

WONDER WOMAN



Wonder Woman stands in the rubble after September 7th's fight with Gorilla Grodd in Metropolis.

Photo by James Olsen.

Who is this New Hero?

by Lois Lane

The New Comer

Emblazoned with a golden eagle across her chest a new superhero has been taking the scene in recent months. But step back people, this one is a girl. Or more precisely a woman. Princess Diana of Themyscira, otherwise known as Wonder Woman, has joined the pantheon of superheroes known as the Justice League as they watch over this fragile planet. But who is this woman of wonder? Where is she from? What is her purpose here? These questions and more is what lead this reporter to track down this power house, armed only with a pen, paper, and tape recorder.

It wasn't hard to find Wonder Woman, I simply followed the path of destruction during last months altercation with Gorilla Grodd that destroyed a large chunk of downtown Metropolis. As the rubble cleared and the black and whites took away the deranged primate, Wonder Woman stood shoulder to shoulder with familiar faces like Superman and the Martian Manhunter. My first impression of this Woman was of surprise at how an apparent super model could be so strong and not mind the pieces of building lodged into her flowing raven hair, and the crimson streak of blood smeared across her perfect cheekbone. I waved and garnished her attention and with encouragement from her fellow heroes gained her trust. We established a time and place to meet for an interview, an honor she had not yet bestowed on a journalist, before she politely excused herself and with the grace of a prima donna ballerina pushed off from the ground and into the air, flying off for some other fight.

A Princess and a Superhero

I meet up with Wonder Woman nearly a week later in the swanky penthouse suite of one of Metropolis's finer hotels. She greeted me with a warm smile robed in a flowing white tunic dress and welcomed me into share a light brunch of fresh fruits and olives. She

was accompanied by two other individuals a tall blond man of military built who did not look to pleased that I was there, and a beautiful plump black women in an immaculate pink pants suit. Wonder Woman informed me that they were Steve Trevors and Etta Cahndi, representatives of the U.S. Government that were assisting her to acclimate to what she termed, "Man's World." Before I could even ask about her ties to the U.S. government I was informed rather sternly that that topic would not be discussed that day by Ms.Cahndi. I grumbled to myself at first for fear that I would have no story from this meeting, but my fears were pushed aside by the openness Wonder Woman had about other subjects.

Wonder Woman played the perfect interviewee, full of tact and poise as she explained her fascinating and often fantastic tale. She was born, if you

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- Diana of Thymscira.

could even call it that, on the secret Island of the Amazon warriors of Greek Mythology fame called Themyscira. She was molded from clay by her mother, Queen Hippolyta and brought to life by none other

than the greek pantheons of gods! She was gifted great gifts such as wisdom, beauty, strength, compassion, and swiftness by these gods, and promised one day that she would bring a message of peace to "man's world" (a term which I have come to learn means the rest of the known world). She was named after the greek goddess of the hunt Diana, and raised as a Princess, while being taught as a philosopher warrior.

She described in great detail what it was like growing up in a society of all female warriors cut off from the rest of her world. She waxed poetic on adventures with Minotaurs, Nymphs, and Demigods. I couldn't help but listen with my mouth dropped open, exposing the piece of cantaloupe I was chewing, as I sat dumbfounded by such stories. Even after nearly a de-



< A depiction of an Amazon, which Diana claims to be, on ancient pottery, 510-500 B.C.E.

A map > of Ancient Greece, whose culture Diana claims to come from.



cade of experiences reporting on invasions from outer space and magical monsters of the deep, Diana's story was one for the ages.

Her Journey Here

At this point Diana cleared her throat and looked annoyed over at Mr. Trevor who had his arms folded in protest, "I am not to share too much of how I traveled here." she spoke strongly, "But I can say that I came here out of a deep concern for your peoples well being on behave of the Gods and the Amazons." Her tone grew more gentle as she spoke, "The world has grown chaotic and lost within the past few generations; it is almost like a new evil has been unleashed from Pandora's box. I am here to stop that evil and bring hope to the rising generation. My mission is to bring peace to Man's World and I will not fail my mission! I want to spread the message of equality among the genders of the earth, as well as races, religions and cultures. I want to show that there are causes worth dying for, as well as killing for."

I nearly wanted to stand up and cheer for her at this fervent declaration of her goals, but the realist inside me would not let me comply. I wondered how much a person outside of a culture could really resolve the problems of the culture. The worry of another "helpful" overlord such as Brainiac stewed away at the back of my mind.

Joining the Justice League

Wonder Woman was lucky enough to find peers of similar ethics and strengths within her first few outings in mans world. It took time to earn the trust and familiarity of established heroes and an-archists such as Superman, Batman, the Flash and Hawkwoman. She has been seen touting sword, shield, bracelets, and a magical lasso of truth all over the world taking down bad guys and saving towns from natural disasters. "The Justice League has very graciously accepted me." Diana spoke of these heroes with the same type of reverence and familiarity that had fallen over her as she had when talking about her gods. She spoke of the outlook of the varying heroes and how it differed from her own, but how the greater vision was of the same type of peace and prosperity for the world, "Superman looks to the future, Batman looks to the past, and I reside in the present bridging the two." she explains. "I am working with the U.N. as an ambassador to establish relations between here and my island home. I have also found much humanitarian work and scholarly work to keep me busy. I work



with feminists groups and human rights groups for the cause of justice, not to just the Justice League."

My Impressions

As we ended our meeting I was impressed by how down to earth this royal was, her graceful arms hugged me close as she expressed her desire to meet again. She was articulate, strong, and kind in her words and her humility. It left me pondering stories of the gods and heroes of old. Could this supernatural beauty really be blessed by ancient gods? Could she really succeed in her mission of bringing peace and hope to our troubled world? My conclusion is that even if there is not truth in everything she has said, her message is good one, and it will be wonderful to have such an amazing female hero to look up too. ■

"Superman looks to the future, Batman looks to the past... and I reside in the present, securely bridging the two."
- Diana of Thymscira.

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The GOTHAM GIRLS are Back!

By Cat Grant

Residence of Metropolis beware! Gotham's finest villainesses are back in town and seeking only the finest in goods. This dastardly-darling-trio consisting of Jokers right-hand-woman; Harley Quinn, the clever Catwoman, and seductress Poison Ivy, whom was caught on closed caption security pilfering the vaults of Lexcorp one night and the Metropolis Museum the next.

They stole hundreds of thousands of dollars in jewelry, furs, fine art, and interestingly rare ancient plant specimens. Leaving MCPD scratching their heads on how to stop them. So lock up you Picasso's, cold store your minks, and keep an eye on your heirloom family jewels. These girls are serious about stealing your precious treasures!

Photo by James Olsen.

<The new Justice League;
(From left to right) Martian Manhunter, Green Lantern, Wonder Woman, Superman, Batman, the Flash, and Hawkgirl.
Photo by James Olsen.