

## She-Hulk Vol. 1: Deconstructed

*Mariko Tamaki*

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**Mariko Tamaki : She-Hulk Vol. 1: Deconstructed** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised She-Hulk Vol. 1: Deconstructed:

7 of 8 people found the following review helpful. ReconstructedBy BorisI have to admit that I have read this story in single issues, but since my agenda is about the story alone I feel legitimated to write a review here. There has been a lot of criticism on these pages about this not being the light-hearted Jennifer Walters everybody loves, and I have to admit that also I fell in love first with the funny Jen of Dan Slott. But this is a completely different story. We should

not measure a piece of art by what we expect but what it is. For me what Tamaki does here was unexpected too, but it won me over. Jennifer Walters has experienced terrible violence during the second Civil War almost dying after the fight against Thanos. She has experienced the loss of her cousin Bruce. And she just tries to get on her feet again. She tries it by work but she barely can bottle her feelings. Tamaki takes her time to get a grip of her main character. A new lawyer firm, her new collaborators; Jen watching cooking shows to occupy her mind. The art supports all of this, the facial expressions done by Nico Leon, the congenial coloring by Matt Milla that is more directed by moods than by naturalism (green!). There is a client, Maise Brewn; a woman who has experienced violence too. And who is threatened to lose her home; in her view to lose everything. This might set off more violence. We will see. The story builds slowly, decompressed, but finally the pieces all come together. There are no slugfests with the likes of the Rhino or Titania, there is few witty banter (although there is, the relationship of Jen with her new assistant surely has its potential, the friendship of Jen and Patsy Walker is built on), but the story has depth and social relevance. Finally the Hulk is coming out. I wont spoil more. But the story of Jen Walters is going on. I will follow, and I hope when the title will go back to She-Hulk with the renumbered #159 Mariko Tamaki will still be on board.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The hero the world needs right now

By Rachel Hanover

The reviews have confirmed my belief that comic book fans devour trash and despise well written stories. If you want a graphic novel about nonsensical villain plots where the same villains that have been defeated countless times keep showing up and the hero has no distinguishable personality traits, then please read anything else. If you think superhero stories are supposed to be about actual human beings with real lives, personalities, and motivations, then this is the series for you. Jennifer Walters is a flawed, damaged, albeit lovable character who you actually want to follow issue to issue. She has real problems that real people can relate to. She doesn't use her super powers to fix her problems, she uses hope, and diligence, and human decency to affect change in her world. Jennifer Walters is a hero in every way that most super heroes aren't. She gets up every morning despite the desperate urge to stay home and hide, she struggles to not give up on the world, and she goes into work and tries to help people the best way she knows how. She is the kind of super hero the world needs right now. The 1 star reviews are pathetic rants about not enough punching. This is the superhero we deserve.

14 of 18 people found the following review helpful. An utter disappointment

By Patrick Spence

For a very long time, She-Hulk was one of the only we'll-adjusted female heroes Marvel had in their stable. Everyone else was tortured or marginalized for having the gall to be a woman (see Wasp, Scarlet Witch, etc). Jennifer Walters, on the other hand was a hero who had both fun AND a full-time job. No more. Here we meet a Jen who is too afraid of her other half to even transform into this new Hulk Marvel is so proud of. She doesn't have a job anymore because of her constant panic attacks. I suppose the idea was to explore trauma via the comic medium, but this was not the way to go about it while retaining the audience. Moreover, the whole justification for the personality change is that her cousin was killed, which seems a bit pointless, since he was literally dead for less than six months (comics, amirite?). Overall, I cannot in good conscience advise this to anyone who is a fan of She-Hulk, though if you want a story about a formerly strong woman who is now just a broken shell of her former self, I suppose this is the place. There are reviews that imply that this dissatisfaction rises from the lack of smash in the story; this is not the case. My entire frustration with this comic is the sheer disrespect shown to one of Marvel's (literally) biggest women. To take an independent woman who owns her own business, who presents herself as she chooses, and rip away her ability to be the person she identifies as is monstrous, and to do so from the trauma of being briefly comatose when talking about a character who has actually died and gotten better seems ludicrous. There is a place for this story. She-Hulk is not that place.

Jennifer Walters has survived the second Civil War...barely. But, having risen from the rubble, she re-enters the world a very different kind of hero. Fueled by a quiet rage, she is determined to move forward, to go on with her life - but the pain of the past and all that she's lost is always there. An undercurrent, a pulse waiting to quicken -and trigger Jen's transformation into the one thing she doesn't have control over... COLLECTING: HULK 1-6