



Spider-Man: One Moment in Time

Joe Quesada , Paolo Rivera (Illustrator)

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The questions have been haunting readers throughout Spider-Man's Brand New Day and now the answers are here! What really happened at the wedding of Spider-Man and Mary Jane? What does Mary Jane know about Spider-Man today? How did ONE MORE DAY affect the Marvel U? Joe Quesada and Paolo Rivera are here to pull back the curtain and fill in every blank...but the answers may come at a cost to all that Peter Parker loves. This 4-part arc will hold answers, resolutions, and set up the course of Spider-Man's life for years to come...and all will be revealed with a whisper. **COLLECTING:** Amazing Spider-Man #638-641

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From Reader Review Spider-Man: One Moment in Time for online ebook

Michael says

Just as the decision for Peter Parker to marry Mary Jane Watson was a pivotal one in the Spider-Man universe, so was the decision to permanently separate the couple in the "One More Day" storyline. And while the decision has been polarizing, it's no where nearly as despised as the whole Clone saga in the mid-90's.

The along comes "One Moment in Time" that examines the impact breaking up Peter and Mary Jane had on them both as characters. It tells the story of how they ended up not together anymore in the rebooted Spidey universe--and it seems to say that the likelihood of their getting back together is slim. (Well, at least until sales warrant otherwise).

Surprisingly, I found this arc to be a moving, compelling one. It gives the decision an emotional impact and shows how the storyline developed in this new rebooted world Spidey lives in. It may still stink that Peter and MJ didn't get the happy ending they deserved, but at least we got to see why they aren't together instead of just simply hitting the rest button. And we got to see that the decision had an emotional impact on the couple that continues to echo through the series today.

Roy says

The artwork is what gets the 2 stars. The actual story about MJ and Peter is pretty average. The dialogue is way too overdramatic.

Muzaffer Gümü?su says

Dönemin Marvel patronu Joe Queseda'n?n One More Day'deki bo?luklar? doldurma ve ?u anda MJ-Peter çiftinin ne durumda oldu?unu aç?klama hikayesi. K?saca One More Day'de Mephisto nas?l bir düzenleme yaptı? (MJ-Peter birbirini nas?l unuttu ve Örümcek'in kimli?i nas?l haf?zalardan silindi) sorusunun cevabı da diyebiliriz.

Konu ve fikir One More Day ya da Sins Past ile yar??acak düzeyde rezil olsa da en az?ndan i?leni? tarz?n? ve flashback'lerle geçmi? ve gelece?i ba?lama ?eklini sevdim. Ayr?ca Paolo Rivera'n?n Mary Jane yorumu ne kadar asil ve zarifse Queseda'n?n yorumu da bir o kadar kötü olmu?. Koskoca Mary Jane'i s?radan bal?k etli bi Nebraskal? gibi çizmi?.

Yine de en az?ndan uzun süre herhangi bir evlilik olmayacak, sonu o ?ekilde bitiyor. Bundan sonraki bir parmak bal çalma Renew Your Wows hikayesiyle (MJ ve Peter?n evlenip k?zlar?n?n oldu?u alternatif evren olay?) oluyordu san?r?m Secret War dönemi.

Sevki says

Although I'm quite disappointed with Quesada's marriage-removing action and unnatural explanations, this volume has been a nice weekend read for me. The art, with all the old and not-so-old One More Day pages, was fabulous, especially thinking the recent volumes' artwork up until One Moment in Time. Pete and MJ needed to work out this situation, and so they did it the best possible way. Hopefully the future volumes will be this good in terms of art. I am reading this series somehow late, but I don't want to catch up to the current volumes in an instant and finish all the available material, so I'm taking my time. 12 volumes remaining here, and then 6 from Superior, and then a few more from Amazing Vol. 3.

Andy says

Oi. I suppose for those of us who've gone through the whole One More Day debacle this is something that should be read, if only to (hopefully) put an end to it.

Promising to give us all the answers, it doesn't quite deliver though it does give an explanation of why Pete and MJ didn't get married, how Aunt May survived and how the rest of the world forgot Pete's unmasking. It flicks around a fair bit in time which can make it confusing to work out when things are actually set. One More Day is really only briefly mentioned at the beginning and then wisely ignored as we relive things back to the present time. Saying that it doesn't feel like it follows on from the events of Grim Hunt so maybe this does just hang in time.

I wasn't keen on the artwork to start, Pete looked weird and potato like in particular, but it did pick up and there were some nice splash pages and compositions. In total though this puts an end to a bad event in Spider-Man history without really satisfying or making it feels anything deeper than an editorial justification of a badly handled retcon. I think many fans are happy with where the series has gone since Brand New Day but it was still a horrible way to get there. Let's all just move on.

John Wiswell says

This is an event story, or maybe an excuse story. Mary Jane and Peter Parker meet up to hash out exactly why they aren't together. It goes along their entire history since their failed wedding day. If you hate that decades of their love-life was wished away by the Devil, this won't change your mind.

There are two ways to read this. Joe Quesada has been public about wanting Spider-Man to be single, and he's got a hand in writing this. He's the head of Marvel's editorial. He controls the horizontal and the vertical. So the story that cements the split of these two characters can easily be viewed as him grinding his heel. Parts of it, like pre-wedding jitters by both of them, sound like rationalization, putting words in their mouths to back up what he wants. Read that way, it's very cloying to anybody who stuck with the Spider-Husband for all those years. We know whatever words you put in their mouths have been disproved by one of the most famous couples in comics.

I chose to read it a different way. Mephisto, Marvel's Satan, made a deal with them to spare Aunt May's life. In return, their love-life was undone. As the chapters proceed we see the tragedies and happenstance that kept breaking them apart. You have to wonder if Mephisto wasn't the architect of every overheard fear and

untimely crime. After all, this is the story Mephisto wanted them to live, the one that would guarantee they'd be apart. Though his red butt never pops up, it's his will unfolding here. You can read this as the cruellest trick the Devil ever played. Instead of a truly brand new day, it's a life away from true love.

Read the latter way, it could be undone some day. Most people suspect Marvel will eventually go back to the popular marriage. Nothing is permanent in superhero comics, not in a world of rotating writers. Superman doesn't stay dead; Steve Rogers doesn't stay away from his shield. Mephisto can be beaten some day, and one hopes that story will play on what he pulled here.

Anthony says

This is basically Quesada trying to clean up and fill in the gaps left open by One More Day. However, continuity clean-up does not make for a good story. I feel bad for only giving this two stars, because Paolo Rivera's art is great. Especially his painted covers. It's the only thing that makes this readable.

It turns out that Peter couldn't make it to his wedding because he was busy being Spider-man. Which is fair enough, and I suppose it's believable. It's just when it gets down to the exchanges between Peter and Mary Jane. They love each other so much that they want to be together but they can't be married because MJ wants kids and she doesn't want to put them in danger but they love each other so they want to still be together but not until it takes MJ to realise it'll never end and...

I think if anything, it just over complicates things more, both story and continuity wise. Story wise is fine, because the issues can be returned to at a later date if a future writer decides too. But continuity, it gets more messy than the DC universe. Just don't over think what counts and what doesn't in those 20+ years of comics were Peter and Mary Jane were married.

Amazing art though. Paolo Rivera on Doctor Strange, please.

Μιχ?λης says

Τα τευχη οπου μας εξηγει τι αλλαγες εχουν γινει στη χρονολογια του Spiderman μετα το One more day.

Πολυ δυνατες στιγμες, αν ολο αυτο το ειχαμε διαβασει στη θεση του Brand new day οι οπαδοι δε θα ζητουσαν το λιντσαρισμα των δημιουργ?ν...

Silas says

I really, really hated the storyline where they took away Peter and Mary Jane's marriage, so I didn't have high expectations for this story, but I found I actually enjoyed the way the plot points were resolved. It definitely helped that I read that story as well as Spider-Man's Civil War story that preceded it in recent memory. I liked how the story was told in flashback, and that the art style changed during the different time periods (though I found modern Peter and MJ a bit off), and enjoyed the subtle ways that things were changed that added up to such a big change in the present, which suited the "deal with the devil" format well. I liked that

the story went a different way than I had expected, and had both characters caring for each other deeply, but not feeling they were able to stay married because of the risk involved. It made a good bit of sense. There were a couple of times where Mary Jane's reasoning wasn't entirely clear for a good while until she actually said something, but I suppose that was somewhat intentional on the writer's part, since Peter didn't get it, either. This did have issues, but it was much better than I had anticipated.

Ricardo Noronha says

Definitely a "better love story than Twilight" :)

This is a Spider-man story where the main character is not Spider-man per se, but instead Peter Parker and Mary Jane. This book explains all that happened when Mephisto interfered with their marriage and, given Peter Parker and Mary Jane were (are?) by favourite fiction (super-heroes) couple, I was very pleased to know how it all went. Suffice it to say, their love knows no bounds and can face any adversity. As for the art, despite really enjoying the artist's choices of picking up strips from "The Wedding" as well as "One More Day" in order to provide a more realistic sense of flashbacks, I have to say the "present" MJ and Peter are "larger" (at least drawn so) than usual, making them look overweight. Not sure how to feel about that, seems they ate until they were bloated.

Peter Derk says

Not the most Amazing/Spectacular/Sensational/Astonishing Untold Tale in the intricate Web of Spider-Man titles. Ultimately.

The whole thing makes for a very bizarre read.

So we had One More Day, in which Spider-Man and Mary Jane traded their relationship to basically start fresh. Aunt May is alive again. People don't know his secret identity anymore. And the catch is that Peter Parker and Mary Jane are, somewhat mysteriously, not in love anymore. Thanks to a deal with good ol' Mephisto. Always a wise move, making a deal with the devil.

OR IS IT!?

Making a deal with the devil is like buying a new Jeep instead of a Honda. It's very fun, and for a while you are happy with your choice. And then you get about three years down the road and would trade your soul for a car that didn't require major repairs every quarter. EXCEPT YOU ALREADY TRADED YOUR SOUL FOR THE JEEP, DUM-DUM!

Okay, back to the book.

Not the best-woven plot here. Basically just a continuity reset with the caveat that the characters did something as opposed to the kind where it's all done outside the comics. But, BUT, I enjoyed the hell out of Brand New Day and The Gauntlet, so the results were well worth it. And let's face it, an unmasked Spider-Man is going to be a tough thing to work with, long-term.

This volume, this addition, however, seeks to clarify things that I just felt were better left in the past. Honestly, the the One More Day storyline wasn't all that strong, but it was a means to an end. I was willing to go along for the ride.

But why rehash the part of the ride that was most unfulfilling? It would be like going on Splash Mountain, and after you take the huge plunge, going through another ten minutes of boring forest bullshit. What the hell for?

It's a very bizarre choice. And that's coming from a guy who just read some 70's Spider-Man that included a trip to the Savage Land, a jungle located in the arctic...somehow.

Jeff says

If you haven't read Marvel's Civil War crossover event, then spoilers abound.

Captain America aside, in the Civil War saga, I don't think any character had it worse than Spider-Man.

This big reveal set off a crap storm that saw all of Spider-Man's enemies turn on him *and* his family, culminating in the death of Aunt May.

What would the Marvel universe be without that old harridan, so Peter and Mary Jane turn to Mephisto and beg him to bring her back to life – his price: their marriage.

Quesada combines panels from the original wedding issue with the story as it would now unfold thanks to an assist from the devil.

The reason why the wedding didn't happen: (view spoiler)

Symbolism alert! Discarded flower = trashed love and Face it, Tiger, you lost the jackpot!

Aunt May will soon be foisting her wheat cakes on the Marvel Universe again, but she's still in danger because, well, everyone still knows who Spider-Man is and the bad guys are still gunning for his family...

...so Spidey, turns to the Sorcerer Supreme, Dr. Strange and asks him if he'll have everyone forget he's Peter Parker.

So Strange convenes with Reed Richards and Tony Stark.

Gee. That's swell of you Tony, since you only ruined the guy's life. Bastard!

So abracadabraalakazam and "Who's Spider-Man?" "Gosh, I have no idea!"

Goodreader, are you thinking what I'm thinking?

Probably not, you perv!

No, not the Aunt May-Rhino fantasy. Doesn't it seem as if Marvel went to the Deus-ex-machina well once too often?

Spider-Man's life is really in the toilet. Well, let's just call on some cosmic entity and clean it right up.

Twice.

Bottom line: If you're a Spider-Man fan, you should read this. If you're not, don't.

sob

Mike says

I do NOT understand why Joe Quesada felt compelled to meddle in any of the Spidey story. His shit is so melodramatic and pointless - like he wanted to say something meaningful but didn't actually have anything specific he wants to report to the world, just that he has a huge crush on Peter Parker and wants to do his part to write a love letter to Spidey.

I get why Wacker printed it - what choice does a guy have, when his boss shows up with ink-stained hands and says, "You gotta let me have four issues to get this amazing story in front of readers"? I actually feel sorry for him - them both, truly.

Making this *more* painful is the gimmick of weaving new pages of the altered storyline in with the original pages from the Spidey + MJ wedding storyline. This wouldn't be nearly as tortured if it was only one issue, but so obviously printing so many unneeded pages, padding this out to four issues - is really a little sad. And what does the revised story mean to accomplish? Does this sit any better with us by retconning the "demon stole their marriage and made the world forget" and going with "magic and goofy tech made it happen"?

The one question this book answers is "how does MJ feel about Peter now, and where does their history fit into current continuity?" we get an answer - a painfully drawn out, horribly over-telegraphed answer, but finally we have something definitive to go on. How long will it last? Who the hell knows. Does it really matter? Not terribly.

And god help me, if Quesada wanted to write a love letter do bad, why did he have to do such a crappy job of drawing Peter & MJ?

Blindzider says

I'm going to try and separate my feelings about One More Day and the changes to Spider-Man that this story attempts to explain. I understand what they were trying to do but in the end it all felt like a cheat and wasn't done very well, even though the end result is what Marvel wanted (a non-married Spider-Man for one thing.)

So, I'll evaluate this story totally on the merits of how well it explained the break-up of Peter and MJ: I have to admit I liked it. Peter's conflicted yet emotional decisions to balance his personal need and responsibility are central to the story as well as delving further into MJ's difficulty with knowing Peter's secret and being in love with him. It's certainly a difficult decision and I bought into it. As much as I want these two fictional characters to still be together, the explanation of their reasonings at least felt realistic to me.

Another plus is the art, primarily Paolo Rivera's, and how he nearly seamlessly blends in with the art from the original wedding album and also maintains a bit of the John Romita style, which I love. Quesada did part of the art and while he is hit-or-miss for me, I didn't particularly care for his rendition of MJ. For some reason that bothered me.

This story is fairly essential reading if you need to blend previous Spider-Man continuity with the new post-OMD modern continuity.

Nicolo Yu says

The writing is too melodramatic for a superhero book and the dialogue hard to read at times. In fact, the rating could have been much lower if not for the gorgeous Paolo Rivera art. The art made this worth reading and keeping. See the cover? The thumbnail image of this book? Just an example of how good the art is.
