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Supervillain Book: The Evil Side Of Comics And Hollywood



Synopsis

Drawing from sources in comic books, film, live-action and animated television, newspaper strips, toys, and manga and anime, *The Supervillain Book* exhaustively explores the extraordinary lives and careers of hundreds of overachieving evildoers. This definitive A-to-Z guide to supervillains' nefarious masterminds, sinister societies, and destructive dominators that have battled super- and other fictional heroes is the follow-up to the critically acclaimed *Superhero Book*. A must-read for anyone ever enthralled with mythic wickedness, *The Supervillain Book* investigates each character's origin, modus operandi, costumes, weapons and gadgetry, secret hideouts, chief henchmen, and minions, while serving a super-sized trove of fascinating trivia. It also takes you behind the scenes, describing the creation and development of these marvelously malicious, menacing, and malevolent characters. With 350 entries on pop culture's most menacing masterminds, costumed criminals, sinister societies, and destructive dominators that have battled superheroes and fictional heroes of comics, TV, and film, this volume also includes 125 illustrations and a comprehensive resource section.

Book Information

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Age Range: 9 and up

Grade Level: 3 and up

Customer Reviews

It is hard to read all this in one go, but everything I have read in it so far has been very enlightening. Especially interesting are the entries on Sin City villains and Cold War Villains. There are many

individual entries in it, too, and it is great to trace the histories of all the individual villains, everyone from the High Evolutionary to Attuma to the Emperor Palpatine! A nice resource for those of us who want to know how our super-villains became so mean to our heroes!

OK, we all know what "Supervillains" are " guys and gals, humans, aliens and robots with seemingly extraordinary powers that they use for evil. Well, this handy dandy book is an encyclopedia of supervillains, going from the Abomination to the Emperor Zurg. And in between are Ozymandias, Judge Death and the Suicide Squad. Also included is such entries as evil organizations, evil twins and pulp supervillains, just to name a few! Now, as with any such book, there are bound to be villains that were not included for one reason or another. But, it does nonetheless cover a lot of supervillains in a really good manner. Each section discusses the villain, his or her powers, and history right up to the publication date of the book. I rather liked the book, and spent many good hours reading through about supervillains I know and supervillains I don't. If you like superhero stories, then I think you will like this book. I know I did!

Despite reviews that were disappointed with the lack of graphics, the information was wonderfully fun. Single entries are mostly from comics, but I think that is where most readers come for. There are also dozens of combined entries, such as for anime or manga series, or groups like the villains of the Adam West Batman show (with a photo of the whimsical King Tut). For graphics, yes, look elsewhere such as your web browser, but for a scrumptious read of either nostalgia for your old villains of your youth, or introductions to many newer ones, this should be a relatively inexpensive edition to your comics collection. It inspired me to purchase the preceding book on heroes, although villains are always more delicious, aren't they?

Two excellent surveys are recommended picks for any library strong in cartoons or graphic novels. Gina Misiroglu and Michael Eury's THE SUPERVILLAIN BOOK: THE EVIL SIDE OF COMICS AND HOLLYWOOD draws from sources not just in comic books but in film animated TV, toys, newspaper and more, providing an exploration of the plots and lives of definitive evil characters. An A-Z reference organization makes it easy to look up character origins, costumes, weapons, and facts - but this is more than a listing of evil. Discussions also include plenty of history, surveys of early influences, and more. Diane C. Donovan California Bookwatch

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