

Marvel's "Runaways" Finds A Home On Hulu

By Sarah Johnson

The 2003 Marvel comic "Runaways," created by Brian K. Vaughan and Adrian Alphona, will finally hit the streaming screens exclusively on Hulu.

With the likes of Iron Man, Thor, Captain America, and Spiderman dominating the superhero movie arena, it can sometimes feel like maybe only straight, white men can be the stars of their own comics. In this way, a step towards "Runaways," is most definitely a step in the right direction.

Even for the casual readers of Marvel comics, many may not be familiar with the distinctive story that is "Runaways." The story is as rare as it is familiar, giving the audiences a taste of what it might actually be like to deal with both growing up and well, saving the world.

"Runaways" stars six teens, varying in ages, and more significantly – in gender and race. Each year the teens' families meet together for a charity affair each kid dreads to attend – none of them are particularly close.

At the most recent charity event, everything seems oh-so-typically-teenager-y until the group stumbles upon their parents sacrificing a girl right there in the house. So the "I hate my mom and dad" stakes are considerably raised, as each kid has to come to terms with the fact their parents are most definitely supervillains and are a part of "The Pride" – a criminal society that has connections throughout all of Los Angeles. What follows is an action-packed thrilling chase between the confused teens on the run from their evil parents, who surprise – want their kids on their villainous team. Family game nights never looked so appealing.

One of the comic's features that makes it so exceptional, is how unapologetic every facet of the story is. One of the characters, Gert Yorkes, finds out her time-traveling parents had intended to give her a dinosaur that she could share a telepathic link with. Upon discovering the dino, she names the raptor "Old Lace" (what else would you name her?). Old Lace becomes her sidekick in a band of heroes where dinosaurs are not exactly the norm, nor what the audience is expecting. But this is what makes the comic inimitable, and why turning it into a series seems both necessary and daunting.

According to a Deadline article, Hulu has ordered for a pilot episode and extra scripts, "with an eye toward a full-season greenlight." "Gossip Girl" creators, Josh Schwartz and Stephanie Savage, will bring the series to life, and they could not be more ready.

Savage told Deadline, "Josh and I can't wait to get to work for Marvel and Hulu." Schwartz is on the same page: "I'm a long-time fan of *Runaways* and couldn't be more excited to bring Brian and Adrian's characters to life." With both writers so aware of how special a find "Runways" is, it seems fans can rest assured this adaptation will not be afraid of giving the audience exactly what it wants.

Jeph Loeb, EP and Head of Marvel Television, also told Deadline, “We’ve known the ‘Runaways’ story would make great television...and being lucky enough to have Josh and Stephanie – who have time and again created shows that speak so genuinely to this exact audience – write and produce the series is nothing short of remarkable.”

“Runaways” speaks to everybody who at least once in his or her life has yelled, “my parents are *sooo* evil!” With this series soon to be on their screens, teens today may have more reasoning to back their theories up. Watch out, ‘rents.

Deadline Article:

<http://deadline.com/2016/08/hulu-marvels-runaways-series-josh-schwartz-stephanie-savage-marvel-comics-1201799746/>

Picture of the characters:

<http://i.onionstatic.com/avclub/5584/68/16x9/960.jpg>

<http://www.avclub.com/article/family-ties-make-runaways-gold-standard-teen-super-226651>