

# Daily Planet

Reporting on the Planet Daily

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# SUPERMAN AND LOIS

ANTICIPATED CW SERIES UNVEILS EPIC NEW TRAILER



Tyler Hoechlin is best recognized for his work on the fan favored MTV series "Teen Wolf," where he portrayed werewolf Derek Hale, who appeared as a main character in the first four seasons of the show. Elizabeth Tulloch takes her role as Lois Lane very seriously. When "Elseworlds" was filming, Tulloch took to social media and learned that Lois has a pension for purple. In response to this, Tulloch requested that Lois must wear purple at sometime during the crossover — and she did. Photo courtesy The CW

By Zack Benz  
Daily Planet

The highly anticipated series, "Superman & Lois" unveiled an epic new trailer ahead of their premiere, which is set for February 23. The trailer revealed that the series premiere will in fact be a two hour long spectacle.

For the first time in almost a decade DC Comics' original power couple will be gracing our screens once again, starring in their new CW series 'Superman and Lois.' The CW awarded the new 'Superman and Lois' show, along with the Walker Texas Ranger reboot, starring 'Supernat-

ural's' Jared Padalecki, directly to series in mid January 2020. Starring Tyler Hoechlin and Elizabeth Tulloch as the titular Lois and Clark, the newest installment to The CW's superhero franchise will be an historic first for Metropolis' finest. This will be the first Superman-themed program

celebrating what happens after the pair's happily ever after. There's no rudimentary origin story for Superman's heroics or the Man of Steel's relationship with the Daily Planet's ace newshound Lois Lane. All of that backstory has already been established. In this significantly

original Superman and Lois series fans will also get to see the two struggle as parents. Like all entertainment in production throughout 2020, "Superman and Lois" has experienced delays due to the COVID-19 pandemic. While the show is preparing for filming, cast

members have all practiced CDC recommended guidelines and participated in self quarantine. Safety seems to be top priority for everyone involved in the series with regular COVID tests taking place. Superman and Lois will premiere on The CW Feb. 23, 2021.

## President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris inaugurated

By Lois Lane  
Daily Planet

On Wednesday, Jan. 20, 2021, Joe Biden was sworn in as the 46th president of the United States

President Joe Biden delivered his inaugural remarks on Wednesday after being administered the presidential oath of office by Chief Justice John Roberts. Biden will later participate in a Pass in Review with military members alongside Vice President Kamala Harris.

Joe Biden and Kamala Harris were sworn in around 12 p.m. ET on Wednesday. President Trump did not attend the ceremony but former Vice President Mike Pence attended the inauguration. Biden signed his first ex-



"We must end this uncivil war that pits red against blue, rural versus urban, conservative versus liberal." President Joe Biden during his inaugural address. Biden became the 46th president of the United States. Photo taken after the duo was elected.

ecutive orders in the Oval Office on Wednesday. The 100 days, rejoining the executive actions including requiring face masks on all federal property

Only two recent presidents signed executive actions on their first day in office — and each signed just one. The U.S. will also rejoin the Paris Climate Accords.

Kamala Harris was sworn in as vice president by Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor as her husband Doug Emhoff held the Bible during the 59th Presidential Inauguration at the U.S. Capitol in Washington, Wednesday, Jan. 20, 2021.

Vice President Kamala Harris made history on January 20 when she was sworn into office by Supreme Court Associate Justice Sonia Sotomayor. She becomes the first female, first Black and first South Asian vice president. People are

sharing what the historic move means to them. Wednesday evening the nations newest Vice President presented a speech at the Celebration of America.

"Even in dark times we not only dream, we do. We not only see what has

been, we see what can be," she said in brief remarks outside the Lincoln Memorial. "We are bold, fearless and ambitious. We are undaunted in our belief that we shall overcome, that we will rise up."

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### Superman, worlds greatest heroes



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## DC Future State: Arrowverse style everything new coming to the CW-verse

By Jahlil Rush  
Daily Planet

The CW Network is hard at work on several new Arrowverse and DC TV shows for the DC Fandom. Viewers saw how the network dealt with the aftermath of their five part mega crossover event, Crisis on Infinite Earths.

Following the crossover, Arrow came to a close after eight seasons, marking the end of an era for the hero who started it all. Fans were hoping to see his successor, Green Arrow and the Canaries, attempt to fill in his shoes, but unfortunately the CW has passed on giving Mia Smoak a series of her own, leaving her fate at the end of her backdoor pilot in the final season a mystery.

Not only did Arrow end but two more fan favorites will be taking a bow after the 2021 season. Supergirl is ending after six seasons and Black Lightning is ending after four seasons.

The CW's push to bring more DC characters to life is far from over. 2019-2020's Crisis on Infinite Earths event essentially prolonged the Arrowverse's life span. Multiple shows are premiering or in the early stages



Photo courtesy The CW

of development.

Premiering February 23, is Superman and Lois. Tyler Hoechlin's Man of Steel and Elizabeth Tulloch's Lois Lane will be sharing the spotlight in this Arrowverse spin off.

What makes this show different from previous Superman TV shows and movies is that the series will follow DC's famous couple as they tackle the many ups and downs of parenthood. If you saw Crisis on Infinite Earths then you would know that

the couple's children, Johnathan and Jordan Kent, were teased at the end following the creation of Earth-Prime.

The iconic couple were just seen having only baby Johnathan before the Crisis began. Due to the big Multiverse reboot caused by The Spectre (Oliver Queen), formerly know as Green Arrow, their history was changed so they now have two sons. Superman and Lois is scheduled to premiere Tuesday February 23.

While Superman and Lois is The CW's Official new DC TV show slated for the 2021 season, the network is in early stages on a few other DC superhero dramas for the following TV season.

With the end of Black Lightning looming, Jordan Calloway's Khalil Payne a.k.a Painkiller is being eyed for a potential spin off of his own. Calloway's character was given an order for backdoor pilot during Black Lightning's final season.

Painkiller would follow Freeland as an anti-hero establishing himself in Akashic Valley. The backdoor pilot will air as which is set to air sometime in March.

If Painkiller is given the green light by the CW, it will be executive produced by Black Lightning creator/show runner, Salim Akil. A fun fact to mention is if given the okay, Painkiller will serve as the first show set in the Arrowverse where main character will be an anti hero instead of the traditional superhero.

The CW's mission for inclusion and diversity remains in full effect with the announcement of a 'Wonder Girl' series in development at the network.

Wonder Woman's presence has teased in the Arrowverse for the past few seasons so when the announcement for new series focused on the Amazons were announced, it was a surprise that not only a series on Wonder Girl was in development but that it would be an Amazon with Hispanic background.

Wonder Girl has always been a title held by Cassie

Sansdmark and Donna Troy, two variations that can be seen on different DC comics shows that are currently on.

The CW Wonder Girl will be Yara Flor, a recently created incarnation of Wonder Girl, who will debut in DC Comics new comic book event, Future State.

Yara Flor, at least the Arrowverse Yara Flor, will be the daughter of an Amazonian Warrior and a Brazilian God, discovering her inner hero and set off on her own journey to become a hero.

The diversity does not end with Wonder Girl.

Naomi, a new character to join the DC Comics family, is being brought to life with the help of Ava DuVernay, who is also serving as one of the brains behind the upcoming New Gods project and HBO's upcoming limited series, DMZ.

Naomi will follow well... Naomi, Naomi McDuffie to be exact, as she goes on a journey that will somehow involve the multiverse. After her hometown is affected by a supernatural event, Naomi will go on a path to discover "its origins" with conclusions that will change public opinion about superheroes.

## WandaVision: They are an unusual couple



Elizabeth Olsen as Wanda Maximoff and Paul Bettany as Vision. Photo courtesy Disney+

By Brendan Rooney  
Daily Planet

To say the latest Marvel Studios show "WandaVision" is different would be an understatement. It is safe to say the Infinity saga, which consisted of 23 films, has come to a satisfying finish. Now the live-action comic studio juggernaut directs a focus toward Phase 4 and the future ahead. However, this is where many felt Marvel would start to plateau or run out of steam.

Some fans have expressed a sense of fatigue has set in with over saturation of content and choices. However, the Marvel Cinematic Universe is roaring back with a triumphant return. Much like the innovative and brilliant Steve Jobs, who had a finger on the pulse of the future with new Apple products, Kevin Feige, the chief architect of the MCU, has once again crafted a masterpiece in the works.

Now, WandaVision is a gamble for the studio, but it is one that the audi-

ences didn't know they wanted. The Disney+ series comes off feeling out-of-place and unorthodox and even at times dissonant. However, that's what makes it brilliant and charming. I am enchanted and enjoy the concept and illusion of the series. It felt so refreshing to see my favorite heroes come to life from such a unique and new perspective.

Like many fans, I didn't truly know what to expect, but my fears dissipated upon seeing the Marvel Studios logo and opening. The change happened so quickly. My mind started to adjust to the new reality of where the franchise was going. Then it hit me. The MCU was branching out to attract a younger generation that can be found on Disney+. The expansion is organic because of the success Disney found with their new live-action critical and commercial hit 'The Mandalorian' in the Star Wars Universe.

It is treading unknown territory, but I knew Marvel's Feige had a plan and

outline of where they wanted to take the franchise so I had to take a leap of faith and go along for the ride. WandaVision evokes nostalgia for a distant time as it is reminiscent of shows such as 'The Dick Van Dyke Show' or 'Bewitched'. The series comes off with the framework of misdirection as a 50's period piece but upon greater inspection of what's under the surface, not everything is what it is. For example, the first two episodes are in black-and-white and were filmed in front of a live studio audience, but then the credits roll in color and adjust to the 4k quality of our reality.

It was surreal to see the past unfold before my eyes. I remember hearing and watching similar shows from that era because my dad was born in the 1960s. He told me that he found a sense of pride watching the reruns of those shows from his childhood in the 70s. During our time watching WandaVision I noticed that slapstick dialogue and the presence of audi-

ence reactions is a driving force behind the series. The laugh track was not muffled or drowned out by the score and the laughs came off as organic and genuine. It led to the feeling of watching a rough cut of the show in the studio.

The rating of the content and tone can be a bit of a shock. I was astounded by how certain characters would laugh off the murder and dark elements of the show. Wanda (Elizabeth Olsen) and Vision (Paul Bettany) feel like they are trying to fit in and go on along with the script.

I remember having to pause the show to take in what was happening because at one instance the vibe is happy-go-lucky, and then the camera starts to slow and the mood begins to shift. The tension keeps building and the episode starts to feel reminiscent of "The Twilight Zone". WandaVision is like a creative mirage of horrific illusion.

One thing that needs extreme praise is the casting behind this series. Of

course, we have Wanda Maximoff (Elizabeth Olsen) and Vision (Paul Bettany) as the main leads, and both have great chemistry and rapport due to their tenure from past MCU films. It was clear to see despite the series intended to make the characters feel like they are struggling to cope with the mass hysteria of fitting in. The duo struggle and have fear of not drawing attention which would cause the perfect life to crack, but both actors seem to be having the time of their lives together as well.

Both actors are performing at the top of their game, but it's the newest addition of Agnes, the nosy neighbor, played by Kathryn Hahn, who is a true scene-stealer. Hahn radiates a maniacal charisma and evokes an uncomfortable sensation when she enters the frame, helping the audience realize that not everything is what it seems.

This leads me to the inclusion of the infomercials which usually come at times of highest scene potential. This seems odd but the more you watch the commercials individually you notice they are a commentary for how broken Wanda's mind truly is. For example, the first one in episode 1 is a quick little infomercial for the 'Stark ToastMaster 2000', but upon viewing we can hear the narrator discuss burnt toast.

Then we see how both the man and woman just stand there, and then a red light starts to bleed through the depressing black and white. At first, I thought it was a beacon, but then it dawned on me that if the series is supposed to dive into the emotional trauma that plagued Wanda throughout the MCU,

then it would only make sense to include little glimpses of horror.

I felt the commercials are being presented to the audience for a glimpse into Wanda's trauma. Toast being burnt is a bomb going off. The blood-stained hands of Tony were the same ones that manufactured nuclear bombs that killed Wanda's parents and then trapped her and Pietro in the aftermath of rubble. The second commercial is for a watch called the 'Struckker' with the tagline "He'll always make time for you". Eagle-eyed fans will remember that it was Baron Von Strucker of Hydra who experimented on Wanda and Pietro and used the Mind Stone to make them into Scarlet Witch and Quicksilver.

WandaVision is a dark sardonic comedy disguised as a horror illusion that showcases and highlights the MCU venturing into genre-bending serial entertainment, but it also leaves a sense of context for how the nuclear family during the time '50s was truly perceived during the events of the first two episodes. Every episode feels reminiscent of a different decade of television. As someone who has only heard stories and witnessed reruns of the golden days, it is pretty cool to take a trip down a road filled with the pavement of nostalgia.

As the series progresses, the more the truth will come out and knowing that this leads directly into the events that transpire in "Doctor Strange: Multiverse of Madness". It's only a matter of time before the bigger picture will be revealed, but the main question many need to ask themselves is Wanda ready for that day?

# The minimalist comic book philanthropist

By Brian of Earth-16 and Brendan Rooney  
Daily Planet

Dr. Paul Rashid is what you would call a minimalist, or one who owns few possessions. What motivated his lifestyle was his adventures as a traveling doctor in New York who did not stay in one place and practically lived with a suitcase. He is also a psychiatrist.

Before that, he was a comic book collector who took a personal attachment to heroes such as Spider-Man and others. Paul conveyed to us that he still enjoys reading a comic or two. However, that alone does not scratch the surface of how comics truly resonated with Dr. Rashid.

During the duration of the interview; Paul would give context to why he made the choice of committing a collector taboo of giving away his collection. It was truly an interesting thought to ponder about. I mean as a fellow collector, it's a choice I could never make.

Of course the reasoning behind his motive was to make an impact on his community of Charleston, West Virginia. He explained by giving his comics away to children he felt a sense of mentorship, and a sense of pride overtook him. Which led to a streak of amazing and noble acts that spanned the course of six months. However it would lead to being chronicled and made into a short documentary film, dubbed "The Comic Book Collector: A Journey of Letting Go." In addition the film garnered excellent reception, and acclaim to the point of it being adapted into a comic book.

When I interviewed Dr. Rashid about his mission, he mentioned that he consulted with a Rabbi who used to be a regular customer at Comic World, a now closed down comic shop that was on the westside of Charleston. I explained to him I found it unusual that a rabbi, or a religious leader, of all people, would frequent a comic store and collect comic books. However, I was more amused when Dr. Rashid said that this Rabbi would award his students comics if they completed their assignment related to scripture.

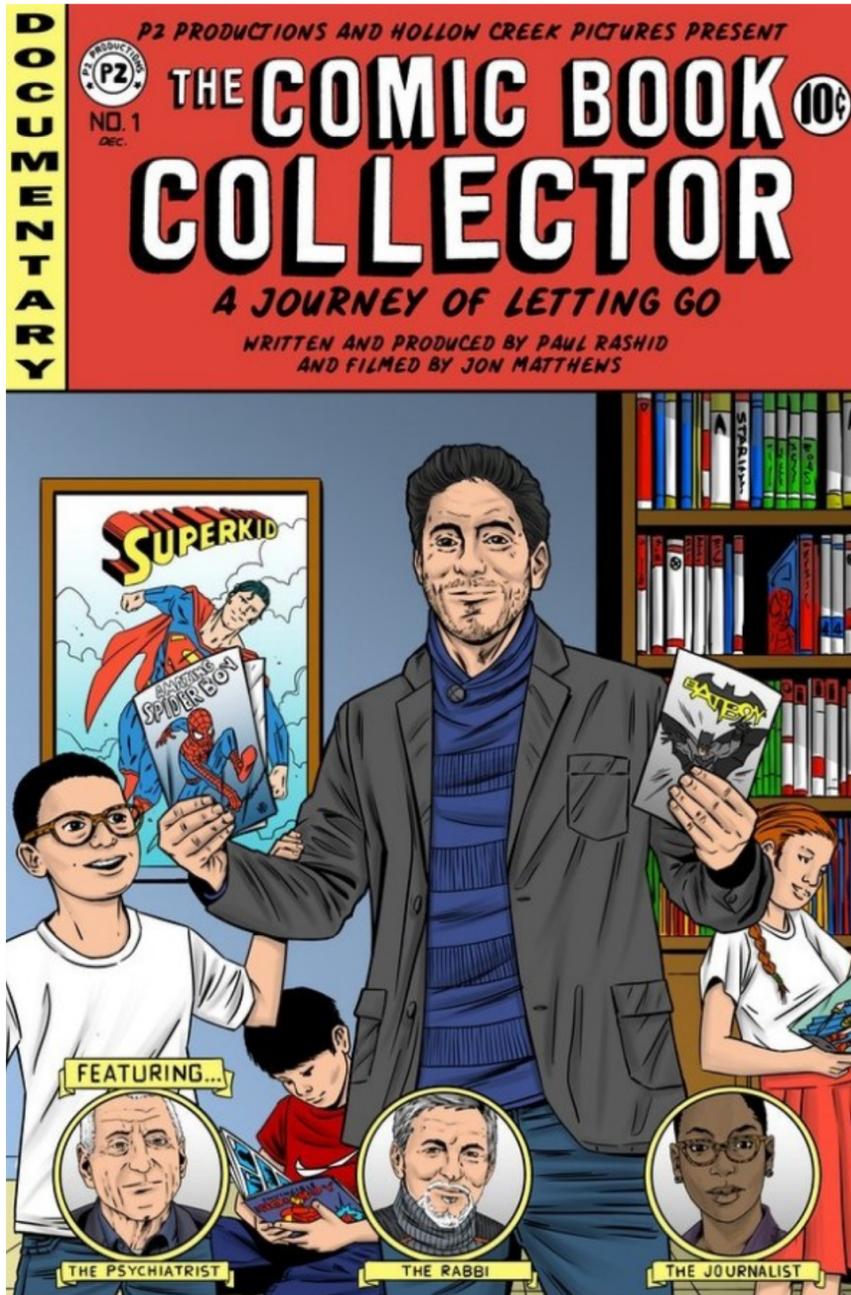
"Oh no Paul, what are you talking about?" Paul recalls Rabbi Urecki asking him in shock at the doctor's mission to give away his comic books. "That's like giving away a child."

Dr. Rashid noted that when Rabbi Urecki said this, he knew that there was something to his mission.

I first learned about Dr. Rashid when I stumbled across his Kickstarter page which promoted his film. I was instantly impressed with the story behind the mission. I told myself it was a crusade to give up a part of his childhood passion to make a difference in the lives of the next generation. The project has a feeling of mentorship attached to the concept.

Which invoked the thought of being able to interview Dr. Rashid. I contacted fellow Daily Planet journalist Brendan Rooney and he agreed.

"I came up with the idea in 2017 and I was thinking about it," said Dr. Rashid. "I'm born and raised in West Virginia and I came across a West Virginia filmmaker John Matthews and we had a few conversations about



"The Comic Book Collector: A Journey of Letting Go." Photo courtesy Dr. Rashid

this idea."

Dr. Rashid revealed that he could have sold his comic books on eBay, but he thought that the idea of giving them away to children would be a better choice of distribution. Which led to Matthews being sold on creating a film for the duration of this journey. Due to the fact the message, and execution, was not only brilliant, but it was an

act of true self kindness.

In addition to connecting with Rabbi Urecki and Matthews, Paul also felt a bond with the manager of a community center for higher risk youth who also came on board for the giveaway. Paul explained to Brendan and I that he got a local news crew to film a majority of documentary footage which helped promote the story and give insight to his vi-

sion.

He also shared the idea with a journalist named Chloe who also admired the idea. In the podcast, he mentioned that he took her to go see Justice League in 2017.

Brendan asked if Dr. Rashid felt if comic books expanded on how fragile the human mind was and how we can find potential from fictional characters. Dr. Rashid replied that his

documentary explores this.

"It's very much a modern-day myth," said Dr. Rashid. "And I look to a lot of parallels to Greco-Roman mythology and there's something just very human about these godlike powerful beings that also have human flaws."

Rashid continued to explain that the more he thought about comics as a sense of modern mythology it led to the concept of understanding. As human beings we are not only devoid from flaw, but we also retain strength. Furthermore, he noted that there are some people who would put in 10,000 hours and there are some people that are just more intuitive than others in a different aspect of life. Paul coined it as a super power which could be used to go into the flow state, to go into the meta state, to heal oneself, to create, and overcome.

As the podcast progressed, we discussed how comic books resonate with the real world in terms of current events, mental health, and community.

According to Dr. Rashid's Kickstarter page, the Comic Collector documentary would be submitted at several film festivals. It won The Best Shorts Competition Award of Recognition: Documentary Short and The Southern Shorts Award of Merit. If you want to listen to the Earth-16 Comics Wire Podcast episode on the Comic Collector, you can listen to it on the Daily Planet audio page. If you want to support The Comic Book Collector: A Journey of Letting Go film or comic book, visit [dailyplanetdc.com](http://dailyplanetdc.com)

