

Comic book storytelling is one of the few truly American art forms. Today, comics and comic book characters have widespread influence on our popular culture.

But where did they come from? And who were the medium's most significant creators? We will trace the history of comic books from their beginnings through the Silver Age, the period during which the basic mythology used in today's comics was established. We'll study the rise of DC and Marvel Comics, and the Senate subcommittee hearings and

book burnings that almost brought the industry to its knees.

We'll also look at the work of a few particularly innovative comic book creators.