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Ian Boucher, Rebecca Johnson, Daniel N. Gullotta, Paul Jaissle, John Loyd, Ross May, Colby Pryor, Jaime Infante Ramrez, Michal Siromski, Mark Waid, Gerard Jones

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Ian Boucher, Rebecca Johnson, Daniel N. Gullotta, Paul Jaissle, John Loyd, Ross May, Colby Pryor, Jaime Infante Ramrez, Michal Siromski, Mark Waid, Gerard Jones : Humans and Paragons: Essays on Super-Hero Justice before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Humans and Paragons: Essays on Super-Hero Justice:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. An essential read on what superheroes mean to usBy Richard

GrayDo superheroes hold a mirror up to society or do they reflect the one we live in? This excellent collection of essays and interviews, edited by Sequart contributor Ian Boucher, unpacks the genre in an accessible and thought-provoking way. (NB: This is a reworked version of a Goodreads review). Everything in here is worth spending time with, but each piece offers a new angle on characters that have been around for eight decades in some cases. Indeed, it's one of the first comprehensive works to really ask whether great power and responsibility go hand in hand. Paul Jaissle, for example, ponders whether superheroes go far enough in trying to change the world, or they are just defending the status quo. In a later essay, Jaissle also gives a convincing defence of Man of Steel as a film in telling us why there must be Superman movies. Michal Siromski's examination of the Joker in terms of his psychopathy is a fascinating window into the mind of Batman's most enduring villain. Rebecca Johnson, in the volume's most personal and inspirational piece, reminds us that we need that darkness as it "proves the sunshine." Many of the chapters continue to deconstruct old faithfuls like Batman: The Dark Knight Returns, the Christopher Nolan Batman films, and of course, Watchmen, but Jaime Infante Ramirez's balanced look at Frank Miller's moral positions (and their changes over time) is a fresh take. There's also some terrific new looks at the violence in Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles (by John Loyd), and Boucher's interview with Mark Waid is an essential read. Whether you're a casual reader of comics or watcher of the films, there's plenty to ponder in this tome. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Insightful. By Ryan M Krumm What a great book! I was really impressed by the level of insight each author brought to their topic and they successfully shined different lights on some of my favorite characters and stories. If you love comics and superheroes and want to dig deeper than the dominate mainstream vehicles allow, then I can't recommend this book more. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Four Stars By hermit Good read. Some thought provoking essays on super heroes.

Super-heroes, said to represent justice, have saturated popular culture at a time when the American criminal justice system is under intense public scrutiny and re-evaluation. Do the super-heroes we celebrate really represent the best we can be? How do the stories we tell ourselves about justice help society understand the endeavor of protecting citizens and making itself better? In this book of essays, contributors from around the world explore these questions and more from many perspectives, encouraging a more conscious discussion about the most fundamental element of super-heroes. From Sequart Organization. More info at <http://sequart.org>