"The Four Horsemen of the Late Capitalist Apocalypse": U.S. Comic Books, Ideology, and Trauma in Post-9/11 Society

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Abstract
In the contemporary United States apocalypse, dystopia, and catastrophe are commonplace. Indeed, both the increasing presence of fictional apocalypse in art and popular culture and the tone of apocalypticism in U.S. political, environmental, and social rhetorics, have been noted by writers and thinkers from a wide range of fields. Scholars of neoliberalism in particular have traced this popularity to the economic and political realities of late-capitalism and the ideological contradictions embedded in the evolution of capitalism to its current, immersive iteration. What has gone undiscussed, however, is the relationship of this anxious preoccupation to a prevailing, national condition; a condition that responds to the traumatic reality of existence under American' neoliberalism. Using the framework of the apocalyptic riders and the medium of contemporary comics, this thesis demonstrates the legacy of sacred apocalypse in contemporary versions and explicates the ways in which neoliberal economic and political policy have led us back around to apocalyptic ground zero.

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It's the four horsemen of the apocalypse. There have been books written about the four horsemen. There have been movies made about them and a lot of people don't really understand what the prophecy of the four horsemen is all about? The four horsemen are the first four seals of the seven seals and we find the prophecy in the book of revelation chapter 6. Let's go there now. Verse number one, “And I SAW when the lamb opened one of the seals...” Then, we know that in recent times capitalism has been a powerful force. So, what DID we learn from this? US citizens constitute 5 percent of the world’s population but consume 24 percent of global energy. On average, one person in the US consumes as much energy as two Japanese, six Mexicans, 13 Chinese, 31 Indians, 128 Bangladeshis, 307 Tanzanians and 370 Ethiopians. The US is able to consume at such a level because the dollar serves as the world reserve currency. This means high demand for it is guaranteed as most international trade (especially oil) is carried out using the dollar. US dominance and wealth accumulation depends on maintaining the currency’s leading role.