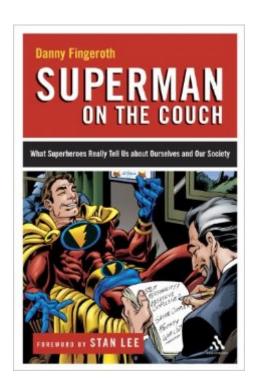
# The book was found

# Superman On The Couch: What Superheroes Really Tell Us About Ourselves And Our Society





## **Synopsis**

Why are so many of the superhero myths tied up with loss, often violent, of parents or parental figures? What is the significance of the dual identity? What makes some superhuman figures "good" and others "evil"? Why are so many of the prime superheroes white and male? How has the superhero evolved over the course of the 20th and early 21st centuries? And how might the myths be changing? Why is it that the key superhero archetypes - Superman, Batman, Wonder Woman, Spider-Man, the X-Men - touch primal needs and experiences in everyone? Why has the superhero moved beyond the pages of comics into other media? All these topics, and more, are covered in this lively and original exploration of the reasons why the superhero - in comic books, films, and TV - is such a potent myth for our times and culture.

## **Book Information**

Paperback: 192 pages

Publisher: Bloomsbury Academic (February 27, 2004)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0826415407

ISBN-13: 978-0826415400

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.5 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 8.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.8 out of 5 stars Â See all reviews (6 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #720,595 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #83 in Books > Science Fiction &

Fantasy > Fantasy > History & Criticism #243 in Books > Literature & Fiction > History & Criticism

> Genres & Styles > Comics & Graphic Novels #320 in Books > Comics & Graphic Novels >

History & Price Guides

#### Customer Reviews

It is clear to me that this book is not aimed at people who actually READ superhero comics. Though relatively well-written, it is incredibly superficial. The conclusions drawn about the superheroes themselves are often basic and flawed from the point of view of a diehard fan (though diehard fans come in many shapes and some may love him). The conclusions drawn about why we relate to superheroes are the obvious ones. Fingeroth choses to look only at the surface, saying, for instance, that because Superman is an alien, Clark Kent is the 'unreal' identity when compared to Superman. The name 'Kal-El', Superman's Kryptonian name, is never mentioned. Fingeroth also can't account for the fact that Clark was raised human, and his canon reasons for being Superman stem from his

childhood as Clark. Even the name Superman isn't something he chose--Lois Lane slapped it on him the first time he saved her. That is just an example, but the whole book reads like that. Fine if you're only interested in pseudo-pop psychology, with no depth into the history or variation of the characters. And THEN there's the fact that the only place women are mentioned in this book is in the chapter set aside for them (I thought 'separate but equal' was a thing of the past), and Fingeroth never mentions any comic book superheroine other than Wonder Woman. WW, Xena and Buffy are the focus of this chapter--legitimately, and with good discussion. However, he neglects so many women from the original superhero medium that I couldn't stand it: Black Canary, Storm, Rogue, Elektra, Supergirl, Batgirl, Oracle and Catwoman to name a few--who he doesn't name.

### Download to continue reading...

Superman on the Couch: What Superheroes Really Tell Us about Ourselves and Our Society How to draw Superheroes: with Colored Pencils in Realistic Style, Learn to Draw Cartoon and Movie Characters, Step-by-Step Drawing Tutorials, How to Draw Batman, Superman, Spider-Man 2, Marvel, DC Superman: The Ultimate Guide to the Man of Steel (Dk Superman) Superman Classic: Superman Phonics Fun (Includes 12 Books) (My First I Can Read) What the F: What Swearing Reveals About Our Language, Our Brains, and Ourselves The Clash of Generations: Saving Ourselves, Our Kids, and Our Economy (MIT Press) Human Origins: What Bones and Genomes Tell Us about Ourselves (Texas A&M University Anthropology Series) Lies We Tell Ourselves (Harlequin Teen) The Seattle Football Fanatic Cookbook: Grub, Munchies & Eats for Tailgaters and Couch Potatoes (Cookbooks for Guys) (Volume 34) Pets on the Couch: Neurotic Dogs, Compulsive Cats, Anxious Birds, and the New Science of Animal Psychiatry The Men on My Couch: True Stories of Sex, Love, and Psychotherapy Yoga for Beginners (From Couch to Conditioned: A Beginner's Guide to Getting Fit) Flying Couch: A Graphic Memoir Inheritance: How Our Genes Change Our Lives--and Our Lives Change Our Genes The Mind-Gut Connection: How the Hidden Conversation Within Our Bodies Impacts Our Mood, Our Choices, and Our Overall Health Mother Earth Spirituality: Native American Paths to Healing Ourselves and Our World (Religion and Spirituality) Our Babies, Ourselves: How Biology and Culture Shape the Way We Parent Growing Up Again: Parenting Ourselves, Parenting Our Children Our Bodies, Ourselves Our Bodies, Ourselves: Menopause by Boston Women's Health Book Collective (Oct 3 2006)

**Dmca**