

*Maus* relates the story of Vladek Spiegelman, a Hungarian Jewish survivor of the Holocaust, and his son, a cartoonist, as he hears, relates, and comes to terms with his father's history. In this Comix — a genre that Art Spiegelman coined as a genre to represent his graphic novel, biography and autobiography — Spiegelman uses animals to represent various nationalities and races throughout the book. The use of anthropomorphism in relating the accounts of the Holocaust creates a distance from the horrific realities and softens the pathos, allowing readers to be more objective in their approach of the sensitive subject of the Holocaust. While the atrocious ramifications of Hitler's Third Reich are by no means absent in *Maus*, many other important issues are explored as well. The topic of the Holocaust can often be daunting and emotionally taxing, but *Maus* is not only intriguing because of the graphic approach, but because of the deeply personal literary approach, making this book a great resource for studying the Holocaust.