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## Succession of the Panthers

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## Succession of the Panthers

I might personally be on a kick just because I watched "Judas and the Black Messiah" but the Black Lives Matter movement feels like the spiritual successor of the Black Panther Party. While the Panthers were more a militarized militia that stood for the protection of black bodies in the face of rampant police brutality. Encouraging young Black Americans to exercise their Second Amendment right to bear arms against the occupying army known as the Oakland Police Department. BLM has made waves across the globe by calling out the several recorded instances of police overstepping their boundaries in the Black Community. While one took a physical stand against their opposition in the streets trained and armed to defend themselves. The other took to the streets and marched peacefully to raise awareness of their plights. And while they were peaceful, they weren't afraid or unwilling to defend themselves against any and all provocation. They both made themselves to the mortal enemy of both local and state governments. Both have had their names dragged through the mud by right aligning news organizations. But that's what makes the movement so strong. No matter how hard they get pushed down, no matter how much they're gassed, and no matter how many are unjustly murdered under a racist regime. They will always be back with twice the size they had before. Just like the Panthers before them they may be fighting for Black lives but in truth they're fighting for the equity and fair treatment of every single living human being. Every man, woman, non-binary, and child that wants to live to experience their God given rights. Counter to the opposition's beliefs all lives can't be equal until Black lives are equal. Even if it takes a hundred more years the Hueys, the Martins, and the Malcoms of the world will not stay silent and they will guide America to the place the founding fathers imagined it to be.