



Justice League of America, Vol. 1: The Extremists

Steve Orlando (Writer), Ivan Reis (Penciler), Joe Prado (Inker)

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Written by rising star Steve Orlando (BATMAN, MIDNIGHTER) and illustrated by a league of superstar artists including Ivan Reis (GREEN LANTERN) and Andy MacDonald (DETECTIVE COMICS), this JUSTICE LEAGUE VS. SUICIDE SQUAD spin-off is a JLA for a whole new era--exploding from the pages of the blockbuster DC Rebirth event!

The Justice League and the Suicide Squad—the World’s Greatest Heroes and its worst—went to war. A team unlike any other rose from the ashes.

Batman. Black Canary. Vixen. The Atom. The Ray. Killer Frost. Lobo. Some are heroes, some are villains and some exist in the gray area in between. But the Caped Crusader sees the potential in all of them to show everyday people that their superhuman guardians are just like them: capable of fighting for justice despite their flaws.

Batman had better be right, because Earth is about to be invaded by a threat from beyond our universe. The tyrant called Lord Havok and his army of Extremists are out to make the planet safe again—by destroying the free will of all its inhabitants.

Can this untested new Justice League help America fend off the Extremists’ agenda? And can the Dark Knight contain the Main Man—the living weapon of mass destruction known as Lobo?

Discover the answers in JUSTICE LEAGUE OF AMERICA VOL. 1: THE EXTREMISTS! Collects issues #1-6 and JUSTICE LEAGUE OF AMERICA: REBIRTH #1.

Justice League of America, Vol. 1: The Extremists Details

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From Reader Review Justice League of America, Vol. 1: The Extremists for online ebook

Chris Lemmerman says

[Read as single issues]

Oh, I had high hopes for this series. After the great one-shots that set up the series and focused on all these interesting characters, they're thrown into a story that leaves me scratching my head. The first four issues deal with the Extremists, who I believe are obscure DC characters I've never seen before who pull a Black Adam and take over a country, whether the country likes it or not. Unlike Black Adam though, they can't stand against the might of Batman and friends, I mean, the Justice League Of America, who turn up to evict them.

The philosophical discussion of whether the Extremists are in the right or not (although I doubt it with a name like that) is interesting, but ultimately pointless, and because there are so many new characters, the actual JLA characters get short-changed.

Also included are issues #5-6, Heart Of A Bastich, which has the League fighting more crazies armed with weapons powered by belief in ancient myths and such, which again is a fun concept, but doesn't get the time to breathe and doesn't focus on the characters enough.

Artistically, with Ivan Reis as the headliner, you'd think this would also be a beautiful book, but Reis only pencils two of the six issues. Felipe Watanabe, Diogenes Neves, and Andy McDonald share the other four, and while they're solid artists in their own right, they're not really the level of talent you'd expect to find on a book like this (which is no way a dig against them, just that in comparison to Ivan Reis, they haven't built up the star quality just yet).

Some good ideas, executed poorly, but with glimmers of hope for the future.

Chad says

A disappointment after being pleasantly surprised with the one shots. Batman assembles this team because he wants a more human team, but then has Lobo on the team? An alien who can't be killed? Really? Then it's supposed to be a team full of people who don't wear masks. Well, except for Batman, I guess. Just because you refer to it in the book, doesn't make it any better. Honestly, Batman doesn't belong on this team. He seems superfluous throughout the book. Vixen seems to be handling the same roles he would.

I hate the villains in these books. Were they all philosophy majors? They yammer on and on about whatever nonsense agenda they have whether it be ruling over people because they'll otherwise destroy themselves or life is chaos so lets destroy order just for the hell of it. Having a guy called Lord Havok trying to rule the world to establish order is a major league oxymoron. Having the Extremists make their first appearance since the new 52 reset and not playing up the fact that they are knockoff Marvel villains seems kind of pointless.

Joseph says

this was kinda meh. not completely in board with why this team is needed, but maybe it has something to do with the recent JL/Suicide Squad battle, which I haven't read yet. The team members are interesting but Lobo gets on my nerves quickly.

I'll keep reading as I want to read the upcoming microverse story, but needs to improve if I'm going to read much after that.

Perry Gough says

Apart from Batman and Frost this is just plain and awful.

But it's rare I am a fan of team storylines unless they are events.

Stormi (BMReviewsohmy) says

I am learning that the comics I read when I was young have not stuck with me or there are a lot more characters now than there use to be. I seen this one and thought oh Justice League, but I wasn't prepared for Batman's suicide squad version...lol. I only knew a couple of the characters and the rest were very strange especially Lobo, he was plan scary.

I was so confused with the story line at the beginning that I just wasn't really having a lot of fun with this one. I found it really hard to get into when I didn't really know the characters and the confusion at the start just through me off. From now on I am going to be much more careful with my picking of comics to read. ?

Batman takes some unusual characters, some of them being Lobo, Killer Frost, Ray and others I can't remember. He is attempting to change their attitudes and make them heroes instead of villains. The people don't really trust them but when Havoc comes to take over the planet they have to try and defend everyone making them somewhat crazy heroes, I just can't get over the looks of Lobo....lol. He creeps me out. ?

I did think that the illustrations were pretty cool. ?

Trey says

Batman's starting his own squad! Tired of working alongside aliens and gods in the Justice League, he's decided to create a team of humans to inspire the people of earth to be their best. This new team will be easily differentiated from the Justice League by its completely different moniker, the Justice League of America. Batman summarizes his brilliant idea by saying, "I've started something new. A different team. *Mortal*. Not gods." And then he recruits Lobo, an alien whose regenerative powers make him essentially immortal. Right off the bat, there's something really wrong with this premise. The justification for putting out another JLA book alongside *Justice League* doesn't pass the sniff test.

Okay, but assume you don't care whether there's a realistic reason for Batman to put together "the Outsiders Lite," you just like good DC team books and mediocre-or-better storytelling. Well, then this book still isn't for you! The first arc finds the JLA fighting a team of super-powered beings (loosely based on Marvel characters) from the planet "Angor" (hard to parse the symbolism in that name) who plan to save Earth from certain destruction caused by humans with too much freedom. They start by taking over an eastern European country and imposing order on its populace. The second arc deals with a villain who prefers chaos over the order in the world. Basically, we're looking at the thinnest of thin political allegories in both arcs. That's fine if the work is good, but this book puts the message above the story, which is ill-conceived and poorly executed.

I received a preview copy of this book from NetGalley.

Ivy says

5 ?

Nice to see Batman building up a team of ordinary people to fight crime. Heroes and villains team up sounds cool. Hopefully it will work. Glad that they were able to stop the Extremists. Wonder if Xenos and Ray will get together.

Can't wait to read Justice League of America, volume 2: Curse of the Kingbutcher!!!!

Scott S. says

In my review for *JLA: Road to Rebirth* last week I glurged "I think this new JLA has potential . . . now let's see 'em in action together." Well, here it is; and while it wasn't necessarily great I'd like to think it's only because the team is still trying to establish cohesion in their salad days.

After a recap - not exactly brief; it's better to read the prior book - they jump into their first adventure. The initial story is better with the story-line and action, although I was intrigued that the latter story is set in a (fictional) Pennsylvania "small city, industrial flight, job loss, desperate enough to sell itself . . ." that pretty much describes my hometown in the Keystone state.

I still don't get the Lobo character, but he has a nice scene near the end with a teammate that was briefly uncharacteristically serious and sort of revealing.

Charles says

It's certainly one of the more interesting titles of Rebirth, but it's just not enough to keep me interested. When I first started reading Orlando's *Midnighter* I greatly enjoyed his writing. He's now moved up to several titles for DC and I worry that maybe he's spread too thin. I feel that this title lacks some of the personal touch and feelings of his earlier works.

The arcs in this volume are pretty straightforward and simple. To me at least, the first one is far superior to

the second one which borders on the banal. It at times felt like an episode of '66 Batman which wasn't what I was looking for.

One odd point for me was the recruitment of the Characters to form the new JLA. You see, it felt odd, since Lobo in particular had already been recruited in the Justice League vs Suicide Squad which predates this title. It played out a little differently in this, so I felt a bit confused.

The art is fairly nice and enjoyable but at times the pacing of the action left me a bit lost and wondering what was happening. Felt like I was passing by it on a high speed train and was missing out.

One serious sore spot for me was far too much Lobo. Yes, I know that will probably be the main attraction for some, but his goofy expressions began to wear thin. It was nice to see a bit of redemption for him, but I felt that was weakened by his dialogue.

This is probably really picking some knits here, but I also dislike the tradition at the attempt to make up fake former Soviet Republics. The names mean nothing to me and this volume in particular bounced through several so the impact of the action and consequences felt watered down. After a while, I really didn't care since it all felt like a jumble.

The best I can give this is just an "ok". I'm happy I've read it, but I don't think it's compelling enough to make me want to come back.

In an odd twist of fate, I picked up the recently collected Midnighter solo series originally published under Wildstorm. I have to say that the first arc of this new JLA closely mirrored the theme of the story of Midnighter returning "home" to face the Anthem. To me, the older arc felt more intimate and personal. I think that the approach in the JLA was too big, too crowded, and too grandiose to make me feel any emotional connection.

Danielle says

Read this review and more on my blog, [uncovered-books](#).

I received a free copy of Justice League of America Volume 1: Rebirth from DC Comics in exchange for my honest opinion.

Batman decides that humans need a human version of the Justice League to inspire them, so he gets Killer Frost, Vixen, the Atom, Ray, Black Canary and Lobo to form this Justice League of America (not that I understand how Lobo would ever be considered human but I am not complaining). This team are forced to work together when they hardly know each other, which makes for interesting fight sequences and conversation.

What makes the Justice League of America unlike most team-ups is both Lobo and Killer Frost. They both bring a spontaneity to the team, which otherwise would most likely be a boring team-up of heroes that play by the book. Killer Frost is trying overcome the Killer part; but everyone is focused only on that and are not willing to look past it. As for Lobo, well he gives the team an edge that they greatly benefit from, not to mention forcing members of the team into making decisions that they never thought that they would have to

make.

My only complaint is that the art is all over the place, literally. I was constantly struggling to focus on what was going on as my eyes were just unable to settle on the page. Whilst this works in some comics favours as the storyline calls for this, it just does not work when there are so many characters that require attention. I feel like the art style was made for Lobo, then they decided that they needed to add in the other characters as they were part of the team. It did not feel like each individual was properly showcased in how they deserved. I was constantly looking for Lobo and what crazy antic he was up to.

Worth the read, but do not go into this expecting it to be like the majority of comics that you have read this year.

Will Robinson Jr. says

Not quite what I expected. JLA is every bit a better book than the Justice League book that Bryan Hitch is currently writing. In JLA writer Steve Orlando has given us a different team that we are use to following in the DC universe. Justice League of America: The Road to Rebirth was the better book for these characters those far. I applaud DC Comics for trying something new here but where the book falls short is on poorly executed dialogue and not enough character moments to get me to care about the characters. There is a lot of action in the story and the earlier issues in which Ivan Reis handled the artwork were really good. But once Reis left the book the art really just begins to suffer. I must admit I am also a little tired of seeing Batman lead a team in DC Comics. I know why they insert Batman in to so many books. Batman sells! I get it. But why not give another Justice Leaguer a chance to lead. It would have probably been really cool the have the Martian Manhunter lead this team or maybe Green Arrow. Nevertheless this book was okay. I hope the next volume is a bit better.

Steve Quinn says

I was all like, "The Extremists! From Justice League in the late '80s! I'm down!" And then I was like, "Wow. did they always suck, or is it just the writing?".

I'm gonna go with the writing.

Chelsea says

*** Received an ARC copy from NetGalley in exchange for an honest review ***

People are crying for help. Wherever you are...
Time to show them they're heard

So, this was... okay. I would have been just fine having never read it. Case in point, I just wrote bullet point

notes as I was reading it and forgot about the damn thing moments after.

- I have no clue why DC is shoving a Killer Frost in things. Why is Lobo here? I'm excited to see Vixen again but this is such a B team. It's depressing.

- Their warning system is called the troubalert? Really? They couldn't come up with anything better than that? Seriously?

- This is the year of Batman being all over the place and I hate Steve Orlando's Batsy. Why the hell would he invite Lobo to this team? I mean, I understand Killer Frost on the smallest of levels but Lobo? Why the hell would he invite Lobo?

- Every T&A shot possible.

- Villains are like Dalek style cyber men

- So, I pretty much forgot everyone's names, to be honest. The Atom guy could have been an interesting character but it looks like they're playing him for amateur comic relief. He literally explained who he was again in pretty much all of his dialogue. Which was helpful because I repeatedly forgot who he was

- The team ultimately fails because there was no sign they trained together as a team and really, when would they have time w/Bats being in like 20 teams apparently.

- Dr Diehard?

- The villains look like Dragon Ball Z characters. Is Freeza showing up, too?

Really, the "cleverness" of this series could be summed up in my favorite terribad quote of the book:

Bad Guy: No one would dare resist me

Vixen: No one say's 'hello'.

James DeSantis says

I think I've come to dislike most of Steve Orlando's stuff. It's not that he's a HORRIBLE writer but he's one I just don't connect to at all. Like on any level for any comics. Anyway, on to Justice League of America.

Biggest question is why was this made? You know, besides obviously having Batman as the team leader and trying to make some profit on the comic. Introduce a bunch of C and D level heroes on the team and some nobody really likes but pretends to like Lobo and you have a grade A pile of shit. JLA is everything you want to get away from in superhero comics. A new set of villains come, cliche as possible, claiming the world needs order or some blah blah shit. So Batman like nah buddy, we gonna stop you. Aveng-- I mean Justice League, but only of America, unite!

Good: The art is okay? The first issue was half way decent introduction to everyone.

Bad: The awful cliche story feels like a left over plot that nobody wanted to write. The characters are boring, with Batman's self entitled one liners, and a bunch of nobodies. They don't even have the real Atom and Lobo is a joke. The fights are pretty much bare bones the same shit you see in every comic. Actually, this is made for comic fans who don't want anything exciting. Things like Omegamen or Vision? Blah! SUPER FIGHTS! You know. I could enjoy even a big dumb fight book but least have characters with decent dialog. This misses the mark big time.

Overall a crappy comic not worth anyone's time. Equally as bad as Justice League itself. DC, fix your flagship titles man.

Sans says

Yiiiiikes. Talk about a rough start. Not enough Black Canary and too many Marvel ripoffs.
