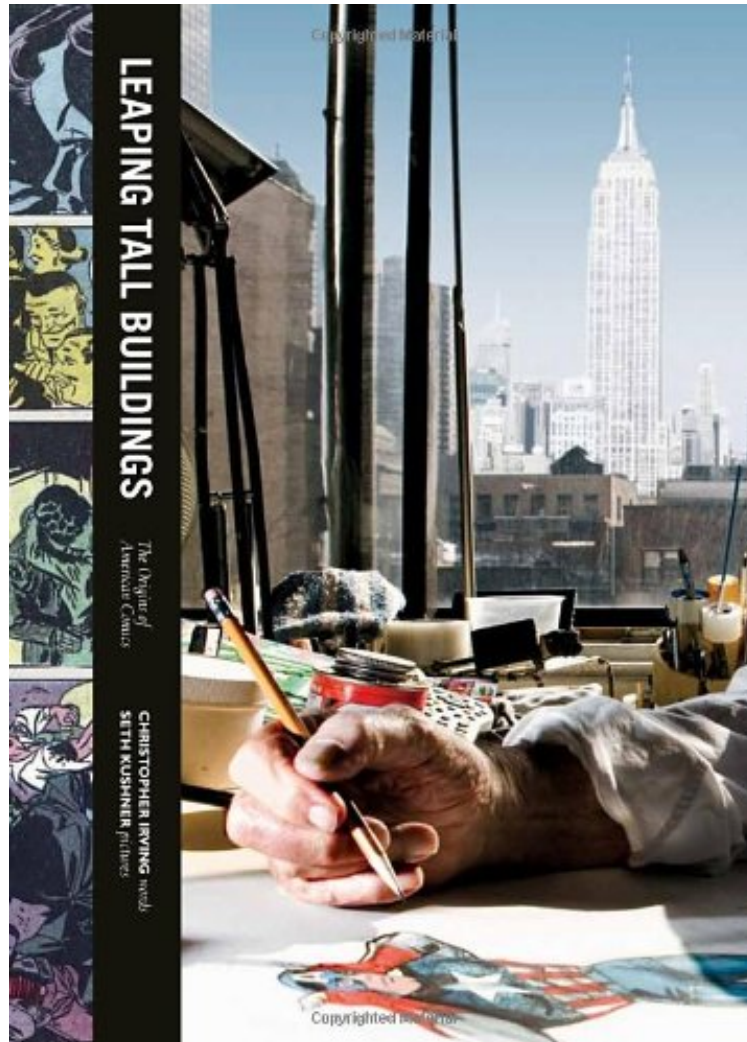


(Ebook pdf) Leaping Tall Buildings: The Origins of American Comics

## Leaping Tall Buildings: The Origins of American Comics

Christopher Irving

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**Christopher Irving : Leaping Tall Buildings: The Origins of American Comics** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Leaping Tall Buildings: The Origins of American Comics:

4 of 5 people found the following review helpful. I love it.By Jimmy PalmiottiAll of my comic book heroes are between these covers. Beautiful photography and insightful interviews. I just got mine delivered and going to order a few more as gifts to my comic book loving friends. Simple a beautiful job.2 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Upgrade is a DowngradeBy Kindle CustomerReceived a notification from that the Kindle edition had been revised to provide an upgrade to the images. This may be true, but, in the process, the text has been seriously downgraded to be almost illegible.Will be contacting .3 of 6 people found the following review helpful. The last

glimmer of dawn  
By Simon Fraser  
This is beautiful book, it's beautifully designed, it's beautifully photographed and it has a beautifully human take on that most American of mediums, the comic book. It's difficult to come up with a sweeping summary of a book that covers so much ground, covers so many eras. We're lucky that so many of the pioneers of the medium have lived so long so that Kushner Irving to talk to them. There's a real sense of context, of continuity and expansive diversity to the story of the comic book artform here that I don't think I've ever seen in any other work on the subject. One artist leads on to another, each telling their own tale in their own voice, but at the same time each one is contributing to the same story irrespective of style or genre. I think what struck me most profoundly about this book, and how it reflects the medium of comics, was the joy and passion that all these people seemed to express in their work. This is the kind of book that you can read all the way through or drop into from time to time. It's one that I can see myself returning to again and again. Highly recommended. Full disclosure - I was interviewed for this book, but my opinions are my own

Some are mild mannered geeks, others mad geniuses or street-smart city dwellers driven to action. These are the men and women behind the masks and tights of Americas most beloved superheroes. But these aren't the stories of the heroes hidden alter egos or secret identities these are the stories of their creators! *Leaping Tall Buildings: The Origins of American Comics* gives you the truth about the history of the American comic book straight from the revolutionary artists and writers behind them. From the founders of the popular comics website *Graphic NYC* writer Christopher Irving and photographer Seth Kushner comes the firsthand accounts of the comic books story, from its birth in the late 1930s to its current renaissance on movie screens and digital readers everywhere. Kushners evocative photography captures the subjects that Irving profiles in a hard-hitting narrative style derived from personal interviews with the legends of the art, all of which is accompanied by examples of their work in the form of original art, sketches, and final panels and covers. The creators profiled include Captain America creator Joe Simon, Marvel guru Stan Lee, *Mad* magazines fold-out artist Al Jaffee, visionary illustrator Neal Adams (Batman), underground paragon Art Spiegelman (*Maus*), X-Men writer Chris Claremont, artist/writer/director Frank Miller (*Sin City*, *300*), comic analyst Scott McCloud (*Understanding Comics*), *American Splendors* Harvey Pekar, painter Alex Ross (*Kingdom Come*), multit talented artist and designer Chris Ware (*Acme Novelty Library*), artist Jill Thompson (*Sandman*), and more. *Leaping Tall Buildings*, like comics themselves, uses both words and images to tell the true story of the comics birth and evolution in America. It is a comprehensive look at the medium unlike any other ever compiled covering high and low art, mass market work and niche innovations. It is the story of an art form and an insiders look at the creative process of the artists who bring our heroes to life.

"It's a great survey of many of the talented men and women behind the characters." *New York Times*  
"A new book about the comics industry is nearly as epic as the field's history itself" *Publishers Weekly*  
About the Author  
Christopher Irving is a pop culture journalist who has written four prior books on the history of comics, as well as dozens of articles. Irving also served as Associate Editor on the multiple-Eisner-Award-winning *Comic Book Artist* magazine. Irvings work on *Graphic NYC* with Seth Kushner has been featured in multiple mainstream media outlets, including *Italy's La Repubblica*. Irving currently resides in Brooklyn, New York. Seth Kushner is an environmental portrait photographer fascinated by all types of people. His work has appeared in *The New York Times Magazine*, *Time*, *Newsweek*, *Businessweek*, *LUomo Vogue*, *The New Yorker*, and others. Kushner was chosen by *Photo District News* magazine as one of their 30 Under 30 several years ago and is twice-winner of their *Photo Annual Competition*. *The New York Times* declared Kushners first book, *The Brooklynites* (powerHouse Books, 2007), a terrific coffee table book. Currently, Seth is working on his web series *CulturePOP Photocomix*, mixing his photography with a comic book-typw format on [ACT-I-VATE.com](http://ACT-I-VATE.com). Seth resides in his hometown of Brooklyn, New York with his wife, son, and way too many cameras and comics.