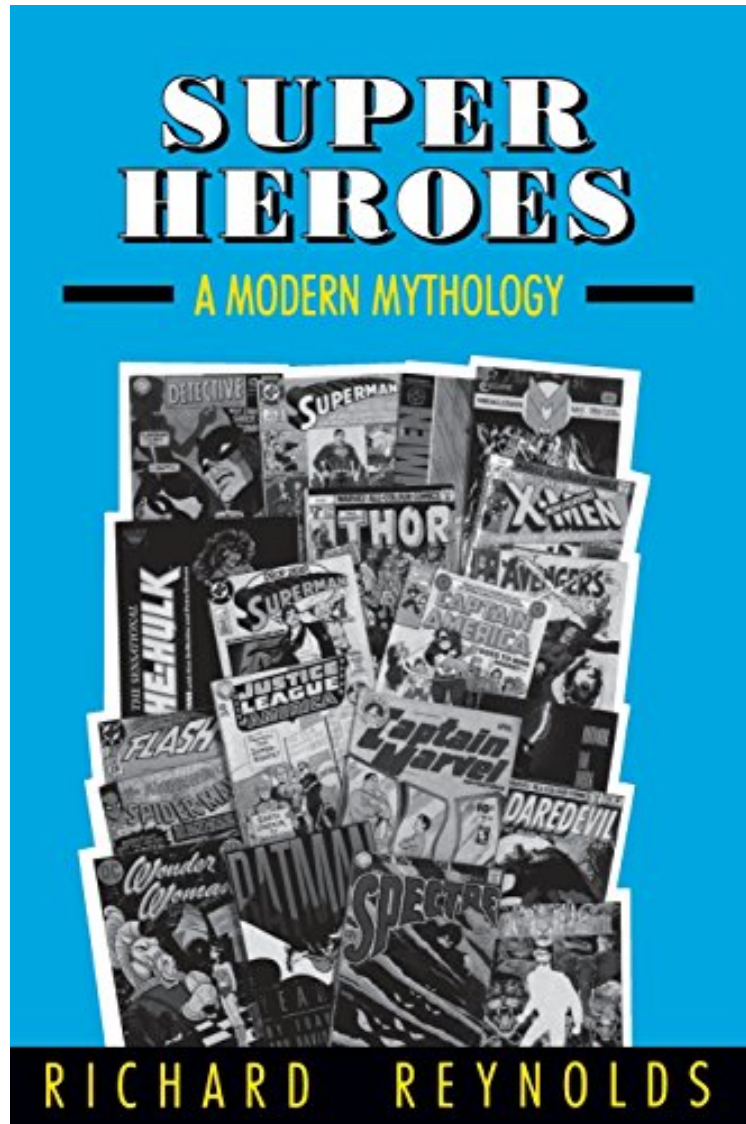


(Read ebook) Super Heroes: A Modern Mythology (Studies in Popular Culture (Paperback))

# Super Heroes: A Modern Mythology (Studies in Popular Culture (Paperback))

*Richard Reynolds*

*\*Download PDF / ePub / DOC / audiobook / ebooks*



DOWNLOAD



READ ONLINE

#1241255 in Books University Press of Mississippi 1994-04-01 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.25 x .34 x 6.00l, .45 #File Name: 0878056947134 pages | File size: 35.Mb

**Richard Reynolds : Super Heroes: A Modern Mythology (Studies in Popular Culture (Paperback))** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Super Heroes: A Modern Mythology (Studies in Popular Culture (Paperback)):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Reynolds is a TreasureBy Daniel O'RourkeA very nice book. Reynolds has a wonderful knowledge of and appreciation for the comic book genre. This combined with his literary

knowledge makes this book a very helpful resource for those doing research in the area. I had the pleasure of extending the conversation with Professor Reynolds at the Second International Conference on Superheroes at Oxford this year. The man is as delightful as his prose. 11 of 13 people found the following review helpful. Disappointing By Customer I had high hopes for this book, but when I reached its analysis of major superheroes such as Superman and Batman, I felt the author was way off. I thought his finding that Superman was just an adolescent fantasy was very simplistic - where was any discussion of the duality of the human and alien, the conflict between the physical, alien might of Superman against the mental, human might of Lex Luthor? And when Batman was seen as 'angry all the time', that his driving force is not anger at the injustice that he suffered and that he sees every day, but rather anger at himself for not being able to stop what happened to his parents - and that his greatest foe is not the Joker, the man who is the opposite of all that Batman represents, but rather Two-Face, because the author thinks he represents the duality of Batman/Bruce Wayne - I lost all faith that the author knew what he was talking about. If you want a serious book about superheroes as modern mythology, look elsewhere. 24 of 29 people found the following review helpful. Great. By Eric This book forever changed the way that I read superhero comics. Reynolds discusses the factors that are present in virtually every superhero comic since Superman was created. Some are apparent (devotion to justice, secret identities), and some are subtle (lost parents, accountability only to one's own conscience). Virtually all factors are recapitulations of the developmental struggles of the primary audience of these comics: adolescent males. Reynolds continues by illuminating the grand, mythical nature of the comic-book universes, all stories blending into one vast "canonical" story, each comic becoming part of a larger continuity. This continuity shares several features of classical mythologies, which Reynolds explores in depth, citing the X-Men, the Watchmen, and the Dark Knight Returns series (among others) as evidence. Read this, it's great.

The superhero has been the staple of the modern comic book since the late 1930s. The phenomenally successful movies Superman and Batman have made these two comic book superheroes as familiar worldwide as any characters ever created. Yet to relatively few aficionados are they known at first hand from their appearances in comic books. *Super Heroes: A Modern Mythology* explores the origins of the superhero by documenting how heroes emerged from the comic book genre and are defined both by its history and by audience expectations. To show some of the most influential and paradigmatic figures, this study focuses on the texts of three comic books in the genre--*The X-Men*, *The Dark Knight Returns*, and *Watchman*. It examines ways in which the comics mythologize both the role of the hero and the nature of consensus, authority, and moral choice. Blending academic scholarship with specialized knowledge of the comic book medium, *Super Heroes: A Modern Mythology* will have appeal for several audiences. Since most of the academic scholarship published on comic books has focused on history rather than on cultural analysis, this book will be of great value to scholars of popular culture.