

Contents

Acknowledgments	ix
Introduction	xi
Part I: Literature	1
1 To Heck with the Village: Fantastic Heroines, Journey and Return <i>Sandra J. Lindow</i>	3
2 From Duckling to Swan: What Makes a Twilight Heroine Strong <i>Tricia Clasen</i>	17
3 Salem's Daughters: Witchcraft, Justice, and the Heroine in Popular Culture <i>Lauren Lemley</i>	29
4 Heroine: Christina of Markyate <i>K. A. Laity</i>	43
5 The Bohemian Gypsy, Another Body to Sell: Deciphering Esmeralda in Popular Culture <i>Adina Schneeweis</i>	53
6 Writing Women in War: Speaking through, about, and for Female Soldiers in Iraq <i>Christina M. Smith</i>	65
Part II: Exotic, Foreign, Familiar, and Queer	79
7 The Borderland Construction of Latin American and Latina Heroines in Contemporary Visual Media <i>Mauricio Espinoza</i>	81

8	Janissary: An Orientalist Heroine or a Role Model for Muslim Women?	95
	<i>Itir Erhart and Hande Eslen-Ziya</i>	
9	Representations of Motherhood in <i>X-Men</i>	107
	<i>Christopher Paul Wagenheim</i>	
10	Negotiating Life Spaces: How Marriage Marginalized Storm	119
	<i>Anita McDaniel</i>	
11	The Mother of All Superheroes: Idealizations of Femininity in <i>Wonder Woman</i>	133
	<i>Sharon Zechowski and Caryn E. Neumann</i>	
12	Wonder Woman: Lesbian or Dyke?: Paradise Island as a Woman's Community	145
	<i>Trina Robbins</i>	
13	Homicidal Lesbian Terrorists to Crimson Caped Crusaders: How Folk and Mainstream Lesbian Heroes Queer Cultural Space	153
	<i>AprilJo Murphy</i>	
	Part III: Contemporary American Graphic Novels/Comics	169
14	Punching Holes in the Sky: Carol Danvers and the Potential of Superheroism	171
	<i>Nathan Miczo</i>	
15	Jumping Rope Naked: John Byrne, Metafiction, and the Comics Code	185
	<i>Roy Cook</i>	
16	Invisible, Tiny, and Distant: The Powers and Roles of Marvel's Early Female Superheroes	199
	<i>Joseph Darowski</i>	
17	Heroines Aplenty, but None My Mother Would Know: Marvel's Lack of an Iconic Superheroine	211
	<i>T. Keith Edmunds</i>	
18	Liminality and Capitalism in Spider-Woman and Wonder Woman: How to Make Stronger (i.e., Male) Two Super Powerful Women	221
	<i>Fernando Gabriel Pagnoni Berns</i>	
19	Empowerment as Transgression: The Rise and Fall of the Black Cat in Kevin Smith's <i>The Evil That Men Do</i>	233
	<i>Michael R. Kramer</i>	
	Index	245
	About the Editors	253

About the Contributors

255