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# The Pirates and the Mouse: Disney's War Against The Underground

*Bob Levin*

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**The Pirates and the Mouse: Disney's War Against The Underground** Bob Levin

**They fought the Mouse and the Mouse (eventually) won,but it was a battle that left everyone bloodied...**

During a time of unprecedented political, social, and cultural upheaval in U.S. history, one of the fiercest battles was ignited by a comic book. In 1963, the *San Francisco Chronicle* made 21-year-old Dan O'Neill the youngest syndicated cartoonist in American newspaper history. As O'Neill delved deeper into the emerging counterculture, his strip, *Odd Bodkins*, became stranger and stranger and more and more provocative, until the papers in the syndicate dropped it and the *Chronicle* let him go. The lesson that O'Neill drew from this was that what America most needed was the destruction of Walt Disney. O'Neill assembled a band of rogue cartoonists called the Air Pirates (after a group of villains who had bedeviled Mickey Mouse in comic books and cartoons). They lived communally in a San Francisco warehouse owned by Francis Ford Coppola and put out a comic book, *Air Pirates Funnies*, that featured Disney characters participating in very un-Disneylike behavior, provoking a mammoth lawsuit for copyright and trademark infringements and hundreds of thousands of dollars in damages. Disney was represented by one of San Francisco's top corporate law firms and the Pirates by the cream of the counterculture bar. The lawsuit raged for 10 years, from the trial court to the US Supreme Court and back again.

The novelist and essayist Bob Levin recounts this rollicking saga with humor, wit, intelligence, and skill, bringing alive the times, the issues, the absurdities, the personalities, the changes wrought within them and us all. Includes never-before seen art from the Air Pirates archives! Two excerpted chapters of this book in *The Comics Journal* in 2001 proved to be one of the magazine's most popular features in recent memory. Black-and-white illustrations throughout.

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The Pirates and the Mouse: Disney's War Against The Underground can be one of your beginner books that are good idea. We all recommend that straight away because this e-book has good vocabulary that may increase your knowledge in vocabulary, easy to understand, bit entertaining however delivering the information. The writer giving his/her effort to put every word into enjoyment arrangement in writing The Pirates and the Mouse: Disney's War Against The Underground however doesn't forget the main position, giving the reader the hottest in addition to based confirm resource information that maybe you can be one of it. This great information could drawn you into completely new stage of crucial contemplating.

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