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Superman: Red Son (New Edition)



Synopsis

Imagine a reality where the world's most powerful super-being does not grow up in Smallville, Kansas - or even America, for that matter. **SUPERMAN: RED SON** is a vivid tale of Cold War paranoia, that reveals how the ship carrying the infant who would later be known as Superman lands in the midst of the 1950s Soviet Union. Raised on a collective, the infant grows up and becomes a symbol to the Soviet people, and the world changes drastically from what we know - bringing Superman into conflict with Batman, Lex Luthor and many others. The acclaimed story by writer Mark Millar and artists Dave Johnson & Kilian Plunkett is collected here, featuring an extensive sketch section by Johnson, Plunkett and Alex Ross. Collects **SUPERMAN: RED SON** #1-3.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Like so many of the greatest works of the iron age of comics, *Red Son* is at its heart a dialectic (to use a classically Marxist term) between the merits of freedom on the one hand, of and the controlling hand of benevolent superpower on the other. As usual, this title comes down on the side of freedom with a heavy, resounding thud. But even if it is a little crude in hammering home its ultimate message, in all other aspects there are ample shades of gray. It's that capacity for moral complexity and ambiguity that made all the best iron age titles what they were, and this one is no exception. *Red Son* tells the tale of an alternate DC universe in which Superman's capsule lands not in Kansas, but in Stalin's Ukraine. And, simply put, just as the "regular" Superman stayed true to

the mainstream ideology of the culture in which he was raised, so too this Superman grows up to be a committed communist. The fact that the story begins in a very specific mid-twentieth century world, with Stalin in the Kremlin and Eisenhower in the White House, is absolutely fundamental. For, much like *Watchmen*, *Red Son* is a tale that inherently takes place within a definite social and political milieu. And, again as with *Watchmen*, this adds considerably to the depth and resonance of the work. All that said, it's important to stress that the other great thing about *Red Son* is that while the standard iron age themes do predominate, this story is not just another repackaging of *Watchmen*. Mark Millar, the writer of *Red Son*, most definitely takes his own path, and explores his chosen themes in his own way.

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