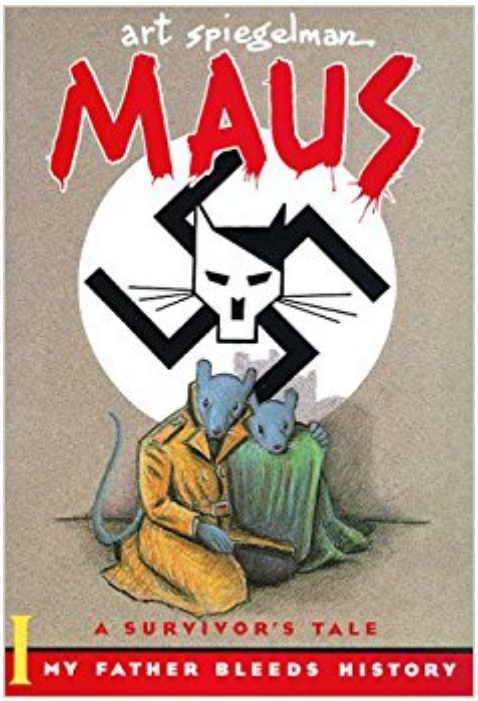
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My Father Bleeds History (Maus)



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Synopsis

The first installment of the Pulitzer Prize-winning graphic novel acclaimed as Ã¢â ¬Å“the most affecting and successful narrative ever done about the HolocaustÃ¢â ¬Â• (Wall Street Journal) and Ã¢â ¬Å“the first masterpiece in comic book historyÃ¢â ¬Â• (The New Yorker).A brutally moving work of artÃ¢â ¬â •widely hailed as the greatest graphic novel ever writtenÃ¢â ¬â •MausÃ Â recounts the chilling experiences of the authorÃ¢â ¬â„¢s father during the Holocaust, with Jews drawn as wide-eyed mice and Nazis as menacing cats.MausÃ Â is a haunting tale within a tale, weaving the authorÃ¢â ¬â„¢s account of his tortured relationship with his aging father into an astonishing retelling of one of history's most unspeakable tragedies. It is an unforgettable story of survival and a disarming look at the legacy of trauma. --This text refers to the Library Binding edition.

Book Information

Series: Maus (Book 1)
Hardcover
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Customer Reviews

Some historical events simply beggar any attempt at description--the Holocaust is one of these. Therefore, as it recedes and the people able to bear witness die, it becomes more and more essential that novel, vigorous methods are used to describe the indescribable. Examined in these terms, Art Spiegelman's Maus is a tremendous achievement, from a historical perspective as well as an artistic one. Spiegelman, a stalwart of the underground comics scene of the 1960s and '70s, interviewed his father, Vladek, a Holocaust survivor living outside New York City, about his experiences. The artist then deftly translated that story into a graphic novel. By portraying a true

story of the Holocaust in comic form--the Jews are mice, the Germans cats, the Poles pigs, the French frogs, and the Americans dogs--Spiegelman compels the reader to imagine the action, to fill in the blanks that are so often shied away from. Reading Maus, you are forced to examine the Holocaust anew. This is neither easy nor pleasant. However, Vladek Spiegelman and his wife Anna are resourceful heroes, and enough acts of kindness and decency appear in the tale to spur the reader onward (we also know that the protagonists survive, else reading would be too painful). This first volume introduces Vladek as a happy young man on the make in pre-war Poland. With outside events growing ever more ominous, we watch his marriage to Anna, his enlistment in the Polish army after the outbreak of hostilities, his and Anna's life in the ghetto, and then their flight into hiding as the Final Solution is put into effect. The ending is stark and terrible, but the worst is yet to come--in the second volume of this Pulitzer Prize-winning set. --Michael Gerber --This text refers to the Library Binding edition.

YA Told with chilling realism in an unusual comic-book format, this is more than a tale of surviving the Holocaust. Spiegelman relates the effect of those events on the survivors' later years and upon the lives of the following generation. Each scene opens at the elder Spiegelman's home in Rego Park, N.Y. Art, who was born after the war, is visiting his father, Vladek, to record his experiences in Nazi-occupied Poland. The Nazis, portrayed as cats, gradually introduce increasingly repressive measures, until the Jews, drawn as mice, are systematically hunted and herded toward the Final Solution. Vladek saves himself and his wife by a combination of luck and wits, all the time enduring the torment of hunted outcast. The other theme of this book is Art's troubled adjustment to life as he, too, bears the burden of his parents' experiences. This is a complex book. It relates events which young adults, as the future architects of society, must confront, and their interest is sure to be caught by the skillful graphics and suspenseful unfolding of the story. Rita G. Keeler, St. John's School , HoustonCopyright 1987 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to the Library Binding edition.

Browsing through the reviews and comments about Maus, I saw that there was some question as to whether the hardcover edition comprised Parts I and II. This is understandable because the product is listed in as "The Complete Maus: A Survivor's Tale (No 1)," which seems contradictory.When I was considering purchasing it, I looked at the number of pages that were listed for the edition and guessed that it included both parts of the story. So I bought it, it arrived fine, and I am now writing to confirm that yes, this edition includes I and II. should look into this and remove the "(No 1)" from the

listing’s title.

One man’s story of how he and his wife survived the Holocaust told in graphic novel format; and another story of a man (the author) and his difficult and contentious relationship with his father (the surviving man).The senior Spiegelman’s story, as told to the author, his son, is cleverly and uniquely told after many years have passed. During the times the father recounts his, and his wife’s, life in Poland and in Auschwitz, I almost felt like I was there. Touching, frightening and revealing this is one of those books that should be required reading in our educational system. As time goes by, and more and more concentration camp survivors pass away, I fear that the story of man’s greatest inhumanity to man will also pass away. The story of the Holocaust, the people, the unbelievable circumstances that allowed it to happen, is something that must not be forgotten. The saying "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it" is very true and the thought of this happening again is unfathomable.We, the human race, have had other similar events happen more recently; Rwanda, Cambodia’s Killing Fields, and so on are not as publicized as the Holocaust but they are just as horrible. Those stories need to be added to ones like Maus to show that these things can, and will, happen if we don’t take steps to stop them. Knowledge is the key and this book is one tool in our toolbox of knowledge. Experience it and NEVER FORGET.

This is a great book. Highly recommend. It shows another side of the holocaust and what the holocaust suvivers face and how it effect their children.

I am left speechless. I had previously read Joe Succo’s Palestine and thought that was good. The bar has been reset. Maus is one of the best things I have read ... period. The art work, the story, the reality, the depiction of the horrors faced by the Jews ... all this was captured with such elaborate preciseness that I felt I was there .. with them. Some might think that ’dumbing down’ an event as significant, and as defining, as the holocaust using graphic comic is wrong. This is where the author has managed to truly show his magical imagination. He has captured it all, packaging history and its aftermath, in drawings of cats, mice and pigs. Small things like the Jewish characters wearing pig masks to pass as Poles was, in my opinion, genius.Increasingly we are living in a world where the written word might lose its grasp on the young. Everyone wants bite sized chunks of information. Where this is good for general knowledge and breadth of information, it still does not allow the depth that is needed to truly understand the intricacies of what is being learnt. I believe that a comic book like this will make a significant contribution to erasing this depth of knowledge. Within the pages of

Maus is encapsulated one of the most important pieces of history that everyone should know about and maybe the fact that its a graphic novel might attract the younger generation to pay heed to history.Fantastic. A must read.

In my readings of WWII of the fighting on the Eastern Front I also have read the books of Mazower telling of the Germans desire to expand the Eastern frontier in the concept of Lebensraum. In the starting of WWII with the attack on Poland is where the first book in this series started with Vladek Spiegelman on his odyssey of what it was to be a Jew under the governance of Nazi rule. In the first book we learn of the progressive pogroms utilized to ostracize and segregate the Jewish community. We see this happening in a gradual and degrading way. At first their property is taken from them and they lose their jobs and professions. After this is done they are relegated to the most menial of tasks. It still amazes me that Germany spent so much of their resources both in materials and personnel to try to exterminate a culture of people. These resources should have been used to try to win the war. Such was the hatred of the corrupt Nazi government. In Art Spiegelman's second book we see how it was to live in these concentration camps which in the end murdered over six million Jews. How there were survivors is in of itself a miracle. I have read the diaries of Victor Klemperer and Mazower's books of the Eastern front and there was discussion of the concentration camps but really no memoirs of actual survivors. What Art Spiegelman has done in these two volumes of graphic depictions is nothing short of incredible. It shows as a testimony to the resourcefulness and iron will of Vladek Spiegelman to endure these deprivations of starvation and true cruelty. The result of his knowing English helped him to survive by friending a Polish kampa who looked out for his interests and kept him out of harm's way. The creativity of learning the ins and outs of the culture of the concentration camp helped him to survive. The author shows us the story as he was recording these stories for this book. However the other story which is expertly interweaved in the book is how Vladek was living his life in Rego Park Queens. He shows us a thrifty person who finds it hard to part with his money and who is always complaining about his gold digging second wife. Always complaining as he goes on to tell of what it was to live, die and above all survive under the auspices of Nazi Germany. If you read one book on the lives of people in such places as Auschwitz this is the one to read!!!

One of the best graphic novels ever. The story is so well designed. It was a tragic moment in the world but its really amazing to see how the writer deals with his family history

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