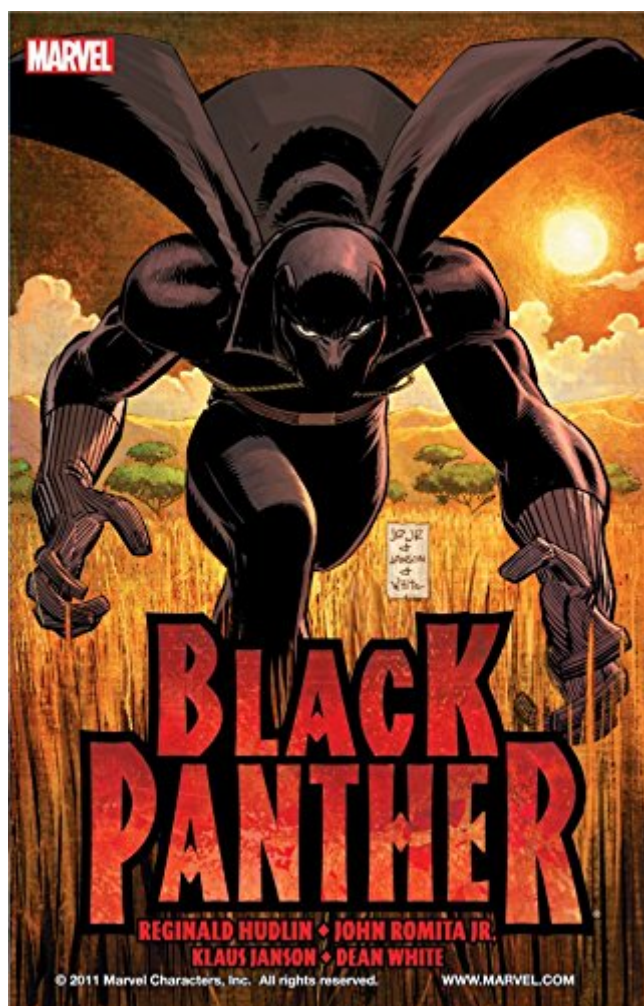


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Black Panther: Who Is The Black Panther? (Black Panther (2005-2008))



Synopsis

Collects Black Panther (2005) #1-6. Deep in the heart of Africa is Wakanda, a technologically advanced civilization of great power and mystery. It's warrior-king is T'Challa, the latest in a famed family line, and the great hero known worldwide as the Black Panther. Despite the futile defeats of the past, outsiders are once more assembling to invade Wakanda and plunder its riches. Leading this brutal assault is Klaw, a deadly assassin with the blood of T'Challa's murdered father on his hands. Klaw brings with him a powerful army of super-powered mercenaries, all hell-bent on raining death and destruction on this pristine land. Even with Wakanda's might and his own superhuman skills, can the Black Panther prevail against such a massive invading force?

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Customer Reviews

Recently started reading comics (after a friend let me borrow his Walking Dead comics). I saw that Black Panther was going to be in the new Avengers movie but wasn't familiar with the character so I thought I'd read up on him some. I loved this book and the Black Panther may easily be my favorite superhero now!!! I was so sad when it ended and the story doesn't continue. (If anyone knows where part 2 can be found - let me know!) Definitely definitely recommend!

This graphic novel was the first Black Panther book I've ever read. I read a 4-issue miniseries a long time ago, but it didn't leave much of an impression on me because I've forgotten what the story was even about(I think it was about someone, a cop I think, named Casper Cole taking on the role of Black Panther and fighting corruption on the streets in America). Needless to say, it was not the classic Black Panther that this story is about. This Black Panther, T'Challa of Wakanda(a small independent country in Africa that is both a tribal and simultaneously more technologically advanced nation than any other in the world), is WAY different and MUCH cooler! I have read books with T'Challa in them before, but never one where he was the central character of the story. And what a heck of a story it is. The story is an origin story and a suspenseful, political, action-thriller about revenge and power - those who have it, and those who want it. I won't go into the details of the plot, so don't worry, no spoilers here. What I will do is comment on the quality of the story in both the writing and the artwork. First, the writing. Reginald Hudlin, coming from the movie industry, does a nice job in weaving together a history for both the Black Panther and the nation of Wakanda, while telling an intriguing action-thriller that moves at a fast pace which rarely lets up. His movie-making influence can be felt here in the best possible way. His history makes for an excellent transition into telling this story in a wonderfully cinematic fashion. You could see this as a movie quite easily. In fact, Marvel Knights DID make this into an animated movie/motion comic. This leads me to the artwork. John Romita, Jr.(a favorite of mine) contributes heavily to the cinematic look and feel of this book. Although the panel layouts are of the simple, classic kind(there are no panels-within-panels/overlapping panels, or non-square/rectangle panels to be found here), which is typical of JRJR's stuff, there is still that feeling of watching a movie unfold before your eyes. I find that this is the case with much of his works(see "Daredevil: The Man Without Fear", "Kick-Ass", or "The Incredible Hulk v.1: Return of the Monster"). If you aren't familiar with his style, I would describe it as highly tangible. That is to say, it is clearly intelligible. It isn't elusive in any way. It's very straightforward and simplistic. That doesn't mean that it isn't stylized. You could have 100 artists draw the same page, and I could pick his out with ease. His look is both cartoonish and realistic in nature. And his characters have a somewhat blocky nature to them. I happen to like this aspect and think that it works well for him. The amount of detail in his panels is modest, yet he hits all the right notes to sell the reality of the scene. His close-ups, for example, are typically absent of any background elements entirely(aside from a solitary color). He chooses, rather wisely(for HIS style anyway), to emphasize the main focus of the scene; be it an apologetic yet uneasy expression on the face of a prostitute declining a proposition from a customer to allow him to kiss her in

exchange for added cash; or the image of two hands - one, the customer's holding out a wad of hundreds, the other the prostitute's, reluctantly outstretched in acceptance of the cash - completing the foreboding transaction of which she had just previously declined. JRJR is a master storyteller. He makes even little things like this palpable. And his action sequences? Top-notch. There were a couple of things that were drawbacks. One was the fact that pretty much all of the non-Wakandans in the story tended to be portrayed in a rather negative light. I understand that Hudlin was trying to establish that Wakanda was not only technologically advanced, but also socially and morally advanced as well. You can agree or disagree with this premise, but although I think Hudlin may have pushed a little too hard sometimes in trying to validate this stance, I respect his position and I believe that it makes sense within the sociopolitical context of this book. The other thing that detracted from this book was the quick ending. It seemed to end a little too fast for me. But I can live with these things because the overall story is a fun read, and the artwork is great. In the end, I really enjoyed this book. I would recommend it to anyone who is a fan of either JRJR or suspenseful action-thrillers in general.

I got this because I'm a Black Panther fan, and also because I'm a big John Romita Jr. fan. Klaus Jansen inks JRJR like no one else can, and for my money, no one else should ink his pencils. The artwork here is very good - but lacking something for me. I was trying to figure out why, and I think the book is too dark. Not in storyline, but just in coloring. The older versions of Black Panther have his suit almost a blue color, with lots of heavy darks and line work. This gives him a depth and shows off the artistic touches much better than trying to keep him all dark with grays/blacks. JRJR's linework needs to be seen, otherwise his style becomes too blocky and sparse, like cardboard cutouts. The rest of the book is gorgeous, but when it comes to the main character, that's who I wanted to see tricked out in JRJR's style. The plot was the best in the history of Black Panther yet. It was nice to have him in his country of origin, instead of finding reasons to bring him to big cities via silly plot twists. I found the tech a little overdone and unexplained, and also the villain was boring and not only named after Inspector Gadget's arch enemy, he had the same gimmicky hand. A solid book for a character that needed it by a good team. Look for the animated series on Netflix or DVD - because it's cooler than the book, and I think JRJR's pics came out better in that format. Plus, Captain America's scene figures in much more in the animated series than his too brief treatment here.

This collection is a very good introduction to the Black Panther and associated aspects of the

Marvel universe. Overall it's a fairly straightforward comic tale, but by the end the reader should feel prepared and intrigued to read more stories about Wakanda and the characters introduced here. Fair warning, this is not a Saturday morning cartoon comic. A character's death is the central driver of the story, a handful of other deaths occur along the way, and sometimes the Black Panther values vengeance over virtue. So parents should give it a read before handing it over to young readers.

This is a quintessential reboot of the Black Panther Character. This brings Wakanda, and The former avenger to the forefront of political and international intrigue. The books ties the past and present together and shows why T'Challa could be a first string character. This book could very easily translate into a movie. A fun read for a character who is so often ignored.

The Black Panther was created in a late-60s fit of conscience. Marvel Comics writers wanted to add a black hero to the roster; they saw a news item about some "Black Panther" group scaring white people in California. Boom: The new character had a name, albeit instead of protesting racism in America, he was the superpowered king of a wealthy African kingdom. Hudlin has taken a second-tier character and made him fascinating. In his new Panther mythos, the Panther's Wakanda is constantly under siege from arrogant (white) would-be conquerors. One of them, The Klaw, is trying to avenge the shame of his South African forefather, who tried and failed to conquer the Wakandans. He draws blood. He gives the Panther an epic challenge on his home turf. It's a thrilling story that could be turned into a Will Smith vehicle tomorrow. But maybe they'd blow it! Romita's art elevates the story and the action the way some bland CGI never could.

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