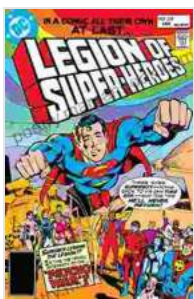


The Legion of Super-Heroes: A Comprehensive Look at the Epic 1980-1989 Saga

The Legion of Super-Heroes is a legendary team of teenage superheroes from the 30th century who have captured the imaginations of comic book fans for decades. From their humble beginnings in the pages of Adventure Comics in 1958, the Legion has evolved into one of the most iconic and beloved super-teams in all of comics.



Legion of Super-Heroes (1980-1985) #259 (Legion of Super-Heroes (1980-1989))

★★★★☆ 4.7 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 76409 KB

Screen Reader : Supported

Print length : 18 pages

Lending : Enabled



In the 1980s, the Legion underwent a major renaissance under the creative direction of writer Paul Levitz and artist Keith Giffen. This period, which ran from 1980 to 1989, saw the Legion at the height of its powers, both in terms of its popularity and its creative output.

During this time, the Legion faced its greatest challenges and achieved its most memorable victories. They battled against cosmic threats, time-

traveling villains, and even their own inner demons. But through it all, they remained a symbol of hope and idealism, inspiring generations of readers.

The Creative Team

The success of the Legion of Super-Heroes during the 1980s can be attributed in large part to the talented creative team behind the scenes. Writer Paul Levitz and artist Keith Giffen were the driving forces behind the Legion's resurgence, and their contributions to the series are immeasurable.

Levitz was a lifelong Legion fan who had been writing the team's adventures since the early 1970s. He brought a deep understanding of the characters and their world to the series, and his stories were always filled with action, adventure, and heart.

Giffen was a rising star in the comics industry when he joined the Legion in 1982. His dynamic and expressive art style brought the characters to life in a way that had never been seen before. Giffen's work on the Legion is considered to be some of the best of his career.

The Legionnaires

The Legion of Super-Heroes is made up of a diverse group of young heroes from all walks of life. Each member possesses unique powers and abilities, and together they form a formidable team that can overcome any obstacle.

Some of the most popular Legionnaires from the 1980s era include:

- **Superboy:** The young Superman from the 20th century

- **Lightning Lad:** A speedster from the planet Winath
- **Saturn Girl:** A telepath from the planet Saturn
- **Cosmic Boy:** A magnetic superhero from the planet Braal
- **Shadow Lass:** A shape-shifter from the planet Trom
- **Ultra Boy:** A super-strong hero from the planet Rimbor
- **Matter-Eater Lad:** A hero who can eat any substance from the planet Bismoll
- **Element Lad:** A hero who can control the elements from the planet Daxam
- **Phantom Girl:** A hero who can phase through objects from the planet Phantos
- **Princess Projectra:** A hero who can project her thoughts into the minds of others from the planet Orando

The Great Darkness Saga

One of the most iconic storylines in Legion history is the "Great Darkness Saga," which ran from 1982 to 1983. This epic tale saw the Legion face their greatest threat yet: the Great Darkness, an ancient evil that threatened to consume the entire universe.

The Great Darkness Saga is a sprawling and complex story that tested the Legion to their limits. They were forced to make difficult choices, and they suffered great losses along the way. But in the end, they emerged victorious, and they saved the universe from destruction.

The Five Year Gap

After the events of the Great Darkness Saga, the Legion was forced to take a five-year hiatus. During this time, many of the Legionnaires went their separate ways, and the team disbanded.

In 1988, the Legion reformed, but the team was very different than it had been before the Five Year Gap. Many of the old members had left, and new heroes had joined the ranks. The team also faced a new set of challenges, including the rise of the Time Trapper, a powerful villain who sought to control the Legion's destiny.

The End of an Era

The 1980s Legion of Super-Heroes came to an end in 1989 with the publication of Legion of Super-Heroes #259. This issue saw the team disbanded once again, and the Legionnaires went their separate ways.

The end of the 1980s Legion was a sad day for many fans, but it also marked the end of an era. The Legion had been through a lot over the years, and they had emerged from the experience as a stronger and more unified team. The 1980s Legion will always be remembered as one of the greatest super-teams of all time.

Legacy

The Legion of Super-Heroes has had a profound impact on the world of comics. The team has inspired generations of readers, and they have helped to shape the way we think about the future. The Legion has also been a pioneer in terms of diversity, and they have featured a wide range of characters from different backgrounds and cultures.

The Legion of Super-Heroes is more than just a comic book team. They are a symbol of hope, idealism, and diversity. The Legion reminds us that anything is possible if we work together and never give up on our dreams.

Recommended Reading

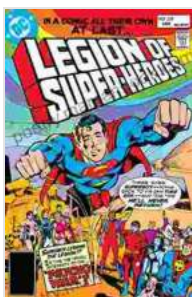
If you are interested in learning more about the Legion of Super-Heroes, I recommend the following reading:

- **The Great Darkness Saga Omnibus:** Collects the complete "Great Darkness Saga" storyline from Legion of Super-Heroes #290-294 and Superboy and the Legion of Super-Heroes #221-222.
- **Legion of Super-Heroes: The Five Year Gap Omnibus:** Collects the complete "Five Year Gap" storyline from Legion of Super-Heroes #35-38, Annual #3, and Superboy and the Legion of Super-Heroes #247-251.
- **The Legion of Super-Heroes Archives:** Collects the complete Legion of Super-Heroes series from Adventure Comics #247-380.
- **The Legion of Super-Heroes Omnibus:** Collects the complete Legion of Super-Heroes series from Legion of Super-Heroes (vol. 2) #1-63.

Image Gallery







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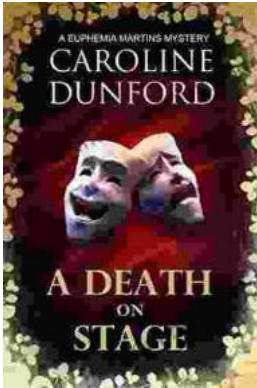
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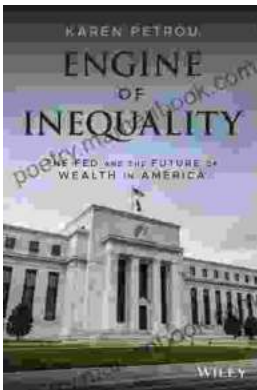
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