



## The Superior Foes of Spider-Man, Volume 3: Game Over

*Nick Spencer (Writer), Steve Lieber (Illustrations)*

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Voted one of the best mainstream super hero comics of 2013 by the Onion A.V. Club! Only five villains stand between New York and total chaos in the streets of Manhattan. The problem? Those villains are the Superior Foes. And now the world's most dangerous villains are up against the world's most dangerous thing - the truth! A year of duplicity and double crossing has led to this...who will live, who will die, who will get the head of Silvermane? The Gang War begins as everyone clashes in a big fight over Silvermane's head. Lives are lost, feelings are hurt, and car keys get misplaced as the Foes take on all comers! The sleeper hit of the year continues as Spencer and Lieber bring this rollicking tale of evil to its ultimate hour!

**Collecting:** *The Superior Foes of Spider-Man* 12-17

## **The Superior Foes of Spider-Man, Volume 3: Game Over Details**

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Author : Nick Spencer (Writer) , Steve Lieber (Illustrations)

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## **From Reader Review The Superior Foes of Spider-Man, Volume 3: Game Over for online ebook**

### **Jackie says**

Dear Marvel,

Please reprint this entire series into a oversized hardcover. Omnibooo-style!

Thanks. Sincerely, JT

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### **Shannon Appelcline says**

A good conclusion to *Superior Foes*. Not as strong as the brilliant first volume, but much better than filler-ridden second volume.

The best part of this book continues to be the comedy, though I also love the occasional non-traditional storytelling and the terrific insight into these characters. Though a little info-dumpy, the final issue was a terrific finale that really made me believe that's what it was all about the whole time. Terrific.

And I hope future writers will take up these interpretations of these characters.

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### **Gavin says**

My first read of the year! Undignified! Silly! Chuckles! Opposite of dark and gritty! Marvel! Not the Dark Comics fools at the other big company...

It was time to end this though...law of diminishing returns.

Best stuff here? Mach VII somehow getting Tony Stark's number and annoying him until he pulls the "you're breaking up" routine, as well as the "this is your moment to be the best you, be a true hero..." With Capt. Marvel rolling eyes in the panel.

Then a cop saying "I thought you were called Nighthawk".  
Punisher taking an Uber...

Otherwise silly fun. Nice change of pace from too serious stuff.

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### **Drown Hollum says**

Superior Foes finally comes to its end, and I am floored at how funny, smart, and unexpected this whole series was. It's a high point in both Spencer's and Lieber's careers, and is the high-bar for every heist book that comes after it. Simply put, from concept to execution, Superior Foes is pure genius. It brings us closer to

Spidey's most incompetent rogues, humanizing them, turning us to their side, then hits us with some of the most compelling comics narrative I've ever read from the big two. *Superior Foes* is a triumph, and if you haven't been reading it, it's time to binge.

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### **Paola says**

These guys, right?

Un final increíble para un run bastante genial. Boomerang nunca dejó de sorprender con su cinismo. The Sinister Six -sí, todos sabemos que sólo son cinco- fueron un grupo de villanos que, si bien no lograron la gloria que perseguían, hicieron algo increíble.

Oh, y la carta en el último número escrita por CM Punk. Genial.

En general es un cómic que recomiendo bastante, vayan a leerlo. Ya.

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### **Mike says**

Fred (Boomerang) really knows how to make friends:

Steve Lieber's substitute artist goes full-inane:

[actually Rich Ellis]

And we have a fun ride to the end of a weird Hawkguy-inspired B-list Marvel miniseries. No earth-shattering impact to continuity, but it sure made me look different at the supporting villains of my favourite hero.

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### **Blindzider says**

This read more like volume one, focusing primarily back on Boomerang and wrapping up all of the loose ends of the story, albeit a little confusing. It's a nice conclusion with a couple twists at the end. Overall, a worthwhile read from start to finish.

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### **Sesana says**

You know, I really enjoyed this book while I was reading it. The pages just flew by. It wasn't until I put it down that I realized that it was kind of a crazy mess and way, way more convoluted than it probably had to be. That it took me so long is probably a tribute to just how much fun I was having with this strange cast of characters. So I'm going to let my first take (four stars) stand, even as I'm starting to see the flaws in the book. And the entire series is quite fun to read, even if I kind of feel like the lies and revelations and twists were overplayed a touch towards the end. As a whole, this was kind of like a zanier Hawkeye.

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### John says

This series wins my vote for the best recent title from a mainstream comics publisher and it wraps up brilliantly in this final volume. The previous volume faltered slightly due to too many digressions and fill in artists, but here Spencer & Lieber regroup and refocus to tie up the many subplots and character arcs in this wickedly clever story. Imagine filling a crime caper movie like "The Usual Suspects" with Z-list supervillians and you have the basic premise, but the book is so much more. Mix in an absurd sense of humor, crazy experimental story telling techniques and a lovable group of losers and you have a book that is laugh-out-loud funny, touching and just plain wonderful. Not to be missed.

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### Allie says

I want to own these 3 books. They are hysterical! I've never laughed that much while reading. **So funny.** Hilarious characters, well written, perfect illustrations (LOVE the cover!). So sad that I won't see anymore of these Sinister Six Five. (I was rooting for you, Mirage!)

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### Daniel Butcher says

Truly a prefect ending to one of the best comic series that I have ever read.

Clap Clap Clap Clap

Wonderful!

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### Anne says

#### I'm so sad this is over!

*Hold me, Rhino...hold me with your sweaty hippo man-boobs.*

Jeff, thank you so much for pestering me till I picked this up! Honestly, it has been one of the funniest titles I've ever read, and I'm planning on **purchasing** all the the volumes.

*All of you who know how cheap I am are probably picking yourselves up off the floor right now. Sorry! I hope you didn't get hurt when you fell out of your chairs.*

Anyway, this was a good wrap-up for these characters. Like most great titles, when they come to an end, there's always bit of that *letdown* feeling. I mean, just look at this one's Daddy, **Superior Spider-man**. It's

almost impossible to get everything *perfect* for the end of a beloved run. But, to Spencer's credit, he didn't shit the bed.

There's still plenty of offbeat humor in **Game Over**, and (to me) that makes up for most sins. And as long as you keep giving me the funny, I'm pretty content to overlook other problems.

*Not that I thought there were any real problems...*

So, this is Boomerang's swan song.

And even though he's a total douchebag, you just can't help but root for him to *finally* score big.

**Or at least not die.**

In fact, you want *all* of these guys to get a Happily Ever After...of sorts. You want something **not horrible** good to happen to each and every one of these lovable losers!

Does that happen?

Read it, and find out.

Ok, so there's no *moral of the story or lesson to learn* in these books. It's just a straight-up *watch the stupid people fuck themselves over* kind of thing. And, really, you can't ask for anything more than that, can you? **Highly Recommended!**

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### **Sam Quixote says**

Boomerang's complex plan involving the rare portrait of Doom sans metal mask concludes - except the Sinister Six aren't above backstabbing each other as Shocker, possessing the head of Silvio Silvermane, vies for control of the mob and the others look for ways to ditch everyone but No. 1 for a fortune. These supervillains, right?

And so the surprise critical success that is Superior Foes of Spider-Man comes to an end in this third and final volume (because critical success doesn't always equal commercial success unfortunately).

That said, I think Superior Foes worked well in that first book but over three volumes? It feels a bit too much - the one-off might've been preferable. Volume 3: Game Over IS superior to that scrappy second one though.

The reason I think one volume's better than three is because it feels like Nick Spencer and Steve Lieber are repeating themselves already - they've run out of ideas. There's the "Shocker's so silly" bits, they're still doing schtick with Silvio, there's physical comedy from Mach VII this time, and even Lieber's doing the same visual tricks from previous books: the layout of the villain's lair and the characters as cutesy Sunday-strip versions. I get it, Spidey's supervillains are a goofy bunch! All that's missing is a slide-whistle!

It's not all bad though. Boomerang's plan was a bit convoluted but, like Ocean's 11, the play was clever and fun to see unravelled. I liked the Punisher's cameo, especially as it was more undignified than Frank's used to! The Avengers-type callback cover where the Six (really five, har har) are sat around a table eating

schwarma, with “chefs” Spencer and Lieber in the background, was really good. The Speed Demon/dog side story was cute and of course Lieber’s art is excellent for the most part - from a colouring perspective, it was maybe a little too dark at times.

Mostly though, it was just an ok read. It’s well-written, especially compared to a lot of Marvel’s output, and doesn’t take itself too seriously which is always a plus, but still kinda average. I didn’t connect with these characters like they obviously did to a lot of their audience so I wasn’t as invested in seeing these guys succeed.

I like the series concept overall - fleshing out characters who usually don’t get many pages and doing so in a light-hearted way (albeit obviously courting Matt Fraction’s Hawkeye audience). And I liked that an obvious cash-grab from the bestselling Superior Spider-Man could be so unusual and its own thing. Superior Foes definitely has its moments but it ended more or less at the right time (maybe even earlier would’ve been preferable).

Compare this imaginative crime caper to the much darker supervillain-themed Forever Evil drek and its associated one-dimensional spin-offs DC are shovelling out and you can see why Marvel have the market share!

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### **Jeff says**

Imagine being on the bottom of the pecking order in one of the worst super (heh) villain groups in the history of comics, the Sinister Six Five. This is where Herman Schultz, aka The Shocker finds himself. After years of getting kicked in the dome by Spider-man, the Shocker is also a little slow on the uptake as well. He’s on the receiving end of murder attempts, betrayals and loads of verbal abuse. Poor, poor Shocker.

Just when things couldn’t get any worse (he ends up in the trunk of a car at the bottom of the East River after another double-cross) he happens upon the talking, cybernetic head of Silvermane on a skateboard. If you have the head of Silvermane, you’re the top dog of Maggia.

Ooo Boy!! Things are looking up, right?

Um, no.

The cybernetic head of Silvermane is a profane, nasty, undermining, rude, ugly noggin with no off switch unless you have duct tape handy. Plus, he’s always hungry. (He’s just a head, where does he put it all?) Poor, poor Twinkler Shocker not only has to deal with countless demeaning versions of his name, but is unmanned at every turn by a head.

This volume wraps up one of the more entertaining runs in recent superhero comics. There’s a backhanded salute to convoluted comic book plots, team-up comics, cronuts and the Spider-mobile. Well done, Nick Spencer!

**Bottom line:** Highly recommended for comic readers who need a break from grim and/or poorly written comics. If you don’t occasionally laugh out loud, I at least guarantee chuckles and grins.

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### **Bram Ryckaert says**

Superior Foes was short, but so very sweet. There was not a single weak issue in the 17-part run, and somehow Spencer and Lieber made me care a great deal about the characters in a comedy-centric book. That's the magnificent one-two punch here: the book is funny all the way, but still they manage to add a lot of depth to, well... a bunch of a-holes.

An added bonus is its low barrier to entry, so this book will be easy to recommend to anyone looking for a funny, but smart and engaging book.

So, Superior Foes, right? A+

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