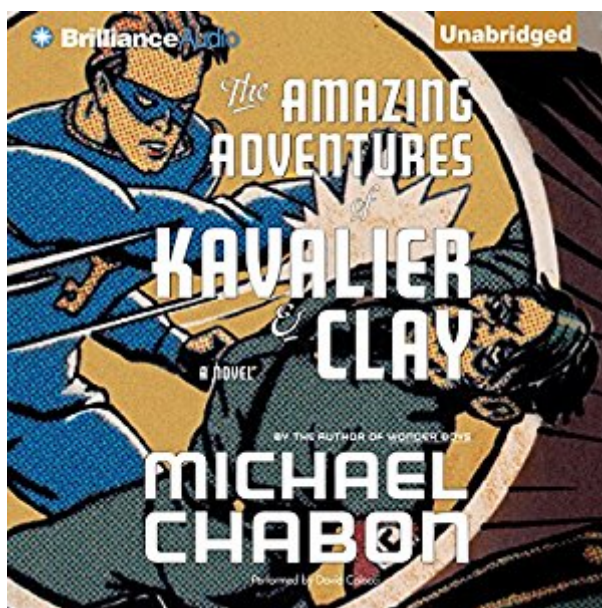


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# The Amazing Adventures Of Kavalier & Clay



## Synopsis

Pulitzer Prize, Fiction, 2001 It's 1939, in New York City. Joe Kavalier, a young artist who has also been trained in the art of Houdiniesque escape, has just pulled off his greatest feat: smuggling himself out of Hitler's Prague. He's looking to make big money, fast, so that he can bring his family to freedom. His cousin, Brooklyn's own Sammy Clay, is looking for a partner in creating the heroes, stories, and art for the latest novelty to hit the American dreamscape: the comic book. Inspired by their own fantasies, fears, and dreams, Kavalier and Clay create the Escapist, the Monitor, and the otherworldly Mistress of the Night, Luna Moth, inspired by the beautiful Rosa Saks, who will become linked by powerful ties to both men. The golden age of comic books has begun, even as the shadow of Hitler falls across Europe. The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier & Clay is a stunning novel of endless comic invention and unforgettable characters, written in the exhilarating prose that has led critics to compare Michael Chabon to Cheever and Nabokov. In Joe Kavalier, Chabon has created a hero for the century.

## Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

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## Customer Reviews

Between reading this book and The Yiddish Policemen's Union, I have to say that Michael Chabon has become my favorite author of any book I've ever read. His writing is witty, very descriptive, and builds an emotional connection to the characters that I've never felt before. Admittedly, the title of this book made me hesitate, thinking it was going to be similar to a "buddy flick" or focus on comic books too much. While comic books are a subject matter discussed heavily in the novel, it is by no means the true subject. The bond between cousins Sammy and Joe becomes palpable as the story

progresses and the stories of their backgrounds, flawed characters, and their intriguing adventures makes them my favorite fictional characters I've ever encountered. I also very much enjoyed the time period and locations of this novel. Beginning early in the 20th century when Superman was a new concept with immense popularity, the book takes us from the boroughs of New York City, through a World War that causes strain on our character's relationships, back to New York in a new era. I really felt like I got a grasp for living in those times and loved the contrast to modern America. I wouldn't suggest this for young readers, as there is profanity and some hetero and homosexual situations discussed which may bother some parents, but otherwise, I can't imagine anyone not enjoying this book if they give it a chance beyond the first few chapters.

This was my introduction to Michael Chabon. I'd always heard he was a good writer, but I was intimidated to start his books because of their length. But, when I read the synopsis for this book I decided to give it a try. I like comics so couldn't a fictional story about the Golden Age of comics be entertaining? Oh yes! This is now one of my favorite books. The characters so well rounded and the plot is so entertaining and surprising. Michael is such a fantastic writer. He could write a book about the dictionary and I'd read it. Do yourself a favor and give it a try.

As I began reading this book, I thought I would really enjoy it. I liked the writing style, as it reminded me of John Irving's, and he is one of my favorites. There are aspects to this book that are really good, but some of it is just plain dull. It took me almost the entire summer to read this book. I kept putting it down and begrudgingly going back to it. I can't really recommend it, unless you are really into the history of comic books.

I kept waiting for something to happen that would help me really care about the characters. It just never clicked for me, though the concept of a novel dealing with the Holocaust from the standpoint of how Americans saw it unfolding (or not) was interesting. I really expected the plot device of the golem to be resolved more successfully.

Charming book about the advent of the comic book industry in New York and the quirky relationship between a talented artist and his brilliant cousin who recreate the genre. It's full of great bits of history, intriguing characters and non-stop adventure. An easy read and one that left me wanting more.

Full disclosure- this book is LONG. If you do better with paper vs. kindle over the long run, keep that in mind when tackling this tome. The writing is good - the author paints his picture well and the characters continue to evolve throughout the story. The second half of the book is more fluid, with fewer "interruptions" as the author stays on point, whereas the first part of the book he is easily distracted by back story and filler. Quite often interesting, but more often a moment of "wait, what?" and a subsequent interruption if the flow of the story. Quite often I was surprised to find there was MORE to read as we had come to an "ending", but the book manage to continue to pick up and be interesting. A good walk through of history - especially American culture and how it evolved - our tolerances and lack thereof, through out the years. If you are in the market for a long read and have the time to commit, it has some very nice - not overly done - writing in it, and characters that you wind up caring for and about as they find themselves over the years.

This is my new favorite book! It's a long read, but impossible to put down. At first the description put me off a bit - I'm not really into comic books or WWII history, but this absolutely sucked me in from page 1. The characters are complex and the story is full of twists and turns that can stop your heart, make you laugh out loud, and bring you to tears. I actually haven't finished reading yet, but I will be so sad when this book comes to an end. Chabon is a genius!

I stopped reading when Joe allowed the dog to be killed. I liked Joe until that point. Afterward, I had no sympathy for him or his plight. My biggest takeaway from this novel is that Mr. Chabon seems overly fond of his vocabulary. Utilizing an esoteric descriptive word is one thing, if the situation calls for it; utilizing a word that does not exist in contemporary usage, and for which there are many suitable substitutes, is simply an exercise in vanity, and a distraction from the reading experience.

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