Art Spiegelman presents the affects of trauma in his two-book graphic memoir, *Maus: A Survivor’s Tale*. Art narrates his own life through his father, Vladek’s recollections of the harsh times of Nazi Germany and the Jewish Holocaust. Art’s parents both suffered in concentration camps and as a result of their trauma he has suffered but in ways different from their own experiences. His story, while seemingly focused on the lingering pains of his parents, is actually a critique of his own upbringing and the mental struggles of his life. Art shows us how their turmoil has been transferred onto him not only during his childhood but his adult life as well. He can never match up to them or any other survivor of the Holocaust since he was not there, but because of their experiences he gets to live with the ghosts and nightmares as if he actually was. Through Art’s drawings we see how difficult life can be for anyone who has to live in the shadow of such a traumatic series of experiences; how life as a child will be fraught with horror stories and awful lessons; as adulthood brings a more intimate understanding yet still the recognition that the demons and battles must still be fought. Art shows us how his parents never fully escaped the Holocaust and because of that neither will he.