



"Batman" show came out on TV in the fall of 1966. Wells covers that show as well and explains its effect on the comics field in general and especially on the Batman comic and its sales. He also provides a timeline of current events for each year at the start of each chapter, placing us firmly in the atmosphere and times which surrounded the comics being discussed. Since that was my time, maybe I'm an easy subject, but for me he really manages to capture and recreate the feel and thrill of buying comic books in the mid-late 1960s. It was an amazing time to be a kid in America who collected comics, with artists like Steve Ditko, Jack Kirby, Wally Wood, and Jim Steranko producing incredible work. Sometimes I couldn't hardly wait until the next month so I could find out what Steranko was going to pull out of the hat. John Wells really nails this era. And he gives us tons and tons of inside info on even the most obscure characters. As I read I felt like I was back in '66, at the neighborhood Drug Fair, perusing the comic racks, accompanied by a guy who knows every detail, for example, of the background behind even such lesser-lights as Dell's "Lobo"! John's sections on ACG, Gold Key, Charlton, Dell, and all of the other publishers (and some of their efforts to get into the super-hero side of the genre) are very very interesting. When you finish reading this book, you'll know about Nukla, Pureheart the Powerful, the T.H.U.N.D.E.R. Agents, and not only that, but you'll know about Melvin the Monster, and lots of other Harvey characters, indeed just about every late-60s comic character under the sun! You'll even know why Catwoman didn't appear in Batman comics for so many years! This book is a treasure. And the icing on the cake is seeing my favorite page of John Romita's artwork- the original art to the last page in Spider-Man #42 where we finally get to see Mary Jane for the first time! She says, "Face it, Tiger, you just hit the jackpot!" So true! That page needs to be made into a frame-able art print. Beautiful book! Well done, John!

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. This was the decade in which I grew up with ...By Paul H. Kupperberg This was the decade in which I grew up with comic books, and Wells' two-volume history of the 1960s comics industry and the fandom that grew up around it recounts that time in vivid detail.

The American Comic Book Chronicles continues its ambitious series of full-color hardcovers where TwoMorrows' top authors document every decade of comic book history from the 1940s to today! John Wells headlines this second volume on the 1960s, covering all the pivotal moments and behind-the-scenes details of comics during the stormy cultural upheaval of 1965-1969. You'll get a year-by-year account of the most significant publications, notable creators, and impactful trends, including the transformation of Marvel Comics into a pop phenomenon. Wally Woods Tower Comics storms on the scene with the T.H.U.N.D.E.R. Agents while Charltons Action Heroes strike a blow of their own! Batmania sweeps the nation as the smash Adam West TV show pushes superhero comic sales into orbit! Roy Thomas, Neal Adams, and Denny O'Neil lead a wave of fresh young voices in the comic book industry! Gold Key unlocks a new format with its digest line! The Archies and Josie the Pussycats sing their way to the top! These are just a few of the events chronicled in this exhaustive, full-color hardcover.