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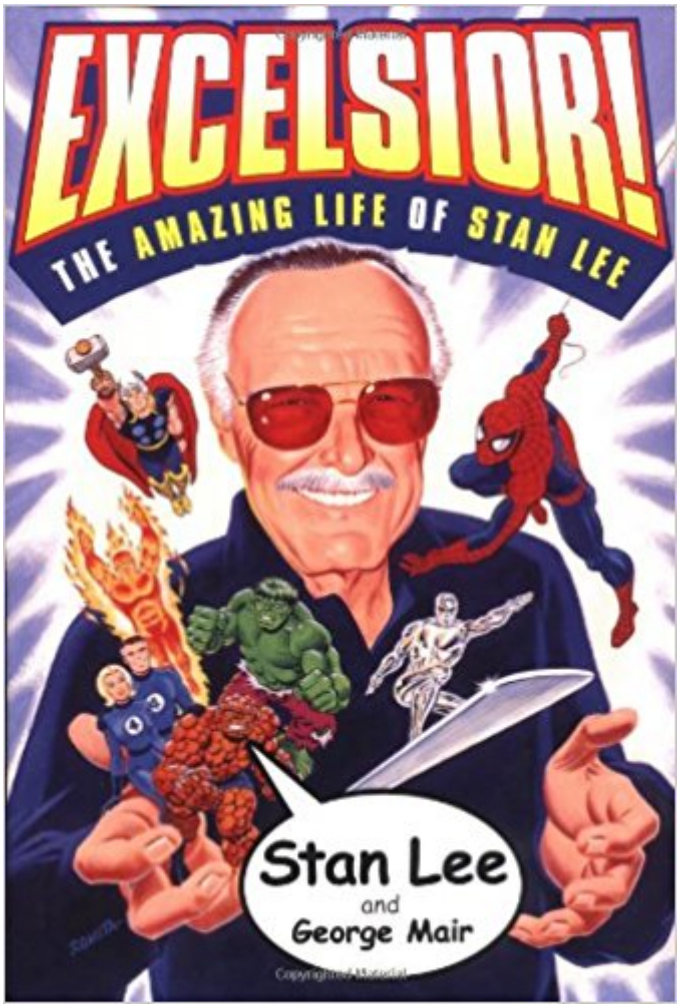
Excelsior!: The Amazing Life Of Stan Lee



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Synopsis

The man behind Spider-Man, The X-Men, The Incredible Hulk, and a legion of other superheroes tells his own amazing story in a book packed with punch, humor, anecdotes, and a gallery of never-before-seen photographs. Stan Lee is the most legendary name in the history of comicbooks. The leading creative force behind the rise of Marvel Comics, he brought to life some of the world's best-known heroes and most infamous villains. His stories, featuring super- heroes who struggled against personal hang-ups and bad guys who possessed previously unseen psychological complexity, added wit and subtlety to a field previously locked into flat portrayals of good vs. evil. Lee put the human in the super-human. In the process, he created a new mythology for the twentieth century. In this treasure trove of marvelous memories, Stan tells the story of his life with the same inimitable wit, energy, and offbeat spirit that he brought to the world of comicbooks. He moves from his impoverished childhood in Manhattan to his early days writing comicbooks, followed by military training films during World War II, through the rise of the Marvel empire in the 1960s to his recent adventures in Hollywood. The story of a man who earned respect by blazing new creative trails in a storytelling form once dismissed as just for kids, Excelsior! is an inspirational story about following one's vision, no matter the odds. Yet it's also the story of how some of the most exciting and memorable characters in the pop-culture universe came to thrill a generation.

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Customer Reviews

Lee, chief editor and writer of Marvel Comics during the 1960s, played a major role in the creation of

prominent superheroes such as Spiderman, the X-Men, and the Fantastic Four. This autobiography recounts his beginnings in the comic book field in the 1940s, his frustration with his career as a comic book writer and editor until he created richer characters in the 1960s, and his success as a spokesman for Marvel Comics since the 1960s. Throughout, the persona Lee created never falters; the tone is warm, straight-talking, and simultaneously confident and insecure the same traits with which Lee imbued his superheroes. Lee has come under attack in recent years for overstating his contributions to the comic book field and for the failure of his Internet company, Stan Lee Media. This book offers something of a rebuttal, with Lee crediting his creative partners fully and portraying himself as a victim in his company's failure. With the success of Michael Chabon's The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier and Clay, which traces the early days of the comic book industry, and the motion picture, Spider-Man, interest in the creation of the comic book industry has increased. We'll be seeing more books like Lee's. Purchase wherever patrons are fans of 1960s Marvel comics. Stephen Weiner, Maynard P.L., MACopyright 2002 Cahners Business Information, Inc.

This long-awaited autobiography of an icon of the comic world coincides with the release of the spring's most eagerly anticipated blockbuster, Spider-Man. Stan Lee is the Marvel Comics supremo who created Spider-Man, X-Men and The Incredible Hulk. This fascinating memoir traces Lee's life from growing up in a modest New York Jewish family, and his first job as a gofer at Timely Comics. He was made creative director, enlisted when the war broke out, and was one of only eight US Army playwrights alongside such luminaries as Frank Capra. Lee went back to comics after the war as the creative force behind Marvel, selling over two billion comics the world over. Packed with previously unseen photos and artwork from Lee's personal archive, this will be essential reading for students of popular culture. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

If you are interested in the Marvel universe or comic publication in general, this is a must read. Entertaining, easy to read, full of amusing comments by Stan Lee and insight into the evolution of the superhero comic world. I remember my grandmother paying me to get rid of all my comics and promise not to read anymore some 55 years ago (that only lasted about a year) and was interested to see that coincided with a public campaign against comics which fortunately was not successful. This is the text version, not the new graphic formatted and more recently updated version recently released.

Good for kids who love their comics. My son was 14 when I bought it and he is in love with Stan

Lee. Not too many pages but for th price it I worth it I think. Good quality too actually. It does not look cheap.

Good price, great shipping & prompt delivery!! PERFECT GIFT!!

Easy to read, entertaining book. Stan Lee is such an exaggerator -- I'm not sure how much is accurate and how much is made up.

This was a really easy-to-love read which mixed Lee's plain language speaking style with a high-points, chronological trot though the man's life. While is seems to skim over the juicy stuff at times, this is a matter of fact look at the life of an influential & iconic figure in Americana.

My son did a high school report about Stan Lee and he said this was the best book for information he couldn't find elsewhere. His teacher has asked to borrow it also. Wonderful book!

I purchased this book for my father who is a huge Marvel fan. He loves it. I was happy to find it in paperback. The hardcover version of this book is selling at very high prices. Great book for anyone that is interested in the history of how Marvel was born. Stan Lee should be considered as an icon of American history.

Item received as described, brand new, before it was expected and on time for Christmas

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