

Who Was Stan Lee?

Stan Lee was born Stanley Martin Lieber in New York, USA, and he is best known for co-creating numerous fictional characters, such as Spider-Man, Hulk and Black Panther.



Early Life

Lee's parents were Romanian-born Jewish immigrants and he lived with them and his brother, Larry, in a small apartment.

As a child, Lee enjoyed reading and watching movies, especially ones involving heroes.



Early Career

Aged 17, Lee's first job after leaving school was at 'Timely Publications,' (a publishing company), just as a new craze for comic books was emerging.





He began writing stories about the adventures of Captain America and two years later, when the creators of that character left the publishing house, he became the editor.

Stan Lee remained as editor for over 30 years and during that time, Timely Publications changed its name to Atlas and then to Marvel.

Creative Success

In 1961, Stan Lee worked closely with artist Jack Kirby to create the Fantastic Four.

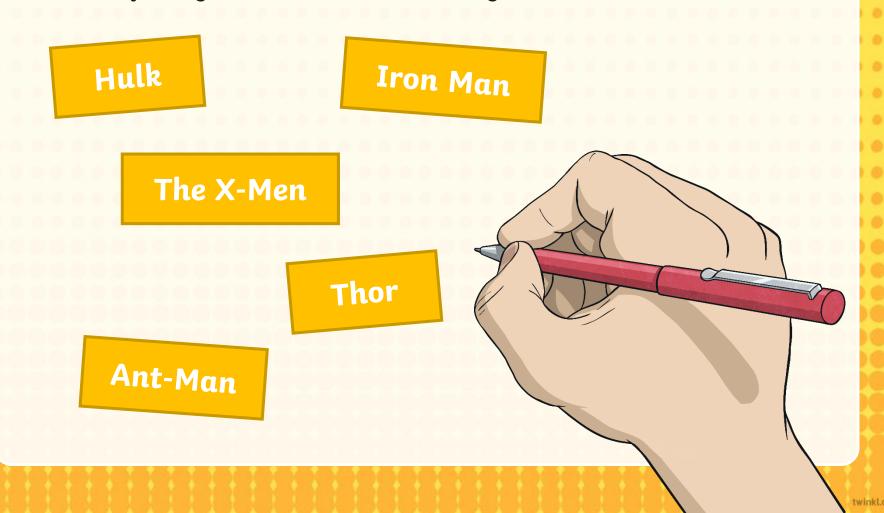
The characters were hugely popular with the public. Up until their creation, comic book characters had been perfect but Lee's creations had flaws; they were more like real people, dealing with issues such as boredom and anger, except they also had superpowers.



Superheroes

Realising they were onto something, Lee and Kirby collaborated in the creation of many more characters, including:

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Fans

Peter Sanderson, a comics historian, wrote:

"There was a new audience for comics now, and it wasn't just the little kids that traditionally had read the books...Marvel was pioneering new methods of comics storytelling and characterisation."



Later Life

In 1972, Lee left his job as editor at Marvel when he became the publisher of the company.

In 1980, he set up an animation studio. Many Marvel characters had been turned into television series (Spider-Man first appeared in 1967) and Lee was keen to build on their many TV and movie opportunities.



His characters have featured in several popular films in recent years.

Awards

Lee was given many awards during his lifetime, including the following:

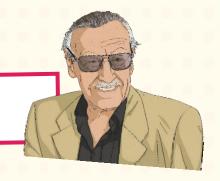
- The Inkpot Award in 1974
- A Saturn Award for Life Career in 2002
- A Scream Award at the Comic-Con Icon Awards in 2009
- Lifetime Achievement Award from the Visual Effects Society in 2012

Also, he was awarded a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame in 2011 and in 2017, he and Kirby were named 'Disney Legends.'



Did You Know...?

Stan Lee had a cameo role in many Marvel films.





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He served in the US army, where his role was listed as 'playwright.'

In 1969, Lee co-created Falcon, the first Afro-American comic book superhero.





Los Angeles County declared 2nd October 2009 'Stan Lee Day'.

His Legacy

"The father of Marvel has made so many people so incredibly happy."

`tan...more than a ter of stories, you vays seemed like master of living."

(Tom Holland, Spider-Man actor)

