

# Conan the Barbarian: The Epic Journey of a Legendary Warrior Through the Ages (1970-1993)

In the realm of fantasy and adventure, few characters have captured the imagination quite like Conan the Barbarian. Created by Robert E. Howard in the 1930s, Conan has become an enduring icon, inspiring countless books, films, and comic books.



## Conan The Barbarian (1970-1993) #70 by Roy Thomas

★★★★☆ 4.8 out of 5

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One of the most celebrated and influential interpretations of Conan came from Marvel Comics in the 1970s and 1980s. The Marvel Conan series, written primarily by Roy Thomas, brought the Cimmerian warrior to life with stunning visuals, thrilling storylines, and a deep exploration of the character's complex psyche.

In this article, we will embark on an epic journey through the Marvel Conan series, from its humble beginnings in 1970 to its triumphant in 1993. Along the way, we will encounter iconic characters, witness thrilling battles, and explore the savage landscapes that shaped Conan's destiny.

## **The Genesis of a Legend: The Birth of Marvel Conan (1970)**

In 1970, Marvel Comics acquired the rights to publish Conan the Barbarian. The task of adapting Howard's legendary character fell to writer Roy Thomas and artist Barry Smith. Together, they crafted a comic book that captured the essence of Howard's pulp masterpiece while infusing it with a fresh, modern sensibility.

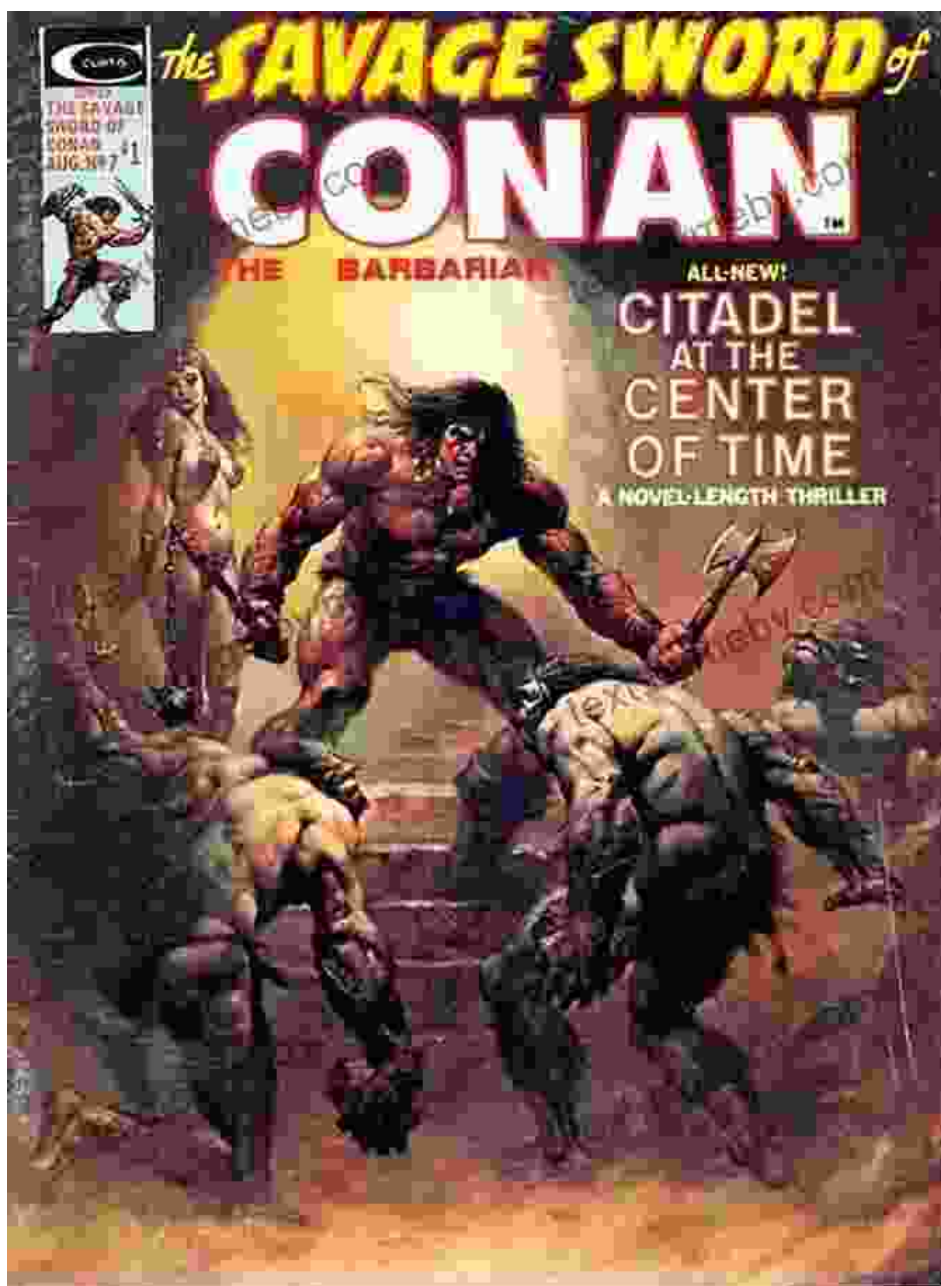
The first issue of Marvel Conan, released in October 1970, was an instant success. Readers were captivated by Thomas's gripping storytelling, Smith's dynamic artwork, and the savage, untamed world of Conan.



## **The Savage Sword of Conan: A Journey into Darkness (1974)**

In 1974, Marvel launched The Savage Sword of Conan, a companion series to the main Conan title. The Savage Sword featured longer, more mature stories that delved into the darker corners of the Hyborian Age.

With stunning artwork from artists such as John Buscema, Neal Adams, and Dave Sim, *The Savage Sword of Conan* became a critical and commercial success. It allowed Thomas and other writers to explore Conan's psyche more deeply, creating complex and emotionally resonant stories.



The cover of *Savage Sword of Conan* #1, featuring art by John Buscema.

## The Hyborian Age: A Tapestry of Blood and Magic

The Marvel Conan comics introduced readers to a rich and detailed world known as the Hyborian Age. This ancient era was a time of chaos and violence, a world filled with savage tribes, treacherous landscapes, and dark magic.

Thomas and other writers created a vast tapestry of characters and cultures within the Hyborian Age. From the fierce Cimmerians to the enigmatic Stygians, from the mystical Atlanteans to the monstrous Picts, the Marvel Conan comics brought to life a vibrant and unforgettable world.

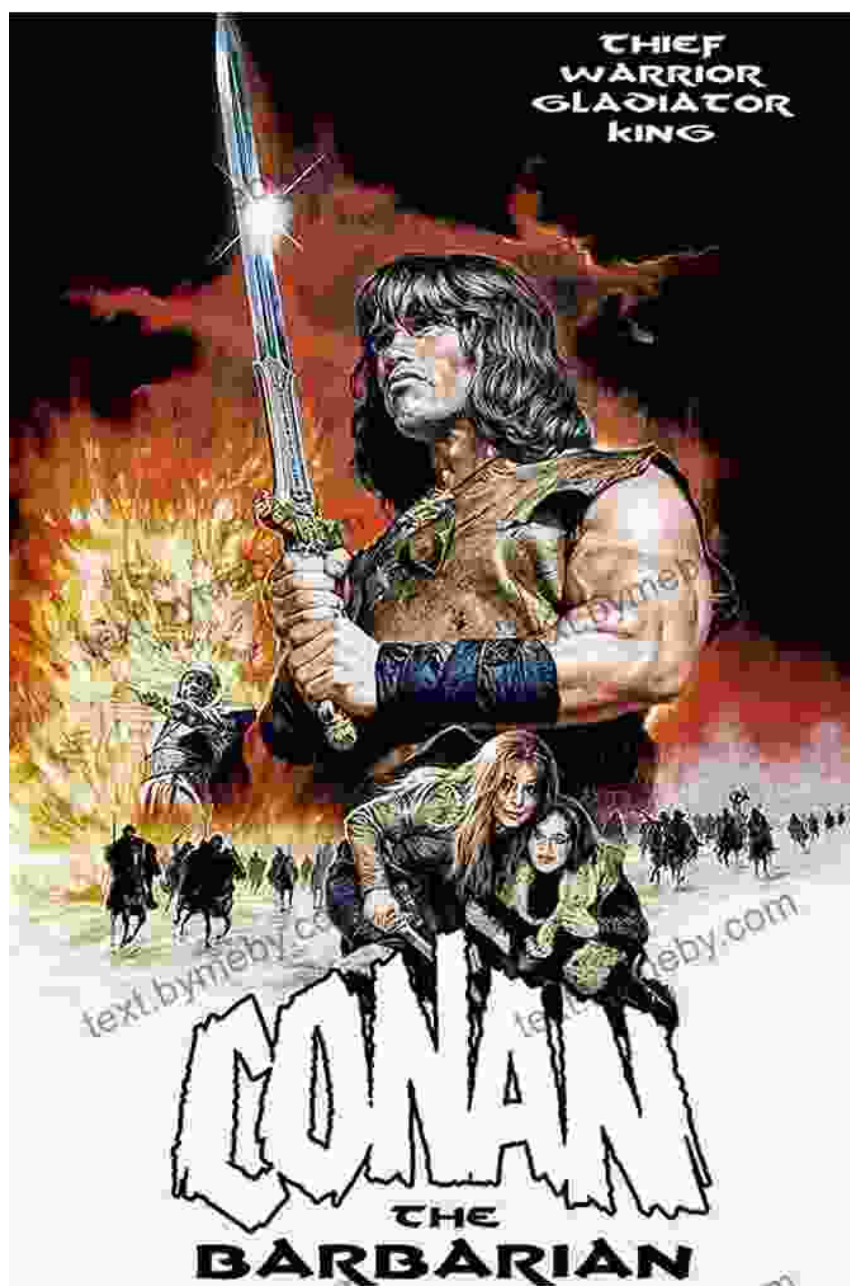


## Conan's Journey: A Path of Blood and Redemption



At the heart of the Marvel Conan series is the character of Conan himself. A barbarian warrior from the frozen north, Conan is a complex and enigmatic figure, driven by a thirst for adventure and a code of honor.

Over the course of the series, Conan faces countless challenges and trials. He battles monstrous creatures, confronts powerful sorcerers, and witnesses the horrors of war. Yet through it all, he remains a beacon of strength and courage.



Conan the Barbarian embarking on a perilous journey through the Hyborian Age.

## **The Legacy of Marvel Conan: A Timeless Classic**

The Marvel Conan series came to an end in 1993, but its legacy continues to live on. The series is widely regarded as one of the greatest comic book adaptations of all time, and its influence can be seen in countless other fantasy and adventure stories.

The Marvel Conan comics not only brought Robert E. Howard's iconic character to life but also expanded and enriched the world of Conan the Barbarian. Through Roy Thomas's masterful storytelling and the stunning artwork of countless talented artists, the Marvel Conan series created a timeless classic that continues to inspire and entertain readers.



## : The Eternal Appeal of a Legendary Barbarian

The Marvel Conan series is a testament to the enduring appeal of Conan the Barbarian. Through its thrilling adventures, evocative artwork, and complex characters, the series brought the Hyborian Age to life and created a legend that continues to resonate with readers today.



Whether you are a longtime fan of Conan or a newcomer to the world of the Cimmerian warrior, the Marvel Conan series is an essential read. It is a timeless classic that will transport you to a world of sword and sorcery, adventure and danger, and the eternal struggle between good and evil.



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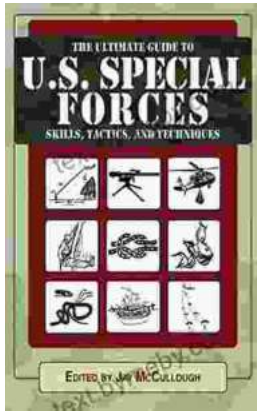
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