



Avengers: Red Zone

Geoff Johns (Writer) , Olivier Coipel

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When the Red Skull infiltrates the United States government, he authorizes a biological weapon to be released from the peaks of Mount Rushmore, and it is up the Avengers to contain it! Under the direction of creators Geoff Johns and Olivier Coipel, the Avengers face a threat unlike any they've ever faced - then they take on the Red Skull himself!

Collecting: *Avengers 65-70*

Avengers: Red Zone Details

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Download and Read Free Online Avengers: Red Zone Geoff Johns (Writer) , Olivier Coipel

From Reader Review Avengers: Red Zone for online ebook

Brian Poole says

Falcon took a brief spotlight as he looked into possible treachery by Henry Peter Gyrich, the team's one time federal nemesis who'd become their liaison to the U.N. Next, a biological attack on Mount Rushmore with a swiftly mounting infection and death toll brought the team into action. The Avengers found a hidden U.S. military lab beneath the infected area. Iron Man and Black Panther uneasily collaborated on a possible cure until Dell Rusk, the belligerent Secretary of Defense, had them arrested for treason. Calamities befell the team in the infected zone. Rusk's true identity led to a major showdown with Captain America over the cure for the virus.

Red Zone was the highlight of Geoff Johns's tenure on *Avengers*. The mix of a deadly biological attack, political intrigue and a classic Marvel villain worked very well. Johns took some chances with the characters and created a sense of real stakes with the jeopardy the team faced. Future Johns collaborator Ivan Reis handled the Falcon spotlight, before new regular co-artist Olivier Coipel, in his Marvel debut, took over. Coipel's work was stunning, highlighted by a strong design sense, interesting layouts and a facility for widescreen comic book action. It was an ideal team that produced what would turn out to be the last great story of this volume of *Avengers*. Highly recommended.

A version of this review originally appeared on www.thunderalleybcp.com

***Dave Hill says

A profoundly dark and cynical tales from Geoff Johns, with gorgeous (sometimes too-pretty) art from Olivier Coipel. I likes me a good government conspiracy, esp. one masterminded by this particular villain, but everybody feels like their soul is getting ground down in this disaster, to the extent that it stops being enjoyable for me.

Stephen says

Liked it...sufficiently...but definitely didn't love it. The thing was not completely fermented, if you ask me. The ideas were loose, not particularly scientific-ey enough, and many of the characters were a bit off (but sometimes that was a good thing -- more on this later).

The unspoken theme of this book was Hurricane Katrina. The book was written during the Bush Administration, it dealt with a disaster here on American soil, the government response was suspiciously uncoordinated and slow (because Red Skull was secretly in charge of the government response), and the primary goal was supposed to harm black Americans (the virus was initially supposed to kill only African Americans).

The art was...okay. We've all seen better.

Ant-Man, one of the brightest scientists around, was criminally underused - even though this dealt with a lab-grown virus, with most of the book taking place in a laboratory, and a bunch of AIM guys running around. He just kinda sat there.

She-Hulk reverted back to her non-chartreuse Jennifer human form when Jack of Hearts inadvertently absorbed some of her gamma radiation (?). But once he was gone, you have to wonder why she went back to her mindless savage She-Hulk persona -- just so she be the wild card of the story?? That's not a very good reason. (Or iiiissssss it???)

Red Skull switched his 70-year goal of reinstituting the 4th Reich, to actually wanting to take over America in all its glory. He now figures he can do this with just a little fear in just a few pockets of America. Well, Geoff Johns Got First, as the toy collectors say. But this was done better, much better, in a recent run of Uncanny Avengers.

The Scarlet Witch actually did something in this book, which was...good, if uncharacteristic.

Finally, the Vision had a few moments when he expressed his fears. If the red zone plague killed all the humans, he'd be alone, and this prospect both frightened him and motivated him. This was an interesting take on a usually under-appreciated character.

Overall, it's a 3/5 book. I bought this hardcover new-old-stock on a clearance rack for less than \$5 (it would never have been worth cover price to me, IMOH), and I think I got my money's worth for that rock-bottom price.

I won't be keeping it in my permanent collection. Off to the local library sale it goes. Make of this what you will.

Sineala says

One of my favorite Avengers v3 story arcs -- it's the only thing in Avengers v3 I actually own in paper. Hardcover, even.

Red Zone is an interesting story, very much informed by, well, American disaster response, and it pits the Avengers against a bioweapon, a virus drifting through the air at Mount Rushmore. The whole team has a role to play -- there are some great character moments for everyone, especially Tony, T'Challa, and Carol, and Steve has his usual glorious opposition to the Nazis because you will NEVER GUESS who the Secretary of Defense "Dell Rusk" really is. (Hint: it's an anagram.) There was some interesting intrigue; it was a little weird seeing Gyrich be more or less a good guy for once.

And because no one else reviewing this book has mentioned it, I have to say that the best moment for me is when Steve has been exposed to the virus and Tony cracks his own helmet and exposes himself to the virus to give Steve CPR, on the grounds that "Captain America is more important than [him]." I feel all the feelings. I feel them in my heart. As we say.

Jimmy Tucker says

Geoff Johns never disappoints. Great story with moments of sadness and some classic Captain America dialogue that I really enjoyed.

Nicolo Yu says

Red Zone, for this reader, was probably Johns' best story arc from his well received but brief run on the *Avengers* post-Busiek. His reveal of the ultimate villain behind the machinations of the deadliest biological attack on U.S. soil was handled superbly. This was probably even better when it was done as monthly installments because the wait amped up the anticipation.

This was the culminating story of what has been a superhero political drama take on the *Avengers*. The villain hiding behind a senior U.S. government official, has stymied the U.N. sanctioned Avengers at every turn and has even managed to label the heroes as traitors; that is, until said overplayed their hand. (view spoiler)

This reader's criticism regarding Johns' *Avengers* work would revolve around two points; the political theme and Jack of Hearts. For this arc, the heavy political tone is forgiven because each Avenger in this story got major face time. There were major scenes that utilized the unique power sets of each Avenger in visually appealing way that also made the plot move forward. It helped Johns' story tremendously that Coipel did the entirety of the arc. This was the assignment that gave notice to the artist that he was a rising star.

As of the Jack of Hearts, I can't understand why Johns wanted to have him in his Avengers roster. In this team, he's locker room cancer. "Jerk of Hearts" indeed.

Sud666 says

I was really torn about this one. I had a love/hate relationship going with it. A brief synopsis- A red cloud of death covers Mt Rushmore and the Avengers are sent in to deal with the problem. Their investigation points them in the direction of AIM and the Red Skull (who has been masquerading as someone that I won't spoil). The Good: The first few volumes of Johns work with the Avengers was not very good. But this was a huge improvement. A lot going on and a dark story line. Instead of the piss poor writing I saw in some of the last several issues, this was a powerful story. The artwork is also good throughout.

So why only 3 stars? It should have deserved 4-5 normally so let's get to it:

THE BAD:

sigh where to begin, where to begin? Geoff Johns wrote this during 2003 and his stupid fucking liberal beliefs are worn on his sleeve without any hint of subtlety. Jesus Christ Geoff, did you quaff your anti-Iraq War kool aid while writing this? Basic lesson- the Department of Defense is bad..REALLY bad m'kay? That's his basis. It's ok to have liberal views and it's ok to express them, but you can't be unfair, an asshole and fucking stupid all at the same time. That shows a severe lack of intellect. From the very start- when Vision brings the little boy onto the evac helo the Army guys say they are overloaded, so Vision tosses out their weapons and gives a pretty little speech about priorities and claims that those two weapons he tossed overboard (nearly 60 lbs he says) are allegedly equal to the little boy. Ummmmm Geoff, Geoff, Geoff... I know you've been very "busy" doing your artsy fartsy stuff and drinking liberal kool-aid at Michigan State..but if you had ever had the courage to put on a uniform you might have known the two weapons Visions tosses out (that your own damn artist drew) were M4's with laser sights attached. Ok..each M4, fully loaded with the silencer and laser sights weight about 10lbs each MAX..so 10X2= 20 lbs. Not 60. It's really really hard to lug around a 30lb weapon to shoot-thats as heavy as a .50 cal machine gun and that has a freaking tripod setup...Captain America could do it..normal humans..nah not really at all. Stupid asshole. Also if the facility was a US Army bio-weapons lab (and we did used to have weapons like that-back in the

50's)...the military would not have put in near Mt Rushmore. Why? Because the military is not fucking stupid like you Mr. Johns. The people who work with this stuff are VERY smart and usually have PhD's from much better schools than Michigan State, Mr. Johns. A facility like this would be out in the middle of the desert 100's of miles away from people and buried deep underground. Jackass. Finally, the cute Black Panther-Stark conversation where Mr. Panther says that the reason his country did not give over the antidote to this flesh eating virus is because the US government doesn't do stuff like that either. Um really Mr. Johns? You stupid leftist moron- when it comes to infectious diseases the CDC does more than the entire UN and the rest of the world combined to help foreign nations. Don't believe me? Just back during the 2014 Ebola outbreak in Africa, it was the US CDC that sent in response teams to quarantine, combat and then vaccinate large swaths of people. At a cost of \$175million in vaccinations (when you add in the other two parts of quarantine and combat its spread the total cost was closer to \$375 million). So get a clue, get a life and most of all GET AN EDUCATION. Just because you write comics doesn't mean you have to be an uneducated toolbag Geoff Johns.

Other than that this is a solid story, way better than the garbage he's been putting out. Normally this would have been a 4 or 5 star comic, but lazy and downright stupid writing dropped it to a 3.

Camilo Guerra says

Un recopilatorio con 9 números de los Vengadores de la mano de Geoff Johns, quien arma su propio equipo y lo hace con cuidado, al principio con números sueltos y clásicos con el arte immaculado de Gary Frank (aunque en algunas ocasiones le salen las bocas y sonrisas algo extrañas), Ivan Reis dando muestras de lo que daría después en Green Lantern y...Olivier Coipel que lo acompaña en ZONA ROJA, la cuál es una saga estupenda y nos muetsra a los Vengadores como un equipo, una familia que intentara salvar a todos los que están en su camino, el Capitan da ordenes y no le tiembla la voz y el mando, Warbird hace y hace,aunque al final parece que no pueda mas, algunas cosas se salen de control, enemigos clásicos y peleas bien hechas, todo con un estilo clasico y fresco que se deja leer fácilmente .El arte de Copiel es muy bueno y me encanta su Visión y su Pantera Negra, sudan fuerza y humanidad.

CiroyMateo says

me gusto mucho,me rompio el corazon cuando a she hulk se le rompe el trage y el cap descubre que esta infeccion es obra de su país.¡mis 10!

Sebastian Song says

Geoff refreshes the Avengers after Kurt's departure. A tale worth reading and timely reminder of the times we live in.

Jeffrey Jelmeland says

Once again Geoff Johns' writing skills shine through. A very well crafted story that is very cohesive. Aside from this, it is a pretty standard Avengers story, variations of which we have seen many times over the years.

Even so, it was well executed and very engaging. Well worth the read.

Rajarshi Aich says

Geoff is a master story teller and this is a very decent story that will keep you captivated till end.

Fugo Feedback says

¿Eh? Y ahora resulta que los Vengadores tienen una embajada propia, como si fueran un país. ¡Fuosh!, oia, hay un virus en el monte aquel. ¡Shim!, los Vengadores van a ver qué pasa. ¡Pow! está todo lleno de nazis. ¡Wow! resulta que atrás de todo estaba Cráneo Rojo (algo que ya espoilea la contratapa) ¡Puaj! Va Bush y felicita a los Vengadores.

Pero pese a todo, me pareció una historia entretenida y bien contada. El guion está bien desarrollado y los dibujantes lo siguen a la par. Supongo que si cae en mis manos otro tomo de esta etapa, lo leeré sin muchos reparos.

Chelsea says

This remains one of my top 5 Avengers stories.

This was back when the Avengers were allowed to be friends and like each other. Some characters are a little prickly towards each other (Sam and Gyrich, Jack of Hearts and Scott Lang, T'Challa and Tony) but the heart of the team is here. It's nice to see when Marvel abandoned this concept in 2006.

The Red Zone arc itself is very well done. You can feel the stress of it and the horror of watching the pathogen overtake all of these innocent people. It was a smart choice having it start with Cap picking up one of the kids. This is primo Cap material. He's brave, strong, persistent as ever. There's a moment where he explains his views on the US government. Again, Cap isn't naive; he believes in the people above all else and he knows the government isn't flawless.

There's the tiniest of plots with Carol running things in Washington (I think?)

Tony and T'Challa trying to find a cure and maneuver their differences as Tony believes in gathering whatever knowledge he can to find the answer and T'Challa understands the need for preserving his countries resources. The culmination of this conflict is pretty well done.

There's a mini plot with Vision realizing everyone else's mortality.

There's a small plot with Jack of Hearts and Scott Lang and Jack and Jen.

Johns managed to cover quite a bit of ground here.

Anyway, the ending what I love the most. Tony and Steve's relationship has a lot of key moments in it and this arc's finale is one of them.

This is always a joy to read and definitely a recommend.

Fantasy Literature says

3.5 stars from Skye, read the full review at FANTASY LITERATURE

I ended up with this story arc (this is the term I'm going to use as it appears when I search for this story) through a Reddit gift exchange over a year ago in which I was also delighted to receive some original art by my gifter. This context lent itself well to the reading of the story as I was very happy to receive it and more likely to overlook flaws – it may or may not be the first physical set of comic books I have owned.

First published in fall 2003, The Red Zone came out just after the first X-Men movie (2000) and the first Spider-Man movie (2002) were showing that perhaps the greater public could like superhero movies if everyone toned down the goofiness a bit. However, I imagine it fits in well with the caped crusaders and wonderfully corny lines of yester-year as well. The Red Zone came about almost exactly when comic book stories started picking up steam on the big screen, and I think perhaps it shows as a transitional piece of AVENGERS lore. ...read the full review at FANTASY LITERATURE
