a suceder a Waid, el veterano Gerry Conway, llegaba para hacerse con el que sería su nuevo dominio. Conway nunca llegó (por lo que fuera), y finalmente Johns se quedaría en la serie más tiempo del que originalmente pensaba, y se nota en cómo está escrita cada una de las partes. El Viaje al País de las Maravillas, que da título al tomo y que abre el volumen, es una historia cerrada en la que Flash se encuentra en un mundo sin Fuerza de la Velocidad, en el que ha perdido sus poderes y además, sólo cuenta con la ayuda del Capitán Frío para poder volver a su realidad. En una historia magistralmente dibujada por Ángel Unzueta, Johns explora la historia antigua de Wally West en los tiempos en que este vestía el uniforme de Kid Flash y formaba parte de los Titanes, mientras explora el tema del legado, de tanta importancia en el Universo DC.

Al quedarse finalmente en la colección, Johns comenzó a hacer un trabajo más expansivo, trabajando en dotar de personalidad a la propia Keystone City, trayendo nuevos secundarios a la serie, y profundizando en la relación entre Wally y su reciente esposa, Linda, mientras enfrenta al protagonista de la serie a una secta que le adora como representante del relámpago y que están decididos a acabar con la vida de todos aquellos que han sido salvados por Flash; y luego al Hechicero del Clima, decidido a conseguir un premio muy especial... En estos números, Johns colabora con el que es otro de los fetiches del corredor, Scott Kolins. Y para redondear el tomo, incluye un especial, con dibujos de Ethan van Sciver en el que Flash y el Flautista tienen que hacer frente a un virus surgido ni más ni menos que en Iron Heights, y que amenaza con extenderse por la ciudad, llevando a primer plano a uno de los enemigos más siniestros de Flash, Murmullo.

Si bien el principio es un poco flojo, lo cierto es que el tomo enseguida mejora y sobre todo, promete ir a mucho mejor...

Jacqueline O. says

The Flash Book One collects a year of *The Flash* comic book (and a special) from 2000-2001, so it contains several multi-issue stories. The first story starts with a bang with Wally West's Flash arriving in what he eventually figures out is a mirror universe, where there was no Flash - no Jay Garrick Golden Age Flash, no Barry Allen Silver Age Flash, and no Wally West Modern Age Flash. As a result, there are no other heroes - the members of the Justice Society and Justice League of America having been killed or forced into retirement. Keystone City has a zero-tolerance policy against all masks both Rogues and Heroes. West finds himself in jail, drugged by a "counselor" and then rescued by Captian Cold. Wally, Cold, and Mirror Master end-up having to work together to get out of the Mirror Universe before it collapses in on itself. They eventually succeed, only to find Keystone City missing when they return.

Mirror Master helps Wally and Capt. Cold to figure out what's happened to Keystone City. While they were captured inside Linda's wedding ring, Keystone was shifted into another dimension. Mirror Master gets them there and they end up in a fairy-tale like alternate universe. Wally had been there once before as Kid Flash with Barry Allen as the Flash. Wally discovers the current king of this fairyland holds quite a grudge. It seems when he and Barry last visited, he told the young, artistic prince he could "do whatever he wanted" rather than be king. So after the kingdom rose up and defeated the tyrant king, the young prince made his younger brother king, only to have his brother become a worse tyrant than the old king. This new king also launched wars that killed off much of the population of the kingdom. Wally tries to explain that the prince, who is now king, missed the point, but the king decides to execute him anyway to get even. Cold and Mirror Master try to leave but they discover they are now trapped. Jay Garrick, the Golden Age Flash arrives - first he's bounced from Grimm, but then he returns. The Flash (Wally) is able to borrow some of Jay's speed and give it to Cold and Mirror Master. They work together to break the spells and return to Keystone City to where it belongs, with everyone back to normal rather than believing they are their alternate selves.

The next story starts with some background information on Keystone City, an industrial blue-collar city that works hard and plays harder. An old girlfriend of Wally's shows up but before he can talk to her about their break-up, she's murdered. Magenta, another old girlfriend of Wally's, who happens to be an unstable Meta, also returns. However, she seems to have calmed down a lot. Meanwhile, the Keystone City police are dealing with a serial killer. It takes a while to figure out the pattern, but it turns out that everyone who died was at one point in their lives saved by the Flash. The killer is Cicada, and he leads a cult of people saved by the Flash who are now some sort of religious cult. Cicada convinces his followers to offer themselves as a sacrifice and he wants to gather enough energy to bring his wife back from the dead. Oh, and due to a lightning strike, Cicada is immortal. The Flash is able to finally send Cicada to Iron Heights. But it turns out that Julie, the cop who once dated Wally had a baby.

There's a one-issue story of the Flash verses Tarpit in which Wally quickly defeats the new foe.

As Wally deals with the death of Julie, and the possibility of being the father of her baby, Weather Wizard goes on the attack in Keystone - and he says the child is his. But Weather Wizard only wants to control the child because he thinks the child can control the weather without a weather wand. The Flash defeats Weather Wizard and he and Linda decide they need to figure out what to do with Julie's baby.

At Iron Heights, Warden Wolfe is not simply tough - he's corrupt, and he's torturing Metas, but when a mutated virus makes it way through the prison, killing prisoners and guards alike - he needs to reach out to the police for help. Wally, Pied Piper (who has reformed), and Jay Garrick rush to the prison. Jay will work on an antidote in the lab, while Wally investigates and tries to find the original contagion in the prison. Wally finds evidence of corruption and torture in the prison and he's exposed himself. He does discover the source

of the virus though and gets it to Jay in time for an antidote to be made. He also informs the police of Wolfe's abuses. The prisoners and guards that didn't die in the initial attack are saved with a vaccine. But a few of the Flash's Rogues escape and form a group called, "The New Rogues".

I enjoyed *The Flash Book One* there's a variety of story types, and the writing is solid. Wally is a fun character, but here, having taken over the mantle of the Flash from his Uncle Barry who died in the line of duty - he's a bit more serious. Even though this is an older book, I still recommend it, it is a great introduction to the Wally West Modern Age Flash.
