Name: John Giltinan
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Book Title: Ultimate Avengers vs. New Ultimates #2

Rating: 4

Writer: Mark Millar

Artist: Leinil Yu & Stephen Segovia

Publisher: Marvel Comics

Having been disappointed with Millar’s recent writings, I was hesitant to begin *Ultimate Comics Avengers vs. New Ultimates*. After all, the series that had preceded it was so underwhelming it soiled my fond memories of the highly entertaining *Ultimate Comics Avengers 2*. Despite trepidation, I bought the first issue and discovered my fears were for naught. This feeling of relief has only been solidified with the release of the second issue.

Millar is back to writing an exciting and best of all mature Ultimate Universe comic book with his latest series. Having had the first issue told from the perspective of the New Ultimates, we now get Nick Fury’s story. He is busying building up his Avengers team, wrangling in previous characters like Blade, the Punisher, and Tyrone Cash. Add these guys to the company of Hawkeye and War Machine, and you get a formidable team that is more than a match for the New Ultimates. However, the battle royal does not occur here, merely poised for a later date thanks to a startling revelation at the comic’s conclusion. Though the teams do not clash, there is still some good action to keep readers happy. Tyrone Cash and War Machine get another chance to brawl and while not as grand as their first encounter, it is still a good fight.

I read through this comic loving the story and the art, it was not until my second glance that I realized there were two artists at work. Yu is aided in the art department by Segovia and the effect is flawless. They do not distract the reader, both of their work blends together well enough that the switch between pages is barely noticeable. It is only if you are truly on the lookout for differences between the two that this will be a problem. Both artists do great work here, there are a lot of big moments in this issue and they all come across that way thanks to the power exuded through the illustrated characters.

So far there does not seem to be a connection to the “Death of Spider-Man” even though those words are emblazoned on the cover. This is apt to change though, judging by the cover of the next issue. I really do not care whether this story is integral to that one or not, for now *Ultimate Comics Avengers vs. New Ultimates* is shaping up to be Millar’s best Ultimate Avengers comic.

The plot thickens as battles are held in the streets. Two influential people with powerful teams under their command are ready to go to war. Things will only get more exciting from here. I say, buy it.