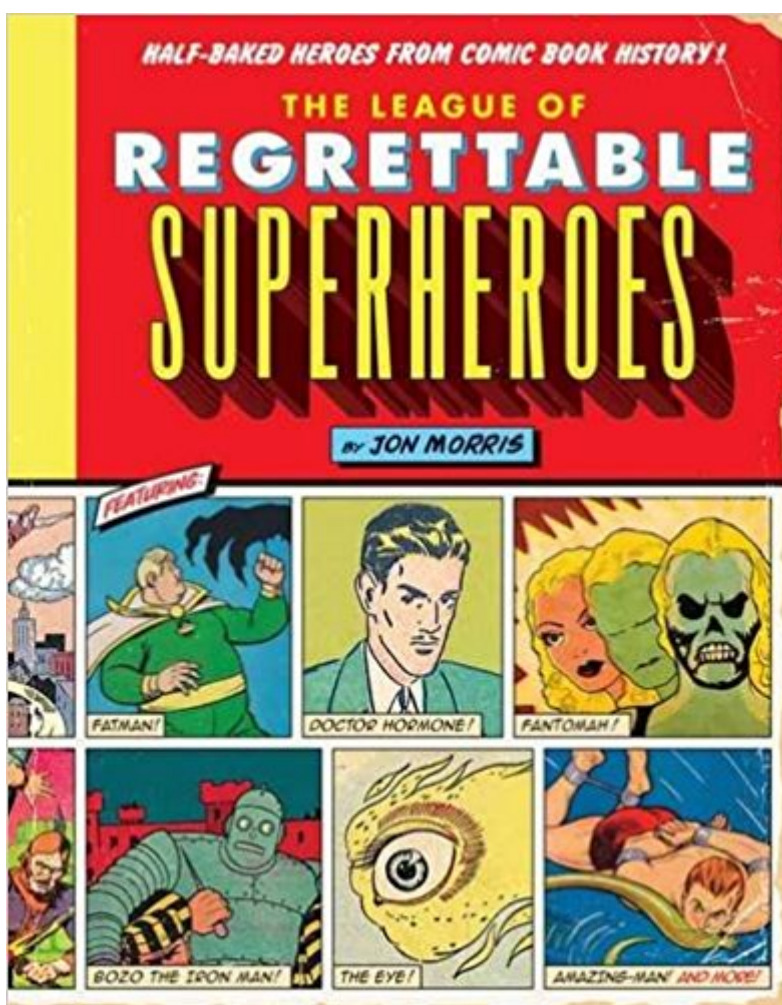




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The League Of Regrettable Superheroes: Half-Baked Heroes From Comic Book History



Synopsis

You know about Batman, Superman, and Spiderman, but have you heard of Doll Man, Doctor Hormone, or Spider Queen? In *The League of Regrettable Superheroes*, you'll meet one hundred of the strangest superheroes ever to see print, complete with backstories, vintage art, and colorful commentary. So prepare yourself for such not-ready-for-prime-time heroes as Bee Man (Batman, but with bees), the Clown (circus-themed crimebuster), the Eye (a giant, floating eyeball; just accept it), and many other oddballs and oddities. Drawing on the entire history of the medium, *The League of Regrettable Superheroes* will appeal to die-hard comics fans, casual comics readers, and anyone who enjoys peering into the stranger corners of pop culture.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"A volume rich with historical anecdotes and informed commentary on every era of comics history."
"A.V. Club" "With its gorgeous full page images of the comics and humorous descriptions of the heroes, each second-stringer gets a few pages of glory."
"Boing Boing" "Jon Morris has compiled the histories and art of some of the strangest and most unusual superheroes that ever saw print and collected them here for you. Definitely check it out!"
"Nerdist" "This compendium of short-lived superheroes (from actual comics) will thrill and amaze."
"Mental Floss" "It's a great idea, executed with adroit prose, attractive design and painstaking production quality" "full-page, full-color excerpts accompany each entry, turning what could have been a merely dutiful archive into

a vibrant, living, expertly curated tour of a long-neglected and a seriously goofy facet of American cultural history. • Monkey See • “[A]n amusing collection of obscure wonderments. • Sci Fi magazine • “Forgotten but not gone, cartoonist and graphic designer Jon Morris has lovingly resurrected, wittily chronicled, and copiously illustrated these idiosyncratic super-D-list-ers • more than a hundred • for our enlightenment and • mostly • amusement. • Print magazine • “[Morris’s] wealth of knowledge and whip-smart sense of humor add up to a book that’s both deeply informative and quite funny. • Seattle Weekly • “This excellent book would be a worthy addition to any comic fan’s collection, be they the hardcore enthusiast or the more casual fan of the superhero genre. • ComicBook.com • “This compilation is essential reading both old and new fans who revel in the art of comic books...This is a wealth of comic art and undeniable fun. • The New York Journal of Books

Jon Morris is a cartoonist and graphic designer. Since the late 1990s, he’s operated the blog Gone & Forgotten, an irreverent look at the weirdest and most unfortunate stories and characters comic books have offered. In 2001, he was invited to participate in a superheroes-themed episode of the public radio program This American Life, a popular and frequently rebroadcast episode.

A beautifully produced book filled with vintage material about superheroes who were destined to fail. After reading it I checked out the author’s blog, and I must admit - Jon Morris is a pretty funny guy. However, this book is only 90% humor. There’s a lot of relevance here as well, and every article on each of the poor unfortunate characters Jon showcases has been meticulously researched. Hence, the end result is a product filled with useful facts that can be read either encyclopedia style by selecting individual entries, or by adopting a more story-centric approach by starting from the Golden Age and working upwards through The Silver Age and into the Modern. Each hero’s biography paints a complete picture of his/her history and a short analysis of why he/she may be deemed regrettable. The main character art of each entry is stunning, but the real highlight for me was the short one-page strips accompanying each superheroes’ well-written history. The overall look and feel of the book exudes charm and is a true pleasure to read. Most of the weirdest and zaniest creations spotlighted came from The Golden Age, but there are a fair number of entries from other eras too. My favorite Golden Age mishaps featured within are, among others, Stardust the

Super Wizard, Speed Centaur, Kangaroo Man, The Puppeteer, Fantomah, Bozo the Robot and Doctor Hormone. Oh, and how could I forget Invisible Scarlet O'Neil, the very first invisible superheroine? The Silver Age is also ripe for the picking, with entries like B'Wana Beast (Love him!) and the classic Legion of Super-Pets. For the Modern Age I need only utter a single name: Thunderbunny! But the list goes on and on, and each page is as entertaining as the next. A worthy read, and a bang-for-your-buck purchase indeed.

Completely unique and entertaining. Firstly the book is beautifully produced with cleanly printed and fully rendered pages and reproductions of the original comics. Along with Jon Morris' well researched and at times laugh out loud funny analysis, makes this a great addition for collectors or casual comics fans. Much of the book is dedicated to the emerging golden age of comics, where we are introduced to the likes of "Bozo the Ironman" and "Captain Tootsie." The profiles range from the utterly ridiculous; "Dr. Hormone" to the poorly conceived rip offs, "Nature Boy" to the what might have been had the sold more copies; "Captain Science." Morris notes that the downfall of many of these was economic and not always the pure silliness of the product. Honestly, some beloved legendary characters such as Dr. Strange, Silver Surfer, and Plastic Man easily could have wound up in this book had the been scraped by their publishers. Great Book overall!!

A light hearted trip through comic book history of the duds, flops and never ready for prime time superheroes, as you travel through this book one is struck of what were the creators of this superheroes were thinking of while drawing their creations., Each regrettable is allotted one to two pages of a panel of the comic books and some of the history and backstory of each character. I chuckled over and over while reading this book- get this book you will not be disappointed. A great companion book would be regrettable villains of comic book history.

I found this book after recently purchasing this author's book about regrettable super villains. I was so taken with that book, I bought this one and then immediately picked up more of them to give as gifts. It is perfect for anyone who likes comics or wants a walk down comic book memory lane along with some laughs and chuckles. I especially like having the two books as it provides a more complete look at the failed comics since 1938. The book is broken into three parts: The Golden Age, The Silver Age and The Modern Age. The Golden Age spans the years 1938 through 1949. The Silver Age covers 1950 through 1969. Finally, The Modern Age is from 1970 through the present (i.e., when the book was published 2017.) As with the villains book, most of the regrettable

superheroes are from the Golden Age. One that especially caught my eye was Captain Tootsie. He looked so familiar! When reading the blurb, I discovered why. Apparently, he was based on Captain Marvel. A big difference was that Captain Tootsie was powered by a steady stream of Tootsie roll candies (aha! That explains the name.) Kind of like Popeye but with sugary teeth pulling candy instead of spinach. What kid would object to that? I have a few comics that I have kept through my life and I have many from the collections my children amassed during their childhood. While the comics featured in this book are not part of my collection, I am really enjoying reading about the humorous history behind the genre.

Nothing truly laugh-out-loud funny, but lots of head scratching odd entries. And the entries are both painstakingly researched and lovingly restored to their former, uh, 'Glory.' A very accessibly priced hardcover book, done in beautiful (and not incorrectly aligned and blurry, as the originals often were) crisp colors on fine paper stock, and weighing it at a few pages above 250, I can't see how you can go wrong by purchasing this book. A truly delightful peek at many long-forgotten and cringe-worthy super heroes, super heroines, and some unclassifiable robots, vampires, animals, and other absurdities that someone, at some time, said; "Hey, yeah! That IS a good idea - let's run with it!" Oh, and the one thing that groups most of these characters together - a loyalty to the Allies in WWII! "Come on, fellas - let's go overthrow Tojo!" A fine book, indeed.

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