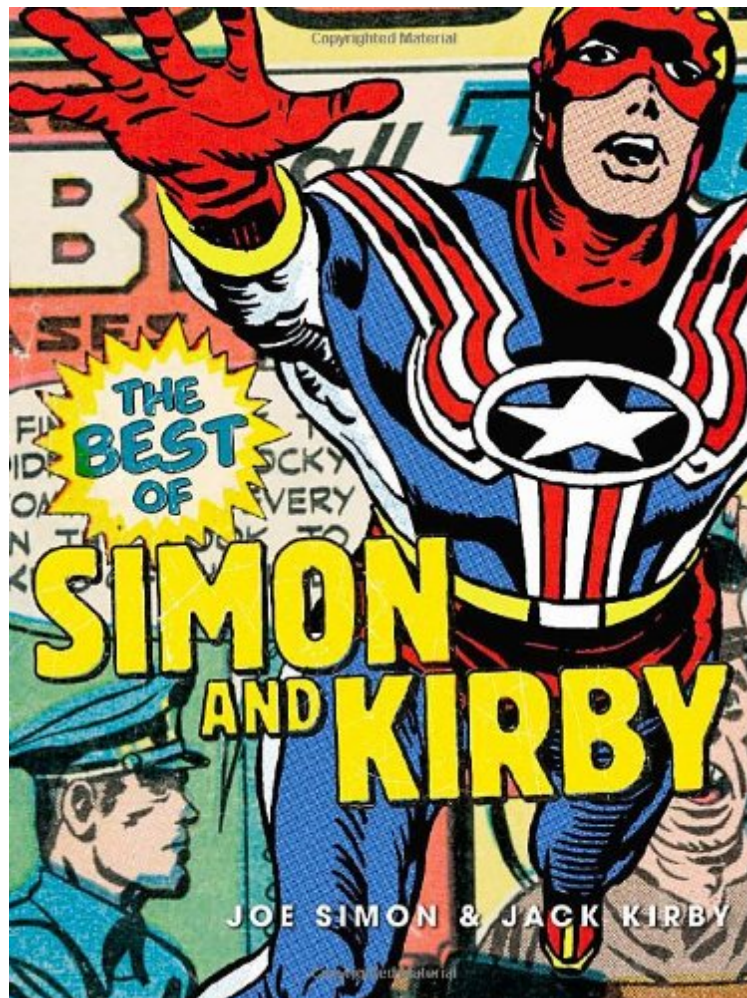


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The Best of Simon and Kirby

Joe Simon, Jack Kirby

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Joe Simon, Jack Kirby : The Best of Simon and Kirby before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Best of Simon and Kirby:

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. I Have Been Waiting for This Book All My Life! By William Cross There are very few names as magical as Simon Kirby in the history of comic book creators. This gorgeous volume is a long-overdue look at one of the most prolific and inventive teams in the field. Joe Simon Jack Kirby created some of the most memorable super-heroes beginning with Captain America and continuing until the team broke up in the 1950's. Most of their better known creations are all here with a representative story each. But thank goodness this "must have" hardcover doesn't end with the super-heroes because SK could never be pigeon-holed by any one genre. In addition to creating Romance Comics, they made significant contributions to just about every type of book you could imagine. This BEST OF volume gives you a sampling of their War, Horror, Crime, Science Fiction,

Romance, Humor and Western (Yes, BOYS RANCH BULLS EYE are here) work as well. The book itself has been lovingly produced. The scan work is the best I have ever seen, actually improving on the color registration and correcting other flaws in the source material. The oversized format is terrific. Joe Jack's art is often so crammed with detail that having it reproduced slightly larger than the old comic books really saves on the eye strain. Future volumes will focus on specific genres, but this comprehensive overview is the perfect way to kick off the series. Highly recommended to fans of pop culture in general and exciting, action-packed comics in particular. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A Great Collection From Two Titans of the Comics By Gregory Nyman I've been a huge fan of the Simon and Kirby team for a long time (primarily Kirby) and this volume is the best one I've ever seen in presenting their work. For long-time fans like myself, you will find excellent art reproduction at a larger-than-usual size with accurate coloring and a wonderful paper stock. As an example, just compare the Blue Bolt story with the tpb collection that came out some years ago, and you'll find the one in "The Best of Simon and Kirby" to be vastly superior. For those who are comic book fans, but unfamiliar with the works of Simon and Kirby, or even curious non-comic book fans, this collection represents an excellent introduction to the quality and variety of their work. Another reviewer mentions that there were not enough superhero stories in this book; to me that's like complaining there aren't enough aliens, or dinosaurs, or sharks in the movies of Steven Spielberg! Like Spielberg, Simon and Kirby could handle any genre they put their mind to and were not content to rest on their laurels of past accomplishments. While Simon and Kirby were masters of the superhero genre, and in fact Kirby is best known for his superhero work in collaboration with Stan Lee at Marvel Comics, they were equally adept at other genres as well, as is ably shown in this book. Simon and Kirby invented the romance comic, a genre which was one of the largest sellers in the early 50s, and to not showcase their work on them would be criminal. And speaking of criminal you will also find excellent examples of crime, horror, war, humor and many other types of stories, all expertly handled by this dynamic team. Comic books since the mid 40s have always been about more than just superheroes and "The Best of Simon Kirby" shows that whatever genre Joe and Jack decided to tackle, they were masters of it. This book though, is more than just a collection of some of the best comic book stories ever created for the medium, it is also a large, gorgeous art book that anybody could be proud to display on their coffee table. I can't wait to see the future volumes Titan publishes in this Simon and Kirby series, especially the non-superhero horror and science-fiction stories. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Golden age fans, Simon/Kirby fans, art fans: BUY THIS BOOK! By Charles Hutchinson I wrote a lengthier review that disappeared, so here's an abbreviated one: Titan Books and Henry Mendryk really (who did the fantastic color reproduction) really outdid themselves with this beautiful tome. All of these varied SK classics are in a large-size format, so you get to really examine the artwork. The color reproduction is flat out fantastic. The colors are obviously brighter than they would have been on the old newsprint printings when they were first published, but they are not garishly bright. Mendryk really put a lot of care into preserving the energy of the colors without making the pages look like they were done with the fancy digital coloring of the modern day. Even color bleeds are kept in. That is something I think could have been discarded, with the color bleeds fixed, but I respect the decision. The benday dots are visible, which helps to bring that old-comic feel to each page. I haven't read any of the text pieces yet, but given the quality of the contributors and the quality of the book itself, I'm sure they are top-notch. On the copyright page Titan has a list of upcoming/coming soon books in the SK library, and they will make you drool, let me tell you. This is a worthy initial entry in the great feat of re-presenting Simon and Kirby works that have rarely been seen since their initial printings. I was particularly tickled to see Stuntman in full color, which I have never seen before other than a few scans of the original stories. If you are a fan of the golden age, of Kirby and/or Joe Simon, of power-packed storytelling in all the known genres, or even a casual comic historian, I urge you to buy this book!

A collection of complete comic book stories from the legendary team of Joe Simon and Jack Kirby, covering every genre in which they made their mark. From the very beginning in the late 1930s, Simon and Kirby produced the finest stories around, creating dramatic new super heroes (Captain America, Blue Bolt, Fighting American, The Fly), western action (Boys Ranch), gruesome horror (Black Magic), explosive detective fiction (Justice Traps the Guilty), and the very first romance comics (Young Romance). They were the dream team. The only edition authorized by both Joe Simon and the estate of Jack Kirby Hand-picked by Joe Simon himself, with introductory material by him The images are fully restored to their original vibrancy by Harry Mendryk and presented in an impressive, collectible package Contains more than two-dozen tales, presented in their entirety, including stories from Simon and Kirby's time at DC and Marvel Includes some of the most famous SK creations, including Captain America, Fighting American, The Fly, Boys Ranch, Bullseye, and Stuntman The beginning of a planned collection of the entire Simon and Kirby Library With illustrated essays by Mark Evanier, author of Kirby: King of Comics

"Joe Simon and Jack Kirby are comics Lennon/McCartney dream duo. Teaming in the 1940s, Simon was the seasoned writer/editor/inker and Kirby the hot young artist who ultimately became one of the industry's most influential and creative personalities. They invented Captain America, received the first cover bylines, and their jump-off-the-pages action told the story as strongly as the words, changing comics forever. This first in a six-volume series offers a broad

look at their collaborations. They worked in many genres, and chapters spotlight heroes, science fiction, war and adventure, crime drama, Westerns, horror, sick humor, and romance (future volumes will cover some subjects individually), each with a background intro by Kirby biographer Mark Evanier. The book sports 25 gloriously restored comics selected by Simon plus five additional covers the art is absolutely killer! and is capped with a checklist of all the comics they produced together/apart. Dazzling from beginning to end, *The Best of Simon and Kirby* is a monumental piece of comics history and a hunk of Americana that is a dream come true for legions of fans. Buy it for your graphic novels, art, or pop-culture collections, but buy it. Essential." *Library Journal*

About the Author: Joe Simon, with Jack Kirby, created one of the most enduring American heroes in 1940 with the first issue of *Captain America Comics* from Timely Comics, the company that became Marvel Comics. Simon proved to be a brilliant editor, writer, penciller, inker, and businessman, serving as an editor for Archie, Harvey, Fox, Crestwood, and Mainline Publications, Simon and Kirby's own company. Jack Kirby is one of the most famous illustrators in comic book history. Having begun in the Fox Comics Bullpen in 1939, he teamed with Joe Simon on such seminal series as *Blue Bolt* and *Captain Marvel Adventures*. In subsequent years they worked in every genre imaginable, often seeing their titles sell in excess of one million copies.