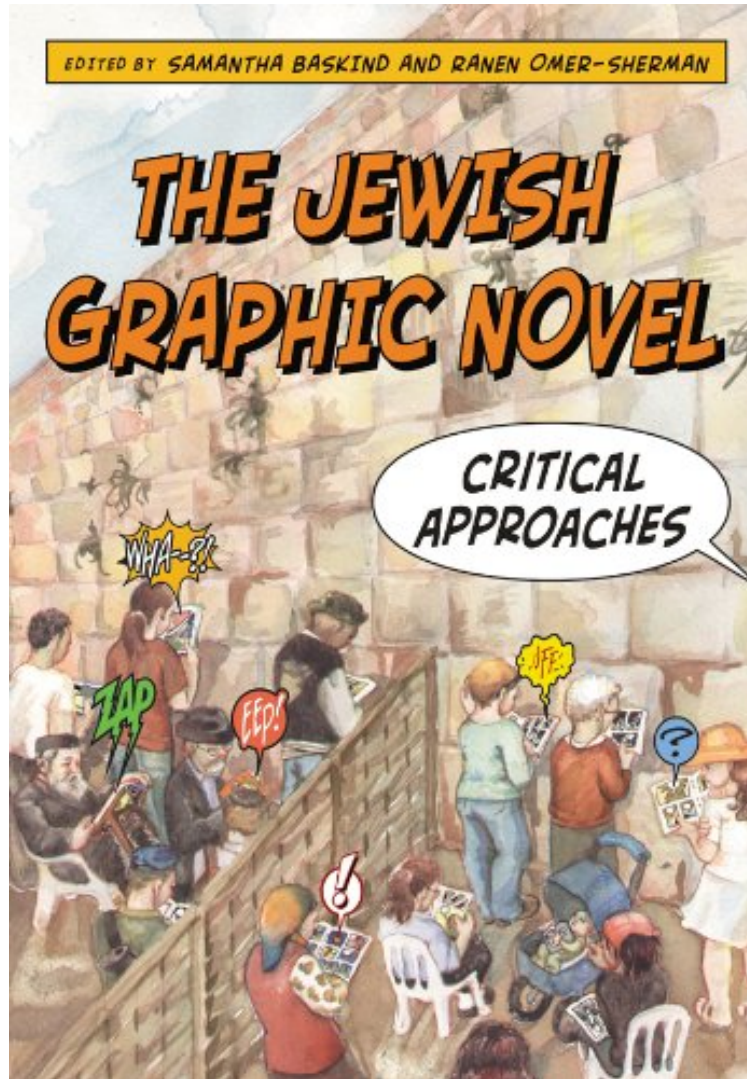


## The Jewish Graphic Novel: Critical Approaches

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**From Brand: Rutgers University Press : The Jewish Graphic Novel: Critical Approaches** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Jewish Graphic Novel: Critical Approaches:

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Images in the service of words. By Dr. Baruch Blich The essays edited by Baskind and Omer-Sherman, is a unique collection which has to do on the one hand with the essence of the graphic novel- a genre accumulating fame and popularity, as well as on the other hand with stories, jokes, and underground behaviour by the Jewish community in the USA. The collection contains 4 parts: The Jewish American Experience, The Holocaust across Borders, the Graphic novel outside the USA and the Novelists in their own words

and pictures. Personally I found part two - the Holocaust across the Borders, the most interesting and enlightening. Rendering the Holocaust by and with comics, not only that it opens a new approach to the tragedy of the Jews in the second world war, it endows comics a new and unexpected role as a narrative means of communication. Shedding light on Spigelman, Eisenstein, Katin, Kubert with Hurst Rosenthal's 'Mickey in Gurs' - a series of comics done in Gurs concentration camp in the South of France in 1942 - is a unique contribution in the analysis of comics and a major step in the understanding of the Holocaust. Pity that two interesting works done by Eric Heuvel - 'the search and a family secret', did not find their way into this collection. Putting emphasis on the above collection of essays does not derogate the other three parts of the book. On the contrary - those interested in comics will no doubt find in the essays themselves and in the rich bibliography of each one of them, an inspiring source as to the nature of comics and its narrative aspects. Ben Baruch Blich, ph.d. History and Theory dept. Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design Jerusalem 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. More than a picture can tell - excellent read!! By Bella Orion This scholarly essays collection is not about Will Eisner. It is more!! Prof. Samantha Baskind and Prof. Ranen Omer-Sherman, editors and contributors, continue Eisner's mission to expose the Jewish experience, without the mask and the tights, and to challenge, among other challenges - both personal and collective, the many negative stereotypes that Jews had to endure. The medium of choice of the works discussed in this collection, the graphic novels, and the subject matter about the Jewish experience, along with the interviews (R. Omer-Sherman interviewing Miriam Libicki, and S. Baskin interviewing Miriam Katin), validate the Jewish Graphic Novel as an important subgenre within the Graphic Novel genre. As I am wrapping up my Master thesis on the subject of Jewish GN, dealing with stereotyping and Jewish identity (at Mount St. Mary's College, Los Angeles), I find this book invaluable, as it is - to the best of my knowledge - the first scholarly collection to expose the wide reach of this medium, bringing authors like the French Joann Sfar, and the Israeli Miriam Libicki and Rutu Modan, among others, into the realm of scholarly discussion. Of course, when I started my research, I thought that I was the only one who discovered Miriam Libicki ([...]), and the only one to get so excited about Sfar's Rabbi's Cat, and Klezmer. I am glad that I was wrong - as it is an amazing phenomenon to see how wide-spread and "hot" this topic really is!. Great book, great cover (art by Miriam Libicki). If not for the content - certainly you should get it for her artwork!! 1 of 12 people found the following review helpful. Horrifyingly Disgusting!!! ThanBy Zahava I am completely HORRORFIED by the graphic depictions of the most vulgar trash I have ever reviewed in my entire life! I am so happy I did NOT buy this piece of trash . This is pornographic material, plain and simple. I am surprised that .com would allow such vulgarity and even sell such a VILE piece of material on its site. Parents beware, and anyone else who has any shred of morality.

In the 1970s and 1980s Jewish cartoonists such as Will Eisner were some of the first artists to use the graphic novel as a way to explore their ethnicity. Although similar to their pop culture counterpart, the comic book, graphic novels presented weightier subject matter in more expensive packaging, which appealed to an adult audience and gained them credibility as a genre. The Jewish Graphic Novel is a lively, interdisciplinary collection of essays that addresses critically acclaimed works in this subgenre of Jewish literary and artistic culture. Featuring insightful discussions of notable figures in the industry such as Will Eisner, Art Spiegelman, and Joann Sfar the essays focus on the how graphic novels are increasingly being used in Holocaust memoir and fiction, and to portray Jewish identity in America and abroad. Featuring more than 85 illustrations, this collection is a compelling representation of a major postmodern ethnic and artistic achievement.

Few attempts have been made to publish an anthology of academic essays on Jewish graphic novels. The Jewish Graphic Novel is a wonderful attempt to fill this void. . . . Highly recommended. - Association of Jewish Libraries Newsletter A pivotal work of sequential art scholarship. - Journal of Graphic Novels and Comics The Jewish Graphic Novel is evidence of a growing body of Jewish graphic works and the profound discussions they raise. - Jewish Book World Baskind and Omer-Sherman make a valuable contribution to the discussion of Jewish comics. - MELUS From the Inside Flap "The Jewish Graphic Novel" is a lively, interdisciplinary collection of essays that addresses critically acclaimed works in this subgenre of Jewish literary and artistic culture. Featuring insightful discussions of notable figures in the industry as such as Will Eisner, Art Spiegelman, and Joann Sfar - the essays focus on the how graphic novels are increasingly being used in Holocaust memoir and fiction, and to portray Jewish identity in America and abroad. About the Author SAMANTHA BASKIND is an associate professor of art history at Cleveland State University. She is the author of Raphael Soyer and the Search for Modern Jewish Art and Encyclopedia of Jewish American Artists. RANEN OMER-SHERMAN is a professor of English at the University of Miami. He is the author of Israel in Exile: Jewish Writing and the Desert and Diaspora and Zionism in Jewish American Literature.