# The Incredible Hulk: A Nostalgic Journey through 156 Issues

### From Green Rage to Eternal Hero

The Incredible Hulk, a beloved Marvel Comics character, has captured the imagination of readers for generations. Created by Stan Lee and Jack Kirby in 1962, Hulk has evolved from a rampaging monster to a complex and relatable hero. This article embarks on a nostalgic journey through the Incredible Hulk's comic book run from 1962 to 1999, culminating in an indepth analysis of issue 156, "Martinique Papillion."



#### Incredible Hulk (1962-1999) #156 by Martinique Papillion

↑ ↑ ↑ ↑ 4 out of 5

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#### The Early Years: The Birth of a Legend

In 1962, Incredible Hulk #1 introduced the world to Dr. Bruce Banner, a brilliant scientist whose gamma ray experiment transforms him into a green, monstrous Hulk. Initially portrayed as a mindless berserker, Hulk gradually developed a more human side. Stan Lee and Jack Kirby's iconic storytelling laid the foundation for the character's enduring popularity.

The Silver Age: Hulk's Rivalry and Redemption

During the Silver Age of comics in the 1960s, Hulk faced off against a formidable gallery of villains, including the Abomination, Leader, and Bi-Beast. The addition of the Hulk's cousin, She-Hulk, brought a new dynamic to the series. As the decade progressed, Hulk's anger and destructive nature gave way to a sense of redemption and heroism.

#### The Bronze Age: Exploring Deeper Themes

The Bronze Age of comics in the 1970s saw a shift in tone for Incredible Hulk. Len Wein and Herb Trimpe delved into the psychological aspects of Hulk's transformation, exploring themes of identity, duality, and acceptance. The series tackled social issues and the destructive nature of war, reflecting the changing times.

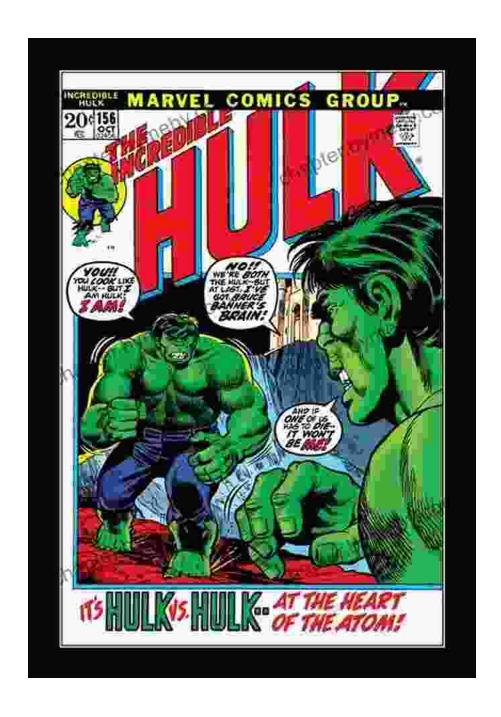
#### The Copper Age: Hulk's Personal Journey

The Copper Age of comics in the 1980s continued Hulk's personal journey. Bill Mantlo and Sal Buscema introduced the Professor Hulk persona, a more intelligent and articulate version of the character. Hulk grappled with his past and sought redemption for his actions. The series also saw the of the Hulkbusters, a team dedicated to capturing or killing Hulk.

#### The Dark Reign: Hulk's Descent into Darkness

The 1990s brought a darker tone to Incredible Hulk. Greg Pak and John Romita Jr. delved into the character's primal rage and the Hulk's destructive potential. The series explored themes of fear, violence, and the struggle between good and evil. Hulk's relationship with the Avengers was tested, and he faced his greatest challenge yet.

### Issue 156: "Martinique Papillion"



Issue 156, "Martinique Papillion," written by Len Wein and illustrated by Herb Trimpe and Sal Buscema, is a pivotal moment in Hulk's journey. The issue opens with Hulk stranded on the island of Martinique, pursued by the mercenary group known as the Hulkbusters. Battling his way through the lush jungles, Hulk stumbles upon a young girl named Monique, who befriends the misunderstood monster.

As Hulk and Monique forge an unlikely bond, they encounter a sinister presence lurking in the shadows. Martinique Papillion, a master of disguise and deception, plots to manipulate Hulk for his own nefarious purposes. The issue explores themes of betrayal, trust, and the true nature of heroism.

Hulk's struggle against Martinique Papillion is a metaphor for his own inner conflict. Papillion represents the manipulative forces that seek to exploit Hulk's power for evil. Through his friendship with Monique, Hulk rediscovers his humanity and the importance of fighting for what is right.

"Martinique Papillion" is a classic Incredible Hulk story that showcases the character's complex nature. It is a tale of redemption, betrayal, and the enduring power of hope.

#### **Legacy and Impact**

The Incredible Hulk has had a profound impact on popular culture. From its humble beginnings in 1962, the character has become an iconic symbol of strength, courage, and the struggle between good and evil. The Incredible Hulk has inspired numerous TV shows, movies, video games, and merchandise, cementing its place in the annals of comic book history.

As the series continues to evolve, the Incredible Hulk remains a timeless and relatable character. His journey from a rampaging monster to a beloved hero is a testament to the enduring power of storytelling.

This nostalgic journey through the Incredible Hulk's comic book run from 1962 to 1999 has been a celebration of a beloved character and a testament to the enduring power of storytelling. Issue 156, "Martinique

Papillion," exemplifies the complex and engaging narratives that have captivated readers for generations. The Incredible Hulk's legacy continues to inspire and entertain, ensuring that his green rage and eternal heroism will forever be etched in the annals of pop culture.



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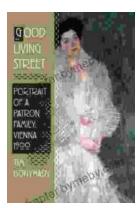
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