



POP ART GENIUS WARHOL KIRBY & KING

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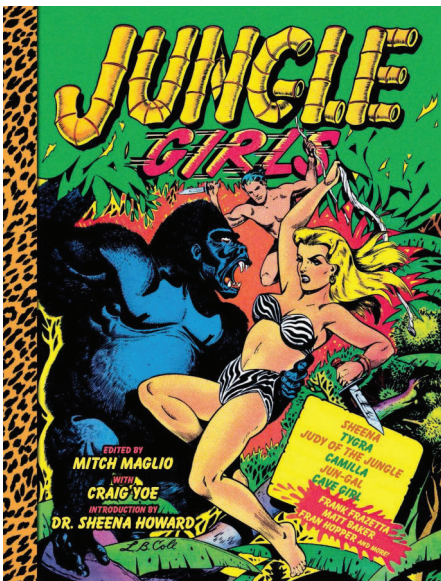
PLUS...SEA QUEENS & JUNGLE GIRLS



The Comics & Graphic Novel Bulletin of



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Reading Is Just the Beginning!

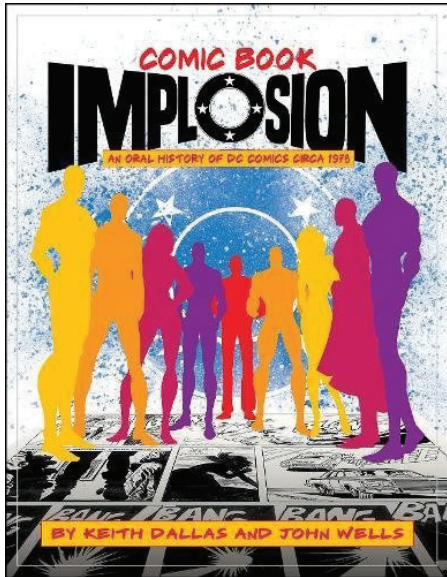


As explained in a fine story on the website Vulture.com, the Black Panther got his first solo series because a young proof-reader for Marvel Comics was offended by the old-fashioned comics reprinted in the title *Jungle Action*. Jungle comics—that is, series based on the pulp adventure tropes popularized by **Edgar Rice Burroughs’ Tarzan of the Apes**—were long-lived as a genre. And many of the stars of said comics were women, especially in the post-war period when publishers began depending on cheesecake art to grab readers. Now the industry’s premier trash collectors Yoe! have compiled *Jungle Girls*. From leader of the pack Sheena to the desert-dwelling Slave Girl, these ferocious femmes deliver rough justice to malevolent big game hunters, manipulative witch doctors and others who would exploit the jungle and its creatures and citizens. Easy to dismiss as racist relics, many of these stories seethe with a subtext of anti-

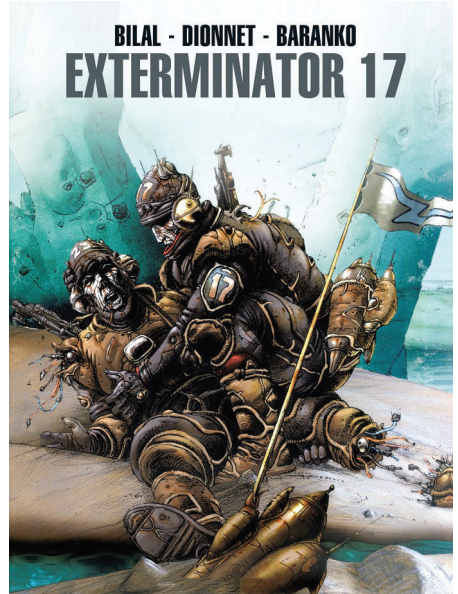


MEANWHILE

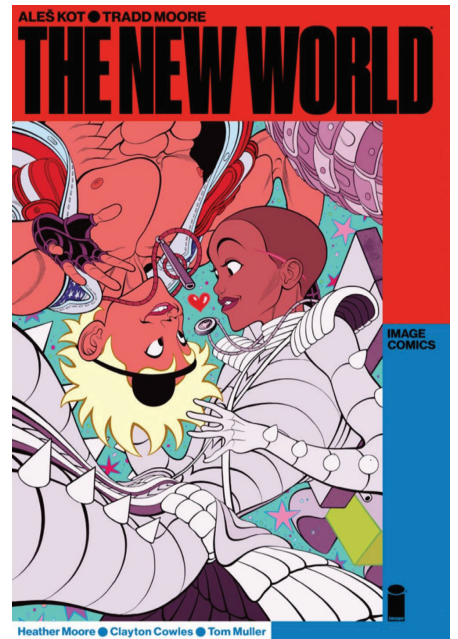
colonial rage, as anarchist glamazons like Judy of the Jungle incite both natives and Nature to rebel against their oppressors. That, and you get to see future greats like **Frank Frazetta** and **Jack Kamen** cut their teeth on these wild tales of knife-wielding nobility. Get *Jungle Girls* at Central. Look to the TEEN section of that location and others to find *Mera, Queen of Atlantis* (DC). The breakout star of the recent *Aquaman* film, Mera has been a supporting character in that series since 1963. But now Mera has the spotlight. She’s caught up in the civil war tearing Atlantis apart while fighting the ruinous best intentions of her husband’s estranged brother, the Ocean Master. Artist **Lan Medina** really captures Mera’s mix of regal dignity and barbaric ferocity. Dude draws a mean sea monster, too! Other new DC books feature *Batwoman*, *Nightwing*, the



Flash, *Supergirl*, and *Hal Jordan and the Green Lanterns*. Check out *The Fall of Slade* in *Deathstroke V5* and Superman’s conflict with the Bizarroverse, while her creator **Marv Wolfman** returns to pen the adventures of *Raven*, *Daughter of Darkness*. Back on the stands following the success of his TV series on the CW, *Black Lightning* returns to his home town, Cleveland, Ohio, in *Cold, Dead Hands*. *Black Lightning* was one of many characters, including *Enemy Ace*, *Hawkman*, and *Mister Miracle’s Big Barda*, slated to star in back-up strips added to established titles as part of the “DC Explosion!” of the mid-1970s. It never happened, one of the biggest shocks and set-backs in the history of comics. Discover the drama in *Comic Book Implosion* (TwoMorrows). New collections from Marvel include the *Black Panther* spin-off *Wakanda Forever*, the return of Thor as *Thunder God Reborn* and a new *Cloak & Dagger* just in time for Season 2 of their show. *Spider-Gwen* and *Tony Stark* are joined by the *Cosmic Ghost Rider*, who is actually *Frank Castle*, the *Punisher*, now endowed with both the Power



Cosmic and the hell-spawned abilities of the *Ghost Rider*! *Yikes!* One might prefer to face one of the implacable android soldiers known as *Exterminators*. Set in a grimy cosmos of incessant conflict, *Exterminator 17* (Titan) follows the title character, an obsolete model now inhabited by the soul of the creator of all *Exterminators*! The trademark physicality of **Enki Bilal’s** gouache-based art brings to harsh life this tale of retribution and resurrection available from Northside. An equally brutal but far more festive future fills the bright and busy pages of *The New World*. This graphic novel stands out from similar new Image releases like the spy epic *The Dead Hand* and the self-described “cyber-dys-topian noir” *Analog* thanks to the playful art of **Trad** (*All New Ghost Rider*) **Moore** which enlivens **Ales Kot’s** mod mash-up of *The Running Man* and *Romeo & Juliet*. Reserve these titles and more at lexpublib.org!



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