

## Ryan Coogler:the real life *Black Panther*

By Harper Eakin

When Ryan Coogler was a child, his professor thought his writing was so wonderful she called him to her office and asked him what he wanted to do with his life. He said he wanted to have a "...positive influence in my community." And that is exactly what he did.

Way before one of his first movies, *Fruitvale Station*, he made mini movies. One of them titled "*Fig.*" Coogler showed the truth of what is really happening in society that others tend not to appreciate, or back away from. He is a truthful writer, knowing, and showing what is really going on and that we need to change that. He also puts feelings into his films. For example, in *Fruitvale Station*, he created it for the people who weren't feeling anything about the death and attack of a unarmed black man. As well as putting feeling into co-writing *Creed*, a sequel to the *Rocky* films because it was his father's favorite. In the film, Rocky says, "you're your father's son, you're a part of him. It doesn't mean you have to be him." These "feeling films" also related to his smash hit movie, *Black Panther*. It was the eighteenth movie in the Marvel cinematic universe, making one point two billion dollars. It was the most popular movie in the box office for five weeks straight! Saying "no" to racism, *Black Panther* shows us all that the true king is the one who believes in his people, along with his people believing in him.

Ryan Coogler is not one to turn away from racism. Instead, he fights it through his screenplays. *Fruitvale Station*, *Black Panther*, every single one. *Black Panther* shows they are heros, as well as people. *Fruitvale Station* shows just because someone has a different skin color, it does not mean they did something wrong. In my opinion, he has changed lives and feelings of many humans, flowing his feelings through his work, making these characters, and pursuing them and creating them as iconic characters everyone should know. His work has shown me

and probably many others, that even if you are poor, rich, speak a different language, practice a different religion, and lastly, have a different skin color, you still have a mind and ideas, and some of those ideas are revolutionary, world changing. Share them.

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