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Tasked with removing a rogue weapon's dealer from an impregnable safe house, the Black Widow remembers her escape from the Red Room training facility, an escape only made possible with the aid of the most unlikely of allies, the Asgardian sorceress known as Amora - the Enchantress.

Black Widow & The Marvel Girls Details

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From Reader Review Black Widow & The Marvel Girls for online ebook

Pturingan says

I didn't like the characterization of Black Widow in this series. I understand the intention to write her as a bad-ass, highly-capable character (which is good) but I don't think she was ever meant to be an arrogant, tight-ass and humorless person (almost like some versions of Batman which I hate). I also think that the author tried to downplay the other characters in order to make Black Widow look stronger. Someone like The Wasp for instance, who was a founding member of the Avengers, shouldn't be made to look like a fumbling rookie.

If you're looking for good Black Widow stories, I think it's best to look elsewhere (in the pages of Secret Avengers or the Captain America stories featuring Bucky). I'm still a huge fan of the Black Widow character; just not this version.

Lisa says

Not what I was expecting, but it was OK. There were a couple of different sections, stories with each character, the stories were fun and entertaining but like I said not what I was expecting.

Jdetrick says

I really like Paul Tobin and the Black Widow and I wish I liked this more. It's four separate stories, set in Marvel's history, each featuring another one of Marvel's female heroes. I'm not sure I think Tobin has a good handle on the Widow, and the other women are barely part of their stories....the Widow always takes center stage.

Lesley Arrowsmith says

I got this book because I'm unfamiliar with the Marvel universe and I wanted to see what other female superheroes were around - having met Black Widow in the Avengers movie, and gone on to read Black Widow: Deadly Origin by Paul Cornell.

So, The Enchantress is a bored immortal; the Wasp is a bit drippy (but I understand from other reviews she's not usually so drippy); Ms Marvel is, I assume, Carol Danvers before she becomes Captain Marvel (and it's set in Israel, which is a pleasant change from the US or UK); Storm is quite interesting (and the Mole Man is fun); and then there's a story from 1970 where Black Widow designs her new costume and goes up against a rather groggy Spiderman, which was quite amusing.

So on the whole this was a useful purchase and I now know a bit more about the women of the Marvel universe.

Jaq Greenspon says

Meh.

There's really no reason for these stories. They seem like filler for something.

Alison says

This was pretty meh, with some good moments. I don't know all of the characters involved, and got the impression these were sort of forced matchups as well. Still, the Black Widow is a great character, and she got to show some interesting sides here. But the art was pretty damn terrible (and is it, like, they don't think dudes will want to read about two women kicking ass unless they are also all tits-and-ass? Because this felt even way more tits-and-assy than usual for comics), and the writing was generally awkward. Would have loved to see this done by some female authors and illustrators. I picked this up on a whim, so am giving three stars to be fair-ish.

This also included a reprint of a 1970s Spider-Man with Natasha: oh man, that was...interesting.

sage says

Bizarre characterization of Natasha. Wasp and Storm were oddly frail and powerless, too. Enchantress was motivated solely by boredom? Really? Everyone was extremely flat and one dimensional, and the notion of Natasha being in the Red Room only ten years ago instead of 80 continues to break my brain. Some of the art was quite good, though, which is why I'm giving it 2 stars instead of 1.

eta: Hah, I totally forgot Carol Danvers was even IN this book until I looked back at the cover. I like Carol a lot, in general, but again there just wasn't much of HER on the page here as opposed to a generic female superhero. I don't think ANY of them really got a chance to play to their strengths and demonstrate their awesomeness. Stealing a Doombot isn't nearly as cool as dealing with Doom himself, you know. If Nat's the best, then we need to see her being the best, not merely bragging about it to people who could care less about her ego.

Meghan Emery says

This one was enjoyable, but I did think that Widow came off a little snobbish. The other female heroines were downplayed and made weaker so that she appeared all the better. I do admit that the Storm and Ms. Marvel comics were pretty good, but I did not particularly enjoy the Wasp story, and the Amora story was only okay. The art was good usually, however in the Ms. Marvel story Marvel and Widow were both overly skinny. So skinny that there is no possible way their organs would fit inside them. I'm used to comic book skinny, but the proportions in that comic were really bad. Overall it's okay if you want a female centric comic to read for a little distraction. :)

Story: C-

Dialogue: B

Art: B-
Overall: C+

Gonzalo Oyanedel says

Pensadas en quienes se engancharon con su versión cinematográfica, las cuatro historias que buscan ilustrar la relación de Natasha Romanova con los otros héroes Marvel son un paso en falso. Sin dar con el perfil del personaje, la trama se decanta rápidamente por la acción efectista y diálogos muy insustanciales que encajarían mucho mejor en una versión animada para todos los públicos. Lectura pasable, pero muy lejana a los buenos momentos mostrados en las miniseries de Marvel knights o la misma etapa de Marjorie Liu.

Gary Butler says

24th book read in 2014.

Number 252 out of 368 on my all time book list.

Follow the link below to see my video review:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KlQJJ...>

Julia says

This mini-series teams up Natasha Romanoff (Black Widow) with four female characters -- Enchantress, Wasp, Ms Marvel and Storm. Each adventure comes at different junctures in Natasha's history from her training to joining the Avengers to an established operative. Tobin nicely conveys Natasha's personality; she's very rational and realistic, always focused on the assignment. I wasn't as thrilled by her portrayal in the flashback sequences in the first issue. From all her other appearances, I'd gathered Natasha was the model student, rather than an also-ran that just happens to get a magical boost from Enchantress. Enchantress' continued talk about "pretty girls" grated too. In the second issue, I know Janet Van Dyne supposed to be a flighty socialite type, but she didn't come off as a veteran superheroine in her story. But I did like that look in Widow's early Avengers history when everyone didn't know what to make of her.

That said I loved the Ms Marvel and Storm stories. The Ms Marvel one especially felt like a nice blend of espionage and superheroing. Carol and Natasha both are trained operatives. They don't trust easily, but they know when they need to work together. I infinitely preferred Salva Espin's artwork of the group assembled.

The interesting thing is this entire mini passed the Bechdel's test. Two women fought together side by side in each issue and talked together, but they never talked about who they were currently dating. All dialogue focused on the case at hand. The only time that side of her showed up was to charm the local tavern for information. It was refreshing to read stories about Natasha that weren't so focused on her love life or sexuality, but showed her adventures as Black Widow.

The collection is filled out with a reprint of Amazing Spider-Man #86, debuting Natasha's classic black

jumpsuit and wrist weapons. The book is published in Marvel's smaller digest format.

I'd encourage someone to buy this if they're looking for a short stand-alone Black Widow mini series with solid writing and artwork. Also encouraged if you want to see two women working together and kicking butt.

AJ says

Somewhat disappointing. It was okay. Readable, but not something I would recommend.

Initial thoughts:

1. Ms. Marvel & Black Widow was the only somewhat interesting arc
2. Didn't particularly enjoy Black Widow in this series. She came across as bossy and a total show off. Very unlikable character, not used to this version of Black Widow to the one I'm already familiar with.

Disappointing, considering she's my favourite.

3. Not a huge fan of the artwork at all. Some of them were decent but they're not consistent.
-

Beth Wheeler says

The most powerful thing about these female superheroes is their tits. They hit you on the side of the head with just one of those babies, you'd be knocked out cold. All joking aside, these women characters are weak. The best story is in Issue #1, in which we learn about Widow's conflicted past. Her wrist-shooters are cool. But "Amazing Spider-Man #86" is so disappointing because clearly she could have kicked Spidey's ass (and should have). When I share these with my daughters, I will be sure to criticize as we go. And then my daughter and I will write our own version of Widow.

Annika says

I mainly got this volume because it was on sale and who am I to resist a good bargain?

The stories in the issues were okay but the art in the first two was too much "busty, thin-waisted babes" for me, not enough focus on the action, too much on Natasha's "assets". The other two issues were much better in that regard which I was glad for.

The bonus volume was from The Amazing Spider-Man and had me nearly chocking on the sexism and Natasha constantly being referred to as a "female" was grating.

Craig says

This book collects four Black Widow team-up stories in Marvel's all-age adventures along with a classic Spider-Man. The Storm and Ms. Marvel stories were both quite good, the former featuring Mole Man and the latter the legacy of The Red Skull. The first story featured The Enchantress, and while it was an interesting look at Natasha's very early years via flashback along with a neat contemporary locked-room puzzle, I didn't like the way The Enchantress was portrayed. The art is very well done in those three stories.

The second story, an Avengers/Wasp team-up, was just bad on all counts. Janet was one of the strongest characters in Marveldom, and here she's shown as a petulant coward. I didn't like the art in that one, either; it's too cartoonish, and apparently the girls are just there to try to smuggle zeppelins out of Latveria. Black Widow was supposed to have been a former ballet dancer, but as she's drawn here it would have been difficult for her to even walk standing up straight. The Spider-Man is a Stan Lee/John Romita issue from 1970, and features the first appearance of Black Widow in her modern costume. Wow, I can still remember reading her in The Avengers with black hair in a bouffant-hairdo with a fish-net (maybe it was supposed to be spider-webbed) costume and a cape. She always wore a mask that looked like she had stuck one of Bruce Wayne's early bat-symbols on her face. Anyway, this was pretty much of a fun book; it would have been really good if they had left out that second story.
