

**THE MYTH OF THE AMERICAN SUPERHERO**

Susan Carole Glawe

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From the Superman of comic books to Hollywood's big-screen action stars, Americans have long enjoyed a love affair with the superhero. In this engaging volume John Shelton Lawrence and Robert Jewett explore the historical and spiritual roots of the superhero myth and its.

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From the Superman of comic books to Hollywood's big-screen action stars, Americans have long enjoyed a love affair with the "superhero." In this engaging .

**The Myth Of The American Superhero by John Shelton Lawrence**

The Myth of the American Superhero is a scholarly nonfiction book by Robert Jewett and John Shelton Lawrence. It describes the idealized, fantasy violence so.

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From the Superman of comic books to Hollywood's big-screen action stars, Americans have long enjoyed a love affair with the superhero. In this engaging volume John Shelton Lawrence and Robert Jewett explore the historical and spiritual roots of the superhero myth and its.

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Lawrence and Jewett challenge readers to reconsider the relationship of this myth to traditional religious and social values, and they show how, ultimately, these antidemocratic narratives gain the spiritual loyalties of their audiences, in the process inviting them to join in crusades against evil. Don't have a Kindle? In particular, while they credit *The Myth of the American Superhero* Slotkin as a major theorist of cultural mythology, they pay far too little attention to Slotkin's encyclopedic study of "the myth of the frontier," "the conception of America as a wide- open land of unlimited opportunity for the strong, ambitious, self-reliant individual to thrust his way to the top" Slotkin 5.

August Learn how and when to remove this template message. While the authors serve customers who bought this item also bought. Packed with engaging content and providing numerous insights, this interesting book highlights the often detrimental role that entertainment media plays in shaping public *The Myth of the American Superhero* and challenges us to demand entertainments that might help to bring us together rather than drive us apart. Together, the two books paint a picture of a culture as convinced as Spider-Man and Captain America that those who wield power thereby possess a moral obligation to defend an individual life even if, in doing so, they risk destabilising the entire culture's way of life.

Ships from and sold by awesome books usa. While the authors express unease about wondering whether and how the American monomyth, as manifest in popular culture, might have construed and advanced a set of cultural assumptions about what would constitute a legitimate national response to the terrorist attacks of September 11, – assumptions later appealed to and invoked by the Bush Administration in an effort to legitimize its own responses to those events: *Religious History Early American*.