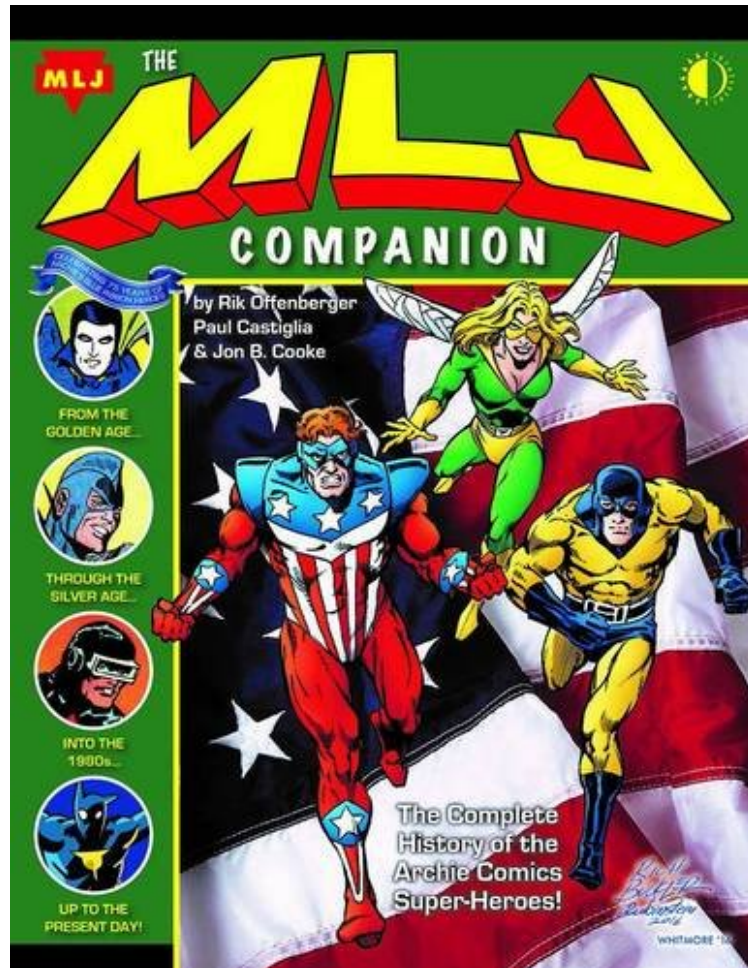


The MLJ Companion: The Complete History of the Archie Super-Heroes

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#149819 in Books Ingramcontent 2016-09-27Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 11.00 x .80 x 8.40l, .0 #File Name: 1605490679288 pagesThe MLJ Companion The Complete History of the Archie Super Heroes | File size: 36.Mb

Rik Offenberger, Paul Castiglia : The MLJ Companion: The Complete History of the Archie Super-Heroes before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The MLJ Companion: The Complete History of the Archie Super-Heroes:

7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Excellent History of the Archie Comics SuperheroesBy A FanThis is an excellent overview and history of the MLJ (now known as Archie Comics) superheroes, from their creation in the early Golden Age of comic books, right on through today. It includes excerpts from comic books, artwork, articles, and interviews. MLJ was a major force in the early days of comic book superheroes. Their creations include the first patriotic superhero, the Shield (who would inspire a plethora of other super patriots including the better known

Captain America), the Black Hood, the Comet (who's "visor" style uniform would later be imitated by the X-Men's Cyclops and Doctor Solar), and the Web. Towards the end of the Golden Age, their superheroes were superseded by the popularity of Archie, so much so that MLJ would change its name to Archie Comics. During the Silver Age superhero revival, Archie Comics worked with the likes of Joe Simon and Jack Kirby to create the Fly and a new Shield, Lancelot Strong; as well as updating several Golden Age heroes and creating their own superhero team, the Mighty Crusaders. There would be several other attempts to revive them in the Bronze Age and Modern Age as well, including licensing them to rival DC Comics a couple of times. If you are a fan of the Shield, the Fly, Black Hood, or the Mighty Crusaders, this book is a must for you. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The classic characters of MLJ in their numerous incarnations By Uncle Mickey If nothing else, this impressively in-depth compendium proves the resilience of the MLJ/Archie Comics characters. Reprints of the 1940s comics are the real prize here, with stories featuring the Black Hood, Steel Sterling, the Shield Dusty, the Web and the Hangman (in his big debut, bringing justice to the men who murdered his superhero brother, the Comet) making it a collectors' item, Those hoping for a detailed analysis/history of the remarkable number of revivals from World War II to the present day will not be disappointed, either. It's a big, thick book that has all the details chronicling the many incarnations of the heroes who banded together to form the popular super-team called the Mighty Crusaders. Pages from Joe Simon and Jack Kirby's Kirby's first issues of "The Fly" and their take on The Shield, "The Double Life of Private Strong," from 1959 are presented as examples of what would become the Mighty Comics line, even though they occurred in the pre-Red Circle/Blue Ribbon/Archie Adventure Comics time frame, In fact, the only missing connection between the '40s and the '50s/'60s eras is a mention of the dramatic impact Jack Kirby had on Irv Novick when they both worked together on "Shield Wizard" #7. Suddenly, Novick (who went on to be one of the best Batman artists) was panel-busting with the best of them. The late '50s/early '60s comics were as good as many DC titles of the time, while the mid-'60s presented an approach to storytelling that seemed as if it was lifted from the "Batman" TV series. Helmed by Superman co-creator Jerry Siegel, these wacky books have their partisans and, while I'm not one of them, there is something about the "Too Many Superheroes" issue of The Mighty Crusaders that makes it a one-of-a-kind hoot. DC had the characters for two runs, under the Impact logo in 1991 and the Red Circle imprint in 2009, although the latter consisted of a few titles scripted by J. Michael Straczynski, with only the Shield comics, continued by Eric Trautmann, reaching a tenth issue. Reprints of the '40s comics, now in public domain, have made the dream of owning these rare comics a low-cost reality. Yes, they retain the flaws of the originals (occasionally poor color registration, for example), but I never thought I'd own a complete collection of Bob Fugi's run on "The Hangman" or Novick's best work on the Shield, for example, let alone "King" Kirby's guest-art issue of Shield-Wizard #7. (These can be found by looking up publisher Kari Therrian and the title of the comic book.) It must be said that no one brought more class to the line than Rich Buckler and his crew, whose Blue Ribbon/Red Circle/Archie Adventure Comics run was the most consistent in quality. For example, Steve Ditko was drawing "The Fly" at one point, "The Fox" was by Alex Toth and the Black Hood topped them with the great work of Gray Morrow. Otherwise, one can only wonder what might have been if Straczynski's interpretations of the MLJ characters had lasted, but, as all too often happened, they were here and then they were gone. For now, we have the excellent crime thriller-oriented "Black Hood" and Dean Haspiel's quirky take on "The Fox" from Dark Circle Comics. More importantly, we have the MLJ Companion, a remarkable work composed of comprehensive reference material. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Reprints that are included By C. Andrews Also contains reprints of Black Hood from Top Notch Comics 19 Sep 41; Steel Sterling from Zip Comics 1 Feb 40; The Web from Zip Comics 27 Jul 42; Shield from Pep Comics 30 Aug 42; and Hangman from Pep Comics 17 Jul 41. Otherwise. the history covers the Golden Age to today (2016).

THE MLJ COMPANION documents the complete history of Archie Comics super-hero characters known as the Mighty Crusaders The Shield, Black Hood, Steel Sterling, Hangman, Mr. Justice, The Fly, and many others. It features in-depth examinations of each era of the characters extensive history: The Golden Age (beginning with the Shield, the first patriotic super-hero, who pre-dated Captain America by a full year), the Silver Age (spotlighting those offbeat, campy Mighty Comics issues, and The Fly and Jaguar), the Bronze Age (with the Red Circle line, and the Impact imprint published by DC Comics), up to the Modern Age, with its Dark Circle imprint (featuring such fan-favorites series as The Fox by Mark Waid and Dean Haspiel). Plus: Learn what MLJ stands for! Uncover such rarities as the Mighty Crusaders board game, and the Shadows short-lived career as a spandex-clad superhero! Discover the ill-fated Spectrum line of comics, that was abruptly halted due to its violent content! See where the super-heroes crossed over into Archie, Betty, and Veronicas world! And read interviews with Irv Novick, Dick Ayers, Rich Buckler, Bill DuBay, Steve Englehart, Jim Valentino, Jimmy Palmiotti, Kelly Jones, Michael Uslan, and others who chronicled the Mighty Crusaders exploits from the 1940s to today! By Rik Offenberger and Paul Castiglia, with a cover by Irv Novick and Joe Rubinstein. INCLUDES 64 FULL-COLOR PAGES OF KEY MLJ STORIES!