

## Art Spiegelman

Art Spiegelman (b. 1948) was born in Sweden to Polish Jews who survived the Holocaust during the Nazi occupation of Poland in World War II. He grew up in New York City, attended college, and began drawing comics in the 1960s. Along with his wife, Francoise Mouly, Spiegelman printed early versions of his comic book classic *Maus* from his apartment. Eventually it was published commercially as *Maus I: A Survivor's Tale* in 1986. The story of Spiegelman's parents and friends during the terrors of Hitler's rule in Europe, it was immediately successful. The book was awarded a special Pulitzer Prize in 1992.

Spiegelman worked for *The New Yorker* until shortly after the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center. He helped create the famous *New Yorker* cover that features a completely black page with the shadows of the Twin Towers in deeper black. It was rated one of the top ten magazine covers of the century. Spiegelman is an advocate for the power and uses of the comic genre. He regularly lectures at colleges and public forums on visual rhetoric and the comic.

In *Maus*, the Holocaust is presented through the conversation of a son (Art Spiegel-