

= Sinestro Corps War =

" Sinestro Corps War " is an American comic book crossover event published by DC Comics in its Green Lantern and Green Lantern Corps titles . Written by Geoff Johns and Dave Gibbons and drawn by Ivan Reis , Patrick Gleason , and Ethan Van Sciver , the 11 @-@ part saga was originally published between June and December 2007 . In addition to the main storyline , four supplemental " Tales of the Sinestro Corps " one @-@ shot specials and a Blue Beetle tie @-@ in issue were concurrently released .

The story centers on the Green Lanterns of Earth ? Hal Jordan , Kyle Rayner , John Stewart and Guy Gardner ? and the rest of the Green Lantern Corps as they fight an interstellar war against the Sinestro Corps , an army led by the former Green Lantern Sinestro who are armed with yellow power rings and seek a universe ruled through fear . A 1986 Alan Moore " Tales of the Green Lantern Corps " story was the thematic basis of the storyline . Many characters were changed , killed off or re @-@ introduced as a result of the event .

Critical and fan reception to " Sinestro Corps War " was highly positive . Many reviewers ranked it among the top comic books of the year and the storyline 's first issue garnered a 2008 Eisner Award nomination for Best Penciller / Inker or Penciller / Inker Team . The storyline was also a financial success , and several issues underwent multiple printings . " Sinestro Corps War " is the second part of a trilogy in the Green Lantern storyline , preceded by the 2005 miniseries Green Lantern : Rebirth . The conclusion of " Sinestro Corps War " sets up the third and final part of the trilogy , Blackest Night , which was published in 2009 .

= = Plot = =

Following his defeat in Green Lantern : Rebirth , the events of Green Lantern : Sinestro Corps Special # 1 see the supervillain Sinestro retreat to the planet Qward in the Antimatter Universe . There he amasses an army , the Sinestro Corps , that he selects based upon their ability to " instill great fear " . Each member is armed with a yellow power ring , mirroring the green ones of the Green Lantern Corps . Amongst Sinestro 's allies are Parallax and the resurrected Anti @-@ Monitor . The Sinestro Corps then launch an all @-@ out assault against the Green Lantern Corps and the universe itself .

During the assault on Oa , the Sinestro Corps manages to inflict heavy casualties and free Superman @-@ Prime and the Cyborg Superman from their imprisonment . Kyle Rayner is captured and transported to Qward , where Sinestro manages to separate Rayner from the symbiote Ion allowing Parallax to possess him . In Green Lantern ( vol . 4 ) # 21 the heroes Hal Jordan , John Stewart and Guy Gardner attempt to rescue fallen comrade Kyle Rayner , but are themselves entrapped , with Jordan transported to face Sinestro and his allies . A failed bid to rescue Jordan depicted in Green Lantern ( vol . 4 ) # 22 sees surviving members of the Green Lantern Corps forced underground and split into two groups . While one group attempts to free Jordan only to find themselves ambushed , the other successfully rescues Ion . They then re @-@ unite with their ambushed comrades and together they escape from Qward back to the positive matter universe . Hal , John and Guy return to Earth to warn the Justice League of the Anti @-@ Monitor 's return .

As the Sinestro Corps spreads out to ambush Green Lanterns across the universe , Green Lantern ( vol . 4 ) # 23 sees the Guardians decide to rewrite their sacred text , the Book of Oa . They remove a section devoted to a prophecy concerning the " Blackest Night " , against the objections of two of their number , Ganthet and Sayd . They then add ten new laws , the first of which authorizes the use of lethal force against the Sinestro Corps , while Ganthet and Sayd are expelled from Oa . As the Green Lanterns gather on Oa in preparation for a Sinestro Corps assault , the Sinestro Corps teleport themselves and their Central Power Battery instead to a new Warworld , their objective revealed to be Earth . Events in Green Lantern Corps ( vol . 2 ) # 16 show Hal informing the Green Lantern Corps of Sinestro 's plans .

Green Lantern ( vol . 4 ) # 24 continues the story , with Green Lanterns and Sinestro Corps members battling across Earth . Hal manages to free Kyle from Parallax before the entity is

imprisoned in their power batteries by Ganthet and Sayd . After John and Guy arrive , the former Guardians reveal to them the prophecy of the " Blackest Night " , seen in Green Lantern ( vol . 4 ) # 25 . It foretells of five more Corps arising , each based on a different color and emotion . After the five corps are established , a " War of Light " will ensue , in which all the corps are destroyed , leading to the " Blackest Night " .

The Guardians arrive on Earth and appoint Sodam Yat to be the new Ion . After a lengthy struggle in New York , the Sinestro Corps are defeated by the overwhelming numbers against them . One of the Guardians sacrifices himself to send Superman @-@ Prime to an alternate universe and another , Scar , suffers a major wound at the hands of the Anti @-@ Monitor , while Hal and Kyle subdue and arrest Sinestro in Coast City . It is learned 440 Green Lanterns perished during the course of the war .

As seen in Green Lantern ( vol . 4 ) # 25 , the Guardians decide to bring the second of the new laws into effect . After realizing that the " Blackest Night " prophecy will come to pass , Ganthet and Sayd depart after creating a blue power ring with the intention of creating their own Corps , based on the spreading of Hope to the rest of the universe . The Anti @-@ Monitor , having been blown across the vacuum of space at the battle 's climax , finds itself on a dark planet . Here it is transformed by an unknown force into a Black Power Battery .

= = Origins = =

" Sinestro Corps War " was based on concepts introduced by Alan Moore and Kevin O 'Neill in the short story " Tygers " , published in Tales of the Green Lantern Corps Annual # 2 ( 1986 ) . Writers Geoff Johns and Dave Gibbons incorporated several ideas from Moore 's stories into " Sinestro Corps War " , including the prophecy of the Blackest Night , Sodam Yat , Ranx the Sentient City and the Children of the White Lobe . Leezle Pon , a minor character only mentioned once in Moore 's " Mogo Doesn 't Socialize " story from 25 years previous , also makes an appearance in Green Lantern # 25 .

Work began on " Sinestro Corps War " in September 2006 . The structure was fluid , at one point becoming a few issues with two bookends to just one gigantic issue . The title was originally just " Sinestro Corps " , but during development the creators added the word " War " . Eventually the structure finalized into a one @-@ shot special for release in June , after which the story would alternate between Green Lantern and Green Lantern Corps until November . After the crossover 's initial publishing successes , DC added four Tales of the Sinestro Corps one @-@ shots to the publishing schedule .

Johns and Ethan Van Sciver first announced the crossover during the DC " Big Guns " panel at the 2006 Fan Expo Canada , with Johns calling it " the next level of Rebirth " . By January 2007 , Johns , Gibbons and editor Peter Tomasi had planned out most of the storyline . Sterling Gates , whom Johns had met at a convention , was brought in to write a backup story for the Superman @-@ Prime one @-@ shot and co @-@ write Green Lantern / Sinestro Corps Secret Files # 1 .

The creators called " Sinestro Corps War " " World War II with the entire universe " . In a September 2007 interview , Johns compared " Sinestro Corps War " to the Star Wars trilogy , with Green Lantern : Rebirth as A New Hope and " Sinestro Corps War " as The Empire Strikes Back . References to other science fiction stories were made by artist Ivan Reis , who inserted characters such as E.T. , ALF and a Predator into large two @-@ page illustrations . The writers also included the sound " EPA " in Green Lantern # 25 as a direct reference to a scene in The Simpsons Movie where Comic Book Guy says it is the sound Green Lantern made when Sinestro threw him in a vat of acid .

= = Format = =

The main story consisted of 11 parts running through the Green Lantern and Green Lantern Corps books . Expanding upon the overall story are four one @-@ shots labeled Tales of the Sinestro Corps , as well as one tie @-@ in with Blue Beetle # 20 . Part One , the one @-@ shot Green

Lantern : Sinestro Corps Special # 1 , was released in June 2007 . Parts Two through Ten were released between August and December , alternating between Green Lantern # 21 ? 25 and Green Lantern Corps # 14 ? 18 , with an epilogue in Green Lantern # 26 . The content of Green Lantern Corps # 19 was changed to illustrate the battle between Sodam Yat and Superman @-@ Prime in response to the fans ' reaction to the story . Geoff Johns announced in October 2007 that the conclusion Green Lantern # 25 would be delayed two weeks . After the storyline concluded , Green Lantern / Sinestro Corps Secret Files # 1 was released in December . The issue further explored the back story of the opposing groups and listed every member of the Green Lantern Corps and Sinestro Corps .

There was much internal discussion at DC about how the storyline would be collected . Eventually DC decided to release two hardcover volumes ( a February 2008 release containing the first five parts of the story and a June 2008 release containing the last six issues ) and a June 2008 hardcover collecting the tie @-@ in issues and backstories . This follows DC Comics ' recent trend of releasing durable hardcover collections initially , followed later by softcovers .

= = = Tales of the Sinestro Corps = = =

In addition to the main story , DC released four Tales of the Sinestro Corps one @-@ shots in September , October and November 2007 . The issues were late additions to the crossover that DC added after the initial successes of " Sinestro Corps War " . A hardcover collection of the four issues was released in June 2008 . The Tales of the Sinestro Corps one @-@ shots focused on :

Parallax , written by Ron Marz and illustrated by Adriana Melo and Marlo Alquiza .

Cyborg Superman , written by Alan Burnett and illustrated by Patrick Blaine and Jay Leisten .

Superman @-@ Prime ( previously solicited as about the Anti @-@ Monitor ) , written by Geoff Johns and illustrated by Pete Woods . The issue also featured the backup story " Fear is a Baby 's Cry " written by Sterling Gates and illustrated by Jerry Ordway .

Ion , written by Ron Marz and illustrated by Michael Lacombe .

= = Story and character changes = =

" Sinestro Corps War " introduced the Sinestro Corps in full after allusions to them throughout the post @-@ One Year Later Green Lantern title . Sinestro received a major thematic overhaul as a result of his leadership of his eponymous Corps , with parallels drawn with Adolf Hitler and Nazi Germany . Green Lantern villains Superboy @-@ Prime ( later Superman @-@ Prime ) , Cyborg Superman and the Manhunters became members of the Sinestro Corps . The Anti @-@ Monitor also made his first reappearance since his death at the conclusion of Crisis on Infinite Earths in 1985 as the " Guardian " of the Sinestro Corps and later the power source of the Black Lanterns . Superboy @-@ Prime was renamed Superman @-@ Prime during the event . Ostensibly to illustrate his coming of age in the story , Geoff Johns mentioned the ongoing legal dispute over the Superboy name as another reason for the character 's new name .

Some changes were also made to the heroes during the course of the storyline . The role of Ion passed from Kyle Rayner to Sodam Yat , making Yat the " strongest Green Lantern in the universe " as a result according to Johns . The Book of Oa was rewritten by the Guardians to institute 10 new laws for the Green Lantern Corps , the first of which authorized lethal force against the Sinestro Corps . The rebirth of Coast City , the process of which had been seen throughout Geoff Johns ' run on Green Lantern , as " the City Without Fear " was used to symbolically represent Hal Jordan 's journey towards acceptance after his resurrection . The second volume of the story 's collection revealed that the original plan was for both John Stewart and Guy Gardner to be possessed by Parallax , with artwork of them facing off against Hal Jordan . However , in the midst of the story planning , Johns realized this would make Parallax 's possession of Kyle less effective and the segment was dropped and redrawn .

Green Lantern # 25 expanded on the " emotional spectrum " concept and introduced five new color @-@ based corps of similar structure to the Green Lanterns and the Sinestro Corps . These corps

each draw from different emotions , corresponding with the seven colors of the rainbow ( red for rage , orange for avarice , yellow for fear , green for willpower , blue for hope , indigo for compassion and violet for love ) . Ganthet and Sayd , two Guardians of the Universe who were exiled during the course of the war , were shown as developing the corps that corresponds to the color blue and the emotion hope , while the Anti @-@ Monitor becomes the power source for an eighth color @-@ based corps , the " Black Lanterns " , who represent death and the " absence of human drives and emotions " . The issue also laid the foundations for the 2009 event Blackest Night , something the creators had been working towards since early 2007 .

= = Critical and financial reception = =

Altogether , " Sinestro Corps War " turned Green Lantern into one of DC Comics ' most profitable titles . Green Lantern : Sinestro Corps Special # 1 , first released June 2007 , sold out in a single day . DC later reprinted the issue four times , each time with new variant covers by Van Sciver . By August , the issue had sold over 89 @,@ 000 copies , 36 % of which was the result of an unusually high number of reorders . The first four parts of the storyline , Green Lantern # 21 and 22 , and Green Lantern Corps # 14 and 15 , were released in July and August and also sold out . The issues went to a second printing , with Green Lantern Corps # 14 going to a third printing . Green Lantern # 23 and Tales of the Sinestro Corps : Parallax # 1 later went on to second printings as well . Blue Beetle # 20 saw much higher sales than usual for the title as a result of its tie @-@ in to " Sinestro Corps War " , with sales 75 % higher than in the previous month .

Critical reception to " Sinestro Corps War " was highly positive . IGN.com called the story a " smash hit " and Newsarama referred to it as both an " action @-@ packed DC adventure " and " DC 's blockbuster event of the year " . Comic Book Resources released an editorial in mid @-@ October 2007 entitled " Sinestro Corps War is what World War Hulk SHOULD be " , citing the former 's ability to keep up and gain momentum throughout despite being both twice as large and far less publicized than the latter . Comic Book Resources placed " Sinestro Corps War " on its " Best of 2007 " list , and named Geoff Johns one of its " Best Writers of 2007 " . In 2008 , Ethan Van Sciver earned an Eisner Award nomination for his art in Green Lantern : Sinestro Corps Special # 1 .

DC Comics Executive Editor Dan DiDio praised the storyline as " the best thing that [ DC Comics ] put out this year . Without a doubt " , and called " Sinestro Corps War " the model for crossovers in 2008 and beyond , including " Final Crisis " . DiDio has also stated that he would like to see a direct @-@ to @-@ video animated " Sinestro Corps War " film similar to Justice League : The New Frontier . Geoff Johns suggested elements of " Sinestro Corps War " will appear in DC Universe Online , on which he is collaborating with artist Jim Lee .

= = Collected editions = =

The main story was first collected in two volumes , but was later collected in a single volume . Miscellaneous stories were collected in an additional volume :

Green Lantern : The Sinestro Corps War ( 336 pages , paperback , September 2011 , ISBN 1 @-@ 4012 @-@ 3301 @-@ 5 )

Green Lantern : The Sinestro Corps War Volume One ( collects Green Lantern vol . 4 # 21 ? 23 , Green Lantern Corps vol . 2 # 14 ? 15 , and a story from Green Lantern : Sinestro Corps Special # 1 ; 176 pages , hardcover , February 2008 , ISBN 1 @-@ 4012 @-@ 1650 @-@ 1 ; softcover , May 2009 , ISBN 1 @-@ 4012 @-@ 1870 @-@ 9 )

Green Lantern : The Sinestro Corps War Volume Two ( collects Green Lantern vol . 4 # 24 ? 25 and Green Lantern Corps vol . 2 # 16 ? 19 , 192 pages , hardcover , July 2008 , ISBN 1 @-@ 4012 @-@ 1800 @-@ 8 ; paperback , June 2009 , ISBN 1 @-@ 4012 @-@ 2036 @-@ 3 )

Green Lantern : Tales of the Sinestro Corps ( collects Tales of the Sinestro Corps : Parallax # 1 , Tales of the Sinestro Corps : Cyborg @-@ Superman # 1 , Tales of the Sinestro Corps : Superman @-@ Prime # 1 , Tales of the Sinestro Corps : Ion # 1 , Green Lantern / Sinestro Corps Secret Files # 1 , and stories from Green Lantern : Sinestro Corps Special # 1 and Green Lantern vol . 4 # 18 ?

20 ; 200 pages , hardcover , July 2008 , ISBN 1 @-@ 4012 @-@ 1801 @-@ 6 ; paperback , June 2009 , ISBN 1 @-@ 4012 @-@ 2326 @-@ 5 )