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Titolo	Comic book crime : truth, justice, and the American way // Nickie D. Phillips and Staci Strobl
Pubbl/distr/stampa	New York, : New York University Press, 2013
ISBN	0-8147-6273-5
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (289 pages) : illustrations
Collana	Alternative criminology series
Altri autori (Persone)	StroblStaci
Disciplina	741.5/973
Soggetti	Comic books, strips, etc - History and criticism Crime in literature Justice in literature Social values in literature Literature and society - United States - History
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Holy criminology, Batman! comics and constructions of crime and justice -- "Crime doesn't pay": a brief history of crime and justice themes in comic books -- The world is shifting: terrorism, xenophobia, and comic books after 9/11 -- A better tomorrow: apocalypse, utopia, and the crime problem -- Villains: criminal behavior and the embodiment of evil -- Deathworthiness: paths to justice -- "Take down the bad guys, save the girl": gender and sexual orientation in the fight against evil -- "Aren't there any brown people in this world?" reading for race and ethnicity -- Apocalyptic incapacitation: understanding punishment -- Conclusion: Ultimate justice -- Appendix: sample and methodology.
Sommario/riassunto	Superman, Batman, Daredevil, and Wonder Woman are iconic cultural figures that embody values of order, fairness, justice, and retribution. Comic Book Crime digs deep into these and other celebrated characters, providing a comprehensive understanding of crime and justice in contemporary American comic books. This is a world where justice is delivered, where heroes save ordinary citizens from certain doom, where evil is easily identified and thwarted by powers far greater than mere mortals could possess. Nickie Phillips and Staci Strobl

explore these representations and show that comic books, as a historically important American cultural medium, participate in both reflecting and shaping an American ideological identity that is often focused on ideas of the apocalypse, utopia, retribution, and nationalism. Through an analysis of approximately 200 comic books sold from 2002 to 2010, as well as several years of immersion in comic book fan culture, Phillips and Strobl reveal the kinds of themes and plots popular comics feature in a post-9/11 context. They discuss heroes' calculations of "deathworthiness," or who should be killed in meting out justice, and how these judgments have as much to do with the hero's character as they do with the actions of the villains. This fascinating volume also analyzes how class, race, ethnicity, gender, and sexual orientation are used to construct difference for both the heroes and the villains in ways that are both conservative and progressive. Engaging, sharp, and insightful, *Comic Book Crime* is a fresh take on the very meaning of truth, justice, and the American way.
