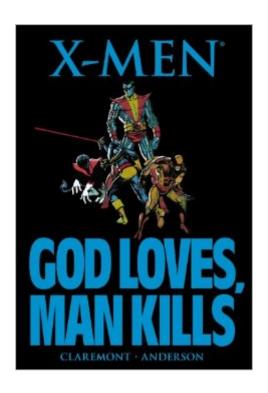
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# X-Men: God Loves, Man Kills





### **Synopsis**

The war in Genosha has boiled over, and the X-Men, X-Factor and the New Mutants will never be the same! With the never-deadlier Cameron Hodge pulling the strings, the heroes are kidnapped, killed, stripped of their powers and forced into combat! And when the dust settles, the teams change lineups, sending the X-Men into a new era!

#### **Book Information**

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Superheroes #4393 in Books > Teens

#### **Customer Reviews**

Ok...was reminiscing about GLMK and decided to see what people (here) thought of it. Wow. Reviews all over the place. To those who feel it's dated....yes, it is. So is Huckleberry Finn. And Shakespeare. It is "of it's time". It's VERY 1982. Mainly...cause it was published in 1982! Terrible point for a critique.... To those who think these characters and situations (where leaders/demagogues drive masses to crazy thinking and/or actions) are unrealistic or cheesy, please purchase a history book while here at . The most insane ideas have OFTEN taken hold just like this. Scary thought huh? To those who think it oversimplifies the X theme of prejudice, or is redundant or Claremont was too wordy in his text, keep in mind, this was 1982. No X movies. No X video games. No X cartoons. Certainly no mainstream presence for these characters like Superman or Batman had. Comics were still almost exclusively for kids. Hence, they were written at a level so that younger readers could absorb the message. And kids kinda have to be "clubbed over the head" with a message sometimes. The fact it was published at all is surprising to me. Reading it at 40 years old, yeah, it's kinda clunky sometimes for an experienced adult reader.....BUT....when I first

read it at 9 years old...it LITERALLY changed my life. I was a HUGE X fan. I lived (and still do) in the DEEP South and have a VERY religious family. Couldn't listen to KISS as they were agents of Satan, girls shouldn't wear makeup, no sex for fun (EVER!), not accepting Jesus and everything the church crew says = burning for eternity.....all that ultra conservative, Bible thumping stuff. The Klan was NOT some old figures from a history book, ya dig? I KNEW those type of guys.

There are items in the media that everyone should read/see/listen experience in their lifetime. Listening to U2's Joshua Tree, reading Harper Lee's To Kill a Mockingbird, watching Ridley Scott's Blade Runner, or read Art Spiegelman's Maus. These items, are, in my opinion, essential to opening ones mind to a richer life and experiences. If you want to drill down in one particular category, go ahead, be my guest. Not everyone enjoys music or films or even (heaven forbid) graphic novels. If someone liked Maus and they wanted to read more, the next graphic novel I would suggest you pick up the classic and highly influential X-Men story God Loves, Man Kills by Chris Claremont and Brent Eric Anderson. The graphic novel is a stand alone in the X-Men universe and really doesn't have anything that happens before it or after it that you need to know going into reading it. The story follows the beginning of a genocide of mutants, lead by fanatical religious leader William Stryker. Stryker is leading a fanatical group of people who kill without sympathy anyone, man, woman and child, for being a mutant. After we see a brutal killing in the opening panels, Magneto, leader of a mutant resistance group in the regular comic series, decides it is best to join forces with his nemesis, Charles Xavier and his X-Men, in order to stop this burgeoning holocaust. After Stryker kidnaps the two of the X-Men and Xavier, the rest of the team follows Magneto to stop this bandwagon's momentum in its tracks by any means necessary. Many people will probably recognize this story line and characters from the movie X2. This story has been admitted favorite of Director Bryan Singer who directed the first two X-men films.

"God Loves, Man Kills" is a stand alone X-men story first published in 1982 written by X-Men legend Chris Claremont and illustrated by Brent Anderson. Preying on the public's fear of mutants and their extraordinary powers, Reverend Stryker has started a chilling crusade. But know one knows exactly how carefully Stryker has planned, nor how far he is prepared to go for purity of the human race... "God Loves, Man Kills" is a dark, thoughtful tale. It was one of the first works to heavily blend themes and parallels of real world racism into the X-Men universe and explore grey areas in such issues. There are a lot of unsettling scenes here. Stryker doesn't distinguish between mutants - as far as he's concerned they're all evil. Emotions flare and actions escalate in response to palpable

fear, danger, and hatred. As a result the X-Men find themselves in the line of fire with one of their greatest foes. This is both interesting and groundbreaking - the resulting philosophical differences and discussions echo throughout the subsequent twenty years of comics. However, for me, this graphic novel isn't as good as it could've been. There's something about the story that seems off. Could be the pace, the way a few events unfold, some of the characterizations, etc. Likely a little of all of the above. I'm a big fan of Claremont so the wordiness, thought bubbles, and unique style he uses weren't an issue (but may be worth looking out for if you've never read Claremont) but the pieces didn't quite come together for me and I feel the ideas are much better than the execution. Anderson's art also doesn't resonate with me here. I have really liked some of his later stuff (Astro City, for example) but things seem overly dark and muddled.

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