



Action Comics (2016-) #1000

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Celebrate 1000 issues of Action Comics with an all-star lineup of top talent as they pay tribute to the comic that started it all! From today's explosive action to a previously unpublished tale illustrated by the legendary Curt Swan to the Man of Tomorrow's future—this very special, oversized issue presents the best of the best in Superman stories!

FEATURING ALL-NEW ART AND STORIES BY:

BRIAN MICHAEL BENDIS

JOHN CASSADAY

OLIVIER COIPEL

PAUL DINI

JOSE LUIS GARCIA-LOPEZ

PATRICK GLEASON

BUTCH GUICE

GEOFF JOHNS

DAN JURGENS

TOM KING

JIM LEE

CLAY MANN

BRAD MELTZER

JERRY ORDWAY

TIM SALE

LOUISE SIMONSON

SCOTT SNYDER

CURT SWAN

PETER J. TOMASI

MARV WOLFMAN

...AND MORE!

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Brian Michael Bendis , Geoff Johns , Scott Snyder , Tom King , Brad Meltzer , Paul Dini , Louise Simonson , Peter J. Tomasi , more... Marv Wolfman , Dan Jurgens , Paul Levitz , Richard Donner , Jordie Bellaire (Illustrator) , Matthew Wilson (Illustrator) , Hi-Fi (Illustrator) , Jim Lee

Author : (Illustrator) , Alex Sinclair (Illustrator) , Scott Williams (Illustrator) , Clay Mann (Illustrator) , Tim Sale (Illustrator) , John Cassaday (Illustrator) , Jerry Ordway (Illustrator) , Kevin Nowlan (Illustrator) , Olivier Coipel (Illustrator) , Patrick Gleason (Illustrator) , Norm Rapmund (Illustrator) , Jackson Butch Guice (Illustrator) , Neal Adams (Illustrator) , José García-López (Illustrator) , Curt Swan (Illustrator) ...less

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From Reader Review Action Comics (2016-) #1000 for online ebook

Roy says

A solid collection of mini stories with Superman. Probably not the best but I'm rating this based on the comic/characters achievement on getting to #1000. Also rating it on what Superman represents. Its crazy that even after my lifetime I'm sure Superman will still be going strong.

Anthony says

I did love this. I love the lineup of creators and the individual stories, each giving a different look into Superman and some spanning different eras. My favourite might be the Tomasi/Gleeson story, though, because it's such a fitting tribute to the history of superman.

Jon(athan) Nakapalau says

Even if you are not a Superman fan you should read this - (warning: I am going way off script) - because I think now more than ever we need to look into the mirror of cultural identity that we use to 'see' ourselves and take a close look: in many ways I think Superman has been the avatar of that identity (and all that it represents to the wider global community). Are we still 'the fairest of them all' or do we really need to polish that mirror so that we can see more clearly? Hey Superman - is earth turning into a Krypton of our own making...and if we don't fix things where will we all go?

Joaquin Garza says

Nunca hago estas trampotas de poner cómics sueltos en Goodreads, pero Action Comics #1000 es un número muy importante!

Artemy says

And here it is, the milestone issue of Action Comics. The first superhero comic book to get to 1000 issues, coinciding with Superman's 80th anniversary. It also features Brian Michael Bendis's debut as a Superman writer, after almost two decades of working exclusively at Marvel. I really enjoyed this issue — the stories are mostly all sentimental, heartfelt and made with love and care for the character, and I can't say that anybody did a poor job writing or drawing this comic book. My favourite story was, of course, Tom King's (that guy, always giving me a good dose of existential anxiety), although I also loved the stories by Peter Tomasi, Paul Dini and Scott Snyder. What about Bendis? Bendis is such a tease. His story was basically a trailer for his upcoming Man of Steel series, and honestly, I'm totally in and I'm excited. At the very minimum, it's going to be a gorgeous book with a lot of fun action, so I can't wait for that.

Happy birthday, Superman! You're the world's greatest superhero for a reason, and I'm so glad that DC are for once willing to treat you as one.

Alejandro says

Reaching the 1000th issue!

This is 1000th comic book issue of “Action Comics” being published since 1938. The comic book issue feature several short stories by different creative teams, all focused in celebrating the comic book character of Superman.

The rating is an average sum result of each rated story featured in this book

FROM THE CITY THAT HAS EVERYTHING

Rating: ***** (5 stars)

Writer & Illustrator: Dan Jurgens

This is a story showing what Superman means to the people of Metropolis, but also how much Superman is inspired by the actions of the citizens of the said city. And it's obvious that the chosen title is a tribute to the Alan Moore's classic story *For the Man who has Everything*.

It's “Superman’s Day” but the Man of Steel is busy dealing with a Khund invasion to Earth, however Lois won't allow that that would mess with the celebration of Metropolis' people, and she employs a card on her sleeve to help about it.

NEVER-ENDING BATTLE

Rating: ***** (5 stars)

Writer: Peter J. Tomasi

Illustrator: Patrick Gleason

This is an outstanding visual tribute to the different eras and media format where Superman has been developed since 1938 to nowadays.

AN ENEMY WITHIN

Rating: **** (4 stars)

Writer: Marv Wolfman

Illustrator: Curt Swan

This is a story showing that while Superman is busy at other parts of the world (sometimes in deep space), that doesn't mean that Metropolis is left without help, since the Metropolis Special Crimes Unit is always there to take care of things without expecting that Superman would show up, and even the city has good civilians always doing what's right.

THE CAR

Rating: **** (4 stars)

Writers: Geoff Johns & Richard Donner

Illustrator: Olivier Coipel

The picture of Superman on the cover of "Action Comics" #1 is 80 years after a staple in the memory of millions of people around the world, but Superman wasn't alone in the image, there was the car too, that green car that Superman was lifting without any effort, and here you can read the aftermath of its story, and his owner.

THE FIFTH SEASON

Rating: *** (3 stars)

Writer: Scott Snyder

Illustrator: Rafael Albuquerque

This is a story where Superman and Lex Luthor are talking while walking through the Smallville Planetarium. Lex is commenting about certain things that he did while he was a kid, living in Smallville, how one of those things may or may not impact in the present, but also, how another thing (with or without his realization) could result in a very different way if certain visitor from another planet wouldn't be around.

OF TOMORROW

Rating: *** (3 stars)

Writer: Tom King

Illustrator: Clay Mann

This is a story where Superman is remembering his adoptive parents, standing over the very special place

that he chosen for the last resting place of them.

FIVE MINUTES

Rating: ***** (5 stars)

Writer: Louise Simonson

Illustrator: Jerry Ordway

This is a great story showing how many things can happen in just five minutes when you're one of the fastest men on the planet, while dealing not only with super-hero duties but also with responsibilities as a reporter in a great metropolitan newspaper.

ACTIONLAND!

Rating: *** (3 stars)

Writer: Paul Dini

Illustrator: José Luis García-López

In a tribute to Alan Moore's story of "Whatever Happened to the Man of Tomorrow", this is a fun story where your favorite imp Mr. Mxyzptlk is meditating how close he has been to beat Superman, and due his powers, he should do it a long time ago without much trouble.

FASTER THAN A SPEEDING BULLET

Rating: ***** (5 stars)

Writer: Brad Meltzer

Illustrator: John Cassaday

This is an outstanding story showing that while Superman will do everything in his power to save an innocent life, always is inspiring for him, when that innocent life also does something on his/her own to help in the process and giving Superman, the extra second needed to reach on time.

THE TRUTH

Rating: *** (3 stars)

Writer: Brian Michael Bendis

Illustrator: Jim Lee

First glimpse (not a complete story) of the battle over Metropolis of Superman (with assistance of Supergirl) against the mysterious alien Rogol Zaar on a zealot cleansing of the Kryptonian race.

Sam Quixote says

80 years ago Superman was introduced to the world in Action Comics #1 - and we've been yawning ever since!

Just kidding – Superman's my favourite superhero after Batman - but I know a lot of people think he's boring because he's essentially a cross between a near-invincible god and a bland boy scout, and what the hell is interesting about that? Well, unfortunately Action Comics #1000 isn't going to convince the naysayers otherwise and even a huge Superman fan like me found it to be a disappointing read.

Action Comics #1000 is a bumper-sized anthology issue featuring some of the finest comics talents who've contributed to the Superman mythos over the years (though Grant Morrison, who arguably wrote the greatest Superman book, *All-Star*, is notably absent), many of whom basically trumpet the same schmaltzy message here: Superman is as inspired by humanity to be what he is and do what he does as humanity is inspired by him. That's sweet and all, but it's not a story. And that's why this comic is so dull.

In Dan Jurgens' contribution, everyone gathers to applaud Superman for being Superman – that's it. In Peter J. Tomasi and Patrick Gleason's effort, they replay images of Superman's greatest stories before giving him a birthday cake – that's it. We get super obvious in hackmeister Brad Meltzer and John Cassaday's short where Lois literally says "People always say they're inspired by you but I know your real secret. YOU'RE the one inspired by THEM." Faceplant.

Then we get into the dregs. Marv Wolfman's worthless short about Brainiac neither features Brainiac nor Superman; Scott Snyder and Rafael Albuquerque contribute some instantly forgettable token garbage about Lex Luthor; Geoff Johns and Richard Donner write a rubbish and pointless story about the car Superman's hefting on the cover of Action Comics #1 – seriously! Louise Simonson and Jerry Ordway's short was the most painfully generic Superman story you could imagine. This is woefully banal stuff.

Paul Dini and Jose Luis Garcia-Lopez's short about Mr Mxyzptlk was a baffling inclusion and Tom King and Clay Mann's story about Superman talking to his dead parents at the end of the world was decently put together but felt empty and calculatingly sentimental.

Weak opening acts aside, the comic could've been saved with a killer main event: former Marvel star writer Brian Bendis' major label DC debut... and it was unimpressive. A new Big Bad, connected to Krypton's destruction, is punching Superman and Supergirl around Metropolis. Meh. Jim Lee's art is equally unremarkable. It's just preamble to Bendis' forthcoming *Man of Steel* six-issue weekly miniseries, which itself will precede his imminent tenure on both Superman and Action Comics in July, but, given the hype, I'd hoped for more and instead got the kind of uninspired guff Bendis could write in his sleep. Of course I'm gonna read a whole mess of his comics before making up my mind on his take on Superman but this isn't the amazing start I'd hoped for.

Look: it's totally appropriate to get all mushy about Superman on his 80th anniversary – the first superhero title to reach 1000 issues is a helluva achievement, seriously well done DC – and a certain level of mawkishness is fitting for a character as guileless as Superman is (usually) written; it just doesn't make for a

compelling read when that's basically all you're serving up.

I enjoyed most of the art, Bendis, Dini and King's stories were readable enough, and the dedication to Joe and Jerry at the top of the issue was nice, but overall it's an underwhelming celebration of the character. The fact that the main talking point of Action Comics #1000 is the return of Superman's red pants and yellow belt (which everyone notices but no-one explains) tells you that the comic is severely lacking in substance! I wanted to like it more and unfortunately it left me unimpressed.

*

On a more personal note, I am genuinely inspired by Superman. As silly as it sounds, reading Superman comics has gotten me through some difficult times and I draw enormous inner strength from the character. I'm not religious so Superman is the closest I'll probably get to believing in a god somewhere.

80 years ago Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster inadvertently created the superhero genre with Superman who went on to become an icon of 20th century pop culture and the archetype against whom all other superheroes would be measured – a hero for everyone who means a great deal to a great many, then and now.

With sincere love and respect, thank you Joe, thank you Jerry, thank you Clark/Kal/Superman. 80 years flew by faster than a speeding bullet – here's to 80 more!

If you want to read some amazing Superman books, I heartily recommend the following:

All-Star Superman

Birthright

Secret Identity

Red Son

Brainiac

Up, Up and Away!

Peace on Earth

For Tomorrow

John Byrne's Man of Steel

Grant Morrison's Action Comics

Lex Luthor: Man of Steel

Final Crisis (not technically a Superman book but contains a stunning Superman side story)

Sans says

Took me over a month, but I finally pulled this out of the towering to-read stack and got through it during my lunch break. On the whole, I liked it. Some stories (King's) were amazing, some (Wolfman's) were the opposite of amazing and most were cheerily in the middle. Broadly, this is a good intro to the Superman mythology. You get some new stuff, some retro, you get to dip into different eras of Clark's journey so far, you get enough information to know what's happening, and teased enough about major past stories to maybe go find them and dig in.

As for the final story...I don't know. Maybe I'm sick of the Bendis hype, maybe I'm still bitter that Super Sons was cancelled (thank the DC gods - New Gods? - that new maxiseries was announced), maybe I'm just

the cranky old "get off my lawn" person when it comes to big changes. I'm just not thrilled with the prelude to *Man of Steel*. I'll still read it. Of course I will. I have very little impulse control when it comes to comics and books. I'm just heavily side-eyeing everything Bendis right now.

James DeSantis says

The 1000 issue! HOLY SMOKE'S SUPERMAN THAT'S CRAZY!

So what is this? Well it's a bunch of little short stories to talk about the Man of Steel himself. We have multiple writers from Jurgen, to Peter, to Tom King, and more. And so all the stories are all focused on what Clark Kent means to people. Best part about it all is it's different takes on the character but all feeling similar in tone and love for him.

Good: Loved some of them. Highlights include Tom Kings story, Johns, I really liked Brad Meltzer too. They all captured the character well and a nice goodbye and hello to the hero for new readers and older readers alike. The art also varied from REALLY good to okay.

Bad: Some of the stories weren't all that interesting. I also was saddened by Peter's goodbye issue as it felt kind of weak in comparison to what he usually writes for the character.

Overall a fun solid 1000 issue. It had problems but for the most part I was smiling through most of it. It's easy to recommend and well done enough just not "amazing" and that's okay for me. A 3 out of 5.

Paul E. Morph says

I don't usually rate/review individual issues but this one is significant enough to make an exception.

Happy birthday Superman. Rest in peace Christopher Reeve. I can honestly say that I wouldn't be the same person if you hadn't come into my life thirty-odd years ago, faster than a speeding bullet.

This giant-sized 1000th issue was a nice tribute. Well done, folks; well done.

Look! Up in the sky...

Chris says

I've never considered myself a Superman fan, but I understand his importance to fans across the world and to comics as a medium. Action Comics reaching issue #1000 is an incredible milestone and to mark the occasion, DC have brought together an all-star creative line-up for an over-sized celebration of the Man of Steel.

If I'm honest, I thought several of the stories were just OK. Nearly every one is based on Superman either inspiring, or being inspired by others and as nice as that is, it did start to feel a bit repetitive towards the end.

The two stories that stood out to me were Tom King, Clay Mann and Jordie Bellaire's 'Of Tomorrow' and Geoff Johns and Richard Donner's 'The Car'. Both stories struck an emotional chord with me and the latter was notably elevated by the quality artwork of Olivier Coipel and Alejandro Sanchez.

Finally, there's a prelude to Brian Michael Bendis' big debut on the Superman line. I haven't read enough of his previous work to have an opinion of his writing, but I found this to be an enjoyable preview. I'm not sure what to make of the new villain or the reveal at the end, but I'd possibly consider reading more in future.

Overall, I found Action Comics #1000 to be a decent read and it's nice to see DC give Superman the spotlight for once in this Batman-centric age. I doubt Superman fans will be disappointed by this one.

Rory Wilding says

Grant Morrison – writer of *All-Star Superman* (the greatest Superman story of them all) – once said that the Man of Steel is lived long before he was born and he will continue to exist long after Morrison's dead, so despite being a fictional construct by two Jewish kids from Cleveland, Ohio, Superman is more real than any of us, because he represents the best aspects of humanity, despite his alien origins, which makes him the ultimate immigrant. Although he may have had his highs and lows in multiple media in the last eight decades, the big blue boy scout remains a relevant figure as this landmark issue shows with multiple writers and artists telling eleven stories that celebrates Superman.

As the theme of celebration shines through most of the stories, there is also the sense of inspiration that Supes has towards the people and vice versa. Through stories by Dan Jurgens and Geoff Johns/Richard Donner, it can be a bit repetitive and don't have much to say other than it must be great to be Superman, but the Johns/Donner story is a nice nod to the Golden Age Superman (with detailed art by Olivier Coipel), whilst Brad Meltzer's story really showcases why Superman is faster than a speeding bullet and makes you wish that John Cassaday drew more Superman.

Part of the joy in reading this issue is seeing the work by legendary artists who have drawn Superman, such as arguably the quintessential Silver Age artist Curt Swan, who passed away in 1996, but with a script by Marv Wolfman that strangely feels like it's setting up something with Brainiac (even though it'll never happen), we at least see some down-to-earth art about humanity as oppose to the fantastic. Written by Paul Dini, "Actionland" marks the return of José Luis García-López, who has enormous fun drawing an extravagant theme park that re-enacts Superman's history, from his rocket escape from his destroyed home planet to the battles with his rogues gallery including Mister Mxyzptlk, who really shines in the final page of the story.

Another recurring theme of the issue is looking back on the character's history and in the case of Peter Tomasi and Patrick Gleason's "Never-Ending Battle", Vandal Savage literally sends Supes through a series of time-jumps. True, there's not much of a story here, but Patrick Gleason shows his artistic brilliance with fifteen splash pages, each one representing a different era from Jerry Siegel/Joe Shuster to Frank Miller to Bruce Timm.

In terms of recent creative teams during this decade of DC Comics, *American Vampire*'s Scott Snyder and Rafael Albuquerque explores the conflict between Superman and his arch-nemesis Lex Luthor as despite their long history of battling each other, their relationship began a childhood friendship in Smallville, so there's an element of respect as do question if there is an end towards this never-ending battle, even if it lasts

till the end of the world.

Speaking of the end of the world, the best story of this issue is by Tom King and Clay Mann, who tell a personal story about the boy in blue saying his final goodbye to the grave of his Ma and Pa, whilst the Earth is consumed by the dying sun. Even in the far distant future where there is no longer any life on our planet, King respects the simple but good-natured Superman who learned about life's values in his Kansas upbringing, whilst Mann's art (beautifully enhanced by Jordie Bellaire's colours) creates such grandeur over a figure (looking very much like Christopher Reeve) in a fiery-dominant world.

Obviously, the big selling point of *Action Comics #1000* is Brian Michael Bendis' first writing gig in DC, after eighteen years of writing for Marvel. Drawn by Jim Lee, whose artwork comprises of Supes being pummelled through destroyed buildings whilst being witnessed by two women who commented upon his red undies (poking fun of DC's brief revival of the trunks), it's more of a tease for what Bendis has in store in May with his weekly series *The Man of Steel*, even if the cliffhanger isn't necessarily groundbreaking in how we rethink of the Superman mythos.

Despite its flaws with the majority of the stories that its creators wished for more pages, *Action Comics #1000* does what it sets out to do, which is to celebrate the original American superhero who looks great at the age of eighty.

Steve Chaput says

Most of this 80-page issue is made up of tributes to the writers and artists who have worked on the character since his creation. Some are salutes to the values he has stood for over the years.

For me the least successful was a ten-page story by new Superman writer, Brian Michael Bendis and artist Jim Lee. This introduces us to some new villain and the "true story" of how Krypton ended. I'd rather they had gone with pinups or even cover reprints. I've got no interest.

Jedi JC Daquis says

Not unless Action Comics becomes a weekly series, I am very much certain that we won't be alive by the time Action #2000 gets published.

Reading Action Comics 1000 is like reading a legitimate piece of history. It is an important piece of mythology happening now. Events such as this is literally a once-in-a-lifetime experience. That alone is enough for everybody to read this issue.

Action 1000 is a collection of many Superman stories, written and illustrated by top-tier creative teams, names such as Jim Lee, Scott Snyder, Geoff Johns, Tom King, Marv Wolman, Jurgens, and Bendis. It is an 80-page Superman testament filled with The Man of Steel's adventures, along the way giving hope and inspiring humans to strive for the good.

Though the stories themselves range from good to great, nothing really stands out as a exceptional piece. My personal favorite is Johns' story. It's surprisingly simple yet perfectly illustrates what Superman is to people

He is a beacon of hope, even for those who have done wrong things in life.

This issue ends with a debut Bendis story which is pretty much interesting. I'd certainly buy his Superman mini-series.

Action Comics #1000 is a landmark in graphic literature. It is a first in history and I think it should be read by everybody.

Wing Kee says

A satisfying if surface level love letter to Clark.

World: The art is fantastic, the amount of artists and the names on this book is amazing. All of them bring their beautiful little piece of their love for Superman here and you can tell. Every page and every panel is just perfect. The world building is minimal, this is a tribute book and more than anything it's the call back that makes it so beautifully simple. The highlight is of course Johns and his look at issue 1...perfect.

Story: The stories are all wonderful, full of hope, full of love and a call back to the past of this iconic character, the first superhero. There are some highlights here, Johns knocks it out of the park with the simple tale of what makes Superman so different, his infinite hope for a better tomorrow. Then there's the Snyder story with Lex and Clark which is absolutely perfect. But the entire collection is not all perfect, there is some jankiness in the long narrative of his history, the art informs the story but the story is choppy. There is a rushed sense in that book and it feels kinda surface. I wish there was a bigger and deeper more meaningful dive but given the page count and the amount of people it's understandable. It's a great collection...but where is Grant Morrison? The Bendis stuff? Felt kinda tacked on, I need more to know where it will go.

Characters: It's Superman, what else is there to say. He's lost his ways in the past but Rebirth has happened just in time to put him back to where he needs to be, a beacon, a hopeful character and if nothing else is taken from this collection it's that this Clark and the Clark we all love is hopeful.

A beautiful if shallow love letter to Superman.

Onward to the next book!
