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From McFarland Co Inc : [(The Encyclopedia of Superheroes on Film and Television)] [Author: John Kenneth Muir] [Oct-2008] before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised [(The Encyclopedia of Superheroes on Film and Television)] [Author: John Kenneth Muir] [Oct-2008]:

0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Three StarsBy Mark ChocianowskiGood book for knowing more about super heroes.9 of 9 people found the following review helpful. Essential reading for superhero fansBy Michael J. Mazza"The Encyclopedia of Superheroes on Film and Television," by John Kenneth Muir, packs a wealth of information into more than 600 pages. It is illustrated with many black-and-white depictions of both animated and live-action characters. The bulk of the book is an alphabetically organized group of entries on specific superheroes.A typical entry discusses a superhero and the various film and TV incarnations in which he/she has appeared. Muir discusses many types of superhero portrayals: animated and live-action, black-and-white and color, serious and spoof, and adult- and kid-oriented productions, even including direct-to-video features. The book is amazingly comprehensive, including both solo heroes and teams. There are the expected entries on such "big" names as The Amazing Spider-Man, Batman, Superman, Wonder Woman, X-Men, etc. But Muir does not neglect the curious, cultish, or off-beat.Among the many heroes covered are the Ambiguously Gay Duo (from a series of animated shorts on "Saturday Night Live"), Buffy the Vampire Slayer, Captain Planet and the Planetears, Darkman, ElectraWoman and DynaGirl, Isis, M.A.N.T.I.S., the Six Million Dollar Man, the Tick, and many more. I don't doubt that there are

omissions or oversights (I would have liked to have seen an entry on the Bibleman character, portrayed by Willie Aames), but overall it's an impressively broad gathering of heroes. The entries feature cast and crew credits from various productions, as well as episode guides to TV series. Excerpts from critics' reviews add further to the entries. Among the fascinating topics covered along the way are the superhero underpinnings of the film "Unbreakable" and the notorious unreleased Fantastic Four film. The book includes endnotes, a bibliography, and an index, as well as a number of appendices. I found the most interesting appendix to be the one covering the cliches and conventions of superhero media: "The Dogged Reporter," "Gargoyle Pose," "Lost Powers," etc. This book is well-written and fascinating. Muir takes the genre seriously, and brings insight and intelligence to this project. He is also not afraid to be critical. In his introduction he puts superhero lore into the context of United States culture. He also discusses his rationale for excluding or including certain characters when writing the book. I consider this book an essential reference work for public and academic libraries. But its accessible writing, user-friendly organization, and treasure trove of information also make it a worthy book for any individual with an interest in interest in superheroes. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. An excellent and recommended reference

By Midwest Book Review

Superheroes have been a staple of American popular culture beginning with the advent of dime novels and pulp magazines. From the introduction of Superman and Batman during the grim years of the Great Depression, to today's multiplying legions of super heroes and heroines, this action/adventure fantasy genre continues to be wildly popular and with the advent of CGI special effects for television and movies, shows no signs of wearing out its welcome with the American public. Now John Kenneth Muir (the author of twenty-two reference books covering science fiction and horror on film and television) presents a newly updated and significantly expanded second edition of "The Encyclopedia Of Superheroes On Film And Television" that begins with an overview survey of the history of super heroes in film and television, then proceeds with an alphabetical encyclopedic series of 'filmographies' ranging from The Amazing Spider-Man to Zoom: The Academy for Superheroes. "The Encyclopedia Of Superheroes On Film And Television" is then enhanced with a two-page Conclusion by Muir, appendices on Conventions and Cliches; Incarnations; Memorable Ad-Lines; and The Best, Worst and Most Influential. This is followed by Notes, Bibliography, and an Index. "The Encyclopedia Of Superheroes On Film And Television" is a work of impressive dimensions and enthusiastically recommended for personal, community, and academic library reference collections.