SUPERMAN IS Jewish?

How Comic Book Superheroes Came to Serve Truth, Justice, and the Jewish-American Way

and the second second

HARRY BROD

Free Press

New York London Toronto Sydney New Delhi

CONTENTS

	Illustrations Preface Introduction	xi xiii xix
1.	Superman as Supermentsh How the Ultimate Alien Became the Iconic All-American	1
2.	Flights of Jewish Imagination From the Old Country to Tales of a Better Tomorrow	21
3.	The Comic in Comics <i>Mad</i> in the Original Yiddish	53
4.	War and Peace The Rise and Fall of the Superheroes In and After World War II	66
5.	It's a Jewish Thing Not-So-Secret Identities in the Marvel Bullpen	83
6.	The Pencil is Mightier than the Words The Spirit of Will Eisner	101
7.	A Jew at War The Art of Joe Kubert	125
8.	Of Mice and Supermen Art Spiegelman's <i>Maus</i>	145
9.	From the New World Back to the Old Jewish Comics Abroad	161
10.	The Amazing Adventures of Michael Chabon <i>Kavalier & Clay</i>	183
	Acknowledgments Notes	195 197

ILLUSTRATIONS

Dave Sim, Jewish comic book creators.	
Judenhass (Canada: Aardvark-Vanaheim Publishing, 2008), 2.	
© 2008 Dave Sim. fac	ing page 1
Jack Kirby, the Thing (of the Fantastic Four) drawn as Jewis	sh.
Reprinted with permission from Marvel Comics. © 2007 by Mar	rvel
Characters Inc.	82
Will Eisner, "The Escapist & the Spirit" splash page.	
Michael Chabon Presents the Amazing Adventures of The	
Escapist #6 (Milwaukee, OR: Dark Horse Comics, 2005), 3.	
The Spirit [®] is a registered trademark of the Will Eisner Estat	e.
The Escapist [™] is a trademark of Michael Chabon. Artwork © 2	005
Michael Chabon and the Will Eisner Estate. Used with permissi	on. 100
Joe Kubert, Yossel in the Warsaw Ghetto.	
Yossel; April 19, 1943 (New York: ibooks, 2003), 30.	
Reprinted with permission from Joe Kubert. Copyright © 2003	
by Joe Kubert.	124