Roberta's father, Earl Tubb, was killed by Coach Boss with the entire town watching, but no one will say a thing due to their fear of the Coach. Roberta knows there is more than meets the eye in Crow County and leaves active duty to follow her hunch. She is a strong woman with a good head on her shoulders and a strong sense of right and wrong. She grew up in a majority white community that had no qualms about letting their racism show. Roberta is the very definition of a bad-ass. She comes back on a mission armed with her intuition and a machine gun. She is the voice of justice in this corrupt town, fears no one, and makes it clear she will serve as judge, jury, and executioner.

A greater understanding of Roberta's character can be gained through the evolution of female representation in comics, and the heroine typology.

Roberta is a strong, black, female role model. Because her character was so recently created, and is still being written, it's hard to evaluate her specific impact on the comic genera. However, Roberta's character is one in a million. It is very clear that strong females are becoming more visible in comics and popular culture, but women of color are still struggling to fight their way in. Roberta could help pave the way for future female characters of color that are strong, independent, and inspiring.

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She Hulkica. Marvel Comics, 2019

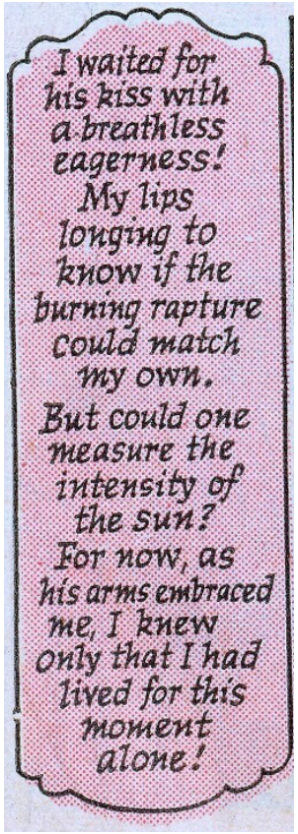
Roberta Tough



The Modern Heroine



Comic Females, Powerful Females?





Originally, when women were shown in comics, they are shown in traditional female typology. They tend to be passive, dramatic, and secondary to men.

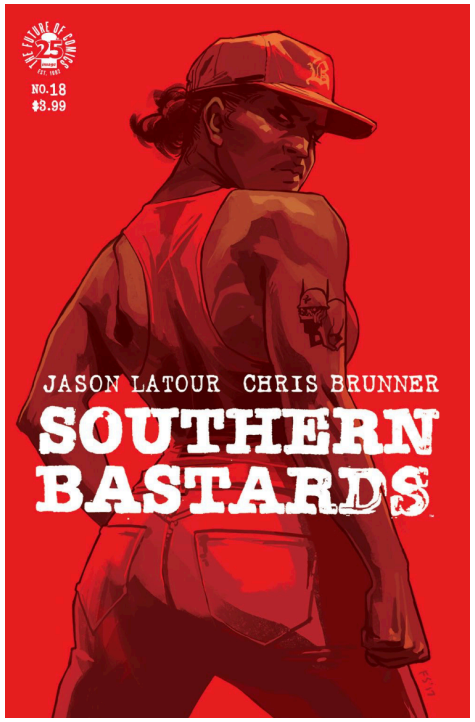
Roberta's Impact



Roberta is the image of the modern heroine. She is working in the confines of a society that is against her, proving she can do anything she sets her mind to. She joins the army, stands up for herself, and tries to make the world a better place.



Roberta and the Heroine Typology



Roberta also breaks the mold of the heroine typology. She works completely independently, and her narrative deals directly with issues of racism and sexism. Her appearance is not sexualized and her character embraces a masculine appearance.



Moving Forward: Patty-Jo 'n' Ginger



Creator Jackie Ormes created a sassy sister duo that cared about boys and fashion, but were also socially and politically aware. They were more than just pretty faces.

Moving Forward: Torchy Brown

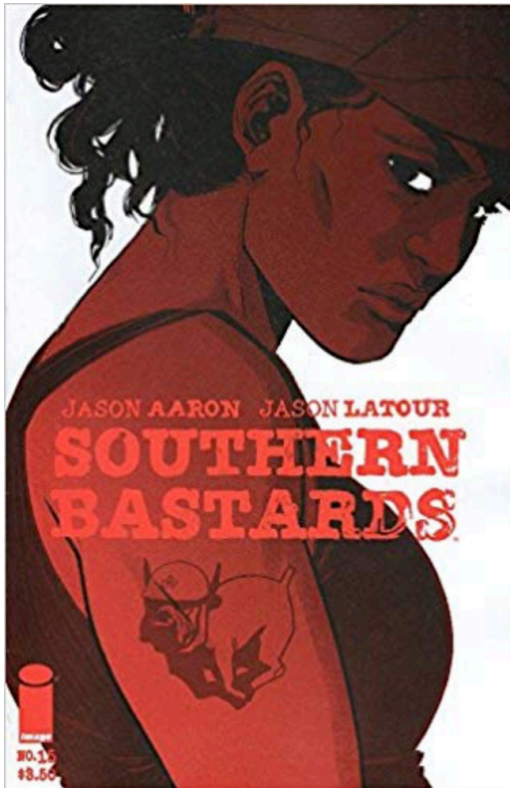




Ormes created another iconic female comic character, Torchy Brown. Torchy was strong, independent, and driven.

Roberta and the Heroine Typology





Roberta does fit the heroine typology in several ways. Like Wonder Woman and Storm, she is strong and determined with a mission in mind.

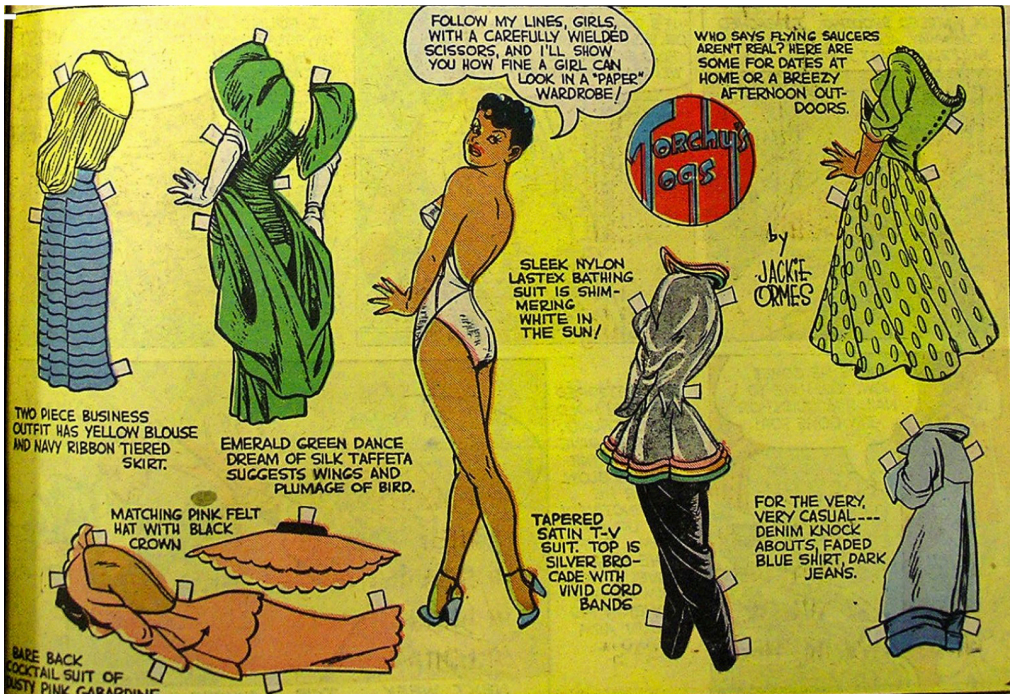
Who is Roberta Tubb?



Roberta does not receive a warm welcome in Crow County. She is subject to racist neighbors and police officers, but she does not let that deter her from seeking justice for her father. She is strong and determined, and it not about to let anyone get in her way.



What Made Her Unique?



Torchy and her creator were ground breaking black females in the comic world. Jackie is recognized as the first African-American female comic writer. Torchy, like Jackie, broke the black female typology that had existed at the time.

What Made Her Unique?



When Torchy was created in the 1930s, black women were portrayed in the Mammy typology as large, uneducated, homemakers or in the Jazabel typology as skinny, hyper-sexual young women. Torchy did not fit either of these typologies. Instead she was a smart, beautiful, driven woman who stood up for herself.

Who is Roberta Tubb?



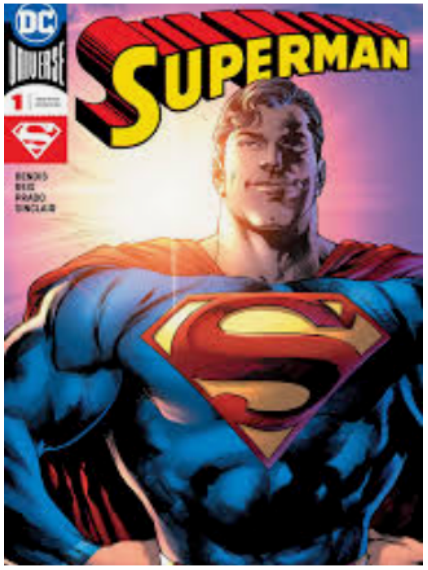


Roberta Tubb is a young black woman from Crow County, Alabama. Roberta's story takes place in *Southern Bastards*. Roberta left Craw County when she was young to join the army, but she returns after her father's mysterious death. She comes home to figure out how her dad died and to make sure justice is served to those who deserve it.



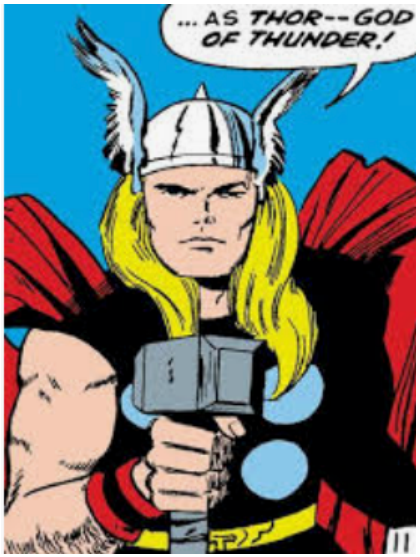
Roberta Tubb

The Introduction of the Superhero





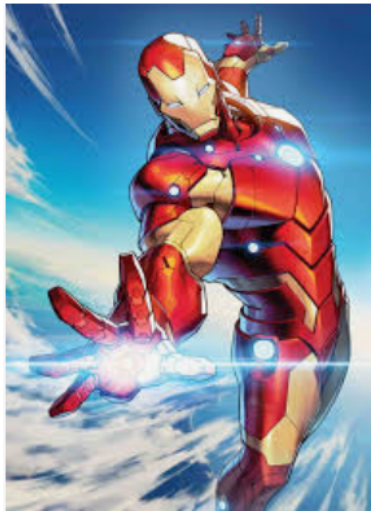




Who are Heroes?

Strong





Smart

Leaders



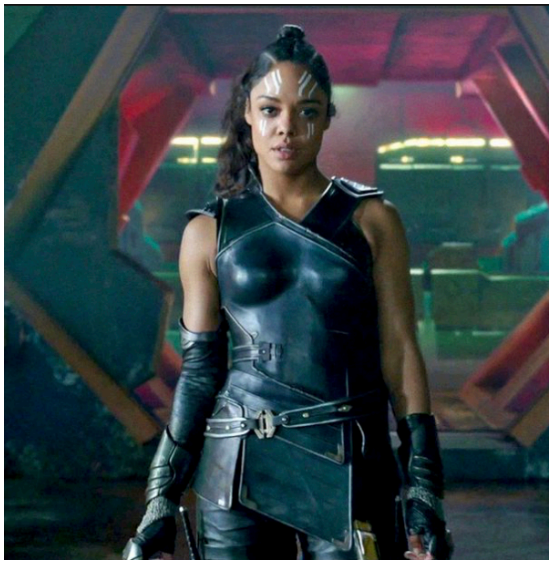
Storm



Storm is the most iconic black heroine in comic culture. She is a member of the X-Men, recruited from Africa early in the series. Like Wonder Woman, she fits the heroine typology presented in comics. Storm is a powerful woman that plays an integral role in the X-Men.



Who are Black Heroines?





If heroines are hard to find, black heroines are almost impossible to find in mainstream comics. Black heroines fit the heroine typology, but they tend to play even smaller parts than white heroines. Some film adaptations of comics have tried to give women of color a place in the narrative, like Valkyrie, but they are still minor parts.

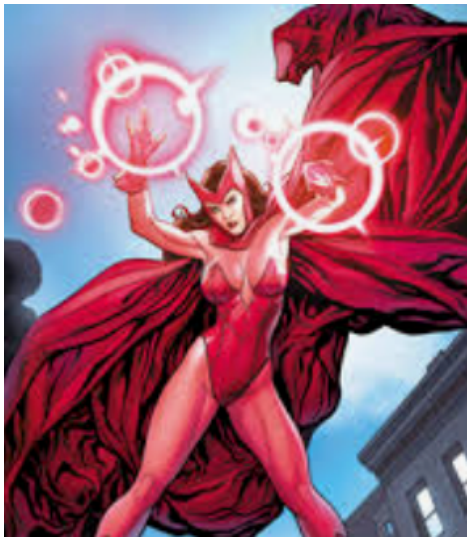
Who are Heroes?



The superhero is a staple of the comic genera, and now modern popular culture. Heroes ushered in the golden age of comics and led to the most iconic characters in comic history. However, these characters are overwhelmingly male.

Introduction of the Heroine







Who are Black Heroines?

Strong





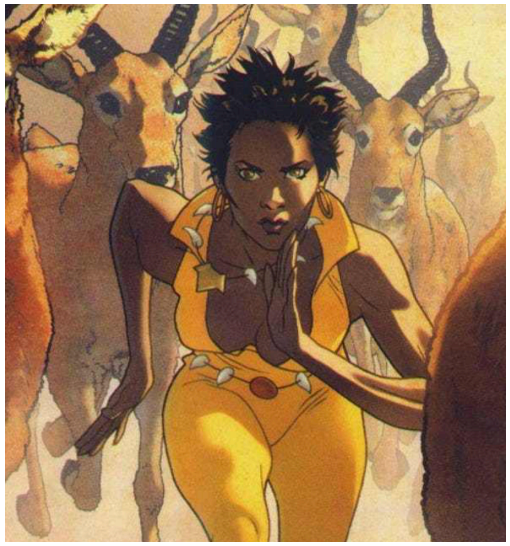
Smart

Leaders



Introduction of the Black Heroine







Who are Heroines?

Strong





Smart

Leaders



Who are Heroines?





While heroines follow the same general typology as heroes of being strong, smart, saviors, there are some key differences. Heroines are hypersexualized, showing lots of skin and cleavage. They also tend to be secondary characters when they interact with men and most heroines are white.

Wonder Woman

Wonder Woman is the most iconic heroine in the comic genera. Odds are if you asked anyone to name a female hero, it would be her. She fits the hypersexualized typology of heroines, and when she's saving the world with the Justice League, she tends to take the back seat to Super Man.

