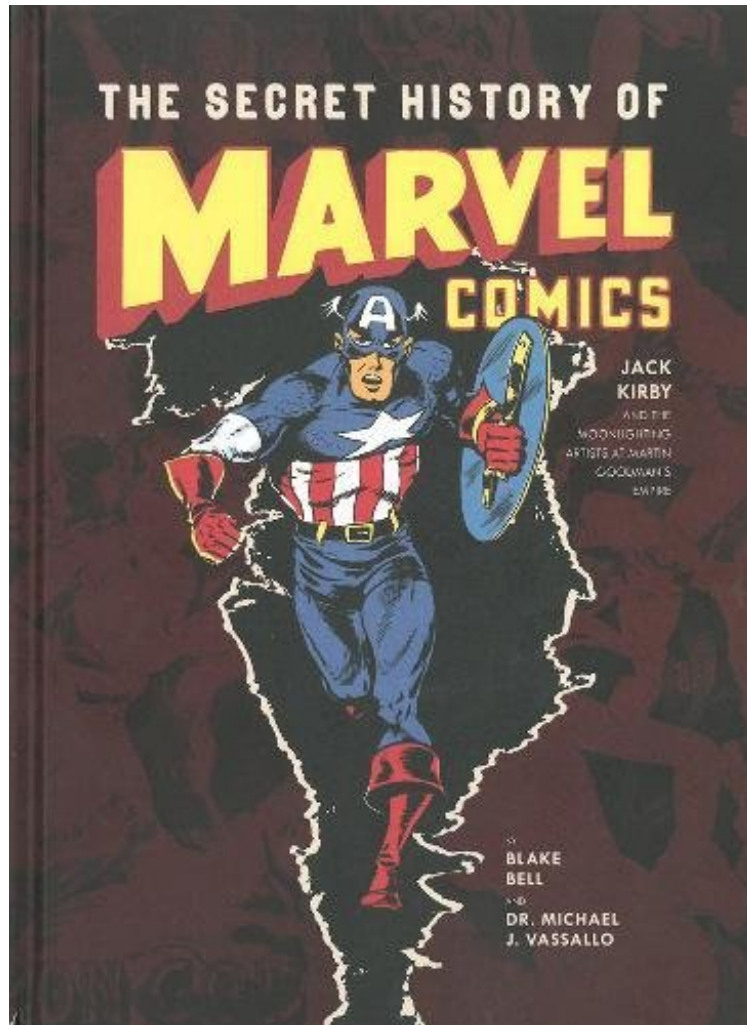


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The Secret History of Marvel Comics: Jack Kirby and the Moonlighting Artists at Martin Goodman's Empire

Blake Bell, Michael J. Vassallo
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Blake Bell, Michael J. Vassallo : The Secret History of Marvel Comics: Jack Kirby and the Moonlighting Artists at Martin Goodman's Empire before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Secret History of Marvel Comics: Jack Kirby and the Moonlighting Artists at Martin Goodman's Empire:

7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Never 'Nuff said!By Ronault D. TrowbridgeI've read several books about the triumphant rise of Marvel comics, but the most interesting part of the company history, is the way the artists who helped create the iconic characters were mistreated. This book delves deep into the shady business practices of

Martin Goodman others of his ilk. Not to mention the struggling artists, who only wanted to provide for families maybe make a name for themselves. Plenty of pictures of great art informative bios on the men who created the characters many love. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A great gift for any comic fan. By Robert C. Samo This was a birthday gift for my friend who fancies himself a comic book historian. Surprisingly, there were a few things he didn't know about Marvel, which made it all the better! 9 of 10 people found the following review helpful. A History Worth Repeating! By Michael D. Blake Bell and Michael Vassallo have done a superior job putting this book together, which centers on Jack Kirby, Al Avison, Syd Shores, Alex Schomburg, Frank Paul, Stan Lee, Gene Colan and many other superior artists that were a part of the Martin Goodman empire. It covers their pulp work, some comic book work, good girl magazines, torture and porn, and much more, lavishly illustrated, with separate chapters on the artists themselves. Recommended for all serious students of Marvel Comics and their creators.

The untold story of the House of Ideas. Marvel Comics is home to such legendary super-heroes as Spider-Man, Hulk, Thor, Captain America, and Iron Man, all of whom have spun box office gold in the 21st century. But Marvel Comics has a secret history hidden in the shadows of these well-known franchises. The Secret History of Marvel Comics digs back to the 1930s when Marvel Comics wasn't just a comic-book producing company. Marvel Comics owner Martin Goodman had tentacles into a publishing world that might have made that era's conservative American parents lynch him on his front porch. Marvel was but a small part of Goodman's publishing empire, which had begun years before he published his first comic book. Goodman mostly published lurid and sensationalistic story books (known as pulps) and magazines, featuring sexually-charged detective and romance short fiction, and celebrity gossip scandal sheets. And artists like Jack Kirby, who was producing Captain America for eight-year-olds, were simultaneously dipping their toes in both ponds. The Secret History of Marvel Comics tells this parallel story of 1930s/40s Marvel Comics sharing offices with those Goodman publications not quite fit for children. The book also features a comprehensive display of the artwork produced for Goodman's other enterprises by Marvel Comics artists such as Jack Kirby and Joe Simon, Alex Schomburg, Bill Everett, Al Jaffee, and Dan DeCarlo, plus the very best pulp artists in the field, including Norman Saunders, John Walter Scott, Hans Wesso, L.F. Bjorklund, and Marvel Comics #1 cover artist Frank R. Paul. Goodman's magazines also featured cover stories on celebrities such as Jackie Gleason, Elizabeth Taylor, Liberace, and Sophia Loren, as well as contributions from famous literary and social figures such as Isaac Asimov, Theodore Sturgeon, and L. Ron Hubbard. These rare pieces of comic art, pulp and magazine history will open the door to Marvel Comics' unseen history. Black white with some color

Winner: "Favorite Comics Related Book 2014" - U.K. True Believers Comic Awards About the Author Blake Bell is the author of Strange Stranger (a retrospective of Spider-Man co-creator Steve Ditko); The Secret History of Marvel Comics, Fire Water: Bill Everett, The Sub-Mariner, and the Birth of Marvel Comics; Amazing Mysteries: The Bill Everett Archives; and Strange Suspense and Unexplored Worlds (two volumes in The Steve Ditko Archives). He lives in Toronto, Ontario, with his son.