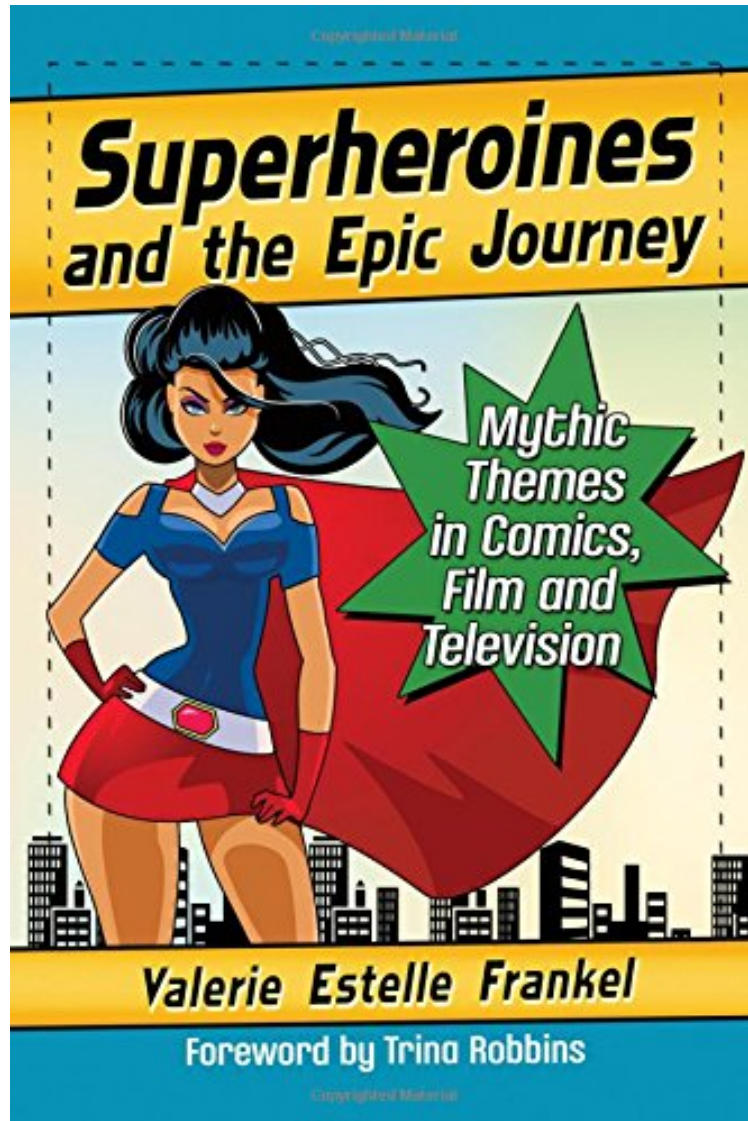


(Download) Superheroines and the Epic Journey: Mythic Themes in Comics, Film and Television

Superheroines and the Epic Journey: Mythic Themes in Comics, Film and Television

Valerie Estelle Frankel, Foreword by Trina Robbins
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The heroine's journey echoes throughout ancient legend. Each young woman combats her dark side and emerges stronger. This quest is also a staple of American comic books. Wonder Woman with semi-divine powers gives us a new female-centered creation story. Batgirl, Batwoman and Black Widow discover their enemy is the dark mother or shadow twin, with the savagery they've rejected in themselves. Supergirl similarly struggles but keeps harmony with her sister. From Jessica Jones and Catwoman to the new superwomen of cutting-edge webcomics, each heroine must go into the dark, to become not a warrior but a savior. Women like Captain Marvel and Storm sacrifice all to join the ranks of superheroes, while their feminine powers and dazzling costumes reflect the most ancient tales.

"Frankel uses myth the way it was meant to be used, to help people understand how their lives fit into a larger world. She offers great depth of analysis in understanding how the mythic characters of comics utilize the standard mythic tropes. This is a must-have." --Matthew Wilhelm Kapell, *Exploring the Next Frontier: Vietnam, NASA, Star Trek and Utopia in 1960s and 1970s American Myth and History* About the Author Valerie Estelle Frankel, storyteller and novelist teaches English at Mission College. The author of 50 popular culture books and more than 100 stories and essays, she lives in Sunnyvale, California.