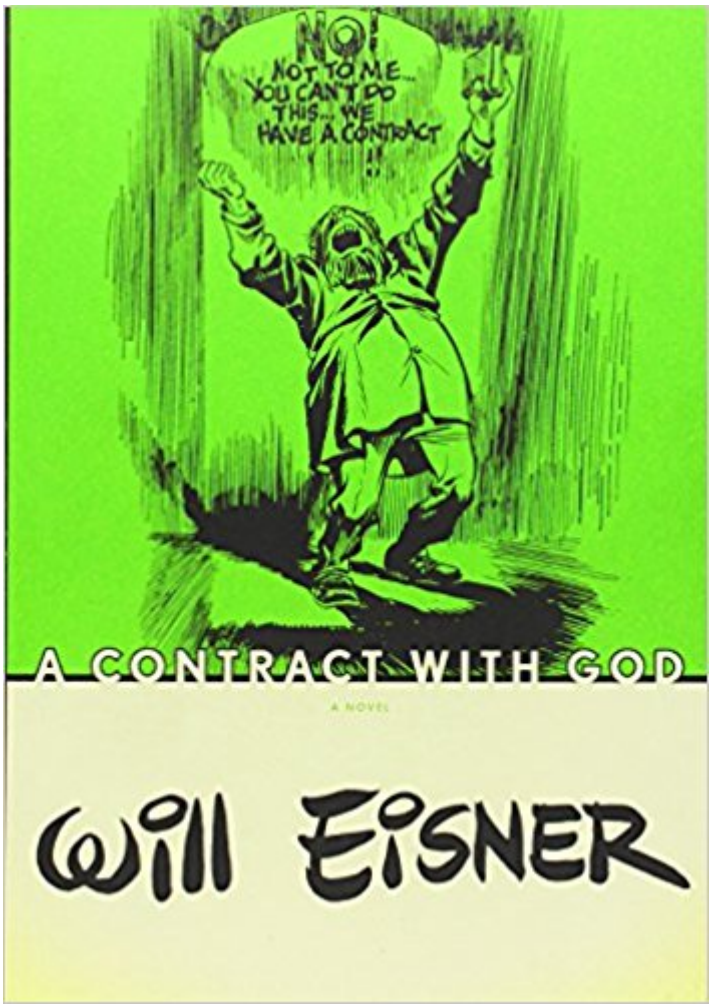
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A Contract With God



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Synopsis

The first graphic novelÃ¢â ¬â ¢a mesmerizing fictional chronicle of a universal American experience. Through a quartet of four interwoven stories, A Contract With God express the joy, exuberance, tragedy, and drama of life on the mythical Dropsie Avenue in the Bronx. This is the legendary book that launched a new art form and reaffirmed Will Eisner as one of the great pioneers of American graphics.

Book Information

Paperback: 208 pages

Publisher: W. W. Norton & Company; Reprint edition (December 17, 2006)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 039332804X

ISBN-13: 978-0393328042

Product Dimensions: 7 x 0.6 x 10 inches

Shipping Weight: 15.5 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 64 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #66,876 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #111 inÃ Â Books > Comics & Graphic Novels > Graphic Novels > Mystery #130 inÃ Â Books > Comics & Graphic Novels > Graphic Novels > Literary #2156 inÃ Â Books > Literature & Fiction > Contemporary

Customer Reviews

It’s fair to say that Will Eisner invented modern comic art. A Contract with God has been called the first graphic novel, and its divergence from traditional comics themes and forms highlights Eisner’s foresight and brilliance. Dealing with stories and memories from his childhood in a Bronx tenement, he explores the brutality, fragility, and tenderness possible among people living in close quarters close to the poverty line. The four stories here are tough but funny, deep but finely detailed, much like the traditional Jewish stories he drew upon to flavor his own work. Ending reflectively (and perhaps autobiographically), A Contract with God shows us a young man peering out into his city as he decides whether and how to face adulthood. You won’t see that in the funny papers. --Rob Lightner --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Will Eisner’s art revolutionized comics. "Eisner was not only ahead of his times; the present times are still catching up to him. --John Updike"Harrowingly magnificent. --Kurt Vonnegut"

I wanted to better acquaint myself with the "graphic novel" genre, so chose this title from a recommended list. I expected prolonged "comic book reading," but got engaging stories. The sepia colored illustrations added to the 1930's feel. Did not expect the nudity after reading the first story, nor domestic violence or rape.

I don't like the term Graphic Novel, because I believe it was invented as a marketing too to somehow elevate modern comics up and away from their predecessors. And really, most of them aren't novels, they are memoir. So if you're going to adopt some fancy literary term, get it right. That said, if you want to know the origins of a great literary art form, you need to know the great Will Eisner. This is an amazing work, from an amazing cartoonist who taught those who came after him all they needed to know. Read and learn.

A friendof mine has an original of this and told me its history which is why I bought it. I did love it --and I am not a pro graphics novel person!

Every graphic novel/ comic fan should read this classic. As the first graphic novel in the U.S., Eisner did not disappoint this reader.

Amazing graphic novel. I can't emphasis enough the "novel" aspect, as the (ever universal) themes and the stories reminded me of short stories read in non-graphic novel books.I just love Eisner's style, graphically. It is full of life.Living in NYC myself, I can't help thinking I am getting a glimpse of what life was in the Lower East Side at the time.

interesting read

I loved the stories which portray human lives so effectively, dealing with classic questions about God, materialism, addiction, lust, family and others.The stories are so effective because they have been illustrated so beautifully.

An excellent graphic novel

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