

PENGUIN
CLASSICS



MARVEL
COLLECTION



DISCUSSION GUIDE



COVERS
THE AMAZING
SPIDER-MAN,
BLACK PANTHER, AND
CAPTAIN AMERICA!



© 2022 MARVEL



PENGUIN
CLASSICS



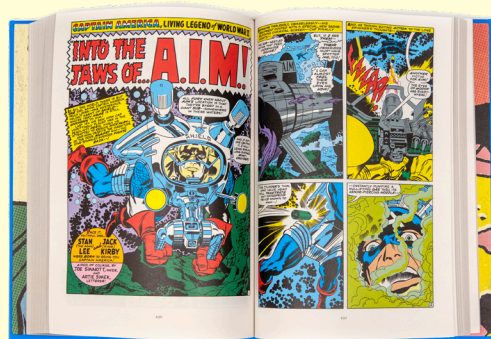
MARVEL
COLLECTION

MARVEL

THE PENGUIN CLASSICS MARVEL COLLECTION

presents the origin stories, seminal tales, and characters of the Marvel Universe to explore Marvel's transformative and timeless influence on an entire genre of fantasy.

For decades, Marvel has published groundbreaking visual narratives that sustain attention on multiple levels: as explorations of the relationship between power and responsibility; as metaphors for the experience of difference and otherness; as meditations on the pain of adolescence and the fluid nature of identity; as examinations of the meaning, and limits, of patriotism; as ironic juxtapositions of the cosmic and the quotidian; as resources for the understanding of political and social history; and as high watermarks in the artistic tradition of American cartooning. For the first time, these classic stories of some of the most iconic super heroes in the history of American comics are Penguin Classics.



CAPTAIN AMERICA

THESE EDITIONS, available in both deluxe hardcover and iconic black spine paperback formats, collect *Captain America Comics* #1 (1941); the Captain America stories from *Tales of Suspense* #59, #63-68, #75-81, #92-95, #110-113 (1964-1969); “Captain America . . . Commie Smasher” from *Captain America* #78 (1954).

Drawing upon multiple comic book series, this collection includes Captain America’s very first appearances from 1941 alongside key examples of his first solo stories of the 1960s, in which Steve Rogers, the newly resurrected hero of World War II, searches to find his place in a new and unfamiliar world. As the contents reveal, the transformations of this American icon thus mark parallel transformations in the nation itself.

FOREWORD BY GENE LUEN YANG



A foreword by *New York Times* bestselling author Gene Luen Yang and scholarly introductions and apparatus by Ben Saunders offer further insight into the enduring significance of Captain America and classic Marvel comics.



© 2022 MARVEL

CAPTAIN AMERICA

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS BY BEN SAUNDERS



1. What do you know about the variety of American attitudes toward “the war in Europe” prior to Pearl Harbor? How does that context change how we might interpret the cover and stories from Captain America Comics #1, which appeared several months before the Pearl Harbor attacks, in early 1940?
2. In what ways does Captain America’s 1940 origin story combine real-world elements with fictional tropes?
3. This volume is unusual in that it contains examples of the very first Captain America Comics from the 1940s as well as stories from the 1960s that are essentially “remakes” or reworking of those early stories. Compare and contrast one of those stories—the origin of Captain America, for example, or the first appearance of the Red Skull. How are they similar and how are they different?
4. What do the changes in these paired stories from the 1940s and 1960s suggest about changing attitudes toward World War II?
5. What do they suggest about changing approaches to the idea of the super hero or to the practice of comic book storytelling?
6. How would you describe the differences in Steve Rogers’s personality before and after his long sleep in the ice?
7. Almost all the stories in this collection were penciled by Jack Kirby. But his artistic style evolves dramatically across the pages of the book. How would you describe the differences among his early, middle, and late style?
8. The final stories in this collection are by Jim Steranko. What are some of the distinctive features of Steranko’s approach to comic book art, layout, and storytelling?





FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT
PENGUINRANDOMHOUSE.COM/PENGUINCLASSICSMARVELCOLLECTION

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

TR: 9780143135739
 HC: 9780143135722

BLACK PANTHER

TR: 9780143135814
 HC: 9780143135807

CAPTAIN AMERICA

TR: 9780143135753
 HC: 9780143135746



PENGUIN CLASSICS
 MARVEL COLLECTION



© 2022 MARVEL