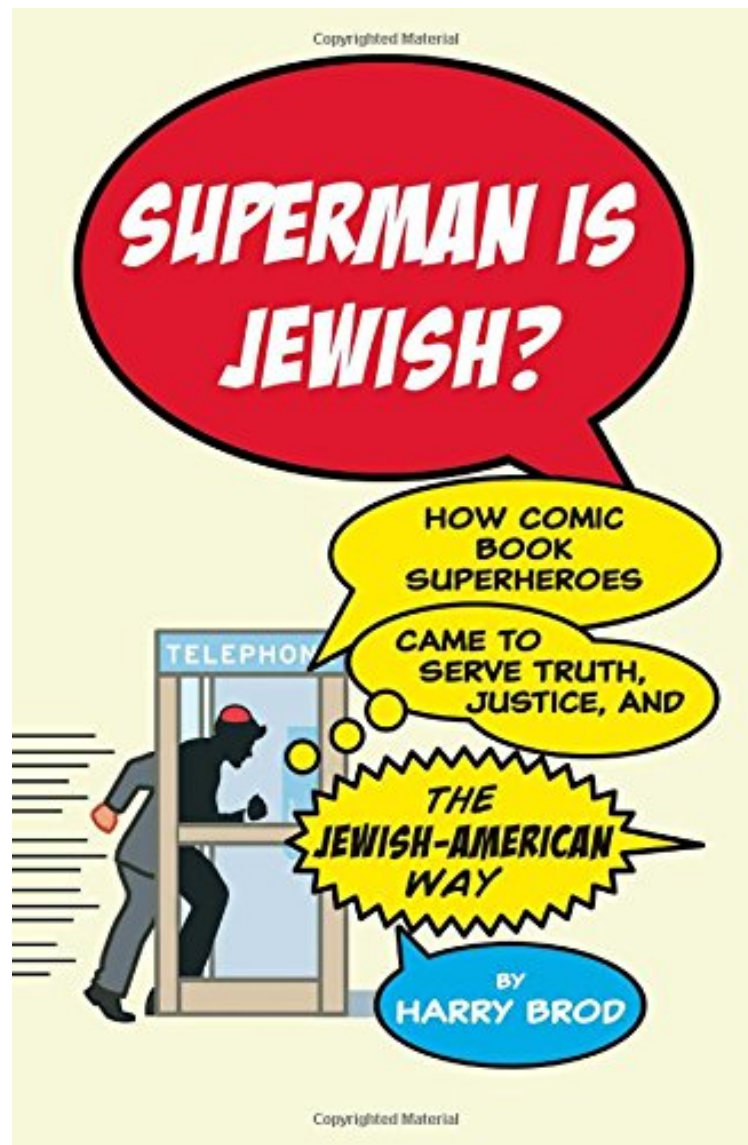


[Ebook pdf] Superman Is Jewish?: How Comic Book Superheroes Came to Serve Truth, Justice, and the Jewish-American Way

## Superman Is Jewish?: How Comic Book Superheroes Came to Serve Truth, Justice, and the Jewish-American Way

Harry Brod

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#390820 in Books 2016-01-12 2016-01-12 Original language: English PDF # 1 8.37 x .70 x 5.50l, .0 #File Name: 1416595317240 pages | File size: 35.Mb

**Harry Brod : Superman Is Jewish?: How Comic Book Superheroes Came to Serve Truth, Justice, and the Jewish-American Way** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Superman Is Jewish?: How Comic Book Superheroes Came to Serve Truth, Justice, and the Jewish-American Way:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Origin of many super heroes, specially Superman  
By Barry Werber  
Found it quite interesting and as a matter of fact have discussed with my Rabbi!  
0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars  
By Fay Berg  
Still reading this book..5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. more superman  
By Peter W. Wolf  
Misleading title should read, Jewish influence on comics. Superman is minor part in the story. It is about Judaism and comics as serious literature.

From a brilliant and witty comic book aficionado, this scholarly but lively narrative (Kirkus Reviews) reveals the links between Jews and the iconic superheroes of Jerry Siegel, Joe Shuster, Stan Lee, and Jack Kirby. Many of us know that the superheroes at the heart of the American comic book industry were created by Jews. But you'd be surprised to learn how much these beloved characters were shaped by the cultural and religious traditions of their makers. *Superman Is Jewish?* follows the people of the book as they become the people of the comic book. With great wit and compelling arguments, Harry Brod situates superheroes within the course of Jewish-American history: they are aliens in a foreign land, like Superman; figures plagued by guilt for abandoning their families, like Spider-Man; and outsiders persecuted for being different, like the X-Men. Brod blends humor and sharp observation as he considers the overt and discreet Jewish characteristics of these well-known figures and explores how their creators integrated their Jewish identities and their creativity. Captivating, poignant, and packed with historical insights, this guided tour travels from the Passover Haggadah's exciting action scenes of Moses' superpowers through the Yiddish humor of *Mad* magazine to two Pulitzer Prizes awarded in one decade to Jewish comic book guys Art Spiegelman and Michael Chabon. A witty, insightful exposé (Publishers Weekly), *Superman Is Jewish?* is an endlessly fascinating American saga about an immigrant group that used comic books to see itself in new, empowering and laughable ways. You don't even have to be Jewish to get a kick out of it.

From Booklist  
The question of whether Superman is Jewish is, Brod admits, one that takes a certain amount of chutzpah to even raise. But when he says our favorite superheroes are Jewish, Brod doesn't mean it literally: he's speaking of the way the evolution of Jewish culture in America is reflected in our superheroes. Superman, for example, was created in the late 1930s as an immigrant refugee who felt it necessary to hide his own identity behind a false one. In fact, many of the great early comic-book writers, creators, and publishers—Lee, Kirby, Gaines, Kane, and Superman's Shuster and Siegel—were Jewish, and Brod makes a strong case that their heroic creations were designed, in one way or another, to express or reflect their own identities. How closely the evolution of the comic-book superhero mirrors the evolution of the Jewish culture in America is perhaps difficult to quantify, and Brod stops well before that point. Alongside such important books as *Gabilliet's Of Comics and Men* (2009) and *Jones Men of Tomorrow* (2004), this one should take its place as an essential study of the field. --David Pitt "This witty, insightful expose delves into the secret identities of the world's most famous superheroes." --Publisher's Weekly  
Brod's scholarly but lively narrative does a fine job of tracing 'how the people of the book became the people of the comic book.'" --Kirkus  
"An essential study of the field." --Booklist  
"Told by a storyteller as knowledgeable and entertaining as Harry Brod has proven himself to be, *Superman Is Jewish?* provides the intellectual thrill of a good scholarly text as well as the guilty pleasure of a good comic book." (Iowa Press-Citizen)  
A serious work that often is light-hearted, amusing and generally clear, deliberately avoiding the obscure vocabulary with which so many academics write. (American Jewish World)  
About the Author  
Harry Brod is a professor of philosophy and humanities at the University of Northern Iowa. He has appeared on CNN, Today, Geraldo, and other TV and radio programs, and his articles have been published in many journals and popular magazines. He is the father of two children and still has his old comic book collection.