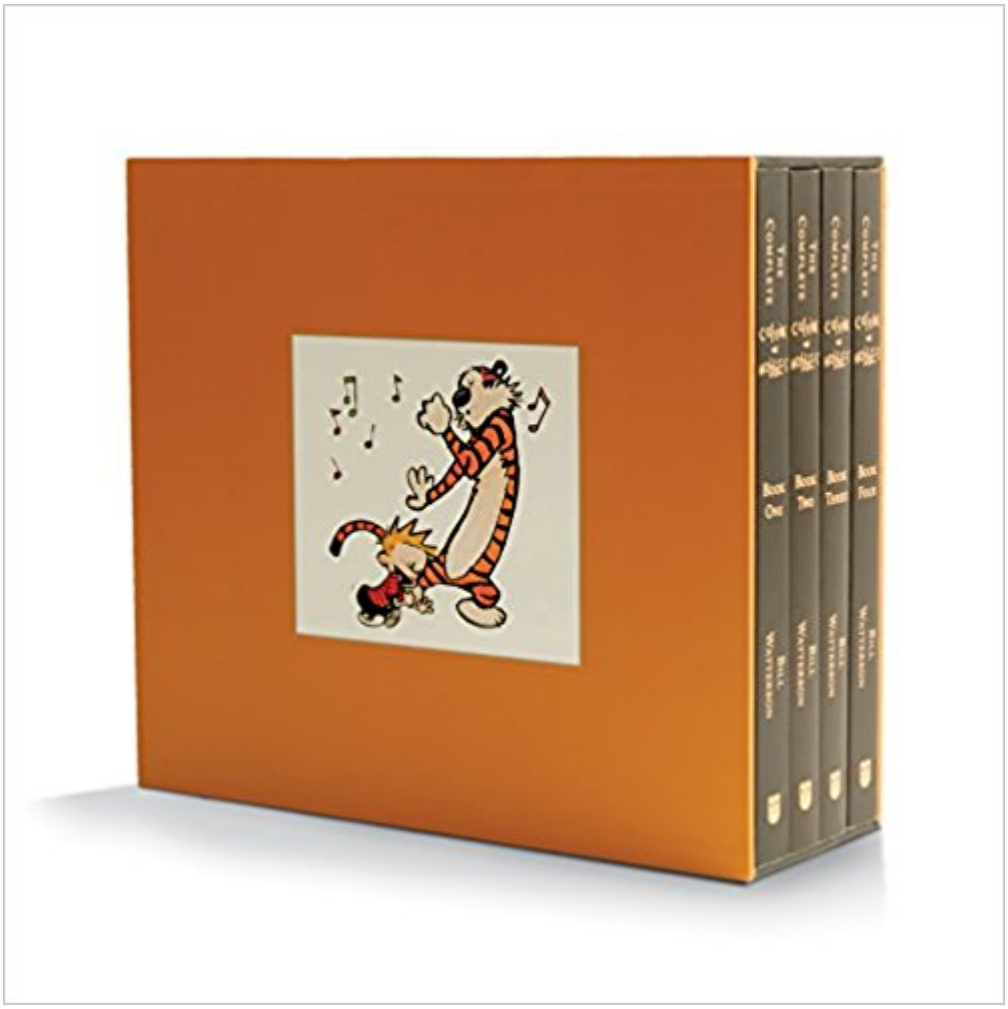
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The Complete Calvin And Hobbes



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Synopsis

Join Calvin and Hobbes on all their adventures in this four-volume collection of every comic strip from the comic stripÃ¢â ¬â„¢s eleven year history (1985 to1996).Calvin and Hobbes is unquestionably one of the most popular comic strips of all time. The imaginative world of a boy and his real-only-to-him tiger was first syndicated in 1985 and appeared in more than 2,400 newspapers when Bill Watterson retired on January 1, 1996. The entire body of Calvin and Hobbes cartoons published in a truly noteworthy tribute to this singular cartoon in The Complete Calvin and Hobbes. Composed of fourÃ Â paperback, four-color volumes in a sturdy slipcase, this New York Times best-selling edition includes all Calvin and Hobbes cartoons that ever appeared in syndication. This is the treasure that all Calvin and Hobbes fans seek.Ã Â

Book Information

Paperback: 1456 pages

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Shipping Weight: 15.9 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars 1,711 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #2,750 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #2 inÃ Â Books > Comics & Graphic Novels > Graphic Novels > Anthologies #4 inÃ Â Books > Comics & Graphic Novels > Comic Strips #116 inÃ Â Books > Humor & Entertainment > Humor

Customer Reviews

An Excerpt from Bill Watterson’s Introduction: "I’ve loved comic strips as long as I can remember. As a kid, I knew I wanted to be either a cartoonist or an astronaut. The latter was never much of a possibility, as I don’t even like riding in elevators. I kept my options open until seventh grade, but when I stopped understanding math and science, my choice was made. There is great personal satisfaction in attending to detail and quality, and I remain very proud of the standards the strip met day after day. I also liked the responsibility of knowing that, succeed or fail, it was all my own doing. This approach kept the strip very honest and personal--everything having to do with Calvin and Hobbes expressed my own ideas, my own values, my own way. I wrote every word, drew every line, and painted every color. It’s a rare gift to find such fulfilling work and I

tried to show my appreciation by giving the strip everything I had to offer." Exclusive Images from the New Collection

Starred Review. [Signature]Reviewed by Art SpiegelmanBy the 1980s the once glorious newspaper comics section had become a wasteland, ravaged by shrinking space, editorial timidity and other ills. The real excitement in my medium had moved to the fertile margins of the alternative press. Bill Watterson, as uninterested in underground comix as I was in the mass media's bland concoctions, marched directly into the wasteland and made the comatose syndicated strip form kick up its heels and dance.From 1985 until Watterson abandoned it at the height of its popularity 10 years later, Calvin and Hobbes echoed the classic strips the artist most admired. Stirring the richly conceived characters and efficient drawing of Peanuts with the visual virtuosity and linguistic playfulness of Pogo and Krazy Kat, he applied his intelligence and supple cartoon skills to come up with a creation beloved by the millions who still mourn its passing.Now, a decade after his demise, six-year-old Calvin has a fitting monumentÃ¢â ¬â •a lavishly produced three-volume boxed collection of all the strips, which weighs as much as a tombstone. Following in the wake of Gary Larson's The Complete Far Side, and with a 250,000-copy "limited edition" first printing, the publisher realistically predicts that this book will be "the heaviest and most expensive book ever to hit the New York Times best seller list." While not as exquisitely wrought as Walt and Skeezix, the recently launched reprinting of Frank King's epic run of Gasoline Alley, or as intimate and dignified as Fantagraphics' ongoing republication of all 50 years of Peanuts, this luxurious set is dressed for success and deserves an honored spot on the happily expanding shelves of strip reprints.The Complete Calvin and Hobbes offers two intertwined narratives. One details the friendship between CalvinÃ¢â ¬â •the egotistical, feverishly imaginative, wised-up young tyke with the vocabulary of a Yale lit majorÃ¢â ¬â •and his animal familiar, Hobbes. Hobbes is seen by Calvin's parents as a nondescript plush toy and by Calvin and the reader as a pouncing and amiable "real" tigerÃ¢â ¬â •Calvin's slightly-more-sensible better half. The crosscutting between private and shared reality gives the strip its vitality.The autobiographical introduction by the notoriously reclusive Watterson kicks off another tale about the collision of private and shared realities: the story of an ornery artist's battle to explore his craft within the claustrophobic confines of a few inches of newsprint space. The beleaguered Watterson fights the strictures of brutal daily deadlines, skirmishes with editors to win more space for his often graceful Sunday pages, slugs it out with his syndicate to keep his creation from being reduced to a stuffed doll. The later strips begin to dwell obsessively on the horrors of our dumbed-down commodity culture, and there's something poignant about the artist's hopeless

struggle to work within the confines of mass culture while simultaneously critiquing it. These books offer a testament to Watterson’s dedication and to the medium’s ability to keep reinventing itself against all odds. (Oct.)Art Spiegelman is the Pulitzer PrizeÃ¢â ¬â œwinning author of Maus and In the Shadow of No Towers. Copyright Ã Â© Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

Something that other reviews don’t seem to be saying: the issues with pages falling out seems to have been resolved.The original problem was that the pages were glued together instead of sewn. THIS HAS BEEN CORRECTED with a subsequent printing. That being said, I would strongly recommend against purchasing a used copy of this set unless you’ve verified with the seller that the binding is SEWN binding.A little background: being aware of the issues surrounding the glued binding, I did a little research on internet forums to see if the issue had been corrected. The only evidence I could find was one random poster on a random forum saying that they "thought" the issue had been corrected.So I took matters into my own hands and called the publisher. It took forever to get through to them (the number seems to be intended for wholesalers looking to purchase in bulk), but the lady that helped me was able to call back and confirm that the binding is now sewn rather than glued. I asked when the most recent printing had been, and her (now undoubtedly out-of-date) answer gave me confidence that it was far enough back to reassure me that most retailers would have cleared out their stock of the first edition printing. Reassured by this (and ’s return policy), I went ahead and purchased after it went on sale. And I can now confirm: sewn binding.As an aside, as others are saying, the collection is quite heavyÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â •but I wouldn’t say that the individual books are too heavy to read if you’ve propped the book against your legs, etc.The quality of this collection is (finally) worthy of such a great and timeless comic strip. Calvin & Hobbes stands alone at the top of best comic strip of all time, and nothing else even comes close. Everyone can enjoy this strip, from young kids to adults (though adult fans likely won’t want to let their kids touch the books lol)

The ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã ËœHardcover - 3 volume editionÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢ is perfect! Beautiful art reproduction, quality paper and sewn binding! I just wanted to point it out, because I got the impression that the binding was only glued, but I guess that must refer to the ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã ËœSoftcover ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â œ 4 volume editionÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢. Also, the picture in front and back of the books are a part of the whole red cover, and not glued on, which other reviews mention. Highly recommended! :-)

I will keep this brief:1) This has every weekday strip, weekend comic, and extra creation for the books that Bill Watterson ever created on "Calvin and Hobbes."2) It is ordered and labeled chronologically.3) I have the 5th edition. I expect this is in its 17th printing or so now. The hardcovers and slipcase are high quality. The pages are strong and durable, and the colors from the Sundays are very vibrant.4) There is a short essay in the front of the first volume. After that, there are no comments.5) If you are looking for Bill Watterson's comments on his work, you should go buy the 10th Anniversary book.

I have owned at one time or another all of the Calvin & Hobbes trade paperbacks and through the years (and three children) the books have been lovingly destroyed in the best possible way, through countless readings and re-readings. Now that my children are older I finally have treated myself to 'The Complete Calvin and Hobbes' hardcover set. The largest and most expensive book set to ever make the New York Times bestseller list and with good reason. As a fan, it is a must have addition to your home library printed on art book-grade paperstock. The set is incredibly well made and executed. I have a nineth printing set from October 2012 that seems to have corrected any issues concerning the binding. My set arrived well before the estimated shipping arrival date (thanks again) and is worth every penny. As close to a real treasure chest as you're likely to ever have! Do not hesitate! I prefer the weight (24 lbs.) and size of the hardcover edition because it forces one to properly place the books for reading and of course will stand the test of time, but if you prefer a lighter package with more flexibility then you may want to opt for the paperback version of this set. Either way, be prepared to take a journey in your own personal time machine back, not to the Jurassic Era as Calvin would, but to when Calvin and Hobbes ruled the Earth!

There have been a lot of truly great comic strips over the years. But Calvin and Hobbes stands out as one the immortal classics of our time. I remember reading these strips when they first appeared in the local paper many years ago. I have even bought a few of the trades when they first came out as well, so I have read many of the strips once maybe even twice before. But as soon as I saw this handsome edition, I knew I had to have it! It was exactly how I wanted to treasure these wonderful koans of my childhood.But then I read some reviews that gave me pause. There were some complaints about poor quality. So I waited. Then a couple of years ago I couldn't wait any longer and I decided to gift this to myself for Father's Day. It was a great gift! I savor them, I read them in small batches at a time and I treat the books like the priceless treasures they're meant to be. In that

regard I can say, they are superbly made but then I don't abuse them; I treat them with utmost care. They are truly a joy and a pleasure and I fully intend to savor every moment in my slow crawl through these pages. And, they are even more of a delight now than when I first read them because now I am a dad and I'm finding whole new ways to relate!Much thanks to Bill Watterson for crafting one of the true immortal works of the 20th century; these strips will forever have a special place in my heart. I feel that with this work, Mr Watterson captures something quite marvelous, in perhaps a Jungian kind of way but I think also in ways that have yet to have someone's name associated with them. And of course, it is also hysterically funny...

It's a lovely set. Just removed one star because the print is not high quality, but for $50 it was worth. I'm glad to finally have the complete works and all in all, I prefer the paperback set because each book is lighter and easier to hold. The box is quite cute to have on display too :)

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