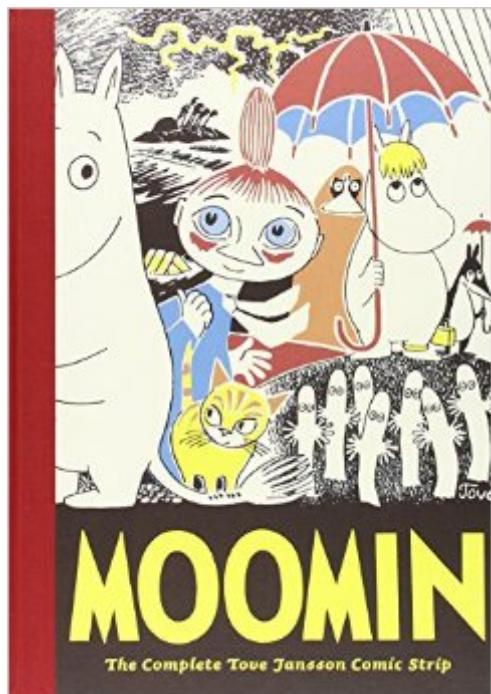


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Moomin: The Complete Tove Jansson Comic Strip - Book One



Synopsis

The enchanting comic strip that introduced adult readers to the wonderful world of Moomin. Tove Jansson is revered around the world as one of the foremost children's authors of the twentieth century for her illustrated chapter books regarding the magical worlds of her creation, the Moomins. The Moomins saw life in many forms but debuted to its biggest audience ever on the pages of the world's largest newspaper, the London Evening News, in 1954. The strip was syndicated in newspapers around the world with millions of readers in forty countries. Moomin Book One is the first volume of Drawn & Quarterly's publishing plan to reprint the entire strip drawn by Jansson before she handed over the reins to her brother Lars in 1960. This is the first time the strip will be published in any form in North America and will deservedly place Jansson among the international cartooning greats of the last century. The Moomins are a tight-knit family-hippo-shaped creatures with easygoing and adventurous outlooks. Jansson's art is pared down and precise, yet able to compose beautiful portraits of ambling creatures in fields of flowers or on rock-strewn beaches that recall Jansson's Nordic roots. The comic strip reached out to adults with its gentle and droll sense of humor. Whimsical but with biting undertones, Jansson's observations of everyday life, including guests who overstay their welcome, modern art, movie stars, and high society, easily caught the attention of an international audience and still resonate today.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I wanted to love this book. I've loved all the Moomintroll books. The characters are real to me, and I

love them all, even the naughty ones, like Little My, and the control-freaks called Hemulins.(I think I might be a Fillyjonk, myself.) But I was really surprised to find out how distorted all my favorite characters were in these comic strips. For example, in the second story, Moominpappa asks Moominmamma to run away with him in search of adventure, not tell anybody, and leave their son at home wondering what happened to them. Moominmamma has some qualms about leaving her son without a word, but Moominpappa wins her over by saying "He'll get along." So they leave, and then Moomintroll is frantic with worry that they've drowned. This was a real shocker to me!

Moominmamma was always the mother everyone wished they had. Soft, round and comforting, her love for her "own, dear Moomintroll" is one of the sweetest things about the books. She makes tea and sandwiches, gives hugs, and takes little lost creatures into her house and treats them like her own children. That she would sneak away from her son without saying a word was beyond belief, considering that Jansson spent eight books building her character as the world's sweetest mother. In one story, timid little Sniff bullies Moomintroll and cheats rich Aunt Jane out of a lot of money. In another, Moominpappa and the Snork Maiden drag the family to the Riviera for champagne, gambling, and pretending they are rich nobility. By this time I couldn't recognize any of my old friends except Moomintroll himself. There's nothing really wrong or harmful about this book... except that it's nothing like the original Moomintroll books.

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