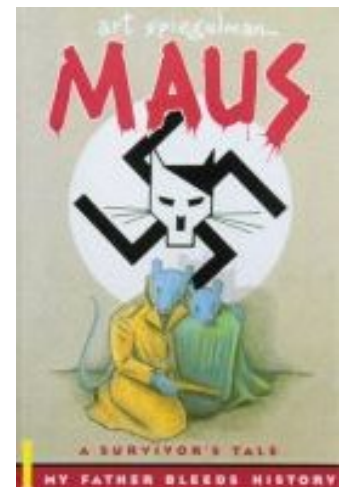




Maus, A Survivor's Tale I. My Father Bleeds History Art Spiegelman

Discussion Questions

1. Does the graphic novel format assist the telling of this story? Why or why not?
2. The art style in *Maus* is relatively simple. What choices did the author make, as illustrator, to assist the telling of his story.
3. What do the masks represent? What is the author trying to say via the process of revealing that the characters are wearing masks?
4. To what extent is Vladek's personality formed by his Holocaust experiences?
5. When you first heard that the book was about a Holocaust survivor, what did you expect?
6. How would *Maus* read differently if Spiegelman had used human figures instead of animals?
7. The use of animal figures gives *Maus* the quality of a fable or an allegory. Is it possible to read *Maus* in light of other experiences of genocide or "ethnic cleansing"?
8. In *Maus*, Art describes his own ambivalence about the commercial success of his book, and his refusal to turn the book into a movie. Do you think *Maus* would work as a movie? What do you think of other commercially successful Holocaust films, such as *Schindler's List*?





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About the Author

Art Spiegelman is co-founder/editor of *Raw*, the acclaimed magazine of avant-garde comics and graphics. His work has been published in the *New York Times*, *Playboy*, the *Village Voice*, and many other periodicals, and his drawings have been exhibited in museums and galleries here and abroad. Honors he has received for *Maus* include a Guggenheim fellowship, and nomination for the National Book Critics Circle Award. Mr. Spiegelman lives in New York City with his wife, Françoise Mouly, and their daughter, Nadja.

Sources: <https://www.shmoop.com/maus/questions.html>

<https://gcbooks.wordpress.com/2014/06/16/maus-a-survivors-tale-book-club-discussion-questions/>

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