# **Kull the Conqueror: A Journey into the Barbarian's Past**

In the annals of fantasy literature, few characters loom as large as Kull the Conqueror, a barbarian king from the distant past of the Hyborian Age. Created by the legendary pulp writer Robert E. Howard, Kull has captured the imaginations of readers and fans for decades. In the 1970s, Kull's adventures were brought to life in two acclaimed comic book series, published by Marvel Comics. These series, spanning from 1971 to 1973 and from 1978 to 1979, showcased the thrilling tales of Kull's rise to power, his battles against ancient evils, and his struggle to unite the warring tribes of Valusia.



### Kull The Conqueror (1971-1973) #1 (Kull The Conqueror (1971-1978)) by Barbra Annino

★ ★ ★ ★ 5 out of 5
Language : English
File size : 79730 KB
Screen Reader : Supported
Print length : 21 pages



#### The 1971-1973 Comic Book Series

The first Kull the Conqueror comic book series, running from 1971 to 1973, was a critical and commercial success. Written by Roy Thomas and illustrated by the legendary Barry Windsor-Smith, the series faithfully adapted Howard's original stories while expanding on the character's mythos. Windsor-Smith's stunning artwork brought Kull's world to life,

capturing the raw power and brutality of the Hyborian Age. The series introduced readers to Kull's loyal companions, including the warrior Brule the Spear-Slayer and the sorceress Zareta. Together, they faced formidable foes such as the serpent-men of Valusia, the demon Thoth-Amon, and the evil wizard Thulsa Doom.

#### Legacy of the 1971-1973 Series

The 1971-1973 Kull the Conqueror comic book series is widely regarded as one of the greatest fantasy comics ever created. Thomas and Windsor-Smith's collaboration resulted in a visually stunning and narratively compelling series that remains a benchmark for the genre. The series helped to introduce Kull to a new generation of fans and solidified his status as an iconic character in the fantasy realm.

#### The 1978-1979 Comic Book Series

In 1978, Marvel Comics launched a second Kull the Conqueror comic book series. This series, written by Doug Moench and drawn by Mike Ploog, took a more experimental approach to the character, delving deeper into Kull's inner conflicts and exploring the psychological effects of his violent past. Ploog's artwork, while different in style from Windsor-Smith's, was equally powerful and evocative, capturing the brooding intensity of Kull's character. The series introduced new characters, such as the enigmatic sorceress Nakor, and expanded on Kull's relationships with his companions.

#### Legacy of the 1978-1979 Series

The 1978-1979 Kull the Conqueror comic book series was a bold and innovative take on the character. Moench and Ploog's collaboration resulted in a thought-provoking and emotionally resonant series that

explored the complexities of Kull's personality. While the series was not as commercially successful as its predecessor, it garnered critical acclaim and remains a cult favorite among fans.

#### **Kull the Conqueror's Enduring Legacy**

The Kull the Conqueror comic book series of the 1970s played a significant role in shaping the character's legacy. They introduced Kull to a wider audience, showcasing his compelling story and captivating world. The series' stunning artwork and gripping narratives helped to cement Kull's status as one of the most iconic barbarians in fantasy literature.

Kull's influence can be seen in numerous other works of fantasy, including video games, novels, and films. The character's popularity has endured for decades, thanks to his embodiment of the classic barbarian archetype: a powerful warrior with a tragic past and a deep sense of honor. Kull's story continues to inspire and entertain readers and fans around the world.

The Kull the Conqueror comic book series of the 1970s are a testament to the enduring power of fantasy and the timeless appeal of Robert E. Howard's iconic character. These series brought Kull's adventures to life with stunning artwork and compelling narratives, showcasing the character's strength, courage, and indomitable spirit. Together, they form an essential part of the Kull the Conqueror mythos and continue to captivate readers of all ages.

Whether you are a longtime fan or a newcomer to the Hyborian Age, the Kull the Conqueror comic book series are a must-read for anyone who loves fantasy, adventure, and the timeless tales of heroes and villains.

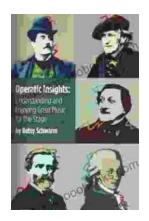


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