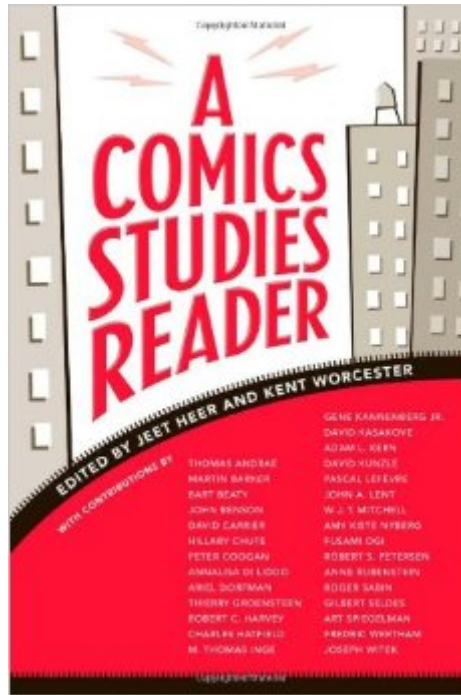


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# A Comics Studies Reader



## Synopsis

A Comics Studies Reader offers the best of the new comics scholarship in nearly thirty essays on a wide variety of such comics forms as gag cartoons, editorial cartoons, comic strips, comic books, manga, and graphic novels. The anthology covers the pioneering work of Rodolphe Töpffer, the Disney comics of Carl Barks, and the graphic novels of Art Spiegelman and Chris Ware, as well as Peanuts, romance comics, and superheroes. It explores the stylistic achievements of manga, the international anti-comics campaign, and power and class in Mexican comic books and English illustrated stories. A Comics Studies Reader introduces readers to the major debates and points of reference that continue to shape the field. It will interest anyone who wants to delve deeper into the world of comics and is ideal for classroom use.

## Book Information

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There's really not much to say here apart from what you most probably already know. This is a reader and as such it does what every reader out there does - offers a variety of texts on a certain topic. You might have already guessed (if you're the sort of person who reads the title of the book that you want to buy) what that topic is. Now, this is not the place for lengthy discussion about every article that has been published within these covers (most of them are reprints or excerpts from other books of the same authors), there are specialized pages out there for that sort of work, so I'll skip that part because I'm a relatively sane person. I'll just put down few remarks which you might find useful. Or not, but hey, you never can tell. Anyhow, this reader offers good introduction to the field

of modern-day comics studies. Texts vary from discussions about the history of the medium, discussions about formal characteristics of the medium, interpretations and in-depth analysis of various works from a variety of theoretical backgrounds. Authors heavily rely on the Scott McCloud's "Understanding Comics" (in a polemic sort of way; some authors are in agreement with McCloud's definitions, some try to either change, adapt or refute them) and though one might argue that editors chose contributions about some of the most well-known comics out there, ignoring the underground movements and comics that do not come from the largest markets in the world, reader actually offers quite a nice overview of various traditions that are currently present and kicking. Bibliography is quite extensive and every interested scholar will find plenty information if it happens that some of the topics that are discussed here catch his attention.

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