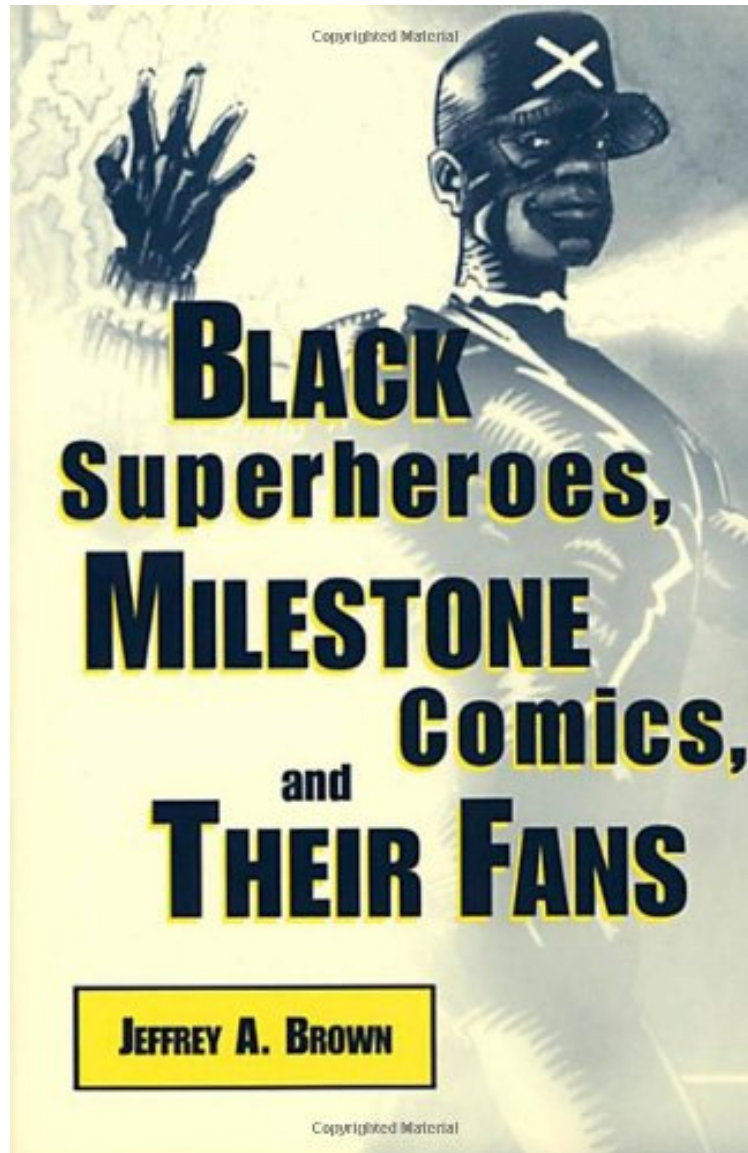


[Free read ebook] Black Superheroes, Milestone Comics, and Their Fans (Studies in Popular Culture)

Black Superheroes, Milestone Comics, and Their Fans (Studies in Popular Culture)

Jeffrey A. Brown

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Jeffrey A. Brown : Black Superheroes, Milestone Comics, and Their Fans (Studies in Popular Culture) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Black Superheroes, Milestone Comics, and Their Fans (Studies in Popular Culture):

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. ExcellentBy Darnel DegandI really appreciate the amount of time

the author put into writing this book. He did an excellent job discussing comic books in great detail. But he also acknowledged the other media formats and sociological factors that influence comic books and readers. I also appreciated his honesty. It appears that he did his best to let us know where the validity of his study could be called into question because of the circumstances that happen while trying to conduct this type of study. This book also introduces the reader to multiple other sources of research and media that someone picking up this book would be interested in learning more about. This book is for comic book fans of all races and ages. Yes, it's definitely an academic book but it's also a book for very serious fans of popular media. I also highly recommend it to mothers and fathers of young children. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Julian C. Chambliss Read this!!! 0 of 2 people found the following review helpful. AN AMAZING BOOK By J. Moreno The history of the black superheroes in the 90s. An amazing book to understand africanamerican heroes' role in the modern comics.

What do the comic book figures Static, Hardware, and Icon all have in common? *Black Superheroes, Milestone Comics, and Their Fans* gives an answer that goes far beyond "tights and capes," an answer that lies within the mission Milestone Media, Inc., assumed in comic book culture. Milestone was the brainchild of four young black creators who wanted to part from the mainstream and do their stories their own way. This history of Milestone, a "creator-owned" publishing company, tells how success came to these mavericks in the 1990s and how comics culture was expanded and enriched as fans were captivated by this new genre. Milestone focused on the African American heroes in a town called Dakota. Quite soon these black action comics took a firm position in the controversies of race, gender, and corporate identity in contemporary America. Characters battled supervillains and sometimes even clashed with more widely known superheroes. Front covers of Milestone comics often bore confrontational slogans like "Hardware: A Cog in the Corporate Machine is About to Strip Some Gears." Milestone's creators aimed for exceptional stories that addressed racial issues without alienating readers. Some competitors, however, accused their comics of not being black enough or of merely marketing Superman in black face. Some felt that the stories were too black, but a large cluster of readers applauded these new superheroes for fostering African American pride and identity. Milestone came to represent an alternative model of black heroism and, for a host of admirers, the ideal of masculinity. *Black Superheroes* gives details about the founding of Milestone and reports on the secure niche its work and its image achieved in the marketplace. Tracing the company's history and discussing its creators, their works, and the fans, this book gauges Milestone alongside other black comic book publishers, mainstream publishers, and the history of costumed characters.

From *Library Journal* Brown's effort is well intentioned, but it will leave readers confused. Its main thrust is to offer "an examination of contemporary comic book fandom as it relates specifically to the texts published by Milestone Media." One problem: Milestone has, for all intents and purposes, not published for the last several years; in fact, it has been out of business longer than it was ever in business. So how seriously can you take this book, whose narrow focus is hugely disappointing? We need a legitimate study of black superheroes, and this is simply not it. Not recommended with great bitterness. Chris Ryan, New Milford Copyright 2001 Reed Business Information, Inc. From the Inside Flap A history of the trailblazing comics that broke color barriers and portrayed African Americans in heroic storylines About the Author Jeffrey A. Brown is an assistant professor of popular culture at Bowling Green State University. He has been published in *Screen*, *Cinema Journal*, *African American*, *Journal of Popular Culture*, *Discourse*, and *Journal of Popular Film and Television*.