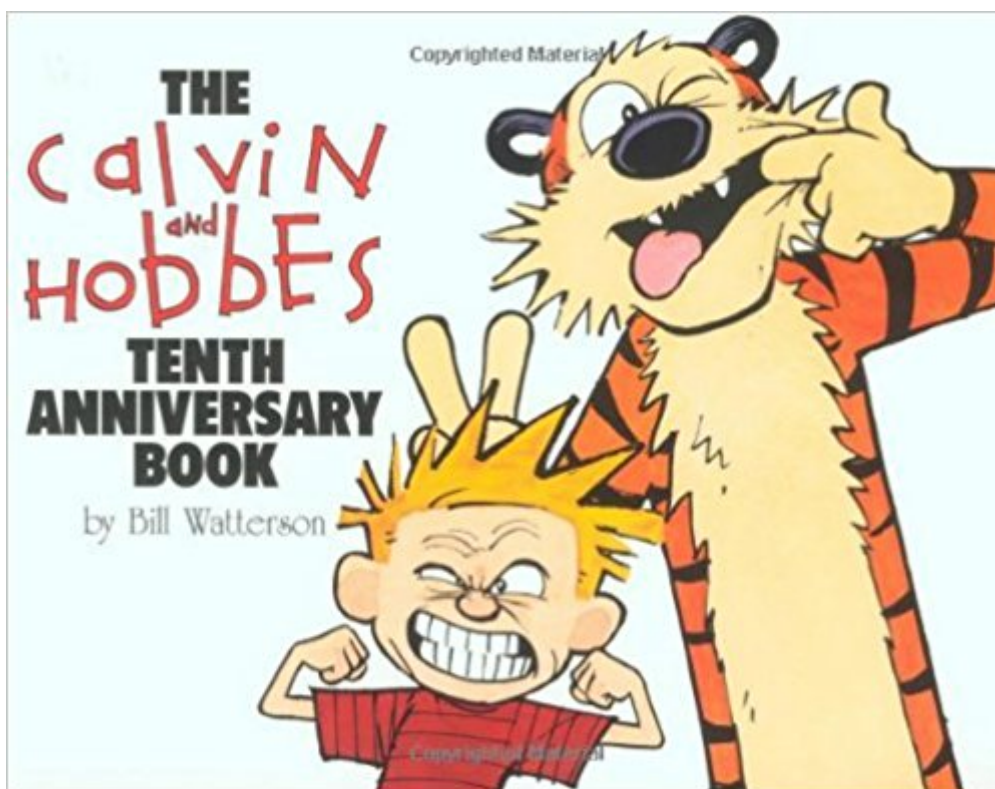




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Calvin & Hobbes Books, Tenth Anniversary Book



Synopsis

Celebrating ten years of their crazy antics, author of the Calvin and Hobbes comic, Bill Watterson, invites readers to look back at the first ten years--featuring Watterson's insights and classic comics. "Watterson re-created the thoughts and feelings of a six-year-old with uncanny accuracy ... Calvin and Hobbes was, simply, the best comic strip." --Charles Solomon, Los Angeles Times Many moons ago, the magic of Calvin and Hobbes first appeared on the funny pages and the world was introduced to a wondrous pair of friends -- a boy and his tiger, who brought new life to the comics page. To celebrate the tenth anniversary of this distinguished partnership, Bill Watterson prepared this special book, sharing his thoughts on cartooning and creating Calvin and Hobbes, illustrated throughout with favorite black-and-white and color cartoons.

Book Information

Paperback: 208 pages

Publisher: Andrews McMeel Publishing; 10th Anniversary ed. edition (1995)

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Product Dimensions: 11.9 x 0.6 x 9 inches

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Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 485 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #48,479 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #109 in Books > Comics & Graphic Novels > Comic Strips #942 in Books > Comics & Graphic Novels > Graphic Novels #1137 in Books > Humor & Entertainment > Humor

Customer Reviews

Now that Bill Watterson has retired from drawing syndicated cartoons, the only way to get our Calvin and Hobbes fixes is through his book collections. The 10th Anniversary Book is particularly notable, because in addition to getting some of his most wonderful cartoons, we also gain a sense of Watterson as a person. Approximately one-tenth of the book contains essays about matters great and small--from cartooning to life--and stories about the inspiration behind some of his greatest strips. Not surprisingly, Watterson shines through as a being of considerable integrity, and the cartoons gain in depth thanks to his commentary. And, of course, the cartoons in the other 90% of the book are alternately side-splitting hilarious or touching. Happy Anniversary, Bill, and good luck with whatever it is you are doing now!

No one has captured children's world view and sense of imagination in cartoon strip form as well as Watterson. Nor applied it so strikingly to comment on adult life and attitudes or the general absurdity of the world in which we live... Much will strike a chord and raise a knowing smile at their perception, but above all, they are very, very funny. * MIDWEEK * --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Yet another great book of Calvin and Hobbes, I read these books to my daughter and she loves them. I enjoy reading them to her, they are funny yet respectful and are for ages 4 to adult. My 8 year old has started to read these to me...This Book talks a lot about the last ten years and is more story and less cartoon, if I knew this I Would NOT have bought it..

Calvin and Hobbes is one of those stories that latches itself upon the imagination. It goes beyond the wit and appearance of the normal comic strip and projects a level of conscientiousness that hasn't been seen since Bill Watterson discontinued the strip in 1995. As an artist, I would say Watterson has probably done more for the arts than most people realize. The Tenth Anniversary Book certainly contains the high-points of one of the greatest artisans of comics and story-telling of the Twentieth Century. Thank you, Mr. Watterson, for one of the greatest pieces of art I have ever observed.

96 pages... mostly 2-page spreads for each comic with the Left page being black & white with the color version of the same comic strip on the right page... only ONE to FOUR strips for most years... thought I was getting ALL of the Sunday Pages strips... My sister-in-law LOVES Calvin and Hobbes and while selecting a book for her for Christmas I agreed that some of the strips are really funny... love the concept of the stuffed tiger being alive when no one's around.

There is nothing to dislike about Calvin and Hobbes! My six year old has learned to read better because of all of Calvin's adventures and imaginings (if that's a word). It's been great to see him grab hold of a book and work through some of Calvin's large vocabulary. Granted, some of the more mature expressions that Calvin talks about are well above most six year old heads and I was questioned several times about what Calvin meant in a few of the comics. But as far as reading material, Bill Watterson is one of the best comic creators ever. The book itself is quality and well worth the price. My son gives most books a good workout and this one holds together quite well.

The binding is solid and the paperback cover has held up very well.

I own every C&H book and treasury and, succumbing to sloth, I copied the same review 12 times on to avoid writing 12 different reviews. I am not doing that for this one because fans should know that this book is a bit different. It came to be as a result of an exhibition Watterson did in Ohio and has more of an artsy feel. It also has brief commentary by the cartoonist at the bottom of each page along with each set of Sunday panels. The format is a double print of each Sunday page. On the left-hand page you see it in black and white sketch version and on the right-hand page the final version in color. The left-hand side has eraser-marks and white out and other details you don't see in the finished color version. Personally, I love it and I am not really an artist at all. The quality of the book adds greatly to the appeal with nice super high-quality paper and amazing detail and crisp printing technique. The pages are not like most C&H books, with a matte finish. These are glossy and slick with great details. When my copy arrived I almost thought I had accidentally been sent a presentation copy or something, but all the ones I have seen are like mine; they just did a great job with the printing and formatting. Now I wish all my C&H books came with this kind of detail and sharp images, but you can't have everything, and C&H is not so much about glossy images anyway. Having said that, I feel that this book allows the reader to see and appreciate the beauty in many of Watterson's Sunday pages. The black and whites also show a lot of detail you won't get in other C&H books. Of course, you also get a bunch of really good cartoons, as usual, but there are only half as many, since every one takes up two full pages with the two versions. To sum up, the material is old, the commentary is new and the quality is great. Get the other C&H books first, but then consider this one to spice up your collection with something a bit different.

Somehow, the essence of Calvin and Hobbes has been lost in the world. Its original appreciation of the specialness of friendship, the magical delight in small wonders of nature, and the value of companionship over corporate commercialism has been reduced to tacky car stickers, rip-off T-shirts, fraternity party drug/keg emblems, and other meaningless displays of unimaginative thick-headedness. "C&H" has been sacrificed on the altar of habitual consumerism by a public so conditioned to appreciate something only by BUYING a part of it, that perhaps only a few readers still remember its strong message about art, nature, joy, despair, and magic. Watterson strips Calvin and Hobbes of all the slick packaging we see in the finished treasuries, and opens our eyes to the sloppy, painstaking work of tape, ink, graphite, and correction fluid that become the characters we know. This book shows the art as it actually looks, not as it's published to appear, and we can see

the smudges, the eraser marks, the notes to himself, and the corresponding commentary by the most elusive and tantalizing personality in comics. By approaching the work this way, Watterson reminds us that all along we were responding emotionally to a creation of almost primitive construction, and that something created from the messiness of patience and talent actually meant more to us than plastic-covered, mall-bought, factory-vomited trinkets and McDonald's toys. The book is as valuable for its function in turning us away from this commodity culture as for the delightfulness of its reading content....

What's not to love about Calvin & Hobbes? I was expecting a new or like new copy and this had a bit of wear, but that was probably me not reading the description carefully enough.

If you like Calvin and Hobbes (and really how can one not like this duo?) this is a great book. Lots of great comics. Seems well made with solid binding.

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