



Graphic Novel Study Group
Study Guides

Superman/Batman: World's Finest **by Dave Gibbons and Steve Rude**

Study guide by Caitlin Plovnick

1. If you are familiar with Superman and Batman, how did this comic work for you? If you are NOT familiar with Superman and Batman, how did it work for you?
2. Superhero stories often deal with fantastic characters and events in realistic settings. Did you find the 'realistic' elements of this story believable? If so, what worked? If not, what would you change?
3. How does nostalgia function in Gibbons's reasons for writing this story and in the story itself?
4. *World's Finest* is written by David Gibbons and drawn by Steve Rude. Give an example where the writing and artwork support each other (or give an example where they don't).
5. How does Rude's artwork differ between quiet scenes and action-packed scenes?
6. In order for Superman and Batman to make sense as superheroes, they have to be able to save the day in a way that ordinary people cannot. Give an example of this happening in *World's Finest*.
7. Pick one of the following pairs: Superman and Batman, Lex Luthor and Joker, or Metropolis and Gotham. Describe their similarities and differences, and how these serve the story.
8. Pick a passage that you find visually striking and describe why.
9. Throughout *World's Finest*, there are many references to Lewis Carroll's *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* and *Through the Looking-Glass*. Why do you think Gibbons chose to do that?
10. How are innocent victims (for example, orphans and elderly tenement residents) portrayed in this story?