



## The New Avengers, Volume 4

*Brian Michael Bendis (Writer) , Mike Deodato (Illustrations)*

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**The New Avengers, Volume 4** Brian Michael Bendis (Writer) , Mike Deodato (Illustrations)

**An AvX tie-in!**

*The New Avengers* have received the call from Captain America to go to war against the X-Men ... and Wolverine will be forced to choose a side. Then, Iron Fist discovers the shocking secret history of the Phoenix in K'un-Lun's book of the dead! Hope Summers journeys to the magical home of the Iron Fist to uncover her destiny! But will she conquer her future - or be consumed by it? Plus: it's a prison break ... Avengers style!

**Collecting:** *The New Avengers* 24-30

## The New Avengers, Volume 4 Details

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Author : Brian Michael Bendis (Writer) , Mike Deodato (Illustrations)

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# From Reader Review The New Avengers, Volume 4 for online ebook

## Matt says

Collects New Avengers (2010) issues #24-30

This collection has some good parts and some OK parts. All of the stories inside this book tie into the 2012 Marvel event called "Avengers vs. X-Men" (or AVX).

After the initial "AVX" set-up issue, the next few issues were Iron Fist-centric stories. While I haven't followed Iron Fist very much, I loved these issues because they featured Leonardo da Vinci (the Marvel version, as seen in Jonathan Hickman's amazing series, S.H.I.E.L.D.). Taken at facevalue, this collection wouldn't be a 5-star read to me, but I want to own it just to have these Leonardo da Vinci appearances.

Next, there was a one-issue story featuring a Luke Cage, Spider-Woman, and Hawkeye team-up. This one issue was followed by a story about the return of the Illuminati, and I always enjoy seeing them together. Then, there was the final "AVX" wrap-up tie-in story.

Like I said above, this isn't a 5-star for quality, but for how much I enjoyed certain character appearances.

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## Douglas Gibson says

I just wanted to read some Bendis (I never have( before he starts penning Superman. I was limited by what my library had to offer, so I decided to start with this collection as I have been wanting to read more Avengers stuff anyway.

For the most part I really like the way he writes and enjoyed seeing what he did with these characters. I wish the library had the first 3 volumes, but I think I was mostly able to follow the gist of the story.

I am now excited to see what he does with the Man of Steel.

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## Daniel Sepúlveda says

Puntaje: 4,4.

Me encantó releer esta historia, esta vez en su edición TPB. Ya había leído todo lo relacionado al evento Avengers Vs X-Men, que por cierto s de mis eventos favoritos, y leerlo desde la perspectiva de los New Avengers es muy placentero.

Disfruté mucho este volúmen porque no solo vemos lo que sucede en los enfrentamientos entre mutantes y vengadores sino tambien dos historias que para mí fueron la cereza del pastel: La historia en la que el Iron Fist y el Fenix están relacionados, y por supuesto la reunión de los Vengadores Illuminati!

Voy a por el quinto volúmen!

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## **Katie says**

I feel that this volume was useful in adding more depth to avengers vs x-men event. It gave the reader more details about different characters pasts and present. It did not have the main plotlines of the Avengers vs X-men event but it's not meant too. This was volume to inform the reader about what happened to The New Avengers during the event. I really liked the way that Luke Cage dealt with the crowd protesting outside of the avengers mansion. I did like the secret history of the Phoenix and I loved who was needed to train Hope. I enjoyed the artwork. Overall, I would suggest a person wanting to get more details about Avengers vs X-Men or details about members of the New Avengers, pick this volume up and give it a chance.

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## **Aaron says**

As mostly unimportant tie-ins to major Marvel crossovers go, this was fine. We get a few side stories of the Avengers' comings and goings during the Avengers vs. X-Men storyline, none of which are particularly thrilling, while also not being particularly boring. It's about as mediocre of a book as you can write, though I don't blame Bendis. His New Avengers has been stuck in a rut for several volumes at this point, and crossover stories are not the way to climb out of it.

I'm actually very much looking forward to finishing New Avengers so I can move on from it. I feel a weird need to finish the entire run, since I loved his first New Avengers series so much, even though I don't find this one to be interesting or fresh in any way. Oh well. I'll be through with this soon, I guess!

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## **Shannon Appelcline says**

Luke & Jessica (24). A great story that really goes to the heart of character, as Bendis does when he's at his best [9/10].

Iron Phoenix (25-27). This is too much time spent on something that's not even really about the Avengers. It's an interesting bit of history and the last half issue is worth reading, but there's way, way too much decompression here [6/10].

Breakout (28). I loved seeing the story of Avengers in prison, but this was one of those stories that (A) seemed pointless -and- (B) pissed me off when I got to the end [4/10].

The Illuminati (29). This is a nice look at what's going on with the "powers" during the war and a great moment between Steve and Namor [7/10].

Caged (30). Unfortunately, the finale to the volume is weak. It finishes off the story that headed the volume in a meaningful way, but there's too much fighting for it to be interesting [5/10].

Overall, I was disappointed by this volume. Bendis has figured out a good method for tying into a major event with interesting standalone substories, but these stories just don't have enough heart in them to make the volume shine.

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## **Jacob says**

Apparently I missed vol 4 and 5 of this series and I've had a library copy of Jonathan Hickman's Everything Dies, which takes place afterward, due in a couple days, so I'm trying to get caught up. In typical Bendis fashion it reads quickly because there's more dialogue balloons than narrative captions. Mike Deodato draws wonderfully. I would think hardcore Avengers readers would complain about the individual chapters due to the lack of core Avengers characters and all the focus shifted on Iron Fist city, but I loved it.

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## **Eric Mikols says**

Don't be surprised that an X-Men fan doesn't like the story where the X-Men are the bad guys.

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## **Mike says**

My review will be spotty as I'm reading this interleaved with the rest of the Avengers vs. X-Men event books.

Not sure how I feel about Bendis' use of this book. One part of me likes to see the best stories told, and it shouldn't matter whether continuity is honoured or if the usual cast of characters are adequately represented. Just tell great stories and we'll be sufficiently pleased. Another part of me feels deflated that we lose out on the opportunity (finite as it is with Bendis' coming move off the Avengers books) to experience the great characterisations and fun dialogue of Luke, Danny and all the rest of the cast. I will sorely miss every laugh I've had in these books - they're all-too-rare in Big Two comics today - and every page not like that is one less page.

The actual storyline? An excellent addition to the Marvel U, adding some scaffolding and a little nuance to the legends scraped out of dust by Fraction (in his Iron Fist run) and Hickman (in his SHIELD Architects of Forever tale). Great way to bridge between these legendary mental leaps and the relatively ordinary wobble of the AvX storyline. And I must commend Bendis' writing craft here - he takes a specific and atypical (for him) voice in this tale and makes a measurable effort to ensure it's tight and separate from what he's doing in the rest of this event.

When we return to the present, I have to admit these vignettes are absolutely necessary to enjoying the rest of the AvX event. These are the moments in between the fist-bashings that I would expect to see surrounding these massive, world-threatening events. Spidey as teacher, the cabal talking through events of late and never losing sight of their powerful past...

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## **Sean says**

Wow! One of Marvel's biggest books and is relegated to an event tie-in with little to no impact. I'm amazed at how little this mattered. Add to that the fact that there were big emotional hits here (Cage/Jessica,

Cap/Namor, & Hope/Spidey) but this could have been handled in one book. Then you have the K'un L'un history lesson which, while interesting on its own, doesn't serve a purpose in this mega event. I struggle to see why it was made the way it was made. I feel bad who paid for the singles at regular price. Overall, great art with not a lot of meat. Easily skippable.

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### **Michael Church says**

I'll admit, I don't know the context of these stories in the New Avengers continuity, I'm just reading it as an AvX tie in, but I thought this was awesome.

The story of Luke Cage and Jessica Jones bookending the volume is really great. However, the beginning was a bit text heavy. There's literally a page that has a full panel of Luke and Jessica and there is dialogue the whole way down both sides. It was too much. The ending pulled it all together nicely.

The actual meat was pretty good. There's a story of a former Iron Fist/Phoenix host that's kind of neat, but it didn't need to take 3 whole issues to tell. Especially since it showed the same dream prophecy 3 times. The effect was nice, though, and the way that arc closed out with Hope and Spider-Man was probably one of the best moments of the volume.

There's also a story with the Illuminati (the group of Marvel leaders/geniuses who are holding the Infinity Gems) that I loved. This group is fascinating to me - so much so that they are the entire reason I'm picking up the Marvel NOW! New Avengers book. The interactions with these guys are just on a different level. There's enough history and friendship and animosity that everything is interesting. Also, Reed Richards is my hero in this. His logic is exactly what I was thinking through AvX and I love him for it. It's a great piece of writing.

There's also a story about a group of prisoners that's pretty unique and interesting. It's another issue that's got a nice intro that connects to the end very well.

The art throughout is solid and really adds to the story. It actually sort of upsets me because Bendis does so well in this and is so well complemented by Deodato's art, yet the volume of Avengers that I recently read by him was abysmal. I mean how can he put something out that is that terrible at the same time he's writing books as good as this one? It's frustrating. At least I was able to enjoy this book.

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### **Christina Kneidel says**

This was pretty good! Got to see some Luke Cage, Jessica Jones & Daredevil!

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### **Brian Poole says**

After some Luke/Jessica domestic drama, most of the following three issues took place hundreds of years earlier and saw the city of K'un-Lun locate and train a young, redheaded girl who became that era's Iron Fist and who was essential in turning back an incursion by the Phoenix. In the present, K'un-Lun, Iron Fist and Spider-Man worked together to prepare Hope Summers to face the challenge of the Phoenix. A nasty mind-

bender of an issue saw Luke, Hawkeye and Spider-Woman attempt to escape captivity from the X-Men's Utopia island.

Captain America summoned the remnants of the Illuminati, which provided a different perspective on the conflict. Finally, the anti-mutant Purifiers attacked a transport holding the captured and de-Phoenix-ed Emma Frost, clashing with her New Avengers guards. In the aftermath, Luke decided to leave the Avengers for his family's sake.

The Luke/Jessica drama was probably the most compelling part of this arc for long-time *New Avengers* fans. It built out of years of stories and made a lot of sense for the characters. It was the most successful part of this run. The deep background on the Phoenix/Iron Fist history was certainly interesting, but fans at the time of original publication had the legitimate complaint that it wasn't really an Avengers story. No Avengers even appeared in the first two issues of the arc, with Iron Fist and Spider-Man popping up later in the third. The story itself was interesting and compelling, but it was hard to fault fans expecting to see Avengers in *New Avengers* for being disappointed. The Illuminati issue contained no action, but did have some interesting character drama and Mister Fantastic provided an interesting "outsider" perspective on the conflict. The end of the arc was essentially a big fight issue, but it provided a compelling backdrop for Luke's final decision. Mike Deodato was on hand for art duties throughout, providing visual continuity and doing especially nice work in the Iron Fist/Phoenix scenes. As with its sister titles, this volume of *New Avengers* mostly makes sense only for those who have read *Avengers vs. X-Men*, though the Luke/Jessica drama at least provides some reason for long-time fans to check in.

A version of this review originally appeared on [www.thunderalleybcp.com](http://www.thunderalleybcp.com)

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## **Reni says**

Not a favourite. There are tie-ins to events that can hold their own as a story. This isn't one of them. In fact, this volume is a good example for why I'm iffy about event comics. They tend to disrupt perfectly good storylines. While there are some interesting single issues in this (mainly the Illuminati issue - which is extra surprising, because I'm not really fond of the concept behind the team), this volume simply doesn't work out of the context of the AvsX main event. The biggest offender is issue #28 which is a textbook example of a shaggy doggy story. Nothing is achieved within that story. Absolutely nothing.

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## **Angela says**

This book covers an awful lot. Luke Cage has to decide between his family and the Avengers. We find out how the Iron Fist is related to the Phoenix, and see Hope learn from it. The best bit is the Illuminati meeting up again and discussing the situation. Captain America's faith is really touching here. They try to break out Avengers who have been captured by the Xmen, and Spiderman really shines. A really good read, one of the best tie-in books.

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