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## IN THE SPRING 2005 SPECIAL ISSUE COMICS AND CULTURE

Comic strips, comic books, and graphic novels remain surprisingly under-examined artifacts of mass and popular culture, despite their long-standing production and consumption alongside other, well-analyzed media. Even recent film adaptations have yet to generate significant critical assessments of their often superior but still neglected comic book sources. This issue further details and corrects this negligence by examining comics in cultural contexts and through sophisticated methods of cultural analysis with essays on underground comix, alternative comics, graphic novels, as well as mainstream comic books and comic strips.

