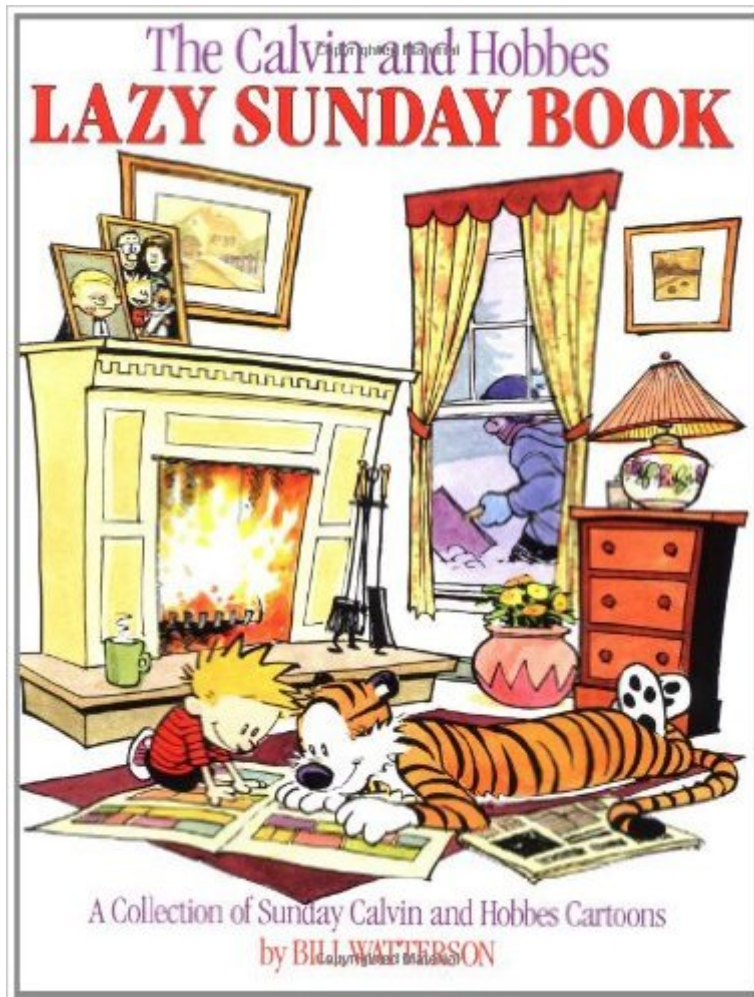


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The Calvin And Hobbes Lazy Sunday Book



Synopsis

Find Sunday comic favorites in this classic Calvin and Hobbes collection. This is a collection of the classic comic strip that features Calvin, a rambunctious 6-year-old boy, and his stuffed tiger, Hobbes, who comes charmingly to life. Filled with a Watterson's full-page Sunday strips, this collection is sure to please fans and newcomers alike.

Book Information

Series: Calvin and Hobbes (Book 4)

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Product Dimensions: 8.4 x 0.4 x 11.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 14.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars See all reviews (122 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #17,864 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #70 in Books > Comics & Graphic Novels > Comic Strips #390 in Books > Comics & Graphic Novels > Graphic Novels #663 in Books > Humor & Entertainment > Humor

Customer Reviews

I grew up on Calvin and Hobbes, so I'm a little biased when I say they're one of the best--if not *the* best--cartoon ever to be printed. It's such a pity that they're gone, though books like this one will give fans like me an opportunity to make believe that they're not. "The Calvin and Hobbes Lazy Sunday Book" opens with Calvin's 10-page adventure as Spaceman Spiff, interplanetary explorer extraordinaire, with one mission in mind: to destroy all aliens, which in real life, are disguised as his mother and Susie. Very funny stuff. Yet Calvin's wild imagination doesn't stop there. For the rest of the colorful 100+ pages, he agitates his parents mercilessly, particularly his father; while with his mother, he aversely chokes down every disgusting meal she cooks, making some of the funniest faces while doing so. A lot of times, his expressions say more than any number of words. Take the family meal scene on page 30, where he makes a long-drawn-out attempt at tasting the green pile of gunk on his plate. Then there's a good facial example on page 104, where he's sitting, reading a book; then looks up with this absolutely wicked smile on his face. You can only imagine what he's up to--and it's definitely not safe. Then come the metamorphosis strips where Calvin pretends to be

every imaginable type of creature, from a loudmouthed sparrow to a hungry dinosaur to a human slinky and beyond. And, of course, there's always a worthy battle or two with monsters and bedbugs in, around, and under his bed--all in the faithful company of his favorite toy tiger, Hobbes. Two of my favorites in this book involve snowmen.

I really dislike giving this book a negative review. I have always loved "Calvin and Hobbes," finding it to be far and away one of the best newspaper comics out there. In a day when most newspaper comics are banal, badly drawn, and mostly unfunny, it was refreshing to have a strip that dared to experiment artistically, wax philosophical, make social and global statements that still fit into the world of the strip, and above all explore the seemingly unlimited imagination of a young boy. And while I disagree with some of Bill Watterson's personal beliefs and found it annoying when said beliefs began to hijack the comic in its later years (thankfully never to the point where the comic jumped the shark), I loved his work and am delighted to see it still has a following, especially among the Internet crowd. So having his comics compiled in book format is a wonderful thing, in my opinion. HOWEVER, there seems to be little reason for this particular volume to exist. It's a compilation of various Sunday strips, with no new material save a multi-page story in the beginning. Don't get me wrong -- Watterson's Sunday strips have often been some of his best. They gave him room to deliver a colorful adventure that gave us a better vision of the chaotic, creative world of an imaginative six-year-old. This is especially true in later years when he was granted the ability to create Sunday strips free of the panel restrictions that hampered him in the past, giving him the ability to experiment with the layout, eschew panels, and portray an even more brilliant and imaginative picture. Sadly, this collection almost exclusively comprises Sunday strips from before this time, so they're still hobbled by the panel restrictions of the day. And for those looking for new material...

If all the other Calvin and Hobbes books I have are excellent, then surely this one must be great. All the comics in this wonderful collection are in color, and are rendered incredibly well. If you thought the original Sunday comics were good, then you'll love the rich color of these. This book opens with a 10 page mini-story about Spaceman Spiff, Interplanetary Explorer Extraordinaire. The art in this story is very good. I think that Bill Watterson was born in the wrong era. He would have been much happier in the era when Sunday comics were permitted a full page to tell a refined story, where the art was rich with detail. Once into the book you get a collection of comics that originally appeared in Sunday newspapers. While the humor level varies, most will make you smile, and some will give

you laughs. It would be impossible to describe the variety of stories, but a couple of examples will help. In one story Calvin has glued paper feathers to his arm in order to fly. Consistent with Bill Watterson's father's profession (he's a patent attorney), Calvin tells Hobbes that he will get the patent when his device works. Hobbes gives Calvin a heave over a cliff with predictable results. Hobbes advises Calvin, "Don't sell the bike shop, Orville." For a Mother's Day related strip, Calvin has created a Mother's Day card, including a poem he wrote himself. Included in the poem are comments regarding the size of his allowance, and the poem ends with a request to get out of bed and cook breakfast. His mother's comment? "I'm deeply moved." This collection is filled with a variety of Calvin and Hobbes staples.

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