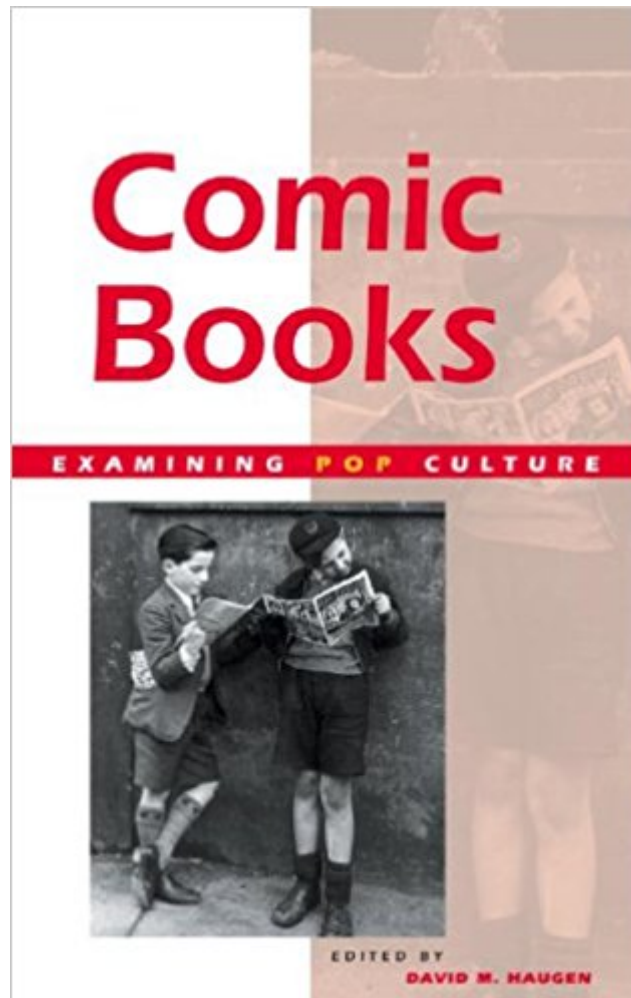




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Examining Pop Culture - Comic Books (hardcover Edition)



Synopsis

While often dismissed as children's amusements, many comic books reflect serious social concerns of their day. Perhaps the most enduring of comics, though, also reveal people's deep-seeded need to believe in superheroes.

Book Information

Series: Examining Pop Culture

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Customer Reviews

Grade 9 Up
Comics get explained for the social, cultural, and intellectual phenomenon that they are. Each chapter is essentially an excerpted piece from a larger, university-press book, so the writing and commentary provided are consistently first-rate. The engrossing essays cover myriad topics including the universal elements of a comic-book story, the historical changes that comics have undergone, and the splintering of the genre into underground comix, graphic novels, and manga. Further, the self-censorship that comic artists imposed on themselves in the postwar era, the surprisingly common antihero, and the sexist drawings so widely known are all sensitively and finely addressed. The text-only format may discourage some, but other readers will enjoy the serious treatment of the topic. A reliable title covering many needs, Comic Books should be picked up wherever possible.
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Examining Pop Culture series includes excerpts from a range of periodicals and primary sources. Both titles, with their sophisticated language and bibliographies of mostly scholarly resources, are best suited for older, academically advanced teens. A fine new series to spark well-informed discussions about lifestyle and current issues." -- Booklist (October 2001) (Booklist 20011015)"The entries are well-balanced and present a variety of viewpoints." -- School Library Journal (School Library Journal)"Fascinating, informative reading as well as a solid research support; a generous, annotated selection of additional resources is appended." -- Booklist (April 2002) (Booklist 20020401)

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