

## PITCHING TEEN TITANS NOTES

- **Trilogy:** The Teen Titans can have their own trilogy with the first film being about the team's creation starring Tim Drake's Red Robin, Beast Boy, Cyborg, Starfire, Raven and Nightwing as the Five-Man Band team archetype. Cyborg and Nightwing – as official Justice Leaguers – will serve as mentors to the Titans that are mostly made up of amateur superheroes. Perhaps the first film's conflict will revolve around Blackfire's arrival on Earth in search of her fugitive sister Starfire, bringing along with her a battalion of Gordanian soldiers. Each film in this trilogy can be an underdog, teenage coming-of-age story, where the Titans make plenty of mistakes as they are forced to mature on multiple levels to reach their full potential and prove to the Justice League that they can be taken seriously. Perhaps in the first film, the Titans can win the League's approval when the League becomes distracted with what they believe is the main threat but is really just a clever diversion. Leaving Nightwing and his untested and unprepared Titans to stop the real threat, which earns them credibility with the older superheroes after they emerge triumphant and help push back the Gordanian invasion. This first *Teen Titans* film would have to take place after the first *Justice League* movie, as well as after my *Nightwing* pitch so that Dick Grayson can be included in this story. The second film will remove Cyborg from the roster (possibly even Nightwing as well so that perhaps Starfire can become his successor as the leader) and add new heroes that will elevate the team to a Magnificent Seven Samurai team archetype. This could perhaps take influence from *the Judas Contract* storyline and feature Deathstroke and H.I.V.E as the antagonists. Perhaps we can take inspiration from the animated film *Deathstroke: Knights and Dragons* and in our version of *Teen Titans 2*, Deathstroke is being blackmailed into working for H.I.V.E. since they are holding his children, Rose and Jericho, hostage. Perhaps the Titans can try to help Slade by saving his children in the climax of the film when they take down the H.I.V.E. HQ, but Jericho is an unfortunate casualty despite their best attempts. Stricken with grief, Deathstroke will blame the death of his son on the Titans and promises to avenge him. The third and final film can feature both the Titans East and Titans West teams, with Trigon being the main antagonist whose threat has been alluded to and built up throughout the trilogy. Deathstroke can return as a secondary antagonist, hellbent on murdering the entire team, and possibly even laying aside his oath of vengeance to become a temporary ally against Trigon in the third film.
- **The Many Robins:** Since Dick Grayson will be leading the Titans as Nightwing, the "Robin" of the team will be Tim Drake, a Gotham City teenage orphan and a recent apprentice that Batman has taken under his wing after seeing his potential. Batman has been training both Damian and Tim at the same time and gave Tim the name "Red Robin" to help differentiate between his two sidekicks. Batman refers Tim to Nightwing for this new team that Dick wants to put together, freeing him up to work with Damian more one-on-one, as Batman stresses that Damian isn't ready to work in a team yet. He still has a lot of ego checks that Batman needs to instill in him before he can start working with others. Tim on the other hand, Batman believes would flourish being in a

team. With Batman going as far as to say that Tim reminds Bruce of Dick when he was his age.

- **Potential Team Members:** So far in this proposed version of the DECU, the superhero sidekicks that we can include in the second and third film's roster as new recruits are **Supergirl, Damian Wayne's Robin, Miss Martian, Kid Flash, Static Shock, and Aqualad.** **Superboy** could also potentially be another new addition to the team, especially if he survives my *Reign of the Supermen* pitch, where one of two scenarios played out. Scenario #1 saw Superboy going into hiding in Kansas under the alias of Connor Kent by moving in with Martha. While scenario #2 saw Superboy trapped in the Phantom Zone with the Eradicator, and he just manages to escape the interdimensional prison and return to Earth right as the timeline for *Teen Titans 2* begins. (Even though Miss Martian is mentioned in my Justice League 1 rewrite, she wouldn't become involved with the Teen Titans until the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> film because her uncle is very protective of her and shelters her. It isn't until he sees the capabilities of the Titans under Nightwing's trusted leadership that he becomes comfortable enough to allow M'gann to join the team and receive some training). Nightwing can potentially be a leader and a mentor alongside Cyborg, with both characters serving as a big brother figure and personal coach to the rest of the teens. Blue Beetle will not be included on this roster since his position is currently filled by Ted Kord, but when he perishes in *Justice League 3*, Jaime Reyes will succeed him as the next Blue Beetle, and he will be inspired by Batman's sacrifice to join the Titans alongside other adolescent Metahumans like Vixen and Bumblebee.

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