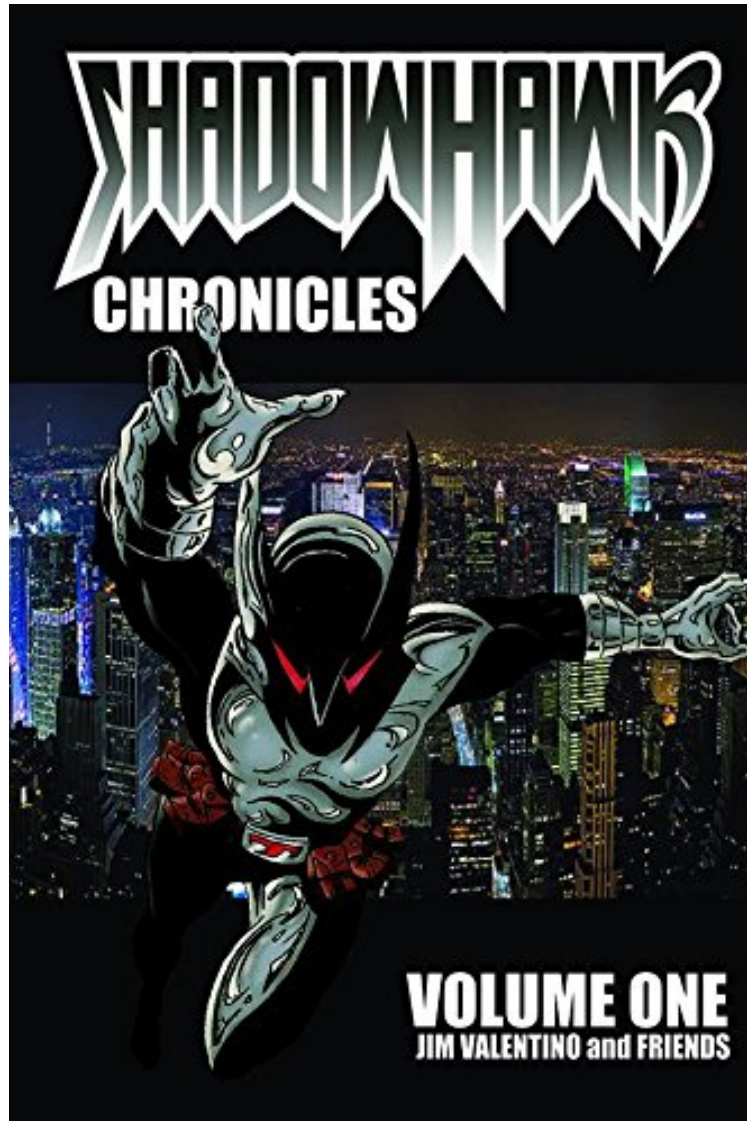


(Download ebook) Shadowhawk Chronicles Volume 1

Shadowhawk Chronicles Volume 1

Jim Valentino

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Jim Valentino : Shadowhawk Chronicles Volume 1 before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Shadowhawk Chronicles Volume 1:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A great collection for those that remember Shadowhawk. By Michael White So here we have almost the entire run of Jim Valentino's Shadowhawk from the early days of Image Comics. While I was into Image at its inception, it was interesting that their initial lineup didn't feature a lot of solo characters (team books like Youngblood and WildC.A.T.s dominated the landscape). Enter Shadowhawk, from Jim Valentino, a

relative unknown at the time. I always liked the character but never had a good sense of his overall mythology, so thought I'd give this a try. Spoilers will follow, if you care about that sort of thing. The good: There's a lot to like here. This is a very complete volume, and the fact that the story of Paul Johnstone actual shows real character development, and deals with some real-world issues, help to set it apart from the rest of what Image was pushing at the time. It still has that kind of hyper-violent edge to it that was considered cool in the 90's, but I think it holds up a lot better than some of the company's other early efforts. All in all, I've enjoyed the read partially for the nostalgia, and partially because it does a lot that you didn't see that often in the 90's. Paul Johnstone is a black man, which in the 90's was pretty uncommon for a hero starring in their own title. Sure, Black Panther was around for Marvel, but most of the other notable black characters in superhero comics were in the team books, and were often there for a "cool" factor or simply to appeal to demographics (Luke Cage comes to mind, as does Image's own Chapel). Paul Johnstone is a lot more well-rounded than most of these other characters on the shelf at the time. Though a lot of his history isn't revealed up-front, as the volume progresses we learn more about the man behind the mask, and what drives him to do what he does...he was infected with HIV by some angry gang members to teach him a lesson. Now as waits for the inevitable news that it has progressed into the AIDs virus, he feels it's important to spend his remaining time policing the streets and preventing others from suffering from violent crime. Don't get me wrong, there's a lot of style-over-substance action in the first few issues and throughout, but the fact that we're given this much backstory was pretty uncommon from Image in these days when the artist was more important than the writer. It just so happens that Valentino was doing the pencilling AND the writing. The bad: The volume itself isn't presented in a "normal" black-and-white format for comics compendiums like Marvel's Essential line. In those books, the coloring is removed (for cost reasons) so that the narrative is enjoyed just with the pencilling and inking down. This makes for clean lines, and an easy to understand presentation, with a large issue-count in each volume. What Image has done with this book is to leave the coloring in, but convert it to grayscale. This results in a muddy-ing of the art that makes some pages very difficult to understand without close study. Everything is dark and some of the seperation done with the inking is lost. The volume is still readable, but Valentino's pencils deserved better than to be hidden behind this.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Best comic ever! By Machine The best comic story ever. Thank you.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A hero can die By Kaden Moeller One of the greatest Image characters out there, Jim Valentino's Shadowhawk doesn't get enough credit or appearances/collections to merit how great a character he is. I personally love Shadowhawk, mainly because I hate Batman, the character manages to grip me in a much more substantial way. Paul Johnstone is a great hero, far too underrated in my opinion, he has just the right amount of determination/vengeance in his character for him to not come across as too idealistic. His goals are laudable, but his execution a bit too personal. While, as with many comics, the material dates in respect to when it was written, I personally find the character's adventures and exploits to be more than enjoyable. The book also contains a cameo from one of my favorite (One day I hope to write him) image characters "Trencher" which is an added bonus. If you are an Image fan and want to read one of the founding character/creator comics, I highly suggest reading this book, it is in black and white, which is a real shame, but you'll get the gist of it.

Collecting Image founder Jim Valentino's bestselling series for the first time between two covers! The return of the vigilante so violent he was at odds with both law enforcement and the underworld! Collects ShadowHawk #1-4, ShadowHawk II #1-3, ShadowHawk III #1-4, ShadowHawk Gallery #1, and surprise pin-ups by some of comics' top talents-including Jeff Smith, Dale Keown, Dave Gibbons, and Keith Giffen.