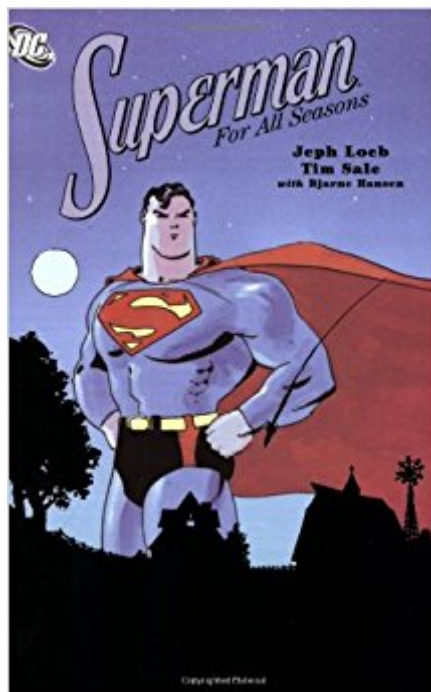


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Superman For All Seasons



Synopsis

In this coming-of-age tale witness the experiences and adventures that transform a simple country boy into the world's greatest hero. Told through the course of four seasons in the Man of Steel's adolescent life, it illustrates that it is the person, not the powers, that makes Superman a hero. The catalyst for the "Smallville" television program, SUPERMAN FOR ALL SEASONS is emotional and insightful, humanizing the alien from another planet so that he is not only realistic but also relatable. It also features in-depth characterizations of Lana Lang, Lex Luthor, Lois Lane and the Kents. This volume collects Superman For All Seasons #1-4.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Combines the scope and pathos of a John Ford film with an intimate portrait of a super-hero. Jeph Loeb and Tim Sale have found a truly original approach to tell a legendary story. This book is a milestone in the Superman canon." —Miles Millar and Alfred Gough Creators and Executive Producers of Smallville

Jeph Loeb is an Emmy award nominated and Eisner award winning writer/producer living in Los Angeles. In television, his many credits include Smallville, Lost and Heroes and in film, Teen Wolf and Commando. In comics, he is best known for his work with the supremely talented artist and partner-in-crime TIM SALE on BATMAN: THE LONG HALLOWEEN, SUPERMAN FOR ALL SEASONS, CATWOMAN: WHEN IN ROME for DC as well as Daredevil Yellow, Spider-Man

Blue and Hulk Gray for Marvel. Tim Sale is not only the artist for the numerous collaborations with Jeph Loeb listed above, but has also worked on DEATHBLOW, BATMAN: LEGENDS OF THE DARK KNIGHT, Grendel, Wolverine/Gambit: Victims, Billi 99, , and various other projects. He had the distinct honor of being the first creator chosen for the artist spotlight series SOLO.

These are the words that come to mind each time I read this. If I were to give someone one comic, just one, which perfectly illustrates not only what and who The Man of Steel is, but who every hero is at base, it would be this incredible work. Many comics are lauded for their action, their jaw-dropping plot twists, or their intricately woven storylines. But the greatest graphic novels, in my opinion, are the ones which bring us back to who we were as children, who we were when we first fell in love with the idea of superheroes, with the idea that a hero isn't a reflection of their powers, or of their ability to accomplish things no one else can. Instead, the truest hero is a reflection of their heart. A hero does good because they can. Nothing more and nothing less. And it is this eternal message that speaks to everyone who has ever read a comic book and come out of it feeling like no matter how small or unremarkable they may feel, they have a hero inside themselves as well, and the power to help make the world a better place.

For the most part, one would think that a Superman story would contain mostly a variety of action sequences that help to mildly distract its audience. I was under that impression before I started reading some well written Superman stories, and in my travels I came across For All Seasons, and might I say, this has become one of the (if not the) best Superman stories I have ever read. From the way the art is meticulously handled, to the narrative itself, For All Seasons is a coming of age story that all people, even those who are not fans of the Man of Steel, should sit down and read at least once in their lives. I'd like to go on record that I was originally not a big fan of Tim Sale's art; actually, I rather hated it and only really bothered to go through it because people recommended work he was involved with to me. Having said that, after reading this and some of his other collaborations with Jeff Loeb, I have come to admire the work Sale does in his novels. The book starts off with a dedication from Sale to Norman Rockwell, and the book is very evident that Rockwell was a source of inspiration for this. The first part contains some of my favorite pages from any comic I ever read and feels like such a nice slice of Americana that I would mind hanging some of the art on my wall. I'm not too big on the way he draws Superman, but it works for the work he is doing. I would say that people new to Sale's art might be thrown off from it at first, but if that's the case, give it some time. Once you get used to it you start to see how his art really works within the

narrative, and then you begin to really admire it. As for the narrative itself, I can't help but feel like they should have gotten more inspiration from this novel for the recent Man of Steel movie (2013). This novel had many emotional moments that I enjoyed (and harkened back to episodes of Smallville) and really gave a nice view of Superman that we don't normally see. I won't spoil the story, but I will say that this was one of the stories that really helped me appreciate the kind of character Superman is and I hope I see similar stories of the Man of Steel in the future. Overall, I am very satisfied with the graphic novel and wholeheartedly recommend it to everyone. (My only gripe is that they should have a new version out by now with the new DC logo on it, but that is more of preference than actual complaint) I hope others are able to enjoy this as much as I did.

Let me begin by saying that I've never really been a big fan of Superman. That sounds like the ultimate heresy for any comic fan, but he never really drew my attention the way that Batman did (I have an extensive Batman collection). But when I saw that this particular story was written by Jeph Loeb with art by Tim Sale, I knew I couldn't pass this up; these guys had delivered big time with Batman: The Long Halloween and Batman: Dark Victory! What I found with this book was a delightful series of stories largely pertaining to Clark Kent growing up around Smallville before moving to Metropolis where he dons the Superman persona. It's a story about Superman's roots, about the lessons and values his parents instilled in him and how it influences his actions as Superman. It's a story about rising above the doubters (in this case Lex Luthor) to become something so much greater than you could ever imagine. Loeb's writing is believable and really captures the spirit of every individual character, and of course Tim Sale's art is nothing short of amazing! I feel safe in saying that this book had made me a regular Superman fan; it has a magic to it that I rarely encounter when it comes to heroes of his caliber. Whether you're a longtime fan of the hero or you're looking for somewhere to start, this book is a great addition to any comic fan's collection.

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