

Teen Titans GO Dark

By: Paige Platter



With shows like *Teen Titans GO*, *Teen Titans 2003* and *Teen Titans GO To the Movies*, Dick Grayson, Koriand'r, Garfield Logan and Rachel Roth have become household names, well their superhero names have-Robin, Starfire, Beast Boy, and Raven respectively. They're teens with superpowers, above-average abilities, and tragic backstories. With the success of *Teen Titans Go To the Movies*, DC rebooted the group into a dark and adult-themed show on their streaming service, DC Universe.

Titans currently have one full season with its second season airing every Friday on the streaming service. Titans is a more adult version of the group and serves as an introduction to these classic characters and the group. However, with the darker themes, DC did what they always do and made the show visually dark. Half the time you can't see anything, but that only takes away the visual aspects of the show. Since most of the visual aspects are just cameos and things for hardcore fans to drool over, the story still survives.

The story is complicated though. The first season is heavily focused on Rachel, a young girl who just happens to have demonic powers. The first few episodes have us meeting Rachel and how she met Dick Grayson, who's left Gotham and his "nightlife" for Detroit. They also introduce us to Garfield Logan, a meta-human who can turn into any animal at will, but he's only mastered the tiger. Koriand'r, an alien who's lost her memory and knows nothing other than her name. Some side characters were introduced as well, Donna Troy a.k.a Wonder Girl, Dawn Granger a.k.a Dove, and Hank Hall a.k.a Hawk. The group is full of tension due to them not really trusting each other, Dick pulling a Batman and not letting the group know anything about him and just general mistrust all around. It wasn't a very good season or a good opener for DC Universe. However, it gave us enjoyable characters we already knew and loved in a new light as well as giving us some Jason Todd as Robin which is something most people don't get to see as Jason is now Red Hood and technically a zombie.



In season two, things actually got good. We've got this mystery of what caused the original team to break up and why Slade Wilson, a.k.a Deathstroke is after them. We're introduced to Rose Wilson, daughter of Deathstroke, and given the story of how her brother, Jericho, died at the hands of their father. The season only has a few episodes but it's already so much better than the first. We're getting characterization, something deeply lacking from the first season. We're getting levels from Hank, other than the recovering alcoholism he's showing caring for people he originally was annoyed by. He still has this tough guy exterior, but we're getting the soft loving side as

well. We even got to see the relationship between Dick and Dawn and why they split up. Even with Kori regaining her memory with no explanation, the show is still moving in the right direction.

Season one left so much to be desired but season two picked up the mantle and has taken this show to new heights.