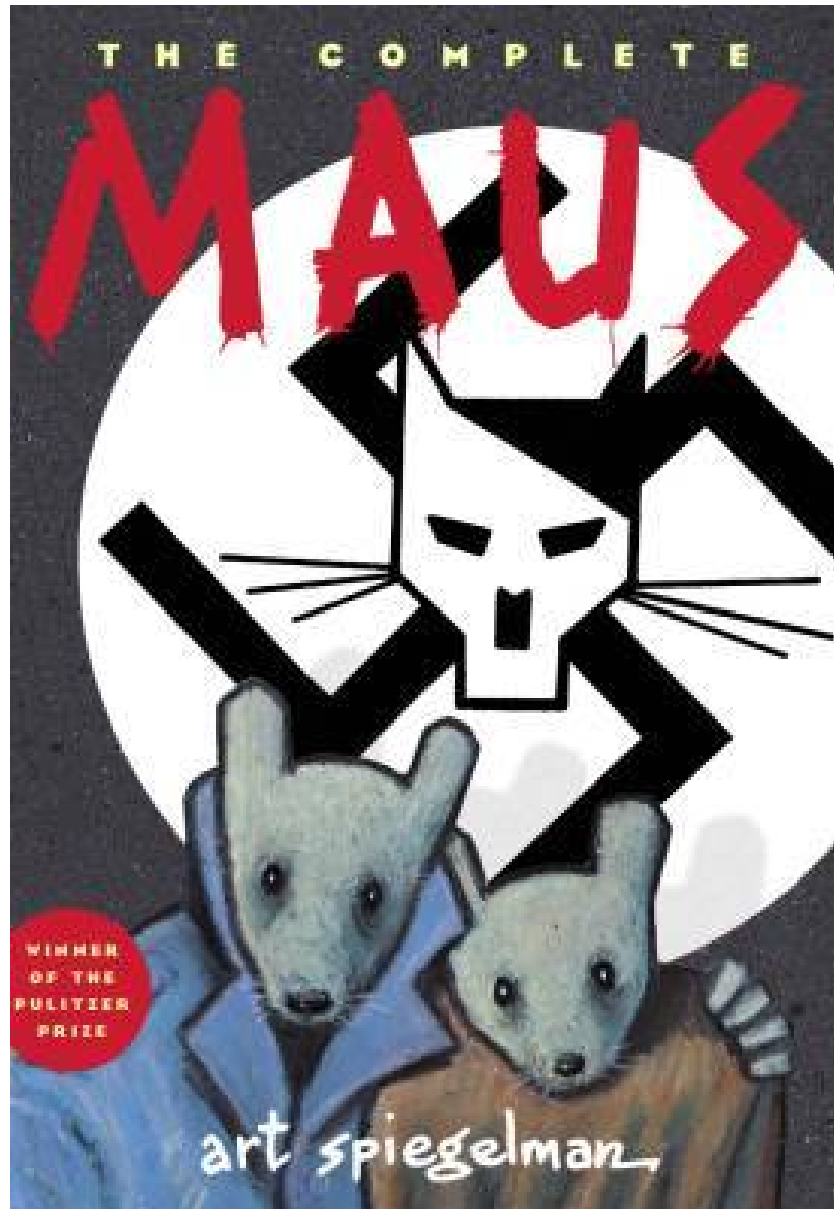


# The Complete Maus Book PDF Download



**By:**  
**Art Spiegelman**

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## What people Say:

### Lisa

oh my god.

This burrowed it's way deep into my heart. This made me feel so much. This was an

, not just a "read". This was real and I can't even explain how this affected me because it was the most emotional thing I've ever read. Not made-up emotion. This was REAL and it affected me.

Vladek. He reminded me of my Grandfather, a little. I loved my Grandfather and I loved Vladek. His story, as told to his son Art Spiegelman, was one of the most powerful stories I've ever experienced.

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Vladek. He reminded me of my Grandfather, a little. I loved my Grandfather and I loved Vladek. His story, as told to his son Art Spiegelman, was one of the most powerful stories I've ever experienced.

This was a story about survival and deep love. The love shown between Vladek and Anja mesmerized me and broke my heart seeing them go through so much cruelty and suffering.

### Raeleen Lemay

The art style was a bit distracting at times, but I really enjoyed this!

## Alejandro

While it took long time of finally reading

, I knew that it was a graphic novel referring about the Jew Holocaust, but using mice (Jews) and cats (Nazis) as the characters, and even while I was sure that it will be a crude telling, I didn't expect

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, I knew that it was a graphic novel referring about the Jew Holocaust, but using mice (Jews) and cats (Nazis) as the characters, and even while I was sure that it will be a crude telling, I didn't expect that the only difference between "reality" and this graphic novel would be the choice of using "animals" as the characters in the story. I mean, while I agree that Jew Holocaust isn't a humorous matter, I supposed that it would be some "imaginative" use of places, tools, terms, etc! taking in account that the story was full of mice, cats and even pigs (with some frog or dog, here and there).

Actually, I don't know why using "animals" as characters if everything else in the story will be keep as it happened. Even there are some odd moments of a "female mouse person" scared due the presence of regular rats.

Again, the Jew Holocaust is not a matter to take in comical way, but then, I think that the graphic novel could plainly use human beings (not necessarily too realistic, some cartoon style could work) and the graphic novel will be the same as good, the same as relevant.

However, definitely the graphic format of this story makes possible for readers to be witness from the beginning until the end (and even further) of the whole tragic and cruel process of what Jews endured (and not many were able to get out alive from it) during the World War II.

A titanic graphic story constructed during years of artistic effort to show, with detail and authenticity, one of the darkest episodes of human history.

The success of

obviously can tied to the reason of being a Jew Holocaust's story, and almost any such story receive a wide positive acceptance, but I think that what makes different

## Steve

It didn't dawn on me until later that this brilliant piece of graphic artistry and fiction is actually a

very clever allegory. On the face of it, weâ€™re led to believe that itâ€™s a story of the terrible suffering perpetrated by the Nazis against the Jews in Poland and throughout Europe. But if you scratch beneath the surface, I think youâ€™ll find that this particular holocaust story was made to symbolize something more pervasive and endemic. I speak of the horrific violence that persists to this da

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. For those of you unfamiliar with German, this is their word for mouse. Beyond that, when you look carefully at the drawings, you see that the goose-steppers have distinctly feline features, while the persecuted Jews in the ghettos and camps have rodent-like proboscides and disproportionately small eyes.

Cat on mouse violence is so old and pervasive that, in a way, weâ€™ve become desensitized to it. Countless depictions of it in the arts have made it a stale, clichÃ©d topic; almost cartoonish at times. Thatâ€™s why I thought it was particularly effective to tell the story allegorically. When seen through the lens of the Jewish experience, and with Spiegelmanâ€™s masterstroke of personalizing the story by laying bare the difficult relationship he had with his father (the survivor), the residuum of cat brutality that can literally tear mice families apart is brought home to us in a very different way.

Original: Mar 9, 2012

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Addendum: Aug 23, 2013

This still ranks as my top graphic novel of all time, but I just finished Chris Ware's

which gives it a pretty good run for the money. The suffering in that one may not be as extreme, but it's every bit as real.

**Councillor**

Until just a few weeks ago, the only reason for why I read graphic novels now and then was because of people's constant recommendations about the beauty and the value of those kinds of books. I will be honest; I am guilty of never believing those words. Most likely did I read graphic novels which didn't suit my personal tastes, but Art Spiegelman was capable of shattering my expectations and completely stunning me with the

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is a collection of two graphic novels with autobiographical background about the author, Art Spiegelman, and his father's recollections about his experiences in the Second World War. Spiegelman constantly switches between present and past, between the time when he writes down what his father tells him and the time when all the horrible events in the concentration camps took place. But he doesn't only include information about his father Vladek Spiegelman's tale of survival; the personal and very conflicted relationship between Art and Vladek also turns out to be a central part of the story, including controversy about Vladek's second wife and Art's personal approach to the success he had as an author when the first installment in his series of graphic novels was published.

Obviously, memoirs or autobiographies always include potential to let their author shine in a bright light, to let them appear heroic and exemplary. You have to rely on what the author tells you about himself and the people surrounding him, on which layers of his own character he presents. Art Spiegelman did so in a very convincing way, pointing out not only the horrible crimes which were committed during the Nazi period, but also the flaws he and his father had themselves, as human beings with all their faults and mistakes. Art and his father appear in such a realistic way that you can't help but care for them; something which never happened to me before in a book with autobiographical content. Of course, some parts of the novels were shocking, which you need to expect before reading something about such an important subject. Feelings of despair and fear overshadowed Vladek Spiegelman's recollections of his experiences during the Second World War, from his family's decline and his marriage to his transport to Auschwitz.

Perhaps the most memorable thing about those graphic novels is the way Art Spiegelman used animal heads in the place of recognizable human ones. The completely black-and-white illustrations vividly underline the feelings Spiegelman wanted to express with his books. And still now, almost

two months after finishing them, am I stunned.

Do I need to mention that I'd recommend these graphic novels to everyone?