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PUBLIC DOMAIN ENCYCLOPEDIA VOL. V: ANYTHING CHESLER! PART I

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## PUBLIC DOMAIN ENCYCLOPEDIA VOL. V:

# ANYTHING CHESLER! PART I





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## INTRO TO THE PUBLIC DOMAIN ENCYCLOPEDIA

The Public Domain Encyclopedia (or PDE) is dedicated to the lost treasures of the comic book industry that are freely available to all.

No cost, no charge.

It is aimed at readers, writers and artists that are looking for something different, be it totally unknown or fully recognizable to all.

We want PDE to be like a magic box whose content will change every time you take it in your hands to pull out something you haven't thought about.

Something that will amaze and entertain everybody, bringing long nights of creativity.

We do not dare to think that we will disclose secrets you don't know about, rather than provide a tool to improve the mindscape we all share, thanks to the creations of people that came before us and left characters and concepts we now can use as we please.

It will be an ever-improving work to which everybody can contribute with suggestions, comments and criticism.

Most of all, it is something we would like to share.

#### THE GOLDEN AGE OF COMICS

PDE's issues dedicated to superheroes will cover a chronological period between June 1938 and October 1956.

Defining the beginning of the Golden Age of Comics is always a tricky business. Experts and scholars differ in their opinions. Overstreet Comic Book Price Guide's regular publication "The Golden Age Quarterly" lists comic books from 1933 onwards, as 1933 is the year of publication of the first book in a size that would later define the comics standard format. Several comic book historians, including Roger Sabin (Comics, Comix and Graphic Novels: a History of Comic Art - new ed. 2009), date the beginning of the Golden Age to the publication of the first comics featuring original stories rather than re-prints of newspaper strips (New Fun: The Big Comic Magazine #1 - Feb. 1935, New Comics #1 - Dec. 1935, with a slightly larger size than today's comic book format, both published by National Allied Publications).

Since in this issues we are dealing with superheroes, we will consider June 1938 (Action Comics #1 featuring Superman) the beginning of the Golden Age.

Defining the end of the Golden Age is also a difficult issue. While it is true that the definition of the superhero archetype is probably the most significant Golden Age contribution to pop culture, it is also true that many superpowered characters created in the WWII era did not survive the end of the war, forcing the publishers to die or diversify. Between 1949 and 1951, western, adventure, science fiction, romance and horror stories took the upper hand and ousted many superheroes.

Only popular characters such as Superman and Batman went on, regardless of the crisis of the Golden Age.

This transitional period (often referred to as the Atomic Era) that would end in October 1956 (first new Flash story - Showcase #4, DC Comics, setting the beginning of the Silver Age), is also included in the current chronology, since it describes the struggle of the comics creative minds to cope with what the future was going to be. The characters created in this span of time blink back at their Golden Age ancestors while trying to keep up with the new world order (e.g. the Atomic Thunderbolt, Atoman).





## THE CHARACTERS



#### ALIAS THE DRAGON

Sgt. Bill Norton
CREATED BY:
Unknown

#### HISTORY & BIO

Sgt. <u>Bill Norton</u>, a police scientist, uses his police knowledge to fight crime in the guise of Alias the Dragon, even baffling the detective division he belongs to, in his civilian identity.

#### POWERS & ABILITIES

Alias the Dragon has no superpowers. However, he uses a flame-throwing gun and wears a scaled mantle, gloves and claw-shaped boots that can bounce off bullets.

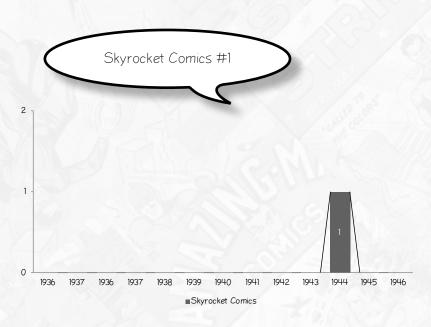




# ALIAS THE DRAGON GOLDEN AGE APPEARANCES

First and Last Appearance: Skyrocket Comics #1 (1944)





#### ALIAS THE DRAGON

#### MODERN APPEARANCES

No modern appearances recorded

#### COPYRIGHT

No copyright of Chesler Golden Age comics was ever renewed.

#### TRADEMARK

A living "Alias" trademark has been filed on 4/12/2001, registered on 12/7/2004, and renewed on 12/17/2014 (registration n. 2908147) by Marvel Characters, Inc. as printed matter, namely comic books and comic magazines and stories in illustrated form.

For similar or inactive trademark registrations, check the Copyright and Trademark Section - Trademark Table.

# BARRY KUDA & ALGIE none CREATED BY: Unknown

#### HISTORY & BIO

While drifting lazily along the Pacific Ocean, <u>Barry Kuda</u> and his friend, <u>Algie</u>, are suddenly caught by a storm. Their boat is shattered and they find themselves pulled at the bottom of the ocean by a whirlpool, where they discover they can breathe underwater.

They reach the ocean's deeps just in time to save Merma, the young and beautiful queen of a sunken kingdom, whose throne has been usurped by her Minister, Belzan. Once Merma is restored to the throne, Barry and Algie remain to her side, enjoying the submarine court life.

In later adventures, Merma's kingdom is regularly menaced by other water-breathing nations which Barry and Algie help to defeat.

All underwater races in Barry's stories have some inhuman features such as four-fingered or finned hands, horns, scales or tentacles, providing an alien, almost Flash Gordon-like feeling to the whole.

On their own, Barry and Algie are more similar to adventurers stranded on an alien and exotic world than real superheroes.

Queen Merma is also Barry's love interest as they kiss in

#### POWERS & ABILITIES

Barry and Algie have no superpowers. They can breathe under water thanks to a strange coral giving off oxide which takes the place of air. They are excellent hand-to-hand fighters and swimmers.

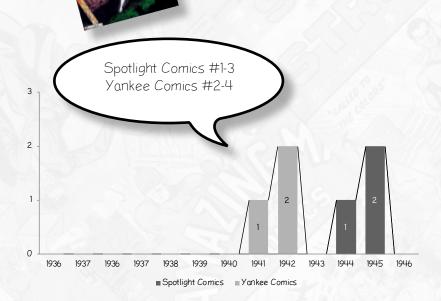


### BARRY KUDA & ALGIE GOLDEN AGE APPEARANCES

First Appearance: Yankee Comics #2 (Nov. 1941)



<u>Last Appearance:</u> Spotlight Comics #3 (Mar. 1945)



#### BARRY KUDA & ALGIE

#### MODERN APPEARANCES

No modern appearances recorded.

#### COPYRIGHT

No copyright of Chesler Golden Age comics was ever renewed.

#### TRADEMARK

No trademark can be related to the Chesler character, to comic books or their likeliness.



#### ABOUT BLUE MONKEY STUDIO



Blue Monkey Studio (BMS), established in 2010, is an Italian firm specializing in graphic design, illustration and publishing services. BMS provides high-quality art and design to local, national and international clients at competitive rates, focusing on establishing a company's brand and corporate identity through a customized logo, mascot, letterhead, business cards and web design.

We also provide artwork for the education and edutainment sector, create book illustrations and comics, and develop character design, backgrounds and concept art for multimedia entertainment companies.

Publishing services include the complete management of a literary work from concept development and design to proofreading and editing.

BMS has the technical expertise and experience to create printed books and e-books to meet the formatting standards of international distributors such as CreateSpace, SmashWords, Lighting Source, Youcanprint, Kindle and IBook. We offer advisory services in all phases of the subscription and publishing process, as well as royalty management for non-US authors.

Proactive on an international level, BMS pursues European Commission financing opportunities and trains creative professionals to compete successfully in the international marketplace.

Our flexible, customized implementation process, based on the customer's specifications and feedback, gives us the ability to quickly manage multiple projects from different business sectors. We have satisfied clients around the world, and more than 85% of our clients do us the honor of returning for additional services.

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