



The Supergirls: Fashion, Feminism, Fantasy, and the History of Comic Book Heroines

Mike Madrid

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“*The Supergirls* is a long overdue tribute to the fabulous fighting females whose beauty and bravery brighten the pages of your favorite comics.”—**STAN LEE**

“A thoughtful, comprehensive history of women in comics . . . *The Supergirls* gleefully celebrates the medium itself, in all its goofy, glorious excess.” —**NPR “Best Five Books To Share With Your Friends” citation**

“Sharp and lively—and just obsessive enough about women who wear capes and boots to be cool but not creepy. [Madrid] clearly loves this stuff. And he's enough of a historian to be able to trace the ways in which the portrayal of sirens and supergirls has echoed society's ever-changing feelings about women and sex.”
—**Entertainment Weekly**

Has Wonder Woman hit the comic book glass ceiling? Is that the one opposition that even her Amazonian strength can't defeat? Entertaining and informative, *The Supergirls* explores iconic superheroines and what it means for the culture when they do everything the superhero does, only in thongs and high heels.

This much-needed alternative history of American comic book icons—from Wonder Woman to Supergirl and beyond—delves into where these crime-fighting females fit in popular culture and why, and what their stories say about the role of women in society from their creation to now, and into the future.

Mike Madrid is the author of *Divas, Dames & Daredevils: Lost Heroines of Golden Age Comics* (forthcoming from Exterminating Angel Press in October 2013) and *The Supergirls: Fashion, Feminism, Fantasy, and the History of Comic Book Heroines*, an NPR “Best Book To Share With Your Friends” and American Library Association Amelia Bloomer Project Notable Book. Madrid, a San Francisco native and lifelong fan of comic books and popular culture, also appears in the documentary *Wonder Women! The Untold Story of American Superheroines*.

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