

NEW HISTORY OF THE DC UNIVERSE TIMELINE PART TWO

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SPECIAL THANKS TO JOHN WELLS

The events chronicled by Barry Allen were grouped by themes into a cohesive narrative. What follows is the definitive timeline of the DC Universe, its major events, and crucial players.

The **Justice Society of America** returns, rejuvenated and unaged, after their long interdimensional battle with Surtur. It will not be the last time they face him. The JSA subsequently enters semiretirement.

Rocketed to Earth from the doomed planet Krypton by his parents, **Jor-El** and **Lara Lor-Van**, baby **Kal-El** lands outside Smallville, Kansas, and is discovered and adopted by farmers Jonathan and Martha Kent, who name him **Clark**. Earth's yellow sun gives him a wide variety of superpowers. [**Action Comics** (1938) #1, #260; **Superman** (1939) #1 and others]

Preeminent Gotham City citizens **Thomas** and **Martha Wayne** are murdered in Park Row, which will later be nicknamed Crime Alley. [*Detective Comics* (1937) #31; *Batman* (1940) #404]



Clark Kent spends his teen years as **Superboy** protecting Smallville, confiding his secrets to his friend **Lana Lang**, briefly befriending a teenage **Lex Luthor**, and exploring his powers with his superdog and fellow Kryptonian refugee **Krypto**. [**Superman: Secret Origin (2009) #2; Adventure Comics (1938) #210**] He frequently travels to the 31st century to adventure alongside the **Legion of Super-Heroes**, an interplanetary teenage team inspired by Clark's heroic legacy. [**Adventure Comics (1938) #247; Action Comics (1938) #858; Superman: Secret Origin (2009) #1-2; Summer of Superman Special (2025) #1**] As a young adult, Clark travels the world as a journalist, eventually landing in the city of Metropolis as a reporter for the *Daily Planet* alongside elite reporter **Lois Lane** [**Action Comics (1938) #1**], editor-in-chief **Perry White** [**Superman (1939) #7; Superman: Secret Origin (2009) #3**], and aspiring photographer **Jimmy Olsen** [**Action Comics (1938) #6; Superman (1939) #13; Superman: Secret Origin (2009) #3**]. He begins operating as **Superman**. [**Action Comics (1938) #1; Superman: Birthright (2003) #2, Superman: Secret Origin (2009) #3-6**]



Billionaire **Bruce Wayne** travels the world for almost two decades following the murder of his parents, intent on amassing the skills required to wage a war on crime. Wayne spends his first year back in Gotham building the identity of the **Batman**. His secret police liaison is **Detective James “Jim” Gordon** [*Detective Comics* (1937) #27; *Batman* (1940) #404], one of Gotham’s rare honest cops. Batman is also aided by his trusted butler, **Alfred Pennyworth**. [*Batman* (1940) #404]

James Gordon becomes a lieutenant at the end of his and Batman's first year in Gotham City. [**Batman (1940) #404-407**]



Following Bruce Wayne's first year as Batman, he and James Gordon face the "Zero Year" when Wayne Enterprises employee **Edward Nygma**, who calls himself **the Riddler** [*Detective Comics* (1937) #140; *Batman* (2011) #23, #27, #29, #33], shuts down the entire city. Once Riddler is defeated, Gordon is promoted to captain. [*Batman* (2011) #21-27, #29-33]

Princess Diana, the new **Wonder Woman**, arrives on American soil to return **Col. Steve Trevor** home after his crash-landing on Themyscira. [*Wonder Woman* (2016) #6] Diana is introduced to **Lt. Etta Candy** and archaeologist **Barbara Minerva** [*Wonder Woman* (2016) #6], who help her acclimate to the customs of "Man's World."



Wonder Woman II rescues a child known only as Donna from an apartment fire. Unable to locate her parents, Diana takes Donna to live on Themyscira with the Amazons. They give her the last name Troy and train and raise her, eventually granting her powers similar to Wonder Woman's. She takes the name **Wonder Girl**. [*Tales of the Titans* (2023) #3]

As a child, **Barry Allen** sees his mother killed, and his father is framed for the crime. Driven to police work in hopes of someday uncovering evidence that would exonerate his father, Barry becomes a Central City Police Department forensic scientist. One night, he is bathed in lightning-charged chemicals that grant him super-speed and link him to an extradimensional power source called the **Speed Force**. Barry adopts the name of his childhood hero and, as the second **Flash**, protects the city from crime. [*Showcase* (1956) #4, *The Flash: Rebirth* (2009) #1; *The Flash* (2016) #70-75]



Surviving a plane crash and convinced they are living on "borrowed time," Olympic wrestler **Leslie "Rocky" Davis**, oceanaut **Professor Walter Mark Haley**, daredevil **Matthew "Red" Ryan**, and pilot **Kyle "Ace" Morgan** band together as the **Challengers of the Unknown**, subsequently adding robotics scientist **June Robbins** as a member and dedicating themselves

to uncovering all of reality's greatest mysteries and obstacles. [*Showcase* (1956) #6; *Secret Origins* (1986) #12]

J'onn J'onzz, who has been protecting the town of Middleton, Colorado, in the human form of police detective John Jones, publicly reveals his identity after stopping the machinations of a Martian criminal named Charnn. [*Martian Manhunter* (2018) #12]



Billionaire playboy **Oliver Queen** returns to his home of Star City and becomes the vigilante known as **Green Arrow**, using his archery skills to champion the disadvantaged and oppressed. [*Adventure Comics* (1938) #256; *Secret Origins* (1986) #38; *Green Arrow: Year One* (2007) #6]

The son of Atlantean queen Atlanna and Amnesty Bay lighthouse keeper Tom Curry, **Arthur Curry** claims his birthright as protector of both sea and land, becoming **Aquaman II**. [*Secret Origins* (2014) #2; *Aquaman* (2011) #0, #1]

Archaeologist **Adam Strange** is struck by the mysterious zeta beam, which allows for instant—yet temporary—transportation to the distant planet Rann. Greeted by scientist Sardath and his daughter, Alanna (Adam's eventual wife), Strange uses his wits and human instincts to protect Rann from interstellar threats. [*Showcase* (1956) #17, *Secret Origins* (1986) #17]



The Joker begins his criminal career in Gotham City. [*Batman* (1940) #1; *Batman: The Brave and the Bold* (2023) #1-2, #4-5, #9]



After witnessing Batman's impact on Gotham City during his first year, lifelong criminal and master thief **Selina Kyle** is inspired to adopt the identity of **Catwoman**. [*Batman* (1940) #1, #3, #407]

Ferris Aircraft test pilot and U.S. Air Force washout **Hal Jordan** is summoned to the desert by Abin Sur, the Green Lantern of Space Sector 2814. Dying, Sur chooses Jordan as his successor based on Jordan's honesty and ability to conquer great fear. Jordan is the second hero of Earth to be publicly known as **Green Lantern**, after Alan Scott.

[*Showcase* (1956) #22; *Green Lantern* (2005) #29-30]



James Gordon is promoted to police commissioner of Gotham City.

When Haly's Traveling Circus refuses to pay protection money, Gotham's Tony "Boss" Zucco visits tragedy upon Haly's "Flying Graysons." **Dick Grayson** watches in horror as his trapeze-artist parents fall to their deaths. Moved by the similarity to his own family's fate, Bruce Wayne takes the boy in and trains him to be Batman's apprentice, **Robin**. [*Detective Comics* (1937) #38; *Batman* (1940) #436-439]

Following the death of husband Nathan Kane, **Kathy Kane**, formerly Kathy Webb, uses her vast wealth to briefly follow in Batman's footsteps and become the first **Batwoman**, fighting alongside Batman and Robin [*Detective Comics* (1937) #233] and joined for a short time by her niece **Bat-Girl** (Bette Kane) [*Batman* (1940) #139 and others]. Eventually, Kane abandons her Batwoman identity to join the spy organization **Spyral**. [*Batman Incorporated* (2010) #4]



Roy Harper becomes **Speedy**. His origins are detailed in *Adventure Comics* (1938) #262; *Secret Origins* (1986) #38; *Arsenal* (1998) #3; and *Green Arrow* (2016) #18.

Lex Luthor establishes **Lexcorp**, a front for his criminal career as a ruthless scientist and businessman. [*Superman: Secret Origin* (2009) #1-2, #4]



Flash II's Rogues Gallery includes **Captain Cold** (Leonard Snart) [*Showcase* (1956) #8], **Heat Wave** (Mick Rory) [*The Flash* (1959) #140], **Mirror Master** (Sam Scudder) [*The Flash* (1959) #105], **Trickster** (James Jesse) [*The Flash* (1959) #113], **Pied Piper** (Hartley Rathaway) [*The Flash* (1959) #106], **Weather Wizard** (Mark "Marco" Mardon) [*The Flash* (1959) #110], **the Top** (Roscoe Neyle Dillon) [*The Flash* (1959) #122], and **Captain Boomerang** (George "Digger" Harkness) [*The Flash* (1959) #117]. Other Flash II villains include **Abra Kadabra** [*The Flash* (1959) #128], genius supercriminal **Gorilla Grodd** of Gorilla City [*The Flash* (1959) #106], and **Eobard Thawne**, the 25th century's **Professor Zoom**, a.k.a. **the Reverse-Flash** [*The Flash* (1959) #139; *The Flash* (2010) #8].



Superman first faces **Metallo** (John Corben) [*Superman: Secret Origin* (2009) #5-6] and **Parasite** (Rudy Jones) [*Superman: Secret Origin* (2009) #3-4]. Soon after, he has his first encounter with an imperfect duplicate called **Bizarro**, the first of several beings so named. [*Action Comics* (1938) #254]

Not all of Gotham City's criminals are a superstitious, cowardly lot. During this period, Batman and Robin first encounter the **Penguin** (Oswald Cobblepot) [*Detective Comics* (1937) #58], **Clayface** (Basil Karlo) [*Detective Comics* (1937) #40], **Two-Face** (Harvey Dent) [*Detective Comics* (1937) #66], **Clayface II** (Matt Hagen) [*Detective Comics* (1937) #298], **Mr. Freeze** (Victor Fries) [*Batman* (1940) #121], and **Poison Ivy** (Pamela Isley) [*Batman* (1940) #181].

Also during this period, **Green Lantern II** meets villains **Hector Hammond** [*Green Lantern* (1960) #5; *Green Lantern* (2005) #30-31], **Sonar I** (Bito Wladon) [*Green Lantern* (1960) #14], and the **Black Hand** (William Hand) [*Green Lantern* (1960) #29; *Green Lantern* (2005) #32-33, #35, #43]. His lifelong friend and love **Carol Ferris** [*Showcase* (1956) #22; *Green Lantern* (2005) #29] begins entering fugue states, unaware that she periodically becomes the Zamaron-empowered warrior **Star Sapphire II** [*Green Lantern* (1960) #16]. But Hal's greatest adversary is **Sinestro**, his mentor and former Green Lantern of Sector 1417 [*Green Lantern* (1960) #7; *Green Lantern* (2005) #31-35]. Sinestro ruled over his home planet, Korugar, with fear and force before the Guardians stripped him of his ring and banished him to the antimatter world of **Qward** [introduced in *Green Lantern* (1960) #2]. There, Sinestro obtained the first yellow Lantern ring, powered by fear rather than will. [*Green Lantern* (1960) #2; *Green Lantern* (2011) #23.4]



Batman and Robin meet the **Batmen of All Nations**, also referred to as the **Club of Heroes**. The Club includes **Man-of-Bats**, **Raven Red**, **Gauche**, **the Knight**, **the Squire I and II**, **the Musketeer**, **Legionary**, **the Ranger** and **Scout**, and **Wingman**. [*Detective Comics* (1937) #215; *Batman* (1940) #667-669]

Fifth-dimensional imps **Mr. Mxyzptlk** [*Superman* (1939) #30; *Superman* (1987) #11] and **Bat-Mite** [*Detective Comics* (1937) #267] independently begin traveling to our dimension out of obsessions with Superman and Batman respectively.



Blue Valley, Nebraska, teen **Wally West**, nephew of Flash II's future fiancée, Iris West, becomes **Kid Flash**. [*The Flash* (1959) #110; *The Flash* (1987) #62-65, #0; *The Flash* (2016) #75]

Garth (Aqualad)'s origins are detailed in *Adventure Comics* (1938) #269.

Batman meets Superman for the first time. [*Batman/Superman: World's Finest* (2022) #18-19]



The daughter of original Black Canary Dinah Drake and her husband, Larry Lance, Dinah Laurel Lance becomes the second **Black Canary**. [*Secret Origins* (1986) #50; *JLA: Year One* (1998) #1]

Barbara Minerva becomes the feral **Cheetah II**. [*Wonder Woman* (2016) #18]

Wonder Woman's other

main foes include the rich and sinister **Veronica Cale** [*Wonder Woman* (1987) #196; *Wonder Woman* (2016) #16], **Dr. Psycho** (Edgar Cizko) [*Wonder Woman* (1942) #5; *Wonder Woman* (1987) #51-56], **Giganta** (Doris Zuel) [*Wonder Woman* (1942) #9; *Wonder Woman* (1987) #136, #180], **Circe** [*Wonder Woman* (1942) #37; *Wonder Woman* (2016) #20], **Dr. Cyber** [*Wonder Woman* (2016) #16, #18], and **Dr. Poison** (Princess Maru) [*Sensation Comics* (1942) #2; *Wonder Woman* (2011) #48 and others].

Star college football prospect **Victor Stone** is attacked and nearly killed by Apokliptian parademons. His father, Silas Stone of S.T.A.R. Labs, uses his technological knowledge and a material called promethium to salvage Victor's body, turning him into a **Cyborg**. [*Justice League* (2011) #1-6]



A powerful group of Earth's new heroes first unites to repel Darkseid in *Justice League* (2011) #1-6.

An alien invasion unites **Flash II**, **Green Lantern II**, and **Aquaman II** with the **Martian Manhunter** and **Black Canary II**, who formally become the **Justice League** and operate from a secret mountain headquarters outside Happy Harbor, Rhode Island, run by mechanic **Lucas "Snapper" Carr**. [*JLA: Year One* (1998) #1-12] Superman, Batman, and Wonder Woman soon rejoin them. Eventually they add to their ranks **Green Arrow** [*Justice League of America* (1960) #4] and the **Atom II** [*Justice League of America* (1960) #14].



The Justice League's main enemies include extraterrestrials **Despero** [*Justice League of America* (1960) #1], **Starro** [*The Brave and the Bold* (1955) #28], and **Kanjar Ro** [*Justice League of America* (1960) #3]; villains commanding ancient power like **Felix Faust** [*Justice League of America* (1960) #10], **Vandal Savage**, **Dr. Destiny** [*Justice League of America* (1960) #5], and **Eclipso**; and wielders of earthly science gone wrong such as **Dr. Light** [*Justice League of America* (1960) #12] and the deadly android **Amazo** [*The Brave and the Bold* (1955) #30].



Aquaman II and Aqualad first meet **Mera** of the underwater kingdom of **Xebel**. [*Aquaman* (1962) #11; *Secret Origins* (2014) #5; *Aquaman* (2025) #4]

Aspiring contortionist and detective **Ralph Dibny** discovers ginkgold, a serum that allows him to stretch his body. As the flamboyant—and unmasked—**Elongated Man**, Dibny travels the world in search of mysteries alongside his wealthy wife, Sue Dearbon Dibny. [*The Flash* (1959) #112; *Secret Origins* (1986) #30]

Hawkman (Carter Hall) and **Hawkgirl (Shiera Hall)** come out of retirement as this second age of superheroes dawns. Alongside operating with the Justice Society of America again, they are offered membership in the Justice League as well to function as intermediaries between the two teams. [*JLA: Incarnations* (2001) #1]



Ivy Town graduate student **Ray Palmer** uses a white dwarf star fragment to create a mechanism allowing him to control his size and weight. As the **Atom II**, he apprehends criminals in Ivy Town that are then prosecuted by his eventual wife, lawyer Jean Loring. [*Showcase* (1956) #34; *Secret Origins* (1986) #29; *The Atom Special* (1993) #1]

The Atom II meets his archenemy, **Chronos** (David Clinton). [*The Atom* (1962) #3]

Hawkman and **Hawkgirl** first encounter Carl Sands, the **Shadow Thief**. [*The Brave and the Bold* (1955) #36]

The Flash II, using his vibrational powers, discovers that Central City's neighbor, Keystone City—which had vanished years ago—was actually shifted to another dimension, where its citizens lay in frozen slumber thanks to the machinations of the **Thinker**, the **Fiddler**, and the **Shade**. Flash II awakens **Flash I**,

and they defeat their foes. The two then return Keystone City to its proper place. [*The Flash* (1959) #123; *Secret Origins* (1956) #50]



The Justice League and the Justice Society of America team up for the first time to battle the **Crime Champions**: Chronos, Felix Faust, Dr. Alchemy, the Wizard, Icicle, and the Fiddler. [*Justice League of America* (1960) #21-22]

The Justice League faces off against evil counterparts from a parallel Earth: **Ultraman**, **Owlman**, **Superwoman**, **Power Ring**, and **Johnny Quick**. This first incarnation of the **Crime Syndicate** hails from Earth-3, where evil is considered a virtue. [*Justice League of America* (1960) #29-30]

Kara Zor-El, Kryptonian daughter of **Zor-El** and **Alura In-Ze**, arrives on Earth and becomes **Supergirl**. Seeking out a family of her own rather than living with the Kents, Kara is taken in by retired D.E.O. agents **Jeremiah** and **Eliza Danvers** and begins school in Midvale. [*Action Comics* (1938) #252, *Supergirl* (2025) #1]



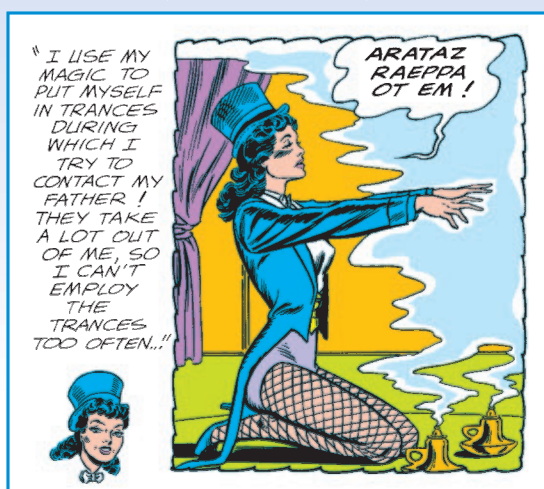
Dr. Niles Caulder leads his first **Doom Patrol**, a group of damaged heroes. **Robotman II** is race car driver **Cliff Steele**, whose brain was installed in a robot body following an accident;

U.S. Air Force test pilot **Larry Trainor** flew a jet through the radiation barrier and became possessed by an energy being called **Negative Man**; and **Rita Farr** was exposed to a mysterious gas that gave her the ability to grow or shrink in size as **Elasti-Girl**. [*My Greatest Adventure* (1955) #80; *Secret Origins Annual* (1986) #1]

Dr. Will Magnus creates robots **Gold**, **Lead**, **Platinum**, **Iron**, **Mercury**, and **Tin**—the **Metal Men**, whose personalities mirror the traits of their source elements. [*Showcase* (1956) #37]

Robin, **Kid Flash**, and **Aqualad** team up to stop the sinister **Mr. Twister**. [*The Brave and the Bold* (1955) #54] Shortly thereafter, **Wonder Girl** and **Speedy** join them to defeat **Antithesis**, after which they form the **Teen Titans**. [*Secret Origins Annual* (1986) #3] Their ranks will eventually expand to include **Bumblebee** (**Karen Beecher**) [*Teen Titans* (1966) #45, #48], **Herald** (**Malcolm Duncan**) [*Teen Titans* (1960) #26], **Omen** (**Lilith Clay**) [*Teen Titans* (1960) #26], **Gnarrk** [*Teen Titans* (1966) #31], **Hawk and Dove** [*Teen Titans* (1966) #21], and **the Joker's Daughter** [*Teen Titans* (1966) #48].

The daughter of **Giovanni Zatara** and the *Homo magus* **Sindella**, **Zatanna Zatara** follows in her father's footsteps as a spell-casting hero and stage magician. [*Hawkman* (1964) #4; *Secret Origins* (1986) #27; *Justice League of America* (1960) #163]



Trying to access the power of the "cursed" **Black Diamond**, scientist **Bruce Gordon** accidentally becomes the latest human host for **Eclipso**. [*House of Secrets* (1956) #61]

Aquaman II and his beloved **Mera** welcome baby **Arthur Curry Jr.**, known affectionately as **Aquababy**. [*Aquaman* (1962) #23]

The **Doom Patrol** first encounters the **Brotherhood of Evil**—the **Brain**, **Monsieur Mallah**, and **Eric Morden**, who would later be known as **Mr. Nobody** long after **Madame Rouge** joins the group. [*Doom Patrol* (1964) #86, #90] Soon after, the heroes befriend **Garfield Logan**, **Beast Boy**, an orphan with the ability to transform into animals. [*Doom Patrol* (1964) #99]

Orm, the second son of **Queen Atlanna** and younger half-brother of **Aquaman II**, takes the throne of **Atlantis** only to be deposed by **Arthur** for his cruelty toward his subjects. This sets **Orm** on the path to becoming the deep-sea terrorist known as **Ocean Master**. [*Aquaman* (1962) #29; *Aquaman* (2011) #0]

Robby Reed discovers the **H-Dial**. [*House of Mystery* (1951) #156]

Criminal **Patrick "Eel" O'Brian** is wounded during a getaway and infused with chemicals that give him amazing elasticity. Turning over a new leaf, he becomes **Plastic Man**. [*Police Comics* (1940) #1; *Secret Origins* (1986) #30]



Rex Mason is transformed into **Metamorpho**. [*The Brave and the Bold* (1955) #57]

Brilliant inventor **Ted Kord** enlists his former teacher, **Dan Garrett**, the original **Blue Beetle**, to stop Ted's uncle's evil robotic plans. Garrett is mortally wounded during the mission and asks Kord to carry on his heroic legacy. Unable to access the power of the **Khaji Da** scarab, Ted instead uses his inventing prowess

to create weapons, a bug ship, and a costume that allow him to operate as **Blue Beetle II**. [*Captain Atom* (1965) #83; *Blue Beetle* (1967) #32; *Secret Origins* (1986) #2]





Vic Sage meets scientist Aristotle "Tot" Rodor, inventor of "pseudoderm," an artificial skin that obscures one's features. This allows Sage to operate as vigilante the **Question**. [*Blue Beetle* (1967) #1; *The Question Annual* (1987) #2]

Batgirl (**Barbara Gordon**) debuts.

[*Detective Comics* (1937) #359; *Batgirl: Year One* (2003) #1; *Batgirl* (2011) #0]

Animal Man's origins are explored in *Strange Adventures* (1950) #180, *Secret Origins* (1986) #39, and *Animal Man* (1988) #10.

Locked in a blood feud with the Curry family, modern-day pirate **David Hyde** becomes the dreaded super-villain **Black Manta** to exact revenge for his father's death. [*Aquaman* (1962) #35; *Aquaman* (2011) #10; *Aquaman* (2016) #54, #62]



As an admissions test for the League of Assassins, a killer known as "the Hook" assassinates **Boston "Deadman" Brand** during his trapeze act. [*Strange Adventures* (1950) #205; *Secret Origins* (1986) #15]

Controversial journalist **Jack Ryder** is injected with a super-serum that gives him above-average strength and agility. As the **Creeper**, Ryder initially feigns manic insanity, but as the serum gradually affects his brain, it becomes no act. [*Showcase* (1956) #73; *The Creeper* (1997) #3]

Hank and **Don Hall** become **Hawk and Dove**. [*Showcase* (1956) #75; *Secret Origins* (1986) #43]

Built as an android Trojan horse by criminal inventor T.O. Morrow, the **Red Tornado II** manages to reject his mission to destroy the Justice League and Justice Society. Unknown to all, "Reddy" had been possessed by Ulthoon, an alien air elemental, inspiring him to soon become a self-actualized, trusted member of the Justice League. [*Justice League of America* (1960) #64-65, #193]



The mutated Atlantean known only as **Dolphin** emerges from the sea for the first time, soon meeting Aquaman and the Aqua-Family. [*Showcase* (1956) #79, #100; *Secret Origins* (1986) #50; *Aquaman* (2016) #25]

The Doom Patrol comes to a grisly end protecting a Maine fishing village from General Zahl. [*Doom Patrol* (1964) #121]

During a battle with the **Clock King**, Green Arrow and Speedy encounter chronal forces that split them in two, creating short-lived duplicates who are flung through the timestream to the 1940s, where they join the Seven Soldiers of Victory. [*Stargirl Spring Break Special* (2021) #1]

The spirit of highwayman Jim Craddock returns to the earthly plane as the villainous **Gentleman Ghost**. [*The Atom & Hawkman* (1968) #43]

After their former headquarters is compromised by the Joker [*Justice League of America* (1960) #77], the Justice League blends earthly and alien technologies to create a satellite headquarters in geosynchronous orbit above the U.S. [*Justice League of America* (1960) #78]





Rock star **Jim Rook** is transported to the magical land of Myrra to claim his inheritance, the enchanted Sword of Night and the suit of armor that comes with it, making him the mystical hero known as **Nightmaster**. [*Showcase* (1956) #82]

Dick Grayson (Robin) leaves home to attend college at **Hudson**

University. Batman and Alfred Pennyworth take the opportunity to temporarily abandon Wayne Manor and the Batcave, relocating to the **Wayne Foundation penthouse** in the heart of Gotham City. [*Batman* (1940) #217]



As **Thorn, Rose Forrest** begins terrorizing the crime combine called the **100**. [*Superman's Girl Friend, Lois Lane* (1958) #105]

Darkseid strikes Earth again, this time in a renewed search for the Anti-Life Equation. This act draws many of the gods of Apokolips and New Genesis to Earth for the first time. [*New Gods* (1971) #1-11; *The Forever People* (1971) #1-11; *Mister Miracle* (1971) #1-18; *Superman's Pal Jimmy Olsen* (1954) #133-148]



The Justice League and Justice Society retrieve the time-lost Seven Soldiers of Victory—including Green Arrow and Speedy—in *Justice League* (1960) #100-102.

Following early encounters with the **League of Assassins** [*Detective Comics* (1937) #405-406, #408], Batman meets **Talia al Ghul**, daughter of the Demon, in *Detective Comics* (1937) #411. Her origins are expanded upon in *Batman Incorporated* (2012) #2.

Batman faces off against **Ra's al Ghul** for the first time in *Batman* (1940) #232.



Unlikely friends Green Lantern II and Green Arrow join **Appa Ali Apsa**, a Guardian of the Universe, for a road trip through America designed to make the cosmos-faring Lantern more conscious of the troubles of everyday folks. [*Green Lantern* (1960) #76-81]

John Stewart becomes Green Lantern II's official alternate. [*Green Lantern* (1960) #87; *Batman/Superman: World's Finest Annual* 2025]



Green Arrow discovers that his sidekick, Speedy, has been using drugs and kicks him out of his home. Black Canary II helps him find sobriety. [Green Lantern (1960) #85-86; Arsenal (1998) #1]

Following the destruction of scientist **Alec Holland's** lab, Holland's consciousness, the bio-restorative formula he had developed, and the swamp around the lab mingle to give birth to a Green avatar

called **Swamp Thing** infused with Holland's memories. [Swamp Thing (1972) #1; Swamp Thing (1982) #21]

Susan Linden is resurrected as a human/plant hybrid and becomes the first hero known as the **Black Orchid**. Like Swamp Thing, she is a champion of the Green. [Adventure Comics (1938) #428; Black Orchid (1988) #1-3; Black Orchid Annual (1993) #1]

Manhunter (Paul Kirk) is revived for a brief period, after which he sacrifices his life to save the world from the evil **Council**. [Detective Comics (1937) #437-443]

Dr. Garrett Sanford enters the Dream Dimension to guard Earth from its monsters and monitor the dreams of the sleeping, inspired by Sandman II (Wesley Dodds) to adopt the name **Sandman III**. [The Sandman (1974) #1; Wonder Woman (1942) #300]

Elongated Man [Justice League of America (1960) #105] and Red Tornado II [Justice League of America (1960) #106] join the Justice League.



Defense attorney **Mark Shaw** is invited to join the **Manhunter** cult, unaware of the group's true origins and believing them to be simple purveyors of justice. [1st Issue Special (1975) #5; Secret Origins (1986) #22] Later confronted with the truth, Shaw adopts the seemingly heroic persona of the **Privateer** [Justice League of America (1960) #140-141, #143], then the evil **Star-Tsar** [Justice League of America (1960) #150] before the Justice League exposes his continued allegiance to the Manhunters.

Taken in and trained by the legendary **O-Sensei**, Richard Drakunovski debuts as **Richard Dragon**. **Ben Turner** befriends him, in time adopting the mantle of the **Bronze Tiger**. [Richard Dragon: Kung-Fu Fighter (1975) #1; Richard Dragon: Kung-Fu Fighter (1975) #18; Richard Dragon (2004) #1]



Lady Shiva (Ming-Yue, later **Sandra Wu-San**) becomes an ally of Dragon's. Originally a hero, she eventually aligns with nefarious forces like the League of Assassins and its offshoot, the League of Shadows. [Richard Dragon: Kung-Fu Fighter (1975) #5]

U.S. Air Force Lieutenant Colonel **Travis Morgan** discovers **Skartaris** and becomes its **Warlord**. [1st Issue Special (1975) #8; Warlord (1976) #1; Secret Origins (1986) #16]

Jeffrey Burr seizes control of the **Kobra Kult**. He is opposed by his twin, **Jason**, with whom he shares a psychic link. [Kobra (1976) #1]

Mikaal Tomas, an alien from the planet **Talok III** falsely accused of treason, escapes to Earth and becomes the third hero to claim the identity of **Starman**. [1st Issue Special (1975) #12]



Rory Regan becomes **Ragman** [*Ragman* (1976) #1], reviving a persona once used by his father [*Ragman* (1991) #3].

Aquaman is dethroned by the Atlanteans [*Adventure Comics* (1938) #443-448], after which Black Manta murders his infant son. [*Adventure Comics* (1938) #452]

The ancient sorcerer **Dr. Mist** enlists Superman to recruit six international heroes—Israel's **Seraph**, Brazil's **Green Fury** (later Fire), Japan's **Rising Sun**, Greece's **Olympian**, Denmark's **Little Mermaid**, and Ireland's **Jack O'Lantern**—to stop the resurrection of the evil Atlantean sorcerer **Thaumar Dhai**. Dr. Mist dubs the six the **Global Guardians** [*DC Comics Presents* (1978) #46], recalling an earlier team of international heroes he formed in the 1950s. [*Infinity, Inc.* (1984) #34]



Titans West, an auxiliary Teen Titans group, forms with Bat-Girl (Bette Kane), Hawk and Dove, Omen, Beast Boy, and **Charley Parker**, the **Golden Eagle**. [*Teen Titans* (1960) #50]

Hawkgirl officially changes her name to **Hawkwoman**. [*Justice League of America* (1960) #146]

Former Olympic champion **Jefferson Pierce** returns home to Suicide Slum as a high school teacher hoping to make a difference, but as he sees his students fall victim to the 100 and their leader, crime lord **Tobias Whale**, Pierce creates the **Black Lightning** persona and uses his bioelectric powers to take back the streets. [*Black Lightning* (1977) #1; *Secret Origins* (1986) #26; *Black Lightning: Year One* (2009) #1]

Deemed a criminal and traitor in his home dimension of the Meta-Zone, **Rac Shade**, known best as **Shade, the Changing Man**, escapes to Earth with the powerful **M-Vest**, which allows him to disguise and defend himself against his Metan pursuers. [*Shade, the Changing Man* (1977) #1]

Phase Two of the **Supermen Project** [*Doomsday Clock* (2017) #5] by the Department of Metahuman Affairs begins to bear fruit after several scientific endeavors. It creates **Captain Atom** (**Nathaniel Adam**), a nuclear-powered, military-based superhero [*Captain Atom* (1987) #1]; **Firestorm**, an element-transmuting combination of teenager **Ronald Raymond** and **Professor Martin Stein** [*Firestorm, the Nuclear Man* (1978) #1]; the deadly **Killer Frost** (**Crystal Frost**) [*Firestorm* (1982) #21, #33-36]; **Element Woman** (**Urania Blackwell**) [*Metamorpho* (1965) #10]; and **Lady Clayface** (**Sondra Fuller**) [*The Outsiders* (1985) #21], and empowers Gotham City-based scientist Kirk Langstrom to become the antihero **Man-Bat** [*Detective Comics* (1937) #400].

The Atom II marries Jean Loring. [*Justice League of America* (1960) #157]

Zatanna joins the Justice League. [*Justice League of America* (1960) #161]

Fashion model **Mari McCabe** becomes **Vixen**. [*Action Comics* (1938) #521; *Justice League of America: Vixen – Rebirth* (2017) #1]

Thomas Tresser, a master of disguise, espionage, and combat, begins battling the resurrected **Council** as **Nemesis**. [*The Brave and the Bold* (1955) #166-167]

Following a brutal attack by Dr. Light after learning their secrets, the Justice League votes—by a narrow margin—to have Zatanna magically alter Light's brain, an ill-advised act that will come back to haunt them years later. [*Identity Crisis* (2004) #2]

Firestorm joins the Justice League. [*Justice League of America* (1960) #179]

Prince Gavyn of Kranaltine (a.k.a. Throneworld) survives a death sentence following the passing of his father, the emperor. Rescued by the alien **Mn'Torr**, the young man is taught to access his powers of solar-energy manipulation. As the fourth **Starman**, Gavyn dissolves his father's empire but continues to rule Throneworld alongside his beloved Merria. [*Adventure Comics* (1938) #467-478; *DC Comics Presents* (1978) #36; *Starman Annual* (1996) #1]

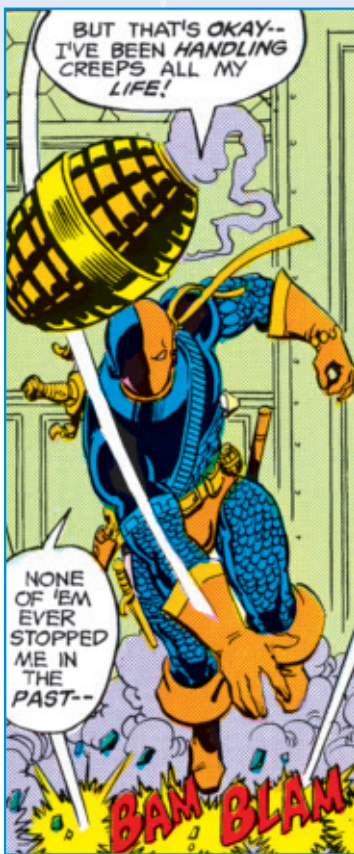
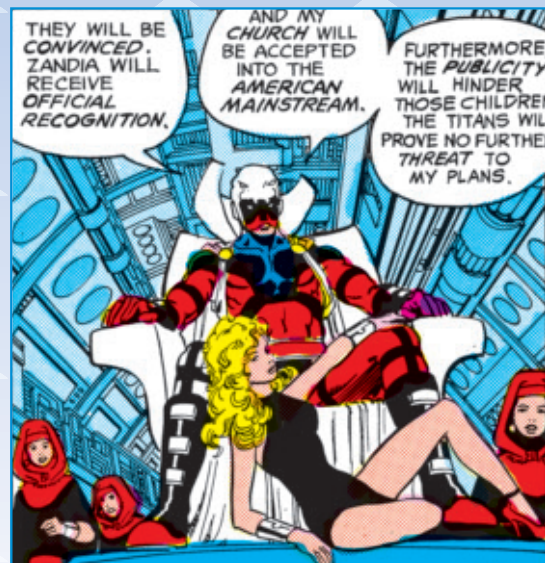
The mystical empath **Raven** assembles past Teen Titans Robin, Wonder Girl, Kid Flash, and Changeling (formerly Beast Boy) alongside former Justice Leaguer Cyborg to rescue the Tamaranean princess **Starfire** from the malevolent **Gordanians**. As the new **Teen Titans**, the team then fulfills Raven's secret goal—the defeat of her father, the demon **Trigon**. [*DC Comics Presents* (1978) #26; *The New Teen Titans* (1980) #1]



Mongul I, lord of the satellite **Warworld**, becomes known to Earth's heroes. [*DC Comics Presents* (1978) #27-29]



Sebastian Blood VIII, a.k.a. **Brother Blood**, eighth leader of the baleful cult known as the **Church of Blood**, triggers terrorist attacks in New York City that lead the **Titans** to infiltrate the Church and bring them to justice. [*The New Teen Titans* (1980) #21-22]

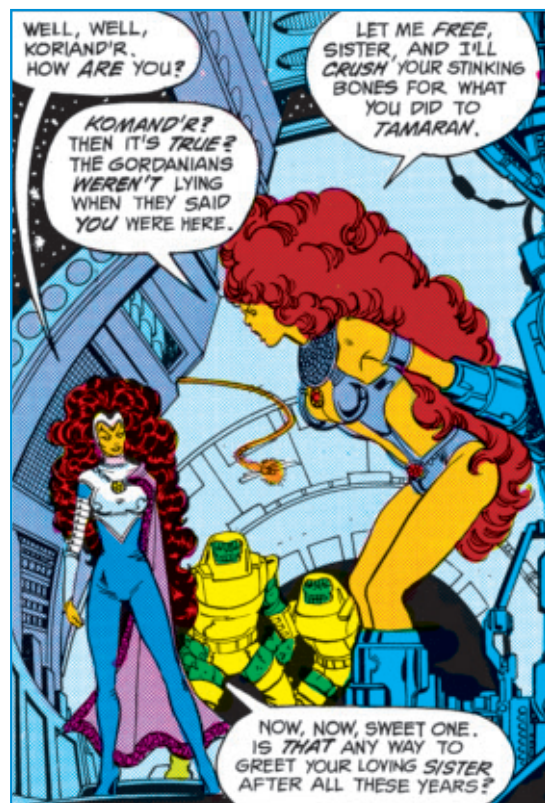


Slade Wilson, recipient of an experimental super-soldier serum as a young man, first battles the Titans. As **Deathstroke**, Wilson is assisted by his right-hand men **William Wintergreen** and **David Isherwood** and tenuously supported by his ex-military wife, **Adeline Kane**. [*Deathstroke Inc.* (2021) #10-15; *Tales of the Teen Titans* (1980) #44] Slade's son **Grant Wilson** follows in his footsteps, given a more extreme form of his father's serum by the criminal group **H.I.V.E.** As

Ravager, Grant takes on the Titans, unaware that the drug will kill him, a death that earns the Titans **Deathstroke's** eternal hatred. [*The New Teen Titans* (1980) #2]

Various aliens whose worlds were ravaged by the **Citadel** band together to fight back as the **Omega Men**. The team—**Primus**, **Kalista**, **Tigorr**, **Demonia**, **Harpus**, **Nimbus**, and **Broot**—soon encounters **Green Lantern II**. [*Green Lantern* (1960) #141] They are shortly joined by **Auron**. [*Green Lantern* (1960) #143]

Blackfire (Princess Komand'r), eldest child of the Tamaranean royal family and elder sister of **Starfire**, leads a faction of Citadel soldiers to Earth to capture her sister. [*The New Teen Titans* (1980) #22-23]



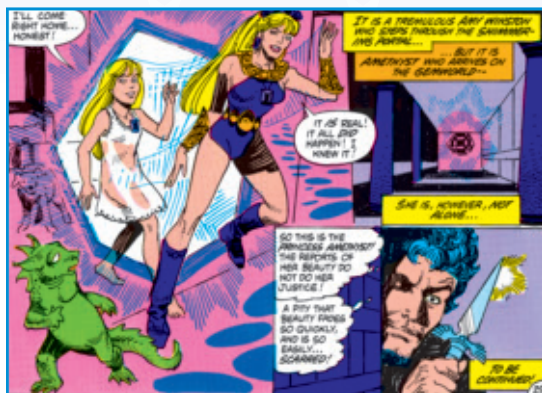
New York City District Attorney **Adrian Chase** survives the Mafia assassination of his family, becoming the **Vigilante II** to serve justice his own way. [*The New Teen Titans* (1980) #23; *The New Teen Titans Annual* (1980) #2] Ironically, Chase eventually takes his own life. [*Vigilante* (1983) #50]

Irwin Schwab starts his “career” as **Ambush Bug**. [*DC Comics Presents* (1978) #52]

Tara Markov, a geomancer from Markovia, is adopted into the Titans’ ranks as **Terra** [*The New Teen Titans* (1980) #26–28, #30], playing a long game to tear the team apart from the inside courtesy of Deathstroke. [*Tales of the Teen Titans* (1980) #42–44] In a final battle with the team, her true allegiance revealed, Tara accidentally uses her powers to end her own life. [*Tales of the Teen Titans Annual* (1980) #3]

During this time, both Dick Grayson and Wally West abandon their heroic identities [*The New Teen Titans* (1980) #39], but Grayson soon returns as **Nightwing II**, taking the name from a Kryptonian hero of myth as a nod to his friend Superman. [*Tales of the Teen Titans* (1980) #44]

On her 13th birthday, **Amy Winston** is transported to her true home, **Gemworld**, transforming into **Amethyst** for the first time. [*The Legion of Super-Heroes* (1980) #298; *Amethyst, Princess of Gemworld* (1983) #1]



Lobo, last of the Czarnian race, a space-bike-riding intergalactic bounty hunter, pursues the **Omega Men** and makes his presence known to the wider universe. [*The Omega Men* (1983) #3]

Jade Nguyen, the assassin known as **Cheshire**, becomes a longtime antagonist to the Titans. [*The New Teen Titans Annual* (1980) #2]

Juvenile delinquent and former member of the **Red Hood Gang** [*Batman* (2011) #0] **Jason Todd** attempts to steal the tires off the Batmobile only to be caught by Batman, who takes him in and trains him as Dick Grayson’s replacement, **Robin II**. [*Batman* (1940) #408–411]

After the Justice League refuses to aid Batman in a mission that could spark an international incident, Batman leaves the League and assembles the **Outsiders**—Black Lightning, Metamorpho, **Katana**, **Geo-Force** (the older brother of Terra), and **Halo**. [*Batman and the Outsiders* (1983) #1–2]



Dan Cassidy becomes the **Blue Devil**. [*Firestorm* (1982) #24; *Blue Devil* (1984) #1]

Vibe (**Francisco Ramon**) and **Gypsy** (**Cindy Reynolds**) join the Detroit-based Justice League of America alongside other new recruits **Steel II** (**Hank Heywood III**) and **Vixen**. [*Justice League of America Annual* (1960) #2; *Justice League of America* (1960) #236]



Swamp Thing meets **John Constantine**, a British occultist who reveals to him the extent of his powers and his true nature as an elemental creature. [*Swamp Thing* (1982) #37-38]



Flash II goes on trial for manslaughter after accidentally killing his archnemesis, Professor Zoom. He is acquitted, after which he and Iris spend a month in the 31st century. [*The Flash* (1959) #323-350]

Infinity, Inc., a group of young heroes who all have familial ties to members of the **Justice Society of America** and **All-Star Squadron**, band together after being rejected for Society membership. They include **Jade (Jennie-Lynn Hayden)**, long-lost daughter of **Green Lantern I** and possessor of internalized Starheart powers; **Obsidian (Todd Rice)**, her brother, who can manipulate darkness; **Nuklon (Al Rothstein)**, size-changing godson to the **Atom I**; **Silver Scarab (Hector Hall)**, armored son of **Hawkman** and **Hawkwoman**; **Fury II (Lyta Trevor)**, daughter of the original **Fury** and trained by **Queen Hippolyta**; **Brainwave Jr. (Henry King Jr.)**, telepathic son of the villain **Brainwave**; and **Northwind (Norda Cantrell)**, godson of **Hawkman** and **Hawkwoman**, a human-bird hybrid from the world of **Feithera**. They are led by **Sylvester Pemberton**, the first **Star-Spangled Kid**, who later adopts the identity of **Skyman**. [*Infinity, Inc.* (1984) #1, #31]



Flash II leaves the 31st century to fight in the **Great Crisis**, unaware that Iris is pregnant, as seen in *Crisis on Infinite Earths* (1985) #3. Iris stays behind for decades, raising their twins, **Don** and **Dawn Allen**. [*Flash* (1987) #92]

The events of the **Great Crisis** are chronicled in *Crisis on Infinite Earths* (1985) #1-12, during which **Wally West** resumes his career as **Kid Flash** [*Crisis on Infinite Earths* (1985) #9] and **Guy Gardner** finally becomes a permanent member of the **Green Lantern Corps** [*Green Lantern* (1960) #197; *Secret Origins* (1986) #7].