

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Lambda Upsilon Chapter



Black HISTORY *month*



The History of Black Superheroes
in Comic Books and Movies
Monday Feb 3, 2025
8:00 - 8:30 PM EST



Bro. Ashley Turnbull, Presenter
Bro. Dr. Vincent Arrington, Basileus

www.patersonques.com



What can US Black Postage
teach us about History? NJ Edition
Monday Feb 24, 2025
8:00 - 8:30 PM EST



Serving Paterson Since 1951





Dictionary

Definition

Example Sentences

Word History

Entries Near

Show More ▾

superhero noun

su·per·he·ro 'sü-pər-, hir-(,)ō - ,hē-(,)rō

plural superheroes

: a fictional hero having extraordinary or **superhuman** powers

also : an exceptionally skillful or successful person

→ compare **SUPERHEROINE**, **SUPERVILLAIN**





Who is your Superhero?



Not all Superheroes wear Capes



Our Original Superheroes, Our Ancestors



Our Original Superheroes, Our Ancestors



Slavery Superheroes



Slavery Superheroes Faces



Our Present-Day Superheroes



Our Families



Young Ashley's Superhero Memories



My
Superhero



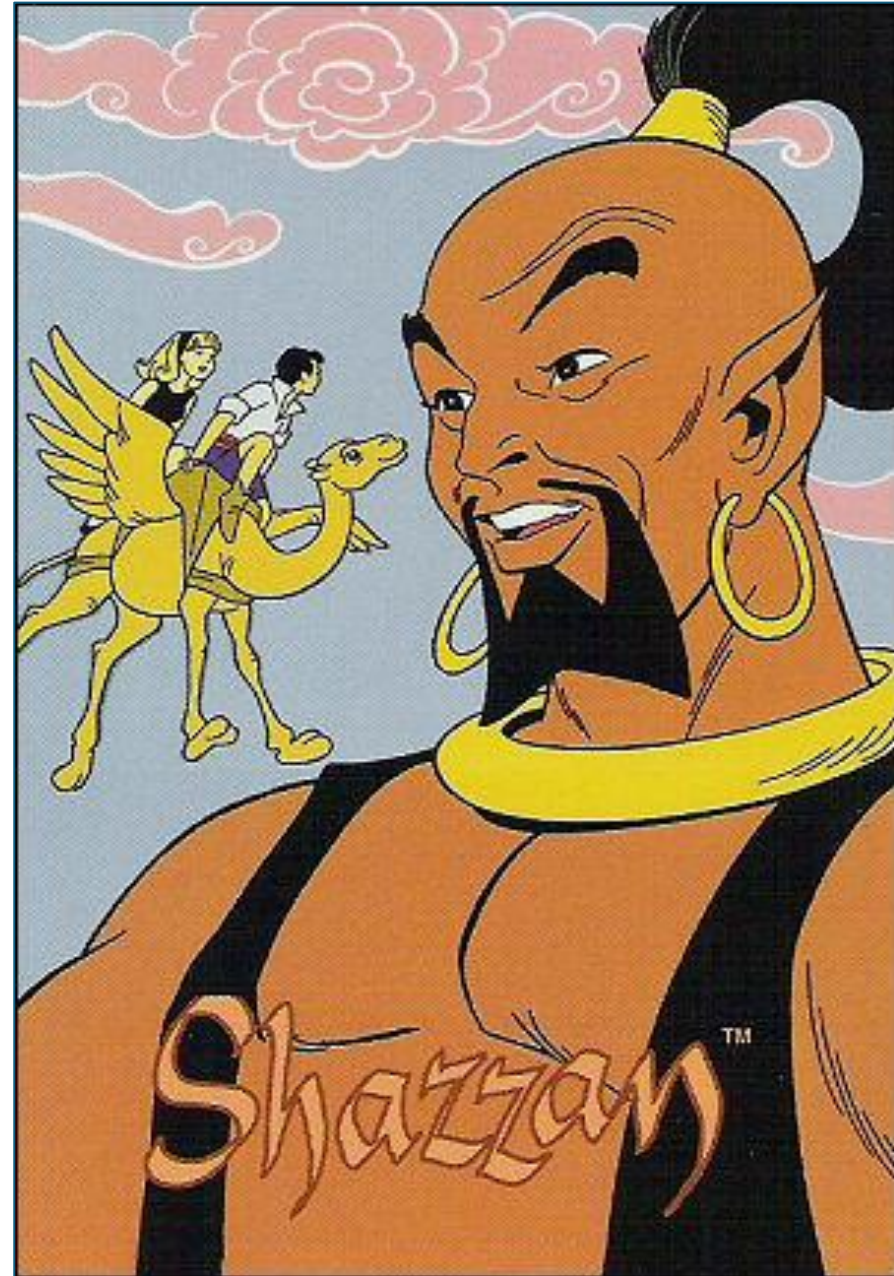
**Hanna-Barbera
Cartoons, Inc.** which
was active from 1957
until its absorption
into Warner Bros.
Animation in 2001.

Shazzan the genie, first
Superhero of color.



Shazzan is an American animated television series created by Alex Toth and produced by Hanna-Barbera Productions that aired on Saturday mornings on CBS from September 9, 1967, to January 20, 1968.

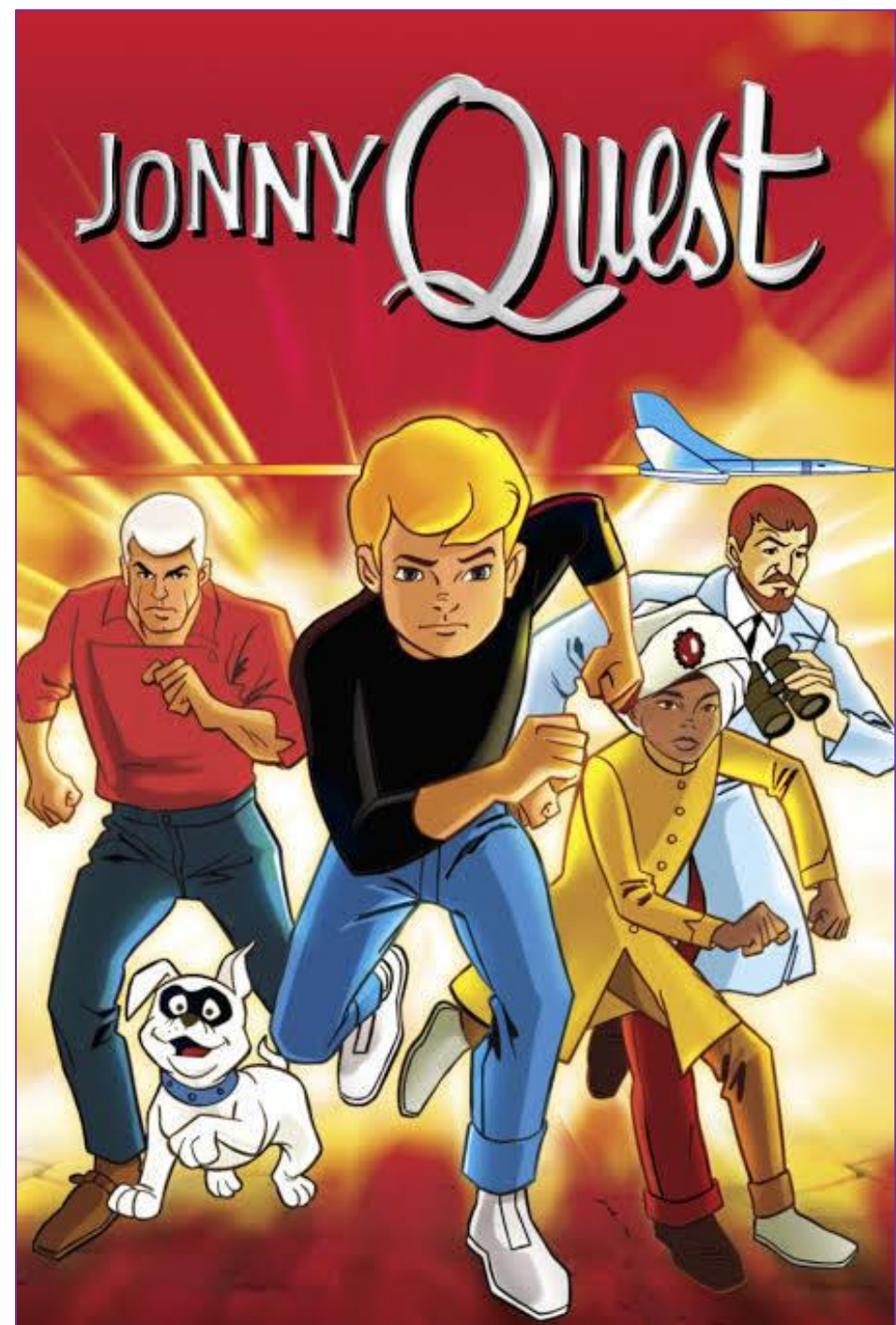
Fred Silverman (CBS executive) stated problems that came from Shazzan's lack of weaknesses which coupled with high production costs resulted in the series being labeled a disappointment.



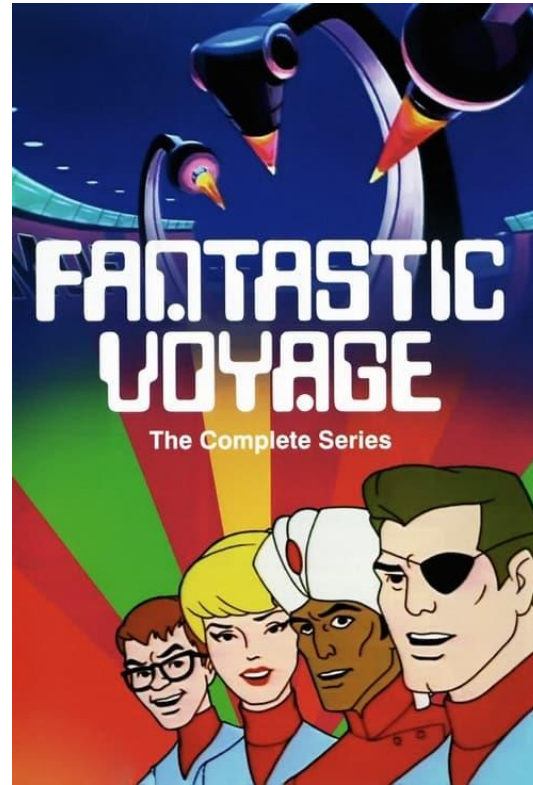
1964



Hadji Singh is Jonny's adoptive brother, who is interested in mysticism and studying.



1968



Guru, master of mysterious powers.



1970



Valerie, a multi-instrumentalist, uses her genius intellect to help the gang solve mysteries and subdue villains.

Josie AND THE PUSSYCATS



1972



Valerie, a multi-instrumentalist, uses her genius intellect to help the gang solve mysteries and subdue villains.

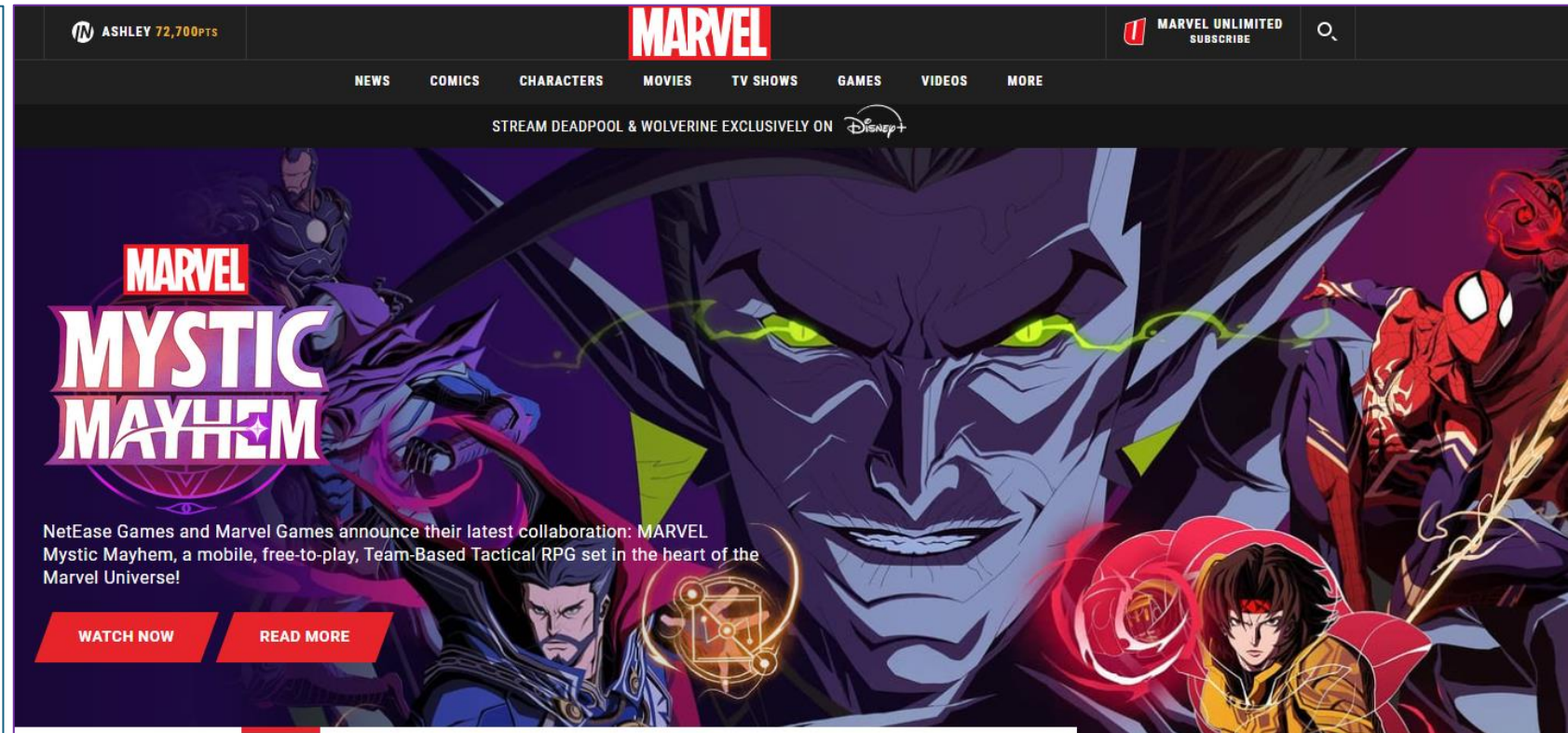


Comic Books



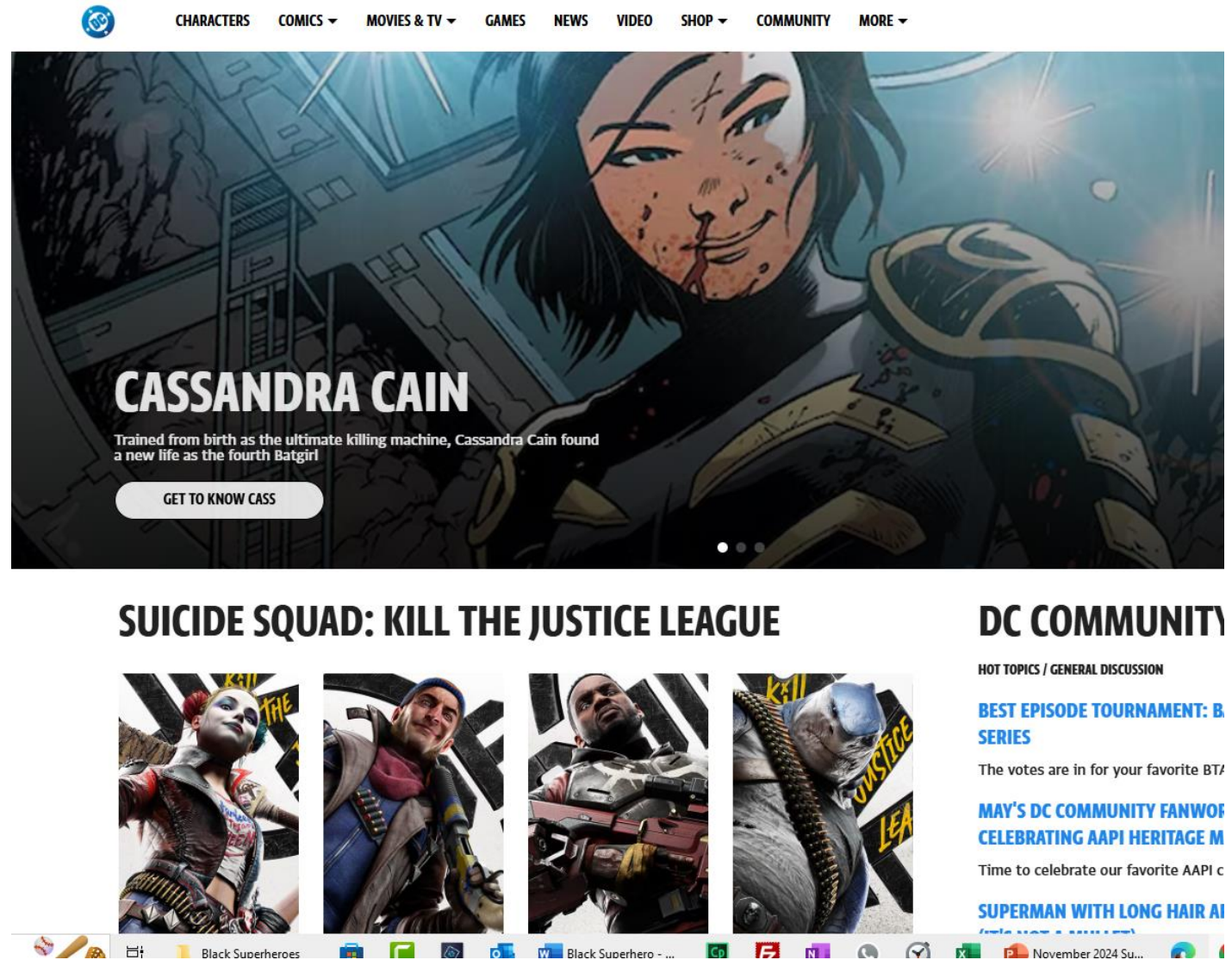
Marvel Comic Books

Marvel Comics began life as "Timely Publications" in 1939, with comic books featuring Captain America, Namor the Sub-Mariner and an early version of Human Torch. Legendary comics writer Stan Lee was hired as an office assistant in 1939.



DC Comic Books

DC Comics, Inc. (later known as DC) first started as "Detective Comics", first published in 1937. Mainly known for Superman, Batman, Wonder Woman, Green Lantern, the Flash, Cyborg, and Aquaman to name a few.



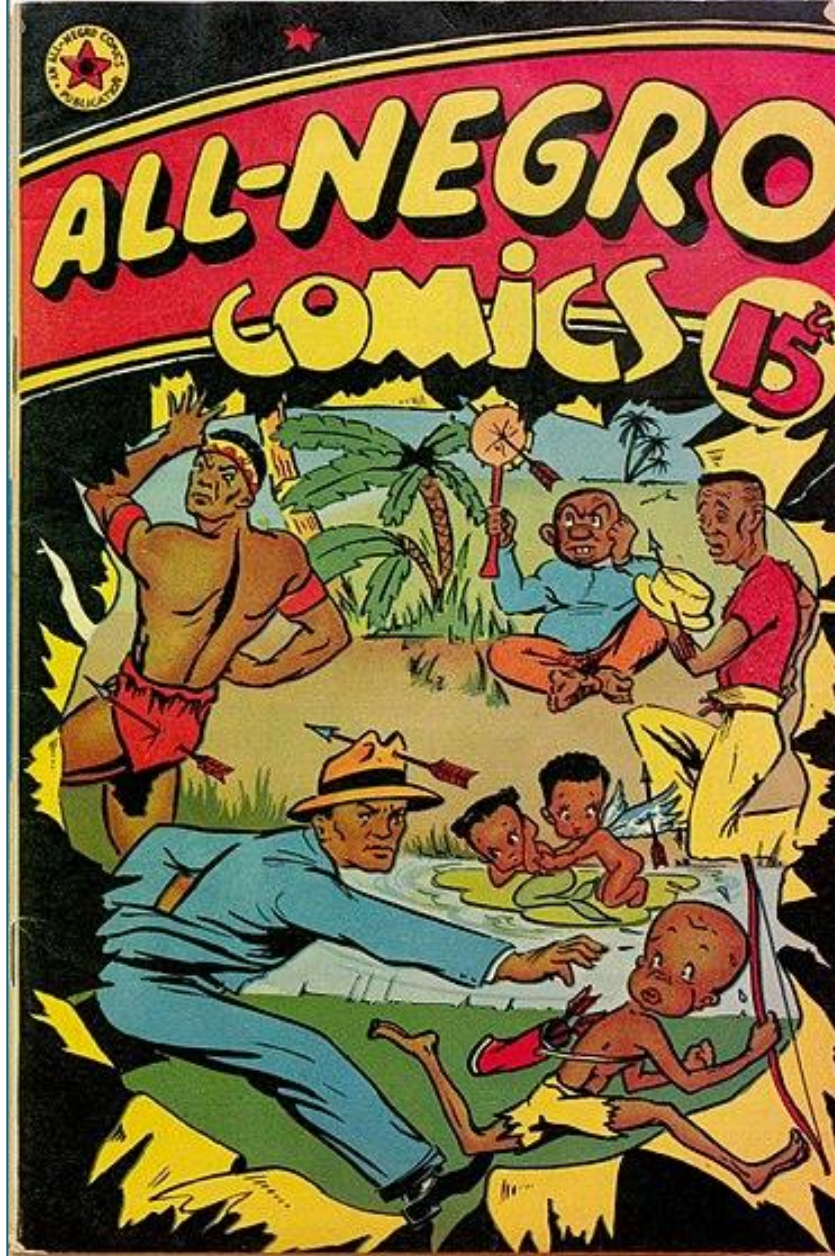
1941

The first (and last) appearance of Lion Man was in All-Negro Comics issue #1. Created by Orrin Cromwell Evans, the comic book is the first to be produced, written and drawn by only African-American writers and artists.



1941

All-Negro Comics ended up running for only a single issue, likely due in part because it cost 15 cents, higher than the typical 10-cent cover price of comics in the 1940s and because it would have had a difficult time getting attention among the mainstream comic audience because of its subject matter.



LION MAN HAS BEEN WARNED AGAINST AGENTS OF A CERTAIN WARLIKE NATION WHO MIGHT TRY TO SMUGGLE SOME OF THE MOUNTAIN'S TREASURE OUT OF AFRICA. HIS SCIENTIFIC INSTRUMENTS INDICATE A SHIP HAS MOVED UP A NEARBY RIVER.

WORN OUT BY LACK OF SLEEP, LION MAN LIES DOWN FOR A SNOOZE. BUBBA, ...



1941 Cost 10 cents
2025 Price \$2.24

1941 Cost 15 cents
2025 Price \$3.36



ALL-NEGRO COMICS

Presenting Another FIRST in Negro History:



ORRIN C. EVANS

President, All-Negro Comics, Inc.

Former reporter and editor in the Negro newspaper field. Over a period of more than 25 years, he served with the Afro-American newspapers, the Chicago Defender, the Philadelphia Tribune, the Philadelphia Independent, the Public Journal and the American and Muscotean and Sportsman's Magazine. He also has been a contributor to The Crisis, official organ of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

And through Sugarfoot and Snakeoil, we hope to recapture the almost lost humor of the loveable wandering Negro minstrel of the past.

Finally, Dew Dillies will give all of us—young and old—an opportunity to romp through a delightful, almost fairy-like land of make-believe.

And we're proud, too, of our big educational feature—a monthly historical calendar on which the contributions of the Negro to world history will be set forth in each issue.

Orrin C. Evans

ALL-NEGRO COMICS, No. 1, June, 1947. Published monthly by All-Negro Comics, Inc., 1212 Spruce St., Philadelphia 7, Pa. Application for entry as Second Class Matter pending at the Post Office, Philadelphia, Pa., additional entry Post Office, Buffalo, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1937. Entire contents copyrighted 1947 by All-Negro Comics, Inc. Except for those who have authorized use of their names, the stories, characters and incidents mentioned in this periodical are entirely imaginary and fictitious and no identification with actual persons, living or dead, is intended or should be inferred. Printed in U.S.A.

ALL-NEGRO COMICS

Presenting Another FIRST in Negro History:

ORKIN C. EVANS President

This is the first issue of All-Negro Comics, jam-packed with fast action, African adventure, good clean humor and fantasy.

Every brush stroke and pen line in the drawings on these pages are by Negro artists. And each drawing is an original; that is, none has been published ANY-WHERE before. This publication is another milestone in the splendid history of Negro journalism.

All-Negro Comics will not only give Negro artists an opportunity gainfully to use their talents, but it will glorify Negro historical achievements.





Through Ace Harlem, we hope dramatically to point up the outstanding contributions of thousands of fearless, intelligent Negro police officers engaged in a constant fight against crime throughout the United States.





Through Lion Mon and Bubba, it is our hope to give American Negroes a reflection of their natural spirit of adventure and a finer appreciation of their African heritage.





Sugarfoot and Snakeoil, we hope to recapture the almost lost humor of the loveable wandering Negro minstrel of the past.





Finally, Dew Dillies will give all of us—young and old—an opportunity to romp through a delightful, almost fairy-like land of make-believe.



1966 Marvel Fantastic Four issue #52 the Black Panther (King T' Challa) and Wakanda first appearance.

Created by writer-editor Stan Lee and Jack Kirby
Panthers enhanced strength and senses thanks to
special heart-shaped herbs. His Black suit features
Vibranium enhancements that absorb impact.

1966 Cost 15 cents
2025 Price \$1.49



The Fantastic Four are given a flying craft by the nation of Wakanda as a gift, as part of an invitation to visit the mysterious African country. T'Challa reveals that he was merely testing the Fantastic Four's fabled abilities and has invited them to his land to for a grave task.



***Gray Skinned Panther
Black Fantastic Four issue
#52 1966



***Green Skinned Luke Cage , Hero for Hire #5 1972



1969 Marvel The Falcon (Samuel Wilson) was introduced in Captain America issue #117

Created by Stan Lee and Gene Colan.
Falcon uses mechanical wings to fly, defend,
and attack. He also has limited telepathic and
empathic control over birds.

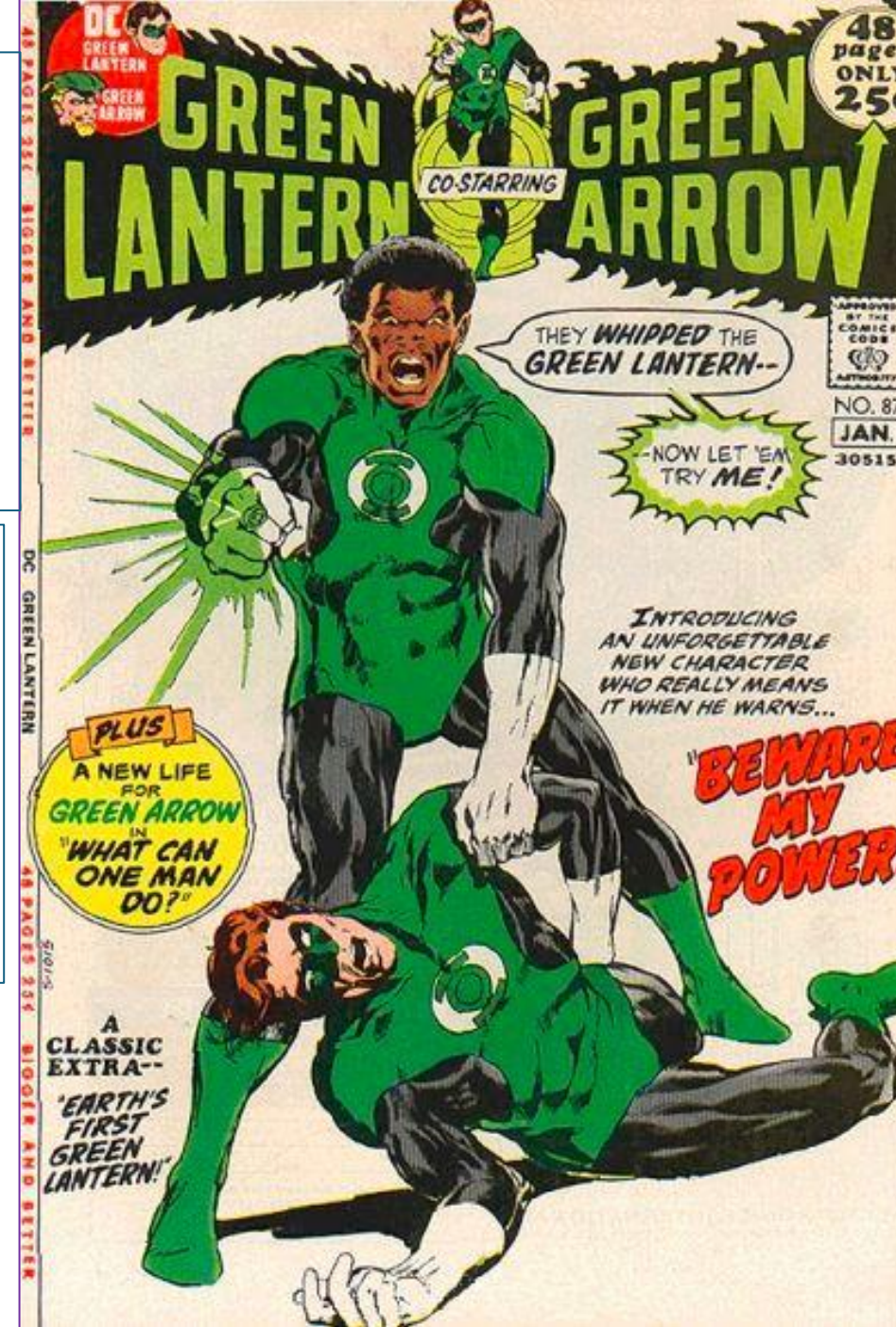
1969 Cost 25 cents
2025 Price \$2.22



1971 DC Green Lantern #87 (First Black Superhero) John Stewart (original design was based on actor Sidney Poitier)

Created by Neal Adams as a substitute Green Lantern. John Stewart (an architect and former Marine) Stewart did not like authority figures. Power Ring gave him the ability which included flight, body force field, energy beams and willpower to create solid constructs out of bright green energy.

1971 Cost 25 cents
2025 Price \$1.98



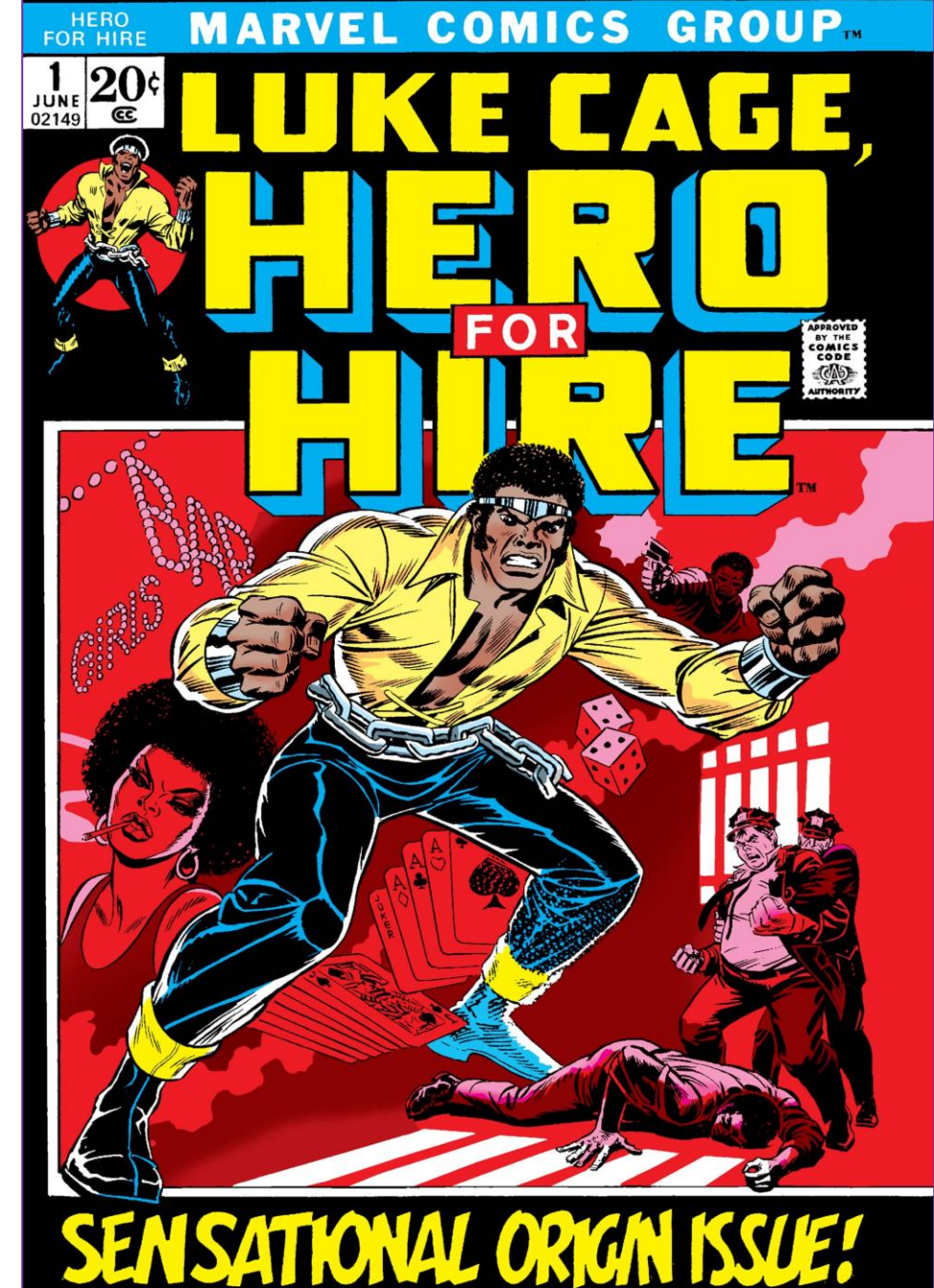
1972 Marvel

Luke Cage/Power Man debuted in Hero for Hire #1.

Created by Archie Goodwin, George Tuska, Roy Thomas, and John Romita Sr.

At Seagate Prison Cage a racist guard tampered with the experimental trials with a variant of the Super-Soldier serum which gave Cage unpierceable skin and super strength.

1972 Cost 20 cents
2025 Price \$1.54



1972 Marvel

The First Appearance of Blade, The Vampire Slayer!

Tomb of Dracula #10

Birth name: Eric Cross Brooks; Legal Name Frank Blade

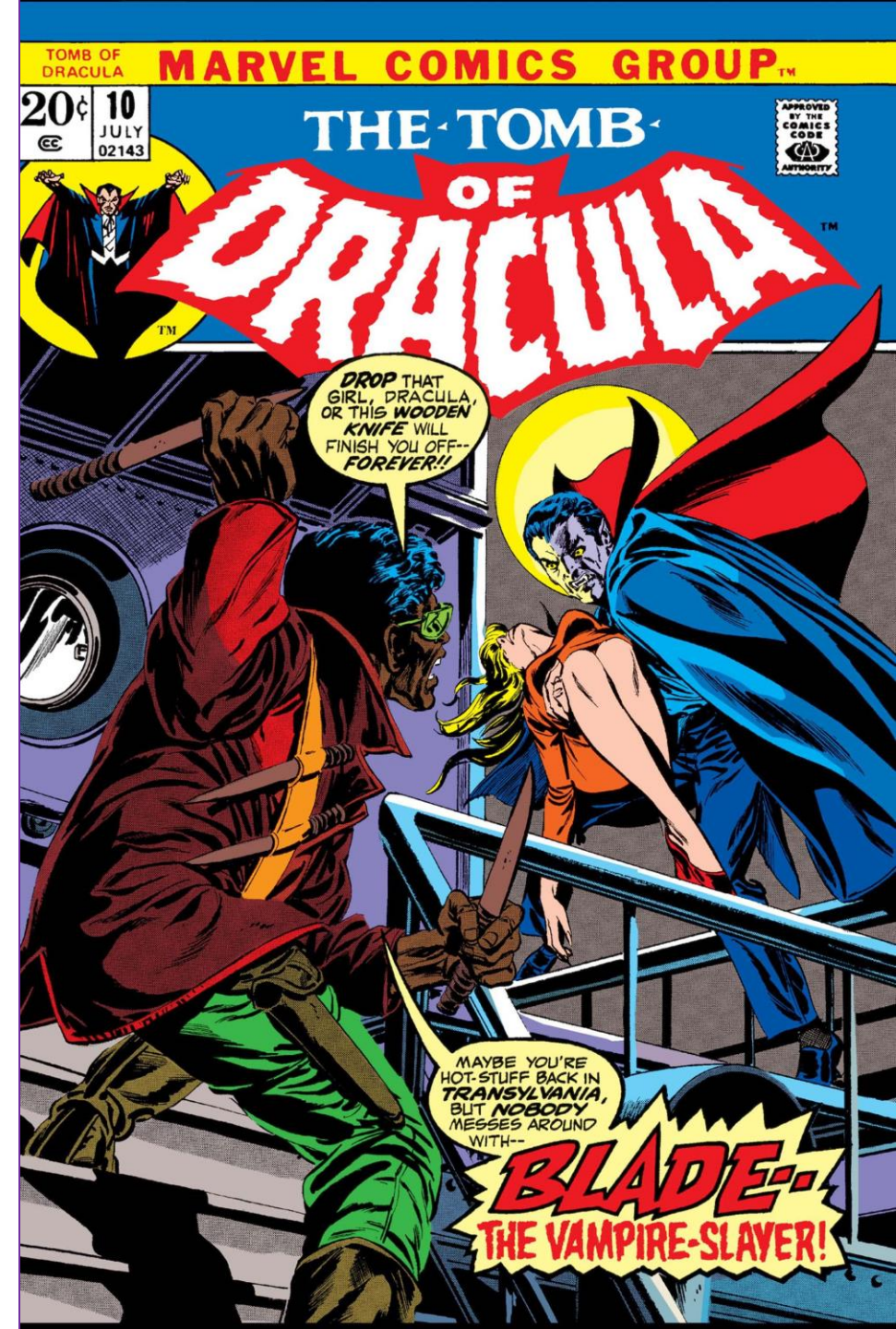
Created by Marv Wolfman Gene Colan

Blade devotes his life to ridding the world of all vampires.

Powers:

superhuman strength, stamina, and senses, accelerated healing factor, but is impervious to sunlight and vampire bites and incredibly skilled fighter.

1972 Cost 20 cents
2025 Price \$1.54



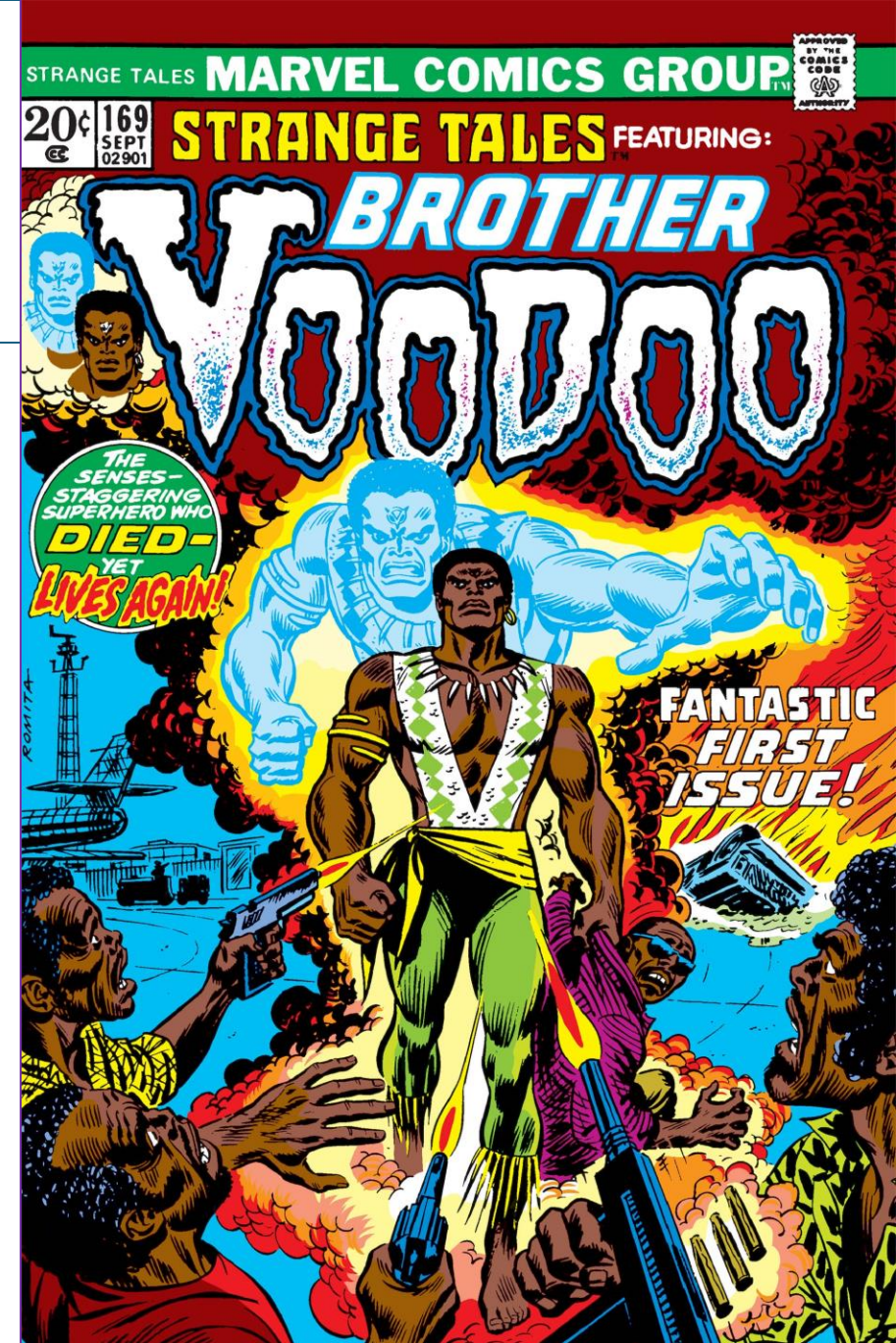
1973 Marvel

Strange Tales (1951) #169

Brother Voodoo, Doctor Voodoo (Dr. Jericho Drumm)

Created by Stan Lee, Len Wein and John Romita Sr. **Powers:** possesses numerous mystical and quasi-physical powers derived from the Loa, the spirit-gods of voodoo. He can enter into a trance-like state in which he does not feel the heat from fire and his skin becomes impervious to burning. He control flame and lower life forms. He can take possession of another person.

1941 Cost 25 cents
2025 Price \$1.49



1973 DC

First DC Black Superheroines Nubia Wonder Woman #204

Created by Robert Kanigher and Don Heck. Originally introduced in 1973 as Diana's (Wonder Woman) long-lost black fraternal twin sister, today the character is depicted as one of Wonder Woman's oldest and closest friends. Super strength, speed, agility, reflexes, senses, stamina, durability, and endurance and superior hand-to-hand combat.



1975 Marvel

Marvel Premiere #20

First Marvel Black Superheroines Mercedes Misty Knight

Created by Tony Isabella and Arvell Jones

Misty Knight is a former NYPD police officer whose arm was amputated following a bomb attack. After receiving a bionic prosthetic from Tony Stark, she started a private-investigation agency with close friend Colleen Wing.



1975 Marvel

First mainstream black superheroines with Storm (Ororo Munroe) in Giant Sized X-Men #1

Created by Len Wein and artist Dave Cockrum Sr.

Powers: African witch-priestesses raised in Harlem, originally a master thief, able to control the weather and atmosphere and is one of the most powerful mutants on the planet. Married the Black Panther.



Storm (Ororo Munroe)



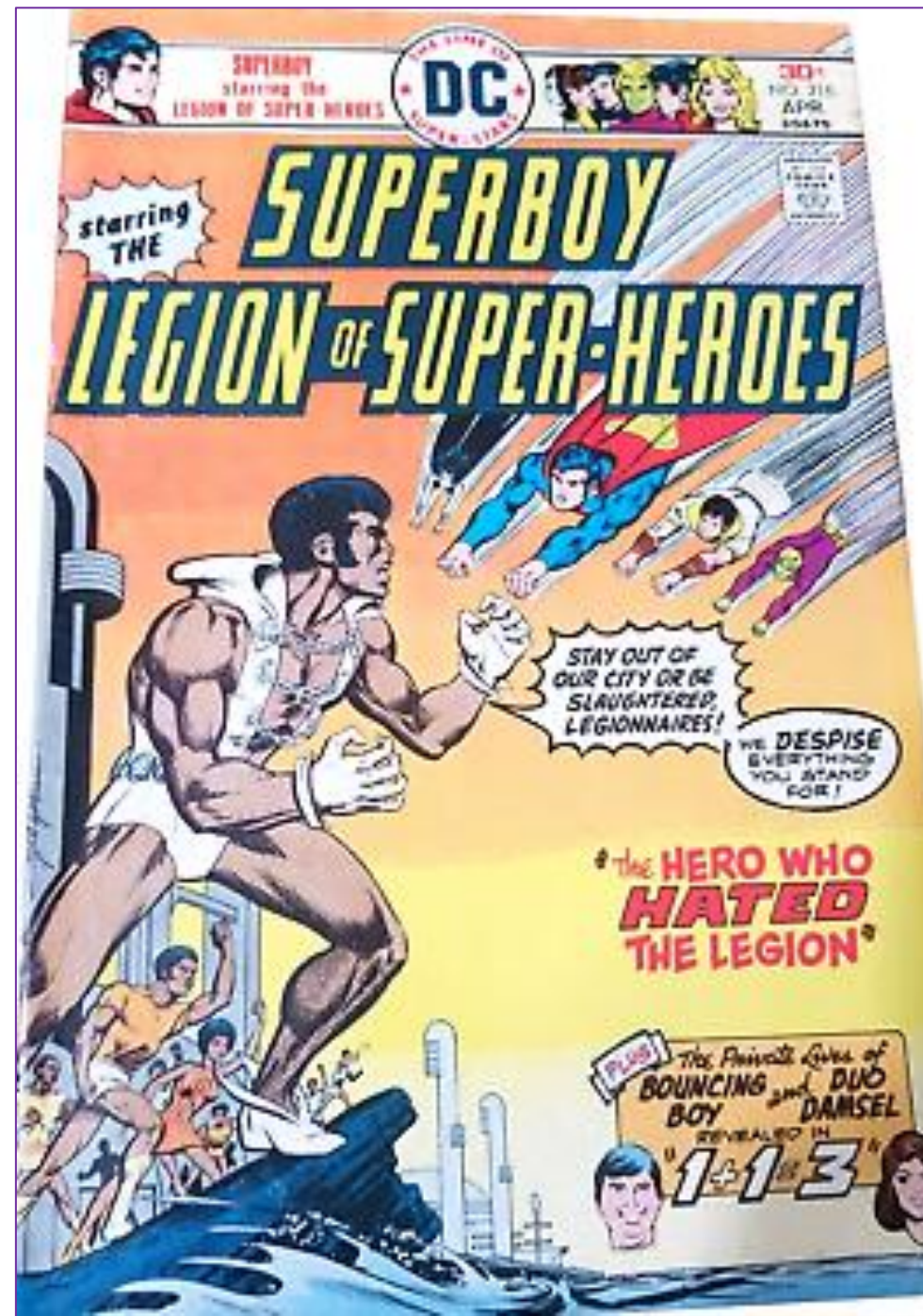
1976

Tyroc (Troy Stewart) Superboy #216

Created by writer Cary Bates and artist Mike Grell

Powers:

Reality warping is the ability to change, create, or even destroy parts of or the entirety of reality. A member of the **Legion of Super-Heroes** in the 30th Century.



1977 Marvel

First interracial kiss with Mercedes "Misty" Knight and Colleen Wing between Superheroes in mainstream comics.



1977 DC

Black Lightning #1 (Jeff Pierce)
First appearance of Black Lightning

Created by Tony Isabella
and Trevor Von Eeden

Powers:

Manipulates electricity to various effects, including shooting lightning bolts, exerting electromagnetism, and deflecting attacks.



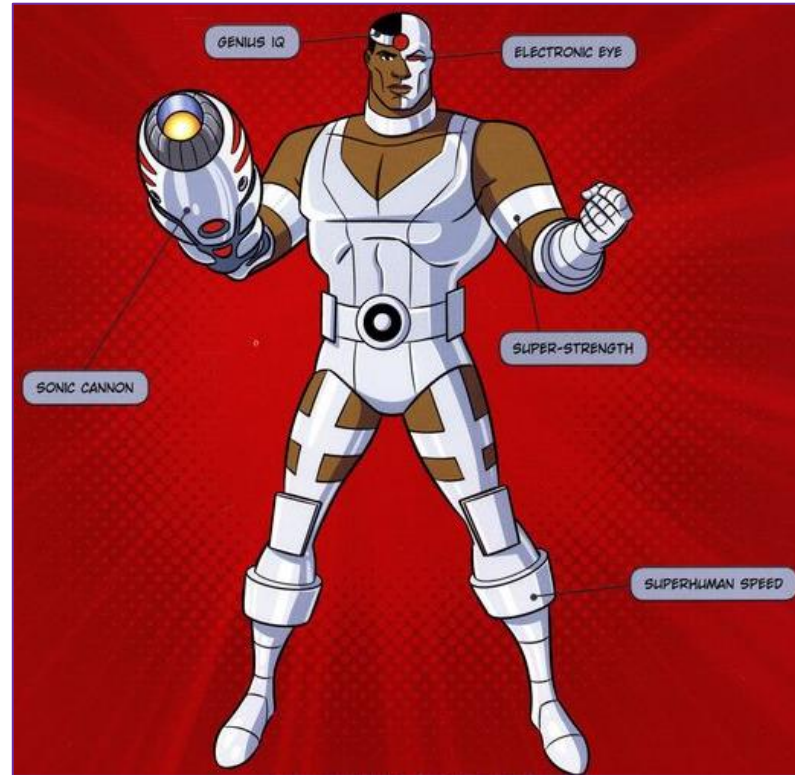
1980 DC

DC Comics Presents #26 Cyborg Victor Stone

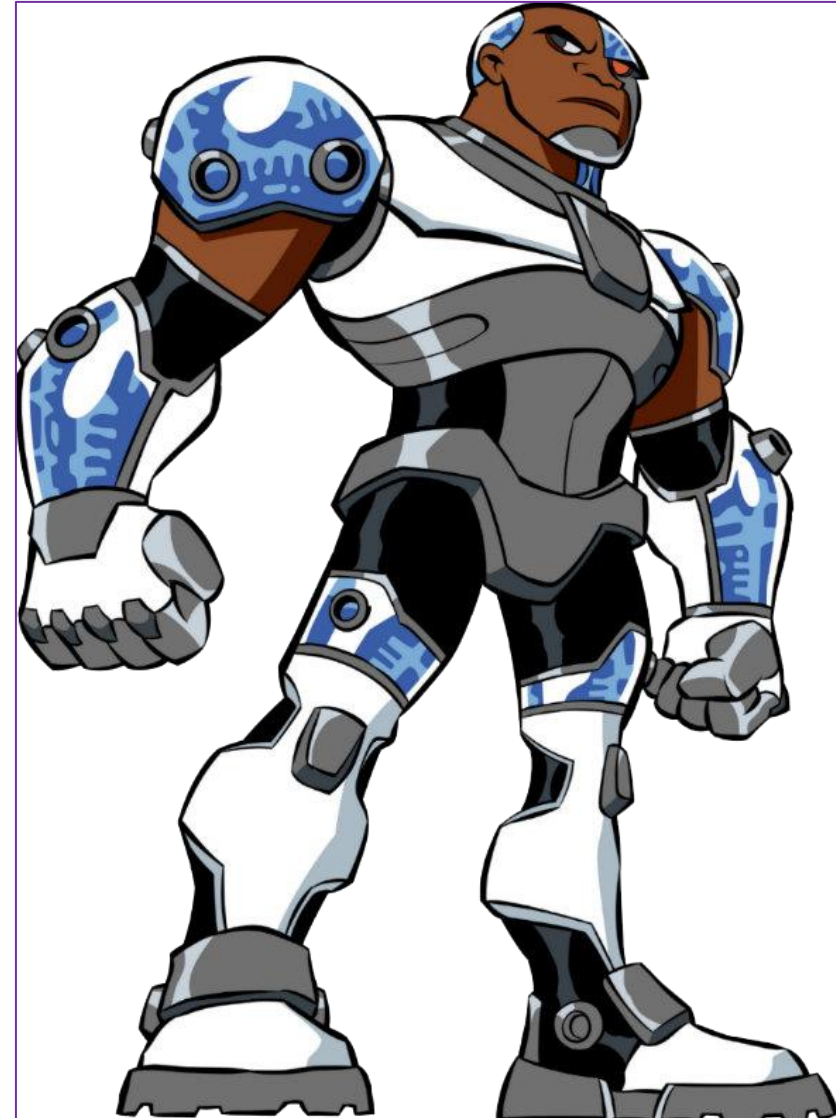
Created by writer Marv Wolfman and artist George Pérez

Powers:

super strength, advanced technology, instant weaponry, genius-level intellect, control over technology, computer hacking, durability, teleportation.



Cyborg

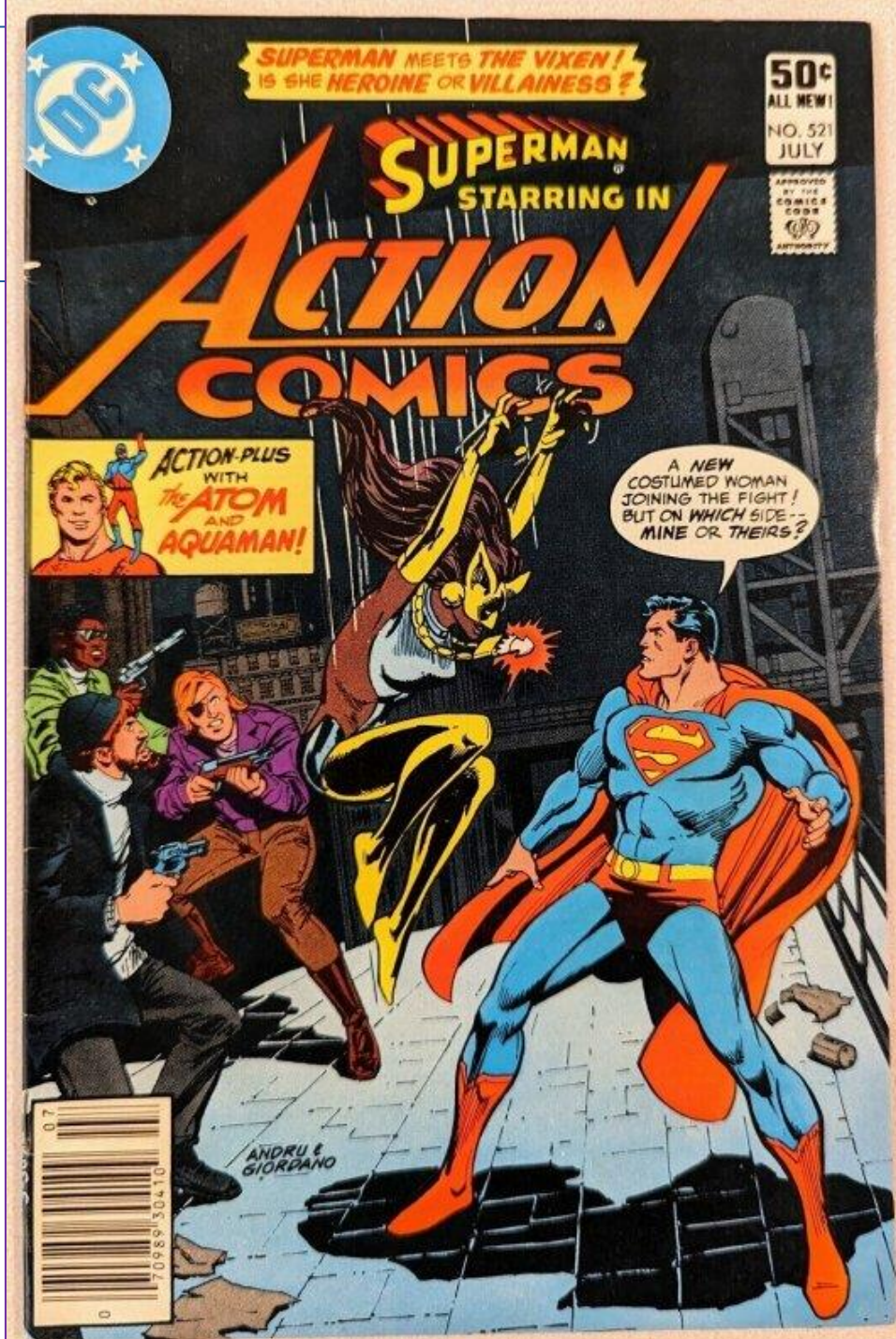


1981 DC

Vixen (Mari Jiwe McCabe) Action Comics #521

Created by **Gerry Conway** and **Bob Oksner**
Powers:

Through the Tantu Totem, which allows her to harness the spirit (ashe) of any animal, past or present, and use its abilities.



Vixen



1982

Cloak (Tyrone Johnson) and Dagger (Tandy Bowen)

Peter Parker, the Spectacular Spider-Man
#64

Created by Bill Mantlo, Rick Leonardi, and Terry Austin.

Biracial couple Super Heroes

Powers:

Cloak: Can engulf people in darkness and teleport himself and a few friends.

Dagger: Can create light daggers, power to heal.



1982

Monica - Monica Rambeau
Amazing Spider-Man Annual #16
Captain Marvel, Photon, Pulsar, and Spectrum

Created by Roger Stern and John Romita Jr.

Powers:

She can transform herself into any form of energy.

She is immortal and does not age beyond her prime.







1993

Milestone comics

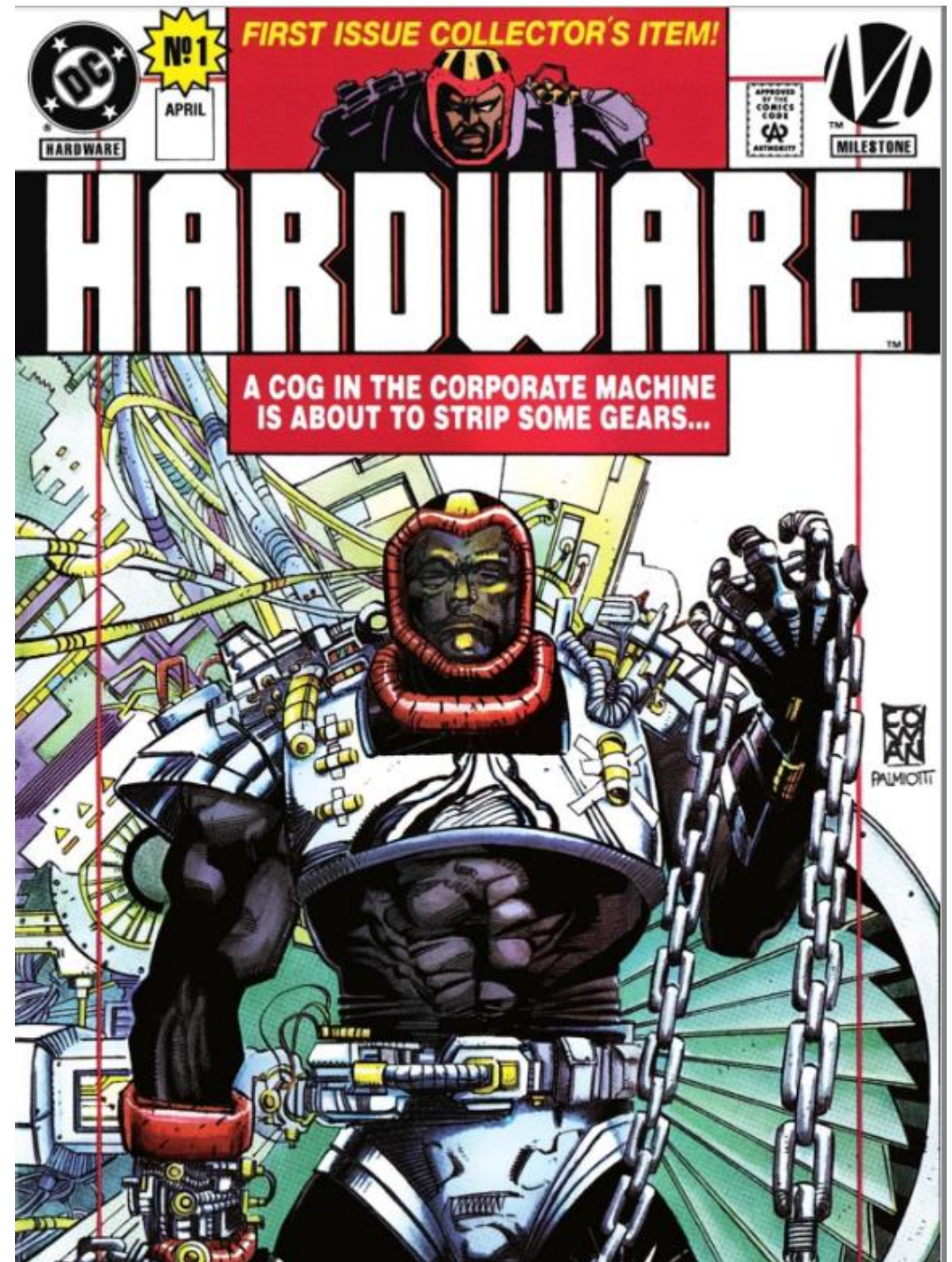
Milestone Media Company LLC is the media company which created the **Milestone Comics** line

The company was founded in by a coalition of African-American artists and writers, consisting of Dwayne McDuffie, Denys Cowan, Michael Davis, Derek T. Dingle and Christopher Priest. The founders felt that minorities were severely underrepresented in American comics and wished to address this issue.



Milestone Comics 1993-1997

When brilliant inventor Curtis Metcalf discovers that his mentor and employer is secretly connected to organized crime and the center of a web of corruption, he becomes the High-tech Vigilante "Hardware" to bring his mentor down. "The Man in the Machine: Chapter One". Written by Dwayne McDuffie with Pencils by Denys Cowan and Inks by Jimmy Palmiotti.

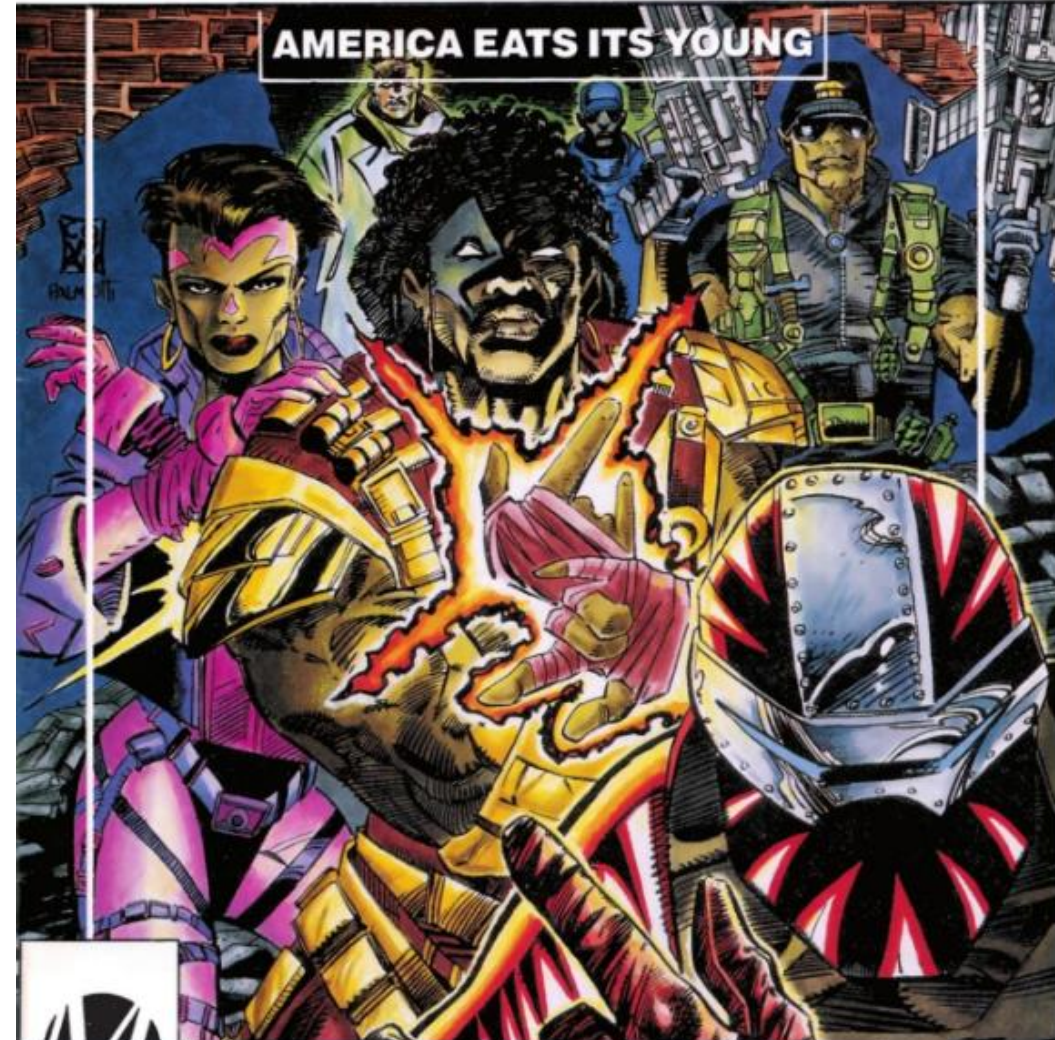


Milestone Comics 1993-1995

Reporter Rob Chaplik of the Dakota Chronicle heads to Paris Island for the biggest and most dangerous story of her career: the Blood Syndicate, a street gang like no other, super-powered by the Big Bang and feared by drug dealers and the mob as well as the authorities.



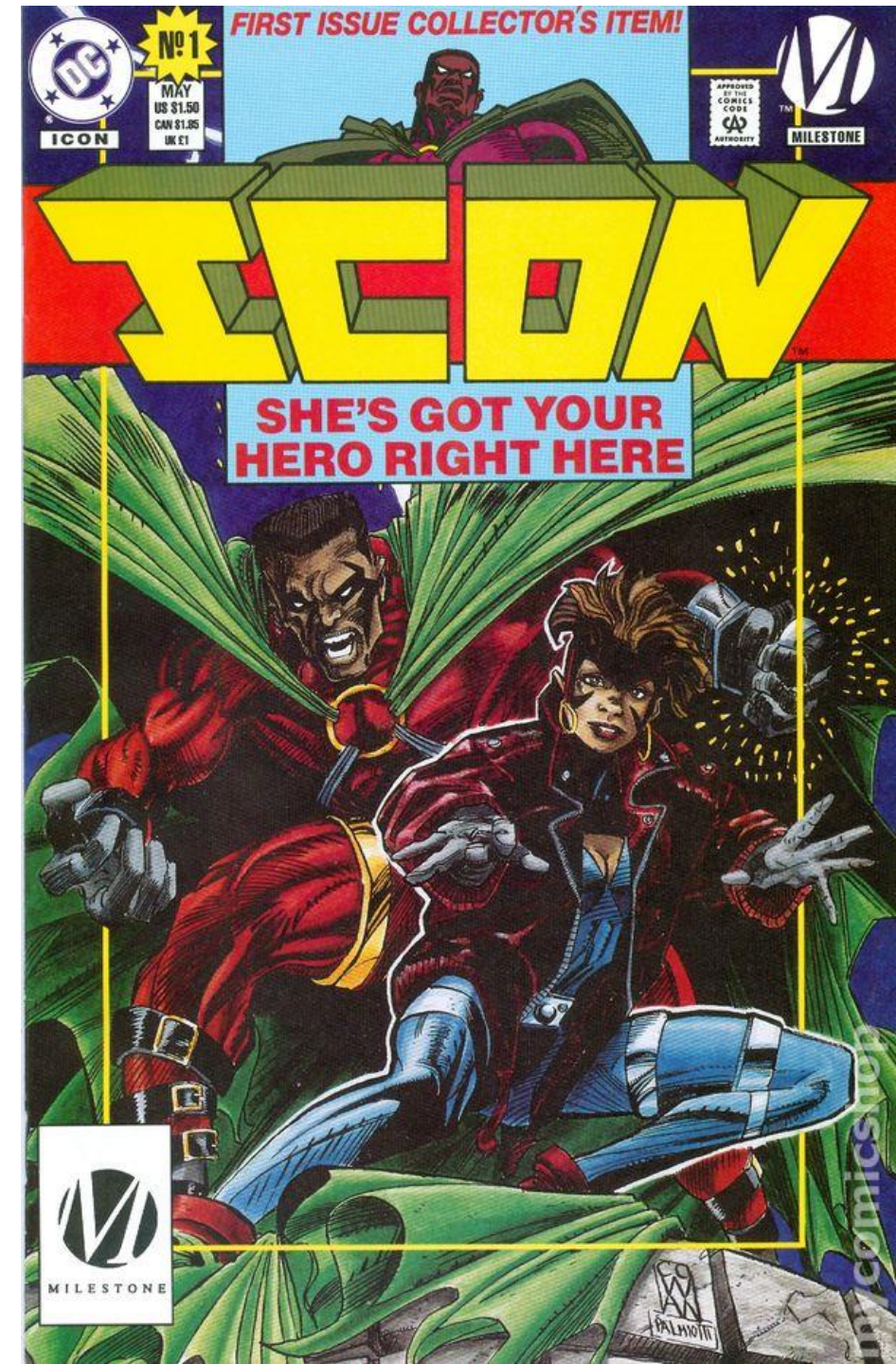
BLOOD SYNDICATE



Milestone Comics

1993-1995

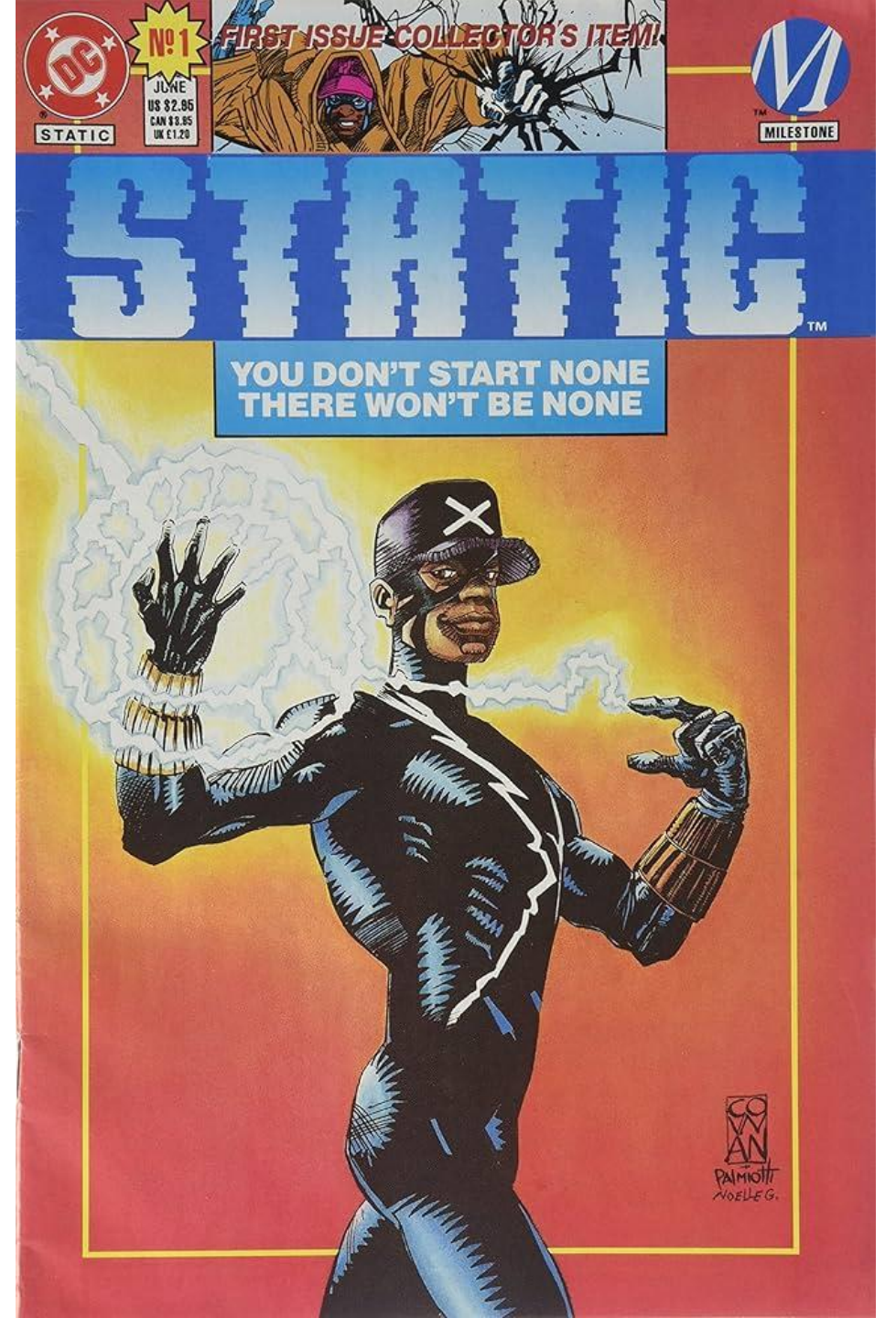
Icon (Arnus; alias Augustus Freeman) is a fictional superhero appearing in comic books published by DC Comics, one of the headline characters introduced by Milestone Media in the 1990s. A being from another planet, he has taken on the form of an African-American man, and has abilities such as flight, super-strength, and invulnerability. He uses these in partnership with Rocket, a human teenager using his alien technology, to protect the people of the fictional city of Dakota.



Milestone Comics

1993-1997

Virgil Hawkins, a typical 15-year-old, has undergone a bizarre biochemical change. This change involves a secret identity, powerful manipulation of electrostatic forces.



1994

Blade the Vampire Hunter (1994) #1

Birth name: Eric Cross Brooks;

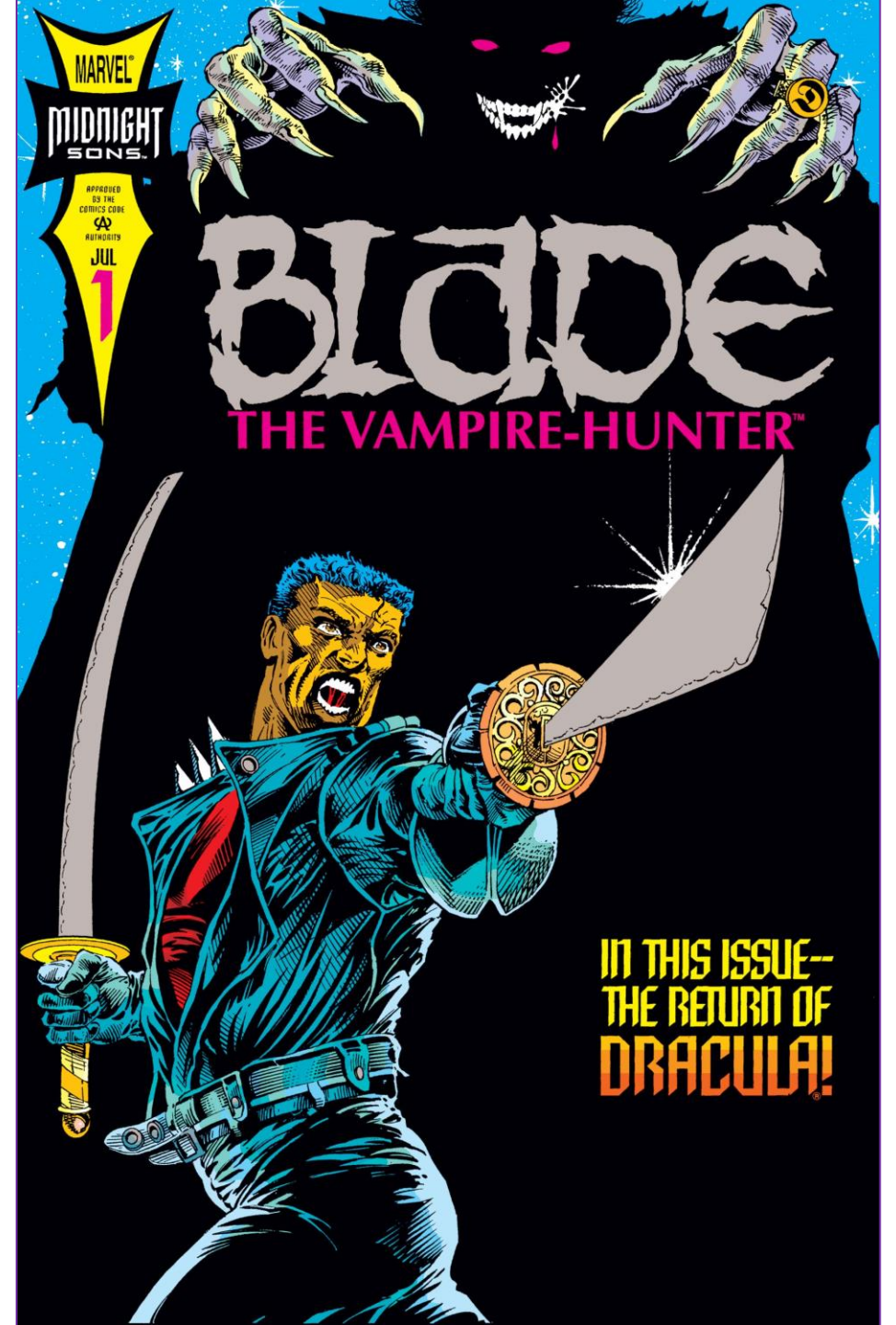
Legal Name Frank Blade First Solo appearance

Created by Marv Wolfman Gene Colan

Blade devotes his life to ridding the world of all vampires.

Powers:

Superhuman strength, stamina, and senses, accelerated healing factor, but is impervious to sunlight and vampire bites and incredibly skilled fighter.



2011

Ultimate Fallout #4 (August 2011)

Birth name: Miles Morales

Spider- Man

Created by Brian Michael Bendis Sara Pichelli
(based upon Spider-Man by Stan Lee and
Steve Ditko)

Powers:

Miles Morales has many powers, including web-
shooters, bio-electricity, and superhuman
strength, speed, and stamina.

- **Invisibility**



2016

Riri Williams debuted in *Invincible Iron Man* Vol. 2 #7 (May 2016)

Created by Brian Michael Bendis and Mike Deodato

She was inspired by American actress Skai Jackson.

Riri Williams is a 15-year-old engineering student.

Powers:

Flight, Iron Man's like armor, Agility, Superhuman strength.



Controversy October 2016



October 2016, Marvel Comics and New York-based retailer Midtown Comics jointly decided to pull from circulation J. Scott Campbell's variant cover of the first issue of The Invincible Iron Man. After previews of the cover were criticized for sexualizing the depicted character 15-year-old Riri Williams.



2018

Ironheart (2018) #1 Riri Williams

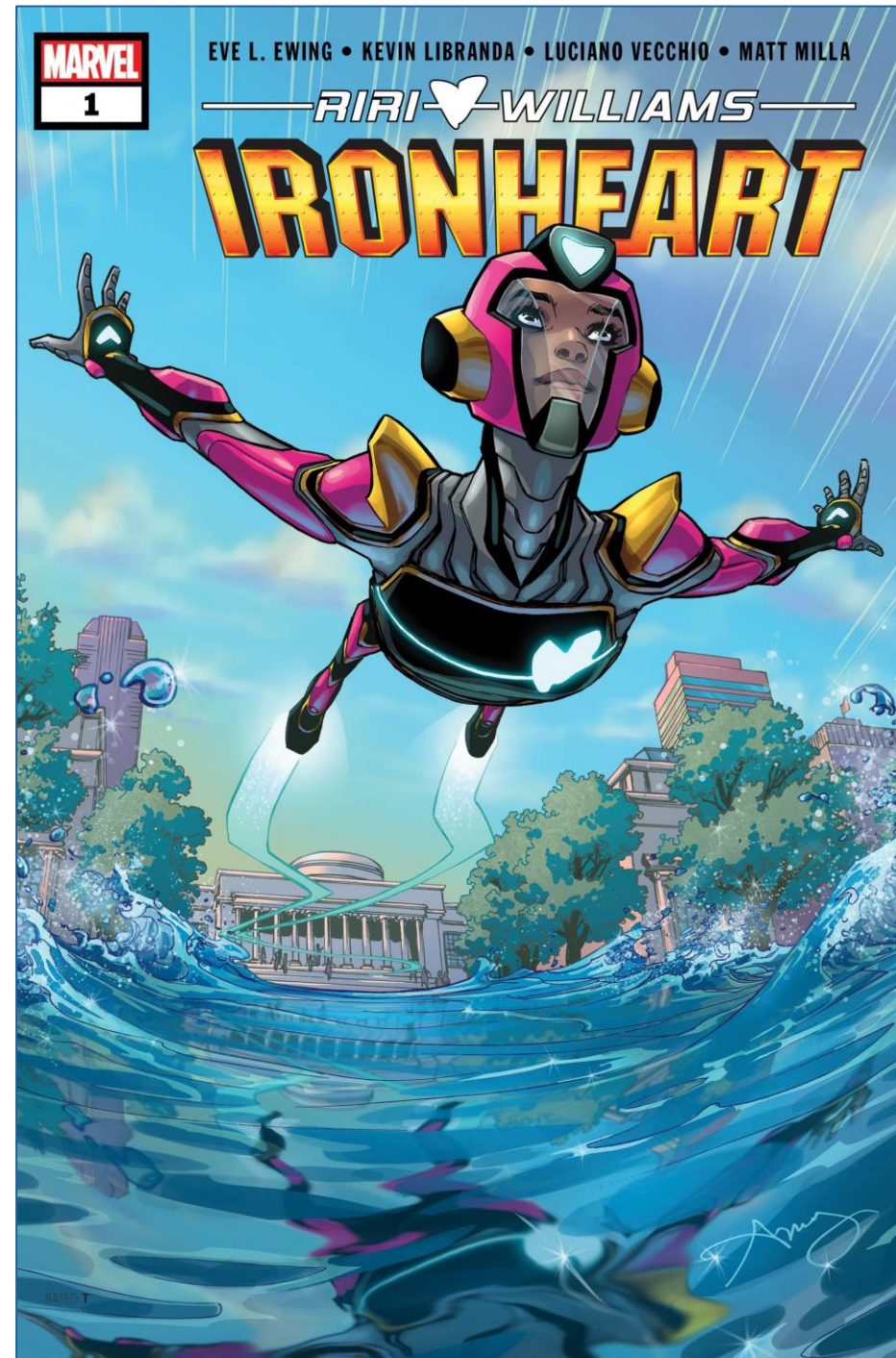
Created by Brian Michael Bendis and Mike Deodato

She was inspired by American actress Skai Jackson.

Riri Williams is a 15-year-old engineering student.

Powers:

Flight, Iron Man's like armor, Agility, Superhuman strength.



TV series or Streaming Services



1979 -1984

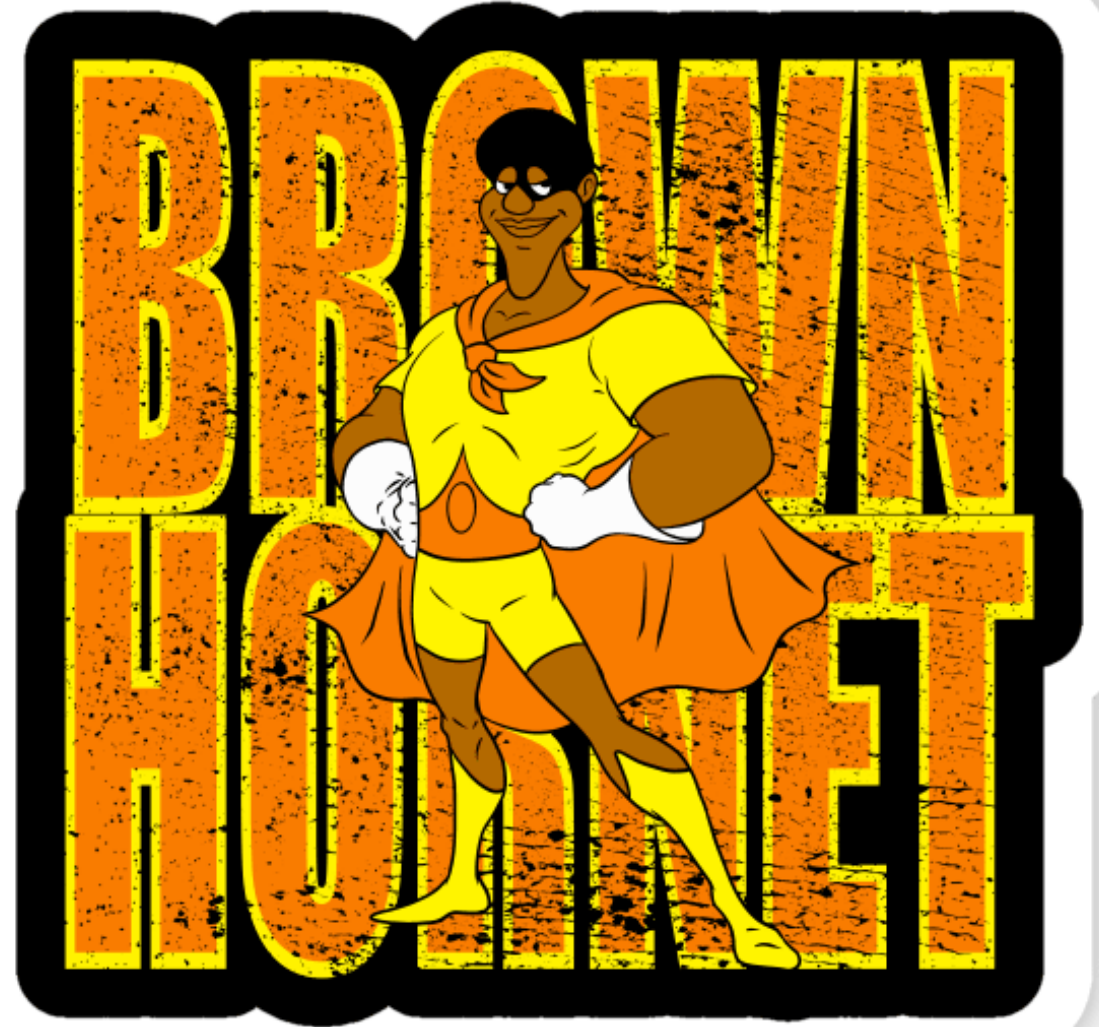
The Brown Hornet

The New Fat Albert Show

Created by Bill Cosby

Powers:

Superhuman strength, speed, flight and shapeshifting.





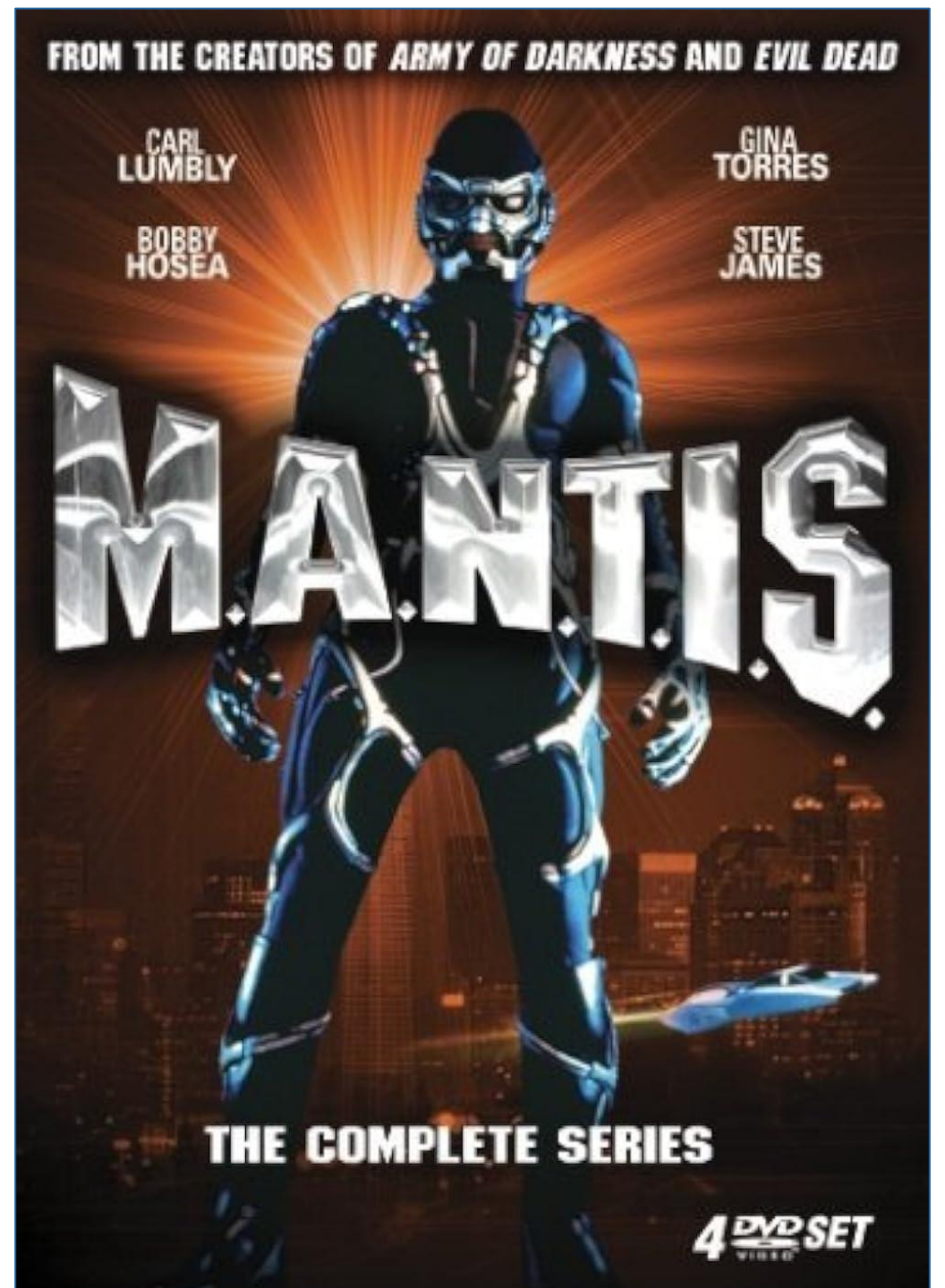
The concept for the Brown hornet had origins in Bill Cosby's stand up routine during the early part of his career. Originally Brown Hornet was made for radio as an African American version of the "Green Hornet". The concept was reworked into a space faring parody of Space-Ghost.



1994 Fox

A paralyzed African-American scientist builds a powerful exo-skeleton to walk again and uses his new abilities to fight crime.

Carl Lumby



Early Black Fox Tv Shows

Arsenio Hall - 1989

In Living Color – 1990

Martin – 90's

Living Single – 90s

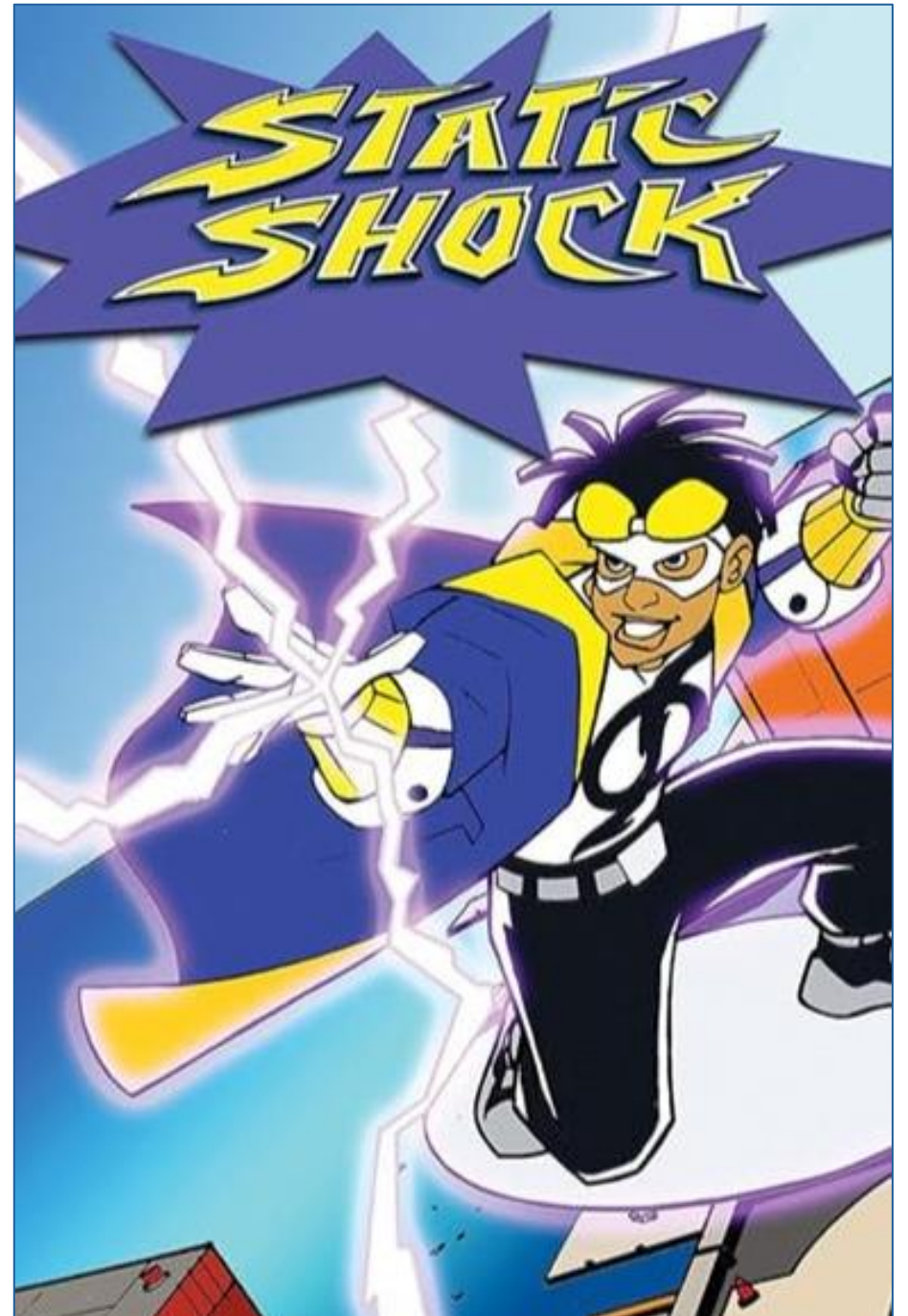
New York Uncover- 90s



2000-2004

Static Shock

Virgil Hawkins, a typical 15-year-old, has undergone a bizarre biochemical change. This change involves a secret identity, powerful manipulation of electrostatic forces.



Comic Book vs TV version



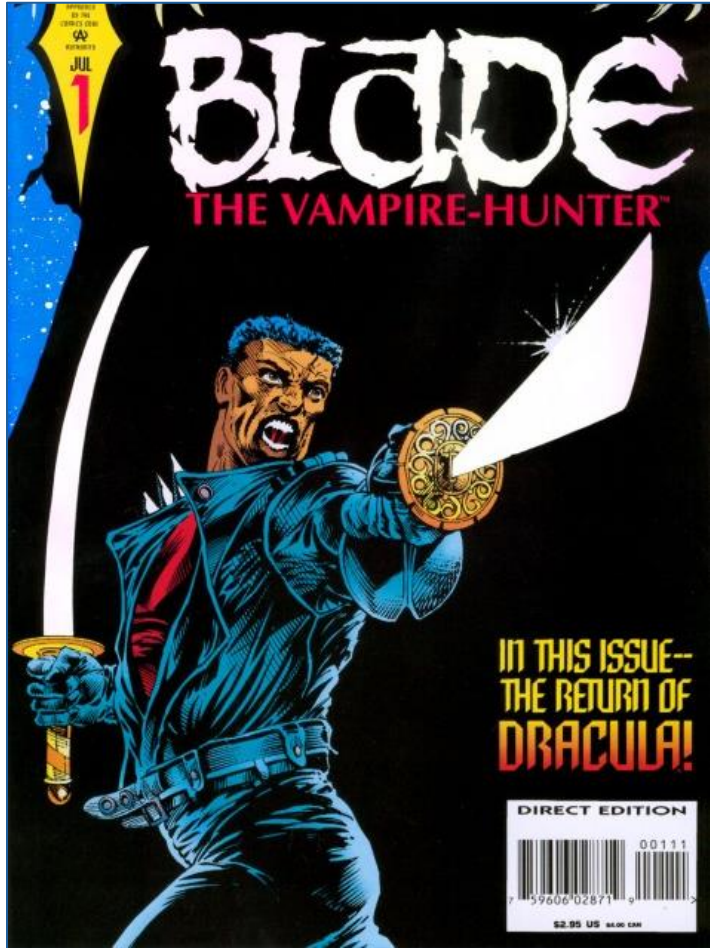
2006 CW Blade the Series



LU Feb 3, 2025 Black Superheroes Slide # 69
www.ashque.com



Comic Book vs TV & Movie version



Sticky Fingaz



Wesley Snipes



Comic Book vs TV & Movie version

2016-2018
Marvel
Luke Cage



Mike Colter



Comic Book vs TV version



Mike Colter



2018-2022

CW

Black

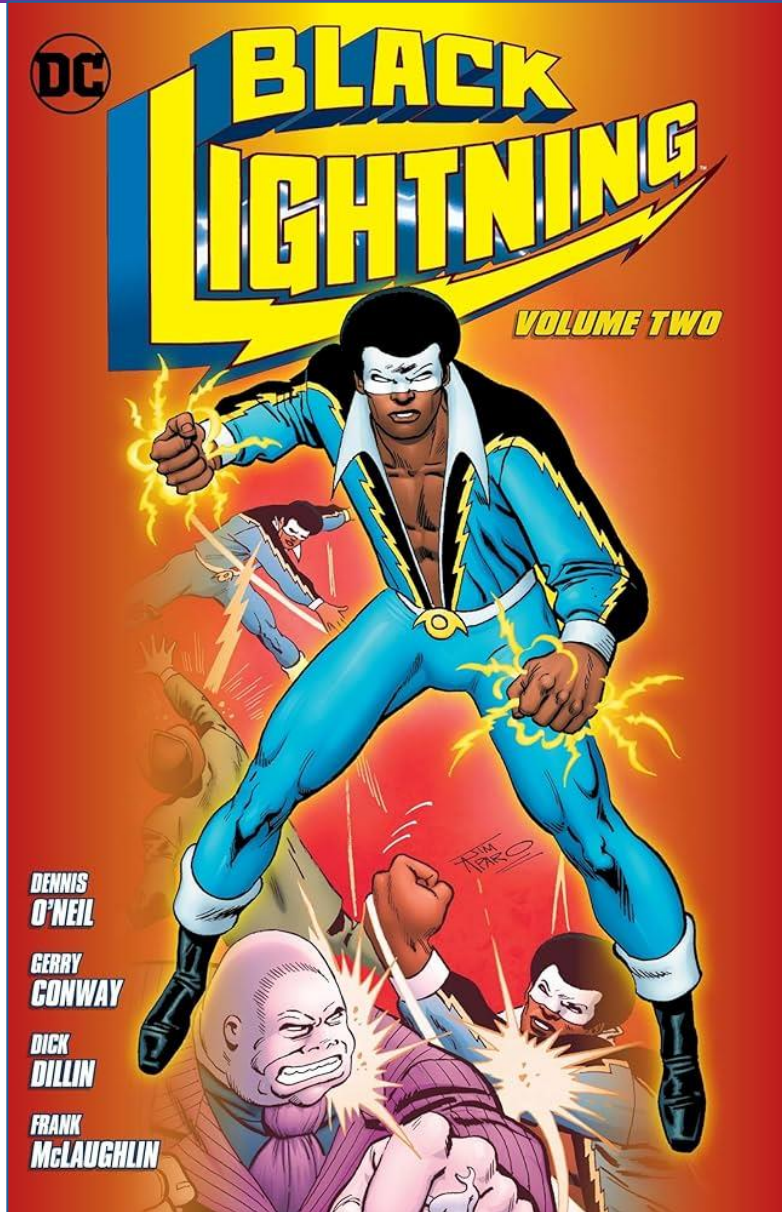
Lightning

**Cress
Williams**

LU Feb 3, 2025 Black Superheroes Slide # 73
www.ashque.com



Comic Book vs TV version



www.ashque.com



2019 Netflix Raising Dion

Powers:

Healing/Regeneration: Dion is able to manipulate the ions in his body to cure living beings, such as humans (Including Himself) and animals.



Ja'Siah Young



2022

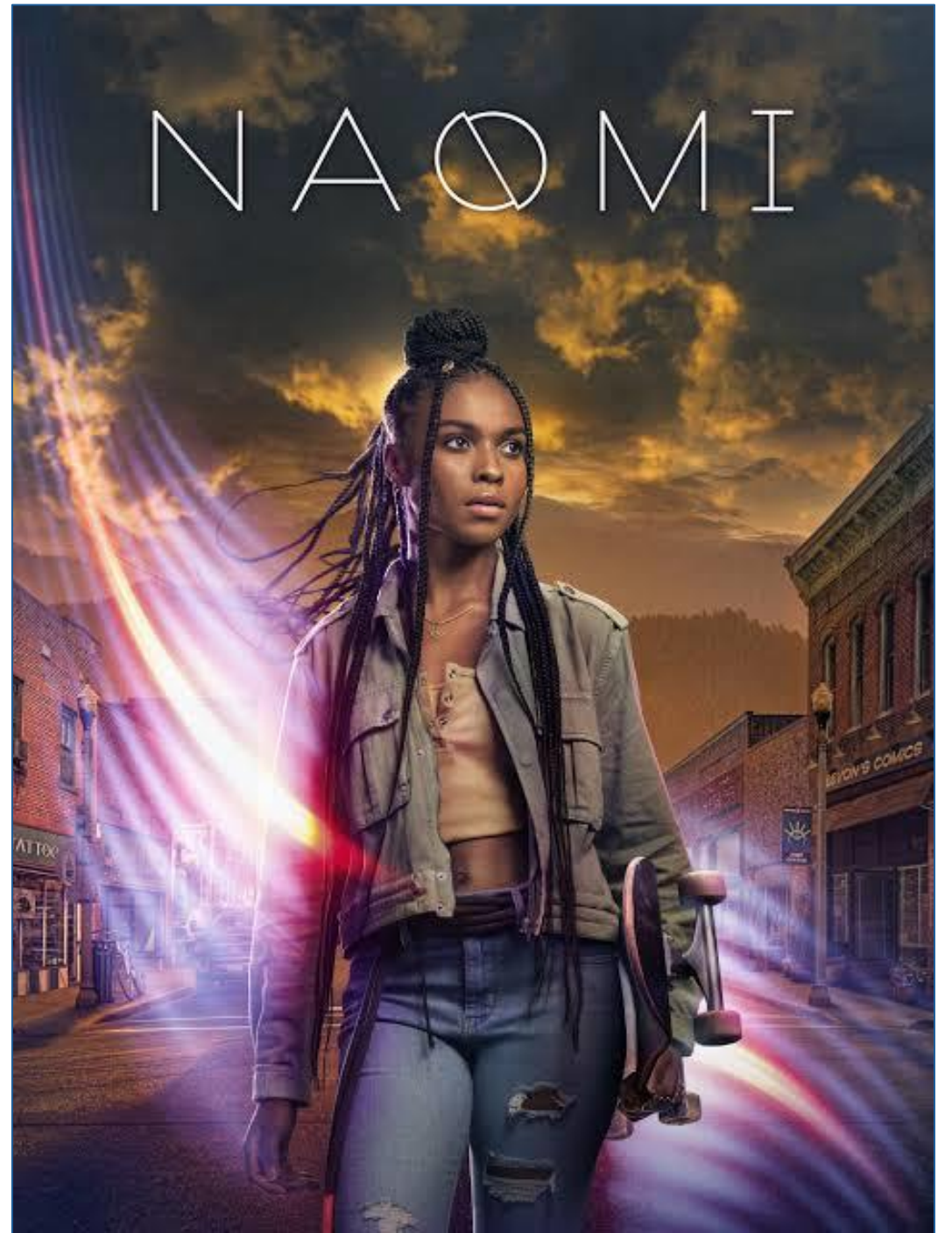
Naomi

Naomi McDuffie

Powers:

flight, superhuman strength,
durability, and energy projection.

Kaci Walfall



LU Feb 3, 2025 Black Superheroes Slide # 76

www.ashque.com

2023 Disney Ahsoka

Ahsoka Tano

Powers:

Star Wars Jedi



Rosario Dawson



2024 Disney The Acolyte

The twin sisters in the Star Wars series The Acolyte are Mae-ho "Mae" Aniseya and Verosha "Osha" Aniseya.

Powers: manipulate objects, move people, and block Force attacks



Amandla Stenberg



2024 Netflix SupaCell



A group of five ordinary black people, unified by family history of sickle cell disease. They unexpectedly develop superpowers and are pursued by a secret organization who intends to control them.



Disney+



MARVEL STUDIOS

IRONHEART

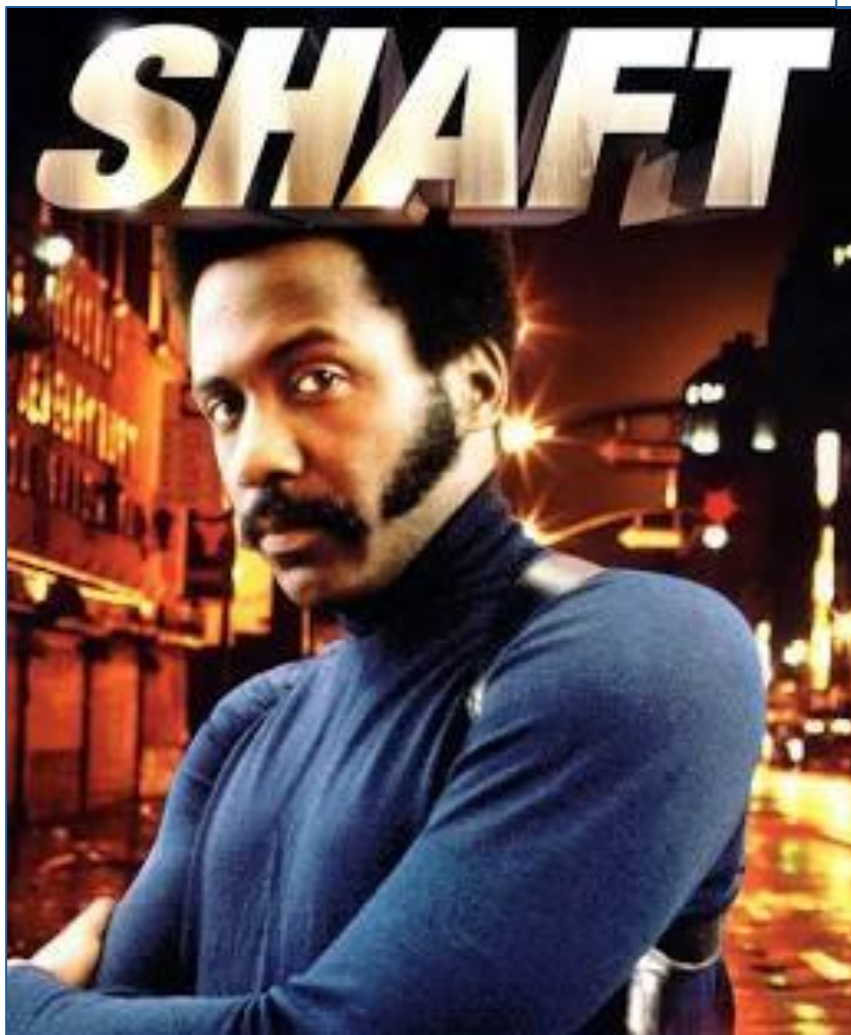
HD

DOMINIQUE THORNE

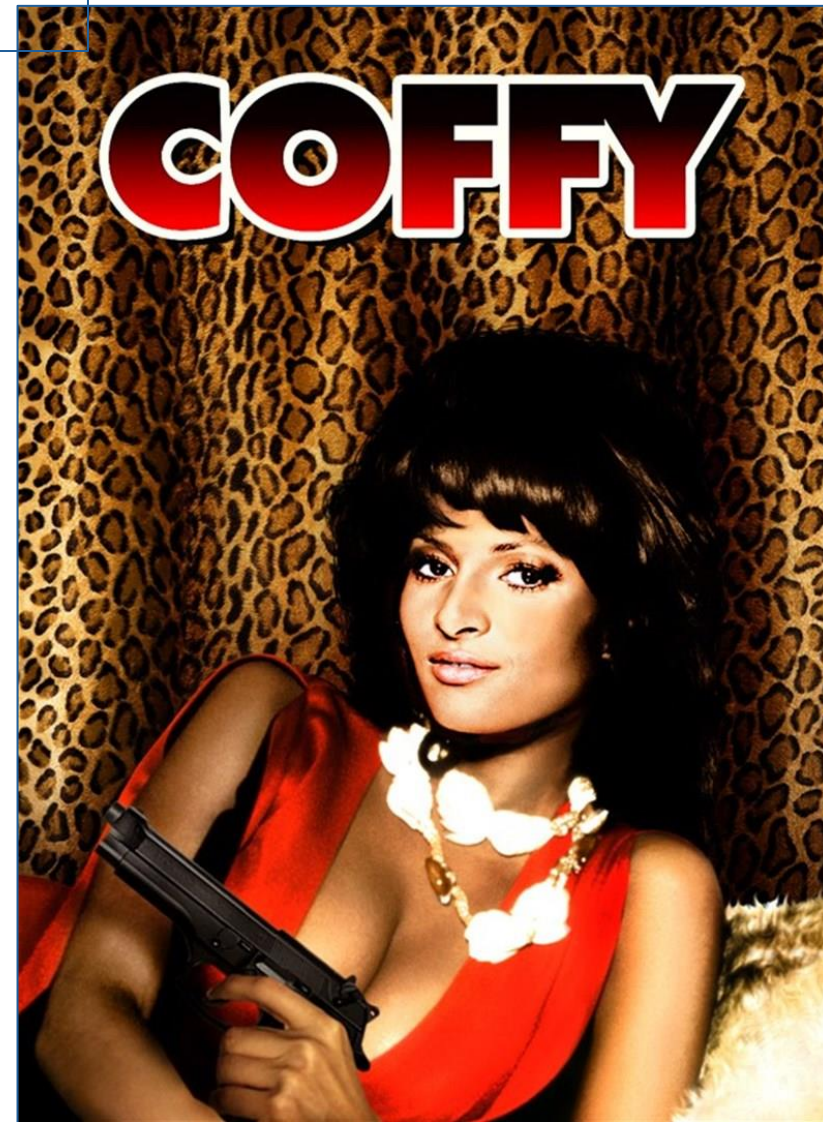
Movies



1971



1973



1985

The Last Dragon

Power:

the power of "The Glow" is the final level of martial arts mastery.

Taimak

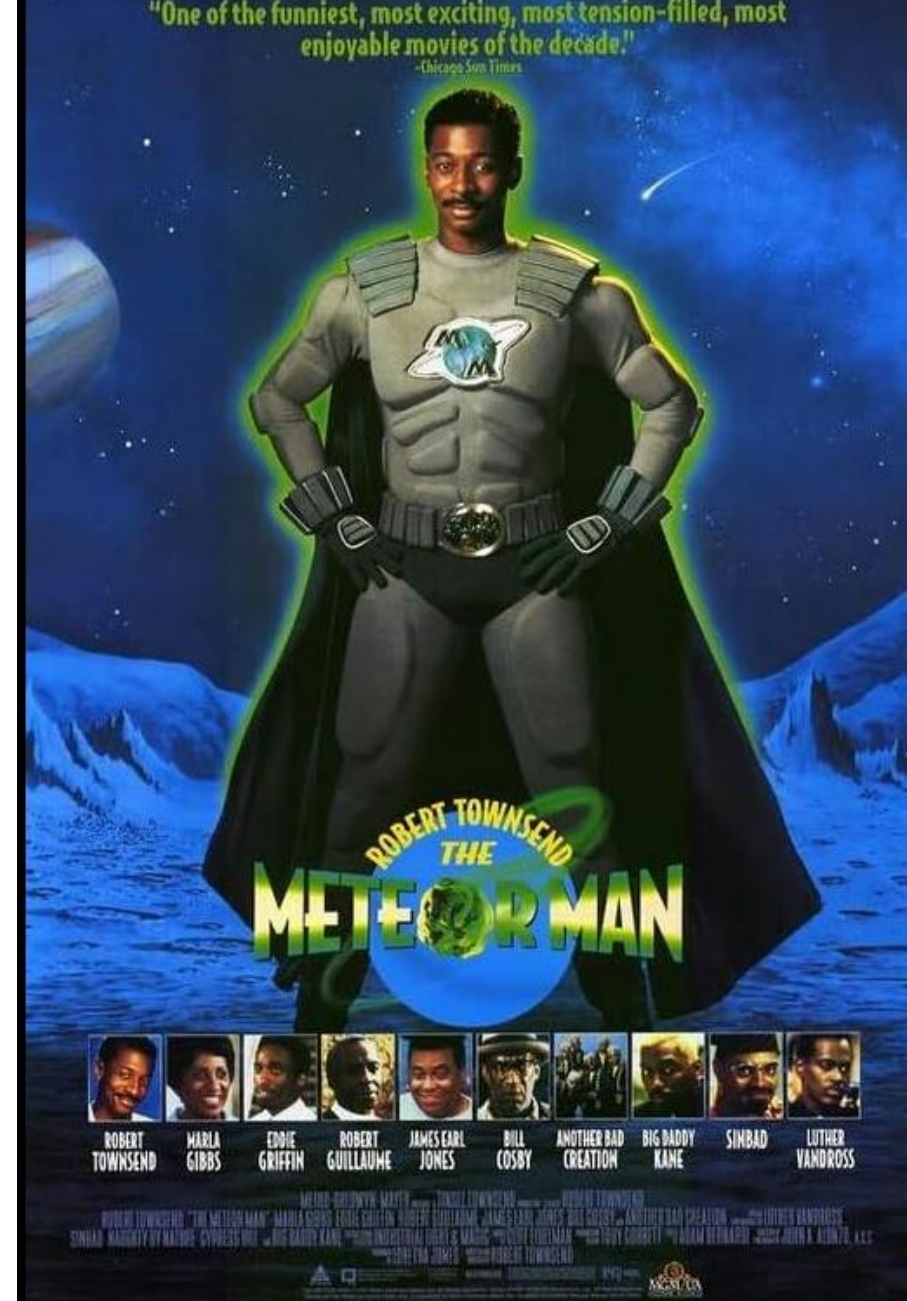


1993

Meteor Man

Power:

Flight, x-ray vision, laser vision, superhuman strength, speed and hearing, invulnerability, healing powers, the ability to absorb a book's content by touch, super breath, telepathy with dogs.



Robert Townsend



1994

BlankMan

Power:

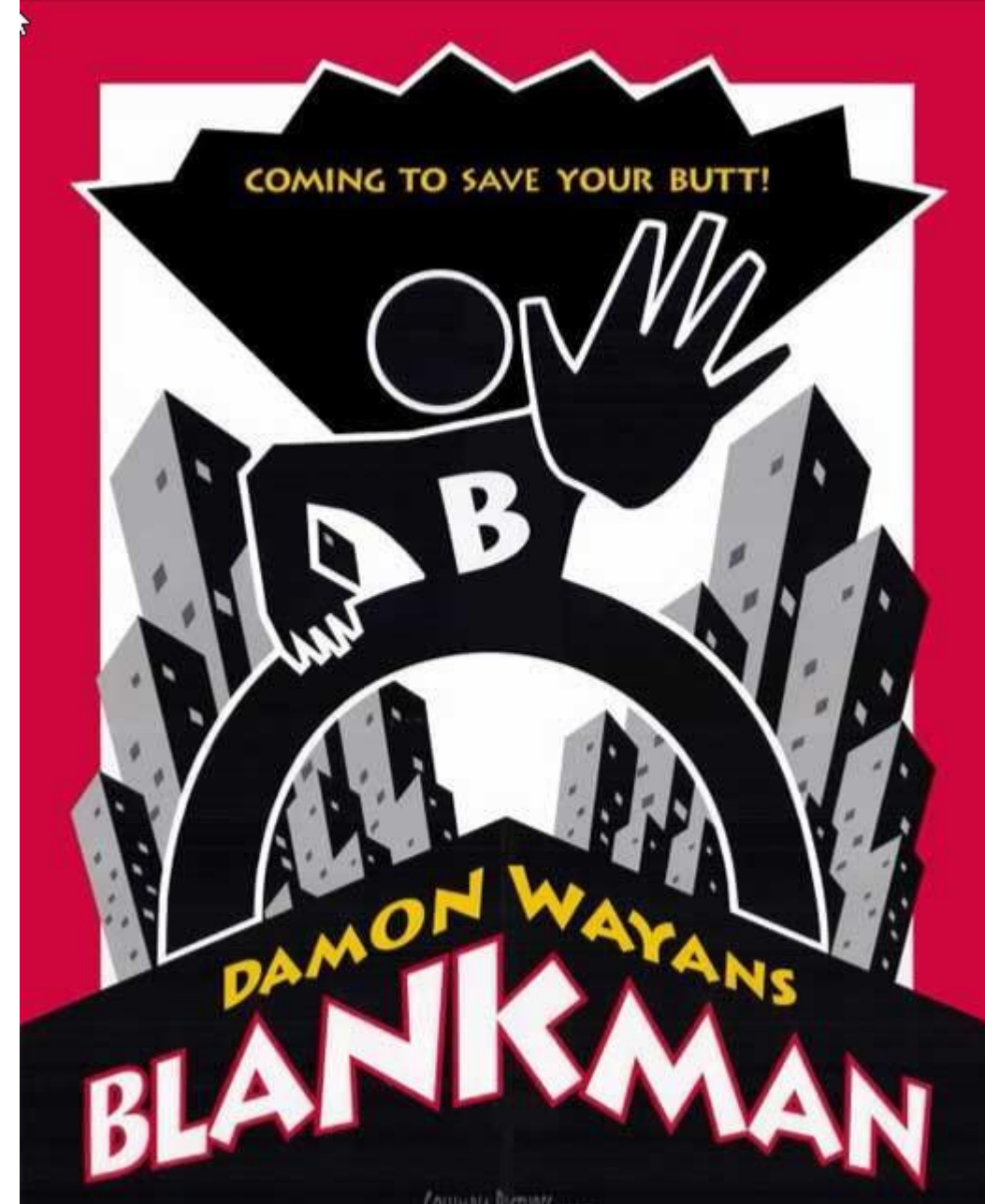
ability to spray any piece of clothing with a substance he'd devised and make it bulletproof delving into various other nerdy inventions.

Damon Wayans



LU Feb 3, 2025 Black Superheroes Slide # 85

www.ashque.com



1997

Steel

Powers:

genius-level intellect, enhanced strength, flight, advanced technology. He has a suit of powered armor which grants him flight, enhanced strength, and endurance.

Shaquille O'Neal

LU Feb 3, 2025 Black Superheroes Slide # 86

www.ashque.com



1997 Spawn

Powers:

Can not die, Phasing, psychic link, superhuman senses, telekinesis, cosmic awareness, and transformation.

Michael Jai White



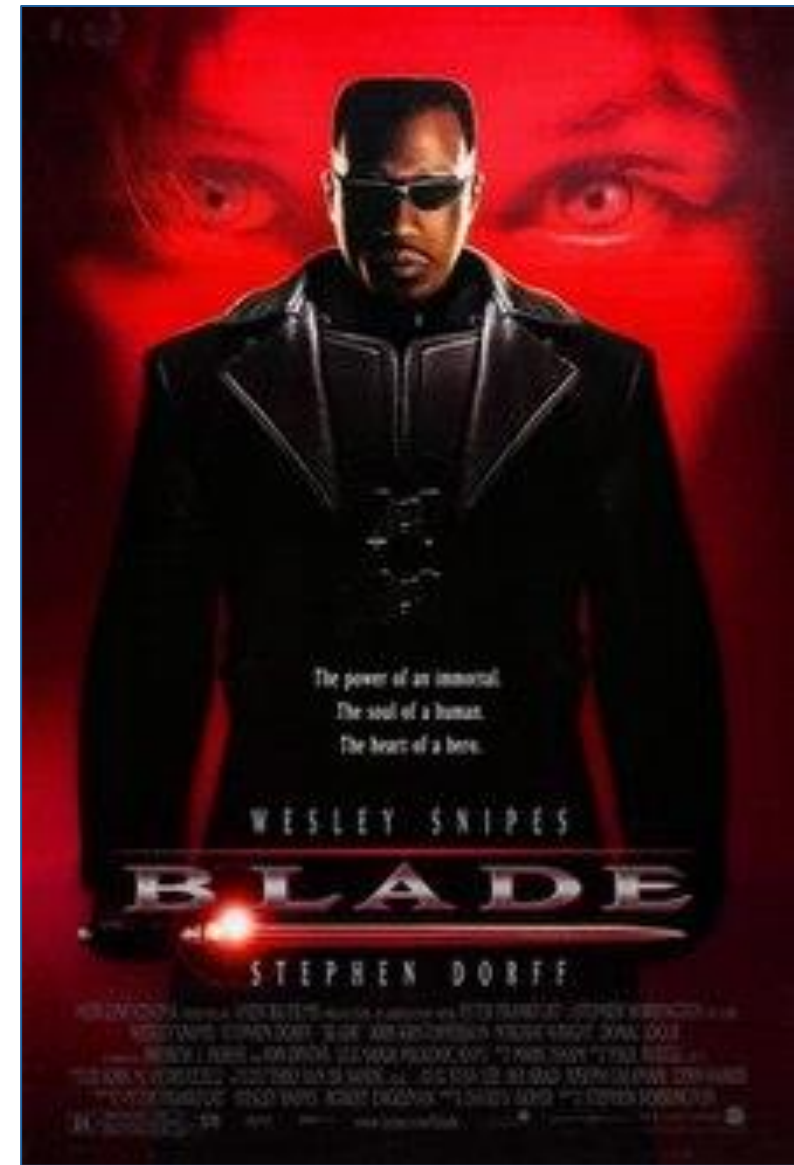
LU Feb 3, 2025 Black Superheroes Slide # 87

www.ashque.com

1998 -Blade
2002- Blade II
2004 Blade: Trinity

Powers:

Possesses all of a vampire's strengths without their weaknesses. He has superhuman strength, stamina, and senses, as well as an accelerated healing factor, but is impervious to sunlight and vampire bites. In addition to his supernatural abilities, he's also an incredibly skilled fighter.



Wesley Snipes



1999

Mace Windu

Mace Windu

Powers:

Star Wars Jedi



**Samuel
Jackson**



2004

Catwoman

Powers:

Hand-to-hand combat skills are augmented by her cat-like speed, agility, reflexes, balance, and flexibility.

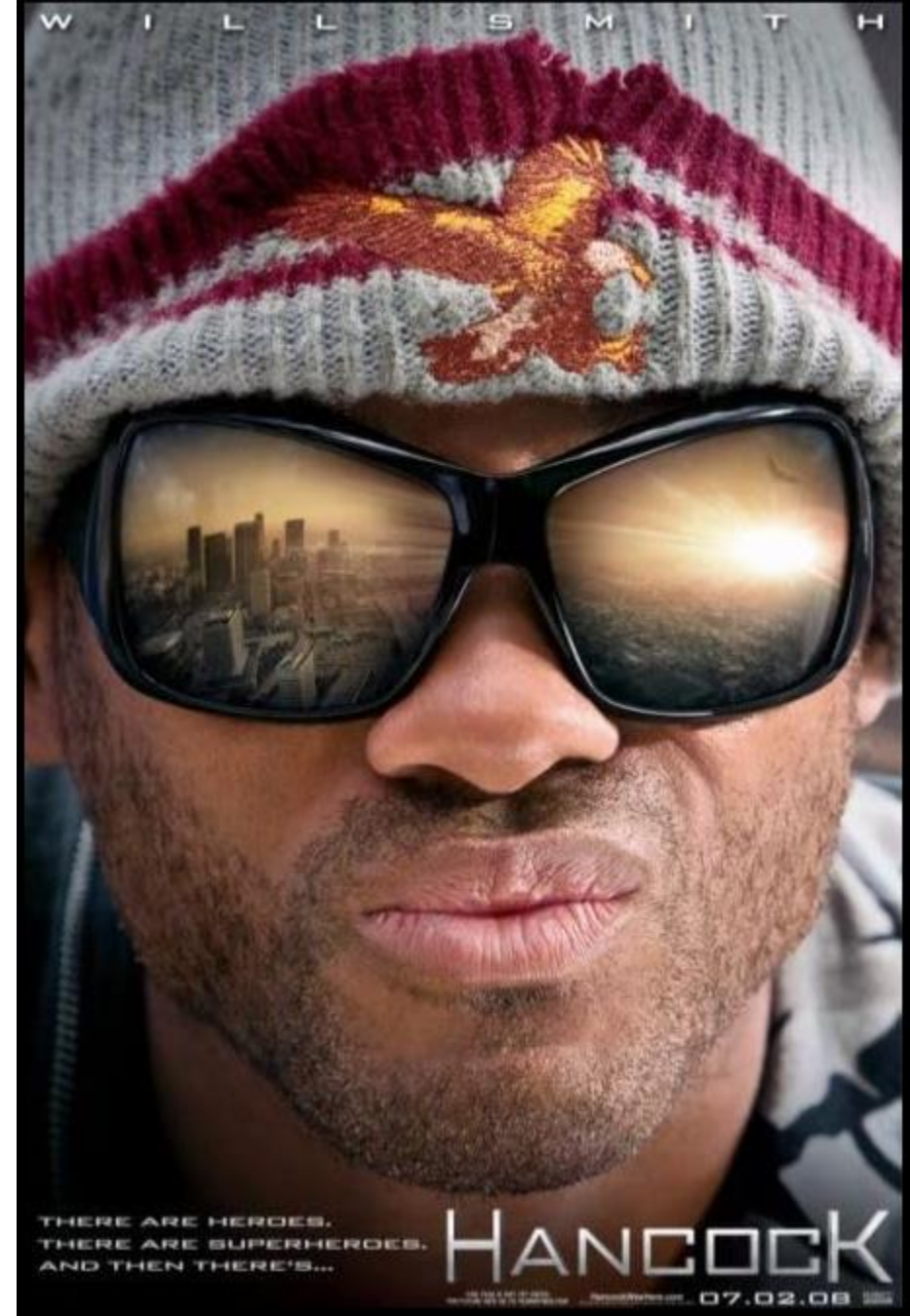
Halle Berry



2008 Hancock

Power:
Alcoholic, reckless superhuman,
flight, invulnerability, and super-strength.

Will Smith



2018

Black Panther

Powers:

Enhanced strength and senses thanks to special heart-shaped herbs incredibly intelligent with a tactical mind.

Chadwick Boseman



2018 Marvel

Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse

Powers:

Miles Morales has many powers, including web-shooters, bio-electricity, and superhuman strength, speed, and stamina.

- **Invisibility**



2023 Marvel

Spider-Man Across The Spider-Verse

Powers:

Miles Morales has many powers, including web-shooters, bio-electricity, and superhuman strength, speed, and stamina.

- Invisibility



LU Feb 3, 2025 Black Superheroes Slide # 94
www.ashque.com



2022 Black Panther Wakanda Forever

Powers:

Enhanced strength and senses thanks to special heart-shaped herbs incredibly intelligent with a tactical mind.

Letitia Wright

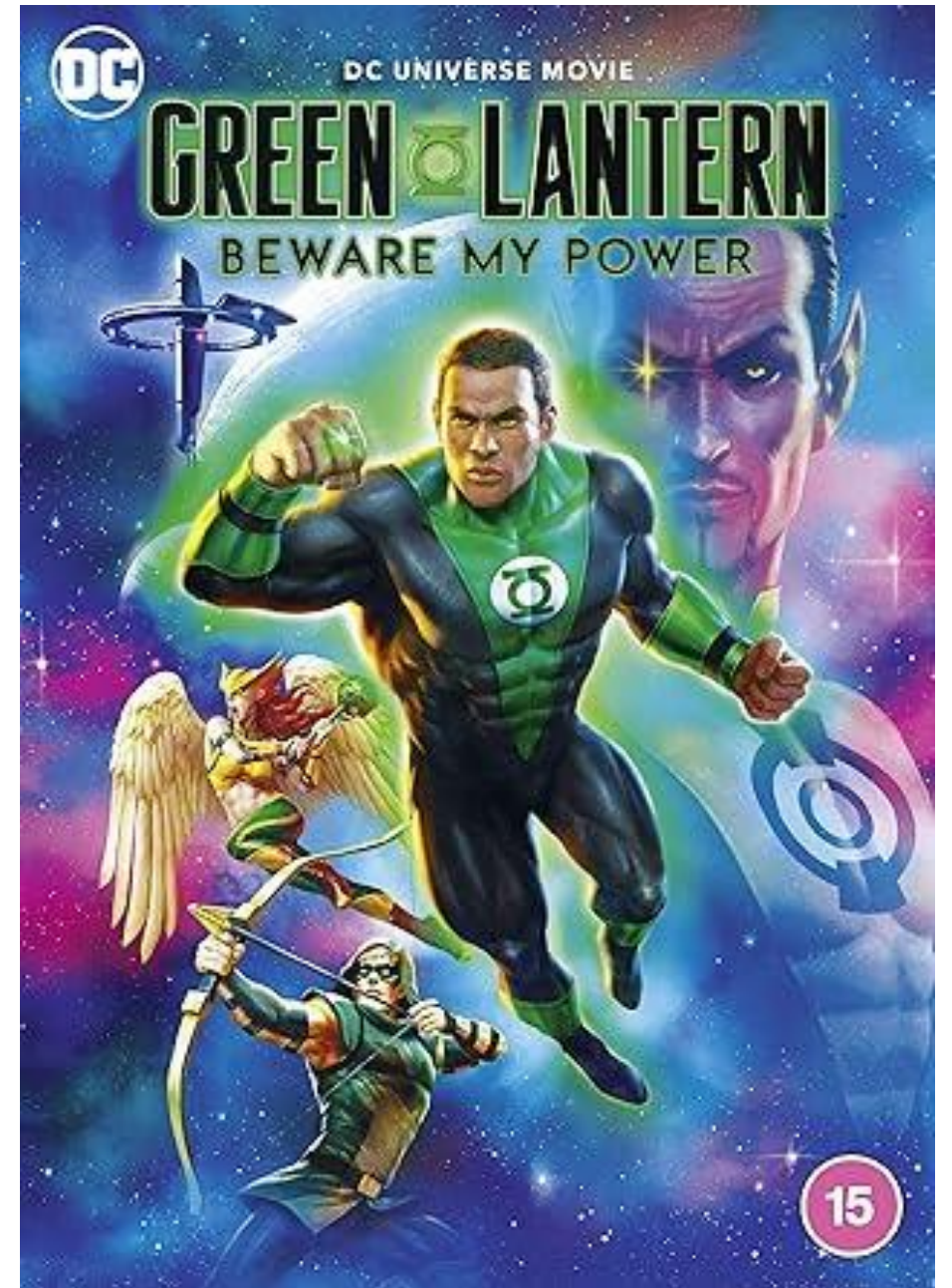


2022

Green Lantern: Beware My Power (DVD)

Powers:

Power Ring, powered by will and thoughts.



'Lanterns' Finds Its John Stewart with Aaron Pierre

Kyle Chandler is already on the callsheet as Green Lantern hero Hal Jordan.

BY BORYS KIT, AARON COUCH OCTOBER 9, 2024 9:30AM



ADVERTISEMENT



**WEEKLY
NEWSLETTER**

Get the scoops first!
Breaking news and
interviews on comics, sci-
fi, horror and more



Black Action Figures



Black Action Figures



Black Action Figures



Black Action Figures



What do all Superheroes have in common?

- 1.They all use their Brain to ultimately figure out a solution to the problem.
- 2.They keep getting up and trying again and again, until they find a resolution.



Please keep using your Superpowers



Sources

<https://hornet.com/stories/black-superheroes-history/>

<https://marinamaral.com/in-color-slavery-in-brazil-1869/>

<https://www.imdb.com/>

<https://www.marvel.com/>

<https://www.dc.com/>

<https://worldofblackheroes.com/>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Main_Page



You are cordially invited to
What can US Black
Postage stamps teach us
about History?
Mon. Feb 24
8-8:30pm



What can US Black Postage
teach us about History? NJ Edition
Monday Feb 24, 2025
8:00 - 8:30 PM EST



