

Dr. Fredric Wertham was an idiot:  
Reclaiming Batman and Robin in Michael  
Chabon.

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**NTU Studies in Language and  
Literature**

**28 (2012 / 12 / 01)**

P59 - 86

>

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DOI 10.6153/NTUSLL 



**"Dr. Fredric Wertham was an idiot": Reclaiming  
"Kavalier & Clay"**

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(Huei-Ju Wang)

NTU Studies in Language and Literature 28 (2012 / 12 / 01) P

DOI 10.6153/2012.28.3 

Fredric Wertham Michael

homosexuality "Kavalier & Clay"



 E-mail



In his 1954 anti-comics book "Seduction of the I Batman comics stimulate homosexual fantasies and examines Michael Chabon's repudiation of Wertham "The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier & Clay" (2000) protagonist Sam Clay and his perceived preference for a comics career. This hero/sidekick pairing becomes controversial as senators investigated the alleged link between crime and comics in light of Wertham's gay reading as well as Clay's sexual orientation. Chabon's role in elevating the superhero genre in literature is discussed on the arc of the Batman comics in the late 1950s and early 1960s. In Chabon's text, analyzing Chabon's employment of a queer identity to invoke and repudiate Wertham's homophobic views justifies his reading of the deep bond between Batman and Clay, examining Clay's traumatic relationship with his father, as well as his important male relationships.

#### ( 40 )

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