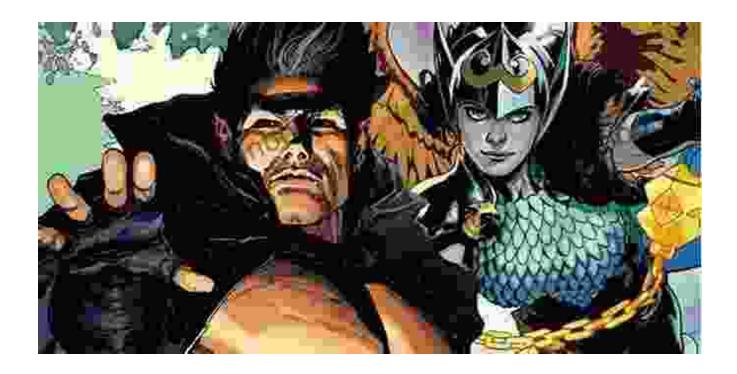
Defenders: An Epic Saga from 1972 to 1986



The Birth of a Superteam

In 1972, the world of comics was about to witness the birth of a legendary superhero team: The Defenders. Created by writer Roy Thomas and artist Sal Buscema, the Defenders were a unique group of heroes who came together to face threats that no single hero could handle alone. The original team consisted of Dr. Strange, the Hulk, Valkyrie, Nighthawk, and Namor the Sub-Mariner.



Defenders (1972-1986) #15 by Himanshu Goel

↑ ↑ ↑ ↑ 4 out of 5

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The Defenders were a diverse group, both in terms of their powers and their personalities. Dr. Strange was a master of the mystic arts, while the Hulk was a powerful but uncontrollable force of nature. Valkyrie was a fearless warrior, Nighthawk was a skilled detective, and Namor was the proud ruler of Atlantis. Despite their differences, the Defenders were united by their common goal of protecting Earth from evil.

A Legacy of Adventure

Over the course of their 14-year run, the Defenders faced a wide range of threats, from cosmic invaders to supernatural villains. They battled against the likes of Dormammu, Baron Mordo, and the Enchantress. They also teamed up with other heroes, such as the Avengers and the X-Men, to take on even greater challenges.

One of the most memorable Defenders stories was "The Avengers/Defenders War," which ran from 1972 to 1973. In this epic crossover, the Defenders and the Avengers found themselves on opposite sides of a conflict that threatened to destroy both teams. The story featured some of the most iconic battles in Marvel Comics history, and it cemented the Defenders' place as one of the premier superhero teams.

The End of an Era

In 1986, the Defenders disbanded after a long and successful run. The team had faced its share of challenges over the years, but they had always managed to overcome them. However, the events of the "Secret Wars II" crossover took their toll on the team. The Defenders were forced to

confront their own mortality, and they realized that they could no longer continue to risk their lives for others.

The Defenders disbanded, but their legacy lives on. The team's unique combination of heroes and their unforgettable adventures have made them one of the most beloved superhero teams in comics history. The Defenders may be gone, but their spirit will always live on in the hearts of fans.

A Closer Look at the Defenders

- Dr. Strange: A master of the mystic arts, Dr. Strange is the Defenders' resident sorcerer. He is a powerful ally, but his arrogance can sometimes get the better of him.
- The Hulk: A powerful but uncontrollable force of nature, the Hulk is the Defenders' resident powerhouse. He is capable of incredible feats of strength, but his anger can often lead him to destroy everything in his path.
- Valkyrie: A fearless warrior, Valkyrie is the Defenders' resident melee fighter. She is skilled in both swordsmanship and hand-to-hand combat.
- Nighthawk: A skilled detective, Nighthawk is the Defenders' resident strategist. He is not as physically powerful as the other members of the team, but his intelligence and cunning often make him the most valuable member.
- Namor the Sub-Mariner: The proud ruler of Atlantis, Namor is the Defenders' resident aquatic specialist. He is a powerful warrior and a master of the ocean.

The Defenders were a unique and unforgettable superhero team. They faced countless challenges over the years, but they always emerged victorious. Their legacy lives on, inspiring new generations of heroes to fight for what is right.



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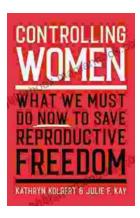
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