MAROONS OF THE AMERICAS PT. 1

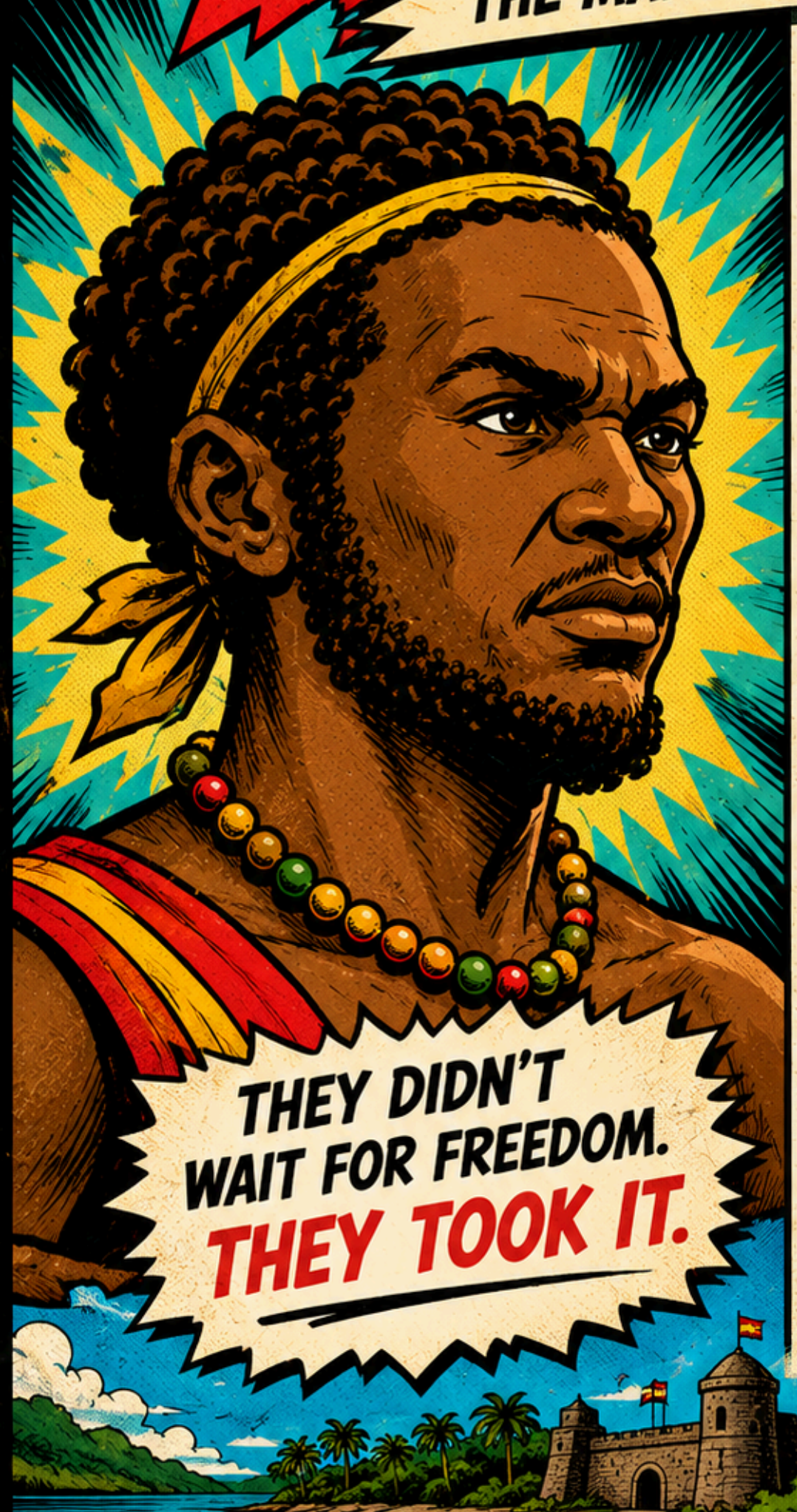


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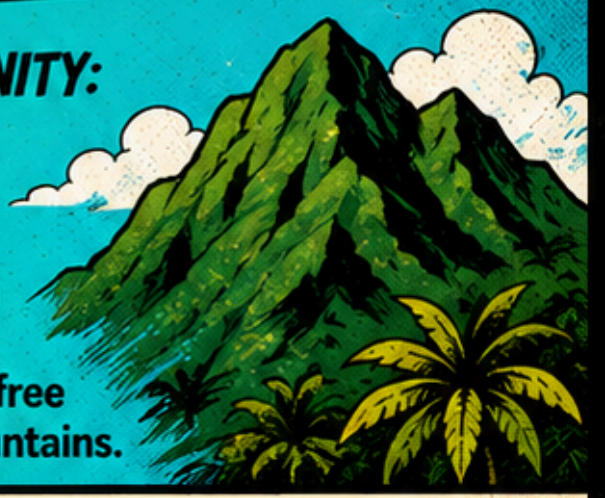
BAYANO

THE MAROON KING OF PANAMA



THEY DIDN'T WAIT FOR FREEDOM. THEY TOOK IT.

MAROON COMMUNITY: PANAMA



Bayano led a maroon community in Panama during the 1500s. His people built a strong, free community in the mountains.



HE RESISTED EMPIRES.

From the mountains, Bayano and his people fought off multiple Spanish military expeditions sent to destroy them.



HE PROTECTED HIS PEOPLE.

Bayano organized attacks on Spanish plantations and convoys, defended his community, and kept his people free for years.



HE WAS CAPTURED THROUGH NEGOTIATIONS.

The Spanish eventually captured Bayano after bringing him into peace talks. He was taken to Peru and died in Spanish prison.

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YANGA

LEADER OF FREEDOM IN VERACRUZ



MAROON COMMUNITY:
VERACRUZ, MEXICO

Yanga escaped slavery and built a maroon community in the mountains of Veracruz, far from Spanish control.





HE FOUGHT BACK.

In 1609, when a Spanish military force attacked his community, Yanga and his people fought back and won.

HE WON RECOGNITION.

After years of resistance and negotiation, the Spanish agreed to recognize Yanga's people as free.
A free Black settlement was established: San Lorenzo de los Negros.



HIS LEGACY LIVES.

Yanga's leadership created one of the first free Black settlements in the Americas.
His legacy is a powerful reminder that freedom was fought for—and won.



BLACK HISTORY 101

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QUEEN NANNY

LEADER OF THE WINDWARD MAROONS



MAROON COMMUNITY: JAMAICA

Queen Nanny led the Windward Maroons in Jamaica's mountainous interior during the early 1700s.



BRILLIANT STRATEGIST.

Nanny was a skilled military leader who used intelligence, guerrilla tactics, and knowledge of the land to outsmart British forces.



SPIRITUAL LEADER.

She was also a spiritual leader and herbalist, caring for her people and keeping their traditions alive.



WE FOUGHT. WE WON.

After years of resistance, the British signed a treaty in 1739 recognizing the Windward Maroons' right to live free on their land.



LEGACY THAT LIVES.

Queen Nanny is a national hero in Jamaica and a symbol of Black resistance, leadership, and freedom that still inspires today.



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MACKANDAL

THE MAROON LEADER OF SAINT-DOMINGUE



THEY TRIED TO SILENCE HIM. HIS LEGEND IGNITED A NATION.

MAROON COMMUNITY: SAINT-DOMINGUE (HAITI)

Mackandal escaped slavery in Saint-Domingue—present-day Haiti—and joined maroon groups living in the mountains and countryside during the 1750s.

BUILT NETWORKS. INSPIRED RESISTANCE.



Mackandal built powerful networks among enslaved and escaped Africans, spreading messages of freedom and unity.

THE ALLEGED PLOT.

He became famous for an alleged plan to poison French colonists and seize freedom for his people.



EXECUTED, BUT UNBROKEN.

The French captured and executed Mackandal in 1758, hoping to crush resistance. But they couldn't kill the idea of freedom.



A LEGEND THAT LIVES.

Mackandal's name survived enslavement and colonial rule. He is remembered as one of the first sparks of the Haitian Revolution.



BLACK HISTORY 101

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ZUMBI

LEADER OF PALMARES DEFENDER OF FREEDOM



MAROON COMMUNITY: PALMARES, BRAZIL

Zumbi was born in Palmares, the largest maroon community in the Americas, located in the northeastern region of Brazil.



HE LED THE RESISTANCE.

Zumbi became a leader in Palmares and organized the defense of his people against Portuguese forces who sought to destroy their freedom.



PALMARES STOOD STRONG.

For nearly a century, Palmares withstood dozens of military expeditions. It was a place of freedom, culture, agriculture, and self-determination.



EVEN AFTER THE FALL.

In 1694, the Portuguese finally destroyed Palmares. But Zumbi refused to surrender and continued to resist with a small group of warriors in the forests.



HIS LEGACY LIVES ON.

Zumbi was killed on November 20, 1695. Today, he is a symbol of Black resistance, freedom, and the fight against oppression in Brazil and across the world.



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ILLESCAS

THE MAROON LEADER OF ECUADOR



MAROON COMMUNITY: ESMERALDAS, ECUADOR

After a shipwreck off the coast of Ecuador in 1553, Illescas became part of an African community in Esmeraldas. They built a free society in the coastal forests and river valleys.



A LEADER AND STRATEGIST.

Illescas rose as a political and military leader. He organized his people, built alliances with Indigenous communities, and used both resistance and diplomacy to secure autonomy.



ALLIANCES THAT STRENGTHENED.

Illescas formed strong alliances with Indigenous groups, trading goods and sharing knowledge. These relationships helped protect the community and their way of life.



RESISTANCE AND DIPLOMACY.

When threatened by Spanish expeditions, Illescas used the land to his advantage—knowing the rivers, forests, and coastlines better than any invader.



A LEGACY OF FREEDOM.

Illescas and his people maintained their independence for decades. His legacy lives on in the Esmeraldas community and in the enduring fight for freedom and dignity.



BLACK HISTORY 101

BLACK HISTORY 101

MAROONS OF THE AMERICAS PT. 1



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FOR MORE EVIDENCE-BASED HISTORY!

LIKE
IF YOU LEARNED SOMETHING NEW!

SHARE
SPREAD KNOWLEDGE.