

# GUIDEBOOK TO THE MARVEL CINEMATIC UNIVERSE



## CAPTAIN AMERICA

THE FIRST AVENGER



Collecting information from Marvel's *Captain America: The First Avenger* (2011), *Captain America: First Vengeance* #1-4 (2011), and Marvel's *Captain America: The First Avenger Adaptation* #1-2 (2013).

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CAPTAIN AMERICA CREATED BY JOE SIMON AND JACK KIRBY



# BUCKY / JAMES BARNES

**FIRST APPEARANCE:**  
*Captain America: The First Avenger (2011)*

James Buchanan “Bucky” Barnes met scrawny Steve Rogers in September of 1930 in Hell’s Kitchen, New York, when both were young boys, aiding him during a back-alley brawl against several bullies attempting to steal Rogers’ money; Barnes had never confronted the bullies until Rogers inspired him to act. In adulthood, Barnes became a three-time YMCA welterweight boxing champ and trained the physically weaker Rogers for military enlistment when the U.S. entered WWII in 1941. Although Rogers was rejected due to ill health, Barnes joined the Army’s 107th Infantry Division, attaining a sergeant’s rank.

Later, Barnes intervened in another back-alley scuffle between Rogers and a disrespectful moviegoer who had loudly protested the opening wartime newsreel, provoking the confrontation. Learning his friend had tried again to enlist by using a fraudulent form, Barnes reminded Rogers this was illegal, but seemed more offended the New York native claimed he was from New Jersey. Before deploying to England,

Barnes convinced Rogers to attend the World Exposition of Tomorrow in Queens, New York, where Rogers slipped away to attempt enlisting again. Concerned for Rogers’ well-being, Barnes followed and tried to dissuade him, but ultimately realized his efforts were futile.

Nearly a year later, the 107th was overpowered by the Red Skull’s forces near Azzano, Italy, and those captured were imprisoned at Hydra’s weapons facility in Krausberg, Austria. Barnes caught a battlefield virus that developed into

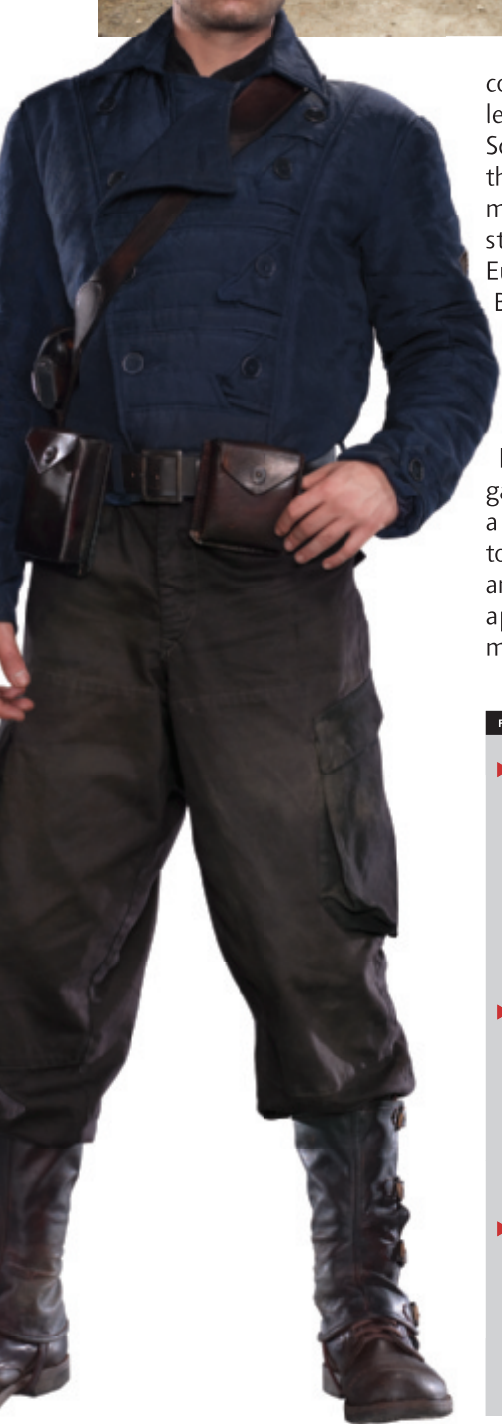
walking pneumonia, prohibiting him from working efficiently, and he was mercilessly beaten by Hydra’s Col. Lohmer; in retaliation, Barnes’ cellmates staged an “accident” that killed Lohmer. Barnes was given to Hydra scientist Arnim Zola for experimentation, but Rogers, now the Super-Soldier serum-enhanced Captain America, infiltrated the Hydra base and freed Barnes from Zola’s lab table.

Barnes, along with nearly 400 rescued prisoners, accompanied Rogers back to the U.S. Army





WITH THE HOWLING COMMANDOS



command center, where Barnes led a cheer for Captain America. Soon after, Barnes, Rogers, and their Howling Commandos teammates staged multiple raids, destroying Hydra bases across Europe. Hoping to capture Zola, Barnes and Rogers boarded a speeding train, encountering a Hydra soldier with a powerful energy-based weapon. The weapon ruptured a train car, hurling Barnes through the gaping hole. Barnes grabbed onto a handrail as Rogers attempted to save him, but the rail detached, and Barnes fell into an icy ravine, apparently dying from the massive fall. ☹️

FACT SHEET

- ▶ WHEN ROGERS ASKED IF BUCKY WOULD FOLLOW CAPTAIN AMERICA AGAINST HYDRA, BARNES INSTEAD STATED HE WOULD FOLLOW "THAT LITTLE GUY FROM BROOKLYN WHO WAS TOO DUMB NOT TO RUN AWAY FROM A FIGHT," REFERRING TO ROGERS BEFORE HIS TRANSFORMATION.
- ▶ AS YOUTHS, BARNES MADE ROGERS RIDE THE CYCLONE ROLLER COASTER AT CONEY ISLAND; ROGERS WAS SICK AFTERWARD. WHILE ON MISSION TO CAPTURE ZOLA, BARNES ASKED ROGERS IF MAKING HIM ZIP-LINE ONTO ZOLA'S SPEEDING TRAIN WAS PAYBACK.
- ▶ BARNES' PREFERRED WEAPON WAS THE M1928A1 THOMPSON SUBMACHINE GUN, BUT HE ALSO USED A COLT M1911A1 SIDEARM AND A M1941 JOHNSON SCOPED RIFLE, AND EVEN BRIEFLY WIELDED CAPTAIN AMERICA'S VIBRANIUM SHIELD.

IN THE COMICS



**JAMES BUCHANAN BARNES WAS**

orphaned in adolescence but shared his father's love of the military. Poverty-stricken, Barnes lived in Virginia's Camp Lehigh, eventually becoming a special military operative assigned to select missions. There Barnes met Captain America (Steve Rogers) and was assigned to be the Captain's partner, though he continued his special missions in secret; Barnes adopted a costumed identity, and as Bucky, developed a close friendship with Rogers. Active stateside and overseas, they frequently battled the Red Skull (Johann Schmidt) and other costumed criminals. Apart from Rogers, Bucky adventured alongside the Young Allies, and after Pearl Harbor was bombed in 1941, Bucky and Rogers became founding members of the wartime Invaders. Bucky and Rogers foiled numerous Nazi schemes and made powerful enemies, including Baron (Heinrich) Zemo. When Zemo stole a drone plane, Bucky and Rogers jumped onto it just after takeoff. Bucky discovered a bomb onboard and tried diffusing it, but it detonated, casting both men into freezing ocean waters. Rogers went into suspended animation, while Bucky was apparently killed.

FIRST APPEARANCE:  
CAPTAIN AMERICA COMICS #1 (1941)





# CAPTAIN AMERICA

## STEVE ROGERS

FIRST APPEARANCE: *Captain America: The First Avenger* (2011)

**O**rphaned, frail, and sickly, Steve Rogers nevertheless burned with a powerful desire to defend the innocent; as a child in Depression-era New York City, he often tried to fight off bullies, persisting despite constant failures. During one such encounter, he met and befriended James “Bucky” Barnes. When the United States entered World War II, Rogers tried repeatedly to enlist, but was rejected on medical grounds every time; the strapping Barnes had no such problems, and soon became a sergeant in the 107th Infantry. Trying to lift Steve’s spirits, Barnes took his friend on a double date to the World Exposition of Tomorrow to go dancing and to see inventor Howard Stark demonstrate his Gravitic Reversion technology; however, Steve slipped away and again tried to sign up at the fair’s recruiting station, where he was noticed by Project: Rebirth scientist Dr. Abraham Erskine. Erskine needed volunteers for the Strategic Scientific Reserve’s attempts to create a Super-Soldier and saw Rogers’ indomitable spirit and hidden potential. Rogers was shipped out to Camp Lehigh, where he trained under the disdainful eye of Col. Chester Phillips; Phillips’ colleague, British agent Peggy Carter, took a kinder view of him. Ultimately, Rogers’ determination, intelligence, and selflessness earned him the chance to be Erskine’s first test subject in Project: Rebirth.



PERFORMANCE COSTUME

Before the experiment, Erskine told Rogers of German fanatic Johann Schmidt, leader of Hydra, the Nazi deep-science division, who experimented on himself with an incomplete version of Erskine's formula and was transformed into the maniacal, deformed Red Skull. At a secret facility in Brooklyn, Rogers was injected with the completed Super-Soldier serum and bathed in vita-rays. The experiment was a success, and Rogers was transformed into the pinnacle of human perfection. However, Hydra assassin Heinz Kruger had infiltrated the testing facility and shot Erskine, who died, taking the complete formula to the grave.

was a huge success with children, but when he was sent to the front lines to entertain the troops, the war-weary soldiers taunted him and pelted him with rotten food.

When Rogers visited a camp where Carter was stationed, she tried to bolster Rogers' confidence, but her mention that his unfriendly audience consisted of the remnants of Barnes' division, the majority of whom had been captured or killed by Hydra near Azzano, Italy, spurred him to approach Phillips. Despite Phillips' dismissal of his intent to rescue Barnes' division, Carter and Howard Stark flew Rogers to the Hydra factory in Krausberg, Austria, where the captive 107th were held. After locating Schmidt's factory, Rogers, wearing his Captain America costume and wielding his steel prop shield, stealthily entered and freed all of Hydra's captives, including Barnes and the 107th detainees. As Rogers and Barnes fled the factory, the pair encountered Schmidt, who revealed his red-skinned skull-like appearance to them before retreating. After escaping the self-destructing factory, Rogers, Barnes, and the former captives marched 30 miles back to the command center, to the relief of Phillips and Carter and the cheers of their comrades.

