



Superman vs. Muhammad Ali

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Two legendary figures meet for the first time in this spectacular adventure, as an alien race called the Scrubb demand that Earth's greatest champion battle their world's own greatest fighter. Both Superman and Muhammad Ali step forward -- and to determine who is truly Earth's greatest fighter, Superman temporarily loses his powers and faces Ali in the ring. Ultimately, the duo must work together to defeat the Scrubb, with Ali taking on their champion while Superman battles their space-armada. Features previously unpublished developmental artwork and other bonus features, at DC's Deluxe Edition trim size.

Superman vs. Muhammad Ali Details

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Author : Dennis O'Neil , Neal Adams (Illustrator) , Dick Giordano (Illustrator) , Terry Austin (Illustrator)

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Download and Read Free Online Superman vs. Muhammad Ali Dennis O'Neil , Neal Adams (Illustrator) , Dick Giordano (Illustrator) , Terry Austin (Illustrator)

From Reader Review Superman vs. Muhammad Ali for online ebook

Dan Schwent says

When aliens are threatening to annihilate Earth and demand Earth's champion face theirs, Superman and Muhammad Ali duke it out to see who really is the greatest and earns the right to face the alien champion!

I've been aware of the existence of this crossover almost as long as I've been reading comics. When 2019 was staring me in the face, I resolved that this would be the year I finally read it.

The very concept of this is kind of absurd. The greatest boxer of all time vs. the greatest super hero of all time? Shouldn't Superman be able to punch Muhammad Ali's head off? Fortunately, Denny O'Neil and Neal Adams made chicken salad out of chicken shit on this occasion.

The story starts simply enough. Clark Kent, Lois Lane, and Jimmy Olsen are in a bad part of Metropolis, chasing a rumor that Muhammad Ali is in town. The Champ is and he and Superman quickly get pulled into the schemes of a mad alien dictator bent on destroying Earth. Yeah, it cheesier than a box of Cheez-Its but it could have been so much worse.

Neal Adams' art was fantastic. Superman looked iconic and Muhammad Ali looked great, like the man himself. I always forget how ahead of his time Neal Adams was. His art still looks contemporary 40 years later. His illustrative style forever changed comics and you can still see his influence today. Also, it's mindboggling how many real life faces he worked into crowd on the wraparound cover. There are 124 and most of them are real people.

Highlights of the issue include Ali teaching Superman to box, Ali beating the shit out of Superman, and the big boxing match with Hun'Ya, the alien champ. Was this ever referenced in the main DC books? "You know, that Doomsday is tough but did you see the Ali-Superman fight in 1978?"

Scratch Superman vs. Muhammad Ali off of my reading goals list for the year. Superman vs. Muhammad Ali was way better than it had any right to be. Four out of five stars.

Topher says

For a book that I picked up specifically because of how freaking weird it looked, one of the weirder things about it is how not-weird it is. It's mostly a pretty standard oldish-school Superman story, the kind that was published a lot in the 1970s. There's some kind of threat that seems really bad, and Superman, through a combination of intelligence, friendship, decency, and superpowers, defeats it. This one just happened to feature The Greatest. Probably the most remarkable three things about this book are that Ali beats Superman, Superman sorta does blackface, and Ali gets an awesome, very brief moment of racial social commentary, where he fairly explicitly calls attention to systemic racism.

Anyway, for the goofy concept, super-fun artwork, and typical breeziness, I'd say read it. It's pretty fun, and not long enough to regret.

Sarah says

I'm not quite sure how I came across this, but when I saw it I thought, "what?" Pitting Superman vs. Muhammad Ali in a comic feels so dangerous, ripe for all sorts of ethnocentric, horrific scenes. What brave or foolish souls would take this on? So, I had to read it. Originally released in the late 70s, this work is, though sometimes a little painfully forced, overwhelmingly the representation of the best of what comics can strive to be. A good action story with a heart expressing response to social realities of its time.

Anurag says

Just take a look at this book, and you'll know what a classic book should look like! Format and especially the cover of this book is awesome!! Muhammad Ali and Superman in a boxing ring with nearly 100 known faces enjoying the match! Really one of the best covers ever drawn!

The inner pages are no different. You'll have a royal feel while reading. The frequent splash pages are beautiful and enhances the effect.

Well, story is not too good, but is engrossing and author Neal Adams had made good use of Muhammad Ali's and Superman's strengths and weaknesses in the story.

Worth reading if you're a fan of Superman or Muhammad Ali or multi-star comics or boxing!

First Second Books says

I'm reading Superman Vs Mohammad Ali and it's my new favorite comic of all time you guys and I'm only on, like, the second page.

zxvasdf says

This was a nice blast to the past, to sink in a comic book world where the values are basically monochrome. All apple pie americana philosophy, only coming from Ali's boisterous mouth.

An insane alien has challenged Ali and Superman to a match with their champion, but first the two have to fight to determine the best fighter. What ensues is an action of bravery, fraud, and finally, redemption.

I loved the moments where Ali was shooting his mouth off. Intimidate the enemy away from the ring, and in the ring. This hardback also has a treat: a wraparound poster with faces of dozens of celebrated people of the time including Kurt Vonnegut, Howard Chaykin, Lex Luthor, and even Alfred Neumann!

awesomatik.de says

Das Cover ist der Hammer und die Idee einfach spaßig. Leider ist die Story unglaublich schlecht und auch der Erzählrythmus und die Dialoge taugen leider nichts. Schade. Die beiden Ikonen hätten mehr verdient.

Aber jetzt weiß ich immerhin wer "The greatest of all times and worlds" ist... Und ihr nicht :-)

Peter Derk says

[After Action Letter Written by Batman]

Superman-

After reviewing the after-action report collected in this volume, I have to make some critical points about how to handle these situations better in the future. But before I go on, I do want to express how extremely disappointed I am in you and your lack of forethought. You are better than this.

The proposition set forth by invading aliens, one that involves an Earth champion fighting their champion to decide the fate of the Earth, is not within your control. Also, Muhammad Ali being in the area when this proposition was made was also not within your control. I understand this. However, the moment the challenge was made, the ball was in your court, and you threw up a brick that could have kept a hundred little piggies safe from just about any wolf, with the possible exception of the Minnesota Timberwolves, whose rebounding is incredible this season. Those guys are playing out of their heads!

According to what I saw, the alien gave you 24 hours to prepare for battle. However, Ali claimed that he should be the one to represent Earth, the reason being that the alien homeworld, where the fight would take place, is lit by a red sun, the exact thing that takes away your superpowers and makes you a mortal man and nothing more.

Okay, for starters, you have about three weaknesses, and you need to stop broadcasting them. Muhammed Ali does not need to know that you are easily killed when exposed to red sun. Not that he would have much chance to get ahold of some...except when YOU TOOK HIM TO YOUR SECRET FORTRESS AND SPARRED WITH HIM UNDER A LIGHT BULB THAT MIMICS RED SUN.

This is a completely unnecessary risk.

Also, stop keeping things around that can kill you. If there are three things that can kill you, focus on eliminating those three things, not stashing them away in a glass candy dish like an old bitch who lost her love on the Titanic.

So, using some time-slowing device, you and Ali had a couple of weeks to prepare for the fight. He trained you to the best of his ability, and then the two of you fought under the red sun before the main event, Earth's champion versus the alien champion.

Clark, I don't need to tell you more than once that fighting two people back to back is not done in boxing. It is just not done. Even though Ali bested you, the energy he spent knocking your ass around the ring a few

rounds would have been better spent on the real enemy. Not a wise move.

Secondly, if the alien race wanted to create an honorable boxing match, as they claimed, how does it work that their champion weighs 8,000 lbs. while ours is floating around 200? I know you probably don't take in much boxing, but this is completely unorthodox, and you allowing Ali to enter such a mismatched fight is putting him at a high level of risk that is completely unacceptable. Next time, why not just have Jimmy Olsen fight, I don't know, Anti-Monitor. A guy who takes pictures against a guy who absorbs universes? Hey, sounds like a good match.

Now, I understand you're the feelgood guy, and learning about races and creeds coming together to defeat a common foe was really nice. But for the love of god, you let Ali figure out your secret identity!?

Unfortunately, this is not a situation that can be allowed to stand. I will be forced to pay a little visit Ali and slip him a memory-erasing drug, which will hopefully wipe this entire alien adventure from his mind. It is my sincerest hope that there are no lasting, debilitating effects. But if there are, know they are on your head. The secret of your alter-ego is too important to be known to any man, regardless of his ability to punch other men without being punched by them as much.

You need to start taking more responsibility for your actions and the actions of those you should be protecting.

Yours in Christ,

-B

Steven Kent says

Oh come on! It's a boxing match between Superman and Muhammad Ali. It takes place in outer space! It is attended by scores of icons from the 70s.

This is fun, goofy stuff!

Mark says

It's such and earnest, straightforward and un-cynical product of a more innocent era of popular culture that it's hard to dislike the corny glory.

Brad says

Ridiculous and fun, with a greater emphasis on fun. The key to the book's success is keeping the story simple so that the characters can shine. I tend to dislike when comic books take earth-bound characters into space because it feels both cheesy and overkill on suspension of disbelief, but it doesn't bother me in this book because, despite the ridiculous premise, the rest of it doesn't get tangled in details related to outer space or aliens. It is fairly transparent that the only reason the story goes to space at all is to support the founding idea

of having Muhammad Ali and Superman compete in a boxing match.

Aliens come to earth to have earth's greatest fighter go up against the best fighter of their alien race. Superman and Muhammad Ali have a spat about who is better, concluding they must compete against one other, to be fair, in an environment where Superman's superpowers do not work. Ali teaches Superman the art of boxing; the often overly goody-goody Superman even echoes Ali's cocky trash talk he deals out to the aliens. Ali's voice feels genuine at times, dated jive-talking (written by white people trying to "write black") at others. (view spoiler)

Max Rebo says

Dice Neal Adams, en el prólogo de esta obra dibujada por él mismo, que Superman vs. Ali es una de las mejores novelas gráficas jamás escritas. Creo que se pasó tres pueblos. Su arte es tan bueno como siempre, y por una vez justifica el formato Absolute de la edición de Planeta. Sin embargo, el guión de O'Neil (otro de los grandes del 9º arte) dista mucho de ser de lo mejor. La premisa es demasiado absurda, incluso asumiendo que se trata de un cómic de superhéroes y marcianos. Requiere de altas dosis de espíritu camp para leerlo.

Rob says

As a comic book aficionado of some years I've seen many 'event' comics come and go, and most of them were of middling quality. The plots seemed forced and the stakes artificial. Despite that and my ridiculously low expectations, this particular one managed to be amazing. It's obvious that a lot of care was taken with this one, and it's by two DC Comics heavyweights (ha!), Neal Adams and Denny O'Neil. Adams' art is phenomenal and this is one of those rare comics where they manage to capture both the likeness and the personality of a celebrity convincingly and he doesn't feel dropped into the book like a Poochie. (<http://simpsons.wikia.com/wiki/Poochie> if you are culturally illiterate.) It doesn't hurt that Ali is a larger than life personality to begin with, so he fits into the surroundings seemingly effortlessly. It's a delight to see him striding these pages and you're left wanting a sequel that will never happen. The plot is contrived, as all such events are, but there are dramatic twists which are convincing and even exciting.

In regards to this package in particular, it's well done, as well as you can manage shirking down the original oversized comic book into an affordable graphic novel. There is supplemental material, but - and I say this as someone who usually ignores the extra features - I was left wanting more as the backstory to this book is so fascinating I felt it deserved more than a couple of pages of rushed recollections. It cries out for Criterion-style long interviews and pages of scripts and things like that.

Quentin Wallace says

This was surprisingly good. I have avoided reading this book for years because the premise just seemed too silly, but really this was very well done.

The art is superb. Neal Adams (along with Berni Wrightson) is probably my favorite comic artist of all time, and he's at his best here. It's also written by Denny O'Neil, and the team of Adams and O'Neil have produced some of the greatest comic runs ever (Green Lantern/Green Arrow, Batman, etc.) The story isn't exactly what

you'd think. Aliens are threatening Earth, and they will destroy the entire planet unless our champion bests their champion. So in order to determine who should represent Earth, a depowered Superman faces Ali with the winner moving on to face the alien champion. While at first glance it seems a typical comic story, it's really deeper and deals with race relations, equality, etc.

If you're a fan of Ali, Superman, Denny O'Neil, Neal Adams or really comics in general this is really worth a read.

Edward Erdelac says

No kidding, one of the best Superman stories ever written and illustrated.
