

The Incredible Hulk: A Deep Dive into Issues #159 (1962) and #159 (1999) by Steve Englehart



Incredible Hulk (1962-1999) #159 by Steve Englehart

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

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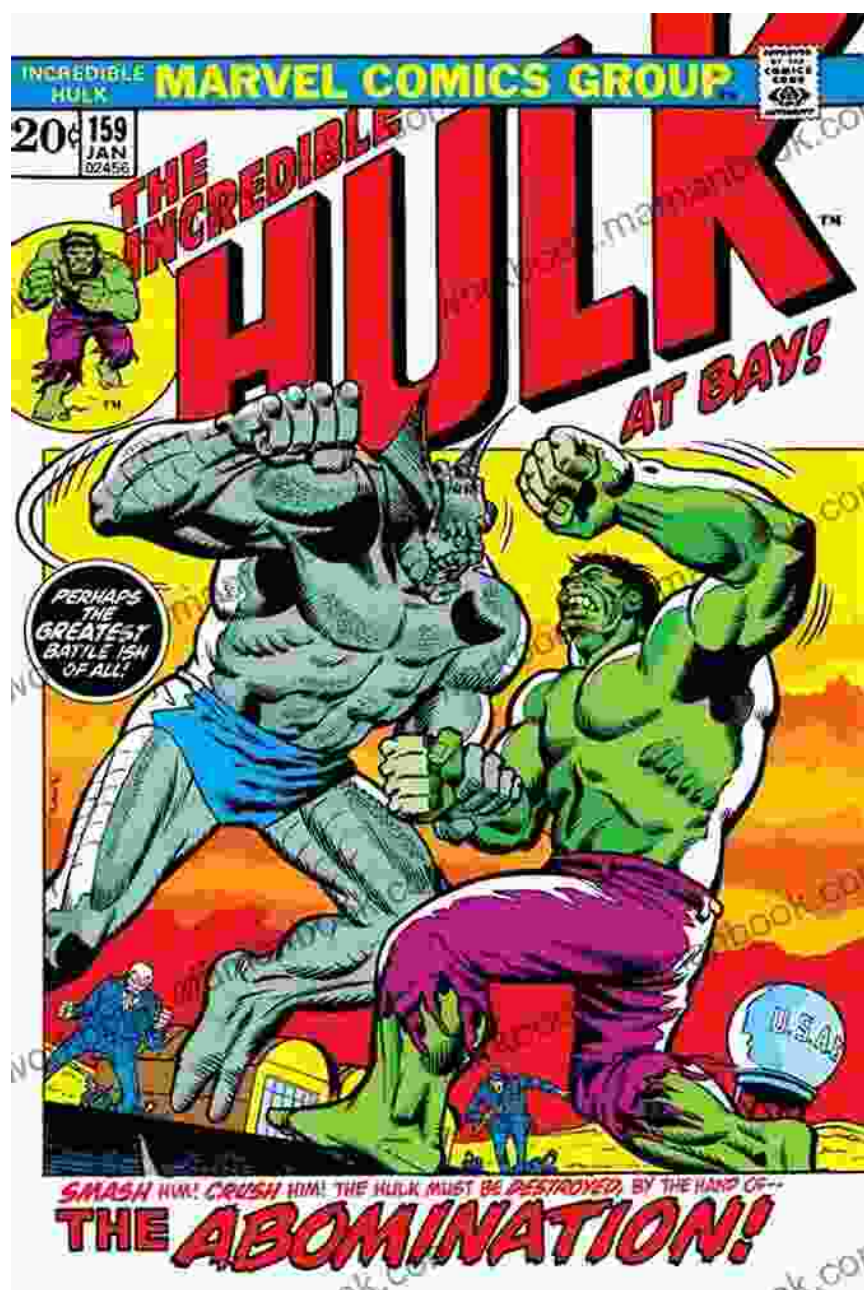
The Incredible Hulk, one of Marvel Comics' most iconic characters, has been a staple of the comic book industry for over six decades. Created by Stan Lee and Jack Kirby, the Hulk has undergone numerous changes and iterations throughout the years, but some of the most significant and influential stories came from the pen of writer Steve Englehart.

In this article, we will take a deep dive into two landmark Incredible Hulk issues written by Englehart: #159 (1962) and #159 (1999). These issues, separated by nearly four decades, showcase Englehart's unique storytelling style and his profound understanding of the character.

Issue #159 (1962): "And the Wind Howls in the Wastelands!"

Published in July 1962, Incredible Hulk #159 is a pivotal issue in the character's history. It marked the first appearance of Betty Ross's cousin, Jennifer Walters, who would later become the She-Hulk. The issue also

featured the return of the Hulk's nemesis, the Abomination, and delved into the complex relationship between Bruce Banner and his alter ego.



Englehart's writing in this issue is both suspenseful and introspective. He deftly balances the action-packed confrontations between the Hulk and the Abomination with poignant moments of reflection, as Banner struggles to come to terms with his monstrous side.

One of the most memorable scenes in the issue occurs when Banner and Walters are captured by the Abomination. Walters, desperate to save Banner, offers to become the Abomination's experiment in exchange for Banner's freedom. This act of selflessness ultimately leads to Walters' transformation into the She-Hulk.

Issue #159 was a critical and commercial success, and it helped to solidify the Hulk's place in the Marvel Comics pantheon. It also set the stage for future stories that would explore the Hulk's complex nature and his relationships with other characters.

Issue #159 (1999): "Son of the Banner"

Nearly four decades after writing his first Hulk story, Englehart returned to the character with Issue #159 of the Incredible Hulk volume 2, published in August 1999. This issue marked the culmination of a storyline that had been building for several months and introduced a major new character: Skaar, the son of the Hulk.



In this issue, Englehart delves into the Hulk's past, revealing that he had been banished to the planet Sakaar and had fathered a child with Caiera the Oldstrong, a member of an alien race known as the Shadow People. Skaar, raised on Sakaar, is a powerful and savage warrior who seeks revenge against his father for abandoning him.

Englehart's writing in this issue is both epic and emotional. He weaves together the personal story of the Hulk and Skaar with the larger-scale conflict between the Hulk and the Shadow People. The issue is filled with stunning artwork by Dale Keown, which brings the characters and their world to life.

Issue #159 was another critical and commercial success, and it helped to revitalize the Hulk franchise. It also introduced a new and dynamic character to the Marvel Comics universe, and set the stage for future stories that would explore the Hulk's complex relationships with his son and other members of his extended family.

Steve Englehart's Legacy

Steve Englehart's contributions to the Incredible Hulk are immeasurable. His stories are known for their complex characters, introspective themes, and exciting action sequences. He is widely regarded as one of the most influential Hulk writers of all time.



Englehart's work on the Hulk has had a lasting impact on the character and the comic book industry. His stories have been adapted into television shows, movies, and video games. They have also inspired other writers and artists, and helped to shape the way we think about the Hulk and his place in the Marvel Comics universe.

Incredible Hulk issues #159 (1962) and #159 (1999) are two landmark stories written by Steve Englehart that showcase his unique storytelling style and his profound understanding of the character. These issues are essential reading for any fan of the Hulk, and they are a testament to Englehart's lasting legacy in the comic book industry.



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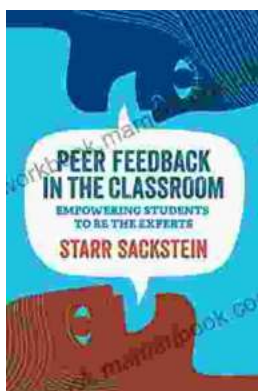
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