

# Incredible Hulk: The Journey of a Legendary Character – 1962-1999-220 by Roger Stern

[\[view image\]](#)

In the world of comic books, few characters have achieved the iconic status that the Incredible Hulk has. First introduced in 1962 by Marvel Comics, the Hulk has gone on to become a beloved superhero, a symbol of strength, and an integral part of popular culture. This article dives into the incredible journey of the Hulk from his inception in 1962 until the monumental "1999-220" series penned by the talented writer Roger Stern.

## The Birth of the Hulk - 1962

Created by writer Stan Lee and artist Jack Kirby, the Hulk made his debut in *The Incredible Hulk* #1 in May 1962. This series told the story of Dr. Robert Bruce Banner, a mild-mannered physicist who, after an accident involving exposure to gamma rays, transforms into a hulking, green-skinned creature whenever he gets angry or emotionally stressed.

The early issues of *The Incredible Hulk* provided readers with an exploration of themes like identity, duality, and the consequences of science gone wrong. Hulk's alter ego, Bruce Banner, struggled with accepting his monstrous alter ego while battling his own inner demons.



## Incredible Hulk (1962-1999) #220

by Roger Stern(Kindle & comiXology)

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

Language : English

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Screen Reader : Supported



## **Evolution of the Hulk - The 1970s and 1980s**

In the 1970s, the Incredible Hulk underwent significant transformations in both appearance and characterization. The character became more empathetic, often portrayed as a misunderstood and tragic figure. The Hulk developed a unique relationship with his alter ego, forming a bond that further highlighted his struggles with his dual nature.

During this period, the Hulk's powers evolved, and he became even stronger, able to leap vast distances and withstand almost any physical impact. This added to his status as one of Marvel's most formidable superheroes.

## **Roger Stern's Legendary Run - The 1999-220 Series**

Then comes the defining moment in the Incredible Hulk's history - the 1999-220 series written by Roger Stern. Stern took the character and his narrative to new heights, delivering gripping storylines and memorable character development.

In this series, Stern explored the emotional journey of Bruce Banner and the Hulk, unraveled deeper layers of their psyches, and delved into the consequences of their actions. He delved into the gray areas of morality by showcasing the Hulk's immense strength and destructive potential, while simultaneously emphasizing his compassionate nature and sense of justice.

Stern's run featured intense battles between the Hulk and powerful adversaries like the Abomination, the Leader, and even members of the Avengers. Each confrontation amplified the internal turmoil of Banner, leaving readers captivated by the emotional depth of the character.

## **The Impact and Legacy of the Incredible Hulk**

The Incredible Hulk's impact on popular culture cannot be overstated. The character has appeared in numerous comic book series, spin-offs, animated shows, and blockbuster movies. His catchphrase, "Hulk smash!" has become synonymous with unstoppable strength.

Iconic interpretations of the Hulk by talented artists like John Romita Sr., Herb Trimpe, and Dale Keown have embedded the character's image into the minds of comic book enthusiasts and casual fans alike. The Hulk has become an instantly recognizable and timeless superhero.

The Incredible Hulk's success can be attributed to his relatable struggles with anger, identity, and finding one's place in the world. His story touches audiences on both an emotional and intellectual level, making him a beloved character for generations.

## **The Hulk's Enduring Relevance**

Although the 1999-2000 series by Roger Stern marked a significant milestone in the Hulk's narrative, the character continues to evolve and captivate readers to this day. Writers and artists have continued to build on Stern's foundation, adding new layers of complexity to the Hulk's story.

Whether fighting alongside fellow superheroes or battling his inner demons, the Incredible Hulk remains a symbol of resilience, strength, and the

limitless potential of the human spirit.

The Incredible Hulk's journey from his creation in 1962 until the impactful 1999-220 series by Roger Stern is a testament to the character's enduring appeal. From his troubled beginnings to his evolution into a beloved superhero, the Hulk has left an indelible mark on the world of comic books and popular culture as a whole. The emotional depth and relatability of the character continue to draw readers in, ensuring that the Incredible Hulk's legacy will live on for generations to come.



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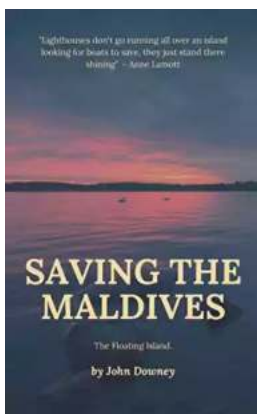
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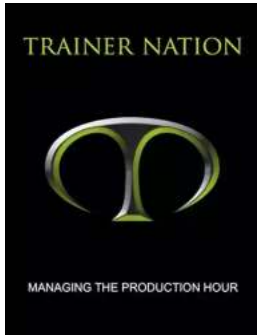


Captain Barracuda has captured Hulk and Crusoe, and the pirate has turned Crusoe into an ape! Can Hulk stop this piratical menace before he himself is turned into a gorilla?



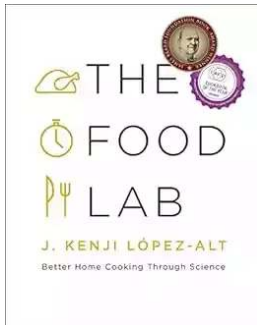
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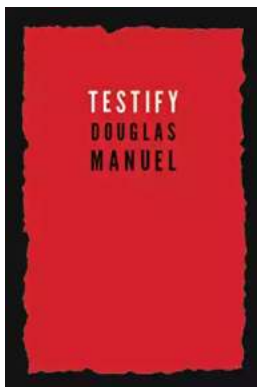
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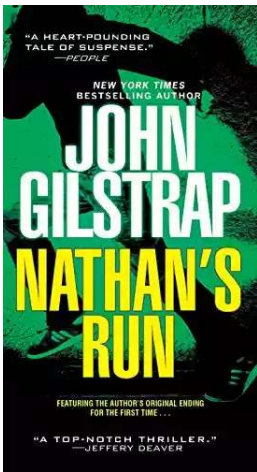
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