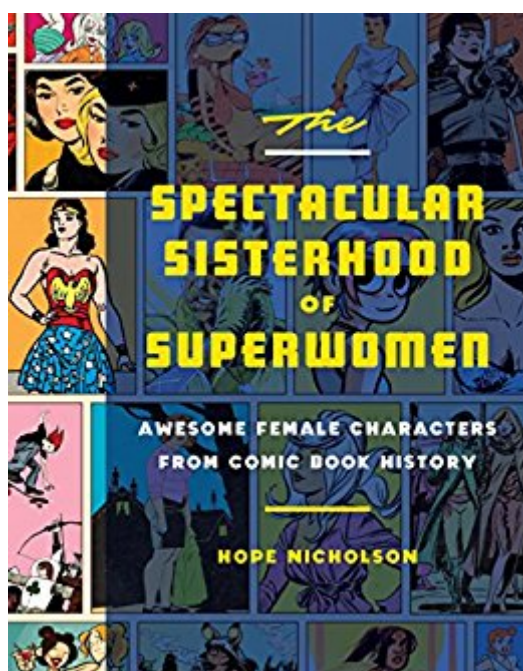


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The Spectacular Sisterhood Of Superwomen: Awesome Female Characters From Comic Book History



Synopsis

A woman's place is saving the universe.ÂÂ Think comic books can't feature strong female protagonists? Think again! InÂÂ The Spectacular Sisterhood of SuperwomenÂÂ you'll meet the most fascinating exemplars of the powerful, compelling, entertaining, and heroic female characters who've populated comic books from the very beginning. This spectacular sisterhood includes costumed crimebusters like Miss Fury, super-spies like Tiffany Sinn, sci-fi pioneers like Gale Allen, and even kid troublemakers like Little Lulu. With vintage art, publication details, a decade-by-decade survey of industry trends and women's roles in comics, and spotlights on iconic favorites like Wonder Woman and Ms. Marvel,ÂÂ The Spectacular Sisterhood of SuperwomenÂÂ proves that not only do strong female protagonists belong in comics, they've always been there.

Book Information

File Size: 327853 KB

Print Length: 240 pages

Publisher: Quirk Books (May 2, 2017)

Publication Date: May 2, 2017

Sold by:ÂÂ Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B01JWDZSMU

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #269,216 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #34

inÂÂ Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Comics & Graphic Novels > Contemporary Women #74

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Customer Reviews

A beautiful book with an incredible breadth of knowledge in display. A must for any fan of female heroes.

I was hoping for more of the actual comics, but a reasonable synopsis just the same

Great book

Illustrated beautifully!Excellent history of superwomen!

Hope Nicholson has a lot of knowledge about comic books, the role of female characters in comics, and the changes to the literary art form from the 1930s through today. However, while she Nicholson mentions several times in the book that this is a "feminist" book, the criteria for including (or not including) particular characters was a mystery. It was a real adventure to learn about comics and character I may never have heard of but some series and characters were missing or included that made me scratch my head. "Girl Genius" is discussed in the 2010s introduction yet none of the characters is focused on yet back in the 1940s chapter there are several "weak" characters that made me cringe to even read about. Give me a reason for each character to be chosen, make it clear, so that a one-issue heroine seems worthy to be included along with an award-winning, decades long superhero. The book is divided into nine chapters, each focused on a decade of time, and each ending with a "Icon of the Decade." Some of these are "superwomen" and some are "awesome" but many of the characters seem to be included because they were unique or subversive and without a clear definition of why characters (and comics) were chosen the overall group feels uneven. The information about the characters and comics is also a bit uneven. Many entries were so detailed about the character's life and adventures that I felt no need to go and find the "essential reading" that concludes each section. Other entries were more critique of what is stereotypical (or not), sexy (or not), subversive (or not) than who the character was or the comic they appeared in. I was pleased that each entry had at least one image of the character though these ranged from a small square or rectangle to a full-page spread. I'm not sure why some of these images were more expansive than others but the small ones were a bit annoying. This was an entertaining and fun read. The book itself is superior craft, stitched pages, needed dust cover, and colorful hardcover design; it is clear that Quirk values this line of books about comic books that they are putting out. I just wanted a bit more from the inside, too.

SISTERHOOD of SUPERWOMEN was an interesting read. The art choices are great and of course, there can never be enough of them. The author takes a look at the progression, and sometimes

regression, of female characters in American comic books. She breaks the book up into chapters by decades; a format that works exceedingly well as the American culture changed over time, responding to events such as World War II and the Groovy 60's. One of the features I liked in the book was the inclusion of real-life women in the Comics industry. It makes sense, for example, that both women artists and managers would pick up the slack during the 1940s while so many men were in the military. SUMMARY THE SPECTACULAR SISTERHOOD OF SUPERWOMEN is going to appeal a lot people. Fans of comics and anime are going to want to add it to their libraries because it provides a useful history. Those of us who like comics and are interesting in expanding our reading experience are going to find it helpful in finding new series. There are plenty of the ones you'll recognize, like Lu-Lu and Wonderwoman, but there will also likely be ones that are new to you --like Torchy Brown and Seniorita Rio.

As a fan of comics I chose this book expecting some exceptional artwork and mildly entertaining fun facts. I was completely blown away by this work! First, the cover (under the plastic film) is stunning with a fantastic collage of various females heroes, some well-known, others not so much. Second, I love how Ms. Nicholson has organized the sections of the book, taking us through the history by breaking the chapters into decades/eras. Third, I have been completely amazed by how much I did not know about the history of comics and women in comics (both the fictional characters and the women behind the scenes). The history presented here is utterly fascinating and presented in such a well written, engaging manner I also had no idea how little I knew about female characters. Ms. Nicholson does not present the usual suspects of comics. I was pleasantly surprised to be learning about so many of the lesser known female characters and their backstories. Each section is eloquently written with humor and skill. I love this book and highly recommend it to any comic fans in your life. It's definitely one of the best comic histories that I've ever read.

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