Contents

Introduction: A Visual Grammar of Citizenship  1

1 “Impussanations,” Coons, and Civic Ideals: A Black Comics Aesthetic  31

2 The Revolutionary Body: Nat Turner, King, and Frozen Subjection  71

3 Wearing Hero-Face: Melancholic Patriotism in Truth: Red, White & Black  111

4 “The Only Thing Unamerican about Me Is the Treatment I Get!” Infantile Citizenship and the Situational Grotesque  139

5 Rape and Race in the Gutter: Equal Opportunity Humor Aesthetics and Underground Comix  171

To Caricature, with Love: A Black Panther Coda  207

Acknowledgments  221

Notes  225

Index  235

About the Author  245

Color illustrations appear as an insert following page 128.