

A black and white portrait of a man with a beard and glasses, looking slightly to the side. He is wearing a dark jacket. The background is a collage of various images, including a stack of papers or books on the right and abstract shapes on the left.

H.W. PEETE MEDIA KIT

CREATOR

WRITER

PUBLISHER

CHICAGO'S NATIVE SON

I love the city of Chicago, and I proudly claim the Southside as home.

My creative journey started in the sixth grade. That's when I grabbed a random book off the school library shelf, *Rascal* by Sterling North. It was the first book I read because I wanted to, and it was the first time I experienced losing myself in a story. From that point on, I would grab a book out of that library any chance I could.

A summer in Memphis introduced me to the world of comic books, and I immersed myself in stories where amazing characters came together for justice, and beings considered to be different fought to protect a world that feared and hated them. The love for those monthly floppies turned into drawing, then fan-fiction, followed by creating my own stories on one panel pages, and more writing. It never dawned on me that I was world building.

I did put the pencil down, with my artwork, but I never stopped writing...even after receiving a rejection letter, for a story I submitted to Marvel Comics.

In the spring of 2005, at Chicago State University, I was sitting in a Literary Criticism class, watching a young Nikki Giovanni speak. She was asked a question about books that inspired her and in part of her answer she said, 'If there is something out there that you want to read and you can't find it, write it'. After hearing that. I asked myself what type of comic book do I want to read. I wanted to read a super hero story that featured a black woman in America. It was at that moment that I made the decision to create a comic universe and tell the stories I wanted to read. In less than five minutes, Spirit the Woman of Hope was born.

It took a bit for me to navigate the creative path and get from there to here. During that 'little stretch' I found a career in law enforcement, retired from the Air Force, underwent two major heart surgeries, and juggled this thing we call life. It was after the first surgery when I came to believe that I'm here to tell a story, and I fully intend on telling it.



CONTACT

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PRESS RELEASE

H.W. Peete, is the founder of New Horizon Comics, established in 2022 and rooted on the Southside of Chicago. He is also the creator and writer of the comic titles, Spirit the Woman of Hope and Beautiful Thema.

Spirit the Woman of Hope was first created in 2005 and established the foundations of New Horizon Comics. In 2020, the concept of Spirit was revised to align the character and plots with modern comic storylines. This led to the creation of Beautiful Thema.

Spirit the Woman of Hope was published in April of 2024. The story features a young African American woman who steps out into the world, as a first time heroine, to fill the void that was left when the world's most popular superhero abruptly retired. The first issue was a 2024 B.E.A.M Award winner for Favorite Cover. The same issue was also named a finalist for both the 2025 Glyph Award for Best Cover and the 2025 H.E.R.O.I.C. Award for Best Lineart. The second issue of Spirit is slated for release in late 2025.

Beautiful Thema was created behind the George Floyd protests, riots, and demonstrations against police brutality. The story features a young African American woman who protects one of the most dangerous neighborhoods in Chicago, as a vigilante. A special Ashcan copy of Beautiful Thema was published in January of 2025. The first issue of Beautiful Thema is scheduled to be released in early 2026, if not sooner.

H.W. Peete is a graduate of Chicago State University holding a Bachelor of Arts. When he's not growing the New Horizon Comics Universe, he's serving the City of Chicago as a police officer, flipping through a comic book, watching something Star Wars, lost in the pages of a novel, sitting back at Ozinga Field taking in a Windy City Thunderbolts game, at the JCC rooting on Chicago State's Women's Basketball Team, or enjoying a hot cup of coffee...black.



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ONE YOUNG WOMAN HAS THE
COURAGE TO STEP UP WHEN
THE MOST POPULAR HERO ON
THE PLANET ABRUPTLY RETIRES.
HER NAME IS

SPIRIT

THE WOMAN OF HOPE



CONTACT

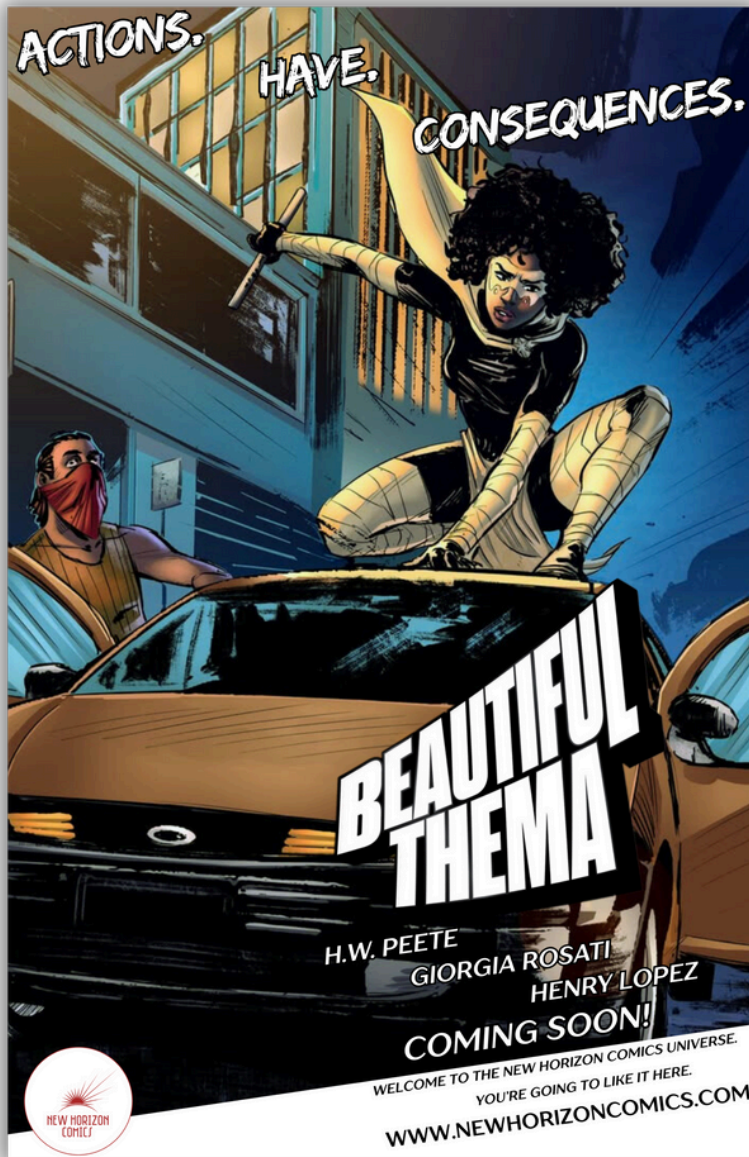
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ON THE SOUTHSIDE OF CHICAGO, THE
COMMUNITY OF LINCOLNWOOD HAS A
PROTECTOR. HER NAME IS...

BEAUTIFUL THEMA



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