

art spiegelman

MANGA



A SURVIVOR'S TALE

II

AND HERE MY TROUBLES BEGAN



Aclaimed as a "quiet triumph"^{**} and a "brutally moving work of art,"^{**} the first volume of Art Spiegelman's *Maus* introduced readers to Vladek Spiegelman, a Jewish survivor of Hitler's Europe, and his son, a cartoonist trying to come to terms with his father, his father's terrifying story, and *History* itself. Its form, the cartoon (the Nazis are cats, the Jews mice), succeeds perfectly in shocking us out of any lingering sense of familiarity with the events described, approaching, as it does, the unspeakable through the diminutive. As the *New York Times Book Review* commented, "[it is] a remarkable feat of documentary detail and novelistic vividness...an unfolding literary event."

This long-awaited sequel, subtitled *And Here My Troubles Began*, moves us from the barracks of Auschwitz to the bungalows of the Catskills. Genuinely tragic and comic by turns, it attains a complexity of theme and a precision of thought new to comics and rare in any medium. *Maus* ties together two powerful stories: Vladek's harrowing tale of survival against all odds, delineating the paradox of daily life in the death camps, and the author's account of his tortured relationship with his aging father.

Vladek's troubled remarriage, minor arguments between father and son, and life's everyday disappointments are all set against a backdrop of history too large to pacify. At every level this is the ultimate survivor's tale — and that too of the children who somehow survive even the survivors.



MAUS



*Barbara
Ok*

M

AUS

A SURVIVOR'S TALE

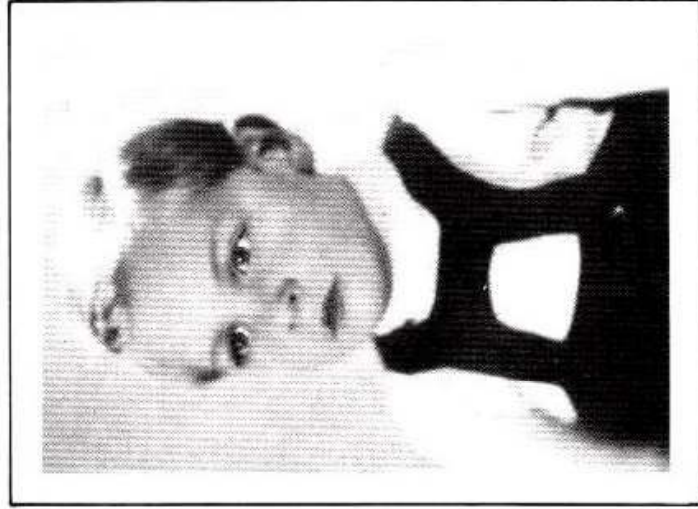
II

**AND HERE
MY TROUBLES
BEGAN**

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PANTHEON BOOKS NEW YORK

FOR RICHIEU

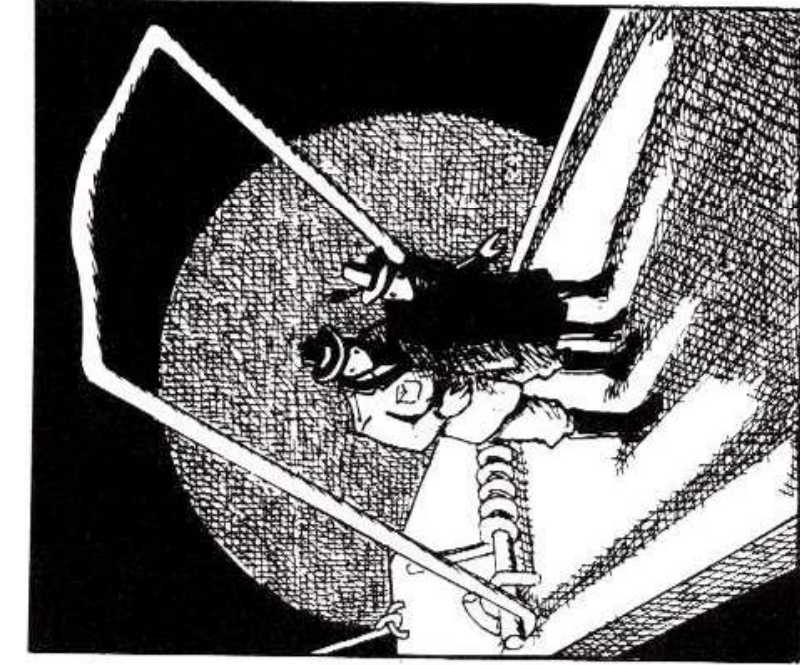
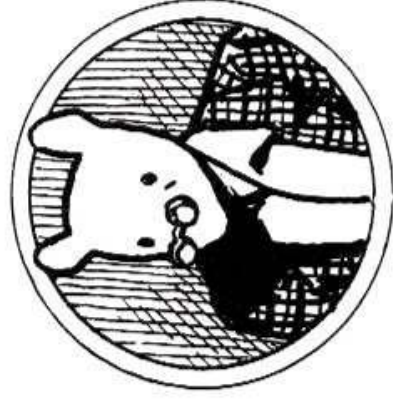


AND FOR NADJA



ART SPIEGELMAN, a cartoonist born after **WW II**, is working on a book about what happened to his parents as Jews in wartime Poland. He has made a series of visits to his childhood home in Rego Park, **NY**, to record his father's memories. Art's mother,

Anja, committed suicide in 1968. Art becomes furious when he learns that his father, **VLADEK**, has burned Anja's wartime memoirs. Vladek is remarried to Mala, another survivor. She complains often of his stinginess and lack of concern for her. Vladek, a diabetic who has suffered two heart attacks, is in poor health.



In Poland, Vladek had been a small-time textile salesman. In 1937 he married Anja Zylberg, the youngest daughter of a wealthy Sosnowiec hosiery family. They had a son, Richieu, who died during the war.

Forced first into ghettos, then into hiding, Vladek and Anja tried to escape to Hungary with their prewar acquaint-

ances, the Mandelbaums, whose nephew, Abraham, had attested in a letter that the escape route was safe. They were caught and, in March, 1944, they were brought to the gates of Auschwitz.

AND HERE MY TROUBLES BEGAN

(FROM MAUSCHWITZ TO THE CATSKILLS AND BEYOND)

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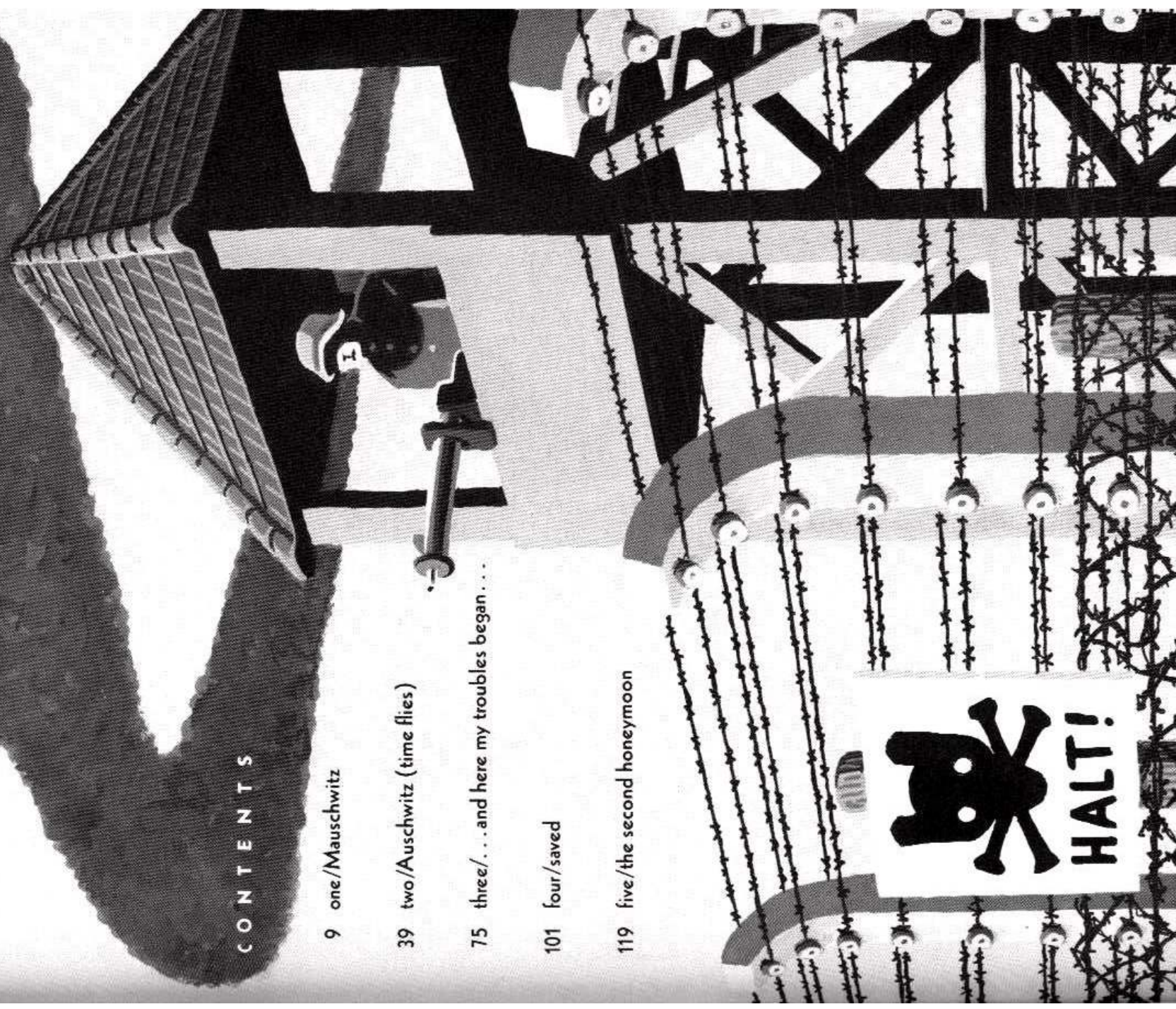
9 one/Mauschwitz

39 two/Auschwitz (time flies)

75 three/...and here my troubles began...

101 four/saved

119 five/the second honeymoon



C H A P T E R O N E



Summer vacation. Françoise and I were staying with friends in Vermont...





I'VE GOT IT!...PANEL ONE:
MY FATHER IS ON HIS
EXERCYCLE...



I TELL HIM I JUST
MARRIED A FROG...



PANEL TWO: HE FALLS
OFF HIS CYCLE IN SHOCK.



SO, YOU AND I GO TO A
MOUSE RABBI. HE SAYS
A FEW MAGIC WORDS
AND ZAP! ...



BY THE END OF THE PAGE
THE FROG HAS TURNED
INTO A BEAUTIFUL MOUSE!

HMPH



I ONLY CON-
VERTED TO
NOTHING
CAN MAKE
HIM HAPPY.



YOU KNOW, YOU SHOULD HAVE
MARRIED WHAT'S-HER-NAME?
THE GIRL YOU WERE SEEING
WHEN WE FIRST MET? ...

SANDRA?



YES. THEN YOU
COULD JUST
DRAW MICE,
NO PROBLEM.

C'MON. I JUST DATED HER
TO GET OVER MY PREJUDICE
AGAINST MIDDLE-CLASS,
NEW YORK, JEWISH WOMEN.



THEY REMIND ME TOO MUCH OF MY
RELATIVES TO BE EROTIC, SO I JUST-

ART!
FRANÇOISE!!



HURRY- YOUR FATHER
JUST PHONED US! HE
HAD A HEART ATTACK!

WHAT?

OH!
NO!