

EXHIBIT B



KIRBY

AR

**KING
OF
COMICS**

**BY MARK
EVANIER**

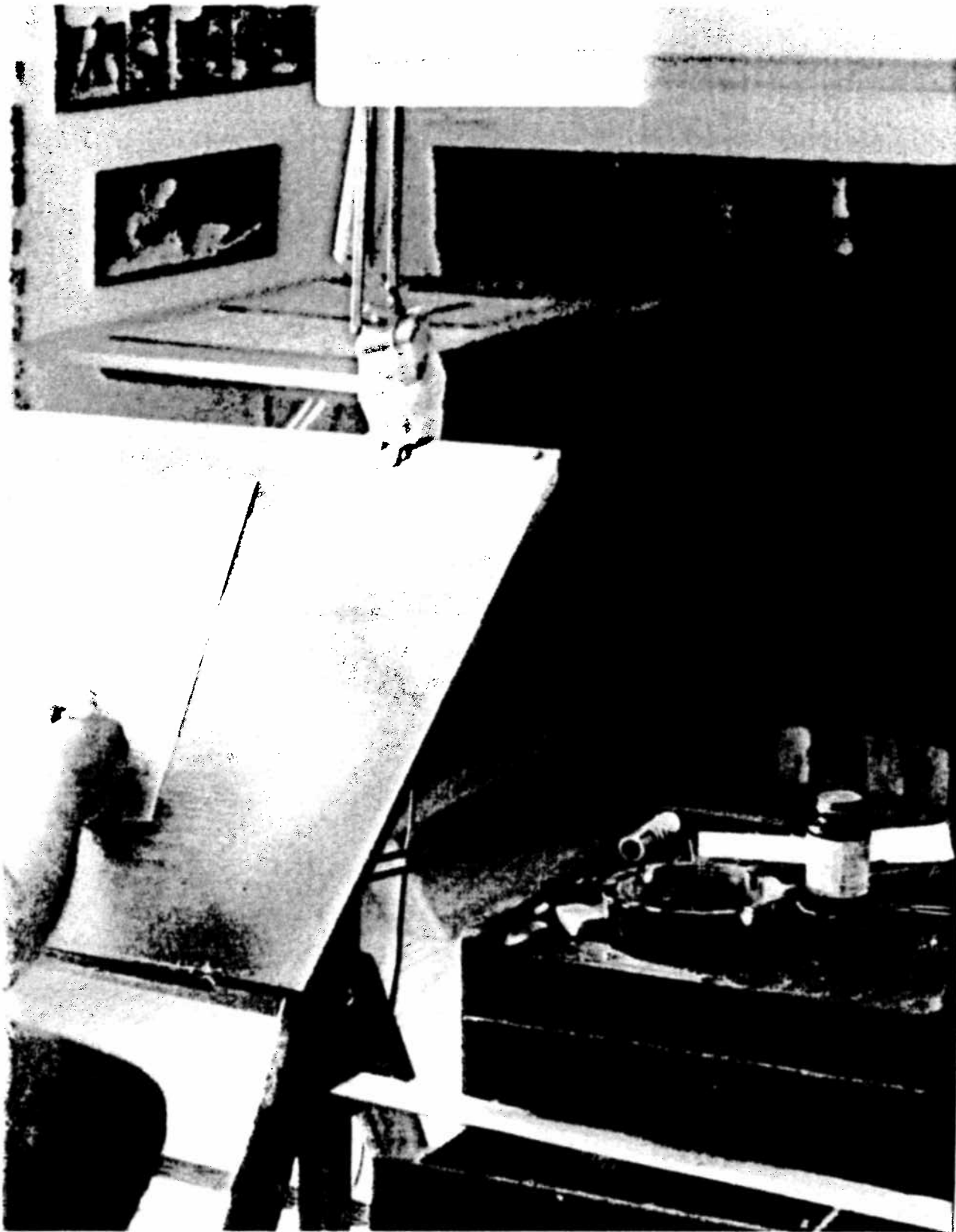
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JACK KIRBY CREATED

OR CO-CREATED
SOME OF COMIC BOOKS'
MOST POPULAR CHARACTERS

INCLUDING CAPTAIN AMERICA, THE X-MEN,
THE HULK, THE FANTASTIC FOUR, THE MIGHTY THOR,
DARKSEID, AND THE NEW GODS. MORE SIGNIFICANTLY,
HE CREATED MUCH OF THE VISUAL LANGUAGE FOR
FANTASY AND ADVENTURE COMICS. THERE WERE COMICS
BEFORE KIRBY, BUT FOR THE MOST PART THEIR PAGE
LAYOUT, GRAPHICS, AND VISUAL DYNAMIC APED WHAT
WAS BEING DONE IN SYNDICATED NEWSPAPER STRIPS.
ALMOST EVERYTHING THAT WAS DIFFERENT ABOUT COMIC
BOOKS BEGAN IN THE FORTIES ON THE DRAWING TABLE
OF JACK KIRBY. THIS IS HIS STORY BY ONE WHO KNEW HIM
WELL — THE AUTHORIZED CELEBRATION OF THE ONE AND
ONLY "KING OF COMICS" AND HIS GROUNDBREAKING WORK.





KIRBY

KING OF COMICS

MARK EVANIER

INTRODUCTION BY NEIL GAIMAN

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Previous pages

CAPTAIN AMERICA
 no. 112
 April 1969
 Art: Jack Kirby and George Tuska
 Marvel Comics

Galactus
THOR
 no. 160
 January 1969
 Art: Jack Kirby and Vince Colletta
 Marvel Comics

Presentation art
 Mid-1980s
 Art: Jack Kirby

Silver Star
 Presentation art
 1975
 Art: Jack Kirby

Jack Kirby
 1992
 Photo: Greg Preston

FANTASTIC FOUR
 no. 51
 June 1966
 Art: Jack Kirby and Joe Sinnott
 Marvel Comics

Endpapers
 Photos: David Folkman

Below and opposite, left to right

CAPTAIN AMERICA
 no. 5
 August 1941
 Art: Jack Kirby and Syd Shores
 Marvel Comics

STAR SPANGLED COMICS
 no. 28
 June 1944
 Art: Jack Kirby and Joe Simon
 DC Comics

BOY EXPLORERS
 no. 1
 May 1946
 Art: Jack Kirby and Joe Simon
 Harvey Publications

YOUNG ROMANCE
 no. 1
 September 1947
 Art: Jack Kirby
 Prize Comics

BLACK MAGIC
 no. 1
 October 1950
 Art: Jack Kirby
 Crestwood Publications

BULLSEYE
 no. 1
 August 1954
 Art: Jack Kirby
 Mainline Comics



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SEVEN

GODS ON EARTH

"I DON'T THINK IT'S ANY ACCIDENT THAT AT THIS POINT IN THEIR HISTORY THE ENTIRE MARVEL UNIVERSE AND THE ENTIRE DC UNIVERSE ARE NOW ALL PINNED OR ROOTED ON KIRBY'S CONCEPTS."

—MICHAEL CHABON, *THE NEW YORK TIMES*

JACK KIRBY SPENT the last ten years of his life being flattered. He was semiretired, but receiving accolades was almost a full-time job. King of Comics, indeed.

The positive side won out, as it always had with Kirby. He rarely thought about what he hadn't gotten, and focused instead on what he had. Oddly enough, the whole brouhaha over his original artwork—as painful as it had been for him and Roz—helped. Having the industry and fandom rally around him erased all concerns that he would be forgotten.

"They never got my name," Jack said proudly on more than one occasion. His decreasing ability to produce artwork seemed to coincide with a rise in trophies and tributes. His name was everywhere, and he was even able to lease it along with some leftover character concepts to the Topps trading card company for a new, short-lived comic book line. They called it "The Kirbyverse." Again, there wasn't much money, but the principle was twenty-four karat.

MANY OF JACK'S TRIBUTES came via the annual comic book convention in San Diego. The con had started in 1970 with him as one of its first guests of honor. Apart from the year of his heart attack, he attended every one during his lifetime, watching unsurprised as the event grew ever bigger and more media-diverse.

Early on, it had been the subject of one of those Kirby predictions that few took seriously when he made it. He said the con would grow until it took over all of San Diego. He said that the definition of "comics" would expand beyond those things printed on cheap paper. It would be about comic books as movies, comic books as television, comic books in forms yet to be invented. He said—and this is a quote—"It will be where all of Hollywood will come every year to look for the idea for next year's movies."



Opposite
Presentation drawings for a proposed new version of Captain America.
1968
Art: Jack Kirby and Don Heck
Color: Jack Kirby

Above
CAPTAIN GLORY
No. 1, cover
April 1993
Art: Don Alan Zakrzewski, adapting Kirby drawing from 1968
The Topps Company, Inc.