



Superboy: The Boy of Steel

Geoff Johns , Francis Manapul (Illustrator)

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Superboy is back -- and he can't wait to jump back into his life. But which life will it be? With a clarity he's never had before, Conner makes a beeline for the greatest place on Earth: Smallville. While Conner reunites with his former girlfriend, Wonder Girl, Lex Luthor and Brainiac form a partnership that will cause havoc throughout the DC Universe.

On the hunt for Luthor, Conner turns to his friend Tim Drake, a.k.a. Robin. But Tim's now traveling the globe under as Red Robin! The boys' reunion isn't all smiles and hugs, as Conner discovers that Tim has been hiding a great many secrets from the newly returned Boy of Steel. And they're secrets that could destroy their friendship.

Superboy-Prime returns! The grasp of BLACKEST NIGHT knows no bounds, and it is now at the doorstep of Superboy-Prime. The Black Lanterns know his deepest, darkest secrets and force him to feel emotions he long ago discarded. Plus, Conner Kent faces confronts Lex Luthor at last!
Collects tales from ADVENTURE COMICS (2009-2011 2nd Series) #0-3 and 5-6 and SUPERMAN SECRET FILES 2009.

Superboy: The Boy of Steel Details

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From Reader Review Superboy: The Boy of Steel for online ebook

TJ Shelby says

Wow, I really enjoyed this story. It deals with a Superboy, formerly dead, resurrected in the future and returned to the time period in which he died...(and inhale)...who is struggling to deal with the fact that half of his biology is from the world's foremost super villain and the other half from an alien who is earth's protector by the name of Superman.

Great internal struggles, dialogue with other teen titan members ,etc. Great read.

Bradley says

Okay, to be honest, I didn't really care about most of it. Superboy is okay.

What really got me laughing and excited was the sequence with Action Comics and Superboy-Prime. Oh My God that was great. The joke of the whole comic world? Breaking the fourth wall so awesomely? This was a gem that could easily get lost.

I just want to say, hereafter, I love Superboy-Prime. What a nutso edition!

Shawn says

Superboy has come back from the dead to a world that continued without him, and some not for the better. He has settled into a life in the town of Smallville, reconnected with his girlfriend and his best friend, who both have a secret. Johns has given Connor the sense of wisdom that comes from coming back from the dead and focuses him on trying to fight the two parts of him. It's a good internal conflict that drives the story, and the end of the book shows just how evil Lex Luthor really is.

Manapul's art gives this book a good quante and small town feel in which the story is set. The art has a touch of innocence that goes well with a young man's search to find himself. My favorite being the few panels of Martha Kent looking at a picture of Jonathan. Those pictures say so much with so little.

Paul says

Fun story, probably would have enjoyed it even more were I still a teen.

Nice art, I actually found the un-colored panels much nicer.

Oh, and Krypto's in it, and you can't go wrong by having Krypto in any of the Super-Families' Stories!

Alan says

Maybe this rating is a little high, but here Geoff Johns does what he does best. Take an established character

and add some depth to them. It took a 1,000 years for Kryptonian medicine to heal Connor Kent, the clone of Luthor and Superman from the savage beating he took in Crisis. Now he is seeking to find his way by moving to Smallville and following in Clark's steps while being concerned about how Luthor's DNA may influence his actions. Some new supporting characters, who show the promise to be interesting, are introduced and the dangling Connor/Tim/Cassie plot thread is dealt with.

Sean says

If you can get by the convoluted premise of Superboy's crazy history, this book is really good. The plot by Geoff Johns is low key and he gives Conner a great voice and personality. It is reminiscent of Peter Parker in Ultimate Spider-Man. The connection to the Luthor family is very interesting and I look forward to seeing where that goes. Francis Manapul's art was amazing. It has a softness and an edge at the same time. Its spectacular! Overall, this is a book that you should definitely check out!

Eric Mikols says

I'm not really big into the sidekick characters getting their own books but this one was good. I like Conner Kent as a character and his story here is humanizing. The humor works for him but the best moments come from his constant comparing himself to Superman or Lex Luthor. Luthor is used well enough here, as is Braniac, but it's not really about the villains. Also, it's nice that Krypto works so well Superboy. A boy and his dog stories always get me.

Jesse A says

Fine if unnecessary.

Joe says

Good artwork. Interesting plot..I was kinda bored. Wish there were more to say.

Michael says

Aside from some solid character work with Superboy, Cassie and Tim, this book was really, really boring.

Jennie Vance says

Superboy, the genetic clone of Kal-El and Lex Luthor, just returned from the dead and is having a bit of an identity crisis. He's left the Teen Titans and the superhero gig for a while to do a little self-discovery in Smallville, the hometown of both his dads. He wants to understand what makes them tick and, most

importantly, which has more of an influence in his life. How could two men from such similar backgrounds become so vastly different in their adulthoods?

The sometimes dull moral dichotomy of "Superman good, Lex bad" is definitely present in the story. Normally I dislike that sort of thing, but here it really worked. Conner discovered personal similarities to both of them but realized that in the end it wasn't the small differences in their upbringing that defined them-it was the actions they took and the things that they valued.

I also probably really liked this because of Francis Manapul's art, which I honestly love to pieces.

Blair Conrad says

Pretty good, especially for a DC story. Fortunately, I'd read some crazy Crisis-related stuff just before this, so I knew a little of the backstory. It was really nice seeing what Johns could do with a story and characters when he didn't have to deal with a giant crossover that had 900 participants. Connor's journal really grabbed me, transforming what could've been a rather ordinary Superboy story into something with a little depth.

Victor Orozco says

Beautiful.

This begins what I can only say is an attempt to bring the Post-Crisis Superboy full circle as well as a fresh start after his wonderful resurrection from the Final Crisis spinoff, Legion of Three Worlds.

Conner Kent return to life leads him back to home at Smallville, family with the Kents, friends with Red Robin and Krypto to his love with Wonder Girl. There are a few awkward bumps that are resolved, some are not. Conner has hope, even as enemies come after him and he attempts to do all he can as a true hero can do.

Beautiful art and a nice story. I would love to read more. B

Douglas Gibson says

Great read!

Emmett Spain says

It's hard for Geoff Johns to do much wrong these days. He has put Green Lantern back on the map, he's written the best Superman arcs in 10 years (personal opinion), and has a tendency to play with the lore of a character without ever stepping into sacrilege. Superboy is another triumph to add to his collection.

The story itself is very simple, and played on a small scale. But herein lies the genius. Whereas Johns's recent Flash: Rebirth brought back ever speedster ever (or just about) and was a little overblown, Superboy is

relieved here of the big “how he comes back” story, and we get to see what happens after, which is really the stuff that fans care about. It’s a great jumping on point for those not familiar with the character – I hadn’t read much Superboy stuff for a while and found I was able to get on board quite easily.

What you do get is some pathos, a decent amount of foreshadowing, Lex Luthor at his most despicable, and Brainiac making a small but pivotal appearance. Oh, and some amazingly beautiful art work from Francis Manapul. The lack of ink work and soft colours is not a style I’m generally fond of, but here it shines when combined with Johns’s writing. The double splash page early in the first issue is brilliant – I had trouble summoning up the will to turn the page.

Overall, an excellent beginning to what I hope will be an excellent series.
